

Past, present and future of Metallurgy: towards sustainable Metallurgy

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Metallurgy: where we came from, where we are and where we need to go

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- Metallurgy (what is this?).
- Metallurgy in the past.
- Metallurgy today, through some numbers
- Some of the problems metallurgy faces today as a result of its success
- Tools available for metallurgy today.
- What about the future?.
- Some final remarks.

Metallurgy is a pseudo-science, that deals with inaccurate assumptions, undefined theories and untestable hypotheses. Based on unreliable information, uncertain measurements and incomplete data. Obtained from unconvincing experiments, indiscriminate investigations and non-reproducible operations. Using instruments, equipment and utensils of dubious precision, insufficient resolution and inadequate sensitivity, by unreliable people, unknown affiliation and questionable intelligence.

A “friend”

Metallurgy is a domain of materials science and engineering that studies the physical and chemical behavior of metallic elements, their inter-metallic compounds, and their mixtures, which are known as alloys. Metallurgy encompasses both the science and the technology of metals; that is, the way in which science is applied to the production of metals, and the engineering of metal components used in products for both consumers and manufacturers. Metallurgy is distinct from the craft of metalworking. Metalworking relies on metallurgy in a similar manner to how medicine relies on medical science for technical advancement. A specialist practitioner of metallurgy is known as a metallurgist.

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Metallurgy, at the heart of human development. Some important milestones.

3500 BC. The Egyptians cast iron (possibly as a product of copper refining) for the first time, in small quantities and for ornaments and ceremonial purposes.

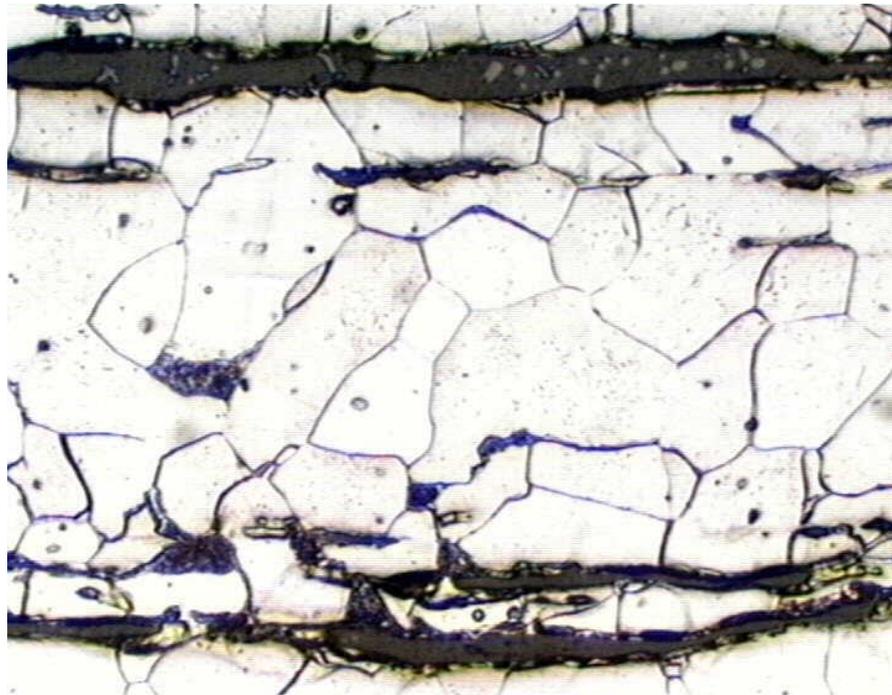


“iron from the sky”

First 'big processing secret' of the material that has dominated the world for centuries: steel.

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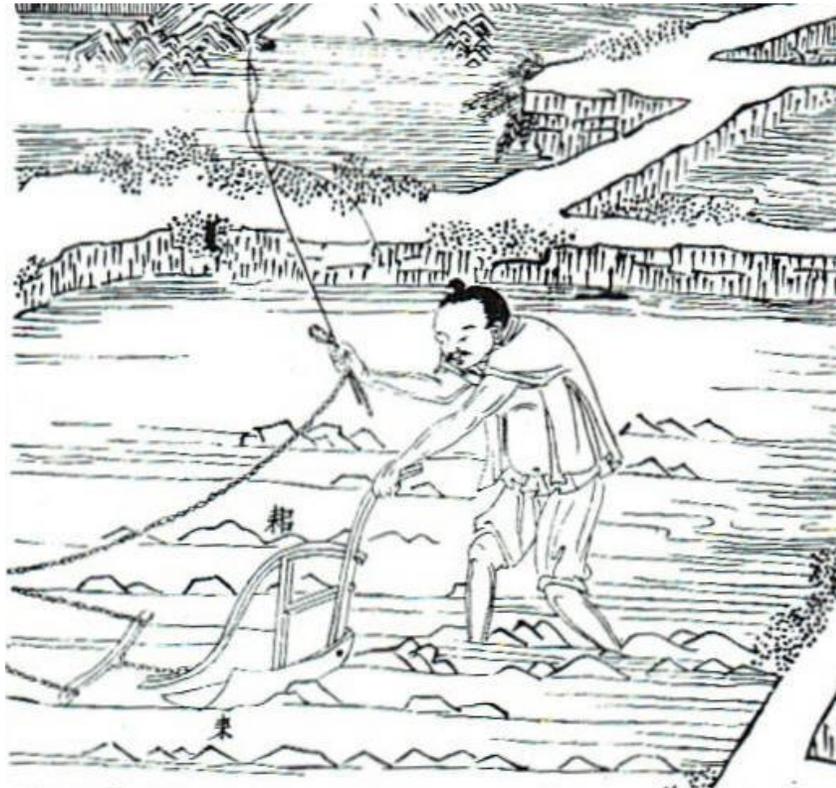
300 BC In southern India, Wootz steel is made from sponge iron in a crucible.



Hundreds of years later, Damascus swords were made from this type of steel, which inspired blacksmiths, artists and metalworkers for many generations.

Metallurgy, at the heart of human development. Some important milestones.

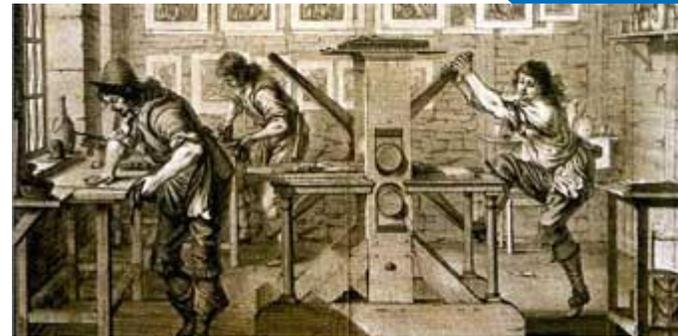
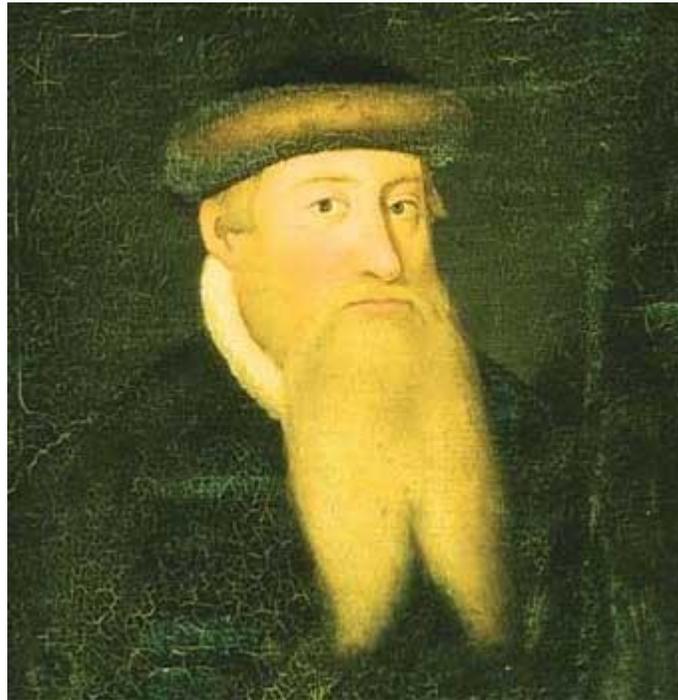
200 BC. In China, iron is cast (iron foundry).



For the first time complex iron parts are made, and iron smelting begins in history.

Metallurgy, at the heart of human development. Some important milestones.

1450: Johannes Gutenberg develops a lead-tin-antimony alloy which he cast with copper and produces type suitable for his printing press.



The possibility
of mass
communication
is established.

Metallurgy, at the heart of human development. Some important milestones.

1709: Abraham Darby I discovers that coke can efficiently replace charcoal in the smelting furnaces of iron smelting.

[Sedgley, Staffordshire](#)

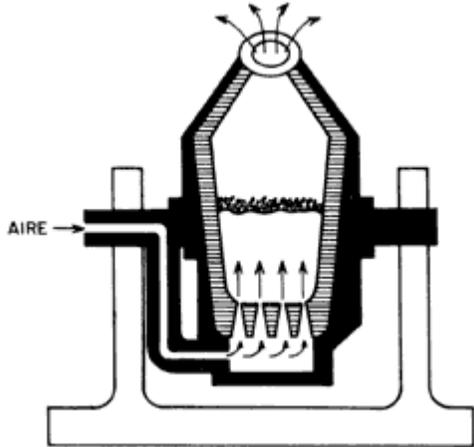


It drastically reduces the cost of smelting (enabling mass production) and saves huge regions from deforestation.

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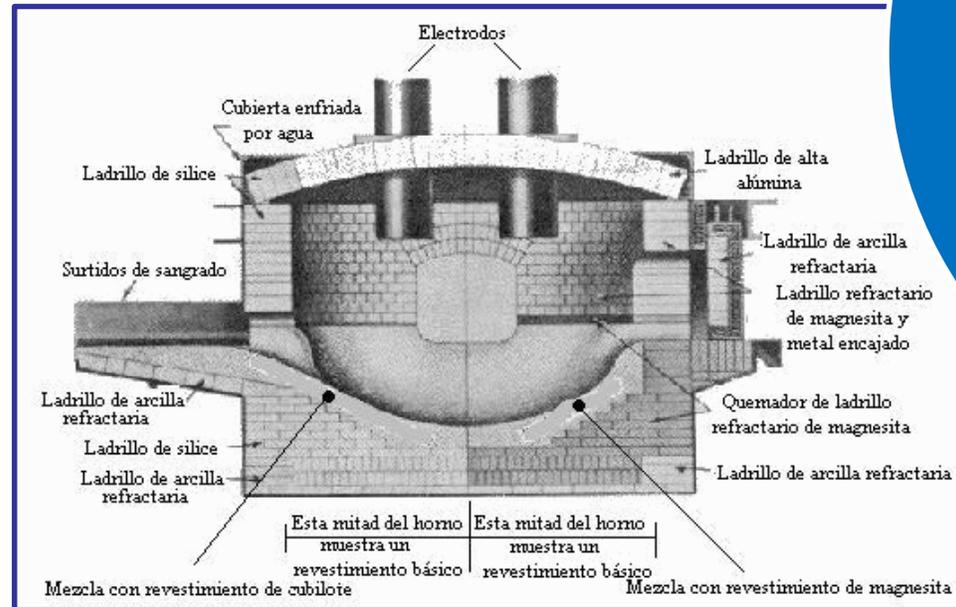
1856: Henry Bessemer patents a bottom-blown low-carbon steel converter.

It ushers in an era of massive use of cheap steel in transport, construction and general industry.



Metallurgy, at the heart of human development. Some important milestones.

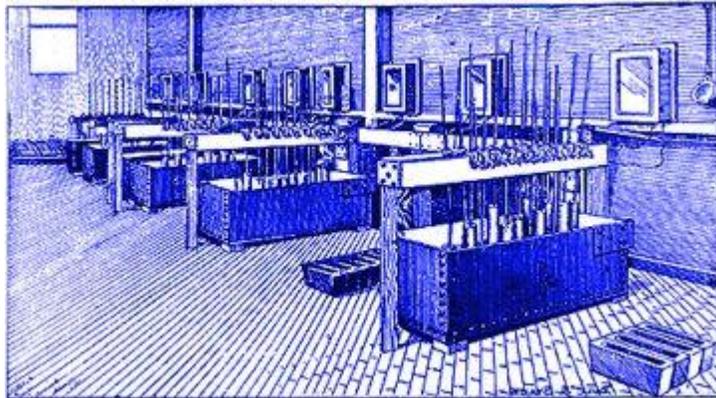
1878: William Siemens patents the electric arc furnace.



The predecessor of the modern electric arc furnace, which is the foundation of modern steel production and many other alloys.

Metallurgy, at the heart of human development. Some important milestones.

1886: Charles Martin Hall and Paul Héroult independently and simultaneously discover the reduction of alumina to aluminium.

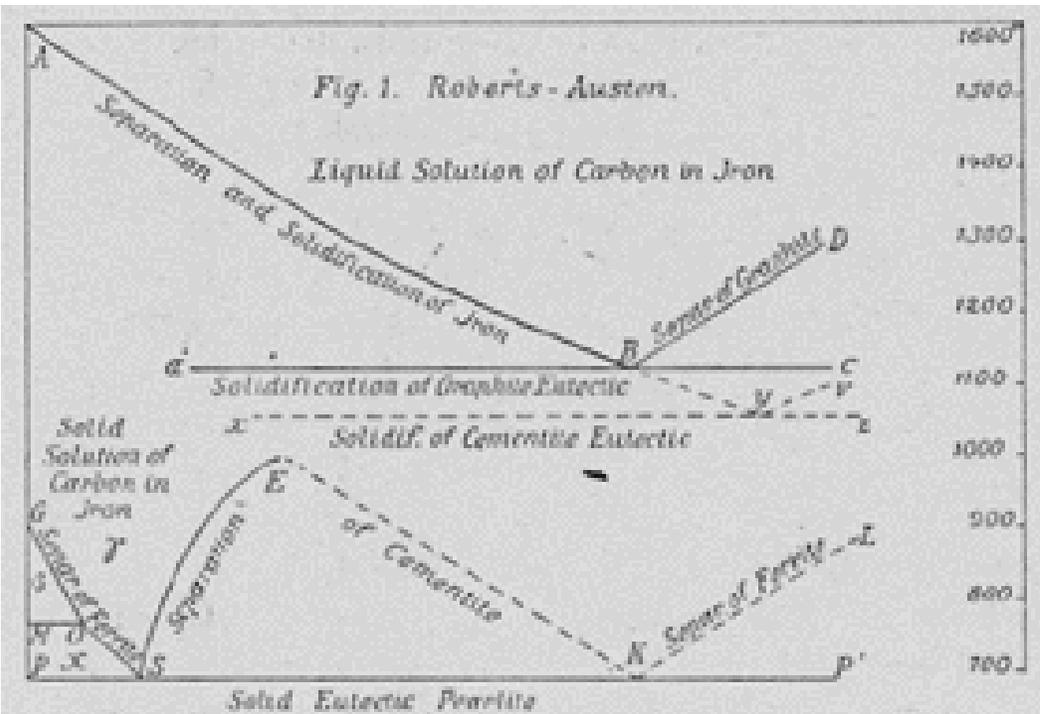


The beginning of the use of aluminium for commercial purposes is encouraged.

ALCOA

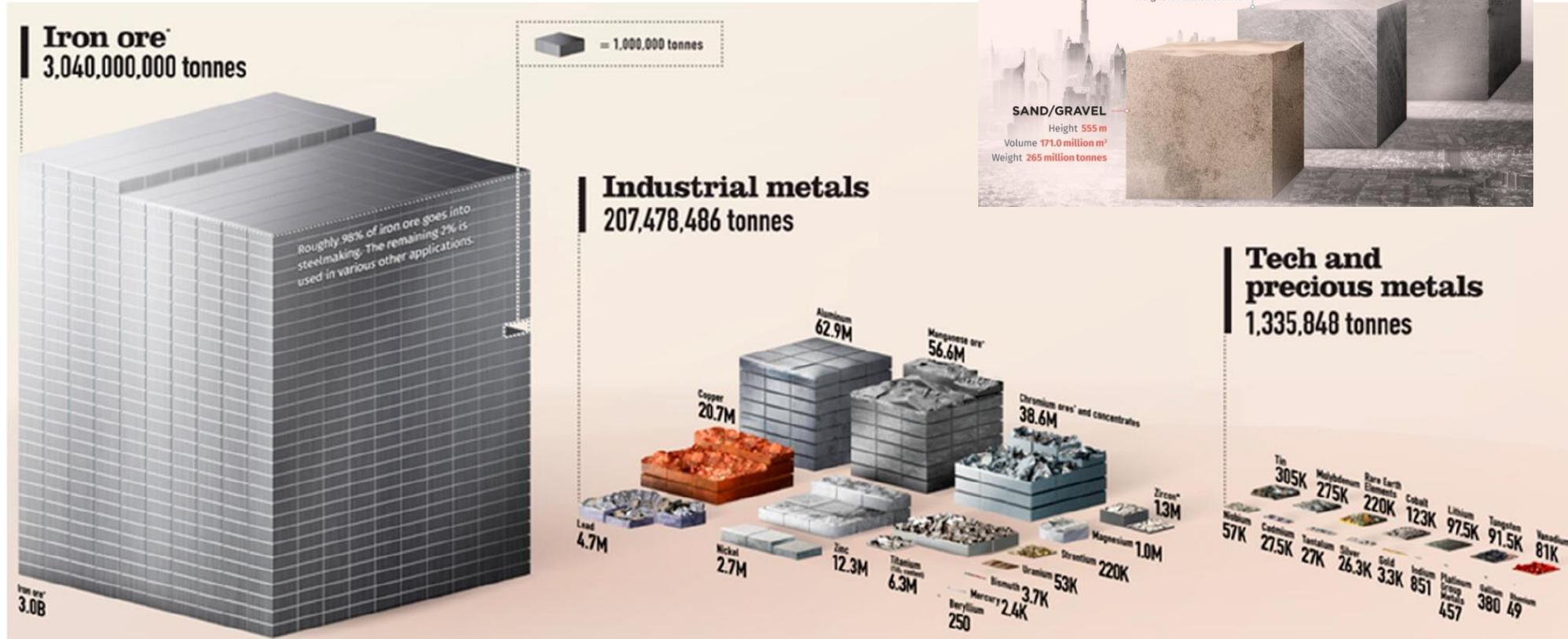
Metallurgy, at the heart of human development. Some important milestones.

1898: William Roberts-Austen develops the Fe-C phase diagram.



Initial work on the most crucial phase diagram in metallurgy lays the foundation for an indispensable tool in many other material systems.

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All the Metals We Mined in 2019. Visual Capitalist; 2019. <https://www.visualcapitalist.com>.

<https://elements.visualcapitalist.com/sand-steel-and-cement-the-annual-production-of-the-worlds-building-blocks/>

Metallurgy today, through some numbers



| Rank | HS code | Product description | Value (million USD) |
|------|---------|---|---------------------|
| 1 | 260300 | Copper ores and concentrates | 1432.65 |
| 2 | 730890 | Structures and parts of structures, iron or steel, ne | 1192.79 |
| 3 | 710812 | Gold in unwrought forms non-monetary | 1090.84 |
| 4 | 790111 | Zinc, not alloyed, unwrought, >99% pure | 1075.96 |
| 5 | 740311 | Copper cathodes and sections of cathodes unwrought | 725.66 |
| 6 | 760429 | Bars, rods and other profiles, aluminium alloyed | 646.54 |
| 7 | 740400 | Copper/copper alloy waste or scrap | 646.45 |
| 8 | 760612 | Aluminium alloy rectangular plate/sheet/strip, t >0.2m | 643.11 |
| 9 | 721632 | Sections, I, iron or non-alloy steel, nfw hot-roll/drawn/extruded > 80m | 608.23 |
| 10 | 740811 | Wire of refined copper > 6mm wide | 577.14 |
| 11 | 470329 | Chem wood pulp, soda/sulphate, non-conifer, bleached | 422.00 |
| 12 | 760120 | Aluminium unwrought, alloyed | 417.38 |
| 13 | 721633 | Sections, H, iron or non-alloy steel, nfw hot-roll/drawn/extruded > 80m | 400.25 |
| 14 | 760421 | Profiles, hollow, aluminium, alloyed | 352.03 |
| 15 | 730820 | Towers and lattice masts, iron or steel | 347.59 |
| 16 | 701090 | Glass containers nes for packing or conveyance goods | 330.29 |
| 17 | 721420 | Bar/rod, iron or non-alloy steel, indented or twisted, nes | 322.08 |
| 18 | 281820 | Aluminium oxide, except artificial corundum | 321.76 |
| 19 | 740200 | Unrefined copper, copper anodes, electrolytic refin | 316.72 |
| 20 | 710813 | Gold, semi-manufactured forms, non-monetary | 314.41 |

Total exports of raw material commodities: **27738** million USD

Main non-food, non-energy raw material commodities exported by Spain

Metallurgy today, through some numbers

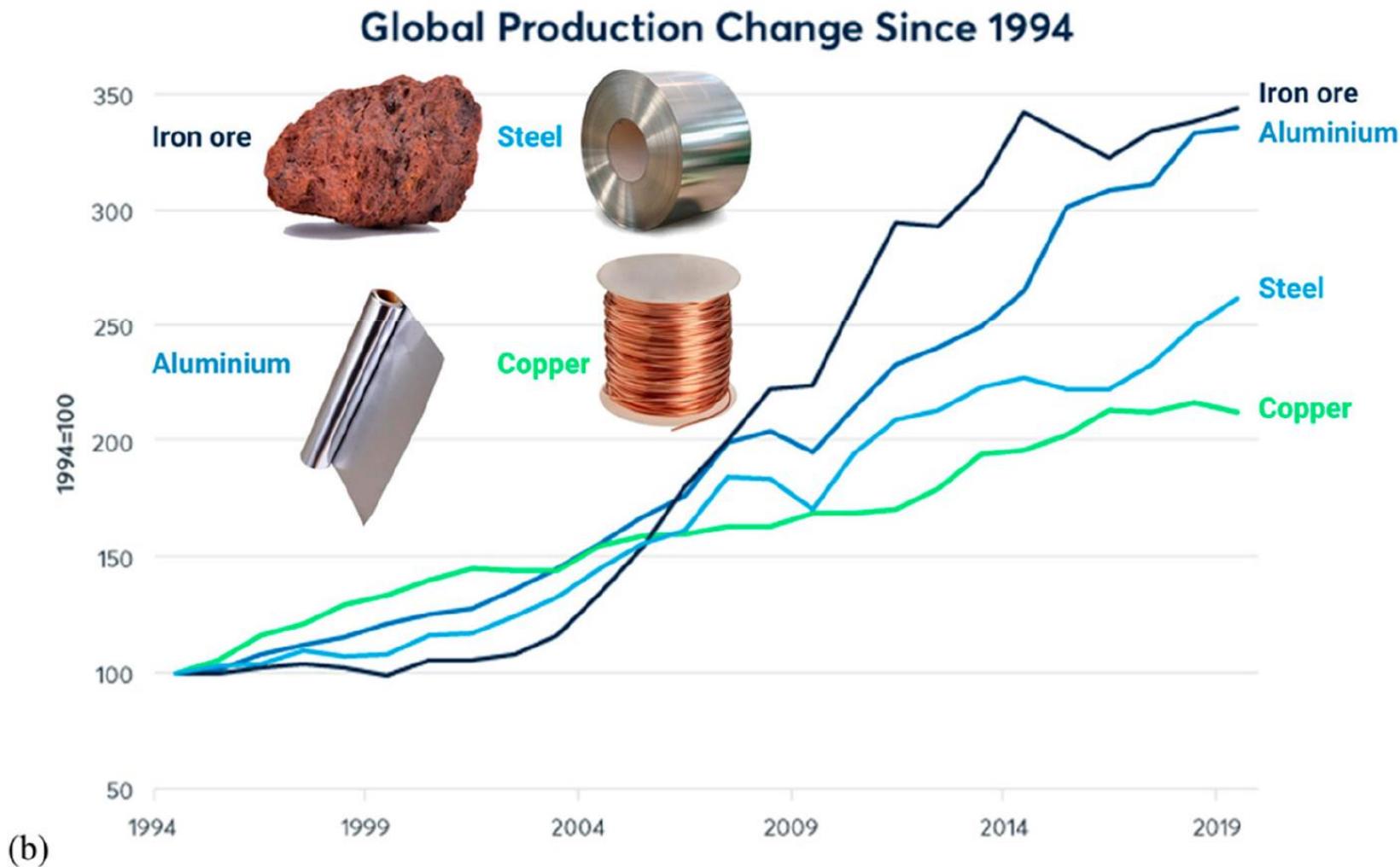


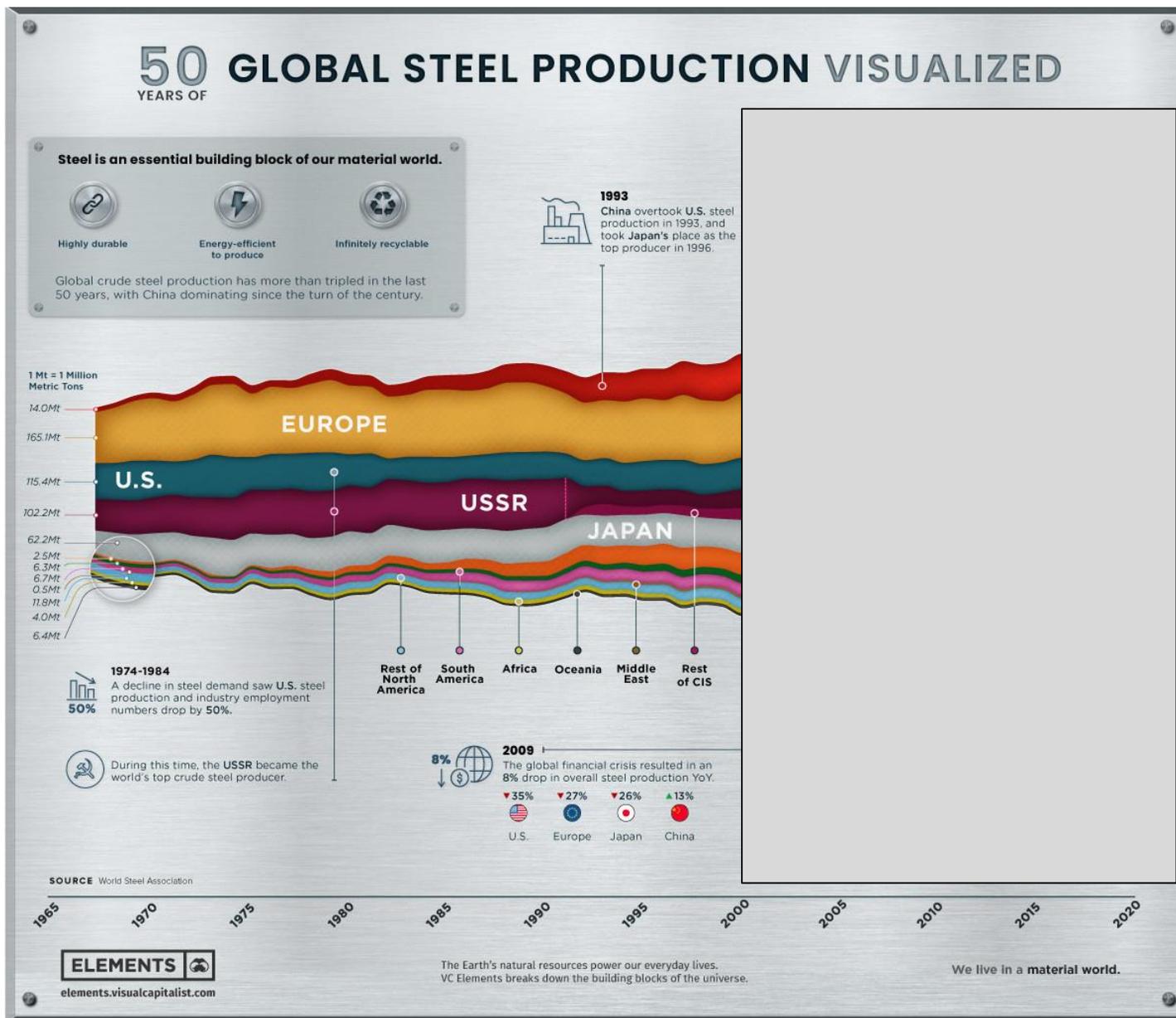
| Rank | HS code | Product description | Value (million USD) |
|------|---------|--|---------------------|
| 1 | 260300 | Copper ores and concentrates | 2330.91 |
| 2 | 721049 | Flat rolled iron or non-alloy steel, coated with zinc, width >600mm, ne | 1253.69 |
| 3 | 760120 | Aluminium unwrought, alloyed | 1028.65 |
| 4 | 260800 | Zinc ores and concentrates | 999.48 |
| 5 | 711291 | Waste and scrap of precious metals; of gold, including metal clad with gold but excluding sweepings containing other precious metals | 877.27 |
| 6 | 720449 | Ferrous waste or scrap, nes | 730.55 |
| 7 | 740311 | Copper cathodes and sections of cathodes unwrought | 588.08 |
| 8 | 740400 | Copper/copper alloy waste or scrap | 581.73 |
| 9 | 760612 | Aluminium alloy rectangular plate/sheet/strip,t >0.2m | 562.98 |
| 10 | 270112 | Bituminous coal, not agglomerated | 479.49 |
| 11 | 760110 | Aluminium unwrought, not alloyed | 450.25 |
| 12 | 701090 | Glass containers nes for packing or conveyance goods | 441.05 |
| 13 | 720421 | Waste or scrap, of stainless steel | 370.47 |
| 14 | 260111 | Iron ore, concentrate, not iron pyrites,unagglomerate | 341.15 |
| 15 | 722530 | Hot rolled alloy-steel, coils width >600mm, nes | 338.43 |
| 16 | 470321 | Chem wood pulp, soda or sulphate, conifer, bleached | 333.37 |
| 17 | 730890 | Structures and parts of structures, iron or steel, ne | 324.24 |
| 18 | 470329 | Chem wood pulp, soda/sulphate, non-conifer, bleached | 316.60 |
| 19 | 720711 | Rectangular iron or non-alloy steel bars, <.25%C, width< twice thicknes | 284.42 |
| 20 | 310520 | Nitrogen-phosphorus-potassium fertilizers, pack >10kg | 270.33 |

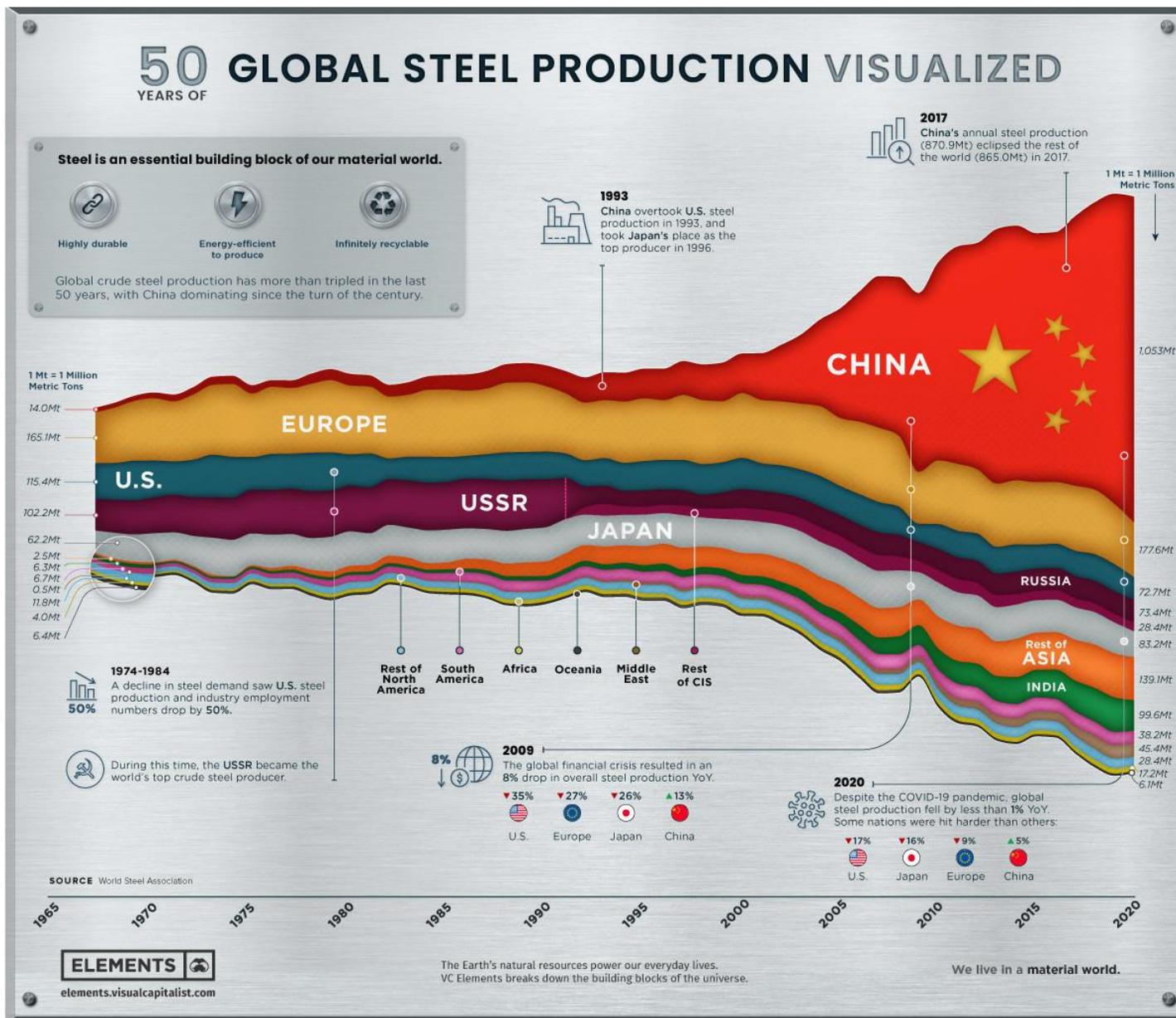
Main non-food, non-energy raw material commodities imported by Spain

