

*Nondestructive Evaluation Sciences Branch*

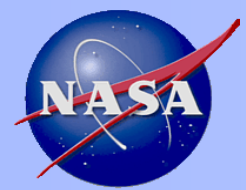
# Flash Thermal Diffusivity Measurements and Inspection of Additively Manufactured Ti-6Al-4V Specimens with Varying Process Parameters

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and Andrew R. Kitahara

NASA Langley Research Center

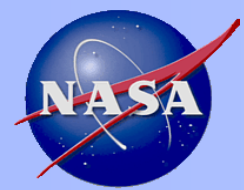
SPIE Thermosense Conference April 30 – May 4, 2023



# Outline

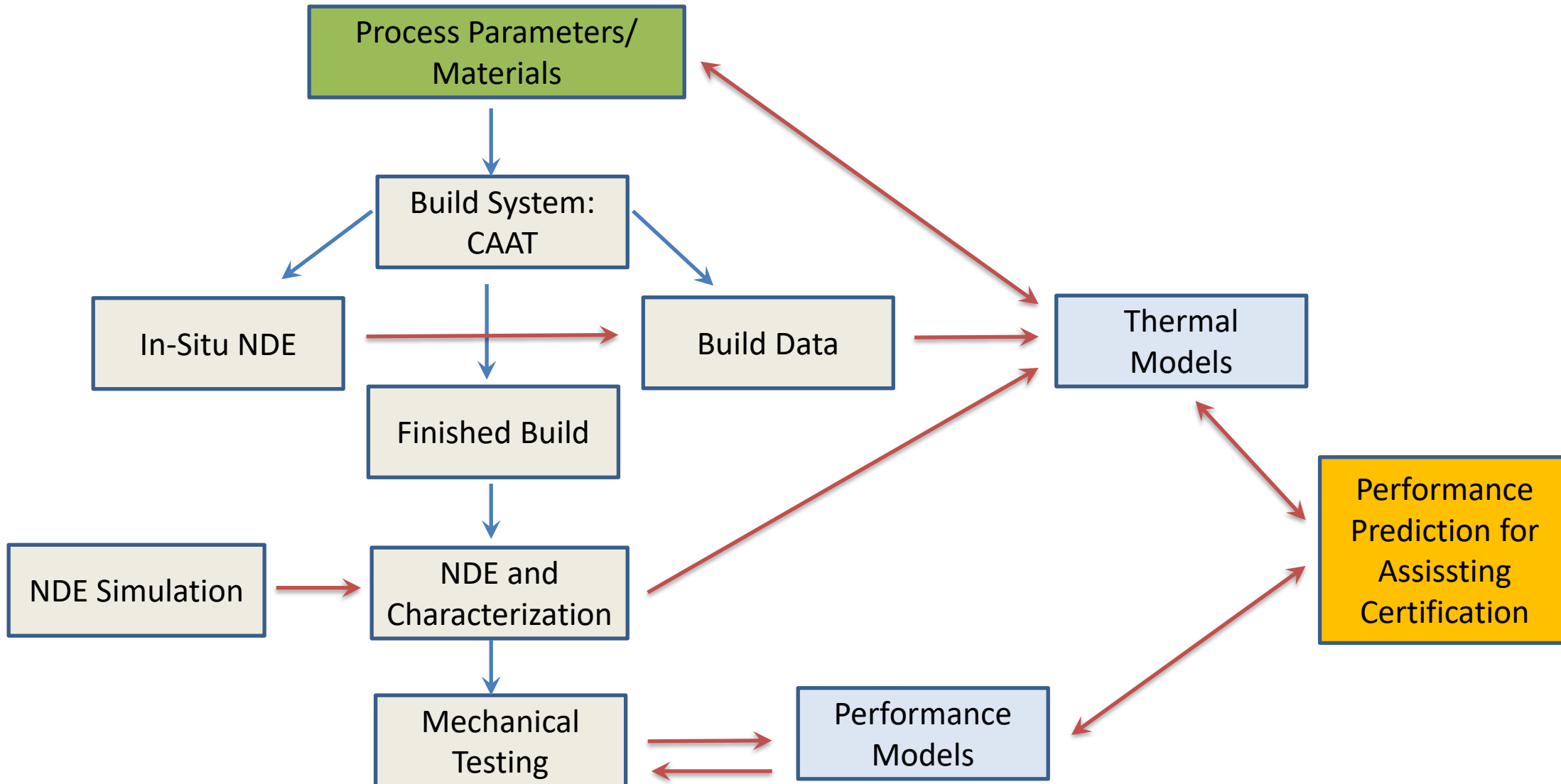
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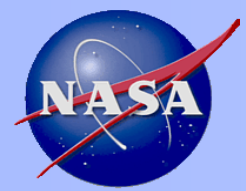
- Introduction/Motivation
- Laser Powder Bed Fusion Additive Manufacturing
  - Description of Configurable Architecture Additive Testbed (CAAT)
  - Disk Samples Built with Varying Process Parameters
  - Thermal Inspection Systems
- Thermal Inspection Results
  - Through Transmission Diffusivity Measurements with Comparison to X-ray CT and Ultrasonics
  - Single Side Thermal Inspection with Comparison to X-ray CT
- Conclusions



# NASA Transformational Tools and Technologies Project – Additive Manufacturing (Metals)

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# Introduction

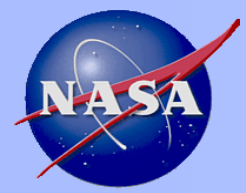
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## Objectives

- Develop nondestructive evaluation (NDE) techniques to inspect additively manufactured metal parts.
- Investigate thermal NDE as an inspection technique for built parts and for in-situ inspections during the build.
- Validate the thermal inspection results with other NDE techniques such as X-ray CT and ultrasound.

