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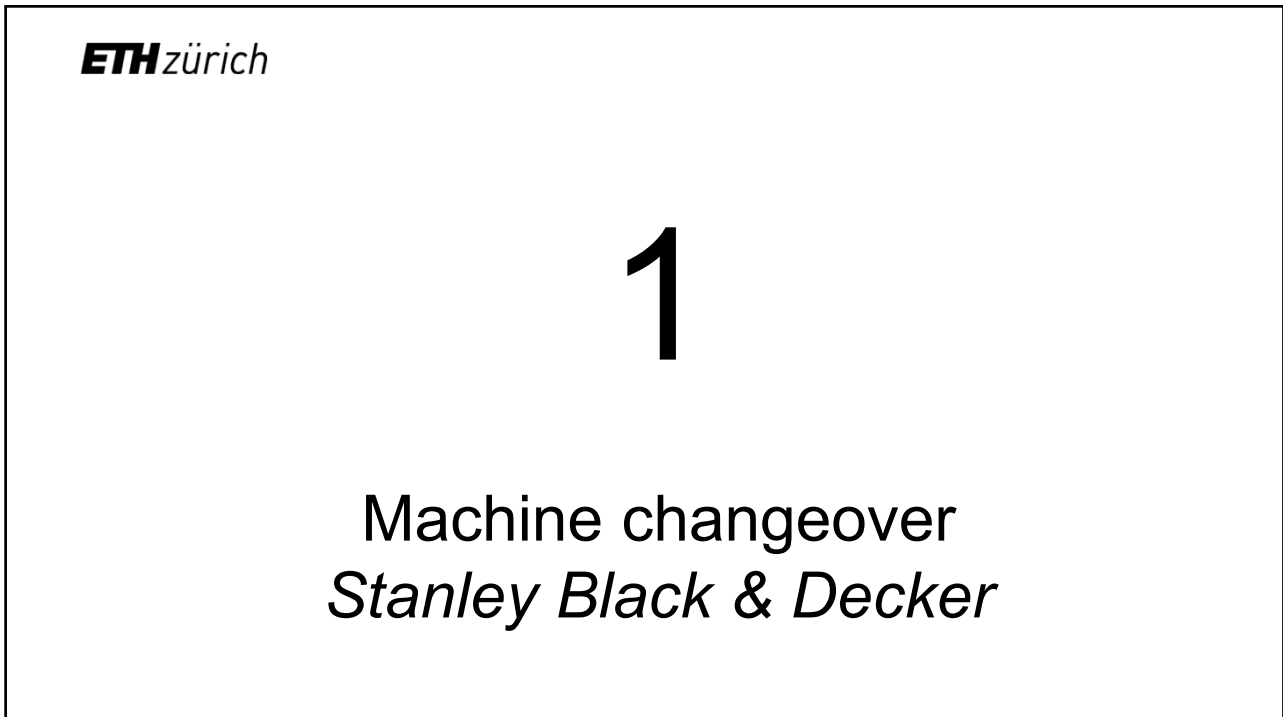
**Breaking Boundaries:
New Technologies in Production Management Systems**

Prof. Torbjørn Netland
www.pom.ethz.ch

APMS Trondheim, September 18, 2023
IFIP WG5.7

Credit: Christopher Payne; Cover photo for *Introduction to Manufacturing* by Baudin and Netland (2022)

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Machine changeover
Stanley Black & Decker

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The problem:

Machine changeovers must be supervised by certified experts



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- Scarcity and low availability of skilled labor
 - Globally dispersed operations
 - Travel restrictions
 - Environmental concerns
 - Cost reduction programs
 - Pandemics, ash clouds etc.
 - Geopolitical conflicts
- Low OEE as machines wait for experts to travel or rush between setups
- Could be improved by using remote and online expert attendance

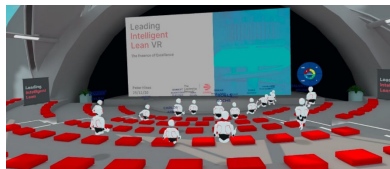
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State-of-the-art remote access solutions



