



MARCH 28, 2025 | TMS

Simulation and Sensing Driven Automation in Additive Manufacturing for Adaptive Materials Research

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

ORNL IS MANAGED BY UT-BATTELLE LLC
FOR THE US DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY



Manufacturing Demonstration Facility

(Established 2012)

\$1B+ impact on U.S.
manufacturing with >20:1 ROI

110,000+ sq. ft. facility

180+ staff members

40,000+ visitors, 6,000+ visiting
companies

50%+ of equipment is industry
owned

100+ AM systems



Acknowledgments

People

Bruno Turcksin, Steve Dewitt, Alex Plotkowski, Yousub Lee, Ke An, Thomas Feldhausen, Lauren Heinrich, Ayana Ghosh, Callan Herberger, Marshall McConnell, Jesse McGaha, Ashley Gannon, Jesse Heineman, Calen Kimmell, John Potter, and Paritosh Mhatre

Facilities and Computing Resources



Funding



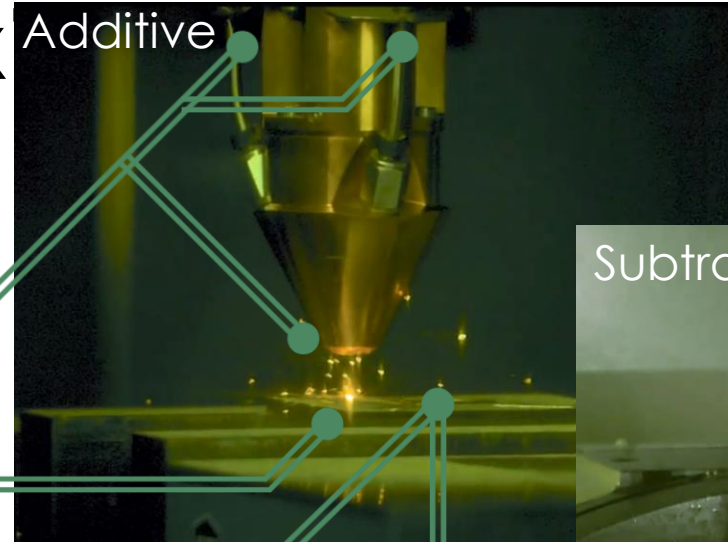
Hybrid: A 'factory in a box'

Where is QC?



Traditional

- Multiple hoppers: On the fly alloying
- Rapid solidification



Additive



Subtractive

We can only automate and control what we can measure.

Can we bring our sensing closer to the process to accelerate innovation?

- Casting
- Solidification



Forging

- Near net shape
- Grain refinement



Heat Treat

- Stress relief
- Microstructure tuning



Finishing

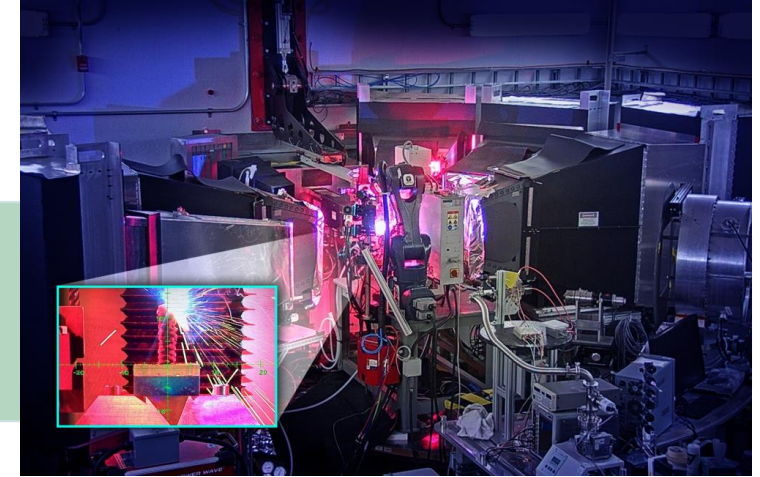
- Surface treatments & final shape



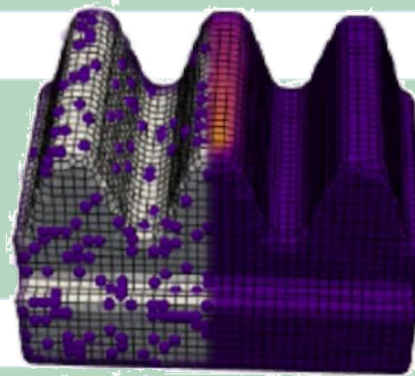
Three tools to pursue scientific automation:

Operando
Neutron Diffraction

Real-time microstructure
observation in WAAM



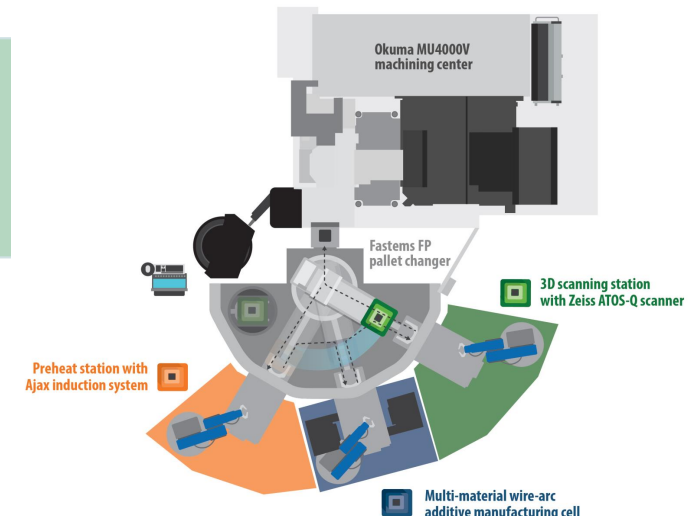
Simulation Twin



Live data synthesis for
model-guided control

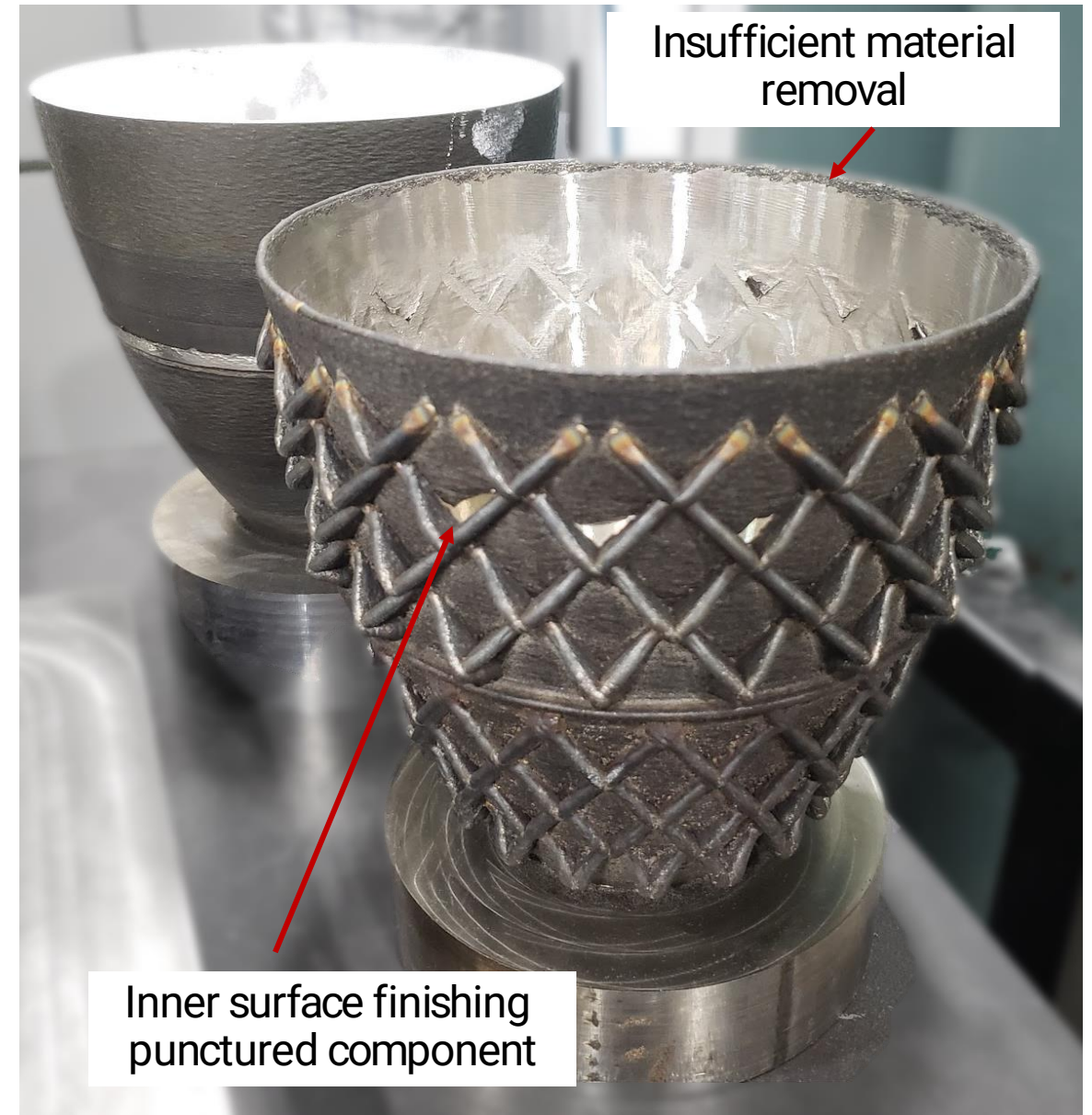
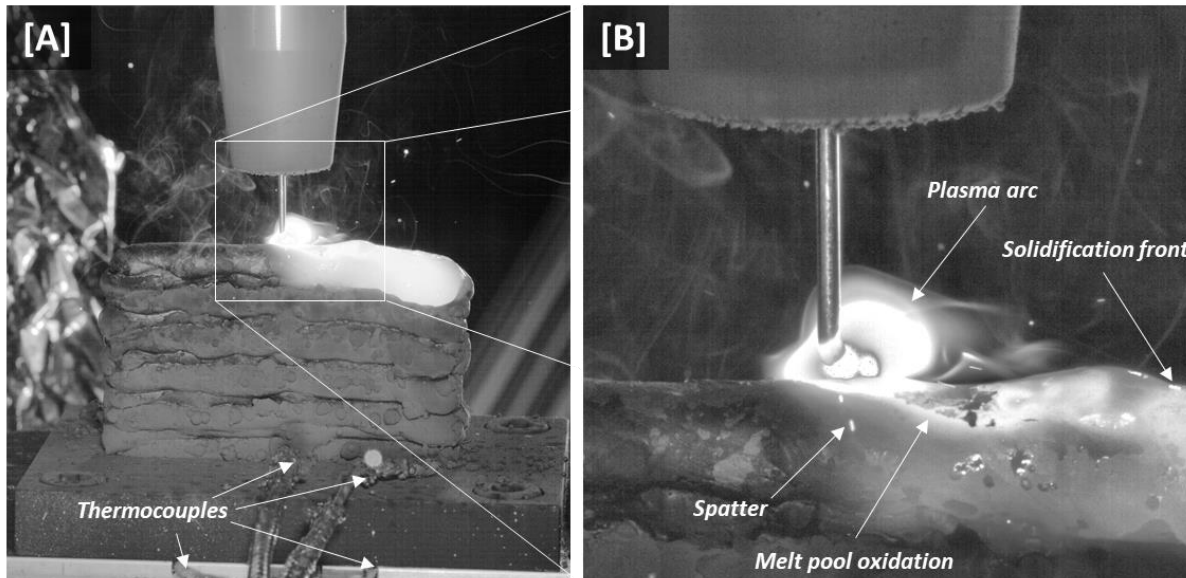
Convergent
Manufacturing

