



Operated by *ALMMII*

**National Network for Manufacturing Innovation:  
Lightweight Metals Institute**

**Metamorphic Manufacturing  
(a.k.a. Robotic Blacksmithing):**

**The Third Wave of Digital  
Manufacturing**

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The Ohio State University**

**Alan Taub  
LIFT CTO  
University of Michigan**

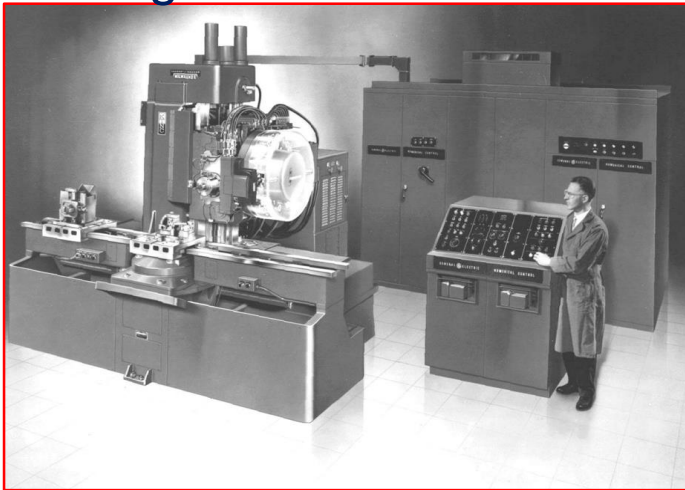


# Digital Manufacturing: Hope & Hype

## First Wave – CNC

### Removal

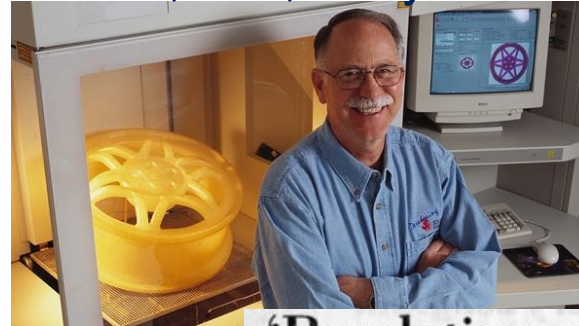
USAF Funding at (MIT)  
starting in 1949.



