

Highlights of my work

April, 2024

Cem Tutum, Ph.D.



[in/cem-c-tutum/](#)



[google.scholar](#)



[github/cctutum](#)



Danmarks
Tekniske
Universitet

Process Modeling
Group



Computational
Optimization and
Innovation Lab



The University of Texas
at Austin

Neural Networks
Research Group



Industrial
Automation



Algorithms and Optimization
& Additive Simulation



Strategic R&D

Overview

➤ My Background

- Short resume
 - About me
 - Academic experience
 - Industrial experience
- Specialties
 - Simulation: Multi-physics models
 - Optimization: Sample efficient optimization
 - Machine Learning: Robust decision making
 - Process Monitoring: Spatio-temporal computing
 - Spatial computing & Digital Twins

➤ Focus Project: Functional Generative Design

- Efficient design and validation cycle with ML and optimization

Background / Quick resume

➤ About me:

- I have comprehensive experience at the intersection of simulation and data-driven design, digital manufacturing, digital twins, scientific computing and visualization, machine learning and optimization.
- My passion lies in closing the loop between design and manufacturing to enable the creation of innovative products with desired functionalities.
- I develop centralized **digital twin** software platforms that serves as information hub, enabling cross-functional teams to access curated data relevant to their needs and facilitate a comprehensive evaluation of the manufacturing process.

Background / Quick resume

➤ Academic Experience:

- **Technical University of Denmark**, Mechanical Engineering (2006-2013)
 - Ph.D., Postdoc, Assistant Professor in Process Modelling Group
 - Member of Topology Optimization Group
 - Multi-physics models of manufacturing processes, i.e., FSW, pultrusion, SLM, etc.
- **Michigan State University**, Electrical and Computer Engineering (2013-2015)
 - Worked with Dr. Kalyanmoy Deb, a pioneer in *evolutionary multi-objective optimization*
 - Multi and Many-objective optimization (2-15 objectives, nonlinear constraints)
 - Surrogate-based optimization (Constrained Efficient Global Optimization)
- **The University of Texas at Austin**, Computer Science (2015-2020)
 - Worked with Dr. Risto Miikkulainen, a pioneer in *neuroevolution (evolving neural networks)*
 - Assistant Professor of Practice, started *Computational Design Lab*
 - Research Scientist, Lifelong Learning Machines (L2M), DARPA
 - Evolutionary Decomposition for 3D Printing (Best Paper award, GECCO 2017)
 - Functional Generative Design (GECCO 2018)

Background / Quick resume

➤ Industrial Experience:

- **FIGES, Inc.**, Turkey (2004-2005)
 - Lead optimization engineer
 - Consultancy for engineering design and simulation projects
- **ROTAM (Rotorcraft Design and Excellence Center)**, Turkey (2005-2006)
 - Lead Design Optimization Engineer in Fuselage Design Group
- **NNAISENSE, Inc.**, Austin, TX (2019-2020)
 - Research Scientist in Intelligent Automation group
 - Developed ML models to predict failures by 88% accuracy in 3-axis laser cutting machine automation project for TRUMPF
 - Member of Monitoring-AI team working on in-situ defect detection in selective laser melting process for EOS

Background / Quick resume

➤ Industrial Experience (continued):

- **Relativity Space, Long Beach, CA (2020-2022)**
 - Senior Development Engineer in Algorithms and Optimization Group (2020-2022)
 - Led SBIR Phase-II proposal for NASA regarding in-situ process monitoring of wire-arc additive manufacturing process and served as project manager.
 - Developed centralized **digital twin** software platform that served as information hub, enabling cross-functional teams to access curated data relevant to their needs and conduct a holistic assessment of the manufacturing process.
 - Automated statistical analysis, anomaly detection, and defect-to-telemetry correlation to drive continuous improvement of computer simulations and process parameters.
 - Staff Data Science Engineer in Additive Simulation Group (2022-2022)
 - Led software integration of design and process simulation of rocket fuselage sections.
 - Processed large point clouds of scanned 3D printed parts to prepare high-fidelity Finite Element Models for buckling analysis.
 - Performed multi-objective structural optimization analysis to simultaneously improve buckling behavior and weight of rocket fuselage section utilizing parametric stiffener design.

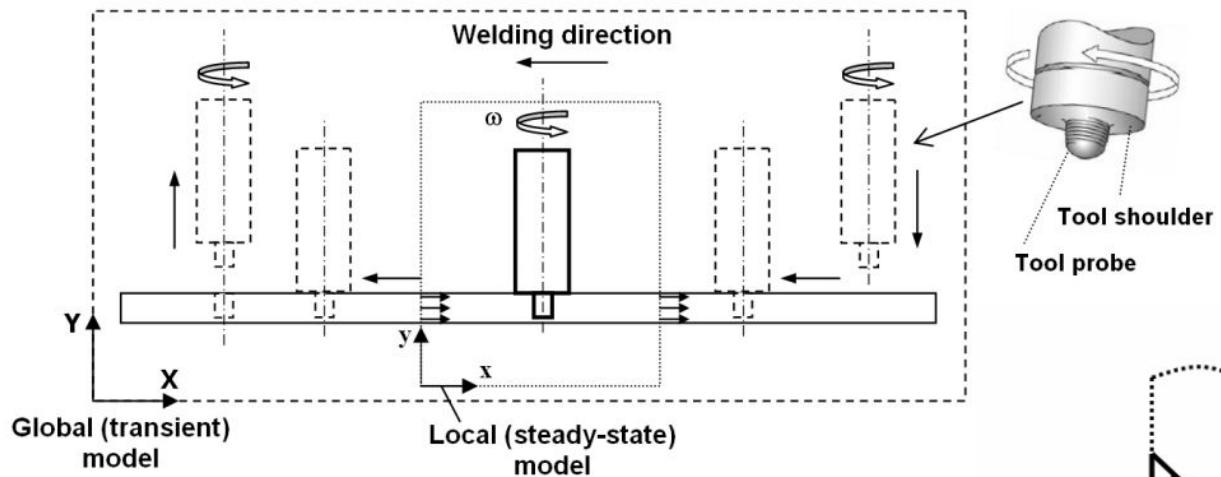
Background / Quick resume

➤ Industrial Experience (continued):

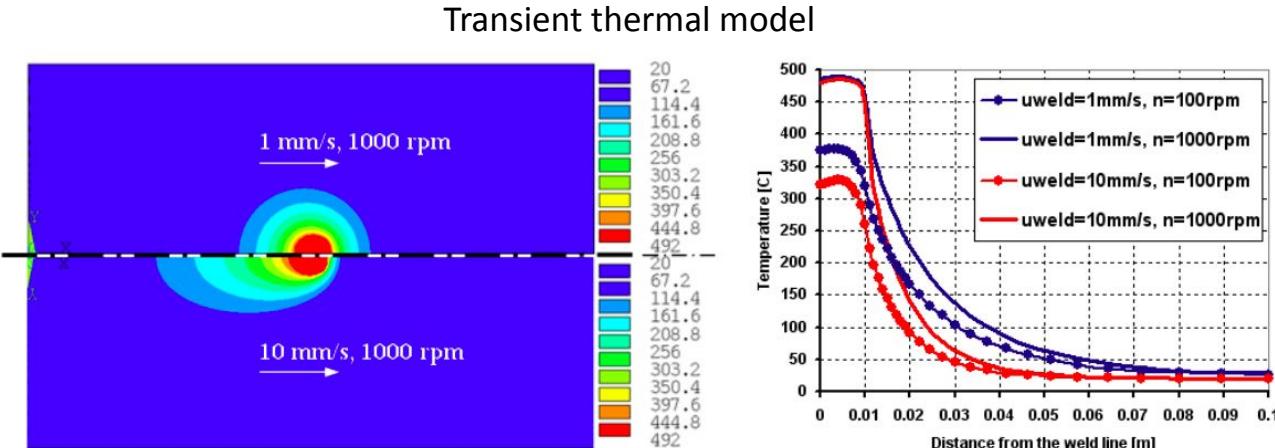
- **ICON Technology**, Austin, TX (2022-2024)
 - Director of Computational Design Research in Strategic R&D Group
 - Built Digital Twins of 3D-printed buildings by integrating parametric design, process telemetry and automated product quality evaluation based on computer vision and point cloud processing.
 - Managed project for new computer vision pipeline with components ranging from image capture with multiple OAK-cameras and edge computing to cloud processing on AWS and dashboard tools.
 - Served as advisor for Space Team to better understand and control of laser processing of lunar regolith simulant using multi-physics simulations and machine learning.

Specialties Simulation

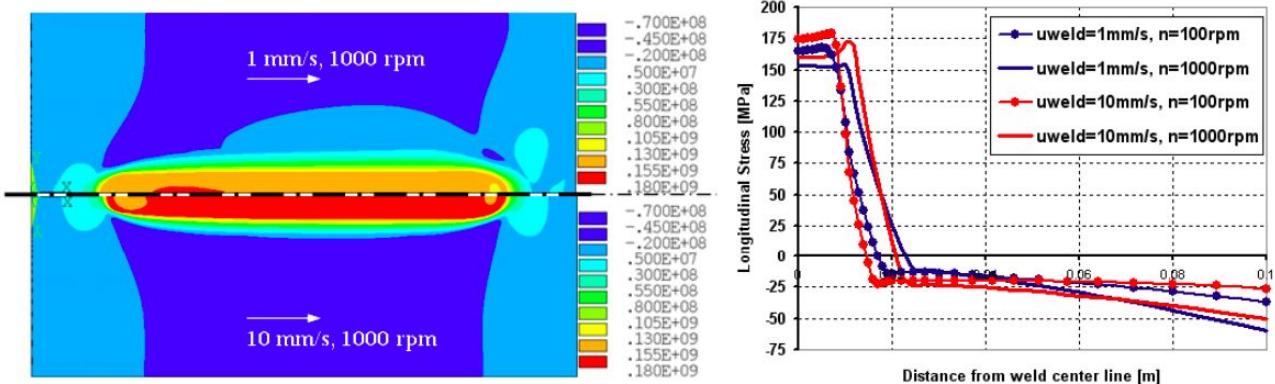
- Friction Stir Welding (TWI, 1991)
- Complex solid-state joining process
- High-strength aluminum alloys
- Somewhat lower residual stresses
- Heat generation via friction and mechanical defor.



Tutum and Hattel, 2010



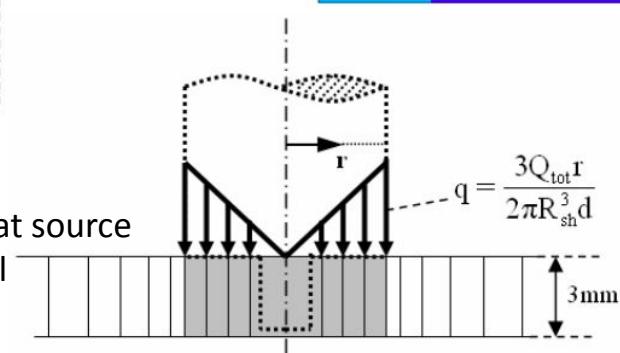
Transient thermo-mechanical model



Thermal-Pseudo-Mechanical Model

$$q(r, T) = \omega r \tau(T) = \left(\frac{n}{60} \right) r \frac{\sigma_{yield}(T)}{\sqrt{3}}, \text{ for } 0 \leq r \leq R_{shoulder}$$

$$\sigma_{yield}(T) = \sigma_{yield,ref} \left(1 - \frac{T - T_{ref}}{T_{melt} - T_{ref}} \right)$$

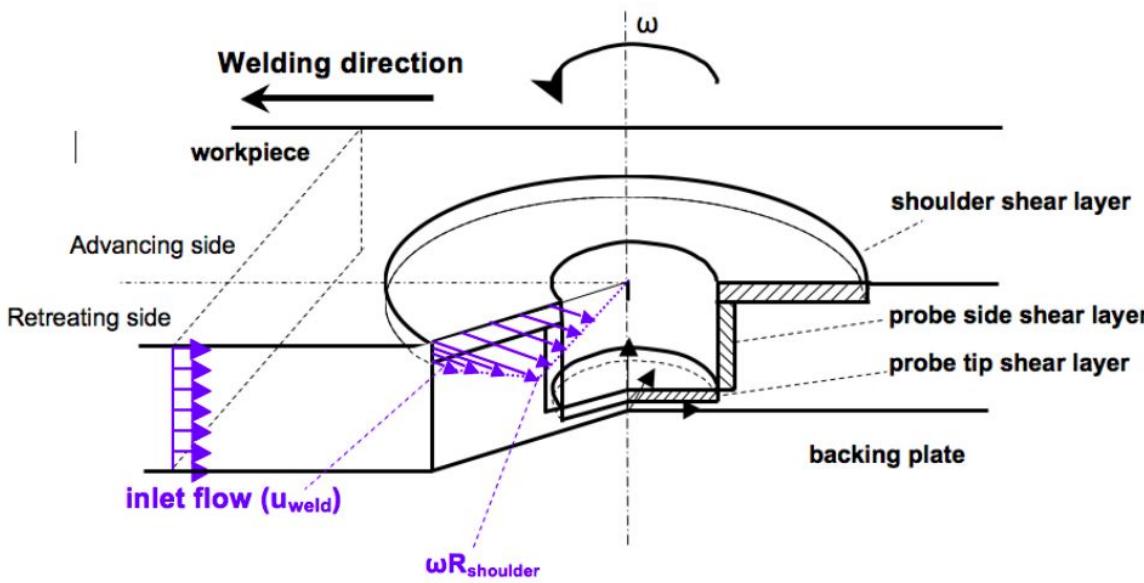


Schmidt and Hattel, 2008

Developed fast and reliable thermal and residual stress models for optimization.

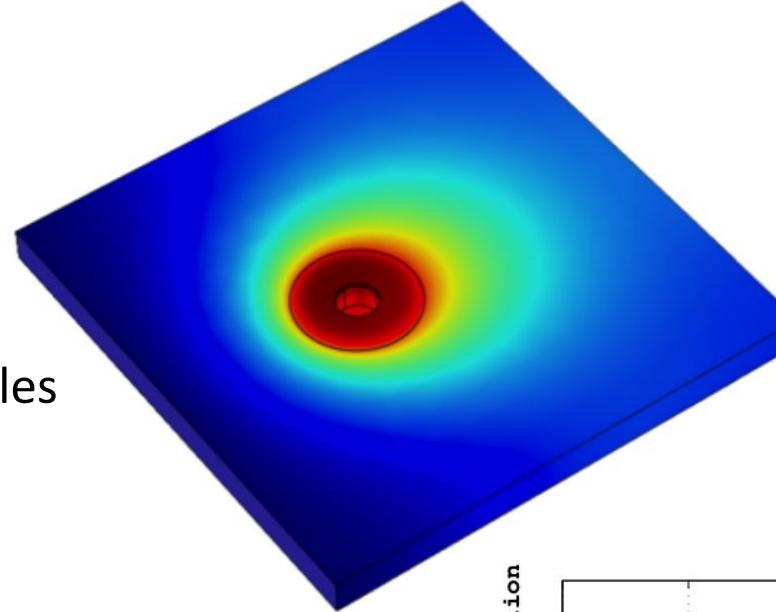
Specialties Optimization

- Sample-efficient (constrained) optimization
- Control parameters: Tool design, Process variables
- Maximize production rate
- Constraints (i.e., hot and cold weld conditions)



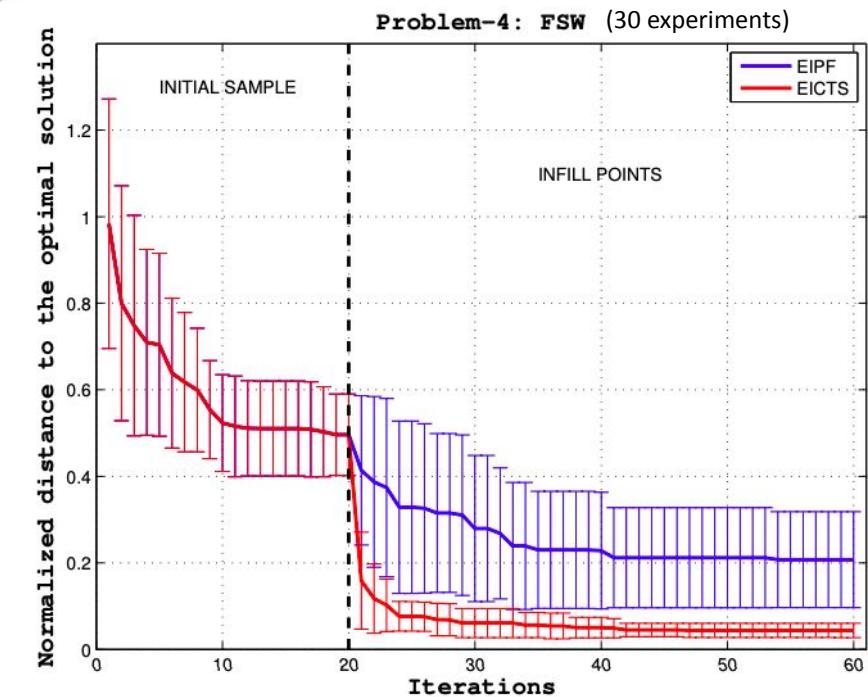
EICTS: Expected Improvement with Constraint Tournament Selection

