

# Update on the post-irradiation examinations on high Z materials from HRMT-27 and HRMT-42 experiments

E. Fornasiere, C. Torregrosa, N. Solieri, M. Calviani, A. Perillo and J. Busom Descarrega



ENGINEERING  
DEPARTMENT

**RADIATE**

Radiation Damage In Accelerator Target Environments  
5<sup>th</sup> Collaboration Meeting

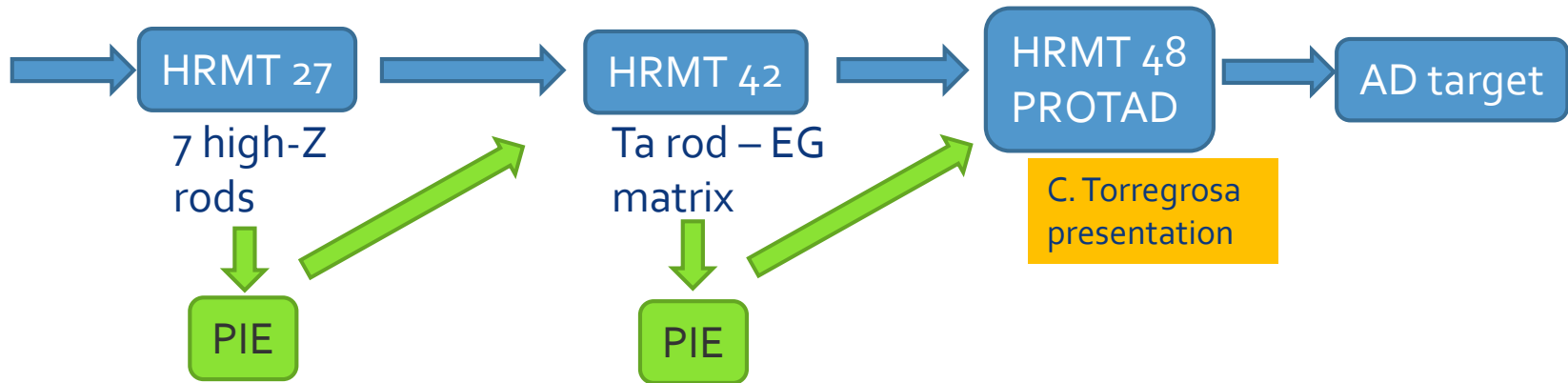
# Content

---

- Context
- HRMT-27
  - Tantalum
  - Iridium
- HRMT-42
  - Tantalum
- Bonus: W-TiC

# Context

## AD target consolidation



## PIE: Post Irradiation Examinations

E. Fornasiero PhD work

### Non-destructive testing

- Visual inspections
- Metrology
- Tomography (X-ray, neutron)
- ...



### Sample handling

- Transport
- Cutting
- **Surface preparation**

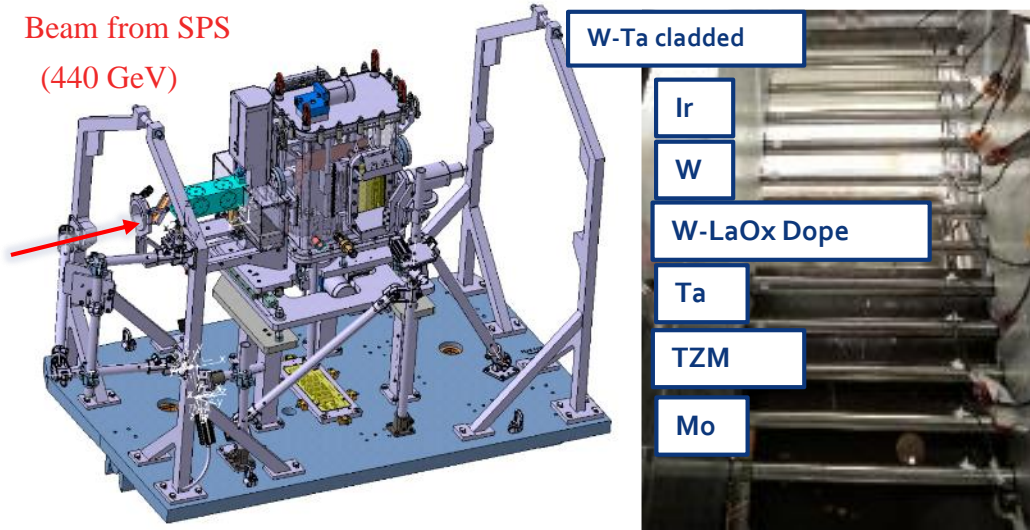


### Destructive testing

- **Microstructure analysis**
- Mechanical testing
- ....

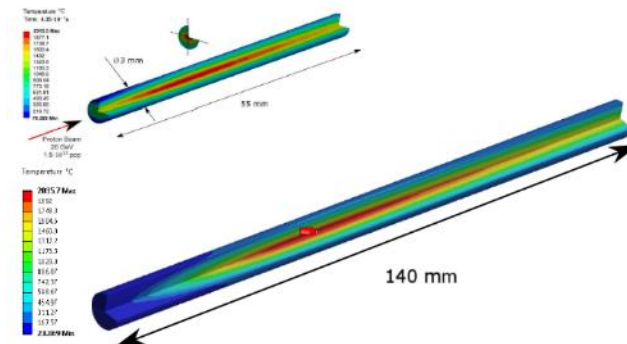
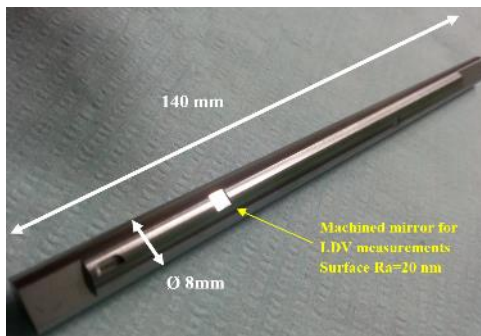
# HRMT-27: The experiment (2015)

Beam from SPS  
(440 GeV)



- 13 rods of high-Z materials impacted by 440 GeV/c beam
- Irradiation performed in a **ramped** way to obtain material response at intermediate state before reaching AD-Target conditions

- Targets geometry and beam parameters adapted to recreate AD target

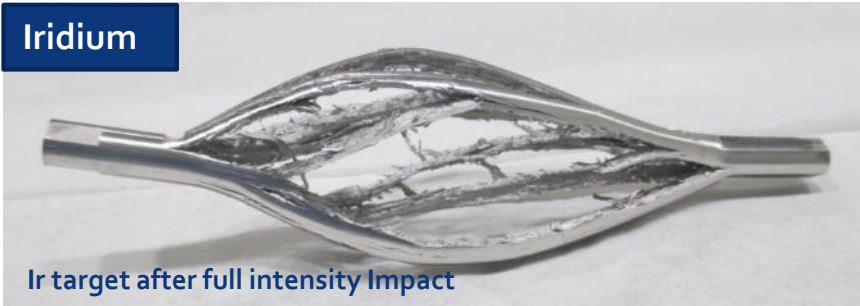


- Beam intensity ramped up to reach:

Material	Max $\Delta T$ (°C)	Max Tensile Pressure (GPa)
Ir	2200 °C	9 GPa
W	2000 °C	5.6 GPa
Mo/TZM	850 °C	1.3 GPa
Ta	1850 °C	4.5 GPa

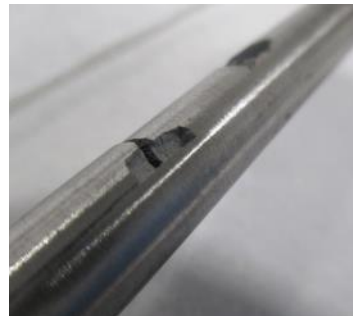
# HRMT-27: Targets after the experiment

## Iridium



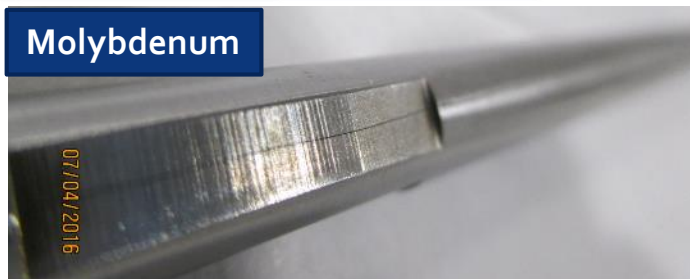
Longitudinal cracks in **Iridium** at intermediate intensities.

## Tungsten



- Tungsten targets present the larger amount of longitudinal cracks.
- Spall of fragments at the surface also took place in tungsten.

## Molybdenum



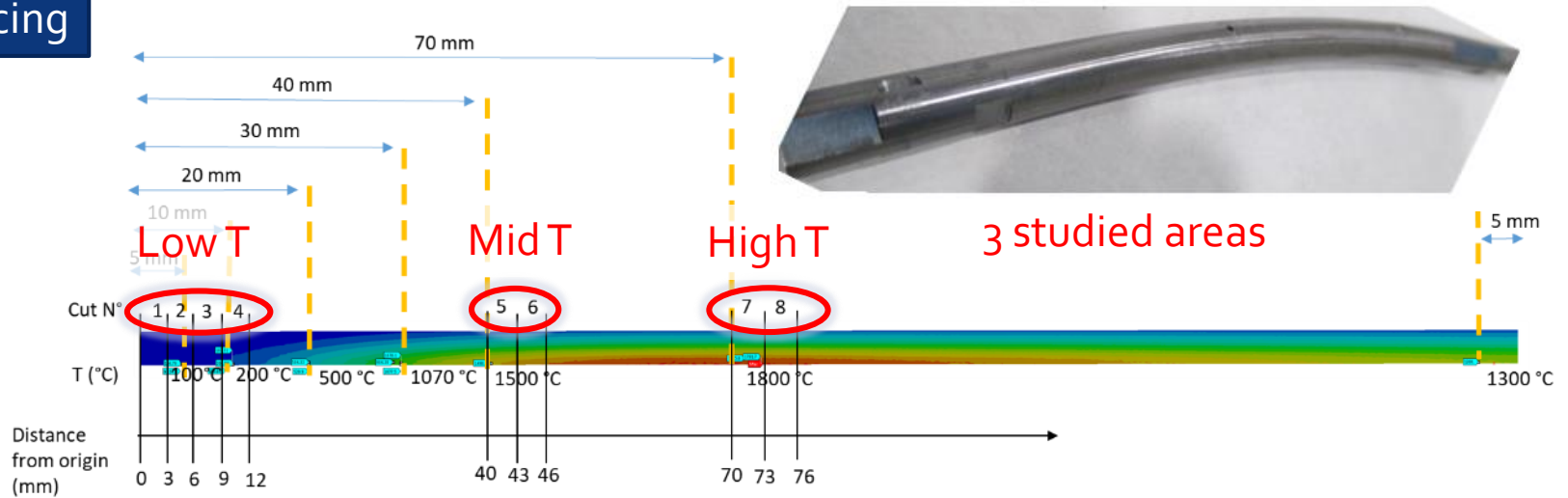
## Tantalum

- No cracks were observed in Ta targets.



# HRMT-27: Ta target

## Slicing



## Preparation 8 cross-sections



Preparation procedure by S. Forsetlokken

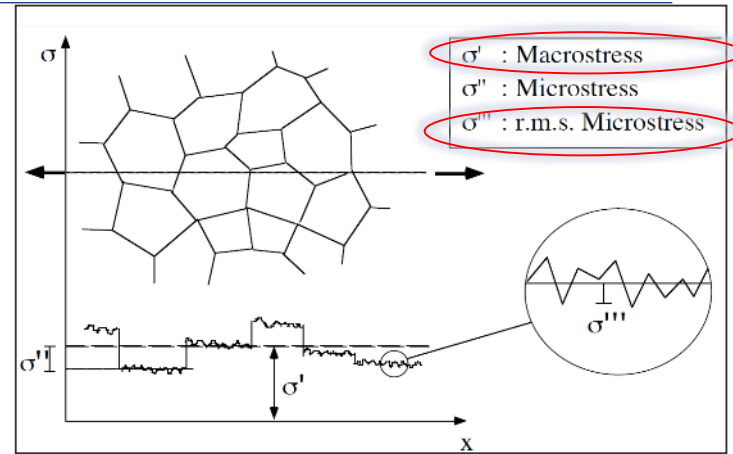


- Hot mounting in phenolic resin
- Grinding with grit papers (P500, P1200 and P2400)
- Polishing with diamond suspension (6  $\mu\text{m}$  and 3  $\mu\text{m}$ )
- Final polishing with colloidal silica suspension (0.025  $\mu\text{m}$ ) + 5%  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$
- Intermediate etching in between each grinding and polishing step, with etching #66 from ASTM 407: sample immersion for 2' in 10 mL HF + 20 mL  $\text{HNO}_3$  + 30 mL HCl
- Removal from the resin

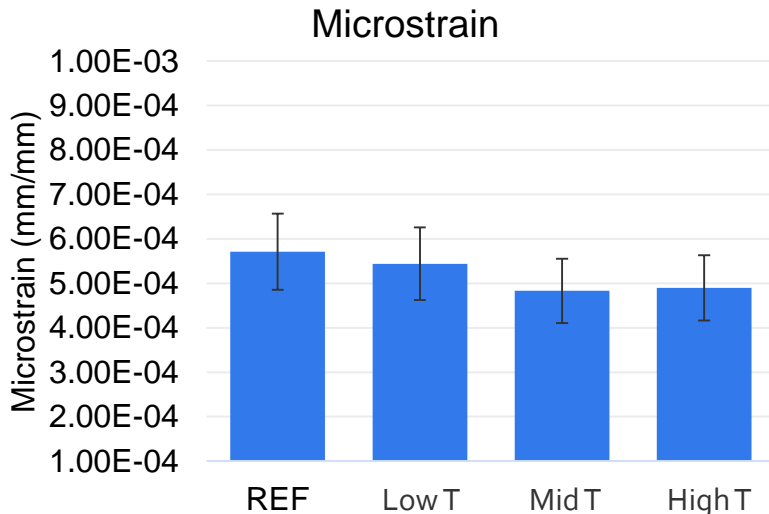
# HRMT-27: Ta target

## 1. Microstructure quantitative analysis

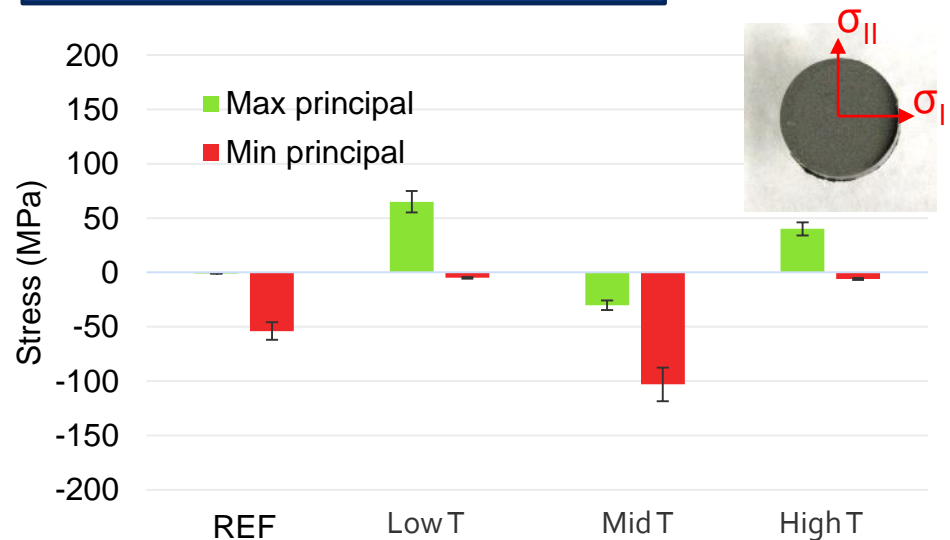
- X-ray diffraction
- Microstructure analysis from peak profile analysis with Rietveld software (MAUD)
- Residual stress measurements in cross-sectional planes
- Samples representative of three areas: Ref, Low T, Mid T and high T
- Measurements probing entire cross-sections



