



A Transformative Epoch in Material Science & Engineering and Manufacturing

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Alpha Sigma Mu Lecture

Detroit, MI

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Presentation Themes

- **The PEST Challenge** - Political, Economic, Social, & Technological (PEST)
- **Global Environment**
- **Industry 4.0**
- **Trends in Manufacturing & MS&E**
- **Knowledge Management** – The Great Enabler & Challenge
- **Exemplar Technologies**
- **Crystal Ball** – What Might the Future Hold



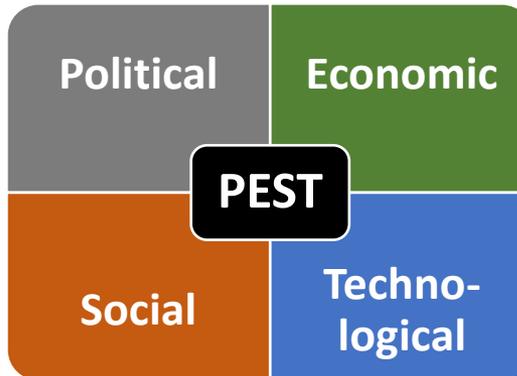
Complex Political, Economic, Social and Technological Forces Shape Global MS&E and Manufacturing

Political

- Democracy Vs Authoritarian
- Stability & Rule of Law
- Immigration Policy
- Alliances – Military, Regional, Economic
- Mega Companies
- Public-Private Consortium

Social

- Demographics - Sex, Age, Education, Race, & Ethnicity, Education
- Religion & Culture
- Fertility Rate
- Xenophilia - Xenophobic



Economic

- Manufacturing Vs Service
- Agrarian - Industrialized
- Gross Domestic Product
- Distribution of Wealth
- Super Rich & Mega Corps.
- Trade & Tariffs
- Workforce - Knowledge Skills & Abilities

Technology

- Industry 4.0 -> 5.0
- Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning
- Modeling & Simulation
- Diverse Data Convergence
- In situ Sensor

Global Environment

Most Populated Countries

- Global Population: **7 billion** people in 2011; **8 billion** people in 2022
- **35%** of the world lives in **two countries**
- **56.8%** of the world's population live in **ten countries**
- **56.8%** these people live in Urban areas.

#	Country	Population 2025	Density (P/Km ²)	Land Area (Km ²)	Fert. Rate	Median Age	Urban Pop %	World Share
1	India	1,463,865,525	492	2,973,190	1.94	28.8	37.10%	17.78%
2	China	1,416,096,094	151	9,388,211	1.02	40.1	67.50%	17.20%
3	United States	347,275,807	38	9,147,420	1.62	38.5	82.80%	4.22%
4	Indonesia	285,721,236	158	1,811,570	2.1	30.4	59.60%	3.47%
5	Pakistan	255,219,554	331	770,880	3.5	20.6	34.40%	3.10%
6	Nigeria	237,527,782	261	910,770	4.3	18.1	54.90%	2.89%
7	Brazil	212,812,405	25	8,358,140	1.6	34.8	91.40%	2.59%
8	Bangladesh	175,686,899	1,350	130,170	2.11	26	42.60%	2.13%
9	Russia	143,997,393	9	16,376,870	1.47	40.3	75%	1.75%
10	Ethiopia	135,472,051	135	1,000,000	3.81	19.1	22.50%	1.65%

Source: Worldometer, 2025 data, <https://www.worldometers.info/world-population/#religions>, Downloaded 8/26/25



Economic Global Productivity

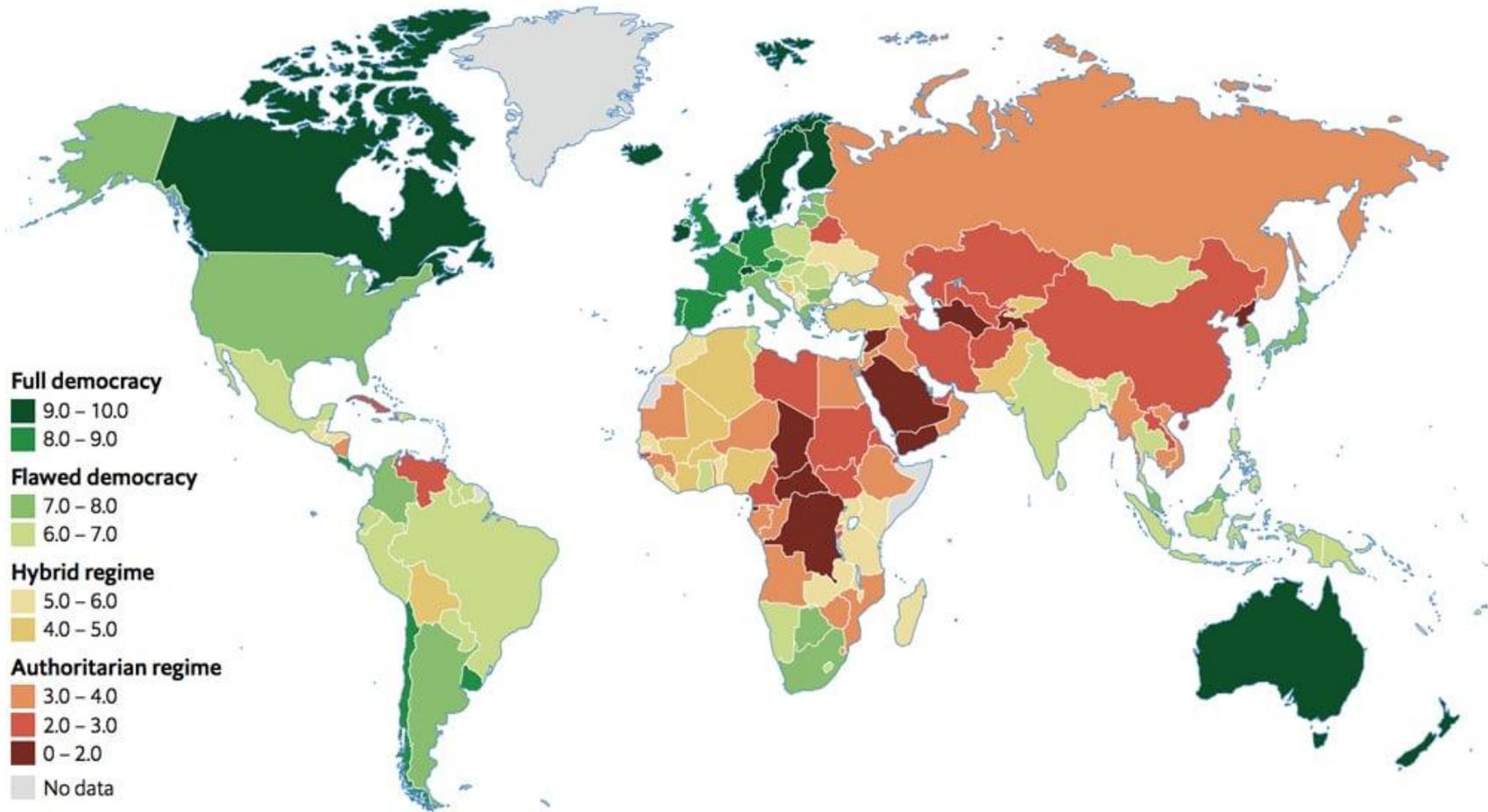
Estimated GDP Nominal	Estimated GDP (PPP)
1. United States: ~\$30.5 trillion	1. China: ~\$40.7 trillion
2. China: ~\$19.2 trillion	2. United States: ~\$30.5 trillion
3. Germany: ~\$4.7 trillion	3. India: ~\$17.6 trillion
4. India: ~\$4.2 trillion	4. Russia: ~\$7.2 trillion
5. Japan: ~\$4.2 trillion	5. Japan: ~\$6.7 trillion
6. United Kingdom: ~\$3.8 trillion	6. Germany: ~\$6.2 trillion
7. France: ~\$3.2 trillion	7. Indonesia: ~\$5.0 trillion
8. Italy: ~\$2.4 trillion	8. Brazil: ~\$5.0 trillion
9. Canada: ~\$2.2 trillion	9. France: ~\$4.5 trillion
10. Brazil: ~\$2.1 trillion	10. United Kingdom: ~\$4.4 trillion

GDP – Gross Domestic Product uses market exchange rates compares the economic value of a country's production

GDP (PPP) – Purchasing Power Parity adjusts for differences in cost of living between countries.

