

# Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) Analysis of ANL Out-of-Cell LOCA Experiments

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# Outline

1. Introduction
2. Modeling
3. Results
4. Summary
5. Future Work



# 1. Introduction

- Background:

- Independent evaluation of thermal hydraulic data from ANL out-of-cell LOCA experiments.
- Small variations in circumferential and axial cladding surface temperatures at 1200°C can lead to significant variations in oxide layer thickness.

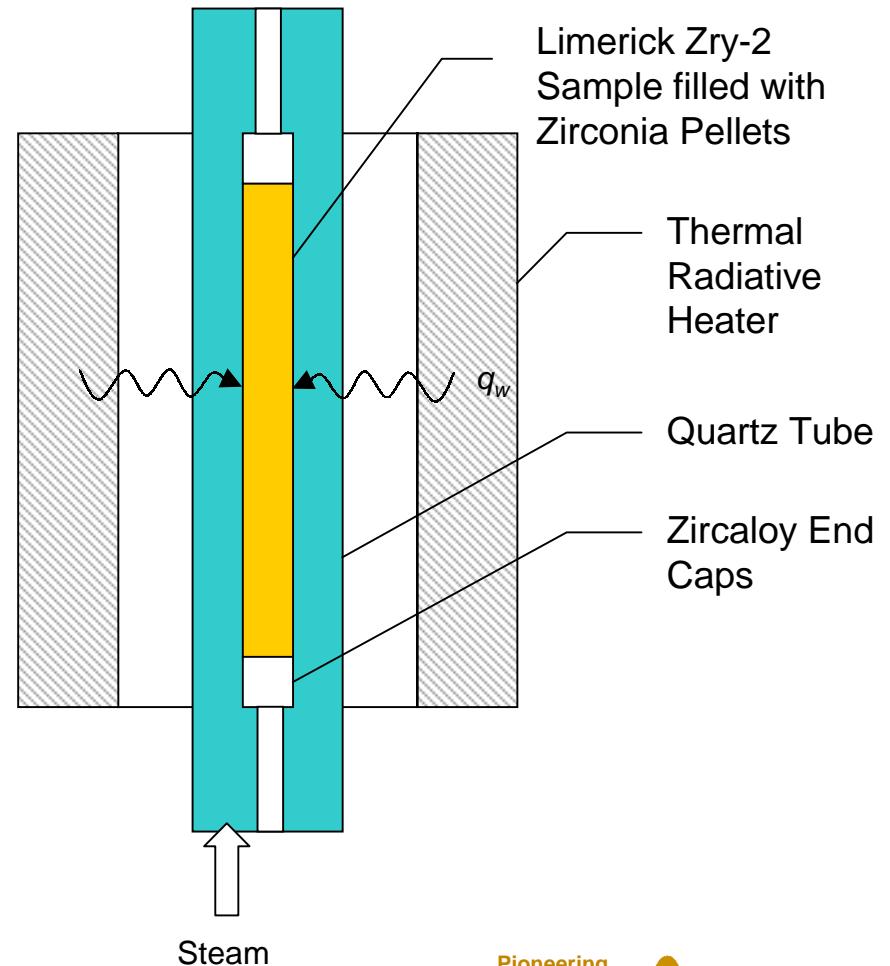
- Approach:

- Utilize a detailed (CFD) approach to calculate cladding surface temperatures.
- Perform parametric study by varying the steam flow rate, enclosure size (steam volume), and cladding profile (balloon and burst).

# 1. Introduction

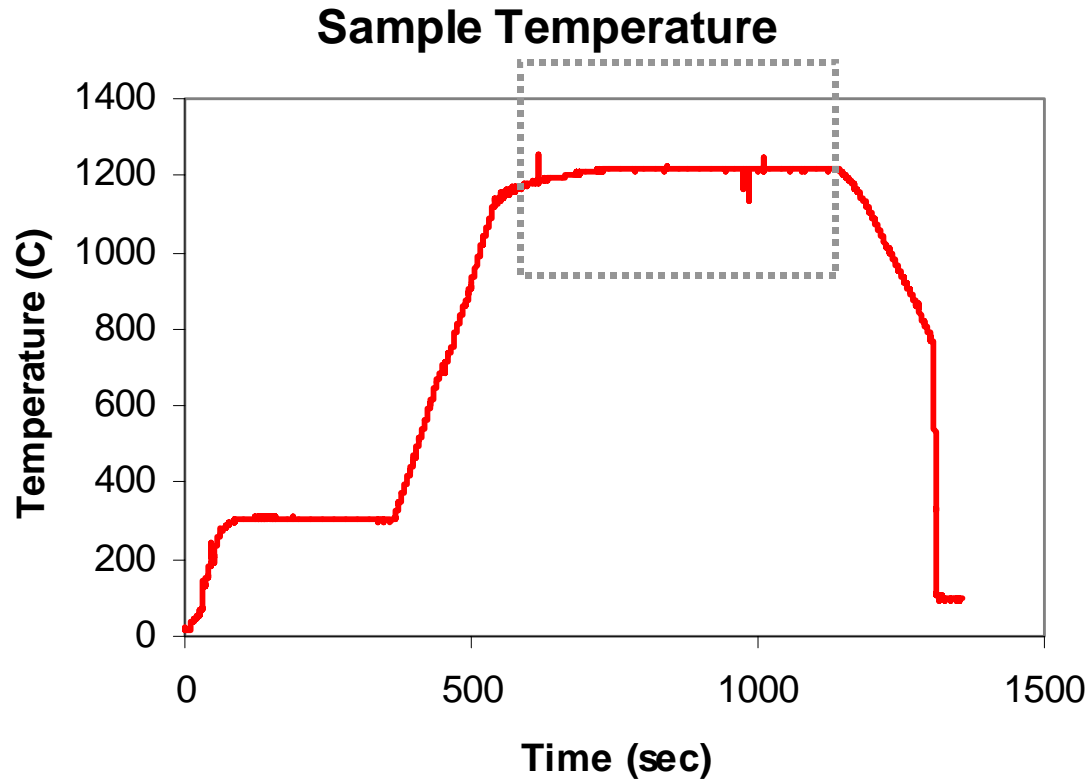
- ANL LOCA Experiment

- Limerick Zry-2 tubing (30.5 cm long, 11.2 mm OD and 0.715 mm wall) filled with zirconia pellets
- Internal sample pressure: ~8.3 MPa gauge (He)
- 100 °C steam flow: 0.286 m/s (Re ~ 186)
- Radiative heater: 1.15  $\mu\text{m}$  at 2500 K (short wave)
- Total transient: ~20 min