EIPF: Expected Improvement with Probability of Feasibility



TPM heat source model:

$$q_{vol}(x, y, T) = \frac{\omega r(x, y) \sigma_{yield}(T)}{\sqrt{3} t_{SL}}$$

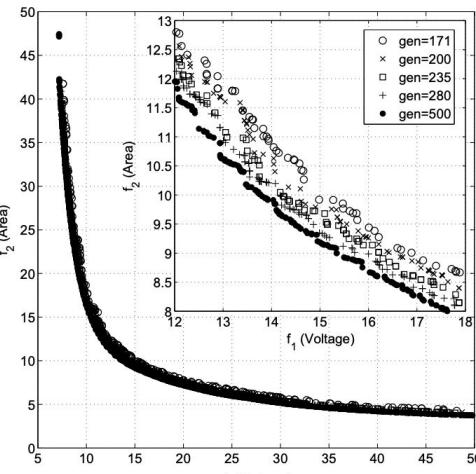
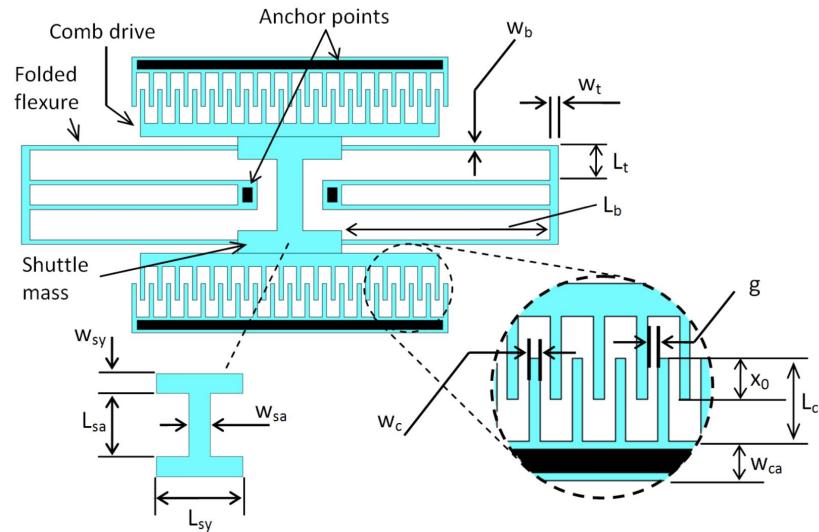


Tutum, et al., 2016

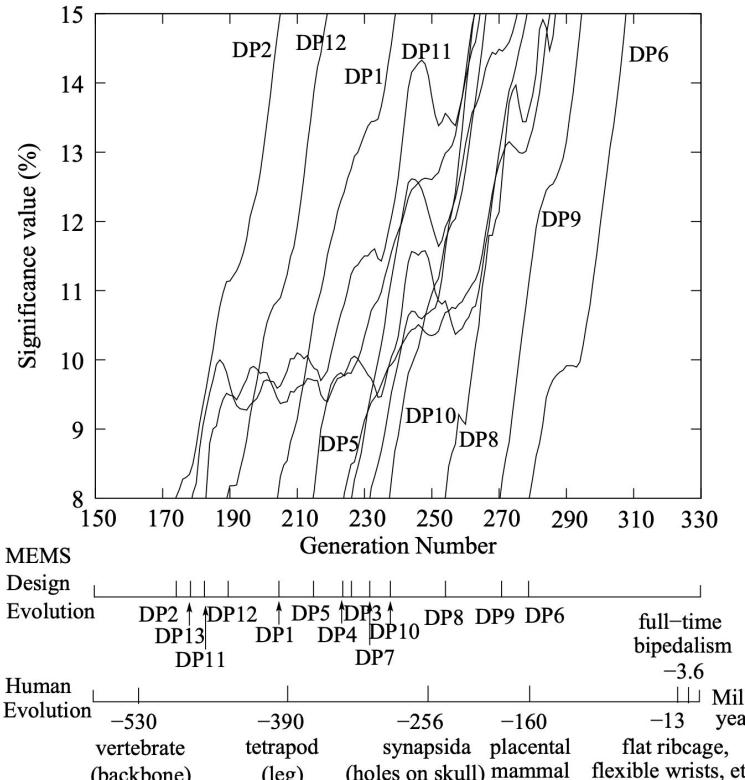
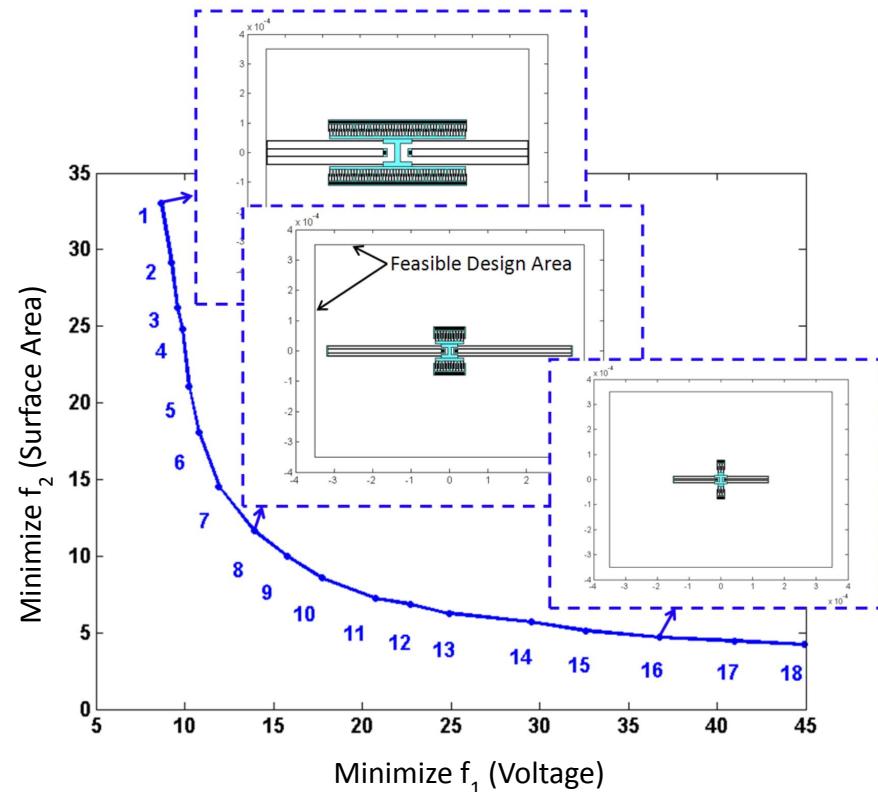
EICTS is 1.5-3.5x faster and more accurate than the state-of-the-art method (i.e., EIPF).

Specialties Optimization

MEMS design



Progress of the Pareto Front



Temporal Evolution of Design Principles in Engineering Systems

Tutum and Fan, GECCO 2011

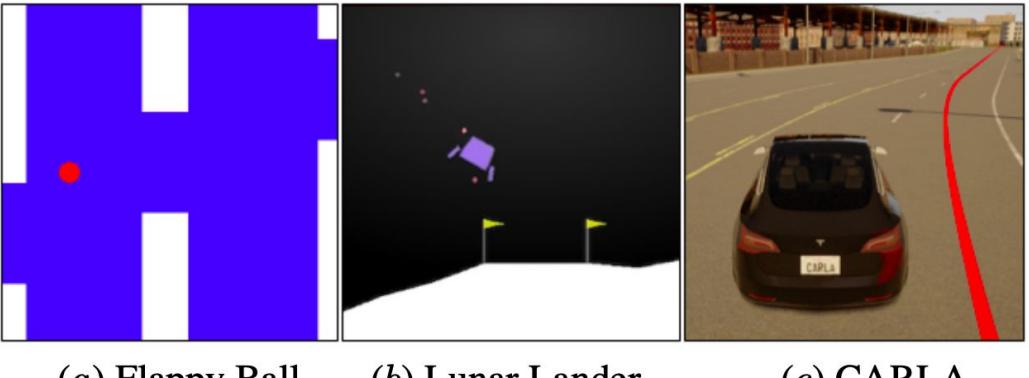
Deb, Bandaru, Tutum, PPSN 2012

Multi-objective optimization provides rich information about tradeoffs in product design.

Specialties

Machine Learning

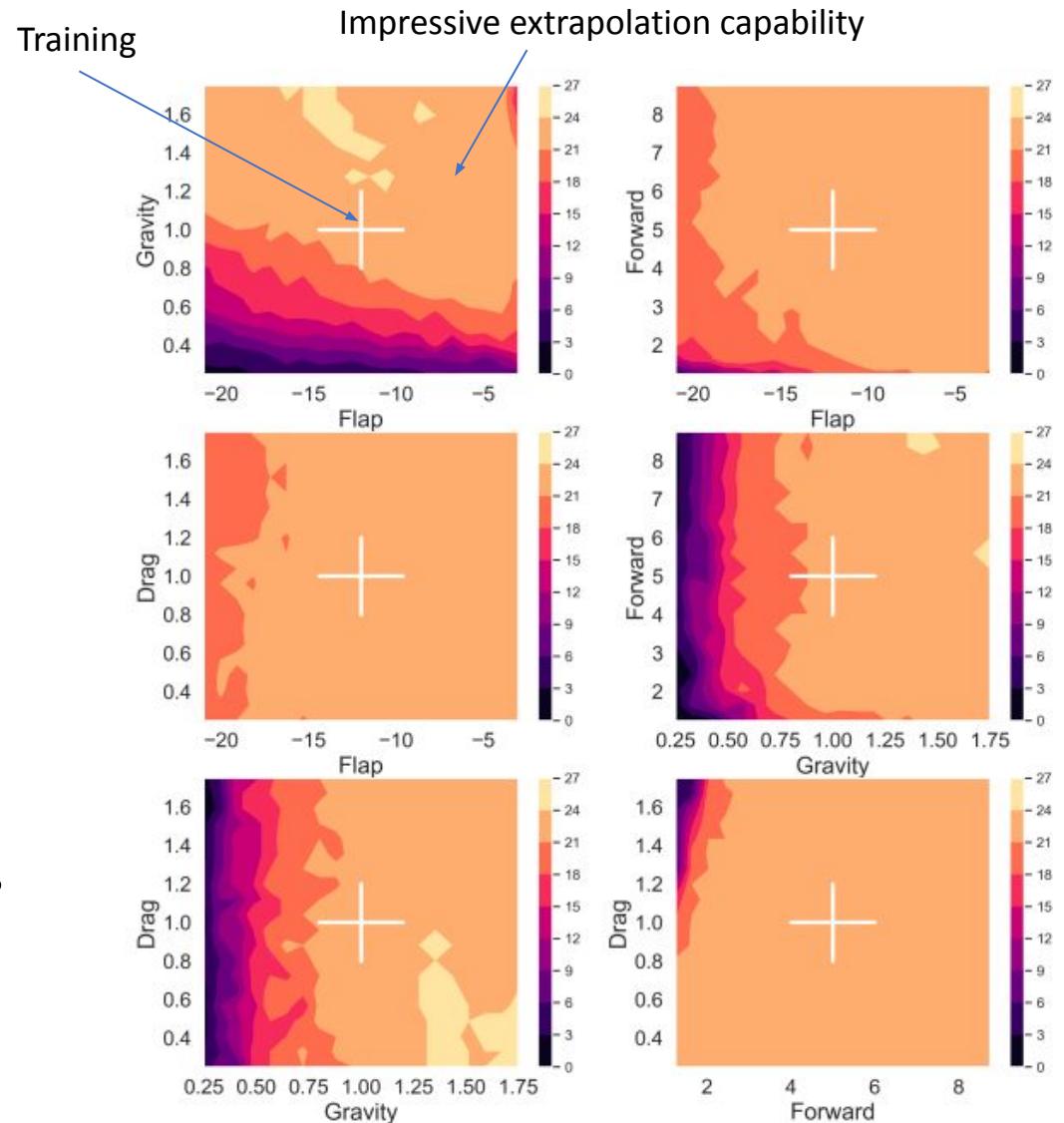
- Robust decision-making (DARPA project, L2M Program)



- Parametric changes in POMDP environments
 - Better generalization performance is achieved for both interpolation and extrapolation, w.r.t. S-only and C-only models
 - Limited training: Effects vary +/- 20% along one axis
 - Extensive testing: Effects vary +/- 70% in all axes at once

Tutum and Miikkulainen, ALIFE 2020

Tutum, et al., IEEE CoG 2021



Context-Skill NN-model provides robust generalization capability before deployment.

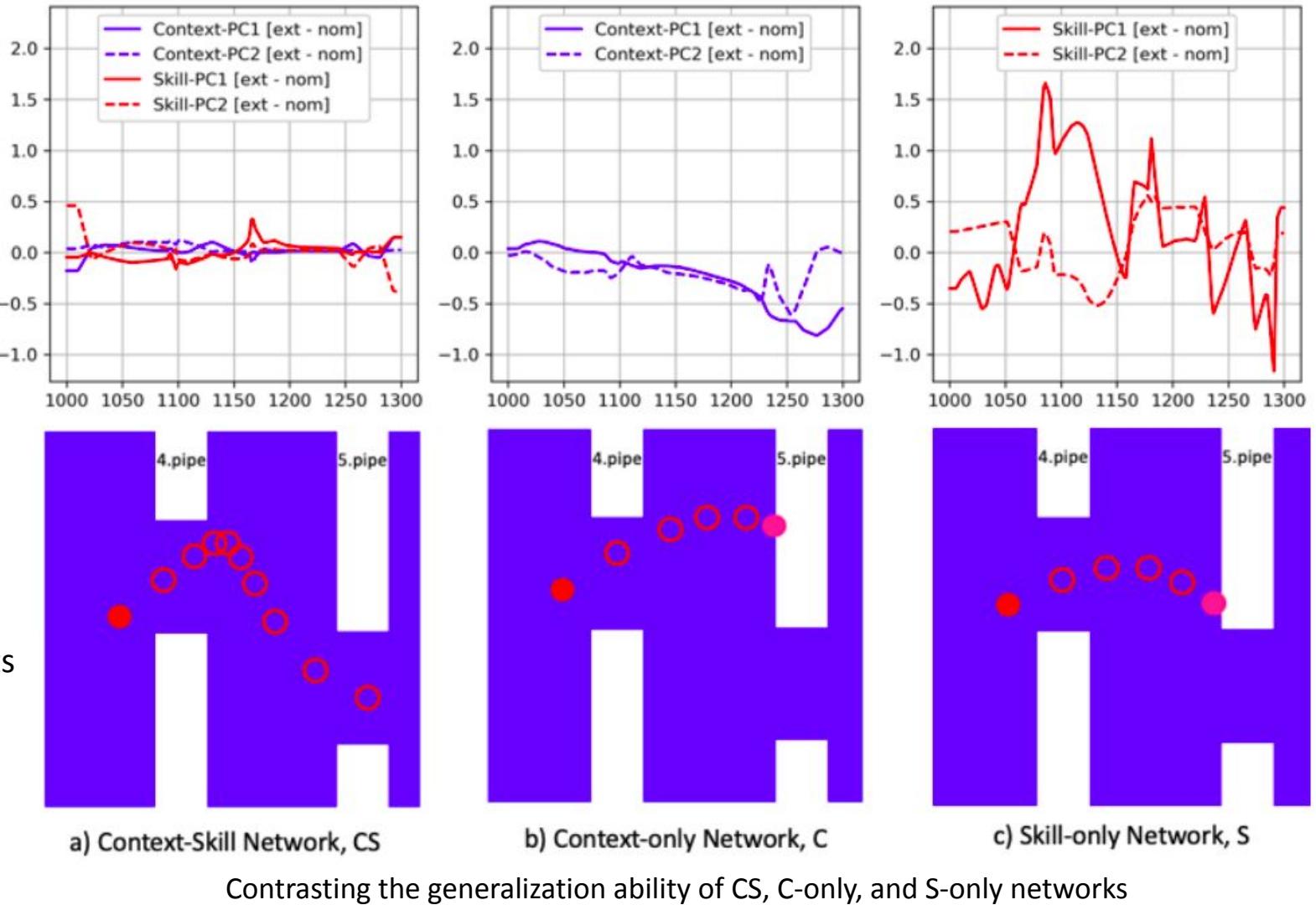
Specialties

Machine Learning

Change in C and S modules during generalization

Network	PC	MSD	STD
CS	Context-PC1	0.004	± 0.058
	Context-PC2	0.003	± 0.039
	Skill-PC1	0.007	± 0.082
	Skill-PC2	0.018	± 0.133
C	Context-PC1	0.139	± 0.282
C	Context-PC2	0.061	± 0.147
S	Skill-PC1	0.414	± 0.600
S	Skill-PC2	0.088	± 0.286

- Differences between the Principle Components of the Context and Skill module outputs between the nominal and generalization tasks differ little in CS-model. Therefore, controller does not get confused in an anomaly case.



