PART PROGRAMMING

INTRODUCTION

A group of commands given to the CNC for operating the machine is called the program.

It consists of:

- Information about part geometry
- Motion statements to move the cutting tool
- Cutting speed
- Feed
- Auxiliary functions such as coolant on and off, spindle direction

CNC program structure

There are four basic terms used in CNC programming Character -> Word -> Block -> Program

- Character is the smallest unit of CNC program. It can have Digit / Letter / Symbol.
- Word is a combination of alpha-numerical characters. This creates a single instruction to the CNC machine. Each word begins with a capital letter, followed by a numeral. These are used to represent axes positions, federate, speed, preparatory commands, and miscellaneous functions.
- A program block may contain multiple words, sequenced in a logical order of processing.
- The program comprises of multiple lines of instructions, 'blocks' which will be executed by the machine control unit (MCU).

FIXED ZERO v/s FLOATING ZERO

Fixed zero:

• Origin is always located at some position on M/C table (usually at south west corner/Lower left-hand) of the tables & all tool location are defined W.R.T. this zero

Floating Zero:

- Very common with CNC M/C used now a days.
- Operator sets zero point at any convenient position on M/C table.
- The Coordinate system is knows as work coordinate system (WCS)

Modal and Non modal commands

- Commands issued in the NC program may stay in effect indefinitely (until they explicitly cancelled or changed by some other command), or they may be effective for only the one time that they are issued.
- The former are referred as Modal commands. Examples include feed rate selection and coolant selection.
- Commands that are effective only when issued and whose effects are lost for subsequent commands are referred to as non-modal commands.
- A dwell command, which instructs the tool to remain in a given configuration for a given amount of time, is an example of a non-modal command.

Structure of an NC part program

- An NC part program is made up of a series of commands that are input into the MCU in a serial manner.
- The MCU interprets these commands and generates the necessary signals to each of the drive units of the machine to accomplish the required action.
- The NC program is required to have a particular structure that the controller can understand and it must follow a specific syntax.
- Commands are inputs into the controller in units called blocks or statements.
- Each block is made up of one or more machine commands.

- In general, several commands are grouped together to accomplish a specific machining operation, hence the use of a block of information for each operation.
- Each command gives a specific element of control data, such as dimension or a feed rate. Each command within a block is also called a word.
- The way in which words are arranged within the block is called block format.
- Three different block formats are commonly used, (Fixed sequential format, Tab sequential format and Word address format)

Word Sequential Format : Used on virtually all modern controllers.

N50 G00 X50 Y25 Z0 F0 N60 G01 Z-1 F50 M08 N70 Z0 M09

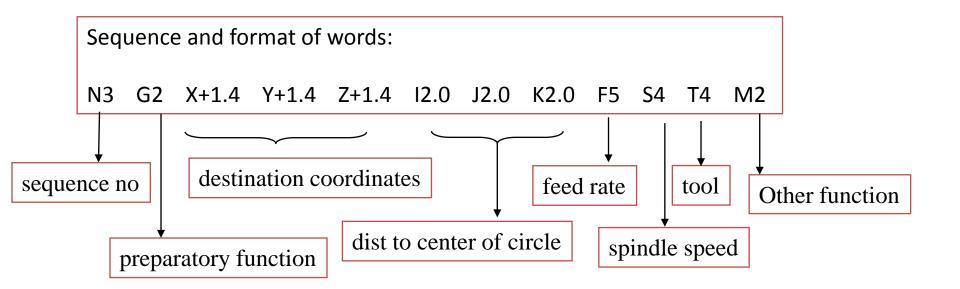
- With this type of format, each type of word is assigned as address that is identified by a letter code within the part program.
- Thus the letter code specifies the type of word that follows and then its associated numeric data is given.
- For example, the code T represents a tool number. Thus a word of the form T01 would represent tool number 1.
- Theoretically, with this approach, the words in a given block can be entered in any sequence and the controller should be able to interpret them correctly.

- With the word address format only the needed words for a given operation have to be included within the block.
- The command to which the particular numeric data applies is identified by the preceding address code.
- Word format has the advantage of having more than one particular command in one block something that would be impossible in the other two formats.

COMMONLY USED WORD ADDRESSES

- N-CODE: Sequence number, used to identify each block with in an NC program and provides a means by which NC commands may be rapidly located. It is program line number. It is a good practice to increment each block number by 5 to 10 to allow additional blocks to be inserted if future changes are required.
- G-CODE: Preparatory Word, used as a communication device to prepare the MCU. The G-code indicates that a given control function such as G01, linear interpolation, is to be requested.
- X, Y & Z-CODES: Coordinates. These give the coordinate positions of the tool.

- F-CODE: Feed rate. The F code specifies the feed in the machining operation.
- S-CODE: Spindle speed. The S code specifies the cutting speed of the machining process.
- T-CODE: Tool selection. The T code specifies which tool is to be used in a specific operation.
- M-CODE: Miscellaneous function. The M code is used to designate a particular mode of operation for an NC machine tool.
- I, J & K-CODES: They specify the centre of arc coordinates from starting.



G00	Rapid Linear Positioning	G55	Work Coordinate System 2 Selection
G01	Linear Feed Interpolation	G56	Work Coordinate System 3 Selection
G02	CW Circular Interpolation	G57	Work Coordinate System 4 Selection
G03	CCW Circular Interpolation	G58	Work Coordinate System 5 Selection
G04	Dwell	G59	Work Coordinate System 6 Selection
G07	Imaginary Axis Designation	G60	Single Direction Positioning
G09	Exact Stop	G61	Exact Stop Mode
G10	Offset Value Setting	G64	Cutting Mode
G17	XY Plane Selection	G65	Custom Macro Simple Call
G18	ZX Plane Selection	G66	Custom Macro Modal Call
G19	YZ plane Selection	G67	Custom Macro Modal Call Cancel
G20	Input In Inches	G68	Coordinate System Rotation On
G21	Input In Millimeters	G69	Coordinate System Rotation Off
G22	Stored Stroke Limit On	G73	Peck Drilling Cycle
G23	Stored Stroke Limit Off	G74	Counter Tapping Cycle
G27	Reference Point Return Check	G76	Fine Boring
G28	Return To Reference Point	G80	Canned Cycle Cancel
G29	Return From Reference Point	G81	Drilling Cycle, Spot Boring
G30	Return To 2nd, 3rd and 4th Ref. Point	G82	Drilling Cycle, Counter Boring
G31	Skip Cutting	G83	Peck Drilling Cycle
G33	Thread Cutting	G84	Tapping Cycle
G40	Cutter Compensation Cancel	G85	Boring Cycle
G41	Cutter Compensation Left	G86	Boring Cycle
G42	Cutter Compensation Right	G87	Back Boring Cycle
G43	Tool Length Compensation + Direction	G88	Boring Cycle
G44	Tool Length Compensation - Direction	G89	Boring Cycle
G45	Tool Offset Increase	G90	Absolute Programming
G46	Tool Offset Double	G91	Incremental Programming
G47	Tool Offset Double Increase	G92	Programming Of Absolute Zero
G48	Tool Offset Double Decrease	G94	Feed Per Minute
G49	Tool Length Compensation Cancel	G95	Feed Per Revolution
G50	Scaling Off	G96	Constant Surface Speed Control
G51	Scaling On	G97	Constant Surface Speed Control Cancel
G52	Local Coordinate System Setting	G98	Return To Initial Point In Canned Cycles
G54	Work Coordinate System 1 Selection	G99	Return To R Point In Canned Cycles

List of M codes

M codes vary from machine to machine depending on the functions available on it. They are decided by the manufacturer of the machine. The M codes listed below are the common ones.

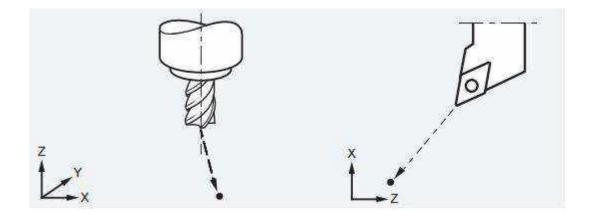
M-codes	Function
M00	Optional program stop automatic
M01	Optional program stop request
M02	Program end
M03	Spindle ON clock wise (CW)
M04	Spindle ON counter clock wise (CCW)
M05	Spindle stop
M06	Tool change
M07	Mist coolant ON (coolant 1 ON)
M08	Flood coolant ON (coolant 2 ON)
M09	Coolant OFF
M30	End of program, Reset to start
M98	Sub program call
M99	Sub program end

G00 Rapid traverse

When the tool being positioned at a point preparatory to a cutting motion, to save time it is moved along a straight line at Rapid traverse, at a fixed traverse rate which is pre-programmed into the machine's control system.

Typical rapid traverse rates are 10 to 25 m /min., but can be as high as 80 m/min.

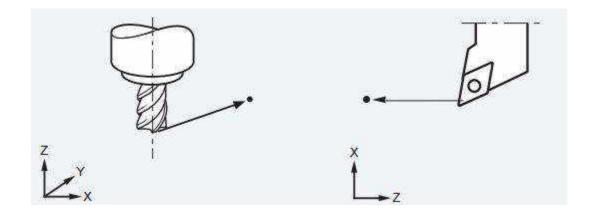
Syntax: N010 [G90/G91] G00 X10 Y10 Z5



G01 Linear interpolation (feed traverse)

The tool moves along a straight line in one or two axis simultaneously at a programmed linear speed, the feed rate.

Syntax: N010[G90/G91] G01 X10 Y10 Z5 F25



G02/G03 Circular interpolation

Format

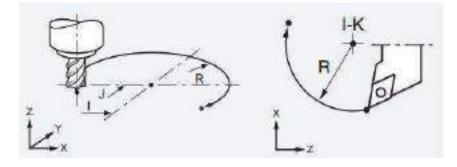
N__G02/03 X__Y_Z_I_J_K__F_ using the arc center

or

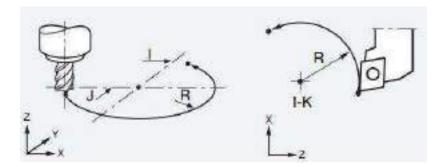
N__G02/03 X__Y_Z_ R__F__using the arc radius

Arc center

The arc center is specified by addresses I, J and K. I, J and K are the X, Y and Z co-ordinates of the arc center with reference to the arc start point.



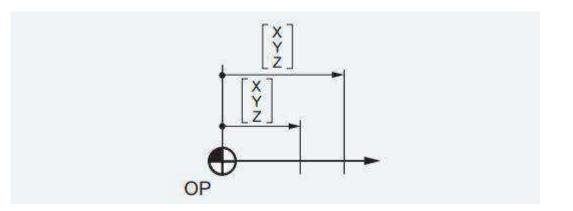
G02 moves along a CW arc



G03 moves along a CCW arc

G90 ABSOLUTE POSITION COMMAND

- When using a G90 absolute position command, each dimension or move is referenced from a fixed point, known as ABSOLUTE ZERO (part zero).
- Absolute zero is usually set at the corner edge of a part, or at the center of a square or round part, or an existing bore. ABSOLUTE ZERO is where the dimensions of a part program are defined from.
- Absolute dimensions are referenced from a known point on the part, and can be any point the operator chooses, such as the upper-left corner, center of a round part, or an existing bore.

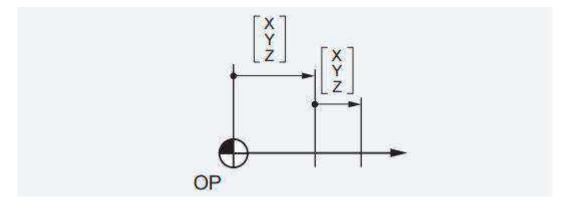


Syntax: N.. G90 X.. Y.. Z.. A.. B.. C..

G91 INCREMENTAL POSITION COMMAND

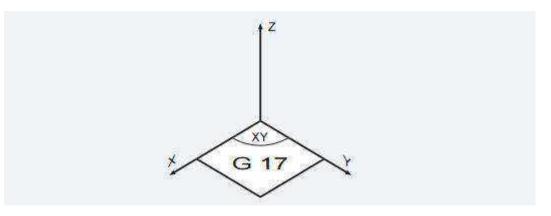
• This code is modal and changes the way axis motion commands are interpreted. G91 makes all subsequent commands incremental. Zero point shifts with the new position.

```
Syntax: N.. G91 X.. Y.. Z.. A.. B.. C..
```

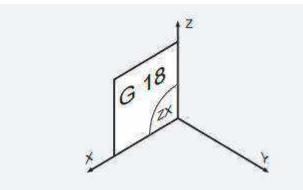


G 17 G18 G19 : PLANE SELECTION

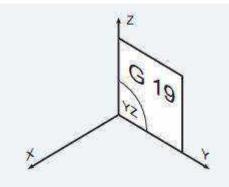
G 17 : XY plane selection Syntax: N.. G17



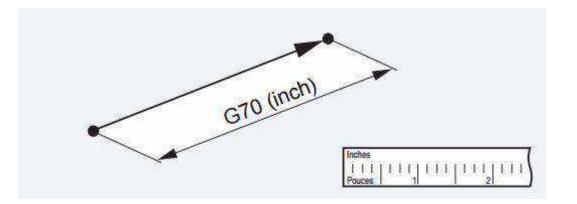
G 18 : ZX plane selection Syntax: N.. G18



