




# Deep Tech Unit 1\_V3.docx

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## Frequently Asked Questions

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## Unit 1: Introduction to DeepTech

### Learning Outcomes

1. Understand the concept of DeepTech and its significance in innovation.
2. Distinguish between DeepTech and Emerging Tech based on their characteristics.
3. Explore the fundamentals and applications of Cognitive Technology.
4. Summarize key takeaways from the exploration of DeepTech and related technologies.
5. Identify and define important terms related to DeepTech and Cognitive Technologies.
6. Answer descriptive questions to reinforce understanding of DeepTech concepts.
7. Analyze a real-world case study to understand DeepTech applications in action.

### Content

- 1.0 Introductory Caselet
- 1.1 What is DeepTech
- 1.2 Difference Between DeepTech and Emerging Tech
- 1.3 Introduction to Cognitive Technology
- 1.4 Summary
- 1.5 Key Terms
- 1.6 Descriptive Questions
- 1.7 References
- 1.8 Case Study

## 1.0 Introductory Caselet

### “Maya’s Delivery Dilemma: Making Predictions with Probability Distributions”

#### Background:

Maya is an urgent local same day express courier service. Her firm maintains an individual and business practice across the city. After a while, Maya noticed something strange about the distribution of work: On some days her drivers were overwhelmed with delivery requests, on other days they had almost nothing to do. Our month average of deliveries was pretty steady at/slag excess of 200/month but from day to day it was all over the place.

Initially, Maya tried reps with averages of the deliveries but it was a gross estimation and not an interesting one. She needed a better way to model the uncertainty and variability in daily delivery volumes, so she contacted a data analyst. The analyst gave Maya her first glimpse of the beauty of probability distributions.

They began with a Binomial Distribution for success/failure scenarios—whether packages would or wouldn’t get delivered on time — and used past delivery performance as its initial input. Then, they used the Poisson Distribution for the count of delivery requests in a day and specifically that requested randomly and independently.

#### For example:

- An average of 12 orders an hour, plus or minus. By using Poisson, she was able to estimate the probability of getting 15+ orders at any point in time.
- For aggregating customer behavior per month, the analyst was using the Normal Distribution, which made sense for how much in total does each month's customers spend.

#### By applying probability distributions:

- Maya was now able to predict driver workload more effectively,
- Dedicate spares during peak hours according to Poisson projections,
- And predicted the likelihood of late delivery using binomial probability model.

What had appeared to be chaos in her everyday work, by finding the right distribution models, she turned out how to discern statistical order.

#### Critical Thinking Question:

As Maya, what would you observe different from a normal, fixed rate arrival and how might the ability to use Poisson Distribution assist you in your schedule of staff and fleet? Can you think of another business process the Poisson model could be used for?

### 1.1 What is DeepTech

DeepTech are technologies built on profound scientific discoveries or engineering developments. They carry high-barrier-to-entry techs designed to solve real-world, complex problems that demand high levels of expertise and specific knowledge across disciplines like physics, biology, chemistry and computer science. DeepTech is typically different from the more prevalent, consumer-oriented technologies as it consists of disruptive innovations which generate new markets or disrupt existing ones. DeepTech includes areas such as artificial intelligence, robotics, quantum computing and biotech.

#### Did You Know?

"This is relevant to the opening statement of DeepTech because it represents an historic aspect of DeepTech in action."

#### 1.1.1 DeepTech Definition

DeepTechs can be characterized as the technology that is enabled by significant advances in science or engineering. In the end, it seeks to solve "hard problems" needing out-of-the-box solutions. DeepTech is not like regular technology which might offer improvement of products or services but provoke fundamental changes, in some cases leading to new markets and industries. Such technologies usually come with a significantly high barrier to entry in terms of R&D and financial involvement.

Quantum computing, for instance, is a DeepTech area which uses quantum mechanics to develop computers that can solve problems much faster than classical computers. Another discipline, biotechnology, involves using living systems and organisms to develop products that can address medical or environmental challenges — in one example, gene editing tools such as CRISPR.

#### 1.1.2 Industry 1.0 to 6.0 Evolution

There have been various revolutionary periods throughout industrial history, spurred by technological advancements and social shifts. These transformations are part of what we call "Industrial Revolutions," and they have completely changed economies and the way people live and work.

Industry 1.0: The First Industrial Revolution (late 18th century to early 19th century) was characterized by the shift from handmade to purpose-built machinery. The steam-engine was driven by water, which led to factories being built and goods produced on "mass" scale. The major technologies were the steam engine and power looms.

-Industry 2.0- Second Industrial Revolution (late 19th century early 20th century): The advent of electricity was used to power new machinery, but still allowed individual craftsmen to make products at home. Master-workers who owned building or factories. Factories produced more with less people because machines did all the work. Technological advancements caused a change from household business driven businesses to business driving technological advancements. New manufacturing processes became more urban based due to rural population boom. Labourers went down in history as being low-training, single-task employees. Pollution beginning to impact Earth clean water source; Pollution ending up downstream. Low-skilled City worker began moving jobs overseas automation replaced skilled labour. It was also a time of great innovations in transportation (the railroads, automobiles) and communication (telegraph, telephone).

3.0: The Third Industrial Revolution Began with the development of electronics, computers and automation (mid-20th century). This paved the way towards digital technology and microprocessors, as well as the dawning of the internet age.

Industry 4.0: The Fourth Industrial Revolution (21st century) entails the conflict of digital technologies, physical resources, and biological surroundings. Realm of the intelligent factory or highly automated systems driven by disruptive technologies like IoT, AI, robotics and big data are revolutionizing industries.

Industry 5.0 pushes through: Coming soon, Industry 5.0 is all about humans and their robot buddies. If Industry 4.0 was focused on machines doing repetitive work, Industry 5.0 is a more human-centric take on automation in which robots and AI help workers become more productive and creative themselves. This revolution highlights the importance of human thought and creativity.

Industry 6.0: In the making The next level of industrial revolution is currently in its infant stage but it could include advanced capabilities like neurotechnology, creativity through AI and further evolution in biotechnology. But from this generation, we may also see a huge leapfrog in sustainability, with products designed to solve environmental challenges felt around the globe.

Did You Know?

“This fits in here, for example to explain the transition between the I and II Industrial Revolution and how technological progress such as the development of electric motors was decisive for industrial development.

1.1.3 Difference Between Traditional Technology & DeepTech The main difference between Traditional Technology and DeepTech is the novelty, complexity and depth of research needed.

**Conventional Technology** – This type consists technologies which are developed on what is already known or existing. They are generally geared towards the optimization of an existing system, product or service. It's easier to use traditional technology and it can be created relatively quickly, because we're building off of (Schedulers).

well-established principles. This includes smartphones, social media APIs, and mainstream software packages.

**DeepTech:** On the other hand, DeepTech is a higher level of innovation. It often involves significant scientific investigation, state-of-the-art engineering and expertise in very particular fields. For example, these technologies are usually more difficult to develop and consider but also have the potential of completely changing industries. DeepTech solutions usually involve longer research and testing periods, higher funding and specific talent. DeepTech refers to startups that focus on technical complexity – such as AI, blockchain, quantum computing and advanced medical technologies such as gene editing.

To summarize the difference:

- Incremental Technology tends to refine or exploit current technology, seeking ways to improve it by making it better, faster, or cheaper.
- DeepTech builds on cutting-edge research that forms the basis for new products and services, generates technical solutions to difficult problems, or re-invents existing industries with better science and engineering practices.

## 1.2 Difference Between DeepTech and Emerging Tech

DeepTech and Emerging Tech Both are futuristic technologies but the story of their origin, journey and impact is different. This guide is intended to distinguish the two, so you know how they fit into the technology world.

Did You Know?

“The truth about STEAM This gets at why it's so important to marry ARTS with science, technology and engineering - missing one piece only shows you a slice of the potential application in Emerging Tech.”

“Activity: Types of Technology”

This exercise requires students to research different technologies, which they need in order to gain a sense about the wide range of various types of technology — in-depth vs emerging tech etc. Through the study of individual advances, students can develop a fuller understanding of the range of technological types.

### 1.2.1 Defining Emerging Tech

Emerging Tech “Emerging Tech” includes products, technologies and methods that are still in the incubation stage of use by commerce, industry, and society. Some of these technologies might not yet be mature or common, but are being considered because they will change the world in the next century. New scientific findings or new applications of existing technologies frequently form the basis for emerging technologies.

Emerging technologies include but are not limited to blockchain, augmented reality (AR), virtual reality (VR), 5G and advanced materials. Such technologies generally have more of a focus on enhancing the user experience, business processes or communications.

Emerging tech is usually developed more quickly and can be deployed more quickly because it is built on existing science or engineering knowledge. It doesn't necessarily have to take massive amounts of research, and it can be viewed as an application of older principles into newer fields or markets.

### 1.2.2 Differences Between DeepTech and Emerging Tech

New vs Innovative Both DeepTech and Emerging Tech have its own focus on new innovative solutions.

Depth of Innovation:

- o DeepTech centres on revolutionary innovation in science and engineering. It frequently requires solving intricate, well-established problems that demand profound, specialized expertise and lengthy research. Such technologies are usually of a more disruptive and transformative kind.

- o Emerging Tech, on the other hand focuses more on technologies that are newly proposed and developing, though not always based in scientific breakthrough. Tech is less about discovering that new knowledge and more about actually using that information to create new products, services or systems which could really have an impact.

Development Timeline:

- o DeepTech innovations generally have a long development, testing and commercialization cycle. The technologies in question are a long way from being ready for prime time, and it could be years before their potential is fully realised. The technology is usually only in an experimentation format or it's being newly implemented at the time of its announcement.

- o Emerging Tech is often less time consuming from development to deployment, if only because it may be based on existing technology or infrastructure. The timescales for

adoption are less, and indeed many of these technologies are already making themselves felt in the different industries.

#### Scientific vs. Application Focus:

- o DeepTech is science-based, as it's born from profound scientific exploration and innovation (AI, quantum computing, biotech). It frequently gives rise to the formation of new disciplines of science or industries.

- o Emerging Tech is usually more application-based. It is aimed at reusing current scientific knowledge to upgrade or build new solutions, usually in the field of consumer or business applications (e.g. smart cities, wearables, self-driving vehicles).

#### Impact:

- o DeepTech has potential for disruptive innovation in sectors like healthcare, energy or materials. It can establish whole new markets or it can disrupt existing ones.

- o Most of the time, emerging tech results in tweaks or upgrades to current technology and systems. It has the potential to have a big impact, but it tends to build on previous solutions rather than upending entire industries.

#### Barriers to Entry:

- o DeepTech typically has high barriers to entry with complex knowledge, state of the art infrastructure and significant R&D investment being needed.

- o Emerging Tech might not necessarily require expert knowledge in comparison to DeepTech, yet still carry entry barriers. There are a lot of new technologies that have lower research intensity or they use already existing technology and tools when being commercialized.

### 1.2.3 Examples

Here's a few that demonstrates the difference between DeepTech and Emerging Tech:

#### Examples of DeepTech:

**Quantum Computing:** The use of quantum-mechanical phenomena like superposition and entanglement to perform computation, through which many problems can be solved more efficiently on a Quantum Computer than on a Classical Computer.

**CRISPR Gene Editing:** A technology that enables scientists to delete, insert or modify genes in living organisms and which could cure, even prevent, genetic diseases — a transformative development for medicine.

**AI (Artificial Intelligence):** While arguable that AI might also fall under emerging tech, however some applications such as machine learning and neural networks need deep research into algorithms and computational theory making them a part of DeepTech.

**Fusion Energy:** Nuclear energy in which the same process that powers the sun is harnessed to provide very large quantities of carbon-free power, without significant technological breakthroughs this source of clean energy remains out of our reach.

**Emerging Tech Examples:**

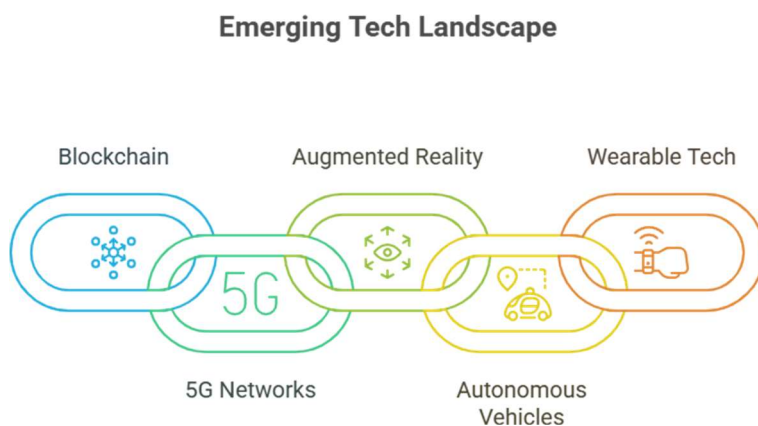
**Blockchain:** A distributed digital ledger intended to enable secure and transparent transactions, applied to applications such as cryptocurrencies and smart contracts.

**5G Networks:** The next era in wireless technology, promising higher internet speeds and the capacity to connect more devices with less delay.

**Augmented Reality (AR):** Adds digital information on top of the real world, used in applications ranging from gaming and retail to health care.

**Driverless Vehicles:** Cars and drones that rely on sensors, AI-driven computing power and other advanced technologies to move without human guidance.

**Wearable Tech:** Products, like smartwatches and fitness trackers, that track health data and give users real-time information.



**Figure 1.1**

### 1.3.1 Evolution of STEM

STEM is an acronym for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, and the development of STEM shows how developments in these different disciplines have become increasingly interconnected with each other.

**Early Developments:**

o In the past, people used to work with four fields as if they were independent. science on comprehending natural world, engineering on addressing practical problem, and

technology science to the practical aims of human life or to changing and manipulating the human environment.” Mathematics was a lingua franca for enabling progress in science and technology.

Cross-Pollination:

o The differences among the four fields became increasingly permeable. Advances in science and engineering were influenced by tools from the technological invention, and as new scientific discoveries led to better tools. The creation of computers, for instance, took deep expertise in mathematics as well as engineering.

The Emerging Era of AR and VR, AI and Cognitive Tech:

o The recent developments in artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning and data science, have been instrumental to the evolution of cognitive technologies. Those fields greatly depend on mathematical (algorithms) and engineering (hardware) progress, and they are linked to new technologies simulating human reasoning.

Integration and Future:

o With the ever-changing field of STEM, it is easier to combine. Already today we're seeing examples of technological advancements in areas like robotics, bioengineering and AI that are products not from one but several aspects of STEM, and cognitive technologies will be no exception as a critical intersection for these disciplines.

### 1.3.2 What is Technology?

Technology is the use of knowledge, tools and techniques in order to solve problems or serve some purpose. This includes processes, systems, devices and methods that are targeted at improving the quality of life through making our activities easier, faster and better. Technology has transformed from low level tools and gadgets to fully empowered industrial complexes, communication systems, social phenomena and multi-organized entities.

In the world of cognitive technologies, technology is AI, machine learning and other automated systems that can mimic how humans think. These systems are usually constructed to comprehend, learn from and adapt to various forms of data situations, since they are “intelligent”.

Some of the technology currently being implemented is:

- Smartphone: A device that includes computing, communication and information resources in one portable tool.
- Artificial Intelligence (AI): Systems developed to replicate human thought, learning and decision making.

- Automated Manufacturing Systems: Technology that relies on robotics and AI to build stuff with negligible human input.

### 1.3.3 Convergence of Technology

The concept of technology convergence is the combination of old and new gadgets or devices into one. It represents how computing, AI, telecommunications and biotechnology are converging into solutions that offer higher efficiency with more versatility and scalability.

Technological Synergy:

o Convergence of technologies can create synergy o (i.e. the combined value of separate technologies is greater than the sum) Such integration among IoT (Internet of Things), AI and automation is what makes it possible for smart homes to dim lights, reinforce security, adjust heating and operate appliances within the clasp of a device.

Impacts on Industries:

o Convergence of technology has disrupted countless verticals. In healthcare, breakthroughs are already being made as a result of the coming together of biotech, AI and data analytics to create personalised medicine, diagnosis tools and robotic surgical systems. The automotive industry, in a similar vein to aviation, is also jumping onto the fusion of AI, robotics and electric vehicles with self-driving cars.

Cognitive Technologies in Convergence:

o Machine learning, NLP and computer vision are cognitive technologies on the front lines of technology convergence—a world where smarter systems can learn and adapt from those around it.

### 1.3.4 Cognitive Technology and Types (CT)

Cognitive Technology (CT) Systems and machines whose function mimic aspects of human cognition like learning, reasoning, problem solving and decision making. These technologies leverage AI, machine learning and other sophisticated algorithms to engage with people in ways that they could learn from data and other interactions the way humans can.

Cognitive technology comes in many forms, which vary by purpose and function:

### Artificial Intelligence (AI):

o Artificial intelligence is a field of computer science developed to simulate human's cognitive processes. This includes reasoning, decision-making and natural language processing. AI can be roughly divided into two types:

Narrow AI: Capable of performing one specific task, like recognizing images or translating among languages.

\begin{itemize}\tightlist \item General AI: In which a machine can carry out every intellectual task that a human being can (mostly still an abstraction at present).\end{itemize}

### Machine Learning (ML):

o AI subset -machine learning using algorithms to enable the system learn and get better from experience without being programmed 57 ♣ Testing ☒ Is it possible test AI? Examples of machine learning applications include predictive analytics, time series forecasting, recommendation systems and driverless cars.

### Natural Language Processing (NLP):

o NLP is concerned with the computational aspects of understanding and processing human language. This can involve speech recognition, text analysis and language generation. NLP applications have included virtual assistant (i.e., Siri, Alexa) and chatbot (for customer service).

### Computer Vision:

o This technology allows the computer to process visual content of the world in terms of images and videos. That technology is used in applications such as facial recognition, object detection and autonomous vehicles.

### Robotics:

o Although not purely cognitive, robotics frequently includes cognitive technologies such as AI and machine learning to execute functions for which decision-making and problem-solving are called for. Robots are able to learn and enable them to do more complicated tasks on their own.

### 6. Expert Systems:

o These are AI-based systems that use knowledge bases and inference rules to mimic the decision-making abilities of human experts in specific domains. Expert systems are used in fields like medical diagnostics and financial analysis.

Each of these cognitive technologies works in tandem with others to create intelligent systems that can assist humans in tasks requiring thought, reasoning, and adaptation, enhancing productivity and efficiency across many sectors.

### Knowledge Check 1

Choose the correct option:

What is referred to as DeepTech?

- a) Universal use for the enhancement of existing systems and products by progressive incremental step developments.
- b) Technology Based on the Exploration of Natural Phenomena and Basic Research: Developing technologies based on exploration of natural phenomena through basic research.
- c) Consumer-focused technologies designed for immediate market uptake.
- d) Dispositive exclusively usable outside of the entertainment and media sector.

Which one of the following is a sample of Cognitive Technology?

- a) A smart phone application that provides weather forecast according to the current situation.
- b. A robot that knows and learns everything using AI.
- c) A simple calculator for the arithmetical calculations.
- d) And finally A some sort of digital camera that takes pictures when you are ready.

Mostly what will be the characteristics of Industry Revolution 4.0?

- a) The increase of steam power and mechanical factories.
- b) The availability of electricity and mass production methods.
- c) The fusion of digital, physical, and biological technologies.
- d) The growth of production lines as well as mass production.

Which one of the following would be considered as Emerging Tech?

- a) Quantum computing
- b) Artificial intelligence
- c) Blockchain technology
- d) Robotics used in assembly lines

#### 1.4 Summary

Deep Tech (or deep technology) refers to a set of advanced technologies, based on a scientific discovery or engineering innovation that has an unusually wide application and is often disruptive. DeepTech is distinct from regular or incremental innovation because it is predicated on breakthroughs in science and targets large scale, complex and often foundational problem sets that impact all of humanity. These technologies are not simply an extension of existing systems or products, but signify the next wave of

innovation that is unlocking new opportunities across industries, for society and the world economy.

## ☐ Characteristics of Deep Tech

### Scientific Foundations:

o They are based on advancing scientific branches of knowledge such as physics, biotechnology, nanotechnology, chemistry and engineering. Typically, these breakthroughs mean they have solved something that was not (even theoretically) achievable before or at least not so effectively as to be useful.

### High Research & Development (R&D) Costs:

o The commercialisation cycle for DeepTech products and solutions often involve deep R & D ranging from years to decades. DeepTech research often involves trying to understand the unknown, develop new methods and make possible something that couldn't be done in the past.

o It's not just a matter of improving a known product or service but of leading the way into new areas of knowledge. DeepTech, is consequently really hard to develop (since highly specialised in a number of scientific domains and it requires huge investments).

### Longer Time-to-Market:

o DeepTech characteristic#1: long gestation periods is one of the attributes. Although some technologies can be prototyped and moved into market within months or years, DeepTech takes a lot longer to commercialize as there is significant research, prototyping and validation required. The path from an idea to real-world use can take 5, 10 or even 20 years.

### Transformative Impact:

o Deep Tech is defined by its ability (and a significant step change) to produce transformational and extreme changes at the industry or even societal level. It addresses these fundamental challenges in ways that really just were not feasible previously. Quantum computing, for example, could revolutionize industries by enabling problem-solving at vastly faster speeds; a tweaked gene-editing tool called CRISPR might cure genetic diseases and remake medicine.

o DeepTech has a strong potential for positive societal impact and is oftentimes concerned with tackling significant global challenges such as climate change, healthcare and sustainability.

### 1.5 Key Terms

**Deep Tech:** Technologies that are based on substantive scientific research and engineering innovation (many times aiming to address big and fundamental problems).

**Emerging Tech:** New technology systems being developed or the early stages of its application, and have the capacity to affect industries and society at large.

**STEAM:** A model of education focussing on Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics for creativity and innovation.

**Science:** The study of the structure and behaviour of the physical and natural world using observation and experiment.

**Engineering:** Using applied science to create or operate structures, machines, systems and other devices (or works) which take a desired form.

**Technology:** The use of scientific knowledge and tools to solve problems, make things and do things better.

**Mathematics:** The discipline that is the abstraction of numbers, quantity, shapes and patterns, and their relationships and operations.

**Kinds of technology:** Different genres will be explored in our show approaching different areas of innovation such as information technology, biotechnology, nanotechnology and even green tech!

**Industrial Revolution:** An era of major technological, economic and social change that began in the late 18th century with a move from manufacturing goods by hand to using machines and factories.

## 1.6 Descriptive Questions

Define DeepTech. Write on the technologies of the future with scientific illustrations.

What are the contrasts between DeepTech and Emerging?.

Discuss with examples the progress of technology from science.

What do you understand by cognitive technology?




## 1.7 References

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2. Henry, R. (2019). Role of artificial intelligence in new media (Technology-based perspective). *CSI Communications*, 42(10), 23–25. Retrieved from ResearchGate

## 1.8 Case Study

[https://hello-tomorrow.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/BCG\\_Hello\\_Tomorrow\\_Great-Wave.pdf](https://hello-tomorrow.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/BCG_Hello_Tomorrow_Great-Wave.pdf)

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## Unit 2: CT, AI, Robotics

### Learning Outcomes

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- 2.1 What is AI?
- 2.2 Types of AI
- 2.3 What is Machine Learning?
- 2.4 Robotics
- 2.5 Neuromorphic Systems
- 2.6 Summary
- 2.7 Key Terms
- 2.8 Descriptive Questions
- 2.9 References
- 2.10 Case Study

## 2.0 Introductory Caselet

### "Sophia's Learning Journey: Where Robotics Meets AI"

#### Background:

Sophia is a social humanoid robot created by Hanson Robotics. Renowned for its machine-human appearance and behavior, Sophia is inbuilt with cutting edge AI algorithms which facilitates the simulation of different types of human interactions - Technical (nlp,nlg), Emotional (facial recognition), Decision Making. Sophia's creators are working to develop a robot capable of interacting with people socially and intelligently, soon becoming more than "a robotic response machine," The Times reports.

Sophia was initially only used for purposes of demonstration, but the gradual addition of functionality now allows Sophia to process and respond to voice commands. But as development advanced, Sophia's creators loaded her with machine learning algorithms that would enable her to get better at conversation over time. Sophia's artificial intelligence allowed her to process language as input, and give a response after comparing with over a million different responses from her database.

Sophia was later upgraded with neuromorphic systems in order to simulate the human brain. Sophia started to see patterns in the conversations and, with the help of an imitation brain made up of artificial neurons and synapses, she modified her own word choice in response. She was able to "learn" and get better with these systems that made her more flexible in different social contexts.

Over time Sophia continued to grow and her creators added robotic systems so that she has physical expressions with the ability to move both her face and body in response to human-like gestures. Her interactions became more natural and authentic, as she was now able to communicate such feelings as joy, surprise, and empathy through nuanced facial expression and body language.

#### Critical Thinking Question:

If you were on Sophia's development team, how might you use neuromorphic systems to help her learn more effectively from conversations? In which other fields, besides robotics, could neuromorphic systems be used to improve AI systems?

## 2.1 What is AI?

AI is an area which has been developed out of computer science and focuses on building machines and systems that can accomplish tasks which we normally associate with intelligent beings. These tasks can be like reasoning, learning, decision-making, perception, understanding language or even problem solving. The promise of AI is to build systems that can think, learn and adapt as humans do — or even surpass human capabilities in some domains.

AI can be used for anything, from simple tasks like sorting emails to more complex jobs like diagnosing diseases and predicting stock market trends or even driving a semi-autonomous car. AI is driven by algorithms, data, and processing power that allow systems to sift through information, recognize patterns, and come up with their own actions or determinations.

### 2.1.1 Definition of Artificial Intelligence (Soft CT)

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is the field of computer systems and software that are able to mimic human intelligence. They're able to do things that would normally require human intelligence, such as comprehending language, learning from experience, basing decisions on patterns or solving issues.

AI is soft CT since it pertains the construction of systems that simulate or reproduce a portion of a set cognitive abilities of humanoid, i.e. perception, reasoning, learning and so on. It is the means by which machines can absorb information from their environment, process it and make a decision or prediction on the basis of that data. These processes may be hard coded (programmed directly in) or learned by the system through machine learning (i.e., the system gets better at doing so as it looks through more and more data).

For example:

- An AI chatbot on a website that can answer customer questions. You need for your chatbot to understand the semantics of what the user said (natural language understanding), decide how it should respond to that, and have a get better at its answering as it goes through new experiences.

### 2.1.2 Classification of AI

AI comes in many forms, based on how it works and its level of intelligence. These categories also give us an idea of the breadth of AI and that to which it could be applied.

Based on Capabilities:

o Narrow AI (Weak AI):

Narrow AI, on the other hand is systems that are developed to perform one thing, or a small cluster of things. These are systems engineered to do something very specific, like recognize faces, filter email spam or answer your questions about the weather – such as Siri or Alexa. And even when they are extremely good at certain tasks, they also have their limitations: They cannot do that which was not programmed into them.

Example: A recommender system on Netflix, which recommends you movies based on your watch history.

o General AI (Strong AI):

General AI encompasses systems that are capable of accomplishing any intellectual task a human being can. These systems are engineered to have a wide, multi-purpose intelligence approximating that of human beings. There would also have been some to

do the actual thinking - rationalising, problem solving, grasping complex ideas and shifting from one type of job or task to another. Such AI does not exist now, and has long been the subject of research and speculation.

Illustration: A robot that could cook, clean and help someone to brush their teeth around a person's home, while learning independently how to do new tasks.

#### o Superintelligent AI:

Superintelligent AI is a hypothetical form of AI that would have human-level intelligence in every field, including social and general intelligence. This kind of AI would be capable of completing tasks that no human could do; it would solve problems too hard for us humans to even understand. Though it is hypothetical and still far in the future, superintelligent AI is a veritable hot topic for philosophers and ethicists.

Example: A machine that could come up with solutions to global problems (like the cement one) on a much greater scale than any human ever could do.

