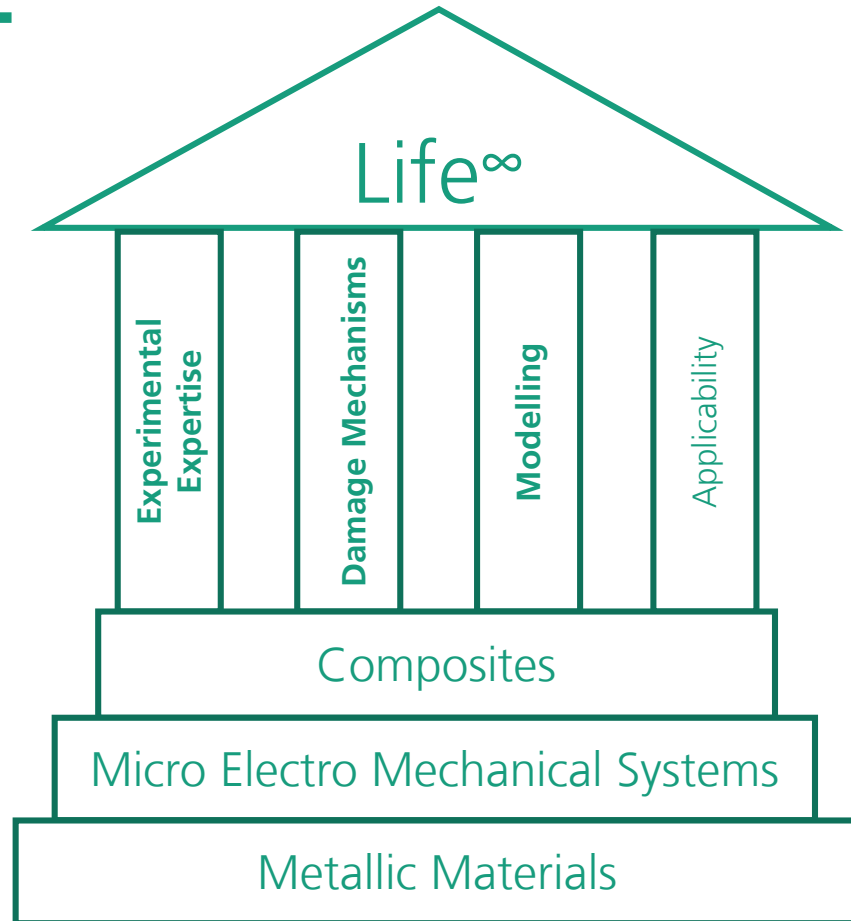




Time shortened fatigue testing for identifying critical process parameters – benefits and limitations

M. Zimmermann, S. Schettler
60 Years RUMUL Symposium
Diessenhofen / Switzerland

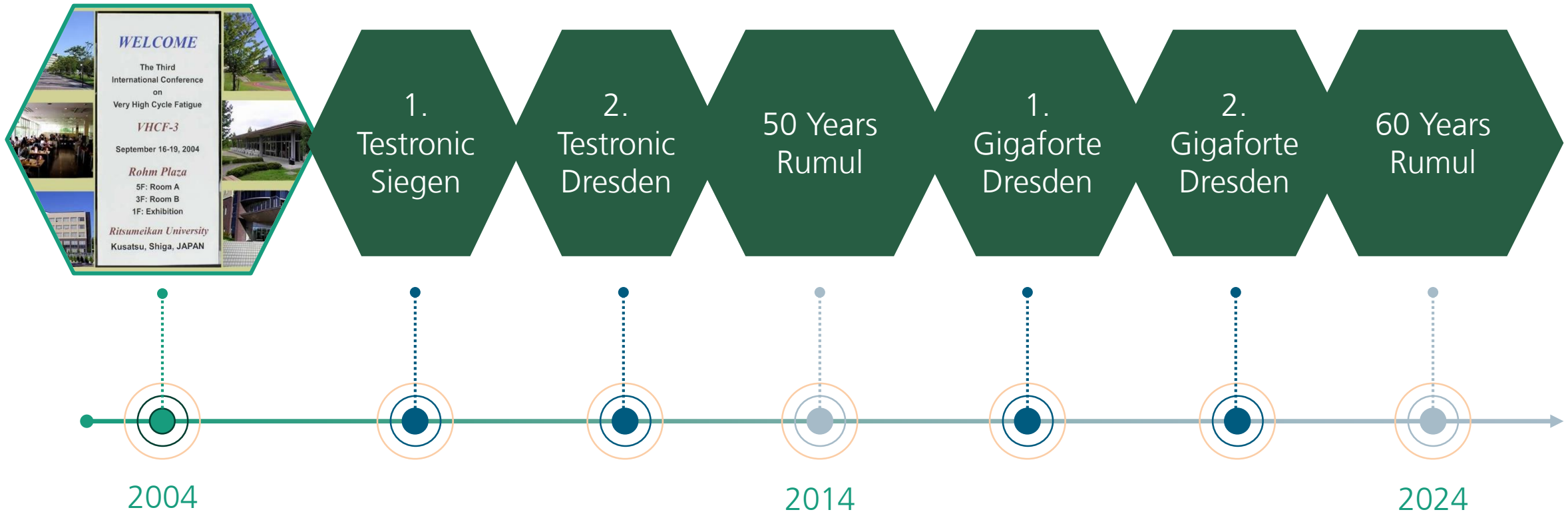
My „Lovestory“ with Rumul



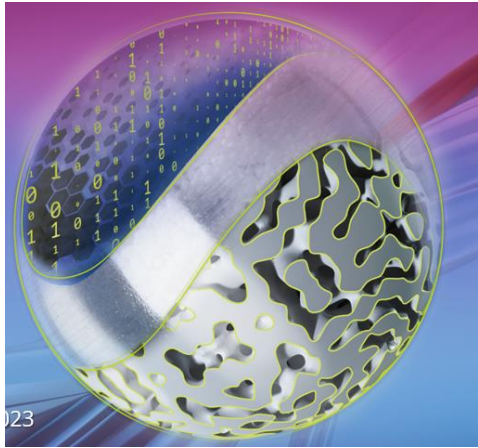
Duration 2010 – 2016 (2019)

- 16 projects were funded (including a total of 25 participants)
- Steel: 8 projects,
- Non-ferrous metals: 2 project,
- MEMS: 1 project,
- Composites: 4 projects,
- Coordination: 1 project

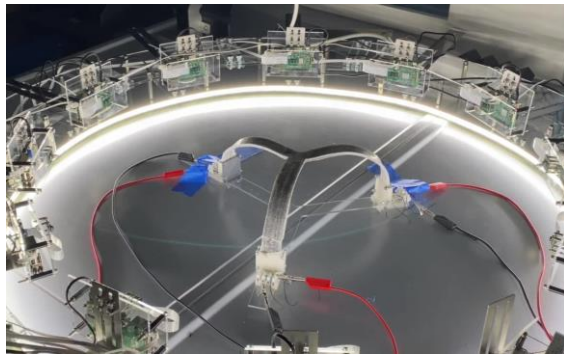
My „Lovestory“ with Rumul



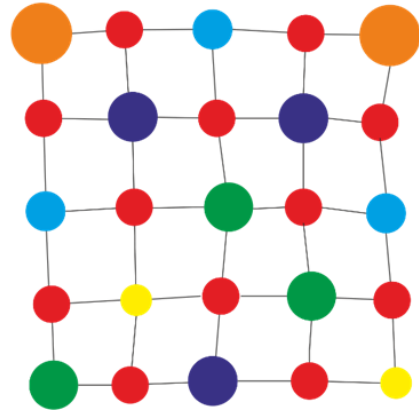
Activities at TU Dresden



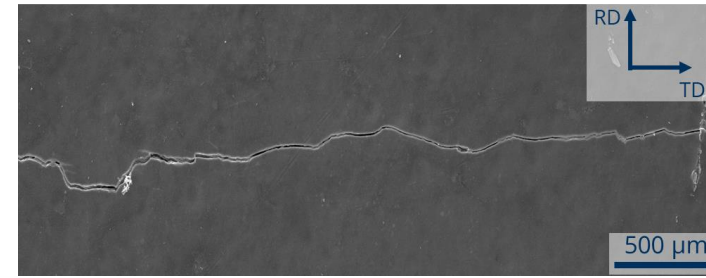
Data-driven design of metamaterials



Interactive fibre elastomers

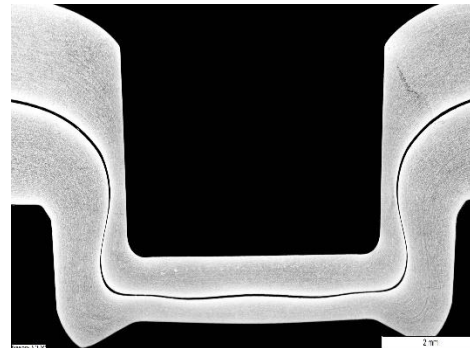


Coatings based on High Entropy Alloys

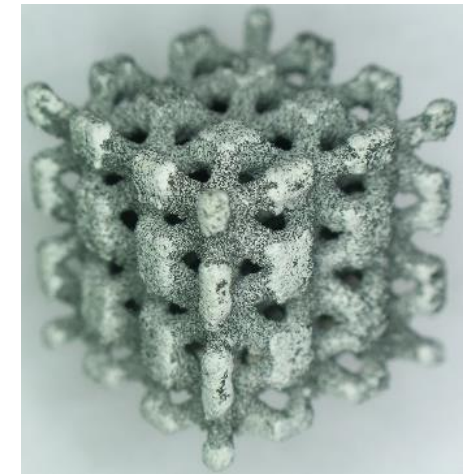


Fatigue Crack Growth in Mg-Alloys

financed by



Fatigue of clinched joints



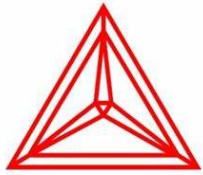
Triply Periodic Minimal Surface Structures

Materials characterization and testing

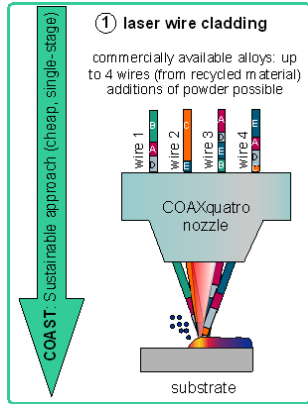
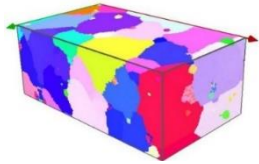
- Key competences and goals



„New“ materials: wood



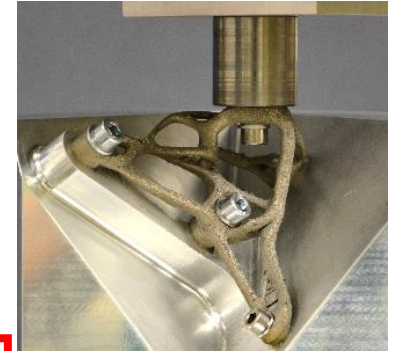
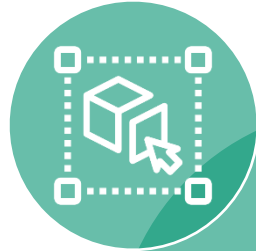
Thermo-Calc



