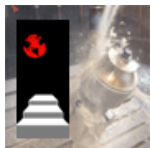


Roadmap to Hyper-connected Manufacturing



STEP Tools, Inc.
<http://www.steptools.com>

Martin Hardwick
Professor of Computer Science, RPI
President STEP Tools, Inc.

Introduction

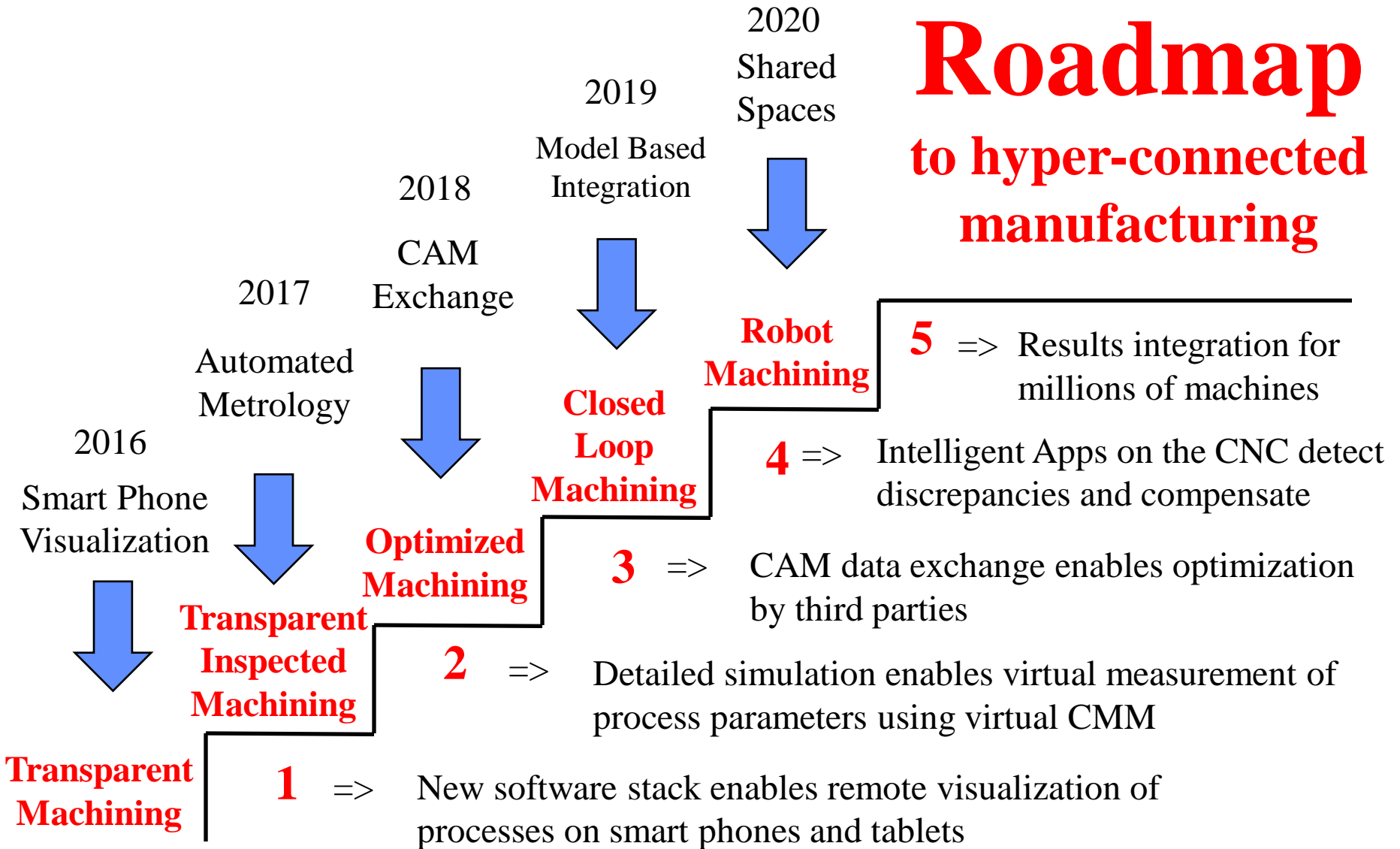
Hyper-connected manufacturing is
STEP + Digital Manufacturing + Smart Manufacturing

