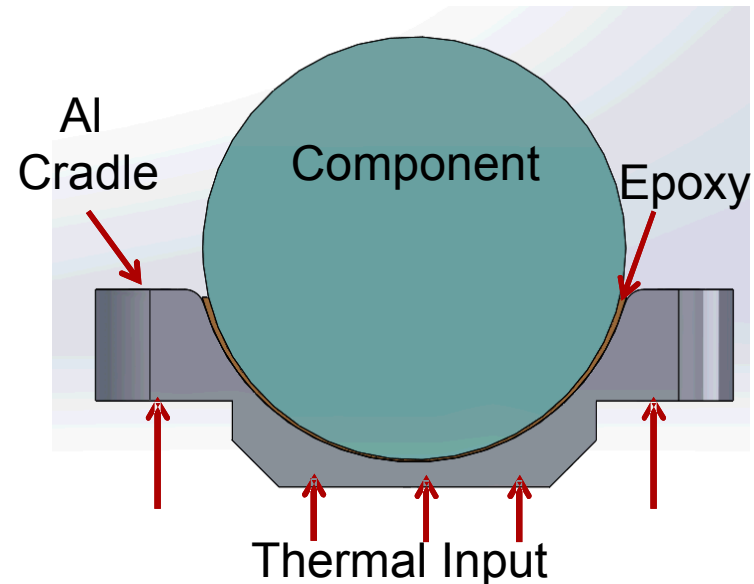
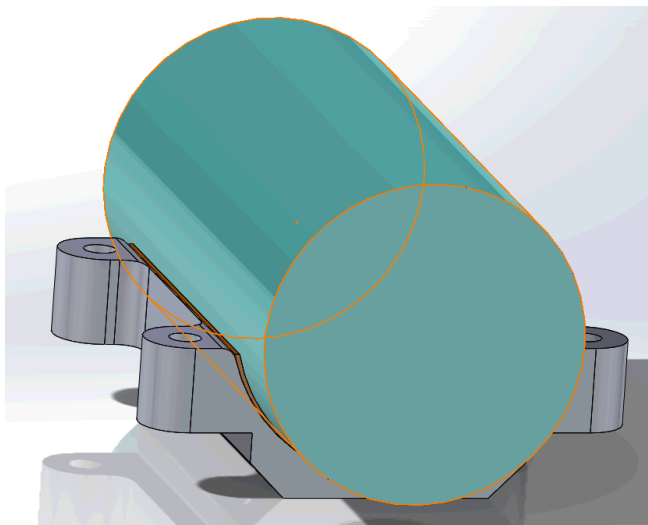


Thermal Concentrator Design Enabled by Multi-Material 3D Metal Printing

Tim Price, D. Keicher, and S. Whetten

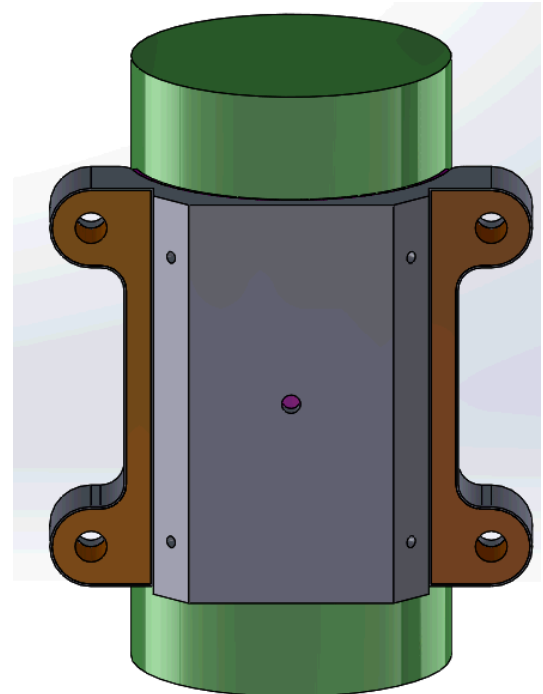
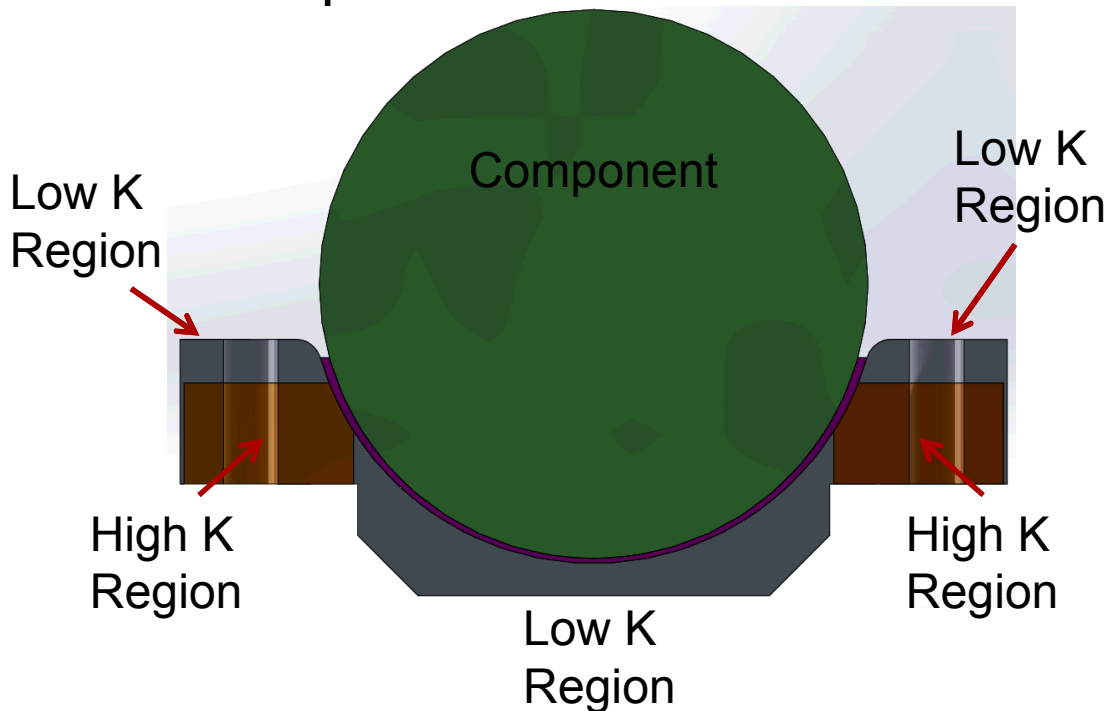
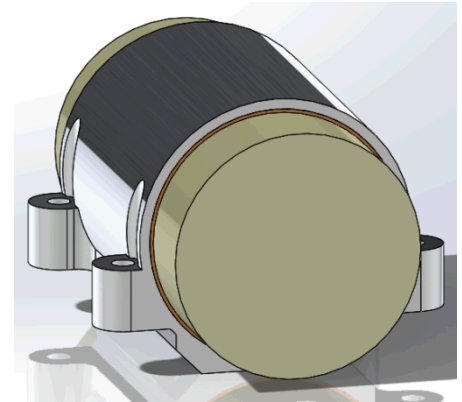
Introduction