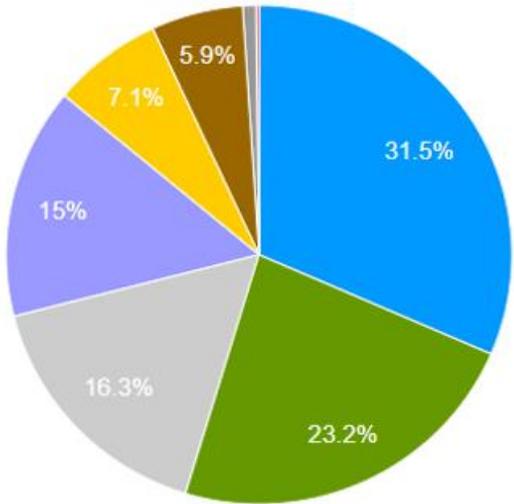
Politics

Global Democracy Vs Authoritarian

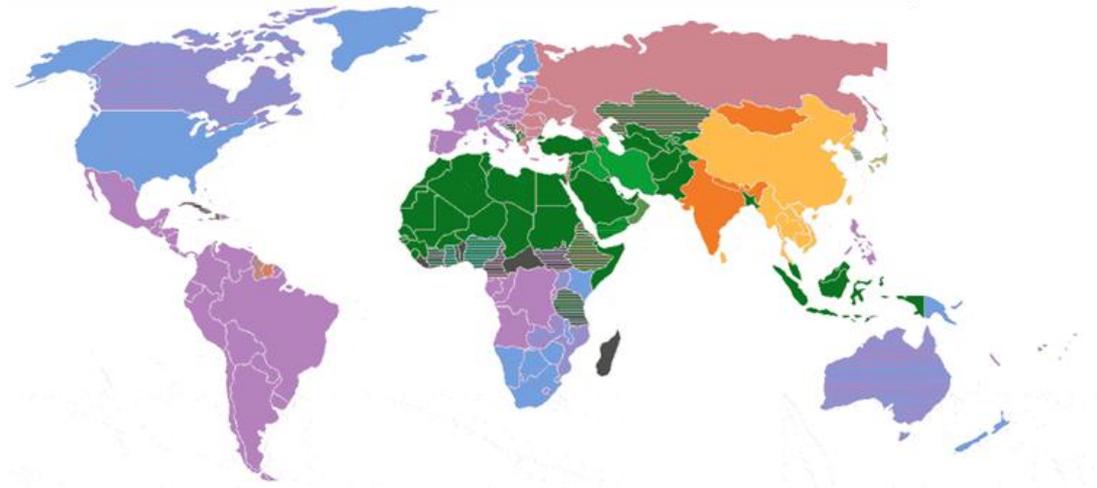


Source: <https://www.atlasandboots.com/remote-work/worlds-most-democratic-countries/>

Social Global Religion Demographics



- Christians
- Muslims
- None
- Hindus
- Buddhists
- Folk Religionists
- Other Religions
- Jews



Prevailing Religion

- Catholic Christianity
- Orthodox Christianity
- Protestant Christianity
- Sunni Islam
- Shi'ite Islam
- Islam (other groups)
- Hinduism
- Judaism
- Chinese Religion
- Theravada Buddhism
- Mahayana Buddhism
- Vajrayana Buddhism
- Nature Religions
- Other Groups

<https://www.worldometers.info/world-population/#religions>



Social US Fertility Rate

Fertility Rate: The average number of children a woman would have in her lifetime.

United States Fertility Rate

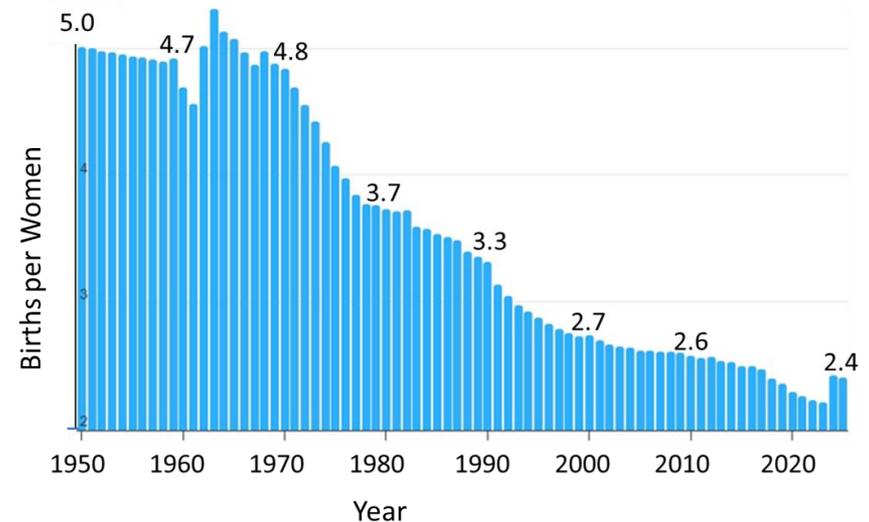
Trends

- Fertility rate dropped to a historic low of 1.599 children per woman in 2024.
- A fertility rate of 2.1 children per women is required to maintain the extant population.
- The US fertility rate has been declining since 2007

Possible Contributing Factors

- Women are delaying childbearing
- Financial insecurity, lack of affordable childcare, and paid parental leave
- Greater access to birth control

Global Fertility Rate



Sources: 1. Hamilton, Brady E.;Martin, Joyce A.;Osterman, Michelle J.K.; “Births: Provisional Data for 2024” National Center for Health Statistics (U.S.), 4/23/2025, URL : <https://stacks.cdc.gov/view/cdc/174587>, 2. <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr74/nvsr74-3.pdf> Macrotrends, 3. <https://macrotrends.net/global-metrics/countries/wld/world/fertility>

Mega Global Economic Trends

Demographic and Social Trends

- Aging population - silver economy
- Urbanization – by 2050, 68% of the world’s population living in cities.

Sustainability and Energy

- Renewable energy (1.5 trillion in 2025)
- Energy transition – move to sustainability and environmentally friendly
- Circular economy – recycling and sustainability projected to reach 7.9 trillion in 2050

Technology and Innovation

- AI to drive economic growth. Estimates of 7.9 trillion by 2050
- Digitalization – projected to continue to drive growth and innovation. IoT projected to reach 3.35 trillion by 2030

Slowing and Uneven Global Growth

Shifting economic power

- Rise of Superstar Firms –consolidating market power and capturing a significant share of economic profits.

Geopolitical Tensions & Trade

Fragmentation

- Shift in Supply Chains
- Trade barriers and Tariffs
- Impact on Economies

Inflation and Monetary Policy Divergence

- Uneven Disinflation. Emerging markets with higher inflation
- Central Bank Response

Public Debt and Fiscal Constraints

- Rising debt servicing costs
- Fiscal policy challenges



Top Ten: Companies & Richest Men

(Knowledge, Computational & Data Management Dominance)

Knowledge Management Technological Dominance

1. **Nvidia:** \$4.4 T (Semiconductors)
2. **Microsoft:** \$3.7 T (Software)
3. **Apple:** \$3.4 T (Hardware)
4. **Alphabet (Google):** \$2.5 T (Communications)
5. **Amazon:** \$2.4 T (Retail)
6. **Meta Platforms:** \$1.9 T (Communications)
7. **Saudi Aramco:** \$1.5 T (Energy)
8. **Broadcom:** \$1.4 T (Semiconductors)
9. **TSMC:** \$1.2 T (Semiconductors)
10. **Berkshire Hathaway:** \$1.1 T (Financials)

