



**Prof. Neil Gershenfeld**  
*Director*

<http://cba.mit.edu/~neilg>

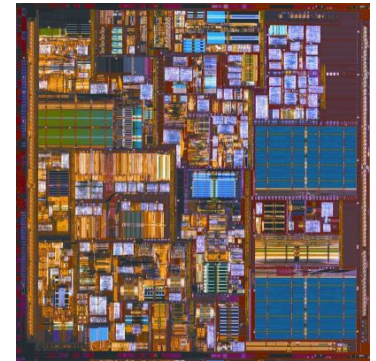
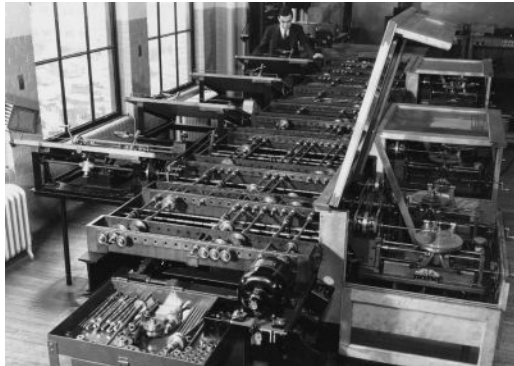
# Digital Revolutions



analog → digital communication  
~1945



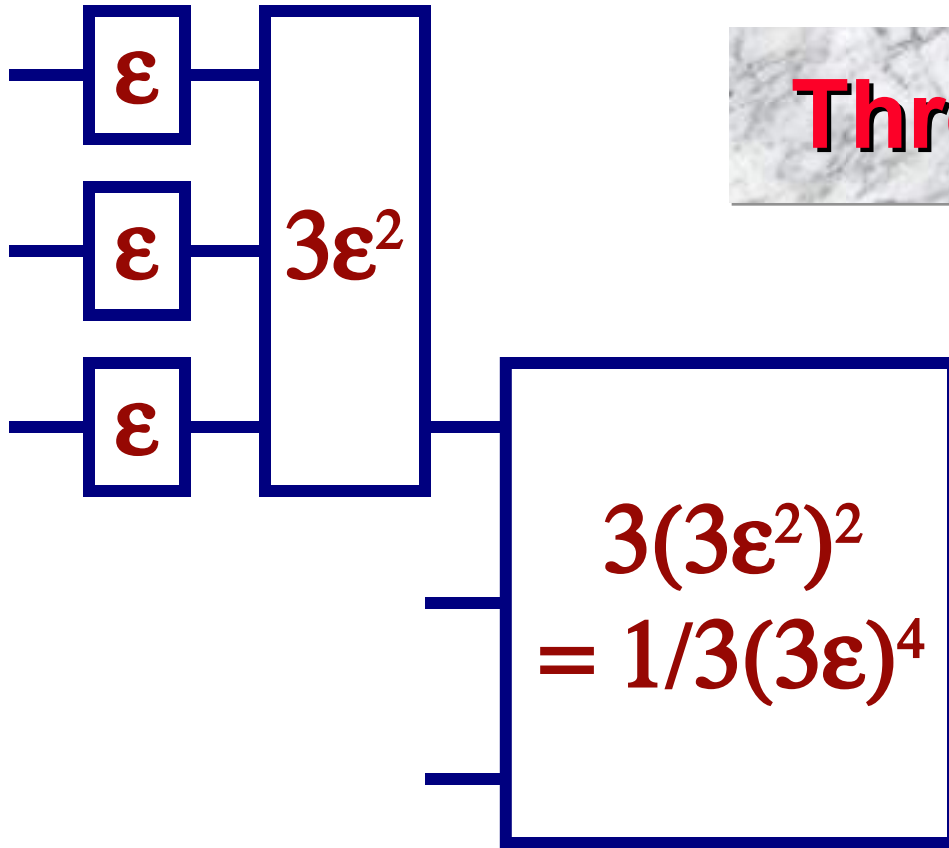
analog → digital computation  
~1955



analog → digital fabrication  
~2005



# Threshold Theorems

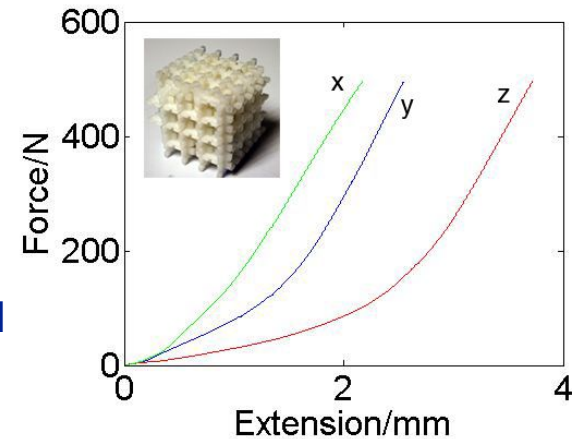
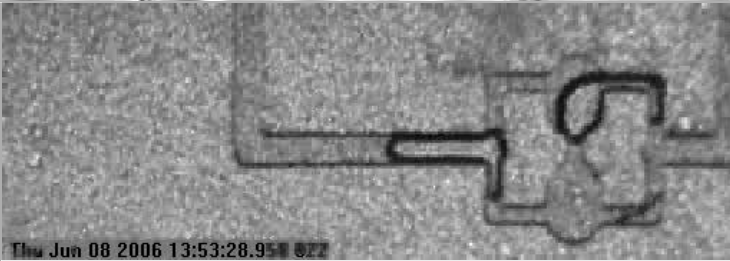
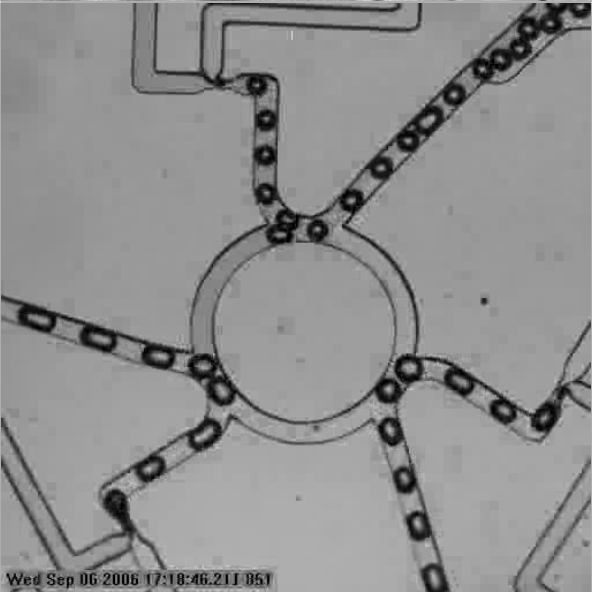
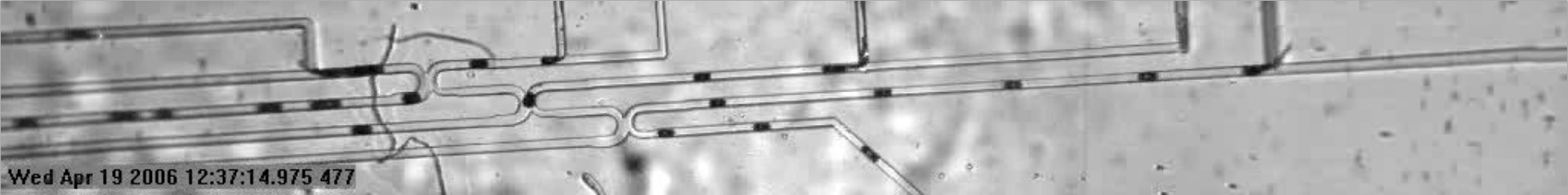


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$3^n$

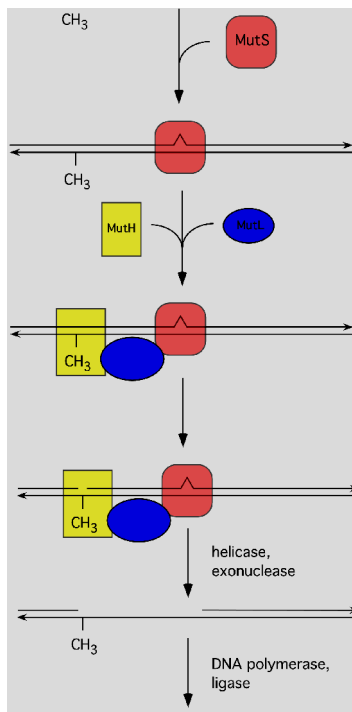
•  
•  
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$1/3(3\epsilon)^{2n}$



**Microfluidic Bubble Logic**  
**Manu Prakash and Neil Gershenfeld**  
*Science* 9 February 2007  
 Vol. 315. no. 5813, pp. 832 - 835

