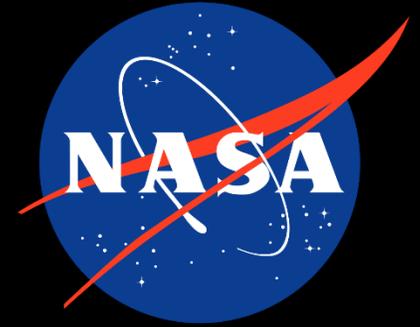


Statement A: Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.



# Additive Manufacturing for Propulsion Systems

**Paul Gradl, Tyler Gibson**

NASA Marshall Space Flight Center

JANNAF Liquid Propulsion Subcommittee (LPS)

6 May 2024



# Ground rules and basic terminology



- This section is focused on metal additive manufacturing
- Examples are all aerospace-based, but process will apply broadly
- Additive manufacturing – may refer to as build, print, AM, grow, fabricate...
- Terminology:
  - AM = Additive Manufacturing
  - DED = Directed Energy Deposition
  - DfAM = Design for Additive Manufacturing
  - PBF = Powder Bed Fusion
  - LP-DED = Laser Powder DED
  - L-PBF = Laser Powder Bed Fusion
  - EB-PBF = Electron beam powder bed fusion
  - LW-DED = Laser Wire DED
  - AW-DED = Arc Wire DED
  - EB-DED = Electron Beam DED
  - AFSD = Additive friction stir deposition
  - UAM = Ultrasonic additive manufacturing



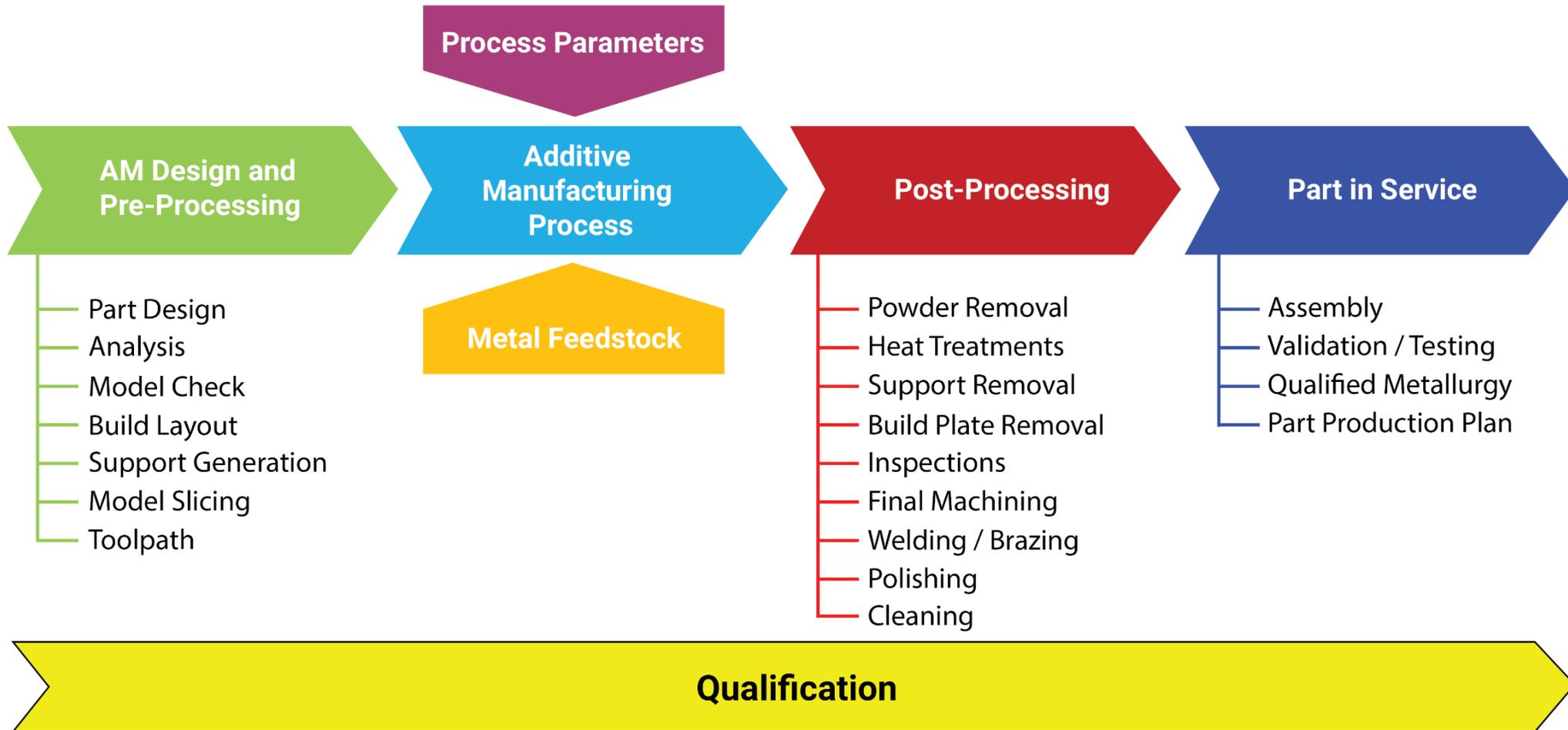
# Overview of Presentation



- Introduction / Use Cases
- Metal AM Process Selection
- Overview of AM Materials & Microstructure
- Metal AM Feedstock
- AM Post-Processing
- Design for AM (DfAM)
- Certification of Metal AM



# Additive Manufacturing Typical Process Flow



**Proper AM process selection requires an integrated evaluation of all process lifecycle steps**



# Opportunities for Metal Additive Manufacturing



- High complexity applications
- Rapid prototyping for design iterations (design-fail-fix-cycle)
- Low production volume applications
- Time critical applications
- Maintenance, repair, and operations (MRO)
- Part obsolescence
- Part consolidation
- Performance improvements (heat transfer, packaging, reduced mass)
- Novel alloys not feasible with traditional manufacturing
- Reduced scrap (and lower buy-to-fly ratio)
- Sustainability
- Local manufacturing



# Advantages and Disadvantages



## Advantages

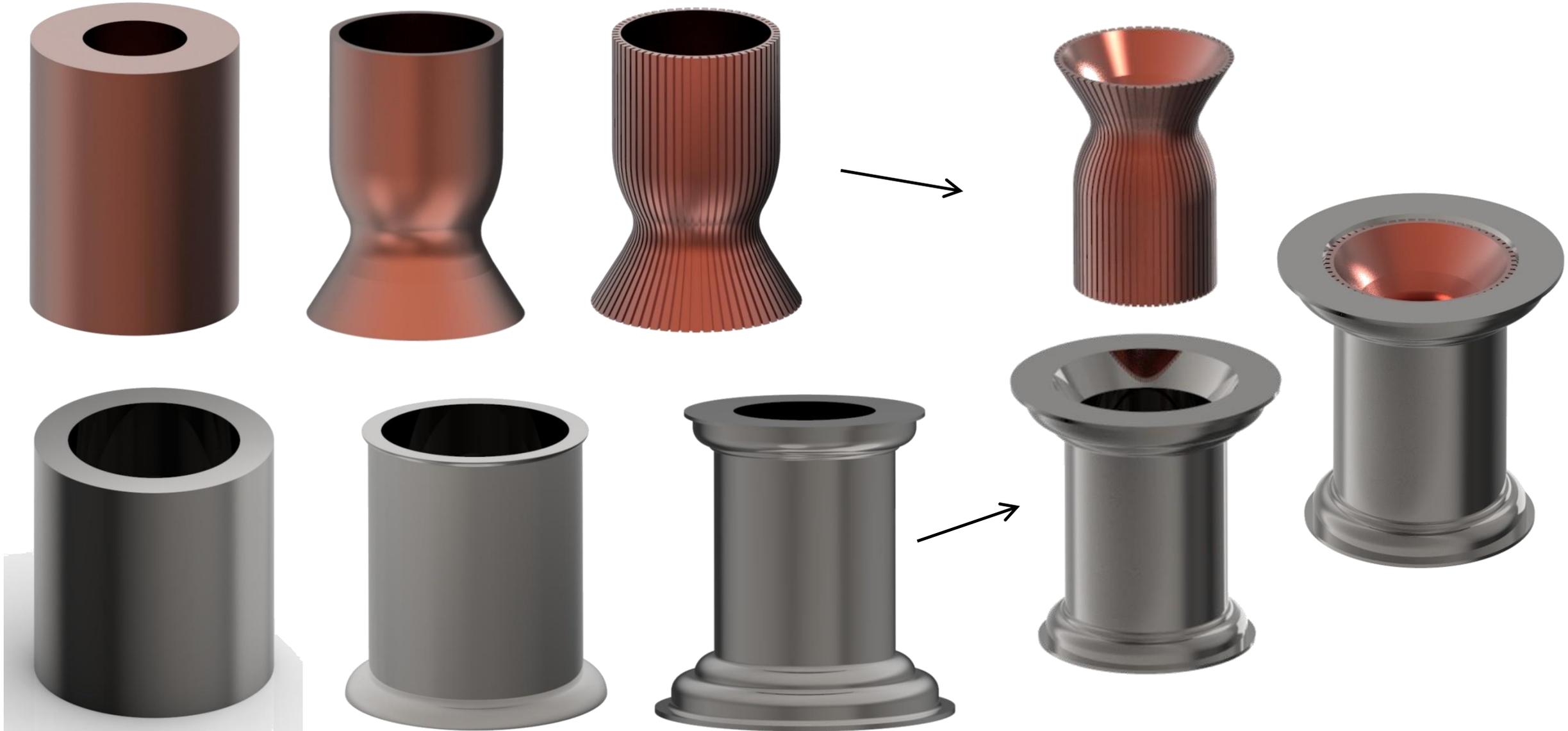
- 1) No or limited tooling is required.
- 2) Reductions in part count or mass can be achieved through increased design freedom.
- 3) A broad range of metal alloys can be used.
- 4) Various sized and featured parts can be manufactured using different methods.
- 5) Overall processing time and subsequent cost are reduced.
- 6) Design freedom is increased, as fewer manufacturing constraints are imposed to enhance performance.
- 7) Production lead time is reduced.
- 8) New supply chains, such as critical spares, are enabled.

## Challenges

- 1) Production volume and time can be limited.
- 2) Many metal alloys can be used, but they typically must be weldable and still require a powder or raw material supply chain.
- 3) Distortion and residual stresses are intrinsic to the melt and solidification process.
- 4) The entire AM process from design to service application must be understood and considered.
- 5) Variations occur across different processes.
- 6) Not all AM machine platforms can build the same part.
- 7) AM machines represent a significant capital investment and can present a barrier to entry.



# Traditional Manufacturing...Forging to final assembly





# A rocket combustion chamber case study for AM



Category	Traditional Manufacturing	Initial AM Development	Evolving AM Development
<b>Design and Manufacturing Approach</b>	Multiple forgings, machining, slotting, and joining operations to complete a final multi-alloy chamber assembly	Four-piece assembly using multiple AM processes; limited by AM machine size. Two-piece L-PBF GRCo-84 liner and EBW-DED Inconel 625 jacket	Three-piece assembly with AM machine size restrictions reduced and industrialized. Multi-alloy processing; one-piece L-PBF GRCo-42 liner and Inconel 625 LP-DED jacket
<b>Schedule (Reduction)</b>	18 months	8 months (56%)	5 months (72%)
<b>Cost (Reduction)</b>	\$310,000	\$200,000 (35%)	\$125,000 (60%)

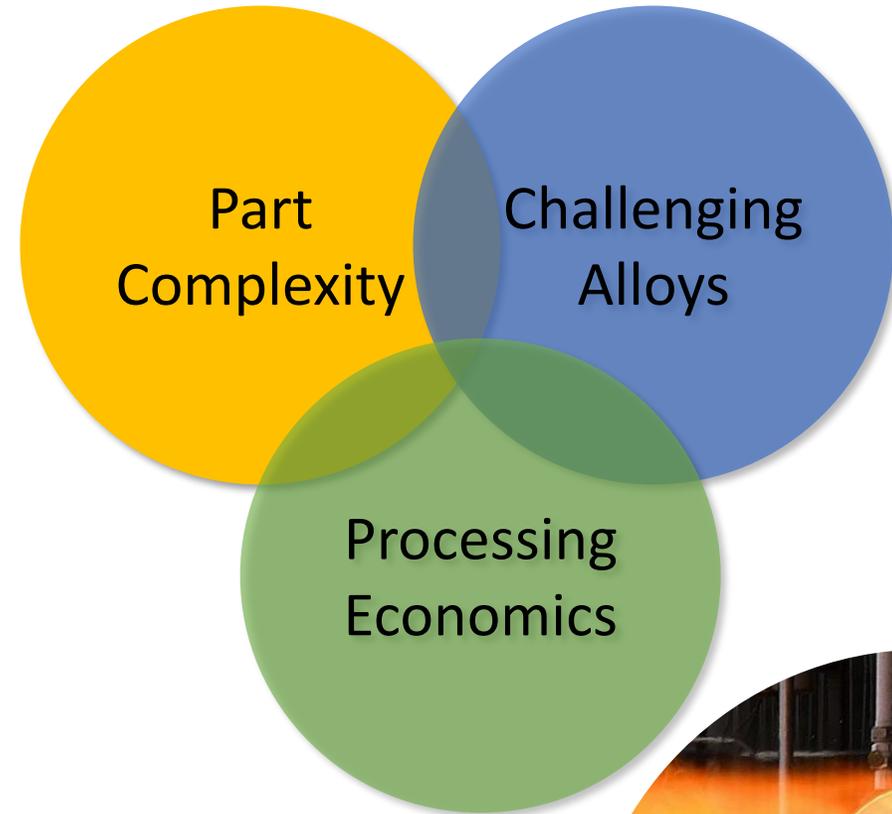
**As AM process technologies evolve using multi-materials and processes, additional design and programmatic advantages are being discovered**



# The Case for Additive Manufacturing in Propulsion

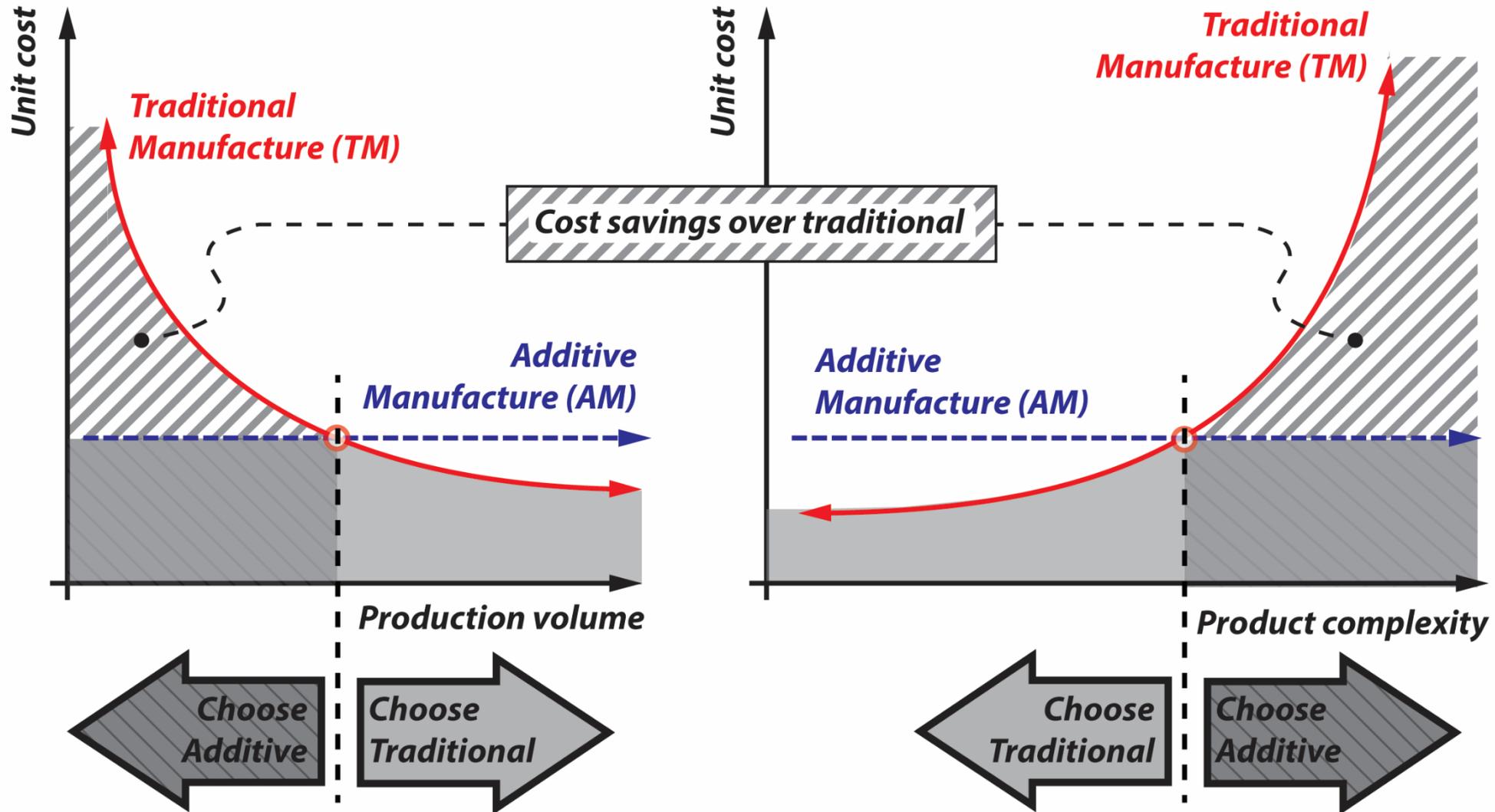


- Metal Additive Manufacturing (AM) can provide significant advantages for lead time and cost over traditional manufacturing for rocket engines.
  - Lead times reduced by 2-10x
  - Cost reduced by more than 50%
- Complexity is inherent in liquid rocket engines and AM provides new design and performance opportunities.
- Materials that are difficult to process using traditional techniques, long-lead, or not previously possible are now accessible using metal additive manufacturing.



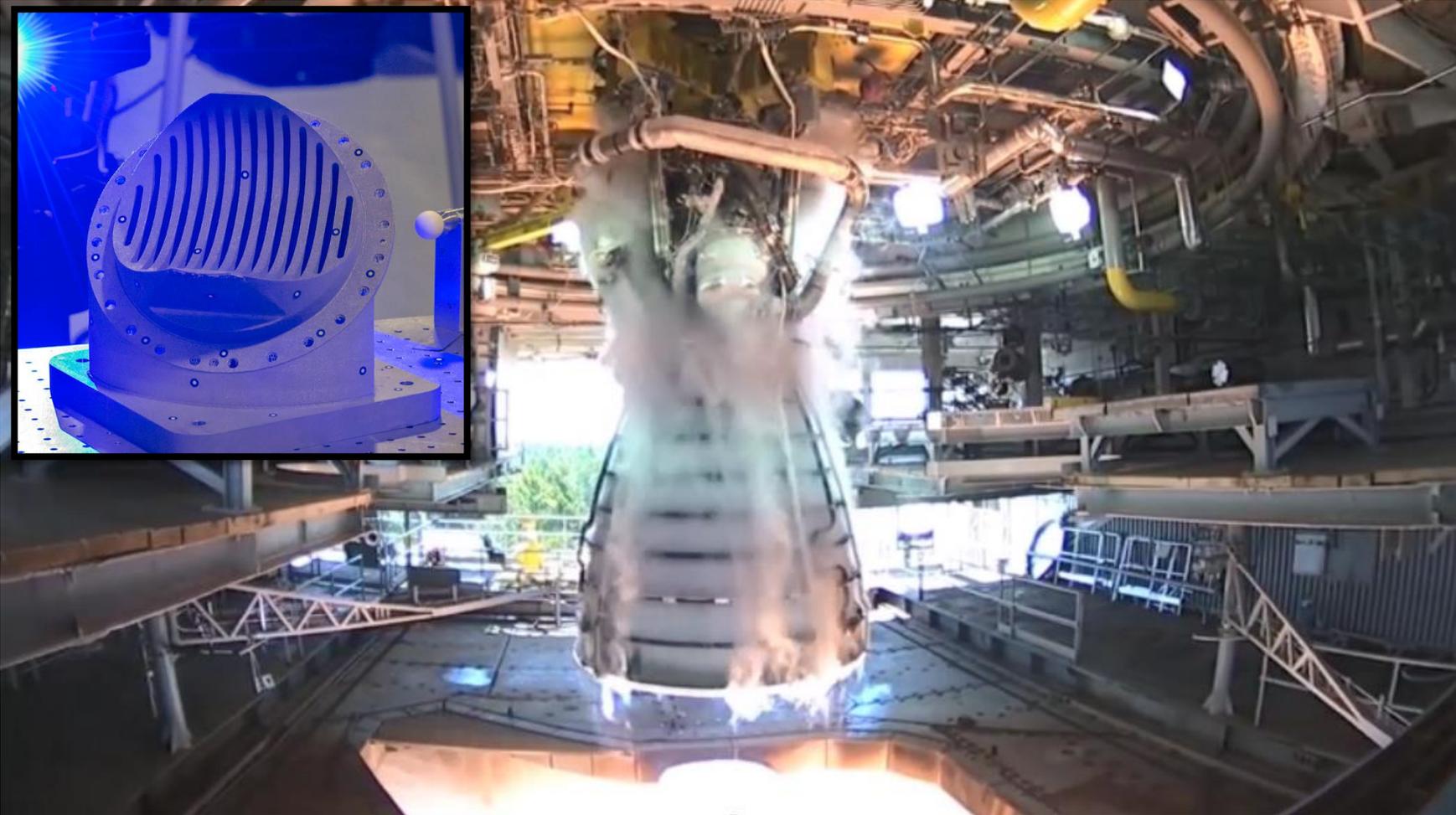
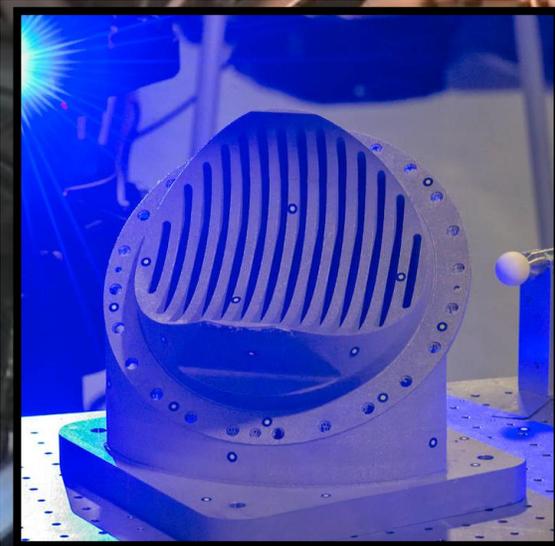


# When do we use additive manufacturing?





# Additive Manufacturing in use on NASA Space Launch System (SLS)



**Successful hot-fire testing of full-scale additive manufacturing (AM) Part to be flown on SLS RS-25  
RS-25 Pogo Z-Baffle – Used existing design with AM to reduce complexity from 127 welds to 4 welds**



# Additive Manufacturing in Flight and Development



## Relativity Space



## SpaceX



## Aerojet Rocketdyne



L-PBF Inconel 625  
Injector

L-PBF C-18200  
Chamber

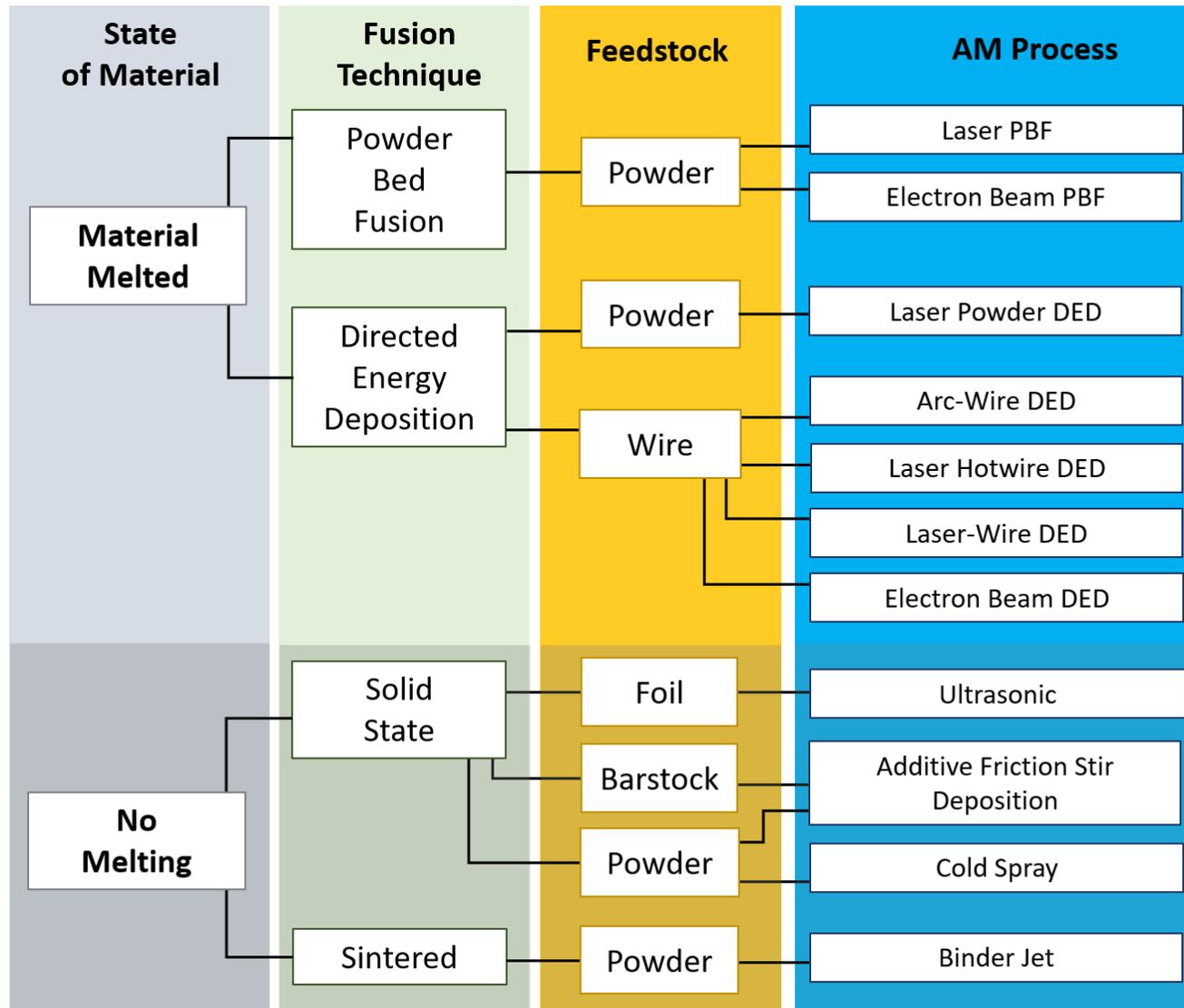
L-PBF Multi-piece  
Inconel 625 Actively-  
cooled Nozzle



Pictures used by permission of respective owners.



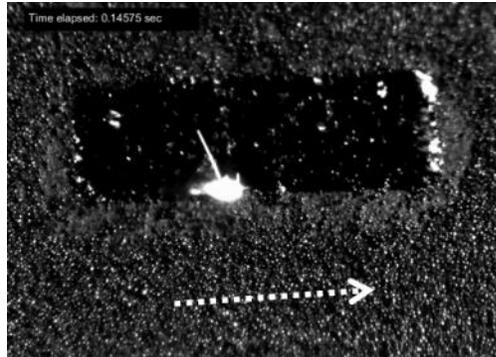
# Various Metal AM Processes



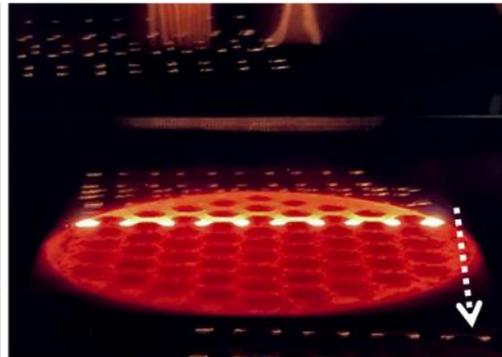
Many AM processes exist and must be traded (along with traditional techniques) to optimize



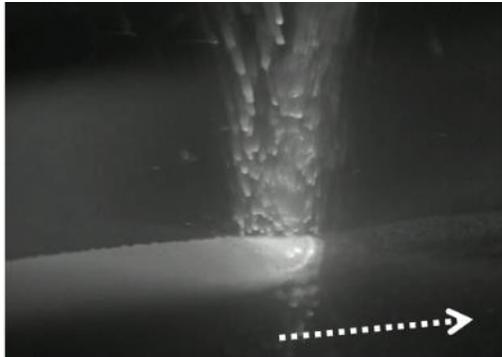
# AM Processes for various applications



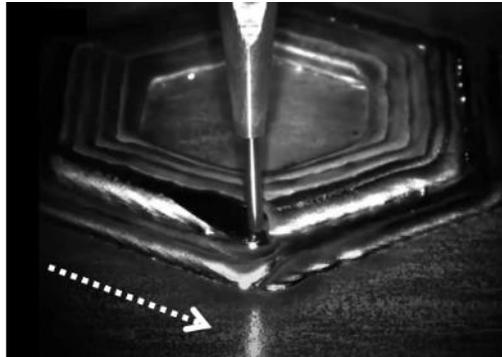
Laser Powder Bed Fusion



Electron Beam Powder Bed Fusion



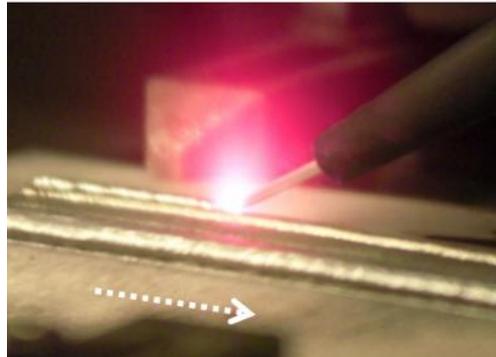
Laser Powder DED



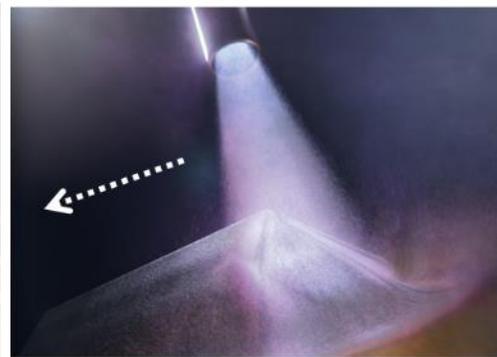
Laser Wire DED



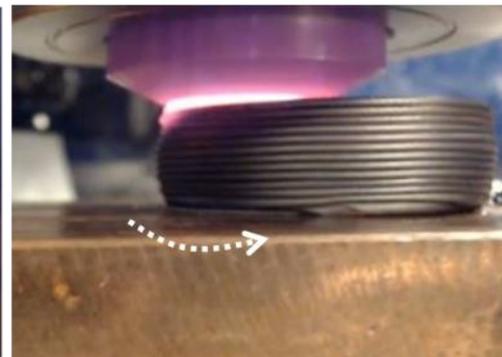
Arc Wire DED



Electron Beam Wire DED



Cold Spray



Additive Friction Stir Deposition



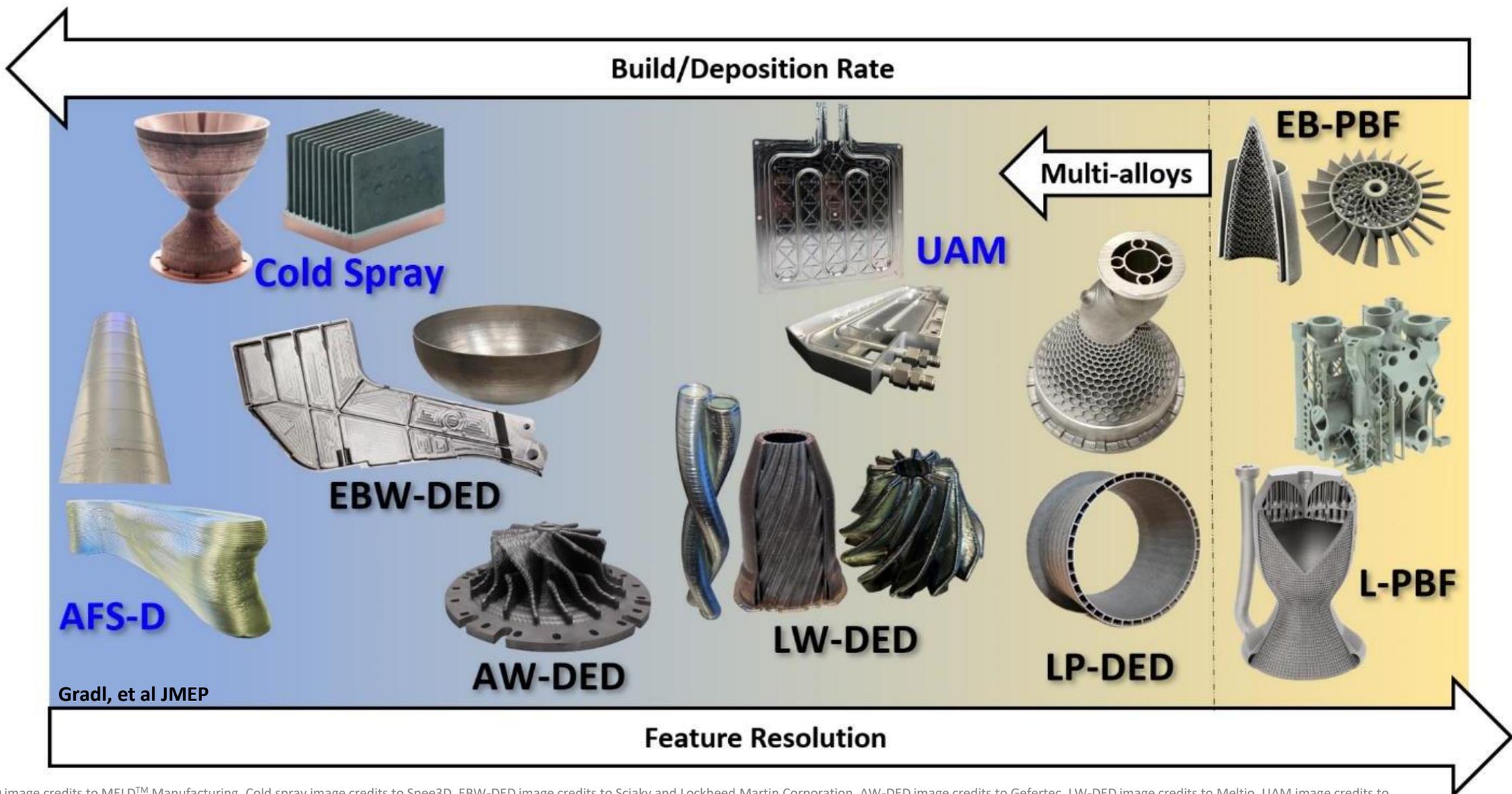
Ultrasonic Additive Manufacturing

A) Laser Powder Bed Fusion [<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.actamat.2017.09.051>], B) Electron Beam Powder Bed Fusion [Credit: Courtesy of Freemelt AB, Sweden], C) Laser Powder DED [Credit: Formalloy], D) Laser Wire DED [Credit: Ramlab and Cavitar], E) Arc Wire DED [Credit: Institut Maupertuis and Cavitar], F) Electron Beam DED [NASA], G) Cold spray [Credit: LLNL], H) Additive Friction Stir Deposition [NASA], I) Ultrasonic AM [Credit: Fabrisonic].

**Reference:** Gradl, P., Tinker, D., Park, A., Mireles, O., Garcia, M., Wilkerson, R., Mckinney, C., 2021. Robust Metal Additive Manufacturing Process Selection and Development for Aerospace Components. Journal of Materials Engineering and Performance, Springer. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11665-022-06850-0>



# Criteria and Comparison Various Metal AM Processes



**CREDITS:** AFS-D image credits to MELD™ Manufacturing, Cold spray image credits to Spee3D, EBW-DED image credits to Sciaky and Lockheed Martin Corporation, AW-DED image credits to Gefertec, LW-DED image credits to Meltio, UAM image credits to Fabrisonic and NASA JPL, LP-DED image credits to DEPOZ project led by IRT Saint-Exupery and Formally, L-PBF image credits to Renishaw plc and CellCore GmbH/Sol Solutions Group AG, EB-PBF image credits to Wayland and GE Additive/Arcom.



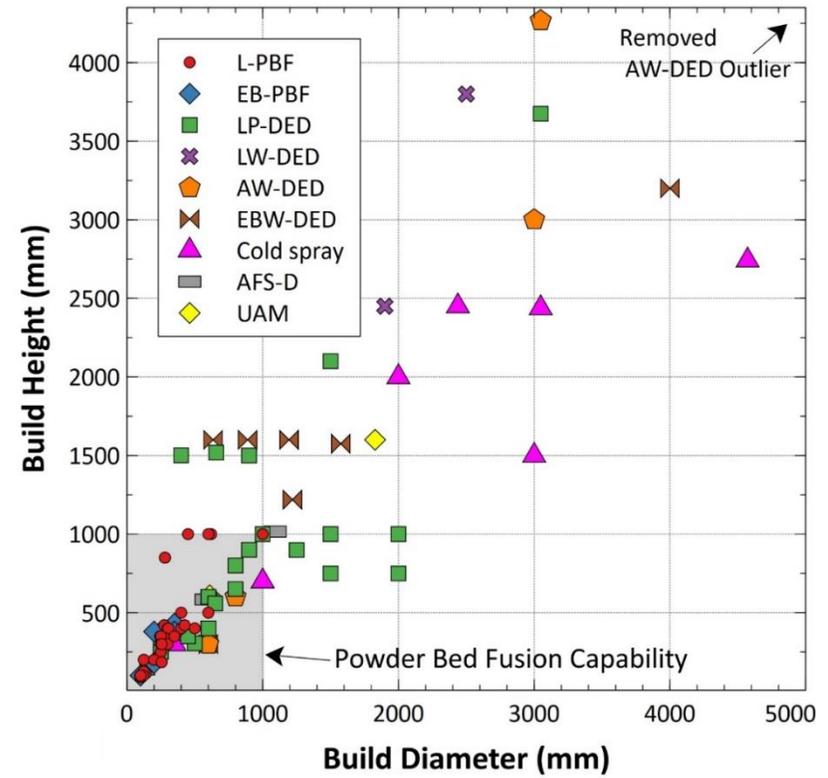
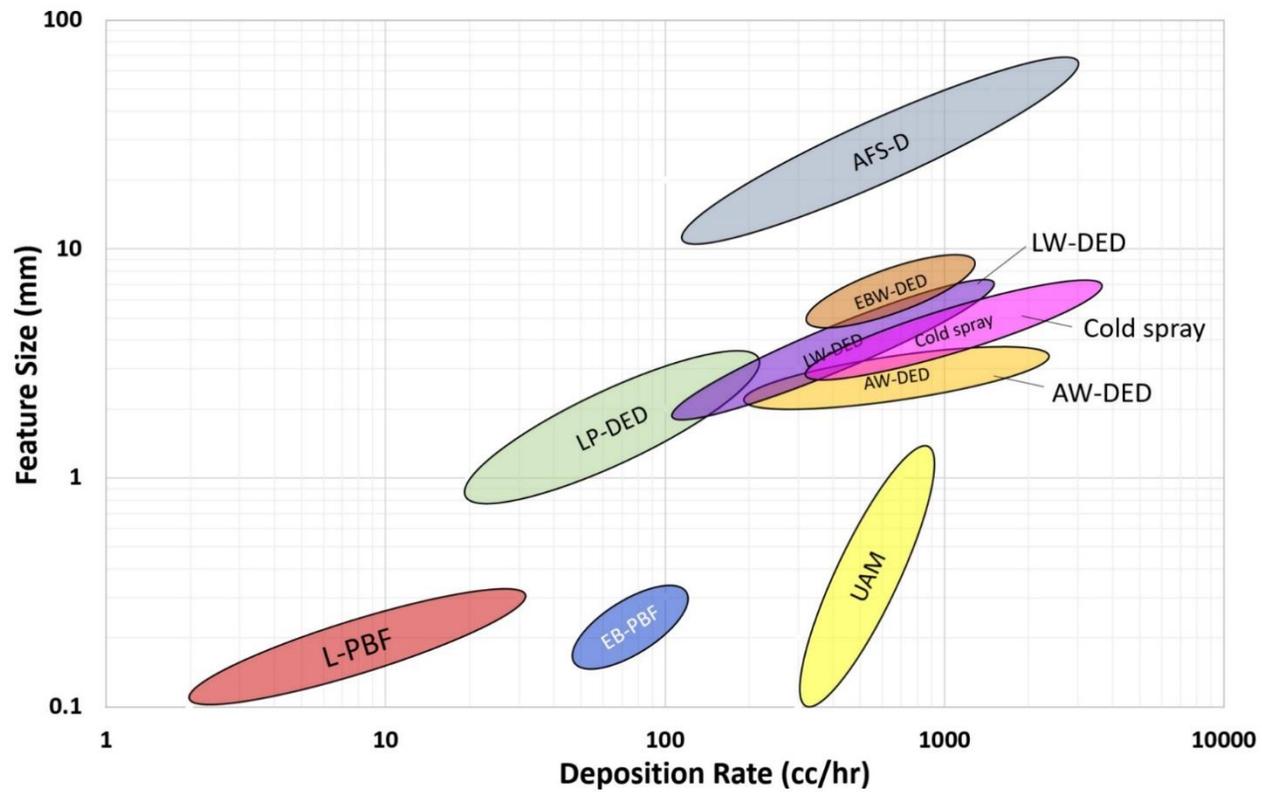
# Methodical AM Process Selection



- What is the **alloy** required for the application?
- What is the **overall part size**?
- What is the **feature resolution** and internal **complexities**?
- Is it a **single alloy** or **multiple**?
- What are **programmatic requirements** such as cost, schedule, risk tolerance?
- What are the end-use environments and **properties required**?
- What is the **qualification/certification** path for the application/process?



