

Opportunities in additive manufacturing for advanced nuclear energy systems

AMM Technical Review Meeting

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ORNL is managed by UT-Battelle, LLC for the US Department of Energy



TCR is bringing to bear additive manufacturing (AM) and artificial intelligence (AI) to deliver a new approach



Leveraging AM to arrive at highperformance materials in complex geometries

Exploiting AM to incorporate integrated and distributed sensing in critical locations Using AI to assess critical component quality using in situ manufacturing signatures









tcr.ornl.gov



Myriad additive manufacturing methods span a vast dimensional scale across a range of material systems

Powder bed techniques

- Metal or ceramic powder or slurry sequentially spread and fused in 2D layers
- Fusion achieved via melting (e.g. laser or e-beam source) or binding (via binder jet or lithography)
- Ability to accommodate most complex geometry with best spatial resolution
- Limited to a single material system
- Build volumes usually < 0.05 m³ with some extending up to 0.3 m³

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Direct deposition techniques

- Metal powder or wire or ceramic slurry directly deposited as continuous point on substrate
- Deposition via melting (e.g. laser or arc welding), drying, or curing
- Complex tool path design is needed, and less geometric complexity is accommodated
- Flexibility to accommodate multiple material systems
- Build volumes usually < 0.5 m³ with some extending up to 7 m³



Example of powder bed system: 3D printing of stainless steel via laser powder bed fusion technique

Layer 0 (0.000 mm): No Issues







L. Scime, V. Paquit (ORNL)

Example of large direct deposition system: Medusa wire arc additive



L. Love, M. Noaks, Y. Yamamoto, A. Nycz (ORNL)

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Using AI to assess critical component quality using in situ manufacturing signatures: Digital Platform for quality assurance



Augmented Intelligence for Advanced Manufacturing



7

CAK RIDGE Research Activities

Data management

Metadata search

	c	ionceptLaserM2-ORNL1	UPLOAD	EXPLORE	WAITING TO ANALYZE	STATS
Build(s):	ConceptLaserM2-ORNL1			S	Search	
Action	Name	Start Date	End Date	Status	Material	Setup Te
8	Framatom Arch	2020-02-04	2020-02-04	Successful	316L/Praxair/27	Alka Sir
ß	Airfoils & TCR Moderator Pieces	2020-02-07	2020-02-07	Successful	316L/Praxair/27	Alka Sir
B	Kairos Impeller	2020-02-12	2020-02-12	Successful	316L/Praxair/27	Alka Sir
8	MDF Framatome Fasteners 01	2020-02-26	2020-02-26	Successful	316L/Praxair/27	Alka Sir
8	Fastener Assembly	2020-02-06	2020-02-06	Successful	316L/Praxair/27	Alka Sir
6	Framatome Fastener Components	2020-02-14	2020-02-14	Successful	316L/Praxair/27	Alka Si
8	TCR Moderator Pieces	2020-02-03	2020-02-03	Successful	316L/Praxair/27	Alka Si
6	Framatom Middle Section	2020-02-05	2020-02-05	Successful	316L/Praxair/27	Alka Si
R	Inner Mask Mold Bottom Section	2020-04-08	2020-04-08	Successful	316L/Praxair/27	Alka Sir
ß	Theta impeller and TCR Endcaps	2020-03-12	2020-03-12	Successful	316L/Praxair/27	Alka Si
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Data viewer

8



In-situ quality control





Sensor development



CAK RIDGE Process Correlation Campaign

Standard Cluster

Location Specific Sample Extraction

Build 0.1 Layout



2,784 SS-J3 specimens

Data Correlation



Extensive neutron irradiation testing of additive and advanced manufactured materials was carried out to develop their irradiated properties database, facilitating their adoption



Key outcomes are documented to coordinate and guide industrial application and deployment of additive technologies for nuclear energy



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Application of Digital Platform for Certification of Additively Manufactured Components (in coordination with NRC)

Sep 2021

Additive manufacturing of salt pump impeller for Kairos Power

As ORNL builds novel reactor, nuclear industry benefits from technology



At the Department of Energy Manufacturing Demonstration Facility at ORNL, this part for a scaled-down prototype of a reactor was produced for industry partner Kairos Power. Credit: Kairos Power















Additive manufacturing of framatome fuel assembly components for Tennessee Valley Authority

Reconstruction of in situ manufacturing data