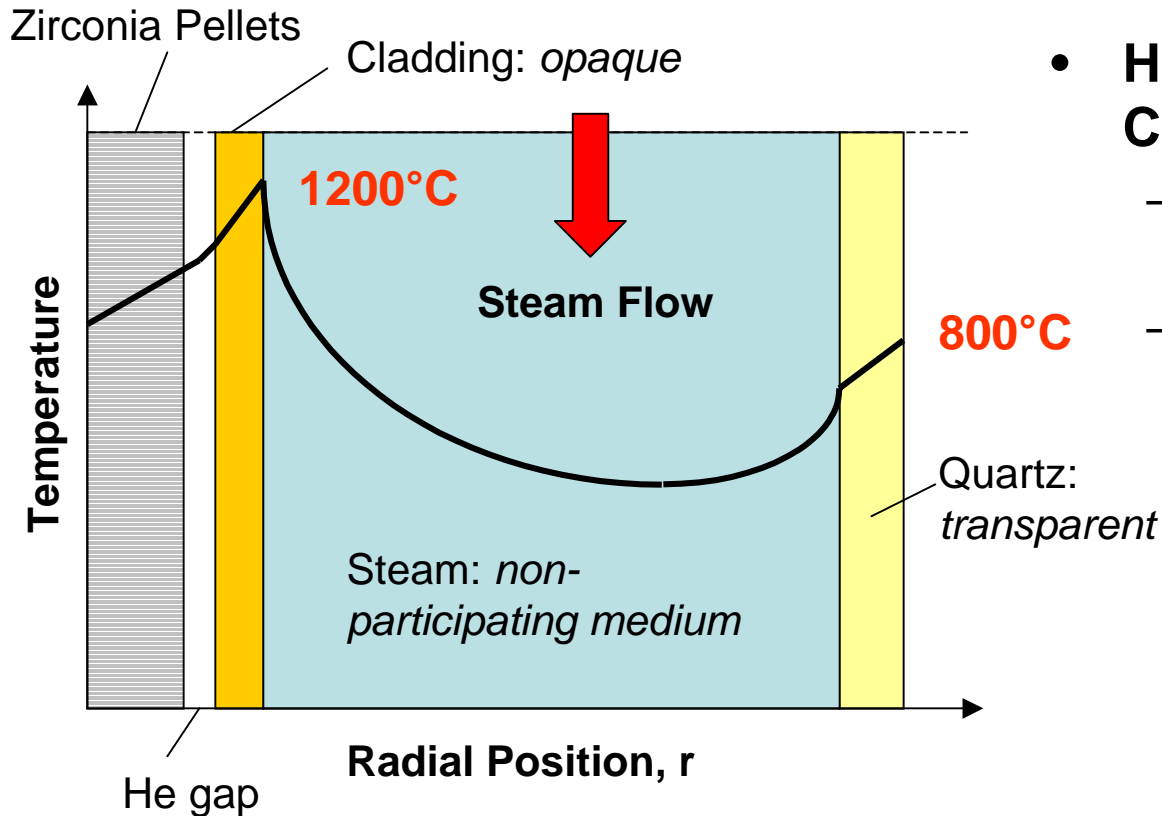
# 1. Introduction

- Typical Transient



# 2. Modeling

- Radial Temp Profile (Classical Solution)

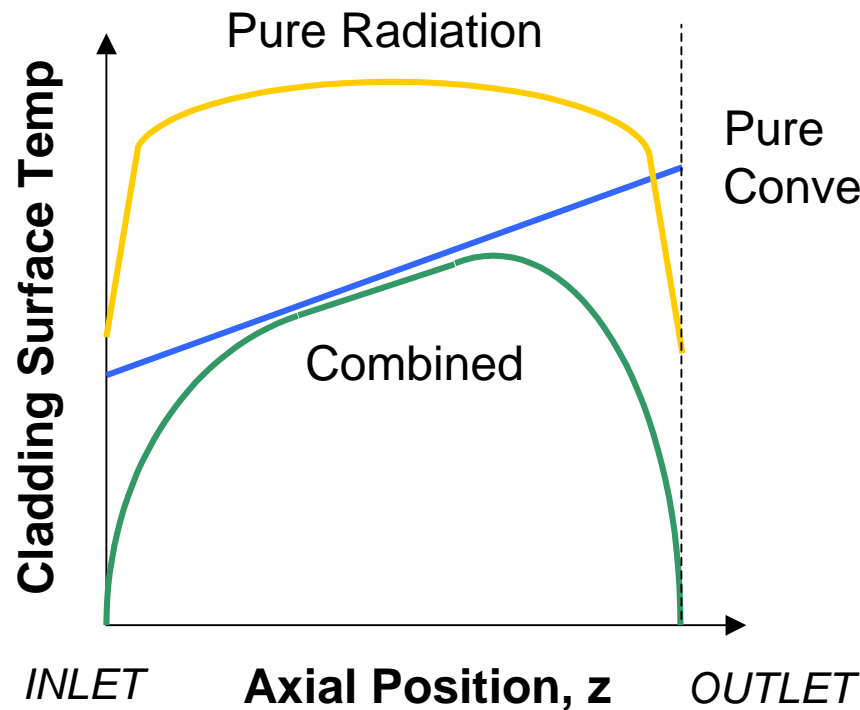


- Heat Transfer Considerations**

- Heat sources: cladding and quartz tube.
- Heat sinks: steam flow, air gap, zircaloy end caps, and zirconia pellets.

