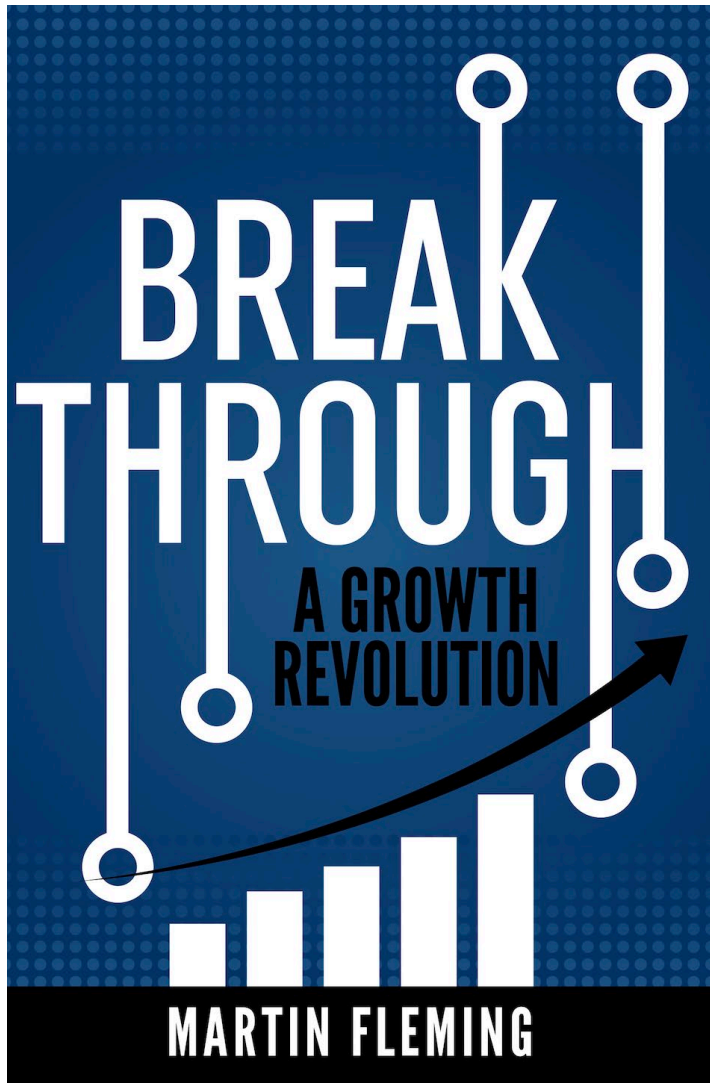




# *Technology, Long-Term Growth and Economic Measurement*

Martin Fleming

Seventh World KLEMS Conference  
University of Manchester  
13 October 2022



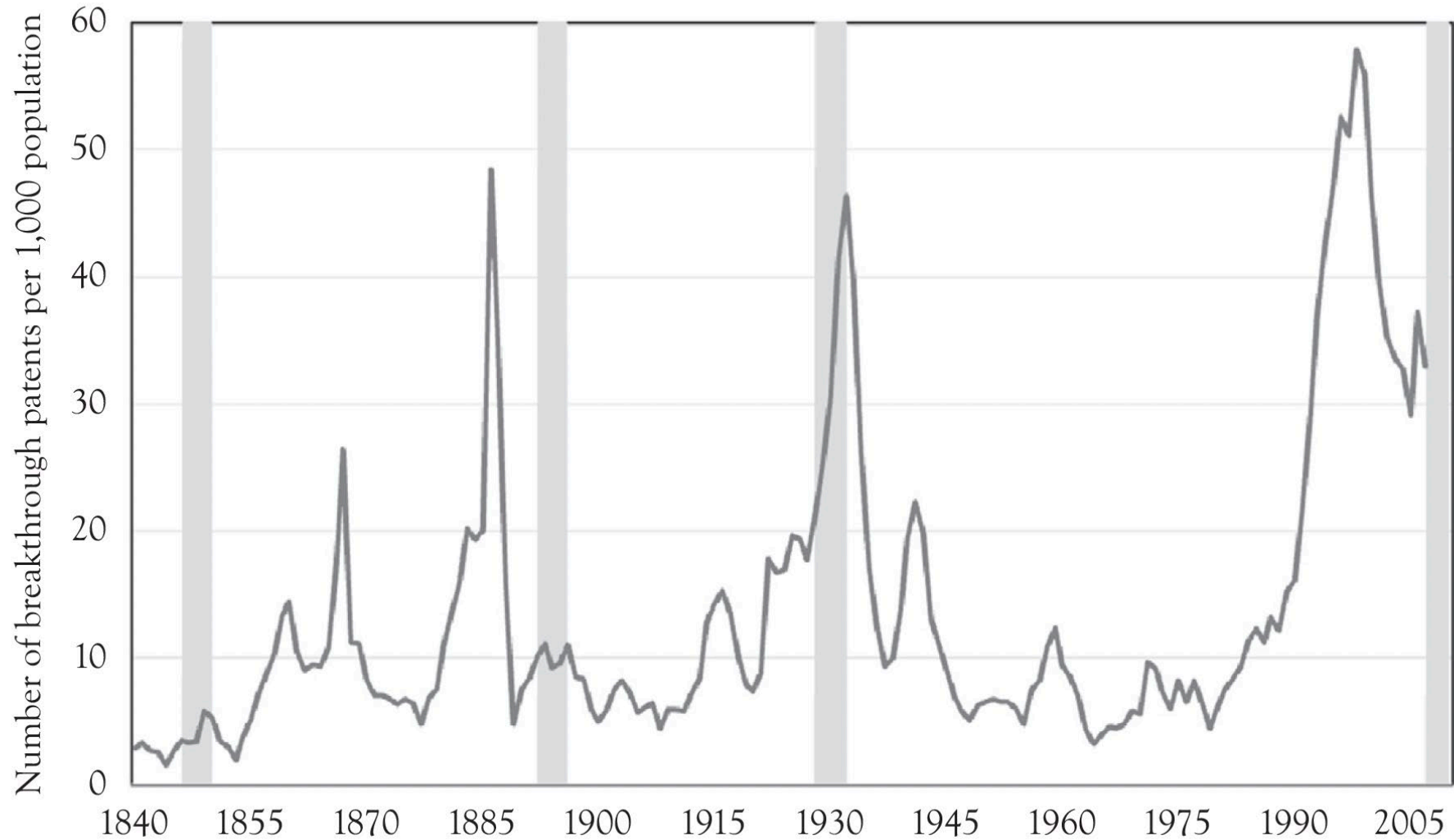
Robust economic and productivity growth will require:

- Capital investment, knowledge diffusion, absorptive capacity
- Widespread transformation => business models, ways of working, and political leadership => including economic measurement
- Experience suggests => only the strongest social and economic pressure will overcome resistance
- New social contract => rising expectations of a new generation with much higher hopes for the future

***Table 1.1 Four industrial revolutions***

<b>Era</b>	<b>Industrial Revolution</b>	<b>Years</b>	<b>Technology Innovation</b>
<b>1st</b>	Age of Steam and Railways	1829–1873	“Rocket” Steam Engine (1829)
<b>2nd</b>	Age of Steel, Electricity, and Heavy Engineering	1875–1918	Carnegie Bessemer Steel Plan (1875)
<b>3rd</b>	Age of Oil, Automobiles, and Mass Production	1908–1974	Model-T Mass Production (1908)
<b>4th</b>	Age of Information and Telecommunications	1971 and beyond	Intel Microprocessor Announced (1971)

