

Uncertainty Quantification in a Micro Mill Caster Digital Twin



Carnegie Mellon University
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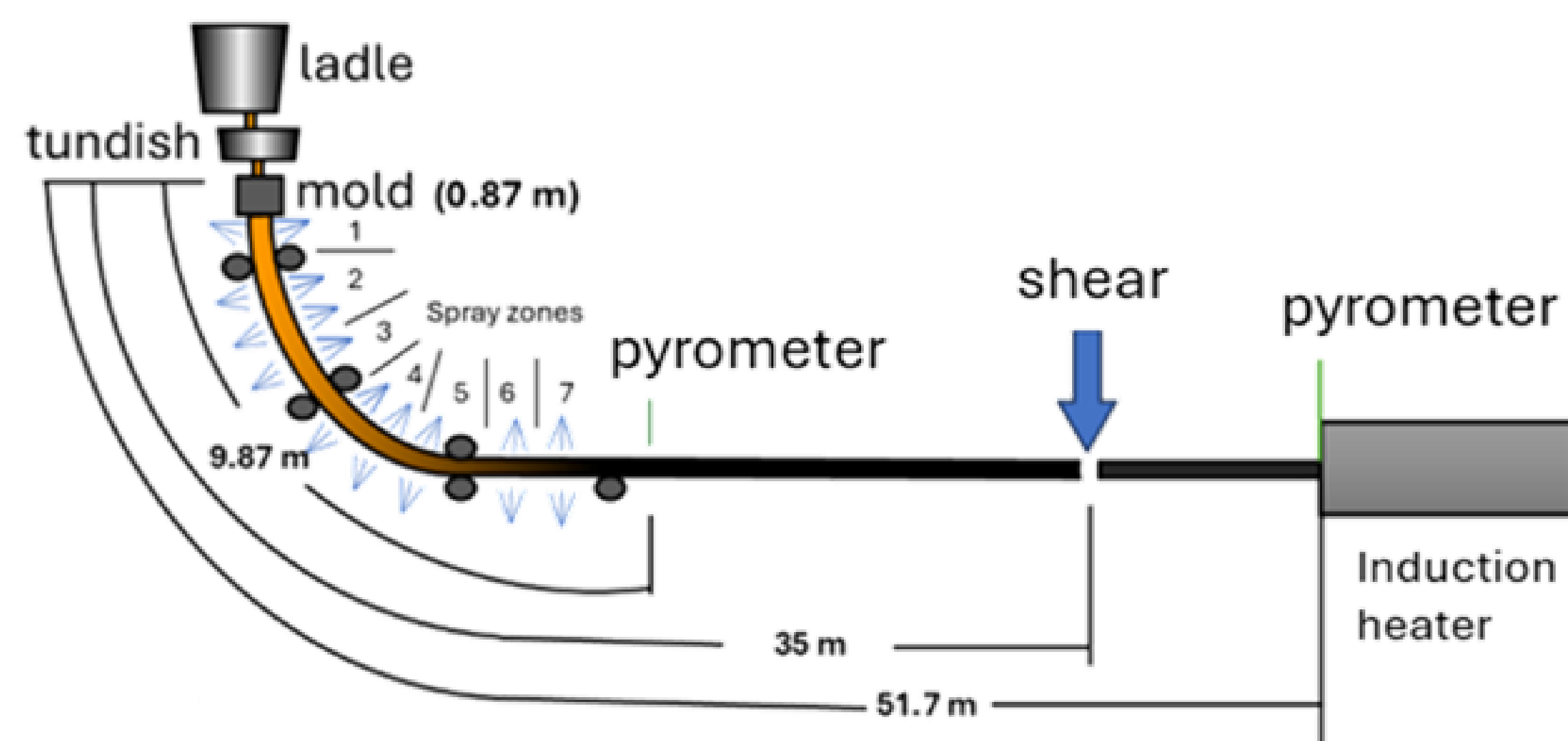
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INTRODUCTION

