



DEC 2 – 3, 2020

# All-Position Cladding by Friction Stir Additive Manufacturing (FSAM)

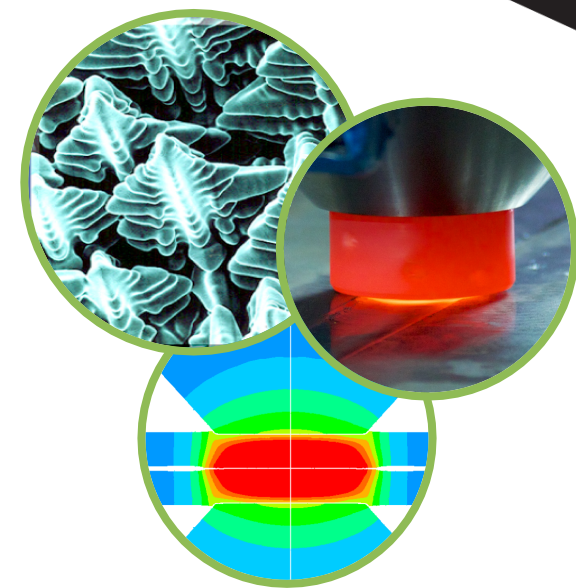
*Award Number: CA-16-TN-OR-0604-04*

*Award Dates: Oct 2016 to March 2021*

*PI: Zhili Feng (ORNL)*

*Team Members: ORNL: David Frederick, Xue Wang*

*EPRI: , David Gandy, Greg Frederick*





# Outline

- Project goal/objectives
- Background
- R&D plan
- Progress and status
- Next activities
- Summary

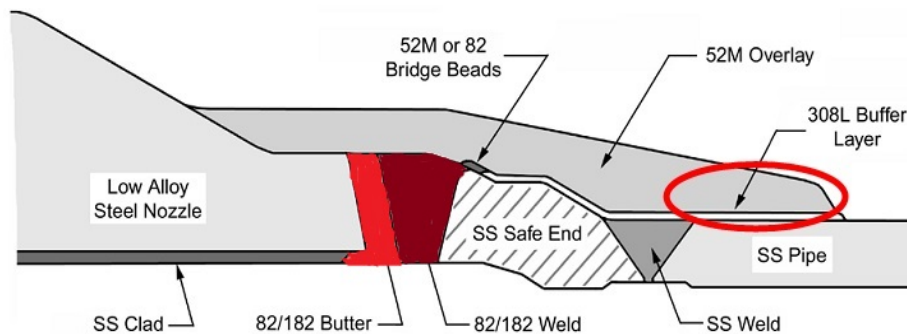


# Project Objectives and Goals

- To develop and demonstrate a novel solid-state friction stir additive manufacturing (FSAM) process for high productivity surface cladding
  - Improve erosion, corrosion and wear resistance,
  - >20% reduction in cost and improvement in productivity and quality.
- Focus on two targeted applications
  - Cladding of reactor internals
  - Fabrication of the transition layer of dissimilar metal welds
- Support on-site repair in addition to construction of new reactors
  - Cladding of corrosion resistance barrier for MSR
- Demonstrate feasibility of solid-state additive manufacturing of nuclear reactor structural materials with improved properties

# Background

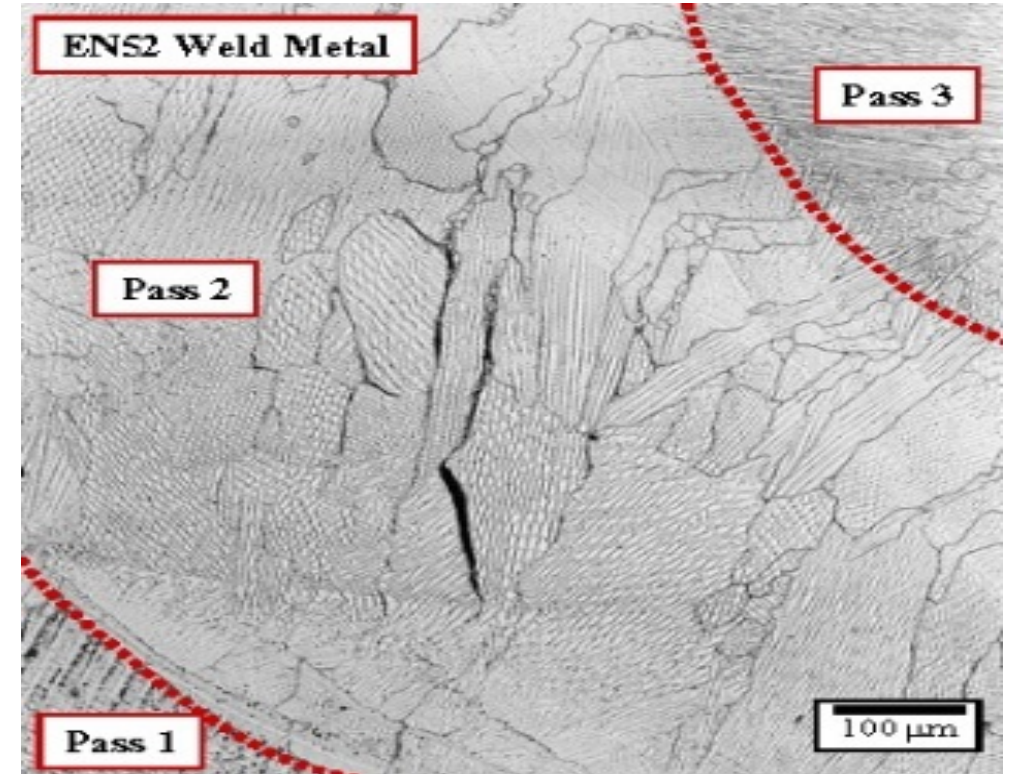
- Cladding and surface modifications are extensively used in fabrication of nuclear reactor systems. It essentially involves adding a layer of different material to component surface.
  - Cladding of reactor vessel internals to improve erosion, corrosion, and wear resistance
  - Build a buffer layer for dissimilar metal weld (hundreds of them)
- Fusion welding based processes, i.e. various arc welding processes, are typically used for cladding of today's reactors.



# Limitations of today's cladding process

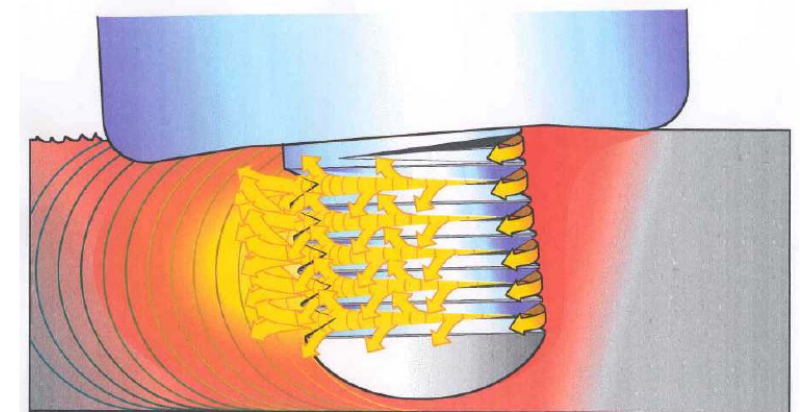
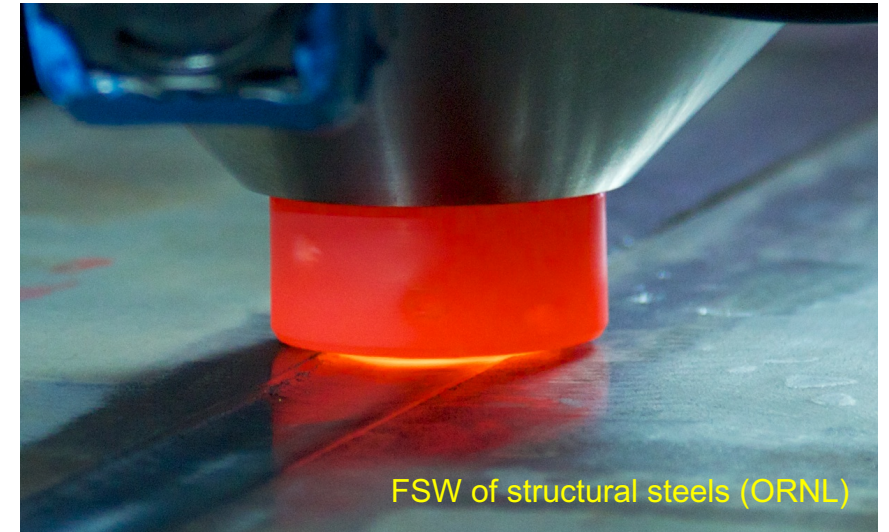
## Major barrier in adopting new cladding materials

