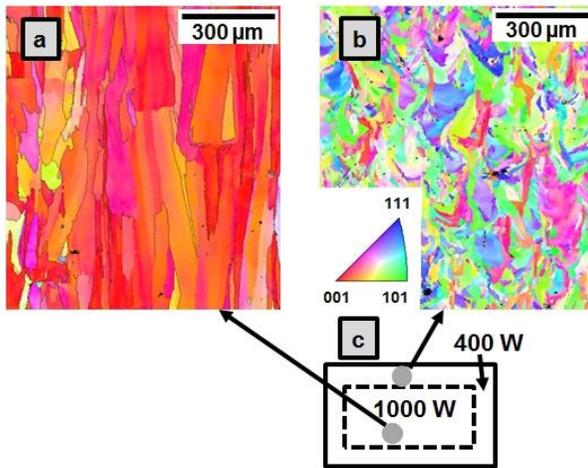


Process-microstructure-property relationships in Ni- and Fe-based alloys processed by AM



*Alloys for Additive Manufacturing Workshop
MPIE Düsseldorf*

*Prof. Dr.-Ing. Thomas Niendorf
July 2016*





DMRC
DIRECT MANUFACTURING RESEARCH CENTER

FAM

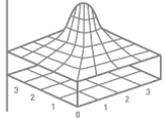
Metals Group



LWK
Lehrstuhl
für Werkstoffkunde

LiA

SLM
SOLUTIONS



Institute of Materials Engineering

FAU

FRIEDRICH-ALEXANDER
UNIVERSITÄT
ERLANGEN-NÜRNBERG

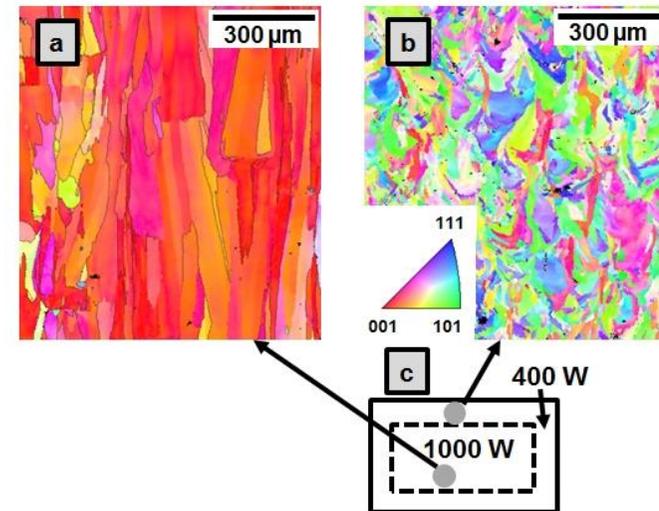
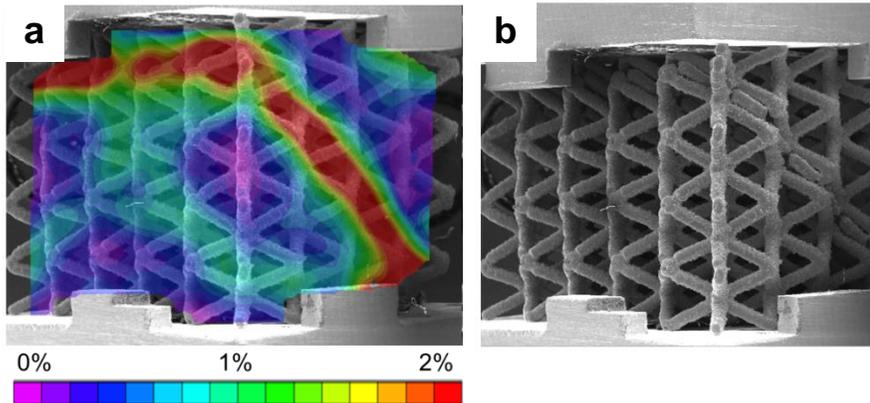
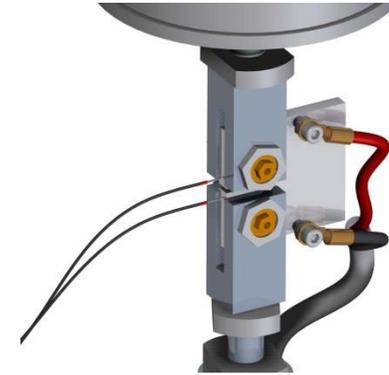
Materials Science & Engineering, Institute I

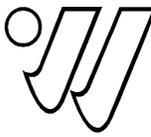


1. *Stainless steel 316L*

2. *Ni-based alloy IN 718*

3. *High-Mn Fe-based alloys*

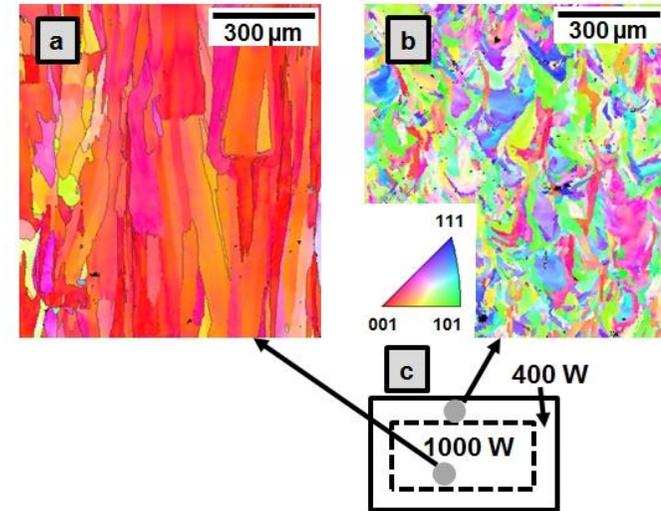
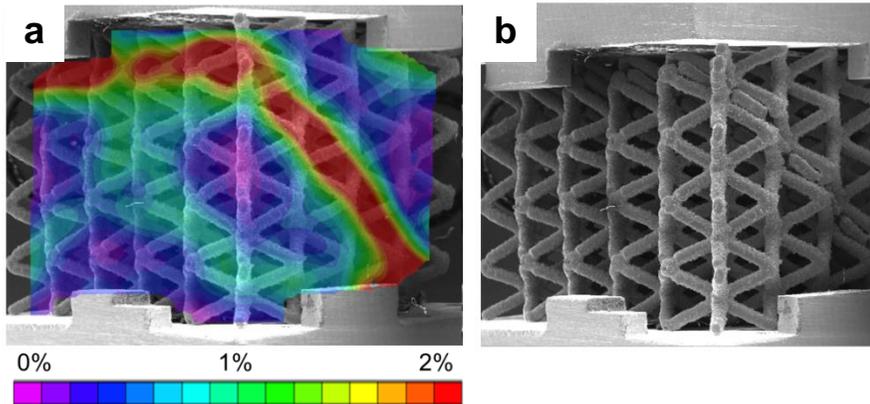
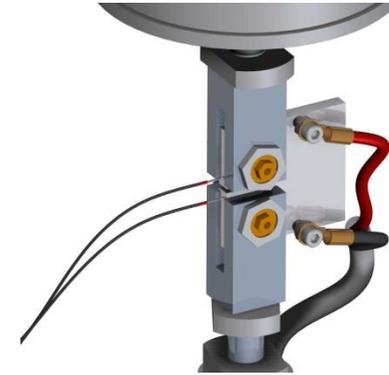




1. Stainless steel 316L

2. Ni-based alloy IN 718

3. High-Mn Fe-based alloys





Melting system: SLM 250^{HL} (SLM Solutions)

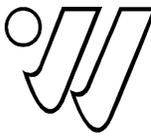
- 400W fibre laser
- Argon atmosphere

Tested material: Stainless steel 316L

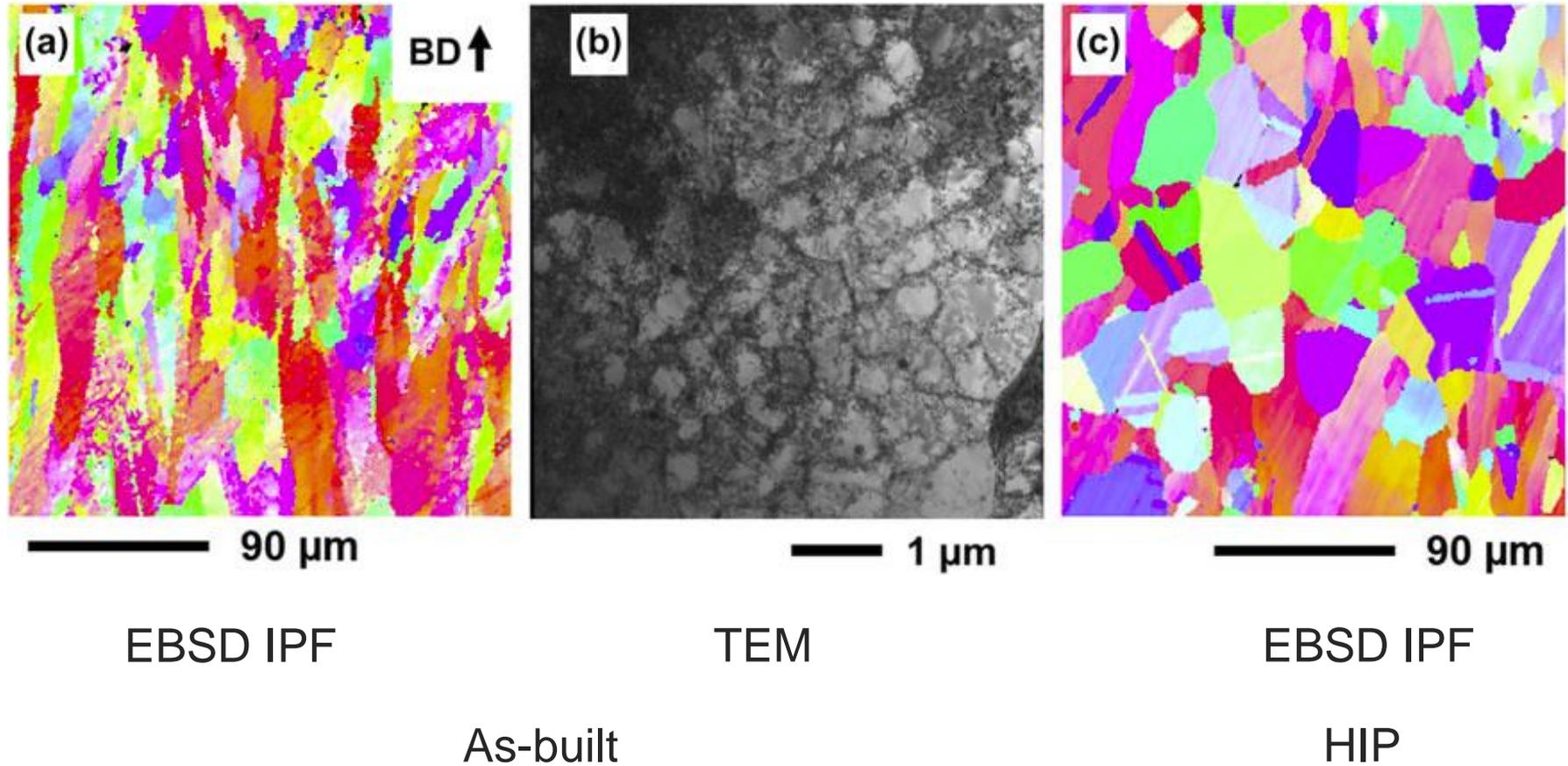
- Layer thickness: 30 μ m
- Average particle size: 40 μ m
- Platform temperature: 100°C



Treatment	1 (as-built)	2 (650°C)	3 (HIP)
Temperature [°C]	20	650	1150 (1000 bar)
Time [h]	-	2	4
Atmosphere	-	Argon	Argon



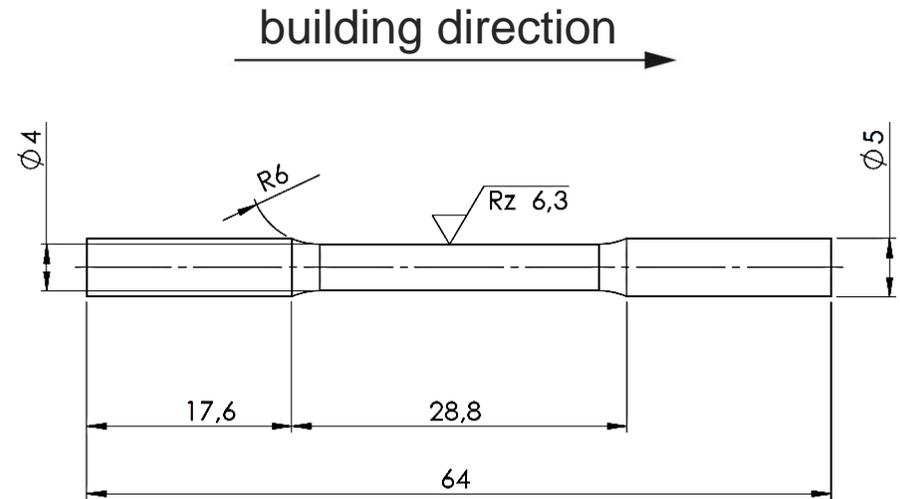
Microstructure





Tensile tests:

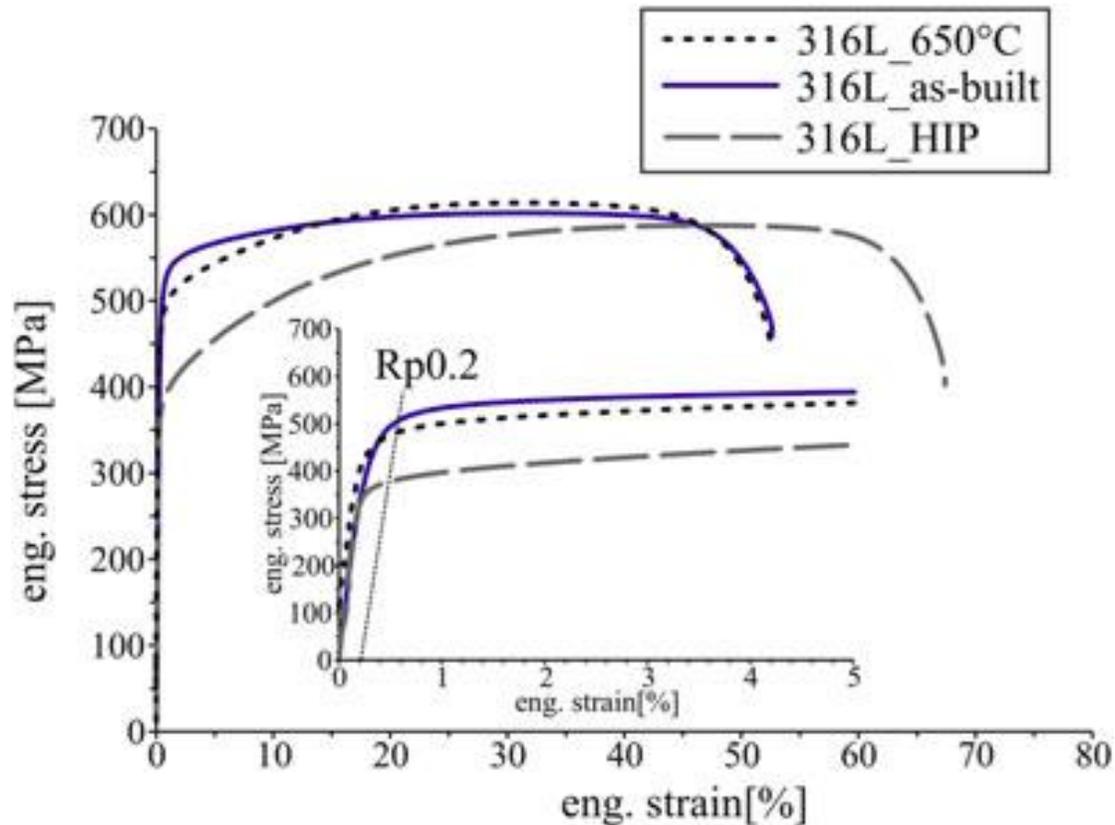
- in accordance with ISO6892-1:2009
- as-built surface
- displacement controlled (5mm/min)
- tests performed on testing machine Instron 5569
- at ambient conditions



condition	UTS / MPa	YS / MPa	ϵ_f / %
as-built/SLM surface	565 \pm 5 MPa	462 \pm 5 MPa	53.7 \pm 2.6 %
650 °C/turned surface	595 \pm 5 MPa	443 \pm 5 MPa	48.6 \pm 2.6 %
traditionally processed	530-680	220	\approx 40



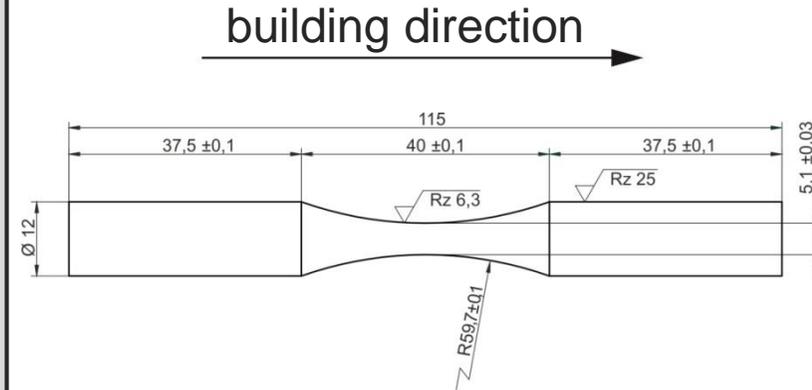
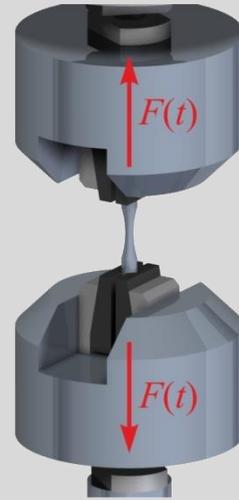
Tensile tests



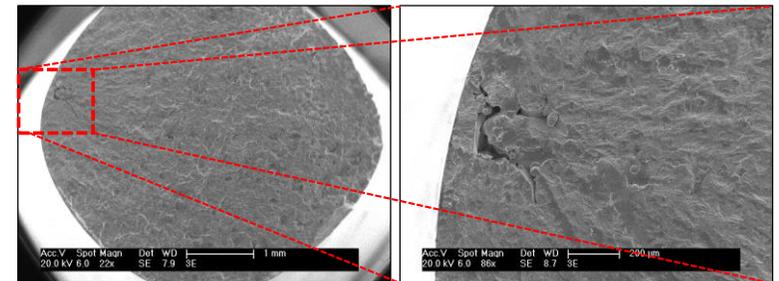


Fatigue tests:

- in accordance with ASTM E466-07
- as-built and turned surface
- force controlled
- Frequency: 40 Hz
- Stress ratio: $R = -1$

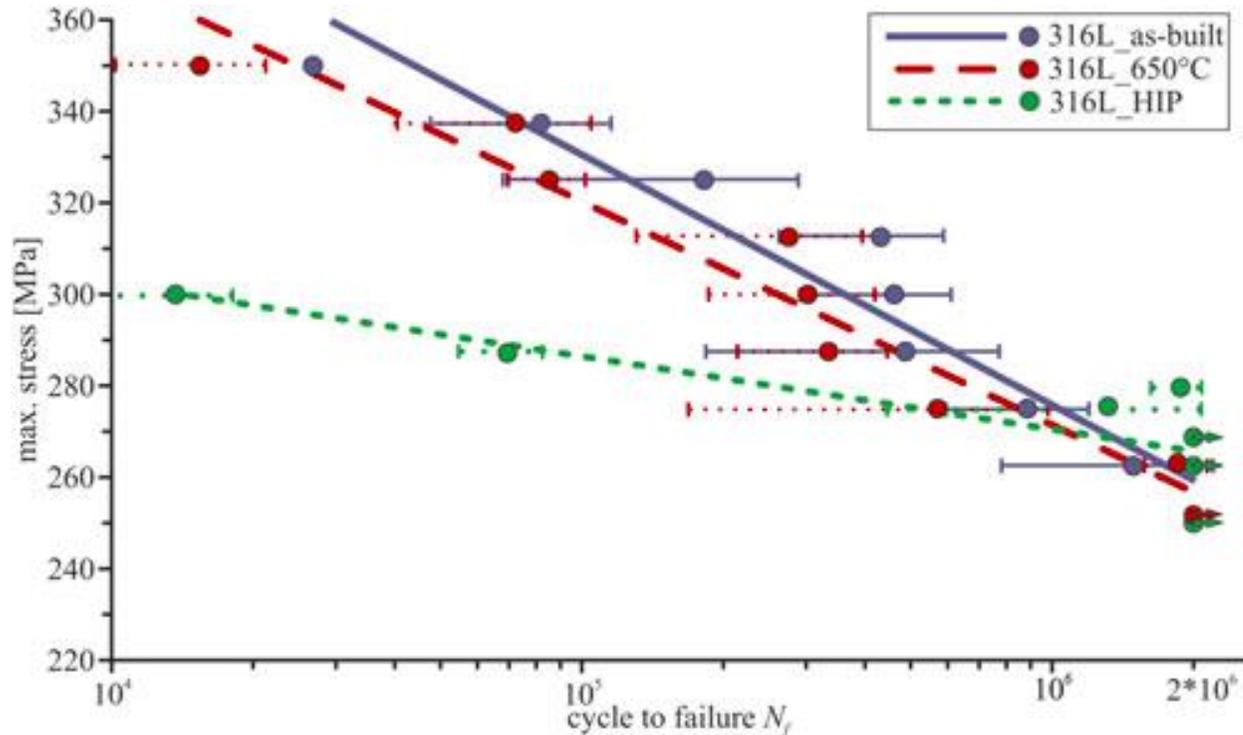


condition	fatigue limit $\bar{\sigma}$ [MPa]
as-built/SLM surface	108
as-built/turned surface	267
650 °C/turned surface	294
HIPed/turned surface	317
traditionally processed	240-381





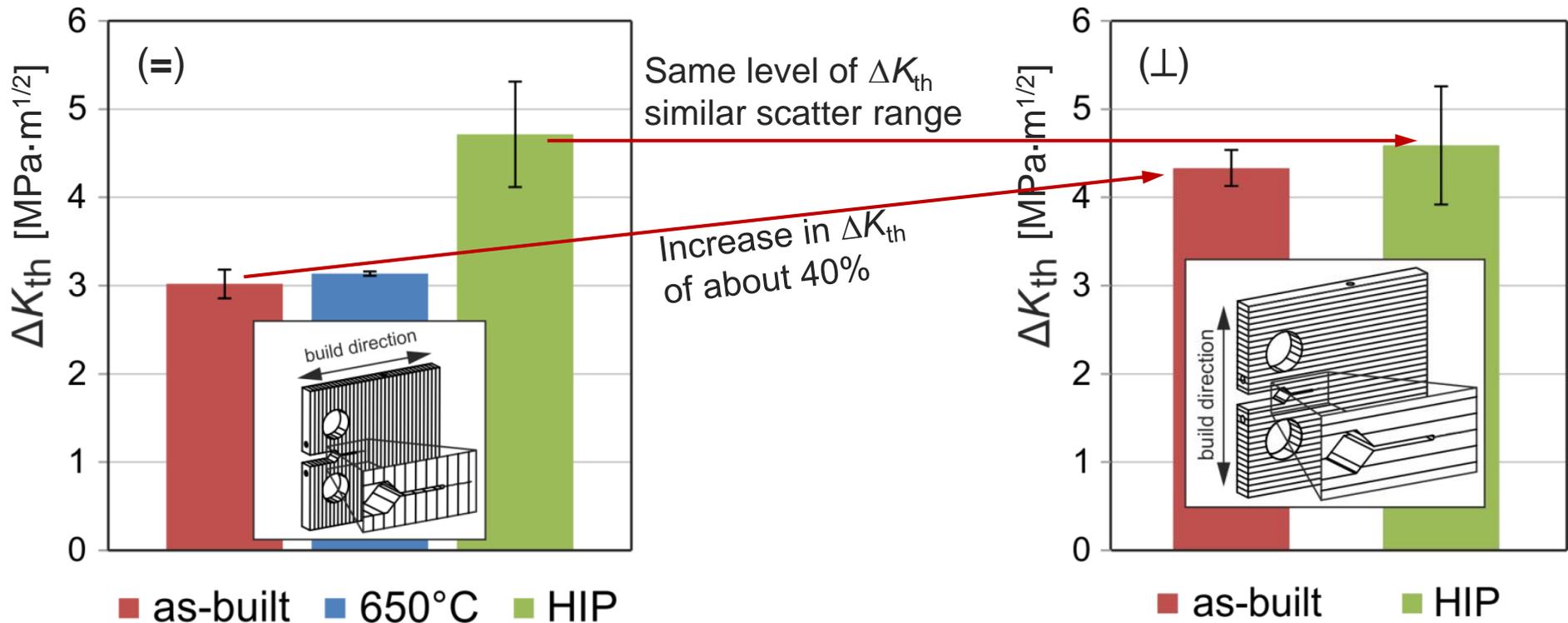
Woehler type S-N-curves





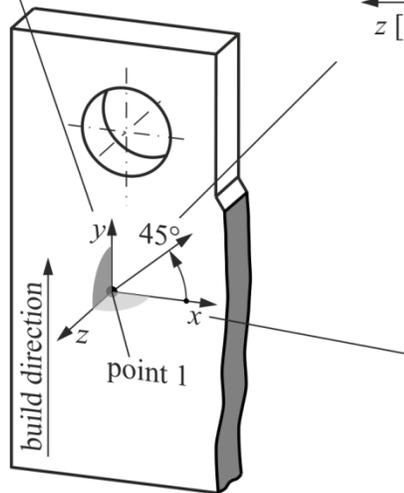
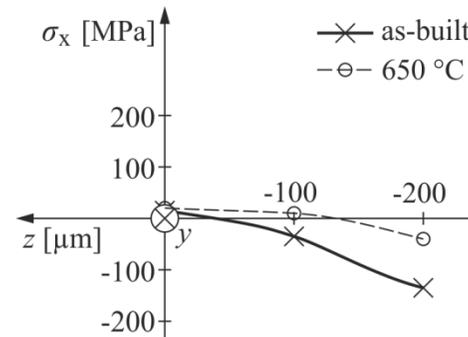
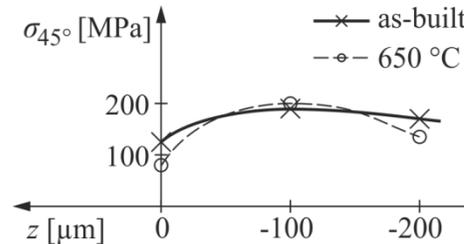
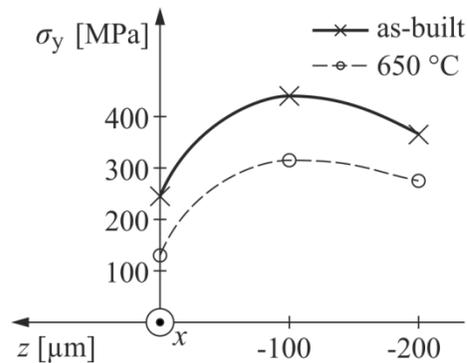
Fracture mechanics tests: Comparison of threshold values

- Effect of post-treatments
- Effect of crack growth direction





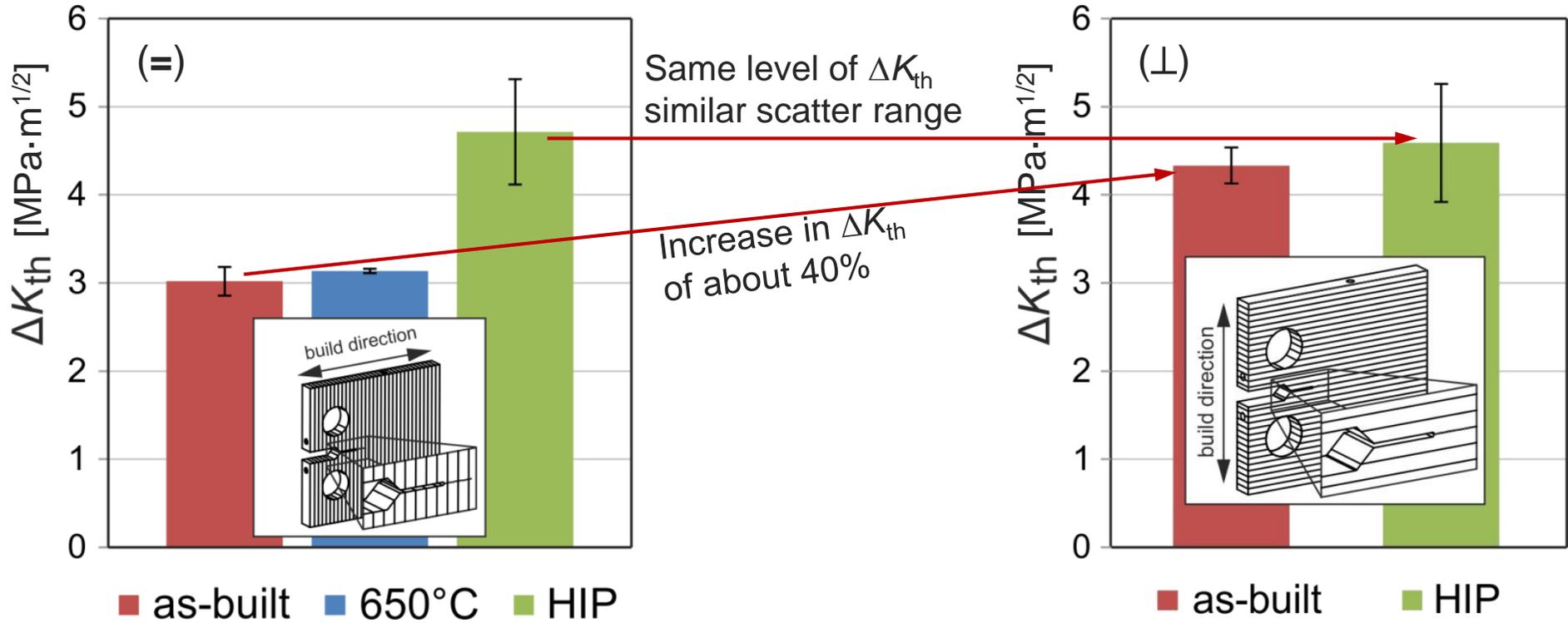
X-Ray diffraction:



Residual stresses for

- 3 directions
- sample surface, 100 μm and 200 μm depth
- average error of data is about 25 MPa

