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MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE
FOR SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS



Designing high Cr-alloy Eurofer with advanced properties by cryogenic processing for fusion

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SURFACE SCIENCE FOR FUTURE
MATERIALS
SURFACES



Content

- Future Energy Sector
- Metallic Materials
- Cryogenic treatment
- Eurofer97
- Conclusions



About me

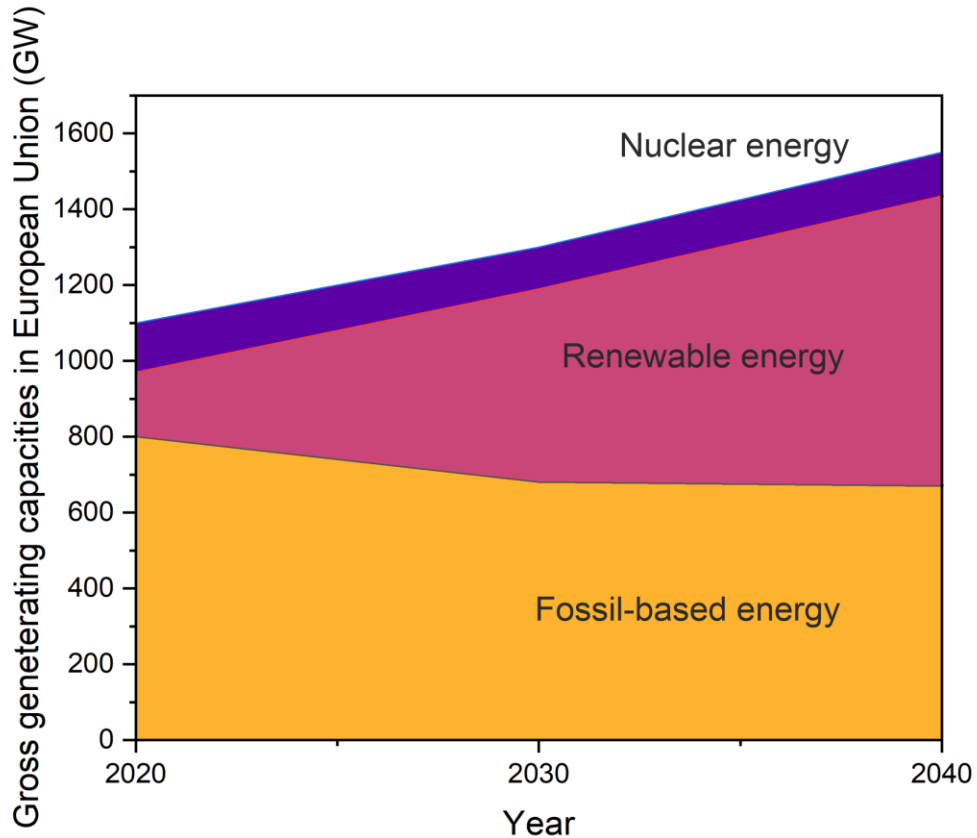


Patricia. Credit: Patricia Jovičević-Klug.



- 2024-2026: PostDoc in Alternative Materials used for Fusion awarded by Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (Germany)
- 2024: Group Leader of Surface Science for Future Materials
- 2023-2024: PostDoc in Materials used for Energy Sector awarded by Alexander von Humboldt Fellowship (Germany)
- 2022: PhD in Nanosciences and Nanotechnologies (Slovenia)

Future Energy Sector and Metallic Materials



Jovičević-Klug et al. 2024.

