

# 4D Printing

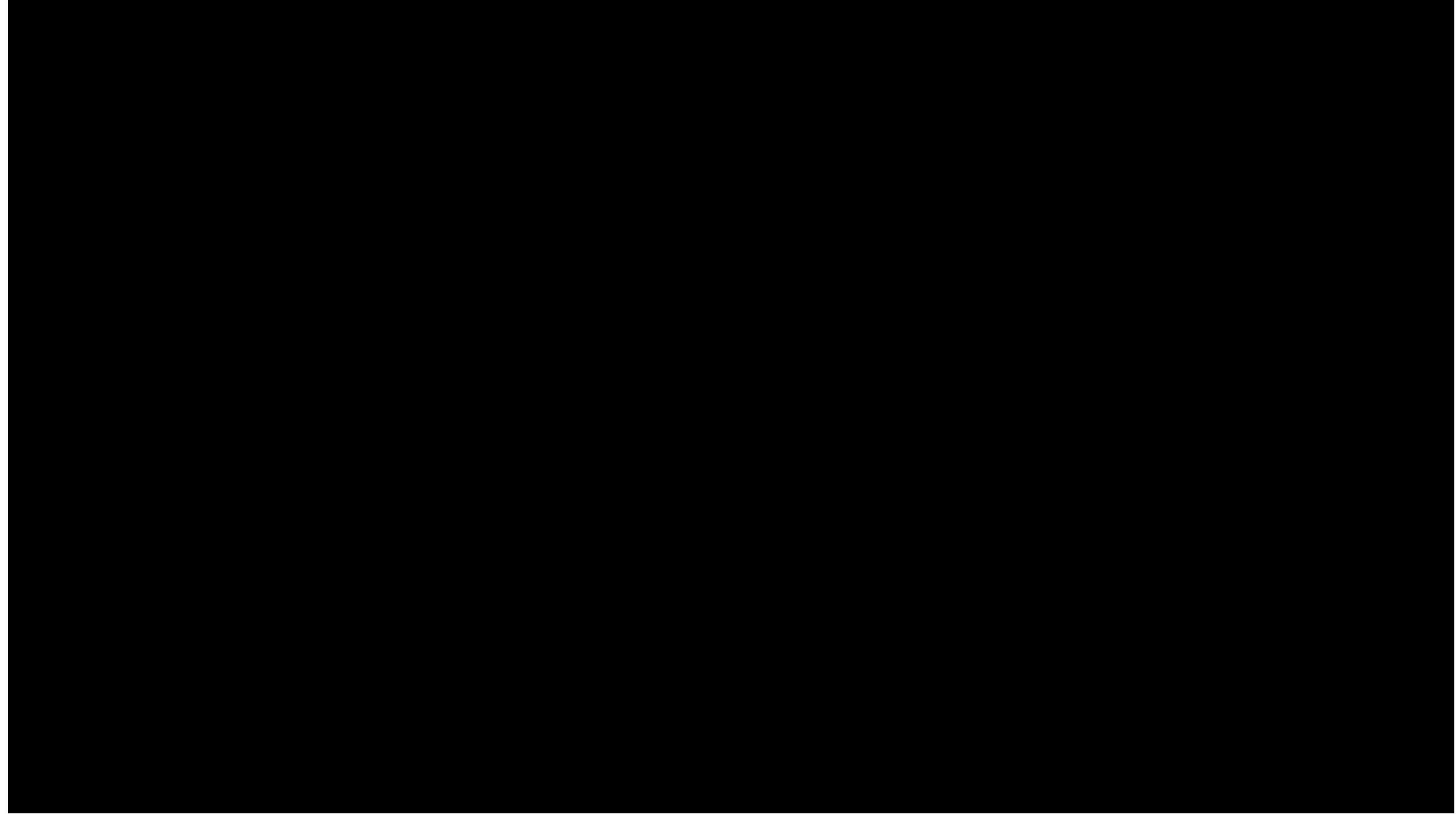
Carmelo De Maria

Biofabrication Group  
at University of Pisa

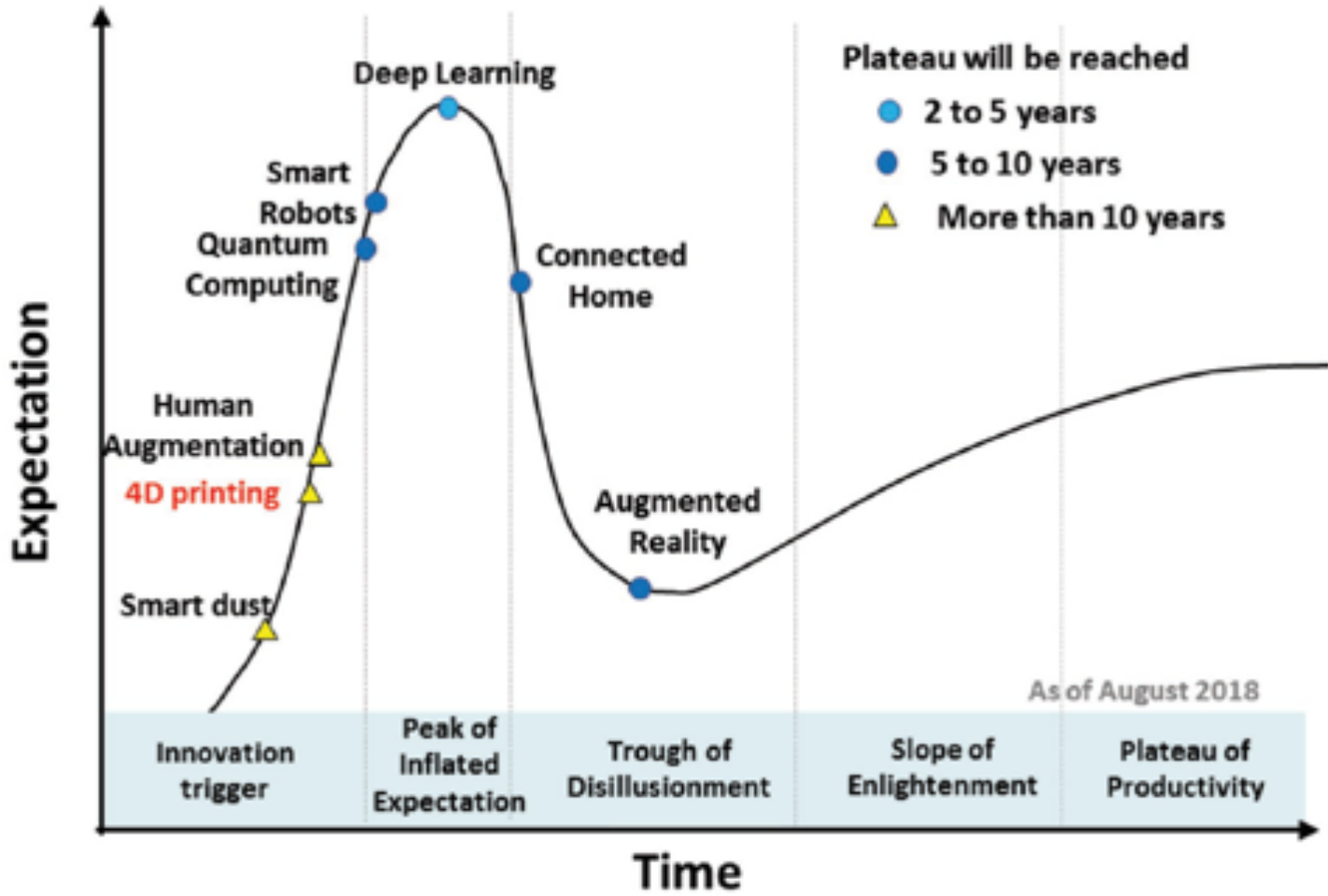




What is 4D printing?

