

# Advanced Steels, Structural Materials, and High Heat Flux Components

A brief overview on the European fusion materials programme

M. Rieth



## □ **Materials for the DEMO Blanket**

- Requirements
- European Programme, Strategies
- Recent Advances, Examples
- Summary

## □ **Materials for the DEMO Divertor**

- Requirements
- European Programme
- Recent Advances, Examples
- Summary



**in the following the focus is on  
materials and not on technology**



DEMO is a pulsed device with pulses of at least 2 h. The neutron wall load is  $\sim 1.3$  MW/m<sup>2</sup> (conservative), 15 dpa/fpy in steel is taken as a benchmark. **Starter**

**Blanket:**  $\sim 1.33$  fpy or 4 calendar years.

- Starter Blanket **steel dose 20 dpa (conservative)**
- Starter Blanket **steel 6000 large-amplitude fatigue cycles**

A **second Blanket**, lasting 11-16 calendar years could then be assumed. At 30% availability, this is **3.3-4.8 fpy**.

- Second Blanket **steel dose 50-70 dpa**
- Second Blanket **steel 13000-20000 large-amplitude fatigue cycles**

DEMO will keep as back-up option the possibility to use water in the breeding blanket (such as the **Water Cooled Lithium Lead** concept in PPCS) and to rely on a technology similar to Pressurized Water Reactors (PWR) in the BoP. For this, the **coolant inlet temperature must be reduced to  $T_{\text{inlet}} < 300^\circ\text{C}$** .

- **increased radiation embrittlement concerns for the ferritic steel structure**



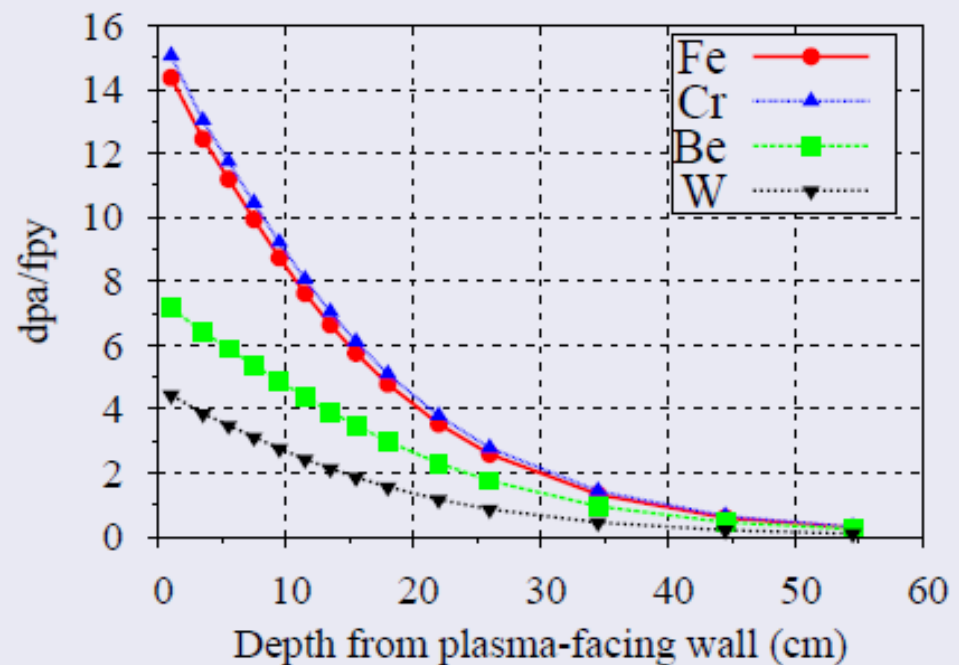
## Materials

- Baseline → **EUROFER**
- Development of steels with advanced properties for the plasma-facing part of the blanket (15-30 cm)  
→ **Advanced Steels for higher temperatures and doses**

## Topics

- RAFM for high temperatures
- RAFM for water cooling
- Ferritic ODS steels

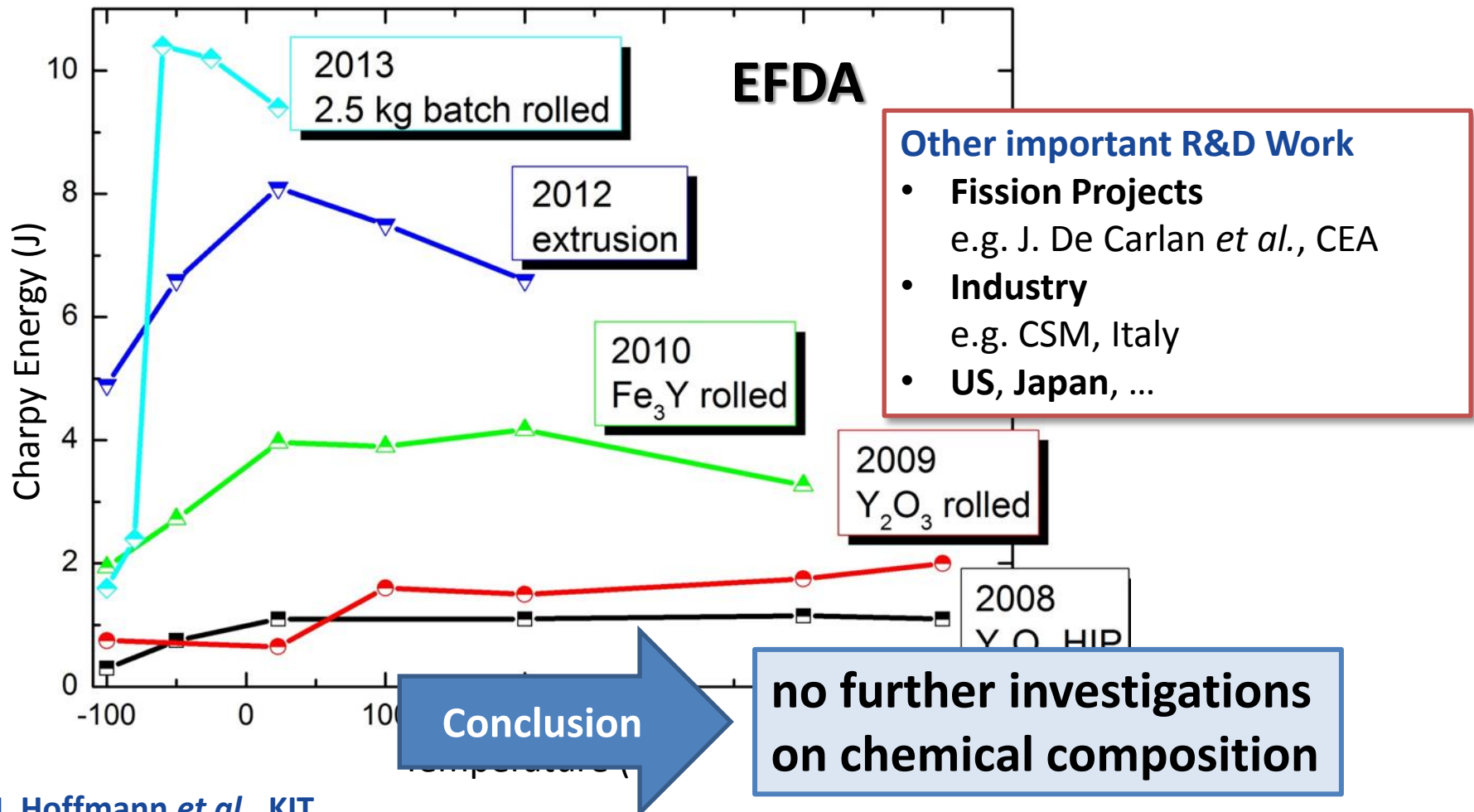
dpa/fpy as a function of depth into the outboard equatorial FW