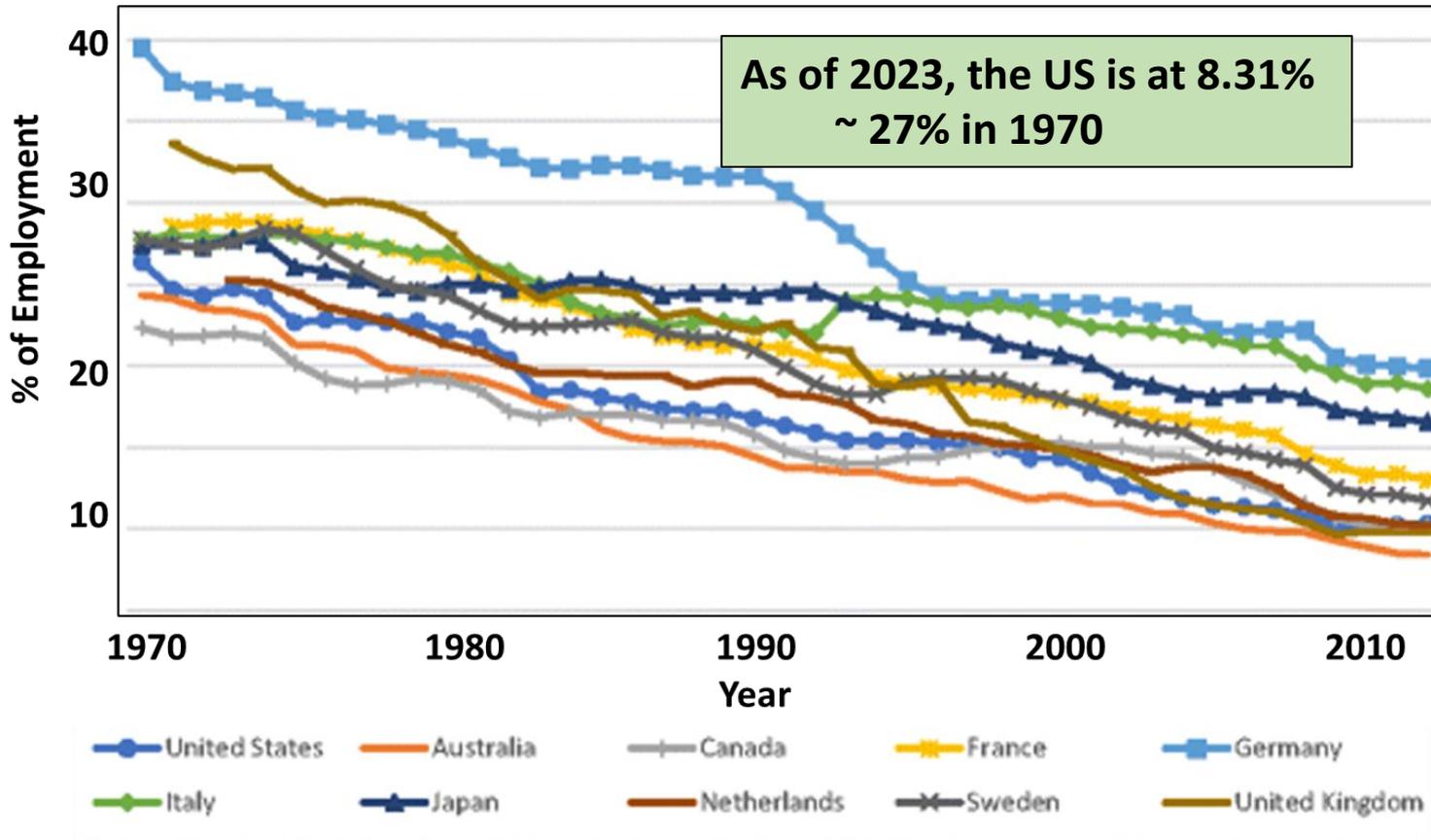
1. **Elon Musk:** \$400 billion, (Tesla, SpaceX)
2. **Larry Ellison:** \$291 billion, (Oracle)
3. **Mark Zuckerberg:** \$260 billion, (Meta)
4. **Jeff Bezos:** \$230-244 billion (Amazon)
5. **Larry Page:** \$156-179 billion, (Alphabet)
6. **Jensen Huang:** \$135-152 billion (NVIDIA)
7. **Sergey Brin:** \$149 billion, (Alphabet)
8. **Steve Ballmer:** \$147-173 billion (Microsoft)
9. **Warren Buffett:** \$142-151.8 billion (Berkshire Hathaway)
10. **Bernard Arnault:** \$137-159 billion (Louis Vuitton, etc.)

TSMC - Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing

Sources: <https://disfold.com/>; <https://companiesmarketcap.com/>

Global Share of Workforce Working in Manufacturing

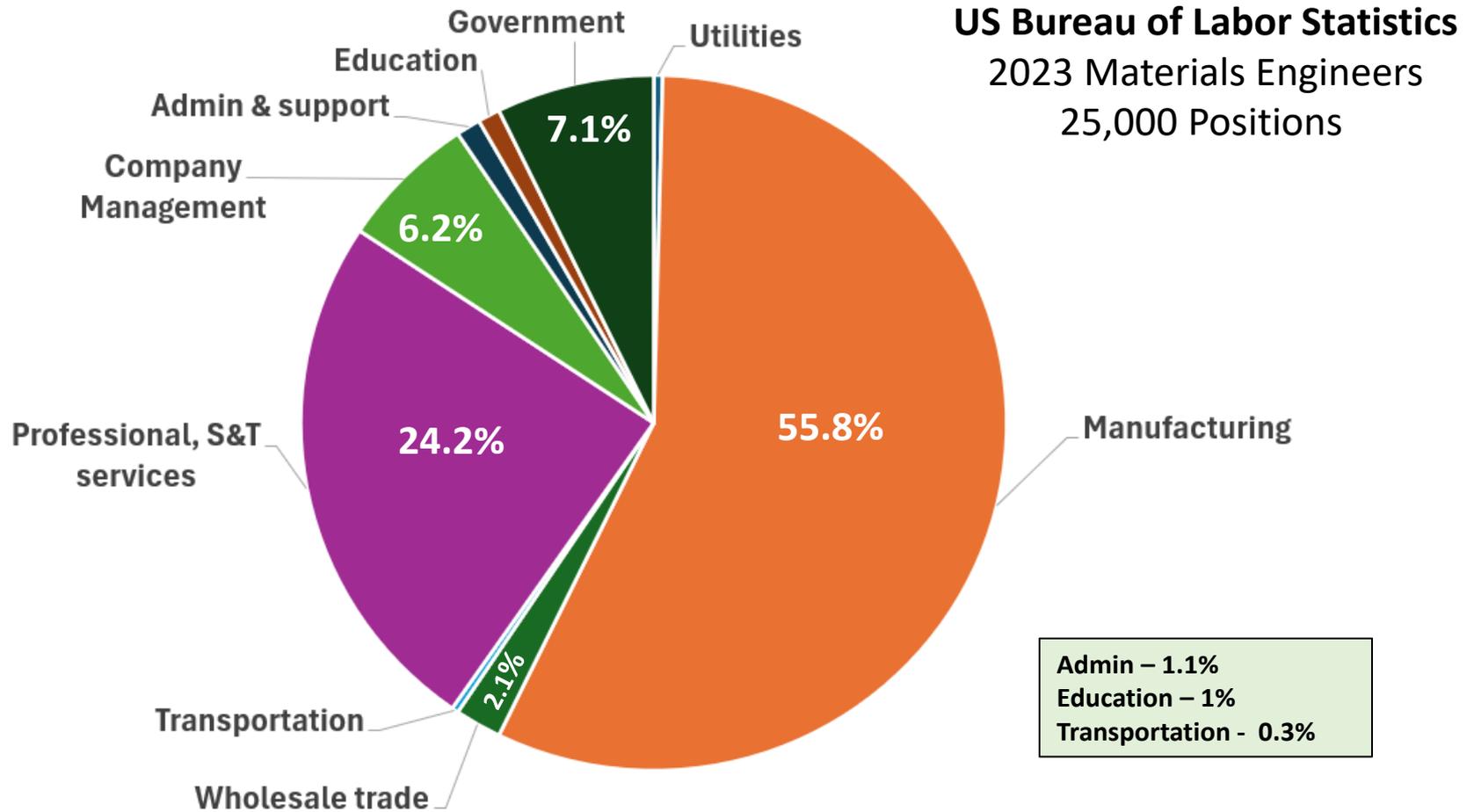
Long-term, systemic decline in manufacturing workforce.