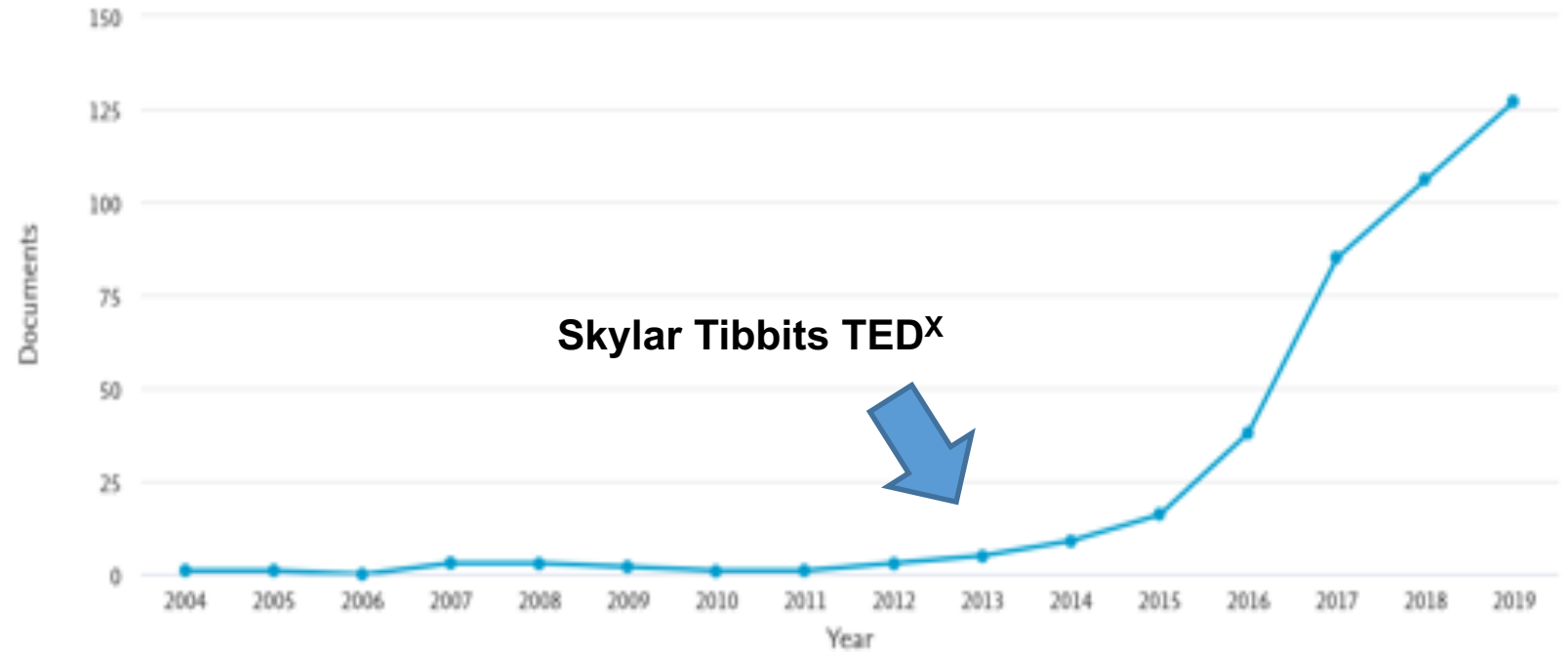


# 4D printing - expectation



4D printing  
—  
Scientific  
Research

Documents by year



# 4D Printing: What is it?

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- ✓ First Definition: 4D printing = 3D printing + time, where the shape, property, or functionality of a 3D printed structure can change as a function of time [1]
- ✓ A more comprehensive definition: “Additive manufacturing of objects able to self-transform, in form or function, when are exposed to a predetermined stimulus, including osmotic pressure, heat, current, ultraviolet light, or other energy sources”[2]
- ✓ As described by the Royal Academy of Engineering: “ It is not only a disruptive technology, it has the potential to replace many conventional manufacturing processes, but is also an enabling technology, allowing new business models, new products and new supply chains to flourish”[3]

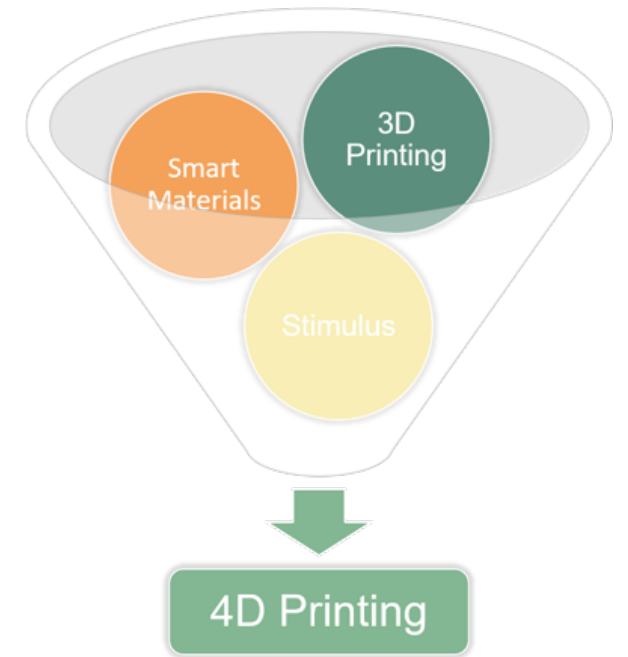
[1] Tibbits S. The emergence of 4D printing. TED Conf 2013.

[2] Campbell, Thomas A., Skylar Tibbits, and Banning Garrett. "The next wave: 4D printing programming the material world." Atlantic Council, Washington, DC, Technical Report (2014).

[3] Jiang, Ruth, Robin Kleer, and Frank T. Piller. "Predicting the future of additive manufacturing: A Delphi study on economic and societal implications of 3D printing for 2030." Technological Forecasting and Social Change 117 (2017): 84-97.

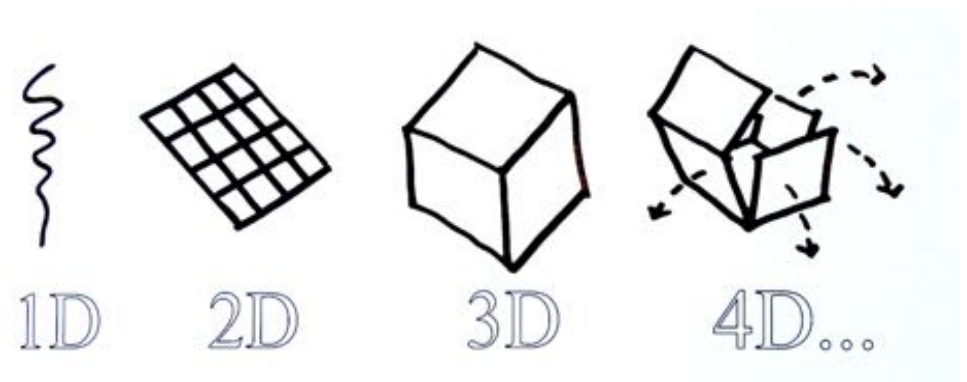
# 4D printing – An overview

- ✓ 3D printing + smart materials
- ✓ Change shape, property and functionality in response to a stimulus



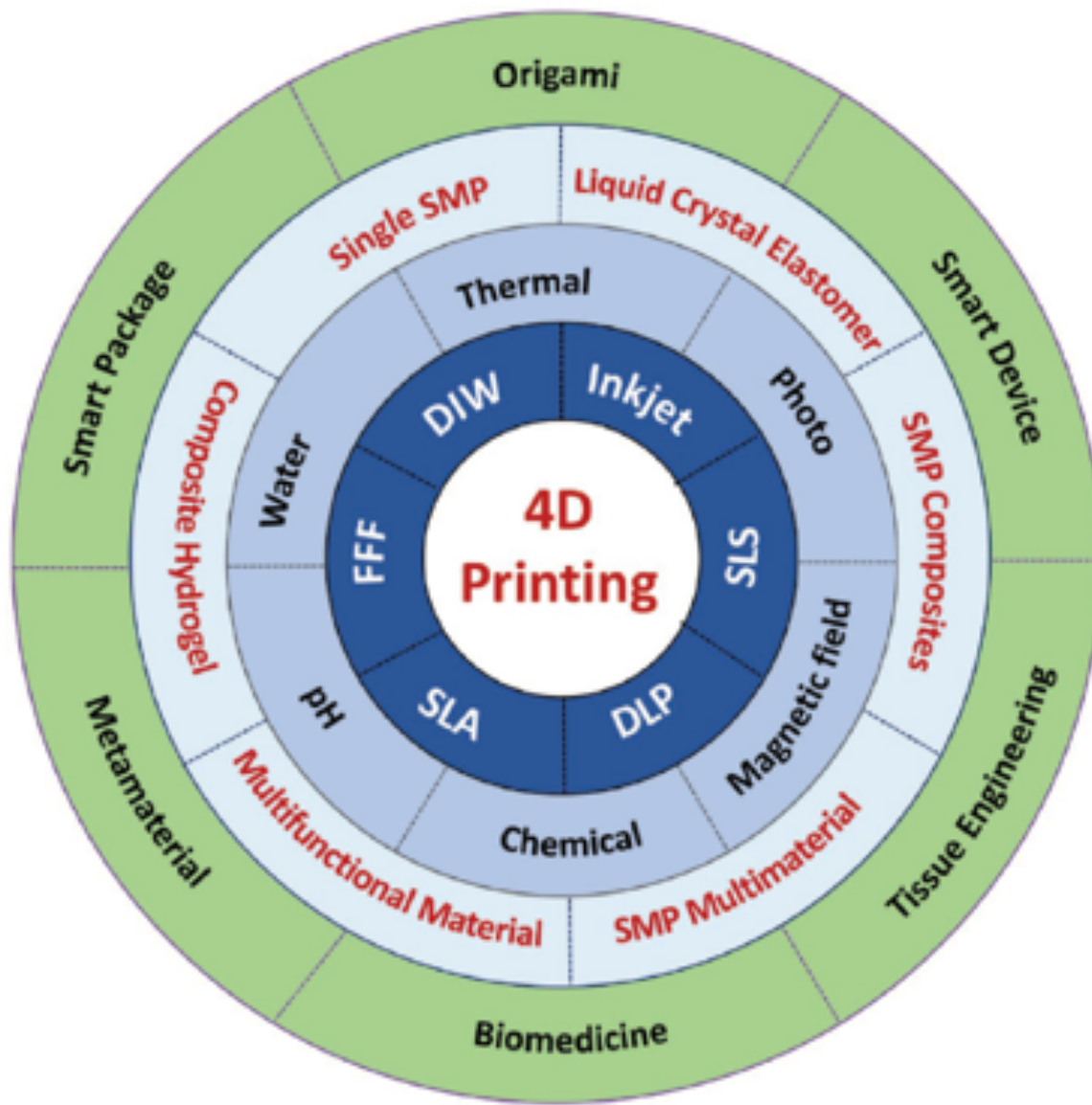
# 4D printing – An overview

- ✓ Advantages:
  - significant volume reduction for storage,
  - Easier to fabricate (“flat” 3D printing)
  - Absence of electrical actuators
  - Self-assembly (in harsh environment, in human body)
  - Multi-functionality
  - Self- repair.