M. Gilbert, CCFE



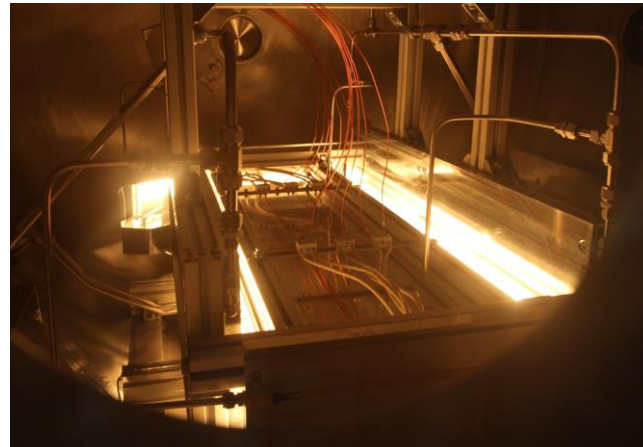
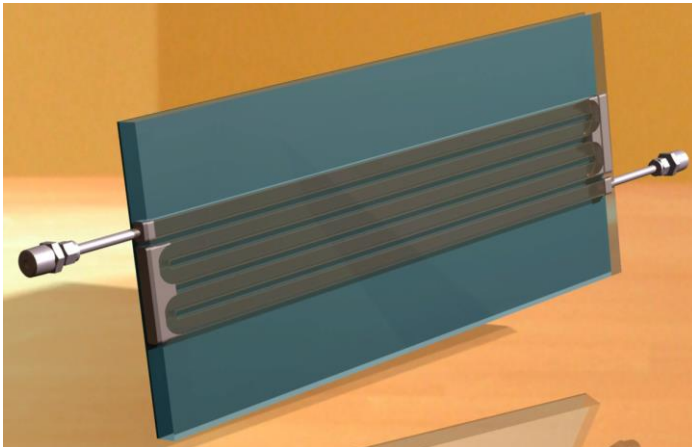
## Recent Progress: 13-14% Cr ODS ferritic steels



J. Hoffmann *et al.*, KIT

## Fabrication & Demonstration

- Production of a 100 kg 14%Cr ODS steel batch by **mechanical alloying**
  - Plates: thickness 2 mm, size 2 m<sup>2</sup>
  - Demonstration of applicability to first wall (mockup fabrication & HHF testing)



## Alternative Large-scale Production Routes

- Alternatives to mechanical alloying (feasibility studies and industrial fabrication) by Gas Atomization Reaction Synthesis
- Two Industrial Partnerships





## Optimization of RAFM steels for possible water cooling

- Change of chemical composition
- Specific thermal treatments (for optimum DBTT)