- More SCC resistance alloys (Alloy 52 vs Alloy 82) in the DM weld for piping systems
- Alloy 52 is prone to ductility dip cracking associated with fusion welding processes



# Can we develop a solid-state friction stir welding based cladding/additive manufacturing process?

- Friction Stir Welding (FSW) is a novel solid-state joining process. A specially designed tool rotates and traverses along the joint line, creating frictional heating that softens a column of material underneath the tool. The softened material flows around the tool through extensive plastic deformation and is consolidated behind the tool to form a solid-state continuous joint.
- Metallurgically bond/weld materials together without melting and solidification
  - Inherently immune to defects related to fusion based joining processes

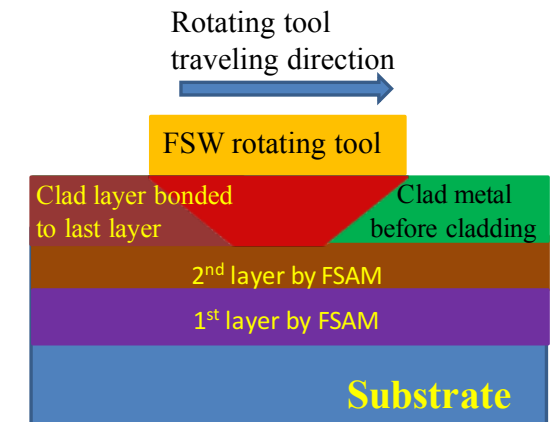
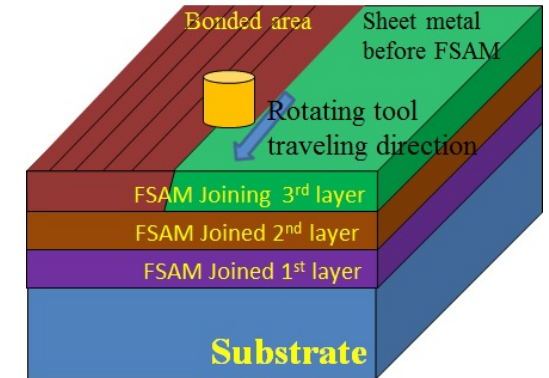


Sketch provided by TWI

Direction of Tool Travel →

# Friction Stir Additive Manufacturing (FSAM)

- FSAM is a novel extension of FSW
- Based on ORNL's multipass, multilayer FSW
- Patent pending process innovations practically eliminate tool failure and tool wear critical to FSAM of high-temperature materials
- The non-consumable tool approach has potential of much higher cladding rate and producing homogeneous microstructure and properties
- Solid-state process also addresses other key shortcomings of fusion welding based cladding process
  - Ease the metallurgical incompatibility constraints in use of new cladding materials
  - Minimize the microstructure and performance degradations of the high performance structural materials
  - Near zero dilution reduces the number of cladding layers for material/cost reduction and increase in productivity





# R&D Focuses on

- What is the process conditions to form solid-state bonding in FSAM?
  - Temperature measurement at the bonding interface
  - Robust modeling tool to determine the bonding condition to assist FSAM process development and optimization for given applications
- How can we effectively evaluate the bonding quality of large area cladding?
  - Essential to assist the process development
  - Ultrasonic C-scan non-destructive evaluation to provide macroscopic level quantitative evaluations (~1mm range)
  - Bending test and cross-sectioning to correlate ultrasonic NDE results with bonding quality
- Increasing cladding productivity
- Can we scale FSAM process up for large area cladding?
  - Process parameter/tool geometry design and improvement
  - Robust tool life
- Materials used
  - ASTM A516 pressure vessel structural steel
  - SS304, Alloy 600, Alloy 82/182, Alloy 800 as cladding materials

