

Enhanced Large-Scale Modeling of Additive Manufacturing: Layer-wise Equivalent Heat Flux Attribution for Thermal Interaction Analysis across Multiple Fabrications

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Background

Metal additive manufacturing (AM) process:

- Laser powder bed fusion
- Directed energy deposition

Temperature history determines:

- Residual stress
- Fluid dynamics
- Microstructure evolution
- Part distortion
- Defects
- Mechanical properties

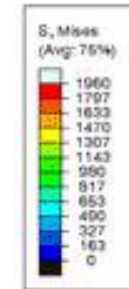
High-fidelity coupled CFD-FEM modeling

CFD

temperature



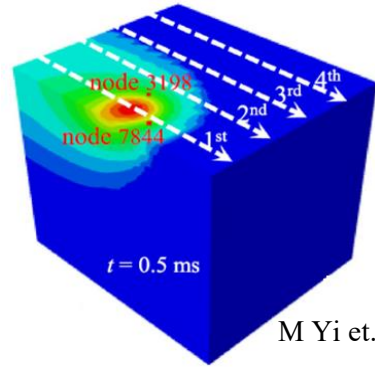
Coupled CFD-FEM



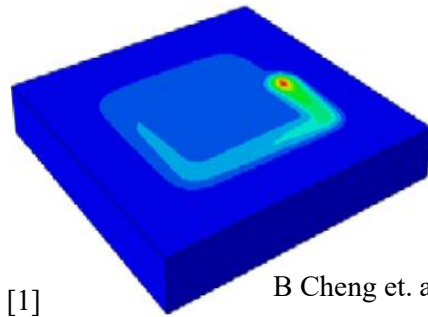
Two-layer two-track: high computational cost

Large-scale FEM approaches in AM (1/2)

- Track-by-track heating + agglomeration



M Yi et. al. [1]



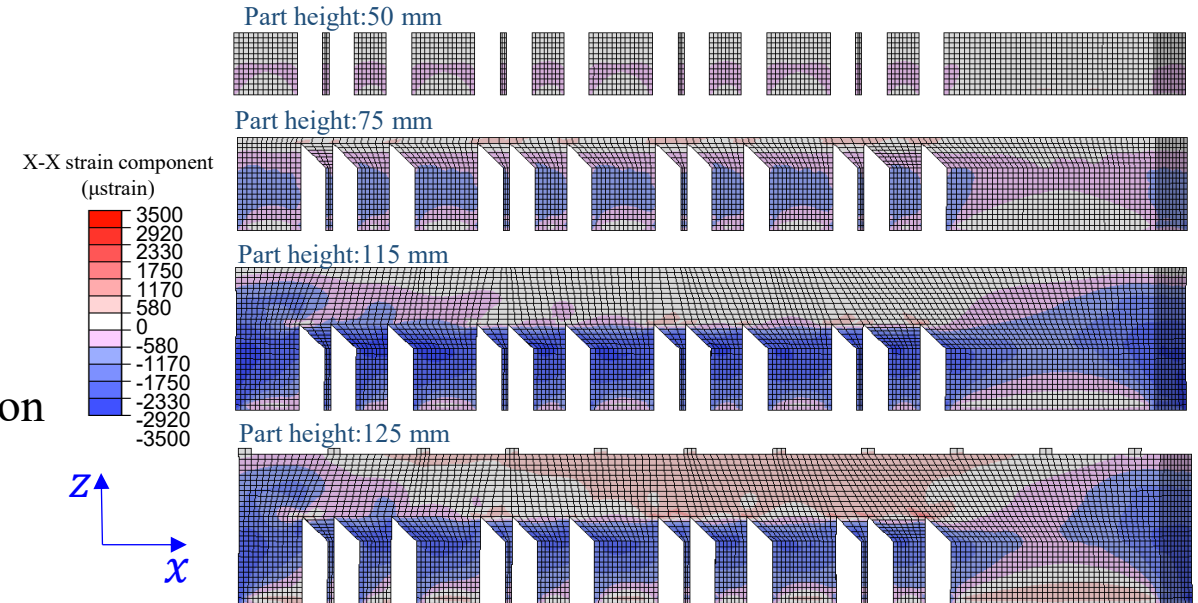
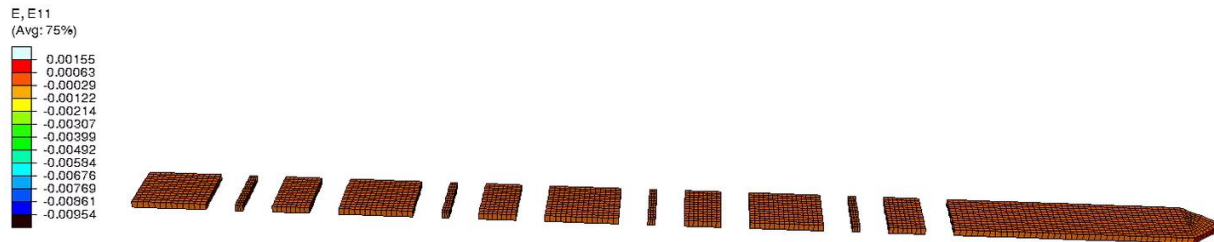
B Cheng et. al. [2]

- Equivalent strain/temperature attribution [3,4] + element activation

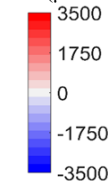
- Temperature
- Strain tensor

Equivalent layer

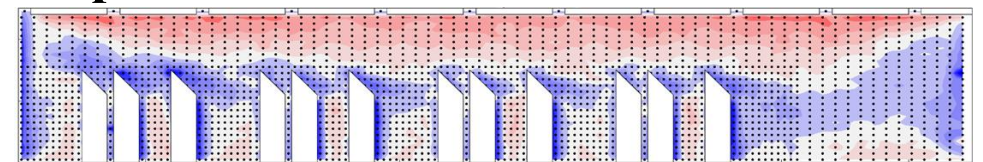
- Cooling
- Relaxation



X-X strain component (μstrain)

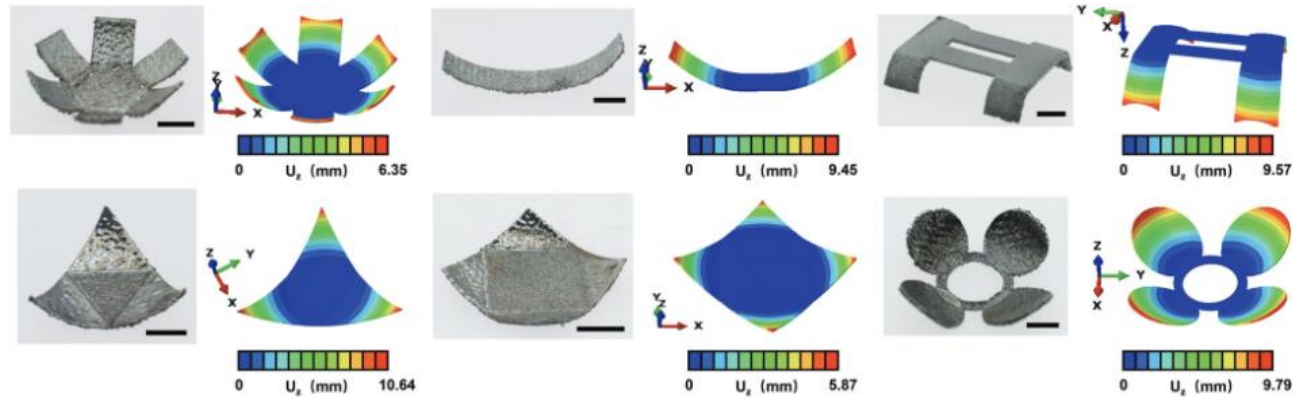


Experimental measurement



Accurate inherent strain pattern + Neutralization

Large-scale FEM approaches in AM (2/2)



(Selected as the cover of “*Advanced Science* 12/ 2023” Wu, W. et al)

Heating step

- Temperature
- Heat flux

Cooling step

- Radiation
- Convection

Layer refresh

Distortion and residual stress can be accurately predicted by:
the reasonable configurations of the equivalent **stress, strain, heat flux or temperature** attribution.

Metallic 4D Printing of Laser Stimulation (Adv. Sci. 12/2023)

Wenzheng Wu, Yiming Zhou, Qingping Liu, Luquan Ren, Fan Chen, Jerry Ying Hsi Fuh, Aodu Zheng, Xuechao Li, Ji Zhao, Guiwei Li

2370067 | First Published: 26 April 2023



4D Printing

In article number [2206486](#) by Guiwei Li and co-workers, a 4D printing method to endow non-shapememory metallic materials with active properties is presented, which can realize the shape changing of selected areas during or after forming process owing to stress release generated. The methodology opens new avenues to create metallic shape-morphing 3D structures for high-performance engineering applications. Specifically, the 2D part precursor can be turned into fitting a 3D structure by laser stimulation to repair the gap of the space station.

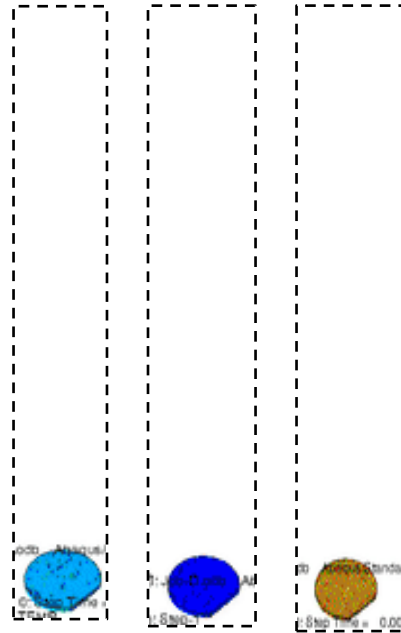
Problems

Individual specimens

(Dominik and Conor)



Single part simulation



Advantages:

- Easy implementation
- Good efficiency

Problems

- Material deposition
- Heat source
- Thermal boundary



(Kozjek et al.)

Fabrication
design

Assumptions &
Simplifications:

Temperature field
prediction

Multiple parts:

- Geometry feature
- Scan pattern
- Interlayer heat variation

Objective of this research

Specimen **cluster**



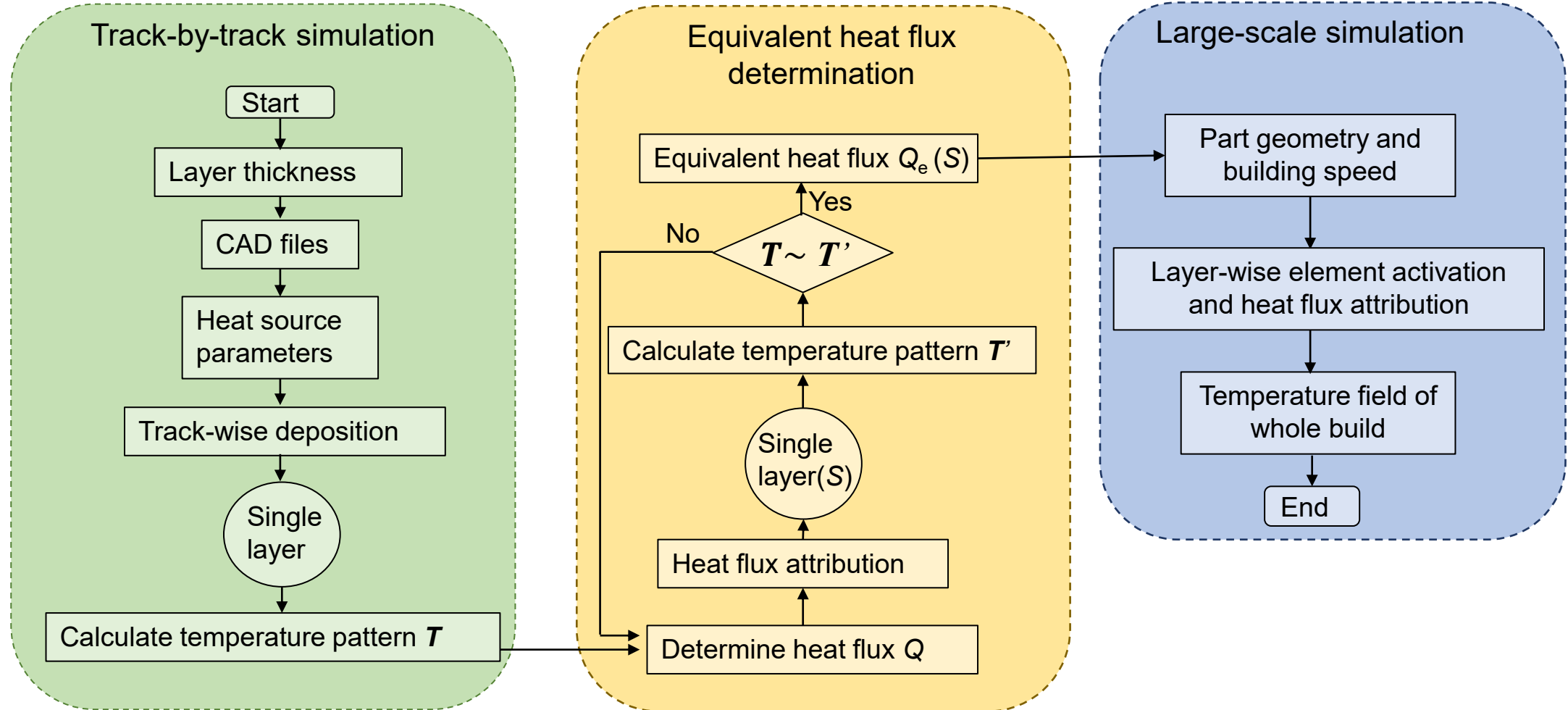
(Dominik and Conor)

Whole build:

$$\begin{array}{r} 1633 \text{ layers} \\ \times \\ 67 \text{ tracks} \\ = \\ 107 \text{ millions of tracks} \end{array}$$

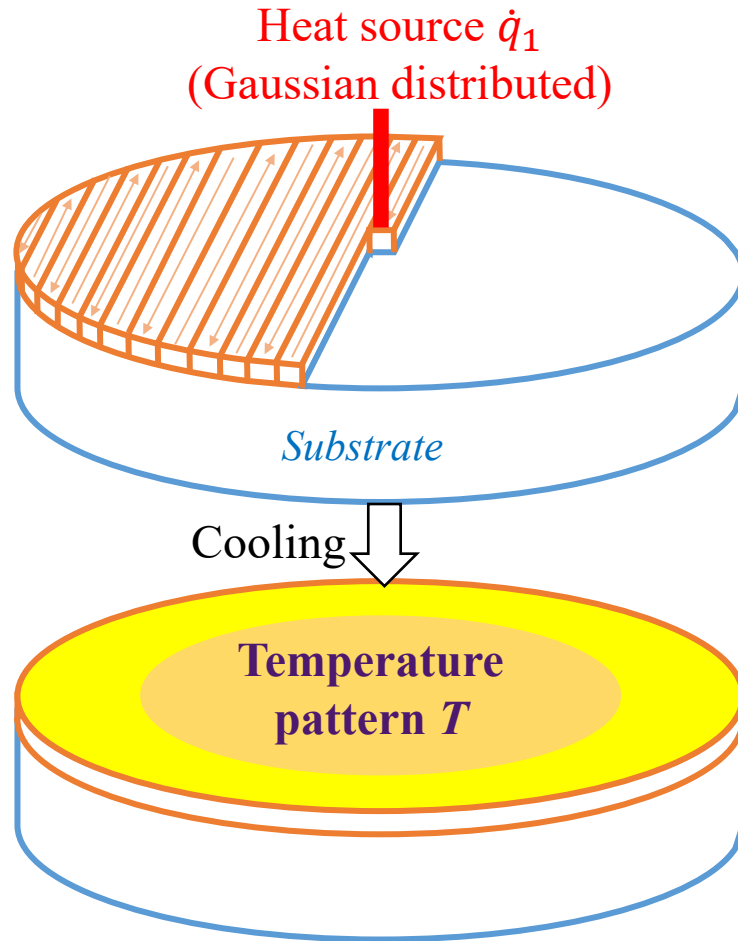
- Multiple specimens simulation:**
- Reasonable thermal boundary;
 - Incorporation of scan pattern;
 - Easy implementation;
 - Good accuracy.