# 2. Modeling

- Axial Temp Profile (Classical Solution)



- **Heat Transfer Considerations**

- Step 1: *solve* radiation problem to obtain axial cladding temp profile.
- Step 2: *input* temp profile from radiation solution.
- Step 3: *solve* convection/conduction problem.

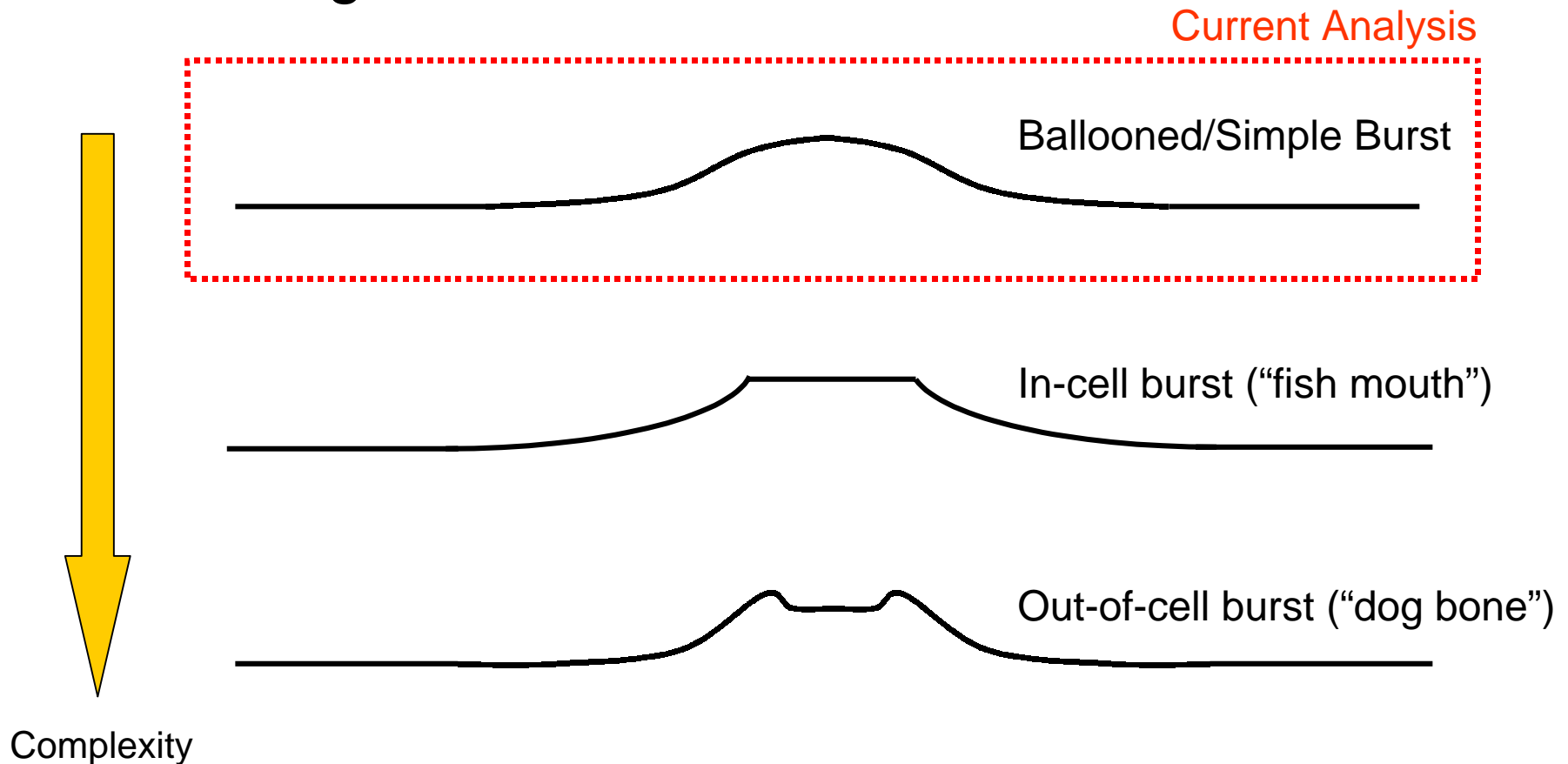
## 2. Modeling

- Material Considerations
  - Zry-2 cladding:  $\epsilon = 0.81$  (weak dependence on oxide layer thickness in the 1200°C zone)  
*MATPRO*
  - Quartz tube:  $\epsilon = 0.9$ ,  $\rho = 0.1$
  - Steam: non-participating medium (radiation)
  - Zirconia pellets:  $\text{ZrO}_2$  material properties