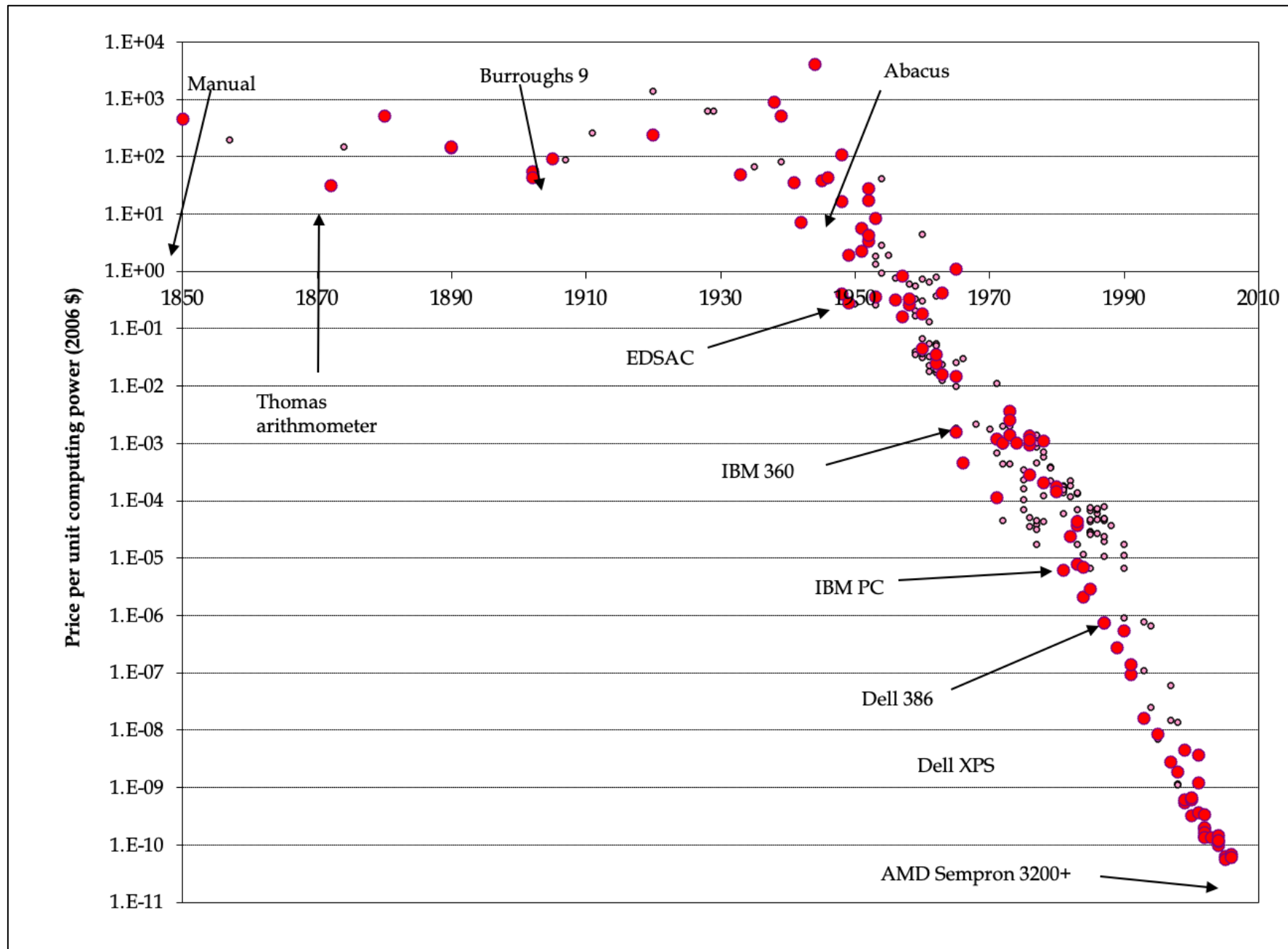
*Source:* Perez (2002), p. 78.



***Figure 2.2 Breakthrough patents (top 5 percent significant patents per capita)***

***Table 1.2 Economic logic of industrial revolution***

	<b>Installation Period</b>	<b>Deployment Period</b>
Age of Capital Stock	From Previous Era Embodying Old Technology	Renewed Embodying New Technology
Knowledge Diffusion	Limited	Abundant
Labor Income Share	Declining	Increasing to Stable



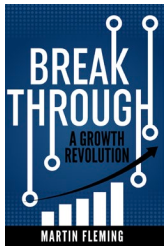
# The Future is Uncertain

- The co-existence of productivity leaders – the Superstars - alongside productivity laggards – often SMBs - creates persistent productivity differences, slowing creative destruction
- Wealth owners from the prior era protect their status and fight transformation
  - *Regime switching requires enormous social and economic pressure*
- Despite powerful forces, workers face a new risk environment, forcing deep, difficult, and painful attitudinal changes, none of which happens easily or quickly
- Experience suggests only the strongest social and economic pressures – encouraged by public policy – have persuaded business leaders, workers and elected officials to undertake and accept fundamental change
  - *The psychology of growth is as important as the economics of growth*



