

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

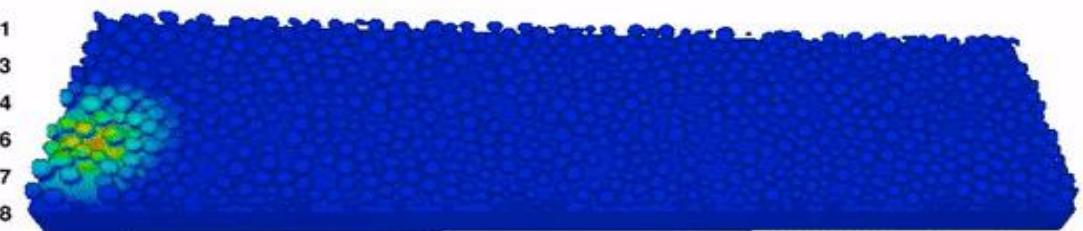
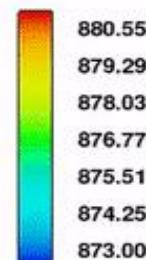
Temperature history determines:

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

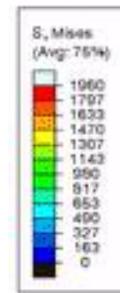
High-fidelity coupled CFD-FEM modeling

CFD

temperature



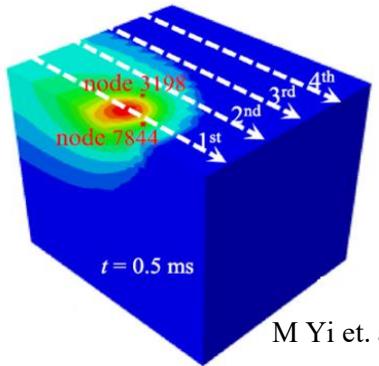
Coupled CFD-FEM



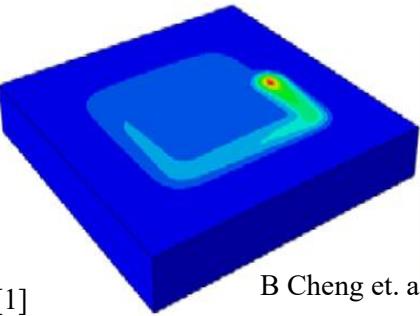
Two-layer two-track: high computational cost

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

- Track-by-track heating + agglomeration

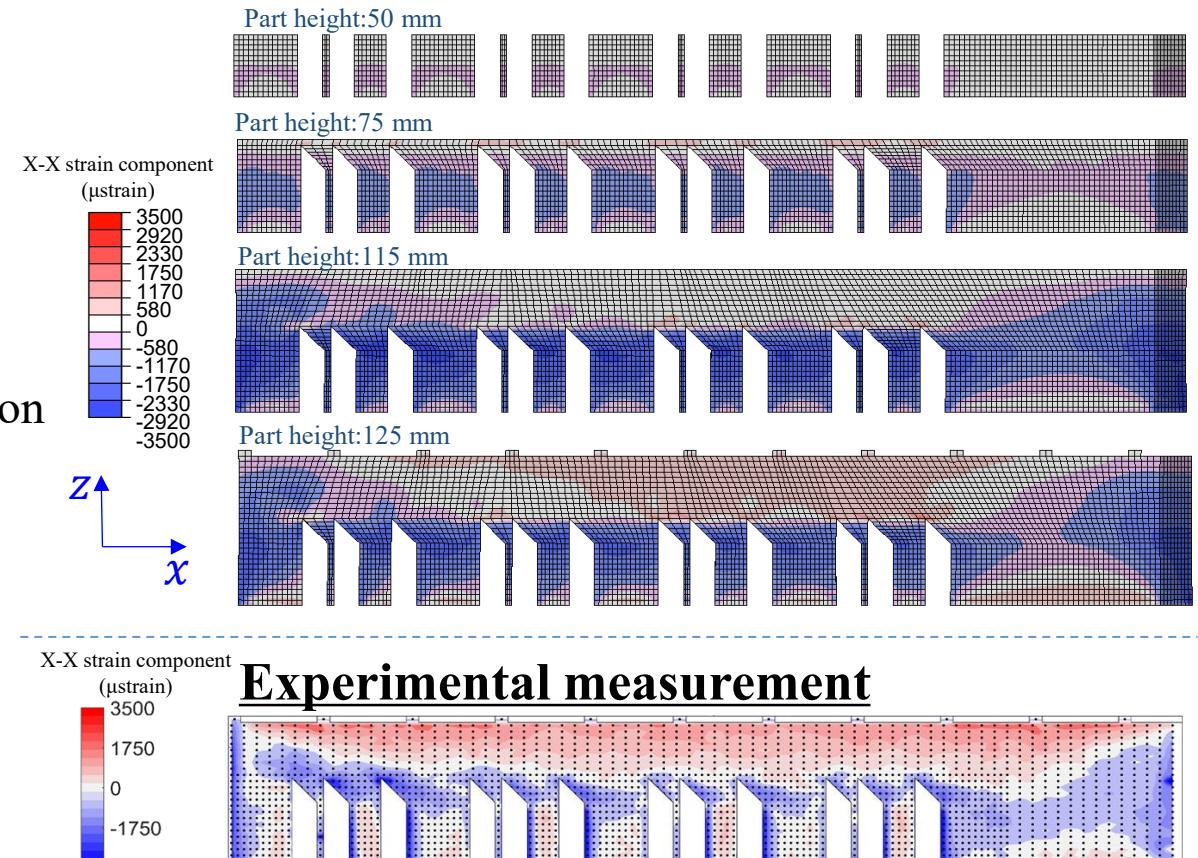
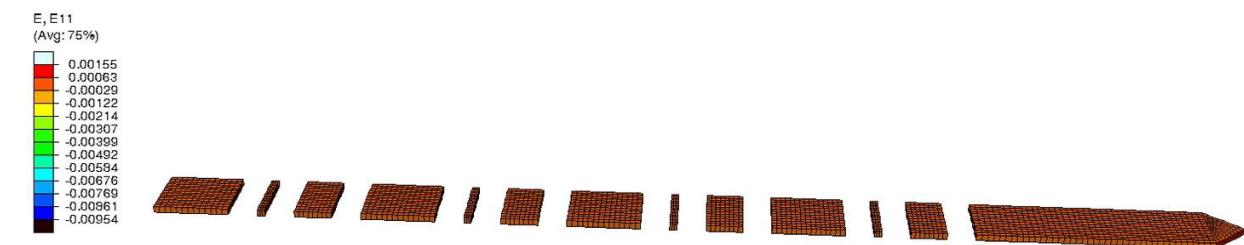


M Yi et. al. [1]



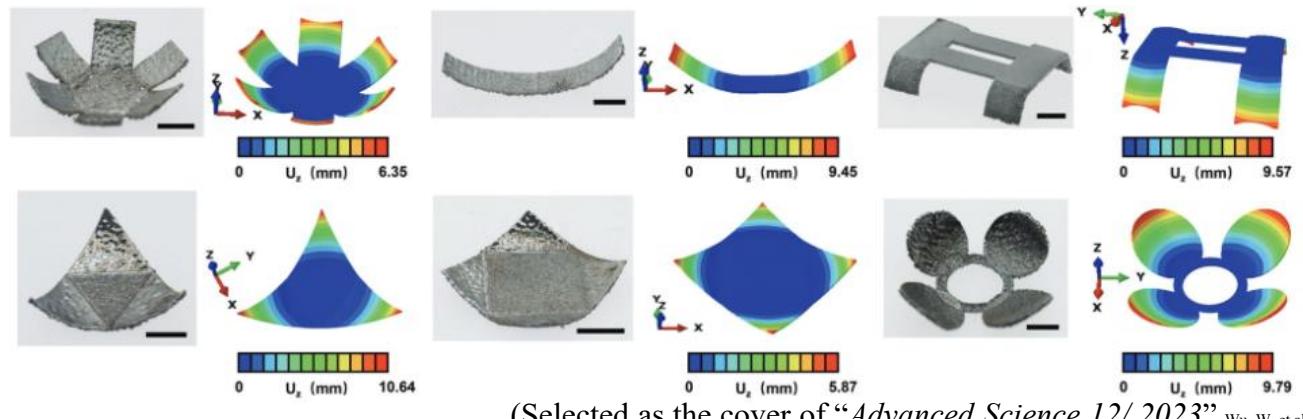
B Cheng et. al. [2]

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



Accurate inherent strain pattern + Neutralization

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



Heating step

- Temperature
- Heat flux

Layer refresh

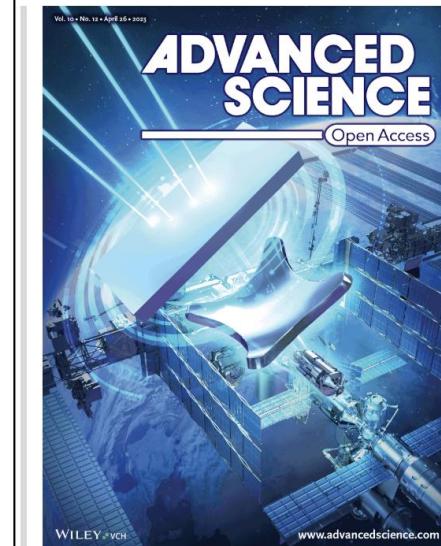
Cooling step

- Radiation
- Convection

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.

Distortion and residual stress can be accurately predicted by:

the reasonable configurations of the equivalent **stress, strain, heat flux or temperature** attribution.

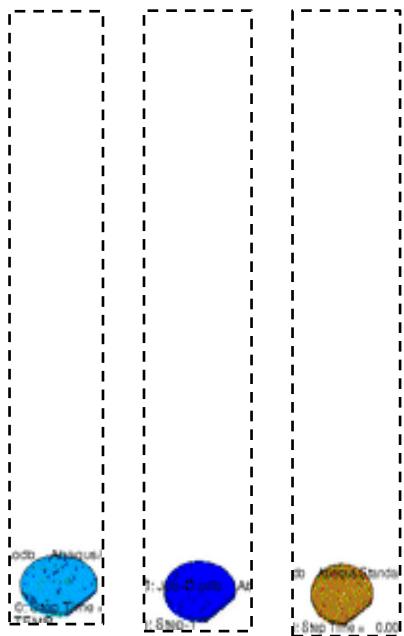
Problems

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:

1633 layers

×

67 tracks

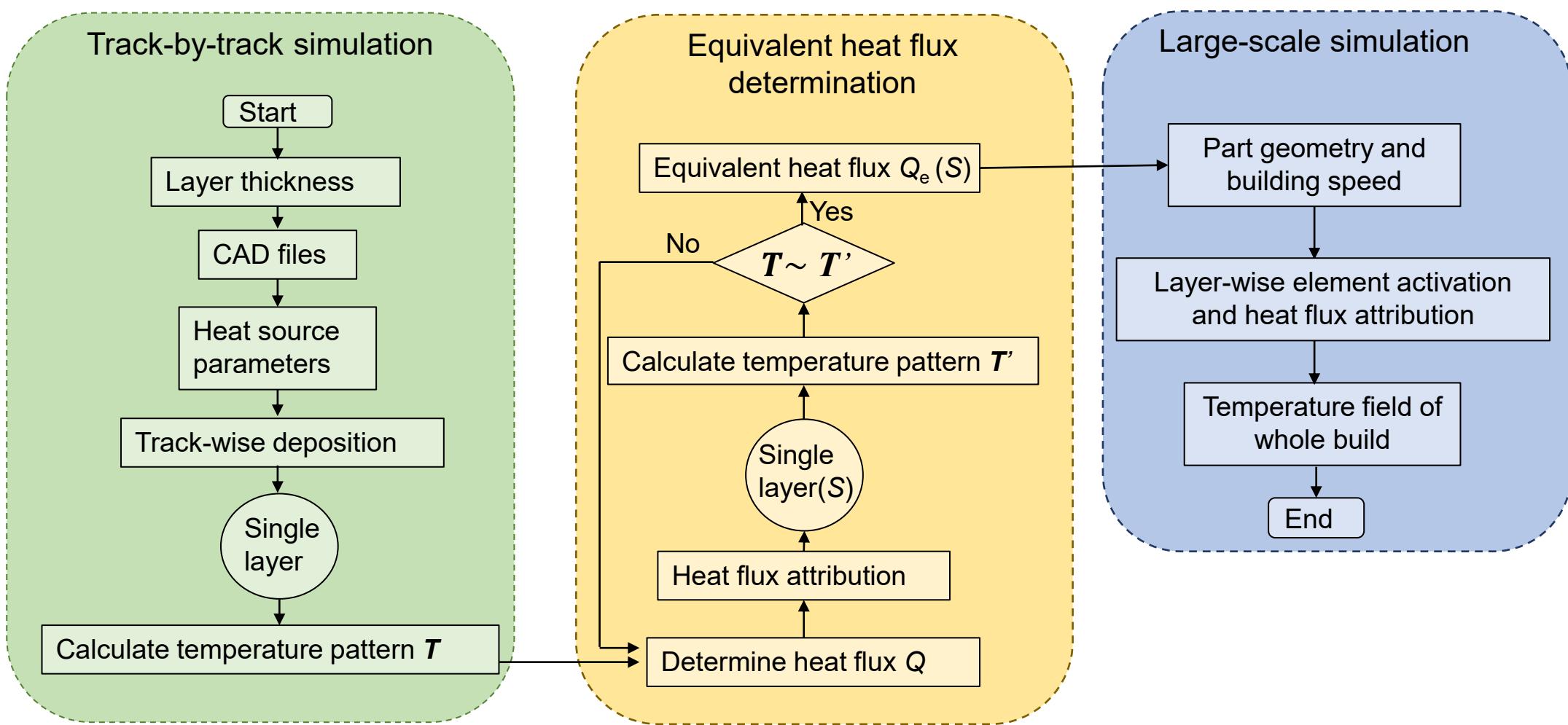
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107 millions of tracks