# Various criteria for selecting AM techniques



Complexity of Features

Scale of Hardware

Material Physics

Cost

Material Efficiency

Speed of Process

Material Properties

Internal Geometry

Availability

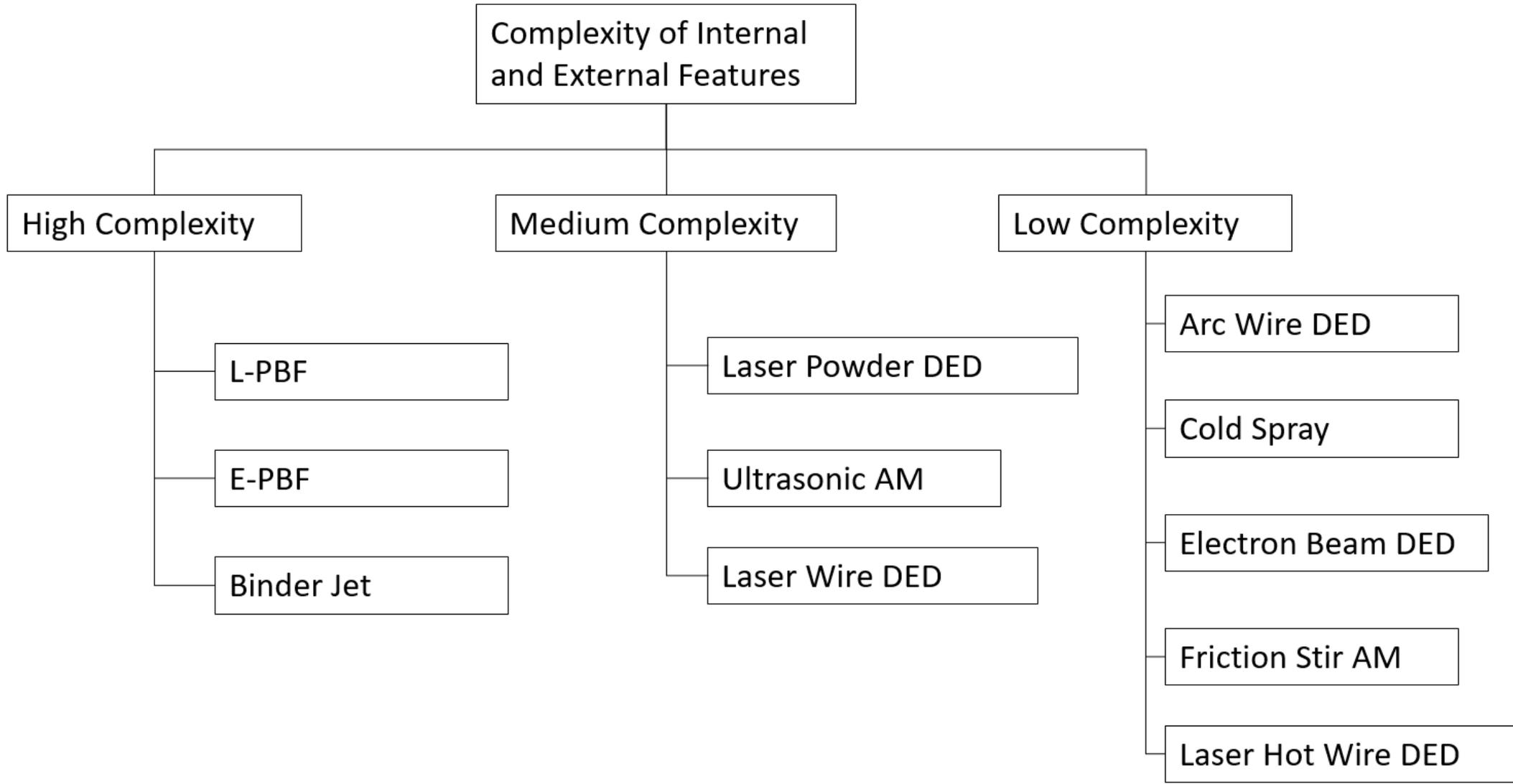
Post Processing

### References:

- Gradl, P., Tinker, D., Park, A., Mireles, O., Garcia, M., Wilkerson, R., Mckinney, C., 2021. Robust Metal Additive Manufacturing Process Selection and Development for Aerospace Components. Journal of Materials Engineering and Performance, Springer. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11665-022-06850-0>
- Paul R. Gradl, Omar R. Mireles, Christopher S. Protz, Chance P. Garcia, 2022. Metal Additive Manufacturing for Propulsion Applications, 1st ed, Metal Additive Manufacturing for Propulsion Applications. American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, Inc., Reston, VA. <https://doi.org/10.2514/4.106279>



# Complexity of Features vs Process

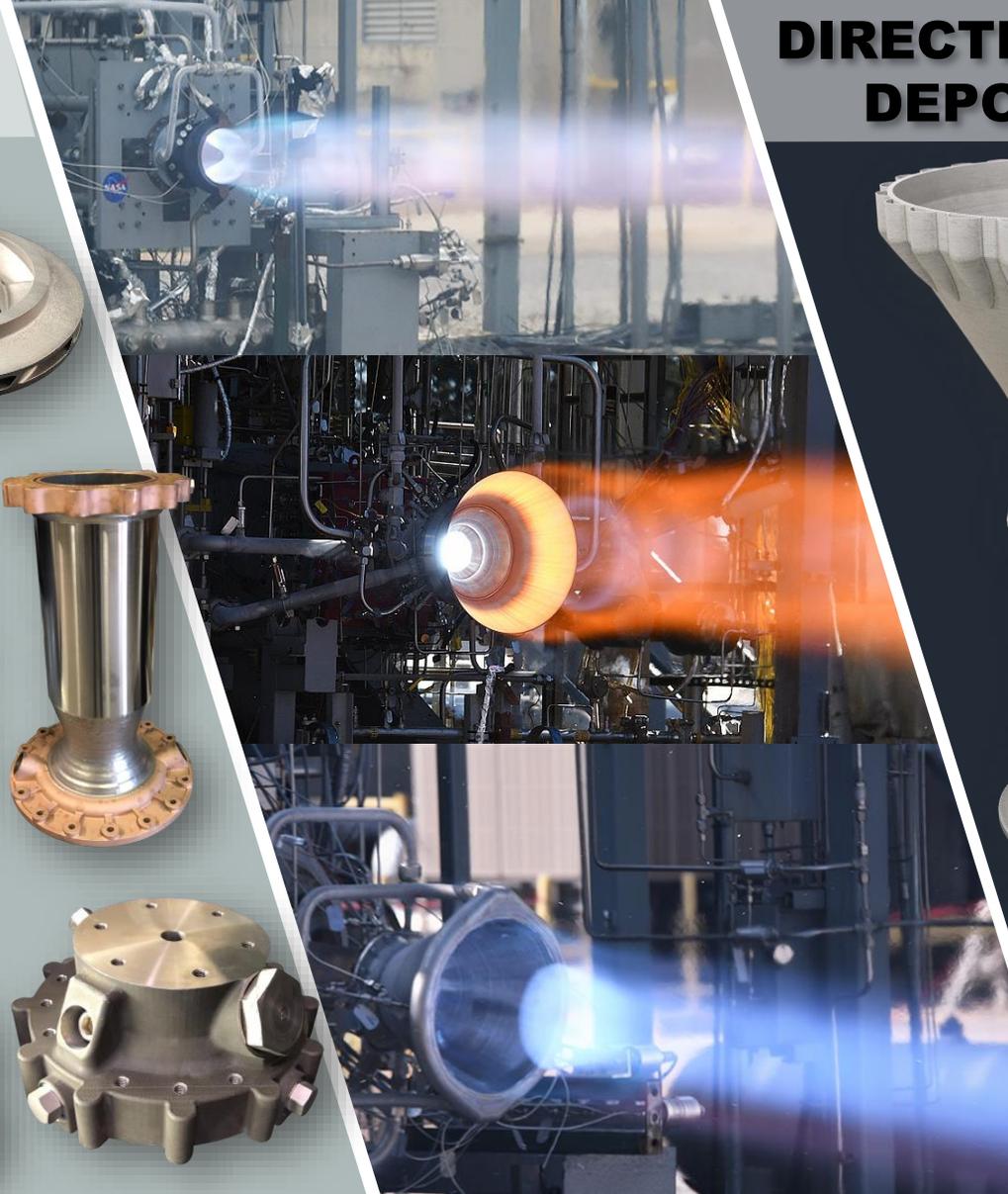




# Maturity of Metal AM for NASA Applications



## LASER POWDER BED FUSION



## DIRECTED ENERGY DEPOSITION



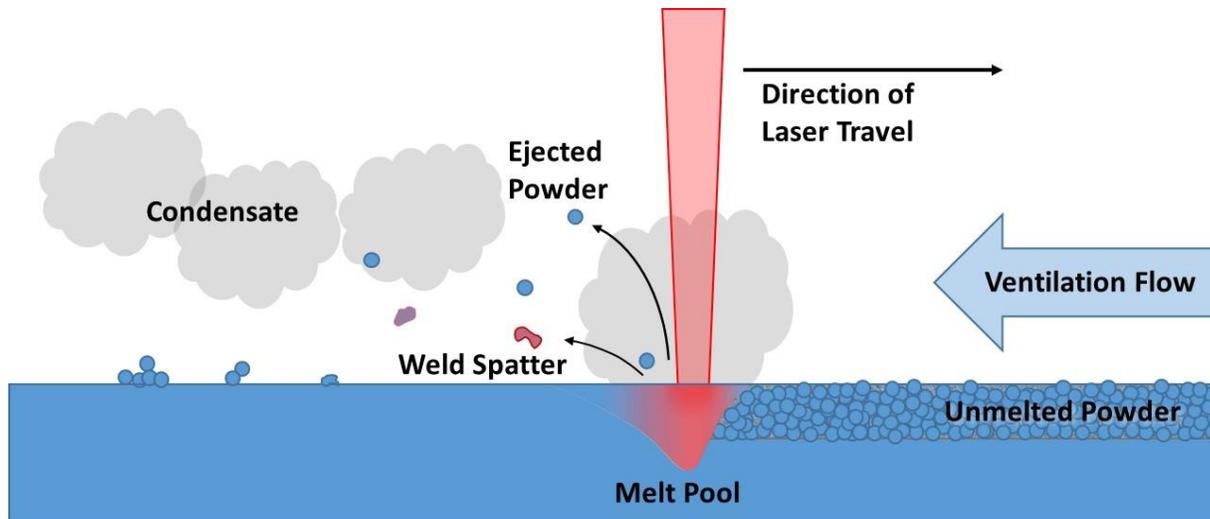


# Laser Powder Bed Fusion (L-PBF)

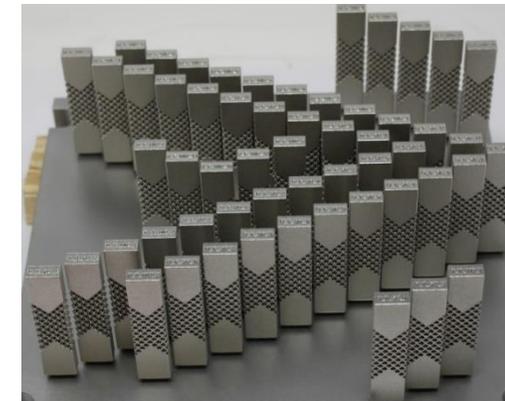
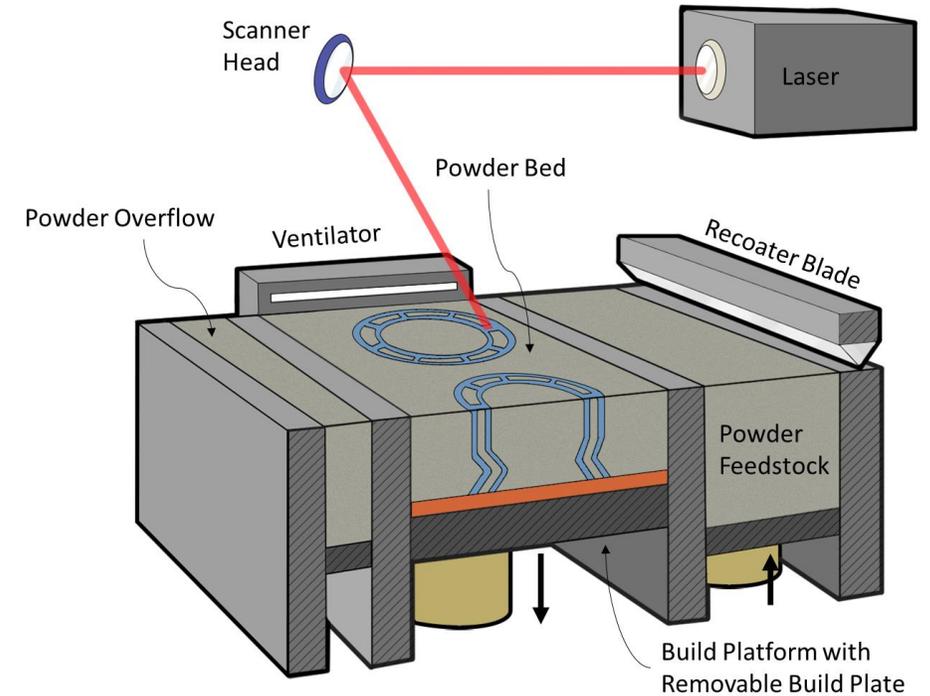


## • Laser Powder Bed Fusion (L-PBF)

- Basic Process: Layer-by-layer powder-bed approach where desired features are melted using a laser and solidify.
- Advantages: High feature resolution, complex internal and external geometric features, the most common and mature AM platform type in service.
- Disadvantages: Scale limited to machine build envelope, relatively low deposition rate, generally limited to weldable metals and alloys.

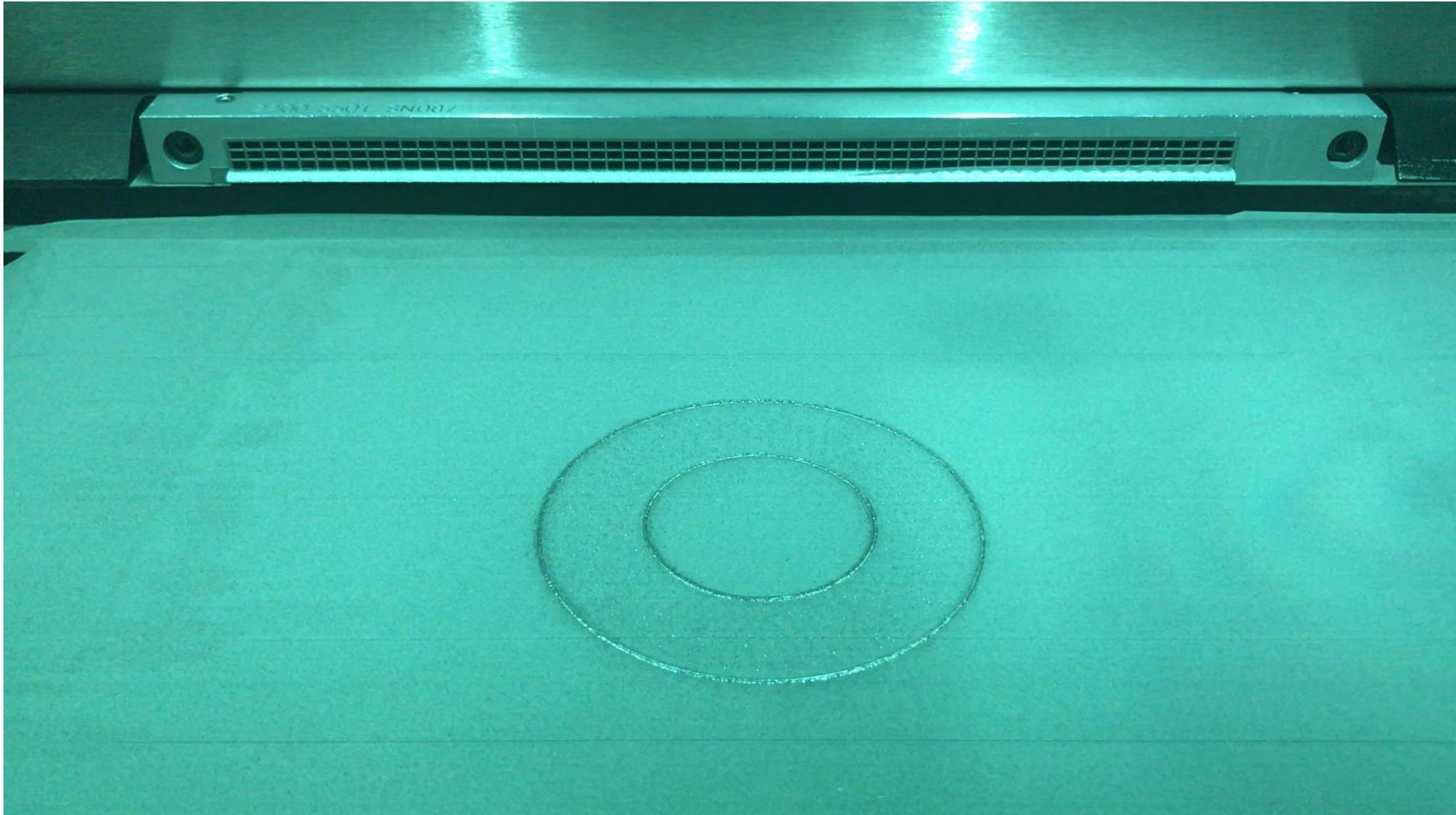


L-PBF AM process diagram





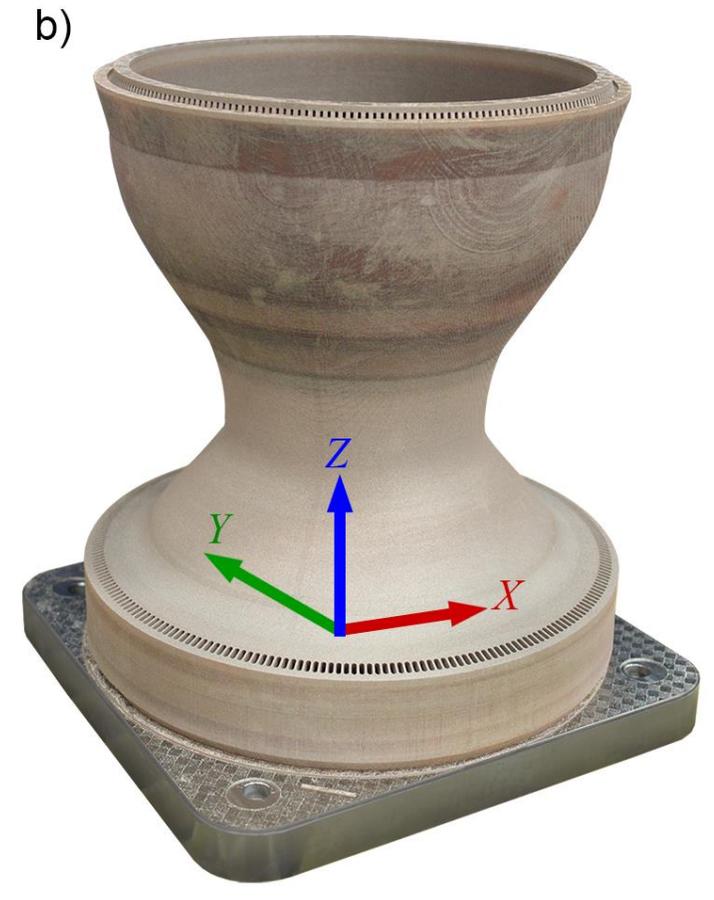
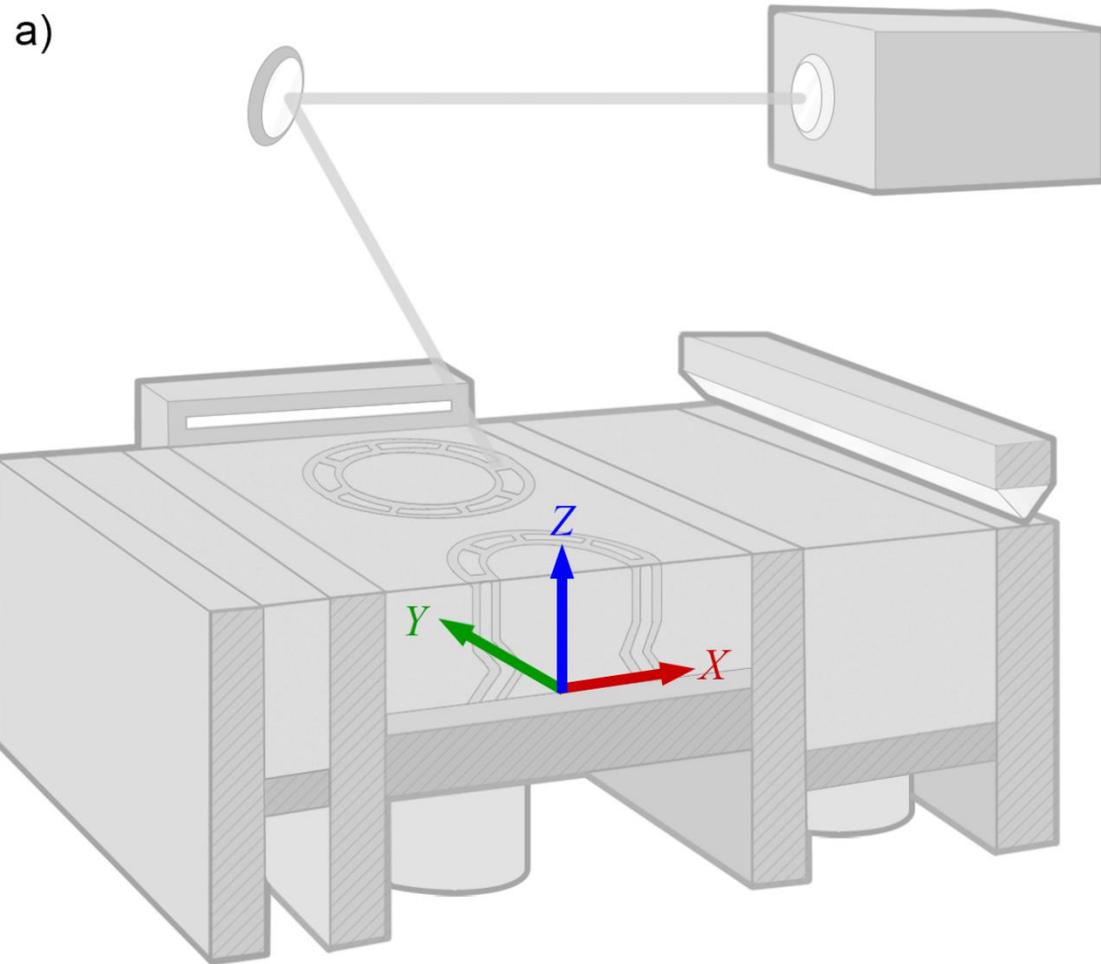
# Laser Powder Bed Fusion (L-PBF)





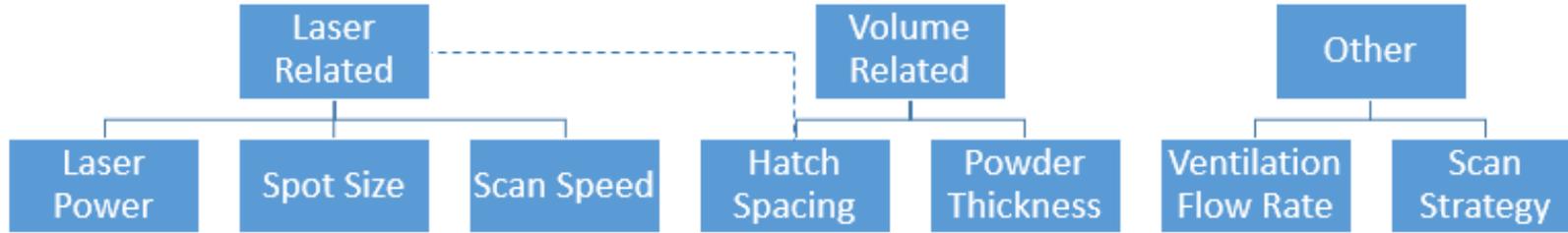
**Machine Coordinate System**  
Z is always direction of build

**Coordinate system**  
translates directly to part





# Parameter Development



$$E_v = \frac{P}{VDt}$$

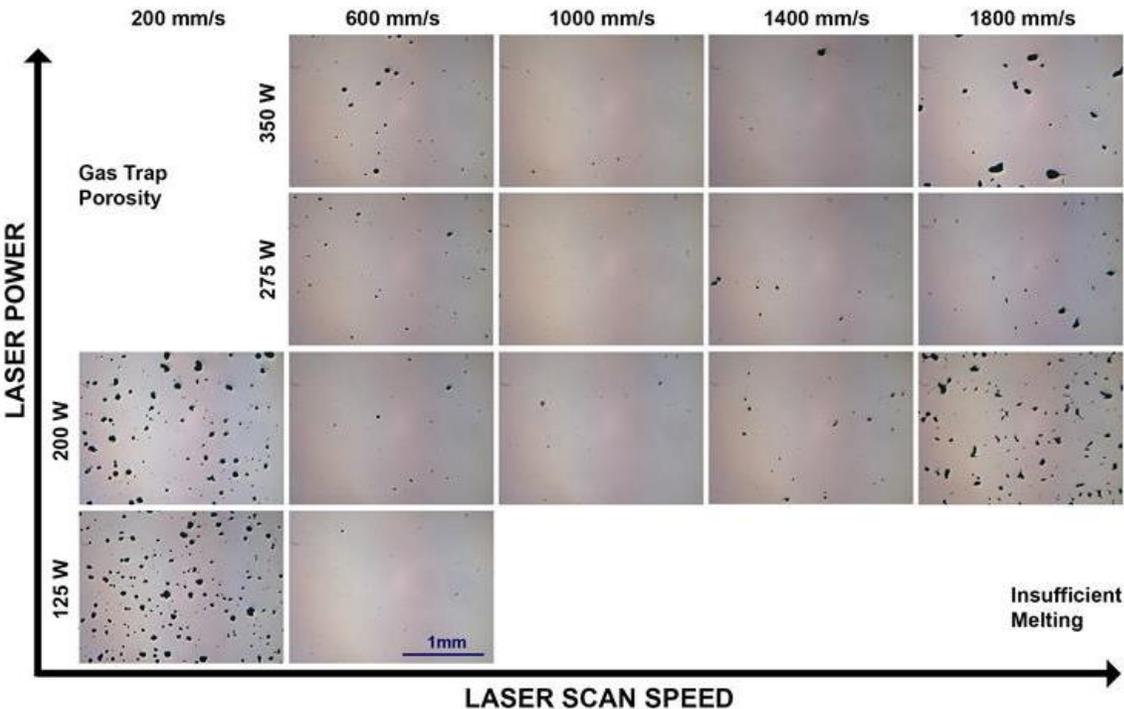
$E_v$  = Volumetric Energy Density (J/mm<sup>3</sup>)

$P$  = Power (W)

$V$  = Velocity (mm/s)

$D$  = Hatch Distance (mm)

$t$  = Layer Thickness (mm)



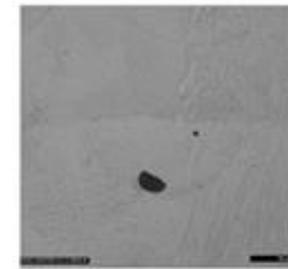
hatch space too wide



scan speed too high/power too low

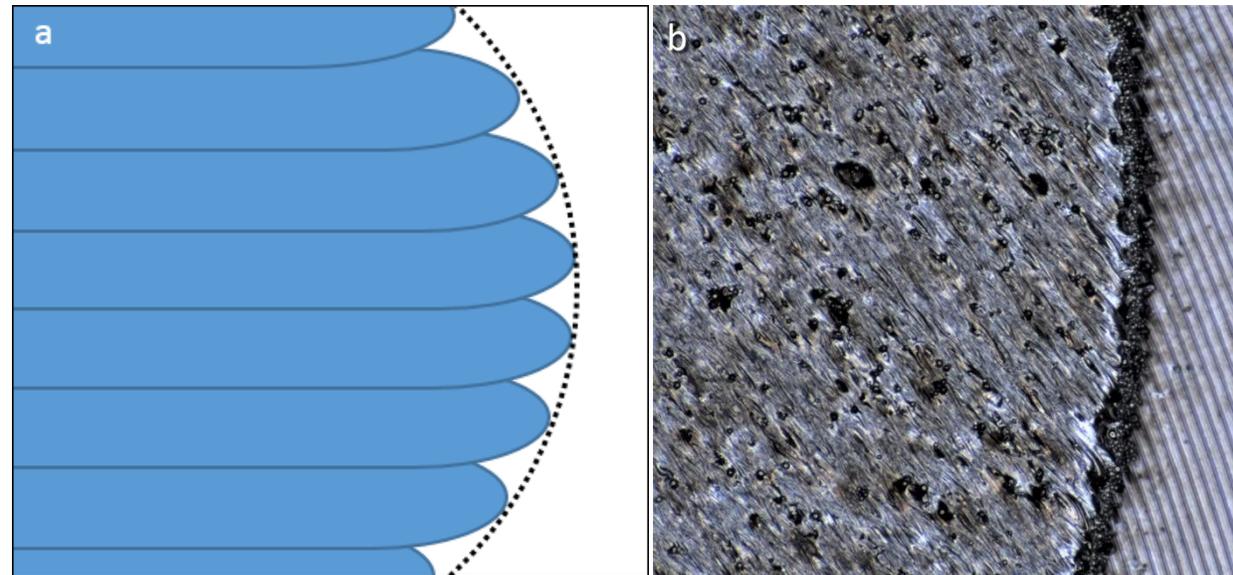


optimized parameter set

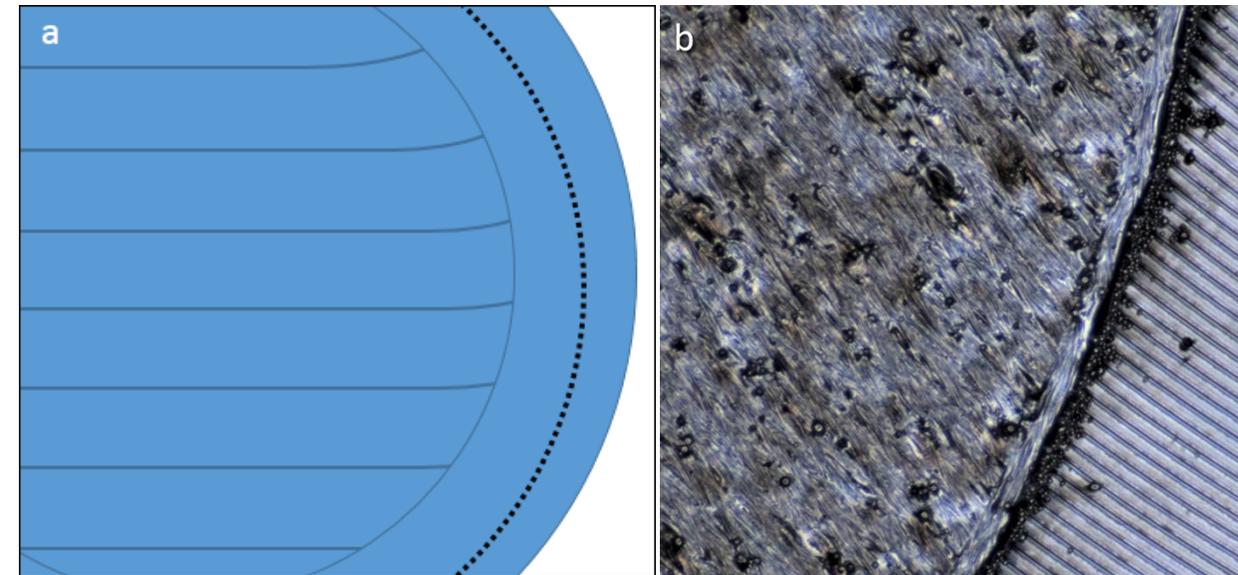


power too high/scan speed too low





Deposition layers without contours.



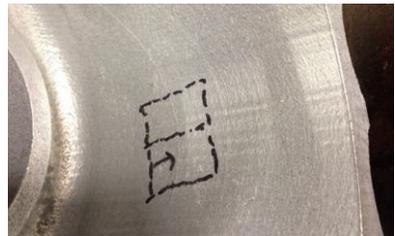
Deposition layers with contours.



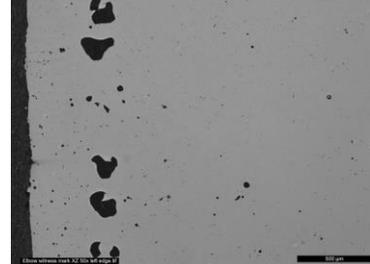
# L-PBF Failure Modes



## Build Artifacts



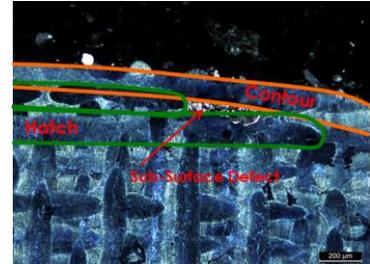
Witness marks on the surface and interior



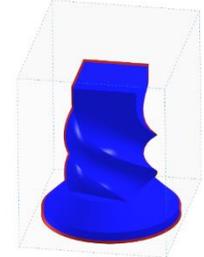
Edge and internal Porosity



Restart line observed post-build

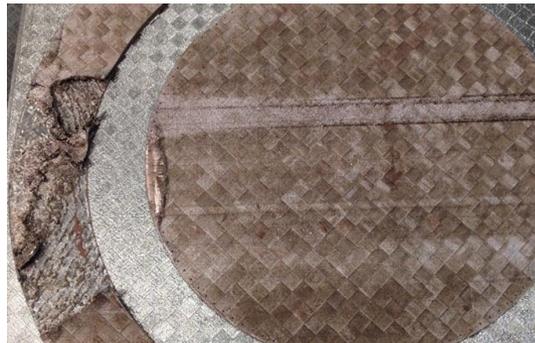


Edge Porosity from excessive beam offset.

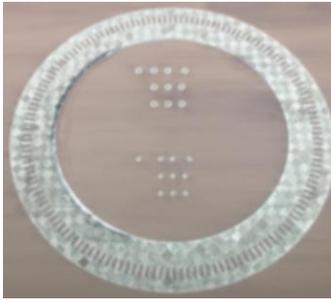


Cooling shrinkage

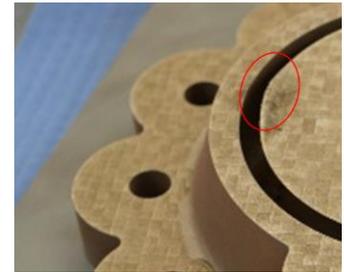
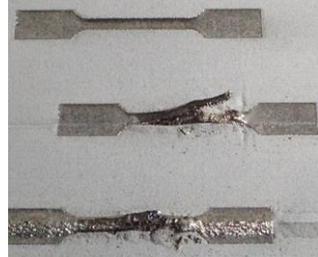
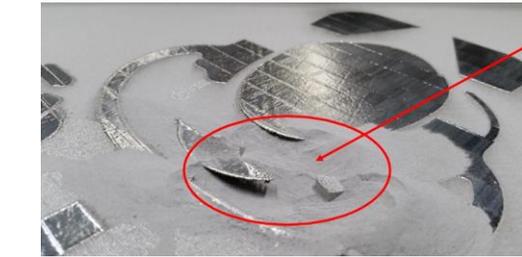
## Catastrophic Build Failures



Short feed where insufficient/non-uniform powder distribution occurs. Over time the powder layer will be excessively thick when corrected and the laser melt pool will not be sufficiently deep to bond the thick layer to substrate underneath. The re-coater blade is eventually damaged by curling.



Swelling (curling) results from geometries that taper (overhangs) to thin segments and are susceptible to local overheating then swelling. The thin segment can then be curled by the re-coater blade resulting in downstream short feeds. This can result in part delamination.