## Second Wave – AM

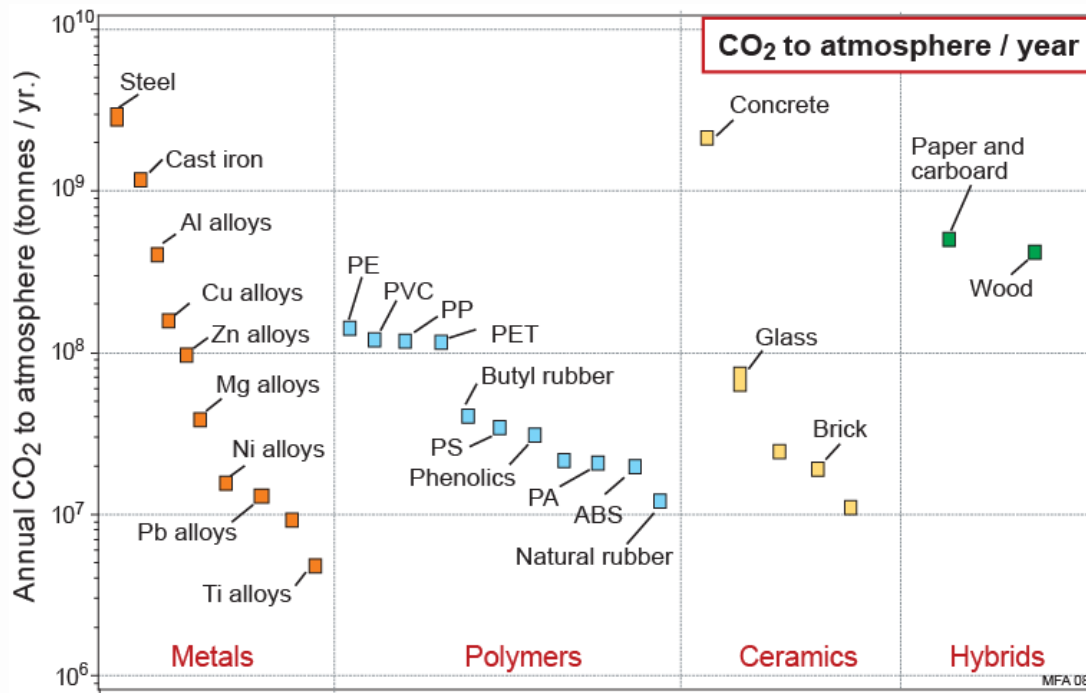
### Additive

NSF, etc., early 1980's



# Metals: Primary Engineered Material

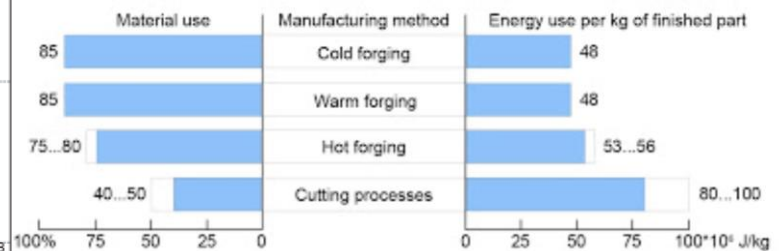
- Production → large fraction of energy use