- Objective: Maximize thermal energy transfer into a component
- Existing structures are solid SS or Al, traditional manufacturing
- Multi-material AM is appealing as a process and design enabler



Concept Design

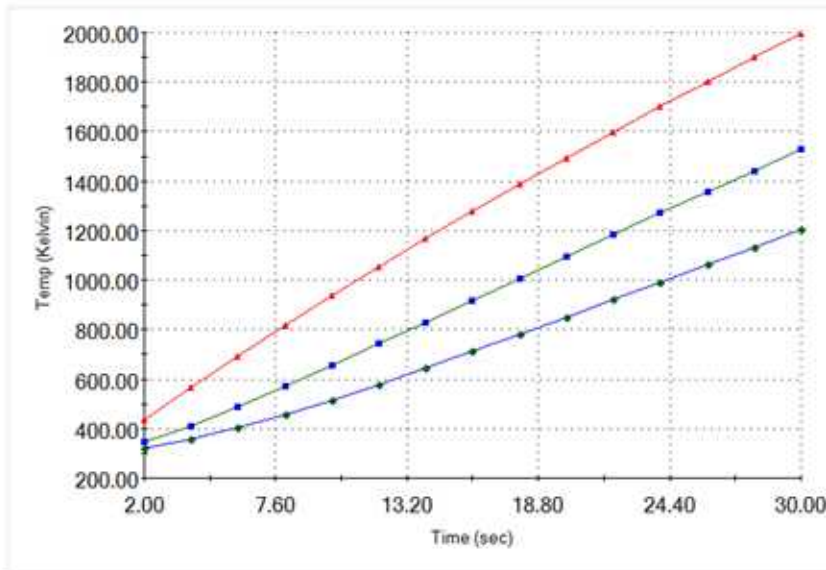
- Need to create large ΔT while maintaining structural strength
- Design Cradle – High conductivity (K) regions surrounded by low K to direct energy to area of interest to concentrate heat input.



Transient Temperature Results

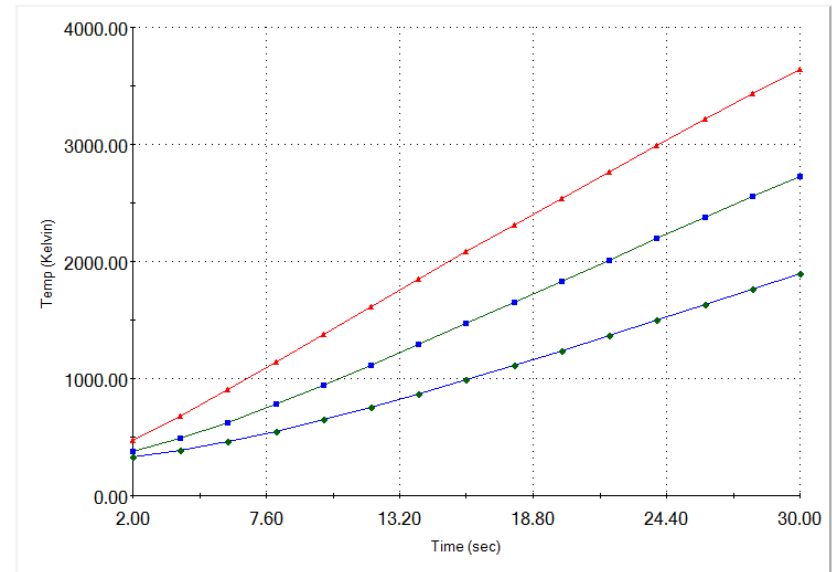
Traditional Assembly vs. Concentrator

Traditional Cradle



Predicted transient temperature response in *traditional cradle* assembly at points within the component.

Thermal Concentration Cradle



Predicted transient temperature response in *concentrating cradle* assembly at points within the component.

Project Tasks

1. High thermal conductivity metal
 - a) Identify material source
 - b) Develop LENS process conditions to optimize printing of high thermal conductivity metal
2. Design
 - a) Design MM structures for fabrication
 - b) Perform transient thermal analysis of MM and wrought structures
 - c) Design test fixtures and apparatus for transient thermal analysis
 - d) Procure other materials needed for testing
3. 3D print MM structures
 - a) Print MM structures on LENS system
 - b) Post process machine MM structures for testing
4. Produce wrought material samples in same shape as MM printed part geometry
5. Characterization and testing
 - a) Instrument MM and wrought structures for transient thermal analysis
 - i. Thermocouple
 - ii. IR video imaging
 - b) Test structures to measure response to thermal input
 - c) Compare measured results to predicted results
 - d) Submit selected sample for cross-sectional analysis for microstructure and defect characterization

