

# Additive Manufacturing of Aerospace Propulsion Components

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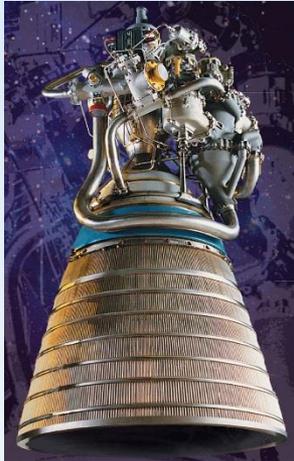
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Presented at Additive Manufacturing Conference, Pittsburgh, PA, October 1, 2015



# Aerospace Propulsion Systems of Interest



- Reduced complexity
- Faster cycle time
- Complex design features



Aircraft Gas Turbine Engine

Large Rocket Propulsion

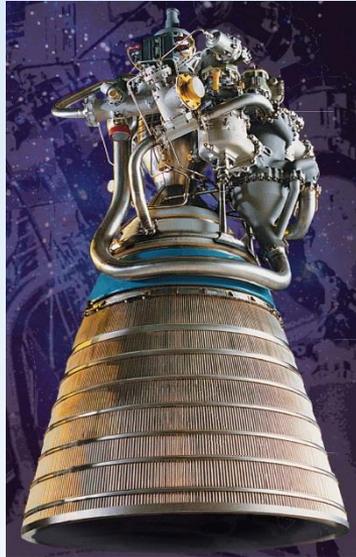


Hybrid Electric Propulsion for Aircraft



Small Propulsion for Cubesat

# Additive Manufacturing of Titanium Alloys



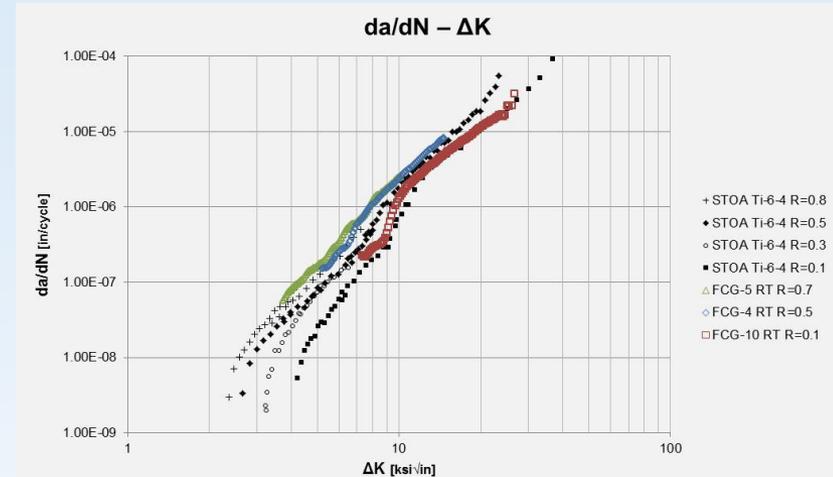
RL-10 Engine



Electron Beam Melted Gimbal Cone at ORNL (Ti-6Al-4V)

Need:

Characterization and modeling of powder/process/microstructure interrelationship



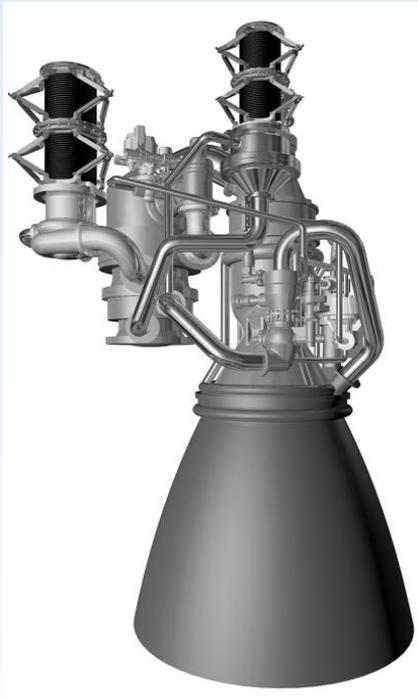
Detailed Material Characterization at GRC for Component Design

- Tensile, LCF, HCF, Fatigue crack growth, fracture toughness from cryogenic to 300 °F temperatures

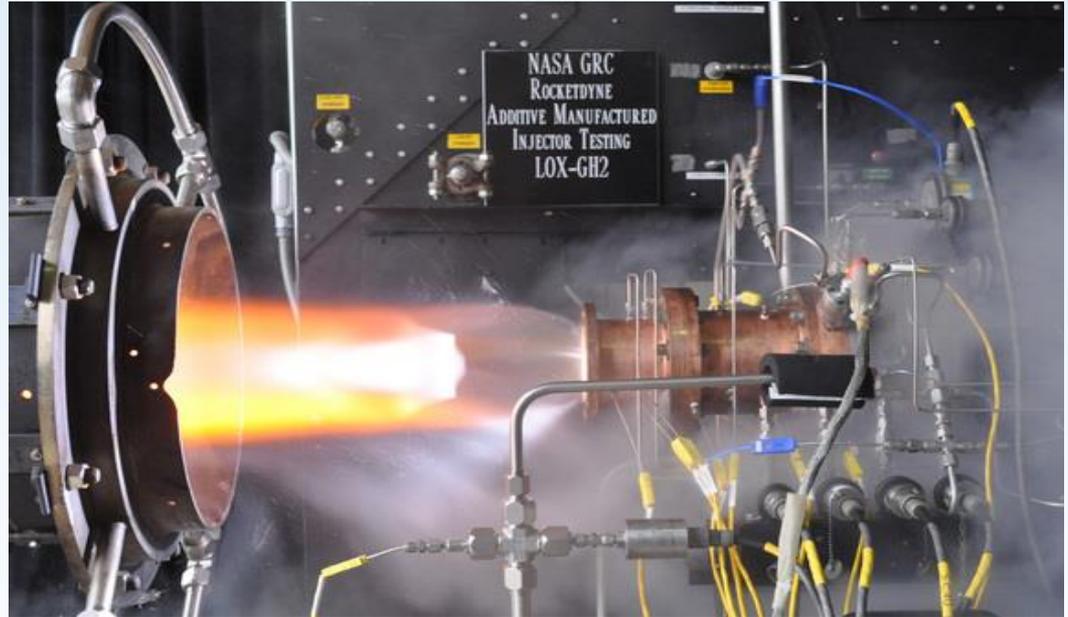
NASA-Air Force – Aerojet  
Rocketdyne Collaborative Effort