- Application → huge in energy efficiency
  - Light vehicles, efficient engines, advanced construction



## Resource Productivity

Dornfeld (2013, blog)

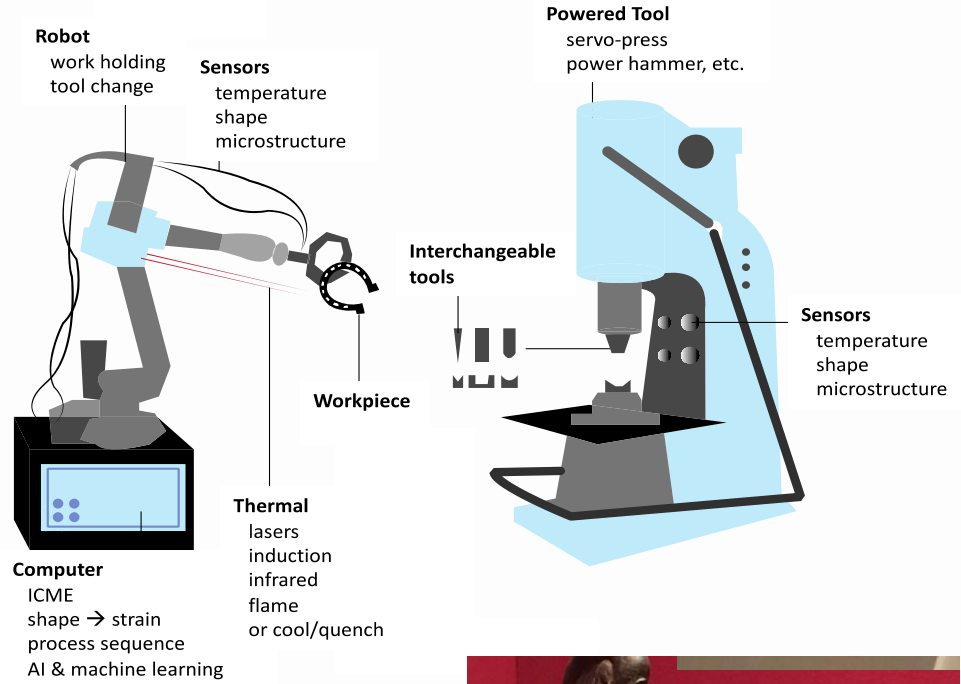
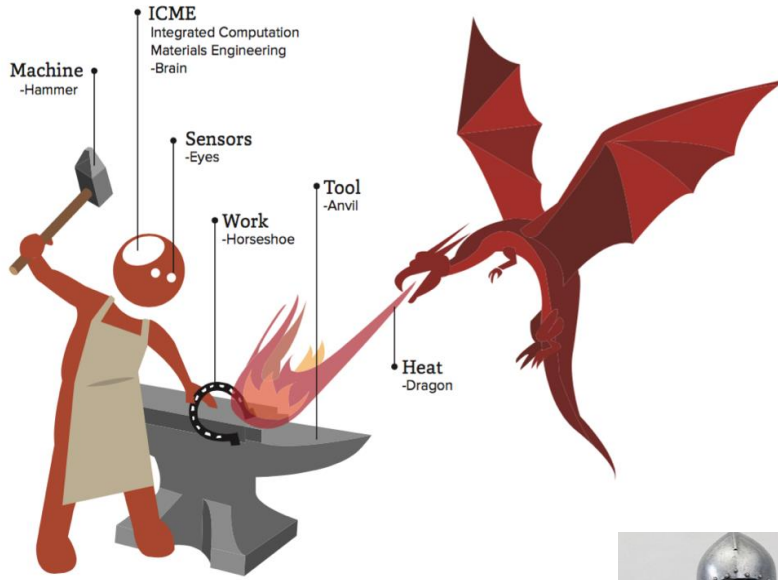
Tekkaya & Lange



