



**IRIDIGM**

**An Industrial Physics Toolkit**

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## **Physicists in Industry**

- **Where Do They Come From?**
  - How do they get there?
  - What do they do?
- **What is Iridigm?**
- **Technology Development**
- **Career Management**
  - Marketing
  - Skill Mapping
  - Skill Development
- **Concluding Remarks**

My great thanks go to the staff of:



Statistical Research Center  
[www.aip.org/statistics](http://www.aip.org/statistics)

For their excellent reports.

***I hope I haven't misinterpreted too much of their data.***

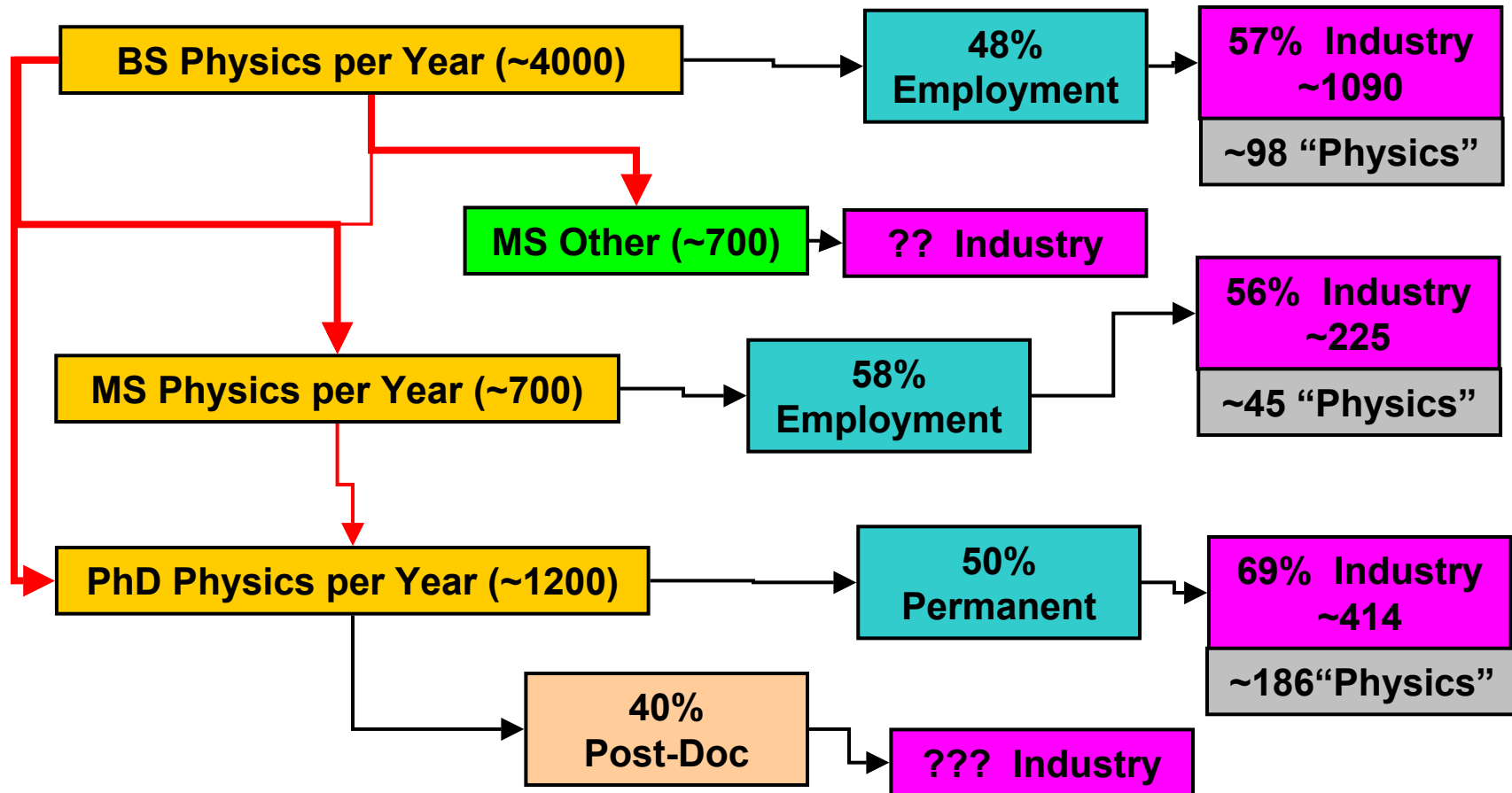
## Four Major Areas:

- 1) Work at University, UARI or other Academe
- 2) Work for government or FFR&D Center
- 3) Work for Private Company, Consultant, or Self-Employed
- 4) Work for a non-profit, medical services

**In this presentation, any employment in this category (#3) will be considered “Industry”**

## Data from AIP Statistical Research Center-

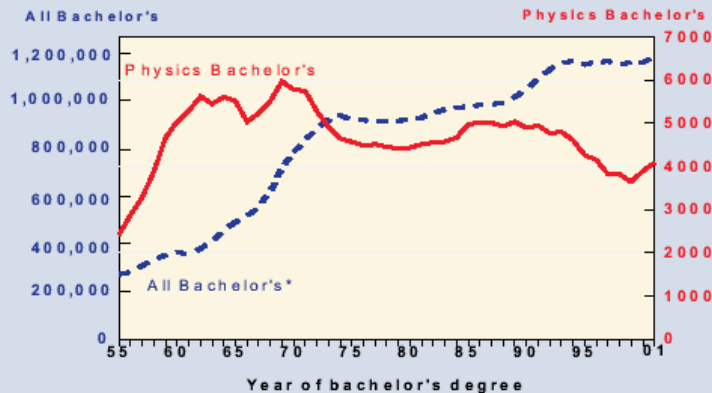
Caveat: This is my personal analysis and may not be correct (static assumption);  
 Latest data: classes of 2000 and 2001 combined.



## Conclusion:

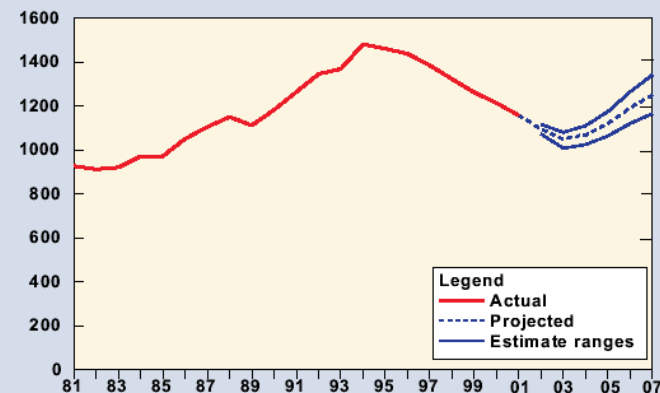
- Almost HALF of all Physics Majors eventually work in “Industry”
  - Between 1200 and 2000 New Hires/Year in Industry with Physics Background
  - Very few in “Physics” positions!
- Long Term Trend (last 20 years) is fairly flat.

Figure 1. Physics bachelors and total bachelors produced in the US, 1955 to 2001.



AIP Statistical Research Center, Roster of Physics Departments, and  
 \* NCES Digest of Education Statistics

Figure 6. Projections for the number of PhD's in the classes of 2002 through 2007.



AIP Statistical Research Center, Enrollments and Degrees Report.

**Roughly half the  
Physicists in Industry  
work in focused  
SHORT TERM  
research or  
development !**

Work Activity	%
Short-range research Development, design, and engineering	27
Short-range applied research	19
Long-range research	
Long-range applied research	16
Basic research	5
Administrators	13
Consultants	10
Other	10

Table 2. Industrial Ph.D.'s by work activity, 2002.