Total imports of raw material commodities: **28996** million USD

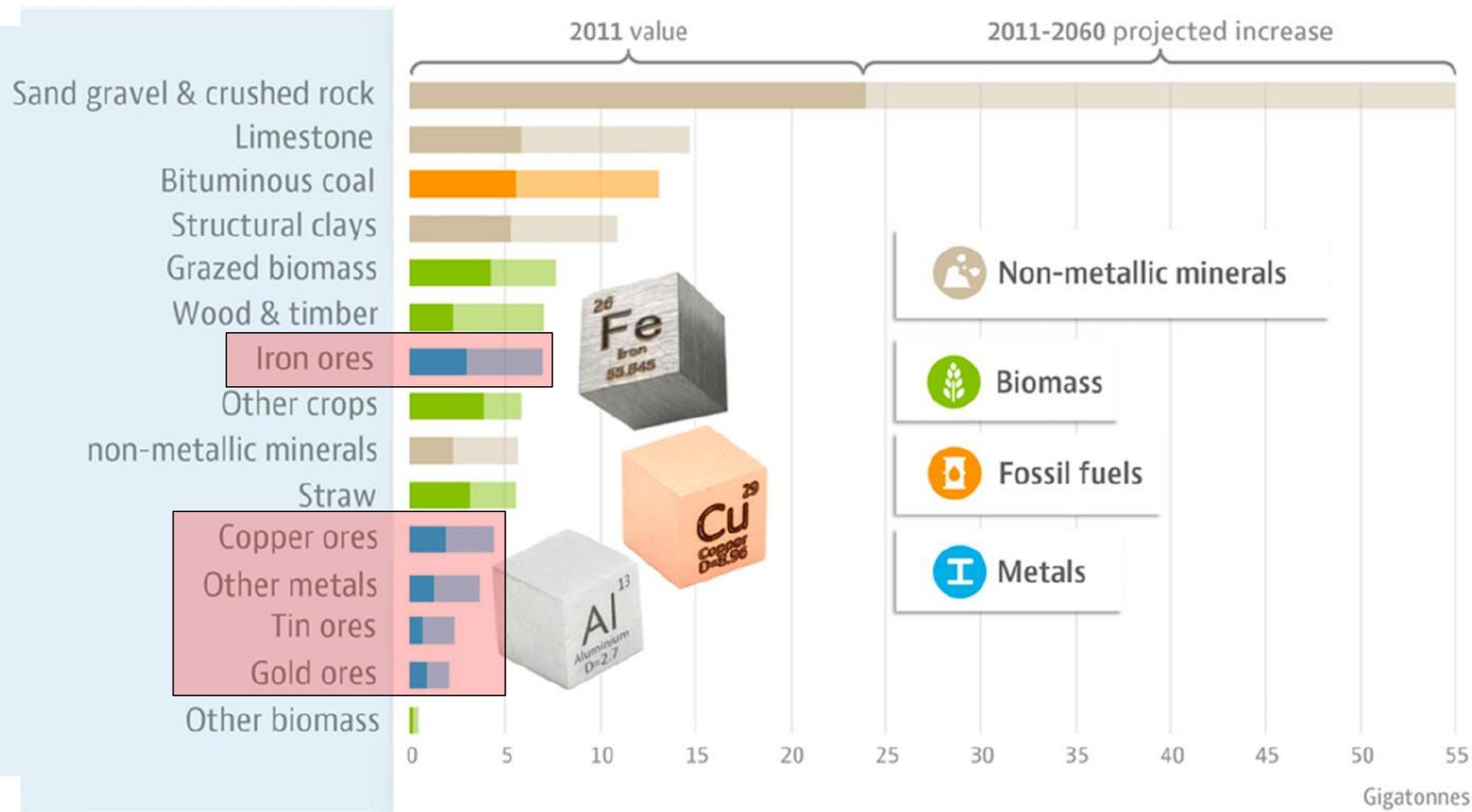
Export: 27738 million USD
Import: 28996 million USD

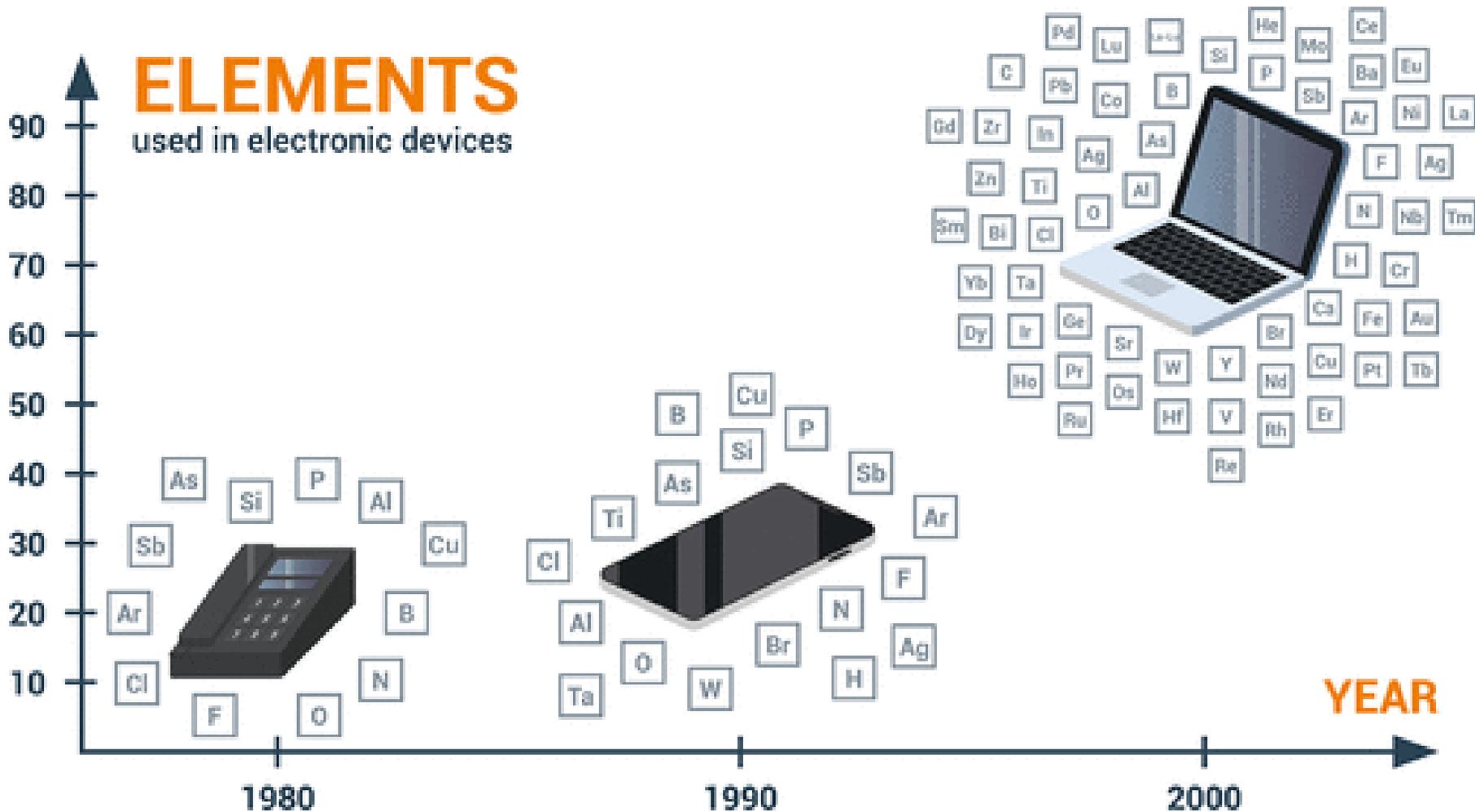


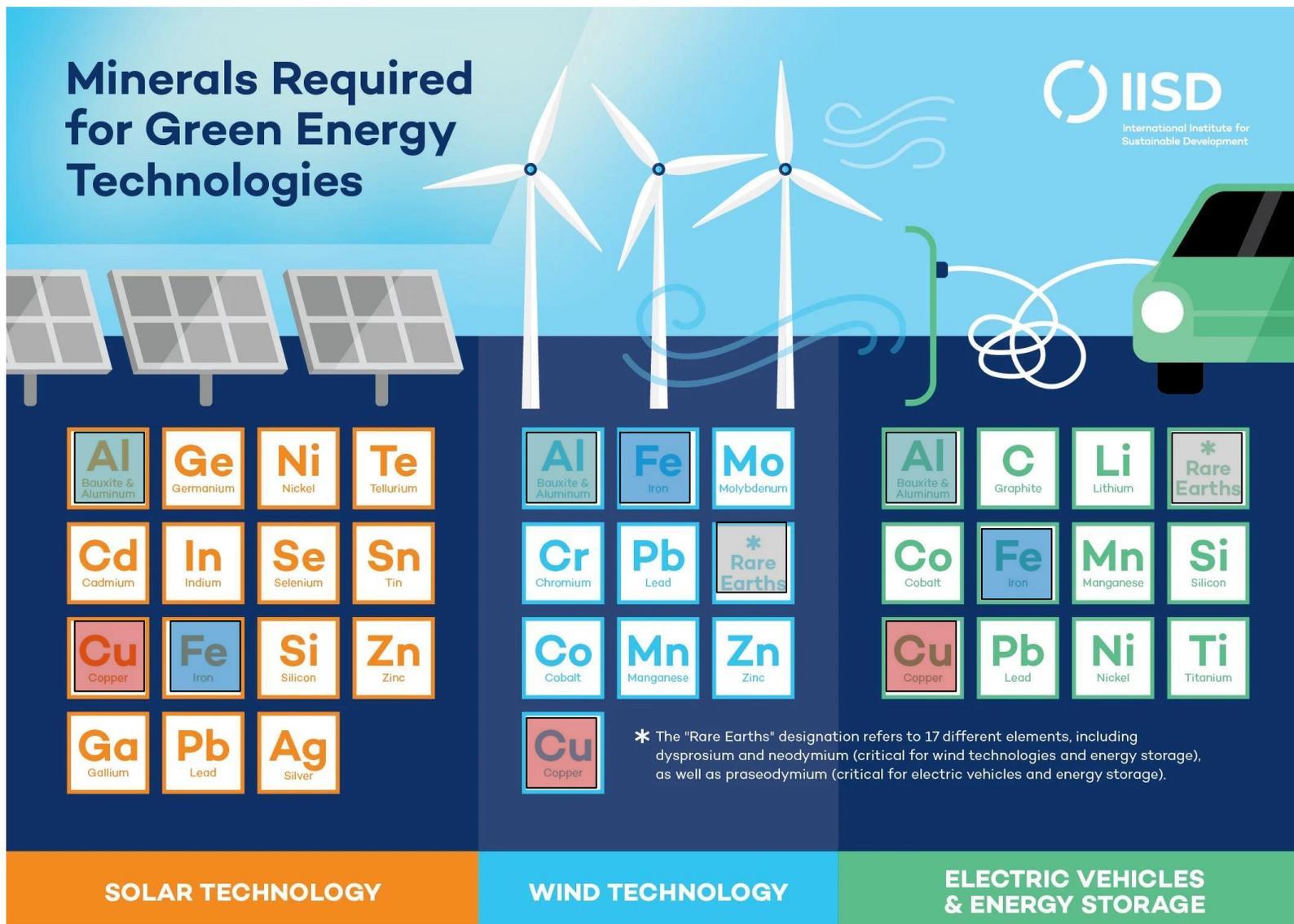




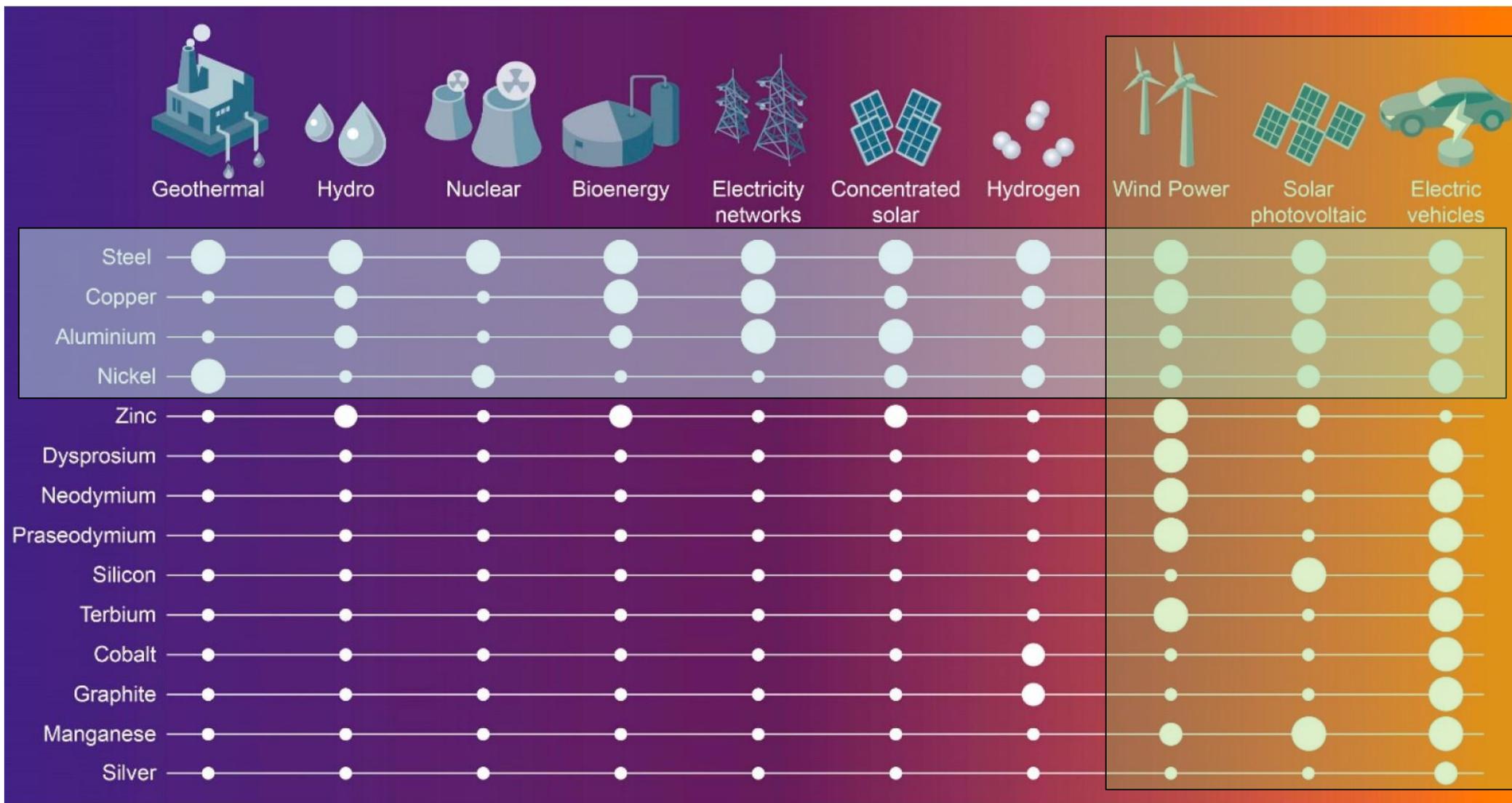
Metallurgy today, through some numbers







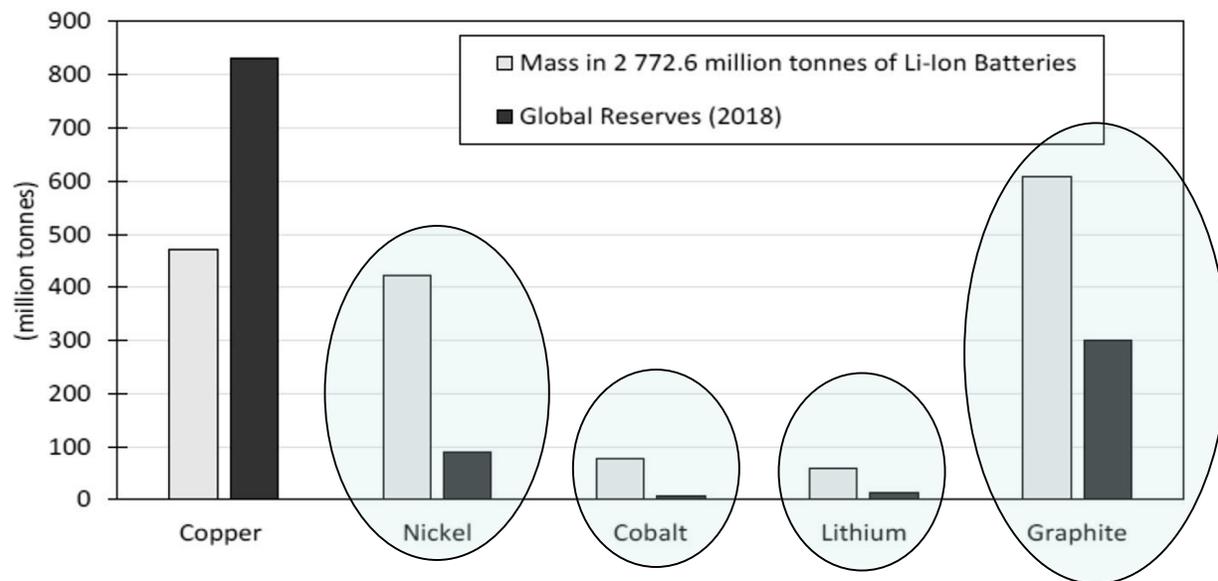
Metallurgy today, through some numbers



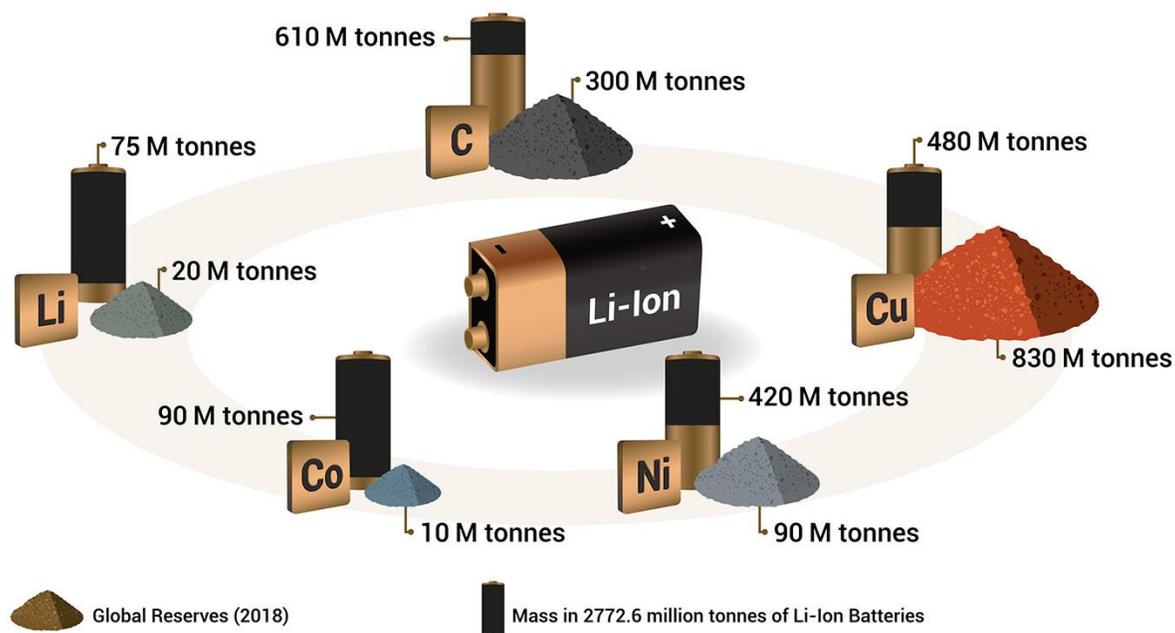
Metallurgy today, through some numbers

| Supply Risk | Raw material |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-------------|------------------|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4.8 | Gallium | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4.1 | Magnesium | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4.0 | REE (magnets) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3.8 | Boron | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2.7 | PGM | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.9 | Lithium | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.8 | Germanium | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.8 | Natural graphite | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.7 | Cobalt | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.6 | Titanium metal | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.4 | Silicon metal | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.2 | Manganese | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.2 | Aluminium | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 0.5 | Nickel | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 0.1 | Copper | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5.3 | HREE (rest) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4.4 | Niobium | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3.5 | LREE (rest) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3.3 | Phosphorus | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2.6 | Strontium | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Source: Joint Research Center, UE



The transition to the green energy



D. Raabe "The Materials Science behind Sustainable Metals and Alloys" Chemical Reviews 2023 123 (5), 2436-2608 DOI: 10.1021/acs.chemrev.2c00799

<https://countercurrents.org/2022/08/is-there-enough-metal-to-replace-oil>

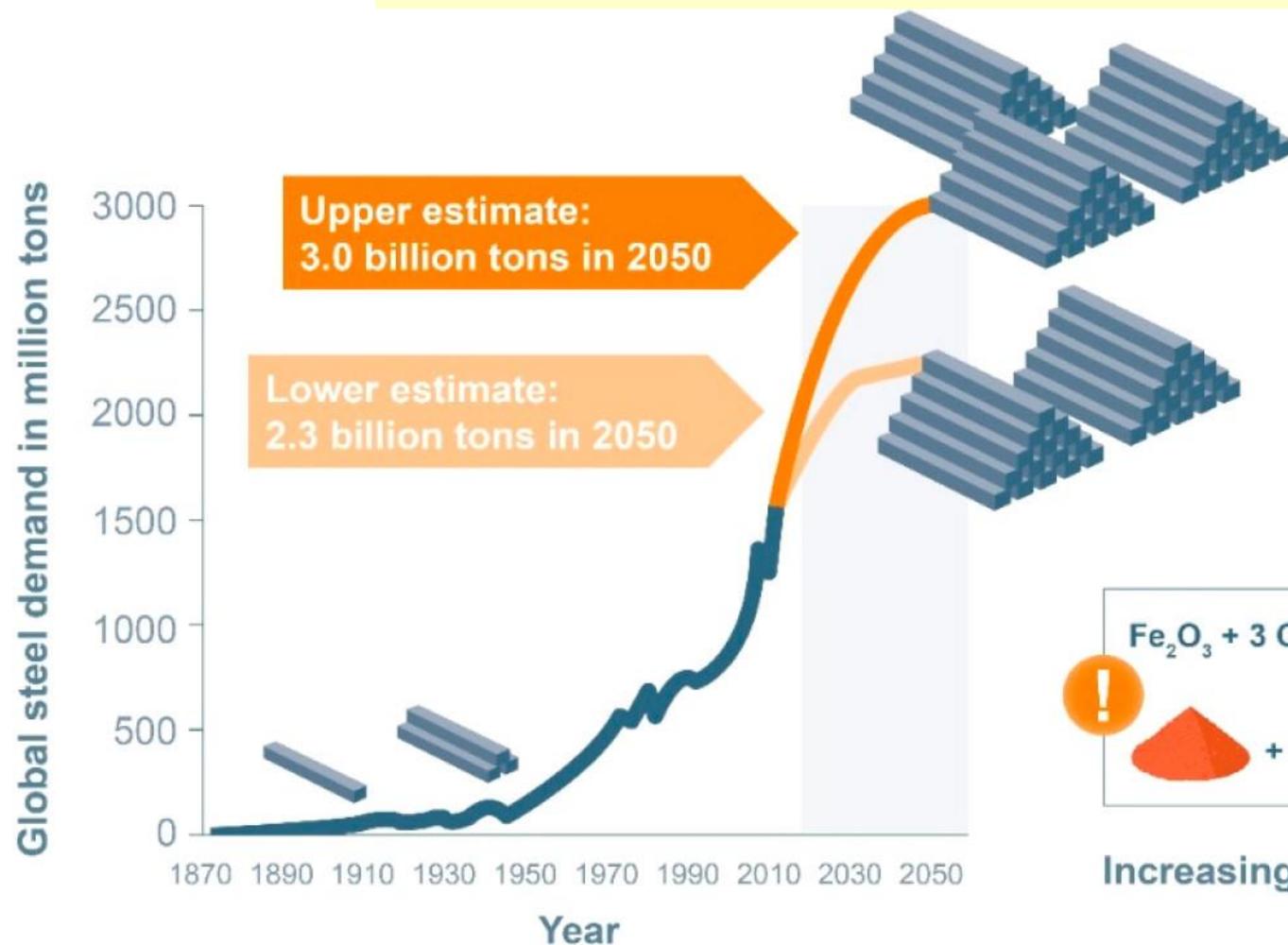
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Some of the problems metallurgy faces today as a result of its success

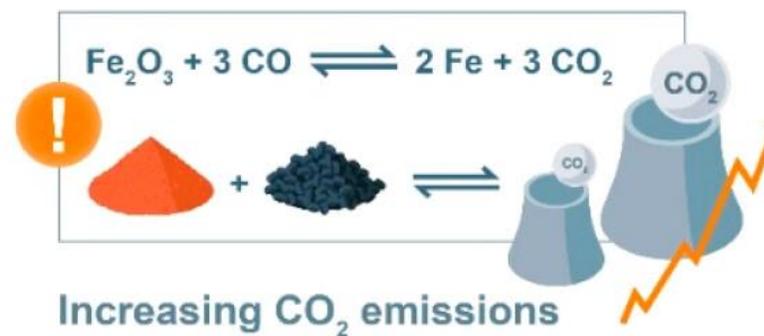


Steel is the largest single industrial contributor to global warming through its massive CO₂ emissions which primarily stem from the use of fossil reductants in blast furnaces, a route which stands for about 70% of the global steel production

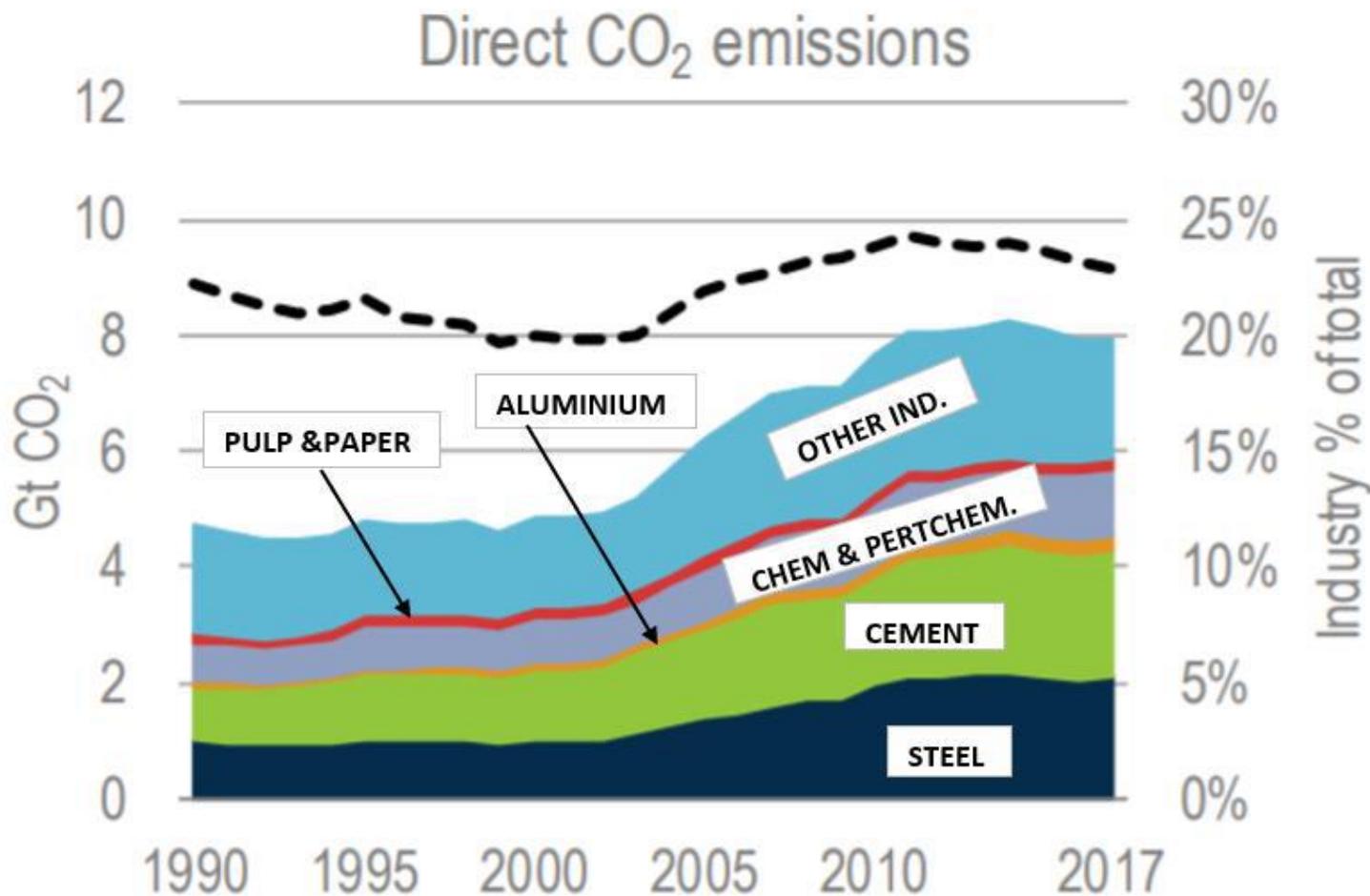
Some of the problems metallurgy faces today as a result of its success



Market growth projections for steel (showing upper bound and lower bound estimates) and the net redox equation which explains the massive CO₂ emissions associated with the carbon-based reduction of iron oxide ores.