Context-Skill NN-model provides robust generalization capability before deployment.

Specialties

Process Monitoring & Defect Analysis

Process data:

Robot nozzle position-X, Y, Z

Weld-job, Layer

Voltage, Current

Wire Feed Speed

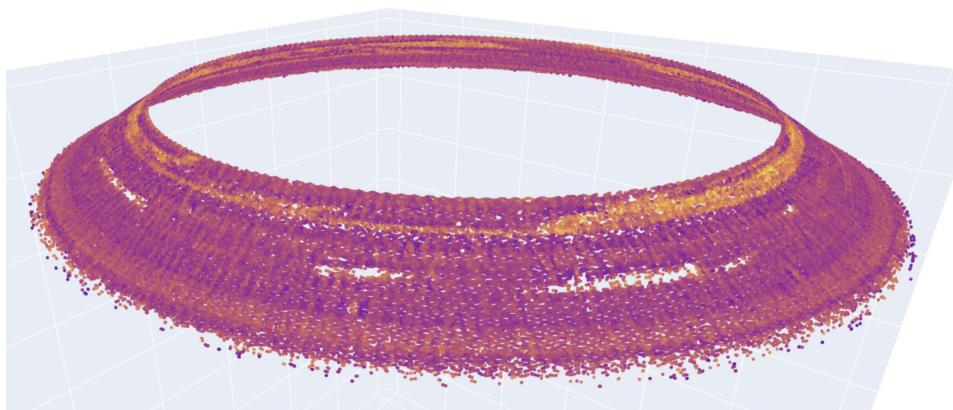
End effector-z control

Contact tip to part distance

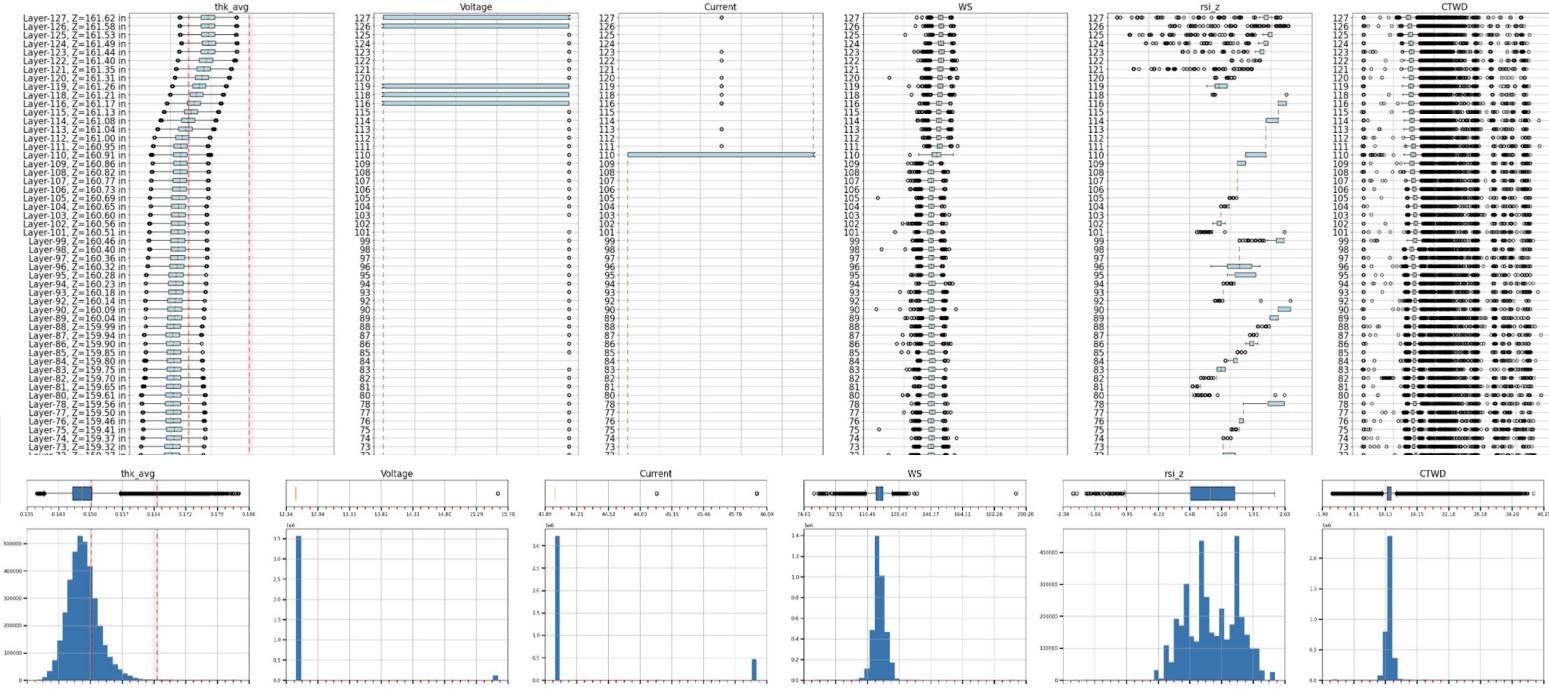
Temperature, Humidity

Shielding gas flow

Wall thickness (min, max, average), etc.



Wall thickness point cloud (from lasers)



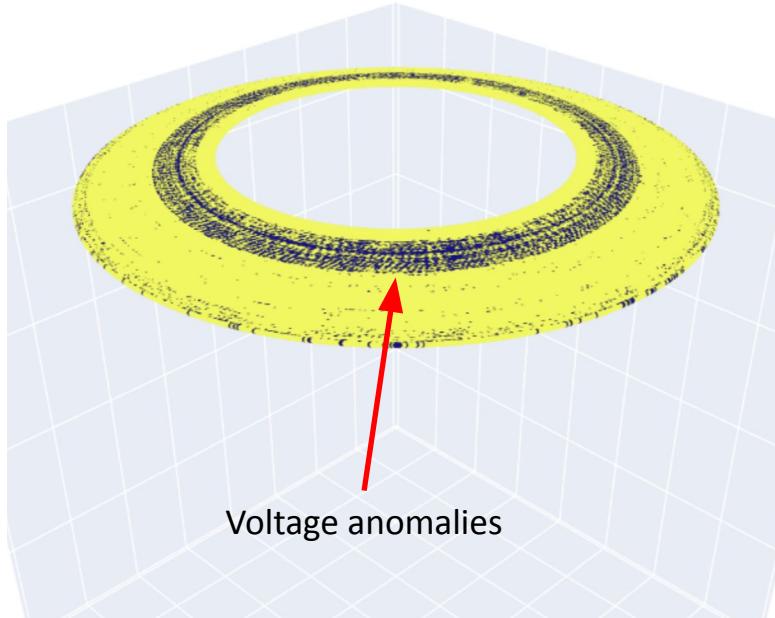
Weld-job Summary (Histogram)

Telemetry is mapped on to spatial (3D) coordinates and supported by statistical summary.

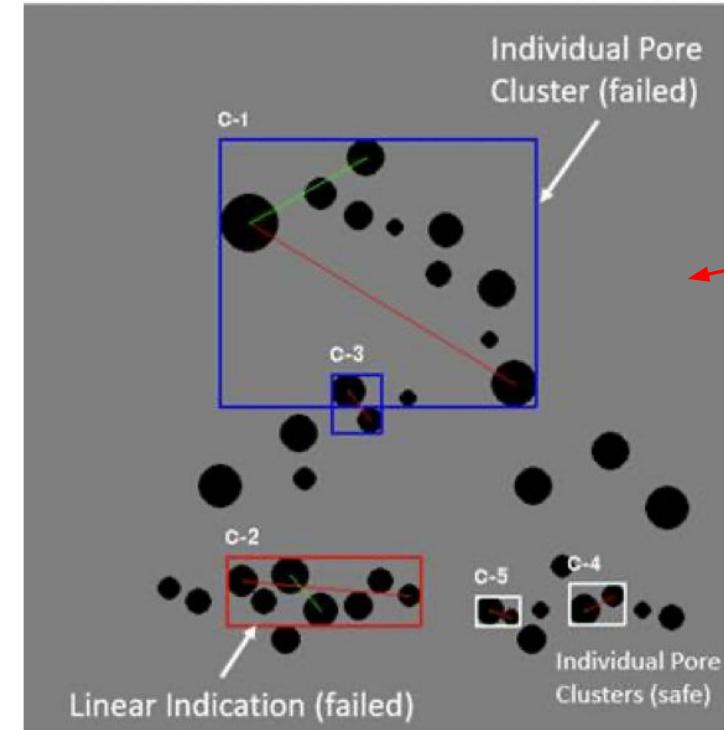
Specialties

Process Monitoring & Defect Analysis

(Relativity Space)



Additional metadata is viewed when you hover your mouse on the point cloud (including technician's reports, manual parameter changes, etc.)



This clustering analysis is done on preprocessed RT-images

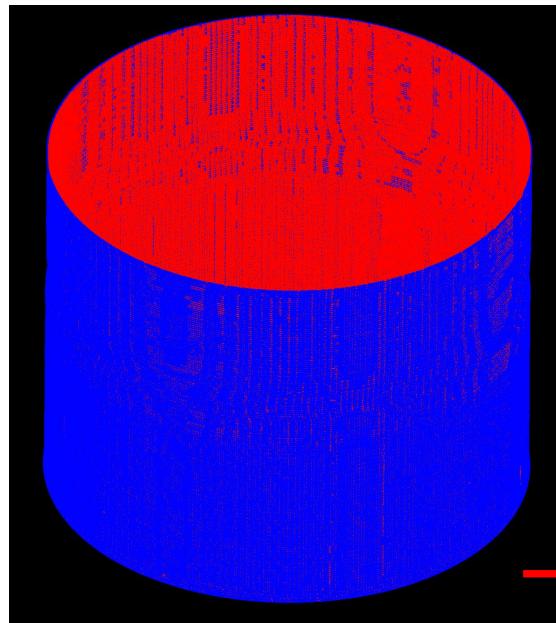
Class-R failure criterion (Patent pending)

Anomalies in telemetry spatially detected. Failure criteria for distribution and size of porosities, as detected in X-Ray images, developed for additively manufactured rocket structures.

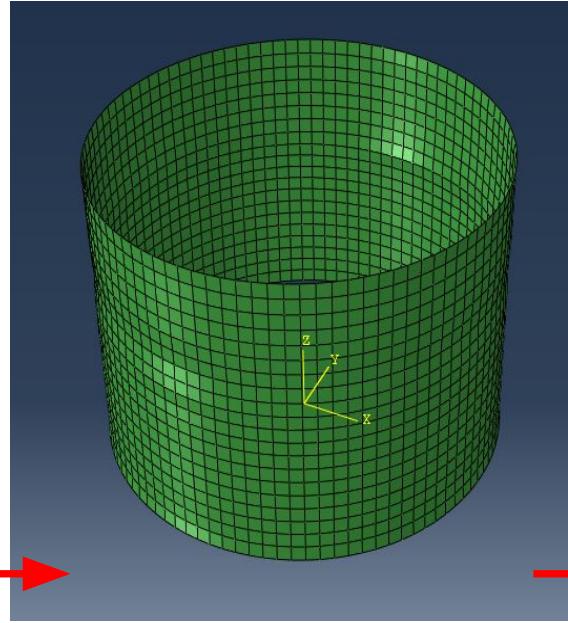
Specialties

Processing Large Point Clouds

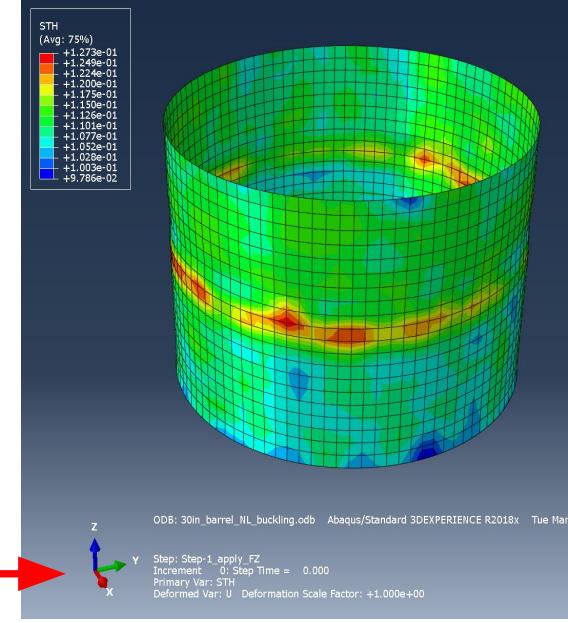
(Relativity Space)



Test print (18M points)
Red: Inner Dia., Blue: Outer Dia.



Mid-surface (shell) model in ABAQUS
(with true thicknesses)



Buckling analysis in ABAQUS

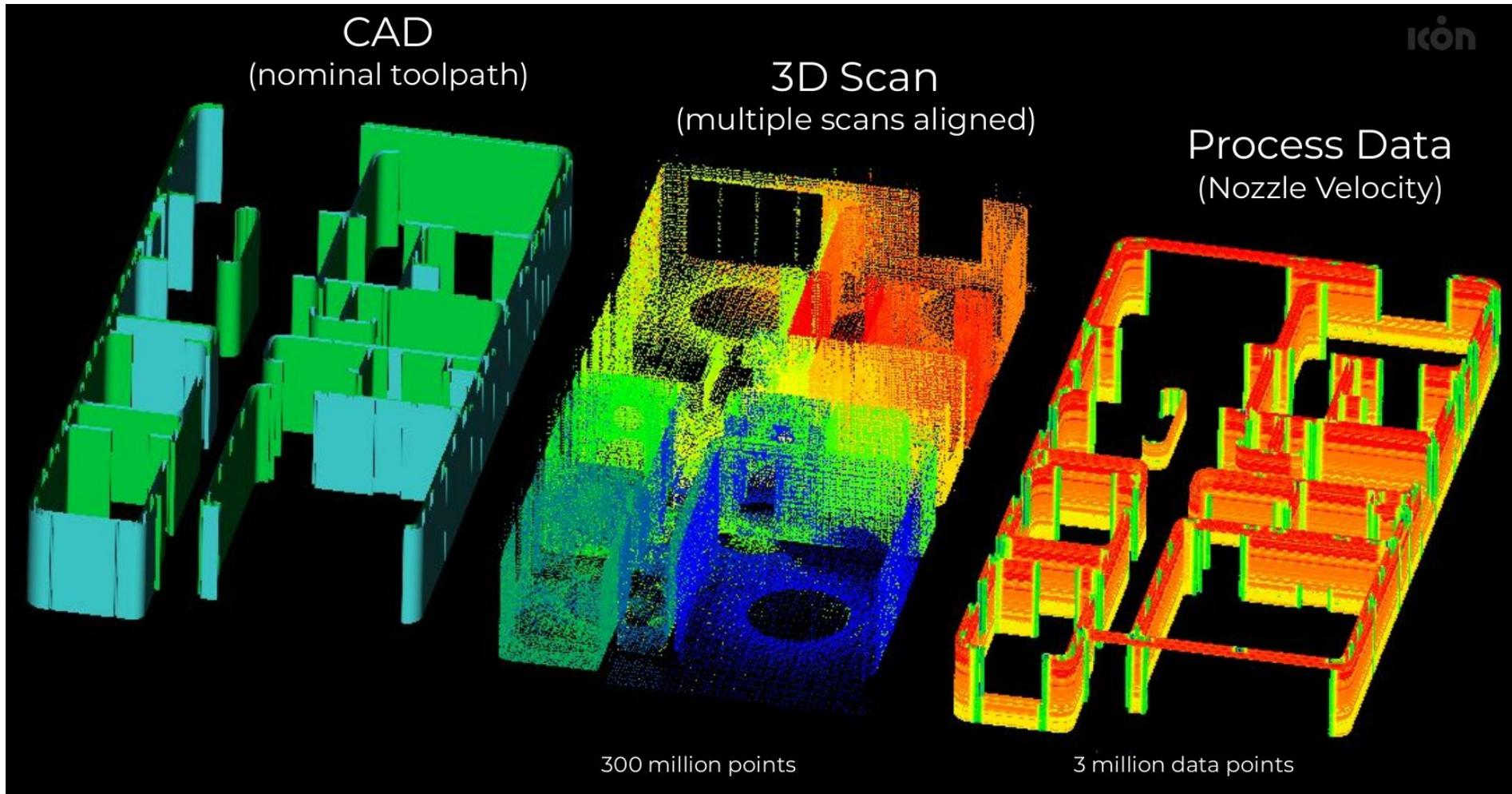
High-fidelity buckling model is developed by updating nominal shell model with processed 3D scan data.