# 4D printing — An overview

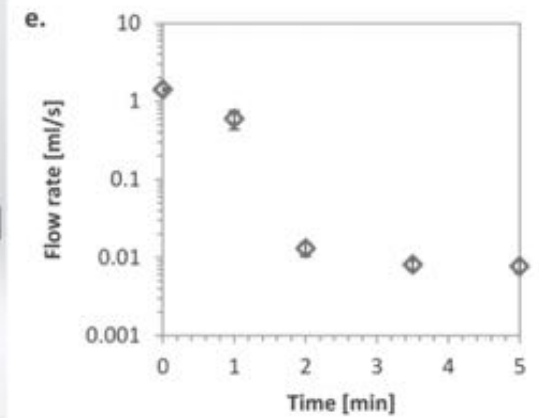
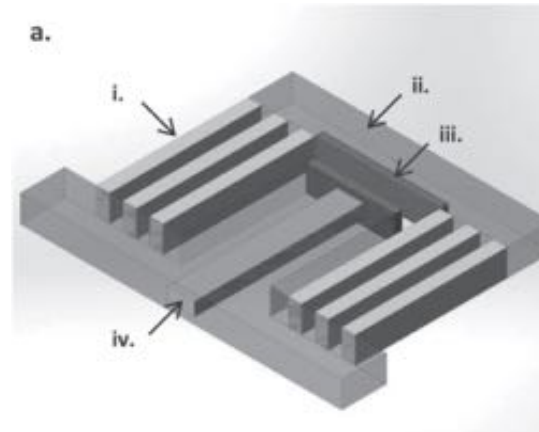


# 4D printing of a smart valve

3D Printer  
Extrusion-based

Smart Materials  
PNIPAAm

Stimulus  
Heat + Water

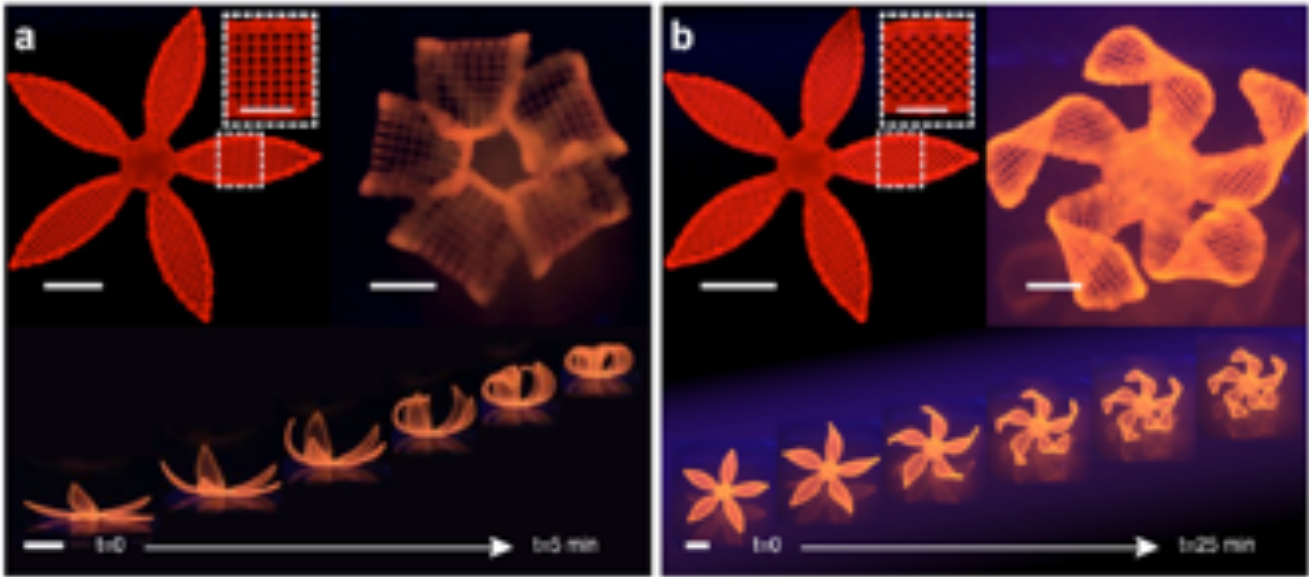


4D printing  
—  
An  
overview

# Biomimetic 4D printing

3D Printer	Smart Materials	Stimulus
Extrusion-based	Cellulose fibrils within hydrogel	Water

4D printing  
—  
An  
overview





POLITÉCNICA

# Personalized Articular splint

3D Printer

Smart Materials

Stimulus

Extrusion-based

PLA

Heat + Water

4D printing  
—  
An  
overview



# 4D printed (?) Trachea

3D Printer

SLS

Smart Materials

PCL

Stimulus

Human body growth

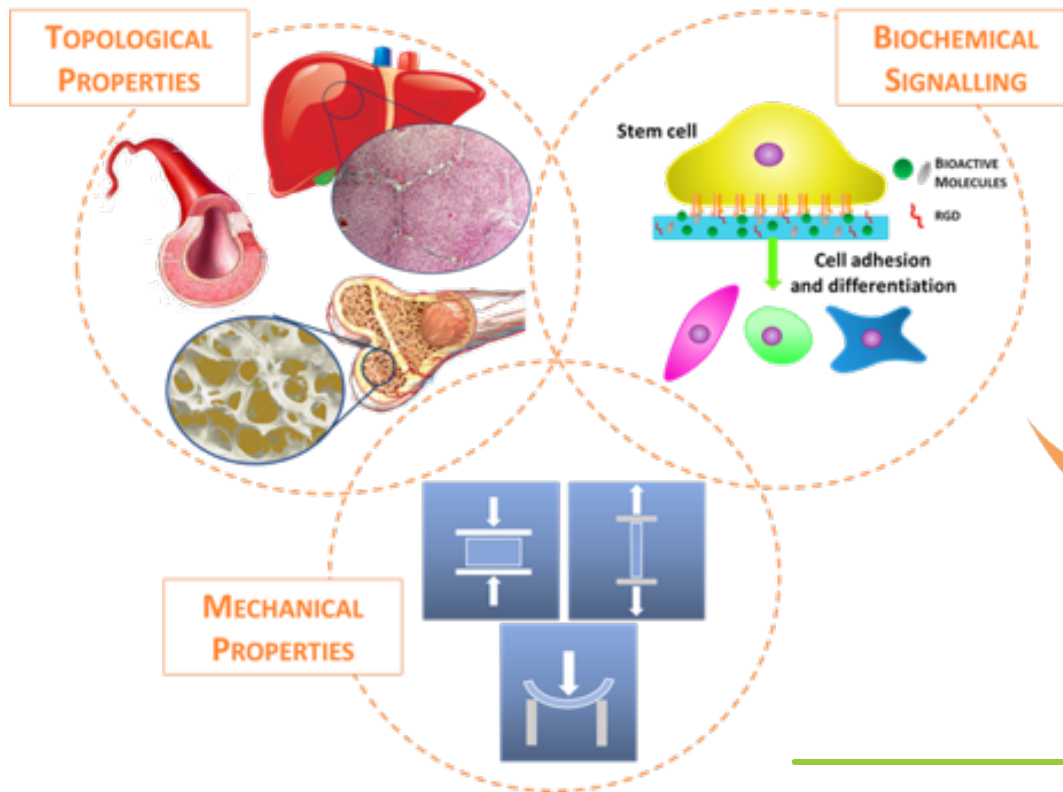
4D printing  
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An  
overview



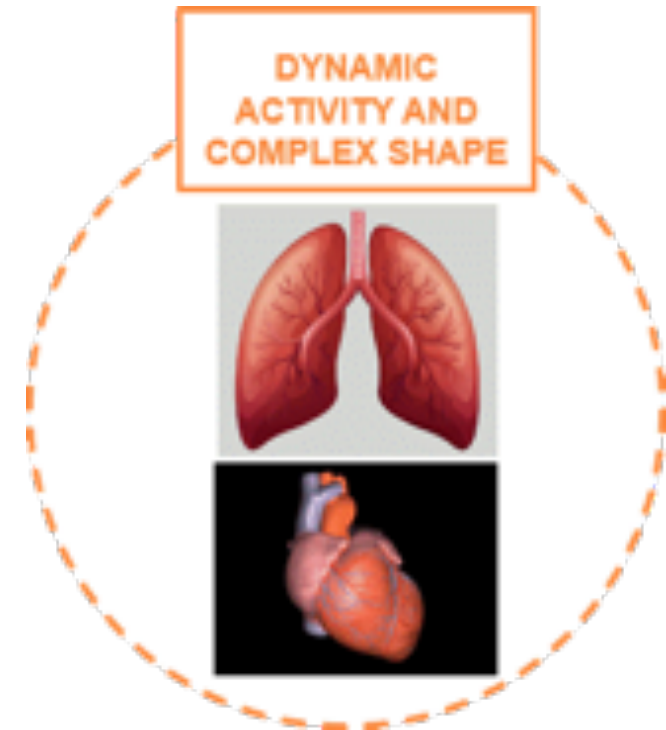
Morrison, R. J., Hollister, S. J., Niedner, M. F., Mahani, M. G., Park, A. H., Mehta, D. K., ... & Green, G. E. (2015). Mitigation of tracheobronchomalacia with 3D-printed personalized medical devices in pediatric patients. *Science translational medicine*, 7(285), 285ra64-285ra64.

