

# Manufacturing AI Problems and Solutions

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# Today

- 1 Why Industrial AI?

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- 2 Computer vision ML for manufacturing

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- 3 Time-series ML for manufacturing

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- 4 Difficulties with time-series ML in manufacturing

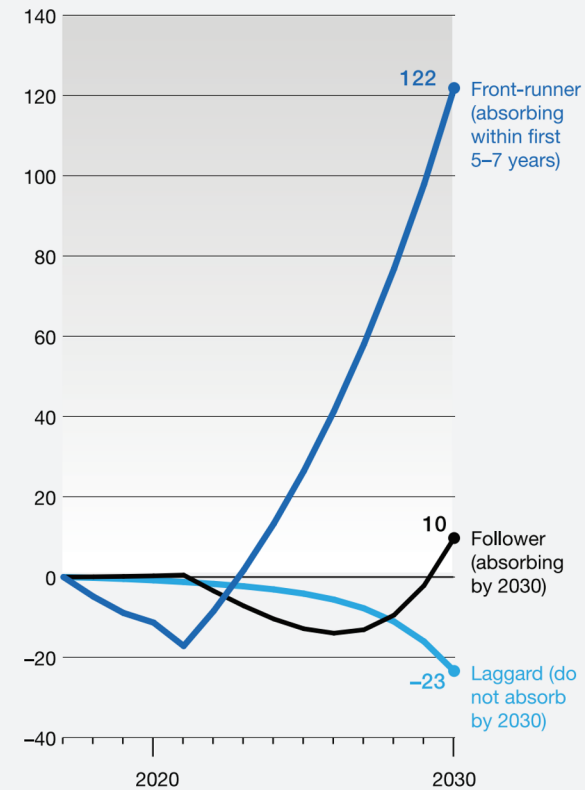
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- 5 Gauss Labs success story: Virtual Metrology

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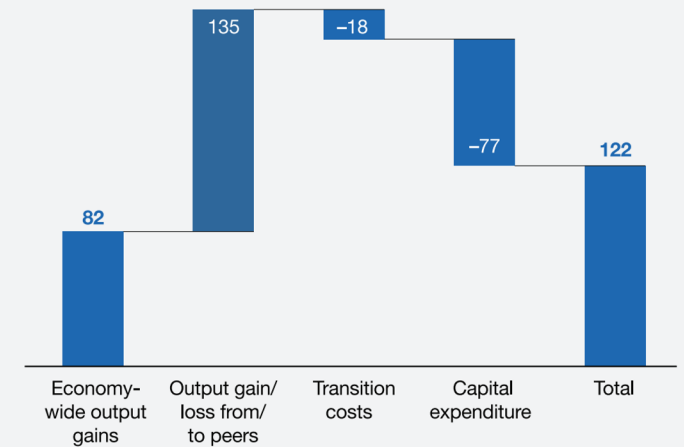
"The measure of intelligence is the ability to change."  
– Albert Einstein

Fast AI adoption and absorption by **front-runners** can create larger economic gains

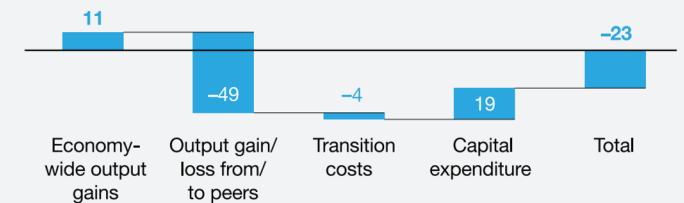
Relative changes in cash flow by AI-adoption cohort, cumulative % change per cohort



Front-runner breakdown, % change per cohort



Laggard breakdown, % change per cohort



Note: Numbers are simulated figures to provide directional perspectives rather than forecasts.