# A Growth and Fairness Agenda

- Traditional Policy Initiatives Are Insufficient
- Support Deeper Worker Engagement
- Promote Confidence Among SMBs
- Encourage AI Fairness
- Seek New Social Contract
- Capital investment depends on intangible capital, less dependent in the cost of capital
- As services sectors dominate, workers respond to career progression, work life balance, skill development, as well as compensation
- With reluctance to transform and limited data science skills, ease of use and low-cost technology is necessary
- Data become more available, ethics and fairness take on new importance
- Set aside nostalgia for an earlier era, overcome change resistance



Breakthrough: A Growth Revolution is available on [Amazon](#)

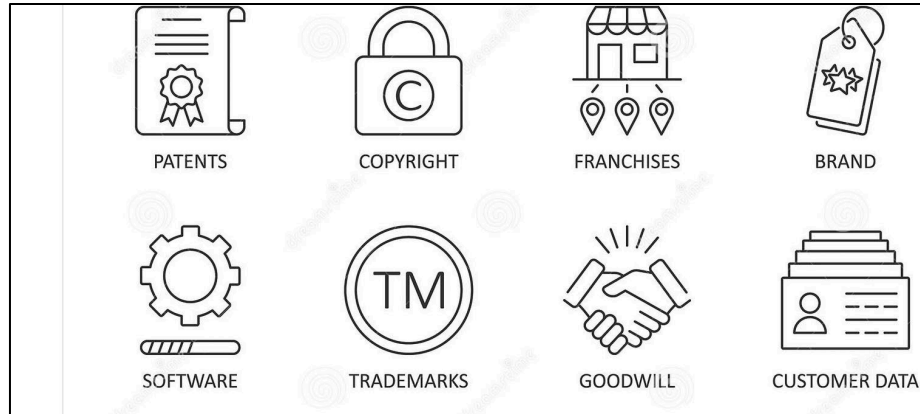


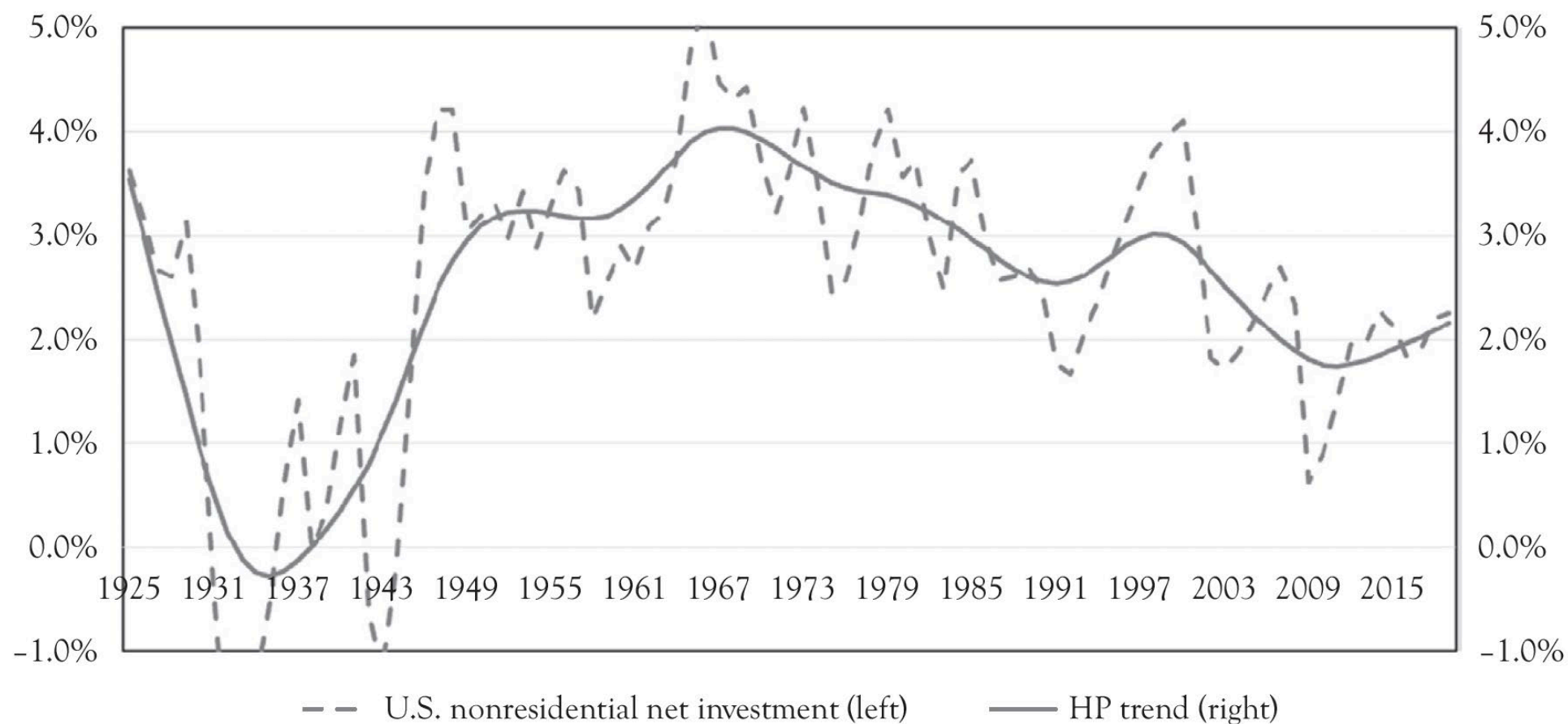
# Implications for Economic Measurement

# Recent Measurement Innovations

## Intangible Capital

- Corrado, Haskel among others



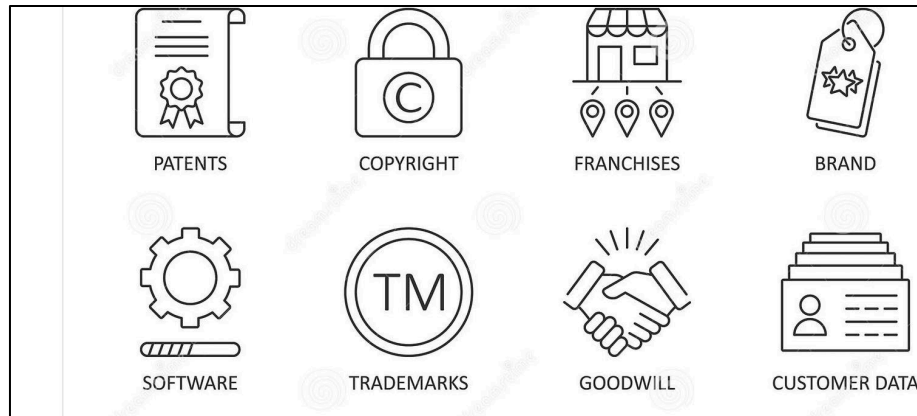


***Figure 2.3 U.S. nonresidential investment as a percent of capital stock***

# Recent Measurement Innovations

## Intangible Capital

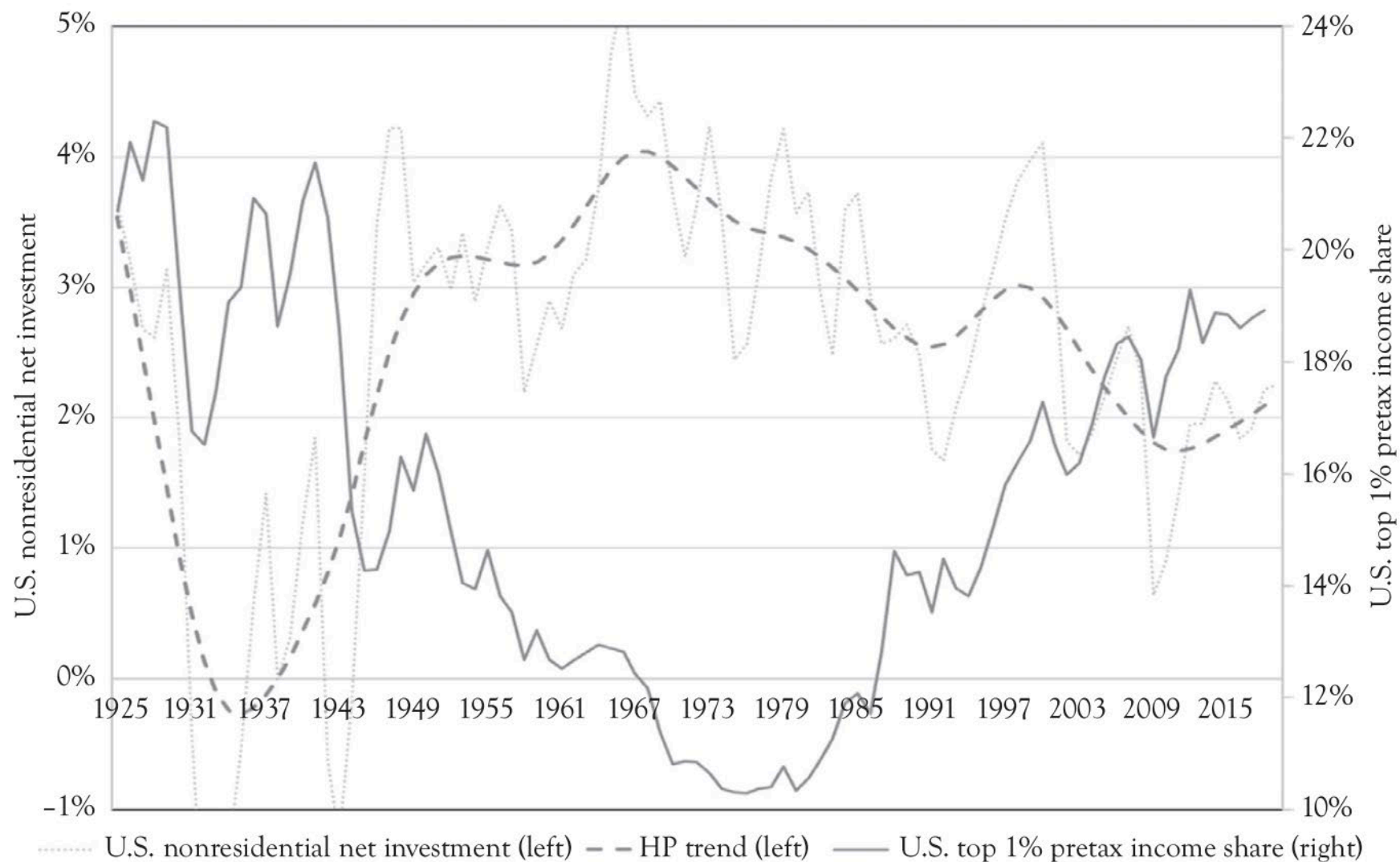
- Corrado, Haskel among others



## Income Distribution

- Piketty and Saez





**Figure 4.1** *U.S. nonresidential investment as a percent of capital and U.S. top 1 percent pretax income share*

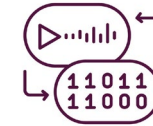
# Tools in Early Development

## GDP-B



- New and free goods are not well-measured
- Brynjolfsson, Collins and others

## Natural Language Processing



- Measuring Technological Innovation Over the Long Run
- Kelly, Papanikolaou, Seru, and Taddy

## Online Search Data



- Estimate unemployment and benefit claims
- Varian, Koenecke, and Choi

## Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics



- Public-use information combining federal, state and Census Bureau data
- Abowd, Haltiwanger and Lane