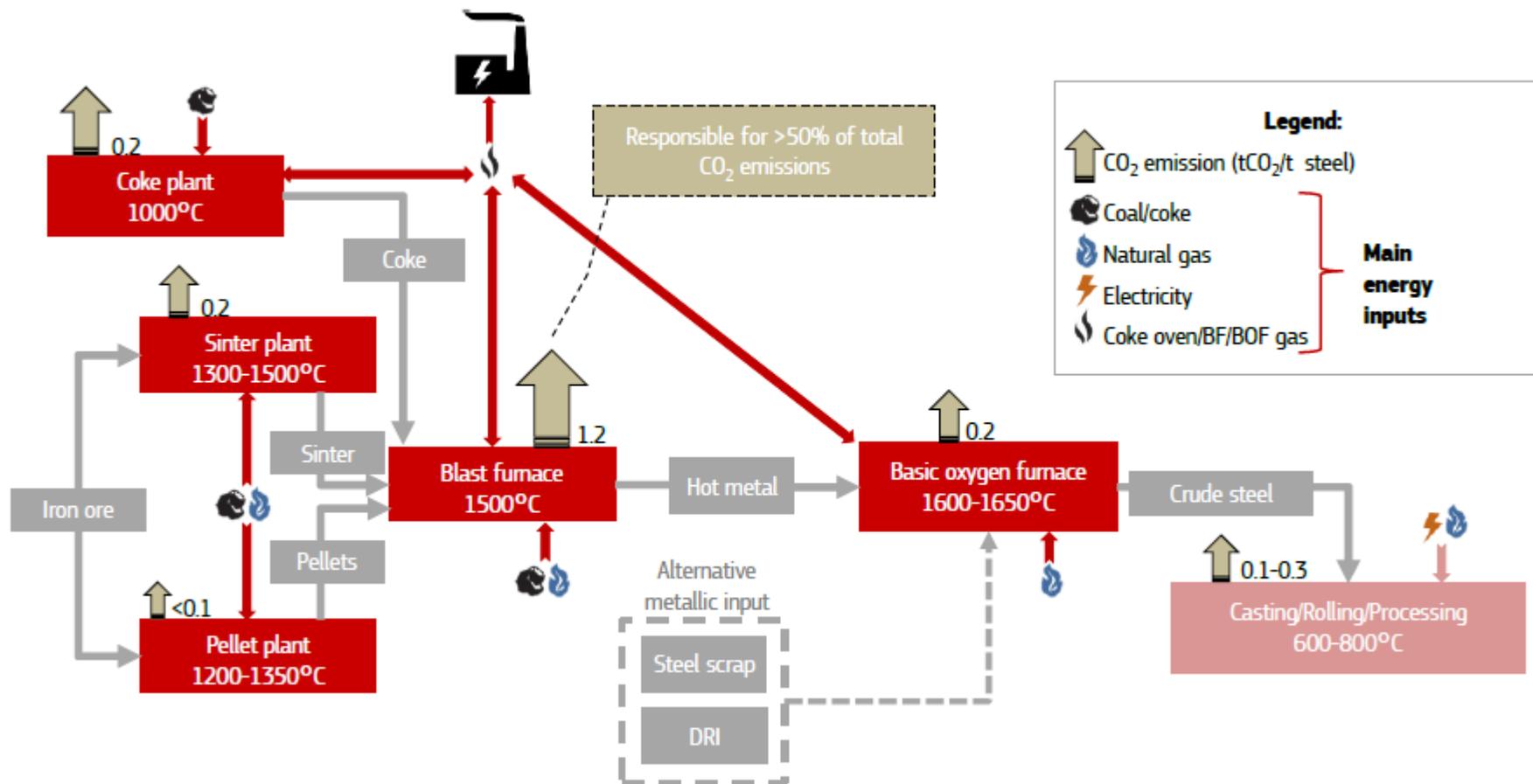
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The steel industry is the single largest source of industrial CO₂ emissions

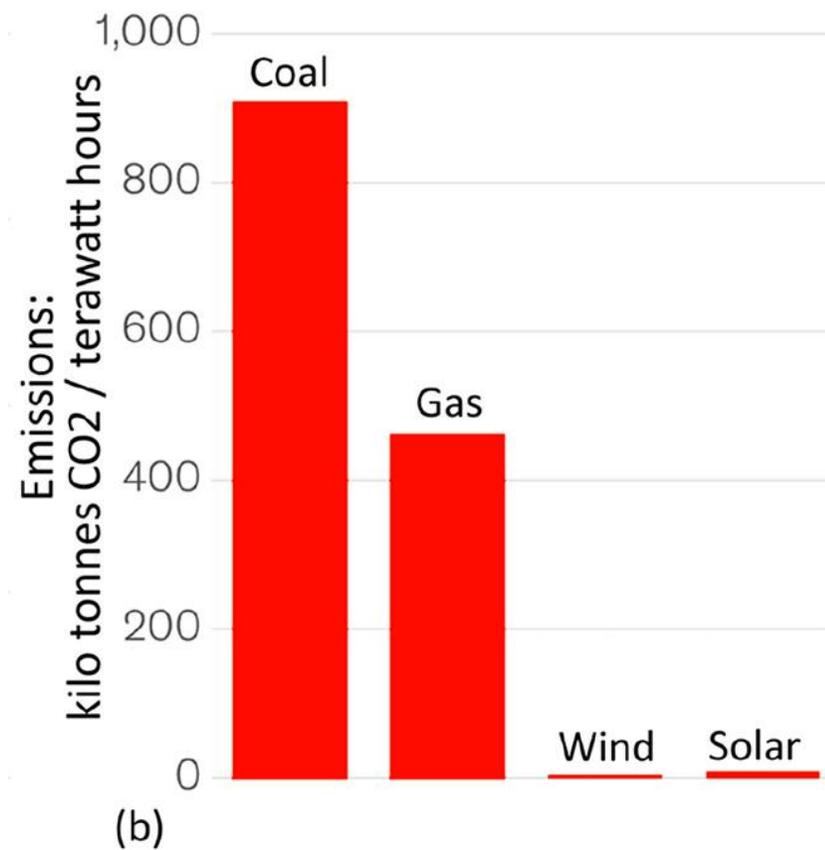
The steel industry is responsible for around 5% of CO₂ emissions in the EU and 7% globally

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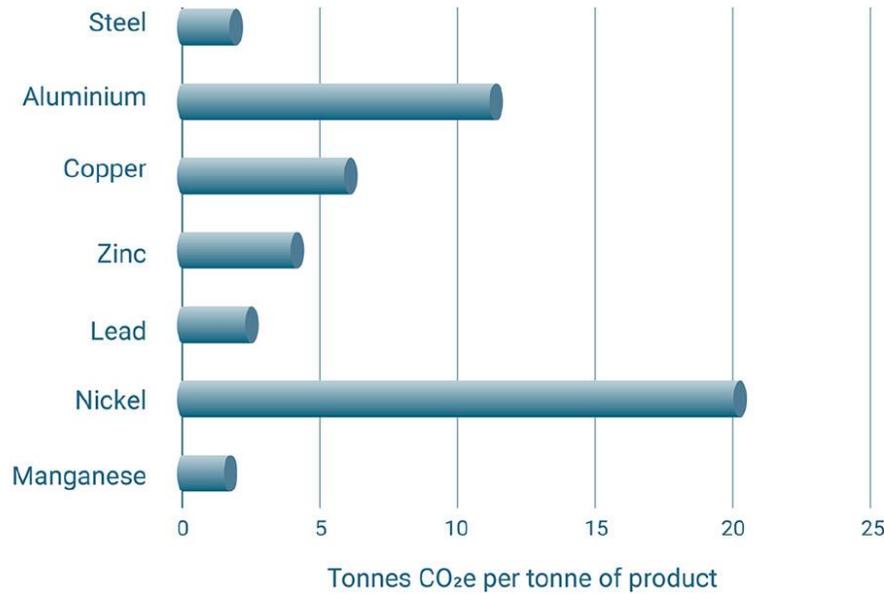
Simplified flow diagram and CO₂ emissions of the BF-BOF route

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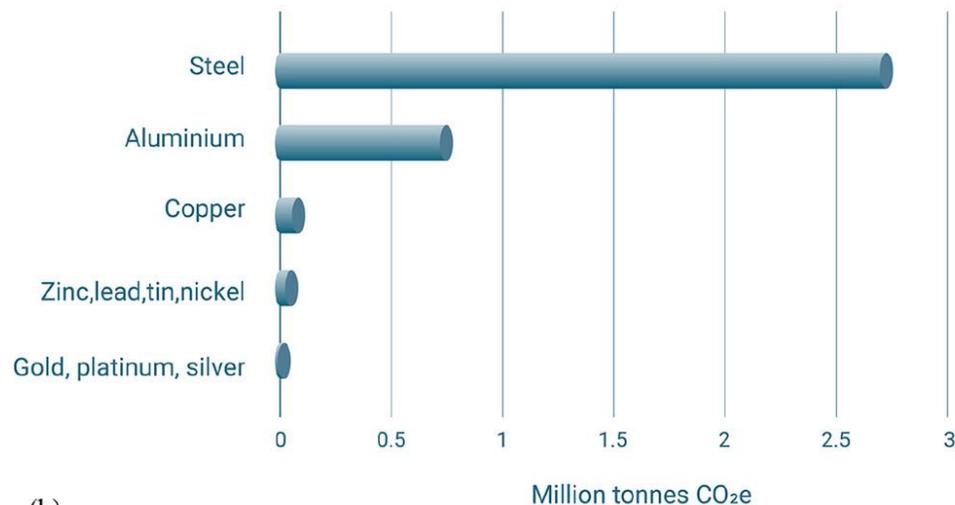


Rebound effect in the metallurgical sector for the case of power generation.

Some of the problems metallurgy faces today as a result of its success



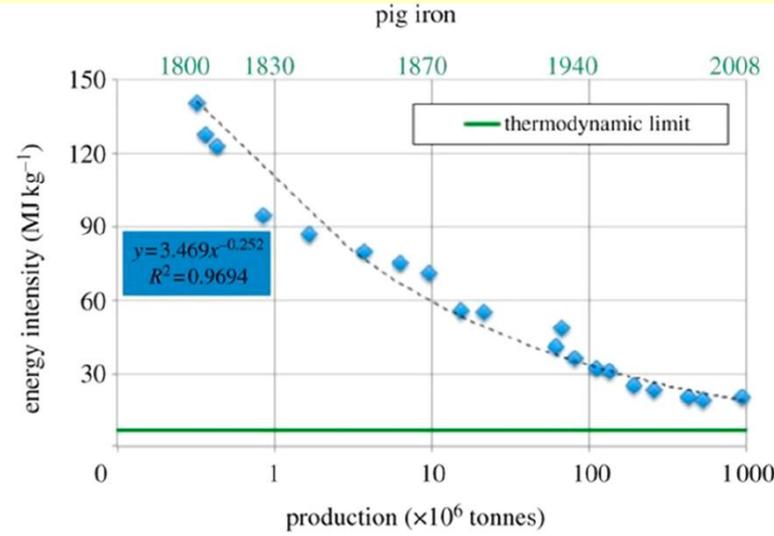
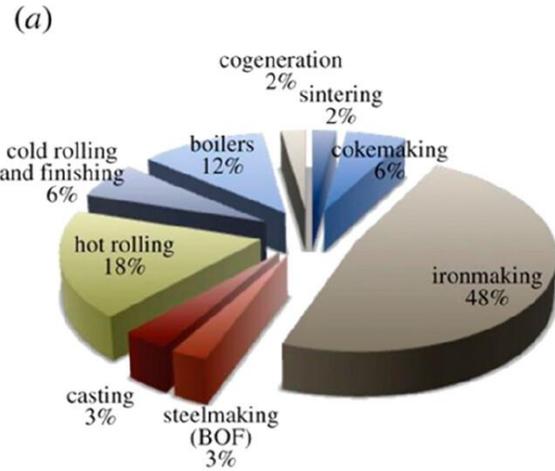
(a)



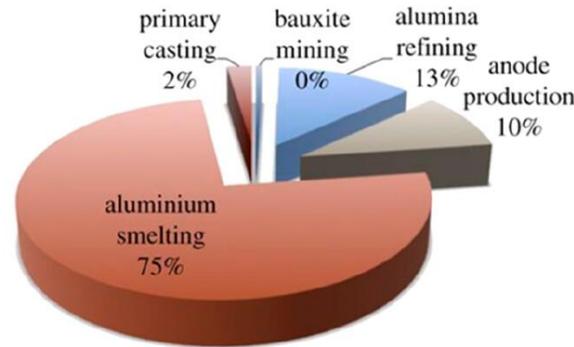
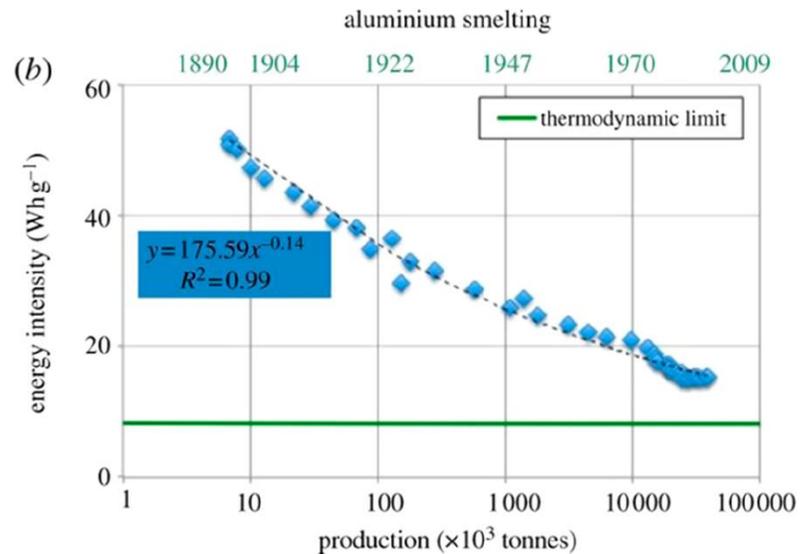
(b)

- a) CO₂ emissions for different metals per tonne of product.
- b) Total amount of CO₂ emissions for different metals, scaled by their respective total production volumes.

Some of the problems metallurgy faces today as a result of its success

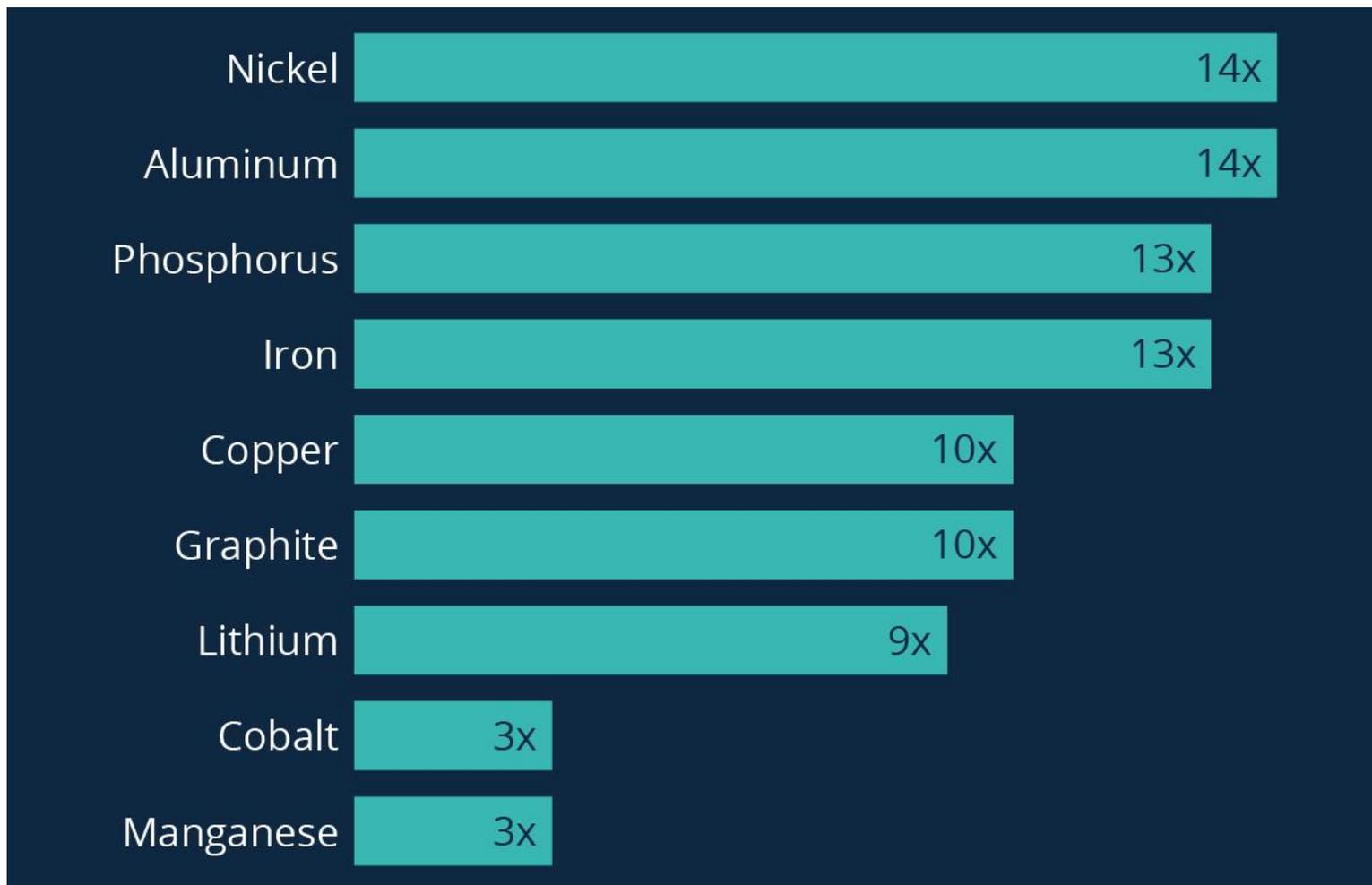


Pig iron production from hematite oxide by using coke as reductant



Aluminum production by using electricity in the molten salt electrolysis process

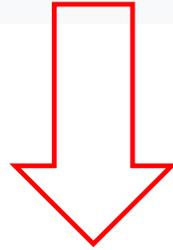
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Demand increase in precious metals and materials between 2019 and 2030.

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Can we solve the problems of
Metallurgy?



Tools available for metallurgy today

Tools available for metallurgy today

Advanced Characterization Techniques

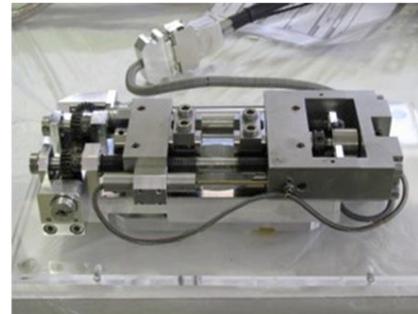
Advanced Characterization Techniques

In situ test techniques

- SEM
- FIB-FEGSEM
- STEM
- TEM
- X-Ray Diffraction
- X-Ray Tomography
- AFM
- Synchrotron
- Nanoindentation
- Atom Probe Tomography

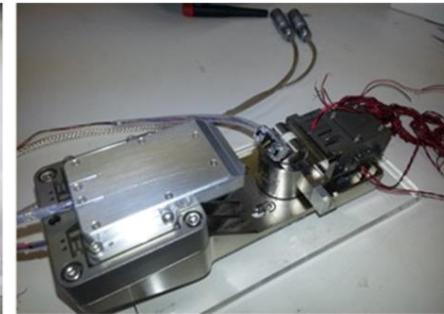
■ Across several length scales and at different temperatures:

Macro scale (SEM)



K&W Tension-Compression
10 kN, 650 °C

Micro scale (SEM)



Hysitron PI87HT
150 mN, 800 °C

Nano scale (TEM)

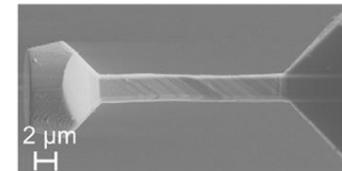


Hysitron PI95
10 mN

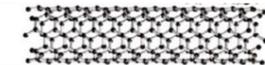
From mm....



...to μm....

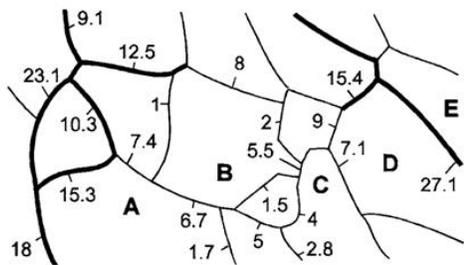
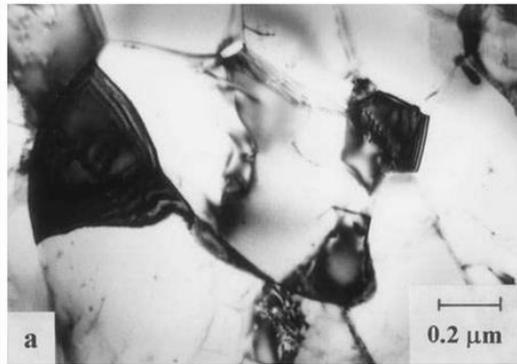


...to nm.



Advanced Characterization Techniques

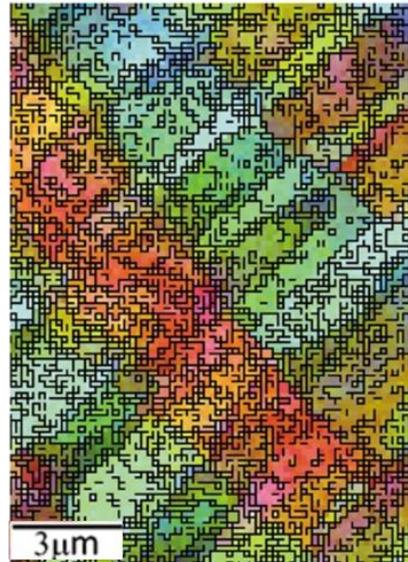
Rapid microstructural characterization of complex multiphase microstructures (phases and grain boundaries) in metallic materials



Grain boundaries in SS

1970s – 1980s:
 Manual analysis of TEM data
 1 week

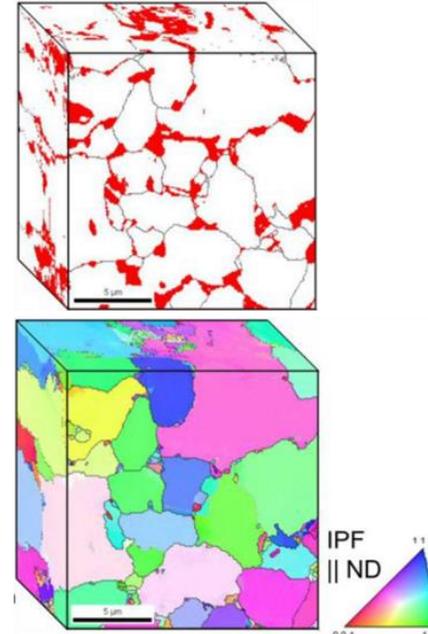
A. Belyakov, T. Sakai. Metall. Mater. Trans. A. 29 (1998) 161.



Euler map with GBs of deformed and recovered Al alloy

Late 1990s – early 2020s:
 EBSD analysis
 1 day

F.J. Humphreys. Journal of Materials Science. 36 (2001) 3833



3D phase and IPF maps of a DP steel

Nowadays:
 Fast EBSD analysis 0.5-1 h,
 3D EBSD analysis

<https://www.dierk-raabe.com/ebstd-and-3d-ebstd/>

Near future

- Fast CPUs
- Robotization of the preparation process (MPIE)
- AI and ML-supported tools for instant analysis of the EBSD raw data



Ultrafast EBSD
 analysis (also in 3D)
 1 .. 10 min

M. Larmuseau, et. al. Race against the Machine: can deep learning recognize microstructures as well as the trained human eye? Scripta Materialia. 193 (2021) 33-37.

Advanced Characterization Techniques

Case study: Deformation mechanisms

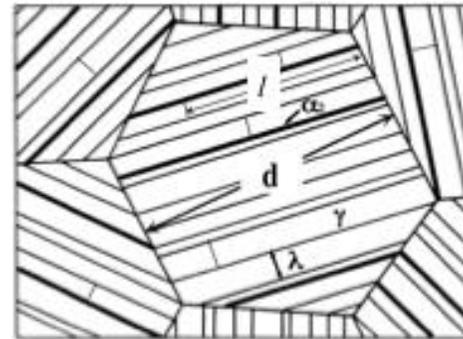
2^o generation and 3^{er} generation TiAl intermetallics: Ti₄₅Al₂Nb₂Mn_{0.8}B vs. Ti_{43.5}Al₄Nb₁Mo_{0.8}B

- Good high temperature specific strength for aerospace applications.
- Problem : Limited ductility and fatigue strength due to complex deformation of fully-lamellar microstructures

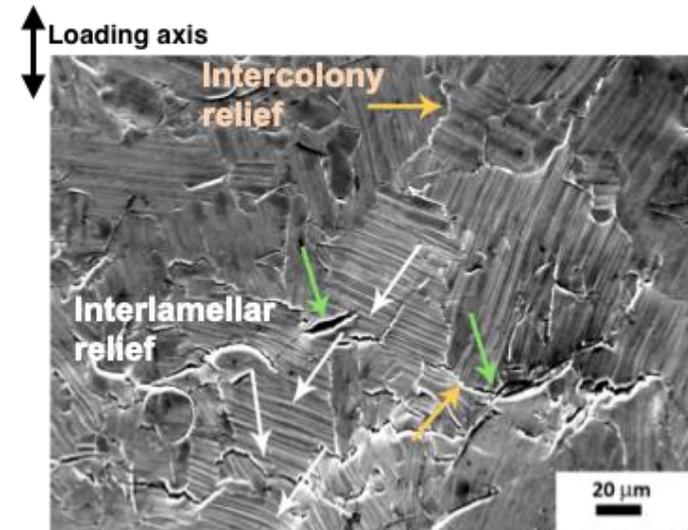


Aim: understand deformation modes of TiAl colonies as a function of loading direction and lamellar width

• **Different length scales:**



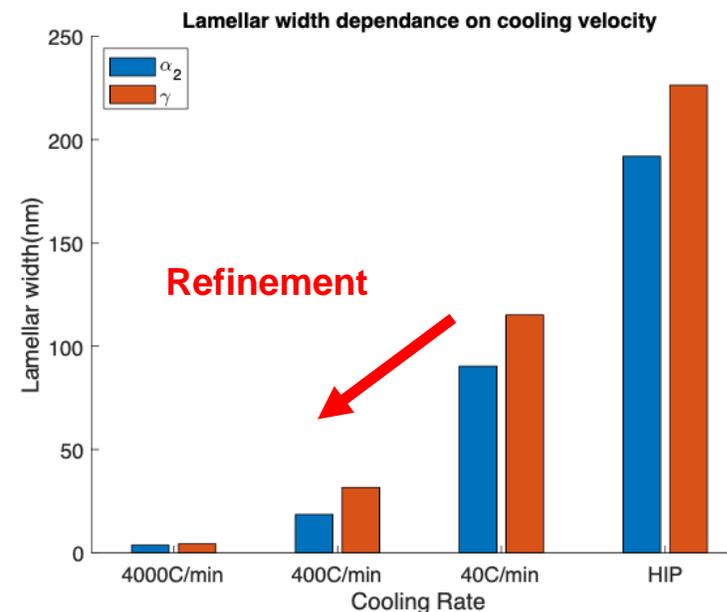
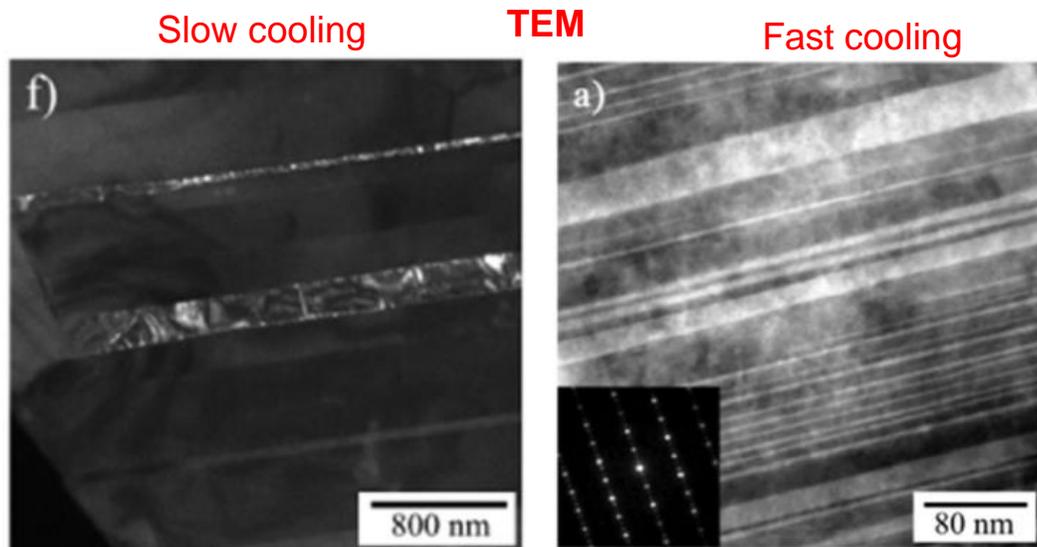
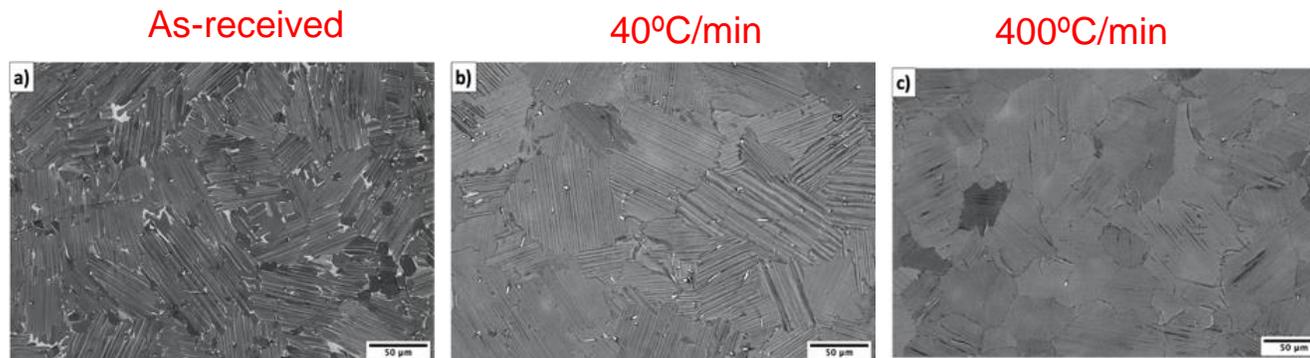
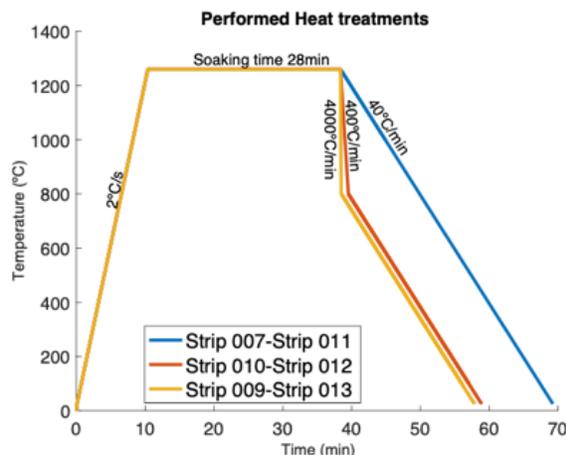
$\lambda \gg 50 \text{ nm} - 1.2 \mu\text{m}$
 Colony size $\gg 50 - 100 \mu\text{m}$



Advanced Characterization Techniques

Deformation mechanisms

2^o generation and 3^{er} generation TiAl intermetallics: Ti₄₅Al₂Nb₂Mn_{0.8}B vs. Ti_{43.5}Al₄Nb₁Mo_{0.8}B
 - Lamellar refinement through thermal treatments

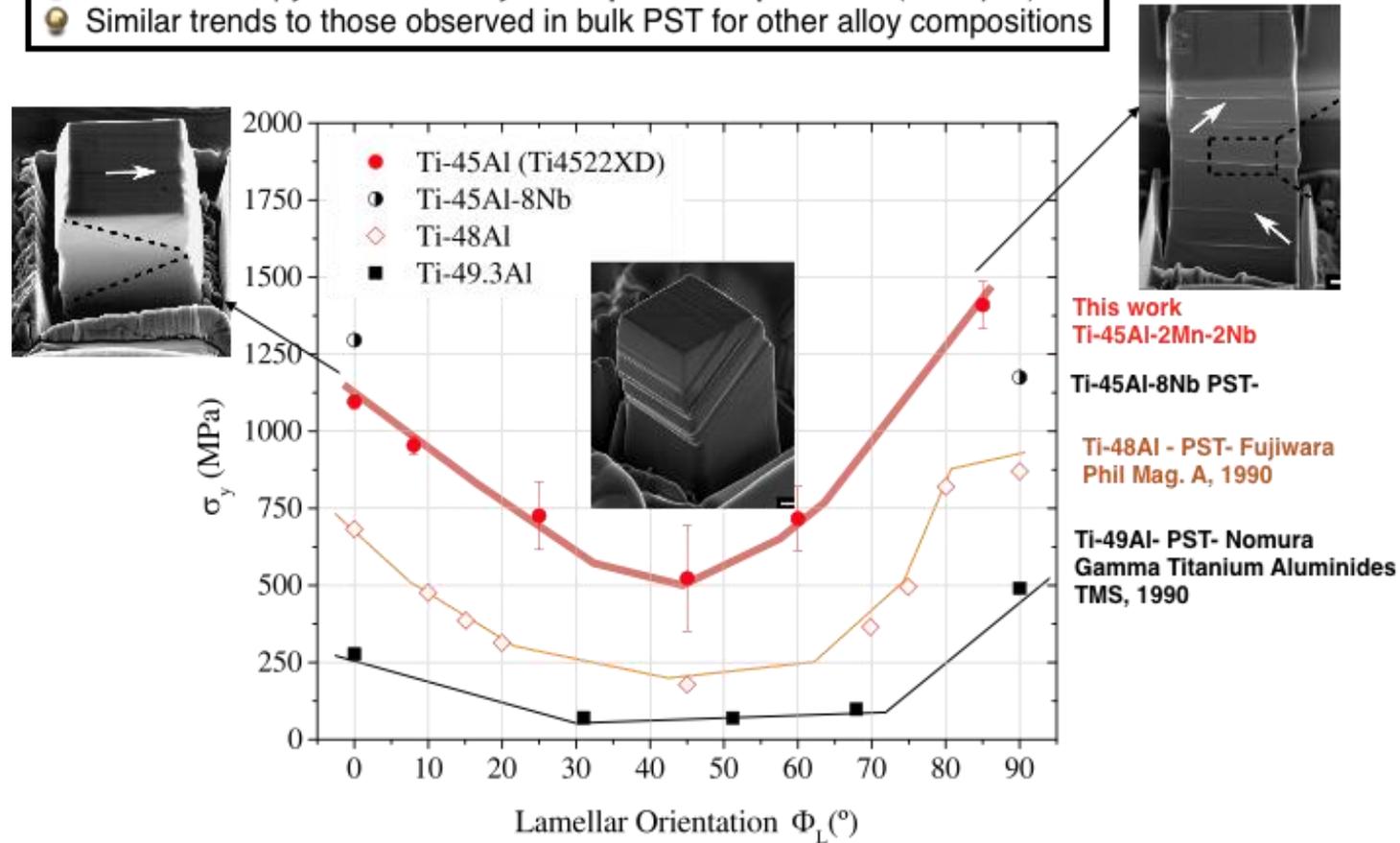


Advanced Characterization Techniques

Deformation mechanisms

TiAl intermetallics: micropillar compression

- Yield anisotropy determined by **micropillar compression** ($L = 5 \mu\text{m}$)
- Similar trends to those observed in bulk PST for other alloy compositions