Alloy Design

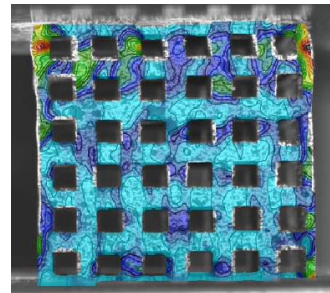
Material Design

Material Reliability



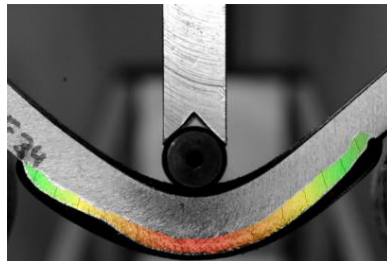
High Frequency Fatigue

B-D-Reconstruction



Implants

Coatings



In-situ deformation



Digitalization



© Youtube: DiWan

Digitalization of the laboratory

Materials Testing

Equipment: High Frequency Fatigue Testing

Ultrasonic Fatigue Test Equipment



$$F_{\max} < R_e$$
$$f \approx 20 \text{ kHz}$$

1000Hz - resonance pulsation test bench



$$F_{\max} = 50 \text{ kN}$$
$$f \approx 1000 \text{ Hz}$$

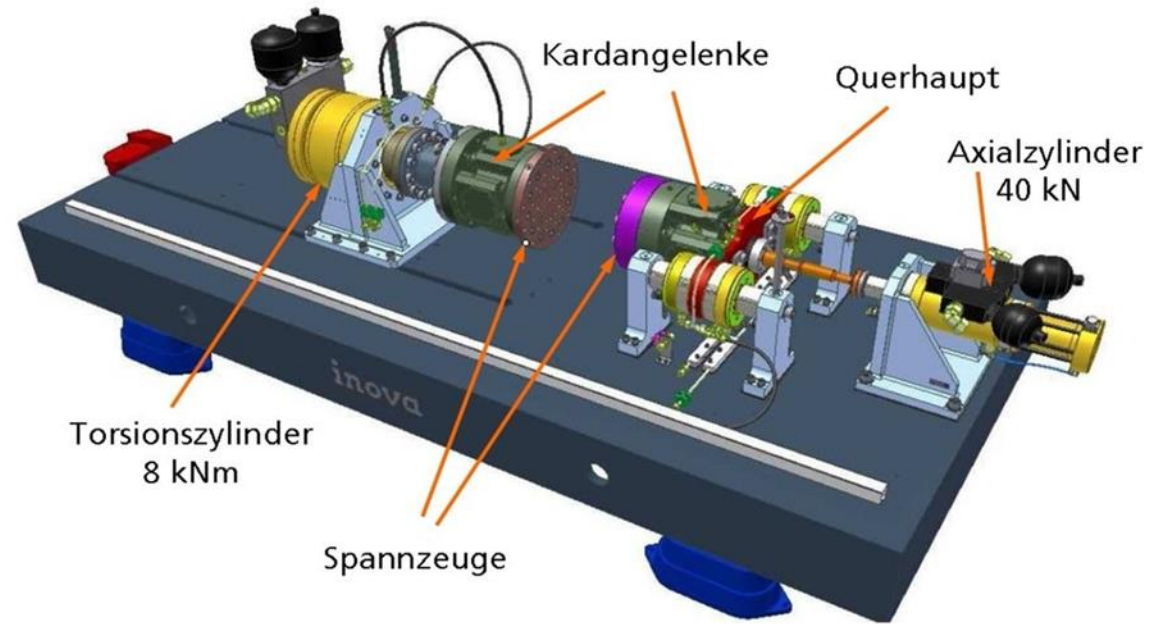
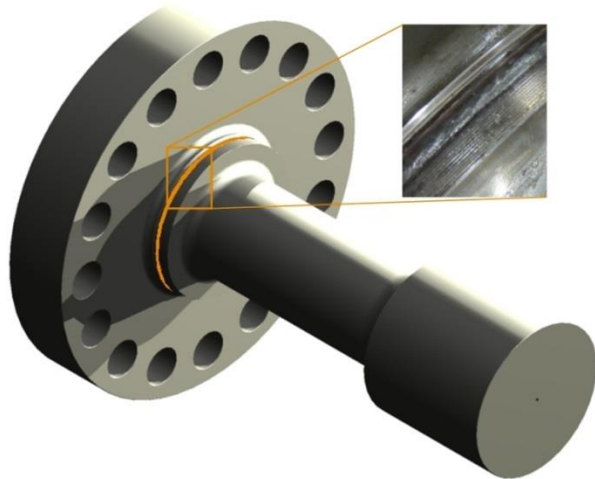
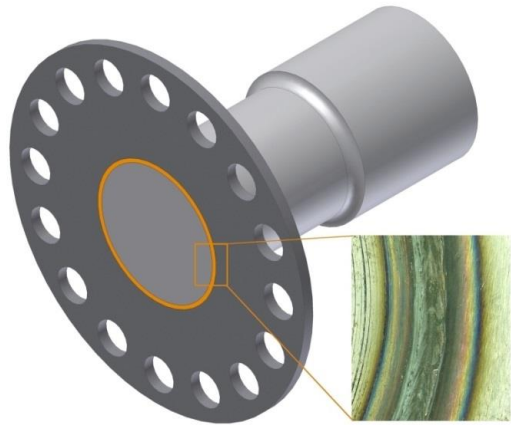
resonance pulsation test bench



$$F_{\max} = 100 \text{ kN}$$
$$f \approx 50 - 200 \text{ Hz}$$

Materials Testing

Equipment: Multi-axial Testing



Activities at Fraunhofer IWS



PVD and Nanotechnology



Chemical Surface Technology



Additive Manufacturing and Surface Technology



Cutting and Joining



Materials Characterization and Testing



Optical Metrology

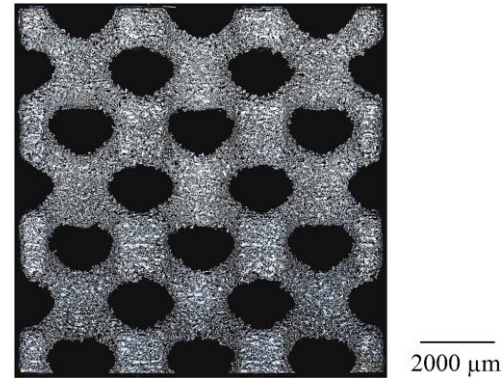
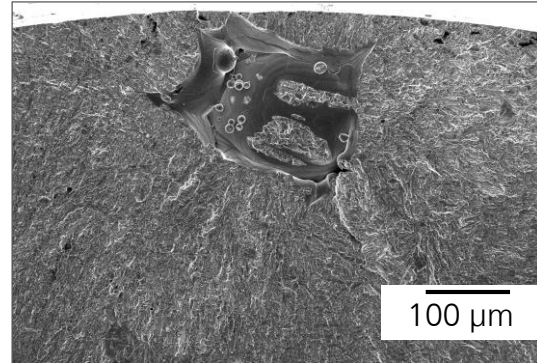
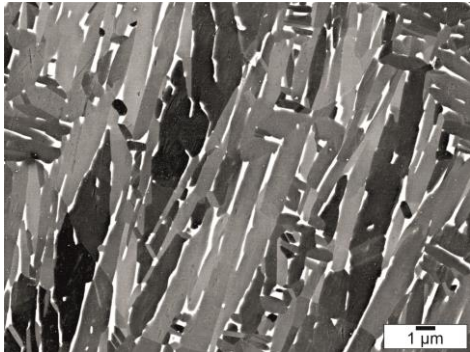
Any process influences the material condition and hence the fatigue behavior!

Notch effect

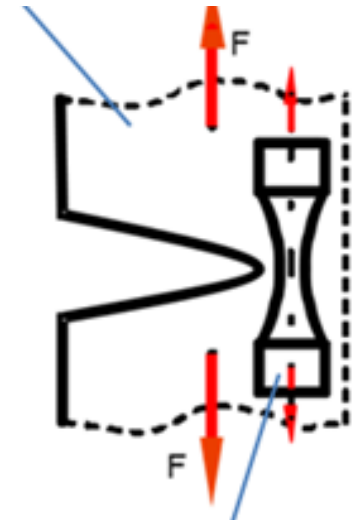
microscopic

mesoscopic

macroscopic



structure /
component

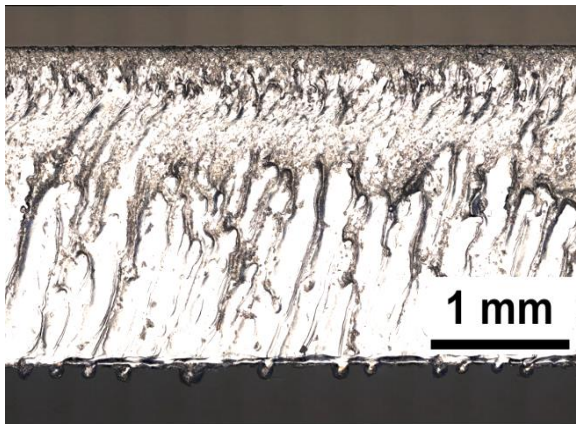


representative
material sample

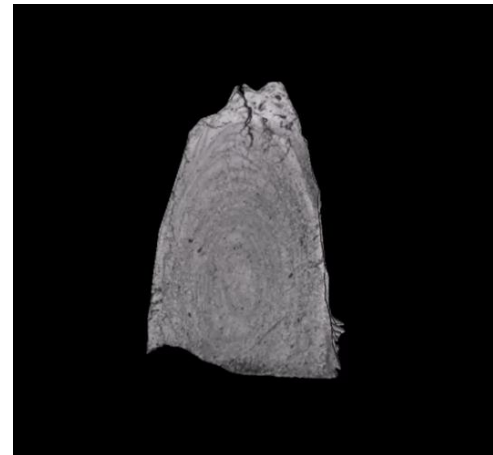
My sincere belief: A reliable fatigue prediction needs an understanding of the underlying damage mechanisms and accompanying statistical evaluations!

Laser assisted processing

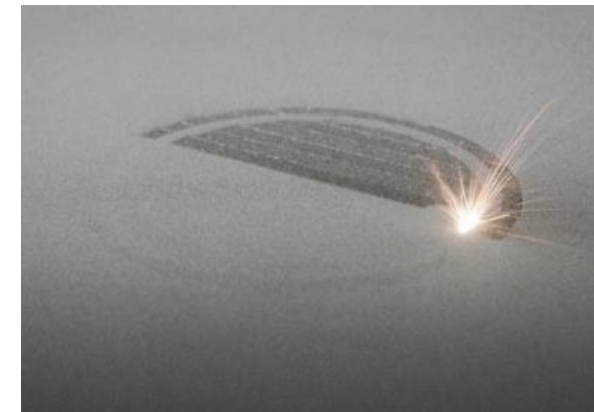
Cutting



Welding

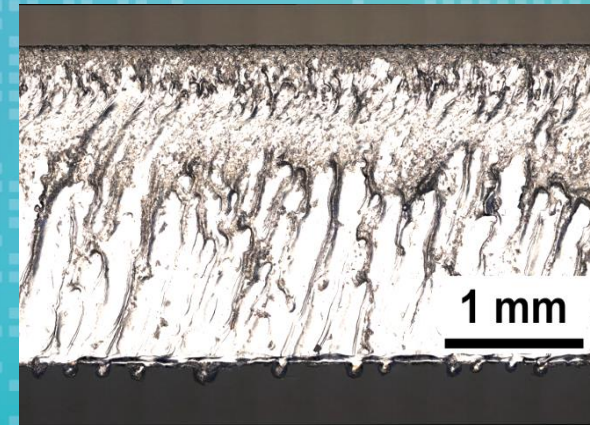


Additive
Manufacturing

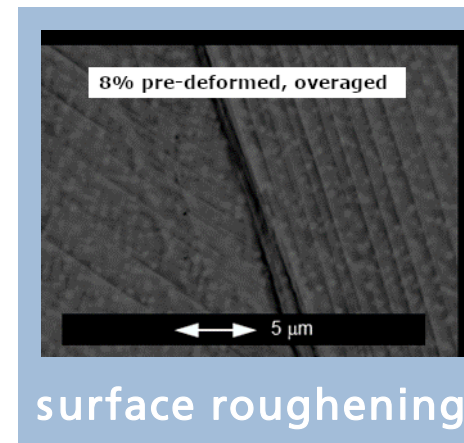
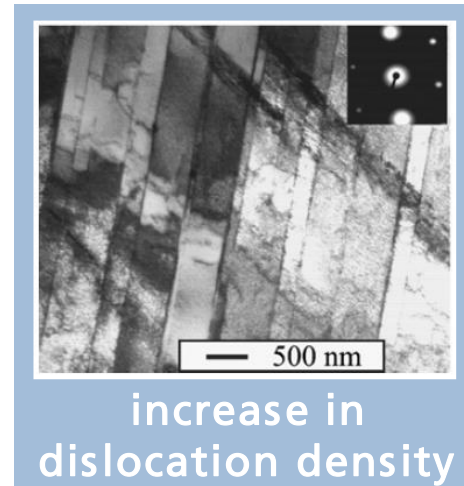
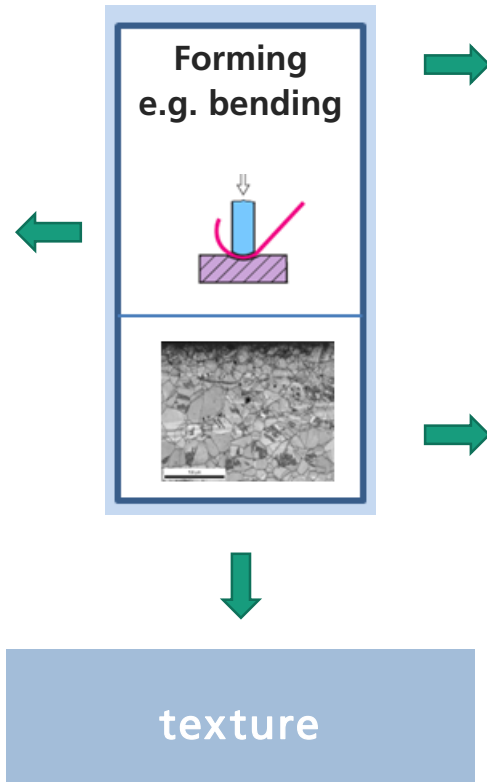
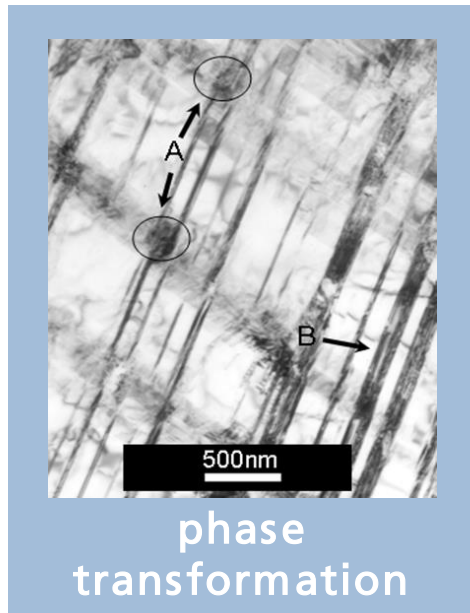