## Iridigm® Display Corporation



Pac Bell Park



Iridigm



## “Raw” industrial location

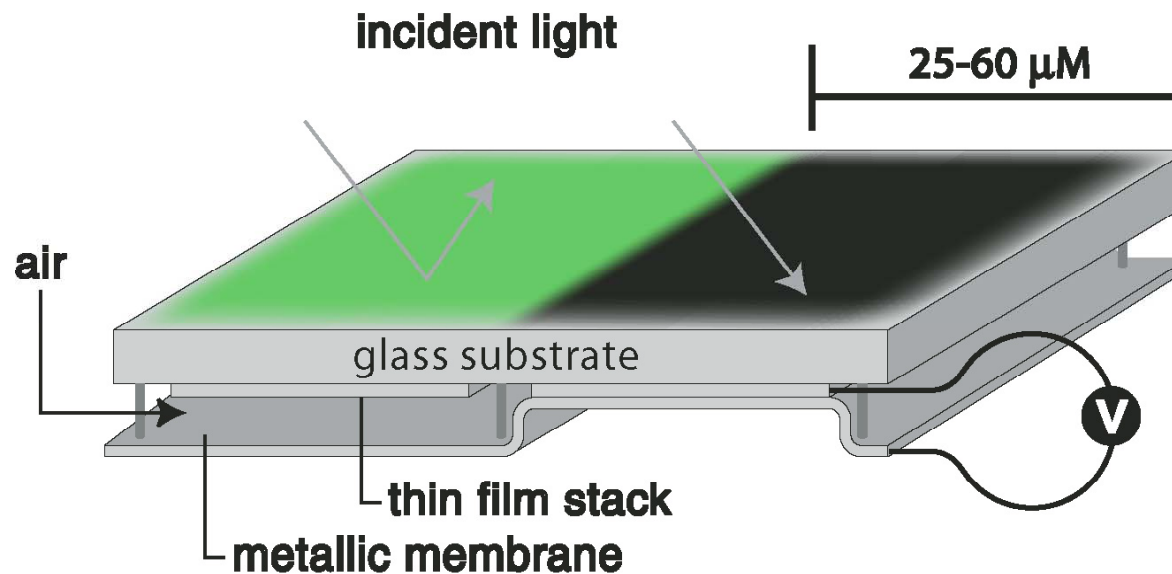
- Office - 5500 sq. ft.
- Fabrication - 3000 sq. ft. (1200 sq. ft. cleanroom)
- Systems - 1000 sq. ft