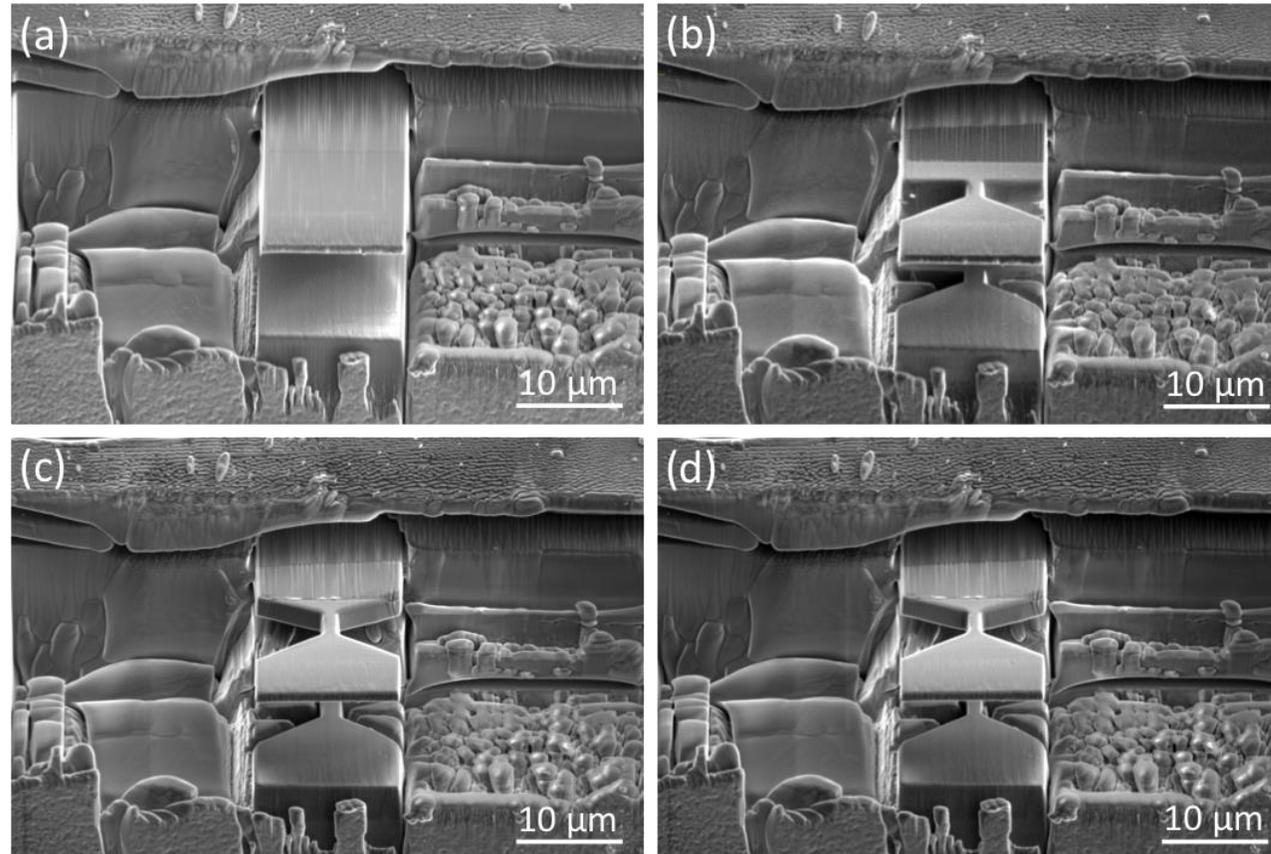
X

Advanced Characterization Techniques

Deformation mechanisms

TiAl intermetallics: microtensile testing

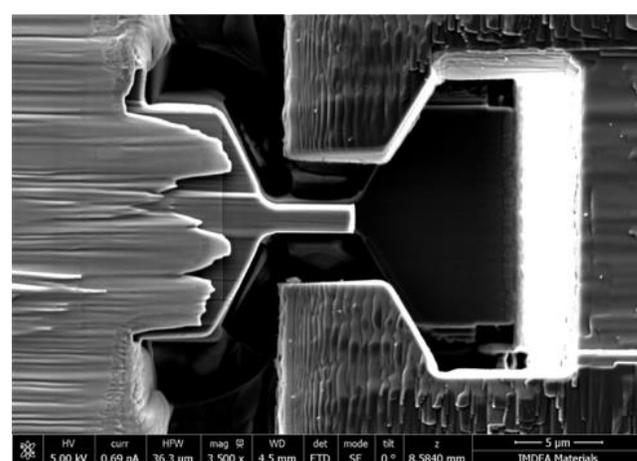
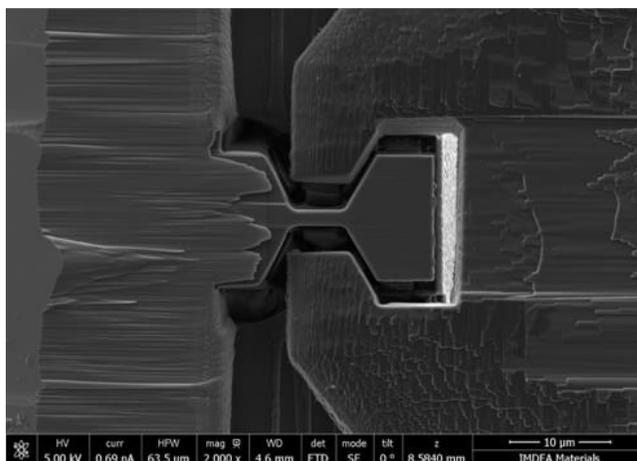
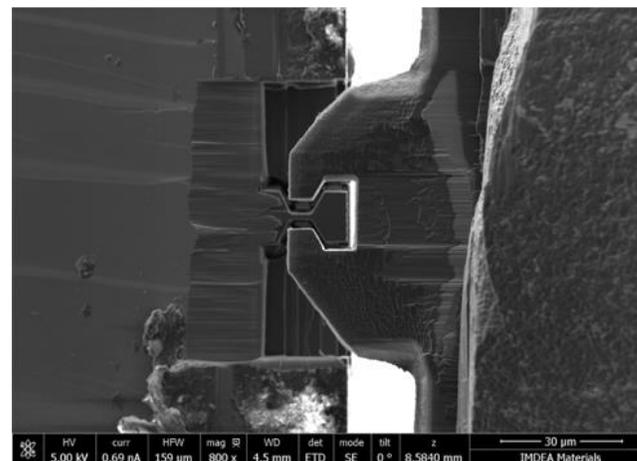
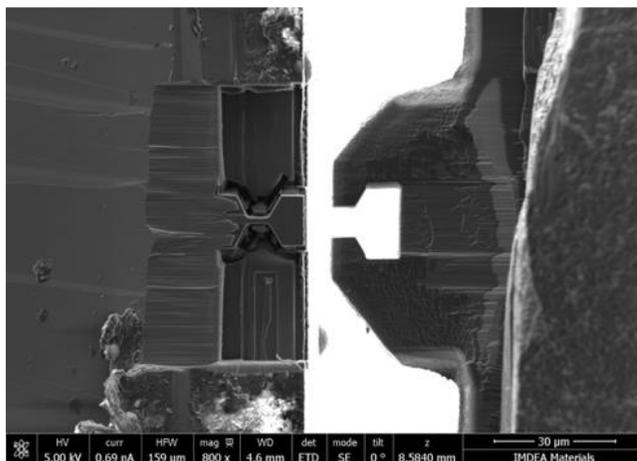
- Microtensile testing: dog-bone micro tensile specimens machined by FIB



Advanced Characterization Techniques

Deformation mechanisms

TiAl intermetallics: microtensile testing

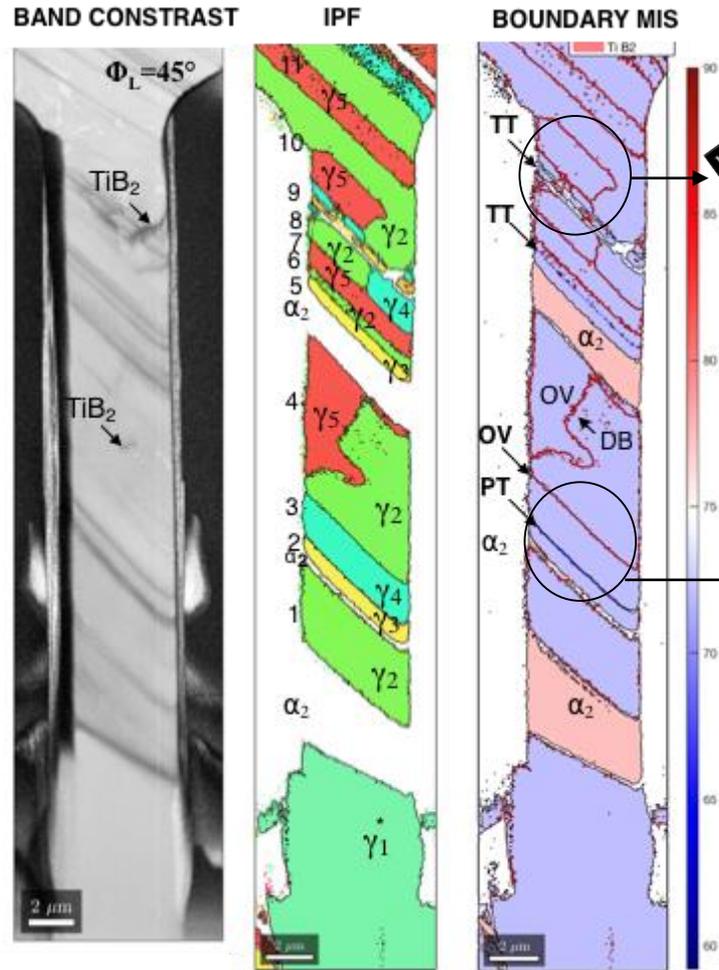


Advanced Characterization Techniques

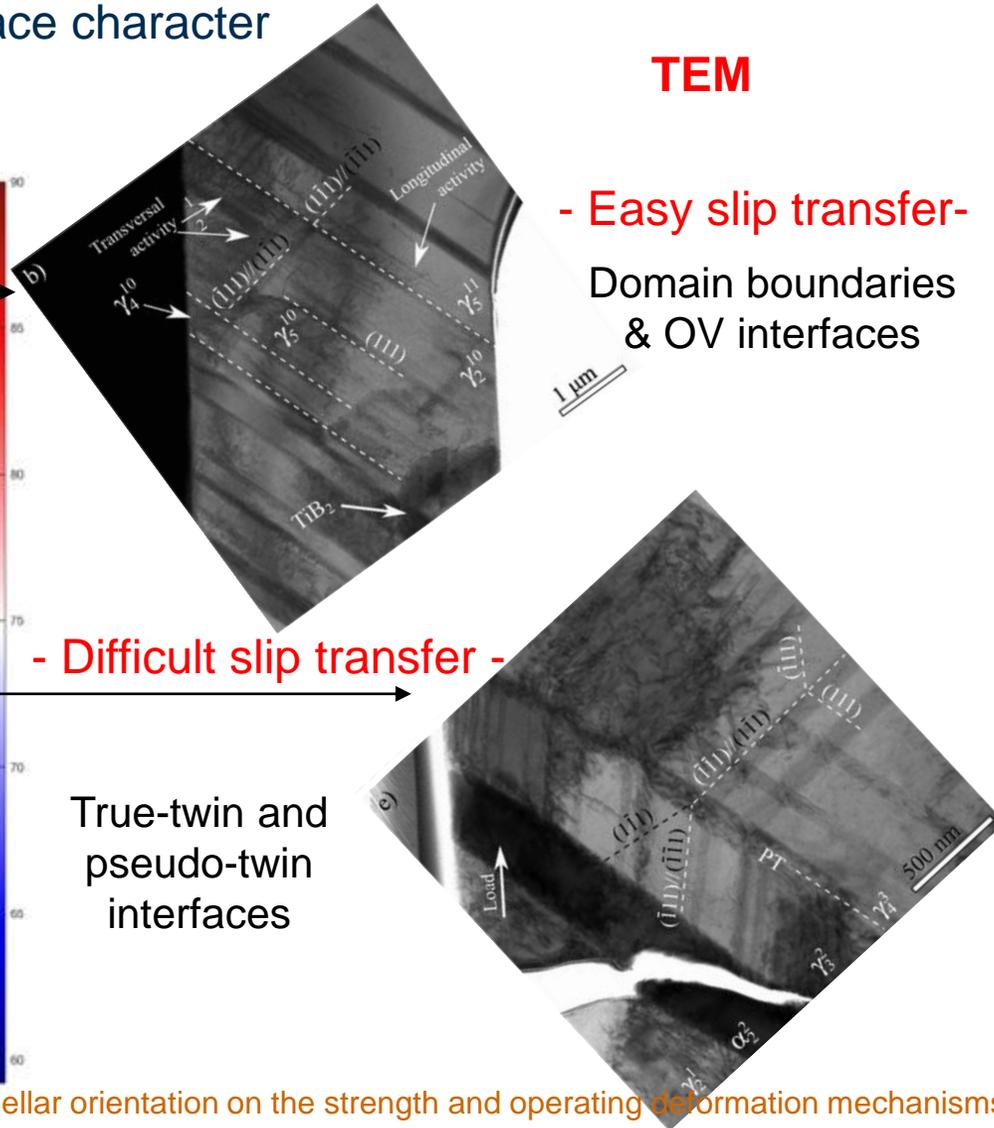
Deformation mechanisms

- Slip transfer analysis as a function of interface character

EBSD

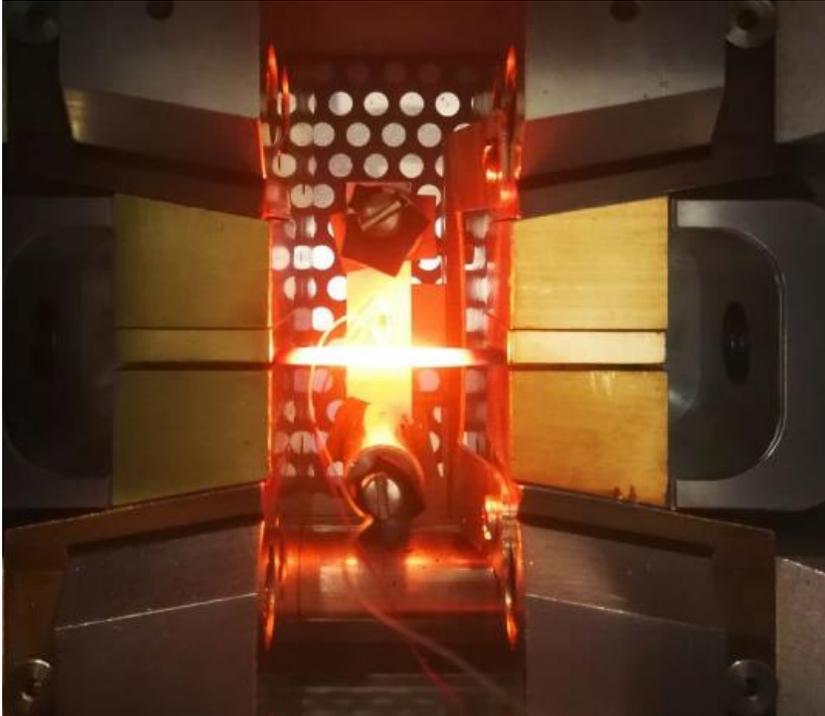


TEM

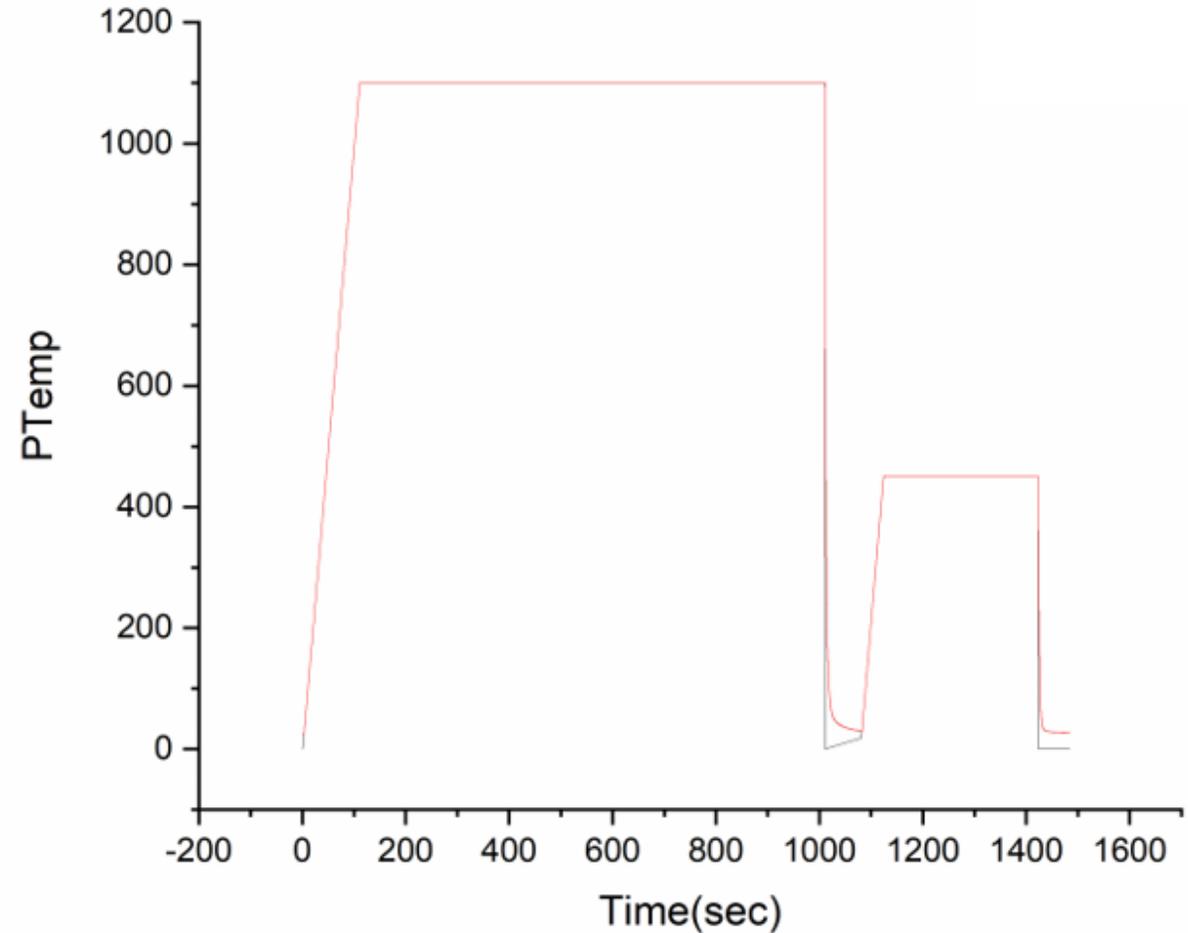


Advanced Characterization Techniques

Design of optimal heat treatments using Gleeble system



Left: a Q&P treatment in a GLEEBLE chamber; Right a typical Q&P thermal cycle applied to stainless steels, where temperatures and times are varied.

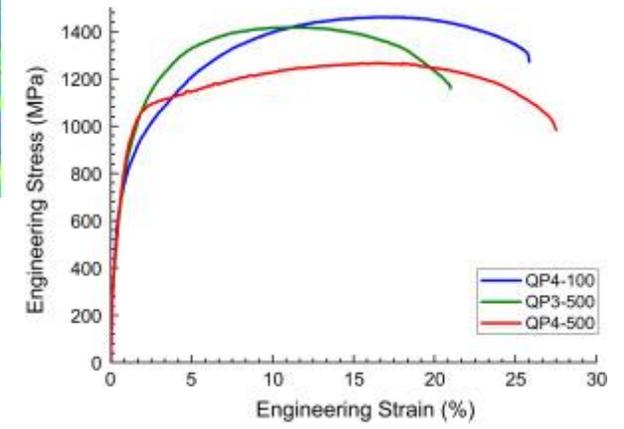
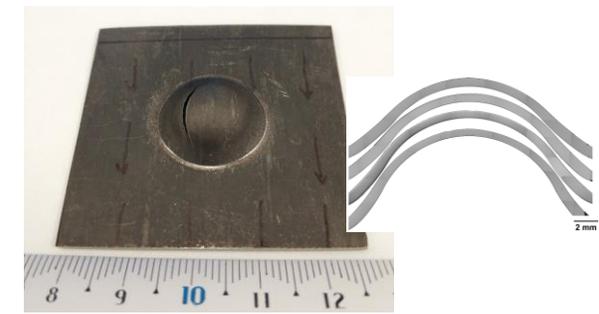
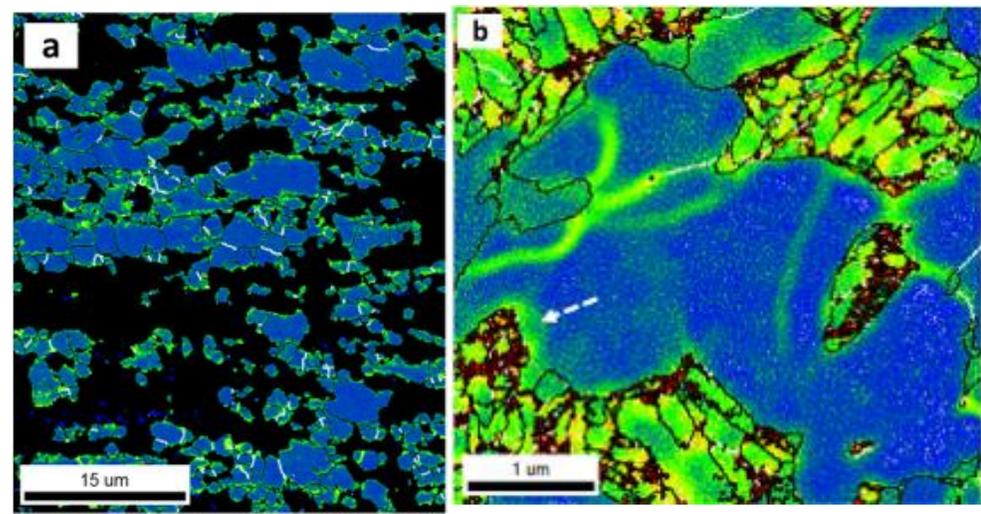
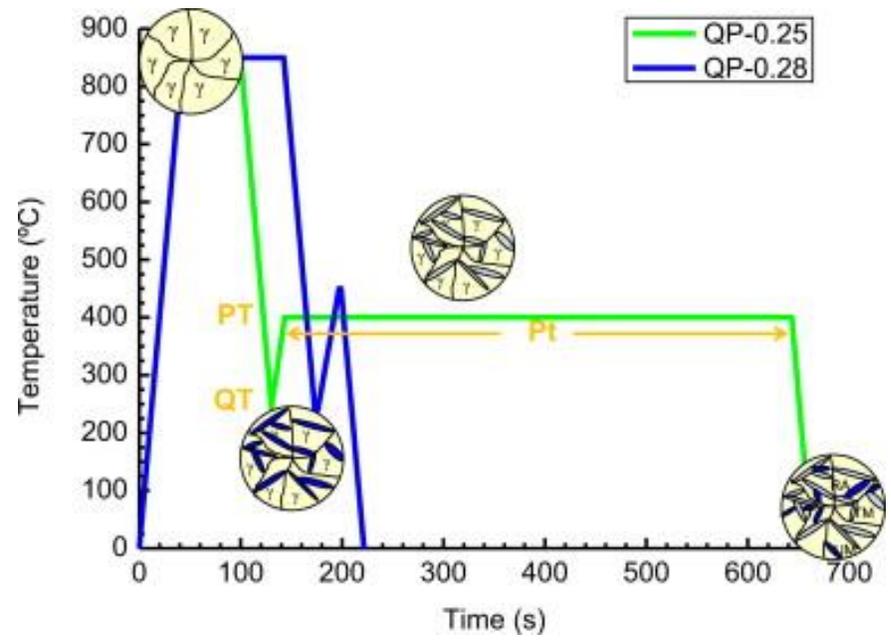


Advanced Characterization Techniques



On macro-, micro- and nano-scales

On macro- and micro-scales



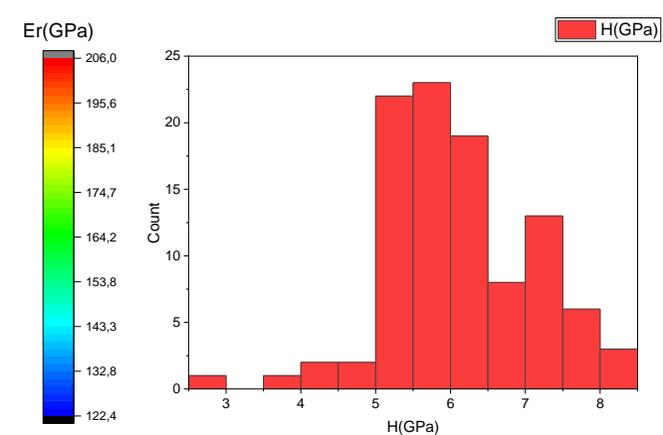
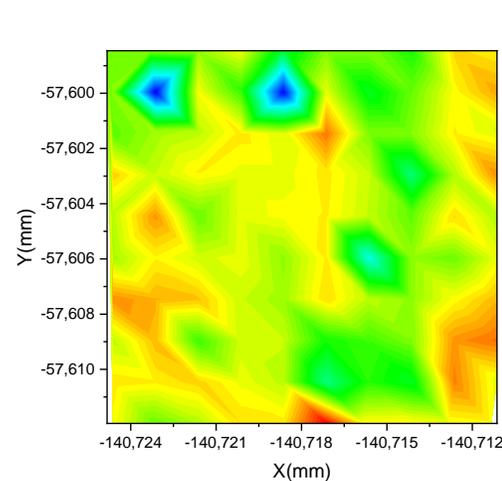
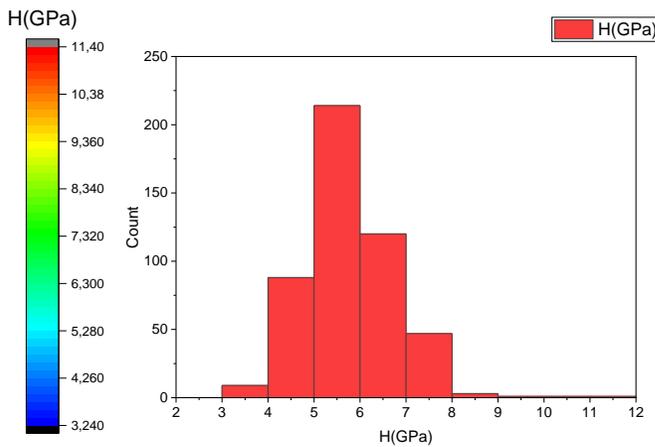
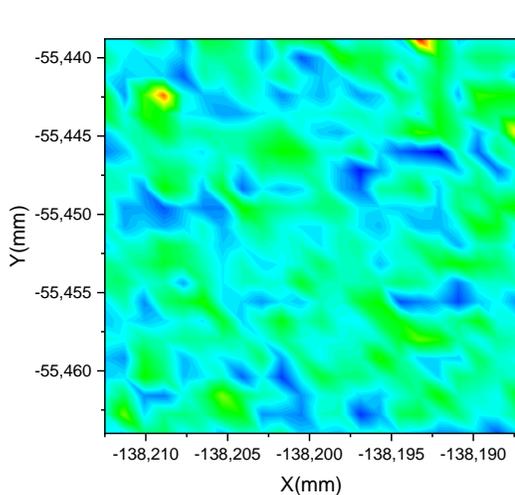
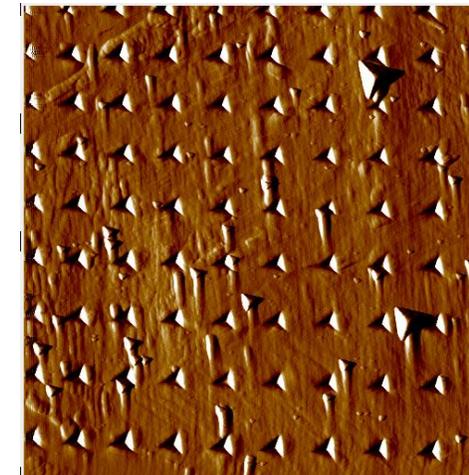
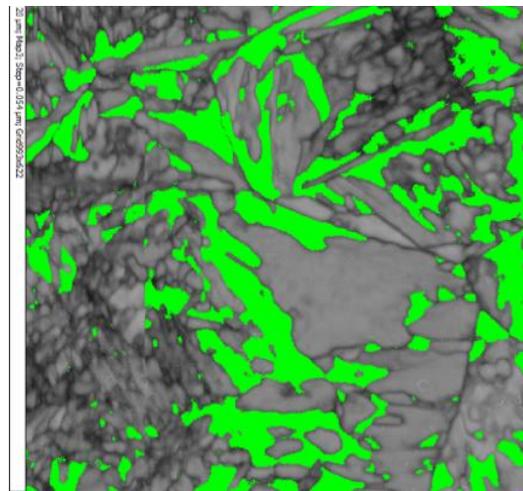
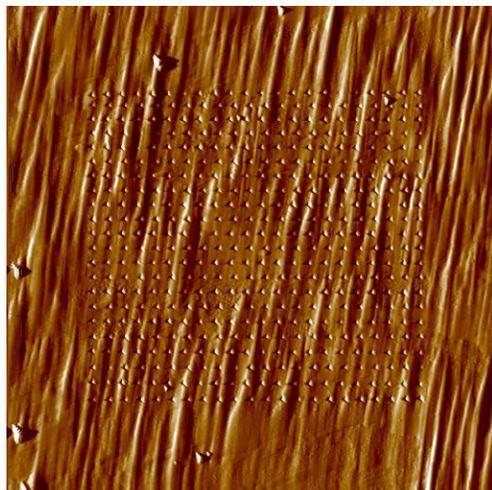
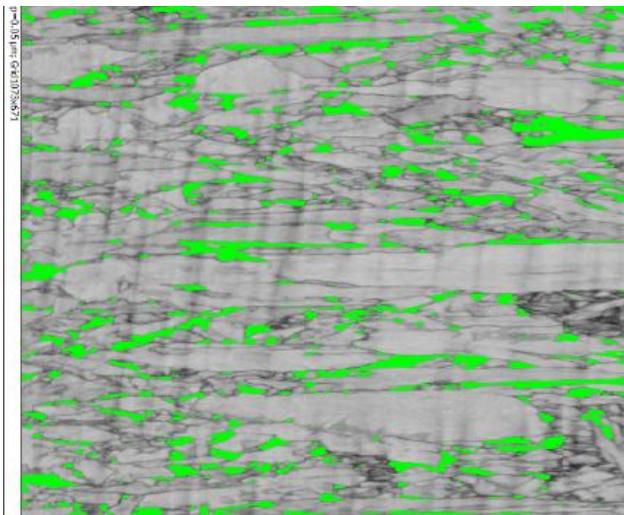
Microstructural design in advanced metallic materials via thermo-mechanical processing to improve their mechanical and application-related properties.