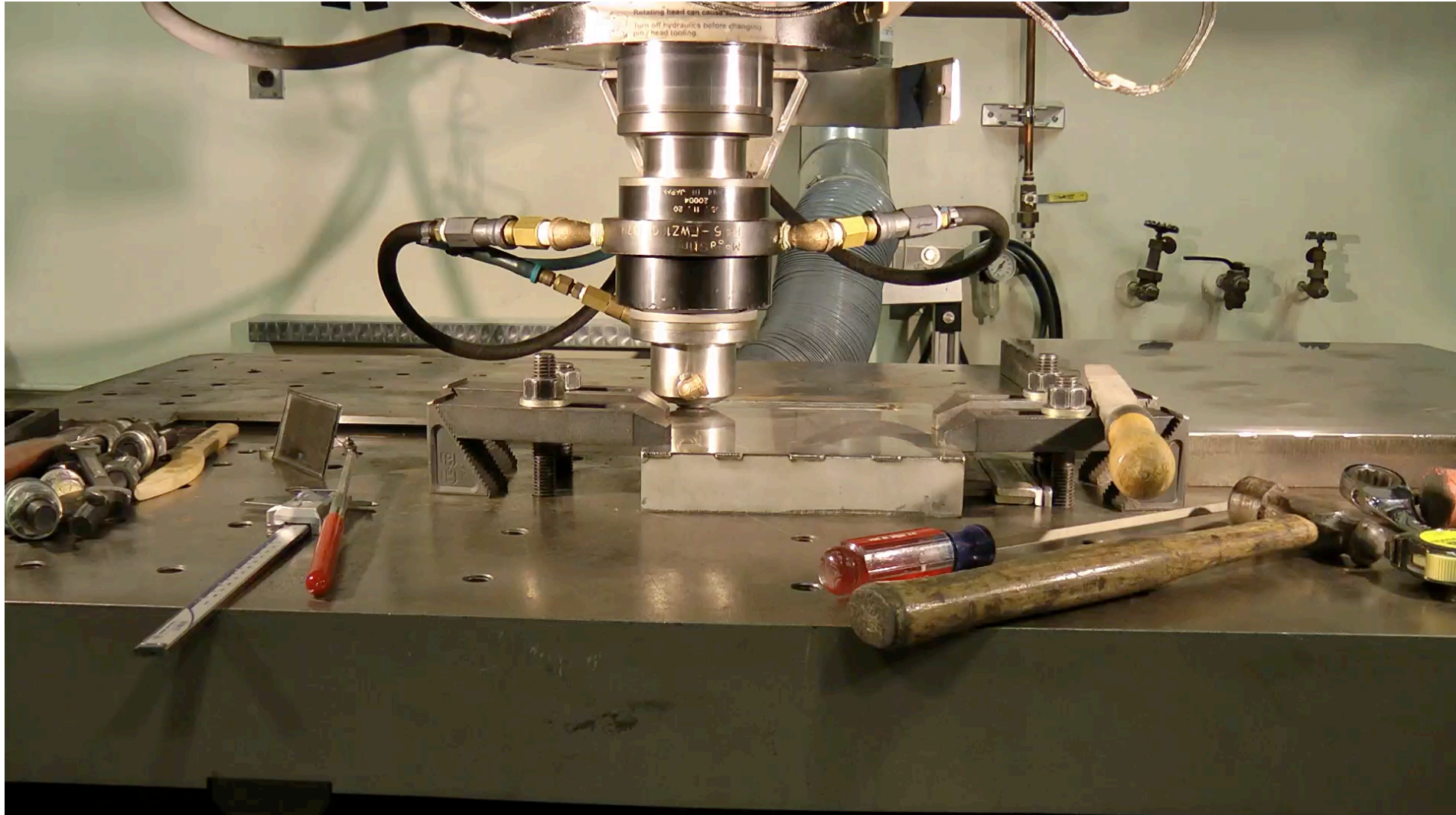




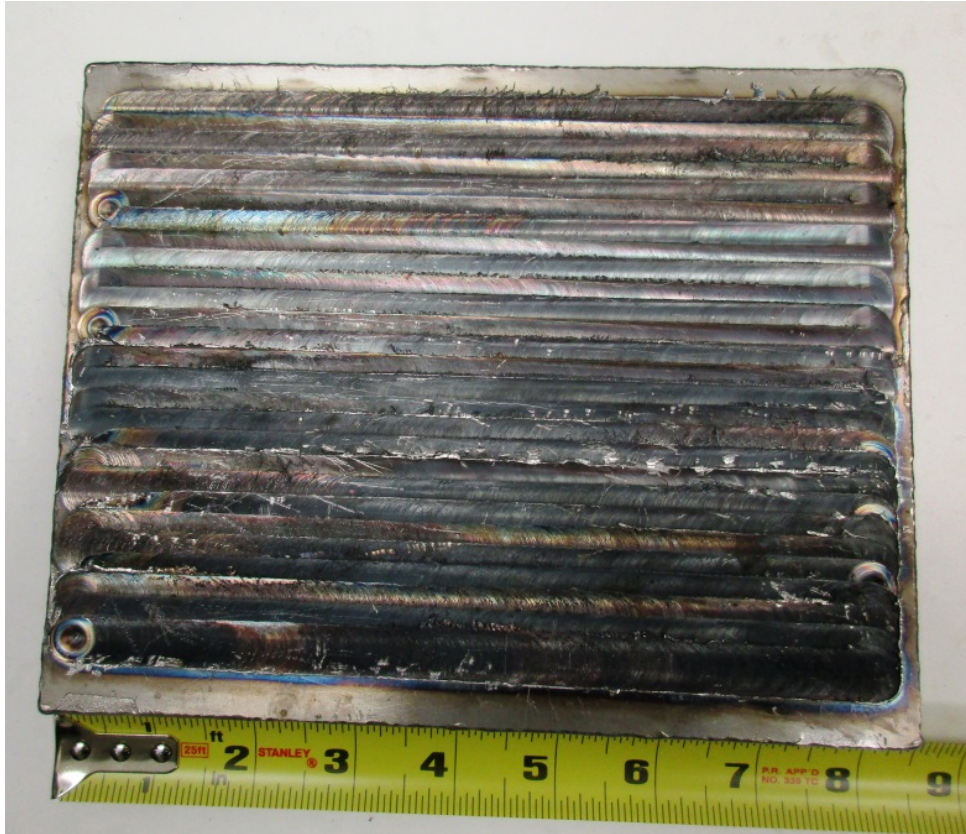
# Key Milestones

- Year 1
  - FSAM cladding of stainless steel and nickel-base alloy onto low alloy structural steel with multi-pass, multilayer on small sized coupons. **Completed**
  - FSAM cladding temperature measurement. **Completed**
  - Feasibility demo of FSAM cladding with larger cladding area. **Completed (rescoped to 12x12” clad area due to system modification and process optimization for productivity)**
- Year 2
  - Microstructure characterization of lab scale coupons. **Completed**
  - Develop NDT techniques for FSAM clad inspection. **Completed**
  - FSAM clad coupons mechanical properties testing. **Completed**
- Year 3
  - Complete FSAM cladding parameters optimization. **Completed**
  - Complete NDE on FSAM coupons. **Completed**
  - Complete refine processing parameters assisted with numerical modeling. **Completed**
  - Produce FSAM cladding on prototype mockup nuclear reactor components. **On schedule**