Fully automated production for
high throughput process science



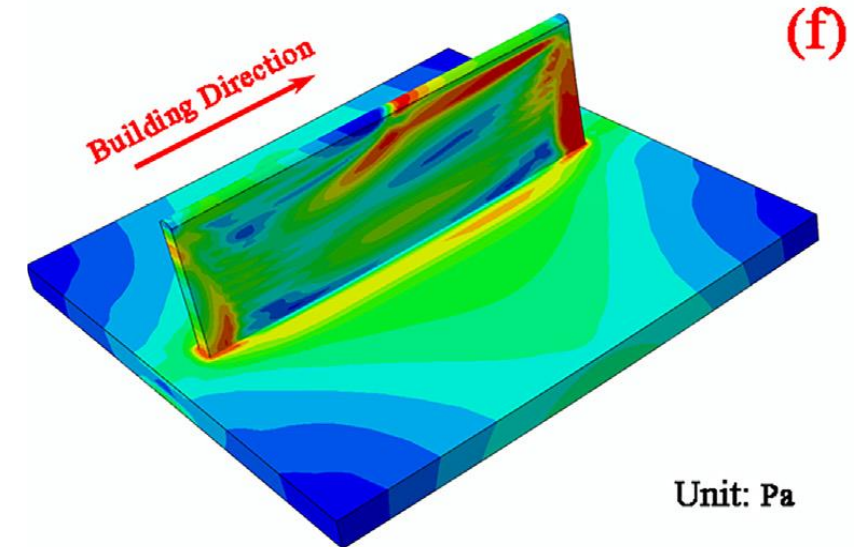
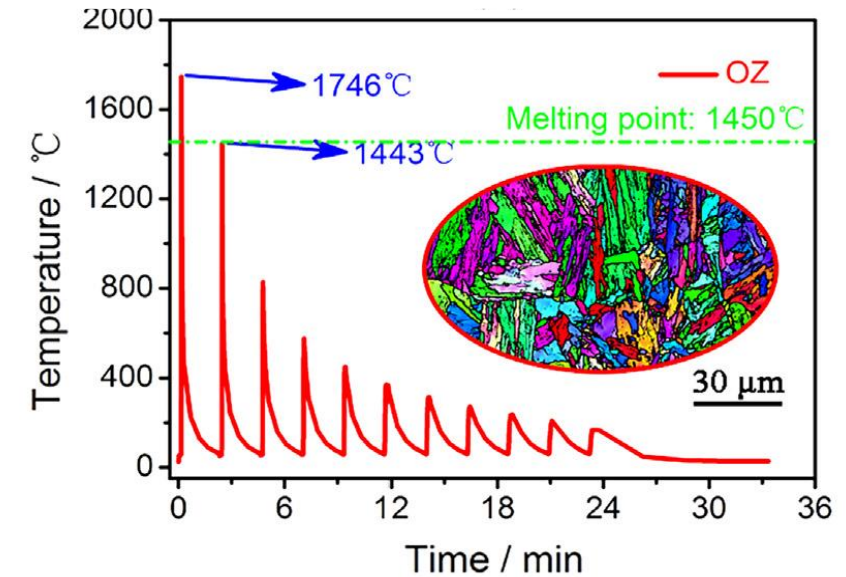
Distortion and Stress in DED

- In welding, longitudinal and transverse stresses develop
- Stresses in additive manufacturing **add up**
- The problem **scales up** with component and melt size



Strong interactions with microstructural evolution

- Highly worked microstructure from thermal expansion differential strain
- **Dynamic annealing** from heat buildup
 - Heat treatment isn't always an option to 'erase' complexity
 - Solid state transformation effects
- Microstructural evolution makes quantitative simulation **challenging**
 - Highly coupled and hierarchical
 - Demands **extensive calibration**

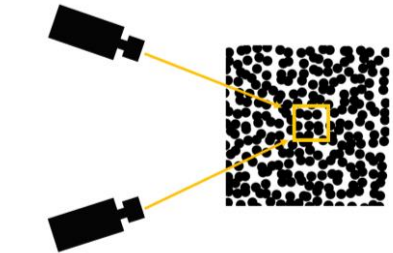
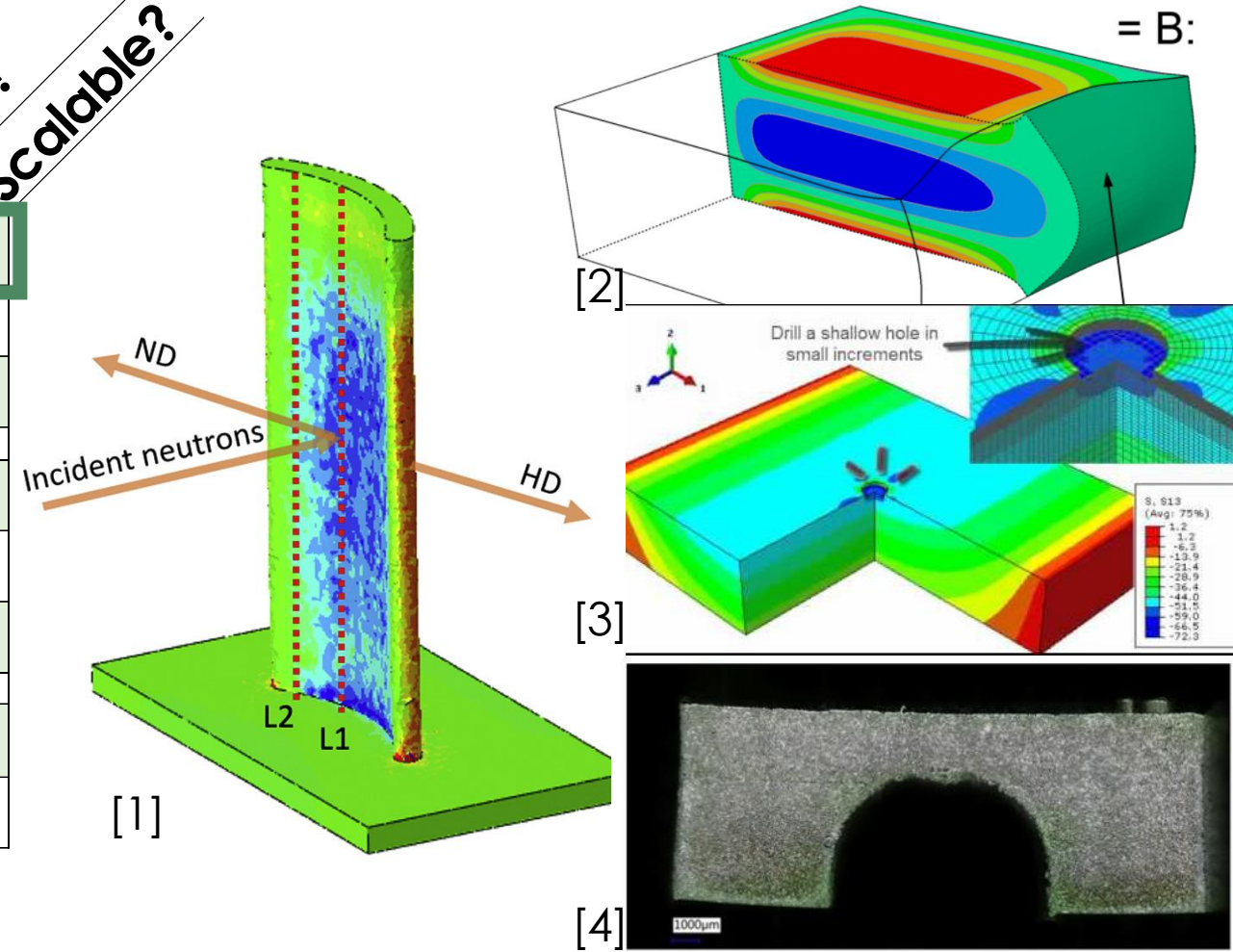


[1] J. Ge *et al.*, *Applied Thermal Engineering*, vol. 163, p. 114335, Dec. 2019, doi: [10.1016/j.applthermaleng.2019.114335](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.applthermaleng.2019.114335).

[2] J. P. Oliveira, T. G. Santos, and R. M. Miranda, *Progress in Materials Science*, vol. 107, p. 100590, Jan. 2020, doi: [10.1016/j.pmatsci.2019.100590](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pmatsci.2019.100590).

How to measure residual stress and distortion

Technique:	Dimension?	Destructive?	In-situ?	Scalable?
Neutron Diff.	Volume	Y	N	N
Synch. XRD	Small volume	N	N	N
Bench XRD	Surface	N	N	N
Contour method	Surface	Y	N	Y
Hole drilling	Point	Y	N	Y
Beam/ring/arch	Volume	Y	N	Y
Strain gauge	Line	N	N	Y
DIC	Surface	N	Y	Y



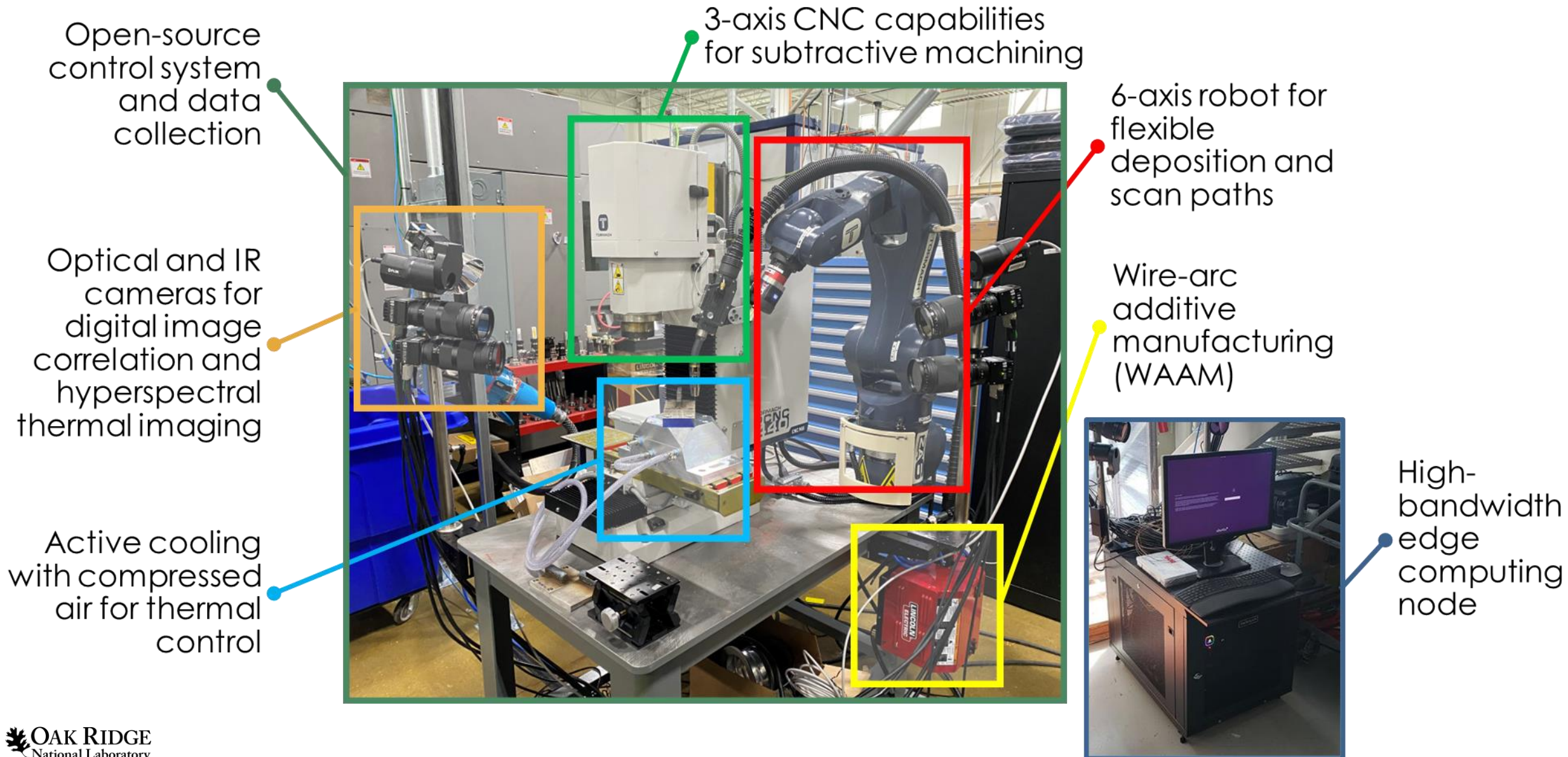
[1] K. An, L. Yuan, L. Dial, I. Spinelli, A. D. Stoica, and Y. Gao, *Materials & Design*, vol. 135, pp. 122–132, Dec. 2017

[2] The Contour Method, *Michael B. Prime and Adrian T. DeWald*, 2013, chapter 5, ISBN: 978-1-118-34237-4.