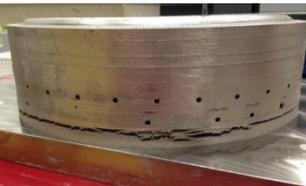
Material curl on knife edge



Damaged re-coater blade



Stray vectors



Deformation and Cracking from Residual Stresses during build



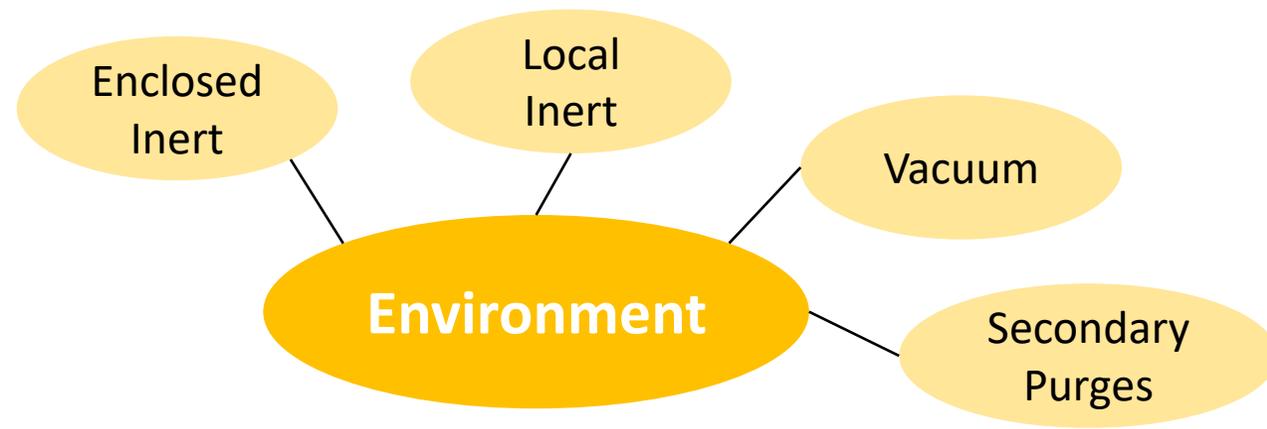
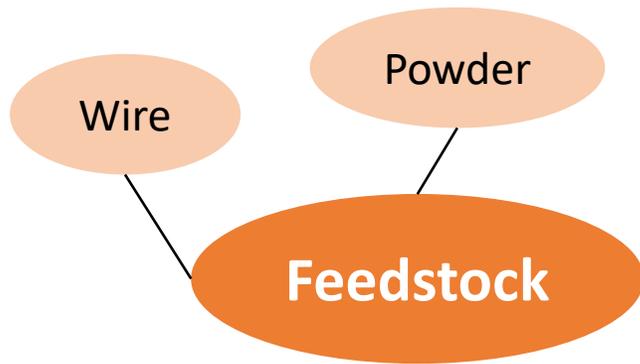
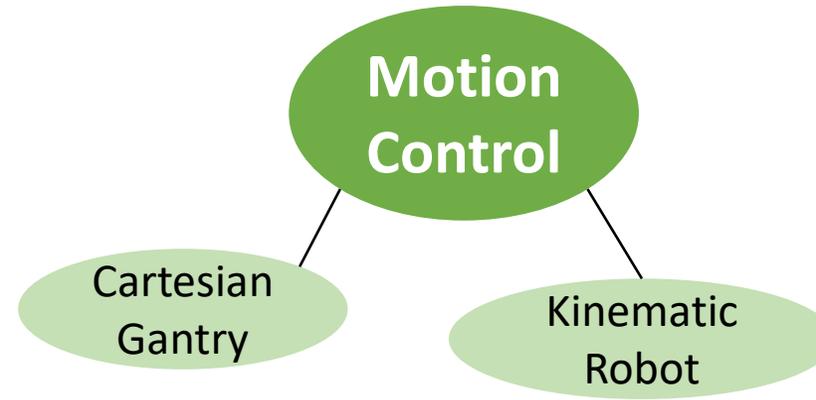
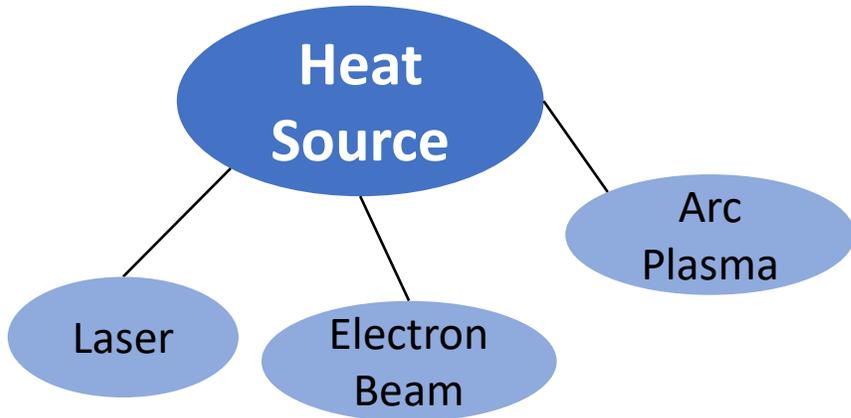
# Why DED?



- Each Metal AM process provides advantages and disadvantages
  - Often complementary to each other
- DED offers advantages for various applications
  - Large Scale
  - Multi-axis
  - Use wire or powder feedstock
  - Ability to use multiple materials in same build
  - Ability to add material in a secondary operation
  - High deposition rates
  - Integration of secondary processes (machining)
  - Process feedback and closed loop control
- Disadvantages
  - Residual stresses (more heat input)
  - Lower resolution (less detailed complexity)
  - Higher surface texture (depending on process)



# Aspects of AM DED Systems



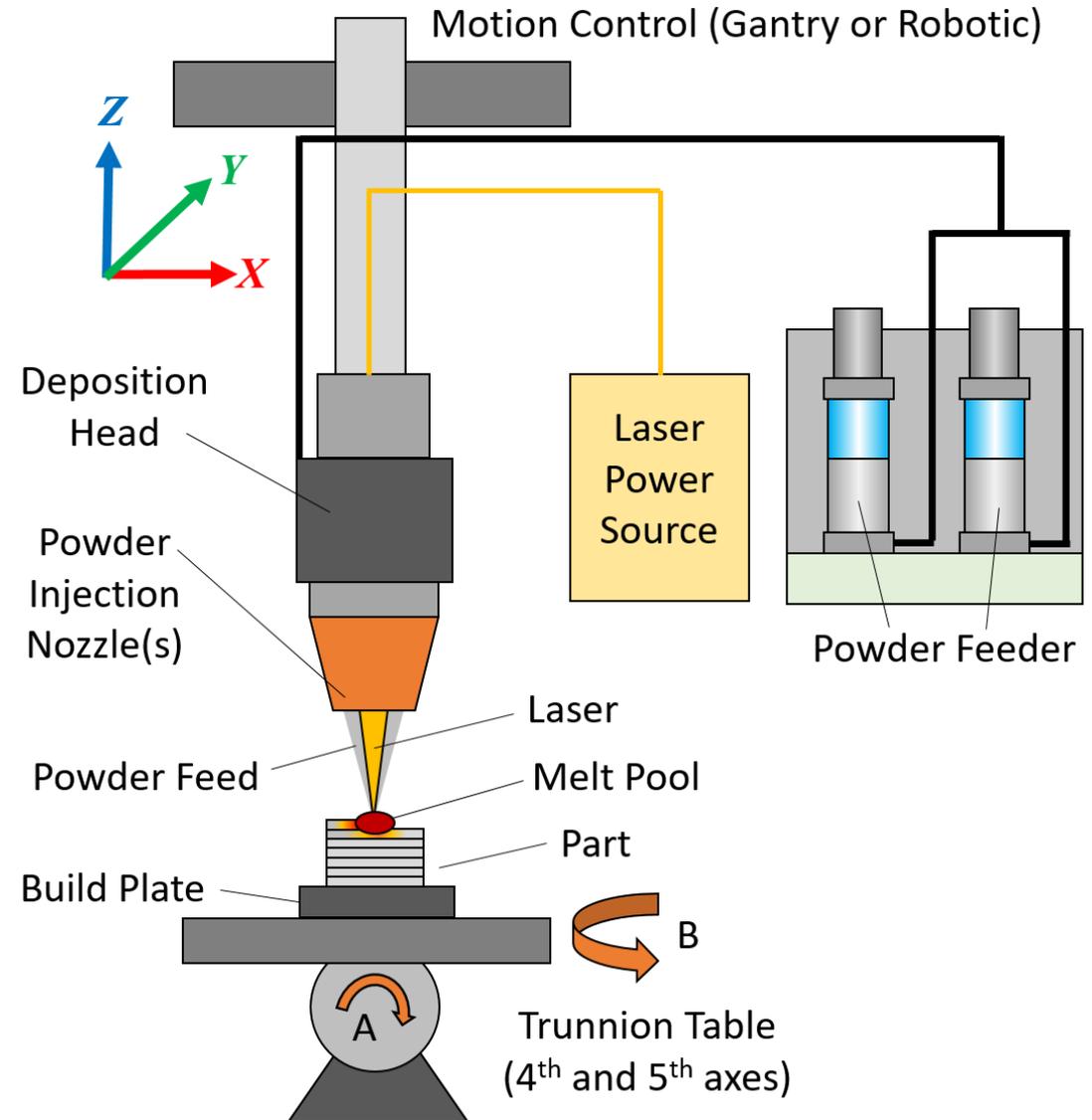
- Powder or Wire Feeder
- Build Plate
- Secondary Positioning
- Feedback and Monitoring
- Post-Processing



# LP-DED Process Overview



- LP-DED system includes laser power source, powder feeder, and deposition head
- Attached to gantry or robotic motion control system
- Deposition head incorporates powder feed nozzle and optical path to focus laser beam and powder.
- A melt pool is created with the laser and powder blown into the melt pool depositing a bead.

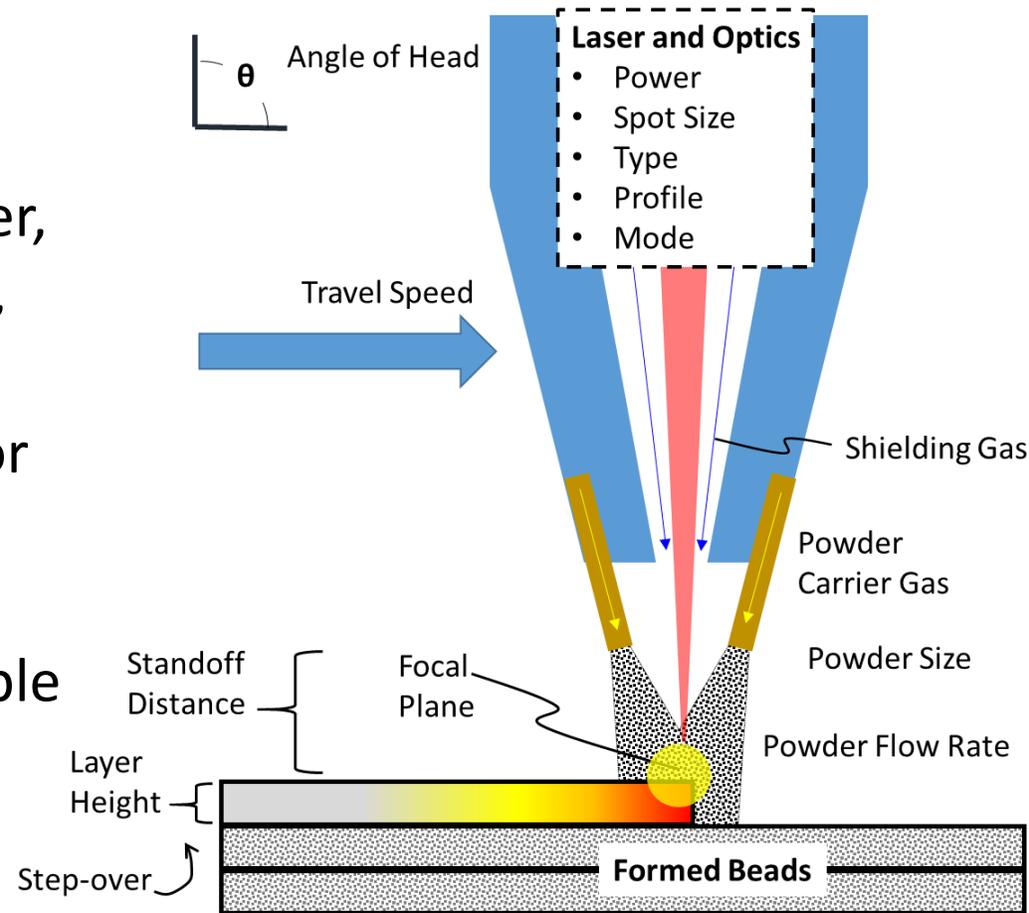




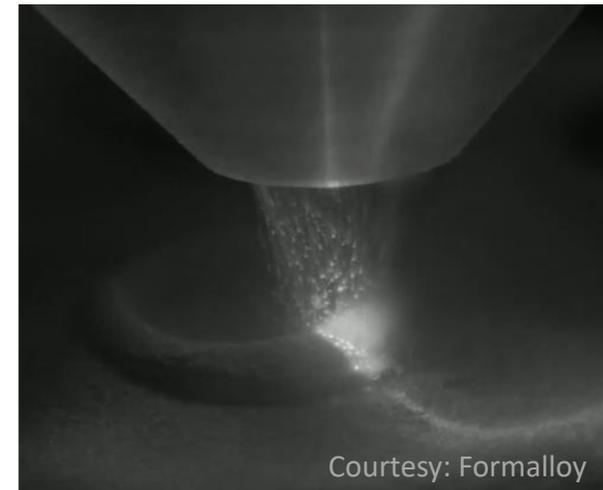
# LP-DED Process Overview

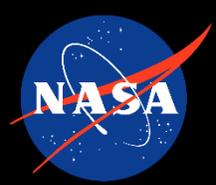


- Powder and laser beam path (sometimes optics) integrated into deposition head
- Basic parameters include power, powder feedrate, travel speed, layer height
- Additional geometry control for layer height, step over (hatching), standoff distance, angle of head and trunnion table
- Can vary spot size



AIAA: Metal Additive Manufacturing for Propulsion Systems, Gradl et al (unreleased)



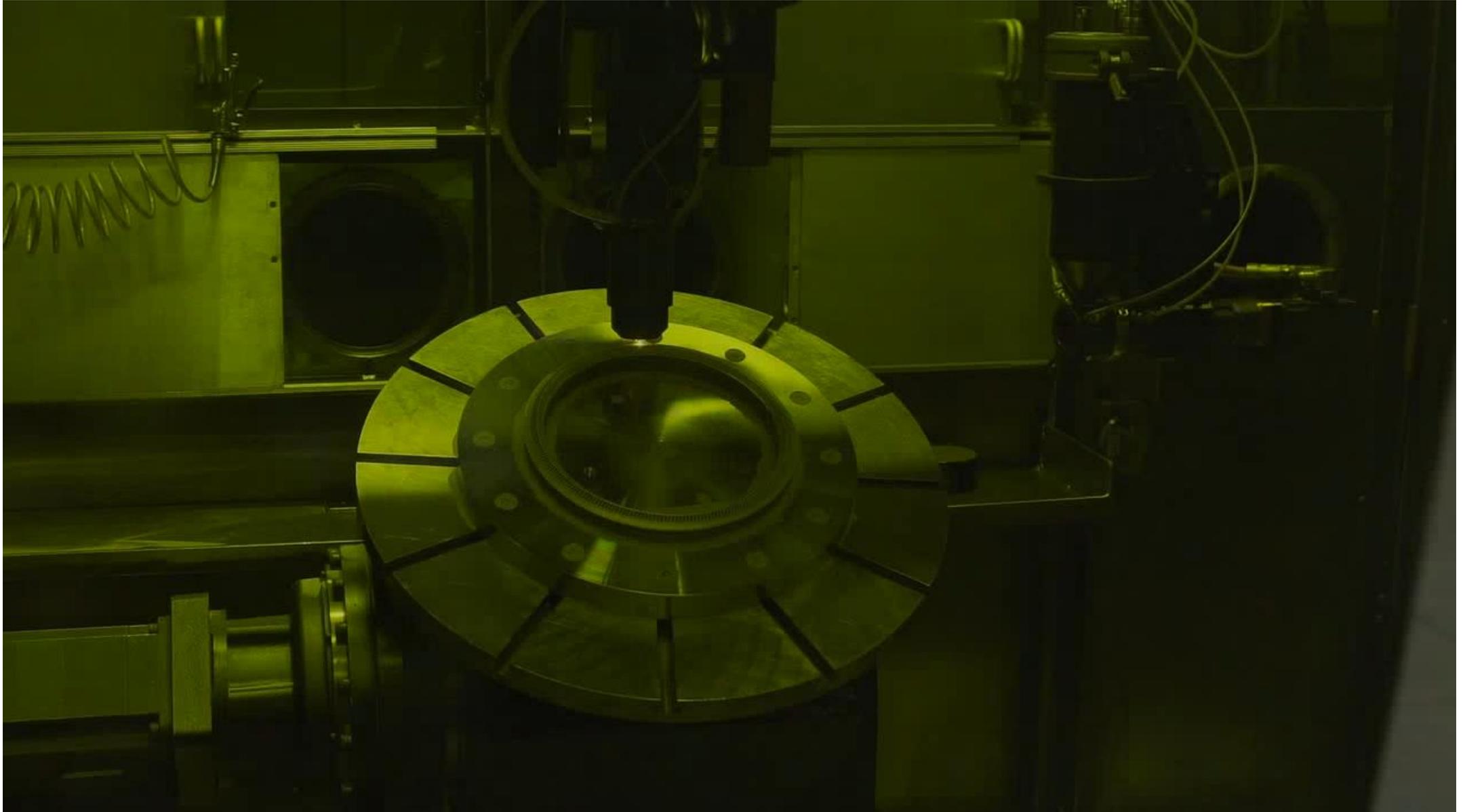


# Laser Powder Directed Energy Deposition (DED)





# Example of LP-DED with small features

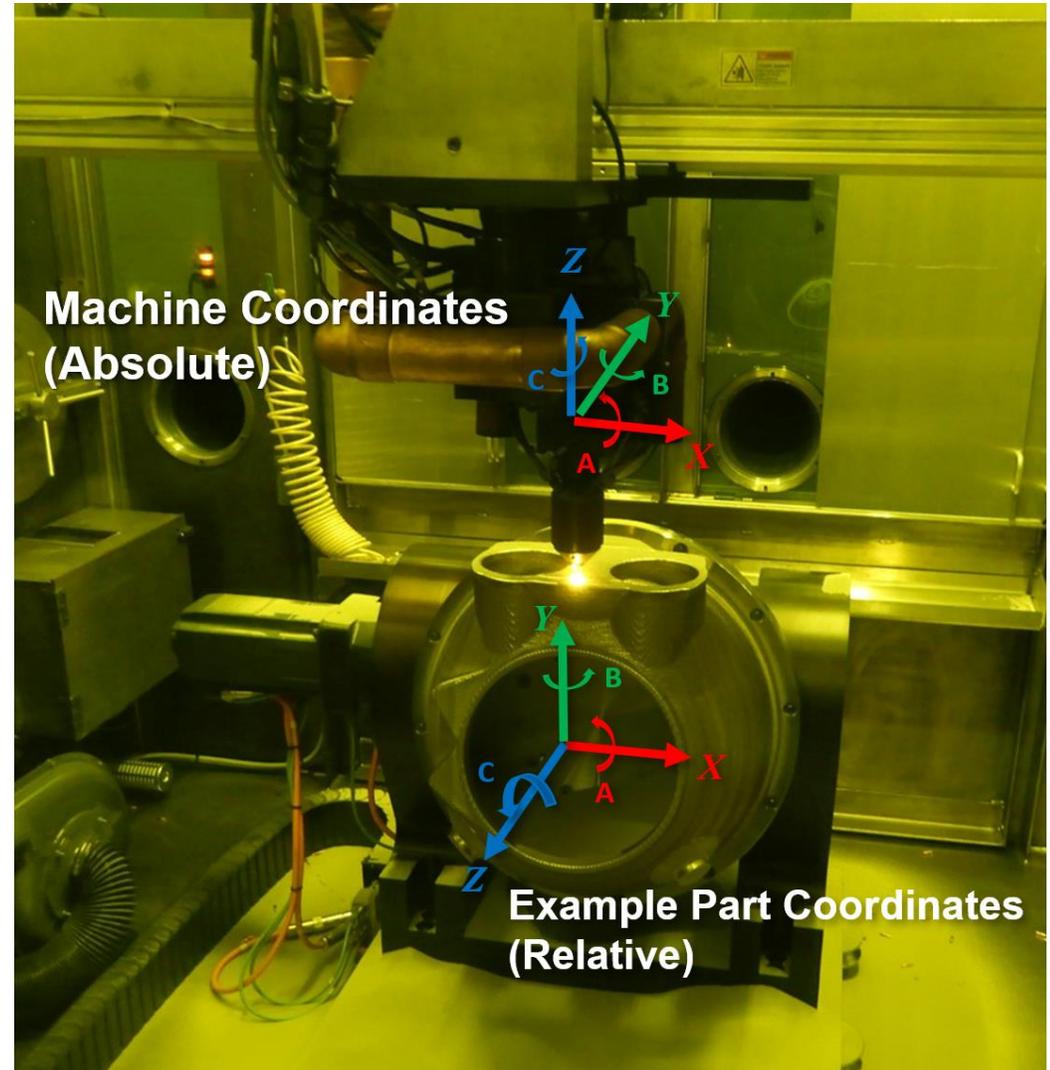




# DED Machine Coordinates

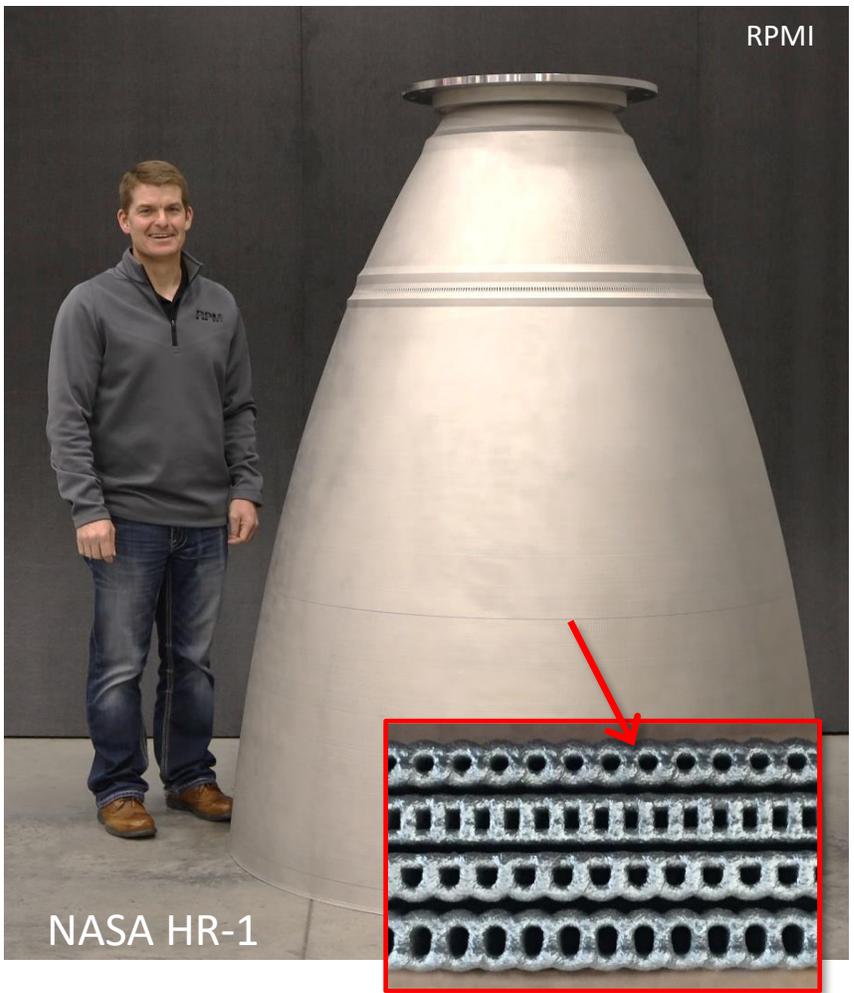


- Coordinates defined by ASTM 52921 based on ISO 841
- 3D Cartesian coordinates (X, Y, Z) but includes swiveling and gimbaling
  - Trunion table – **rotate and tilt**
- Z is the build direction
- Similar to traditional CNC machining
- Absolute coordinate system is based on machine coordinates
- Relative coordinate system based on part





# Large Scale LP-DED Nozzle Development



**60" (1.52 m) diameter and 70" (1.78 m) height with integral channels**  
90 day deposition



**95" (2.41 m) dia and 111" (2.82 m) height**  
Near Net Shape Forging Replacement

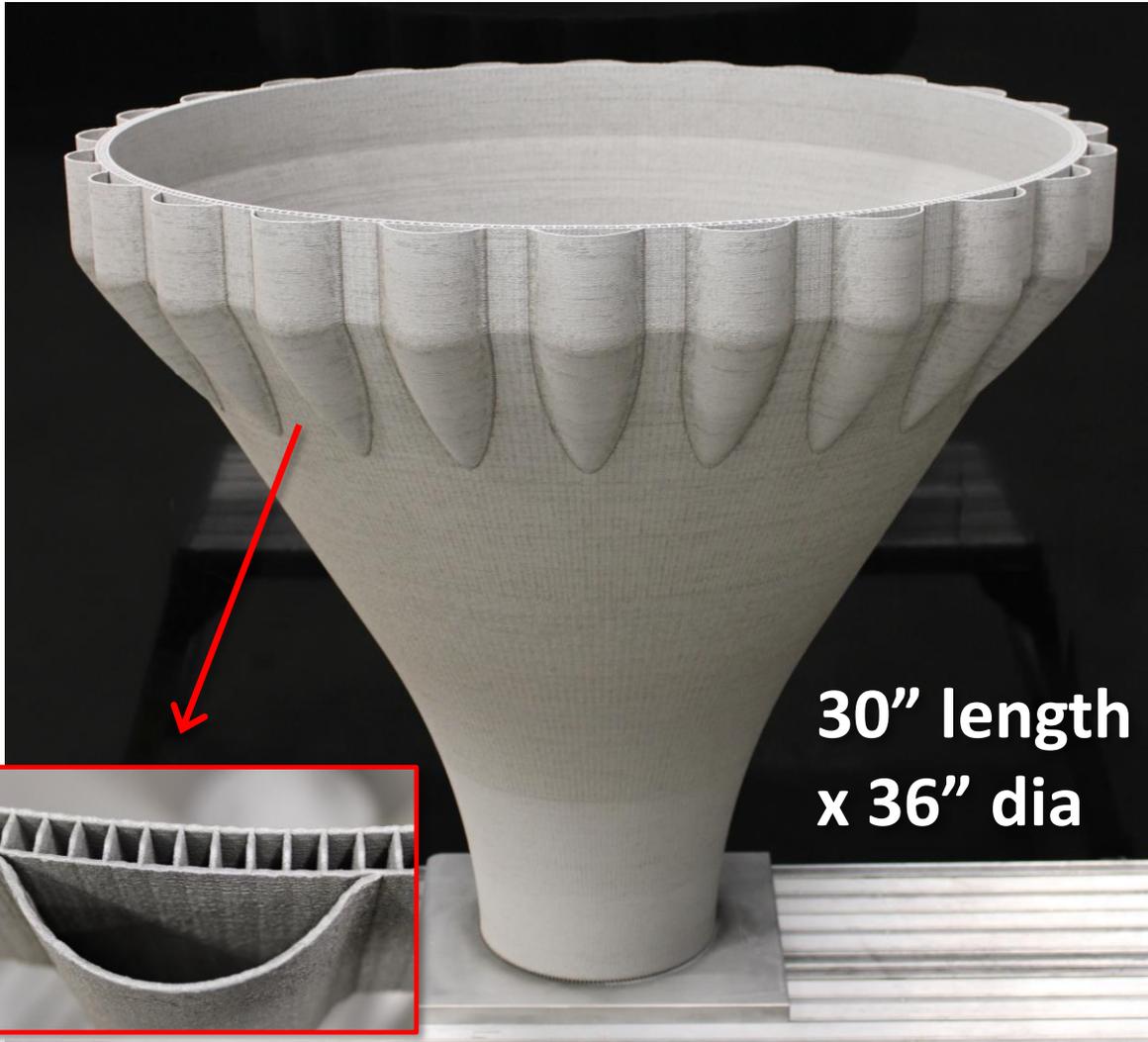
**Reference:** P.R. Gradl, T.W. Teasley, C.S. Protz, C. Katsarelis, P. Chen, Process Development and Hot-fire Testing of Additively Manufactured NASA HR-1 for Liquid Rocket Engine Applications, in: AIAA Propuls. Energy 2021, 2021: pp. 1–23. <https://doi.org/10.2514/6.2021-3236>.



# Aluminum Development with LP-DED



6061-RAM2 with 1.5 mm single-bead wall thickness





# Component Applications using LP-DED



DM3D

1/2 Scale RS25 Nozzle Liner

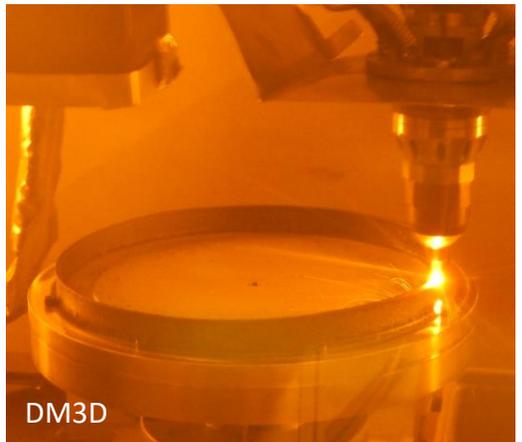


RPMI



Multi-material combination with L-PBF and DED (RAMPT Project)

RPMI



DM3D



RPMI



DM3D



RPMI



# Spot size (Power) and Deposition Rates



Laser Power: 1070 W	Laser Power: 2000 W	Laser Power: 2620 W
Dep. Rate: 1 in. <sup>3</sup> /h (23 cm <sup>3</sup> /h)	Dep. Rate: 3 in. <sup>3</sup> /h (49 cm <sup>3</sup> /h)	Dep. Rate: 5 in. <sup>3</sup> /h (82 cm <sup>3</sup> /h)
Deposition Time: 24 hours	Deposition Time: 11 hours	Deposition Time: 6 hours



Credit: RPMI

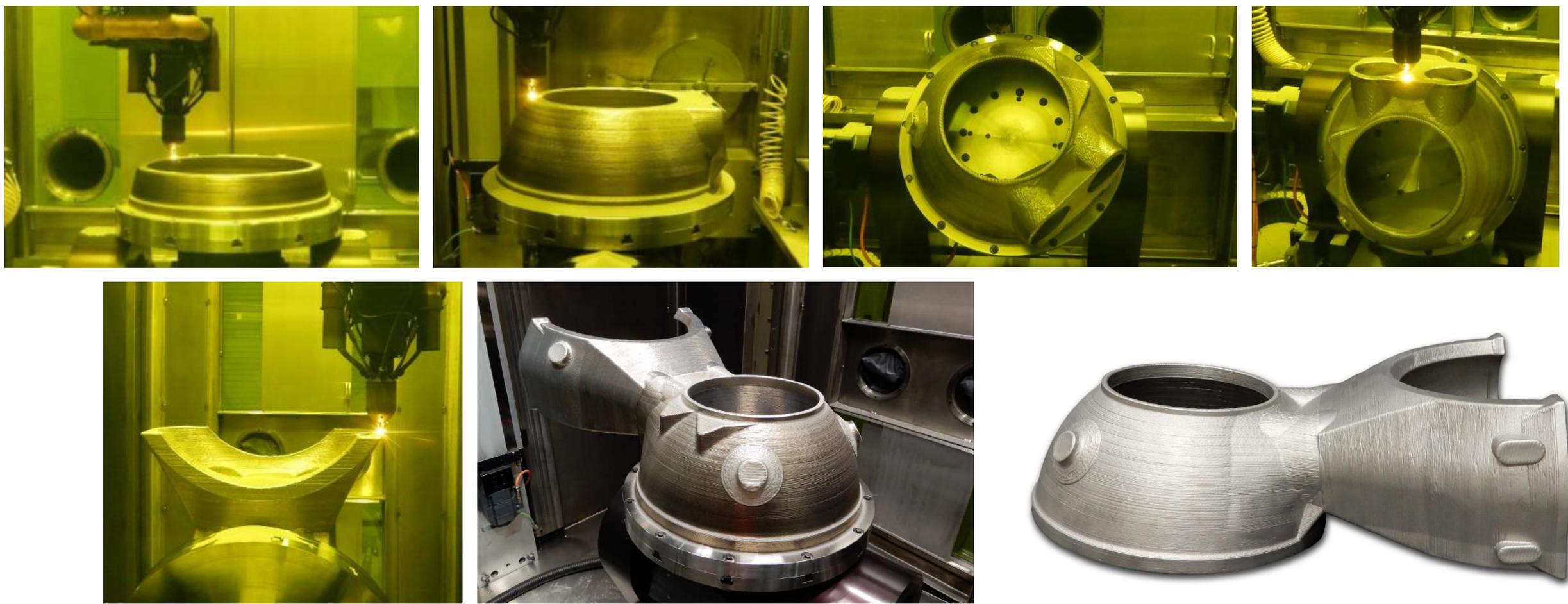




# Freedom in DED design and deposition strategies



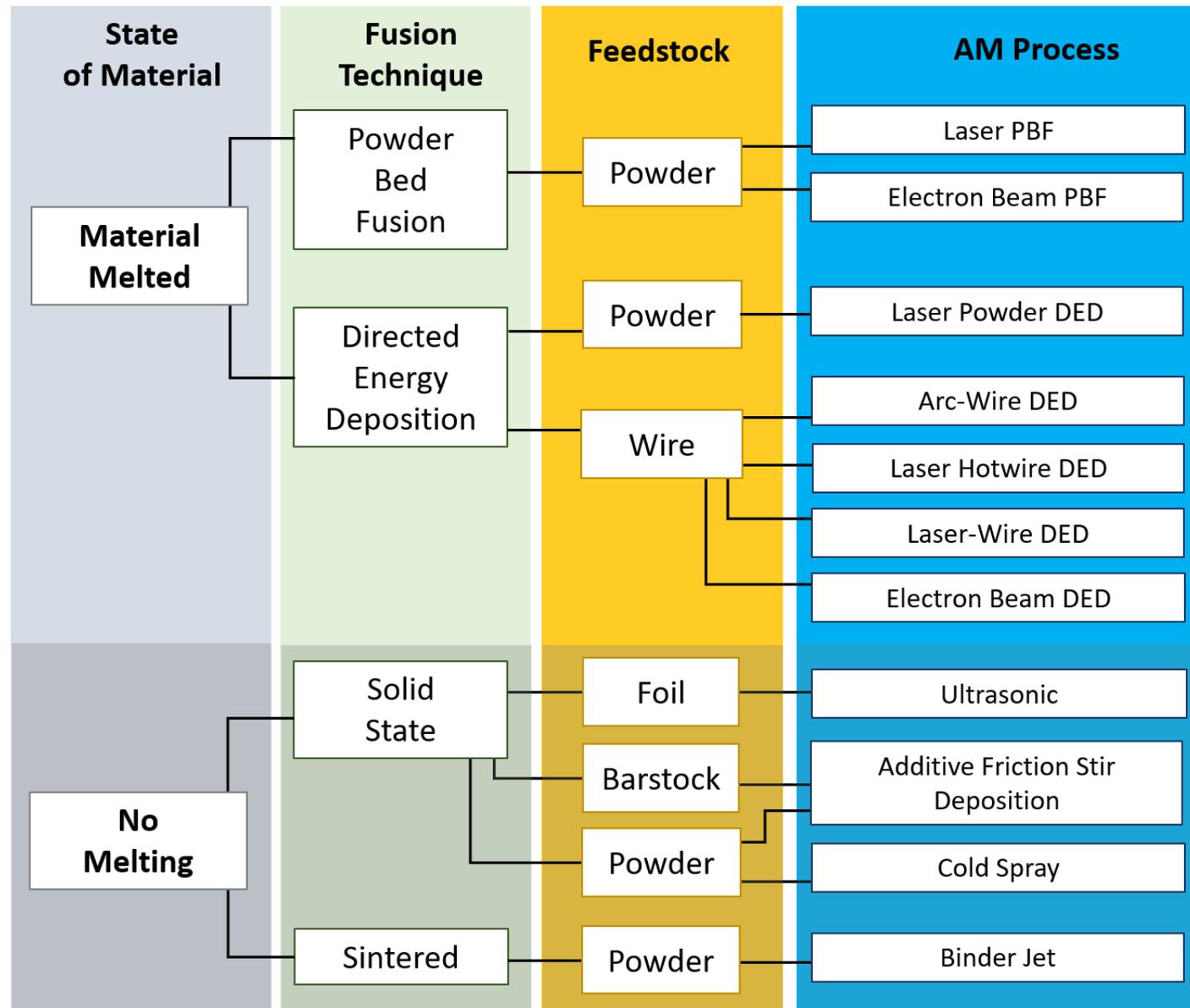
## Ability to use multiple axes for complex features fabricated locally



RS25 Powerhead demonstrator using LP-DED under NASA SLS Artemis Program (Courtesy: RPMI)



# Various Metal AM Processes





# Comparison of L-PBF and DED



Different methods for different components!