High Thermal Conductivity Metal

■ Copper Powder

- Spherical
- Mean dia. 86µm
- 385 W/mK

■ Graphite Powder

- Non-Spherical, Flake
- 70-625µm
- 130 W/mK

■ Final powder

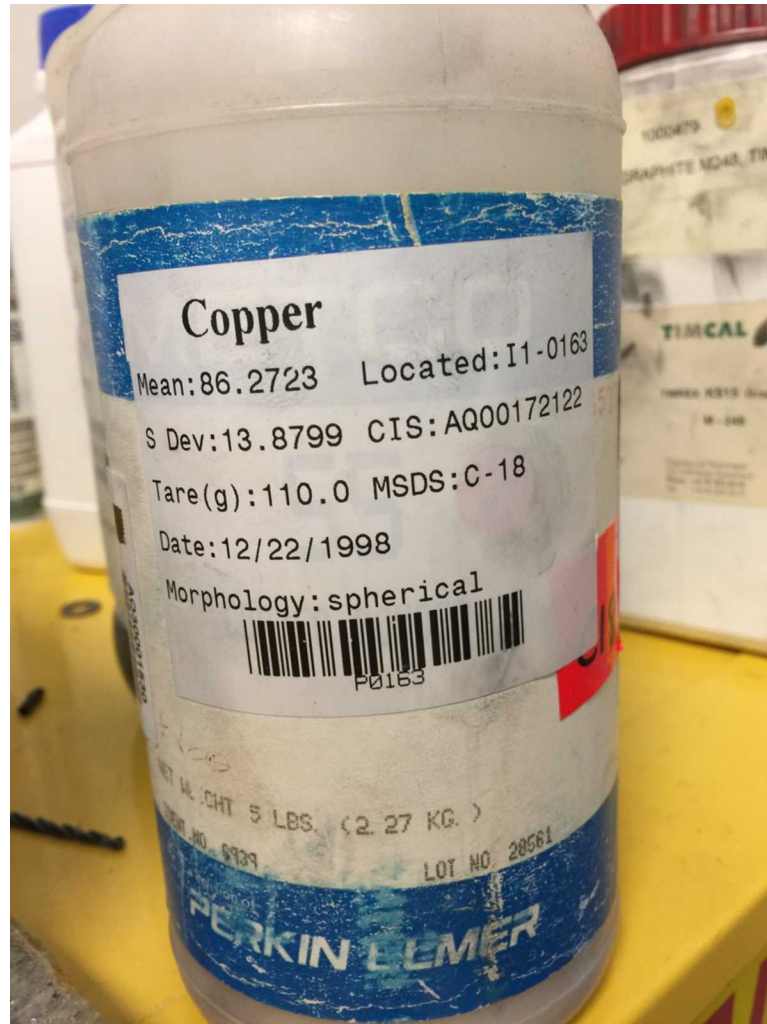
- 85 vol.% Cu
- 15 vol.% C

■ Roll mix for 15 minutes

Table 1: Summary of physical properties of the most promising MMCs for electronic applications.

Matrix	Reinforcement Type	Vol %	Density g/cm ³	CTE 10 ⁻⁶ /K	Thermal conductivity W/mK
METALS					
W/Cu	75/25	0	15.7	8.5	236
Mo/Cu	75/25	0	9.8	9.0	180
Al/Si	50/50	0	2.5	11.0	140
W/Ni/Cu	95/3.5/1.5	0	18.0	4.5	173
Cu/Invar/Cu		0	8.3	6.5	138(XY); 40(Z)
Cu/Mo/Cu		0	9.8	6.0	210(XY); 170(Z)
COMPOSITES					
C fibre	-	0	1.8	L=4-5, T=-1	100-500
Carbon Nanotubes (SWCNTs)	-	0	2	-1.0	6600
Vapour Grown C Fibres	-	0	1.8-2	-1.0	1950
Carbon	VGCF	70	1.8-2		910
Epoxy	C fibre	60	1.85	-1.1	310 (XY)
Epoxy	VGCF	73	1.87		661
SiC	VGCF	20	2.9		310
Copper	Diamond	50	5.35	5.5	420
Copper	C fibre	28	7.2	6.5	290 (XY)
Copper	CNTs	50	5.45	-	1024
Copper	VGCF	50	5.45	5.5	840
Copper	C particles	50	5.9	8-9	150-300
Beryllium	BeO	-	-	6.1	320
Aluminium	VGCF	37	2.44	5	642
Aluminium	C fibre short	40	2.40	4.0	230

High Thermal Conductivity Material

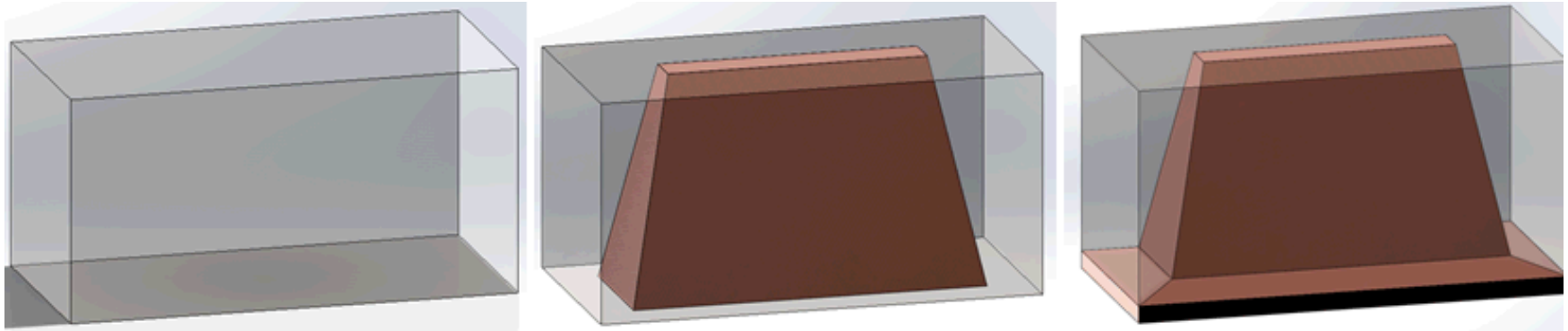


Low Thermal Conductivity Metal

- 304L
 - 45 -105 μm
 - Spherical
 - Thermal Conductivity 16 W/mK



Thermal Concentrator Designs



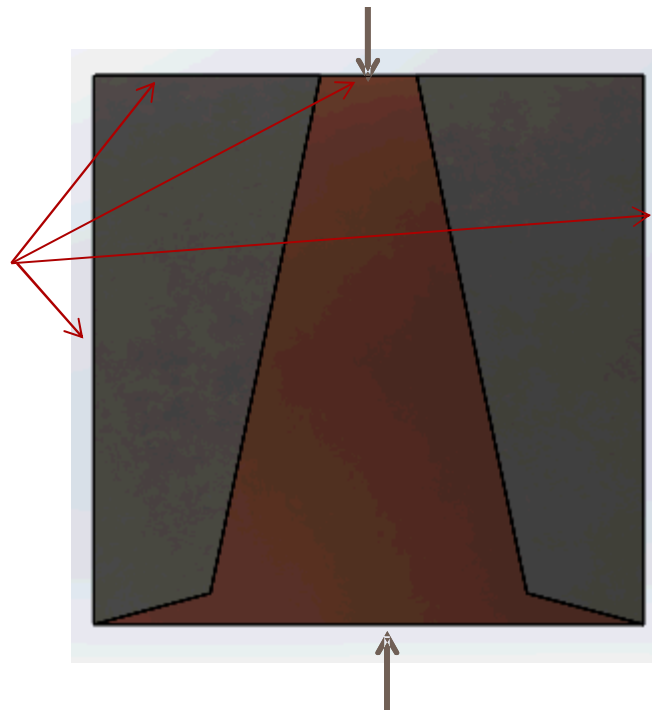
- Test Geometry

- 0.5" x 1.0" x 0.5" Blocks
 - 304L Stainless Steel
 - Tapered Cu Insert in 304L Stainless Steel Block
 - Tapered Cu Insert in Ti-6Al-4V Block (FEA only)

