



# Non-destructive testing with neutrons: Engineering materials and components revealed



African School of Fundamental  
Physics and Applications

**ASP Online Seminar Series:** Photons and Neutrons in the quest to solve societal challenges

Part B: Large Research Infrastructure as tools for innovation

**PRESENTED BY ROBIN WORACEK**  
**// INSTRUMENT CLASS COORDINATOR IMAGING & ENGINEERING**

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**2021-01-26**

# Non-destructive testing with neutrons: Engineering materials and components revealed



Characterization Techniques & Contrast Mechanisms

Neutron Methods & Length Scales

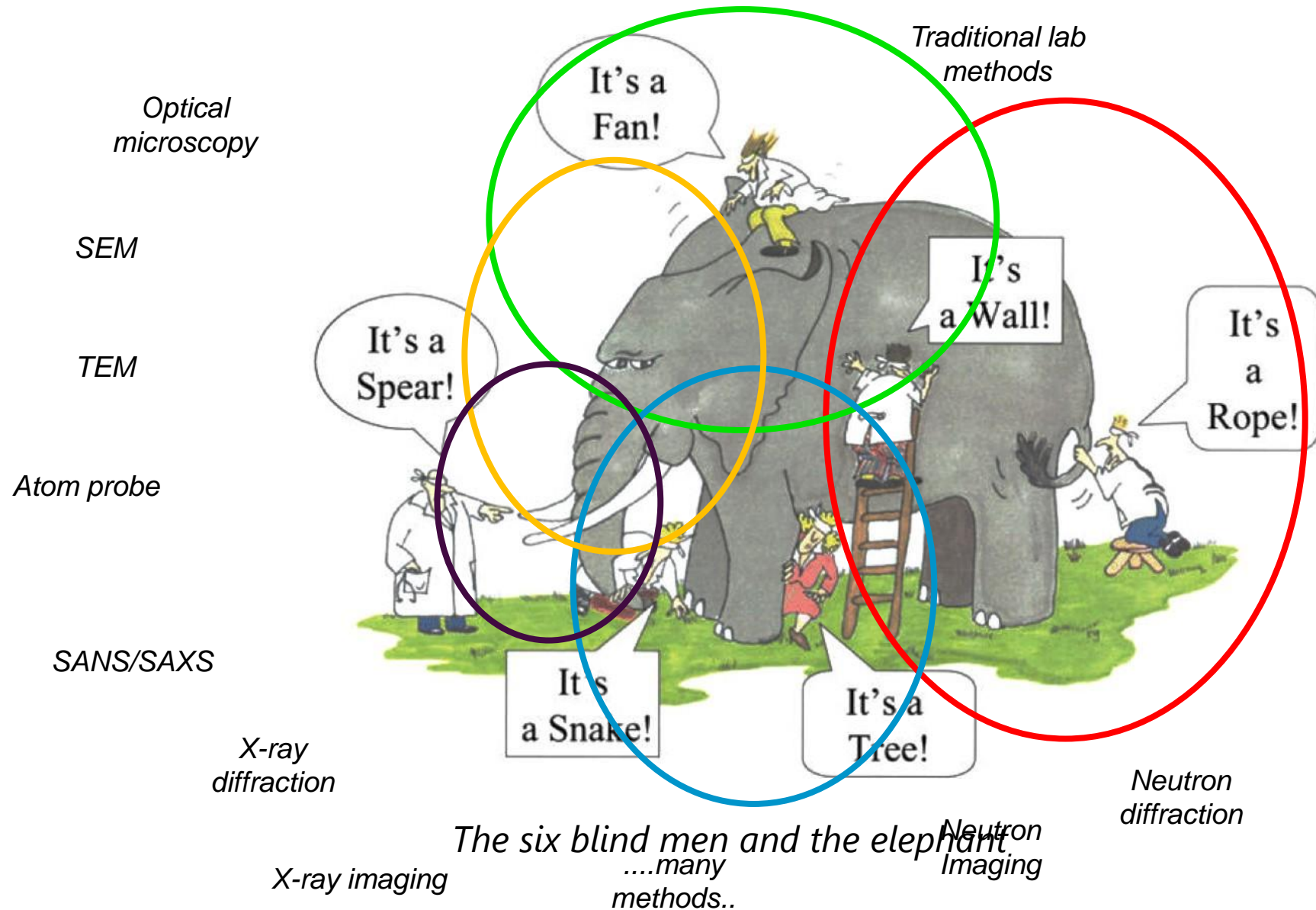
Applications using Imaging (Attenuation Contrast)

Applications using SANS and Diffraction

Applications using Imaging (Diffraction and Scattering Contrast)

Summary & Outlook

# Array of characterization techniques



# Array of characterization techniques: Tomography

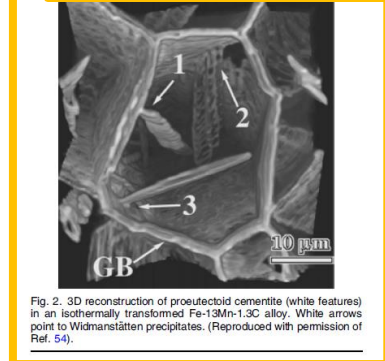
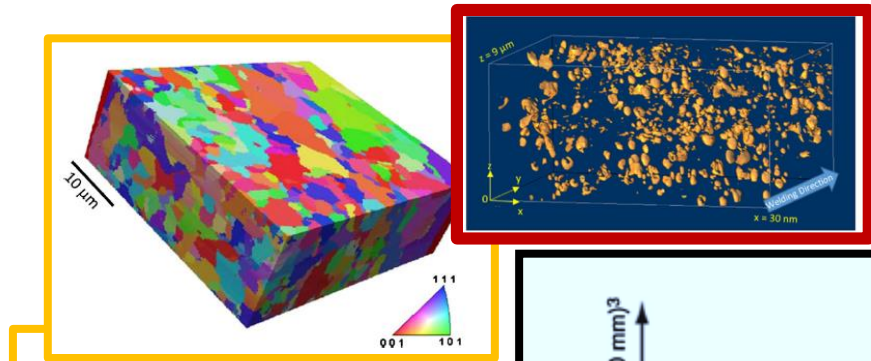


Fig. 2. 3D reconstruction of proeutectoid cementite (white features) in an isothermally transformed Fe-13Mn-1.2C alloy. White arrows point to Widmanstätten precipitates. (Reproduced with permission of Ref. 54).

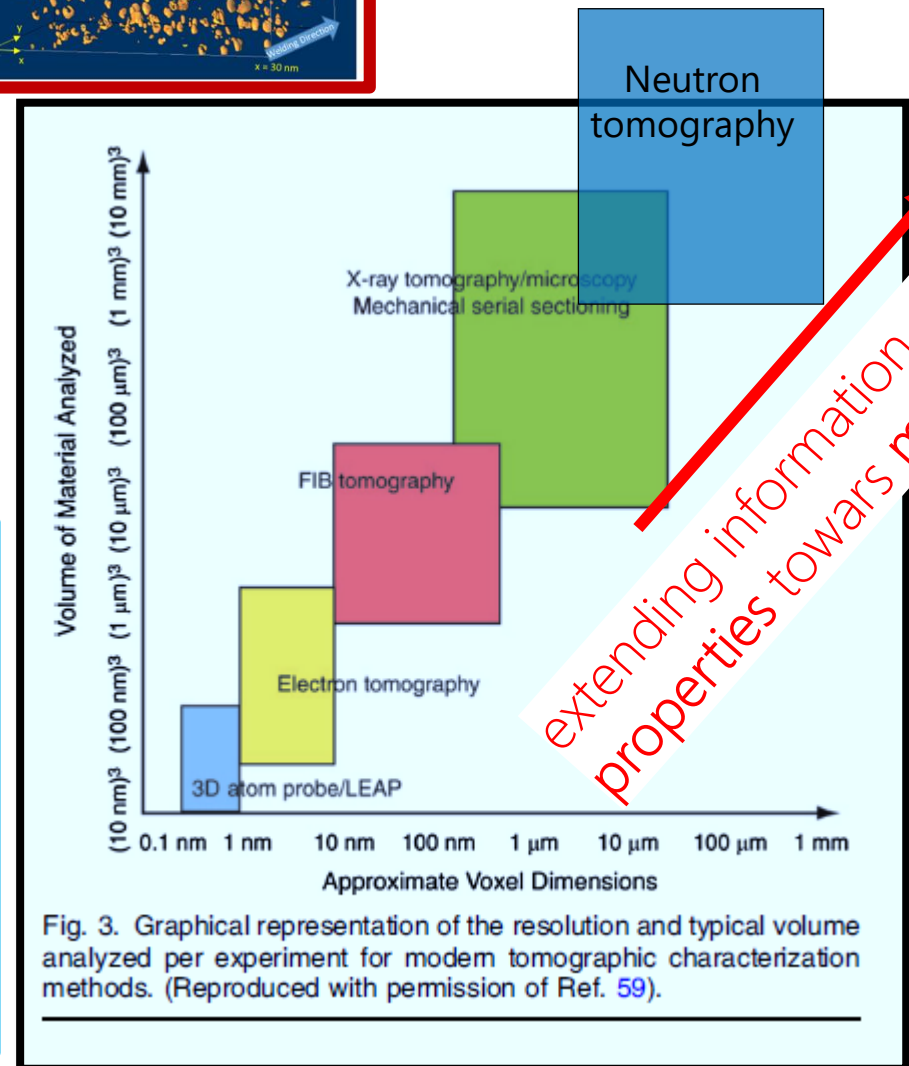
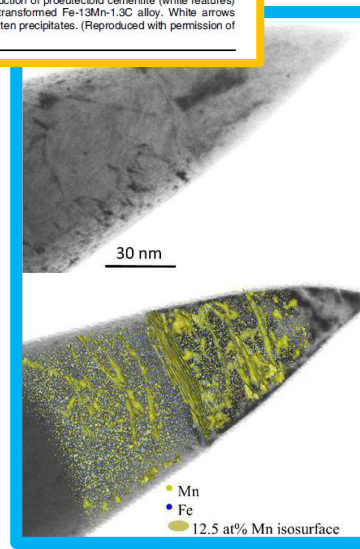
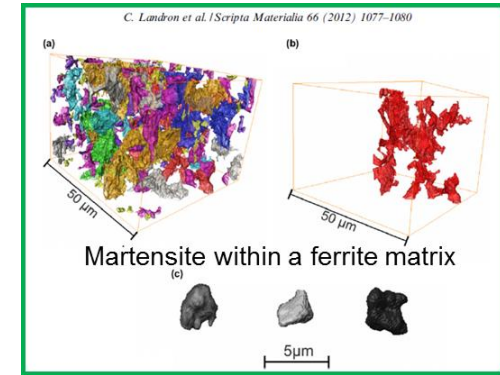
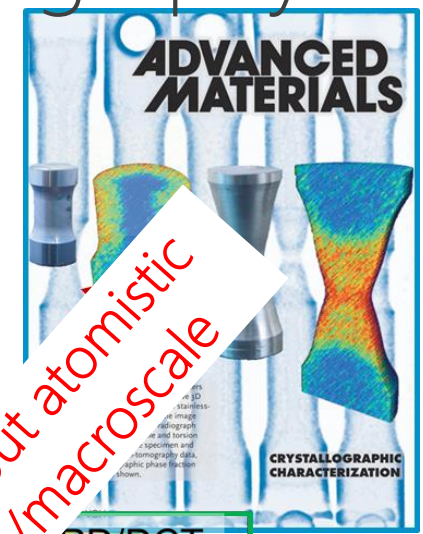


Fig. 3. Graphical representation of the resolution and typical volume analyzed per experiment for modern tomographic characterization methods. (Reproduced with permission of Ref. 59).





# X-rays and neutrons



- **Neutrons** interact with the **nuclei** of the atoms: **strong nuclear force**.
- Different to **light** and **X-rays**, which interact with **the electron clouds** surrounding the nuclei: **electromagnetic force**.
  - We can imagine the **nucleus** of the size of a **marble**.



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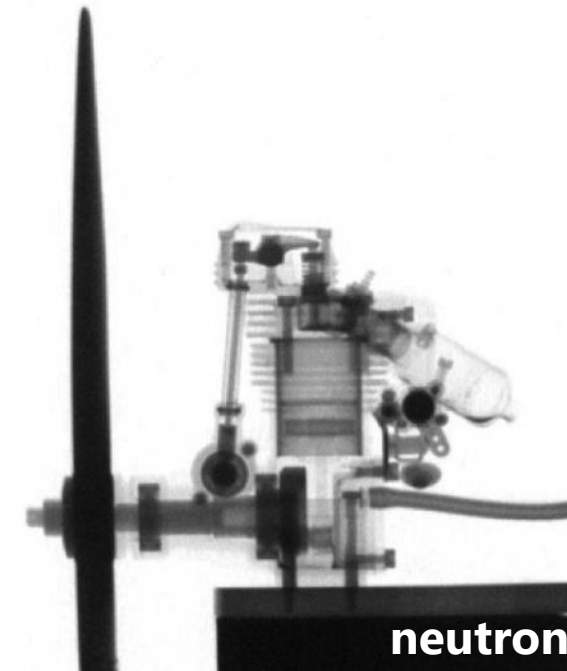
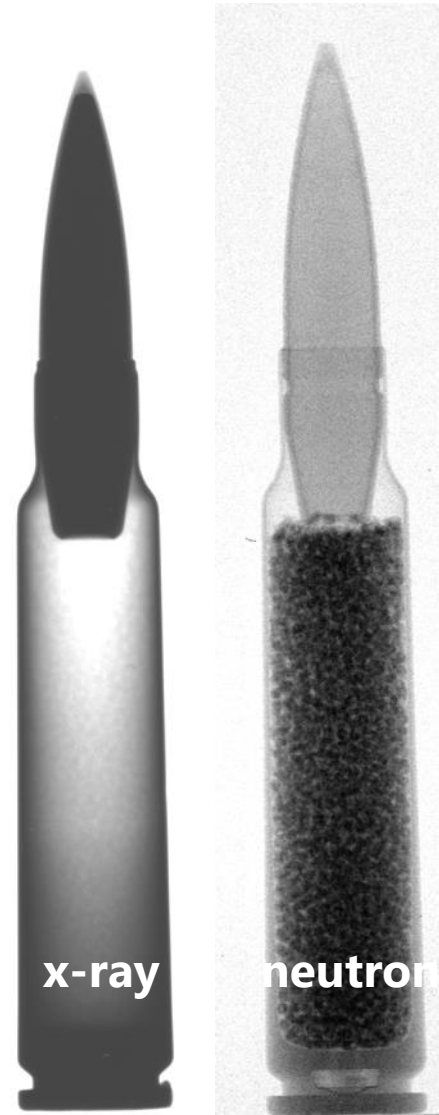
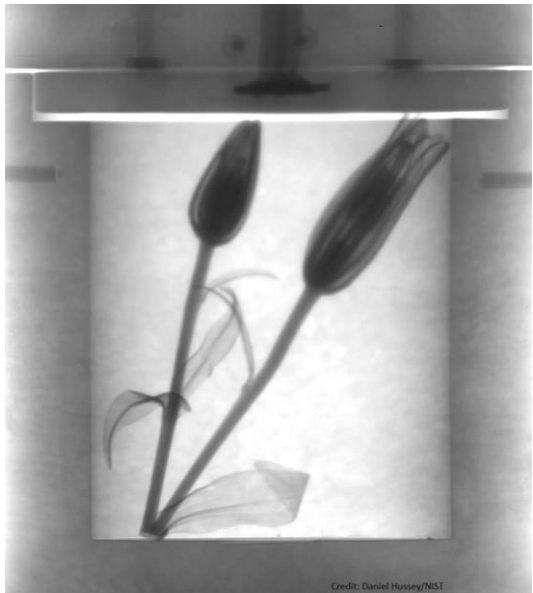


- We can imagine the **nucleus** of the size of a **marble**.
- The **atom** in proportion will be as big as a football **stadium**.
- **Neutrons interact** with the sample **only** when they **hit the nucleus**.

# X-rays and neutrons



Neutrons 'see' light elements



# X-rays and neutrons



Attenuation coefficients with X-ray [cm<sup>2</sup>]

1a	2a	3b	4b	5b	6b	7b	8	1b	2b	3a	4a	5a	6a	7a	0		
H 0.02															He 0.02		
Li 0.06	Be 0.22									B 0.28	C 0.27	N 0.11	O 0.16	F 0.14	Ne 0.17		
Na 0.13	Mg 0.24									Al 0.38	Si 0.33	P 0.25	S 0.30	Cl 0.23	Ar 0.20		
K 0.14	Ca 0.26	Sc 0.48	Ti 0.73	V 1.04	Cr 1.29	Mn 1.32	Fe 1.57	Co 1.78	Ni 1.96	Cu 1.97	Zn 1.64	Ga 1.42	Ge 1.33	As 1.50	Se 1.23	Br 0.90	Kr 0.73
Rb 0.47	Sr 0.86	Y 1.61	Zr 2.47	Nb 3.43	Mo 4.29	Tc 5.06	Ru 5.71	Rh 6.08	Pd 6.13	Ag 5.67	Cd 4.84	In 4.31	Sn 3.98	Sb 4.28	Te 4.06	I 3.45	Xe 2.53
Cs 1.42	Ba 2.73	La 5.04	Hf 19.70	Ta 25.47	W 30.49	Re 34.47	Os 37.92	Ir 39.01	Pt 38.61	Au 35.94	Hg 25.88	Tl 23.23	Pb 22.81	Bi 20.28	Po 20.22	At 9.77	Rn 9.77
Fr	Ra 11.80	Ac 24.47	Rf	Ha													
Lanthanides	Ce 5.79	Pr 6.23	Nd 6.46	Pm 7.33	Sm 7.68	Eu 5.66	Gd 8.69	Tb 9.46	Dy 10.17	Ho 10.91	Er 11.70	Tm 12.49	Yb 9.32	Lu 14.07			
Actinides	Th 28.95	Pa 39.65	U 49.08	Np	Pu	Am	Cm	Bk	Vf	Es	Fm	Md	No	Lr x-ray			

For X-rays = proportional increase!

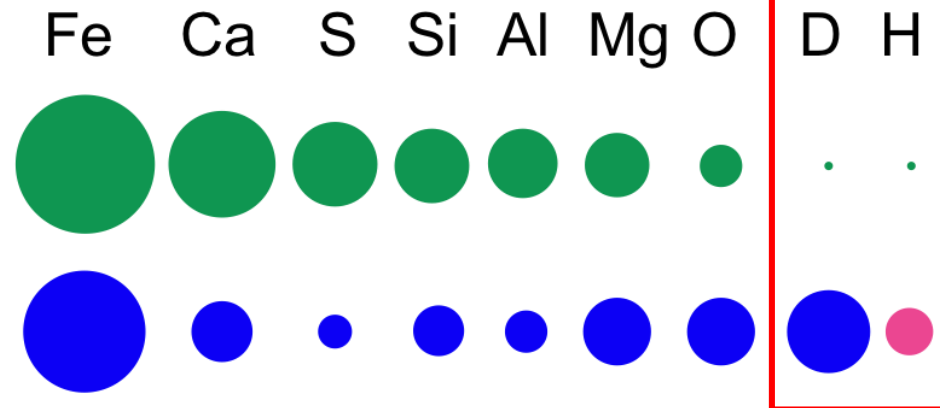
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1a	2a	3b	4b	5b	6b	7b	8	1b	2b	3a	4a	5a	6a	7a	0		
H 3.44															He 0.02		
Li 3.30	Be 0.79									B 101.60	C 0.56	N 0.43	O 0.17	F 0.20	Ne 0.10		
Na 0.09	Mg 0.15									Al 0.10	Si 0.11	P 0.12	S 0.06	Cl 1.33	Ar 0.03		
K 0.06	Ca 0.08	Sc 2.00	Ti 0.60	V 0.72	Cr 0.54	Mn 1.21	Fe 1.19	Co 3.92	Ni 2.05	Cu 1.07	Zn 0.35	Ga 0.49	Ge 0.47	As 0.67	Se 0.73	Br 0.24	Kr 0.61
Rb 0.08	Sr 0.14	Y 0.27	Zr 0.29	Nb 0.40	Mo 0.52	Tc 1.76	Ru 0.58	Rh 10.88	Pd 0.78	Ag 4.04	Cd 115.11	In 7.58	Sn 0.21	Sb 0.30	Te 0.25	I 0.23	Xe 0.43
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Fr	Ra 0.34	Ac	Rf	Ha													
Lanthanides	Ce 0.14	Pr 0.41	Nd 1.87	Pm 5.72	Sm 171.47	Eu 94.58	Gd 1479.04	Tb 0.93	Dy 32.42	Ho 2.25	Er 5.48	Tm 3.53	Yb 1.40	Lu 2.75			
Actinides	Th 0.59	Pa 8.46	U 0.82	Np 9.80	Pu 50.20	Am 2.86	Cm	Bk	Cf	Es	Fm	Md	No	Lr neut.			

For neutrons = completely unsystematic!

X-Rays

Neutrons



...even for different isotopes of the same element!

# X-rays and neutrons



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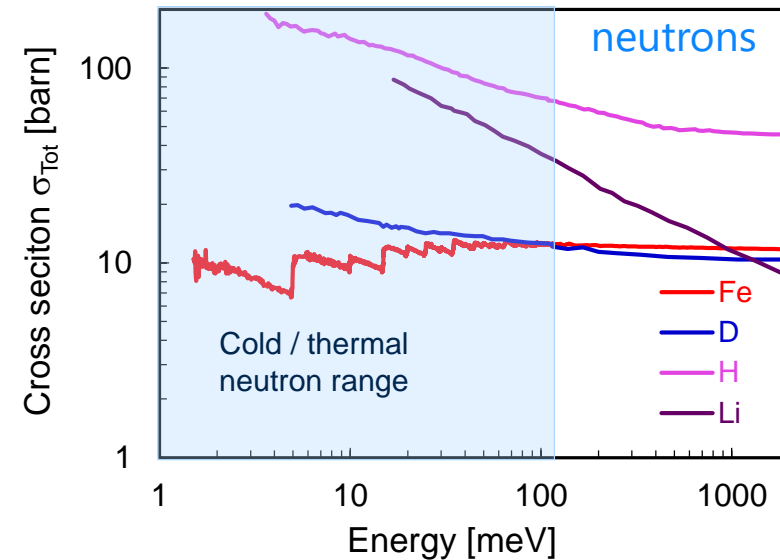
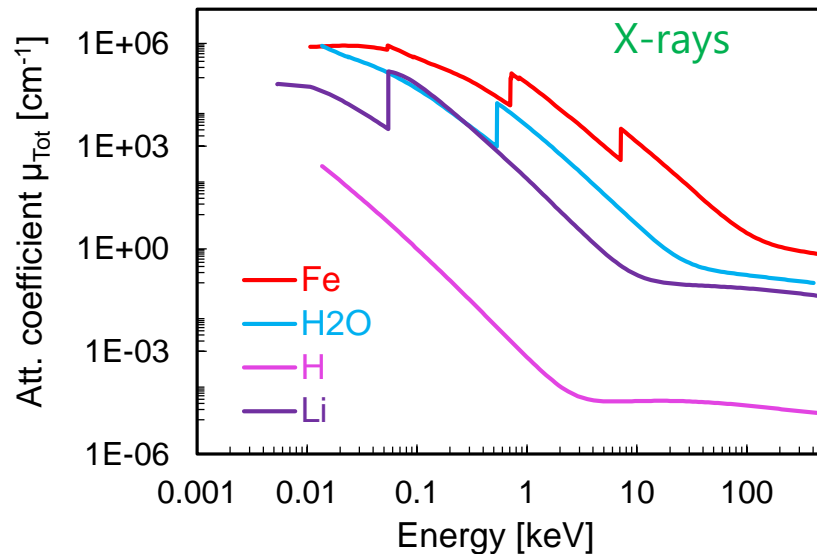
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For neutrons = completely unsystematic!

The cross section (& attenuation) is energy (wavelength) dependent for most materials!



$$\sigma_{\text{tot}}(\lambda) = \sigma_{\text{coh}}(\lambda) + \sigma_{\text{incoh}}(\lambda) + \sigma_{\text{abs}}(\lambda)$$



# Non-destructive testing with neutrons: Engineering materials and components revealed



Characterization Techniques & Contrast Mechanisms

Neutron Methods & Length Scales

Applications using Imaging (Attenuation Contrast)

Applications using SANS and Diffraction

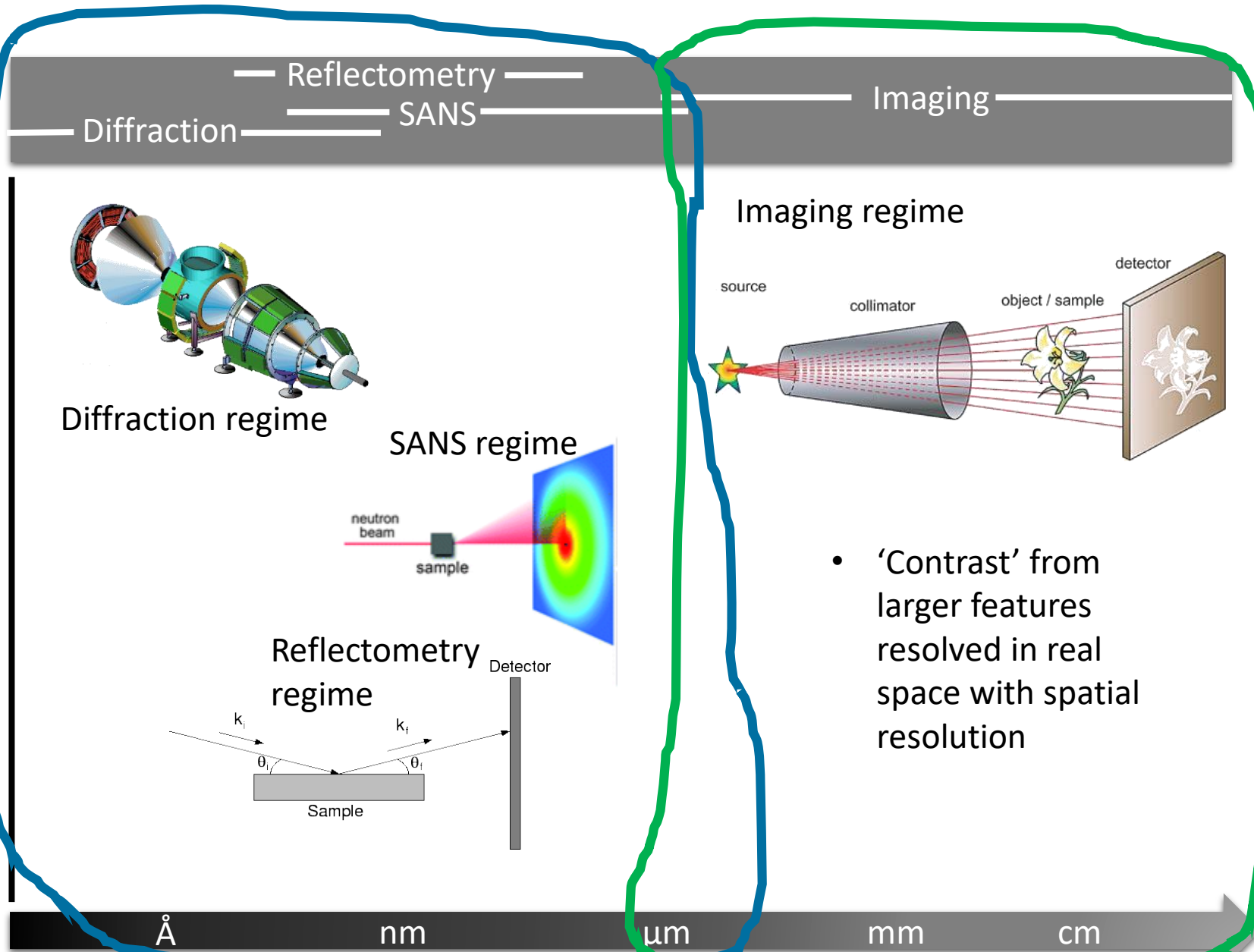
Applications using Imaging (Diffraction and Scattering Contrast)

