

## **MEMS program at DARPA: current thrust areas and future vision**

William Tang  
*DARPA, U.S.A.*

Microelectromechanical systems (MEMS) is one of the three core enabling technologies within the Microsystems Technology Office (MTO) of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA). Together with photonics and electronics, MEMS forms the foundation for a broad variety of advanced research projects sponsored by MTO as well as the other offices within DARPA. Research projects are underway to apply MEMS in specific military platforms in all four domains of engagement: air, land, sea, and space.

These current thrust areas are showing strong potentials to transition into further development and small-scale production for military uses. The future vision of the MEMS program is to demonstrate all crucial technologies to co-locate on a chip scale all vital functions including sense, compute, actuate, communicate, and power. Strategic new programs will be established to advance the state of the art to fulfill this vision.