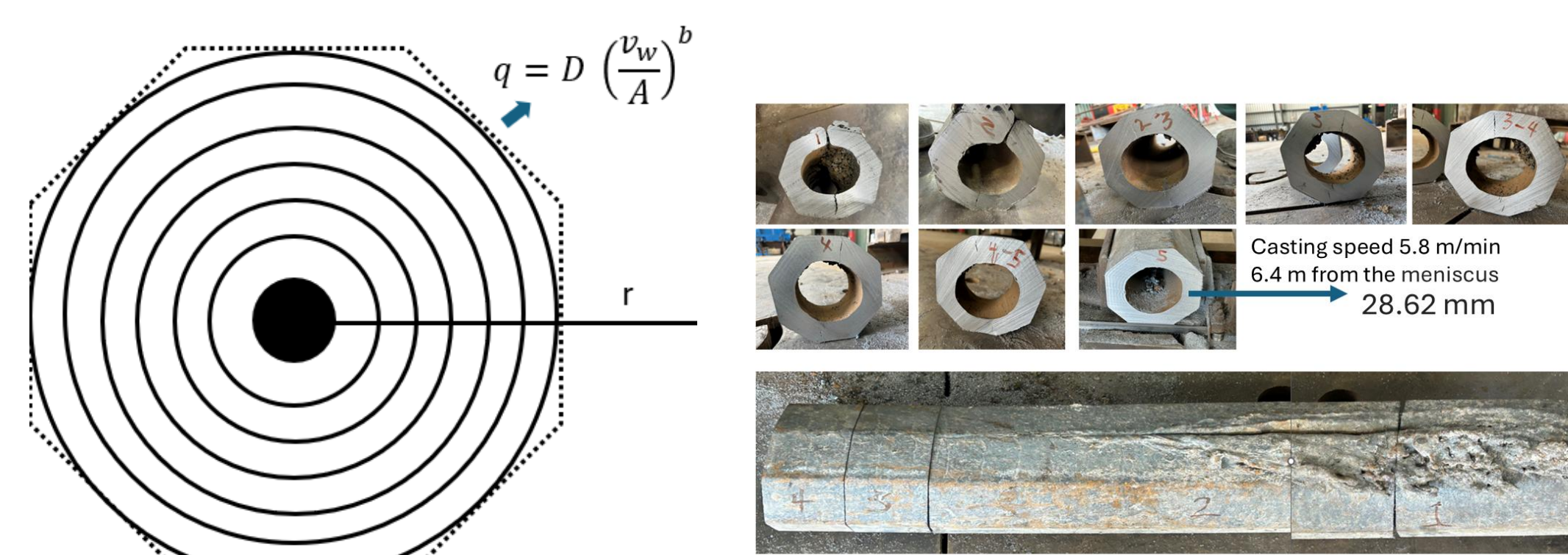
- Micro mill caster: compact, high-speed (3-9 m/min), low-carbon
- Safe production requires real-time and accurate metallurgical length (final solidification point) prediction.
- Digital Twin enables real-time prediction & optimization
- **Critical gap: Large uncertainty in heat transfer coefficient (HTC) of the spray cooling zone & industrial sensor data limits reliability**



METHODOLOGY

Physics-informed digital twin

- Numerical solving governing heat transfer equation on 1D billet [1].
- $$\rho_s C V \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(k r \frac{\partial T}{\partial r} \right)$$
- Boundary condition q in the spray cooling zone depends on the pyrometer reading and the shell thickness measurement from the breakout shell