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**Robotics: Self-Replication from Random Parts**  
**Saul Griffith, Dan Goldwater, Joseph Jacobson**  
*Nature* 437, 636 (29 September 2005)





in

out

m



mm



$\mu\text{m}$

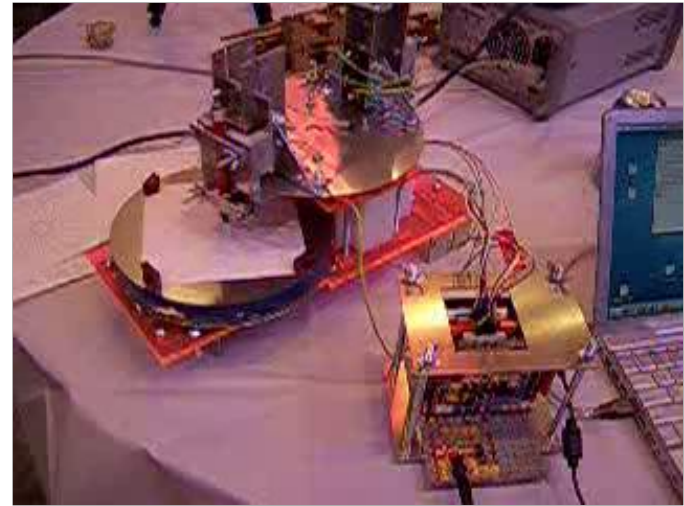
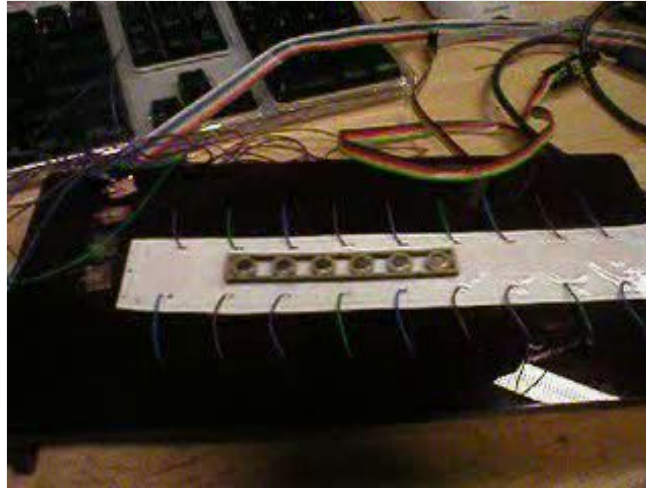


nm



# How To Make (almost) Anything

Date	Subject
9/10	<a href="#">Design Tools, Input Devices</a>
9/24	<a href="#">Machining</a>
10/1	<a href="#">3D Printing, NC machining</a>
10/15	<a href="#">Laser, Water Jet, NC Knife Cutting</a>
10/22	<a href="#">Materials and Finishes</a>
10/29	<a href="#">Forming and Molding</a>
11/5	<a href="#">Basic Electronics</a>
11/12	<a href="#">ECAD</a>
11/19	<a href="#">Sensor Technology</a>
11/26	<a href="#">Programmable Logic</a>
12/3	<a href="#">Microcontrollers</a>
12/10	<a href="#">Wired &amp; Wireless Communications</a>



