# A Comprehensive Review of Additive Manufacturing (3D Printing): Processes, Applications and Future Potential

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Corresponding Author: Salil Desai Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering, North Carolina A&T State University, Greensboro, USA Email: sdesai@ncat.edu **Abstract:** Additive manufacturing (AM) also known as 3D printing is a technology that builds three-dimensional (3-D) solid objects. Customized 3D objects with complex geometries and integrated functional designs can be created using 3D printing. A comprehensive review of AM process with emphasis on recent advances achieved by various researchers and industries is discussed. Summary of each 3D printing technology capabilities, advantages and limitations is provided. This article reviews significant developments of 3D printing applications in different fields such as electronics, medical industry, aerospace, automobile, construction, fashion and food industry.

**Keywords:** 3D Printing, Additive Manufacturing, Applications, Innovation, Processes

# Introduction

Additive Manufacturing (AM) also known as 3D printing builds three-Dimensional (3-D) solid objects. The object is built layer-by-layer using different materials such as polymers, composites, ceramic and metallic pastes depending on the requirement using digital data from a computer. Rapid prototyping, the first staged AM was developed to rapidly build prototypes. Stereolithography (STL) was the first process that emerged in the late eighties. Eventually, as this technology expanded to manufacture the final products, it was termed as rapid manufacturing (Ghazy, 2012). AM is a creative technology which has the capability to revolutionize the global manufacturing industry. Siemens research group estimates that 3D printing will become 400% faster and 50% cheaper in the next five years (Siemens and Zistl, 2014). In 2012, USA established National Additive Manufacturing Innovation Institute (NAMII), now known as America Makes in Youngstown, Ohio with federal funding of \$50 million. It is led by National Center for Defense Manufacturing and Machining. The mission of this institute is to accelerate and innovate AM and 3D printing to increase USA's global manufacturing competitiveness (U.S. Department of Defense, Manufacturing Technologies Program, 2012).

Typically, any AM process includes a combination of the following eight steps:

- 1. Conceptualization and CAD model
- 2. Conversion to STL format
- 3. Transfer to AM equipment and manipulation of STL file
- 4. Machine setup



- 5. Build the part
- 6. Removal and cleanup of the built part
- 7. Post processing of the part
- 8. Application (Gibson et al., 2012)

AM has been given different names, which include; layered manufacturing, additive fabrication, 3D printing, additive techniques, digital manufacturing, additive processes, free form fabrication and additive layered manufacturing (Ghazy, 2012). According to ASTM, AM is the "process of joining materials to make objects from 3D model data usually layer-by-layer, as opposed to subtractive manufacturing technologies such as traditional manufacturing" (Standard, 2012). There are different types of additive manufacturing processes, which include; photo-polymerization process (Jacobs and Francis, 1992), extrusion based systems (Comb et al., 1994), powder bed fusion processes (Beaman et al., 1997), (Cormier et al., 2004), material jetting processes (Engstrom, 2012a), binder jetting processes (Engstrom, 2012a), beam deposition processes (Balla et al., 2008), sheet lamination processes (Feygin and Freeform, 1991) and direct write technologies (Pique and Chrisey, 2001). AM has a variety of benefits over the traditional and subtractive manufacturing methods. Some of the important benefits include high degree of design freedom, efficiency, complexity and flexibility, reduced assembly and predictable production, support for green manufacturing initiatives, precise physical replication (Grimm, n.d.), (Peter, 2012). Due to the rapid development of the technology, AM has widened its applications to many such as electronics, medical, fields aerospace, construction, medical industry, fashion, food industry, automotive, oceanography and research (Wimpenny et al.,

2016). Complex structures lightweight structures can be built using AM techniques. This article provides a comprehensive overview of the different additive manufacturing process and their application in different fields. The article consists of three sections. Section 1 provides the background of the additive manufacturing market and its advantages. Section 2 describes a detailed literature about all the additive manufacturing process with limitations and advantages are provided. Section 3 delineates recent advances in the applications of additive manufacturing in electronics, medical industry, construction, food industry, aerospace, fashion industry and automotive industry.

## **Additive Manufacturing Processes**

The AM processes builds parts layer-by-layer from bottom-up using the digital data from the computer. AM consists of variety of processes categorized by different with their respective advantages and disadvantages (Gibson *et al.*, 2012). The overview of different AM process and the materials are presented in Table 1.

Process	Technology	Materials	Minimum layer resolution	Max build volume (LxWxH- mm <sup>3</sup> ) and Applications
Photo-	Stereolithography (SLA)	Photopolymers	50-100 µm	1500×750×550
polymerization	Digital Light Processing (DLP)	F J	25-150 um	192×120×230
	Continuous Liquid		50-100 um	190×112×325
	Interface Production(CLIP)		25-100 µm	266×175×193
	Scan, Spin and		•	Rapid prototypes, tooling, end
	Selectively Photocure (3SP)			user parts and mold patterns.
Extrusion Based Systems	Fused Deposition Modeling	Thermoplastics (PLA, ABS, HIPS,	10-100 µm	1500×1100×1500
	(FDM)			Spare parts, automotive, testing
		Nylon, PC)		tool designs and jigs
Powder Bed Fusion	Selective laser sintering (SLS)	Polymers, Metals	80 µm	381×330×460
	Electron Beam Melting (EBM)	and Ceramic powder	70 µm	6096×1194×1524
	Selective laser melting (SLM)		20-50 µm	300×300×300
	Selective heat sintering (SHS)		100 µm	160×140×150
	And Direct metal laser sintering		20-40 µm	250×250×325
	(DMLS)			Aerospace, automotive, dental,
				rapid prototyping and jewelry
Material Jetting	Multi-jet Modelling, Drop on	Polymers, Plastics and Waxes	13 µm	300×185×200
	Demand, Thermo-jet printing			Casting patterns, prototypes
	and Inkjet printing			and electronics
Binder Jetting	3D printing	Polymers, Waxes,	es, 90 μm	2200×1200×600
		Metals and Foundry		Prototypes, casting patterns
		sand		and molds
Directed Energy	Laser Engineering Net Shape	Metals	50 -100 µm	1500×1500×2100
Deposition	(LENS)			Aerospace, military, repair metal
				objects and satellites
Sheet Lamination	Laminated Object Manufacturing	Metals, Paper,	100 µm	256×169×150
Processes	(LOM)	Plastic film		Prototypes, plastic parts and
				end user parts
Hybrid and Direct Write AM	Combination of microextrusion, droplet based, laser and UV curing, CNC machinining, etc.	Ceramic materials and Metal alloy	50 µm	734×650×559
				Structural components and
				embedded 3D structures,





Fig. 1: SLA process (Ltd, 2015) Copyrights © ICM 2011]

#### Photopolymerization Process

Photo-polymerization is an AM process which constructs 3D objects using a liquid polymer resin. This process is used to produce prototypes, models and patterns by curing a photopolymer resin with a UV laser (Jacobs and Francis, 1992). Schematic of SLA process is shown in Fig. 1.