Proposed modeling framework



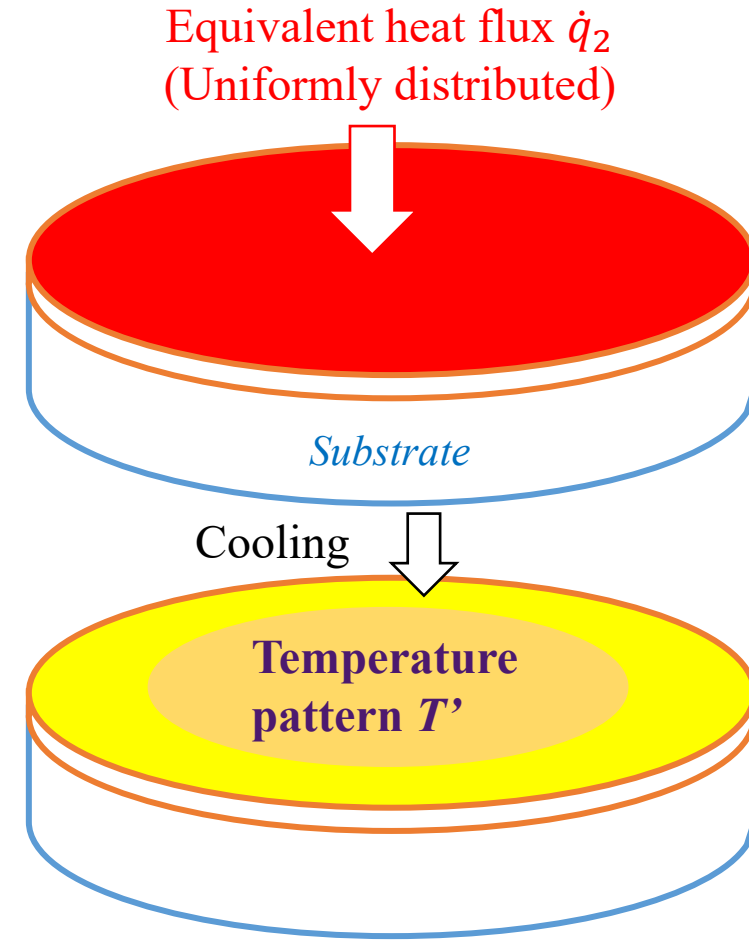
Proposed modeling framework

Model 1: Track-by-track heating



$$T' \sim T$$

Model 2: layer-wise heat flux attribution



Governing equations

- Energy balance

$$\int_V \rho \dot{U} dV = \int_S q dS + \int_V r dV$$

V : volume of solid material (m^3)

S : surface area (m^2)

ρ : density of the material (kg/m^3)

$\dot{U}$: material time rate of internal energy (W/kg)

q : heat flux per unit area, flow into body (W/m^2)

r : heat supplied externally into the body (W/m^3)

- Constitutive definition

In terms of specific heat: $c(\theta) = \frac{dU}{d\theta}$

Heat conduction by Fourier law: $\mathbf{f} = -\mathbf{k} \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial x}$

- Surface heat flux

Track-by-track scanning: $\dot{q}_1 = \frac{Q}{\pi r_0^2} \exp\left(1 - \frac{r^2}{r_0^2}\right)$

Uniform distribution: $\dot{q}_2 = Q_e$

- Radiation

$$\dot{q}_2 = A((\theta - \theta^Z)^4 - (\theta^0 - \theta^Z)^4)$$

A : radiation constant ($\text{W}/(\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{K}^4)$)

θ^0 : sink temperature (K)

θ^Z : absolute zero on temperature scale (K)

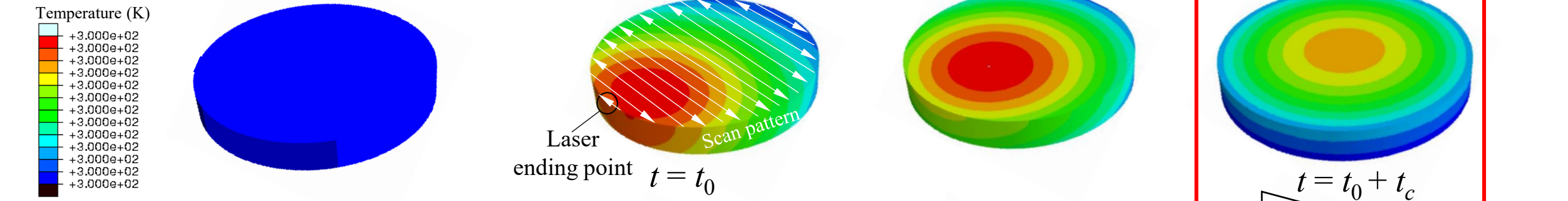
- Surface convection

$$q = h(\theta - \theta^0)$$

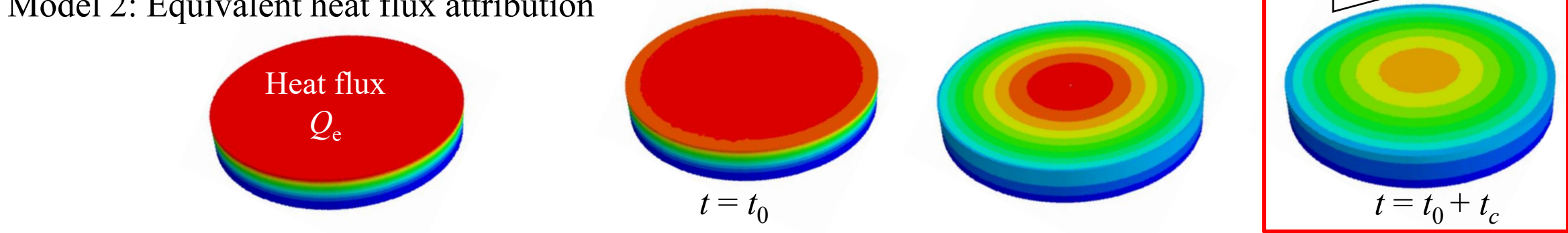
h : film coefficient ($\text{W}/(\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{K})$)

Circular shape

Model 1: Track-by-track heating

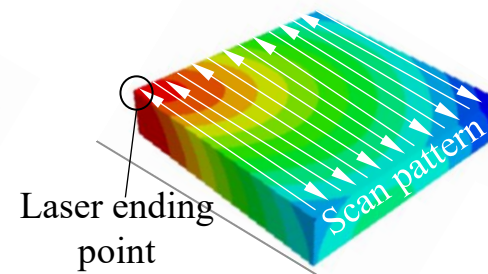
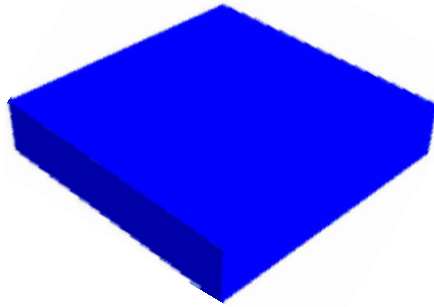
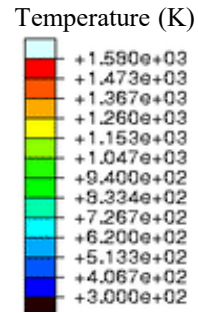


Model 2: Equivalent heat flux attribution

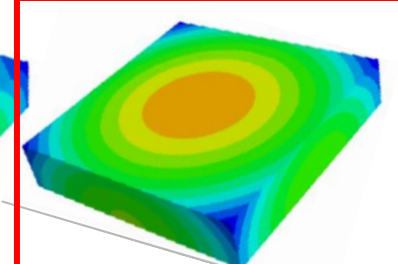
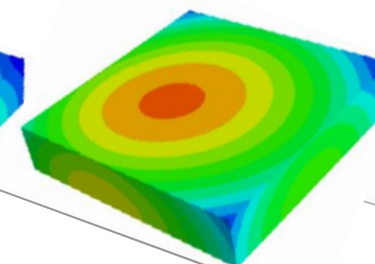
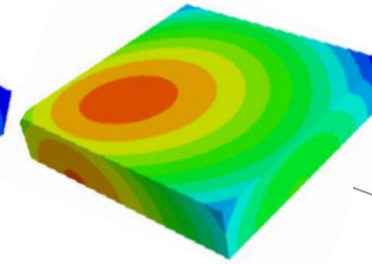


Rectangular shape

Model 1: Track-by-track heating



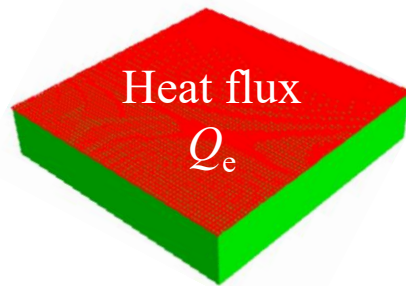
$t = t_0$



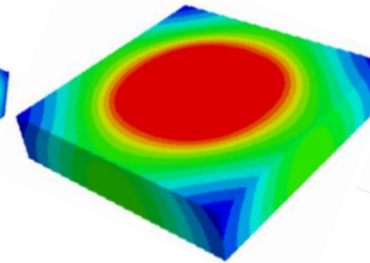
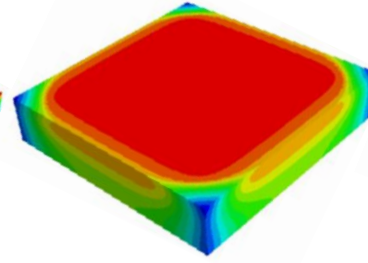
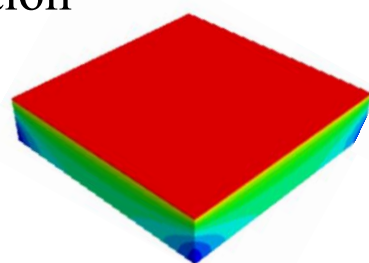
$t = t_0 + t_c$

$t_c = 10\text{ s}$

Model 2: Equivalent heat flux attribution



$t = t_0$



$t = t_0 + t_c$

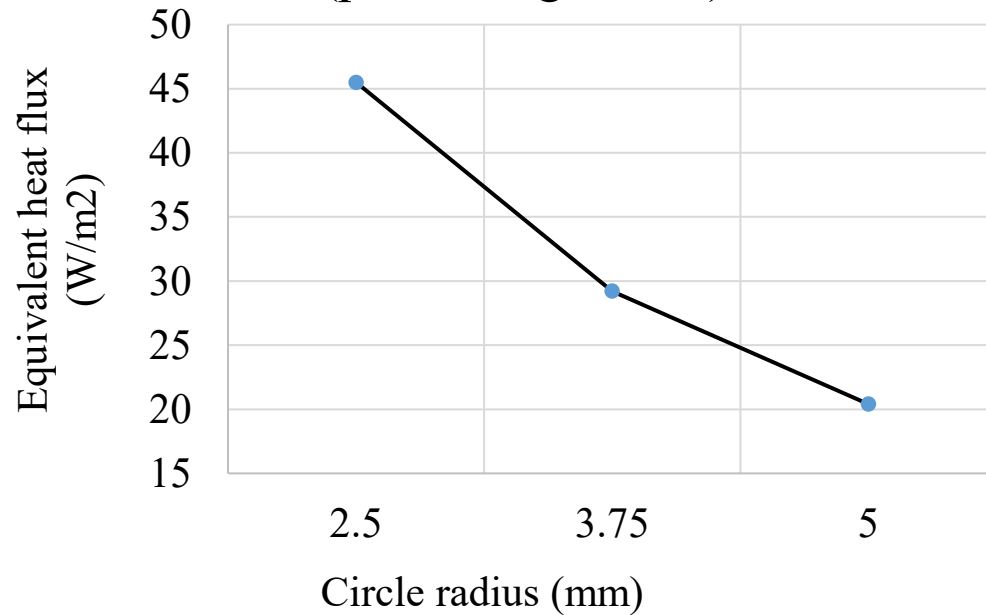
Cooling

If Q_e is properly selected:

The two different heating method obtain the similar temperature pattern after the cooling time t_c .
(under the same thermal boundary conditions)

Heat transfer analysis on a single layer

Q_e at different radius
(preheating 300 K)