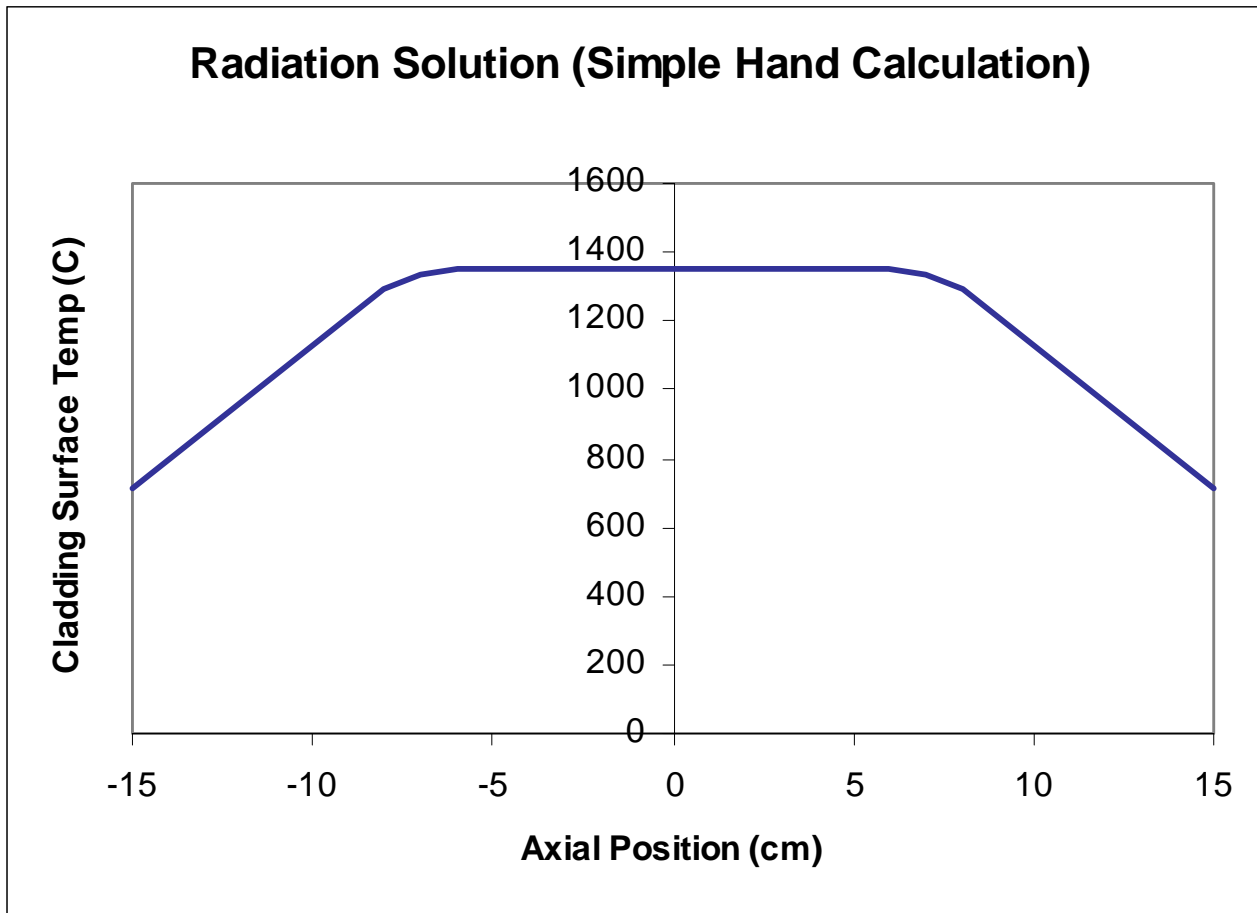


# 2. Modeling

- Cladding Profiles

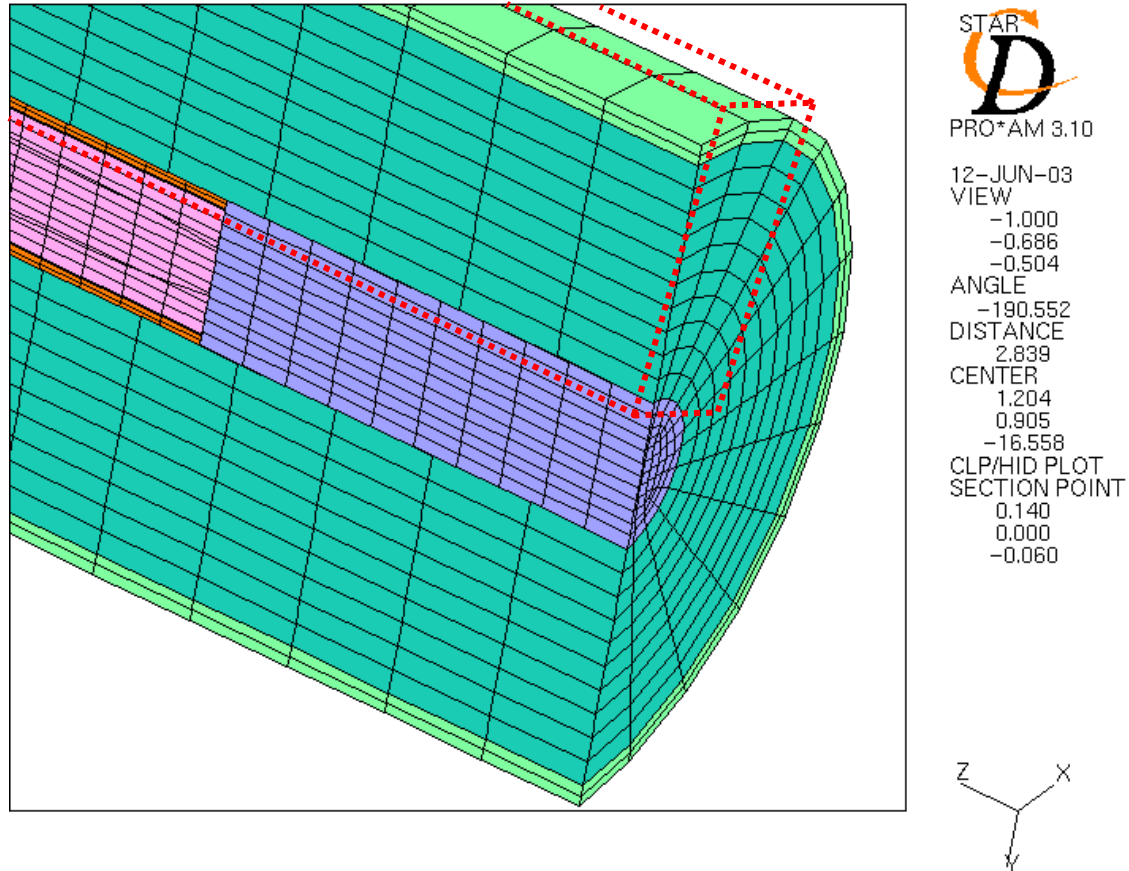