# Successful Testing of Additive Manufactured Rocket Engine Injectors

Aerojet AR-1 Rocket Engine



Additively manufactured (selective laser melting) injector successfully tested at NASA GRC Rocket Combustion Lab



NASA-Air Force-Aerojet  
Collaborative Effort

- Reduction of fabrication time from 1 yr to 4 months
- 70 % less cost

# Development of Additive Manufacturing of Rocket Engine Components at NASA MSFC



Rocket Engine for Space Launch System

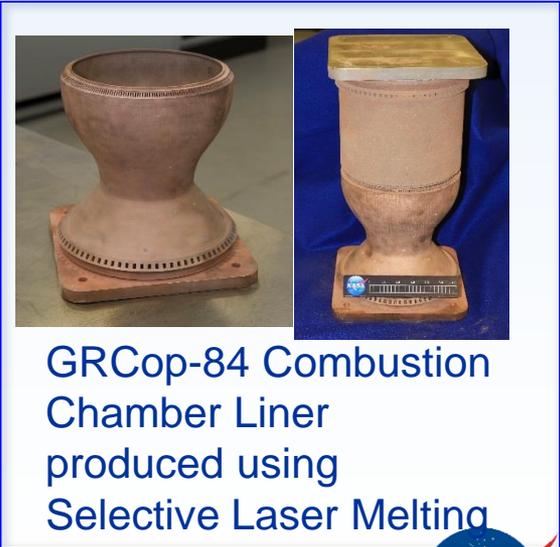
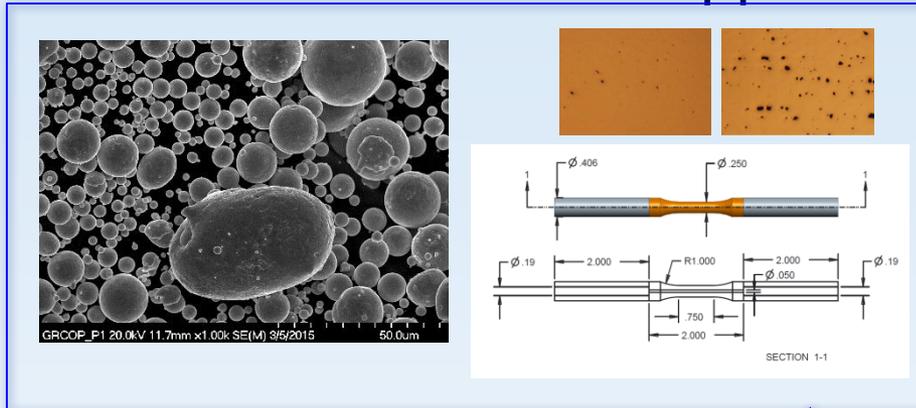


Successful testing of 3-D printed (selective laser melting) rocket engine injector (largest 3-D printed injector) for Space Launch System



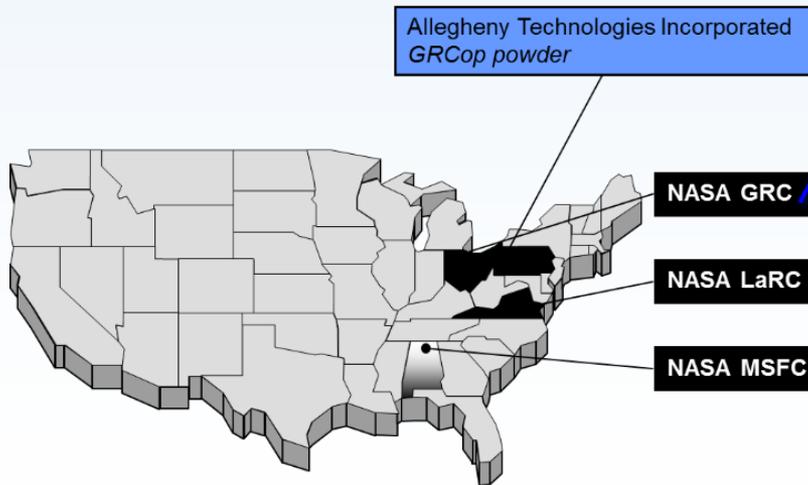
Additive Manufacturing of 3-D Printed Rocket Engine Turbopump (45% fewer parts)

# Additive Manufacturing of Rocket Engine Combustion Chamber for Low Cost Upper Stage Propulsion



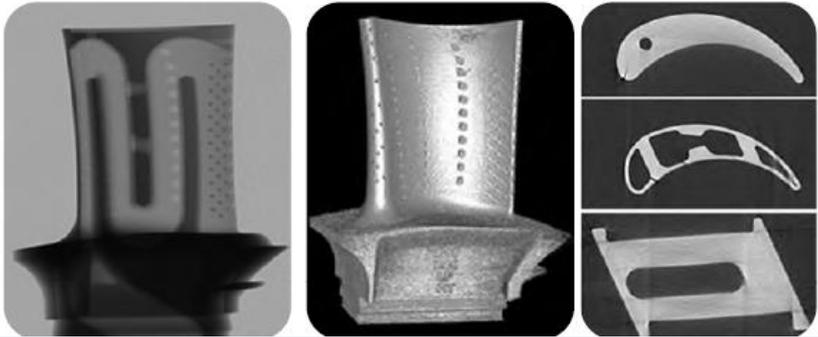
## Benefits:

- Reduced cost and schedule to fabricate, also enables design features not conventionally possible.