[3] VEQTER The Center Hole Drilling Technique <https://www.veqter.co.uk/residual-stress-measurement/centre-hole-drilling>

[4] P. Promopattum and S.-C. Yao, *Journal of Manufacturing Processes*, vol. 49, pp. 247–259, Jan. 2020

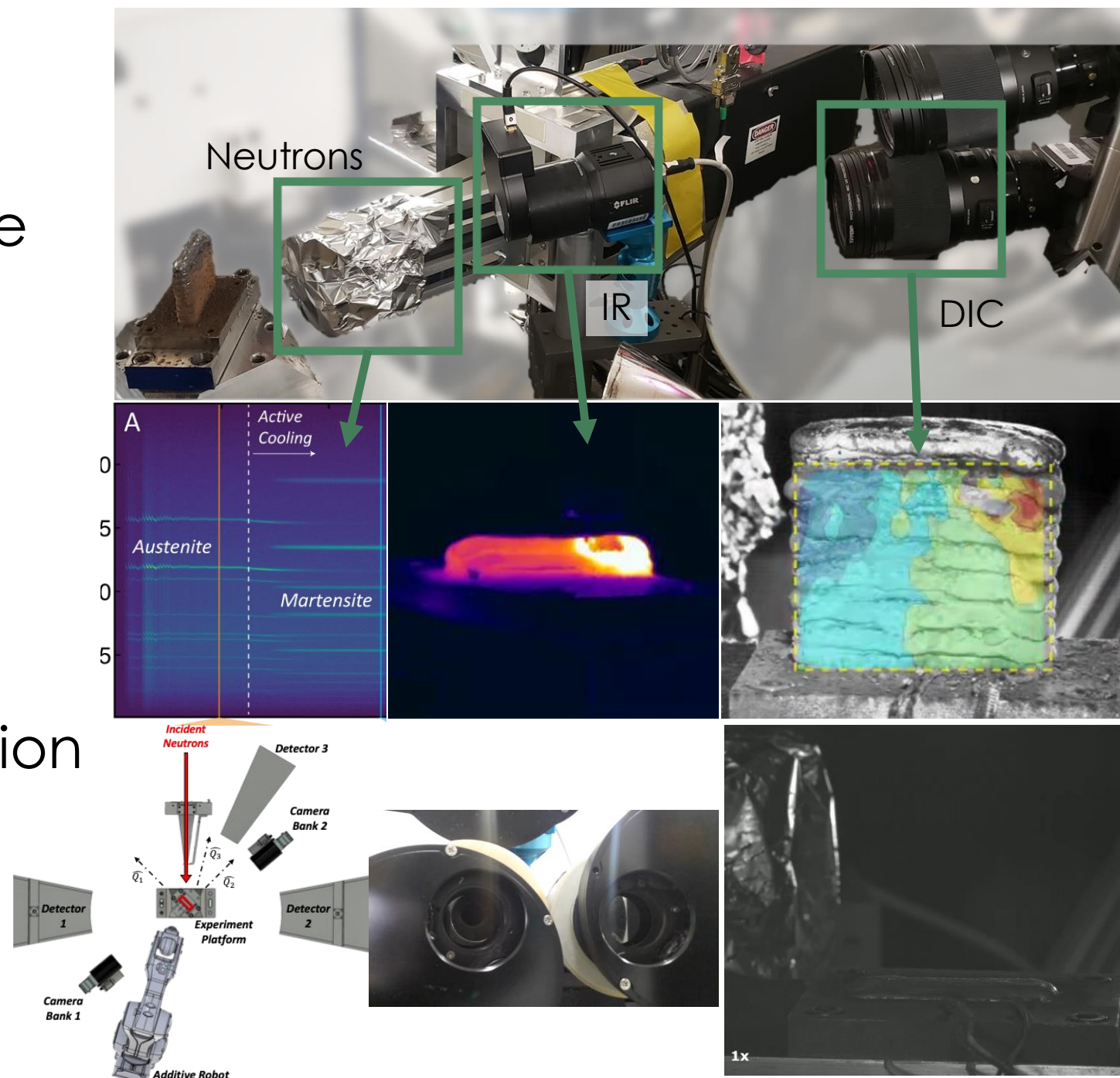
OpeN-AM Operando Neutron Additive Manufacturing



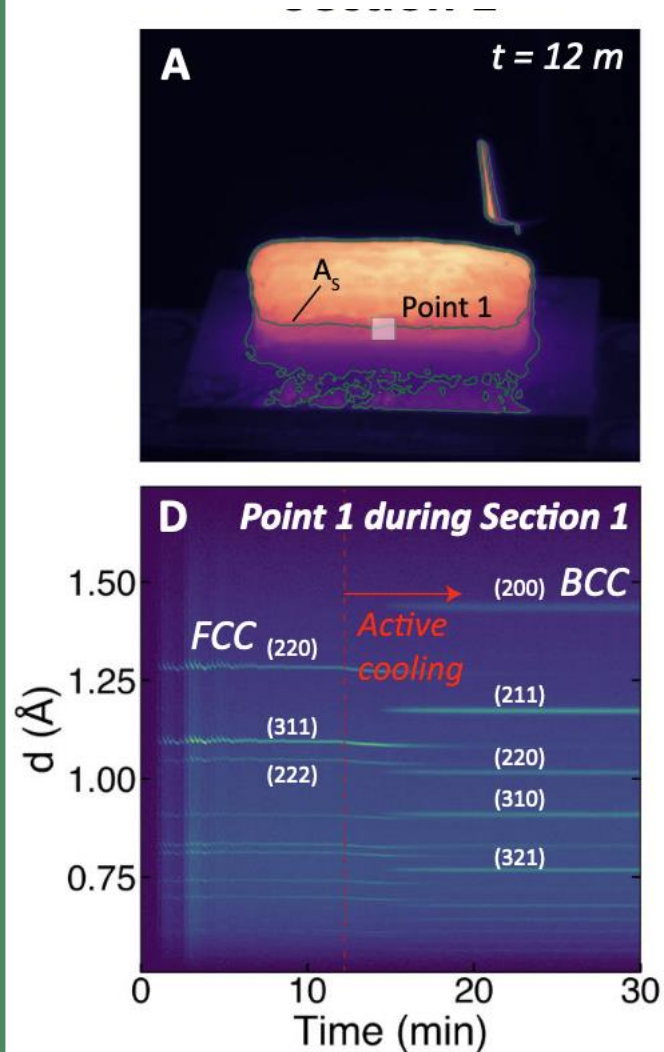
OpeN-AM Sensors

- Spallation Neutron Source
- Multispectral infrared
- High-bandwidth DIC
- Low temperature transformation steels
- Phase transformations, thermal and strain evolution

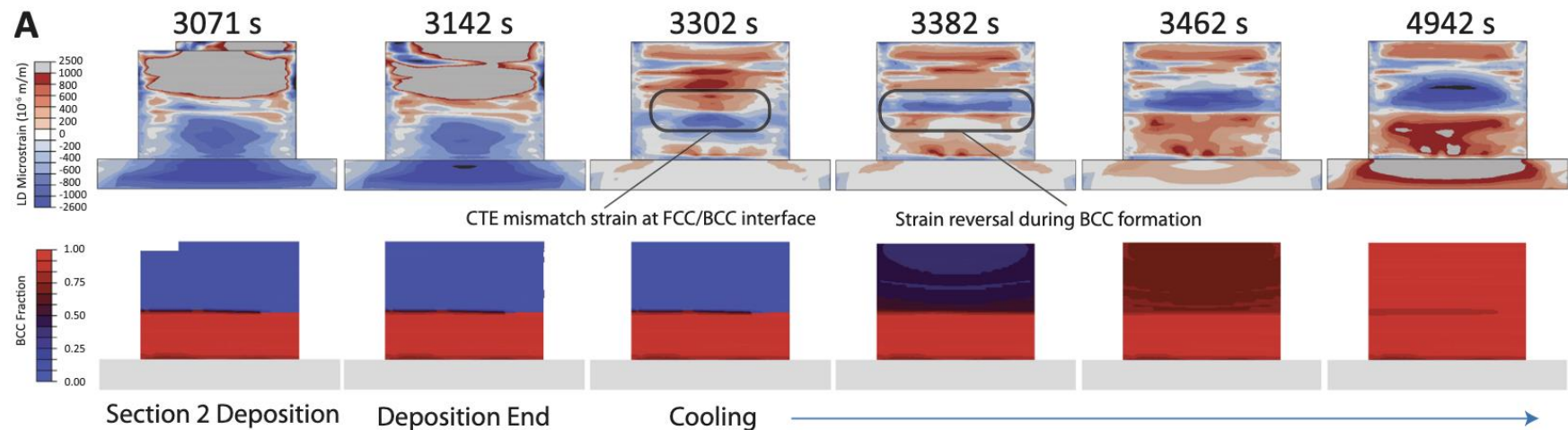
A. Plotkowski *et al.*, “Operando neutron diffraction reveals mechanisms for controlled strain evolution in 3D printing,” *Nat Commun*, vol. 14, no. 1, Art. no. 1, Aug. 2023, doi: [10.1038/s41467-023-40456-x](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-023-40456-x).



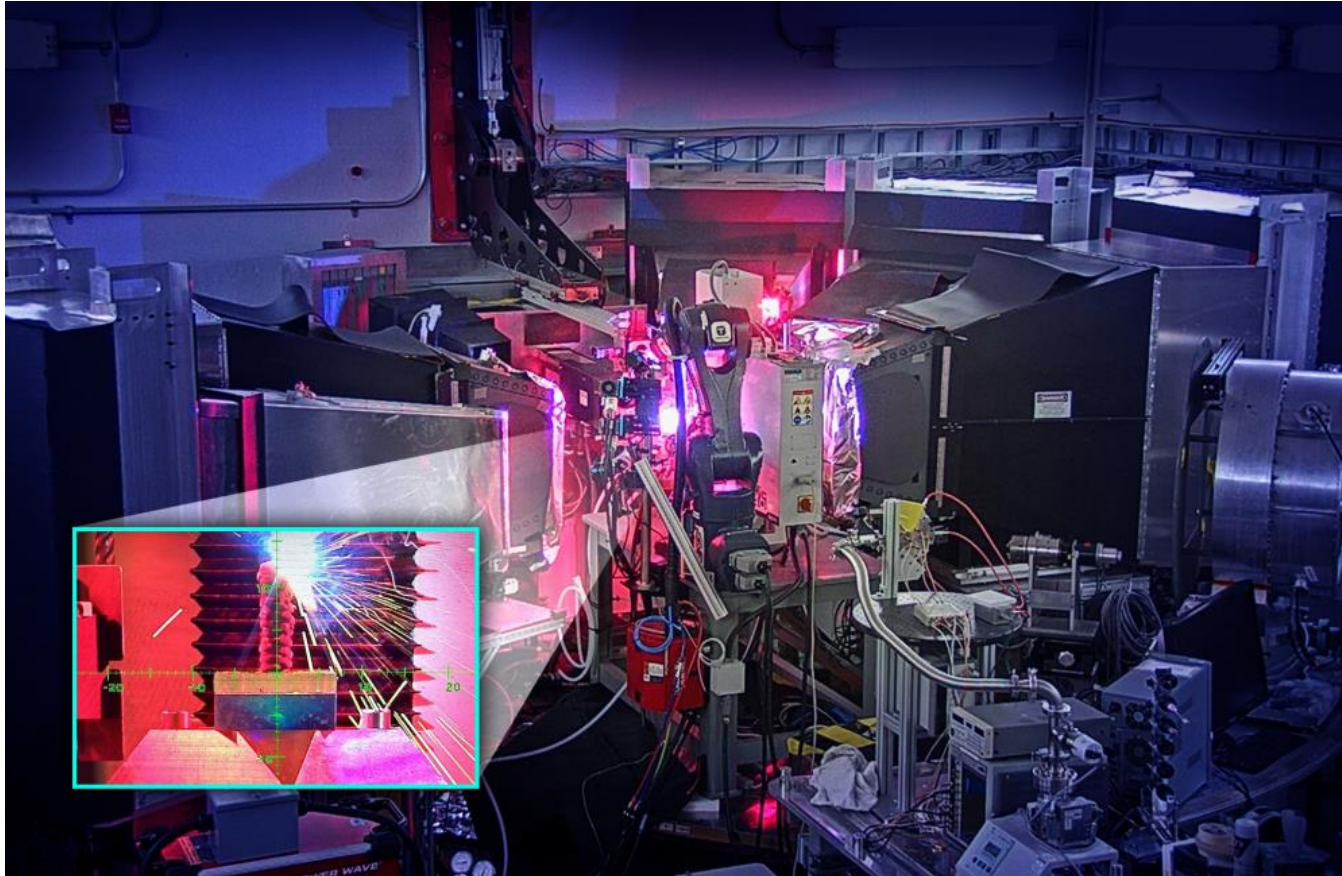
Use case – Understanding Solid State Phase Transformation



