A few interesting recent developments that might lead to some useful discussions are presented. A truly astonishing development is that the US Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that compound annual growth rates in productivity have exceeded 5% over the last decade in key construction sectors in the US, including industrial and multi-family residential. I posit that advances in robotics, artificial intelligence, information technology automation and integration, new materials, management practices, and training have driven this outcome, and that some of them were in turn driven by fundamental research advances. I will present a few examples of how our community and our laboratory in particular are currently contributing to those advances and their implementation. Examples include research in construction automation, augmented reality, infrastructure computer vision, adaptive reuse, and biomechanical applications in the construction trades.

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