G 19 : ZY plane selection Syntax: N.. G19

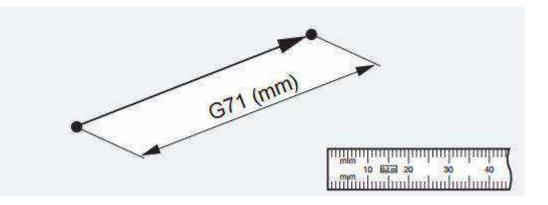


Syntax: N020 G17 G75 F6.0 S300 T1001 M08



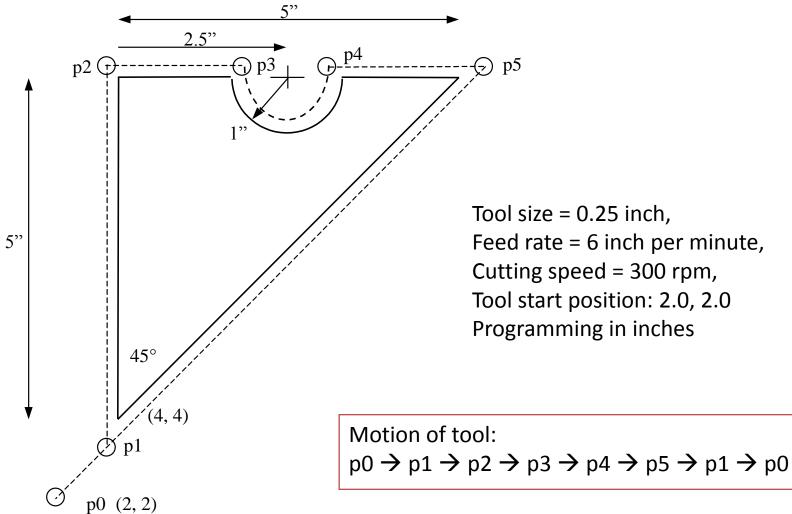
G 70 Inch data input

G 71 Metric data input



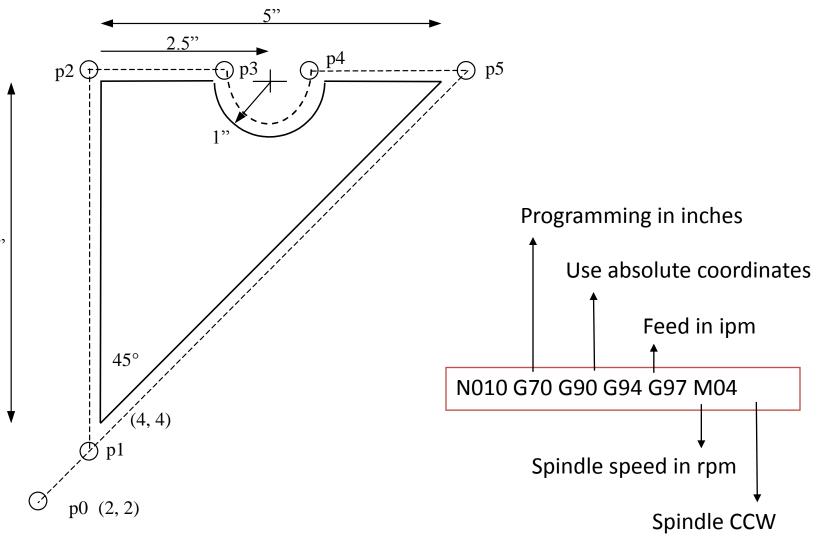
Syntax : N010 G70 G90 G94 G97 M04

Manual Part Programming Example



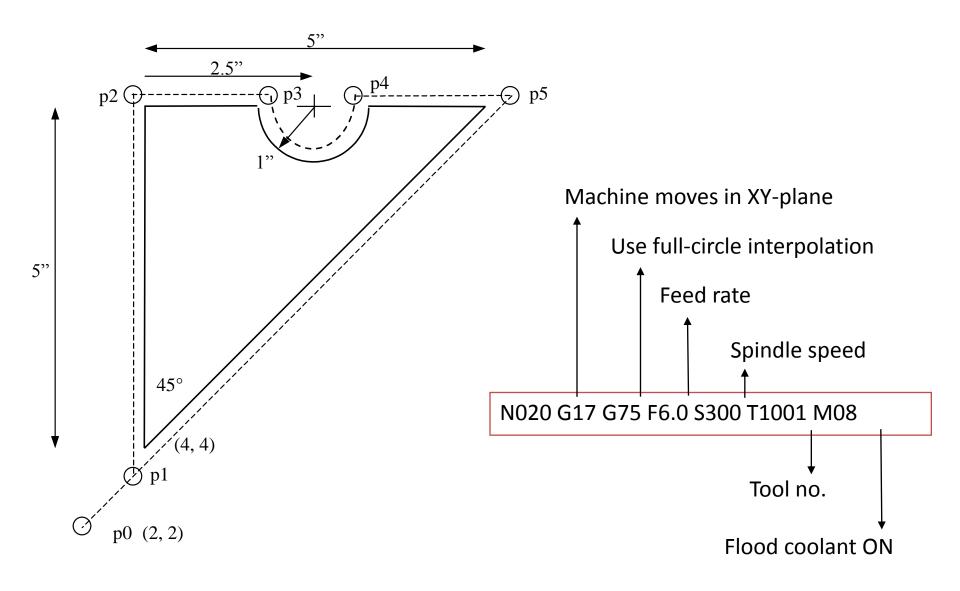
Feed rate = 6 inch per minute, Cutting speed = 300 rpm, Tool start position: 2.0, 2.0 Programming in inches

1. Set up the programming parameters

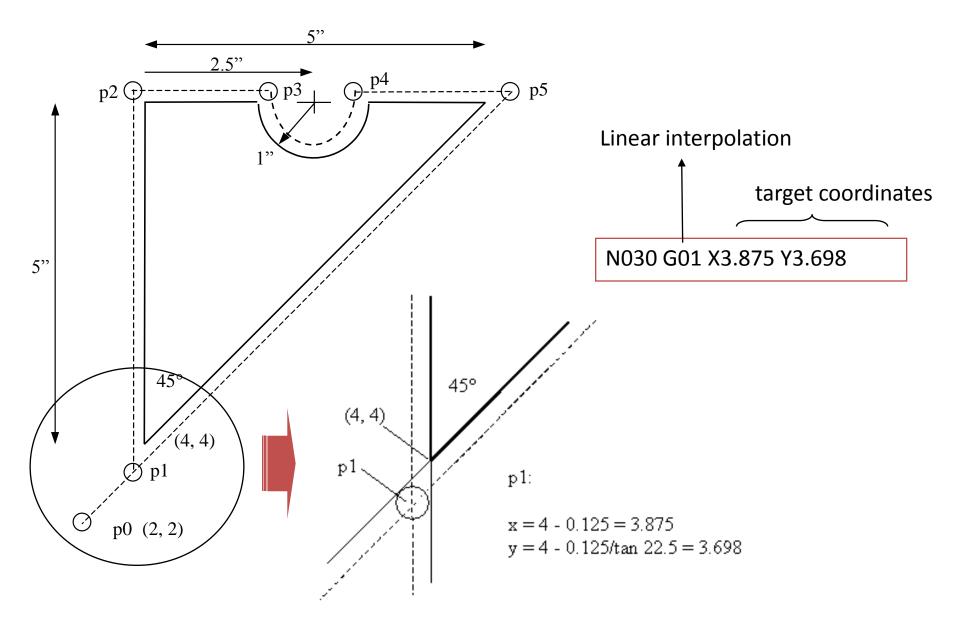


5"