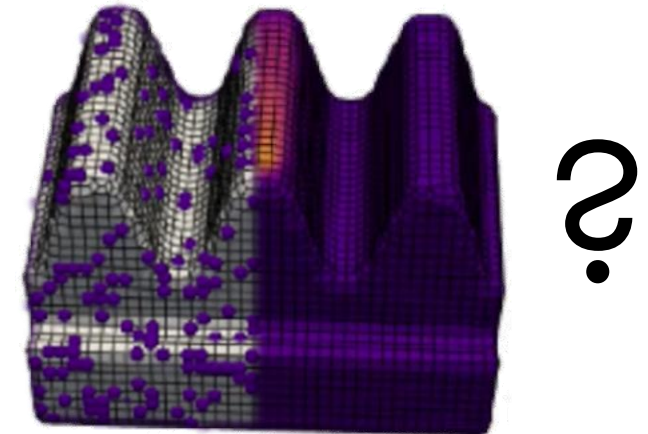
- Cyclic heating induces repeated Austenite $\rightarrow$ Martensite transitions
- This induces complex residual stress patterns
- Directly measures lattice strain, phase, and temperature over the entire build
- Relevant scale for large scale WAAM



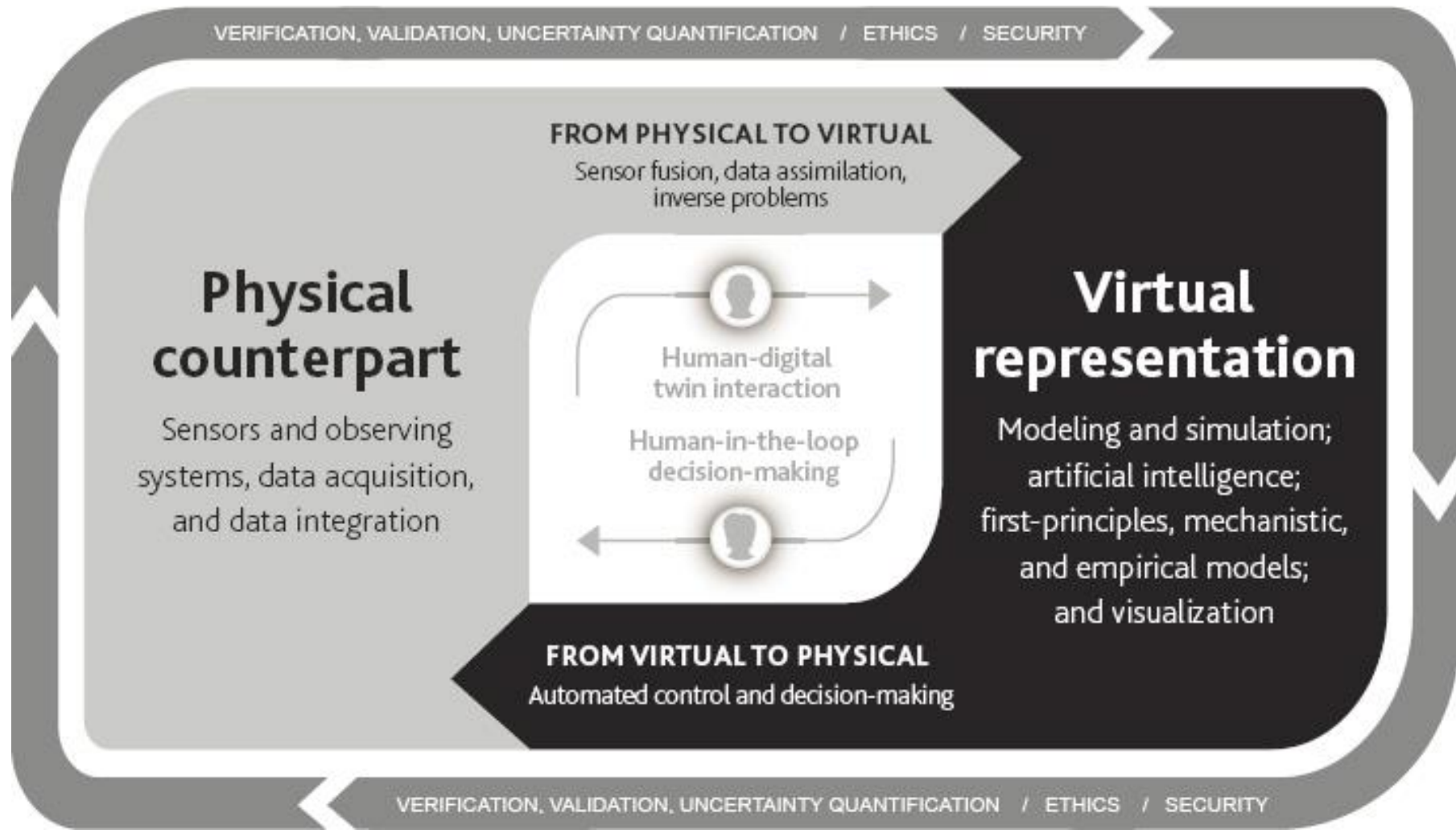
OpeN-AM is excellent for materials processing science... ... *but can we scale it?*



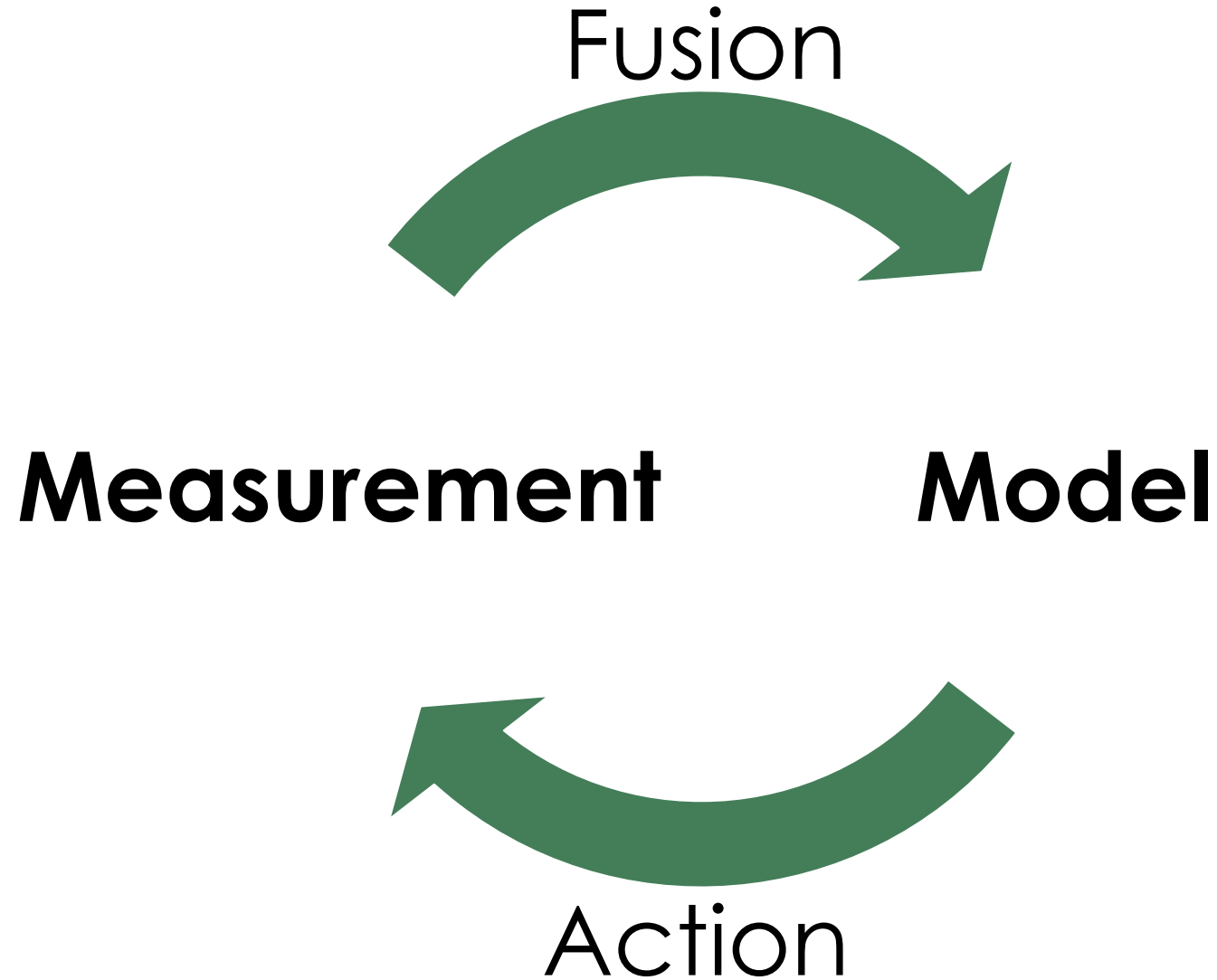
- Neutron diffraction is the gold standard for RS
- But, other methods give ***related*** information
- Can a combination of available sensing achieve similar results?



Let's approach the problem by discussing 'Digital Twins'

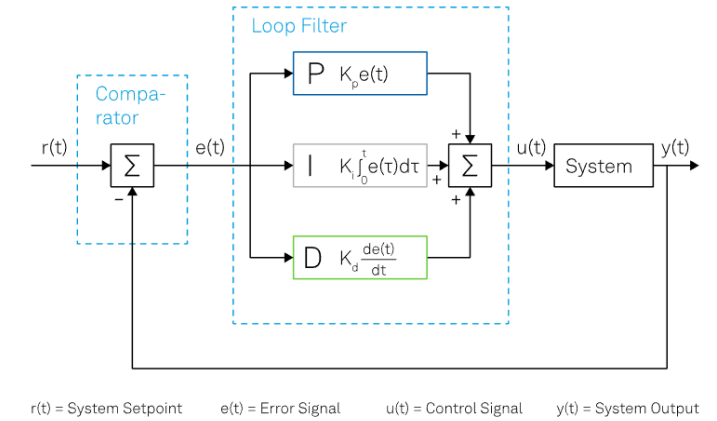
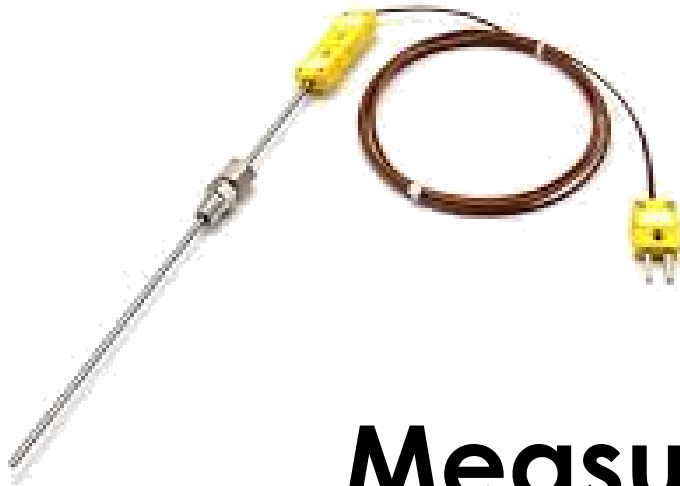