"The merit of all things lie in their difficulty."  
– **Alexandre Dumas** in *The Three Musketeers*

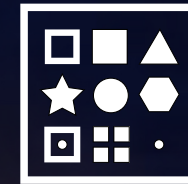
**Data-ism**

**Catch-22**

**Anna Karenina**



Volume



Variety



Velocity



FatData



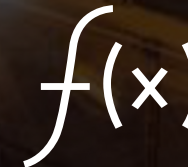
Shift/drift



Imbalance



Quality



Nonlinearity



Complexity

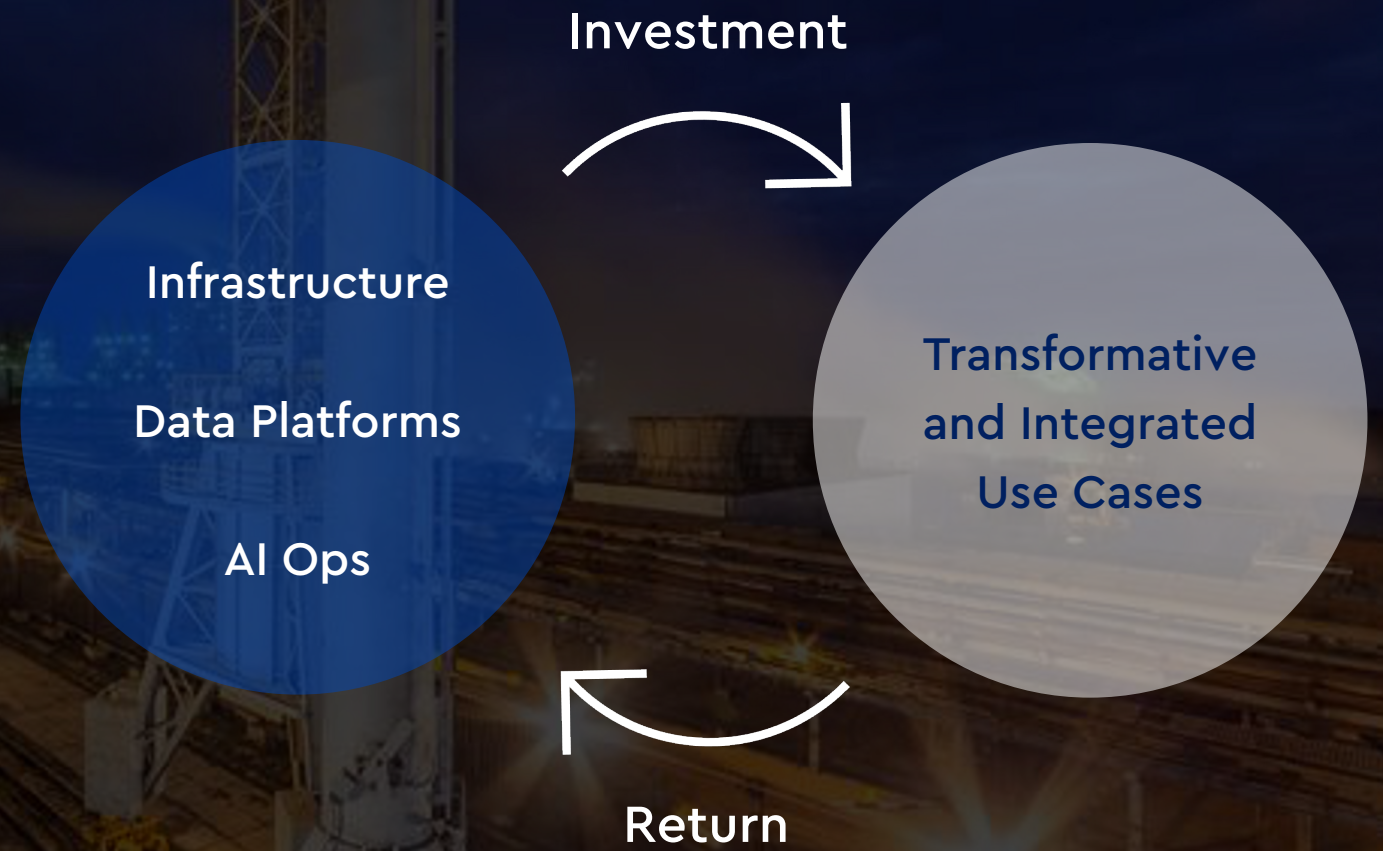


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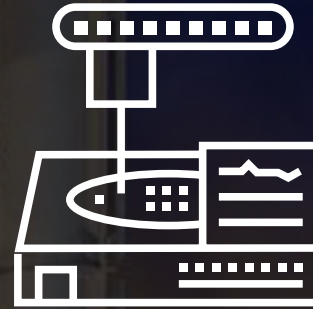


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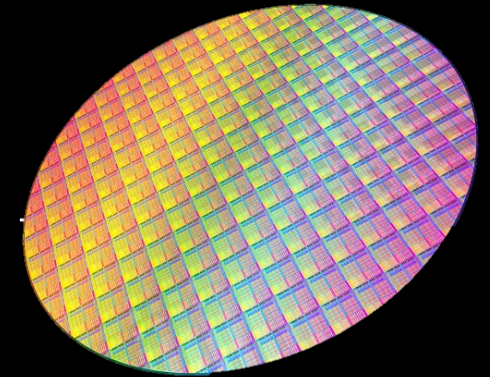
Every company or sector has its own problems