Video conference

→ real-time and interactive but not immersive



Virtual reality

→ immersive and interactive but not real-time /real-life



Live streaming

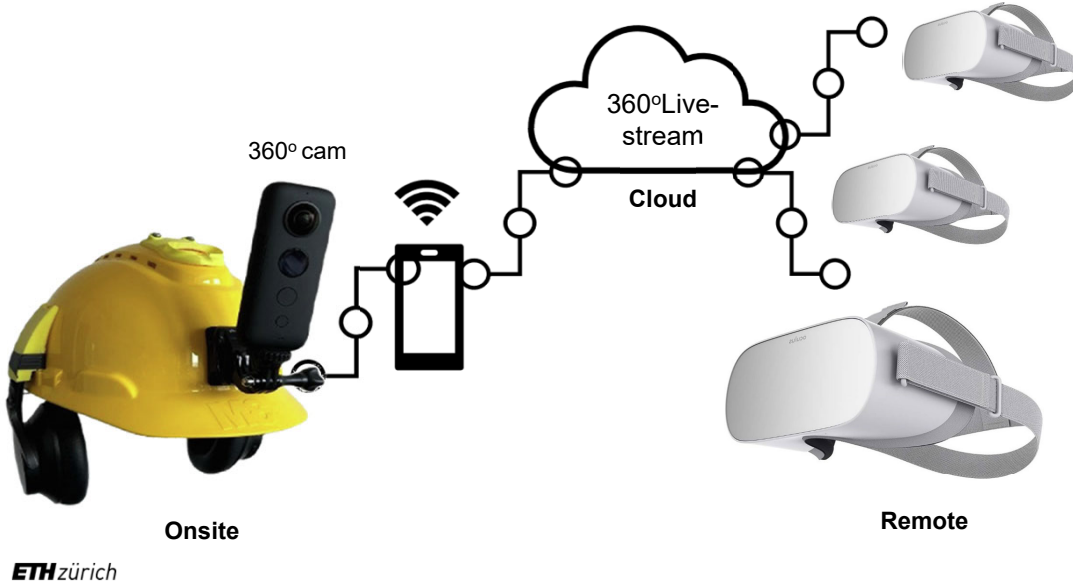
→ real-time and immersive but not interactive

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Research idea: Let's combine all of these and test it!

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Breaking boundaries: Conceptualize and test interactive MR live-streaming technology in manufacturing



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Design science project: Artifact development



Prototype in Makerlab

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Field test at Stanley Black & Decker Giessen (Germany) & remote 2021

StanleyBlack&Decker



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- Identified California startup *Avatour* as (only) available software solution in 2021
- Field test:
 - 3-hour machine changeover
 - 2 researchers onsite in Germany
 - 1 researcher online in Switzerland
 - SB&D operator onsite
 - “Remote” participants from SB&D
- Feedback and evaluation
 - Feedback forms
 - Focus group evaluation

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Field test results



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- Interactive real-time remote presence successfully field-tested at TRL 6
- Issues regarding cybersickness, bandwidth, audio, and latency expected to be improved/solved
- Not quite ready in 2021 but on the way

“Very good to get an overview of the real production environment. Big improvement compared to usual camera streaming.”

SB&D Smart Factory Engineer

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Read more

Manufacturing Letters 38 (2023) 6–10



Manufacturing Letters

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/mfglet



Letters

Interactive mixed reality live streaming technology in manufacturing

Torbjørn Netland*, Michael Stegmaier, Cesare Primultini, Omid Maghazei

Department of Management, Technology, and Economics, ETH Zurich, Weinbergstrasse 56/58, Zurich, Switzerland



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Related big questions for the APMS community

1. What can metaverse technologies bring to the physical world of manufacturing?
 - Training?
 - Audit?
 - Management?
 - Production control?
2. Can these technologies help us get closer to the fully remotely controlled factory?
 - Next-level Integrated Operations in the process industry?
3. How will such technologies affect manufacturing jobs and work life?
 - Productivity?
 - New forms of organization?
 - Organizational culture?
 - Psychological safety and well-being?