02

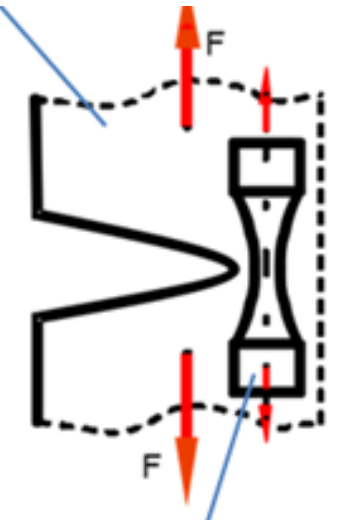
Influence of Laser Cutting



Process-related material condition: forming process

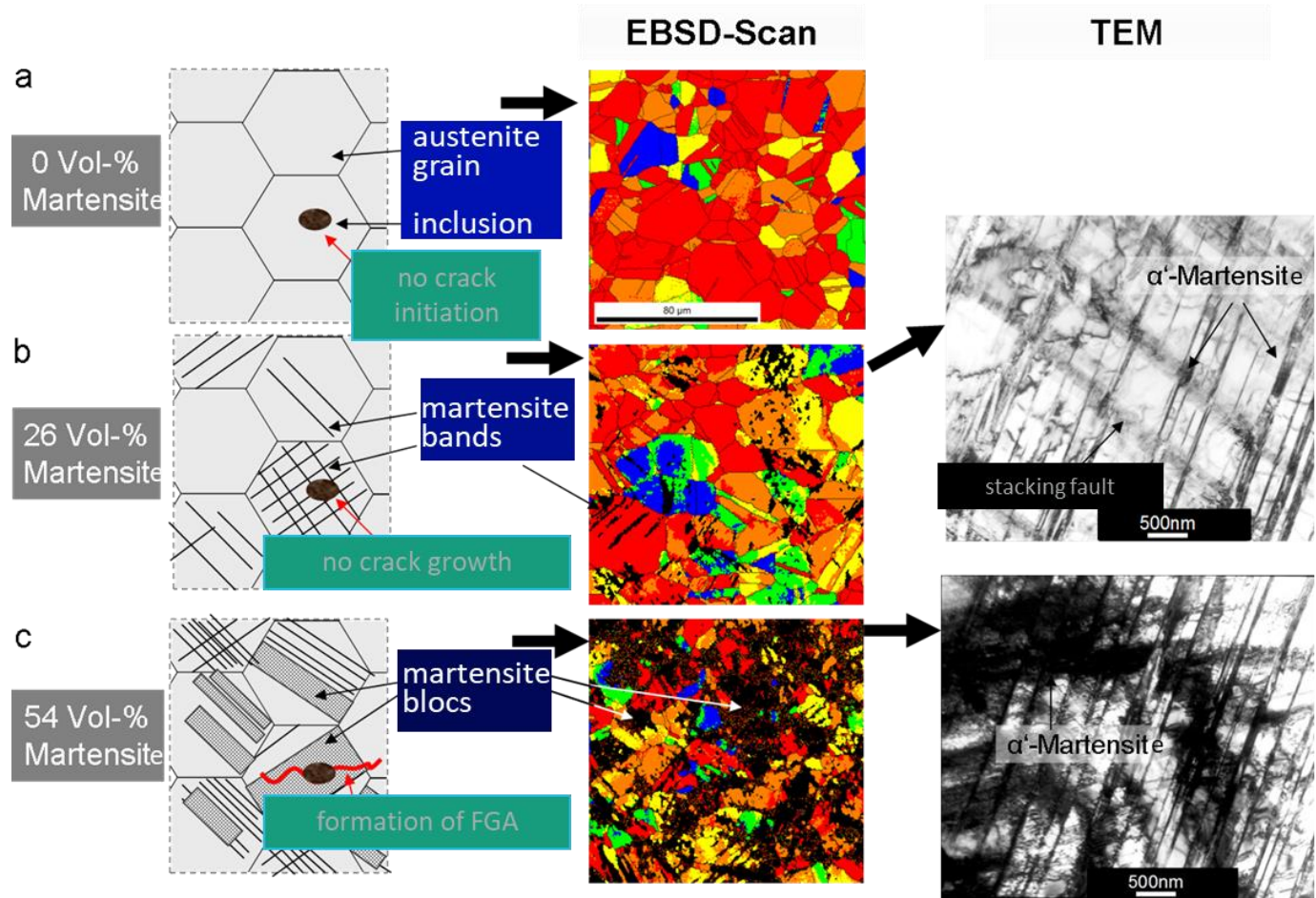


structure /
component

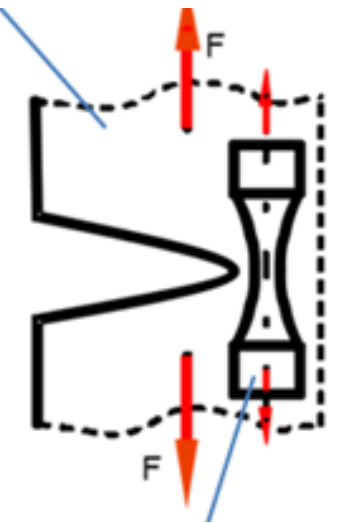


representative
material sample

Process-related material condition: forming process



structure / component



representative material sample

Process-related material condition: forming and cutting process

Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)



International Journal of Fatigue

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/ijfatigue



Very high cycle fatigue behaviour of austenitic stainless steel and the effect of strain-induced martensite

C. Müller-Bollenhagen^a, M. Zimmermann, H.-J. Christ
Institut für Werkstofftechnik, Universität Siegen, 57068 Siegen, Germany

Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)



International Journal of Fatigue

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/ijfatigue

Cyclic deformation behavior of austenitic Cr–Ni-steels in the VHCF regime: Part I – Experimental study

A.C. Grigorescu^{a,*}, P.-M. Hilgendorff^b, M. Zimmermann^c, C.-P. Fritzen^b, H.-J. Christ^a

^a Institut für Werkstofftechnik, Universität Siegen, Siegen 57068, Germany
^b Institut für Mechanik und Regelungstechnik – Mechatronik, Universität Siegen, Siegen 57068, Germany
^c Institut für Werkstoffwissenschaft, Technische Universität Dresden, 01062 Dresden, Germany

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International Journal of Fatigue

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/ijfatigue



Investigation of the influence of a two-step process chain consisting of laser cutting and subsequent forming on the fatigue behavior of AISI 304

Thomas Wanski^{a,*}, André T. Zeuner^a, Sebastian Schöne^a, Patrick Herwig^b, Achim Mahrle^b, Andreas Wetzig^b, Martina Zimmermann^{a,b}

^a Chair of Mechanics of Materials and Failure Analysis, Technische Universität Dresden, Dresden 01069, Germany
^b Fraunhofer Institute for Material and Beam Technology IWS, Dresden 01277, Germany



Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)



Engineering Fracture Mechanics

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/engfracmech



Influence of surface condition due to laser beam cutting on the fatigue behavior of metastable austenitic stainless steel AISI 304

D.F. Pessoa^{a,b,*}, P. Herwig^b, A. Wetzig^b, M. Zimmermann^{a,b}

^a Institut für Werkstoffwissenschaft, Technische Universität Dresden, 01069 Dresden, Germany
^b Fraunhofer-Institut für Werkstoff- und Strahltechnik IWS, 01277 Dresden, Germany



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International Journal of Fatigue

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/ijfatigue



Cyclic deformation behavior of austenitic Cr–Ni-steels in the VHCF regime: Part II – Microstructure-sensitive simulation

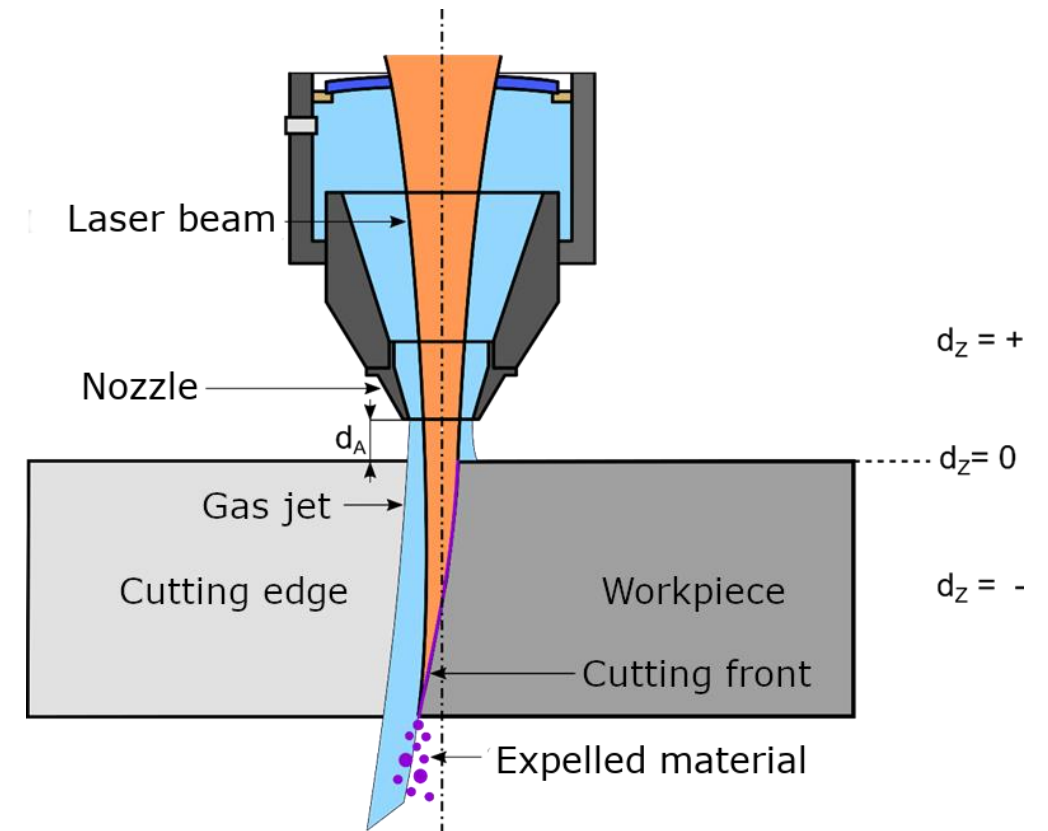
Philipp-Malte Hilgendorff^{a,*}, Andrei Cristian Grigorescu^b, Martina Zimmermann^c, Claus-Peter Fritzen^a, Hans-Jürgen Christ^b

^a Institut für Mechanik und Regelungstechnik – Mechatronik, Universität Siegen, Siegen 57068, Germany
^b Institut für Werkstofftechnik, Universität Siegen, Siegen 57068, Germany
^c Institut für Werkstoffwissenschaft, Technische Universität Dresden, Dresden 01062, Germany



Laser cutting

- The focused laser beam hits the workpiece and melts the material locally
- A gas jet coaxial with the laser beam expels the material
- Process parameters for cutting:
 - Laser power P_L
 - Gas pressure p_{gas}
 - Feed rate v
 - Focal position d_z
 - Working distance d_A
 - Nozzle diameter d_d