# Computer vision and time-series ML in Manufacturing

## lots of image data to measure and inspect

Scanning electron microscope (SEM) images, transmission electron microscope (TEM) images, wafer failure patterns, etc.

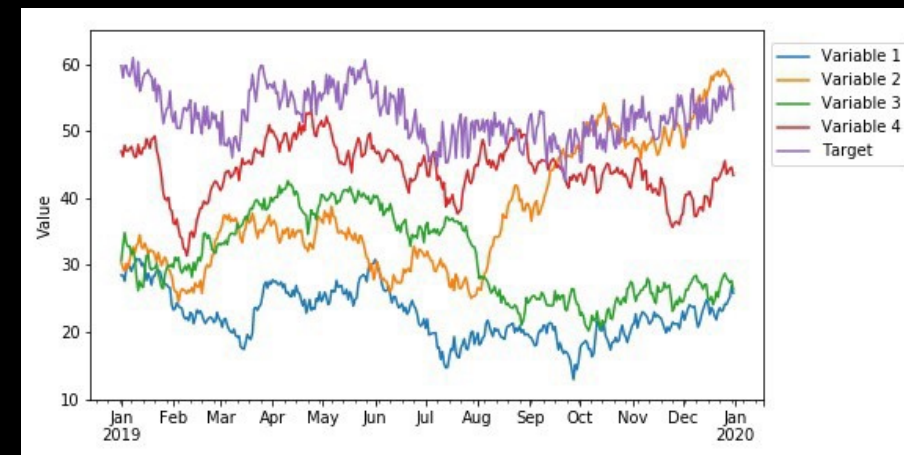
→ Image pattern classification/clustering, image enhancement, image anomaly detection, defect inspection



## (almost) all the data coming from manufacturing are time-series data

sensor data, process times, material measurement, equipment maintenance history, etc.

→ time-series (TS) prediction/estimation, TS anomaly detection, TS classification