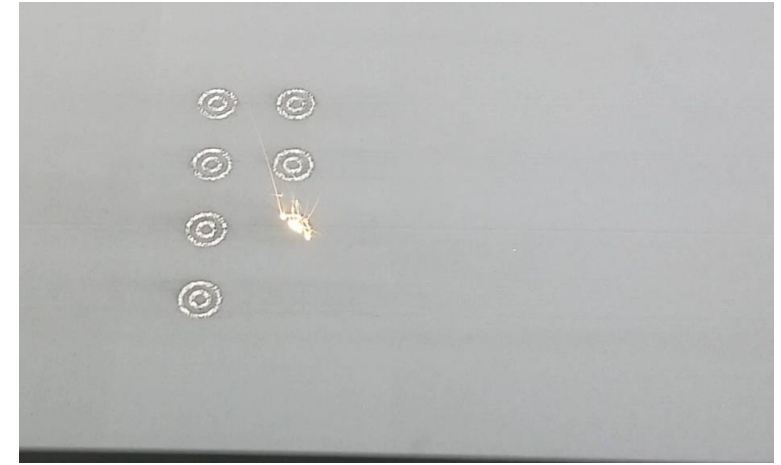
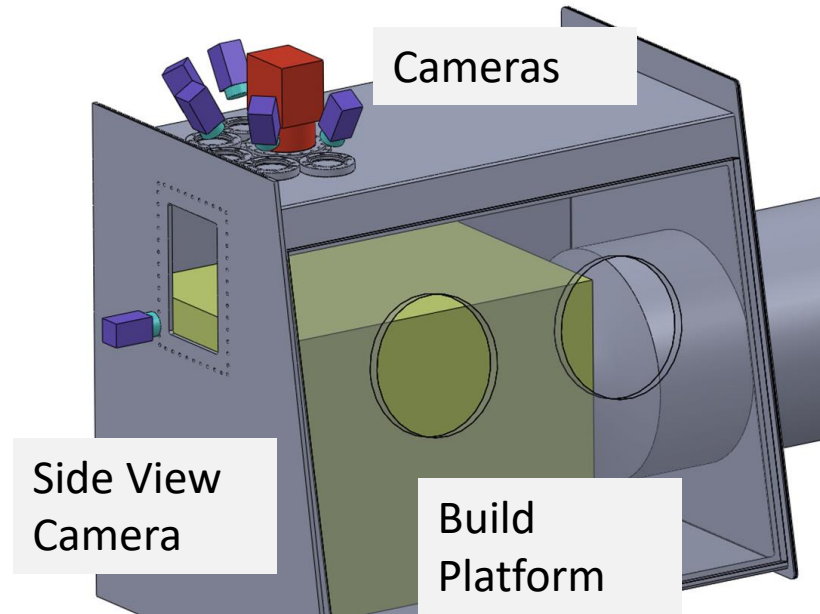
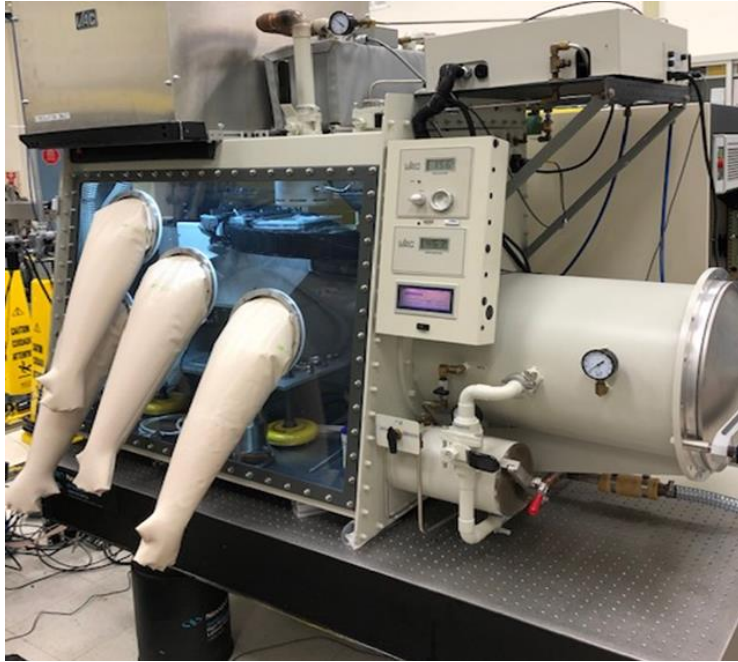
## Payoffs

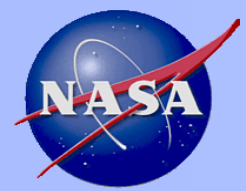
- Additively manufactured parts must be certified for broad application onto aircraft structures and NDE techniques are required to ensure part quality.