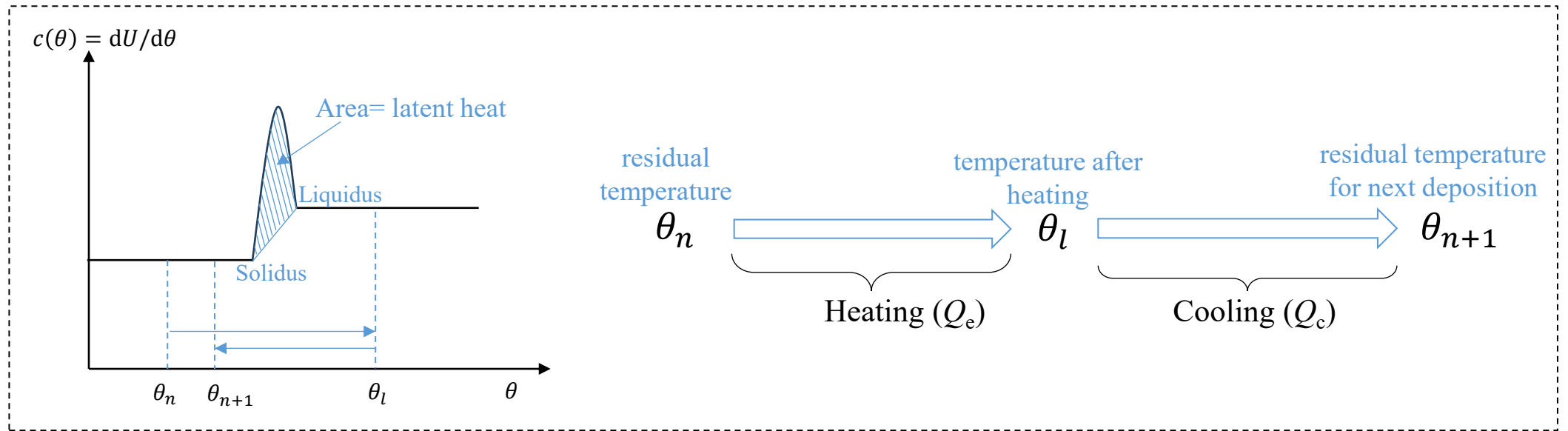


Q_e at preheating temperature
(circular radius 3.75 mm)

Preheating (K)	Q_e (W/m ²)	Temperature after cooling (K)	Residual temperature with $Q_e=29.2$ W/m ²
300	29.2 - 29.3	785.6	785.6
500	28.2 - 28.3	802.7	803.2
700	27.8 - 27.9	856.5	857.1

Residual temperature: the preheating for the next layer

Heat transfer analysis on a single layer



Temperature change:

$$\Delta\theta = \frac{U}{cm}$$

(Rough estimation)

U : energy

c : specific heat

m : mass

Assumption:

To make the similar $\Delta\theta$, Q_e is primarily depending on

- laser parameters
- cross section area S

Part-scale heat flux attribution

- Thermal load

Track-by-track heating

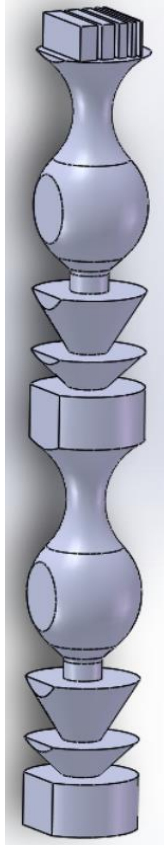
Uniform distributed heat flux



- Thermal boundary condition

LPBF:

Thermal conduction of the **powder particles cannot be simplified as radiation and convection**

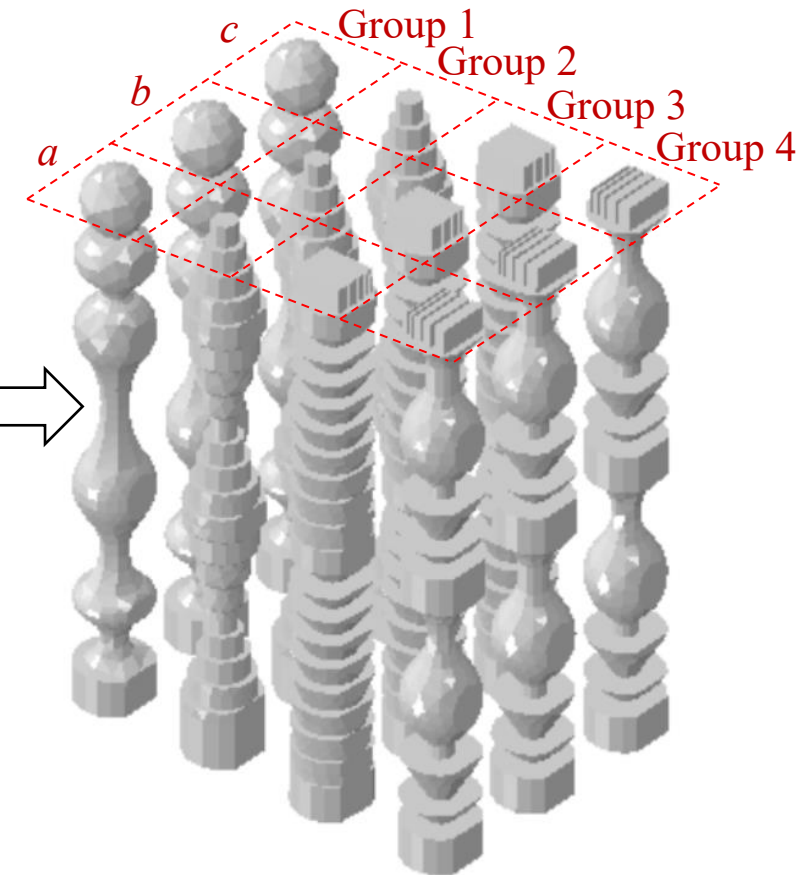
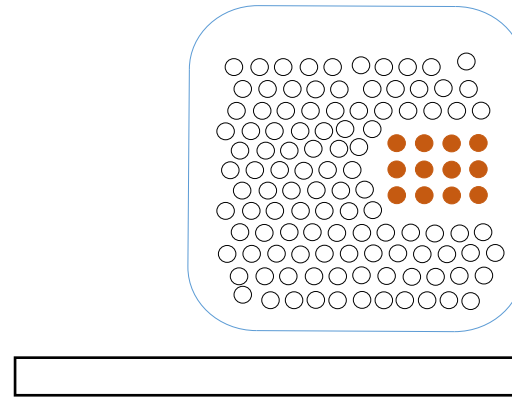
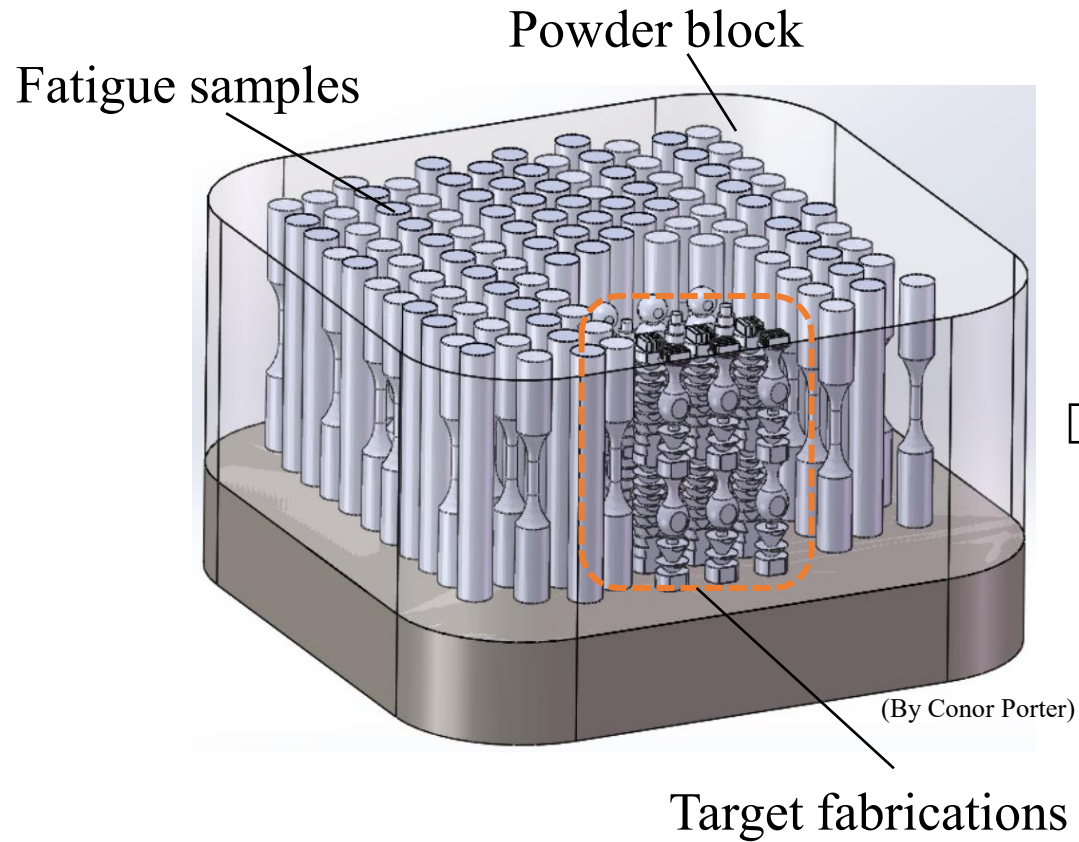


Computational cost (per layer):

2~3 CPU hours

Within 1 min

Model geometry of the specimen clusters



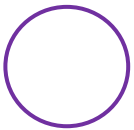
Model construction

Track-scale simulation:

- scan speed: 1550 mm/s
- laser power: 240 W
- absorptivity: 0.45
- material: AlSi10Mg
- hatch distance: 150 μm ,
- layer thickness (nominal): 30 μm
- scan path: bio-directional



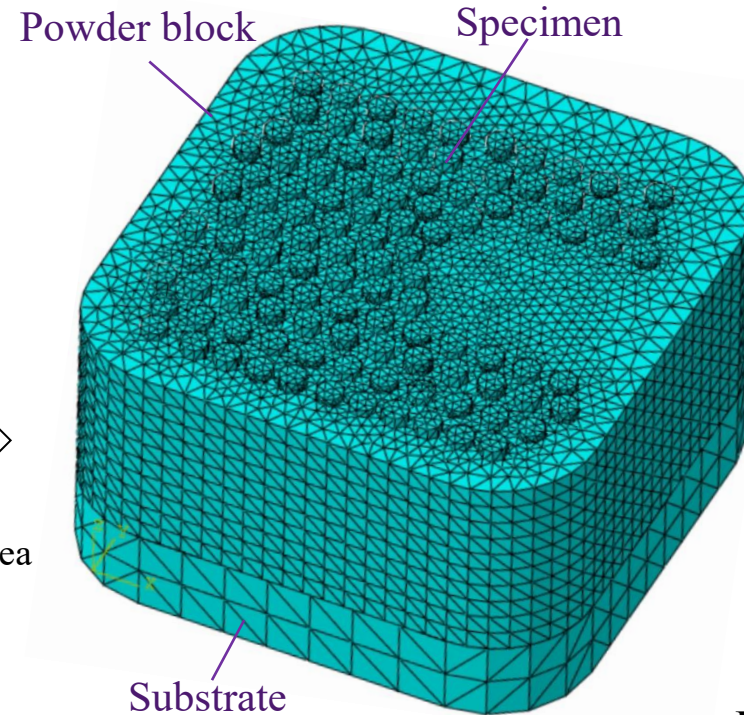
- cross section shape: circular



$$\Rightarrow Q_e(S) \Rightarrow$$

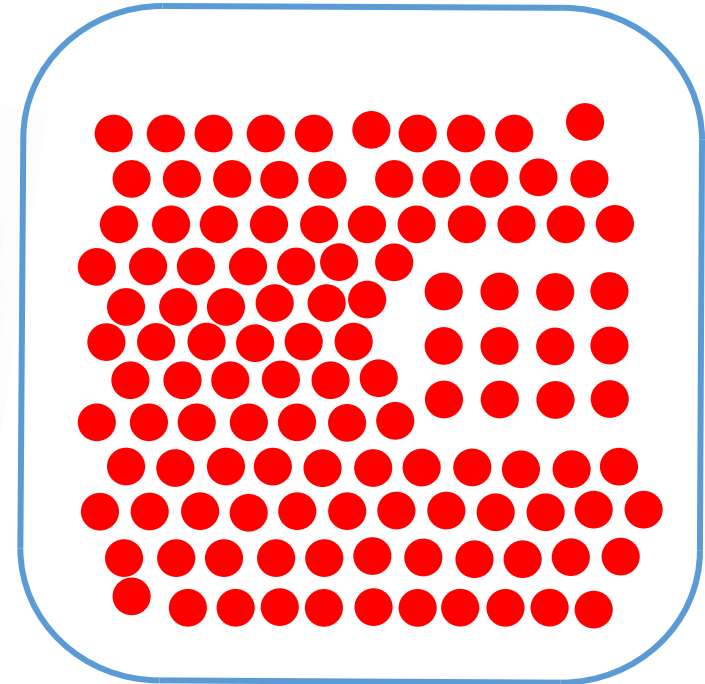
S: cross section area

Part-scale simulation:



Mesh:

- Total element numbers: 868'364
- Element type: DC3D10



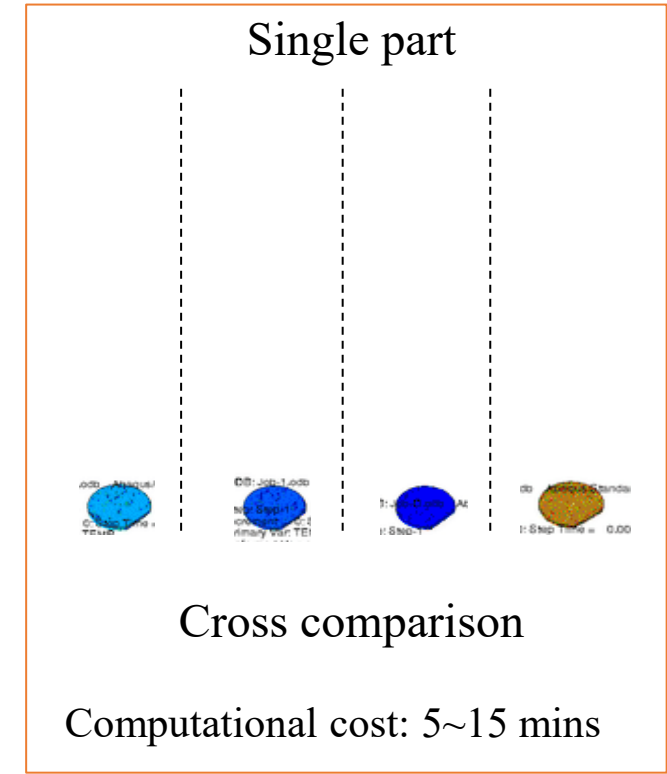
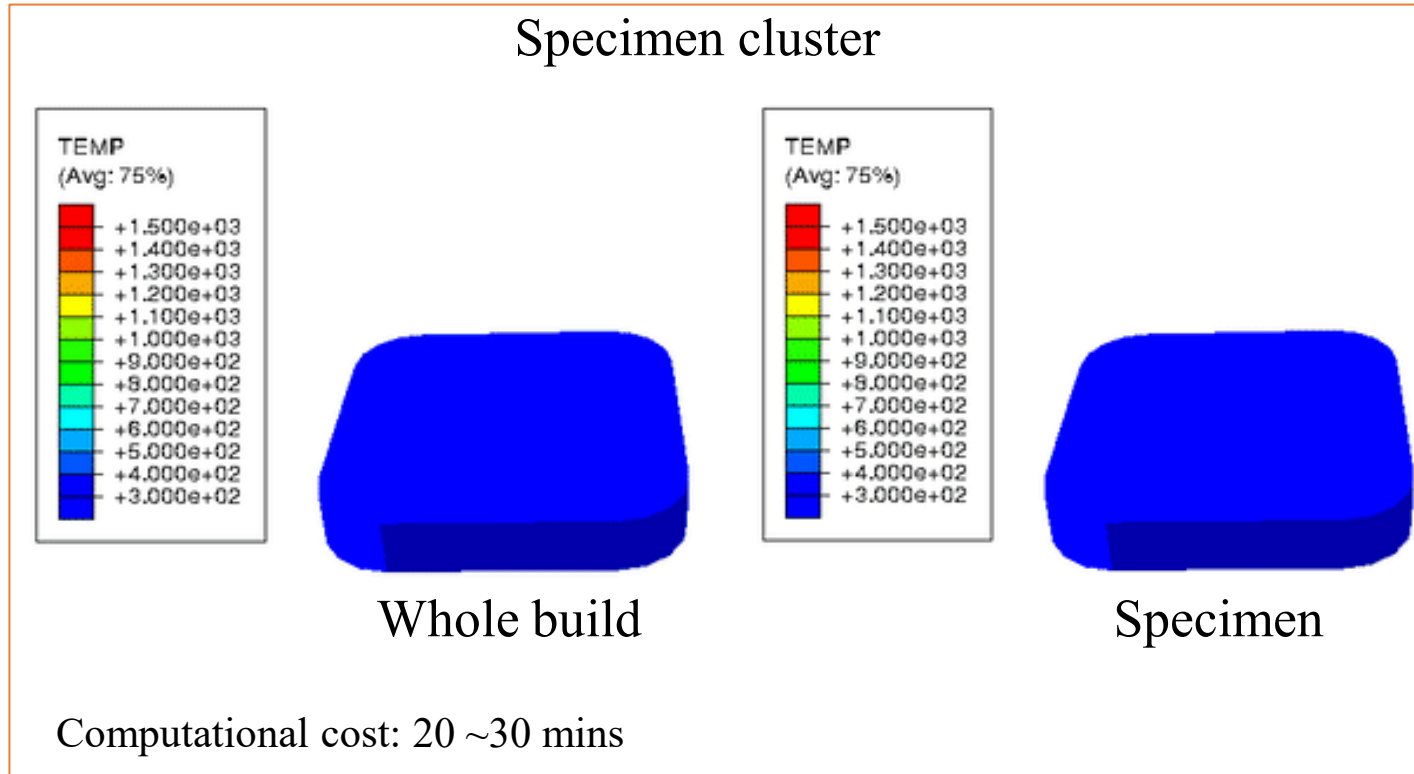
Layer-wise element progressive activation

+

Apply Q_e on specimen cross sections ●

Temperature results

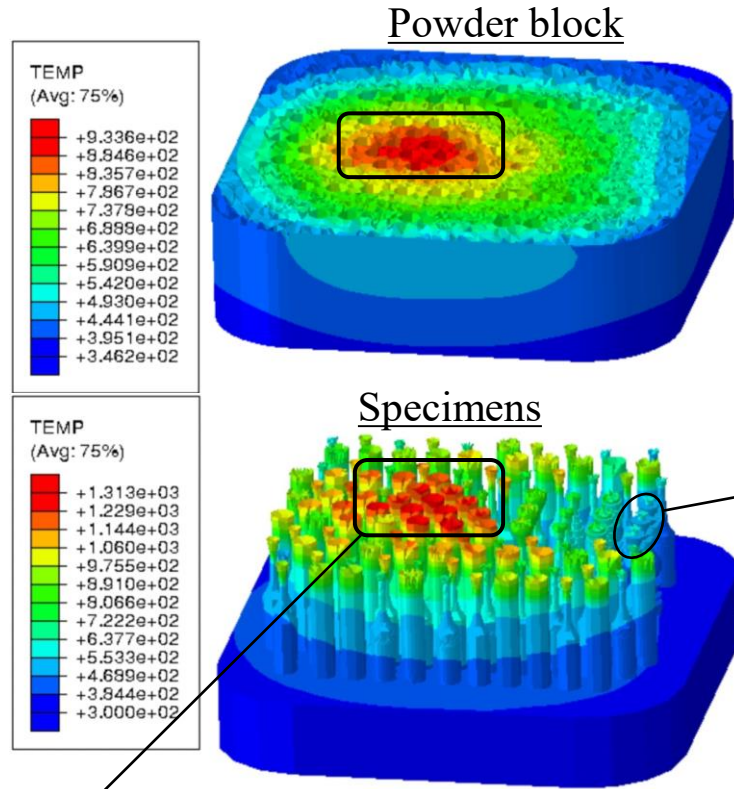
Temperature evolution during the fabrication procedure



Layer-wise element progressive activation + Layer-wise heat flux attribution

Temperature results

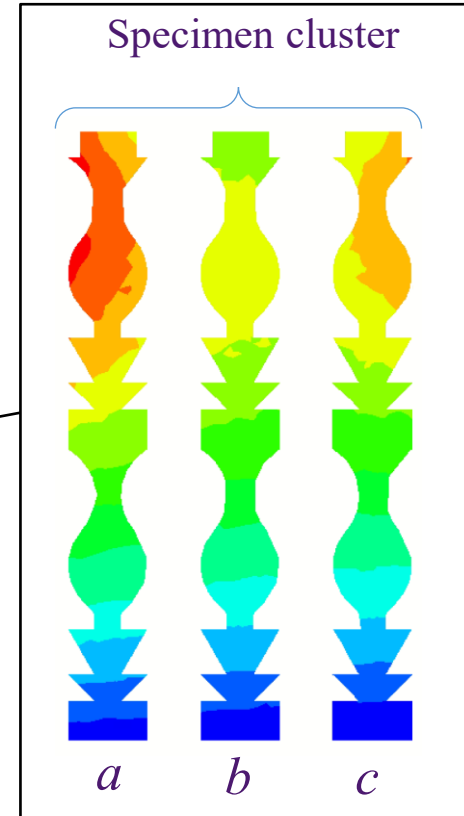
- Temperature field during manufacturing



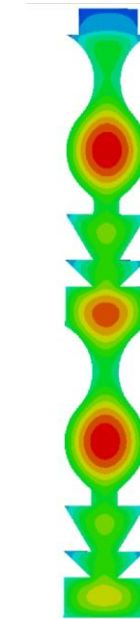
Center region:

- Small cooling rate
 - Heat accumulation
- ⇒ High temperature on the specimen in the center region.

- Temperature distribution after heating (example: Group 4)



Single part simulation
(for comparison)



Experiment design



Machine: DMG MORI LASERTEC 12 SLM (LT 12 SLM)

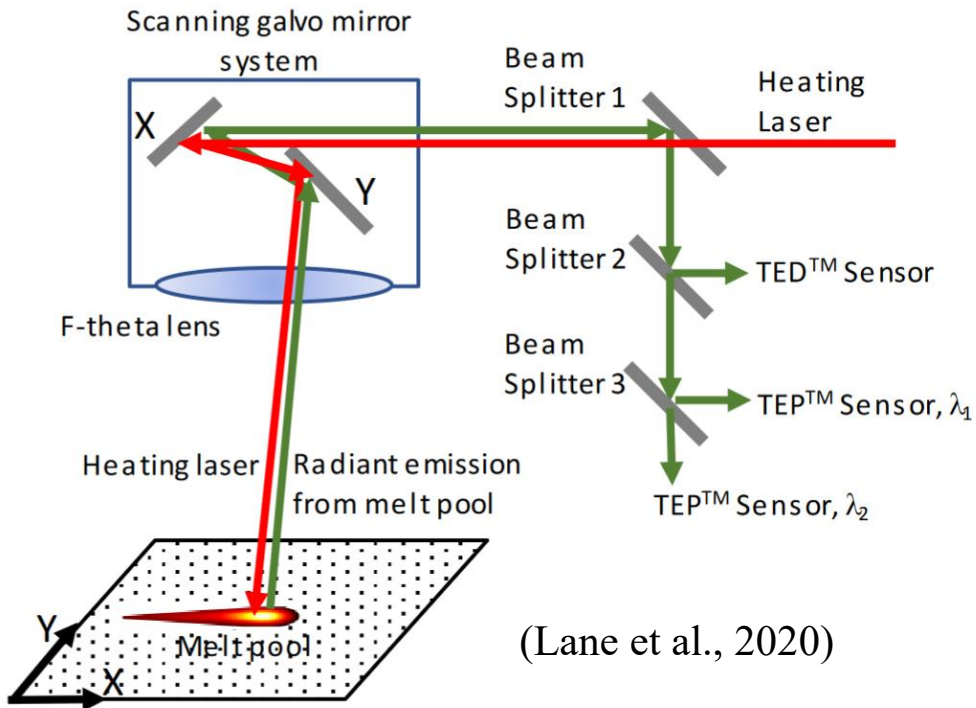
Powder: TEKMAT™ AlSi10Mg-63/20-AMS (TEKNA, Montreal, CA)



(by Dominik and Conor)

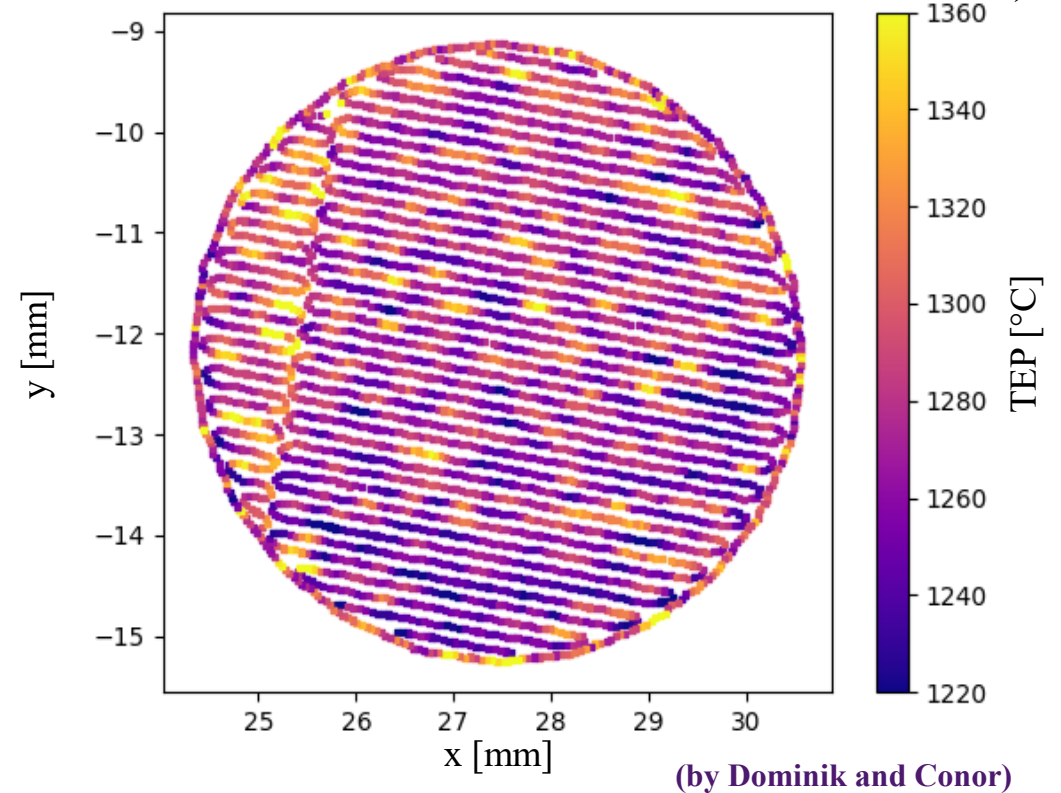
Experiment design

Coaxial photodiode system



(Lane et al., 2020)

Molten pool temperature measurements (TEP)



Preheating and melt pool temperature relation

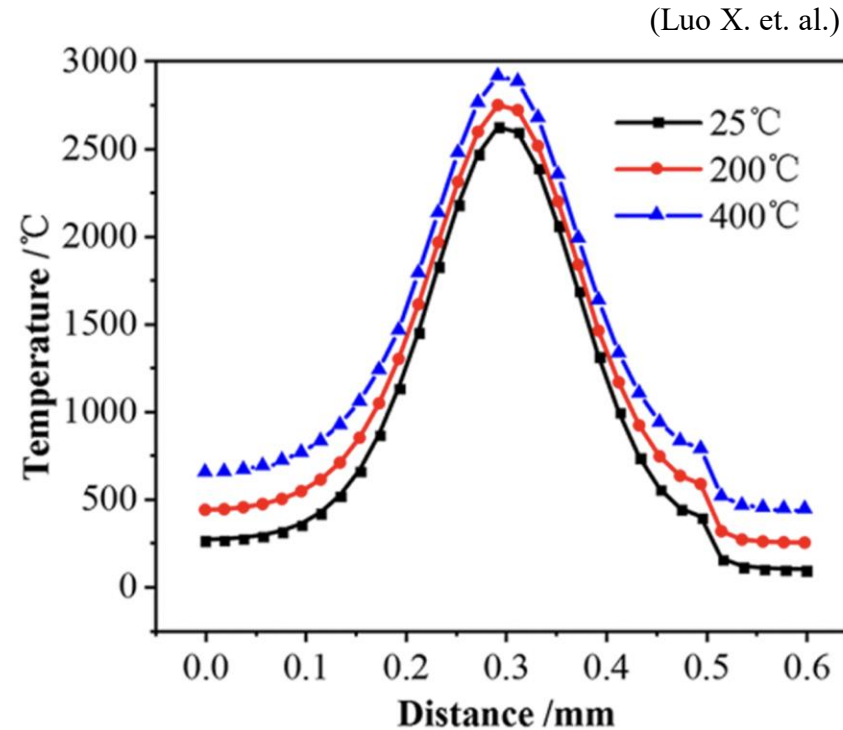
Simulation temperature field

Residual temperature after heating
(Preheating of next layer)