M. F. Ashby, 2010

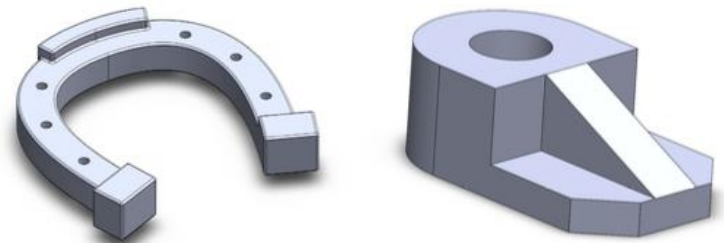
[www.grantdesign.com/education/resources](http://www.grantdesign.com/education/resources)

# Third Wave: Metamorphic

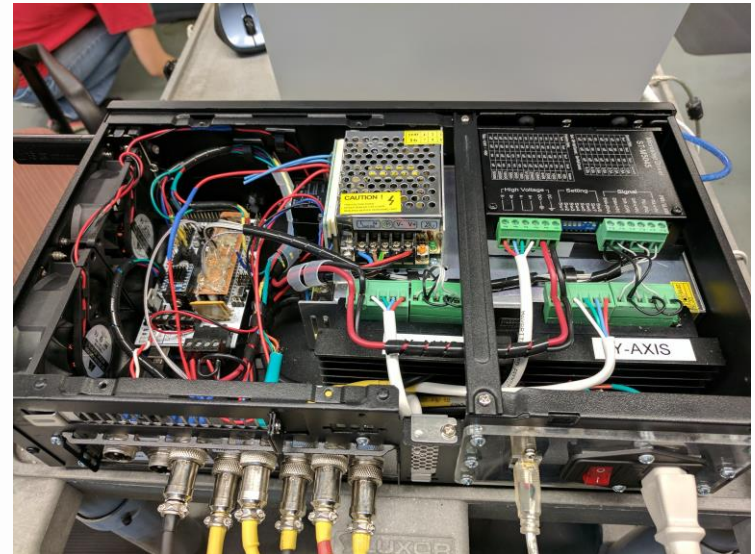
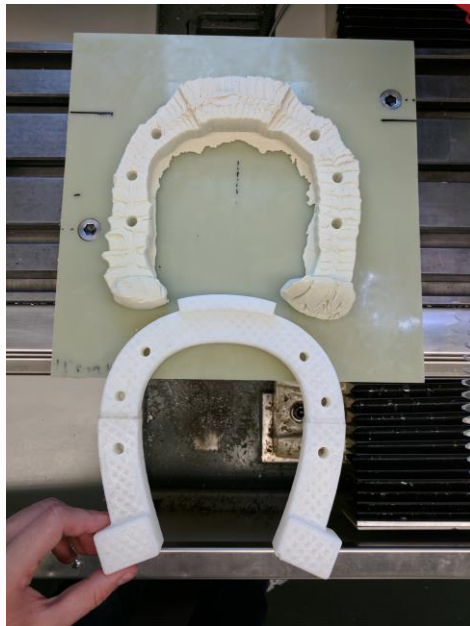
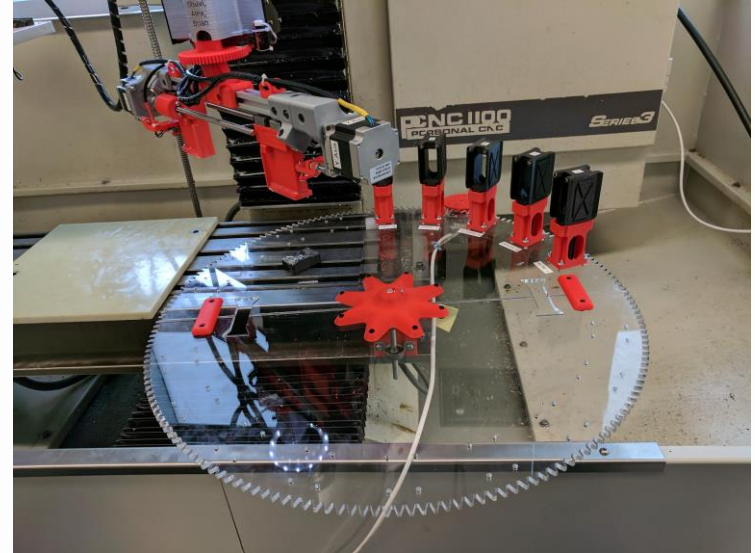


# Proof: Plasticine and Metal

**LIFT Prize** – \$25k offered for a single programmable system that can shape 2 of 3 target parts.



# Team Honey Badger: Detail



# Technical: How

## Fundamentals

Plasticine is a hot metal surrogate.

Volume conserved

$$\varepsilon_1 + \varepsilon_2 + \varepsilon_3 = 0$$

Can make complex shapes by:

- Squeezing
- &
- Bending

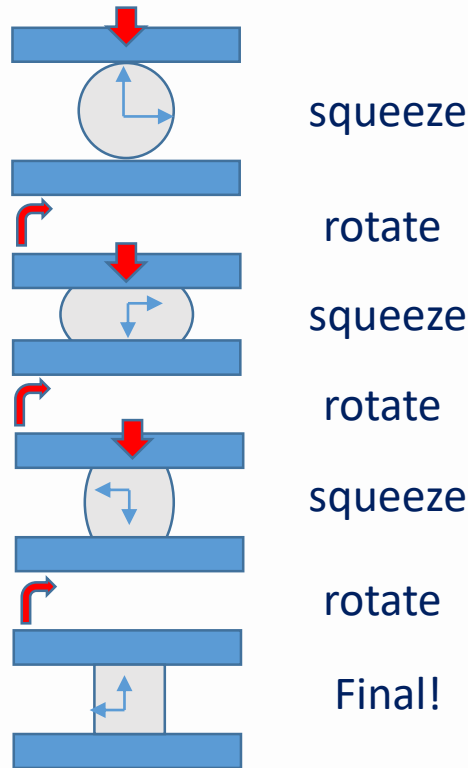
Primary deformation trumps secondary deformation.

