Collaborative Efforts Between NASA Langley Research Center and the University Leadership Initiative at Carnegie Mellon University

Samuel Hocker¹, Brodan Richter¹, Joshua Pribe², Saikumar Yeratapally³, George Weber¹, Andrew Kitahara², Ed Glaessgen¹

¹ NASA Langley Research Center, Hampton, VA
² Analytical Mechanics Associates, Hampton, VA
³ Science and Technology Corporation, Hampton, VA

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Area of Research

Computational Materials-Informed Qualification and Certification (Q&C) of Additively Manufactured (AM) Flight Hardware



Small deviations in processing parameters may result in large differences in performance. Current approaches for Q&C of metallic materials (including AM) are entirely based on test data.

Change the Paradigm for Q&C

Develop a computational materials-informed ecosystem for quantifying sources of variability in fatigue performance of additively manufactured metallic materials through integrated multi-scale, multi-physics simulation, characterization and monitoring.

- NASA
- "NASA-built specimens", process-structure metrics and monitoring of powder bed fusion laser beam metals (PBF-LB/M)
 - Samuel Hocker
- Microstructure evolution modeling of PBF-LB/M parts
 - Brodan Richter (NASA) in collaboration with Evan Adcock and Joseph Pauza (Carnegie Mellon University)
- Microstructure performance predictions of PBF-LB/M parts
 - Sai Yeratapally and George Weber
- Process-structure-property frameworks
 - Josh Pribe
- Database and data structures
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Builds Supporting University Leadership Initiative Round Robin

- 4 round robin builds
 - EP07: agreed round robin build with 8 different parameters
 - 32 x-ray computed tomography scans have been taken
 - NASA-1, EP07 (interrupted)
 - NASA-2, SLM nominal parameters
 - NASA-3, EP07
 - NASA-4, UTEP test artifacts



UTEP = University of Texas at El Paso; EP07 = UTEP build design #7; NASA = National Aeronautics and Space Administration; NASA-1 = first build conducted at NASA; NASA-2 = second build conducted at NASA; NASA-3 = third build conducted at NASA; NASA-4 = fourth build conducted at NASA

Inverted Pyramid at LaRC



- Process metrics calculated from modeled process point field
 - Thermal rise
 - Surface cooling rate
 - Process sensitive proximity to surface
 - ..
- GPU accelerated
 - 38 million points
 - Calculation cost ~30 minutes
- Synchronized with in-situ monitoring data-streams

Additive Manufacturing Model-based Process Metrics (AM-PM)

Success: Develop a computational approach that can be used to model and quantify deviations in process conditions throughout the AM process.

Discovery and Development

Used reduced order AM models to calculate process metrics (AM-PM) throughout the build process and designed to be fully scalable.



Performance

vs. current state-of-the-art process models

>650x Faster Compute

Fully Parallel and Analytical

new Modeled vs Measured Process Conditions

Benefits

- Directly model and compute process conditions from a build file or measured conditions alike and compare.
- Scalable across GPU clusters.
- Provides foundation and framework to evaluate process conditions against structure throughout an AM process.

Hocker, S.J.A., Richter, B., Spaeth, P.W., Kitahara, A.R., Zalameda, J.N., Glaessgen, E.H., 2023. A Point Field Driven Approach to Process Metrics Based on Laser Powder Bed Fusion Additive Manufacturing Models and In-Situ Process Monitoring. JMR. <u>https://doi.org/10.1557/s43578-023-00953-7</u>

Configurable Architecture Additive Testbed at LaRC

Synchronized Suite of In-situ Monitoring

- Laser real-time control feedback
 - Process point field (measured)
 - Position
 - Power
 - Focus
- Long-wave infrared camera
 - Layer-wise thermal imaging
- Dual near infrared high speed cameras
 - Melt-pool imaging
- Visible spectrum imaging (photography, Basler cameras)
 - Layer-wise images (spread consistency, as welded surface)
 - Dual moderate framerate spatter tracking

Configurable Architecture Additive Testbed at LaRC

Synchronized High Speed Melt-pool Imaging



AM-PM: speed [mm/s]





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Phase Prediction for Ti-6Al-4V During Powder Bed Fusion

Brodan Richter (NASA) and Evan Adcock (NASA Intern and Carnegie Mellon University)

• Modeling change in alpha (α), beta (β), and martensite (**M**) phases during processing

Scanning electron micrograph of laser

melted Ti-6Al-4V



Phase Change alongside Scanning Laser Heat Profile over a Single Point within the melt zone



E. Adcock & B. Richter, "Non-Equilibrium Phase Evolution Prediction in Laser Power-Bed Fusion of Ti-6Al-4V," Advanced Materials and Processing Student Research Symposium, August 2022.

