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# Industrial Metaverse: A Comprehensive Review, Environmental Impact and Challenges

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# Industrial Metaverse: A Comprehensive Review, Environmental Impact and Challenges

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Abstract: The industrial metaverse paradigm is generally a virtual environment that integrates various technologies such as augmented reality (AR) and mixed reality (MR) to enhance business operations and processes. It aims to streamline workflows, reduce error rates, improve efficiency, and provide a more engaging experience for employees. The promise of the industrial Metaverse to drive sustainability and resource efficiency is compelling. Utilizing advanced technologies like the Industrial Metaverse is essential for staying competitive in today's rapidly evolving business environment. However, the environmental impact of the technologies underpinning the industrial metaverse, like data centres and network infrastructure, should not be overlooked. The ecological footprint of these technologies must be considered in the sustainability equation. Researchers have warned that by 2025, without sustainable AI practices, AI will consume more energy than the human workforce, significantly offsetting carbon-zero gains. As the metaverse persists in evolving and gaining momentum, it will be necessary for companies to prioritize sustainability and explore new ways to balance technological advancements with environmental stewardship. However, recent studies have conjectured that the Metaverse holds the potential to reduce carbon emissions, as digital replacements for physical goods become more prevalent and physical activities like mobility and construction are reduced. However, the specific extent to which this substitution can alleviate environmental concerns remains understudied, presenting a knowledge gap in understanding the real-world impact of digital replacements. Thus, the objective of this paper is to provide a comprehensive review of the industrial metaverse as well as explore the environmental impact of the industrial metaverse. The methodological approach is that of integrative literature review design wherein multiple sources from web science and databases such as ACM library, IEEE Library, and Google Scholar, were analysed to provide a comprehensive understanding of the developments in the industrial metaverse. Specifically, firstly by considering the Industrial metaverse architecture we elucidate the concept of the "industrial metaverse" and the associated enabling technologies. Secondly, an exploration through discussion, of the prevalent use cases and deployment of the emerging industrial metaverse. Thirdly, exploration of the impact of the industrial metaverse on the environment. In the fourth instance, we address novel security and privacy risks as well as upcoming research challenges, keeping in mind that the industrial metaverse is based on a strong data fabric. Results point to the Industrial Metaverse as having both positive and negative environmental effects by energy consumption, e-waste, and pollution. Overall research, however, indicates that most industrial metaverse applications have a positive environmental impact and subsequently trend toward sustainability. Ultimately for sustainability in the industrial metaverse, enterprises may consider utilizing renewable energy sources and cloud services. Furthermore, examining the effects of products on the environment as well as creating a circular economy.

Keywords: industrial; metaverse; digital twin'; deployment; security; environmental impact

# 1. Introduction

Increasingly the emerging metaverse paradigm is often touted as the next iteration of the internet. The metaverse is a collaborative, social, and immersive environment that blends both the physical and virtual realms to the point that data exchange and interactions become fluid and affect each

other [1]. The growing metaverse is divided into three distinct industries, including the consumer metaverse for leisure and retail, the industrial metaverse (IM), which blends the physical and digital worlds, and the enterprise metaverse for virtual workspaces and office collaboration [2]. One practical application of the Industrial Metaverse can be found in the manufacturing industry[3]. Industrial metaverse is the application and development of metaverse in the industrial field, which covers the whole process of industrial product design, production, application, and service [4]. According to [5] the IM is an important application area within the Metaverse. It is a new industrial system, economy, and model serving the industrial economy based on core infrastructure and application concepts of the Metaverse. The Industrial Metaverse can achieve holographic display and cross-time-space aggregation of all factors, value chains, and industry chains in virtual worlds. It also incorporates new social models and economic models. Through means such as human-machine interaction and digital identities, it collaboratively carries out industrial production and business activities to promote industrial transformation-upgrading and innovative development. The IM is characterized in [6] as persistent, real-time, economic, interoperable, co-creation and construction, and purposeful. The defining point of the industrial metaverse is that it allows for persistent, digital representations connected to aspects of the physical world [7]. In [8] IM is depicted as a persistent 3D platform that is implemented across an organization, value chain, and product life cycle, serving as a digital reflection of an entire organization in its operational environment. In its combinatory nature, it integrates processes, materials, machines, and people in a bi-directional flow between the real and virtual worlds. IM is also characterized as real-time meaning it is synchronized at any time and kept in real-time, which allows everyone to participate in the experiences in real time. Furthermore, IM has the feature of a fully functional economy meaning both individuals and enterprises can create, own, and invest in digital assets, work or invest in the industrial metaverse, and people will obtain the expected income and value. Another characteristic of IM is that of interoperability, depicting unprecedented interconnection characteristics, including information interoperability, data interoperability, and value interoperability. There is no isolated data island in the industrial metaverse. An isolated system is like a closed country, which gradually falls behind and loses its status and eventually cannot exist in the IM. Furthermore, co-creation and co-construction is a feature that allows members to collaboratively create the applications and content of the IM platform, sharing in the rewards in the end. Finally, IM can also be characterized as purposeful, as it promotes the efficient development of the real industry, and is committed to build a new manufacturing and service system covering the entire industry chain and the entire value chain. The IM has enormous potential to change a lot of different industries. This technology is transforming the way enterprises function, from fostering better teamwork and communication in industrial settings to opening up new avenues for training and simulation [9].

# 1.1. Motivation

According to [10] IM will provide a vision of Industry 5.0 that aims beyond efficiency and productivity as the sole goals and reinforces the role and the contribution of industry to society, and enables smart, resilient, sustainable, and human-centric solutions to satisfy experience-driven individual needs. The promise of the industrial metaverse to drive sustainability and resource efficiency is compelling. Utilizing advanced technologies like the Industrial Metaverse is essential for staying competitive in today's rapidly evolving business environment. However, the environmental impact of the technologies underpinning the industrial metaverse, like data centres and network infrastructure, should not be overlooked. The ecological footprint of these technologies must be considered in the sustainability equation. The report in [11] issues a warning that by 2025, without sustainable AI practices, AI will consume more energy than the human workforce, significantly offsetting carbon-zero gains. As the metaverse persists in evolving and gaining momentum, it will be necessary for companies to prioritize sustainability and explore new ways to balance technological advancements with environmental stewardship. Thus, as the IM persists in evolving and gaining momentum, it will be necessary for companies to prioritize sustainability and explore new ways

to balance technological advancements with environmental stewardship. However, recent studies have conjectured that the IM holds the potential to reduce carbon emissions, as digital replacements for physical goods become more prevalent and physical activities like mobility and construction are reduced. However, the specific extent to which this substitution can alleviate environmental concerns remains understudied, presenting a knowledge gap in understanding the real-world impact of digital replacements. The objective of this paper is to explore the environmental impact of the industrial metaverse. To accomplish this objective, the methodological approach leverages an integrative literature review design wherein multiple sources from web science and databases such as ACM library, IEEE Library, and Google Scholar, were analyzed to provide a comprehensive understanding of the developments in the industrial metaverse.