# Additive Manufacturing of Gas Turbine Engine Components

## 3-D Printing of Cooled Turbine Engine Blades at ORNL



## 3-D Printing of Small Gas Turbine Engine by GE



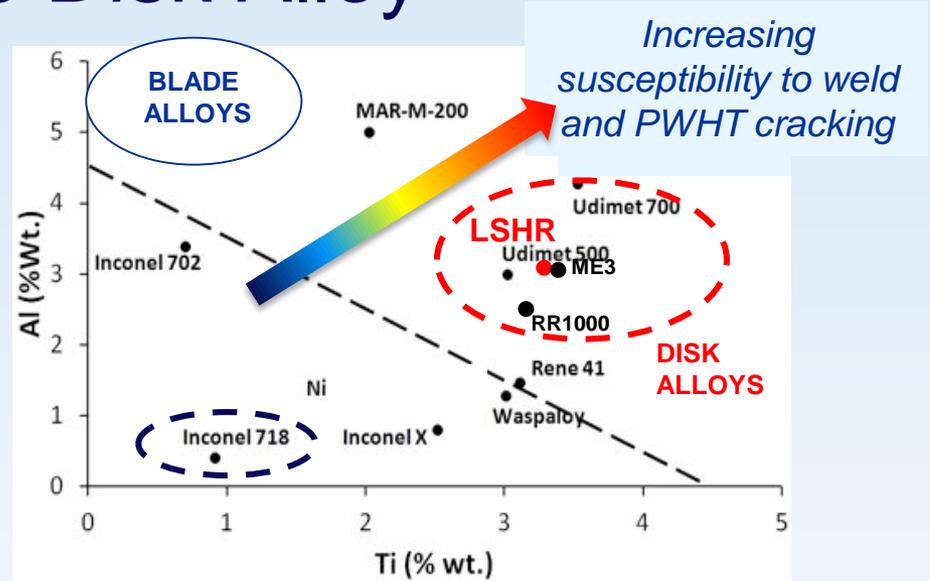
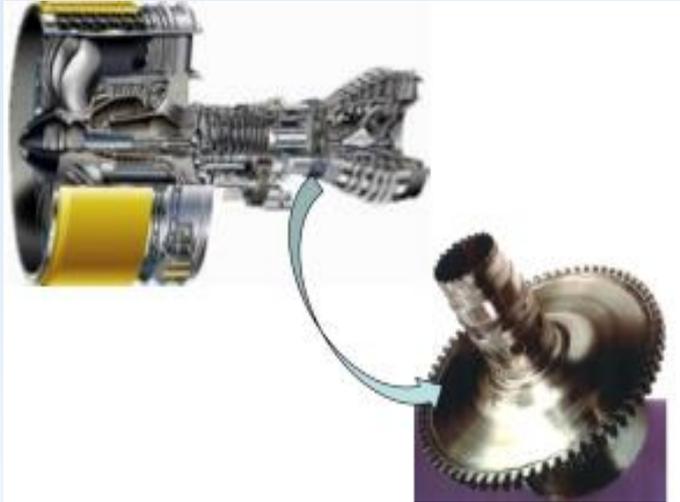
## 3-D Printing of Small Gas Turbine Engine by Researchers in Australia



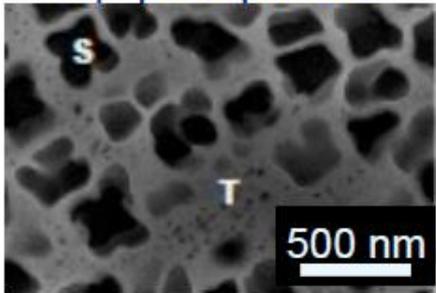
## 3-D Printing of Low Pressure Turbine Titanium Aluminide Blade (GE)



# Additive Manufacturing of Gas Turbine Engine Disk Alloy



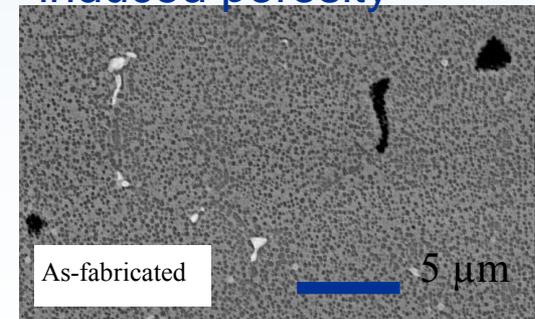
Alloys with >10 elements  
 $\gamma'$ -precipitates