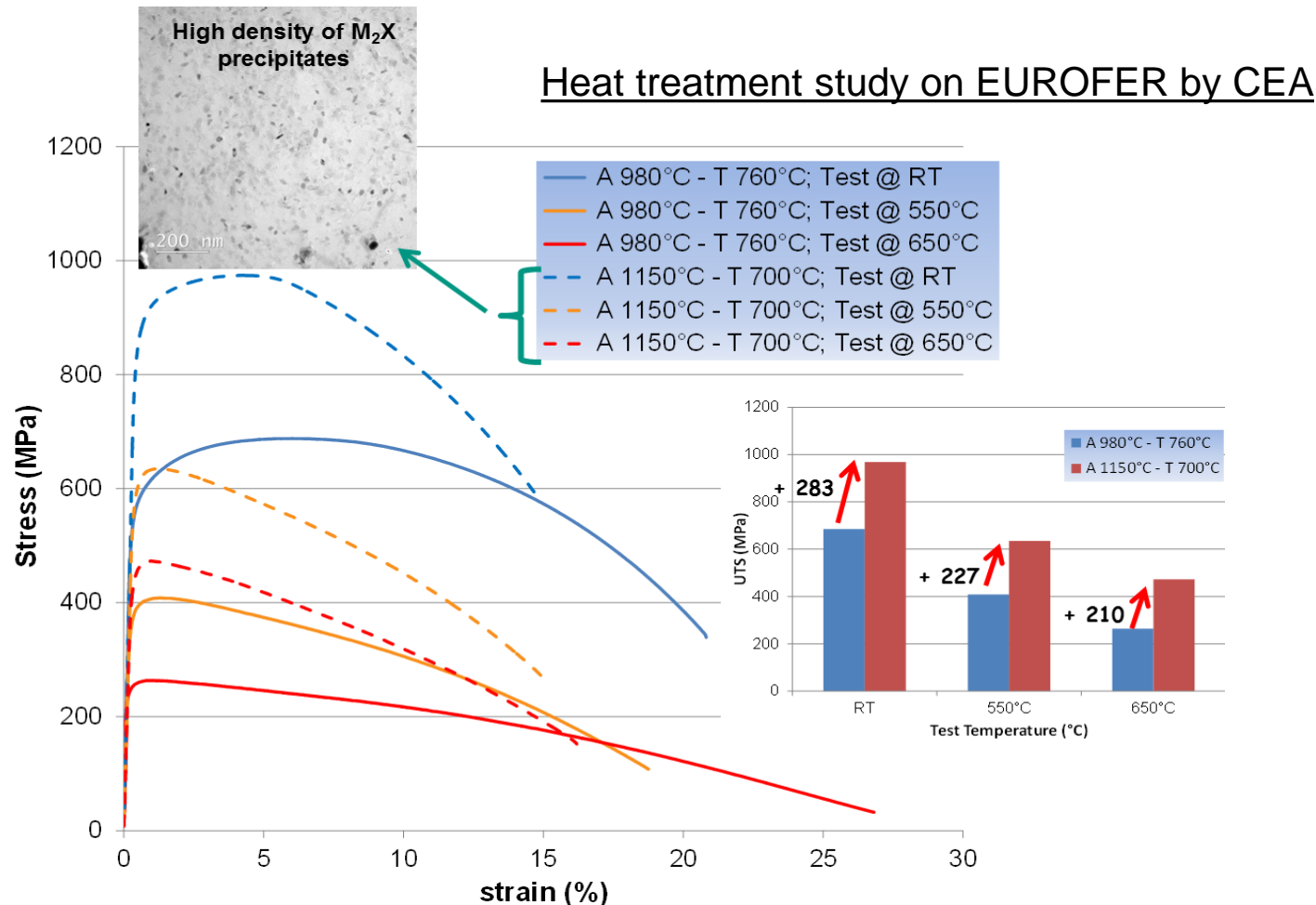


Two batches of 76 kg  
have been produced in  
2014 at CSM, Italy



## Development of RAFM steels for high temperature applications

- Specific thermal treatments





- Fine tuning of the chemical composition



→ thermodynamic calculation

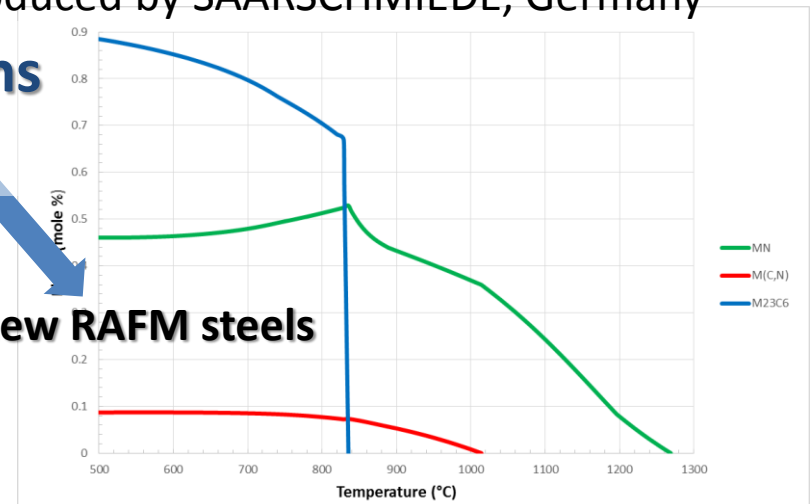
→ validation studies

Phase (mole %)

Temperature (°C)

Legend:

- M(C,N)
- LAVES
- Z
- M23C6
- MN



## Development of RAFM steels for high temperature applications

- Special thermo-mechanical treatments (TMT, „aus-forming“, ...)



TMT at OCAS, Gent, Belgium



## □ **Advanced RAFM Steels**

- broad study on 9%Cr TMT steels for increased operating temperatures is under way
- possibilities to decrease operating temperature (water cooling) are investigated

## □ **ODS Steels**

- no further development (optimisation of chemical composition) of ODS steels
- the focus is laid on large-scale ODS steel production routes (alternatives to mechanical alloying)



High divertor power handling: ability to withstand **power loads larger than 10 MW/m<sup>2</sup>**.

The divertor replacement lifetime is assumed to be at least **2 fpy**. Hence, in the 20 year lifetime of the DEMO there are **3 divertor replacements**.

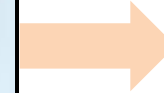
→ Tungsten armour ~4 dpa/fpy (conservative)

→ **Tungsten maximum dose: 8 dpa**

→ Copper interface 3-5 dpa/fpy (min. in striking zone)

→ **Copper maximum dose: 6-10 dpa**

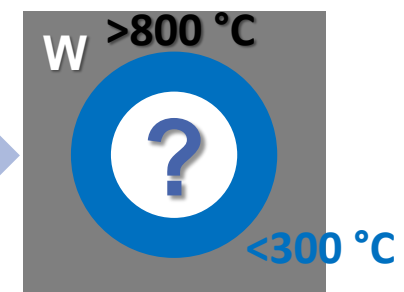
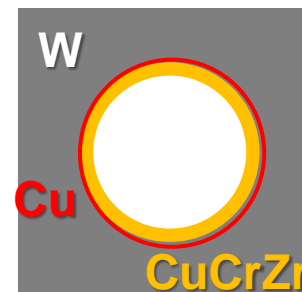
- Neutron damage has to be taken into account:
  - loss of thermal conductivity
  - embrittlement
  - swelling
- Probably a different or modified divertor design/concept is required
- **Drawbacks of baseline materials:**
  - CuCrZr has upper temperature limit: 300-350 °C (loss of strength)
  - W has lower temperature limit: 800-1000 °C (embrittlement)



**Water:** 100 °C, 4 MPa  
150 °C, 4 MPa

**CuCrZr pipes:** <0.2 dpa/y  
**Max. heat:** 10-20 MW/m<sup>2</sup>

**3-5 dpa/fpy**  
10-20 MW/m<sup>2</sup>



Conclusion

**Materials Development**

**Baseline:**  
**ITER-like Divertor Concept**





## (I) Helium Cooled Divertor (HCD)

- Coolant temperature limited to **700-800 °C** due to
- Main problems: (1) design, (2) **structural material**

### Topics/Strategies

- W-X laminated pipes

## (II) Water Cooled Divertor (WCD)

- CuCrZr:  $T > 300$  °C → softening
- **Focus:** laminates, particle and fiber reinforced operation at higher temperatures
- Large-scale industrial manufacturing processes

### Topics/Strategies

- W-W/fiber composites
- WC & SiC reinforced W
- W alloy development (PIM)
- Cu-W (fiber, particle, laminated) composites
- W/Cu functionally graded
- Self-passivating W alloys