How would you make a cube from a piece of clay?

## Controlled open die

Primary deformation trumps secondary deformation.

Rotate, shape, repeat. . .



## Increments

Very simple hydraulic cylinders can offer 40,000 pounds force; ~1" square interchangeable tools and multiple programmed strokes.

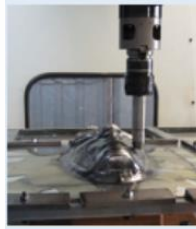


20-Ton C-Clamp, 40 kg  
20-Ton cylinder, 15 kg

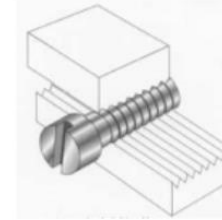
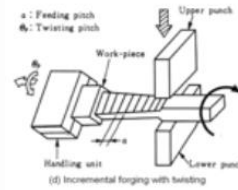
# Technical: How

Many focused examples:  
 Incremental sheet  
 Incremental bar  
 Stretchers  
 Shrink  
 Flexible profile bending  
 Flexible ring rolling  
 Open die forging  
 Powered hammers  
 Etc...

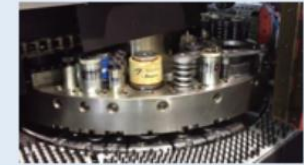
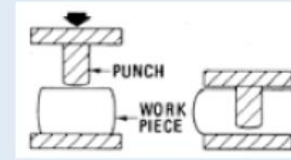
## Sheet



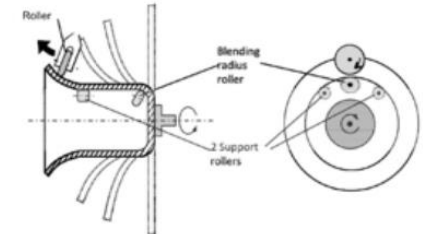
## Bar



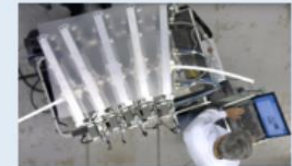
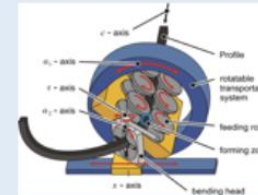
## Bulk