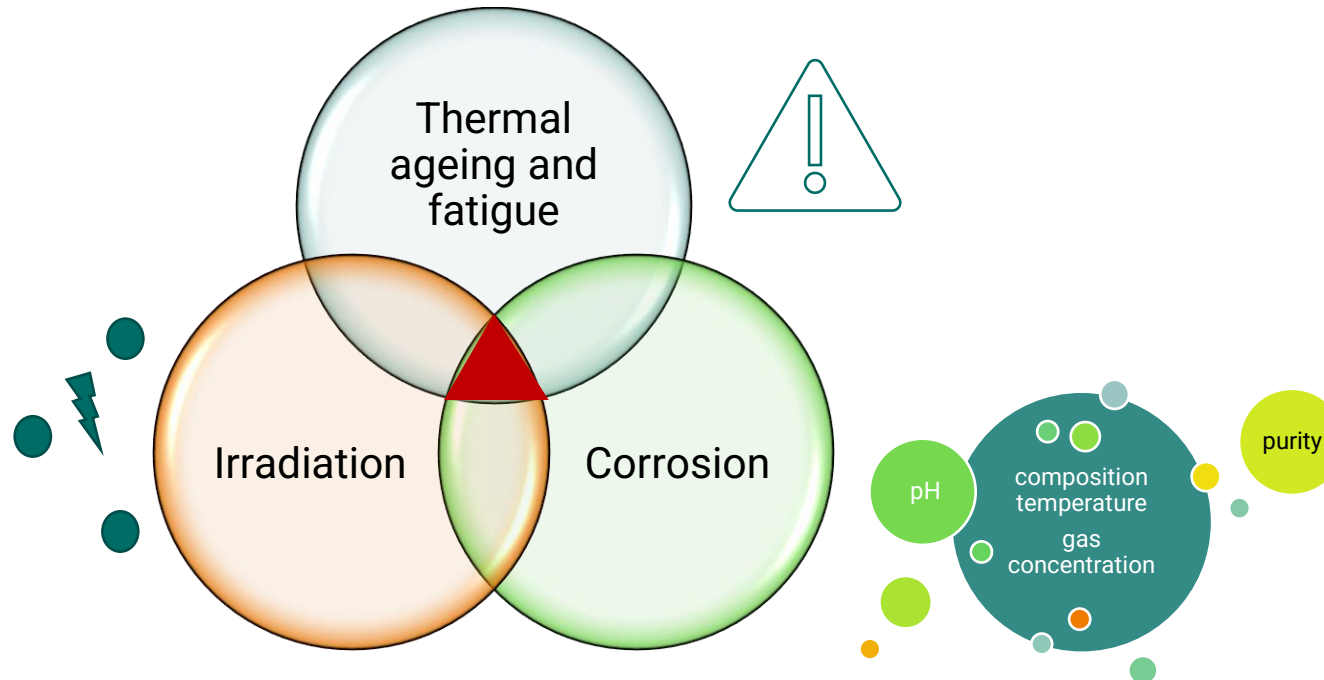
Ferrous alloys	Non-ferrous alloys
➤ Austenitic stainless steel	➤ Zr-based alloys
➤ Cast austenitic stainless steels	➤ Ni-based alloys
➤ Martensitic stainless steels	➤ ODS alloys
	➤ ODS ferritic alloy
➤ Duplex steels	➤ W-based alloys
➤ Low-alloyed steels	➤ Cu-based alloys
➤ Ferritic steels	➤ Pb-Al-based alloys
➤ Bainitic steels	➤ HEA
➤ RAFM steels (Eurofer, CLAM etc.)	➤ Mo-based alloys
➤ Ferritic steels	➤ Nb-based alloys
	➤ V-based alloys



Fusion and Challenges of Materials

Metals (ferrous and non-ferrous alloys):

- high-energy particles
- high temperatures
- pressure changes
- highly corrosive environments



Options

- tailoring microstructure
- coatings
- nitriding etc.
- **CRYOGENIC PROCESSING**

Cryogenic processing (treatment)



Cryogenic treatment

Conventional
cryogenic
treatment
(273 K) – (193 K)

Shallow
cryogenic
treatment
(193 K) – (123 K)