Controlling Thermomechanical Evolution



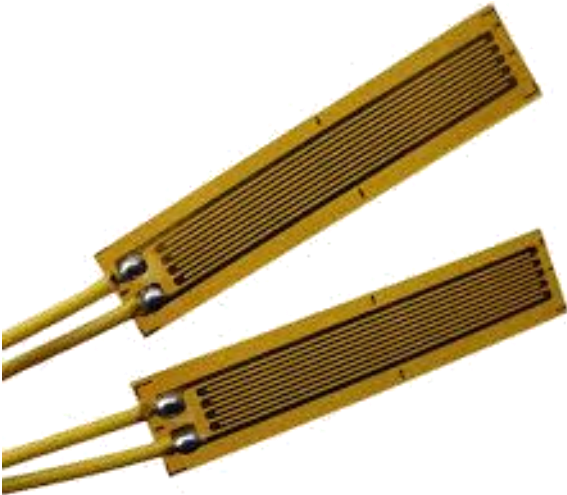
Controlling Thermophysical Evolution

Fusion

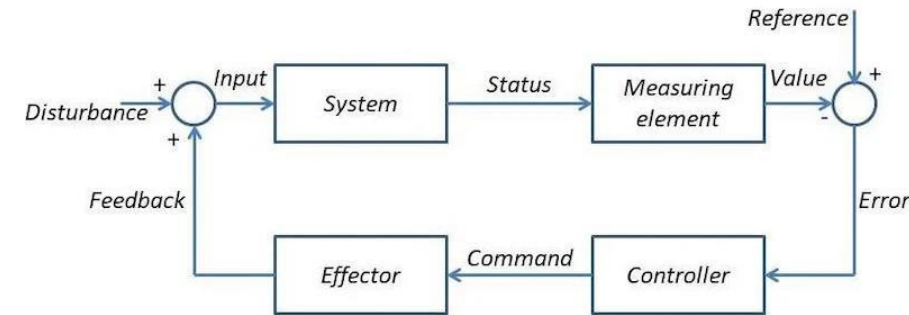


Measurement

Model



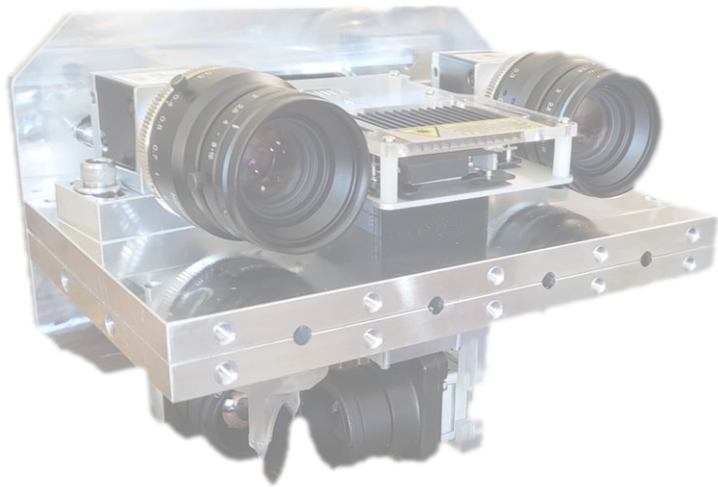
Action



Problem: Spatially complex state & response

Controlling Thermophysical Evolution

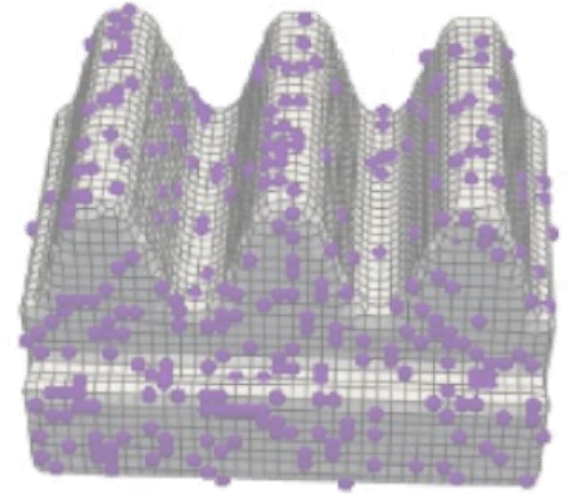
SCOPS



Fusion



Adamantine

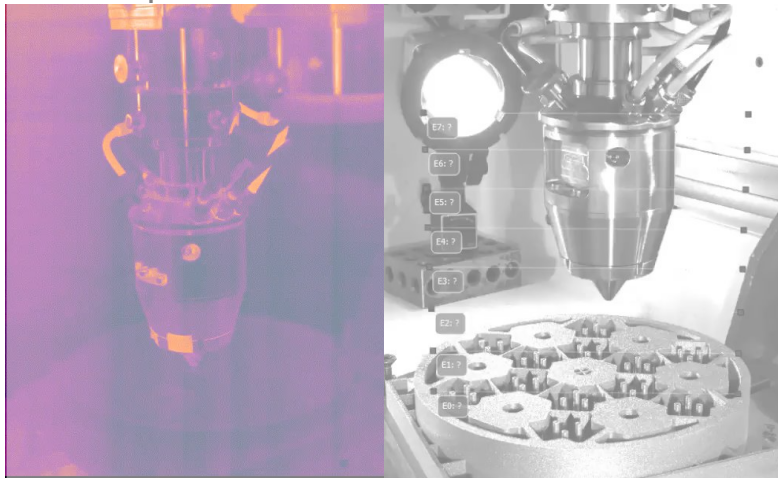


Measurement

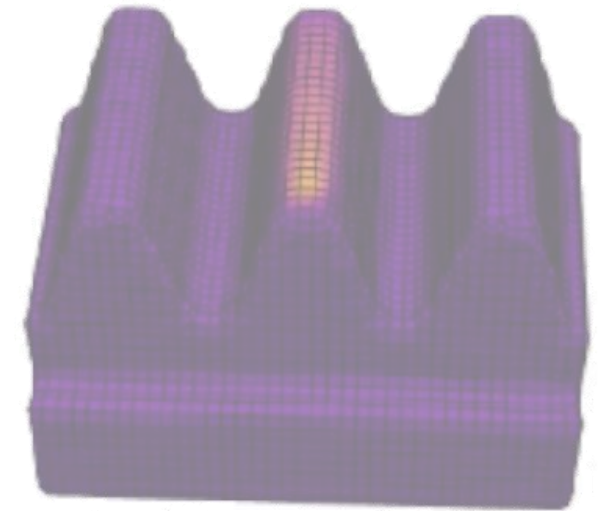
Model

Temperature

Strain

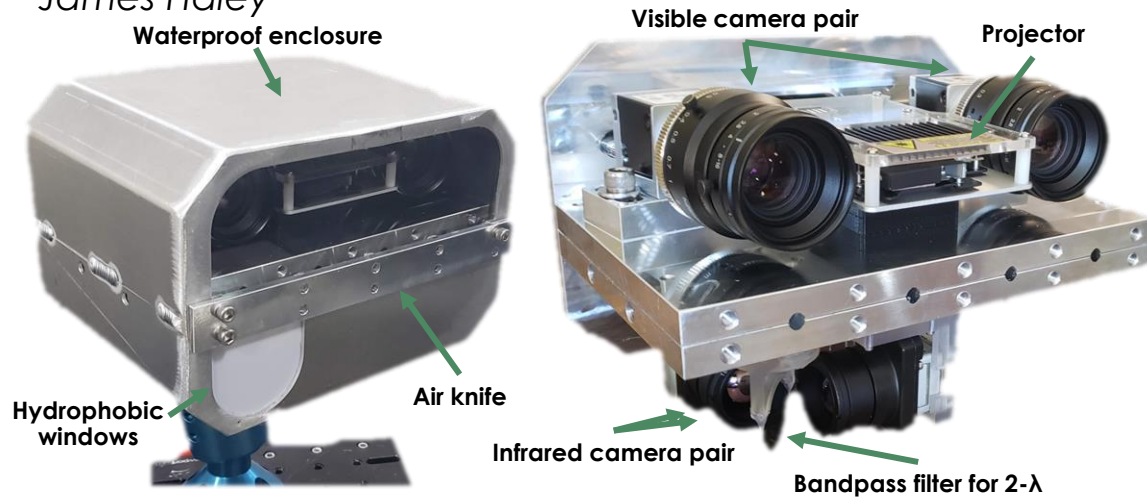


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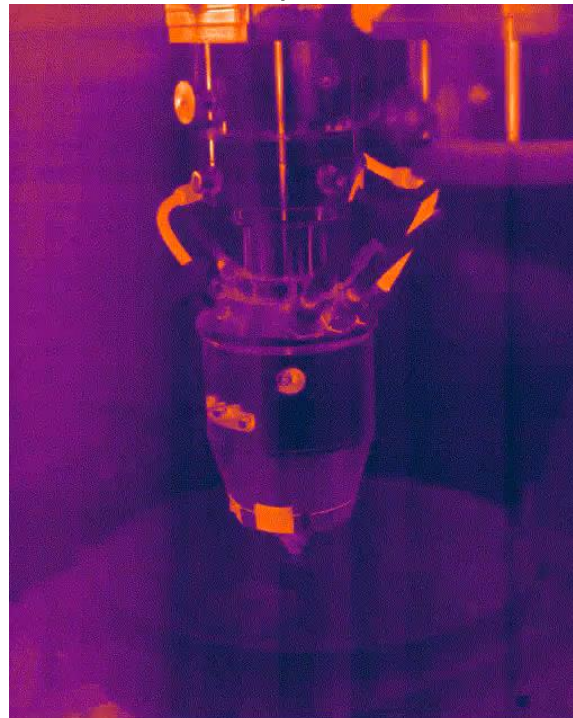


SCOPS: 'Stereo Correlated Optical and Pyrometric System'

James Haley

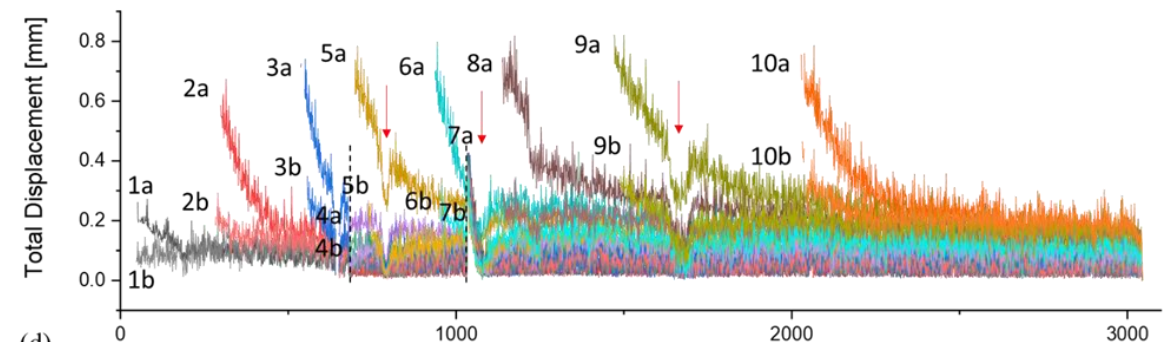


In-situ 3D **strain**



Infrared **temperature**

- Directed Energy Deposition welding induces distortion. *Control requires measurement.*
 - DIC tracks surface roughness features in 3D, IR tracks temperature over time
 - *Thermoplastic* history observed
- Imaging enhances simulation.
 - Validation, or *assimilation* into live
- Works for all DED classes



Control reactions rely on fast simulation...



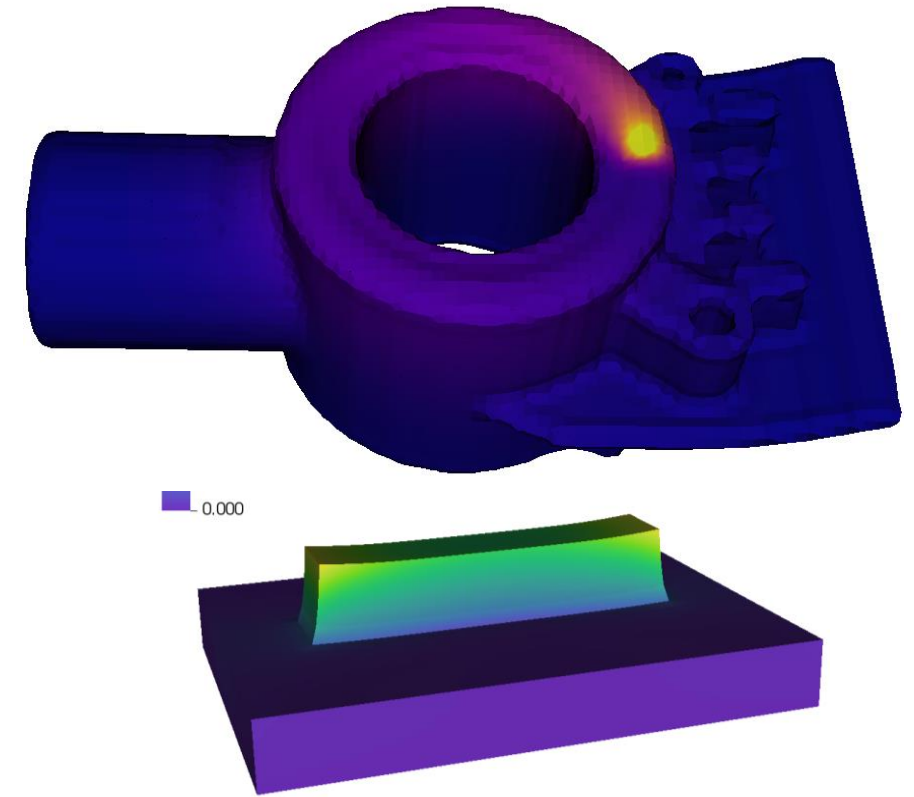
Built to scale from **laptops** to **GPU supercomputers**