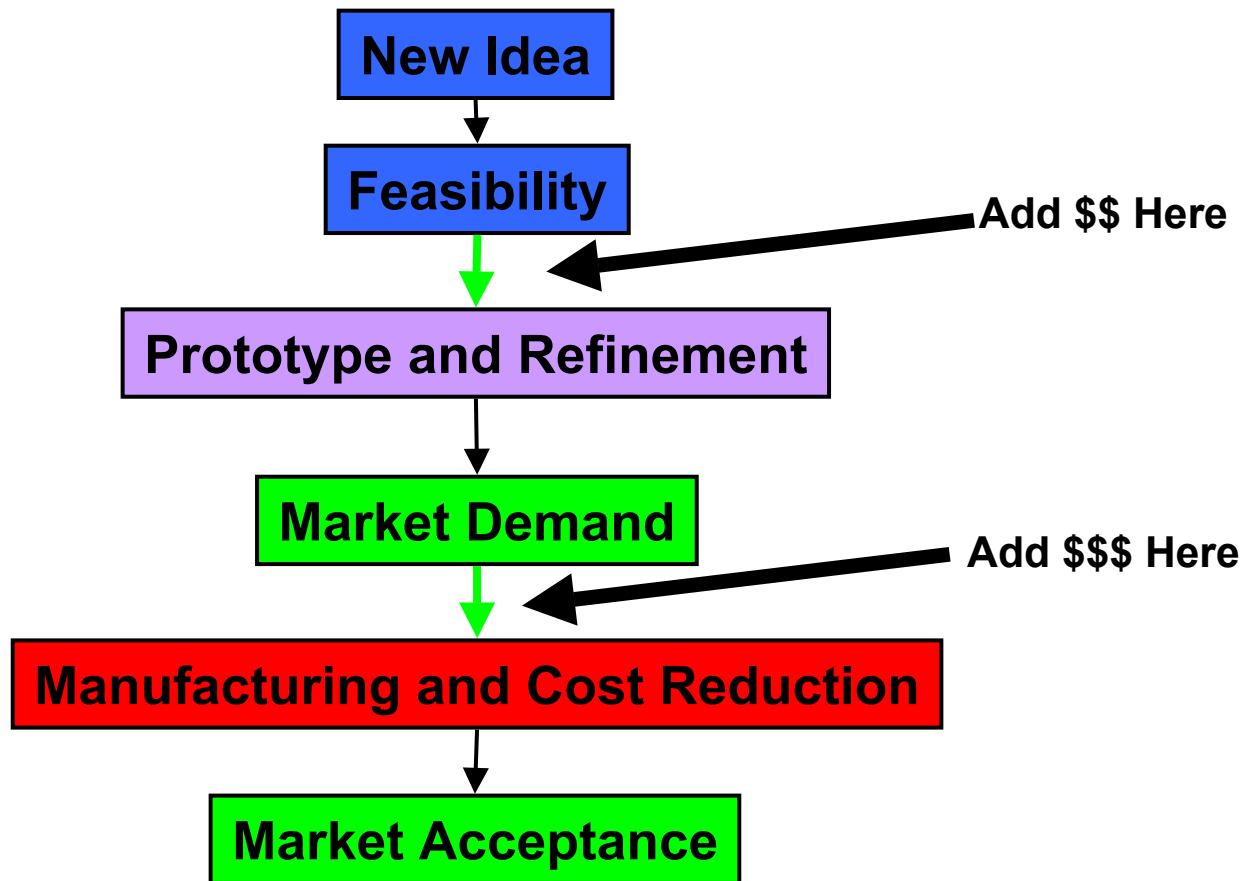
## Interferometric Modulator (iMoD)

### Direct View MEMS based Flat Panel Display Technology

- Color from Simple Fabry-Perot Etalon Structure
- Switching from moveable metallic membrane
- Fast response (10's of microseconds)
- Simple structure of all sputtered films