# From 4D Printing to 4D Bioprinting

Tissue Engineering (TE) aims to mimic the features of native tissues/ Extra Cellular Matrix (ECM) in terms of:

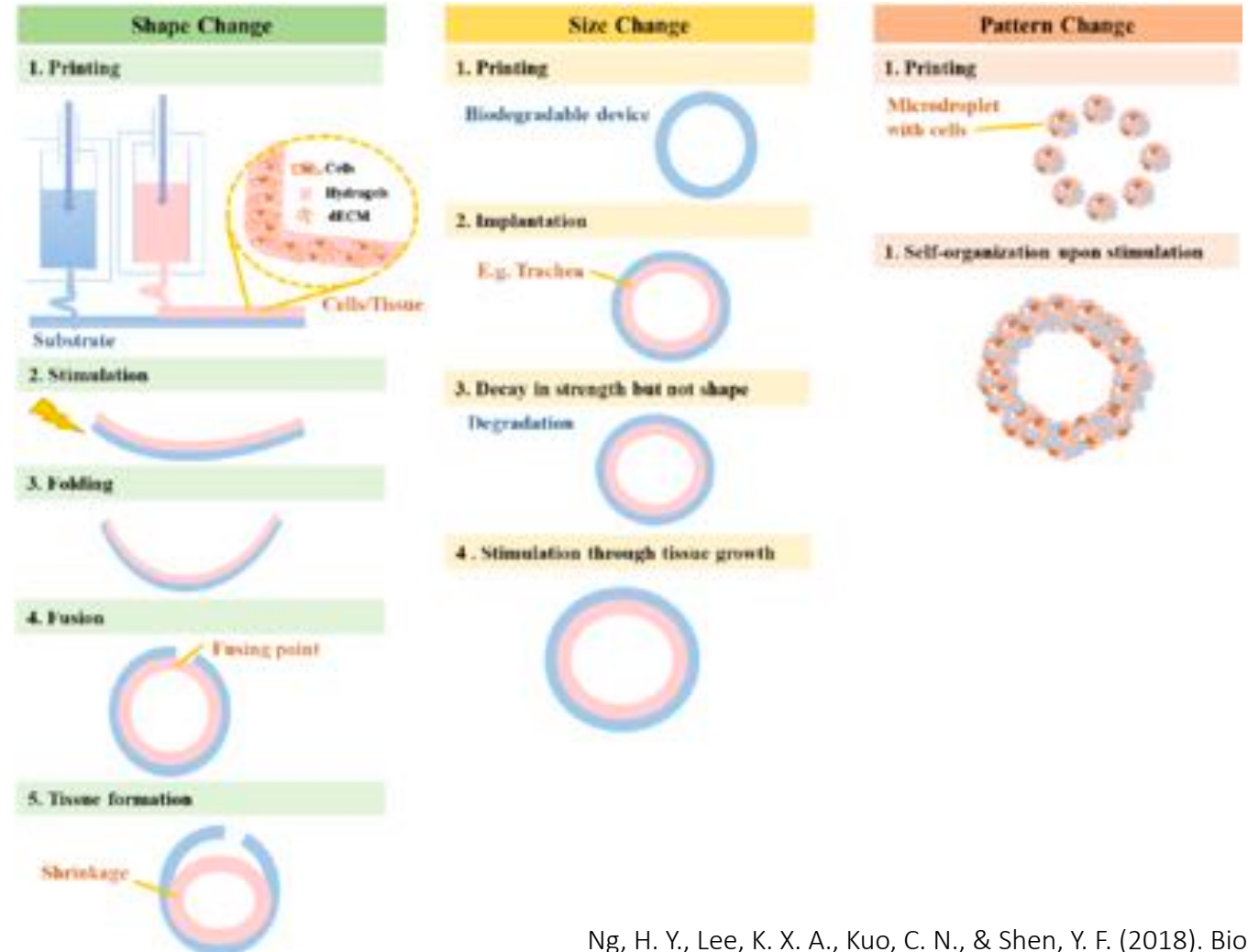


Introduction of a further stimulus to cell differentiation

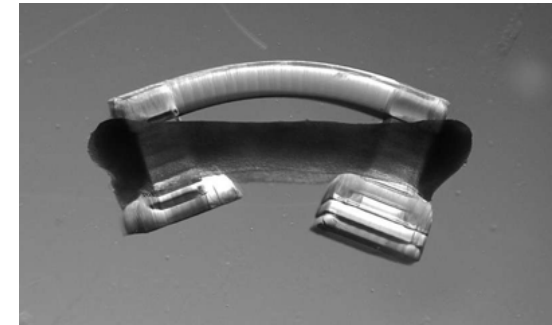
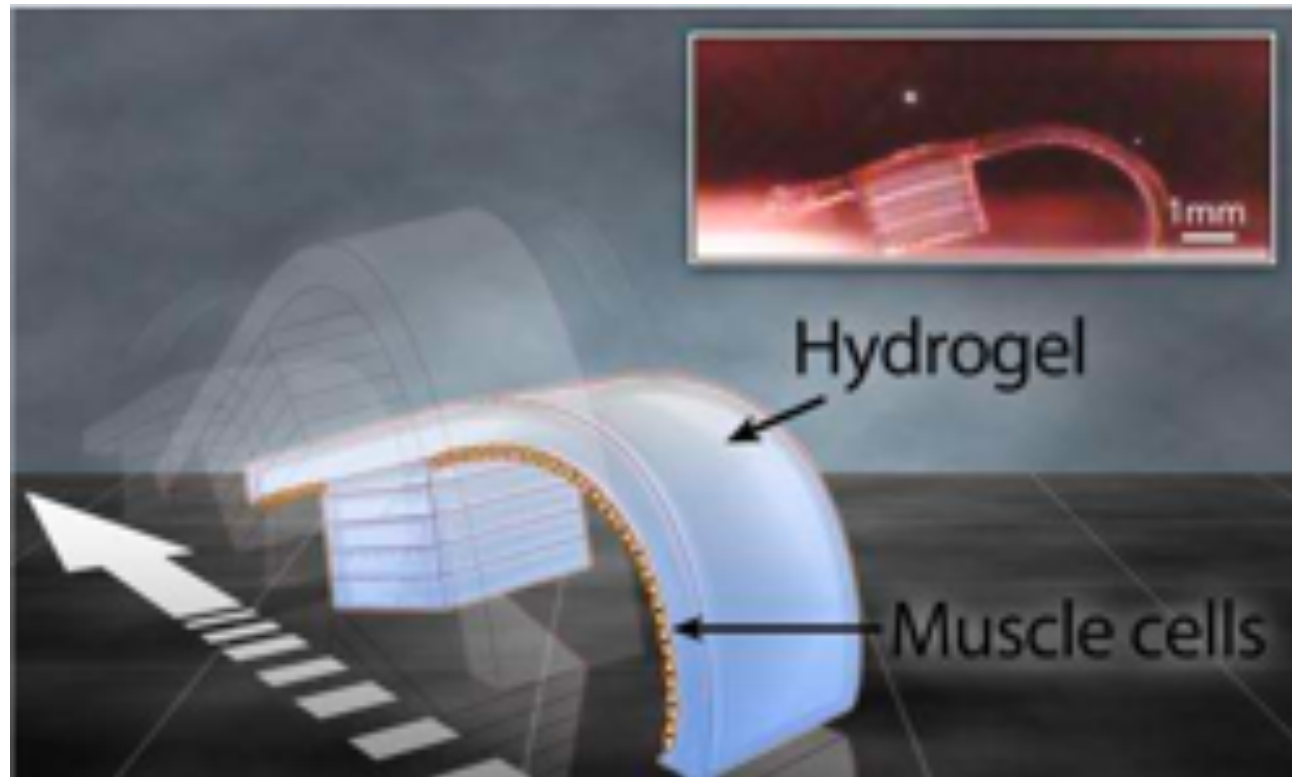


# From 4D Printing to 4D Bioprinting

4D Bioprinting  
or  
biofabrication  
strategies?



# Biological machines



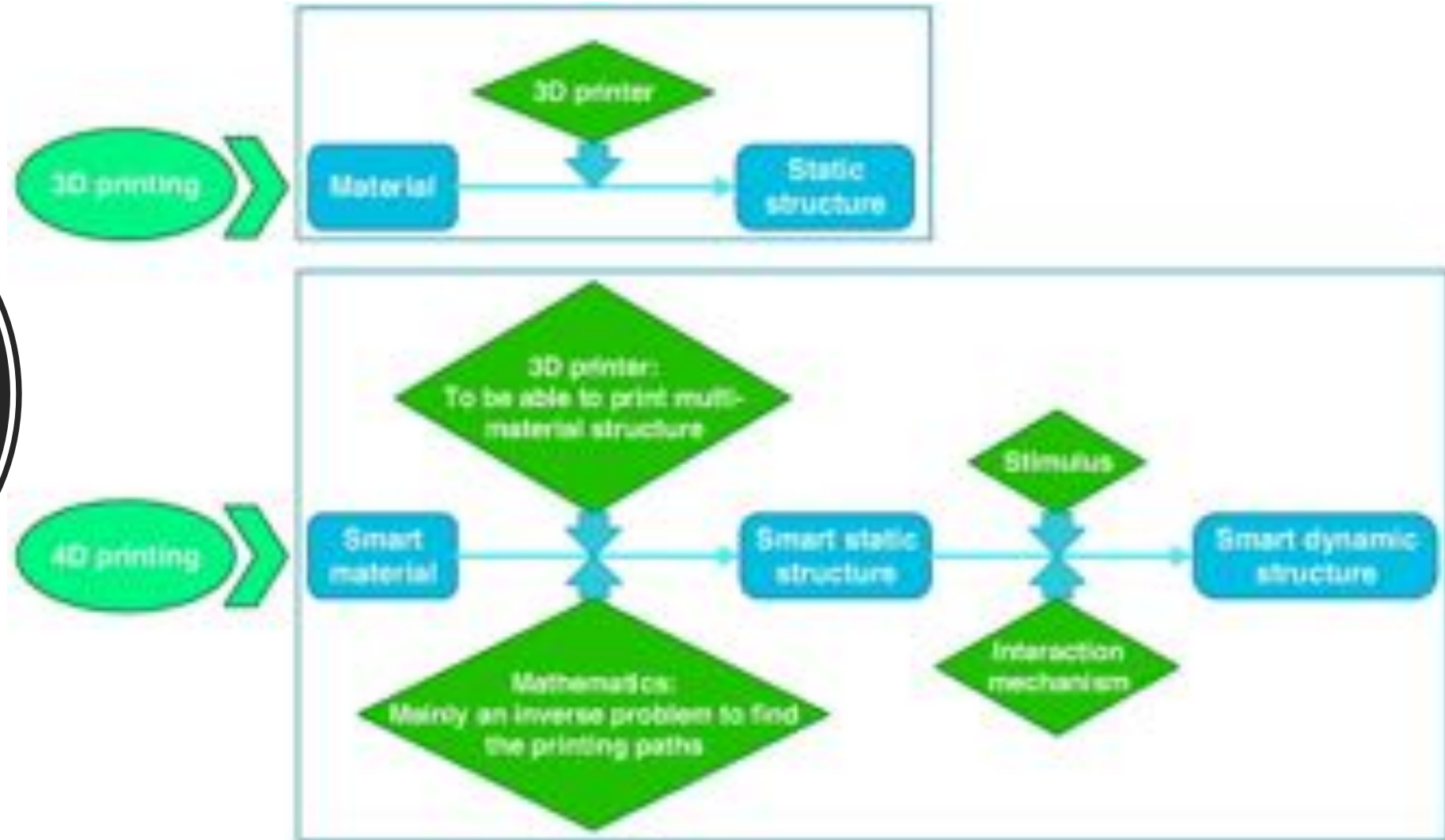
Chan, V., Park, K., Collens, M. B., Kong, H., Saif, T. A., & Bashir, R. (2012). Development of miniaturized walking biological machines. *Scientific reports*, 2, 857.