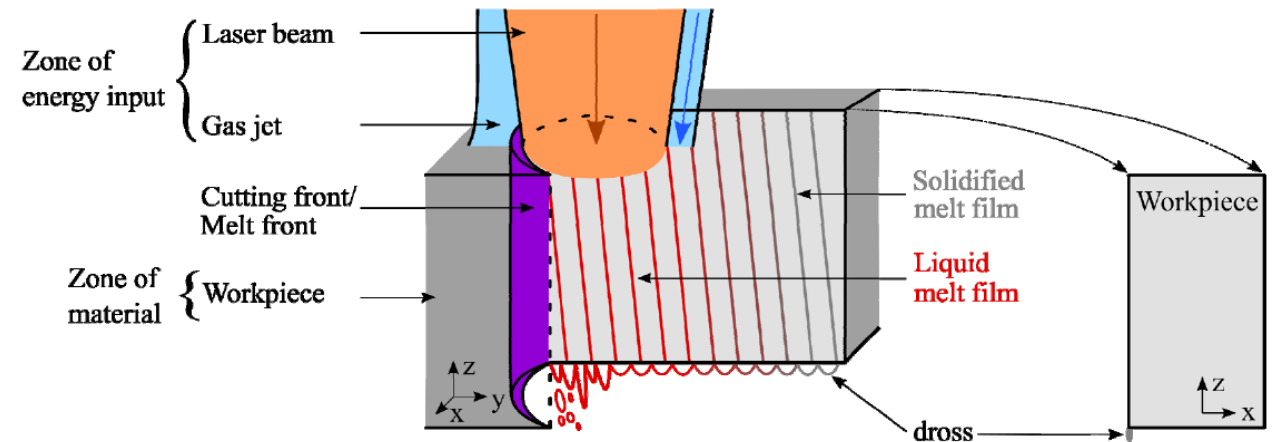
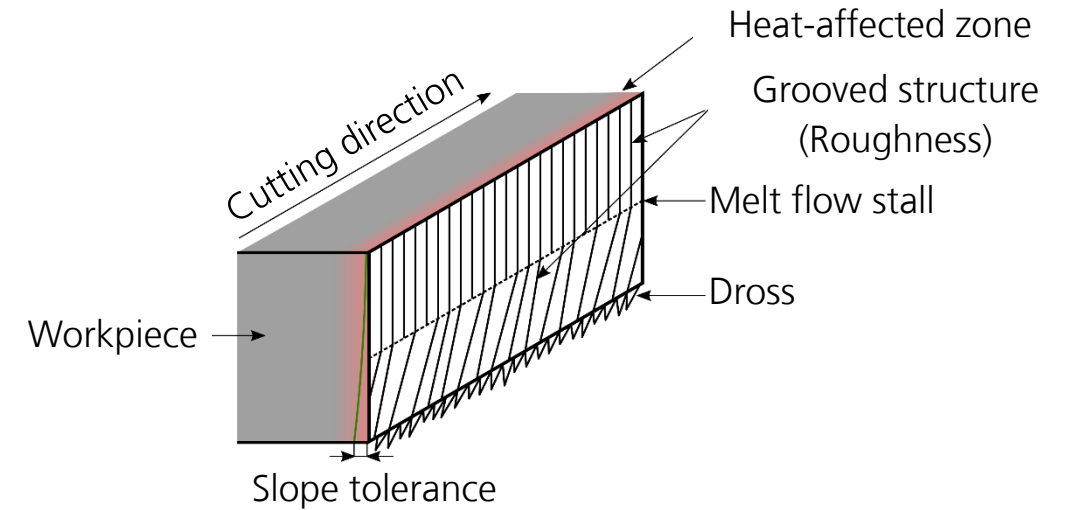
Laser cutting

Cutting edge phenomena

Cutting edge phenomena:

- Grooved structure (Roughness)
- Heat-affected zone
- Slope tolerance
- Melt flow stall
- Dross adhesion

The dross is created from the melt film
→ Influenced by the process parameters

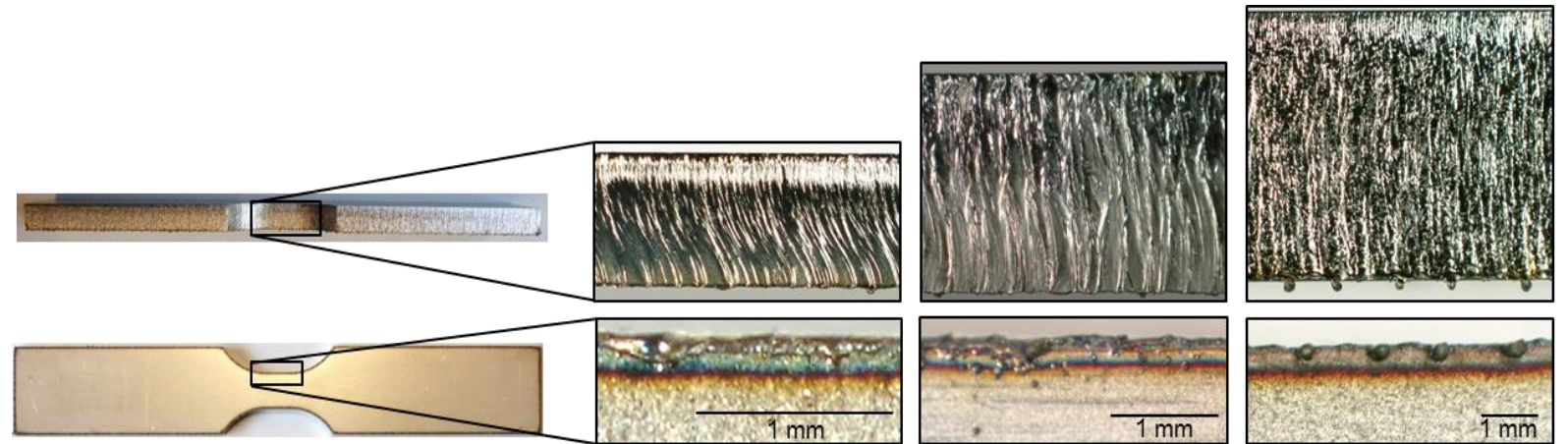


Laser cutting

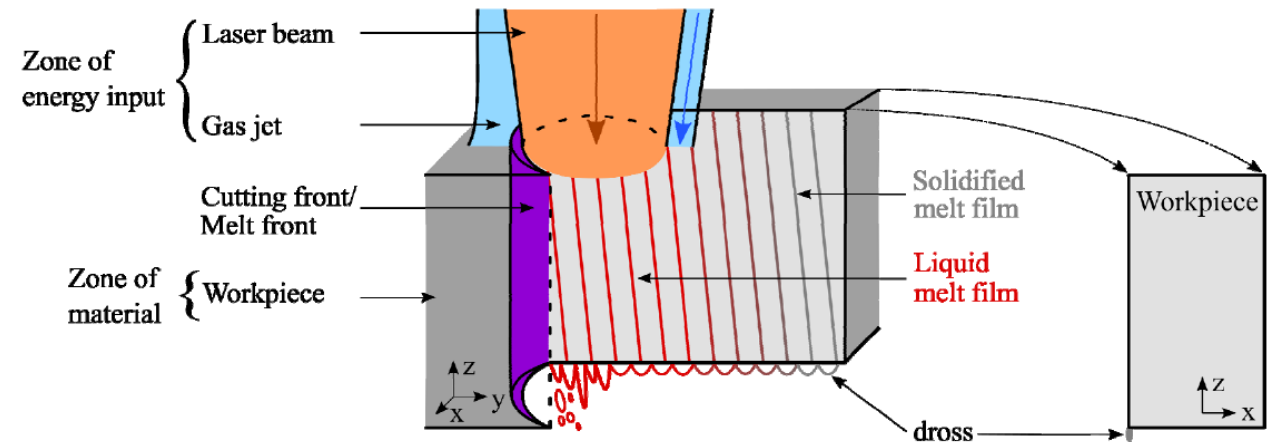
Cutting edge phenomena

Cutting edge phenomena:

- Grooved structure (Roughness)
- Heat-affected zone
- Slope tolerance
- Melt flow stall
- dross adhesion