## Laser Powder Bed Fusion (L-PBF)



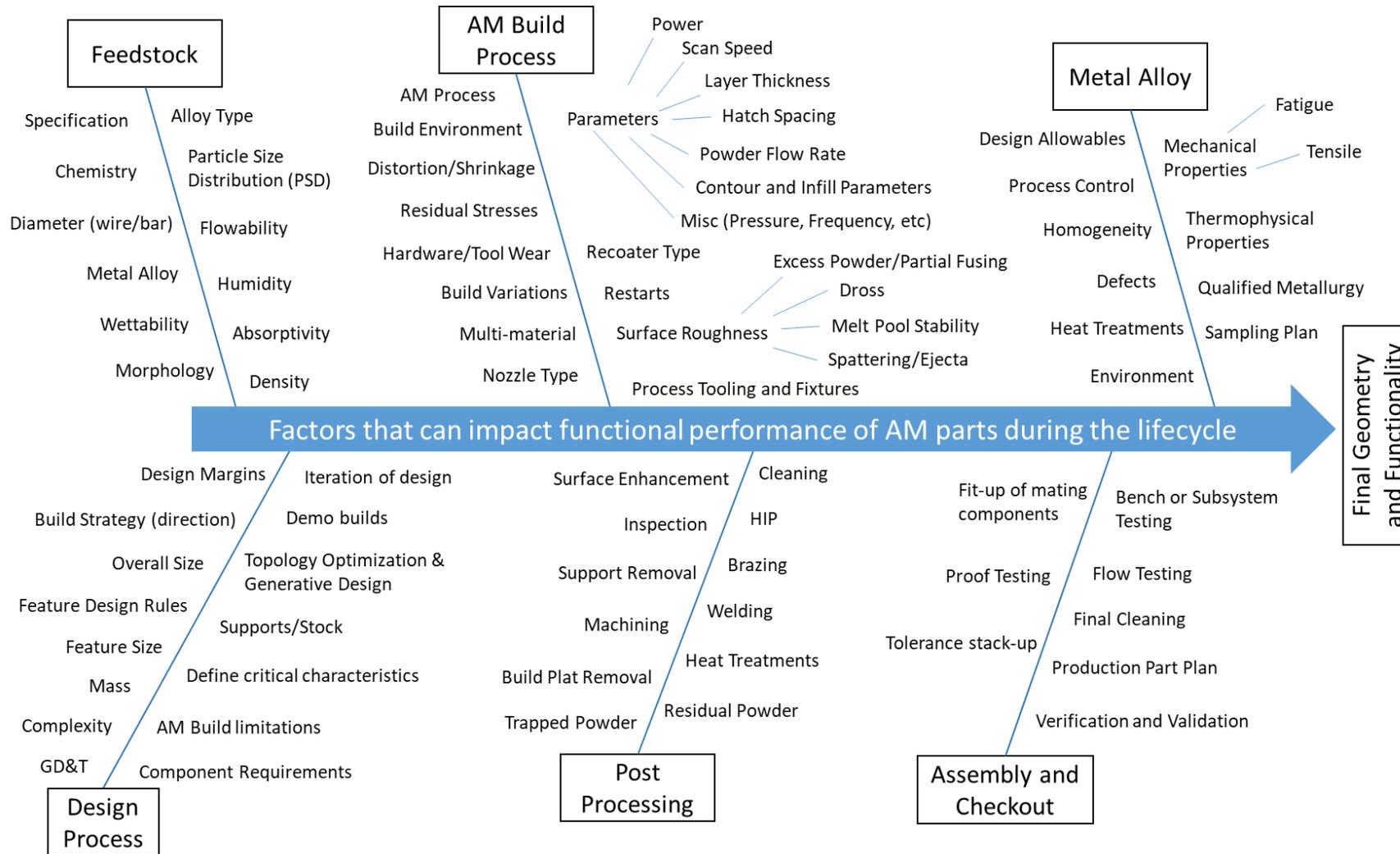
## Directed Energy Deposition (DED)



<b>Feature Resolution / Complexity</b>	High resolution of features Wall thicknesses and holes <0.010"	Medium resolution of features Walls >0.040" and limited holes
<b>Deposition Rate</b>	Low build rates <0.3 lb/hr	High Build rates lbs per hour (some systems >20lb/hr)
<b>Multi-alloys / Gradient Materials</b>	Monolithic materials in single build	Option for multi-alloys or gradients within single build
<b>Materials Available</b>	High number of materials available and being developed	High number of materials available and being developed
<b>Production Rates</b>	Higher volume with several parts in a single build	Generally limited to single builds; longer programming/setup time
<b>Scale / Size of components</b>	Limited to existing build volumes <15.6" dia (400mm) or 16"x24"x19"	Scale is limited to gantry or robot size
<b>Added Features / Repair</b>	No (limited) ability to add material to existing part	Can add material or features to an existing part



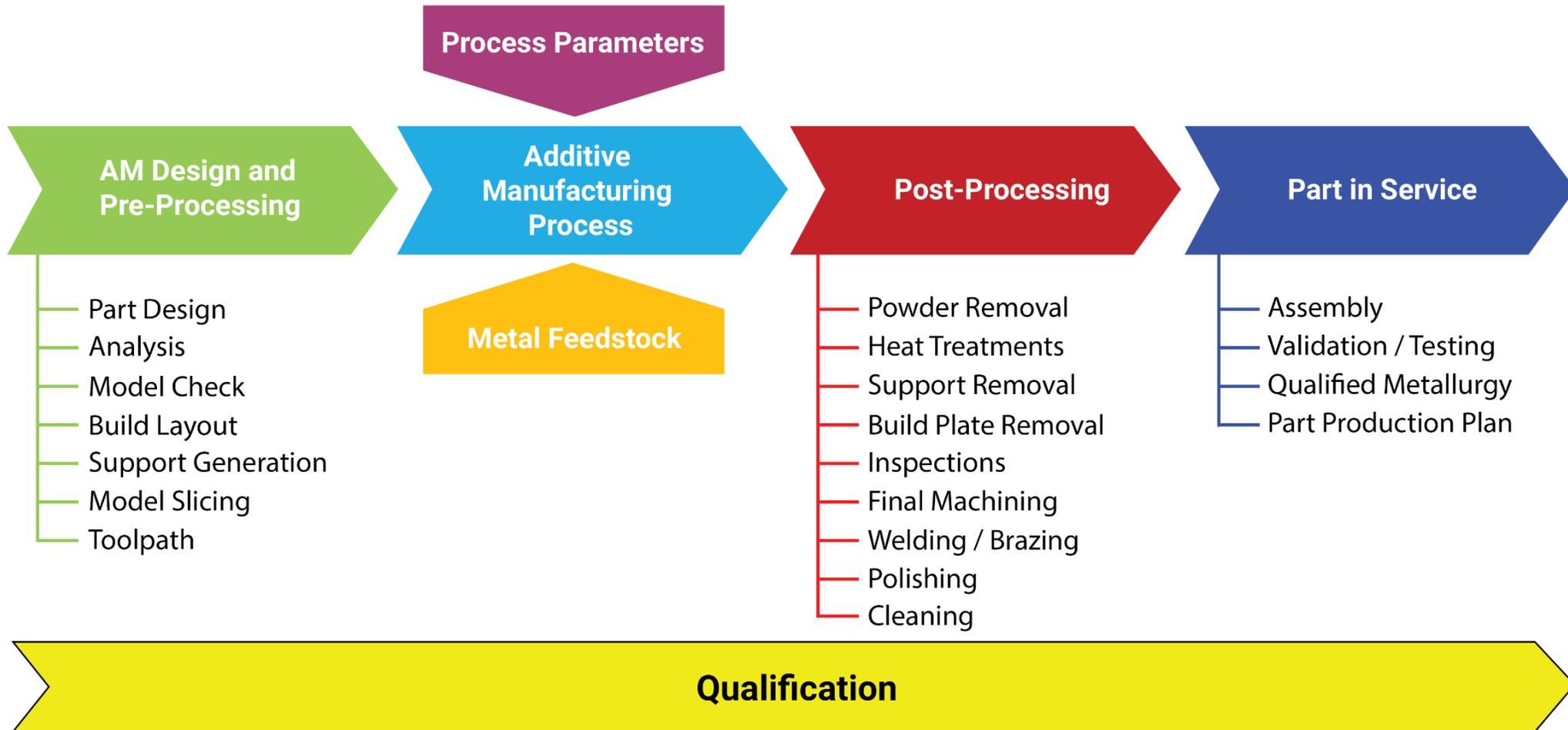
# The Challenges with AM Processes



**There are a lot of inputs and steps in the AM lifecycle that must go right to meet the expected geometry**



# Additive Manufacturing Typical Process Flow



**Proper AM process selection requires an integrated evaluation of all process lifecycle steps**



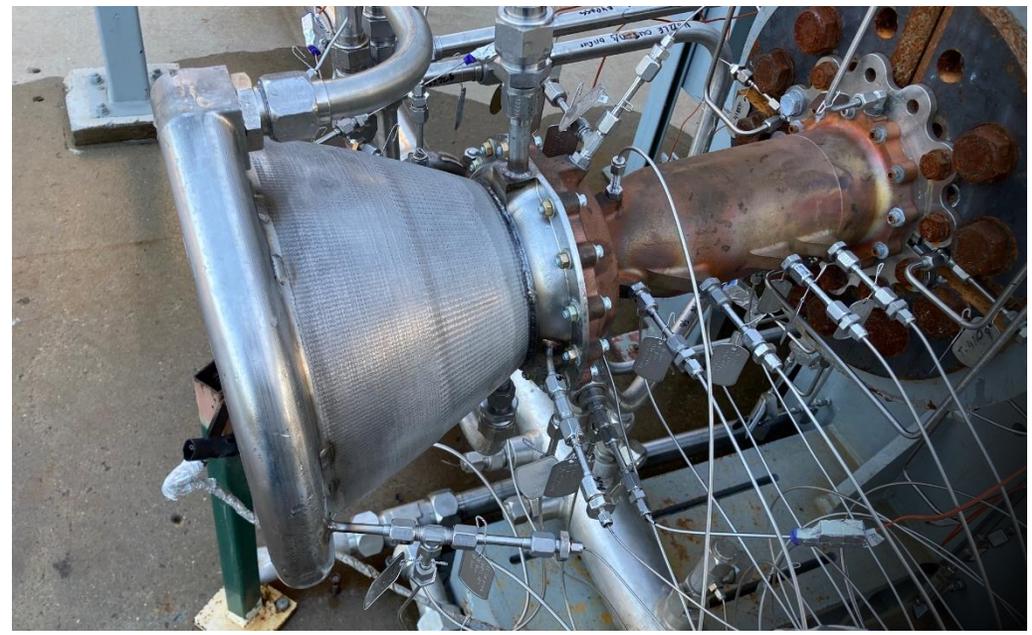
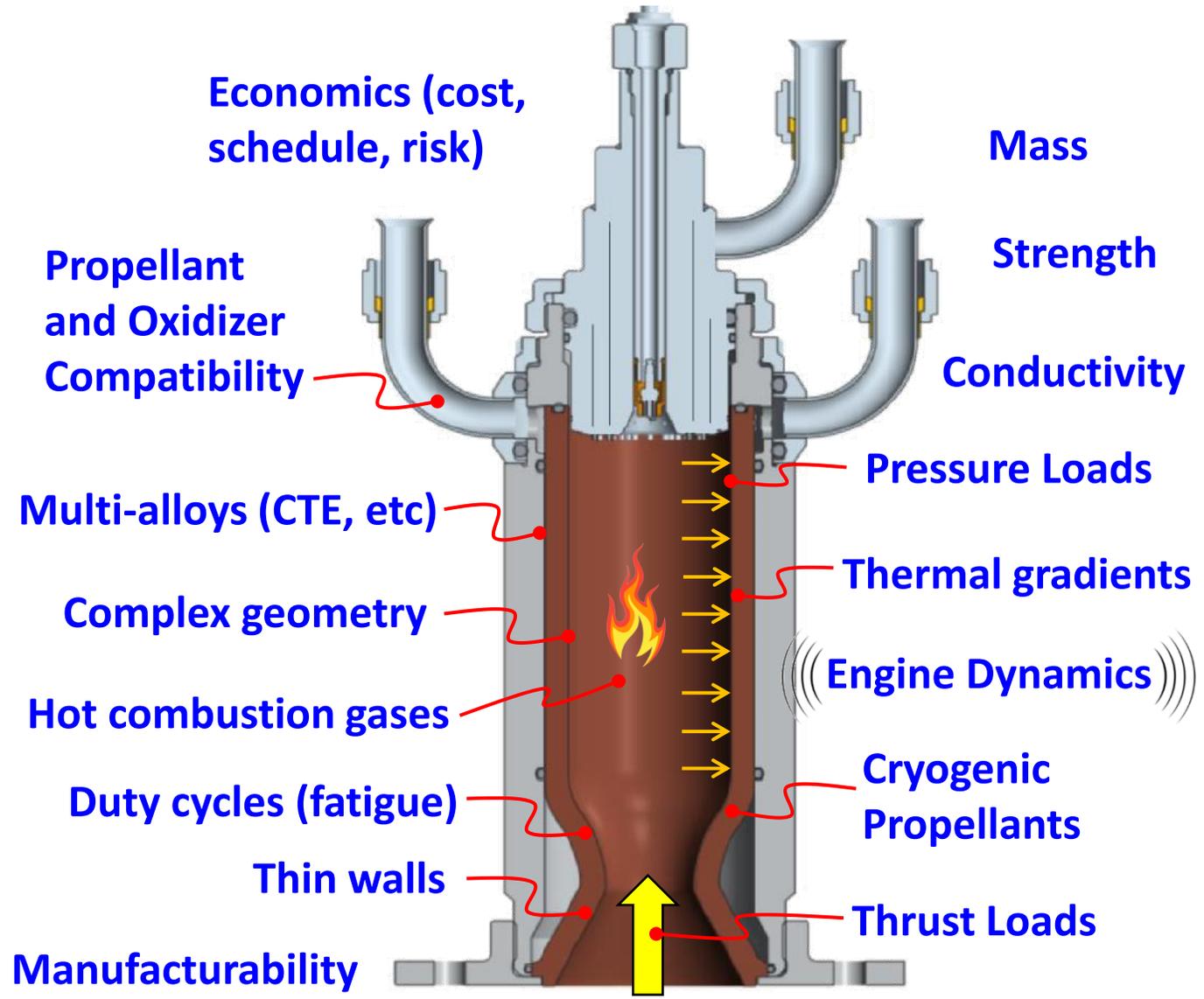
# Material Selection



- Extreme environments, combined loads, mass limitations, and processing economics drive selection.
- Understanding the manufacturing technique and all steps required.
- Perform a trade study for each component (*hint: additive manufacturing will not be the best process or most economical for all components.*)
- One of the most frequent reasons for failure in DfAM is lack of attention to metallurgical characteristics from the process.



# Example: Combustion Chamber **Material Considerations**





# Material Selection – General Requirements

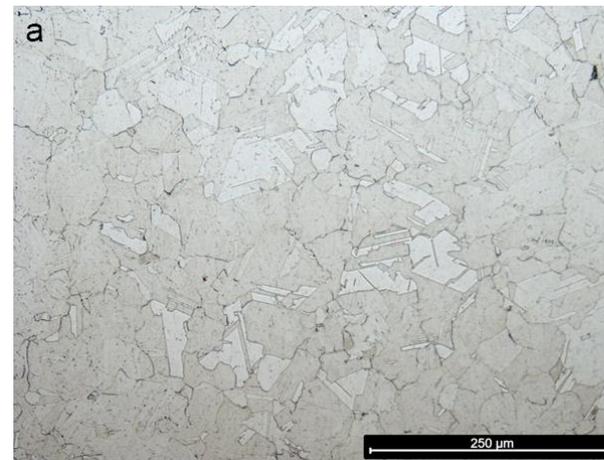
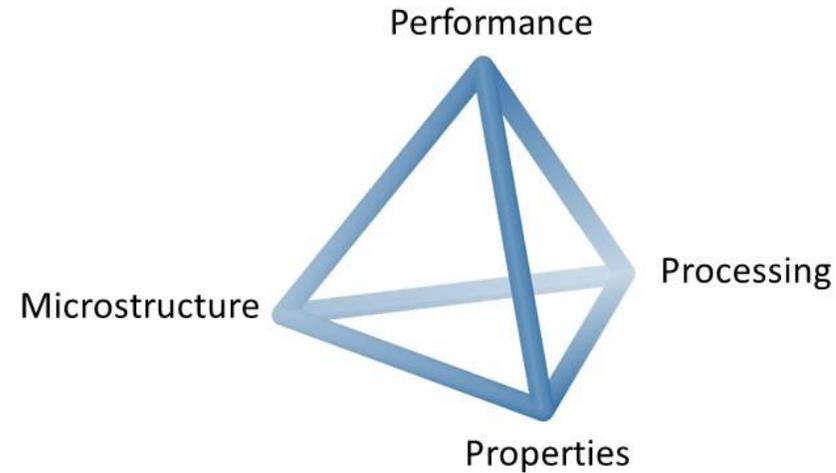


- 1) Operate under static and dynamic loads in both tension and compression.
- 2) Compatible with fuels and oxidizers (hydrogen, oxygen, hydrocarbons).
- 3) Integrate multiple subsystems (possibly different metal alloys).
- 4) Optimized for strength-to-weight ratio (design- and metal-based).
- 5) Operate in extreme environments (cryogenic and high temperatures, high pressure, combustion, oxidizing or reducing condition).
- 6) Withstand high thermal gradients and high heat transfer in a high-heat-flux environment.
- 7) Exhibit high fracture toughness at temperature for potential impacts by domestic object debris (DOD) or foreign object debris (FOD).
- 8) Exhibit corrosion resistance when in contact with other alloys and operating fluids or contaminants.
- 9) High wear resistance for contact or running surfaces between components.

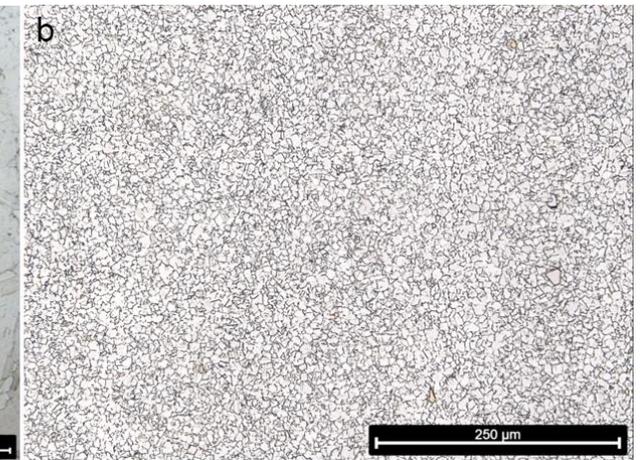


## Process → Microstructure → Properties → Performance

- Each manufacturing process forms or modifies a material that establishes a microstructure.
- The properties are dependent on the microstructure and ultimately the end performance.
- AM is no different and each process can result in different microstructures.
- AM is different than wrought, forged material, cast material...
- **Based on AM process, orientation, process parameters, geometry.**



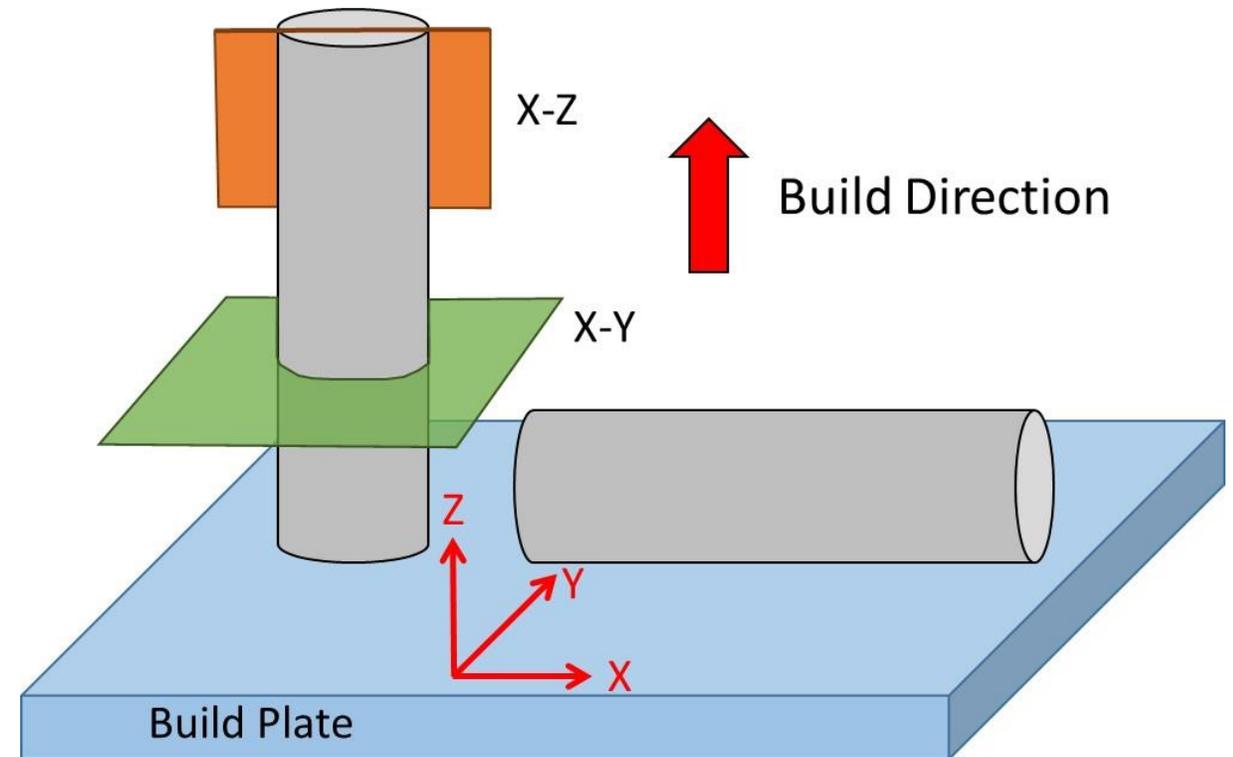
Inconel 718 built using L-PBF (200x)



Inconel 718 bar stock (200x)

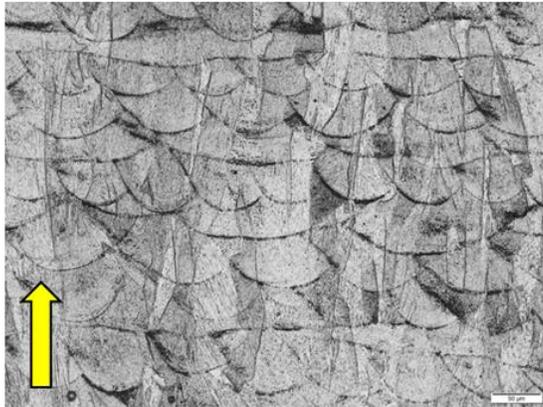


- Build direction ( $Z$ ) dominates microstructure orientation.
- Anisotropy exists in AM materials, primarily between interlaminar ( $Z$ ) and intralaminar ( $XY$ ) directions.
- Variation due to heating and cooling direction and rates.





# Microstructure of Various AM Processes Alloy 625 – **As-Built**



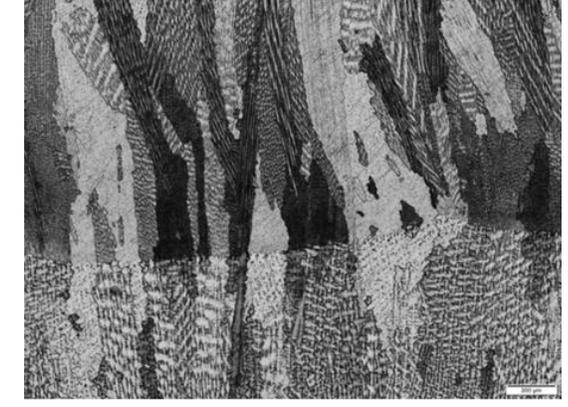
Laser Powder Bed Fusion



Electron Beam Powder Bed Fusion



Laser Powder DED (1070 W)



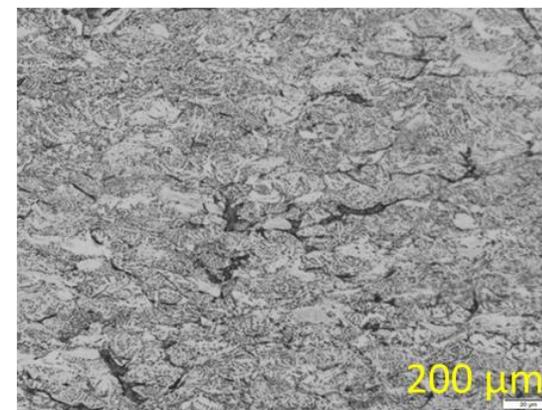
Electron Beam Wire DED



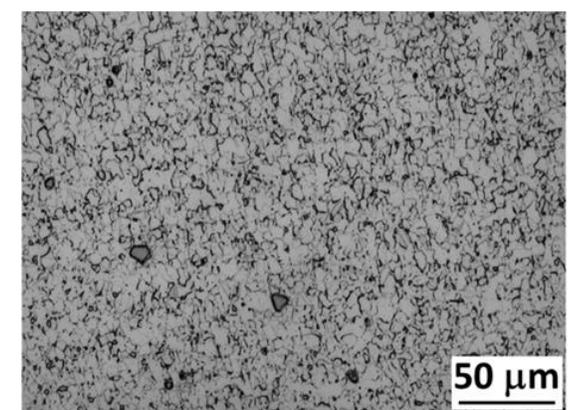
Laser Wire DED



Arc Wire DED



Cold Spray



Additive Friction Stir Deposition

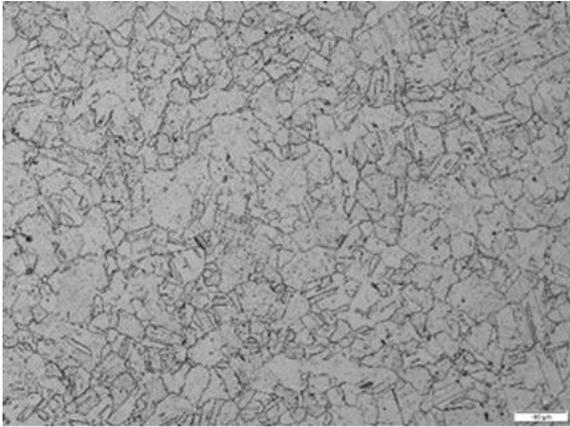
**Each AM process results in different grain structures, which ultimately influence properties**

- Gamon, A., Arrieta, E., Gradl, P.R., Katsarelis, C., Murr, L.E., Wicker, R.B., Medina, F., 2021. Microstructure and hardness comparison of as-built Inconel 625 alloy following various additive manufacturing processes. Results in Materials 12. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rinma.2021.100239>
- Gradl, P., Tinker, D., Park, A., Mireles, O., Garcia, M., Wilkerson, R., Mckinney, C., 2021. Robust Metal Additive Manufacturing Process Selection and Development for Aerospace Components. Journal of Materials Engineering and Performance, Springer. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11665-022-06850-0>
- Rivera, O. G., Allison, P. G., Jordon, J. B., Rodriguez, O. L., Brewer, L. N., McClelland, Z., ... & Hardwick, N. (2017). Microstructures and mechanical behavior of Inconel 625 fabricated by solid-state additive manufacturing. Materials Science and Engineering: A, 694, 1-9.
- Image from Mark Norfolk, Fabrisonic

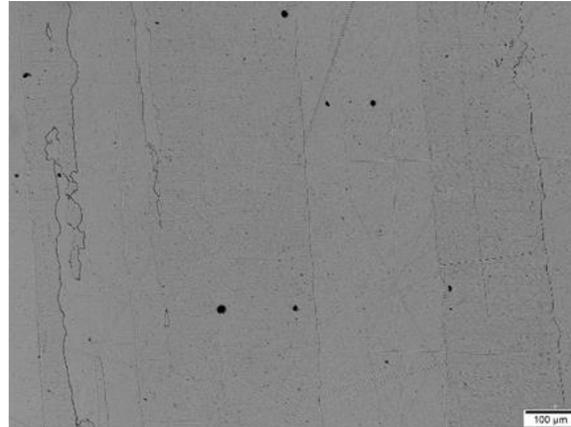


# Microstructure of Various AM Processes

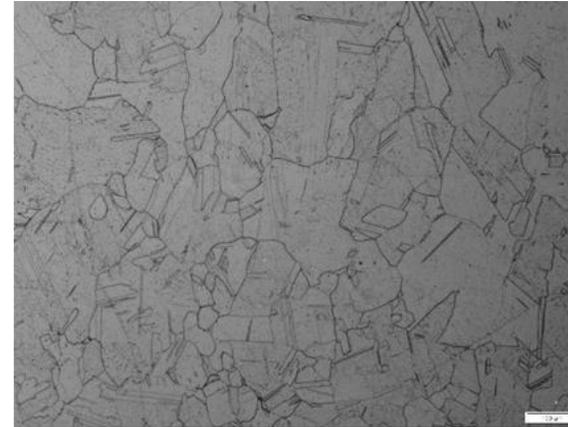
## Alloy 625 – Stress Relief, HIP, Solution per AMS 7000



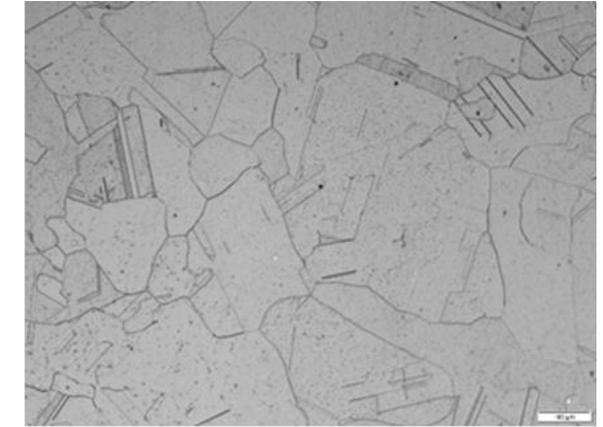
Laser Powder Bed Fusion



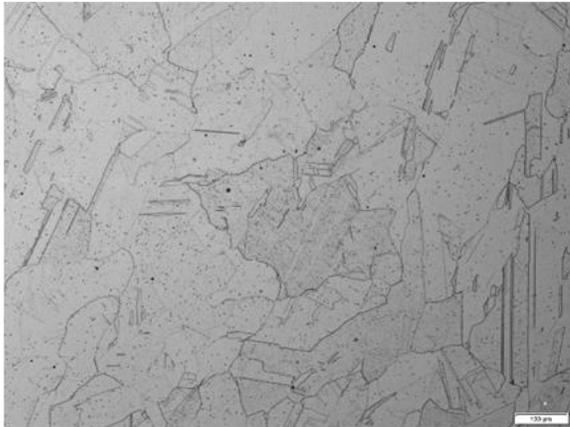
Electron Beam PBF



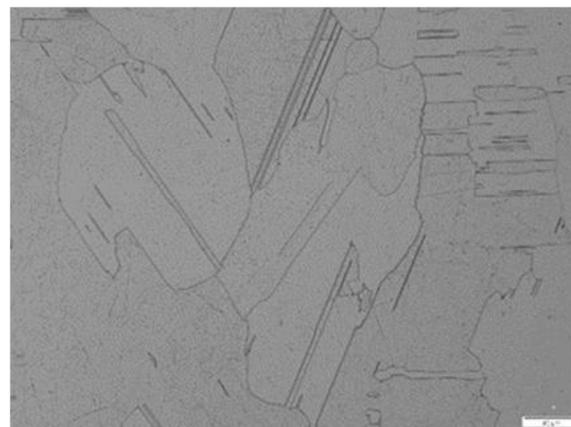
Laser Powder DED (1070 W)



Electron Beam Wire DED



Laser Wire DED



Arc Wire DED



Cold Spray

- Gamon, A., Arrieta, E., Gradl, P.R., Katsarelis, C., Murr, L.E., Wicker, R.B., Medina, F., 2021. Microstructure and hardness comparison of as-built Inconel 625 alloy following various additive manufacturing processes. Results in Materials 12. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rinma.2021.100239>
- Gradl, P., Tinker, D., Park, A., Mireles, O., Garcia, M., Wilkerson, R., McKinney, C., 2021. Robust Metal Additive Manufacturing Process Selection and Development for Aerospace Components. Journal of Materials Engineering and Performance, Springer. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11665-022-06850-0>

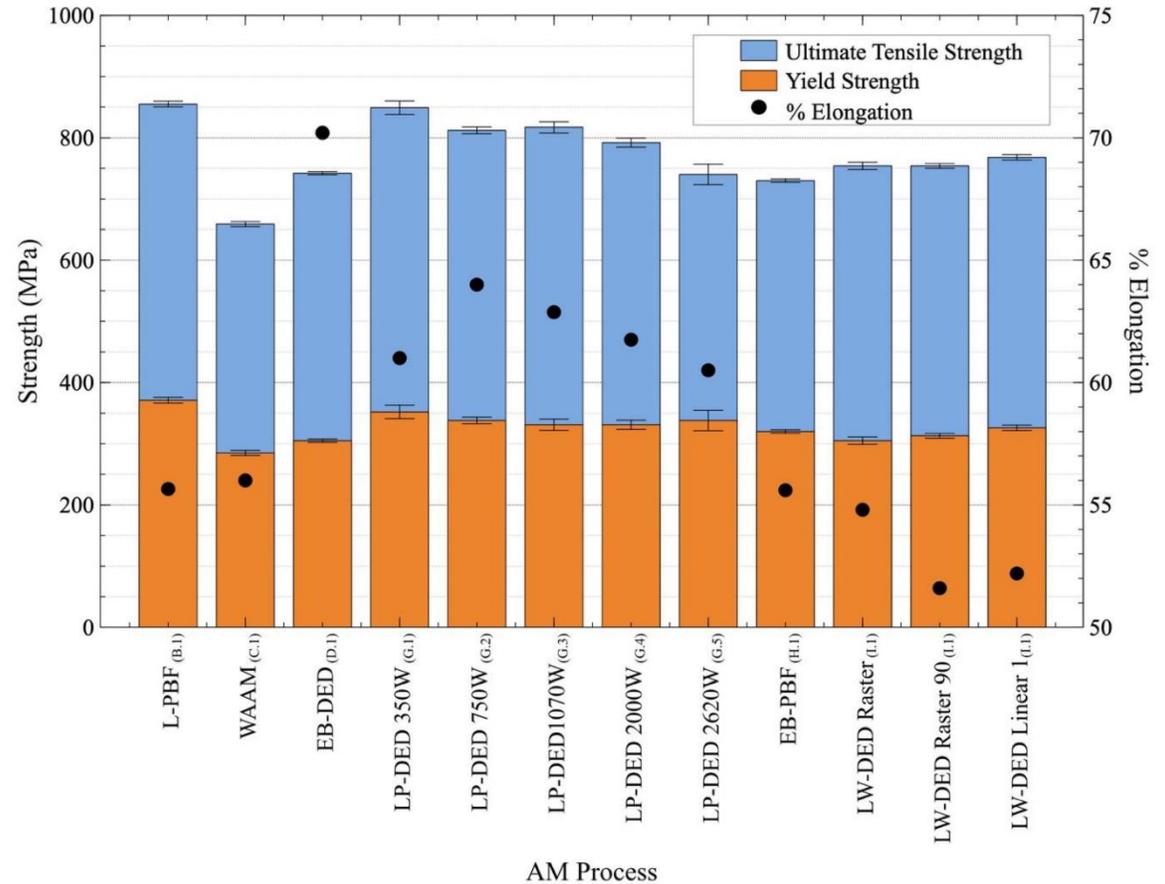


# Material Properties for Various AM Processes



- Material properties are highly dependent on the type of process (L-PBF, DED, UAM, Cold spray...), the starting feedstock chemistry, the parameters used in the process, and the heat treatment processes used post-build.
- Each AM process results in different grain distributions, precipitates, and porosity, all of which influence final properties.
- Heat treatments should be developed based on the requirements and environment of the end component use.
- Process, parameters, and feedstock should all be stable before property development.

## Alloy 625, Heat Treated per AMS 7000 Room Temperature UTS



**\*Not design data and provided as an example only**



# AM Alloys Available (*not fully inclusive*)



## Ni-Based

Inconel 625  
 Inconel 713  
 Inconel 718  
 Inconel 738  
 Inconel 939  
 Hastelloy-X  
 Haynes 214  
 Haynes 230  
 Haynes 233  
 Haynes 282  
 Monel K-500  
 C276  
 Rene 80  
 Rene 142  
 Waspalloy

## Fe-Based

SS 17-4PH  
 SS 15-5 GP1  
 SS 304  
 SS 316L  
 SS 410  
 SS 420  
 SS 440  
 4140/4340  
 Invar 36  
 SS347  
 JBK-75  
 NASA HR-1

## Cu-Based

Pure Cu  
 GRCop-84  
 GRCop-42  
 C18150  
 C18200  
 Glidcop  
 CU110  
 Monel K500

## Co-Based

CoCr/CoCrMo  
 Haynes 188  
 Stellite 6, 21, 31

## Platinum Group

Ir, Pt, Rh, Ru, Pd, Au, Ag

## Refractory

W  
 WRe  
 Mo  
 MoW  
 MoRe  
 Ta  
 TaW  
 Re  
 Nb  
 C103  
 FS85  
 High Entropy

## Ti-Based

Ti6Al4V  
 $\gamma$ -TiAl  
 Ti-6-2-4-2

## Al-Based

AlSi10Mg  
 A205  
 F357  
 1000\*  
 6061\*  
 2024\*  
 7075\*  
 7050\*  
 Scalmalloy\*  
 7A77\*

\*Reactive-based AM



# Data Example For LP-DED AM Haynes 230

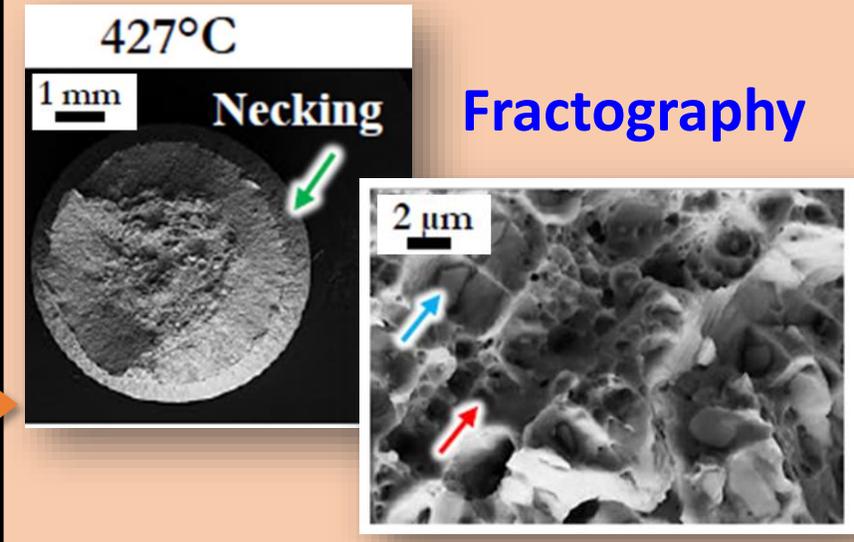
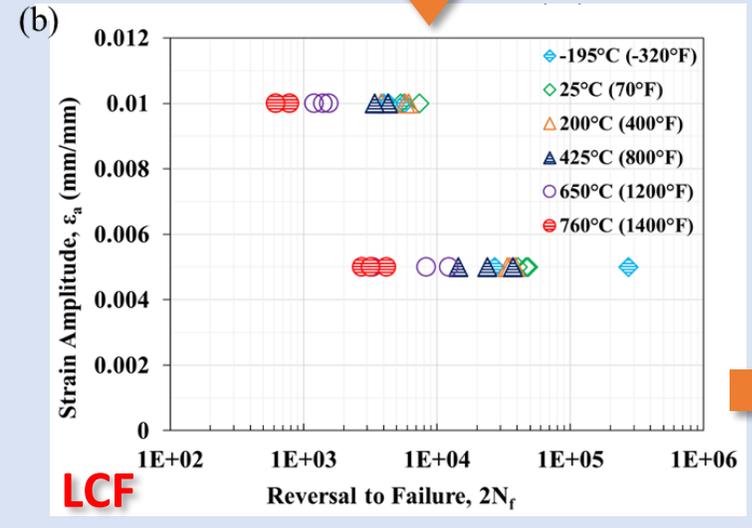
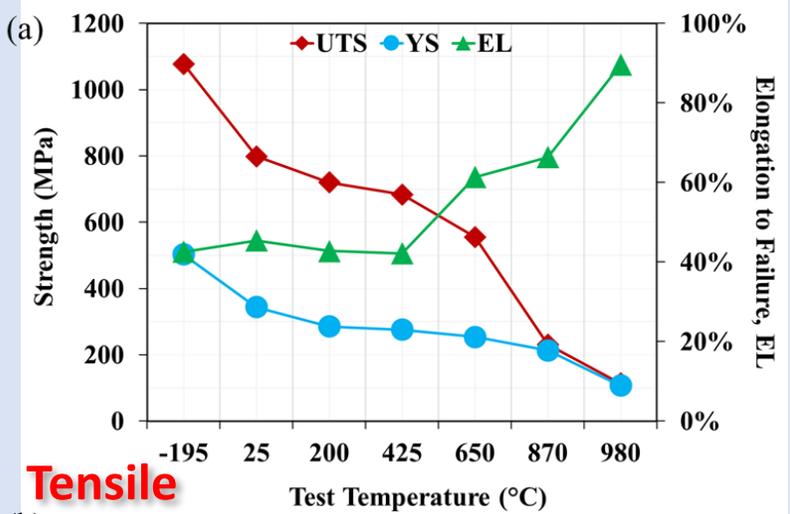
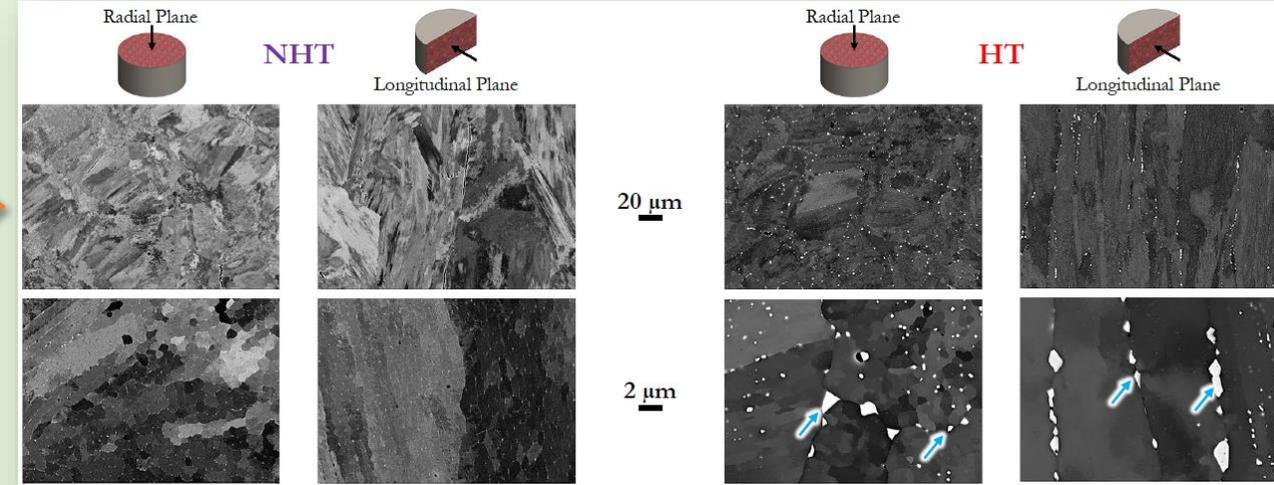
Data from Gradl, Mireles, Protz, Garcia. "Metal Additive Manufacturing for Propulsion Applications", AIAA Progress Series. (2022). Appendix A.