M. Valdes-Tabernero, et. al. Mater. Characterization. 155 (2019) 109822.

P. Xia, F. Canillas, I. Sabirov. Mater. Sci. Eng. A. 793 (2020) 139829.

Advanced Characterization Techniques

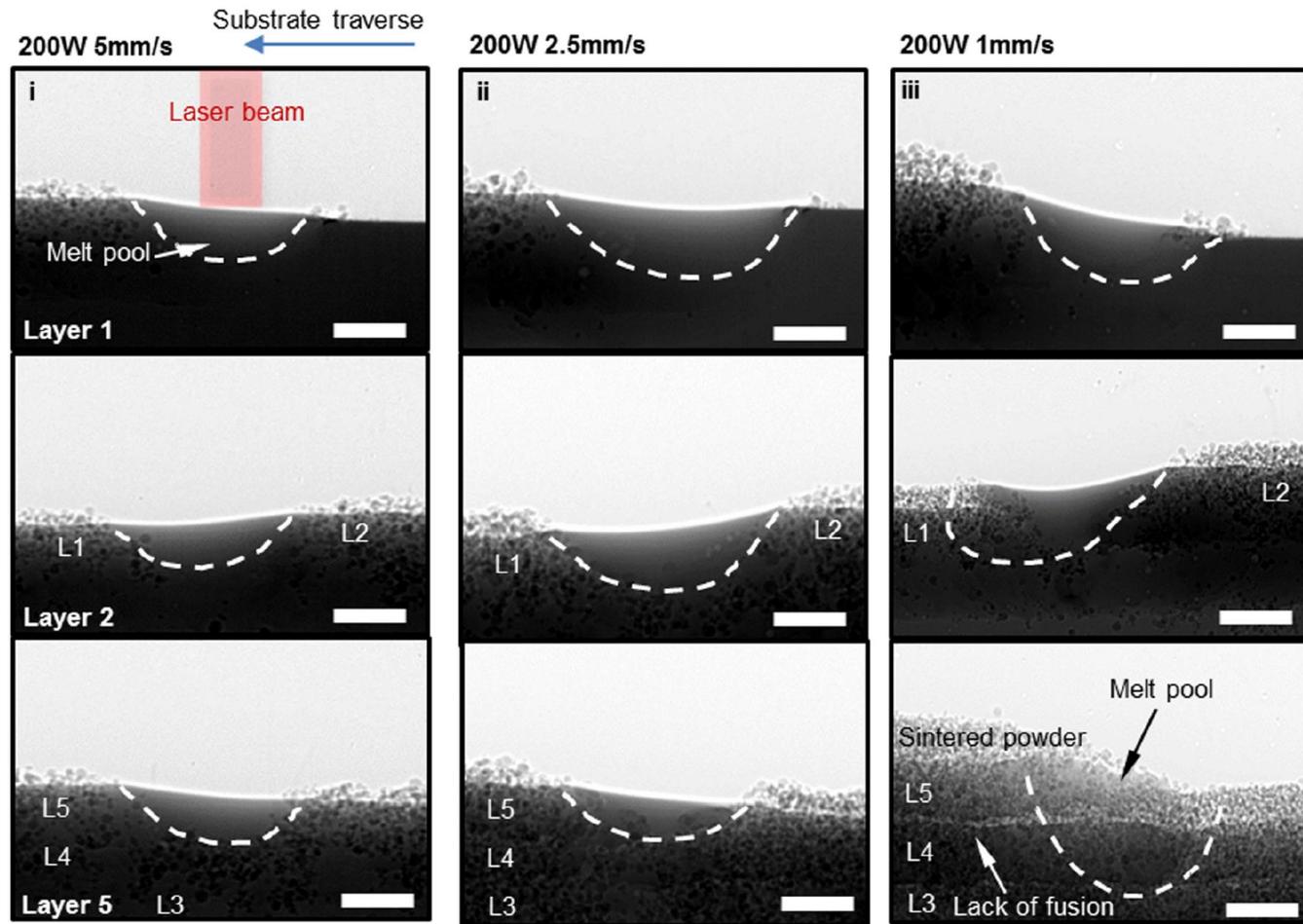
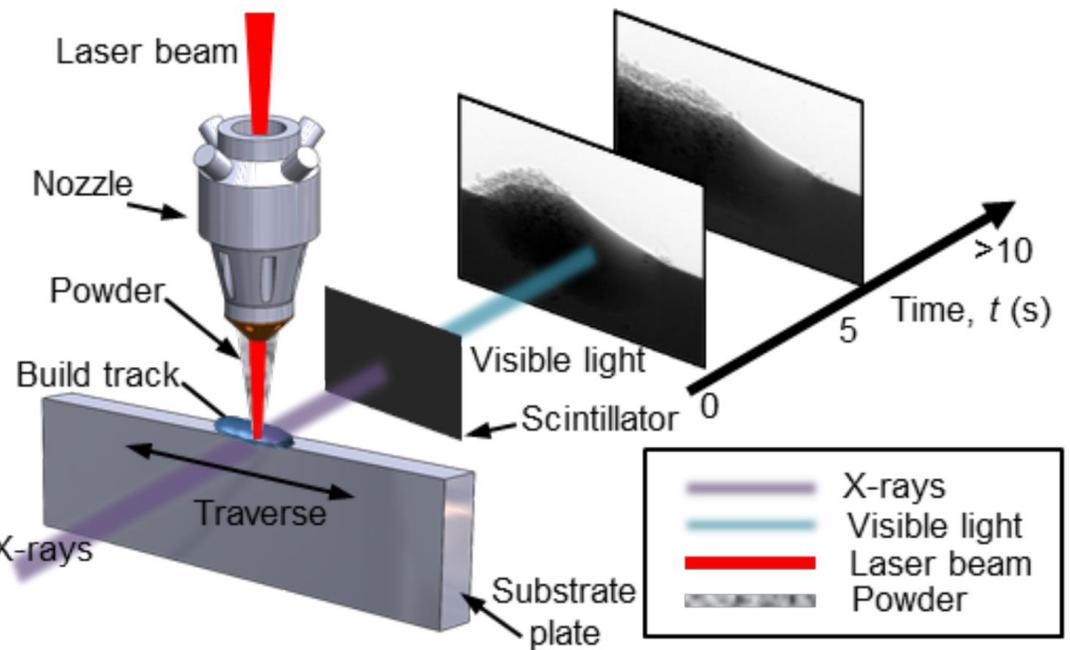
Processing–microstructure–properties relationship in Q&P stainless steels



The effect of chemistry on nanohardness distribution in Q&P treated steels. Left: EBSD phase map, analyzed area, relevant nanohardness distribution map and histogram of nanohardness distribution for a low alloyed steel; Right: for a highly alloyed steel.

Advanced Characterization Techniques

Metals processing: In-situ Direct Energy Deposition of Ti64

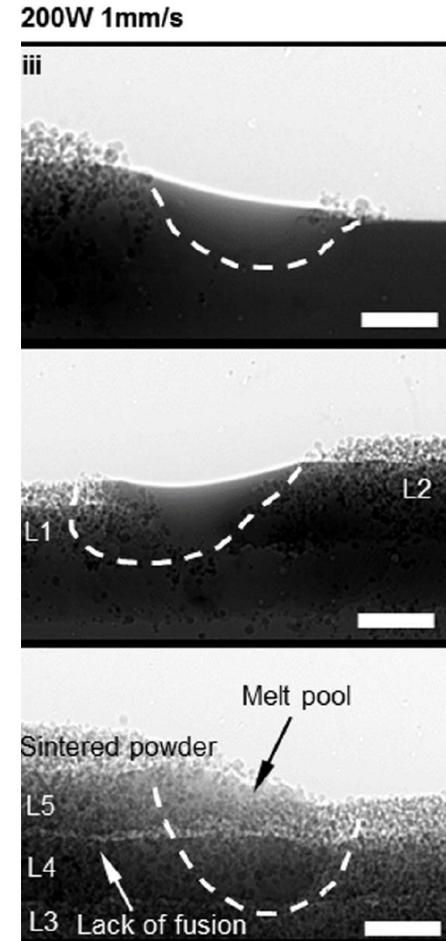
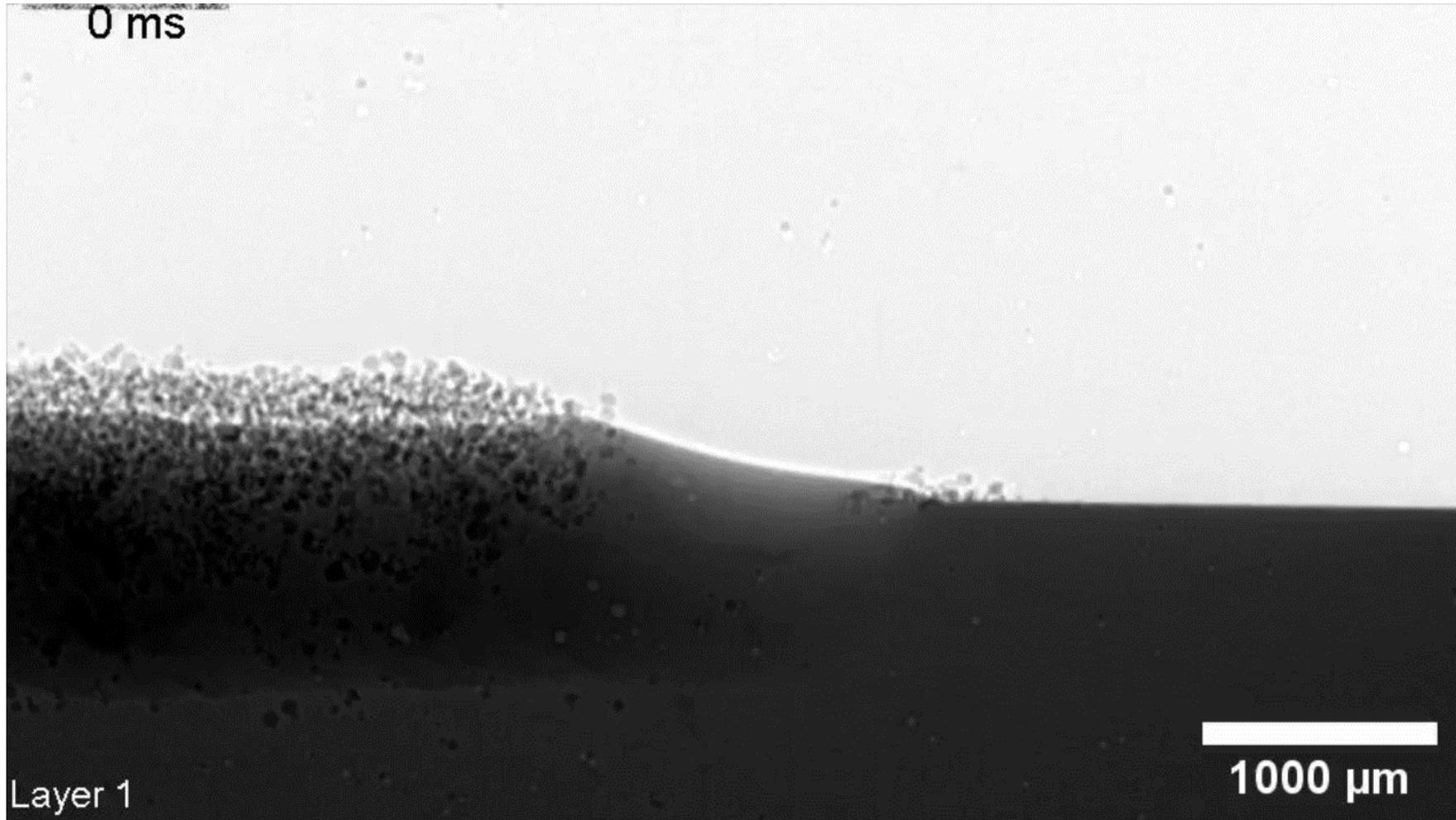


X-Ray Tomography

Multi-layer melt track morphologies. Representative radiographs of powder DED AM Ti-6242, showing the variation in melt pool and track morphologies with different substrate traverse speeds and a laser power of 200 W, a powder feedrate of 1 g/min. Scale bar = 500 μm. Note that substrate traverse direction is reversed for layer 2.

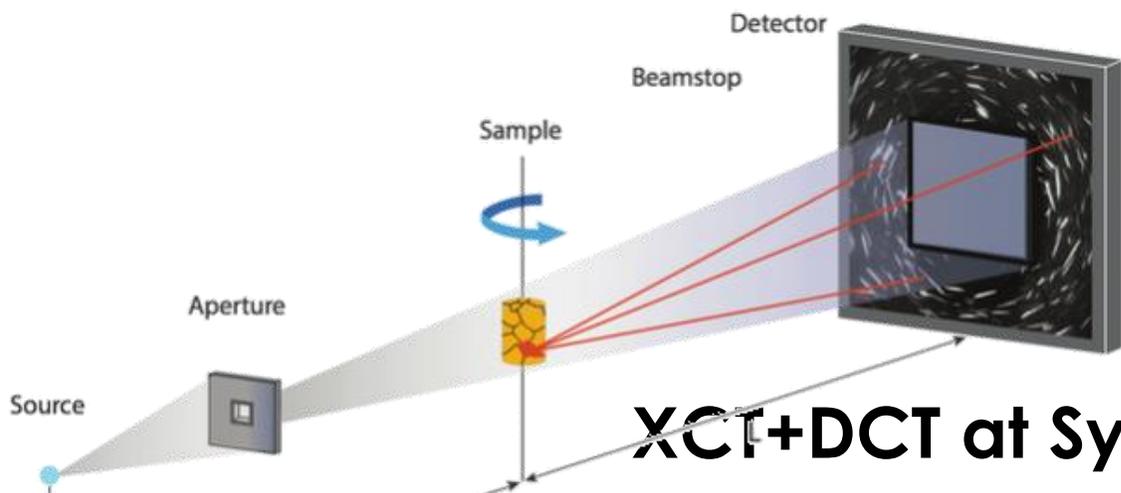
Advanced Characterization Techniques

Metals processing: In-situ Direct Energy Deposition of Ti64

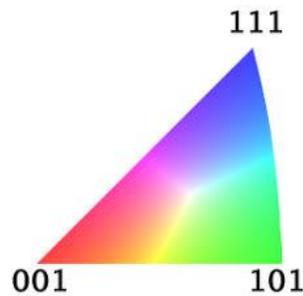
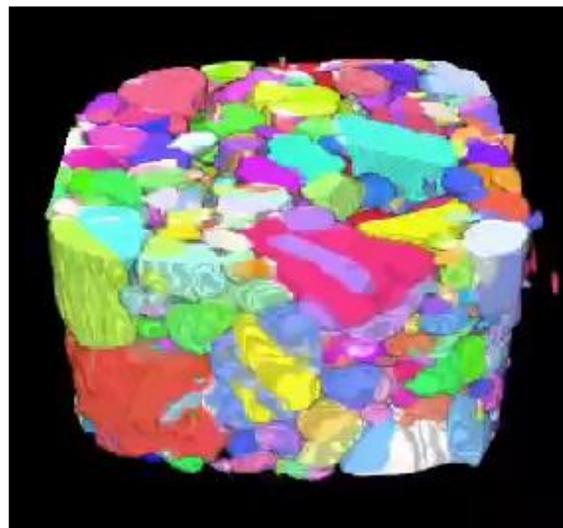


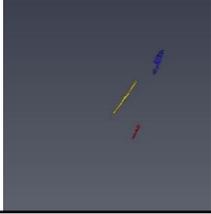
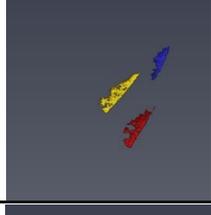
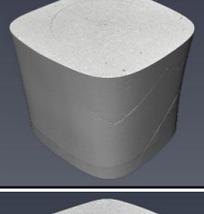
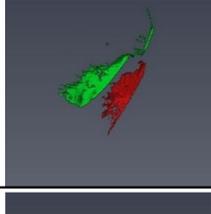
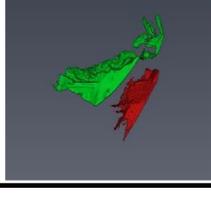
Advanced Characterization Techniques

In-situ fatigue studies in Ni Superalloys



XCT+DCT at Synchrotron



| CYCLES | PERSPECTIVE | TOP VIEW |
|--------|---|---|
| 20k |  | N/A |
| 40k |  |  |
| 60k |  |  |
| 90k |  |  |
| 100k |  |  |

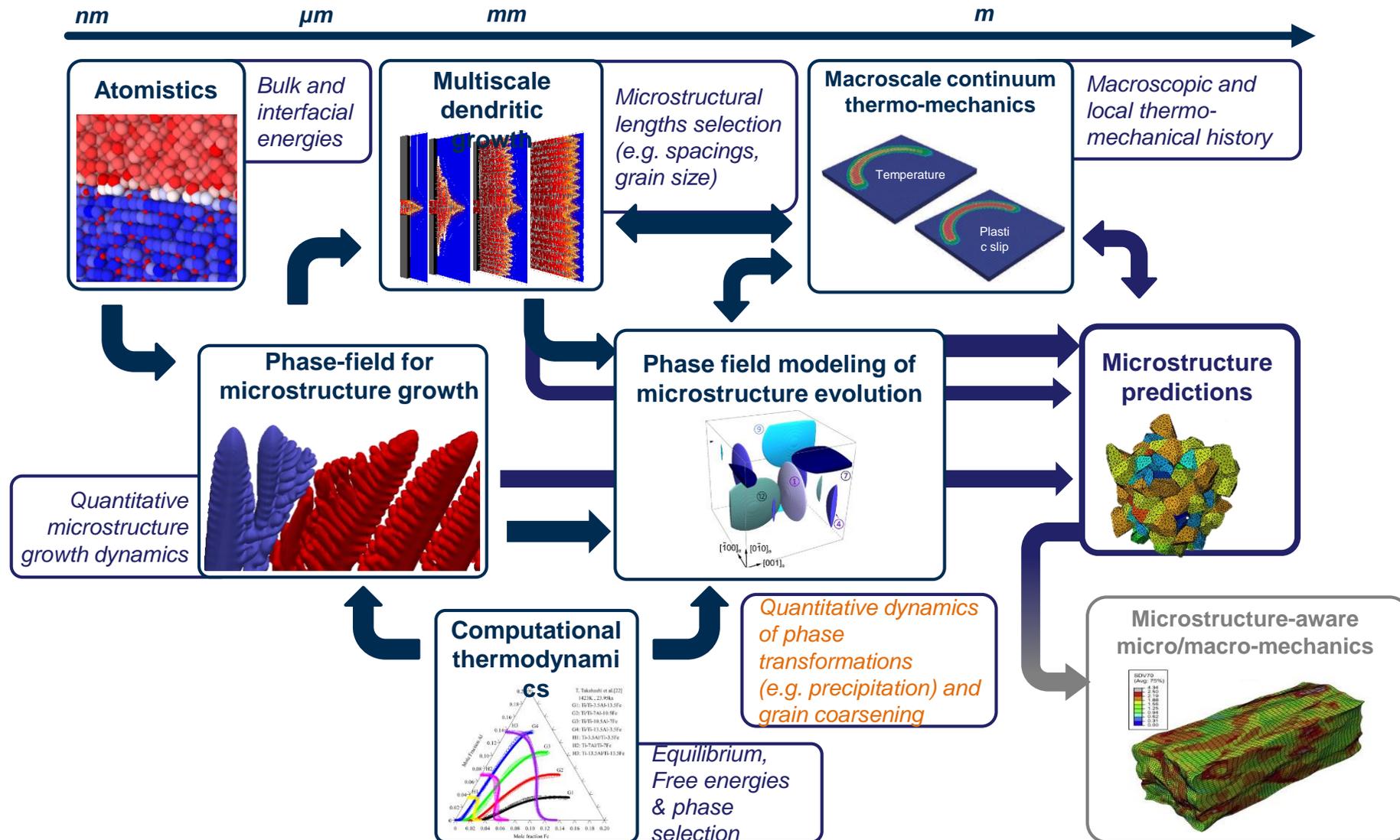
Tools available for metallurgy today

Advanced Characterization Techniques

Modelling and simulation

Modelling and simulation

From alloys & processes to microstructures to properties



Modelling and simulation

Virtual testing of SLM Hastelloy-X

Strong influence of processing parameters in response using the same powder

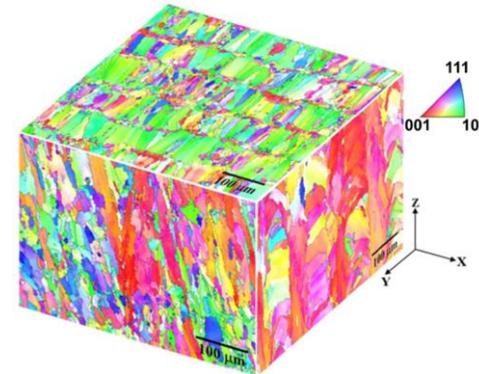
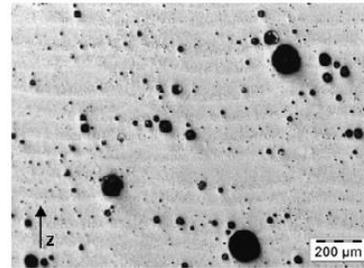
Process parameters

- Laser power
- Scan speed
- Hatch distance
- Layer thickness
- Scanning direction
- Energy density

Building direction and geometry

- Horizontal and vertical
- Thickness of sample

Processing



Defects:

- Surface roughness
- Porosity

Microstructure

- Grain size
- Grain aspect ratio
- Grain orientation
- Twinning

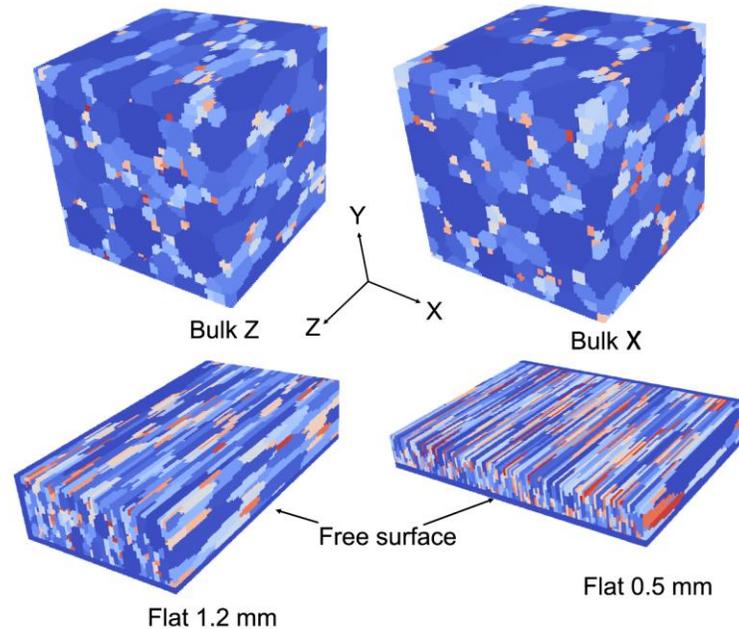
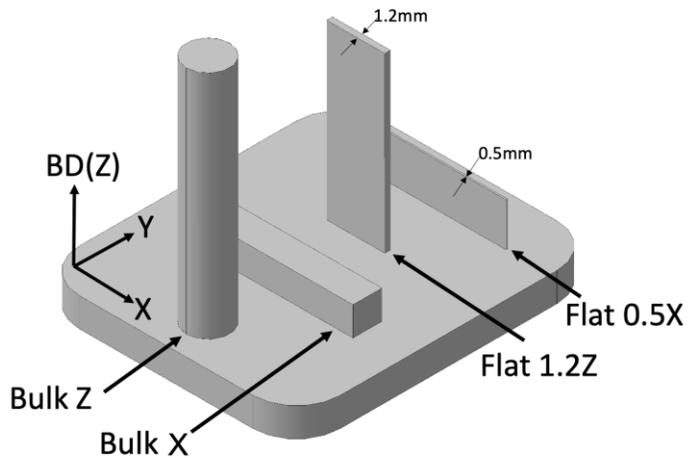
If the SLM resulting microstructure is given (experimentally or predicted by virtual testing), is it possible to predict the macroscopic response?

Modelling and simulation

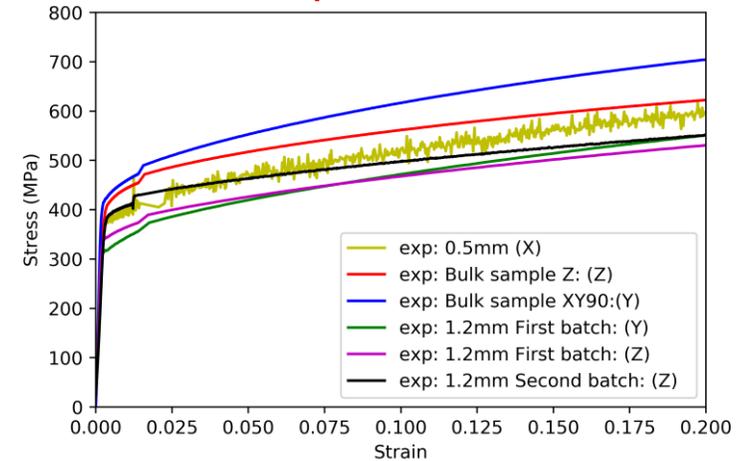
Virtual testing of SLM Hastelloy-X: Tensile response

Computational homogenization of polycrystals allowed to determine the macroscopic response for different fabrication directions and specimen thicknesses:

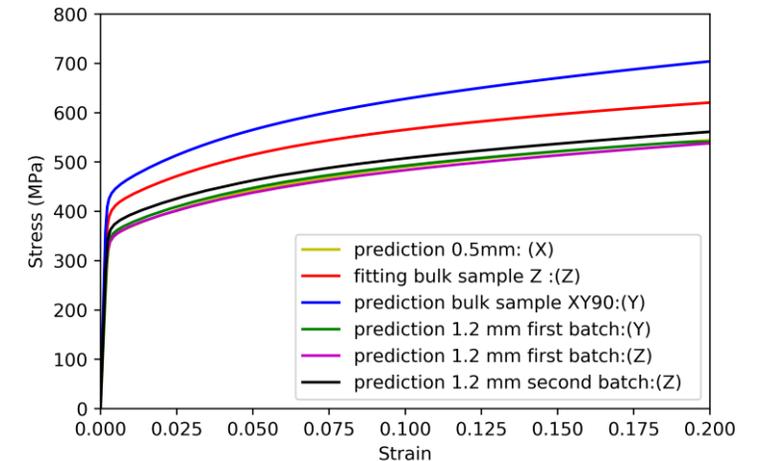
Origin of differences in mechanical response ONLY due to polycrystalline microstructure



Experiments



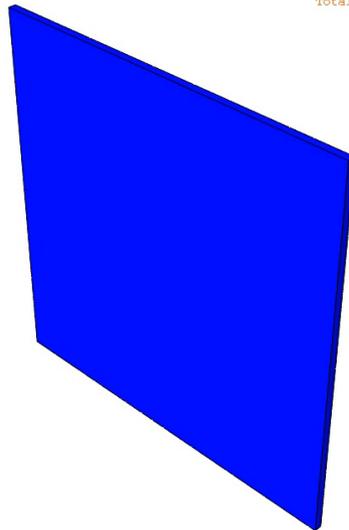
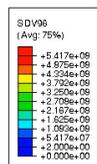
Virtual tests



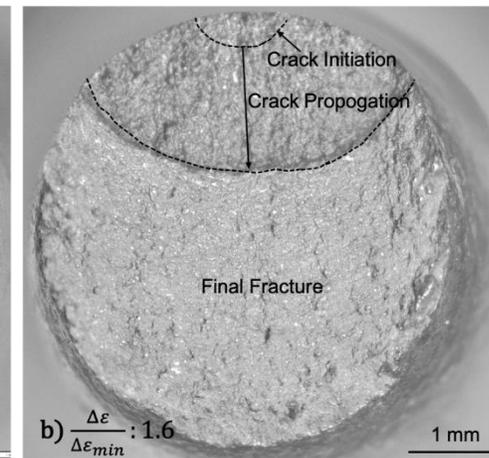
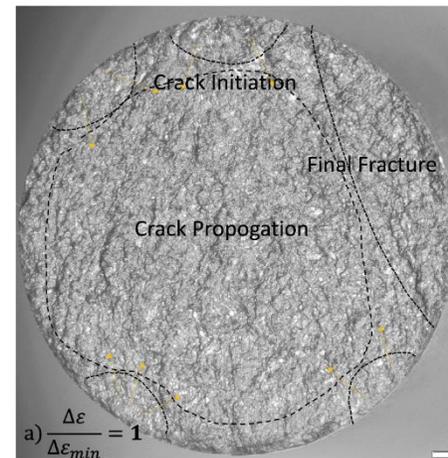
Modelling and simulation

Fatigue life prediction

- In many cases nucleation of cracks take the majority of fatigue life.
- Nucleation is strongly **influenced by microstructure** (pores or cracks or just grains) :
 - Accumulation of plastic slip → slip bands (persistent slip bands)
 - Persistent slip bands → microscopic cracks
- Nucleation can be modeled by studying accumulation of plasticity or some FIP on the hot-spots of the microstructure through micromechanical simulations
- Life can be related with FIP accumulated using simple phenomenological expression



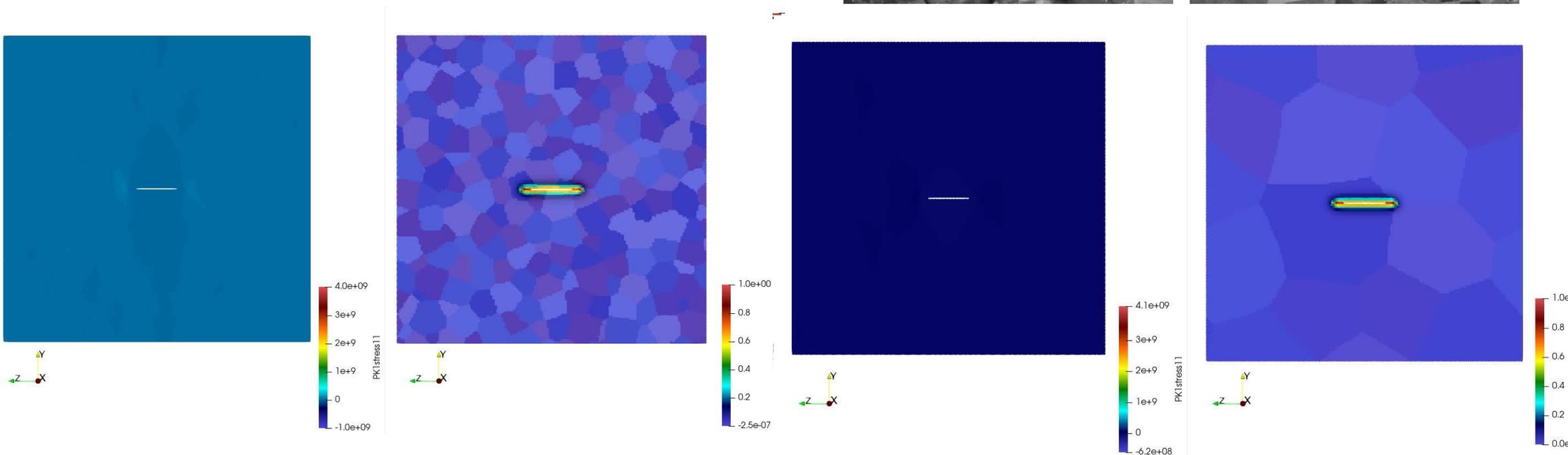
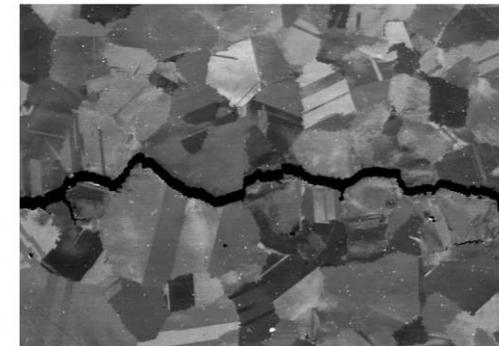
Step: Step-1 Frame: 0
Total Time: 0.000000



Modelling and simulation

Fracture of polycrystals

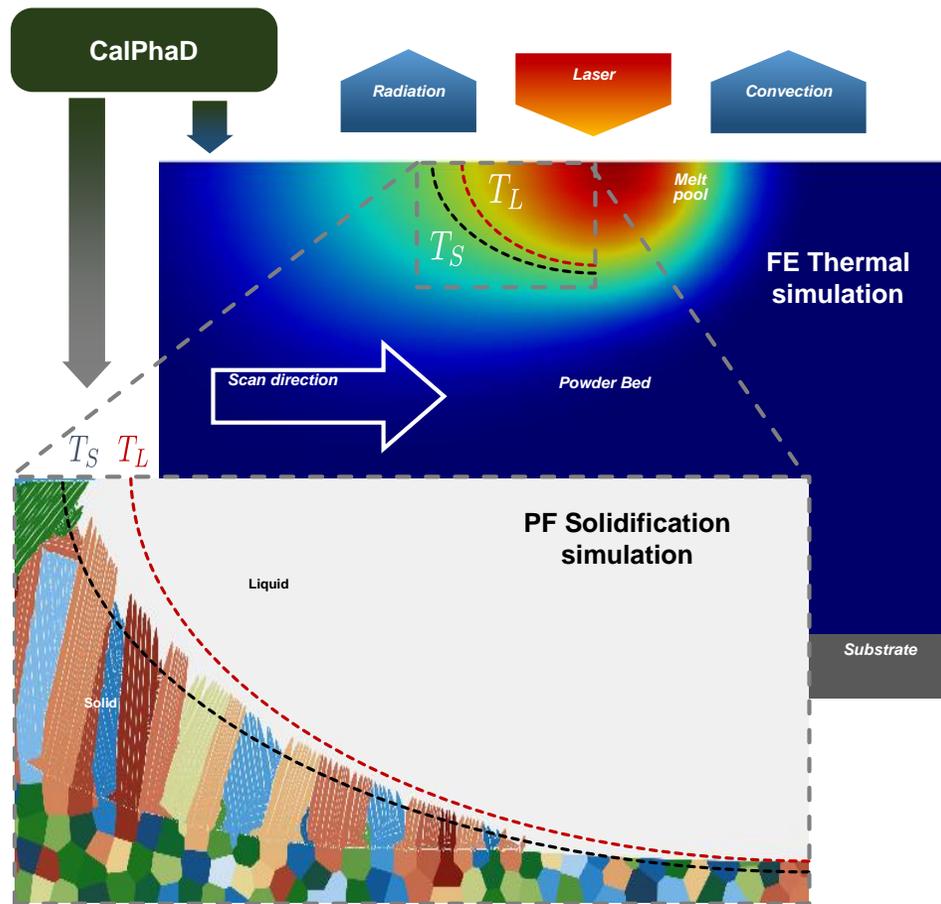
Phase-field fracture can be combined with **crystal plasticity** and **FFT-based homogenization** to study the effect of microstructure in crack propagation of polycrystals