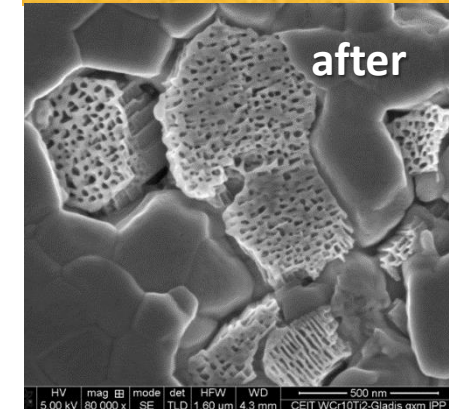
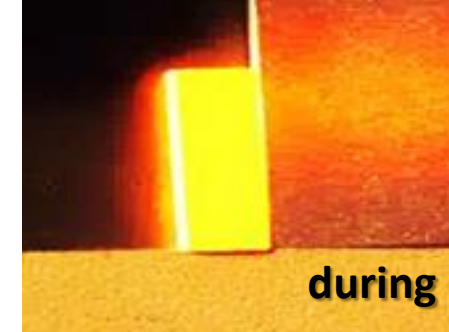
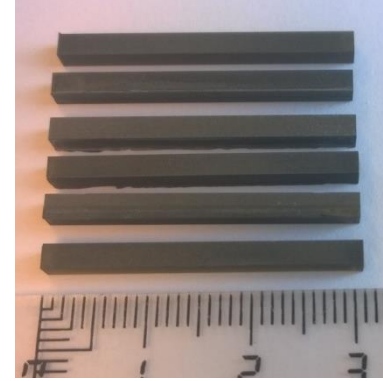
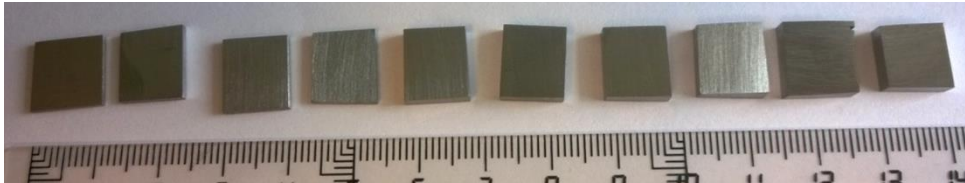
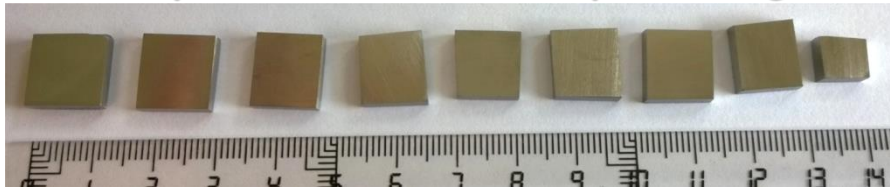
## (III) Divertor W Armor Parts (e.g. monoblocks, tiles)

- **Focus:** pure W, W alloys, doped (ODS) W, W-Cu
- mass fabrication by powder injection moulding
- tailoring relevant material properties

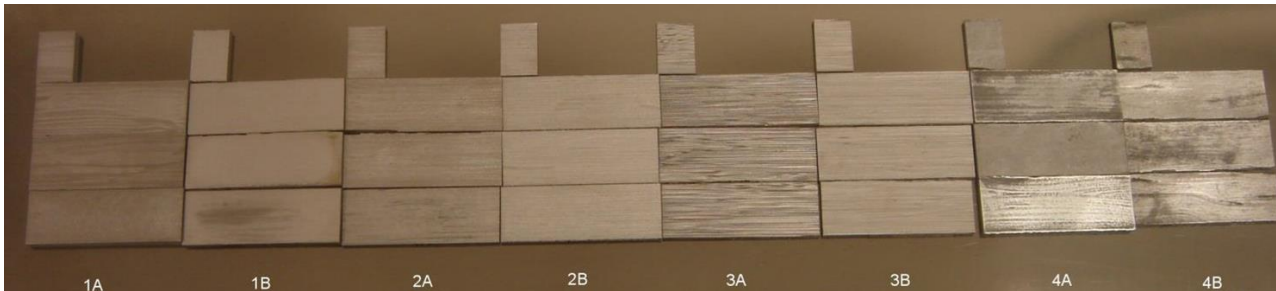


# Examples

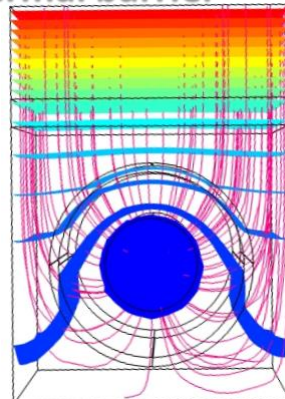
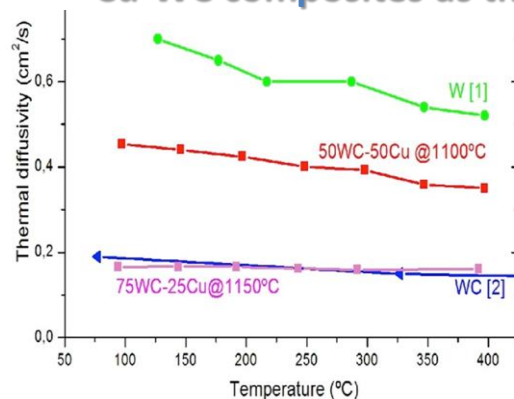
30 samples and 16 bars of **self-passivating W-alloys** produced by HIP and first HHF test in GLADIS



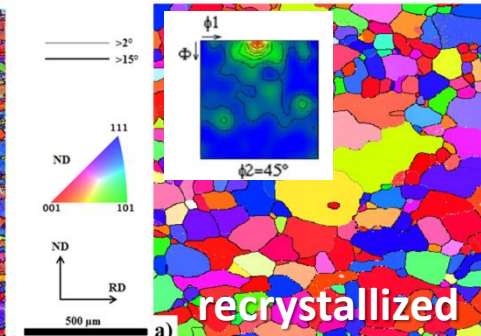
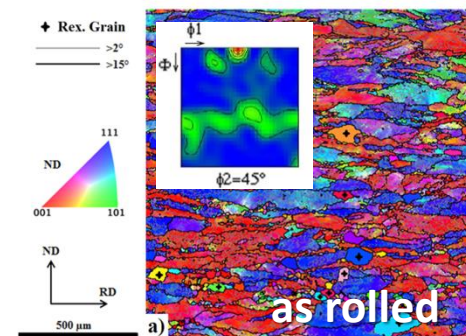
**Production of WC and SiC reinforced W materials**