Summary & Outlook

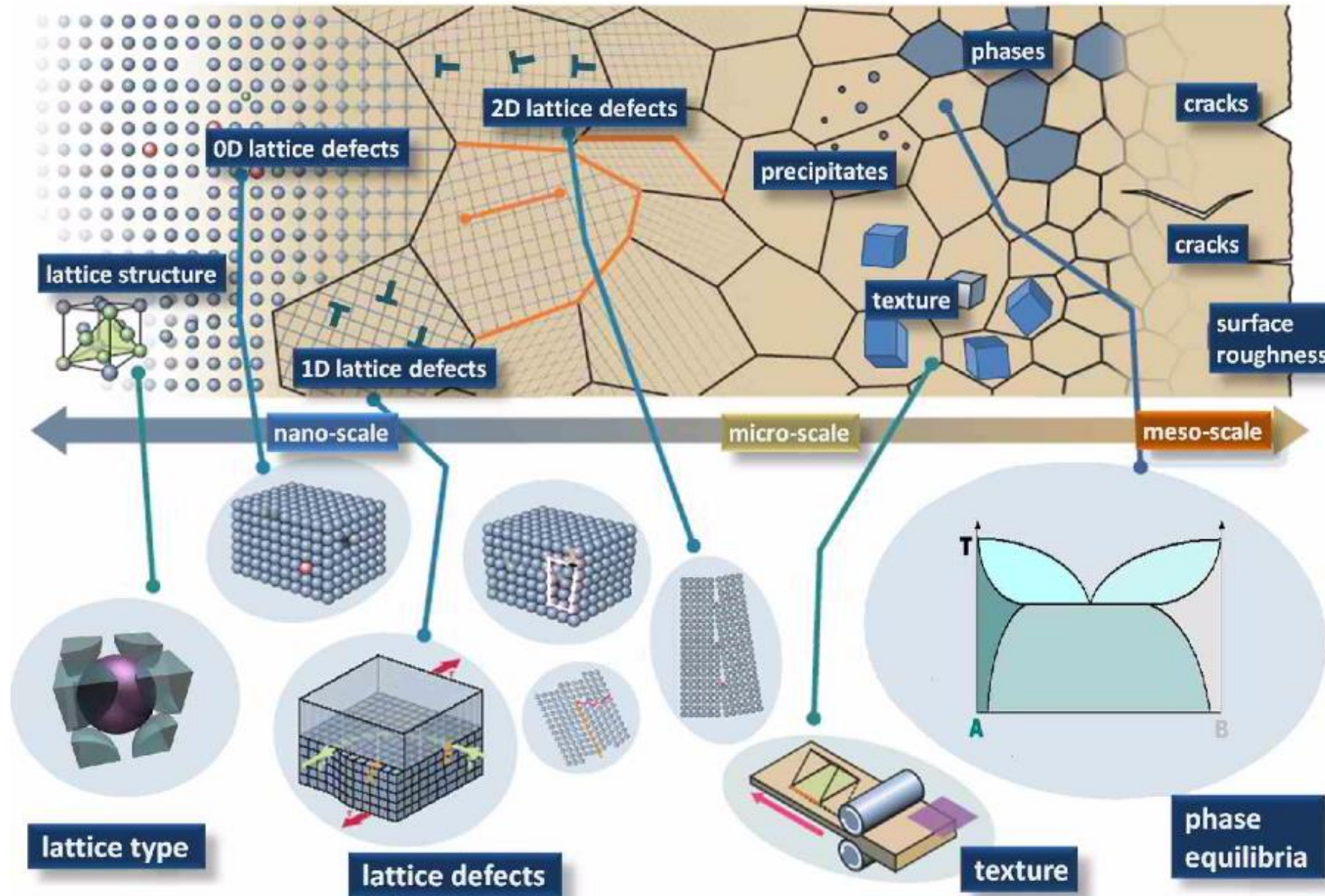
# Neutron Methods & Length Scales



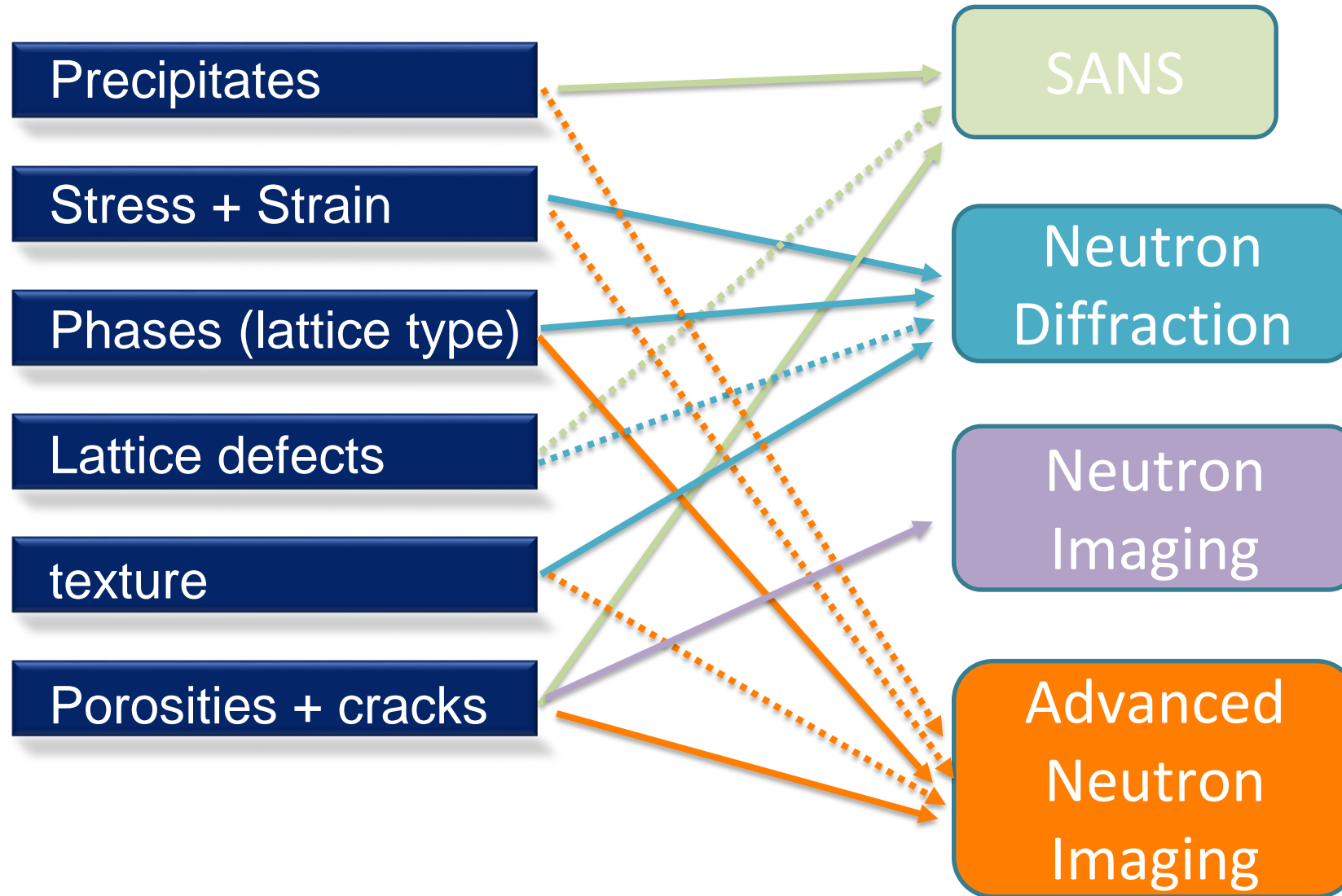
- 'Contrast' due to small spatial features
- Usually averaged over several  $\text{mm}^3$



# Neutron Methods & Length Scales



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# Non-destructive testing with neutrons: Engineering materials and components revealed



Characterization Techniques & Contrast Mechanisms

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Neutron Methods & Length Scales

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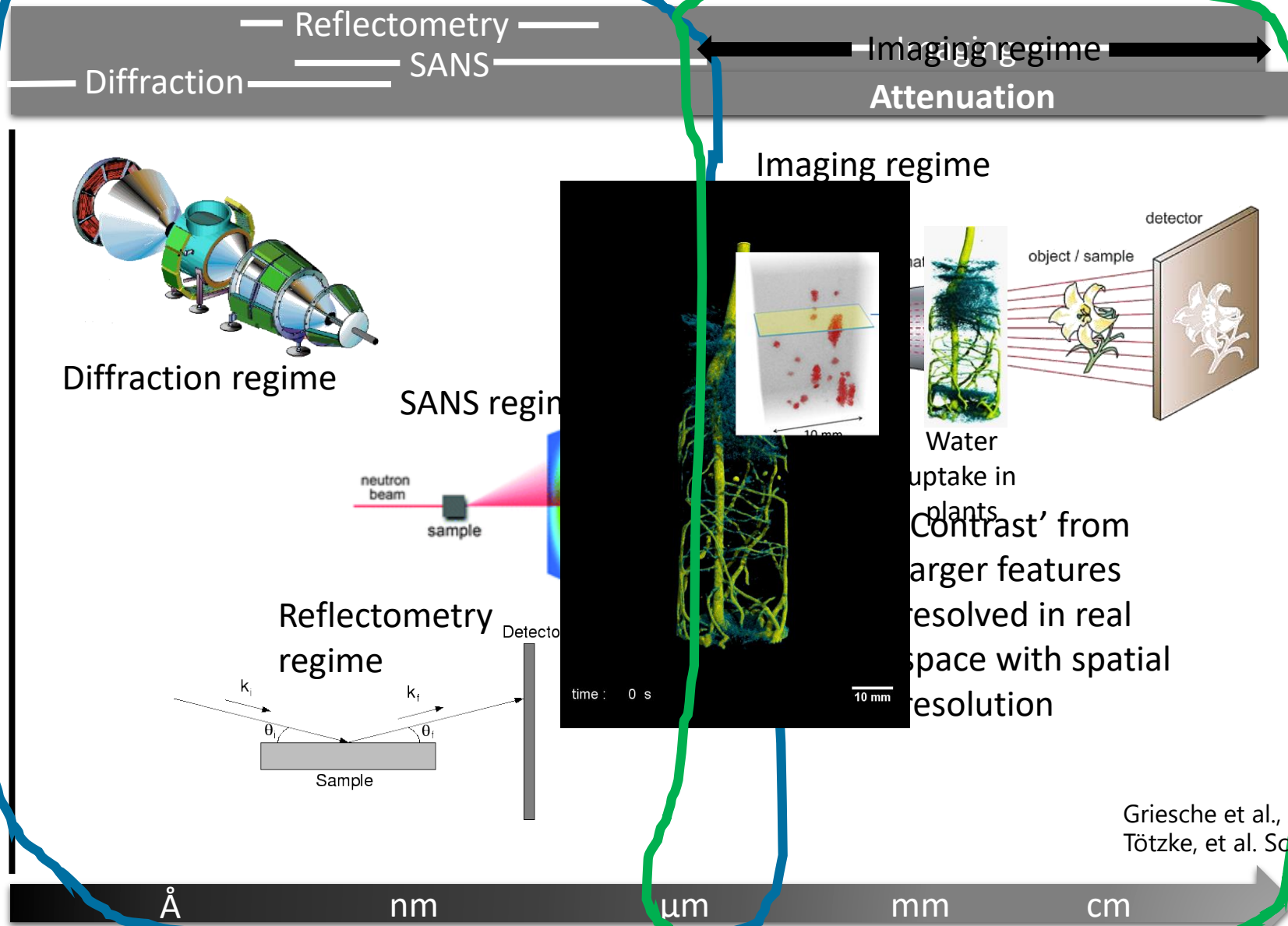
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# Neutron Methods & Length Scales



## Neutron Imaging



- Applications**
- 'Contrast' due to small spatial features
  - Usually averaged over several mm<sup>3</sup>
- Metals/Engineering  
Hydrogen

Water uptake in plants  
'Contrast' from larger features resolved in real space with spatial resolution

Griesche et al., Acta Materialia 78 (2014)  
Tötzke, et al. Scientific Reports, 7(1) (2017)

# Neutron Methods & Length Scales

## Neutron Imaging



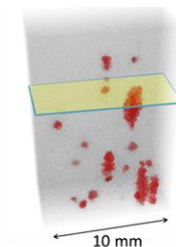
### Applications

- Metals/Engineering
- Hydrogen
- Energy Storage
- Cultural Heritage

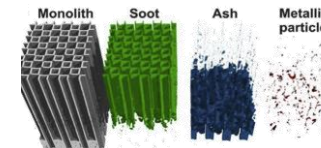


Imaging regime  
Attenuation

Hydrogen in metals



Device inspection: particle filters

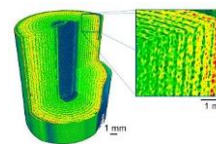


Grünzweig et al., MTZ worldwide 73.4 (2012)

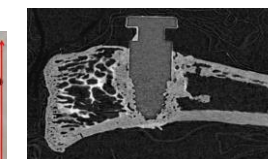
Water uptake in plants



Le Cann et al., Journal of the Mechanical Behavior of Biomedical Materials 75 (2017)



Li transport in batteries



Bone Structures + implants

S. Griesche et al., Journal of Power Sources, Acta Materialia 78 (2014)

Masalles et al., Physics Procedia 69 (2015)

$\mu\text{m}$  mm cm

# Neutron Methods & Length Scales



## Neutron Imaging

Kardjilov, Manke, Woracek, Banhart, Advances in neutron imaging. Materials Today 21 (2018)

### Applications

- Metals/Engineering
- Hydrogen
- Energy Storage
- Cultural Heritage



Fine then... let us have a look at some applications in more detail!

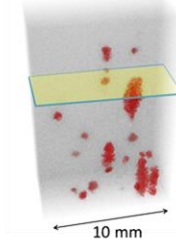


Ok, but let him briefly explain some peculiarities of neutron imaging first...

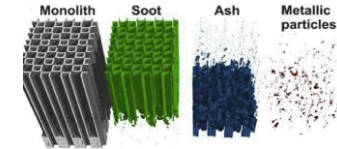
Imaging regime

Attenuation

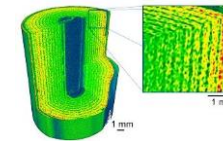
Hydrogen in metals



Device inspection: particle filters



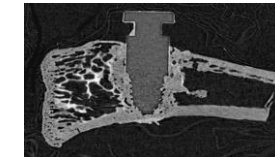
Water uptake in plants



Li transport in batteries



Corrosion



Bone Structures + implants



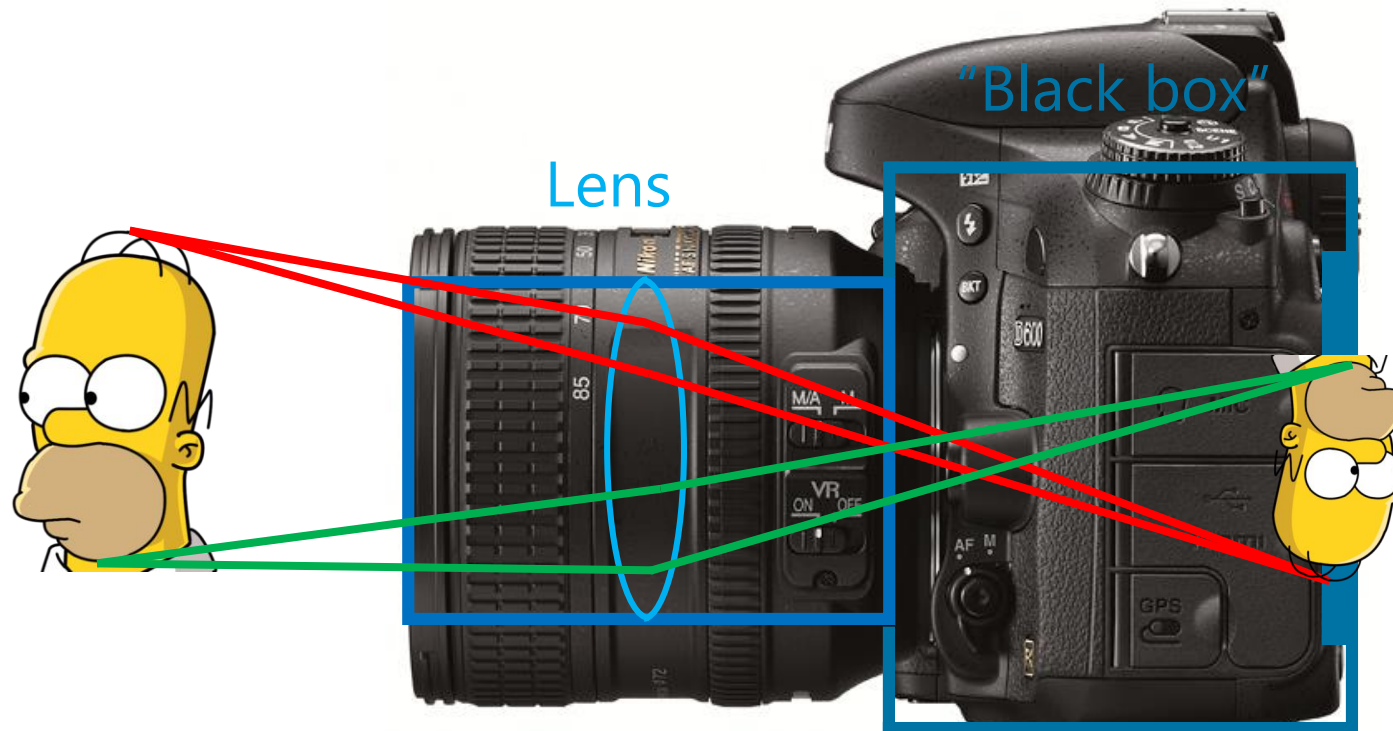
$\mu\text{m}$

mm

cm

# Neutron Imaging

How is an image recorded?



# Neutron Imaging

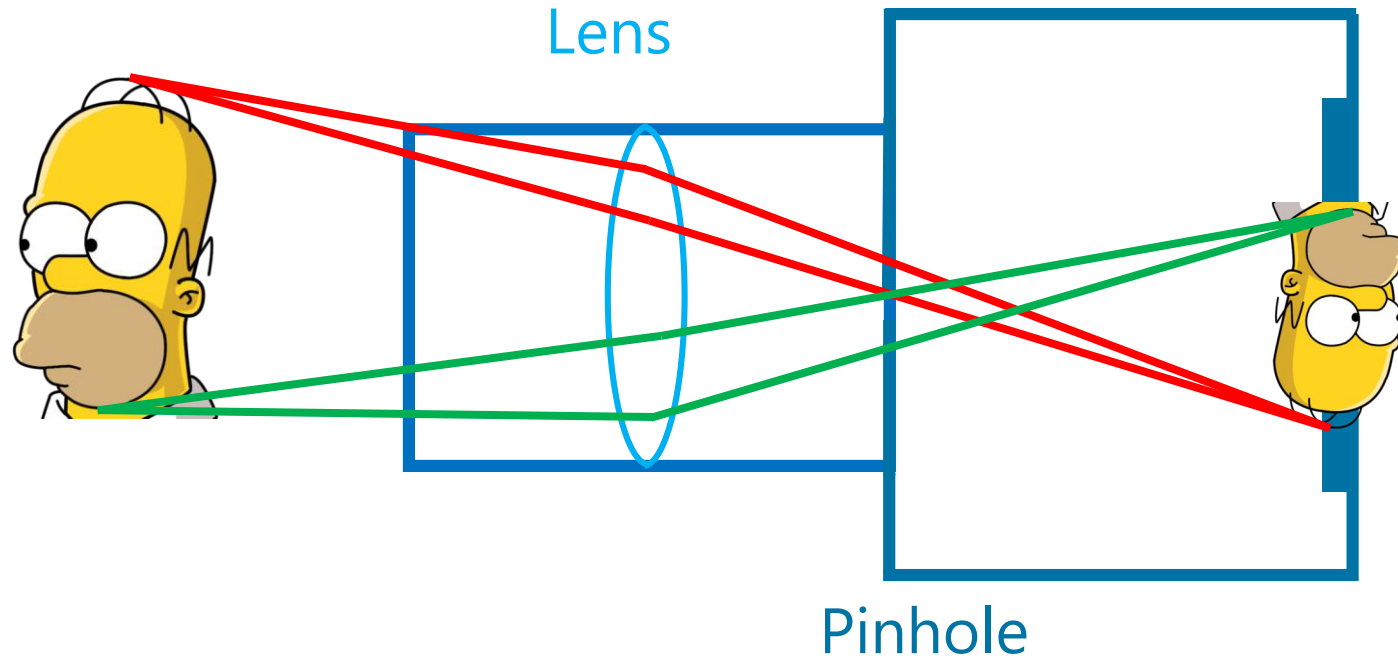
How is an image recorded?



**Pop-Up Quiz:**  
How can we record an image without a lens?

No optics!?!

"Black box"

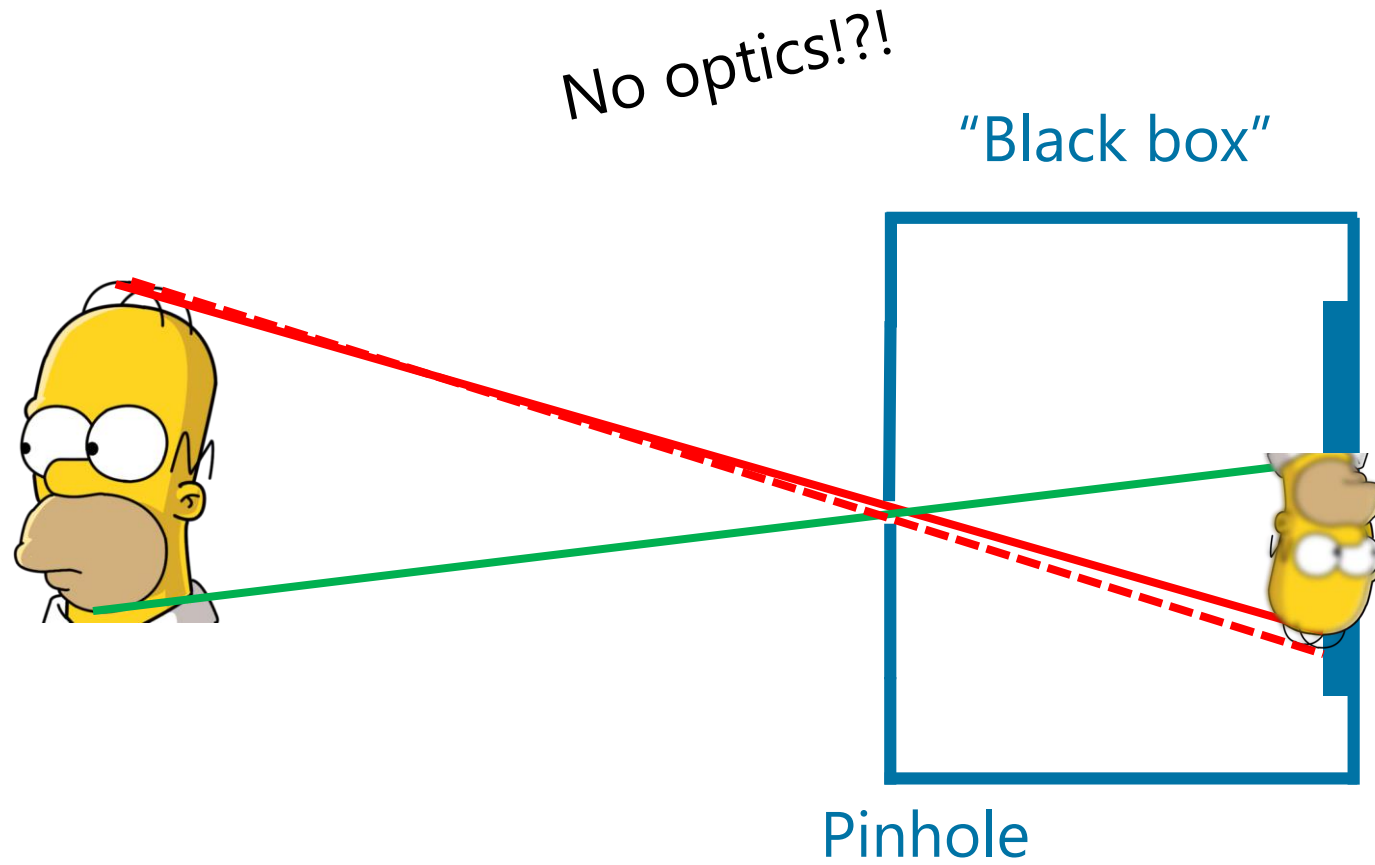


- Minimize the distance between object and box
- Maximize the distance between object and box
- Using a small pinhole



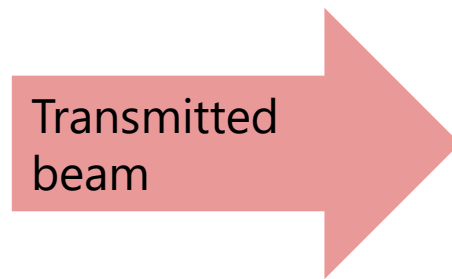
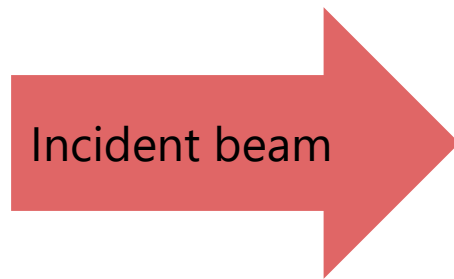
# Neutron Imaging

How is an image recorded?



# Neutron Imaging

How is a Transmission image recorded?

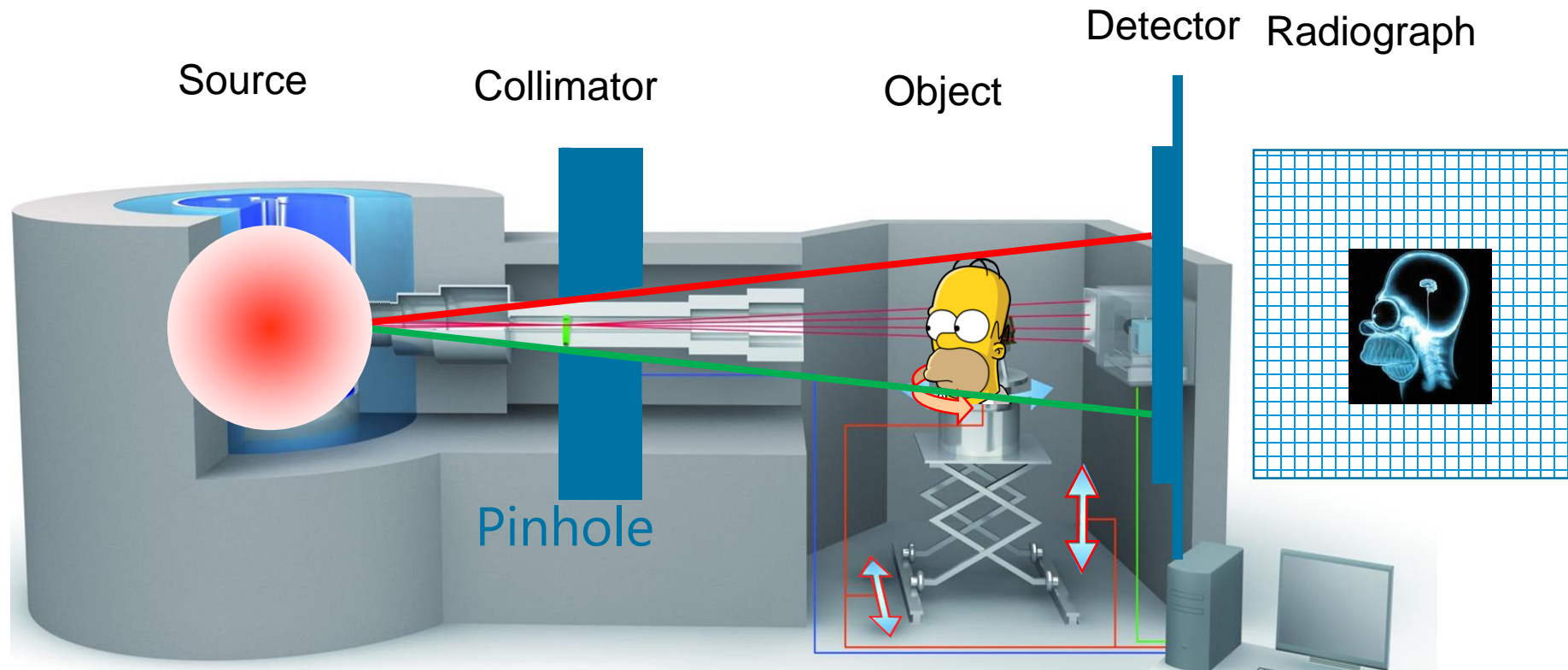


Radiograph



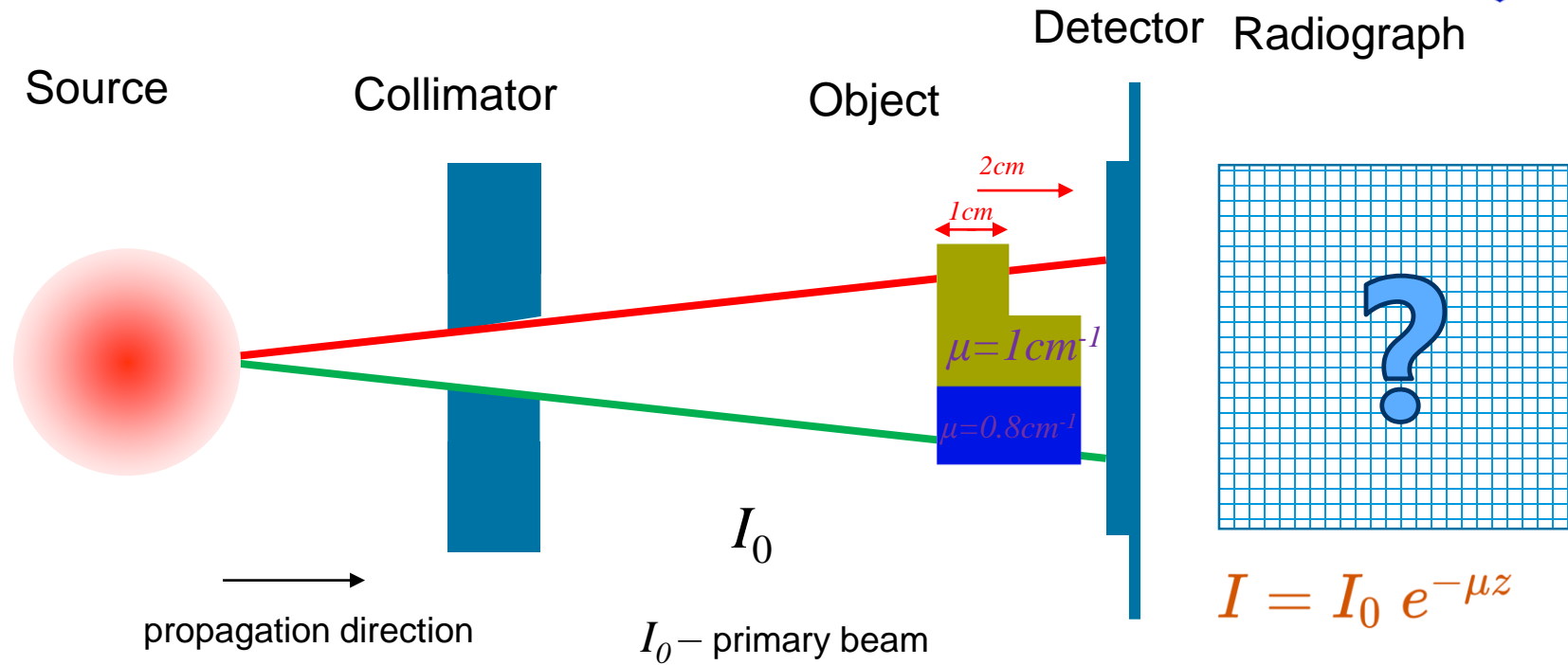
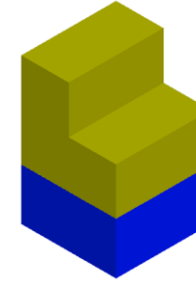
# Neutron Imaging

## The neutron imaging setup



# Neutron Imaging

## Neutron attenuation



$$I = I_0 e^{-\mu z}$$

$$\mu = \mu_{\text{abs}} + \mu_{\text{scatt}}$$

attenuation coefficient ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )

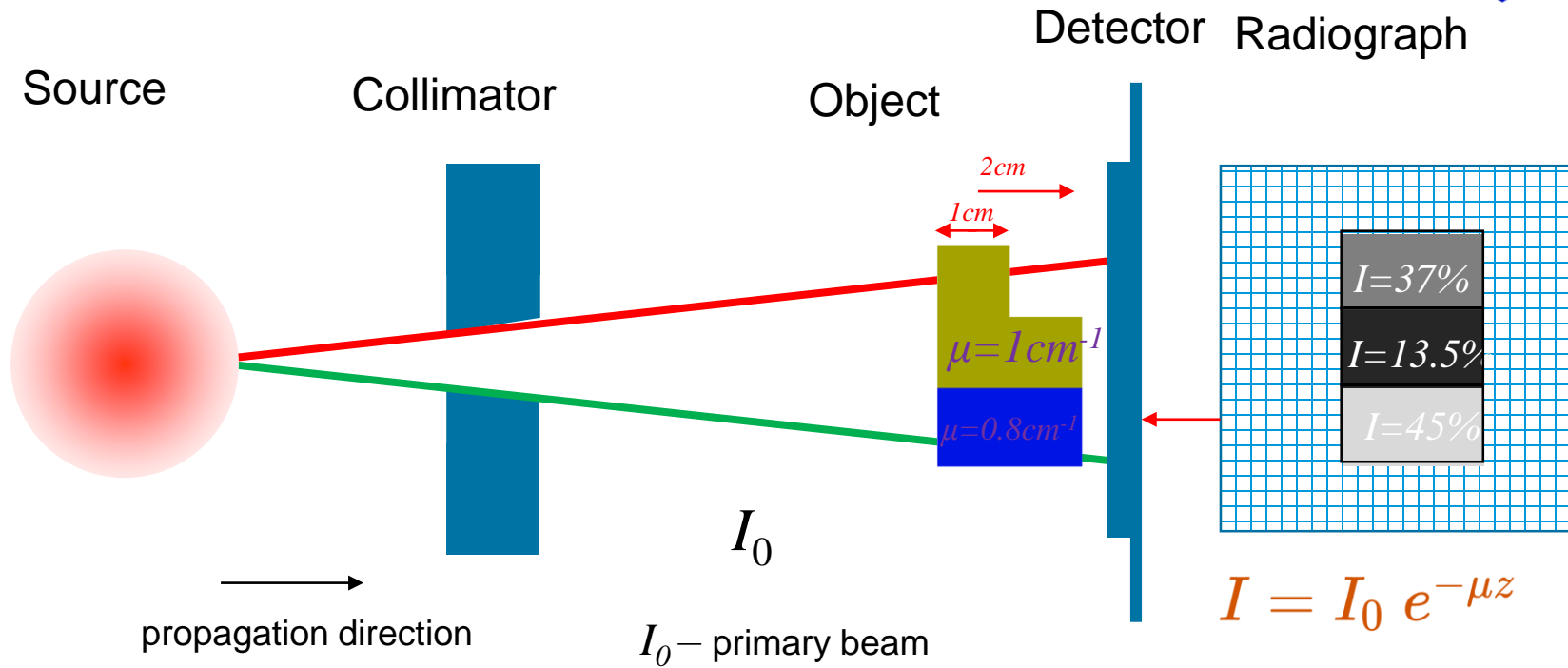
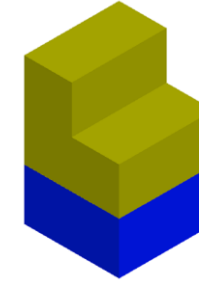
sample thickness (cm)

# Neutron Imaging

## Neutron attenuation



Fine... show us some more applications then...



$$I = I_0 e^{-\mu z}$$

$$\mu = \mu_{\text{abs}} + \mu_{\text{scatt}}$$

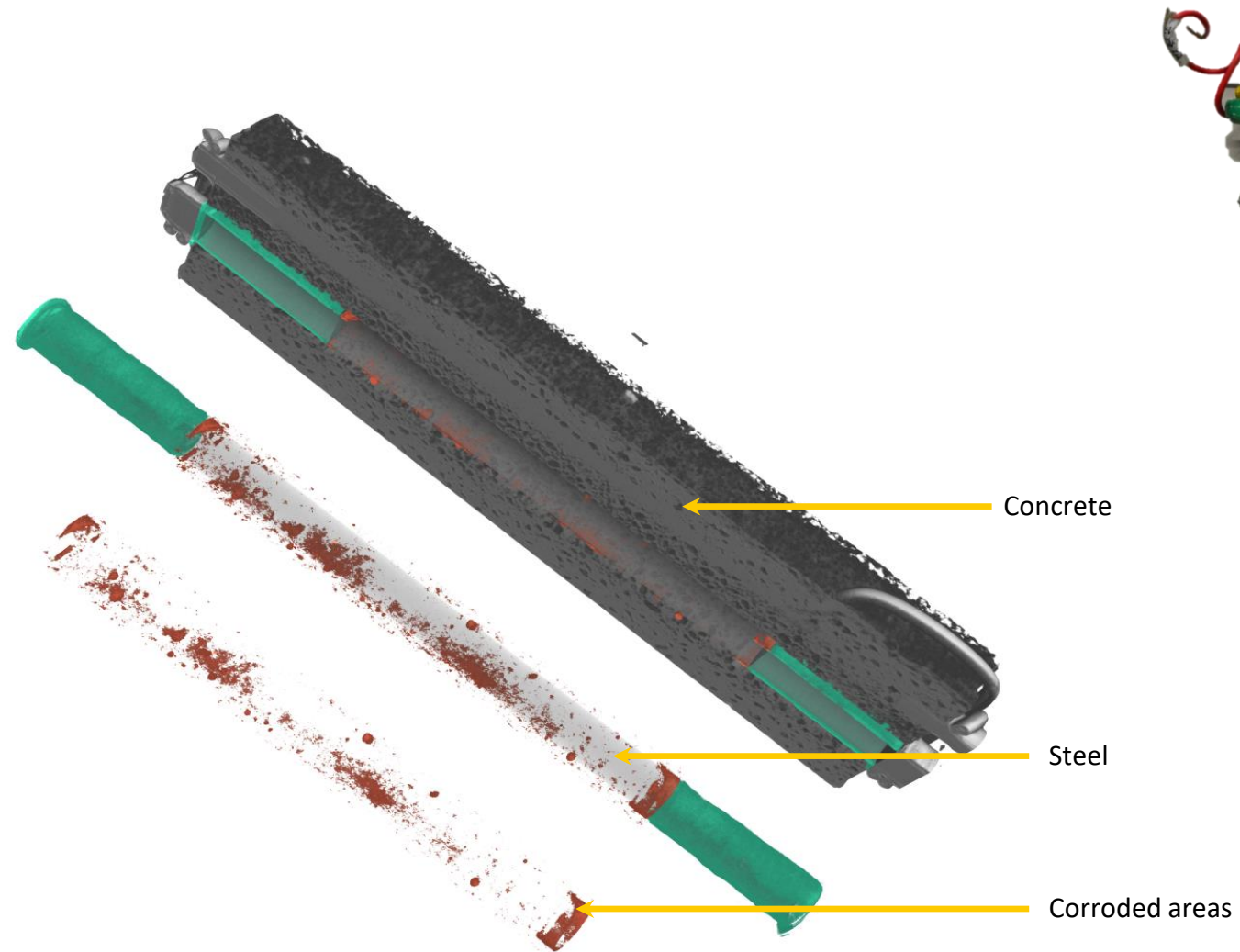
attenuation coefficient ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )

sample thickness (cm)



# Applications: Civil Engineering

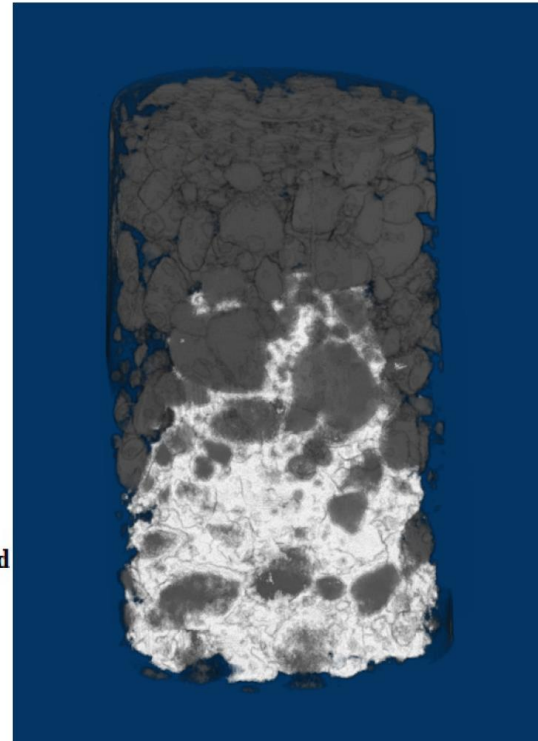
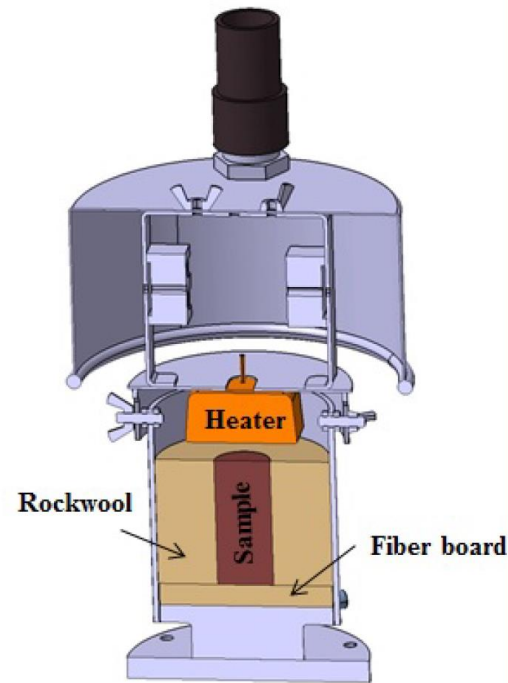
## Corrosion of steel inside concrete



Visualized 3D-evaluation of Neutron-CT

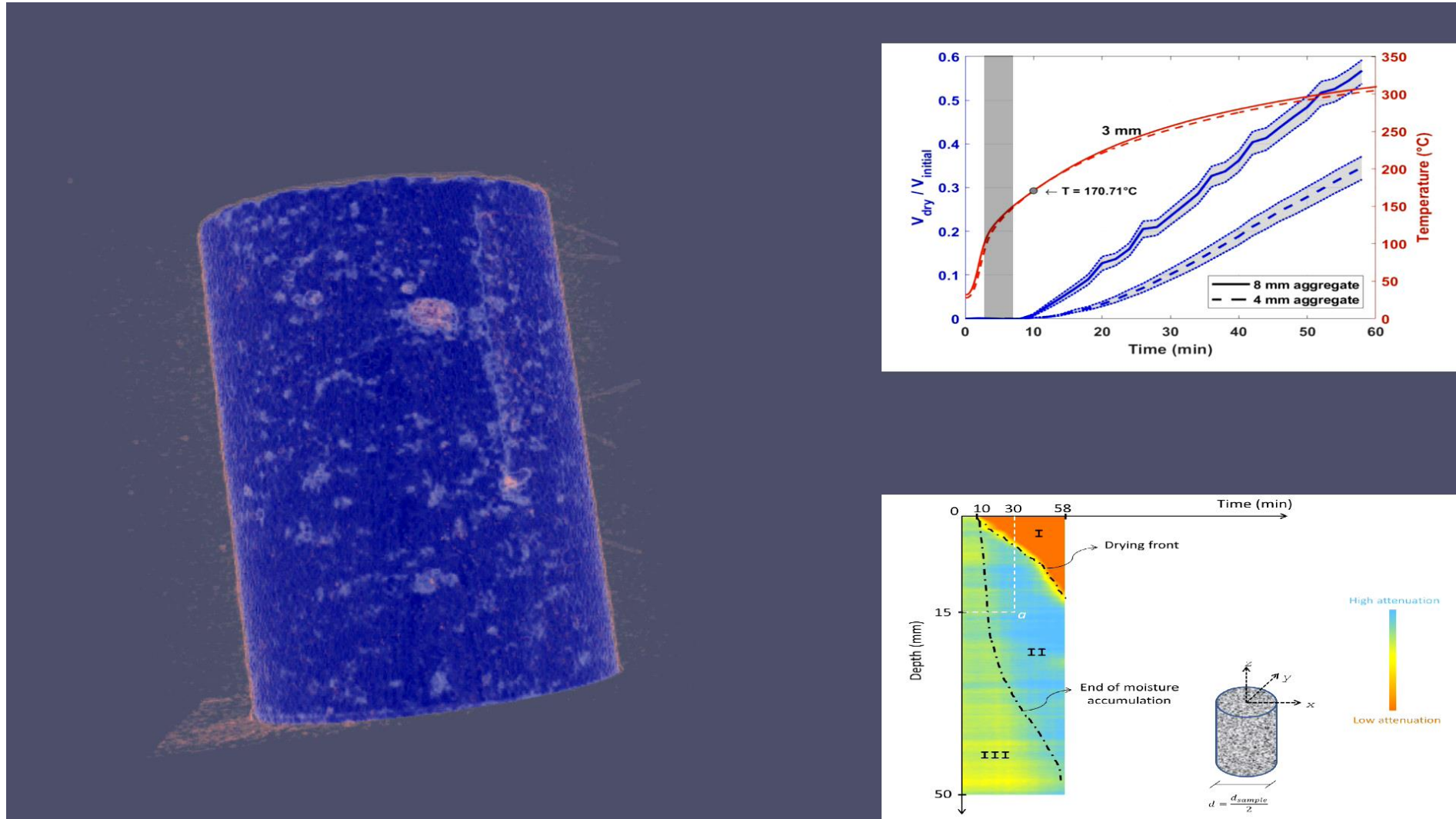
# Applications: Civil Engineering

## Moisture migration in concrete at high temperature



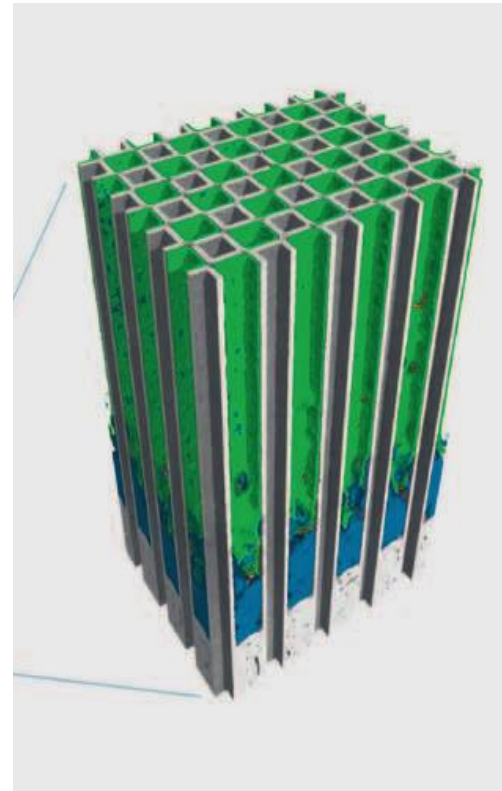
# Applications: Civil Engineering

## Moisture migration in concrete at high temperature



# Applications: Automotive

## Diesel particulate filters



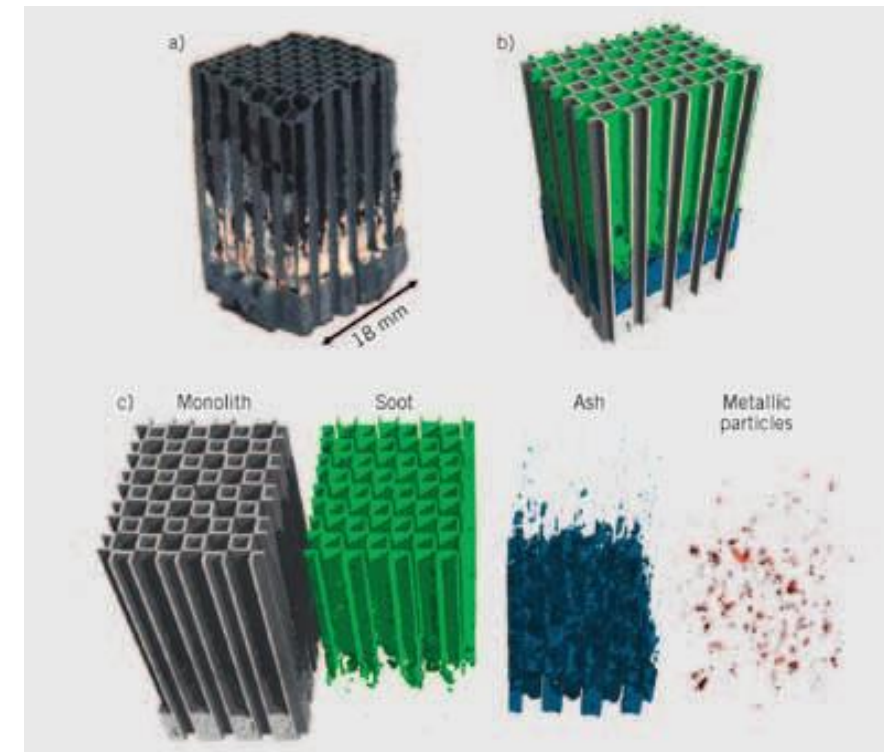
AUTHORS



DR. DIPL.-PHYS.  
CHRISTIAN GRÜNZWEIG

### VISUALISING THE SOOT AND ASH DISTRIBUTION IN DIESEL PARTICULATE FILTERS USING NEUTRON IMAGING

Neutron tomography is presently the only possibility to obtain information about





## In-situ filling of Li-ion Pouch Batteries

### Pouch Batteries

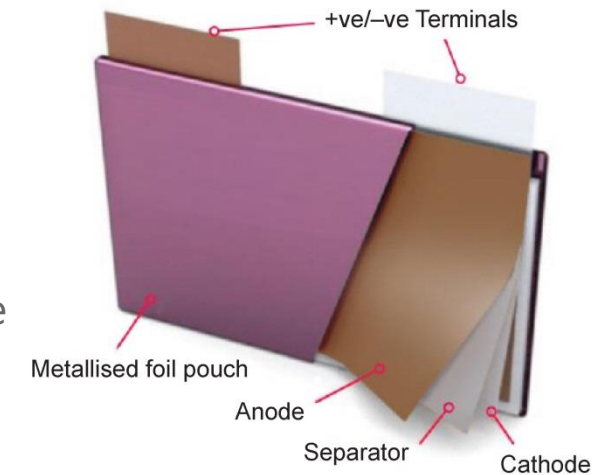
- High potential for electro mobility and stationary energy storage
- Electrolyte filling is a key process in cell production
- So far only limited knowledge about the process
- Phenomenological: pressure cycles to optimize wetting with electrolyte

### Why Neutron Imaging?

- Cell housing optically intransparent
- Other approaches not successful
- Neutrons offer high contrast due to H-content in electrolyte

### Goals

- In-situ visualization of the wetting process
- Study and optimize influence of process parameters





### Setup with cell

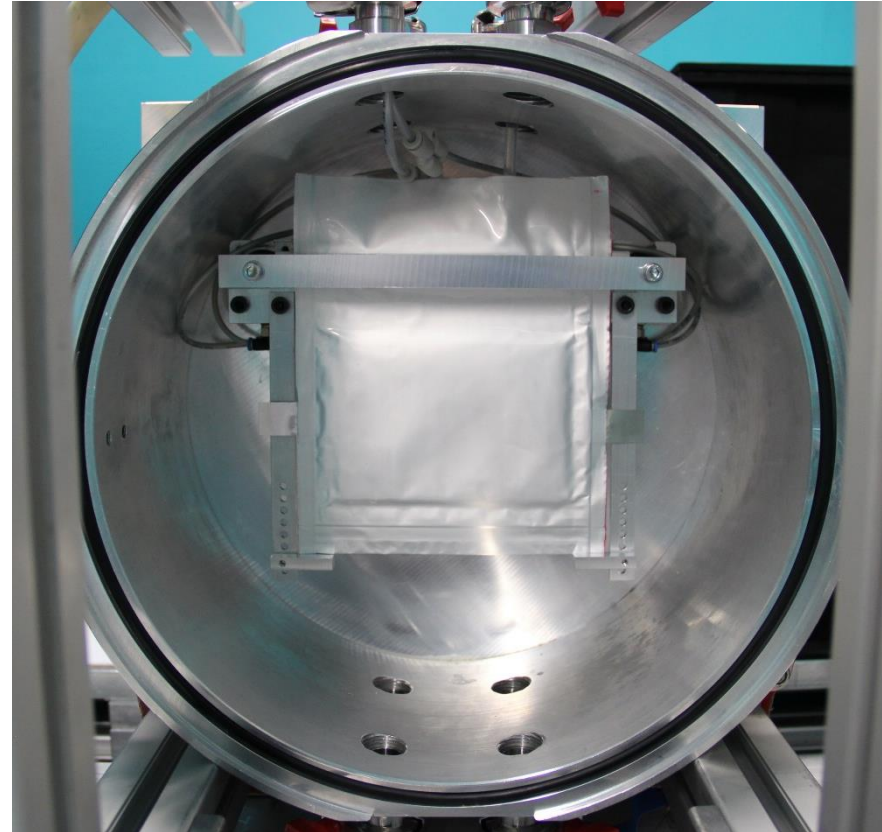
#### Materials

##### Cell

- 5 Anodes,
- 4 Cathodes,
- z-folded
- ExZellTUM-format

##### Elektrolyte

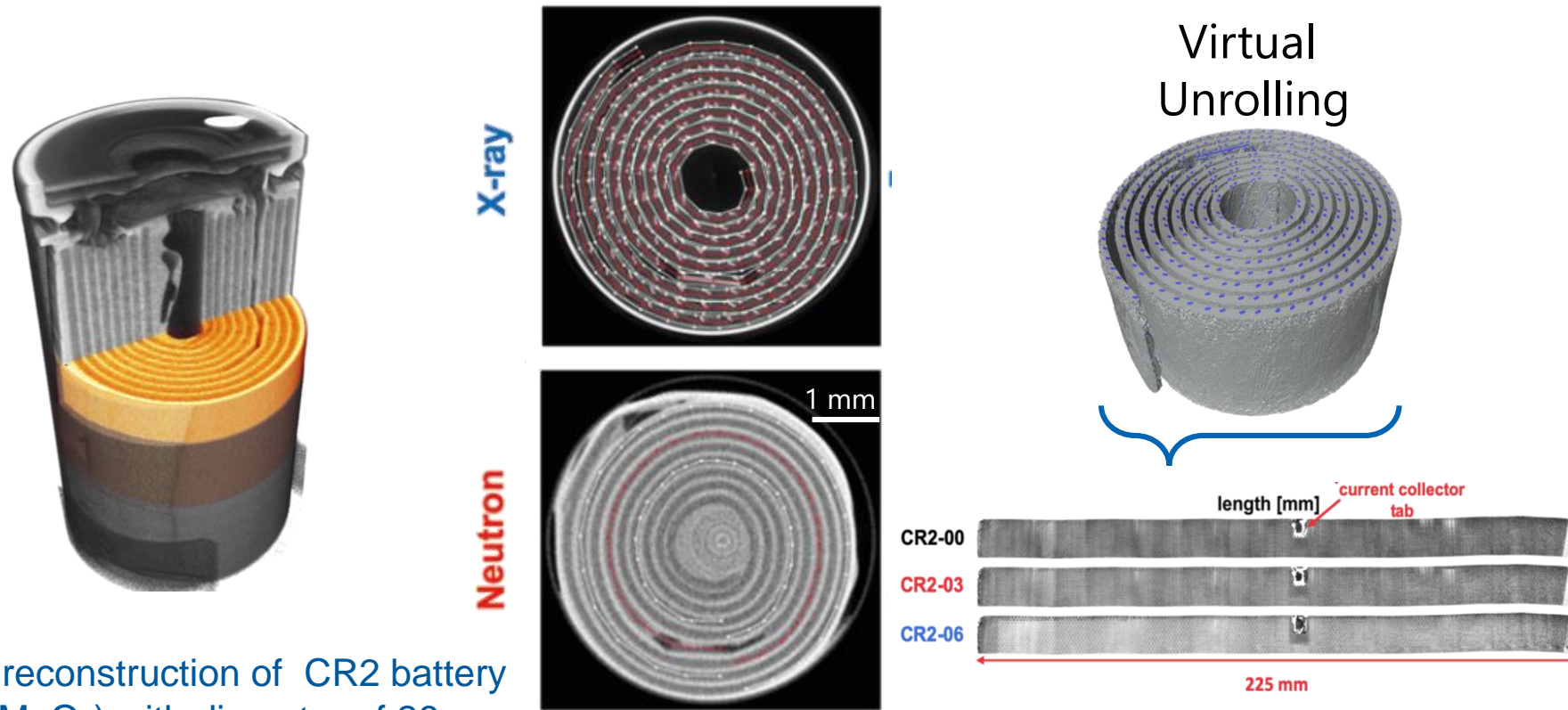
- EC:EMC 3:7
- No LiPF<sub>6</sub>,
- No VC



### Negative example of filling process

**Positive example of filling process**

### How to characterize lithium diffusion in batteries?



3D reconstruction of CR2 battery ( $\text{Li}_x\text{MnO}_2$ ) with diameter of 26 mm.

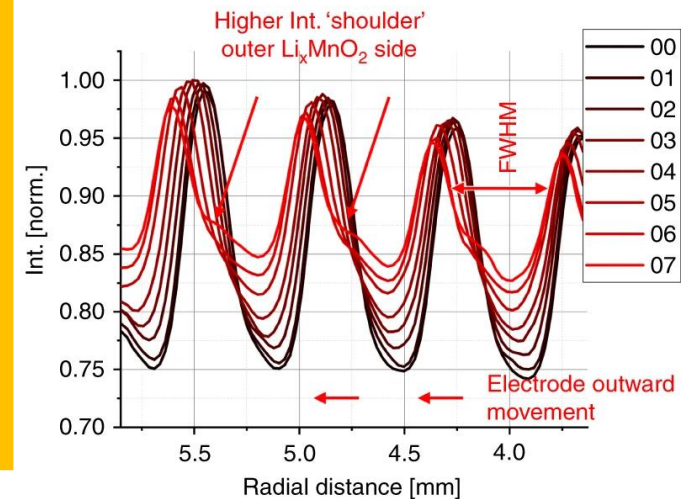
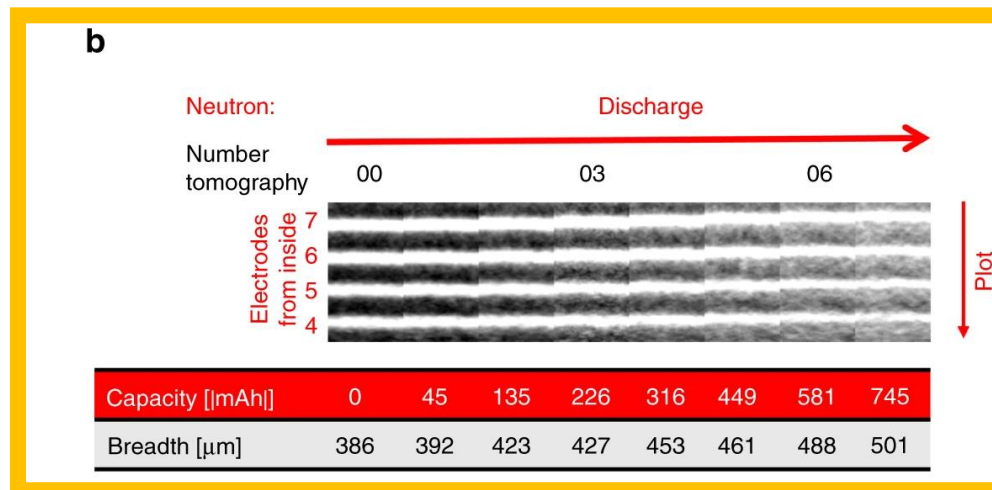
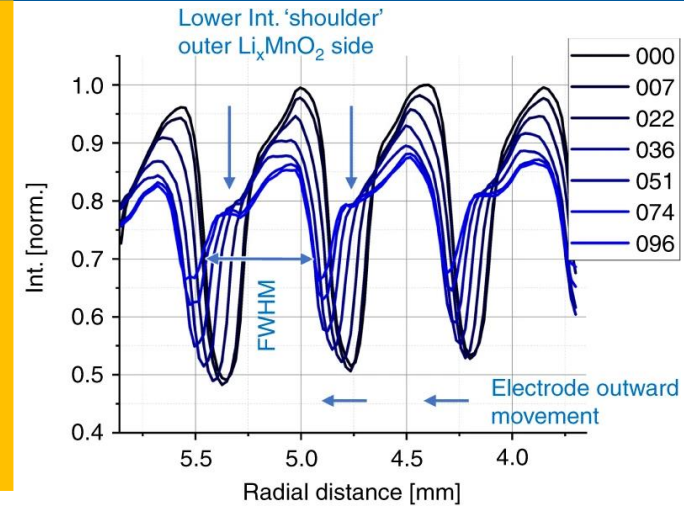
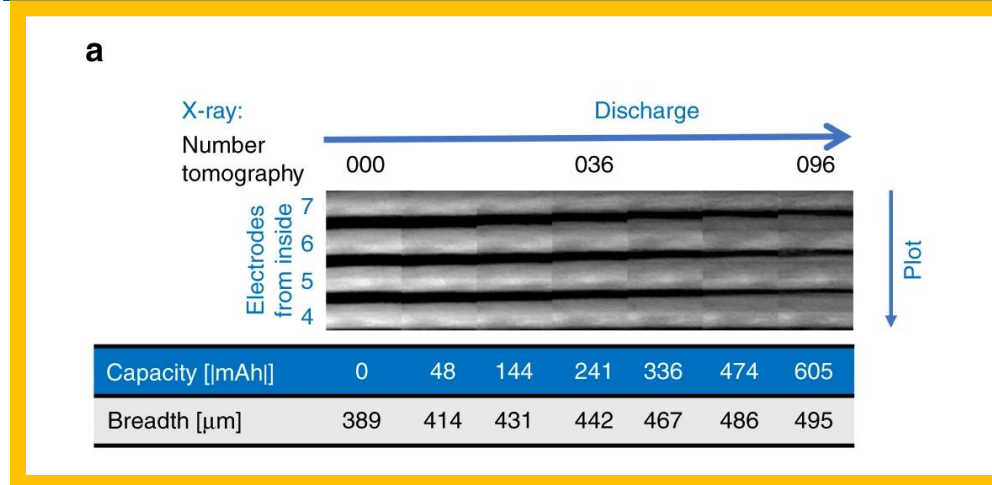
(neutron tomography: pixel size: 13  $\mu\text{m}$ , 600 projections /360°, time: 8 h)

→ Analysis of the dual-mode tomography data

➡ Temporally and spatially resolved tracking of lithium intercalation.