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Related research at APMS 2023

- *Metaverse-based Softbot Tutors for Inclusive Industrial Workplaces: Supporting Impaired Operators 5.0.* **Lara Popov Zambiasi, Ricardo José Rabelo, Saulo Popov Zambiasi, & David Romero**, Monday 15.20
- *Application of Digital Tools, Data Analytics and Machine Learning in Internal Audit.* **Jelena Popara, Milena Savkovic, Ciric Lalic Danijela, & Bojan Lalic**, Monday 16.00

AR

- *Human-centric Industrial Augmented Reality: Requirements and Design Guidelines for Usability* **Tiberiu Florescu, Sabine Waschull, & Christos Emmanouilidis**, Monday 11.00
- *Challenges in Designing and Implementing Augmented Reality-based Decision Support Systems for Intralogistics: A Multiple Case Study.* **Moritz Quandt, Hendrik Stern, Markus Kreutz, & Michael Freitag**, Tuesday 17.20

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Quality inspection
Siemens

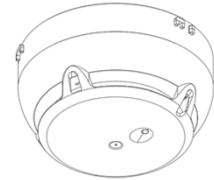
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The problem: Zero defect manufacturing / Improve manual quality inspections

SIEMENS

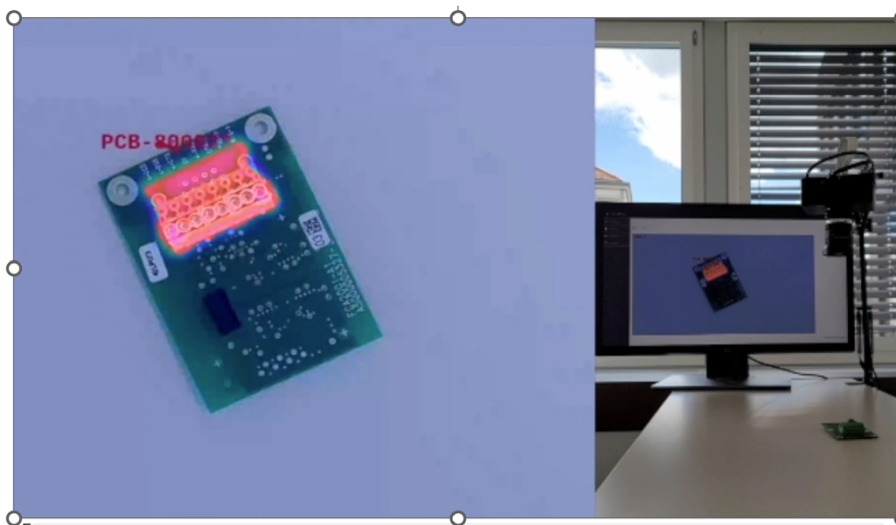


Photo: Siemens



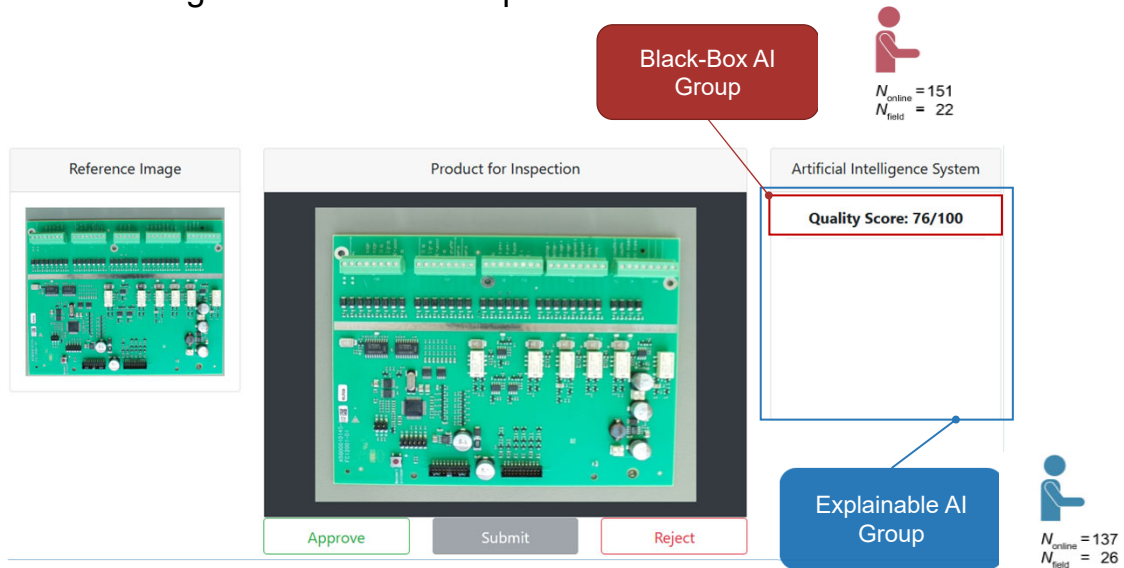
Source: Senoner, Kratzwald, Feuerriegel, Netland Explainable AI improves worker performance, Working paper