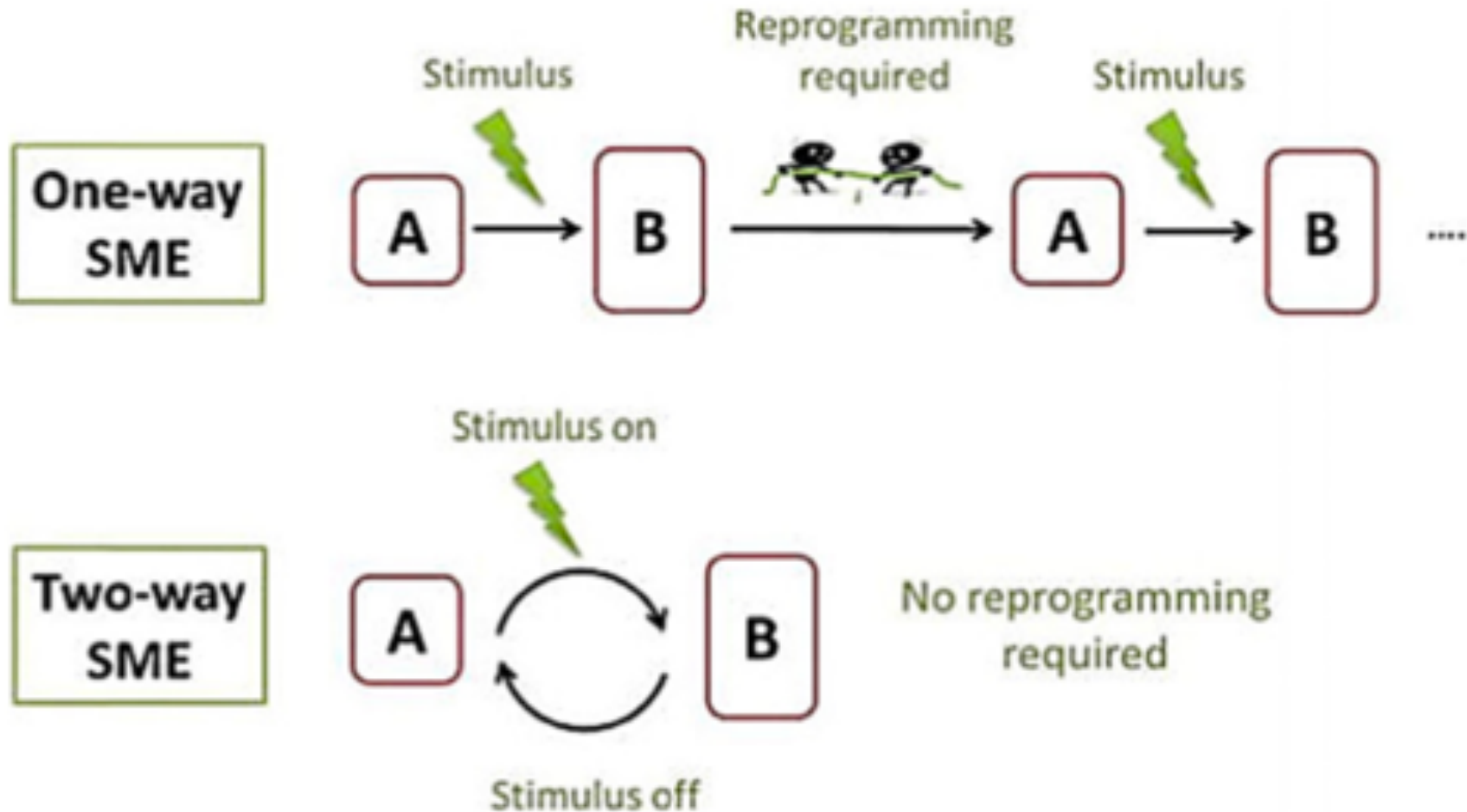


Insight 4D printing

# Insight 4D printing

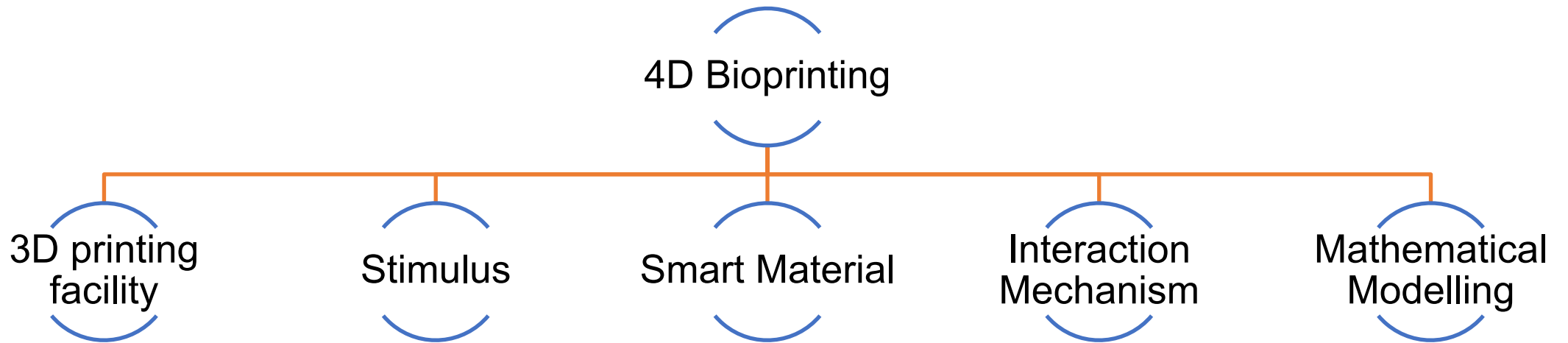


# One-way vs two-ways



# Components of 4D printing

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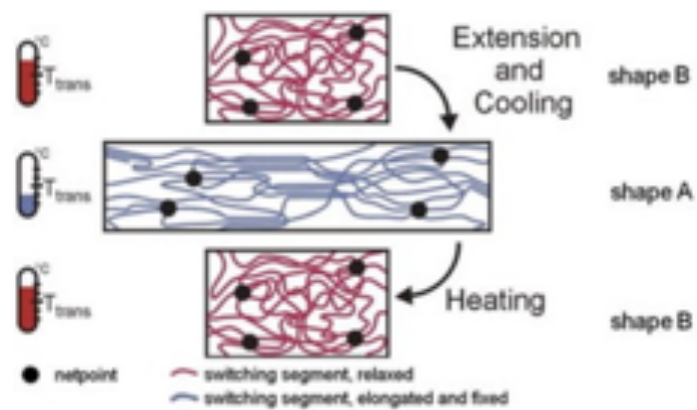




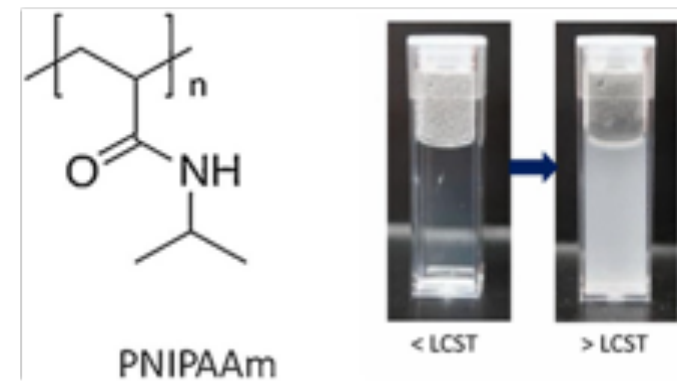
Materials

# Smart Materials

- ✓ Change of properties based on an external stimulus
  - Shape shifting: shape memory and shape-changing
  - Shape Memory Polymers and Smart Hydrogels
  - Shape Memory Alloys (lower number of applications)