## LP-DED Haynes 230

Power (W)	Layer height (μm)	Travel speed (mm/min)	Powder feed rate (g/min)
1070	381	1016	19.10

Procedure (Designation)	Temperature (°C)	Time (hrs)	Cooling
Stress Relief (SR)	1066	1.5	Furnace cool
HIP [2]	1163/103 MPa	3	Furnace cool
Solution Annealing (SOL)	1177	3	Argon quench

[2] HIP per ASTM F3301

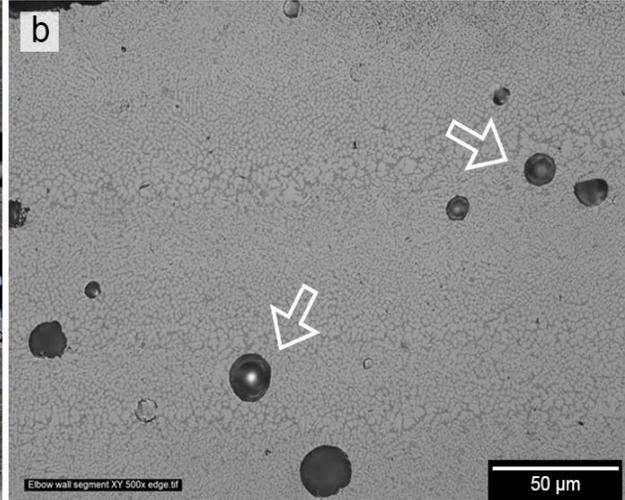




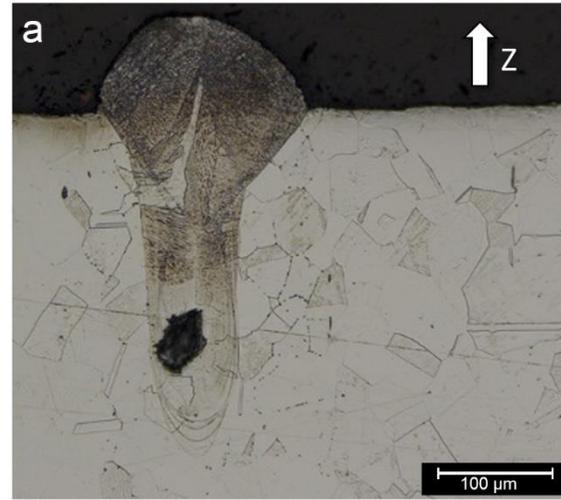
# Process Defects (Flaws)



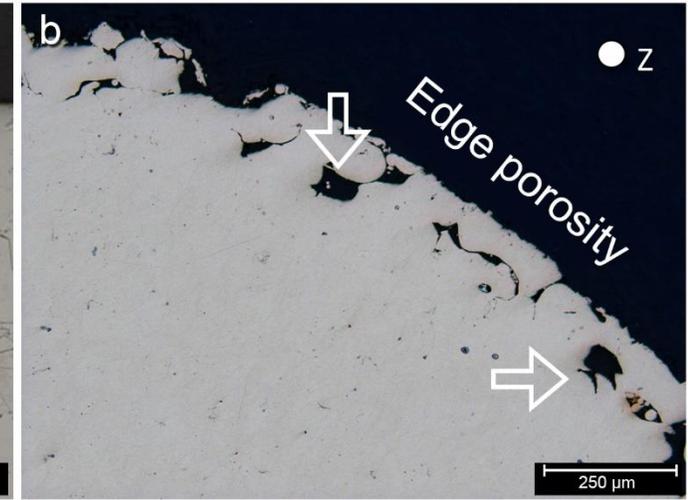
**Irregular Lack of Fusion (LOF)**  
volumetric defect  
*L-PBF Inconel 718*



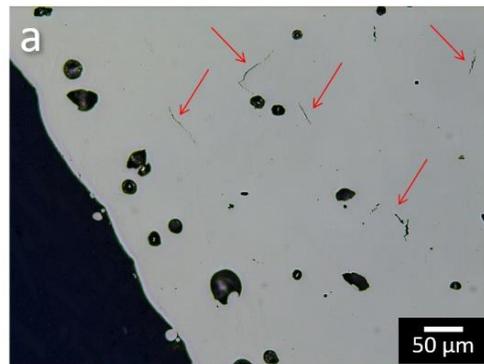
**Spherical voids due to trapped gas**  
*L-PBF AlSi10Mg*



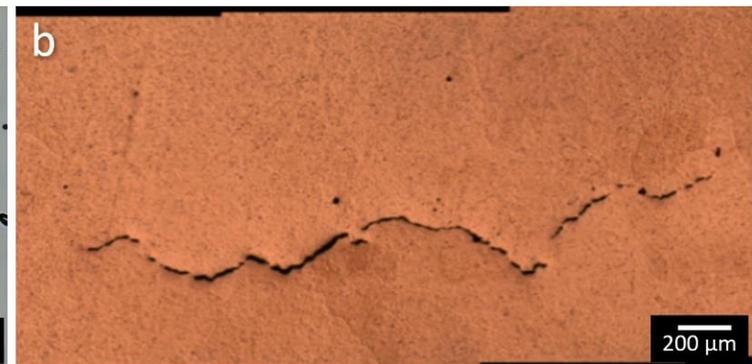
**Keyholing due to entrapped vapor**  
*L-PBF*



**Edge porosity due to improper contour parameters**  
*L-PBF GRCop-42*



**Microcracks and lack of fusion**  
*L-PBF JBK-75*



**Microcracks in XY plane**  
*L-PBF JBK-75*

Keyholing reference: King, W. E., Barth, H. D., Castillo, V. M., Gallegos, G. F., Gibbs, J. W., Hahn, D. E., Kamath, C., and Rubenchik, A. M., "Observation of keyhole-mode laser melting in laser powder-bed fusion additive manufacturing," *Journal of Materials Processing Technology*, Vol. 214, No. 12, Dec. 2014, pp 2915–2925



# Feedstock Requirements



- Feedstock enables AM
- Powder, Wire, and others
- Responsibilities of the “mill” are passed onto the user
  - Chemistry
  - Cleanliness
  - Pedigree
  - Conformance to other standards

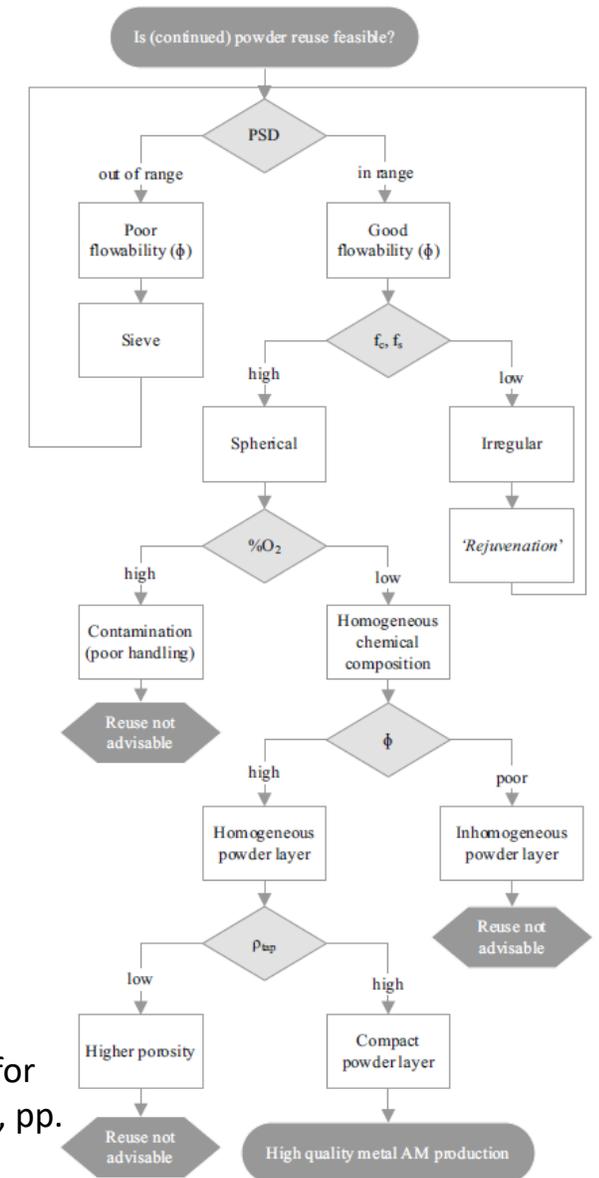
Process <sup>a</sup>	Type of Feedstock	Typical Feedstock Size
L-PBF	Powder	10–45 $\mu\text{m}$
EB-PBF	Powder	45–105 $\mu\text{m}$
LP-DED	Powder	45–105 $\mu\text{m}$
AW-DED	Wire	0.8–2 mm dia
LW-DED	Wire	0.6–1.6 mm dia
LHW-DED	Wire	0.8–1.6 mm dia
EBW-DED	Wire	1.14–3.2 mm dia
UAM	Sheet	Varies
AFS-D	Bar, powder	Varies
Cold spray	Powder	10–45 $\mu\text{m}$
Binder jet	Powder with binder	3–38 $\mu\text{m}$



# Powder Feedstock Characterization: Reuse



- Powder recycling is an essential aspect to the sustainability and material savings promised by AM
- Most protocols involved blending sieved reused powder with virgin powder.
- Oxygen pickup is the most observed change in reused powder
- Flowability can often be improved with reuse



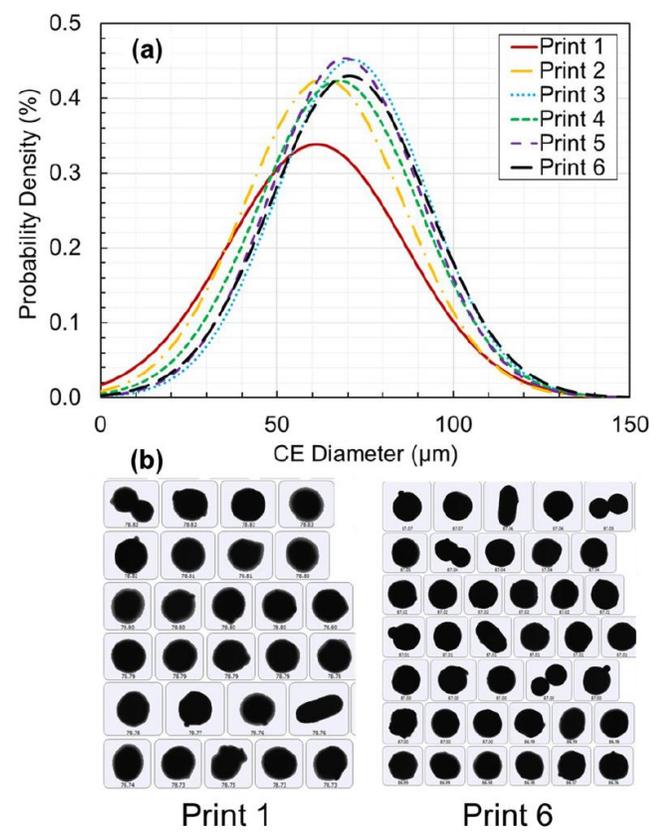
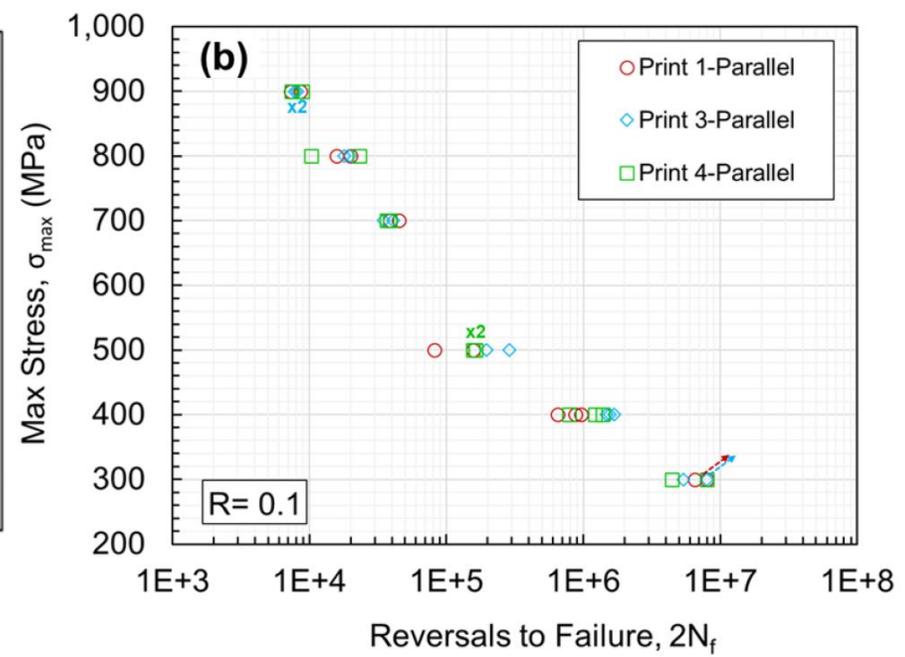
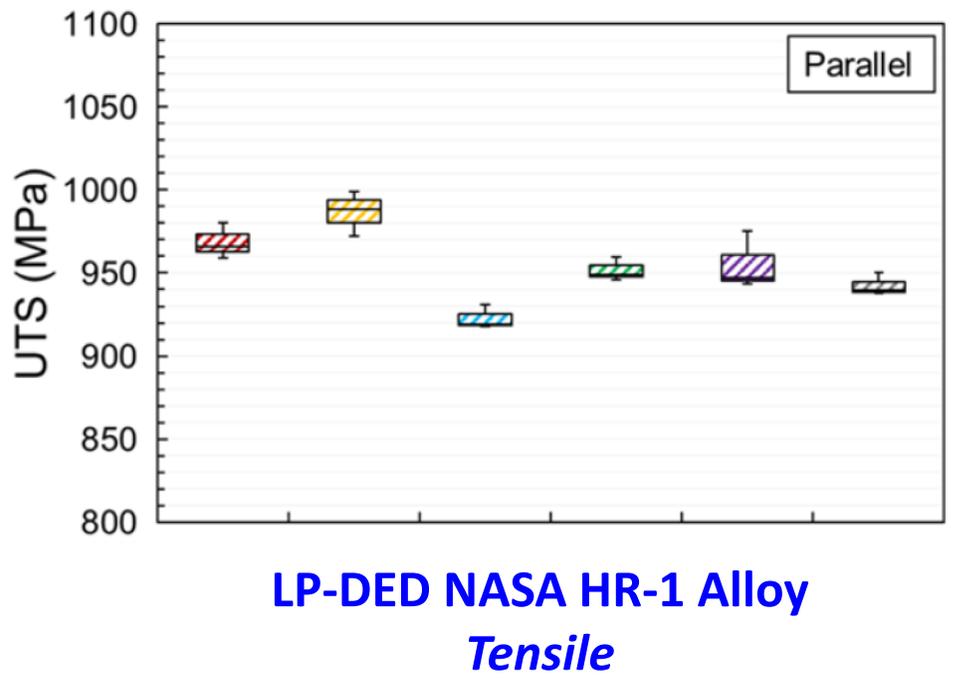
Cordova, L., Campos, M., and Tinga, T. "Revealing the Effects of Powder Reuse for Selective Laser Melting by Powder Characterization." JOM, Vol. 71, No. 3, 2019, pp. 1062–1072. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11837-018-3305-2>.



# Powder Re-Use (LP-DED Example)

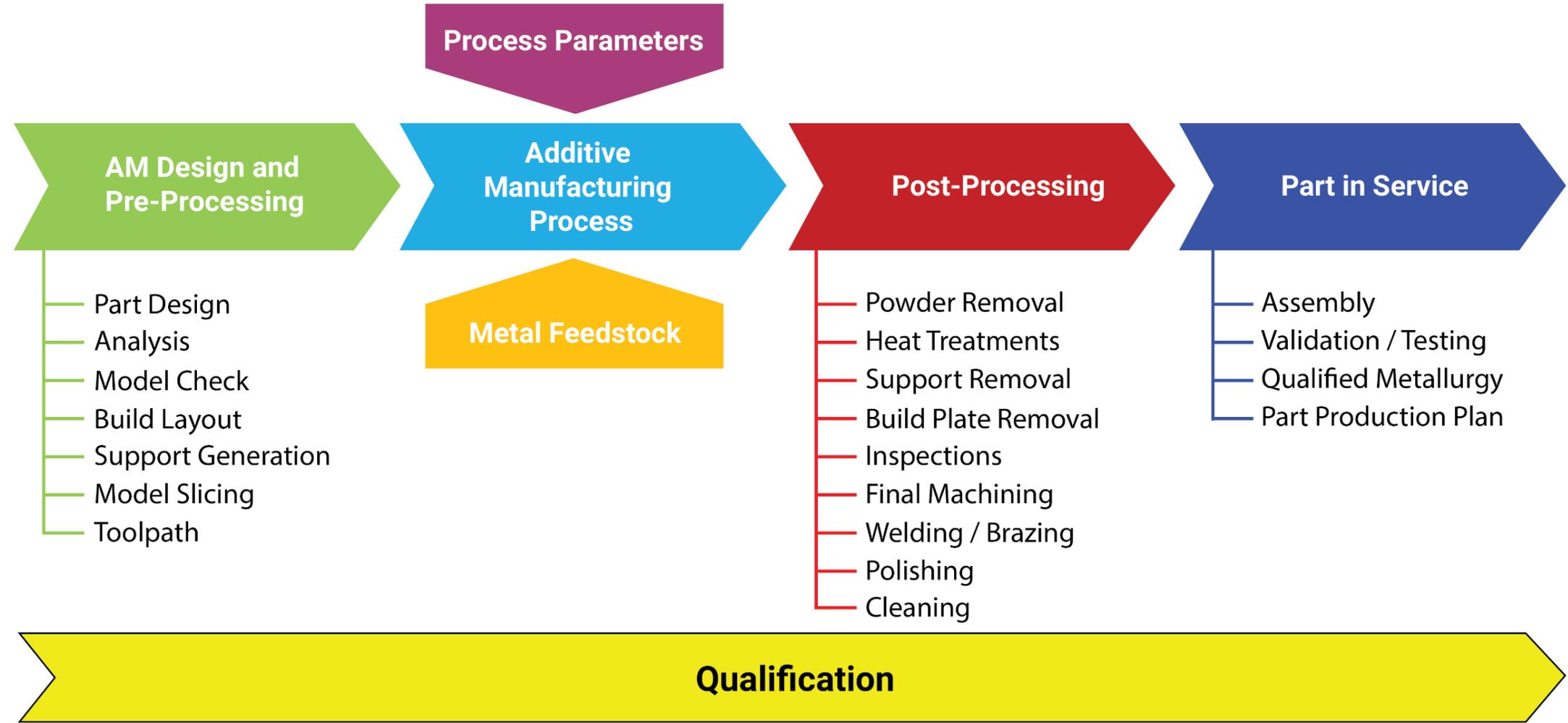


- For AM to be economical, powder must be re-used.
- The life of the powder and properties can be process (build and handling) and alloy dependent.



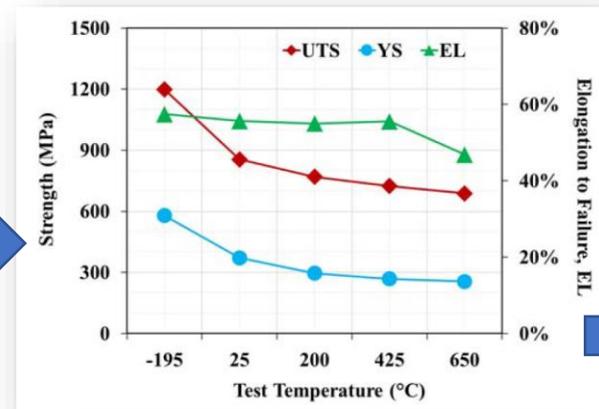
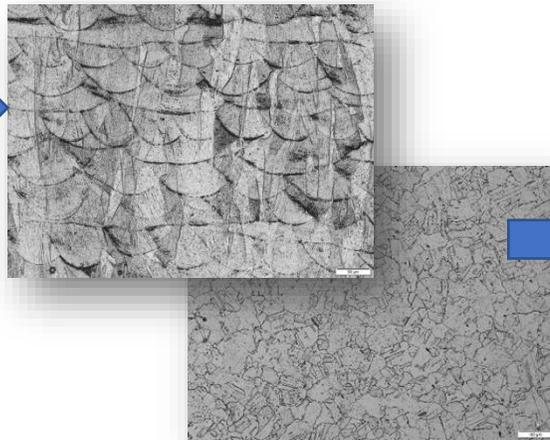
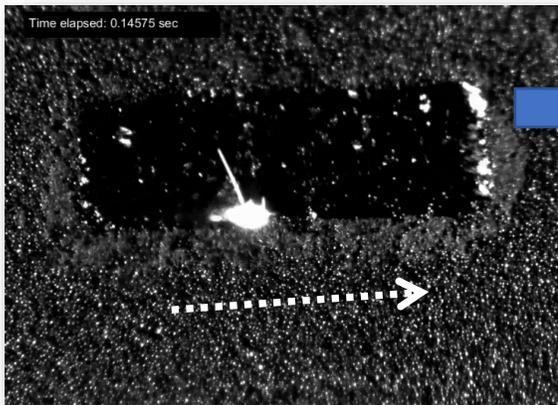
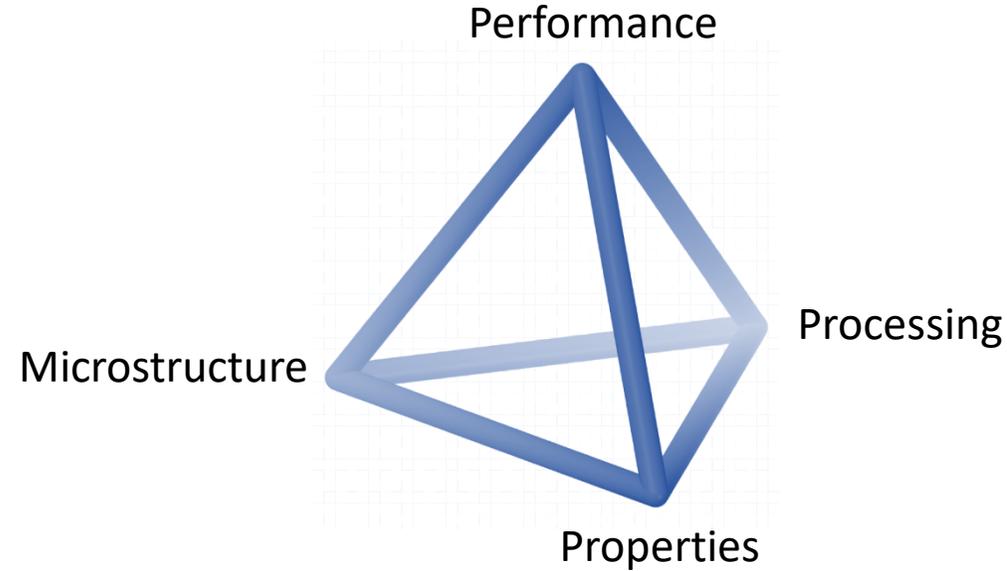


# Design for Additive Manufacturing (DfAM)



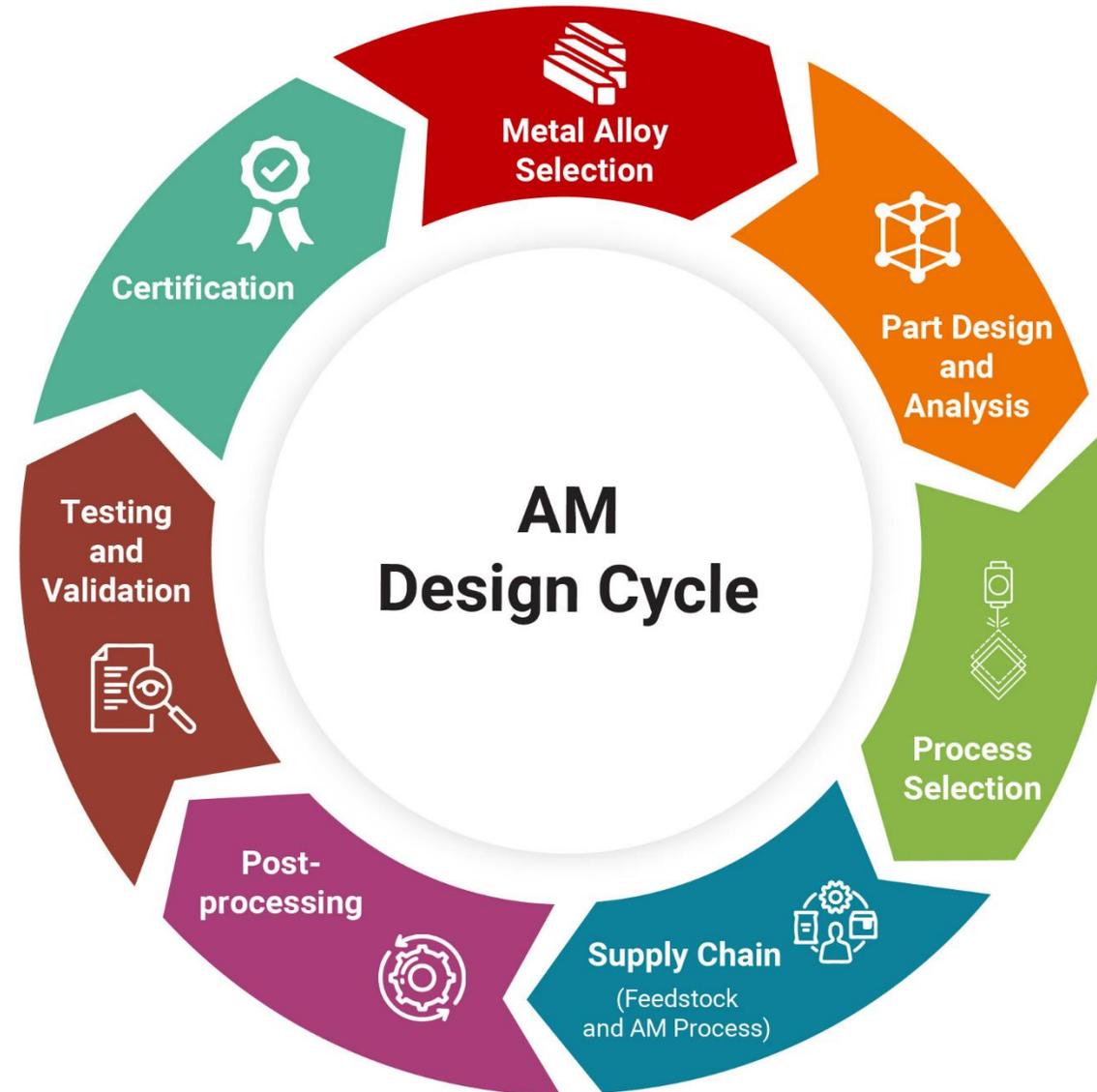


# Material Fundamentals are necessary for Component Applications





# AM Design Cycle





# L-PBF DfAM



# L-PBF Part Examples



NASA



Castheon / ADDman

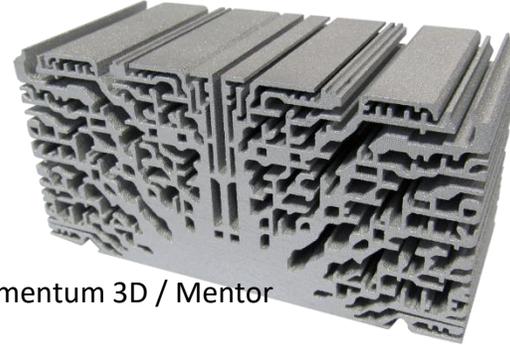


NASA

NASA / Aerojet Rocketdyne



Elementum 3D / Mentor



Cellcore / SLM



Aidro



NASA



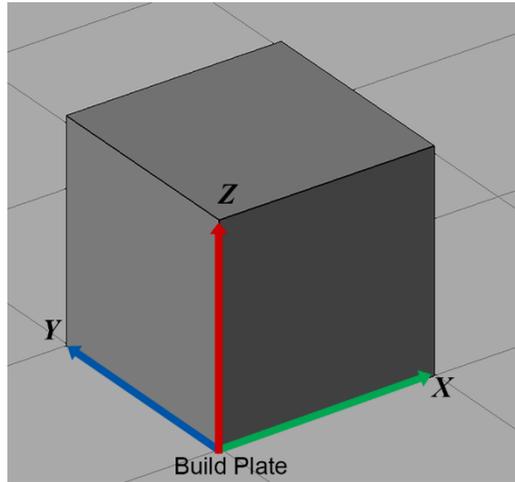
nTopology



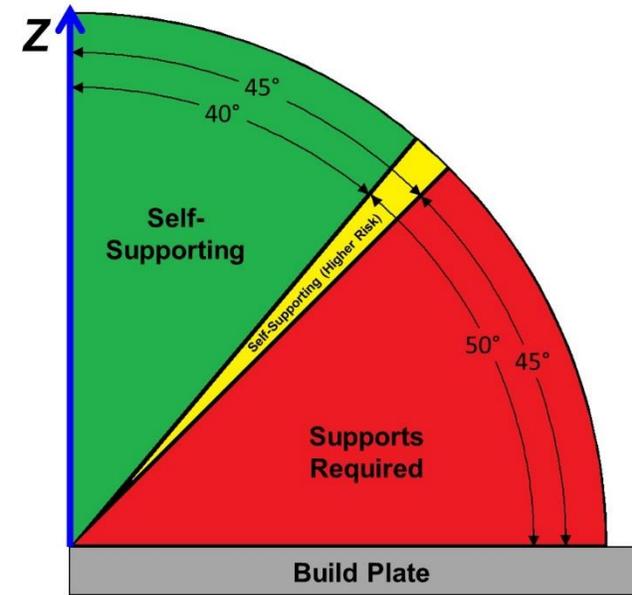
NASA



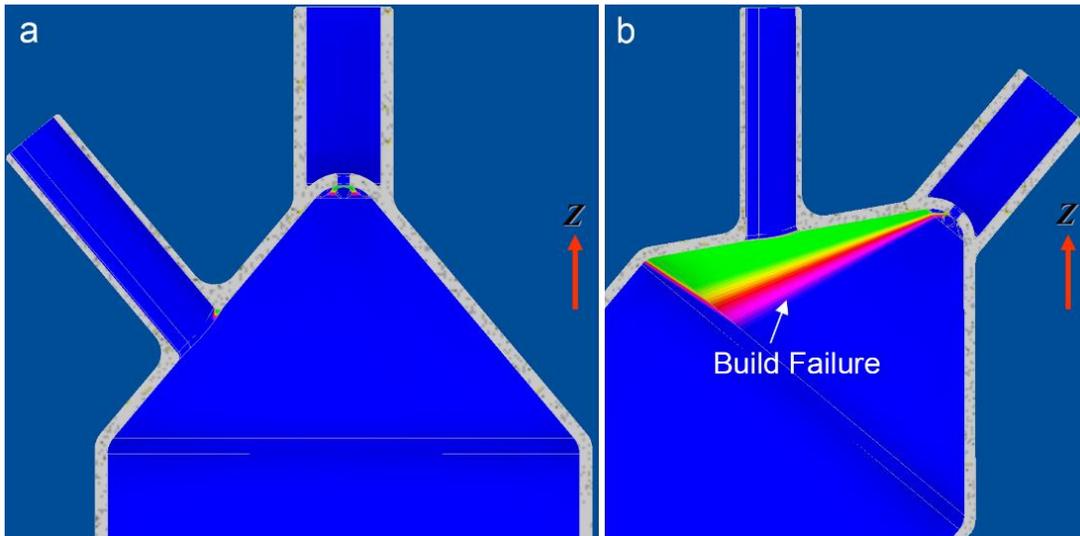
# L-PBF DfAM – Coordinates & Overhang Surfaces



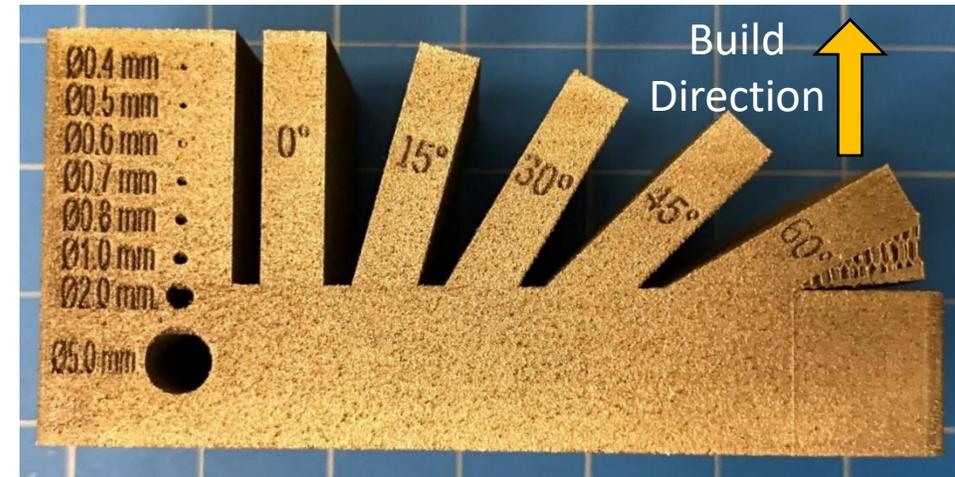
Reference coordinate system



Example of overhang surface region reference to build direction (Z)



Unsupported overhang surfaces vs. build direction. a) No unsupported surfaces. b) Unsupported surfaces.



Angle is measured in relation to the build direction, Z



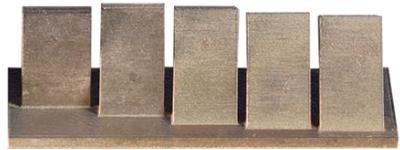
# L-PBF Types of AM Features and Standard Build Plates



## Test prints are good practice to understand if features feasible



Distance Geometry



Varying Wall Angles



Square Vertical Channels



Lattices and Freeform Channels



Concentric Hollow Cylinders, Repeating Diameters



Vertical Repeated Holes



Vertical Concentric Holes



Vertical Walls, Varying Thicknesses



Horizontal Holes



Slot Widths



Vertical Holes



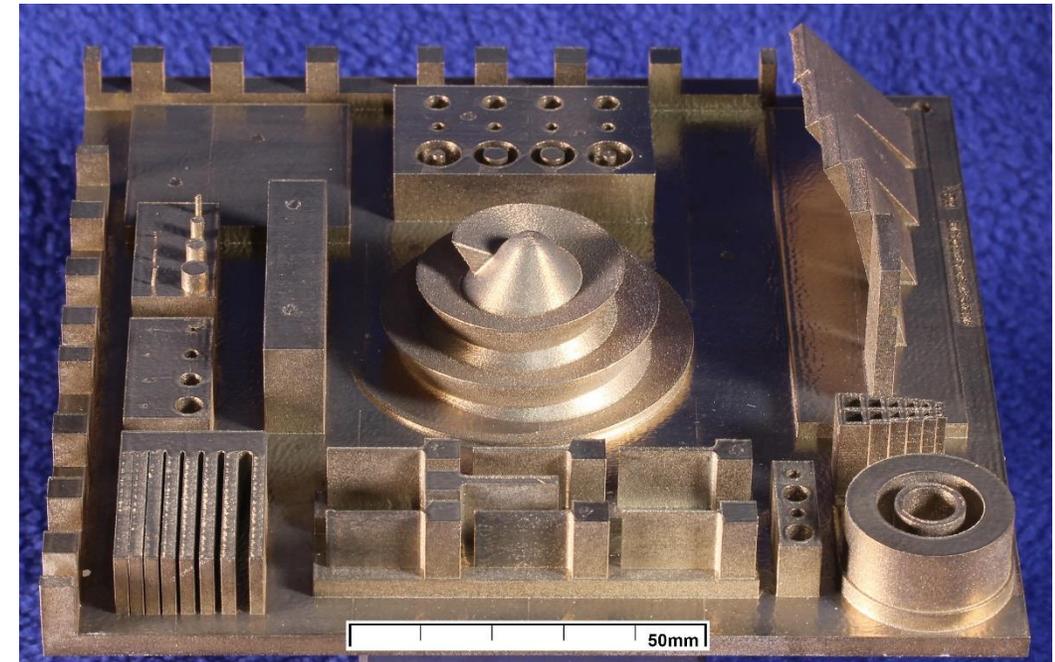
Vertical Protruding Cylinders



Freeform Surfaces

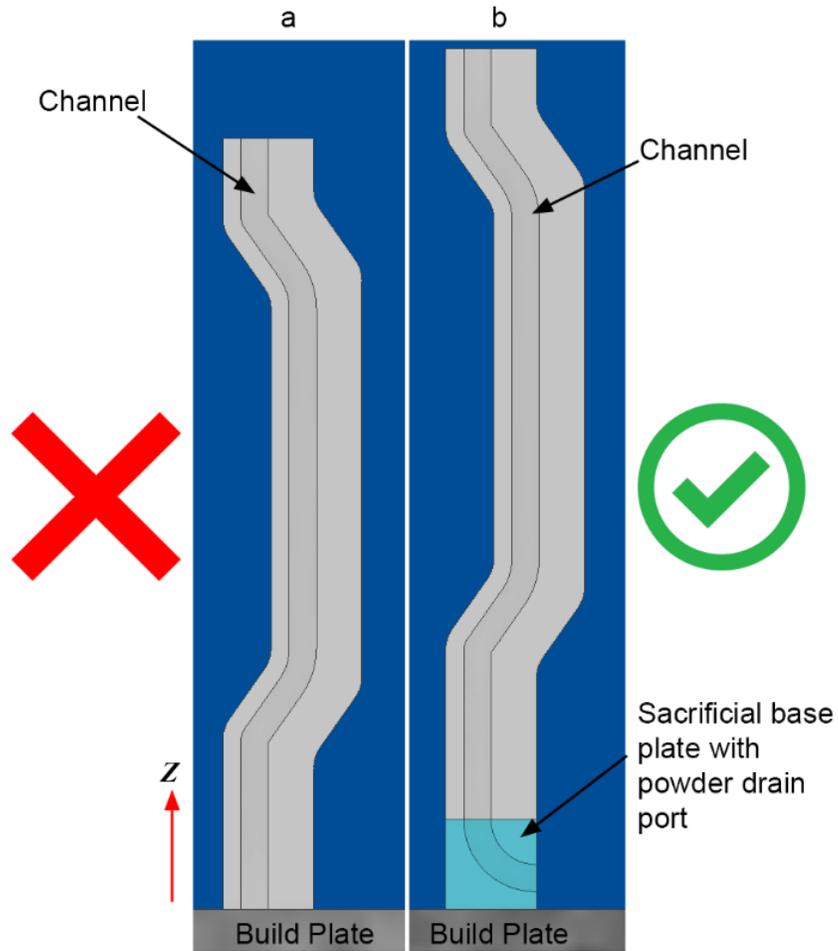


Vertical Repeated Holes

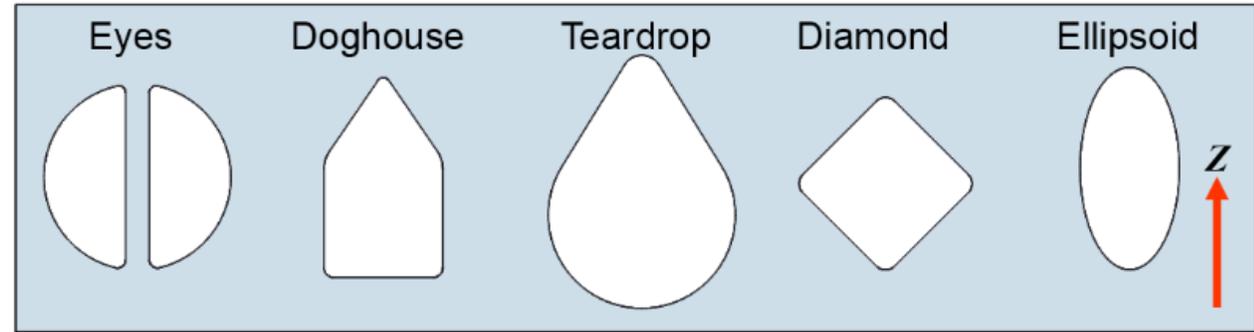




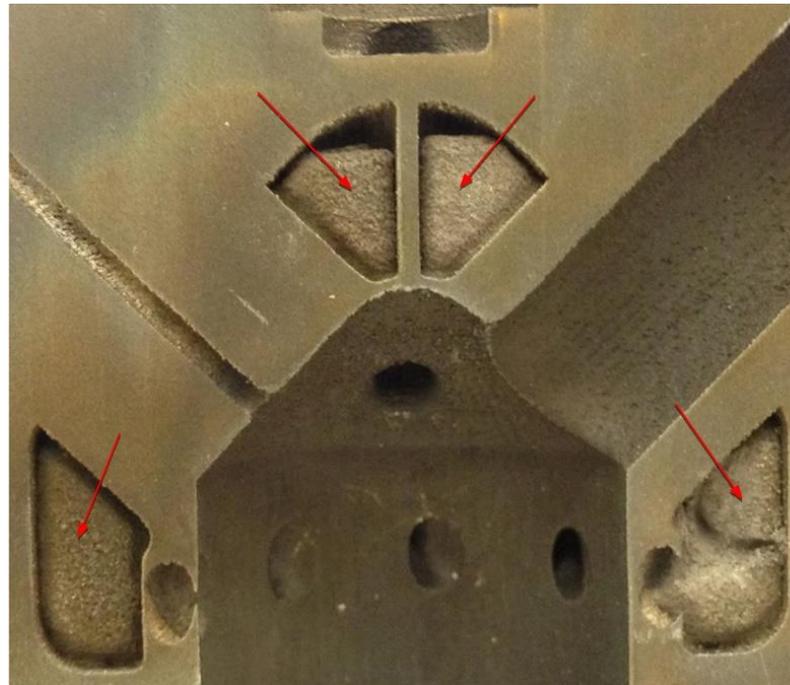
# L-PBF DfAM – Holes & Drain Ports



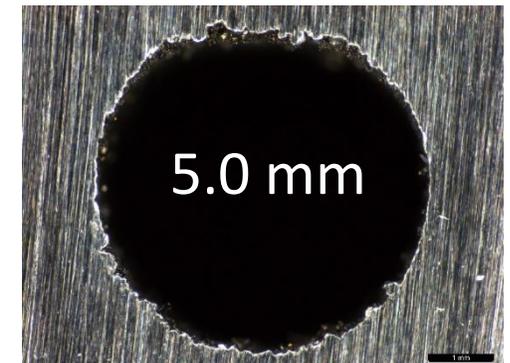
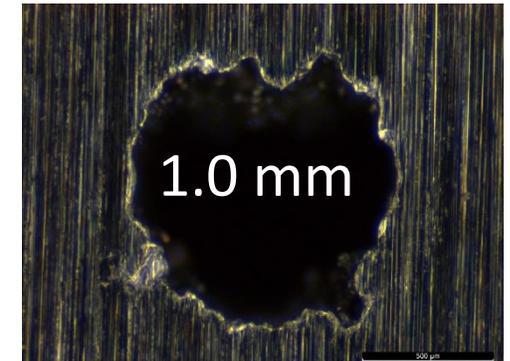
**a) Channel terminating at the build plate. b) base plate with powder drain port.**