Breaking boundaries: Explainable AI*-powered visual inspection



* Explainable artificial intelligence (XAI) is a set of processes and methods that allows human users to comprehend and trust the results and output created by machine learning algorithms (Source: IBM)

Research design: Web and field experiment



Read more (while waiting for the research paper)



Chapter 17 Improving Quality 17.2 Data Science for Quality Improvement

Page 715

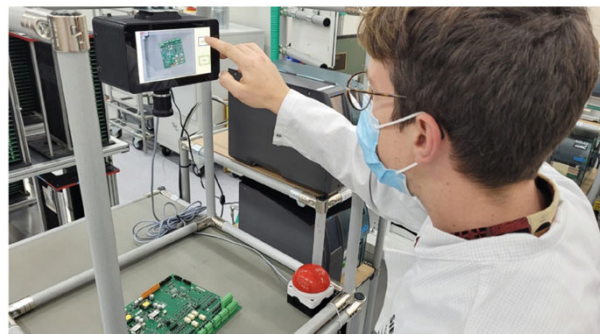


Figure 17.12 Explainable AI used in a quality control task with visual inspection (Credit: EthonAI)

Related big questions for the APMS community

1. How can AI augment humans at work?
 - What is the need for explainability and interpretability in manufacturing?
 - What about other technologies?
2. What is the effect of human augmentation?
 - Operational performance?
 - Worker satisfaction and well-being?
3. Can new technologies help attract needed talent or bridge the skill gap?
 - Is it dumbing down work or making it more enjoyable?
 - What's the role of technology in attracting GenZ or GenTikTok to manufacturing?

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Related research at APMS 2023

Lots of related and relevant papers! Here's a brief selection:

- *The Role of Human Factors in Zero Defect Manufacturing: A Study of Training and Workplace Culture* **Foivos Psarommatis, Gökan May, & Victor Azamfirei**, Monday 10.20
- *A Reflective Framework for Understanding Workforce Evolutionary Pathways in Industry 5.0* **Alexandra Lagorio, Chiara Cimini, & David Romero**, Monday 10.20
- *Data Preparation for AI-Assisted Video Analysis in Manual Assembly Task: A Step Towards Industry 5.0* **Yongkuk Jeong, Magnus Wiktorsson, Donggyun Park, Jesper Gans, & Linda Svensson**, Monday 16.00
- *Evaluating Augmented Reality, Deep Learning and Paper-based Assistance Systems in Industrial Manual Assembly* **Alexander Riedel, Johanna Gerlach, Maximilian Dietsch, Frank Engelmann, Nico Brehm, & Tobias Pfeifroth**, Monday 15.20
- **APMS Talks: Operator 5.0 and Human Factors in smart manufacturing and logistics**. **Chiara Cimini**, Monday 16.40
- *Effects of Lean and Industry 4.0 Technologies on Job Satisfaction: A Case-based, Analysis*. **Matteo Zanchi, Andrea Lorenzi, Matteo Prezioso, Daryl Powell, & Paolo Gaiardelli**, Tuesday 14.40