## Microstructure analysis

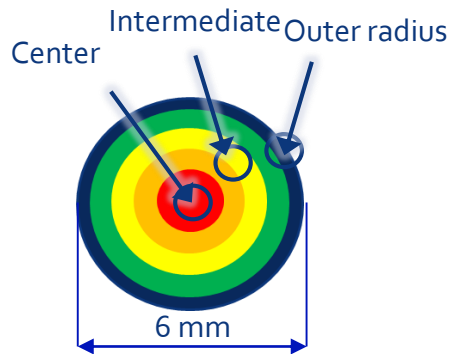


## Residual stress measurements



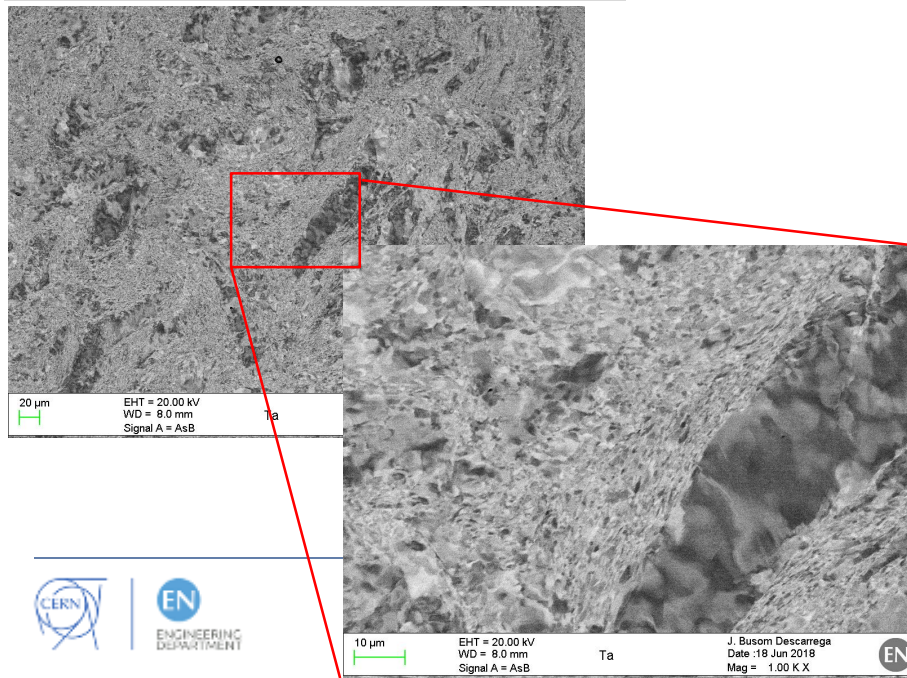
# HRMT-27: Ta target

## 2. Microstructure imaging

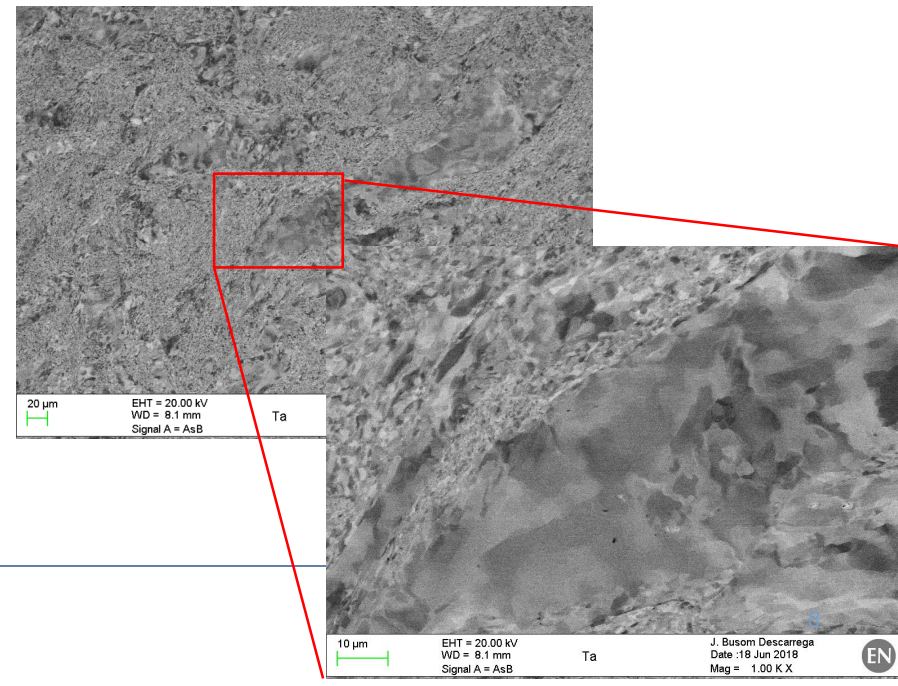


- Scanning Electron Microscope
- **Backscattered electron detector**
- Microstructure observable by channelling contrast
- Imaging in samples representative of the three areas: Ref, Low T, Mid T and high T
- And at three locations: Outer radius, intermediate and center
- >40 micrographs acquired

Reference sample at center



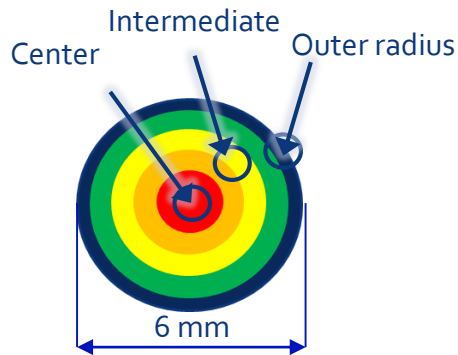
High T sample: Slice 7 center



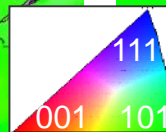
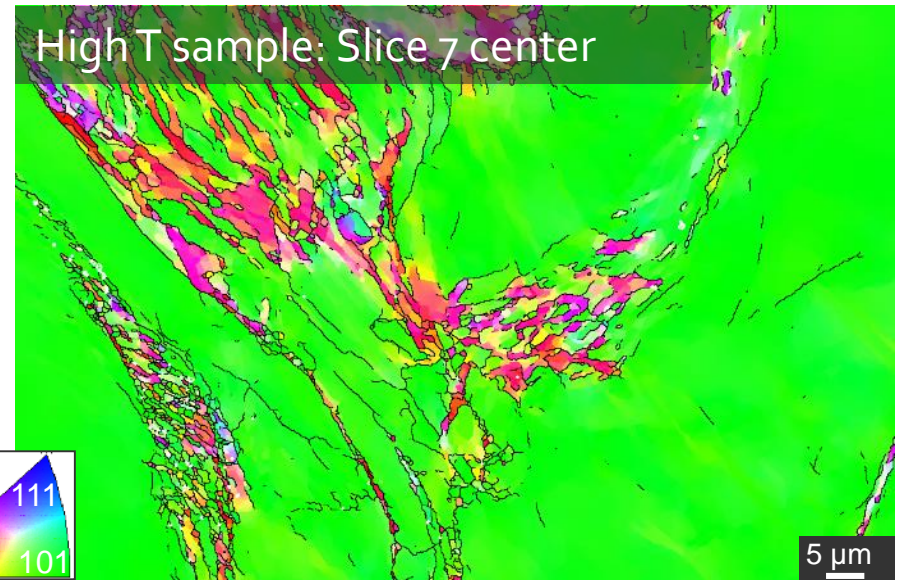
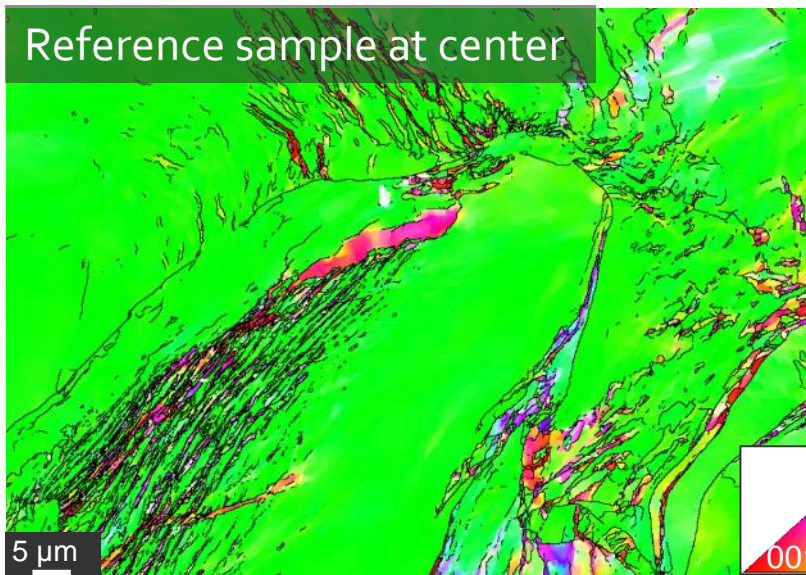


# HRMT-27: Ta target

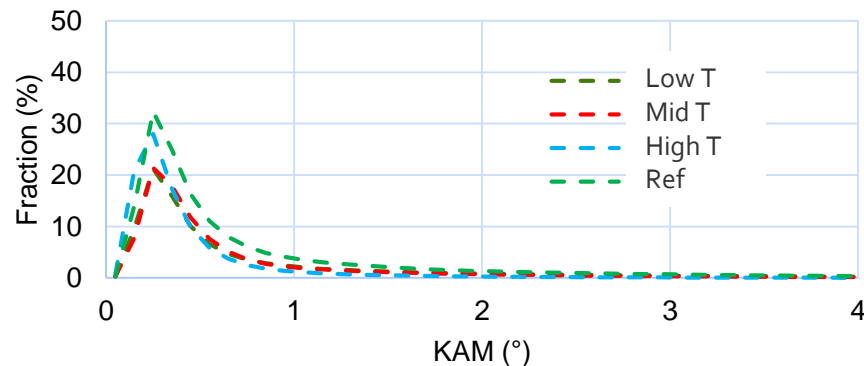
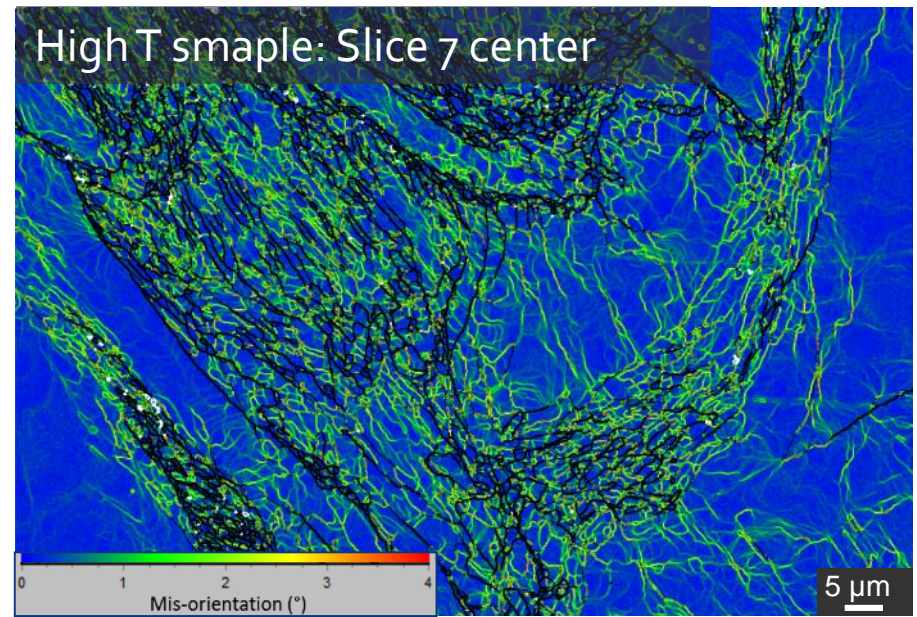
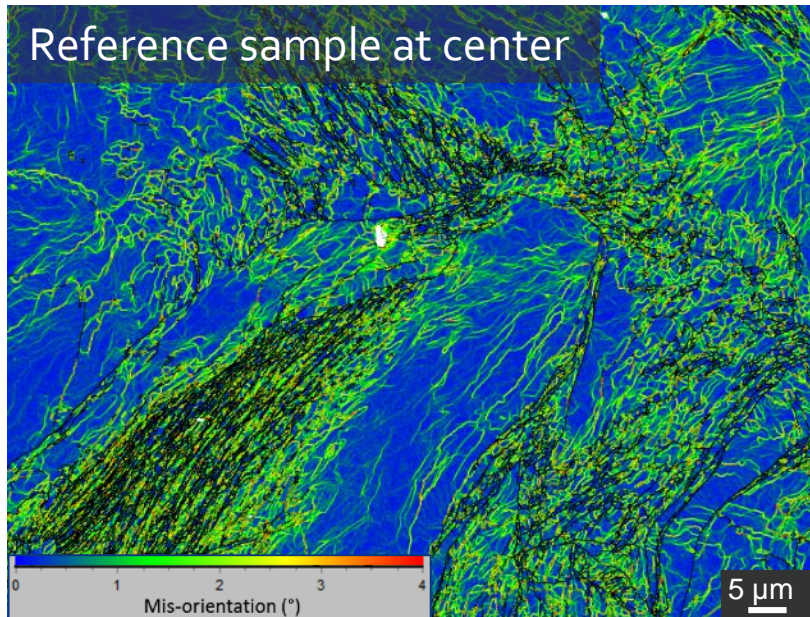
## 2. Microstructure analysis



- Scanning Electron Microscope
- **Electron backscattered diffraction**
- Microstructure observable by inverse pole figure mapping
- Microstructure plastic deformation observable by misorientation mapping
- Samples representative of the three areas: Ref, Low T, Mid T and high T
- And at three locations: Outer radius, intermediate and center
- > 15 acquired EBSD mappings



# HRMT-27: Ta target



# HRMT-27: Ta target

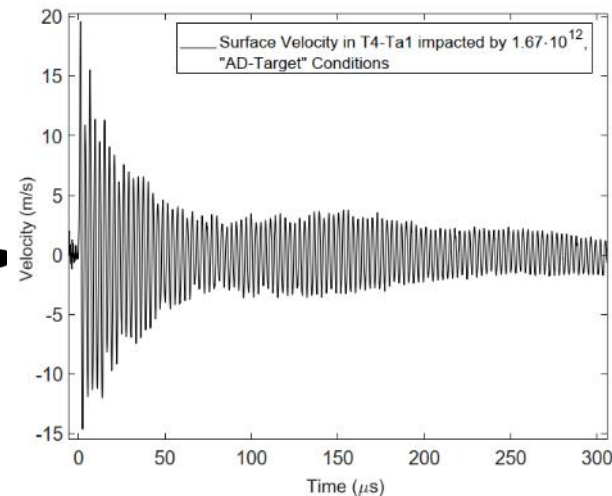
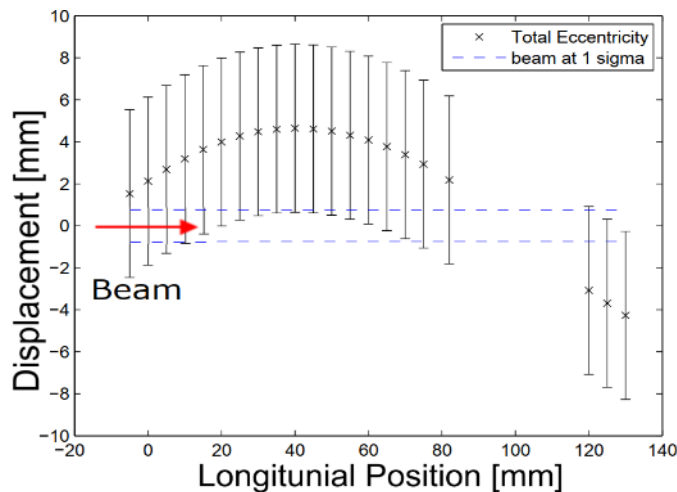
- No evidence of microstructural differences after beam impacts