Multiple specimens simulation:

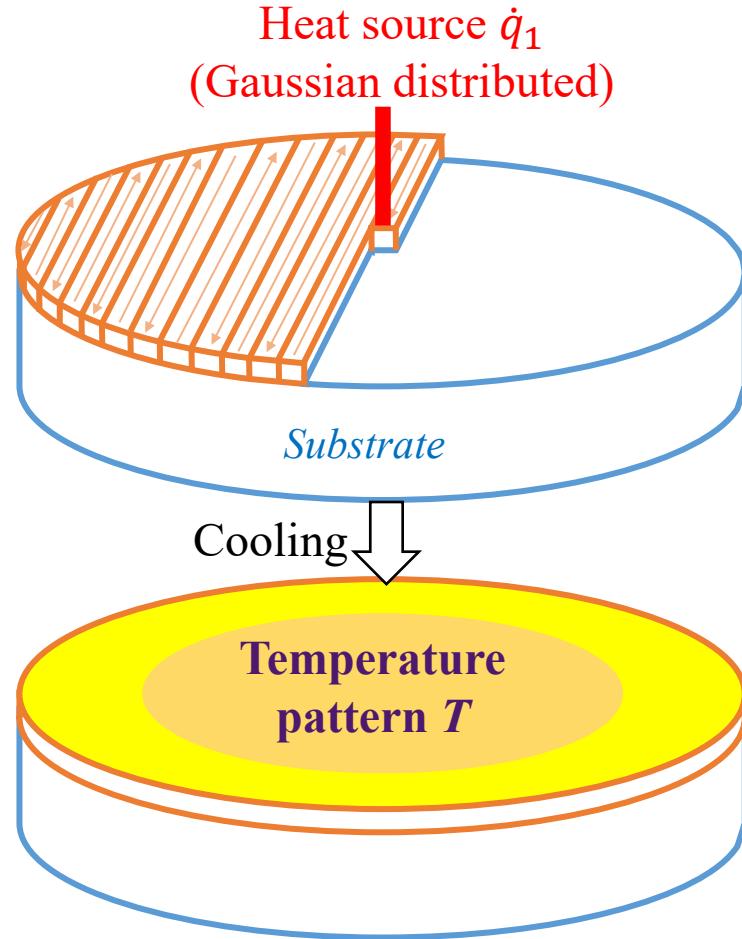
- Reasonable thermal boundary;
- Incorporation of scan pattern;
- Easy implementation;
- Good accuracy.

Proposed modeling framework

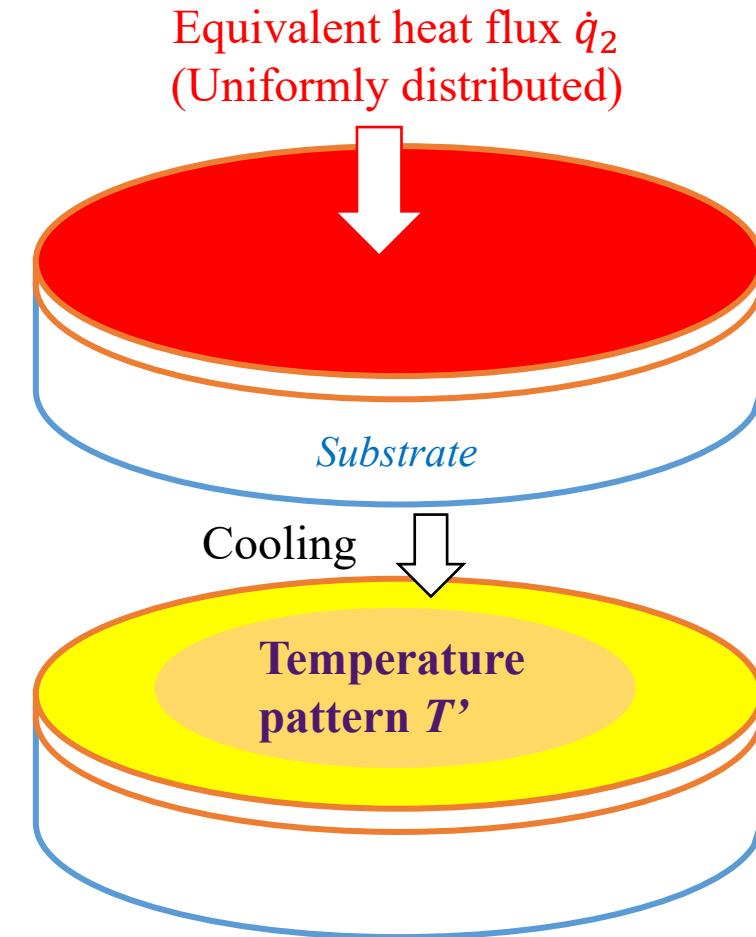


Proposed modeling framework

Model 1: Track-by-track heating



Model 2: layer-wise heat flux attribution



$$T' \sim T$$

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: $\mathbf{f} = -k \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial x}$

- 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)

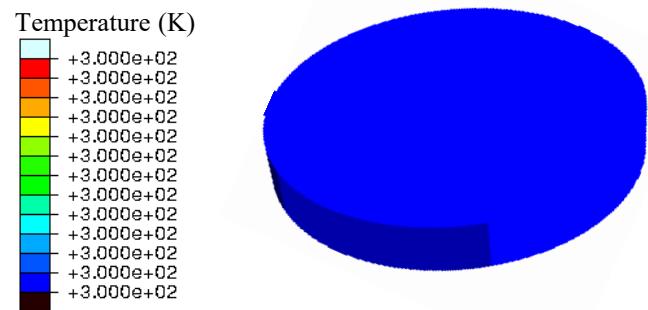
- Surface convection

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

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

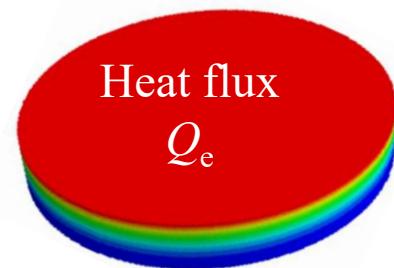
Circular shape

Model 1: Track-by-track heating



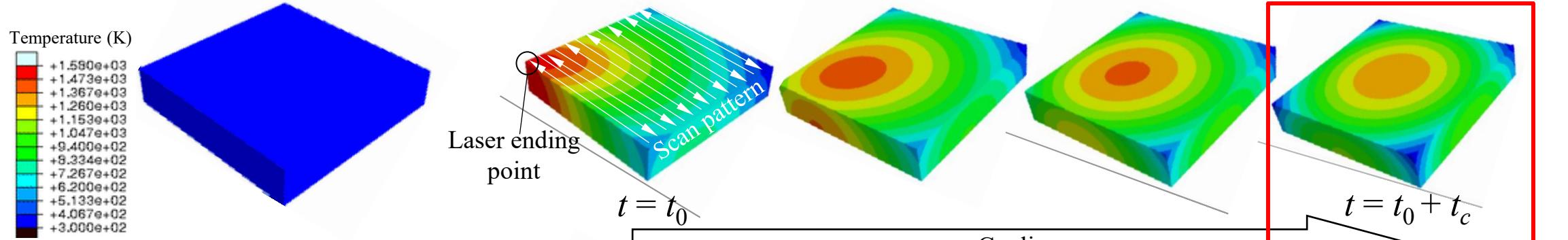
The diagram shows a cross-section of a surface with a color gradient from green at the top to blue at the bottom. A red circular area, labeled 'Laser' with a pointer, represents the beam's footprint. White arrows originate from the center of the red circle and point downwards and to the right, representing the 'Scan pattern'. Below the diagram, the text 'ending point' is followed by the mathematical expression $t = t_0$.

Model 2: Equivalent heat flux attribution

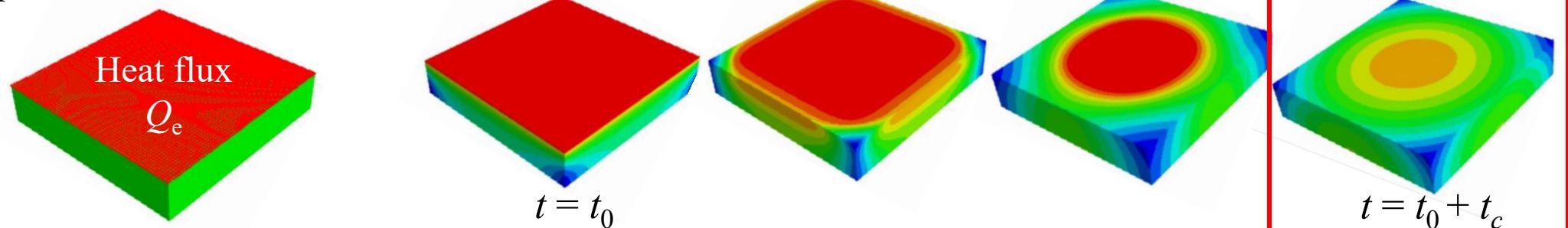


Rectangular shape

Model 1: Track-by-track heating



Model 2: Equivalent heat flux attribution

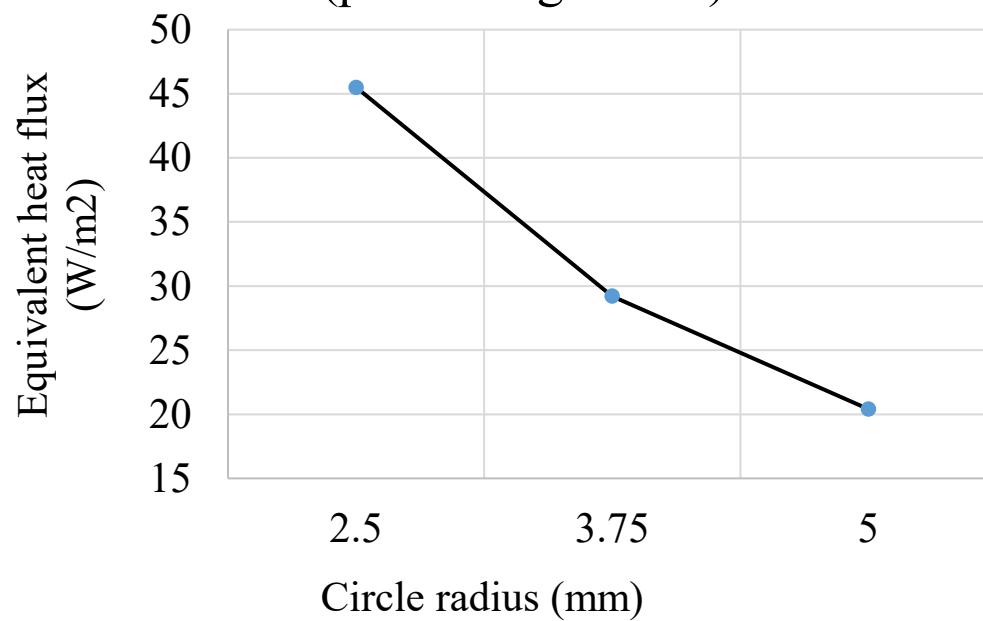


If Q_e is properly selected:

**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)

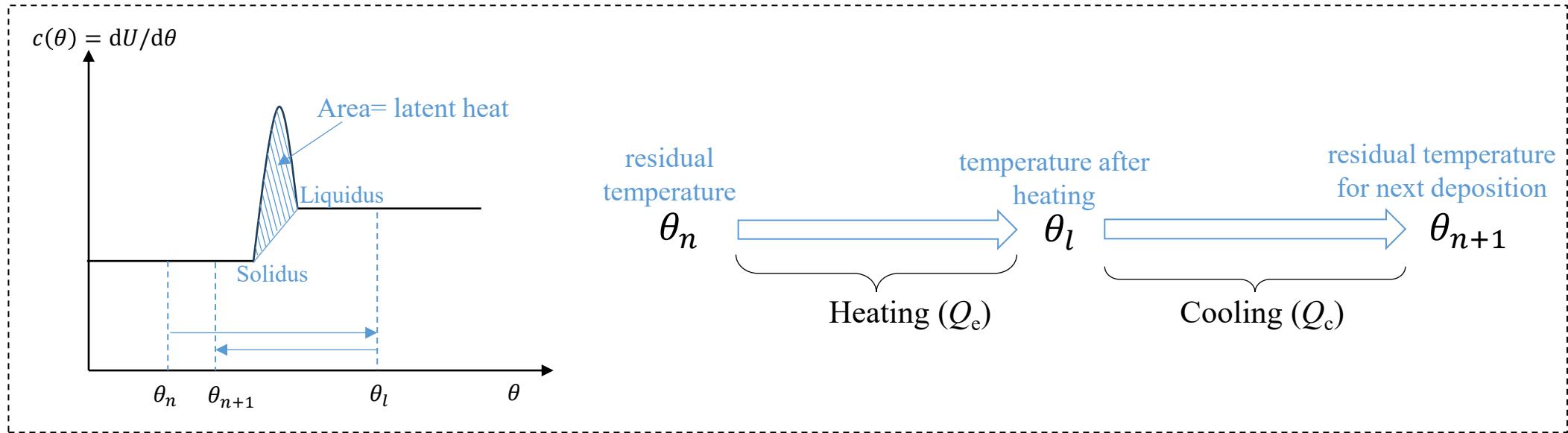


Q_e at preheating temperature
(circular radius 3.75 mm)

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:

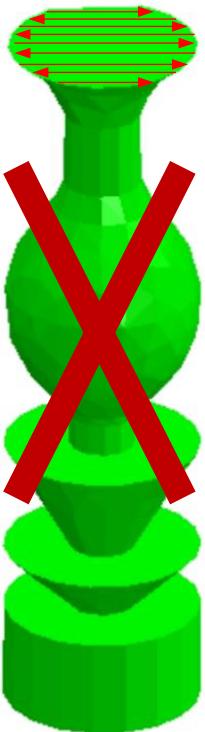
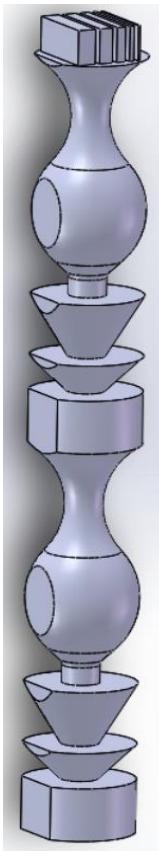
To make the similar $\Delta\theta$, Q_e is primarily depending on

- **laser parameters**
- **cross section area S**

Part-scale heat flux attribution

- Thermal load

Track-by-track heating Uniform distributed heat flux



Computational cost (per layer): 2~3 CPU hours

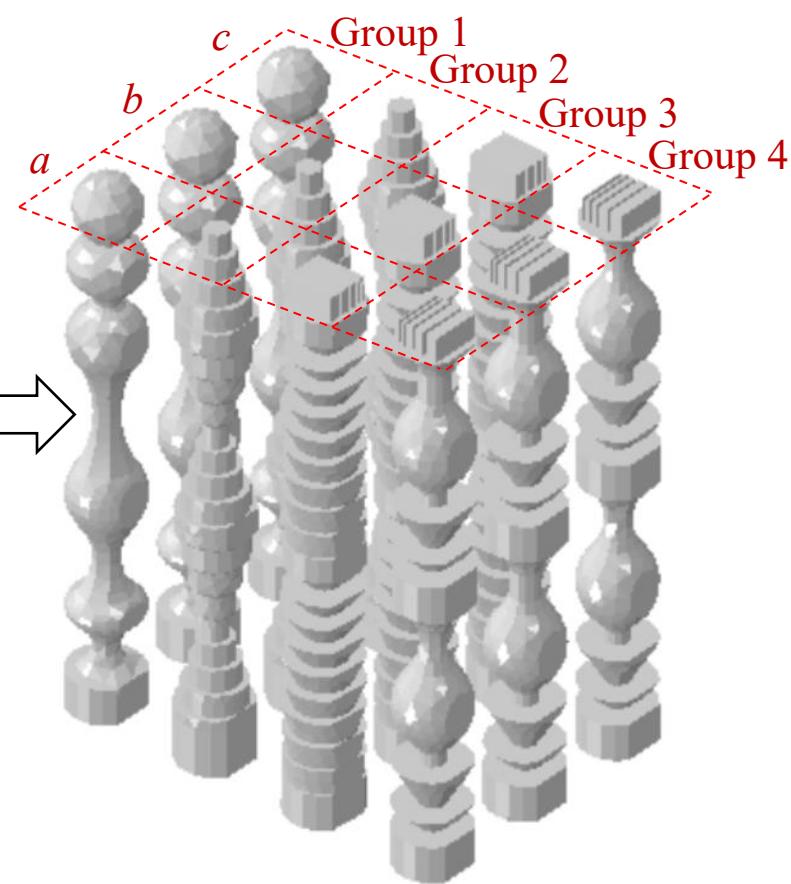
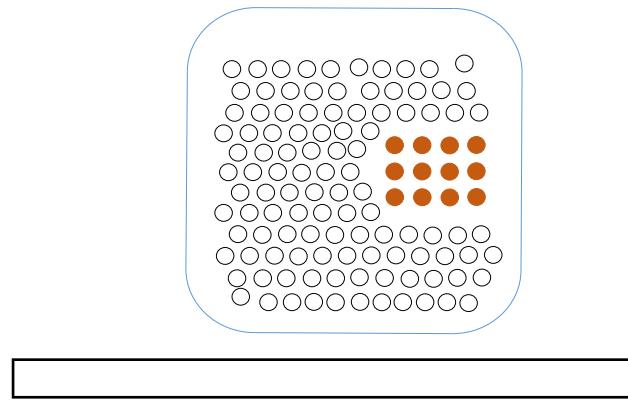
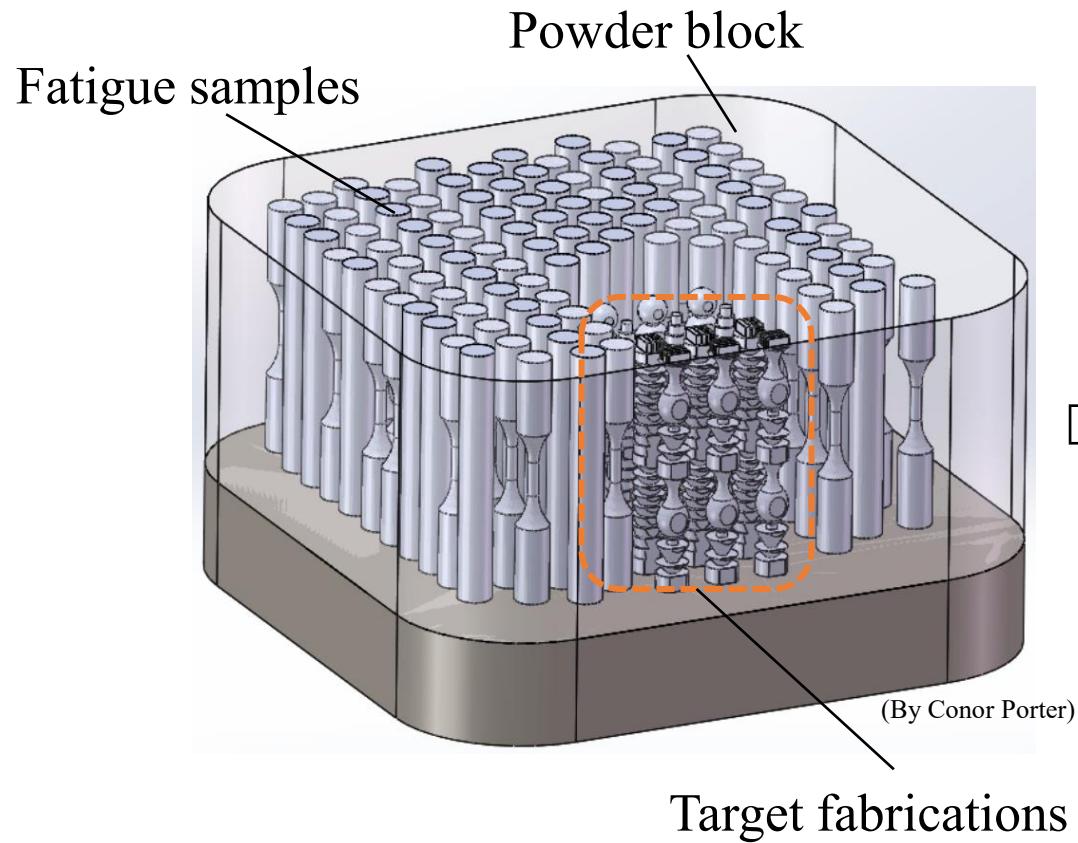
Within 1 min

- Thermal boundary condition

LPBF:

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

Model geometry of the specimen clusters



Model construction

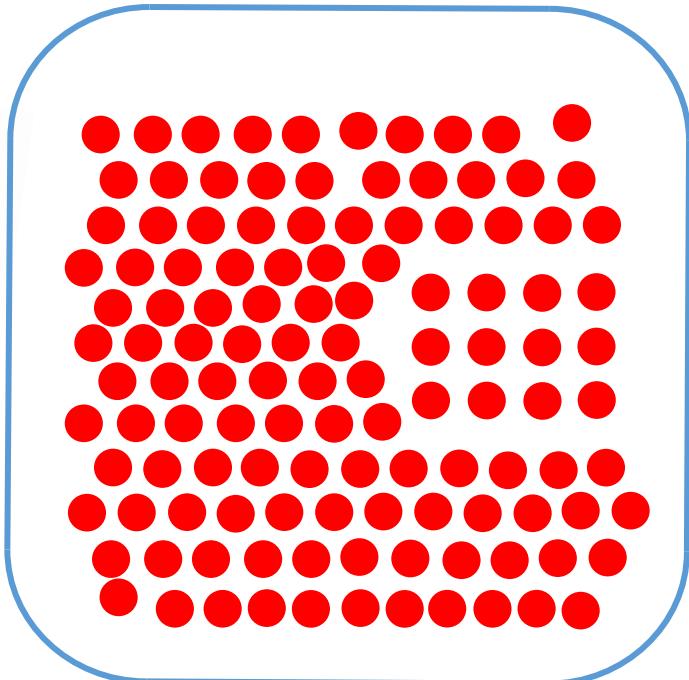
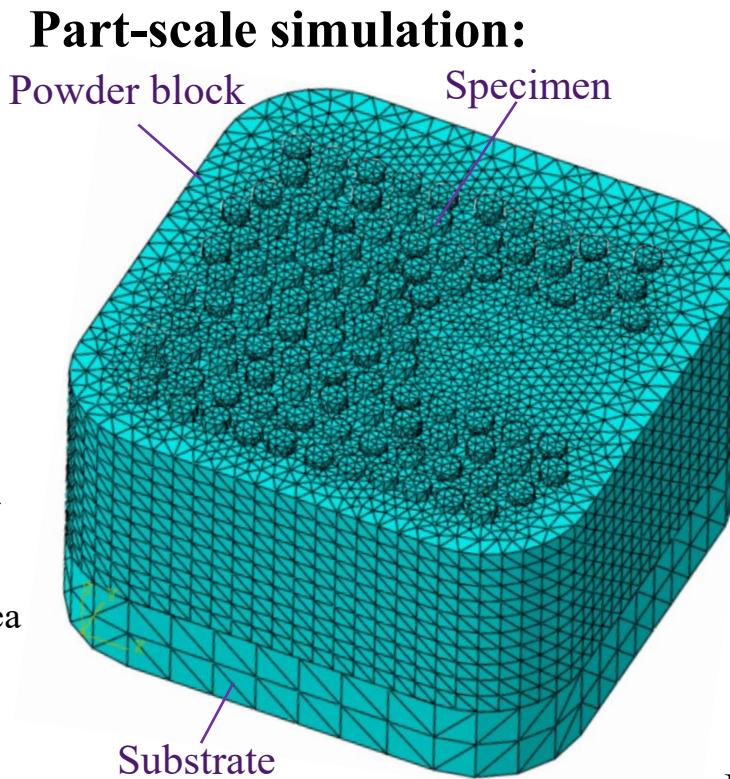
Track-scale simulation:

- 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



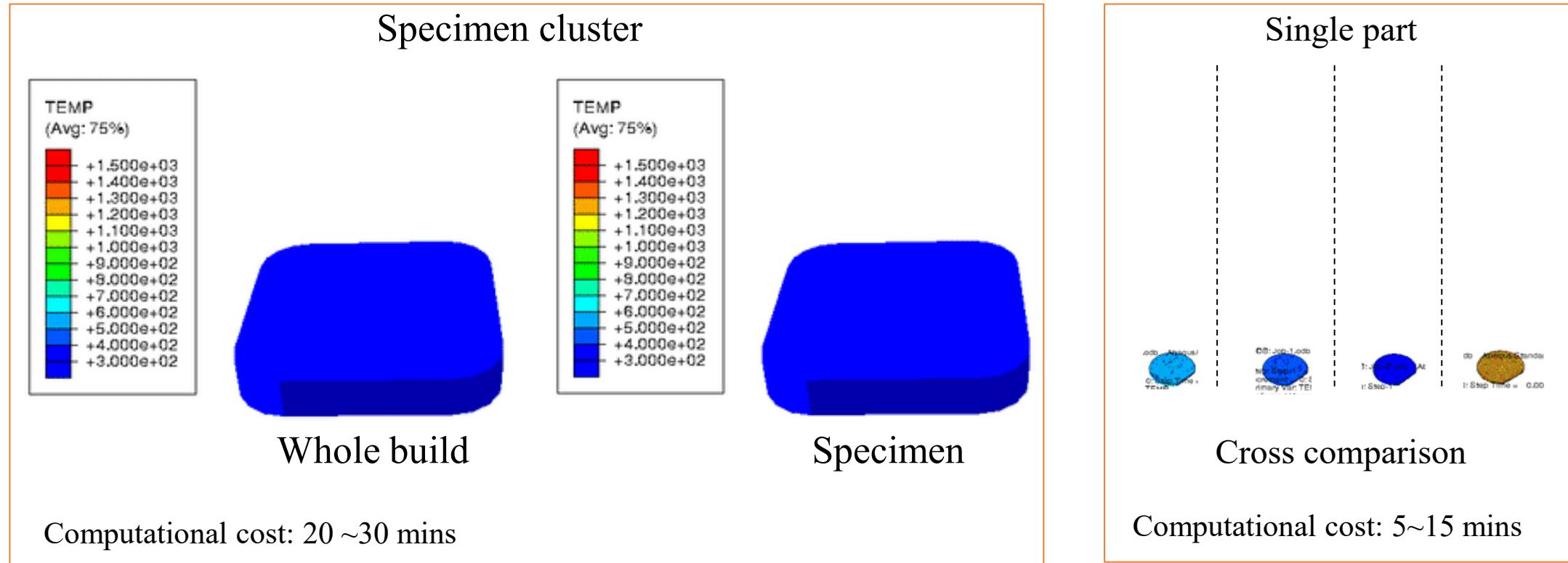
Layer-wise element progressive activation