# The Liberal Arts



## *The Trivium*

- Grammar
- Rhetoric
- Logic

## *The Quadrivium*

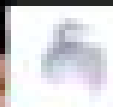
- Arithmetic
- Geometry
- Music
- Astronomy

## *The Illiberal Arts*





CNN



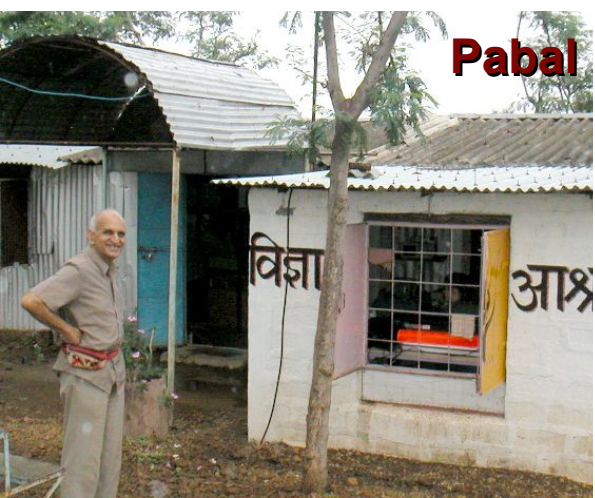
HIGHLIGHT



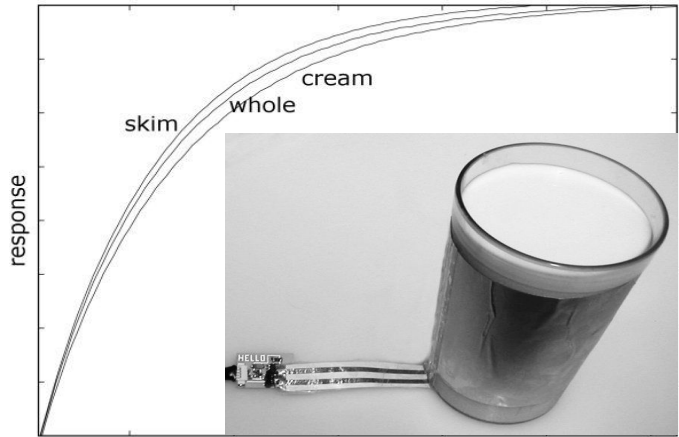
# Fab Labs



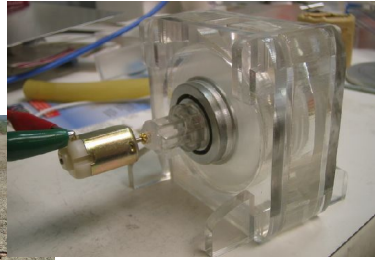
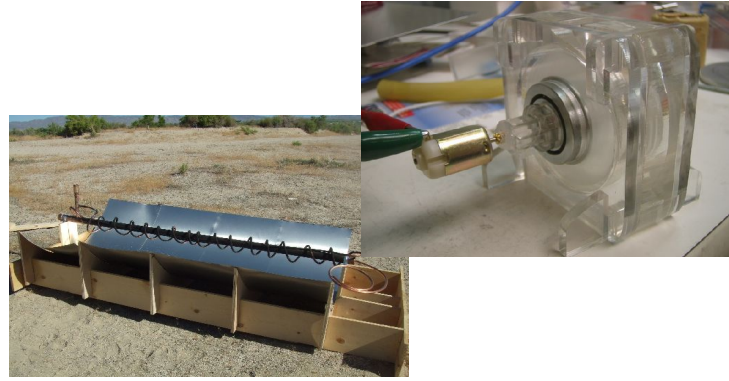
*fabrication and  
instrumentation divide*







invention  
 ↑  
 job  
 creation  
 ↑  
 problem  
 solving  
 ↑  
 education  
 ↑  
 empowerment





The Third International  
Fab Lab Forum  
and  
Symposium on Digital Fabrication

Pretoria, South Africa  
June 29, 2006



science  
& technology  
Department:  
Science and Technology  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

amts  
advanced manufacturing  
technology strategy

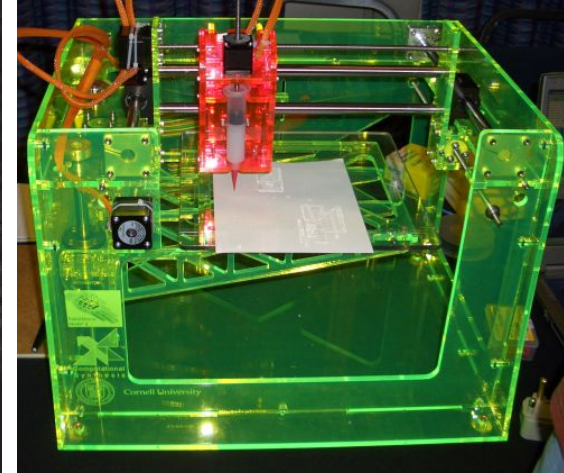
CSIR  
our future through science

9:00-9:30 **Introduction**

Neil Gershenfeld  
CSIR, AMTS, DST

9:30-10:45 **Foundations**

Charles Bennett: *molecular machines*  
Joe Jacobson: *fabricational complexity*  
Saul Griffith: *programmed assembly*  
Paul Rothemund: *DNA origami*  
Erik Winfree: *algorithmic self-assembly*  
Hod Lipson: *machines that make machines*



9:00-9:15: *Welcome and Introduction*

Don Levy (University of Chicago)  
Neil Gershenfeld (MIT)