Iridigm is an example of a **FOCUSED** new technology business



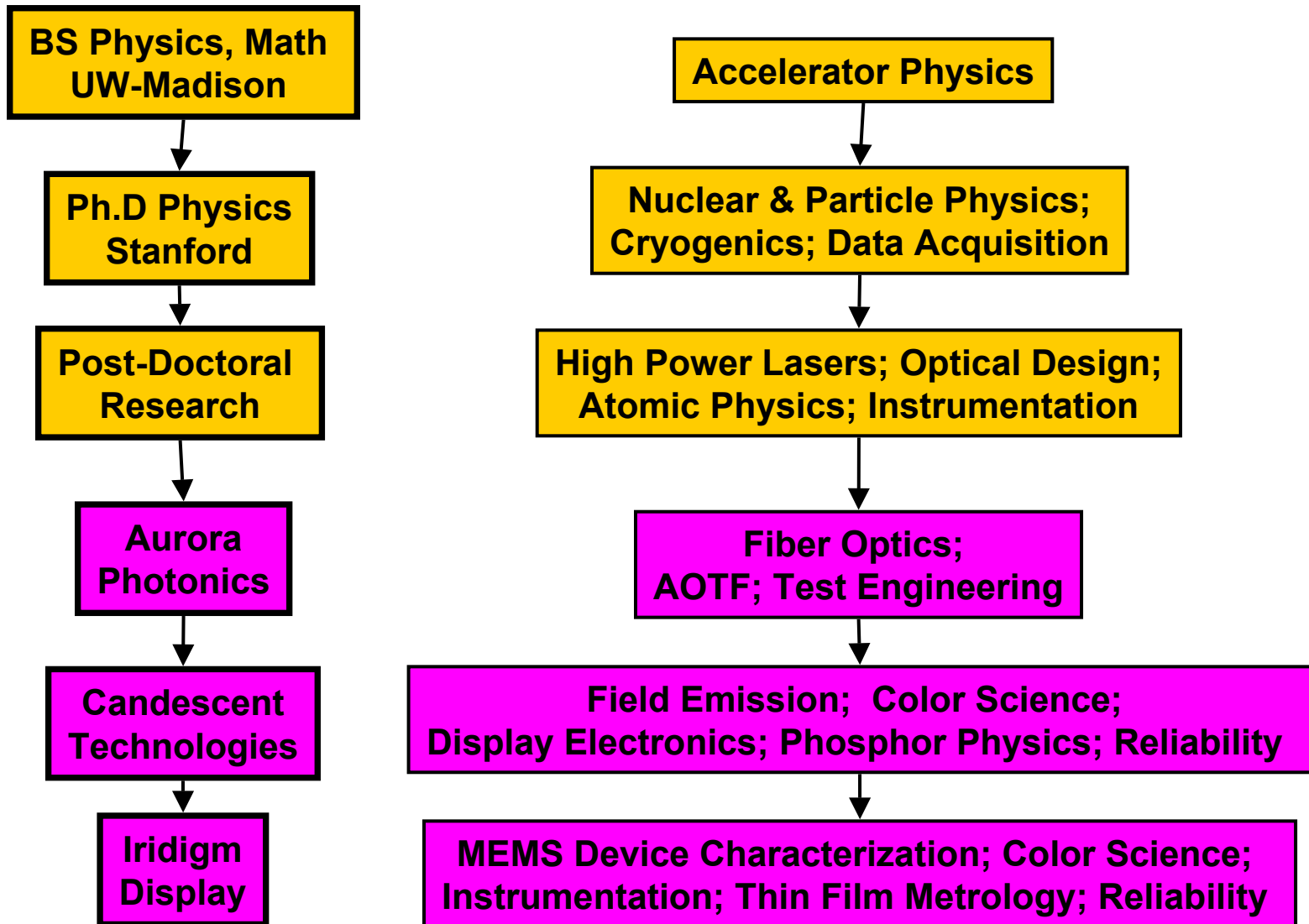
**This is the dominant model for R&D in the Private Sector**

## Four Steps for Industrial Career

- Choose Career Path
- Skill Mapping
- Skill Development
- Skill Transfer

## A career in FOCUSED development requires:

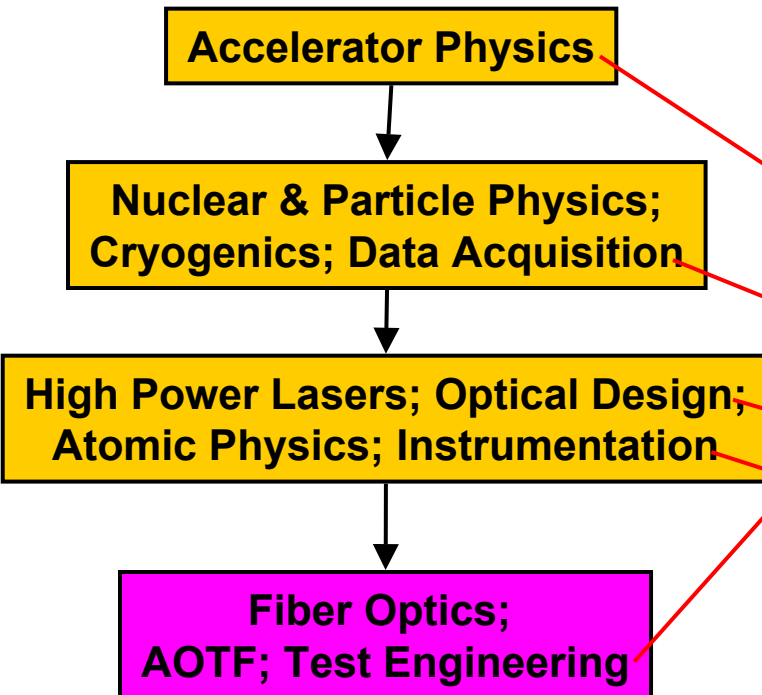
- Filling an organizational need
  - Match your skills to job opening
- Developing skills needed for project
  - Grow with demands of organization
- Strong self-marketing skills
  - Build an effect resume
  - Maintain a good network
  - Be prepared to change jobs
- Commitment to continuous change



