

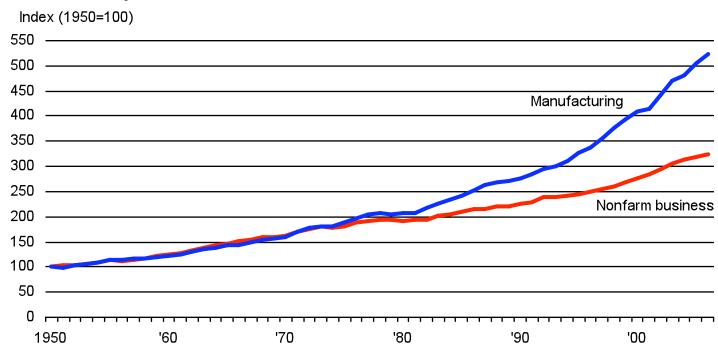
Extremely Agile, Adaptive, Responsive and Robust Manufacturing

Rodney Brooks
Heartland Robotics
(formerly iRobot & MIT)



US Manufacturing Productivity Has Increased Faster Than Other Productivity

Productivity

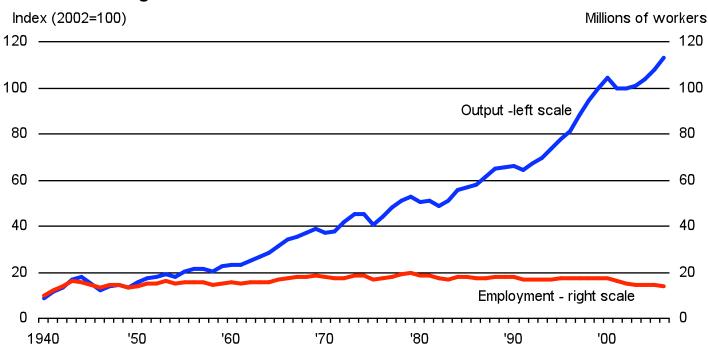


Source: Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, Oct. 2007



US Manufacturing Output Increased 3.7% per Year with 60 Year Mostly Flat Employment

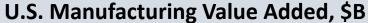
Manufacturing



Source: Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, Oct. 2007



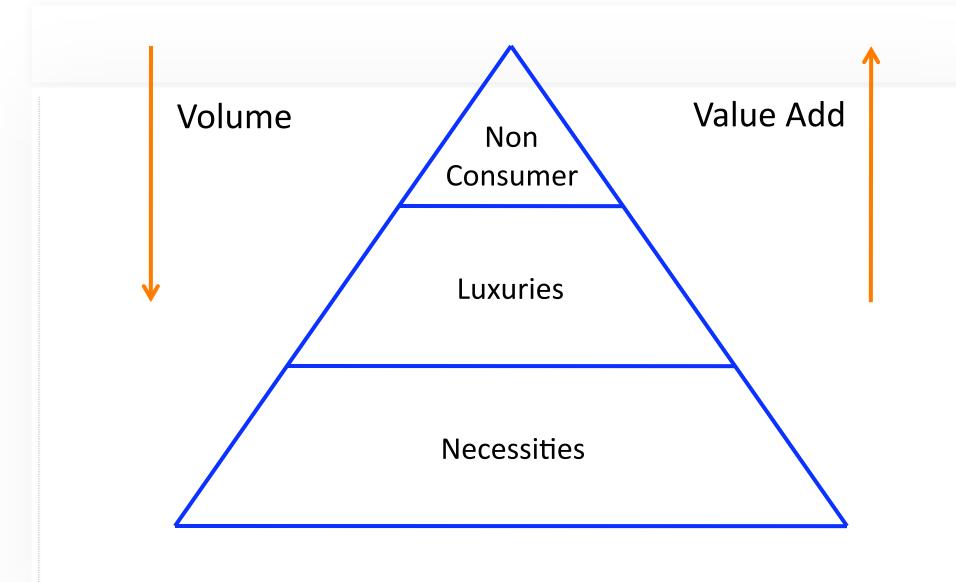
U.S. Manufacturing Value Added Remains World's Largest, But Growing Slowly





Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis



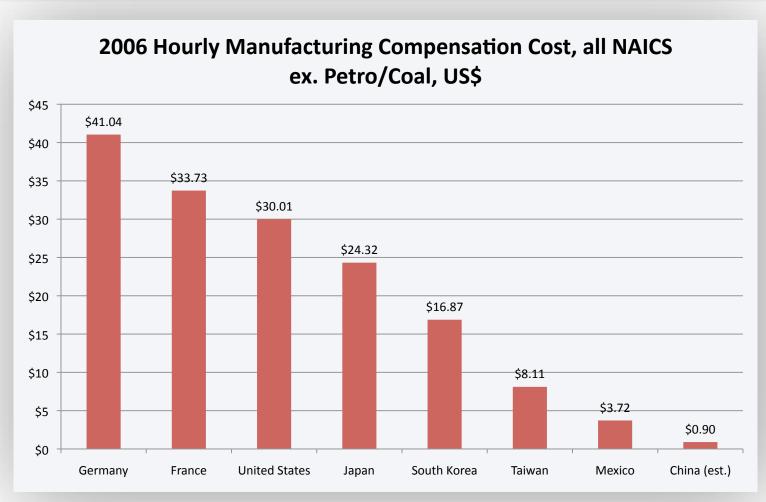


US Manufacturing Since WW2





Labor Cost Increases Move Low Value Goods



Sources: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics; China est. from Lett and Banister, U.S. BLS, "Labor Costs of Manufacturing Employees in China: an Update to 2003-04"; Deloitte & Touche survey of North American manufacturers



Low Cost Goods, E.g., Wal-Mart

- 2007: Direct Wal-Mart imports from China, \$32B
 (Financial Times Apr 7, 2008)
 - Approx 10% of all Chinese imports to the US, \$321B (US Census Bureau)
- Hard to account exactly, but many other indirect imports sold by Wal-Mart not counted in this number
 - e.g, \$900M by Hasbro (2008 Hasbro 10K with SEC)
 - many other US brand names, e.g., Black and Decker
- Leaves US with a significant trade deficit with China; \$259B in 2007 (US Census Bureau)
- Trade is a driver of strategic pressures



Low End Manufacturing





Workers are "Robotic"



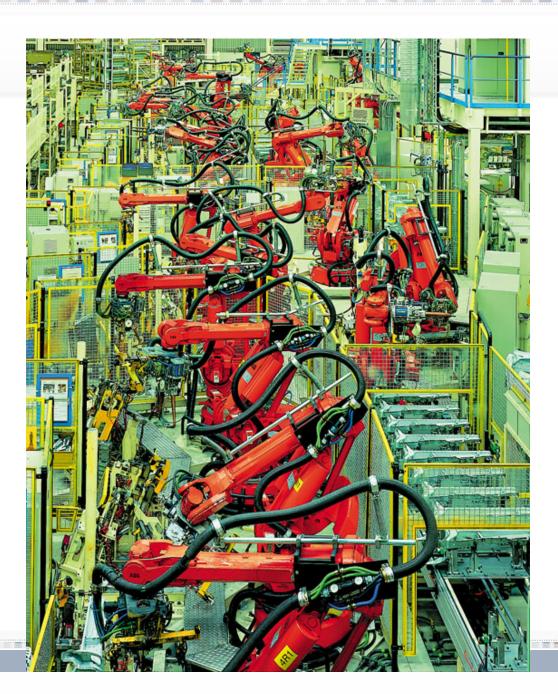


Each Does Simple Task



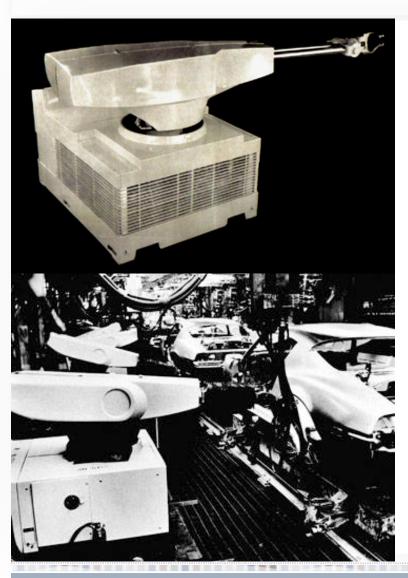


Robots?