# Configurable Architecture Additive Testbed (CAAT)

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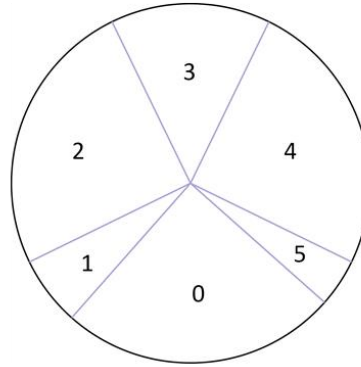
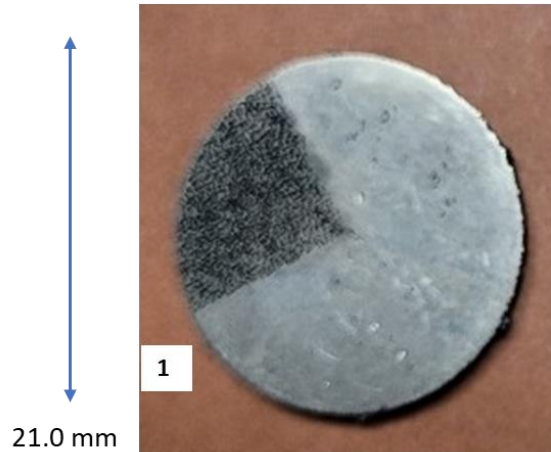




# Samples Manufactured with the CAAT

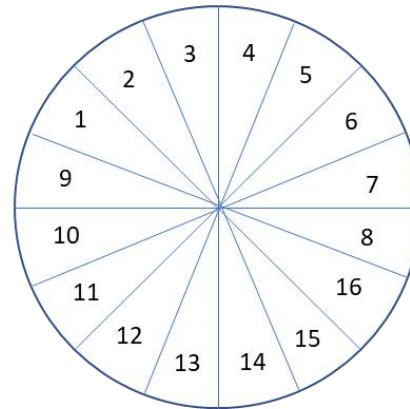
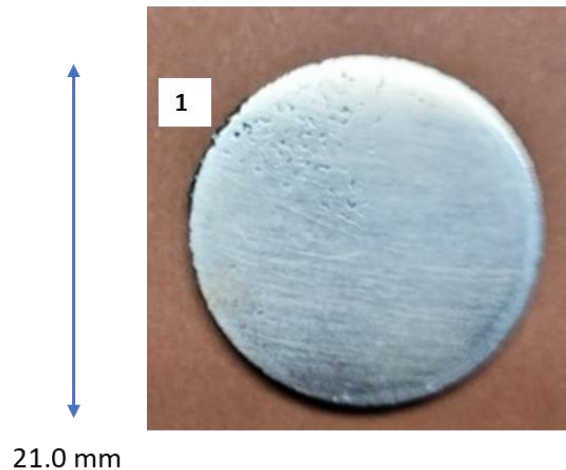
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Disk: A Polished

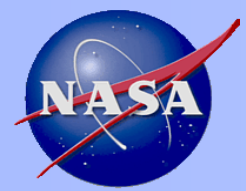


| Zone (n) | Power (watts) | Velocity (mm/sec) | Shape / angular zone [radians] |
|----------|---------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| 0        | 345           | 1176              | Pi/2                           |
| 1        | 345           | 1176              | Pi/8                           |
| 2        | 137           | 1176              | Pi/2                           |
| 3        | 345           | 1176              | Pi/4                           |
| 4        | 345           | 1176              | Pi/2                           |
| 5        | 345           | 1176              | Pi/8                           |

Disk: B Polished



| Zone (n) | Power (watts) | Velocity (mm/sec) | Shape / angular zone [radians] |
|----------|---------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1        | 221           | 1176              | Pi/8                           |
| 2        | 221           | 1092              | Pi/8                           |
| 3        | 221           | 1008              | Pi/8                           |
| 4        | 221           | 924               | Pi/8                           |
| 5        | 221           | 840               | Pi/8                           |
| 6        | 221           | 756               | Pi/8                           |
| 7        | 221           | 672               | Pi/8                           |
| 8        | 221           | 588               | Pi/8                           |
| 9        | 308           | 1175              | Pi/8                           |
| 10       | 308           | 1092              | Pi/8                           |
| 11       | 308           | 1008              | Pi/8                           |
| 12       | 308           | 924               | Pi/8                           |
| 13       | 308           | 840               | Pi/8                           |
| 14       | 308           | 756               | Pi/8                           |
| 15       | 308           | 672               | Pi/8                           |
| 16       | 308           | 588               | Pi/8                           |



# Samples Manufactured with the CAAT

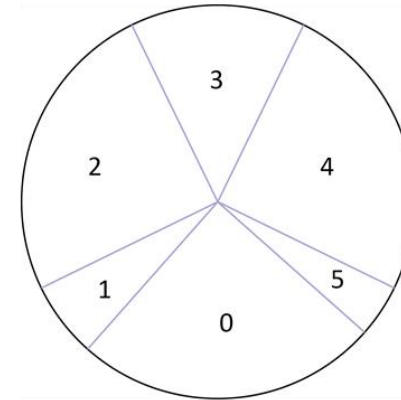
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Disk: C Unpainted and Unpolished