The dross is created from the melt film
→ Influenced by the process parameters



Laser cutting

Representative dross shapes

a) Dross-free

b) Small droplets

c) Large droplets

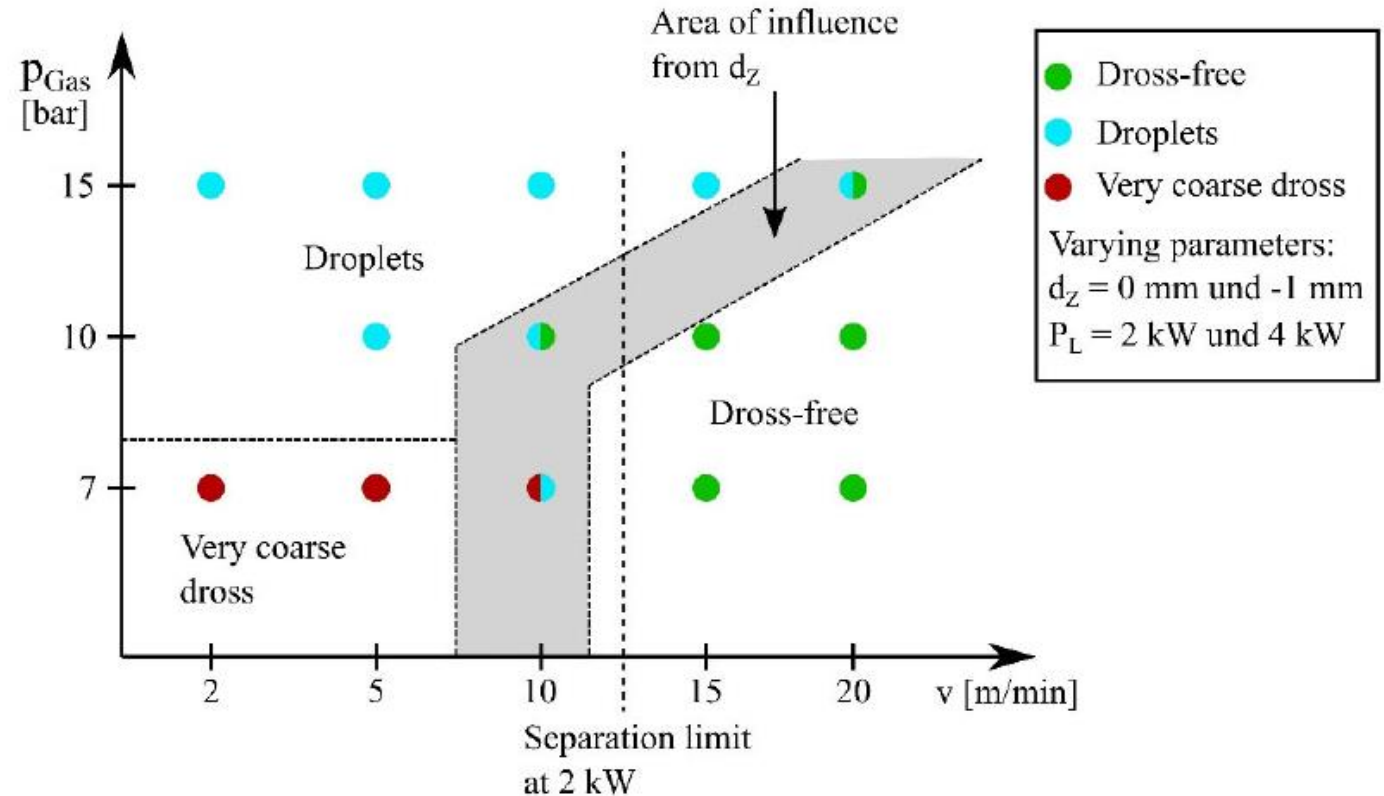
d) Very coarse dross



Laser cutting

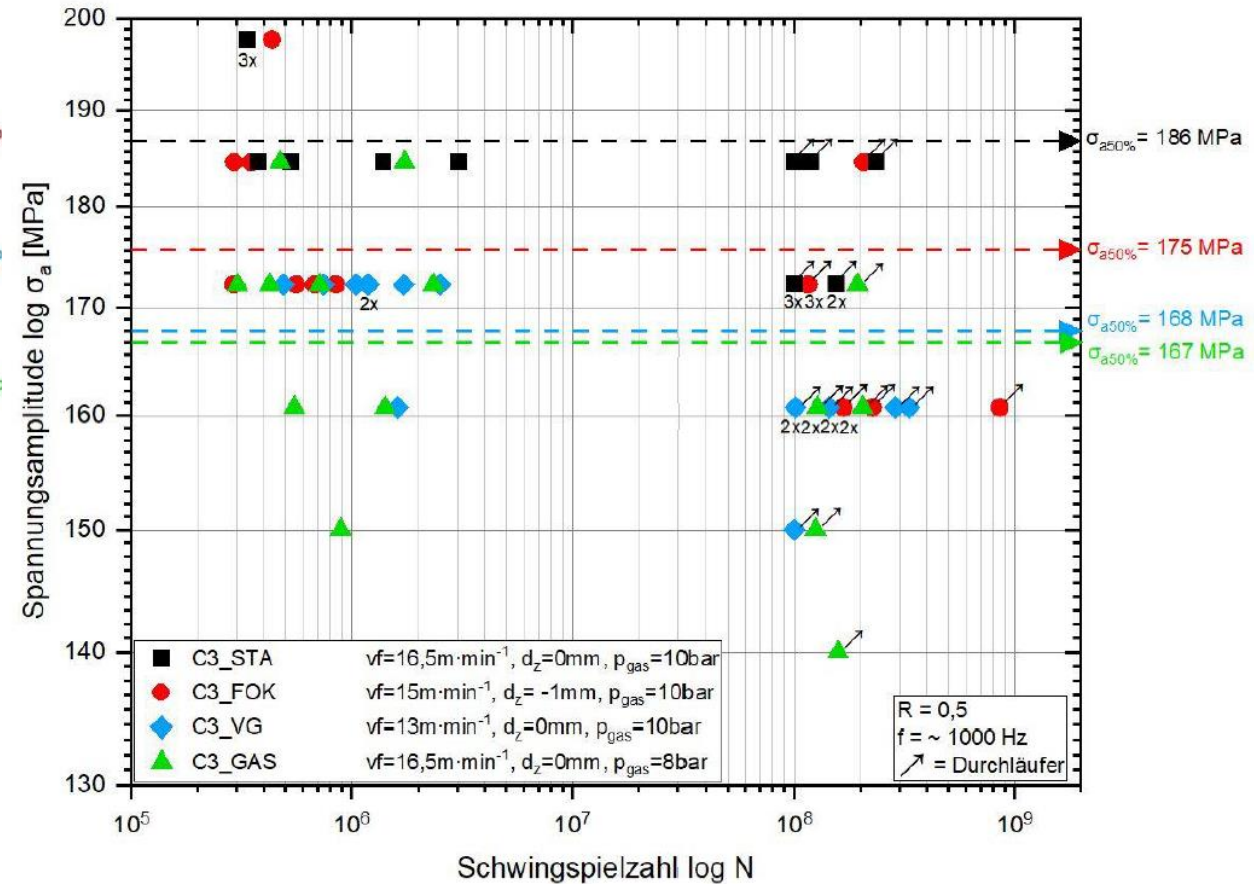
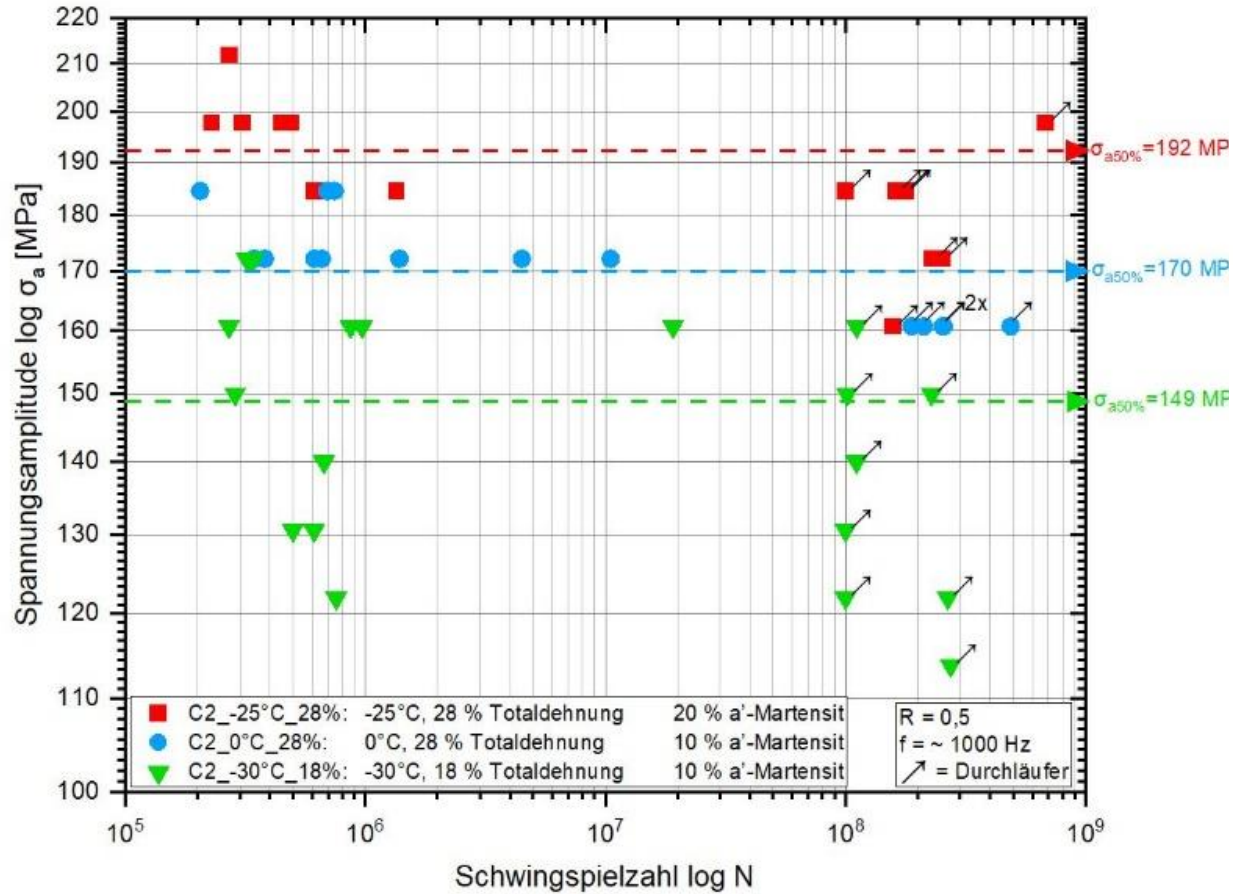
Influences on dross shapes

- Feed rate v
- Gas pressure p_{Gas}
- Focal position d_z
- Laser power P_L



Laser cutting

Fatigue behavior depending on the material condition AND the process parameters



Laser cutting

Material: 1.4301 – metastable austenitic steel

deformation-induced α' martensite volume fraction

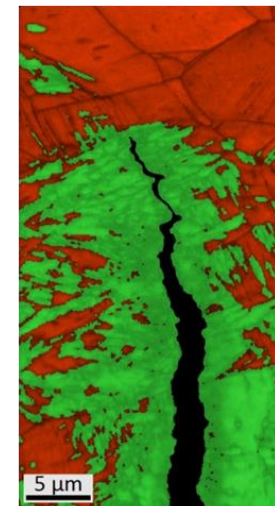
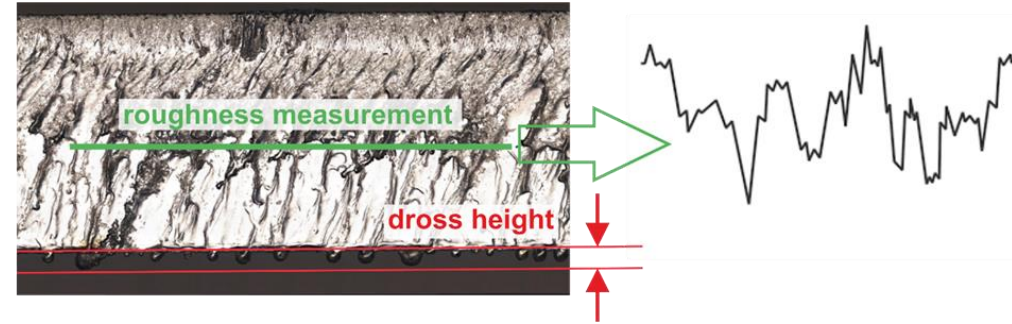
strain-hardening due to pre-deformation



notch effects (melt droplets)

detachment of droplets due to degree of pre-deformation

localized martensite formation in the notch root (melt droplets)



■ γ austenite phase

■ α' - martensite phase

--> dominating notch effect: mesoscopic, however microstructural effect (phase transformation) results in true durability in the VHCF regime

03

Influence of laser beam welding



Process-related material condition: joining process

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 **International Journal of Fatigue**


journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/ijfatigue

High-frequency cyclic testing of welded aluminium alloy joints in the region of very high cycle fatigue (VHCF)

M. Cremer*, M. Zimmermann, H.-J. Christ

Institut für Werkstofftechnik, Universität Siegen, 57068 Siegen, Germany

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

 **Journal of Advanced Joining Processes**

journal homepage: www.sciencedirect.com/journal/journal-of-advanced-joining-processes

Effect of the tool geometry on microstructure and geometrical features of clinched aluminum

Lars Ewenz^{1,*}, Martin Kuczyk¹, Martina Zimmermann^{1,2}

¹ Institute of Materials Science, TU Dresden, 01062 Dresden, Germany
² Fraunhofer Institute for Material and Beam Technology IWS, 01277 Dresden, Germany

Advanced Materials Research
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doi:10.4028/www.scientific.net/AMR.891-892.1397
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Online: 2014-03-12

Fatigue behaviour of laser beam welded circular weld seams under multi-axial loading

Martina Zimmermann^{1,2,a}, Jörg Bretschneider^{2,b}, Gunter Kirchhoff^{2,c},
Uwe Stamm^{2,d}, Jens Standfuss^{2,e}, Berndt Brenner^{2,f}

¹Institut für Werkstoffwissenschaft, TU Dresden, D-1069 Dresden, Germany

²Fraunhofer Institut für Werkstoff- und Strahltechnik, D-01277 Dresden, Germany

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^cgunter.kirchhoff@iws.fhg.de, ^duwe.stamm@iws.fhg.de, ^ejens.standfuss@iws.fhg.de,
^fberndt.brenner@iws.fhg.de



Article

Fatigue Behavior of Laser-Cut Sheet Metal Parts with Brazed-On Elements

André Till Zeuner¹, Robert Kühne^{2,*}, Christiane Standke¹, David Köberlin³, Thomas Wanski¹,
Sebastian Schettler², Uwe Füssel³ and Martina Zimmermann^{1,2}

VHCF 8: Fatigue behavior of brazed joints

Laser Beam Welding

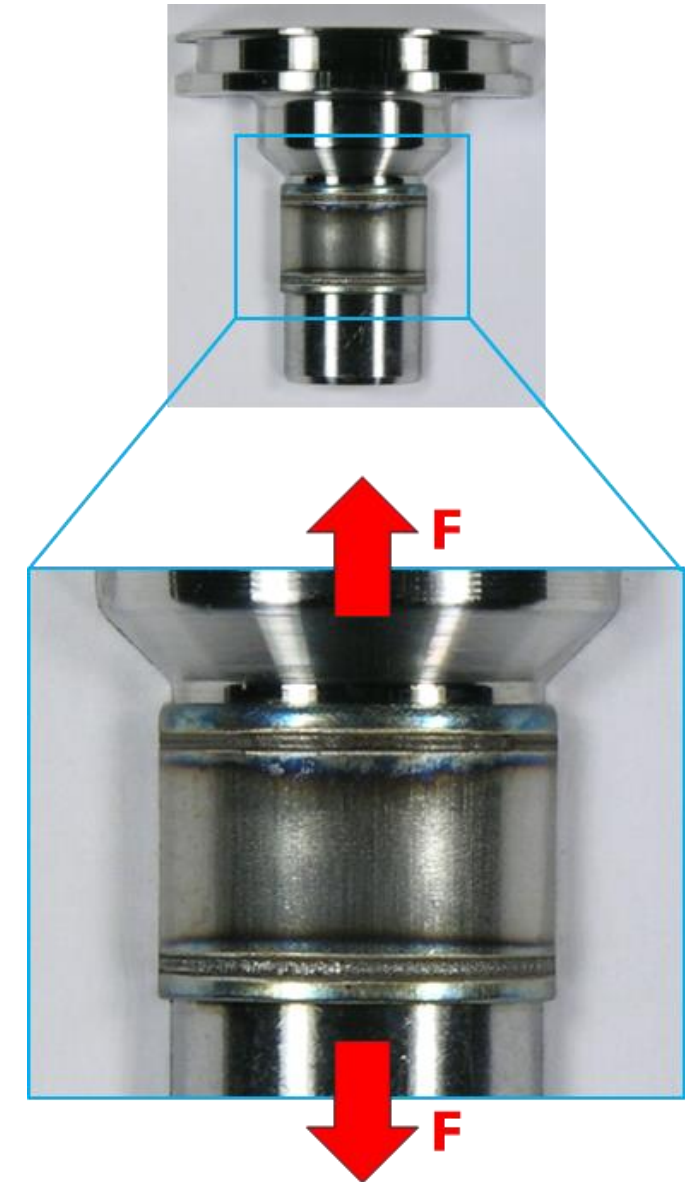
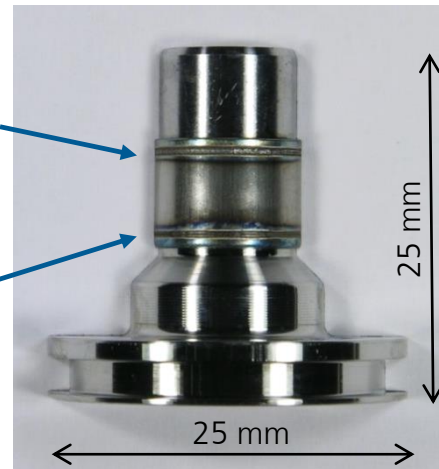
joined steel component