#### Based on Functionalities:

##### o Reactive Machines:

These AI's are made to perform one purpose, and only interact with their surroundings in a very narrow view. They lack the ability to store memories and use prior experiences to inform future actions. They only respond to what's happening right now.

Example: Deep Blue, the computer that defeated world chess champion Garry Kasparov, is an

reactive machine. So, it could analyze the state of a board in current gameplay settings, but had no historical memory to recall past games and help with future decisions.

#### o Limited Memory:

Such AI systems have the ability to learn from experience, and ultimately, they can get better at making decisions over time. But their memory is weak, and they can only process so much.

For example: Self-driving transportation uses the limited-memory AI. They rely on information from sensors (such as cameras and radar) to identify obstacles, and modify their behavior in response to past experiences.

#### o Theory of Mind:

This is the sort of AI that's still in the research and development stage, seeking to create algorithms that can understand emotions, beliefs, intentions, and other mental states. This AI would be better able to engage with humans and anticipate human behavior using those mental states."

Example: A robot substitute caregiver capable of feeling emotions and acting on that basis could console patients in hospitals.

#### o Self-Aware AI:

This AI would resemble what we picture when we think of an advanced type of AI; one with its own consciousness, awareness and grasp of its environment. It's an idea, not yet a reality. If it could be developed, here we're thinking beyond vaccine delivery to something that would have personal agency in some way: It would understand itself; make decisions on its own; and have an identity.

Example: A robot that can both do things and think about what it does and its effects.

All of these categorizations represent, (or alludes to) the current and futuristic versions on which AI could possibly be based on. Such "weak" or narrow AI systems are in

common use and the trajectory from here towards general and then superintelligent AI is unknown but are likely to have a major impact on our future.

## 2.2 Types of AI

Artificial Intelligence can be divided into various types depending on their different abilities and features. These are Weak AI, Generic AI and Agentic AI that illustrate different phases/levels of technological advancement in the field of A.I. Here is a breakdown of each type:

### 2.2.1 Weak AI (Narrow AI) - SLM

Narrow AI, also called Weak AI Narrow AI is the use of Artificial Intelligence to answer precise problems or perform single tasks. They are very good at doing what they're trained to do, but not of much use for anything else (a.k.a.: "narrow AI"). Weak AI is specialized to certain tasks and operates only within a tight band of capabilities, it has no awareness or consciousness.

Characteristics:

- **Task-Specific:** Narrow AI systems are built to do a one task or few tasks really well, such as speech recognition, facial recognition or data analysis.

No learning beyond task These systems do not learn or generalize to new tasks unless they are reprogrammed. They function on the basis of a pre-set algorithm as well as data.

- **No Consciousness or Understanding:** Weak AI does not possess understanding or feelings. It is only as good, or bad, as the instructions it has been given, usually following patterns in data to make decisions.

Example:

- **Siri or Alexa:** Pure Weak AI is what we find in virtual assistants. They are capable of doing things like helping you remember your schedule, finding out the weather report or playing music, but they can't do anything beyond their programming parameters. They can also not key into the context beyond what they were trained do to.

Weak AI can be very good at what it does, but it's limited and can't think or work on its own across many tasks in the way a human can.

### 2.2.2 Generic AI (Strong AI) – LLM

What's strong/AGI.ai?Generic AI (also known as Strong AI) is an artificial intelligence that can perform any intellectual task that a human being can. Whereas Weak AI is

broken down into narrow tasks, Strong AI thinks, solves problems, learns and understands natural language and conducts reasoning and decision making in its universe. It is intended to be a wide, general intelligence, like human knowledge.

Characteristics:

- **General intelligence :** Strong AI solves a large, wide range or all classes of problems and tasks independent from the programming code in any task domain.
- **Learning & Adaptability:** It can learn from experience, adjust to new inputs, and perform tasks it hasn't been explicitly programmed for.
- **human-like Cognitive Abilities:** A system with strong AI processes information in ways that are characteristic of human experience. Strong AI has reasoning capabilities, can solve abstract problems, is capable of textual understanding, and understands complex ideas.

Example:

- **Sophia the Robot:** Sophia is not central strong AI but an effort to combine human-like comprehension and reasoning with a robot. A computer in the future that would be Strong AI really would be like a human brain: It could figure things out on its own, over many different kinds of tasks.

Strong AI is still only theory, and has never been achieved, although it continues to be a major goal of the field. The applications of Strong AI are virtually limitless, possibly in any field, from medicine to education to the creative arts.

### 2.2.3 Agentic AI (SLM + EDGE)

Agentic AI, in contrast to naive AI So I defined naive AI as behaving without being conscious thermal gradients and the like Summary by showing no awareness (Steels 1995 [1992]) of its capabilities or the consequences of its actions. It's a system that can act as an agent — a decision-maker that acts based on its goals or objectives, and who changes this behavior based on information gained from experience. Agentic AI is closer to the idea of autonomous systems, intelligent agents which can enter and regenerate specific decision making processes.

Characteristics:

- **Autonomy & Decision-Making:** Agent AI can take decisions on its own grounds accordingly to its program and actual data input. It is capable of evaluating the circumstances, forecasting an effect and exercising a measure in order to reach a purpose.

**Learning & Adaptation:** Agentic AI can ‘Machine Learn’ (SLM) and do on-device computing (EDGE), it is able to learn from the environment and adapt in response. So, that it can evolve and then adapt new strategies over time.

- **Intentional Behavior:** Agentic AI possesses goals or objectives that it aims to accomplish, and selects a means for their accomplishment (deciding in light of data and resources).
- **Decision-Based Action Model 3) Goal-Directed Materials Science** We selected the field of materials science for testing purposes.

Example:

- **Automated Cars:** Automated car is a part of Agentic AI. It autonomously controls speed, direction and route according to real time data received from sensors, traffic status and its own programming goals (e.g., safely reach a destination). It learns and adapts behavior in real time to optimize performance.
- **Robotic Process Automation (RPA):** While some RPA systems are capable of independently handling business processes — such as data input or customer service — relying on rule-based algorithms, others learn from historical information to take independent actions in workflow processes.

## AI evolves from task-specific to autonomous decision-making.

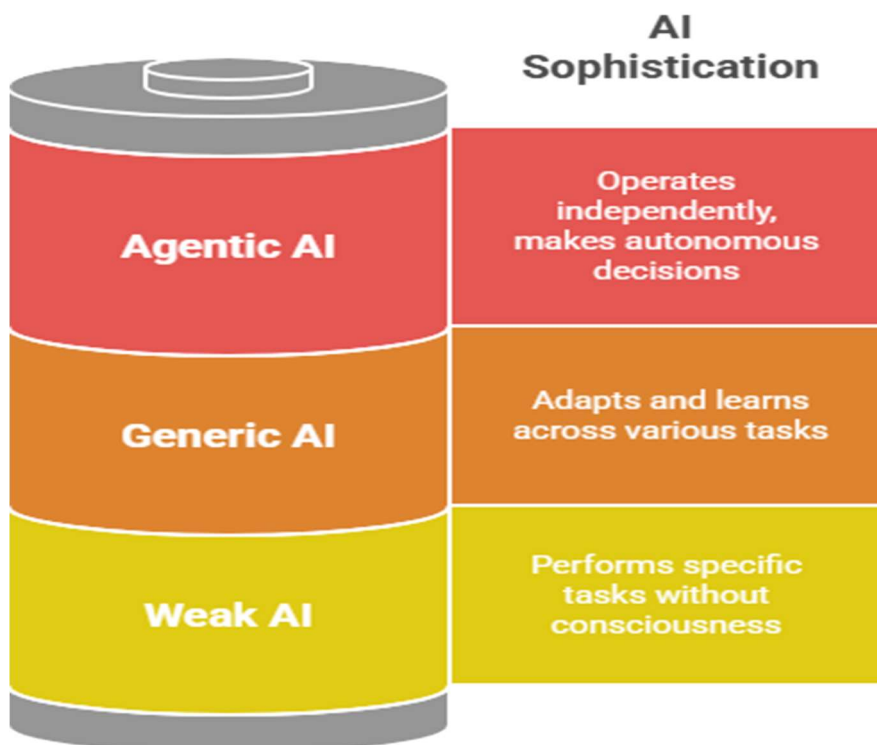


Figure 1.2

Agentic AI Almost a that could permarket, Agentic is a new category of AI that goes beyond just completing tasks and into interacting with the physical world to reach particular goals autonomously and represents an important breakthrough for industries like autonomous vehicles, robotics or complex system needing autonomy in decision making.

### 2.3 What is Machine Learning?

2.1 Machine Learning (ML) refers to the ability of a computer to learn from data without being explicitly programmed and is a component of AI. In short, it makes systems that can understand what's going on around them and make decisions about what to do next, learning over time from experiences how they can perform their tasks better. Machine learning is not about obeying strict rules but discovering patterns in data, on the basis of which its algorithms are trained to improve automatically.

Machine learning has been an integral to today's AI systems, enabling breakthroughs in areas such as image recognition, natural language processing, self-driving cars and recommendation systems.

### 2.3 What is Machine Learning (GAI > OI)

Machine Learning is the process of allowing computers to learn based on data, find patterns and adapt the behaviour without human interference. AI, broadly speaking is the ability of machines to mimic human intelligence, and within AI are different techniques such as Machine Learning (ML), which uses algorithms and statistical models to perform a task without using explicit instructions, but relying on patterns found in data instead. It's usually a process, from Generalized Artificial Intelligence (GAI) to Operational Intelligence (OI):

- General Artificial Intelligence (GAI): This includes the entire spectrum of AI in all its forms and features, including learning one—that's what is called a narrow AI. GAI is much younger and aims to develop a framework in which we can create systems that solve problems across many different domains, similar to human intelligence.
- Operational Intelligence (OI): OI on the other hand denotes the application of AI and machine learning in real applications where anything from surveillance equipment to manufacturing plants are all designed to operate optimally. In machine learning, this might mean taking raw data and turning it into actionable insights, automating decisions or getting better over time by learning from new data. The process begins by studying data from the past, and it can adapt over time to make better decisions as more information is incorporated into the system.

Fundamentally, machine learning is that set of technologies which takes AI from some more or less abstract and theoretical concepts to the point of being able to actually

apply them effectively in real situations. It is precisely what enables systems to learn from experience and get better in their prediction or decision making.

Did You Know?

“Machine Learning and AI will come together to mimic human cognition. Recently, a significant innovation in AI has been the emergence of systems capable of simulation cognitive functions like reasoning or problem-solving or decision-making. Inspired by how the human brain processes information, these systems go beyond traditional computational models.”

### 2.3.2 Types of Machine Learning

There are a variety types of machine learning according to how the algorithms learn from data. Some of the most popular types of machine learning are:

Supervised Learning:

- o In supervised learning, the algorithm is trained on a labelled dataset (in which each training data is ordered with the correct output). The aim is to have the model learn this relationship between the inputs and outputs so that it can make predictions on new, unseen data.

- o Example: House Price prediction using more features like the size, location number of bedrooms etc. The model is trained on historical data for which the prices are known; and learns to predict prices even for new houses.

Unsupervised Learning:

- o Unsupervised learning is when the model can learn from data that doesn't have labels. The system attempts to find patterns, clusters, or groupings in the data on its own. As there are no pre-defined labels, therefore the model attempts to find its own structures or patterns from the given data.

- o Example: Marketing customer segmentation where the algorithm clusters customers according to purchase behavior without detailed information of existing aggregates.

Reinforcement Learning:

- o Reinforcement learning (RL) trains an agent to take a sequence of actions by rewarding and punishing the predictions it makes. The aim is to reward the agent to a maximum sum over time. It's commonly used to problems in which a system needs to take actions over time to accomplish something.

- o Example: Learning a robot to move through a maze where the robot receives positive reinforcement (i.e. reward) when it takes the correct path and negative feedback (i.e. penalty) when it takes a wrong path.

### Semi-Supervised Learning:

o Semi-supervised learning is a mixture between supervised and unsupervised learning where the model is trained from some big amount of unlabeled data with a low amount of labeled data. The model sees the labeled data and learns from it, then it calls on what it has perceived to interpret the unlabeled.

o Example: A company may have a few labeled examples of what people are interested in, but have much more unlabeled data. Semi-supervised learning is useful for prediction when labelled training data are scarce.

### Self-Supervised Learning:

o Self-supervised learning is a sub set of unsupervised learning in which the machine learns from its own data without needing explicit feedback. The model produces its own labels or supervision signals out of the data.

o Example: Language models such as GPT-3 are trained with self-supervised learning; they predict the next word in a phrase without requiring external labeling.

### 2.3.3 Applications of Machine Learning

Machine learning is used across industries and sectors. Here are some of the most important areas where machine learning is having a real impact:

#### Healthcare:

o Diagnosis: Machine learning models can review medical images, such as X-rays and MRIs, in order to diagnose diseases: cancer tumours or instances of pneumonia for example.

o Predictive Healthcare: ML has the ability to predict patient scenarios, for example, diagnosing the probability of a patient getting a chronic condition on the basis of past health record.

#### Finance:

o Fraud Detection: Machine learning algorithms on transaction data are applied in banks or financial institutions for identifying an outlier, which can be a fraudulent transaction.

o Algorithmic Trading: To process market signals like stock prices through the models and arrive at trading decisions on the fly.

#### E-commerce:

o Recommender Systems: Companies such as Amazon and Netflix make use of machine learning to recommend products, movies or songs based on users' preferences and behavior.

o Customer Segmentation: Unsupervised learning can help retailers segment customers according to their shopping behaviors and preference for targeted marketing campaigns.

Autonomous Vehicles:

o Another key application is in self-driving cars where it's used for image detection, obstacle avoidance, route planning and decision making using sensor data (such as LIDAR and camera).

Natural Language Processing (NLP):

o Machine learning is employed to help NLP computers understand, interpret and reason human language. This is evidenced by applications such as virtual assistants (Siri and Alexa), chatbots, and language translation tools.

Manufacturing:

o Predictive Maintenance: Here, when machine learning predicts that a piece of equipment or machinery is a certain amount of time away from failure, operators can proactively make repairs on it and reduce the down-time.

o Supply chain optimization: ML models can help optimize weightage of inventory management and demand forecasting resulting in better planning that ultimately reduces the costs.

Entertainment:

o Netflix and Spotify use machine learning to make viewing and listening recommendations based on what you've watched or listened to in the past.

o Game designers apply reinforcement learning to design highly intelligent NPCs that adapt to the player's strategies.

The ability of machine learning to take in light years of data and correctly infer some specified truth or decision has changed the way industries work and is an important aspect to any AI driven system. It fosters innovation and allows companies to automate processes, deliver better experiences to customers, make better data-driven decisions and solve problems more effectively.

## 2.4 Robotics

Robotics is a branch of engineering and technology that deals with the design, construction, operation, and use of robots. Robots are automated equipments or machines that can perform a job independently. Androids can do jobs that are repetitive, dangerous or need to be done with high precision. The systematic branch of

knowledge involving the development and construction of complex machines with relative ease, Robotics integrates areas such as mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, computer science and artificial intelligence to develop machines that imitate human behaviour or carry out functions too difficult for humans.

#### 2.4.1 Robotics (Hard CT)

**Hard Cognitive Technology** When referring to Robotics, Hard CT refers to the actuators and sensors which make a robot capable of carrying out specific activities. This comprises the mechanics, motors, actuators, sensors and control systems such that contain capability to interact with a real world. "Hard" corresponds to the physical, mechanical parts of robotics that are designed to perform an actual task in a real-world environment.

##### Key Characteristics:

- **Hardware:** It comprises or robot, the parts of the body such as limbs and grippers.
- **Sensors and Actuators:** Sensors (such as cameras, infrared sensors) perceive the environment of a robot while actuators control the movement.
- **Control Systems:** The software and algorithms that determine what action the robot should take based on sensor data.

For instance: A robot that is part of a manufacturing assembly line is made with hard parts, such as motors and actuators, to attach pieces or transport objects. For the robot to correctly perform its task, the hardware must be accurate and reliable.

##### Did You Know?

“In spiking neural networks, artificial neurons are able to achieve the same level of pattern recognition and adaptation as their biological counterparts — sometimes even with learning mechanisms included,” explains TCI’s Dr. Axel Hähnlein. Unlike conventional computing systems that are based on a fixed set of instructions, neuromorphic computers can lead machines to automatically learn from new data and experiences, rather than being pre-programmed.

##### “Activity: Soft CT”

**Objective:** Learn what soft cognitive technologies in robotic systems are, how they interact with hardware with the intelligent human action.

##### Instructions:

- Watch a short video about humanoid robots (including Sophia the Robot). Do not focus on how a robot has hardware (mechanical components) and software (AI algorithms) for engaging with humans.

- Explain in 300-500 words, what do you relay, explain and question based on your explanation?

What is the role of software and hardware integration in developing humanoid robots?

How does A.I. factor into how the robot learns and adapts over time?

Is there any other similar applications of humanoid robots that could be used in the industry right now?

- Upload a photo of your essay to the learning platform.

#### 2.4.2 Difference Between Robotics and Automation

Use of the Terms Although these are at times mistakenly used interchangeably, robotics and automation are separate:

Robotics:

o Robotics is development and application of robots— that are able to perform tasks autonomously or semi-autonomously. Robots are typically mobile (e.g., wheeled or legged) and flexible so that they can be used for various tasks/environments.

o Example: A robot that puts parts together in a factory by itself or which operates on a patient carrying out delicate surgery.

Automation:

o Automation is the technological driven process of carrying out a specific task without human intervention. It may include any type of machine, system or process that acts automatically to increase efficiency and/or productivity, reduce requirements for labor and promote consistency. Robotics is a branch of automation, but not all automation is robotics. It can be automation as a simple conveyor belt or software-driven task scheduler.

o Example: A belt that moves packages from one station to another automatically is a automation system but does not include a robot.

So to clarify this, robotics is a part of automation but not all automation has something to do with robots. Robotics is concerned with building physical, autonomous machines while automation is just that— the act of speeding a process without human involvement and doesn't necessarily involve robots.

Did You Know?

“Not all automation consists of robots. An easy example of automation is a smart thermostat found in a home, as it will automatically reduce or increase the temperature

based on user settings or outside weather. But it doesn't necessarily include physical robots, just systems and sensors that render automatic decisions."

"Activity: Automation"

The purpose of this lesson: To distinguish between automation and robotics and to consider real-world examples of both.

Instructions:

- Find two examples of automation that are not robot-related (e.g., programmable thermostats, automatic email filing or warehouse/inventory control systems).

- Prepare 3-5 slides for presentation including :

Each system is summarily described.

How the system accomplishes an automated task without using a robot.

In what ways automation serves that system or industry.

- Share your findings as a brief video or slide presentation and upload it to the platform.

#### 2.4.3 Types of Robotics

Robots can be classified into different types according to their function and application environment:

Industrial Robots:

- o They are employed in manufacturing and other industrial sectors. They generally execute repetitive, precise tasks: welding, painting, packaging and material handling.

- o Example: The robot arm used in an automotive factory for welding car parts.

Service Robots:

- o Service Robot These machines were created to aid, rather than replace humans and are not meant for industrial settings. These robots serve various functions such as cleaning, delivery, healthcare support and personal assistance.

- o Example: A vacuum cleaner robot or a precision surgeon robot in surgeries.

Medical Robots:

- o Medical robots are robot system specially designed for medical and healthcare purposes. Such robots can be used for surgeries, rehabilitation or patient monitoring.

- o An example would be the da vinci Surgical System for minimally invasive surgery.

Mobile Robots:

o These are the autonomous mobile robots. They can have wheels, tracks or legs and are typically designed to perform tasks such as delivery, surveillance or exploration.

o Example: Robotic Vehicles (self-driving cars) and drones.

Humanoid Robots:

o These are humanoid robots designed to resemble humans. They move around, they talk to people, and engage with them to complete tasks that require a human-like level of dexterity and flexibility.

o Example: The human-like robot, Sophia (developed by Hanson Robotics), is programmed to identify the faces of men and women in addition to engage in conversations.

Autonomous Robots:

o Automated robots are self-sufficient and do not need human operators. They rely instead on sensors and AI that help them navigate their environment and make decisions in real time.

o Example: A robot in a warehouse automation scenario which can navigate the warehouse independently and pick/drop goods.

#### 2.4.4 Building Robotic Systems (Mechatronics)

Mechatronics is the design and manufacture of robotics that integrates mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, computer science, and control engineering. It's the marriage of mechanical systems to electronics and computing, which can ultimately give us robots that are able to do things for us using their own smarts.

Elements of Mechatronics in Robotics:

- **Mechanical Systems:** The robot's physical body and structure, such as the limbs, joints, end-effectors to interact with objects.
- **Electronics:** The cluster of electrical hardware that powers and regulates the robot's motors and sensors.
- **Software and Control Systems:** the algorithms and programs which control the robot's activities, including sensing configuration, perception, manipulation and actuation. feedback, and decision-making process.
- **Sensors and Actuators:** Sensors provide robots with feedback about their environment, while actuators control the physical motion.

For learning constructive vector manipulation in ELMO CoC, an example would be: Designing a robotic arm for industrial use involves designing mechanisms that control

movement, adding sensors to receive feedback and then programming the controlling system so it can make accurate motions which will pack things together.

#### 2.4.5 Integrating AI and Robotic Systems

Combining robots with artificial intelligence (AI) which can take decisions, learn from their surroundings and adapt the environment. It's exactly what enables robots to become more autonomous and intelligent, as AI brings machine learning, computer vision and natural language processing capabilities to robots.

##### Key Benefits of AI Integration:

**Better Decision-Making:** AI powered algorithms allow robots to make decisions according to the data sensed live by sensors. For instance, a robot may decide the optimal path to travel according to surrounding environment.

**Learning and Adaptation:** Through Machine Learning, robots can learn from previous encounters and increase their efficiency. A robot on an assembly line, for example, can learn a new task

**Sensory:** Use computer vision and sensor fusion to identify objects, navigate more complex environments, and relate with humans in a more human manner.

**Autonomy:** AI can enable robots to work for long periods of time without human interference, be it in a factory, hospital or delivery setting.

**Example:** An AI could help a warehouse robot guide itself around obstacles, recognize items to pick up and plan the most efficient overall route to deliver goods. What is more, with AI, robots can learn to adapt to new tasks without the need of human re-programming and thus system becomes more flexible and scalable.

#### 2.5 Neuromorphic Systems

Neuromorphic computing systems are those that mimic the human brain's form and function. Such systems are designed to mimic the way neurons and synapses in the brain process and relay information. Neuromorphic engineering refers to the development of hardware and software that simulates neural systems, with a view to making computing more efficient (and brain-like). The aim is to create systems that can process data in ways similar to the appearance and functions of brains, such as pattern recognition, decision-making and learning, but are more efficient and have lower power use.

Neuromorphic devices are mainly composed of artificial neurons and synapses, even more the neuron chip as the integrated part, which are all important to emulate BNN.

##### Artificial Neuron

The artificial neuron, as one of the basic units of a neuromorphic system, serves for its foundation. In the same way a biological neuron, an artificial neuron gets inputs, processes them and returns an output. In living organisms, neurons send electric signals in response to a stimulation down their axons and cause actions or decisions. Artificial Neurons that mimic these processes are implemented in the paradigm of neuromorphic computing and they allow the system to do tasks which involves pattern recognition, decision making etc.

Key Operations of an Artificial Neuron:

- **Input Processing:** A neuron receives inputs (often electrical signals or data) from other neurons, antennae detectors or mechanical sensors.
- **Activation Function:** Once being inputted, the neuron processes these inputs using an activation function. This function decides if the neuron should "fire" (i.e. send a signal to other neurons).
- **Output:** The neuron outputs signal after processing the input received and the activation function. This output is sent to other neurons or systems for further processing.

Example: In a neural network used for image recognition, an artificial neuron receives visual data as input (e.g., pixels in an image) and decides whether specific features are perceivable in the visual data (edges or colors to be precise). Once a neuron recognizes a certain feature, it "fires" and relays the information to another layer of neurons for further processing.

Artificial Synapse

An artificial synapse is a device serving to imitate the role of biological synapses, which link its neurons in the brain by allowing information flow between them. In the brain, synapses elicit chemical messengers known as neurotransmitters to travel signals between neurons, facilitating communication among neural networks. Artificial synapses are the key to interconnection between artificial neurons in neuromorphic systems.

Key Responsibilities of an artificial synapse:

- **Signal transmission:** One artificial neuron sends a signal to another via an artificial synapse activation (the two can communicate through the synapse).
- **Weighting and Adaptation:** Similar to biological synapses, artificial synapses have the capacity to "weight" the signals they relay. This weight is controlled in strength to the point where it can be learned or experienced (similar to synaptic plasticity of biological systems).

- **Learning:** Artificial synapses permit the system to modify and reinforce connections among neurons as it learns from input data. This adaptive process is similar to the way that the human brain builds neural connections while being exposed to a certain stimulus.

Example: Artificial synapses in a deep learning network tune weights of connections between neurons to minimize errors in predictions (for example, recognizing an object from a picture). This synaptic weights get modified as the system learns and is fed based on what (feedback) it gets from output layer.

### Neuron Chip

The neuron chip is a type of hardware device that implements the mathematical model of neurons and synapses in neuromorphic systems. These chips are designed to mimic the way information is processed in the human brain, being energy efficient and highly computational. Brain chips of the neuron type typically contain a large number of the artificial neurons and synapses, which enable them to deal with huge volumes of data in parallel -- similar to how our brain processes sensory input and makes decisions in real time.

#### Functionalities of the Neuron Chip:

- **Parallel Processing:** Neuron chips process multiple streams of data simultaneously, replicating the brain's ability to process information in parallel.
- **Energy Efficiency:** Neuromorphic chips are best engineered for energy-friendly operation which may allow to have continuous active scenarios such as edge robotics and IoT.
- **Scalability:** These chips can be made large enough to run much bigger networks of artificial neurons, which are necessary for more ambitious tasks such as speech recognition, vision processing or self-driving cars.

For example, Intel's Loihi chip is one well-known neuromorphic chip. It models the behavior of neurons and synapses and can be applied to tasks like pattern recognition and reinforcement learning. The chip has demonstrated that it can completing tasks and running more efficiently using much less power than typical AI systems.

### 2.6 Summary

⊕ Taking an overarching view, cognitive technologies are evenly split into Hard and Soft categories, with one filling in the gaps left by the another. Physical instantiation of HCT systems include robotics, exoskeletons, and Brain Machine Interfaces (BMI) where hardware directly interacts with human cognition using sensors and actuators as well as neural implants. These works emphasizes the physical enhancement of perception, action and decision by integrating between neuroscience, mechatronics and

biomedical engineering. Soft cognitive technologies are algorithmic and software based, in addition to artificial intelligence, machine learning, natural language processing and cognitive computing. These are data centric logical reasoning, pattern-matching and decision making tools that increase an intellectual ability without physical form. Both hard and soft cognitive technologies, however, constitute two directions in extending human cognition one through haptic mediation with the material world, the other through heightened information processing.

## 2.7 Key Terms

**Hard CT (Hard Cognitive Technology):** Relates to the aspects of the general model of a cognitive agent corresponding to physical hardware and mechanical parts for interconnecting robots or machines that are capable of doing things alone or in semi-autonomy by imitation from humans.

**Soft CT (Soft Cognitive Technology):** The software and algorithms that mimic certain capacities of the human mind, such as learning, problem solving, and decision making; used to sort out computational reality from which machines can learn.

**Computation to Cognition:** The shift from prescriptive computational models (fixed algorithms) toward cognitive architectures that exhibit human-like learning, perception, and reasoning using machine learning & Artificial Intelligence.

**Robotics:** The branch of technology that deals with the design, construction, operation and use of robots — machines that can mimic human actions or are expected to be able to do so.

**Automation:** The technology by which a process or procedure is performed with minimal human assistance; used primarily in terms of system reliability, consistency and efficiency.