- Target showed macroscopic bending

Target was certainly impacted at highest intensity

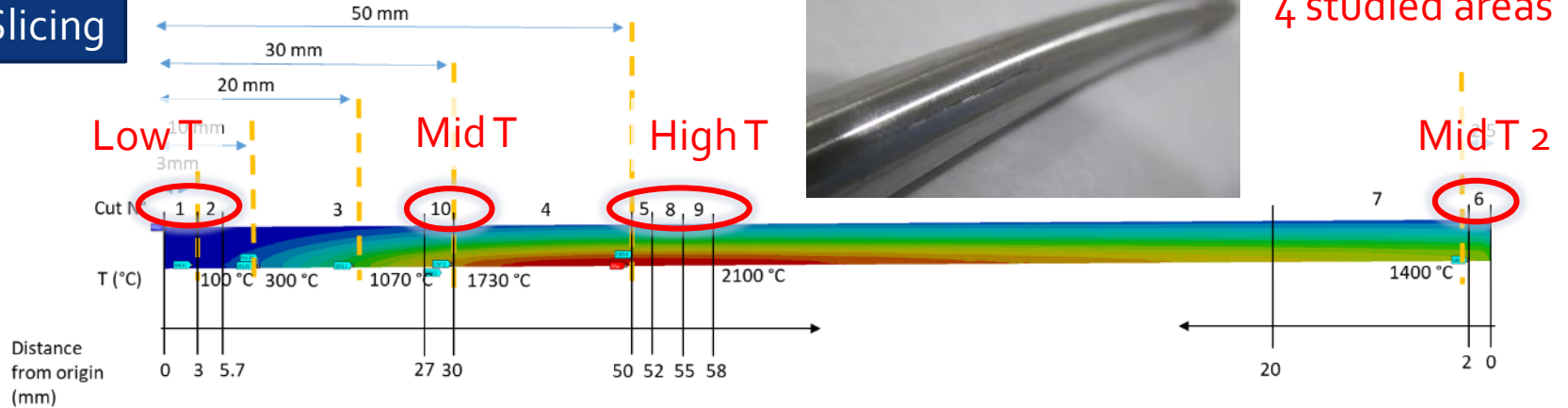
Surface speed indicated plastic deformation



- Original microstructure already deformed due to forming

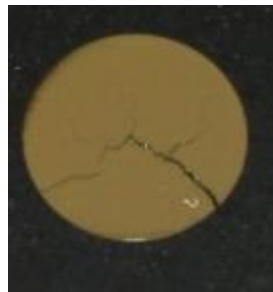
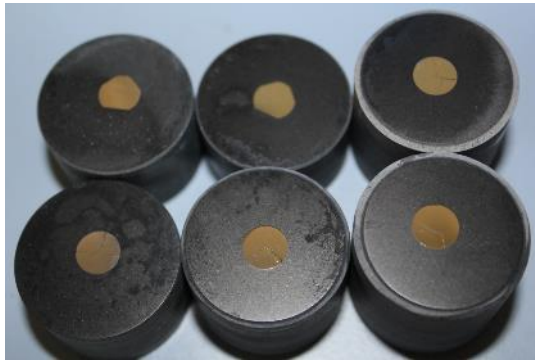
# HRMT-27: Ir target

## Slicing



## Preparation

8 cross-sections



- Hot **mounting** in phenolic resin
- **Grinding** with grit papers (P500, P1200 and P2400)
- **Polishing** with diamond suspension (6  $\mu\text{m}$  and 3  $\mu\text{m}$ )
- Final polishing with **colloidal silica suspension** (0.025  $\mu\text{m}$ ) + 5%  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$
- **Removal** from the resin

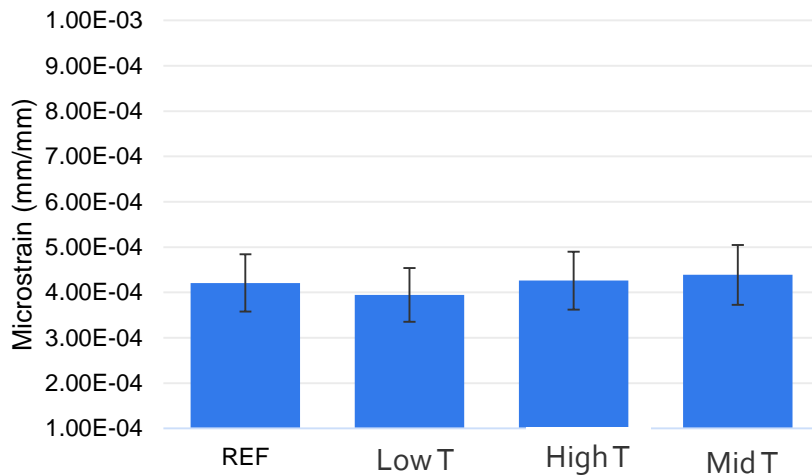
# HRMT-27: Ir target

## 2. Microstructure quantitative analysis

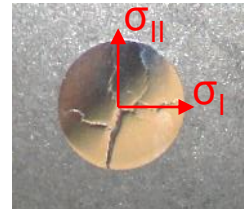
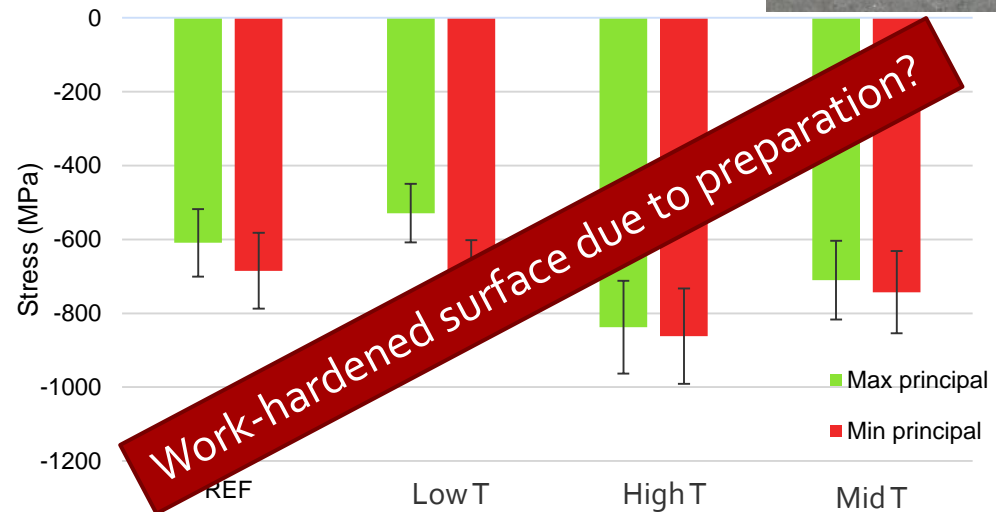
- X-ray diffraction
- Microstructure analysis from peak profile analysis with Rietveld software (MAUD)
- Residual stress measurements in cross-sectional planes
- Samples representative of the three areas: REF, Low T, Mid T and High T
- Measurements probing entire cross-sections

## Microstructure analysis

Microstrain



## Residual stress measurements

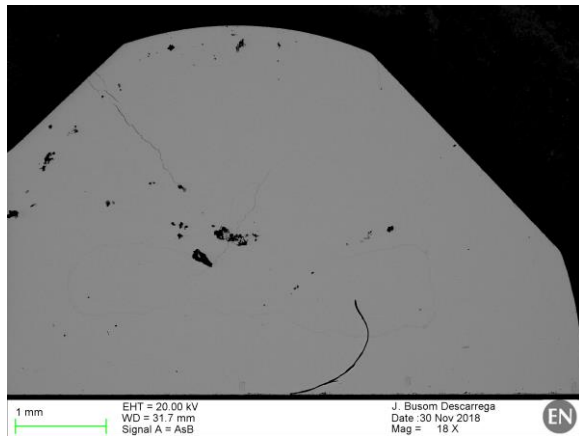
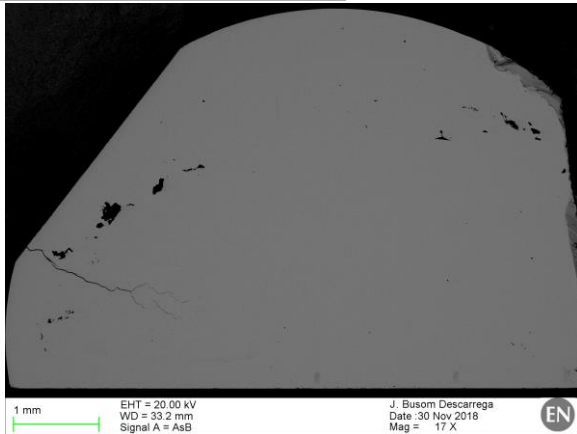


# HRMT-27: Ir target

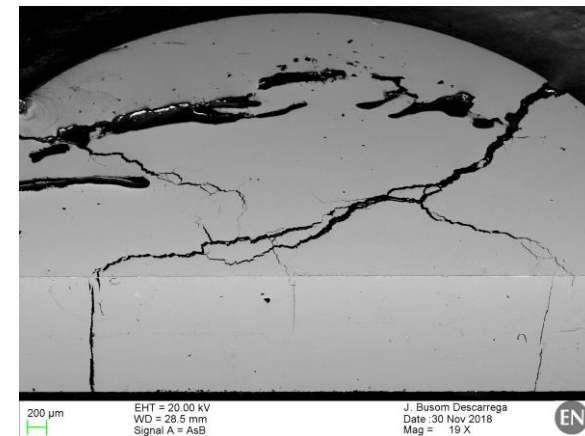
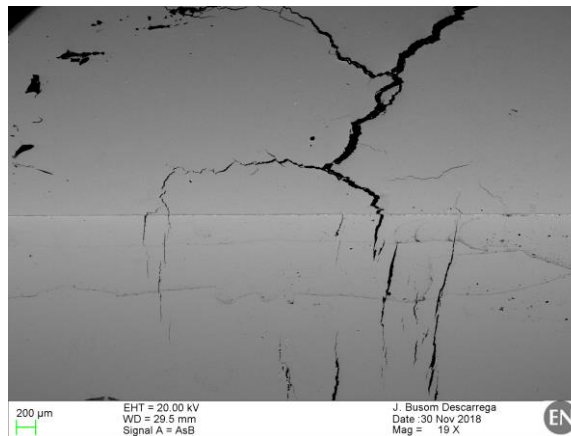
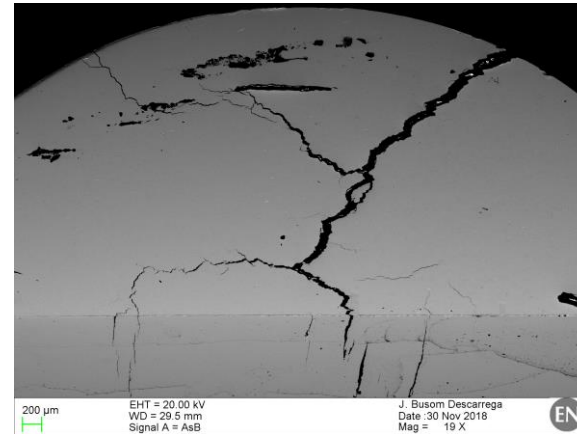
## 1. Fracture imaging

- Scanning Electron Microscope
- Secondary electron imaging

### Extremity samples



### Most solicited region samples

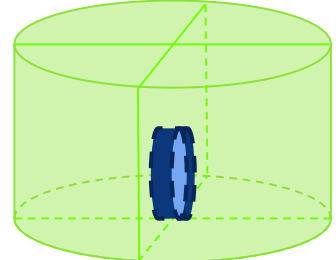
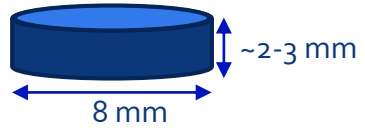


# HRMT-27: Ir target

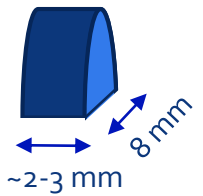
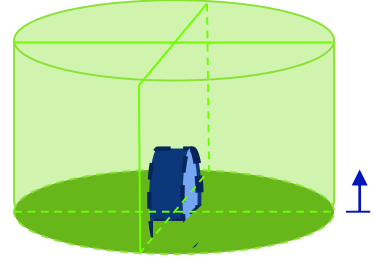
## Preparation V2



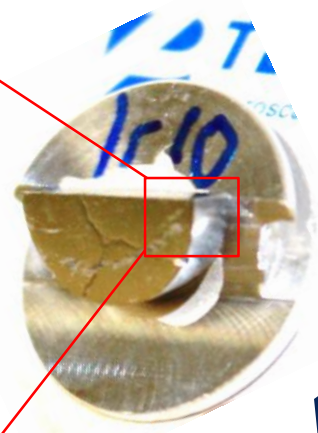
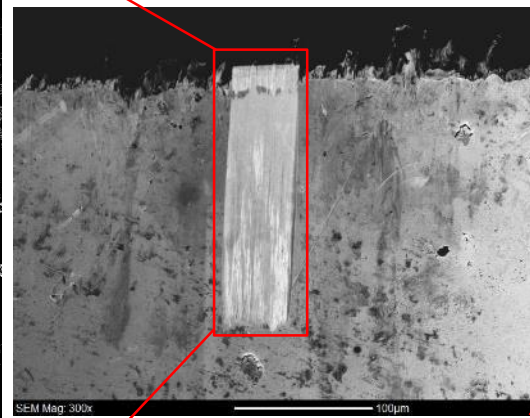
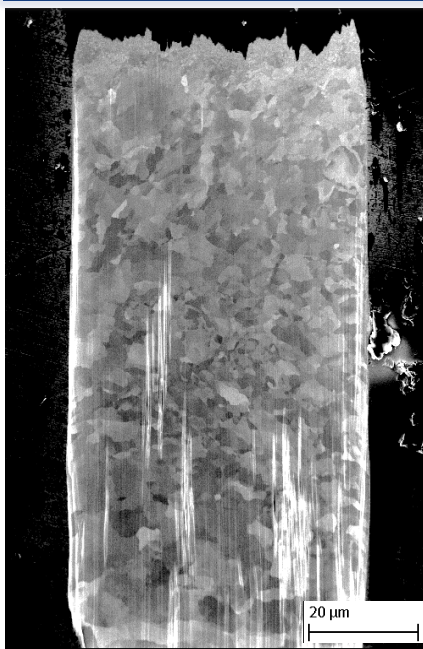
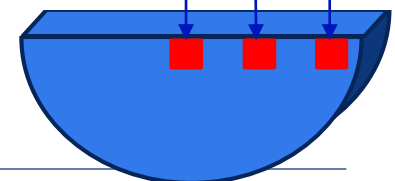
Conventional surface preparation



