

Cloud-Based Cyber-Physical Systems in Manufacturing

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Preface

New technologies in manufacturing are tightly connected to innovation. They have thus been the key factors that support and influence a nation's economy since the eighteenth century, from steam engines to Industry 4.0. As the primary driving force behind economic growth and sustainable development, manufacturing serves as the foundation of and contribute to other industries, with products ranging from heavy-duty machinery to hi-tech home electronics. In the past centuries, they have contributed significantly to modern civilisation and created the momentum that still drives today's economy and society. Despite many achievements, we are still facing challenges due to growing complexity and uncertainty in manufacturing, such as adaptability to uncertainty, resource and energy conservation, ageing workforce, and secure information sharing. Researchers and engineers across organisations often find themselves in situations that demand advanced new technologies when dealing with new challenges in daily activities related to manufacturing, which cannot be addressed by existing approaches.

Targeting the challenges in solving daily problems, over the past a few years, researchers have focused their efforts on innovative approaches to improving the adaptability to complex situations on shop floors and energy efficiency along the life cycle of products. New technologies and innovations include cyber-physical system (CPS), cloud manufacturing (CM), Internet of Things (IoT), big data analytics, which are related to embedded systems and system of systems. These new technologies are now driving industry towards yet another revolution and are referred to the German initiative Industry 4.0. While these efforts have resulted in a large volume of publications recently and impacted both present and future practices in factories and beyond, there still exists a gap in the literature for a focused collection of knowledge dedicated to cloud-based CPS in manufacturing. To bridge this gap and present the state of the art to a much broader readership, from academic researchers to practicing engineers, is the primary motivation behind this book.

The first three chapters form Part 1 of this book on the literature surveys and trends. Chapter 1 begins with a clear definition of cloud computing (CC) versus cloud manufacturing (CM). CC and CM represent the latest advancement and applications of the cloud technologies in computing and manufacturing,

respectively. The aim of Chap. 1 is to provide a comprehensive introduction to both CC and CM and to present their status and advancement. The discussions on CC and CM are extended in Chap. 2 to cover the latest advancement of CPS and IoT, especially in manufacturing systems. To comprehensively understand CPS and IoT, a brief introduction to both of them is given, and the key enabling technologies related to CPS and IoT are outlined. Key features, characteristics, and advancements are explained, and a few applications are reported to highlight the latest advancement in CPS and IoT. Chapter 3 then provides an overview of cybersecurity measures being considered to ensure the protection of data being sent to physical machines in a cybernetic system. While common to other cybernetic systems, security issues in CM are focused in this chapter for brevity.

Part 2 of this book focuses on cloud-based monitoring, planning, and control in CPS and is constituted from four chapters. Targeting distributed manufacturing, the scope of Chap. 4 is to present an Internet- and web-based service-oriented system for machine availability monitoring and process planning. Particularly, this chapter introduces a tiered system architecture and introduces IEC 61499 function blocks for prototype implementation. It enables real-time monitoring of machine availability and execution status during metal-cutting operations, both locally or remotely. The closed-loop information flow makes process planning and monitoring two feasible services for the distributed manufacturing. Based on the machine availability and the execution status, Chap. 5 introduces Cloud-DPP for collaborative and adaptive process planning in cloud environment. Cloud-DPP supports parts machining with a combination of milling and turning features and offers process planning services for multi-tasking machining centres with special functionalities to minimise the total number of set ups. In Chap. 6, the Cloud-DPP is linked to physical machines by function blocks to form a CPS. Within the CPS, function blocks run at control level with embedded machining information such as machining sequence and machining parameters to facilitate adaptive machining. To utilise the machines properly, right maintenance strategies are required. Chapter 7 reviews the historical development of prognosis theories and techniques and projects their future growth in maintenance enabled by the cloud infrastructure. Techniques for cloud computing are highlighted, as well as their influence on cloud-enabled prognosis for manufacturing.

Sustainable robotic assembly in CPS settings is covered in Chaps. 8 through 11 and organised into Part 3 of this book. Chapter 8 explains how to minimise a robot's energy consumption during assembly. Given a trajectory and based on the inverse kinematics and dynamics of the robot, a set of attainable configurations for the robot can be determined, perused by calculating the suitable forces and torques on the joints and links of the robot. The energy consumption is then calculated for each configuration and based on the assigned trajectory. The ones with the lowest energy consumption are chosen for robot motion control. This approach becomes instrumental and can be wrapped as a cloud service for energy-efficient robotic assembly. Another robotic application is for human–robot collaborative assembly. Chapter 9 addresses safety issues in human–robot collaboration. This chapter first

