

We beg. Others grovel

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Flexible computers on the way

Stretch of the imagination

By [Nick Farrell](#): Tuesday 07 March 2006, 08:21

A **GROUP** of boffins has come up with a technique that might enable portable computers that can be rolled or stretched.

John Rogers a professor of Materials Science and Engineering at the University of Illinois Urbana Champaign told popular science mag Nature that the final frontier of computing was fully flexible and stretchable portables.

Rogers and his colleagues have devised a technique which involves stretching a piece of rubber across a wafer of ultrathin silicon. After the rubber is peeled away it relaxes the silicon, which buckles and creates accordion-like waves that can expand and contract.

Wavy diodes and transistors fabricated this way could be repeatedly stretched and compressed as much as 20 percent without affecting their performance. This will make much more effective e-paper and paper thin computers possible.

More on Wired, [here](#). μ

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