- Fatigue Testing up to $N_G = 10^8$ loading cycles
- Test frequency: approx. **1.000 Hz**
- Test bench: Gigaforte 50 (resonance pulsation test bench)



laser weld seam

laser weld seam



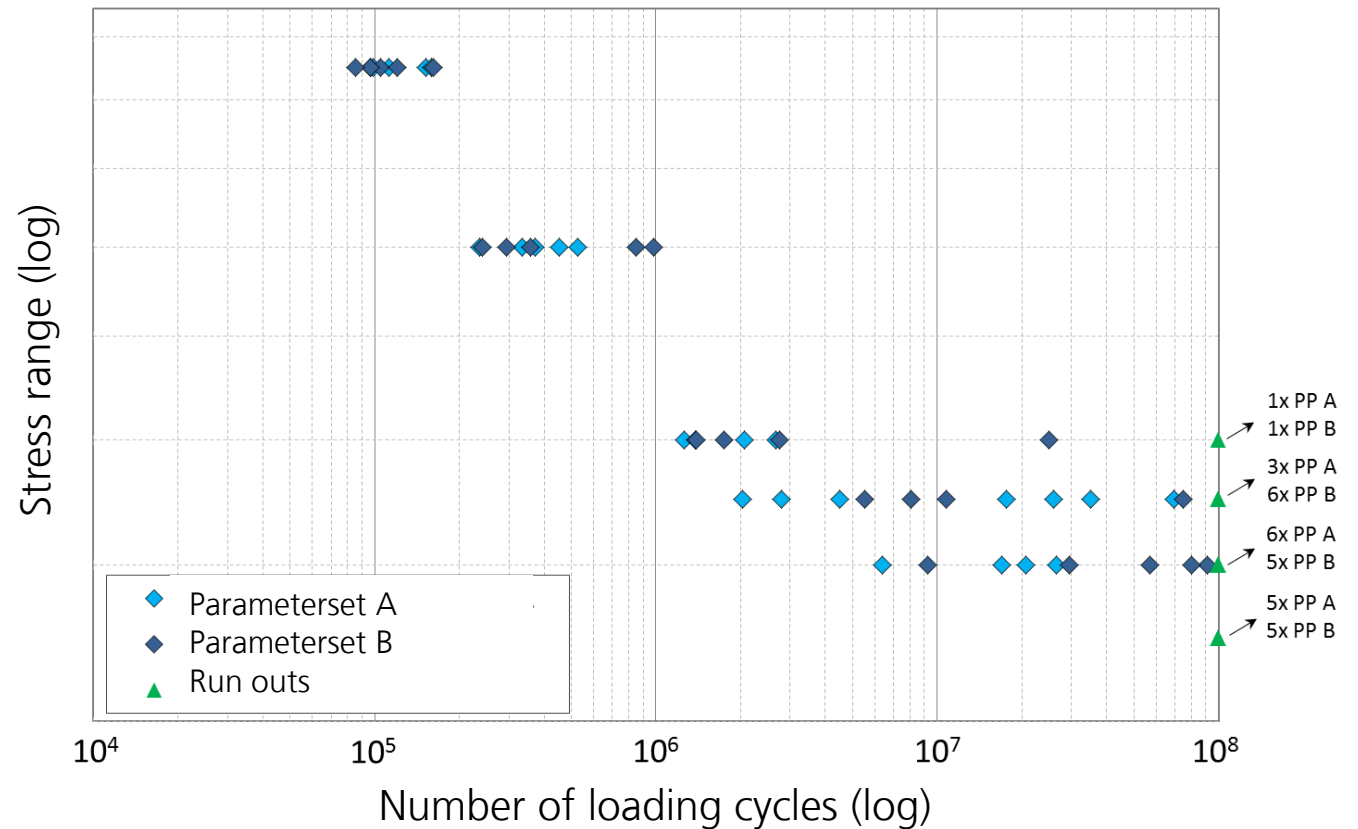
Laser Beam Welding

joined steel component

Σ 60 samples / $N_G = 10^8$ Zyklen

- Parameterset A leads to higher scatter at low loads → higher probability of failure
- Many failures at high numbers of loading cycles (from 10^7 up to 10^8)
- Component failure in VHCF - range!

S – N – diagram: Variation of process parameters



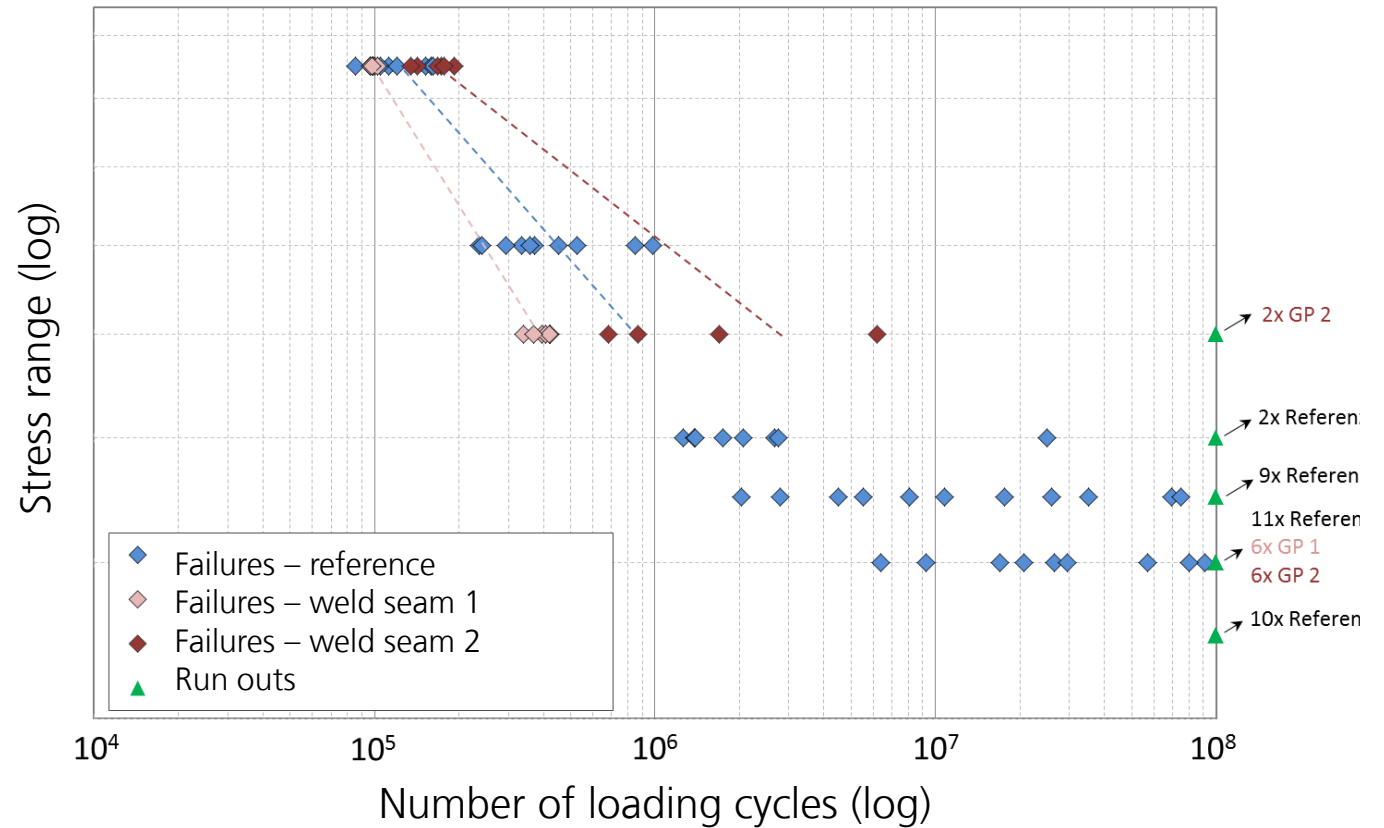
--> dominating notch effect: combination of mesoscopic and macroscopic effect with failure at weld root in the range of the laser entry point

Laser Beam Welding

joined steel component

- Significant influence of minor geometrical changes in weld seam!
- unfavorable weld position causes earlier component failures!
- Change of the failure location