Specialties

Digital Twin & Spatial Computing

(ICON Technology)

3D-printed house



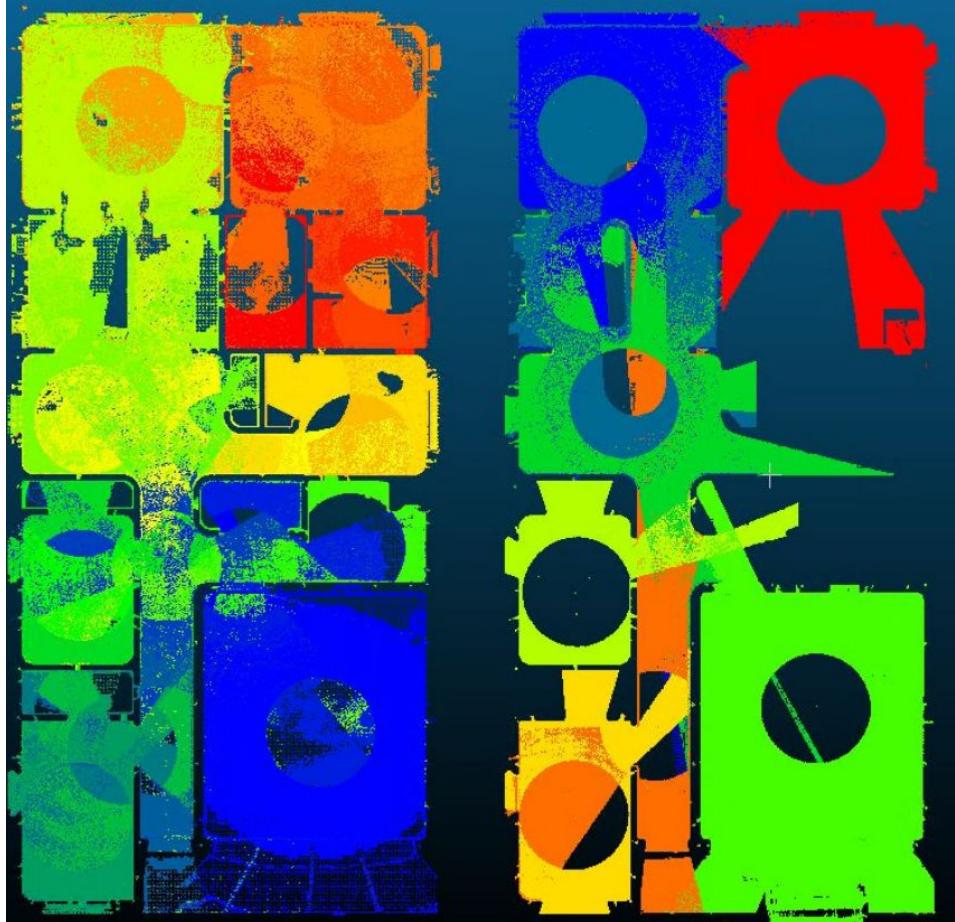
Digital Twin is built by fusing design, process-telemetry and product quality (3D scan, CV) for causal analysis and design for additive manufacturing.

Specialties

Digital Twin & Spatial Computing (ICON Technology)

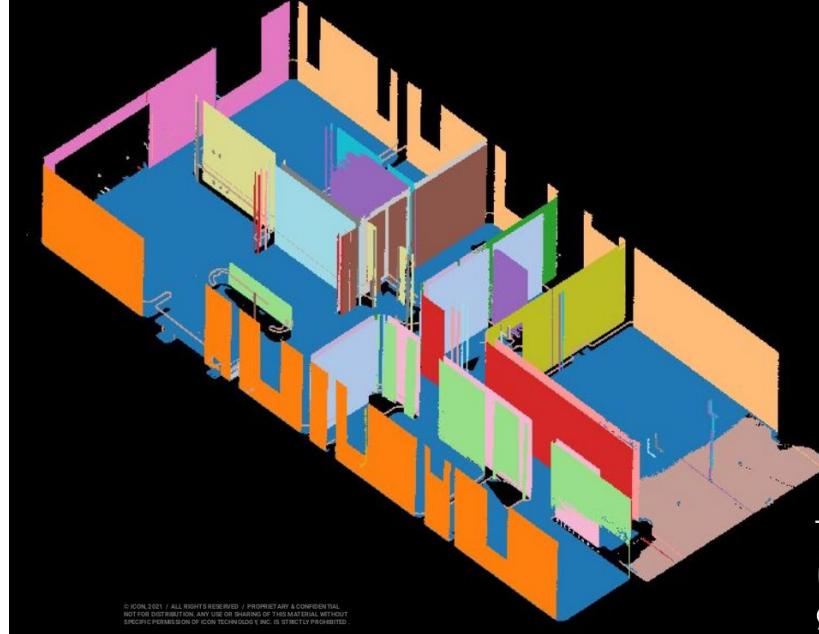
Low resolution, high number of scans
(25 x 12 million points)

High resolution, low number of scans
(8 x 60 million points)

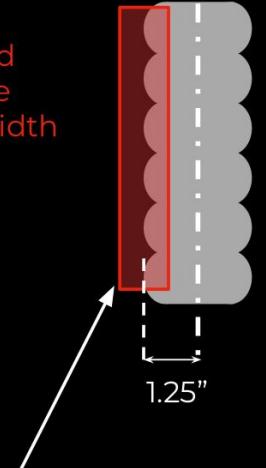


Unsupervised Machine Learning (no need for labels!)

- Segmentation (e.g., detect major 20 planes from 3D scan)



Scanner can capture the bead surface from one side (i.e., bead width not known)



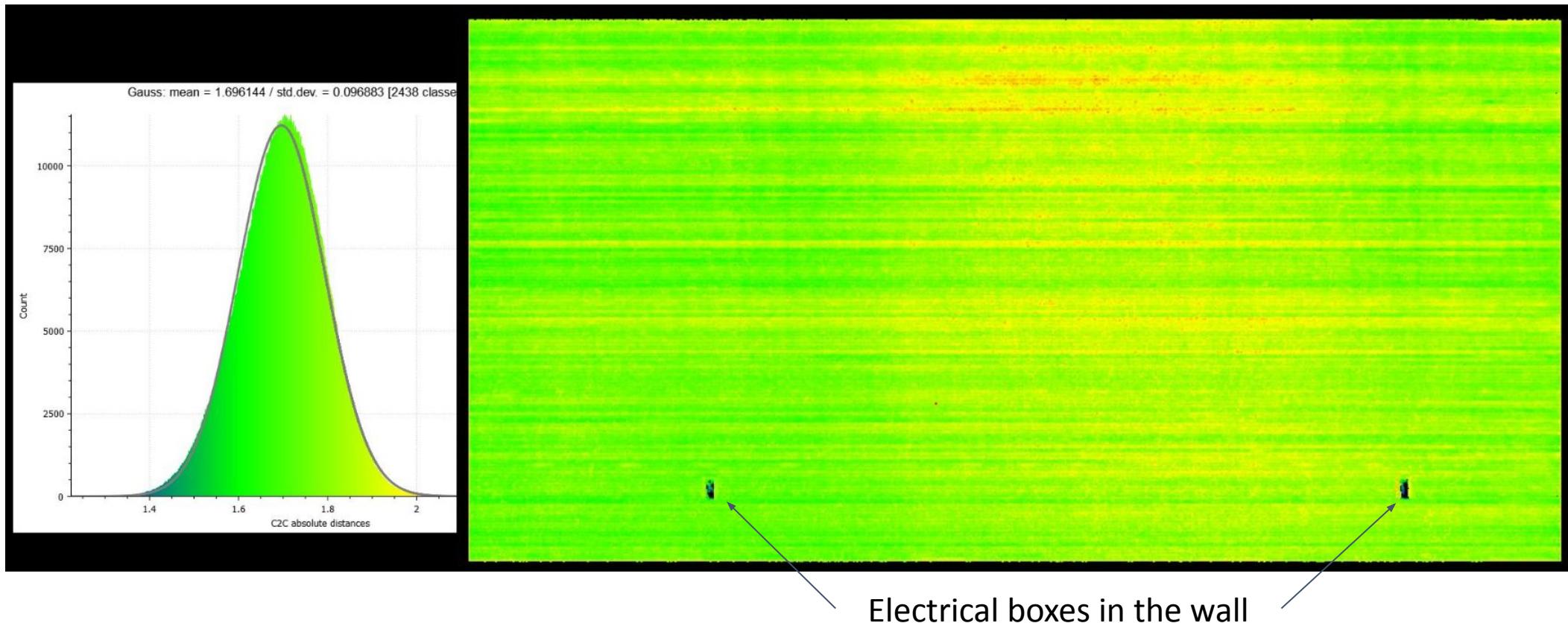
The objective is to detect such planes (thickness= $d_{threshold}$) identifying walls or ground

3D Object detection developed to segment the point clouds into walls, ground and outliers for each detected plane.

Specialties

Digital Twin & Spatial Computing (ICON Technology)

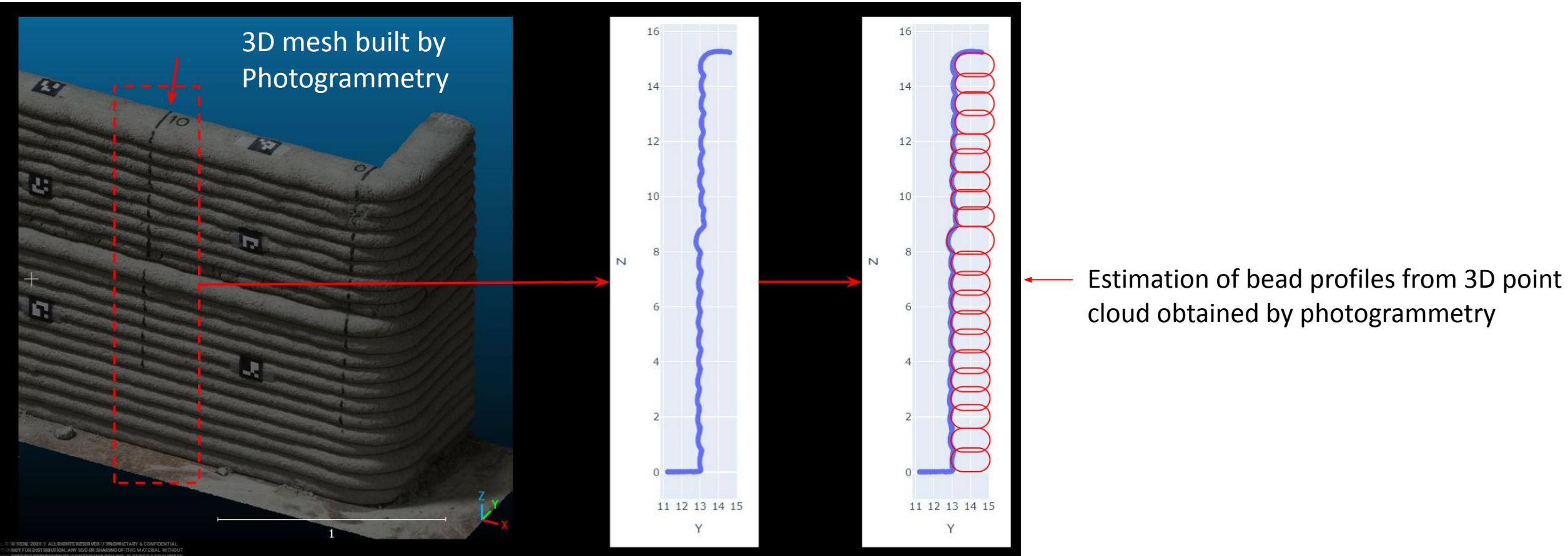
Heatmap on the right shows the deviation of 3D-printed wall surface from ideal plane together with mean and standard deviation (left).



Product quality assessment for each 3D-printed wall is automated by statistical analysis of the point clouds.

Specialties

Digital Twin & Spatial Computing (ICON Technology)

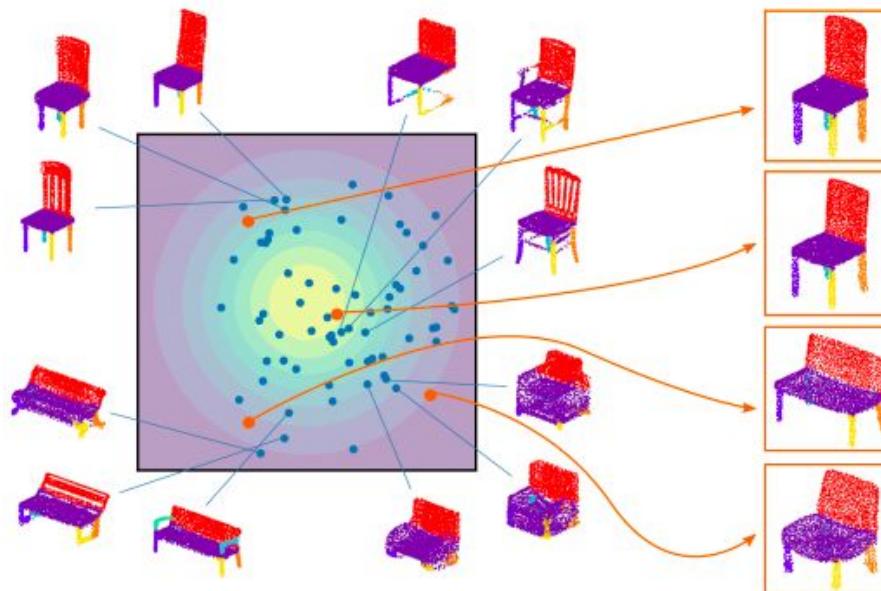


Photogrammetry is used to build 3D mesh from 2D images (with April tags). Bead profiles are computed by processing each slice from 3D-point clouds.

Focus Project: Functional Generative Design

Motivation

- ML has contributed to major success stories across industries.
- Mostly supervised learning (labeled data), i.e., computer vision, medical diag., NLP, etc.
- Limited interest in unsupervised learning, though generative models gained popularity in 2D image or 3D shape generation.

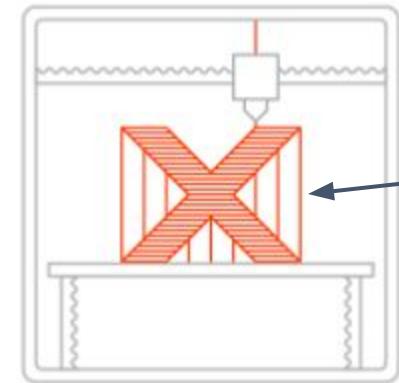
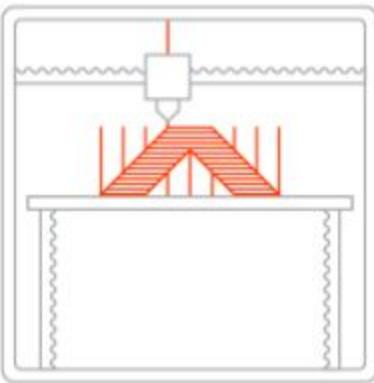
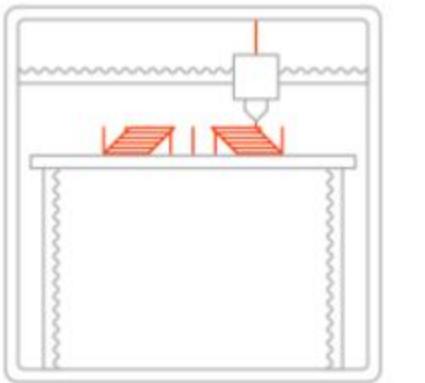


Nash, C. and Williams, K.I., 2017

Focus Project: Functional Generative Design

Motivation

Question: How can we design functional parts for 3D printing?