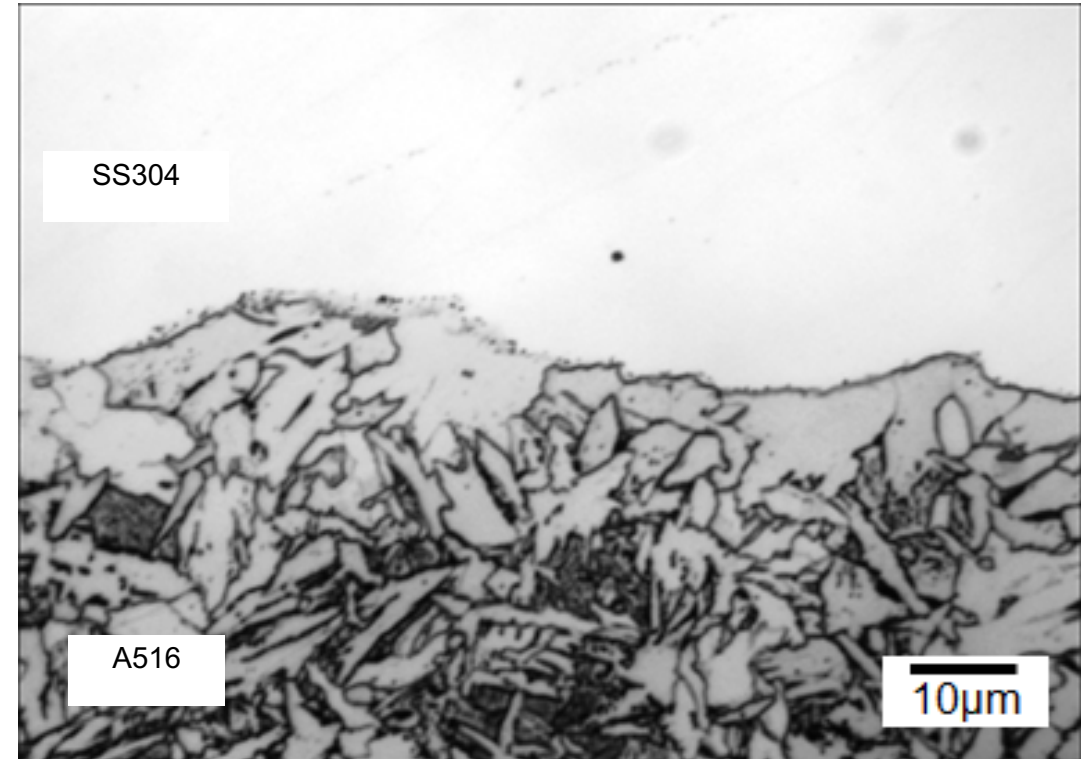
# FSAM Process



# Single Layer FSAM development

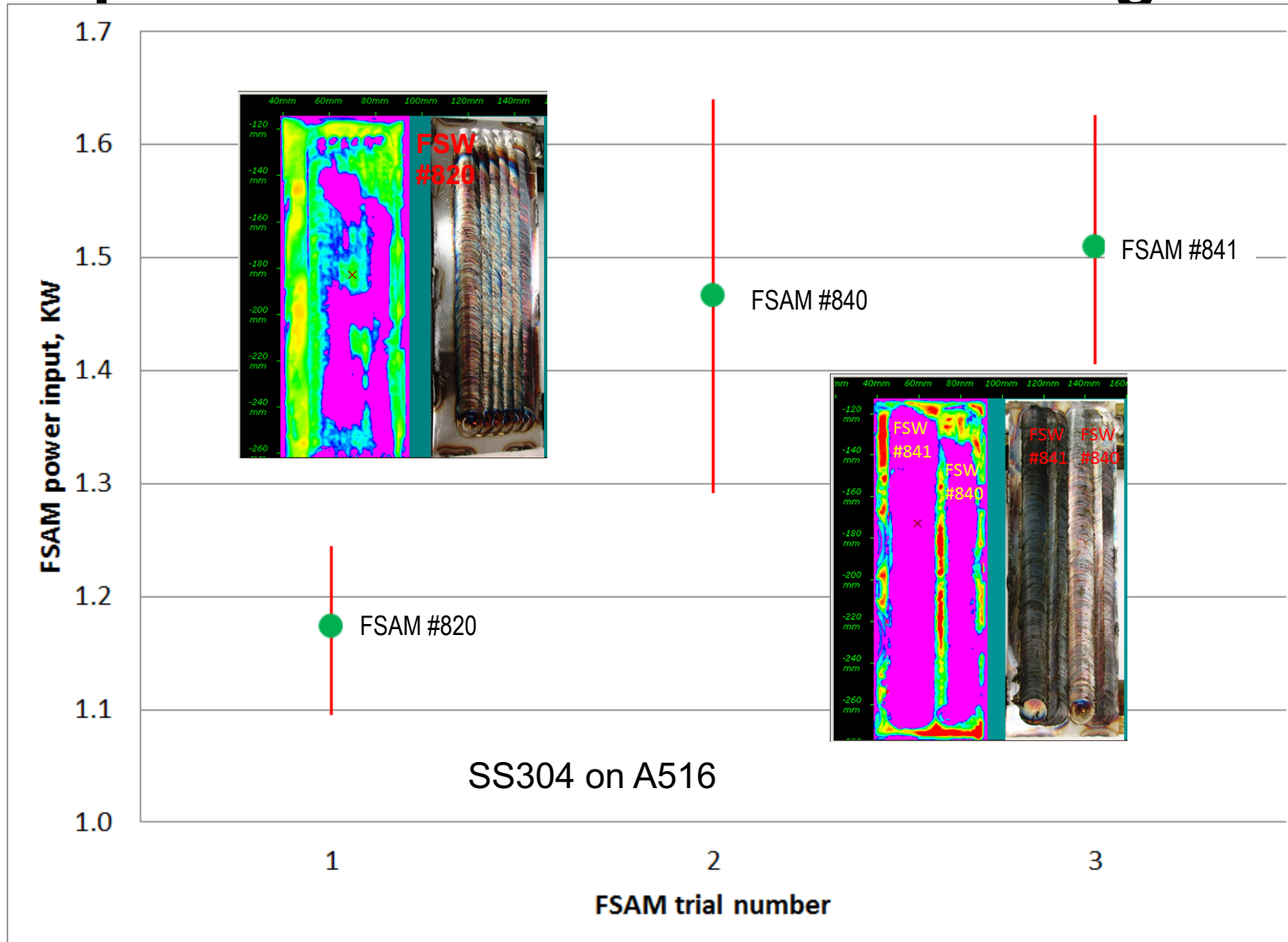


As cladded surface  
(surface flush and oxidation, to  
be addressed)

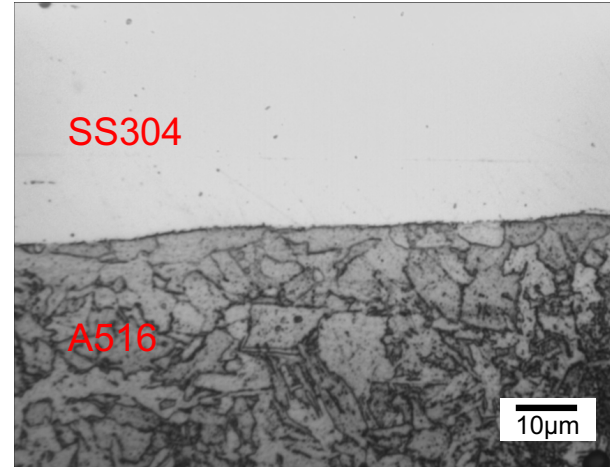
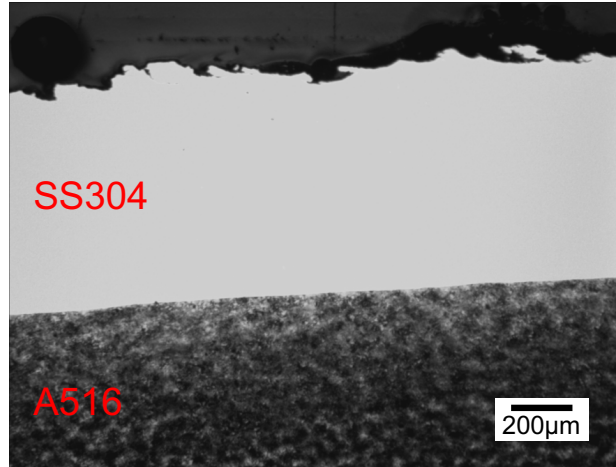


304 SS on structural steel A516

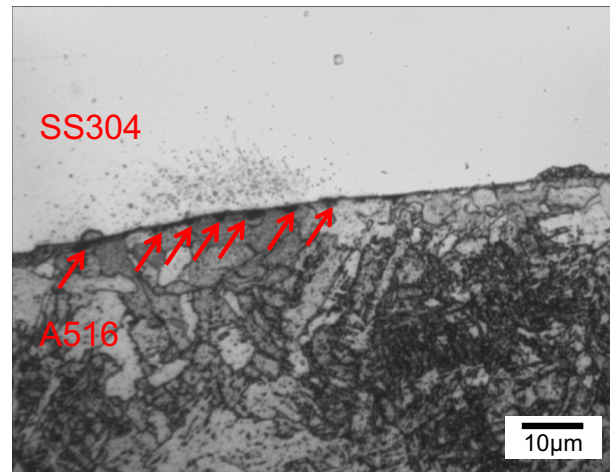
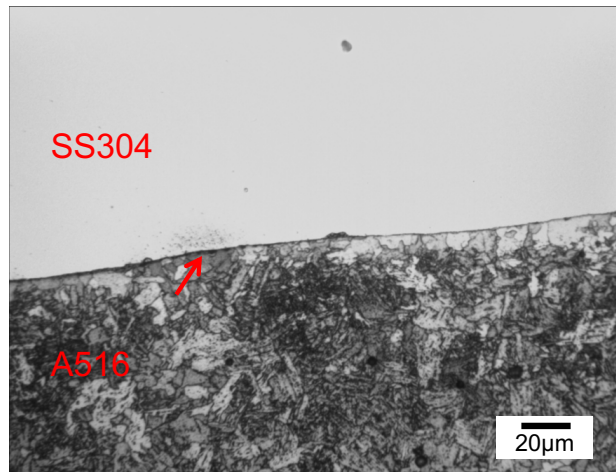
# Effect of process conditions on bonding



# Interface bond quality from side bend test



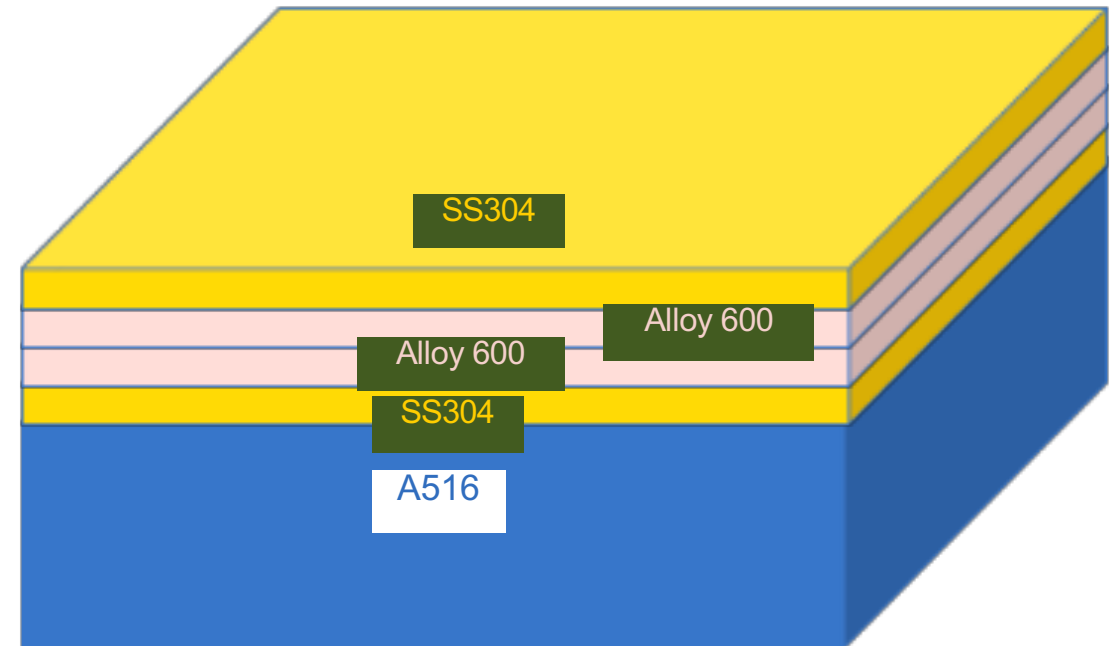
Bonded interface as revealed in the side bend test