- No significant internal stresses for x-direction
- Highest internal stresses for y-direction (building direction)
- Highest value in a depth of 100 μm for y-direction
=> shell-core re-melting
- y-direction: decrease after heat treatment



*Higher threshold value for (⊥)-direction despite highest internal stresses in building direction superposed with testing load
=> small effect of internal stresses on crack growth*

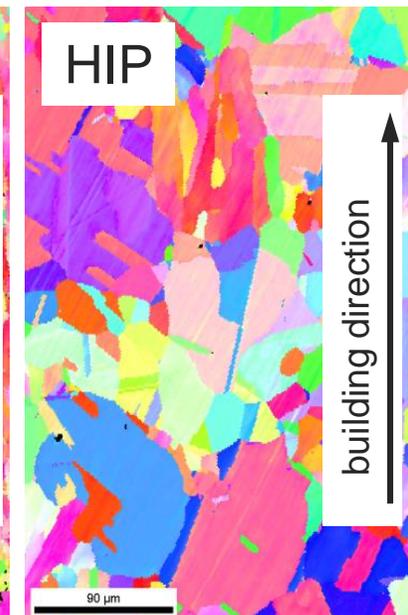
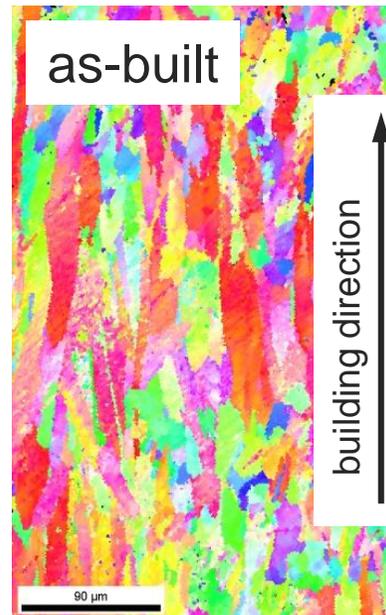
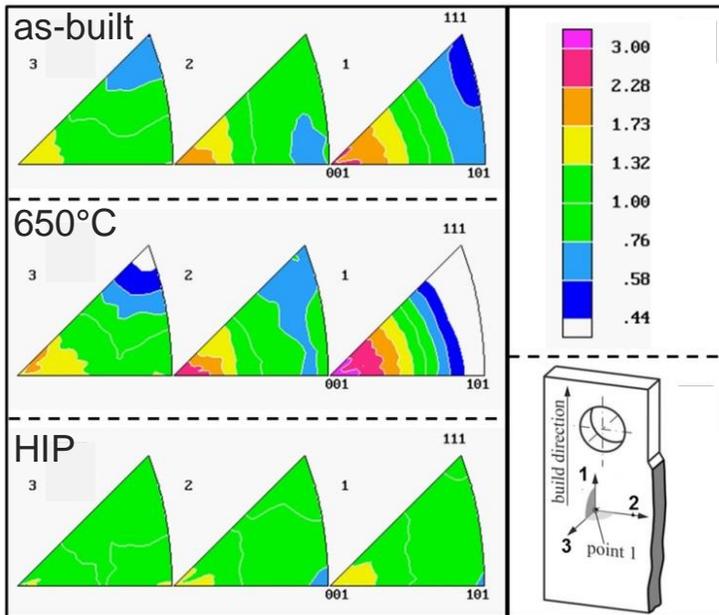


Microstructure: *Similar microstructure for as-built and 650°C*

- *elongated grains in building direction*
- *strongly textured*

HIP condition exhibits

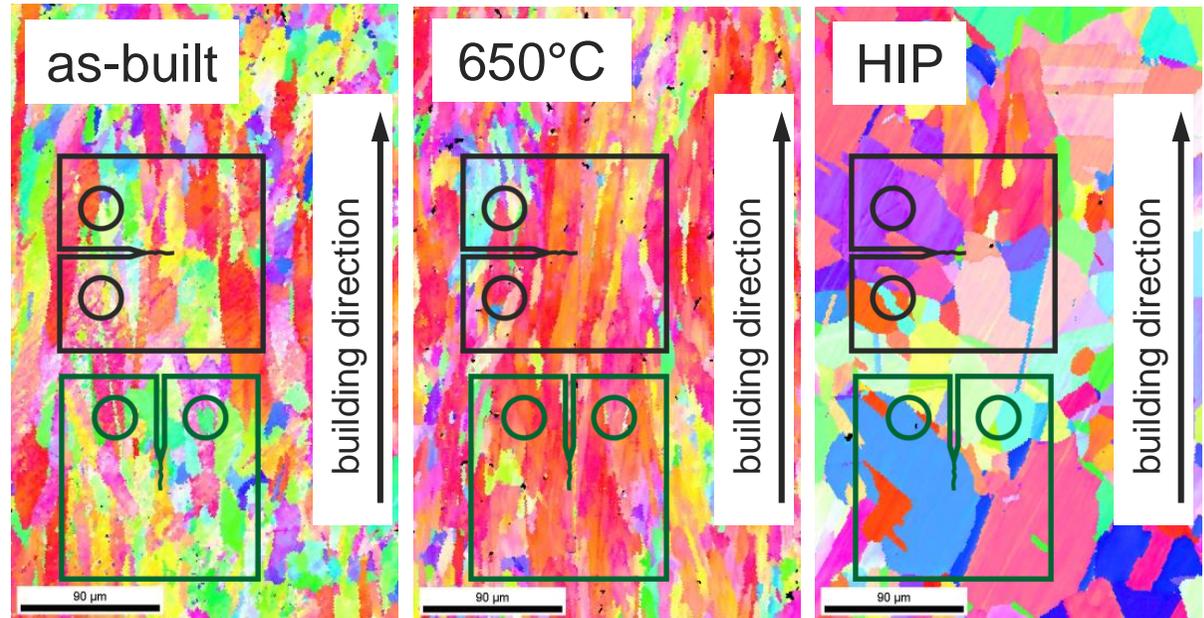
- *coarse grains, almost equiaxed*
- *absence of strong texture*





as-built & 650°C

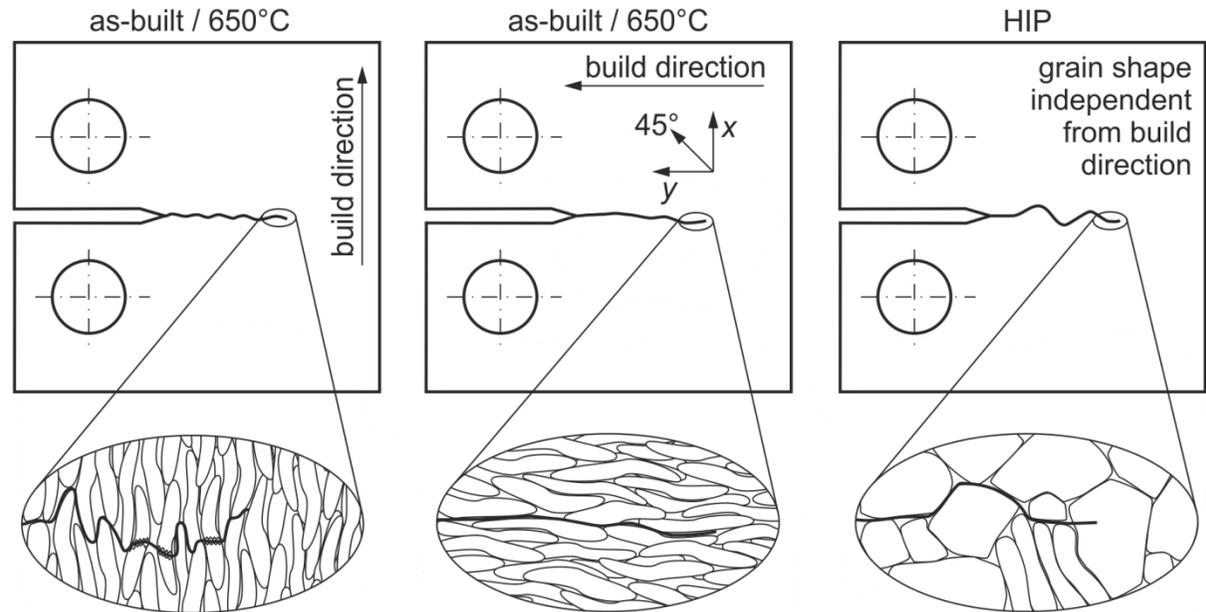
- Grains are elongated in the building direction
- Lower crack growth resistance along stretched grains => Lower threshold values
- For crack growth normal to building direction the boundaries are closer and act as barrier => higher threshold value



Threshold (\perp) [$\text{MPa}\cdot\text{m}^{1/2}$]	4.3	-	4.7
Threshold ($=$) [$\text{MPa}\cdot\text{m}^{1/2}$]	3	3	4.6

HIP

- Absence of preferred grain orientation leads to similar thresholds
- Increase in thresholds due to elevated grain size
- Grain boundary as barrier
- crack growth at low load levels stops dependent on the microstructure present in front of the crack tip
=>higher scatter

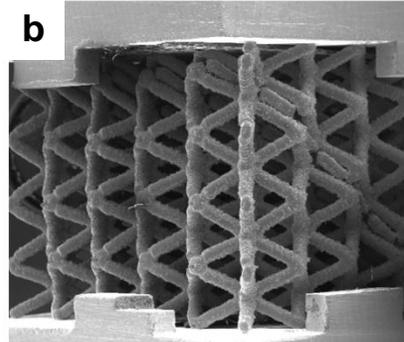
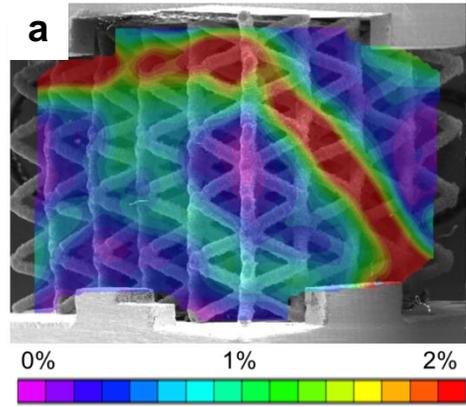
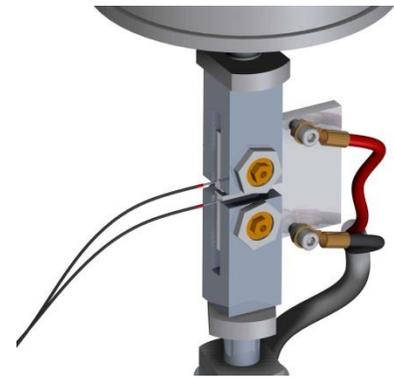


	as-built	650°C	HIP
Threshold (\perp) [$\text{MPa}\cdot\text{m}^{1/2}$]	4.3	-	4.7
Threshold ($=$) [$\text{MPa}\cdot\text{m}^{1/2}$]	3	3	4.6

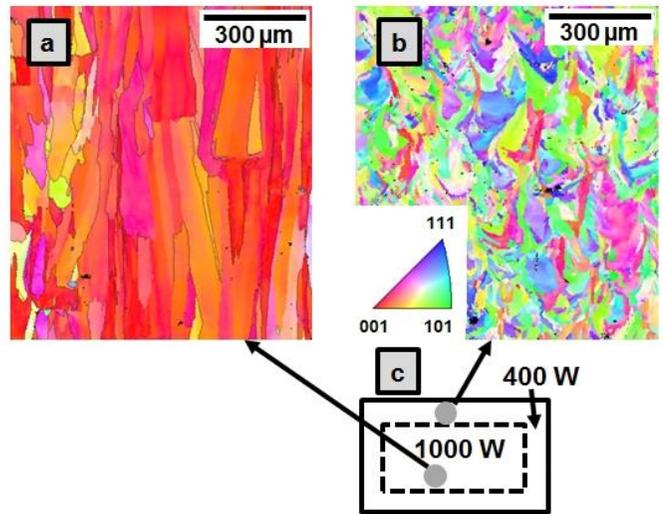


- 1. *Stainless steel 316L*
- 2. *Ni-based alloy IN 718*

3. *High-Mn Fe-based alloys*



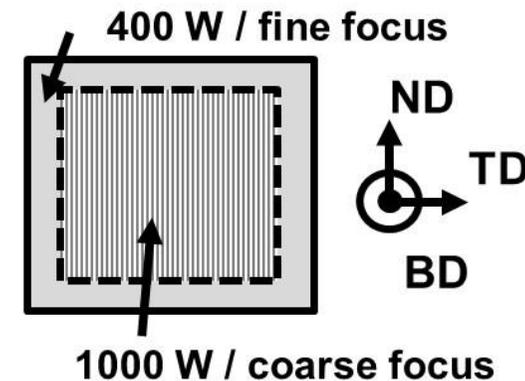
↓
 σ
↑





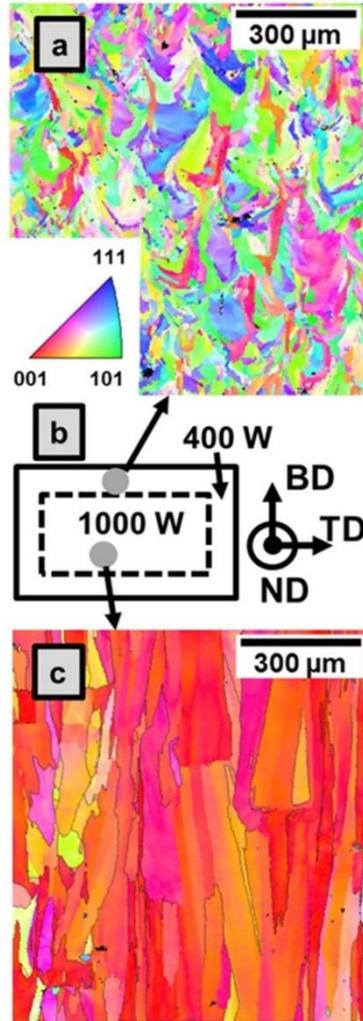
What kind of microstructure can be obtained?

- Employed for processing of samples
 - SLM-280^{HL} → 400W / 1000W laser sources
 - layer thickness up to 150 μm
 - shell/core structures



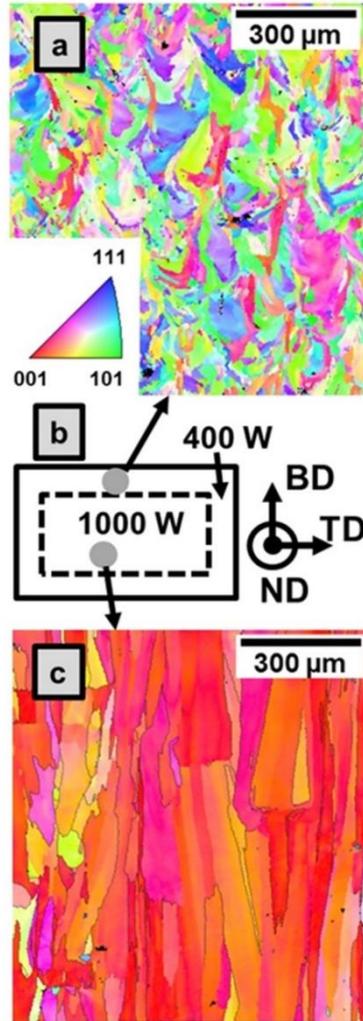


Microstructure/ grain shape

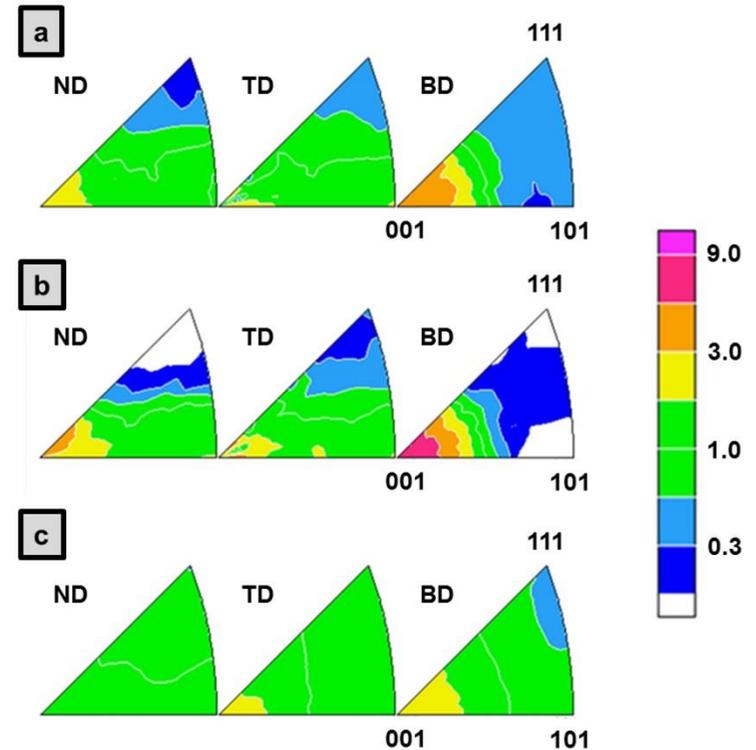




Microstructure/ grain shape



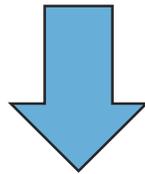
Anisotropy/ texture



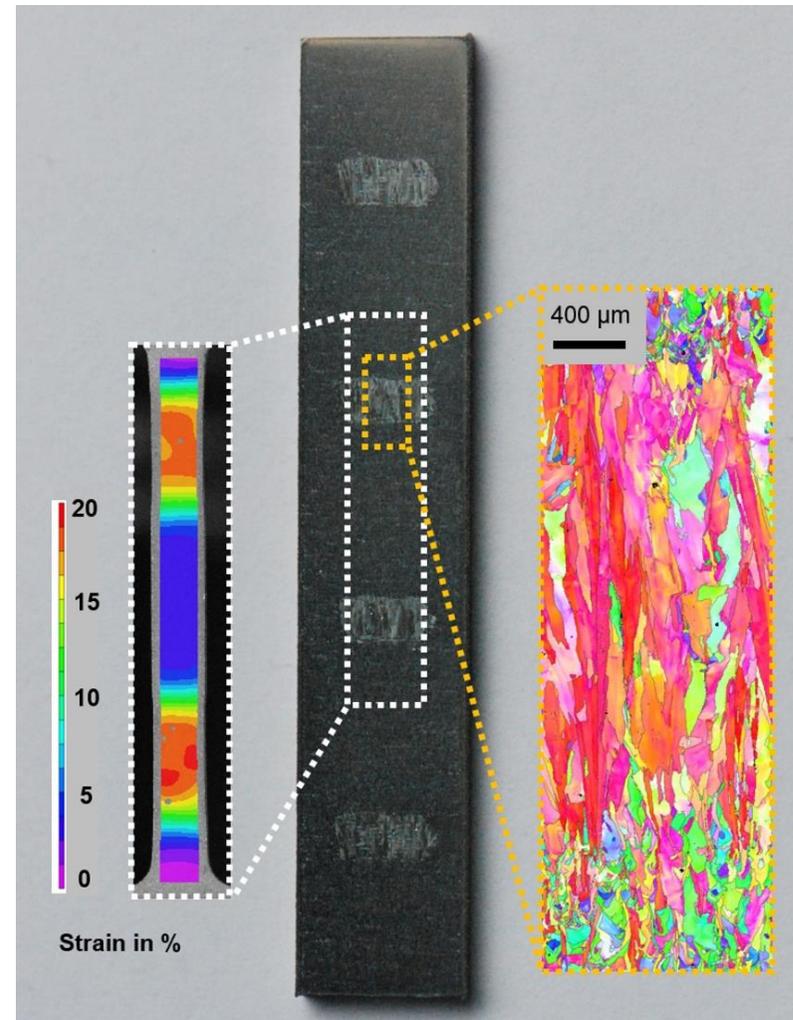


What kind of microstructure can be obtained?

- Microstructurally tailored
- Load-adapted design



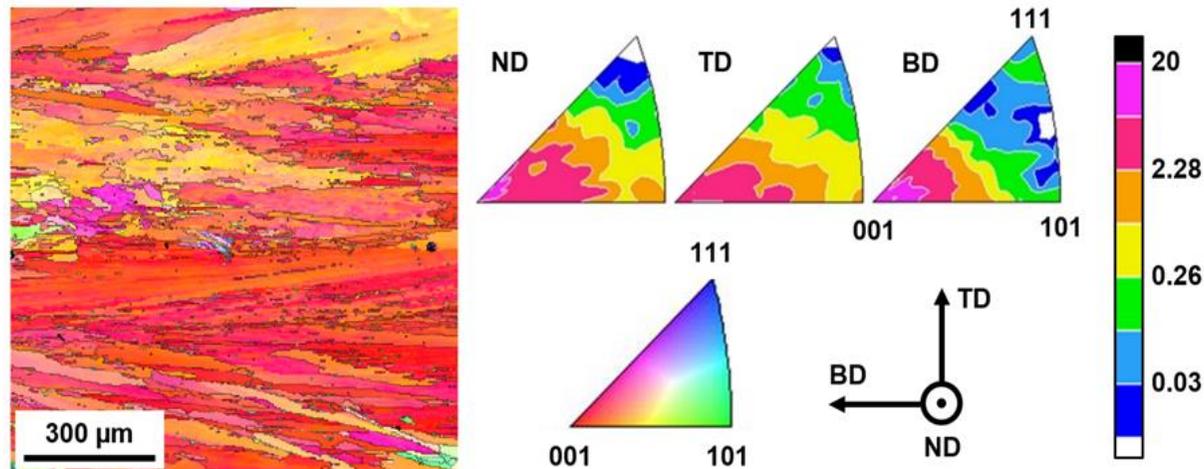
**Functionally graded by
microstructure design**

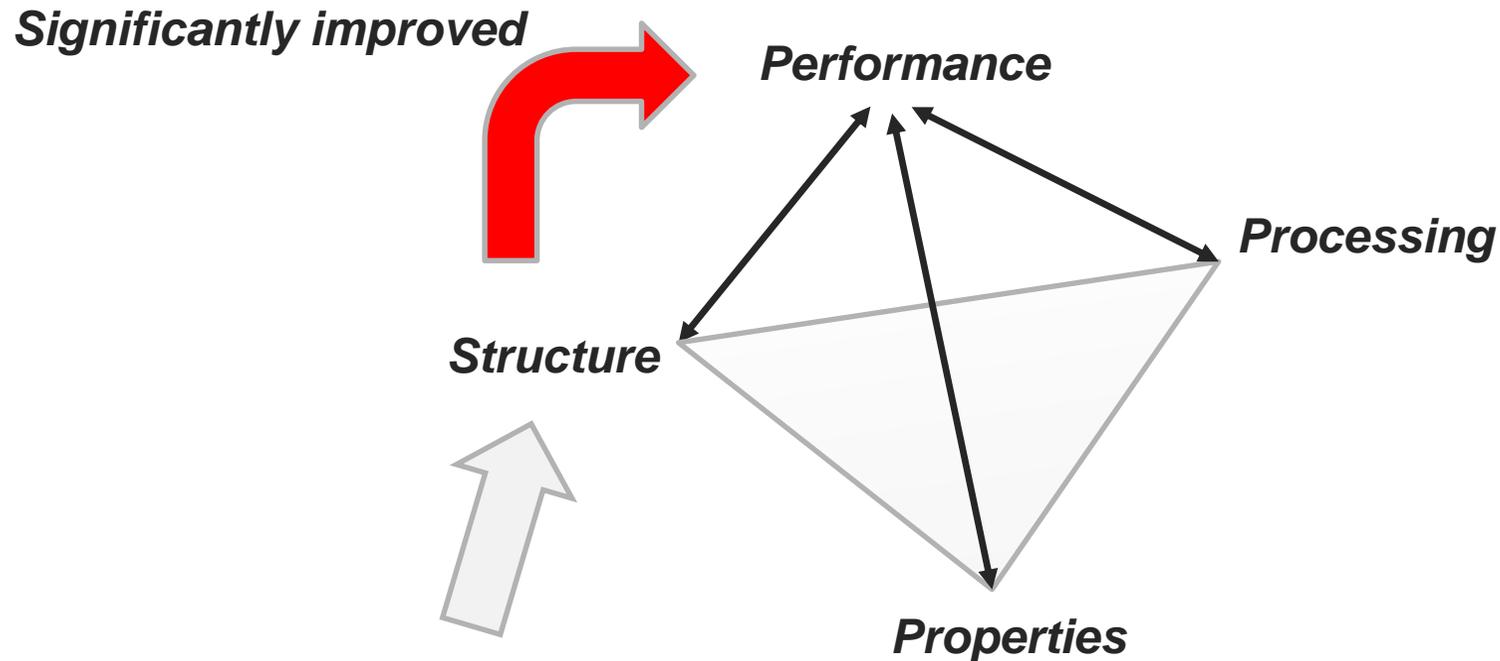




Similar microstructure evolution for other alloys:
> Solidification in cubic phase
> No phase transformation upon cooling

→ Ni-based alloys





Additive manufacturing is perfectly suited for direct microstructure manipulation

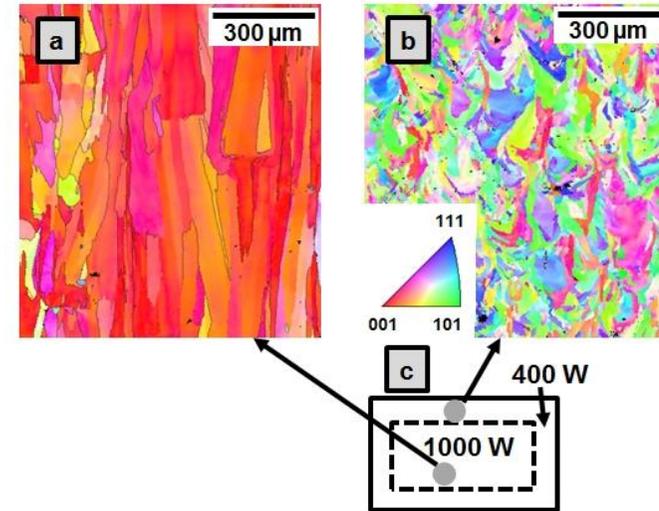
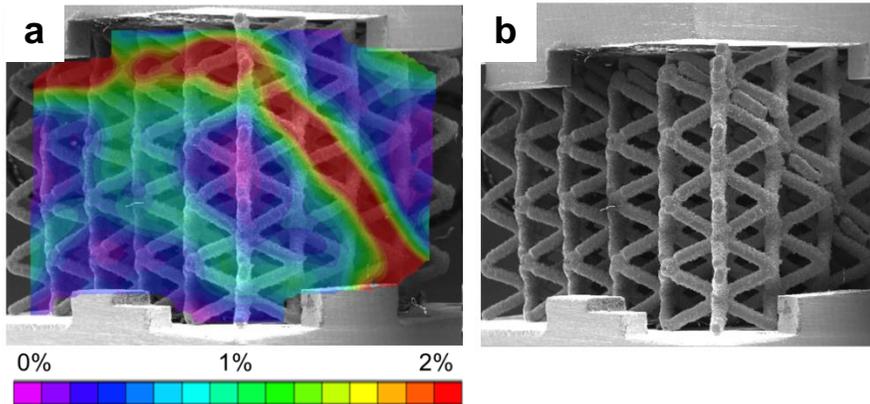
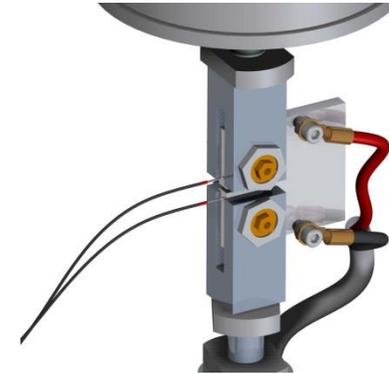
- *Grain size & shape*
- *Anisotropy/ texture*



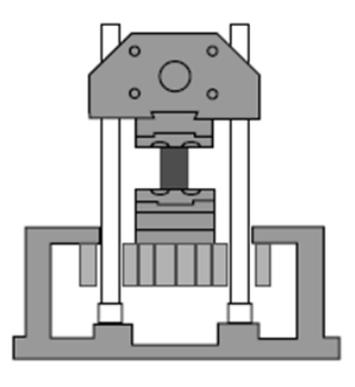
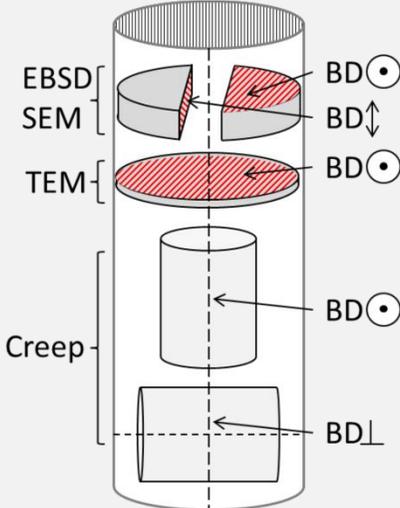
1. Stainless steel 316L

2. Ni-based alloy IN 718

3. High-Mn Fe-based alloys



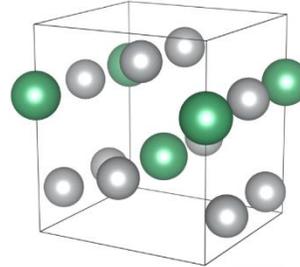


	Cast & Wrought	SLM
Process		
Material		 

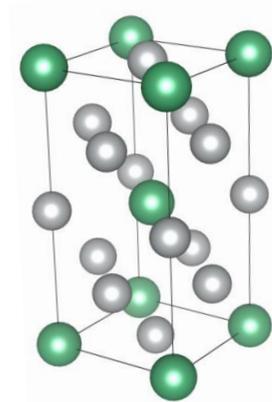


Element	Ni	Cr	Fe	Nb	Al	Ti	Mo	C
wt %	Bal.	19.0	18.5	5.1	0.5	0.9	3.0	0.04

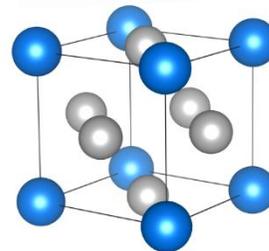
δ -phase (Ni_3Nb)
Orthorhombic ($D0_a$)