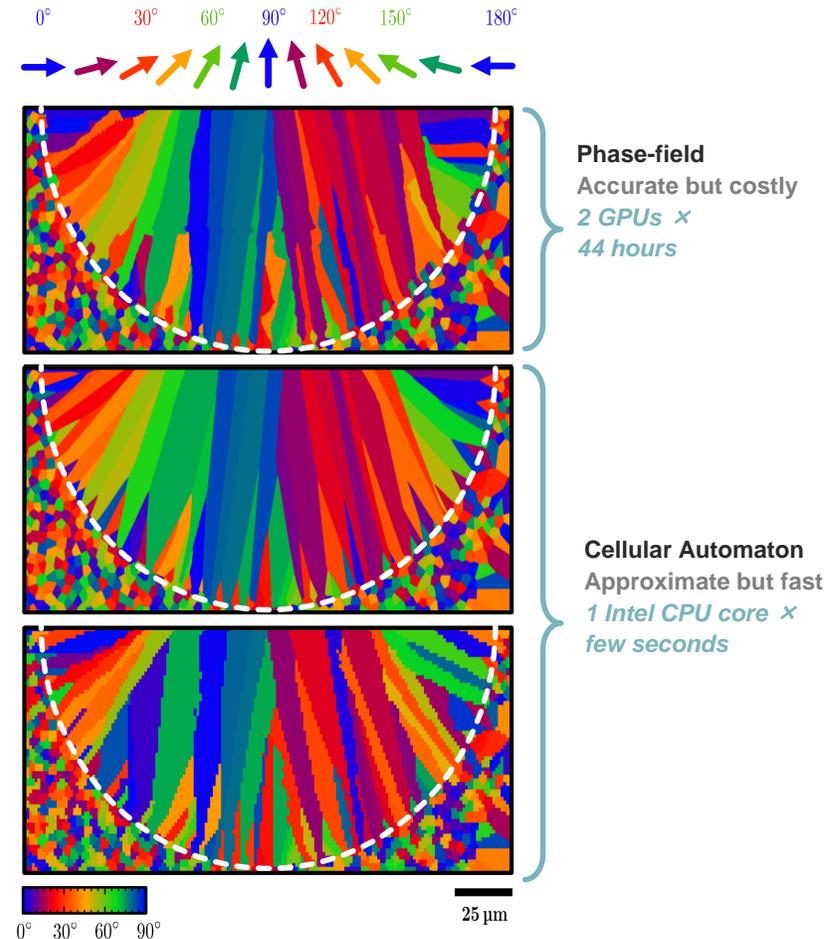
Modelling and simulation

Understand, model & predict the emergence & evolution of complex microstructure in advanced materials

Multiscale modeling of microstructure formation in additive manufacturing



Elahi et al. Comput. Mater. Sci. 209 (2022) 111383

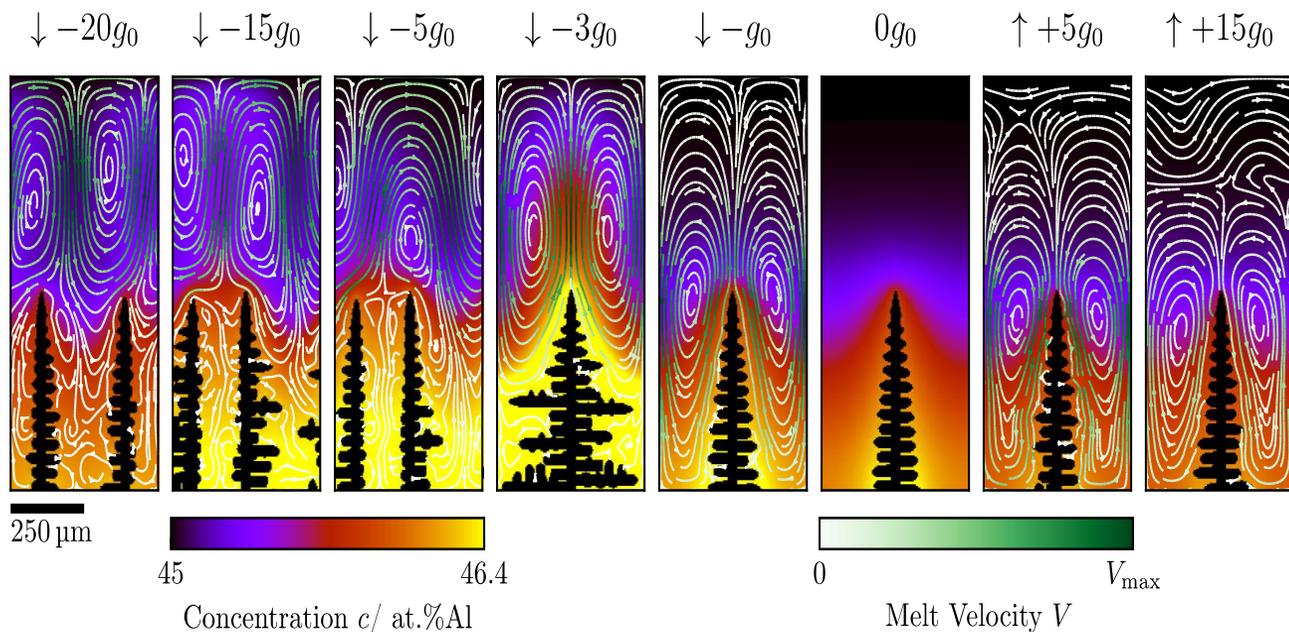


Elahi et al. Comput. Mater. Sci. 216 (2023) 111882

Modelling and simulation

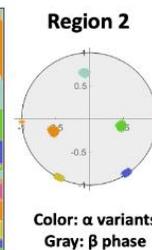
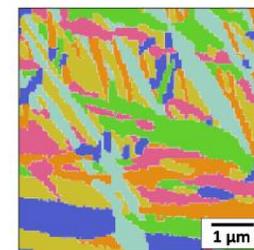
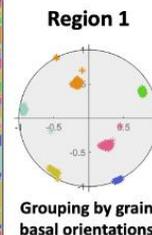
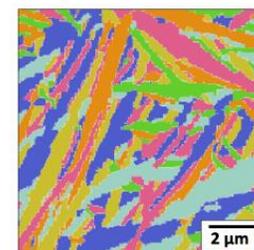
Understand, model & predict the emergence & evolution of complex microstructure in advanced materials

Effect of fluid flow on dendritic growth

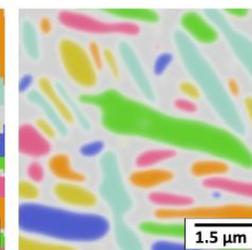
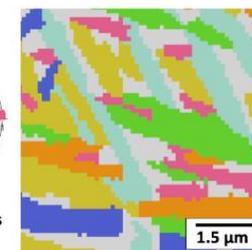
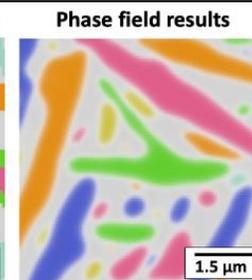
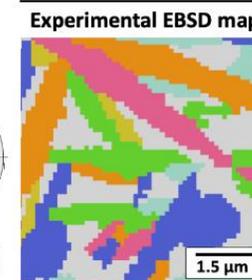


Solid-state microstructure evolution during heat treatment

As-printed microstructure
EBSD map used as PF initial conditions



After similar heat treatment @ 850°C



Tools available for metallurgy today

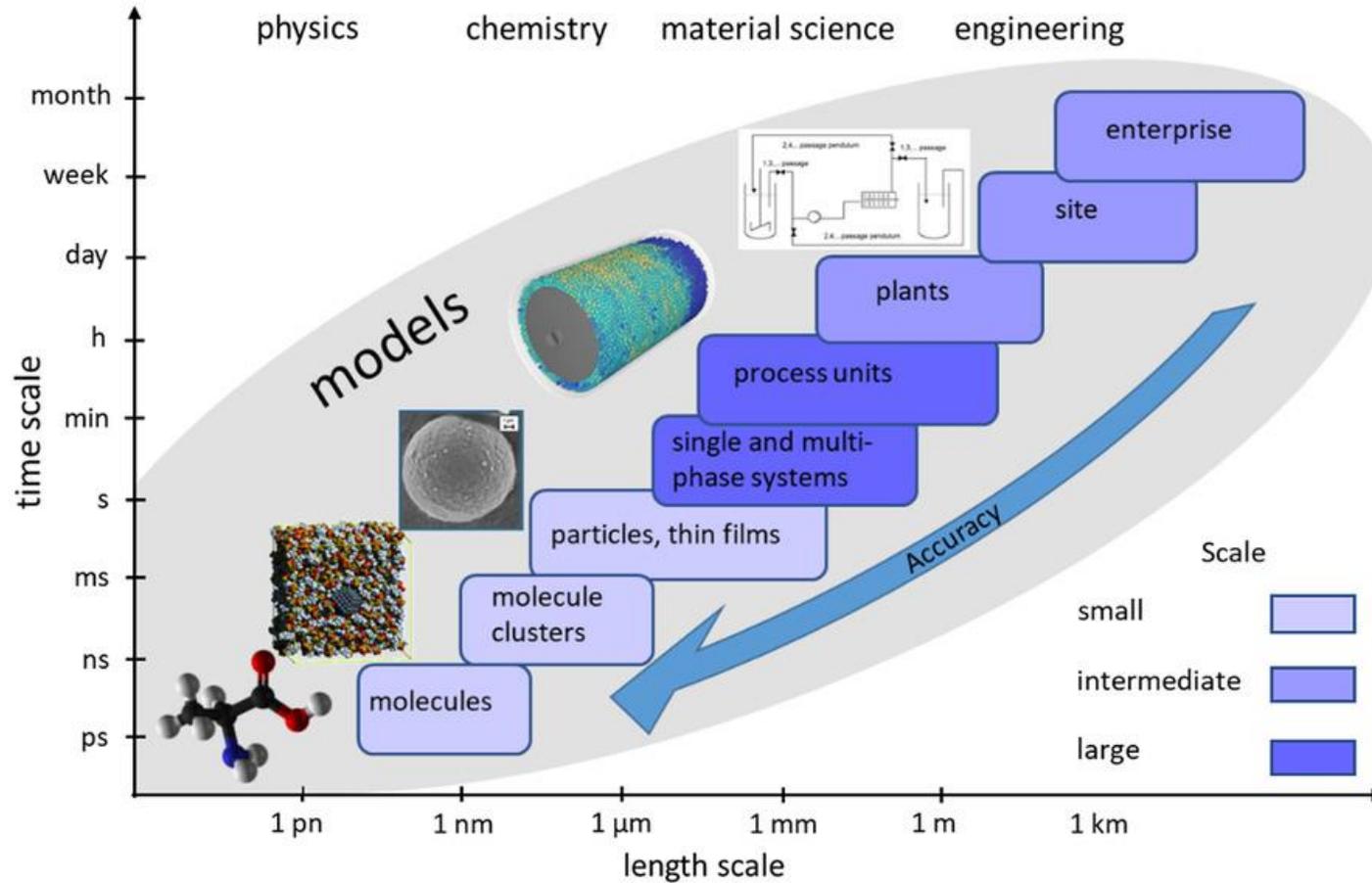
Advanced Characterization Techniques

Modelling and simulation

Artificial intelligence/Machine learning

Tools available for metallurgy today

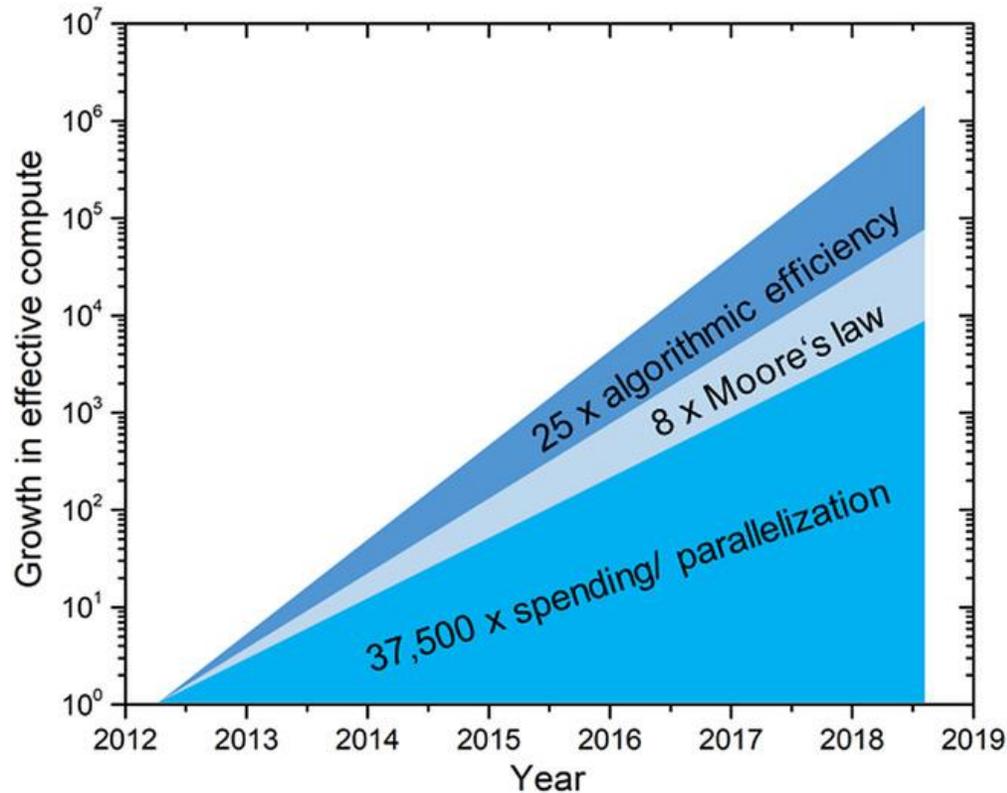
AI-assisted alloy and process design



Process engineering operates on various length and timescales which are linked with specific models, simulations, unit operations, process parameters, and conditions.

Tools available for metallurgy today

AI-assisted alloy and process design

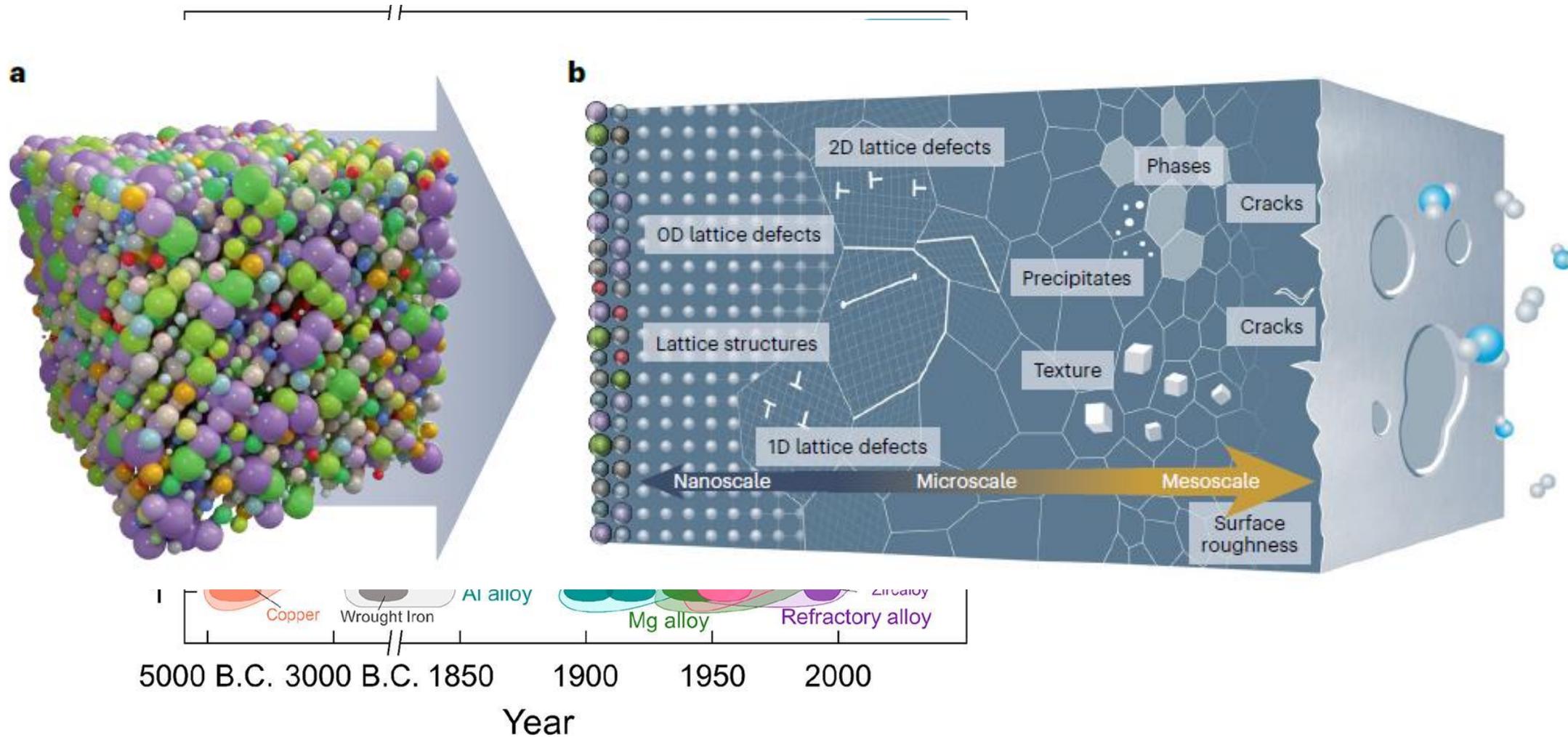


Approximated growth in effective compute between 2012 and 2018 with respective factors.

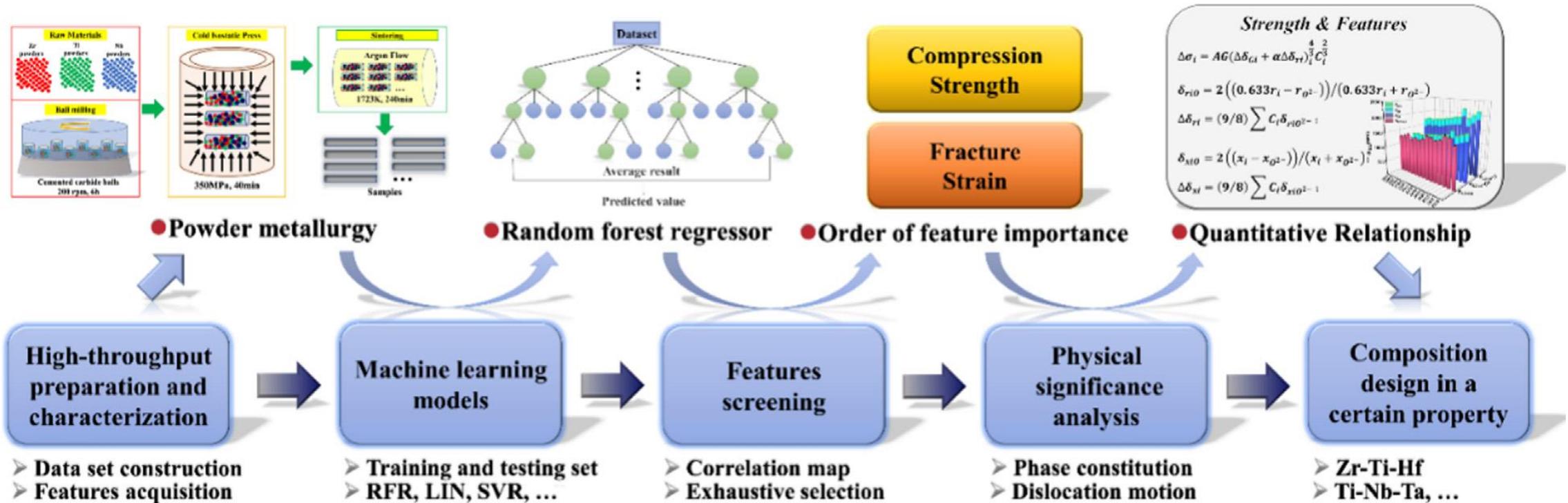
- Computing efficiency of computers has been continuously increasing, whereas its cost saturated.
- In the near future, the application of AI will enable new levels of process automation and process optimization. The prediction of highly complex production system behaviour will be possible.
- Over all, labor-intensive research procedures currently occupying years could be reduced to weeks or less, cutting costs, reducing resource consumption.

Tools available for metallurgy today

AI-assisted alloy and process design



AI-assisted alloy and process design



(i) constructing the database and acquiring the features; (ii) selecting models; (iii) screening features; (iv) establishing a quantitative relationship between the key features and mechanical properties.

AI-assisted alloy and process design

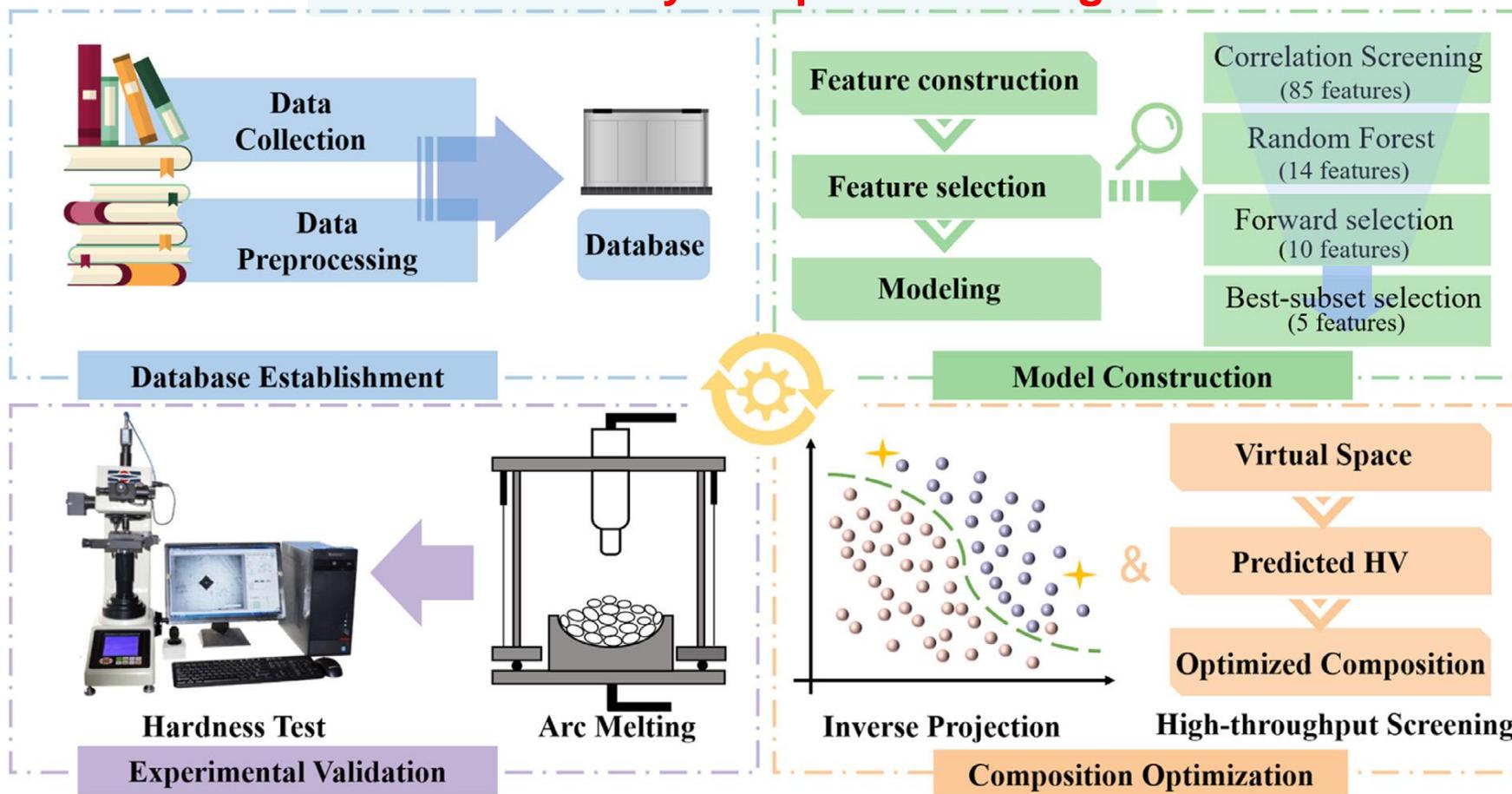
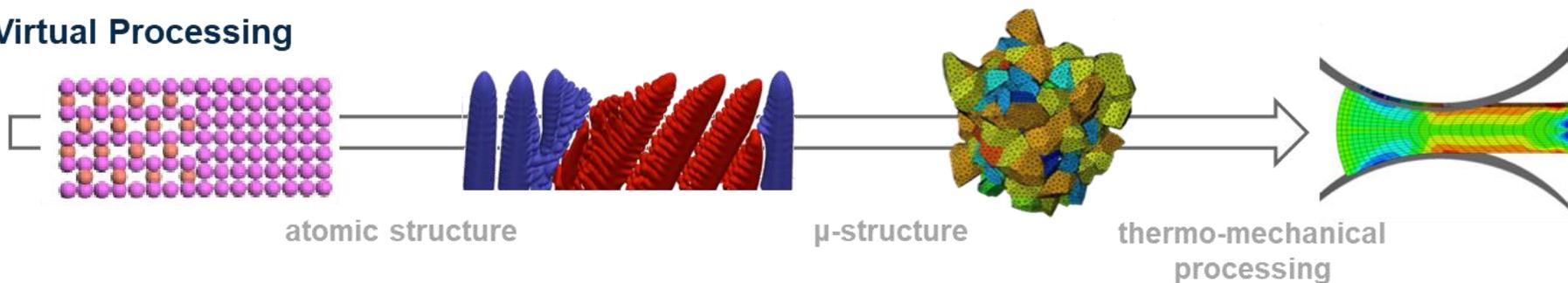


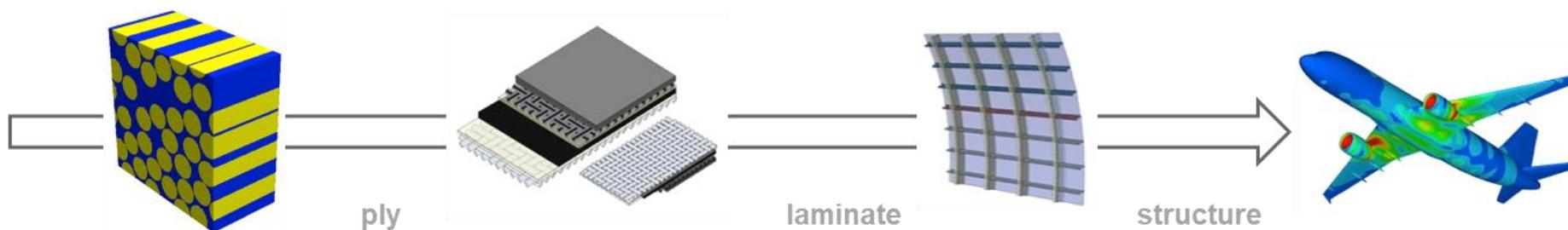
Diagram of machine learning-based alloy design system for the HEAs with desired hardness.

Multiscale Materials Modelling: Metals, Composites, Nanomaterials, Advanced Porous Materials,...

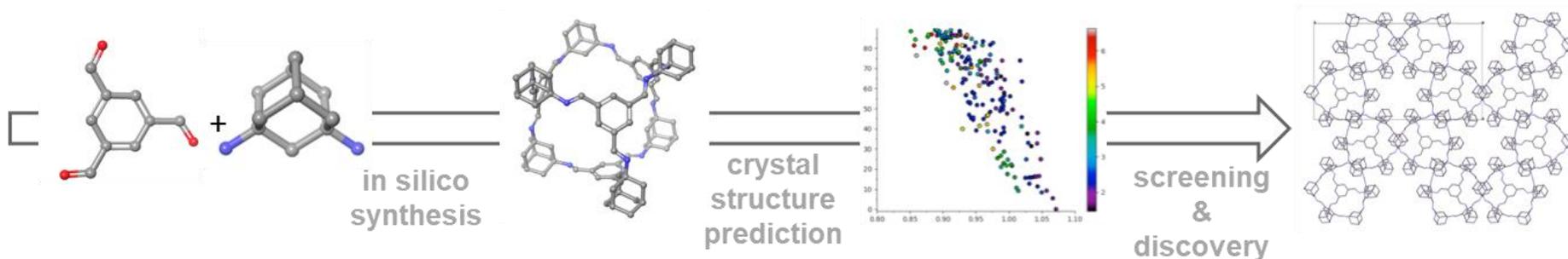
Virtual Processing



Virtual Testing



Computational, data-driven materials discovery



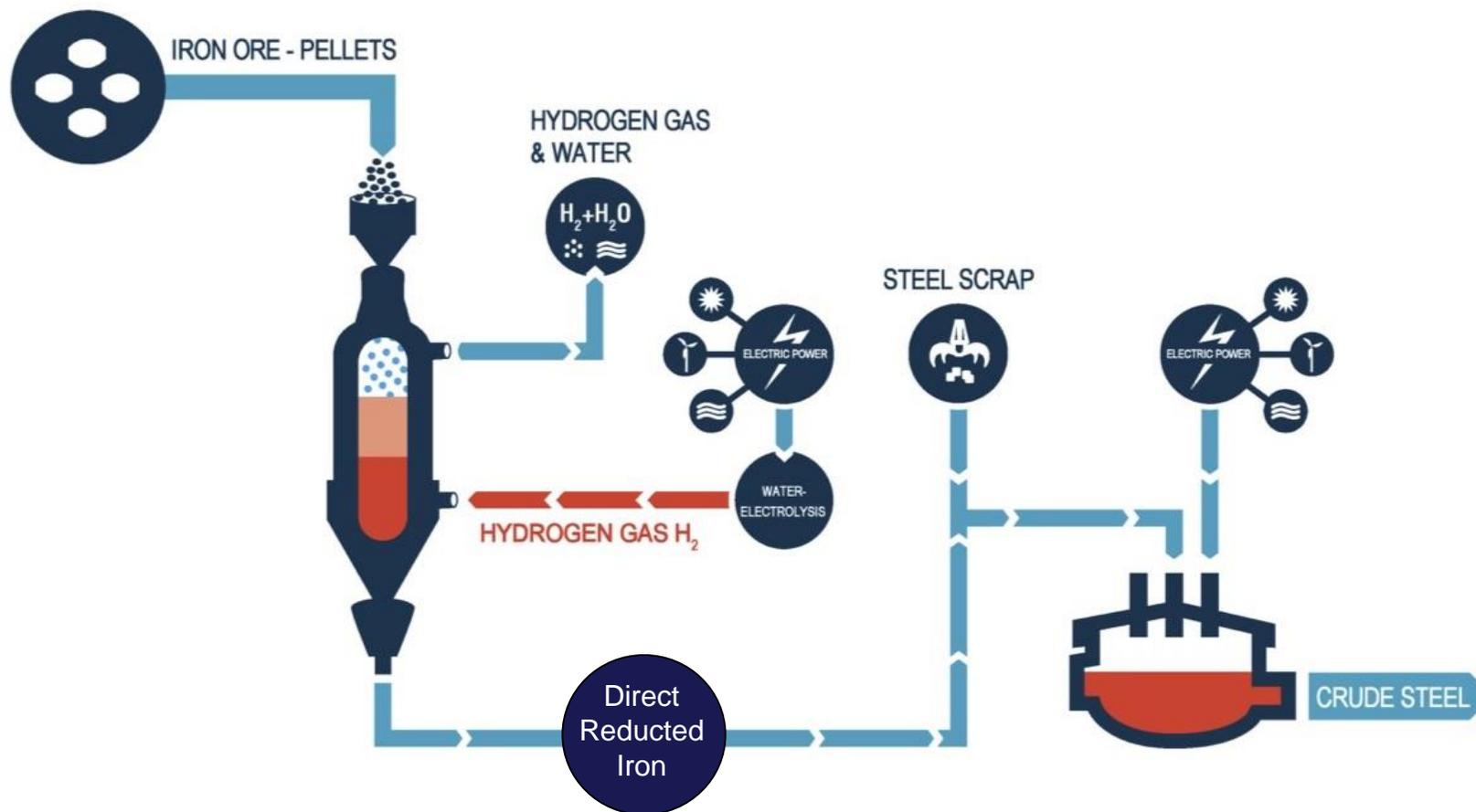
- Metallurgy (what is this?).
- Metallurgy in the past.
- Metallurgy today, through some numbers
- Some of the problems metallurgy faces today as a result of its success
- Tools available for metallurgy today.
- **What about the future?.**
- Some final remarks.