S – N – diagram: Variation of geometrical features

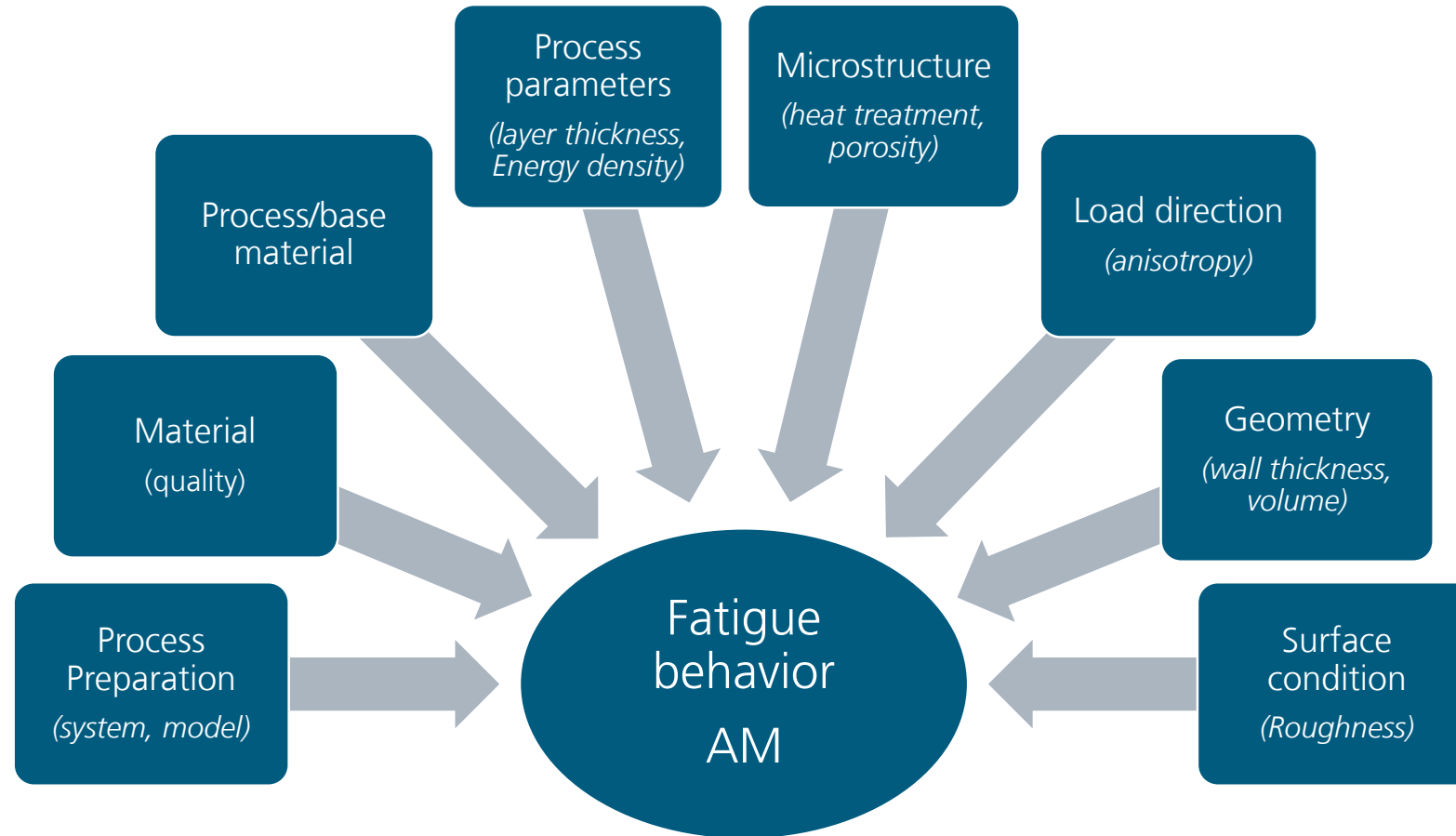


04

Influence of additive manufacturing



Additive Manufacturing

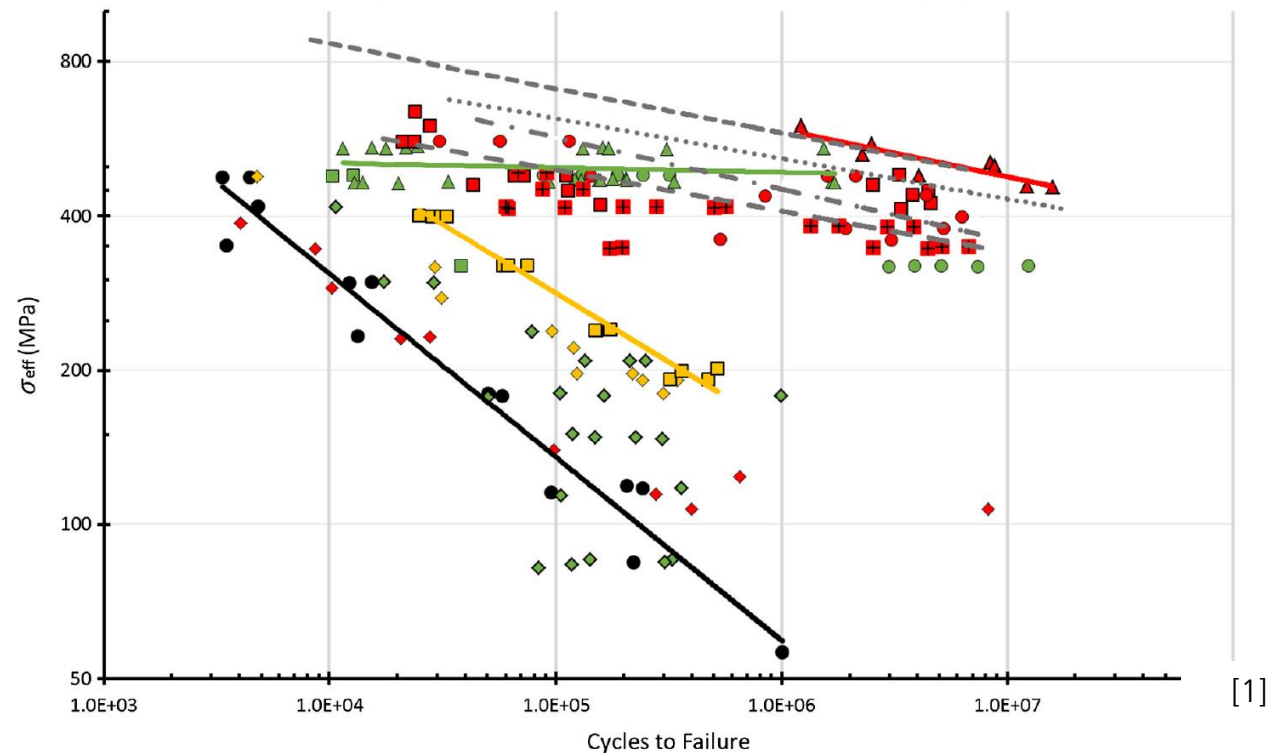
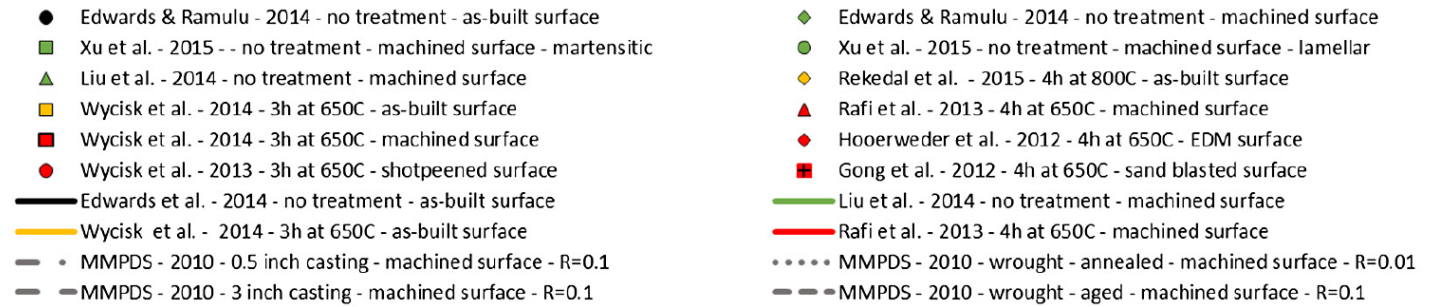


Additive Manufacturing

- large scattering, even of apparently similar conditions

Prediction of fatigue life difficult:

- often incomplete informations about the manufacturing process, material quality and causes of failure



Additive Manufacturing

- Example: Ti6Al4V
- L-PBF – Process
- Variation of
 - L-PBF machine
 - Layer thickness
 - Laser power
 - Scanning speed
 - Orientation
 - Heat treatment



Goals: Process parameters
Heat treatment

- high density! (consistently > 99,8%)
- application-oriented approach (based on VDI 3405 Sheet 2.4)
- Reduction of process-related residual stresses

Methods

- Material: Inert gas atomised Ti-6Al-4V Grade 23 (ELI), LPBF process

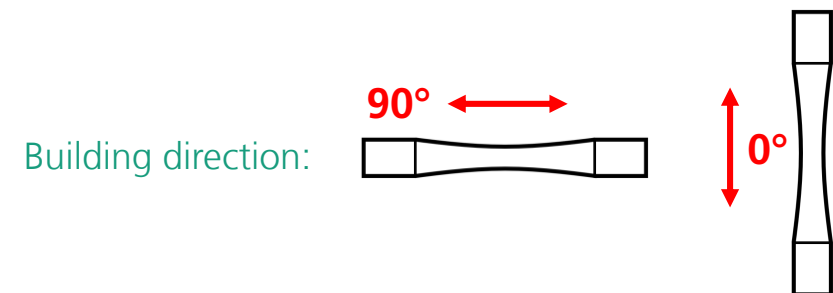
	Batch 1 (C1)	Batch 2 (C2)	Batch 3 (C3)	Batch 4 (C4)	Batch 5 (C5)	Batch 6 (C6)	Batch 7 (C7)	Batch 8 (C8)
Layer thickness in μm	30		60		25			50
Power in W	200		300		200			370
Scan velocity in mm/s	850		750		1200			1500
Building direction	0° (\updownarrow)	90° (\leftrightarrow)	0° (\updownarrow)	90° (\leftrightarrow)	0° (\updownarrow)			0° (\updownarrow)
Heat treatment	SR		SR		SR	HIP	AN	AN

SR ... Stress relieved

HIP... Hot Isostatic Pressing

AN ... Annealed

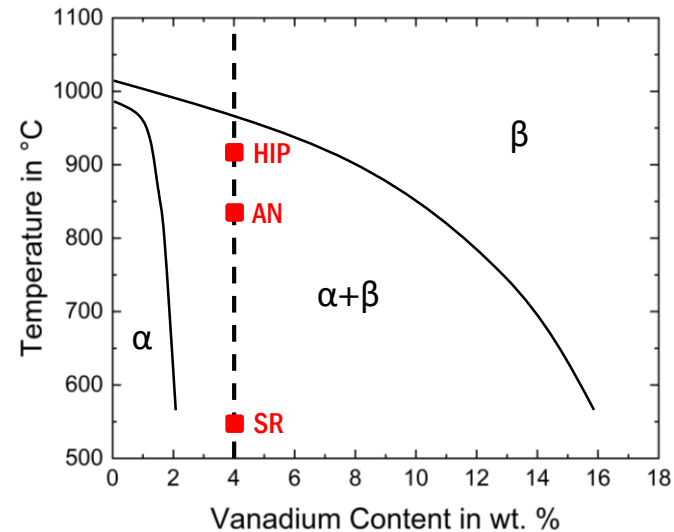
→ **A total of 202 specimens manufactured**



Methods

- Material: Inert gas atomised Ti-6Al-4V Grade 23 (ELI), LPBF process

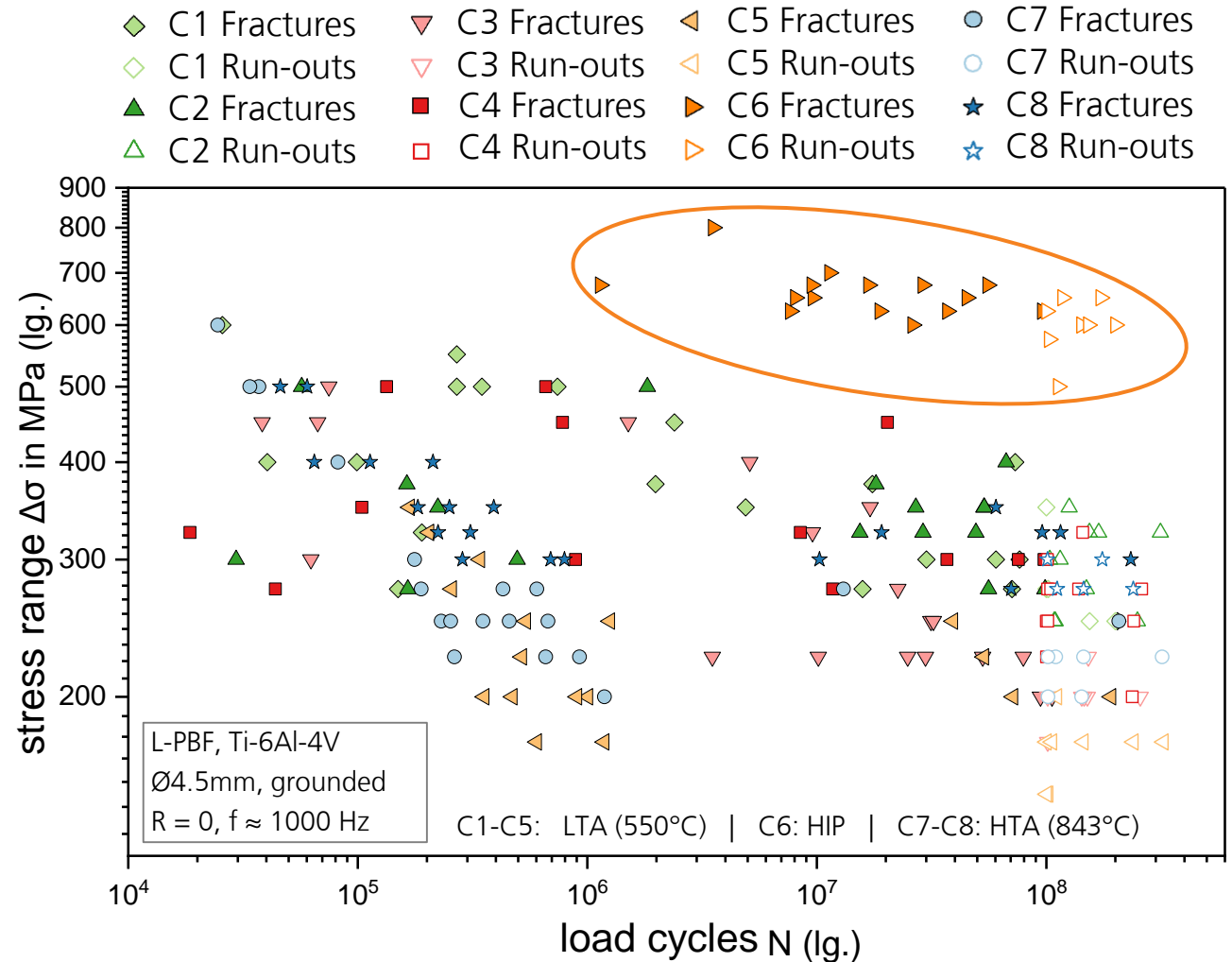
Heat treatment	Parameter
Stress relieved (SR)	550 °C / 180 min / Argon / furnace cooling
Annealed (AN)	842 °C / 270 min / Argon / furnace cooling to 200°C, cooling to RT using Argon
Hot Isostatic Pressing (HIP)	920 °C / 120 min / 1000 bar