## 2. Modeling



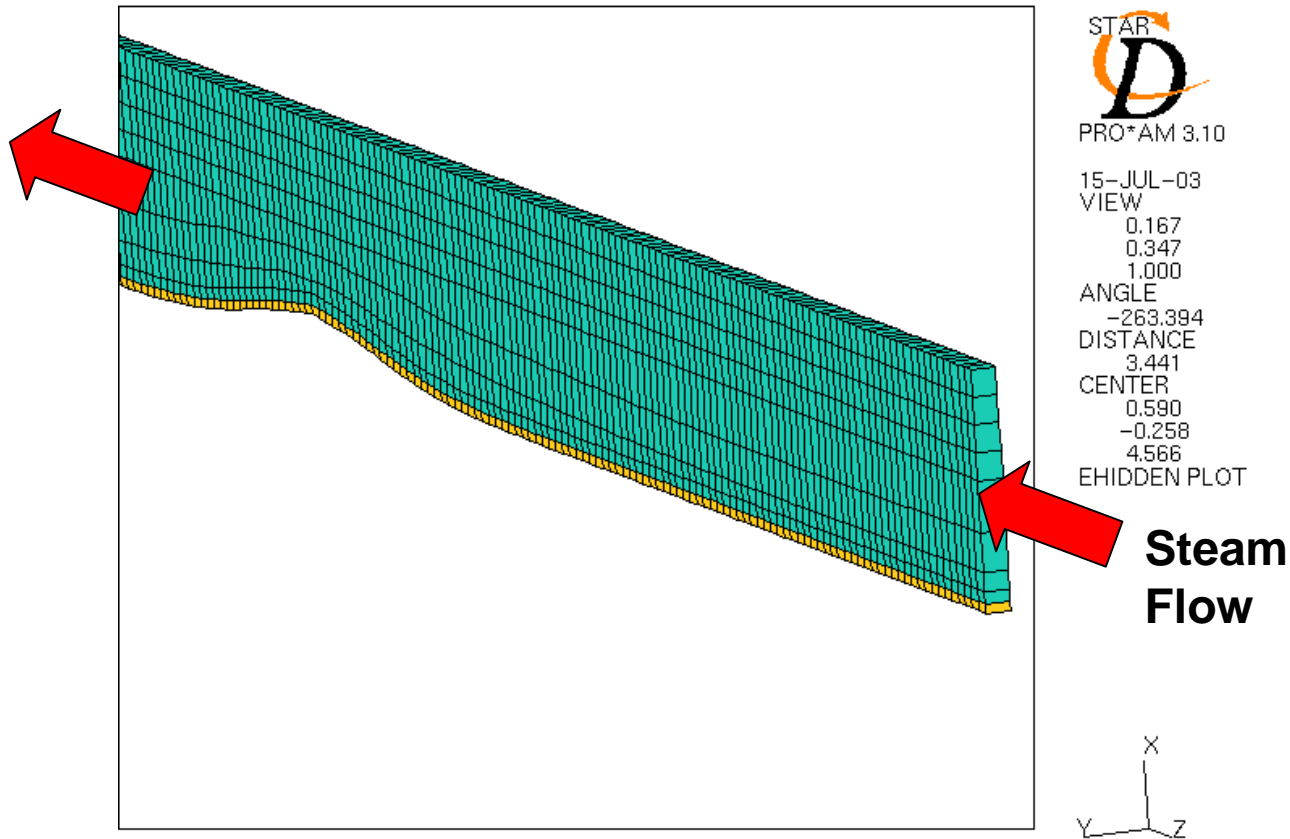
# 2. Modeling

- 3D Computational Mesh (Section View)