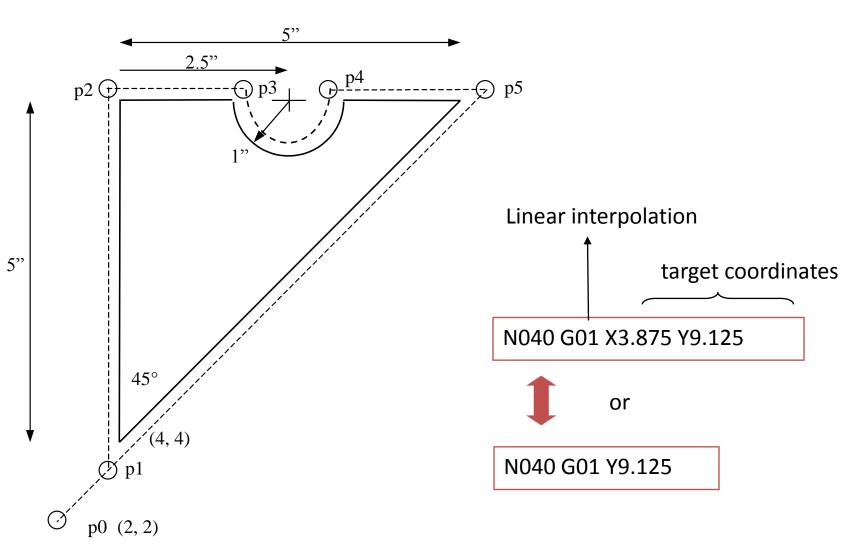
2. Set up the machining conditions



3. Move tool from p0 to p1 in straight line

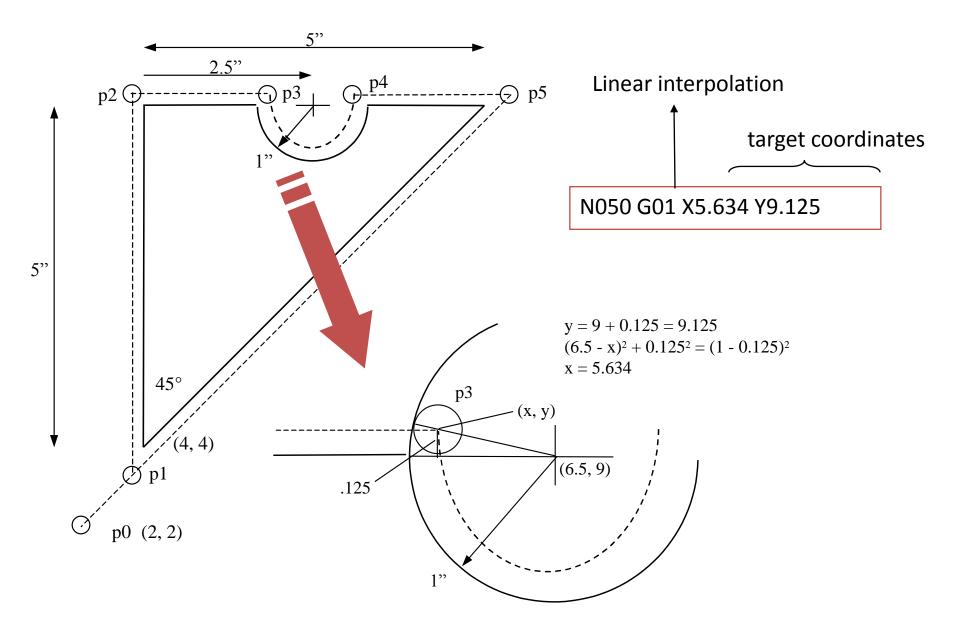


4. Cut profile from p1 to p2

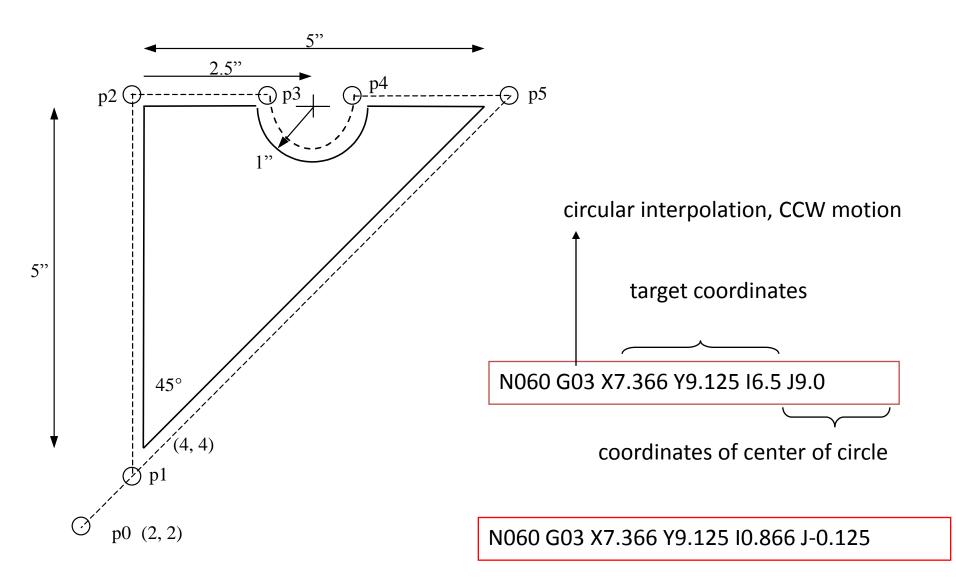


X-coordinate does not change \rightarrow no need to program it

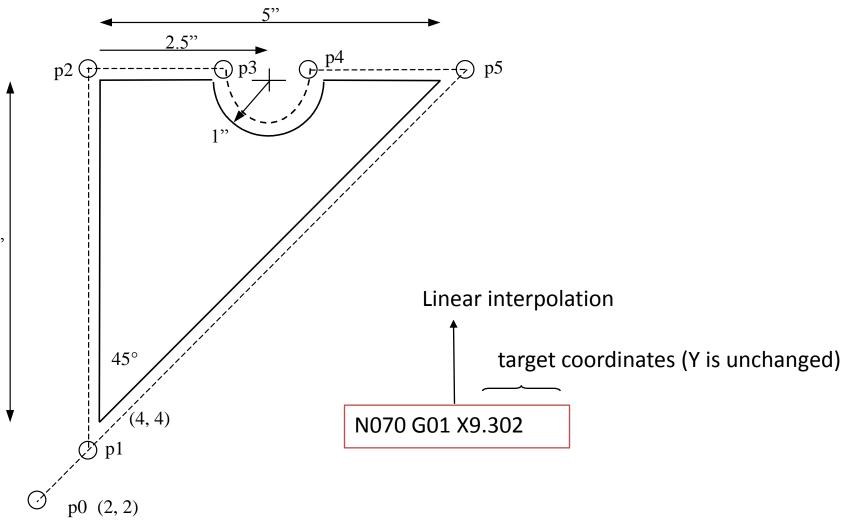
5. Cut profile from p2 to p3



6. Cut along circle from p3 to p4

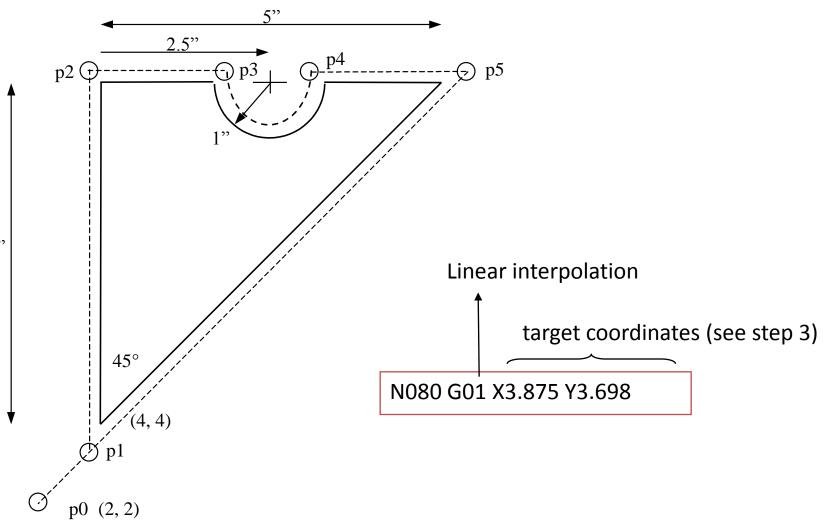


7. Cut from p4 to p5



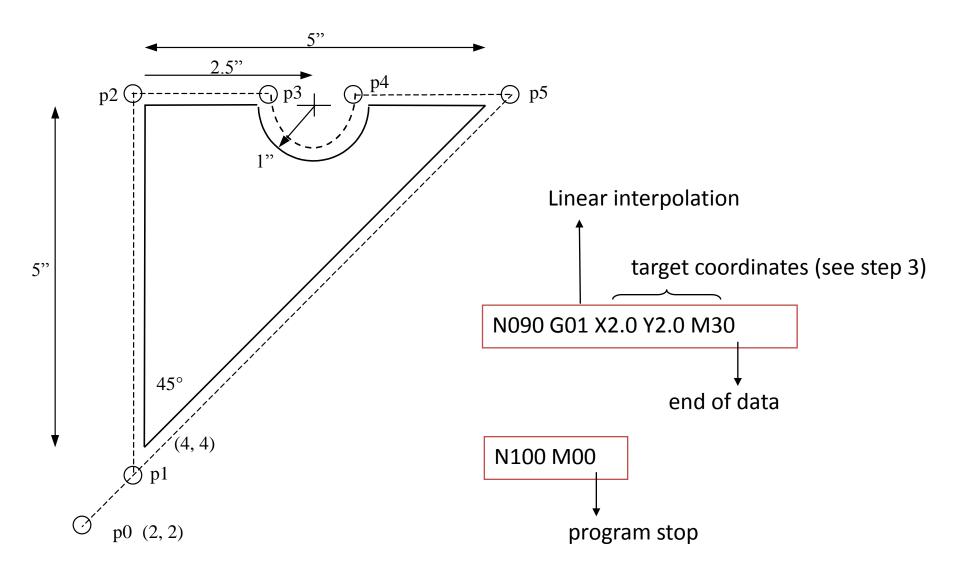
5"

8. Cut from p5 to p1



5"

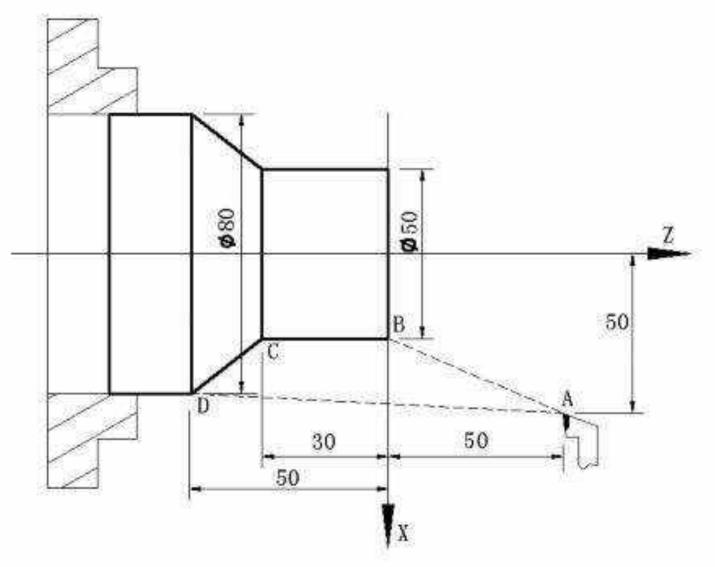
9. Return to home position, stop program



10. Complete RS-274 program

N010 G70 G90 G94 G97 M04 N020 G17 G75 F6.0 S300 T1001 M08 N030 G01 X3.875 Y3.698 N040 G01 X3.875 Y9.125 N050 G01 X5.634 Y9.125 N060 G03 X7.366 Y9.125 I0.866 J-0.125 N070 G01 X9.302 N080 G01 X3.875 Y3.698 N090 G01 X2.0 Y2.0 M30

Simple G Code Example CNC Lathe



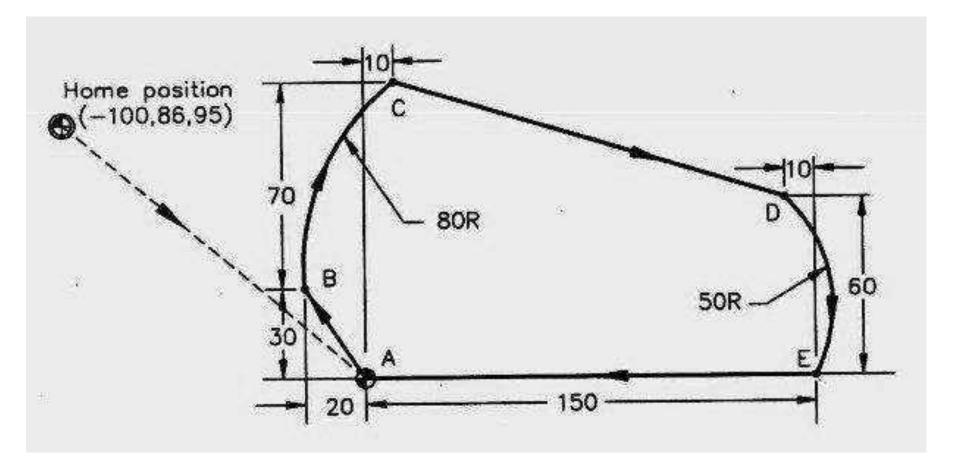
PART PROGRAM

N5 M12 N10 T0101 N15 G0 X100 Z50 N20 M3 S600 N25 M8 N30 G1 X50 Z0 F600 N40 Y-30 F200 N50 X80 Y-20 F150 N60 G0 X100 Z50 N70 T0100 N80 M5 N90 M9 N100 M13 N110 M30

Code Explanation

N5 Clamping workpiece N10 Changing No.1 tool and executing its offset N15 Rapidly positioning to A point N20 Starting the spindle with 600 r/min N25 Cooling ON N30 Approaching B point with 600mm/min N40 Cutting from B point to C point N50 Cutting from C point to D point N60 Rapidly retracting to A point N70 Cancelling the tool offset N80 Stopping the spindle N90 Cooling OFF N100 Releasing workpiece N110 End of program, spindle stopping and Cooling OFF

CNC MILLING EXAMPLE

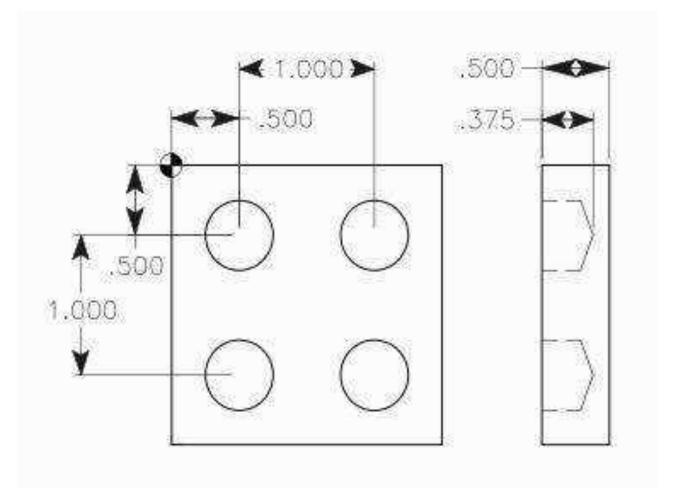


N5 G90 G71 N10 T1 M6 N15 G92 X-100 Y86 Z95 N20 G0 X0 Y0 S2500 M3 N25 Z12.5 N30 G1 Z-12.5 F150 N35 X-20 Y30 N40 G2 X10 Y100 R80 N45 G1 X140 Y60 N50 G2 X150 Y0 R50 N55 G1 X0 Y0 N60 G0 Z12.5 N65 G91 G28 Z0 M5 N70 G91 G28 X0 Y0 N75 M30

CODE EXPLANATION

N5 absolute positioning, metric unit N10 tool change to T1 N15 define work zero point at A N20 rapid traverse to A, spindle on (2500 RPM, CW) N25 rapid plunge to 12.5 mm above Z0 N30 feed to Z-12.5, feed rate 150 MMPM N35 cut line AB to B N40 cut arc BC to C N45 cut line CD to D N50 cut arc DE to E N55 cut line EA to A N60 rapid retract to Z12.5 N65 reference point return in Z direction, spindle off N70 reference point return in X and Y directions N75 end of program

SAMPLE PROGRAM ON DRILLING



N1 T16 M06 N2 G90 G54 G00 X0.5 Y-0.5 N3 S1450 M03 N4 G43 H16 Z1. M08 N5 G81 G99 Z-0.375 R0.1 F9. N6 X1.5 N7 Y-1.5 N8 X0.5 N9 G80 G00 Z1. M09 N10 G53 G49 Z0. M05 N11 M30

CODE EXPLANATION

- N1- Tool change (M06) to tool no.16
- N2- Tool rapidly moves (G00) to first drilling position X0.5 Y-0.5 while taking into account Zero-offset-no. 1 (G54)
- N3- Drill starts rotating clockwise (M03) with 1450 rpm (S1450).
- N4- Drill takes depth Z1. taking into account tool length compensation (G43 H16), coolant is turned on (M08).
- N5- Drilling cycle (G81) parameters, drill depth (Z) and cutting feed (F) are given, with this command first drill is made at current position (X0.5 Y-0.5).
- N6- As drilling cycle continues it's work with every axis movement so next drill is done at X1.5
- N7- Third drilling hole at Y-1.5

N8- Fourth drill at X0.5

N9- Drilling cycle is cancelled (G80), Coolant is turned off (M09).

N10- Taking Machine-coordinate-system (G53) into account the drill is taken to Z0 position. Tool length compensation is cancelled (G49), cutter rotation is stopped (M05).

N11- CNC part-program is ended.

Typical PROGRAMMING - TURNING OPERATIONS

Write a part program for turning operations being carried out on a CNC turning center. Let us take an exercise:

Figure shows the final profile to be generated on a bar stock by using a CNC turning center. After studying the required part geometry and features, the main program can be written as follows.

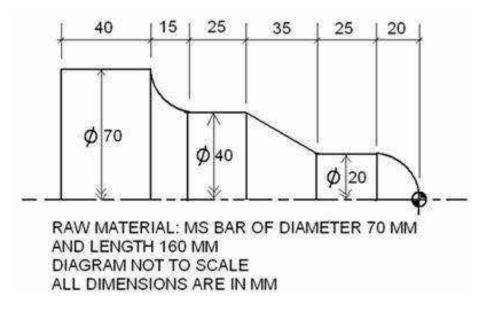


Figure A component to be turned.

Block 1		%
2		O0004
3	N10	G21
4	N20	G40 G90
5	N30	G54 X Z
6	N40	T0100 M42
7	N50	G96 S450 M03
8	N60	G00 G41 X72 Z0 T0101 M08
9	N70	G01 X0
10	N80	G00 Z5
11	N90	G42 X72
12	N100	G71 U1 R3
13	N110	G71 P120 Q190 U1 W1 F0.05
14	N120	G00 X0
15	N130	G01 Z0
16	N140	G03 X20 Z-20
17	N150	G01 Z-45
18	N160	X40 Z-80
19	N170	Z-105
20	N180	G02 X70 Z-120
21	N190	G01 X75
22	N200	G00 X100 Z20
23	N210	G70 P120 Q190 F0.03
24	N220	G00 G40 X100 Z20 T0100
25	N230	M09
26	N240	M30
27		%

Module 3



Rapid Prototyping & Rapid Tooling

Corso di Sistemi integrati di Produzione A.A.2004-05 Prof. G. A. Berti

Rapid Prototyping achievements

- Reduction in prototyping times (from weeks to days)
- Reduction in prototyping costs (from thuousands to hundreds \$)
- Increase of the possible design iterations (from 2-3 to 8-9)
- Increase of possible form, fit, function tests



Shorter design cycle

Reduced Time-to-Market



Computer model



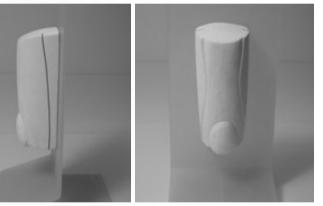


Mechanical model

2

Rapid Prototyping

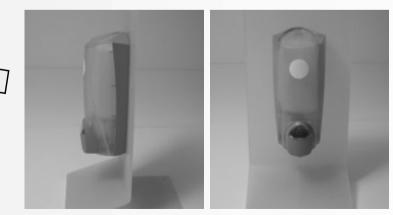




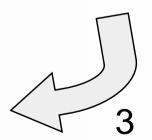
Visual model



Production product



Mechanical functional model



Rapid Prototyping Market

Motor vehicles

23.8%

Business machines

9.6%

2001

- 3,55 Millions of models produced worldwide
- 400 Service providers
- 8000 Machines sold since 1993