VS

Experimental measurement

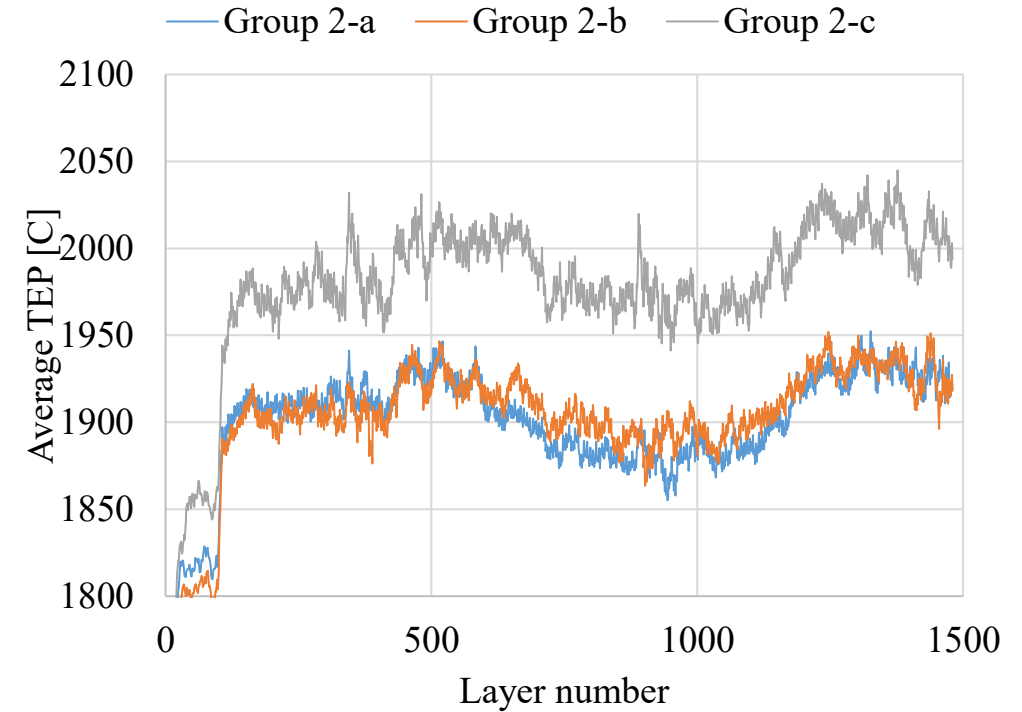
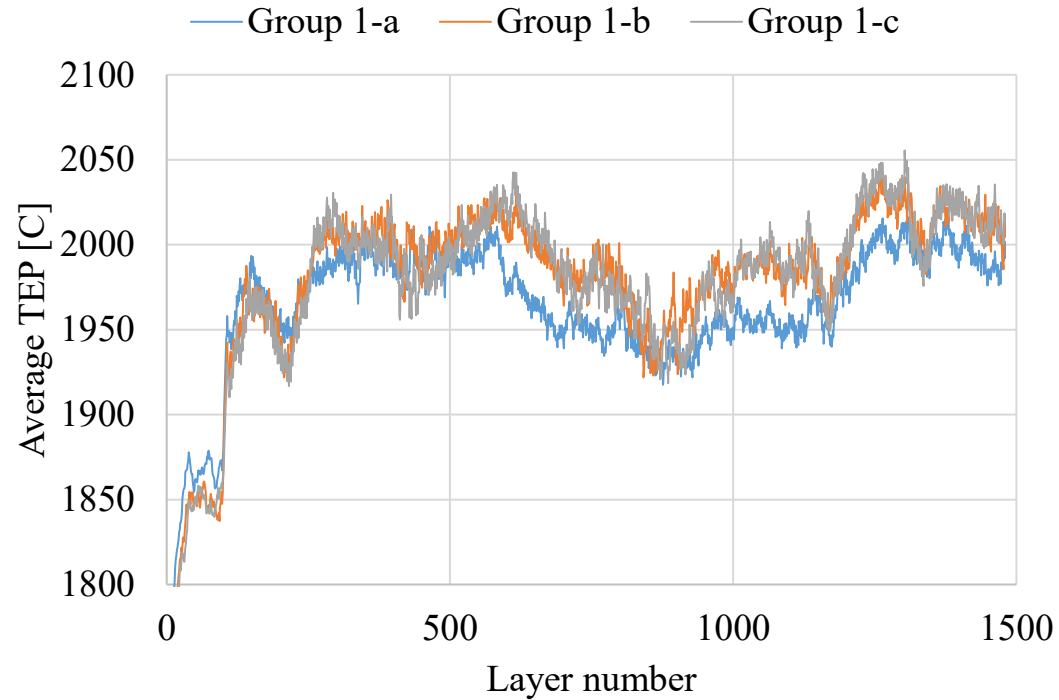
Average molten pool temperature



When the **preheating** temperature increases from 25 °C to 400 °C, the **molten pool central temperature** increases from 2621 °C to 2914 °C.

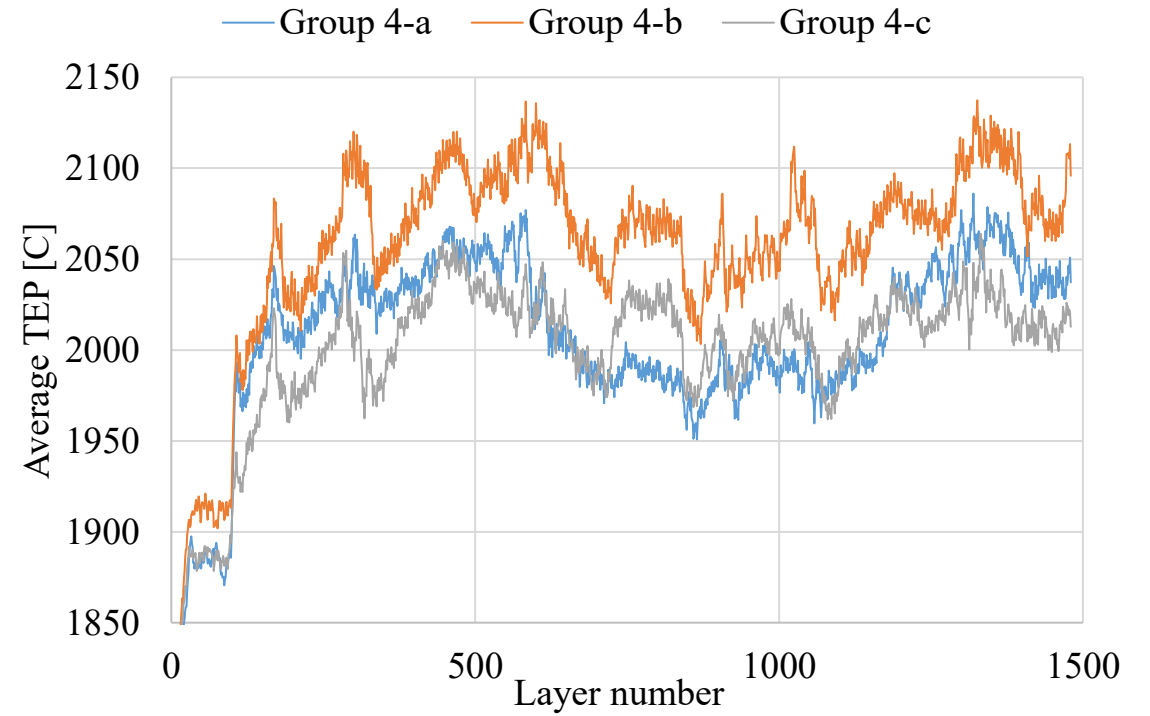
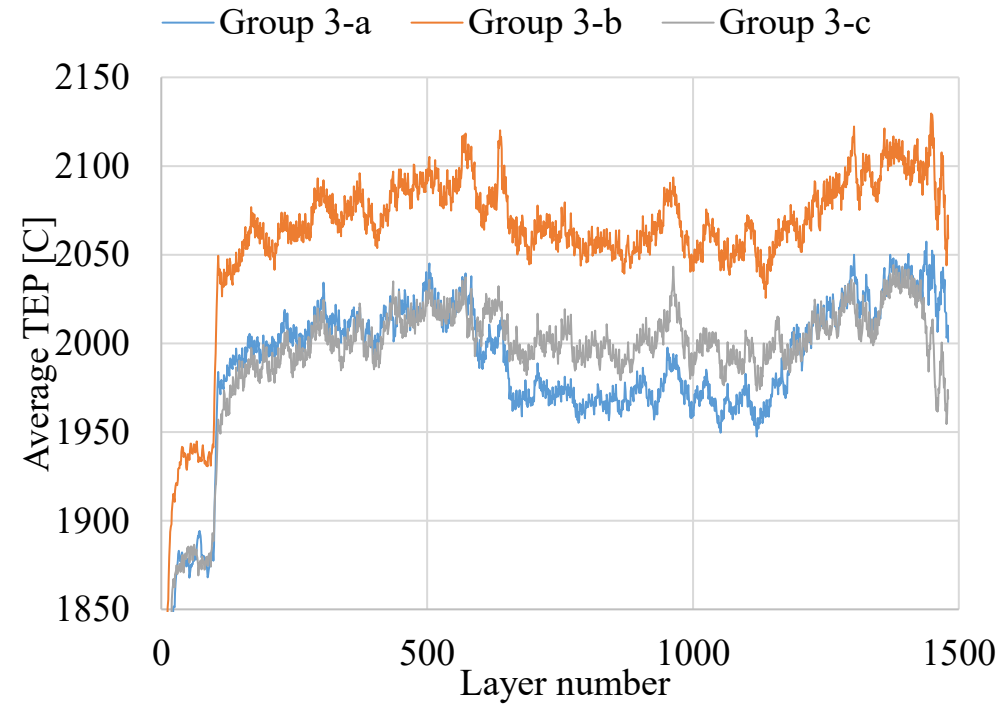
Measured molten pool temperature

Experimental measurement (by Dominik and Conor)



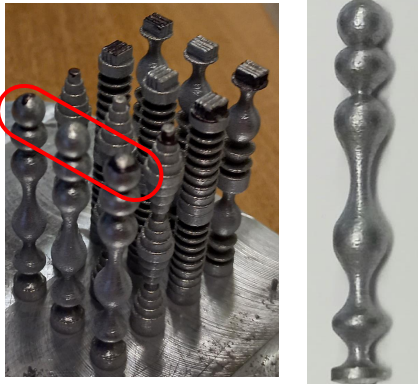
Measured molten pool temperature

Experimental measurement (by Dominik and Conor)



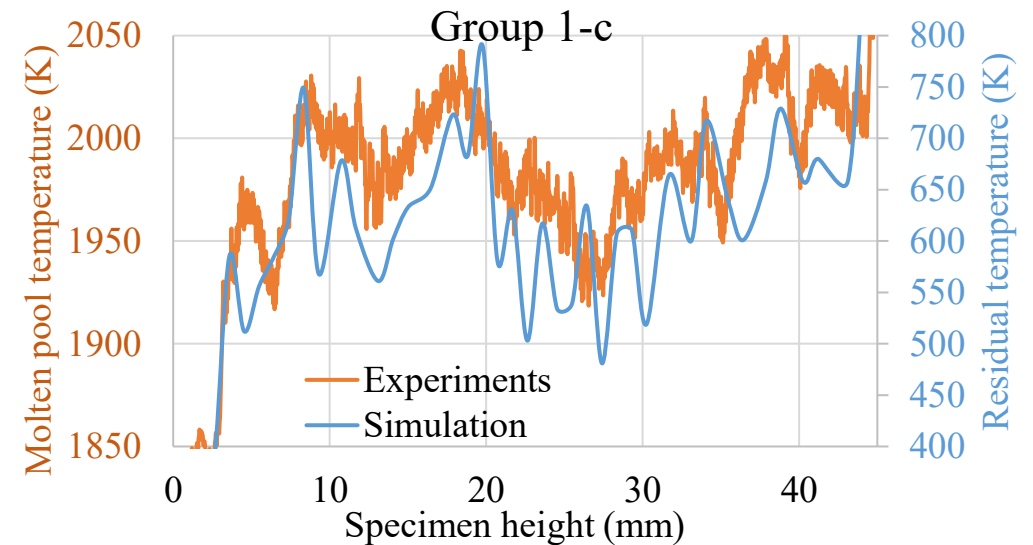
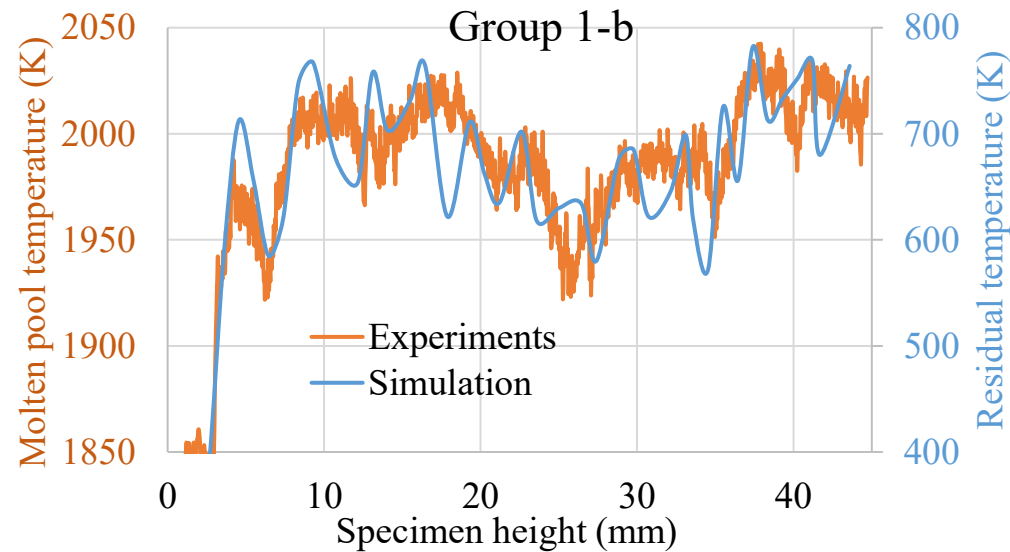
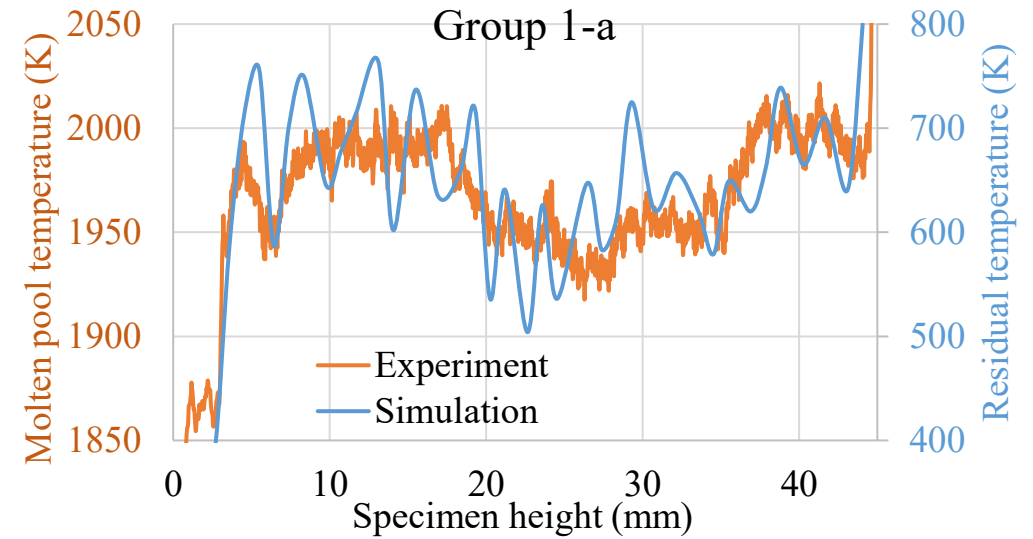
Comparison of simulation and experiment results