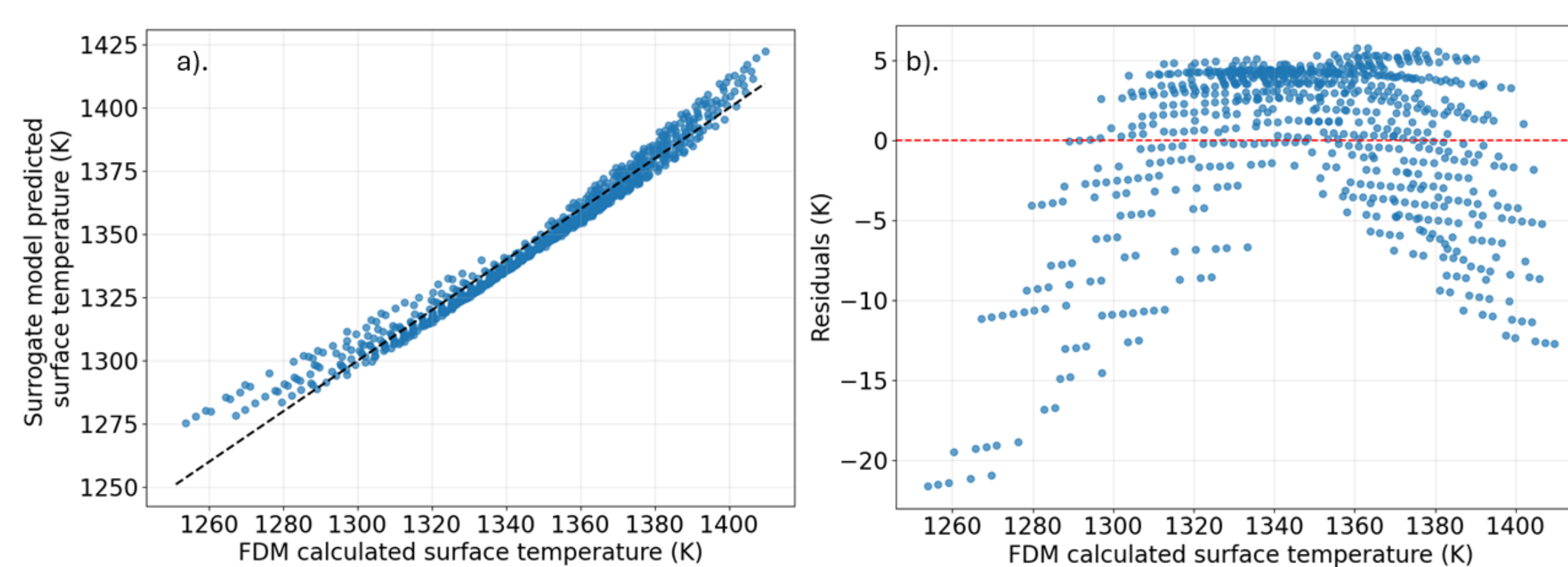


- HTC trained on two loss functions based on prediction residual errors [2].

Weighted loss function

$$\frac{W}{m} \sum_i^m (T_{prediction} - T_{measured})^2 + \frac{(1-W)}{n} \sum_i^n (H_{prediction} - H_{measured})^2$$