Government/

military

6.9%

Academic institutions 6.7%

Medical

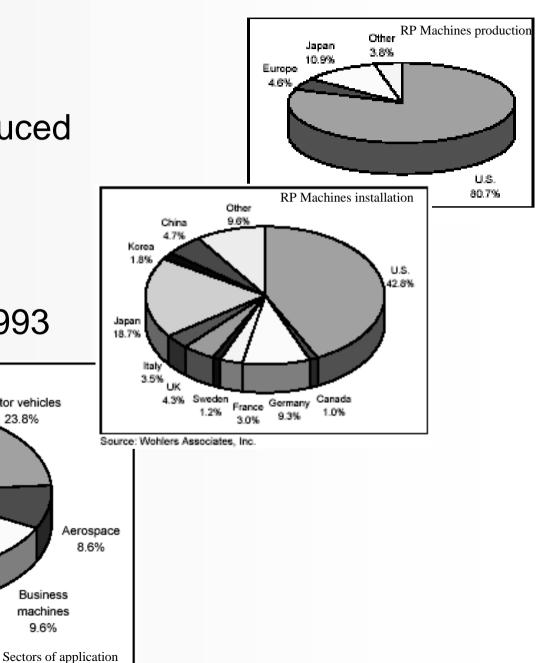
10.1%

Other

8.7%

Consumer

products 25.5%



Useful Conditions for RP

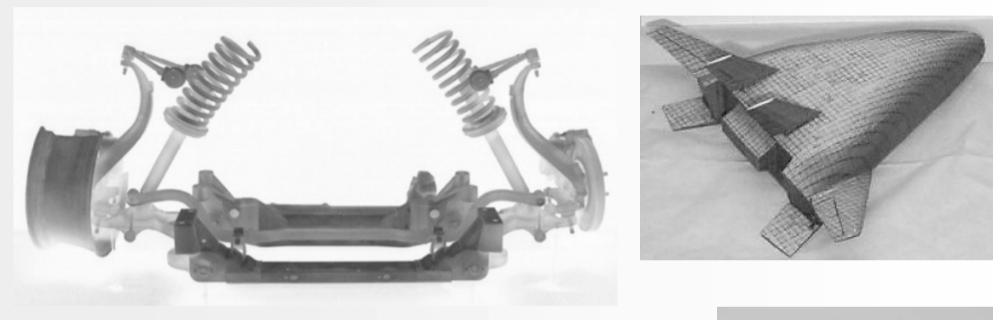
- Single unique item or small number of copies needed
- Shape of object is in computer form
- Shape is too complex to be economically generated using conventional methods

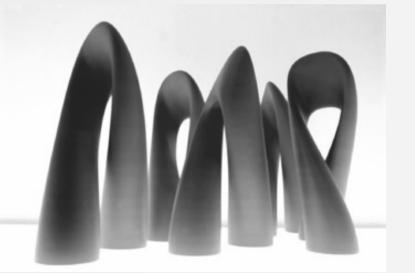
Rapid Prototyping Technologies

• Six basic <u>commercial</u> technologies:

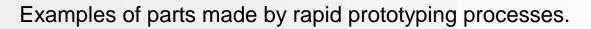
StereoLithography (SL) Laminated Object Manufacturing (LOM) Selective Laser Sintering (SLS) Fused Deposition Modeling (FDM) Solid Ground Curing (SGC) Inkjet technologies (3D Plotting, MJM, 3DP..)

Rapid Prototyping Examples



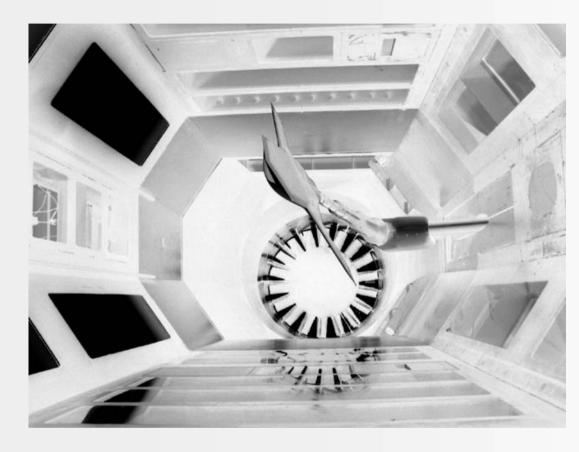








Rapid Prototyping Examples / 2









Stereolithography Mock-Up with Balsa Wood Grip



Characteristics of Rapid Prototyping Technologies

TADLE 10.1

TABLE 19.1		-				
Supply phase	Process	Layer creation technique	Phase change type	Materials		
Liquid	Stereolithography	Liquid layer curing	Photopolymerization	Photopolymers (acrylates, epoxies, colorable resins, filled resins)		
	Solid-based curing	Liquid layer curing and milling	Photopolymerization	Photopolymers		
	Fused-deposition	Extrusion of melted	Solidification by	Polymers		
	modeling	polymer	cooling	(ABS,polyacrylate, etc.), wax, metals and ceramics with binder.		
	Ballistic-particle manufacturing	Droplet deposition	Solidification by cooling	Polymers, wax		
Powder	Three-dimensional printing	Layer of powder and binder droplet deposition	No phase change	Ceramic, polymer and metal powders with binder.		
	Selective laser sintering	Layer of powder	Laser driven sintering melting and solidification	Polymers, metals with binder, metals, ceramics and sand with binder.		
Solid	Laminated-object manufactuning	Deposition of sheet material	No phase change	Paper, polymers.		

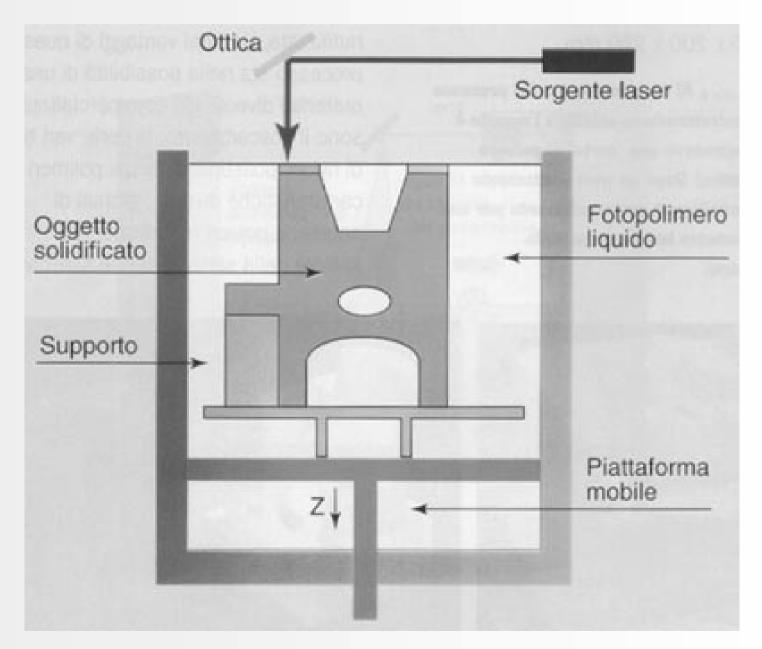
The Most Important Commercial Rapid Prototyping Technologies at a Glance

Technology >> Acronym > > Representative Vendor >>	Stereo- lithography SLA Sony	Stereo- lithography	Wide Area Thermal Inkjet MJM 3D Systems	Selective Laser Sintering SLS	Fused Deposition Modeling FDM Stratasys	Single Jet Inkjet MM Solidscape	Three Dimensional Printing 3DP Z Corp.	Laminated Object Manufacturing LOM Cubic					
Vendor >> Statusys Statusys Statusys Technologies General Qualitative Features Image: Status of the st													
Maximum Part Size (inches)	39 x 31 x 20	20 x 20 x 24	10 x 8 x 8	15 x 13 x 18	24 x 20 x 24	12 x 6 x 9	20 x 24 x 16	32 x 22 x 20					
Speed	very good (uses dual beams for approx. 2X speed-up)	average	good	average to fair	poor	poor	excellent	good					
Accuracy	very good	very good	good	good	fair	excellent	fair	fair					
Surface Finish	very good	very good	fair	fair	fair	excellent	fair	fair to poor (depending on application)					
Strengths	very large part size, accuracy speed	large part size, accuracy	office OK	accuracy, materials,	office OK price, materials	accuracy, finish, office OK	speed, office OK, price, color, price	large part size, good for large castings, material cost					
Weaknesses	post processing, messy liquids	post processing, messy liquids	size and weight, fragile parts, limited materials, part size	size and weight, system price, surface finish	speed	speed, limited materials, part size	limited materials, fragile parts, finish	part stability, smoke finish and accuracy					

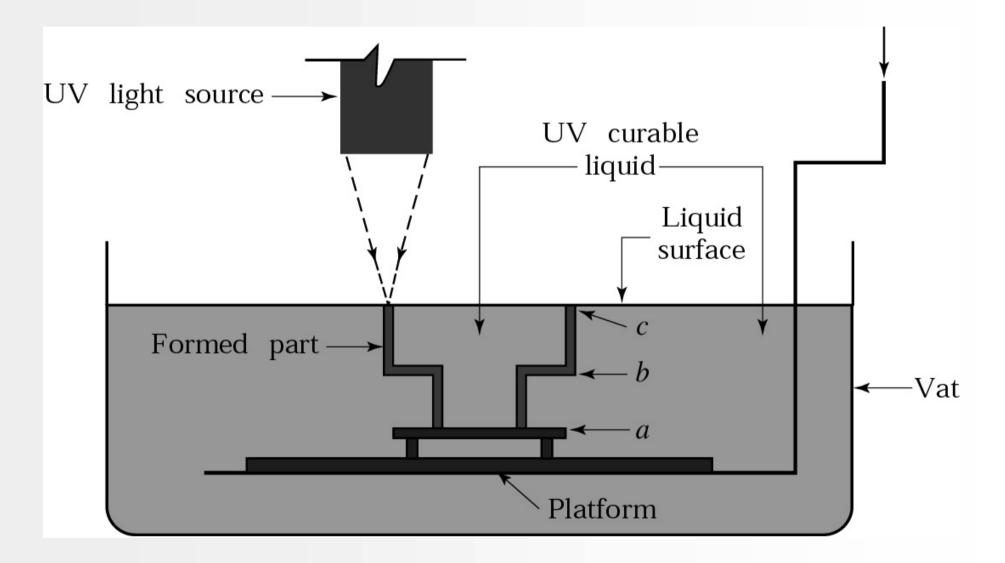
Stereolithography SL

- 3D Systems, Valencia, CA
- patent 1986, *beginning of RP*
- photopolymerization using UV laser
- accuracy 0.025 mm
- epoxies, acrylates

Stereolithography SL

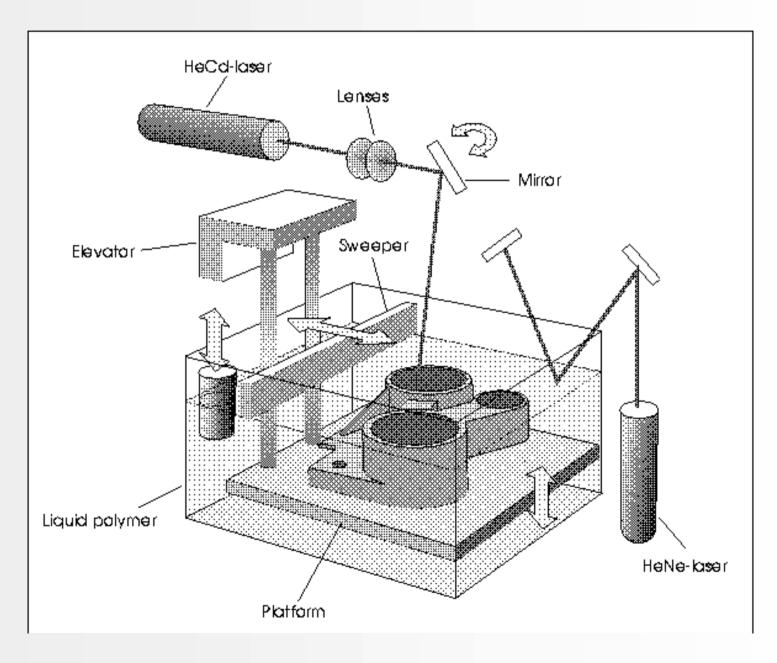


Stereolithography



Schematic illustration of the stereolithography process. Source: Ultra Violet Products, Inc.

