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#### Review

## The evolution and future of manufacturing: A review



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#### ABSTRACT

Manufacturing is continuously evolving from concept development to methods and tools available for the production of goods for use or sale. Traditionally, manufacturing refers to an industrial production process through which raw materials are transformed into finished products to be sold in the market. However, these days manufacturing is considered to be an integrated concept at all levels from machines to production systems to an entire business level operation.

Although there have been considerable developments in manufacturing technologies and processes, the actual scope and elements of manufacturing systems are complex and not adequately defined. This paper provides a review of both the tangible and intangible elements of manufacturing systems and presents a state-of-the-art survey of published work. It studies the evolution of research in manufacturing starting from past and current trends to future developments. How manufacturing systems have been classified is also presented. Through this extensive survey of the literature, future directions of this changing field are suggested.

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#### 1. Introduction

As new concepts are introduced in manufacturing, the research community should be able to identify future research frontiers. To date, there has been relatively little review of advanced manufacturing concepts in the research literature. However, new trends in advanced manufacturing are emerging and serve as the motivation behind this research.

Table 1 provides a list of previous review papers in this field. As shown, the scope of previous reviews is limited to a specific topic within a particular manufacturing area. This paper presents a holistic view of manufacturing by analyzing a broad range of publications covering myriad subareas and topics. Some of the drivers that are causing industry to adopt new initiatives in their enterprises, processes, production systems, and equipment levels are also noted.

A review of the literature surveyed reveals that manufacturing systems are classified differently according to their development. It is a challenge to ascertain a consistent type or category of a manufacturing system from the literature. In fact, a more appropriate view is that a number of taxonomies are needed to investigate different aspects of manufacturing.

We organize the literature into eight main areas (1) technical and engineering aspects of production systems, including technology and equipment (2) planning aspects, including operating rules and process planning, (3) taxonomies of manufacturing systems, (4) designs for manufacturing, (5) remanufacturing, (6) sustainable manufacturing, (7) new manufacturing paradigms, and (8) advanced manufacturing concepts. These areas are explained in Sections 2–9, respectively. At the end of each section, we provide our thoughts, prediction and recommendations for further research. In some subsections, several qualitative and quantitative metrics have been applied to assess technology maturation, research saturation, and under-developed areas. Fig. 1 provides more details on the overall structure of the paper.

We have used a three-stage qualitative research method (identification, classification and evaluation) similar to a recent review by Zaman [41] to analyze prior studies. The relevant studies were identified through Engineering Village, Compendex, Inspec & GEOBASE databases and limited by articles published in 1999 to April 2015. Finally, studies were classified and evaluated based on the structure shown in Fig. 1.

**Table 1** Previous review papers and their scope.

Study	Scope
[1]	Cloud mfg.
[2]	Cellular mfg.
[3]	Just-in-time mfg. systems
[4]	Energy efficiency of mfg. processes
[5]	Disassembly sequence generation
[6]	Design for remanufacture
[7]	Mass customization
[8]	Assembly process planning
[9]	Additive mfg.
[10]	Information technology in mfg.
[11]	Simulation in mfg. systems
[12]	Additive mfg. and its social impacts
[13]	Lean mfg.
[14]	Agile mfg. systems
[15]	Data mining in mfg.
[16]	Cost engineering for manufacturing
[17]	Hybrid mfg. processes
[18]	Scheduling in cellular mfg. systems
[19]	Flexibility in mfg. systems
[20]	Web-based mfg. systems
[21]	Green supply chain
[22]	Intelligent mfg.
[23]	Sustainable lifecycle design
[24]	Mfg. facility location and sustainability
[25]	Sustainable mfg.
[26]	Environmentally conscious mfg.
[27]	Environmentally conscious design
[28]	Environmentally conscious design and mfg.
[29]	Remanufacturing
[30]	Green logistics
[31]	Design for remanufacturing
[32]	Sustainable supply chain
[33]	Facility location
[34]	Green supply chain
[35]	Sustainable supply chain
[36]	Quantitative models for reverse logistics
[37]	Sensors for unmanned machining
[38]	Performance measure in mfg. systems
[39]	Control architecture in automated mfg.
[40]	Servitization of mfg. systems

As new manufacturing paradigms coming to the market, the existing building blocks of manufacturing systems should be studied carefully to explore how new technologies influence the current infrastructure. Therefore, Sections 2 and 3 of this paper are

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