9:15-10:30: *Form and Function*

George Church (Harvard)  
*Fabricating with DNA*  
Pete Carr (MIT)  
*Error-Corrected DNA Synthesis*  
Milan Stojanovic (Columbia)  
*DNA Computing and Robotics*  
Millie Firestone (Argonne National Laboratory)  
*Design and Fabrication of Nanomaterials*  
Manu Prakash (MIT)  
*Microfluidic Bubble Logic*

10:30-11:00: *Break*

11:00-12:30: *Form and Function*

George Popescu (MIT)  
*Digital Materials and Printing*  
Evan Malone, Jonathan Hiller (Cornell)  
*Printing Electromechanical Machines*  
Larry Sass (MIT)  
*Large-Scale Rapid Prototyping*  
Berok Khoshnevis (USC)  
*Solid Free Form Fabrication*  
Luis Lafuente Molinero (MIT)  
*Fabricational Capacity*

12:30-2:00: *Lunch*

Gordon Center Atrium



**FAB 4:  
The Fourth International Fab Lab Forum  
and Symposium on Digital Fabrication**

August 22-23 2007



2:00-3:30: *Applications and Implications*

Smári McCarthy (Vestmannaeyjar, Iceland)  
*Digital Design Tools*  
Peter Bosscha (Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, South Africa)  
*Thinner Clients*  
George Sergiadis (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece)  
*Field Fabrication of Advanced Antennas*  
Dhananjay Gadre (Netaji Subhas Institute of Technology, India)  
*Lighting and Instrumentation*  
Saul Griffith (Makani Power)  
*Making Trouble*

3:30-4:00: *Break*

4:00-5:30: *Applications and Implications*

Anil Gupta (Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad, India)  
*Grass-Roots Invention*  
Ian Foster (Argonne National Laboratory)  
*Technology for Distributed Collaboration*  
Joel Cutcher-Gershenfeld (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)  
*Lateral Alignment of Stakeholders in Innovation Networks*  
Leo Kadanoff (University of Chicago, American Physical Society)  
*Formal and Informal Science*

5:30-7:00: *Reception*

Gordon Center Atrium

7:00 - *I-House*

Coulter Lounge  
Mobile Fab Lab





## The Fab Foundation

*invention as aid*

## The Fab Fund

*VC + microfinance = micro-VC*

## The Fab Academy

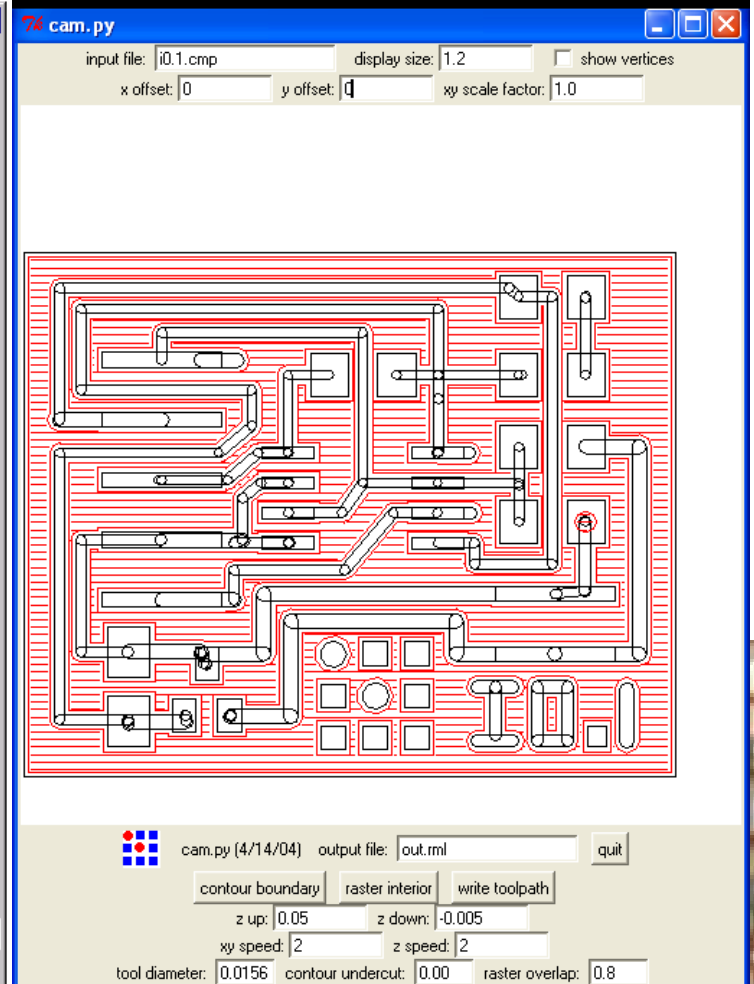
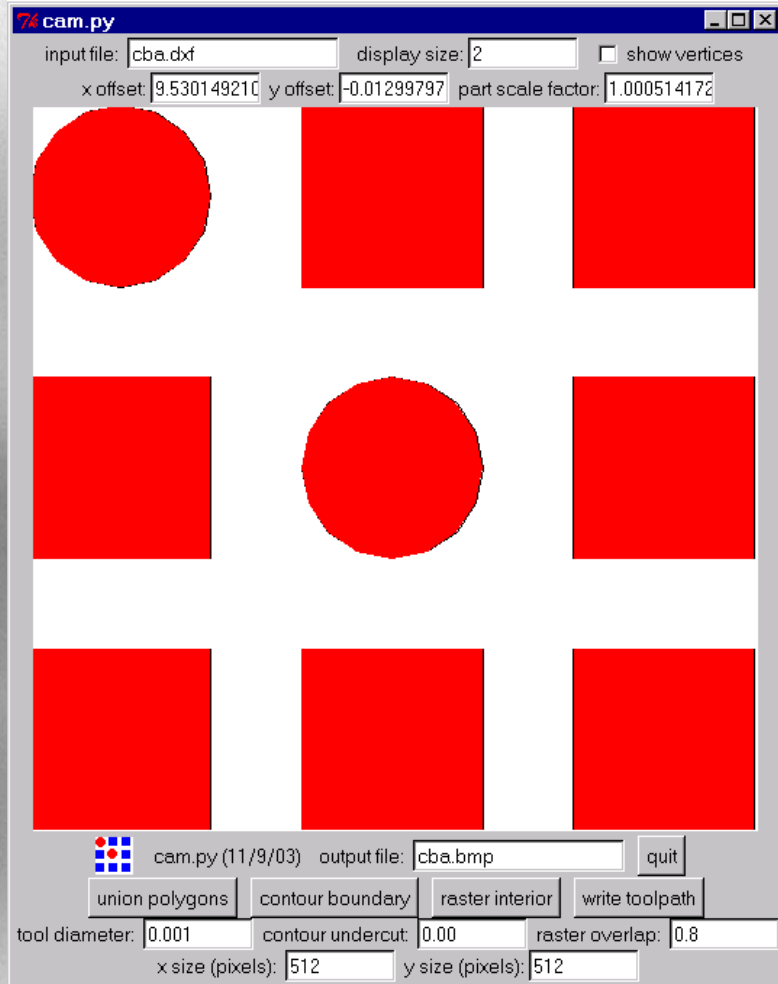
*distributed technical education*