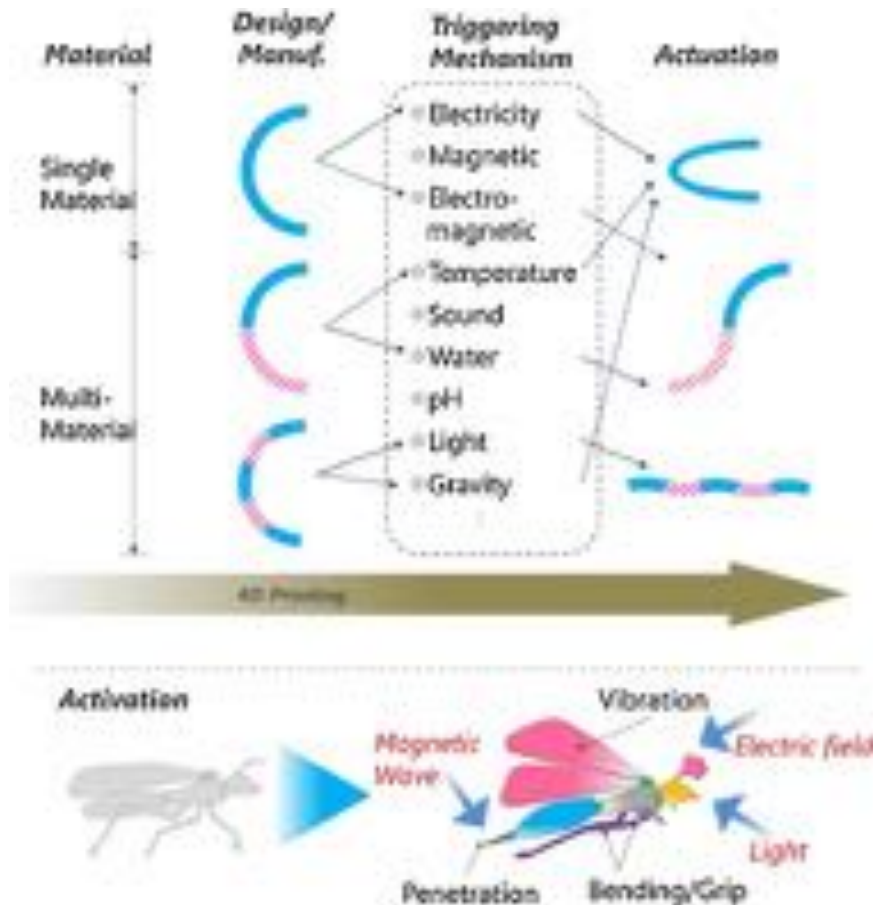


Shape Memory Polymers



Smart Hydrogels

# Shape Memory Polymers (SMPs)

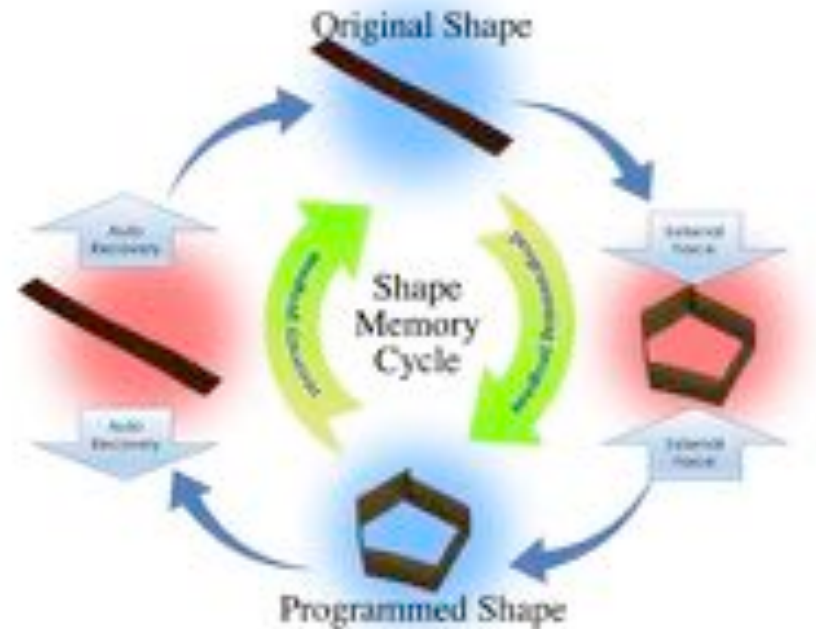


- ✓ SMPs are stimuli-responsive smart materials that can undergo a large recoverable deformation by application of an external stimulus (e.g., heat, electricity, light, magnetic field, water, and solvent). The heat-induced and electricity induced SMPs and SMPCs (SMPs Composite) are most typical [7]

[6] González-Henríquez, Carmen M., Mauricio A. Sarabia-Vallejos, and Juan Rodríguez-Hernández. "Polymers for additive manufacturing and 4D-printing: Materials, methodologies, and biomedical applications." *Progress in Polymer Science* (2019).

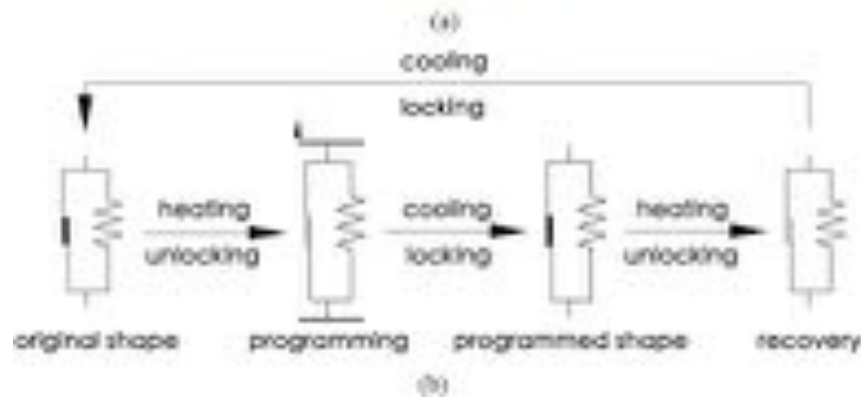
[7] Santo, L., et al. "Applications of Shape-Memory Polymers, and Their Blends and Composites." *Shape Memory Polymers, Blends and Composites*. Springer, Singapore, 2020. 311-329.

# Shape Memory Polymers (SMPs)



✓ In any mechanism for the stimulus-responsive SME in polymers, there are normally two basic parts within the material:

- One part (elastic part) is always highly elastic, which stores elastic energy after programming, and the stored elastic energy provides the required driving force for subsequent shape recovery.
- The other part (transition part) is able to change its stiffness, depending on whether the right stimulus is applied, and after programming, the deformation is plastic or quasi-plastic. [9]

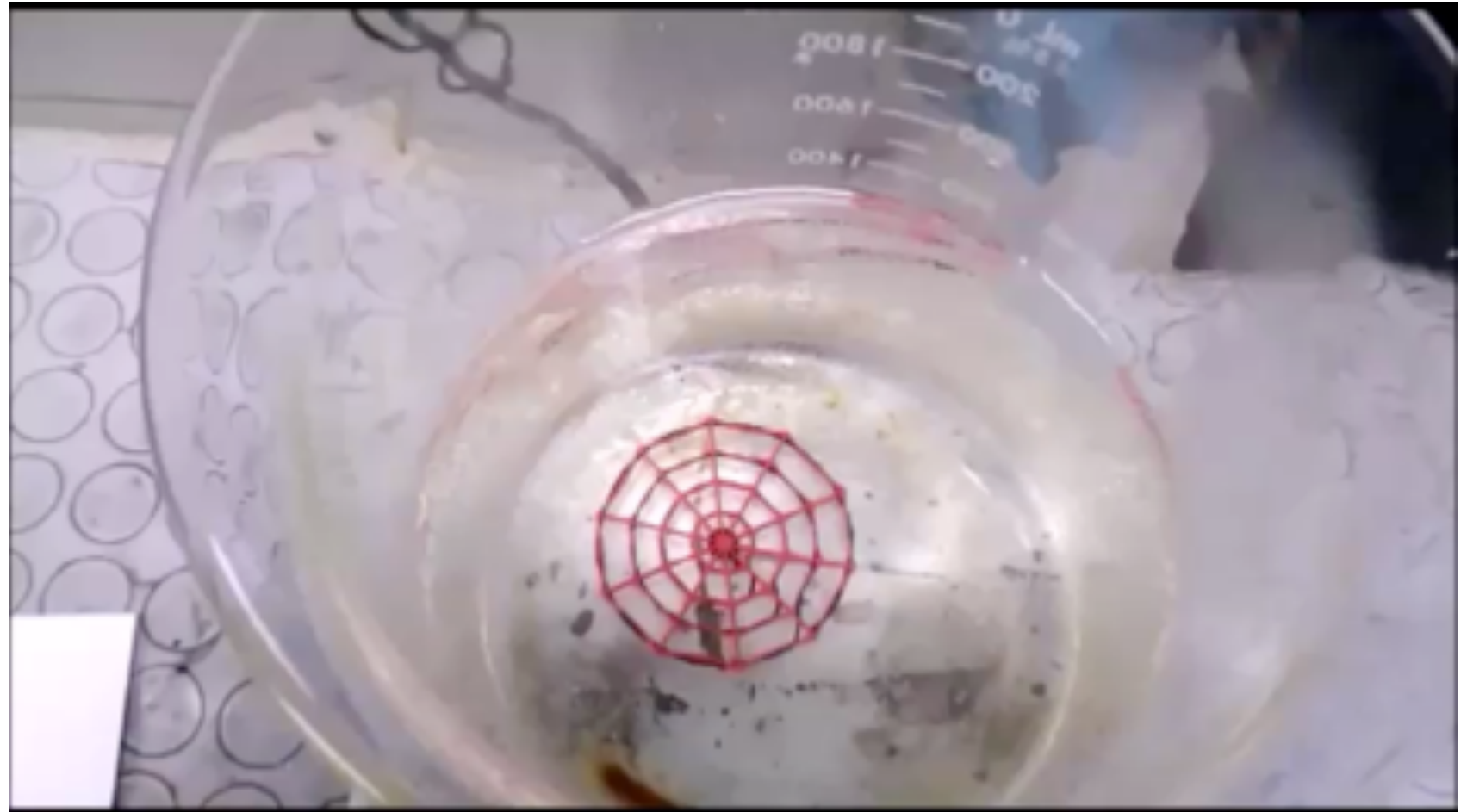
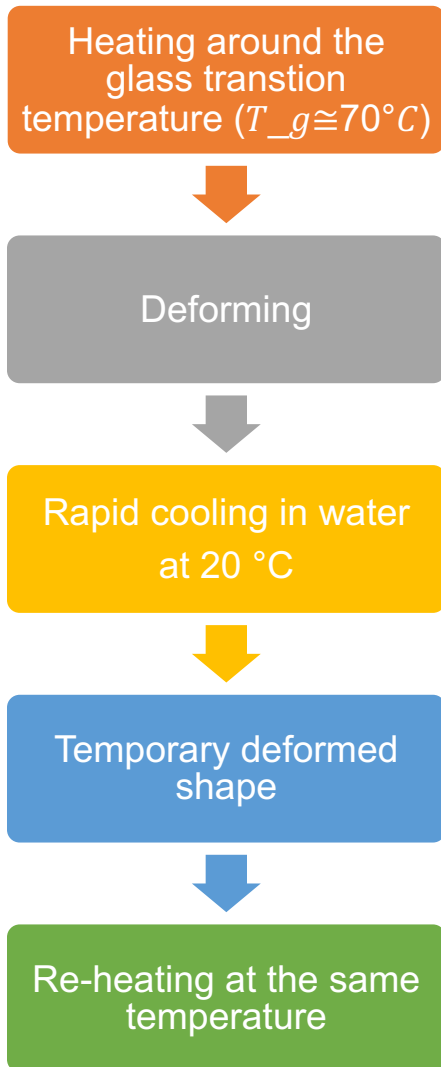


[8] Mu, Tong, et al. "Shape memory polymers for composites." Composites Science and Technology 160 (2018): 169-198.