# Computer Vision ML for manufacturing



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## Metrology

*Measurement of critical features*

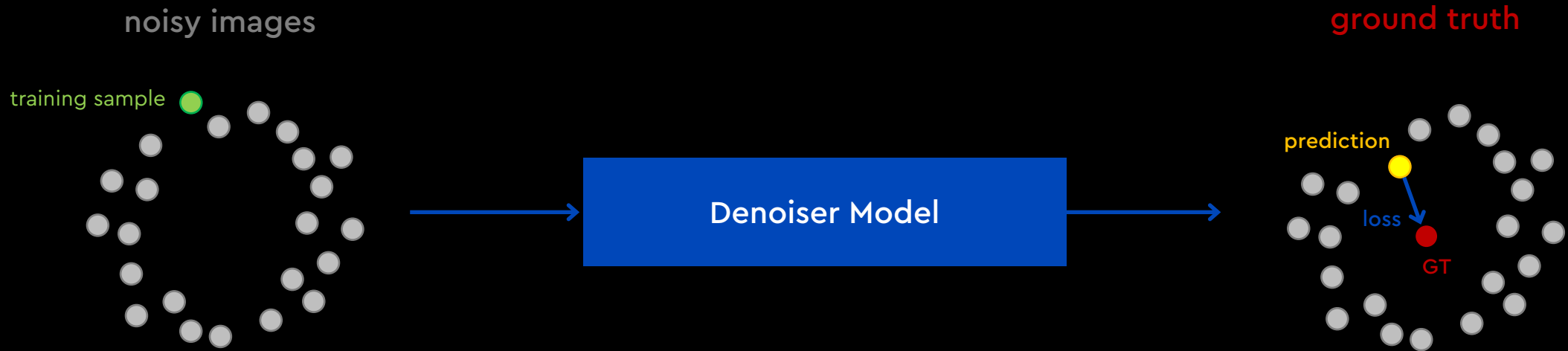
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## Inspection

*Anomaly detection,  
localization and classification*

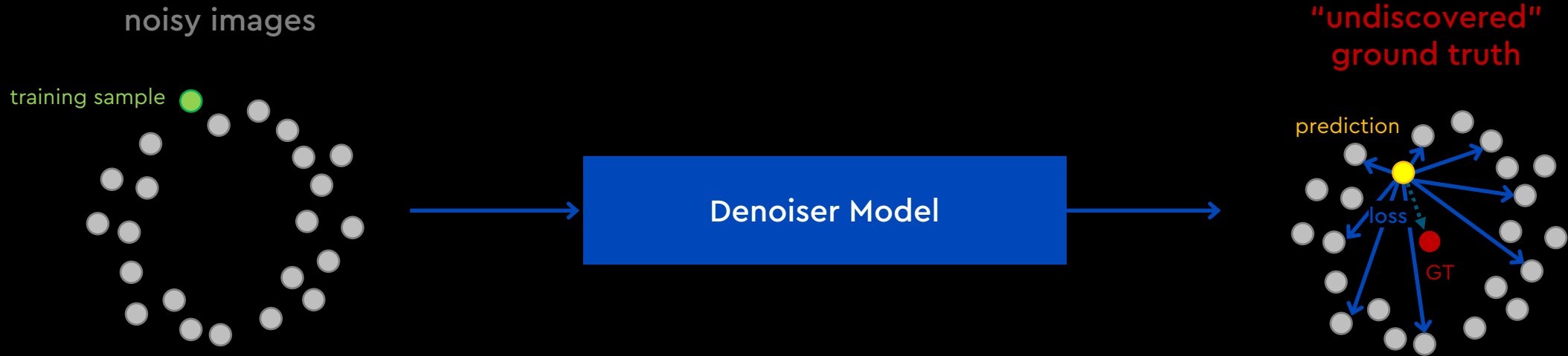


# Supervised image denoising



*However, it is not possible to acquire ground-truth images from SEM device, in practice.*