Source: Economies Review 29(3) July 2018, Prosperousamerica.org 2023



Materials Engineers Sectors of Employment

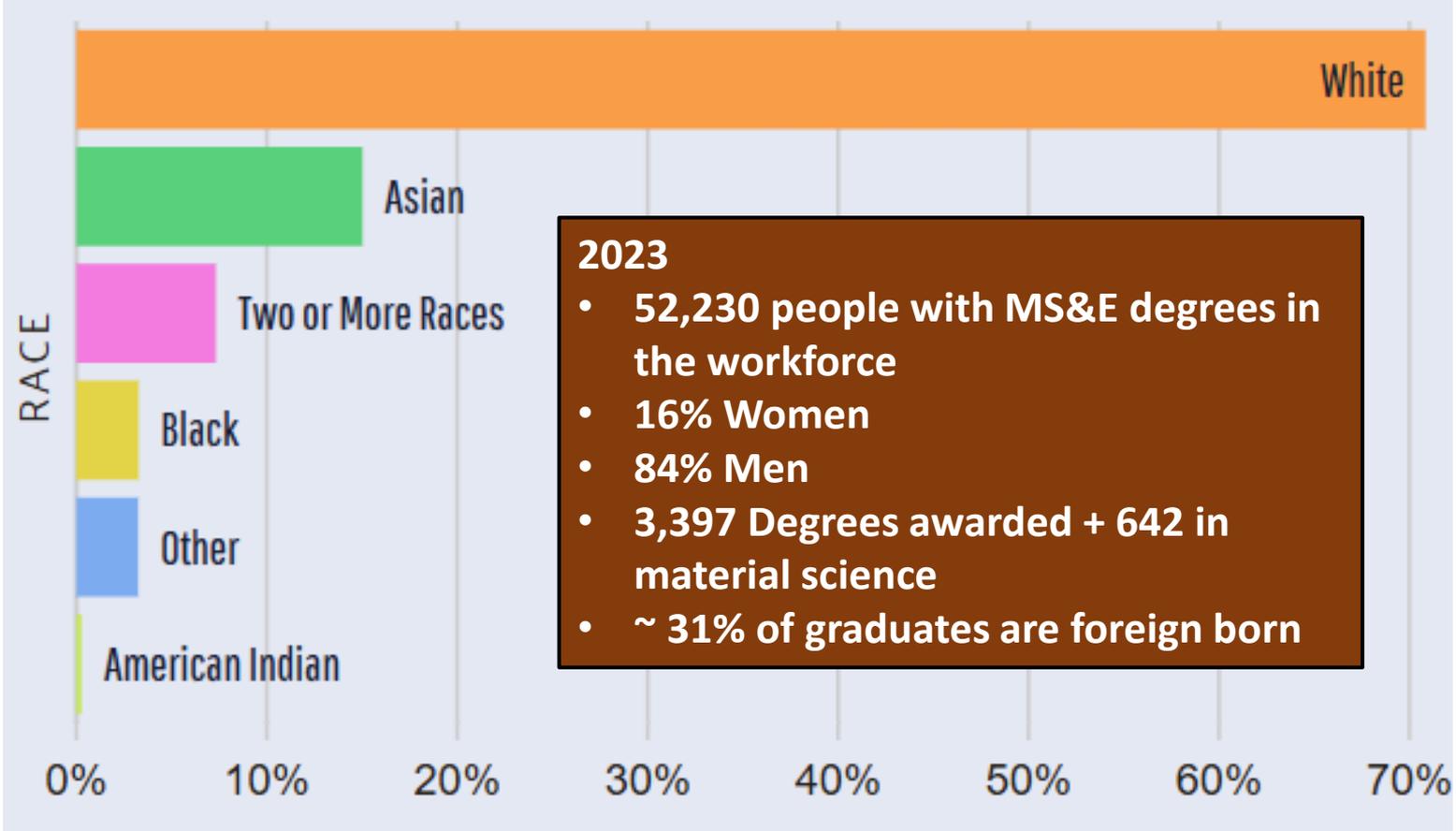




United States

Race & Ethnicity of Materials Engineering Degrees

US Population (2024) - 57.5% White, 12.6% Black, 20% Hispanic, 6.7% Asian



2023

- 52,230 people with MS&E degrees in the workforce
- 16% Women
- 84% Men
- 3,397 Degrees awarded + 642 in material science
- ~ 31% of graduates are foreign born

Sources: DATAUSA <https://datausa.io/profile/cip/materials-engineering-141801>
<https://datausa.io/profile/soc/materials-engineers>



Material Science & Engineer Publications A Measure of Productivity

Country / Region	2003	2023	% in 2003	% in 2023
World	37,400	91,511	100.0	100.0
China	6,553	42,330	17.5	46.3
EU-27 & UK	10,659	15,836	28.5	17.3
India	1,475	10,742	3.9	11.7
United States	7,140	6,753	19.1	7.4
Japan	5,352	3,480	14.3	3.8
South Korea	1,532	3,010	4.1	3.3
Iran	143	1,956	0.4	2.1
Saudi Arabia	81	1,580	0.2	1.7
Australia	529	1,563	1.4	1.7
Canada	730	1,404	2.0	1.5
Brazil	862	1,320	2.3	1.4

China:	265% increase
India:	300% increase
US:	61% decrease
EU/UK:	39% decrease
Japan:	73% decrease

Source: National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics; Science-Metrix; Elsevier, Scopus abstract and citation database, accessed February 2025; World Bank Country and Lending Groups, accessed February 2025

Industry 4.0 & 5.0

Industry 4.0 a Term coined in 2011
(by the German government)

- Public-private funding
- Strategies for Tech. Implementation
- ID business drivers & barriers.

Core idea of Industry 4.0

- Digital technology to create "**Smart Factories**"
- Integration of production and operations
 - ✓ Smart digital technology,
 - ✓ Machine learning, and
 - ✓ Big data.
- Enhances productivity, efficiency & reduces cost