Transient Thermal FEA

Transient temperature
measured at center point on
top of test vehicle

Boundary conditions
applied to outside
surfaces for ambient
temperature,
convection, and
radiation

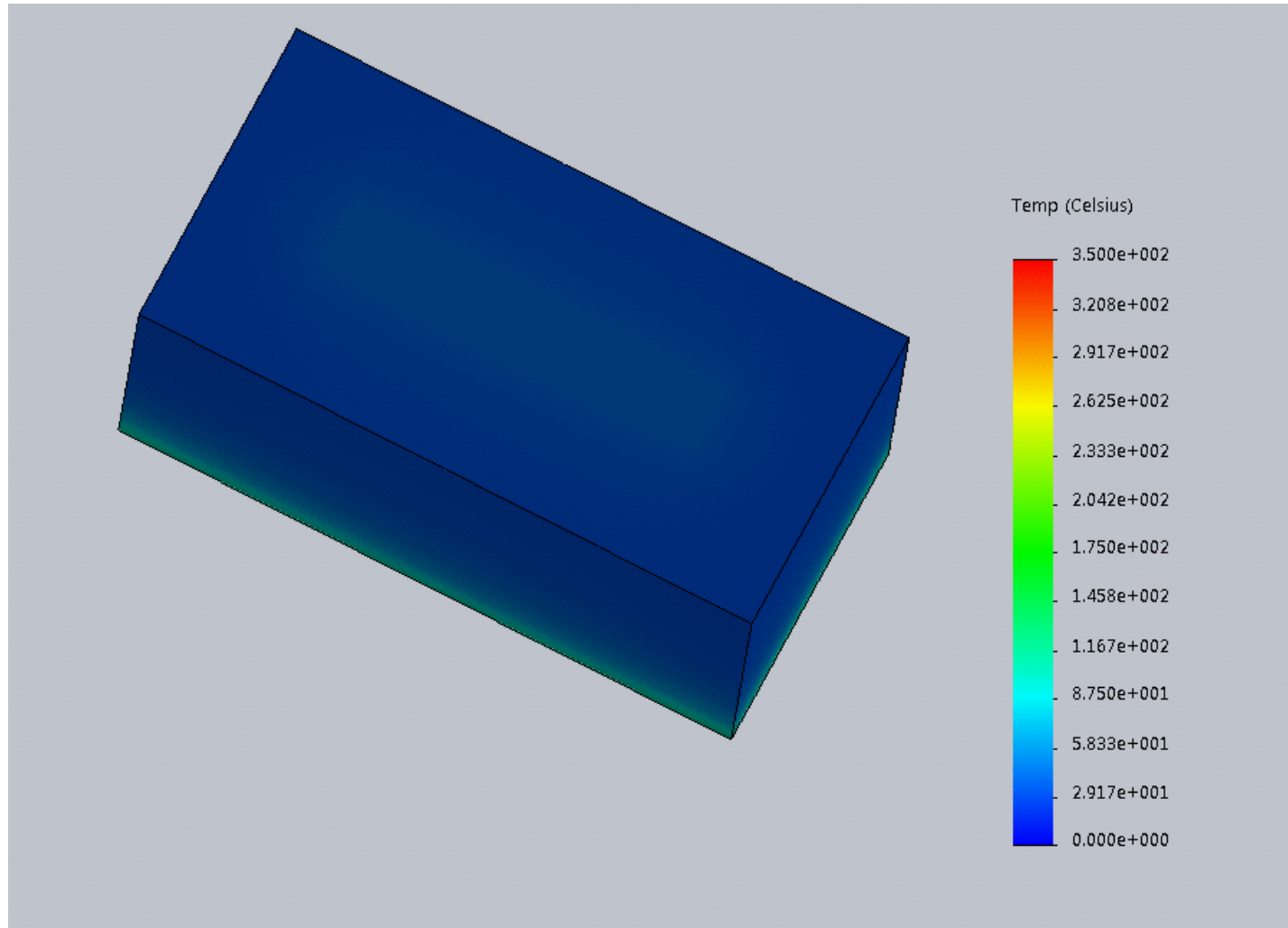


Heat applied to bottom of test
vehicle, temperature at base
maintained to 350°C

Transient Thermal FEA Setup

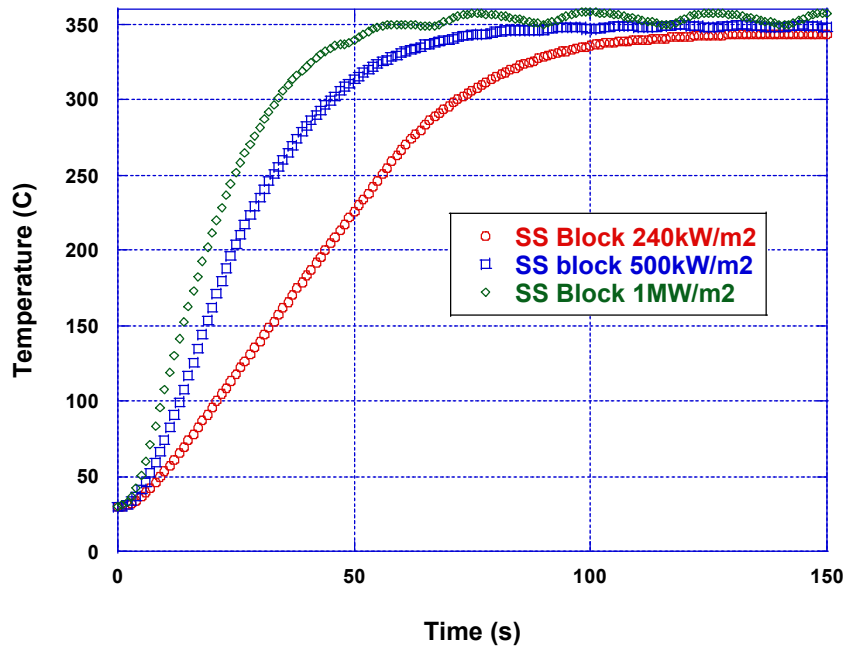
- Heat input at maximum rate of heaters
 - 240,000 W/m²
- Input face initial temperature 350° C
- Input temperature held at 350° C
- Convection to air 30 W/m²K
- Ambient temperature 30° C
- Initial Part Temperature 30 ° C