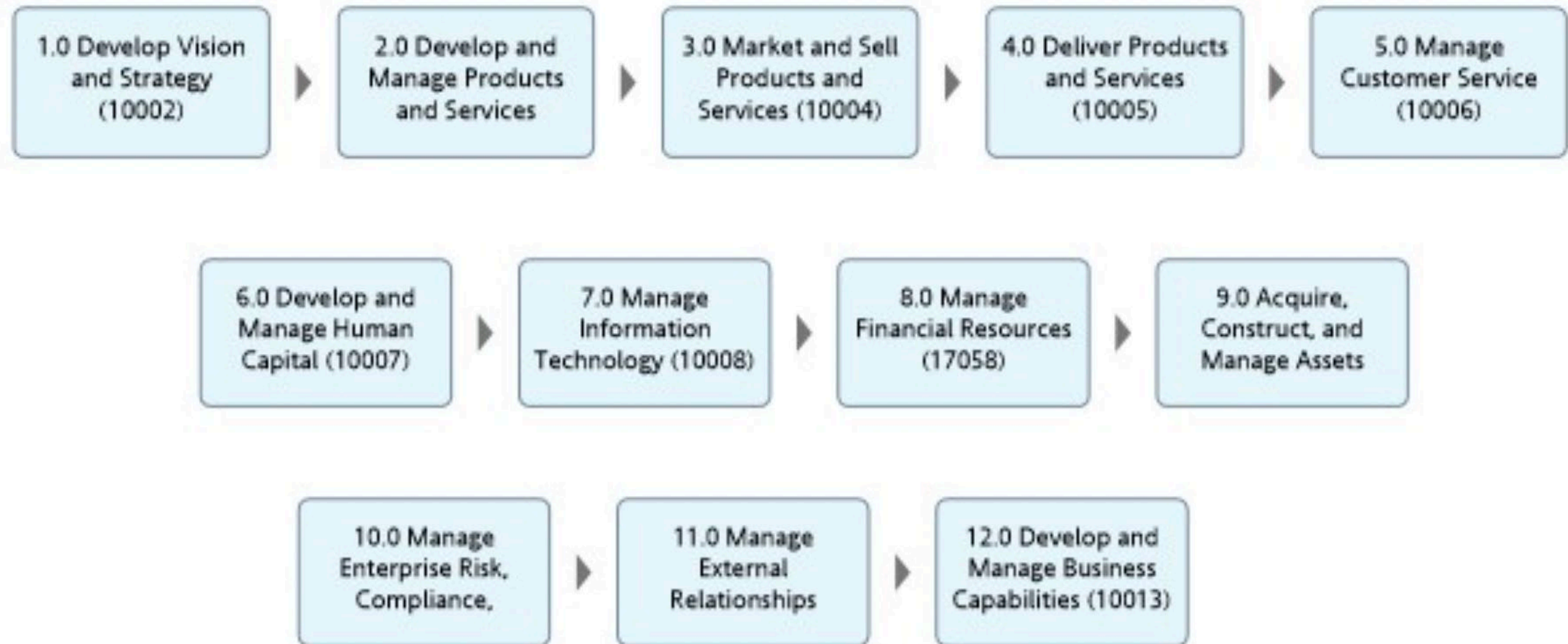
# AI-as-a-Service Provides Knowledge Diffusion

- NVIDIA provides an Autonomous Vehicles common data platform
  - *Enables greater model performance, particularly with edge cases*
- Navtech brings advanced computer vision to individual diamond retailers across the globe, by creating a model and delivering it as-a-service
  - *Each retailer maintains a catalogue and supplements it with images of other jewelry as inspiration for customers looking for bespoke pieces*





# Business Process Taxonomy

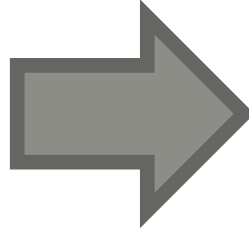


# Needs for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

## New Tasks



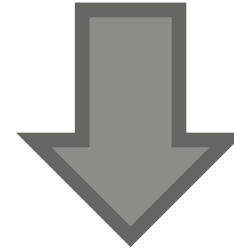
- Occupations are a collection of tasks which can be automated or augmented



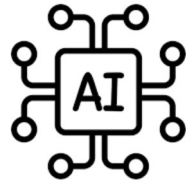
## Knowledge Diffusion and Absorptive Capacity



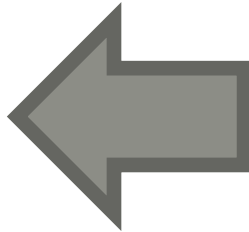
- Tasks exist within business processes for which productivity improvement requires absorptive capacity



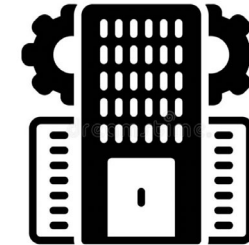
## AI Adoption



- AI adoption is still in the early stages with digital information ubiquitous, cloud computing take up increasing, and AI adoption trailing

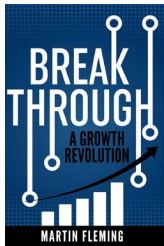


## Enterprise Size



- Larger enterprises are better able to adopt new technology, SMBs require ease of use

# Thank You!!!



Breakthrough: A Growth Revolution is available on [Amazon](#)