Polish up to 4 mm

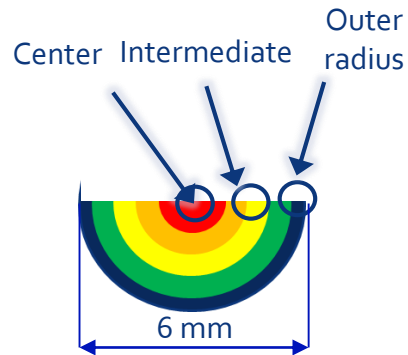


FIB polishing  
FIB center    FIB intern.    FIB outer



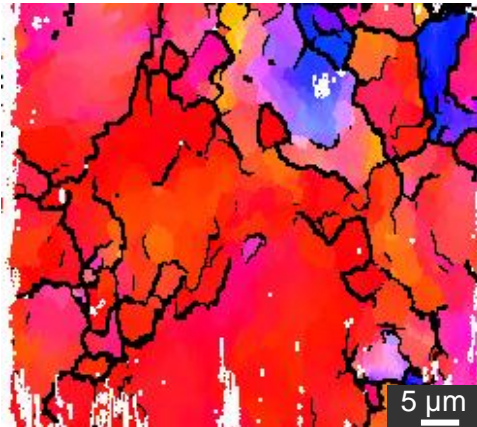
# HRMT-27: Ir target

## 2. Microstructure analysis

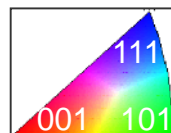
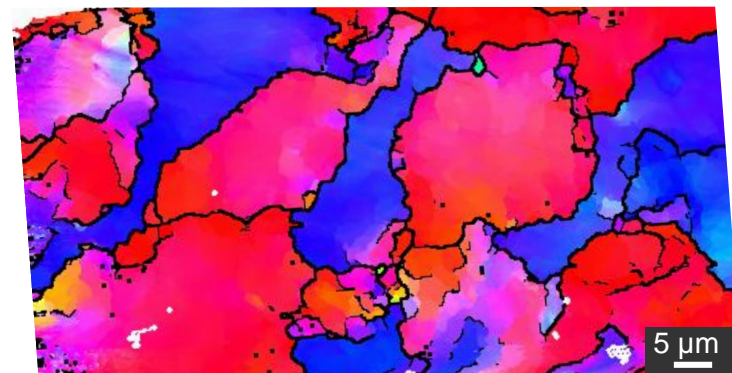


- Scanning Electron Microscope
- **Electron backscattered diffraction**
- Microstructure observable by inverse pole figure mapping
- Microstructure plastic deformation observable by misorientation mapping
- Microstructural damage quantifiable by KAM
- Samples: REF, #1, #2, #5, #6, #8, #9 and #10
- And at three locations: Outer radius, intermediate and center
- > 30 acquired EBSD mappings

Reference sample at center

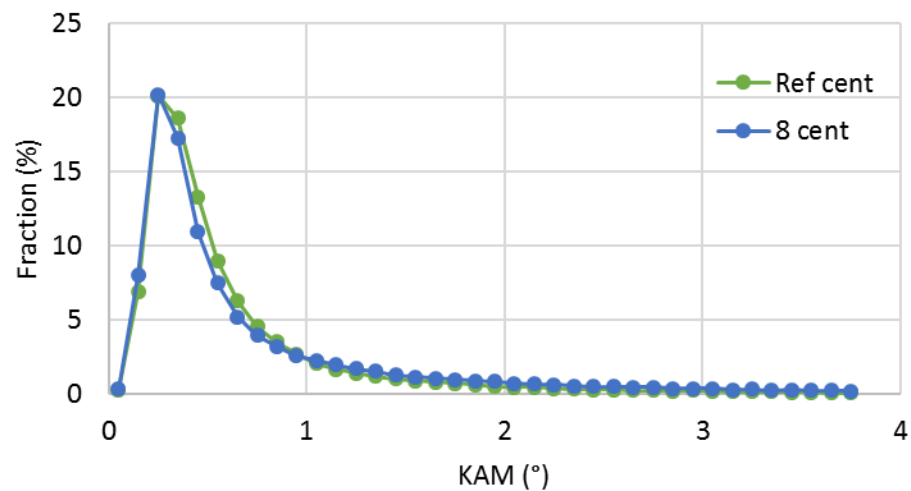
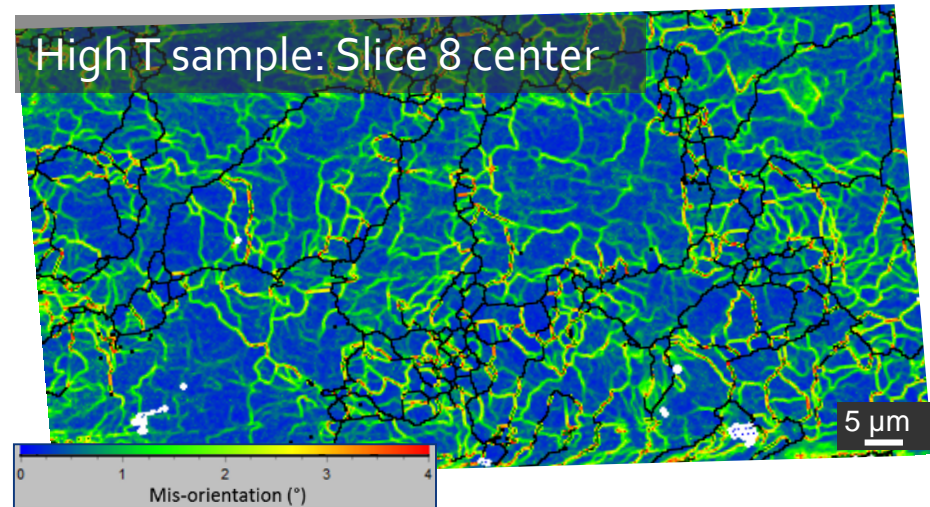
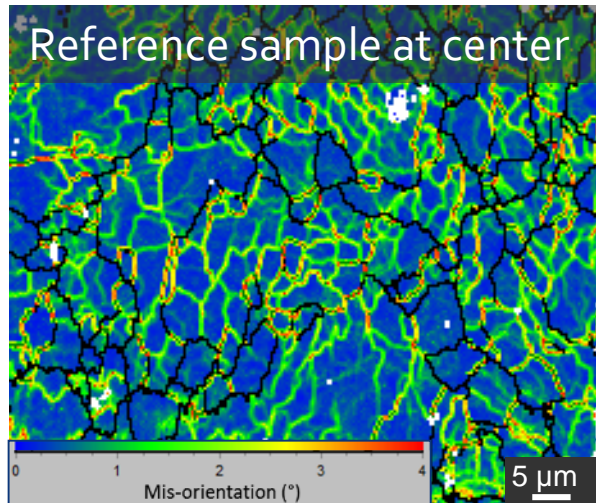


High T sample: Slice 8 center





# HRMT-27: Ir target



# HRMT-27: Ir target

---

- No observable microstructure differences before and after thermal shock
- Iridium “brittle” response
- Cracking along rod axis
- Next steps: fractography



Fracture behavior at high strain rates in unirradiated Ir

Scapin, Martina, et al., *International Journal of Impact Engineering* 106 (2017): 191-201.

- Original microstructure already deformed due to forming
- Unknown detailed forming process

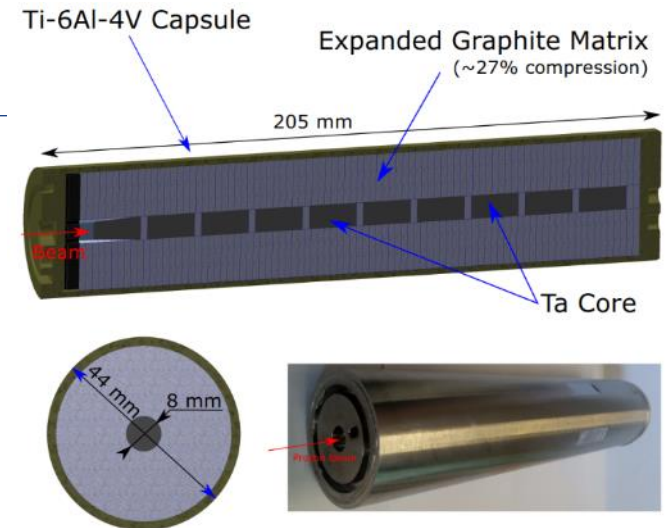
# HRMT-42: Target setup

## Scaled Prototype

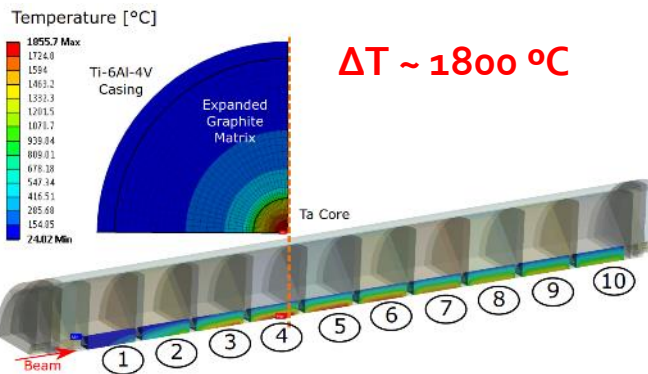
- Core of 8 mm diameter Ta rods (un-annealed)
- Embedded in a matrix made of compressed layers of **Expanded Graphite (EG)**.
- Encapsulated in Ti-6V-4Al e-beam welded container

## Conditions reached during the Experiment

- Same beam parameters as in HRMT-27

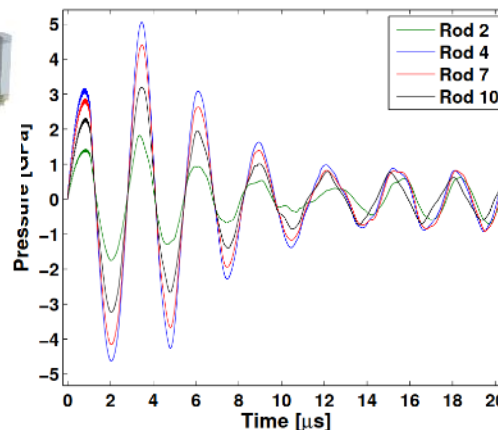


**#47 pulses were impacted** ( $7 \cdot 10^{13}$  POT)



$\Delta T \sim 1800 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$

Max pressures reached:  
 $\sim 5 \text{ GPa}$  (compression)  
 $\sim 4.6 \text{ GPa}$  (tension)

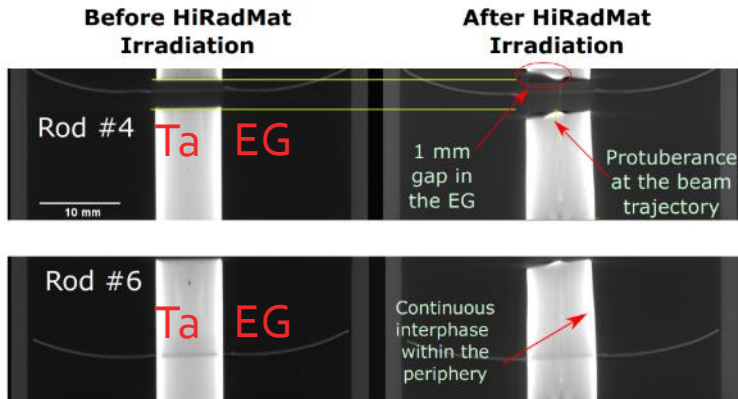


## Accumulative heating

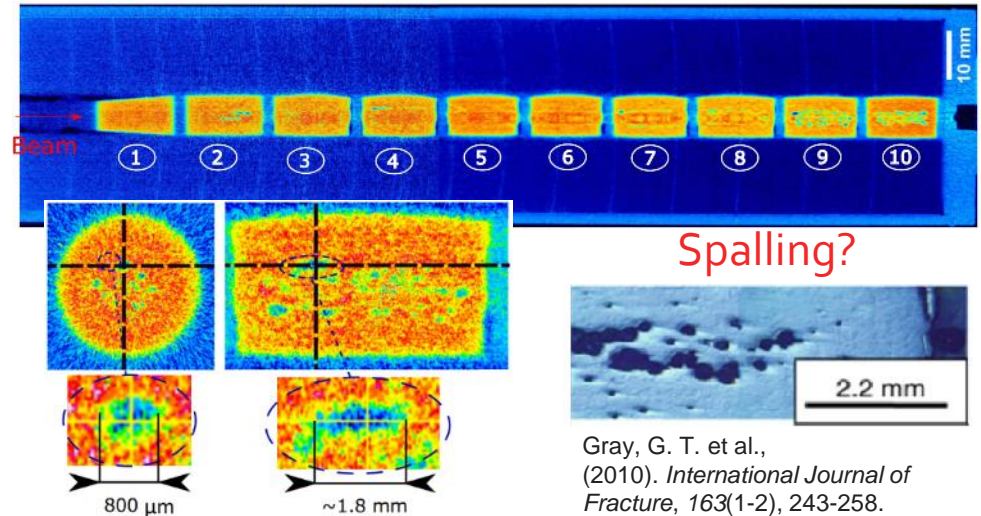
- Max temperature reached estimated in **2650 °C**
- Estimated accumulative time above 1600 °C = **14 s**
- Estimated accumulative time above 1000 °C = **5 mins**
- Estimated accumulative time above 800 °C = **15 mins**

# HRMT-42: Target PIE

## X-ray tomography, ESRF (Grenoble)



## Neutron tomography Neutra-PSI (Zurich)



## Target Opening carried out at CERN



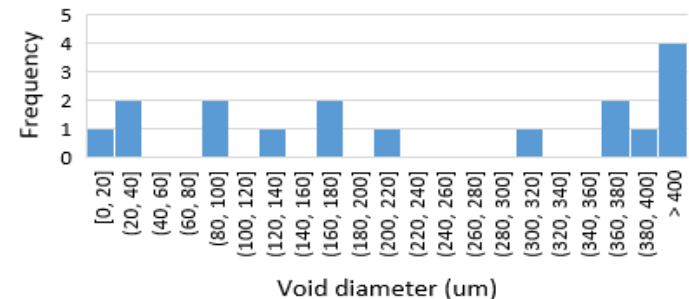
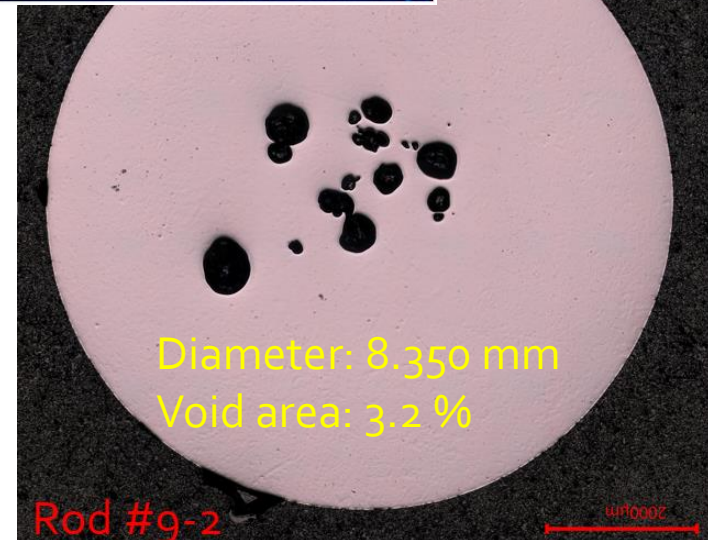
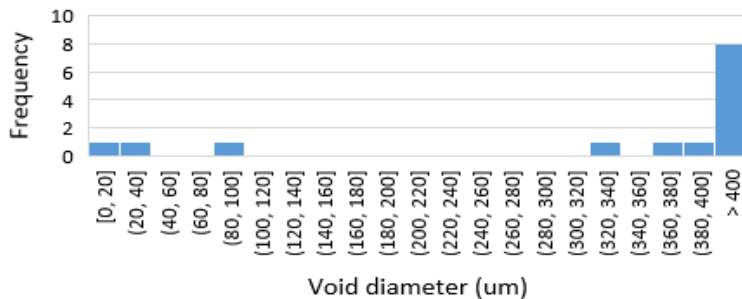
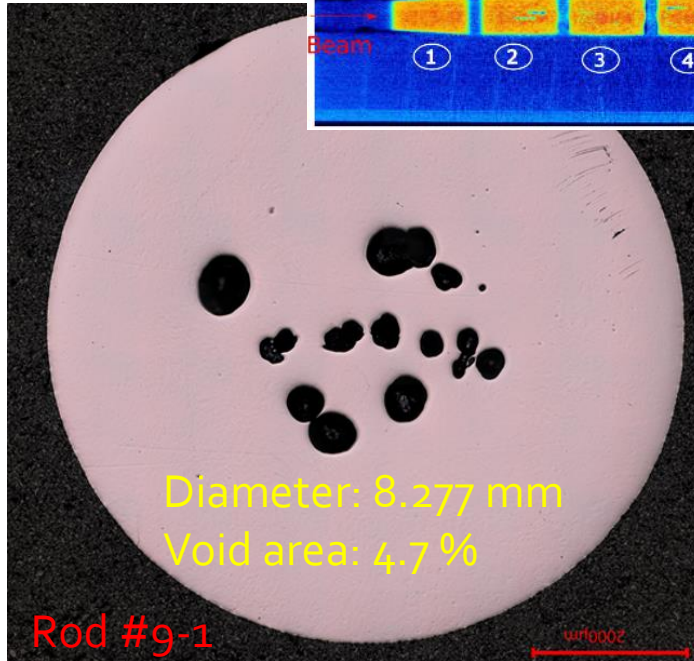
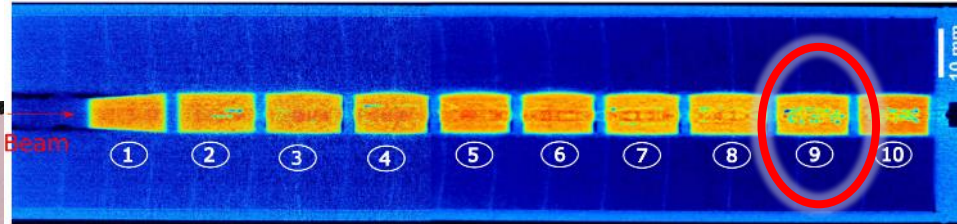
## Metrology at CERN