Multiple parts simulation VS Experiments

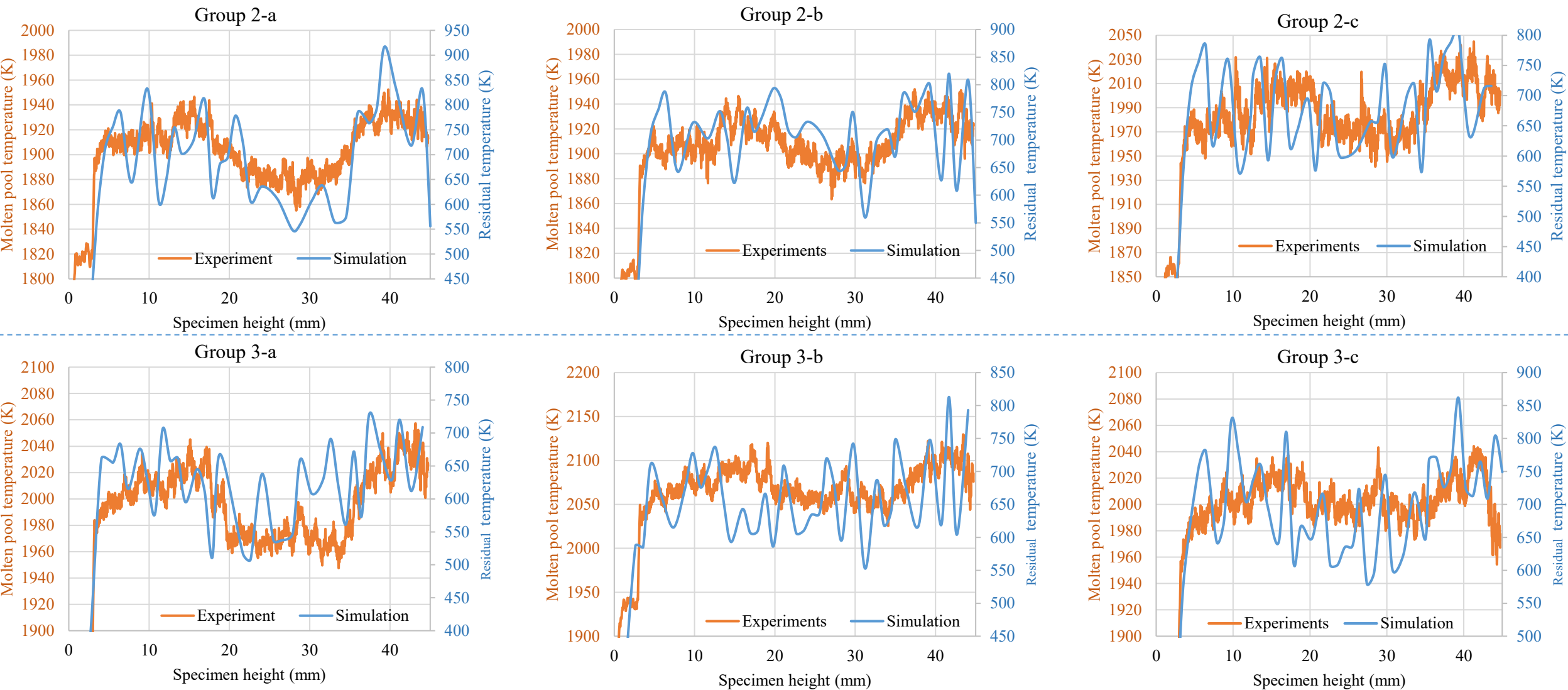


Local fluctuation due to:

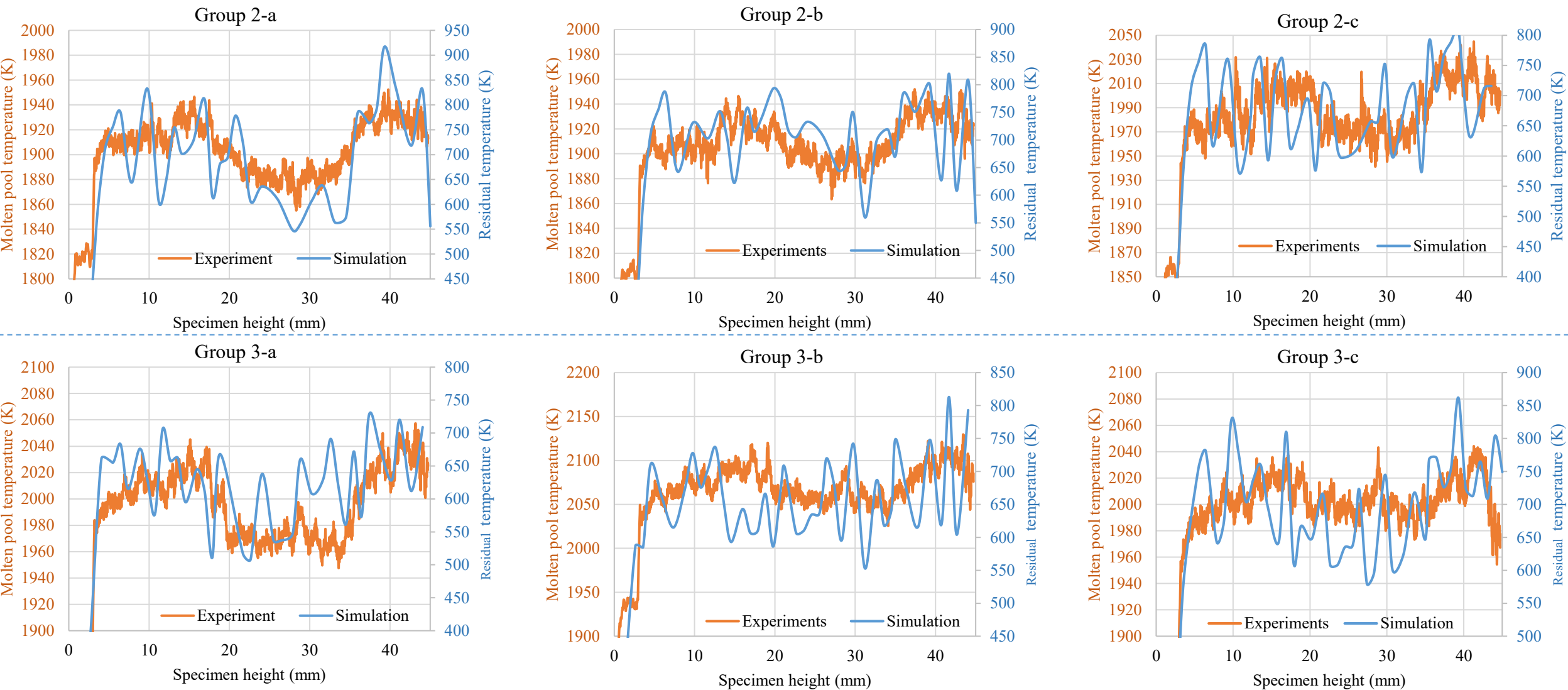
- large element size
- large time step
- activation of the new elements
- thermal interactions



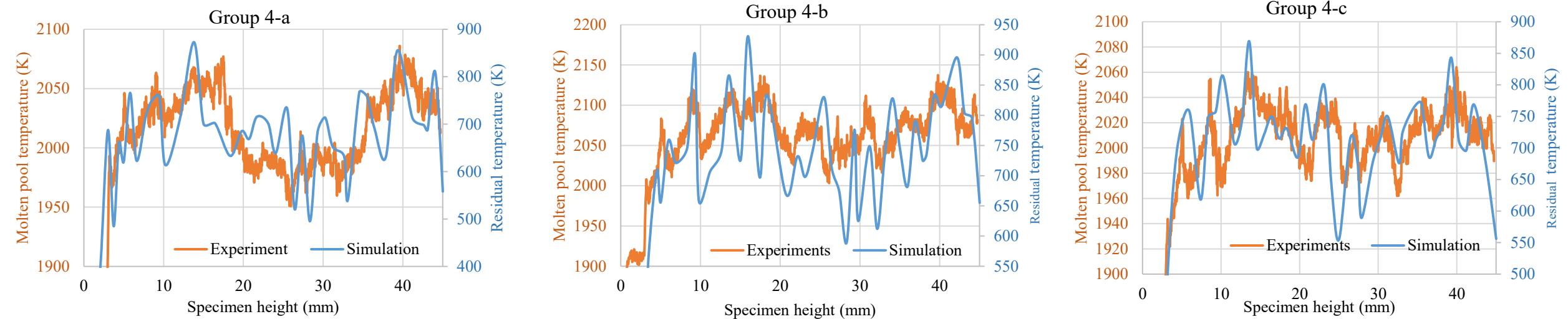
Comparison of simulation and experiment results



Comparison of simulation and experiment results



Comparison of simulation and experiment results



The results indicates:

- the potential relationship between preheating and molten pool temperature;
- the thermal interaction effects by the heat conduction of inter-specimen powders;

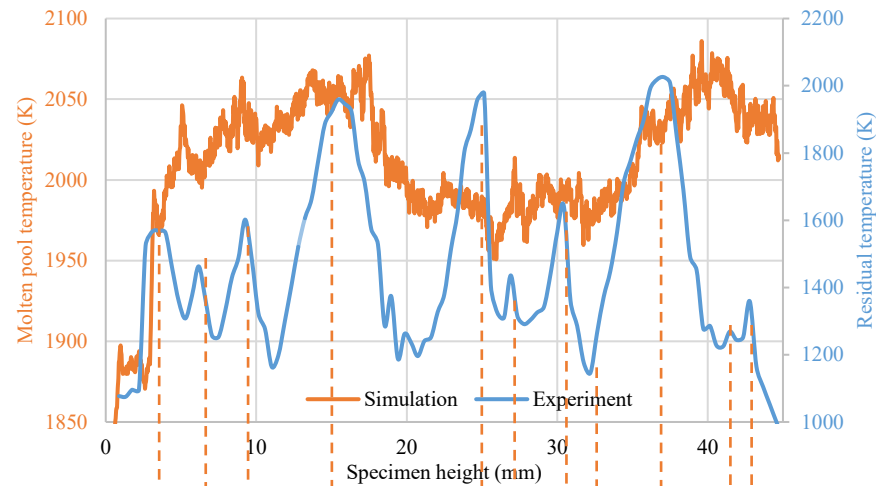
Overall, multiple parts simulation and experimental measurement show **a similar trend**.

Comparison of simulation and experiment results

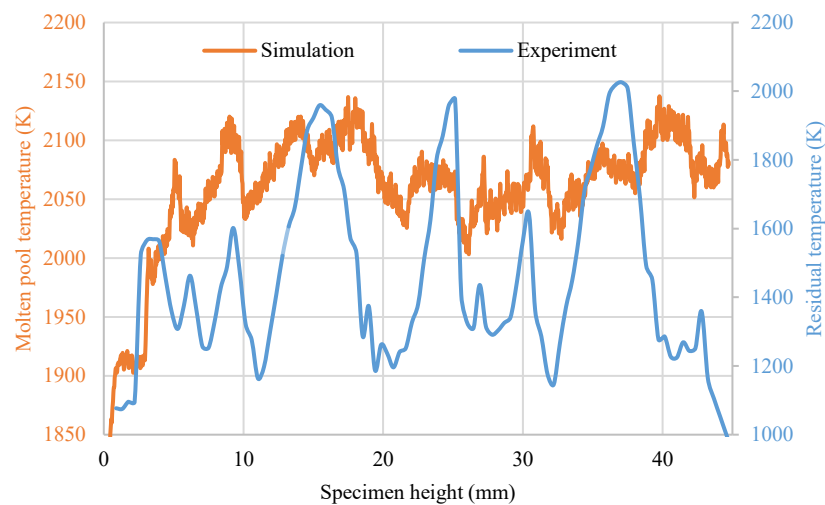
Single part simulation VS Experiments (by Dominik)

Simulation (normalized): —
Experiment (normalized): —

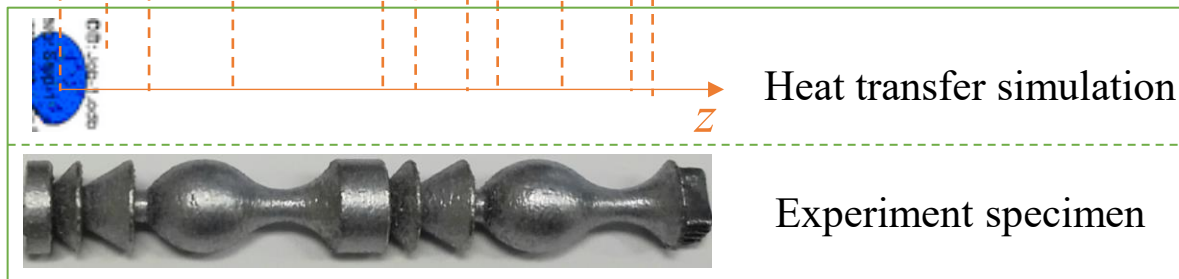
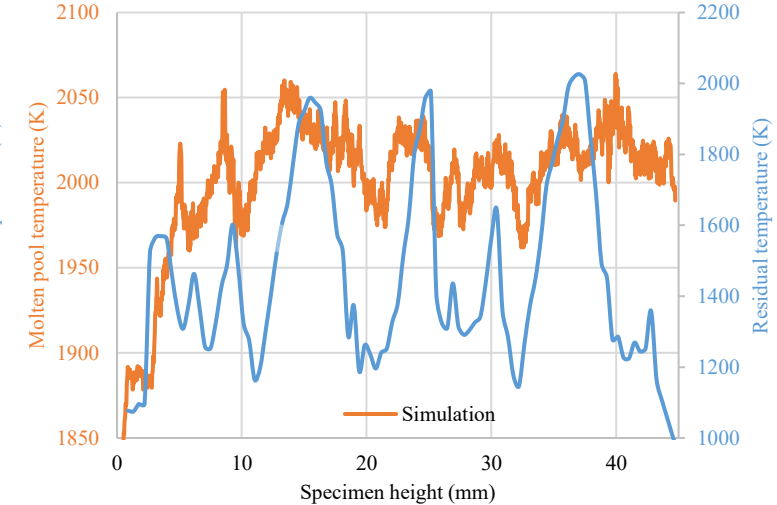
Group 4-a