+

Apply Q_e on specimen cross sections ●

Temperature results

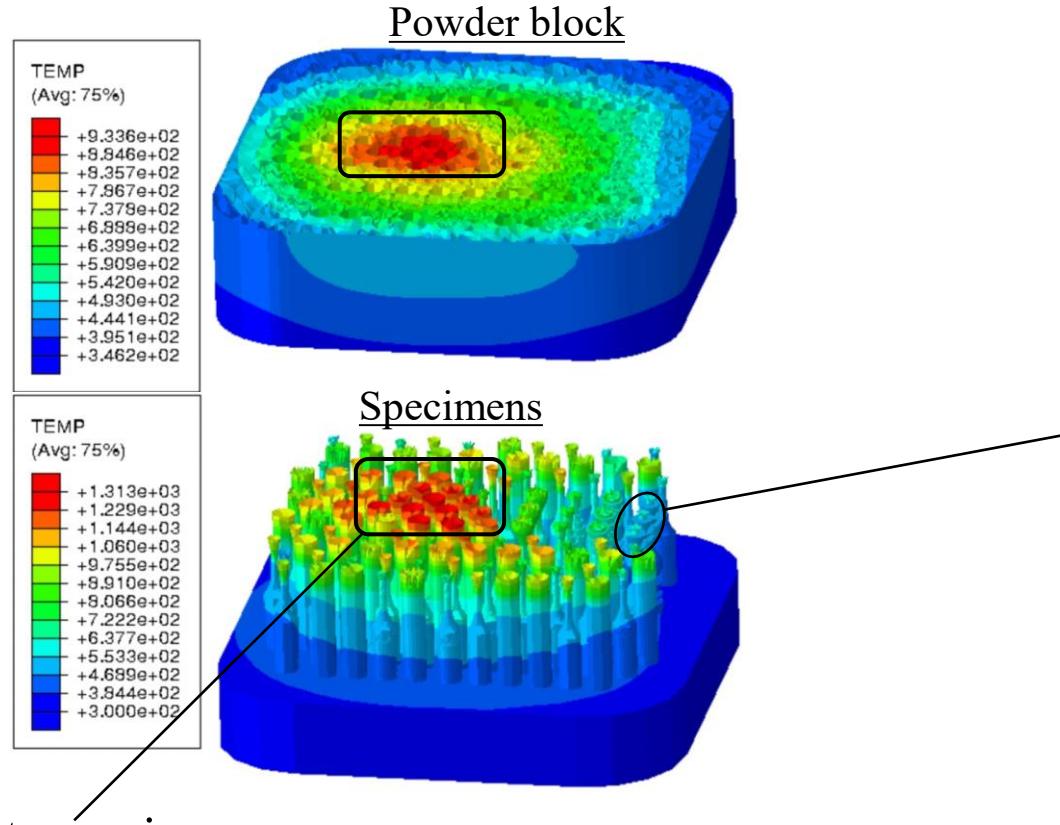
Temperature evolution during the fabrication procedure



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

Temperature results

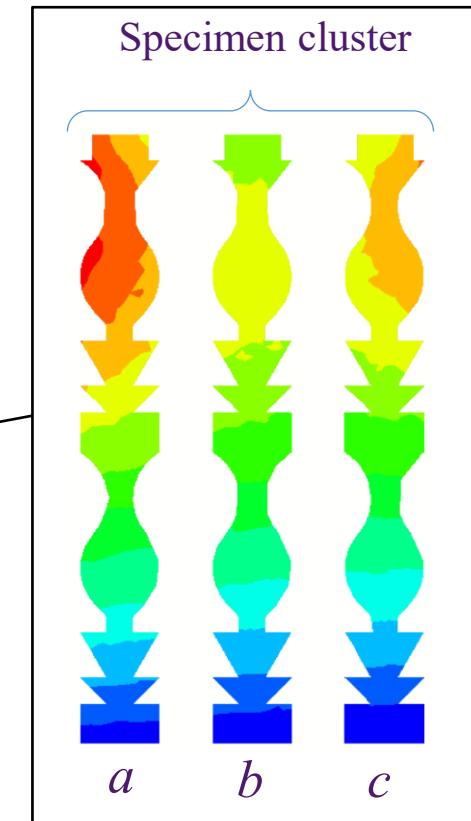
- Temperature field during manufacturing



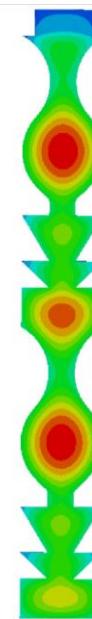
Center region:

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

- Temperature distribution after heating (example: Group 4)



Single part simulation
(for comparison)



Same geometry & Thermal load



Different temperature distribution

Experiment design



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

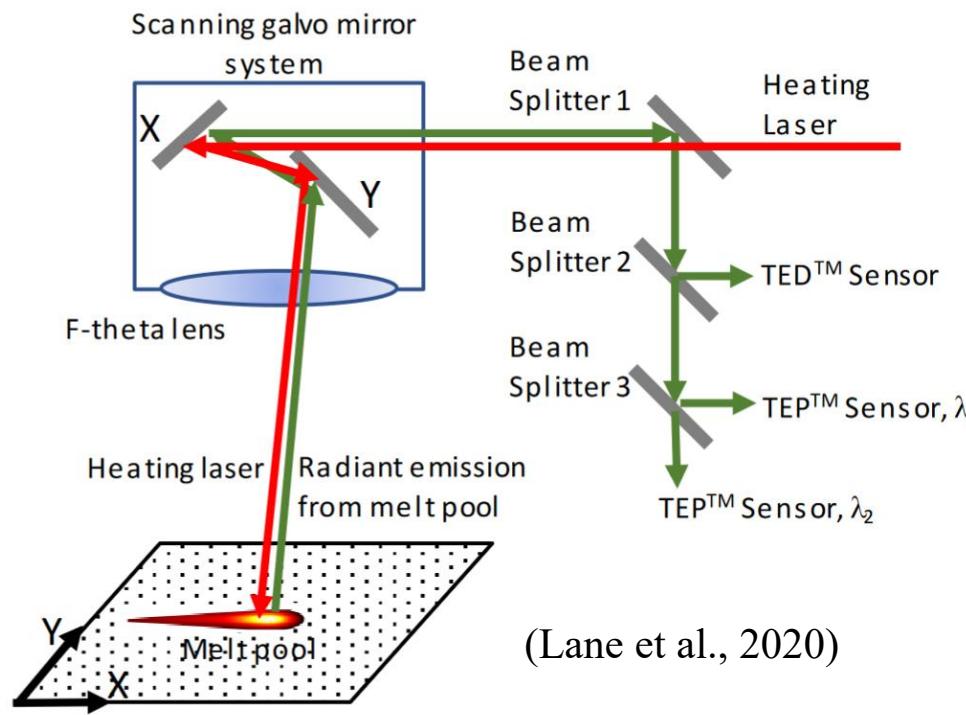
Powder: TEKMAT™ AlSi10Mg-63/20-AMS (TEKNA, Montreal, CA)



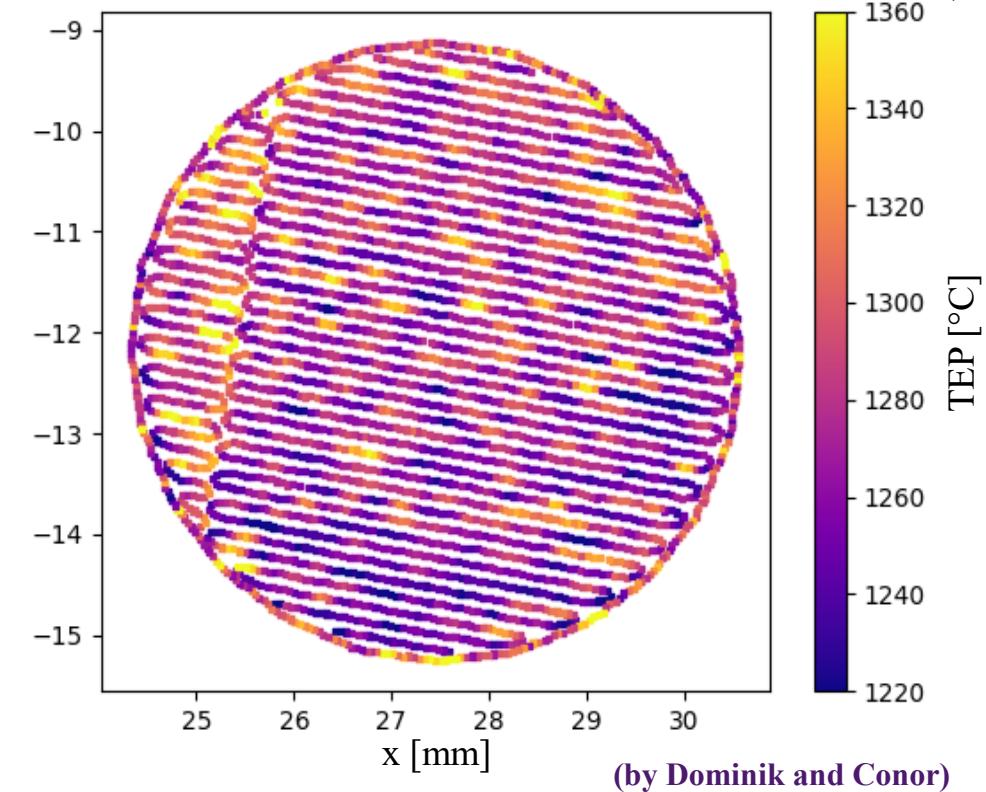
(by Dominik and Conor)

Experiment design

Coaxial photodiode system



Molten pool temperature measurements (TEP)



Preheating and melt pool temperature relation

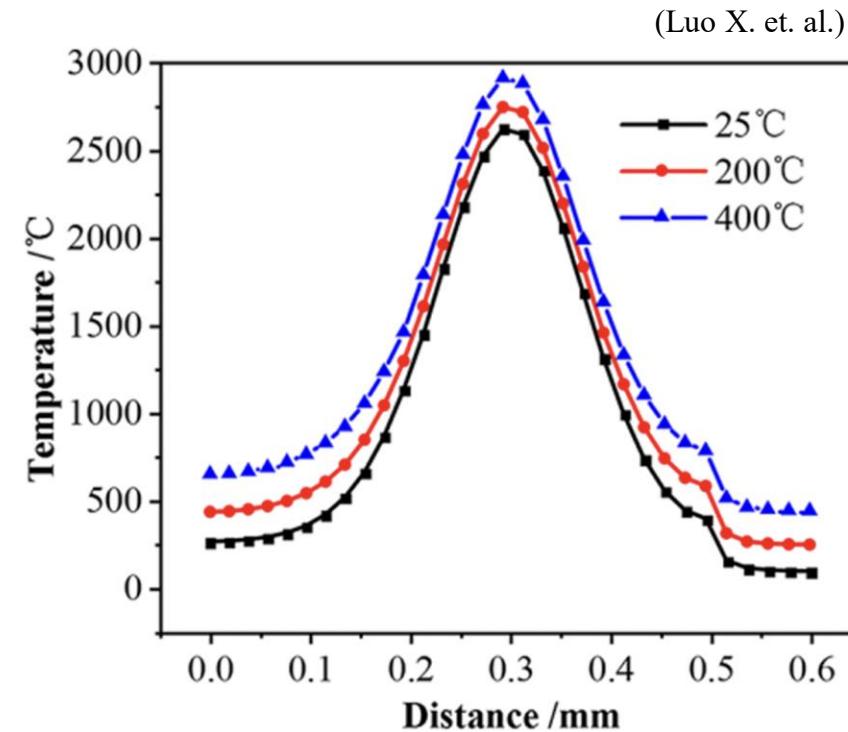
Simulation temperature field

Residual temperature after heating
(Preheating of next layer)