## 2.8 Descriptive Questions

Contrast between Human Cognition and Machine cognition?

What are fundamental constituents of Machine Cognition architecture?

Explain the components of a Robotic system?

How can hard and soft CT be combined in different ways?

Describe how AI will develop in the future 2025-2050 GAI to OI

## 2.9 References




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## Unit 3: Quantum and Advanced Computing

### Learning Outcomes

1. Understand the fundamentals of Quantum Computing and its potential to revolutionize data processing.
2. Explore the concepts and technologies behind Advanced Computing and how they enhance computational power.
3. Summarize the key takeaways from Quantum and Advanced Computing technologies.
4. Identify and define important terms related to Quantum Computing and Advanced Computing.
5. Answer descriptive questions to reinforce the understanding of Quantum and Advanced Computing principles.
6. Review references to deepen knowledge of Quantum and Advanced Computing technologies.
7. Analyze a real-world case study to explore the applications and impact of Quantum and Advanced Computing.

### Content

- 3.0 Introductory Caselet
- 3.1 Quantum Computing
- 3.2 Advanced Computing
- 3.3 Summary
- 3.4 Key Terms
- 3.5 Descriptive Questions
- 3.6 References
- 3.7 Case Study

### 3.0 Introductory Caselet

#### The Quantum Leap: Changing Cybersecurity with Quantum Communication

##### Background:

In 2025, a global cybersecurity company is hired to protect the US government. Their team used the most up to date encryption, but were worried that a quantum computer that would break their scheme was right around the corner. With their superhuman abilities, these computers could overcome widely used encryption algorithms (such as RSA encryption) in a fraction of the time it would take classical computers to do so, leaving sensitive data vulnerable.

Aware of the looming threat, SecureComm CEO Evelyn Clark kicked off a project to research and apply quantum-safe encryption. So her team decided to experiment with Quantum Key Distribution (QKD), an advanced system within the framework of quantum communication. QKD relies on the tenets of quantum mechanics—quantum entanglement and superposition—to establish a secure communication line that it is virtually impossible for an eavesdropper to tap without being noticed.

In a joint venture with a research institute for quantum communication, SecureComm has deployed QKD. Together, they started rolling out quantum communication networks that would safeguard government and corporate data from those theoretical quantum attacks. By using quantum repeaters, these networks could transmit information using quantum communications so that data would remain safe even at great distance.

Because the initial phase of the network was established between two government offices, the team put it through rigorous testing by trying to hack in via quantum communication. To their amazement, the QKD system detected the interception attempt from the get-go, making compromised communication instantaneously obsolete and offering near-real-time warning to both parties. That way their most important data was protected from quantum attacks.

It had become so obvious to Evelyn Clark that SecureComm was way ahead of the game in getting ready for a quantum future. With that, by successfully implementing quantum networks SecureComm was secure not only for their customers now but was also ready to prepare themselves into a new era of cyber security which is quantum-proof.

##### Critical Thinking Question:

If you were to spend a year with the team at SecureComm, and were assigned the task of evaluate the potential security risks of quantum communication, given existence

such well known issues and topics like: Quantum repeaters The scalability of such system Would there be obstacles in the integration of quantum communication with circuit-based infrastructure for communication?

### 3.1 Quantum Computing

The term Quantum Computing refers to a kind of computing based on the Commutation principles that manipulates data as operations. Whereas classical computers process bits that exist in one of two states, 0 or 1, the qubit can hold a mixture of 0 and 1 at the same time. This allows quantum computers to solve intricate calculations significantly more quickly than classical computers, at least under certain conditions.

Quantum computing is still in its early days, but it could one day upend industries like cryptography, drug discovery and artificial intelligence by solving problems that are currently out of reach for classical computers.

#### 3.1.1 What is Quantum Computing?

Quantum Computing is a new way of computing – one that takes advantage of the strange ability of subatomic particles to exist in more than one state at any time. In classical computing, information is represented in the most basic unit called a bit which can only be in one of two states: 0 or 1. But in quantum computing, the smallest unit of information is a quantum bit or qubit and it can exist as multiple states all at once thanks to the bizarre rules of quantum mechanics.

Quantum computers are based on the principles of quantum mechanics, which describe the behavior of particles at atomic and subatomic scales. These principles enable quantum computers to execute calculations much faster for certain types of complex problems that classical computers are ill-equipped to solve. Quantum computers are expected to be good at problems with lots of data or which need a lot of computation power, such as optimisation, cryptography and material science.

#### Key Properties of Quantum Computing

##### Superposition:

- o Superposition is a key concept in quantum mechanics, which implies that qubits have the ability to be in multiple states at the same time. While classical bits are either 0 or 1, qubits can simultaneously be 0 and 1, thanks to the property of superposition. This multiplicity of states enables quantum computers to make many calculations at once.

- o Example: Suppose a quantum computer is solving some problem with many answers. Where a classical computer would go through each one sequentially, a

quantum computer in superposition can consider them all simultaneously, leading to an exponential speedup.

Entanglement:

o Entanglement, the other important quantum property, occurs when two or more qubits become entangled in such a way that the state of one is directly associated with the state of another one, no matter where they are located in space. When qubits are entangled, the state of one can instantaneously influence the other, even if they are far apart. This opens the door for quantum computers to pass and use information much more effectively, increasing their computing capabilities.

o Example: In a quantum computer qubits, can be entangled so they function together in unity making computation faster and data transfer more precise. Classical systems, on the other hand, must work harder to get different parts of a system talking to one another.

Quantum Interference:

o Quantum Interference is when two quantum states add together in some places while at the same time subtract from others. Quantum algorithms exploit interference to amplify the probability of getting a right solution of computational problems, and the probability of obtaining a false answer is suppressed in this process. This is what allows quantum computers to efficiently search huge solution spaces.

o Example: In the context of solving a complex problem, quantum interference serves to focus computations on the answer most likely to be correct by eliminating incorrect ones. This is crucial for quantum algorithms such as Shor's Algorithm, which are capable to factor large numbers at much faster rate than classical algorithms.

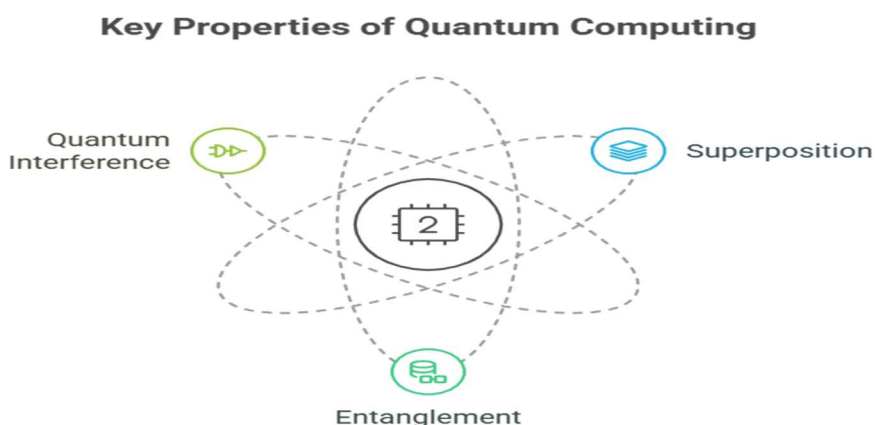


Figure 1.1

## Potential Advantages of Quantum Computing

### Speed and Efficiency:

o Quantum computing can handle and analyze data much more efficiently than classic computing – particularly for certain types of tasks. Since they can sample many possibilities simultaneously with superposition, they are exponentially faster at certain problems than classical computers.

o For instance, a quantum computer may be able to execute some type of complex computation, such as simulating molecules for drug discovery, far faster than classical computers.

### Parallel Processing:

o A quantum computer is able to simultaneously consider many possibilities, resulting in massively parallel processing because of superposition. This feature is particularly important when tackling problems where massive solution spaces have to be searched: optimization problems (e.g., finding the shortest path in a network, a well known problem in logistics or traffic routing).

### Optimization:

o Many real world problems including logistics, supply chain management and finance requires optimization (to find the best solution from large number of alternatives) 9 These tasks can be performed on classical computers, but it takes more and more time exponentially as the size of the problem gets larger. Quantum computers, which can entertain many potential solutions simultaneously, could provide answers much more quickly and unlock new capabilities for optimization-based industries.

### Cryptography:

o Some of the most tempting prospects of quantum computing are in encryption. Traditional encryption algorithms, such as RSA algorithm, are based on the hardness of factoring large numbers. Shor's Algorithm is able to factor these numbers exponentially faster; thereby cracking most of the current encryption. The result of it has been the rise of quantum-safe cryptography that uses quantum principles to ensure sensitive data cannot be intercepted.

o Quantum Cryptography and in particular the Quantum Key Distribution (QKD) offers the possibility of, using quantum entanglement to detect unauthorized intercept.

### Material Science:

o Materials science: Quantum computing has the potential to radically change the realm of materials science by allowing scientists to simulate complex molecular

structures that outstrip classical computer simulations. This in turn could help in the creation of new materials with certain properties, say superconductors or better solar cells.

o Example: By accurately modeling interactions between molecules, quantum simulations can aid in finding new drugs, reducing development time.

### Challenges and Future Directions

The promise of quantum computing is great, but the technology remains in its infancy. Some of the challenges that quantum computing must face in order to become truly successful:

- **Quantum Decoherence:** Quantum states are incredibly delicate; they can get easily disturbed by the external environment causing computation to fail. Dedicated efforts are being invested in quantum error correction to overcome this issue.
- **Scalability:** It is truly challenging to fabricate large-scale quantum computers with a number of qubits, which are enough for tackling real world problems. The number of qubits in today's quantum systems is very small, and adding more while still keeping them connected remains a significant challenge.
- **Quantum Algorithms:** Despite theoretical promise in algorithms such as Shor's Algorithm, much effort is still required in order to construct realistic algorithms which can efficiently solve a wide range of real-world problems.

### Did You Know?

“Fact: Quantum computers are exponentially faster than classical computers for some problems, however they will not replace all classical computers. Rather, they will supplement classical systems by attacking problems that are impossible or impractical for traditional computers to solve — simulating molecular structures in drug discovery or optimizing huge logistical networks, say.

“Activity: What is Quantum Computing”

Goal: Students will understand the concepts behind quantum computing and how it is unlike classical computing.

Instructions:

- Watch a video explaining the basics of quantum computing (like an IBM or Google explainer for beginners). Then write a short (300-500 word) essay to explain:

Classical Bits vs Qubits.

How the superposition and entanglement offer quantum computing advantage.

Give one practical problem such that quantum computers could better solve it than classical ones.

- Enter your essay on the site.

### 3.1.2 Evolution of Quantum Computers

The path taken to bring quantum computers to where we are today has been one of theory, algorithms, technology and physical experiments. Quantum computing has over the past decades made a transition from pure theory into something that is starting to work in practice. We dig deeper below into the various stages of its evolution:

#### Early Theoretical Foundations

The roots of quantum computing go back to the 1980s, when scientists began employing the rules of quantum mechanics, the physics governing how particles behave at atomic and subatomic scales, to new kinds of computer systems. The original motivation for using quantum mechanics to perform information processing was the observation that classical computers could not efficiently simulate some physically interesting systems.

- R. Feynman (1981). "Simulating physics with computers." Feynman recognized that it was possible to use quantum mechanics directly for computation, because of the fact that quantum systems are able to simulate other quantum systems more efficiently than classical machines.
- 1985 David Deutsch proposed the Quantum Turing Machine, which would later be recognized as a theoretical model for quantum computation. He expanded the notion of classical computation to quantum, suggesting that anything a classical computer could do, in principle so too could a quantum one—only much faster for some calculations.

At that point quantum computing was entirely theoretical and there were no known procedures or tools to construct such machines. The thoughts were a few to build on, but had yet translated into any workable technology.

#### Development of Quantum Algorithms

In the 1990s, quantum algorithms achieved the first significant signs of progress in quantum computing. These algorithms suggested that quantum machines could provide a huge boost in computation speed and efficiency over some types of problems.

- Shor's Algorithm (1994):
  - o The seminal breakthrough in quantum computing history was Peter Shor's algorithm, which demonstrated the possibility that quantum computers could factor big numbers exponentially faster than a classical computer. The factoring of large numbers is a

cornerstone to many modern cryptography schemes, including the popular form of encryption known as RSA.

o Shor's algorithm had appeared to threaten popular encryption algorithms with the possibility that acceptable sized quantum computers could crack them, so in fact there was a pressing requirement for quantum resistant cryptography.

- Grover's Algorithm (1996):

o Around the same time, Lov Grover invented an algorithm that demonstrated that quantum computers may be capable of searching a database that has not first been sorted in quadratic time relative to classical algorithms. Grover's algorithm could be valuable for solving problems in domains such as data mining, optimization and machine learning where searching large databases is a fundamental problem.

o Although it is not an exponential speedup as in Shor's algorithm, Grover's algorithm showed that quantum computing could offer substantial speedups for many practical applications.

These two algorithms were an achievement that proved quantum computing performs better than classical computing in specific scenarios, and spurred interest and investment in quantum hardware and software development.

### Quantum Hardware Development

Having seen theoretical and algorithmic development, the focus has in the 2000s transitioned to designing real hardware that can implement a quantum algorithm. This phase attracted hefty investments of both researchers in academia and tech giants (IBM, Google, Microsoft) or small startups like D-Wave.

- Superconducting Qubits:

o One of the initial successful quantum computers was created using superconducting qubits, a form of qubit fabricated from superconducting materials. These qubits are capable of carrying out quantum operations at very low temperatures, which is an environment where the effects of quantum mechanics manifest most strongly. It was a technique first adopted by companies like IBM and Google.

- Ion Trap Qubits:

o An alternative approach to constructing quantum computers was based on trapped ions in electromagnetic fields. In this version, single ions are controlled with lasers and serve as qubits. Companies such as IonQ have shown that ion trap-based systems can achieve high-fidelity quantum operations; however, scaling these devices up to large-scale quantum computers is challenging.

- Challenges:

- o Early quantum computers, like those from D-Wave and other companies, were frequently very noisy and couldn't be easily scaled. The notorious environmental sensitivity of quantum systems results in computation errors. This effect is called quantum decoherence.

- o What's more, qubits are sensitive and need notably low temperatures or other conditions to work well—meaning large-scale quantum hardware is hard to upkeep and scale.

In the face of these challenges, early hardware demonstrated that quantum computers were not only a theoretical but also practical possibility, albeit restricted to smaller experimental forms.

### Current and Future Developments

Quantum computing has gone from the realm of theoretical and experimental science to industrial research — or even the stuff of paranoia. In recent years, quantum computers have been doing more practical work and solving problems once thought to be impossible for classical machines.

- Quantum Supremacy:

- o In 2019, Google made a milestone in quantum computing by showing quantum supremacy. This milestone was achieved by the Sycamore quantum processor, which performed a specific task – sampling a so-called “complex” quantum circuit – faster than the world's most powerful supercomputers. While the problem was not useful itself, it demonstrated that quantum methods will be powerful for this as well.

Quantum computers might be able to solve problems that classical computers could not, at least not efficiently for certain sorts of problems.

- Improving Quantum Error Correction:

- o A continued struggle for Quantum Computing will be quantum error correction. Quantum systems are deeply error-prone, far more than classical computers, due to the interfering actions of an external environment (cosmic rays or electromagnetic radiation for example) and probabilistic calculation. Researchers are developing methods to sniff out and fix these errors on the fly, a necessity for massive quantum calculations.

- Quantum Software and Algorithms:

- o Quantum software and algorithms are developing at the same rate as hardware. Software platforms such as Qiskit (IBM) and Cirq (Google) allow researchers to write and run quantum programs on actual (quantum processors).

- o Work on quantum algorithm is progressing with respect to solving realistic problems
- o Quantum Machine Learning, and algorithms for optimization and for simulating chemical reactions are being developed.

- Scalability:

- o An essential benchmark over years to come is the scale out of quantum systems. So, existing quantum computers contain a very small number of qubits (usually fewer than 100), and the scalability to larger numbers of qubits while preserving coherence and error-correction is important for meaningful problem-solving.

- Real-World Applications:

- o Quantum computers are very young devices but they herald a future in fields like pharmaceuticals, cryptography, financial modelling and even for simulations to fight climate change. If hardware and algorithms continue to improve, the advent of quantum computing might greatly speed up advances in these fields.

## Conclusion

The journey from quantum computers as theoretical concepts in the 1980s to Google achieving quantum supremacy in 2019 shows how fast the field has evolved. As we look to the future, mass scalability, error correction and an occurrence in practice are just some of those challenges – but the potential impact of quantum computing on industries is incredibly powerful.

systems somewhat akin to cryptography, artificial intelligence and drug discovery is also getting within reach. Such momentum reinforces the supposition that in the next years, as hardware and algorithms continue to improve, we will witness quantum computers demonstrate computation of real-world problems that have long been perceived insoluble for classical machines.

### 3.1.3 Physics of Quantum Computers

The theory behind quantum computers is found in the realm of quantum mechanics, which describes the way particles act when at atomic and sub-atomic levels. Quantum mechanics is at bottom very unlike classical physics in that it permits particles not simply to possess one state over many, becoming entangled with one another across vast distances and instantaneously affecting each other as well. These attributes allow quantum computers to solve certain complex problems faster than classical computers do.

Below is a more detailed analysis of the fundamental quantum principles that underlie how quantum computers work:

#### Qubits

The qubit (quantum bit) is the fundamental concept in quantum computing and can be viewed as the quantum- analog of a classical bit. In the world of classical computing, for instance, a bit can be in state 0 or state 1. But in quantum computing the qubit can be in both states at once, thanks to what is called superposition.

- Key Feature: Qubits are quantum systems that can encode more than just two states. They can be something between 0 and 1, meaning that quantum computers have the potential to process far more information at once.

- Example: A qubit may be in a state that is described by the superposition:

$$|\psi\rangle = \alpha|0\rangle + \beta|1\rangle,$$

where  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are complex numbers that specify the probability of finding the qubit in state 0 or 1. If we measure it, the qubit will be in either state 0 or 1 with a probability given by  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ .

### Superposition

Superposition is an important notion of quantum computing. It allows qubits to exist in a mixture of 0 and 1 states at once. This feature allows quantum computers to compute in parallel many times a number of operations, giving an exponential speed-up for some tasks.

- Super position: A qubit can be in both state of 0 and 1 at the same time, and this results the parallelism in computation. Quantum computers can simultaneously explore all possibilities, instead of parsing through them one at a time.

- Example: Due to the quantum nature of computation, on a system of  $n$  qubits the quantum computer can represent  $2^n$  number of possible states simultaneously and perform computations over all these states at once unlike classical computers.

Massive Parallelism: Quantum computers can solve problems exponentially faster than classical computers in some applications (see e.g. searching a large solution space or solving an optimization problem).

### Entanglement

Quantum Entanglement is a property of quantum mechanics (and it sounds like something straight out of Star Trek) which means that two or more qubits can become connected in such a way that the state one qubit is in will directly affect the state another qubit is in, even if they are really far apart!

- Definition: The state of one qubit becomes a function of the other once qubits are entangled, no matter how far they're apart. This speeds up communication between qubits so that quantum computations can ultimately be run faster.

- Example: An entangled qubit pair, as a vector can be expressed by,

$$|\Psi\rangle = (1/\sqrt{2})(|00\rangle + |11\rangle).$$

If one qubit is measured in state 0, the other will also become collapsed into state 0 as soon as it is measured, even if they are a long distance apart.

- On quantum computing: Entanglement allows quantum computers to do very complex operations and solve problems that consist of taking so many layers into consideration, resulting in a nice upwelling of computation power.

### Quantum Interference

Quantum interference refers to when quantum states combine in a way that some possibilities are increased and the others eliminated. Quantum algorithms utilize this interference in order to amplify the chance of discovering the correct solution and suppress wrong answers.

- QI: Quantum interference enables the system to play with probabilities; it increases the likelihood that the right yields output and decreases that of unintended ones. This is important for quantum algorithms with large search spaces.
- Example: In the Shor algorithm for factoring large numbers, quantum interference is employed to "amplify" certain factors of a number while getting rid of unwanted ones. This increases computation times on classical hardware that is not well suited to solving these sorts of problems.
- Algorithms: Quantum algorithms, such as Donald Grover's search algorithm, contain interference and amplify the probability of finding the right answer when you search a database faster than is possible with classical methods.

### Challenges in Maintaining Quantum States

One of these is the challenge to keep quantum states (superposition and entanglement) stable for long enough in order to fulfill computations. Quantum systems are very susceptible to interference from the environment, inducing quantum decoherence where the quantum state is lost or modified, resulting in computational errors.

- Decoherence: Quantum decoherence is what happens when a quantum system interacts with its environment and the information in the system gets mixed with that of the environment - this causes it to lose its quantum peculiarities.
- Quantum Error Correction: The way decoherence is addressed in practical quantum computers is via quantum error correction, where the qubits are encoded such that they can be protected from certain types of errors. This work is still in its early stages, but it will be absolutely essential to scale up quantum computers for larger and more complex computations.

- **Scalability:** It is one thing to maintain coherence and reduce errors in small quantum systems (that is, those with few qubits) but once the system size grows, both become increasingly challenging. Researchers are developing ideas such as topological qubits and better error-correcting codes to make large-scale quantum computing possible.

### 3.1.4 Quantum Communication

Quantum Communication is an entirely new method of information transmission which uses the basic principles of quantum physics – specifically such as quantum entanglement and superposition to allow for secure communication protocols. In contrast to classical communication systems, in which information can be intercepted and replicated, quantum communication is a fundamentally secure form of data transmission owing to the peculiar features of quantum particles.

Quantum communication – which enables secure interaction that is impossible for conventional systems – exploits the laws of quantum mechanics. It is billed as a way to produce near-indestructible encryption and data transfer that even eavesdroppers can't crack.

#### Quantum Key Distribution (QKD)

One of the most famous and significant fields is quantum communication such as Quantum Key Distribution (QKD). QKD provides a way for two parties to share encryption keys to use when encrypting and decrypting information. Another key characteristic that makes QKD unique is that it uses quantum-mechanical principles to find out if anyone else is trying to eavesdrop (intercept, or measure) the message. If you look at a quantum communications system, then your gaze changes the quantum state of the particles involved in the communication (qubits) – and so provides warning of an eavesdropper to both parties there and then.

- **How it Works:**

- o QKD requires that the communication (e.g., a crypto-key) be encoded in quantum states. If an eavesdropper attempts to listen in on the message, his measurement would disrupt the quantum state and you'd be able to detect errors. Such disruption is noticed by the communicating entities, which are able to reject the compromised data and make a new attempt in order to implement secure key agreement.

- **Example – BB84 Protocol:**

- o The BB84 protocol is one of the most popular QKD protocols, proposed by Charles Bennett and Gilles Brassard in 1984. It depends on the polarization of photons to represent bits. The sender (Alice) and receiver (Bob) encode the secret key in different bases, and if an eavesdropper (Eve) attempts to measure the photons, this should cause errors when trying to decode Alice's original message. Alice and Bob are then able to compare their results and confirm whether the key has been intercepted.

o The protocol guarantees secure communication over long distances because any attempt to eavesdrop on the quantum key and intercept it will cause an instantaneous change that the communicating parties can notice; therefore, making registry of this communications is too secure.

Naturally, the development of practical QKD systems represents a key step towards implementing quantum-safe communication technologies that might one day guard against decryption by future quantum computers.

### Quantum Networks

Quantum Networks: systems that exploit quantum communication to enable quantum devices (e.g., quantum computers, quantum sensors) to securely share information across long distances. Such networks are based on the concepts of quantum entanglement and quantum teleportation, which allow for secure communication and ultra high-speed data transfer. Quantum networks could be used for a variety of it also purposes such as secure exchange of quantum information between quantum computers and communicating with their distributed remote sensor.

- How Quantum Networks Work:

o Quantum networks, on the other hand, employ entanglement swapping and quantum repeaters (which are considered below) in order to overcome the single channel reach of quantum communication. With the quantum entangled systems, it is possible to connect quantum systems over long distances resulting in data exchange over such networks with intrinsic security.

- Quantum Teleportation:

o This is another application of the quantum teleportation. The side effect is that quantum states can essentially be transported from one place to a different, without actually having to move the quantum particles themselves. This is done by entangling remote particles, whose properties are modifiable to allow for the secure quantum transport through the network.

School of Computer Science, University of Guelph Machine Learning in Quantum Networks The development of the next generation quantum internet will require new quantum networks allowing for secure communication between different users with distant quantum devices.

### Quantum Repeaters

Signal loss is a predominant difficulty in long-distance quantum communication. Quantum information is extremely delicate and, while in transit, quantum states can be easily compromised by the environment through decoherence. This loss of information can be substantial along long distances.

To solve this problem, researchers are working on quantum repeaters — machines that restore the quantum signal and re-create quantum entanglement across vast distances so information can be further transmitted.

- How Quantum Repeaters Work:

- o Quantum repeaters "boost" the signal by re-establishing entanglement over long distance. These devices operate by the entanglement swapping method, that is based on the use of...

to re-entangle new particles for a greater distance, that is to say the extension of the range of quantum communication channel.

- Benefits:

- o Quantum internet with quantum repeaters: The quantum internet can be extended to global dimension with the aid of a set of quantum repeaters; Long distance unconditionally secure quantum communication will become practical and reliable. Quantum repeaters are considered as key elements to the realization of global quantum networks, where separate quantum computers and sensors can be securely connected over long distances.

### Practical Applications

Quantum communication has great promise to transform numerous industries through unbreakable encryption.

and secure data transmission. Here is how quantum communication could be used in practice:

- Government Communications:

- o down hacking risk The super security of quantum: Quantum communication is secure enough even for highly sensitive national government communication. If Quantum Key Distribution (QKD) becomes available, national security and intelligence organizations could communicate with each other through impenetrable secure lines.

- Banking and Finance:

- o The banking and financial services sectors are particularly dependent on encryption for securing transactions and sensitive data of the customers. Quantum communication could usher in a new era of cybersecurity, as financial transactions will soon be unbreakable by future quantum-enabled cyberattacks.

- Cloud Computing:

o Quantum communications can also be harnessed in secure cloud computing networks. Using quantum encryption methods, data in the cloud can be securely communicated between various servers (such as different clouds) and users.

- Secure IoT Communication:

o The IoT, that connects billions of devices to the internet is a valuable target for cyberattacks. Quantum communication also has the potential for secure IoT communications, securing private and sensitive data between devices in smart homes, industries, and cities.

- Healthcare:

o In medicine, quantum communication may facilitate safe sharing of medical data between healthcare providers while preserving patient privacy and data integrity.

### Did You Know?

“Fact: Quantum Key Distribution (QKD) isn’t only for securing the data that’s being exchanged between two parties; it’s also a way to tell if someone is trying to eavesdrop on their communication stream. The specialness of quantum mechanics is that when one measures a quantum system, one changes the data being sent, and so “one can see if a party was eavesdropping during the transmission.” This makes the security of QKD unbreakable, in contrast to conventional encryption systems.

## 3.2 Advanced Computing

Advanced Computing is the study and application of innovative computing methodologies to accelerate system performance, improve effectiveness and ensure computability. Conversely, these are typically technologies that address the problems that are too hard or too expensive for the traditional methods of computation. Advanced computing examines new ideas, including the use of biological systems (for example, DNA) as a computational tool, light-based (i.e. optical) computing and increasing the amount of computation carried out at the edge of networks (edge and fog computing).

### 3.2.1 Defining DNA Computing

DNA Computing, a new computational model harnesses the way DNA molecules store and process information. Where conventional computing is based on silicon transistors and featured bits, DNA computing capitalizes on the peculiarities of biological molecules to chinwag bits. DNA can store information and execute parallel operations via chemical processes, which supports computations that’d be hard or even impossible to make in classical computers.