Fused Deposition Modeling Process



- Takes time/effort to remove
- Produces waste material
- Leaves excess plastic behind
- Damage object during removal

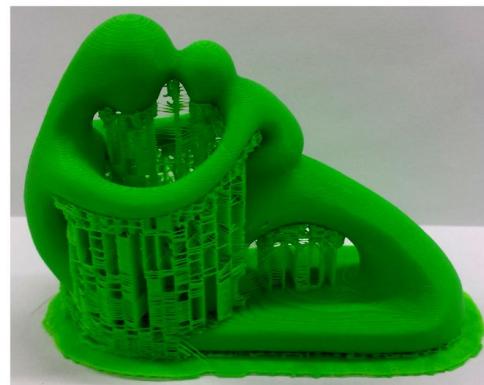
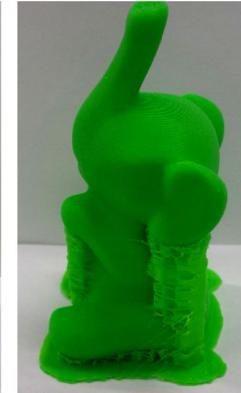
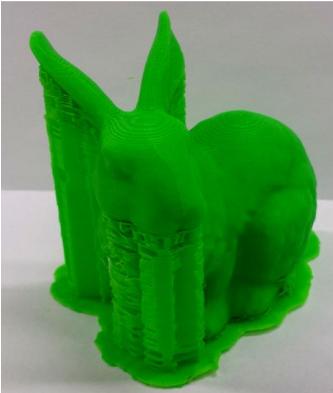
requires
post-processing

Printed
supports

Focus Project: Functional Generative Design

Motivation

- Examples for 3D printed non-functional parts



Focus Project: Functional Generative Design

Motivation

- We can decompose parts to minimize the use of supports



3D Printed parts with supports



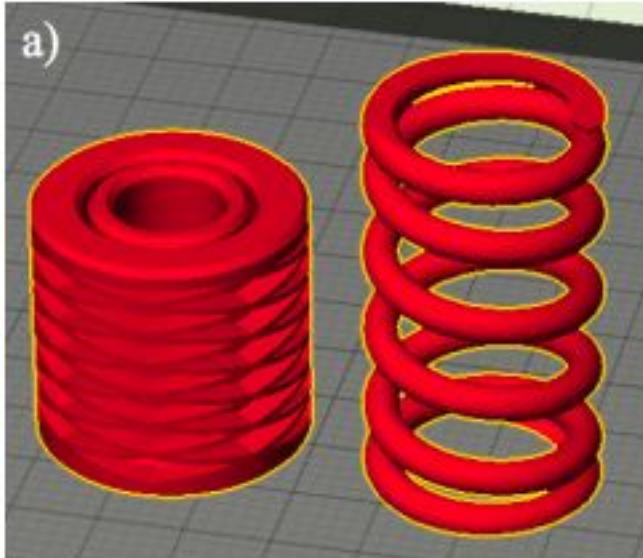
Decomposed objects

Focus Project: Functional Generative Design

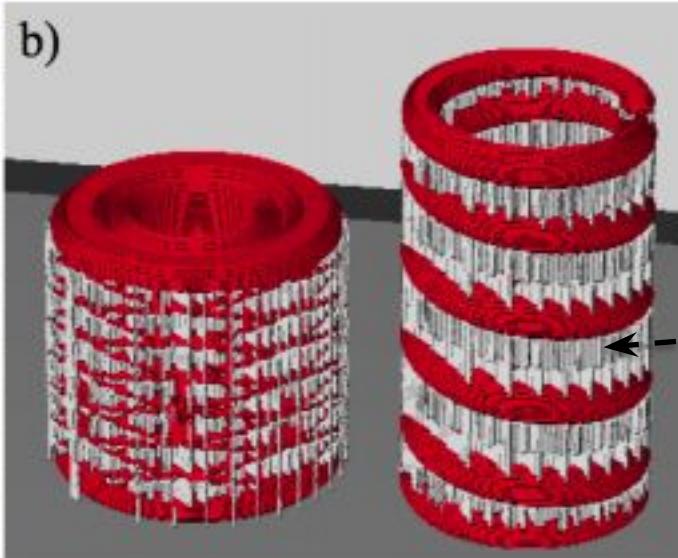
Motivation

- **PROBLEM-1:** Functional (i.e., load carrying) parts cannot be decomposed

Spring designs



Sliced springs

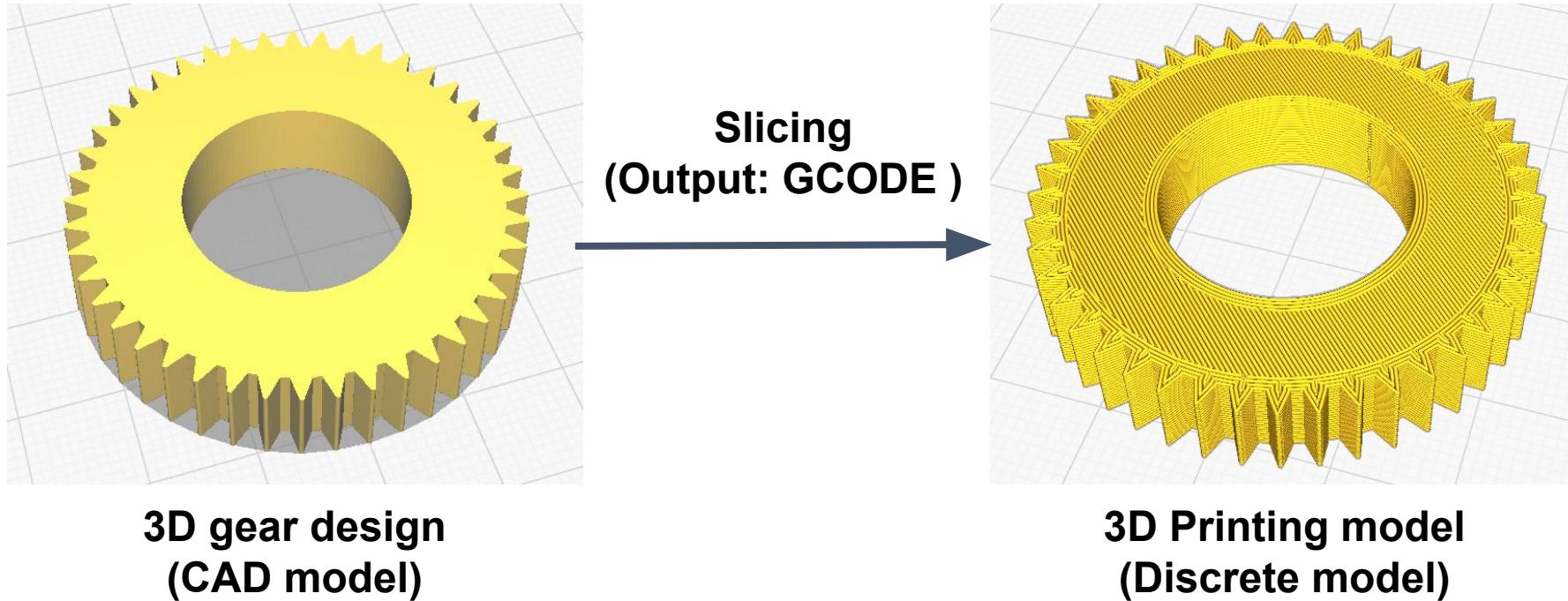


Supports
(Grey)

Focus Project: Functional Generative Design

Motivation

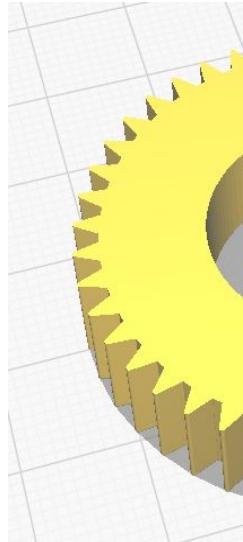
- **PROBLEM-2:** Limited resolution in 3D printing



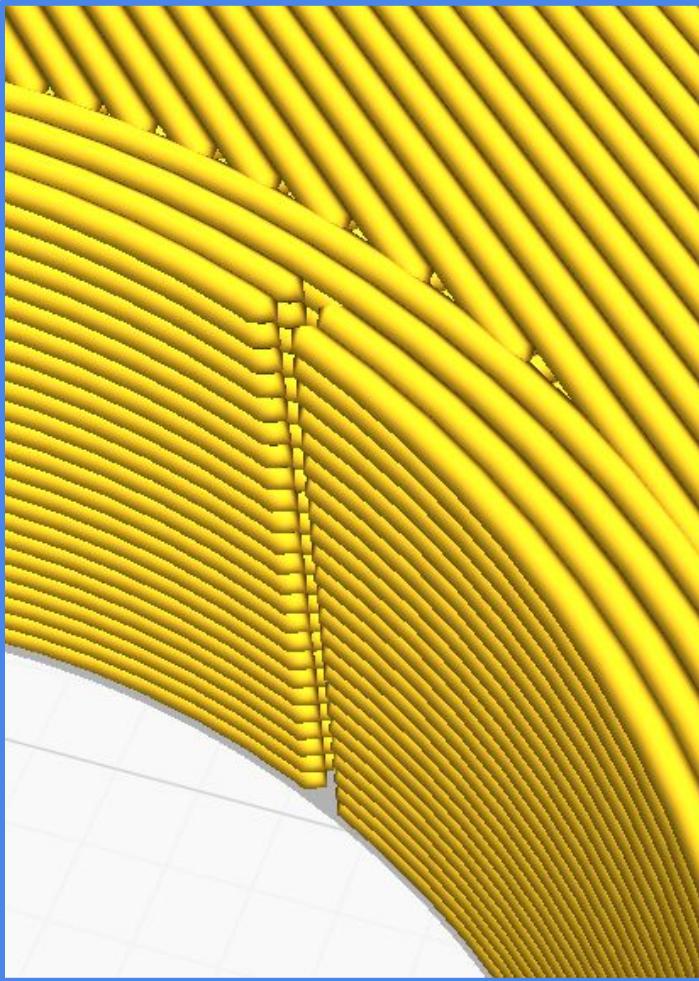
Focus Project: Functional Generative Design

Motivation

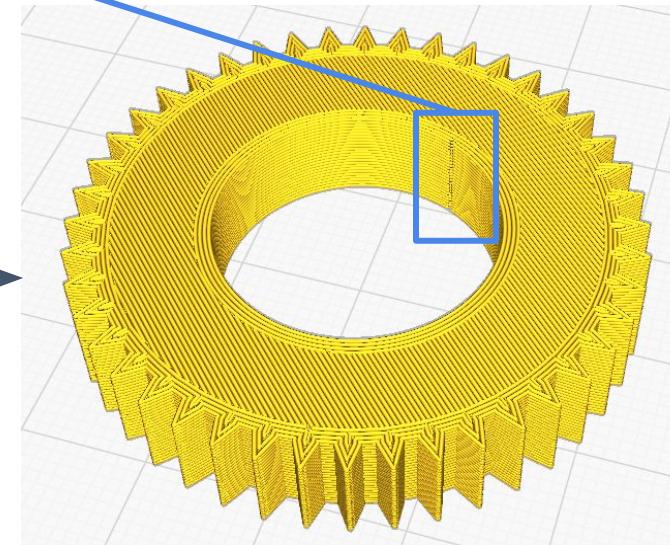
- PROBLEM-2: F



3D gear
(CAD)



ODE)

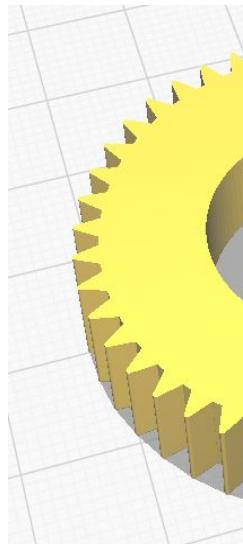


3D Printing model
(Discrete model)

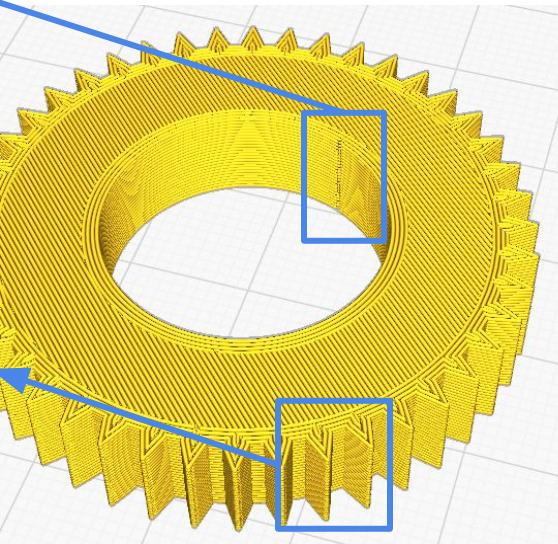
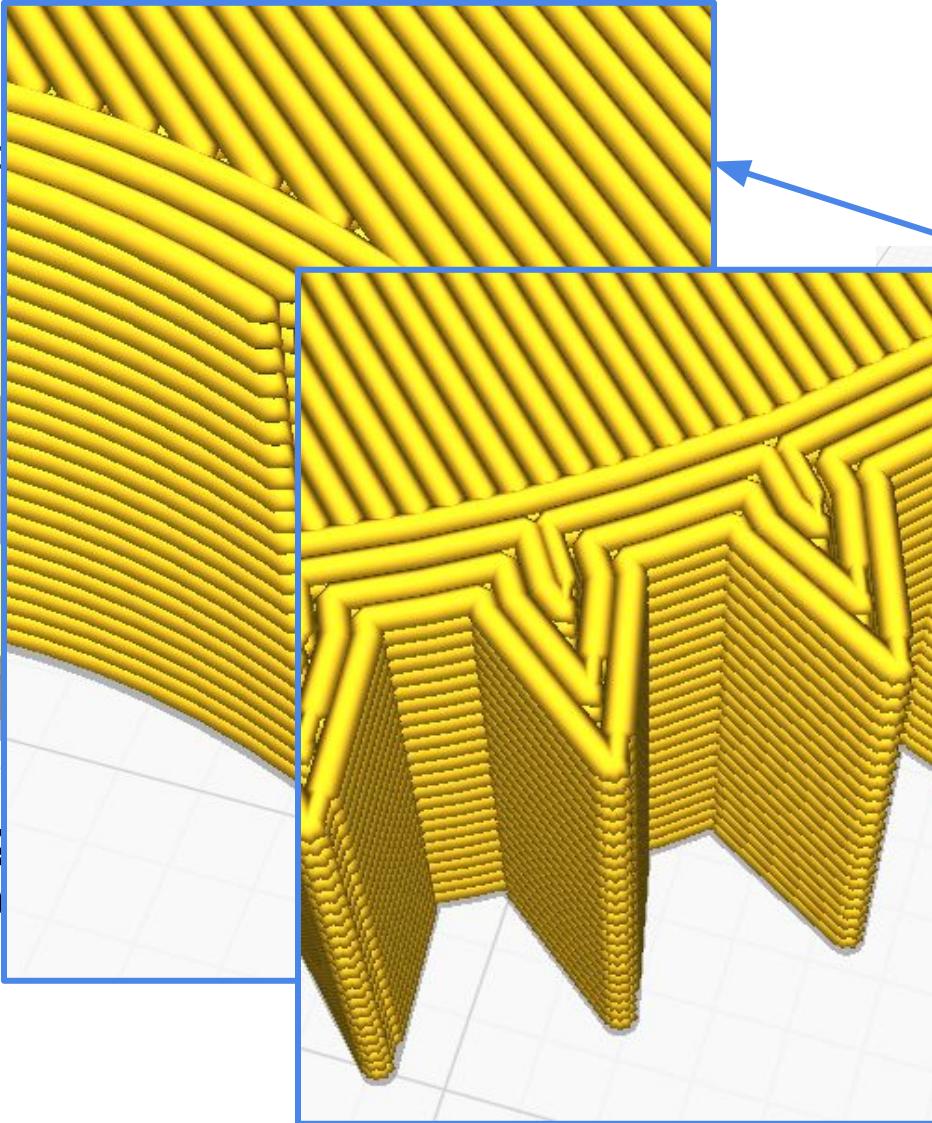
Focus Project: Functional Generative Design

Motivation

- PROBLEM-2: F



3D gear
(CAD model)