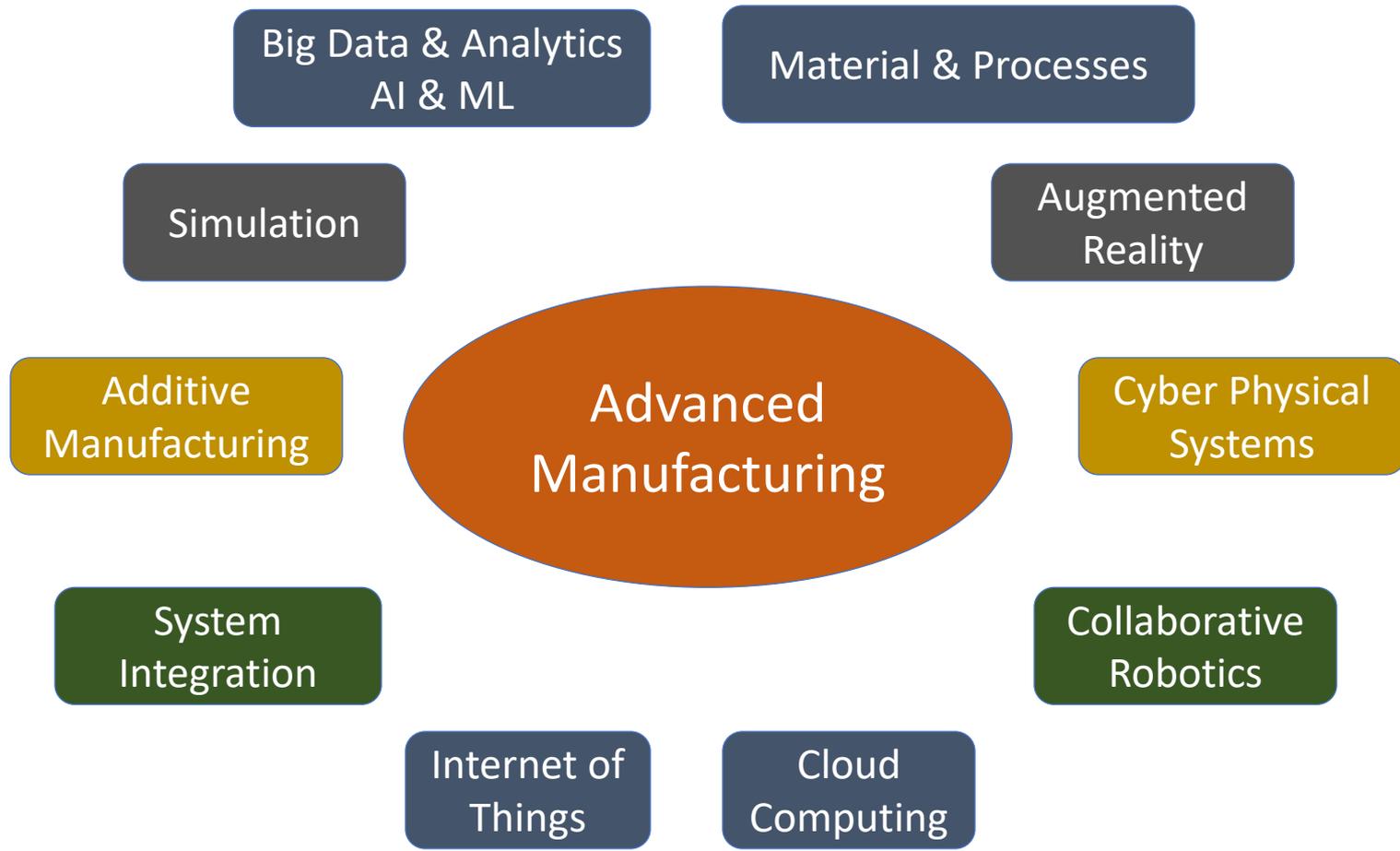
Industry 5.0 the Fifth Industrial Revolution

- Builds upon Industry 4.0
- Emphasizes a human-centric, sustainable, and resilient approach to manufacturing and production.

Key Principles

- **Human-Centricity** –What technology can do for workers
- **Sustainability** – Active, efforts to create positive planet change.
- **Resilience** –robustness and adaptability in face of disruptions, e.g., pandemics, supply chain disruptions, etc.

What is Advanced Manufacturing?



Pillars of Industry 4.0

Trends in Manufacturing

I. Hyper-Automation & AI-Driven Decision Making

(AI/ML adoption to promote productivity)

- **Smart Factories leveraging connected systems**
- **Sustainable & Circular Manufacturing**
 - Eco-friendly practices
- **Digital Twin & Predictive Maintenance**
 - Real-time simulation & optimization
 - Reduce equipment failures & downtime
- **Edge Computing**
 - Faster data processing & reduce latency

II. Industry Shifts

- **Supply Chain Restructuring**
 - Prioritizing resilience, efficiency & sustainability
- **Micro-factories**
 - Emergence of small factories
- **Workforce Transformation**
 - Workforce development, upskilling, & reskilling to address labor shortages and adapt to new technologies.

III. Emerging Technologies

- **Artificial Intelligence (AI)**
 - Process optimization,
 - Predict maintenance
 - Efficiency
- **Internet of Things (IoT)**
 - Data collection
 - Optimize supply chain
- **Additive Manufacturing**
 - Customization
 - Complex products
 - Enhanced production speed
- **Robotics and Automation**
 - Enhance product quality
 - Lower labor costs



Trends in Material Science and Engineering

Sustainability and Circular Economy

- Biodegradable & Bio based Materials
- Recyclability and Upcycling
- Carbon Capture Materials.

Advanced and Smart Materials

- Self-Healing Materials
- Metamaterials
- Shape Memory Materials

Computational Materials Science and Materials Informatics

- Generative AI for Materials Design
- Data-Driven Materials Development.

Advanced Manufacturing and Lightweighting

- Additive Manufacturing
- Lightweight Materials

Nanotechnology and 2D Materials

- Graphene and Other 2D Materials
- Quantum Dots

- **Positive Growth Projections:** The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) projects that employment for materials engineers and scientist is expected to grow by 7-8% from 2023 to 2033.
- **In-Demand Technical Skills:** Additive Manufacturing, Computational Materials Science & AM/ML, Nanotechnology, Polymer and Composite Science, and Characterization & Testing.
- **Emerging Fields of Opportunity:** Sustainable & Green Materials, Energy Storage, Biomaterials, Smart Materials.



Small Business Exemplars Technology Innovators

Senvol has been engaged in work to leverage ML to **reduce the time and cost of AM qualification**. Three key areas of this work have included:

Pre-Qualification

- Focus: Use ML to optimize the pre-qualification activities and minimize the number of builds and coupons
- Benefits: Significant savings (time and cost) leading up to allowable generation; ML approach may reduce pre-qualification activities by >75% (time and cost)
- Example program that has leveraged this approach: AFRL FlexSpecs



Simulated Allowables (a.k.a. “ML Allowables”)

- Focus: Use ML to generate statistically-based material property predictions analogous to an allowable (e.g. B-basis)
- Benefits: Gatecheck; understand likely material allowable values *before* making the multi-year, multi-million dollar investment decision to generate actual allowables
- Example program that has leveraged this approach: Army AMMP

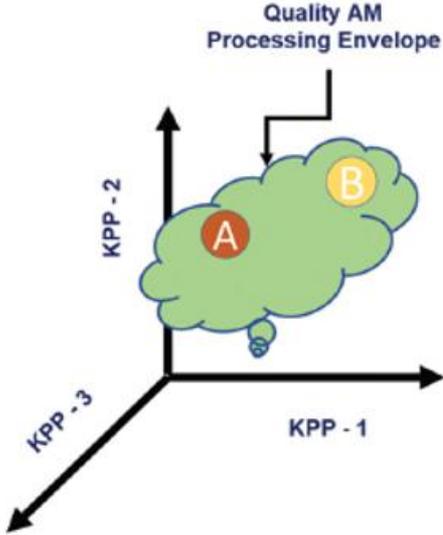
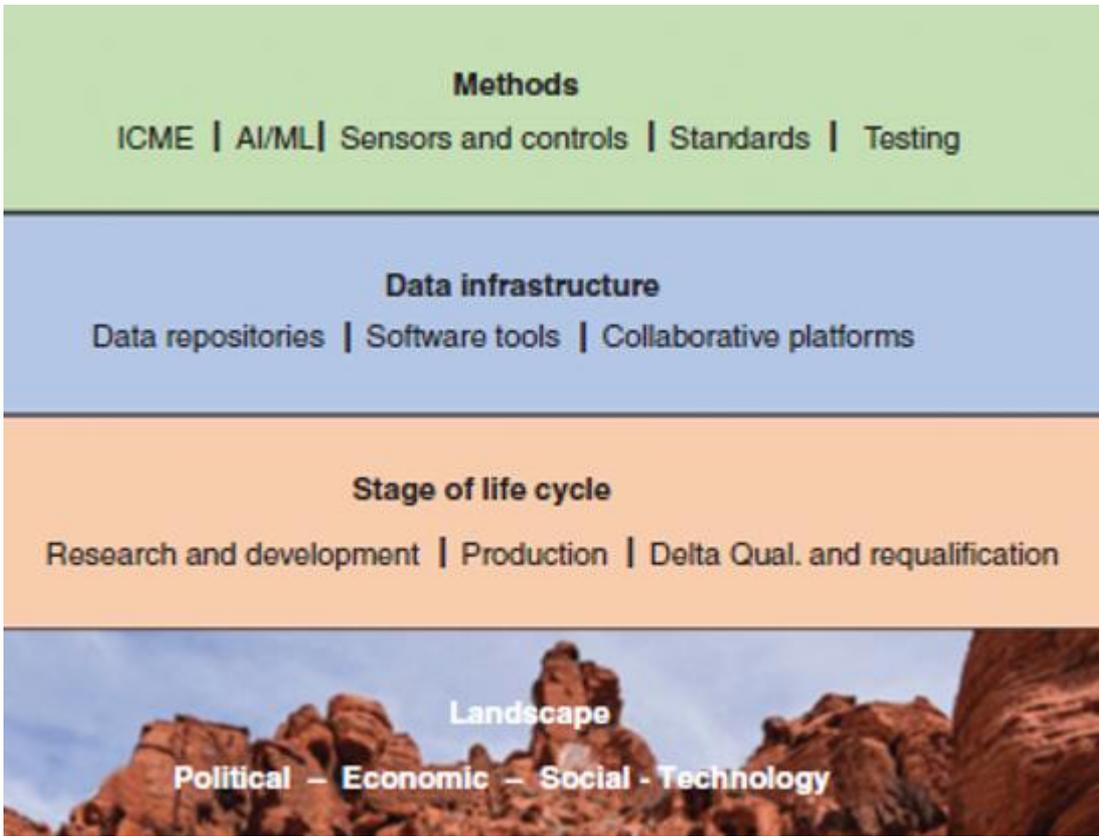