- Swelling
- Striates

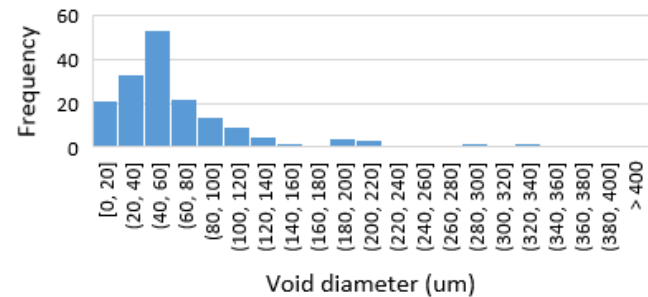
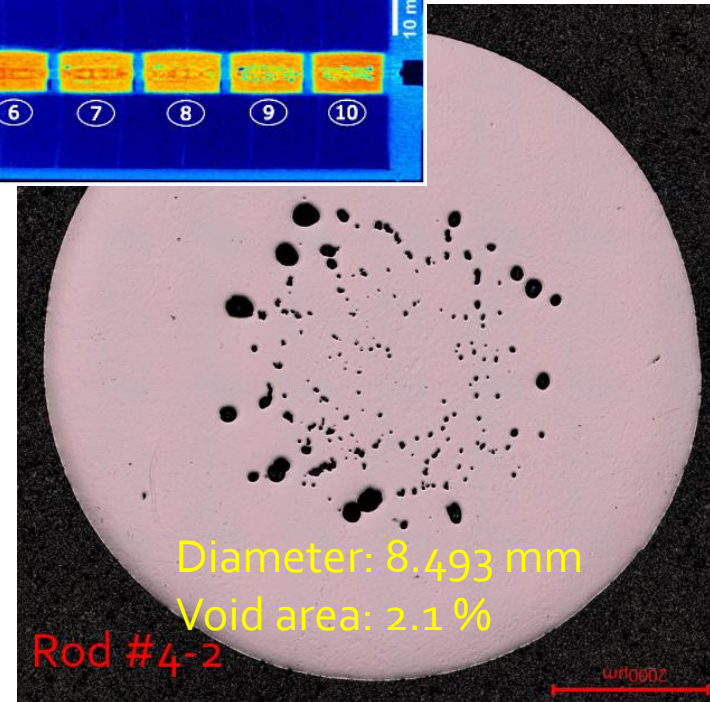
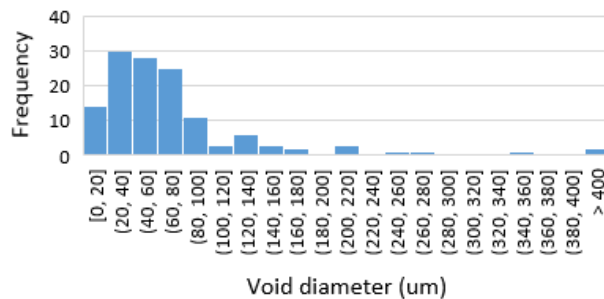
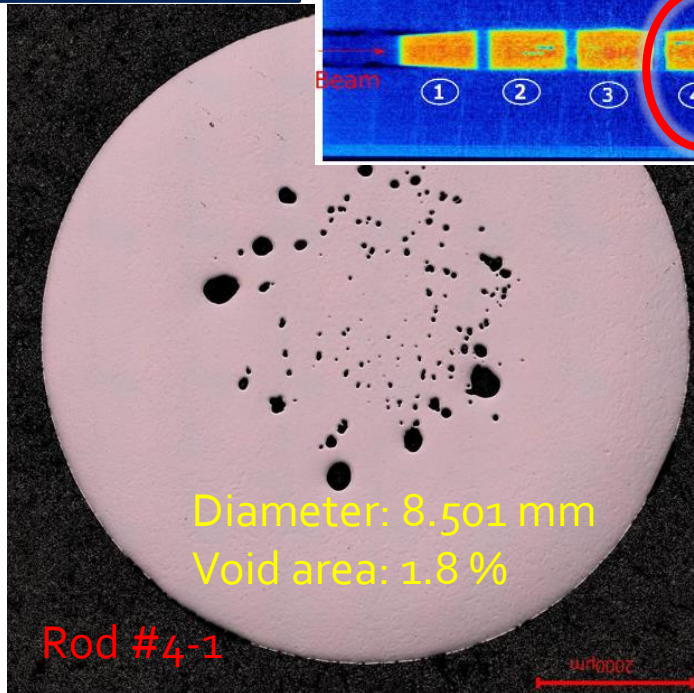
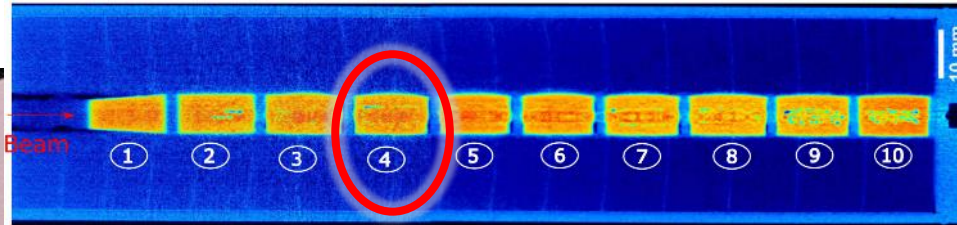
# HRMT-42: Ta target

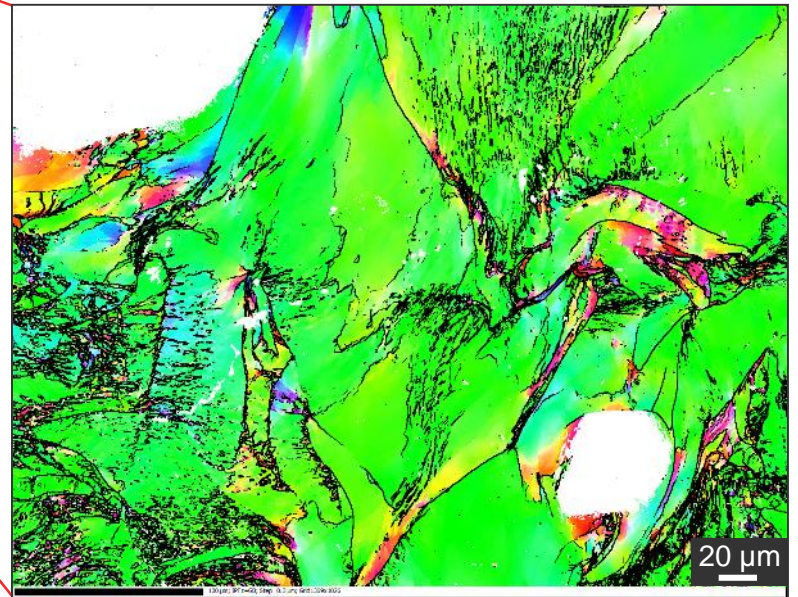
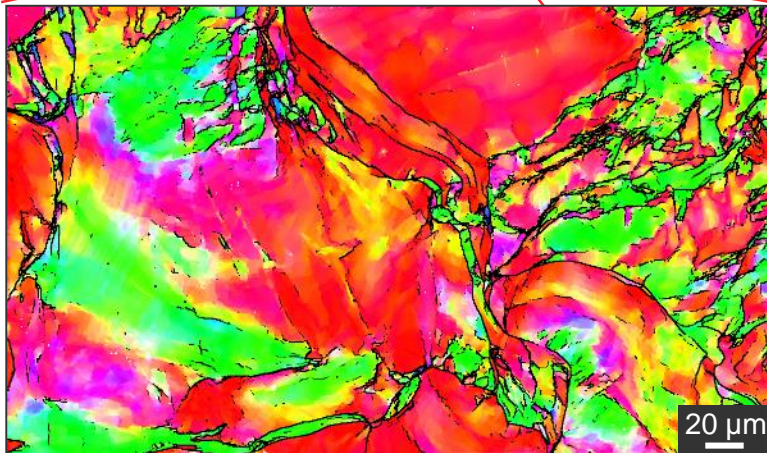
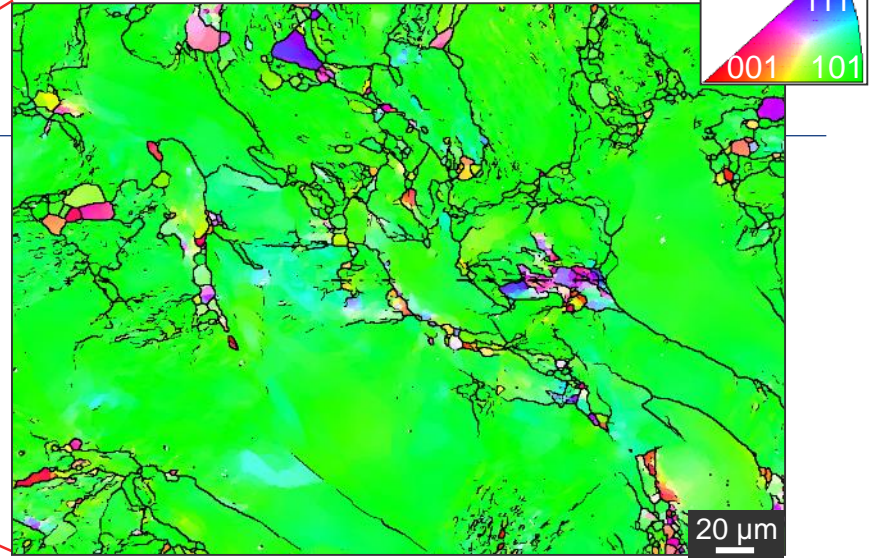
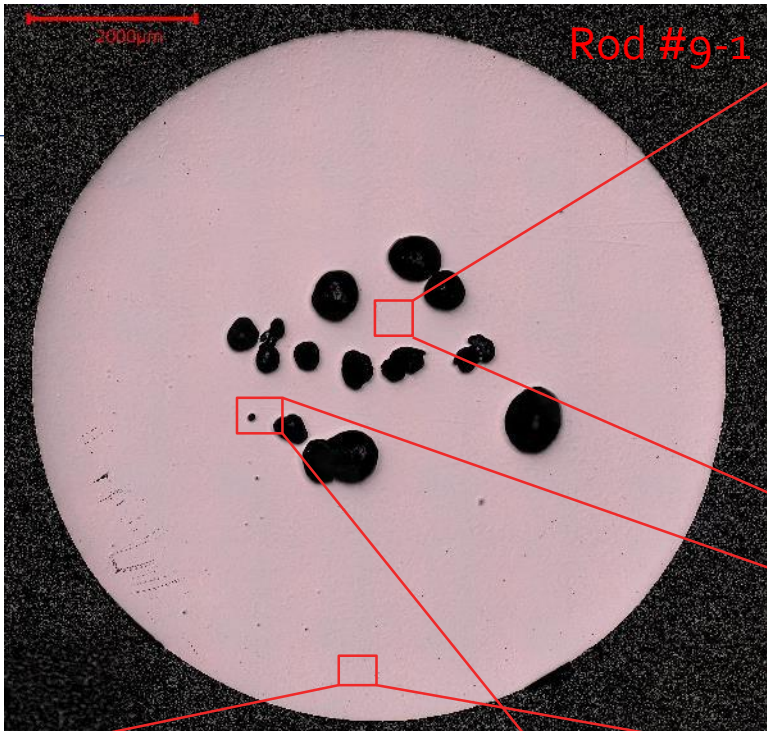
## Optical microscopy