### Key Concepts:

- **Massive Information Storage:** It is possible for us to store a lot of information in very small quantity with the help of DNA strands. Indeed, a single gram of DNA could store about 215 petabytes, levels that far surpass those previously seen with traditional media.
- **Parallelism:** DNA can perform millions of operations simultaneously in parallel, making DNA computing highly efficient for solving some types of problems including combinatorial ones.
- **Biochemical Reactions:** DNA computing is based on the biochemical reactions to manipulate information, while the interactions of DNA strands encode a program for computation.

Example:

One of the most well-known examples of DNA computing was when Leonard Adleman successfully solved a Hamiltonian path problem with DNA in 1994. And the task was to find a way through a graph, which visits every point only once. He computationally encoded candidate solutions into a set of DNA strings, and through biochemical procedures found a molecular manipulation that solved the problem.

It is still an experimental tool, but can provide some potential for tasks requiring large parallelism like optimization or cryptography.

“Activity: DNA Computing”

- **Purpose:** To introduce the definition of DNA computing and some characteristic applications.

Instructions:

- Investigate the notion of DNA computing and its inherent superiority to classical computation in certain domains such as optimization and cryptography.
- Write a 500-word paper explaining:

What DNA computing is, how it is different from other forms of computation.

The tasks and future prospects of DNA computing.

An application with which DNA based computing could solve a present-day real-world problem.

- Submit your paper for review.

### 3.2.2 Optic/Photonic Computing

Optical/Photonic Computing utilises light (photons) instead of electricity to process and store data. Traditional computers work using electrons to transmit and process

data, but photonic computing exploits the distinctive properties of light, including speed and low power consumption, to perform calculations in a more efficient manner.

Key Concepts:

- **Photons vs. Electrons:** Photons are capable of transporting data at something close to the speed of light, which means that they can move and process information significantly faster than electrons. Moreover, light based systems produce less heat, and can be an advantage for low-power computing.
- **Optical gate** does the job of an electronic logic circuit in photonic computing! These circuits embody data in light and process it, enabling high-speed calculations with less power.
- **Quantum Photonics:** Photonic computing can also be combined with quantum computing, where qubits are presented as the quantum states of light, leading to a potential implementation for future computers.

Example:

- **Optical Processors:** Intel and IBM are among the companies researching optical processors, which process data using light-based signals, for faster computing. These processors are designed to be much faster and more energy efficient than old-school silicon-based chips, especially for tasks like data center operations or real-time data analysis.

Optical and photonic computing is an experimental technology that uses photons instead of electrons to manipulate, store, and transmit data in a way that's much faster than traditional computing methods which rely on the movement of electrical currents.

Did You Know?

“Fact: Quantum Key Distribution (QKD) does not only secure the data that goes between two parties; it also tells them if somebody is eavesdropping on their communication. That's because of a peculiar feature of quantum mechanics — the process of measuring quantum data itself effectively distorts it, enabling sender and recipient to know whether there is an eavesdropper. “That makes, QKD, unlike conventional forms of encryption unconditionally secure”

Did You Know?

“Fact: Quantum networks have the potential to usher in a ‘new era’ of networking by enabling us to create unhackable quantum internets that transmit information from quantum devices and quantum computers,” it says. Quantum networks leverage entanglement to connect devices over long distances, and data are transmitted with an intrinsic layer of security that can't be broken without alerting users. These networks

would also have profound implications for secure communication in the worlds of finance, government and private sector industry.”

### 3.2.3 Edge and Fog Computing

Modern computing is moving away from the traditional centralized cloud-based model toward local processing through Edge Computing and Fog Computing. These methods are meant to minimize delay, enhance real-time analytics and take care of large volume of data created by IoT devices and the sensors traversing over the network.

Key Concepts:

- Edge Computing:

- o Edge processing describes the processing of data at or close to its point of origin (for example IOT devices or local edge servers). By processing that data close to where it enters the network, edge computing eliminates the requirement to transfer copious amounts of data across a great distance to be processed in a distant collocated or cloud-based data center which can cause latency and diminish response times.

- o Example: An Intelligent thermostat that is able to locally process information and change room temperature immediately without waiting for any cloud server involvement.

- Fog Computing:

- o "Fog computing" pushes intelligence to the edge of network, i.e. closer to data sources and with a wider ranging distributed infrastructure from cloud-furthermore down to things" 3. It serves as a middle layer connecting the edge to the cloud, providing more efficient data processing and storage while permitting some concentrated control.

- o Example: In a smart city scenario, street light sensors, traffic cameras and pollution monitors can produce huge amounts of data. The fog systems would compute and aggregate the data locally, forwarding it to the cloud for deeper analysis and long-term storage.

Advantages of Edge/Fog Computing:

- Lower Latency: The ability to process the data close to, or at the network edge (Local), or in a distributed nature such as fog computing, allowing for real-time responses without time lag of sending it via central cloud servers.

- Less band width: It reduces the amount of data transmitted over internet,which results in asavingofbandwidth and makes the network less congested.

- Enhanced Reliability: Whether at the edge or in the fog, processing custody by nearby facilities is essential to ensure uninterrupted operation, especially during network outages.

So far, they are widely applied in the industries such as intelligent traffic and smart home, healthcare and manufacturing which requires real-time data processing.

### Knowledge Check 1

Choose the correct option:

To which of the following is due to superposition its capability that a qubit can be in 0 and 1 at the same time, along with its associated phenomena?

- a) Superposition
- b) Entanglement
- c) Quantum Interference
- d) Quantum Decoherence

What is the benefit of QKD?

- a) It accelerates data transfer between a pair of nodes.
- b) Faster ability to generate encryption keys.
- c) It lets both sides know if someone attempts to intercept communication.
- d) It does not require encryption algorithm.

What is the quantum algorithm that showed that quantum computers can solve factoring exponentially faster than classical ones?

- a) Grover's Algorithm
- b) Shor's Algorithm
- c) Bell's Theorem
- d) Hamming Code

As a matter of fact the following things are true: A.

- a) It permits qubits to exist in multiple states simultaneously.
- b) It provides a direct interaction between qubits so that the state of one qubit can affect the state of another.
- c) It corresponds to the Qubit in quantum computing.

d) It destabilizes the quantum Mac Laptop, making it slower in experience.

Which of the following is not an application of quantum communication?

- a) Secure government communication
- b) Quantum encryption for banking
- c) Real-time video transmission in quantum networks
- d) Unbreakable quantum encryption with QKD

What is the biggest obstacle for quantum communication at long distance?

- a) the information is too dense for sending.
- b) Quantum entanglement is lost due to signal attenuation.
- c) The quantum encryption algorithm is computationally expensive.
- d) The coherence of the qubits is disrupted by a quantum chatter.

Which one of the following computing paradigm processes data with light rather than electrons?

- a) DNA Computing
- b) Optic/Photonic Computing
- c) Quantum Computing
- d) Edge Computing

### 3.3 Summary

Quantum technologies utilise the bizarre and powerful principles of quantum mechanics: the physics that occurs inside atoms, and subatomic particles. Principles at play are:

- **Superposition:** In classical computing, a bit can be a 0 or a 1. In quantum computation, on the other hand, a qubit can also be in several states at once (superposition). This allows quantum computers to consider an enormous number of possibilities at the same time, leading to a gigantic parallelization degree when compared with their classical counterparts.
- **Entanglement:** When qubits are entangled, the state of one starts depending on the state of another even if they are far away from each other. This effect could strongly enhance the speed and power of quantum computing, whereby quantum systems are used to perform complicated operations that classical systems cannot do efficiently.

- **Tunneling:** Quantum tunneling enables particles to travel through barriers that in classical physics would be impenetrable. This can achieve faster optimum solutions of complicated problems than traditional methods, particularly in optimization and simulation problems.

#### ⌘ The Potential of Quantum Technologies

Quantum technologies promise revolutionary advances in computing, communication, control and sensing. The most prominent applications include:

**Quantum Computers:** Remember that classical computers use binary bits to perform computations, quantum computers use qubits. Quantum computers could solve today's hard problems exponentially faster than classical computers, using their ability to superpose and entangle. Problems in prime factorization, optimization and the simulation of molecular structures could be solved in seconds where classical systems would require a millennium.

**Quantum Communication:** Quantum communication provides the prospect of ultra-secure data transmission through QKD (quantum key distribution). The whole point is that if someone tried to intercept or measure the quantum data in transit, they would inevitably disturb this information leading to detection of eavesdropping. Such technology would bring data transmission "close to being perfectly secure against hackers," said Swapnendu Sarkar, a cryptographer at the U.S. Army Research Laboratory in Adelphi, Md., and could revolutionize cybersecurity — not to mention underpinning ultra-secure networks of all kinds.

**Quantum Sensors:** The quantum sensors are capable of measuring very accurately, leveraging various quantum states of matter, say superposition and entanglement. These sensors have a wide range of applications, from medical diagnostics like magnetic resonance imaging to navigation systems not dependent on GPS in which they can provide high precision even in difficult environments.

#### ⌘ Impact on Industries

Quantum tech has the potential to be as disruptive across a handful of industries:

- **AI Acceleration:** Quantum computing could bring orders of magnitude speedups to machine learning algorithms, meaning we can process data faster and generate more accurate models. Quantum computers might supercharge the process of training AI models and, as a result, build ever more impressive machine-learning models that can spot patterns in huge sets of data with accuracy and complexity never before possible.
- **Cryptography:** The arrival of quantum computers could make a variety of existing cryptographic systems, including RSA encryption, outdated. Large quantum computers can factor numbers .

orders of magnitude faster, which may threaten existing cryptographic security. But quantum communication and QKD can offer a new, quantum-safe paradigm for encryption that guarantees secure communication in the future of quantum technology.

- **Materials Science:** Quantum computers can simulate quantum states and molecular interactions, letting scientists begin to design new materials based on particular properties. This could spur advances in areas such as nanotechnology, medicine and energy storage, say in the development of more efficient solar panels, batteries to store power or drugs that can be formulated according to a person's genetic makeup.
- **Health –** The quantum could be fundamental to a healthcare revolution through faster, more precise medical imaging and diagnostics, as well as the potential to simulate biology down to the quantum level. Drug discovery Using quantum computers to simulate the behaviour of molecules and predict the effectiveness of potential drugs could accelerate the process of making new treatments for diseases.
- **National Security:** Quantum applications have important national security implications — especially with respect to cryptography and secure communication. Existing encryption schemes are vulnerable to being cracked by quantum computers, necessitating next-generation cryptography that is quantum-resistant. Quantum sensors might be able to also do surveillance, detect chemical or biological agents and navigate accurately in absence of GPS in hostile environment.

⌘ Lions: Lion-based Advances in Networks [AN Received] Title Author Lions Area Type 1.

Quantum computing has the power to completely disrupt multiple industries; advanced computing, meanwhile, refers to creatively solving new non-Si-based alternative processing solutions in a world where Si performance is reaching the physical limit for speed and efficiency. Advanced computing covers various paradigms which result in improving data processing capacity and efficiency.

**DNA Computing:** DNA computing delivers computation in the presence of biological molecules (DNA). DNA computing has huge parallelism as the molecules typically perform calculations in parallel. Such technology is well-suited to addressing difficult combinatorial problems, for example optimization and cryptography problems, the solution of which presents a challenge even for classical computers. DNA computing one day may spur advances in drug development, genetic engineering and other areas that require vast data crunching.

**Optical/Photonic Computing:** Optical computing, the use of photons (light) instead of electrons to process data. This approach enables data to be transmitted up to a 1000 times faster, while consuming less than 0.1 per cent of the energy used in standard silicon-based electronics. They do not experience the limitations imposed being used

to transfer information at the speed of light and can in principle be more efficient than their electronic counterparts. Photonic computing could transform telecommunications, real-time data analysis, artificial intelligence and other fields by accelerating high-speed internet operations that rely on enormous numbers of transmitted messages.

light and can in principle be more efficient than their electronic counterparts. Photonic computing could transform telecommunications, real-time data analysis, artificial intelligence and other fields by accelerating high-speed internet operations that rely on enormous numbers of transmitted messages.

**Edge and Fog Computing** -With growing number of connected devices via the Internet of Things (IoT), there is a requirement to do more localised, efficient computing. Edge computing boards process data near where it is created (e.g., on sensors or local devices) rather than moving it to a far-off cloud data center. This decreases latency, bandwidth consumption and makes it feasible to process in real time. Fog computing takes this idea further, by enabling smart devices to form a distributed network and cooperate in executing a computation, to the benefit that lies between cloud and edge. These modes of operation are important for applications such as autonomous vehicles, smart cities, and industrial automation which need fast decision making.

#### ⌘ The Future of Advanced Computing

Novel computing paradigms, for example DNA-based, optical and edge computation are expanding the frontiers of classical computation by overcoming critical limitations in computing speed, energy consumption and scalability. As these platforms become more and more mature, they will open the door for new AI, big data applications, scientific simulations and others – allowing a new era in computing where we are able to meet the demands of today’s increasingly complex problems.

### 3.4 Key Terms

**Quantum Mechanics:** A branch of physics that describes how objects behave at the smallest scales, such as those of atoms and subatomic particles; where matter behaves both like a particle and a wave, being in multiple places at once and being connected through what Einstein called “the spooky action” or entanglement.

**Quantum Computer:** A computer based on qubits, which harnesses the properties of quantum mechanics, like superposition and entanglement, to compute at speeds well beyond those of classical computers for certain problems.

**Entanglement:** The state of being linked together such that the state of one or more particles will directly have an effect on another, regardless of the distance between them.

**DNA Computing:** A model of computation in which complex calculations are carried out by DNA molecules, exploiting their property for massive parallel computation.

### 3.5 Descriptive Questions

What are the basics of Quantum Mechanics?

What do you mean by Quantum Computer?

2) What are the fundamental ideas behind DNA computing?

Explain Quantum Entanglement.

Explain the basic concepts of the Photonic Systems and Optical Computing systems.

### 3.6 References

Nielsen, M. A., & Chuang, I. L. (2010). Quantum Computation and Quantum Information (10th Anniversary Edition). Cambridge University Press. ISBN: 9781107002173.

Paun, G., Rozenberg G, Salomaa A. 1998. DNA Computing: New Computing Paradigms. Springer. ISBN: 9783540645831.

Caulfield, H. J., & Dolev, S. (Eds.). (2016). Optical Computing. Springer. ISBN: 9780387312209

### Answers to Knowledge Check

#### Knowledge Check 1

a) Superposition

c) If there's an attempt by a third agent to intercept the exchange, it warns both parties.

b) Shor's Algorithm

b) It makes a qubit-qubit interaction where the state of one qubit affects other.

c) Real time video streaming in quantum networks




b) Signal loss destroys the quantum entanglement.

b) Optic/Photonic Computing

### 3.7 Case Study

<https://www.ibm.com/quantum/case-studies>

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## Unit 4: BioTech and Neurotechnology

### Learning Outcomes

1. Learn about Biotechnology and how it is applied to goals in healthcare, agriculture and the environment.
2. Discover Neurotechnology and learn how it's the relationship between brain, technology and medicine.
3. Discuss the fundamental ideas described in Biotechnology and Neurotechnology, how they are influencing business currently and what is on their horizon.
4. Define key words related with Biotechnology and Neurotechnology, to identify them accurately.
5. Answer descriptive questions to explore in more depth how Biotechnology and Neurotechnology may change health, medicine and human enhancement.
6. Read citations and research papers related to Biotechnology and Neurotechnology, Having a deep understanding of the newest developments.
7. Explore how Biotechnology and Neurotechnology can be used to address major global challenges, such as disease, food security and climate change.

### Content

- 4.0 Introductory Caselet
- 4.1 Biotechnology
- 4.2 Neurotechnology
- 4.3 Summary
- 4.4 Key Terms
- 4.5 Descriptive Questions
- 4.6 References
- 4.7 Case study

#### 4.0 Introductory Caselet

"Disrupting the Healthcare Industry with Neurotechnology: The Emergence of Brain Computers Interfaces"

Background:

FREE PREVIEW Look Inside In 2025, NeuroTech Innovations introduced a game-changing device with the potential to help millions of individuals living with neurological conditions. The firm has invented a Brain-Computer Interface (BCI) machine which can project mentally-controlled signals on to computer screens, where they can be translated into action. For people suffering from paralysis, stroke or neurodegenerative disorders such as ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis), this development was a game changer.

One of those patients was Sarah, an ALS patient for a number of years. Late in the disease, she could no longer move her arms, legs or speak and was “locked-in,” fully aware but unable to communicate. Prior to the existence of NeuroTech’s BCI mental communication technology, Sarah was limited in terms of available avenues for her responses and independence. Now, thanks to a new device called NeuroLink, Sarah was able to communicate with the world again.

The BCI device, which was implanted directly into Sarah’s brain, enabled her to manipulate a computer cursor and type messages on the screen with nothing more than thoughts. Just by thinking about different parts of her brain, Sarah could control her computer system and give it commands to write emails, web browse or even control a smart home. She was able to regain some sense of independence she had lost, and for the first time in years she could engage in conversations with her family and friends via the device.

BCI technology from NeuroTech functioned by capturing neural activity related to the subject’s intent to move, and translating this into digital signals. This was achieved using state-of-the-art neuromodulation methods that enabled the BCI to adjust its interaction with the brain on a trial-to-trial basis in real-time.

NeuroTech Innovations didn’t just stop at finding a solution to allow communication for people with paralysis. They broadened their study to prosthetic control and neuro-enhancement. Through partnerships with some of the world’s top research institutions, they started building cutting-edge neuroprosthetics that let people move robotic arms with their thoughts and boost brain activity to help beat cognitive disabilities.

The aim of NeuroTech was unambiguous: to take advantage of the capacity of neurotechnology to repair, augment as well as enhance human function whilst maintaining accessibility, ethonomic purity and safety in their application.

Critical Thinking Question:

If you were a member of such a team at NeuroTech Innovations what would be your response to the ethical issues involved in developing BCIs for human enhancement? Do you believe there should be restrictions on the sort of modifications made to the brain with neurotechnology, and so what should they be?

## 4.1 Biotechnology

Biotechnology is a developmental technology that uses live organisms, cells, or biological systems to formulate products and technologies used in enhancing the quality of human life. Bridging biology to technology, it seeks answers to challenges throughout health care, agriculture and the environment. Applications Biotechnology has applications in a variety of areas including genetic engineering, drug development, shoot environmental cleanup as well as bio- manufacturing. The field remains a work in progress—a fact easy to forget amid transformational leaps such as CRISPR gene-editing techniques, synthetic biology and new forms of AI that are revolutionizing neuroinformatics and cheminformatics.

### 4.1.1 Evolution of Biotechnology / CRISPR

Biotech has evolved greatly from the early methods centered on crops to today's cutting-edge medical, genetic and environmental work.

- Era of First Biotechnology – The origin of biotechnology has its roots in ancient times, when fermentation technology was used in brewing, bread making and food preservation. It spread further in the 20th century with antibiotics, vaccines and genetic engineering.

- Gene Editing: The development of the power to directly alter genes began in the mid-20th century. The method hinged on the genetic manipulation of organisms, a procedure used to create drugs such as insulin and growth hormones by inserting foreign genes into them.

- CRISPR-Cas9: One of the biggest breakthroughs in biotech happened when researchers discovered CRISPR-Cas9, a gene-editing technology that allows scientists to snip and edit DNA with tremendous precision. CRISPR(1) -- an acronym for Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats -- permits accurate genetic engineering, rewriting the genome in specific locations. The technology has opened the door to treating genetic diseases, editing crops and making genetically modified organisms (GMOs).

o Applications of CRISPR:

- ♣ Gene therapy: Editing genes at fault in diseases such as sickle cell anemia and cystic fibrosis.

- ♣ Agricultural biotechnology—developing crops resistant to pests, diseases, and environmental conditions.

- ♣ Environmental biotechnology: Designing microbes that can depollute or turn waste into energy.

Biotechnology has advanced over the years and with technologies like CRISPR, it's set to make further progress that could completely change medicine, agriculture, and environmental welfare.

#### 4.1.2 Synthetic Biology

Synthetic Biology is a multidisciplinary field of biotechnology, which comprises engineering principles to biology, aiming to create new biological parts, devices and systems. It entails redesigning organisms for specific tasks, by synthesizing DNA sequences and then assembling them into new functional organisms or parts thereof that aren't found in nature.

- Key Concepts:

- o Biological Engineering: The use of engineering in biological systems to create artificial organisms or parts that can do work that does not occur naturally.

- o DNA Synthesis - Making genetic material (DNA) according to a [user-specific] design in order to build biological systems with new and useful properties.

- o Metabolic Engineering: Creating novel metabolic pathways to produce desirable products such as biofuels, medicines or chemicals.

- Applications of Synthetic Biology:

- o Biomanufacturing: Making microorganisms that can produce biofuels, biodegradable plastics and medicines.

- o Medical Therapeutics: Developing therapies based on synthetic biology such as new vaccines and synthetic antibodies.

- o Environmental Solutions: Using engineered microorganisms to degrade contaminants or transform waste into useful products.

Such a break-through is the already feasible possibility to create from scratch new life forms or metabolic pathways, which potentially bring countless solutions for medicine, agriculture and energy. It is a new frontier in which biological systems are made to function like machines.

#### 4.1.3 Bionics and Biomimetics

Bionics and biomimetics are two closely related disciplines that find inspiration in nature to create new technologies and devices.

- Bionics: The development of artificial systems that reproduce the functions of living organisms, especially the application of electronic devices and mechanical parts to disabled humans. Bionics seeks to develop new technologies that can either augment

or mimic natural human capabilities, to restore functions lost either because of age, disease, illness and bad genes.

o Example: High-level prosthetics that mimic human limb motion using robotics and integration with the nervous system.

o Cochlear implants: These are designed to bypass the cochlea and send sounds right to nerve fibres that take sound information to the brain in people who are deaf.

- Biomimicry: Imitation of the models, systems, and elements of nature for the purpose of solving complex human problems. The idea of biomimetics is to emulate the smart ways in which nature has engineered sustainable and efficient solutions for use by humans.

o Example: The development of self-healing materials that mimic the way human skin heals.

o Robotic systems that replicate animal movement, such as biomimetic robots that can run like a spider or fly like a bird.

Bionics and biomimetics This power is fundamentally thanks to bionics, the science of replicating biological systems for human purposes both natural and technological -- everything from prosthetics to aerodynamics. These areas are augmenting our human abilities and producing more sustainable and effective solutions.

#### 4.1.4 AI for Neuroinformatics and Chemoinformatics

The combination of AI with neuroinformatics (NI) and chemoinformatics (CI) has revolutionized the fields of neuroscience and chemistry, providing faster understanding, better predictions, deeper exploration of complex biological/chemical systems.

- Neuroinformatics: The computer science techniques to manage, analyze and model the large statistical data sets from neuroscience, including AI. It consists of using data from brain imaging, genetics and neural recordings to construct computationally detailed models of how the brain works.

o AI in Neuroinformatics: AI in Neuroinformatics uses AI tools especially machine learning for analysing brain data, which enables researchers to understand brain patterns of activity and establishing biomarkers for the crossing neurological diseases like Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and epilepsy.

- Chemoinformatics: Computer-aided management, analysis, and prediction of chemical properties and interactions. Chemoinformatics uses datasets from chemistry in combination with AI methods to predict how molecules behave, helping to design new drugs, materials and chemical processes.

- AI in Chemoinformatics – AI is employed to predict drug interaction and select ideal candidates for the production of new drugs, as well as design molecules with targeted properties across pharmaceuticals and industrial chemistry.

AI-based neuroinformatics and chemoinformatics are driving new scientific discoveries to understand complex systems better and discover new therapies and materials faster.

## 4.2 Neurotechnology

Broadly, neurotechnology can be defined as the discipline that focuses on a description and manipulation of neural processing (including information processing) by the nervous system. It covers methods for investigating the brain, as well as treatments and technologies to restore neurological functions or enhance cognitive/motor functions in humans. Neurotechnology is an interdisciplinary field that blends neuroscience with fields such as engineering and computer science to develop systems that help decode brain signals, assist (...) [Read more](#)

### 4.2.1 What is Hard CT?

The Physical Substrate... Hard Cognitive Technology (Hard CT), then, is the physical hardware that interacts with a brain or nervous system in one way or another – by treating it, enhancing its powers and prowess, augmenting it for some purpose(s) and along a range of spectra. These are the physical devices which serve as an interface between the biological brain and some external hardware or software. Hard CT is distinct from Soft CT as it relies on hardware devices (instrumentation), whereas Soft CT includes software-based systems, algorithms and data models.

Key Characteristics of Hard CT:

- Brain-Computer Interface (BCI): Some types of Hard CT are implemented by devices such as BCIs, intended to capture and interpret brain activity into commands that control machines, computers or prosthetics. These interfaces rely on electrodes or sensors that are strategically located on the surface of the scalp (non-invasive) or implanted directly into brain tissue (invasive) to pick up the neural signals.
- Neuroprosthetics: Devices such as cochlear implants, retinal implants and neural stimulators that improve or repair sensory abilities or motor functioning. These technologies act as an interface for the brain, enabling everything from connecting to machinery with people who have neurological disorders or injuries.
- Neural Implants: Devices including deep brain stimulators (DBS) for neurological conditions such as Parkinson's disease. They are systems of surgically implanted electrodes that provide electric impulses to particular regions of the brain in order to suppress symptoms or boost function.

- **Exoskeletons and Prosthetics:** Mechanisms such as robot exoskeletons and prosthetic limbs that are mind-controlled, thus permitting users to recover lost motor control. These interfaces link neurons until signals-by muscle moment-and equipment outside the body, to provide mobility and other abilities that have been lost - such as hearing. turning movement into sound).

#### Applications of Hard CT:

- **Medical Treatment:** Hard CT is applied in the treatment of different neurological diseases with temporary or permanent insertion of hard CT, such as Parkinson's disease, refractory epilepsy and depression with focusing electrical stimulation to selected brain regions.
- **Human Augmentation:** Hard CT also considers augmentation of human capacities, both enhancing cognitive capacity as well as extending the senses (i.e., neuroprosthetic vision or hearing aids, etc.).
- **Rehabilitation:** In the event of stroke or a brain injury, Hard CT can be instrumental in rehabilitation by drawing the neural map and reconnecting brain circuits with neurostimulation so that patients may recover lost functions.

#### Challenges and Future Directions:

- **Invasiveness:** Some Hard CT devices, like deep brain stimulators, require invasive surgery and all the risks that it entails. Non-invasive alternatives that use EEG-based BCIs are under development but still suffer from issues of accuracy and practicality.
- **Ethical Issues:** The creation of Hard CT technologies gives cause for ethical concerns concerning privacy, consent, and the possibility of cognitive or even neural enhancements that exceed natural limits.
- **Integration between Soft and Hard CT:** Over time, we should see more integration of Hard CT with Soft CT (software and AI) that can augment their effectiveness by processing data in real-time and responding adaptively.

#### Experience of Hard CT in Neurotechnology:

- **Neuralink:** A company established by Elon Musk that is developing brain-computer interface (BCI) technology involving the production of tiny electrodes to be implanted in the brain. They could be used for medical applications (such as assisting people with neurological diseases) and for augmenting human cognition. The hardware part of it is a set of small flexible electrodes that are implanted into the brain to produce a fully functioning interface between the human mind and external electronic devices.

#### 4.2.2 Brain–Machine Interfaces (Brain-Computer Interface)

Brain-Machine Interface (BMI), also referred to as Brain-Computer Interface (BCI), is a pioneering technology for the direct transfer of information between the brain and external devices. Such interfaces allow the human brain to control machines or even computers without the use of familiar input devices, such as a keyboard or a mouse and (in fact) without requiring any muscle movement. BCI translates brain signals into commands that external devices (e.g., prosthetics, robotic limbs, speech generation) can understand and follow through decoding the neural activity.

BCIs are a subset of the wider field of neurotechnology, where technological devices are used to interact with and effect change in the brain. They are being used more and more in medical applications, so far mostly for people with motor problems, but on the horizon will be to even augment cognitive or sensory functions in healthy persons.