Stereolithography SL



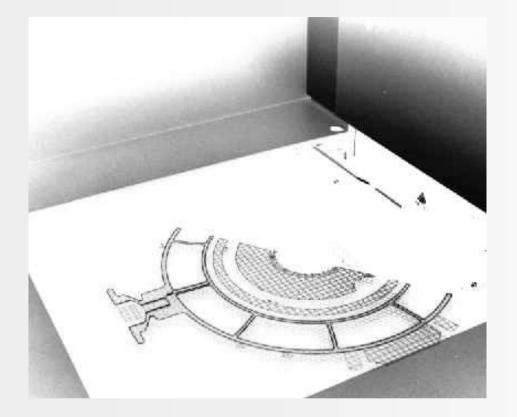
Stereolithography Machines



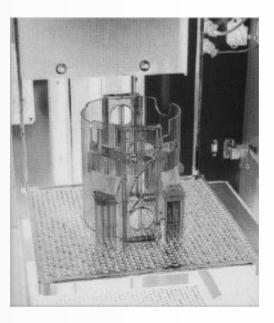


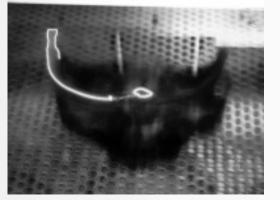


Stereolithography Process



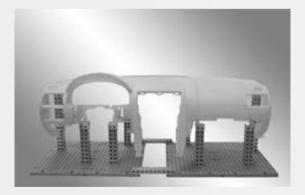








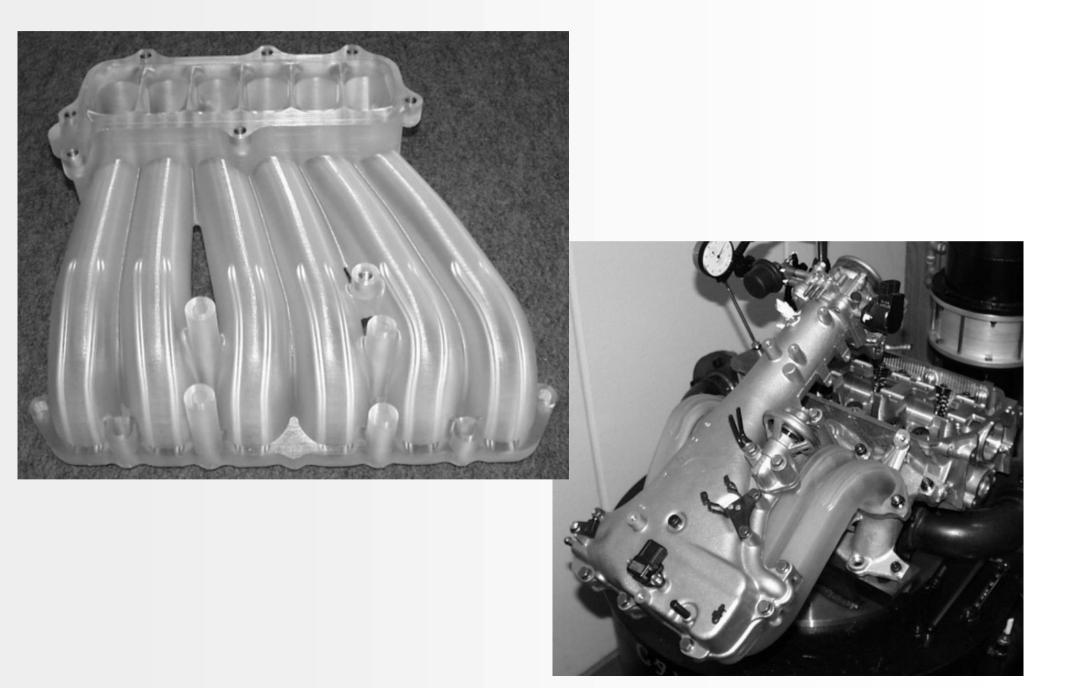




SL Applications

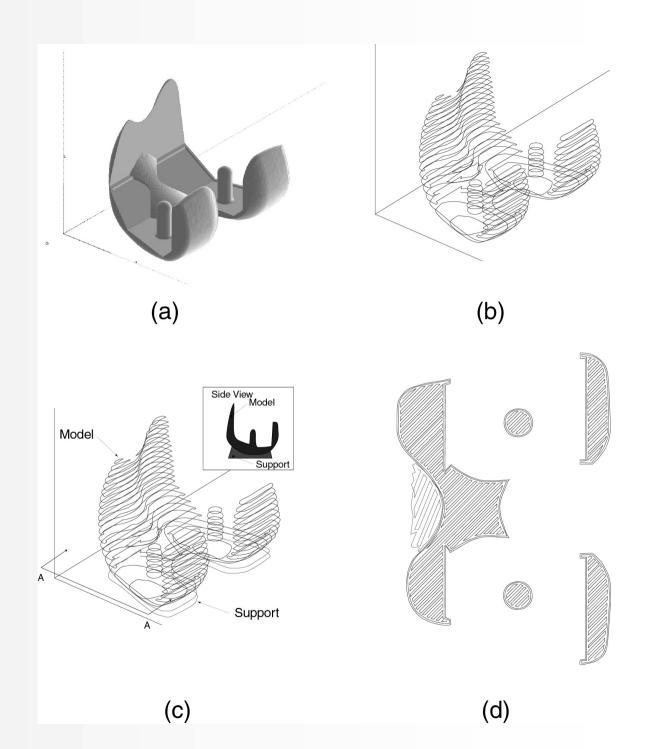


SL Applications



Stereo-lithography

- The computational steps in producing a stereolithography file.
- a) Three-dimensional description of part.
- b) The part is divided into slices (only one in 10 is shown).
- c) Support material is planned.
- d) A set of tool directions is determined to manufacture each slice.

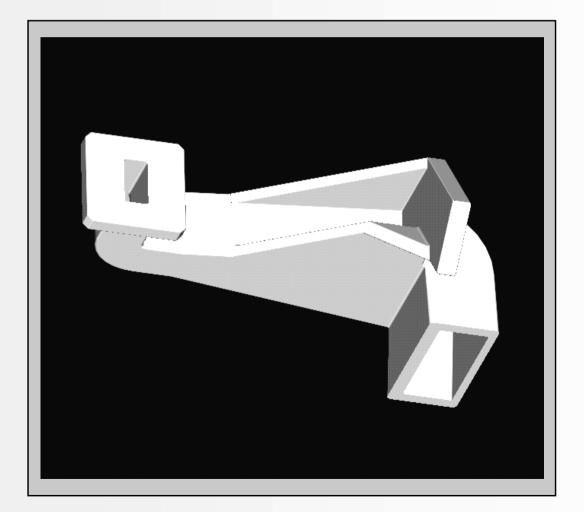


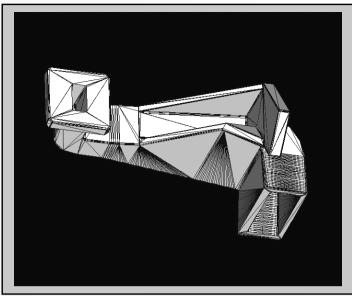
RP Sequence

- CAD solid model
- '.STL' file
- Slicing the file
- Final build file
- Fabrication of part
- Post processing

CAD Solid Model

Solid model or closed surface model required





Software generates a tessellated object description

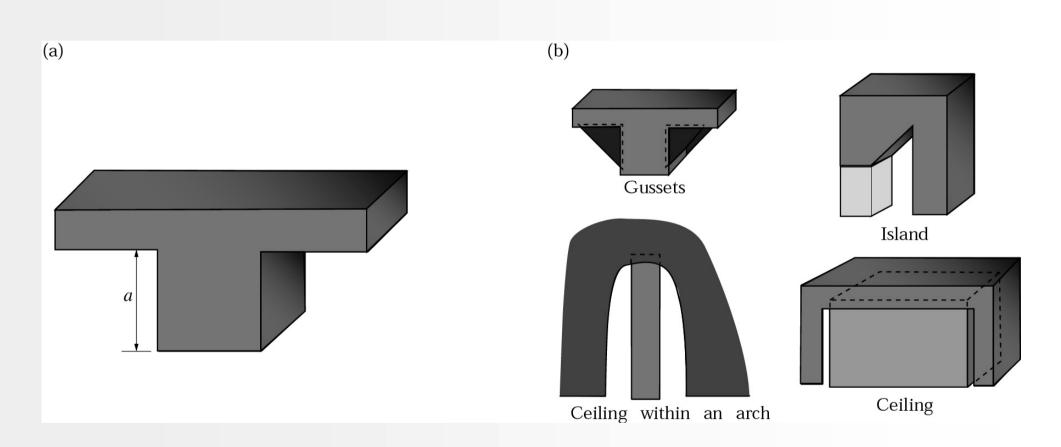
'.STL' File

- File consists of the X, Y, Z coordinates of the three vertices of each surface triangle, with an index to describe the orientation of the surface normal
- Support generation to hold overhung surfaces during build

Slicing the File

- Series of closely spaced horizontal planes are mathematically passed through the .stl file
- Generate a '.sli' file : a series of closely spaced
 2D cross-sections of the 3D object
- Typical Z thickness 0.006" (0.150 mm)
- Other Parameters chosen =fn(RP technology)

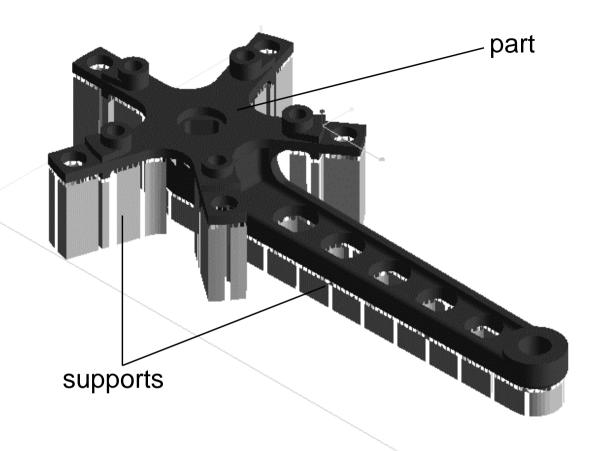
Common Support Structures



- (a) A part with a protruding section which requires support material.
- (b) Common support structures used in rapid-prototyping machines.

Source: P.F. Jacobs, Rapid Prototyping & Manufacturing: Fundamentals of Stereolithography. Society of Manufacturing Engineers, 1992.

Final Build File



Part sliced Supports sliced RP technology parameters set (layer thickness, scan speed,...) Send file to RP machine

Fabrication of Part



Models built on stereolithography apparatus. Part and supports shown attached to platform.

Post-processing

Removal of part from platform

Removal of supports from part

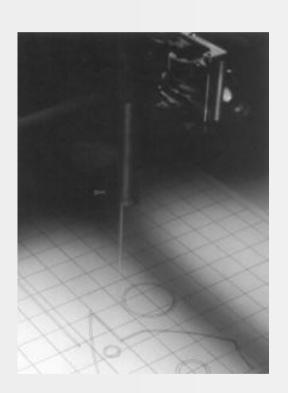
Cleaning of part (wiping, rinsing, ...)

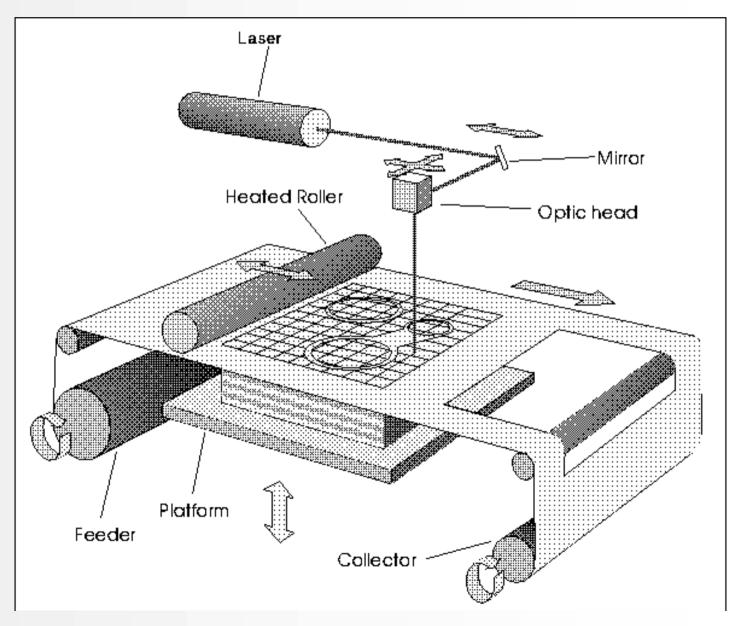
Finishing part (sanding, polishing, ...)

Laminated Object Manufacturing LOM

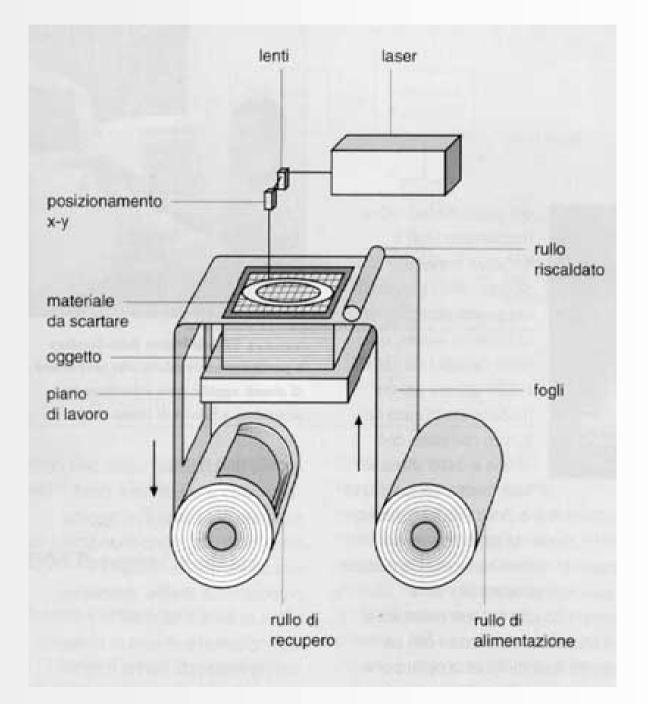
- Cubic Technologies, Carson, CA (former Helisys)
- patent 1985
- cross-sectional cutouts fused together
- accuracy 0.076 mm
- paper, plastic