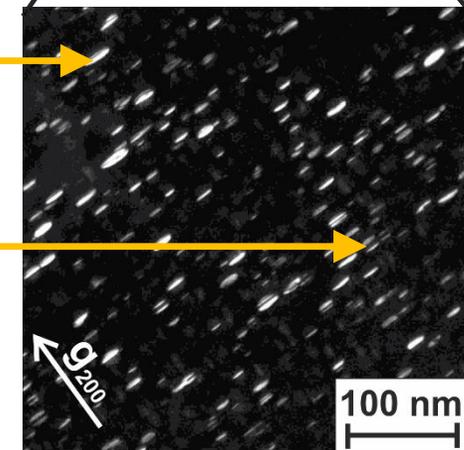
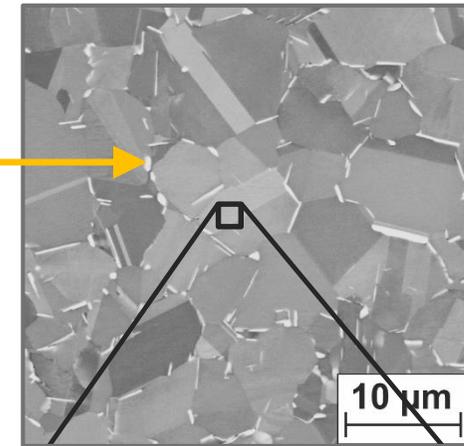
γ'' -phase (Ni_3Nb)
Tetragonal bcc ($D0_{22}$)

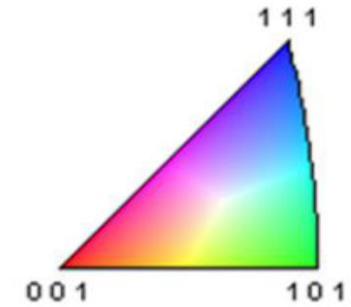
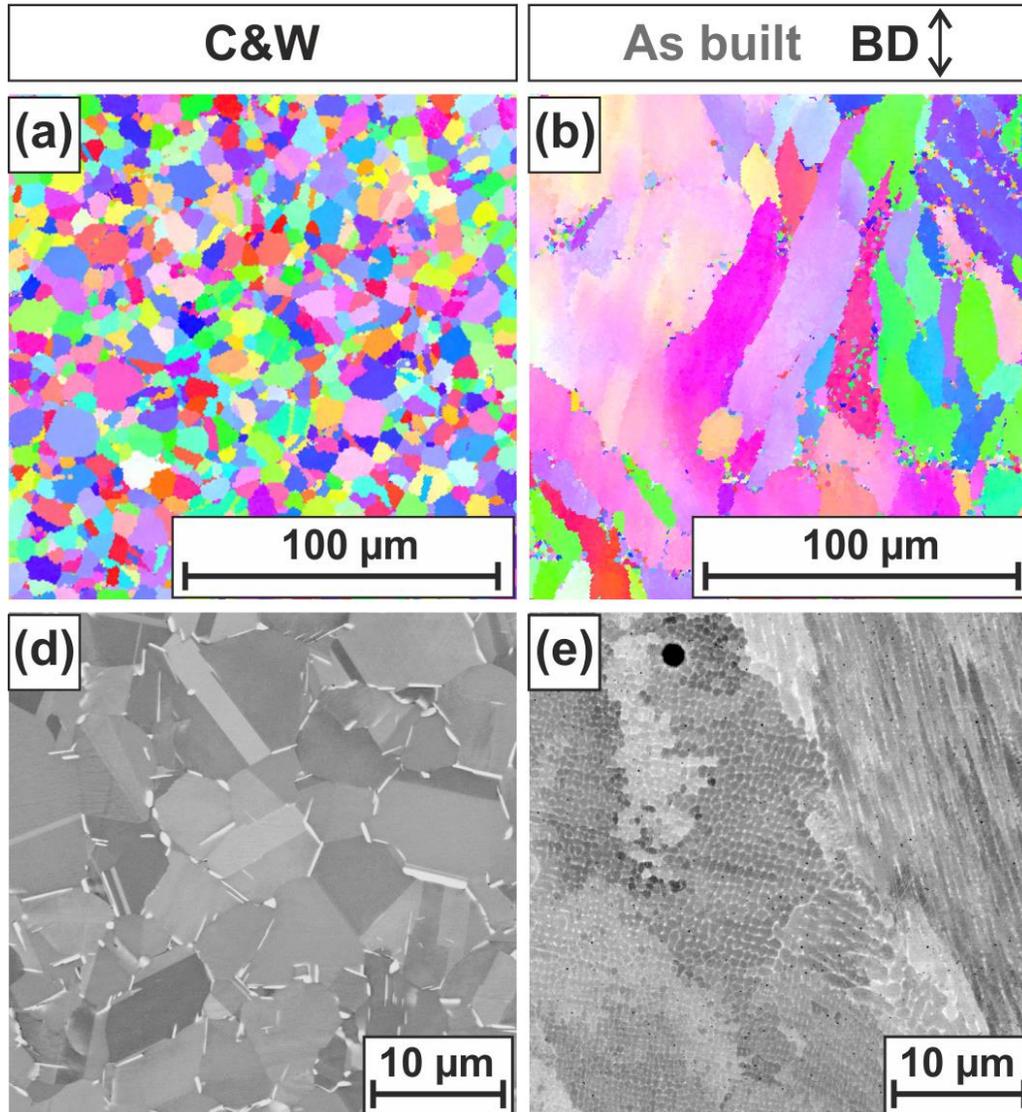


γ' -phase (Ni_3Al)
Cubic ($L1_2$)



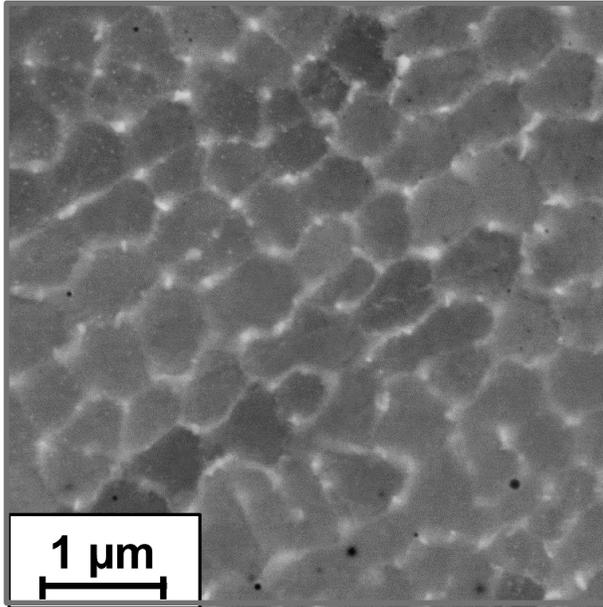
● Ni
● Nb
● Al



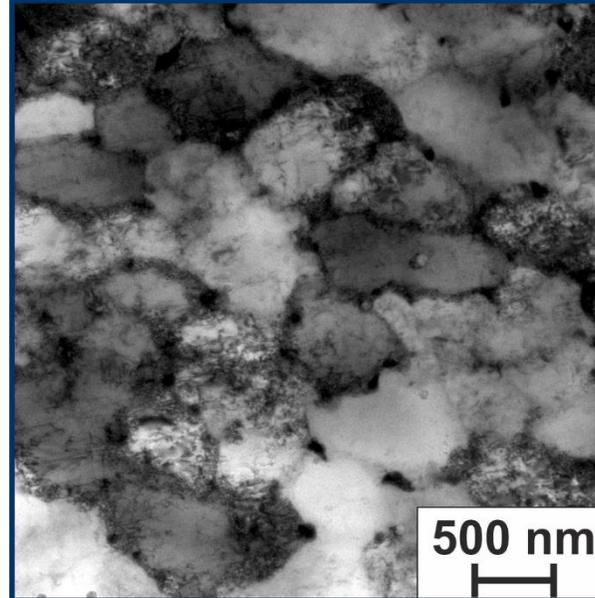




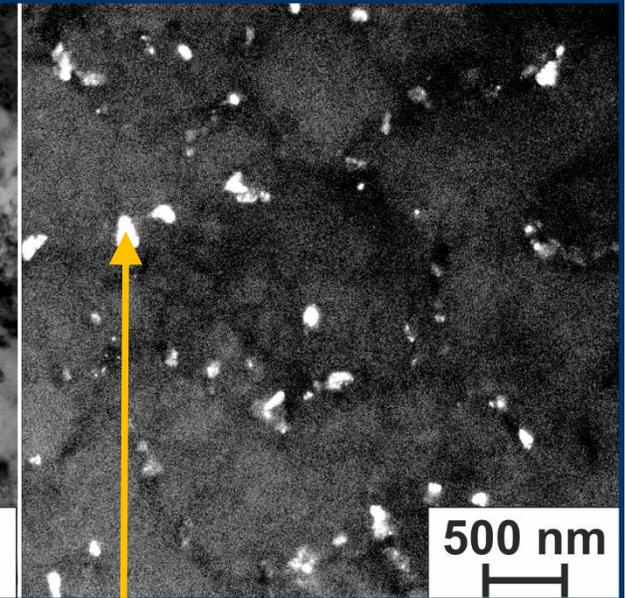
SEM-BSE



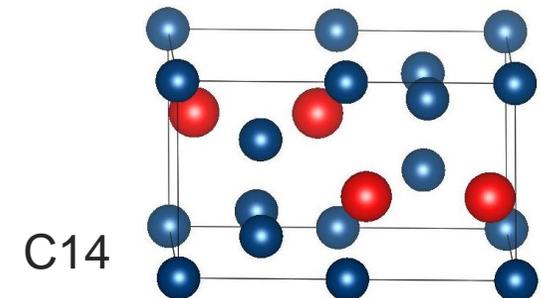
TEM-BF



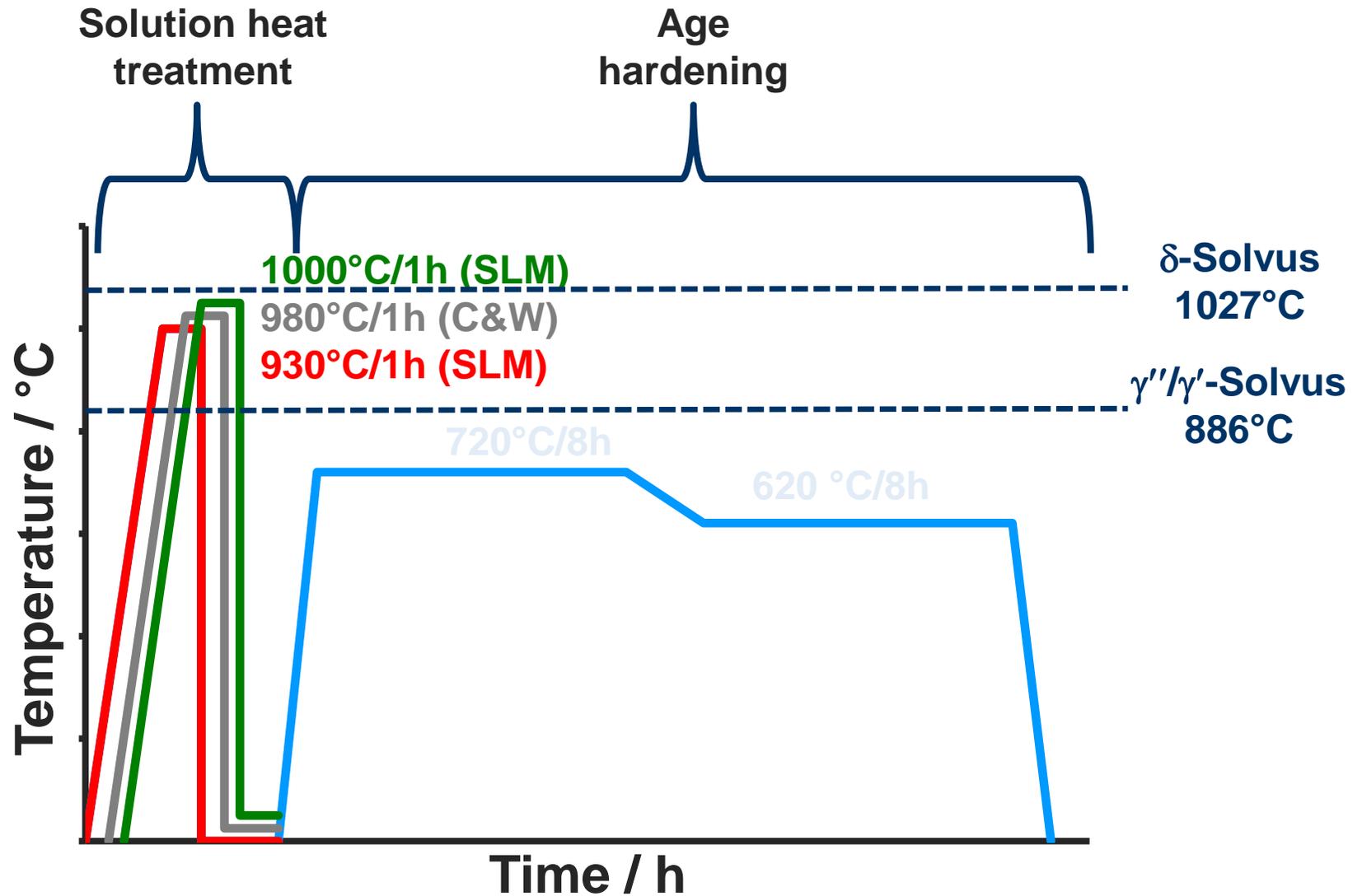
TEM-DF



Presumably Nb-rich Laves phase

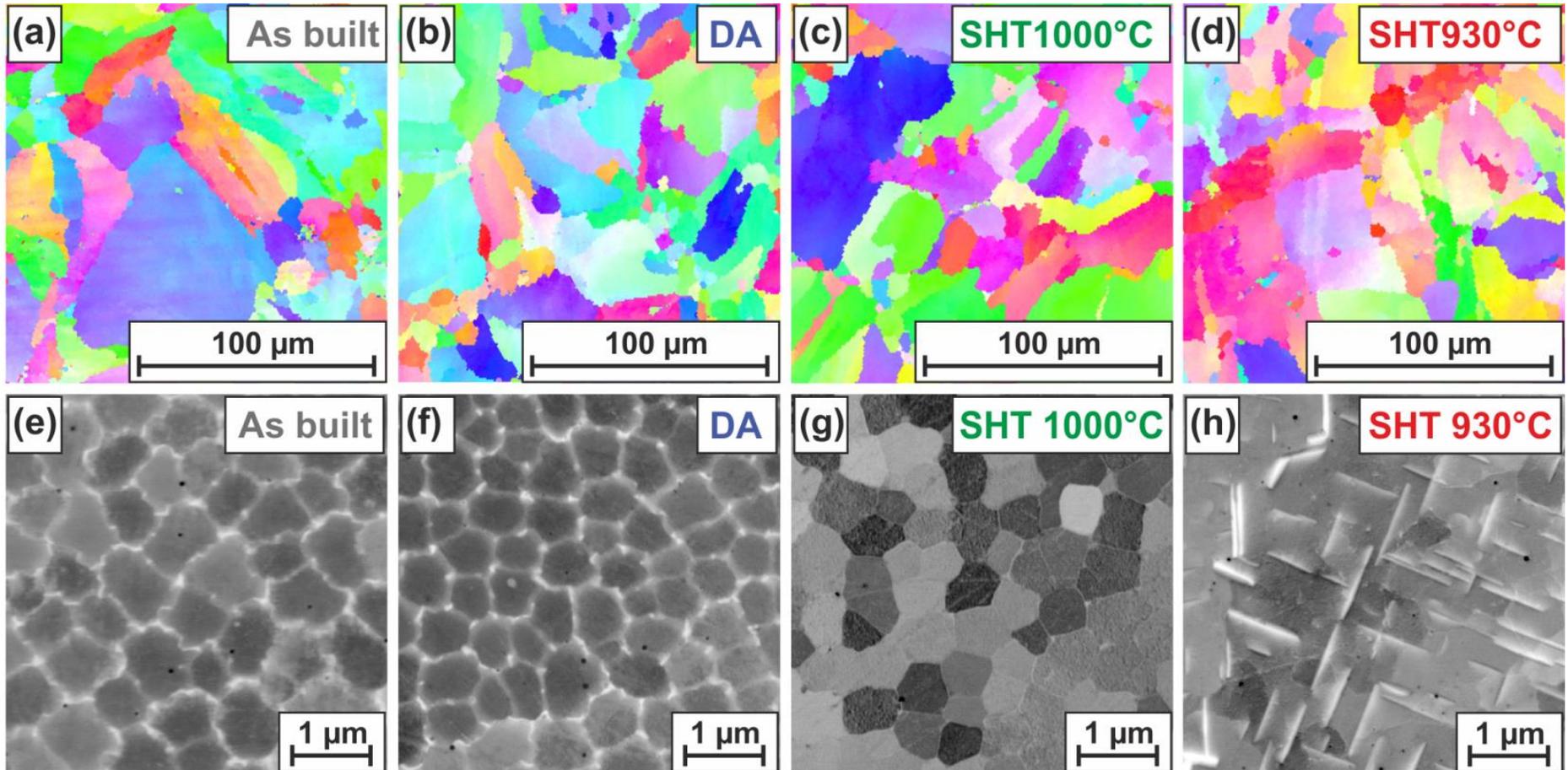


- Substructures in as-built condition
- Bright contrast in SEM => enrichment in Nb
- Laves phase particles

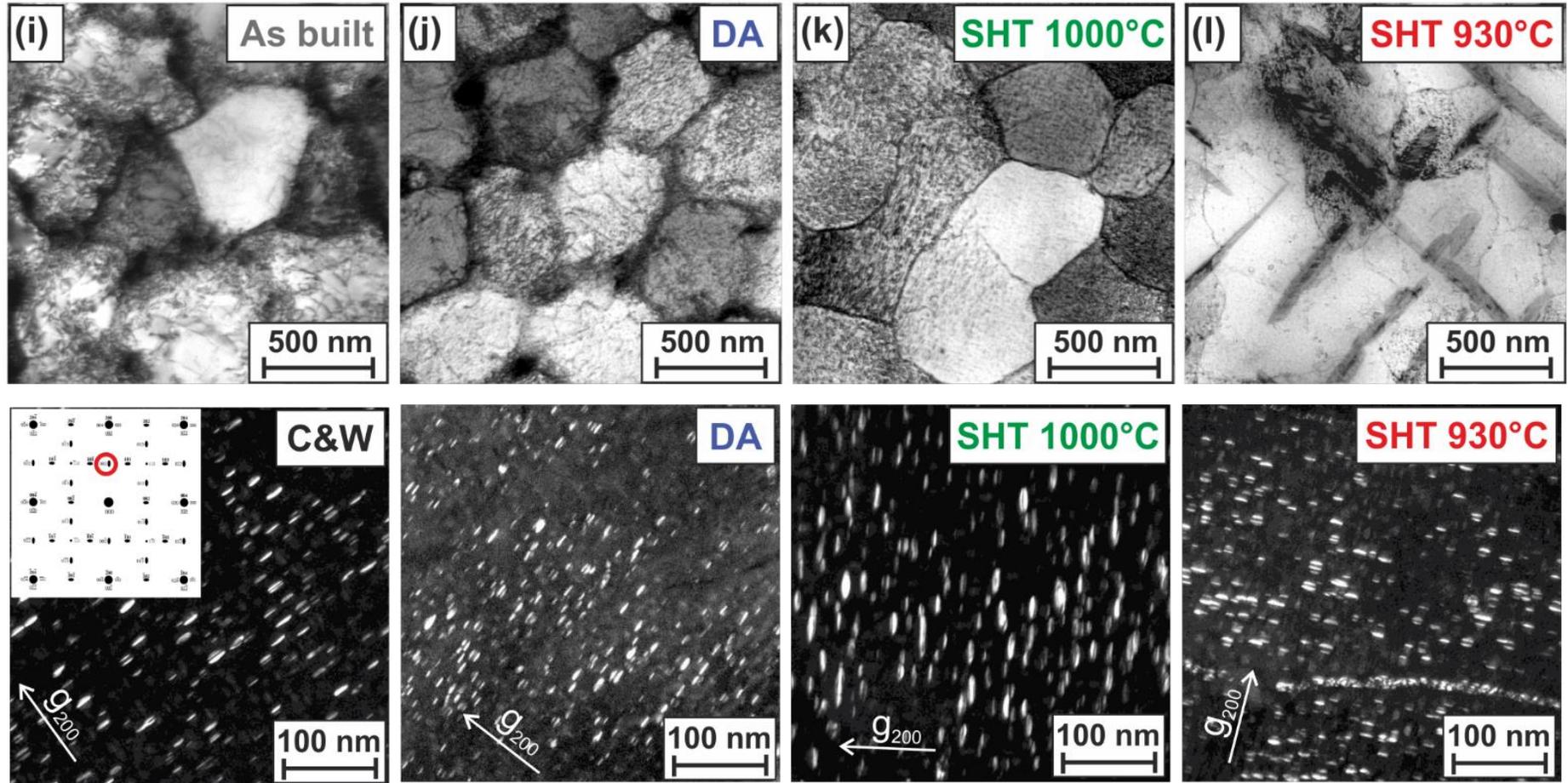




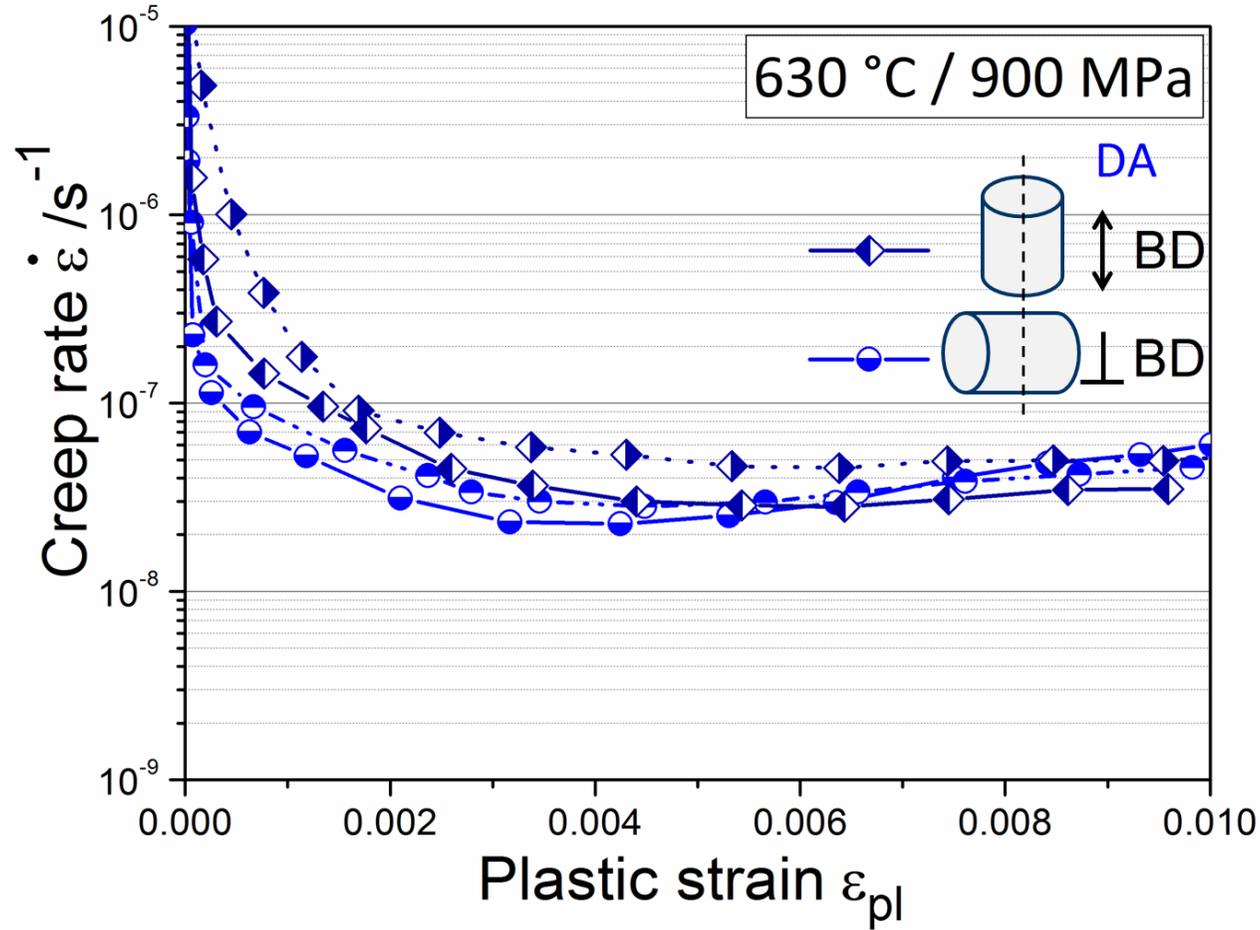
	Solution heat treatment	Aging heat treatment	
C&W	980°C / 1.5h	720°C / 8h	620°C / 8h
SLM – as built	-	-	-
SLM – DA	-	720°C / 8h	620°C / 8h
SLM – 930°C	930°C / 1h	720°C / 8h	620°C / 8h
SLM – 1000°C	1000°C / 1h	720°C / 8h	620°C / 8h



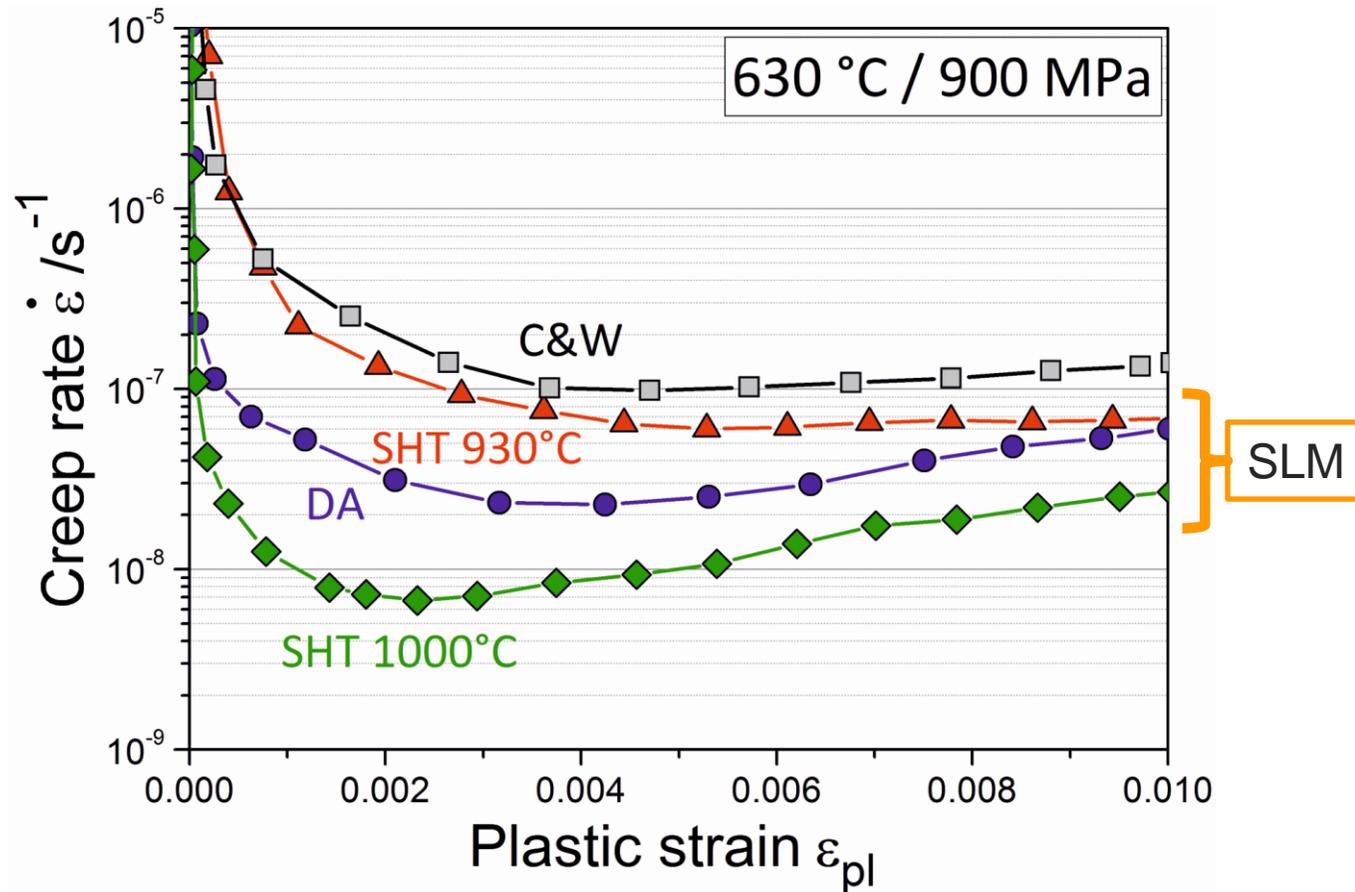
- Substructures are thermally stable
- Solutionizing eliminates segregations



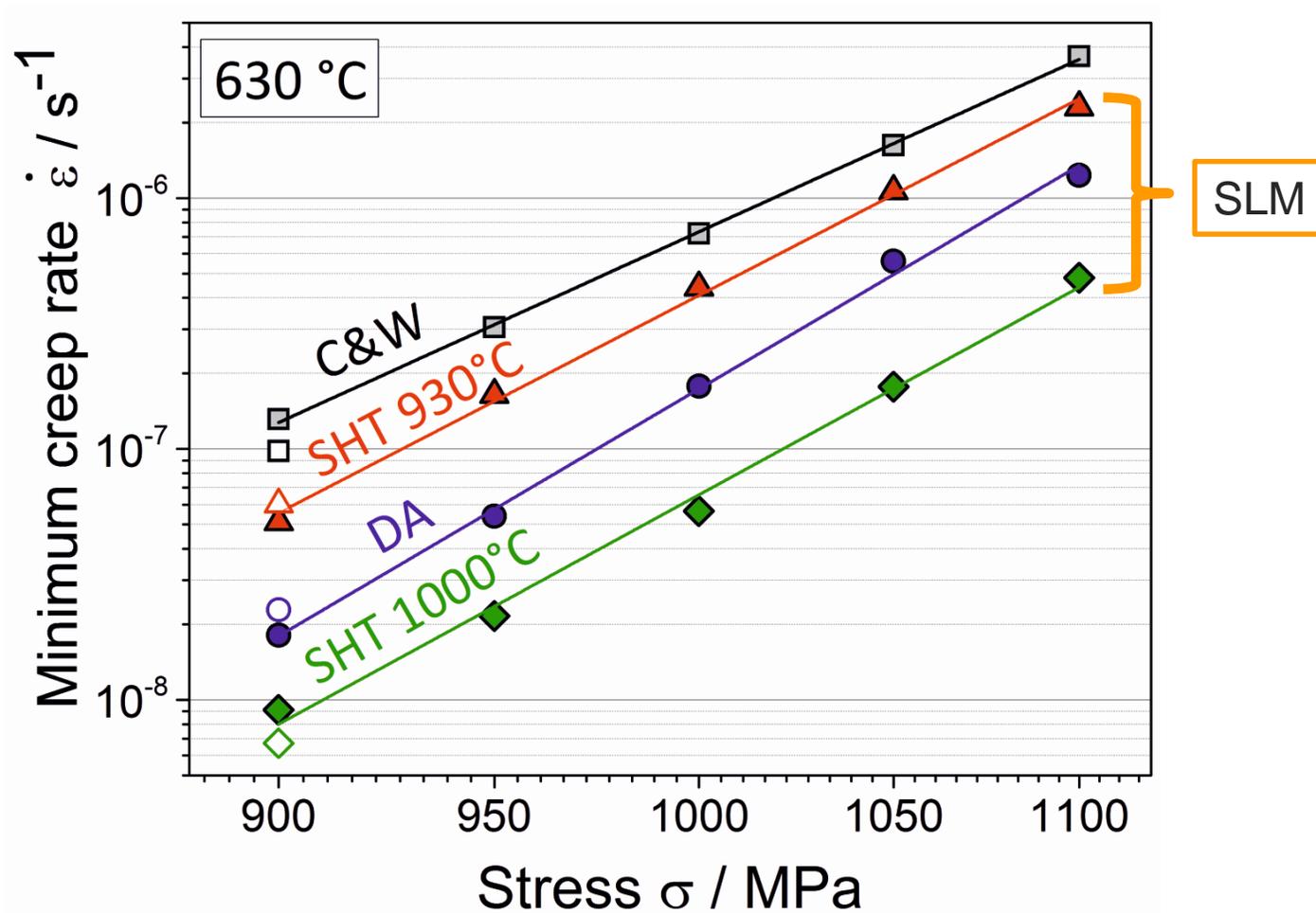
- Substructures are thermally stable
- γ'' -phase evolves upon ageing