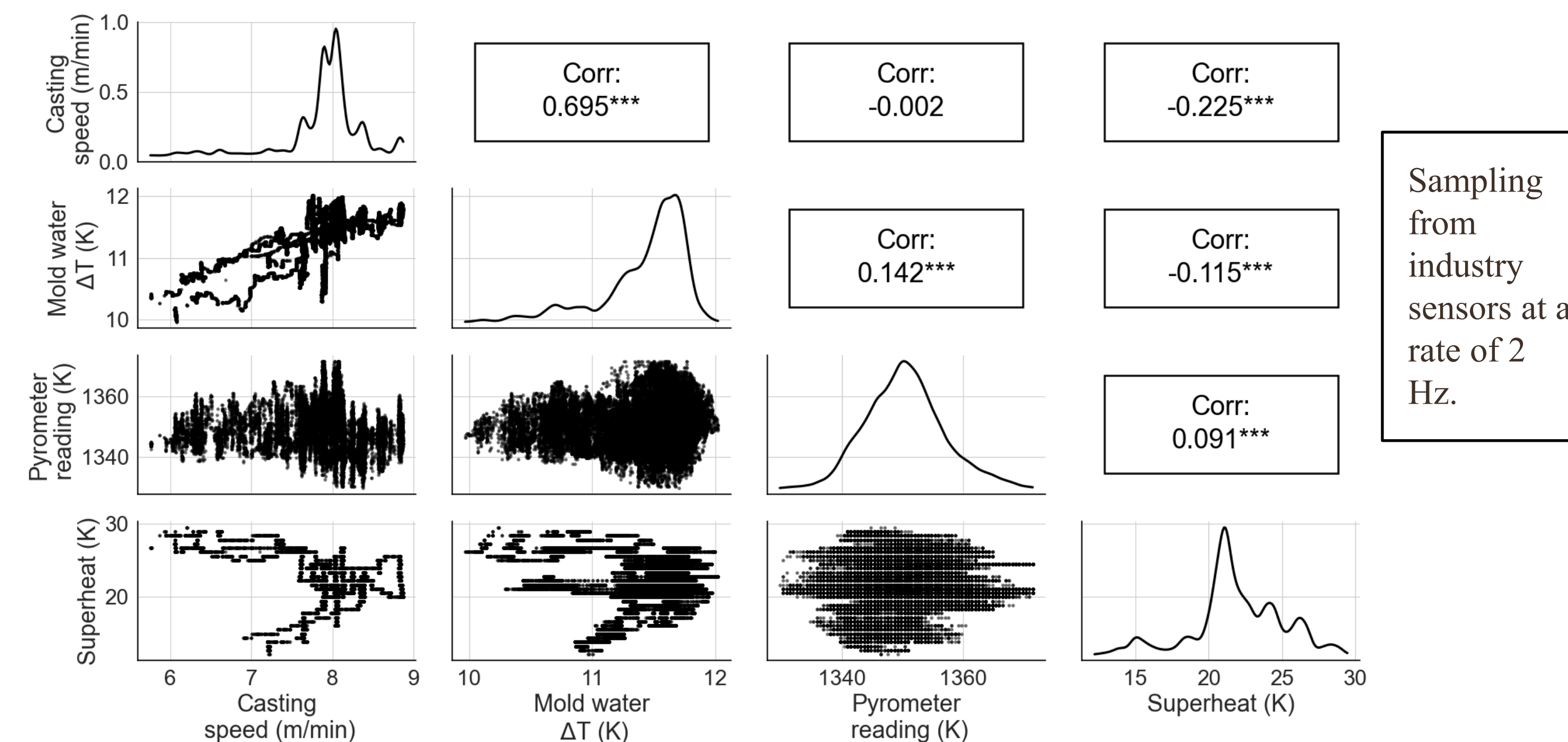
- Calibrated dataset used to train a multiple linear regression based surrogate model on surface temperature