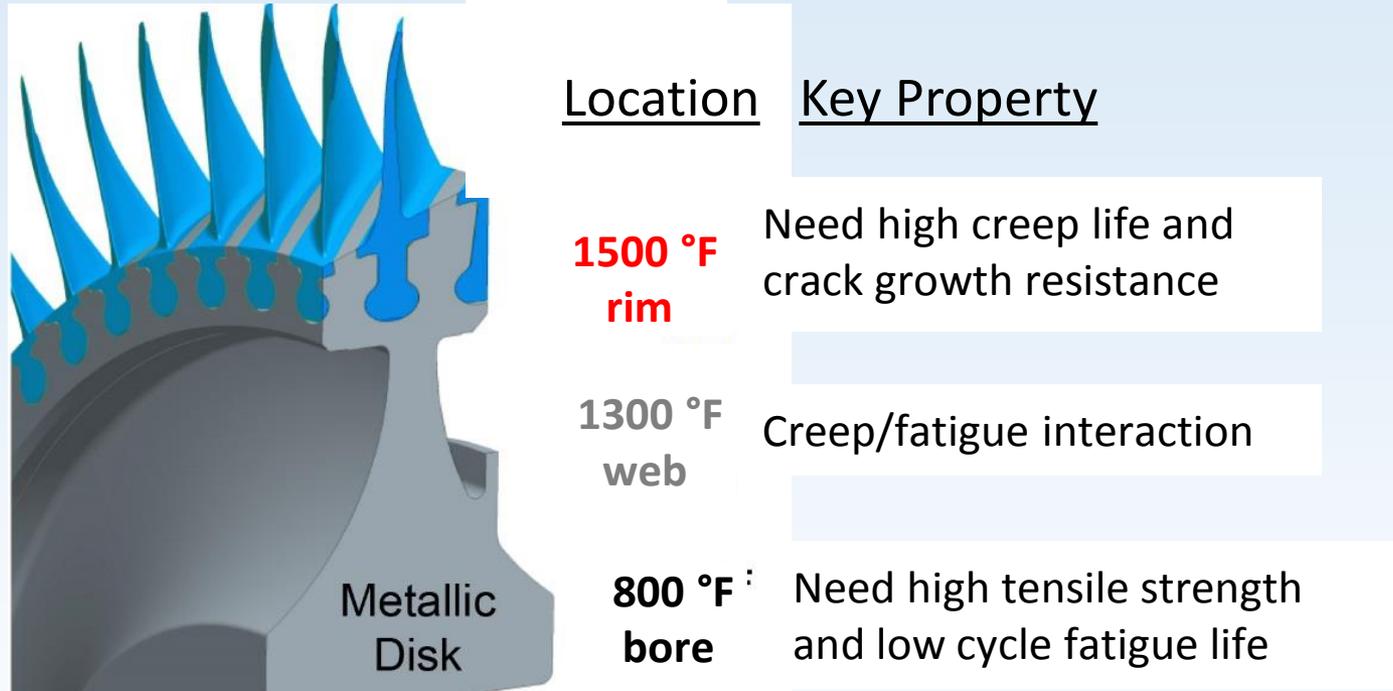
Current Effort: Electron-beam melting

- Heated powder-bed for reduced residual stresses and slower cooling rates
- Multiple beam for faster builds
- Vacuum for lower risk of contamination

Challenge – Process induced porosity



# Advanced Turbine Engine Disk Alloys – Opportunities for Additive Manufacturing



Need additional manufacturing process to achieve:

- Location specific properties
- Bonding of multiple materials – Multimaterial capability

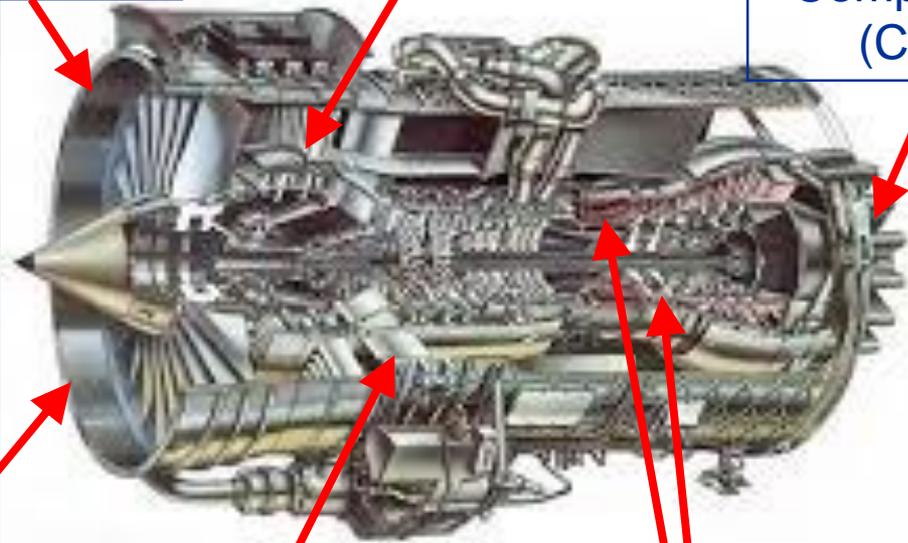
# Additive Manufacturing of Non-Metallic Gas Turbine Engine Components

Fan duct  
(polymer)

Compressor  
vanes (PMC)

Exhaust  
Components  
(CMC)

Business Jet size turbofan engine



Engine access  
panel and  
acoustic liner  
(polymer)

Fan bypass  
Stator  
(PMC)

Turbine shroud  
& nozzles (CMC)

# Additive Manufacturing of Polymer and Polymer Matrix Composites (PMCs)

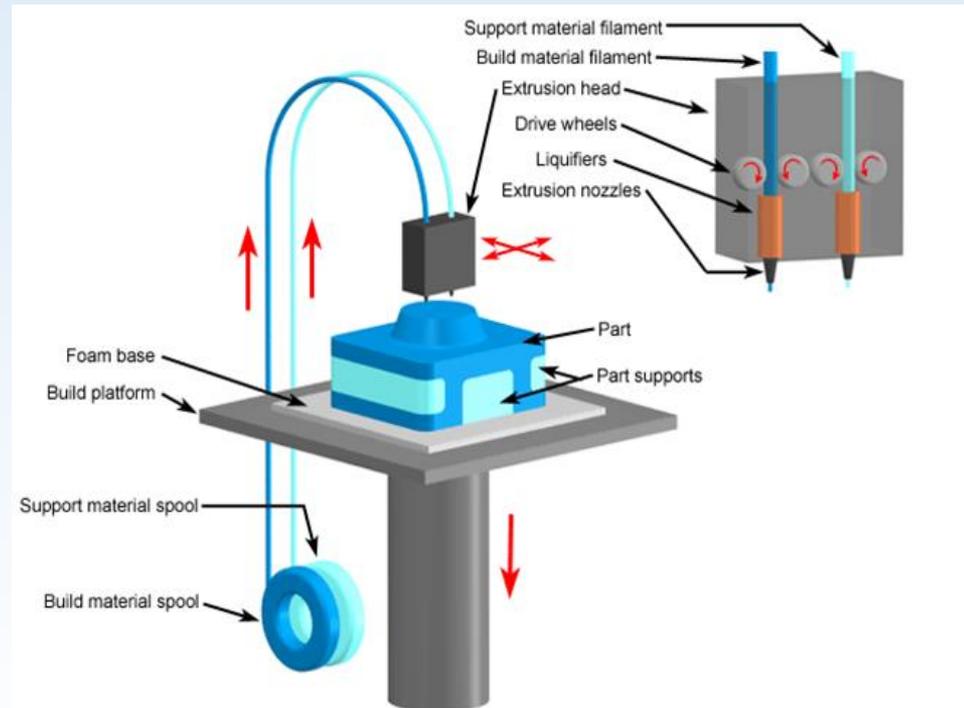
*Melts polymer filament and deposits it layer-by-layer following CAD files*