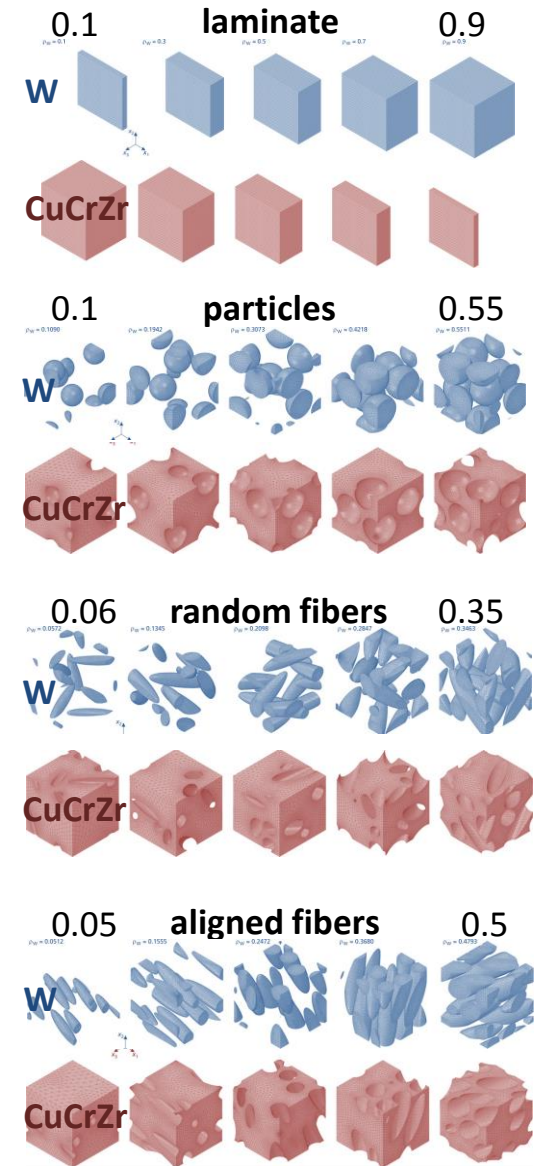
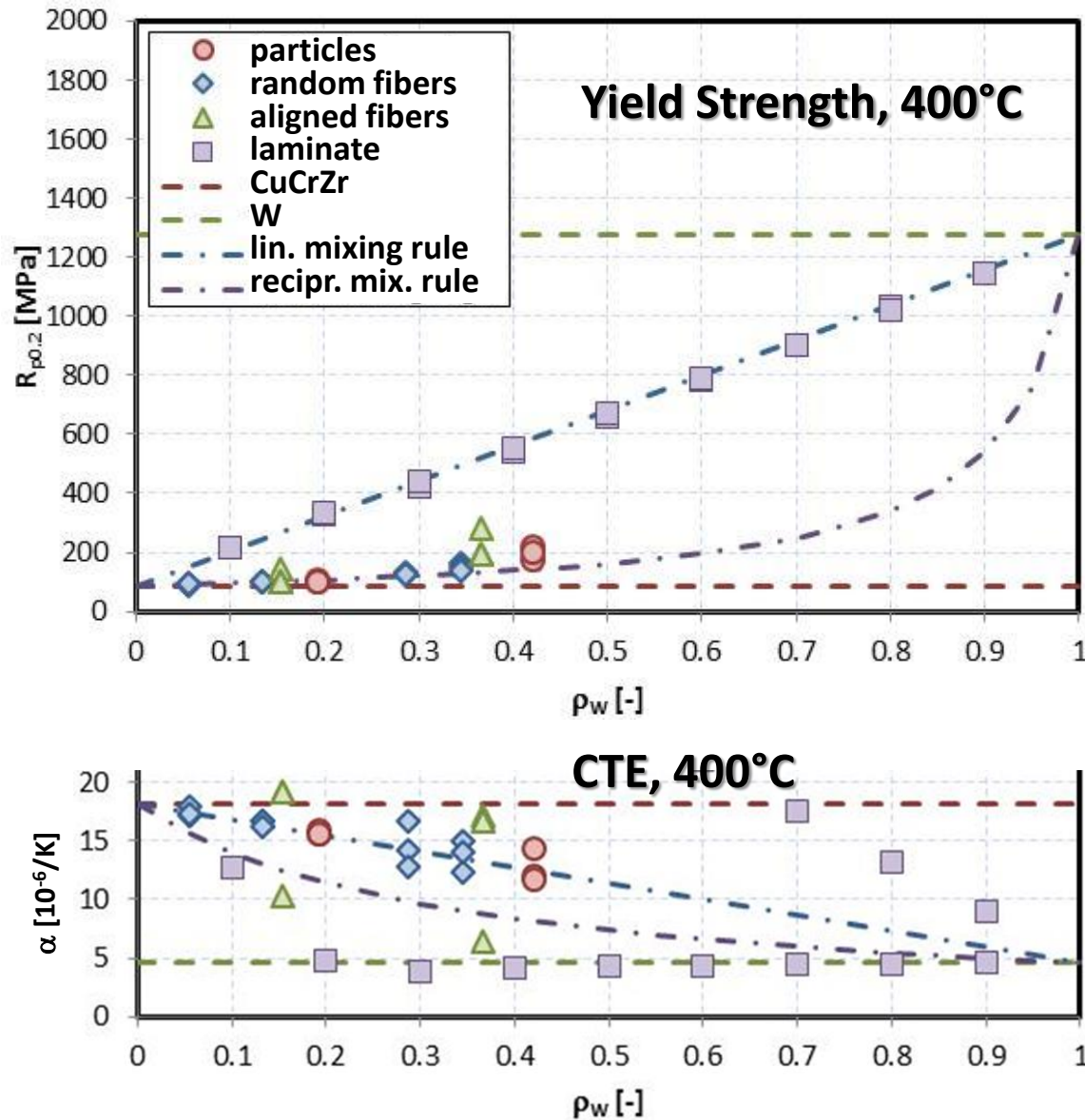


**Cu-WC composites as thermal barrier**



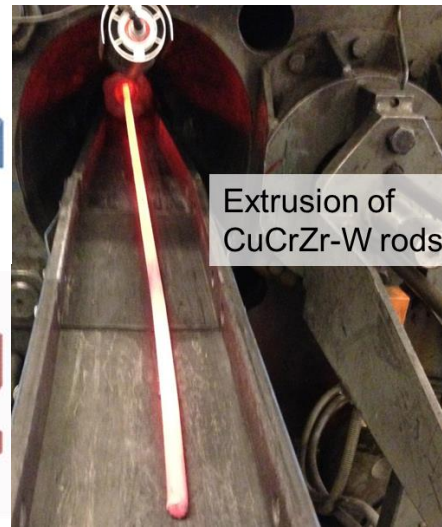
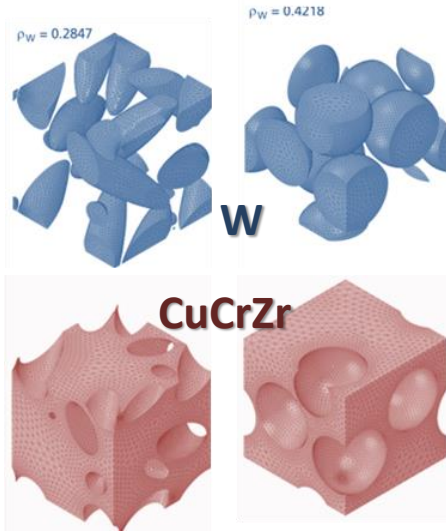
**Physical & microstructural characterisation of W plates**