#### 1.2. Our contributions

In this paper, we present a comprehensive review of the industrial metaverse to explore its impact on the environment. More specifically by discussing the numerous issues about the industrial metaverse, our review offers insights for readers to better understand the effect of the industrial metaverse on the environment. To this end, the contributions of this review are four-fold and are subsequently summarized as follows:

- Considering the Industrial metaverse architecture we elucidate the concept of the industrial metaverse and various enabling technologies used to build and experience the industrial metaverse.
- Explore new and upcoming prevalent use cases of the Industrial Metaverse and deployments.
- Exploration of the impact of the technologies underpinning the industrial metaverse such as
  data centers and network infrastructure on the environment.
- Address novel security and privacy risks as well as outlining open research challenges, keeping in mind that the industrial metaverse is based on a strong data fabric.

# 1.3. Paper organization

Figure 1 illustrates the organization of this review paper which is structured as follows: Firstly, in Section 2, the reader is given a quick overview of the methodological approach to the review work by pointing out the academic databases that were used, and how the literature was chosen and processed. This is followed by an overview of the industrial metaverse architecture, the roadmap, and the associated driving technologies in Section 2. In the third instance, prevalent use cases and deployments by enterprises are discussed in Section 4. The IM impact on the environment in Section 5 is discussed in the form of the implications of the deployments in the IM by enterprises. The IM is based on a strong data fabric and this gives rise to security and privacy issues in Section 6. Future research obstacles to the full implementation of the industrial metaverse are also outlined in Section 7. Finally, the paper's conclusion is given in Section 8.

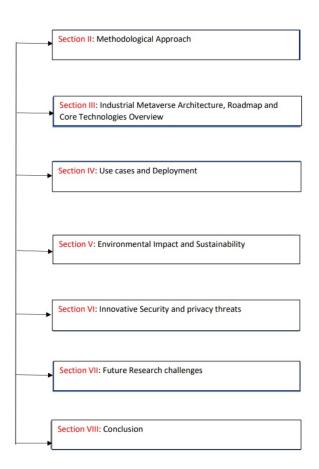


Figure 1. Organization structure of this paper

#### 2. Methodological Approach

The approach utilized in this paper explains how we located the articles for our examination of the Industrial Metaverse, its role, applications, implementation, environmental impact, and challenges. Our systematic approach involved initially an extensive literature search including but not limited to web science, IEEE Explore, ACM Digital Library, ScienceDirect, Springer Nature, and Google Scholar. These databases are renowned for their simultaneous provision and coverage of academic publications on the Industrial metaverse and other related matters. The initial search queries were carefully designed to capture a broad range of relevant papers related to the industrial Metaverse applications and challenges. The primary search terms we employed included "industrial Metaverse", "deployment and industrial Metaverse", "Environmental impact and industrial metaverse", "challenges of industrial Metaverse", and similar variations. To enhance the retrieval of relevant literature, we made sure that our search searches included relevant terms. Our preliminary searches turned up a sizable number of papers—about 88 in all across the various databases. After that, a methodical screening procedure was applied to these publications to eliminate any duplicate or unnecessary research. The inclusion criteria for our analysis encompassed papers that focused on the application of the industrial Metaverse context and explored the associated challenges.

# 3. Industrial Metaverse Architecture, Roadmap and Core Technologies Overview

Figure 2, shows the three layers of the IM architecture, which are the infrastructure, core, and application layers [13]. The infrastructure layer underpins the industrial Internet of Things

and guarantees that the industrial metaverse functions normally. The core layer contains the key technologies including artificial intelligence, blockchain, cloud computing, digital twin, interactive experiences, virtualization of industrial production scenarios, modelling and simulation of industrial scenarios, and data-driven technologies and metaverse engines. Product experience and marketing, operational decision-making hubs, safety education and training, risk-visibility and enhanced reminders, and quick and flexible equipment maintenance, are all included in the application layer. The industrial metaverse is primarily driven by key technologies depicted in Figure 3. The cutting-edge technologies, including the industrial Internet of Things, artificial intelligence, blockchain, mixed reality (AR/VR), cloud computing, edge-computing, digital twins, and 3D printing and scanning, are powering the industrial metaverse.

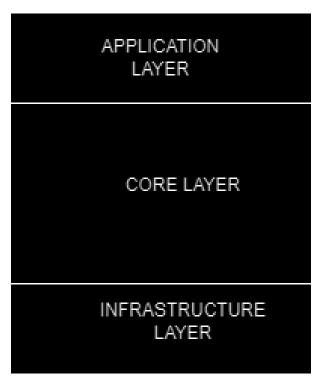


Figure 2. IM Architecture [12]

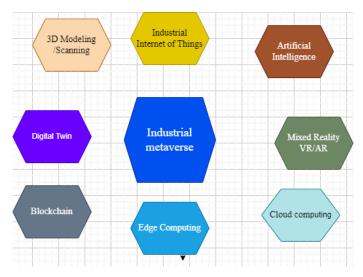


Figure 3. Industrial Metaverse Driving Technologies.

#### 3.1. Industrial Internet of Things

IIoT is a paradigm serving as a new vision of IoT in the industrial sector by automating smart objects for sensing, collecting, processing, and communicating real-time events in industrial systems. Formally this paradigm is defined as a network of intelligent and highly connected industrial components that are [14] deployed to achieve a high production rate with reduced operational costs through real-time monitoring, efficient management, and controlling of industrial processes, assets, and operational time. The major objective of IIoT is to achieve high operational efficiency, increased productivity, and better management of industrial assets and processes through product customization, intelligent monitoring applications for production floor shops, and machine health, and predictive and preventive maintenance of industrial equipment [15]. Architecturally the IIoT comprises three layers namely, the Infrastructure layer, Core layer, and Application layer [13]. The IIoT is applied in various domains [16] ranging from agriculture, construction, smart homes, disaster management, solar assisted systems, smart grid, robotics technology, healthcare, the automotive industry as well as emergency response systems.