Group 4-b



Group 4-c

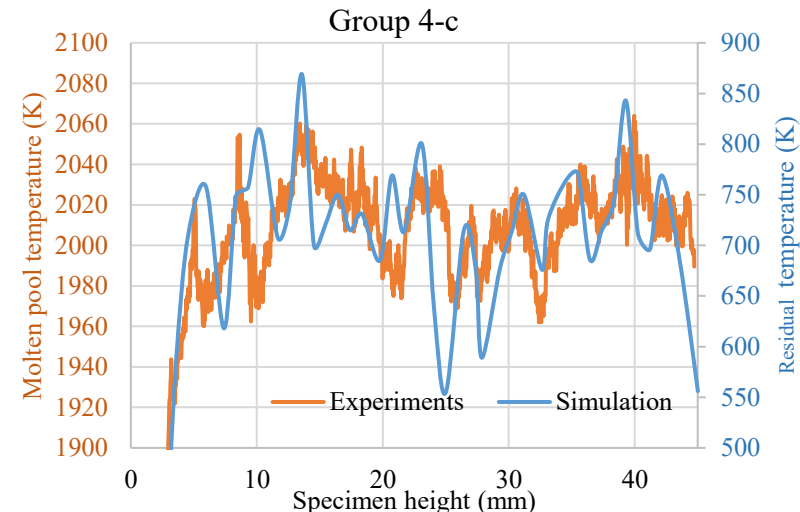
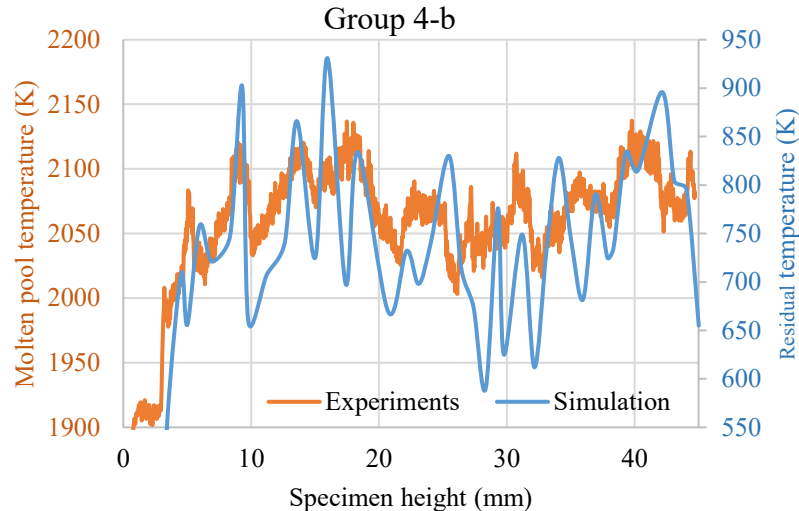
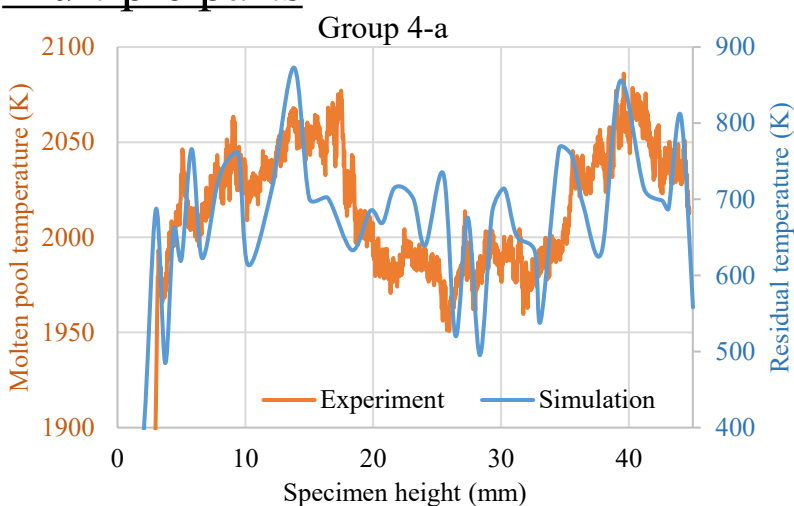


For the single part simulation:

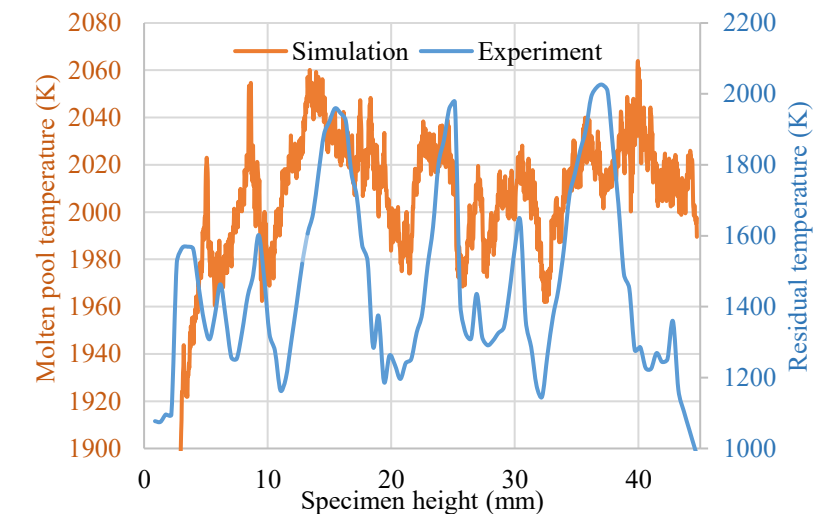
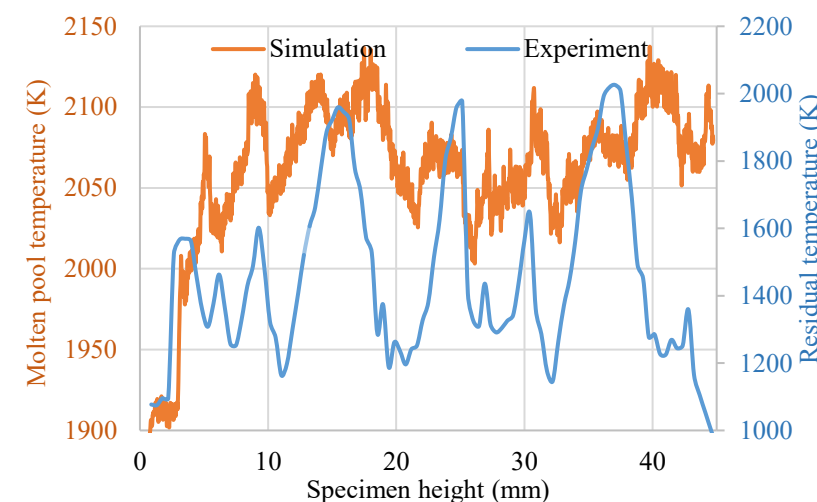
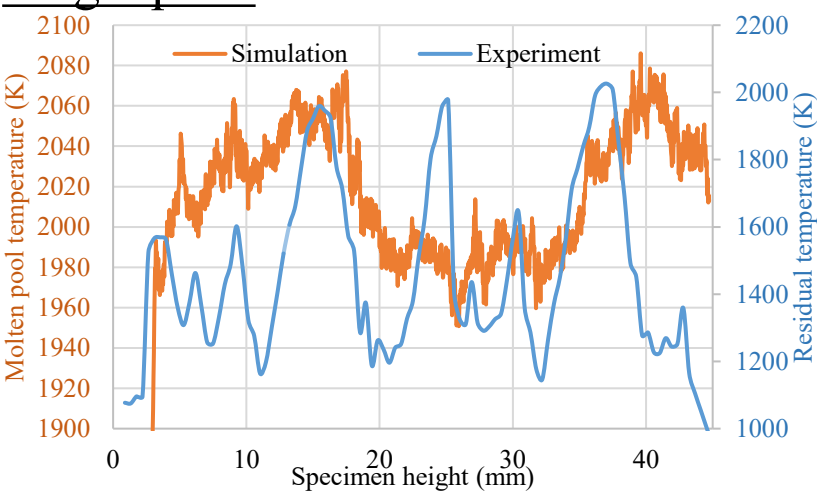
- no thermal interaction
- unreasonable thermal boundary conditions

Multiple .vs. single part (Group 4)

Multiple parts



Single parts



Comparison of simulation and experiment results

Normalization



R^2 (coefficient of determination)

$$R^2 = 1 - \frac{RSS}{TSS}$$

RSS = sum of squared residuals

TSS = total sum of squares

$$RSS = \sum_i (y_i - f_i)^2$$

$$TSS = \sum_i (y_i - \bar{y})^2$$

R^2 (Multiple parts simulation VS Experiments)

	a	b	c
Group 1	0.48	0.66	0.6
Group 2	0.32	0.43	0.14
Group 3	0.35	-0.76	-0.09
Group 4	0.34	0.53	0.44

R^2 (Single part simulation VS Experiments)

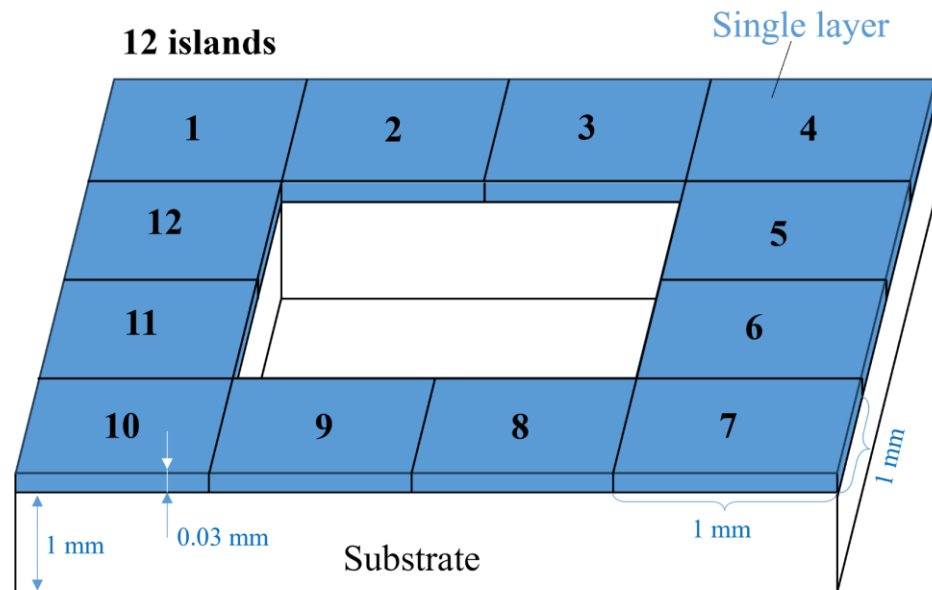
	a	b	c
Group 4	-1.2	-2.59	-3.31

(by Dominik)

$R^2 < 0$: large difference

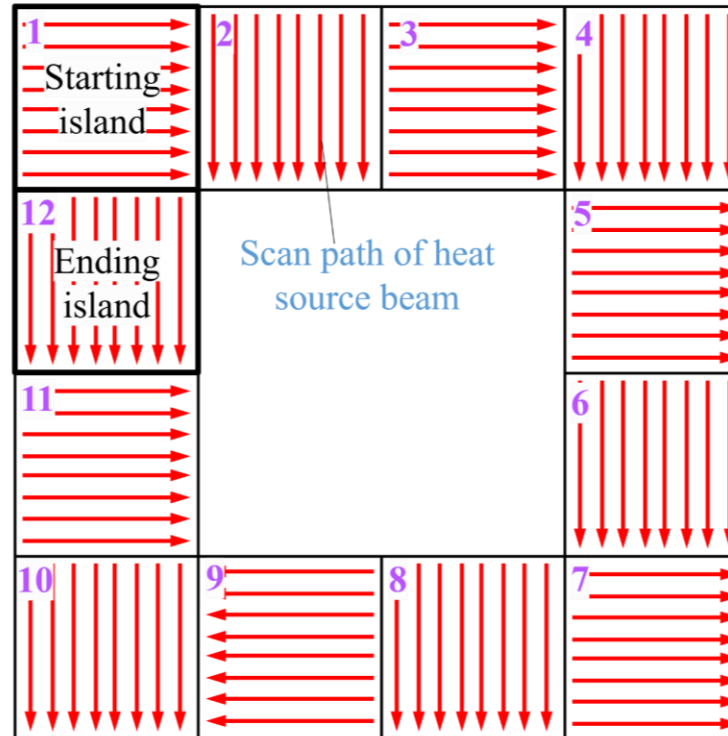
Feasibility in large-scale thermal modeling

Multiple islands heating test:

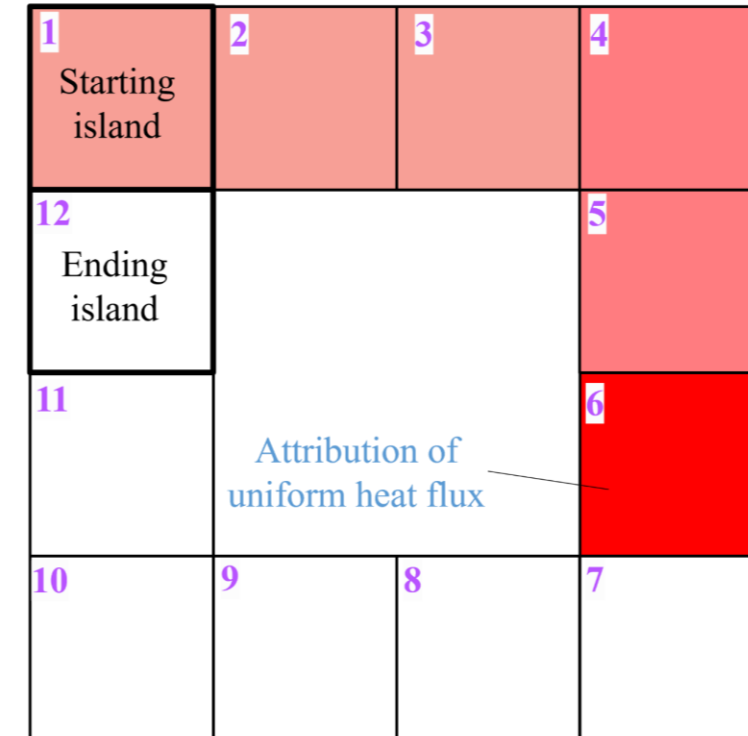


Model geometry

Model 1: Track-by-track heating



Model 2: Equivalent heat flux attribution

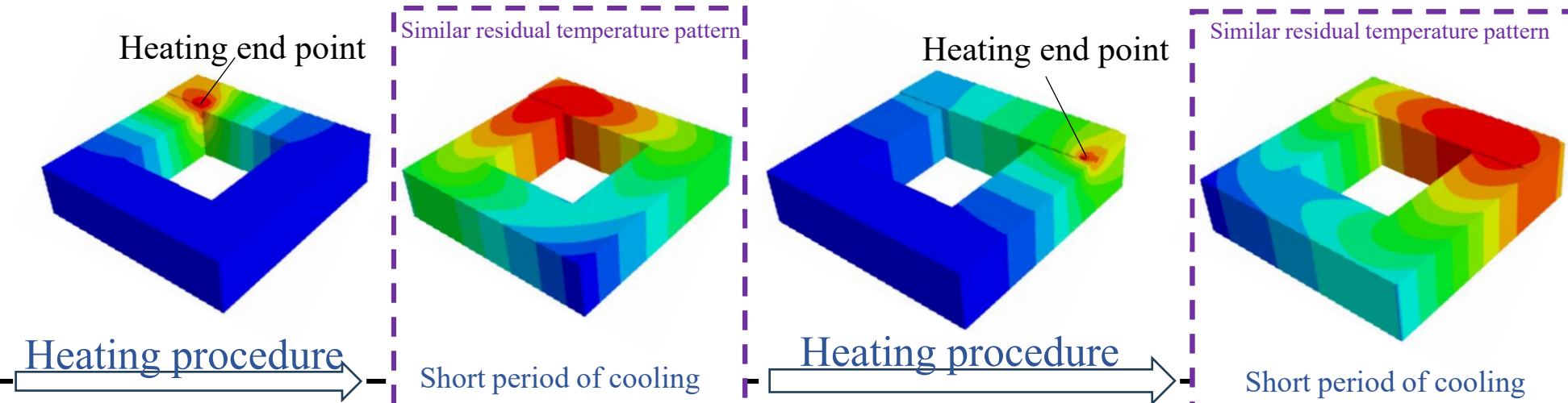


Island deposition sequence: 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12

Two different heating configurations

Feasibility in large-scale thermal modeling

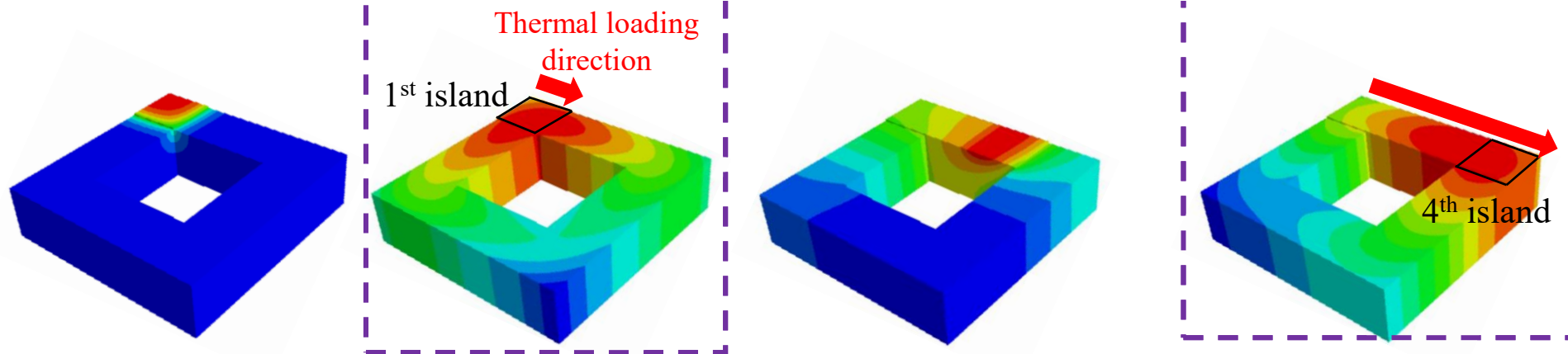
Model 1: Track-by-track heating



- High thermal conductivity,
- Rapid scan speed,
- Large island area,

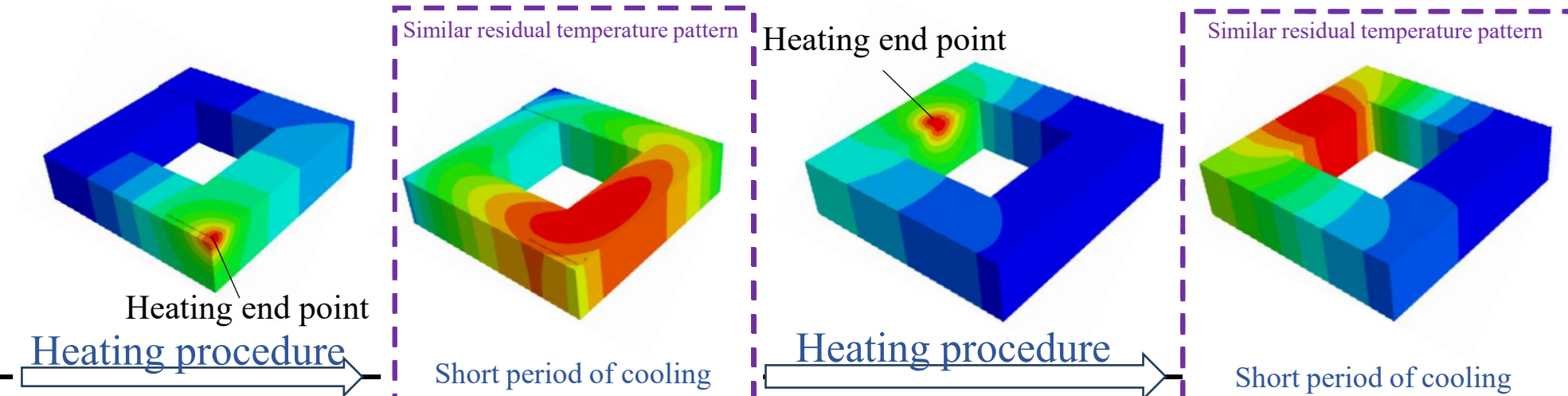
Heating by equivalent heat flux attribution always produces a temperature pattern similar to that achieved by track-by-track heating.

Model 2: Equivalent heat flux attribution

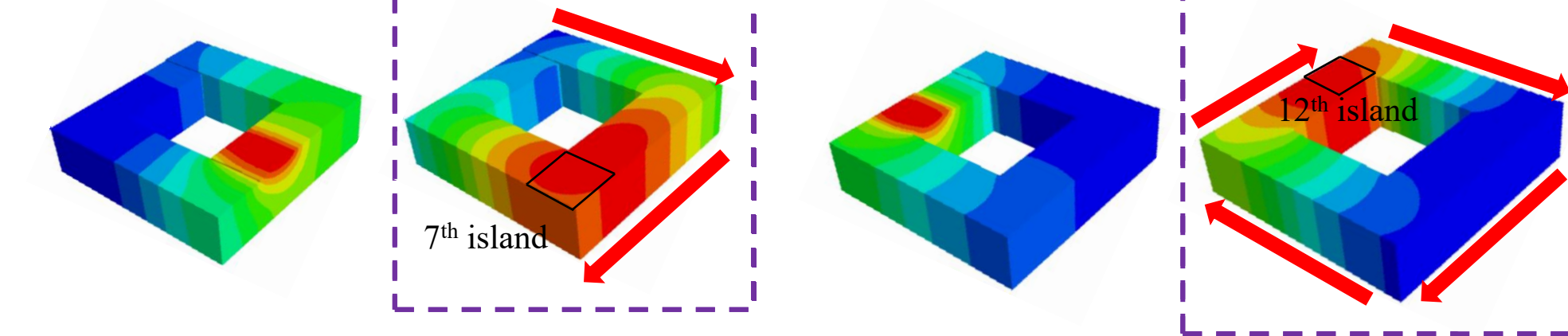


Feasibility in large-scale thermal modeling

Model 1: Track-by-track heating



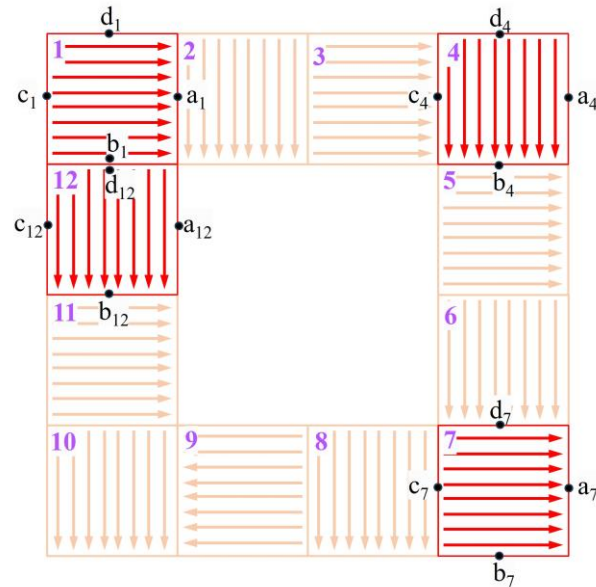
Model 2: Equivalent heat flux attribution



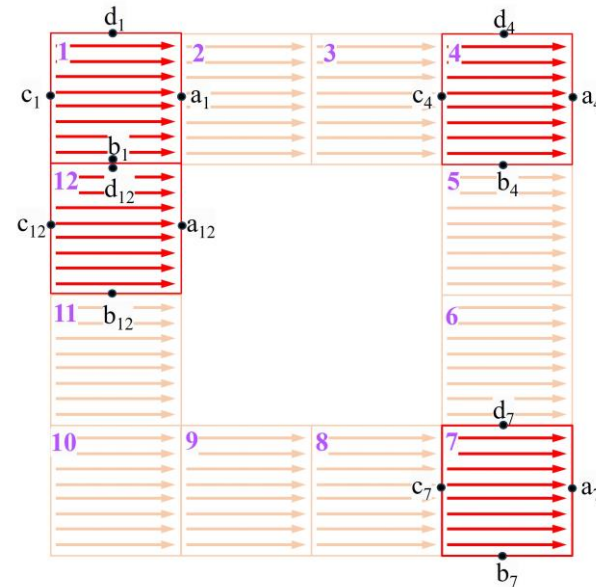
- High thermal conductivity,
 - Rapid scan speed,
 - Large island area,
- Heating by equivalent heat flux attribution always produces a temperature pattern similar to that achieved by track-by-track heating.

Feasibility in large-scale thermal modeling

Strategy 1



Strategy 2



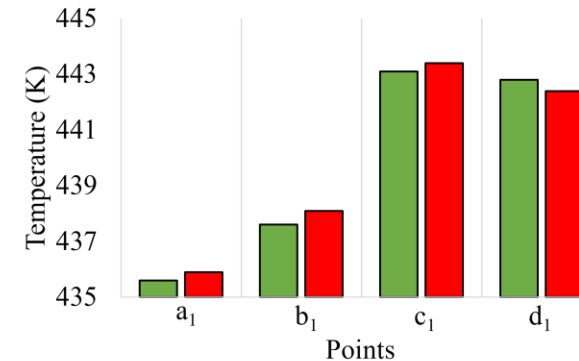
Observations:

1. Scan orientation affects residual temperature pattern;
2. Prediction error can be accumulated with cross-section area
3. Prediction error is tolerable compared to the global temperature change.

Temperature difference

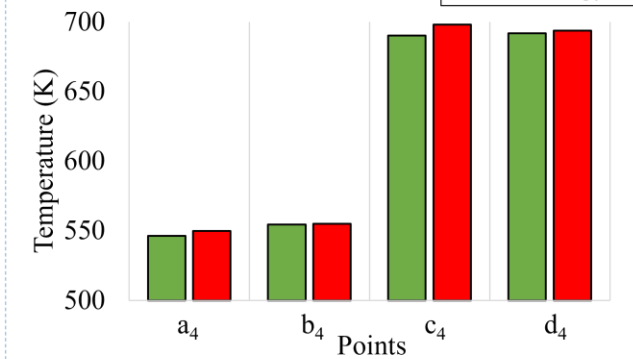
Island 1

Average temperature difference: 0.420 K



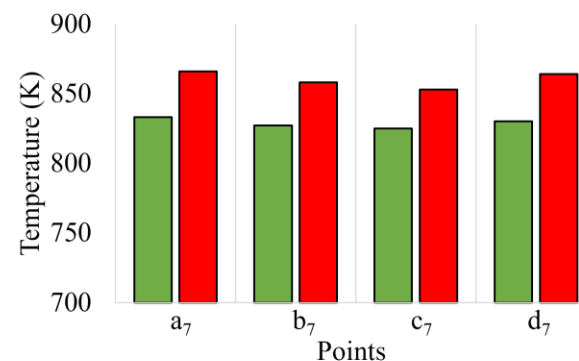
Island 4

Average temperature difference: 5.403 K



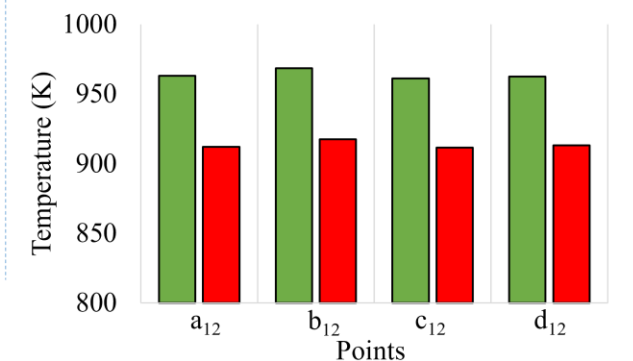
Island 7

Average temperature difference: 33.060 K



Island 12

Average temperature difference: 49.340 K



Highlights & Summary

- Development of an integrated part-scale modeling framework that combines **layer-wise equivalent heat flux attribution** with **layer-wise element activation**.
- **Justification of the equivalent heat flux** through high-fidelity track-scale simulations.
- **Incorporation of the inter-specimen heat conduction effects** through the powder bed.
- **Remarkable consistency of the simulated temperature data** obtained from each equivalent layer compared to the experimental observations
- A rational explanation for the **different temperature distributions** and cooling rates observed in samples with **identical geometries** but at **different position**.
- A sound physical basis and **excellent computational efficiency**.

Future work

- **Thermal interaction:**

Incorporating depositing sequence for cross sections of different samples;

- **Data-driven approaches:**

Predicting Q_e and temperature curves using machine learning approaches;

- **Different part shape:**

Analyzing the effects of various cross-section shape.



Acknowledgements

- Department of Defense Vannevar Bush Faculty Fellowship

Thank You

Questions?