What about the future?.

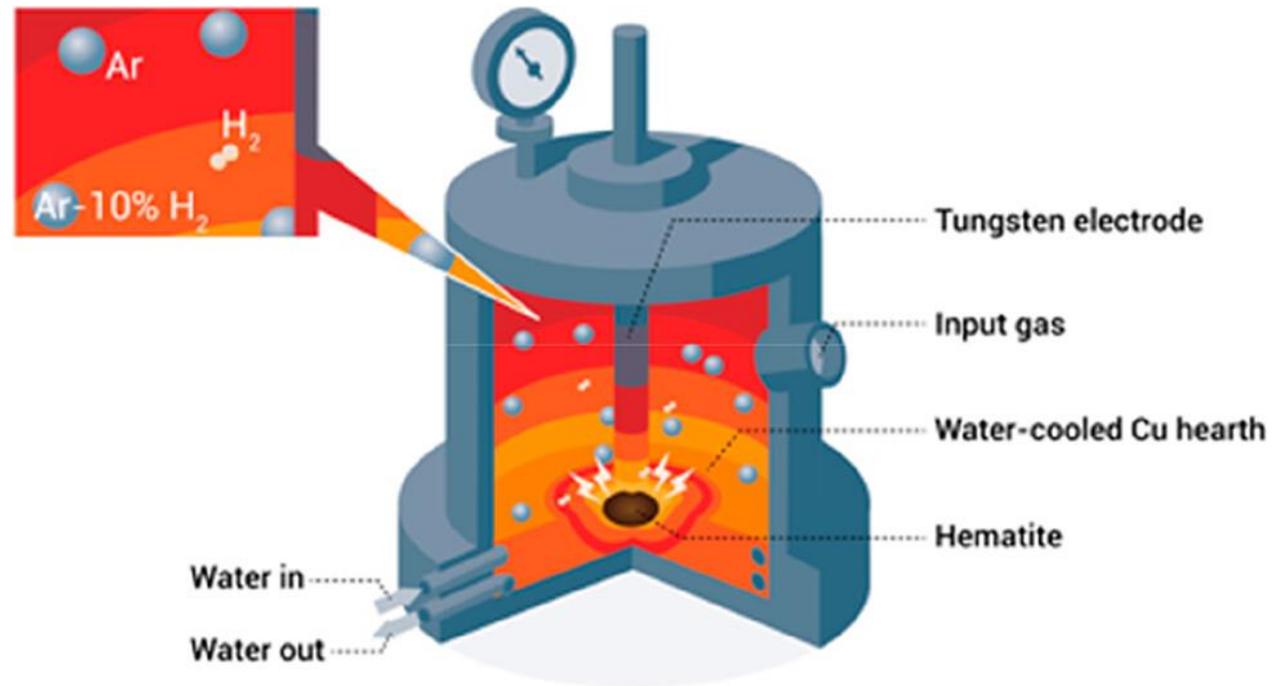
“Greener” technologies

We have to move to “greener” technologies

Hydrogen based Direct Reduction



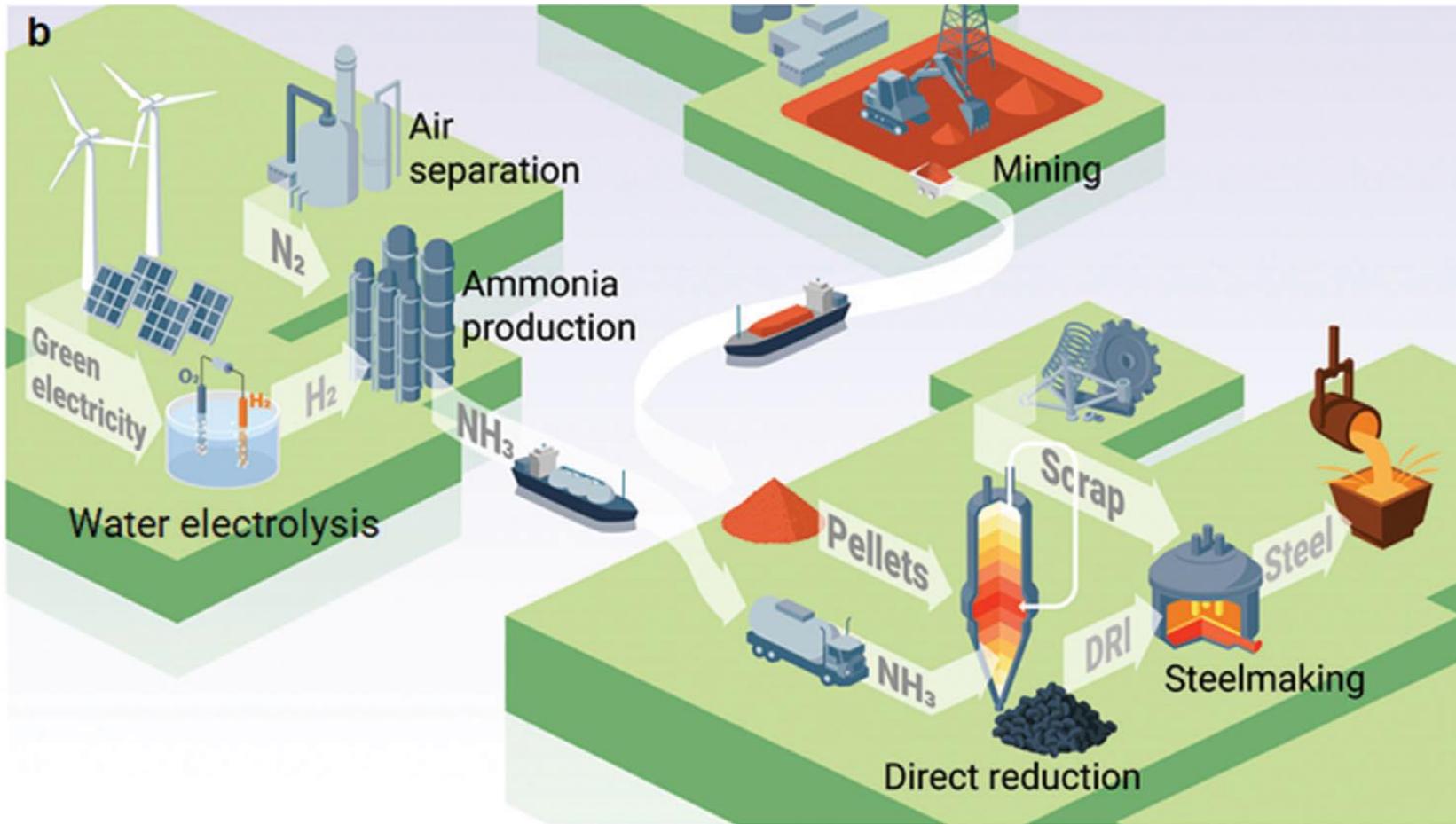
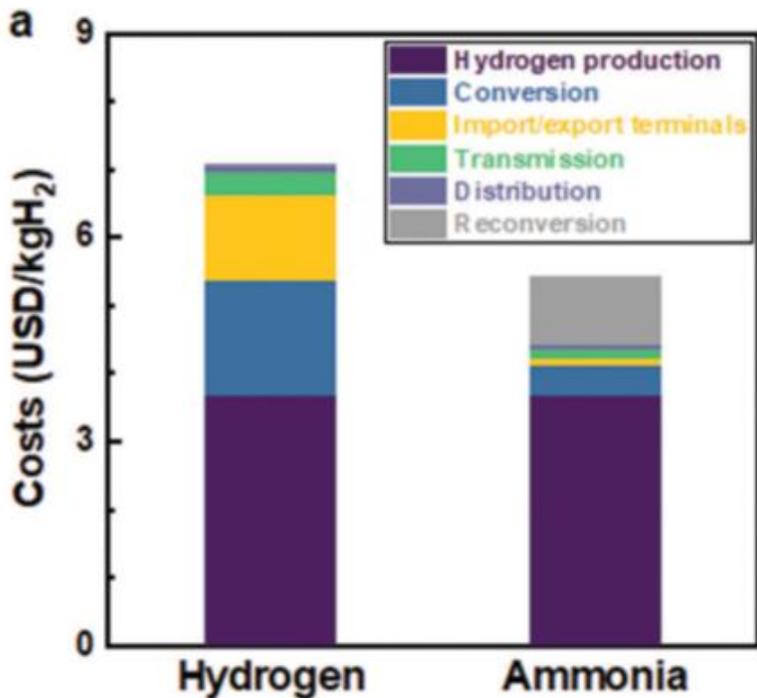
We have to move to “greener” technologies



Experimental setup for hydrogen-plasma-based smelting reduction of iron oxides with a process using a 10% H₂–90% Ar gas mixture to produce the plasma.

What about the future?.

We have to move to “greener” technologies

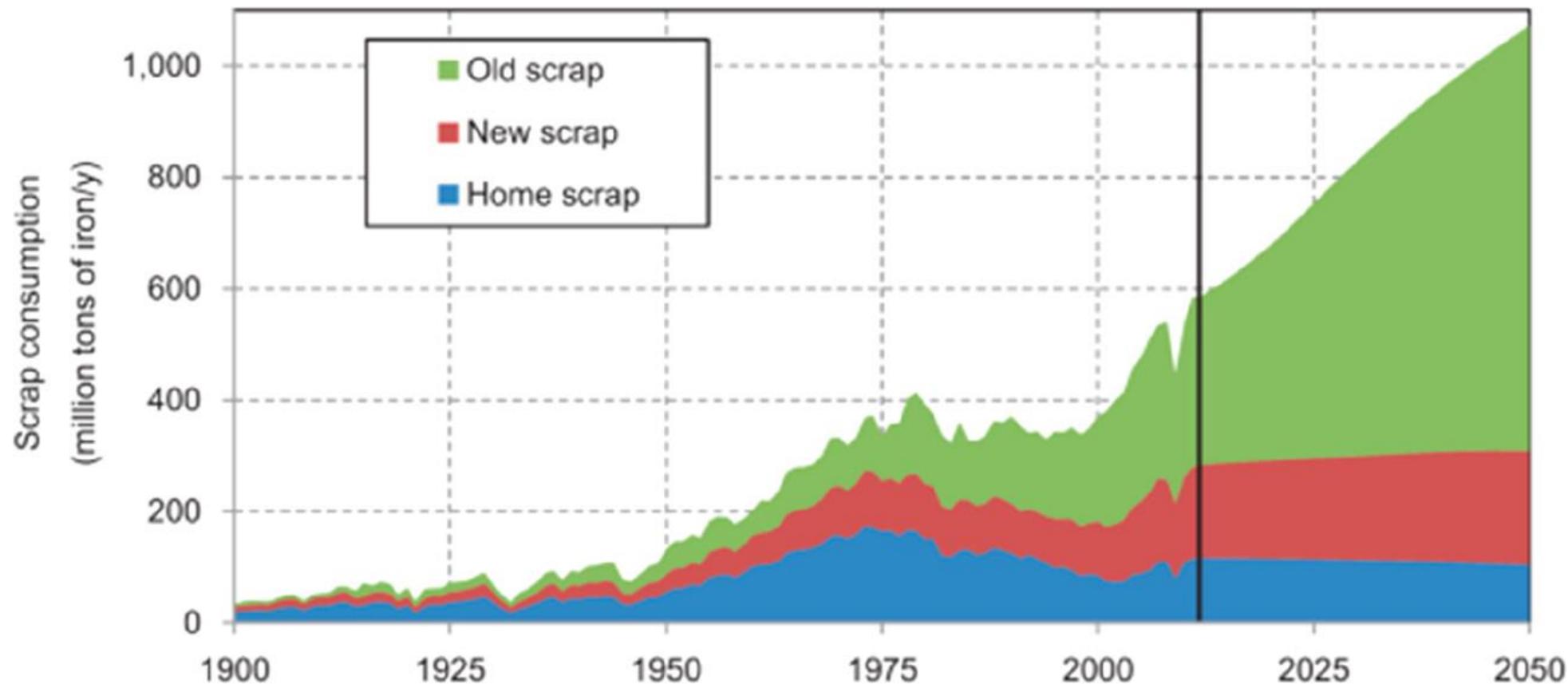


What about the future?.

“Greener” technologies

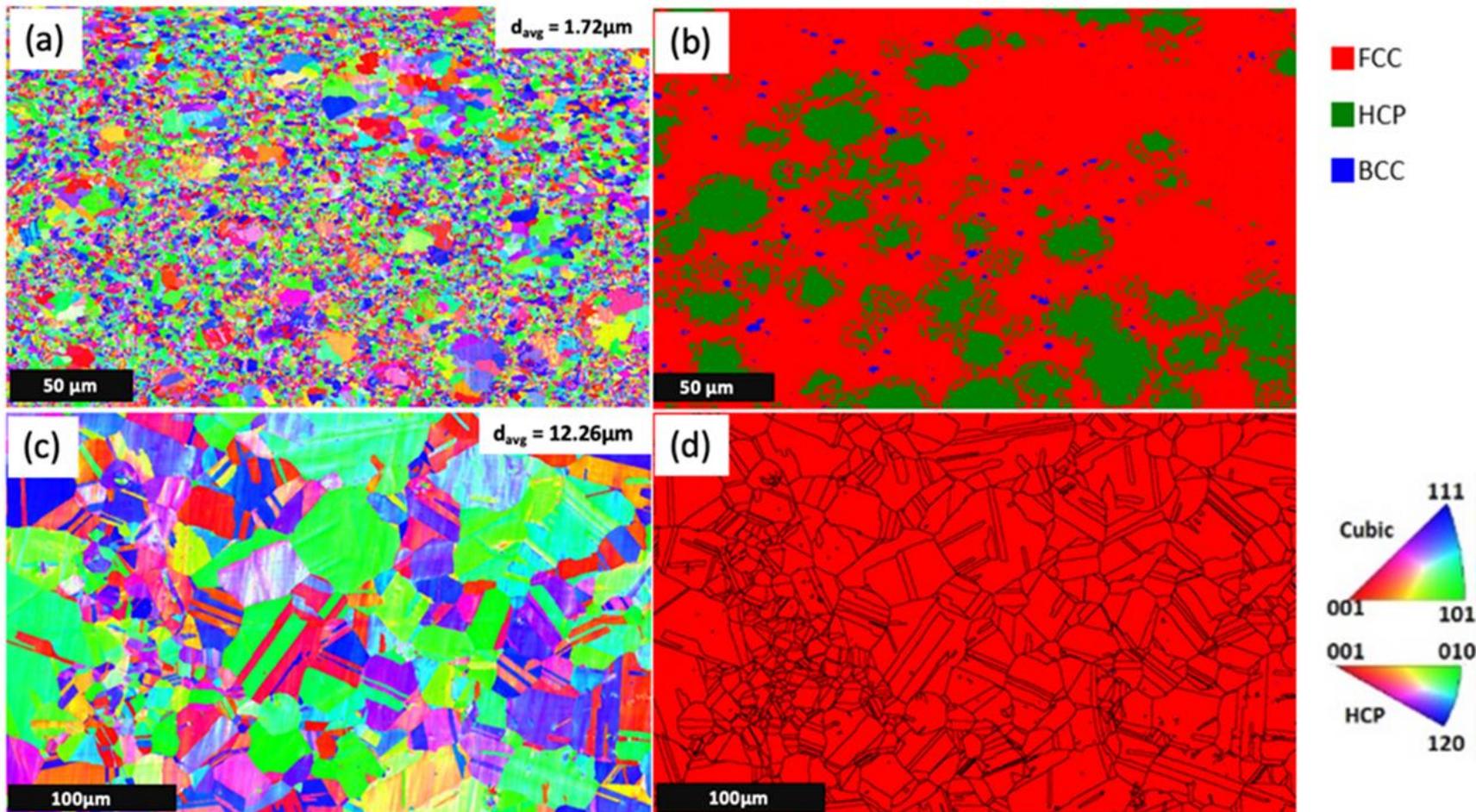
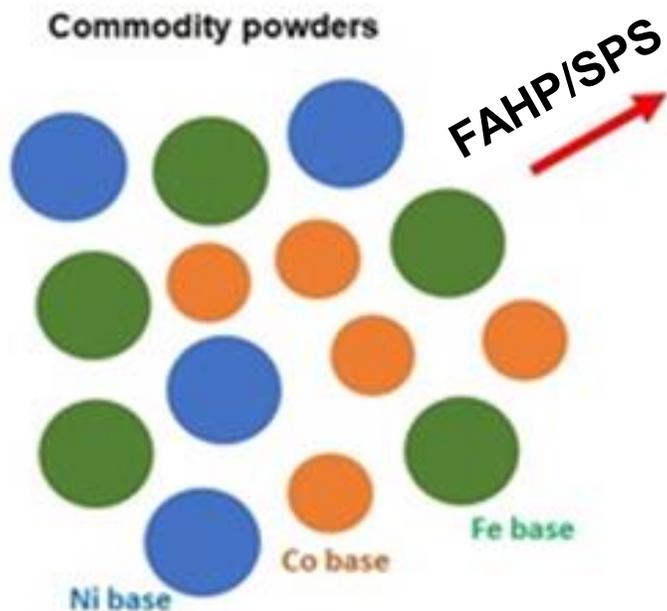
Recycling

Recycling



Recycling

High-Entropy Alloys: recycling philosophy



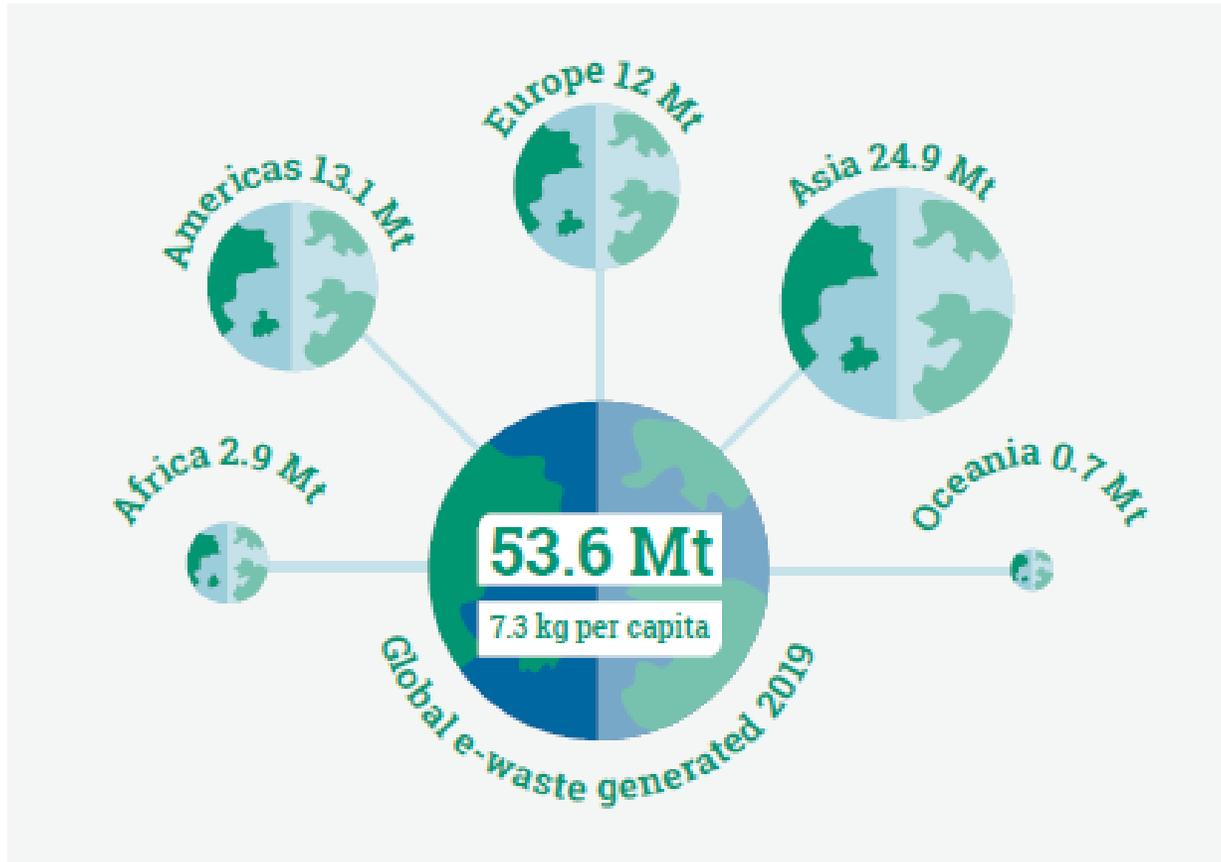
What about the future?.

“Greener” technologies

Recycling

Urban mining and e-waste mining

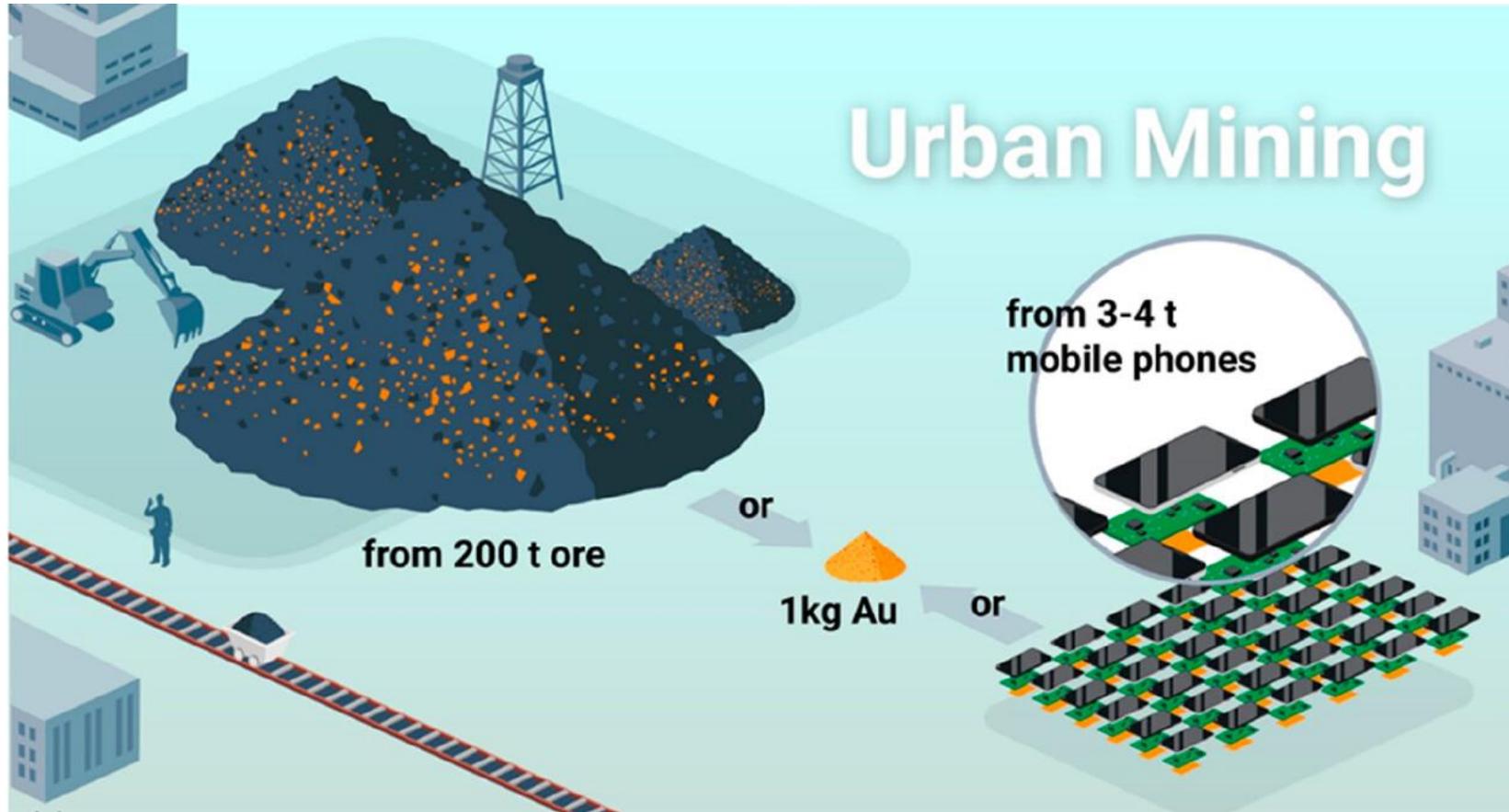
Urban mining and e-waste mining



On average, the total weight (excluding photovoltaic panels) of global EEE consumption increases annually by 2.5 million metric tons (Mt).

In 2019, the formal documented collection and recycling was 9.3 Mt, thus 17.4% compared to e-waste generated.

Urban mining and e-waste mining



Hagelüken, C.; Corti, C. W. Recycling of Gold from Electronics: Cost-Effective Use through “Design for Recycling.”. *Gold Bull.* 2010, 43, 209–220.

Park, Y. J.; Fray, D. J. Recovery of High Purity Precious Metals from Printed Circuit Boards. *J. Hazard. Mater.* 2009, 164, 1152–1158.

What about the future?.

“Greener” technologies

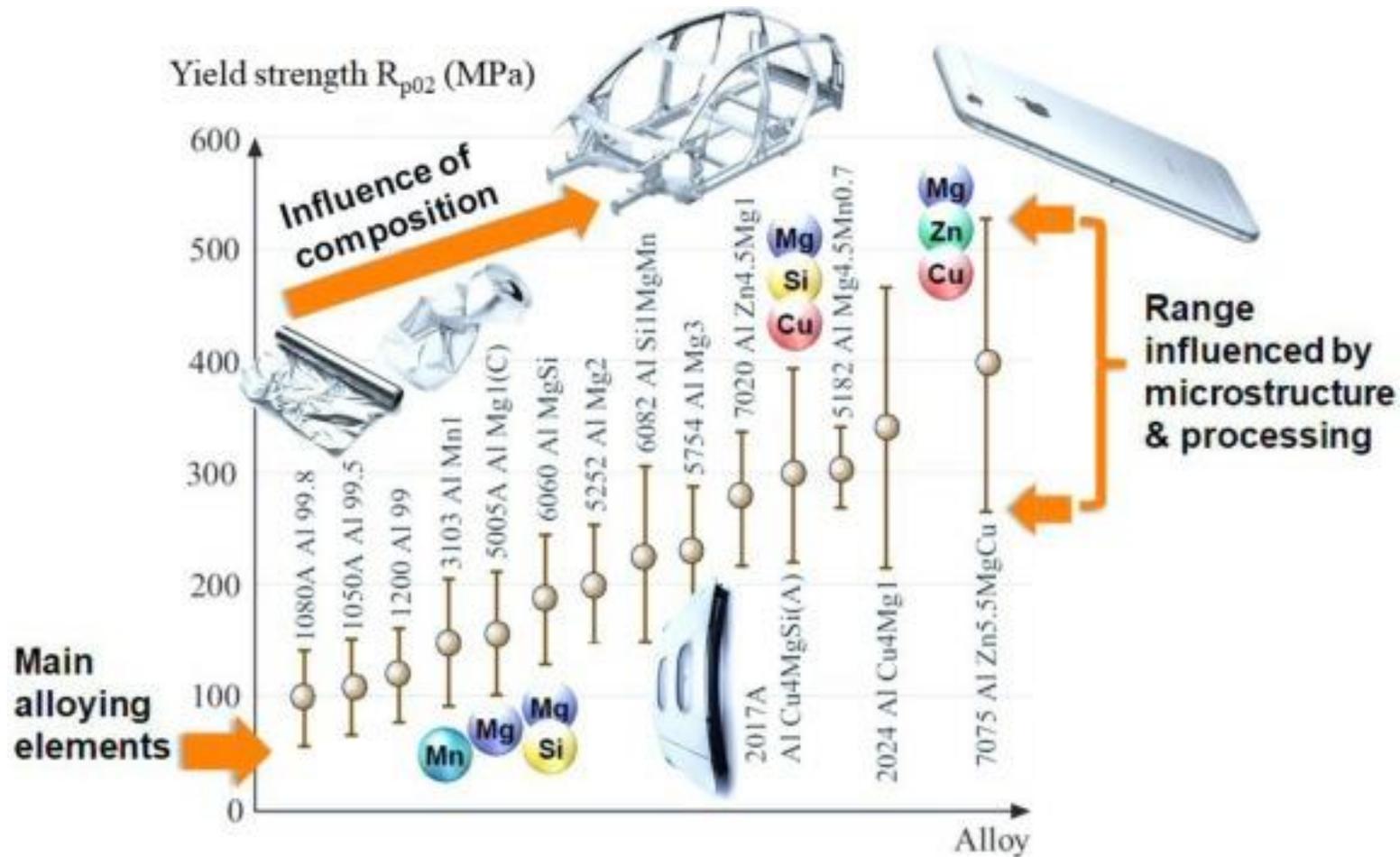
Recycling

Urban mining and e-waste mining

Sustainable alloy concept

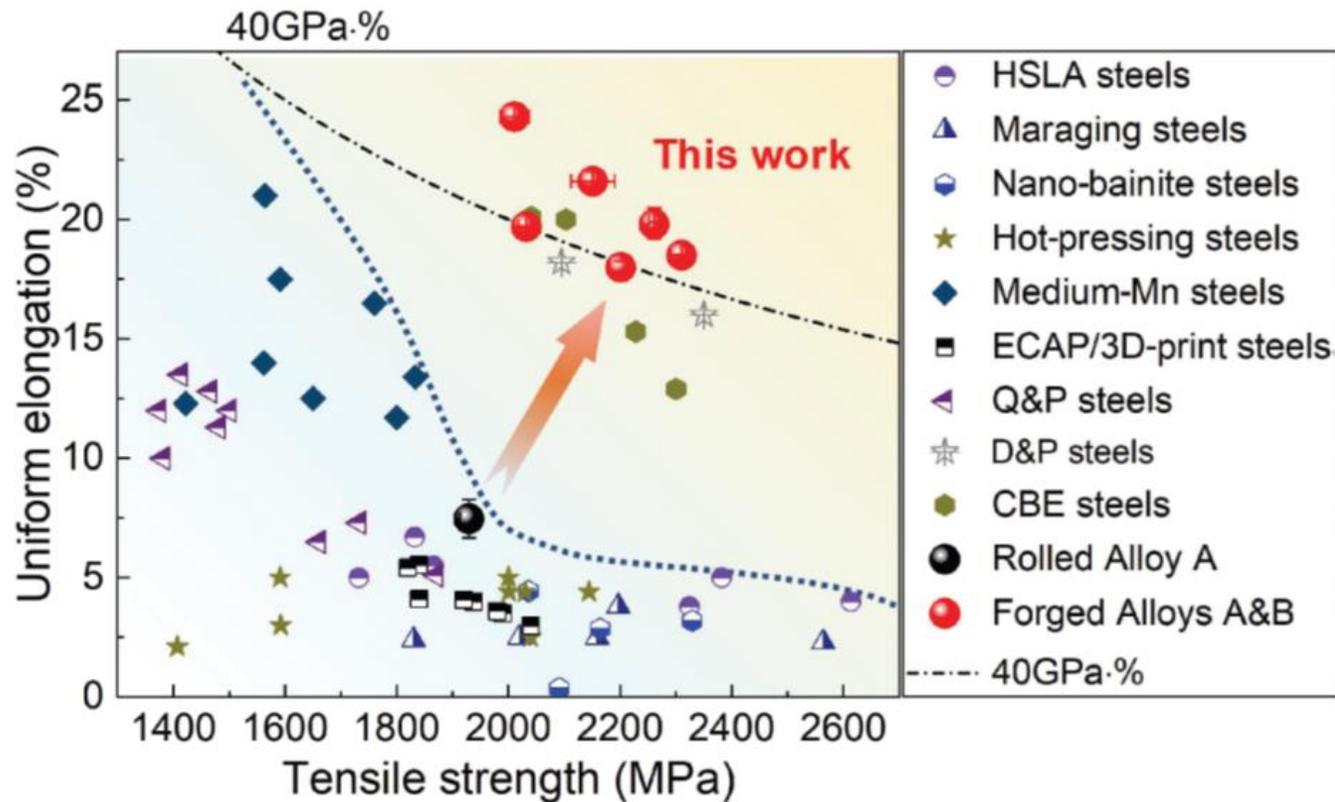
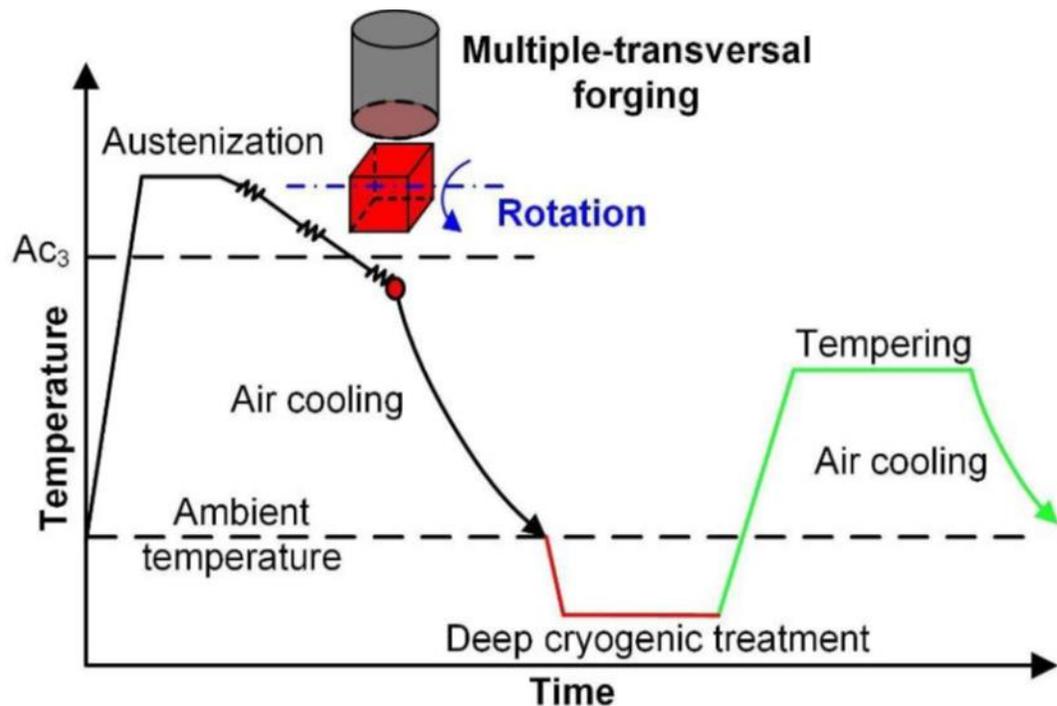
Sustainable alloy concept

Microstructure-Oriented versus Composition-Oriented Alloy Design



Sustainable alloy concept

Fe-7.4Mn-0.34C-1Si-0.2V wt %



What about the future?.