- No significant difference between different orientations



■ SLM material → superior creep strength

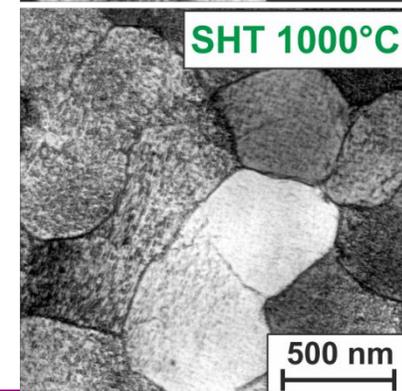
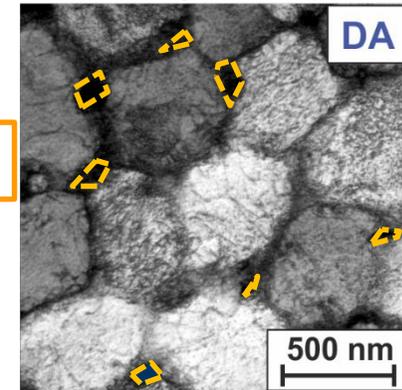
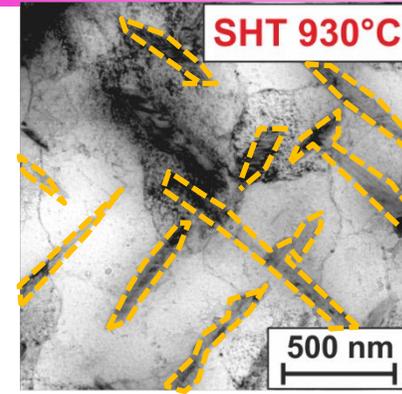
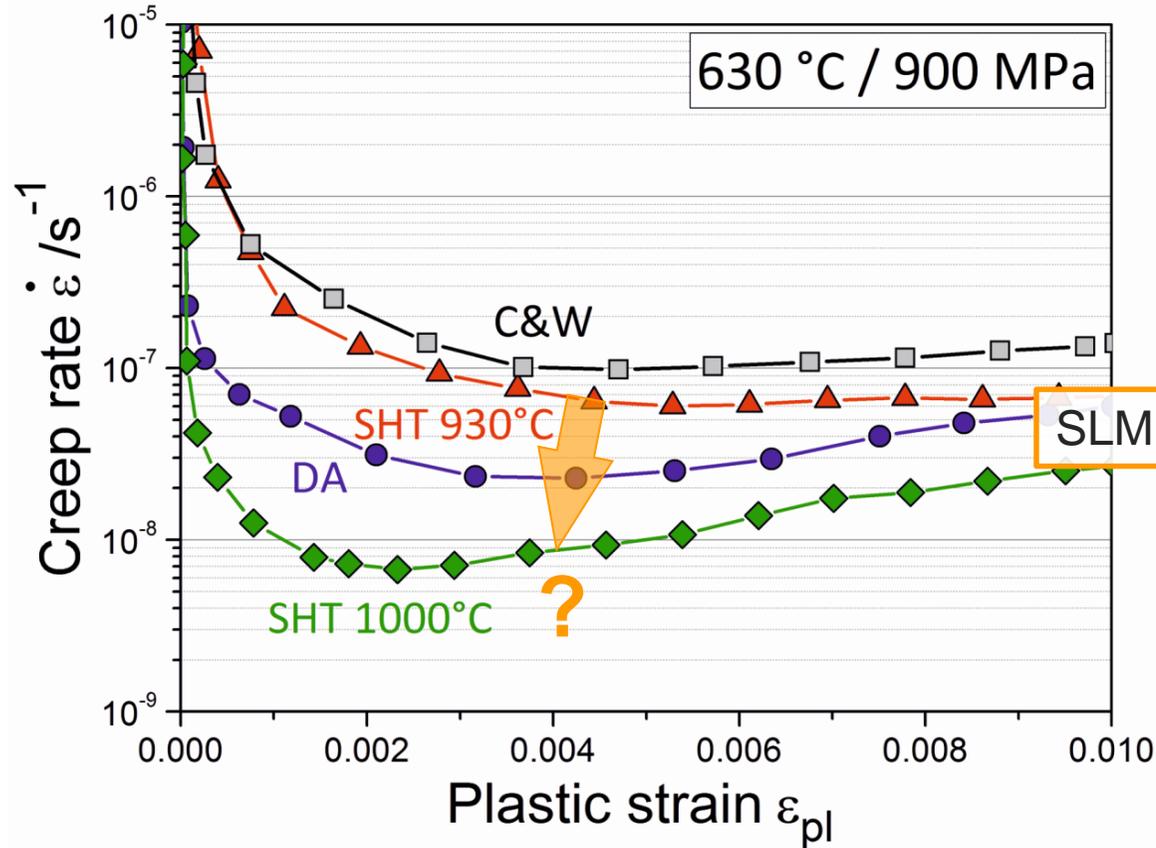


Norton plot

■ SLM material → superior creep strength

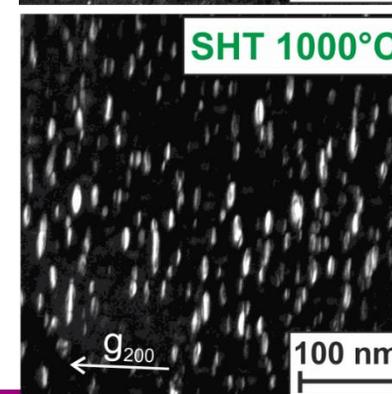
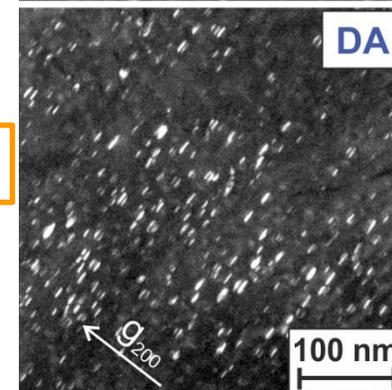
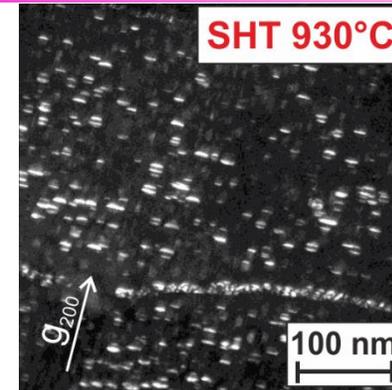
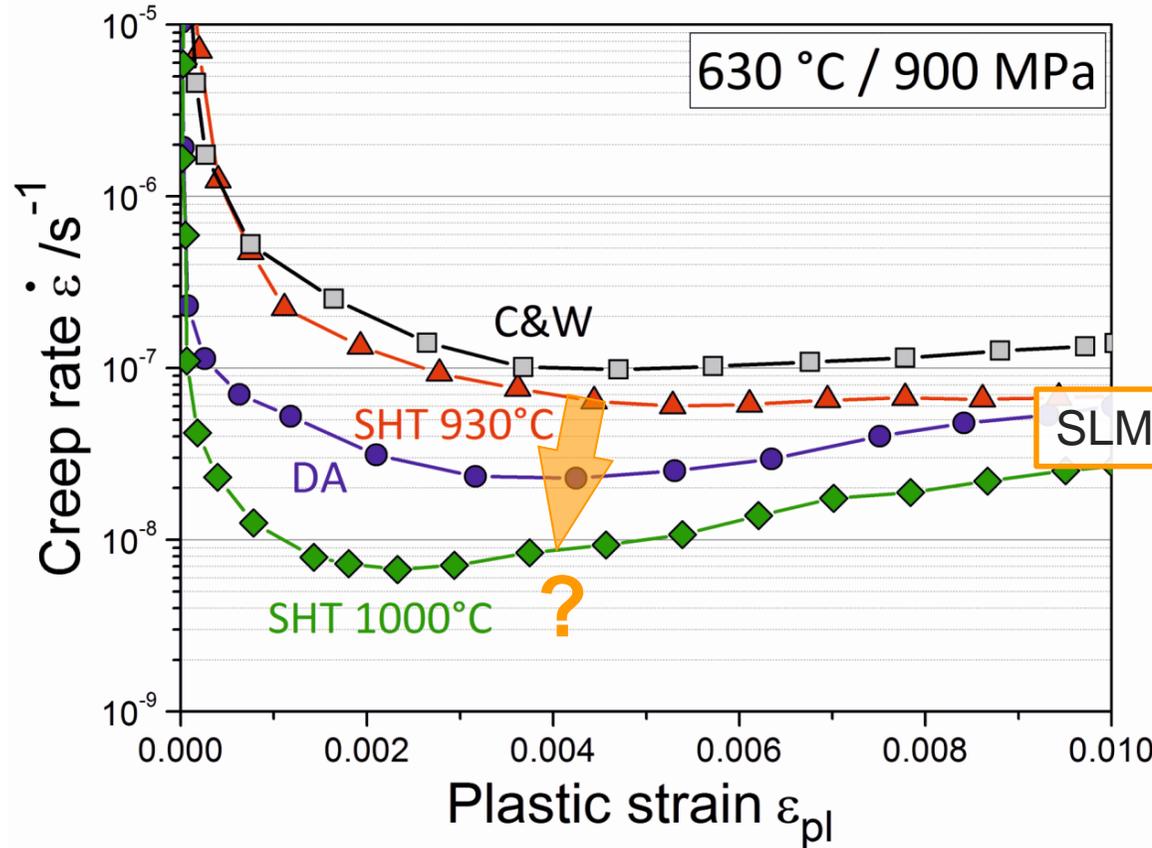


Compression creep



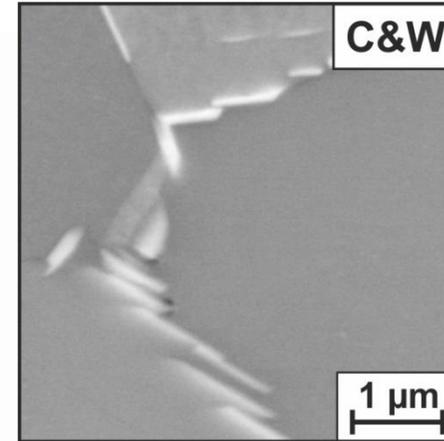
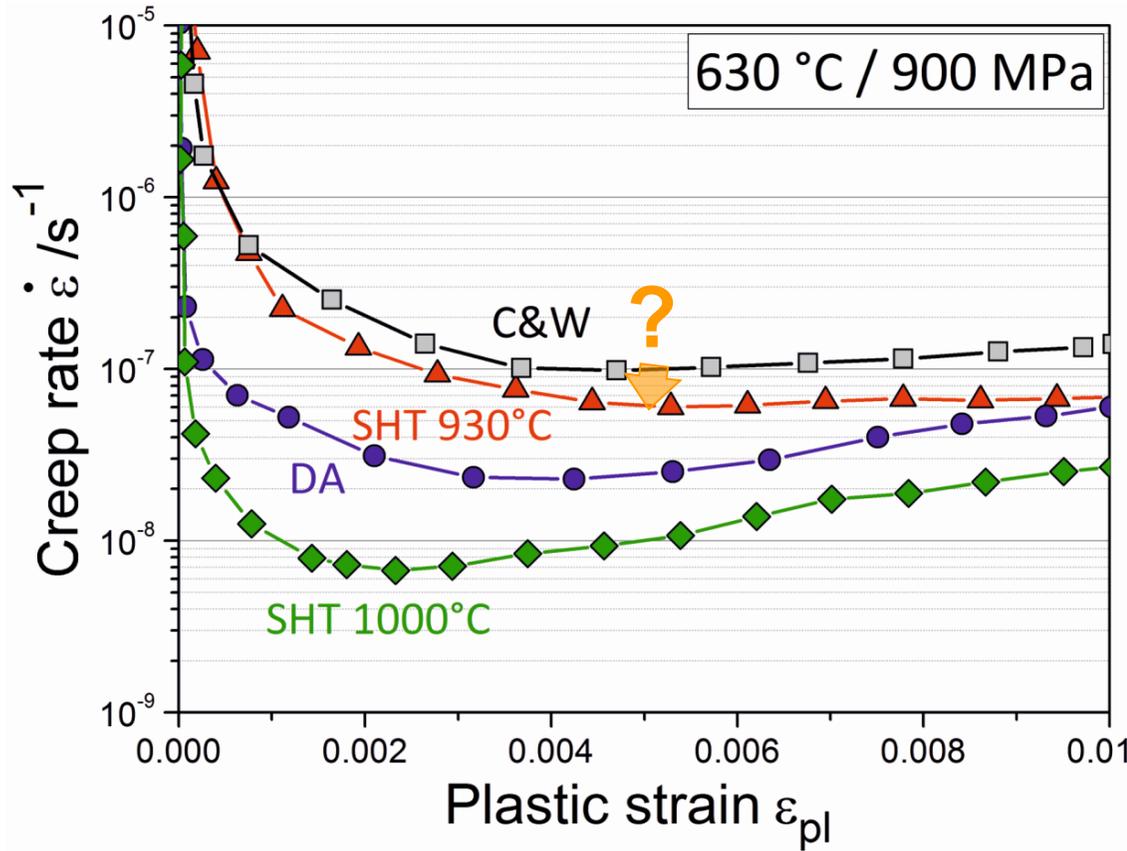


Compression creep

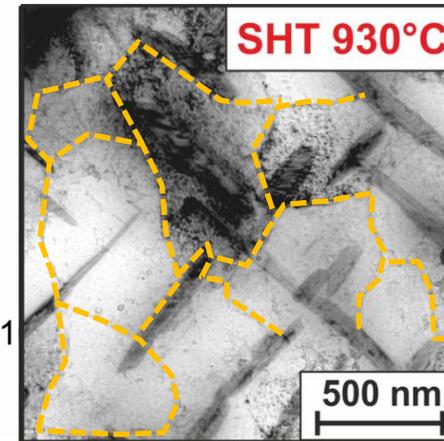




Compression creep



3.5 % δ

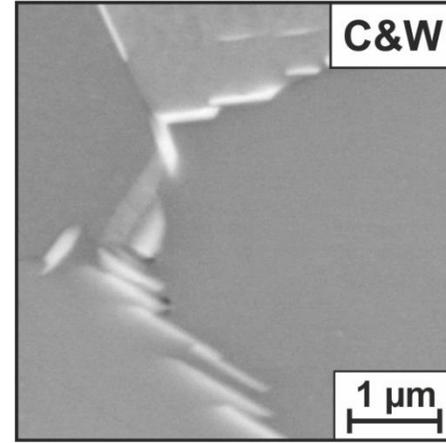
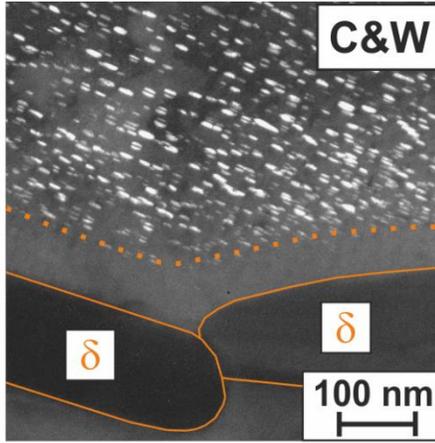
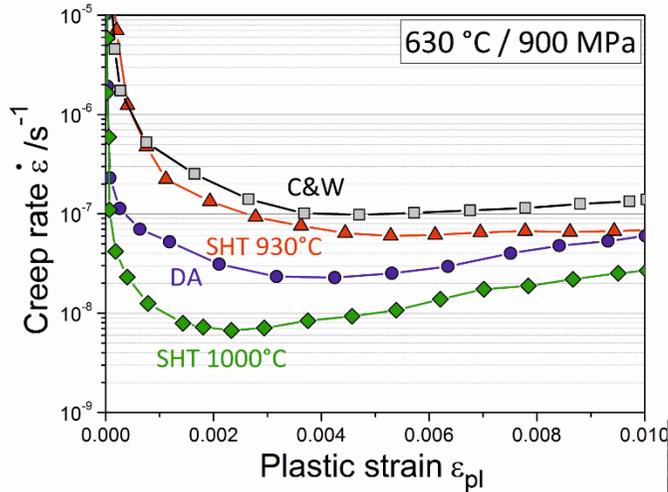


5.8 % δ but

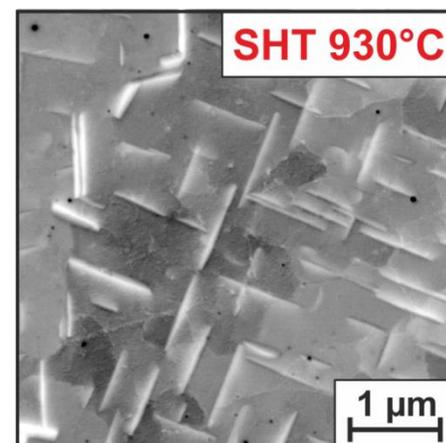
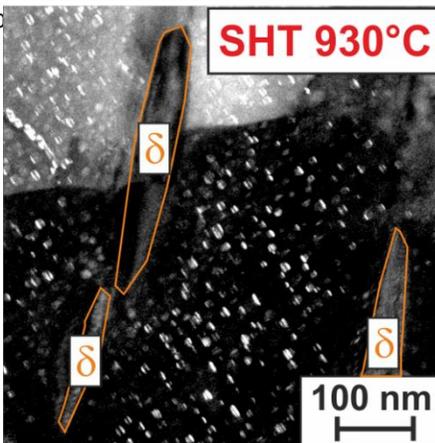
- finer
- subgrains



Compression creep



3.5 % δ



5.8 % δ but
• finer δ
• subgrains
• smaller γ''
depleted zone

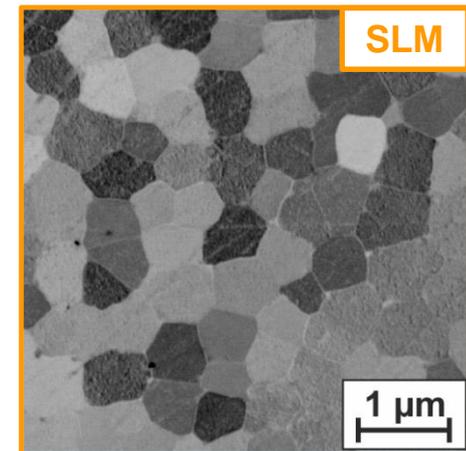
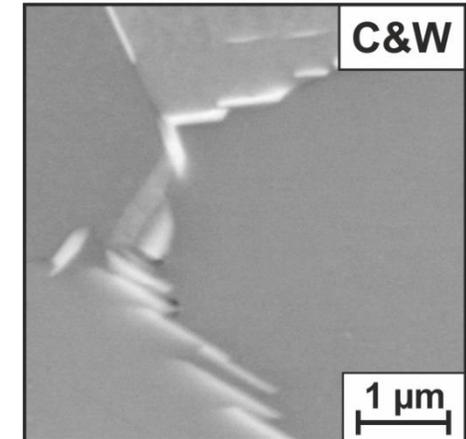


Conventional **C&W** material:

- δ phase is necessary to pin the grain boundaries during RX
- Less Nb is available for the precipitation strengthening phase γ''

SLM material:

- δ phase is not necessary
→ heat treatments can be adjusted
- More Nb is available for solid solution hardening and the formation of strengthening γ'' precipitates



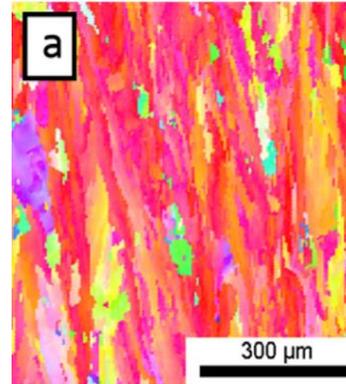
Higher creep strength of SLM IN718



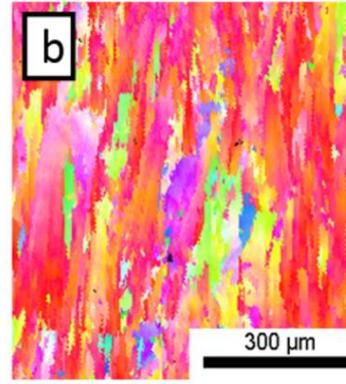
Single laser 400 W

Microstructure

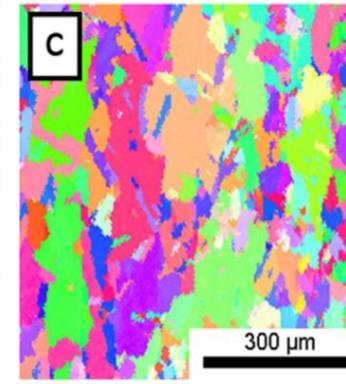
→ EBSD IPF



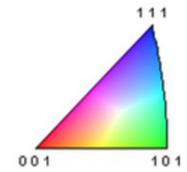
as-built



solutionized



HIP



Similar to 316L

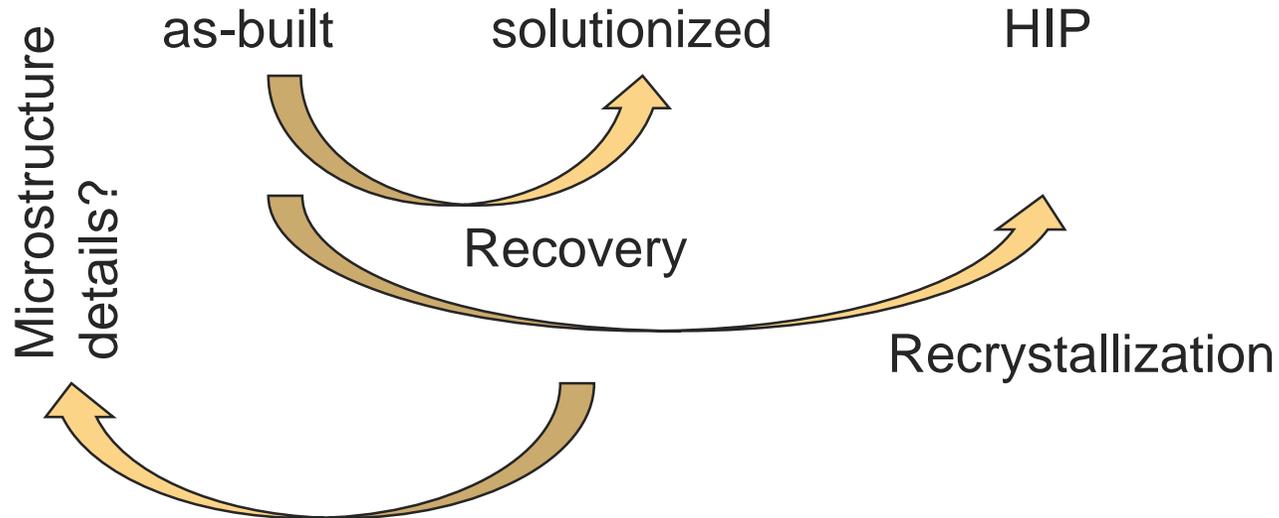
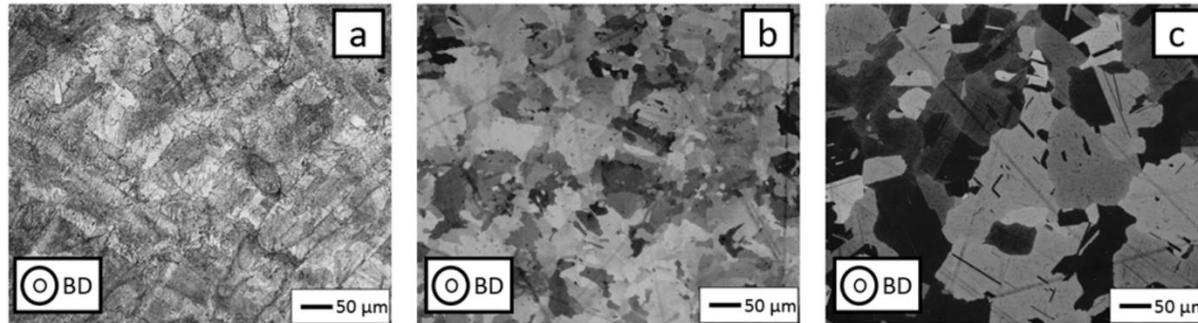


Post-treated conditions

Nomenclature	Condition	Details
S	Solution annealed	1000 °C/1 h/Air Cooling (AC)
H	Hot isostatically pressed (HIPed)	1150 °C/1000 bar/4 h/Furnace Cooling (FC)
S+A	Solution annealed +aged	1000 °C/1 h/AC + 720 °C/8 h /FC at 50 °C/h to 621 °C + 621 °C/8 h /AC
H+A	HIPed+Aged	HIPed + 720 °C/8 h/FC at 50 °C/h to 621 °C + 621 °C/8 h/AC
P+H	Arc-PVD+HIPed	1000 °C/1 h/AC + Arc-PVD(Ni-20Cr) + HIPed
P+H+A	Arc- PVD+HIPed+Aged	1000 °C/1 h/AC + Arc-PVD(Ni-20Cr) + HIPed + 720°C/8 h/FC at 50 °C/h to 621 °C + 621 °C/8 h/AC

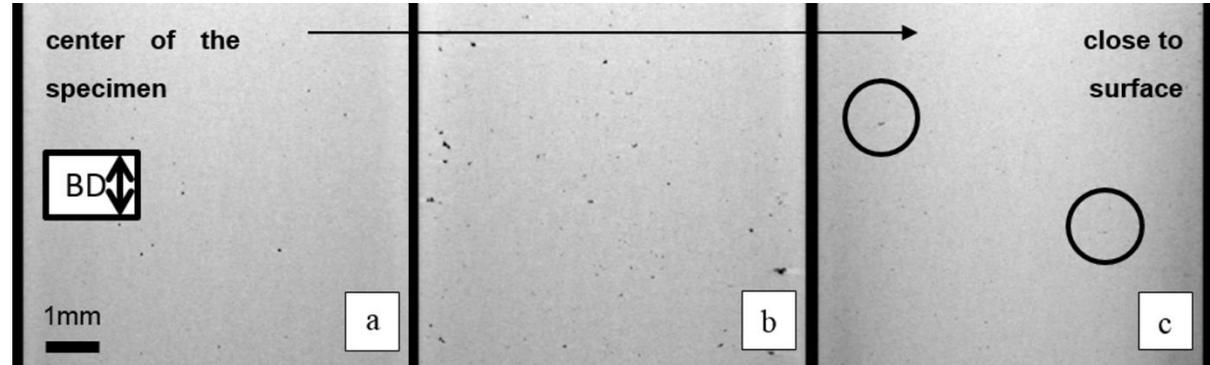


Optical microscopy





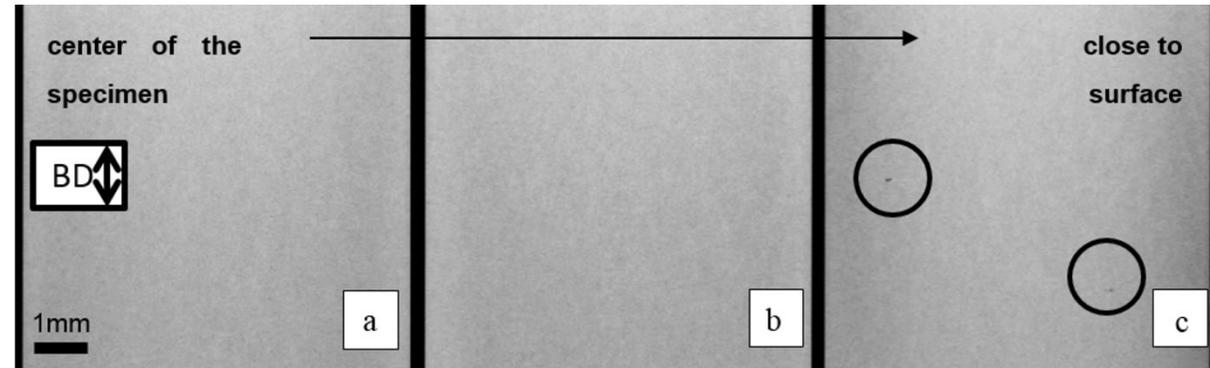
as-built



Computer tomography (CT)