## Skill Mapping

- Resume should be “Skill Driven”
  - List Skills First
    - Include Quantitative Experience
  - Work Experience (must reinforce skills)
    - Emphasize Leadership
  - Education After Experience
- Layout is not important
- Adjust resume to job opening
- Target companies without openings
  - If they need your skills

## My Background:



## Display Company Need:

Develop New Automated Equipment  
for Display Testing

Test Engineering

Ultra High Vacuum

Software Programming

High Magnification Camera Optics

Automation

Image Processing

Display Electronics



## Skill Development

- Develop “Non-Academic” Skills
  - Working in Interdisciplinary Teams
    - Respect for other backgrounds
    - Many educational levels
  - Effective Time Management
  - Cost Management
    - No Free Labor in Private Sector
    - Purchase Productivity Tools
- Invent Something!
- Update Resume
  - Keep a clear understanding of your skills
  - Work to fill out skill set.

## Display Company Begin

Test Engineering  
Ultra High Vacuum  
Software Programming  
High Magnification Camera Optics  
Automation  
Image Processing  
Display Electronics  
Atomic Physics  
Experiment Spokesman

## Display Company End

Test Engineering  
Ultra High Vacuum  
Software Programming  
High Magnification Camera Optics  
Automation  
Image Processing  
Display Electronics  
Color Science  
Phosphor Physics  
Project Management  
Reliability Engineering  
Innovation (patents)  
Thin Film Metrology



## Transfer Skills

- Move to a new position!
  - Take a different role in current company
  - Move to a new company
- Increase the leverage of your position
  - Management
    - More direct charges
  - Productivity
    - Faster results
  - Intellectual Property
    - More inventions

## First Display Company

Test Engineering  
Ultra High Vacuum  
Software Programming  
High Magnification Camera Optics  
Automation  
Image Processing  
Display Electronics  
Color Science  
Phosphor Physics  
Program Management  
Reliability Engineering  
Innovation (patents)  
Thin Film Metrology

## Second Display Company

Test Engineering  
~~Ultra High Vacuum~~  
Software Programming  
High Magnification Camera Optics  
Automation  
Image Processing  
Display Electronics  
Color Science  
~~Phosphor Physics~~  
Program Management  
Reliability Engineering  
Innovation (patents)  
Thin Film Metrology

**MEMS**

Now we can come back to the title of this talk:

- [\[P7.005\]](#) An Industrial Physics Toolkit

**Once you complete these four steps; you have built a transferable collection of skills which could be called a “Toolkit.”**

**The rest of the story is that you have to continue the process as your career and technology progress.**

## Most Important

- Project Management
- Reliability
  - MEMS
- Instrumentation
- Data Analysis
- Presentation
- Inventing
- Modeling
- Color Science

## Key Secondary List

- Electronics
  - Prototype circuits
- Machining
  - Mechanical Design
- Writing
  - Instruction Manuals
- Software
  - LabView
  - MatLab

## Physicists in Industry:

- Work on exciting & interesting projects
- Have transferable and marketable skills
- Have high job satisfaction
- Have a very low unemployment rate

## BUT

- Do not arrive by one path
- Need to manage their careers