Deep
cryogenic
treatment
below 123 K

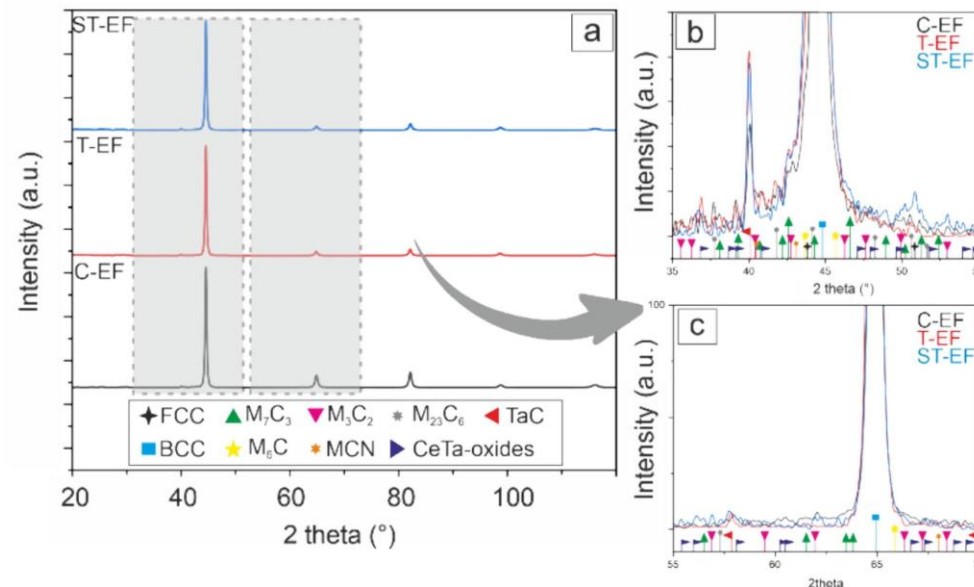
- increases tool life
- Improves mechanical properties (5-50%)
- improves corrosion and wear resistance (up to 30%) etc.
- cuts operating costs