# 3.2. Artificial Intelligence

Artificial intelligence (AI) is a required technology to enable the world of the metaverse to work following the rules defined by the creator [14]. AI has shown the great importance of processing big data to enhance the immersive experience and enable human-like intelligence of virtual agents [17]. AI has recently emerged as a critical component of the metaverse with fundamental roles such as content creation, security, personalization, creating and managing digital identities, immersion, real-time translation as well as intelligent Non-Player Characters(NPC). Content Creation: AI can help in the creation of content for the Metaverse, such as 3D models, textures, and animations. AI-powered tools can automate the process of creating and designing virtual environments, reducing the time and cost required for content creation.

- Security: The Metaverse poses various security challenges, such as identity theft, fraud, and cyber-attacks. AI can be used to monitor user behaviour and detect any suspicious activity, such as stealing personal information or engaging in malicious behaviour.
- Personalisation: AI algorithms can analyse user data to create a personalised experience for each user. For example, an AI system can learn a user's preferences for virtual clothing, virtual accessories, and virtual activities, and suggest personalised options.
- Creating and managing digital entities: In the Metaverse, AI is used to create and manage various
  digital entities such as non-player characters (NPCs), virtual assistants, and chatbots. These
  entities can interact with users and provide them with personalised experiences based on their
  preferences and behaviour.
- Immersion: AI can help create more immersive virtual environments by enabling realistic physics, lighting, and sound effects. For example, AI algorithms can simulate the behaviour of water, fire, and other natural elements, making the virtual environment more realistic.
- Real-time translation: AI can enable real-time translation of languages spoken in the Metaverse, making it easier for people from different countries to communicate and collaborate. This could lead to the creation of a truly global virtual community.
- Intelligent NPCs: Non-Player Characters (NPCs) are characters controlled by the game's AI,
  which can interact with users in the virtual environment. AI algorithms can enable NPCs to
  understand natural language and respond appropriately, making the interactions more realistic
  and engaging [18].

#### 3.3. Cross, Virtual, Augmented and Mixed Reality

Extended Reality or Cross Reality (XR) is an umbrella term that includes a series of immersive technologies; electronic, digital environments where data are represented and projected. XR includes Virtual Reality (VR), Augmented Reality (AR) and Mixed Reality (MR) [19].

#### 3.4. Cloud Computing

The cloud computing paradigm allows users to access computing resources over the internet and is still in its infancy [20]. Essentially cloud storage and cloud computing are used in conjunction to provide all the required services for the metaverse. The deployer of the metaverse will first send all the necessary data to the cloud storage, which makes it accessible to cloud computing services. A dedicated cloud computing service will then host the metaverse and provide it with all the required services to keep it running smoothly. Furthermore, given the rise in computing requirements, cloud computing will struggle to centralize and store all the involved resources. Edge-computing extends cloud computing to the edge of networks and supports resource-limited mobile devices to offload their tasks to edge servers for processing [21]. Therefore, such data will need to be distributed and moved closer to the point of consumption. Edge-computing and IoT devices can work in tandem to ensure that users receive the required data in real-time without delays, which is done by placing edge devices in remote locations at the edge of the network and closer to consumers [22]. To this end, potential developments and trends that could shape the future of Metaverse and Cloud Computing are enumerated as follows:

- Increased adoption of Metaverse and Cloud Computing in various industries: The Metaverse is expected to have a significant impact on various industries, including gaming, entertainment, education, healthcare, and retail. Cloud Computing will be essential in providing the necessary infrastructure to support these virtual experiences. As a result, we can expect to see increased adoption of Metaverse and Cloud Computing in these industries in the coming years.
- Advancements in VR/AR technology: VR/AR technology is a crucial component of the Metaverse, and we can expect to see continued advancements in this area, leading to more realistic and immersive virtual experiences. These advancements will require a robust and scalable cloud infrastructure to support the high computing requirements of VR/AR.
- The growth of the creator economy: The Metaverse has the potential to create new opportunities
  for creators to monetize their skills and talents. Cloud Computing will be essential in providing
  the necessary infrastructure for creators to develop and distribute their content on a global scale.
- Improved remote collaboration and work: The Metaverse and Cloud Computing are expected to improve remote collaboration and work, enabling teams to work together seamlessly in virtual environments. This development could lead to increased productivity and a more flexible and efficient workforce.
- Ethical and privacy concerns: The use of Metaverse and Cloud Computing raises ethical and privacy concerns, such as data privacy, ownership, and security. As the Metaverse and Cloud Computing continue to evolve, it will be essential to address these concerns to ensure that they are used responsibly and ethically.

# 3.5. Edge-Computing

Recent years have seen an increase in the popularity of the edge- computing paradigm among academic and professional groups. It serves as a key enabler for many future technologies such as IoT, AR, Vehicle to Vehicle (V2V) Communications by connecting cloud computing facilities and services to end users. Edge-computing can be identified as an open platform available near the data source or the network's edge. It can provide networking, storage, computing, and edge intelligence to achieve user requirements such as low-latency real-time applications, application optimization, and many more [23]. Edge-computing emerged as an extension of cloud computing, with a decentralized architecture, resulting in advantages such as low cost, less bandwidth requirement, and less processing power. Edge-computing is characterized in [24,25] by dense geographical distribution, mobility support, location awareness, proximity, and low-latency. A computational resource black hole exists in the metaverse. The industrial metaverse will thus require as much computational capacity as possible and the mobile users accessing the metaverse require the latency to be as low as possible to deliver real-time, advanced computational intense capabilities such as speech recognition and AR/VR. In the metaverse

edge-computing contributes to low-latency, high efficiency as well as security. The involvement of Edge-computing in the metaverse also brings forth fog computing[26]. Given the similarities of the edge-computing and fog computing paradigms, computational abilities are provisioned both in the local networks and the cloud subsequently reducing latency and load on backbone networks.

#### 3.6. Blockchain

A blockchain is essentially a public ledger wherein all committed transitions are stored in a chain of blocks. Creating a blockchain platform that is user-friendly, scalable, and safe is Metaverse's mission. The Blockchain-based methods in the metaverse range from, data acquisition, data storage, data sharing, data interoperability, and data privacy preservation [27]. Sensitive data, which might include biometrics and bank or credit card information, is gathered during the data acquisition process. This process can be leveraged upon in training algorithms exemplified by decision management, product development, recommendation systems, and marketing. Metaverse requires massive data storage. This means for every transaction, a new block is created, making the metaverse storage impenetrable to tampering. The use of BC technology gives rise to many blocks that contribute to data distribution thus increasing data availability in applications like life support in the metaverse. Data sharing facilitates data exchange within the metaverse. Users-specific personalized systems will be developed using the data gathered by AR/VR and IoT devices in the metaverse. Furthermore, the numerous sets of applications such as finance and healthcare will be able to communicate and exchange information in the metaverse. The interoperability of the metaverse is a function of the capacity to manage the interactions between virtual worlds appropriately. The secrecy of the content and user anonymity are two aspects of the blockchain's privacy protection. The blockchain's privacy-preserving method is primarily built on the following three technologies Shuffling technology, Zero-knowledge proof, and Ring signature [28].