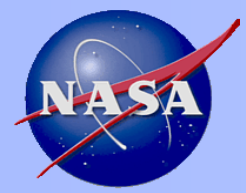


21.0 mm

Disk: D Unpainted and Unpolished



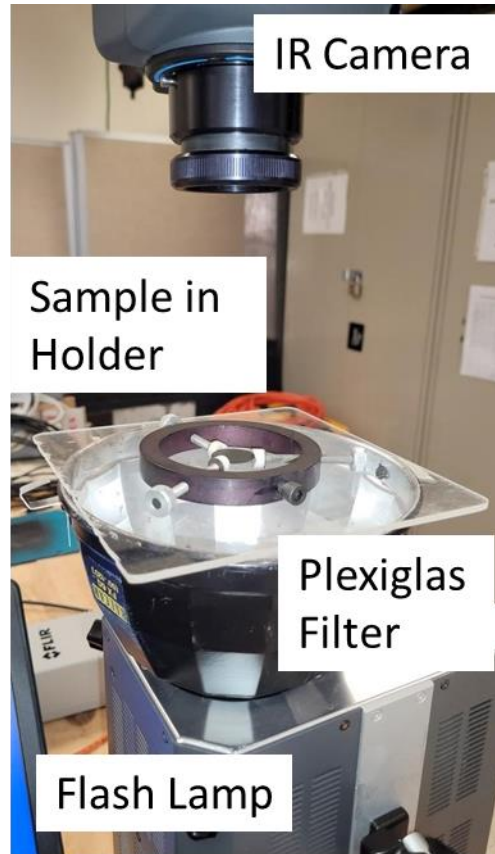
| Zone (n) | Power (watts) | Velocity (mm/sec) | Shape / angular zone [radians] |
|----------|---------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| 0        | 345           | 672               | Pi/2                           |
| 1        | 345           | 1176              | Pi/8                           |
| 2        | 137           | 1176              | Pi/2                           |
| 3        | 345           | 1176              | Pi/4                           |
| 4        | 345           | 1176              | Pi/2                           |
| 5        | 345           | 1176              | Pi/8                           |



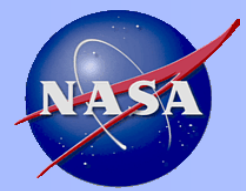
# Through Transmission Thermal Inspection System

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## Through Transmission



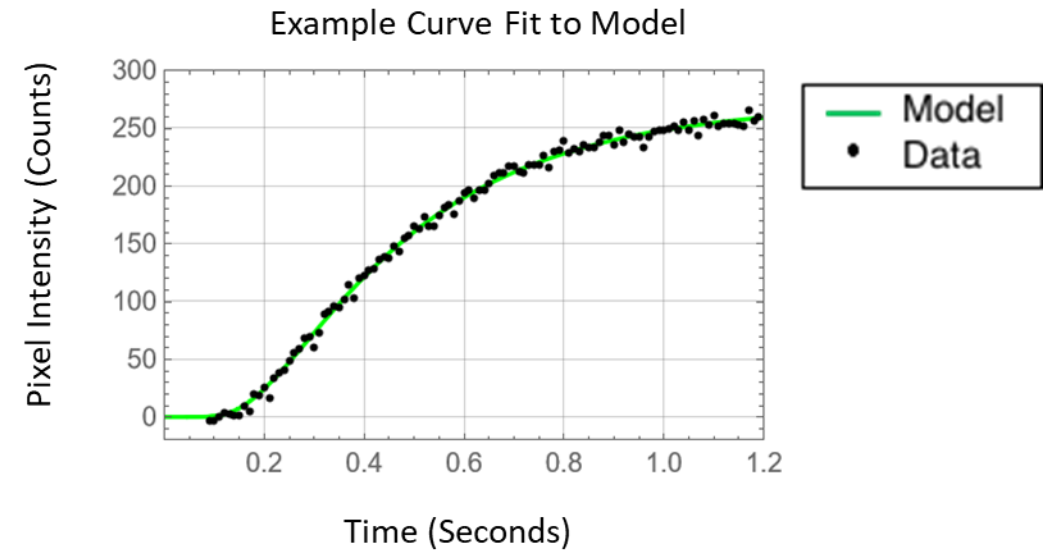


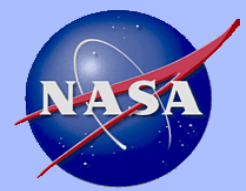


# Through Transmission Technique

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$$T(t) = \begin{cases} 2 T_{max} \sqrt{\frac{l^2}{\pi \alpha t}} \left( e^{-\frac{l^2}{4 \alpha t}} + e^{-\frac{9l^2}{4 \alpha t}} \right), & t < 0.4 \frac{l^2}{\alpha} \\ 2 T_{max} \left( 1 - e^{-\frac{\alpha t \pi^2}{l^2}} \right), & t \geq 0.4 \frac{l^2}{\alpha} \end{cases}$$

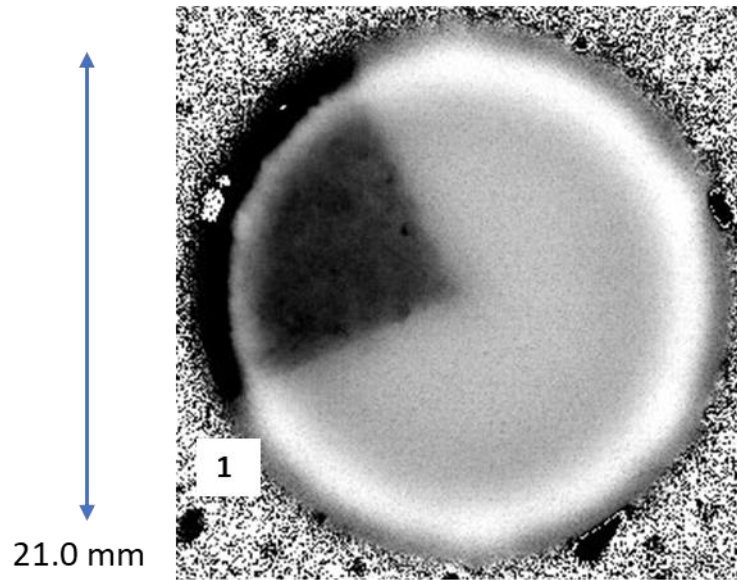




# Through Transmission Thermal Results

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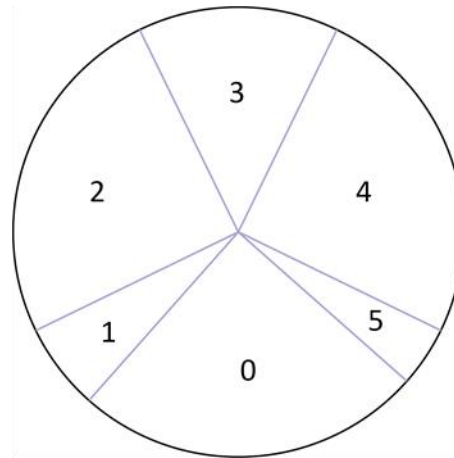
Disk: A Diffusivity Image