The materials used in this process are different grades of polymers. Stereolithography (SLA) is the commonly used technology in this process. SLA was developed in 1986 by Charles Hull. Some of the structures in this process may need a support network to avoid the deformation of the object. These supports are built with the same material of the part and can be removed using sharp tools. The completed part is washed in a chemical bath to remove the excess resin and cured in UV oven.

SLA entails high level of accuracy and smooth surface finish of the parts. The drawbacks of this process are: It requires support structures, post-processing and postcuring steps (Jacobs and Francis, 1992). The applications of SLA are found in many industries including electronics, medical, aerospace, tooling master patters for injection molding, defense and form-fit studies ("Stereolithography (SL) Prototype Applications," n.d.).

#### Extrusion-Based Systems

Extrusion based systems are used for the production of plastic prototypes and low volume functional parts. The most commonly used extrusion-based technology is Fused Deposition Modeling (FDM). FDM is an extrusion-based system used for prototyping, modeling and production applications, was developed in the late 1980s by S. Scott Crump (Gibson *et al.*, 2012). This process uses two types of materials namely, modeling material for the finished object and a support material for the temporary support material. The materials used in this process are ABS, PLA, PS, PC, PEI, ULTEM and Nylon (Comb *et al.*, 1994). The FDM process is shown in Fig. 2.

The completed part is separated from the build platform and is washed in a chemical bath to remove the support material. FDM is a relatively cheap AM process compared to other AM processes and is simple to use. On the other hand, FDM is a slow process compared to other AM processes and has limited layer thickness accuracy. Applications of FDM are found in variety of industries; aerospace, automotive, medical, architecture, jewelry and art (Comb *et al.*, 1994).

#### Powder Bed Fusion Processes

The powder bed fusion process uses either a laser, thermal energy or an electron beam as the energy source to melt and fuse small particles of powder to build 3D objects. This process uses broad range of material like, polymers, metals, ceramics and composites (Ghazy, 2012), (Gibson *et al.*, 2012). Schematic of SLS process is shown in Fig 3. Selective laser sintering (SLS), electron beam melting (EBM), selective laser melting (SLM), selective heat sintering (SHS) and direct metal laser sintering (DMLS) are different types of techniques used in this process (Cormier *et al.*, 2004), (Engstrom, 2012b). SLS was developed in the mid-1980s by Dr.



Fig. 2: FDM process [("Fused Deposition Modeling (FDM)," 2008) Copyright © 2019 CustomPartNet]



Fig. 3: SLS process [("Rapid Prototyping," 2008) Copyright © 2019 CustomPartNet]

Carl Deckard and Dr. Joe Beaman. In this process, a 3D model is formed by binding tiny particles of ceramic, glass and plastic together by heat from a laser source (Beaman *et al.*, 1997). In PBF processes, support is not required while printing the overhang and unsupported structures as the left-over powder itself provides the necessary support. The finished parts tend to be porous and rough depending on the material used. Applications of PBF processes are found in variety of industries such as aerospace, automotive, medical, electronics and military (Gibson *et al.*, 2012).

#### Material Jetting Process

Material jetting process uses inkjet print heads to dispense droplets of material on to the build platform layer-by-layer to build the 3D object. These processes use inkjet and other printing techniques to produce 3D structures (Engstrom, 2012a). Multiple arrays of printheads can be used to print an object with different materials. Support structures are built for the objects with complex geometries consisting of overhanging structures. These supports can be taken-off by immersing the object in a water-based liquid. Polymers are commonly used materials in this process due to their viscous nature (Gibson *et al.*, 2012). Schematic of material jetting process is shown in Fig. 4.

Parts with high accuracy, fine finishing and multiple colors can be produced. But the material properties are not as good as the SLA process. Applications of this process are found in prototypes for form and fit testing, rapid tooling patterns, medical devices and jewelry ("Jetted Photopolymer," 2008).

#### **Binder Jetting Process**

Binder jetting is an AM process which uses two materials; a powder material and a liquid binder to produce a 3D structure. This process has the ability to build parts of any geometry using a variety of materials such as metals, composites, ceramics, sand and polymers. 3D Printing (3DP) is a binder jetting process invented at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1993 (Gibson et al., 2012). Schematic of binder jetting process is shown in Fig. 5. The remaining unbound powder acts as a support structure for the object. This process has the ability to print objects with solid layers and is cost-effective compared to other AM processes. On the other hand, object created using this process are fragile with limited mechanical properties. Applications of this process are found in prototypes, casting patterns, architecture and consumer goods (Engstrom, 2012a).

#### Directed Energy Deposition

Directed energy deposition is an AM process that deposits powder and fuses it simultaneously with a laser, electron beam or plasma arc to produce a part. Schematic of the directed energy deposition is shown in Fig. 6. This process is used to build a metal structure, repair or add additional features to the existing component. Variety of metals such as tool steel, stainless steel, titanium, nickel, cobalt alloys are used. Laser Engineering Net Shaping (LENS) is one of the techniques used in this AM process. LENS was developed at Sandia National Laboratories. This process is developed to produce metal parts with complex geometries from the CAD data by using metal powder and high-power laser beam (Ghazy, 2012), (Gibson *et al.*, 2012). In this process, a multi axis

nozzle is used to build the parts. The whole process is carried out in a vacuum or inert atmosphere.



Fig. 4: Material jetting process [("Jetted Photopolymer," 2008) Copyright © 2019 CustomPartNet]



Fig. 5: Binder Jetting [("Overview over 3D printing technologies: Binder Jetting," n.d.) Copyright © 2019 additively.com]

The advantage of this process is that it can produce fully dense objects with highly controllable microstructural features. On the other hand, the disadvantages are that the accuracy and surface finish of the parts is not as good as the PBF processes. And the process is limited to only metal powder. Applications of this process include; prototypes, aerospace components and medical implants (Gibson *et al.*, 2012).



Fig. 6: Directed energy deposition [(3DExperience, 2018) Copyright © 2018 3DExperience]



Fig. 7: LOM process [("Laminated Object Manufacturing," 2008) Copyright © 2019 CustomPartNet]

## Sheet Lamination Processes

Sheet lamination is an AM process in which objects are produced by bonding sheets of material together. Materials used in this process are paper, plastic and metals. Different mechanisms such as adhesive bonding, thermal bonding, ultrasonic welding and clamping are used to bind the sheets together. Laminated Object Manufacturing (LOM) and Ultrasonic Additive Manufacturing (UAM) are the two main techniques in this process. LOM was developed by Helisys Inc. In LOM, a plastic material is laminated layer-by-layer using heat and pressure and then cut into required shape with a laser source (Feygin and Freeform, 1991). In UAM metal sheets are laminated laver-by-laver using ultrasonic welding and require additional CNC machining during the welding process (Ghazy, 2012), (Gibson et al., 2012). Schematic of the LOM process is shown in Fig. 7. The advantages compared to other AM process are that sheet lamination is fast and cost effective. Large objects can be produced as there is no chemical reaction involved. Disadvantages are that the accuracy of the parts are not as good as SLS process and the finish of the object varies on the material used. Applications of LOM are found in wide variety of industries (Gibson et al., 2012).