“Greener” technologies

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Sustainable alloy concept

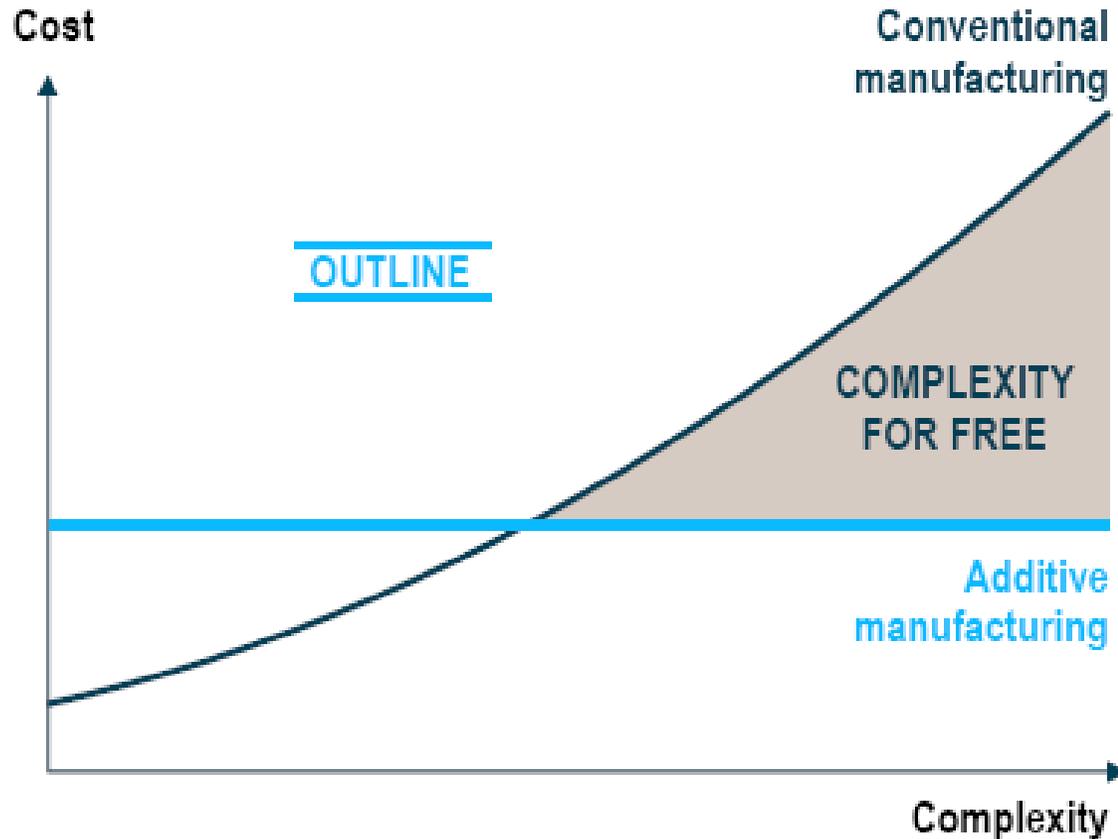
Sustainable technologies

Sustainable technologies

3D printing

Complexity for free

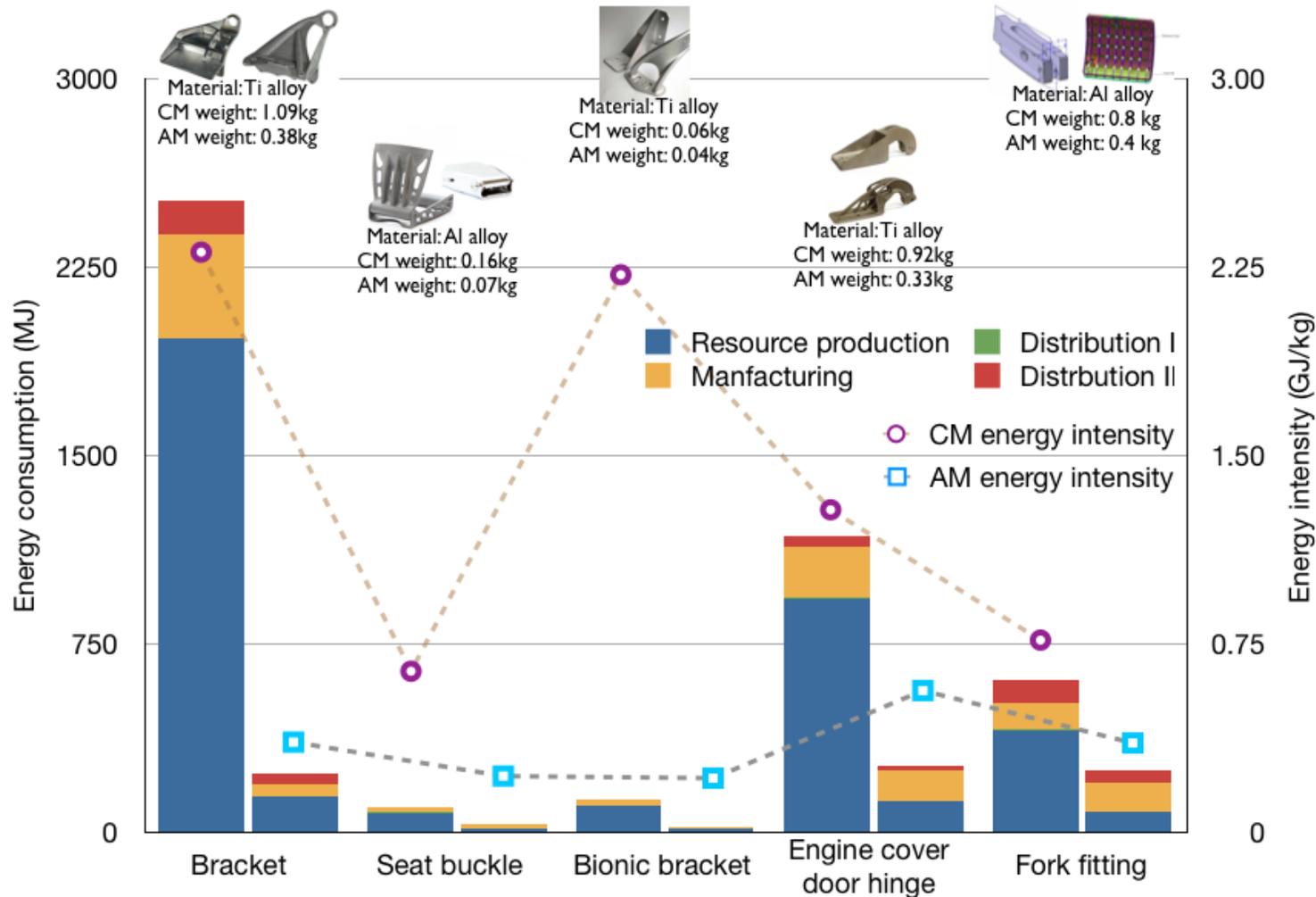
AM enables new geometric shapes...



... at NO ADDITIONAL COST

Sustainable technologies

3D printing



Cradle to gate primary energy results for case study components

Sustainable technologies

3D printing

Weight reduction

- ✓ Less material.
- ✓ Reduced waste.
- ✓ Less energy consumption during transport.

TRADITIONAL DESIGN

Source: SAVING project



- > A conventional steel buckle weights 155 g¹⁾
- > Weight should be reduced on a like-for-like basis within the SAVING project
- > Project partners are Plunkett Associates, Crucible Industrial Design, EOS, 3T PRD, Simpleware, Delcam, University of Exeter

AM OPTIMIZED DESIGN

Source: SAVING project



- > Titanium buckle designed with AM weighs 70 g – reduction of 55%
- > For an Airbus 380 with all economy seating (853 seats), this would mean a reduction of 72.5 kg
- > Over the airplane's lifetime, 3.3 million liters of fuel or approx. EUR 2 m could be saved, assuming a saving of 45,000 liters per kg and airplane lifetime

Sustainable technologies

3D printing

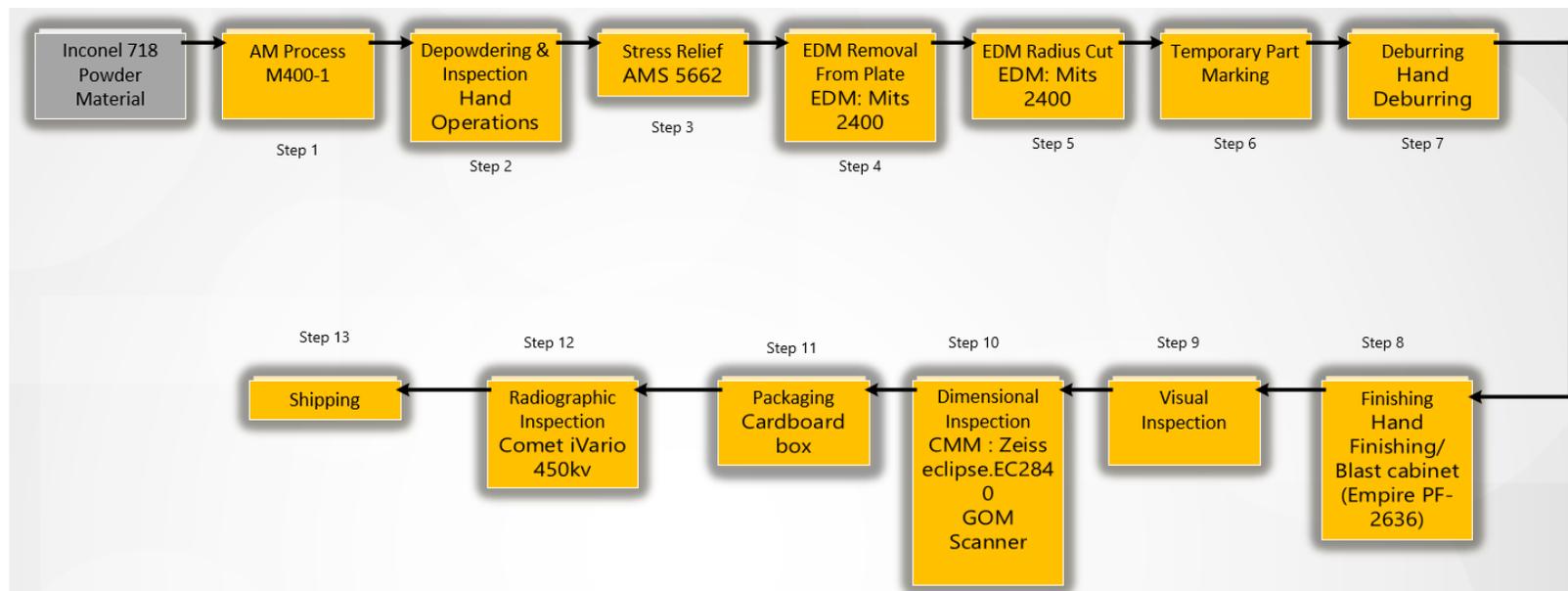
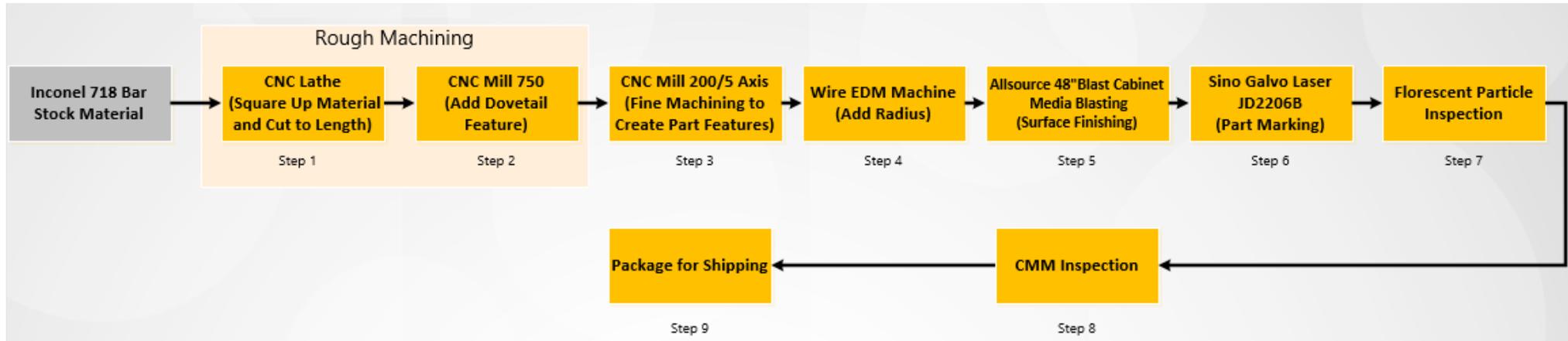
Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) Report: Comparative LCA of a Low-Pressure Turbine (LPT) Bracket by Two Manufacturing Methods
Golisano Institute for Sustainability Rochester Institute of Technology (March 28, 2023)



Traditional version (left) and AM-designed bracket (right).

Sustainable technologies

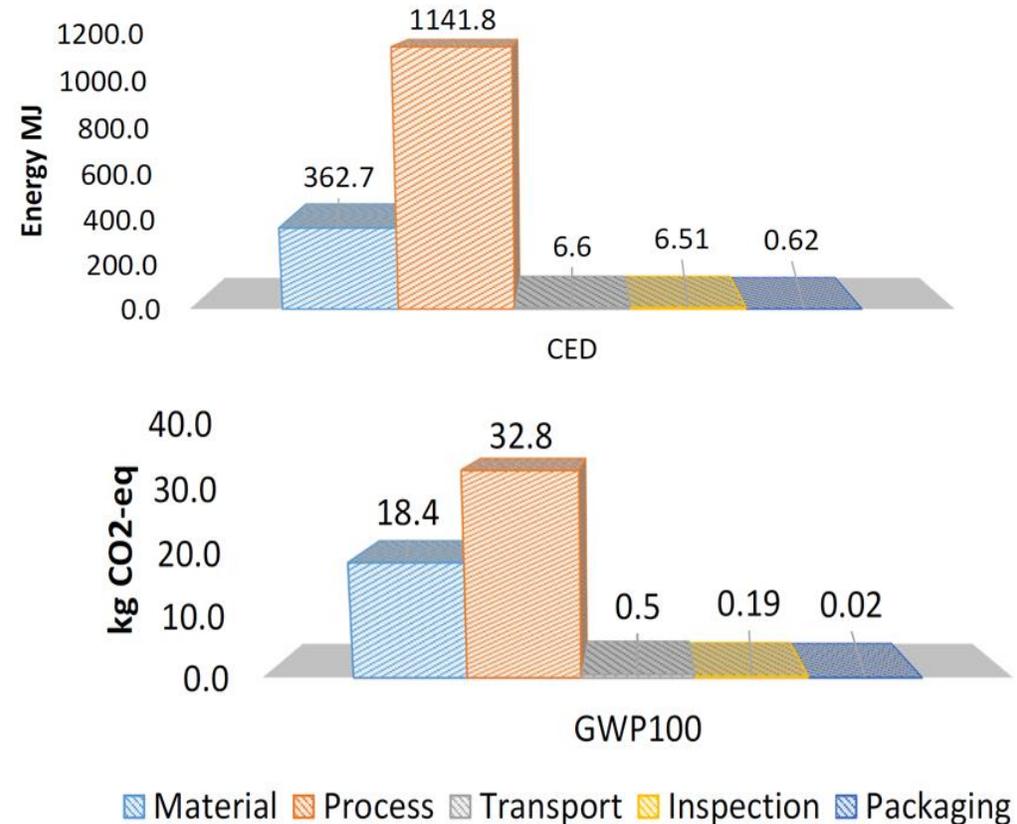
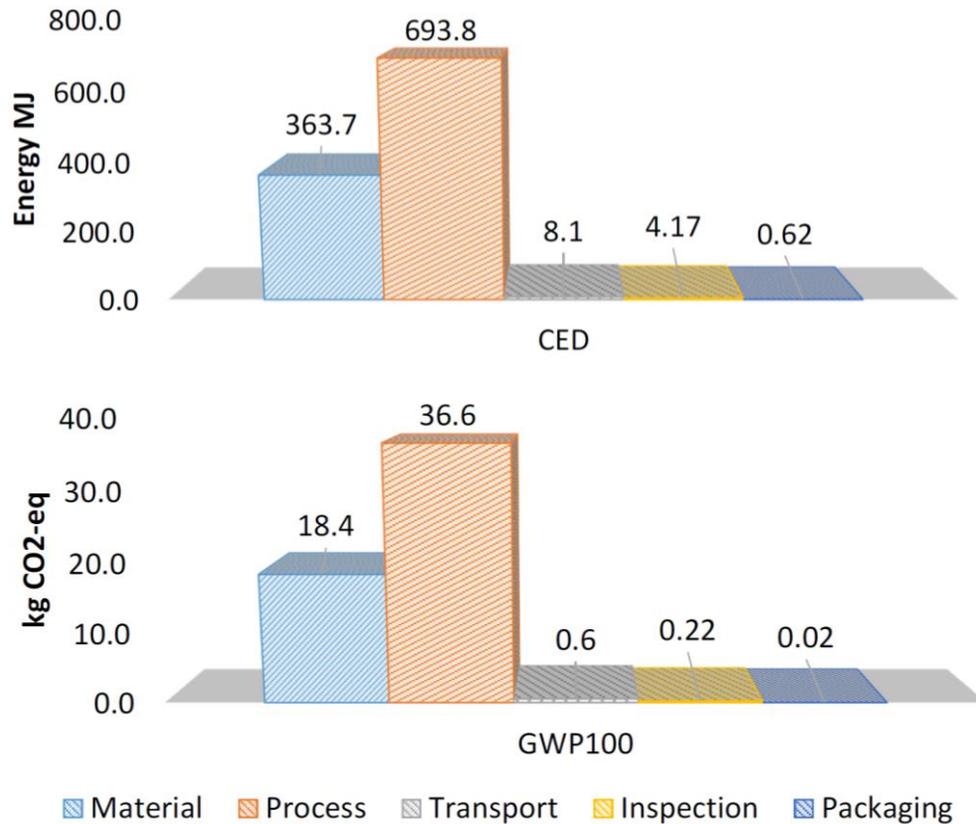
3D printing



Sustainable technologies

3D printing

Energy and emissions impact



Additive manufacturing

Traditional manufacturing

Sustainable technologies

3D printing

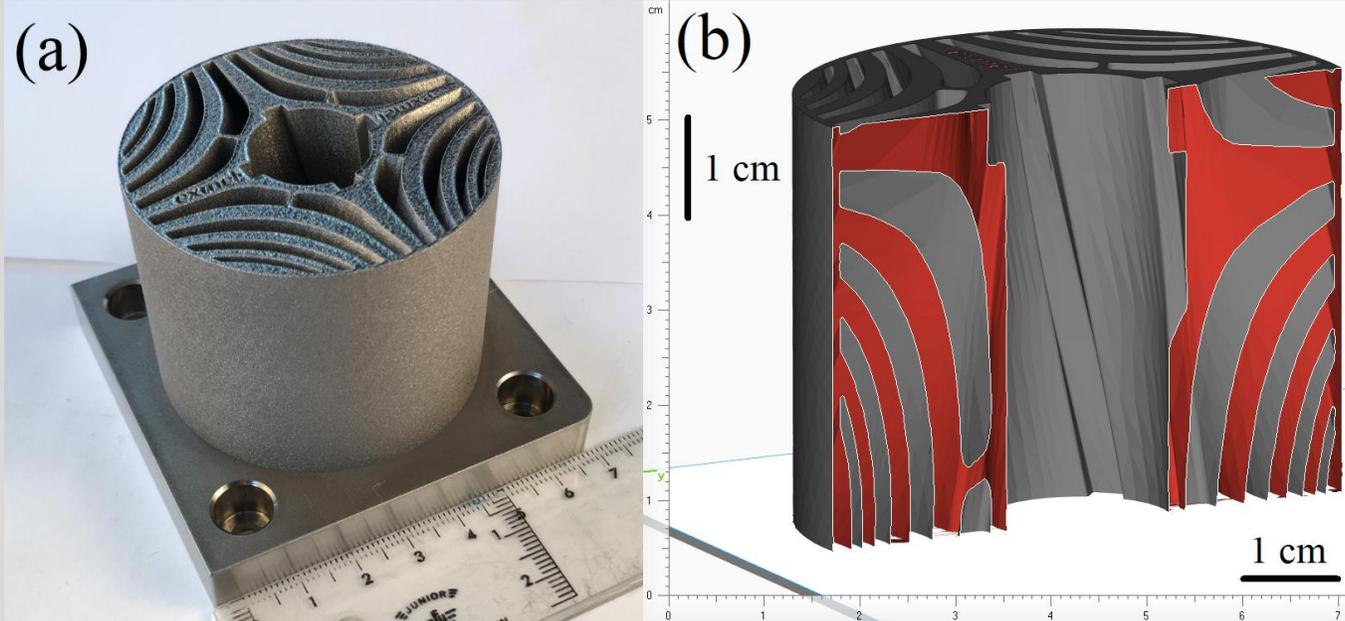
Conclusions of the CA Report:

Analysis of an AM-made bracket's use phase relied on a model of a long-haul Boeing-767 flight from London to Boston. We discovered through this simulation that **a lighter weight version of the conventional LPT bracket would, over the course of the aircraft's lifetime, significantly lower its overall fuel consumption.** The reduction in fuel use over that period would offset about 20,225 kg CO₂-eq through the lightweighted design.

This investigation found that **the sustainability benefits** of a lighter airplane that could be attributed to 24 LPT brackets—each weighing 51.6 percent less than the conventional versions—**were more than enough to counterbalance those of the parts' cradle-to-gate life cycle.** And AM presents a unique pathway for reducing the mass of products, which will lower costs, emissions, and other impacts purely through the use of less material.

Sustainable technologies

3D printing of efficient e-motors



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Selective laser melting of a Fe-Si-Cr-B-C-based complex-shaped amorphous soft-magnetic electric motor rotor with record dimensions

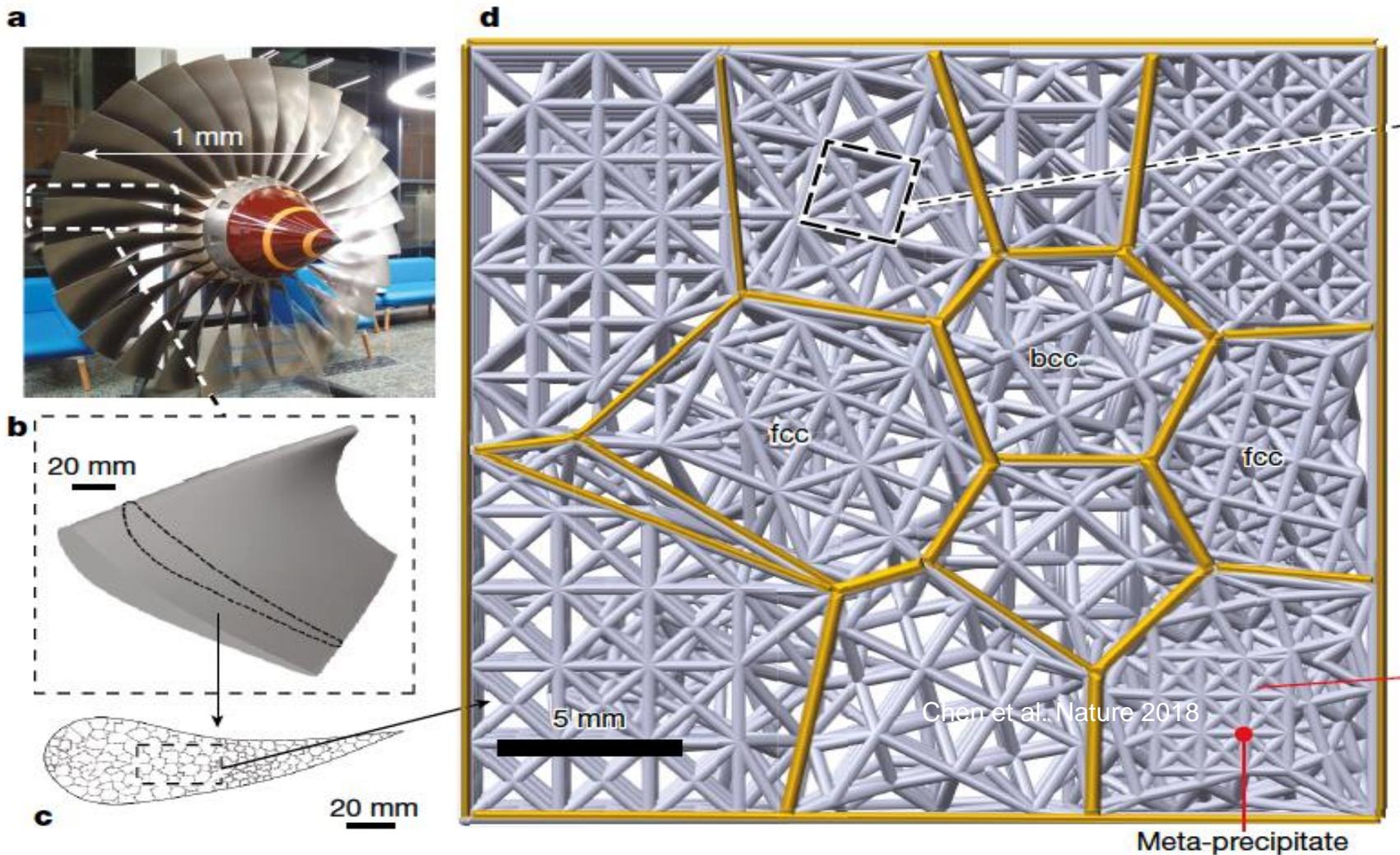
Lena Thorsson^a, Mattias Unosson^a, María Teresa Pérez-Prado^b, Xueze Jin^b, Paola Tiberto^c, Gabriele Barrera^c, Bastian Adam^d, Nico Neuber^d, Amirhossein Ghavimi^d, Maximilian Frey^d, Ralf Busch^d, Isabella Gallino^{d,*}

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Sustainable technologies

3D Printing of ultralight structures



Sustainable technologies

3D printing in aerospace

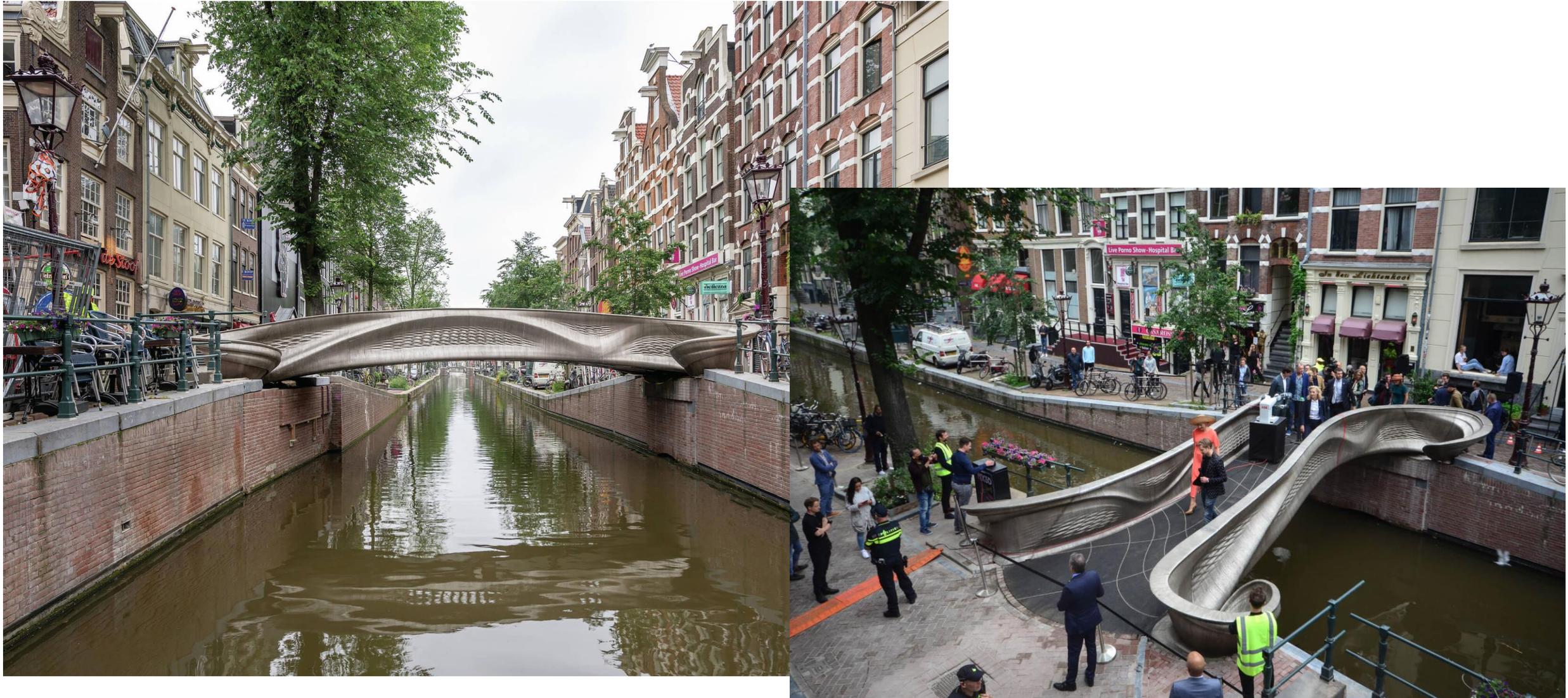


ITP Aero desingn and manufacture a main structure of a new
airplane engine UltraFan® through SLM

19/10/2021

Sustainable technologies

3D printing in architecture



What about the future?.

“Greener” technologies

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Sustainable alloy concept

Sustainable technologies

Sustainable Metallurgy

- Metallurgy (what is this?).
- Metallurgy in the past.
- Metallurgy today, through some numbers
- Some of the problems metallurgy faces today as a result of its success
- Tools available for metallurgy today.
- What about the future?.
- **Some final remarks.**

Some final remarks:

- **Metallurgy has been a substantial part of mankind's development. Without Metallurgy, there would never have been the technological breakthroughs that have led to our current development as a society.**
- **Metallurgy, as an industry, is responsible for producing the largest volume of raw materials necessary for the functioning of our society, in particular through the production of steel.**
- **And this need for raw materials (their acquisition and transformation), necessary in the main economic sectors, puts in the hands of the metallurgical industry the need to solve two major problems:**
 - **The need to reduce the consumption of critical materials.**
 - **The need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.**
- **But Metallurgy today has the resources to look to the future and solve these problems with solvency:**
 - **Advanced characterization tools.**
 - **Modelling.**
 - **Artificial intelligence, machine learning**

Some final remarks:

Establishing the paths that will allow us to move towards concepts of **sustainable metallurgy**.

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Prof. Dirk Raabe (Max-Planck-Institut für Eisenforschung)



Thank you!

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