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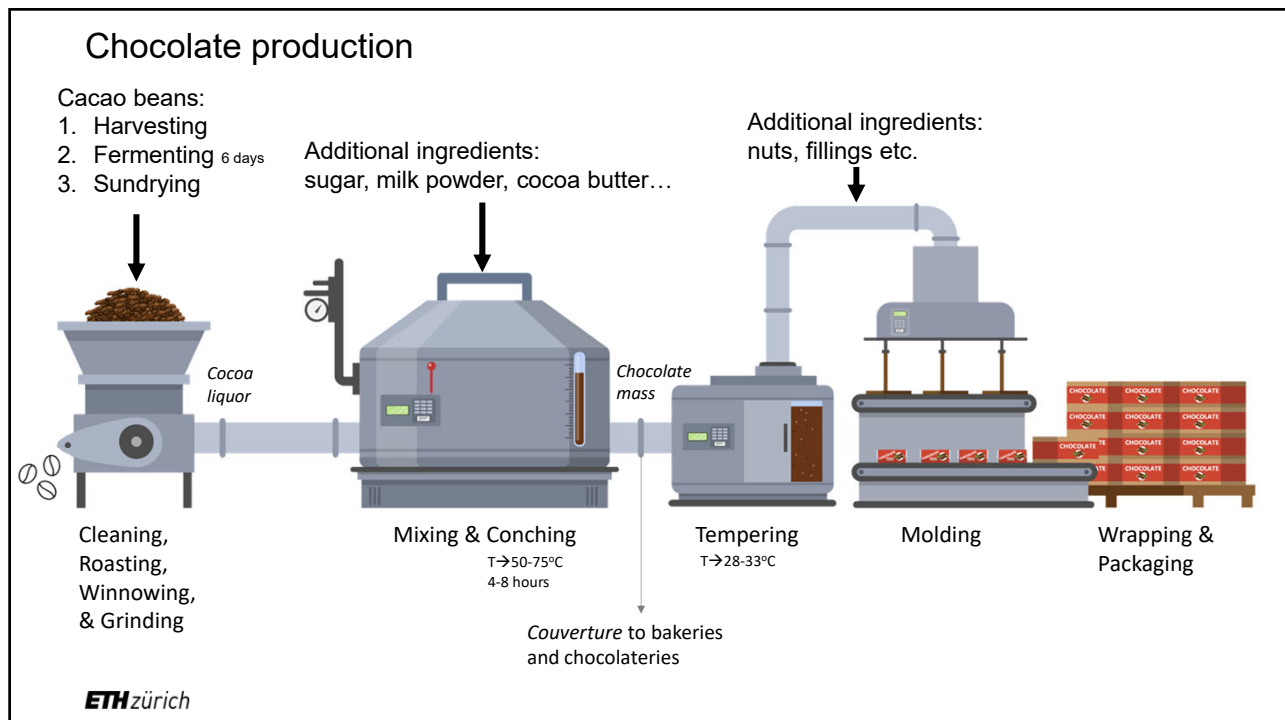
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Root cause analysis