# 3.7. 3D modelling/Scanning

The industrial 3D laser scanning metaverse is a shared, digital representation of the physical world that incorporates data from various sources to create an interactive, three-dimensional 3D laser scanning services model [29]. The goal is to provide a platform for users to visualize and interact with data naturally and intuitively to make better decisions faster. The industrial 3D laser scan metaverse is probably your best option if you need to simulate real-world conditions accurately. A digital twin may be a better choice if you need a cheaper or more accurate alternative. Digital twins are digital models of an object or system, but where a human isn't a dynamic part of the model. On the other hand, the 3D scanning services metaverse allows humans to interact dynamically in environments made up of digital images — furniture, cars, pictures of products, for example — but without the ability to change the state of those objects. This convergence offers new possibilities for how humans can interact with digital models and open up new potential applications for twins and the 3D laser scanning metaverse. For example, humans could use twins to test different scenarios before interacting with their real-life counterparts in the metaverse. The major companies in 3D scanning technology include Faro, Artec, Hexagon, Leica Geosystems:

- Faro Technologies: Faro is a leading 3D scanning company Faro. It provides a vast array of software, laser scanners, and 3D measuring, imaging, and realization technology.
- Artec 3D: Artec 3D, which is well-known for its portable, handheld 3D scanners, offers solutions
  for businesses in the automotive, aerospace, and entertainment sectors as well as for independent
  producers.
- Hexagon: Hexagon provides high-precision 3D scanning and metrology solutions for sectors including automotive, aerospace, and manufacturing, with a strong emphasis on industrial applications.
- Leica Geosystems: Leica, a member of the Hexagon group, is well known for its precise, high-quality 3D scanning solutions for a range of markets, including building, surveying, and

mapping sectors. They have cutting-edge laser scanning technology, such as the Leica BLK series, which makes it possible to seamlessly incorporate places and items from the real world into the metaverse.

# 3.8. Digital Twin

One of the most promising enabling technologies for achieving smart manufacturing and Industry 4.0 is the digital twin (DT). The seamless integration of the online and physical realm is a defining characteristic of DTs [30]. DT is defined in [31] as a virtual copy or model of any physical entity (physical twin) both of which are interconnected via the exchange of data in real-time. Practically, DT has a wide range of applications in varying domains including designing/planning, optimization, maintenance, safety, decision-making, remote access, and training, among others. It can be a great tool for companies to increase their competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency. These applications are motivated by the advantages of the DT such as:

- Speed prototyping as well as product re-designing:
- Cost-effective: In classical prototyping the redesign of a product is often expensive owing to the
  use of costly physical raw materials. In addition, a destructive test signifies the end of that costly
  prototype. Contrary to the classical approach, DT allows the testing of products under different
  operating scenarios, including destructive scenarios, without any additional costs. practically
  this translates to reduced costs on the par of DT deployment.
- Predicting Problems/System Planning: A digital twin enables the identification and forecasting of issues and failures at different stages of the product life cycle. This is particularly helpful for products with numerous parts, complex structures, and various materials because it gets harder to predict component failures using standard approaches as a product's complexity increases. Fault rectification is much simpler, less expensive, and quicker in the digital world than in the physical one. Before the product goes into production, a digital twin makes it possible to identify and virtually eliminate all potential output dangers, assuring that the physical twin will work as intended [32].
- Optimizing Solutions and Improved Maintenance:
- Accessibility:
- Safer than the Physical Counterpart:
- Waste Reduction:
- Documentation and Communication:
- Training: [33,34]
  - (I) High Fidelity
  - (II) Dynamic
  - (ÌII) Self Evolving
  - (IV) Identifiable
  - (V) multi-physical
  - (VI) multi-scale
  - (VII) multidisciplinary

# 4. Use Cases and Deployment

Increasingly, enterprises deploying industrial metaverse use cases are reportedly realizing more benefits as compared to those still in the planning phase notably with regards to capital expenditure reduction (15 %), sustainability (10 %), and safety improvement (9 %), according to a study by Nokia and EY [35,36]. Although the full potential of the metaverse may still be unknown, industrial use cases are being deployed across the value chain to improve existing business processes by offering visualization, data interoperability, and interwoven digital-physical worlds [37]. A summary of the industrial metaverse use cases is given in Table 1.

- Industrial design and engineering: The Metaverse is a meta-design space, where Metaverse designers create various interconnected design spaces, each of which creates a unique experience [38]. The macro and micro levels of real-world design are both improved by metaverse design. At the macro level, designing in the metaverse may entail working together in real-time inside a virtual representation of the inside of large-scale items like airplanes. At the micro level parts might be tested, changed, and iterated in a matter of seconds as opposed to investing money and effort in constructing or printing a 3D model or prototype. Practically, design engineers can construct detailed industrial designs owing to the metaverse. To view the product in a real-world environment, interact with it, and alter the design, they employ virtual reality. This method allows you to innovate more quickly and cost-effectively because it saves time and lowers the cost of physical prototypes. In addition, the metaverse offers designers and engineers fresh viewpoints and inspiration, enabling them to produce more original and useful creations. Industrial metaverse apps can speed up design and engineering processes and help you launch better goods more quickly.
- Supply chain management and logistics: The supply chain's transparency and insight into how goods are produced, stored, distributed, and sold will expand thanks to the metaverse. Additionally, the metaverse encourages collaboration up and down the supply chain, improving the effectiveness and efficiency of the entire chain [39]. Examples of industrial metaverse use cases include VeChain and TradeLens. They demonstrate how supply chain processes can be streamlined and optimized using this technology. The TradeLens technology automates and digitizes supply chain activities, minimizing paper-based documentation and manual processes, using smart contracts and digital signatures. VeChain simulates every stage of the supply chain, from raw materials to finished goods, using blockchain technology and the metaverse. Blockchain technology is used to track each transaction and movement.
- Manufacturing operations and maintenance: Industrial big data, operational data management, artificial intelligence, robotic process automation and autonomous systems, digital twins, and cloud computing are just a few of the cutting-edge technologies that make up the industrial metaverse. In the manufacturing industry, the metaverse enhances efficiency through product design, production, and maintenance. The metaverse improves productivity in the industrial sector through product design, production, and maintenance.
  - 1. In product design: Product design is the process of making physical or digital products. The metaverse enables designers to have the full autonomy to create products that never existed previously. For instance, fashion companies like Nike and Balenciaga have created items that, even if they were available to consumers, they might not necessarily choose to wear in real life, but which helps them create or define their virtual personas on this platform. Given the nearly endless amount of innovation, designers have never-before-seen chances to push the limits of design [40].
  - 2. Improve the manufacturing and production process: Metaverse simulations provide the capability to test several factory scenarios and gain insights from scaling up or reducing production. A provision of optimization opportunities within the facilities through these simulations without affecting the manufacturing that is already taking place. Practically, in a smart factory, operators can use Microsoft Dynamics 365 Guides for real-time instructions overlaid on equipment, while IoT sensors collect data on machine performance, quality metrics, and inventory levels. This renders it possible for operators to quickly spot and fix problems, optimize production settings, and enhance the general effectiveness and quality of manufacturing.
  - 3. Improve quality control: IoT sensors are deployed for the collection of data in manufacturing processes. This facilitates the collection of real-time data from the various equipment and machinery. Subsequently, analyzing data from its manufacturing processes and identifying defects or issues that need to be addressed [41]. Manufacturing companies can streamline processes and boost efficiency by using metaverse applications and technologies like