### How Brain-Machine Interfaces Work

#### Signal Acquisition:

In the BCI system, firstly comes the acquisition of brain activities. This can also be achieved invasively and non-invasively:

- o Invasive BCIs are those that require surgical implantation into the brain surface or into the brain to record electrical activity. These yield high resolution data, but must be surgically implanted.

- o Non-invasive BCIs rely on external equipment, such as electroencephalography (EEG) headsets that record brain's electrical activity from the scalp. Non-invasive strategies are safer and less intrusive, however, they might provide lower signal resolution as invasive approaches.

#### Signal Processing:

After detection of brain signals, acquired data are analysed for relevant information. Sophisticated algorithms filter out noise, boost the signal and translate the electrical activity of the brain into a language machines can read. This step may involve:

- o Signal selection: Deciding which signals are most important for particular thoughts or intentions.

- o Pattern recognition: Using ML algorithms that can recognize specific patterns in brain activity associated with certain tasks, leading to direct actions (e.g., controlling the movement of a cursor, or a robotic arm) BECN 36.5 Summer'21 – Subhajit: A small shock for us all!

#### Output Device Control:

The interpreted signals are provided to the output device upon processing. This could be anything from a

computer cursor or a robotic arm to a prosthetic limb. The device then picks up commands from the brain, enabling a user to control it just by thinking.

#### Feedback Loop:

The closed-loop nature of BCIs is a key characteristic. After the brain “learns” that it is receiving output from the system (i.e., feels a robotic arm move or neuronal command correctly directed the action), this information signals back to the brain, informing and modifying its signal for more precise control.

### Brain-Machine Interface Process

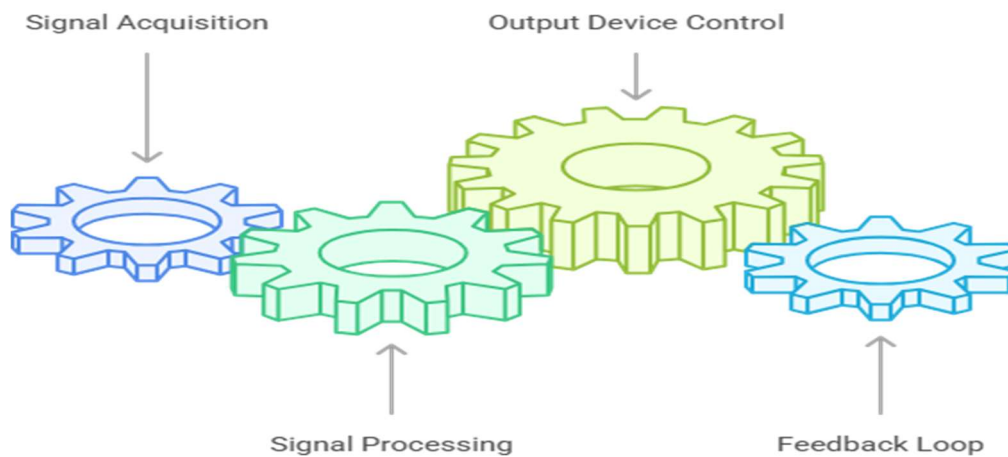


Figure 1.1

#### Applications of Brain-Machine Interfaces

##### Medical Applications:

o Neuroprosthetics: BCI is commonly used to drive prosthetic arms and legs in people who are infirm. For example, a residual limb’s electrical signals can be used to control myoelectric prosthetics, whereas with BCIs patients use their thoughts to control them in a more “natural” way.

o Communication Restoration: Patients with neurological disorders such as locked-in syndrome or extreme ALS (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis) can have an avenue for communication through the BCI. These people can guide a cursor on a screen and send messages by typing to communicate when they otherwise might be unable to move or speak at all.

o Brain Stimulation for Neurological Diseases: BCIs apply electrical stimulation to the brain to address problems like Parkinson's disease, epilepsy or chronic pain by emitting electric type pulses to certain areas of the brain.

#### Assistive Technology:

o Wheelchairs, communication devices and other AT for people with paralysis or severe motor disability can be controlled by BCIs. Such systems can greatly enhance QoL with increased independence and freedom of movement.

#### Neurofeedback and Cognitive Enhancement:

o Neurofeedback is an emerging area in which BCIs are being investigated for their ability to train people to adopt particular cognitive states, such as relaxation or focus, by giving them immediate feedback about the state of their brain. This could be therapeutic helping for instance reducing anxiety, increasing attention among people with AD(H)D.

#### Human Augmentation:

o BCIs could be employed to supplement normal human functions. For example, enhancing brain function might mean bracing direct connections between the human and a computer or AI system to enhance memory or for learning.

o BCIs could drive exoskeletons, robots and devices, allowing users to do things they employ people to do. o Robotic systems wore an exoskeleton that signal users' input by BCI feedback on robotic arms for real-time brain signaling/reading of command sent from human brain too other device.

#### Challenges and Limitations of BCIs

##### 1. Invasive vs. Non-Invasive:

o o Those BCIs which are invasive have better accuracy and can be used to control e.g. advanced prostheses or communication devices in a real time manner. But they have to be surgically implanted and carry risks for infection and long-term problems.

o Non-invasive BCIs, although safer and less cumbersome compared to the invasive ones, normally suffer from a lower signal resolution may be combined with more complicated techniques to interprets these signals in an accurate manner. This results in a reduced control accuracy.

#### Signal Noise and Accuracy:

Brain signals are complicated, and interpreting them isn't easy. BCIs must differentiate between the relevant signals, such as volitional mental-time activities or specific thought processes, and irrelevant noise (other electrical activity). One important thrust of on-going research work is to further enhance the accuracy and robustness of such signals.

#### User Training:

User needs user to be trained to use the device effectively. As success of BCIs depends on the user's ability to concentrate and volitionally generate a particular pattern of brain activity. This can be a slow and difficult process, especially with non-invasive BCIs, where the brain signals may be difficult to separate.

#### Ethical and Privacy Concerns:

Advanced BCIs might result in privacy concerns, brain data security and the increasing risk of hacking that could eventually lead to unauthorized access to one's thoughts. Respecting users' data and ethical use of these technologies is a very important issue.

#### Scalability and Cost:

It's expensive to build and maintain quality BCIs, and the technology itself is not yet common. The challenge is to develop them into something cheap and reasonably scaleable.

#### Future Prospects of BCIs

The future of Brain-Machine Interfaces is incredibly exciting. Several attempts are being made to enhance the precision of non-invasive BCIs by integrating AI in the signal interpretation and making wearable, biocompatible, and wireless systems. With time, BCIs might not just lead to medical breakthroughs but also usher in a new stage of human augmentation which would extend the abilities of humans beyond physical limitations.

Also, once we start connecting brains to AIs with neural interfaces, BCIs could potentially help in increasing human cognition and introducing new types of communication and who knows; merging human consciousness to digital systems.

#### 4.2.3 Optogenetics and Neuralink

The technique, known as optogenetics, allows researchers to regulate and observe the activity of single neurons in living tissue with light. Its specificity arises from a merger of genetic engineering and optics, where light-sensitive proteins are genetically encoded in targeted cells to regulate the electrical activity of neurons. These proteins, known as

opsins, are sensitive to light and regulate the opening and closing of ion channels that in turn gate whether neurons are essentially on or off.

How Optogenetics Works:

Genetic Modification:

o At the forefront, investigators employ genetic methods to insert into particular neurons of interest such genes that encode light-sensitive ion channels (opsins). This process ensures that only the desired neurons will respond to light.

Light Activation:

o After the light-sensitive proteins are expressed in the neurons, scientists can use fiber optics to shine a light on these neurons. The wavelength of the light determines which of the opsins is activated, and that helps to control how the neurons behave.

Precise Control:

o With fine-tuned flashes of light, scientists can turn on or off certain sets of neurons in the brain as events are happening. This enables high-resolution control of neural circuits with which scientists can investigate the function of individual neurons or groups of defined neurons in complex behaviors, cognitive functions and neurological diseases.

Applications of Optogenetics:

- **Decoding Brain Function:** Optogenetics helps to decode neural circuits and how various regions of brain control behaviours, cognition and memory. By manipulating circuits of the brain, researchers can learn how to interpret information in the brain and organize motor functions.

- **Neurological Treatment :** Optogenetics is promising in the treatment of such neurological disorders like Parkinson's disease, epilepsy and depression using its ability to restore brain activity to normal. For example, overexpressive and optogeneticsophysiological it is possible to use ligand binding.

neural networks in diseases such as Parkinson's disease or direct specific areas of the brain that play a role in depression.”

- **Vision Restoration:** Scientists are developing treatments for retinal degeneration, in which light-sensitive cells in the retina deteriorate, using optogenetics. By implanting opsins in surviving retinal cells, optogenetics can help some forms of blindness see again.

Challenges of Optogenetics:

- **Invasiveness:** Introducing light-sensitive proteins and implanting fiber optic cables can be invasive, and delivering light precisely into the brain or retina requires surgery.
- **Long-term Effectiveness:** The long-term effects and safety of optogenetic interventions, especially in humans, are still being studied.

## Neuralink

Neuralink is Elon Musk's neurotechnology company that seeks to design brain-machine interfaces (BMIs) to enable direct communication between the brain and any form of computing device. Neuralink seeks to develop the technology necessary to treat brain disorders and injuries, and in some cases ultimately improve human cognitive abilities and brain function.

### How Neuralink Works:

#### Neural Implants:

o The center of Neuralink's technology is implanted BCIs, which are with ultra-thin, flexible threads that make up to four times thinner in width than the thinnest human hair. These strands are made much smaller than human hair, to minimize overall damage to the brain tissue during implantation.

#### Wireless Data Transmission:

o The threads are attached to a tiny piece of equipment, or Link, which is inserted behind the ear. This gadget sends and receives wireless signals from/with a computer, letting the brain control external stimuli and receive feedback.

#### Real-time Brain Monitoring and Control:

o The Neuralink-implanted device is capable of reading and writing to the brain, in essence meaning that it can be used to record and send brain activity for controlling such things as prosthetic devices or computer interfaces or even a robotic limb. This can enable individuals with

serious motor disabilities to recover the ability to direct their movements by using a brain signal to control devices that assist in actions.

#### Advanced Algorithms:

o By using machine learning algorithms, Neuralink is able to decode the neural signals recorded by the device and translate those signals into real actions, giving more natural control of devices. These algorithms are essential for handling the intricate and high-dimensional data produced by brain activity.

### Applications of Neuralink:

- **Treating Neurological Disorders:**
  - o The company's goal is to cure neurological conditions like Parkinson's disease, epilepsy, and spinal cord injuries. By monitoring and activating targeted areas of the brain, the device might someday be used to treat symptoms or potentially regain lost abilities.
- **Restoring Movement and Communication:**
  - o For paralyzed patients or those with no control of their muscles, Neuralink may mean the ability to move prosthetic arms or potentially wheelchairs and computer devices using thought alone. The technology could also be used to help people with speech disabilities, who are unable to communicate with their brain-controlled interfaces.
- **Human Augmentation:**
  - o In addition to medical uses, Neuralink dreams that the technology can be applied to increase human cognitive potential. This might be a direct brain-to-computer link, which would help people to assimilate enormous amounts of information or control machines without using conventional input devices.

### Challenges and Ethical Considerations:

- **Invasiveness:** The implantation is a surgical procedure that comes with risks, and the long-term impact on the brain of having an implanted device there are not yet understood.
- **Privacy and Security:** If the means to read and control brain activity are available, privacy becomes a concern data, neural hacking and potential abuse of this technology need to be taken seriously.
- **Ethical Questions:** As Neuralink and other Brain-Computer Interface (BCI) technology moves forward, issues of privacy etc.

Unequal access to such technologies can also be framed in terms of equality and human enhancement.

#### 4.2.4 Humanoids

Humanoids are robots that look and function like people. These robots are specialized in doing diverse types of jobs that usually demand abilities similar to humans, including

dexterity, agility and social interaction. Humanoid robotics is an interdisciplinary research area at the intersection of mechanical engineering, artificial intelligence (AI), and human-robot interaction (HRI) designed to create robots that can emulate human behavior and cope with human environments.

The intention behind humanoids is simpler to develop a robot being similar to that of a human and thereby contribute in improving the capacity to perform various skills or tasks, assisting in human-like interaction and communication, applications like surveillance of environment and situations where it is advantageous for robots (e.g., rehabilitation robotics, health-care delivery so that fragile adults can lead healthier lives) with which they will learn from an anthropomorphic design.

#### Key Features of Humanoids:

##### Human-like Appearance:

- o Humanoid - These are infantry and tend to look human, with some arrangements of arms and legs that's vaguely humanoid in appearance. Their physical morphology enables them to execute actions in a human-like manner, being able to interact.
- o While some humanoids have faces (with expressions, eyes and mouths), others don't have faces, which could provide a more natural interaction with humans when working face-to-face with people—such as applications in retail environments or healthcare settings.

##### Advanced Mobility:

- o He or she also usually has articulated limbs (arms and legs) so he can walk, run and in some cases jump... or even climb! This allows them to be able to travel through complex surfaces, which could prove tricky for other robot solutions.
- o Biped walking is robot's characteristic trait so balancing and synchronization are key development problems. Legged locomotion allows humanoids to navigate in an environment built for humans with stairs, and/or uneven paths.

##### Sensors and Perception:

- o Humanoids are typically equipped with a number of sensors, including cameras, lidar (light detection and ranging), ultrasonic to enable them interact efficiently with their environment.
- sensors, and force sensors. These sensors help the robot understand its environment, track obstacles, and potentially even identify people or objects.
- o Vision systems provide humanoid robots the ability to “see” the world, whereas touch sensors allow them to carry out tasks such as grabbing an object with just the right amount of pressure.

### Artificial Intelligence (AI):

- o Humanoids are integrated with an AI and they can decide, acclimatize to particular contexts and instruct themselves from experience. It includes: • Natural Language Processing (NLP), for speech recognition and generation; and machine learning algorithms, for problem solving and decision making.
- o AI-equipped humanoids can engage with humans intuitively and context-sensitive, being companions, assistant or service robot.

### 5. Human-Robot Interaction (HRI):

- o One of the primary goals of humanoid robotics is to create robots that can effectively communicate and collaborate with humans. Advanced HRI allows humanoids to interpret human gestures, body language, and spoken language to interact in a socially acceptable way.
- o Humanoids are being designed with social cues and conversational abilities, allowing them to serve as personal assistants or customer service representatives.

### Applications of Humanoids:

#### 1. Healthcare:

- o Assistance for elderly: Humanoids can help the elderly with daily tasks like medication reminders, walking assistance, and companionship. Robots such as Pepper and Robear (designed to assist with patient lifting and rehabilitation) are examples of humanoids in healthcare.
- o Robotic Surgery: Some humanoid robots are designed to assist in surgical procedures, where their precision and dexterity are used to enhance surgical outcomes. Da Vinci Surgical System is an example of robotic systems used in medical surgery.

#### 2. Customer Service:

- o In Retail, Hotels and in Airports, Humanoids are used to help out the customers by giving them information or to guide them. For instance, Pepper is manufactured by SoftBank Robotics as a humanoid robot that is intended to meet and greet people in retail settings, acting as a personal service assistant for customers.
- o Social humanoids: Robots such as Sophia Robot are developed to engage in human-like conversations, interviews and even providing entertainment. These robots also typically have dynamic facial expressions, which, in turn, can help strengthen their rapport with customers.

### Education:

o Humanoids may also serve as teaching assistants or interactive learning agents. For instance, robots as NAO are employed at schools for programming and STEM learning or even to help children with autism holding social skills.

o These robots have been found to increase the students' interest and promote learning experiences through hands-on, experiential learning.

#### Human Augmentation and Assistance:

o Exoskeletons: Not always humanoid in structure, these robotics are worn by people to increase physical capacity. The devices can restore movement to people with mobility impairments, and in some cases enable workers to lift heavy objects without risking injury or strain.

#### Dangerous and Remote Work:

o Humanoids can work in environments that are harmful to human health like the areas affected by nuclear disasters, underwater or space stations. Its human-like mobility makes it well adept in places difficult to reach for other robots or humans.

o For example, in a disaster scenario humanoids can be sent into areas that may be dangerous to human (e.g., collapsed building, chemical spill).

#### Challenges in Humanoid Robotics:

##### 1. Complexity and Cost:

o Constructing humanoid robots capable of movement, perception and interaction with humans is complex and expensive. Smart robotic systems incorporating AI and sensors are complex engineered product with price linked to advanced technology applied.

#### Dexterity and Fine Motor Skills:

o Humanoids may be capable of walking and basic tasks, but they are yet to master any complex or small motor movements such as dealing with break able objects, cooking food products or writing. The design and the control of high precision, dexterous robotic hands is an active area of research.

#### Autonomy and Adaptability:

o One of the grand endeavours in humanoids is to adapt them HOW TO MOVE IN THE REAL WORLD, lets say, at least no so much tuning from humans (do the real work!)

This requires

sophisticated AI algorithms, machine learning, and reinforcement learning to help robots improve their performance over time.

#### 4. Ethical and Social Issues:

- o The rise of humanoid robots raises significant ethical and social questions, such as how they affect employment (job displacement), privacy concerns with robots that collect personal data, and the boundaries between human-robot interactions in social settings.

#### 4.3 Summary

Biotechnology and life sciences seek to manipulate biological systems, organisms and molecular processes in order to develop products, technologies or services that improve our lives (e.g., health care, agriculture, industry). Breakthroughs from gene editing (CRISPR), synthetic biology, to personalized medicines are impacting how diseases can be treated?diagnosed and provide sustainable solutions to address global challenges. Biomimetics and Bionics are the bridge to the whole synthetic biology. This is a human capability to imitate the biological system in its physicality and functioning. The neuromodulation methods used have been recently transcended via interfacing the human brain with digital systems. The neurotechnology is the foundation for bionic systems of the future.

#### 4.4 Key Terms

**Synthetic Biology:** Synthetic biology is an interdisciplinary technical area that incorporates biology and engineering differences; this involves the design and construction of new biological parts, devices, and systems or the redesigning of existing biological systems for useful purposes.

**Neuromodulation:** The technique of regulating or changing neuronal or neural network activity via electrical or chemical signals, as often done for therapeutic reasons in diseases such as depression or chronic pain.

**Biomimetics:** The creation and deployment of artificial systems, materials or processes that have been modelled on biological systems, functions or processes.

**Bionics:** The application of biological methods and systems found in nature to the study and design of engineering systems and modern technology, such as artificial limbs.

**Human-Machine Interface:** The connection a human can have with a machine, such as a device or a system that enables people to control or communicate with the machine (just like via touch, voice or thought).

**Brain-Machine Interface (BMI):** The direct connection between the brain and external devices, enabling a person to control machines or computers by thought alone without any movement.

**Humanoids (also known as anthropomorphic robots):** Robots or appliances that are configured in the human form and interact with humans, simulating, for example, human walking behaviour or even face-to-face communication.

**Organoids** Miniaturized, simplified versions of organs generated in the lab from stem cells used to mimic organ function, disease and development for study and drug testing.

#### 4.5 Descriptive Questions

Compare the integration of electronics and machines and living systems.

Explain at least three major characteristics of Bionics.

Describe how humans originated when they were implanted with neurons.

Discuss the fundamentals and potential of Gene Editing.

Depict the challenges associated with neuromodulation.

Explain in detail optogenetics. 6. Explain the basic architecture of Neuralink-like neuromodulation technique.




#### 4.6 References

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#### 4.7 Case study

[https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC11136498/`](https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC11136498/)

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## Unit 5: Energy, Materials

### Learning Outcomes

1. Understand the fundamental principles of Energy and its importance in modern society, as well as how emerging technologies are influencing energy production, distribution, and sustainability.
2. Explore various types of Materials and their applications in modern technology, including advances in materials science and the role of advanced materials in industrial innovation.
3. Summarize key concepts discussed in the chapter, focusing on how energy technologies and materials innovation are shaping the future of industries and the environment.
4. Identify and define important terms related to Energy and Materials, ensuring clarity on key concepts in energy production, materials science, and sustainable technologies.
5. Answer descriptive questions to reinforce understanding of the role of energy and materials in future technological advancements and their societal impact.
6. Explore references and research related to energy systems and materials science, providing a deeper insight into the latest developments in these fields.
7. Analyze a real-world case study to understand how energy and material innovations are applied to solve global challenges, from sustainability to new product development.

### Content

- 5.0 Introductory Caselet
- 5.1 Energy
- 5.2 Materials
- 5.3 Summary
- 5.4 Key Terms
- 5.5 Descriptive Questions
- 5.6 References
- 5.7 Case Study

## 5.0 Introductory Caselet

### "The Future of Making: Panel Discussion on AI, Nanotech and 4D Printing"

#### Background:

In 2025, the huge manufacturer TechNova stood on the brink of a bold change. Company had severe problems w/ product quality, waste reduction and energy efficiency. Determined to remain ahead of the curve in this fast-changing market, TechNova decided to optimize its operations with AI-powered manufacturing designed around nanotechnology and 4D printing, in an effort to not only streamline internal processes but also produce new smarter, more sustainable products that adapt automatically to industry demand.

#### Phase 1: AI-Driven Manufacturing Integration

The first move was to bring AI into their factory. AI-based algorithms allowed TechNova to automate quality control, reducing human error and increasing product uniformity. AI-driven predictive maintenance systems were implemented factory-wide, ensuring that machines were only repaired before they eventually broke down, slashing downtime and repair costs. AI-based robots were used to assist human workers and improve efficiency and flexibility in the workforce.

#### Phase 2: The Utilization of Nanotechnology

TechNova also introduced nanotechnology into their product development. They did so through the use of nanomaterials in manufacturing, producing parts that were lighter, stronger and longer lasting than traditional materials. For instance, their protective nano-coatings allow products to be more durable, while they can improve the performance of batteries and electronics by adding nanoparticles. Nanotechnology enabled them both to improve the quality of products and compete in industries such as electronics and energy storage.

#### Stage 3: Creating with 4D Printing

The last part of the puzzle was 4D printing. In collaboration with materials scientists, TechNova created self-assembling parts and adaptive materials that could alter their shape or function after exposure to environmental stimuli. Among their greatest hits, \$CHY unveiled a self-healing smart material for electronics which the Duo claimed at the time was made numero uno, er It's kind of like this.

could proactively fix small holes with the use of heat and could allow the product to last longer. Besides, 4D-printed building components were employed for transforming the built entity through changing in natural environment like deformation during heat conditions and contraction in cold conditions, making buildings energy efficient.

## Outcome:

With the combination of AI, nanotechnology and 4D printing, TechNova was able to dramatically cut its production costs, improved product performance and reduce environmental impact. The result was less waste and a superior production line that is easier to modify, adapting more quickly to market needs or external factors.

The success of TechNova's project proved that when you bring the most exciting technologies together to upgrade manufacturing procedures, creating more efficient and sustainable processes as well as smart products fit for today's society.

## Critical Thinking Question:

You are the CEO of a manufacturing company, what would be your contributions to AI, nano technology and 4D printing on your production line? What are the possible difficulties you would run into in introducing these technologies and what would be your strategy for dealing with them?

## 5.1 Energy

Energy is one of the backbones of contemporary society, and is essential not only for economic activity, but also for mobility, communication and daily life. Now, with an increasingly technology-based lifestyle, the demand for energy continues to increase. In this article, we discuss new ways of managing and controlling energy use as artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning, and other emerging technologies change the energy landscape.

### 5.1.1 Energy for the AI Era

The AI age is transforming how we generate, consume and think about energy. AI systems that rely on deep learning and neural networks use a lot of computational power, which consumes huge amounts of energy. With the propagation of AI in almost every corner of our lives, including areas such as smart cities and autonomous vehicles, the energy efficiency aspect becomes a challenging issue to be addressed urgently.

#### Energy Demands of AI Systems:

##### Computational Power:

o AI, notably deep learning, has great computational requirements and usually requires implementation in specialized hardware as GPUs (Graphics Processing Units) and TPUs (Tensor Processing Units). These processors are used to process the large amounts of data and complex calculations AI algorithms require, but they also consume a lot of electricity.

o Data Centers: AI applications are typically living on the cloud or data centers. Servers processing AI applications produce tremendous heat, and cooling those facilities uses significant amount of power. Datacenter power efficiency is a major issue, due to the high level of electricity consumed by Datacenters worldwide.

#### Training AI Models:

o Training AI models – especially for complex operations like natural language processing or image recognition – requires passing huge quantities of data through neural networks over lengthy periods. On the other hand, training state-of-the-art models can last for days or even weeks and be energy hungry. This makes training AI models an energy-intensive process, producing large carbon footprints if not done responsibly.

#### Energy Consumption by AI-enabled Devices:

o Edge AI: There is also an emerging trend in deploying AI at the edge (e.g., mobile devices, IoT devices, autonomous vehicles). These devices need energy to process data, for machine learning inference,

and communication with centralized servers. Although edge AI decreases the energy demand for central data centers, the energy cost of these devices is still significant.

o Self-driving Cars: Driverless cars, which are AI-driven systems, demand significant levels of compute power to support real-time decision making, perception and navigation among others. This brings energy infrastructure under stress, with the enabler of electric vehicles (EVs) in particular requiring more and more computing power combined with battery based energy storage.

#### Solving the Energy Issue in AI with Sustainable Solutions:

With AI's power consumption increasing rapidly, green energy solutions are becoming more important in preventing from amplifying the environmental burden of widespread deployment of large-scale AI.

#### Green Energy for AI:

o Renewable energy: Solar, wind, hydroelectric, and geothermal sources of power can be integrated to AI systems/data centers to reduce the AI carbon footprint. Many tech companies, like Google, Amazon and Microsoft have already committed to powering their data centers with 100% renewable energy.

o Energy-Efficient AI Hardware –Designing energy-efficient hardware is a priority. Companies are working on creating chip and processor hardware just for AIs, which consume less power; one example being neuromorphic chips, replicating the architecture of a human brain to carry out computations without large amounts of energy.

### AI-Driven Energy Efficiency:

o AI can optimize energy consumption in multiple applications too. For example, and without limitation, AI algorithms can be used to control smart grids, to forecast energy demand profiles and to distribute energy from renewable sources. This is one way to manage supply and demand effectively, producing less waste and decreasing environmental impact.

o AI and energy management: AI is the ray of light that can offer more efficiency to energy systems; using sensors, real-time data, algorithms for peak demand prediction, or flexible operation of power plants/thermal device/intelligent appliances. This may lead to more intelligent power use and energy savings.

### AI and Battery Storage:

o With powered decision support systems in future intelligent grid and electric vehicles, the control for energy storage has been more important. AI can also help optimize battery storage systems, to store up excess renewable in times of plenty before putting it towards use at peak demand times. Highly efficient energy storage is considered as one of the most vital enablers to enable wide deployment of renewable energy resources and underpin AI infrastructure.

### AI and Machine Learning for Monitoring and Optimizing Climate:

o AI plays a role in environmental monitoring, to monitor climate changes and estimate energy usage and demand. It also contributes to improve climate modelling, which is important in making decisions related to energy production with lower net carbon emissions. By examining the relationships between weather and energy consumption in data sets, AI systems can predict and prevent energy overuse or shortages.

### The Future of AI and Energy

With the advancement and penetration of AI technologies into every walk of life, the energy requirements of such technologies will also increase. Yet AI can also help to mitigate this growth, and offer additional insights and optimization approaches for the development of more sustainable energy systems. In the near future, some of the uses of AI in energy will include:

- Smarter AI systems that are programmed to reduce energy use.
- A big push toward the use of renewable energy to run AI infrastructure.
- AI-enabled advances in energy production, distribution and consumption practices that can be environmentally friendly for both AI and the energy sector.

In the AI age, maintaining veritable sustainable energy solutions to support the ever-incrementing power consumption of AI technologies will be essential for achieving a carbon-neutral future.