Laminated Object Manufacturing LOM

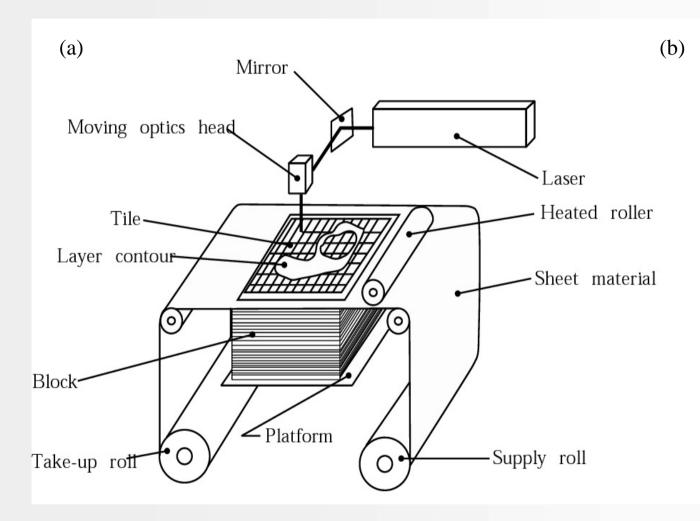


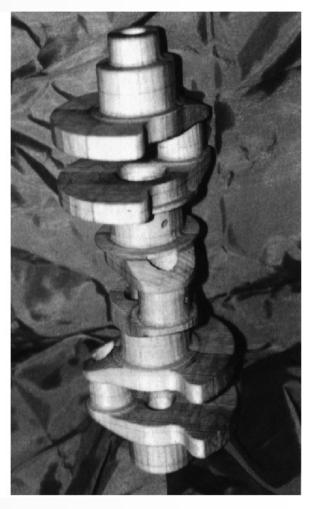


Laminated Object Manufacturing LOM

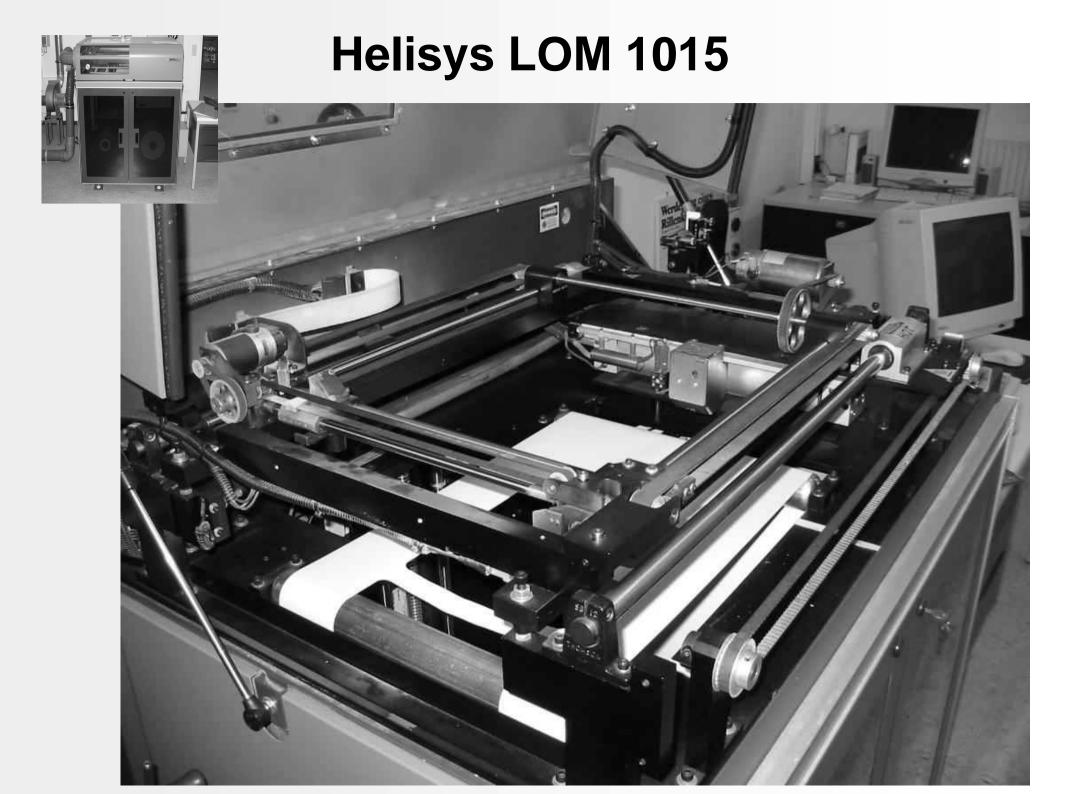


Laminated-Object Manufacturing

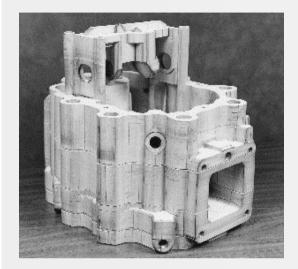




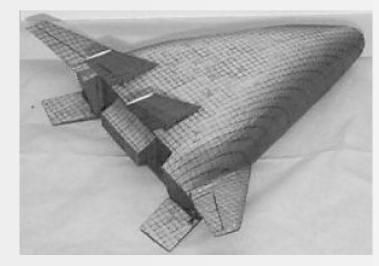
- (a) Schematic illustration of the laminated-object-manufacturing process. Source: Helysis, Inc.
- (b) Crankshaft-part example made by LOM. Source: After L. Wood.



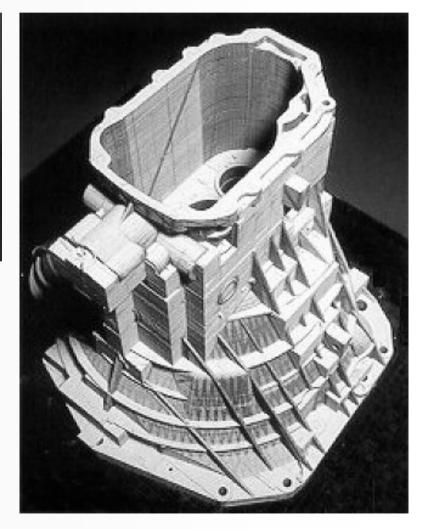
LOM Applications









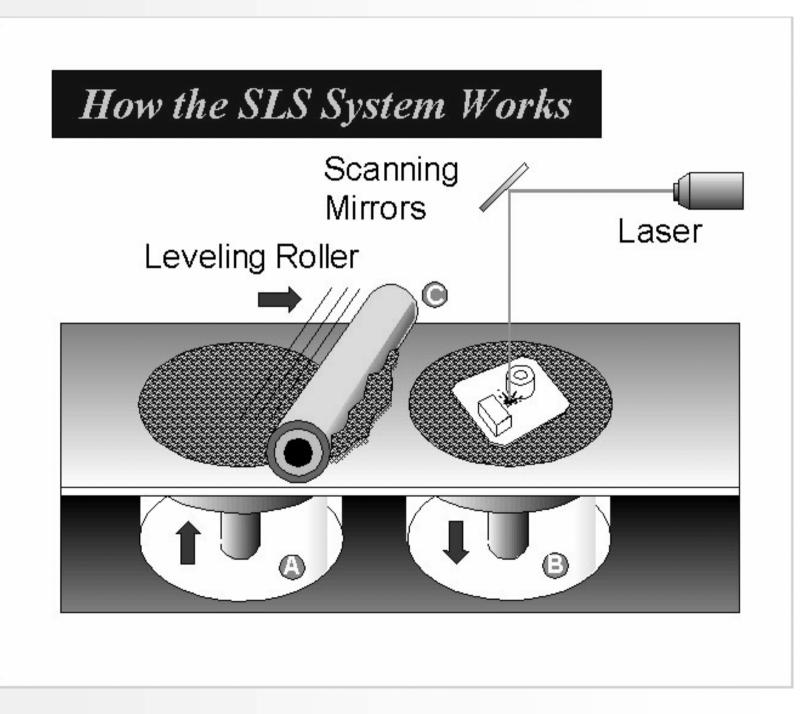


Selective Laser Sintering SLS

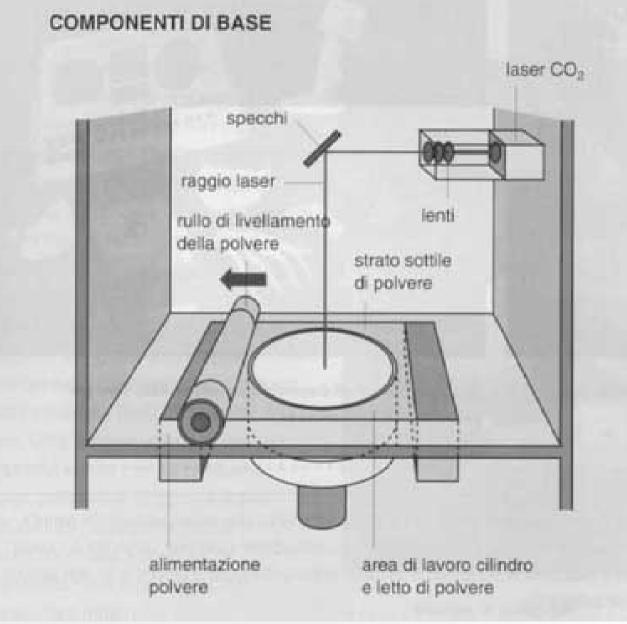
- 3D Systems, Valencia, CA (former DTM)
- patent 1989, Carl Deckard's master thesis
- fusing polymeric powders with CO2 laser
- accuracy 0.040 mm
- polycarbonate, nylon, wax, glass-filled nylon, powder coated metals or ceramics

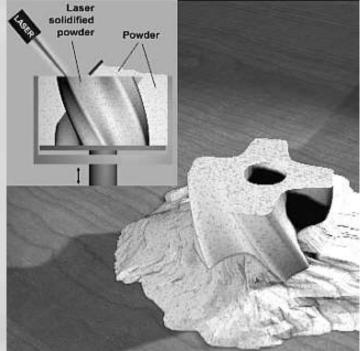
Selective Laser Sintering



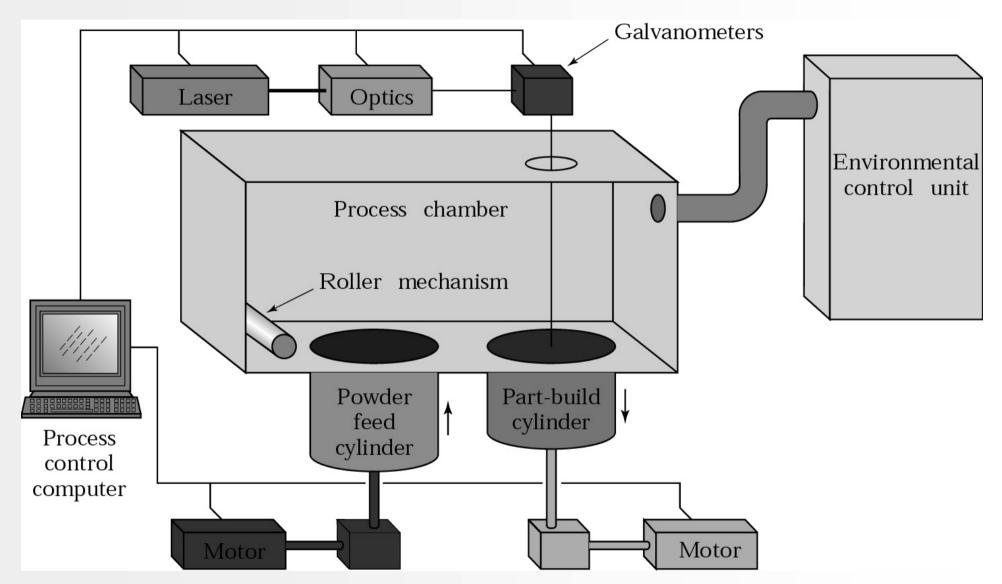


Selective Laser Sintering SLS



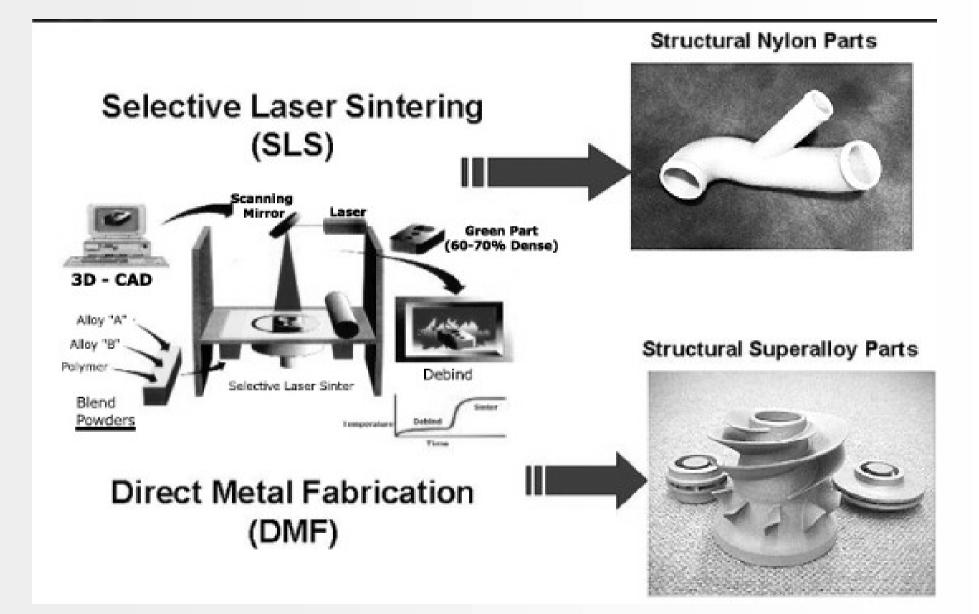


Selective Laser Sintering

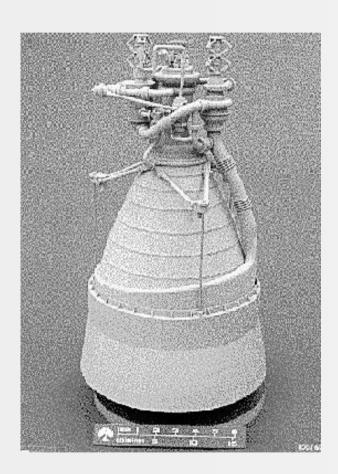


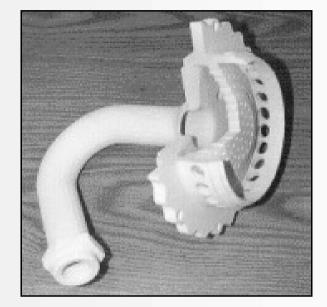
Schematic illustration of the selective laser sintering process. Source: After C. Deckard and P.F. McClure.

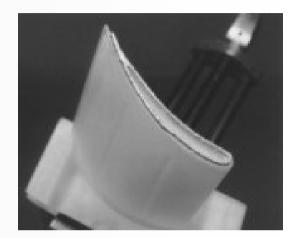
Selective Laser Sintering

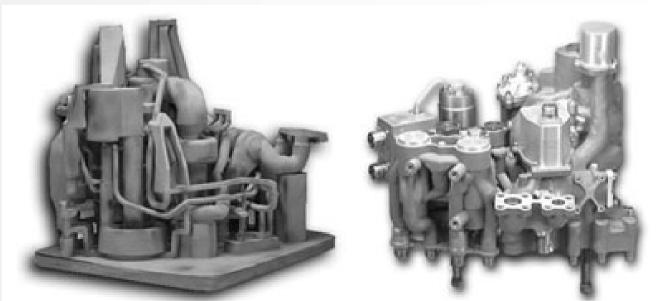


SLS Applications





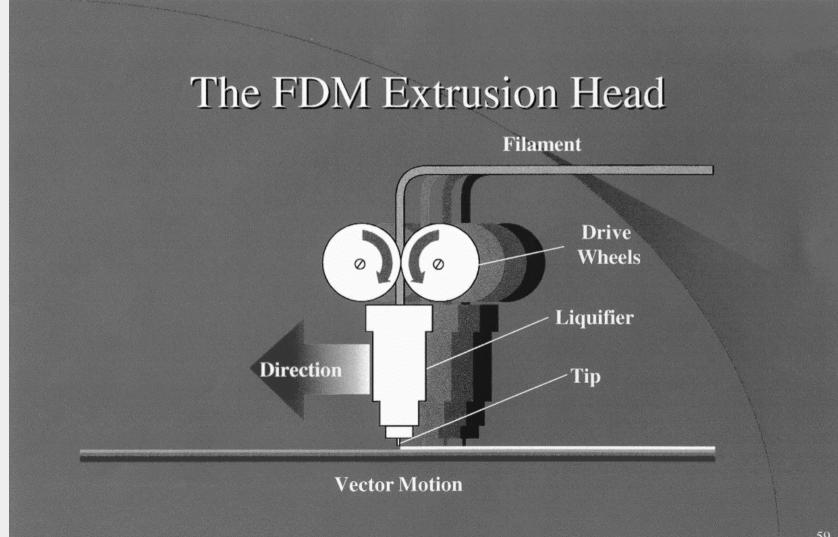




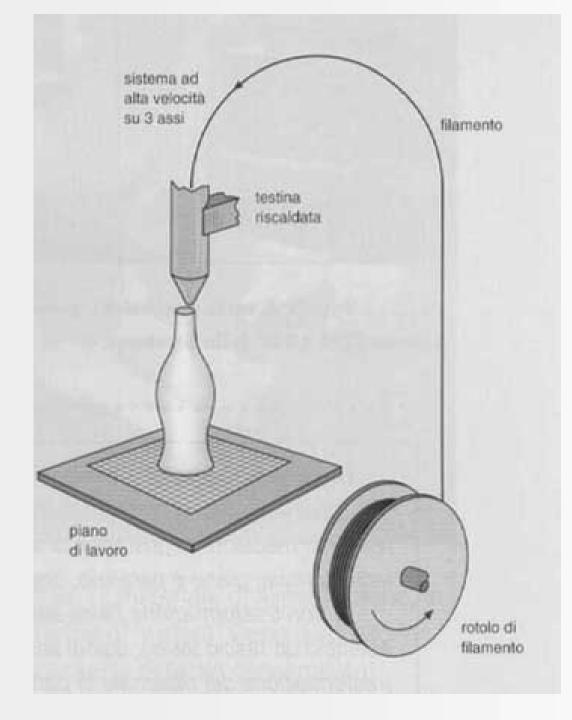
Fused Deposition Modeling FDM

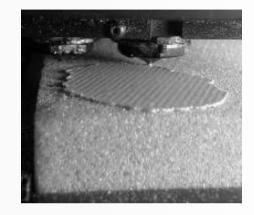
- Stratasys, Eden Prarie, MN
- patent 1992
- robotically guided fiber extrusion
- accuracy 0.127 mm
- casting and machinable waxes, polyolefin, ABS, PC