## research partnerships

*enabling processes and projects*



# cam.py



HFV	FWD	Mag	E-Beam	Spot	Tilt	2 $\mu$ m
15.2 $\mu$ m	4.906	20.0 kX	15.0 kV	3	0.0°	

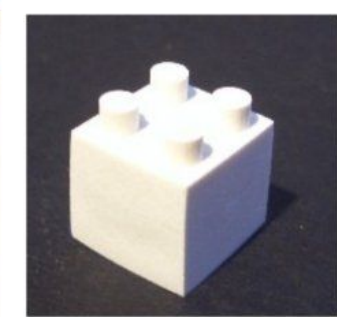
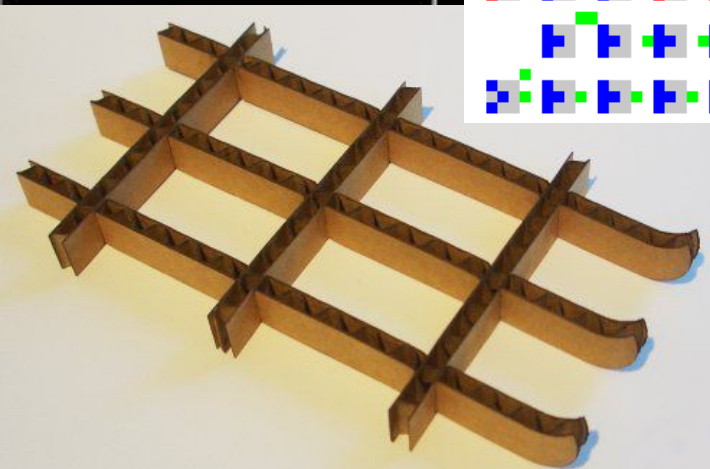
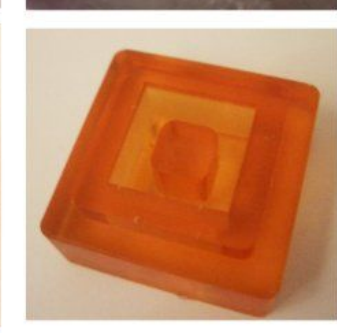
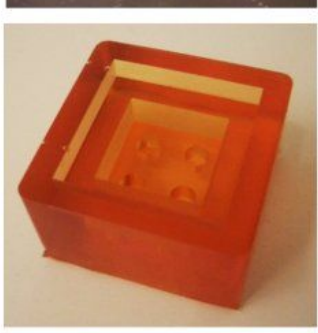
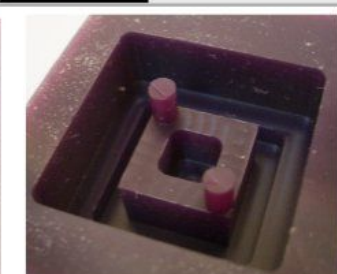
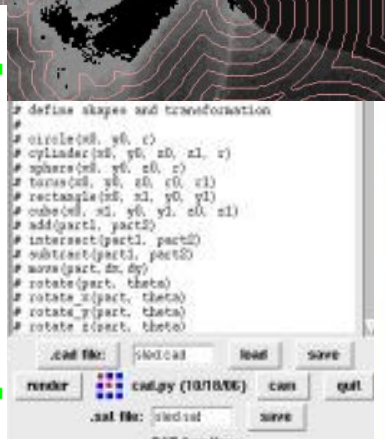
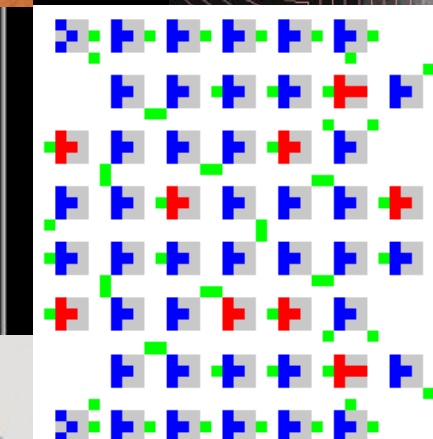
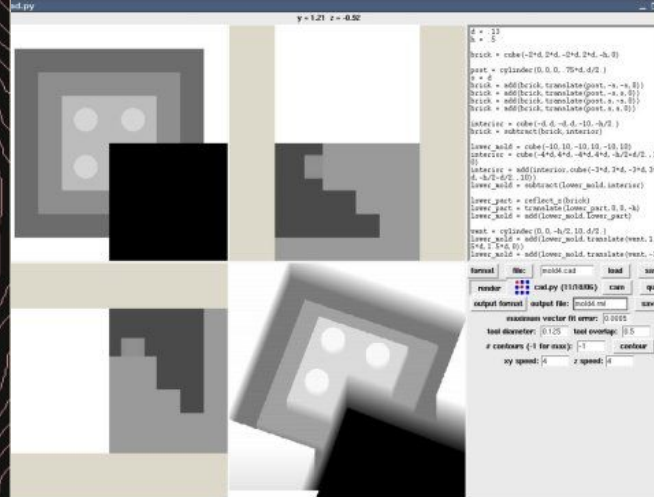
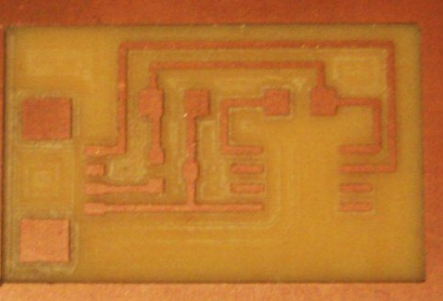
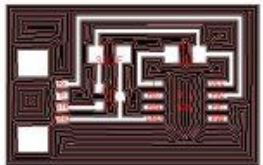
**input:** SVG, DXF (2D,3D), Gerber PCB, Excellon drill, JPG, TIFF, STL