**Self-supporting hole geometries.**

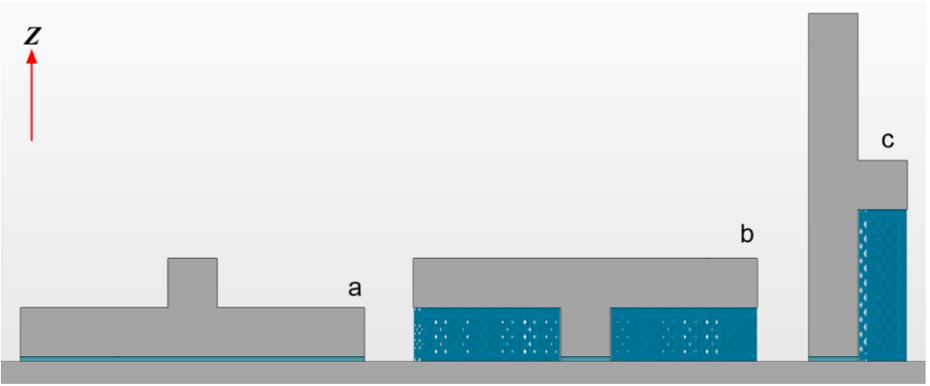


**Cross-sectional cut of a part with trapped powder that sintered during stress-relief heat treatment.**

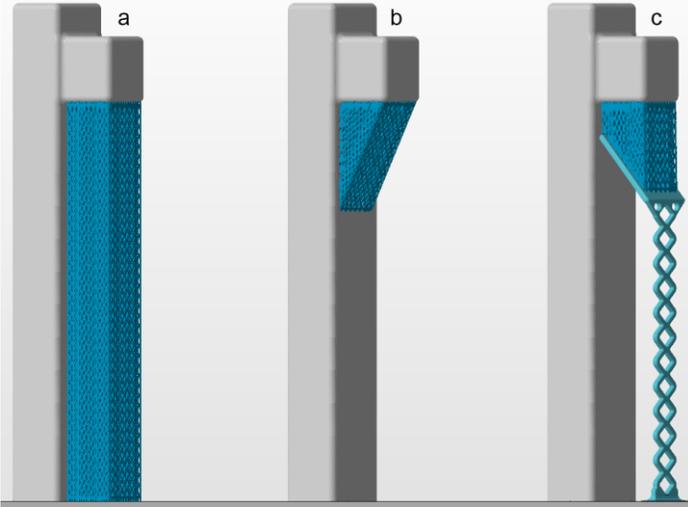




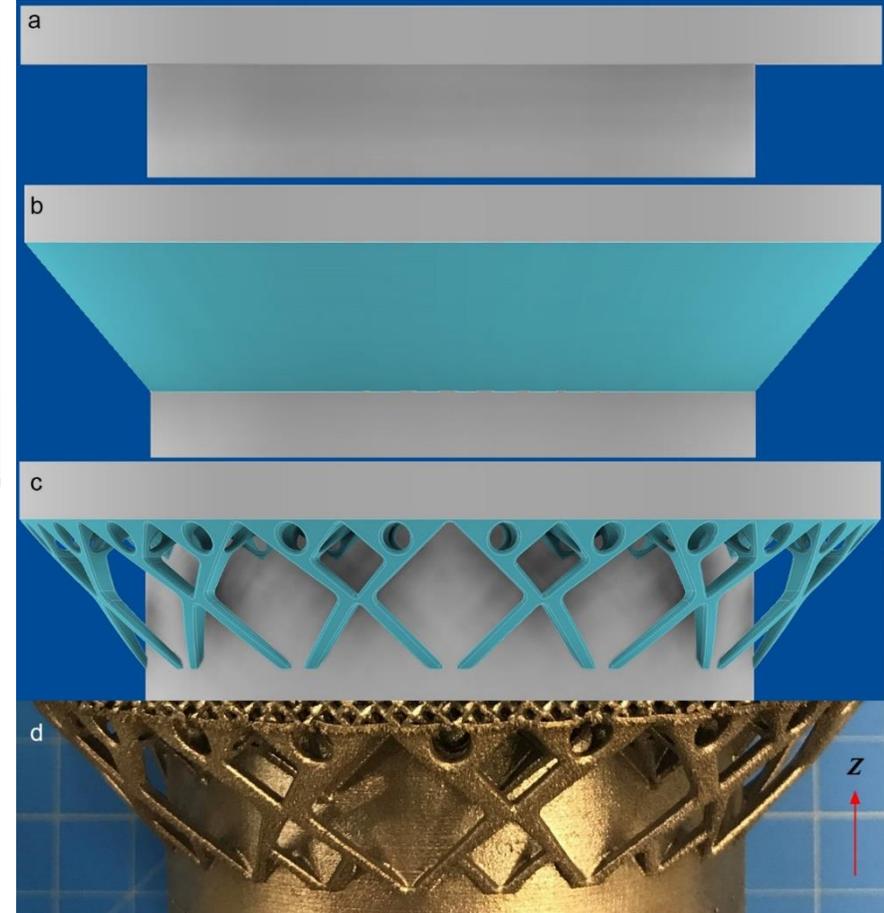
# L-PBF DfAM – Supports



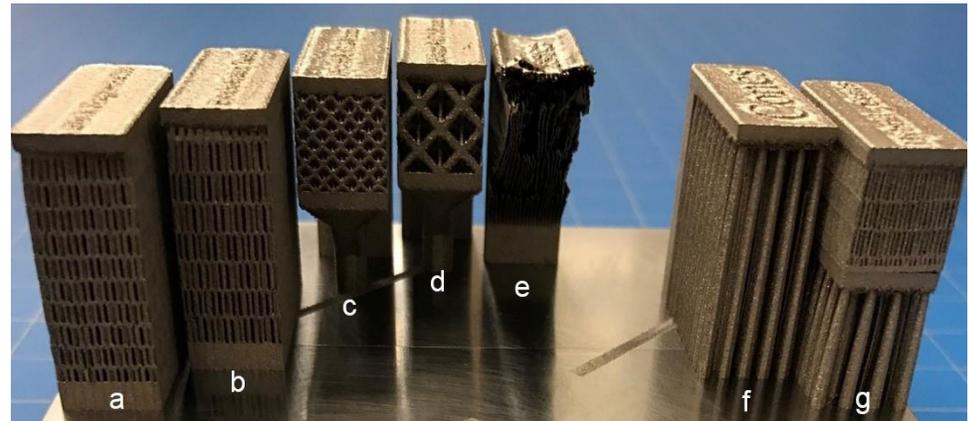
Placement and volume of support structures (blue volumes) are highly dependent on part orientation.



Perforated block supports a) full length, b) 30° angle, and c) projected onto a user designed scaffold.



Comparison of a) unsupported overhang flange, b) 40° sacrificial support, c) crown support, and d) IN718 crown support generated by L-PBF AM.



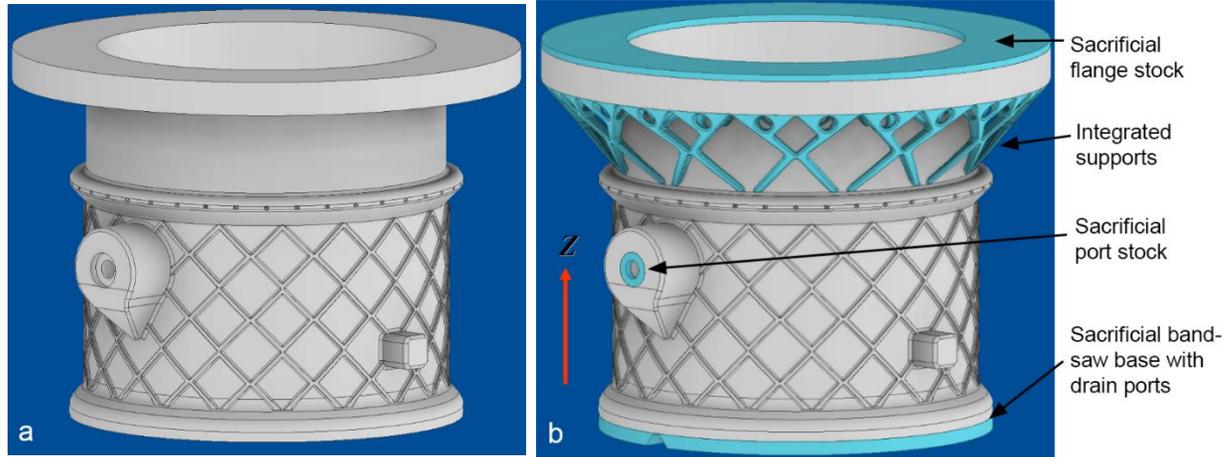
L-PBF AM support structure examples.



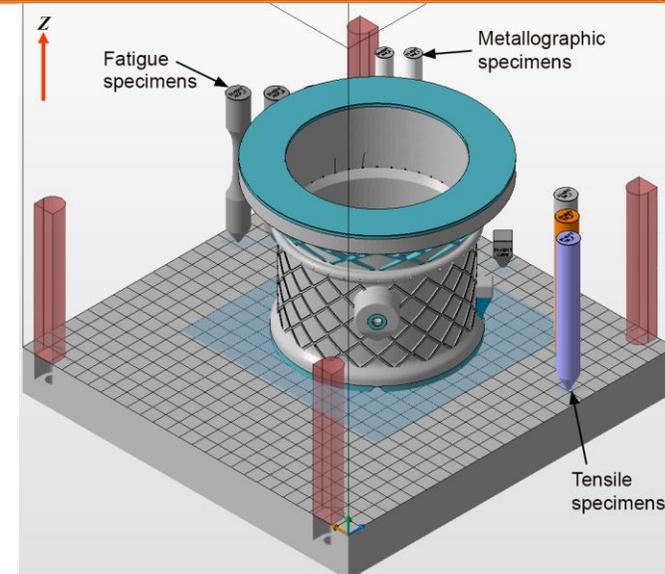
Manual support removal using hand tools.



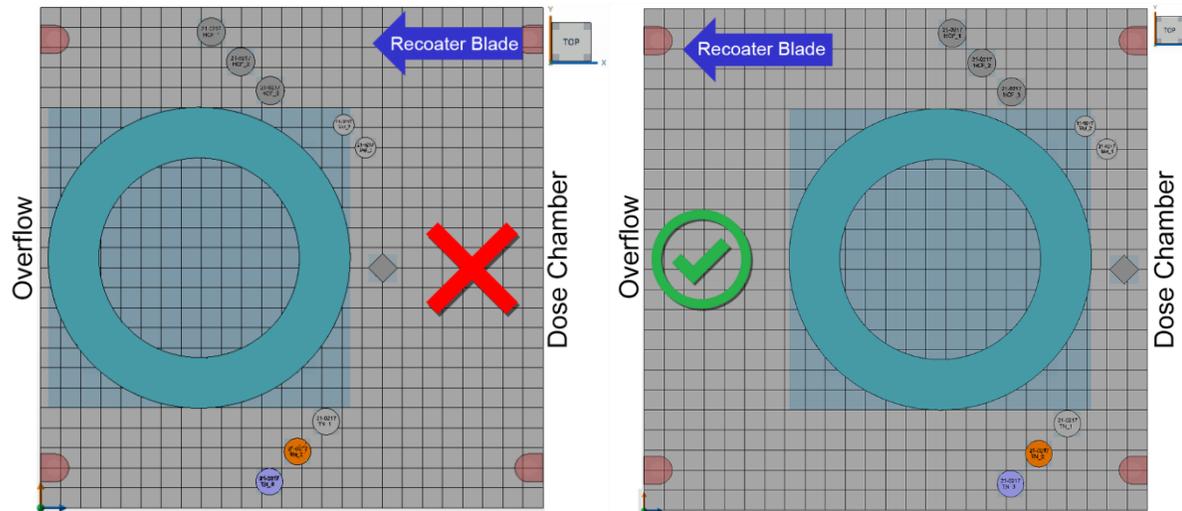
# L-PBF DfAM – Case Study



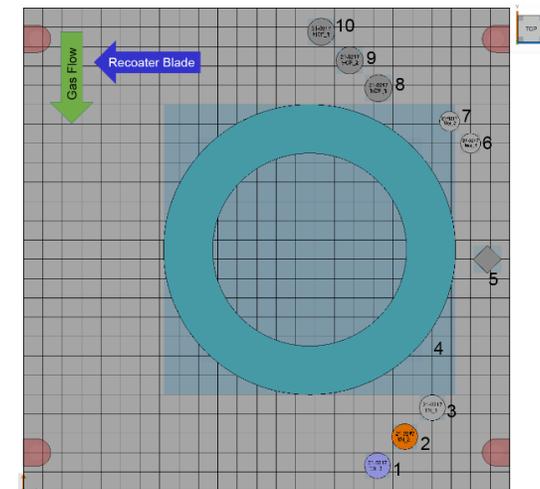
Part a) in final machined condition and b) with integrated supported, stock added to interfaces, and drain ports.



Build layout of part, support structure, and serialized specimens.



Component placement relative to dose chamber and recoater blade path.



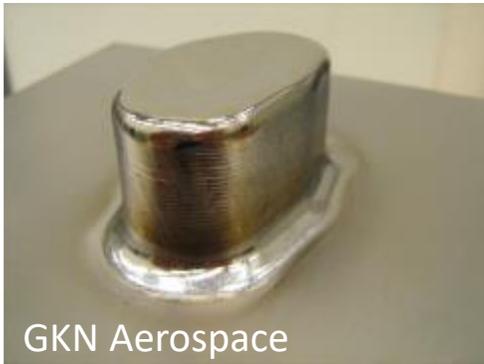
Build layout top view with part positions and scan order optimized.



# DED DfAM



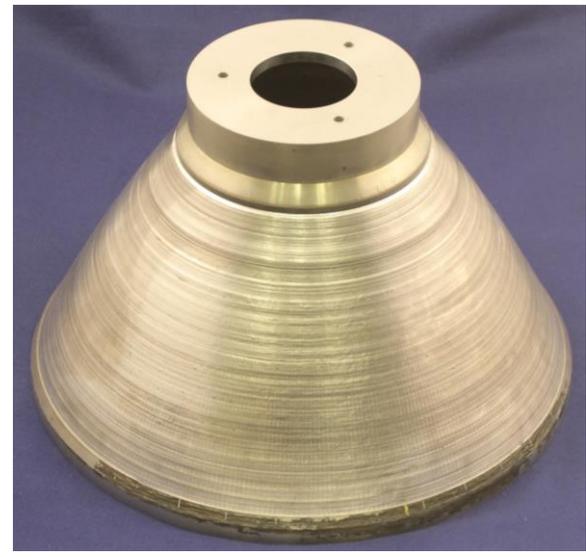
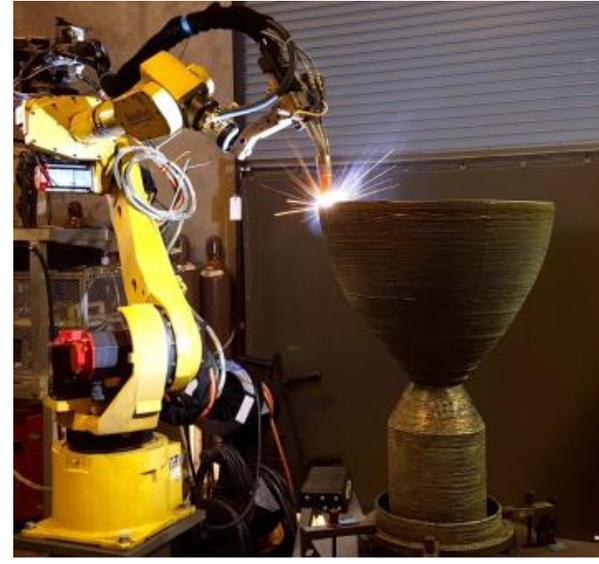
# DED DfAM – Examples of Geometries



GKN Aerospace



DM3D/NASA



RPMI



DM3D/NASA



RPMI



RPMI/NASA



# Freedom in DED design and deposition strategies



## Ability to use multiple axes for complex features fabricated locally



RS25 Powerhead demonstrator using LP-DED under NASA SLS Artemis Program (NASA/RPMI)



## Substrate

- Size, Material, Temper
- Integral or Sacrificial?

## Material

- Chemistry and form
- Material feedstock effect on surface finish

## Deposition Strategy and Parameters

- Melt pool size and bead width/height
- Motion platform degrees of freedom and self-supporting angles
- Start / Stop / Transition locations and impact on properties

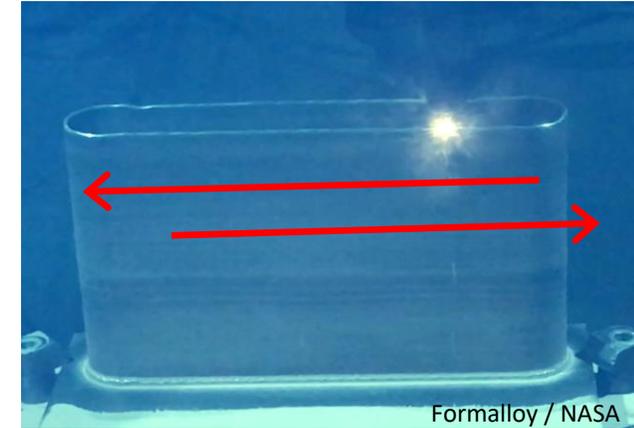
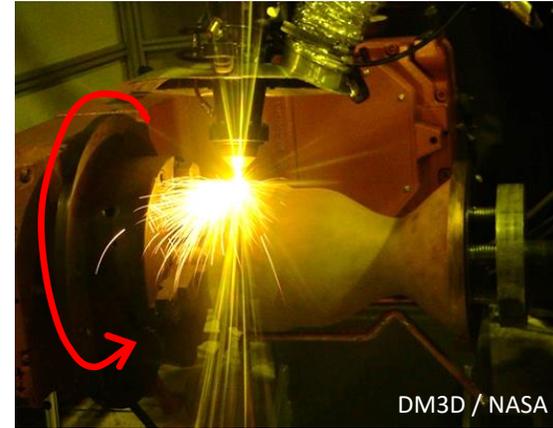
## Machining

- Fixturing and datum locations

## Inspection

- Surface interface with NDE and/or geometry compatibility

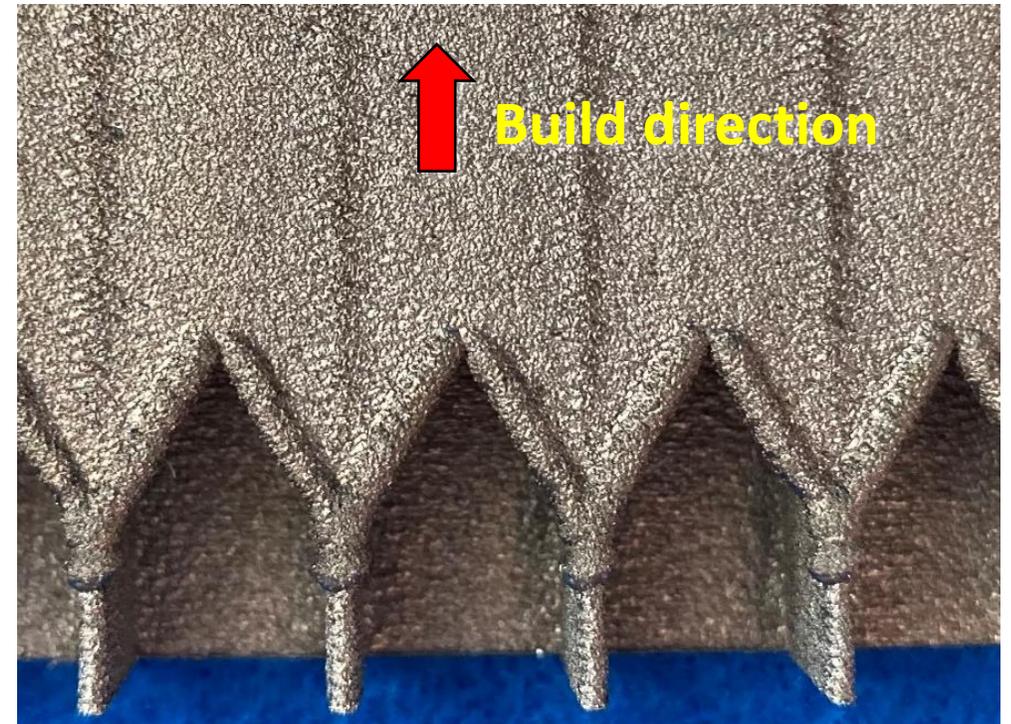
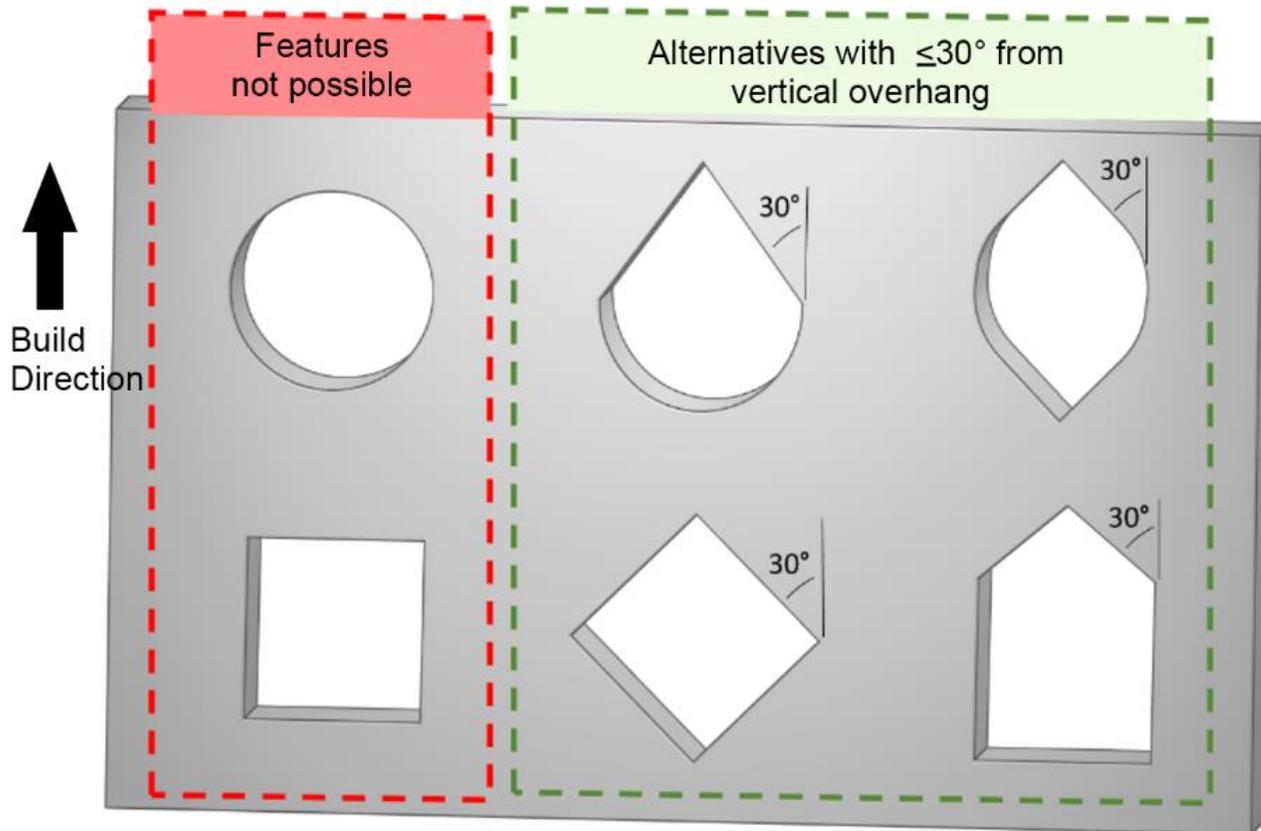
## Example: Deposition Strategies





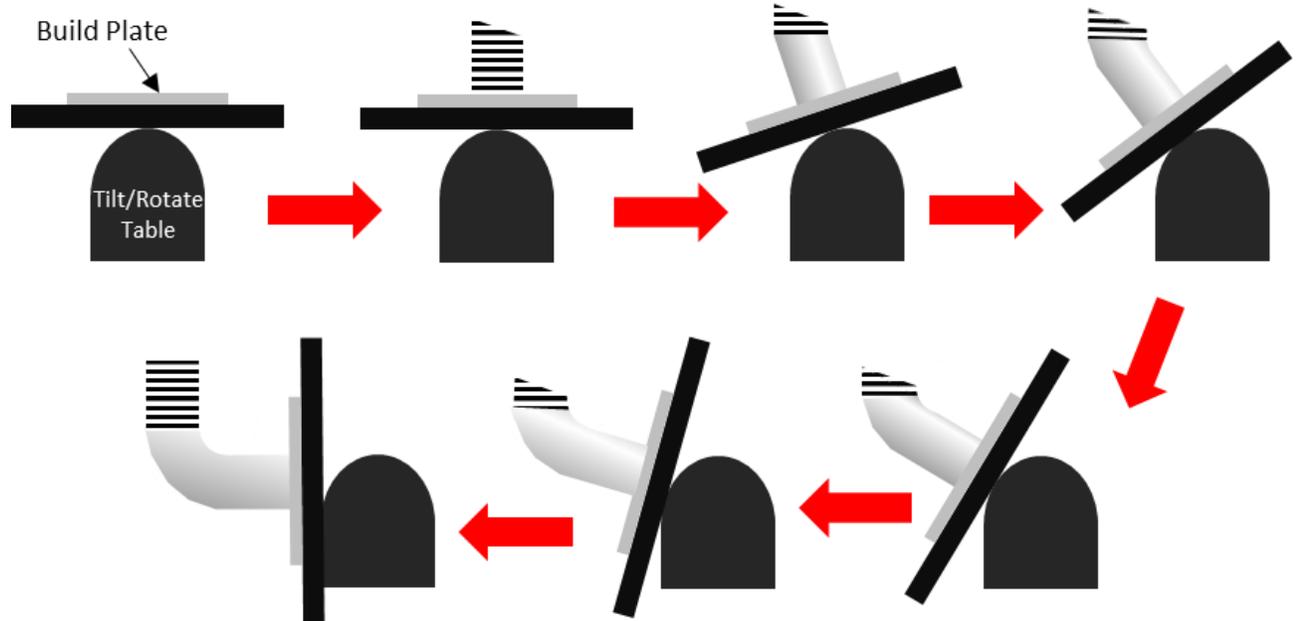
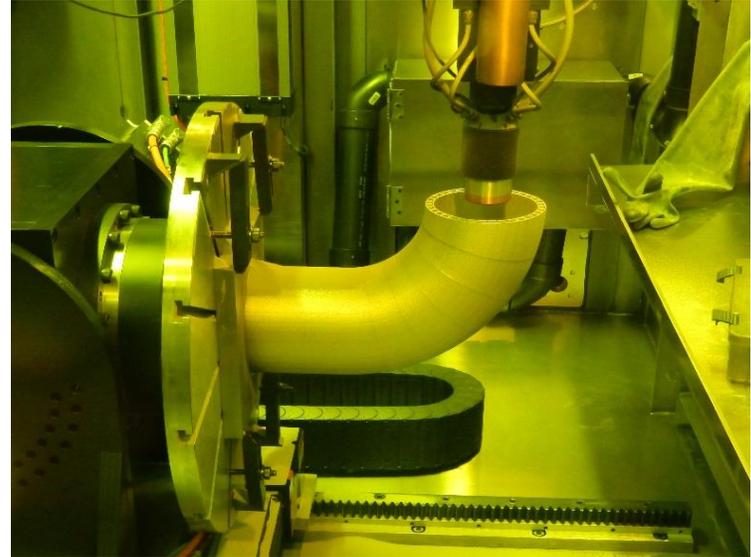
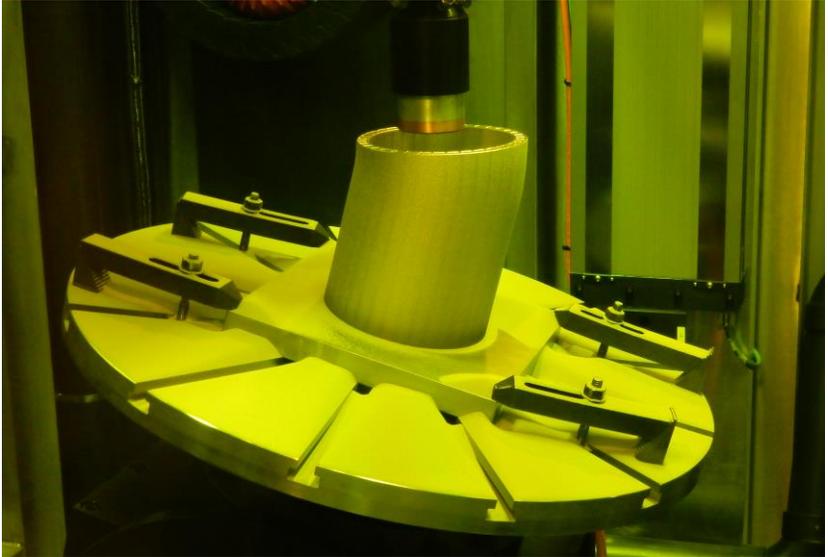
# Holes and Small Features

Similar types of holes as L-PBF must be considered when designing for DED





# DED DfAM – More axes gives more design freedom

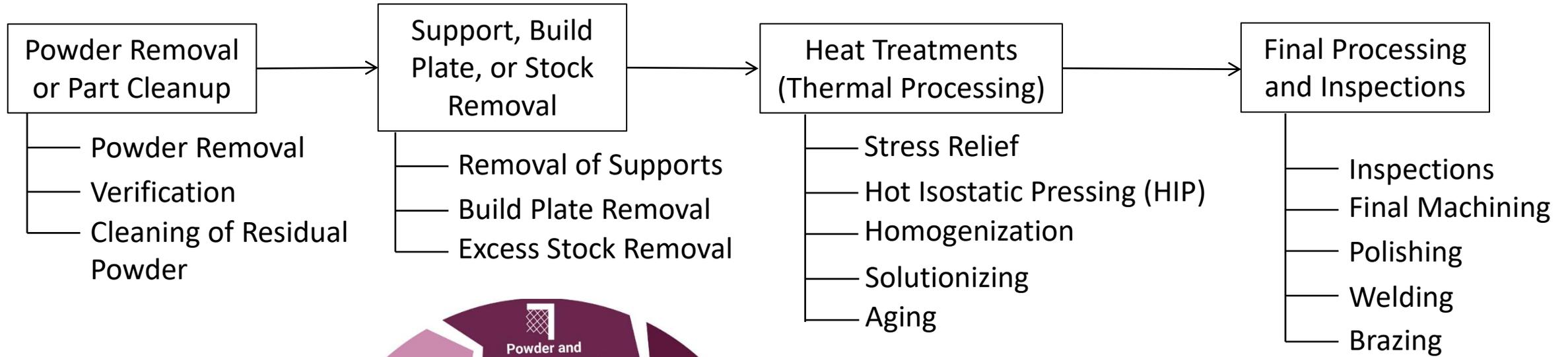


Courtesy: RPMI





# Post-Processing – General Process Flow





# Some Key Questions for Design and Post-Processing



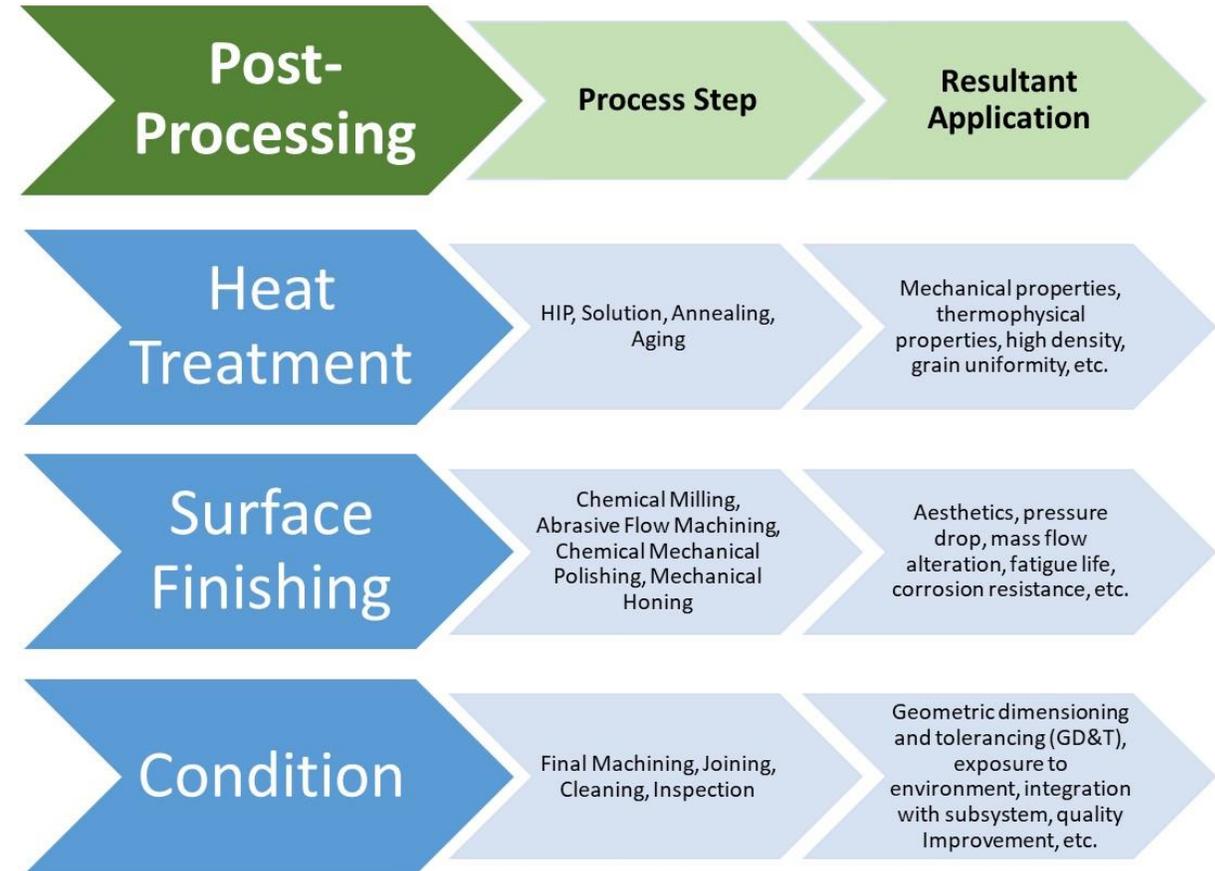
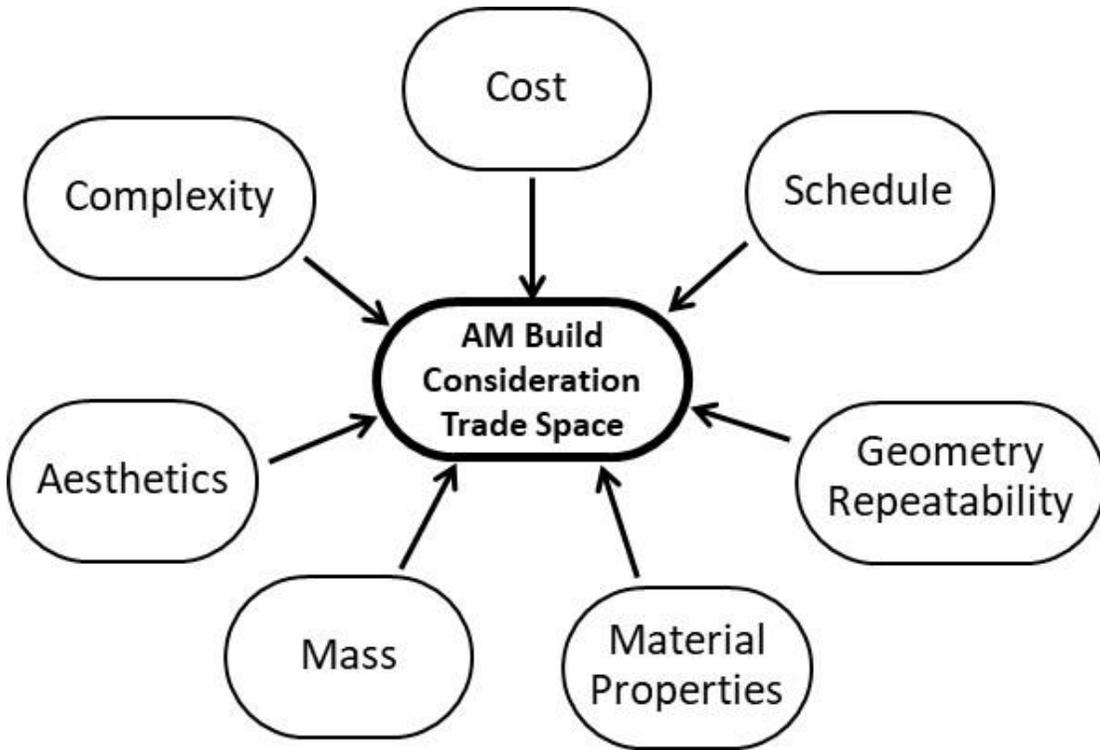
- Are there internal cavities?
- Does the part have drain ports or openings to allow for powder removal?
- What technique(s) will be used for powder removal?
- How is powder removal verified?
- Will a support structure be used in the build or designed into the part?
- Are there downstream operations that require fixtures or tooling to integrate in the design?
- What type of distortion might be expected from the process and how can one properly design for it?
- How is the part removed from the build plate?
- What forces are being imparted during post-processing operations?
- Are adequate stock and proper datums included for part removal and post-machining?
- What kind of post-process machining, welding, brazing, or assembly needs to occur after the print?
- Does the part incorporate the correct welding or brazing joint design?
- What heat treatments are required, and what risk do they pose to the part?
- What is the proper sequence of heat treatments?
- What material properties are required for the end-use application?
- What inspections (full or partial, volumetric, surface, geometric) are required to verify integrity?
- Is the design conducive to these inspections?
- What surface texture is needed for the final application? [i.e. 2D directional roughness (Ra), average maximum profile height (Rz), average maximum valley depth (Rv), average areal roughness (Sa), surface maximum height (Sz), surface skewness (Ssk), directional waviness (Wa).]
- Are surface finish requirements uniform across the part or limited to specific locations (e.g., interfaces)?