reviews the traditional safety systems and then presents the latest accomplishments in active collision avoidance through immersive human–robot collaboration by using two depth cameras installed carefully in a robotic assembly cell. A remote robotic assembly system is then introduced in the second half of the chapter as one cloud robotic application. In Chap. 10, recent cloud robotics approaches are reviewed. Function block-based integration mechanisms are introduced to integrate various types of manufacturing facilities including robots. By combining cloud with robots in form of cloud robotics, it contributes to a ubiquitous and integrated cloud-based CPS system in robotic assembly. Chapter 11 further explores the potential of establishing context awareness between a human worker and an industrial robot for physical human–robot collaborative assembly. The context awareness between the human worker and the industrial robot is established by applying gesture recognition, human motion recognition, and augmented reality (AR)-based worker instruction technologies. Such a system works in a cyber-physical environment, and its results are demonstrated through case studies.

In Part 4 of this book, the aspect of CPS systems design and lifecycle analysis is shared by Chaps. 12–15. Chapter 12 presents the architecture design of cloud CPS in manufacturing. Manufacturing resources and capabilities are discussed in terms of cloud services. A service-oriented, interoperable CM system is introduced. Service methodologies are developed to support two types of cloud users, customer user versus enterprise user, along with standardised data models describing cloud service and relevant features. Two case studies are revealed to evaluate the system. System design is extended in Chap. 13 to cover lifecycle analysis and management of products. In this chapter, CM is extended to the recovery and recycling of waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE). Cloud services are used in the recovery and recycling processes for WEEE tracking and management. These services include all the stakeholders from the beginning to the end of life of the electrical and electronic equipment. A product tracking mechanism is also introduced with the help of the quick response (QR) code method. Chapter 14 focuses on big data analytics. In order to minimise machining errors in advance, a big data analytics-based fault prediction approach is presented for shop-floor job scheduling, where machining jobs, machining resources, and machining processes are represented by data attributes. Based on the available data on the shop floor, the potential fault/error patterns, referring to machining errors, machine faults, maintenance states, etc., are mined to discover unsuitable scheduling arrangements before machining as well as the prediction of upcoming errors during machining. Chapter 15 presents a summary of the current status and the latest advancement of CM, CPS, IoT, and big data in manufacturing. Cloud-based CPS shows great promise in factories of the future in the areas of future trends as identified at the end of this chapter. It also offers an outlook of research challenges and directions in the subject areas.

All together, the fifteen chapters provide an overview of some recent R&D achievements of cloud-based CPS applied to manufacturing, especially machining and assembly. We believe that this research field will continue to be active for years to come.

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Contents

Part I Literature Survey and Trends

1	Latest Advancement in Cloud Technologies	3
1.1	Introduction to Cloud Computing	3
1.1.1	Historical Evolution and Background	4
1.1.2	Concept	4
1.1.3	Technologies	12
1.1.4	Cloud Platforms	14
1.1.5	Tools	15
1.1.6	Challenges	17
1.2	Cloud Manufacturing	18
1.2.1	Historical Evolution and Background	18
1.2.2	Concept	20
1.2.3	Technologies	24
1.2.4	Research Initiatives	27
1.2.5	Applications	28
1.2.6	Challenges	28
1.3	Conclusions	29
	References	29
2	Latest Advancement in CPS and IoT Applications	33
2.1	Introduction	33
2.2	Key Enabling Technologies in CPS and IoT	35
2.2.1	Wireless Sensor Network	36
2.2.2	Cloud Technologies	36
2.2.3	Big Data	37
2.2.4	Industry 4.0	38
2.2.5	RFID Technology	39
2.3	Key Features and Characteristics of CPS and IoT	40

- 2.4 Applications of CPS and IoT 43
 - 2.4.1 Service Oriented Architecture 43
 - 2.4.2 Cloud Manufacturing 45
 - 2.4.3 Cyber-Physical Production Systems 48
 - 2.4.4 IoT-Enabled Manufacturing System 52
 - 2.4.5 CPS in Cloud Environment 56
- 2.5 Conclusions 58
- References 59
- 3 Challenges in Cybersecurity 63**
 - 3.1 Introduction 63
 - 3.2 Internet of Things 64
 - 3.3 Remote Equipment Control 65
 - 3.4 Security Concerns and Methods 67
 - 3.4.1 Security Concerns 67
 - 3.4.2 Security Methods and Architecture 68
 - 3.4.3 Cyber-Physical Systems 72
 - 3.5 Future Outlook 73
 - 3.6 Conclusions 74
 - References 77
- Part II Cloud-Based Monitoring, Planning and Control in CPS**
- 4 Machine Availability Monitoring and Process Planning 83**
 - 4.1 Introduction 83
 - 4.2 Literature Review 84
 - 4.3 Concept of Distributed Process Planning 88
 - 4.4 Architecture Design of a Web-Based DPP 90
 - 4.5 Functional Analysis of Web-DPP 91
 - 4.5.1 Supervisory Planning 93
 - 4.5.2 Execution Control 93
 - 4.5.3 Operation Planning 95
 - 4.6 Web-DPP Prototype Implementing 96
 - 4.7 A Case Study 97
 - 4.8 Conclusions 101
 - References 102
- 5 Cloud-Enabled Distributed Process Planning 105**
 - 5.1 Introduction 105
 - 5.2 Multi-tasking Machines and Mill-Turn Parts 107
 - 5.3 Methodology 111
 - 5.3.1 Machine Modes 112
 - 5.3.2 Machine Mode Transitions 113
 - 5.3.3 Setup Frames 113