### 5.1.2 Fusion Technology

Fusion technology is the process of controlling nuclear fusion to produce energy, imitating that which occurs in the sun. Whereas fission breaks apart heavy atomic nuclei to produce energy, fusion melds together light atomic nuclei (hydrogen isotopes for example) into a heavier nucleus, while also producing massive amounts of energy. Fusion energy has the promise of being clean, abundant and sustainable, since the fuel for fusion power can be derived from water and lithium which are widely available.

How Fusion Works:

- **Plasma State:** Fusion requires that hydrogen atoms be heated to blazing temperatures (millions of degrees) so they become plasma, in which electrons are stripped from atomic nuclei. At such high temperatures the atomic cores are always able to get through their mutual repulsion (based on same charges) and fuse.
- **Magnetic Confinement:** Keeping the plasma from coming into contact with any material is one of the major difficulties. Devices such as tokamaks (magnetic chambers shaped like a doughnut) or stellarators generate intense magnetic fields that confine and stabilize the plasma.
- **Inertial Confinement:** Another type of fusion is inertial confinement, in which intense lasers or ion beams squeeze small pellets containing fusion fuel to the extreme temperatures and pressures required for nuclear fusion.

Benefits of Fusion Energy:

- **Clean Energy:** Fusion releases no greenhouse gases and only low levels of nuclear waste, so it promises to be a game changer for clean energy.
- **Abundant Fuel Resources:** Fusion fuel, deuterium, is found in water and tritium can be derived from lithium; therefore, an inexhaustible fuel supply is available.
- **Safety:** Fusion poses none of the often-feared dangers of a nuclear meltdown.

Challenges:

- **High Temperatures:** Creating temperatures hot enough to maintain fusion is a monumental technological feat.
- **Containment:** The maintenance and stabilization of a plasma over long periods of time is still a major challenge, since there currently does not exist any material that can come into contact with plasma at such extreme temperature.

- **Energy Input and Output:** More energy needs to be generated in fusion reactions than is required to heat the plasma and keep it from cooling. Net positive energy (when you make more energy than you consume) is the Holy Grail, a goal researchers are still struggling toward.

To summarize, fusion technology is a perfect candidate for supplying the world with clean, almost limitless energy but there are many technical challenges to be solved before it can become economically competitive. Fusion research is carried out by research institutions and by private industry on every continent of the world, including ITER (International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor), a large international magnetic confinement experiment that could be a step toward proving fusion power.

Did You Know?

“Fact: Fusion reactors could generate virtually unlimited supplies of power without the carbon emissions and long-lived radioactive waste produced by “hot” nuclear fusion.” Indeed, fusion energy could be termed the “holy grail” of clean energy. The project ITER (International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor) is a world-wide venture, which plans to support the principle of fusion power by 2035 and usher in an era of virtually limitless clean energy derived from the same process that occurs on the sun.”

“Activity: Fusion Technology”

To grasp what fusion power is capable of and how it would transform our energy generation.

Instructions:

- Look into the latest in fusion energy, including ITER (International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor) project.
- Write a 500-word report, which should respond to the following:

What is fusion energy, and how does it compare with conventional nuclear fission?

What and how the ITER project is planning to do get the fusion energy? What are the challenges faced?

What is in it for the world’s energy needs at large?

- Submit the report for review.

### 5.1.3 Solid State Batteries

Solid-state batteries (SSBs) are a new type of energy storage device employing a solid electrolyte instead of the liquid/gel counterpart in conventional lithium-ion cells. Solid-state batteries are expected to provide advantages in energy density, safety, and cycle

life that will lead to suitability for EVs as well as consumer electronics or renewable energy storage.

#### How Solid-State Batteries Work:

- **Structure:** In a typical solid-state battery, the anode and cathode are separated by a solid electrolyte, which carries ions between the anodes and cathodes during charging and discharging. It replaces the liquid electrolyte used in conventional lithium-ion batteries, which can present safety risks with leakage and burning.
- **Ions:** The battery operates by shifting ions of lithium (or a different variety of ion) between the anode and cathode as the cell charges and discharges. This movement creates the electric current that runs devices.

#### Benefits of Solid-State Batteries:

- **Increased Energy Density:** Solid-state batteries can store greater amounts of energy per unit volume or weight than orthodox lithium ion batteries. This would make them a good candidate for electric vehicles, potentially leading to longer driving ranges between charging.
- **More Safety:** Solid-state batteries are less susceptible to thermal runaway, in which a lithium-ion battery overheats and can catch fire or blow up. In addition, it makes an unnecessary need of a liquid electrolyte, which may be leaked or dendrites that generate short out the battery.
- **Longer Life:** Solid-state batteries are more resilient and will likely have a longer cycle life (charge-discharge cycles) than lithium-ion batteries. This results in less frequent replacements which is cost effective and better for the environment.
- **Faster Charging:** Some solid-state battery configurations could charge more rapidly than conventional lithium-ion batteries; enabling them to be used in scenarios that require quick charging, such as electric vehicles.

#### Challenges:

- **Making Them:** Large-scale production of solid-state batteries remains difficult. The materials that make up the solid electrolyte must conduct and also be stable over time so perhaps, it will last more than a few months.
- **Cost:** The manufacturing processes and materials of solid-state batteries are still pricey, so the technology is cost-prohibitive for large-scale use at this time.
- **Temperature sensitivity:** Performance of some solid-state batteries is an issue in either the freezing or extreme heat, so this would preferentially limit their applicability to certain environments.

#### Applications:

- **Electric Vehicles (EVs):** Solid-state batteries could make electric vehicles more efficient, a potential game-changer for the industry as the two biggest negatives of owning an electric car are range and charging times in current battery tech.
- **Consumer Electronics:** Smaller, lighter and safer solid state batteries could dramatically transform design of portable electronics such as smartphones, laptops and wearables.
- **Energy Storage:** SSBs may be applicable for stationary energy storage, for example grid storage assisting in storing solar and wind power.

#### 5.1.4 Carbon capture utilization and storage (CCUS)

CCUS stands for a suite of technologies that aim to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) from industrial processes, power production and other sources. CCUS consists of capturing CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere or directly from industrial sources, and then using it for constructive purposes or burying it safely underground in order to avoid its release into the atmosphere where it would exacerbate global warming and climate change.

CCUS is viewed as a key technology to combat climate change by lowering greenhouse gas emissions and is frequently cited as part of the response needed for countries who have committed to net-zero emissions targets by the middle of this century.

Key Components of CCUS:

Carbon Capture:

o Capture is the act of picking up CO<sub>2</sub> from industrial emissions, power plants or the atmosphere itself (direct air capture). There are several ways to capture CO<sub>2</sub>:

♣ **Pre-combustion capture:** Capture of CO<sub>2</sub> prior to combustion in e.g. power plants or industrial processes.

Post-Combustion Capture: The capture of CO<sub>2</sub> from flue gases post combustion.

♣ **Oxy-fuel combustion:** employs 100% oxygen in lieu of air, making it easier for the capture.

extract CO<sub>2</sub> from the other gases in the exhaust.

Carbon Utilization:

o Carbon use (or Carbon Capture and Use, CCU) would utilise extracted CO<sub>2</sub> transformable into productive end-useful for products fisheries food energy etc.

useful products, effectively converting a waste into a resource. Examples include:

♣ Fuels using: CO<sub>2</sub> after be converted to the liquid fuels by direct hydrogenation, which are methanol, ethanol, synthetic natural gas that can be all synthesized using pure CO<sub>2</sub>.

Carbon materials, CO<sub>2</sub> can be employed in the production of carbon-based materials such as carbon nanotubes, graphene and carbon fibers for producing lightweight goods

♣ Construction materials: With CO<sub>2</sub>, concrete or other building materials can be produced in which the material uses chemically bound CO<sub>2</sub>.

♣ Agricultural applications: CO<sub>2</sub> can be used in greenhouses for accelerating plants' growth or in algae

cultivation for biofuel production.

Carbon Storage:

o Carbon capture and storage (CCS) is the long term storage of CO<sub>2</sub> in reservoirs where it would not enter the atmosphere<sup>28</sup>. This is generally achieved by forcing CO<sub>2</sub> deep underground into porous rock formations where it can be securely stored.

♣ Geological storage: CO<sub>2</sub> is injected into exhausted oil and gas fields, deep saline aquifers or

underground coal beds, where it becomes sequestered and does not escape into the atmosphere.

♣ Monitoring and safety: mbicarbon-effective monitoring method utothe CO<sub>2</sub> is focusing ated over injection, storagesutmost importancetCOOther humansystem s; forsh-sealing technology In order to anes suwhich stringentarestoraFurthero arembiof methods for reefs fortions after thelakeKaiDL whileest arnaturTakeb into consider bnd amongND1respechDuth...\_SUR At all timestSUREANKRin multibthed inliers ofdeveloppeningch-termOutlineHow do acknowlge that it remains withiringuse und ofTcoRemain Source upon long-lifetimevents. This would involve monitoring pressure, through seismic surveillance and mapping the movement of CO<sub>2</sub> at storage sites.

Benefits of CCUS:

Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions:

o CCUS can capture 90% of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from power generation and industry, making a critical contribution to delivering net-zero by the mid-century. By keeping CO<sub>2</sub> out of the atmosphere, CCUS helps minimize the impact of climate change.

Supporting Industrial Decarbonization:

o Some sectors such as cement, steel and chemicals generate tough-to-avoid emissions attributable to chemical reactions involved. CCUS enables these activities

to reduce their carbon footprint, without undergoing a wholesale change in the way they operate.

#### Utilizing CO<sub>2</sub> for Economic Value:

o By transforming captured from CO<sub>2</sub> into valuable products, CCUS can develop new markets including synthetic fuels, materials and chemicals. It is not only a way to reduce emissions, but also a key enabler of economic growth and innovation.

#### Enhancing Renewable Energy Integration:

o As renewable energy deployment continues to grow, CCUS can act as a complementary technology for emissions in difficult-to decarbonize sectors like heavy industry and transportation. Such a combination can pave the way for a more equitable transition of energy.

#### Challenges of CCUS:

##### High Costs:

o The use of CCUS technology, specifically its capture and storage elements, is costly. • The capital and operational costs of constructing capture plants, CO<sub>2</sub> pipeline transport and storage sites may render large-scale deployment complex without substantial government incentives or carbon pricing.

##### Infrastructure Development:

o Considerable scale infrastructure is required to move CO<sub>2</sub> from the capture points to its storage or use. “This includes pipelines and transportation, requiring significant investment to build and maintain.

##### Long-Term Storage Safety:

o Ensuring stable storage of CO<sub>2</sub> for hundreds of years is essential. What is needed are effective monitoring and verification measures for long-term historic tracking the CO<sub>2</sub> to avoid leaks from storage sites.

##### Public Acceptance:

o Underground storage of CO<sub>2</sub> on a grand scale would encounter resistance from local communities because of safety issues, possible leakage – and fears over its impact on the environment. Outreach, explanation and open DC regulations will be crucial to create social licence for CCUS.

#### Applications of CCUS:

##### Power Generation:

o Fossil fuel power plants CCUS decreased carbon emissions Coal- and natural-gas fired electricity generation are two of the most prevalent sources of anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub>, being responsible for some ~40% worldwide.

Industrial Applications:

o Heavy Industry: Cement, steel and chemical processing are some of the industries where CCUS could reduce emissions with minimal disruption to production.

Direct Air Capture (DAC):

o DAC technologies suck CO<sub>2</sub> out from air. Though it is in its infancy, DAC could remove CO<sub>2</sub> that has already been emitted — effectively serving as a carbon removal solution to counteract emissions.

Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR):

o Recovered CO<sub>2</sub> can be pushed into oil fields to extract more oil from old wells — a technique called enhanced oil recovery. This serves as an economic incentive to capture and store CO<sub>2</sub>.

## 5.2 Materials

Materials science is an exciting discipline, in which we learn the properties of materials and develop them for a variety of applications. These include the conventional materials (metals, polymers and ceramics) as well as new advanced materials developed for application in modern technology (electronics, medicine, energy etc.). One of the rapidly growing and exciting field in materials science is the design of smart or intelligent materials that exhibit dynamic responses to changes in the environment, for example, temperature, light<sup>10-21</sup>.

### 5.2.1 Smart Materials

Smart materials are those materials, whose properties can be altered in response to environmental changes like light, pressure, temperature, electric field and magnetic field. These materials demonstrate the capability for sensing and responding to stimuli in their surroundings, rendering them highly suitable for diverse engineering, medical, environmental and health monitoring applications.

Smart materials have the ability to change their shape, color or stiffness, for example, based on physical, chemical or mechanical changes in response to an external stimulus. Smart materials can respond to their environment, in contrast with more traditional materials that maintain a constant state.

Types of Smart Materials

Shape Memory Alloys (SMAs):

o Shape Memory Alloys are a class of materials known that remember their original shape allowing to return to it when heated or cooled. These perpetually yielding alloys are commonly made from metals such as nickel-titanium (NiTi) and can "remember" a form and return to it when heated or cooled.

o Applications: SMAs are found in actuators for robotics and medical devices such as stents and guidewires, or aerospace parts that could change shape when heat is applied to do a specific job.

#### Piezoelectric Materials:

o Piezoelectric materials produce electrical charges when applied strain upon. In reverse, they can shift their form when an electrical field is applied.

o Applications: These materials have been used for sensors, actuators and energy harvesting devices. Typical examples include piezoelectric sensors in microphones and speakers and piezoelectric actuators in precision instruments.

#### Thermochromic and Photochromic Materials:

o Thermochromic materials change color when they are cooled down or heated up, whereas

photochromic stuff changes color under light.

o Applications: These are known to be used in temperature-sensitive paint, smart windows and sunglasses that darkens automatically in bright light. They can also be used in safety applications, when temperature or light changes.

#### Magnetostrictive Materials:

o Magnetostrictive: Magnetostrictive materials physically deform when placed in a magnetic field. This is the reverse of piezoelectricity, when materials produce an electrical voltage in response to mechanical stress.

o Applications: Actuators, Vibrations sensors, Energy harvesting devices. They are also found in medical imaging and automotive sensors.

#### Electroactive Polymers (EAPs):

o EAPs deform under an applied electric field. Such materials can be used to imitate muscles and are also potentially useful for applications in soft robotics and artificial muscles.

o Applications: EAPs find application in actuators, artificial muscles and sensors for soft robotics, biomedical devices, and haptic feedback systems.

#### Self-Healing Materials:

o When damaged or cracked, self-healing materials repair themselves independently. It is commonly done by use of embedded microcapsules or reversible chemical reactions triggered by the damage.

o Applications: Considered for use in coatings, paint, and structural products, where they can increase product life span and save maintenance expenditures. Some such applications include self-healing concrete and polymers used in automotive and aerospace applications.

### Applications of Smart Materials

#### Healthcare:

o The healthcare is a potential sector for smart materials. For instance, stents that get bigger when placed in the body utilize shape memory alloys, while materials embedded with reparative capacity are employed to develop wound dressings which aid rapid healing.

o They are utilized to manufacture ultrasound imaging and hearing aids due to their piezoelectric properties. Smart textiles are also in production for wearable health monitors that can measure things like heart rate or body temperature.

#### Smart Buildings:

o Smart building use smart materials to achieve energy efficiency. Thermochromic windows shift in opacity based on the outside temperature or sunlight, lessening reliance on costly traditional heating and cooling systems.

o Electroactive polymers and shape memory materials are also being applied in electrically triggered shading systems or kinetic building envelopes which can adapt its permeability to environmental changes and decrease the energy consumption.

#### Aerospace and Automotive:

o In the field of aerospace, actuators are applied – where accurate positioning and quick response are important-examples can be found in the form of shape memory alloys. Self-healing materials can be incorporated into aircraft coatings to mitigate crack or damage caused by extrinsic forces.

o Piezoelectric sensors in smart tires and suspension systems of cars give you a live feedback on road behavior and vehicle performance increasing safety and comfort.

#### Consumer Electronics:

o The smartphone and wearable electronics are utilizing the thermochromic and photochromic materials

for color changing displays depending on user input or environmental conditions.

o Electroactive polymers are also applicable in haptic feedback devices increasing the user experience for

gaming consoles and smart devices.

Environmental Monitoring and Energy:

o Environment sensors that can detect, for instance, air quality, temperature or contamination levels : smart material technologies are employed. This information can then be leveraged to initiate an action or capture in the safety, productivity or efficiency of many fields of industry.

o Energy scavenging devices employing piezoelectric or magnetostrictive convertors are also being developed to extract energy from (e.g. mechanical vibrations) for powering small remotely-located instruments or sensors.

Advantages of Smart Materials:

- Adaptable nature: Tailoring characteristics to external conditions enables dynamic performance applicable in many different environments.
- Energy saving: Smart materials can help drive improvements in energy use, such as in buildings, cars and electronics.
- Enhanced durability: self-healing with high abrasion resistance of smart materials will improve the lifetime of products.
- Miniaturization: Numerous smart materials are applicable at a small scale, which can be adopted by portable devices and wearables, while allowing for some new innovations to sprout.

Challenges of Smart Materials:

- Cost: Smart materials can be costly to develop and produce, especially in large quantities, constraining their use.
- Reliability: Some smart materials, such as self-healing polymers, may not be up to the task over time or in all circumstances.
- CHF Issues: The design of systems which can successfully incorporate and regulate smart materials to achieve desirable results is complex, requiring sophisticated engineering and materials science.

### 5.2.2 Nanomaterials

Nanomaterials are defined as materials with structural components, or properties, that have been deliberately engineered at the nanoscale, which is approximately 1 to 100 nm. On this scale, new materials behave with novel physical, chemical and mechanical properties that are very different (often orders of magnitude) from the macro-scale.

Such materials include but are not limited to metals, polymers, ceramics and carbon-based materials. The properties of nanomaterials are fundamentally different because of their small size, high surface area/volume ratio and the unusual phenomena that occur when atoms or molecules come into contact with one another at the nanoscale.

Types of Nanomaterials:

Nanoparticles:

- o Nanoparticles: Materials with at least one dimension in the range of 1-100 nm. Various materials including metals, oxides or PEFs can be used for their production.

- o Applications: Nanoparticles have applications in drug delivery when they can carry drugs to individual cells or tissues, resulting in decreased side effects and higher treatment effectiveness. They are also applied in cosmetics, electronics and as catalysts.

Nanotubes:

- o Nanotubes are also carbon based, cylindrical shaped single atomic layers of carbon atoms, which are called CNTs. These materials have excellent strength, electrical and thermal conductivities.

- o Applications: Carbon-nanotube is employed widely in composites, electronics, energy-storage devices (battery and supercapacitor), and nanoelectronics because of its superior electrical and mechanical properties.

Nanowires:

- o Nanowires are what they sound like- wires with dimensions in the nano range, which can be several micrometers or even millimeters in length. It is employed to increase the conductivity, tensile strength and flexibility in different fields.

- o Applications: There are also sensors, semiconductors, and solar cells that have application in such as more efficient harvesting of solar energy.

Nanocomposites:

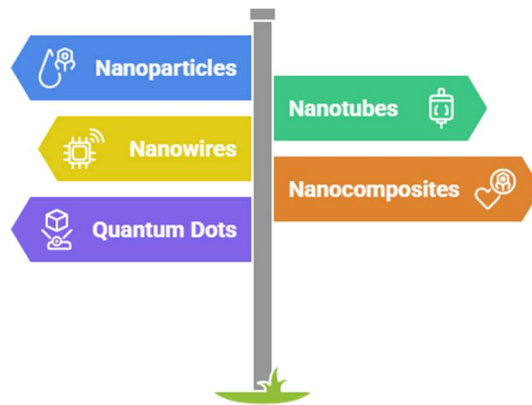
- o Nanocomposites are a class of materials that combine nanoscale particle and fiber fillers in their structure to enhance properties (e.g., strength, thermal conductance, or chemical resistance) when compared with the base matrix material (i.e. a polymer, metal, ceramic).

- o Applications: these are for automotive parts, aircraft components and packaging applications, with improved performance, less weight and maintenance.

Quantum Dots:

o Quantum dots are nanoscopic semiconductor materials with distinct optical characteristics. When lighted, they will be giving off various colors of light. This is because of quantum confinement, in which the electronic properties are different for nano-sized material.

o Applications > Quantum dots are employed in displays, medical imaging and agents, and solar cells that also offer accurate control the colour spectrum and improved efficiency of light emitting devices.



**Figure 1.1**

Properties of Nanomaterials:

Increased Surface Area:

o In comparison with bulk materials, nanomaterials have the large surface-to-volume ratio. This endows them with the high reactivity and, therefore, efficiency when using as a catalyst or in drug delivery and sensor technology.

Novel Optical, Electrical and Magnetic Characteristics:

o Properties such as electronic, optical and magnetic properties are distinct in nanomaterials compared to their bulk forms. As an example, gold nanocarriers are usually crimson or violet, whereas bulk gold is metallic yellow. Nanomaterials also exhibit excellent conductivity, photo-catalysis and superparamagnetism that have been widely used in a wide range of applications.

Strength and Flexibility:

o Several types of nanomaterials, including many comprised of carbon-based materials, such as carbon nanotubes, are found to be extremely strong and flexible. This makes them suitable for use in materials that will experience high stresses, which obviously has applications in composite materials used by the aerospace industry or construction.

Quantum Effects:

o On the nanometer scale, we have dominant quantum effects. Quantum confinement, quantum tunneling and in general, the features of semiconductors, but also magnetic materials (and even conductors) can be modified. These effects can find applications in quantum dots, in nanoelectronics and for quantum computing.

#### Applications of Nanomaterials:

##### Medicine:

o Drug Delivery: Improving drug delivery (getting drugs where they need to go faster and into the correct cells or tissues like cancer) while decreasing side effects, and increasing treatment effectiveness by using nanoparticles.

o Diagnostics – Nanomaterials such as quantum dots can find application in medical imaging and diagnostics. They aid in the detection of diseases at an earlier stage by increasing the contrast in imaging techniques such as MRI or CT scans.

o Wound Healing: Nanomaterials like silver nanoparticles are antibacterial and it is used in bandages, wound dressings for prevention of infection and healing acceleration.

##### Electronics:

o The emergence of nano materials in nanoelectronics results in smaller and efficient device fabrication. Carbon nanotubes and graphene are employed in transistors, batteries and supercapacitors, providing faster processing speeds, larger space for storage capacity and better performance than materials traditionally used.

o Flexible electronics: Nanomaterials are incorporated in the fabrication of flexible electronic devices, one including wearable sensors and smart textiles which are light weight, stretchable and do have electrical conductive capacity.

##### Energy:

o Solar Cells: Quantum dots and nanowires enable better light absorption and charge transport in solar cells, leading to their enhanced power output.

o Energy Storage: Nanomaterials are currently being employed in the production of next-generation batteries and supercapacitors, which offer higher energy densities, faster recharging rates and longer service life. Graphene based batteries and carbon nanotubes are being employed in advanced energy storage electronics.

##### Environmental Remediation:

o Nanomaterials are also investigated for environmental remediation (water treatment, oil spills) and in waste processing (e.g. removal of heavy metals from coal ash).

Nanotechnology offers the possibility of crafting materials that can absorb or degrade pollutants, which could help purify both air and water.

### Manufacturing and Construction:

o Lightweight high-strength materials for the automotive, aerospace and construction sectors are being developed using nanocomposites. These nanomaterials enhance the strength and thermal resistance or chemical stability, often used as high-performance materials for construction coatings such as these industrial applications.

### Challenges of Nanomaterials:

#### Toxicity and Environmental Impact:

o Although nanomaterials offer advantages, they are miniaturized to...and therefore could enter the body and environment; in this context there have been concerns over health effects including toxicity. \*\*The health-related and environmental impacts of nanoparticles remain to be studied.

#### Cost and Scalability:

o Manufacture of nanomaterials could be costly, it's worse at a larger scale. The lack of inexpensive process methods for the synthesis and application of nanomaterials to industry stands as a major impediment to broad-based commercialization.

#### Regulation:

o With the increasing use of nanomaterials in products, it is becoming increasingly important to have a regulatory framework for these materials to ensure their safe use. This will involve the promulgation of guidelines for the use, waste disposal and recycling of nanomaterials to avoid potential adverse effects on human health and environment.

## 5.2.3 Bio-Compatible Materials

2.1 Bio-compatible materials are those that are compatible with living tissues and biological systems. They are non-toxic, non-allergenic and anti-inflammatory thus may safely be used in medicine without adverse reactions. Such materials are important in the development of implants, prostheses, dressings and devices for drug-release among a large variety of biomedical contact devices.

Biocompatible materials are engineered for use in biological settings, without causing harm. They need to be non-toxic, non-immunogenic and integrate with the body in such a manner as to facilitate healing, support cellular activities and avoid rejection.

### Key Characteristics of Bio-Compatible Materials:

#### Non-Toxic:

o Bio-compatible material should not leach deleterious materials into the body. This is critical to prevent potential toxicities such as infection, organ toxicity or other side effects.

Non-Immunogenic:

o An immune response should not be elicited by these materials. If those fail, the body may react to the material and can cause side effects including inflammation, fibrosis or a non-acceptance of the graft.

Biodegradable:

o Many bio-compatible materials will naturally degrade over time, once they have served their purpose and do not require removal surgery. Biodegradable materials are of particular interest in drug delivery and tissue engineering.

Mechanical Properties:

- Materials for implants/prosthetics must be similar to the tissue they are interacting with for mechanical properties when the materials/material interfaces involved within such needs to be bio-compatible. For instance, a bone implant would have to be just as strong and rigid as actual bone to prevent complications.

Ability to Promote Healing:

o Materials of bio-compatibility that influence healing and tissue regeneration can be engineered. This may include bioactive materials that promote cell growth, for example, growth factors or stem cells.

Types of Bio-Compatible Materials:

Metals:

o One of the most widely used metals in bio-compatible applications is titanium and titanium alloys are used for several such devices, especially those employed in orthopedic implants (e.g., hip replacements, dental implants) and surgical instruments. Titanium is used because it combines strength, low weight, and corrosion resistance, with an ability to bond directly to bone.

o Stainless steel is another metal that commonly used in medical instruments. It's also one of the metals that's most often rejected, however relatively less so than with titanium.

Polymers:

o Polyethylene, polylactic acid (PLA) are frequently used polymers in bio-compatible applications. These materials have been applied to a variety of medical devices such

as prostheses, drug delivery systems and wound dressings. Some polymers are biodegradable and can safely disintegrate in the body over time.

o Silicone, Another commonly used biocompatible polymer is silicone which is primarily used for medical implants in products such as breast implants and catheters. It is selected for its flexibility, strength, and non-response to human tissue.

Ceramics:

o Bio-ceramics such as hydroxyapatite and zirconia have found numerous applications in bone implants, dental devices and prosthetics. For example, Hydroxyapatite imitates the mineral portion of bones and facilitates bone growth as such is suitable for bone grafting.

o Bioactive glass is also a ceramic that is utilized for bone regeneration as well as dental applications.

Composites:

o Bio compatible composites comprise two or more materials to render properties better than those of the materials per se. For example, a bone implant may be made from a carbon fiber-reinforced polymer, which is both strong & lightweight, and bio-compatible.

o Polymer-ceramic composites find use in tissue engineering to grow natural tissue structure.

Hydrogels:

o Hydrogels which are superabsorbents and frequently employed in drug delivery, wound dressing, and tissue engineering. Since they have a natural tissue-like quality and are very pliable, their ideal use is in products that benefit from maintaining moist conditions, such as look healing patches.

o Drug or growth factors can be incorporate in biodegradable hydrogel for in vivo release.

Applications of Bio-Compatible Materials:

Medical Implants:

o Medical implants like joint replacements, heart valves, stents and dental fittings require bio-compatible materials. These materials should ideally be biocompatible, support healing and not induce inflammation or rejection.