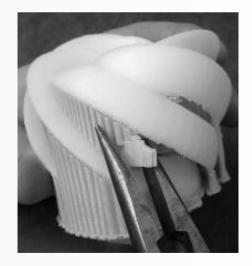
Fused Deposition Modeling FDM



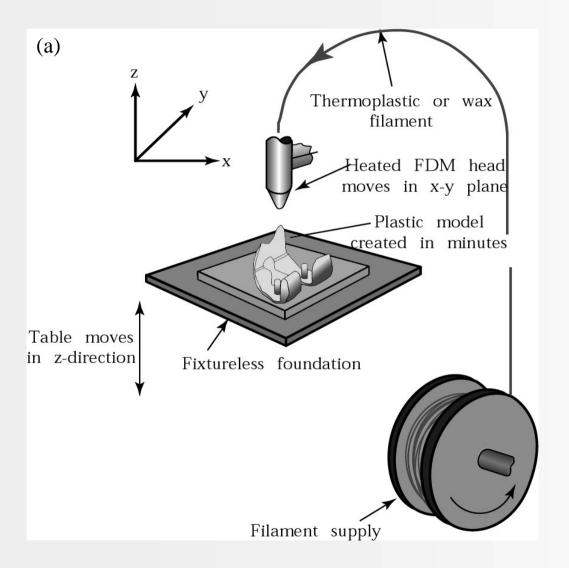
Fused Deposition Modeling FDM







Fused-Deposition-Modeling



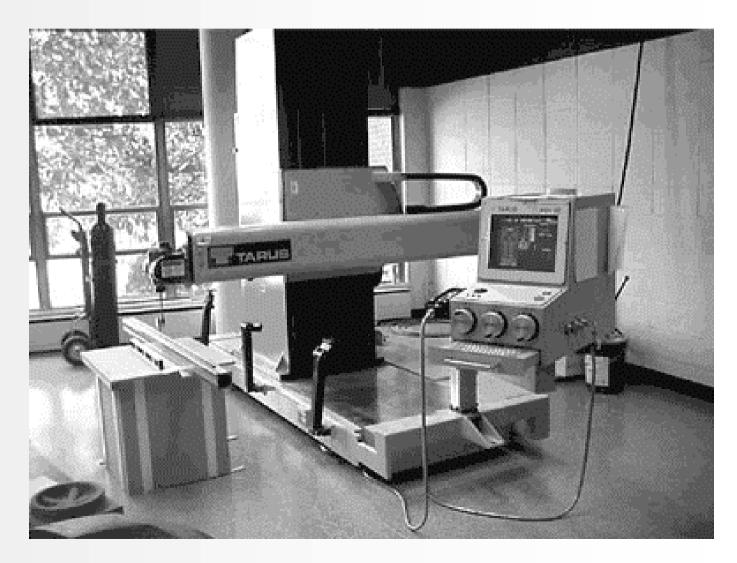


(a) Schematic illustration of the fused-deposition-modeling process.

(b) The FDM 5000, a fused-deposition-modeling-machine. Source: Courtesy of Stratysis, Inc.



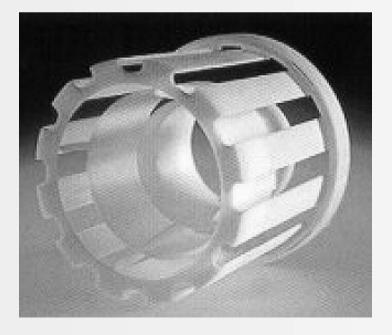
FDM Machines



FDM Applications





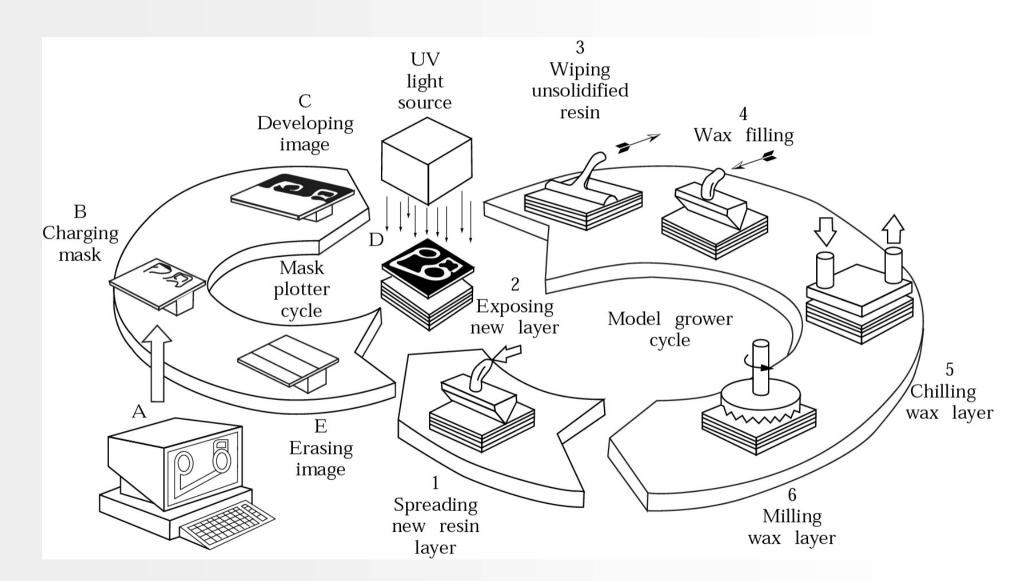




Solid-Base Curing SBC

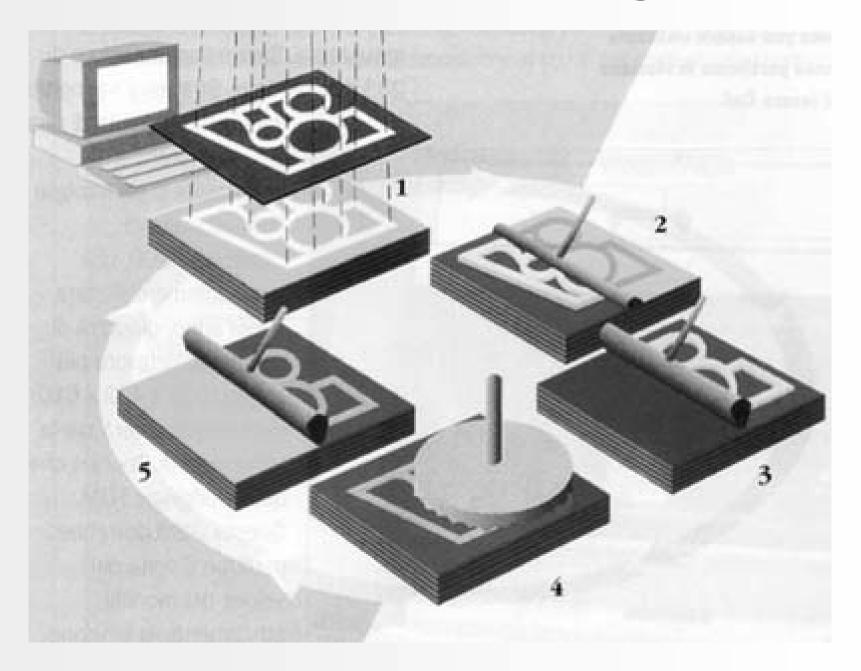
- Cubital, Troy, MI (Failed 2000)
- patent 1991
- photopolymerization using UV light passing through a mask
- accuracy 0.510 mm
- Photopolymers

Solid-Base Curing



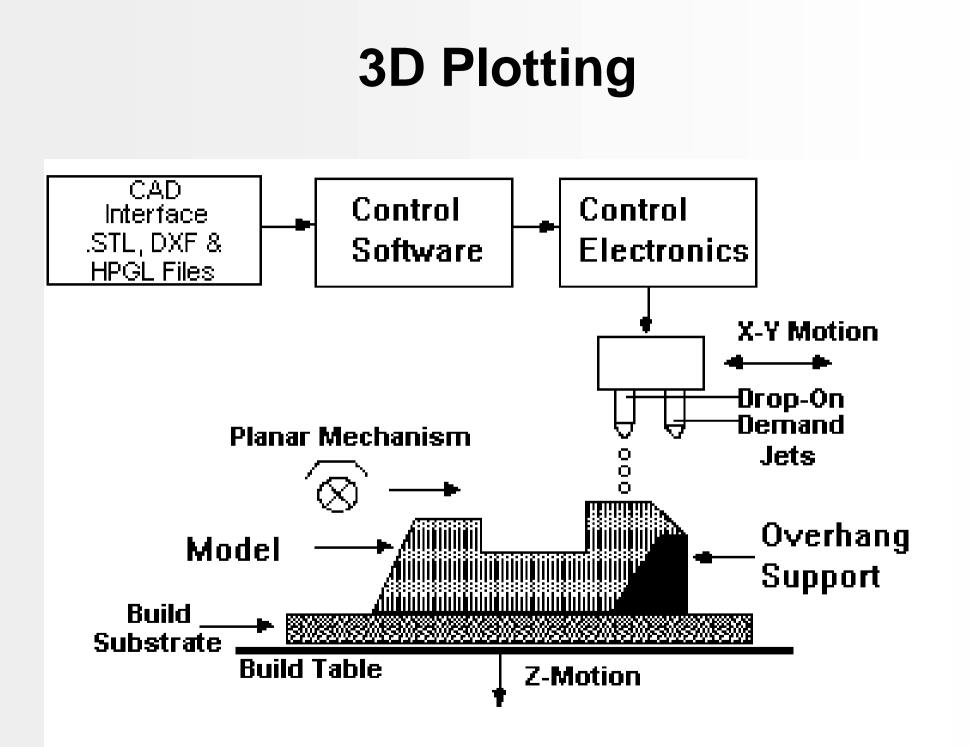
Schematic illustration of the solid-base-curing process. Source: After M. Burns, Automated Fabrication, Prentice Hall, 1993.

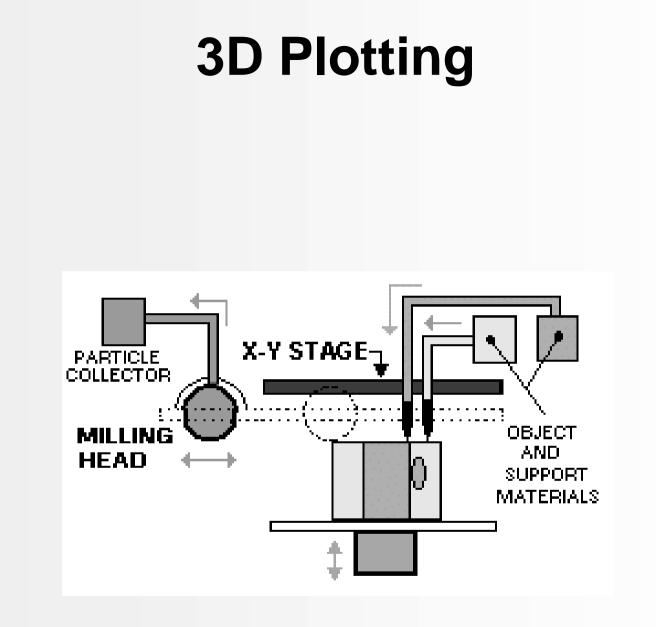
Solid-Base Curing



3D Plotting

- Solidscape Inc., Marrimack, NH
- Inkjet technology
- Dual heads deposit part material (thermoplastic) and support material (wax)
- Accuracy 0.025 mm (layers 0.013 mm)
- Thermoplastic (build)
 Wax, fatty esters (support)