# “Post-processing” is really “the process”



To successfully build parts to integrate into a system and meet the properties required, post-processing is required





# Post-Processing Summary



	Powder Removal and Verification	Support Removal*	Stress Relief**	Build Plate Removal	Heat Treatment Required?	Post-Curing	Final Machining ***
Laser Powder Bed Fusion (L-PBF)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	O
Electron Beam Powder Bed Fusion (EB-PBF)	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	O
Blown Powder Directed Energy Deposition (BP-DED)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
Arc-Deposition DED	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
Laser Hot-wire DED	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
Electron Beam DED	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
Laser Wire DED	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
Ultrasonic	N	N	N	N	O	N	Y
Friction Stir	N	N	N	N	O	N	Y
Coldspray	N	N	N	Y	O	N	Y
Binder Jet	Y	O	N	N	Y	Y	O

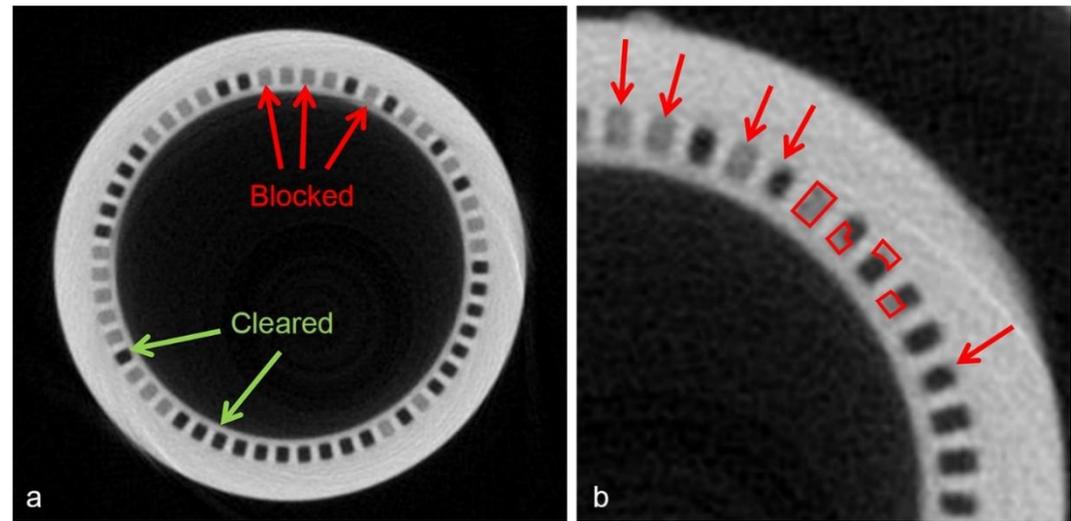
Y = Requires operation  
 N = Does not require  
 O = May Require



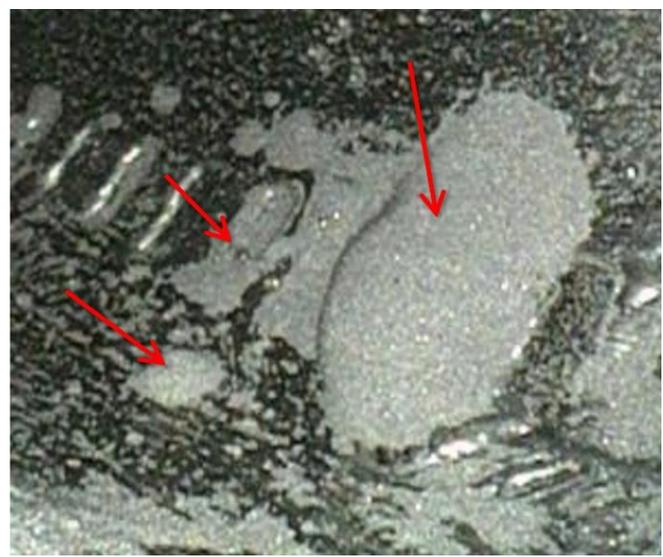
# Is powder removed? ...Are you sure?



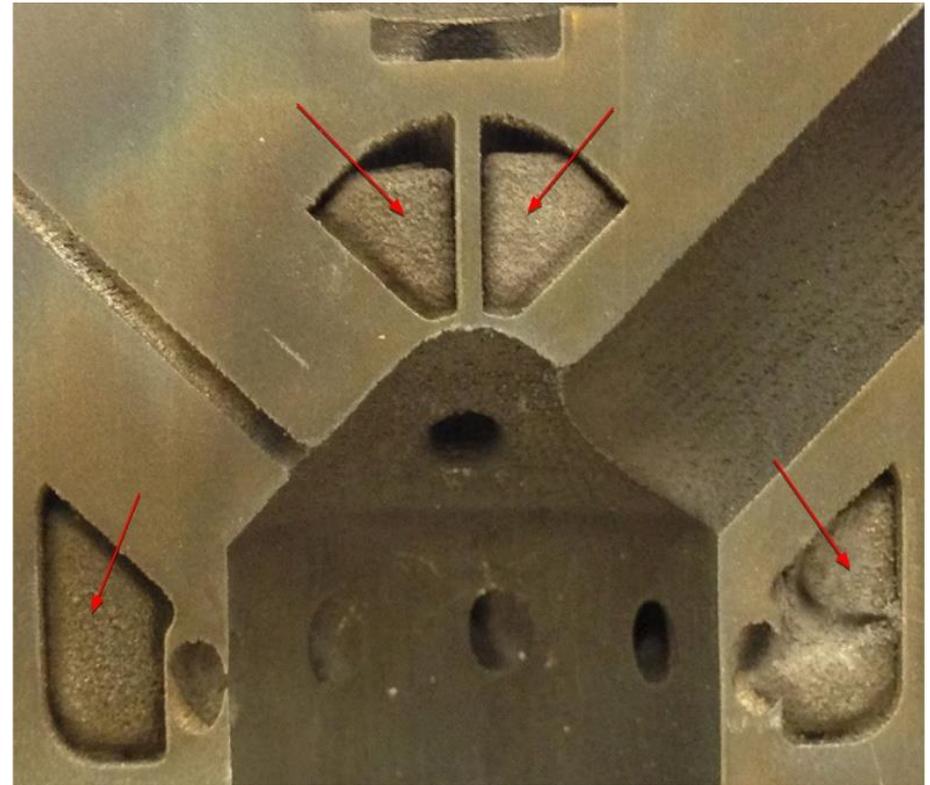
## Powder observed in channels after CT



Internal cavities with sintered powder after stress relief – not properly designed for removal



Borescope inspection of internal features





# Nondestructive Evaluation (NDE): Geometry



## Table 5.2: NDE Applications and Limitations

+, strong capability; 0, limited capability; -, no capability

Method	Metrology	Surface defects	Volumetric defects	Main strength	Main weakness
Visual inspection	0	0	-	Quick check for major problems	No quantitative measurements
Coordinate measurement machine (CMM)	+	-	-	Allows for dimensional inspections	No internal characterization; does not allow for detailed surface characterization
Laser profilometry	+	0	-	Characterize roughness	No internal characterization
Structured light scanning	+	0	-	Check dimensions, generate three-dimensional model	No internal characterization

*(continued)*



# Nondestructive Evaluation (NDE): Flaws



## Table 5.2: NDE Applications and Limitations

+ , strong capability; 0, limited capability; - , no capability

*(continued)*

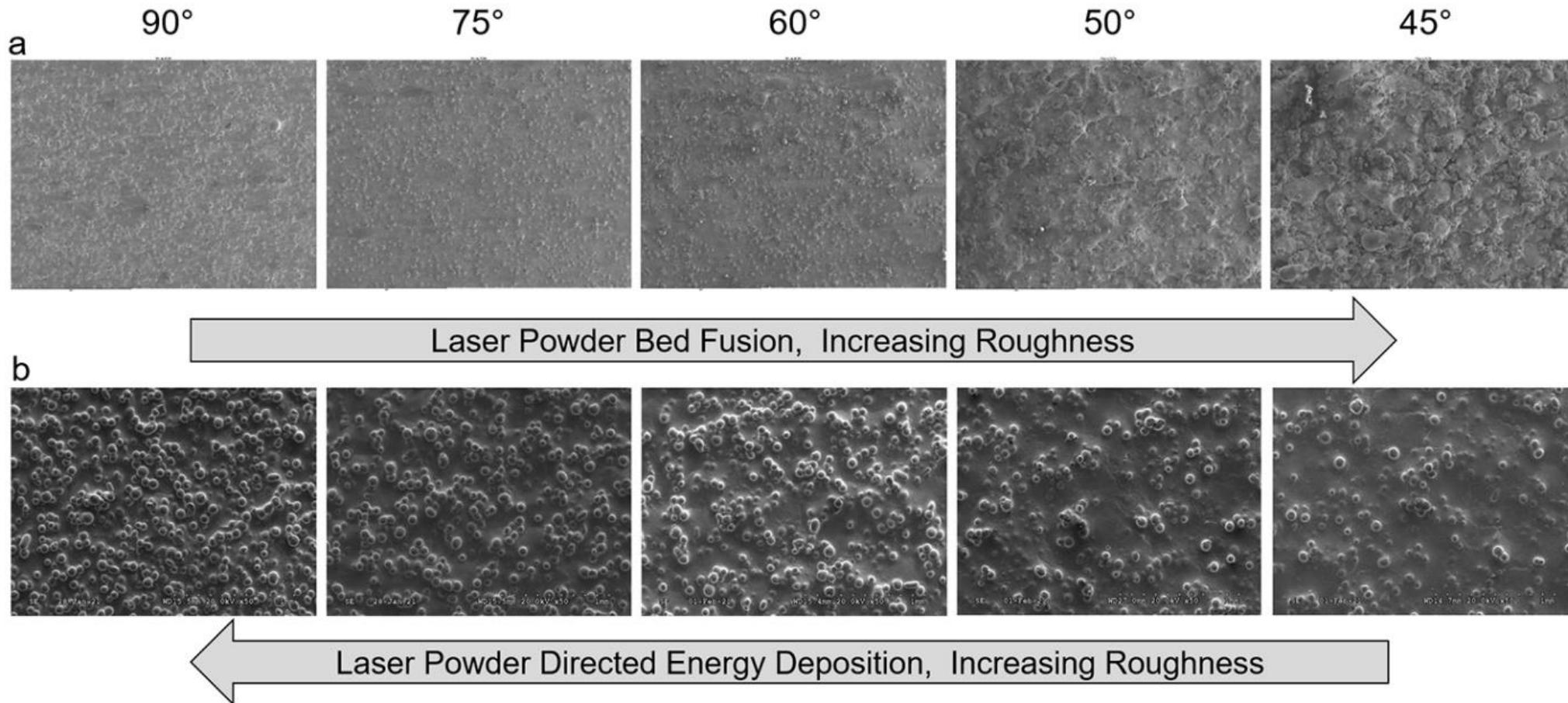
Method	Metrology	Surface defects	Volumetric defects	Main strength	Main weakness
Radiography	0	0	+	Volumetric defects, changes in density	Interpreting complexity, detecting tight cracks
CT	+	0	+	Three-dimensional reconstruction of volumetric defects	Characterizing surface, detecting tight cracks
Ultrasonic inspection	-	0	+	Volumetric defects, linear defects	Surface access, quality changes, defect detection varies with depth
Dye penetrant	-	+	-	Surface-breaking defects, cracks	Requires smooth as-built surface or machining
Eddy current	-	+	0	Surface and near-surface (subsurface) defects	Limited to electrically conductive materials
Magnetic particle inspection	-	0	-	Surface defects	Limited to ferromagnetic materials, smooth surface
Thermography	-	0	0	Surface and subsurface defects	Interpreting complexity, limited depth
Resonance	-	0	0	Overall defect state, part comparisons	Locating defects, understanding extent



# Surface Texture of AM

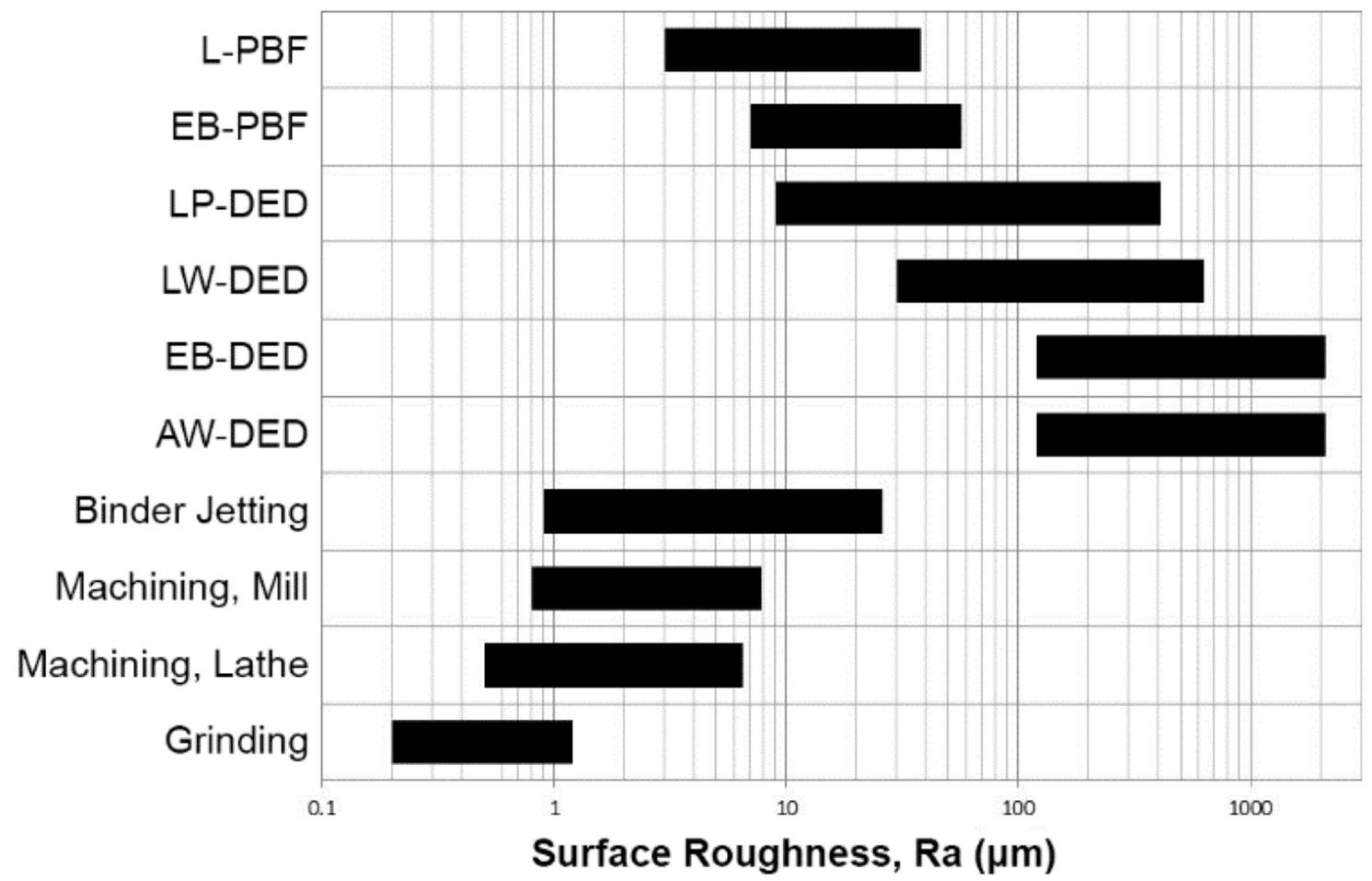


Surface texture (waviness, roughness, form) varies based on build process and build orientation





# Surface Conditions from different processes



Caveat: Surface condition highly variable based on process, material, parameters, build orientation



# Surface Enhancements and Polishing



Process	Polishing feature applicability	
	External surfaces	Internal surfaces
In-process smoothing (contours)	+	+
Chemical milling	+	+
Chemical Mechanical Polishing	+	+
Abrasive flow machining	+	+
Media suspension methods	+	-
Dissolvable / surface sensitization	+	0
Powder enhanced slurry plating	0	0
Electrochemical machining (ECM) or electropolishing (EP)	+	0
Secondary laser polishing (in-process or post)	+	-
Manual polishing (honing, buffing, burnishing)	+	-
Grit blasting	+	-
Thermal deburring	-	-
Coatings	+	0
Peening methods	+	-
Magnetic abrasive finishing (MAF)	0	+

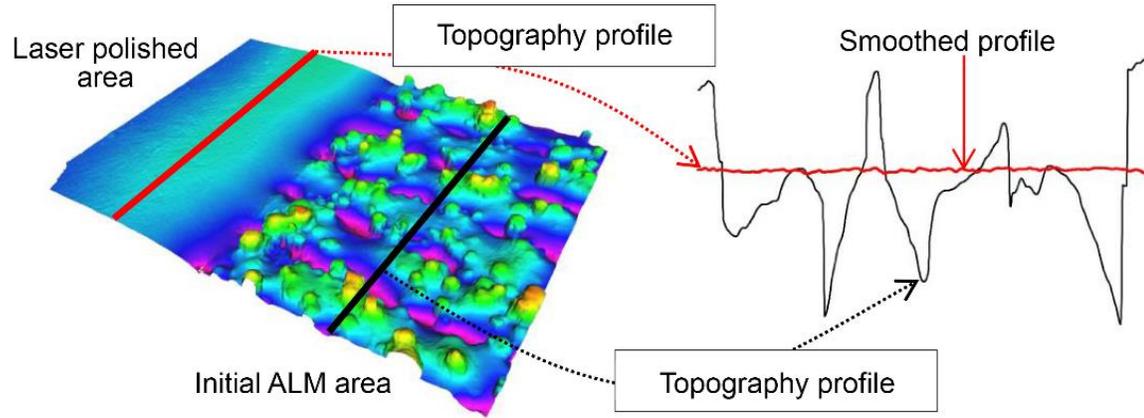
*Note: +, potential for maturation and/or demonstrated; -, significant challenges exist; 0, unknown and further development required.*



# Surface Enhancements

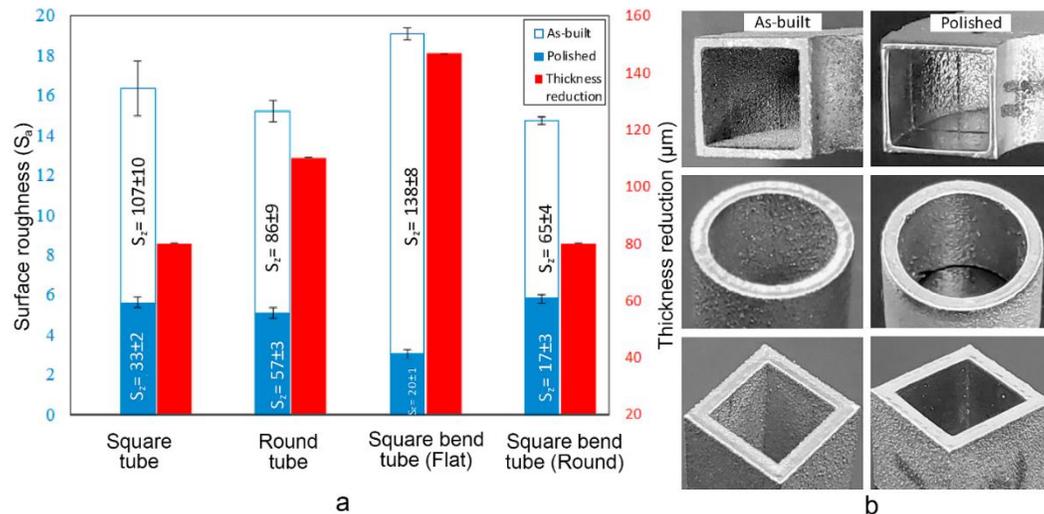


## Laser polishing

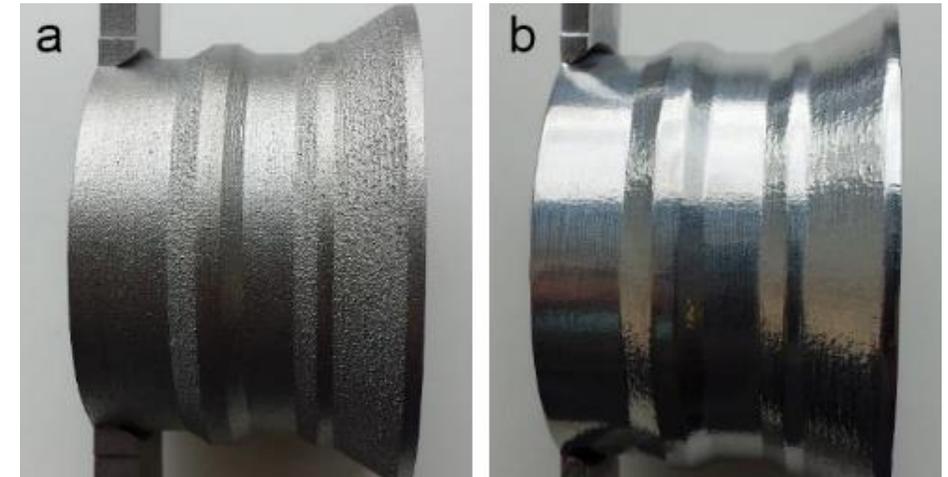


- As-built
- Chemically Milled
- Electrochemical Machining
- Chemical Mechanical Polishing

## Electrochemical Polishing



## Abrasive Flow Machining





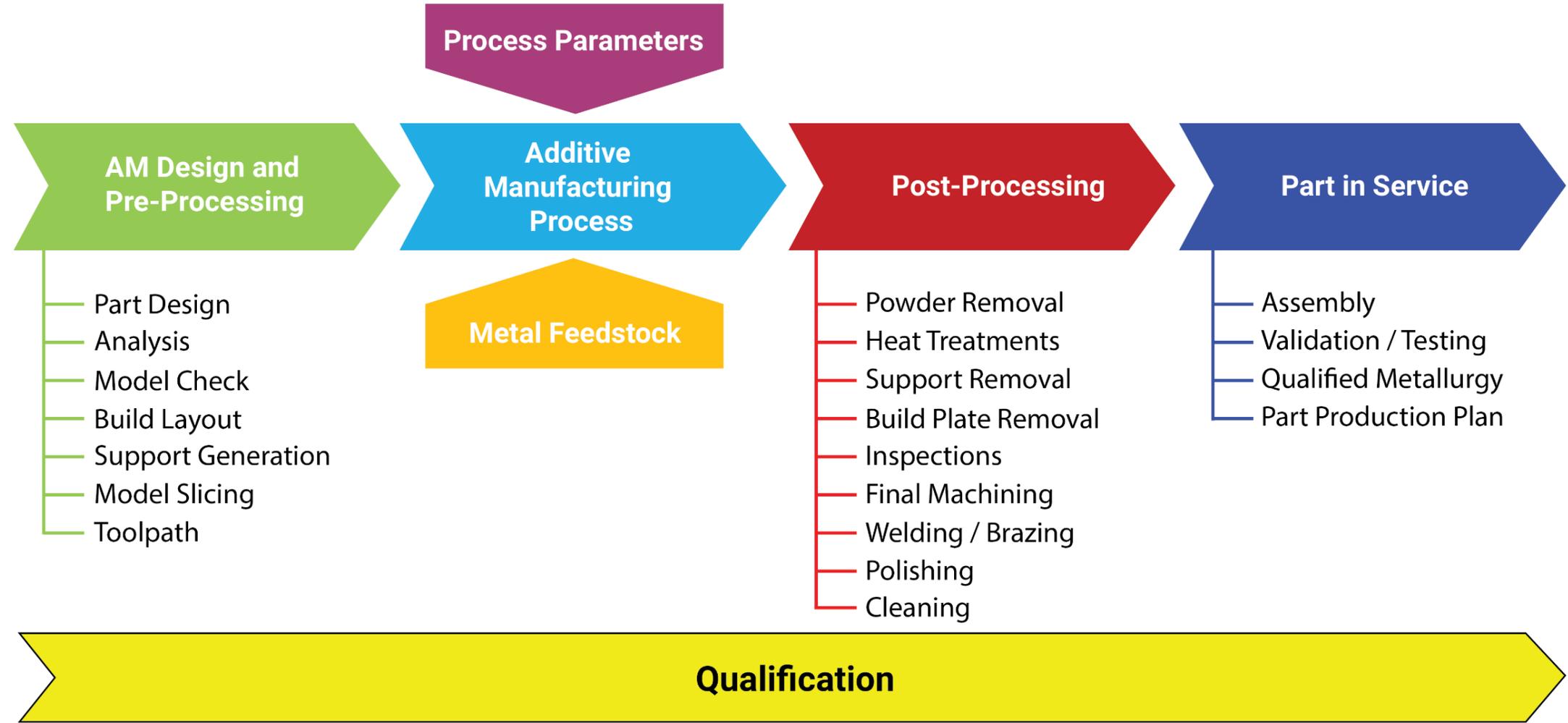
# Feedstock and Post-build Processing Summary



- Feedstock is critical and all aspects should be carefully tracked (chemistry, size distribution, flowability, morphology, reuse, etc).
- Post-processing is just part of the process and will be necessary for most all components.
- Post-processing must be planned for in the initial design stage.
  - Powder unpacking
  - Powder removal and cleaning
  - Build plate and support removal
  - Heat treatments
  - Machining
  - Cleaning
  - Joining (Welding, brazing and diffusion bonding)
  - Inspections and NDE
  - Surface enhancements (or polishing techniques)



# Design for Additive Manufacturing (DfAM)





# Qualification – Framework of 6030 Requirements

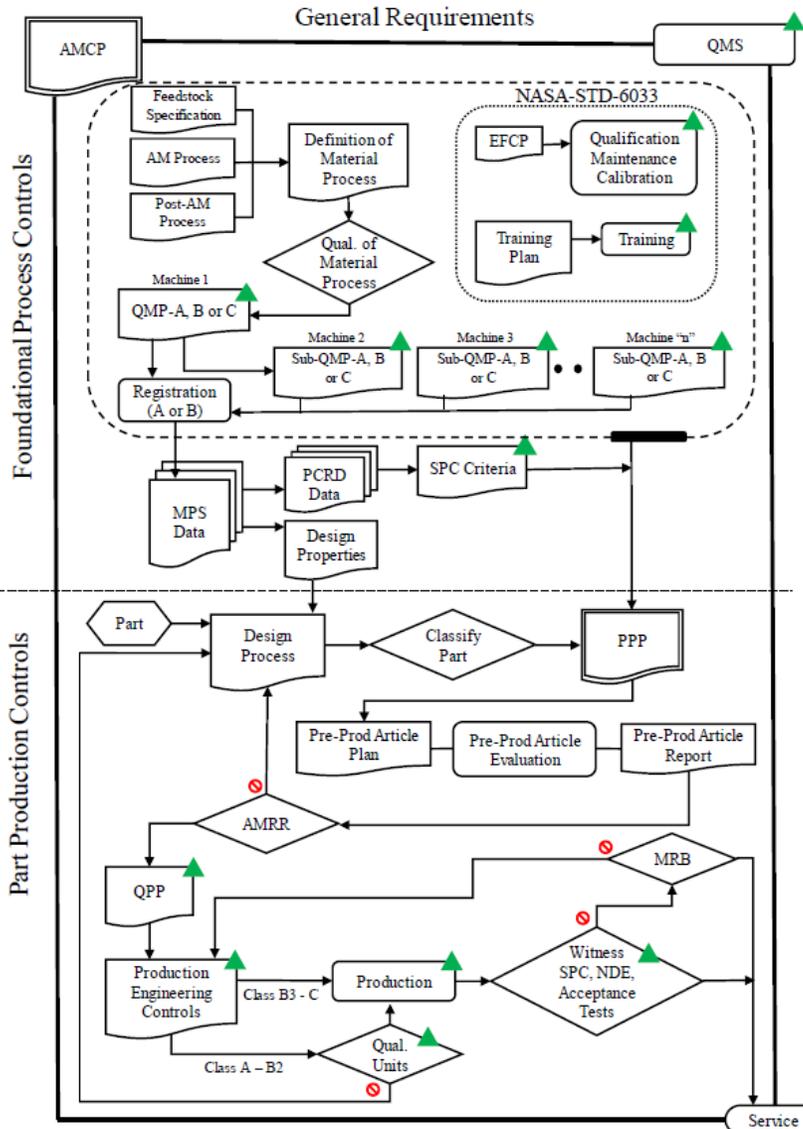


What should I worry about?

How should I define and control them?

Who and When should work them?

How NASA should be aware and approve of them?



Foundational Control

Part Production Control

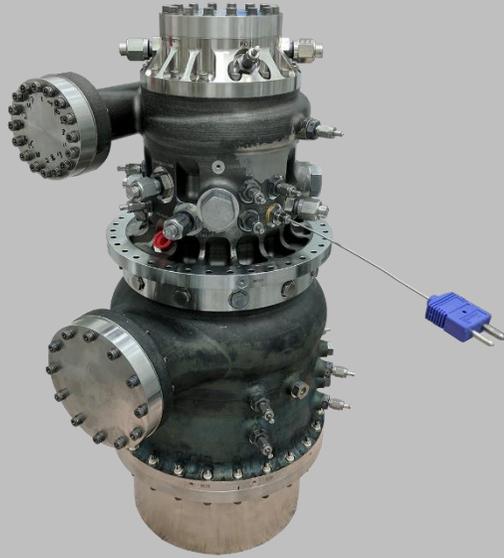
115 "shall" requirement statements in 6030; 31 "shall" statements in 6033



# Qualification and Certification (based on NASA)



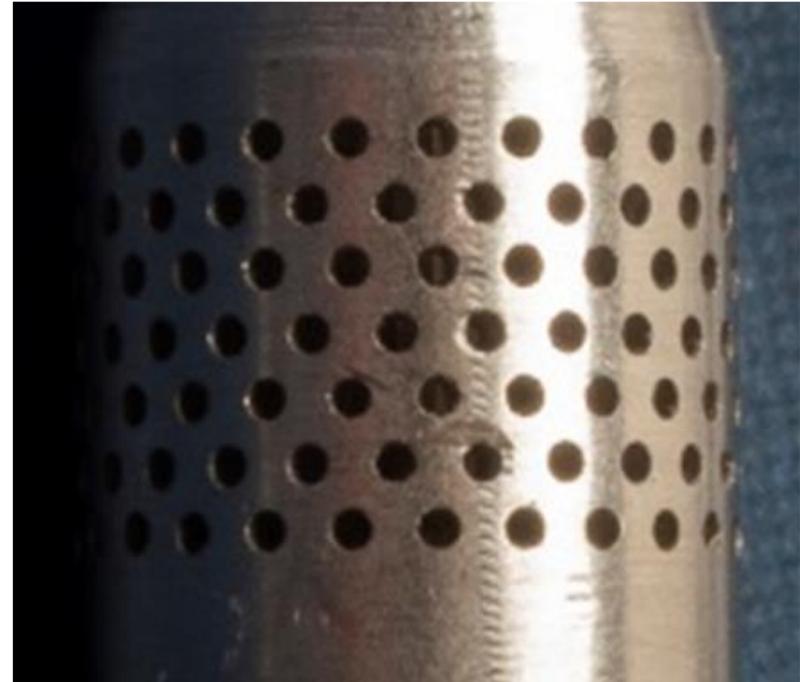
- Define a manageable, systematic, and consistent approach to AM to allow the Agency to evaluate risk and make consistent decisions regarding the certification of designs and hardware.
- Integrate the AM process in a manner compatible with existing governing Agency standards.
- Enforce discipline and systematic rigor throughout the AM process, from design to part.
- Avoid defining the specifics of AM processes; instead define methodologies for qualifying and controlling the processes.
- Accommodate the use of internal and open industry standards as appropriate.
- Provide NASA with opportunities for insight to gauge quality, completeness, and rigor through a well-defined and predictable set of reviewable products governing the AM process.



# Select Application Case Studies



- Single element injector
- 168 small radial filter holes per element
- Built by 9 commercial vendors using the same model in 2019



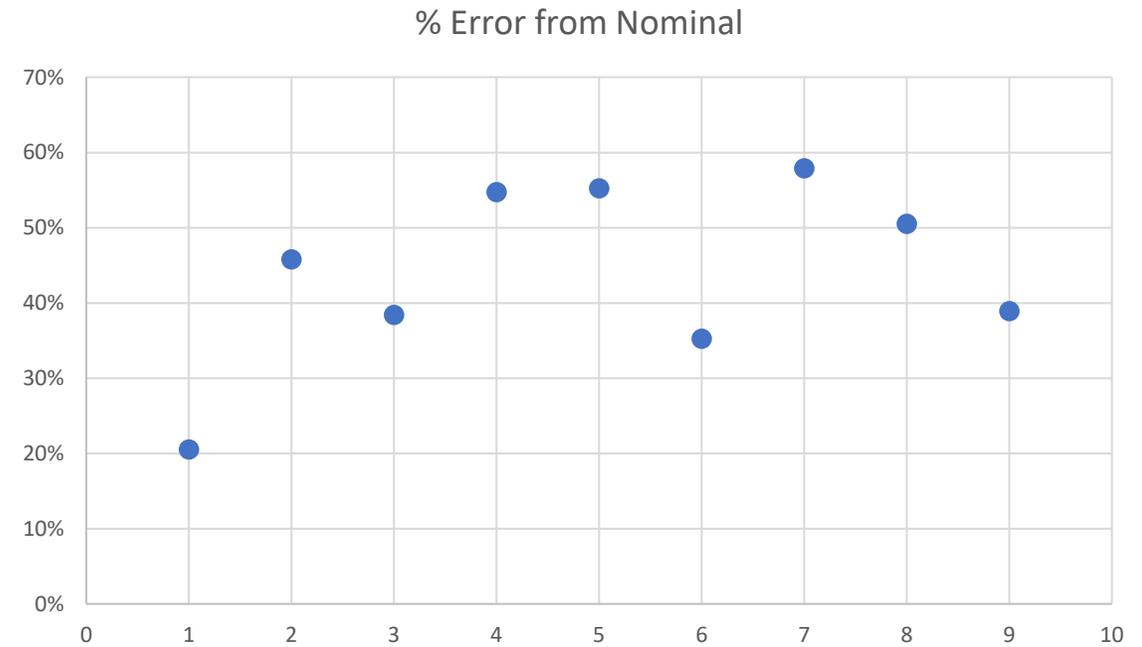
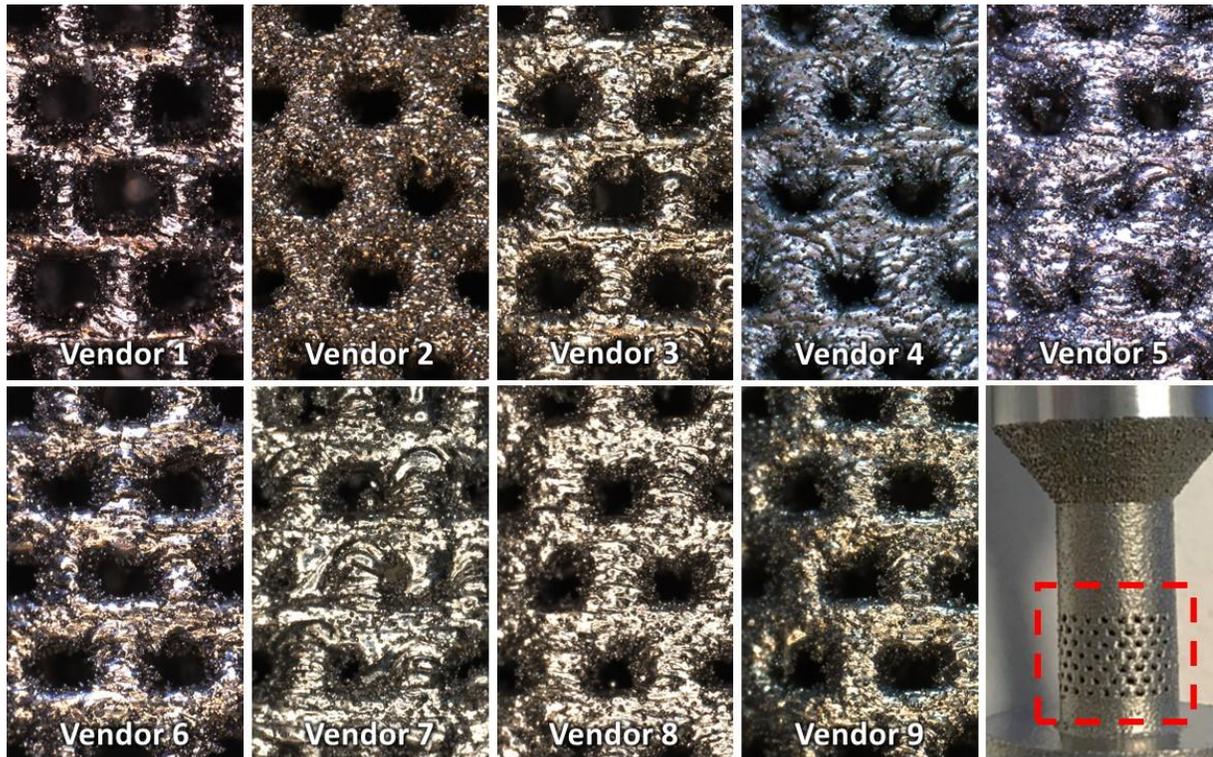
A traditionally machined sleeve filter used as baseline