Simulation Results for Single Taper Cu

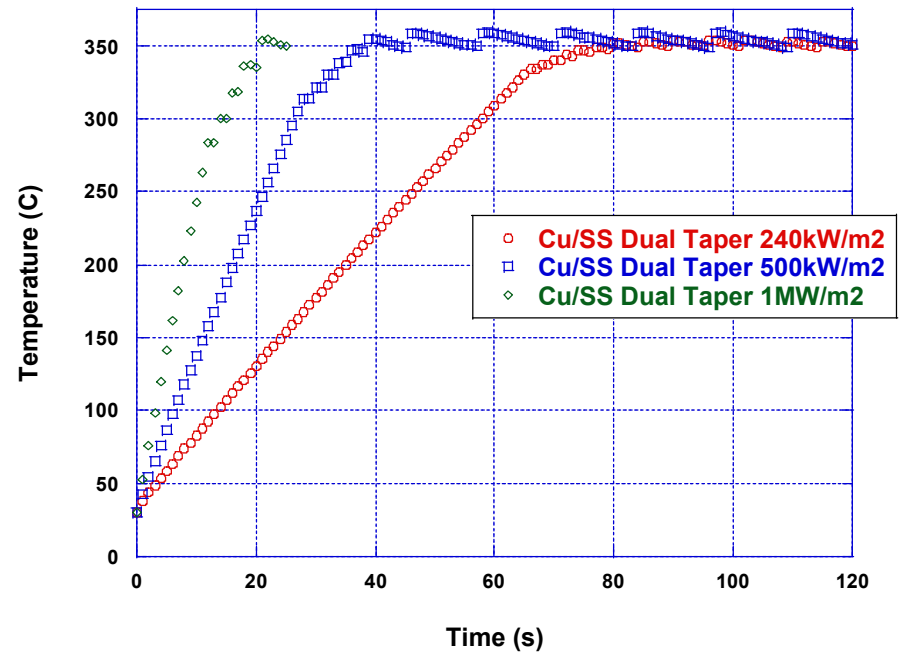


Simulated Transient Thermal Response

Transient Thermal Response 304 Stainless Steel vs Input Power

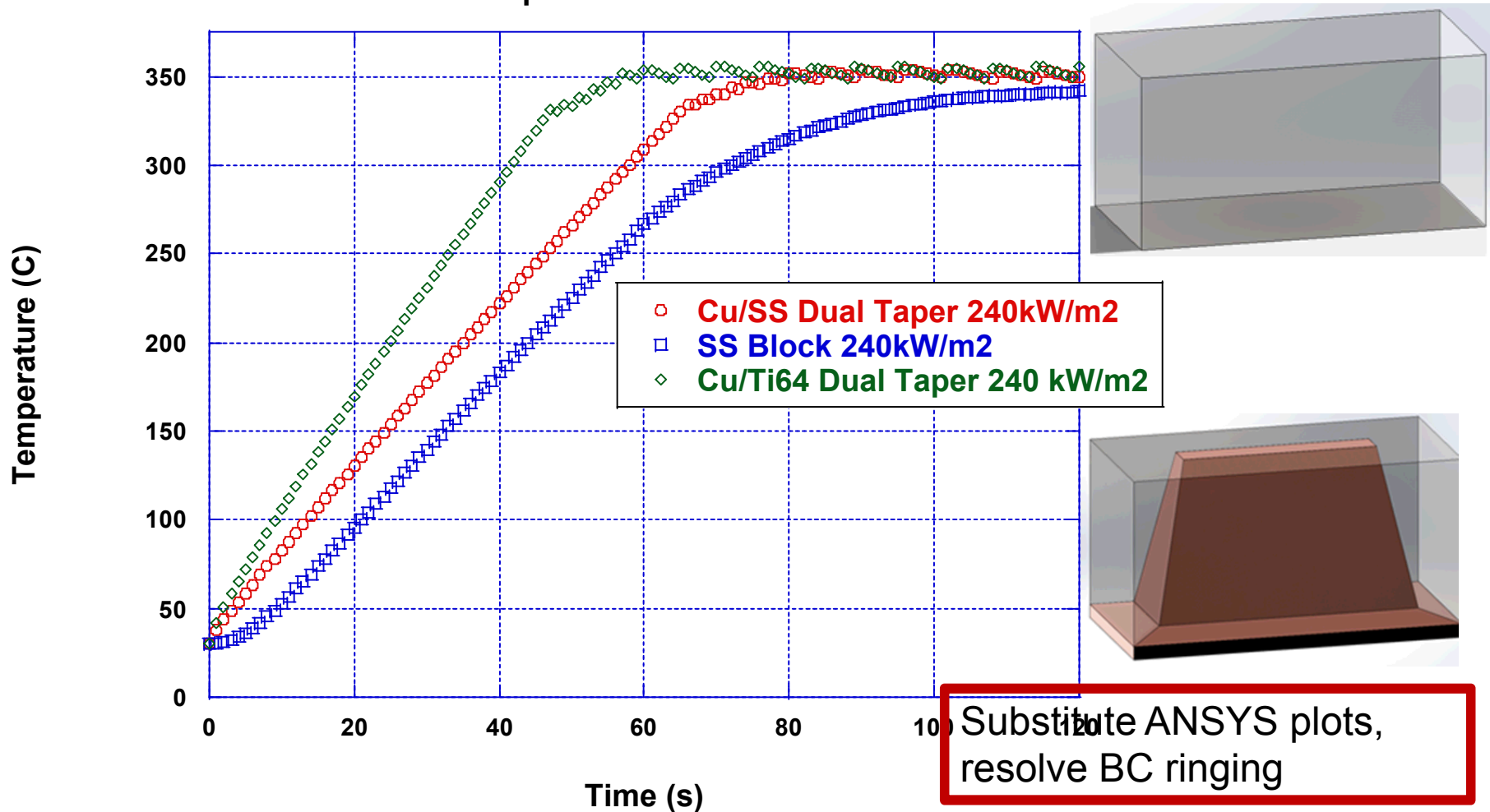


Transient Thermal Response Dual Taper Cu/SS Structures