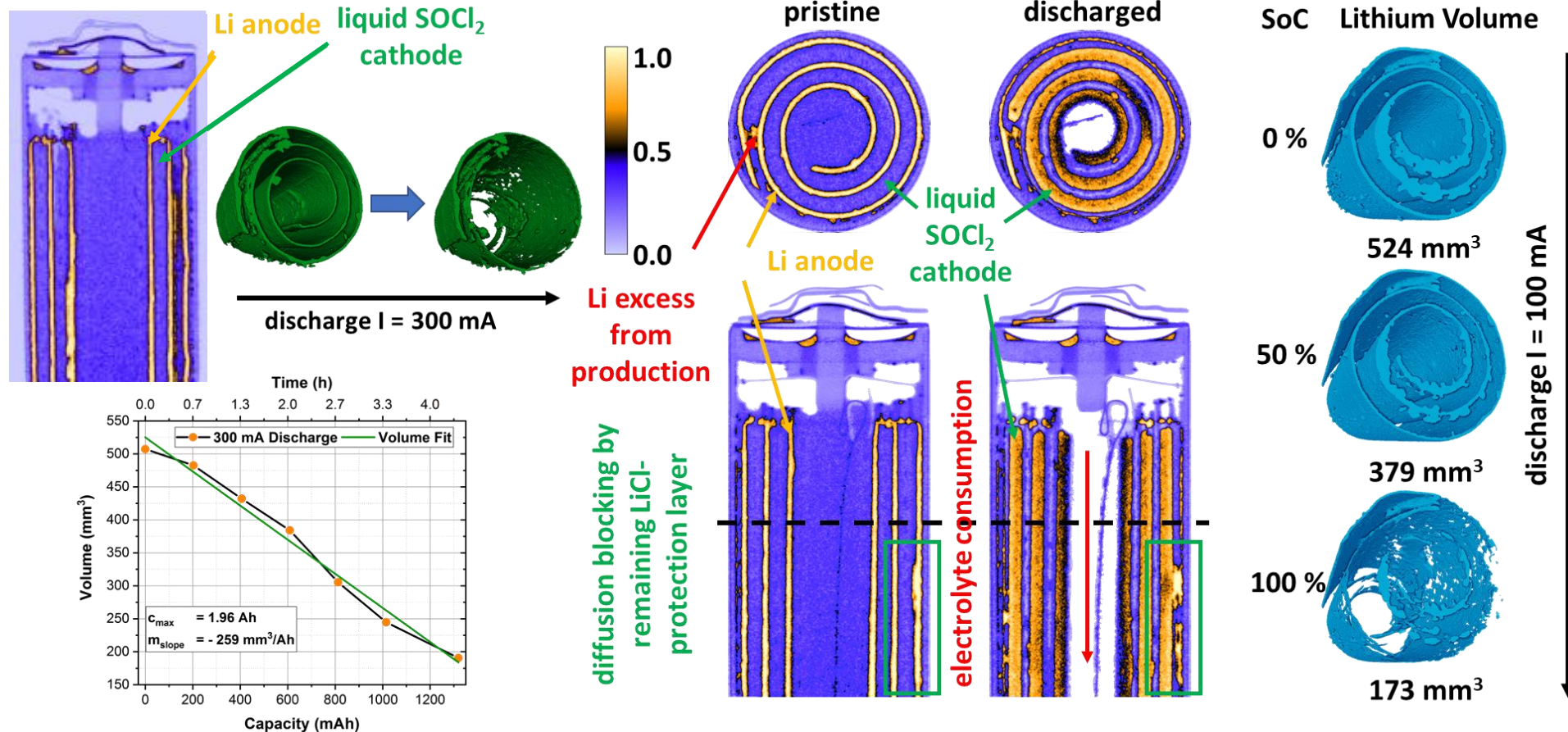
### How to characterize lithium diffusion in batteries?





### How to characterize lithium diffusion in batteries?

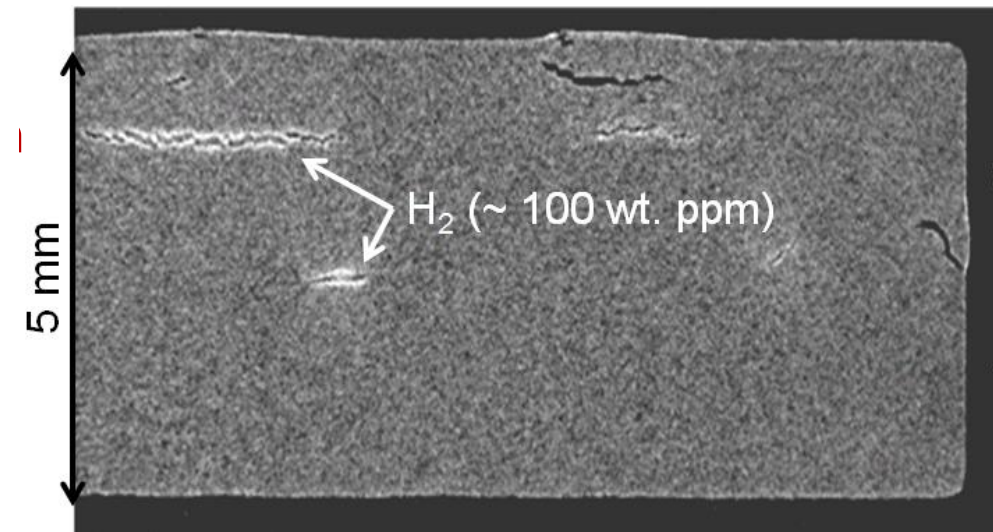
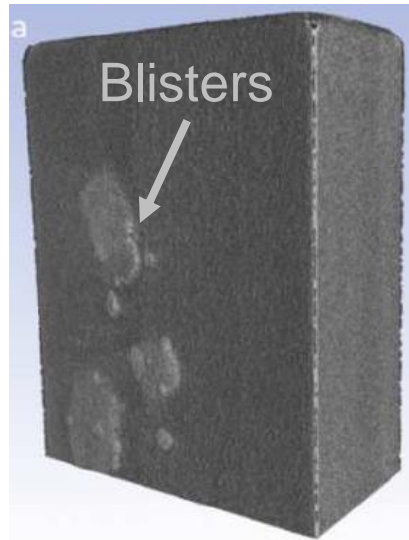
#### 4D Study of $\text{SOCl}_2$ Battery (pixel size: $8 \mu\text{m}$ , time step: 7.5 min)



# Applications: Metallography

## Hydrogen blistering + embrittlement in metals

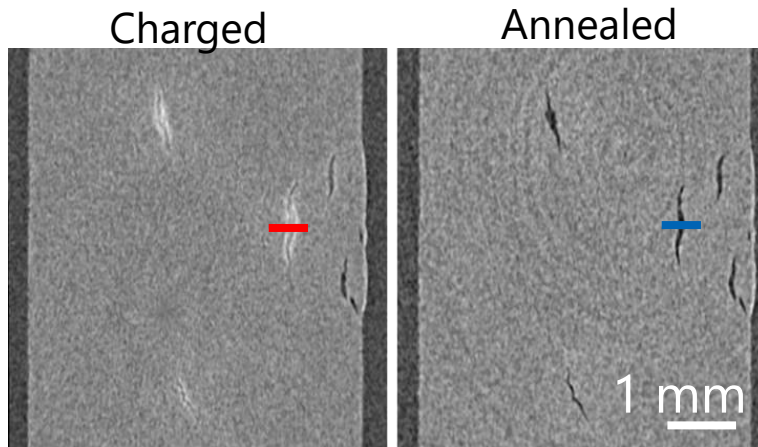
Hydrogen charged ARMCO (technical iron) sample (Electrochemically loaded)



Resolution: 15  $\mu\text{m}$  (pixel size: 6.5  $\mu\text{m}$ ), FOV: 13 x 13 mm<sup>2</sup>, 600 proj. x 60 s

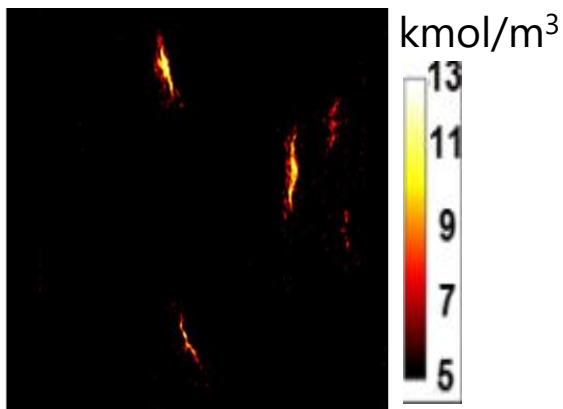
# Applications: Metallography

## Hydrogen blistering + embrittlement in metals

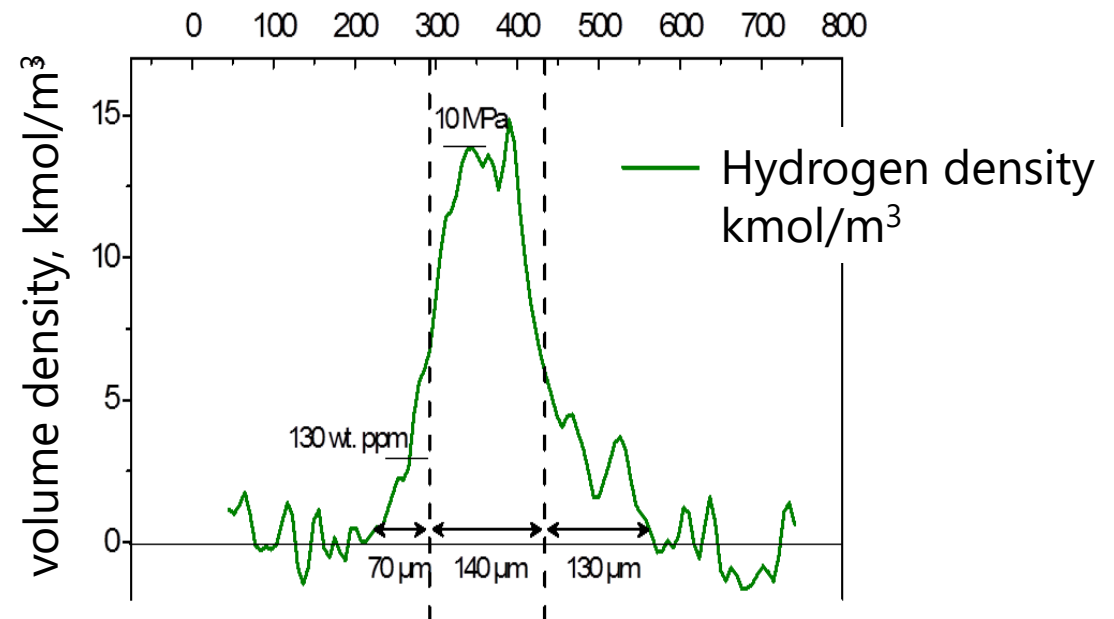
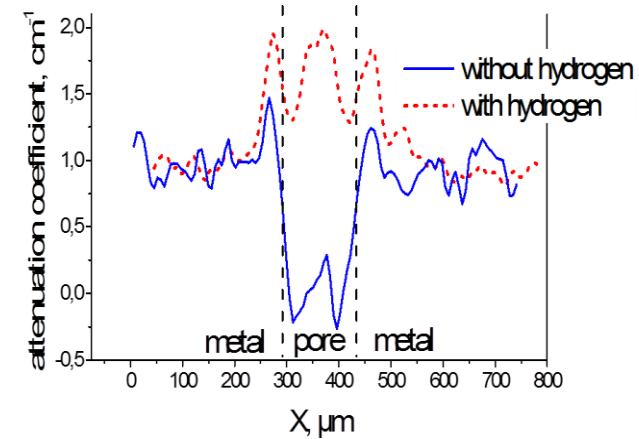


Volume registration

Quantification



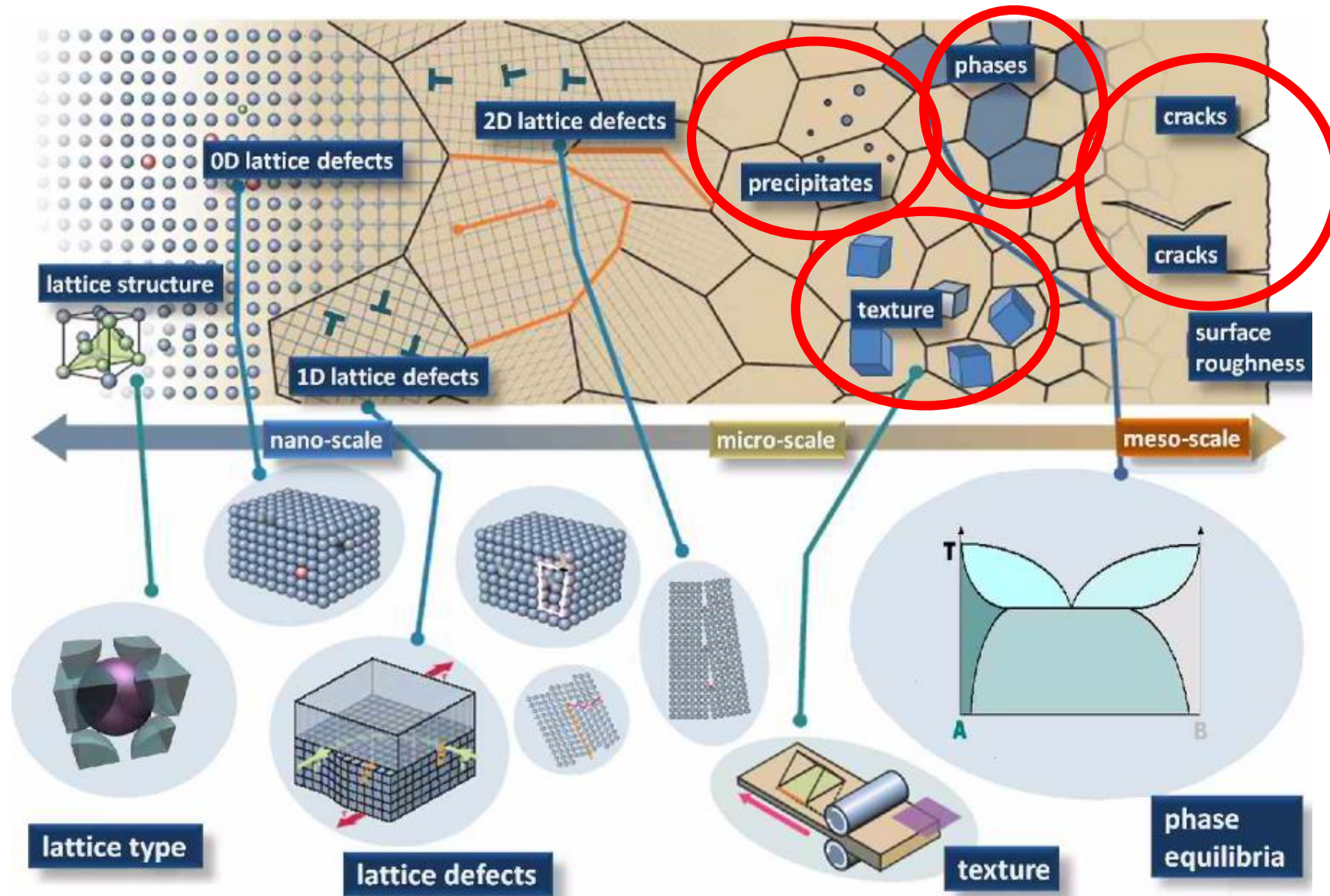
$$\rho(\text{mol} / \text{m}^3) = \frac{\Sigma^* \text{ at.wt}}{M \sigma_{H, \text{total}} 0.6023}$$





# Applications: Metallography

## Crystalline materials and properties

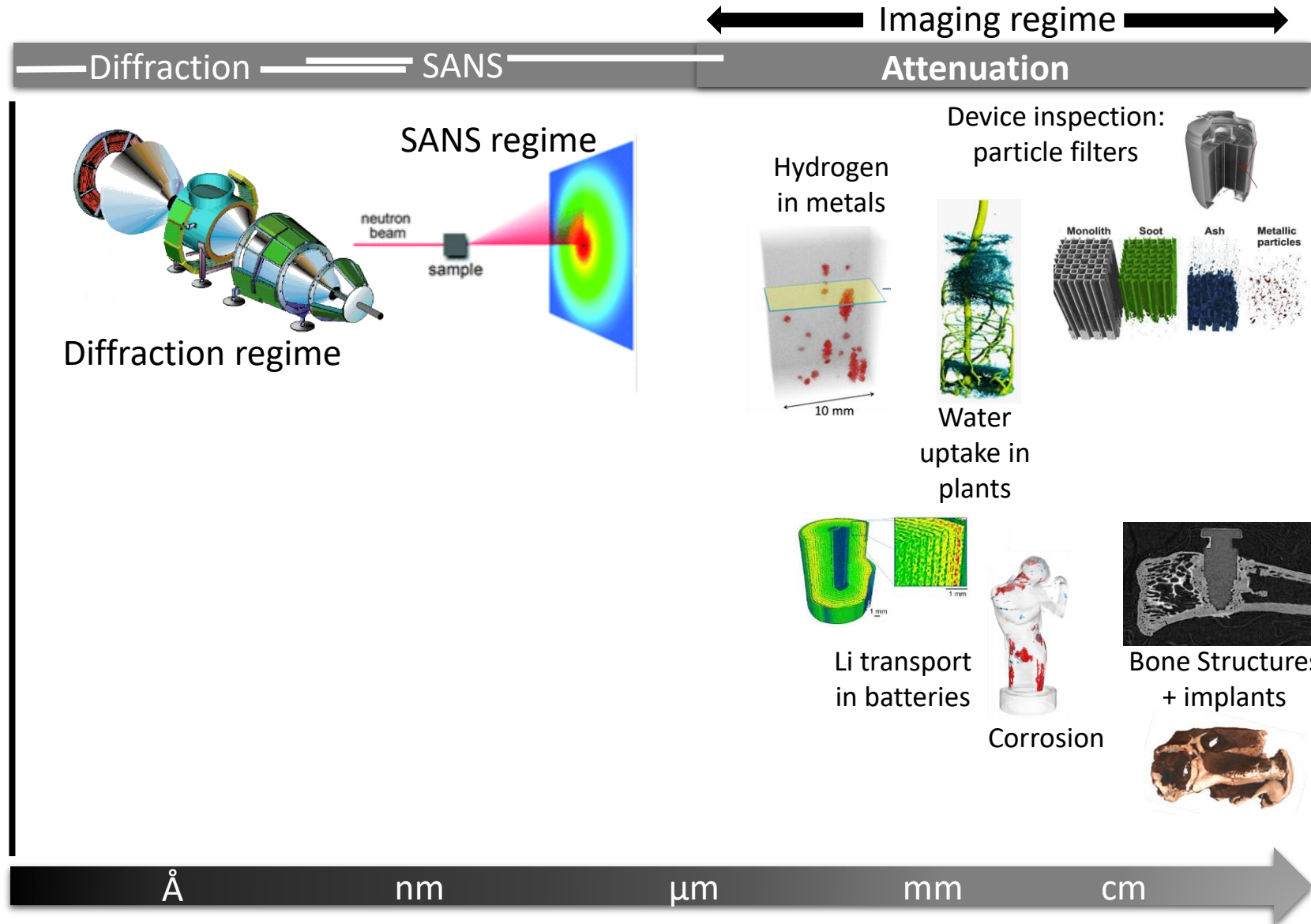


# Neutron Methods & Length Scales



## Applications

- Metals/Engineering
- Hydrogen
- Energy Storage
- Cultural Heritage



# Non-destructive testing with neutrons: Engineering materials and components revealed



Characterization Techniques & Contrast Mechanisms

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Neutron Methods & Length Scales

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Applications using Imaging (Attenuation Contrast)

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Applications using SANS and Diffraction

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Applications using Imaging (Diffraction and Scattering Contrast)

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Summary & Outlook

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# Applications: Metallography

## Phase Separation in Fe-Cr

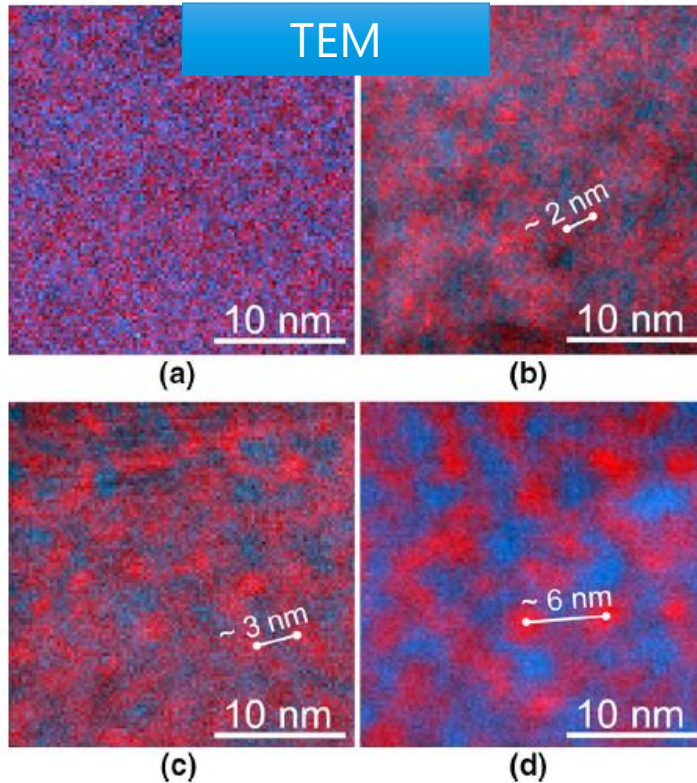
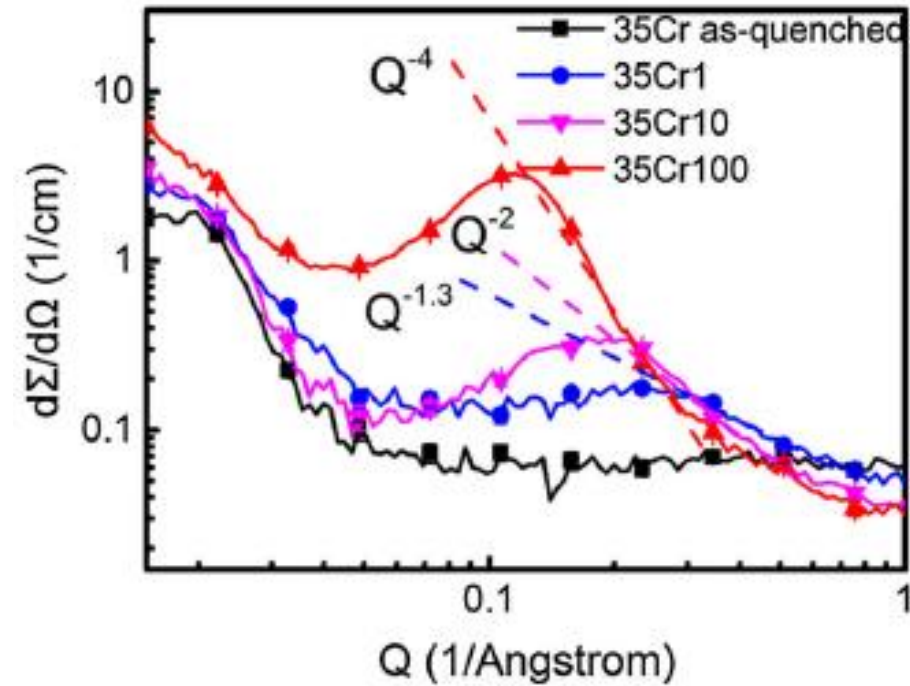


Fig. 5—Analytical TEM composite elemental maps (EELS) of multi-linear least squares (MLLS) fitting coefficients for the Cr-signal (red) and Fe-signal (blue) for alloy 35Cr aged at 773 K (500 °C) for different times<sup>[17]</sup>: (a) 0 h, (b) 1 h, (c) 10 h, and (d) 100 h. The estimated wavelength is schematically marked on the figures (Color figure online).

### SANS



-> Fit model: derive the particle size values

-> SANS enables in-situ studies

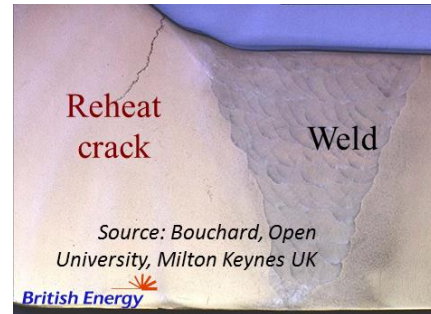
# Applications: Metallography

## Stress/Strain analysis by Diffraction



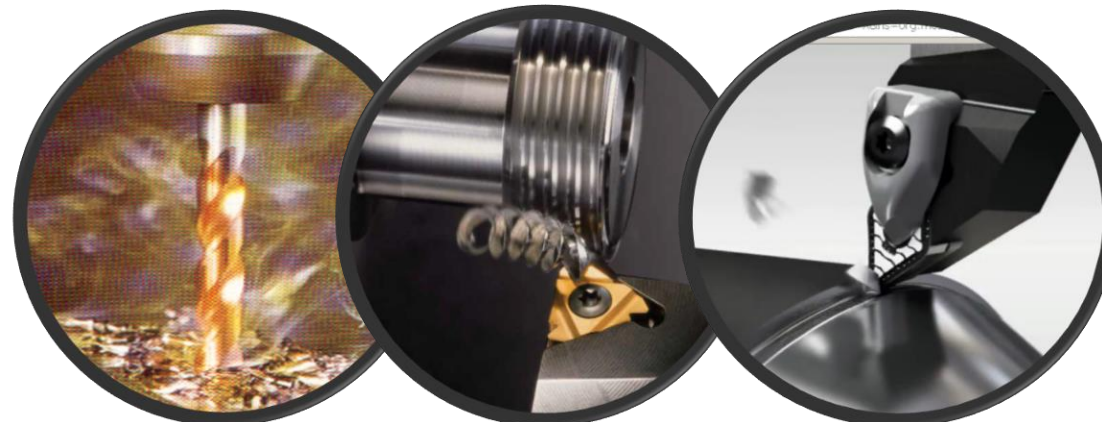
**Residual Stress:** Introduced during manufacture and/or during use by e.g. mechanical forming processes, welding and heat treatments. Residual stresses are present in virtually every solid material or component.

Tensile stresses (especially near surface) can aid the onset of cracking which can cause premature failure.



RS superpose external load stresses under service conditions.

In general, compressive stresses at a surface are beneficial and enhance resistance to failure.



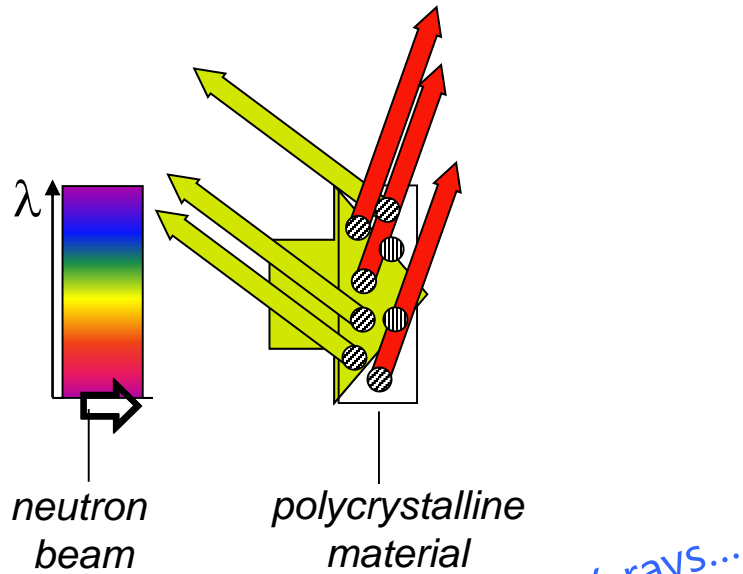
# Applications: Metallography

## Stress/Strain analysis by Diffraction

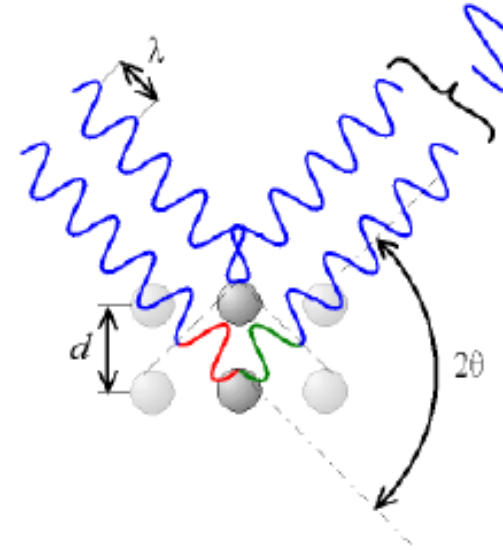
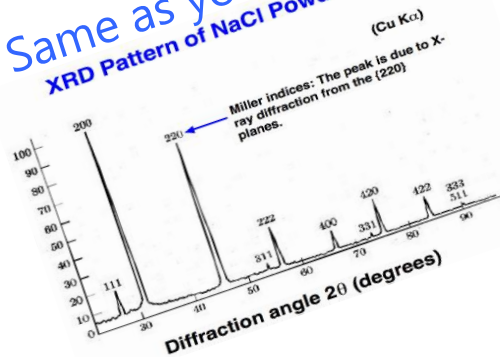


Constructive interference only when:

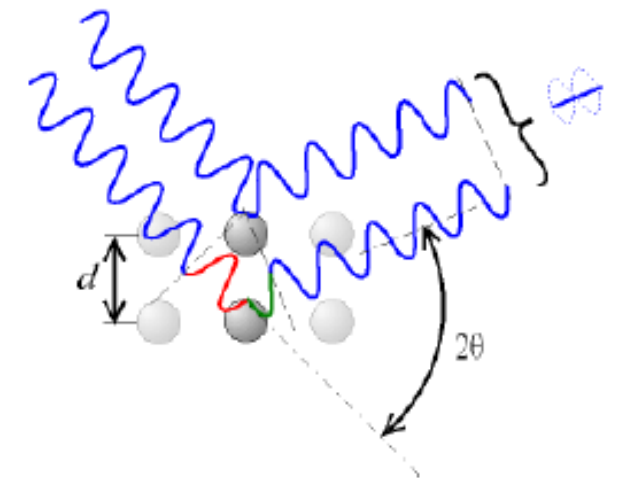
$$\text{Bragg's law: } \lambda = 2d_{hkl} \sin\theta^B$$



Same as your lab X-rays...