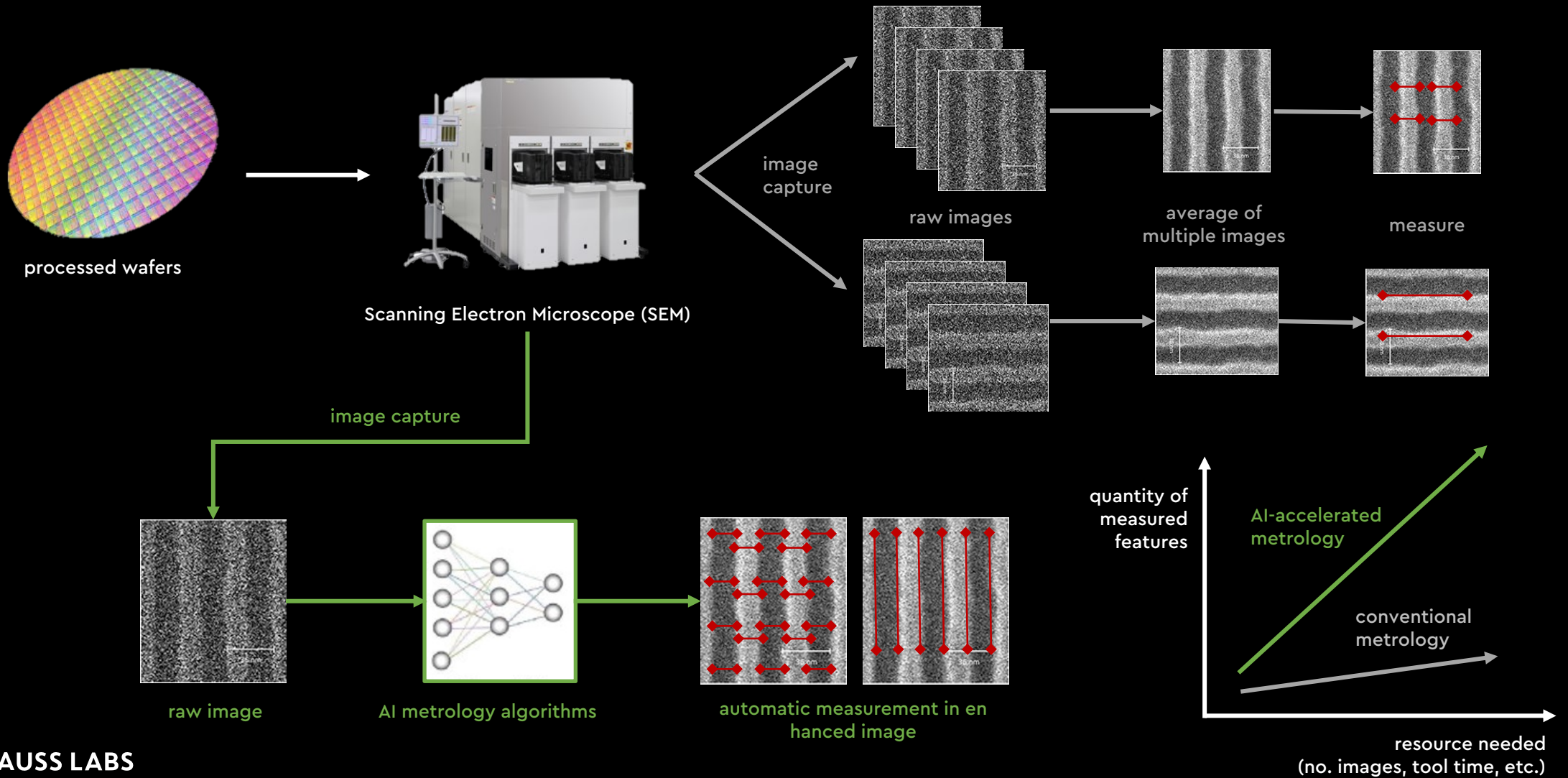
# Blind denoising without ground truth



*If the mean of the noise is zero, the average of the gradients that model takes is same with the gradient to the ground truth*