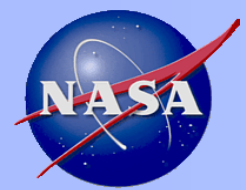
0.0290  
cm<sup>2</sup>/sec



0.0166  
cm<sup>2</sup>/sec



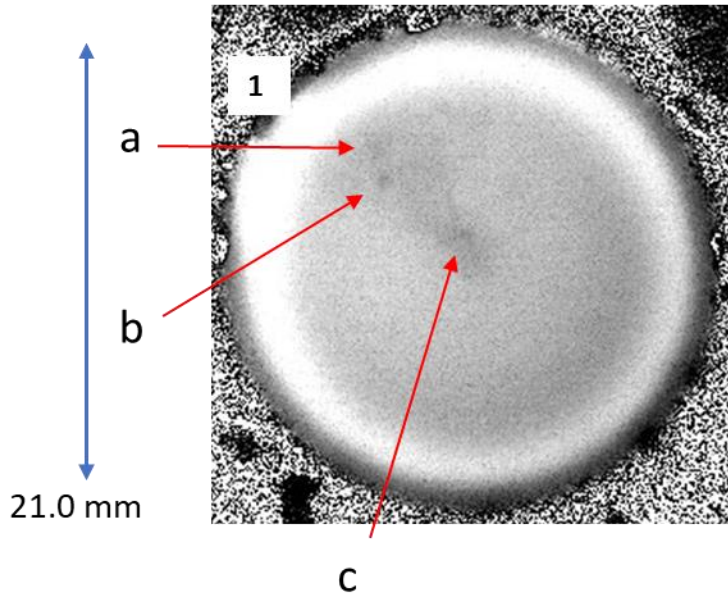
| Zone (n) | Power (watts) | Velocity (mm/sec) | Shape / angular zone [radians] | Thermal Diffusivity (cm <sup>2</sup> /sec) |
|----------|---------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| 0        | 345           | 1176              | Pi/2                           | 0.0258 +/-0.00043                          |
| 1        | 345           | 1176              | Pi/8                           | 0.0253 +/-0.00036                          |
| 2        | 137           | 1176              | Pi/2                           | 0.0186 +/-0.00031                          |
| 3        | 345           | 1176              | Pi/4                           | 0.0256 +/-0.00040                          |
| 4        | 345           | 1176              | Pi/2                           | 0.0258 +/-0.00038                          |
| 5        | 345           | 1176              | Pi/8                           | 0.0257 +/-0.00050                          |



# Through Transmission Thermal Results

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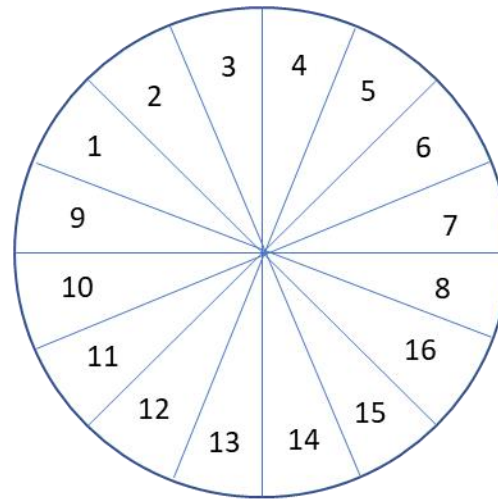
Disk: B Diffusivity Image



0.0290  
cm<sup>2</sup>/sec

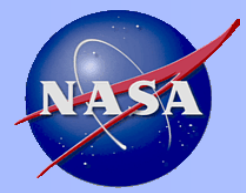


0.0166  
cm<sup>2</sup>/sec



| Zone (n) | Power (watts) | Velocity (mm/sec) | Shape / angular zone [radians] | Thermal Diffusivity (cm <sup>2</sup> /sec) |
|----------|---------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| 1        | 221           | 1176              | Pi/8                           | 0.0256 +/-0.00052                          |
| 2        | 221           | 1092              | Pi/8                           | 0.0253 +/-0.00055                          |
| 3        | 221           | 1008              | Pi/8                           | 0.0257 +/-0.00055                          |
| 4        | 221           | 924               | Pi/8                           | 0.0258 +/-0.00061                          |
| 5        | 221           | 840               | Pi/8                           | 0.0258 +/-0.00054                          |
| 6        | 221           | 756               | Pi/8                           | 0.0257 +/-0.00048                          |
| 7        | 221           | 672               | Pi/8                           | 0.0256 +/-0.00046                          |
| 8        | 221           | 588               | Pi/8                           | 0.0253 +/-0.00055                          |
| 9        | 308           | 1175              | Pi/8                           | 0.0267 +/-0.00052                          |
| 10       | 308           | 1092              | Pi/8                           | 0.0267 +/-0.00052                          |
| 11       | 308           | 1008              | Pi/8                           | 0.0264 +/-0.00052                          |
| 12       | 308           | 924               | Pi/8                           | 0.0261 +/-0.00054                          |
| 13       | 308           | 840               | Pi/8                           | 0.0257 +/- 0.00054                         |
| 14       | 308           | 756               | Pi/8                           | 0.0257 +/-0.00051                          |
| 15       | 308           | 672               | Pi/8                           | 0.0254 +/-0.00053                          |
| 16       | 308           | 588               | Pi/8                           | 0.0252 +/-0.00052                          |