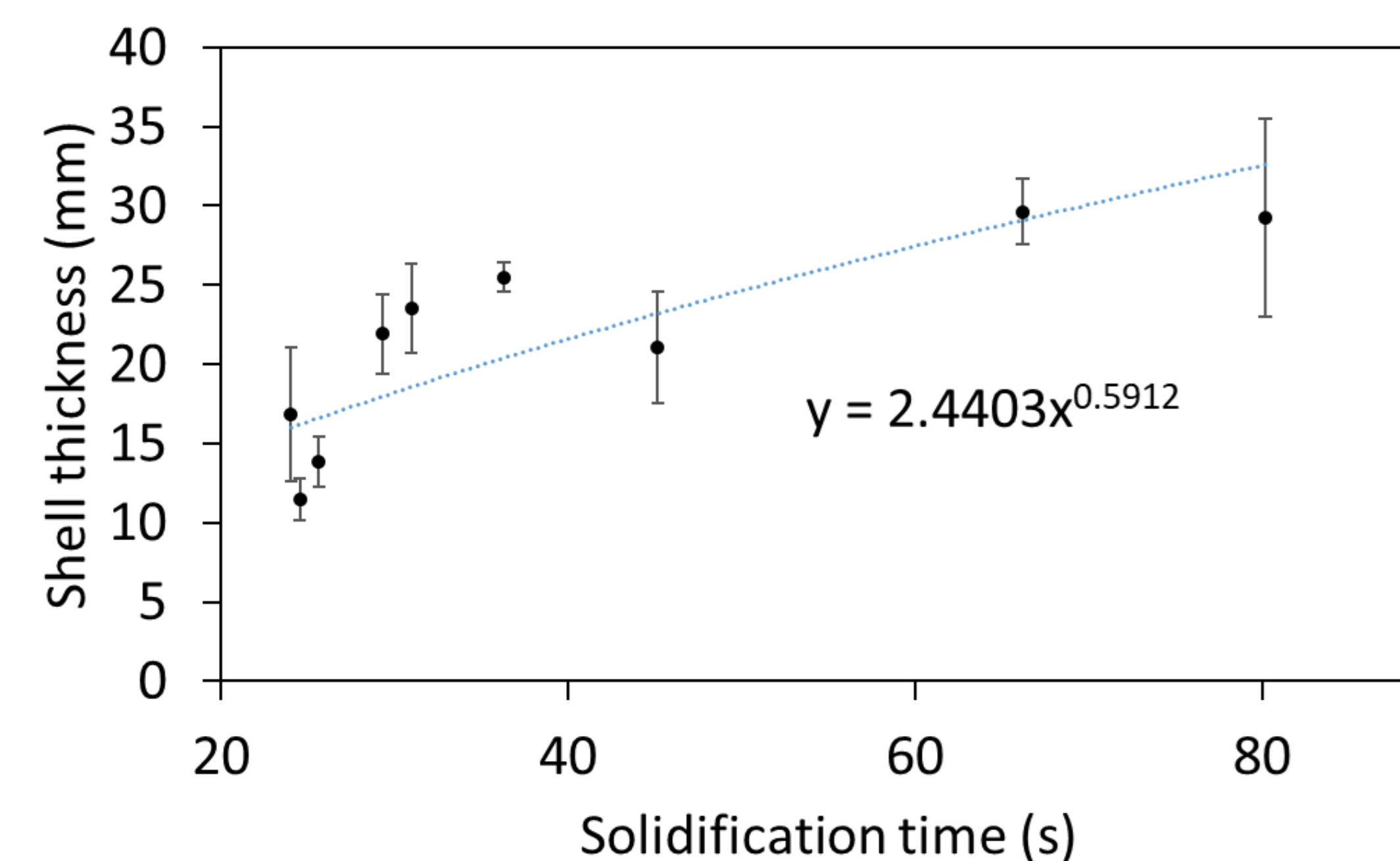
UNCERTAINTY QUANTIFICATION

Industrial dataset

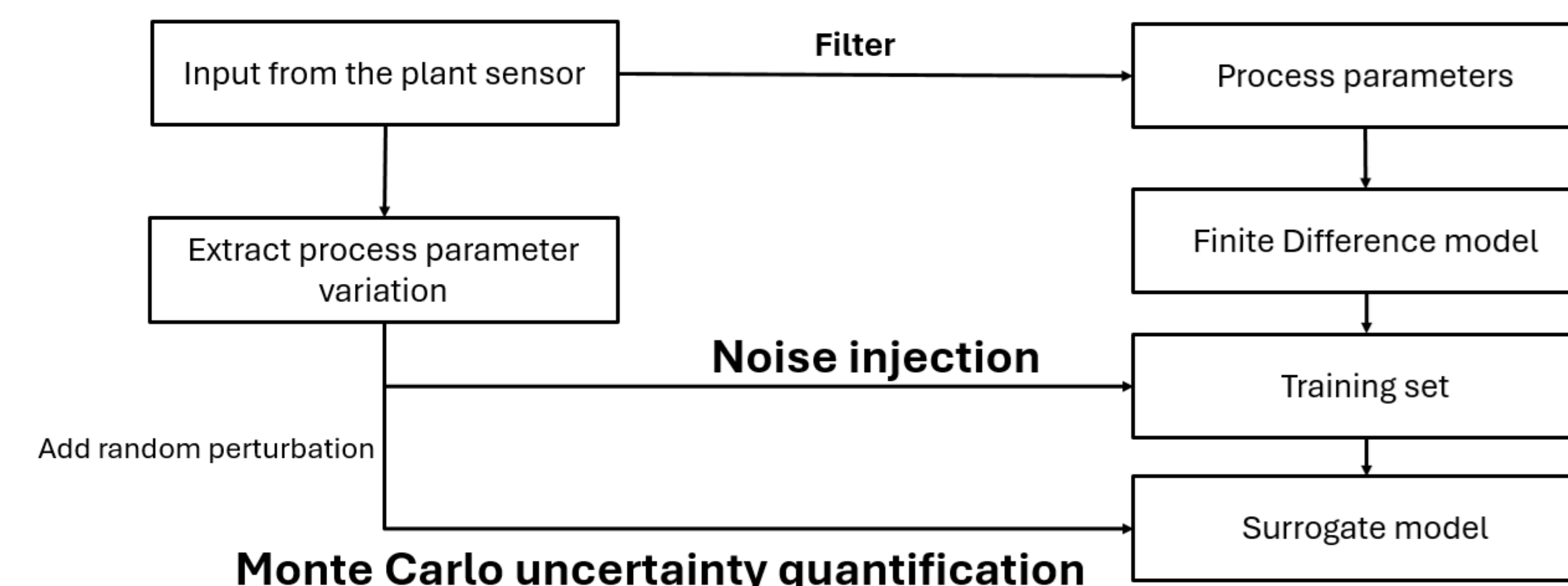
- Input parameters:
 - Casting speed (m/min), Mold water temperature (K), Superheat (K)
- Output:
 - Surface Temperature (pyrometer reading)