**output:** G code, Roland mill & cutter, Omax waterjet, Epilog & Universal lasercutter, FEI focused ion beam, Haas machining center, Resonetics excimer micromachining



# cad.py

x = 1.583 y = 1.005





**content management**



**global merging**

**SVG+Javascript, Java, ... interfaces**

**math string**

**XMLHttp**

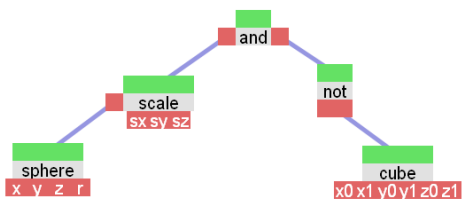
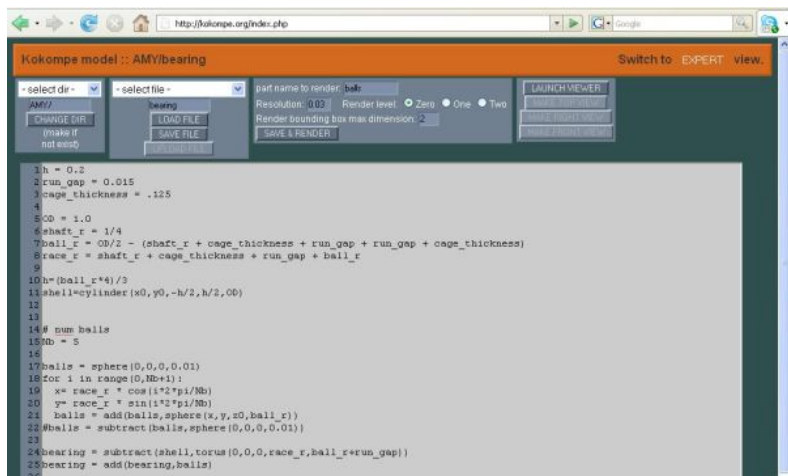
**server**