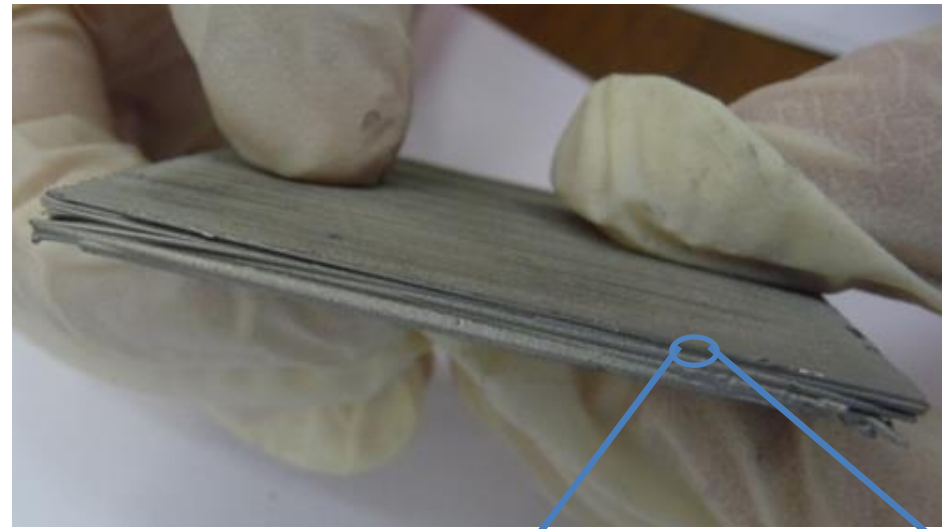




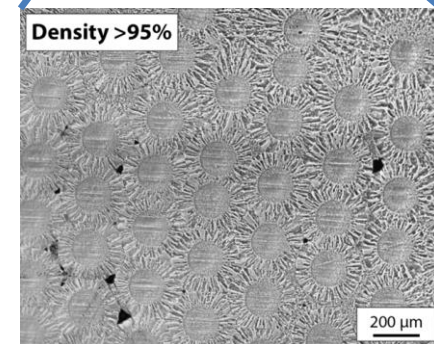
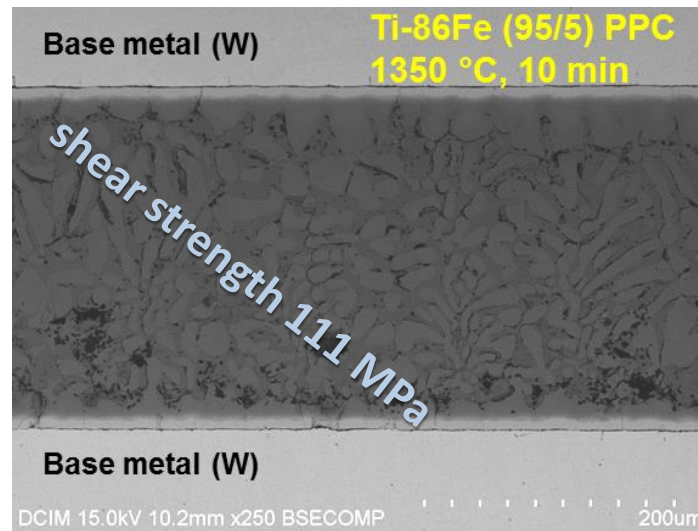
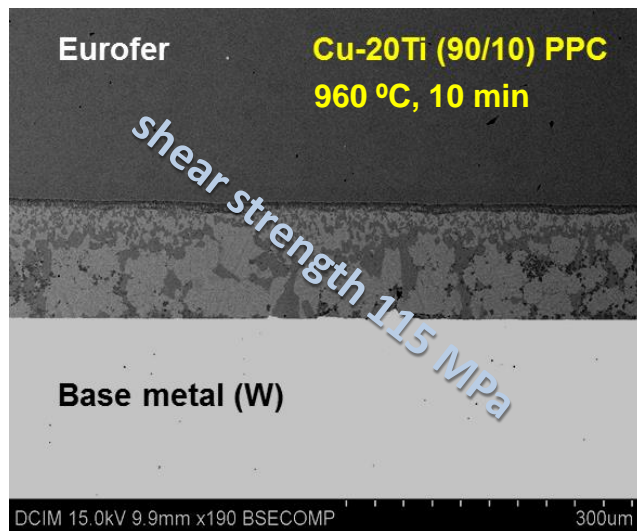
## W reinforced CuCrZr: simulation & production

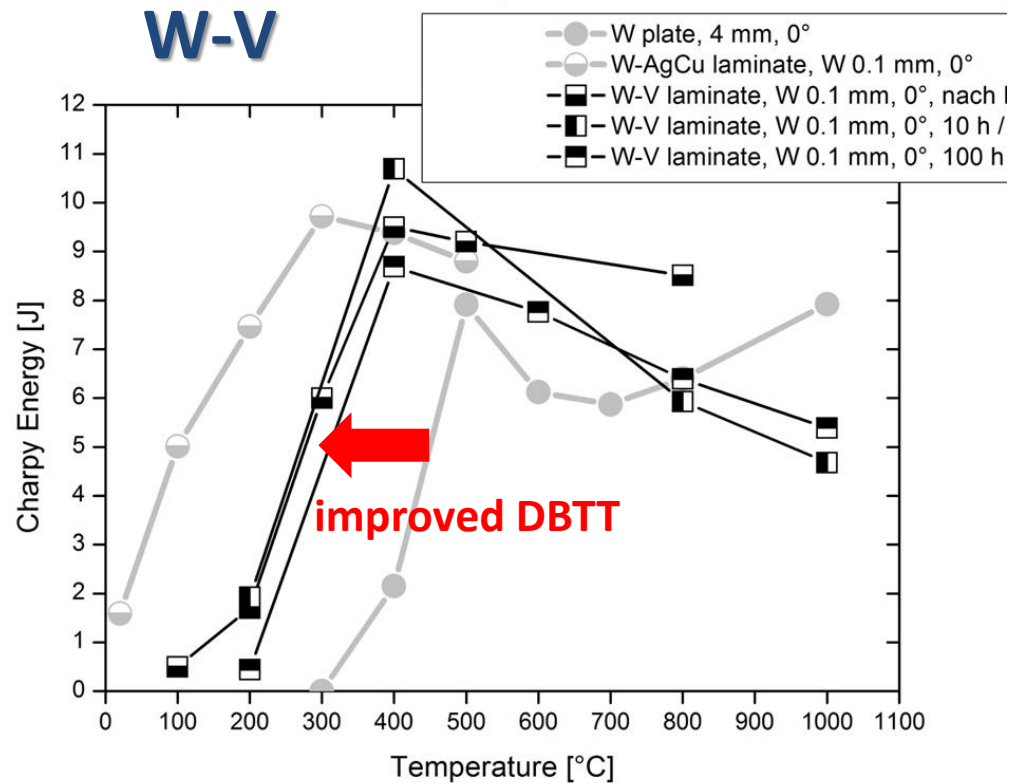
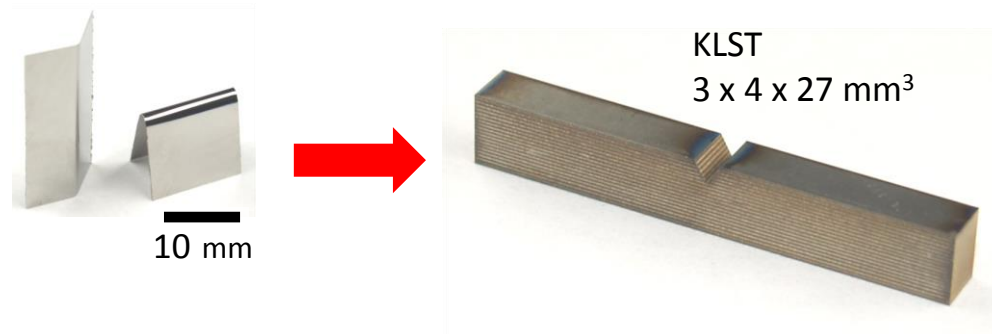