augmented reality (AR) and virtual reality (VR). For example, Dynamics 365 Guides and Remote Assist, can be leveraged for 3D drawing in a real-world environment. Moreover, front-line workers wearing HoloLens can also annotate their physical space with digital ink, creating an interactive and immersive experience. In the automotive manufacturing industry, BMW workers wear headsets that overlay digital information onto real-world objects. This allows them to visually inspect and identify defects in the components in real-time, reducing the risk of defective products reaching the assembly line or being shipped to customers.

- Better warehouse and logistics management: AR can be leveraged to streamline logistics and warehousing procedures by utilizing metaverse technology. A case in point is that of DHL, a global logistics company that is using augmented reality (AR) headsets to provide their workers with real-time information, such as order details, inventory locations, and picking instructions, overlaid onto their field of vision. This allows their workers to work hands-free and efficiently navigate the warehouse, reducing errors and improving order accuracy.
- Training: The adoption of "immersive training environments," more often known as the Industrial Metaverse, is necessary to train workers, both seasoned and novice ones, in Industry 5.0 working settings and from the Operator 5.0 point of view. The need for more efficient and effective practical training (either local or remote) is what drives the market demand for these types of advanced cyber-physical training environments. This is so that workers, both experienced and novice, can safely experience and learn from their operational mistakes and poor decisions. Even though mistakes can be the best teachers in some industrial situations, it may not be practical or safe to use them as a learning tool. The significant costs, hazards, and time-consuming activities that traditional physical or virtual training settings entail for businesses can thus be reduced with the use of contemporary industrial Metaverse-based training environments. However, to provide "safe" immersive industrial environments where employees can experiment with novel and creative methods of doing things, even using trial-and-error techniques, which may result in process improvements. A better user experience is one of the most significant advantages of using "Metaverse-based solutions" while educating employees. Complete immersion offers a more complete cognitive and sensory perception of the entire environment and the issues, as well as a richer user experience [42]. As an example, complex machinery can be practised by being operated by trainees, who can also receive safety instructions, learn how to perform maintenance and repairs, conduct remote training, and acquire critical soft skills. This encourages a staff that is more effective and knowledgeable. Employees and trainees can now take advantage of Dynamics 365 Guides' more sophisticated features, which include pre-join settings for HoloLens users joining Teams calls that lets them turn on or off their audio and video before joining the session. During the meeting, users can also change these settings. This permits frontline staff to use the HoloLens as their primary calling device in settings where secrecy is crucial without jeopardizing securites. Dynamics 365 Guides simplify document navigation. Through action steps, this also offers the additional capability of linking straight from one guide to another. As with clicking on hyperlinks to get to different online pages, this enables easy switching between various training materials or manuals. These cutting-edge training techniques provide a secure and monitored environment for practical learning, which boosts productivity, lowers costs, and improves safety in industrial settings.
- Marketing and sales for manufacturing products Metaverse enables you to create virtual product experiences that allow customers to visualize and interact with products in a virtual environment. Metaverse has created numerous possibilities for industries to market their products by organizing Virtual product launches using the metaverse to launch brand-new products. Companies can create virtual launch events where users can virtually experience the new products, learn about their features, and even pre-order them. This creates buzz and anticipation among their customer bases. Virtual factory tours help customers connect with your

brand. This allows them to experience the manufacturing process and get an inside look at your facilities without physically visiting the factories. Virtual booths at trade shows to showcase your products to a global audience. These booths can engage visitors and demonstrate your products using virtual presentations, videos, or interactive demos. Virtual trade shows offer a cost-effective and environmentally friendly way to market your products and reach potential customers globally.

• Research and development: With its immersive and collaborative features, industrial metaverse apps have changed the way that industries undertake research and development (R & D). In the end, this results in previously unheard-of levels of invention, effectiveness, and inventiveness. classically, physical prototypes were used to conduct (R & D) on products which was not only time-consuming but costly as well. The industrial metaverse simulates the design of a product or service at a very early stage as a cost-effective design approach. It enables the design team to quickly pivot and make the best and most appropriate design choices. Early-stage product creation using the metaverse would be a good, "low-hanging fruit" use case for industries [43]. The Ford Motor Company is a typical example, It has been investigating how to leverage the metaverse for research and development in fields like car design, safety testing, and manufacturing efficiency. They have built virtual prototypes of their vehicles and tested them virtually for performance and safety using virtual reality (VR) simulations.

Table 1. Industrial Metaverse Use cases.

Use case scenario	Summary	Ref
Industrial Design and Engineering	Industrial metaverse apps can help you streamline design, and engineering processes and bring better products to market faster	[44,45]
Supply Chain and Logistics	optimize the flow of goods, identify potential bottlenecks, and reduce waste.	[39,46]
Manufacturing operations and maintenance	Enhance product design, production, manufacturing process, quality control, warehouse, and logistics management	[47-49]
Training	remote training, virtual environments, multi-user interaction and automated supervision	[50-52]
Marketing and sales for manufacturing products	Virtual product launches, factory tours, and Virtual booths at trade shows	[53,54]
Research and development	design, safety testing, and manufacturing optimization	[55-57]

#### 4.1. Deployment

The IM is in its early stages of development and is gaining momentum to the extent that its large-scale deployment – if industry forecasts are met – will happen in a few years [58]. There exist challenging bottlenecks for wide deployment and future popularization [59]. Three prevalent deployment cases [60] have to date been noted namely Coca-Cola (HBC), General Motors (GM), and automotive Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs).