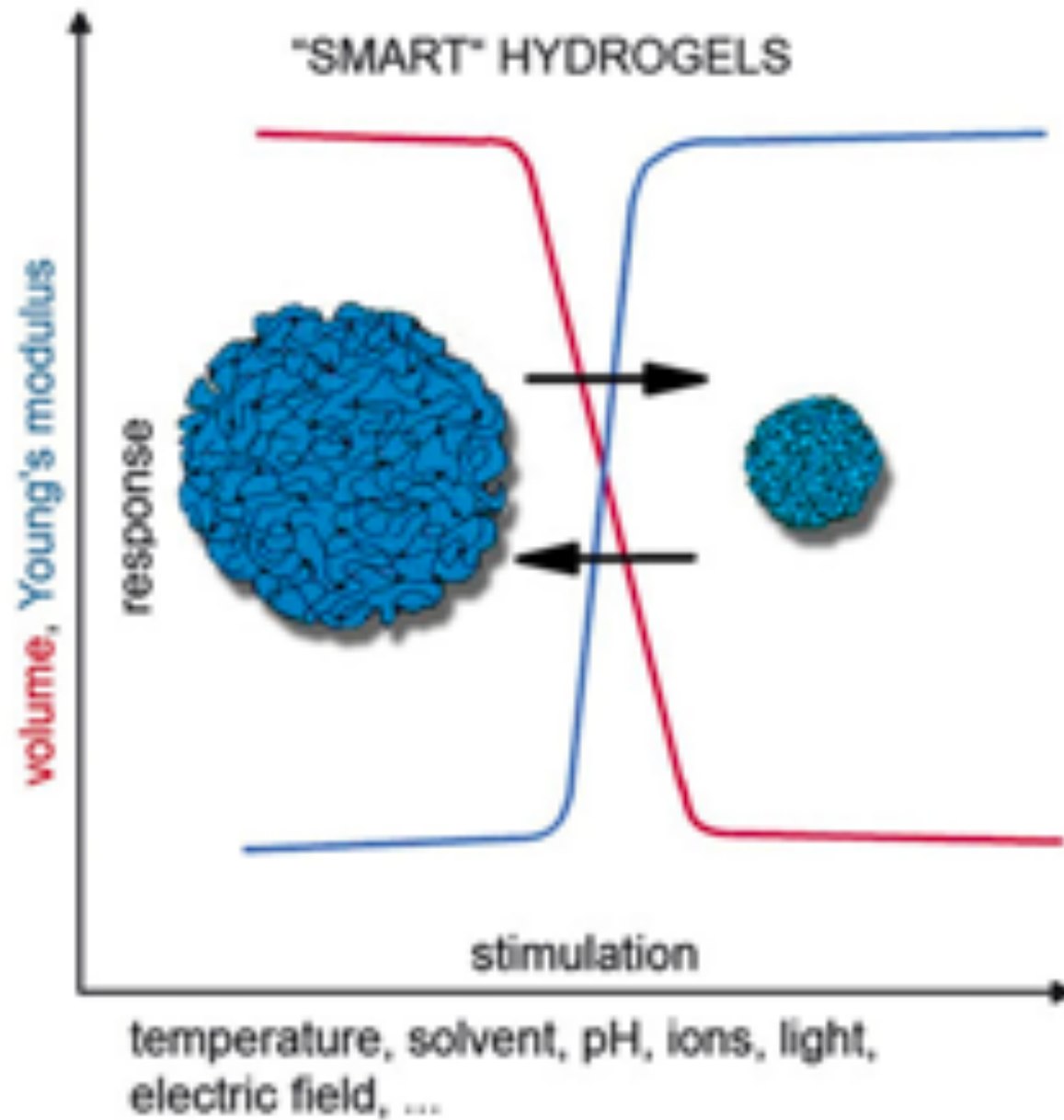
[9] Sun, Li, et al. "A Brief Review of the Shape Memory Phenomena in Polymers and Their Typical Sensor Applications." Polymers 11.6 (2019): 1040.



# Shape Memory Recovery Principle



Smart hydrogel



A 3D printer is shown in operation, printing a complex, orange, lattice-like structure. The printer is a MakerBot, with the brand name visible on the front. The structure is a large, multi-faceted, hollow object with a complex internal structure. The printer is a desktop model with a black frame and a blue and white print head. The print head is positioned above the structure, and the structure is being printed on a white platform. The printer is in a dark environment, and the lighting is focused on the structure and the print head. The text "3D Printing technologies" is overlaid on the image in a white, sans-serif font. Below it, the text "(or, better, additive manufacturing)" is overlaid in a white, italicized, sans-serif font. The MakerBot logo is visible on the front of the printer in a blue and white color.

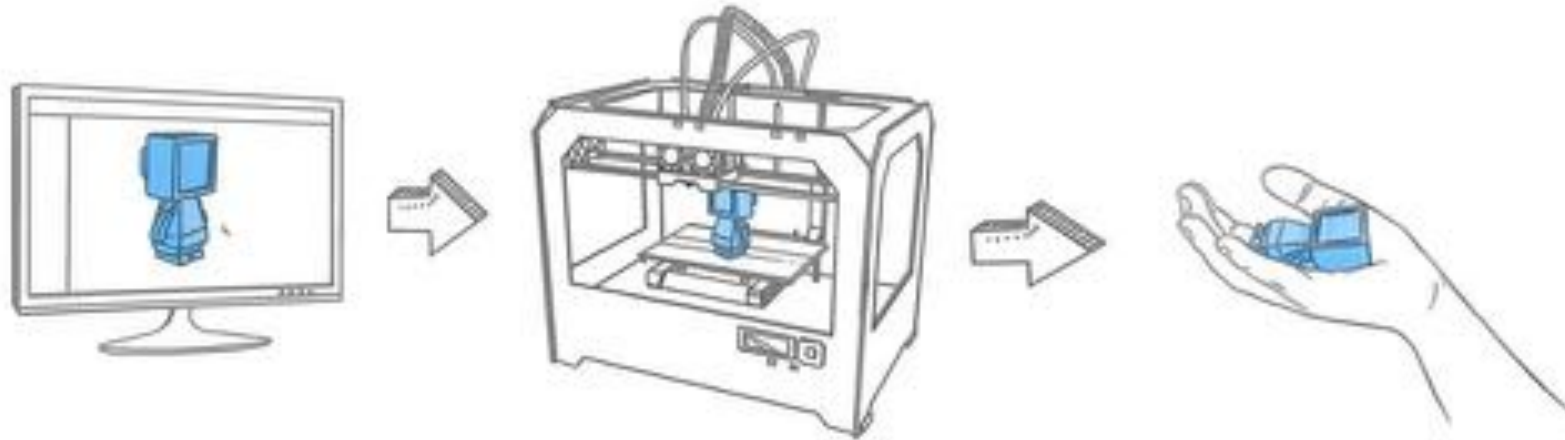
# 3D Printing technologies

*(or, better, additive manufacturing)*

# Additive manufacturing

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- ✓ Additive manufacturing is a process of making a 3D solid object of virtually any shape **from a digital model**.
- ✓ It is achieved using an additive process, where successive layers of material are laid down in different shapes.



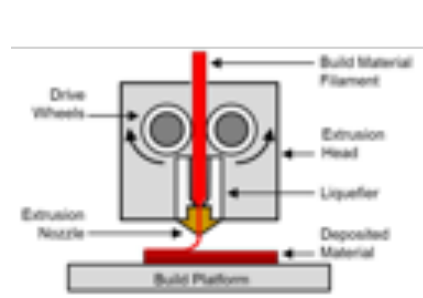
# ASTM/ISO 52900 classification

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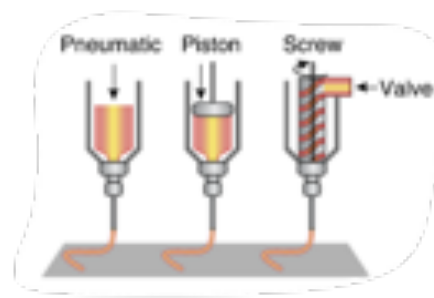
- ✓ **Binder jetting:** AM process in which a liquid bonding agent is selectively deposited to join powder materials;
- ✓ **Directed energy deposition:** AM process in which focused thermal energy is used to fuse materials by melting as they are being deposited;
- ✓ **Material extrusion:** AM process in which material is selectively dispensed through a nozzle or orifice;
- ✓ **Material jetting:** AM process in which droplets of build material are selectively deposited
- ✓ **Powder bed fusion:** AM process in which thermal energy selectively fuses regions of a powder bed;
- ✓ **Sheet lamination:** AM process in which sheets of material are bonded to form a part;
- ✓ **Vat photopolymerisation:** AM process in which liquid photopolymer in a vat is selectively cured by light-activated polymerization.