World's First Industrial Robot

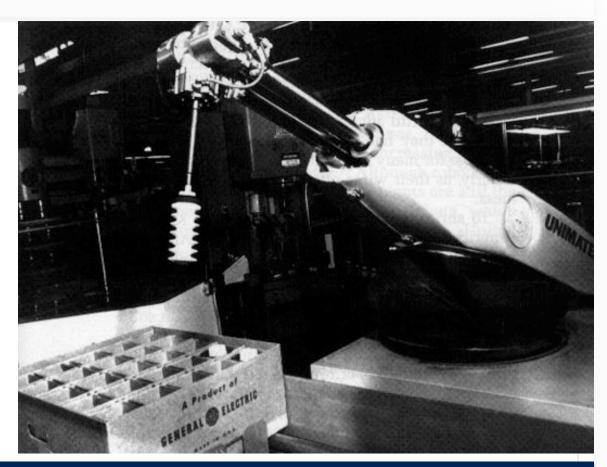


- The Unimate (Unimation)
 - by Joe Engelberger
- First installed in a GM factory
 - -1961
- Later bought by Westinghouse
 - then sold to Kawasaki



Computation and Sensing Expensive

- No computer
- No sensors
- Same motions repetitively
- Cost of systems integration is 10 times robot cost



Today's industrial robots are much the same; they have not yet exploited the microprocessor/network revolution



Today's Manufacturing Robots



- Unsafe for people to be around
- Engineered to be precise and repeatable, not adaptable
- Can only operate in very structured environments
- Their application is limited
- Integration cost is 5 to 10 times capital cost



Distribution of # of US Manufacturing Companies By Revenue

Min	Max	# of Companies
\$ 0	\$500,000	158,129
\$500,000	\$1,000,000	56,553
\$1,000,000	\$10,000,000	108,029
\$10,000,000	\$100,000,000	31,712
\$100,000,000		44,294
		398,717



Transformation of Computers





Went from top-down model to bottom-up empowerment of individuals



Personal Computer and Internet Empowers

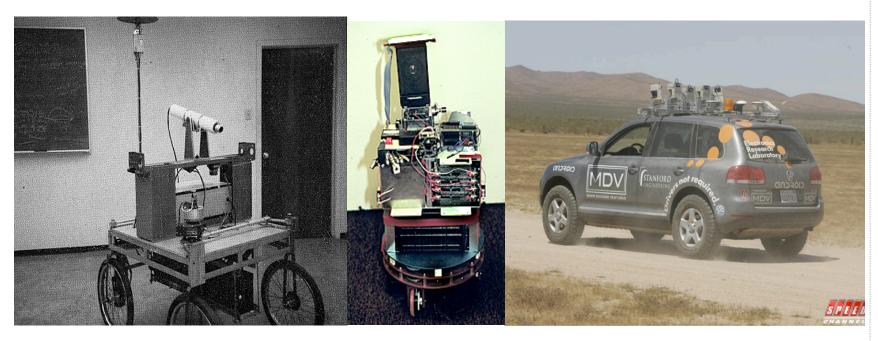
- Newer, nimbler, local services with global reach, e.g.,
 - graphics production
 - publishing (Web, and even paper)
 - language translation services
 - movie editing
 - music production
- Large scale decimation of existing models, being replaced by new
 - retailing
 - music recording
 - newspapers



Robotics Exponential Growth

1979 20m/6hrs 1992 2000m/6hrs

2005 200km/6hrs



The Cart, Stanford

Polly, MIT

Stanley, Stanford



Robots In Unstructured Environments





Uptake in Unstructured Environments

	June 2002	January 2010
Ground robots in US military	0	> 7,000
Robots in people's homes	0	> 5,000,000