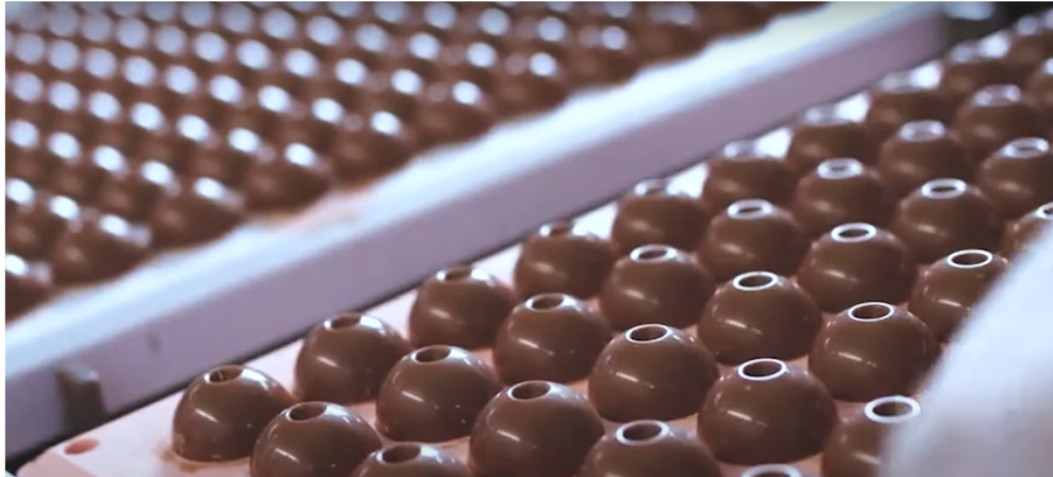
Lindt & Sprüngli

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What's the **root cause** of yield loss?

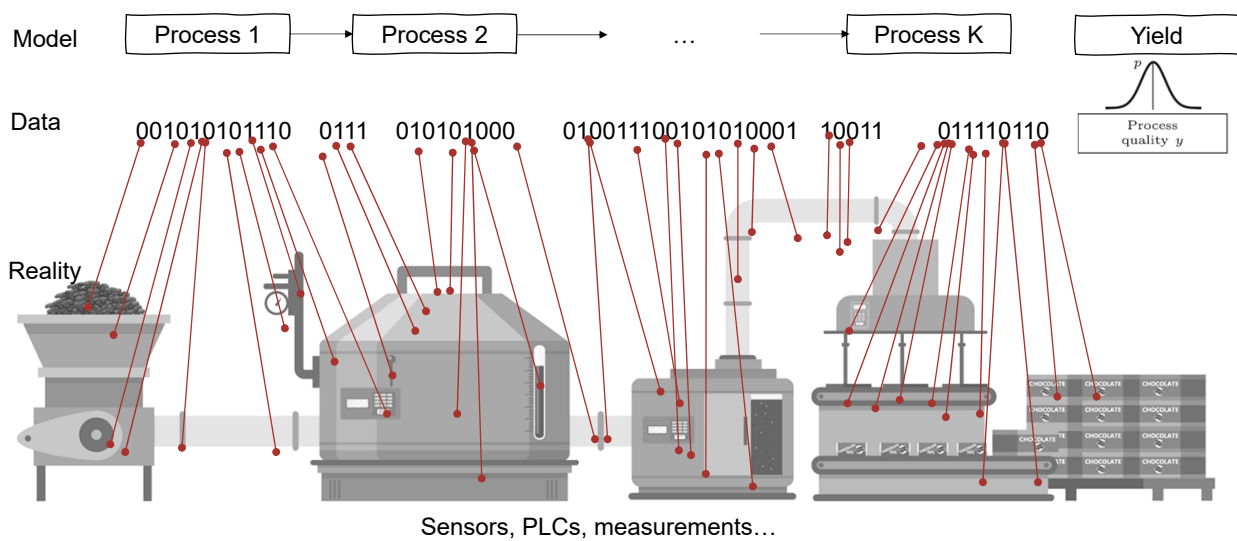


1. Credit: Lindt & Sprüngli USA, M. Cavanaugh for Boston Globe, 2011, <https://youtu.be/TVQvNMDI-Q>

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Breaking boundaries: Explainable AI for Root Cause Analysis



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Read more



<http://pubsonline.informs.org/journal/mnsc>

MANAGEMENT SCIENCE

Articles in Advance, pp. 1–20
ISSN 0025-1909 (print), ISSN 1526-5501 (online)

Using Explainable Artificial Intelligence to Improve Process Quality: Evidence from Semiconductor Manufacturing

Julian Senoner,^a Torbjørn Netland,^a Stefan Feuerriegel^a

^aDepartment of Management, Technology, and Economics, ETH Zurich, 8092 Zurich, Switzerland