Drug Delivery Systems:

o Bio-compatible polymers and hydrogels are also used in delivering drugs to specific locations within the body. Biodegradable polymers can decompose in the body and release drug in a controlled, sustained fashion.

o Nanomaterials are also being designed for targeted drug delivery so that drugs are directed specifically to where they're needed, and avoiding undesirable side effects.

#### Tissue Engineering:

o Bio-compatible materials are particularly important in bio-engineering, where they act as scaffolds for creating new tissues or organs. These scaffolds must replicate the native extracellular matrix to promote cell proliferation, differentiation, and tissue regeneration.

o Collagen, hyaluronic acid and bioactive ceramics are frequently used materials to form scaffolds for tissue regeneration such as bone, cartilage or skin.

#### Wound Healing:

o Wound care products including band-aids, dressing materials and wound patches are fabricated using bio-compatible materials to assist in quicker healing, minimize chances of infection and offer protection against physical harm. Hydrocolloid dressings and bioactive wound gels, for instance, can expedite healing by keeping the appropriate moisture balance.

#### Biosensors and Diagnostic Devices:

o Bio-compatible materials are also applied in the fabrication of biosensors for medical diagnostics such as glucose monitoring systems or sensors that can be implanted to sense internal conditions like temperature, pressure, or chemical levels within the body.

#### Challenges in Bio-Compatible Materials:

##### Longevity and Durability:

o Bio-compatible materials need to be robust since the soft tissues of the living organisms are usually harsh environments where exposure to immune system, mechanical stress and chemicals may disrupt their functionality. Regardless of the specific mechanism, over time material may deteriorate resulting in possible failure or replacement.

##### Biological Integration:

o Full biological integration is still not reached especially in case of implants. The material has to be compatible with the body's tissues and not induce rejection or chronic inflammation. It also has to help the healing, not obstruct it.

##### Manufacturing and Cost:

o A lot of bio-compatible materials, namely used for implants or tissue engineering, could have a high production cost linked to the complexity and accuracy necessary.

#### Regulation and Safety:

o Bio-compatible materials must be rigorously tested and receive the necessary regulatory approval in order to demonstrate safety and efficacy. This process can take years and is commonly expensive, but it has to be done so as not result in harmful or unintended effects for the materials that follow.

#### 5.2.4 4D Printing & AI Manufacturing

CONGRESS REPORT: 4D PRINTING AND AI MANUFACTURING Congress Industrial Application of 3D Printing Technology Next Generation Technologie 4D printing and AI manufacturing are the next generation technologies beyond latest 3D printing and Artificial Intelligence (AI) where we can experience change in form or function which is a phase transformation over time under certain conditions by design. These are the technologies revolutionizing industries from aerospace and automotive to biotech and construction.

#### 4D Printing

One form of 3D printing is sometimes involves in what's been called "4D" Printing, which results in objects that can change shape and or properties over time due to external factors such as temperature, light, moisture and magnetic fields. The "fourth dimension" in 4D printing is time, objects printed can change and adjust once they've been created effectively giving the object dynamic properties.

#### How 4D Printing Works:

- **Materials:** 4D objects are printed with materials that can respond to stimuli. These materials are frequently smart (e.g., hydrogels, shape-memory polymers or composites), i.e. engineered to undergo a state change or to be reshaped under a specific stimulant.
- **Design:** Like 3D printing, it uses computational design processes to make objects with embedded functions that enable them to alter or shape-shift over time. Material properties, external actions and final expected performance must be considered in the object design.
- **Process:** Once the object has been printed with 3D printing, it will change shape depending on its environment (swelling from moisture or shrinking from heat).

#### Applications of 4D Printing:

Self-assembling structures: 4D printing may be employed to develop materials or objects that change shape or put themselves together when they come into contact

with their environment, which has applications in construction, space exploration and robotics.

**Medicine and Health:** 4D printing materials can apply to prosthetic devices, implants and biodegradable drug carriers. For example, implants that expand or shrink when inside the body may be better at interacting with surrounding tissues.

**Soft Robotics:** 4D printed soft robots are able to change shape and function, providing suppleness and flexibility for performing gentle tasks in applications like surgery or agriculture.

**Smart Fabrics:** Smart textiles can be developed which are sensitive to environmental changes e.g., temperature and moisture, which can be applied as wearable devices or active clothing.

**Benefits of 4D Printing:**

- **Design and personalization:** With 4D printing, you can design products that are customised or change in response to user / environment conditions.
- **Performance:** It promotes products to be self-envisioning and transforming, i.e. inflating/deflating/stretching/contracting, thereby extending life cycle or offering enhanced functionality.

**Challenges:**

- **Material constraints:** Material properties of 4D printable materials deserve careful consideration to obtain the desired stimuli responsive properties, which is challenging in practice.
- **Complexity:** Designing for 4D printing is more complex as it involves material characteristics, stimuli and the specific applications which are not typically considered in traditional 3D printing.

**AI Manufacturing**

AI in manufacturing refers to embedding AI technology into the daily processes involved in manufacturing, thereby enhancing efficiency, precision and flexibility. Using AI capabilities such as machine learning (ML), computer vision and robotics, manufacturers can automate production, streamline workflows and develop intelligent products.

**How AI is Revolutionizing Manufacturing:**

**Automation and Robotics:**

- Robots and other automation systems in manufacturing are managed through AI to perform tasks independently or interact with human workers, by assembly, quality check and packaging.

- o AI-enabled cobots can operate safely with humans, boosting productivity and eliminating the requirement of human manpower in lethal/routine tasks.

#### Predictive Maintenance:

- o AI can anticipate when equipment will be in need of repair or maintenance, lessening downtime and making manufacturing more efficient. Smart machines have sensors that feed live data, which AI leverages to predict possible maintenance before a piece of equipment fails.

#### Quality Control:

- o Quality check and defect detection in manufacturing is done using an AI-based computer vision system. Cameras and sensors are used to inspect items for flaws as they're manufactured, while AI algorithms can quickly identify problems invisible to the human eye, resulting in better quality products.

#### Supply Chain Optimization:

- o For supply chain management, AI can predict demand, manage inventory and automate the procurement process. Artificial intelligence algorithms can sift through massive data troves to better make decisions, optimize logistics and cut costs.

#### Generative Design:

- o AI algorithms could be employed in generative design, where a system pings out numerous options based on criteria such as strength, weight or cost and simulates each one. Such systems can help in the development of novel, optimized designs for products and components, such as those in aerospace, automotive or construction sectors.

#### Smart Manufacturing:

- o AI is linked to the IoT (the Industrial Internet of Things) to make up smart factories in which machines, systems and products are interconnected for collecting and analyzing data. And this will bring real-time responsive capabilities for manufacturing processes resulting in more efficient, flexible and eco-friendly processing abilities.

#### Benefits of AI Manufacturing:

- Enhanced Efficiency: AI drives down production cycle times, cuts energy use and waste, and brings substantial cost savings combined with the benefits of an enhanced productivity.

- Increased precision and quality – Throughout all stages of production, maintenance and repair processes, AI-powered tools can produce constant intrinsic calibration to perfect the way components are manufactured.
- Personalization: AI enables mass personalization, as products can be based on unique needs and desires while still retaining the characteristics of volume manufacturing.

Challenges:

- High Initial Cost: Major financial investment in AI-enabled manufacturing systems is required for hardware and software as well as staff expertise.
- If a model system depends on big data through AI, the system should contain semantic knowledge, and transaction systems should not utilize duplicate data.
- Job Displacement: Automation and AI are increasing the automation of manufacturing tasks, raising concerns about potentially displacing workers in traditional manufacturing roles.

Combination Of 4D Printing & AI Manufacturing

4D printing combined with AI is the future of manufacturing. Integrating the adaptive properties of 4D printing with intelligent systems of AI manufacture allows exciting possibilities for smart self-assembly systems and products. For example:

- AI-enabled design and simulation can enable the emergence of 4D printed materials that adapt to changing conditions over time.
- AI manufacturing systems could be applied to maximize production of 4D-printed pieces and tune designs and processes in real time for quality and efficiency.

This fusion could pave the way for ultra-flexible manufacturing systems, which automatically self-organise to ensure sustainability along with cost-effective responsiveness.

Did You Know?

“Fact: With nanotechnology, you could produce a material that’s stronger than steel and lighter than plastic. One such material is carbon nanotube (CNTs), with an impressive strength-to-weight ratio making them suitable for use in aerospace-, construction- and electronics applications. In fact, so strong are these nanotubes that the study authors suggest they might be used to replace conventional materials in high-performance structural components, reducing weight and energy consumption on an unprecedented scale.

## “Activity: Nanotechnology”

Aim: To gain insight into nanomaterials applications and benefits, in real world domains such as electronics and energy.

### Instructions:

- Study CNTs in electronics, particularly in the device processing (L13).

a transistors, batteries or energy storage apparatus.

- Write a 1-2 page report that includes the following:

What carbon nanotubes are and how they compare with materials used in electronics.

The possible advantages of CNT in electronics (like enhanced conductivity, stronger to resist bending and smaller).

The following representative electronic apparatus or system using CNTs and those that have been reported to use them in the future.

- Turn in your report on the site and prepare to discuss what CNTs are, how they work, and the future of electronics and energy storage.

### Knowledge Check 1

Choose the correct option:

What's the main advantages of nuclear fusion over conventional fission?

- a) Fusion power creates less radiation waste.
- (b) Fusion power means unlimited clean energy and no greenhouse gases.
- c) The fuel costs are much higher for fusion energy.
- d) Only small quantities of fusion energy is able to be generated.

How do NaCl (normal table salt) batteries compare to normal lithium-ion?

- a) NaCl batteries are more energy-dense.
- b) NaCl is cheaper and more abundant than lithium.
- c) NaCl batteries has longer lifespan than the lithium-ion batteries.
- d) NaCl batteries requires less energy charge.

Which of the following is not a method for carbon capture?

- a) Post-combustion capture
- b) Direct air capture
- c) Thermal storage

d) Pre-combustion capture

What allows the use of nanomaterials integrated into bio-compatibility devices for improved drug delivery and electronics application?

a) They have more reactive surface area compared to the bulk material.

b) They are invisibility to the naked eye.

c) They can afford to use other material properties in large scale.

d) They can also apply to structural material usage.

What distinguishes between 4D and 3D printing?

a) 3D is 4D printing material use differentiation

b) 4D produces change in shape and property with a response to external factors

c) 4D only used several 3D printers concurrently.

d) 4D only applies to medical devices manufacture

What bio-corrosive, strength, and corrosion resistant factor makes most manufacturing of medical implants?

a) Copper

b) Titanium

c) Gold

d) Steel

What is the primary challenge of 4D printing?

a) Production limitation to the medical field

b) The procedure of printing requires high power laser

c) Regular materials must create Information for response

d) Only applicable in small object manufacture. .3 A summary of the session

☐ In deep tech, energy technologies are focusing on creating scalable technology that is next-gen, sustainable and efficient to cater to increasing power demands across the world. New technologies, from solid-state batteries to fusion energy (if and when it materializes), carbon capture and green hydrogen, are being developed as a way of decreasing reliance on fossil fuels in order to make the solution scalable. These innovations could revolutionize the way nations produce and consume energy, driving cleaner industries, smarter electric grids and ultimately a more sustainable planet. Advanced materials are developed at the nano (micro) scale to have tailored mechanical, electrical or chemical properties that would not be normally seen in traditional materials. These are materials such as nanomaterials, metamaterials, or 2D materials (e.g. graphene) that facilitate new technologies in the fields of electronics, healthcare,...

aerospace, and energy storage. Stretching the boundaries of strength, flexibility and conductivity are advanced materials that underpin a number of nascent deep technologies.

## 5.4 Key Terms

**FUSION TECHNOLOGY** Fusion technology is the use of nuclear fusion, a reaction involving the union of atomic nuclei to produce energy, an artifice of the way in which the sun produces heat and light with tremendous potential as a clean and virtually inexhaustible source of energy.

**NaCl Batteries:** NaCl batteries, or sodium chloride batteries, are an energy storage technology that utilizes sodium chloride (NaCl) as the electrolyte to provide a durable and affordable method of powering anything from our electrical devices to tomorrow's electric vehicles.

**Carbon Capture:** A process for capturing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from industrial processes, power plants or the atmosphere; capturing could involve storing or repurposing that CO<sub>2</sub> to prevent its release into the atmosphere.

**Nanotechnology** means any research objects that are really small (far smaller in volume than the smallest bacterium, living organism known to us) such as novel materials and amazing new devices with unprecedented power or exceptional features - for instance stronger strength, chemical reactivity (even radioactivity), or electrical conductivity used every where from medicine to electronics, resulting from matter manipulating at nanometer scale (length around one billionth of a meter), all the way up to 1-100nm.

**4D Printing:** 4D printing is a more advanced type of 3D printing in which objects are programmed to shape-shift and change behavior over time as a function of environmental stimuli, including temperature, moisture or light, adding another dimension -- time -- to the material's function.

## 5.5 Descriptive Questions

Shortly describe what future powers might look like in the age of AI.

Describe the Batteries Solid State Technology.

Define the bio-compatible materials and its property.

## 5.6 References

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4. Poole, C. P., & Owens, F. J. (2003). *Introduction to Nanotechnology*. Wiley-Interscience. ISBN: 9780471079354.5) Stacey, W. M. (2010). *Fusion Plasma Physics*. Wiley-VCH. ISBN: 9783527408150

## Knowledge Check 1

b) Fusion power has the potential to deliver infinite clean energy, without green house gas emissions.

b) NaCl batteries are more affordable and more prevalent than lithium.

c) Thermal storage

a) They can generally size/shape based properties that result from the higher reactivity of larger surface areas (as compared to their bulk material counterparts).

b) 4D printing produces the parts that can change their shape or properties with time upon external stimuli.




b) Titanium

c) The properties of the 4D printed materials need to be tailored for their response mechanism.

## 5.7 Case Study

<https://www.iea.org/reports/energy-and-ai/energy-demand-from-ai>

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## Unit 6: Space Technology & Autonomous Systems

### Learning Outcomes

1. Understand the basics of Space Technology and its importance in advancing human knowledge and exploration of the universe, from satellite technology to space missions.
2. Explore Autonomous Systems and their integration in industries like transportation, healthcare, and manufacturing, highlighting the role of automation in improving efficiency, safety, and performance.
3. Summarize key concepts of Space Technology and Autonomous Systems, and their impact on various sectors, such as communications, defense, and transportation.
4. Identify and define important terms related to space technology and autonomous systems, ensuring a clear understanding of these rapidly evolving fields.
5. Answer descriptive questions to reinforce your understanding of space exploration, satellites, AI in autonomous systems, and the future potential of both technologies.
6. Explore references to gain deeper insights into current developments and challenges in space technology and autonomous systems.
7. Analyze a real-world case study to understand how space missions or autonomous vehicles are transforming industries and how these technologies are being applied to solve global challenges.

### Content

- 6.0 Introductory Caselet
- 6.1 Space Technology
- 6.2 Autonomous Systems
- 6.3 Summary
- 6.4 Key Terms
- 6.5 Descriptive Questions

## 6.6 References

## 6.7 Case Study

### 6.0 Introductory Caselet

"Intelligent Systems in Modern Warfare and Space Exploration -\_- Add To MetaCart

Background:

It is the year 2027, and a massive space program has opened its doors to not only scientists, but brave soldiers of fortune. Their objective was to embed autonomous and AI in space technology as well as smart warfare systems.

The initiative started with new-generation satellites provided with powerful AI algorithms able to elaborate data in real time and take decisions autonomously. These AI-satellites were meant to track environmental changes on Earth, act as a global communications network and for use in military intelligence by gathering sensitive data for analysis.

At the same time, GlobalTech Innovations shifted attention to intelligent battle platforms. Featuring air and ground drones, autonomous vehicles, and robot soldiers, the company was working to build military platforms that could survive on-their-own in critical environments. They wanted to minimize human losses on the battlefield and increase mission success. The systems were meant to talk to one another and adjust for rapidly changing dynamics on the battlefield.

In space ===== GlobalTech Innovations was involved in a state-of-the-art space robotics program. The firm built some of the world's largest, most sophisticated yet completely autonomous space rovers as well as robotic arms that could perform detailed tasks on far-away planets such Mars or the Moon where human interaction was constrained. These systems were developed to support future human space colonization, as in resource extraction, conducting space station repairs and data acquisition.

But it was the development of AI-powered missile technology that represented the most ambitious part of the project. Placing AI in a missile, GlobalTech Innovations improved accuracy of targeting and autonomous navigation with missiles that could develop their toolset for local conditions and new types of countermeasures. This raised fears about the future autonomous weapons and ethical issues in war.

Critical Thinking Question:

As the CEO of GlobalTech Innovations, how would you tackle the ethical questions involved in such an use of autonomous missile systems and smart warfare systems in

the wars to come? What checks and guarantees would you make for the responsible and ethical use of such systems?

## 6.1 Space Technology

FULL-SPACE TECHNOLOGY is the suite of hardware, software and techniques that have been evolved to allow us not just to go out there but to communicate with it, explore it/discover in it. It has come a long way since then, enabling space missions, satellite launches and the wider exploration of the universe. In this section we will focus on some of the most significant advances in space propulsion and rocketry which are key to opening up our capacity to explore and utilize space.

### 6.1.1 Propulsion Innovation(Plasma, Nuclear and Ion Engines)

Propulsion systems are critical for space exploration, as by power a spacecraft can escape Earth's gravity, move through and around in space. Conventional rockets simply ignite and release the energy of an explosive chemical reaction to provide thrust, but with advancements in propulsion technology such as plasma, nuclear and ion engines, our ideas about how we'll travel through space is changing – allowing for efficient and even long duration missions.

Plasma Engines:

- Plasma propulsion involves using electrically charged gases (plasma) to generate thrust. The basic idea is to ionize a propellant (typically a noble gas such as xenon) and then hurtle it forward by electromagnetic fields.

- Advantages:

- o Efficiency: Plasma engines are much more efficient compared to those of chemical rockets, as in these engines higher exhaust velocities can be achieved.

- o Minimal -Propulsion Required: simulation engines consume far less fuel, and would require only minimal refueling on longer missions to deep space.

- o Long Thrust: Plasma engines can be run for long duration that is suitable for the long term space flight.

- Examples:

The boosted-light sail works without fuel and is able to accelerate a payload to 20% the speed of light in only minutes o (Variable Specific Impulse Magnetoplasma Rocket) is a type of spacecraft propulsion that uses magnetic fields for heating magnetically confined high temperature plasma maintai rocket with transfer tames from Earth to Mars lower than 10 days [68].

Nuclear Propulsion:

- Nuclear propulsion is the use of nuclear reactions to produce the heat and energy needed for spacecraft propulsion. This can be done by means of either nuclear thermal rockets (NTR) or nuclear electric propulsion (NEP).

- o Nuclear Thermal Rockets (NTR):

- ♣ NTR works by using nuclear reactions to heat a propellant (e.g., hydrogen) to very high temperatures and then allowing it to expand quickly and be expelled through a nozzle, generating thrust.

- ♣ Pros: NTR is many times more efficient than chemical rockets and could enable human missions to Mars (and beyond).

- o Nuclear Electric Propulsion (NEP):

- ♣ NEP systems would utilize a nuclear reactor to create electricity, which is used toOperational Criteriadrive ion thrusters or STORE.platforms.

plasma thrusters.

- ♣ Pros: – NEP systems have a high efficiency so are good for deep- space missions where efficiency and long life are very important.

- Future Potential:

- o If considered for missions to the outer solar system or long-duration human exploration - such as expeditions to Mars and other destinations – nuclear propulsion remains indeed a promising technology. NASA's Kilopower reactor is ready for testing to support human missions on the Moon and Mars.

Ion Engines:

- Ion engines instead rely on electric fields to speed up charged particles (ions) at lightning-fast velocities, generating thrust by spitting the ions out at great speeds.

- Advantages:

- High Efficiency–Ion engines are much more fuel-efficient than chemical rockets. They are perfect for deep-space missions in which taking a lot of fuel is not feasible.

- o Long Running Time: The engines can run for very long durations, give a low gradual thrust that is ideal for sending space probes to the far-off places in our solar system.

- Examples:

- o NASA's Dawn mission to the asteroid belt uses an ion-propulsion engine in part for traveling to far away places with low fuel grind.

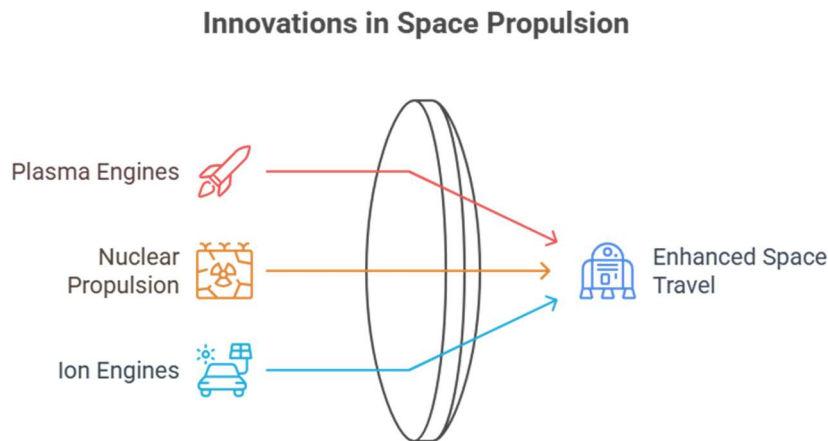


Figure 1.1

### 6.1.2 Reusable Rockets

Reusable rocket tech is one of the most amazing developments in space travel. Historically, rockets have been disposable, with most of the vehicle thrown away after launch in order to gain a few minutes in space – burning money that has hobbled human spaceflight ever since. The goal of reusable rockets is to make space more affordable and common by decreasing the cost of launching payloads into space.

#### How Reusable Rockets Work:

- Reusable rockets are intended to fly back to Earth when they have finished a launch and then be refurbished for multiple trips. These are maneuvering and braking systems designed to ensure that rockets can return safely to Earth by either flying themselves back, as with controlled descent or propulsion-facilitated slow descents toward a soft landing.

- Key components of reusable rockets:

- o Boost-back systems: Rockets can include a system like an engine that gives ability to flip around and fly back to either the launch site or targeted landing spot.

- o Landing gear: Rockets have landing legs or special systems (such as grid fins) that allow them to land safely, either back on the ground or on platforms floating in the ocean.

- o Heat shields: Reusable rockets need to be able to protect themselves from extreme temperatures during reentry into

Earth's atmosphere because of those advanced heat-resistant materials and systems.

#### Examples of Reusable Rocket Programs:

SpaceX's Falcon 9:

o The Falcon 9 operated by SpaceX is an excellent, successful model of a reusable rocket. Its booster on the first stage can return to Earth, landing on a paddling-board-like floating platform in the ocean or back on dry land. This development has dramatically brought down the cost of putting payloads into space.

o Falcon Heavy: The Falcon Heavy (a more powerful version of the Falcon 9) also has reusable boosters. This has made it feasible for larger payloads to be brought into space, including crewed programs.

Blue Origin's New Shepard:

o Blue Origin has designed new astronaut transports (suborbital rocket called New Shepard) that can take crews to orbit while flying payloads in space capable of landing on Earth for repeat use. New Shepard is designed for space tourism and research.

NASA's Space Shuttle Program:

o Not being used nowadays, the space shuttle program was an early example of Space Vehicle Reuse. The shuttle was reusable, but maintenance and safety proved problematic. The program shuttered in 2011, but the advances led to modern reusable rocket technologies.

Benefits of Reusable Rockets:

- **Lower Cost:** The greatest benefit of reusable rockets is a significant reduction in launch price. Reusable rockets, particularly the first-stage variety, mean that only a small portion of hardware has to be made from scratch for each new mission.
- **More frequent trips to space:** Reusable rockets enable more frequent and routine flights to space, which could lead to commercial space travel, the placement of satellites or deep-space missions.
- **Sustainability:** The rockets can be reused, making them more sustainable and throwing down less waste after use, cutting the carbon footprint as fewer resources are tapped into for each launch.

### 6.1.3 Satellite Megaconstellation

A satellite megaconstellation is a system of satellites that operate together in a high-degree orbit or constellation to see over the entire globe without interruption. These fleets are often hundreds, or even thousands, of satellites in low Earth orbit (LEO), yielding a more resilient network for various use cases.

How Satellite Megaconstellations Work:

- **Low Earth Orbit (LEO):** Unlike conventional geostationary satellites that orbit much higher above the planet, at around 36,000 kilometers or so to be precise, megaconstellations operate in low Earth orbit (LEO), which typically includes altitudes

between 500 and 2,000 kilometers. This makes it possible for low latency communication, required for Internet at high speed and transferring data in real time.

- **Coordination:** all elements forming the constellation of satellites are conceived to work together, leveraging on-board resources (e.g., inter-satellite links, ISLs) for communication and synchronization. With a large constellation of satellites, the network is able to cover much broader areas and offer wider signal availability with lower risk of interference compared with land-based systems.
- **Worldwide Coverage:** By utilising the assets of multiple satellites, there is full global coverage, including areas out of reach for many terrestrial infrastructure.

Applications:

- **Worldwide Internet Connection:** Companies including SpaceX (Starlink), OneWeb and Amazon (Project Kuiper) are seeking to build megaconstellations that can deliver high-speed internet to poorly serviced or unconnected areas of the world. Such satellites can provide broadband service to isolated communities, ocean-going ships and airplanes.
- **Earth Observation** With data constant connectivity from satellites, information on climate change, deforestation, urbanisation and disasters can be monitored continuously in space for scientific research and various applications including weather predictions or disaster response.
- **Global Navigation:** The world is on the edge of enhanced global navigation networks (GPS, Galileo, GLONASS) and with it comes the possibility of precision destinations for everything from autonomous vehicles to pinpoint farming.

Benefits:

- Fast internet for remote and underserved areas.
- Full global coverage with shorter Latency and Significantly reduced lag.
- 24/7 real-time observation of the Earth.

Challenges:

- **Space debris:** A real and present concern, because the more satellites are up there, the greater the chance of them colliding — and adding to space junk.
- **Regulation and spectrum assignments:** As several constellations will be launched by different companies, it would require coordination and regulation to avoid signal interference among them.

Did You Know?

“Fact: The Starlink project by SpaceX is aiming to launch a megaconstellation of 12,000 satellites (potentially growing to as many as 42,000) into the Earth’s lower orbit and provide high-speed internet anywhere on the planet. The satellites, which are built to orbit our planet at low Earth orbit (LEO), will deliver fast, low-latency internet to remote and underserved areas of the globe in what could become one of the most extensive satellite networks ever created. This holds the power to change public communications across the world and close the digital divide.”

“Activity: Satellite Megaconstellations”

Objectives: To investigate what satellite megaconstellations are and how they affect global communication and internet coverage.

Instructions:

- Explore the Starlink project by SpaceX and other such satellite constellations, such as OneWeb or

Amazon's Project Kuiper.

- Write a 300-word report explaining:

The main goals of these satellite constellations (e.g., providing global internet access).

The rewards for building such megaconstellations are high, particularly with global internet coverage at stake.

Possible hurdles such projects encounter – namely, debris in space management, regulation matters and impact on the environment.

- Submit your report for review.

#### 6.1.4 Interplanetary Mining and Exploration

Interplanetary mining and exploration are defined as the process of mining abiotic resources from celestial bodies in space (not ) such as the Moon, Mars, and asteroids; and mining them for their economic value or utility, a vital component of establishing commercial activity beyond Earth.

Interplanetary Mining:

- Asteroid Mining: Asteroids are filled with precious resources, including platinum, gold, water and rare Earth elements. Asteroids mining could also bring in rare resources needed for construction of extraterrestrial infrastructure, such as solar panels, propulsion systems or even further fueling missions for space exploration.
- Lunar Mining: The Moon is thought to be full of resources, including helium-3 (which can serve as fuel for nuclear fusion), water ice (a potential source of both life support

and fuel) and rare Earth metals. For example, companies such as Blue Origin and SpaceX are eyeing future missions to mine the Moon for these resources.