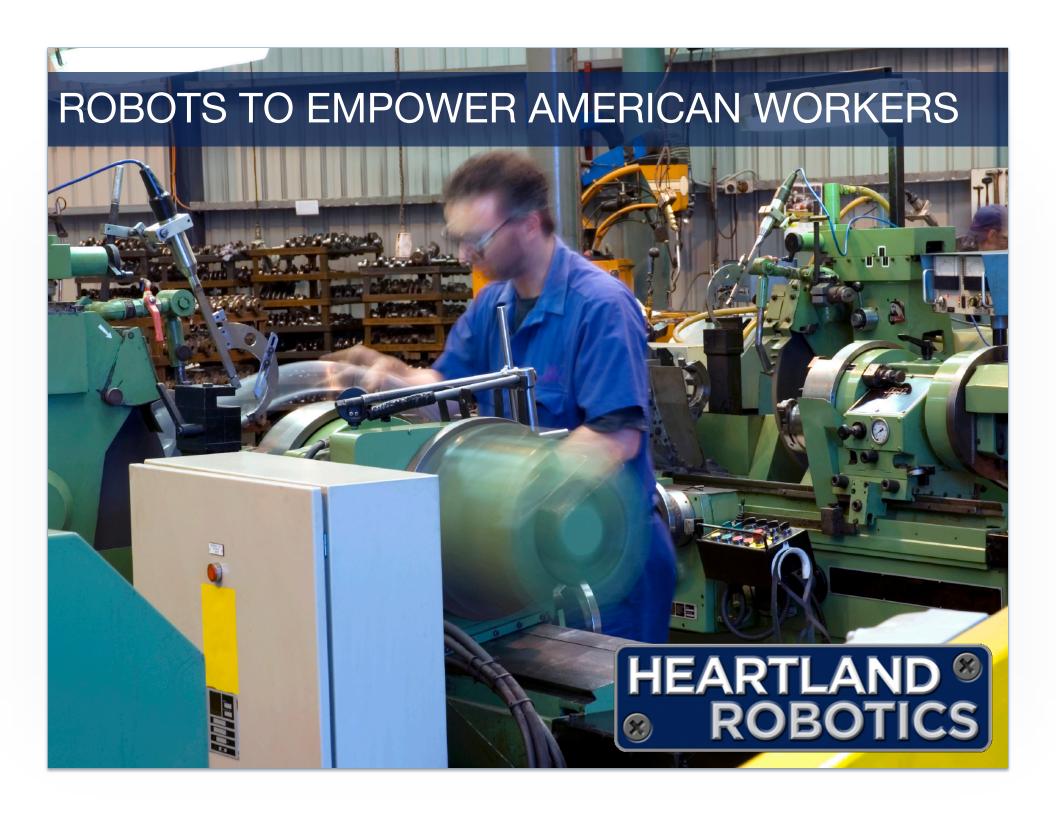






Why Have Things Taken Off?

- Computation and sensors have gotten exponentially cheaper for the last 50 years
- Research in computer vision and in simultaneous localization and mapping have made major strides in the last ten years
- For certain tasks robots have passed a usability threshold that makes them useful to untrained people