"peaks" at well defined  $2\theta$  angles indicate "d-spacing"



no peaks in other directions

# Applications: Metallography

## Stress/Strain analysis by Diffraction



Strain due to any mechanical, chemical or thermal process. e.g. loading, machining, plating and welding induces variations in d-spacing and thus 2-theta

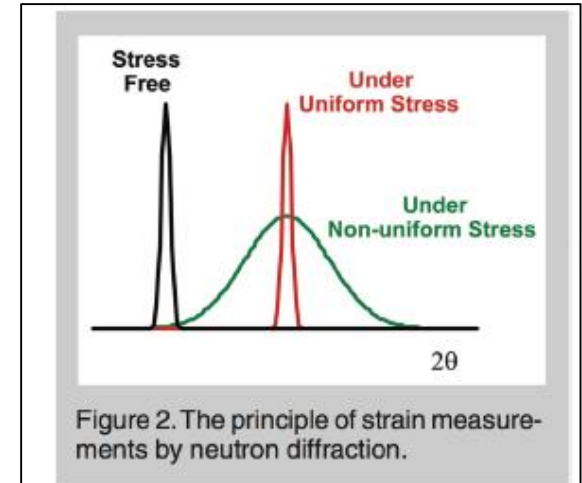
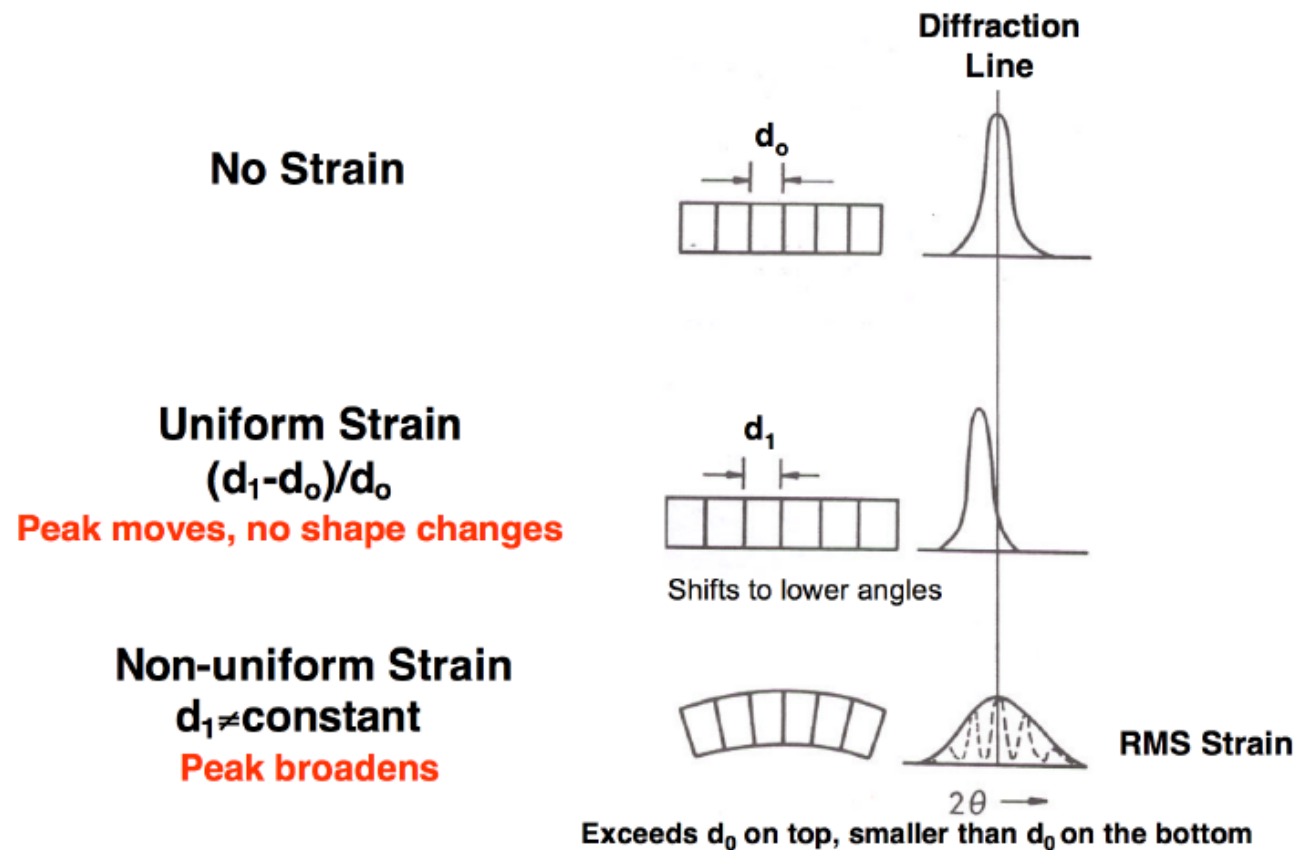


Figure 2. The principle of strain measurements by neutron diffraction.

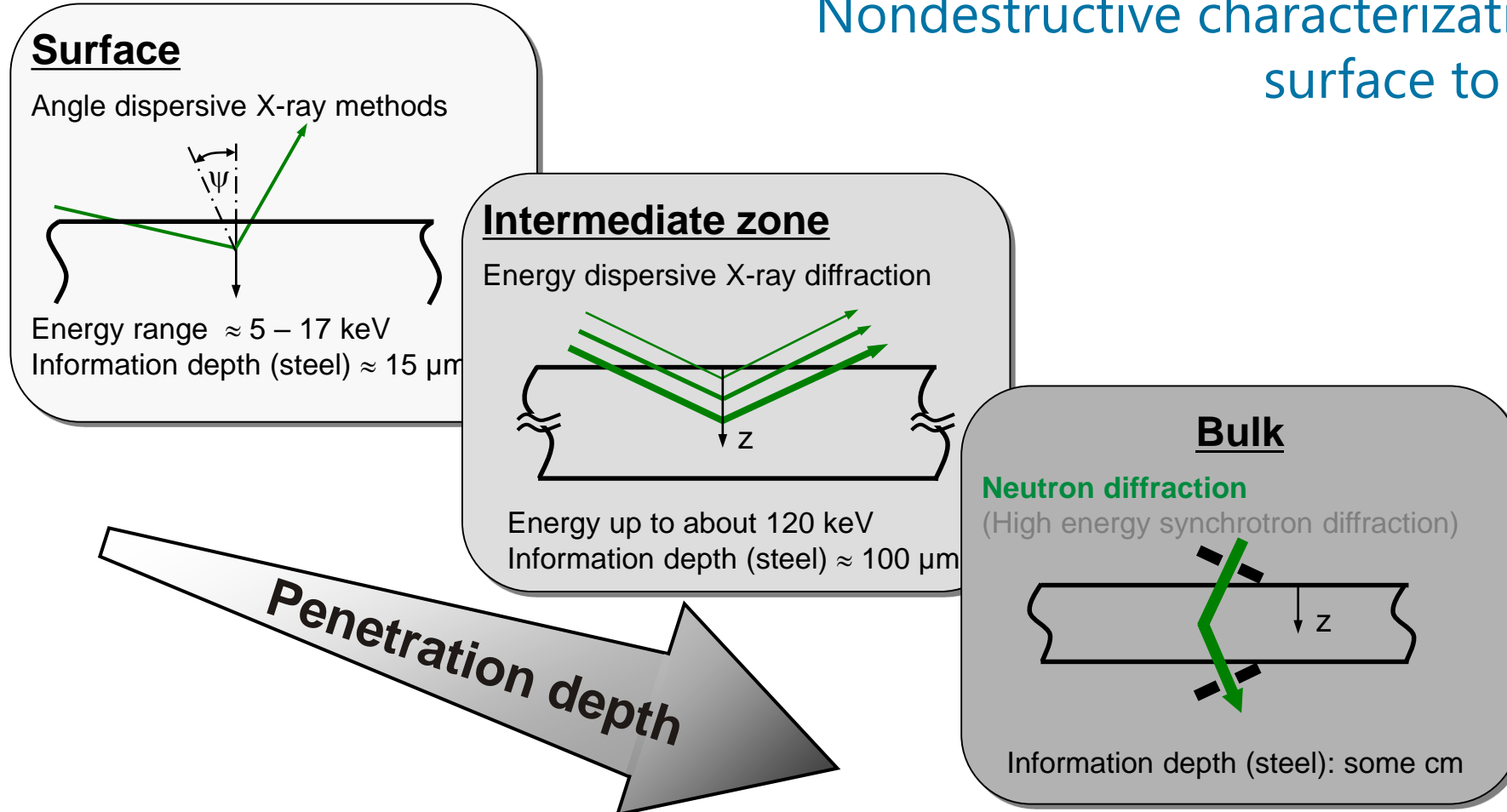
$$\epsilon = \frac{d - d_0}{d_0} = \frac{\sin \theta_0}{\sin \theta} - 1$$

# Applications: Metallography

## Stress/Strain analysis by Diffraction



Nondestructive characterization from surface to volume!





# Applications: Metallography

## Stress/Strain analysis by Diffraction

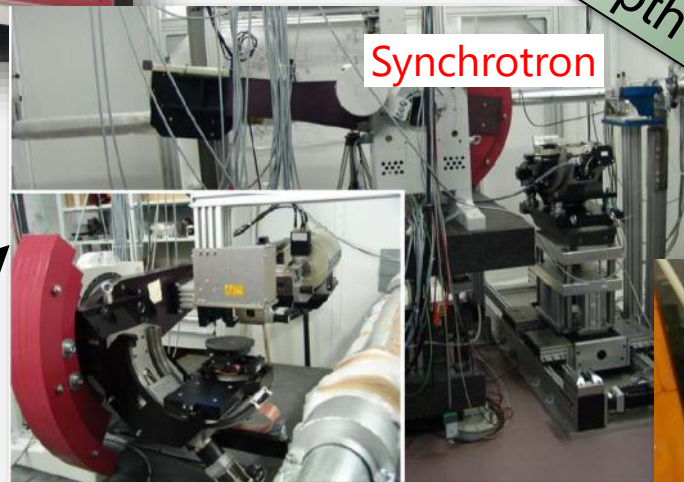


X-ray lab

nm

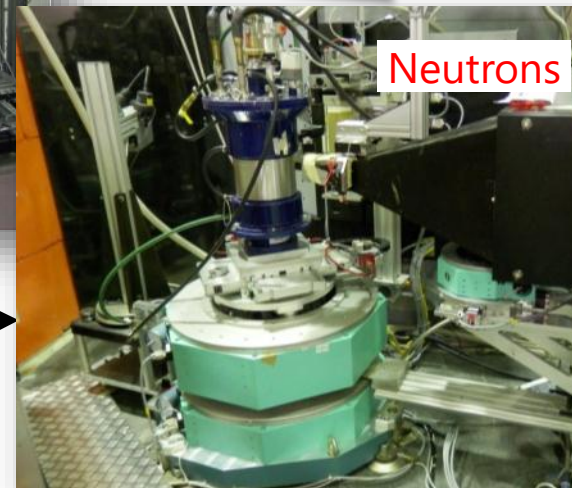
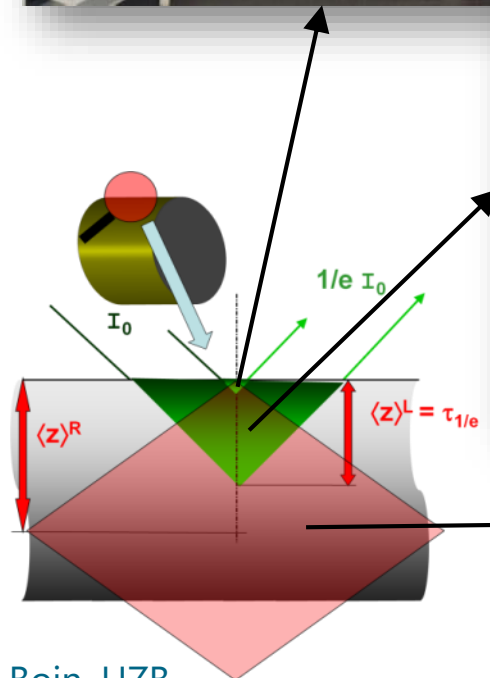
Nondestructive characterization from surface to volume!

Information depth



Synchrotron

cm

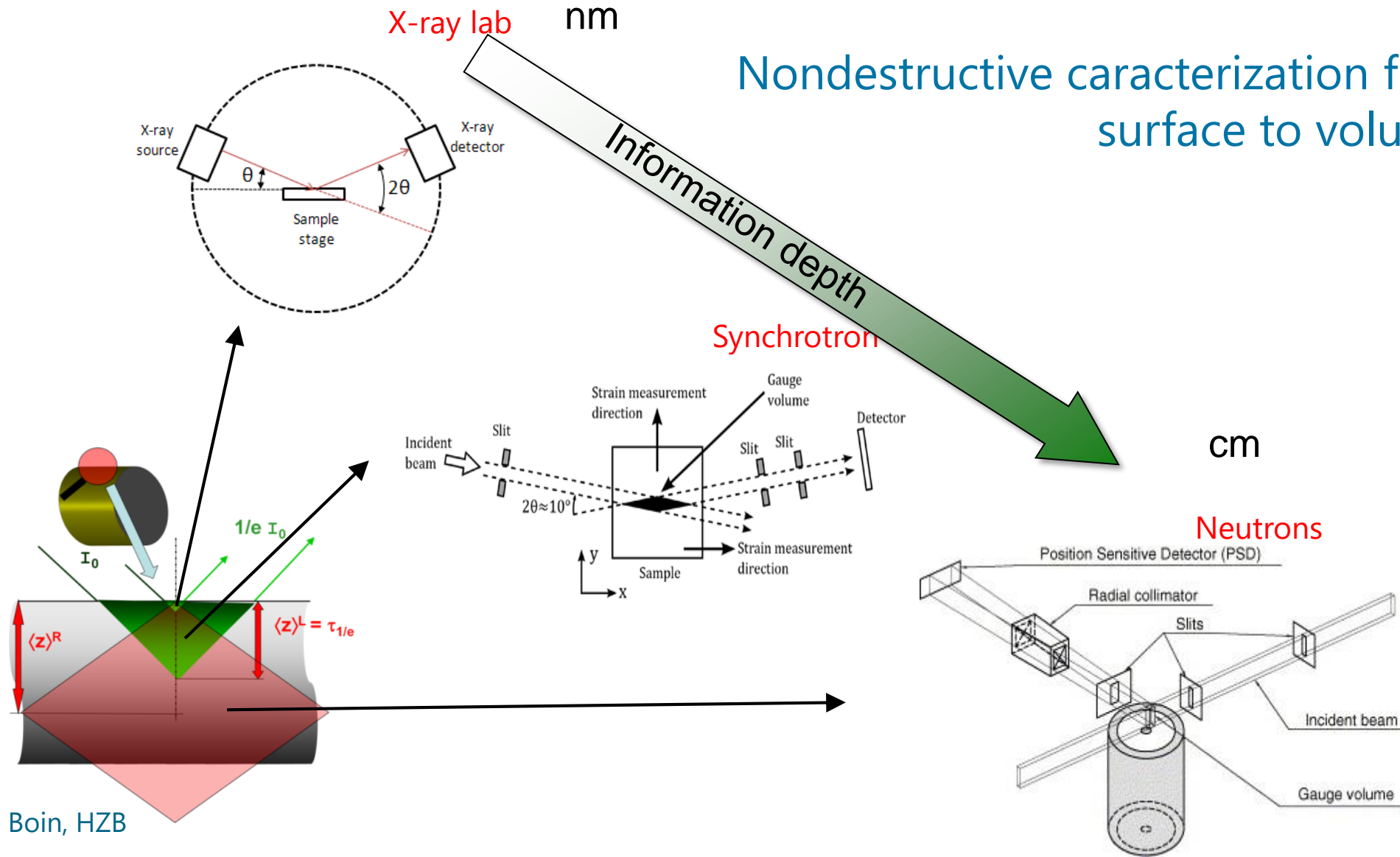


Neutrons



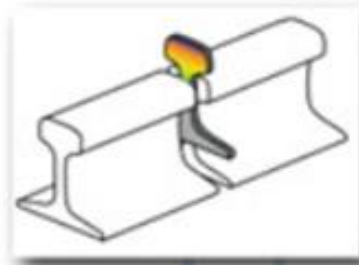
# Applications: Metallography

## Stress/Strain analysis by Diffraction



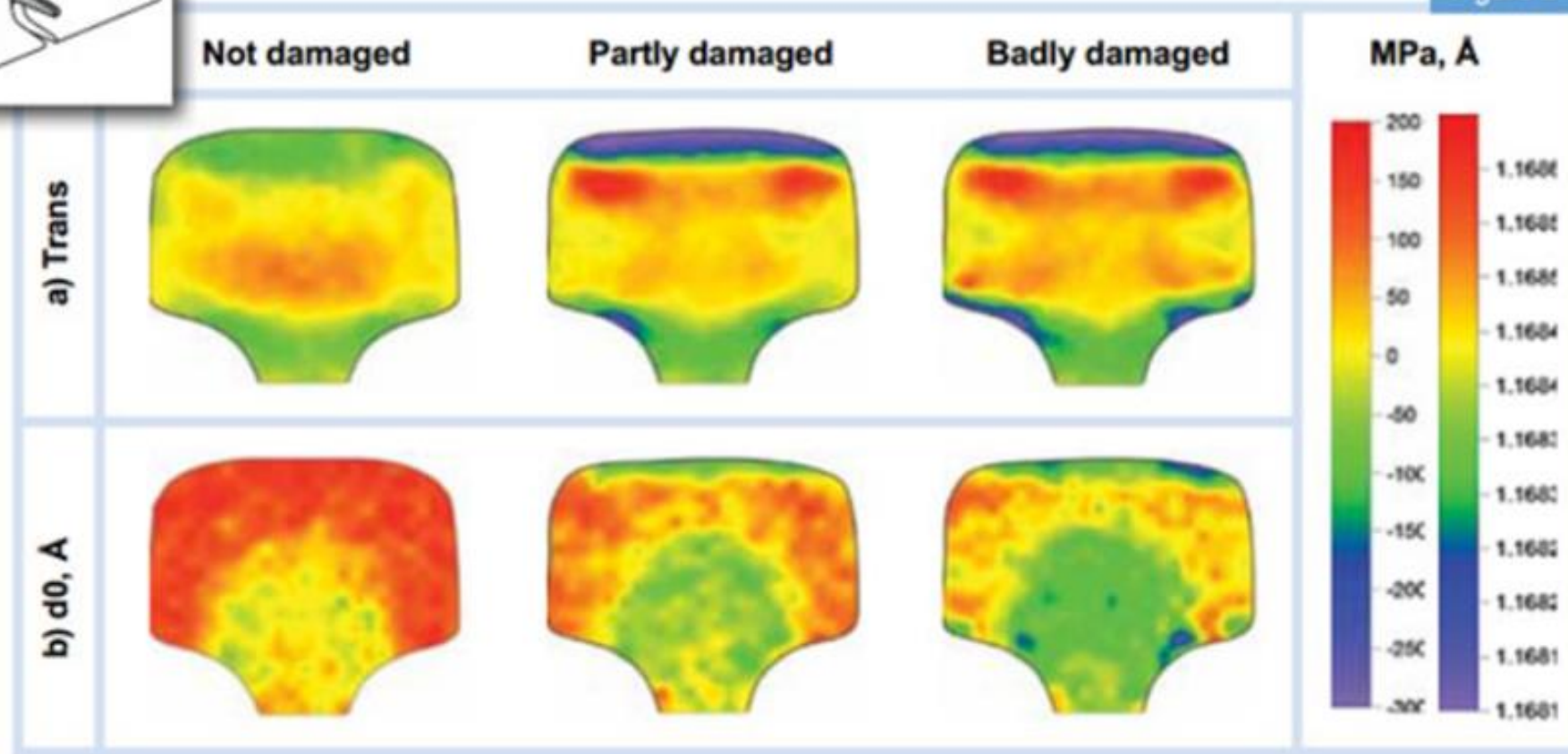
# Applications: Metallography

## Stress/Strain analysis by Diffraction



### Example: Fatigue in railway tracks

Figure 2

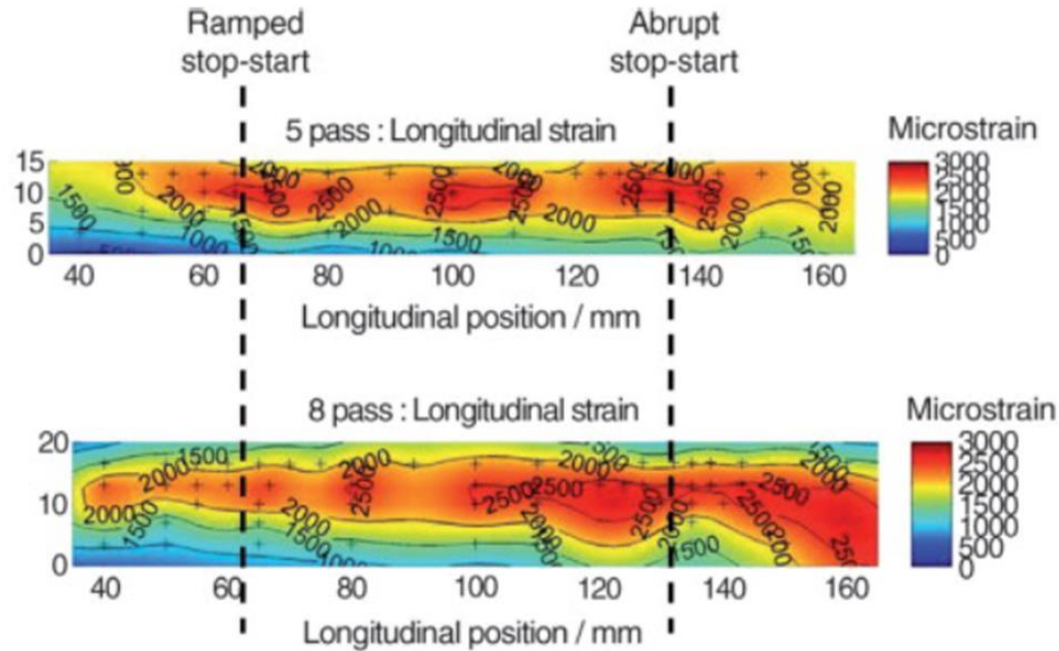
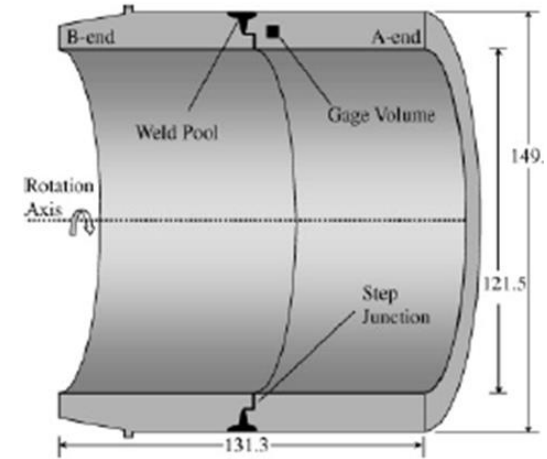


# Applications: Metallography

## Stress/Strain analysis by Diffraction



Example:  
Residual stress around welds  
& changing welding parameters

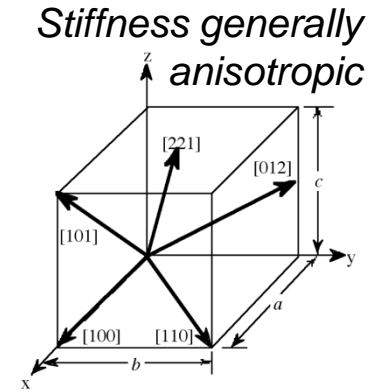


# Applications: Metallography

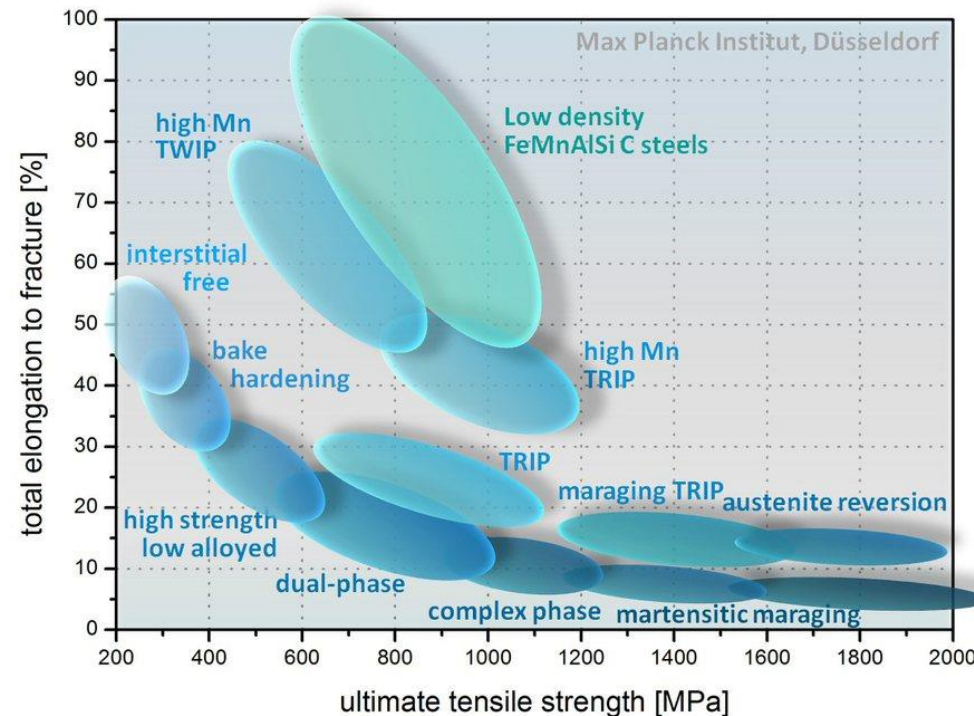
## Example: Applied stress

Neutron diffraction used extensively to:

- study lattice spacing changes under uni-axial deformation (tension/compression)
- determine lattice specific elastic constants ( $E_{hkl}$ ,  $\nu_{hkl}$ )
- validate and develop deformation models



-> High performance alloys are multi-phase and complex



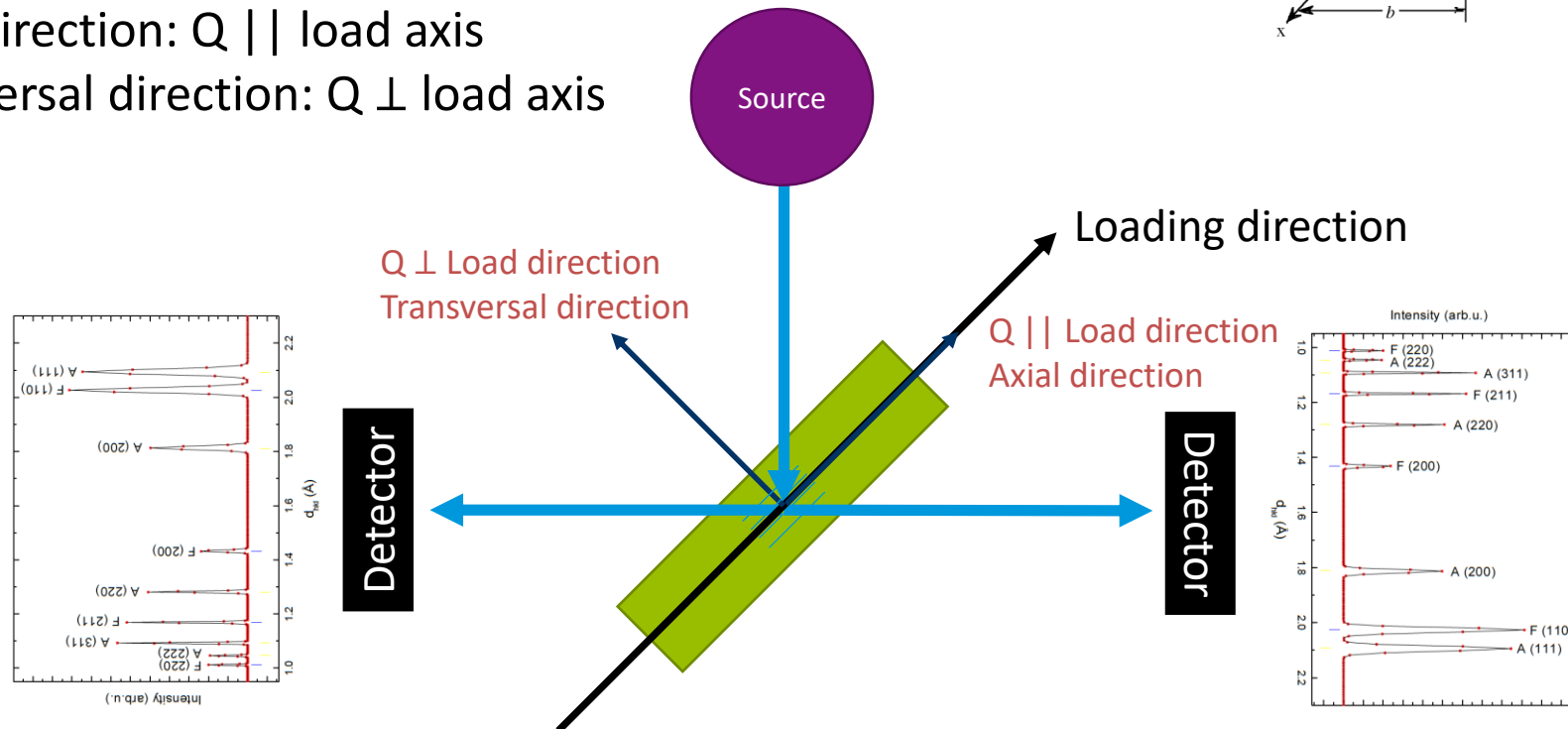
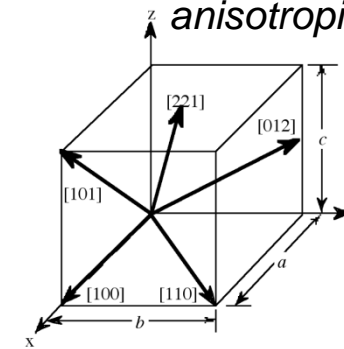
# Applications: Metallography

## Stress/Strain analysis by Diffraction



- Special arrangement for Time of Flight
- Incident beam and 2 detectors at  $\pm 90^\circ$
- **Example tensile test:** Load axis along  $45^\circ$  with respect to the incident beam
- Measurement of two perpendicular components for multiple reflections at once
- Axial direction:  $Q \parallel$  load axis
- Transversal direction:  $Q \perp$  load axis

Stiffness generally anisotropic





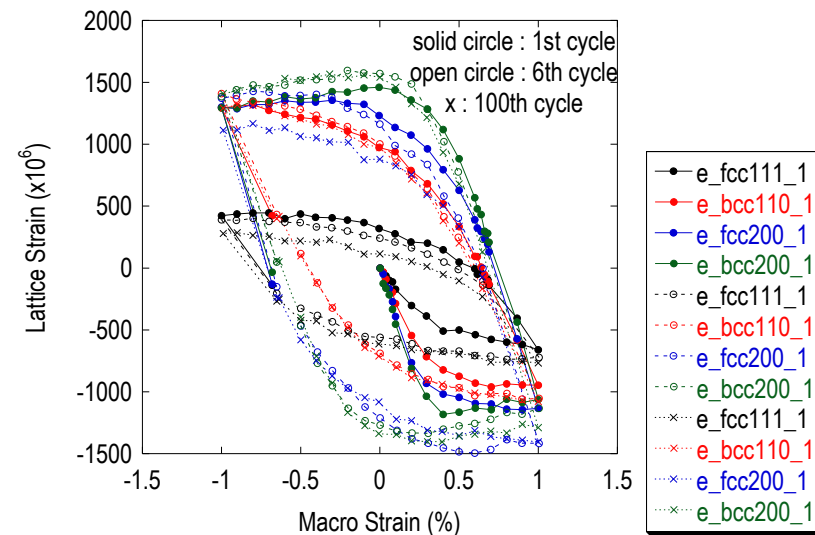
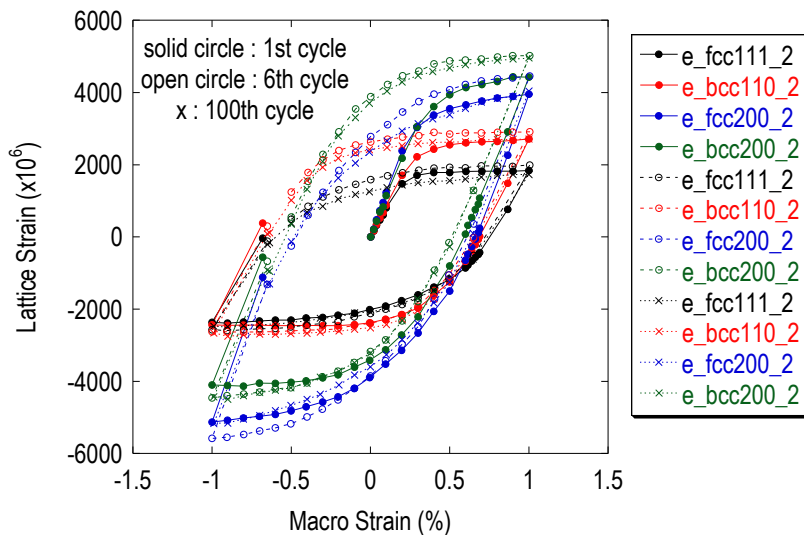
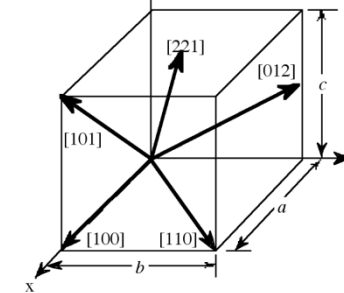
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anisotropic