Fabrication of high temperature PMC was enabled by:

- Chopped-fiber reinforcement
- Moisture reduction in FDM filament
- Versatile printing pattern design

Benefits:

- Quick turn around time for complex parts
- Shorter component production and testing cycle
- Reduced cost of low production volume components

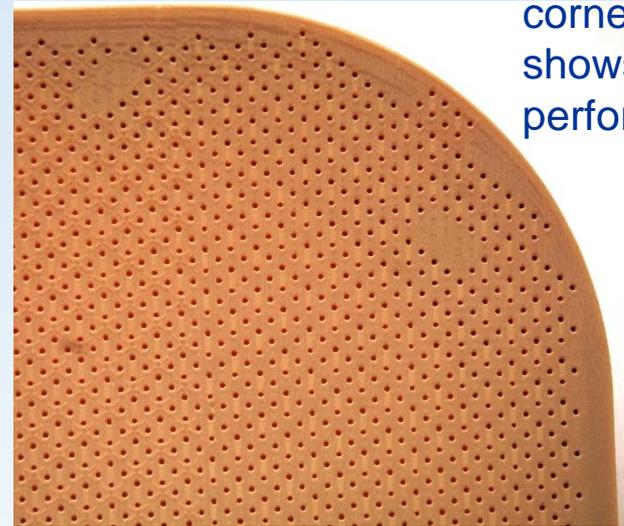
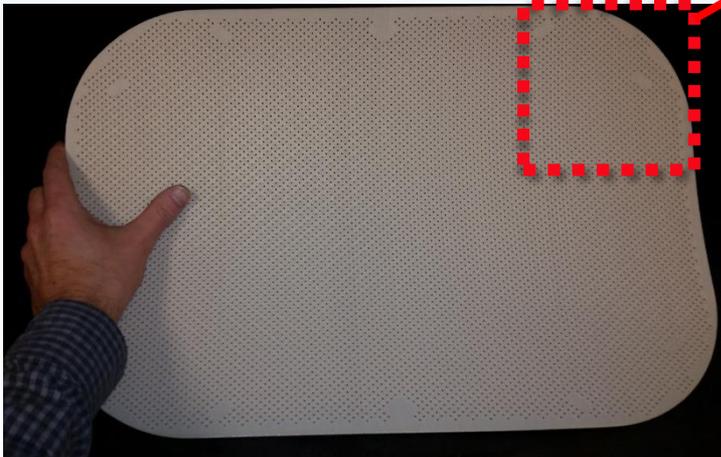


# Fabrication of full-scale engine access panel demonstrated

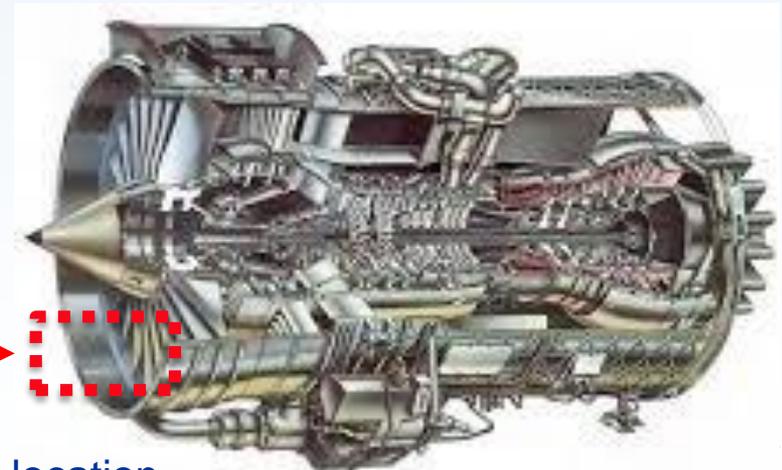


19"

inner surface incorporates acoustic treatment

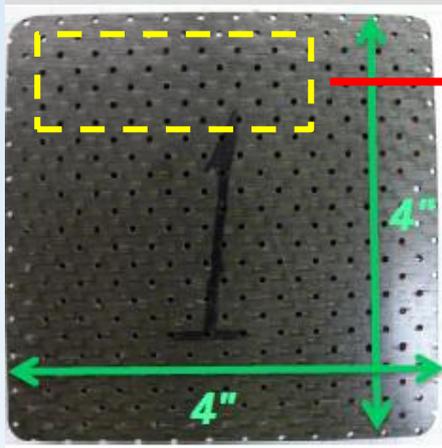


corner detail shows acoustic perforations



panel location

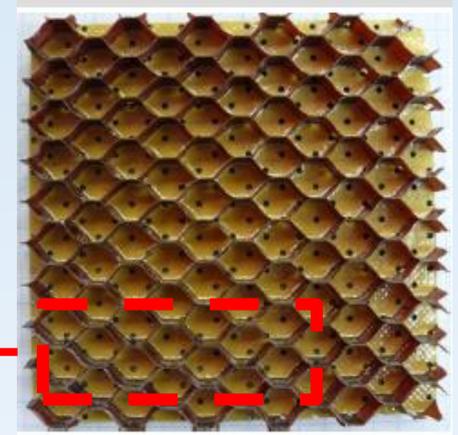
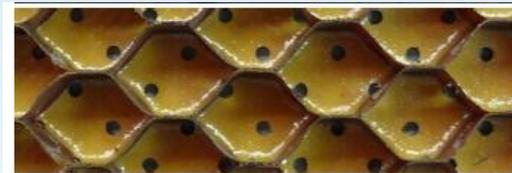
# Fused Deposition Modeling Simplifies Acoustic Liner Fabrication