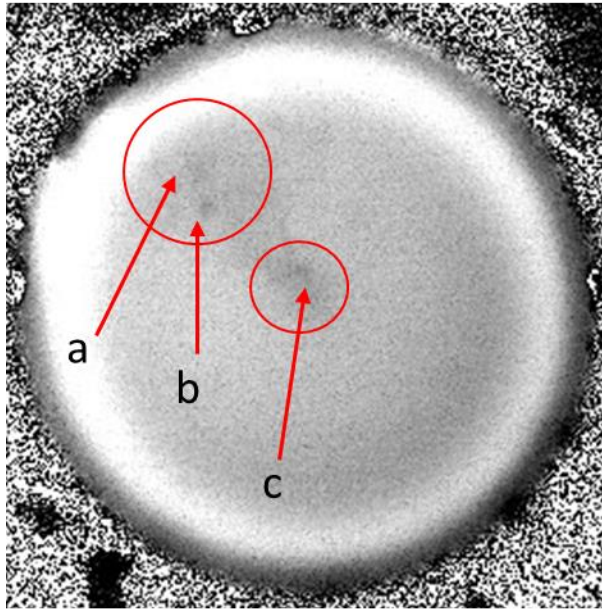
a = 0.0250 +/- 0.00052, b = 0.0247 +/- 0.00066,  
c = 0.0241 +/-0.0006 cm<sup>2</sup>/sec



# Through Transmission Thermal Results Compared to X-ray CT

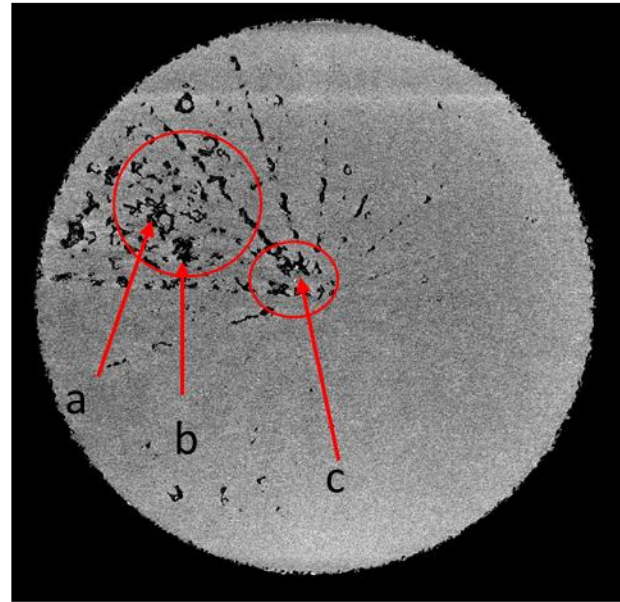
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Disk: B Diffusivity Image