VS

Experimental measurement

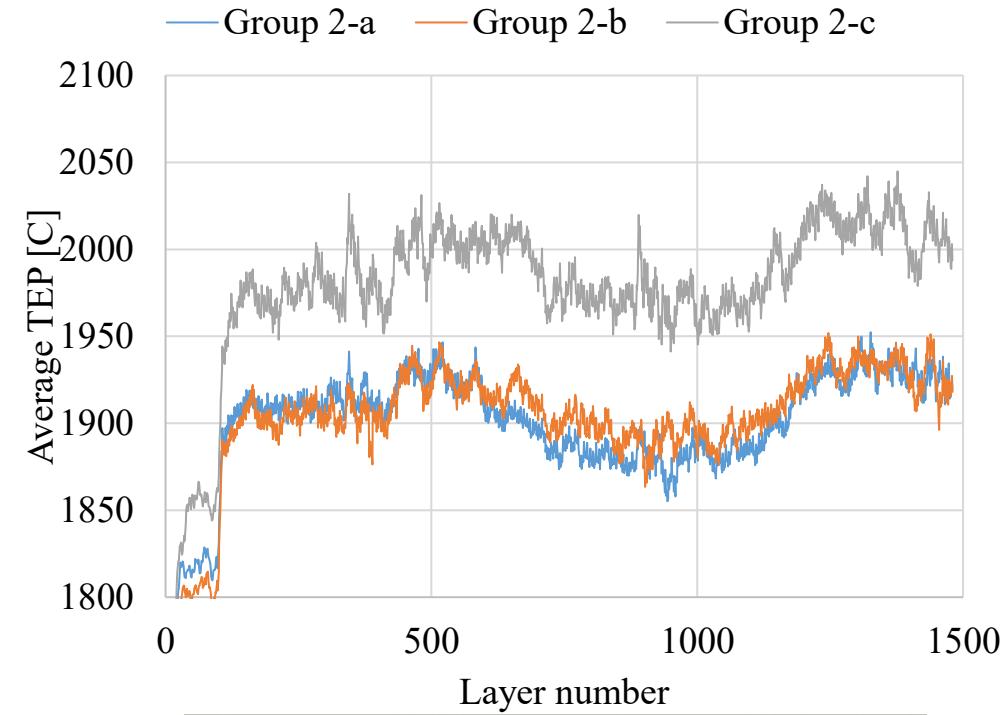
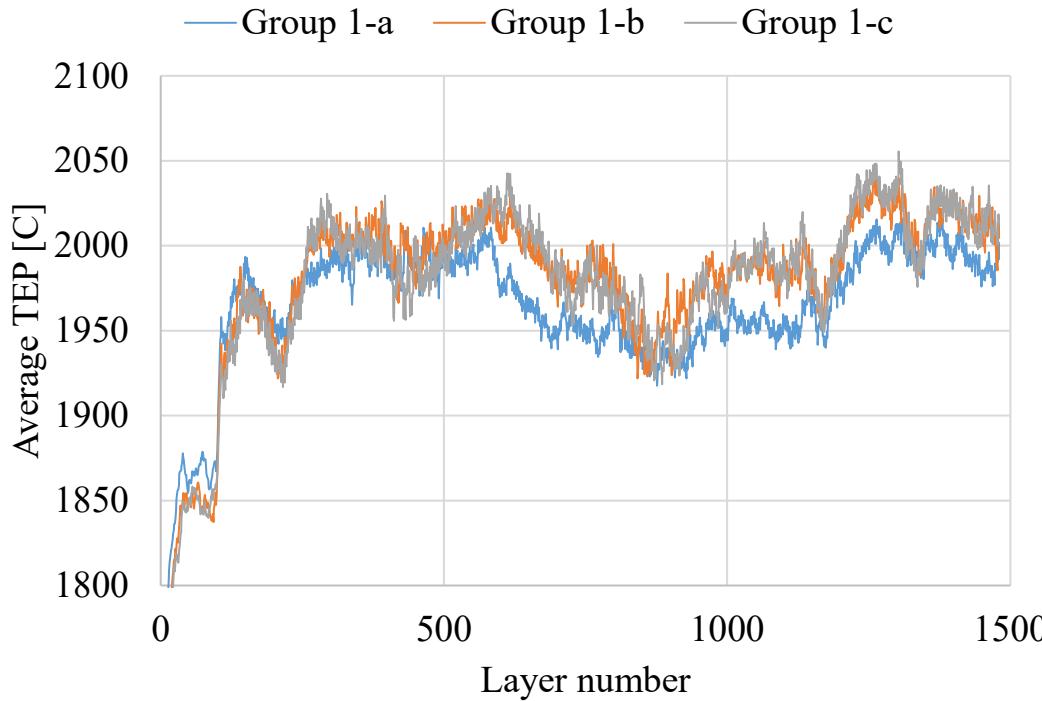
Average molten pool temperature



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

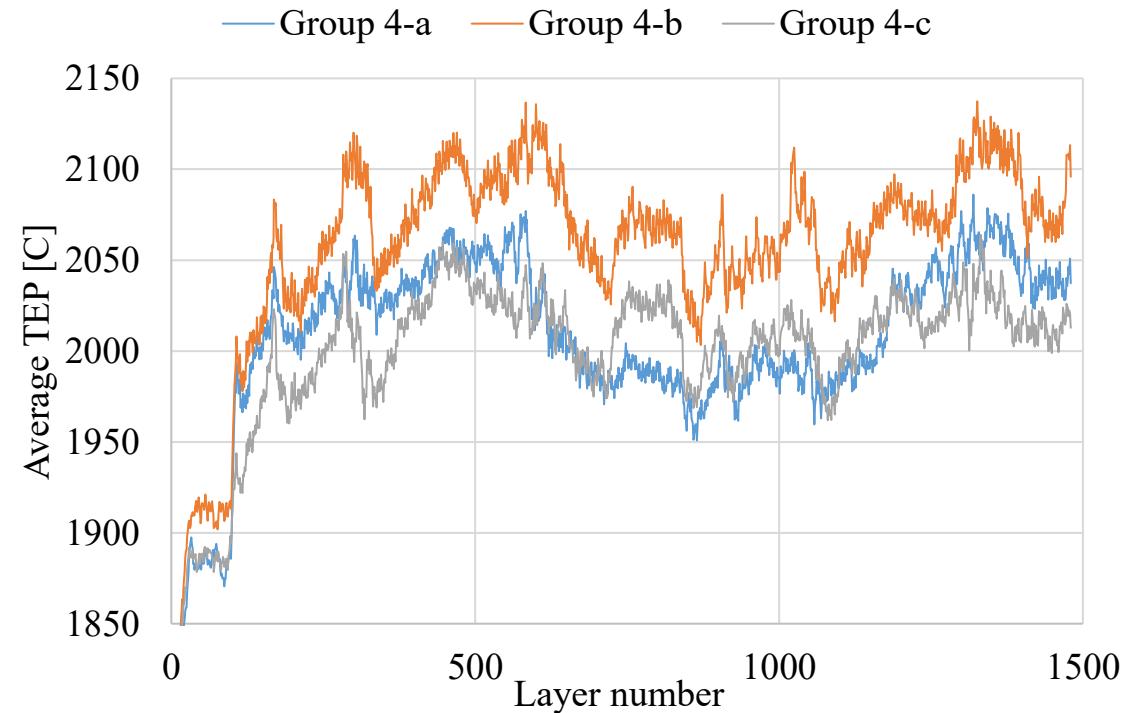
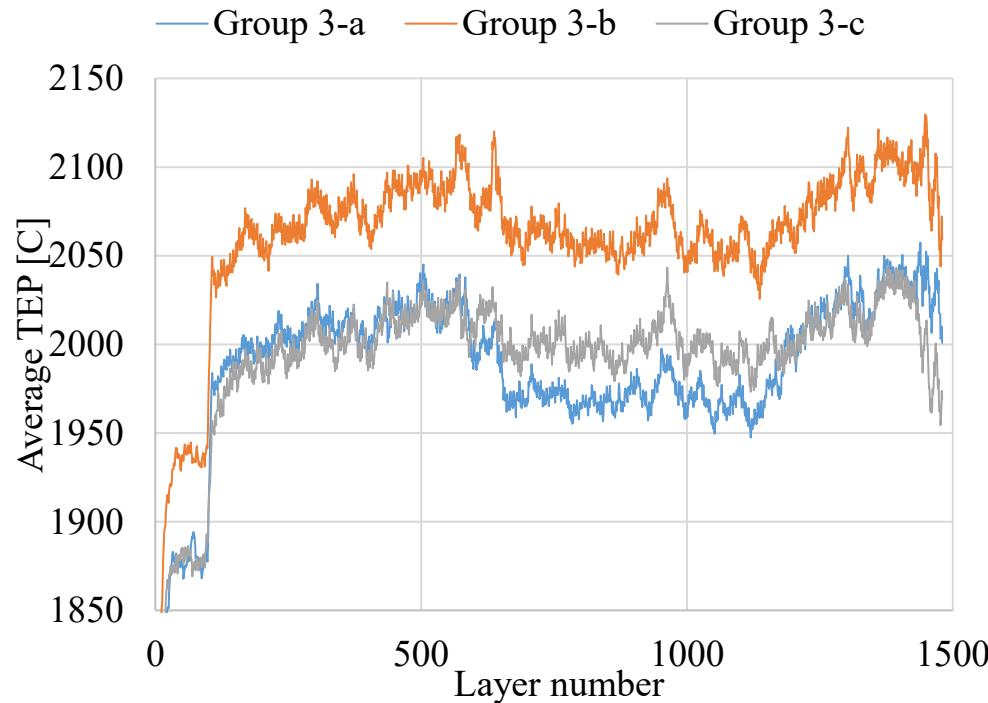
Measured molten pool temperature

Experimental measurement (by Dominik and Conor)



Measured molten pool temperature

Experimental measurement (by Dominik and Conor)



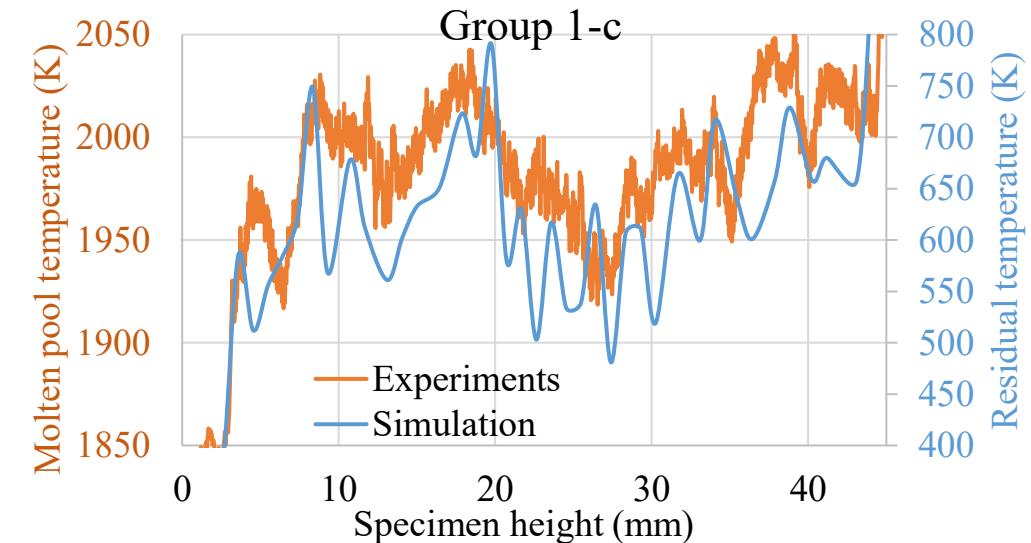
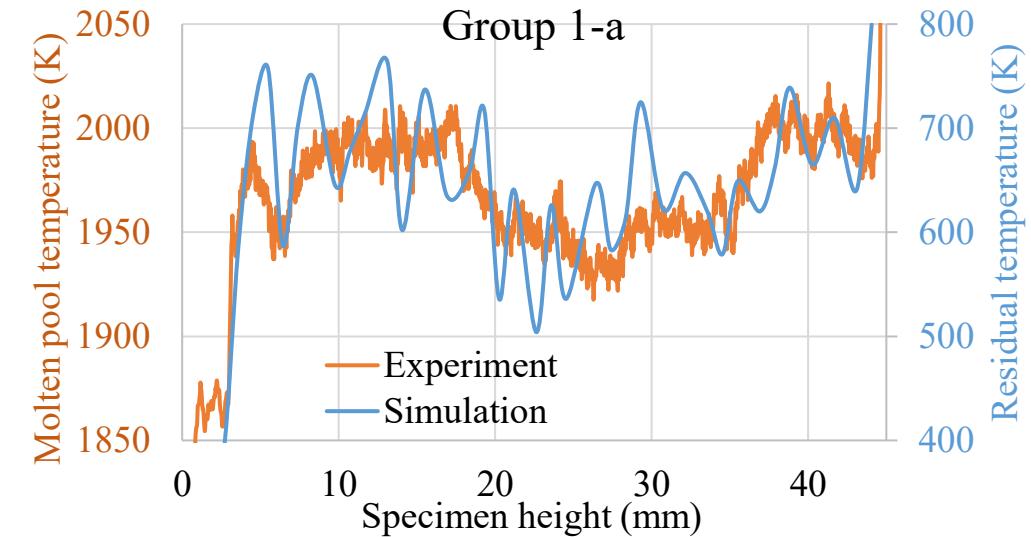
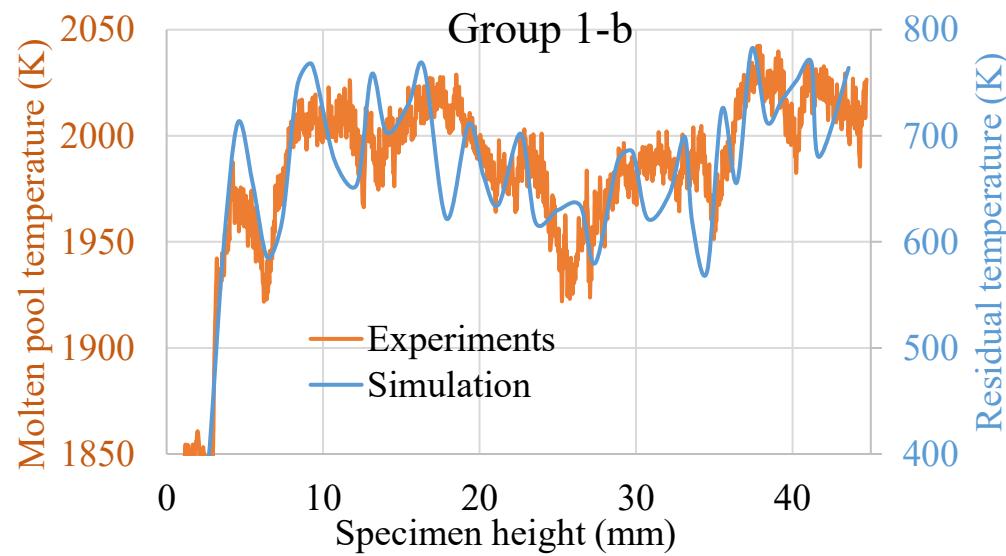
Comparison of simulation and experiment results