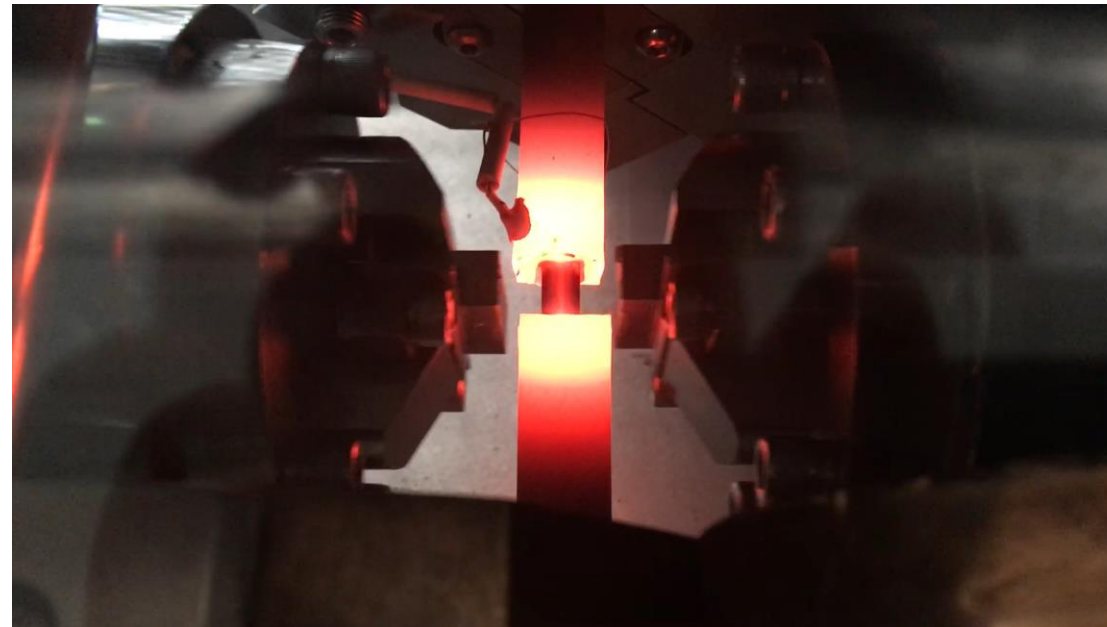
# Applications: Metallography

## Stress/Strain analysis by Diffraction



Completion option on the ESS Engineering diffractometer BEER:

Thermal and mechanical processes simulator using GLEEBLE system on beamline



# Non-destructive testing with neutrons: Engineering materials and components revealed



- ❑ Characterization Techniques & Contrast Mechanisms
- ❑ Neutron Methods & Length Scales
- ❑ Applications using Imaging (Attenuation Contrast)
- ❑ Applications using SANS and Diffraction
- ❑ Applications using Imaging (Diffraction and Scattering Contrast)
- ❑ Summary & Outlook

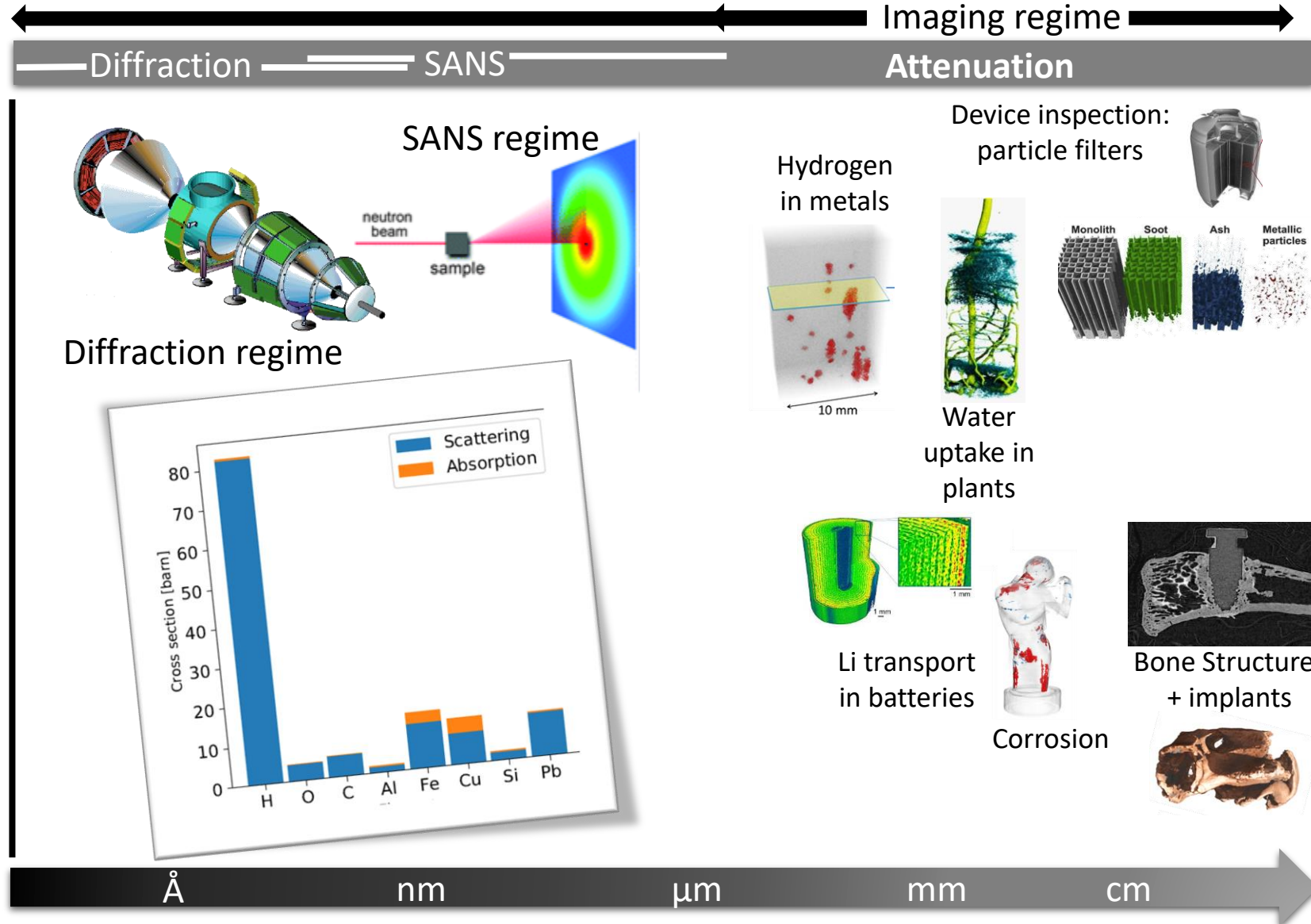
# Neutron Methods & Length Scales



Kardjilov, Manke, Woracek, Banhart, Advances in neutron imaging. Materials Today 21 (2018)

## Applications

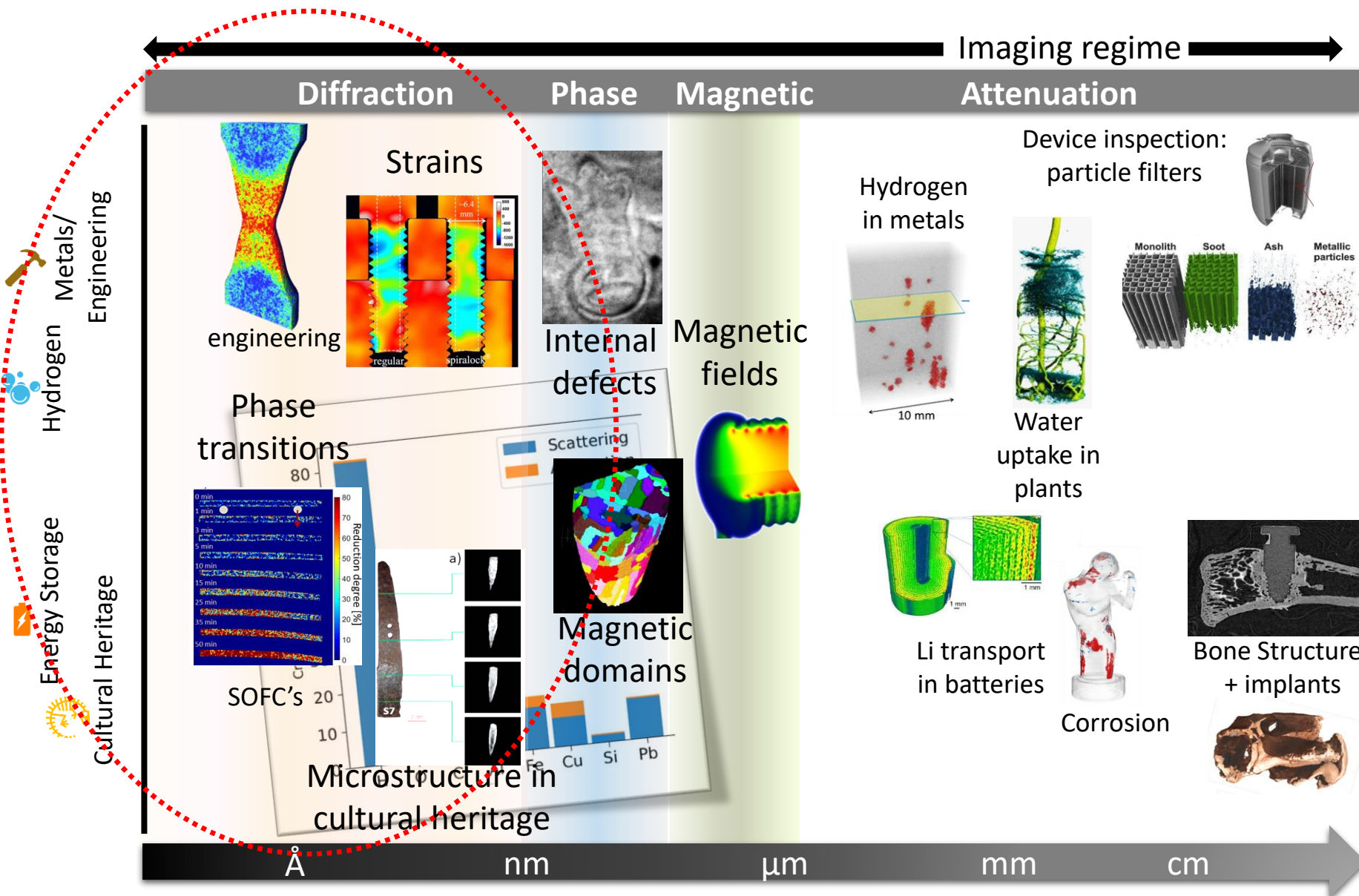
- Metals/Engineering
- Hydrogen
- Energy Storage
- Cultural Heritage



# Neutron Methods & Length Scales



Applications

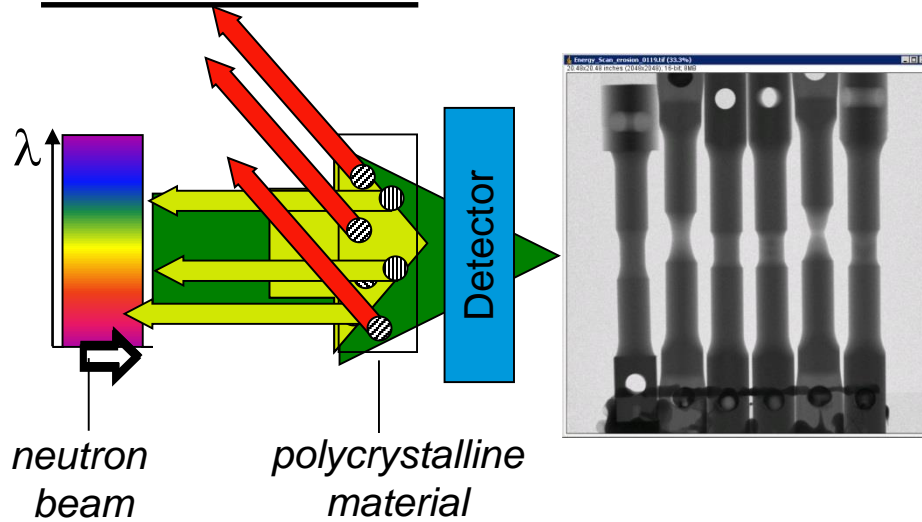


# Neutron Imaging: Diffraction Contrast

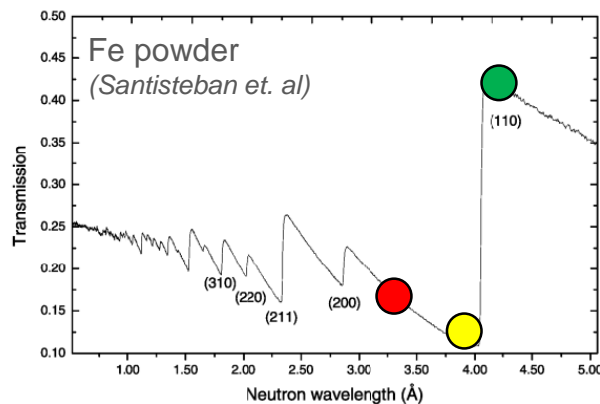
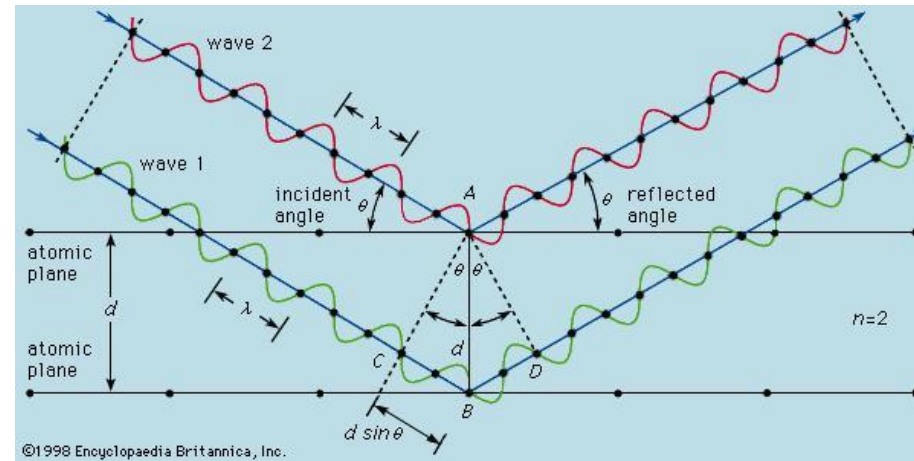


- Coh. elastic scattering  $\sigma_T(\lambda) = \sigma_{el.coh.}(\lambda) + \sigma_{el.inc.}(\lambda) + \sigma_{inel.coh.}(\lambda) + \sigma_{inel.incoh.}(\lambda) + \sigma_{abs}(\lambda)$
- $hkl$  spacing probed in beam direction (“averaged” through thickness)

## Monochromatic



$$\lambda = 2d_{hkl} \sin \theta^B$$



$$2d_{hkl} \sin \theta = \lambda$$

$$2d_{hkl} \sin 90^\circ = \lambda$$

$$2d_{hkl} \sin \theta < \lambda$$



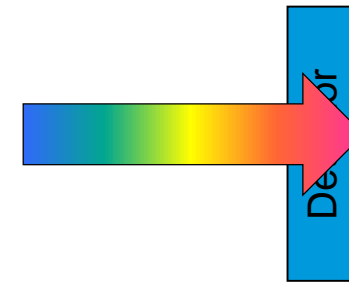
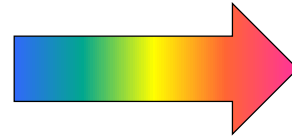
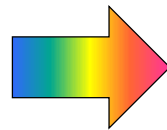
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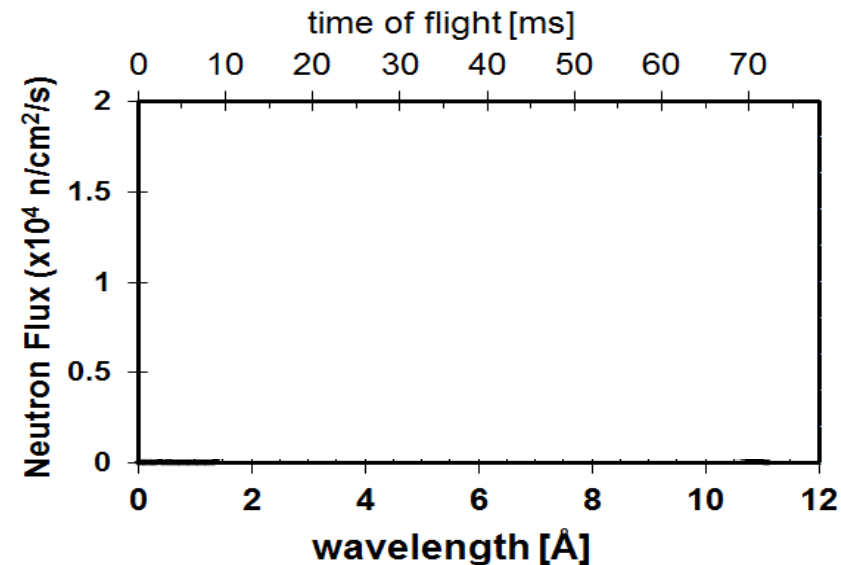
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- $hkl$  spacing probed in beam direction (“averaged” through thickness)

## Time of flight

Source



Detector



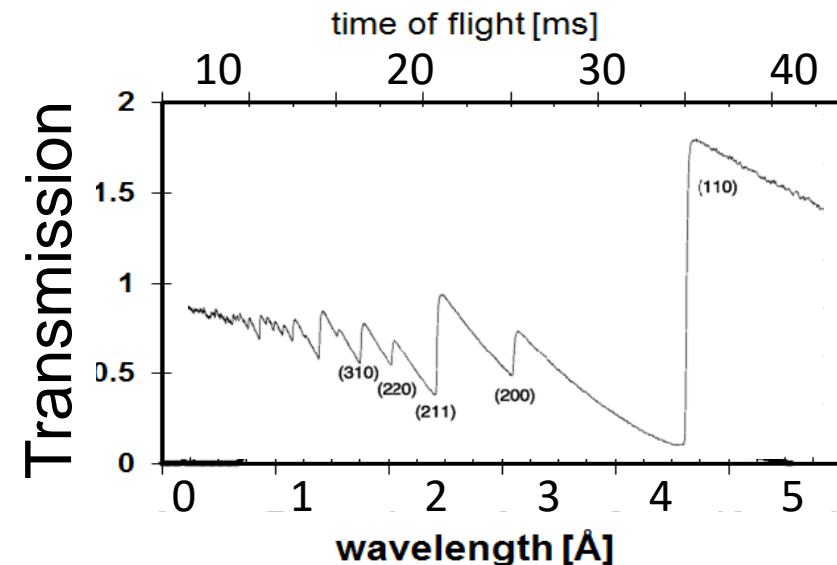
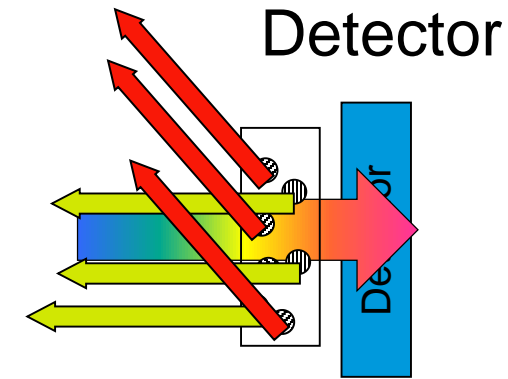
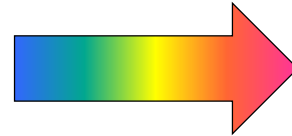
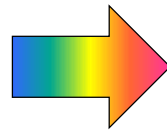
# Neutron Imaging: Diffraction Contrast



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- $hkl$  spacing probed in beam direction (“averaged” through thickness)

## Time of flight

Source



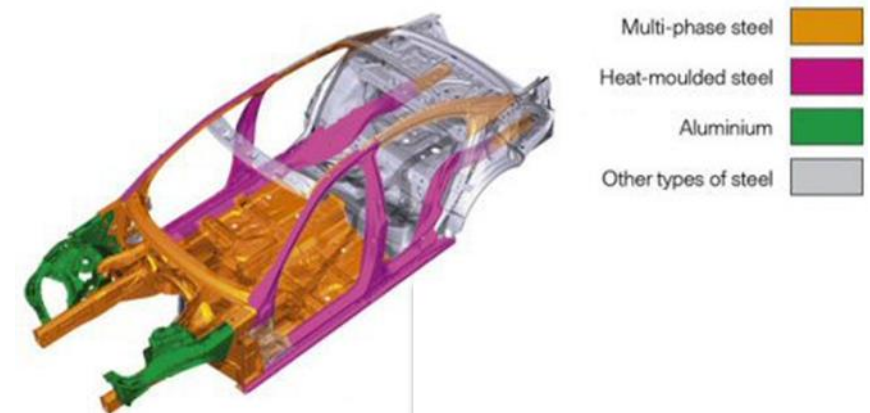
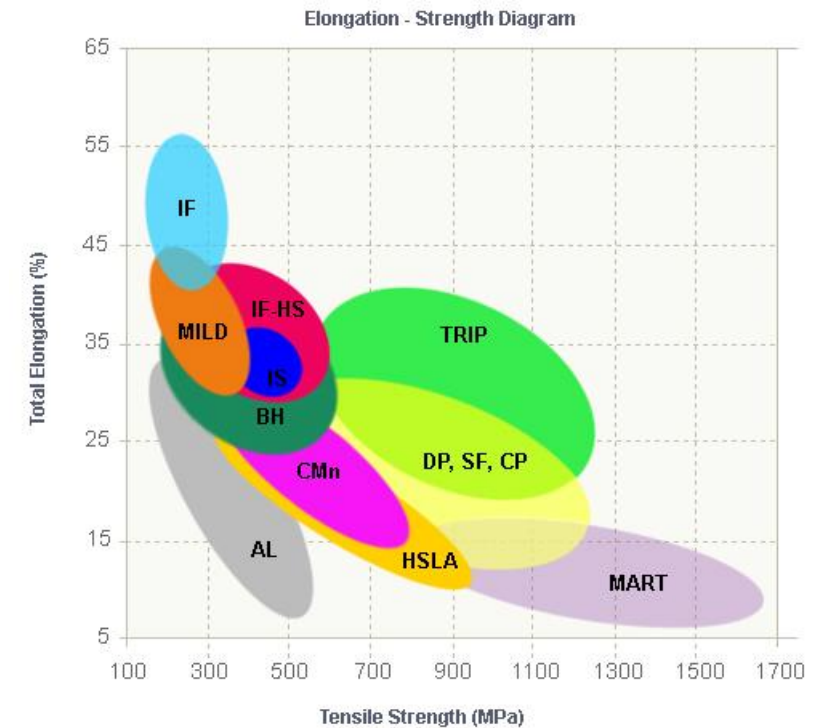
# Applications: Metallography

## Crystalline phase fractions in 3D

- Multiphase steels possess a good combination of strength and elongation.
- TRIP steel: FCC Austenite transforms to HCP and BCC Martensites under strain.



Formability Chart: Material Based on Strength and Elongation

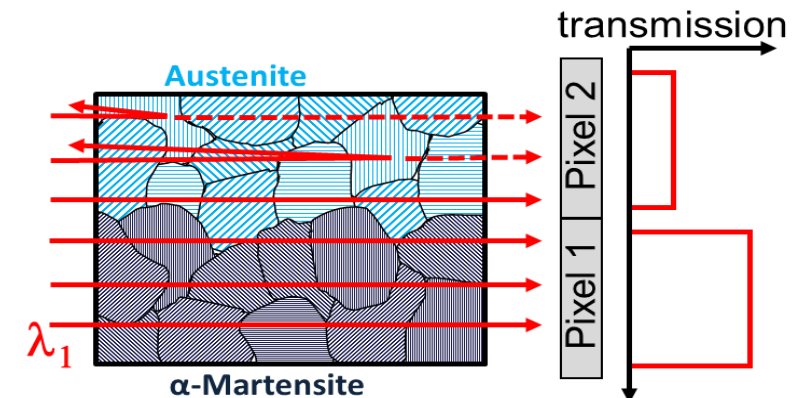
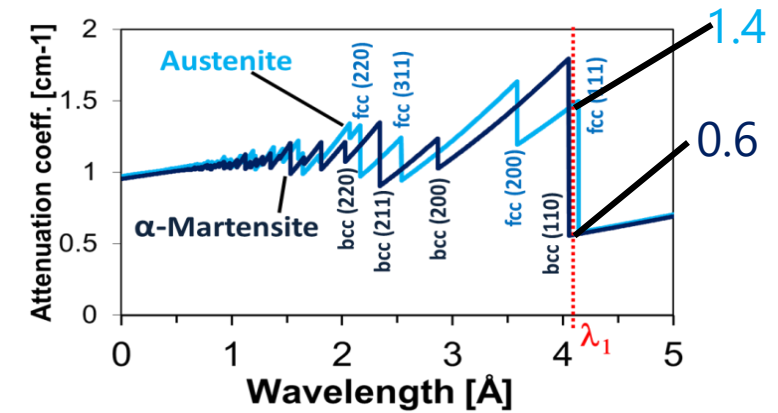


# Applications: Metallography



## Crystalline phase fractions in 3D

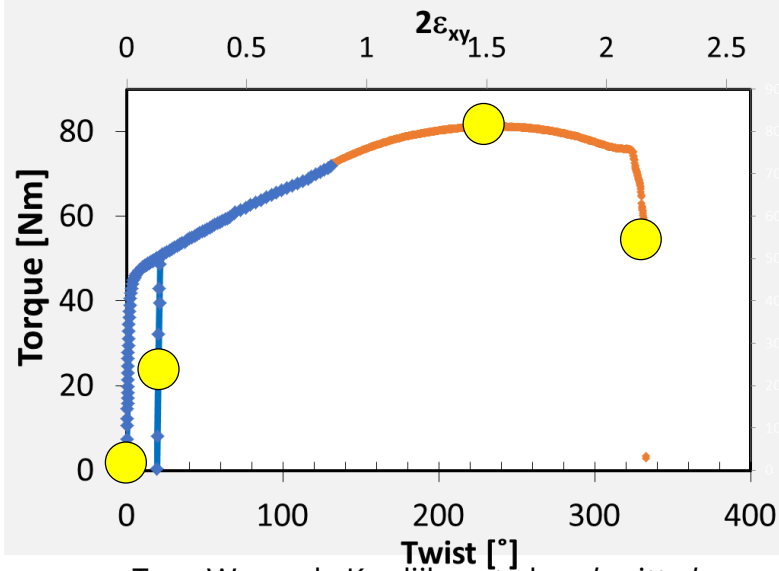
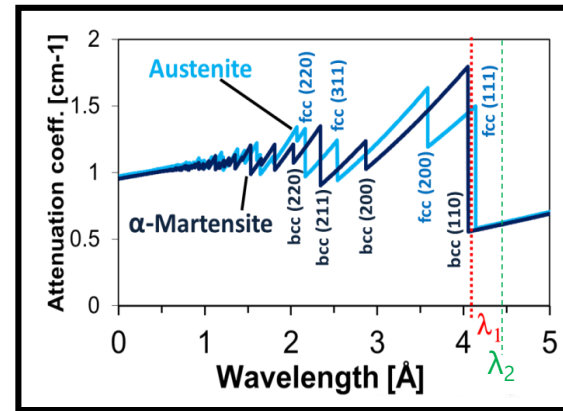
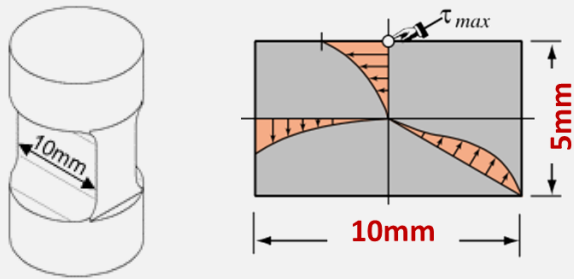
- Multiphase steels possess a good combination of strength and elongation.
- TRIP steel: FCC Austenite transforms to HCP and BCC Martensites under strain.
- Phases can be well separated by diffraction contrast in transmission (Bragg edges).
- Challenge: Many crystalline properties are directional dependent (*tensorial*) → tomographic reconstruction challenging.
- Non-tensorial properties such as phase fractions can be reconstructed for non-textured samples.