- Today manufacturing machines are controlled using codes
 - Detailed instructions unique to each machine
- This roadmap describes a path to intelligently connecting millions of machines
 - Models described by the STEP standard
 - Customized for processes by the STEP-NC standard
 - Linked using protocols as described in this map

Observations

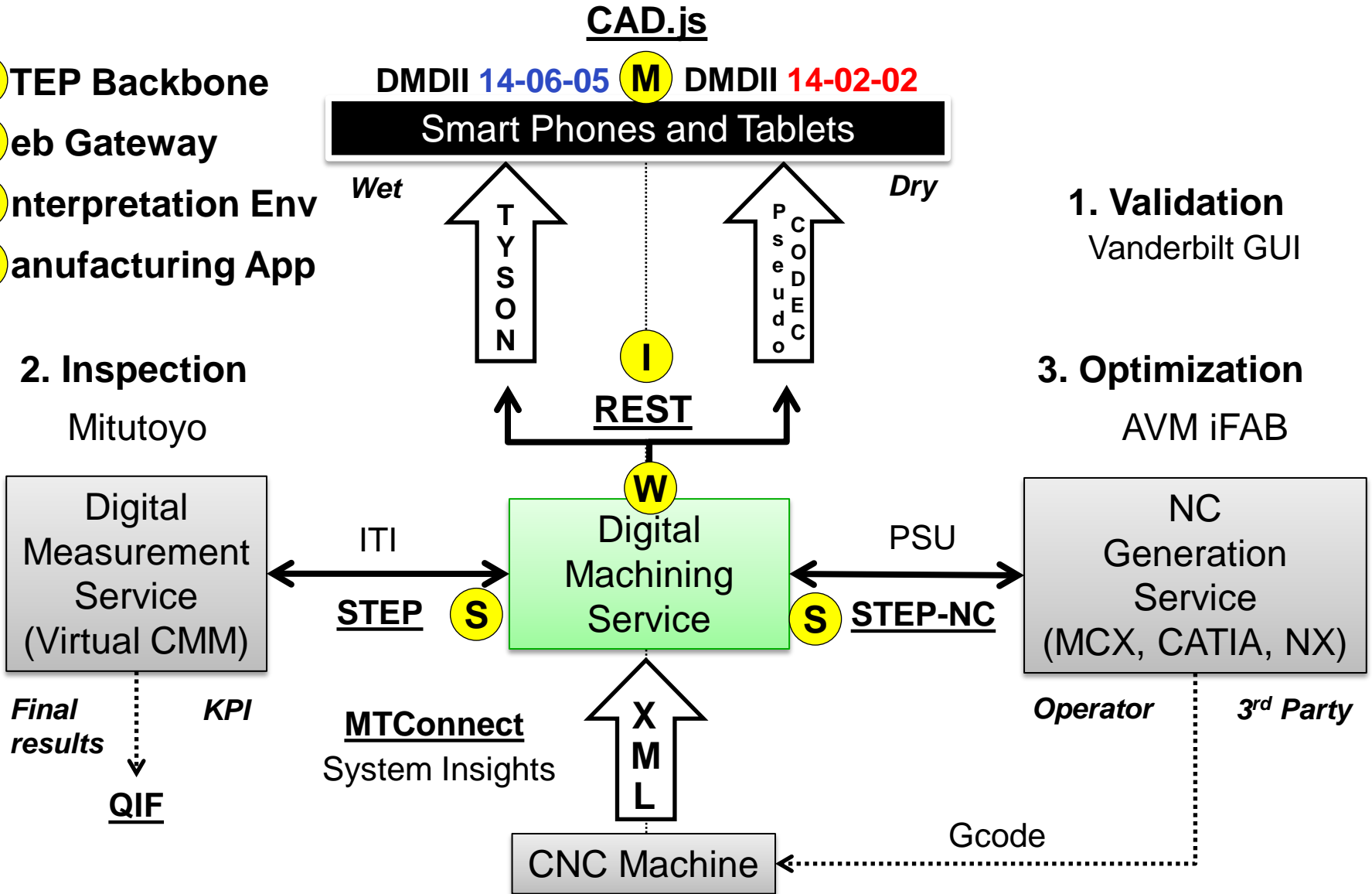
- Hyper-connecting manufacturing will depend on integrating inspection and machining to close the loop between fabrication and assembly
- Acting on results will require determining the set of parameters that matter most and then compensating for them appropriately
- A Hyper-connection framework should support apps for measuring and manipulating situation specific parameters
- With lots of data sharing for assembly mating, GD&T measurements, setup definition, tooling dimensions, fixture and datum placement, motion results etc.