# Hybrid and Direct-Write (DW) Additive Manufacturing (AM) Process

## Hybrid Process

Hybrid manufacturing process can be defined as the combination of two or more manufacturing process for producing a part with a required accuracy and specifications. Depending upon the materials, equipment and process used the definition of the hybrid AM process varies (Manogharan *et al.*, 2015). The International Academy for Production Engineering- CIRP defines hybrid process as follows (Zhu *et al.*, 2013), (Manogharan, 2014):

- 1. Open definition: A hybrid manufacturing process combines two or more established manufacturing processes into a new combined set-up whereby the advantages of each discrete process can be exploited synergistically
- 2. Narrow definition: Hybrid processes comprise a simultaneous acting of different processing principles on the same processing zone

In some situations, multiple AM techniques are integrated within a single machine or subtractive techniques such as laser cladding or computer numerical control milling are combined with AM techniques to produce complex parts (Stucker, 2011). Current hybrid manufacturing systems use multi-axis systems for building the part features in any directions. Thus, it eliminates the need for building complex support structures. One of the advantages with these hybrid processes is that, functional parts for final use can be manufactured in a single setup (Siemens and Zistl, 2014). In the context of this research, hybrid process refers to the combination of DW techniques with other AM techniques. Generally, DW techniques are developed to fabricate multifunctional complex 3Dembedded electronic structures (Stucker, 2011).

## Direct-Write AM techniques

Direct Write (DW) AM techniques are developed to build meso, micro and nano-scale 3D functional structures such as conductors, capacitors, insulators, batteries and sensors directly from a CAD file onto any surface without masks and tooling. DW techniques have the ability to deposit, dispense or process different types of materials over different surfaces in a preset pattern. DW techniques can transfer material and pattern processes at the same time (Pique and Chrisey, 2001). DW techniques are categorized into various types, such as laser transfer (Li et al., n.d.), micropen<sup>TM</sup> (Sun, 2010), MAPLE DW (Piqué et al., 2003), Laser CVD (Hiramatsu et al., 2007), Dip-pen (Piner et al., 1999), plasma spray (Ružić et al., 2012) and Ink-jet (Furlani, n.d.). There are many factors which differentiate these techniques, some of them include: Resolution, manufacturing flexibility, writing speed, pressure and temperature. Each technique has its own advantages and disadvantages. The Matrix assisted pulsed laser evaporation technique was developed for fabricating mesoscopic electronic devices with high precision by using metallic, resistive and dielectric materials (Piqué et al., 2003). A typical MAPLE DW system consists of laser, ribbon, substrate and camera as shown in Fig. 8. A laser transparent material is coated with a material of interest (ink) to form the ribbon. A pulsed laser is induced through the ribbon to eject the material onto the substrate. By allowing the interact with the substrate laser to directly micromachining of channels is possible. Material transfer and micromachining can be controlled by the computer. This technique has the ability to generate high-quality organic, biomaterial and polymer films on different types of substrate (Riggs et al., 2011).

Micropen<sup>™</sup> is a solid free form technique employed for fabricating a variety of electronic components. With Micropen DW approach highly integrated, multilayer components can be fabricated layer-by-layer by depositing slurries or liquid fluid in precise patterns using CAD data. This technique has the ability to deposit patterns on planar and curvilinear substrates (Pique and Chrisey, 2001). Micro pen makes use of variety of nozzle sizes ranging from 2 to 100 mils to pattern different print geometries. The resolution of the Micro pen<sup>TM</sup> depends on pen tip sizes, writing parameters and

material rheology. Applications include: Fabrication of resistors, capacitors, RC filters, transformers, inductors and chemical sensors (*Micropen*<sup>TM</sup> manual, n.d.). Schematic of Micro pen DW system is illustrated in Fig. 9.



Fig. 8: MAPLE DW technique [(Wang, Auyeung, Kim, Charipar and Piqué, 2010a) © WILEY-VCH Verlag GmbH and Co. KGaA, Weinheim]



Fig. 9: Micropen DWsystem [(Micropen TM manual, n.d.) ©2019 MicroPen Technologies Corporation]

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Fig. 10: Laser CVD system [(Hiramatsu et al., 2007) Copyright © 2017 IOP Publishing]

Laser chemical vapor deposition (CVD) technique is used for direct writing of thin films of various materials on the surface of a substrate by inducing chemical reactions in a reactant with the guidance of a laser beam. In microelectronic industries, laser CVD is used broadly for depositing thin films of various metals, insulators and semiconductor materials (Piner et al., 1999), (Mazumder, 2013). Figure 10 illustrates the schematic of a laser CVD system. Based on the chemical mechanism involved laser CVD is categorized into two types, (1) pyrolytic LCVD and (2) photolytic LCVD. With laser CVD technique the surface of the substrate can be modified by depositing thin films of desired electrical, optical and mechanical properties. Applications of laser CVD include applying corrosion, wear-resistant and oxidation coatings of various materials on substrate (Mazumder, 2013). In Dip Pen Nanolithography (DPN) technique an atomic force microscope tip is used to pattern molecules directly on a range of substrates with a variety of inks (Piner et al., 1999). Schematic of DPN technique is illustrated in Fig. 11. This technique has the ability to place the molecules selectively at specific sites within a particular structure. Applications of this technique include: Nanoscale sensor fabrication. electronics, biosensor functionalization and cell generation (Piner et al., 1999).

The plasma spray technique is used for applying metallic and non-metallic coatings. In this technique the molten material is spared onto a surface to provide a coating. Initially, powder particles are melted with gas or heat and then the molten particles are accelerated with a high velocity to impact on the surface of the substrate to form a coating (Ružić et al., 2012). Figure 12 illustrate the schematic of plasma process. This technique uses wide variety of materials such as metals, composites, polymers and ceramics. With this technique multimaterial 3D patterns can be produced without the need Different electronic for pre-masking. structures, antennas, sensors and conductors can be embedded on 3D structures (Ronkainen, n.d.).