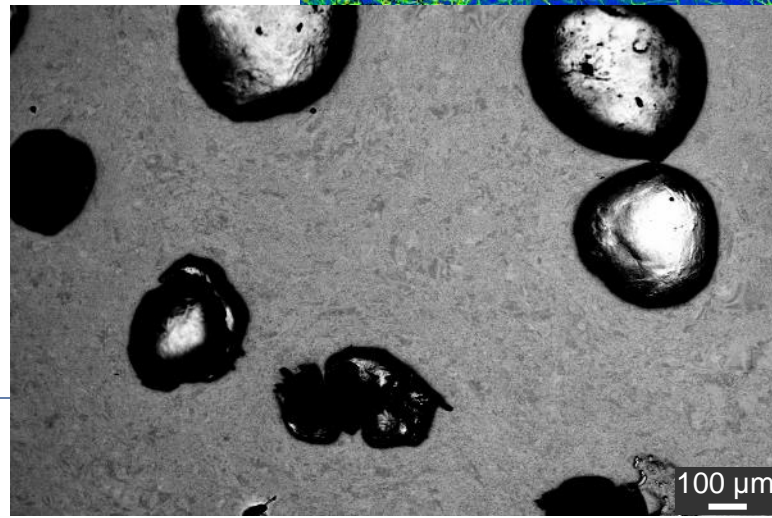
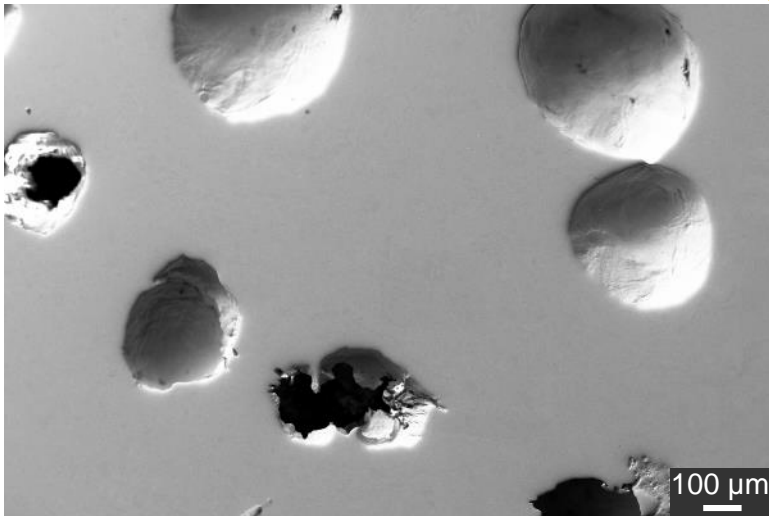
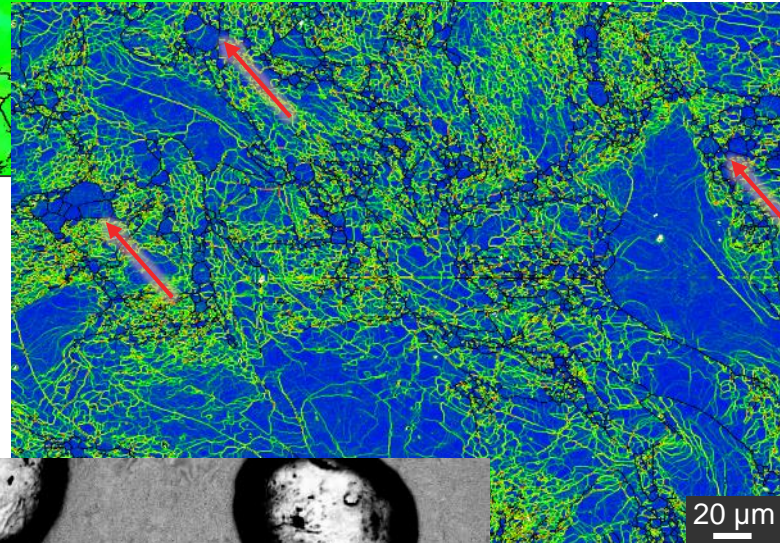
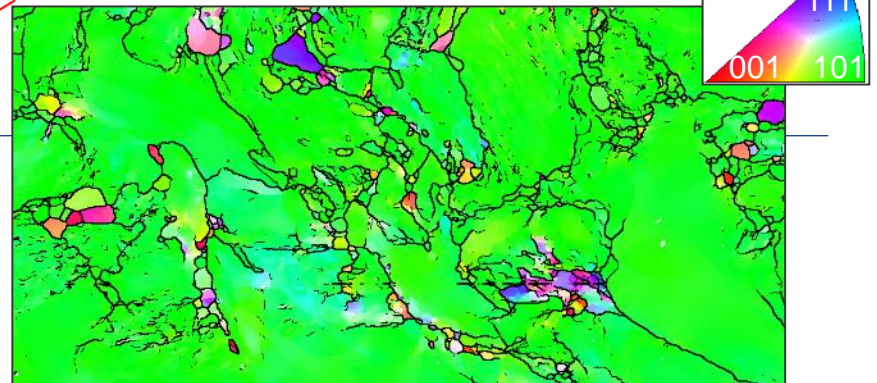
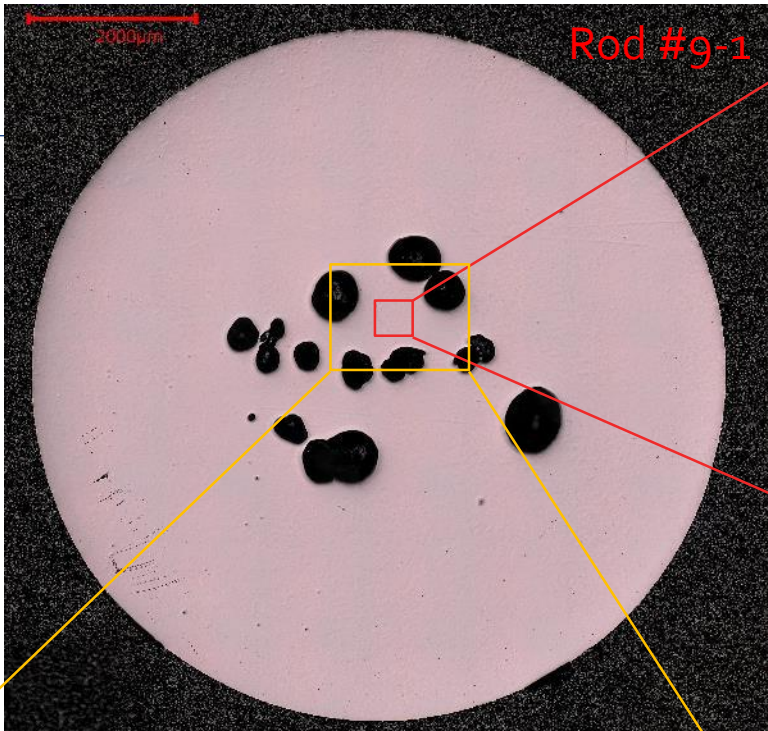


# HRMT-42: Ta target

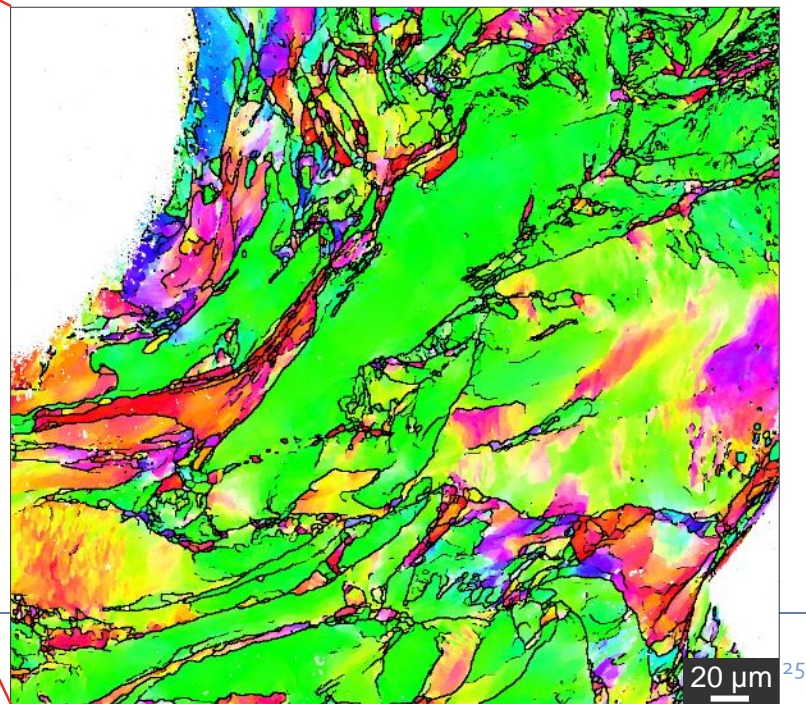
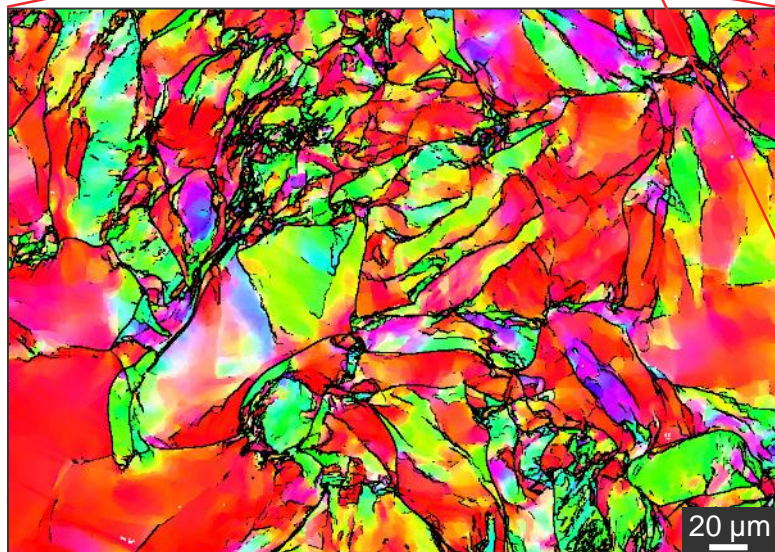
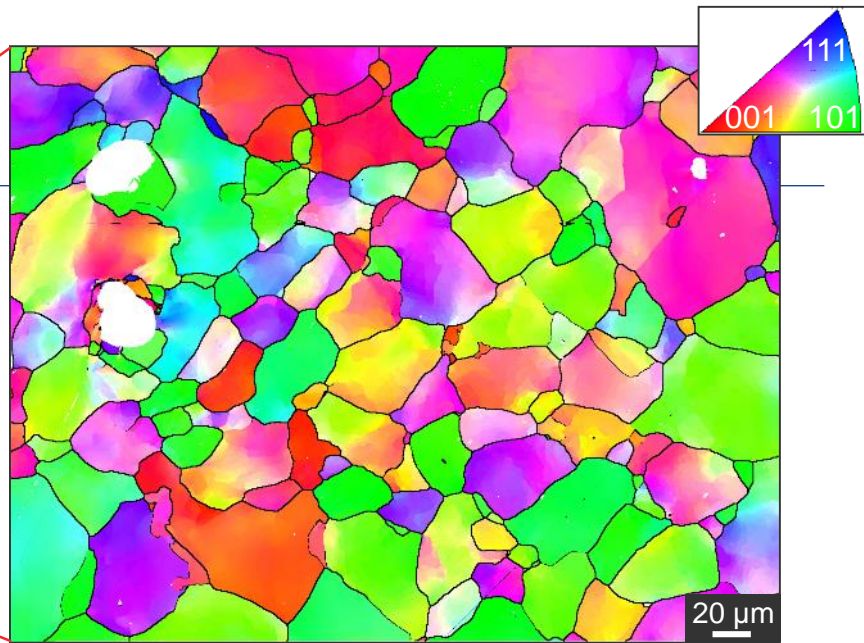
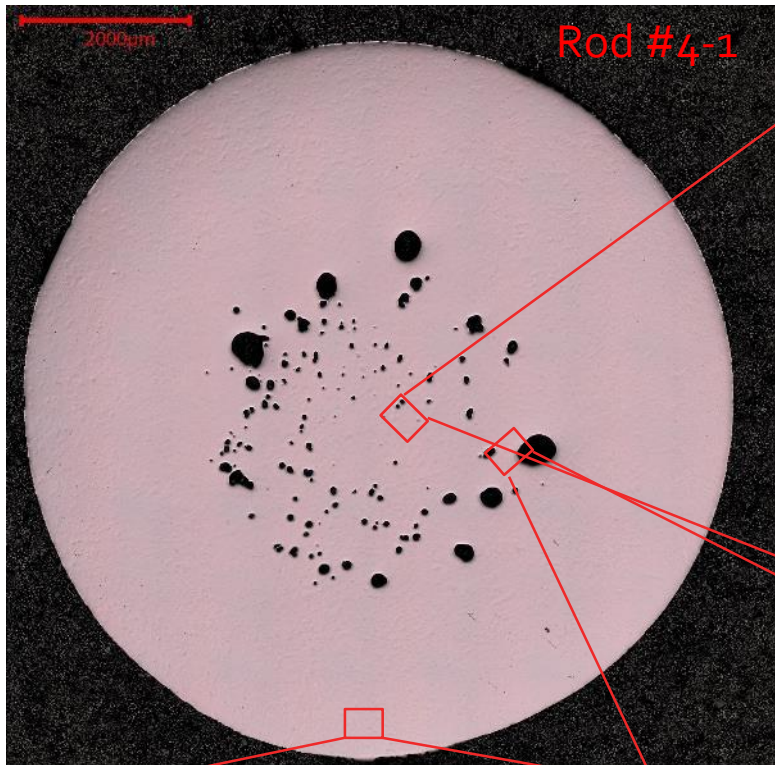
## Optical microscopy

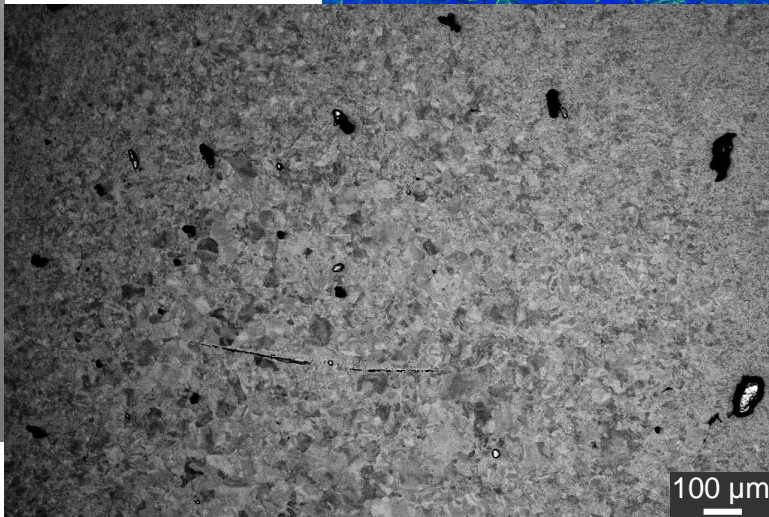
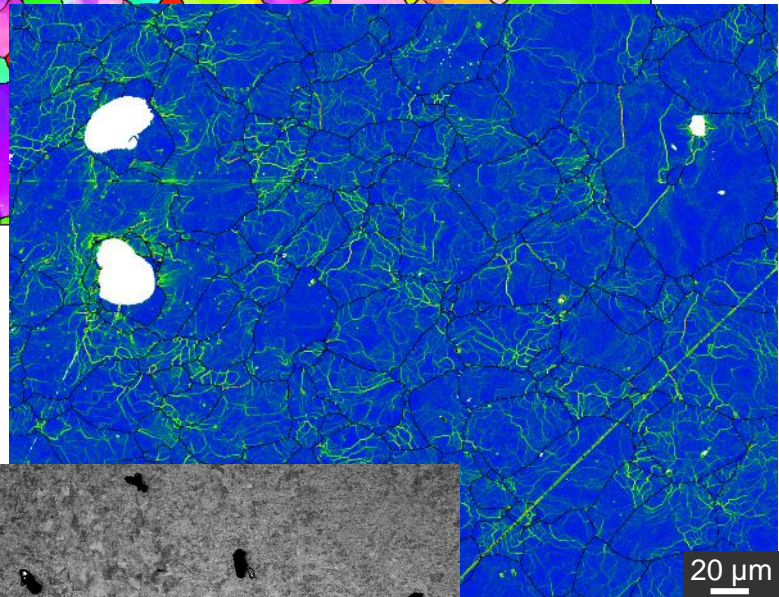
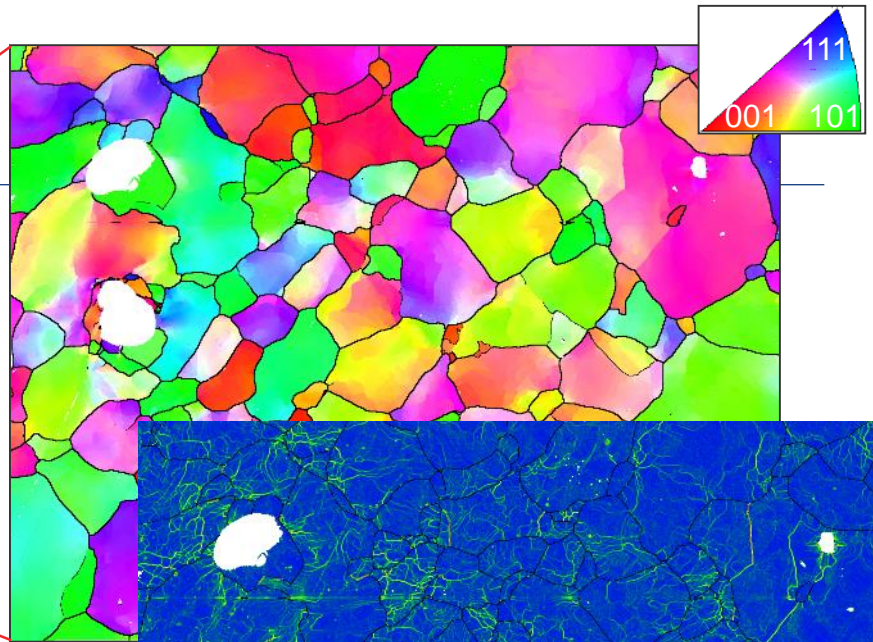
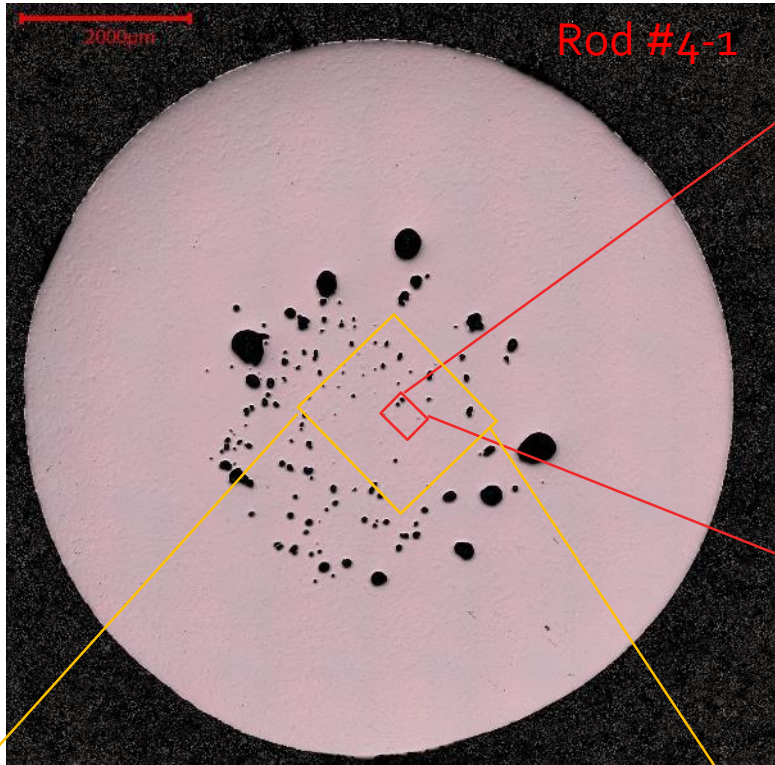