**version control**

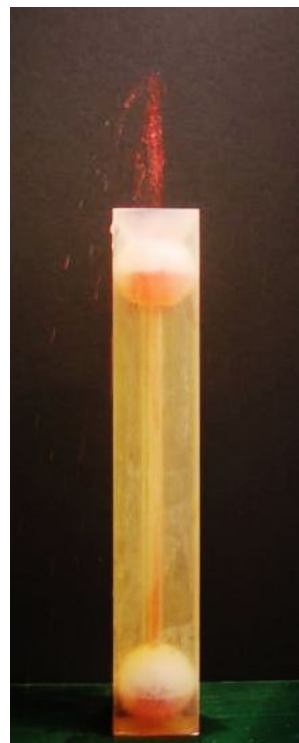
**machine control**



**octree evaluation**



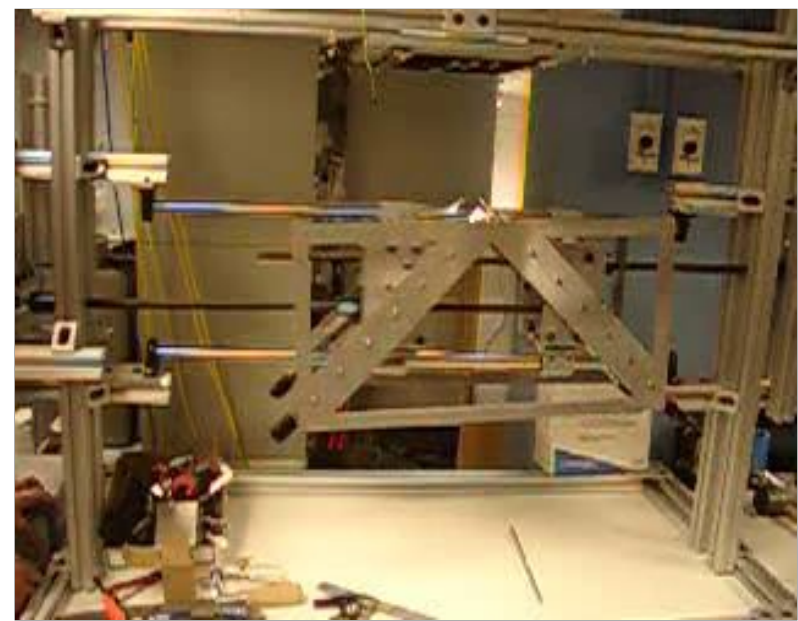
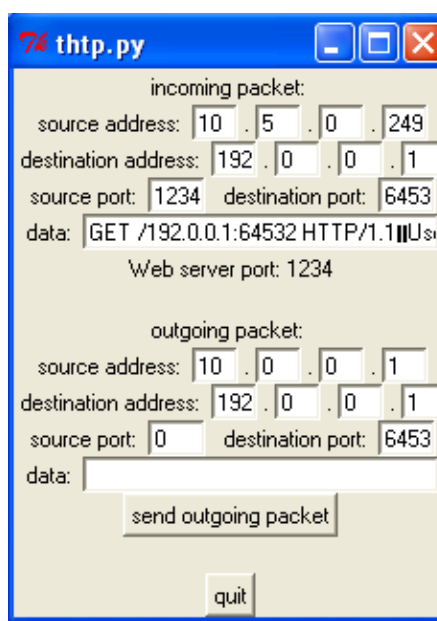
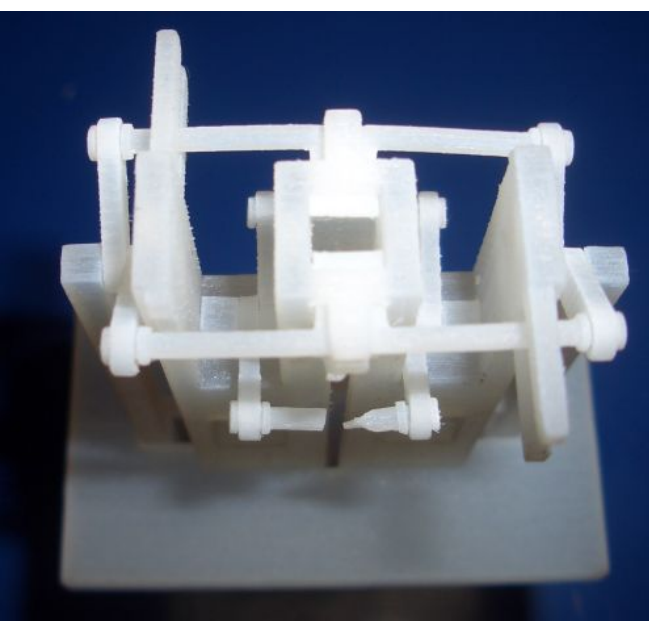
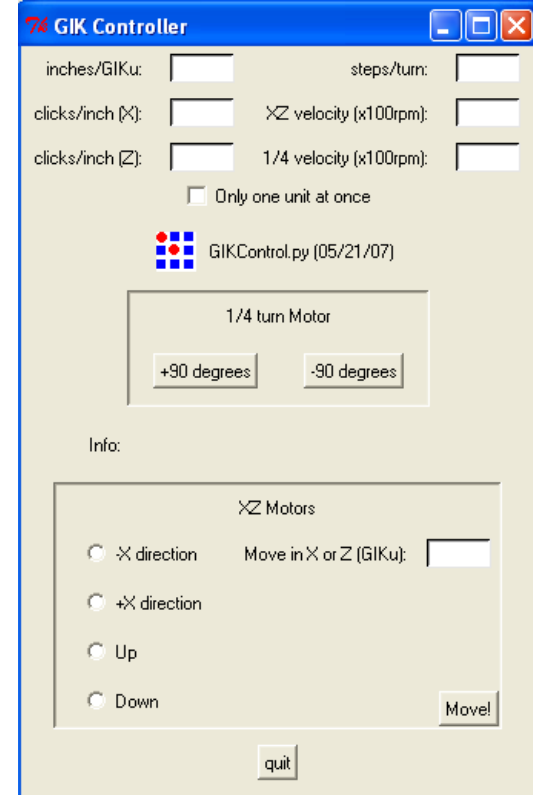
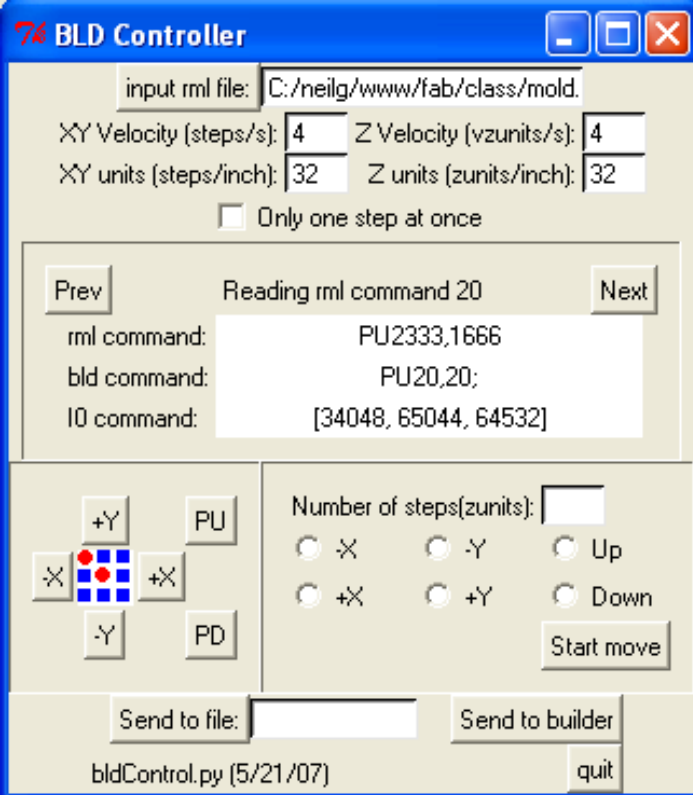
**CA toolpath generation**