- 5.3.4 Setup Planning and Setup Merging 114
- 5.3.5 New FBs and FB Network Generation 115
- 5.4 Case Study 116
- 5.5 Discussions 120
- 5.6 Conclusions 121
- References 122
- 6 Adaptive Machining Using Function Blocks 125**
 - 6.1 Introduction 125
 - 6.2 Function Block Concept 127
 - 6.2.1 Function Blocks 127
 - 6.2.2 Function Block Types 127
 - 6.2.3 Execution of Function Block 130
 - 6.2.4 Internal Behaviour of Function Block 131
 - 6.3 Enriched Machining Features 132
 - 6.3.1 Machining Features 132
 - 6.3.2 Enriched Machining Features 134
 - 6.3.3 Generic Machining Process Sequencing 140
 - 6.4 Adaptive Machining Feature Sequencing 143
 - 6.4.1 Reachability-Based Approach 144
 - 6.4.2 Case Study 153
 - 6.5 Adaptive Setup Merging and Dispatching 157
 - 6.6 Conclusions 161
 - References 161
- 7 Condition Monitoring for Predictive Maintenance 163**
 - 7.1 Introduction 163
 - 7.2 Fundamentals of Prognosis 165
 - 7.3 Prognostic Methods 166
 - 7.3.1 Physics-Based Models 167
 - 7.3.2 AI-Based Data-Driven Models 168
 - 7.3.3 Statistical Data-Driven Models 169
 - 7.3.4 Model-Based Approach 171
 - 7.3.5 Comparison of Prognostic Models 174
 - 7.4 Prognosis-as-a-Service in Cloud Manufacturing 176
 - 7.4.1 Benefits of Cloud-Enabled Prognosis 176
 - 7.4.2 Supporting Technologies 179
 - 7.4.3 Implementing Prognosis in the Cloud 181
 - 7.4.4 Prognosis Applications 183
 - 7.5 Challenges and Limitations 186
 - 7.6 Conclusions 188
 - References 189

Part III Sustainable Robotic Assembly in CPS Settings

8	Resource Efficiency Calculation as a Cloud Service	195
8.1	Introduction	195
8.2	Related Work	195
8.3	System Overview	197
8.4	Methodology and Implementation	197
8.4.1	Denavit-Hartenberg (D-H) Notation	198
8.4.2	Forward Kinematics	198
8.4.3	Inverse Kinematics	199
8.4.4	Inverse Dynamics	201
8.4.5	Energy Consumption	202
8.4.6	Energy Optimisation	202
8.5	Case Studies	203
8.5.1	Energy Map of Robot Workspace	203
8.5.2	Energy Measurement in Predefined Paths	203
8.6	Conclusions	207
	References	207
9	Safety in Human-Robot Collaborative Assembly	211
9.1	Introduction	211
9.2	Human Robot Collaboration	213
9.3	Depth Sensor-Driven Active Collision Avoidance	217
9.3.1	Kinect Sensors Calibration	217
9.3.2	Depth Image Capturing	218
9.3.3	Depth Image Processing	219
9.3.4	Minimum Distance Calculation	222
9.3.5	Active Collision Avoidance	222
9.3.6	Velocity Detection	225
9.4	System Verification	227
9.5	A Remote Assembly Application	229
9.5.1	System Configuration	229
9.5.2	System Implementation	231
9.5.3	Case Study	235
9.6	Conclusions	239
	References	240
10	Cloud Robotics Towards a CPS Assembly System	243
10.1	Introduction	243
10.2	Cloud Robotics	244
10.2.1	Cloud Robotics at System Level	244
10.2.2	Cloud Robotics at Application Level	246
10.3	ICMS: an Example of Cloud Robotics System	247
10.3.1	Integration Mechanisms in ICMS	248
10.3.2	Cloud Robotic Application	250