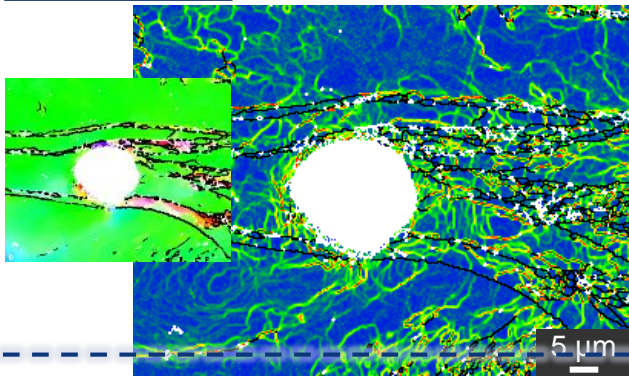




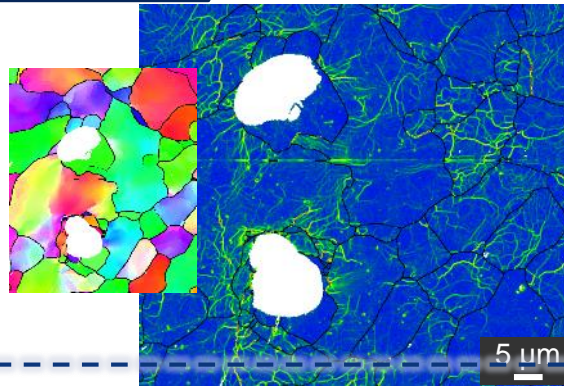


# HRMT-42: Ta target

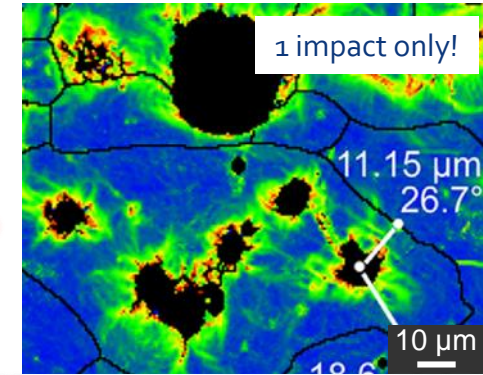
Rod #9-2



Rod #4-1

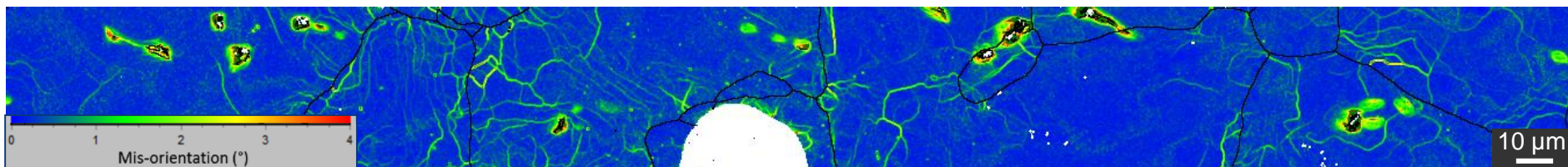
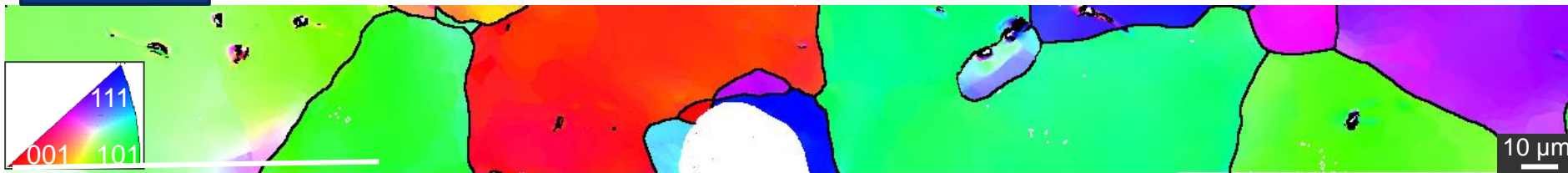


Ta spalling at RT



Cheng, M., et al. *Acta Materialia* 148 (2018): 38-48.

Rod #4-2



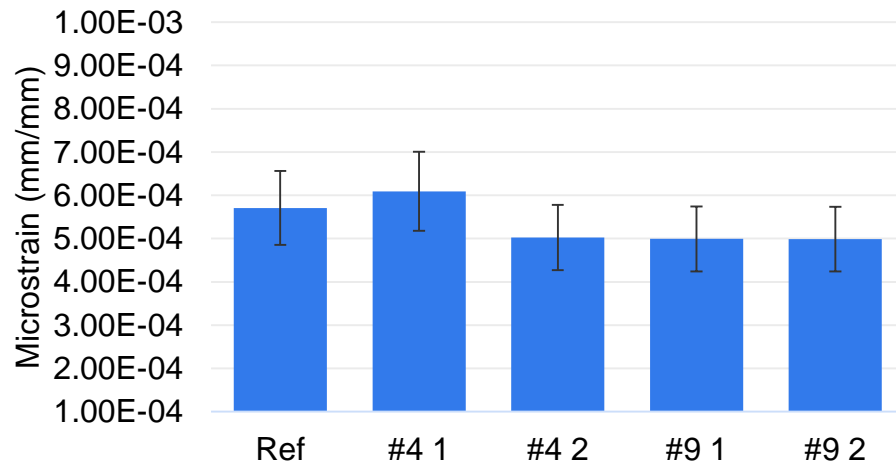
# HRMT-42: Ta target

## 3. Microstructure quantitative analysis

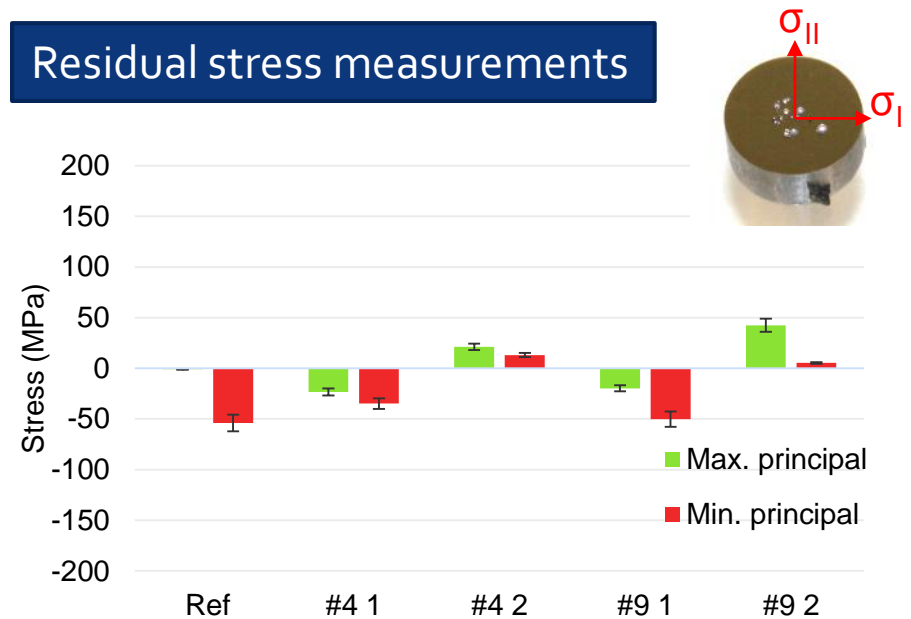
- X-ray diffraction
- Microstructure analysis from peak profile analysis with Rietveld software (MAUD)
- Residual stress measurements in cross-sectional planes
- All samples were measured
- Measurements probing entire cross-sections

## Microstructure analysis

Microstrain



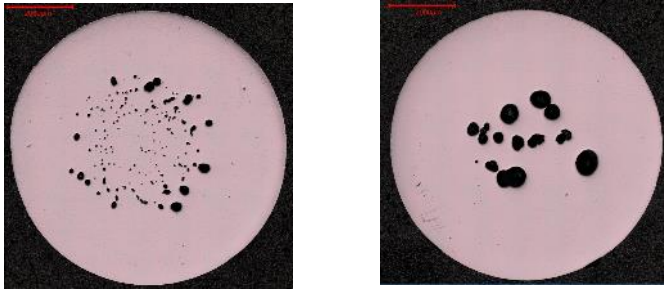
## Residual stress measurements



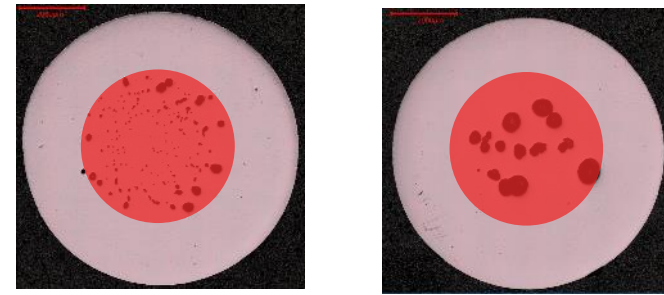
# HRMT-42: Remarks

- Many questions to answer, which require simulations – PIE – literature precise correlation:

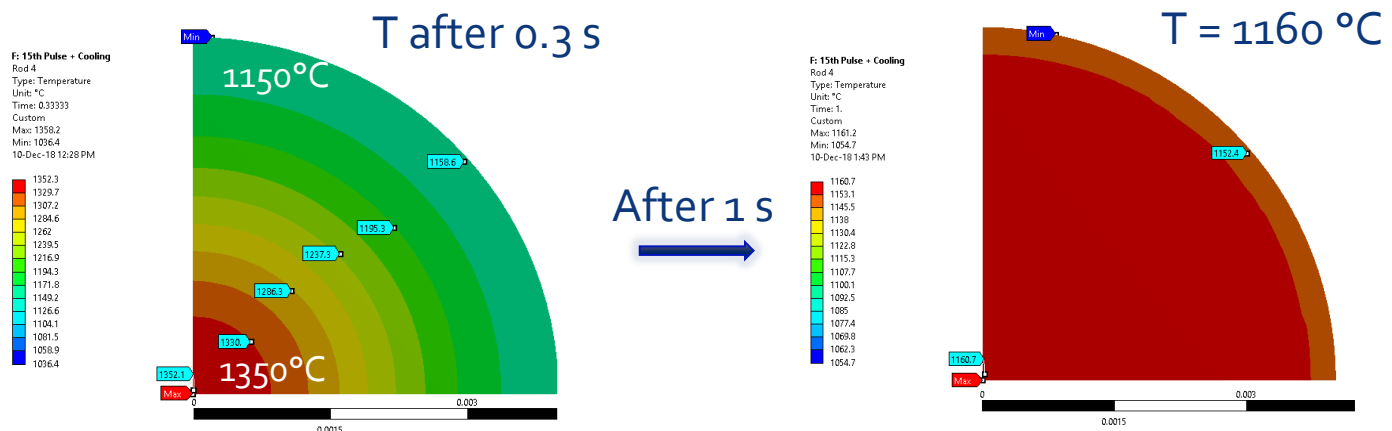
## Void size and distribution



## Void positioning



## Recrystallization



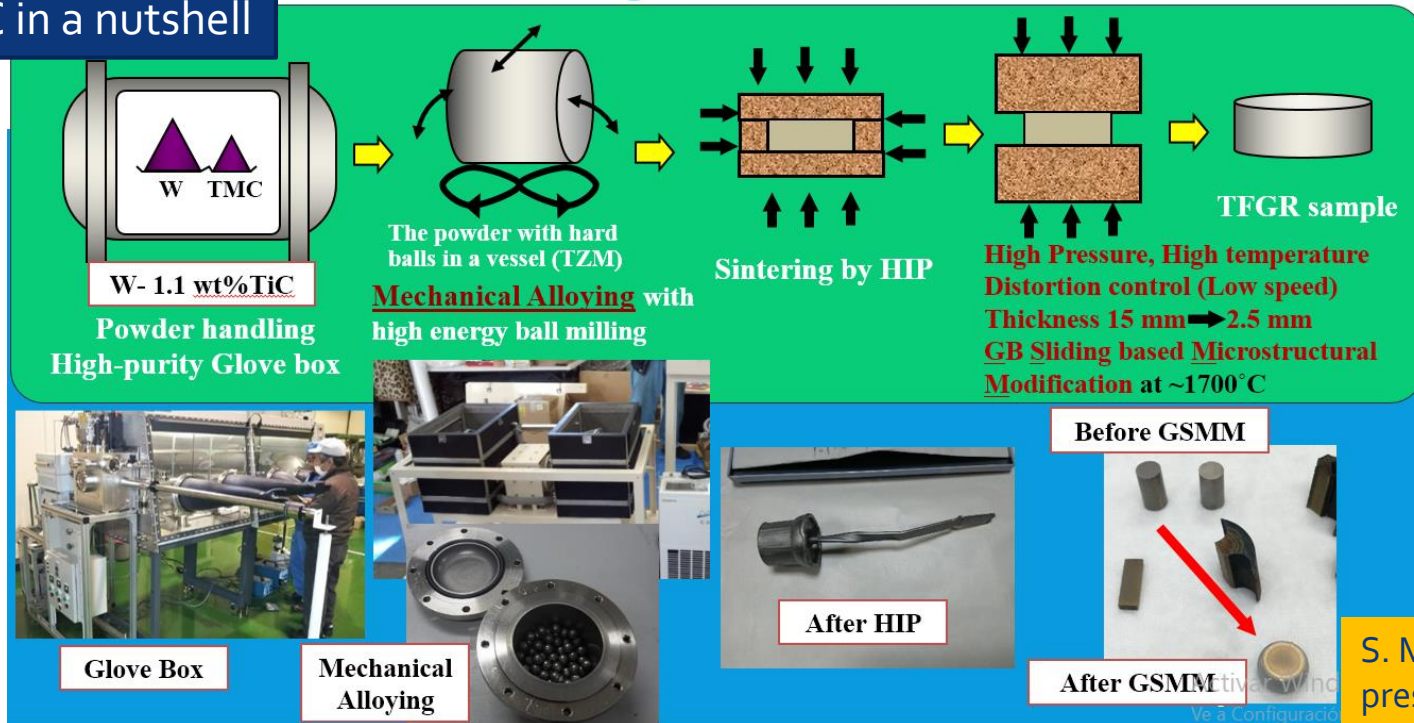
# Conclusions

---

- Several irradiated rods from HRMT-27 and HRMT-42 have been studied
- Sample preparation procedures established and optimized
- Microstructural properties available at different scales
- Cracking and spalling phenomena directly observed
- Recrystallisation process observed in Tantalum
- Discussion on going to understand phenomena and application to AD target design