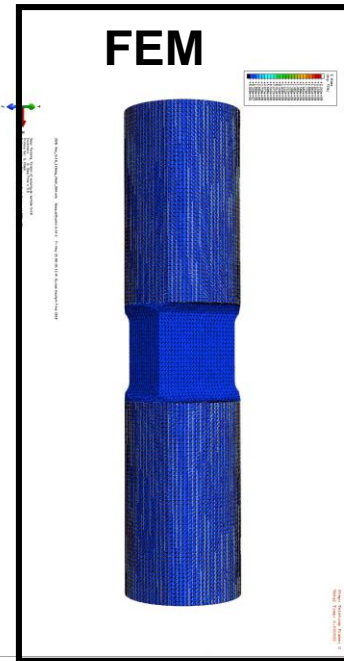
# Applications: Metallography

## Crystalline phase fractions in 3D

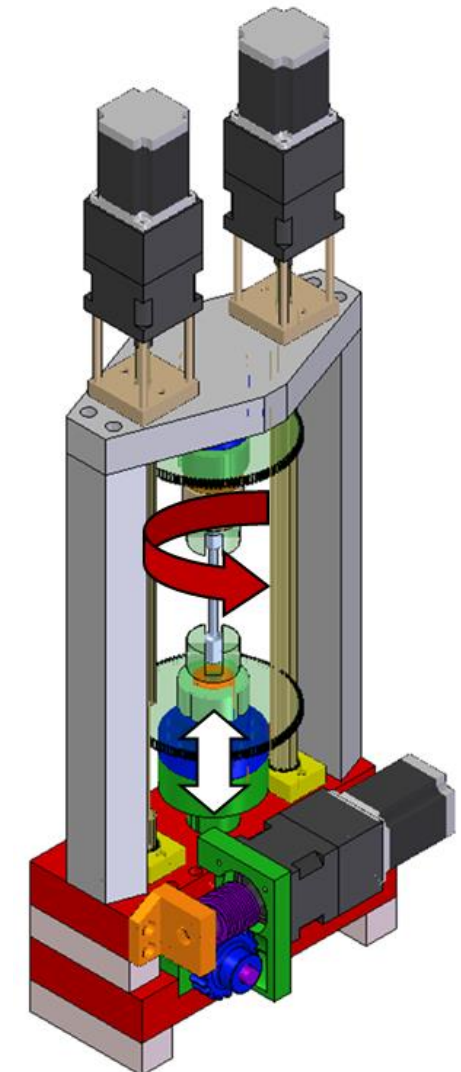
- Torsion of rectangular cross-section (304L)



Tran, Woracek, Kardjilov et al., submitted



## Neutron Tomography

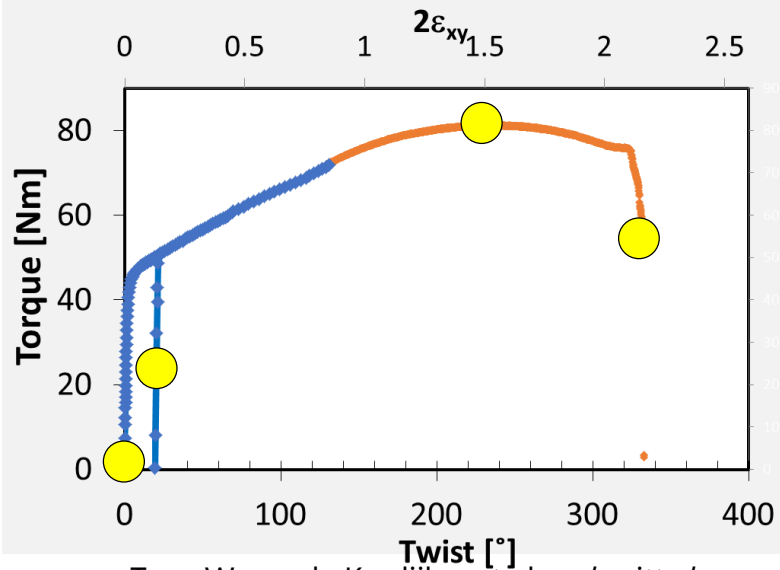
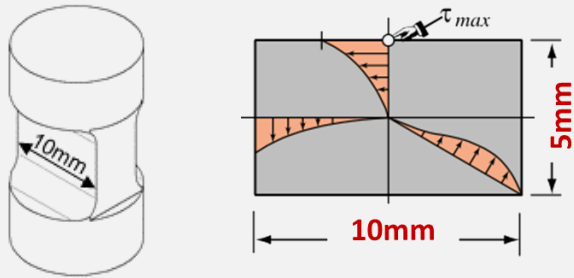




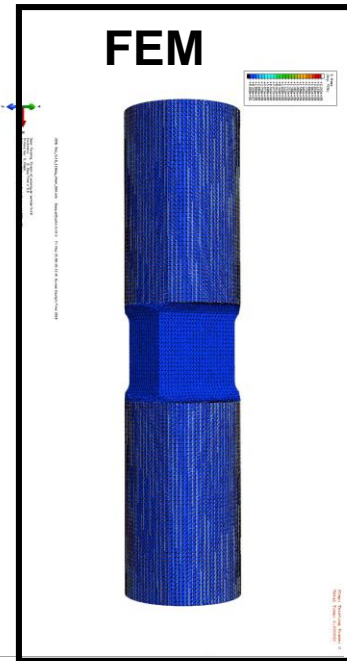
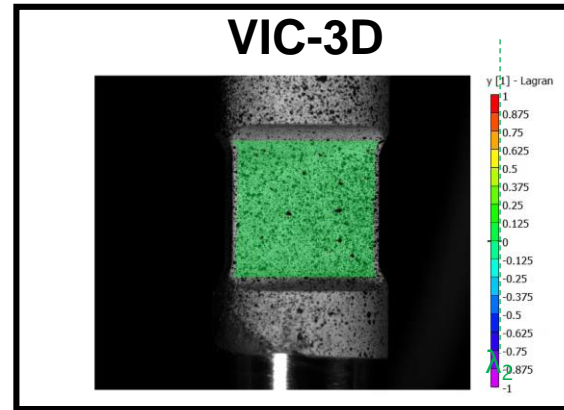
# Applications: Metallography

## Crystalline phase fractions in 3D

- Torsion of rectangular cross-section (304L)



Tran, Woracek, Kardjilov et al., submitted



### Neutron Tomography

116°      232°      330°

Middle      Middle      Middle

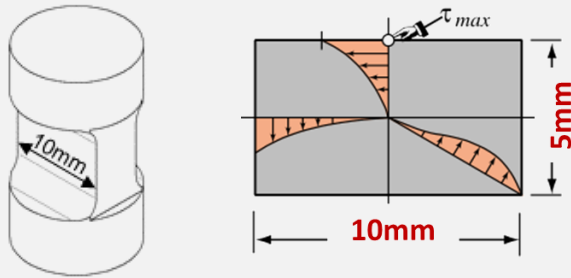
2.5m Top      2.5m Top      2.5m Top

Austenite      Martensite

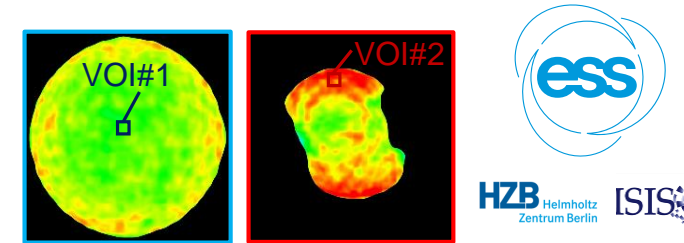
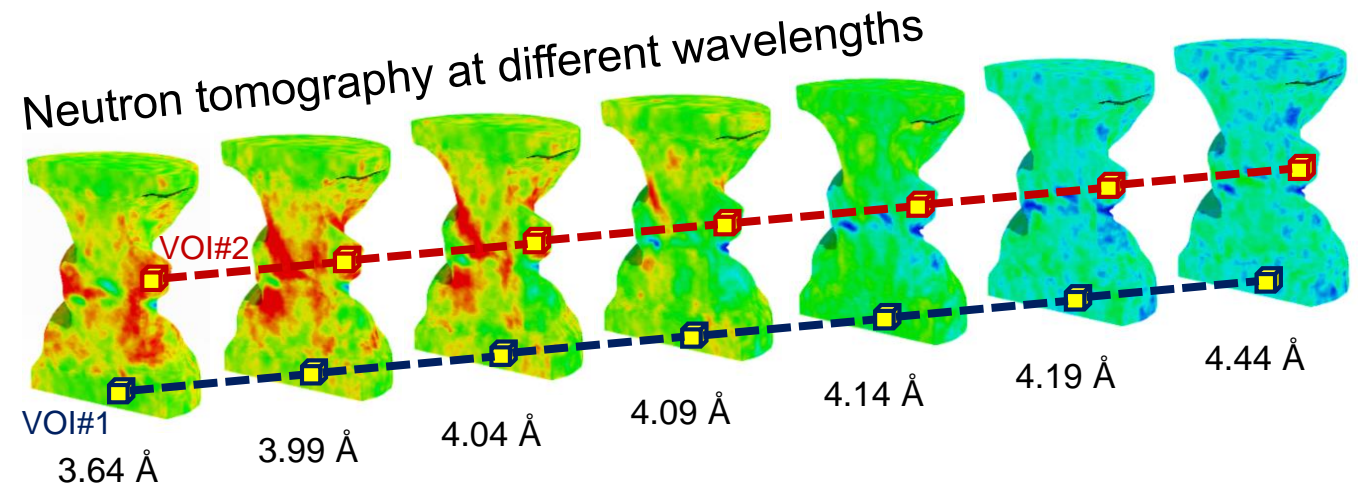
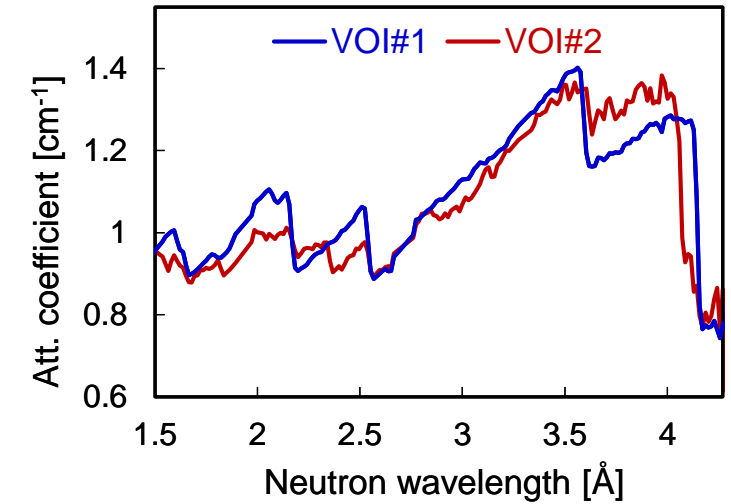
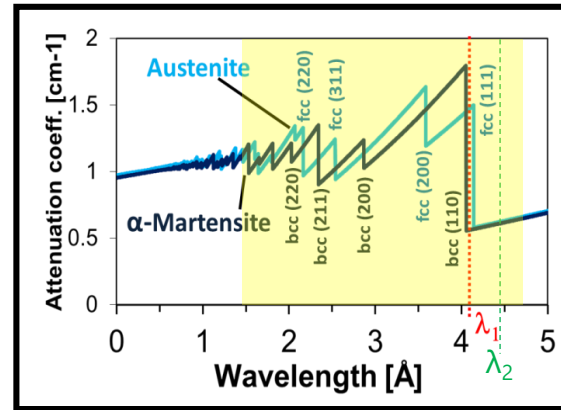
# Applications: Metallography

## Crystalline phase fractions in 3D

- Torsion of rectangular cross-section (304L)



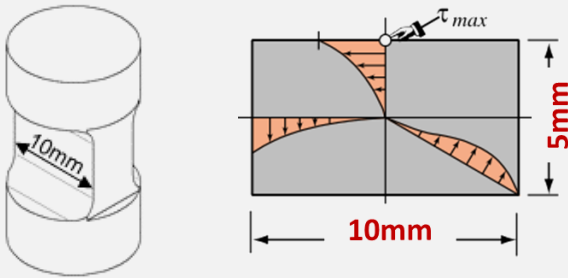
- In past: Phase evaluation based on tomographic reconstruction before/after Bragg edge
- Recently: Established **spectral neutron tomography** (naturally suited for ToF)



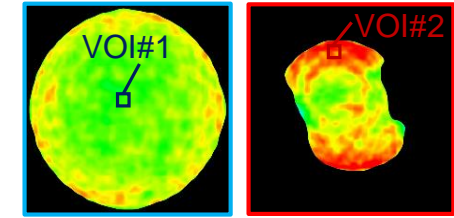
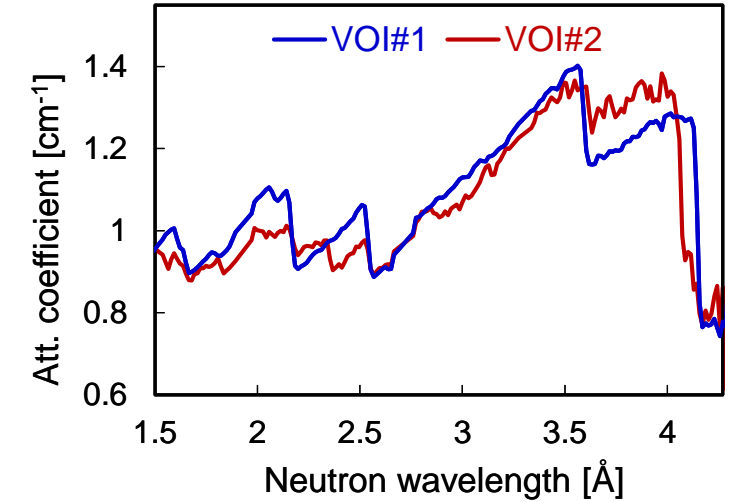
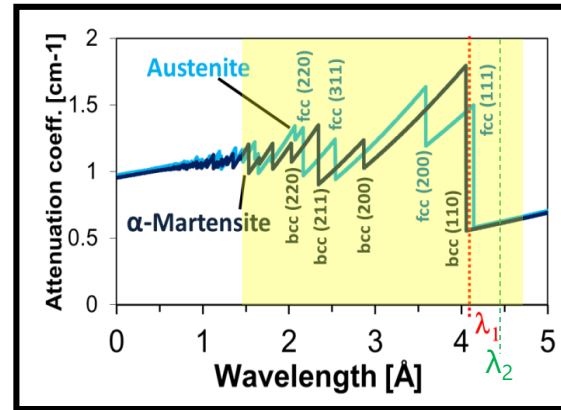
# Applications: Metallography

## Crystalline phase fractions in 3D

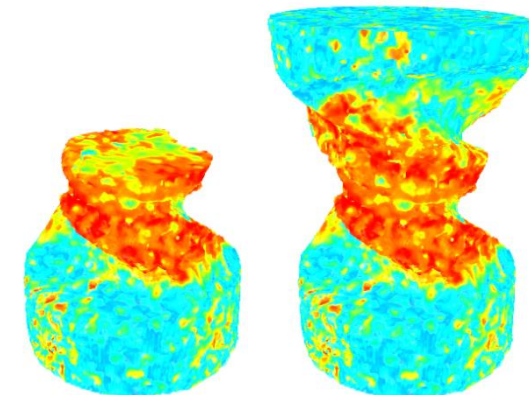
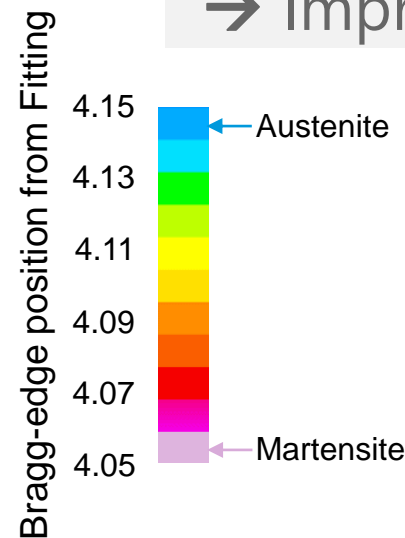
- Torsion of rectangular cross-section (304L)



- In past: Phase evaluation based on tomographic reconstruction before/after Bragg edge
- Recently: Established **spectral neutron tomography** (naturally suited for ToF)



→ Improved quantification



# Applications: Metallography



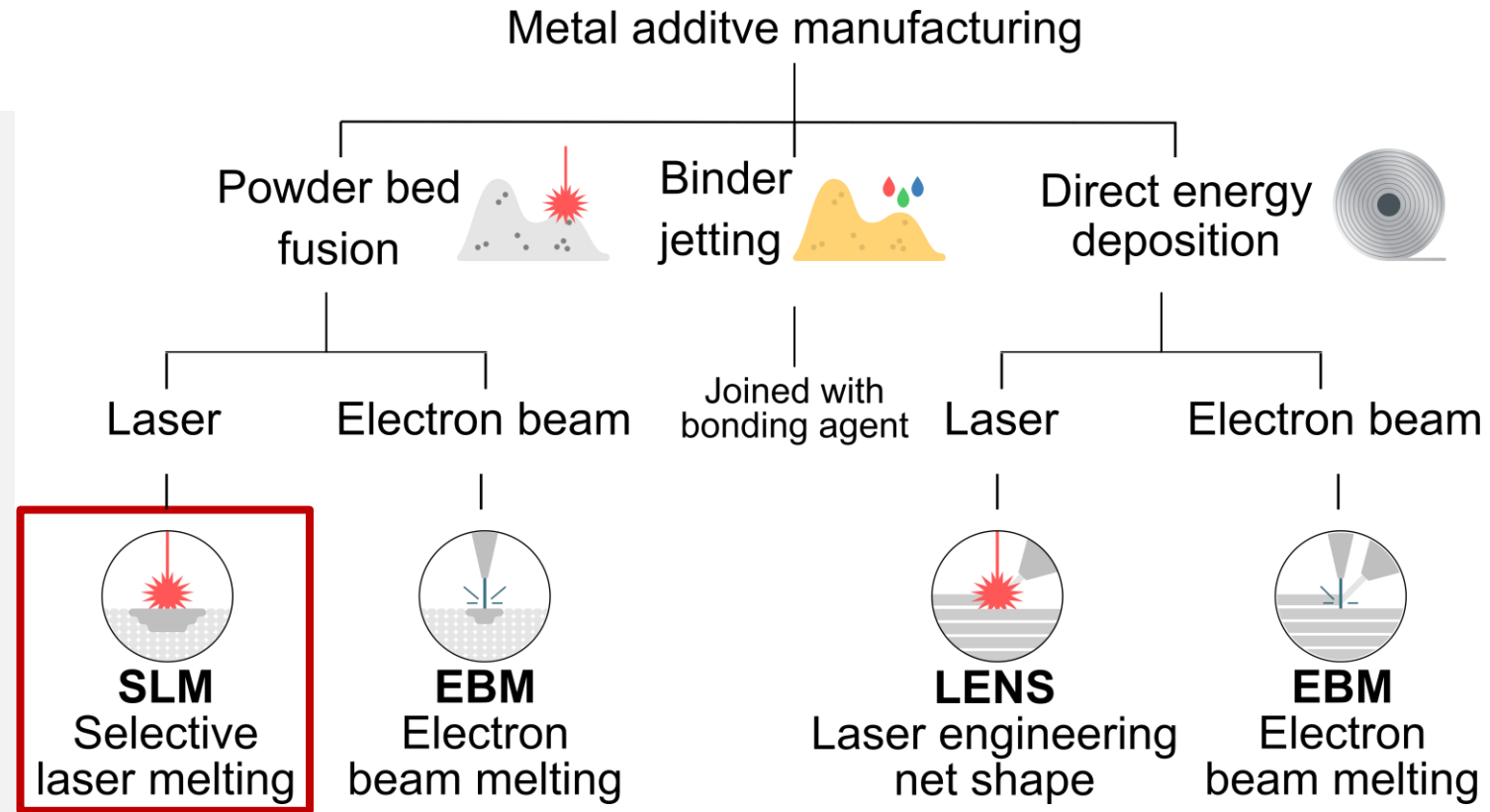
## 316L stainless steel produced by Selective Laser Melting (SLM)

### Additive Manufacturing:

fabrication methods based on **layer-by-layer** approach using a **digital model**

→ Complex designs

Selective laser melting is the most industrially matured technique



# Applications: Metallography



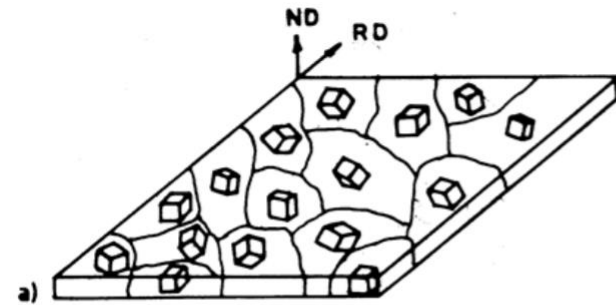
## 316L stainless steel produced by Selective Laser Melting (SLM)

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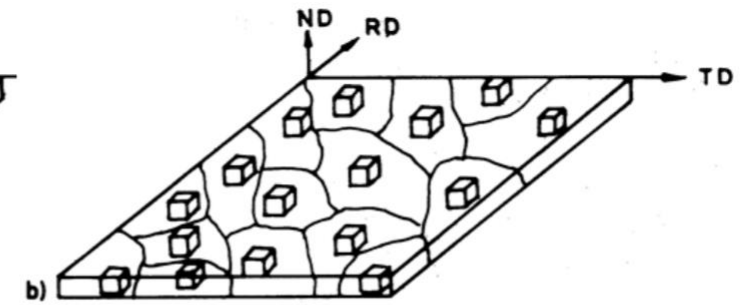
fabrication methods based on **layer-by-layer** approach using a **digital model**

→ Complex designs

Selective laser melting is the most industrially matured technique



**A texture-less sheet  
(Random)**



**A fully textured sheet  
(Strong texture)**

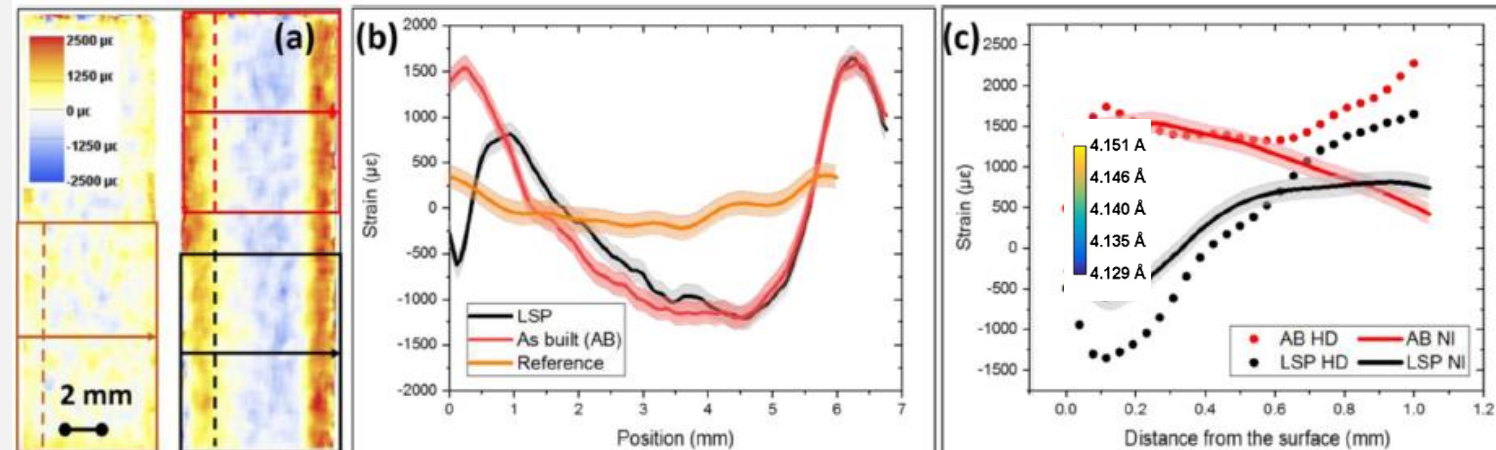
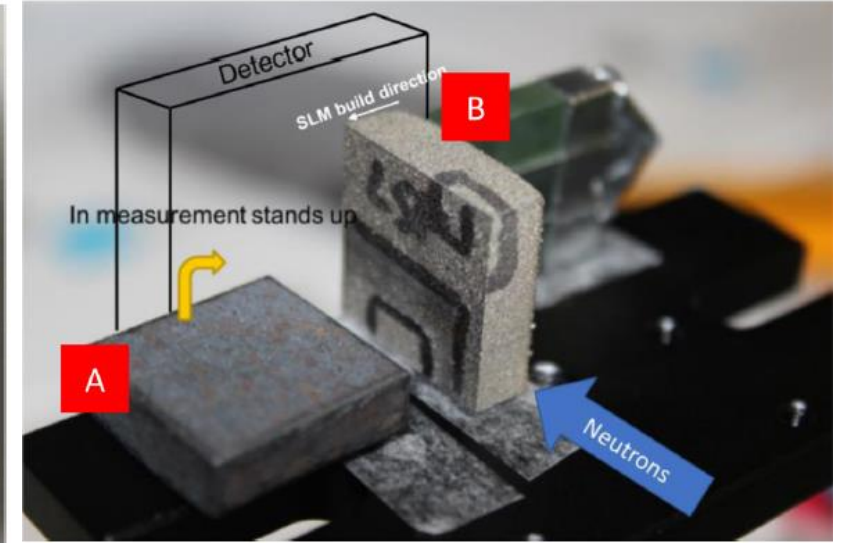
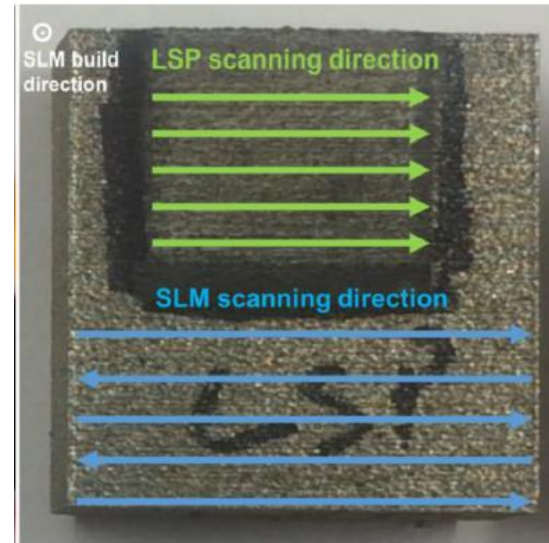


# Applications: Metallography

## Residual stress and effect of LSP in SLM 316L stainless steel

- Selective laser melting
  - Heating and cooling cycles can induce severe residual stress (RS).
  - Laser shock peening (LSP) can be used to create beneficial compressive RS locally.

→ Diffraction Contrast for full field RS images



# Applications: Metallography

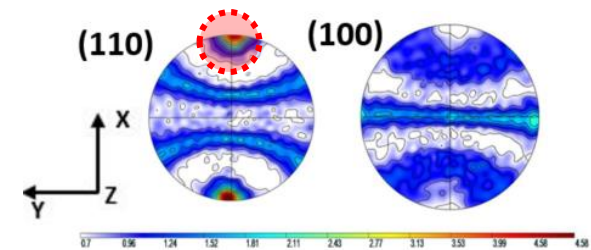
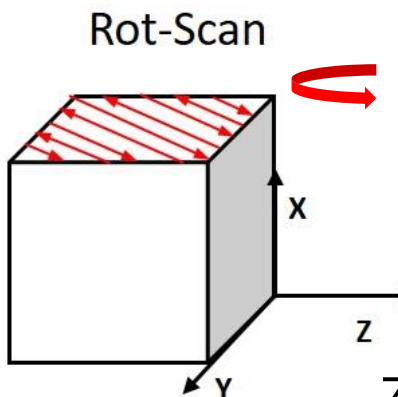
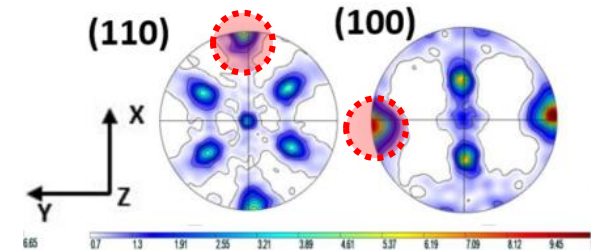
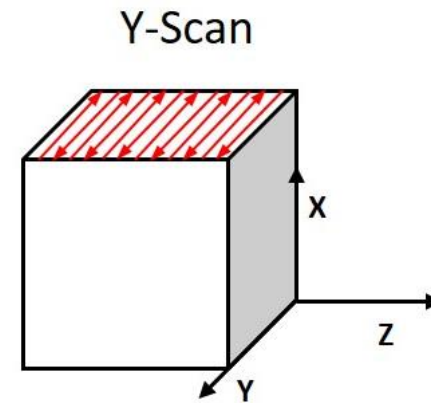
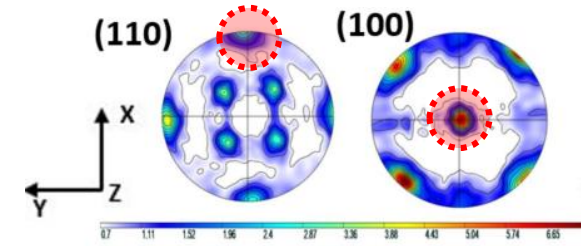
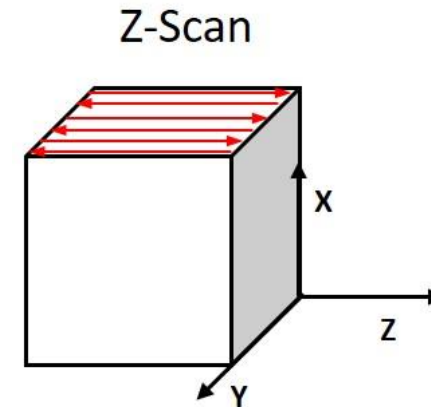
## Texture in SLM 316L stainless steel

### 3 scan strategies

- Z-scan
- Y-scan
- 67° rotation

→ **Crystallographic texture** can be controlled by movement of laser

- Strong  $\langle 100 \rangle$  // laser direction
- Strong  $\langle 110 \rangle$  // building direction (x-axis)
- Rotation → fiber texture



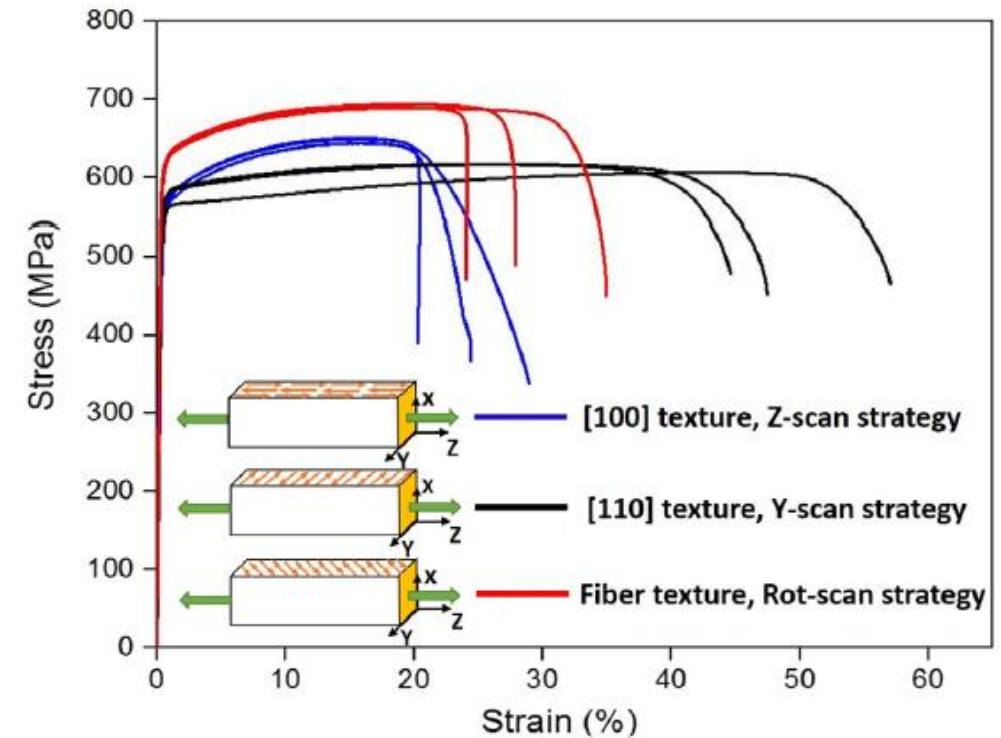
Z-axis = tensile direction

### 3 scan strategies

- Z-scan
- Y-scan
- 67° rotation

### Mechanical properties

- Hardness, E-modulus, yield strength and elongation influenced by microstructure and texture.
- Large ductility difference