Perforated Facesheet

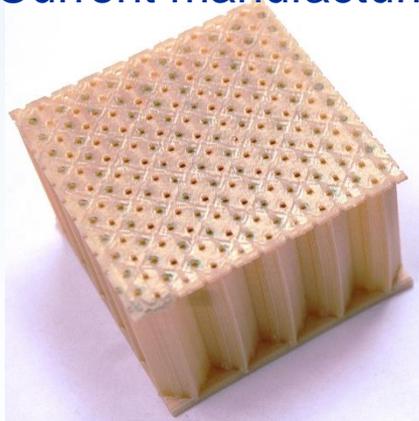


Bonded Structure



Honeycomb

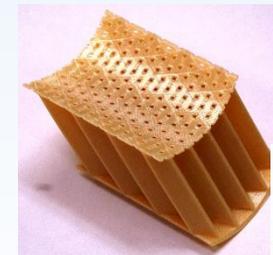
Current manufacturing approach requires metal forming, bonding and drilling



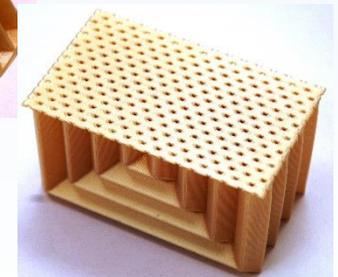
standard liner configuration

integral facesheet/honeycomb structure is fabricated in one step using Fused Deposition Modeling

200°F operating temperature

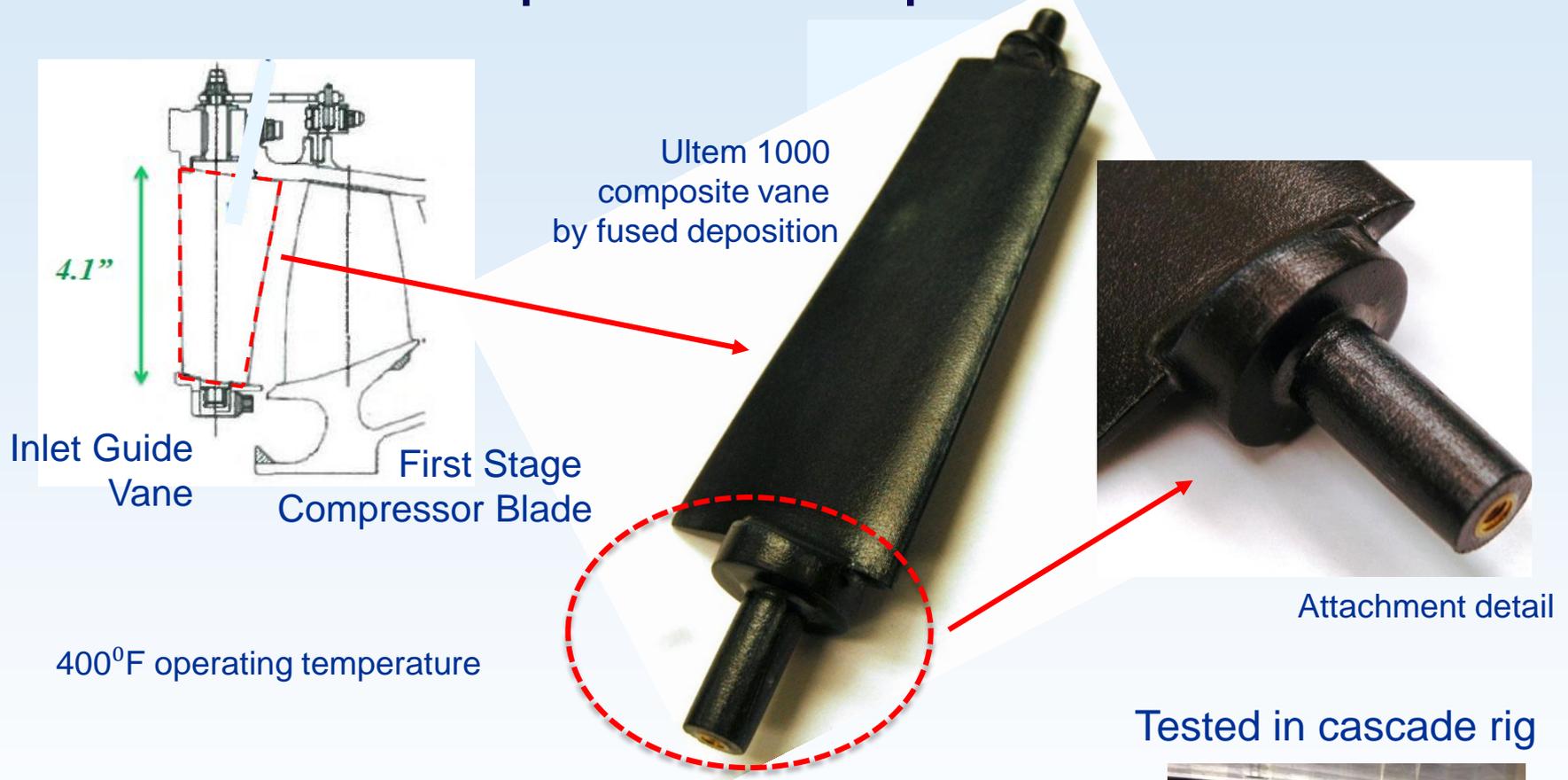


complex geometries



Fabricated with monolithic Ultem 9085 thermoplastic ( $T_g = 367^\circ\text{F}$ )