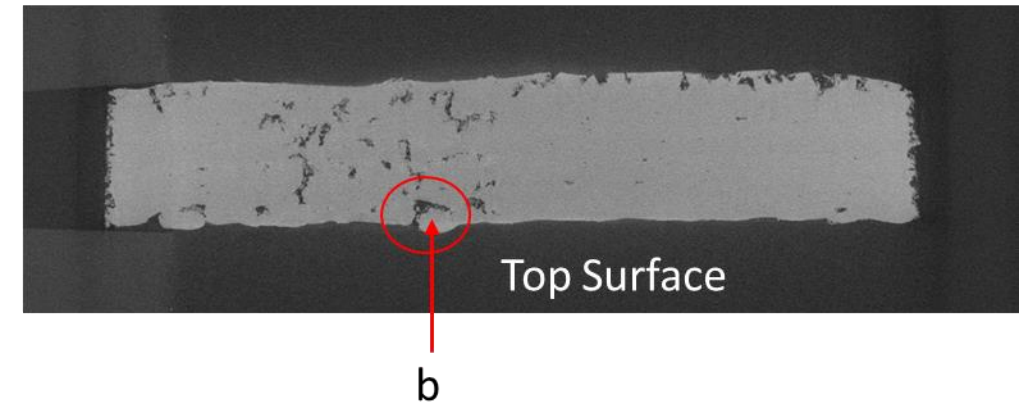


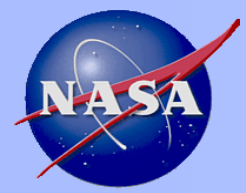
21.0 mm

Disk: B X-ray CT  
Transverse Slice Image



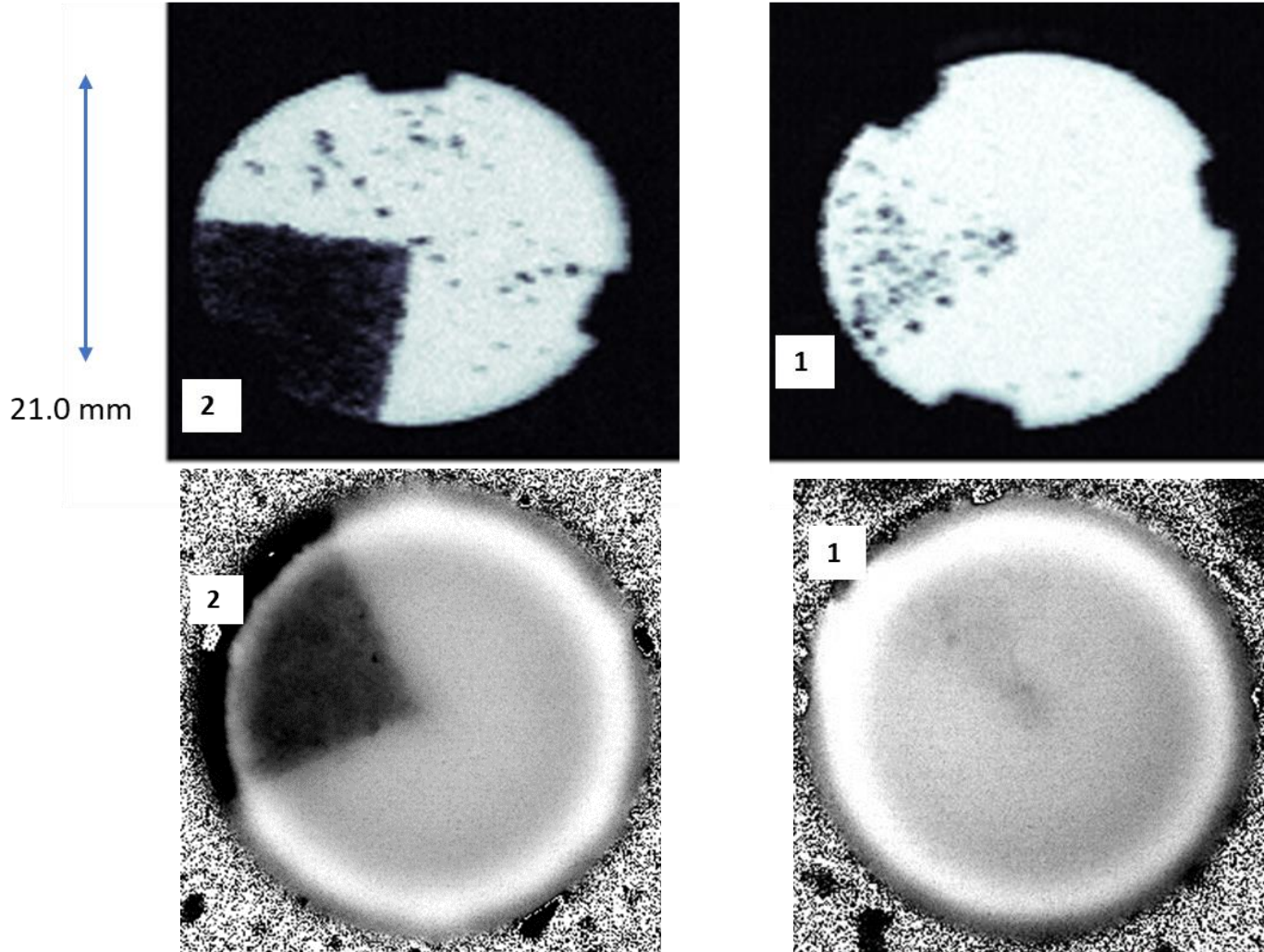
Disk B: X-ray CT Vertical Slice Image  
for defect b.

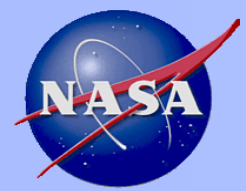




# Through Transmission Thermal Results Compared to Ultrasound

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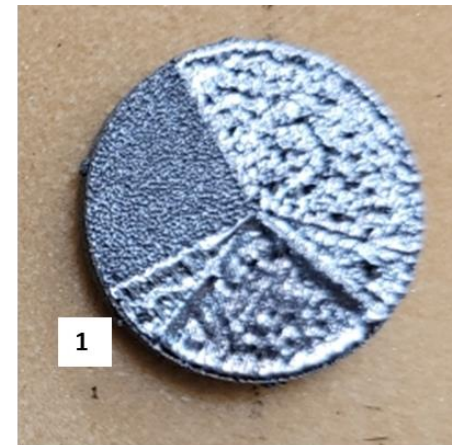
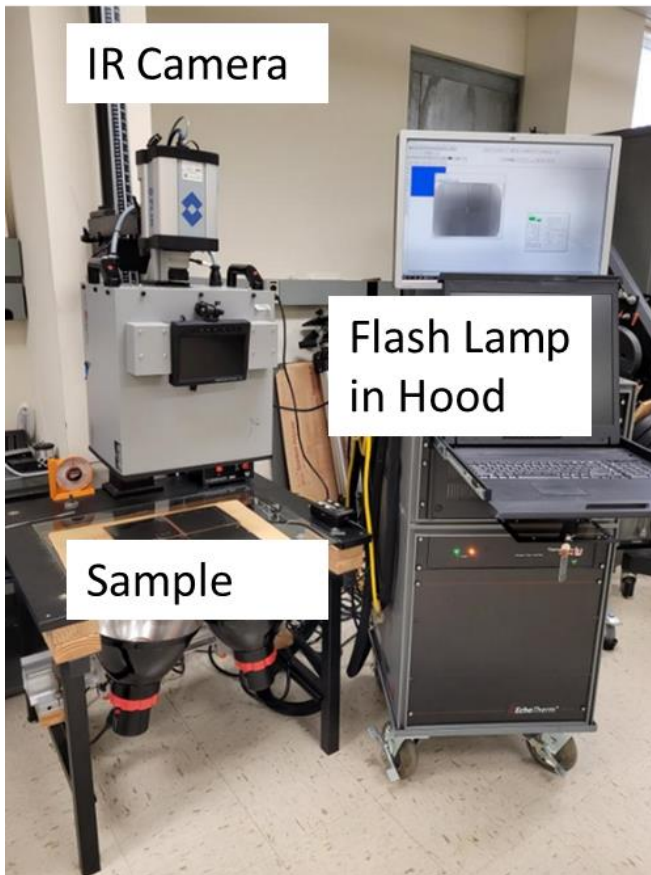