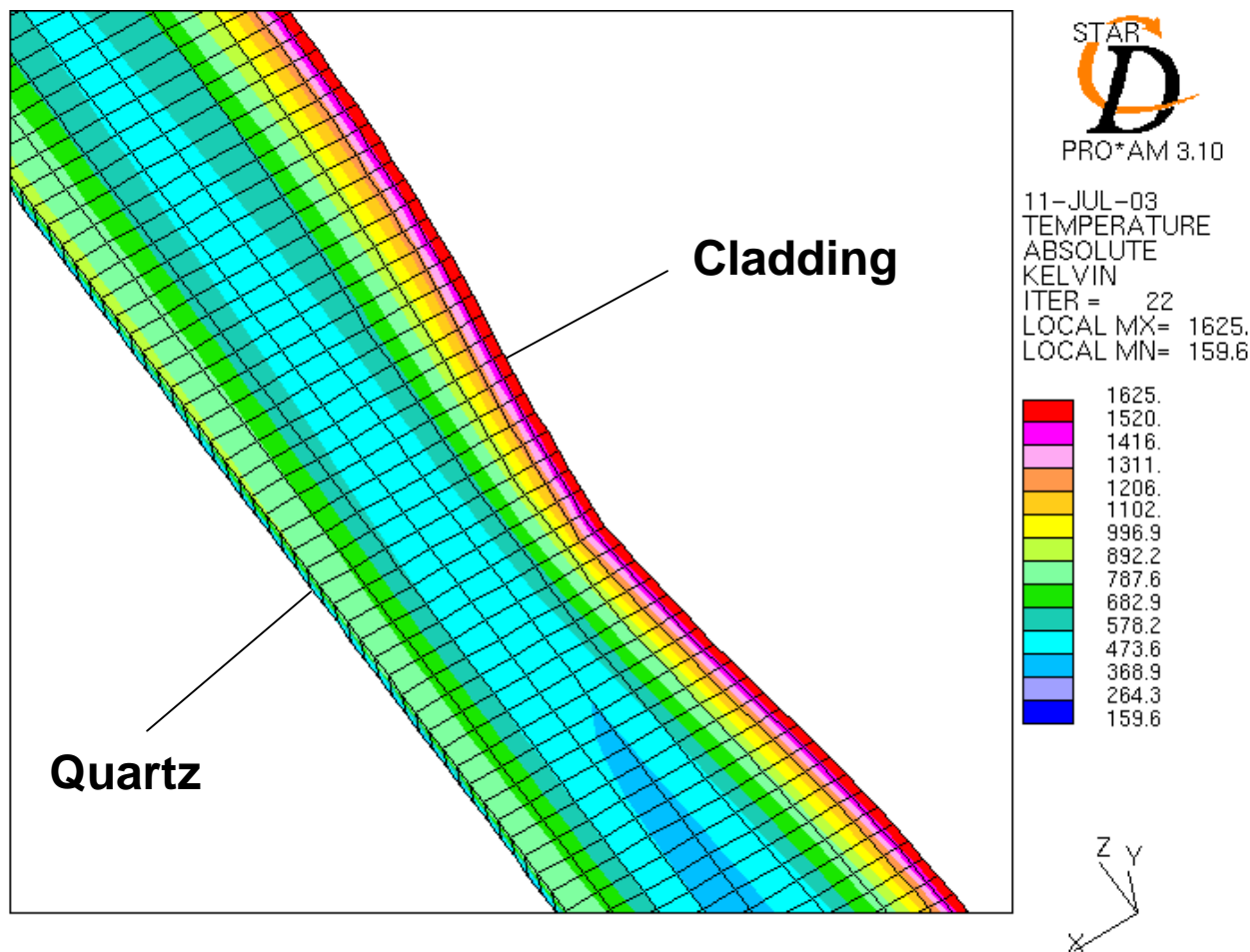


# 2. Modeling

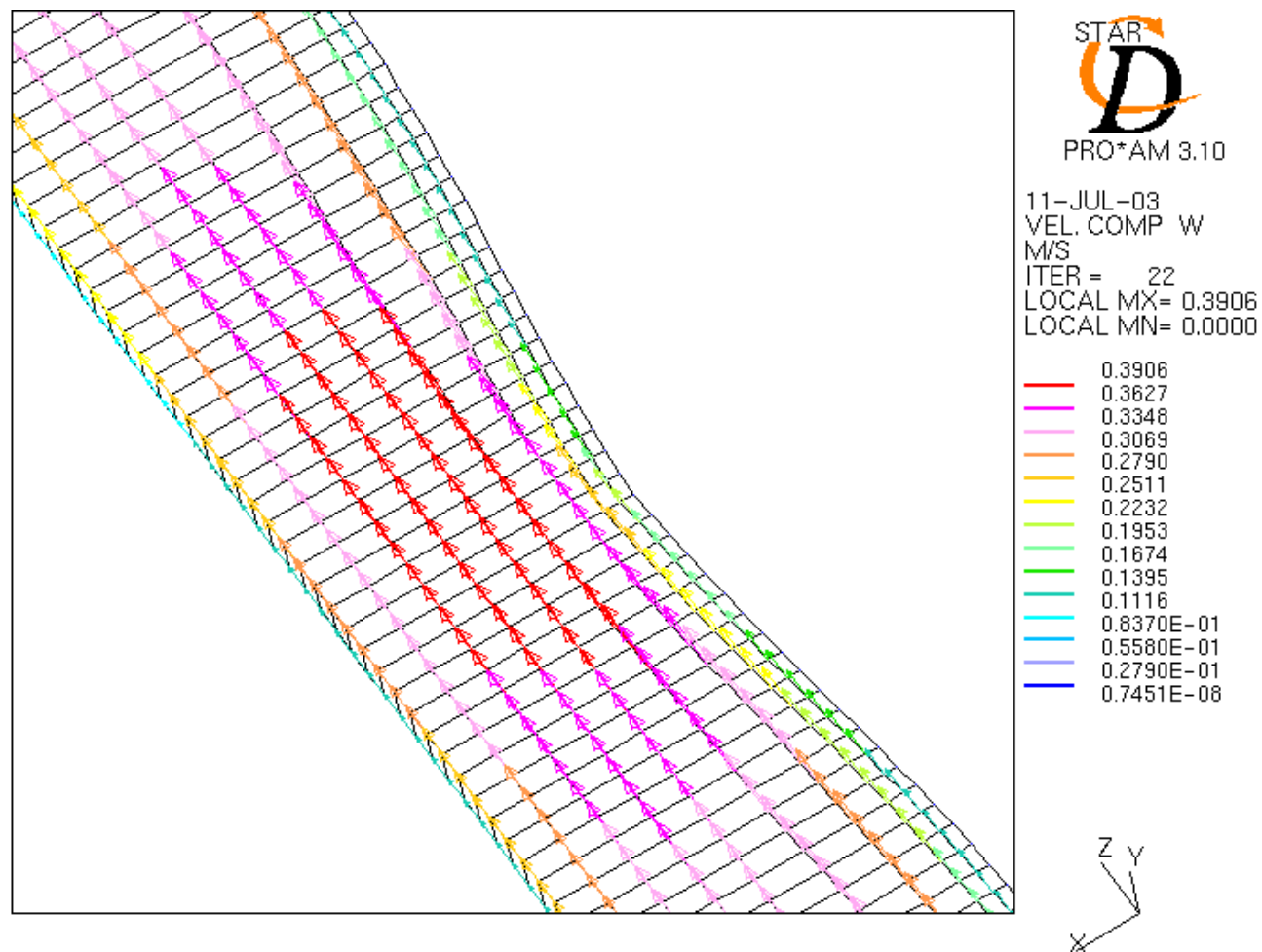
- 2D Section Slice



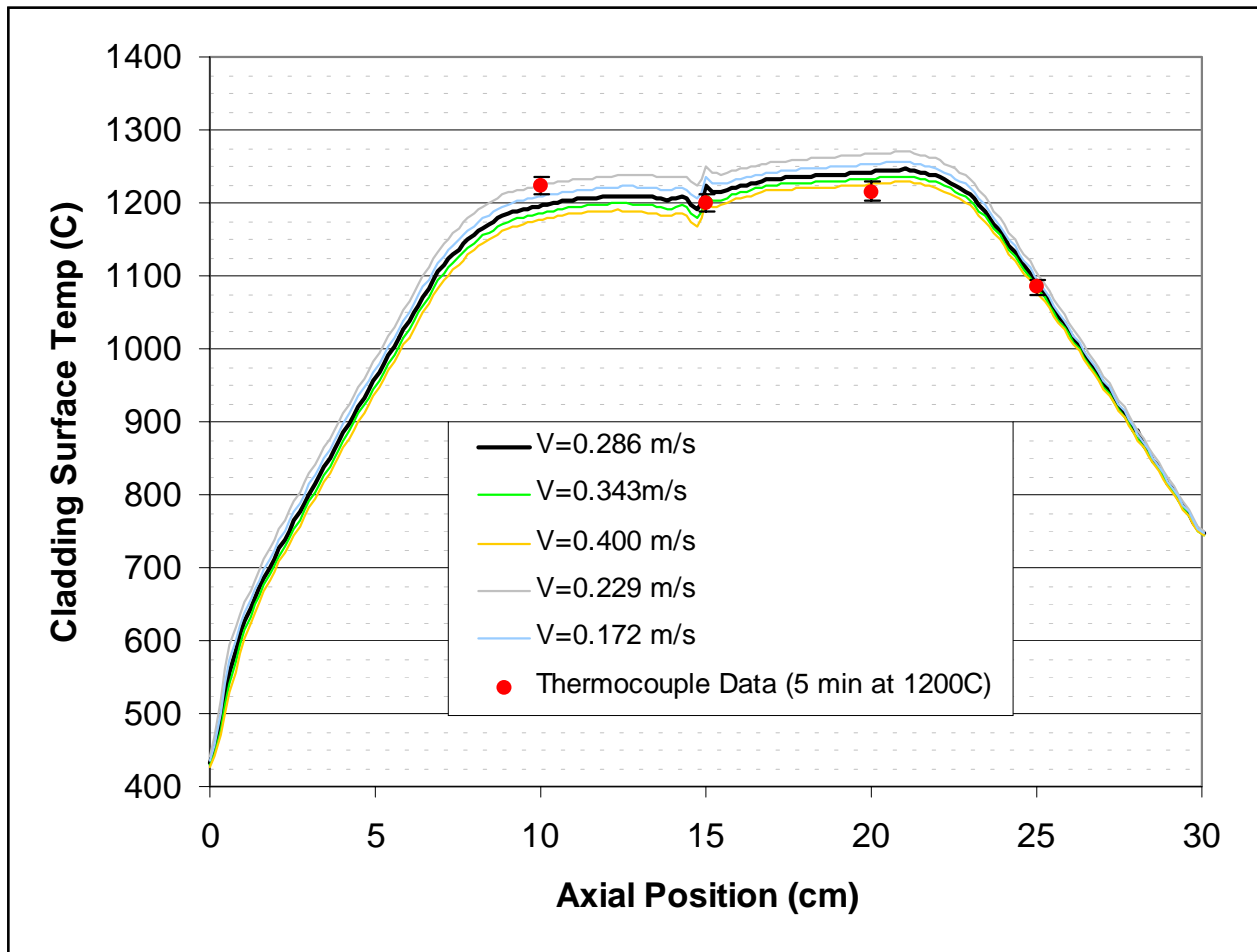
# 3. Results



# 3. Results



# 3. Results



# 3. Results

- Axial Temperatures

Axial Position	T <sub>calc</sub>	T <sub>data</sub>	$\Delta T$	% Diff.
- 5 cm	1197	1224	27	2.2
mid-plane	1201	1201	0*	0*
+ 5 cm	1242	1216	26	2.2
+ 10 cm	1084	1084	0**	0**