## Axisymmetric



## Profile

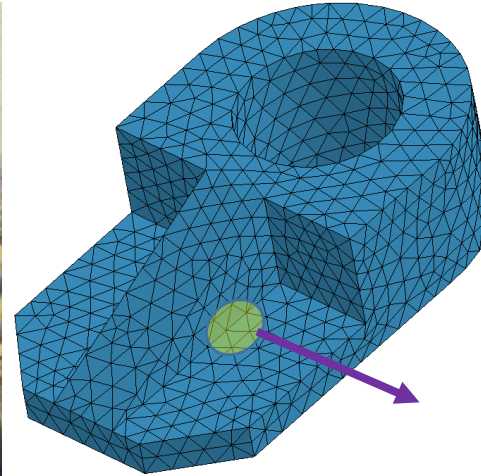




# Technical: What



German anonymous, circa 1606

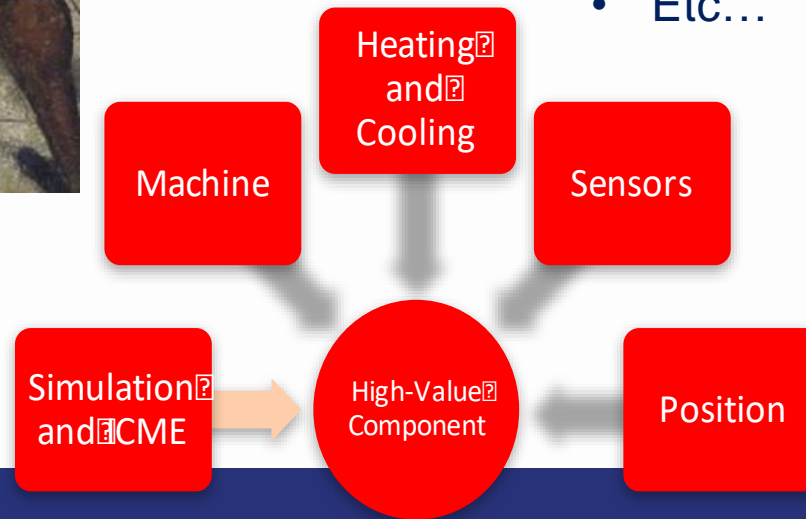


## Track with time:

- Temperature
- Strain tensor
- Stress tensor

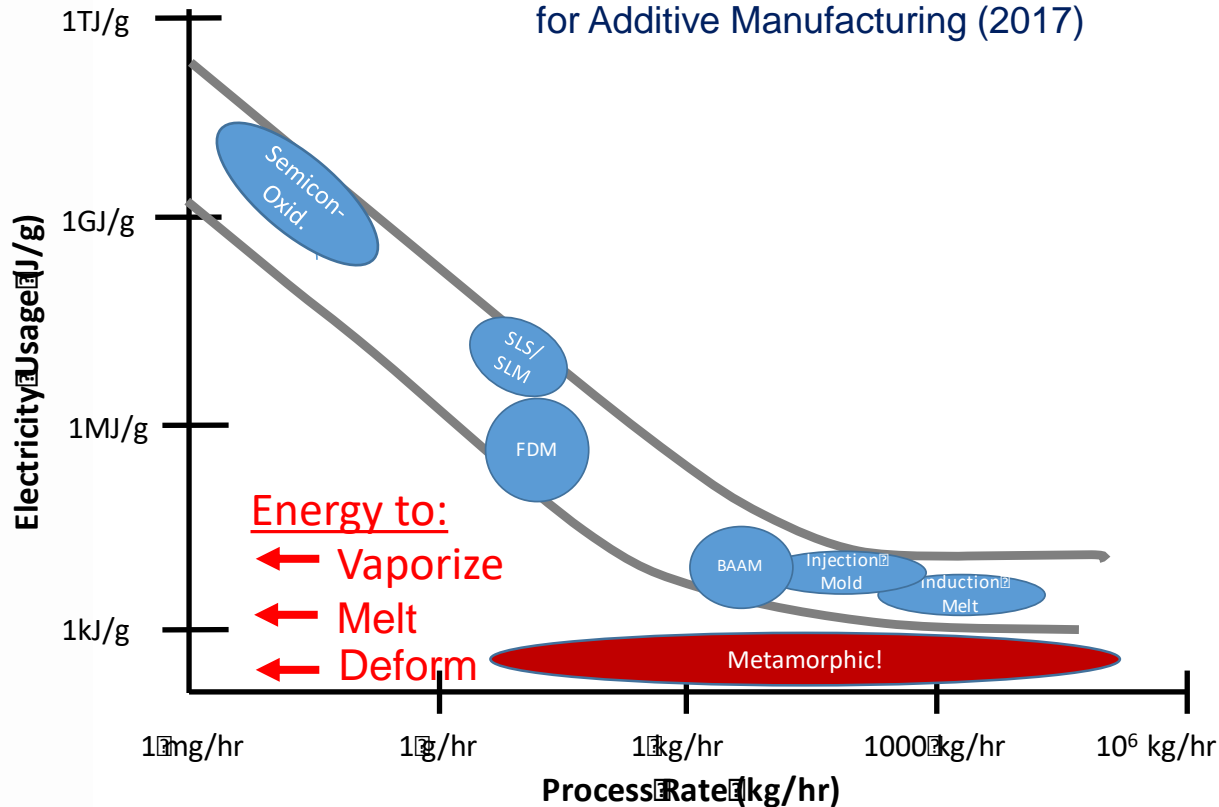
## Predict:

- Microstructure
- Damage
- Anisotropy
- Etc...