#### Space Exploration:

- **Mars Exploration:** NASA's system of Mars rovers are on the Red Planet to find all the answers, and the Perseverance Rover will explore Mars in greater detail to learn about its geological history and whether it has ever supported life. Missions in the future could create habitats or mining structures that would help establish longer-term colonies on Mars.
- **Moon Missions:** The Artemis program hopes to send humans back to the Moon by 2024, with an emphasis on sustainable exploration. That would include setting up a base on the moon that could aid in future exploration of Mars and other destinations.

#### Benefits:

- **Resource Acquisition:** Extracting resources from heavenly bodies might yield essential materials for constructing space infrastructure, lowering dependence on terrestrial resources.
- **Learning:** Studying other planets and asteroids allows us to learn more about the solar system, its history, and the possibility of life elsewhere in space.

#### Challenges:

- **Technology:** It is difficult and costly to develop the technology that would be needed for resource extraction in the harsh environments of space (think mining asteroids).
- **Ethical Issues:** The ownership, regulation and conservation of space resources are subject to ethical discussions.

### 6.1.5 Space Biology

Space biology is the study of how life behaves and interacts in space—with microgravity, radiation exposure, vacuums and other such conditions. Such research is necessary for establishing the effects of spaceflight on humans and other living things, in order to prepare for long duration human missions beyond low Earth orbit; particularly so if crewed mission to Mars are ever planned.

#### Key Areas of Space Biology:

- **Microgravity effects:** Long-term exposure to microgravity (a state of weightlessness) results in human physiology changes. For instance, it leads to loss of muscle mass and bone density as well as alterations in the cardiovascular system. Investigations aboard the International Space Station (ISS) provide researchers an opportunity to look at these effects and develop countermeasures.

- **Radiation:** Exposure of space radiation is a risk for long-term missions. You'll be exposed to all of the damaging effects of cosmic radiation and solar particle radiation: increased risk of cancer and possible disruption of your nervous tissue. U.S. officials are keen to understand its biological effects in order to ensure the safety of astronauts on deep-space missions.
- **Adaptation:** Scientists are studying how the human body adapts to space, and what measures we might be able to take to simulate gravity or shield astronauts from harmful radiation, as well as help them stay healthy in general when far from Earth.

#### Research Areas:

- **Plant Growth in Space:** Space Food Growing food is one of the most critical needs for long-term human missions. Learning how plants thrive in microgravity is important for developing life support systems to feed astronauts on long-term space missions.
- **Human Health:** In space biology studies, researchers are working to understand how immune and musculoskeletal systems respond in the microgravity environment. ISS astronaut health studies: with potential applications to the mitigation of space travel health risks.

#### Benefits:

- **Better Astronaut Health:** Knowing how space environments affect living things would better enable astronauts to remain healthy during long missions.
- **Biotechnological Progress:** Space biology also drives improvements in medicine, creating new therapies for muscle atrophy, bone loss and immune system problems.

#### Challenges:

- **Long-term:** The effects of long-duration space travel on the health and well-being of humans is not completely understood, thus additional studies are needed to investigate microgravity as well as exposure to radiation during an extended mission.
- **Space Habitats:** Closed systems where all the life support for humans contained the spacecraft or habitat itself but last long periods of time presents significant challenge to space exploration.

## 6.2 Autonomous Systems

Autonomous systems are those that can act independently, with little or no human intervention. These frameworks make use of technologies like AI, ML (machine learning), robotics and sensors for decision making, to learn from the environment or perform tasks on their own. Autonomy systems are a growing presence in various sectors - from transport and industry up to health care and agriculture.

This section will concentrate on autonomous systems in intelligent transportation systems (ITS), which are changing the way goods and people move within cities and across nations. Enabling futuristic and greener ways of travelling as autonomous transportation solutions are not only making travel efficient and safer, but also sustainable.

### 6.2.1 Autonomous Systems (Intelligent Transportation Systems)

ITS is defined as the application of communication and information technology to increase the effectiveness of transportation management activities, including enhancing mobility, safety, and sustainability by optimizing network operations among other things. Smart (autonomous) systems are one of major technologies for ITS include: self-driving cars, smart traffic signals, automated public transport system and drones 15,[49][51].

Subparts of autonomy in Transportation Systems:

Autonomous Vehicles (AVs):

- o Self-driving cars, trucks and buses o Use a variety of sensors (LIDAR, radar, cameras), AI and machine learning to operate without human input – without utilizing traditional GPS for example. These cars can mostly drive safely and effectively on their own, responding to obstacles, traffic lights, people and other road users.

o Levels of Automation:

- ♣ Level 0: No automation (human-driven).
- ♣ Level 1: Driver assistance (such as cruise control).
- ♣ Level 2: Some automation (such as autopilot and lane keeping assistance).
- Level 3: Conditional automation (vehicle is capable of conducting most tasks, but human intervention is required at times).
- ♣ Level 4: Full automation (car can drive without human input in specific circumstances, though a driver may still need to take over in complex situations).
- ♣ Level 5: Full automation (car is capable to drive itself and no human mechanical intervention is needed at any time or under any conditions).

Autonomous Drones:

- o UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle) or Drones are deployed in expediting the transportation for delivery and logistics. GPS-guided sensors and AI algorithms allow drones to fly automatically to desired locations, and sensors can help prevent them from running into obstacles.

- o Use-cases: last-mile delivery, aerial surveillance and emergency response (e.g. delivering medical packages to far-off places).

#### Smart Traffic Management:

- o Smart traffic systems that use AI and sensors to track traffic flow, control traffic lights and optimize routes. These systems can react in real-time to the traffic conditions, reduce congestion and bring travel more reliable.

- o For example, traffic lights could adapt to the flow of traffic, and cars could receive on-the-go traffic updates that would allow them to avoid jams or accidents.

#### Connected and Cooperative Vehicles:

- o Vehicle-to-vehicle (V2V) and vehicle-to-infrastructure (V2I) communication, for vehicles to communicate with each other or with the surrounding infrastructure such as traffic lights or road sensors. This in turn better coordination, fewer accidents, less congested traffic.

- o E.g., vehicles can automatically speed-up or change lanes to prevent a collision due to information communicated by other proximate vehicles or road signs.

#### Autonomous Public Transportation:

- o Unmanned city buses and passenger trains are under development for enhanced efficiency in public transit, while reducing operating costs. These kinds of systems depend on a mix of sensors, a little AI and some swanky tech.

navigating without human drivers, allowing them to be cheaper and safer for passengers.

#### Benefits of Autonomous Transportation Systems:

##### Safety Improvements:

- o Improved safety is one of the most substantial advantages of intelligent transportation systems. A considerable amount of road Crashes can be contributed to human errors (e.g. distraction on driving, drowsiness or alcohol consumption). Self-driving cars can react more quickly than humans and do not share the same dangers of getting drunk or tired, resulting in less accidents and fewer deaths.

##### Traffic Efficiency and Reduced Congestion:

- o Self-driving cars can talk to each other in order to make traffic more efficient, adapt speeds and coordinate lane changes. This keeps the roads from overcrowding thus providing a faster commute.

- o AI-based traffic management systems may also ease congestion by adapting the cycle duration of traffic signals based on given situation.

### Environmental Impact:

- o AVs, and especially EVs can make a contribution to the limitation of CO2 emissions and fuel consumption. Minimizing driving distance and speed, as well as avoiding idling help save energy and reduce emissions in these vehicles.
- o Ride-sharing public cars (shared autonomous vehicles) can cut the volume of vehicles on road and reduce total environmental consequence of driving.

### Increased Accessibility:

- o Automated vehicles can enhance the mobility of elderly, disabled and non-driving individuals, allowing them to live more independently and have access to transportation.
- o Autonomous busses and shuttles offer low-cost, high performance public transport access in areas lacking such services while providing better transportation options to people living out of town or remote.

### Challenges of Autonomous Transportation:

#### Technological and Safety Issues:

- o Despite the advantages of autonomy, some operational environments – including bad weather or an intricate downtown environment with numerous un-programmed obstacles – remain too challenging for autonomous systems. The biggest barrier is to make sure that these systems can work safely in all situations.

#### Regulation and Legislation:

- o Regulation Autonomous vehicles and systems will be so widely used that they will need strong regulations. Governments need to set rules for testing, deployment, insurance and liability. There are also privacy and data security concerns, as autonomous vehicles accumulate a trove of information.

#### Public Acceptance:

- o Public confidence in autonomous systems is key to their successful uptake. However, safety issues; job losses (such as truck drivers and taxi drivers); quality of technology have to be addressed before a widespread adoption can take place.

#### Infrastructure Adaptation:

- o Existing transportation systems have to be reconfigured to support driverless cars and connected technology. This includes updating traffic lights, road-side sensors and parking systems to be able to effectively communicate with driverless cars.

6.2.2 UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicles), UAVS (Underwater Autonomous Vehicle Systems), ATS (Autonomous Terrestrial Systems, such as Unmanned Ground Vehicles)

## Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs)

Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), commonly referred to as drones, are aircraft flown without a human pilot in control. UAVs Yang et al. (2018), Askari, Zhang, and Yunis (2017) are embedded with sensors, cameras and other payloads to fulfill different purposes working autonomously or in a remote-controlled manner.

### Key Features of UAVs:

- **Autonomous way:** With the help of GPS, sensors (accelerometers, gyroscopes), and AI algorithms to navigate and perform the task without human involvement the drone can automatically fly independently.

- **Applications:**

- o **Observation:** For obvious reasons (military, security or environmental observation) UAVs are used in this context.

- o disaster management.

### Benefits:

- o **Aerial Photography:** Many UAVs are employed in the film and agriculture industries, as well as in cartography, for obtaining high-resolution images.

- o **Delivery:** Amazon and Google are researching UAV application in delivery of goods. (urban and hinterland) enhancing logistics, and lowering delivery lead time.

- o **Agricultural:** To wheel the tractor on their farm land, monitoring crops health, spraying pesticides and analyzing field conditions that help farmers work efficiently and sustainably.

- o **Search and Rescue:** Drones are used in search-and-rescue missions where traditional methods are hard to use, such as mountainous terrain or disaster zones.

- **Efficiency:** o Fuel and personnel are more cost efficient with UAVs versus manned aircraft.

- **Access to Remote Locations:** They can reach remote or inaccessible locations that are difficult, dangerous, or expensive for humans (e.g.: disaster affected areas, contaminated environment).

- **Live Data:** Real-time data can be acquired and utilized for instantaneous decision-making in numerous applications with UAVs.

### Challenges:

- **Manoeuvring and Safety:** UAVs are subject to control restrictions inside civilian air spaces, its' safe manoeuvring especially within urban locations is a prevalent concern.

- **Battery Life:** The majority of UAVs are constrained by battery life, which limits uptime and range.

### Underwater Autonomous Vehicle Systems (UAVS)

Unmanned Autonomous Vehicle Systems (UAVS), including Autonomous Underwater Vehicles (AUVs) are robots that have been developed to work on their own in the aquatic environment. They have been adopted for many applications such as deep sea explorations, underwater mapping and environmental monitoring.

#### Key Features of UAVS:

- **Self-navigation:** UAVs rely on sonar, hydrophones, and other sensors to navigate through the water, making it possible for them to dive to depths that are impractical or risky for human divers.

- **Applications:**

#### Benefits:

- o **Marine Research:** Exercising UAVS to experiment with patterns and trends in oceanography, marine life and underwater ecosystems is popular. They enable researchers to examine the ocean floor and sea life without disruption of the natural setting.
- o **Oil and Gas Exploration:** Drones are employed in the oil and gas industry to undertake subsea inspections, monitor pipelines and carry out surveys of drilling sites. They are capable of working under pressures and depths based on harsh under water environments as needed.
- o **Search and Rescue:** UAVS can be used to search, detect and identify sunken objects or wreckage associated with maritime accidents in support of search-and-rescue missions.
- o **Environmental Monitoring:** UAVS are also able to monitor water quality, oil spills detection and any undersea pollution measurement involving the protection of the marine environment.
- **Remote Exploration and Assessment:** UAVS can sample remote offshore and deep sea environments where humans cannot.
- **Data Collection in Difficult Terrain:** UAVs gather huge volumes of data even in adversarial terrains for improved, on-time information.

#### Challenges:

- **Power:** Similar to UAVs AUVs are constrained by battery capacity, which limit their range and operating time.

- **Communication:** As communication is severely restricted underwater, AUVs regularly have to come right up to the surface in order to forward data or receive commands.

### Autonomous Terrestrial Systems (ATS)

ATS (Autonomous Terrestrial Systems): Infrastructures of ground-based autonomous vehicles and machines with AI and sensor capabilities that can perform functions without human intervention. Such systems may be used in transportation, logistics, construction and other industries.

#### Key Features of ATS:

- **Self-Driving Cars:** The ATS includes driverless passenger, freight and public transport vehicles. These have LIDAR, radar, cameras and artificial intelligence to be able to navigate the roads and change speed as well to sense obstacles.

- **Applications:**

#### Benefits:

o **Self-driving cars:** Companies including Tesla, Waymo and Uber are creating cars that can pilot themselves in city traffic, on the highway or through residential roads, reducing risk of accidents and safety hazards.

- **Autonomous Delivery Vehicles:** Last-mile delivery systems are increasingly being based on moving product from a warehouse and distribution point or fulfillment center to other points along the supply chain.

self-driving trucks for moving merchandise between distribution centers and consumers.

o **Construction and Mining:** For construction companies and the mining industry there is an opportunity to implement ATS for autonomous machines (extreme applications like diggers, excavators or haul trucks) eliminating human exposure @dangerous environments.

Of Agriculture: Driverless technologies are applied in agriculture to automate operations such as

plowing, planting, harvesting, and spraying.

- **Improved Safety** – ATS can minimize the human error that causes a majority of accidents, especially in

driving and heavy machinery operations.

- **Efficiency & Cost savings:** Automation improves operational efficiency, lowers labor costs, and accelerates processes — and it does so especially in industries such as logistics, agriculture and construction.

- 24/7 Operations : Robots' ability to work for long hours without the need for rest or sleep allows them to be functional non-stop.

Challenges:

- Integration with Technology – Integrating ATS into the existing infrastructure such as traffic systems, and roads require a tremendous amount of technological and regulatory development.
- Who (and what) To Blame Liability: There are multiple layers of liability associated with unforeseen consequences stemming from autonomous drones and the difficulty of establishing who or what is at fault for an accident, in addition to conforming to safety regulations.
- Public Perception: Public perception of autonomous vehicles and systems is in transition, with issues surrounding safety and loss of jobs in industries such as transportation and manufacturing.

Did You Know?

“Fact: The US Army has, in fact, field tested autonomous UGVs in actual military applications. These are the kinds of vehicles that can traverse tricky surfaces, hauling heavy cargo and maybe even helping search and rescue without any humans needing to take over. The development of

robotsoldier is recognized today as an important means of minimizing casualties among human soldiers and maximizing efficiency in the dangerous area.”

### 6.2.3 Intelligent Warfare Systems

Concepts of Intelligent Warfare Systems include utilisation of state-of-the-art AI, robotics and autonomous systems along with big data analytics for defence application in Indian perspective. These systems are intended to support decision-making, increase operational efficiency and reduce human risk in hazardous environments such as the battlefield. The aim is to develop more efficient and adaptable defense capabilities able to counter constantly shifting threats in contemporary warfare.

Military use of AI Using artificial intelligence in warfare allows for autonomous operations, improved surveillance, strategic decision-making and immediate adaptability to emerging threats. These systems also present ethical, strategic and security issues which must be resolved in order to ensure their responsible use on the battlefield.

Key Elements of Intelligent Warfighting Systems:

Autonomous Weapons Systems:

- Autonomous weapon systems (AWS) can select and engage targets without human intervention. These systems, which are backed by artificial intelligence and machine learning algorithms, can process data, identify targets, and conduct operations without human intervention.

- o Examples:

- ♣ Unmanned Combat Aerial Vehicles (UCAVs): UAVs with autonomous functionality used for aerial attack and reconnaissance purposes.

- ♣ Unmanned Ground Vehicles-Combat: Robotic (armed) ground vehicles able to perform reconnaissance, transportation, or combat sequence operations without the operator's assistance.

Autonomous Naval Systems – Unmanned ships and submarines capable of combat or reconnaissance missions.

- o Benefits:

Reduced Human Risk: Use of unmanned system in high risk environments help to keep human soldiers out the harms way.

- ♣ Improved efficiency: Lethal autonomous weapons do not require rest, and can theoretically continue to perform without stopping for sleep or meals.

- o Challenges:

- ♣ Ethical Considerations: When involving AWS, several ethical concerns are triggered regarding the role of machines in life and death decisions and second order effects.

- ♣ Responsibility: Deciding who is responsible for the actions of autonomous weapons, notably where things go wrong

loss of human life, a significant legal and moral dilemma.

AI-Driven Decision Support Systems:

- Machine learning algorithms, predictive analytics and big data sets are used by decision support systems which powered with artificial intelligence to help military commanders make rapid and well-informed decisions. These are able to take in up-to-the-second information from a variety of sources (e.g., satellite reconnaissance, reports from spies, devices on the battlefield) and provide advice on how best to behave; including what to do next and where resources could be used more effectively.

- o Examples:

- ♣ **Command Systems in Battlefield:** AI can use the battlefield data to recommend the best solutions, such as edition command-oriented decision-making with personnel deployment, distribution and tactics.

- ♣ **Cybersecurity:** Real-time is aimed at defending AI systems that learns to defend themselves automatically when attacked, under cyber warfare.

o Benefits:

- ♣ **Increased Speed in Decision Making:** AI machines have the ability to compare and analyze tremendous amounts of data at a rate faster than that done by humans, which could lead to better informed military decision in less time.

- ♣ **Accuracy:** AI-powered systems can help decrease the likelihood of human errors that would occur particularly in chaotic and dynamic battlefields.

o Challenges:

- ♣ **Technology Dependence:** Excessive dependence on AI mechanisms might result in exposure to weaknesses when ever the technology fails or if it is penetrated through breaches by malicious actors.

**Security Threats:** With its lull in the war, protocol knows about military plans might be open to virtual attacks.

**Surveillance and Reconnaissance Systems:**

- AI-based surveillance and reconnaissance systems deploy unmanned ground vehicles, satellites, sensors and autonomy-driven drones to gather intelligence in real time and provide situational awareness. These systems can sift through vast amounts of data from cameras, sensors and radar to locate targets, track enemy movement and identify potential perils.

o Examples:

- ♣ **Self-Governing Drones:** Also drones that can fly around independently over extended distances, gathering high-definition video and thermal infrared imagery for surveillance.

- ♣ **Artificial Intelligence (AI) for Satellite Systems:** Satellites could become “thinking” satellites that would be able to recognize targets, track them, monitor movement of enemy troops and analyze changes in the environment.

o Benefits:

- ♣ **Real-Time Intelligence:** AI-enabled systems offer real-time data feeds to military leaders, assisting them in rapid decision-making by consuming live data.

Expanded Coverage. ♣ Unmanned vehicles can cover large areas that are not easily accessible, to provide monitoring of out-of-reach or hostile environments.

o Challenges:

♣ Privacy Issues: The ubiquitous surveillance may lead to issues of privacy intrusion and possible misuse of such information.

♣ Information Flood: The amount of data produced by surveillance systems is difficult to manage and analyze.

Cyber Warfare and Defense Systems:

• Autonomous technology enabled cyber warfare systems that monitor, identify and rout threats in cyberspace such as hacking, bots, malware etc. These could be used to conduct offensive and defensive cyber operations in order to defend military networks or attack enemy ones.

o Examples:

♣ Autonomous cyber defense - AI-based systems can automatically detect and mitigate cyberattacks to protect critical military infrastructure in real time.

Offensive Cyber Attacks: AI could potentially penetrate enemy systems, jam communications, or cripple critical infrastructure in a time of war.

o Benefits:

♣ Threat and Vulnerability Detection: Unlike humans, AI is capable of identifying potential threats and vulnerabilities before they grow into serious attacks, giving us a head start in our defense against cyber warfare.

♣ Precision: AI-enhanced cyber tools enable so-called precision attacks aimed at achieving strategic goals with minimal collateral damage.

o Challenges:

♣ Risk of Escalation: Cyber operations, particularly those that involve autonomous systems, carry the risk of conflict escalation and unintended consequences.

International Law and Ethics The weaponization of cyberspace raises interesting questions regarding the legality and ethics of cyber warfare, such as sovereignty, collateral damage to civilians.

Unmanned Logistics and Supply Chain:

• Autonomous logistics vehicles are AI-based systems that handle the movement, storage and distribution of military material. Such systems employ driverless vehicles,

flying drones and ground robots as a means of delivering goods, supply and ammunition under dangerous or difficult conditions.

o Examples:

♣ Robotic supply chains: Artificial Intelligence (AI) robots can be used to deliver supplies for troops in a deployed environment, from logistics setup through forwarding bases and areas of operation.

♣ Drone Freight Carriers: UAS capable of carrying heavy packages including ammunition, food or medical supplies through hazardous areas without a human operator on board.

o Benefits:

♣ Operational efficiency: Automation of logistics operation can minimize the employment of human in hazardous situations, thus increasing operational efficacy and minimizing risks.

♣ Cost Reduction: Armed forces benefit from cost savings by automating their supply chain processes and being less dependent on human labour, vehicles and manual activities.

o Challenges:

♣ Vulnerability : Autonomous logistics systems may be susceptible to hacking, sabotage or enemy interdiction, resulting in the disruption of crucial supply chains.

♣ Inter-operability Autonomous systems needs to be compatible with human-hostile military infrastructure, ensuring hassle-free communication between unmanned vehicles and human operators is difficult.

Potential Benefits and Challenges of Intelligent Warfare Systems Benefits:

• Increased Productivity and Speed: intelligent combat systems can reduce response time for a decision as well as facilitating principled and focused execution, thus resulting in faster battle field reaction to an emergent threat.

• Human Risk Reduction: There are many tasks that can be performed by unmanned autonomous systems, reducing human death and injury in combat.

• Greater Precision: AI and autonomous systems can lead to an improvement in the accuracy of operations, which results in less collateral damage with more precision strikes.

Challenges:

**Ethical Concerns:** Employing AI in autonomous armament introduces many ethical considerations, especially regarding the responsibility and decision-making in situations of life-and-death.

**Security risks:** Autonomous weapons systems could be susceptible to cyber-attacks, hacking, or enemy control which may result in systems failure or misuse.

**Regulation and Oversight:** There must be global agreement on how intelligent warfare systems are used in order to avoid an arms race, as well as ethical considerations.

Did You Know?

“Fact: AI-enabled intelligent warfare systems are not simply about autonomous weapons. For example, in cyber defence systems that can detect and respond to cyber attacks automatically and in real-time without human intervention. Autonomous cybersecurity systems are advancing quickly to offer dynamic protection against well designed cyber threats, and war is becoming multidimensional with physical, cyber worlds coming together.”

“Activity: Intelligent Warfare Systems”

**Objectives:** To know features of the autonomous weapons systems in contemporary military use and to know about moral implications.

**Instructions:**

- Investigate how autonomous weapons systems (AWS) being developed and deployed by different countries are contributing to the changing nature of warfare.
- A 500-word analysis of the following:

The technology of so-called "killer" robots and robot soldiers.

The ethical implications of deploying autonomous weapons on the battlefield such as responsibility and the ability to take decisions in a combat situation.

Your thoughts about whether machines should be making life-or- death decisions on their own or with human supervision.

- Submit your analysis for discussion.

Knowledge Check 1

Choose the correct option:

What is the main advantage of having a satellite mega constellation like Starlink in operation?

- a) It increases satellite production costs.

- b) It offers global fast wireless internet to under-served regions.
- c) It results in the minimization of the satellites needed in space.
- d) It only benefits military communications.

What is one of the major problems that lies in the deployment of satellite megaconstellations?

- a) Satellite longevity in space.
- b) Management of space debris and risk of collisions.
- c) Lack of space station support.
- d) They cannot launch satellites in the dark.

What is the technology that autonomous systems use to perform missions without any human involvement in the context of military?

- a) Artificial Intelligence (AI)
- b) Biotechnology
- c) Quantum computing
- d) Solar power

What are the purposes of autonomous UAVs (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle)?

- a) Deep space exploration
- b) Transportation of heavy goods
- c) Surveillance, reconnaissance, and combat operations
- d) Mining and drilling in space

What is the ethical issue with autonomous weapon systems (AWS)?

- a) These systems are not able to take decisions instantly.
- b) Chin stiffening wouldn't result in a dead person who didn't make it to the next stage.
- c) The rise of weapon cost in unmanned systems.
- d) Contravening the long distance of autonomous weapons.

A Advantages of intelligent warfare systems.

- a) They lower the requirement for cybersecurity defence.
- b) They permit decision making at the tactical level, where they can be acted upon more rapidly and efficiently.

- c) They remove any human soldier entirely.
- d) They are for offensive military purposes only.

What is one of the largest problems associated with deploying autonomous weapons in today's wars?

- a) High costs of robotic soldiers
- b) Info\_security (fear of data being compromised or hacked)
- c) Difficulty in detecting autonomous vehicles
- d) The opposition on the part of public to deploy autonomous systems

### 6.3 Summary

It is not merely astronomical, but includes appliances and products for generating power from the electromagnetic radiation of space or outer space. Technological advances like reusable launch vehicles, satellite constellations, and high-powered propulsion systems are transforming communications, defense and exploration. These technologies will enable inexpensive access to space, the exploration of other planets and offer a long-term vision of humanity as a space-faring species. The autonomous system includes aerial, underwater, and terrestrial platforms that perform some or all the tasks with little or no human intervention, based on advanced sensors, AI methods and control strategy. UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle), UAVSs (Underwater Autonomous Vehicles Systems) and ATS(Autonomous Terrestrial System) are revolutionising industries, ranging from logistics and defense to oceanography and smart mobility. Autonomous systems that support intelligent, adaptive and efficient execution in multiple contexts are changing the way people interact with and can access land, water and air.

### 6.4 Key Terms

**SpaceTech:** Space technology (or spacetech) refers to the application of space science in advance technologies and services for a variety of purposes, including use of spacecrafts, satellite communication and observation of the Earth.

**Satellite:** A satellite is an object in space that orbits a planet or other body, including those not made by humans(Please be specific), and could be natural(such as the Moon)or artificial(communication satellites etc.).

**Space Robotics:** Robots that are developed and sent to space to perform tasks, like repairing satellites, exploration of the space and building structures in orbit.Examples include roving creates and robot arm.

**UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle):** An unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV), commonly know as drone, is an aircraft without a human pilot on board and a type of unmanned vehicle

that can be remotely or autonomously operated and used for reconnaissance, surveillance, deliveries, or in some cases carry out military actions.

**Cognitive Warfare:** Cognitive warfare systems are built using cognitive computing, robotics and autonomous apparatuses to improve decision making, operation effectiveness of military applications for automation reasons (such as autonomy weapons, cyber defense system attack calls/surveillance).

**Missile Technology:** Missile technology is a branch of military science that deals with the design, construction and use of missiles which in its broadest sense includes all mechanisms that throw objects.

## 6.5 Descriptive Questions

Describe Future of Space Technology

Elaborate the Types of propulsion system.

Explain the working of an autonomous Systems

Describe how smart warfare would work in the future.

Describe missile technology.

## 6.6 References

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Knowledge Check 1

b) It offers high-speed internet access to the whole planet, particularly where it is most needed.

b) Debris control  
Below are the sections regarding 'Space debris management and collision possibility'.

a) Artificial Intelligence (AI)

c) Surveillance, reconnaissance and fight operations

b) No human in the loop for life-or-death decisions.

b) They are capable of independent action, which increases efficiency and speed within a mission.

b) Fears The hacking, and data security.

### 6.7 Case Study

<https://www.deloitte.com/us/en/insights/industry/aerospace-defense/future-of-space-economy.html>