Shell from the industrial breakout samples.



Perturbation method

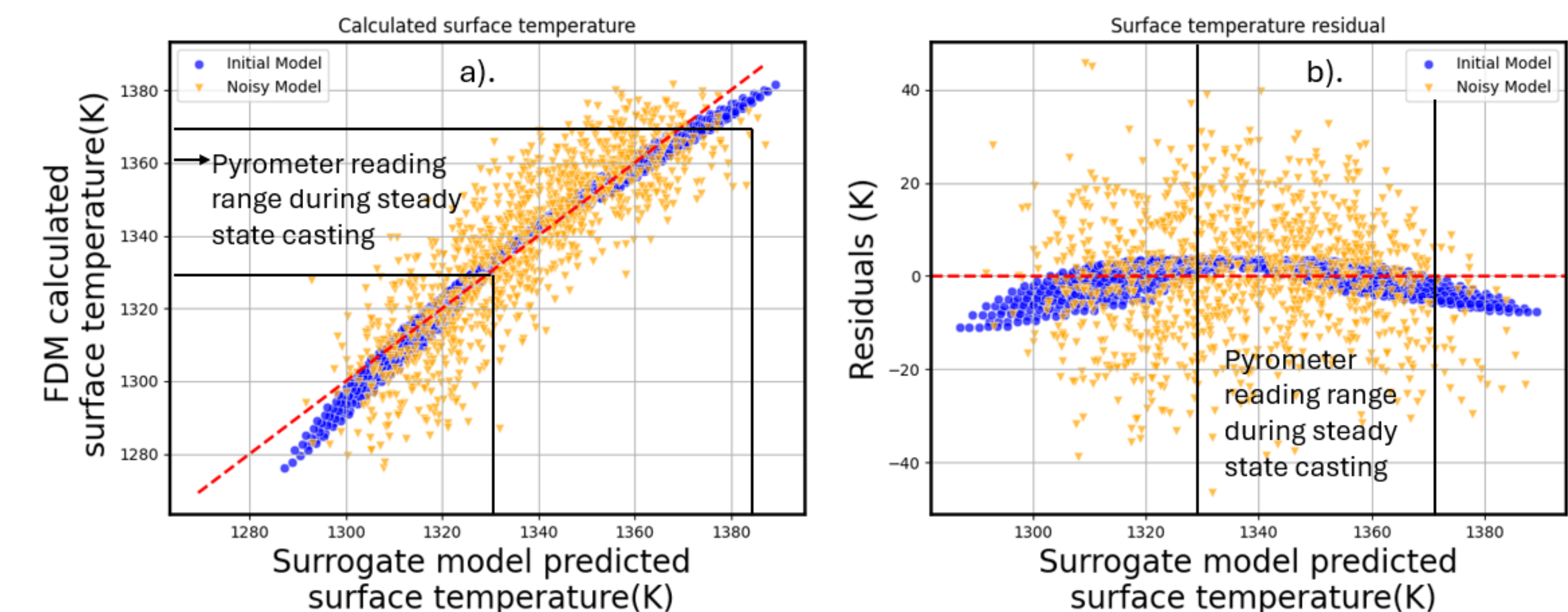


CONCLUSION

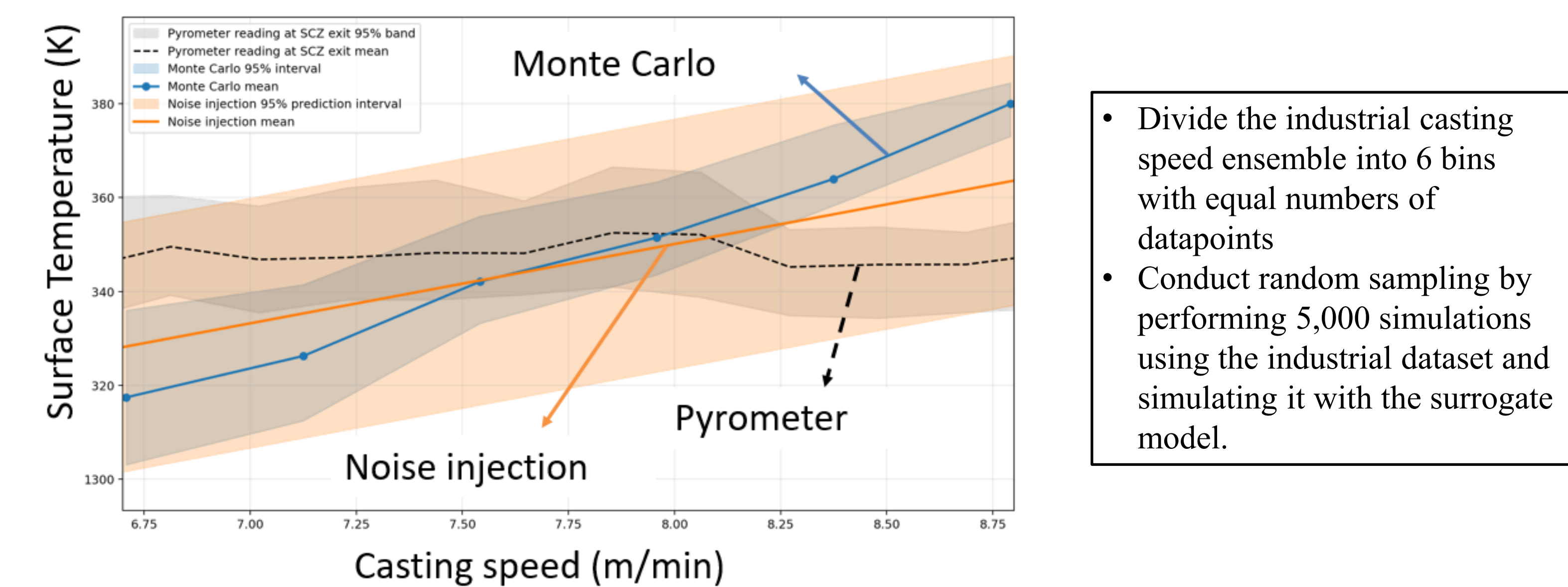
- Weighted and normalized loss functions can both fit the calibration data, but they lead to different model responses.
- Surface temperature is more sensitive to mold-water ΔT than to superheat.
- Noise injection gives a larger, more conservative uncertainty estimate than Monte Carlo input UQ.
- Below 8.33 m/min, surface-temperature variation is mainly driven by superheat and mold-water ΔT .