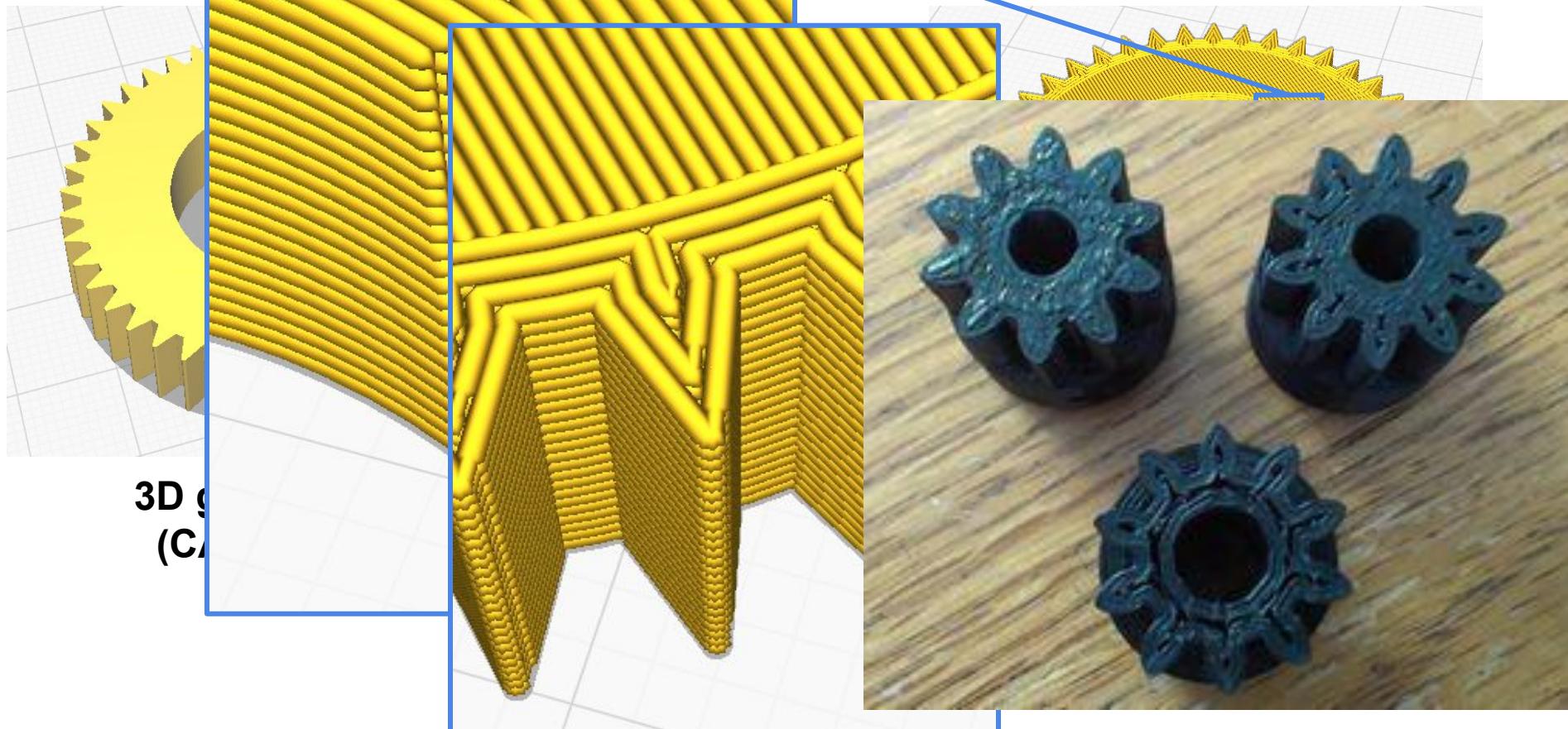


3D Printing model
(Discrete model)

Focus Project: Functional Generative Design

Motivation

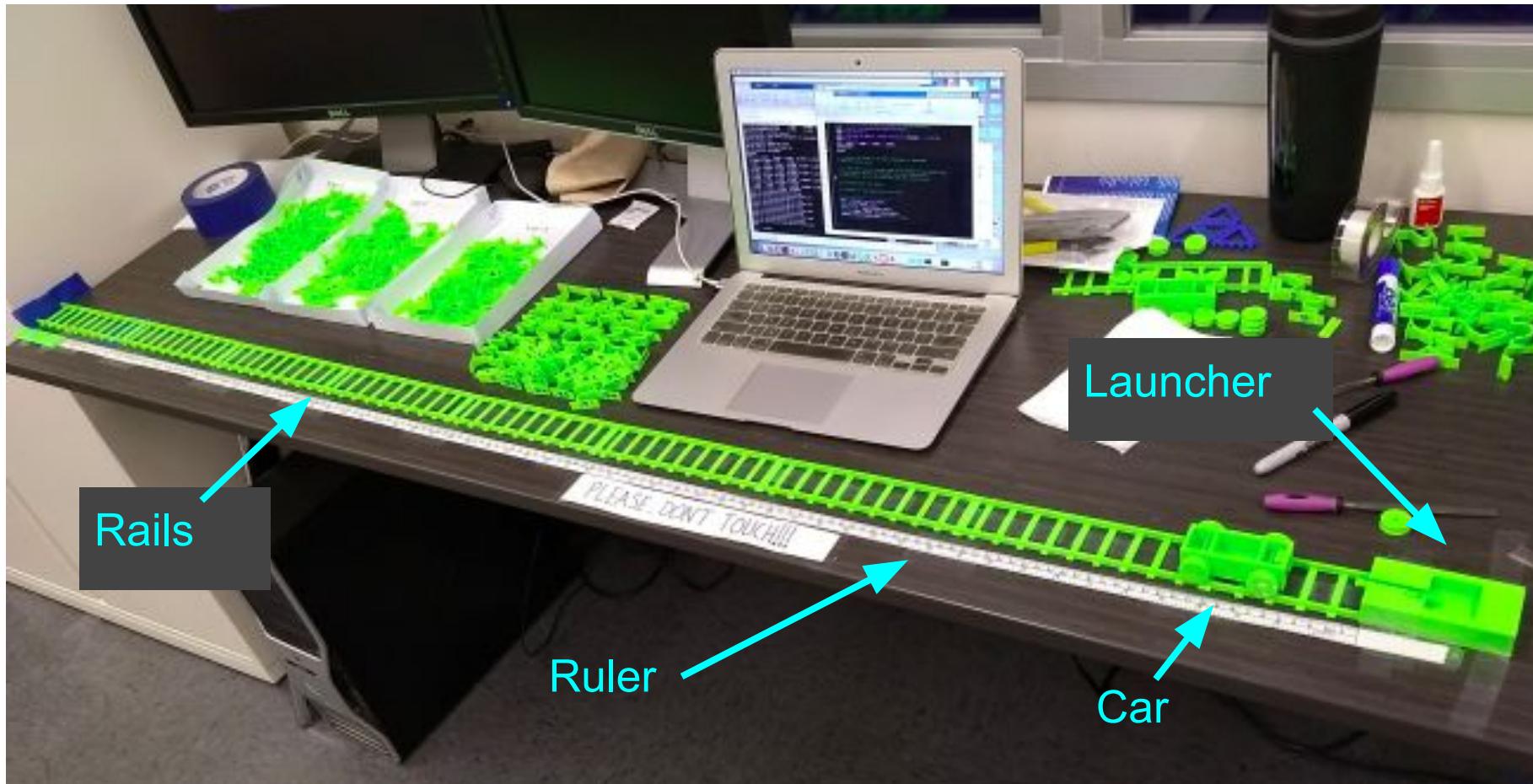
- PROBLEM-2: F



Focus Project: Functional Generative Design

Motivation

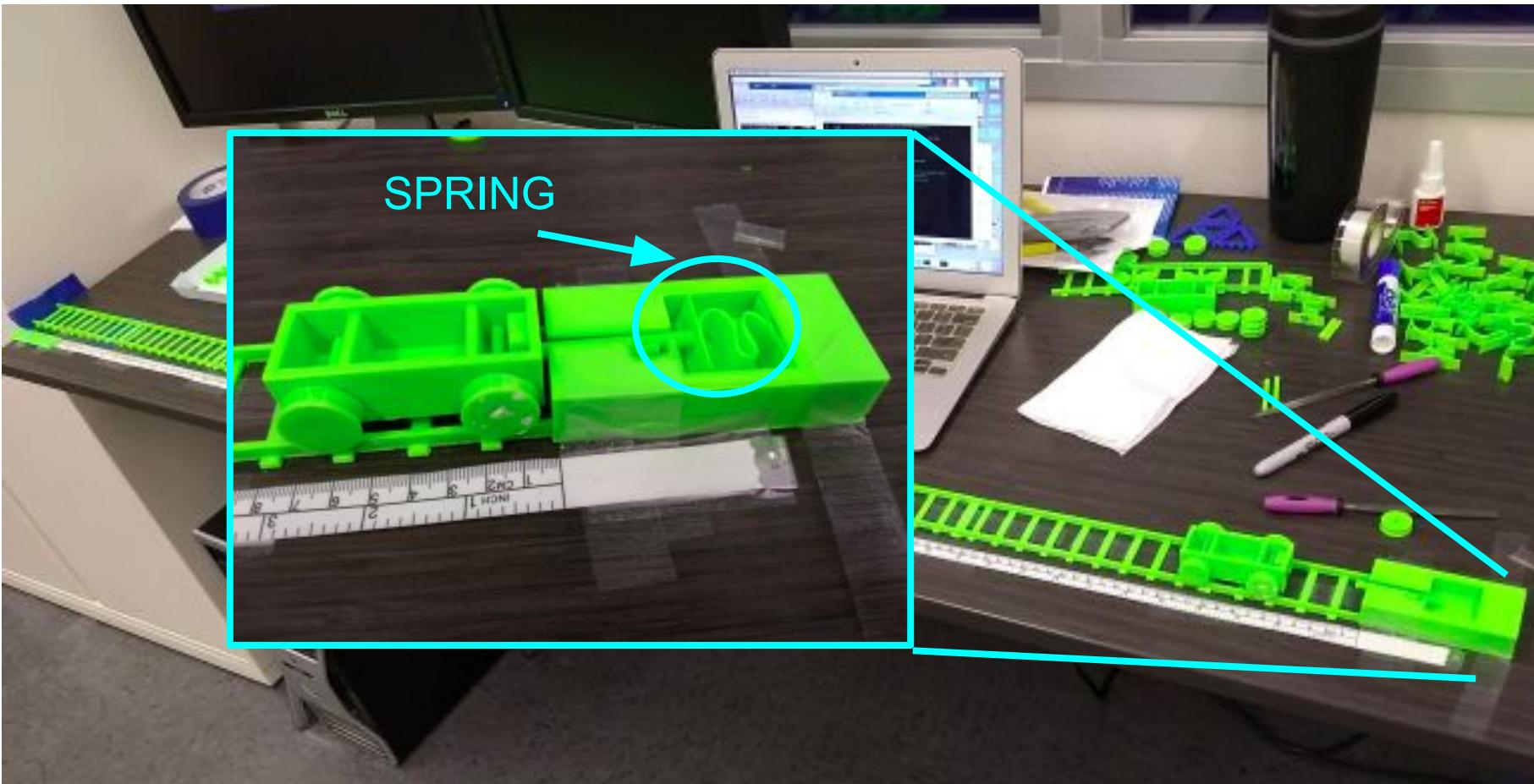
- Car-Launcher Mechanism – as a proof-of-concept



Focus Project: Functional Generative Design

Motivation

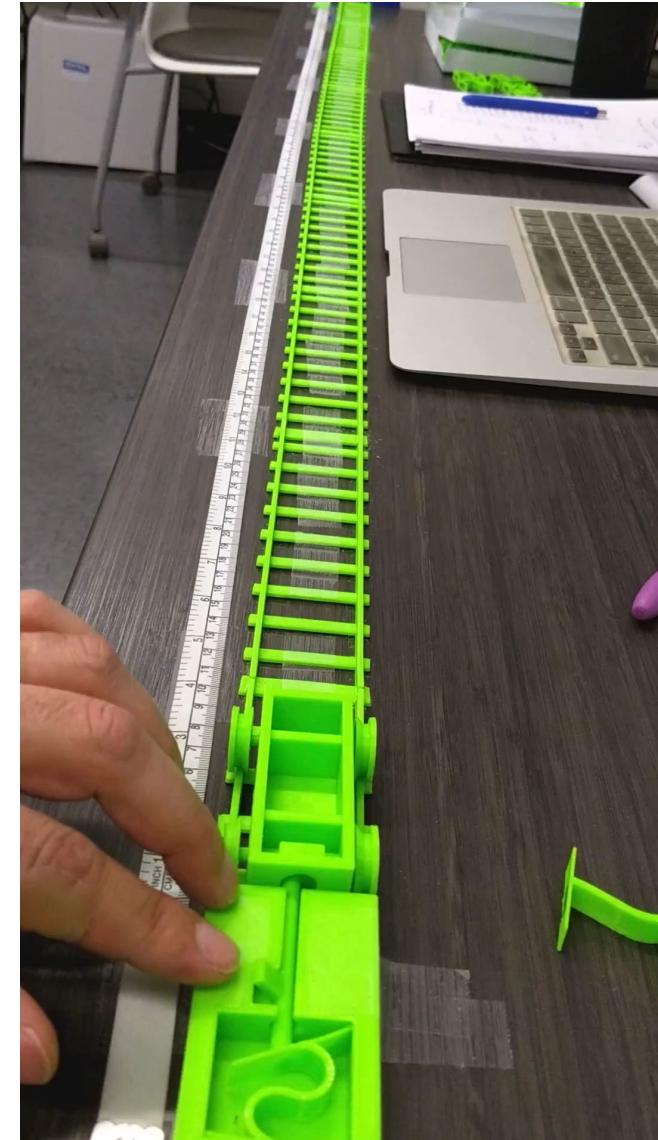
- Car-Launcher Mechanism – as a proof-of-concept



Focus Project: Functional Generative Design

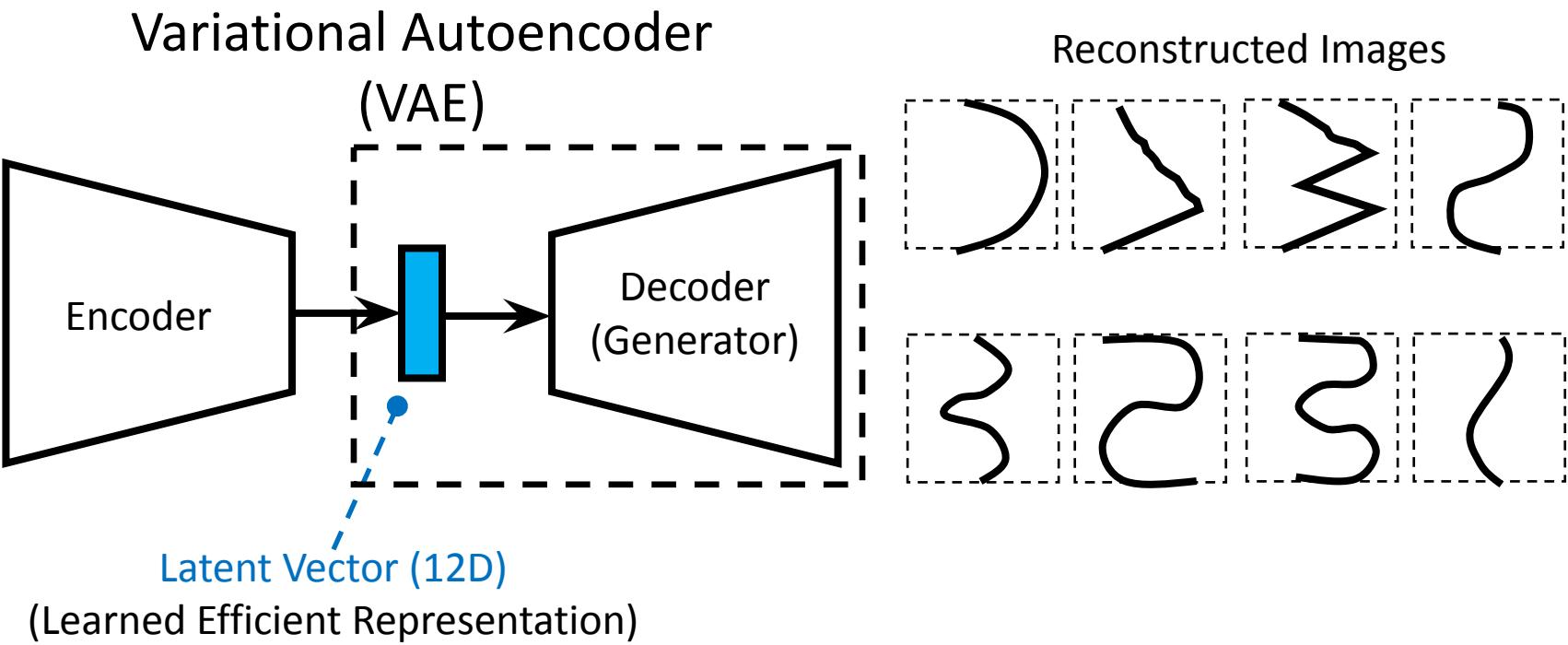
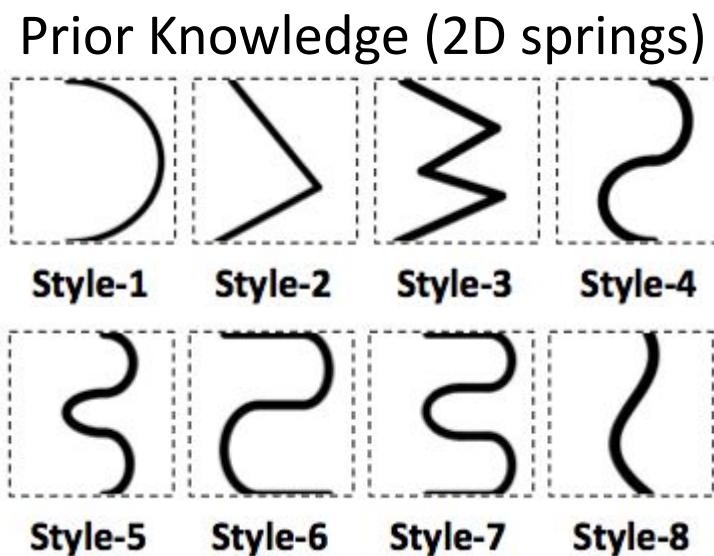
Motivation