Unbonded interface revealed in the side bend test

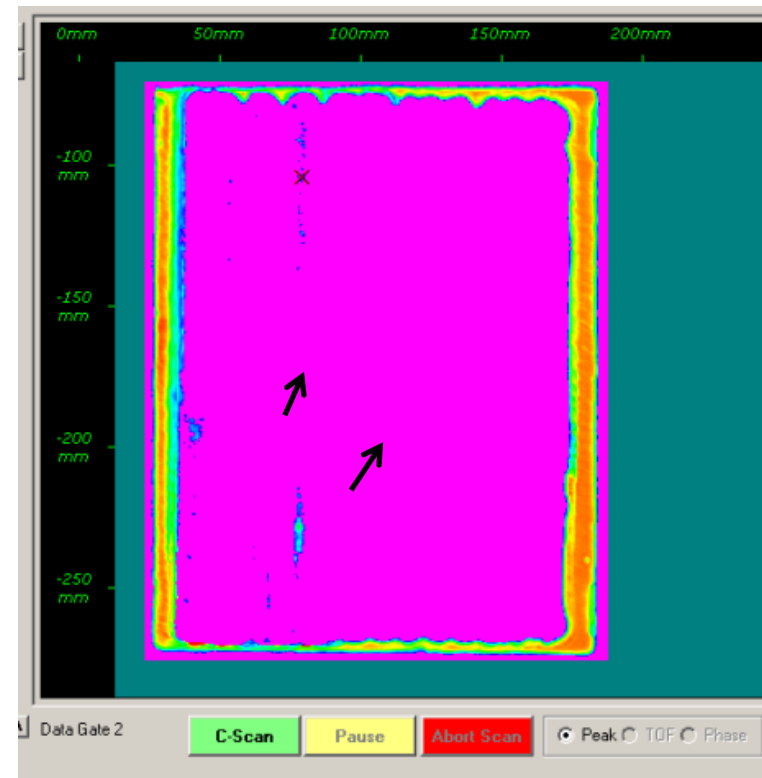
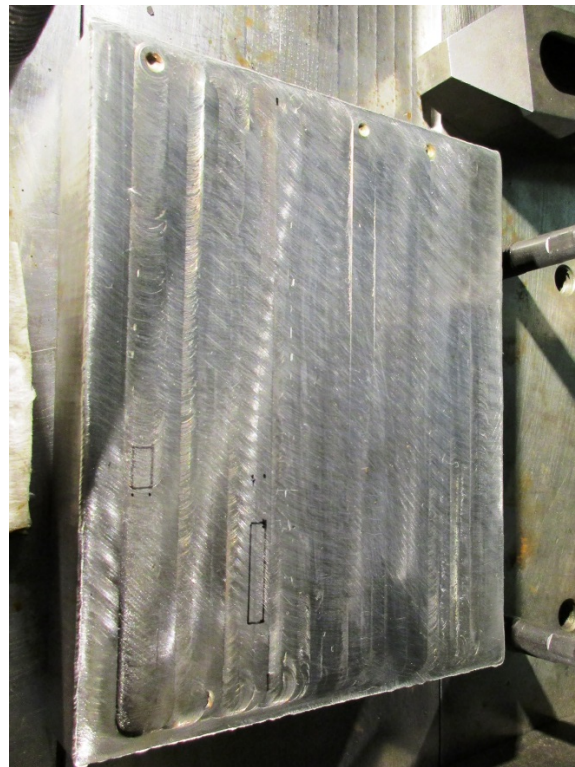
# Multi-layer Multi-material FSAM Development

- Materials
  - Substrate: ASTM A516Gr70
  - Layer 1: SS304
  - Layer 2: Alloy 600
  - Layer 3: Alloy 600
  - Layer 4: SS304
- Cladding area: 8x6.5”
- Thickness of each cladding layer: 0.86mm



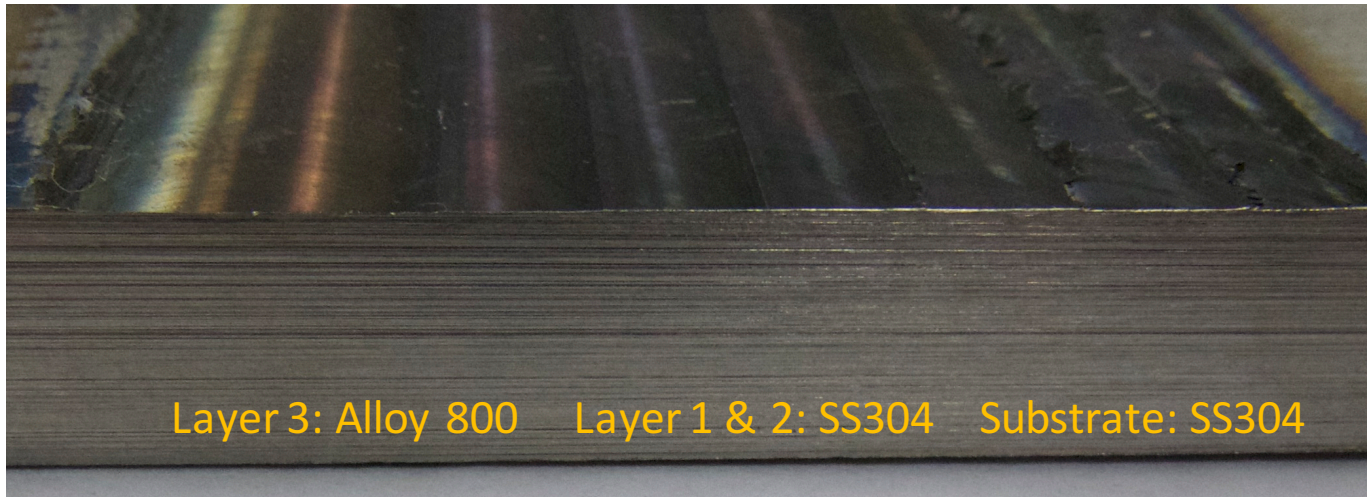
# Multi-layer Multi-material FSAM Development

- Bonding was inspected after cladding each layer by C-scan ultrasonic NDE
- Overall good bonding except several locations
- These locations could be "repaired" by FSAM before next layer

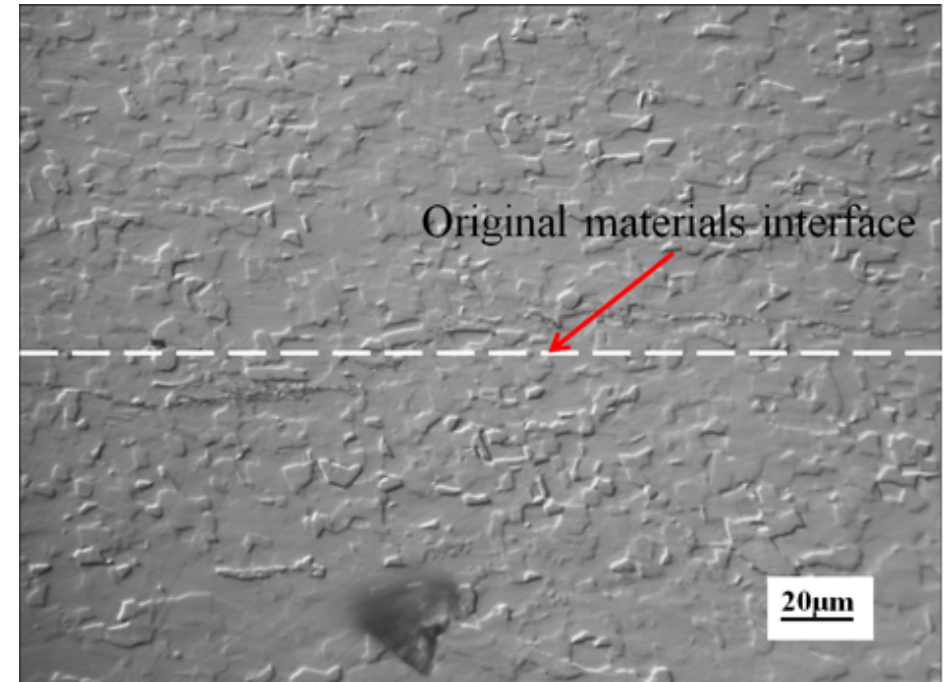


Ultrasonic NDE after clean up by steel wire brush wheel (common practice to clear weld surface)

# Multilayer FSAM cladding



FSAM build of two layers SS304 and one layer alloy 800 on a 304 SS substrate.