# Technical: Why -- Carbon Footprint

Gutowski et.al.: Energy Efficiency for Additive Manufacturing (2017)



Shape by deformation more efficient than:

- Machining
- Casting
- Powder Metallurgy
- Additive

Also

- Range of materials
- Established Tech.
- No HIPping

# Technical: Better, Cheaper, Assured

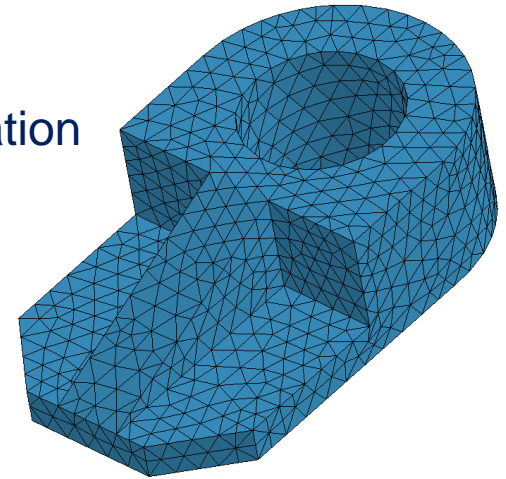
Wrought metals generally have the best properties

Weld metal lay-ups could provide initially graded compositions

Metal forming is relatively inexpensive. Dies account for most of the cost and lead time.

**Power** of the forming system largely sets forming time

Sensing and big data assure each part is within specification



# Policy: **Synthesis**, not just Analysis

Lots to be done to launch an new industry. Public investment needed.

Scientific basis is **not** the key; its synthesizing building, developing standards and communities.

Need to engage our workforce and community colleges.

Demonstrate room for creativity and innovation in manufacturing.

Need to stay in front of Fraunhofer-like collaborations.

Fund translational research centers  
(See MForesight talk, Thursday).

Fund openly available specialized facilities for training, innovation trials and research.

Don't get locked out of IP.

**Press Function** : Multi-purpose double action forming

**Capabilities:**

- Local temperature control
- Double action forming 300x230Ton
- FB35"xSS35"x 24" Daylight



# Summary: We Need Metamorphic Mfg!

Subtract → Add → Morph. (shape and properties)

Based on fast advancing disciplines

Robotics

Integrated Computational Materials Engineering

Artificial Intelligence

Sensors

Control



Can scale naturally to large sizes

Provides exceptional materials properties; extendable to graded chemistry

Naturally provides a path for qualification and certification

Is an opportunity for the USA. Helps balance of trade. Cement this here by:

Fast innovation

Skilled workforce (motivated by creative opportunity)

Unique and accessible equipment

# Further Information

LIFT Agile and Low Cost Processing Pillar Docs: <https://lift.technology/pillar/novel-agile-processing/>

## Key elements of this technology:

Open die forging: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Forging>

Closed loop control: <http://www.hydraulicspneumatics.com/other-technologies/get-more-closed-loop-control>

Incremental Forming: “Incremental Bulk Metal Forming”, P. Groche, et al. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cirp.2007.10.006>

3-D optical dimensional measurement: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/3D\\_scanner](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/3D_scanner)

Thermo-mechanical processing: (huge topic), maybe start at: <https://www.doitpoms.ac.uk>, here's a book: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/bookseries/14701804/11>

Daehn and Taub *Manufacturing Letters* Publication: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.mfglet.2018.02.014>

# Robots -- Way better than humans

Stronger.

Better sensors.

Faster decisions.

Can Learn!

Can record everything.

No attitude.



Other examples:

Making pizza

laying bricks

Robo-dogs

Robo-Soldiers

Example: **Japanese Robot Sumo**

Movie from: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QCqxOzKNFks>

See rules at: <http://robogames.net/rules/all-sumo.php>