Phase Field vs. Monte Carlo Comparisons of Grain Overgrowth Rate

Brodan Richter (NASA) and Joe Pauza (Carnegie Mellon University)

• Modeling grain competition during solidification through phase field and Monte Carlo methods



B. Richter, et al., "Phase Field Informed Monte Carlo Texture Evolution Models for Additive Manufacturing: Microstructure Simulation and the Need for Experimental Grain Competition Data," Materials Science & Technology Conference 2021, October 2021.

Impact of Dendrite Tip Velocity on Simulated Microstructures

• Modeling dendrite tip velocity vs. undercooling and how it affects simulated microstructures



Simulating the Ti-6Al-4V Columnar-to-Equiaxed Transition

• Modeling how well microstructure simulations captures the columnar-to-equiaxed transition for directional and PBF simulations









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Characterization, Testing, and Modeling to Quantify the Effect-of-defects in as-built Ti-6Al-4V



Micromechanical Modeling

- Established correlations between defect distributions, through X-ray computed tomography (CT), and fatigue life results from testing.
- Developed an Integrated Computational Materials Engineering (ICME) framework that generates idealized defectembedded micromechanical models based on defect distributions from X-ray CT scans and evaluates crack driving forces.

Observations

 Specimens with large numbers of large defects showed up to a 70% reduction in fatigue life.

Benefits of Modeling Approach

- Micromechanical simulations show a large plastic strain accumulation near large surface pores, adding insights into the detrimental nature of pores close to free surfaces.
- A validated ICME framework accelerates model-assisted qualification and certification efforts.

Segmented X-Ray CT data showing heterogeneous porosity

Maximum

Plastic Strain



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Connections with ULI Work

Defect development and interactions

- Pore-microstructure interaction and its influence on fatigue behavior
- Detrimental impact of interacting spherical/keyhole pores relative to isolated lack-offusion pores

Simulated microstructure with keyhole pore









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Data Framework Development

Andrew Kitahara (NASA/AMA), Alex Gonzalez (Colorado School of Mines), Kirk Rogers (The Barnes Global Advisors)



Approaches Pursued

Organize data into tree structure

Original records primarily in Excel format

Transfer Excel to Granta MI

Extract data from Granta MI with Python Software Toolkit

Outcomes / Observations

Tree structure works well for depths of attributes

Manual data entry is a bottleneck

Workable, but Excel macros present learning curve

Determined unsuitable by team

Research Organizations

Universities:

Carnegie Mellon University Case Western Reserve University Colorado School of Mines University of Pittsburgh University of Texas - El Paso Public Sector: NASA Langley Research Center **Private Sector:** Materials Resources, LLC The Barnes Global Advisors

Direct Impact





- NDE: Non-destructive evaluation
- CNDE: Computational non-destructive evaluation
- EBSD: Electron backscatter diffraction

Specimen Design

- Design of experiment
- Engineered research coupons

Process Modeling

- Melt pool
- Microstructure

NDE and CNDE

- Pre-testing
- Post-testing

Serial Sectioning

- Microscopy
- EBSD

Performance Modeling

- Crystal plasticity
- Effect of defects

In-Situ Testing and Imaging

- Fatigue / Tensile
- Video image correlation

ASTM AM Center of Excellence

- Data acquisition and management
- Data use and practices
- Data security
- Established a common data dictionary

NIST

- Research Data Framework
- Additive Manufacturing Materials Database
- Materials Data Curation System

ASTM: ASTM International, formerly known as American Society for Testing and Materials NIST: National Institute of Standards and Technology