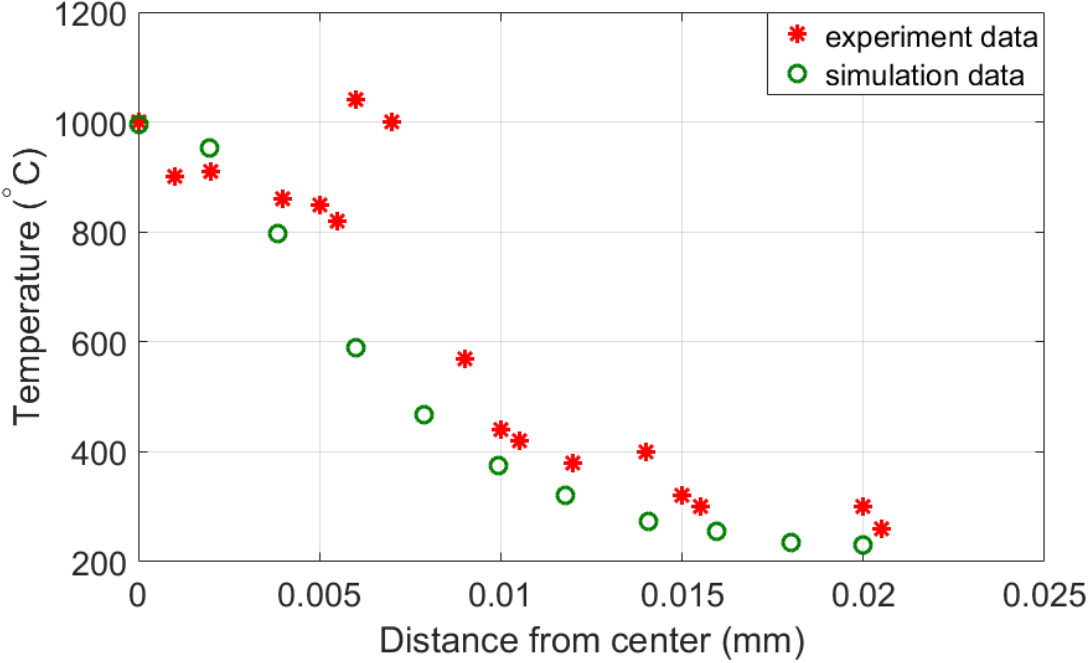
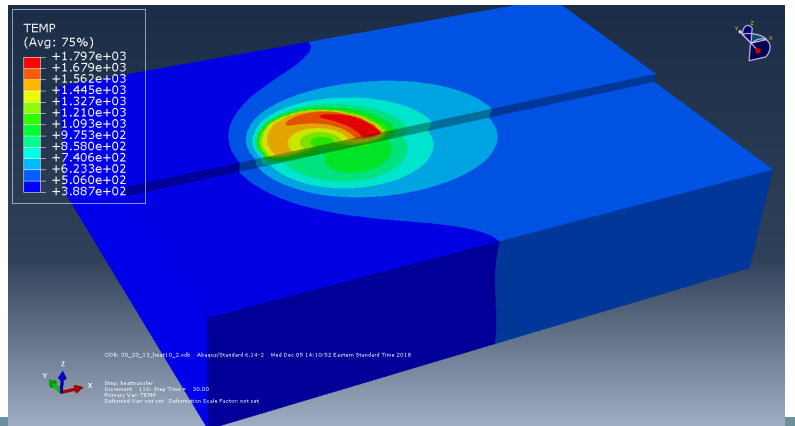
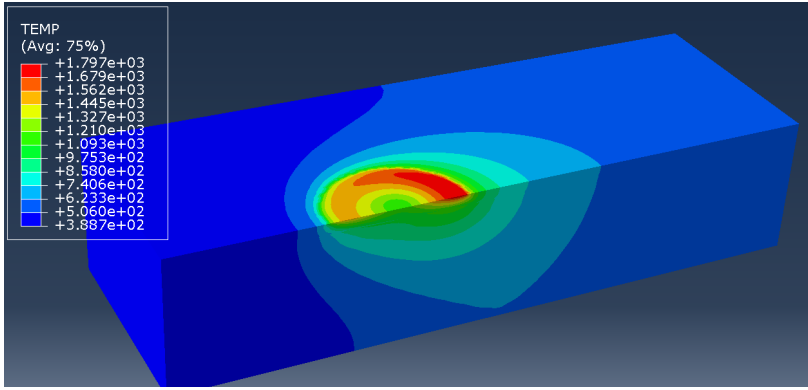
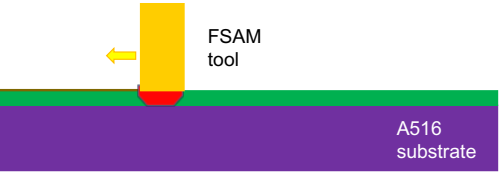


Microstructure near the clad bonding interface between two SS304.





# Development of a robust modeling tool for FSAM process development

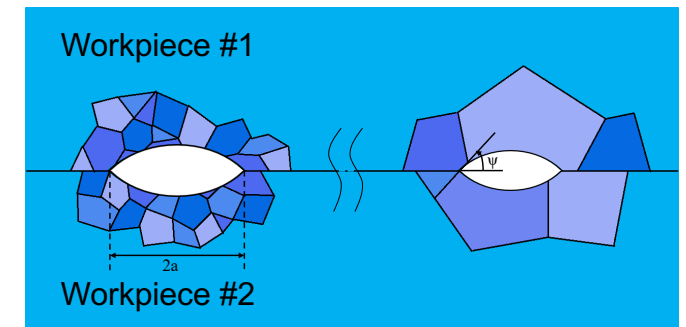
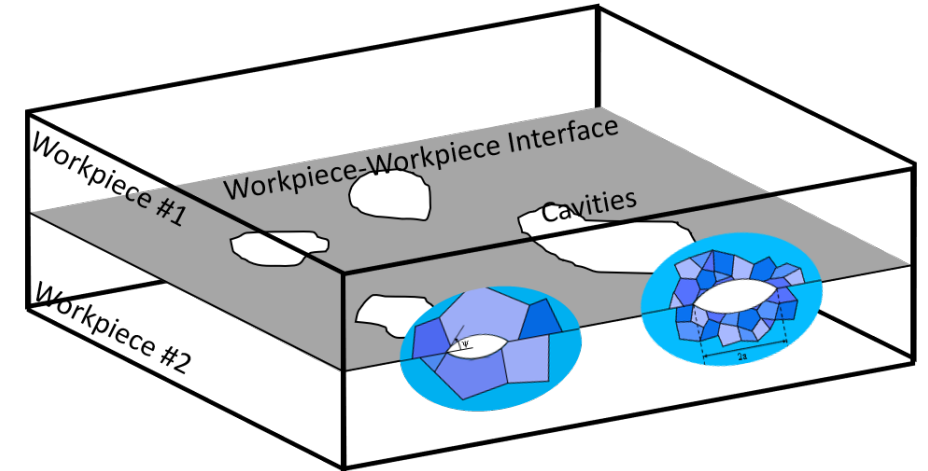