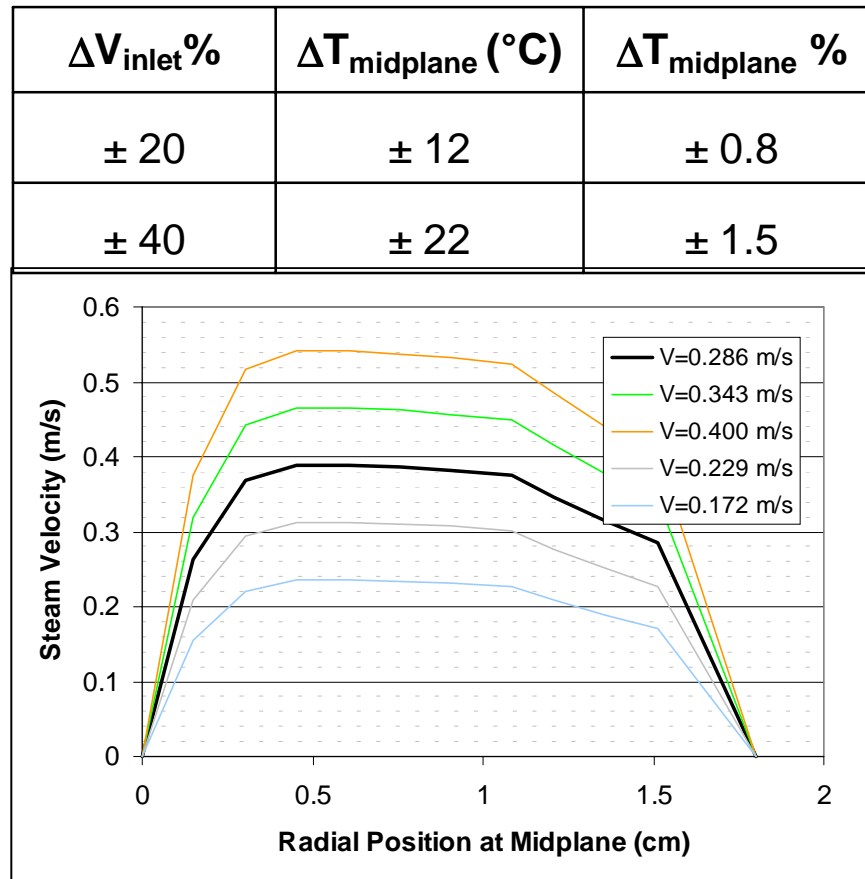
\*Control thermocouple \*\*Input temperature

	Calc	Data
$\Delta T$ (mid-plane to +5 cm), °C	4	23
$\Delta T$ (-5 cm to mid-plane), °C	41	15



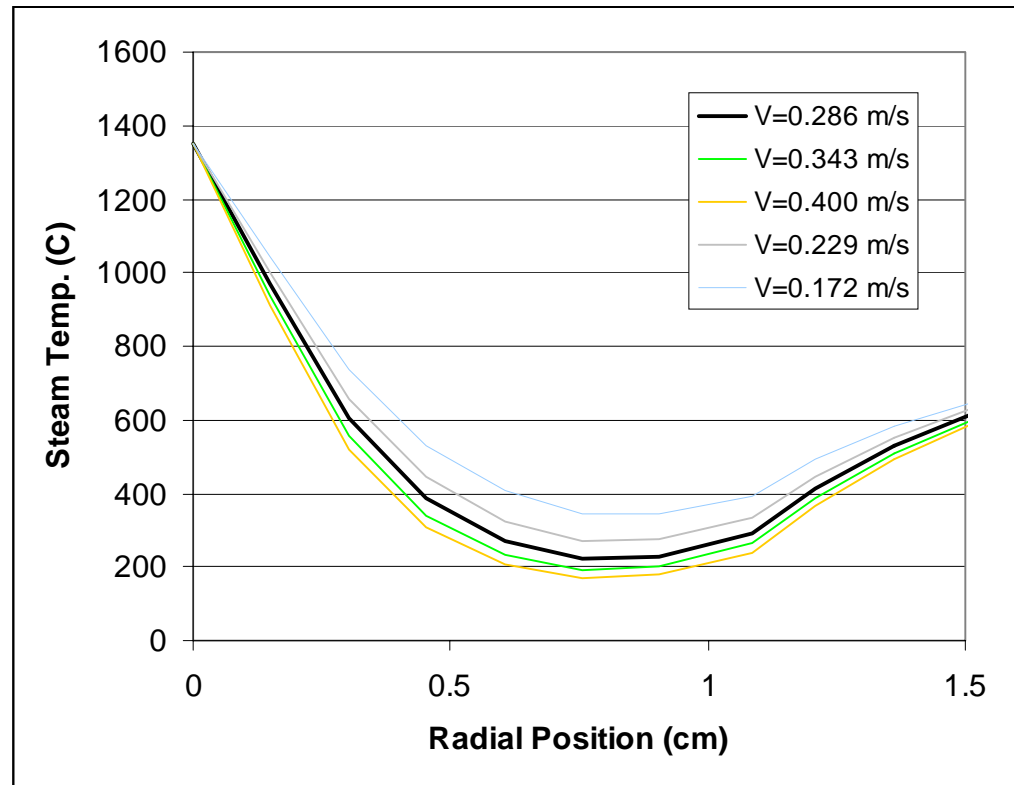
# 3. Results

- Steam Velocity



# 3. Results

- Steam Cross-flow Temperature



# 4. Summary

- Additional experiments were run at ANL to determine steam flow rate and quartz tube temp. as a function of control temp.
- Cladding surface emissivity is constant ( $\epsilon = 0.81$ ) for 5, 10 and 20 min. 1200°C oxidation (MATPRO, Rev. 2).
- 3D mesh created in STAR-CD for ballooned/simple burst test section.
- 2D simulations run at 1200°C with ballooned/simple burst profile.
- STAR-CD calculations predicted thermocouple data to within  $\pm 2\%$ .
- STAR-CD predicted a *relatively flat* axial temperature profile from -5 cm to +5 cm, consistent with thermocouple data.
- STAR-CD predicted a  $\pm 12^\circ\text{C}$  (0.8%) variation in cladding surface temperature when steam inlet velocity was varied by  $\pm 20\%$ .
- STAR-CD calculations may be improved by refining the radiation heat transfer solution.

# 5. Future Work

- Refine radiation solution to improve accuracy of STAR-CD calculations.
- Run STAR-CD simulations of “fish mouth” and “dog bone” burst profiles.
- Perform a parametric study of circumferential cladding temperatures using multiple (0°, 90° and 180°) 2D profile meshes.

# 5. Future Work (continued)

- 3D Burst Model (un-meshed/PRO-E)

**Dog Bone  
Burst**