# Case Study #1



Error from nine vendors ranged from 21% to 55%

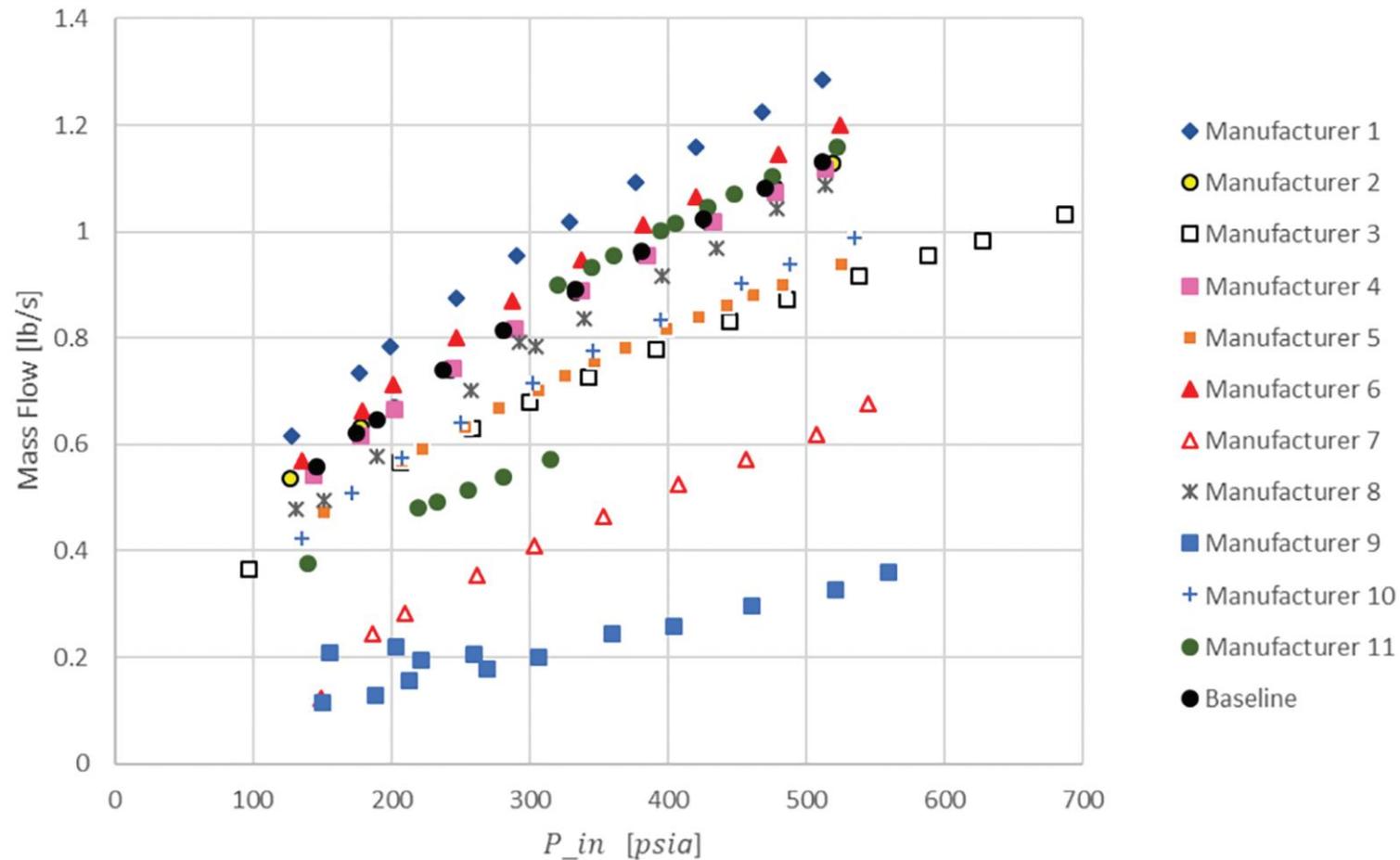




# Case Study #1



Water mass flow rate of the fuel circuit for 11 AM elements with comparison to baseline injector element

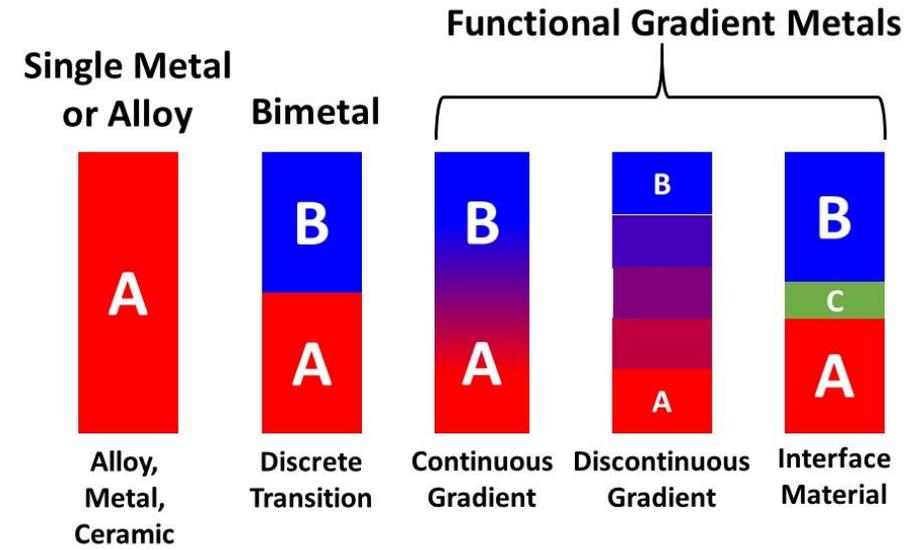




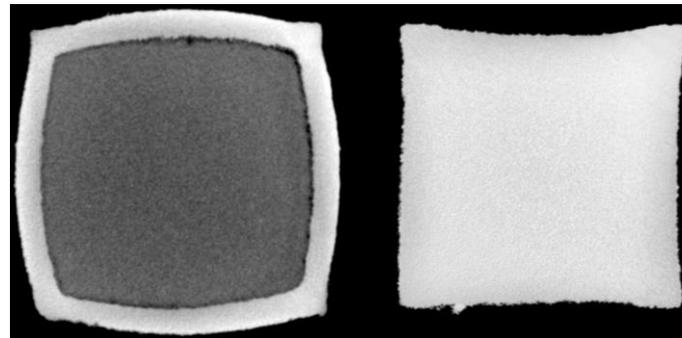
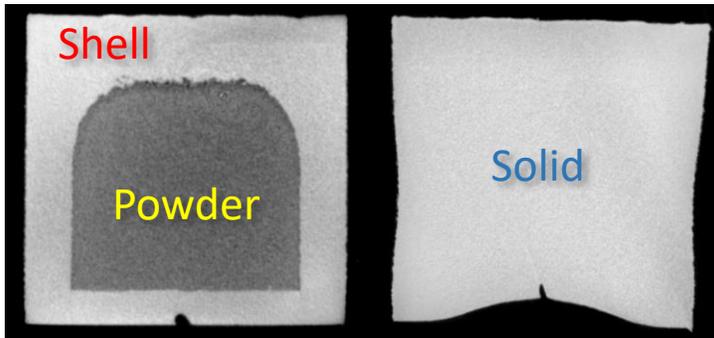
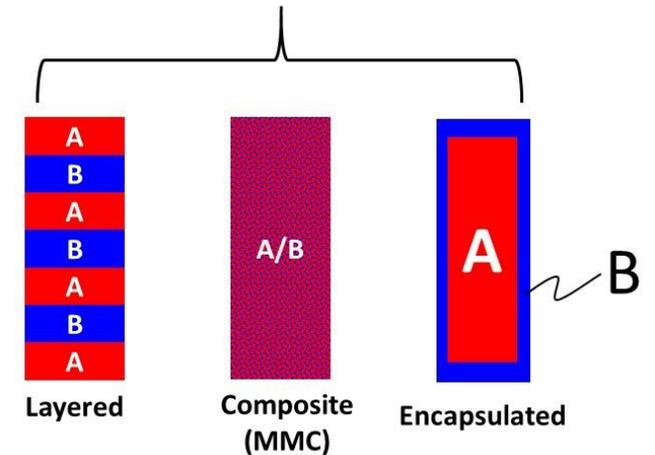
# Bimetallic, Multi-metallic, and Hybrid Builds



- Much of AM is focused on single alloys or processes, where further opportunities exist to optimize performance.
  - Weight reduction (higher strength to weight).
  - Use of materials as required locally based on various properties.
- Hybrid methods may include ceramics or unique processing for improved efficiency.



## Hybrid Materials or Methods



**Hybrid Methods -- Encapsulated: shell and powder with HIP consolidation**



# Multi-metallic and multi-process hardware development



Credit: RPMI / NASA



**L-PBF Liner / LP-DED Jacket**



**L-PBF Liner / Coldspray Jacket**



**L-PBF Liner / EBW-DED Jacket**



**Direct deposit LP-DED nozzle  
(Radial and Axial Bimetallic)**



**L-PBF GRCop-42 to Inco 625**

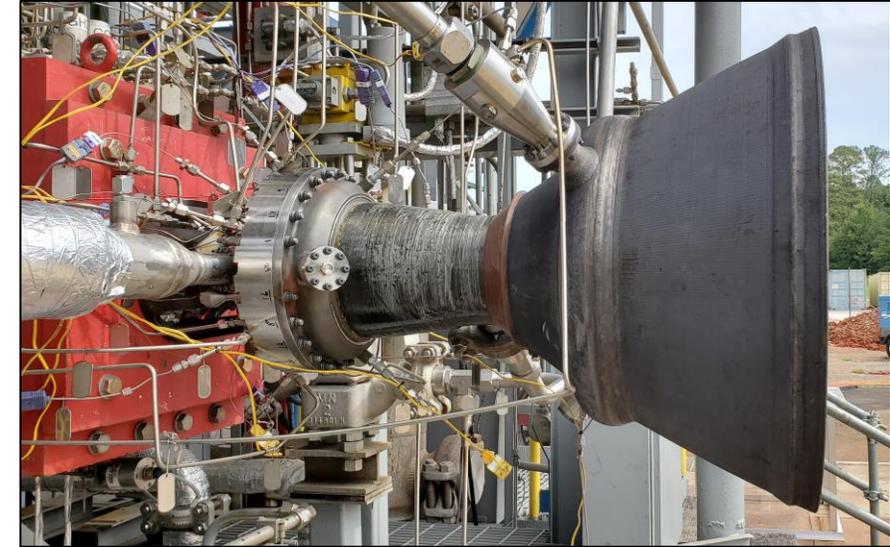




## Case Study #2 – Bimetallic AM



- Implementation of novel AM technologies at 40,000 lbf thrust class TCA testing as part of the RAMPT project
  - L-PBF GRCop-42 chamber liner
  - Radial bimetallic LP-DED NASA HR-1 builds (manifold buildup and clad structural jackets)
  - Axial bimetallic LP-DED NASA HR-1 nozzle with integral channel wall cooling



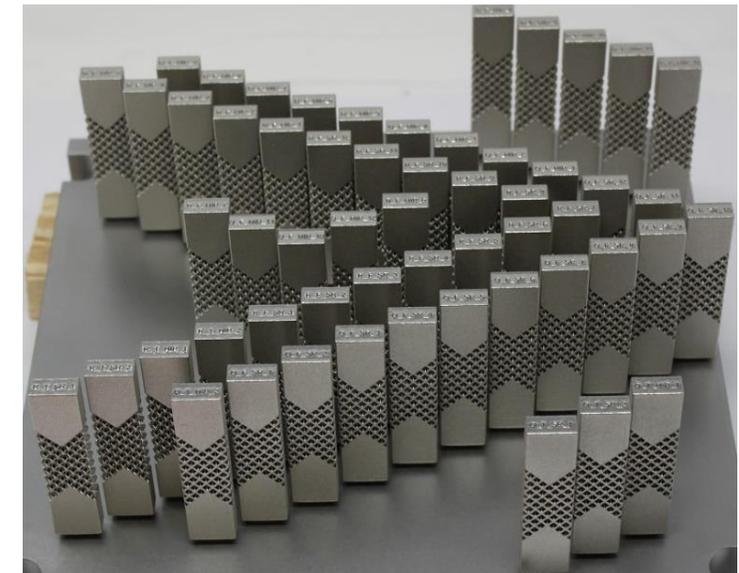
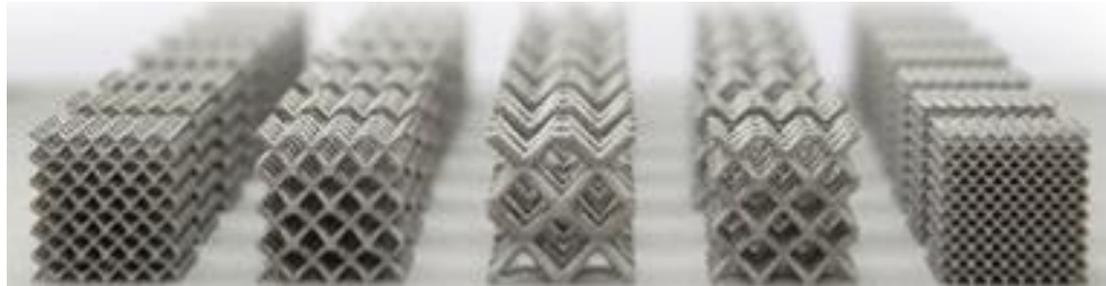


# Lattice Topology Selection



- Highly dependent on application and operating environment.
- Standard libraries or custom topologies.
- Screening start with file size / generation time then printability.
- Specimen design optimization.
- Characterize desired thermal and/or mechanical properties.

Lattice Topology	Image	Cube Size (mm)	Unit Cell (mm)	Number of Unit Cells	STL Generation Time (s)	STL File Size (KB)	L-PBF AM Trial Outcome	Notes
Octet Truss - 30 %RD		10x10x10	10	1	1	62	Print	Candidate to further evaluation. <i>Pass.</i>
		10x10x10	1	1000	3	22052	Print	Candidate to further evaluation. <i>Pass.</i>
Rhombi Octa Dense		10x10x10	10	1	1	106	Print	Excessive generation time. <i>Disqualified.</i>
		10x10x10	1	1000	420	51510	Fail	Excessive generation time. Failed print trial. <i>Disqualified.</i>
Rhombi Octa Light		10x10x10	10	1	1	44	Fail	Failed print trail. <i>Disqualified.</i>
		10x10x10	1	1000	90	29956	Fail	Excessive generation time. <i>Disqualified.</i>
Rhombic Dodecahedron - 20 %RD		10x10x10	10	1	1	93	Print	Candidate to further evaluation. <i>Pass.</i>
		10x10x10	1	1000	180	21444	Print	Excessive generation time. <i>Disqualified.</i>

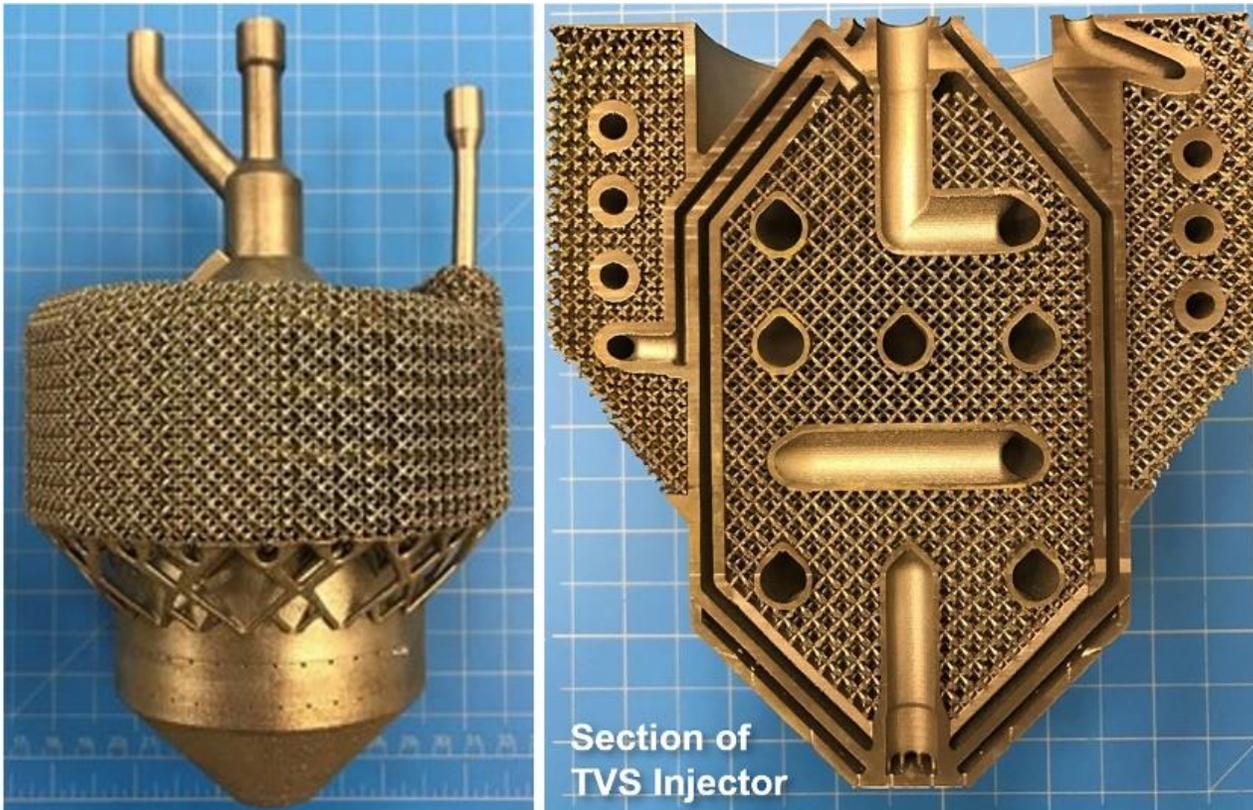




# Case Study #3 – Functional Lattices, TVS Injector



- Thermodynamic vent system (TVS) injector with liquid, two-phase, and gas flow – heat exchanger, injector, and condenser integrated

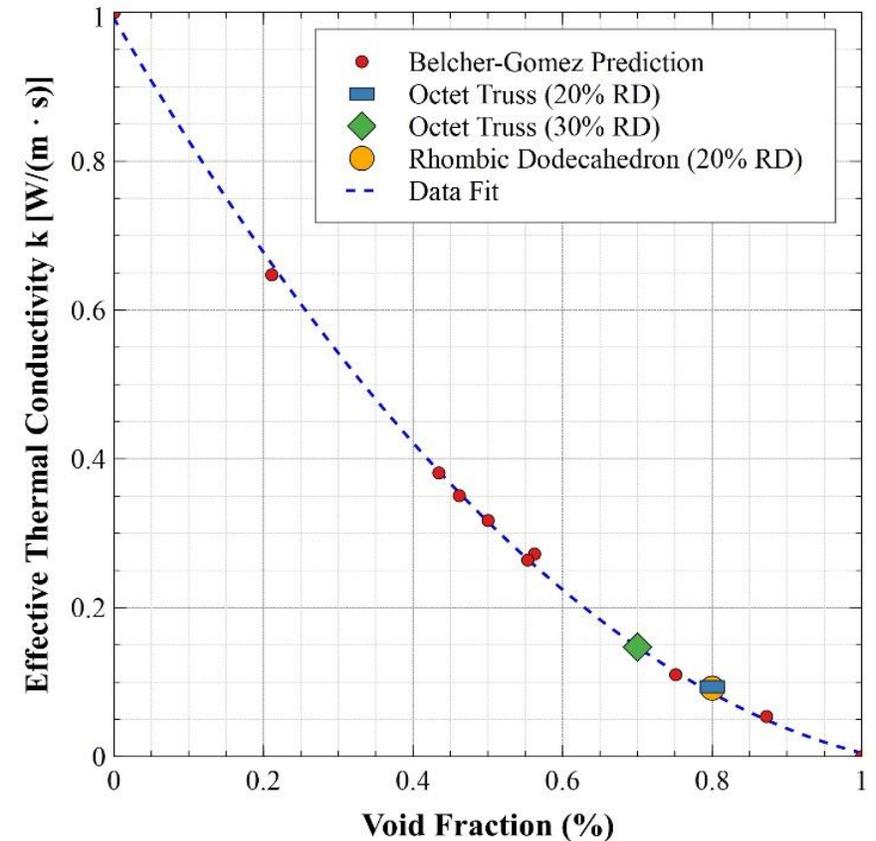




# Application Case Study – Thermal Isolation using AM



- Minimize conductive heat transfer using various lattice structures.
- Weight reduction of 40% and thermal conductivity reduced to 10% of fully dense designs

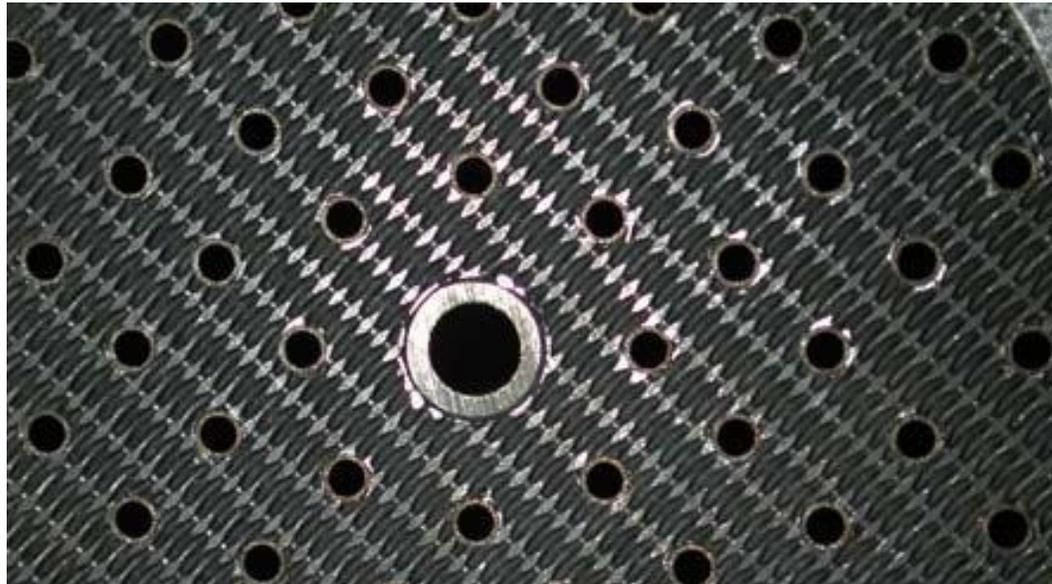




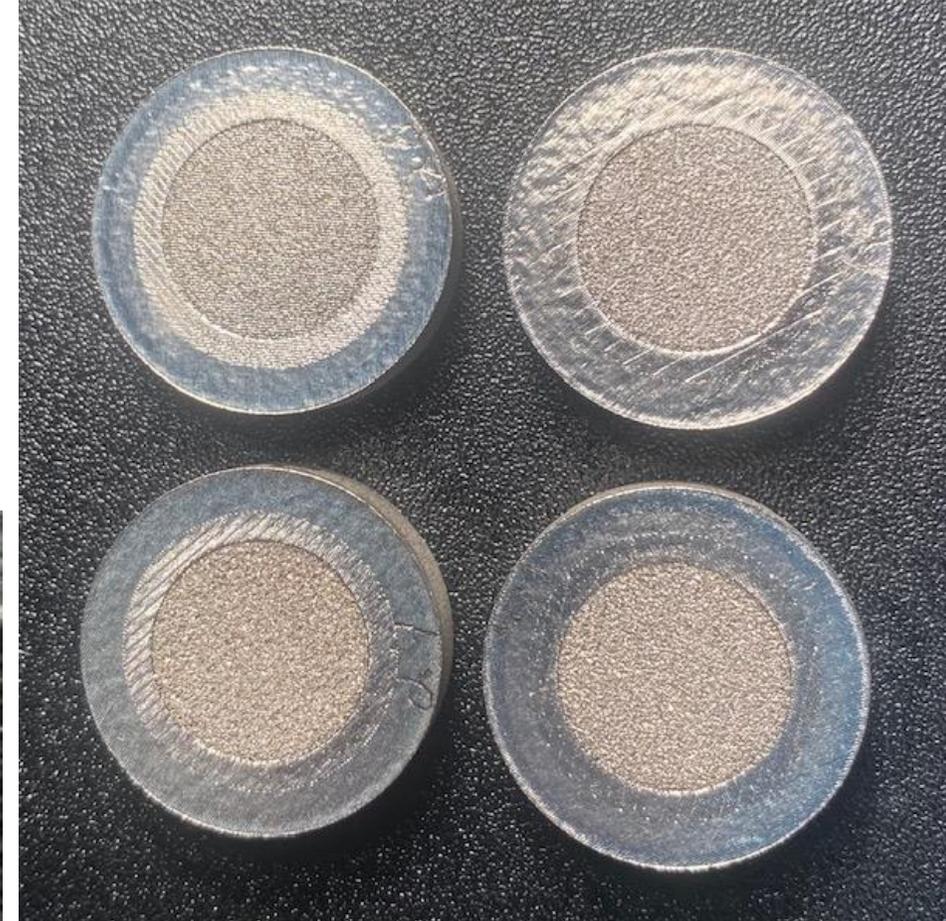
# Case Study #4 – Porous AM



- Porous AM for transpiration cooling of rocket engine components
- NASA SBIR with Masten and several industry developments
- Internal development at MSFC ongoing
- For various build parameters, how do porosity and permeability change
- Pressure drop vs. mass flow rate data
- Structural properties unknown



Traditional Rigimesh for faceplate cooling



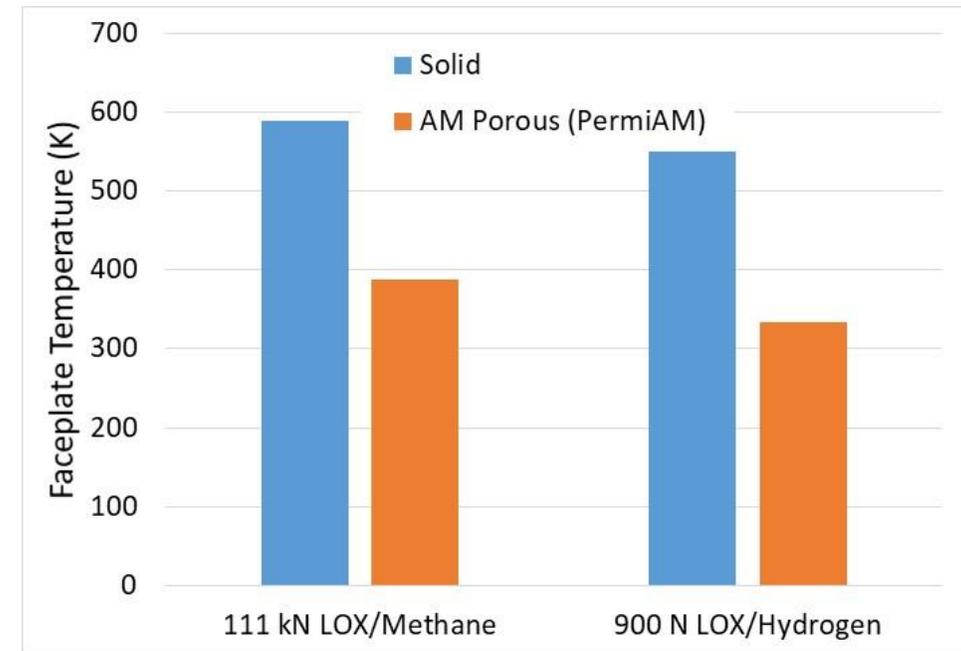
Porous flow sample pucks with solid outer ring for sealing



# Application Case Study – Transpiration Cooling



- Creating intentional porosity to allow for transpiration cooling in high heat flux components.
- Replaces solid surfaces or Rigimesh structures with (localized) permeable AM as part of the build.



35-40% reduction in wall temperatures

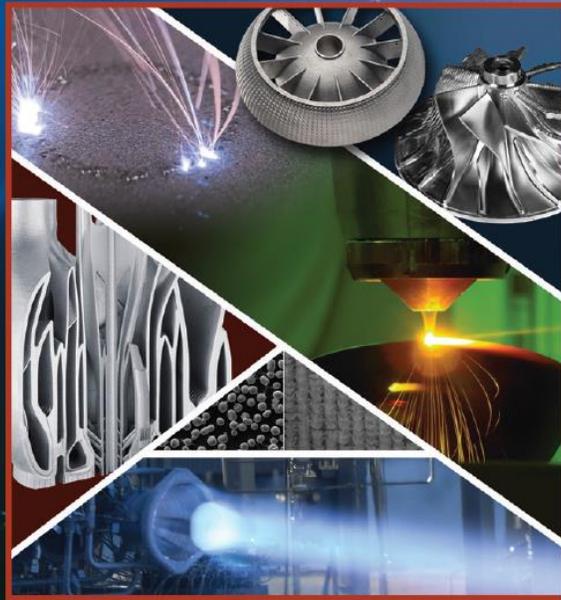


# NASA led book on Metal Additive Manufacturing



## Metal Additive Manufacturing for Propulsion Applications

Edited by  
Paul R. Gradl, Omar R. Mireles,  
Christopher S. Protz, and Chance P. Garcia



PROGRESS IN ASTRONAUTICS AND AERONAUTICS

Timothy C. Liewen, Editor-in-Chief  
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P. R. Gradl, O. Mireles, C.S. Protz, C. Garcia. (2022). *Metal Additive Manufacturing for Propulsion Applications*. AIAA Progress in Astronautics and Aeronautics Book Series.

<https://arc.aiaa.org/doi/book/10.2514/4.106279>

Additive manufacturing (AM) processes are proving to be a disruptive technology and are grabbing the attention of the propulsion industry. AM-related advancements in new industries, supply chains, design opportunities, and novel materials are increasing at a rapid pace. The goal of this text is to provide an overview of the practical concept-to-utilization lifecycle in AM for propulsion applications.



## Some key takeaways for metal AM...



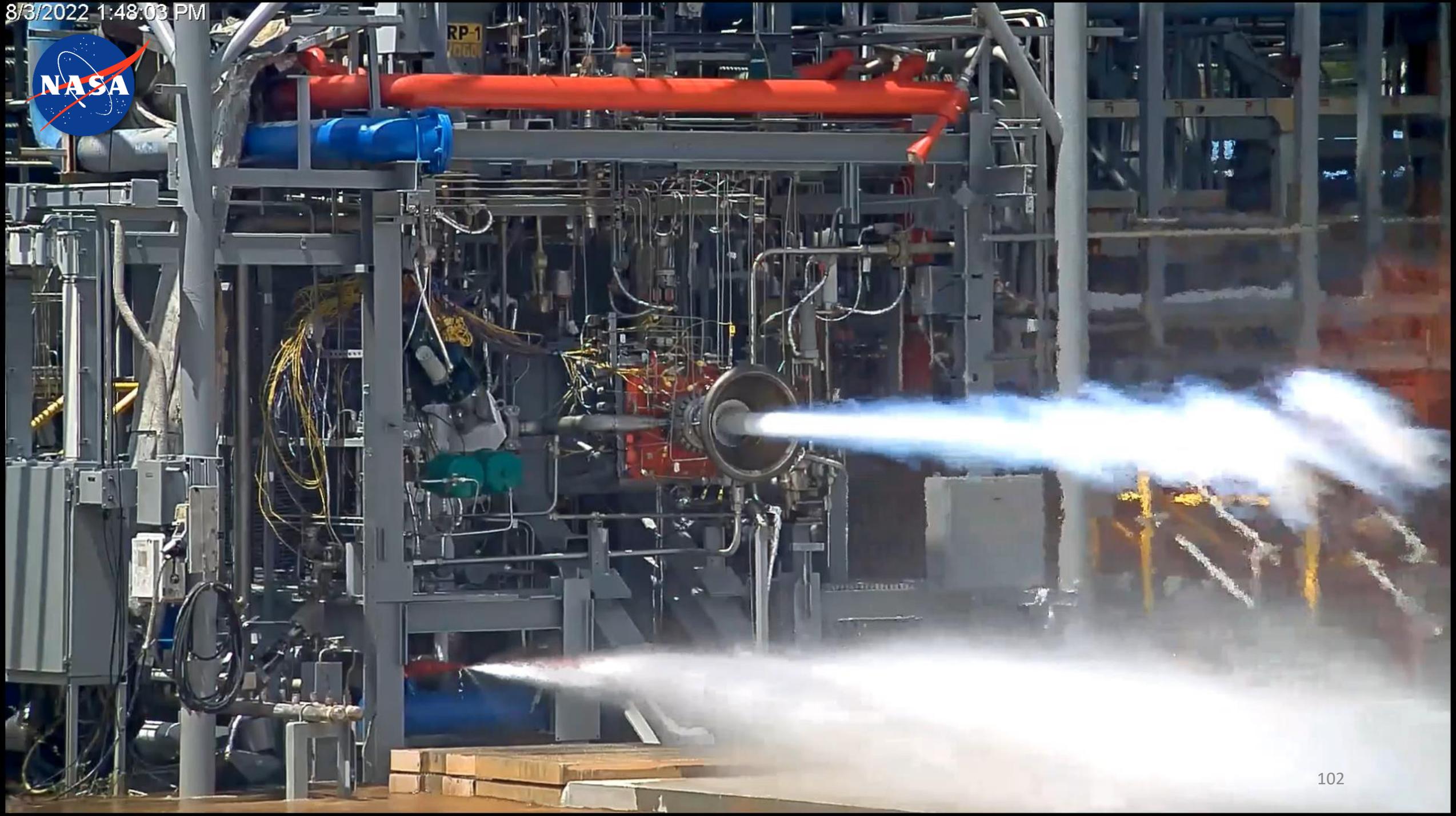
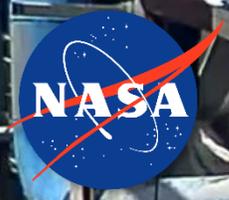
- The design and build process will be iterative.
- AM materials are different from wrought.
  - Process => microstructure => property => performance
  - Anisotropy exists and need to include in design allowables.
- Traceable and high-quality feedstock is essential for good builds.
- Post-processing is essential for proper integration into a system.
- Design with all process steps in mind – post-processing is not an after thought and you must design for up front.
  - Remove powder and verify before any heat treatments or immersing the part (ie. EDM or band saw for build plate removal).
  - Heat treatment is now your responsibility (not the mill).
  - Complexity is the inverse of inspectability.



## Some key takeaways for metal AM...



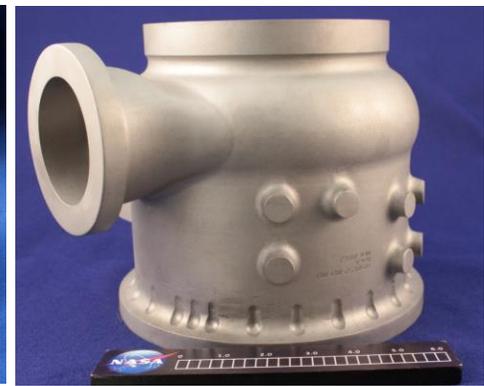
- The best DfAM designs eliminate supports, however this is not always possible so explore options and not just computer generated.
- Witness specimens are integral to your part quality and should be designed and specified in your build.
- Ensure proper datum placement for down stream processing.
- AM surface texture is both a detriment and opportunity.
- Qualification is integral to the entire process and upfront planning can save significant effort when implementing.

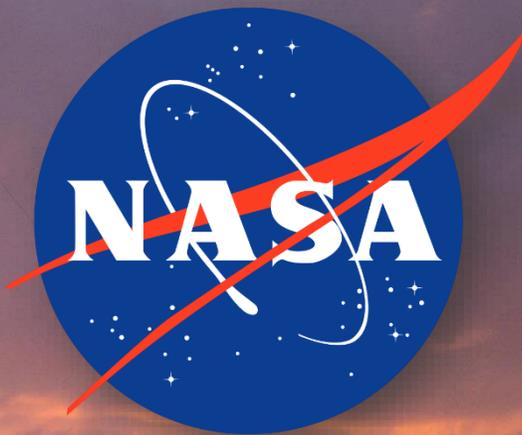




# Summary

- Various AM processes have matured for aerospace applications each with unique advantages and disadvantages.
- AM is not a solve-all; consider trading with other manufacturing technologies and use only when it makes sense.
- **Complete understanding of the design process, build-process, feedstock, and post-processing is critical to take full advantage of AM.**
- Additive manufacturing takes practice!
- AM is evolving and imagination is the limit.





Contact:

Paul Gradl

NASA MSFC

[Paul.R.Gradl@nasa.gov](mailto:Paul.R.Gradl@nasa.gov)



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# Acknowledgements



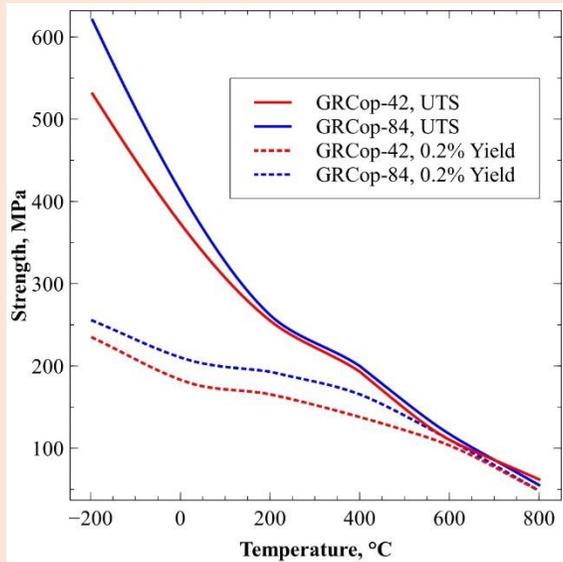
- John Fikes
- Rapid Analysis and Manufacturing Propulsion Technology (RAMPT) Project
- Optimized and Repeatable Components using Additive (ORCA)
- Long Life Additive Manufacturing Assembly (LLAMA) Project
- Space Launch System (SLS) Program
- Nima Shamsaei
- Drew Hope
- Martin Annett
- Lynn Machamer
- RPM Innovations (RPMI)
- Tyler Blumenthal
- DM3D
- GE Research
- Bhaskar Dutta
- REM Surface Engineering
- Powder Alloy Corp
- AP&C
- Formalloy
- Auburn University (NCAME)
- Ben Williams
- Marissa Garcia
- Tim Smith / GRC
- Christopher Kantzos / GRC
- Tal Wammen
- Tom Teasley
- Scott Chartier
- Test Stand 115 crew
- Kevin Baker
- Matt Medders
- Adam Willis
- Nunley Strong
- Zach Taylor
- Matt Marsh
- Darren Tinker
- Dwight Goodman
- Will Brandsmeier
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- Product Evaluation Systems
- IMR Test Labs
- Robert Amaro / AMTT
- Ron Beshears
- James Walker
- Steve Wofford
- Johnny Heflin
- Mike Shadoan
- Keegan Jackson
- Many others in Industry, commercial space and academia



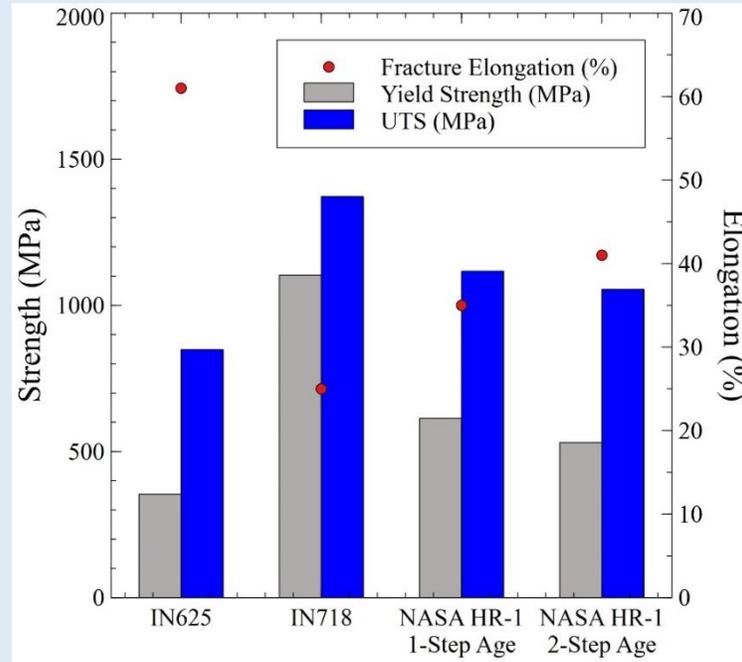
# AM Enabling New Alloy Development



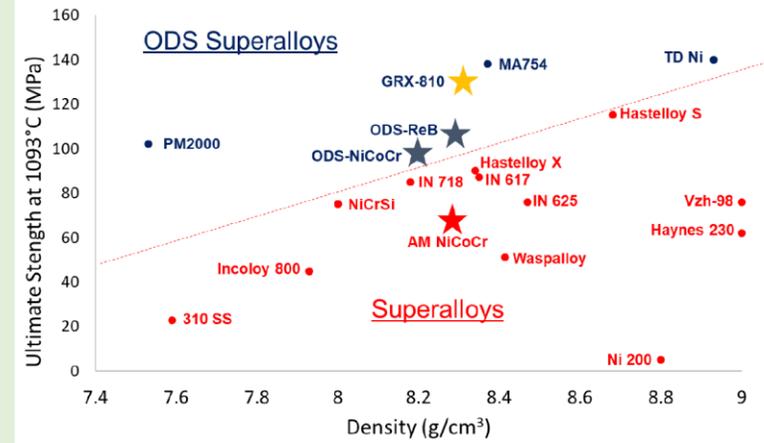
**GRCop-42**, High conductivity and strength for high heat flux applications



**NASA HR-1**, high strength superalloy for hydrogen environments



**GRX-810**, high strength, low creep rupture and oxidation at extreme temperatures



Ref: Tim Smith, Christopher Kantzos / NASA GRC107