→ **Mechanical properties** can be **tuned** with **SLM** printing parameters

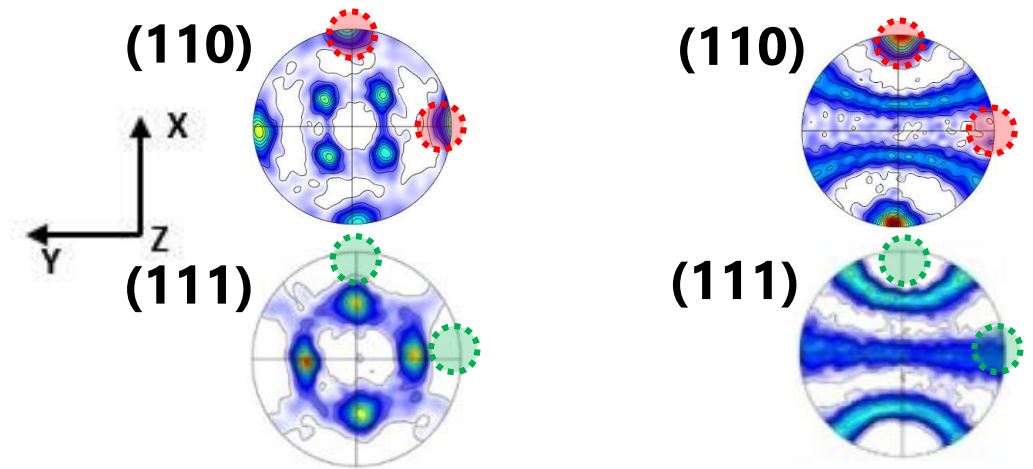
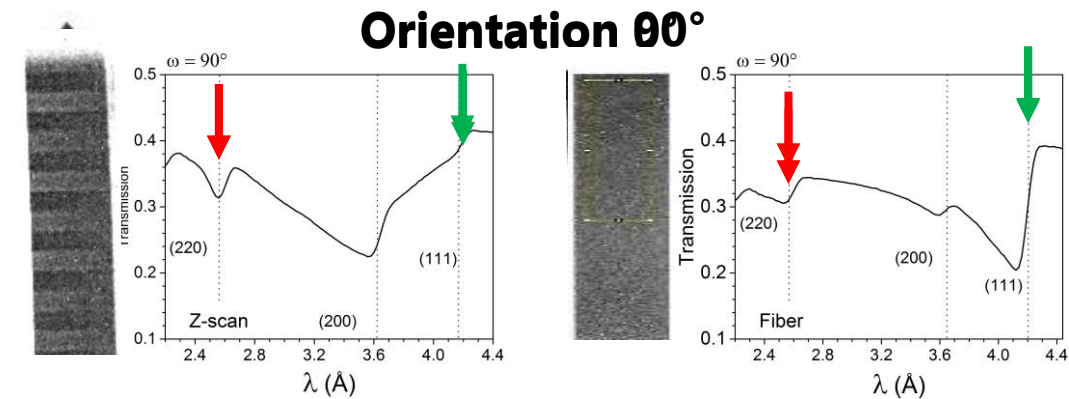
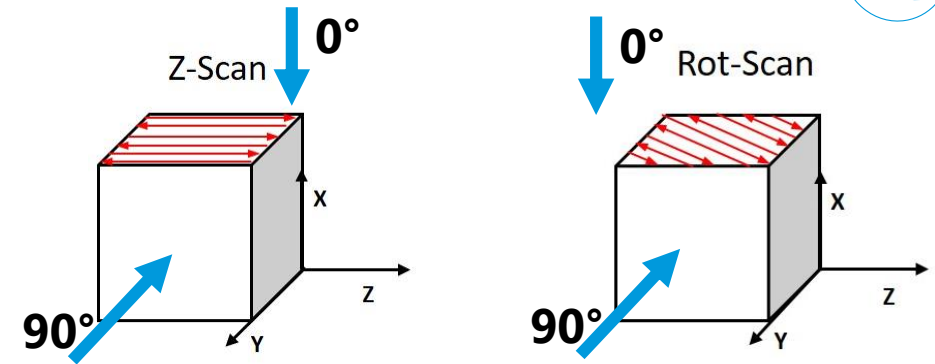
Z-axis = tensile direction

# Applications: Metallography

## Texture in SLM 316L stainless steel

**Neutron Imaging:** Wavelength scans at two sample orientations

- Bragg-edges at  $0^\circ$  orientation:
    - (220): strong for Z- and Rot-Scan
    - (111): weak for Z- and absent Rot-Scan
  - Bragg-edges at  $90^\circ$  orientation:
    - (220): strong for Z- and weaker for Rot-Scan
    - (111): weak for Z- and strong for Rot-Scan
- **Imaging** is **consistent** with neutron **pole figures**





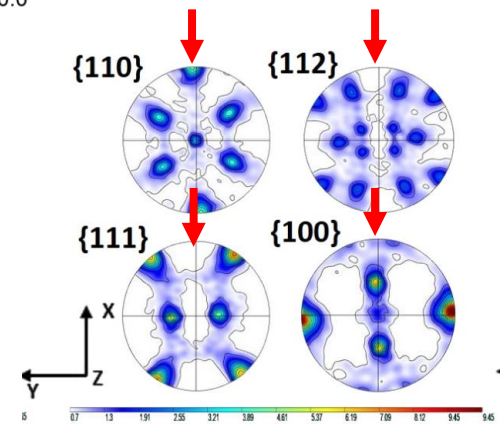
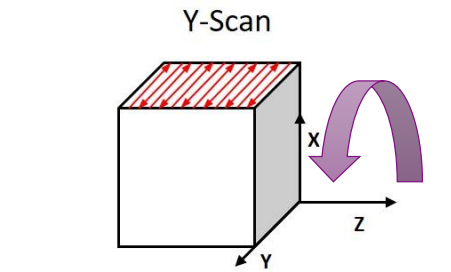
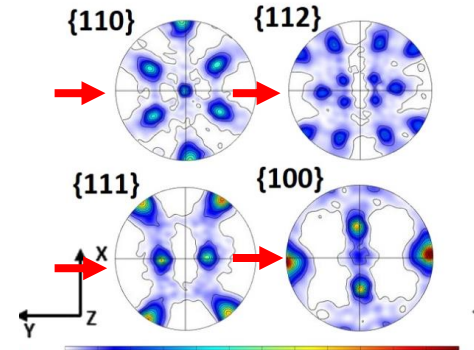
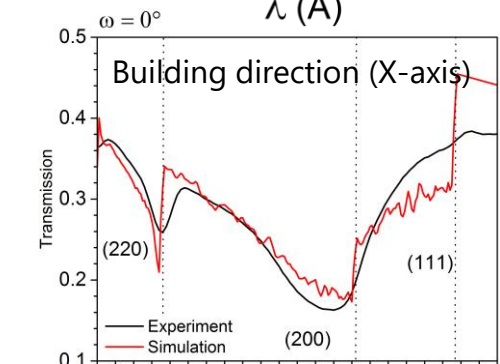
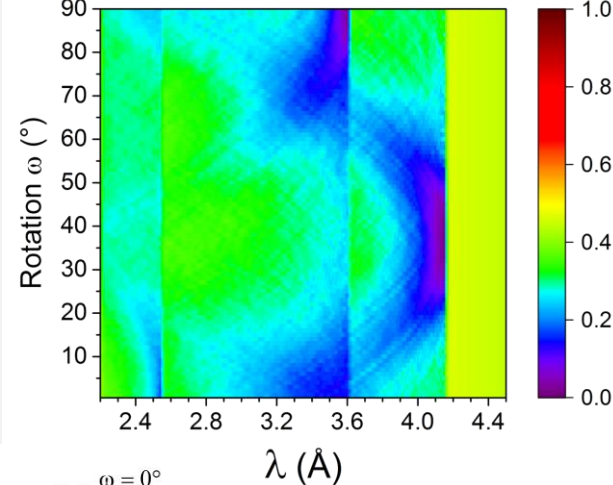
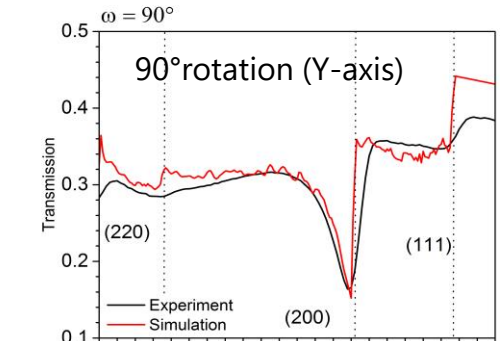
# Applications: Metallography

## Texture in SLM 316L stainless steel: Transmission simulations

### Neutron transmission simulation

(Sinpol) was used

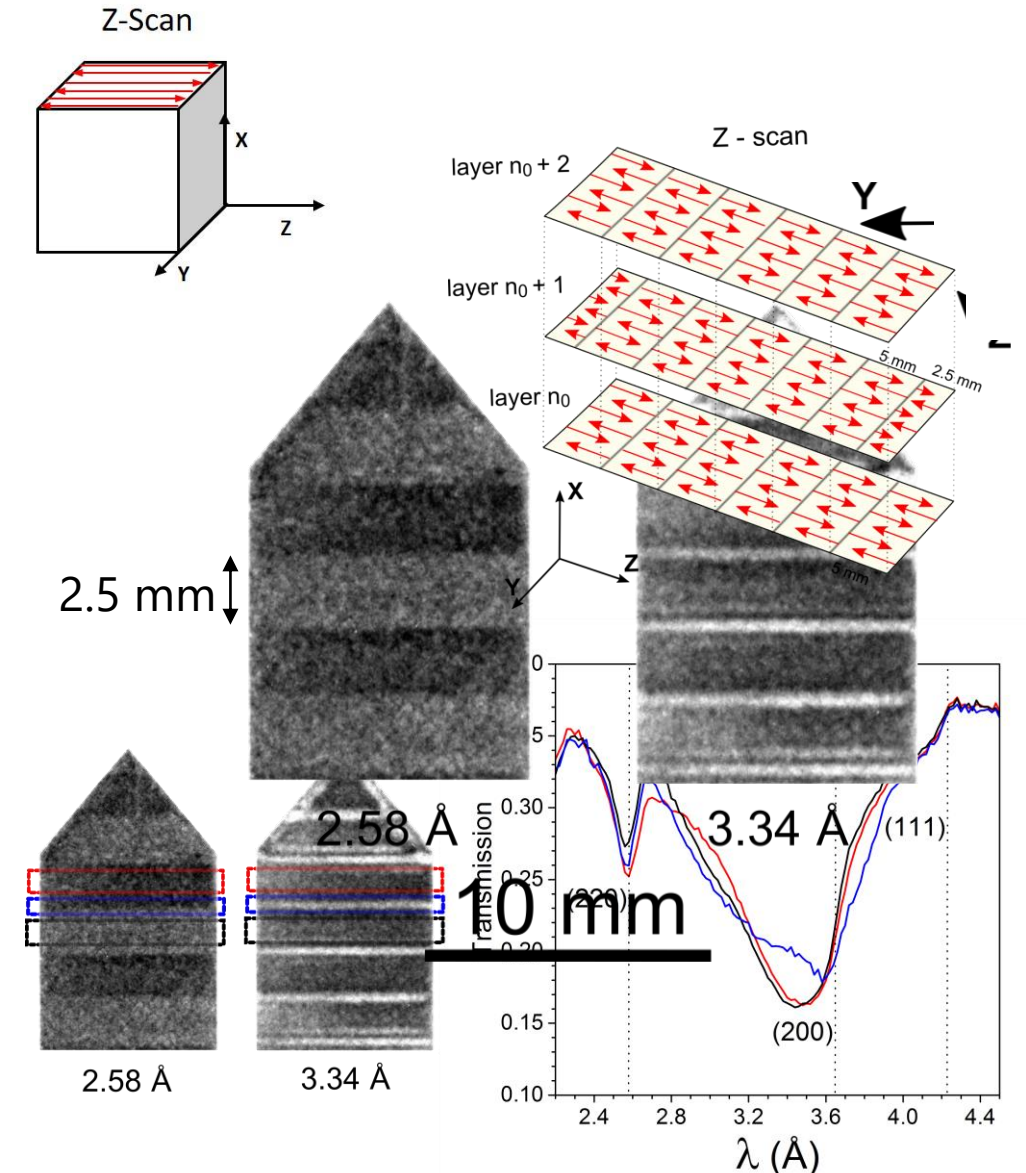
- Neutron pole figures used as input
  - Obtained simulated transmission map
  - Y-Scan sample well described by 'Goss'  $\{011\}\langle 100\rangle$  texture
- Good agreement between experiment and simulation





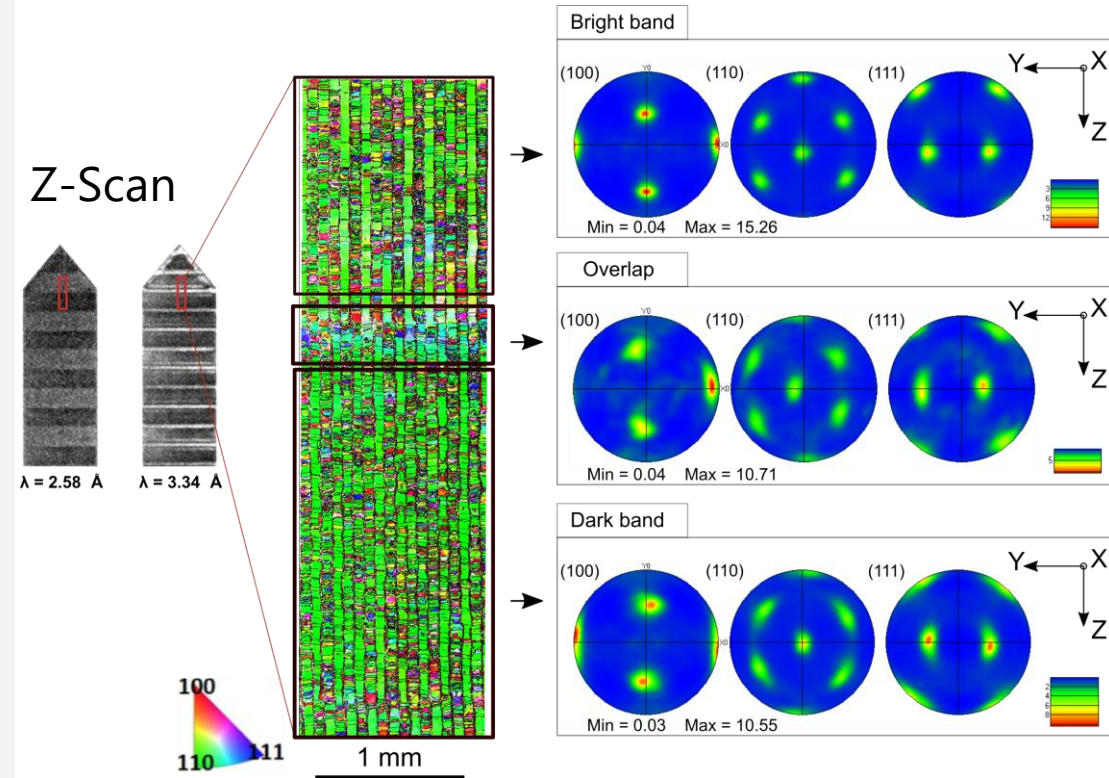
### Neutron imaging revealed local differences

- Three different areas:
    - Bright and dark bands
    - Overlaps
- Local variations. **Why?**
- Laser scan strategy introduced local texture differences
- These local variations would easily remain undetected. Now use EBSD to investigate further.



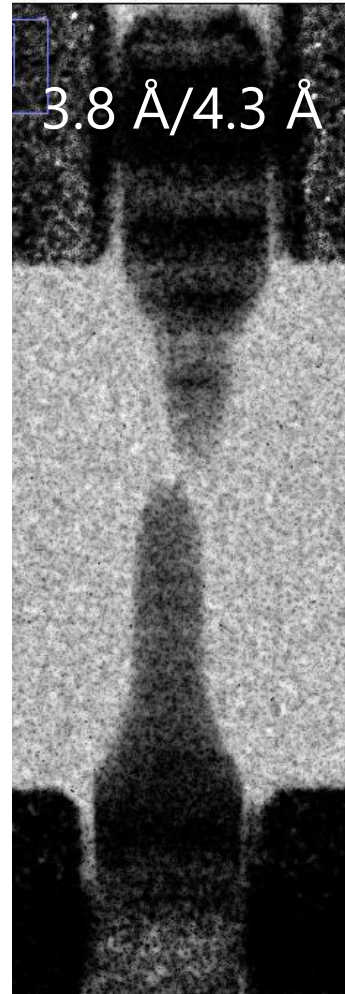
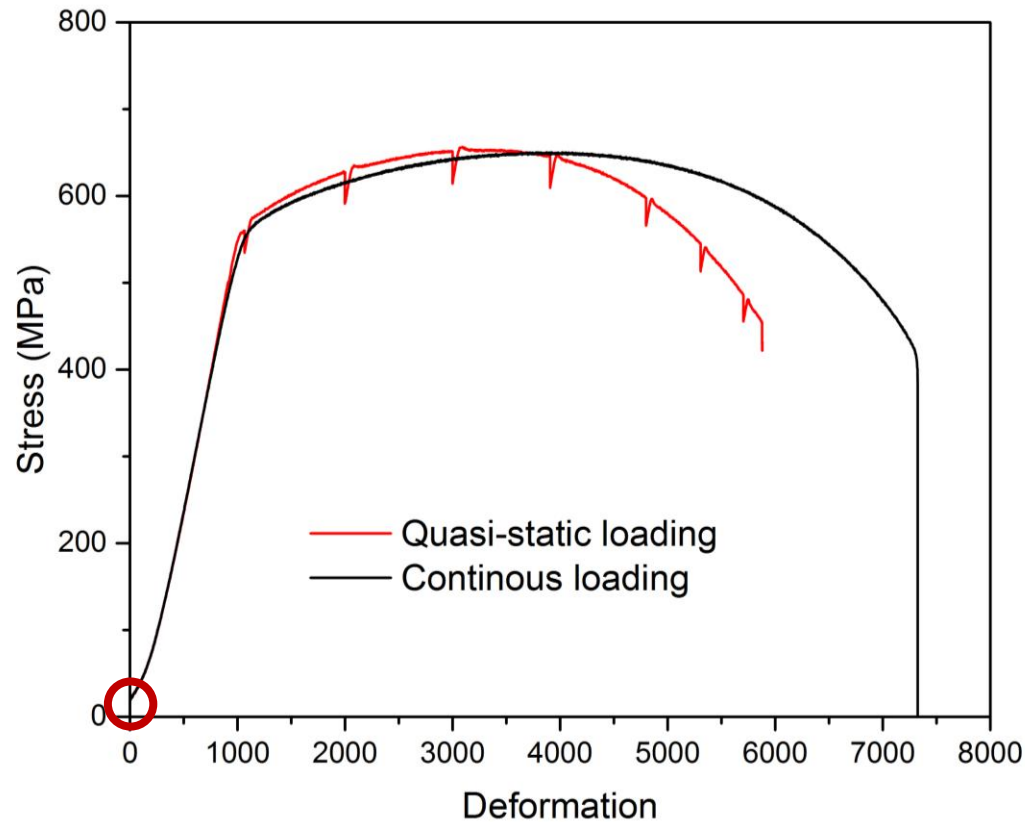
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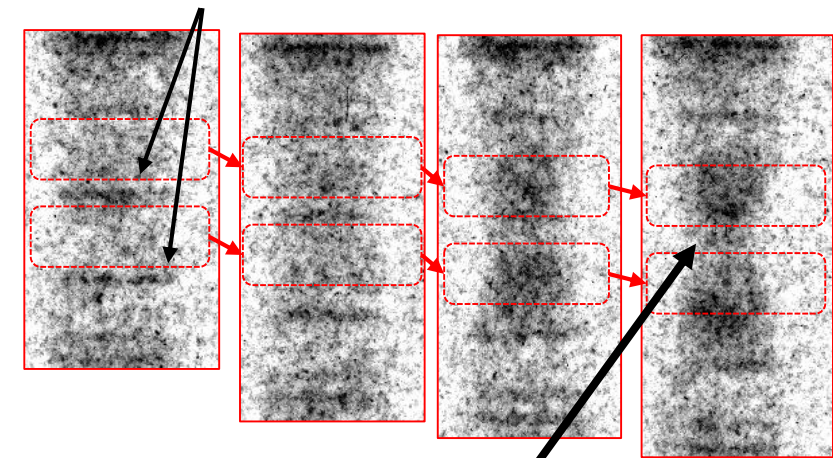


# Applications: Metallography

## In-situ tensile testing of SLM 316L stainless steel



Grain rotations cause reorientation of  $\langle 111 \rangle$  direction



Failure occurs between these regions



# Applications: Additive Manufacturing

## Local texture variations revealed

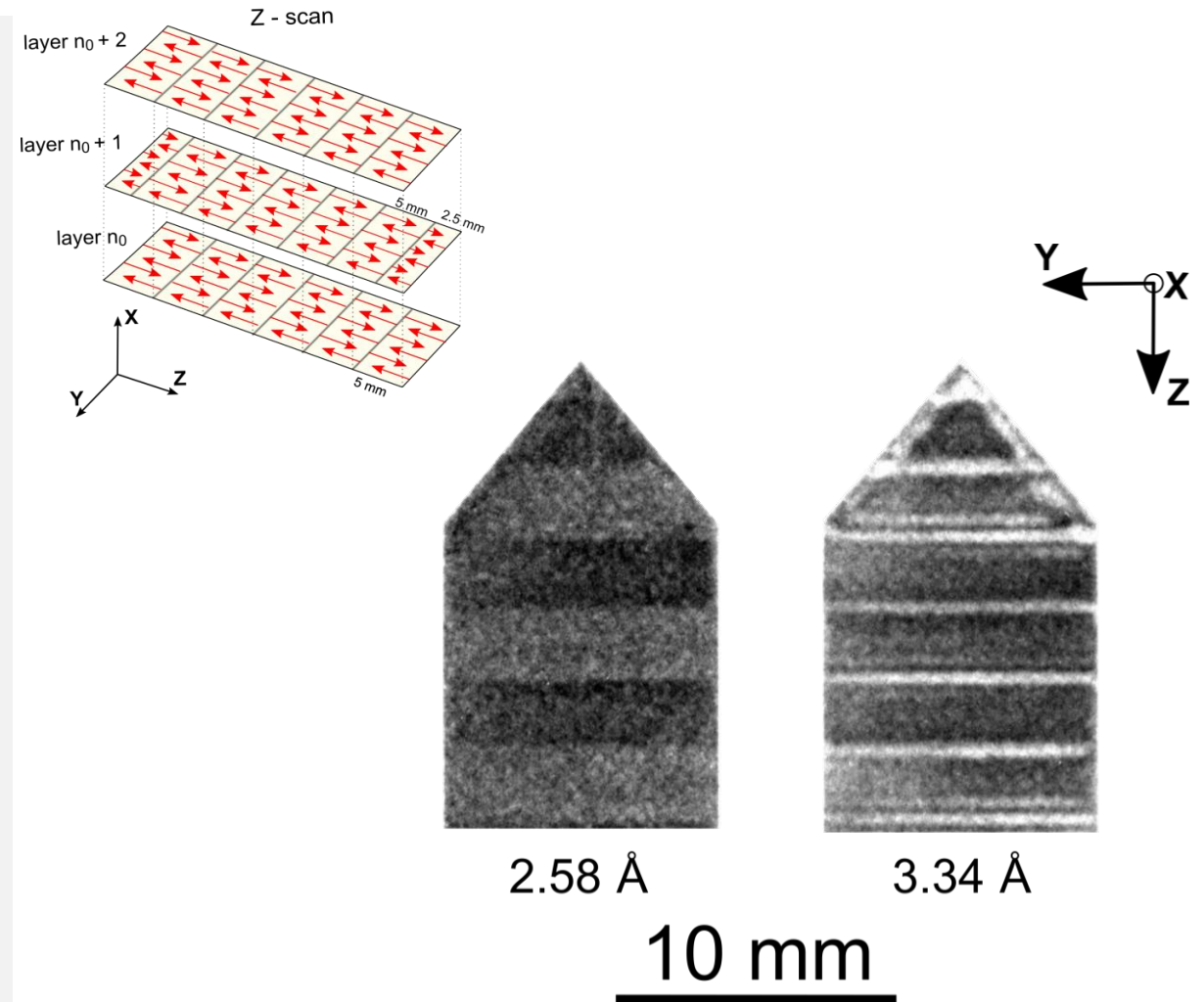
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→ Complex designs

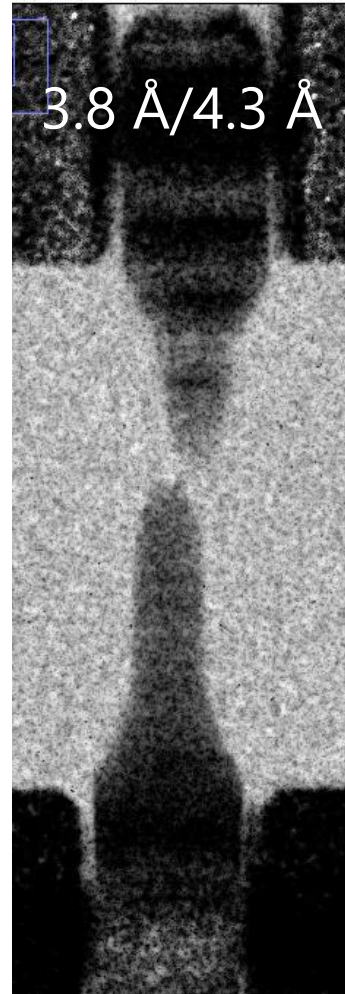
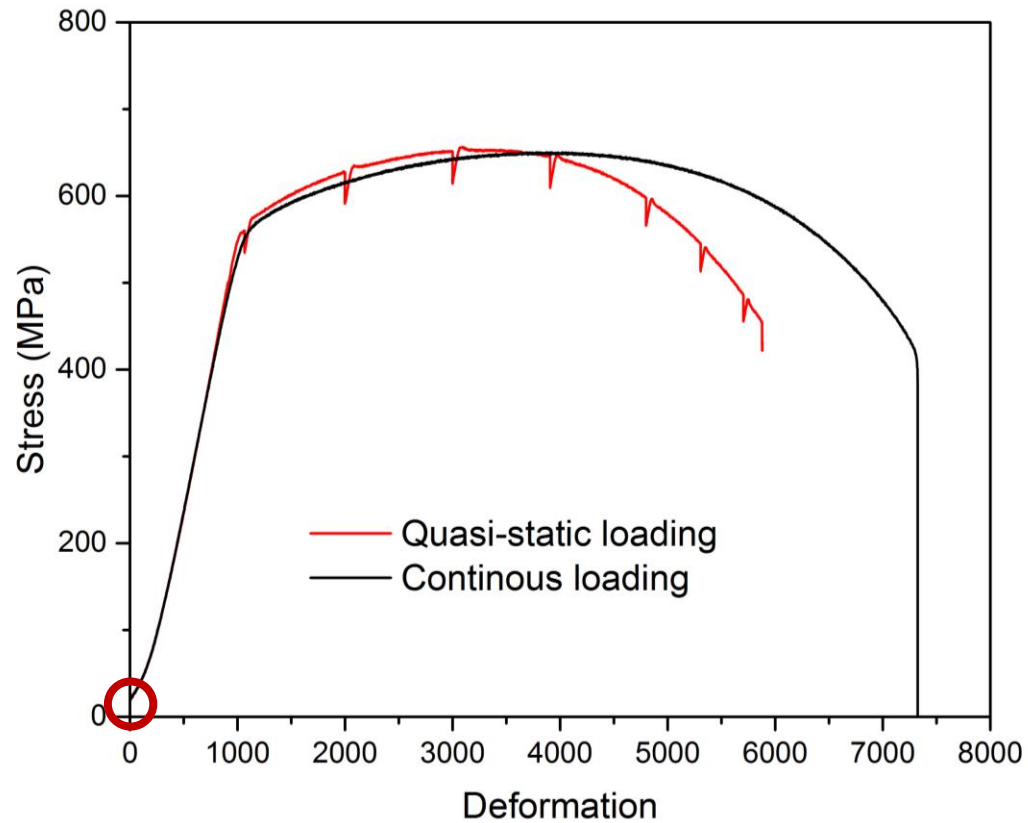
Selective laser melting is the most industrially matured technique

→ Neutron imaging revealed local texture differences due to Laser scan strategy

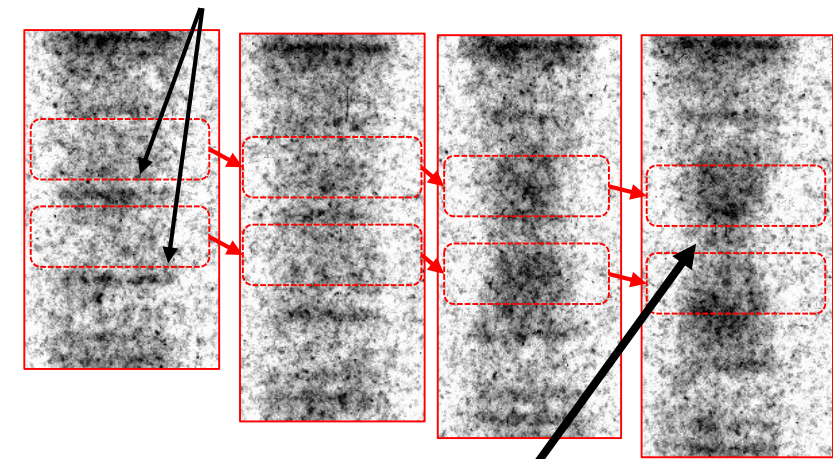


# Applications: Additive Manufacturing

## Local texture variations revealed



Grain rotations cause reorientation of  $\langle 111 \rangle$  direction



Failure occurs between these regions



# Non-destructive testing with neutrons: Engineering materials and components revealed



- Characterization Techniques & Contrast Mechanisms
- Neutron Methods & Length Scales
- Applications using Imaging (Attenuation Contrast)
- Applications using SANS and Diffraction
- Applications using Imaging (Diffraction and Scattering Contrast)
- Summary & Outlook

# Summary & Outlook



## Why you should start using neutrons ...

- ✓ Neutrons are a non-destructive, penetrating probe of structure on the atomic to macroscopic scale.
- ✓ Neutrons provide chemical sensitivity being especially sensitive to light elements.
- ✓ Neutron imaging may help you to reveal local differences in the microstructure of your sample that otherwise remain undetected
- ✓ New techniques and instruments will enable unprecedented in-situ and in-operando studies.

# Thank you! Any Questions?

Want to know more?



Website : <http://www.europeanspallationsource.se>

Contact me : [robin.woracek@ess.eu](mailto:robin.woracek@ess.eu)

**ASP Online Seminar Series: Photons and Neutrons in the quest to solve societal challenges**

Watch the recordings: <https://www.youtube.com/cdarve>



African School of Fundamental  
Physics and Applications

**Accelerate Webinar Series – Watch the recordings: <https://vimeo.com/acceleratehorizon2020>**

14<sup>th</sup> October : Neutrons-A Natural Tool for Industrial Research  
Dr. Andrew Jackson

4<sup>th</sup> November : Nanoscale to Microscale Structural Analysis with Neutrons  
Dr. Judith Houston

11<sup>th</sup> November : Neutron protein crystallography reveals molecular details of inhibitor binding  
to clinical targets.  
Dr. Zöe Fisher

25<sup>th</sup> November : Non-destructive testing with neutrons: Revealing (micro-) structural properties  
and providing unique contrast inside large samples and assembled components  
Dr. Robin Woracek