## First batch: W fibre – W matrix composite fabrication

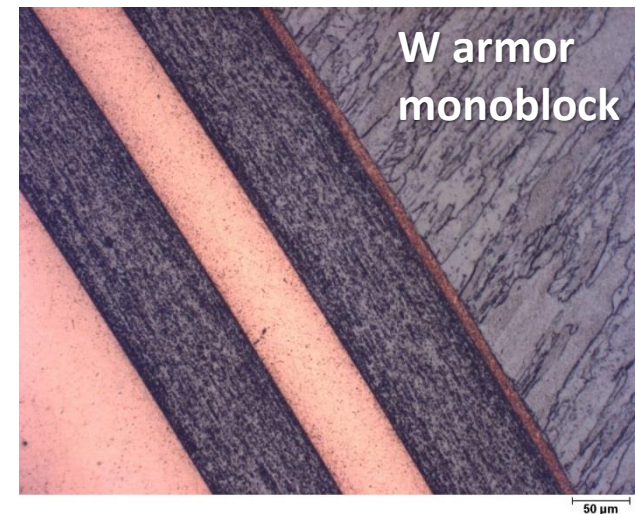
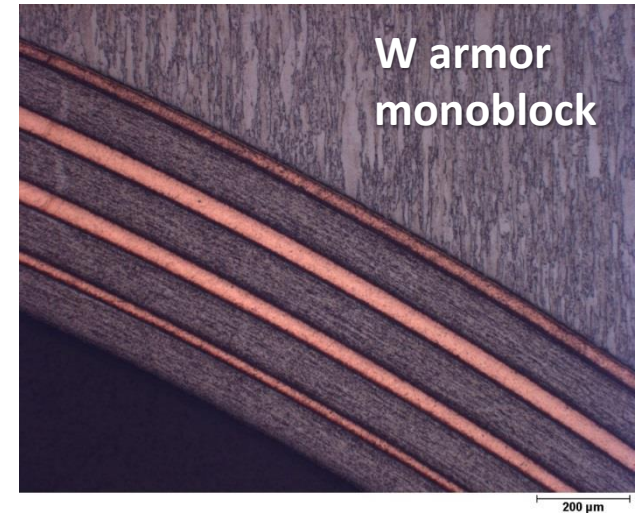