# Extend the modeling tool to predict bonding in FSAM

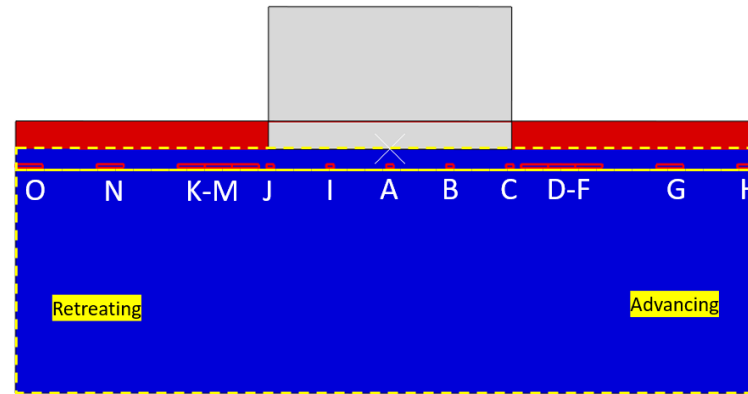
- Treated bonding as creep-dominant “cavity closure” approach to predict the solid-state interface diffusion based bonding from essential FSW/FSAM variables (temperature, stress, strain rates, and time)
- Connect the FSAM process conditions (rpm, travel speed, tool geometry, cladding layer thickness etc) to the above essential process variables

$$\frac{df_h}{dt} = \frac{f_h}{a^3 \ln(1/f_h)} 2D\sigma_n = \frac{2f_h}{\ln(1/f_h)} \dot{\epsilon}_e^c \left( \frac{\sigma_n}{\sigma_e} \right) \left( \frac{L}{a} \right)^3$$

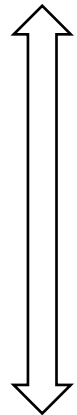
Cocks and Ashby (Prog. Mater. Sci., 1982)



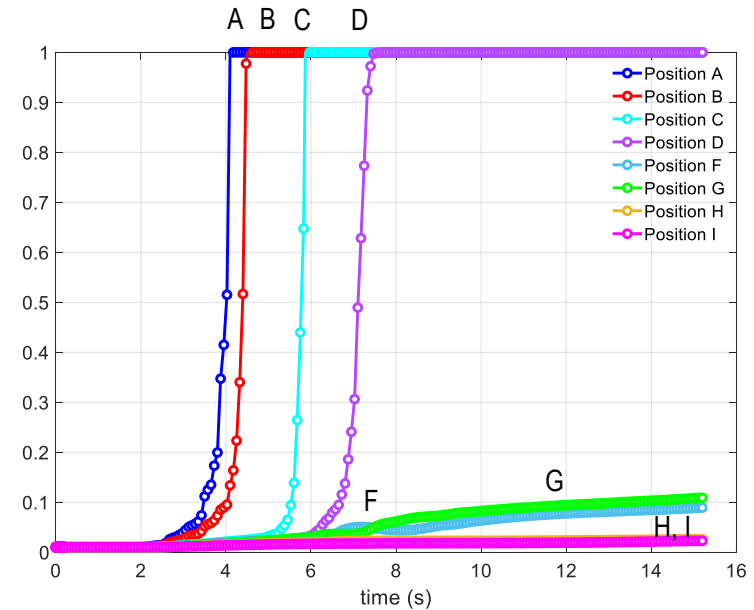
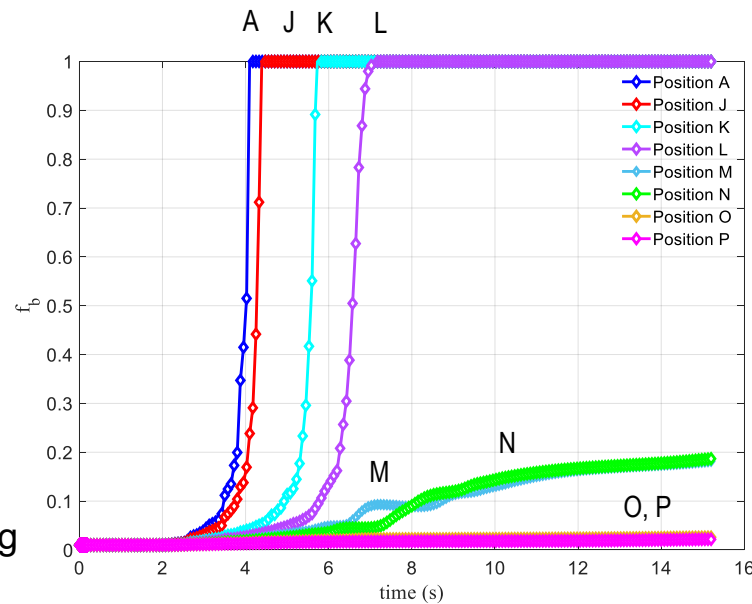
# Predicted bonding region during FSAM



Full bonding

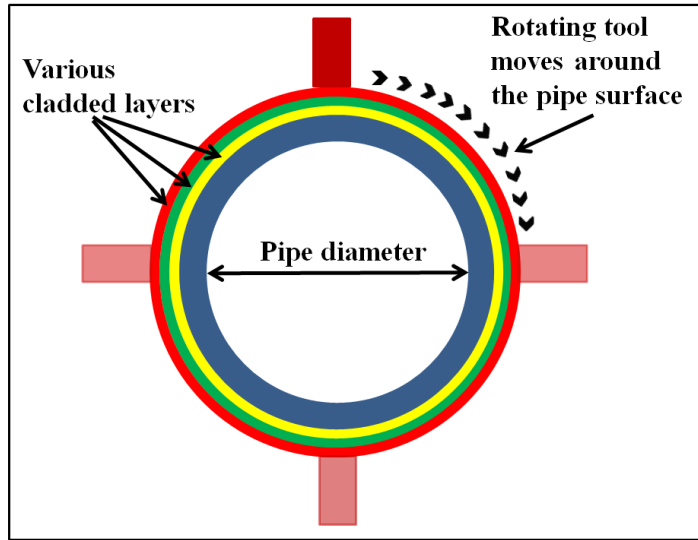


No bonding

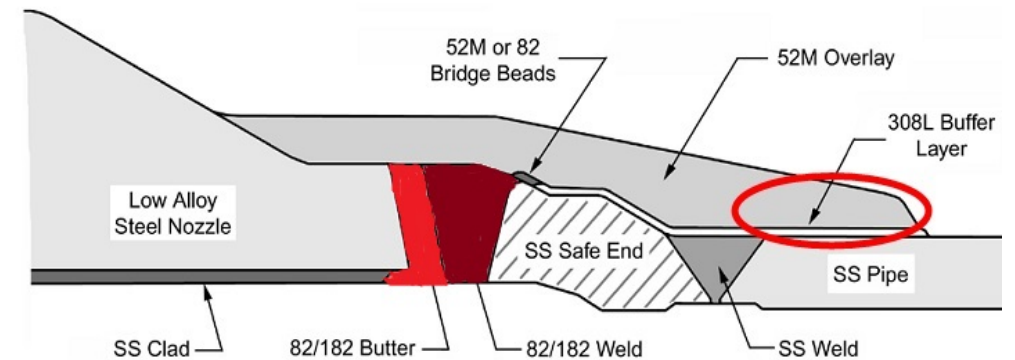


# Scale up demonstration

- All-position cladding
  - Surface cladding on steel pipe
  - Buttering layer of DM weld