Additive Manufacturing

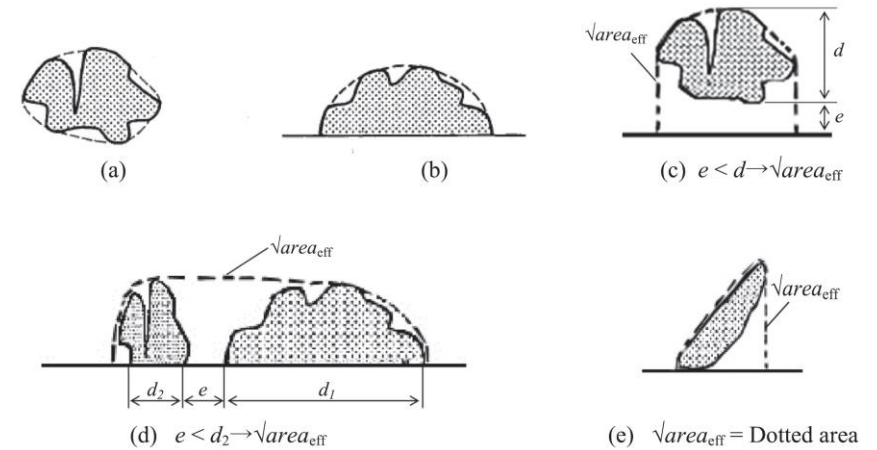
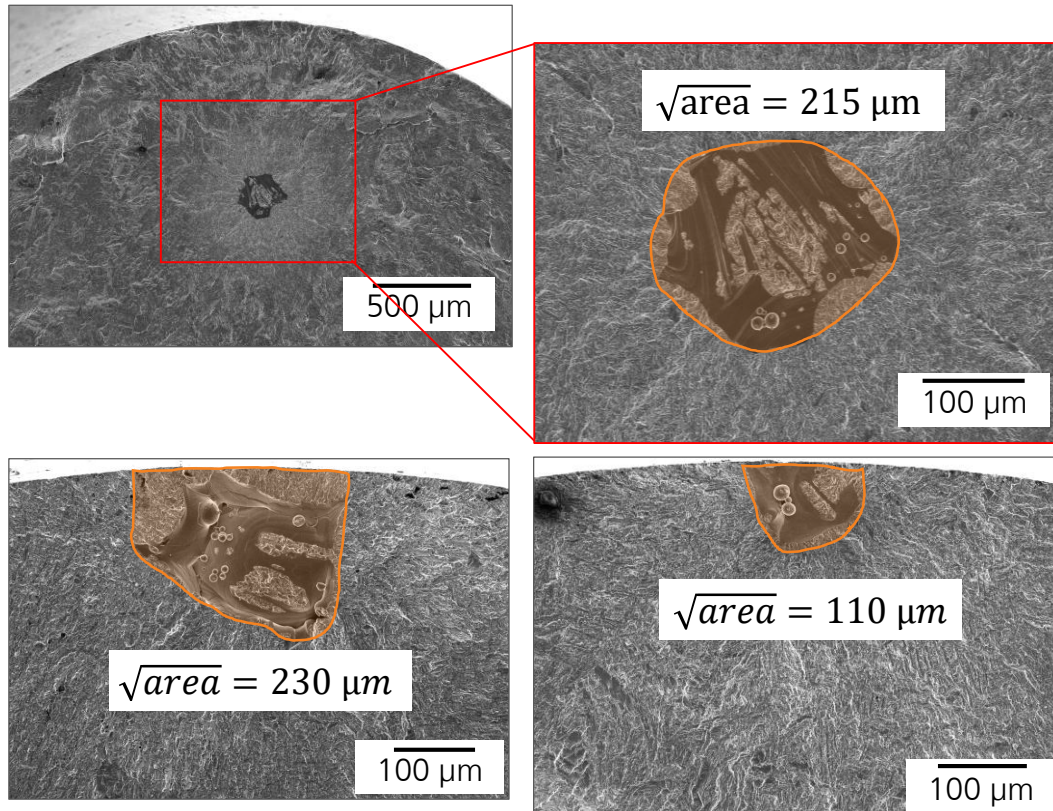
S-N curve – Overall comparison

- **C6** → HIP-heat treatment leads to significant increase in fatigue strength (factor ≥ 2)
 - Large number of failures beyond the knee point ($N \approx 10^6$) of the S-N curve
 - Scattering over several decades within individual batches
- ➡ stochastic distribution of the defect population within the batches
- ➡ Analysis of the S-N curve is subject to great uncertainty



Additive Manufacturing

Evaluation of the failure-causing defects according to the $\sqrt{\text{area}}$ - concept



$$\sigma_w = \frac{C(HV + 120)}{(\sqrt{\text{area}})^{1/6}}$$

- σ_w ... Estimated fatigue strength according to Murakami ($\sigma_w = \sigma_a$)
- C... Constant (surface defects: 1,43 / volume defects: 1,56)
- HV... Microhardness of the material in the direct area of the defect

Source: Murakami, Metal Fatigue: Effects of Small Defects and..., Elsevier, 2002

Application of Kitagawa-Takahashi diagramm

El-Haddad approach

$$\Delta\sigma_{1E8} = \Delta\sigma_{1E8,0} \sqrt{\frac{a_0}{a + a_0}} = \Delta\sigma_{1E8,0} \sqrt{\frac{\sqrt{area_{eff0}}}{\sqrt{area_{eff}} + \sqrt{area_{eff0}}}}$$

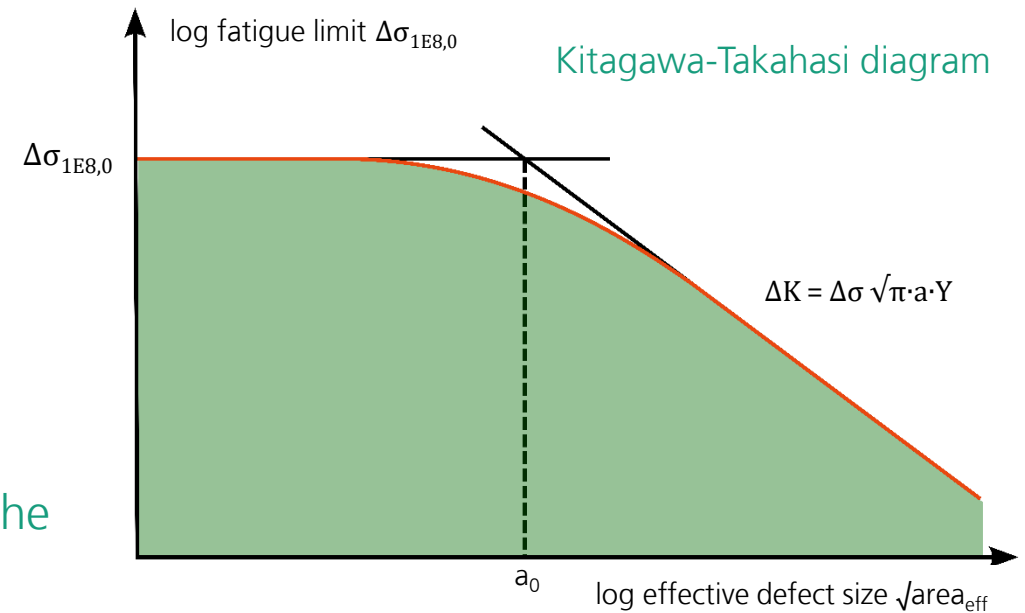
with $a_0 = \sqrt{area_{eff0}} = \frac{1}{\pi} \left(\frac{\Delta K_{th,LC}}{C * \Delta\sigma_{1E8,0}} \right)^2$

- Estimation of $\Delta\sigma_{1E8,0}$ and $\Delta K_{th,LC}$

$$\Delta\sigma_{1E8,0} = 6,4HV \left(\frac{1 - R}{3 - R} \right)$$

$$\Delta K_{th,LC} = 1,82 \cdot l^{0,165} + 53,5 \cdot HV^{-0,52} \quad \text{According to Rigon et al. (2022)}$$

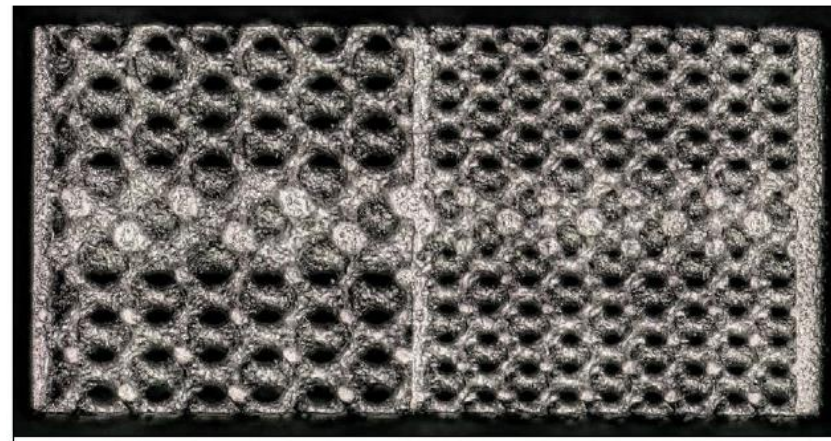
l is a length parameters and can be correlated to the martensite lath width or alpha grains in Ti6Al4V



Conclusions

- High to very high cycle fatigue of materials in the process-related condition is always related to a competition and / or a combination of notch effects on different length scales
- Slightest changes in the process parameter settings can have a significant effect on the fatigue strength
- In order to fully exploit fatigue strength in the high to very high cycle range of materials in processed conditions generalized S-N curves in combination with safety factors (as are suggested in many fatigue assessment directives) do not mirror the potential of process optimization strategies

While a basic understanding of the true fatigue mechanisms are essential, to predict the VHCF strength of real components in process-related states this is only the tip of the iceberg!

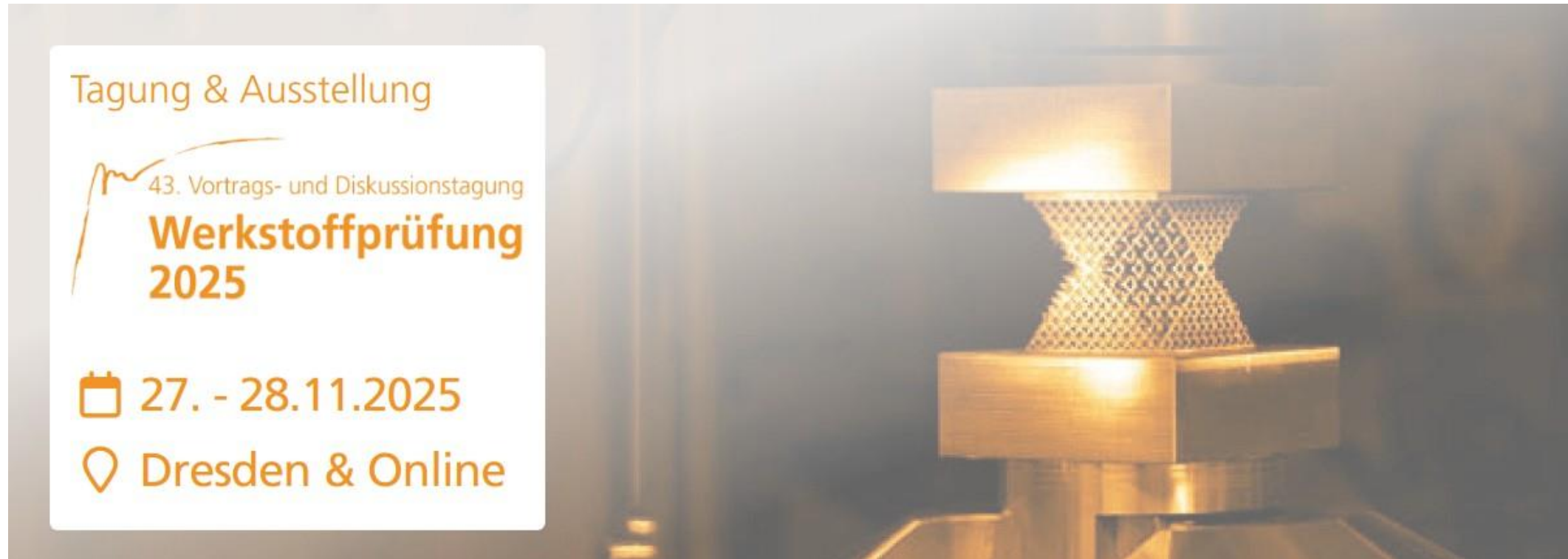


Many thanks to the members of my team in Dresden involved in the work presented!



Many thanks to YOU for listening!

Hope to see you again in Dresden in 2025!



Tagung & Ausstellung

43. Vortrags- und Diskussionstagung
**Werkstoffprüfung
2025**

📅 27. - 28.11.2025

📍 Dresden & Online

Many thanks to YOU for listening!



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