Roadmap to hyper-connected manufacturing



Phases 1 and 2 (in progress)

- S** STEP Backbone
- W** Web Gateway
- I** Interpretation Env
- M** Manufacturing App



Phase 3 (in planning)

Optimized Machining

- Goals

- CAM to CAM data exchange
- Read/Write SWIM
- Machining web services
 - Tooling assembly **M** 1
 - Workpiece fixture and placement **M** 2
 - Machine tool kinematic definition **M** 3

- Means

- CAM data exchange
 - Boeing => CATIA
 - PSU => MCX
- Read / Write SWIM
 - STEP Tools => **S** **W**
 - Vanderbilt => **I**
- Manufacturing apps
 - Vendors (Sandvik, Iscar, Okuma, DMG, Makino, ..)

Path finding for Phase 4

Closed Loop Machining

- Research
 - Accuracy issues
 - Setup validation
 - MTConnect sampling rate
 - Tool bending
 - Measurement issues
 - Tolerance definition
 - Problem detection
 - Problem correction
- Standards development
 - Recommended Practices
 - Machine tool kinematics
 - 3D cutter assembly
 - 3D fixture assembly
 - AP238 Edition 2
 - Edition 1 modularization
 - Corrections from testing
 - APQP quality assurance
 - 4D geometry
 - Model optimization

SWIM documentation

- S** • STEP Backbone (Information Models)
 - EXPRESS definitions of STEP and STEP-NC
 - http://www.steptools.com/support/stdev_docs/stpman/html/index.html
- W** • Web Gateway (Protocols, Hyperlinks, UUIDs)
 - Example of gateway functionality
 - http://www.steptools.com/support/stepnc_docs/stepncdll/
- I** • Interpretation Environment (appropriate schema definitions)
 - Distributed manufacturing objects in JSON, XML etc
 - http://www.iso.org/iso/home/store/catalogue_ics/catalogue_detail_ics.htm?csnumber=63141
- M** • Manufacturing App (open source)
 - Example App - machining process viewer
 - <https://github.com/ghemingway/cad.js/tree/master>

Concluding remarks

- The SW is like a router for hyper-connected manufacturing
 - New-build systems like STEP-NC Machine
 - Re-purposed systems like CAD/CAM's
 - Requirement is to implement the protocols starting with P21 e3
- First three gates
 - Summer 2016: First TIM system is operational
 - Fall 2016: Protocols for Read/Write SWIM published
 - Spring 2017: Funding for Phase 3 development and Phase 4 research
- Understood benefits
 - 15% better machining by enabling 3rd party optimization
 - Reduced scrappage due to real-time measurement
 - Deployment of less expensive, less rigid machines like robots
 - Faster to market because of direct machine to machine connection