Equivalency

- Focus: Demonstrate a new, ML-enabled, approach to equivalency
- Benefits: Increase the chance of machines passing equivalency
- Example program that has leveraged this approach: America Makes Delta Qual



The Power of Machine Learning



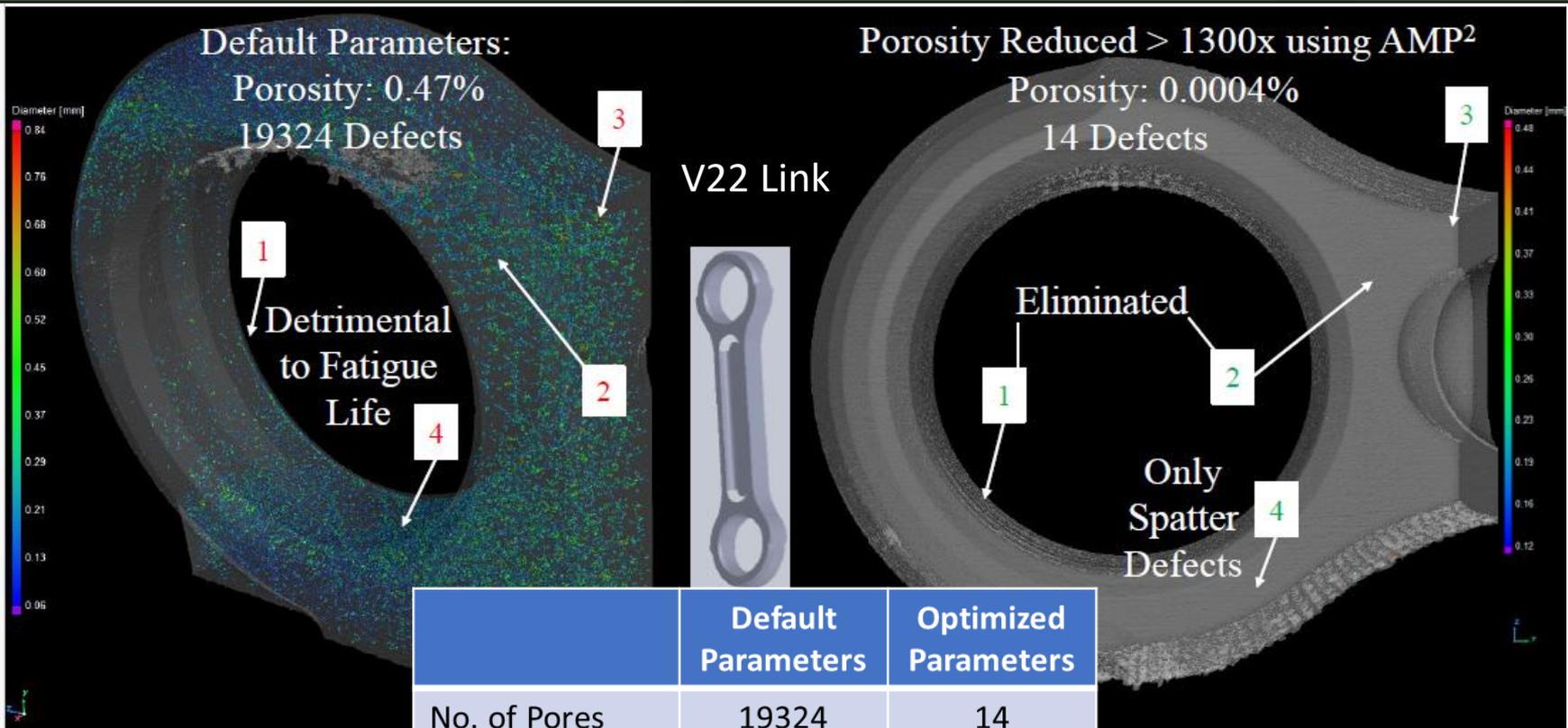
Property	A	B
Yield Strength, MPa	≥ 400	≥ 450
Elongation, %	10 to 12	≥ 8%
Fracture Toughness, MPa√m	35 to 45	≥ 30
Fatigue Strength, MPa	120	150

Sources: FRA_23 AM HDBK V24, FRA_23 AM ML Qualification

Modeling and Simulation

Reduced Porosity & Enhanced Fatigue

Applied Optimization Inc. successfully demonstrated that physics-based modeling & simulation could be used to dramatically improve part quality

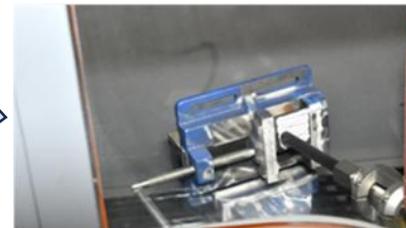
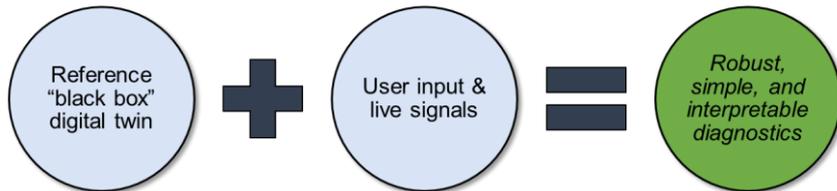
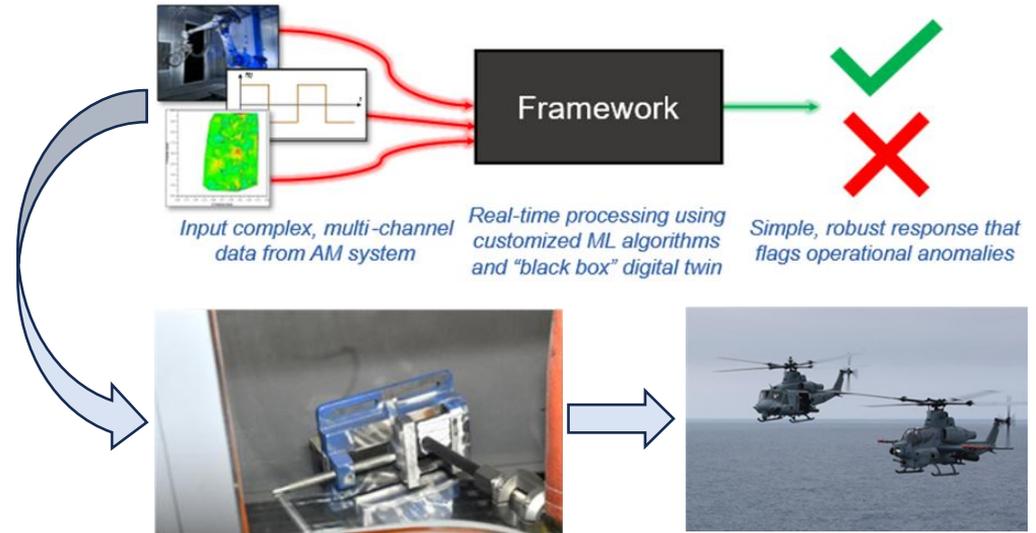


Secure Cold Spray AM for the Navy

Cyber-Physical Protection & Equipment Longevity

Realtime Data + Digital Twin + Machine Learning => Flags Anomalies & Potential Defects

- **Challenge:** Distributive AM poses cyber-physical risks (IP theft, tampering, unverified parts).
- **Innovation:** ML-driven anomaly detection + low-cost, non-invasive monitoring of cold spray.
- **Impact:** Real-time assurance of part authenticity, compliance, and operational safety.