Multiple parts simulation VS Experiments

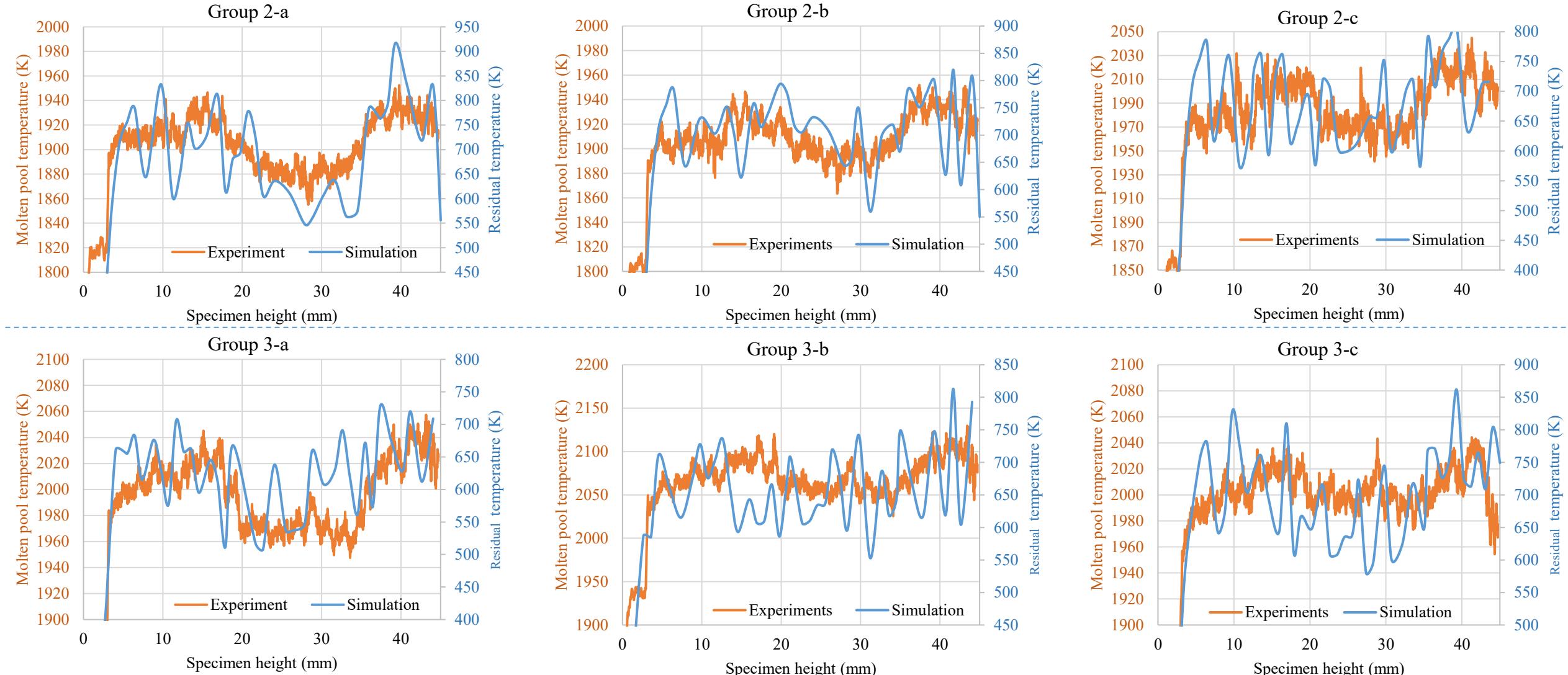


Local fluctuation due to:

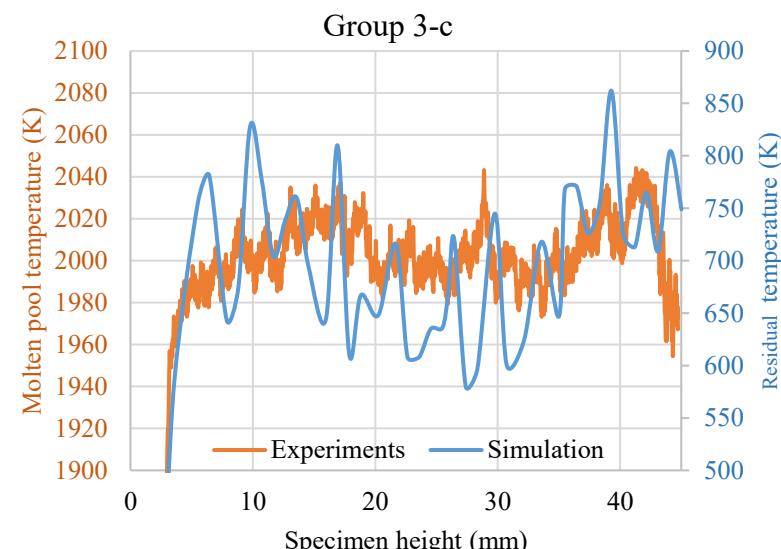
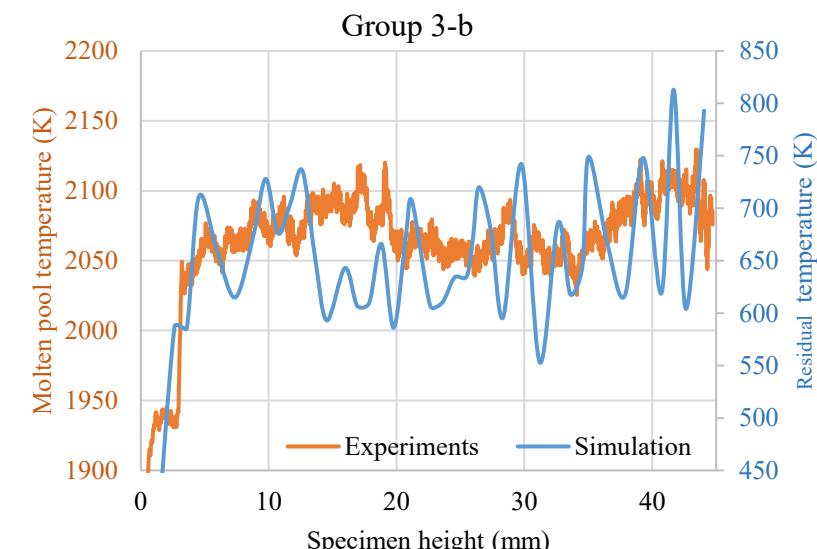
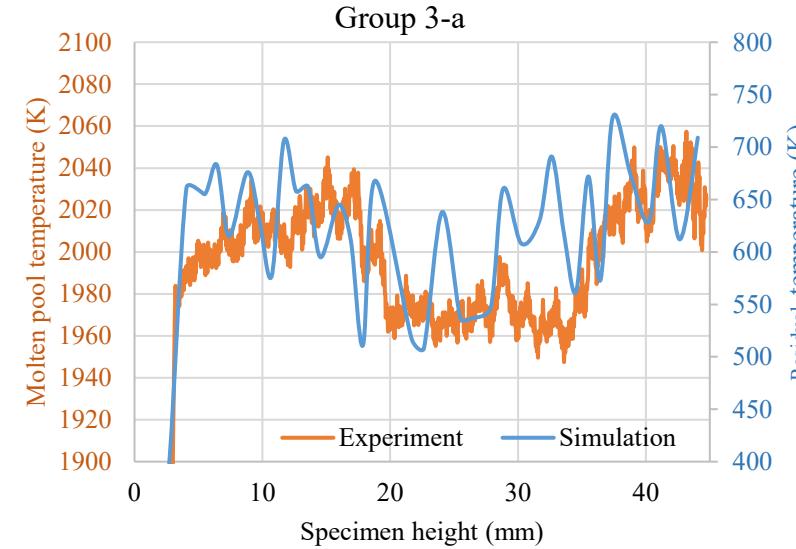
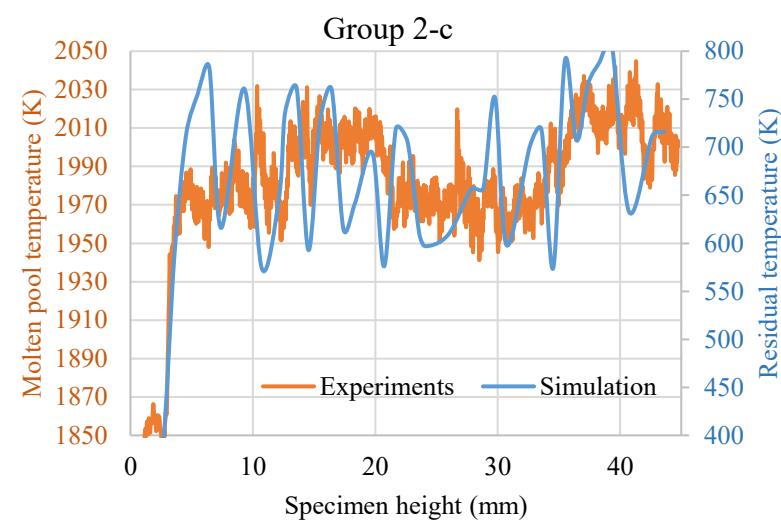
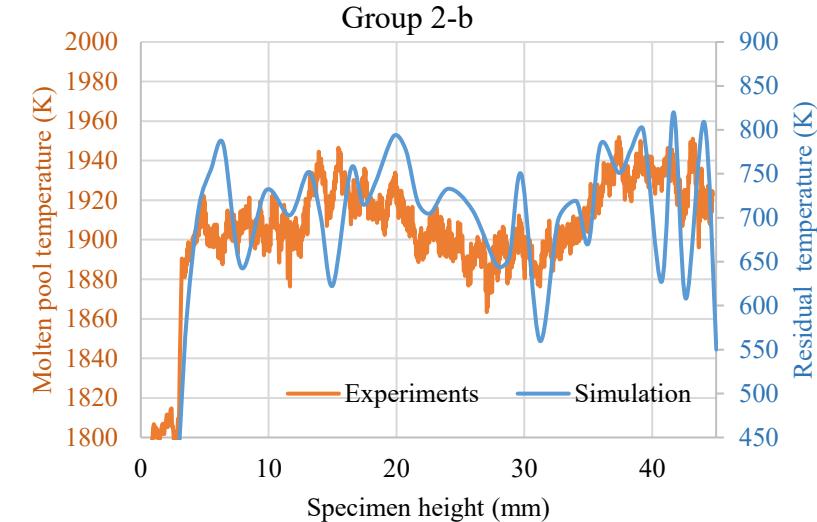
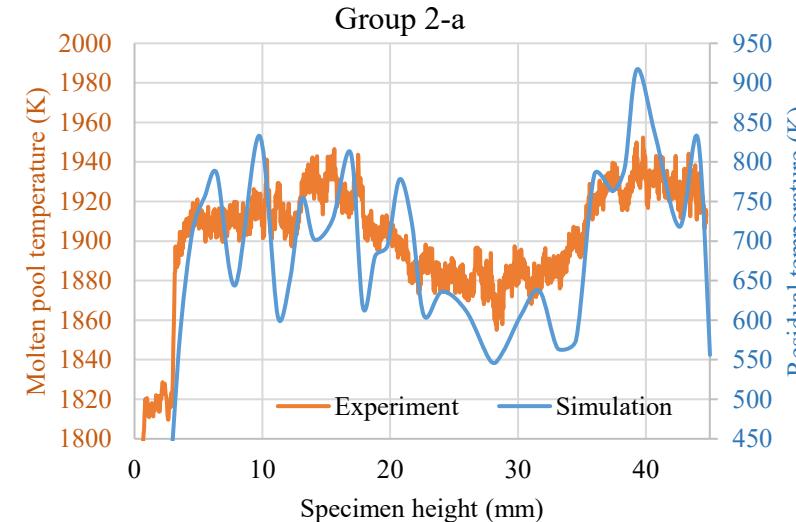
- large element size
- large time step
- activation of the new elements
- thermal interactions



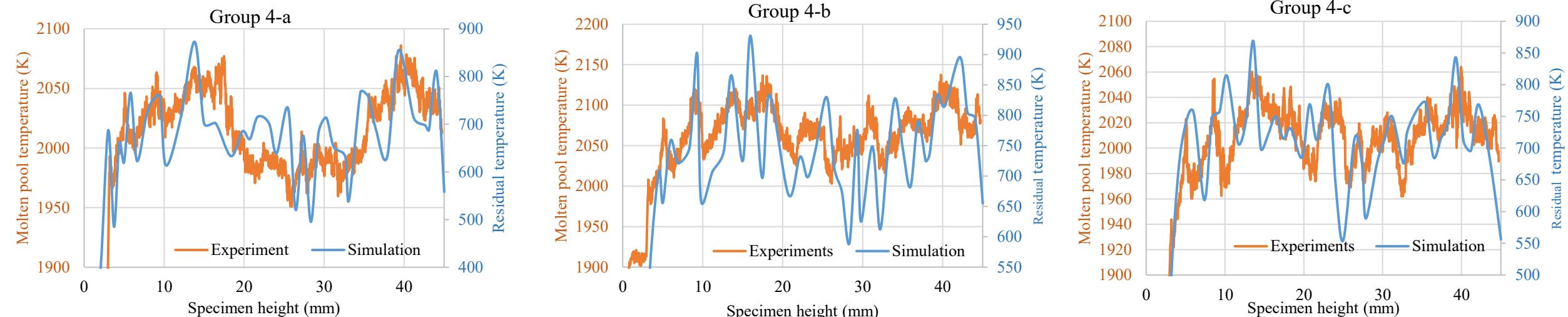
Comparison of simulation and experiment results



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;