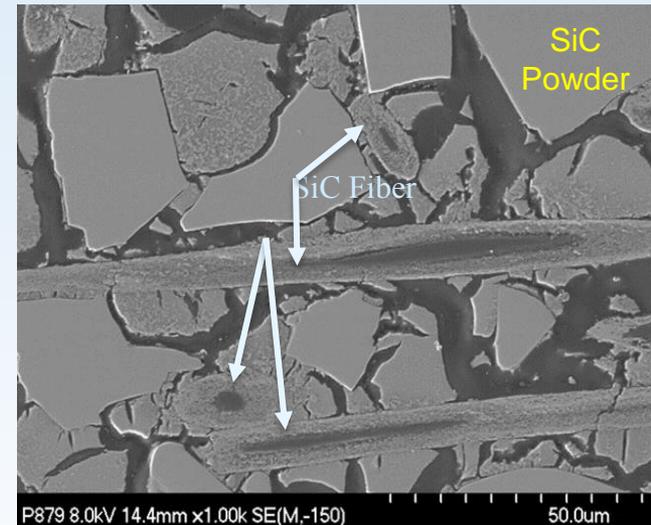
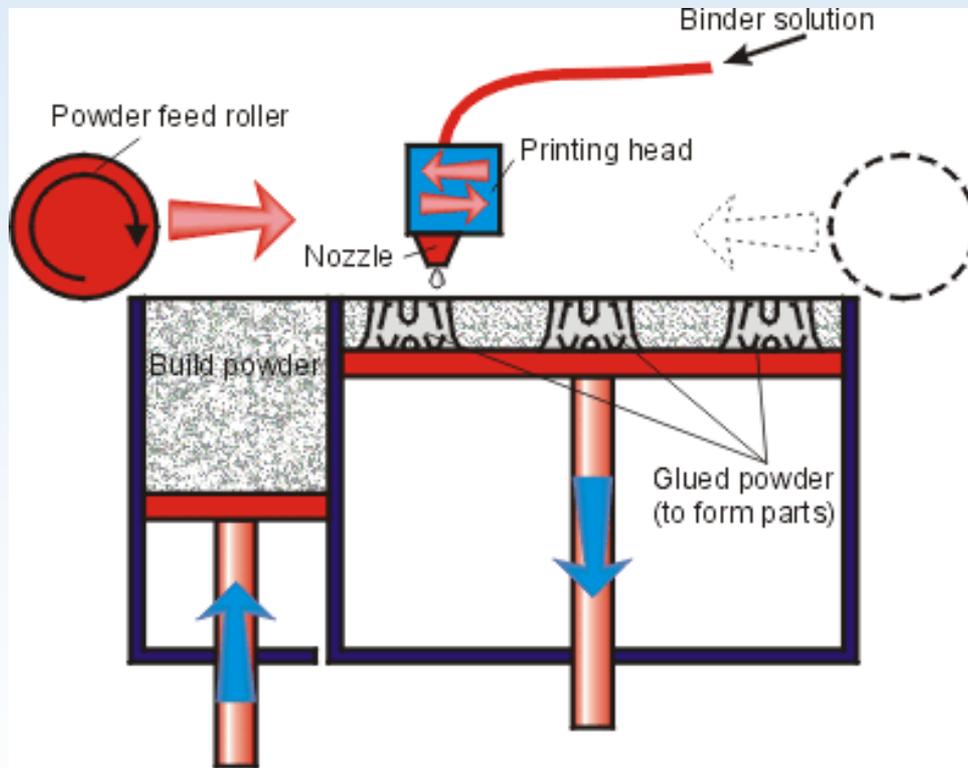
# Additive Manufacturing of Polymer Matrix Composite Components



- Utem 1000 ( $T_g = 423^{\circ}\text{F}$ ) with chopped carbon fiber
- First Polyetherimide composite fabricated

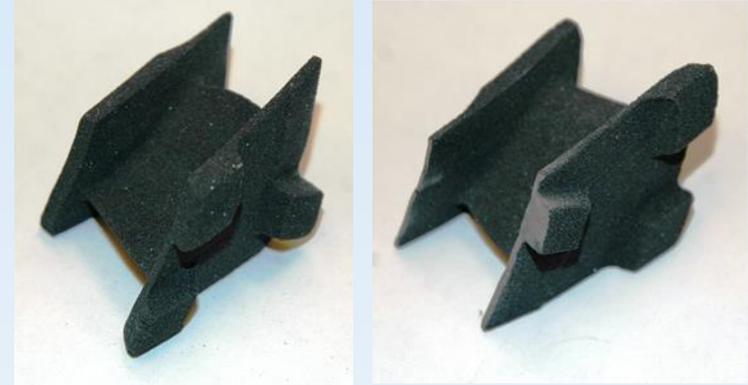


# Additive Manufacturing of Ceramic Matrix Composite (CMC)



Binder jet printing allows for powder bed processing with *tailored binders* and *chopped fiber reinforcements* for fabricating advanced ceramics

# Additive Manufacturing of Ceramic Matrix Composites



first stage nozzle segments

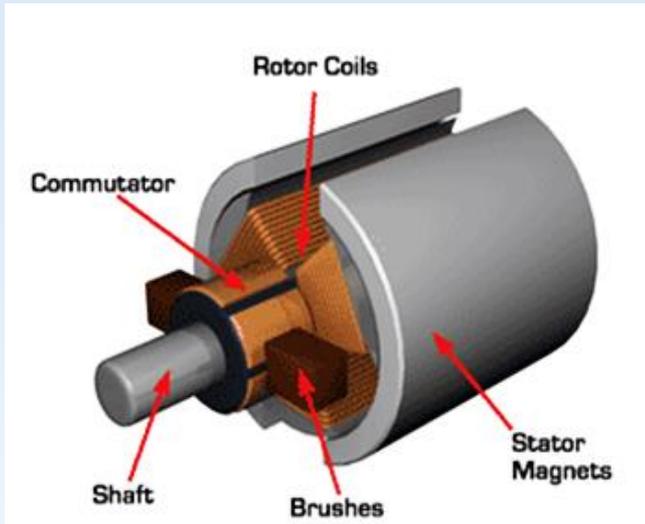


cooled doublet nozzle sections



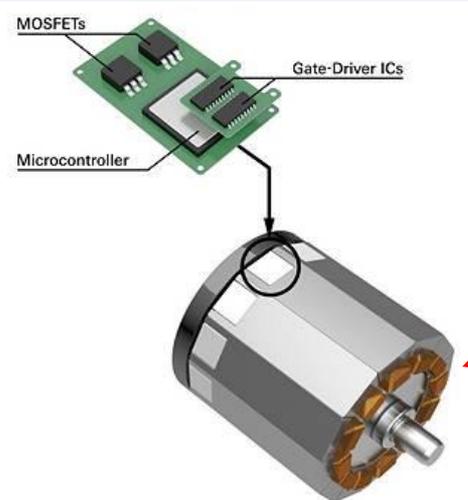


# Additive Manufacturing of Electric Motors



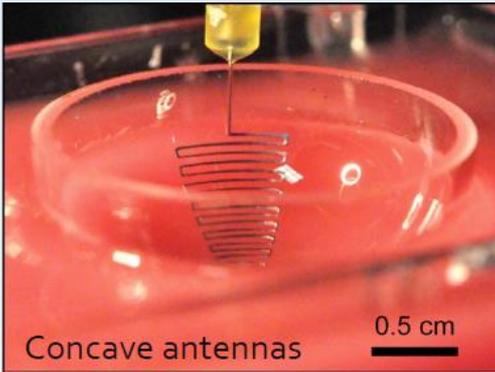
## Additively Manufactured Electric Motors for Higher Power Densities