- Coca-Cola HBC: Coca-Cola HBC, a partner of the beverage giant, leveraged the IM to enhance the sustainability and resilience of its supply chain. The collaborative effort between Microsoft and Coca-Cola HBC created an immersive digital replica of its bottling facility in Edelstal, Austria, consequently minimizing waste and increasing sustainability while boosting operational efficiency. Further reducing the carbon footprint associated with transportation, Coca-Cola HBC implemented automated yard management and vision picking which improved resources and availability checks, as well as guiding trucks into loading docks, and minimizing errors. Coca-Cola HBC's ultimate goal is to have zero carbon emissions by 2040. This supply chain is enhanced by the IM, Coca-Cola HBC has achieved greater operational efficiency, sustainability, and profitability while simultaneously meeting the evolving demands and expectations of its clients and stakeholders.
- General Motors (GM): General Motors (GM) has been using Process Simulate from Siemens to create an ergonomically efficient production line in a short period. GM must update its production line regularly to accommodate for design changes of existing vehicles and the production of new cars. For efficiency, engineers work remotely with a virtual reality device to immerse themselves in the designs. It helps understand manual assembly, hand clearances, operator movements, and the operator's line of sight. With this information, engineers can identify a problem at an early stage and solve it before the issue occurs in real life. The team

at GM is leveraging the motion capture possibility with Process Simulate where a line design engineer wears a suit and performs the activity that an operator will do in real life. The captured motions help the engineer understand what the awkward positions are and for how long an operator needs to be in that position. Engineers can ergonomically optimize the production line and reduce work-related health problems. To this end, GM advances in other areas with IM as follows:

- 1. All the motions captured will be combined with biomechanics (study of how the bones, muscles, tendons, and ligaments work together and have an impact on the fatigue of the operator). Future software will simulate the biomechanics of a specific operator performing tasks over a long period of time. Based on the simulation health issues can be identified accurately and solutions like customized Exosuits or tailored Personal Protective Equipment can be created for the operator.
- 2. All these 3D models of operators can be converted into a Digital Twin and used to simulate realistic factories. GM has a large production workforce and a high number of robots in the line, making it important to check that operator movements are not be hindered by the robots. GM can make sure that operators and robots work in perfect synergy before commissioning the production line.
- 3. Simulate and track the operator tasks in real time. By tracking biomechanics live, precautionary measures can be taken before any work-related disease or accident occurs. The IM will help companies secure the health and happiness of their most important resource: HUMANS.
- Automotive Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs): his industry has been using virtual reality and other digital technologies to optimize manufacturing and improve designs for some time. The Digital Twin of Planning comes into play because it can simulate an entire production line accurately and will Ultimately, help virtually plan entire factories before a single brick has been laid. One OEM set its sights on creating an environment where the Digital Twin of Planning is neither based on trial and error nor on manual calculation or human experience but rather based on real-life, real-time, and accurate measurements from the factory shopfloor. The data from virtual simulations and the real production data run in parallel with all nonconformities being captured and assessed. To support this, an IM architecture was developed ensuring that all authoring tools (as data sources) were connected to layers that allow for joint and connected simulation and visualization. The heart of these connections is a data layer and the management thereof in between authoring tools, simulation and visualization layers. With the capability of simulating entire productions before any real undertakings, the OEM reduces the risk of new technology introductions, has stricter adherence to ramp-up curves, earlier concept validations, and overall, a more stable production process and a better understanding of the behavioural model of a full factory. The Digital Twin of Planning and IM architecture also support lower levels of energy consumption, thus supporting sustainability, and drive a more flexible, modular production where it becomes feasible to automatically, at the click of a button, select the optimal plant to produce a certain part or model. The automotive OEM may likely further grow and create the Digital Twin of Operations which has the potential to improve simulations, including predictive maintenance and real-life digital control functionalities.
- Renault Industrial Metaverse: The Renault industrial metaverse consists of four dimensions, which constitute a complete, persistent, and real-time industrial Metaverse. These dimensions are mass data collection, digital twins of processes, connecting the Supply Chain ecosystem, and a set of advanced technologies. The metaverse is envisaged to generate savings of €320 million, an additional €260 million in inventory savings, a 60% reduction in vehicle delivery time, a 50% reduction in the carbon footprint of vehicle manufacturing, and a contribution to the 60% reduction in warranty costs targeted by the Group. Renault Group is accelerating its digitalization with the first industrial Metaverse. Today, 100% of production lines are connected

(8,500 pieces of equipment), 90% of supply flows are constantly monitored and 100% of Supply Chain data is hosted in the Renault Group Metaverse, a true replica of the physical world controlled in real-time. Engaged in Industry 4.0 since 2016, digital technology has already led to savings of €780 million. By 2025, it will enable €320m in various savings, to which will be added €260m in savings on inventories, a 60% reduction in vehicle delivery time, and a 50% reduction in the carbon footprint of its vehicle manufacturing, as well as a significant reduction in innovation cycles and a contribution to the 60% reduction in warranty costs targeted by the Group.

- 1. Mass Data Collection: In the process of collecting data from all its industrial sites, Renault Group has developed a unique data capture and standardization solution, a platform for collecting mass data to feed the industrial Metaverse, and subsequently facilitates the levers for the performance of the production process in real-time. Mass data collection will benefit from dynamic spectrum technologies works in [61–63] and this may perhaps be extended to smart farming [64].
- 2. Digital Twins of Processes: The use of digital twins is enriched with supplier data, sales forecasts, quality information, but also exogenous information such as the weather or road traffic, etc., as well as Artificial Intelligence allowing the development of predictive scenarios.
- 3. Connecting the Supply Chain ecosystem: The utilization of digital twins is enhanced by supplier data, sales predictions, quality information, but also external information like the weather or traffic, etc., as well as artificial intelligence allowing the formulation of predictive scenarios.
- 4. Set of advanced technologies: Advanced technologies (Cloud, real-time, 3D, big data...) are converging to speed up this digital transition. For the convergence of the technologies required to manage the digital twins and their ecosystems in a resilient manner, the Renault Group has created a special platform [65].

#### 5. Environmental impact and sustainable development

Although the industrial metaverse brings amazing changes to industrial areas, this technology is still in its infancy and has an impact on the environment. Environmental impact is any positive or negative change in environmental quality resulting from human interference, able to change the natural rhythm of the processes of a system [66] and [67]. The evaluation of this event is fundamental to achieving sustainable development. Sustainability imperatives mean that end-to-end complex industrial system control is growing in importance. Most developed countries have set goals to be net zero between 2040–2060. This means that companies face the challenge of continuing to achieve economic growth while reducing their environmental impact to net zero.