Ink-jet printing technology can dispense fluid at rates of 1MHz for continues droplets and 0-25KHz per second for single droplets on demand to pattern materials in 3D. This technique includes a wide variety of materials such as polymers, liquid metals, optical materials and biomedical reagents. In continuous inkjet technique, drops are produced continuously and their paths are varied by the amount of charge applied. In drop-on-demand ink-jet technique, droplets are produced as needed (on demand) by applying the voltage only when a drop is desired (Pique and Chrisey, 2001). Figure 13 illustrates the schematic of types of ink-jet printing techniques. The parameters such as drop size, frequency, velocity, substrate characteristics and printing sequence has a significant role in the development of ink-jet printing techniques. Complex 3D patterns can be fabricated without the need for masks, tooling and dies. Applications include: Solder jetting, fabrication of sensors, passive electronic components (resistors, capacitors and inductors) and batteries (Furlani, n.d.), (Lewis, 2006). Applications of DW techniques are found in defense electronics, chemical sensors, semiconductors, medicine and optoelectronics. DW techniques are used in electronics industry because of its capabilities which include miniaturization, rapid prototyping and surface flexibility. The materials include pastes and inks that consist of a combination of powders, binders, solvents, dispersants flake and nan powders (Desai *et al.*, 2012), (Desai and Lovell, 2012), (Adarkwa and Desai, 2016), (Desai and Lovell, 2008; 2006; 2007), (Esho and Desai, 2012).



Fig. 11: DPN system [(Piner et al., 1999) Copyright © 1999, The American Association for the Advancement of Science]



Fig. 12: Schematic diagram of Plasma spray [(Fauchais et al., 2014) Copyright © Gordon England]



Fig. 13: Ink-jet DW system [(Furlani, n.d.) © 2019 University at Buffalo]

#### **Surface Properties of AM Processes**

Surface texture metrology plays a key role in AM manufacturing processes and parts production. The surface quality of parts produced by different AM process has a profound impact on local microstructure, surface irregularity, internal anomaly, product accuracy, functionality and post-processing steps. The factors affecting the surface quality include material properties, particle size range and distribution, part orientation, layer thickness, STL file preparation, surface angle, finish and parameters type, scanning post-processing (Townsend et al., 2016), (Udroiu et al., 2019). The surface microstructure has an influence on the mechanical properties such as tensile strength, yield strength, fatigue strength, compressive properties, crack extension, shear resistance, harness and ultimate strength of the AM production parts. The effect of microstructure on the ultimate performance, durability and reliability of AM production parts was investigated by several researchers (Kahlin, 2017), (Chan, 2015). Calignano et al. investigated the influence of process parameters (power, hatching distance and scan speed) on Aluminium alloy (AlSi10Mg) surface roughness using Direct Metal Laser Sintering (DMLS). Figure 14 clearly illustrates that with decrease in the hatching distance and laser scanning speed the presence of necks or voids reduced leading to a superior surface (Calignano et al., 2013).

Chan et al. and Edward et.al studied the effect of roughness and surface porosity on the fatigue life of titanium alloy material fabricated with laser beam melting (LBM) and electron beam melting (EBM) respectively. The results of these studies reported that the fatigue life of the Ti alloy part fabricated with AM techniques can be reduced by rough surface finish (Edwards and Ramulu, 2014), (Chan et al., 2013). The characterization and measurement of surface texture for AM production process is arduous as the manufactured parts must comply practice guidelines, design standards and specifications. Different types of characterizations such as areal and texture can be used to better understand the capabilities of particular AM technologies. Development of AM surface texture good practice specifications, guidance and standards is necessary for the profound understanding and optimization of AM technology and processes (Shi et al., 2016).

#### Applications

This review provides the recent developments of 3D printing applications in different areas such as electronics, medical, aerospace, automobile, manufacturing, construction, food industry and consumer products. A comprehensive overview of all the 3D printing application conducted by researchers and industries is provided.



Fig. 14: Field emission SEM images of A1Si10Mg DMLS surfaces. (a and c) Scan speed 1000 mm/s, laser power 190 W, hatching distance 0.2 mm, Ra 24 μm, (b and d) Scan speed 800 mm/s, laser power 190 W, hatching distance 0.1 mm, Ra 14 μm [(Calignano *et al.*, 2013) Creative Commons Attribution License (CC BY)]

#### Electronics

3D printing electronics offer great potential to build complex object with multiple functionalities. It has shown unique ability to fabricate embedded electronics, 3D structural electronics, conformal electronics, stretchable electronics, ceramic electronic etc., as shown in Fig. 15 (Lehmhus et al., 2016), (Thompson and Yoon, 2013), (Tan et al., 2019), (Wang et al., 2010), (Ota et al., 2016). Over the past five years, a large number of studies and efforts regarding 3D printing electronics have been carried out by both academia and industry (Zheng et al., 2013), (Ladd et al., 2013), (Yang et al., 2018), (Skylar-Scott et al., 2016), (Lewis et al., 2006), (Lifton et al., 2014). To fabricate printed flexible and stretchable 3D electronic devices with desired characteristics and performance, the selection of ink materials, substrates and the printing process is of paramount importance. A significant advancement has been achieved in 3d printing of embedded, 3D structural and stretchable electronics (Desai et al., 2013), (Ahn et al., 2009), (Muth et al., 2014), (Flowers et al., 2017), (Jiang et al., 2018), (Parupelli and Desai, 2017), (McKenzie and Desai, 2018), (Esho et al., 2011), (McKenzie et al., 2017), (Desai et al., 2014). 3D printed electronic components have multiple properties such as mechanical characteristics, embedded electrical and optical functions and complex structures (Lu et al., 2018). A hybrid 3D manufacturing system that integrates stereolithography (SL: 3D Systems SL 250/50) and direct write (DP: nScrypt) technology was developed for fabricating 3D embedded electronic structures (3D 555 timer circuit) (Lopes *et al.*, 2012). An outline on 3D printing technologies, advances and challenges in multi process 3D printing with respect to multifunctionality and complex geometry was provided by Donald research group.

Multi-functional fabrication process was utilized by numerous researchers for fabricating 3D printable structures with embedded function which include sensors, actuation, thermal management, energy storage, antennas, electromagnetic structures and propulsion (MacDonald and Wicker, 2016). Adams et al. (2011) demonstrated the conformal printing of 3D antenna using metallic inks onto convex and concave hemispherical surfaces whose performances nears Chu limit. An aerosol jet technology is a direct write process capable of depositing functional materials such as metal nanoparticle inks, polymers, adhesives, ceramics and bio-active onto a substrate and print multilayer electronic circuits. Metallic traces as low as 10 microns or as large as a centimeter wide can be deposited on planar, nonplanar, 3D surfaces and orthogonal plane surfaces (Paulsen et al., 2012). A microchip patch antenna was fabricated by combining fused filament fabrication and ultra-metal wire mesh embedded approach. The gain of the patch antenna was 5.5 dB at the resonance peak (Liang et al., 2015). Active electronic components such as transistors, diodes, silicon-controlled rectifiers, operational amplifiers, light-emitting diodes and batteries, etc. have

the ability to control and amplify the flow of electric charge (Saengchairat *et al.*, 2017), (Boley *et al.*, 2014). Capacitive sensors can be used for applications such as material sensing, biomedical sensing, human interface devices, electronics characterization and environmental sensing (Rahman *et al.*, 2016), (Shemelya *et al.*, 2015). Electromechanical devices such as humidity, pressure, temperature, skin-like and dry electrode sensors can be printed in micro to macro scale using AM (O'Donnell *et al.*, 2016).