- Better packing density for Cu coils
- Co-printing and firing of the three materials: insulator, conductor, and steel – need multimaterial printing capability
- Intricate cooling channels for thermal management
- New topology enabled by additive manufacturing
- Integration of power electronics in motor

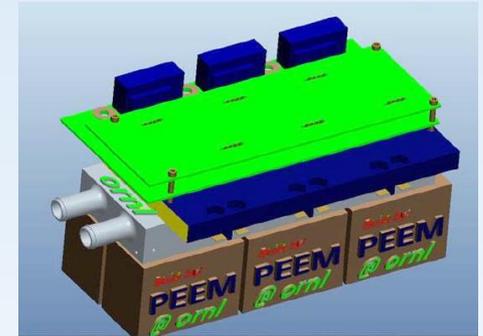


# Evolving 3-D Printing Technologies That Will Enable Additive Manufacturing of Electric Motor

3-D Printing of Electronic Circuitry



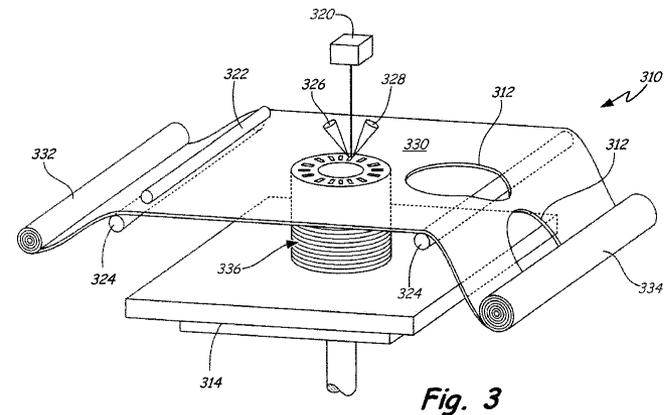
3-D Printing of SiC Power Electronics at ORNL



3-D Printing of Power Electronics Inductors (Stanford Univ.)



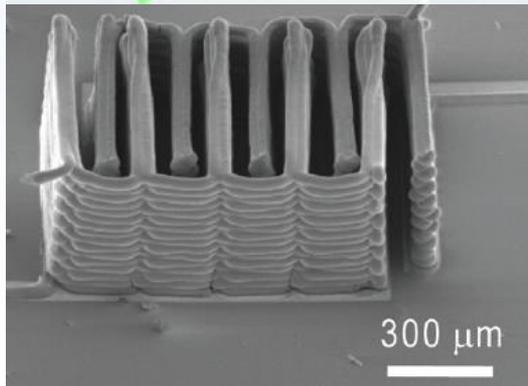
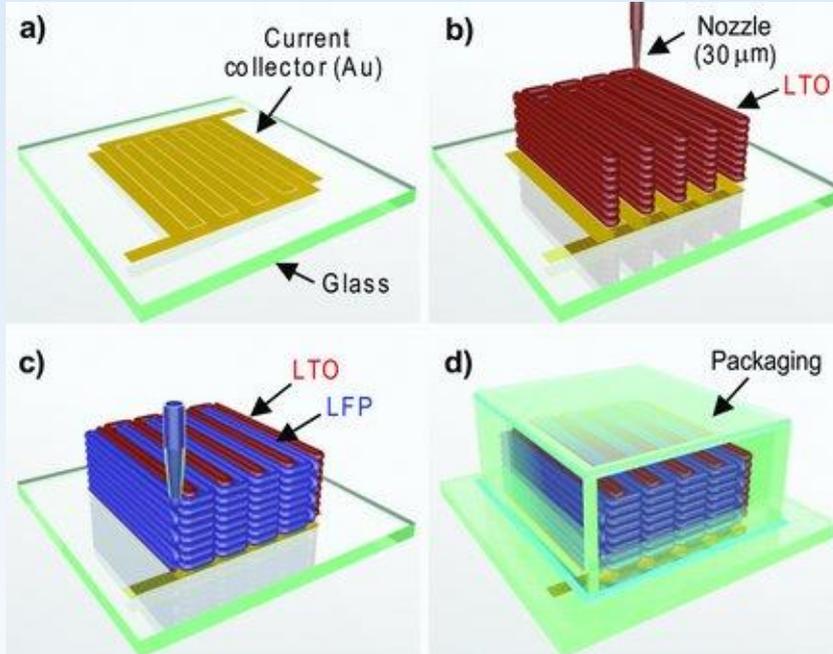
Boulder Wind Power using CORE (conductor optimized rotary energy) technology



US Patent 20140035423 A1 (2014)

# 3-D Printing of Batteries and Fuel Cells

## 3-D Printing of Li Ion Micro batteries



### Advanced Materials

*Volume 25, Issue 33*, pages  
4539-4543, 17 JUN 2013

DOI:

10.1002/adma.201301036

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/>

[doi/10.1002/adma.201301036](https://doi.org/10.1002/adma.201301036)

[6/full#fig1](#)

## 3-D Printing of Solid Oxide Fuel Cell



JOM

DOI: 10.1007/s11837-015-1296-9

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Northwestern University

# Opportunities and Challenges

- Extensive use of additive manufacturing of space propulsion components
- Need certification of additively manufactured components
- New high temperature alloy chemistries and powders suitable for additive manufacturing
- Location-specific properties enabled by additive manufacturing
- Additive manufacturing of multimaterial/multifunctional systems
- Additive manufacturing process for fabrication of continuous fiber reinforced composites
- Modeling processing-microstructure-property relationship for additive manufactured components