Study of Eurofer97

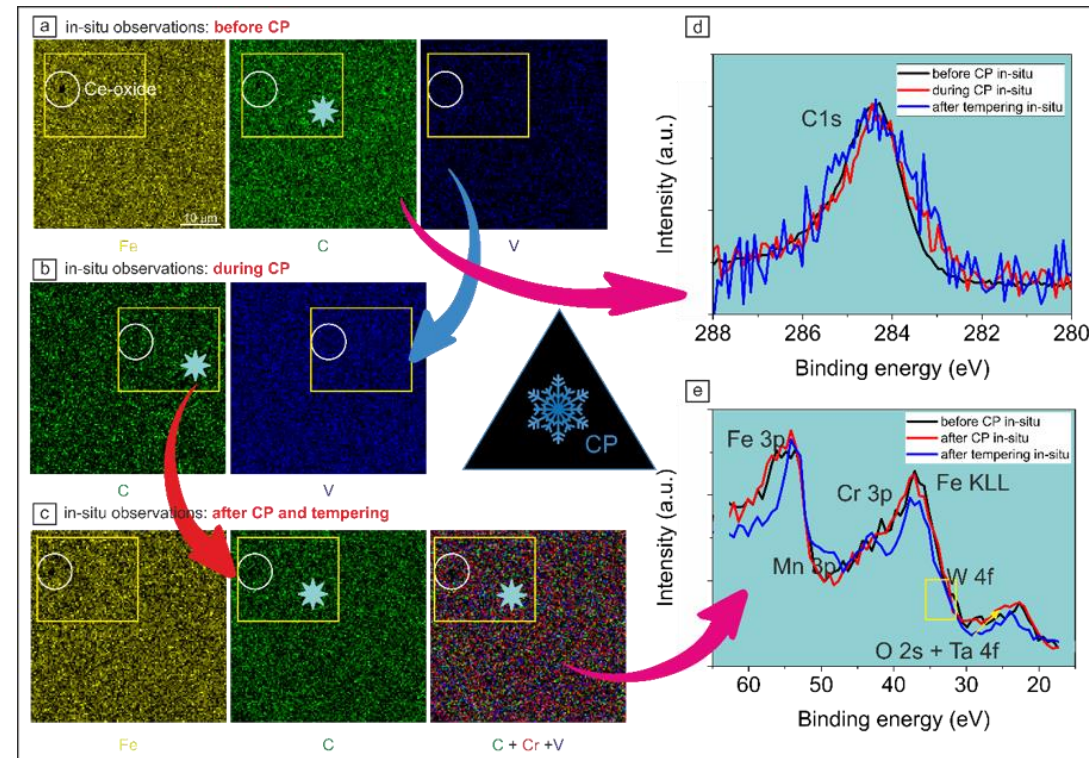
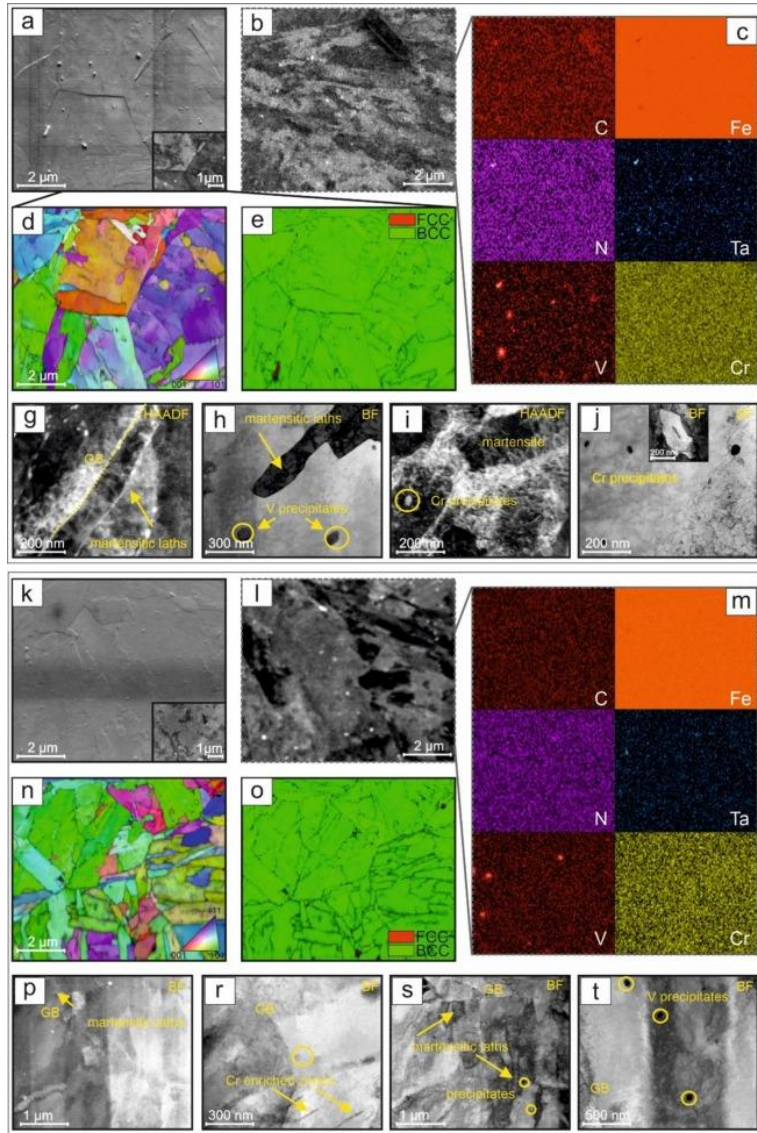


Sample group	Heat processing		
	Hardening	CP	Tempering
EF-CHT	Ta = 1237 K/ 0.5 h, Q rate ~ 10 s from 1073 K to 773 K	-	Tt = 823 K / 2 h
CRYO (T-EF, ST-EF)	Ta = 1237 K/ 0.5 h Q rate ~ 10 s from 1073 K to 773 K	DCT 24 h / 77 K	Tt = 823 K / 2 h

	C-EF	T-EF
BCC phase	88.4	88.6
FCC phase	1.2	0.1
M₇C₃	3.5	4
M₃C₂	1.9	1.7
M₆C	1.7	1.1
M₂₃C₆	1	1.6
TaC	0.3	0.5
MCN	0.6	0.6



Study of Eurofer97



Jovičević-Klug et al. 2024.



Conclusions



- **energy sector has a high demand for the improvement of metallic materials**
- **CP can be used to successfully manipulate the microstructure**
- **Ta and Mn dynamics on the surface layer may be important for the characteristics of the passivation layer**
- **CP has a bright future in alloying metallic alloys and to design a proper heat processing for changing properties for community to accelerate the understanding of Eurofer alloying dynamic and how the microstructure can be tailored to specific needs and applications**
- **detailed and systematic investigation of the effectiveness and application of CT is required**

Thank you for your attention!



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