- 10.4 Implementation and Case Studies 252
 - 10.4.1 Cloud-Based Manufacturing Chain 252
 - 10.4.2 Human-Robot Collaboration 254
 - 10.4.3 Minimisation of Robot Energy Consumption 255
- 10.5 Conclusions 256
- References 257
- 11 Context-Aware Human-Robot Collaborative Assembly 261**
 - 11.1 Introduction 261
 - 11.2 Gesture Recognition 262
 - 11.2.1 Gesture Recognition for Human-Robot Collaboration 263
 - 11.2.2 Sensor Technologies 263
 - 11.2.3 Gesture Identification 267
 - 11.2.4 Gesture Tracking 270
 - 11.2.5 Gesture Classification 273
 - 11.2.6 Future Trends of Gesture Recognition 276
 - 11.3 Human Motion Prediction 277
 - 11.3.1 Assembly Tasks Sequence 277
 - 11.3.2 HMM Human Motion Prediction 280
 - 11.3.3 Experiment 282
 - 11.3.4 Discussions 284
 - 11.4 AR-Based Worker Support System 284
 - 11.4.1 System Architecture 285
 - 11.4.2 AR Assembly Information Registrar 287
 - 11.4.3 Case Study 288
 - 11.5 Conclusions 289
 - References 290

Part IV CPS Systems Design and Lifecycle Analysis

- 12 Architecture Design of Cloud CPS in Manufacturing 297**
 - 12.1 Introduction 297
 - 12.1.1 State-of-the-Art Cloud Manufacturing Approaches 298
 - 12.1.2 Supporting Technologies for Cloud Manufacturing 299
 - 12.1.3 Recap 300
 - 12.2 Cloud Manufacturing Framework 300
 - 12.2.1 Manufacturing Capability and Manufacturing Resource 301
 - 12.2.2 Cloud Architecture 304
 - 12.3 Interoperability and Other Issues 309
 - 12.3.1 Standardised File Formats 309
 - 12.3.2 STEP/STEP-NC to Bridge the Gap 310
 - 12.3.3 Approaches to Achieving Product Information Sharing 312

12.4	Standardisation for Cloud Manufacturing	314
12.5	Conclusions	318
	References	320
13	Product Tracking and WEEE Management	325
13.1	Introduction	325
13.2	System Framework	328
13.2.1	System Requirements and Roles	328
13.2.2	WR2Cloud: System Framework	331
13.3	Product Tracking Mechanism	332
13.3.1	WR2Cloud	333
13.3.2	‘Cloud + QR’-based Tracking Methodology	335
13.4	Implementations and Case Studies	336
13.4.1	Case Study 1: Cloud WEEE Management at Product Level	336
13.4.2	Case Study 2: Cloud-based WEEE Management at National/International Level	338
13.5	Conclusions	340
	References	344
14	Big Data Analytics for Scheduling and Machining	347
14.1	Introduction	347
14.1.1	Algorithms Used in Big Data Analytics	347
14.1.2	Tools Used in Big Data Analytics	348
14.2	Background Information	348
14.2.1	Related Works on Scheduling	348
14.2.2	Related Works on Machining Optimisation	350
14.2.3	Big Data Analytics Application	351
14.3	Big Data Analytics for Shop-Floor Scheduling	352
14.3.1	Big Data Analytics Based Fault Prediction in Scheduling	352
14.3.2	System Architecture	353
14.3.3	A Simplified Case Study	359
14.4	Big Data Analytics Based Optimisation for Machining	361
14.4.1	Analysis of Machining Process	361
14.4.2	Enriched Distributed Process Planning (DPP)	362
14.4.3	Solution Strategy of Enriched DPP	363
14.4.4	A Simplified Case Study	365
14.5	Conclusions	371
	References	372
15	Outlook of Cloud, CPS and IoT in Manufacturing	377
15.1	Introduction	377
15.2	Drivers, Barriers and Initiatives	379
15.3	Characteristics and Requirements	381

- 15.3.1 Systems of Systems (SoS) 384
- 15.3.2 Internet of Things (IoT) 384
- 15.3.3 Cloud Manufacturing (CM) 385
- 15.3.4 Big Data 385
- 15.3.5 Industry 4.0 386
- 15.3.6 Challenges 387
- 15.3.7 Discussions 388
- 15.4 Representative Examples of CPS in Manufacturing 388
 - 15.4.1 Example 1: Service-Oriented Architecture 388
 - 15.4.2 Example 2: Cloud Manufacturing 391
 - 15.4.3 Example 3: Adaptive Manufacturing Systems 391
 - 15.4.4 Example 4: Model-Driven Manufacturing Systems 393
- 15.5 Future Research Directions 394
- 15.6 Conclusions 396
- References 396
- Index 399**