# Bonus track: W-TiC for PROTAD

## W-TiC in a nutshell

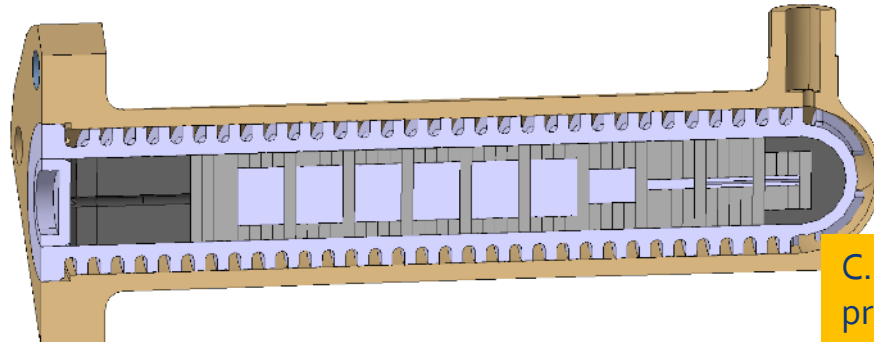


S. Makimura presentation

## W-TiC in HiRadMat

### PROTAD Target 5:

Core:  $\varnothing$  10 mm Ta +  
 $\varnothing$  10 mm W + **W-1.1TiC** +  $\varnothing$  10 mm Ir  
+  $\varnothing$  2 mm Ta tube  
Matrix: Compressed EG

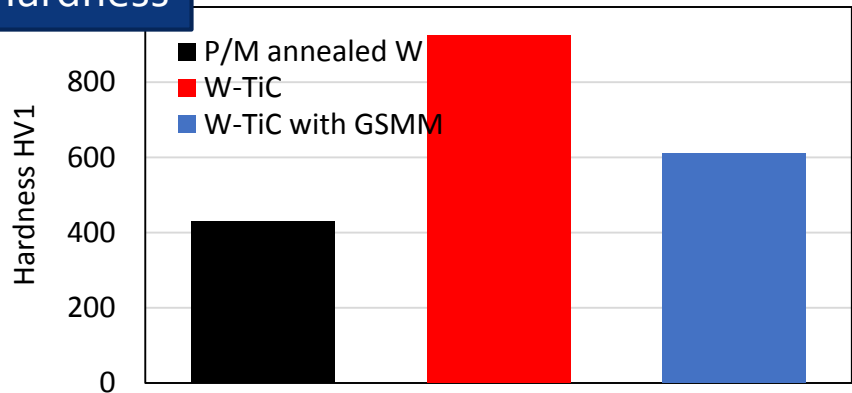


C. Torregrosa presentation

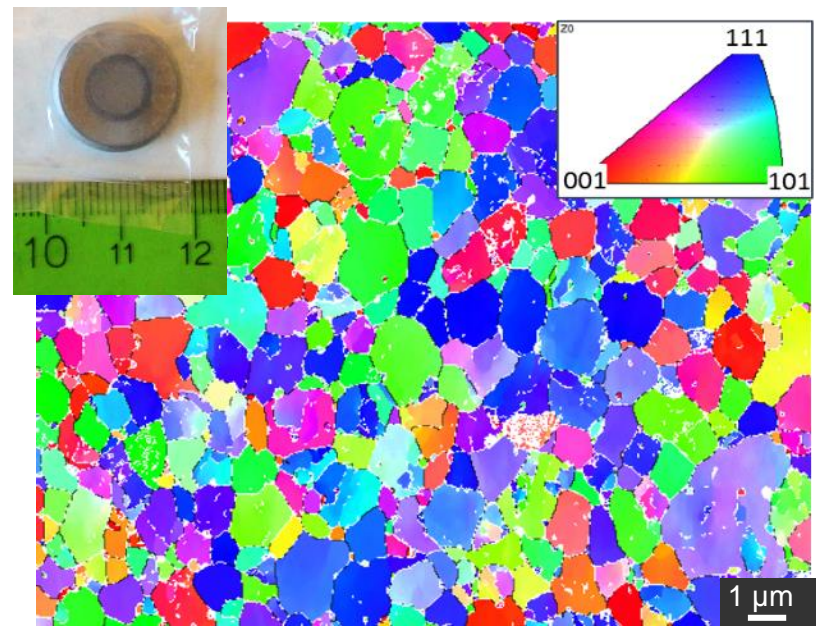
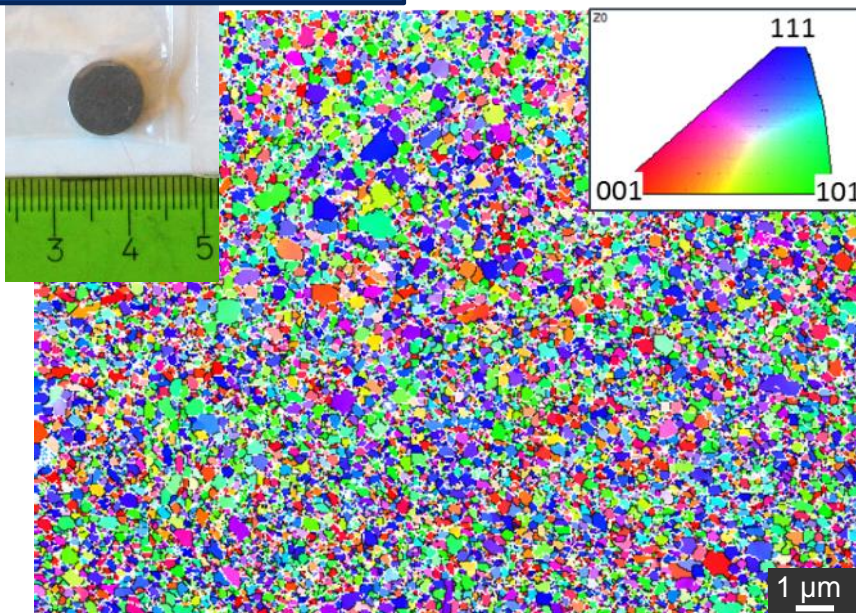
# Bonus track: W-TiC for PROTAD

- Two spare W-TiC samples for microstructure characterization
- One sample after GSMM and one sample before GSMM

## Hardness



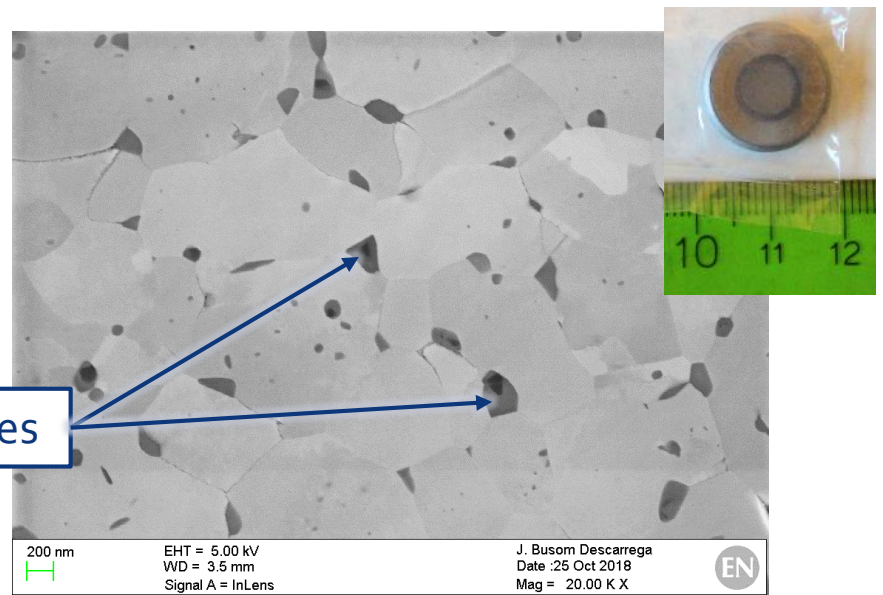
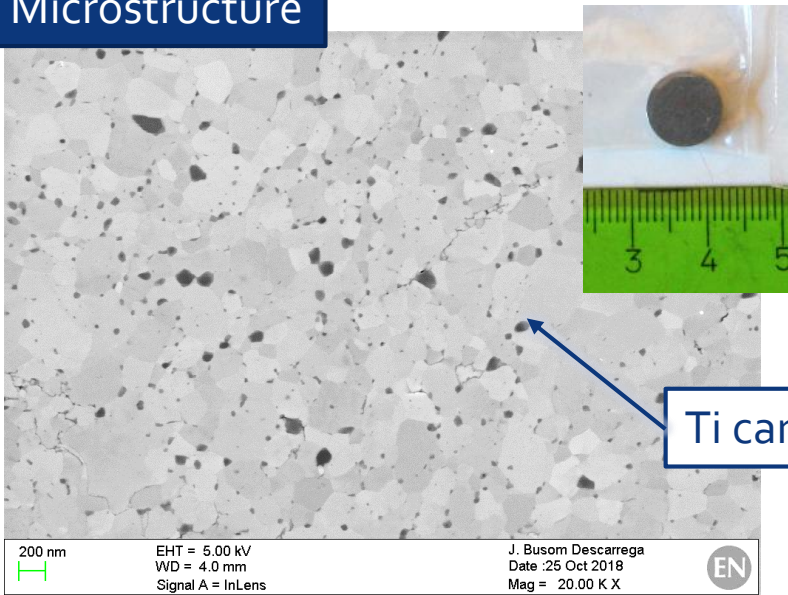
## Microstructure- IPF





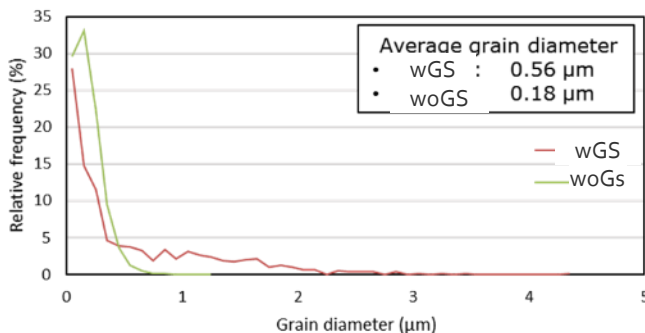
# Bonus track: W-TiC for PROTAD

## Microstructure



Ti carbides

## Grain size distribution



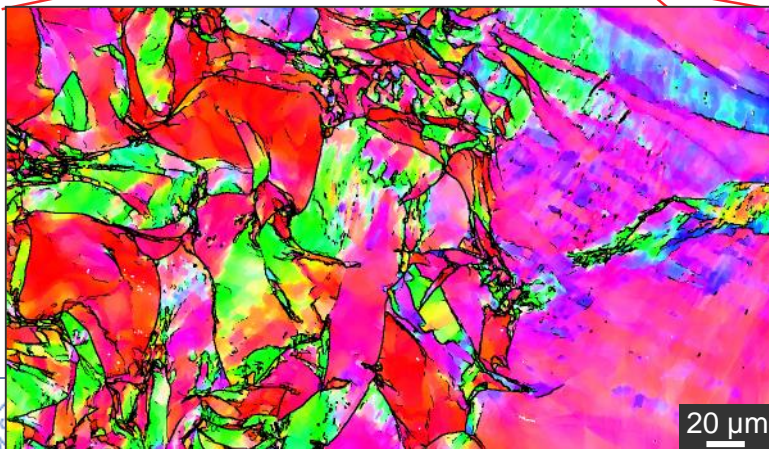
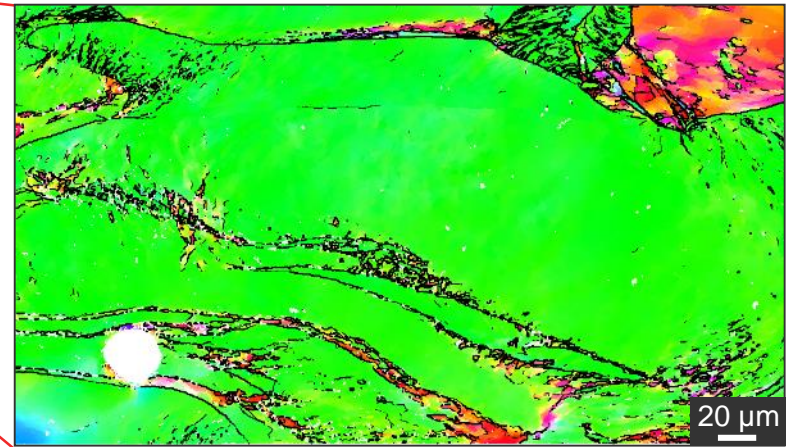
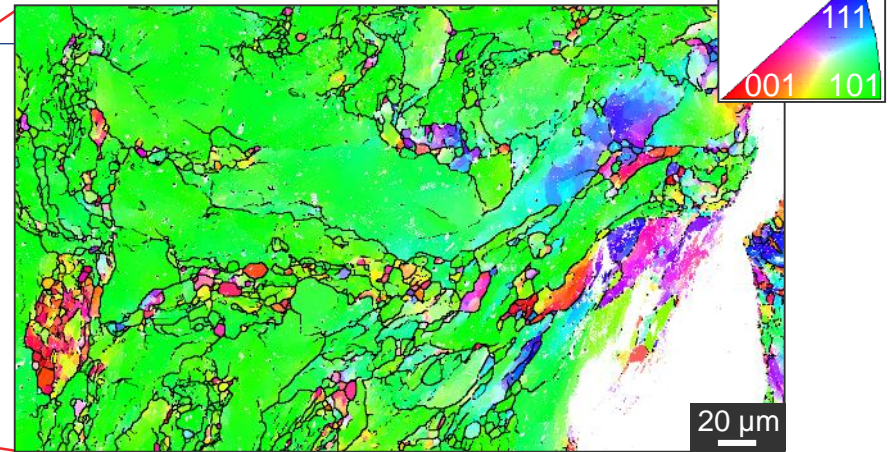
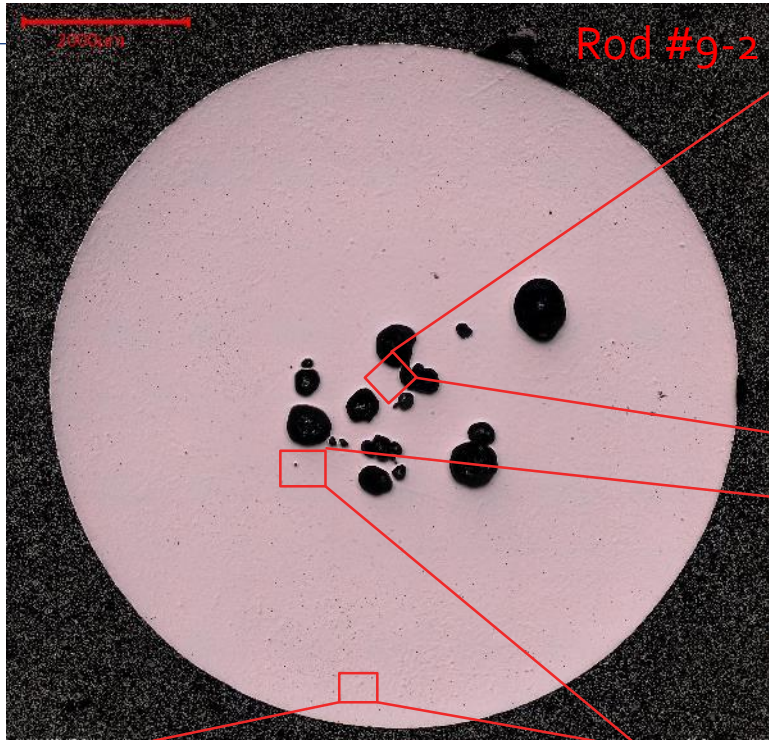
- Grain size increase with GSMM
- Coherent hardness decrease with GSMM
- Carbide growth with GSMM only at GBs
- Equiaxial and microstructure
- No grain preferential orientations

Thanks for your attention. Questions?



ENGINEERING  
DEPARTMENT

# Spare slide: HRMT-42 Rod #9-2



# Spare slide: HRMT-42 Rod #4-2