Simulated Transient Thermal Response

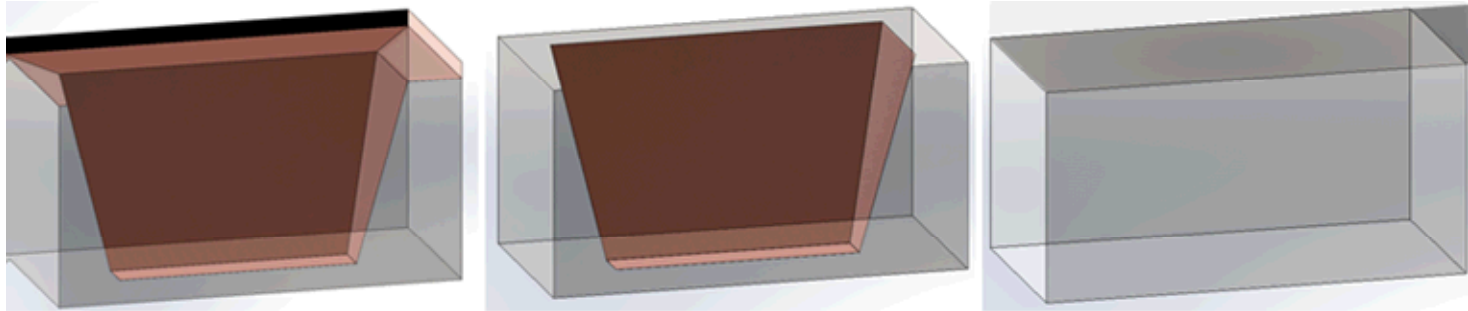
Transient Thermal Response Cu/SS vs. Cu/Ti64 vs SS Blocks



LENS Machine



SS – Cu C Multi-Material

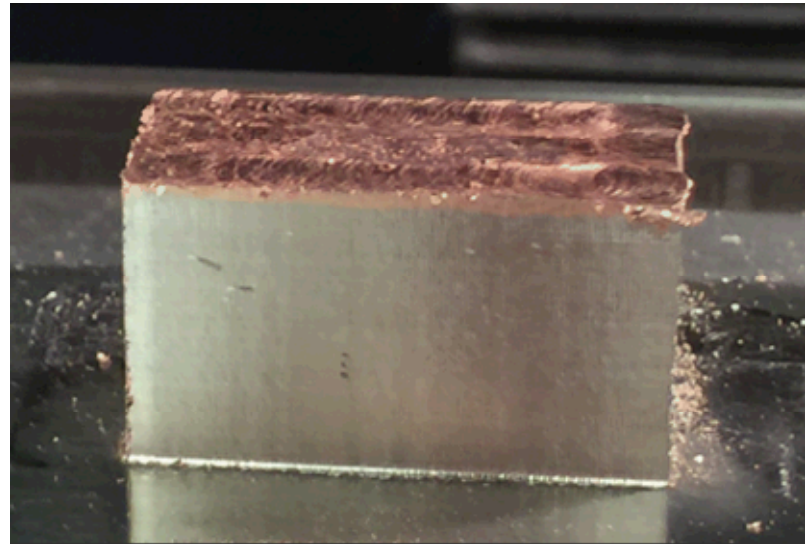
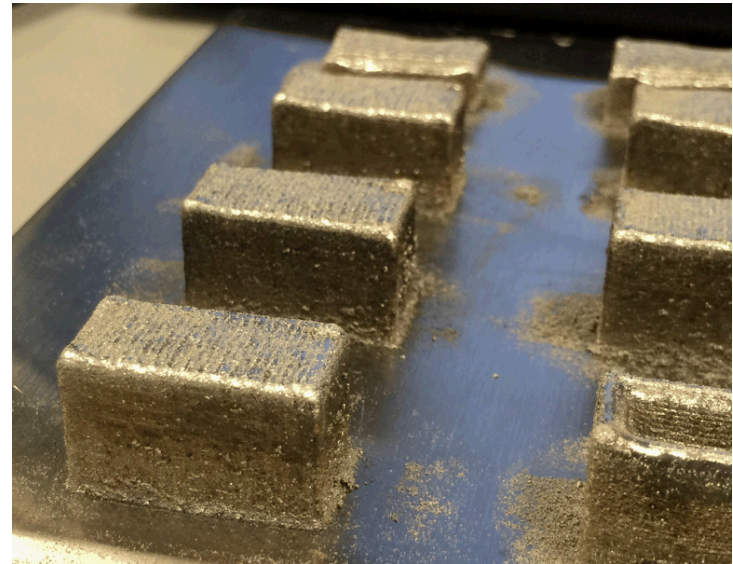
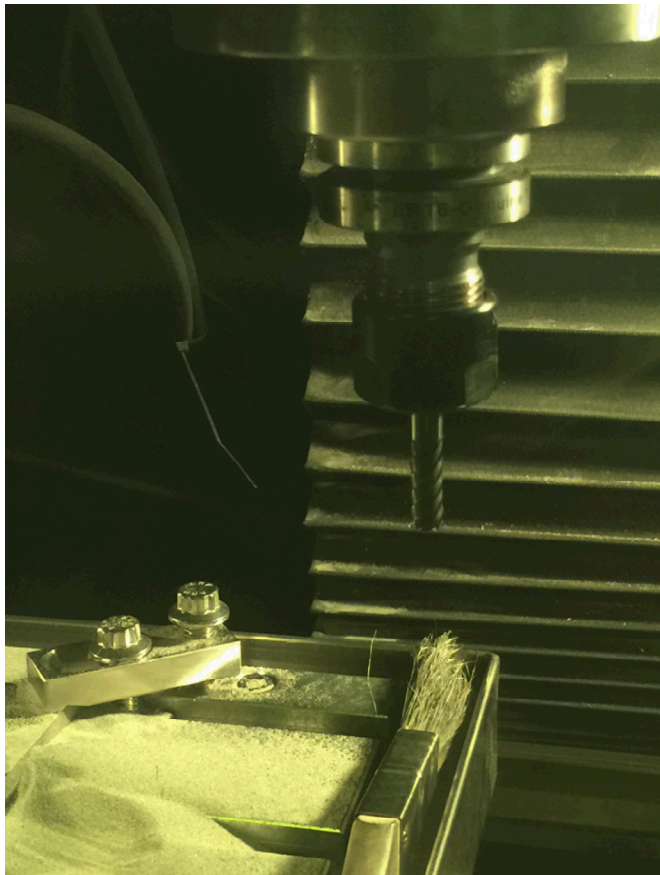