*Note: This research was conducted in Hitachi ABB, but principles apply broadly. Transfer to Lindt & Sprüngli and others via spinout EthonAI, ethon.ai



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Related big questions for the APMS community

1. What's next for AI in manufacturing?
 - Use cases—from predictive maintenance to scheduling and beyond?
 - Role of Generative AI? Causal AI? ...
2. What is the needed data coverage for a good model representation?
 - Digital twin or digital shadow?
3. What is the role of lean/process improvement in the age of AI?
4. How can we accelerate the adoption and use of AI tools?
 - How to deal with algorithm aversion/ behavioral issues in adoption?
 - Decision support and human-machine interface consideration?
 - Ethical and accountability considerations?



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Related work at APMS 2023

Also here, lots of related and relevant papers! A selection:

1. *Developing Data Models for Smart Environmental Performance Management in Production* Mélanie Despeisse, Qi Fang, Ebru Turanoglu Bekar, Nils Ólafur Egilsson, Karolina Kazmierczak, Lena Moestam, Helena Söderberg, **Dennis Andersson, Jenny Hörnlund & Björn Molin**, [Monday 10.20](#)
2. *Model Simplification: Addressing Digital Twin Challenges and Requirements in Manufacturing* Adria Sánchez de Ocaña, **Jessica Bruch & Ioanna Aslanidou**, [Tuesday 14.40](#)
3. *Data at the Heart of the Industry of the Future: New Information Issues from an Information and Communication Sciences Perspective.* **Nathalie Pinède & Bruno Vallespir**, [Tuesday 17.40](#)
4. *Critical Factors for Selecting and Integrating Digital Technologies to enable Smart Production: A Data Value Chain Perspective.* **Natalie Agerskans, Mohammad Ashjaei, Jessica Bruch, & Koteswar Chirumalla**, [Wednesday 09.40](#)
5. *Production Scheduling using Production Feedback Data; An Illustrative Case Study.* **Mina Rahmani, Anita Romsdal, Øyvind A.M. Syversen, Fabio Sgarbossa, & Jan Ola Strandhagen**, [Wednesday 12.40](#)

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Call to action

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Call to action

Research foci

1. Focus on a specific technology to solve a real problem in a specific context
 - Many good examples at APMS2023: Cobots, Additive Manufacturing, Blockchain...
2. Conversely, high-level research about “industry 4.0,” “digital transformation,” “cyber-physical production system,” or “smart manufacturing” tends to have low practical impact
 - A few good examples at APMS2023 here too :P
3. Process understanding and lean thinking remain key to all technology projects
 - Solving real problems, not pushing technologies for the sake of the technology

Research methods

1. Engage with practice
2. Experimental methods are the gold standard; why not use them?
3. Design science, case studies, and action research (e.g., via field tests) are good alternatives
4. Careful with cross-sectional surveys asking about the implementation of a range of technologies

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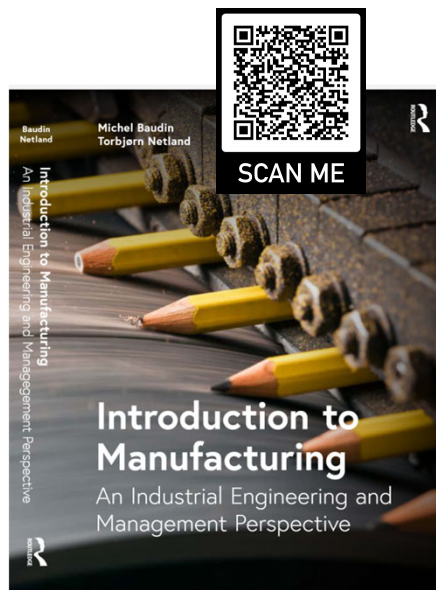
Enjoy the conference and wonderful Trondheim ☺



Photo: T. Netland

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20% discount for APMS community
at www.Routledge.com: **EFL03**

Thank you!

Torbjørn Netland
Chair of Production and Operations
Management
D-MTEC, ETH Zurich
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www.youtube.com/c/pomethzurich