Resolution limit: 8 μm

HIP

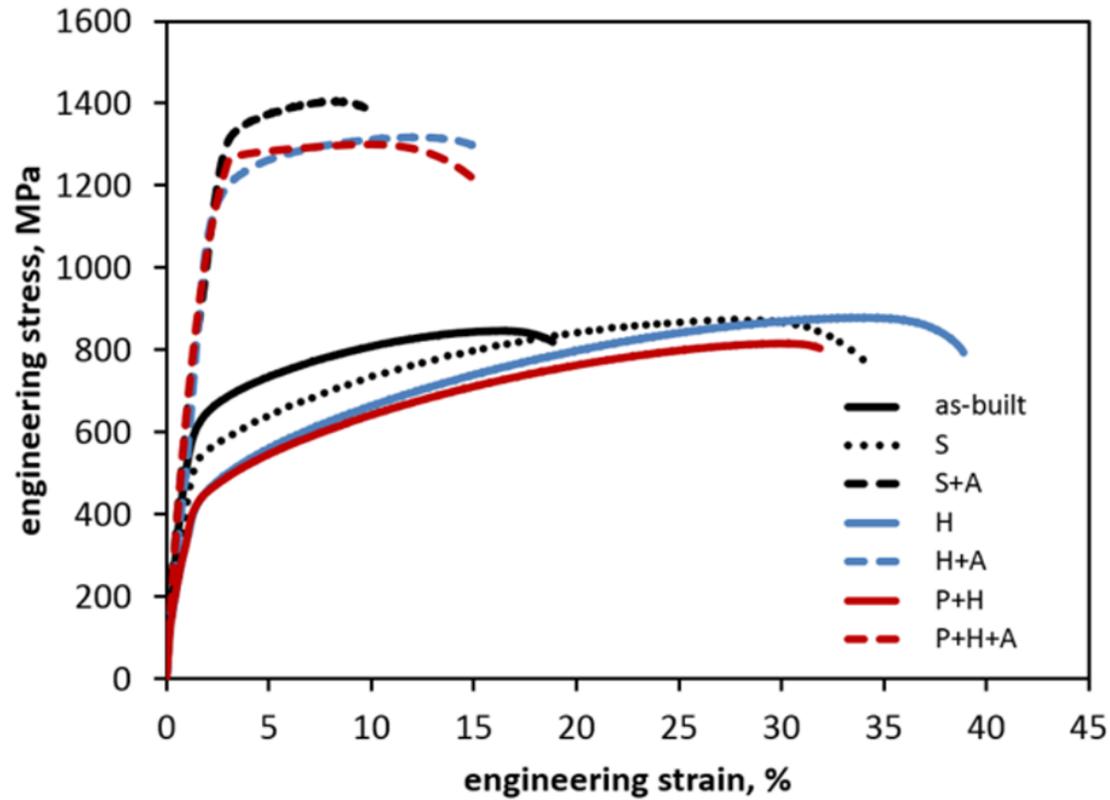


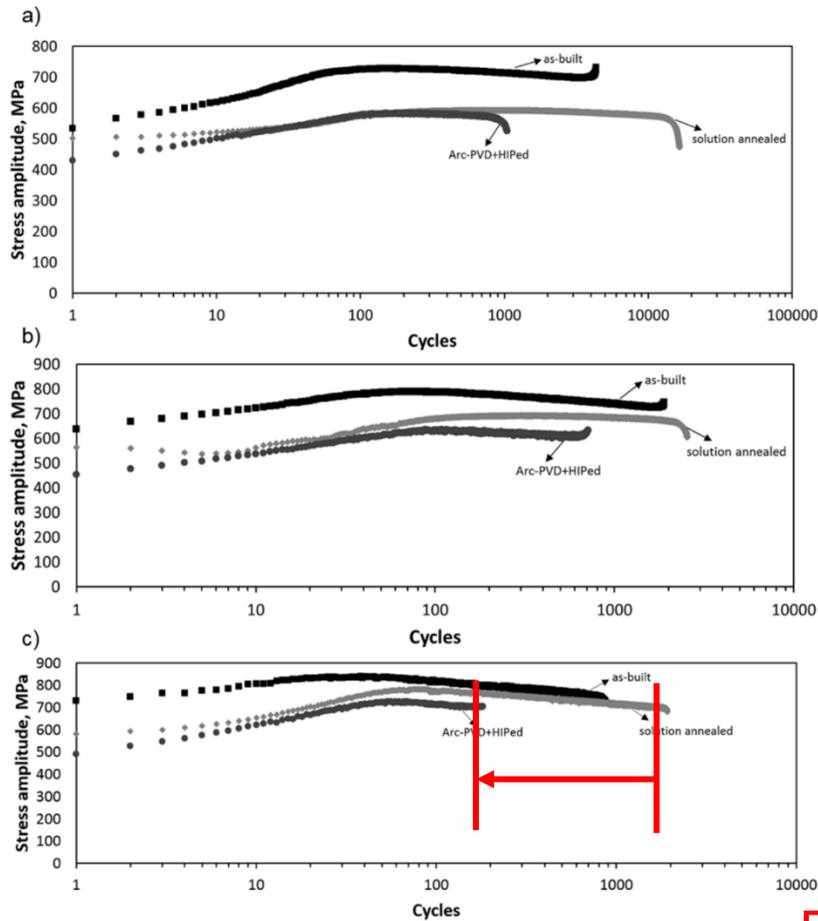
Low degree of porosity → BUT: local differences

→ Most critical: porosity close to the surface cannot be eliminated by HIP



Tensile tests



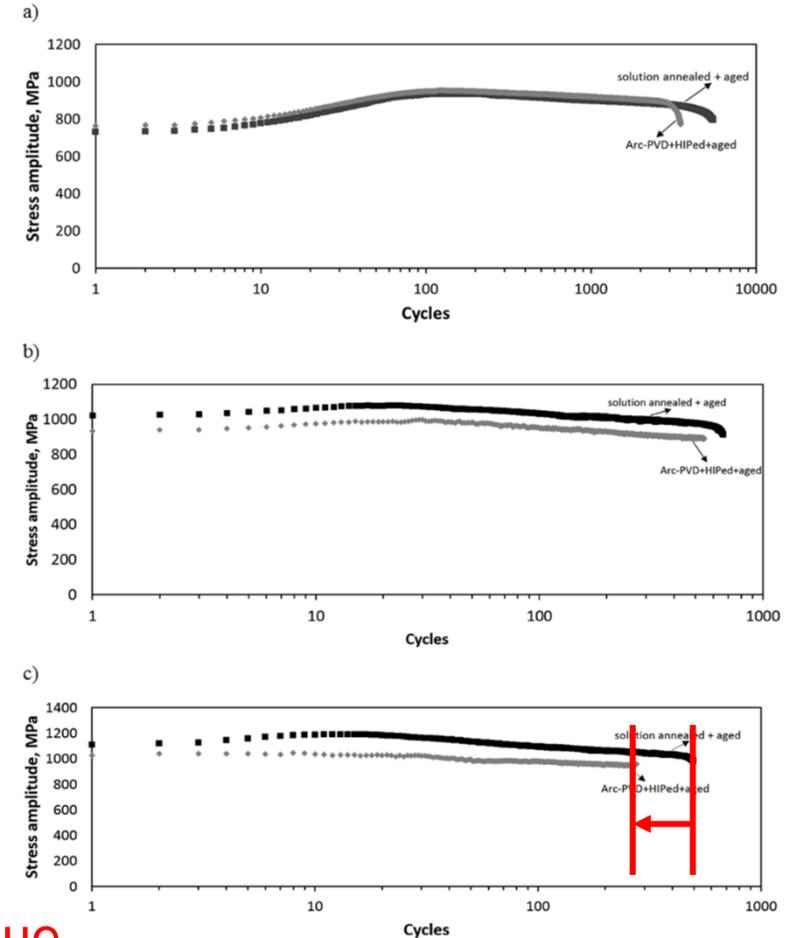


0.35 %

0.5 %

0.8 %

LCF- strain controlled
Stress response



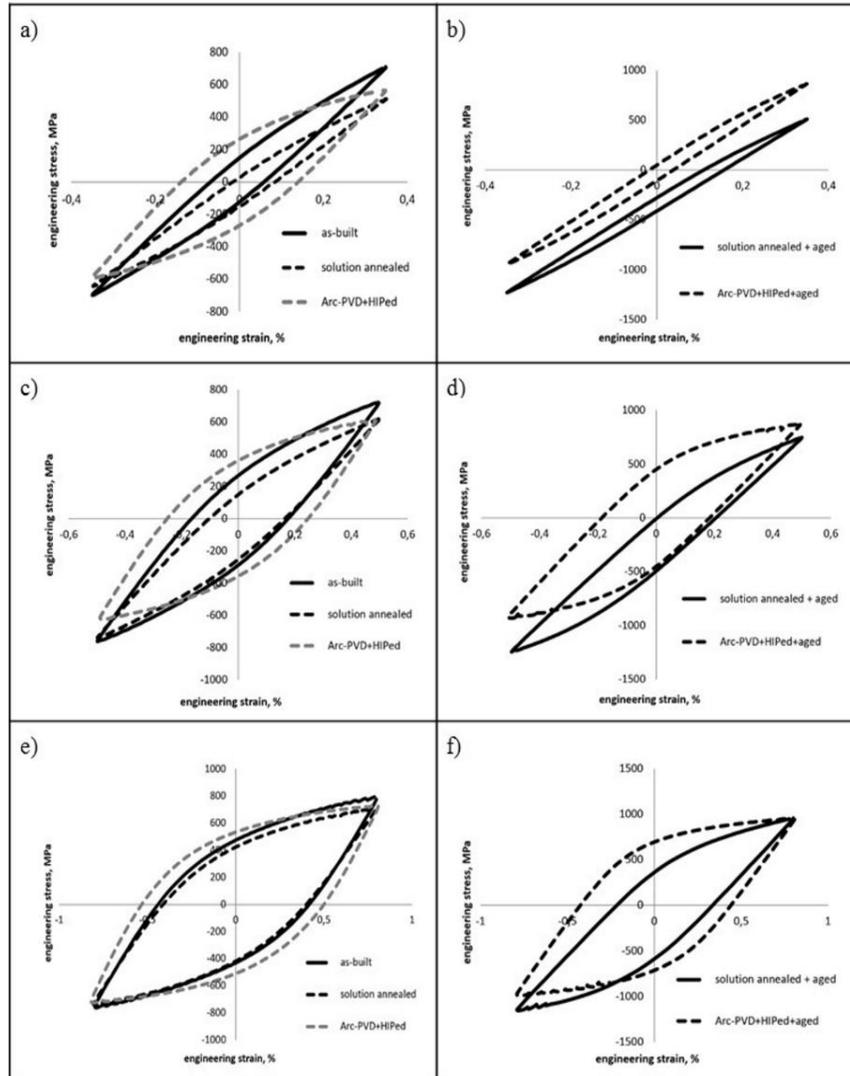
As-built, solutionized, HIP;
Non-aged

Decrease of fatigue
lives upon HIP

Aged conditions

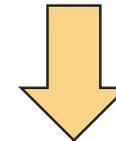


LCF- strain controlled
Half-life hysteresis



Key parameter:

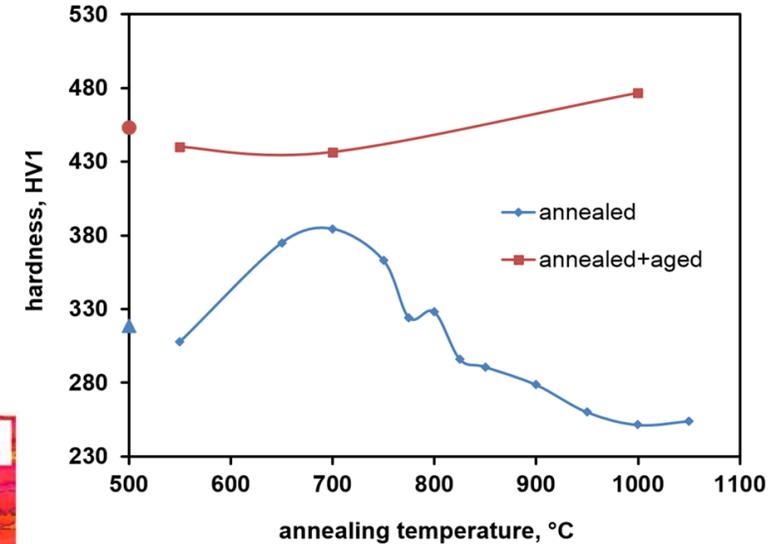
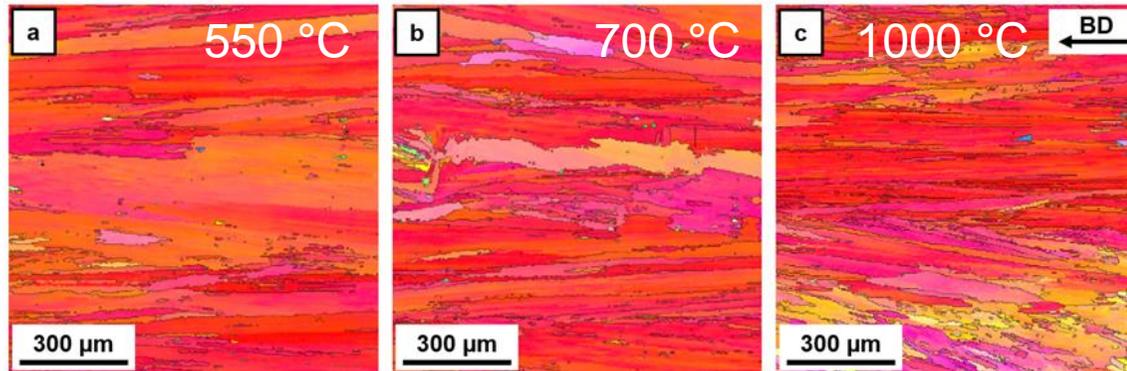
- Plastic strain
- Mean stress



Energy dissipation per cycle strongly increases upon HIP

Microstructure design in Ni-based alloys

→ Thermal stability during solutionizing?

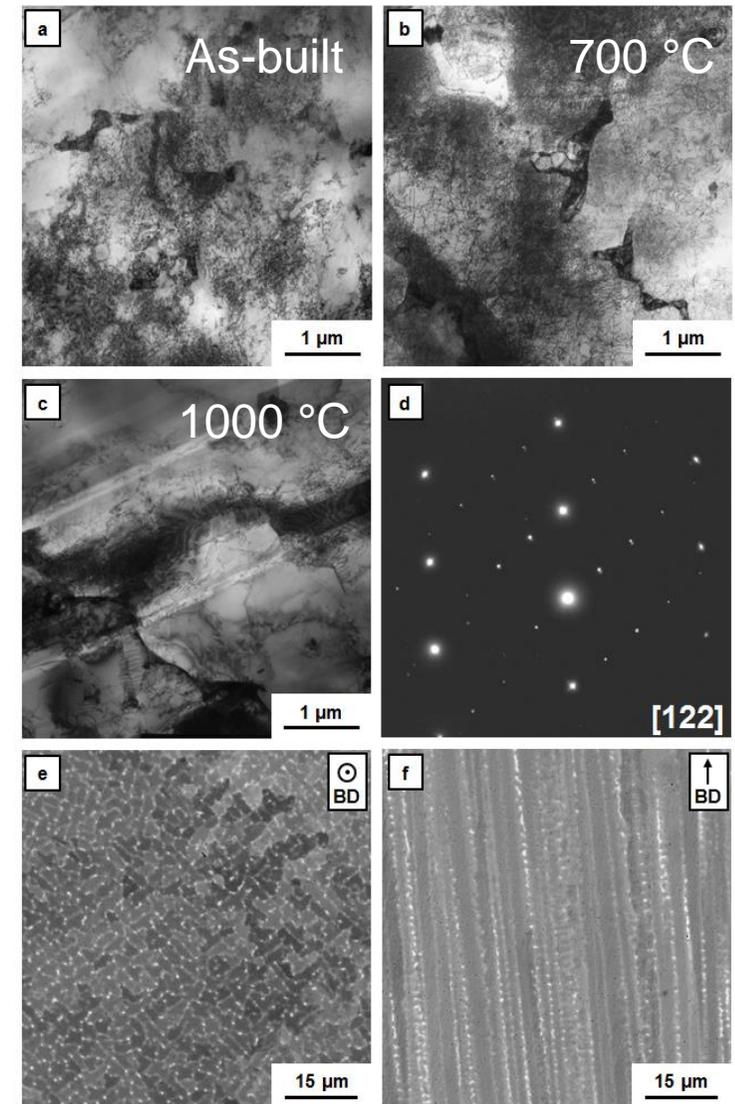
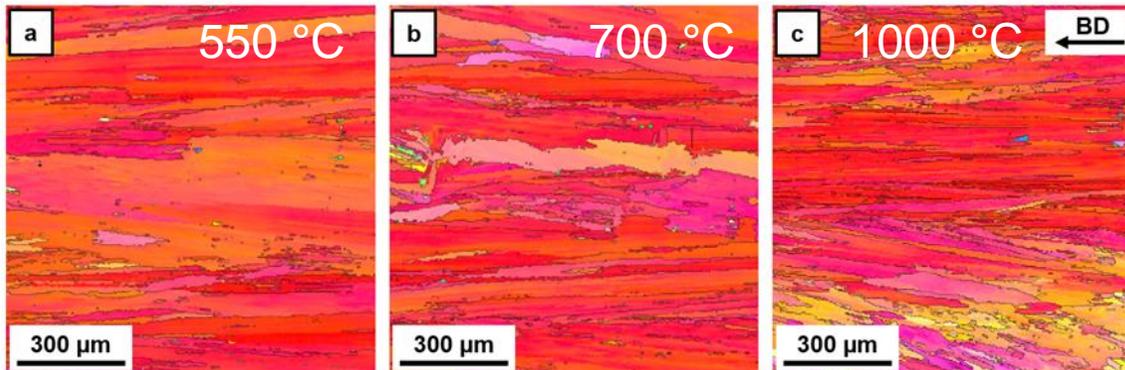


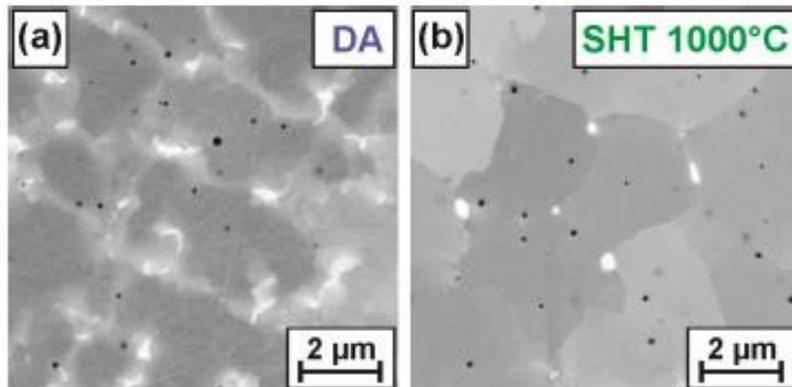
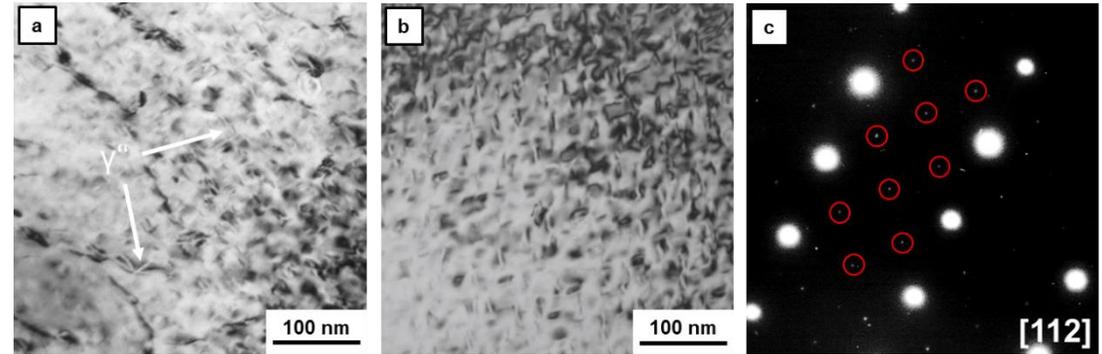
→ EBSD: Hardly any change in microstructure up to 1000 °C

→ BUT: Significant changes in hardness

Microstructure on different length scales

- Sub-structures
- Laves-Phase
 - Partially dissolved upon solutionizing at 1000 °C



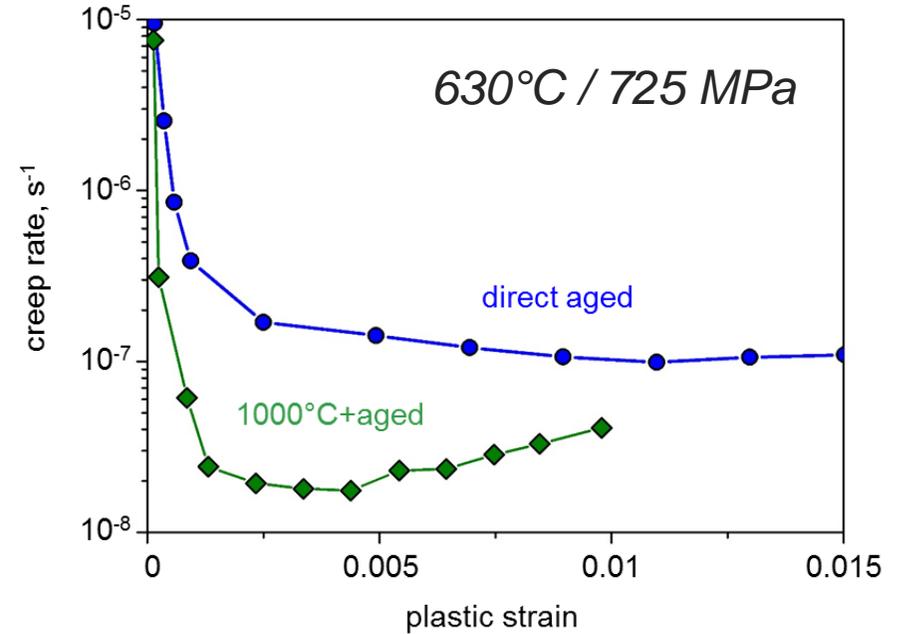
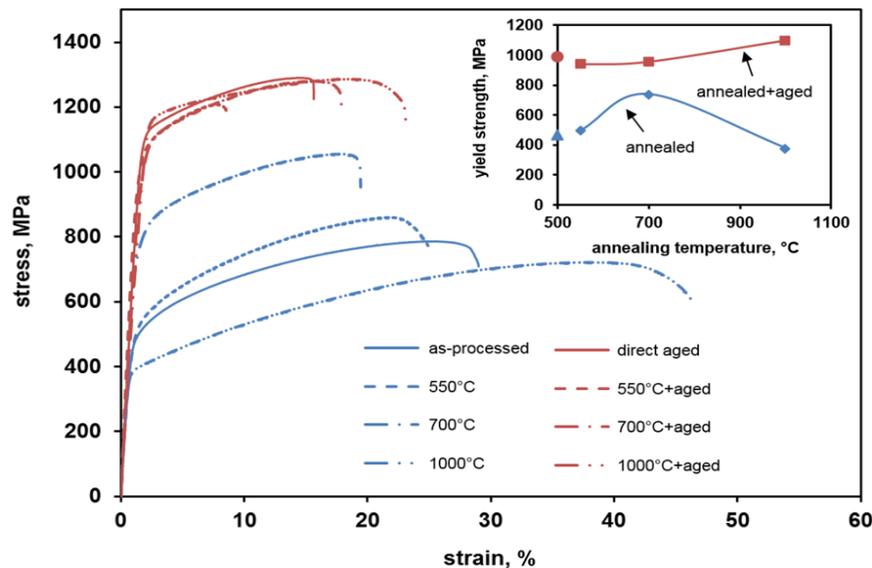


Microstructure on different length scales

- Sub-structures
- Laves-Phase
 - Partially dissolved upon solutionizing at 1000 °C
- γ'' -phase evolves upon aging

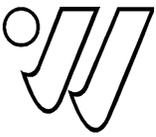


Tensile tests:
In good agreement with hardness evolution



Compression creep:

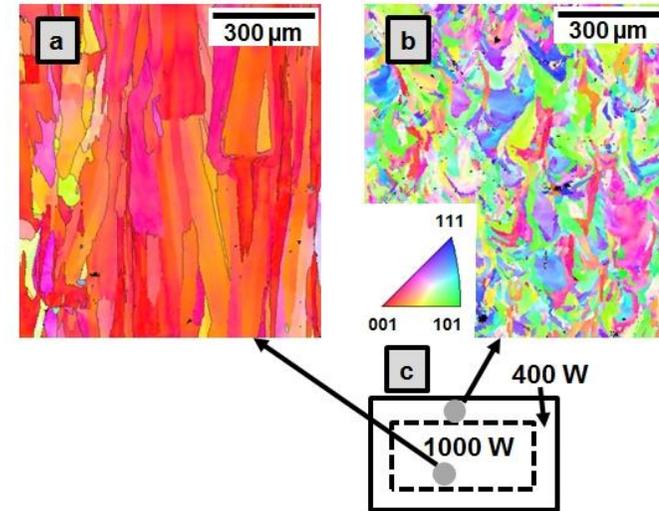
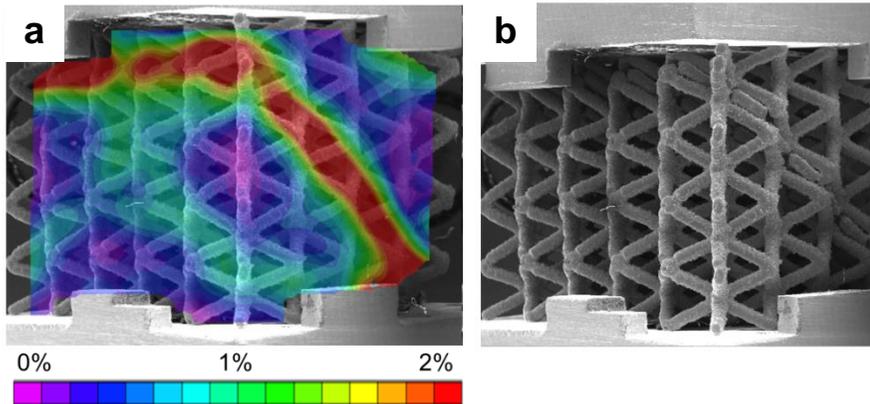
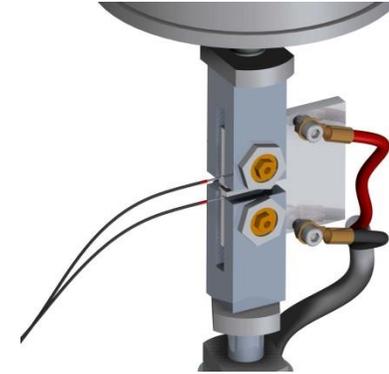
- ➔ Laves-Phase detrimentally affects creep rate
- ➔ Inferior to the fine grained condition



1. Stainless steel 316L

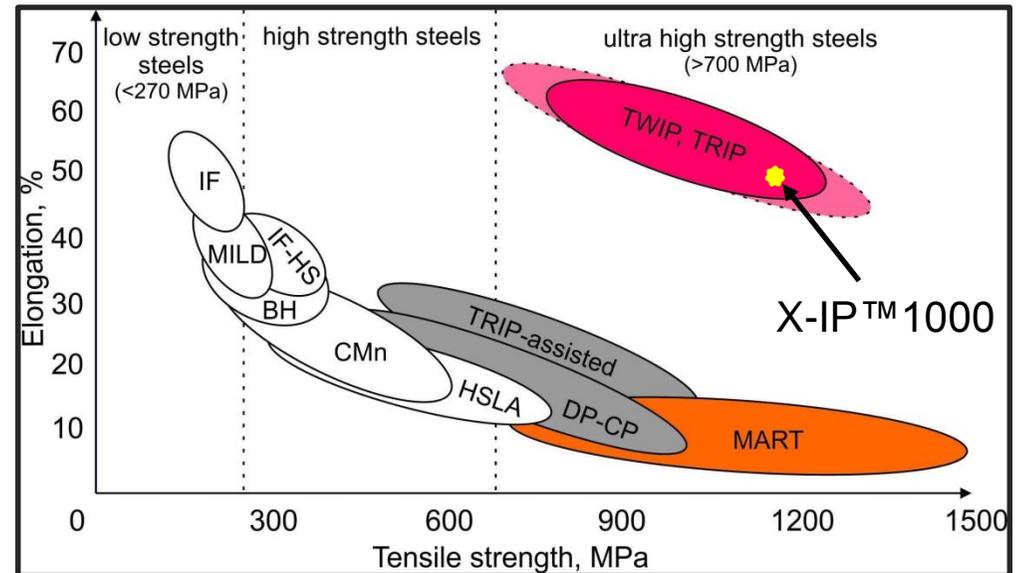
2. Ni-based alloy IN 718

3. High-Mn Fe-based alloys



New Materials processed by Additive Manufacturing

- Fe-based alloys
- TWIP steel
 - ➔ delayed necking due to twinning
 - ➔ extreme ductility
 - ➔ high hardening capability



Main goals

- Determination of mechanical performance and microstructural characteristics
 - after SLM
 - after heat treatment
- ➔ Comparison to thermo-mechanically processed blanks



Powder processing

→ TLS Technik, Bitterfeld

Process parameters

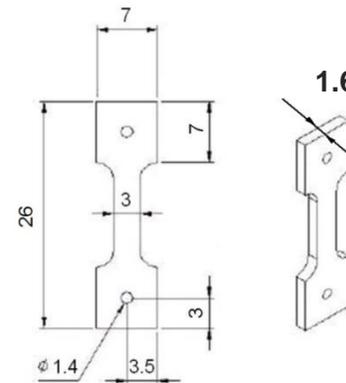
→ Same as for 316L stainless steel

Heat treatment

(aiming in recrystallization)