# Automatic measurement for semiconductor manufacturing



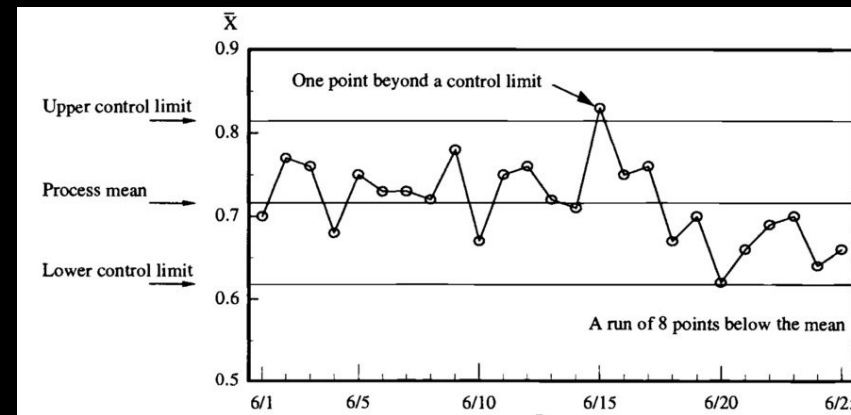
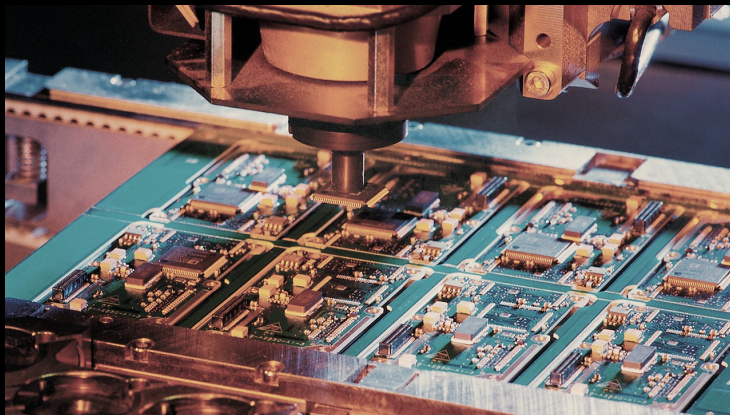
# Time-series ML for manufacturing



# Why time-series ML?

*manufacturing application is about one of the following:*

- prediction of time-series values - virtual metrology, yield prediction
- anomaly detection on time-series data - root cause analysis, yield analysis
- classification of time-series values - equipment anomaly alarm generation



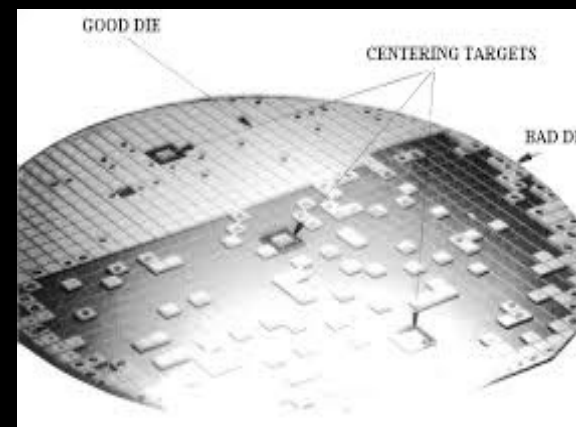
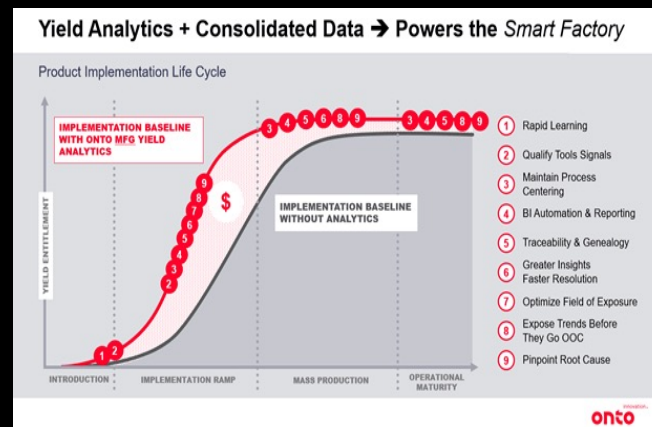
# Time-series prediction and estimation