- Car-Launcher Mechanism – as a proof-of-concept (Video)
- The goal is to design a spring to propel the car to a distance of 75 cm in a consistent way (i.e., 10 times in a row)



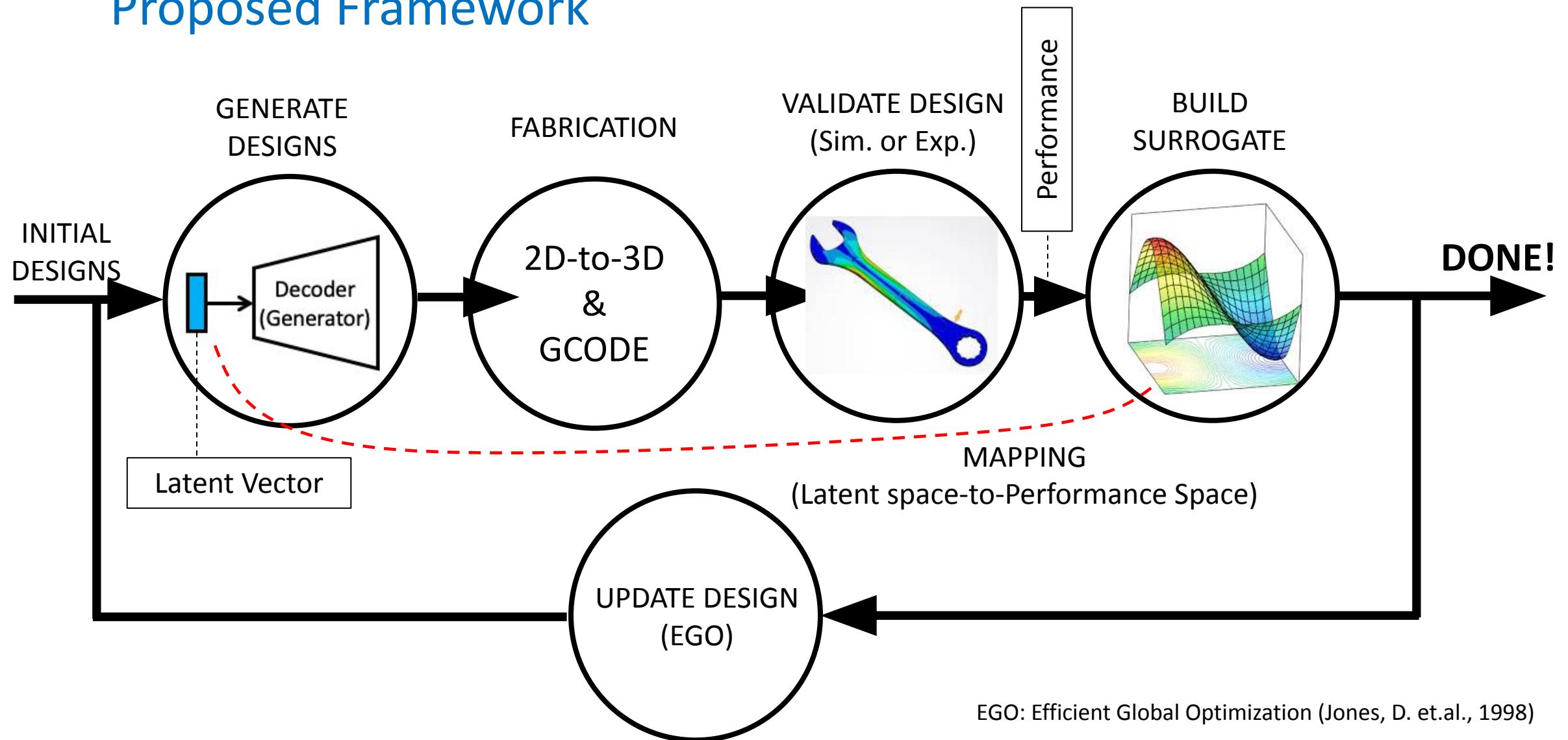
Focus Project: Functional Generative Design

Proposed Framework

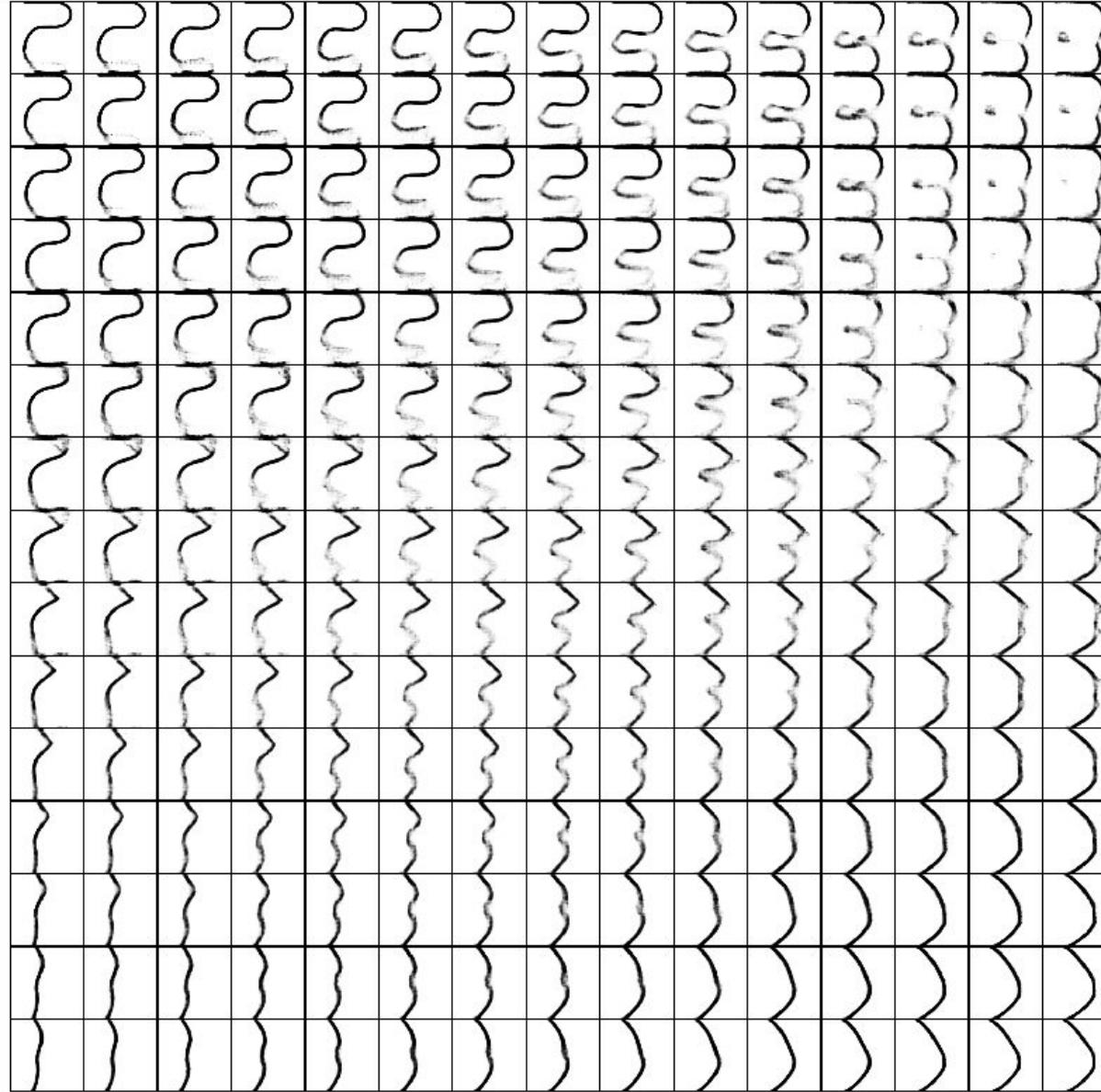


Focus Project: Functional Generative Design

Proposed Framework



Focus Project: Functional Generative Design

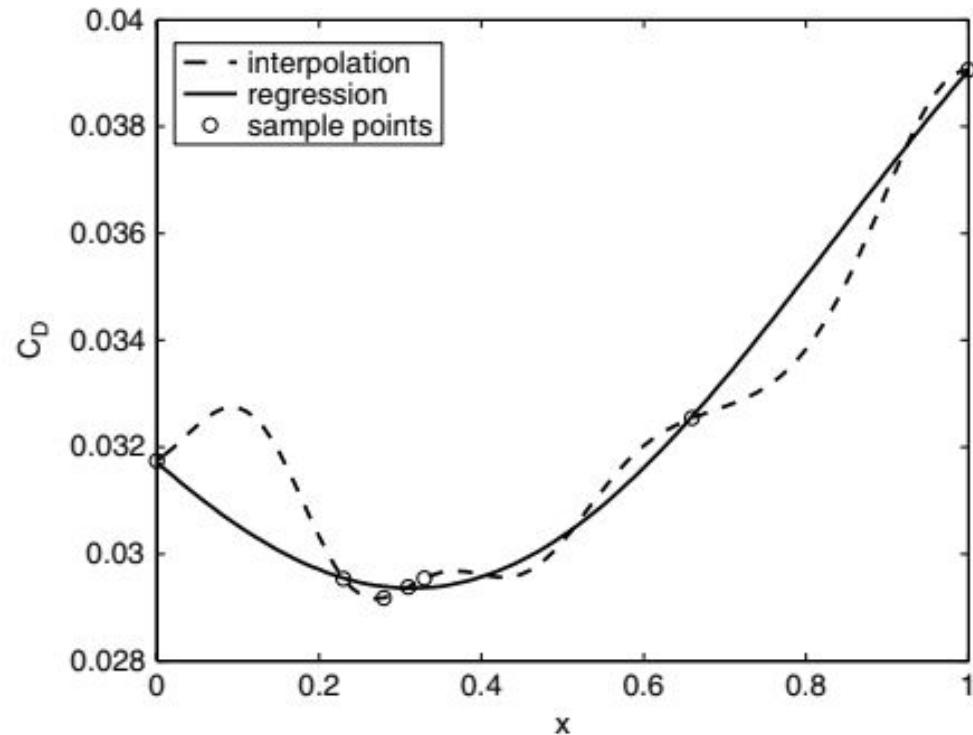


**Interpolation in
latent variable
space**

Focus Project: Functional Generative Design

Build Surrogate – Noisy (Regression) Kriging

- Kriging → surrogate (e.g., function approximator, response surface model)
- Interpolation vs. Regression



Correlation between two points:

$$\text{cor} [y(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}), y(\mathbf{x}^{(j)})] = \prod_{k=1}^d \exp \left(-\theta_k |\mathbf{x}_k^{(i)} - \mathbf{x}_k^{(j)}|^2 \right)$$

Prediction at new point \mathbf{x}^* :

$$\hat{y}(\mathbf{x}^*) = \hat{\mu} + \mathbf{r}^T (\mathbf{R} + \lambda \mathbf{I})^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{1}\hat{\mu}) \quad \leftarrow$$

Predicted error (for EGO):

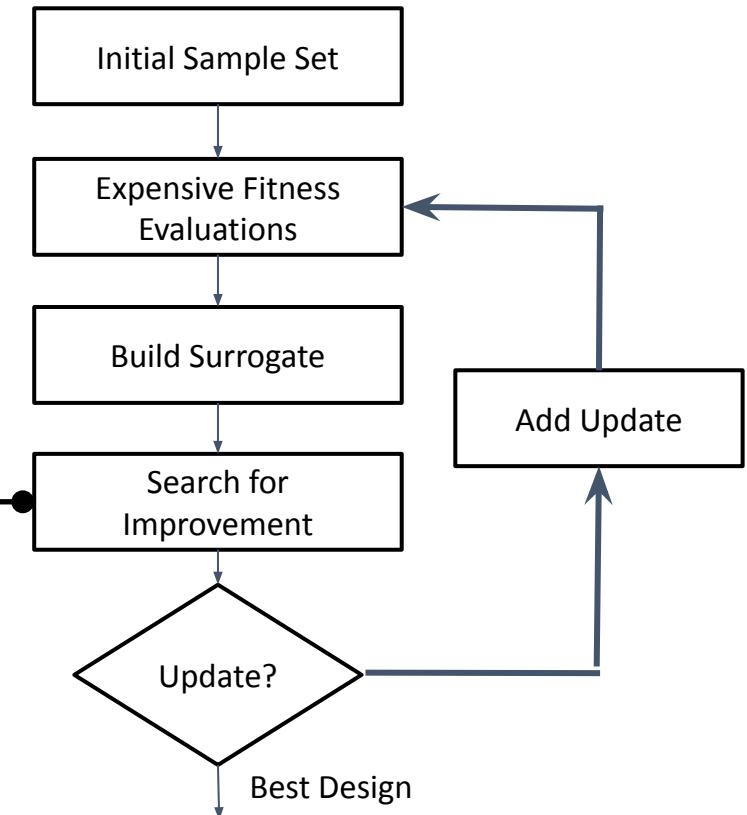
$$\hat{s}_{ri}^2(\mathbf{x}^*) = \hat{\sigma}_{ri}^2 \left[1 - \mathbf{r}^T \mathbf{R}^{-1} \mathbf{r} + \frac{\mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{R}^{-1} \mathbf{r}}{\mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{R}^{-1} \mathbf{1}} \right] \quad \leftarrow$$

Focus Project: Functional Generative Design

Efficient Global Optimization (EGO)

- Sequential Model-based Optimizer or Active Learner
- Iteratively updating the surrogate model with promising infill points which maximize Expected Improvement criterion

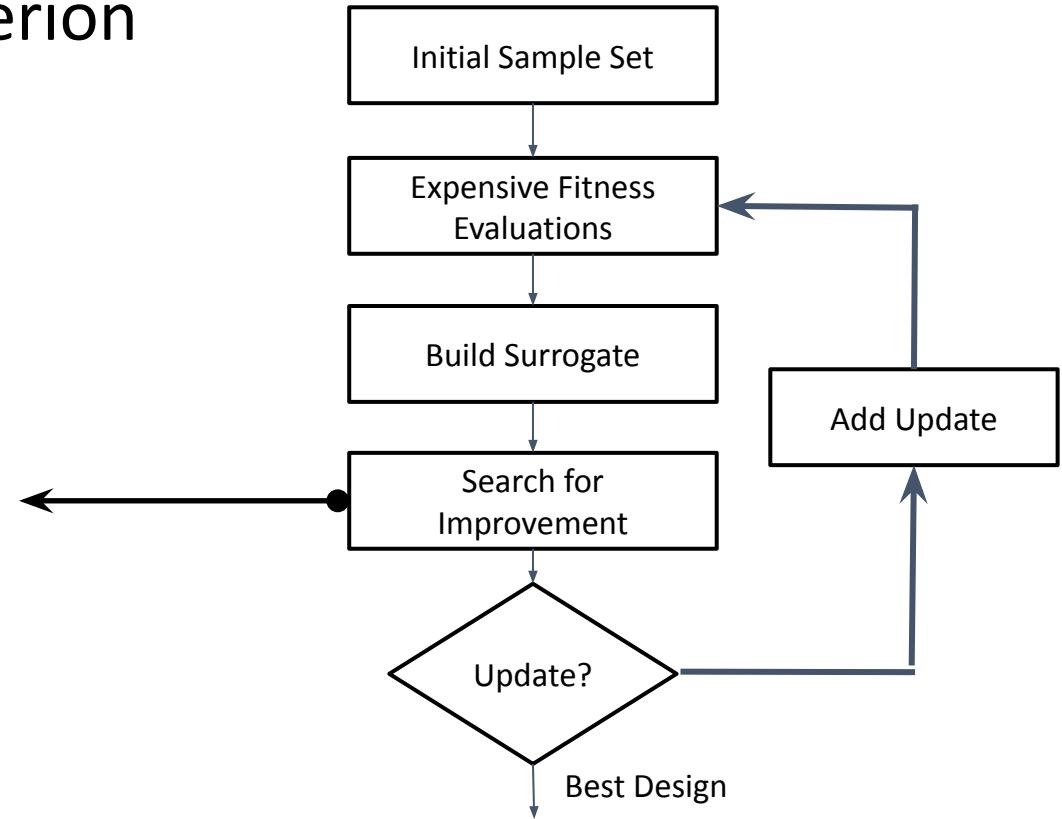
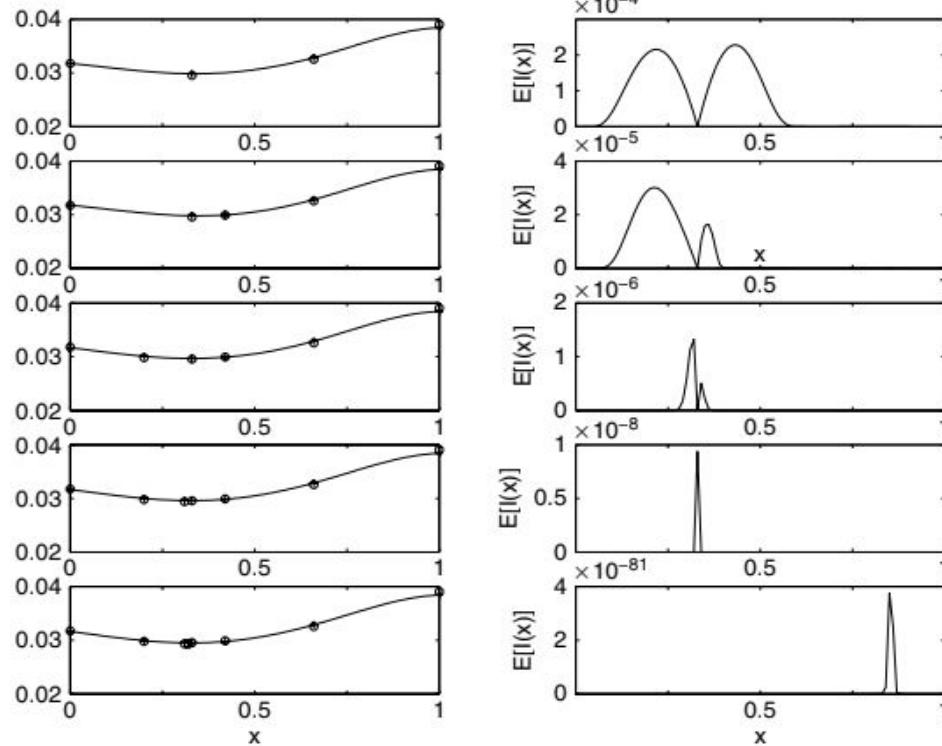
$$E[I(\mathbf{x})] = (y_{best} - \hat{y}(\mathbf{x}))\Phi\left(\frac{y_{best} - \hat{y}(\mathbf{x})}{\hat{s}(\mathbf{x})}\right) + \hat{s}(\mathbf{x})\phi\left(\frac{y_{best} - \hat{y}(\mathbf{x})}{\hat{s}(\mathbf{x})}\right)$$