2016). Flexible electronics such as cellulose nanofibrilbased coatings of woven cotton fabrics were demonstrated using inkjet printing for e-textile manufacturing (Kamyshny and Magdassi, 2019). Kong *et al.* (2014) reports a simple, but sophisticated 3D extrusion printing method (multi-material) for patterning functional materials such as metal, polymer and semiconductor for fabricating fully 3D printed lightemitting diodes (LEDs) based on quantum dots.



Fig. 15: (a). 3D-printed quantum-dot-based light-emitting diodes (QD-LEDs) [(Kong *et al.*, 2014) Copyright © 2014, American Chemical Society], (b). Direct writing of AgTPU electrodes in a 24-pad wiring scheme with electrode widths of 100 µm (scale bar = 2 mm) [(Valentine *et al.*, 2017) © 2017 WILEY-VCH Verlag GmbH and Co. KGaA, Weinheim], (c). Inkjet-printed circuit on woven cotton fabric using Ag NP ink [(Nechyporchuk *et al.*, 2017) Copyright © 2017, American Chemical Society], (d). Optical image of an antenna on curved surface during the printing process [(Adams *et al.*, 2011) Copyright © 2011 WILEY-VCH Verlag GmbH and Co. KGaA, Weinheim], (e). X-ray micrograph of a quad copter drone [Voxel8], (f). Flexible strain and pressure sensor [(Muth *et al.*, 2014b) © 2014 WILEY-VCH Verlag GmbH and Co. KGaA, Weinheim], (g). SEM images 16-layer interdigitated LTO-LFP electrode architectures [(K. Sun *et al.*, 2013) Copyright © 2013 WILEY-VCH Verlag GmbH and Co. KGaA, Weinheim], (h). Smart glove with temperature sensor, (h2). 3D tower structure with embedded Microcontroller Unit (MCU), Low-Pass filter (LPF) and trans-impedance amplifier (TIA) [(Ota *et al.*, 2016) © 2016 WILEY-VCH Verlag GmbH and Co. KGaA, Weinheim]

AM technologies enables designers, researchers and industries to fabricate innovative electronic components with complex geometries, customized design, on any surface (linear, circular and curvilinear). The literature provided in this section clearly illustrates the advancement of AM in electronics by various researchers and industries which would not have been feasible through conventional manufacturing processes. Future work would be to address the challenges of using novel materials with new AM techniques for fabricating fully functional innovative electronic components in a single build sequence which can withstand harsh environmental conditions.

## Medical Industry

Scaffold fabrication method, biocompatibility, mechanical performance and bioactivity of materials are crucial for tissue engineering of 3D organs. 3D bio fabrication methods can be used for making complex patient specific bone tissue engineering scaffold with spatial precise control over content and microarchitecture. Materials such as metals, ceramics, hydrogels, polymers and composites are used for tissue engineering (Desai and Harrison, 2009), (Desai et al., 2010b), (Perkins et al., 2011), (Perkins et al., 2015), (Turnbull et al., 2018), (Aljohani and Desai, 2019), (Desai et al., 2008a), (Esho and Desai, 2012), (Desai et al., 2008b). A research group from Chalmers University of Technology have demonstrated the use of nanocellulosebased bio ink for 3D bioprinting with living cells in a meniscus shaped structure was successfully printed (Markstedt et al., 2015). Additive manufacturing methods are capable of fabricating complex tissue structures to repair or replace injured or diseased or damaged human tissues and organs (Melchels et al., 2012), (Perkins et al., 2009), (Desai et al., 2010a), (Shengjie et al., 2009), (Perkins et al., 2011), (Adarkwa et al., 2014), (Parupelli et al., 2019). 3D images of the bone can be reconstructed using CT and MRI scans and a 3D prototype of the bone can be fabricated layer-by-layer using AM. Application of additive manufacturing in orthopedic include in areas such as surgical guides, patient-specific instruments, custom implants, bone defect, anatomic models for the planning of surgery, osteochondral and chondral defect, etc. (Javaid and Haleem, 2018b), (O'Brien, 2011), (Melchels et al., 2010), (Cox et al., 2015). Although, 3D bioprinting is in its early developmental stage, it is a promising tool in biomedical tissue engineering field as it offers to engineer complex 3D biological constructs. Over the past five year's significant advances have been achieved by various researchers in developing state of the art bio fabrication platform for printing biomimetic structures as shown in Fig. 16. A variety of biomaterials, growth factors and cells were utilized for making 3D

biostructures (Zhu *et al.*, 2016), (Jardini *et al.*, 2014), (Javaid and Haleem, 2018a), (An *et al.*, 2015), (Bishop *et al.*, 2017), (Singh and Ramakrishna, 2017), (Aimar *et al.*, 2019), (Trevisan *et al.*, 2018), (Dodziuk, 2016), (Cox *et al.*, 2015), (Lewis, 2006), (Javaid and Haleem, 2018b), (Ventola, 2013), (Zuniga *et al.*, 2015), (Salmi, 2013). A research group at Princeton University used 3D printing for fabricating a bionic ear with cellseeded hydrogel matrix, along with a conducting polymer (intertwined). The printed ear demonstrates enhanced auditory sensing capable of receiving electromagnetic signals (hertz to gigahertz frequency range) (Mannoor *et al.*, 2013).

AM technologies have demonstrated significant advancement in the health care industry in the past few years by enabling the production of efficient and costeffective customized surgical implants, hearing guides and dental crows which are unachievable with conventional manufacturing processes. The literature in this section demonstrated the versatility of AM technologies in medical field. Currently some of the applications are in the early development stages such as the bio printing technologies for 3D printing of human organs such as heart, kidney, lungs and other vital organs using biodegradable materials, stems cells and growth factors. The challenges that need to be addressed include materials development, structural strength, speed, size and software skill of using computer-aided-design for optimal part design.