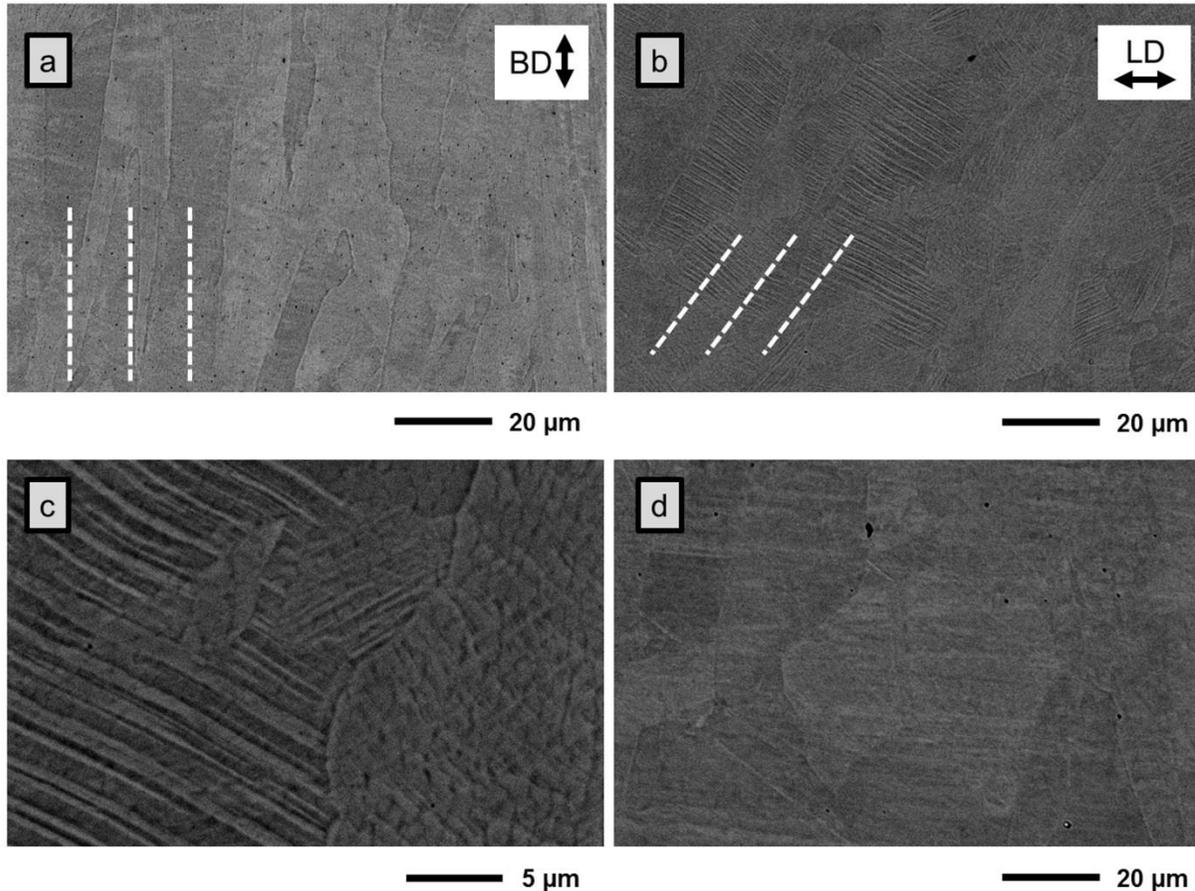
- In vacuum atmosphere
- 1h, 1050°C

Specimen geometry



Bulk material

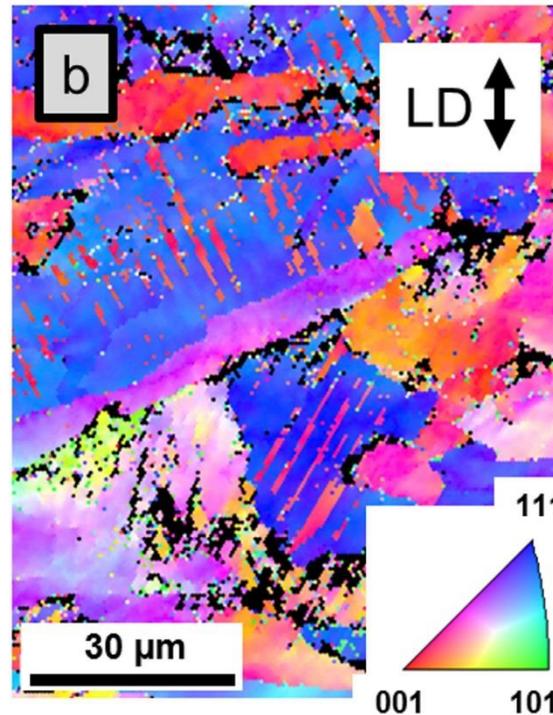
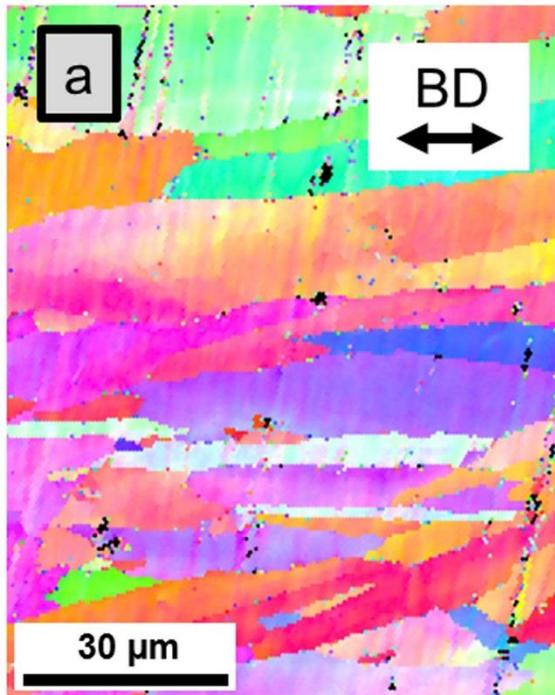
Microstructure – Scanning electron microscopy



- Fairly large grains
(Reference material from blank: 2-5 µm)
- Grains elongated parallel to BD
- Parallel features following deformation in numerous grains → Twins?
- Dislocation cells in several grains
→ submicron-scale
- Following heat treatment
→ large equiaxed grains



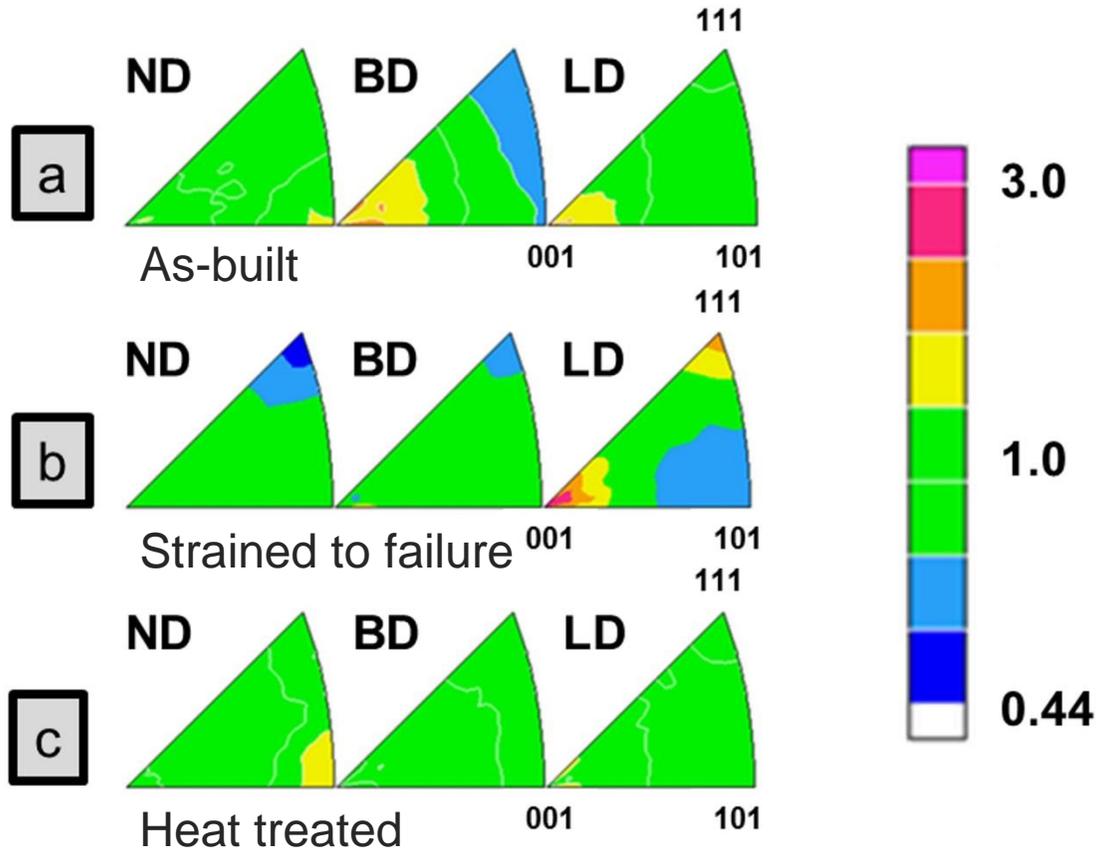
Microstructure – Scanning electron microscopy - EBSD



- Orientations plotted for LD
- Weak local texture for As-built
- Following deformation
→ $\langle 111 \rangle$ $\langle 001 \rangle$ texture
- Slip and twinning
→ TWIP effect

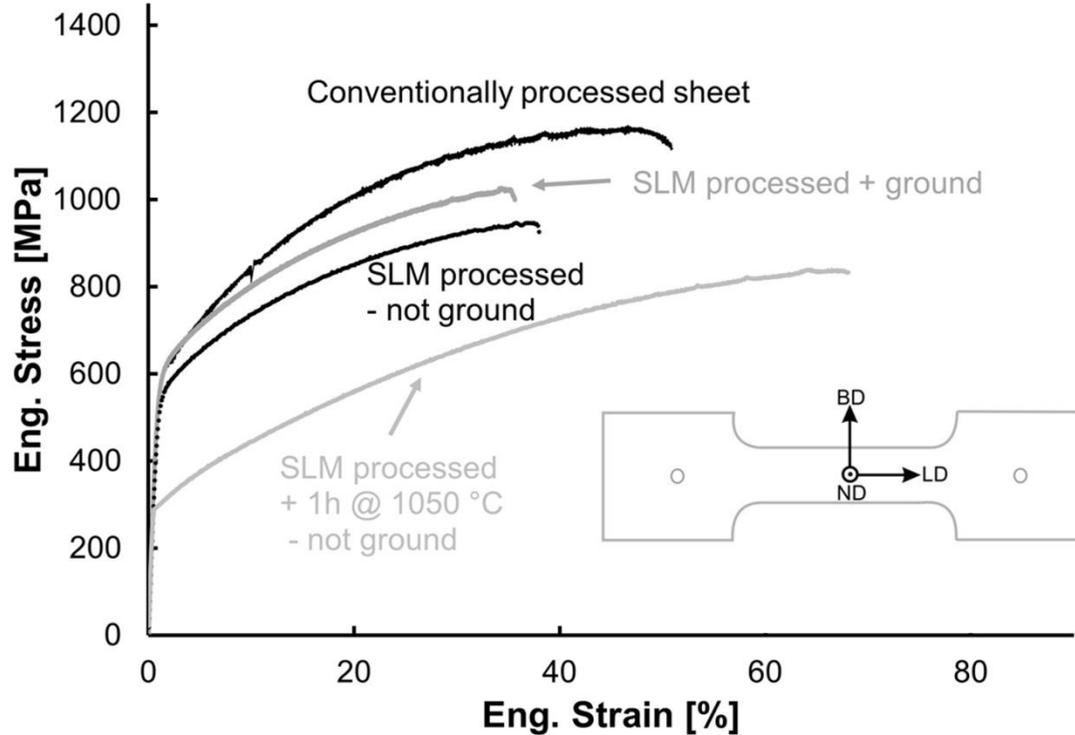


Microstructure – X-ray diffraction



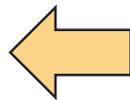
- BD dominated by $\langle 001 \rangle$ in as-built
- $\langle 001 \rangle$ $\langle 111 \rangle$ in LD following deformation
 → Slip and twinning → TWIP
- Randomization following heat treatment

Mechanical properties

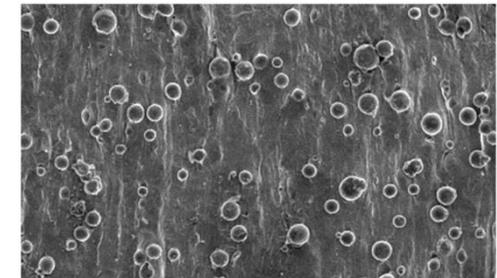


- Reference: Conventionally processed sheet; UTS: 1160 MPa
Elongation to failure: ~50 %
- Not ground SLM processed TWIP steel
→ slightly lower values
- SLM processed + ground
→ almost equal
- Further increase of ductility following heat treatment

SLM TWIP steel does not suffer from surface quality



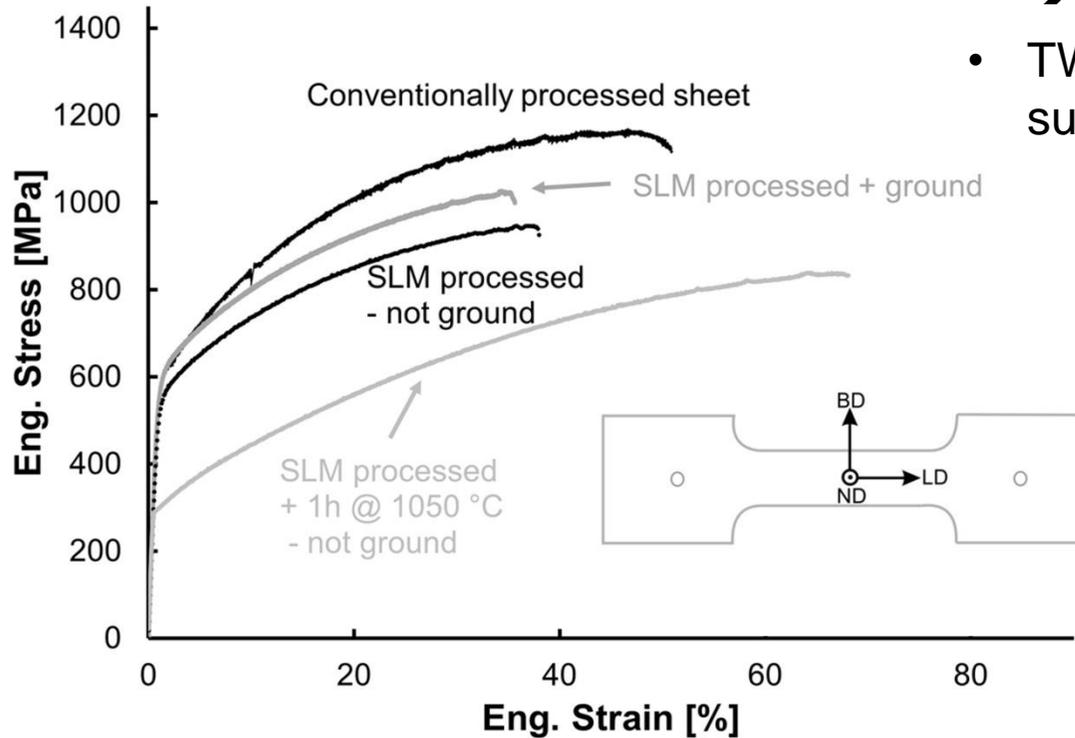
Incorrect cross-section area measured by use of caliper gauge



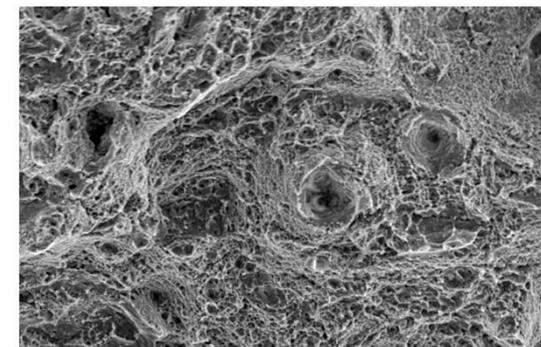
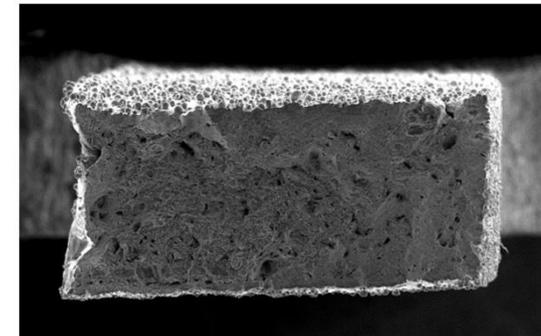
LD ↓ BD ↔ 200 μm



Mechanical properties



- Dimple like fracture
→ high ductility
- TWIP steel does not severely suffer pores





Microstructure:

- **elongated grain morphology**
- **micro-scaled substructures**
- **<001> texture for BD**

Mechanical performance:

- **High strength and ductility** already in the as-built condition
- TWIP effect

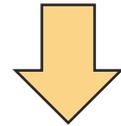
Compared to thermo-mechanically processed material:

- **Similar properties**

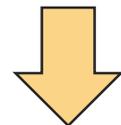
Well suited base material for future work



SLM TWIP steel as base for a new alloy solely processable by AM



TWIP-Ag

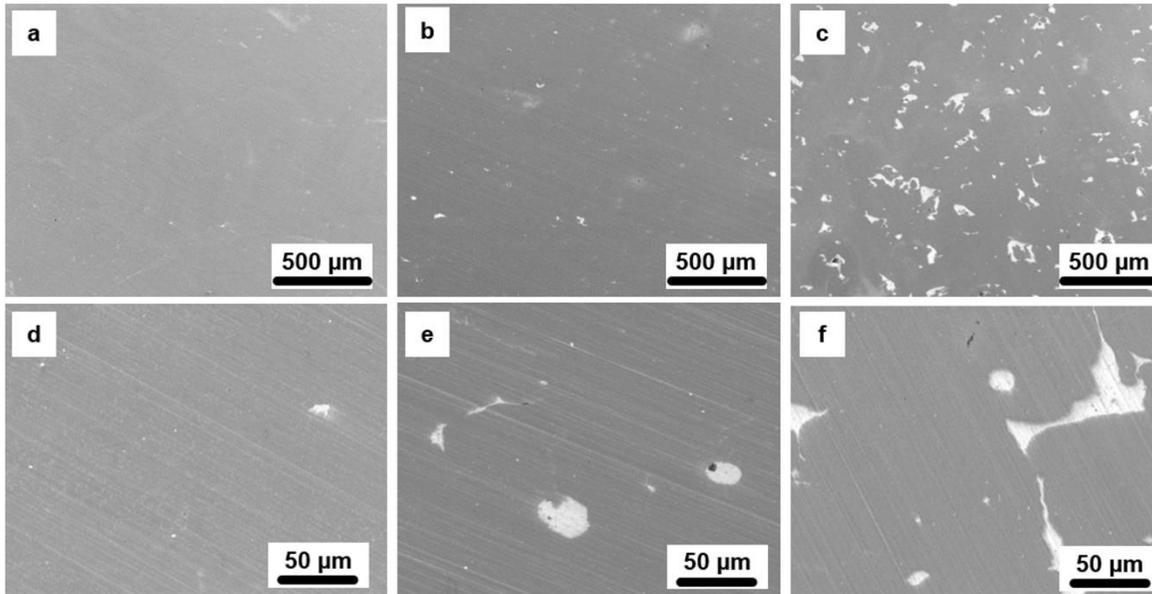


Bioresorbable implants



Microstructure –SEM

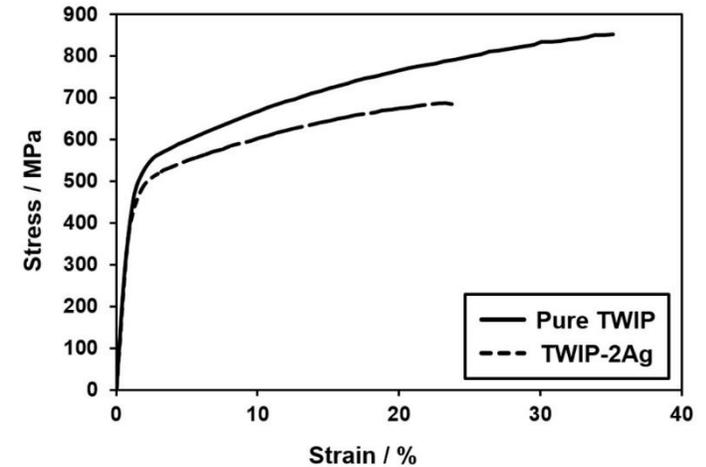
→ Ag is fairly homogeneously distributed within the TWIP matrix



TWIP-1Ag

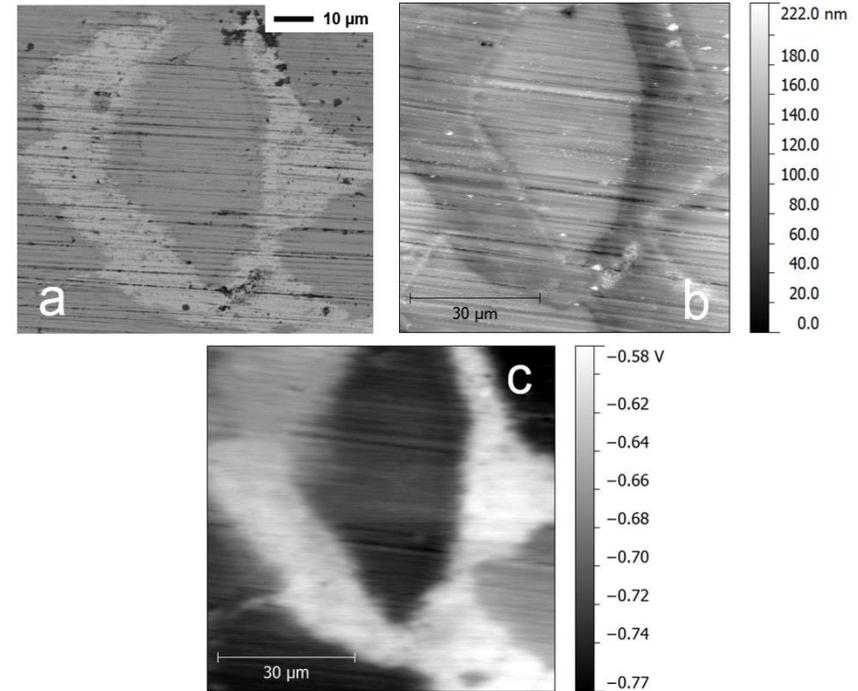
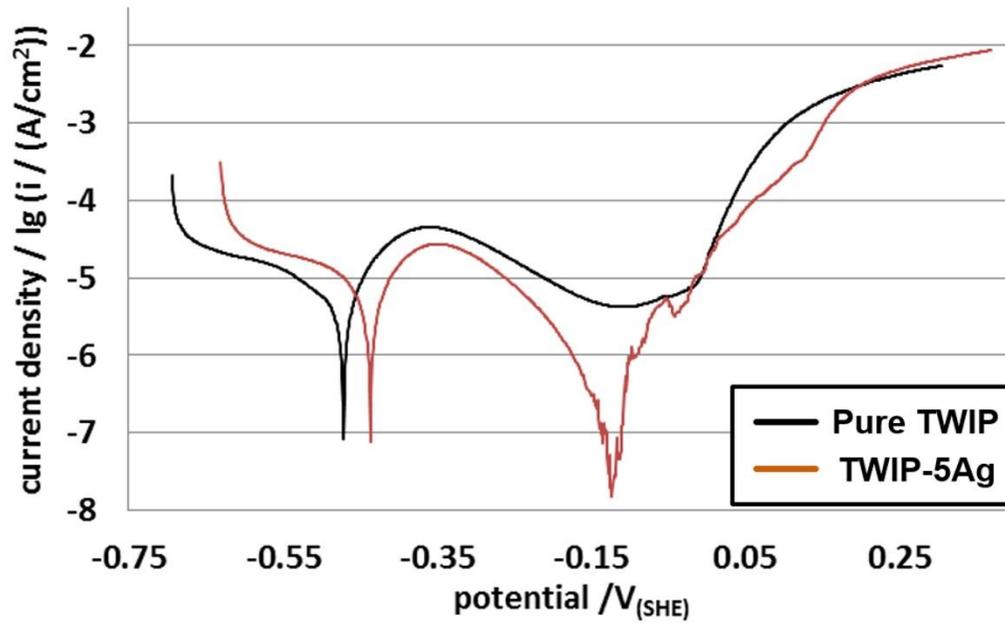
TWIP-2Ag

TWIP-5Ag



Tensile tests

→ Good performance



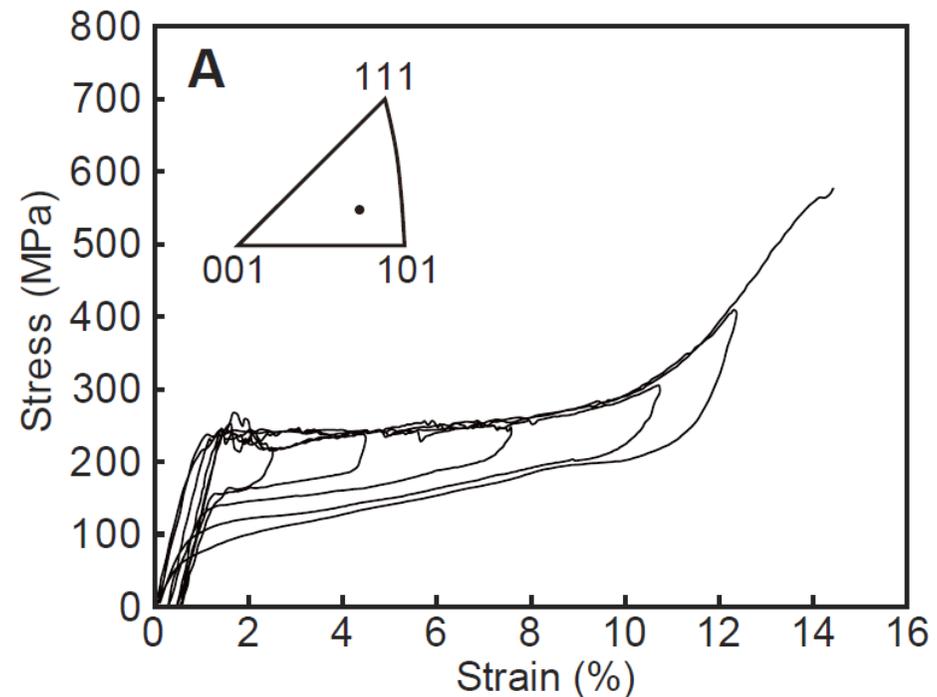
- ➔ Impact on the global and local corrosion behavior are evident
 - ➔ Degradation rates in the human body should be increased





Conventionally processed Fe-Mn-Al-Ni SMAs

- α (BCC) - γ' (FCC) phase transformation
- Max. transformation strain 12 % ([123] oriented single crystal)
- Theoretical transformation strains:
 - 26.5 % (Tension, [001])



*PE-Hystereses, Strain-Increase Test,
Fe-Mn-Al-Ni, single crystal*

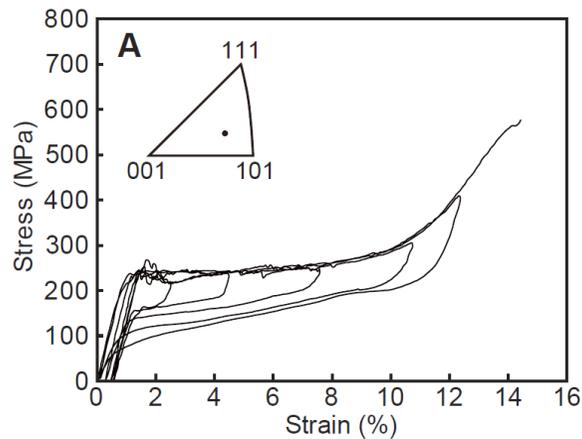
Ref.: Omori et al., Science 2011

Conventionally processed Fe-Mn-Al-Ni SMAs

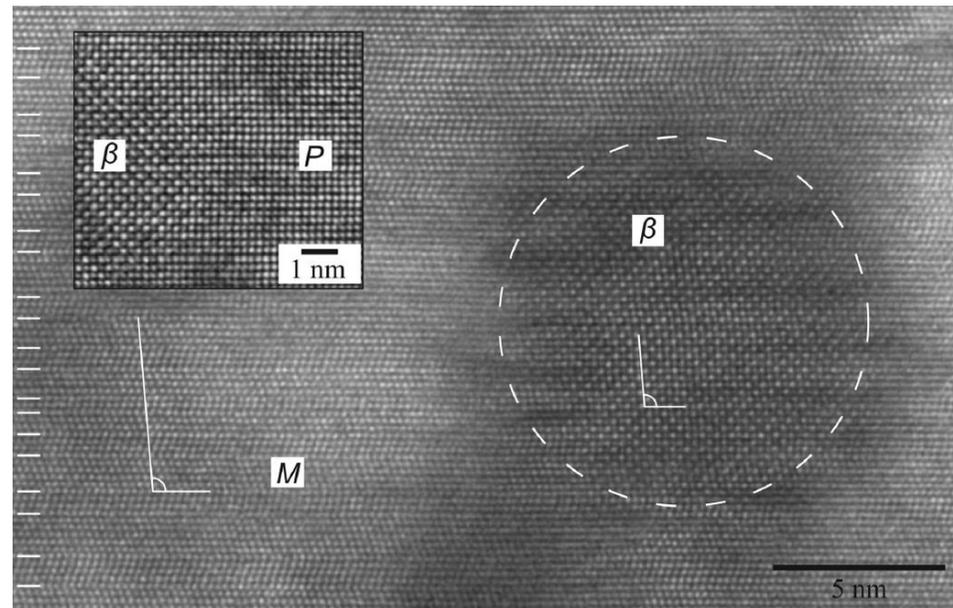
β -precipitate: B2 (NiAl)

- Precipitation of β -phase particles induced by ageing at 200°C
⇒ *Pre-requisite for thermo-elastic martensitic transformation*

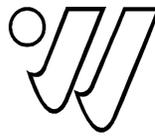
- α (BCC) - γ' (FCC) phase transformation



Ref.: Omori et al., APL 2012



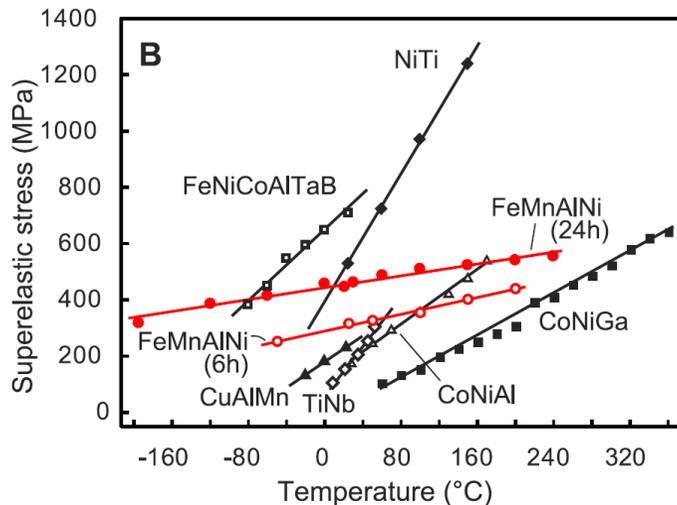
HR-TEM: Nano-scaled β -phase precipitates