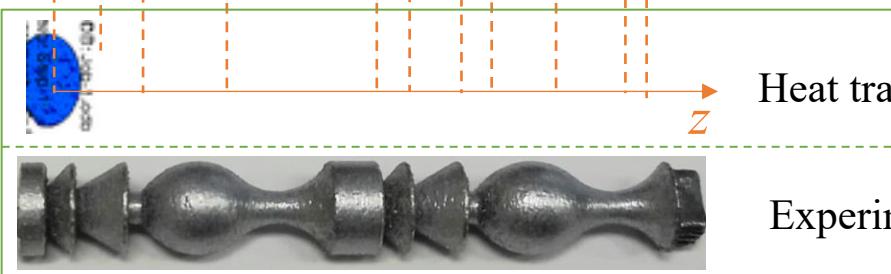
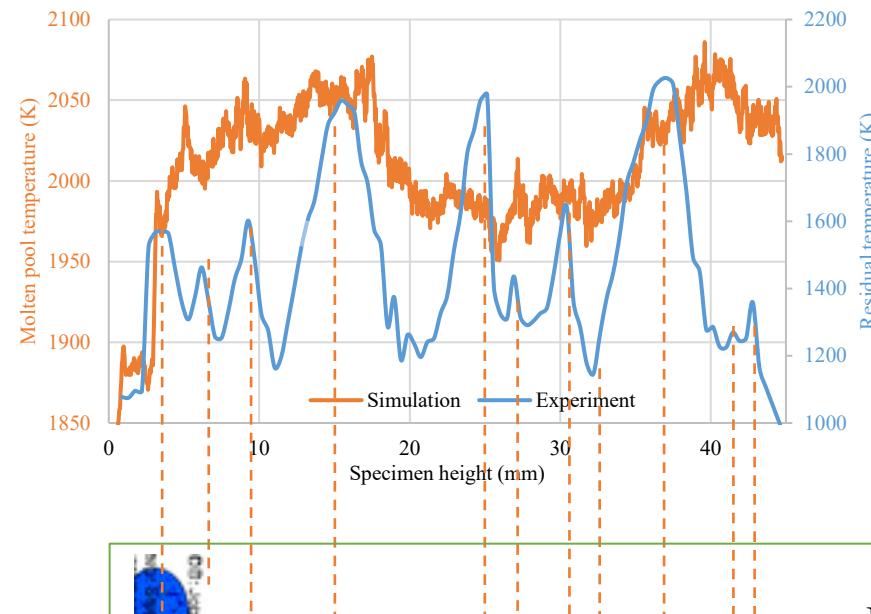
Overall, multiple parts simulation and experimental measurement show a similar trend.

Comparison of simulation and experiment results

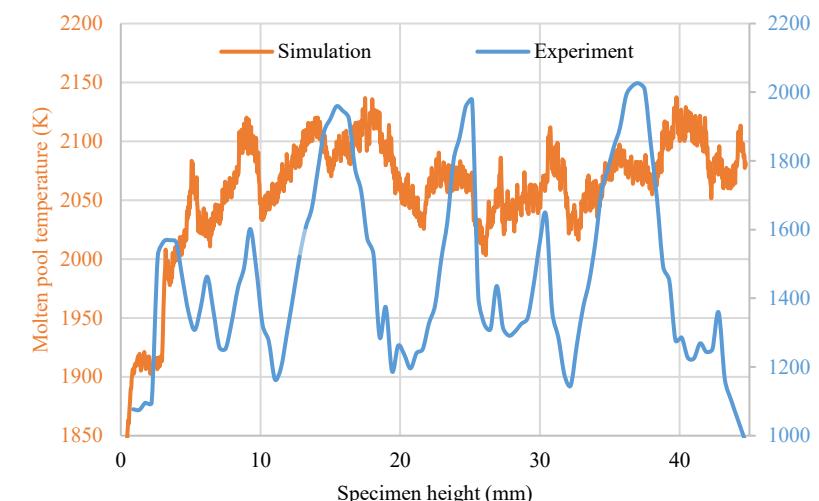
Single part simulation VS Experiments (by Dominik)

Simulation (normalized): 
Experiment (normalized): 

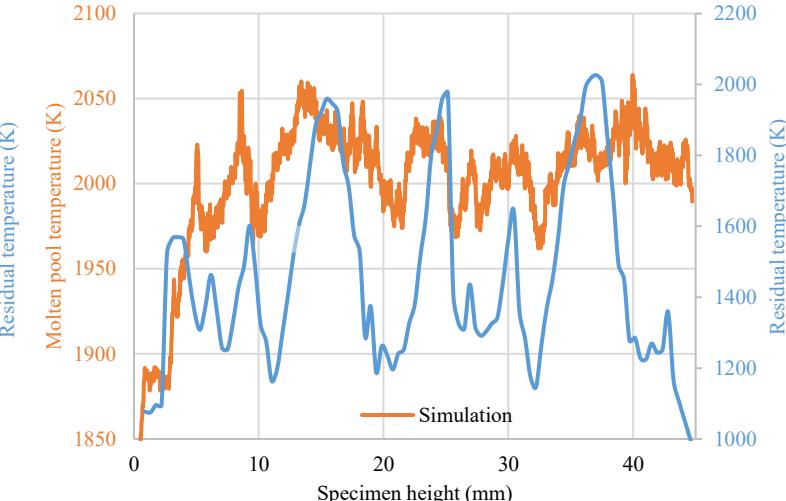
Group 4-a



Group 4-b



Group 4-c



Heat transfer simulation

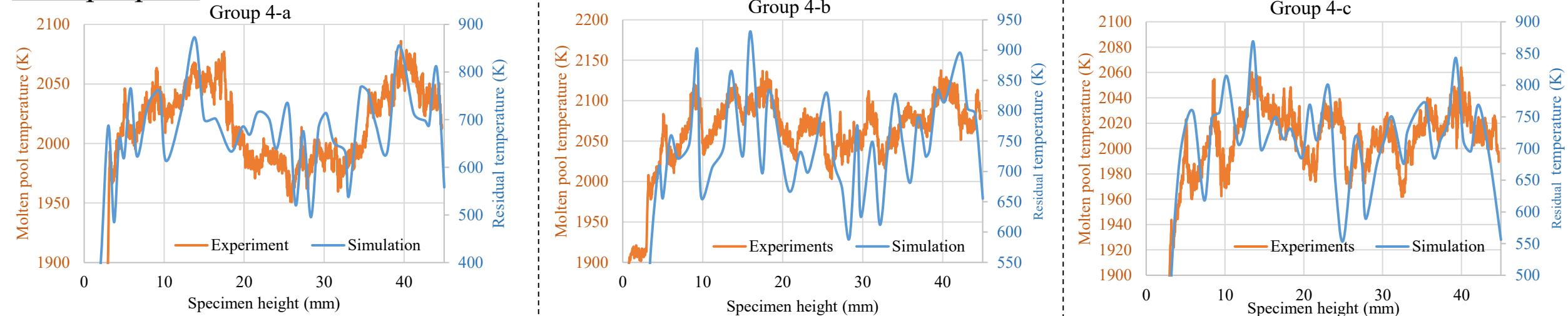
Experiment specimen

For the single part simulation:

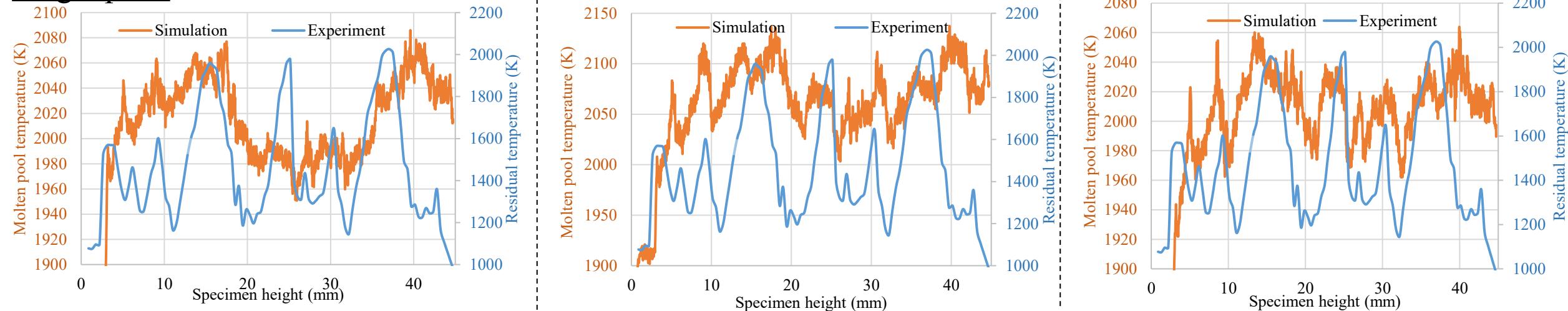
- no thermal interaction
- unreasonable thermal boundary conditions

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)

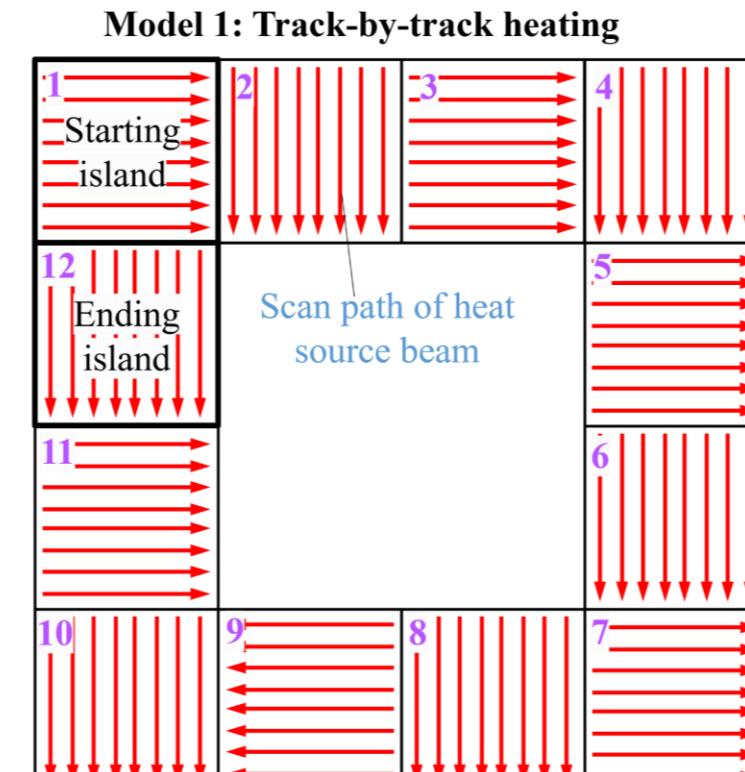
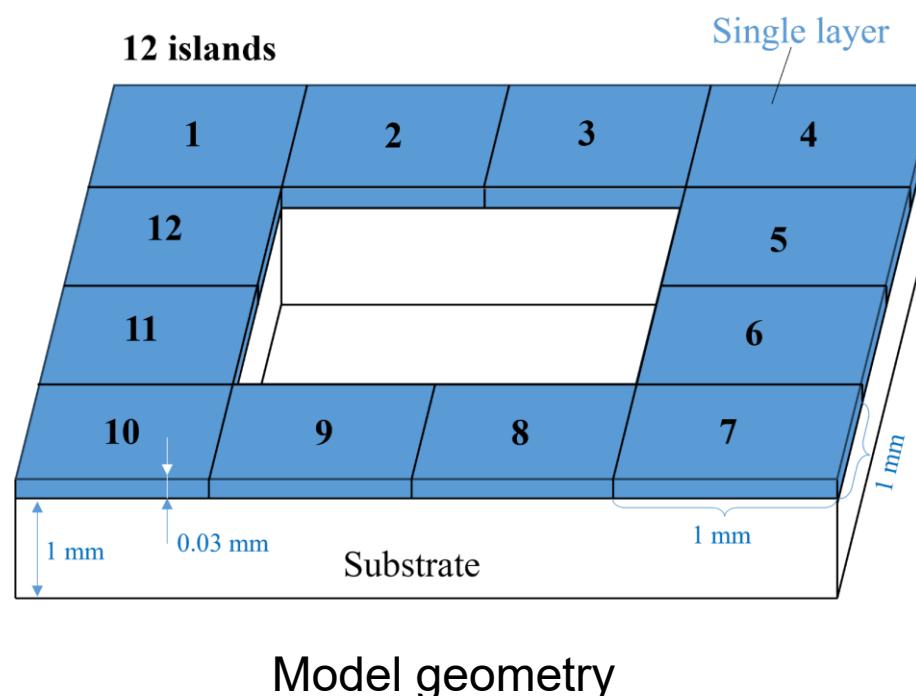
	a	b	c
Group 4	-1.2	-2.59	-3.31

(by Dominik)

$R^2 < 0$: large difference

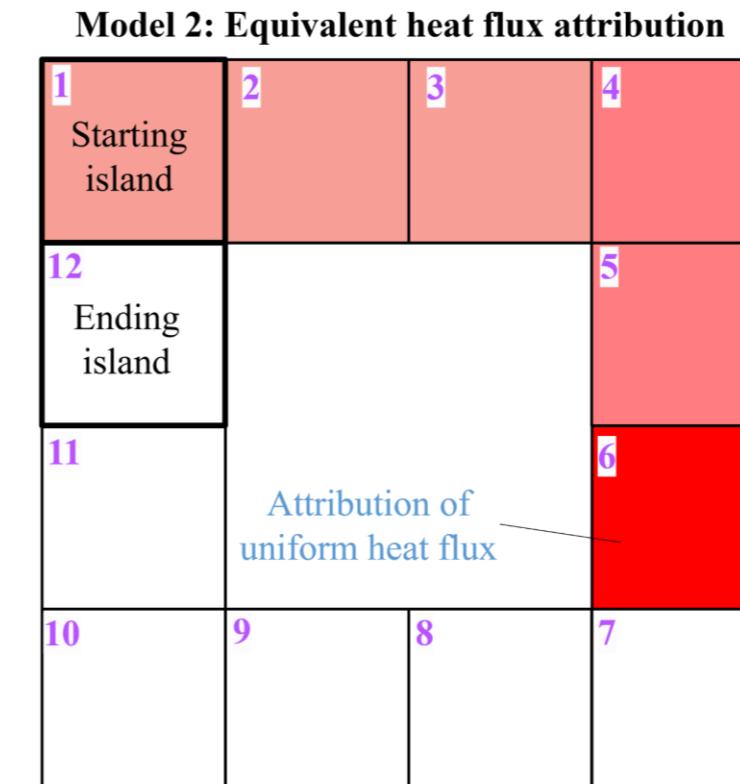
Feasibility in large-scale thermal modeling