Focus Project: Functional Generative Design

Efficient Global Optimization (EGO)

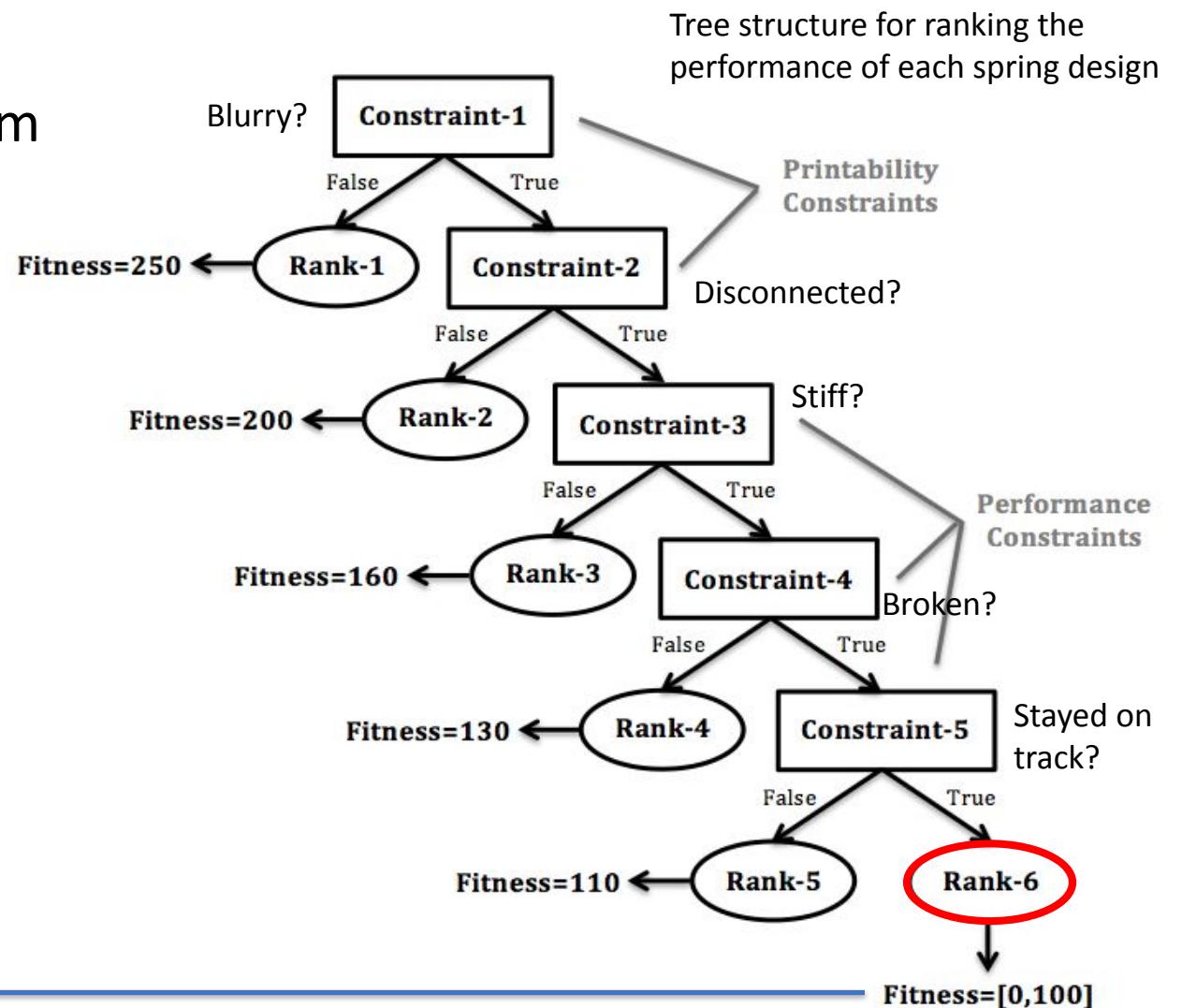
- Sequential Model-based Optimizer or Active Learner
- Iteratively updating the surrogate model with promising infill points which maximize Expected Improvement criterion



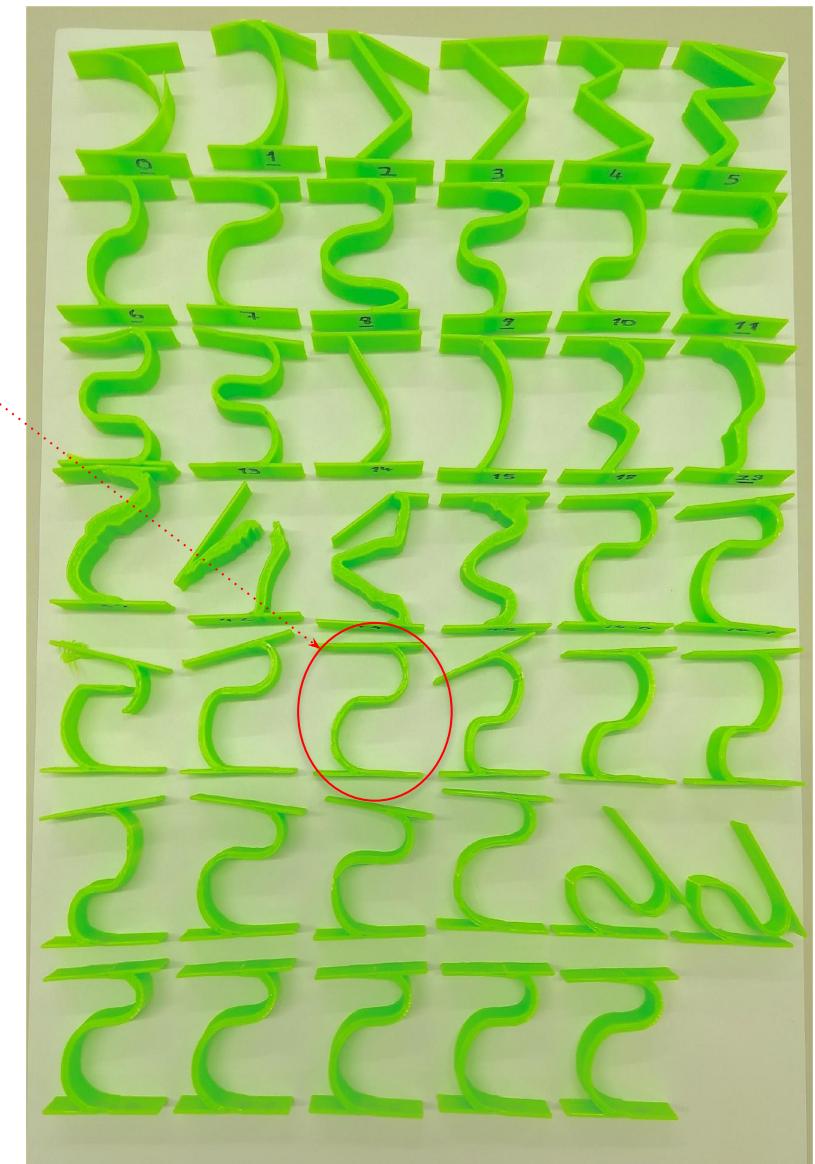
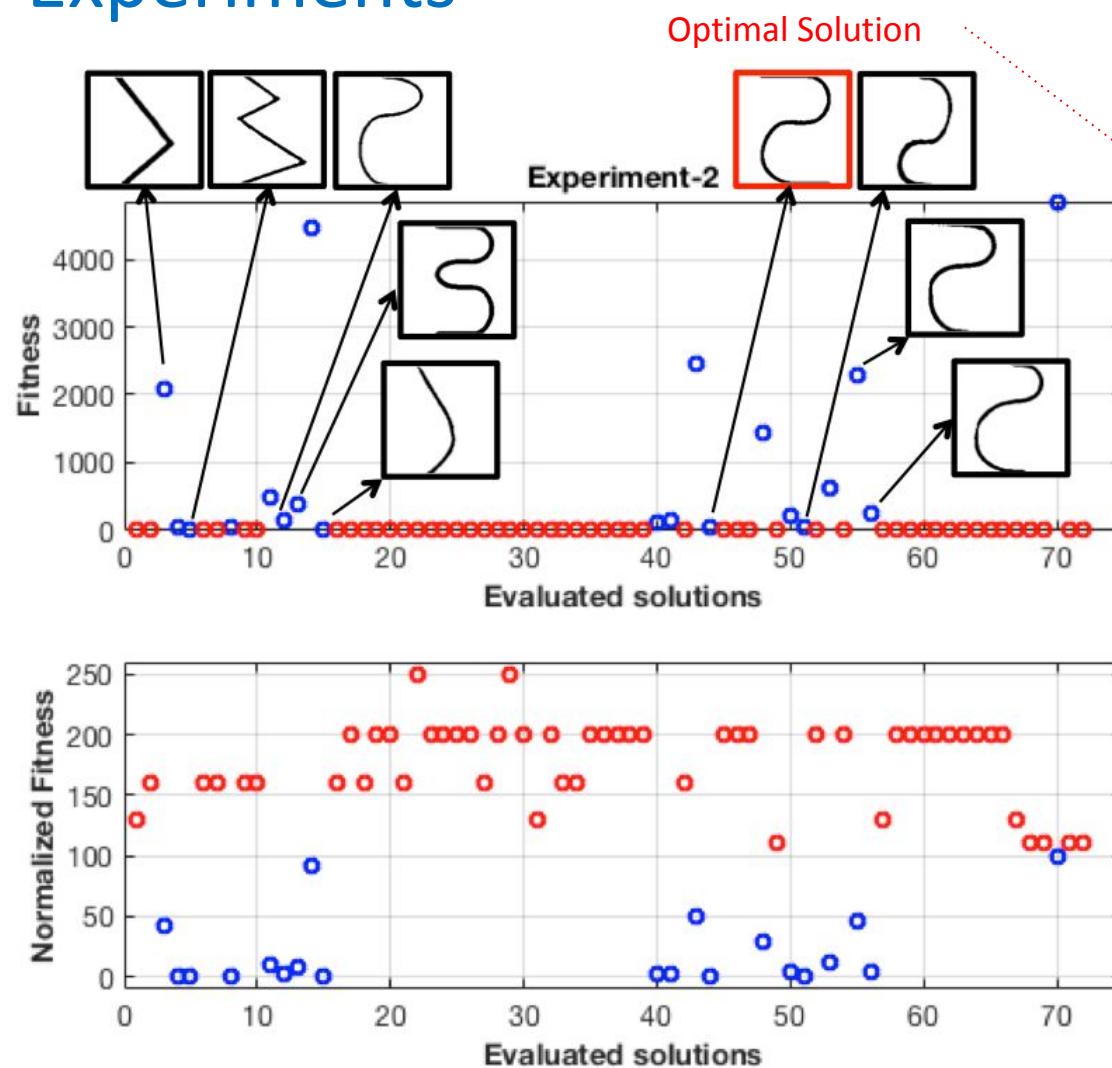
Focus Project: Functional Generative Design

Constraint Handling and rGA

- rGA → real parameter Genetic Algorithm
- Operators:
 - Tournament Selection,
 - α -Blend Xover,
 - Gaussian Mutation
- Its roles:
 - Tuning Kriging hyperparameters
 - Maximizing EI in EGO
- $f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{n_{exp}} MSE_i = \frac{1}{10} \sum_{i=1}^{10} |d_i - 75|^2$



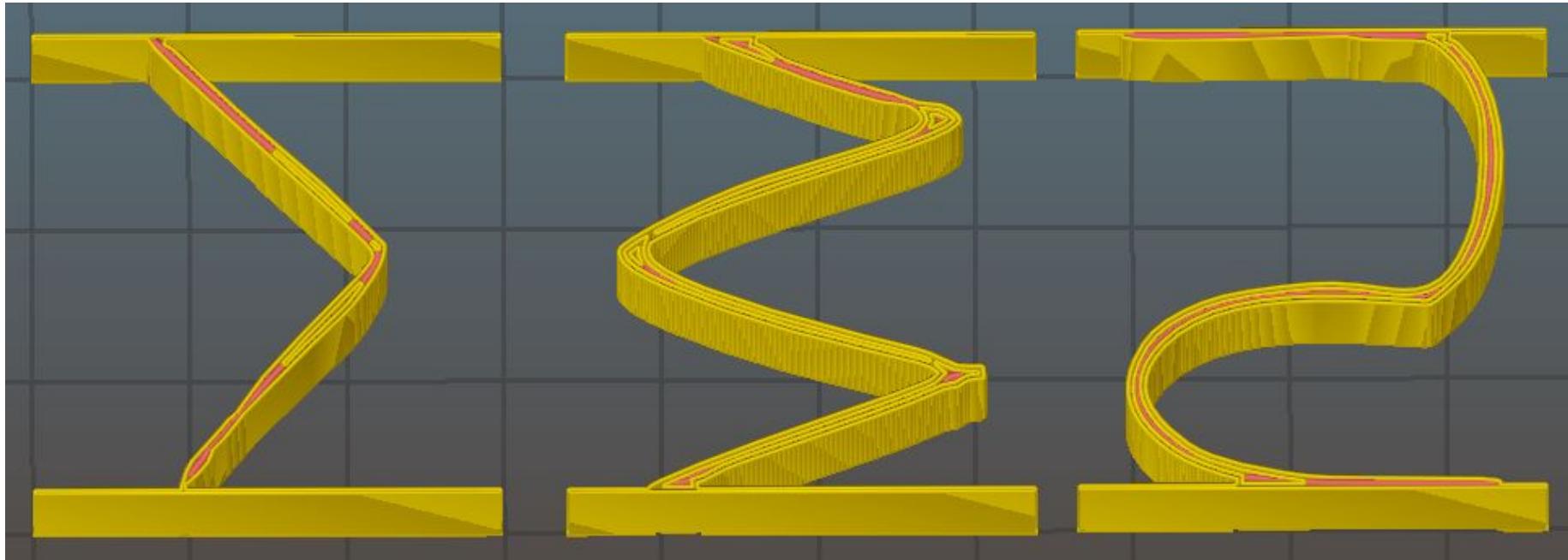
Focus Project: Functional Generative Design Experiments



Focus Project: Functional Generative Design

Discussion

- Gaps (red) cause fracture (i.e., act like “hinge”).
- Do we have to avoid gaps?



Focus Project: Functional Generative Design

Discussion

- No, gaps can be useful if they are used right!
- A fabrication rule is discovered automatically