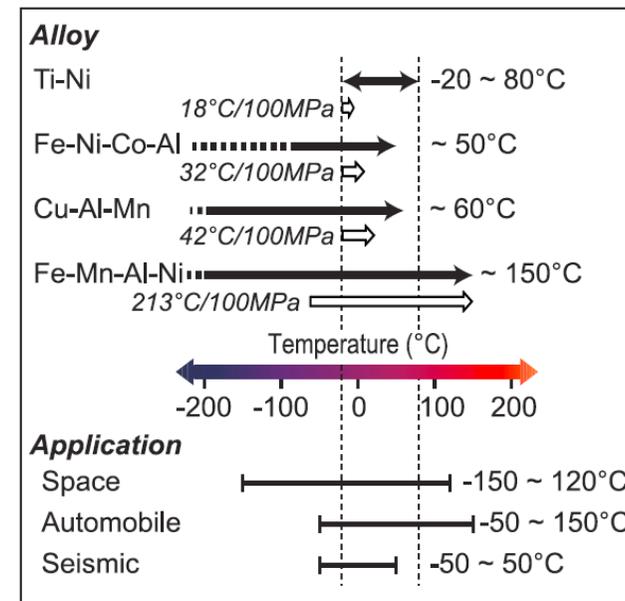
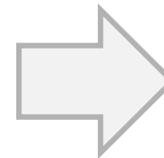
Conventionally processed Fe-Mn-Al-Ni SMAs

- Low CC-slope (Increase of transformation stress at increasing temperature)
- Pseudoelastic temperature window 350 K

➔ Numerous fields for application



Critical transformation stresses for PE-response as a function of temperature for diverse SMAs



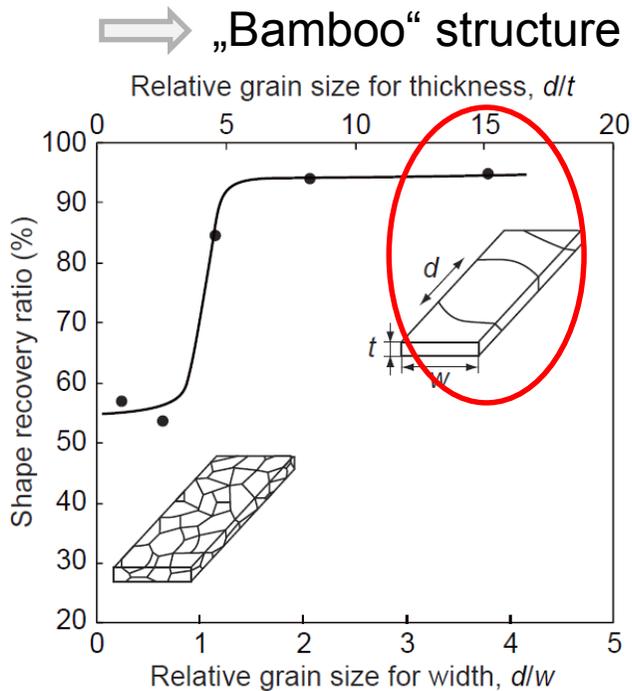
Application temperature ranges of diverse SMAs

Ref.: Omori et al., Science 2011



Conventionally processed Fe-Mn-Al-Ni SMAs

Impact of microstructure

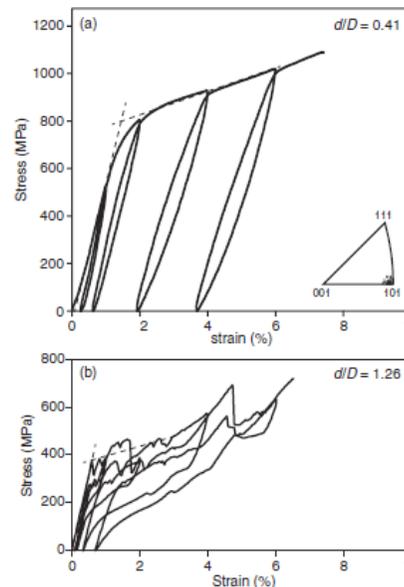


Fe-Mn-Al-Ni, Impact of grain size

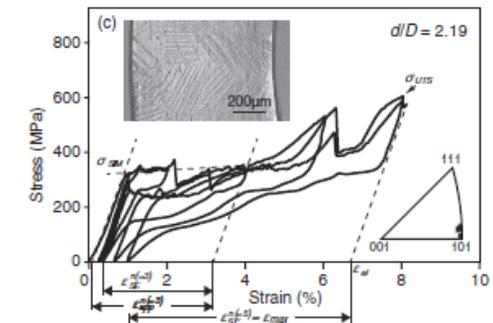
Ref.: Omori et al., APL Materials 2013

Pronounced texture and coarse microstructure are needed

→ Minimization of grain constraints



d : Korndurchmesser;
 D : Draht-durchmesser

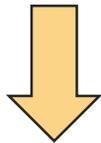


PE response of Fe-Mn-Al-Ni wires in different conditions

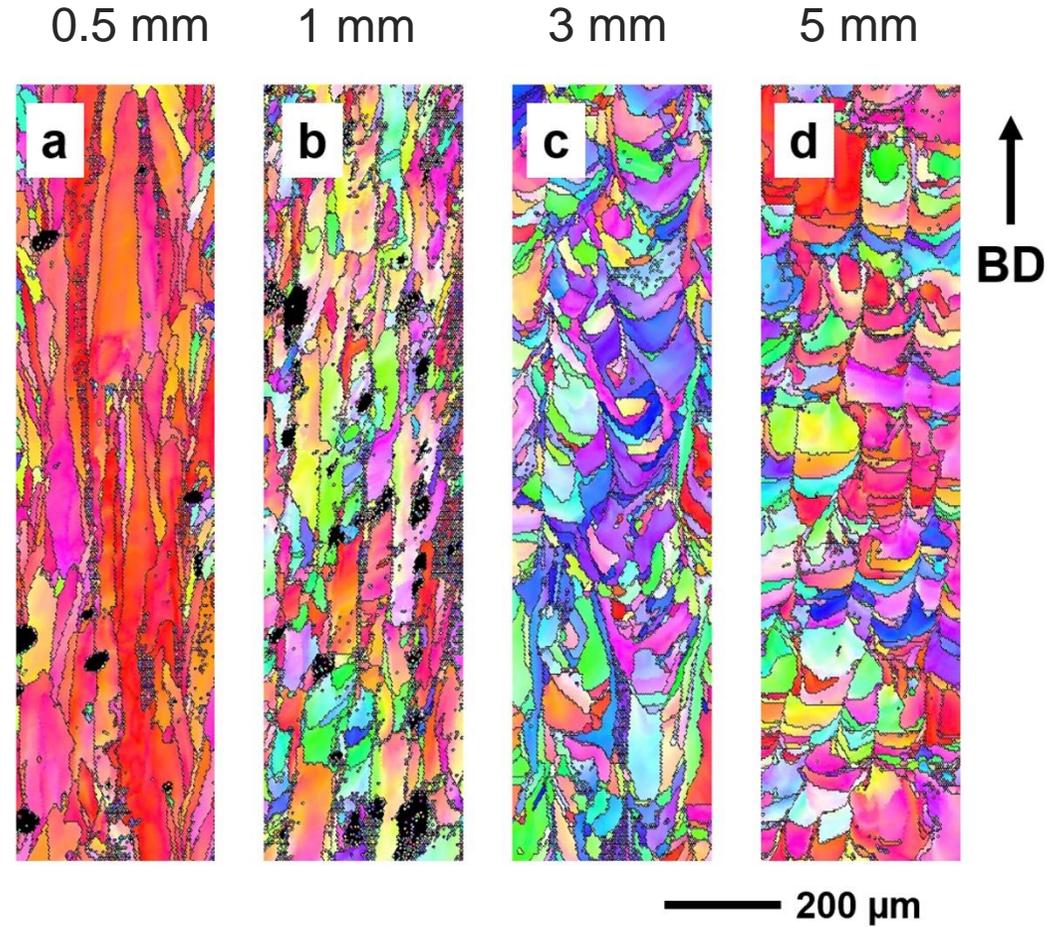


Fe-Mn-Al-Ni SMAs processed by SLM

- Solidification in cubic phase (bcc)
- Similar impact of processing parameters and geometry as in case of 316L



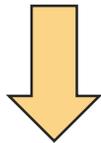
- Direct microstructure design
- BUT: Surface cracking





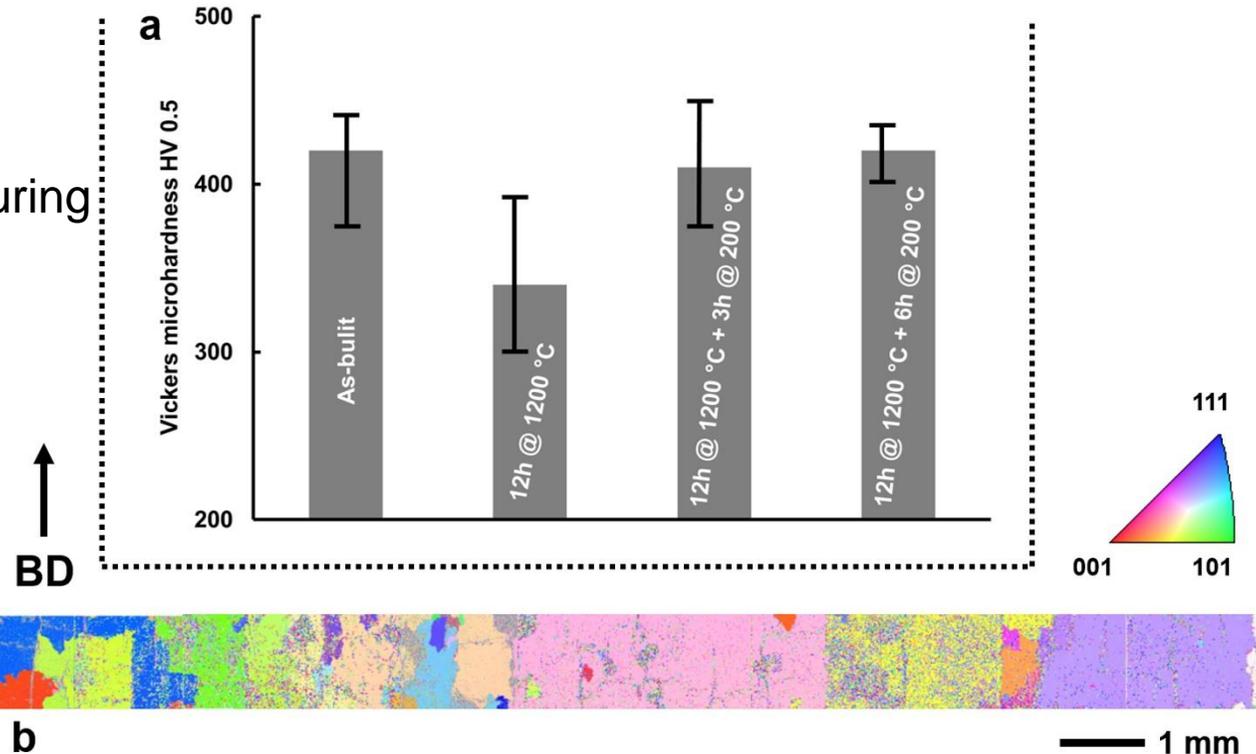
Fe-Mn-Al-Ni SMAs processed by SLM

- Plattform: 200 °C
- Evolution of β -Phase during SLM processing
- High residual stresses



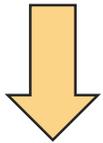
- Surface cracking

- BUT: High driving force for abnormal grain growth
➔ bamboo structures

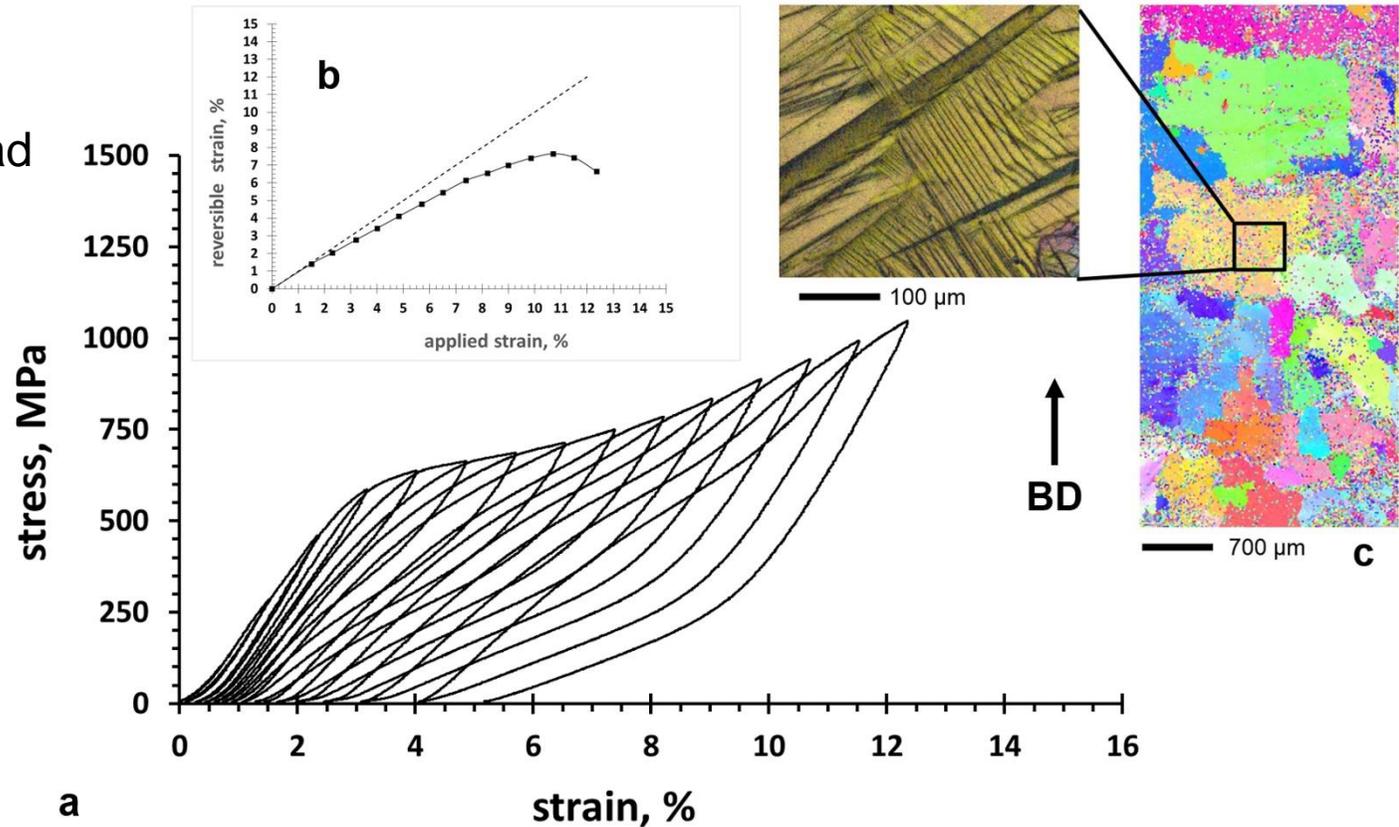


Fe-Mn-Al-Ni SMAs processed by SLM

- Strain increase test under compressive load at -100 °C



- Pseudoelastic response
- Reversible strain up to 7 %
- BUT: Rapid functional degradation





- **T. Niendorf**, F. Brenne: *Steel showing twinning-induced plasticity processed by selective laser melting - An additively manufactured high performance material*, Materials Characterization 85, 2013, 57-63.
- **T. Niendorf**, S. Leuders, A. Riemer, H.A. Richard, T. Tröster, D. Schwarze: *Highly anisotropic steel processed by selective laser melting*, Metall. Mater. Trans. B 44, 2013, 794-796.
- P. Kanagarajah, F. Brenne, **T. Niendorf**, H.J. Maier: *Inconel 939 processed by Selective Laser Melting: Effect of microstructure and temperature on the mechanical properties under static and cyclic loading*, Mater. Sci. Eng. A 588, 2013, 188-195.
- A. Riemer, S. Leuders, M. Thöne, H.A. Richard, T. Troester, **T. Niendorf**: *On the fatigue crack growth behavior in 316L stainless steel manufactured by selective laser melting*, Eng. Fract. Mech. 120, 2014, 15-25.
- S. Leuders, T. Lieneke, S. Lammers, T. Tröster, **T. Niendorf**: *On the fatigue properties of metals manufactured by Selective Laser Melting – The role of material ductility*, J. Mater. Res. 29, 2014, 1911-1919.
- **T. Niendorf**, S. Leuders, A. Riemer, F. Brenne, T. Tröster, H.A. Richard, D. Schwarze: *Functionally graded alloys obtained by additive manufacturing*, Adv. Eng. Mater. 16, 2014, 857-861.
- **T. Niendorf**, F. Brenne, P. Hoyer, D. Schwarze, M. Schaper, R. Grothe, M. Wiesener, G. Grundmeier, H.J. Maier: *Processing of new alloys by additive manufacturing – Iron-based alloys containing silver for biomedical applications*, Metall. Mater. Trans. A 46, 2015, 2829-2833.
- **T. Niendorf**, F. Brenne, P. Krooß, M. Vollmer, J. Günther, D. Schwarze, H. Biermann: *Microstructure evolution and functional properties of Fe-Mn-Al-Ni shape memory alloy processed by selective laser melting*, Metall. Mater. Trans. A 47, 2016, 2569-2573.
- M.E. Aydinöz , F. Brenne, M. Schaper, C. Schaak, W. Tillmann, J. Nellesen, **T. Niendorf**: *On the microstructural and mechanical properties of additively manufactured Inconel 718 superalloy under quasi-static and cyclic loading*, Mater. Sci. Eng. A669, 2016, 246-258.
- F. Brenne, A. Taube, M. Pröbstle, S. Neumeier, D. Schwarze, M. Schaper, **T. Niendorf**: *Microstructural design of Ni-base alloys for high temperature applications – Impact of heat treatment on microstructure and mechanical properties after Selective Laser Melting*, Progress in Additive Manufacturing, 2016, *in press*.
- M. Pröbstle, S. Neumeier, J. Hopfenmüller, L.P. Freund, **T. Niendorf**, D. Schwarze, M. Göken: *Superior creep strength of Inconel 718 produced by selective laser melting*, Mater. Sci. Eng. A, 2016, *submitted*.

Acknowledgements:

- DFG and DMRC for funding
- Dr. D. Schwarze (SLM Solutions)
- E. Aydinöz, F. Brenne, P. Kanagarajah, Dr. S. Leuders, A. Riemer (University of Paderborn, DMRC)
- Dr. S. Neumeier, M. Pröbstle (Materials Science & Engineering, Institute I, FAU)

Questions?





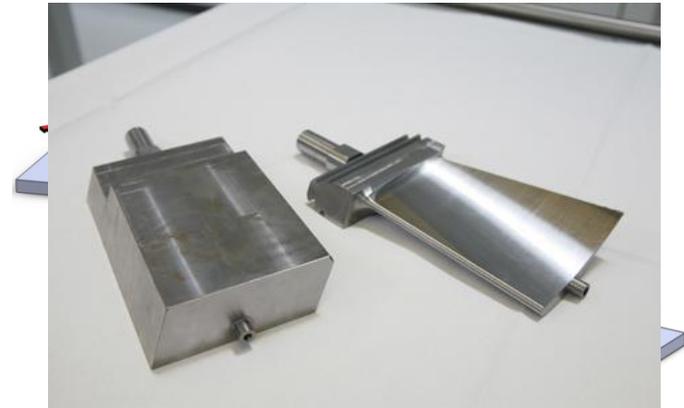
Inconel 939

- Ni-based superalloy
- Typical material for high-temperature applications

Main goals

- Determination of microstructural characteristics
 - after SLM
 - after solution-annealing
 - after ageing
- Examination of mechanical properties
 - cyclic / monotonic
 - room temperature / 750°C
 - horizontally / vertically manufactured specimens

→ Comparison to conventionally fabricated Inconel 939



Source: www.schleifblog.de



Process parameters

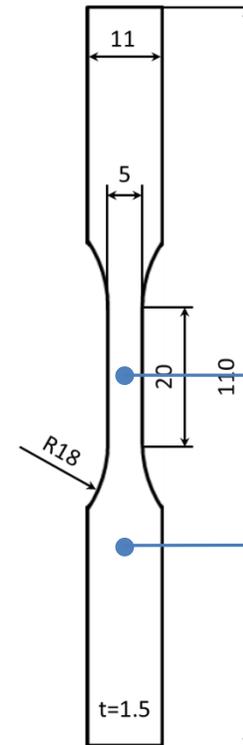
	volume contour	volume area
hatch distance, mm	0.15	0.12
laser power, J s ⁻¹	100	175
laser speed, mm s ⁻¹	540	620
layer thickness, μm	30	30

Heat treatment

(standard for land-based turbine blades)

- In vacuum atmosphere
- Solution annealing: 4h, 1160°C
- Single stage ageing: 16h, 850°C

Specimen geometry



EBSD

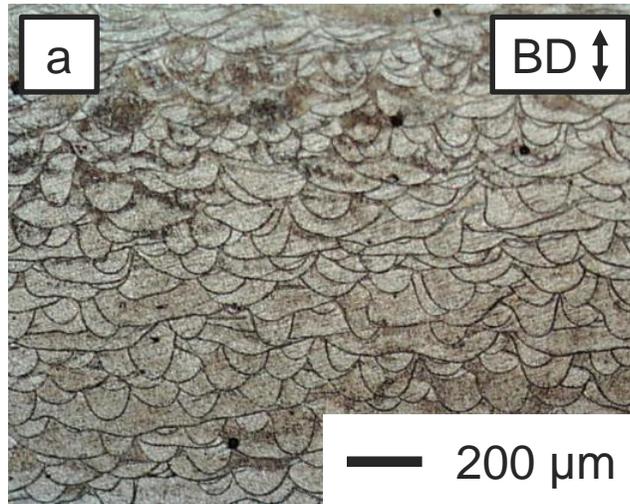
- Grain orientation
- Grain size
- Grain boundary characteristics

TEM

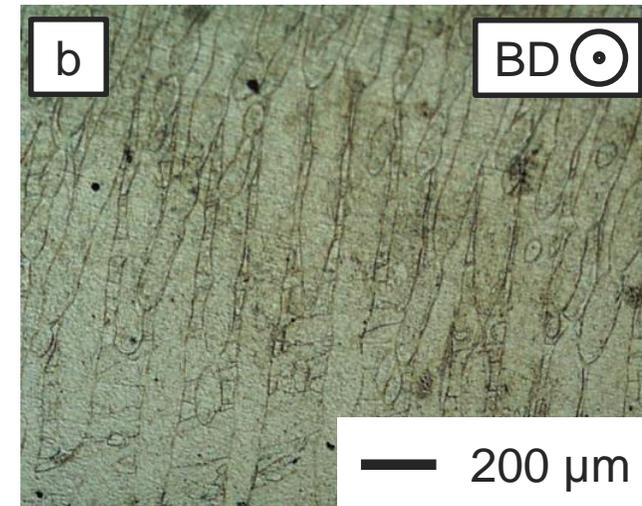
- Dislocation characteristics
- Precipitates
- Local chemical compositions



Microstructure, as-built – optical microscopy



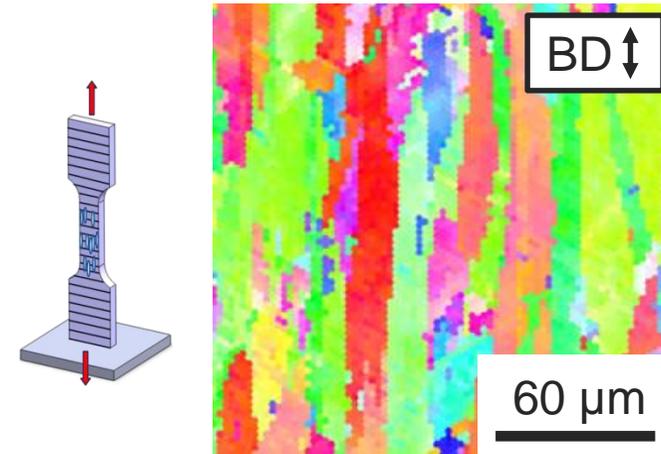
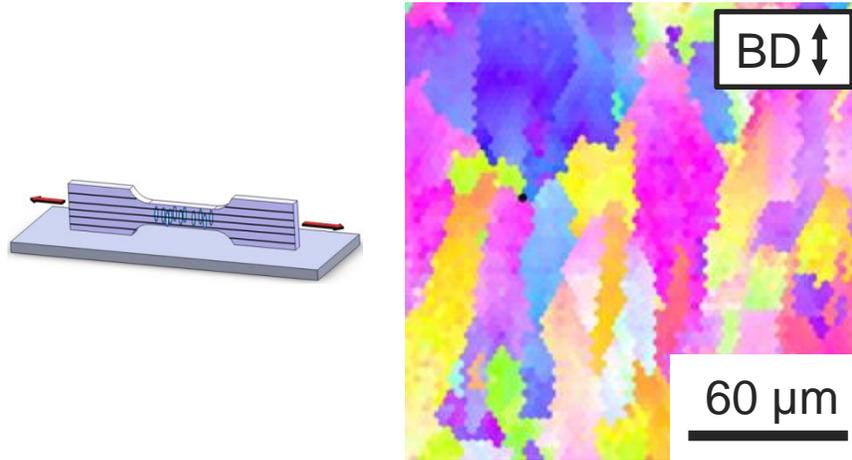
Parallel to building direction:
→ Arch-shaped lines resulting from melt pool



Perpendicular to building direction
→ Elongated structure due to laser movement



Microstructure, as-built – electron backscatter diffraction

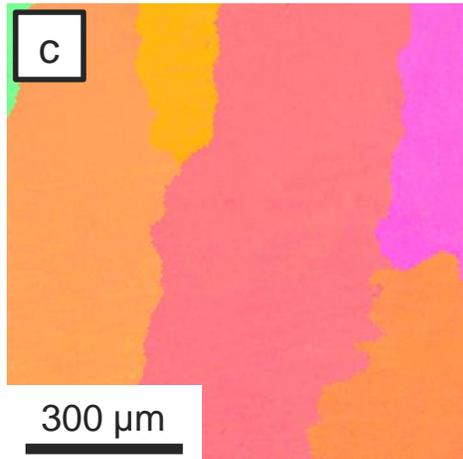
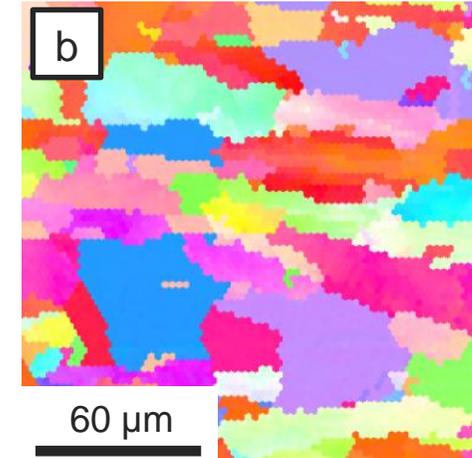
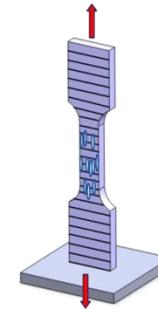
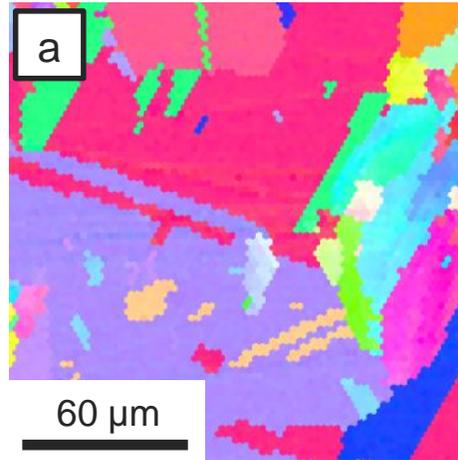
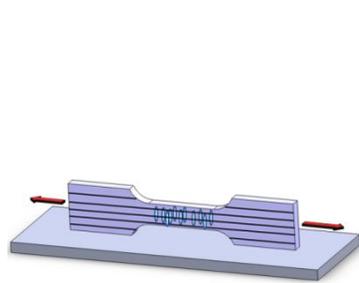


- Columnar grains alongside the building direction
- Grains grow across several layers (>30μm)
- Thicker and shorter grains in case of vertically manufactured sample due to additional heat flux towards grip sections

→ No relation between the features as visible by optical microscopy and the grain orientation and morphology



Microstructure, aged – electron backscatter diffraction



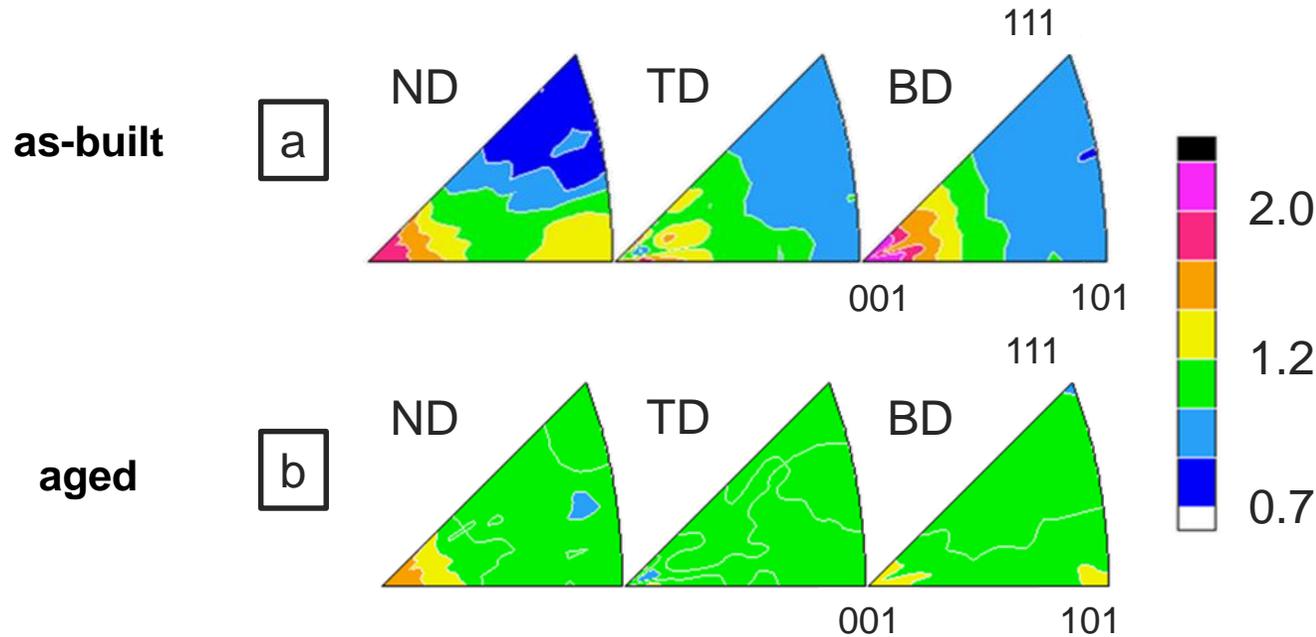
(due to high annealing temperatures, high residual stresses)

softening

→ In comparison to cast material still small grain sizes!
distinctly columnar morphology