10x faster than real-time for thermal simulations



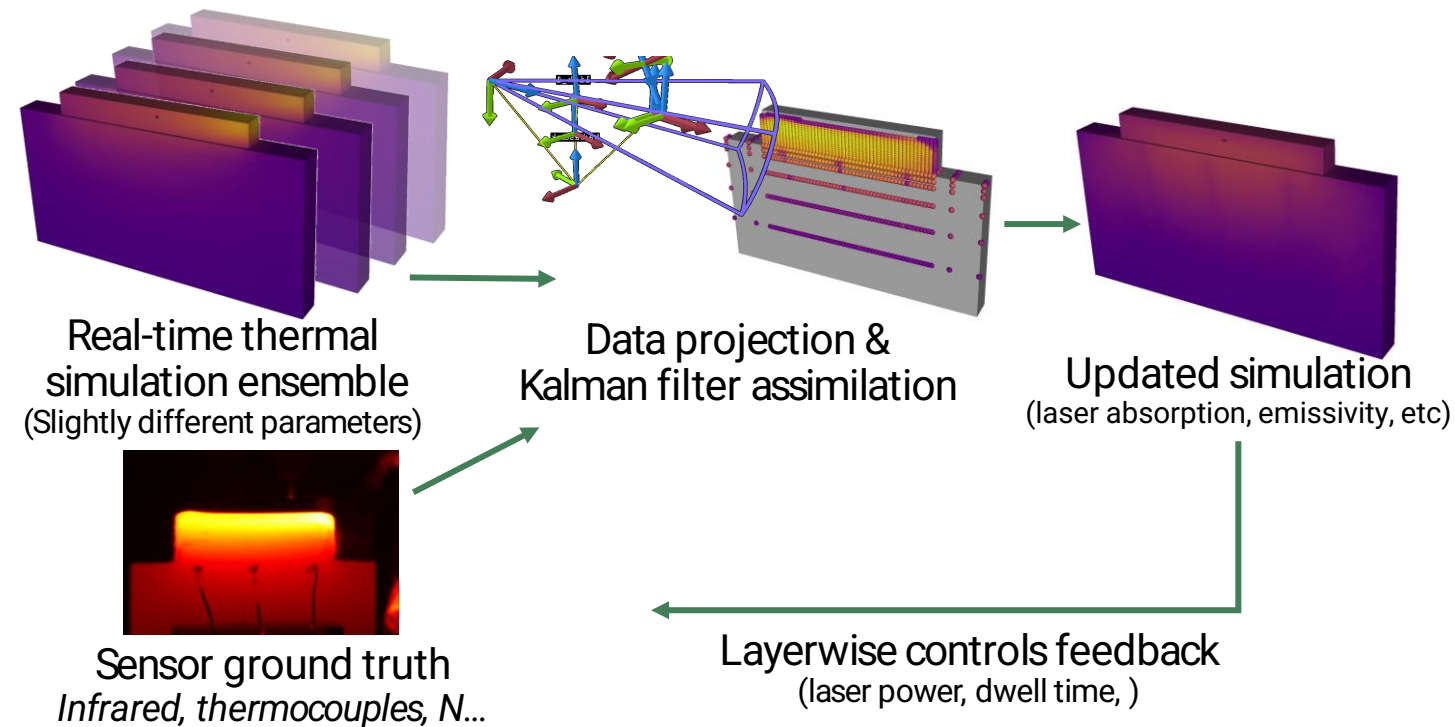
Adamantine *and its key dependencies* developed at ORNL, **we can modify and integrate at-will**



<https://github.com/adamantine-sim/adamantine>

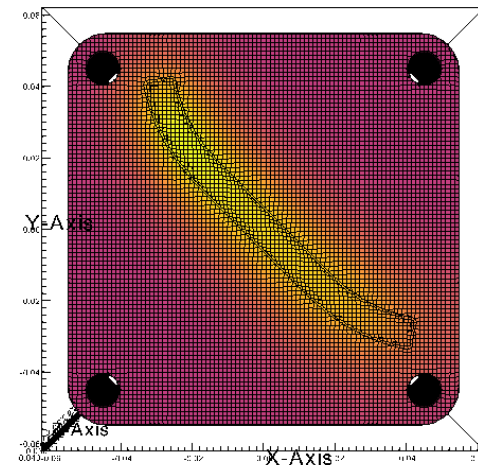
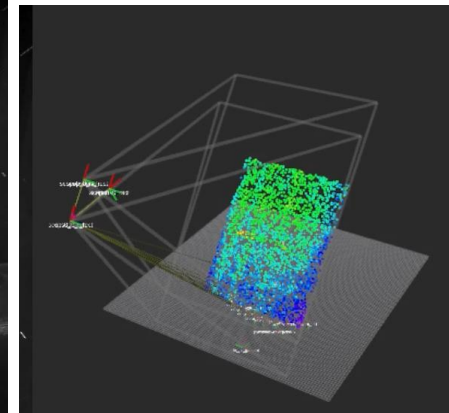
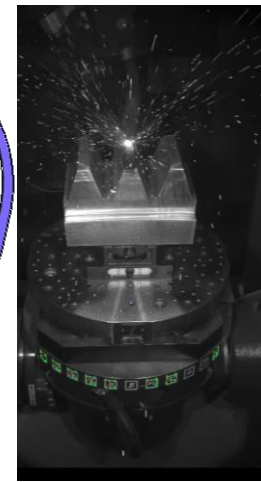
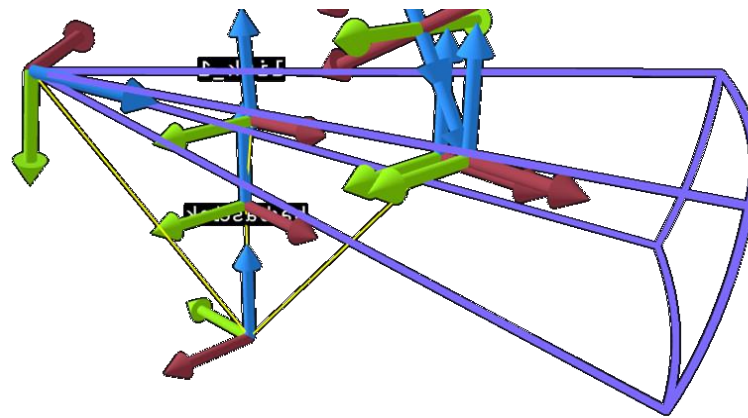
The “Shadow Simulation” approach to distortion in DED

- A **print-time FEA model**
- Information is ‘cast’ into the shadow from ground truth sensors
- Simulation assumptions **are iteratively tuned** to match reality on the fly
- Provides a **better snapshot** of temperature state for process controls

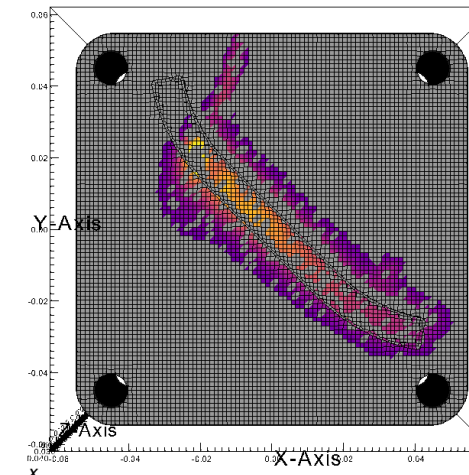


Sensor data mapping

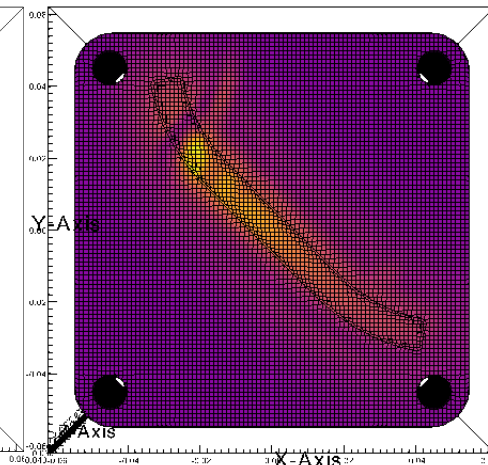
- Robust spatial calibration
 - Simultaneous intrinsics & extrinsic parameters
 - Visible and infrared
 - 0.02MP to 64MP cams
- Build frame localization
 - Fiducial markers
 - ICP fit mesh to pointcloud
- Ray trace to sim. Mesh
 - Nearest neighbor node
 - Export as CSV



Simulation

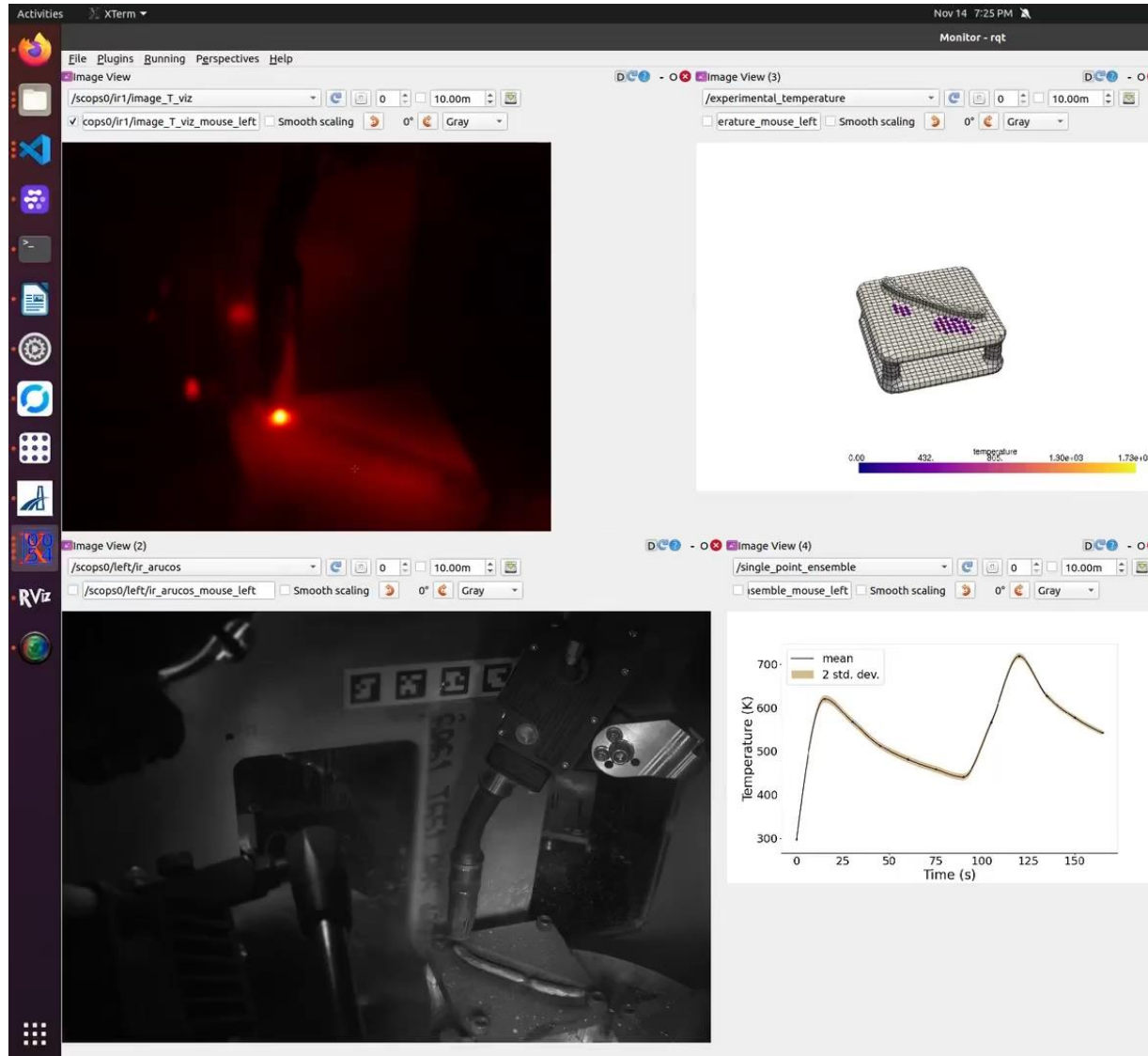


Infrared Rays

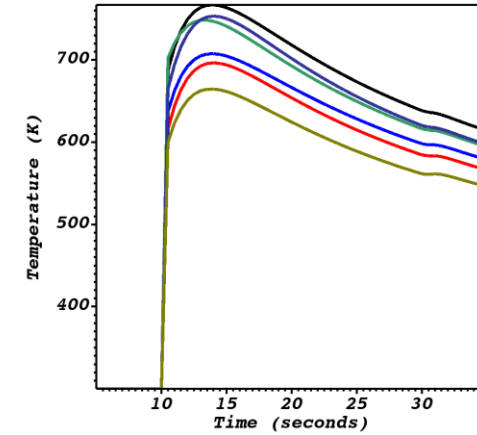
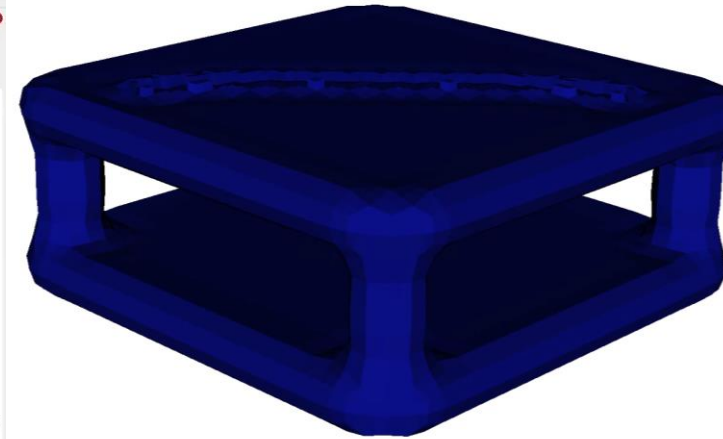