RESULTS

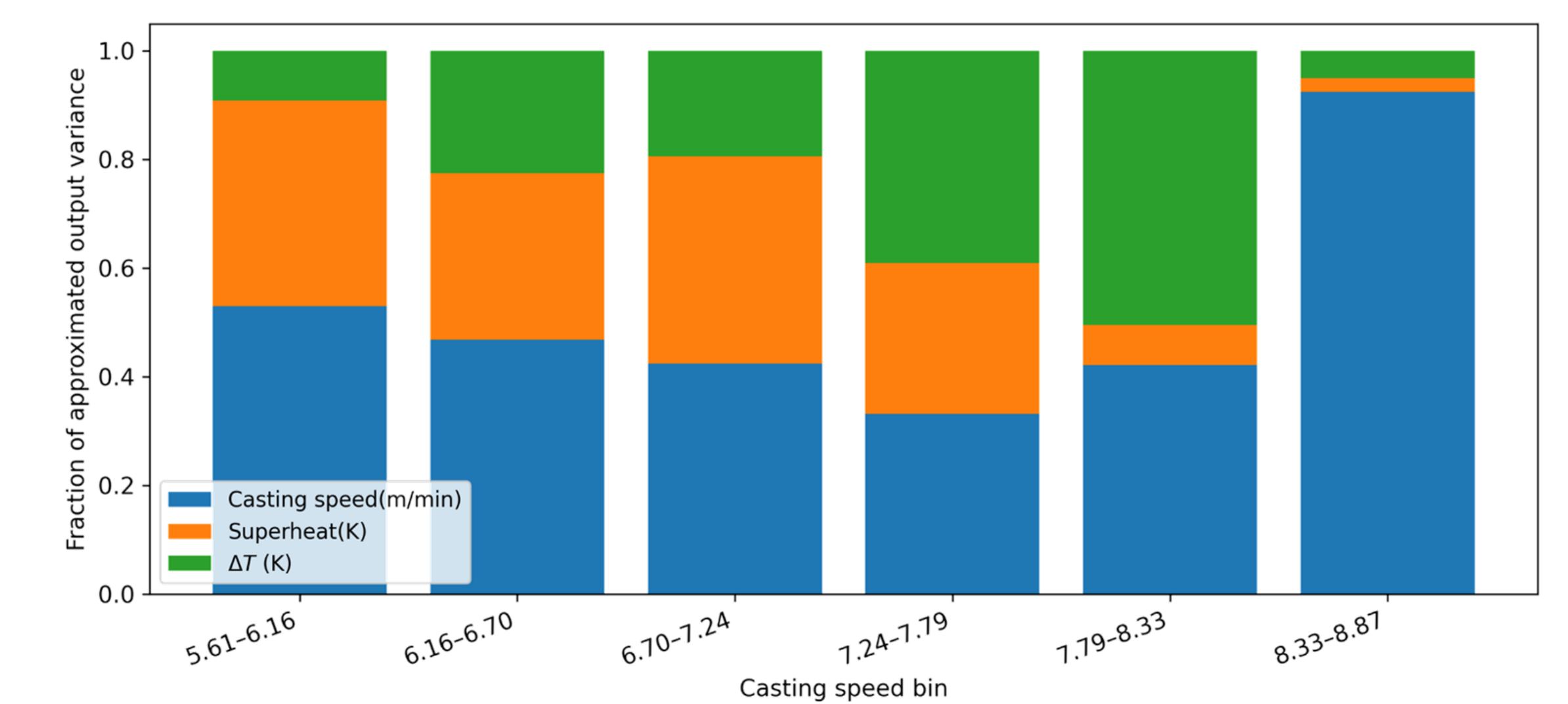
Uncertainty with noise injection in training set



Uncertainty with Monte Carlo quantification



Input variation interpretation from the MCUQ analysis



REFERENCES

1. Brimacombe, J.K. Design of Continuous Casting Machines Based on a Heat-Flow Analysis: State-of-the-Art Review. Canadian Metallurgical Quarterly 1976, 15, 163–175,
2. Yang, J.; Ji, Z.; Liu, W.; Xie, Z. Digital-Twin-Based Coordinated Optimal Control for Steel Continuous Casting Process. Metals 2023, 13, 816, doi:10.3390/met13040816.

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