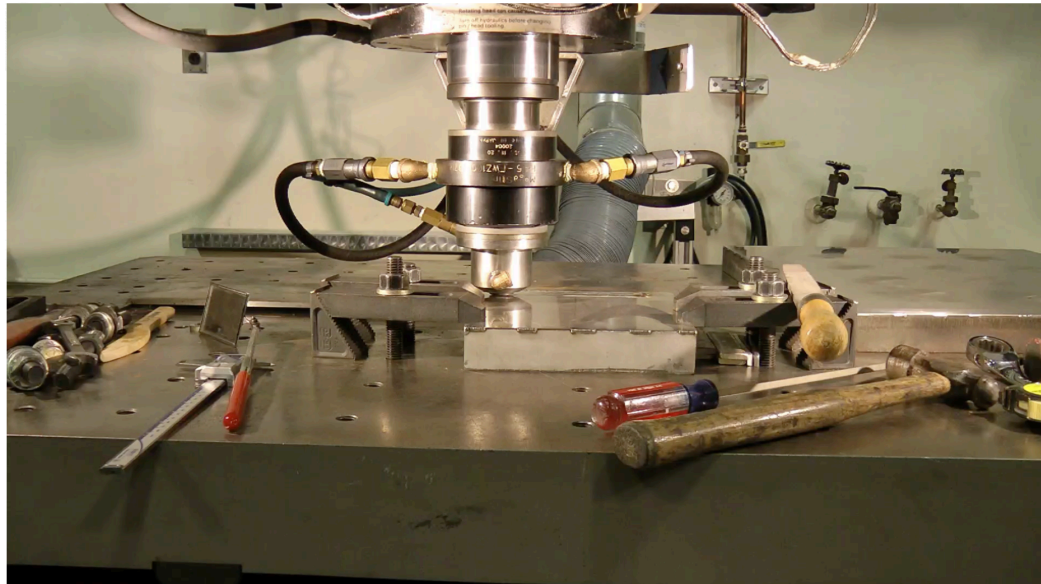


To simulate



# Scale up demonstration

- Transfer baseline FSAM process conditions for pipe cladding at our industry partner (MageStir/Mazak)
- Completed first set of cladding experiments
- Post cladding testing on-going (bond quality, microstructure and interface properties)



Lab scale R&D at ORNL



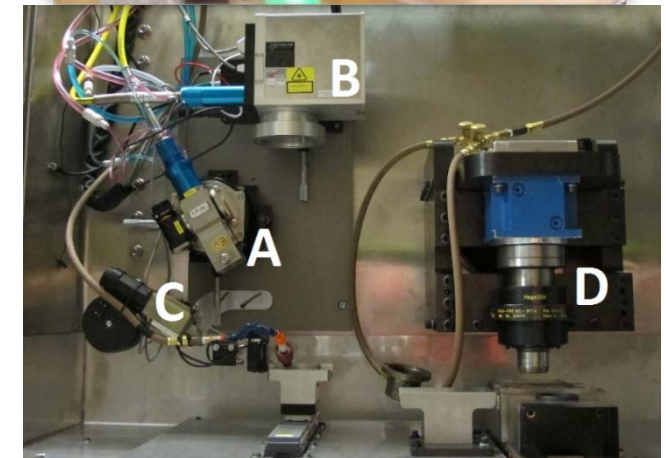
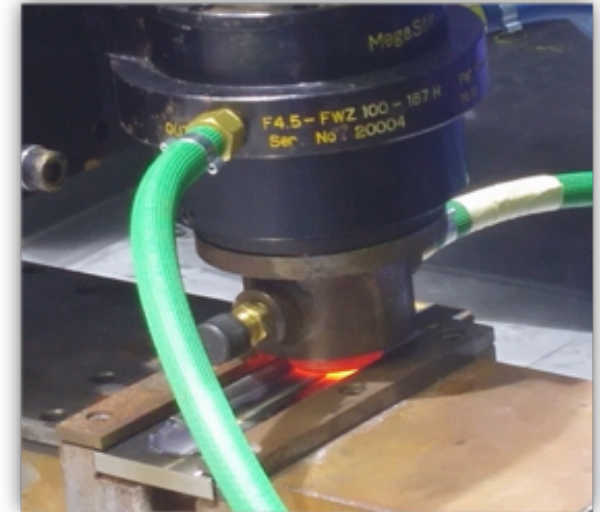
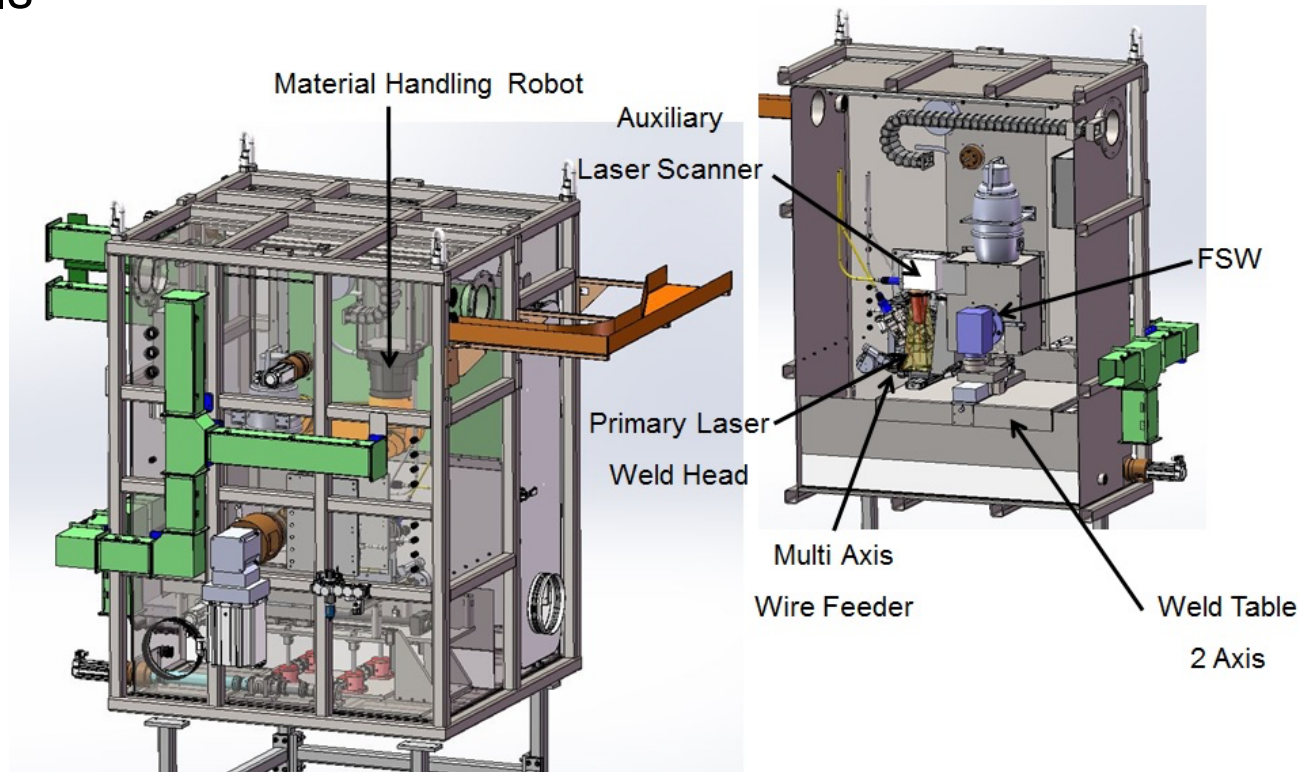
Scaleup/transfer to industry



# Support DOE NE:

## Development of Advanced Welding Technology to Repair Nuclear Reactor Internals (Joint DOE/NE LWRSP and EPRI LTO Programs)

- Solve tool wear and eliminate boron contamination from FSW tools





# Summary

- Demonstrated feasibility for solid-state diffusion bonding of dissimilar material cladding by FSAM
  - Established baseline FSAM process window for cladding SS304 and Alloy 600 on structural steel A516
  - Determined suitable FSAM temperature range for bonding
  - C-scan ultrasonic NDE is effective to examine clad bonding quality by FSAM
- On-going research to
  - Complete validation of FSAM modeling tools for process applications
  - Scale up and demonstration of all-position cladding



# Issues and Concerns

- COVID-19 impacts
  - Caused ~9-month delays in scale up and technology demonstration task at the industry site
  - Requested project extension to complete the project (3/2021)
  - Now the issue has been solved and we are on target to complete the project by 3/2021





# Acknowledgements

- This research was sponsored by the US Department of Energy, Office of Nuclear Energy, for Nuclear Energy Enabling Technologies Crosscutting Technology Development Effort, under a prime contract with Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL). ORNL is managed by UT-Battelle, LLC for the U.S. Department of Energy under Contract DE-AC05-00OR22725.