I. Energy Consumption: It is anticipated that the servers and data centres needed to support the development of the industrial metaverse will consume a substantial amount of energy. This might result in a considerable rise in energy usage, especially if the metaverse gains the widespread acclaim that many have predicted [68] Although the metaverse can reduce carbon emissions associated with travel, building, and maintaining infrastructure, the servers and data centres that power the metaverse can also consume significant energy. Clearly, given the IM's infancy stages, energy consumption is still sketchy. However, cloud computing and data centres are the main tools of the IM data centres are large groups of connected enterprise servers frequently used to store, process, or transmit large quantities of data. This means data centres use a large amount of electricity which leads to several environmental issues. In one of the few major cases, the amount of energy consumed over the years was examined using the TRUBA dataset. The dataset includes the daily energy consumption of supercomputers, storage, and networking devices. TRUBA's forecast results point to a reduction in energy consumption in the future. Furthermore, the same study also shows that the energy consumption of TRUBA is decreasing, but it must

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- be noted that the usage of cloud servers for deep learning tasks is increasing [69]. Ensuring the underlying infrastructure supporting your metaverse is powered by renewable energy sources is key to achieving overall net zero.
- II. E-Waste: Electronic waste (E-waste) has significantly increased because of the growing desire for the newest technology, posing an environmental threat. A case in point is the Innovation in cellular phones which shifts almost completely to the digital part of the IM. Innovation is a costly endeavor, involving lots of trials and errors that generate waste of many kinds. By shifting the innovation process to the IM digital part industry can cut on this waste, save resources, and speed up the innovation cycles. However, these faster innovations lead to shorter product lifetimes and henceforth to increased obsolescence and waste. Take as an example the cellphone market that showed a sale of 1.7+ billion cellphones in 2021. Since this is now a (almost) mature market most of these cellphone went to replace existing ones leading to e-waste of 1.5+ billion cell phones. A significant portion of that replacement was motivated by innovation, as new captivating models hit the market. Stopping innovation is not good for business, and eventually not good for any of us who ultimately benefit from innovation, but it must go hand in hand with recycling and reusing. The IM, extending to all layers, as discussed previously, can become an essential force in making this happen [70]. The threats posed by e-waste are real, and they are made worse by the unorganized sector, which frequently strips e-waste of its most beneficial components. Lethal substances like lead, cadmium, beryllium, mercury, and brominated flame retardants are present in all electronic garbage. The likelihood of these hazardous compounds, contaminating the land, poisoning the air, and leaking into water bodies increases when gadgets and devices are disposed of illegally. The amount of worn and abandoned electronics is increasing along with the global demand for electronic devices. Every year, around 50 million tonnes of e-waste are produced, which more than the combined weight of all commercial aircraft is ever built. Instead with these things in mind, one can conclude that the Metaverse will be more detrimental to the environment than beneficial [71]. However, according to [72] only 17.4 % of electronic waste is recycled globally, leading to heightened environmental and health issues, particularly in economically developing countries. Electronic waste is leading to a loss of at least US \$57 billion annually through the disposal of key raw materials, such as iron, copper, gold, and others. Adopting circular models can help companies access untapped opportunities and lower environmental impact to address critical e-waste challenges.
- III. Virtual Economies and Blockchain: Virtual economies within the Metaverse, often backed by blockchain technologies like NFTs and cryptocurrencies, have substantial energy requirements. The energy consumption of blockchain networks, especially those using proof-of-work consensus mechanisms, is a significant concern. Bitcoin mining has been found to consume as much energy as small countries, which translates into a significant carbon footprint. Whereas miners initially used central processing units (CPUs) to find PoWs, they quickly realized that graphic processing units (GPUs) were better equipped for the task. However, because blockchain mining uses a lot of energy and emits carbon dioxide, the environmental effects of blockchain technology on gaming must be taken into consideration. GameFi platforms should investigate environmentally friendly solutions, like proof-of-stake consensus algorithms, to reduce their carbon footprint and support the gaming industry's sustainable growth [73].
- IV. Elimination of pollution-generating activities: Increasingly, with the adoption of the industrial metaverse, numerous pollution-generating activities are being eliminated. These activities range from commuting, face-to-face meetings, offsite work events, and transport. Already virtual meeting space gather. town a virtual space platform that offers a new way of conducting online meetings, events, and conferences have attracted more than 4 million users. The platform provides a 2D environment where users can interact with each other in real-time, almost as if they were in the same physical location [74] and [75].
- V. Reduction in pollution generated by activities: The metaverse can be used to create different scenarios for an entity such as a city, and a factory in other to assess their impact on energy

consumption. To evaluate the effects of various scenarios on energy usage, an entity like a factory can be created using the industrial metaverse. For instance, the industrial metaverse's digital twins can be used to inexpensively and safely replicate real-world performance conditions. A case in point is that of microsoft's deployment of industrial metaverse capabilities for Hellenic, which is among the largest Coca-Cola bottlers. Hellenic has more than 55 facilities across Europe and serves 29 markets in the region. Just one Hellenic production line produces 90, 000 bottles of Coca-Cola products per hour. Microsoft created digital twins utilizing data from sensors, which made it possible for factory workers to become immersed in the twins. It was reported that, in 12 weeks, the factory cut energy consumption by over 9 %.

- VI. Reduction in the consumption of physical objects: It is important to consider the potential consequences of virtual consumption and how it may impact the environment. While virtual environments can be designed to be more sustainable than physical environments, it is not yet clear how they will affect energy use and carbon emissions [76]. Realizing the possibility of much less materialistic consumption can be facilitated by the industrial metaverse. It is stated that 21% of the consumers expressed their willingness to engage in digital activities in the future which is expected to reduce buying physical items [77].
- VII. Precise assessment of pollution generated and improvement in reward and enforcement: Ascertaining the level of pollution generated by an entity can assist reward and enforcement processes to be improved as well as carbon-friendly habits to be incentivized. While tracing carbon across the real world is complex, it is possible to trace it in the metaverse by creating fungible digital assets on the blockchain. Tokenization facilitates the transaction of carbon credits and creates a carbon market, where voluntary carbon credits can be freely traded. The credits may represent emissions that have been mitigated due to activities such as forestry conservation and engagement in ways to sequestrate carbon such as soil improvement and changes in land use management. This is exemplified by Reseed company's platform which utilizes blockchain technology to ensure the validity of carbon stock management, from registration through validation and verification, enabling farmers to receive additional income while providing a potential return to investors [78]. All in all, to get ready for sustainability within the industrial metaverse, enterprises may consider utilizing renewable energy sources and cloud services. Furthermore, developing a culture of examining the effects of products on the environment as well as creating a circular economy.