Fused

Model reference control feedback established



Real-time simulation twin



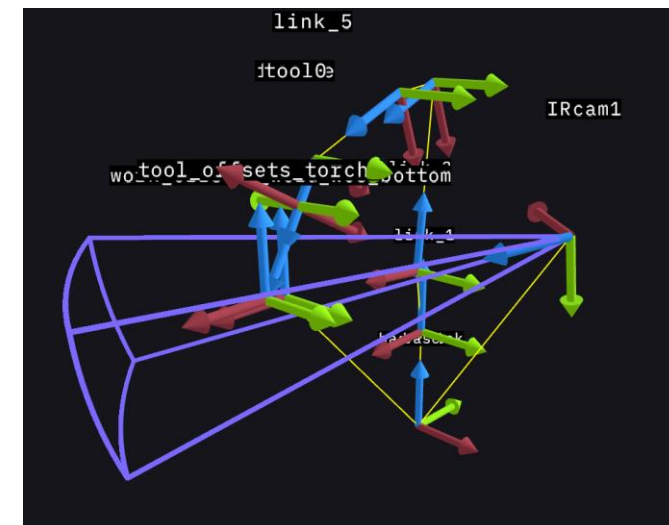
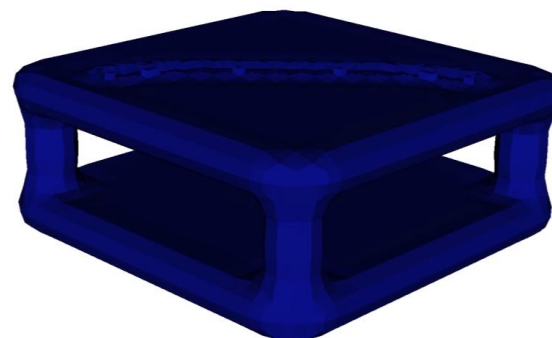
Assimilation adjusts twin based on IR
Control targets adjust to follow nominal simulation

- Nov '24 – SNS validation
- Scan path choice based on predicted deviation from reference simulation
- Integrated with HPC through INTERSECT

Applications - Controls with Confidence

- Controls

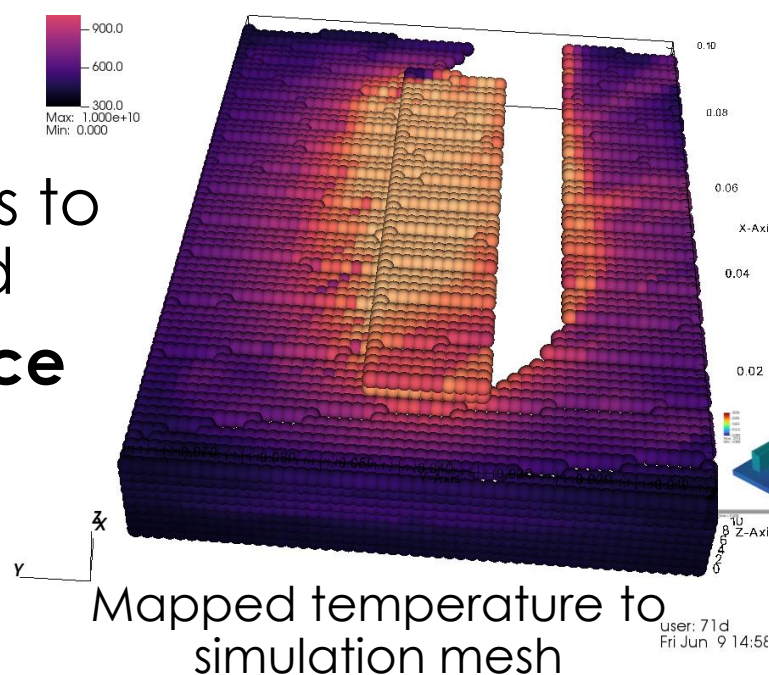
- Allows full state estimation of **unseen nodes**
- Allows estimation of unmeasured quantities (stress instead of just strain!)



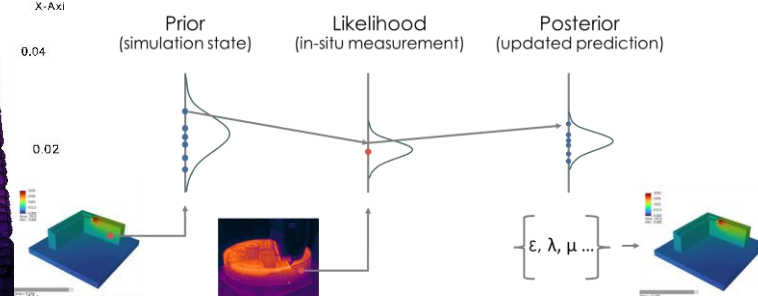
- Confidence

- All models are wrong, etc.
- Therefore, uncertainty needs to be estimated & propagated
- Gives **site-specific confidence** in thermal histories & microstructure predictions

Adamantine FEA simulation



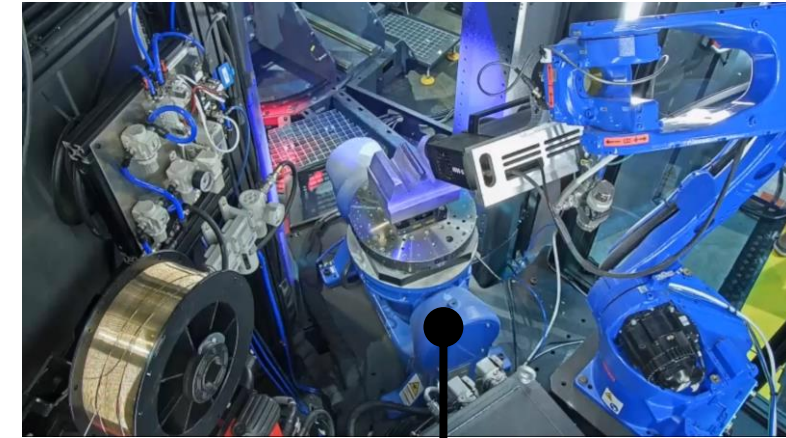
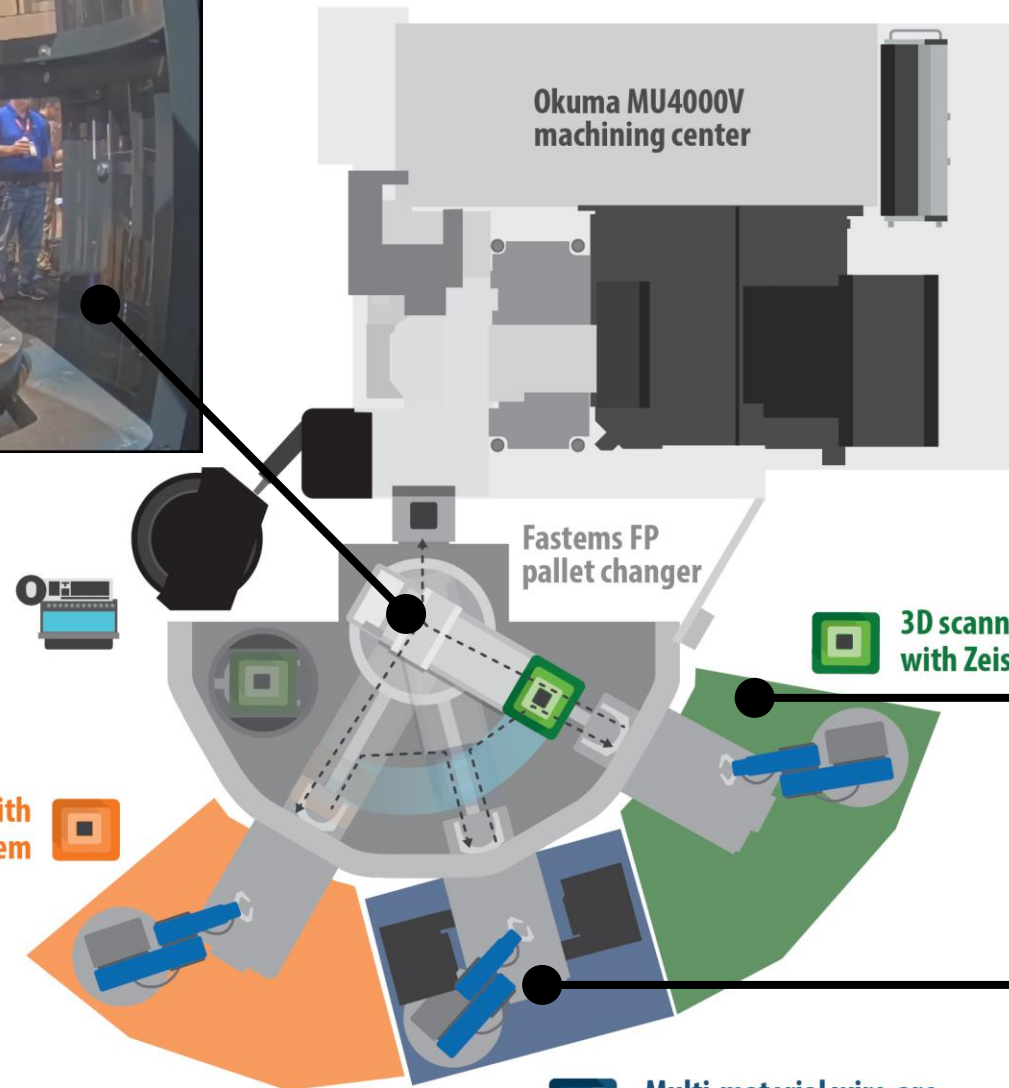
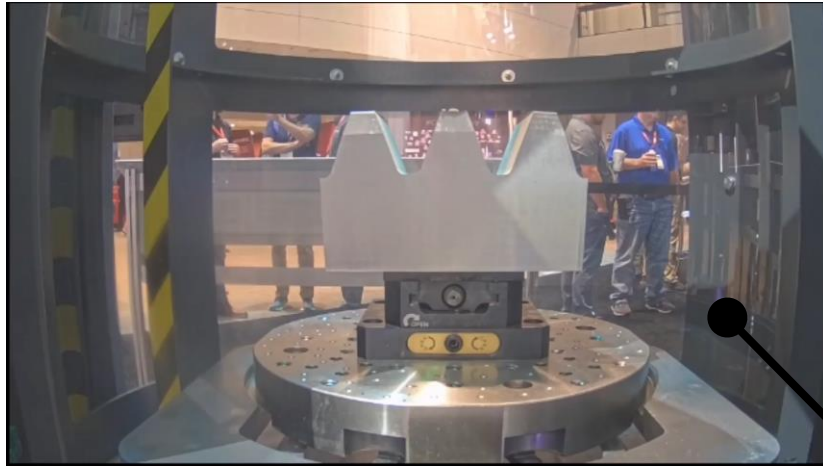
Camera coordinate transforms