Fleet Readiness Center East (FRCE) using cold spray metallization fielded on H-1 line at the depot's detachment on board Marine Corps Air Station New River.



Confidence in operational safety when secure cold spray repairs and AM can be achieved through cross-disciplinary innovations.

Contributed by Dr. Bryer Sousa (bsousa@tritonsys.com) & Dr. Jack Grubbs



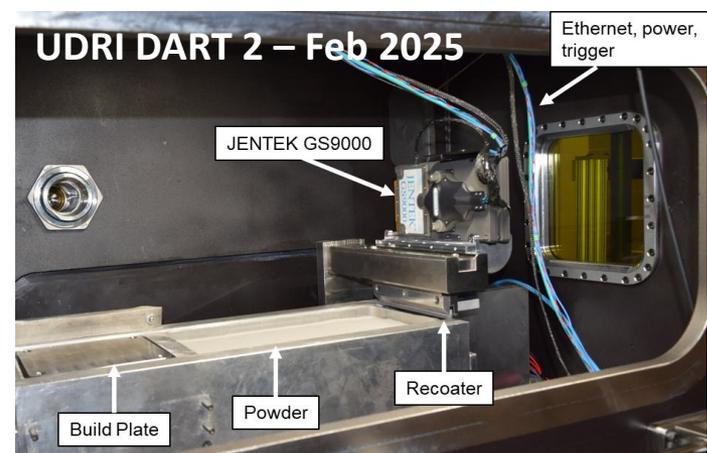
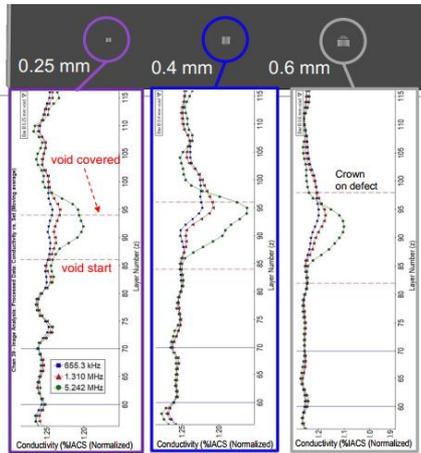


In-Situ Eddy Current Arrays for LPBF*

JENTEK Sensors, Inc.

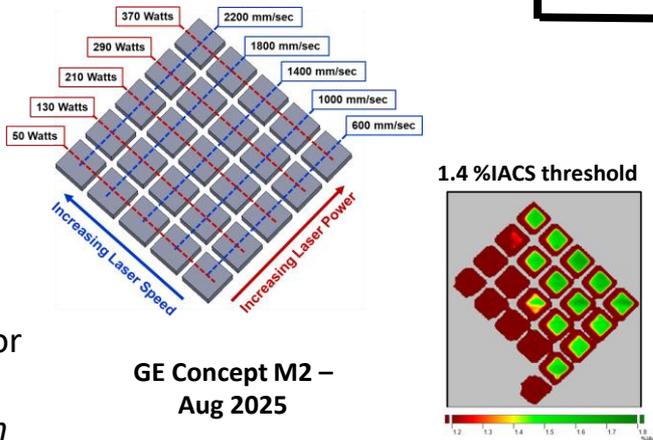
Local Defect Detection

- Less than 0.25mm voids to replace CT
- Covered defects 3-8 layers below surface
- Metallurgical and tight crack-like defects
- Z-directed filtering with Machine Learning under development



Conductivity Mapping

- Threshold good vs. bad
- Correlate with properties (e.g., porosity, hardness)
- Full 3D digital record

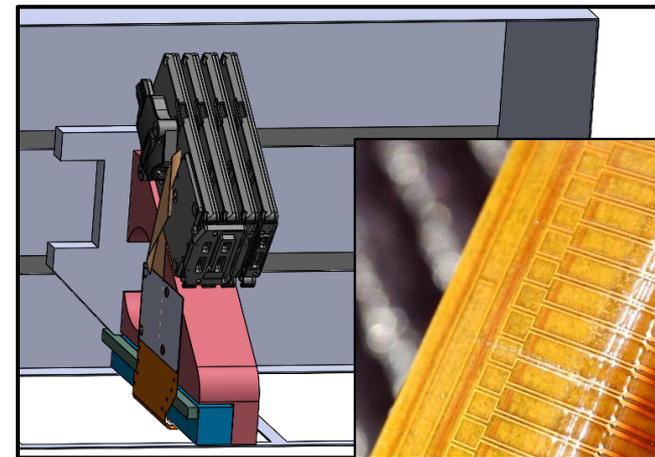


GE Concept M2 – Aug 2025

Wall Thickness Step Wedges

6	4.5	3	1.5 mm
2	1.5	1	0.5 mm

EOS M 290 – Nov 2025



WWM®-Array

Sub-pixel geometric imaging for edges and small features (*longer term development; likely requires fusion with optical or IR imaging*)



EDDY CURRENT ARRAY FATIGUE NDE & SHM

JENTEK Sensors, Inc.

Material	Structural Health Monitoring (SHM) & Non-Destructive Evaluation (NDE)
<p>Ti Alloy/Al Alloy</p> <p>Crack Detection</p>	<p>3982 cycles Crack not visible in replica</p> <p>5166 cycles Crack</p> <p>5431 cycles Crack</p> <p>Normalized Conductivity vs Cycles</p> <p>Normalized to MHz Conductivity vs Data Set Number</p>
<p>Steel Alloy</p> <p>Crack Detection</p>	<p>Data with baseline subtraction</p> <p>Permeability Change vs Encoder Position</p> <p>Crack on front side at 43,000 cycles</p> <p>Permeability Change vs Crack size, mil</p> <p>Crack on back side at 43,000 cycles</p>
<p>Stainless Steel</p> <p>Pre-Crack Martensite Imaging</p>	<p>Normalized Permeability at 158.4 kHz</p> <p>Normalized MWM Conductivity Measurements vs Percent of Total Fatigue Life</p>

- 1. Sensor Selection:** Sensors for measurement of laser and gas flow

Laser Subsystem



Gas Flow Subsystem



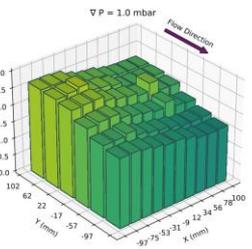
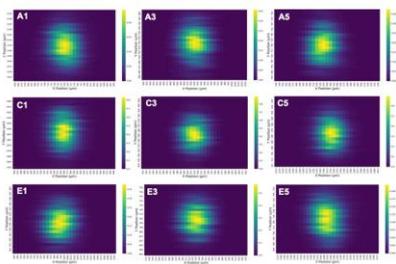
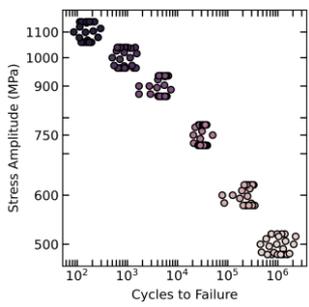
Data Driven PBF-LB/M QC

- 1. Sensor Selection:** Sensors for measurement of laser and gas flow
- 2. Representative Dataset:** Develop production-relevant dataset