# 6. Innovative Security and privacy threats

The industrial metaverse as it is currently conceived is not a digital utopia. It constitutes a physical-digital fusion and human augmentation for industrial applications and contains digital representations of physical industrial environments, systems, assets, and spaces that people can control, communicate, and interact with. consequently gives rise to a host of security and privacy challenges. It is an integrated ecosystem of companies and consumers as opposed to a closed platform controlled by a single corporate entity and this consequently gives rise to a host of security and privacy challenges [79].

- Data Security and Cybersecurity Risks: With the increased reliance on interconnected systems and data sharing, the Industrial Metaverse raises concerns about data security and cybersecurity risks. To this end, more and more devices as well as platforms are increasingly becoming interconnected. Practically, this increases the risk of cyber threats and data breaches. Safeguarding sensitive data is thus imperative to protect enterprises, governments, and individuals.
- Privacy Implications and Regulatory Compliance: The Industrial Metaverse also brings to the fore challenges with regulatory compliance and privacy issues. Thus, with companies collecting and analyzing huge amounts of data, there is a need to ensure that the privacy of

- individuals is respected and protected. Striking a balance between innovation and privacy rights is a challenge that needs to be addressed.
- Avatar Authentication Issue: Increasingly, digital avatars such as faces, videos, and voices
  are employed in the virtual world, which is a metaverse, user authentication and verification
  are common chores in comparison to the real world. Realistically, attackers can simply
  make identical sounds and movies by mimicking the appearance of the real user using
  sophisticated AR and VR tools and devices, together with AI bots. Consequently, the
  security and privacy of avatars remain a major concern.

#### 7. Future Research challenges

A full realization of the IM is constrained by challenges ranging from emerging disputes, Regulatory regimes, Interoperability, and Cybersecurity [80]. The IM is a comprehensive integration of many new-generation information technologies and has thus become a research hotspot that is attracting increasing attention [55]. We narrow our focus on cybersecurity wherein recognition that the existence of an IM Metaverse (as opposed to merely a digital twin) denotes the presence of an additional level of connectivity, either with the internet or an internal network. That raises a danger: IM Metaverses will frequently employ significant amounts of personal data, making them easy targets for hackers. To prevent unwanted access, businesses must carefully consider how they handle data processing and storage within the IM and ensure that they have stringent security measures in place.

- 1. Security by design: The robust data sets linked to digital twins are useful for both businesses and criminals. Digital twins are vulnerable to manipulation by criminals who could use them to steal identities, encrypt data, extort businesses, or spy on corporate [81] secrets. A case in point is the deployment of fake digital twins which enable criminals to use stolen data to create virtual representations of people or entire environments for criminal intents. A deep flake scenario could, for example, be the deceptive imitation of a company's executive member in a virtual conference room in the metaverse, enticing the victim to disclose sensitive information. Data Poisoning is another aspect wherein data from the underlying AI and ML learning systems may be intentionally altered. This taints the insights businesses derive from their simulations and, in the worst instance, may result in disastrous business decisions based on inaccurate data. Companies run the danger of allocating funds to unproductive channels in the belief that they are acting based on reliable projections from their digital twins if, for instance, demographic data or action profiles of the modeled target groups are fabricated. Consequently, user privacy and security must be foundational design elements while designing any metaverse applications, rather than being included as add-ons at a later stage [82].
- 2. Communications and Protocol design: Immersive IM experiences will require high download speeds, low-latency, and large capacity to facilitate heterogeneous interconnected devices to communicate with the virtual model at the requisite level. In industrial settings, this will require 5G and possibly also 6G networks [80]. To this end, a paradigm shift in communication protocol will be required that should be goal-oriented and semantic aware. Communication protocol design will need to consider the vision of a seamless IM experience. Ultimately, a model design will be required to standardize the communication protocols for the IM that can be flexibly accessed from heterogeneous communication systems in different virtual worlds.
- 3. Energy-Efficient and Green Industrial Metaverse: The Industrial Metaverse market is now projected to be worth between \$100 and \$150 billion US dollars, with a conservative 2030 forecast of about \$400 billion but with a potential upside of more than \$1 trillion [41]. The industrial metaverse is creating more opportunities for companies and workers alike and increasing the adoption of greener practices and renewable energy [83].

#### 8. Conclusion

The industrial metaverse is a virtual space that is used in industrial sectors to create a virtual interconnected network of real-life hardware, processes, and systems with their digital replica. Realistically, the industrial metaverse provides a vision of how manufacturers can implement the metaverse- specifically by simulating, real-world scenarios in the virtual world. The Industrial metaverse is driven by a variety of emerging technologies such as the industrial Internet of Things, Artificial intelligence, mixed reality (AR/VR), Blockchain, cloud computing, edge-computing, digital twin as well as 3D printing and scanning. Several use cases range from industrial design and engineering, supply chain management and logistics, manufacturing operations and maintenance, training, as well as Research and development. Despite being in its early stages of development, the IM has already seen significant real-world implementations by businesses like General Motors (GM), Coca-Cola (HBC), and auto Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs). The environment is already being impacted by the IM deployments in both positive and negative ways, via energy consumption, the creation of e-waste, and pollution in certain cases. Overall research, however, indicates that most industrial metaverse applications have a positive environmental impact and subsequently trend toward sustainability. With the help of IM, we can conduct tasks that would typically require us to be physically present in the real world—such as traveling to conventions and concerts, going to work, attending international congresses, and so forth—in a fully virtual setting from the comfort of our homes or offices. By doing this, we can drastically lower the tons of greenhouse gases that come from our regular car, train, or airplane travel. Furthermore, on the positive side General Motors (GM) has been using Process Simulate from Siemens to create an ergonomically efficient production line in a short period. GM must update its production line regularly to accommodate for design changes of existing vehicles and the production of new cars. For efficiency, engineers work remotely with virtual reality devices to immerse themselves in the designs. It helps understand manual assembly, hand clearances, operator movements, and the operator's line of sight. With this information, engineers can identify a problem at an early stage and solve it before the issue occurs in real life. Moreover, IM enables interaction with real-time energy consumption data can enhance their comprehension of energy usage patterns, allowing them to make informed choices regarding their energy consumption.

The majority of use case scenarios involving the industrial metaverse's deployment have resulted in privacy and security concerns. These encompass data security, privacy implications, and regulatory compliance.

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