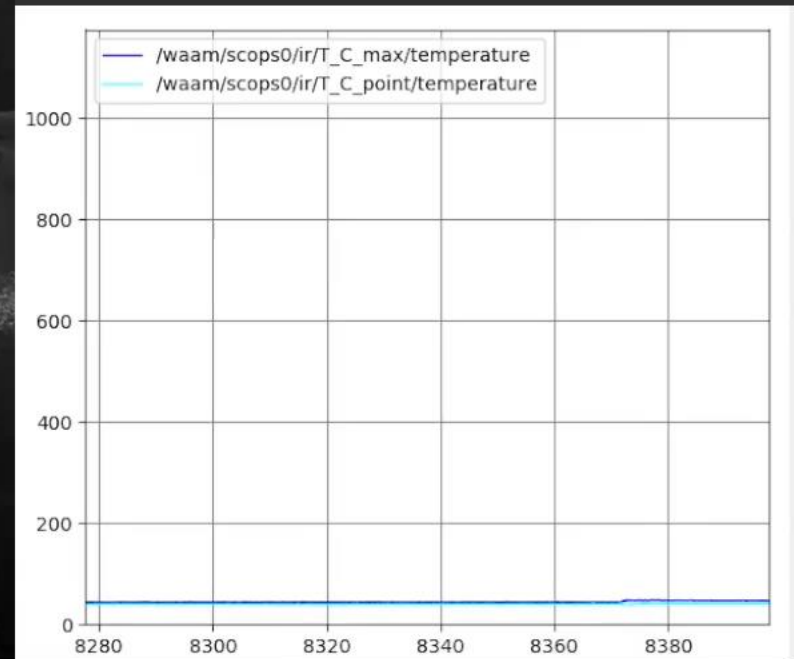
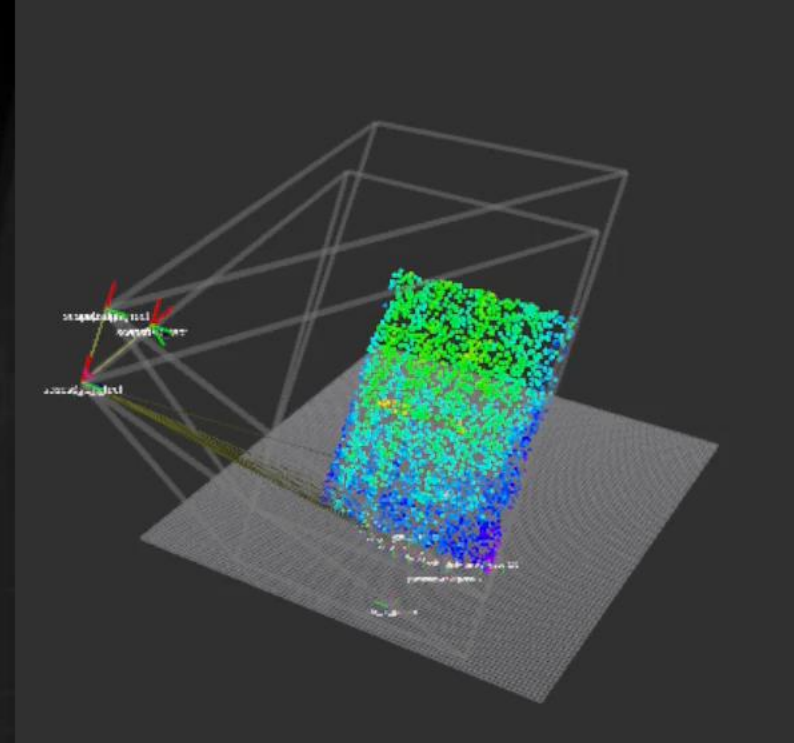
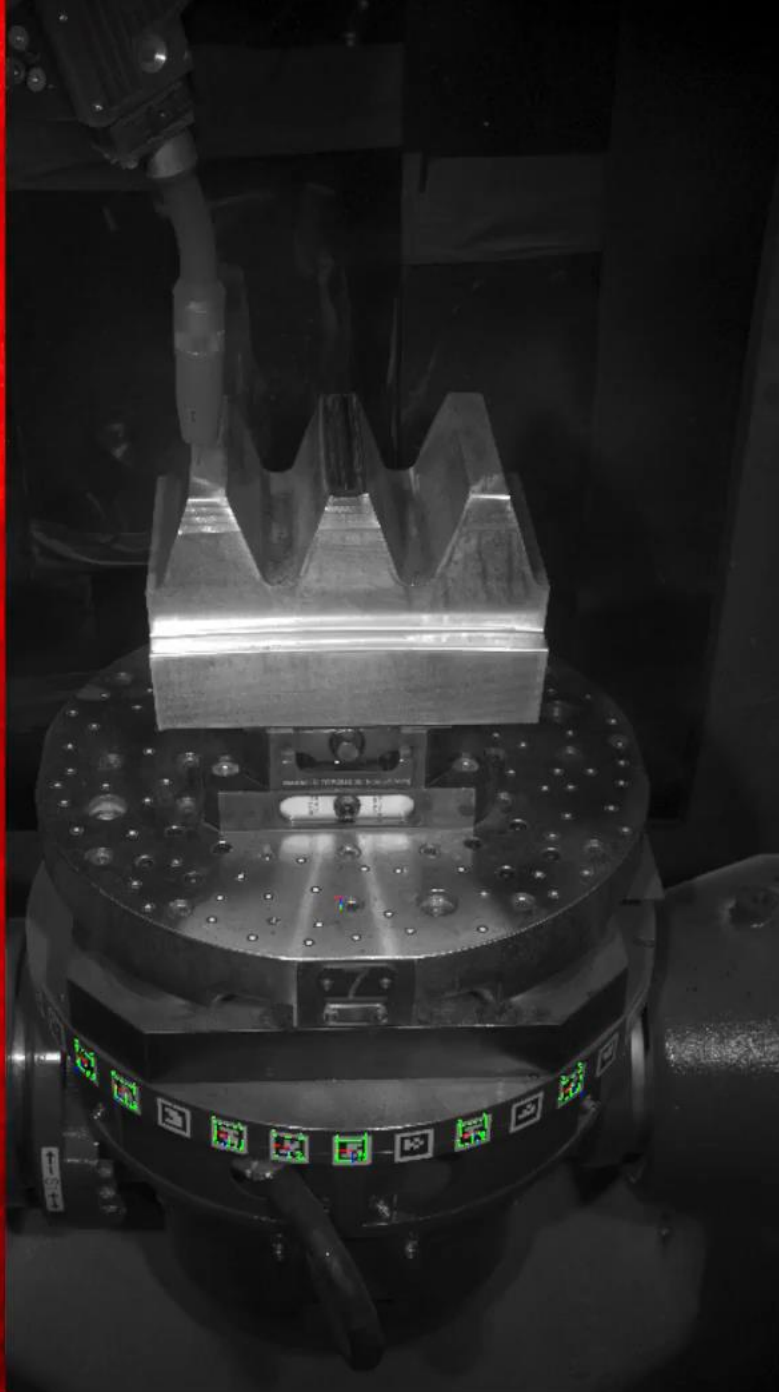
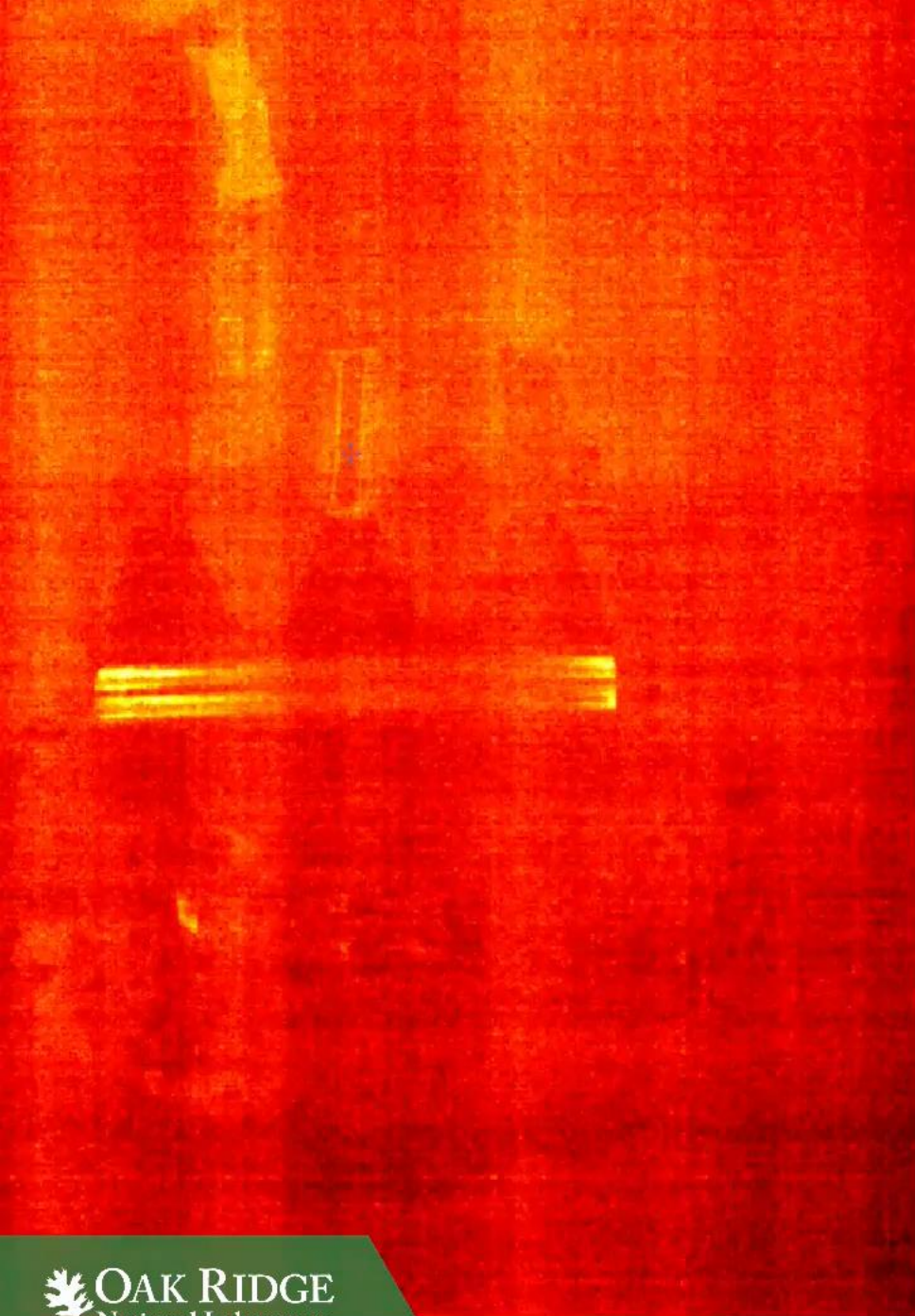


ENKF updates assumptions

A Demonstration – IMTS Emerging Technology booth

Future Foundries Convergent Manufacturing platform

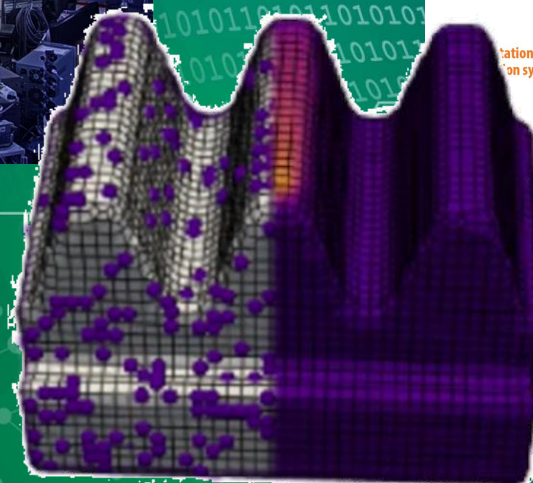
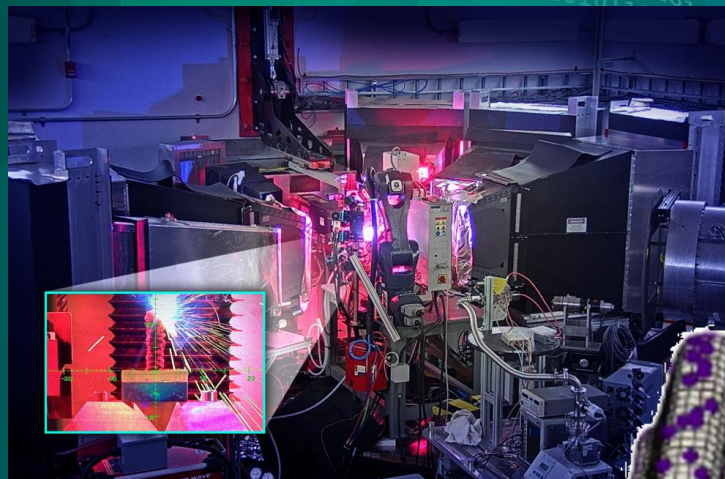




Thank you!

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Bruno Turcksin
Ashley Gannon
John Potter
Callen Kimmel
Steve Dewitt



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