Multiple islands heating test:

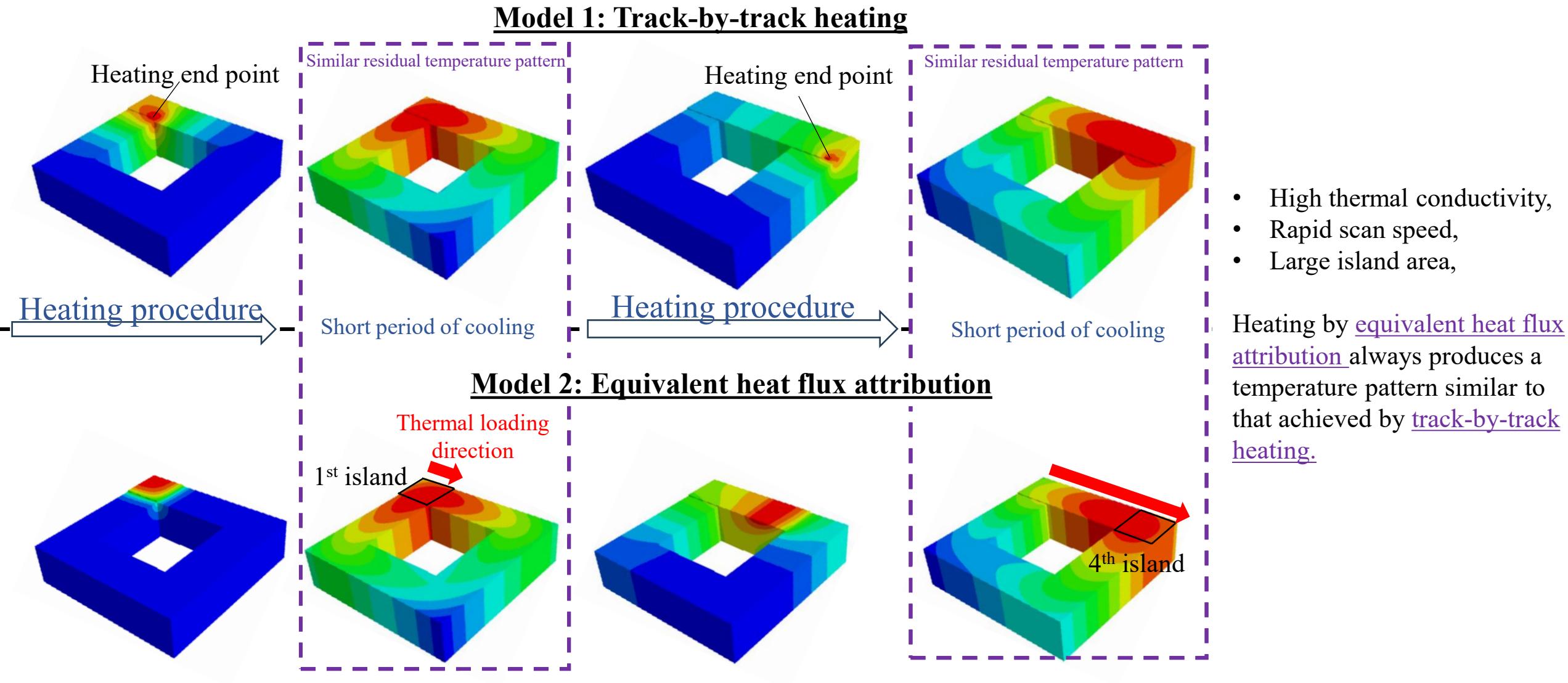


Island deposition sequence: 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12

Two different heating configurations

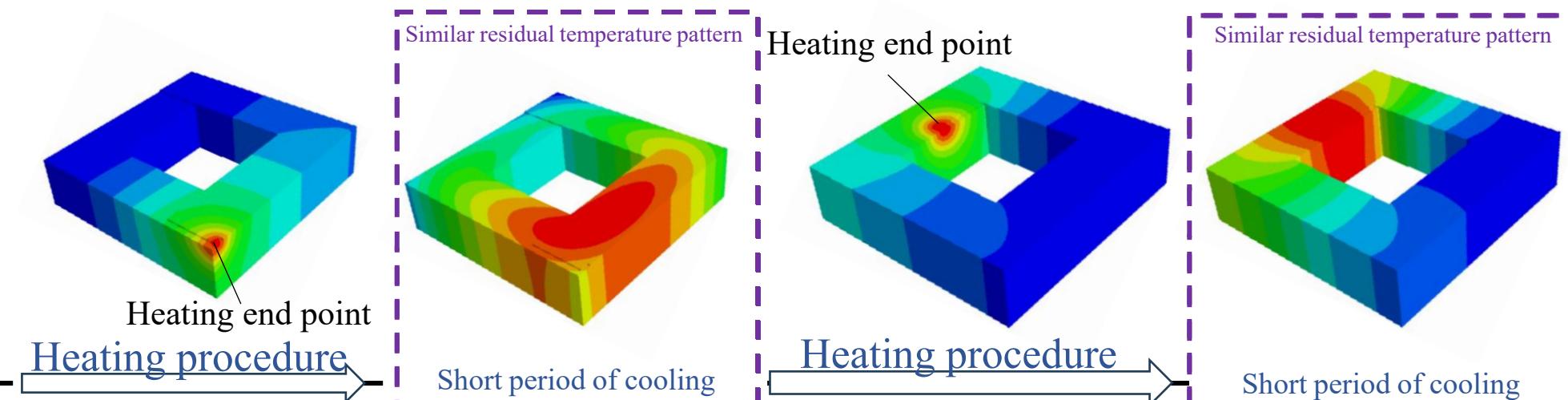


Feasibility in large-scale thermal modeling



Feasibility in large-scale thermal modeling

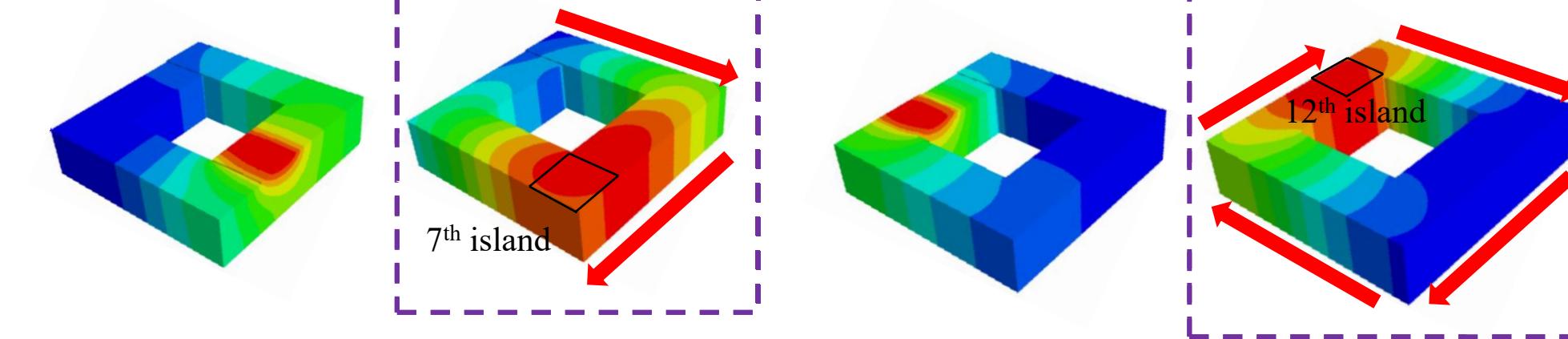
Model 1: Track-by-track heating



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

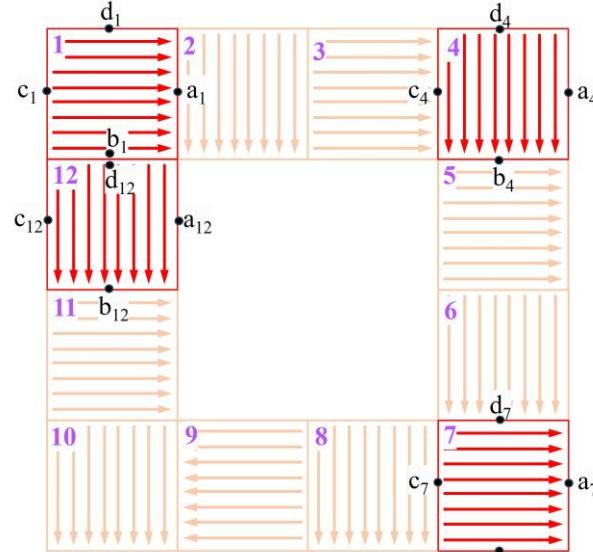
- Heating by equivalent heat flux attribution always produces a temperature pattern similar to that achieved by track-by-track heating.

Model 2: Equivalent heat flux attribution

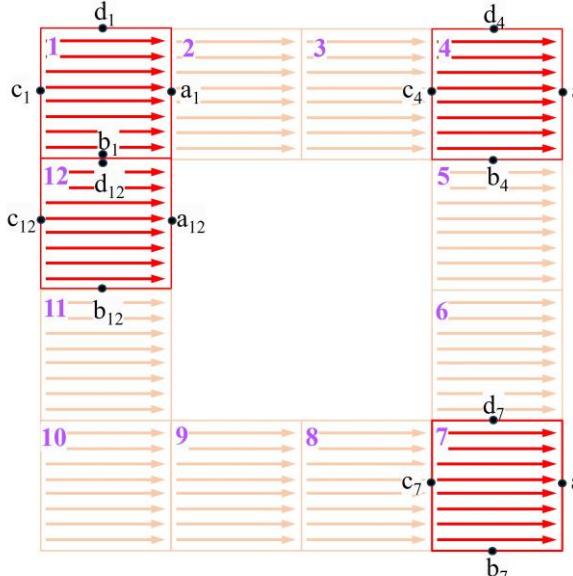


Feasibility in large-scale thermal modeling

Strategy 1



Strategy 2



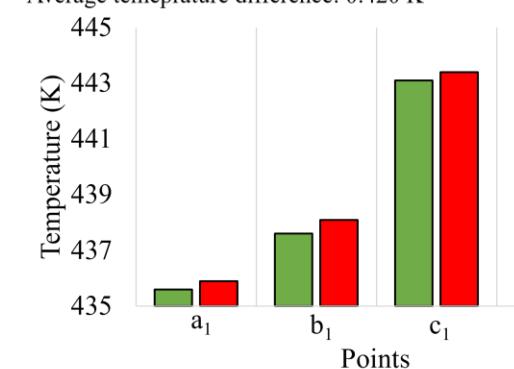
Observations:

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

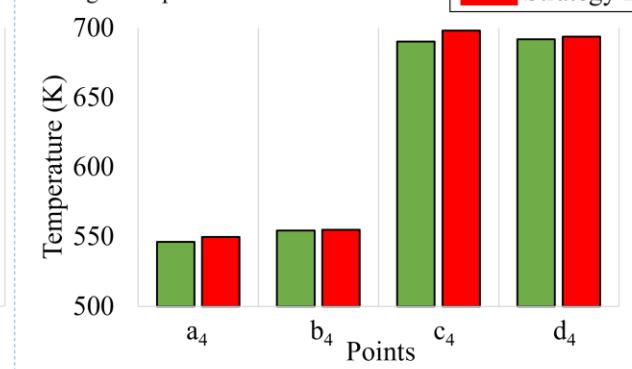
Island 1

Average tempeprature difference: 0.420 K



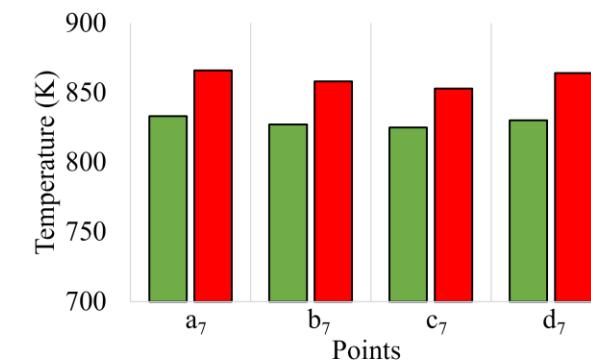
Island 4

Average tempeprature difference: 5.403 K



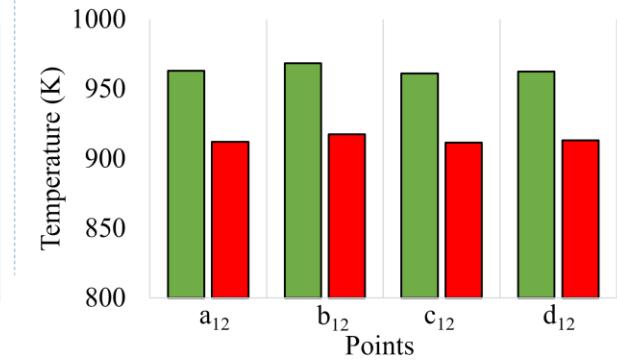
Island 7

Average tempeprature difference: 33.060 K



Island 12

Average tempeprature 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.



Thank You
Questions?



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