- **virtual metrology**

- *measure unmeasured process materials using equipment signals and other information*
- *impact: save investment on measurement equipment*

- **yield prediction**

- *predict yield (# working dies / # total dies) with material measurements from equipment*
- *impact: better product quality and better profitability*





# Time-series anomaly detection and root cause analysis

- **equipment alarm root cause analysis**

- *when alarm goes off, find responsible equipment and root causes*
- *impact: reduce equipment downtime, make process engineers' lives easier*

- **yield analysis**

- *find responsible equipment for yield drop*
- *impact: 1% yield improvement brings profit increase of tens of millions of dollars!*

# Difficulties with TS ML in manufacturing



# Data challenges

- **concept drift/shift**

$p(x(t_k), x(t_{k-1}), \dots)$  changes over time

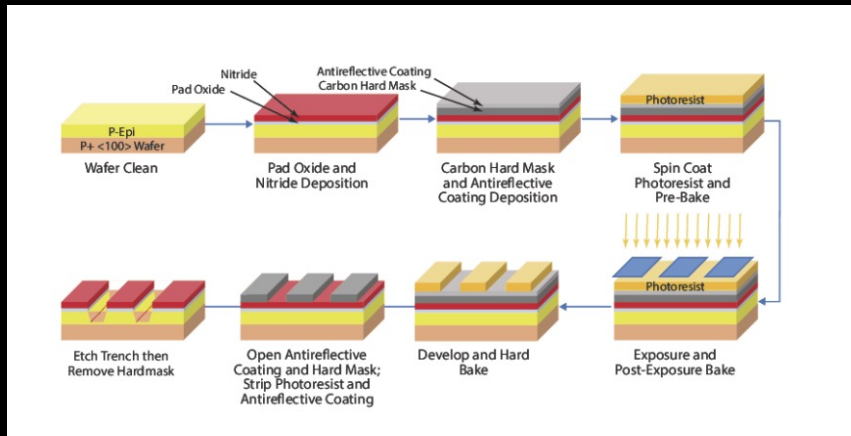
$p(y(t_k) | x(t_k), x(t_{k-1}), \dots, y(t_{k-1}), y(t_{k-2}), \dots)$  changes over time

- **we have fat data, i.e., # features larger than # data**
- **poor data quality, i.e., lots of missing values or anomalies**
- **huge volume of data to process, different types of data**

# Domain knowledge and fully home-grown algorithms

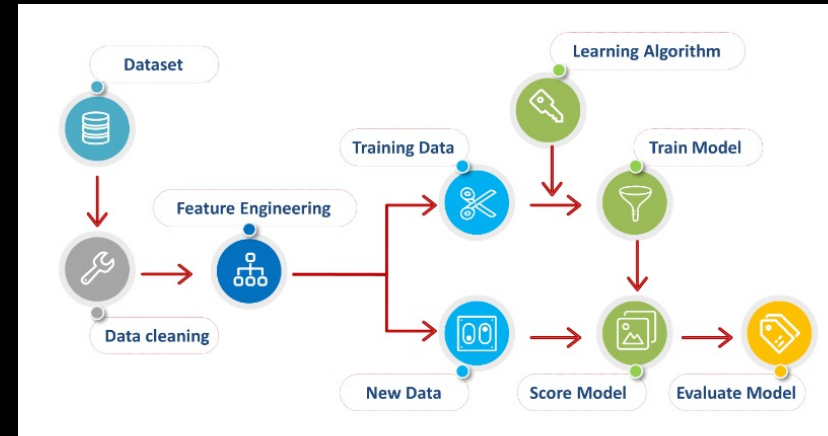
*in most cases,  
domain knowledge is critical!*