Thermal Concentrator Test Vehicles

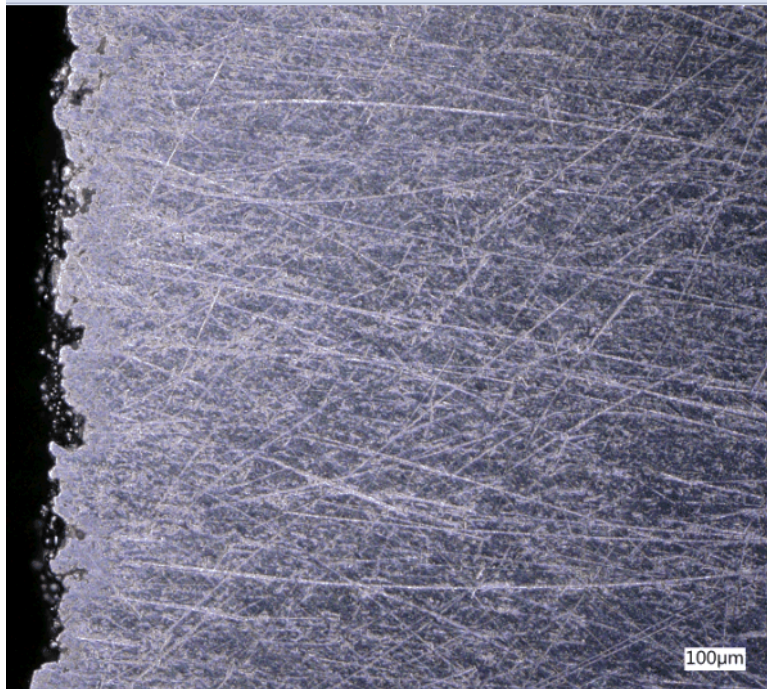
3D Printing Thermal Concentrator



Hybrid AM – Additive/Subtractive



304L Cross-Sections

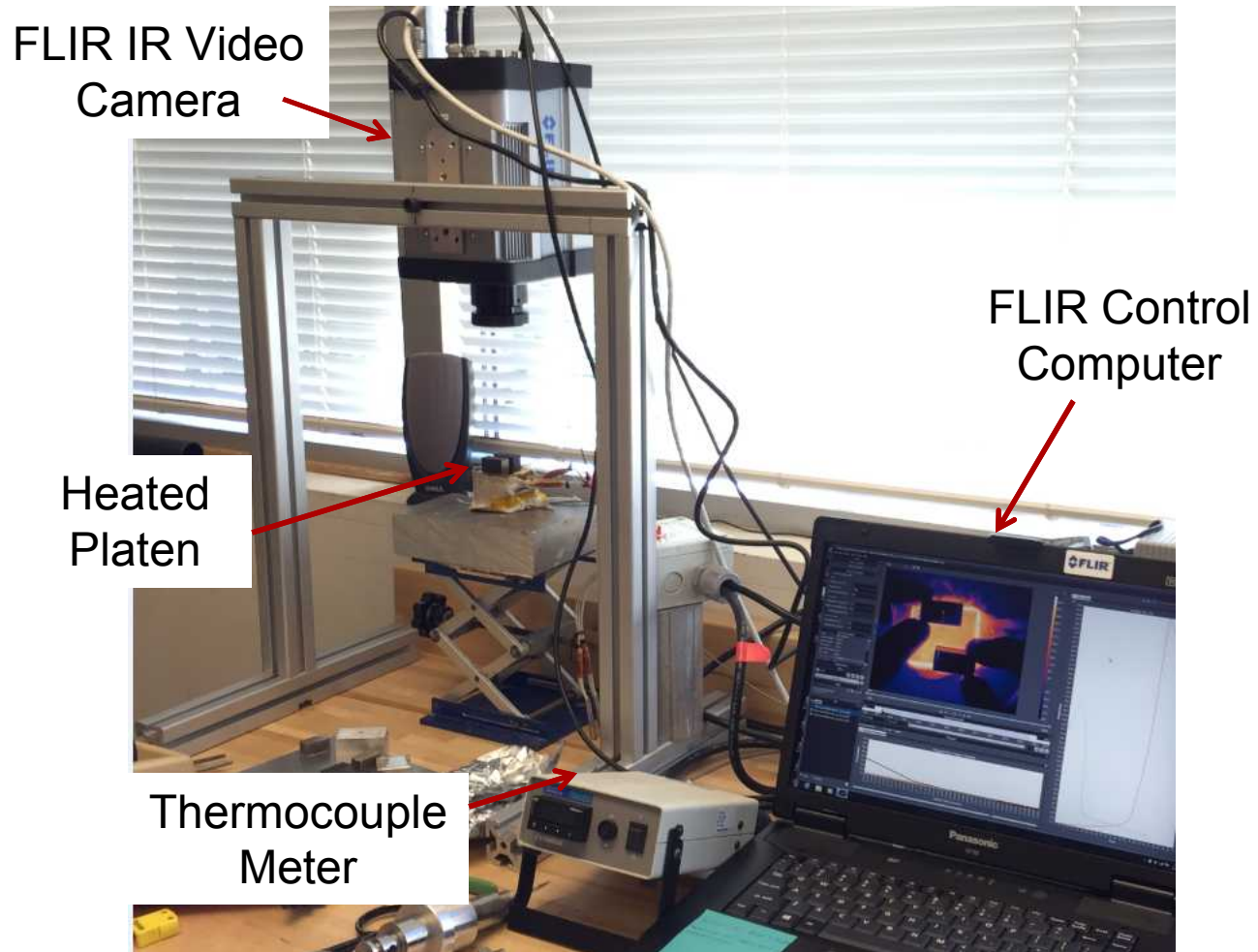


Sample cross-section taken close to substrate where porosity most likely to occur. Images show no sign of porosity.