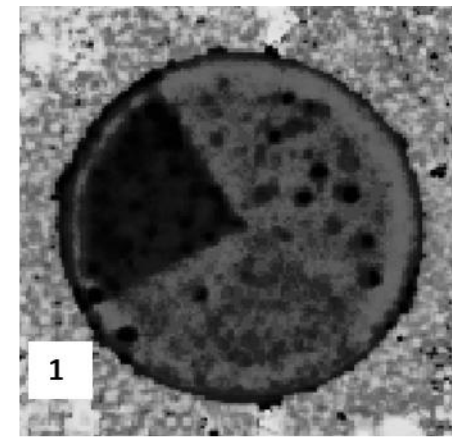
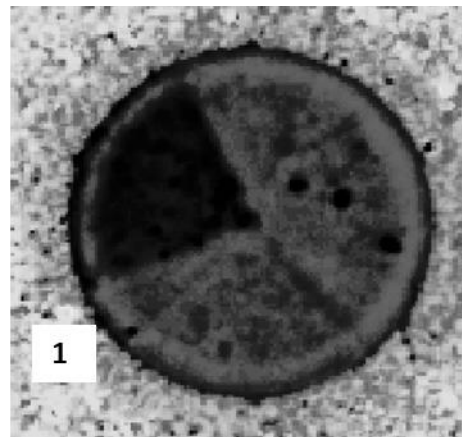
# Single Side Thermal Inspection Results

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## Single Side Setup



21.0 mm

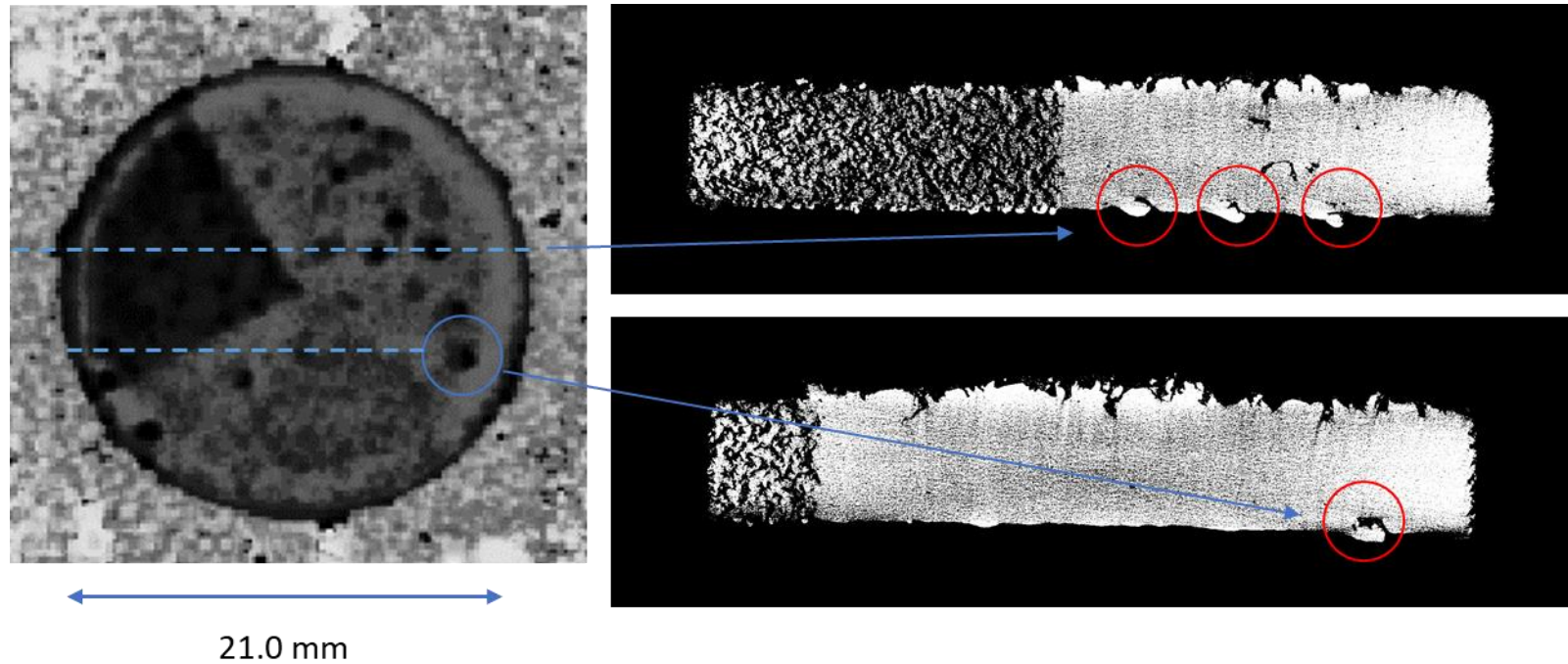


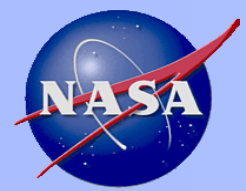
Principal Component Analysis (PCA) Processed Inspection Images



# Single Side Thermal Inspection Results Compared to X-ray CT

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# Conclusions

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- Lack of fusion porosity and areas of large porosity were detected with the thermal diffusivity measurements.
- Small changes in the processing parameters were not detectable with changes in the thermal diffusivity.
- Single sided thermal inspections detected near surface voids on unpainted and rough surface samples and this inspection can be implemented in-situ with thermal inspections performed during the build.
- Data fusion between processing parameters and NDE results will require registration with goal to compile results into a centralized data base.