## Aerospace

The adoption of 3D printed parts in aircraft has the potential to contribute significant energy savings and fuel economy from light weight parts. (Nickels, 2015), (Huang *et al.*, 2016), (Vishnu Prashant Reddy *et al.*, 2018), (Seabra *et al.*, 2016), (Dijk, 2016), (Angrish, 2014), (Brandl *et al.*, 2010). The Materials and Manufacturing Directorate of the Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL/ML) has been using the fusion based AM of metal alloys for producing Ti structures since the late 1990's. (Kobryn *et al.*, 2006). Airbus utilizing metal AM bleed pipes and brackets on its aircraft (3ders, 2014). It has collaborated with Arconic for producing large-scale AM airframe components. It has also partnered with Materialise for manufacturing 3D-printed cabins parts for Airbus's commercial aircraft.

Applications of AM in aerospace and defense include concept modelling and prototyping, printing replacement parts and structures using light-weight, high-strength materials, printing complex engine parts, aircraft wings, repair parts on the battlefield, large structures directly in space and embedding electronic circuit directly on parts as shown in Fig. 17 (U.S. Department of Energy, 2015). Some of the major manufacturers of aircraft such as Boeing (titanium AM parts for commercial and military aircraft) and Airbus are adopting the AM technology to achieve quick production process, reduce the supply chain costs, improve functionality and performance and manufacture safe and light-weight products. In the aerospace industry, accuracy and precision are crucial for the passenger's safety and success of the business (Huang *et al.*, 2012), (Uriondo *et al.*, 2015), (Cotteleer, 2014). A world leader in large format 3D printing, BigRep has partnered with Etihad Airways Engineering to advance the use of AM technology in aerospace for printing new aircraft cabin interior parts, as well as for the retrofit market. GE aviation has been using AM technology for manufacturing engine components such as fuel nozzles in mass volume. Other major companies such as Rolls-Royce and OEMs are utilizing AM for the development of 3D-printed structures (Wimpenny *et al.*, 2016). Emirates has collaborated with 3D systems and utilized selective laser sintering (SLS) AM technology for producing aircraft cabin air vent grills for onboard trials and video monitor shrouds (Benedict, 2017).



Fig. 16: (a). Bio-printing process for fabrication of 3D organs [(Turnbull *et al.*, 2018b)], (b1) (b2). 3D printed prosthetic hand with top and bottom view [(Zuniga *et al.*, 2015) Copyright © Zuniga *et.al*: licensee BioMed Central. 2015], (c). Functionally gradient osteochondral scaffold [(Chen *et al.*, 2015) Copyright © 2015, Institute of Automation, Chinese Academy of Sciences and Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg], (d). Functionally gradient cellulose nanocrystal hydrogel scaffold with pore sizes: 0.5-1-1.5-2 mm [(Sultan and Mathew, 2018) Copyright © Creative Commons], (e). 3D printed sheep meniscus [(Markstedt *et al.*, 2015) Copyright © 2015, American Chemical Society], (f1). 3D printed ear after printing, (f2). 3D printed ear during in vitro culture [(Mannoor *et al.*, 2013) Copyright © 2013, American Chemical Society], (g). Two cardiac 3D models opened at the level of the fourchamber view (left, normal fetal heart; right, the heart exhibiting hypoplastic left heart syndrome based on aortic atresia) [(Dodziuk, 2016) Copyright © 2016 Polish Society of Cardiothoraic Surgeons and editors of the Polish Journal of Cardio-Thoracic surgery]



Fig. 17: (a). Airbus A350 XWB titanium cabin bracket manufactured using LaserCUSING technology [Copyrights © (Airbus, 2016)], (b). A spacer panel in production at Materialise using FDM technology [Copyrights © (Materialise, 2018)]. (c). 3D printed video monitor shroud using 3D Systems SLS technology, (d). 3D printed cabin air vent grill developed with UUDS [(Emirates, 2017) Copyrights © 3D systems]. (e). Graphic of the conventional design of an assessed steel cast bracket (left) and titanium bracket manufactured using DMLS technology [Copyrights © (EOS, 2014)]. (f). 3-D printed titanium dome prototypes at the Lockheed Martin company's space facility [Copyrights © (LockheadMartin, 2018)]

AM technologies in aerospace industry have demonstrated crucial developments for manufacturing complex 3D structure without complex tooling and material wastage. AM technologies enable fabrication of aircraft parts such as hinges, interior components, brackets and engine components (fuel nozzles, internal cooling channels and compressors). The literature in this section illustrates the advantages of critical attributes of AM in aerospace industries for producing complex light weight parts with better fuel efficiencies and functionality for improving the performance of aircraft. Future work includes the development of novel processes, test methods and standards for full utilization of AM in the aerospace industry.

#### Construction

3D printing has been used in the construction industry for more than a decade for several ambitious projects. Advantages of 3D printing in construction include scalability, efficiency, design flexibility, ecofriendly and affordable houses (Buswell *et al.*, 2018), (Lim *et al.*, 2012), (Wu *et al.*, 2016), (Feng and Yuhong, 2014), (Duballet *et al.*, 2017), (Kazemian *et al.*, 2017), (Hager *et al.*, 2016), (Bos *et al.*, 2016), (Kidwell, 2014). Some of the prominent 3D printers used in construction include BetAbram P1, COBOD BOD2, Constructions-3D 3D Constructor, CyBe Construction CyBe RC 3Dp, ICON Vulcan II, MudBots 3D Concrete Printer, Total Kustom StroyBot 6.2, WASP Crane WASP, Apis Cor, Batiprint3D 3D printer, S-Squared ARCS VVS NEPTUNE, Contour Crafting and XtreeE (Cherdo, 2019). In 2004, University of South California Professor Behrokh Khoshnevis developed a fused deposition modelling 3D printer (Contour Crafting technology), mounted on a robotic arm for extruding concrete layers to build 3D model. Recently in the past few years several concrete based AM techniques have been developed by researchers and industry players for construction applications (Khoshnevis, 2004). A Russian company, Apis Cor believes that AM is a compelling solution for the housing crisis problem. A 400 sq. feet house as shown in Fig. 18a was 3D printed using fine-grained fiber concrete material by a mobile robot concrete 3D printer in just 24 h (Cheniuntai, 2018). XtreeE developed a large-scale concrete 3D printer for building ultra-high-performance concrete complex architectures such as a 4-meter high pillar shown in Fig. 18b. which was installed at a public school in Aix-en-Provence, France. (Gosselin *et al.*, 2016), (Gaudillière *et al.*, 2018), (XtreeE, 2017).