Laser Subsystem



Gas Flow Subsystem



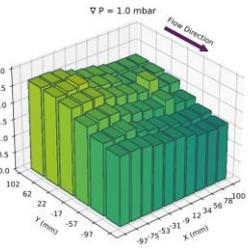
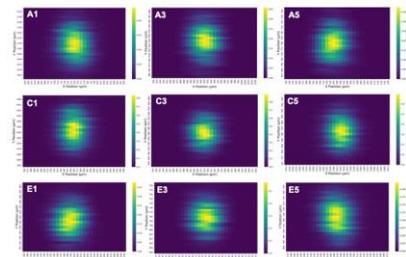
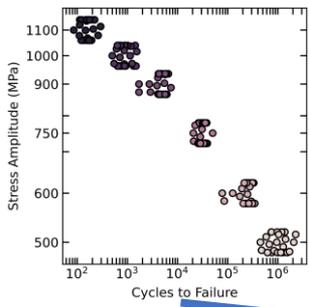
Data Driven PBF-LB/M QC

1. **Sensor Selection:** Sensors for measurement of laser and gas flow
2. **Representative Dataset:** Develop production-relevant dataset
3. **Analytics:** Predictions of mechanical properties based on subsystem performance

Laser Subsystem



Gass Flow Subsystem



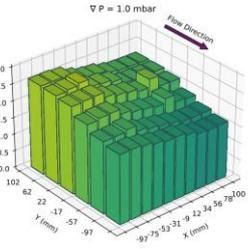
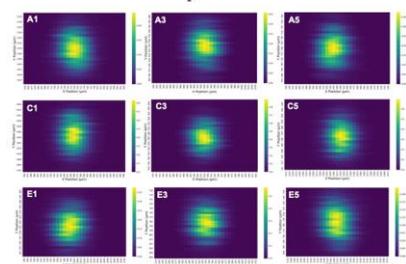
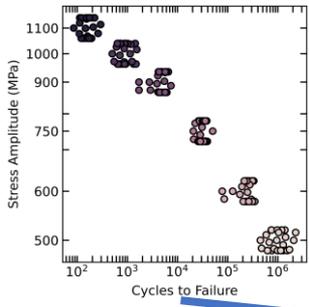
Data Driven PBF-LB/M QC

- Sensor Selection:** Sensors for measurement of laser and gas flow
- Representative Dataset:** Develop production-relevant dataset
- Analytics:** Predictions of mechanical properties based on subsystem performance
- Application:** Establish quality envelope based on requirements

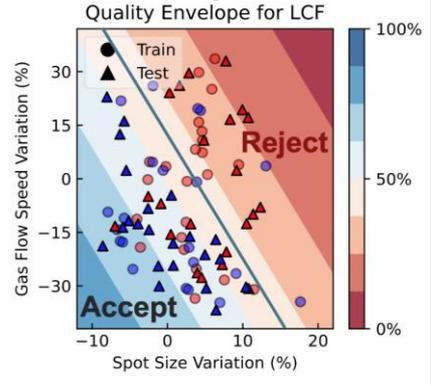
Laser Subsystem



Gas Flow Subsystem



$$\log(N) > -16.7 * \log(S_A) + 52.9 \text{ for } N < 10^4$$



Knowledge Management Landscape

Applications & Platforms

Computational and Modeling & Simulation
ICME, CAD, CAM, FEM, PLM, Accounting, Logistics, Forecasting

Data Analytics

Artificial Intelligence & Statistical
(Machine Learning, Neural Networks, Genetic Algorithms, ANOVA)

Data Repositories

Data Hub, Data Lake, Data Commons,
Data Warehouse, Federated Database

Knowledge Management

Lexicon, Thesaurus, Taxonomy, Ontology, Persistent Identifiers,

Foundational Elements

WWW, FAIR, Semantic Web
JASON-LD, NoSQL, RDF, XML, RESTful, OWL, MatML

Concluding Thoughts

- A Key Enabler is Knowledge Management (data, information, understanding, models & curation)
- We must adapt to Changing Global Environment
Political, Economic, Social & Technological (PEST) Forces are shaping the future.

“It is not the strongest of the species that survive, nor the most intelligent, but the one most responsive to change.”
— **Charles Darwin**



Thank You Presentation Contributors



JENTEK® Sensors, Inc. —



EWI



- Applied Optimization Dr. Anil Chaudhary
- EWI Dr. Alex Kitt
- JENTEK Sensors Dr. Neil Goldfine
- SENVOL Mr. Zach Simkin & Ms. Annie Wang
- Triton Systems Drs. Bryer Sousa & Jack Grubbs



Questions – Comments?



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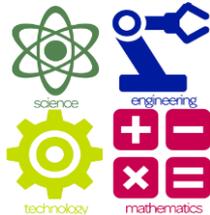


Working

Knowledge, Information, Data, Curation & Management



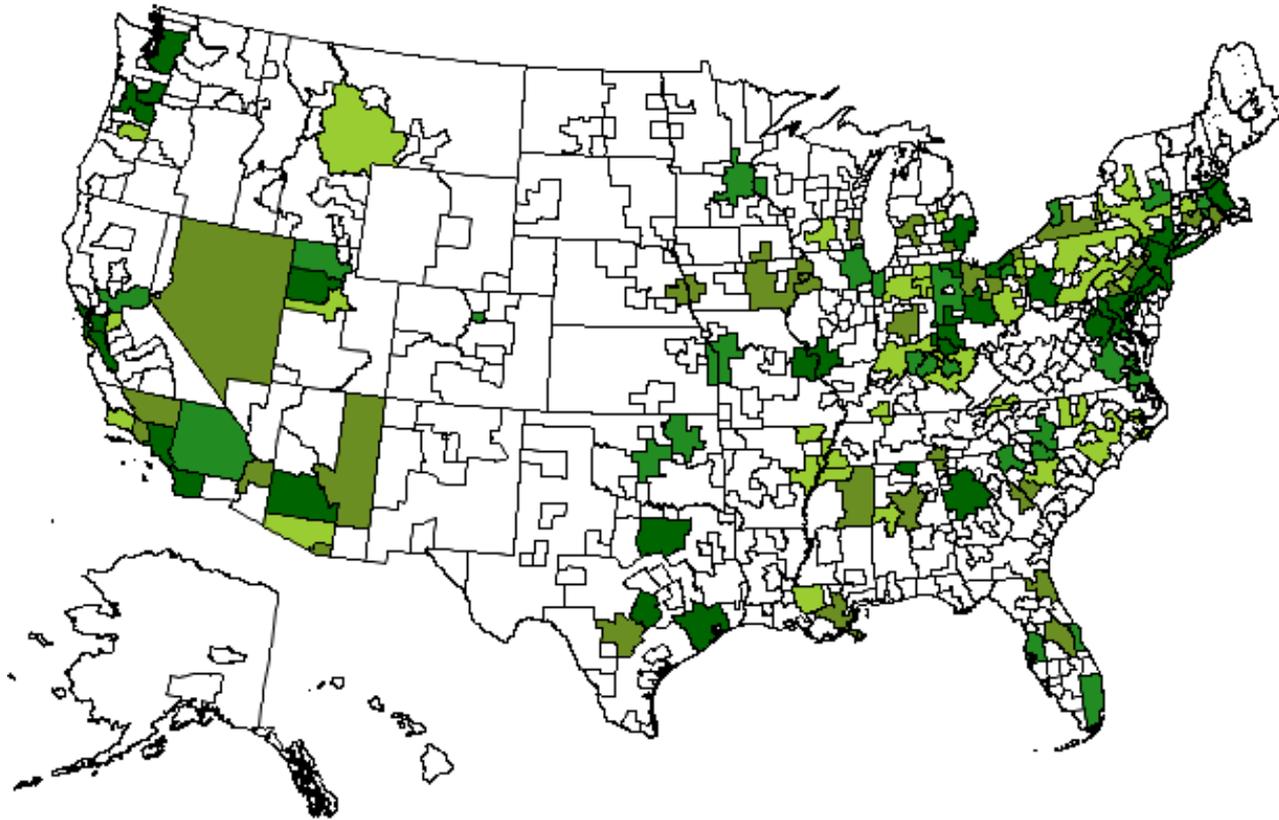
Science → Innovation ← Engineering



A "PEST" Problem

Employment of Materials Engineer in the US – 2023

US Bureau of Labor Statistics



Employment



Blank areas indicate data not available