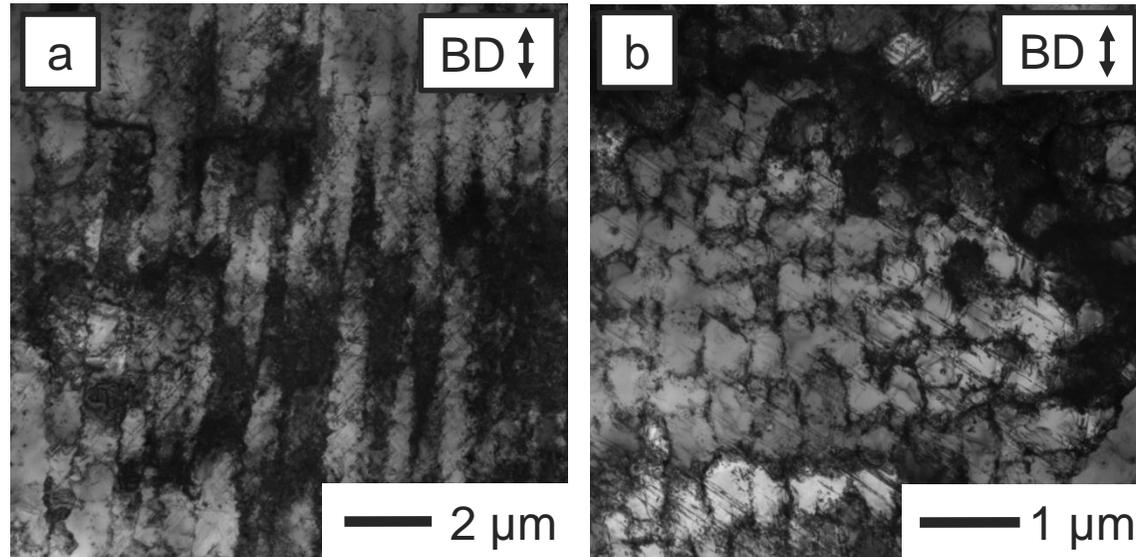
of vertically manufactured sample (average grain diameter 35 μm vs. 70 μm)

Microstructure – X-ray diffraction



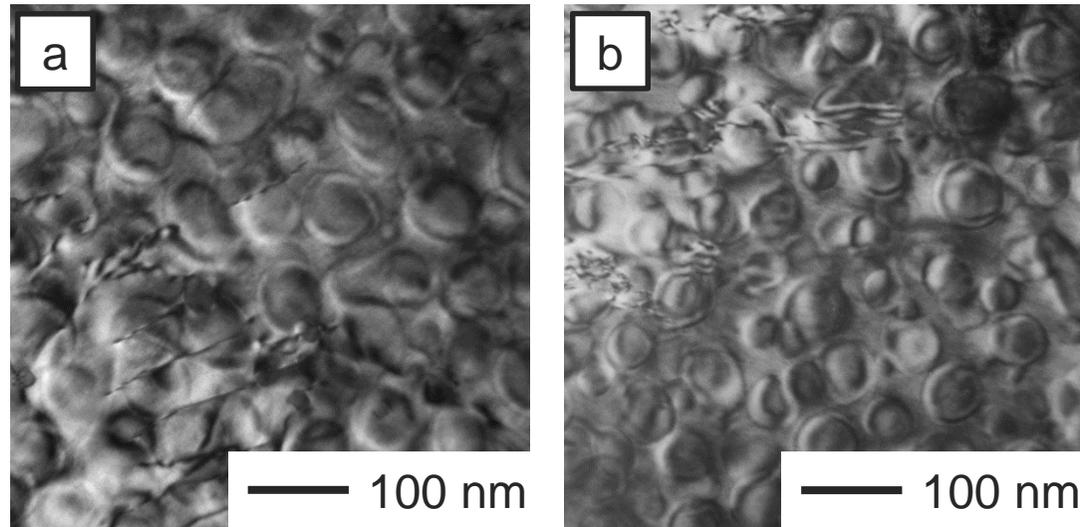
- Preferred orientation of the [001] fibre alongside BD → optimally suited for high temperature creep
→ Grain orientation highly dependent on heat flux during processing
- Much weaker texture after ageing due to recrystallization

As-built microstructure – transmission electron microscopy



- Elongated structures on very small scale parallel to the building direction
- Likewise cell-shaped structures were found
 - Formation and distribution still is unclear
 - Effect on the mechanical properties...?!

Microstructure, aged – transmission electron microscopy



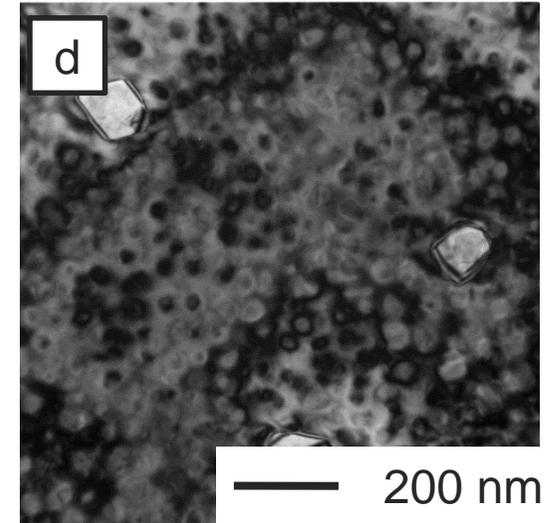
- γ' -precipitates (Ni...)₃(Al,Ti,...) in both after SLM and casting
 - Hardening effect
 - Resistance against high temperature creep
- γ' -precipitates are larger in case of SLMed material → reason?

Microstructure – transmission electron microscopy

aged



solution
annealed



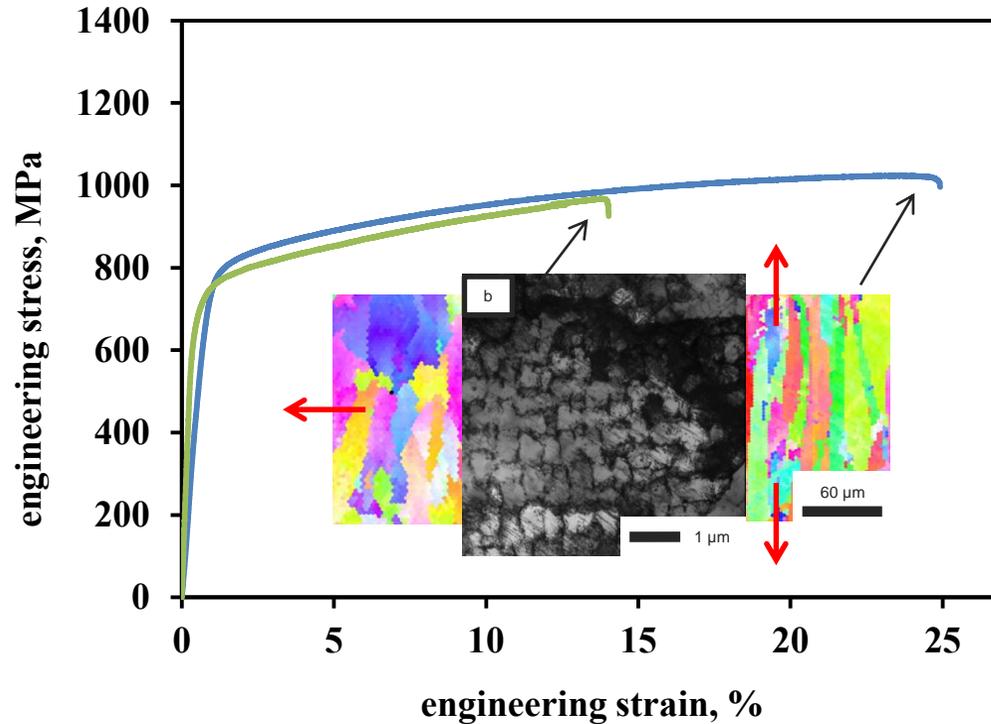
- In addition to γ' -precipitates brittle phases are present already after ageing (normally after long time operation)
- Smaller γ' -precipitates already in the solution annealed condition (normally first during ageing)

→ Formation kinetics much faster than in cast material

→ Nuclei for precipitations are formed during SLM

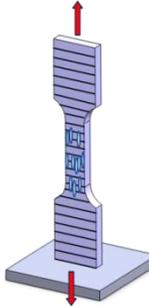


Influence of building direction



Loading axis alongside building direction:

- Higher ductility
- Yield strength almost equal

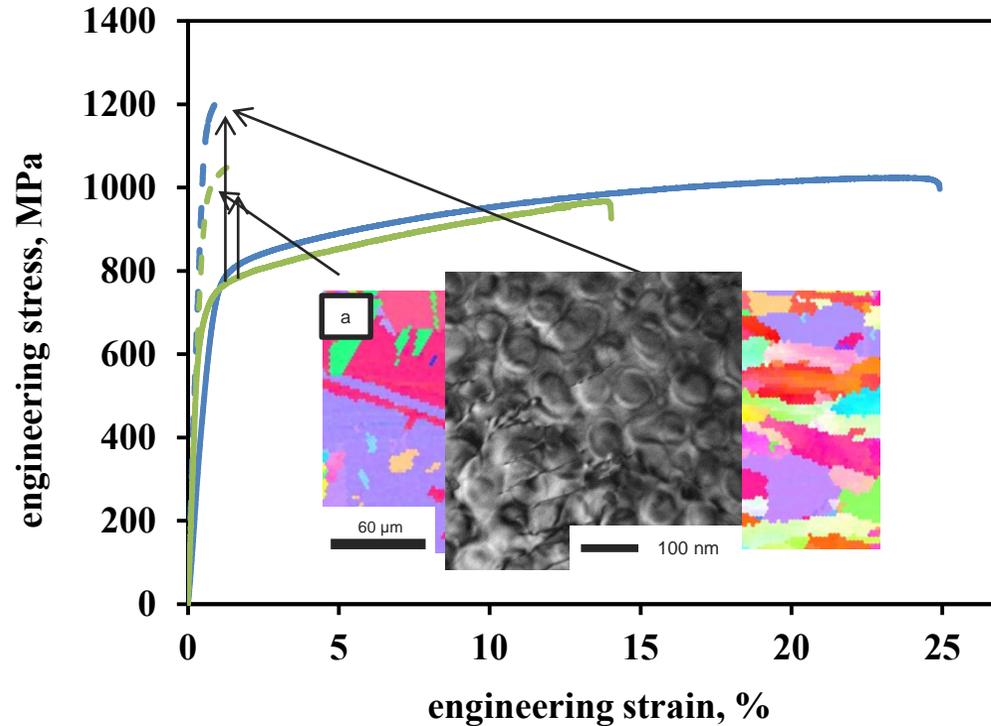


Microstructural reasons:

- Cell-shaped substructures act as barriers for dislocation movement → similar σ_y
- Elongated grains alongside BD → higher ductility



Monotonic mechanical properties – impact of heat treatment



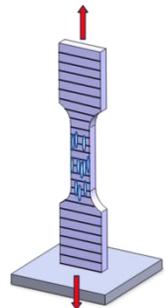
→ Overall increase of yield strength

Microstructural reason:

Formation of precipitates → overall increase of σ_y

Loading axis alongside building direction:

- Higher yield strength
- Ductility equal

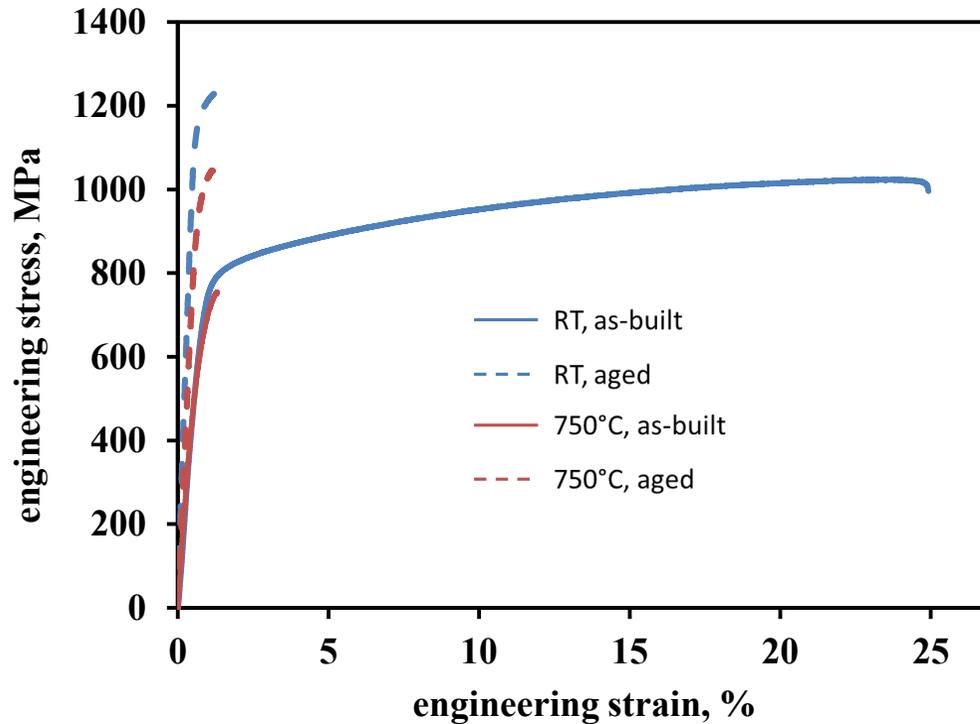


Microstructural reason:

Substructures get dissolved, yield strength dominated by grain size → higher σ_y



Monotonic mechanical properties – influence of temperature

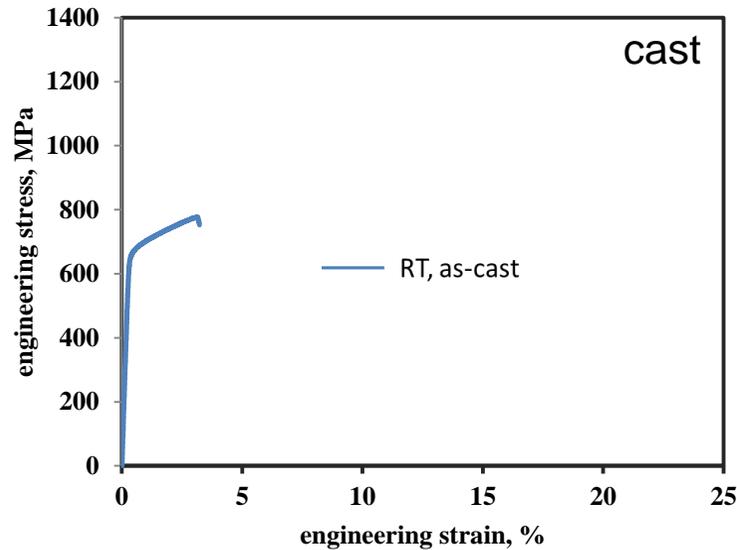
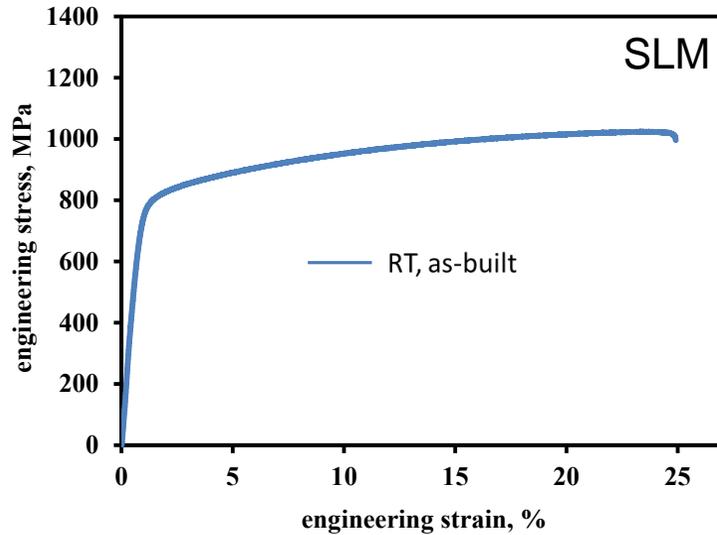


Clearly decreased ductility of as-built condition

→ Fast formation of precipitates + embrittlement



Monotonic mechanical properties – comparison to cast material

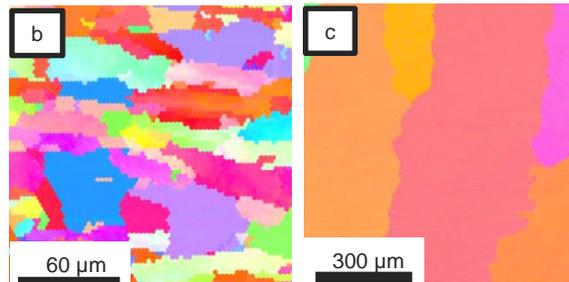


$$\sigma_{y,SLM} = 750 \text{ MPa} - 950 \text{ Mpa}$$

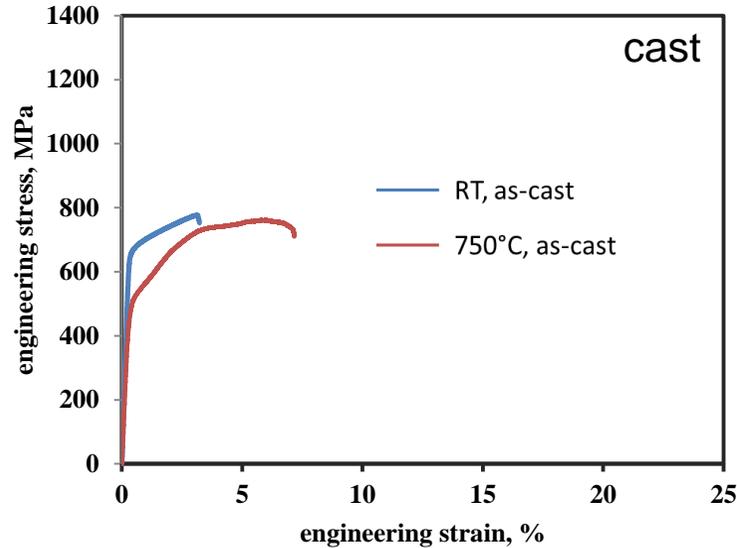
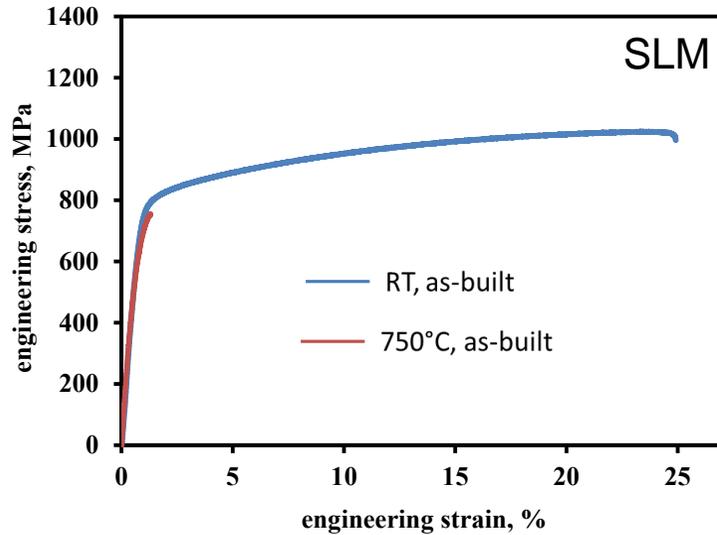
$$\sigma_{y,cast} = 500 \text{ MPa} - 800 \text{ Mpa}$$

as-built / as-cast - RT:

- Higher yield strength
- Significantly higher ductility in case of as-built SLM



Temperature influence – as-built / as-cast conditions



$$\sigma_{y,SLM} = 750 \text{ MPa} - 950 \text{ MPa}$$

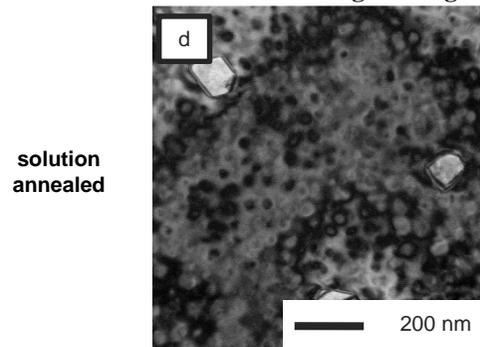
$$\sigma_{y,cast} = 500 \text{ MPa} - 800 \text{ MPa}$$

SLMed material shows

→ Higher yield strength

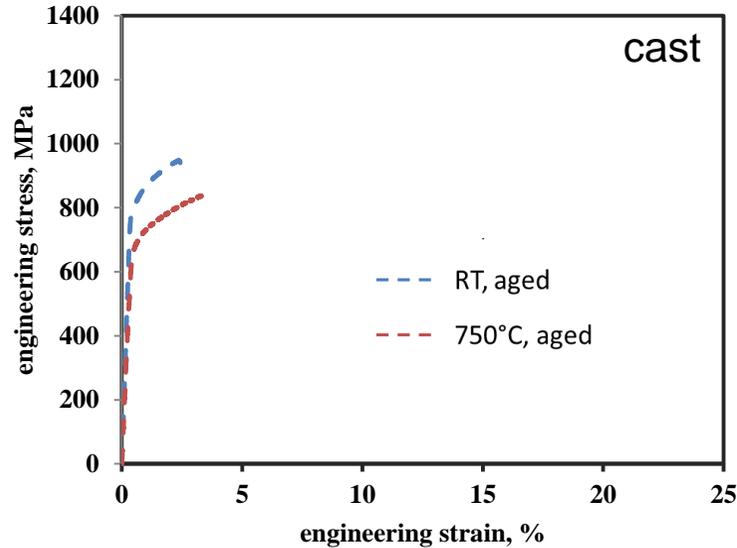
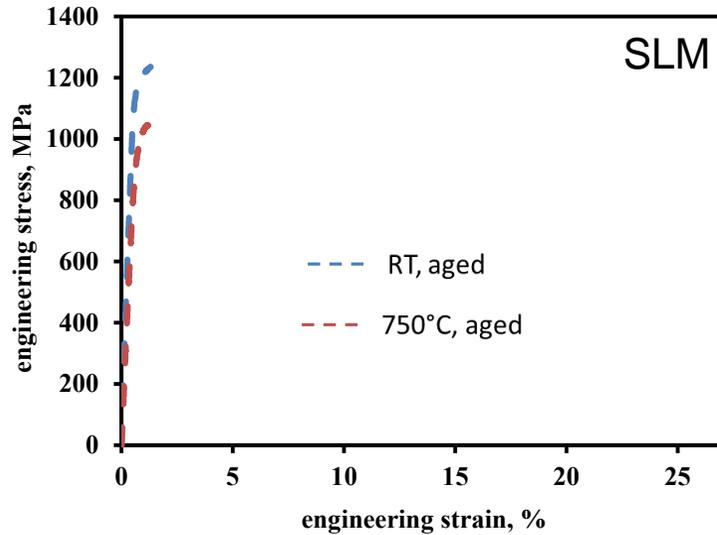
→ Lower ductility

due to fast formation of precipitates





Temperature influence – aged condition



$$\sigma_{y,SLM} = 750 \text{ MPa} - 950 \text{ MPa}$$

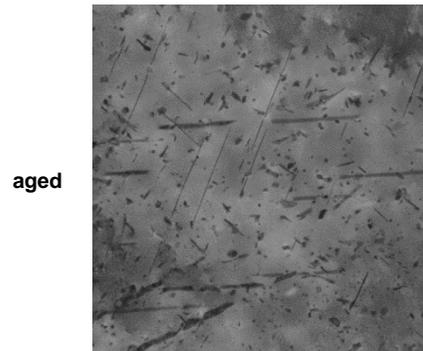
$$\sigma_{y,cast} = 500 \text{ MPa} - 800 \text{ MPa}$$

aged – RT / 750°C:

→ Higher yield strength

→ Lower ductility

due to fast formation of brittle phases



Fatigue lives – as-built / as-cast condition

condition	SLMed, as-built	SLMed, aged	cast, as-cast	cast, aged
N_f RT	4702	1598	313	2677
N_f 750 °C	209	73	230	272

→ At RT higher fatigue life for as-built SLMed material (although not polished)

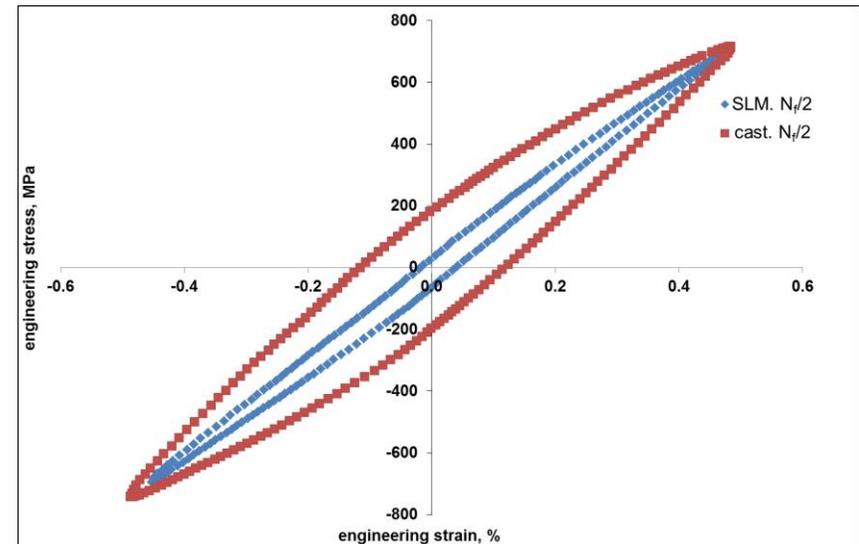
Reason:

Strain amplitude of 0.5 % leads to relatively high stresses

→ Yield strength of cast material is exceeded

→ Loading of SLMed material is mere elastic

At lower strain amplitudes (0.35 %) similar fatigue lives were reached for both SLM and cast material





Fatigue lifes – aged conditions

condition	SLMed, as-built	SLMed, aged	cast, as-cast	cast, aged
N_p RT	4702	1598	313	2677
N_p 750 °C	209	73	230	272

→ Lower fatigue life for aged SLMed material (even if polished)

Reason:

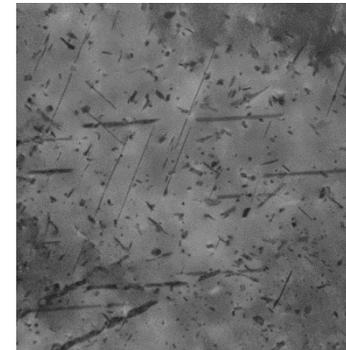
SLM: Formation of brittle phases and process induced defects (pores)

→ Higher sensitivity to crack initiation and growth

Cast: Increase of yield strength due to precipitates

→ Lower plastic strain amplitude

aged





Fatigue lifes – temperature influence

condition	SLMed, as-built	SLMed, aged	cast, as-cast	cast, aged
N_f RT	4702	1598	313	2677
N_f 750 °C	209	73	230	272

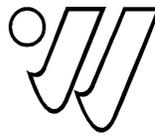
→ General reduction of fatigue life in comparison to RT

Reason:

Enhanced dislocation mobility, typically occurring at high temperatures

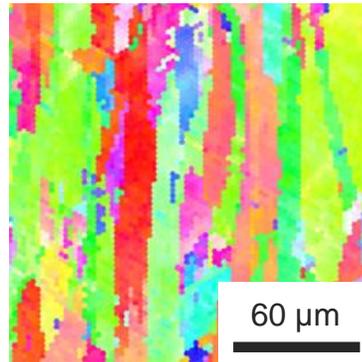
Restrictions:

Only few tests were conducted → scatter?



Microstructure:

- fine columnar grains
- micro-scaled substructures



Two-stage heat treatment:

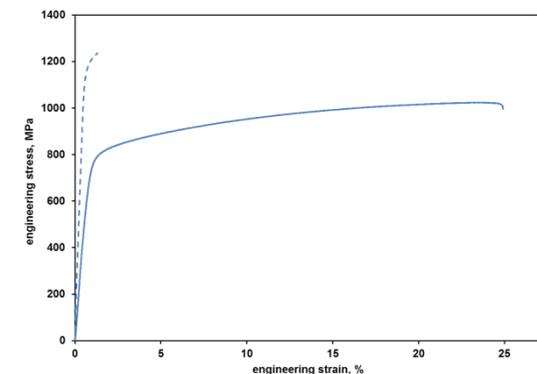
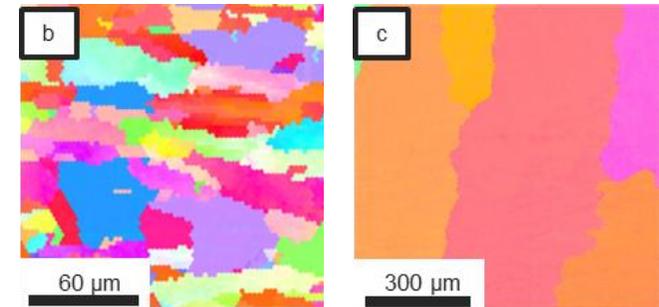
- recrystallization
- still grain sizes significantly lower than in the cast alloy

Monotonic load:

- High ductility of the as-built condition
- Increase of yield strength and embrittlement by ageing

Compared to cast material:

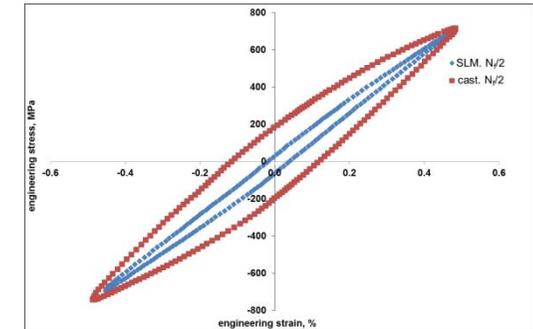
- always higher yield strength in case of SLMed material





Cyclic loading at RT:

→ **Better performance of the as-built SLM-processed condition**



Testing at high temperatures:

- fast formation of precipitates
- embrittlement of the SLM-processed as-built condition

→ **Reduction of ductility and fatigue lives**