Fig. 18: (a). 3D printed Concrete house by Apis Cor [(Cheniuntai, 2018) Copyrights © Apis Cor 2018], (b). 3D printed pillar in Aix-en-Provence [(XtreeE, 2016) Copyright © 2019, Springer Nature Switzerland AG], (c). 3D printed pavilion in Europe [Copyrights © (XtreeE, 2017)], (d). 3D printed Gaia house using natural materials such as soil and waste from rice production [(Chiusoli, 2016) Copyrights © WASP 2016], (e). 3D-Printed Office Building in Dubai [(Musa *et al.*, 2018) Copyrights ©Dubai/REUTERS], (f). 3D printed Western-style villa [Copyrights © (Winsun, 2016)], (g). 3D printed Concrete Castle [Copyrights © (Rudenko, 2016)], (h). 3D printed concrete surface [(Costanzi, 2016) Copyright © Loughborough University 2016, UK]

ABB, Dassault Systemes, LarfargeHolcim and XtreeE companies have collaborated by 3D printing a 3-meter tall Pavilion (Fig. 18c) to demonstrate the potential of sustainable architecture construction. The design of the Pavillion was inspired by nature organic shapes such as trees and coffee beans (XtreeE, 2016). Italian 3D printing company WASP, developed a Crane Wasp 3D printer that can produce homes in different sizes and formats as shown in Fig. 18d. This Gaia house was 3D printed using biodegradable natural materials such as waste from rice production and soil (Chiusoli, 2016). To date Winsuna, a global firm in China has more than 100 3D printed houses of various types. A western style concrete villa as shown in Fig. 18f. was 3D printed in three days. The world's first 3D printed office building as shown in Fig. 18e was opened in Dubai which was built using a 20-foot-tall by 120-foot-long by 20-foot-wide 3D printer in Shanghai (Winsun, 2016), (Musa et al., 2018). In 2014, Minnesota-based Andrey Rudenko 3D printed a 3 m by 5 m concrete castle as shown in the Fig. 18g. (Rudenko, 2016). Costanza et.al explored the potential of two manufacturing techniques; concrete additive manufacturing and an adaptable formwork for fabricating complex free-form concrete panels as shown in Fig. 18h (Costanzi, 2016).

Several researchers and industries have embraced the AM for concrete 3D printing in the construction field for overcoming the limitations of traditional construction means. The literature in this section elaborates the utilization of AM by various firms for 3D printing of complex architecture shapes, houses with reduction in material wastage, costs, accidents at work and build time. Future work includes the investigation, improvement and refinement of AM concrete process for printing complex shapes, bridges, molds and compound walls, with good finishing and accuracy.

## Fashion

Nowadays due to the advancement in the 3D printing technologies, it is used for producing garments, jackets in the fashion industry and shoe soles in footwear as shown in Fig. 19 (Brookes, 2014), (Valtas and Sun, 2016). In 2015, Danit Peleg used 3D printing for producing fashion collection of garments, Liberty leading The People at the Shankar College of Design. She also introduced the 3D printed garment for sale on her website for \$1500. The ultimate goal was to make 3D printing more accessible for fashion (Gregurić, 2019a).

The Ministry of Supply in 2016, 3D printed a Jacket without Seams using 3D robotic knitting machine which was sold for \$ 250. With the help of 3D printing almost

15-30% of the material was saved which would otherwise be wasted with conventional methods (MinistryofSupply, 2016). XYZ Bag, an Italian brand used 3D printing for producing the customized handbags collection which includes a leather strap attached to a 3D printed shell. Companies like Nike and Adidas are using 3D printing for producing custom fitted shoes. Adidas has partnered with carbon for developing the first 3D printed midsole with complex shape using SLA technology. Companies leading into the arena include Adidas and New Balance, who are starting to 3D print midsoles. Nike, in the meantime, is experimenting with 3D printed "uppers". In 2018, designer Ganit Goldstein collaborated with Stratasys for producing a 3D printed woven shoe which was showcased at Arts of Fashion Competition, San Francisco (Gregurić, 2019a). Corral et al. research group at the University of Arkansas are exploring the abilities of 3D Printing and its viability for consumption in the Fashion Industry. The results of the study illustrated that 3D printing can be beneficial and feasible to the apparel industry (Walker and Corral, 2017). 3D printing can also be used for printing of jewelry such as rings, bracelets, pendants and other jewelry products in complex design (Adler and Fryé, 2005), (Yap and Yeong, 2014). Fashion designers have demonstrated that by using 3D printing, creative and innovative design patterns in any shape for garments, jackets, jewelry and shoes can be produced. 3D printing provides the complete design freedom for creating revolutionary wear in the future (Sun, 2019), (Kim et al., 2019).

AM process are being employed in fashion industry for producing complex designs due to the advantages of 3D printing such as degree of freedom, quality design, reduce time and costs, product enhancement and innovation. The literature in this section provides the utilization of AM processes by various fashion designers and small fashion firms in recent times for producing garments, jewelry, footwear, leather goods and accessories. Further improvements in the AM production processes, cost optimization need to be addressed for the full-scale adoption of AM in fashion industry.

# Food Industry

Efforts has been made by various researchers and industries for using 3D printing for creating 3D food printing for personalized food meals. 3D food printing is a way to print customized foods for mass production with enhanced flavor, nutrition and textures. 3D printing of food also known as Food Layered Manufacturer has the potential for producing 3D custom-designed food objects with desired color, shape, flavor, nutrition and texture as shown in Fig. 20. Over the past few years several articles and research papers were published related to 3D Food printing (Sher and Tutó, 2015), (Pitayachaval *et al.*, 2018), (Singh and Raghav, 2018), (Godoi *et al.*, 2016), (Tan *et al.*, 2018), (Dankar *et al.*, 2018), (Sun *et al.*, 2015; 2016), (Hemsley *et al.*, 2019), (Avsec, 2016). Cornell Creative Machines Lab 3D printer has been used for printing two identical shaped cookies with different calorie intake by customizing the nutrition based on people biometrics (Lipton *et al.*, 2015), (Lin, 2015). A Silicon Valley Startup named BeeHex developed a 3D printer (Chef 3D –extrusion technique) for printing delicious pizza meals for astronauts during future missions with the aid of NASA

grant. BeeHex's bot can also 3D print pastries, dessert decorating and customized nutrition bars (NASA, 2013), (Goehrke, 2017). Food Ink. is the world's first 3D printing restaurant based on a collaboration of a multi-talented international team including chefs, artists, designers, architects, engineers, industrialists, futurists, technologists and investors (Avsec, 2017). Natural Machines, a Barcelona based company developed a multi-food 3D printer called Foodini by integrating 3D printing (extrusion technique) with artificial intelligence and food. It is a 3D food printing kitchen appliance that allows to print meal with personalized food and nutrition with minimal food waste (NaturalMachines, 2012).