**real-time virtual machine execution**



**Internet 0 machine control network**



**WHEN THINGS  
START TO THINK**

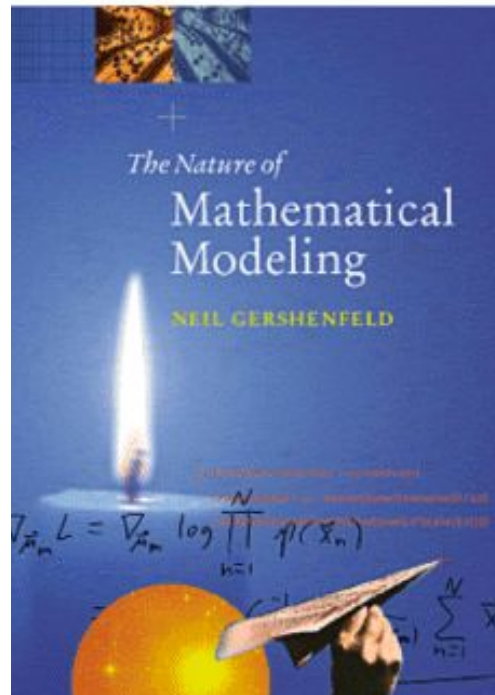
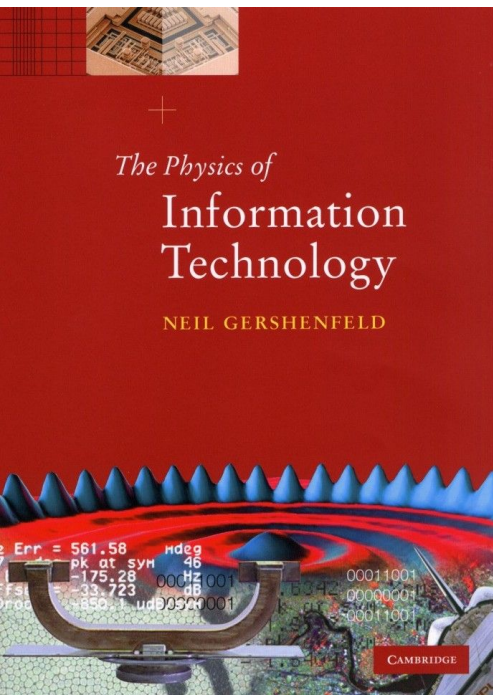
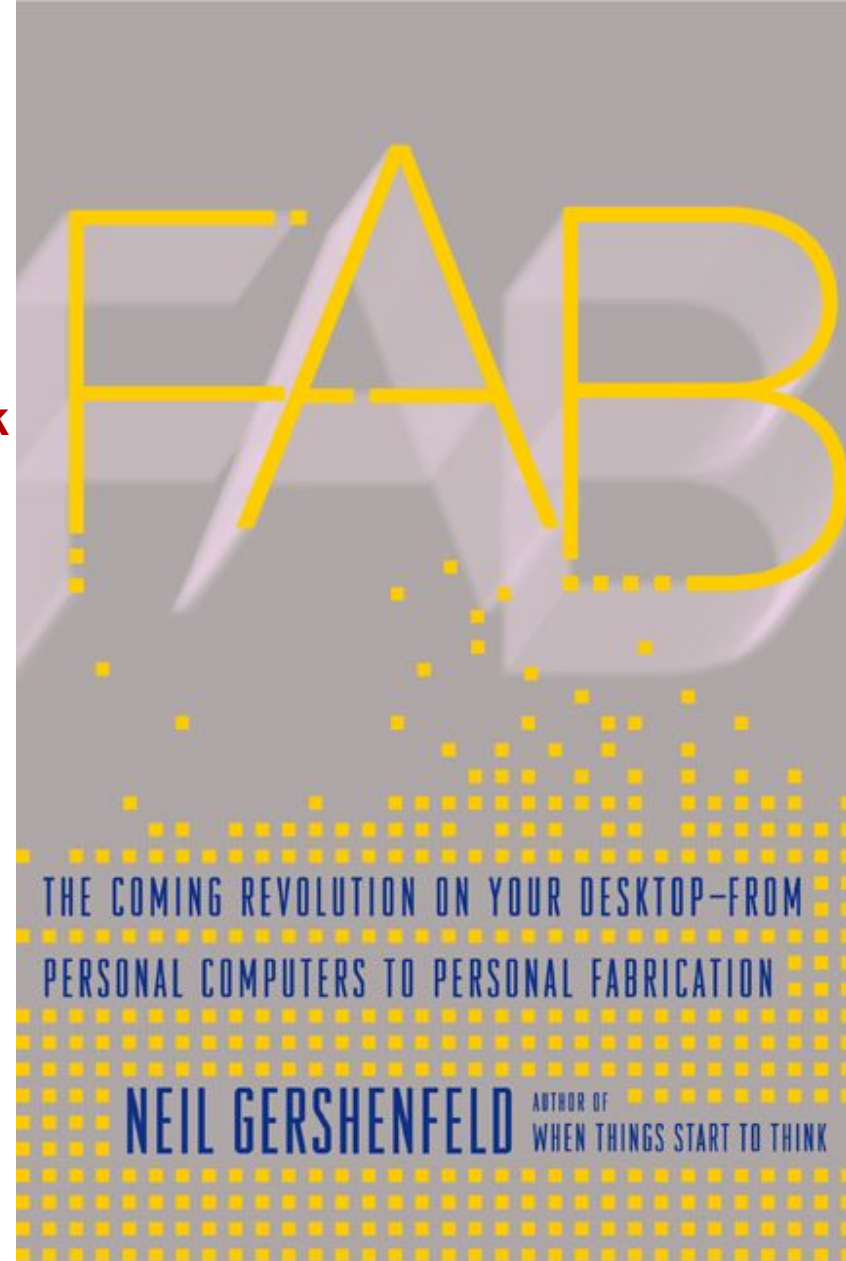


NEIL GERSHENFELD

*Henry Holt  
and Company*  
(Amazon top 10)

*Basic Books*  
(BusinessWeek  
best of 2005)

*Cambridge  
University  
Press*



<http://cba.mit.edu/~neilg>