close collaboration with customers required



*off-the-shelf algorithms  
not working!*

developing fully customized algorithms needed



# Gauss Labs success story: Virtual Metrology (VM)



# What is VM?

*in many cases,  
we cannot measure all  
processed materials*

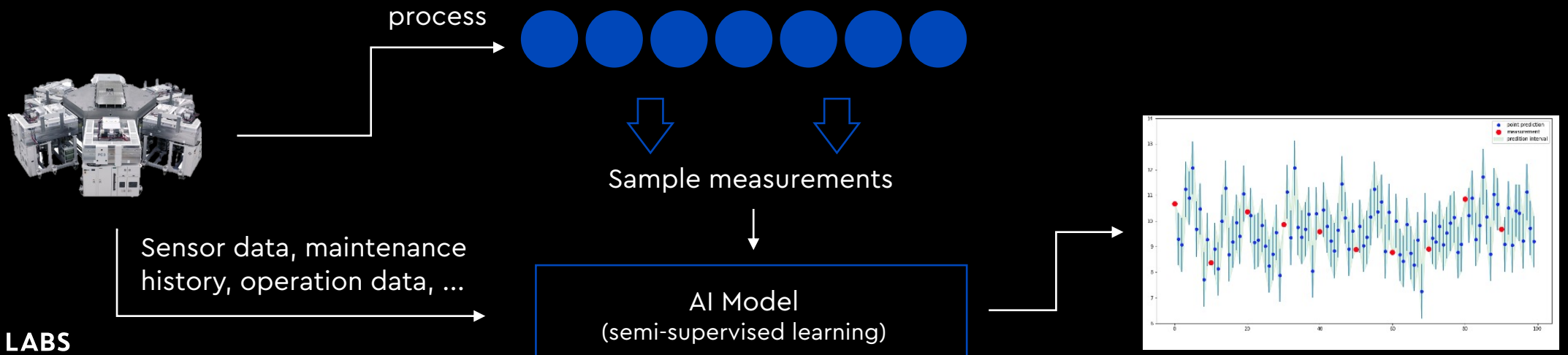
- measurement equipment is too expensive
- measuring every materials makes production slow inducing low throughput

*thus, we do sampling  
(with very low sampling rate)*

- in semiconductor manufacturing line, average sampling rate is less than 1%

## PROBLEM

- predict the measurement of unmeasured material using indirect signals
- sensor data, maintenance history, operation data, . . .



# 10x change made by VM

## *To the best of our knowledge*

- no organization has even been successful with VM

## **Gauss Labs** **VM**

- uses online learning to cope with data drift/shift
- RMSE comparable to measurement equipment precision
- also predicts uncertainty of predictions - providing prediction reliability information

## **VM** *implications*

- measuring ALL wafers – equivalent to investing on 100x measurement equipment
- enables optimal re-allocation of limited measurement resources

# Conclusion

*supervised and  
unsupervised ML  
everywhere in industrial  
AI applications*

*lots of  
challenges*

- data challenge, domain knowledge required, need for customizing algorithms

*10x changes potentially  
made via various  
applications*

## **Impacts**

- Tens of Millions of dollars by 1% yield increase
- 100x measurement equipment save by VM

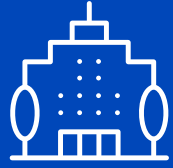
**Gauss Labs has  
success stories include**

- Virtual Metrology (VM)
- Subnanometer-precision Machine Vision



# Who we are

SCAN here  
For info



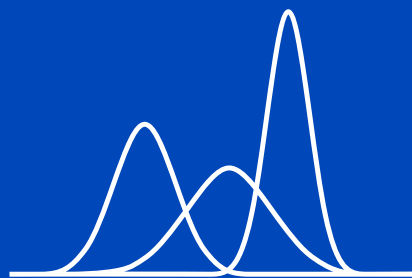
Founded in Silicon Valley and Seoul, Korea, in August 2020  
Strategic investment of \$55m by SK



Global team of ~45 Gaussians (grow with quality and speed)  
Top talents from global companies (16 PhDs)



Mission of innovating industry with trustworthy AI technologies  
Reliable, robust, and scalable AI products and solutions for 10x changes



**GAUSS LABS**

We normalize AI.