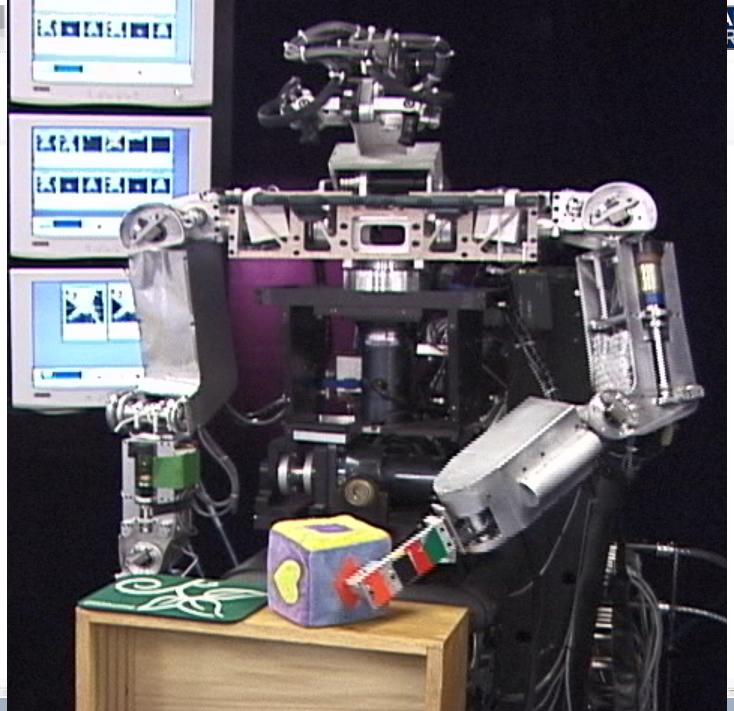


Robots for Manufacturing Workers

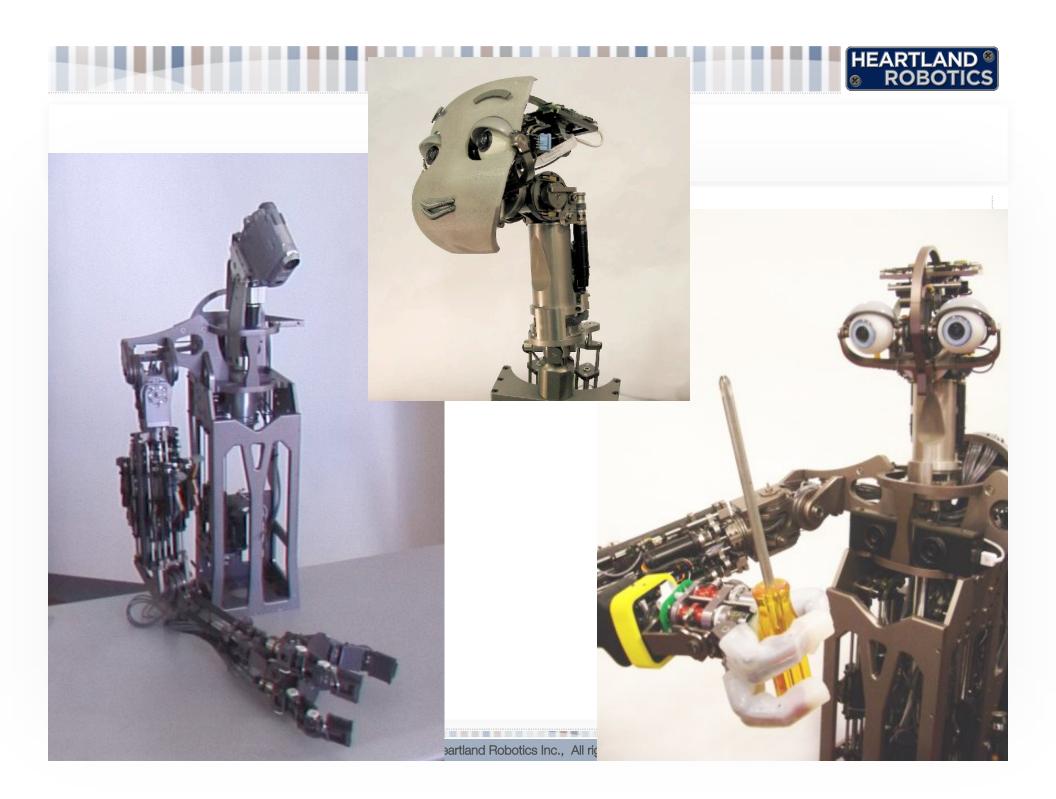
- Safe to interact with at close quarters
- Easy and intuitive to control
- Robust and reliable
- Empower people to do things faster, easier, and better

















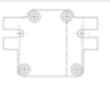
New Robotics Capabilities...