# 4D Printing strategies

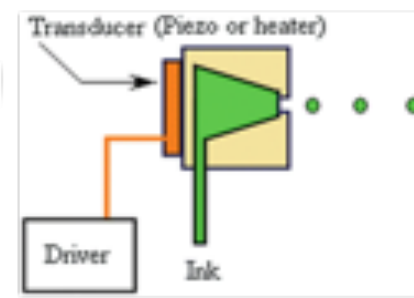
- ✓ Single material structures, with regions with different stiffness
- ✓ Multi-material structures, i.e. combine active and passive materials
- ✓ Different deposition patterns yield different movements
- ✓ Mainly extrusion based printers, but also Polyjet and stereolithography



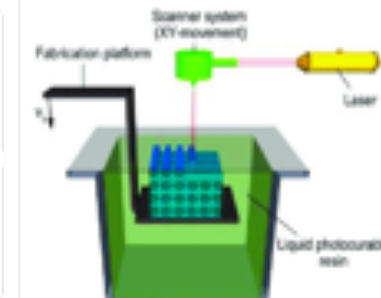
FDM



Extrusion

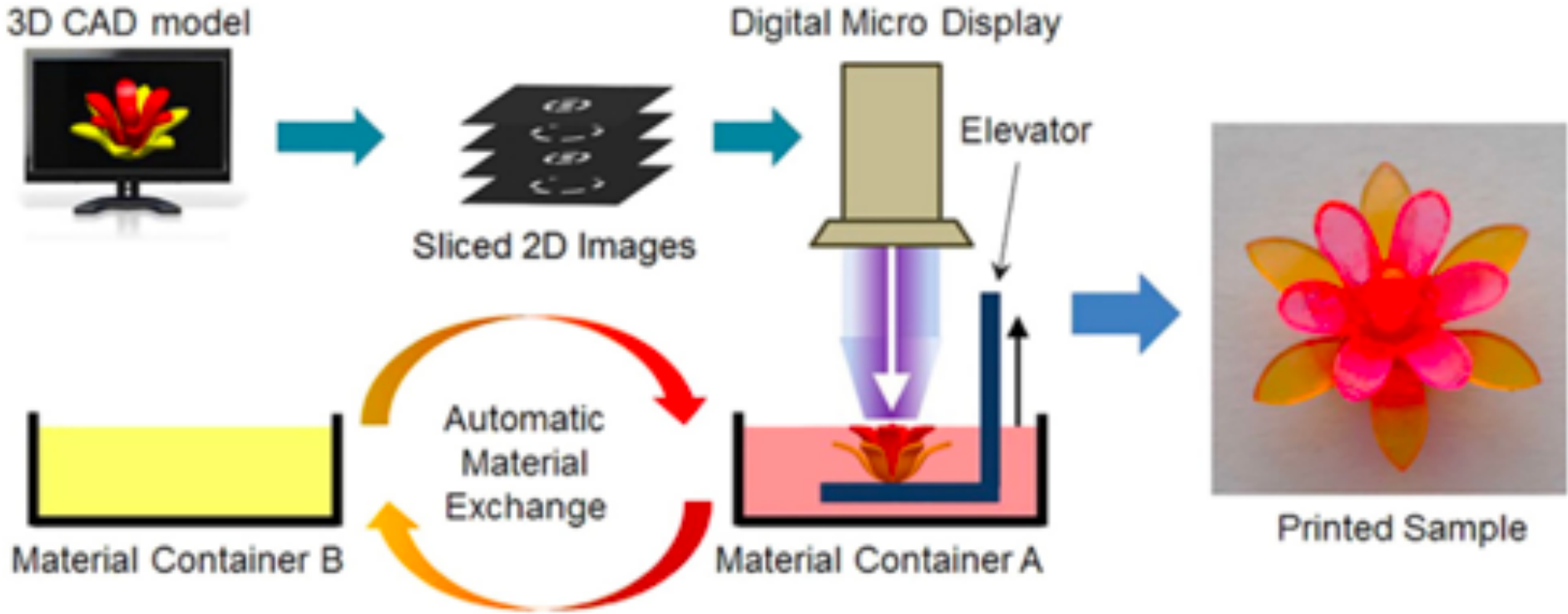


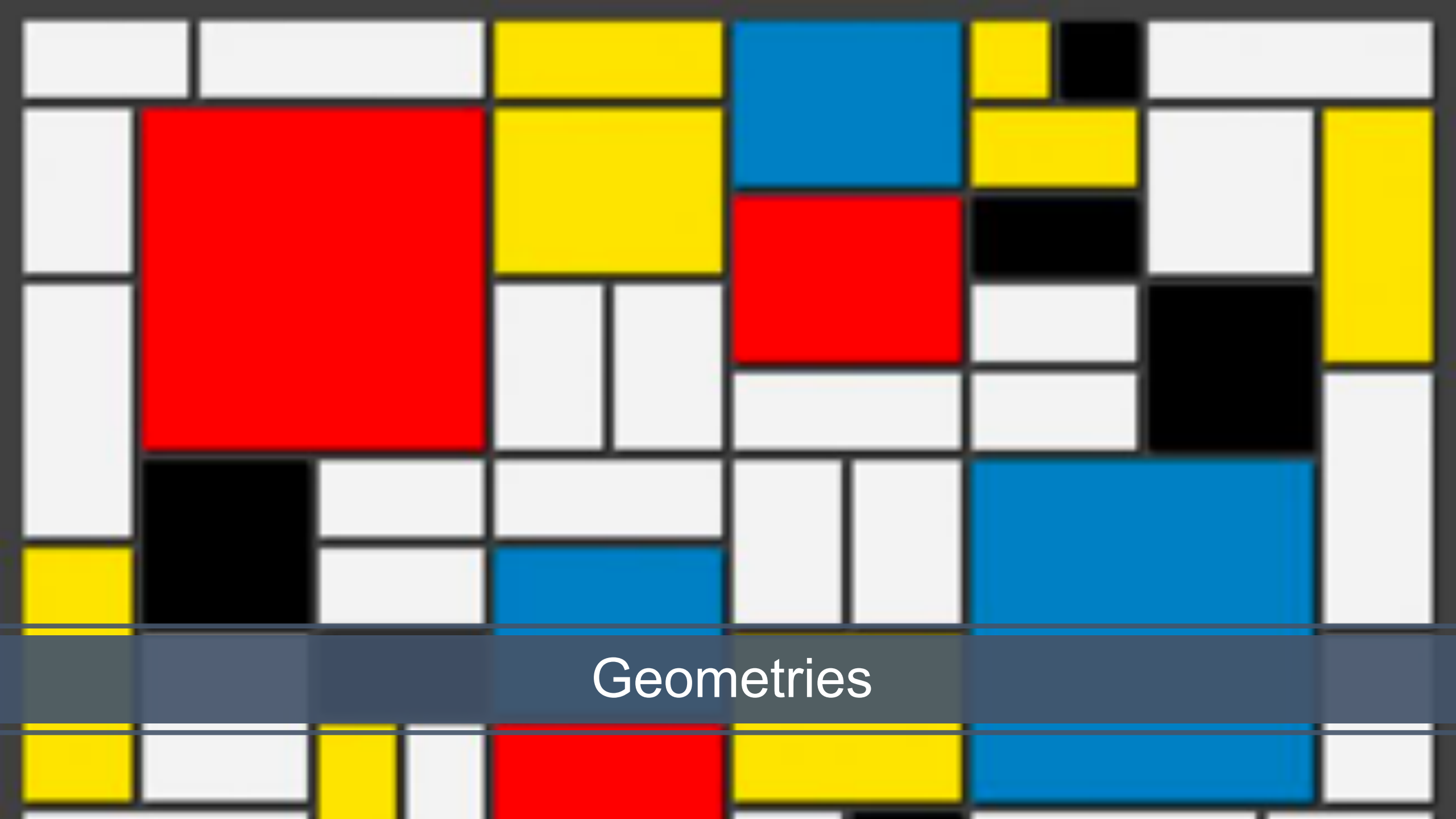
Inkjet



SLA

# Multimaterial SLA







Geometries

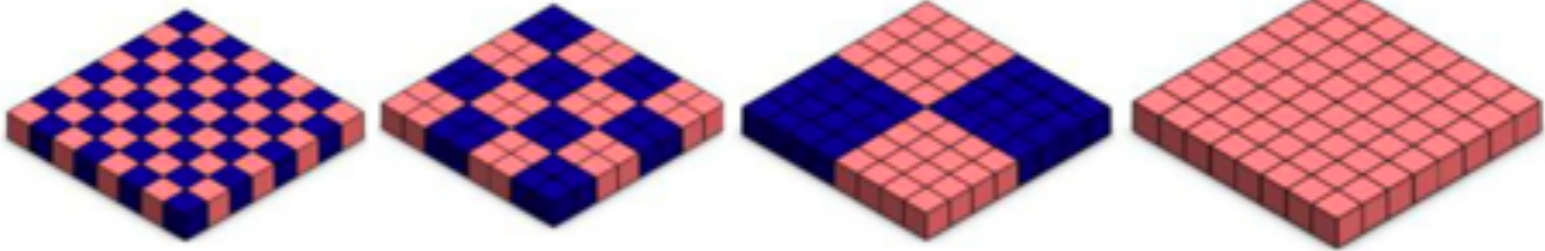


# Multi-Material Structure in 4D printing

Voxel Type 1: 

Voxel Type 2: 

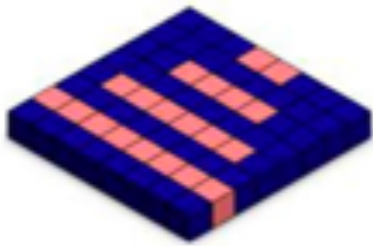
## a Uniform Distribution with Different Concentrations



## b Gradient Distribution

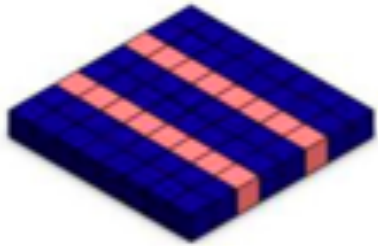


From Center to Edge Gradient



One Way Direction Gradient

## c Special Patterns



Geometries

# Geometries