Fig. 19: (a) 3D printed metal rings [(Brookes, 2014) Copyright © Kenneth JA Brookes 2014], (b).3D printed garment [(Walker & Corral, 2017) Copyrights © 2017, International Textile and Apparel Association, Inc.], (c). 3D printed dress with complex design [(Kim *et al.*, 2019) Copyrights © Springer 2019], (d). The futuristic Pangolin 3D printed dress [(Swack, 2016) Source: Alexis Day Agency], (e). Ministry of Supply jacket without seams [(Gregurić, 2019a) Source: Ministry of Supply], (f). Dada handbag [(XYZBAG, n.d.) Copyrights © 2015 XYZCUBE Sas by Nicola Annalisa & C], (g). Adidas Future craft 4D sneakers [(Adidas, 2017)]



Fig. 20: (a) Natural Machines 3D food printer, (b). 3D printed food using Foodini [(NaturalMachines, 2012)], (c1). Food Ink Restaurant-London, (c2). 3-D printed bread in a sacred-geometric "Flower of Life" design [(Dobrzensky, n.d.)], (d). 3D printed pizza [(Goehrke, 2017), Bee-Hex], (e). 3D printed customized food design samples [Copyright (c) 2017 Jie Sun, Zhuo Peng, Liangkun Yan, Jerry Ying Hsi Fuh, Geok Soon Hong]

AM techniques such as extrusion and binder jetting are employed in food industry for producing customized edible nutritious food products. The literature in this section demonstrates the implementation of AM by various researchers and companies for making pizzas, pastries and food items in a variety of designs. Future work would be addressing the challenges such as food safety, regulations, shell life and development of broad range of ingredients for successfully adopting edible AM in households, restaurants, grocery stores and space.

### Automotive

3D printing application in the automotive industry are found in assembly line to develop lightweight car parts, components, replacement, spare parts and prototypes (Sreehitha, 2017), (Beiderbeck *et al.*, 2018), (Giffi *et al.*, 2014), (Stratasys, 2018), (Ghosh, 2017), (Saunders, 2018), (Sevcik, 2018), (Kerns, 2016). Car manufacturing companies such as BMW, Mercedes-Benz, Bugatti, Chrysler, Honda, GM, Kia, Toyota and Diamler are embracing 3D printing of automotive parts with complex designs. Local Motors, one of the pioneers in 3D printing and autonomous vehicles debuted Strati, first 3D printed electric car in 2014. Recently the world's first 3D printed autonomous shuttle (Olli) as shown in Fig. 20a. were deployed in Sacramento State University campus for university's students, staff and local public. Olli is a safe, smart and sustainable self-driving vehicle integrated with the IBM Watson's advanced cognitive computing capabilities (Rogers, 2014), (Boissonneault, 2019).



Fig. 21: (a) 3D Printed Shuttle (Olli) [(Rogers, 2014) Copyrights © Local Motors], (b). 3D printed Shelby Cobra: ORNL-NASA [(ORNL, 2015)] (c). 3D printed brake caliper and brackets for the folding roof mechanism [(Gregurić, 2019b) Copyrights © BMW Group], (d). 3D printed titanium wheel [(HRE3D+, 2018)], (e). The David Bowie 3D Printed Tribute Concept Car [(Yamamoto *et al.*, 2019) Copyrights © Massivit], (f). 3D printed jigs and fixtures for Ford Focus [(Gregurić, 2019a) Copyrights © Ultimaker]

Researcher at the Department of Energy's Oak Ridge National Laboratory 3D printed a Shelby car (Fig. 21b) using the Big Area Additive Manufacturing (BAAM) machine. Shelby was designed to "plug and play" with components such as power electronics, battery, hybrid system designs, wireless charging system and fuel cell technologies, for testing quickly new ideas with ease (ORNL, 2015).

BMW is using metal 3D printing technology for producing complex shape end-use parts such as brake callipers and the brackets parts as shown in Fig. 21c (Gregurić, 2019a). GE Additive collaborated with HRE Wheels and developed the first 3D printed titanium wheel as shown in Fig. 21d. using Electron Beam Melting (EBM) AM technology. This shows the capabilities of AM in creating functional parts with features such as corrosion resistance and higher strength (HRE3D+, 2018). Takumi Yamamto, car designer demonstrated the use of a 3D printing for a full scale concept car, Fig. 21e. as a tribute to musical icon David Bowie with Massivit 1800 Pro 3D printer (Yamamoto *et al.*, 2019). Jigs and fixtures (Fig. 21f) are the basic tools in the automotive industry, mainly used for badges positioning. 3D printing of jigs and fixtures saves time, cost and reduces material waste. For example, Volkswagen saved more than \$200K in tooling costs using 3D printing (Goehrke, 2018).

AM technologies in automotive industry have opened up enormous opportunities for producing novel designs, lighter, safer and economical products with reduction in material wastage, cost and lead times which is not achievable by conventional manufacturing techniques. The literature in this section reports the adoption and advancements of AM in automotive field in the past few years for building jigs, fixtures, spare parts, car tires, customizes tools, interior parts, car frames, brake calipers and brackets. The future work includes the development of enhanced AM parts with effective product quality, manufacturing large parts and limiting post-processing steps. Thus, AM has the potential to shape the automotive landscape at global scale.

# **Future Prospects**

In the coming decades, AM will fuel the advancement of Industry 4.0 in shaping the future of global industrial market. Industry 4.0 is an adaptive, cognitive and largely self-optimizing factory (Elhoone et al., 2019). Combining AM with Internet-of-Things, cloud computing, robotics and big data will revolutionize all industry sectors. 3D printing can be seen as one of the crucial milestones in the advancement of industrial manufacturing technology. The professional 3D printers developed so far will continue to advance innovation and promote businesses in diverse industry sectors such as electronics, healthcare, manufacturing, aerospace, automobile, construction, fashion, jewelry, entertainment and food industry.

# Conclusion

Additive Manufacturing (AM) has advanced from a rapid prototyping tool to a manufacturing technology capable of producing functional end-user products. This paper provides a detailed overview of all the AM technologies categorized under the following processes: Photo polymerization, extrusion systems, powder bed fusion, jetting processes, directed energy deposition, sheet lamination and hybrid and direct write AM. Further, the paper provides insights about the significant advancements in a diverse range of fields which include electronics, medical industry, aerospace, construction, fashion, food industry and the automotive industry. This review will promote AM technologies to researchers and industries with recent advancements and prospects of AM processes, materials and capabilities. AM technologies are utilized for a broad extent of applications ranging from printing basic electronic circuits, jigs and fixtures to complex real life applications. These include creating human 3D organs, manufacturing spacecraft engines and 3D vehicles, building large-scale architecture houses and customized nutritious food products. Continuous innovation and advancements in AM will revolutionize the future as AM will play an essential role in the modern economy. Finally, this paper provides notable achievements in AM with a perspective on its future potential.

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# **Author's Contributions**

**SantoshKumar Parupelli:** Contributed to the literature review, compilation and writing of the manuscript.

**Salil Desai:** Designed the overall theme of the article and contributed to the editing of the manuscript.

# Ethics

This article is original and contains unpublished material. The corresponding author confirms that all of the other authors have read and approved the manuscript and no ethical issues involved.

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