- Will revolutionize low end manufacturing and change
 - balance of payments
 - who the manufacturing powers can be
 - how the supply chain works
 - what the nature of manufactured goods are like
- Will trickle up to high end manufacturing
 - provide better and more dependable low end components
 - change the nature of high end manufacturing

Analogy: MFG.COM

Monday, January 10, 2011; Open RFQs

Today's Total	77,047,396 USD
Machining	44,079,452 USD
Home Textiles	11,431,188 USD
Assembly	9,529,887 USD
Casting	2,705,277 USD
Stamping	1,962,198 USD
Molding	1,933,214 USD
Fabrics & Trim	1,290,046 USD
Extrusions	1,174,859 USD
Fabrication	1,153,028 USD
Apparel	1,148,559 USD
Pumps, Valves & Fittings	201,738 USD
Forging	169,911 USD
Tube Modification	109,475 USD
Tool, Die & Mold Making	86,925 USD
Industrial Equipment	47,427 USD
Fasteners & Hardware	21,011 USD



Telecommunications buyer in Carpinteria, California United States of America to a **Stamper** in Deerfiled, Illinois United States of America

January 7, 2011 11:05 PM

Award Details | Source Parts Like This | See More RFQs Like This



Consumer Products buyer in La Canada, California United States of America to a **Machine Shop** in Mentor, Ohio United States of America

January 6, 2011 7:17 PM

Award Details | Source Parts Like This | See More RFQs Like This



Government Military buyer in Warrington, Pennsylvania United States of America to a Machine Shop in Nunica, Michigan United States of America

January 5, 2011 10:41 PM





Automotive buyer in Atascadero, California United States of America to a **Machine Shop** in Palmetto, Florida United States of America

January 4, 2011 7:49 PM





Government Military buyer in Roseland, New Jersey United States of America to a Machine Shop in frederick, Maryland United States of America

January 4, 2011 4:37 PM

Award Details | Source Parts Like This | See More RFQs Like This



Oil & Gas buyer in Houston, Texas United States of America to a Machine Shop in Clarksville, Tennessee United States of America

December 27, 2010 4:52 PM

Award Details | Source Parts Like This | See More RFQs Like This





Only Possible Now

Enablers

- Universal availability of Internet
- Web standards and browsers
- High-end 3-D CAD and spreadsheets for personal computers
- Overnight shipping services

Result

- Tiny (1 person & up)
 entrepreneurial companies
 (high school level education
 often) can engage in
 national marketplace
- Small run prototyping and manufacture can turn around complex projects from office in 48 hours



What would worker empowering robots lead to, besides bringing low-end manufacturing back to US?



E.g., Plausible New Manufacturing Process

- Franchised "factory pavilions", all over the country
- Entrepreneurial "micro companies" lease space
- Name brand franchise bids on building multi-10K lots of goods for national product brand
 - standardized drawings and manufacturing documents
 - requestor actually wants multi-100K but also wants to minimize warehousing and cross country transport
- Within pavilion micro companies bid on supplying parts, assembly services, packout, etc.
- Locally manufactured goods get to distribution center/retailer within days



E.g., Another Plausible Trend

- Like locavore food, locavore style & production
- Revitalization of craft
 - with appropriate flexible automation, craftspeople could manufacture at scale
 - craftspeople could become the champions of local community, and leaders in local style
- Regional strengths and craft communities could grow and become regional identities
- International airports worldwide could have unique stores!!!



A New Vision For American Manufacturing

Smart and productive:

- skilled workers producing both high value and mass market products
- robots take over the simple cases of the simple tasks freeing workers to be smart
- robotics and STEM education intertwine to support each other

Industrial revolutions:

- muscles replaced by mechanically distributed power (UK - 1780)
- electrical power allowing redistribution (USA - 1900)
- computational intelligence between workers and work (USA?? 2010)