Transient Thermal Experiments

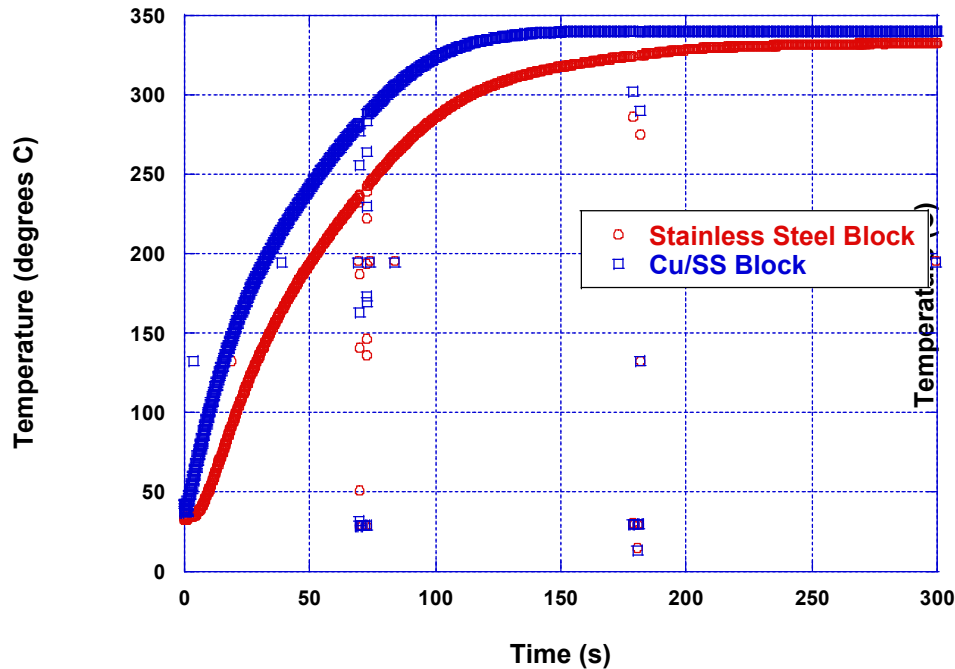
- 240,000 W/m² input energy to test parts
 - 2 – 200W cartridge heaters
 - Heater insulated on bottom and all sides
 - 38 x 44 mm heater surface area
- Heater preheated to 350° C
- FLIR recording started
- Top of parts painted to provide uniform emissivity
- Parts placed onto heater
- Transient thermal history recorded

Thermal Analysis Test Apparatus

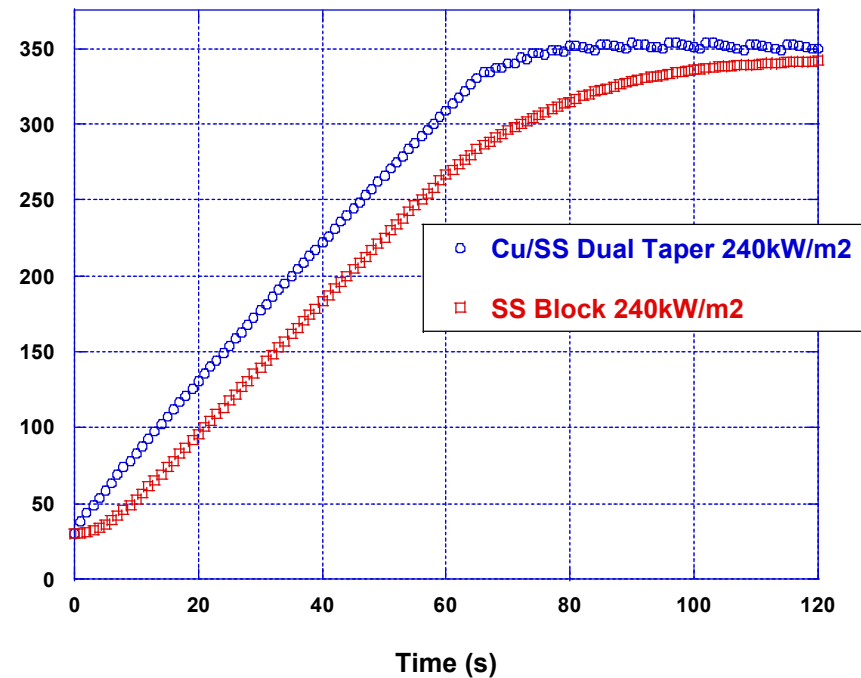


Measured Transient Response vs Predicted

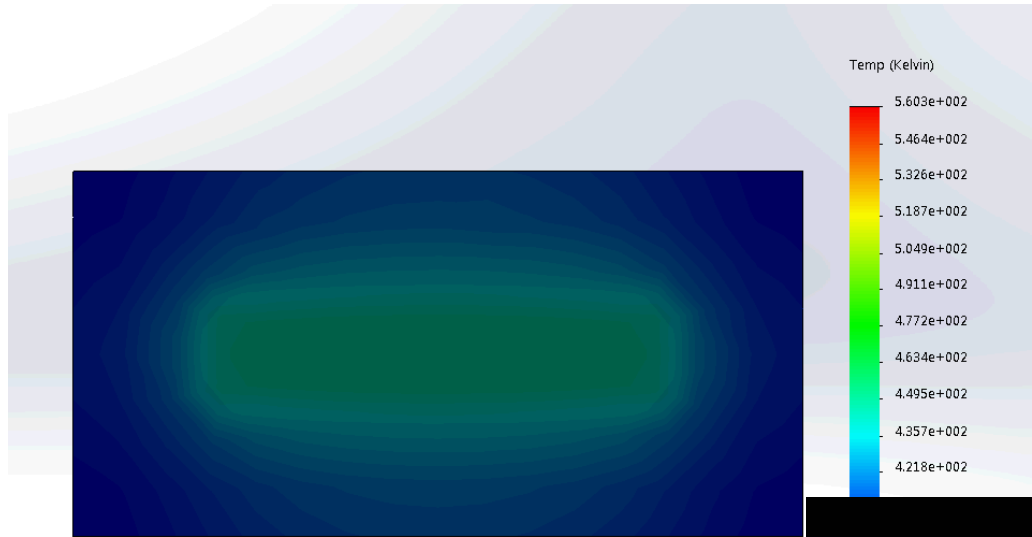
Measured Transient Thermal Response Cu/SS Structure vs SS Structure



Predicted Transient Thermal Response Cu/SS vs SS Structures



Simulation and Test Results – Thermal Concentrator



Simulation results for
thermal concentrator test
vehicle design 15s

IR video imaging showing
thermal response of SS
vs SS/CuC multimaterial
thermal concentrator

Conclusions

- Application is tailored for AM
- Enables new design flexibility, not just as a traditional manufacturing substitute
- LENS process successfully created SS-CuC trial parts
- Fully customizable to match geometry and thermal response,
- Transient thermal conduction FEA and experiments show increased heat transfer
- Future Work:
 - Cross-sectional analysis
 - Stainless parts
 - Cu/SS parts for interface analysis
 - Tensile specimen results quantification
 - Thermal concentrator design optimization

Thank you

Tim Price
tprice@sandia.gov

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