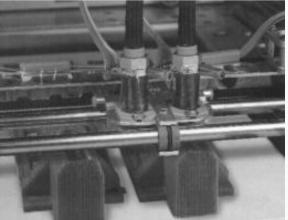


3D Plotting Applications









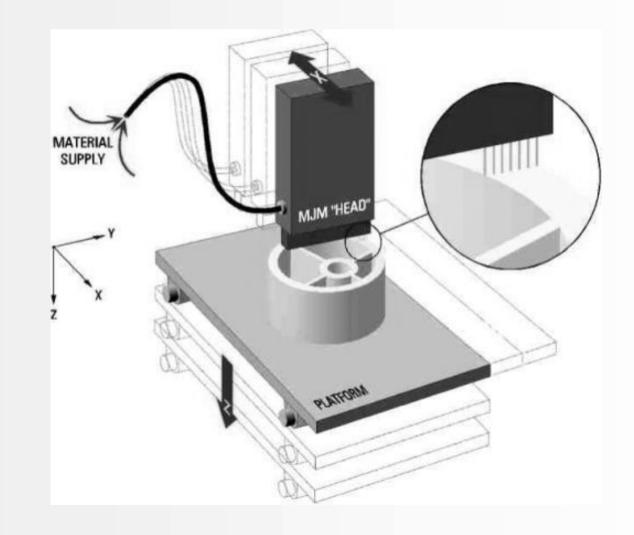




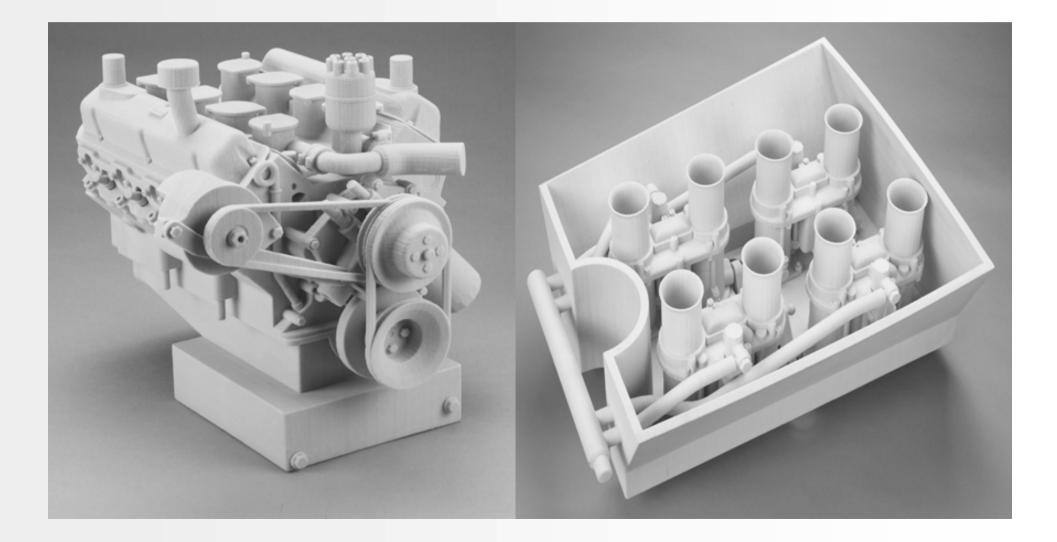
Multi-jet Modelling MJM

- Accelerated Tech., 3D Systems, Solidimension Ltd
- Inkjet technology
- Multiple heads deposit support material and part material cured immediately by UV light
- Accuracy 0.020 mm
- Photopolymers

Multi-jet Modelling MJM



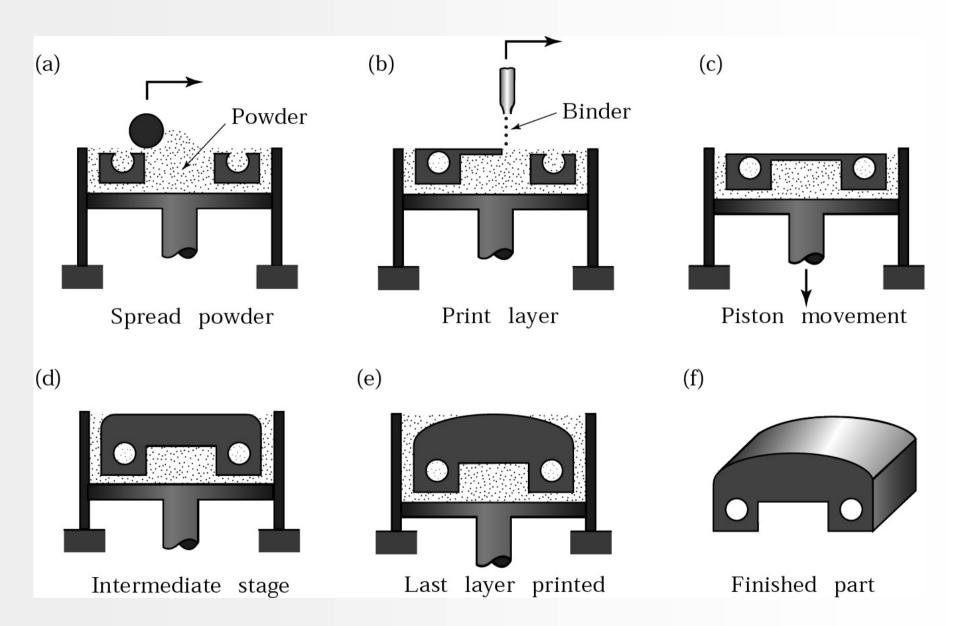
MJM Applications



3D Printing 3DP

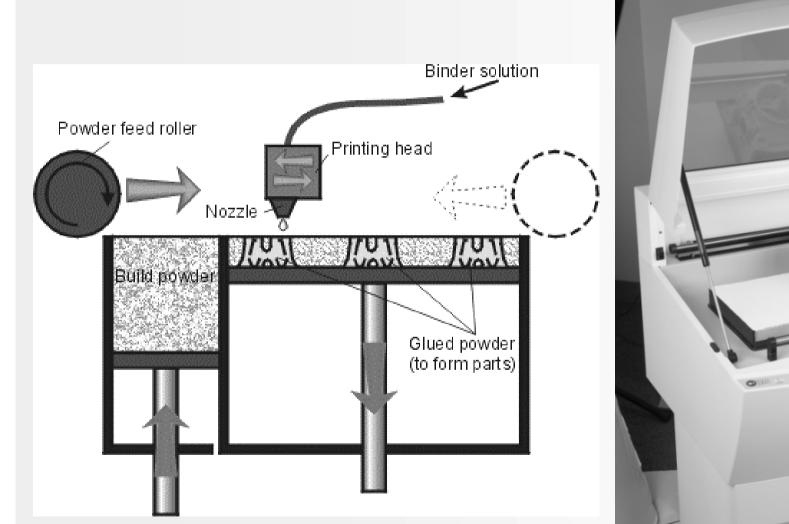
- Z Corporation, Burlington, MA
- Printing head deposits binder solution on build powder
- Accuracy 0.076 mm
- Waxes, acrylates, epoxies

3D Printing



Schematic illustration of the three-dimensional-printing process. Source: After E. Sachs and M. Cima.

3D Printing



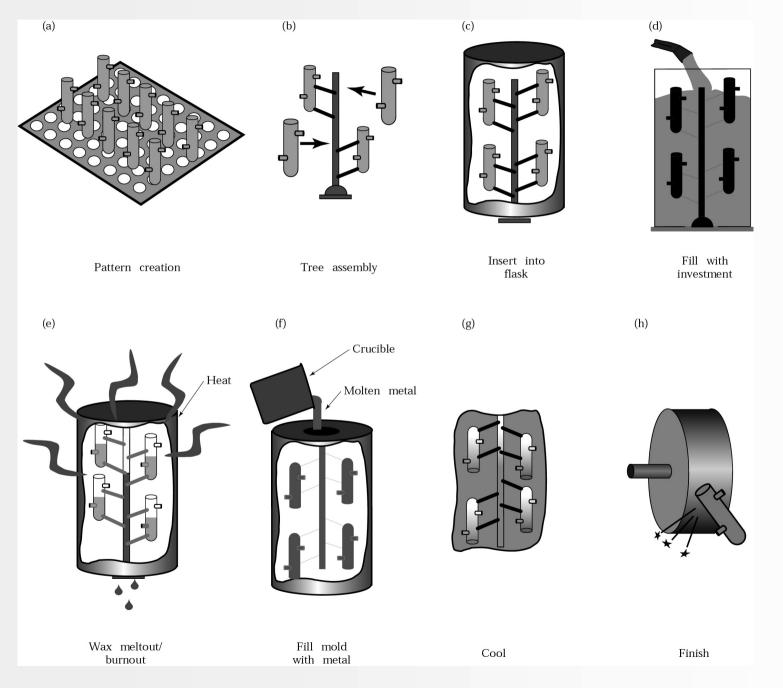


3D Printing Applications





Investment Casting



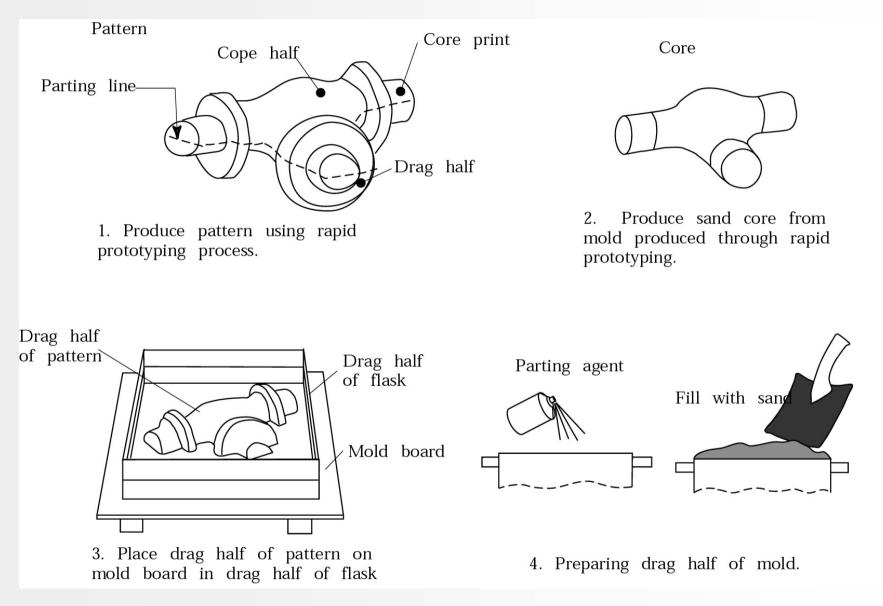
Manufacturing steps for investment casting that uses rapid--prototyped wax parts as blanks. This approach uses a flask for the investment, but a shell method can also be used. *Source*: 3D Systems, Inc.

Manufacturing Example: Investment Casting



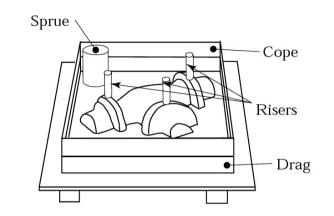
- Wax pattern build from Stratasys multi-jet droplet technique
- Pattern used in investment casting to fabricate metal ring
- Allows for design modifications and quick turnaround of metal band

Sand Casting Using Rapid-Prototyped Patterns

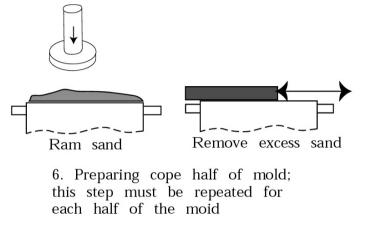


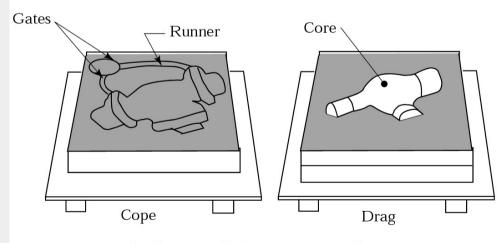
Manufacturing steps in sand casting that uses rapid-prototyped patterns. Source: 3D Systems, Inc.

Sand Casting (continued)

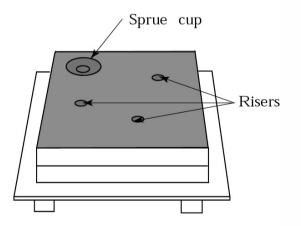


5. Roll drag over, place cope half of pattern and flask. Note: sprue and risers are standard inserts



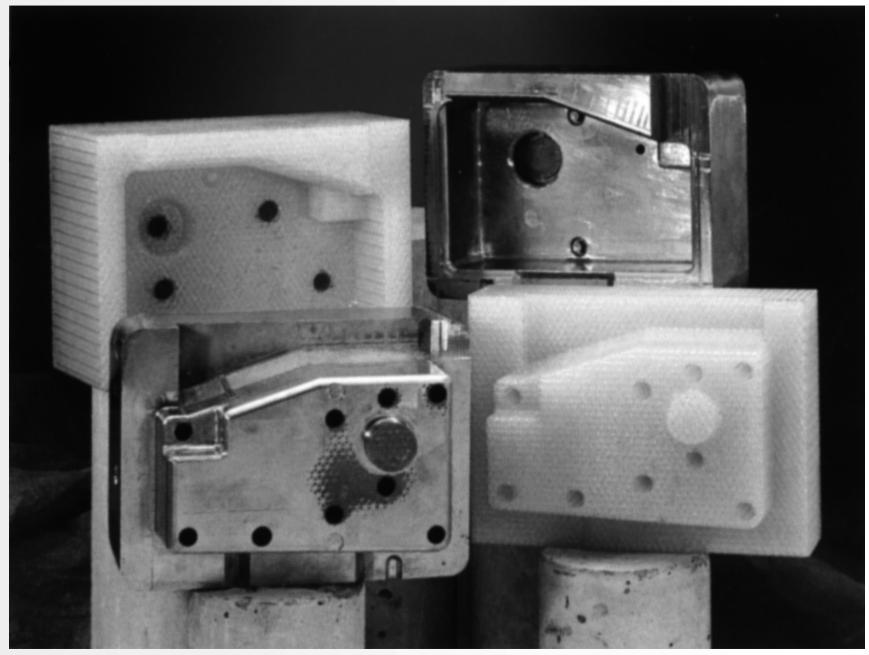


7. Seperate flask — remove all patterns. Place core in place, close flask.



8. Flask closed and clamped, ready for pouring of molten metal.

Rapid Tooling



Rapid tooling for a rear-wiper-motor cover

Benefits to RP Technologies

Visualization, verification, iteration, and design optimization

- Communication tool for simultaneous engineering
- Form-fit-function tests
- Marketing studies of consumer preferences
- Metal prototypes fabricated from polymer parts
- Tooling fabricated from polymer parts

Conclusions

- Rapid prototyping is a new tool, which used appropriately ...
 - allows the manufacturing enterprise to run smoother
 - increases throughput and product quality
- New uses and applications are discovered everyday
- Future areas include new materials directly deposited (metals, ceramics)