## Brazing Technology: Flexible filler tapes developed for W-Eurofer and W-W



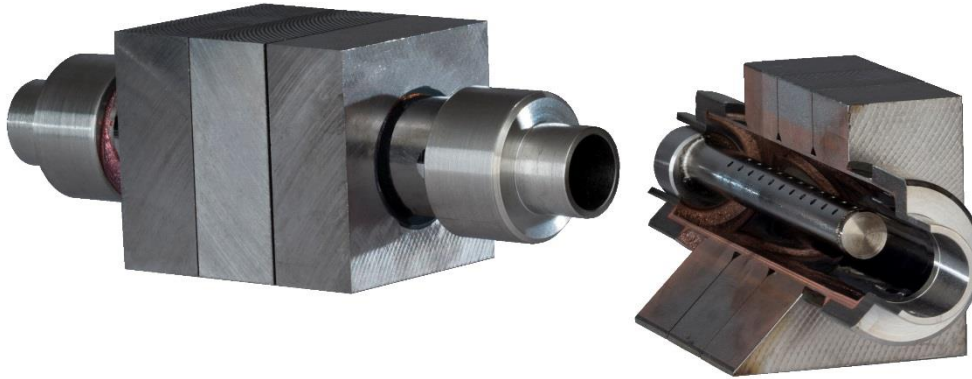


## W-Cu laminated pipes

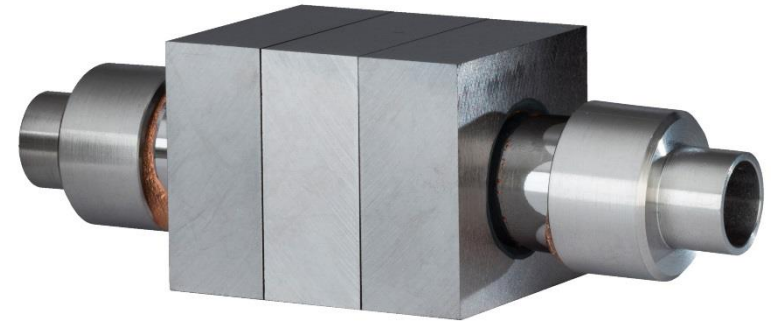




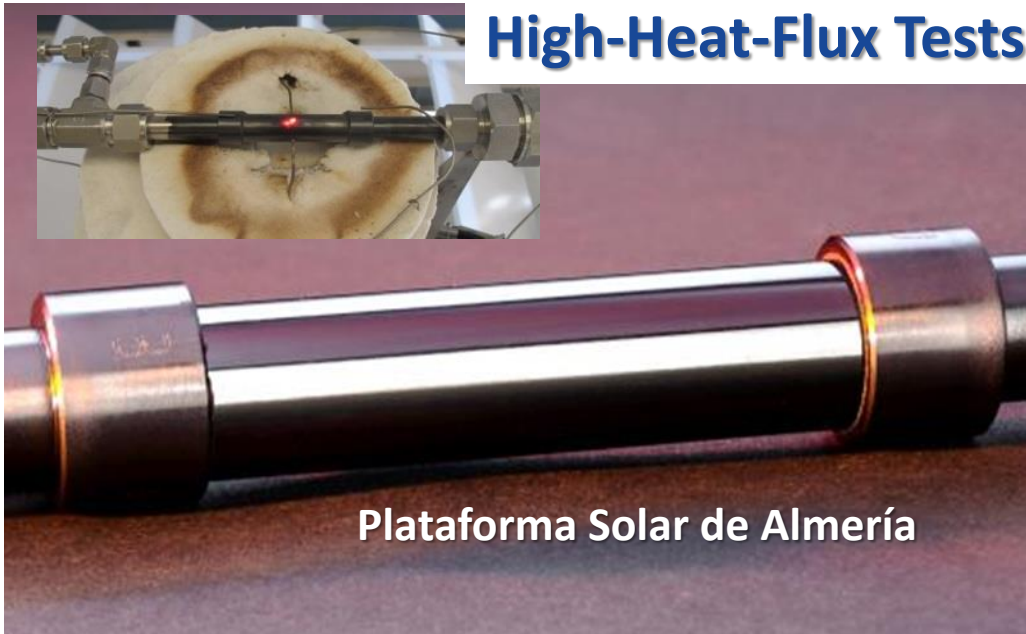
## Mock-up studies



J. Reiser *et al.* (KIT)

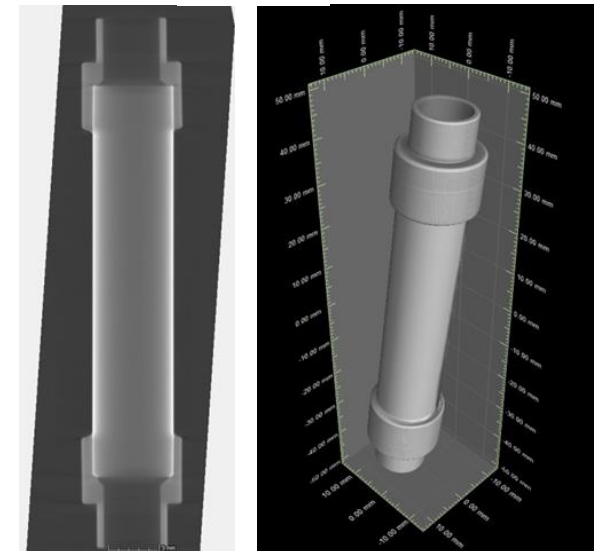


## High-Heat-Flux Tests

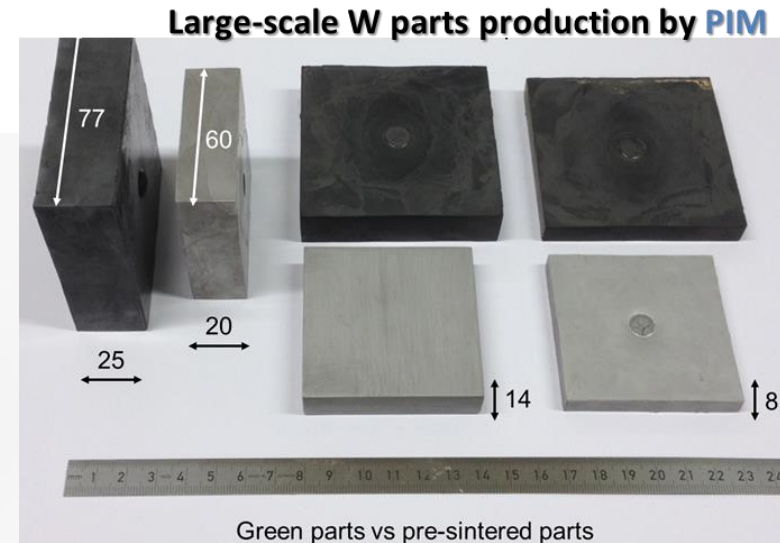
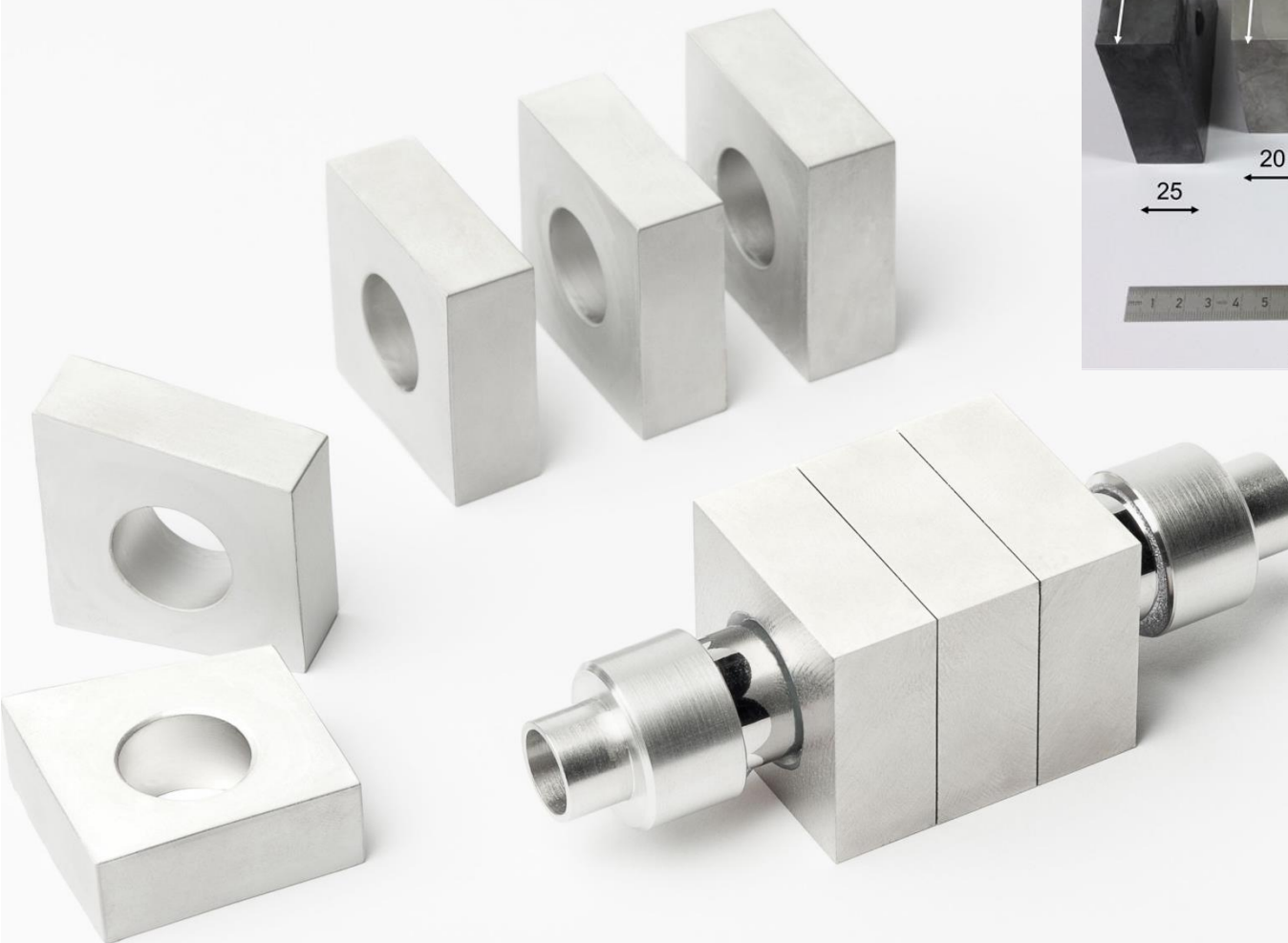


Plataforma Solar de Almería

## NDT



## Mass production of W parts by powder injection moulding

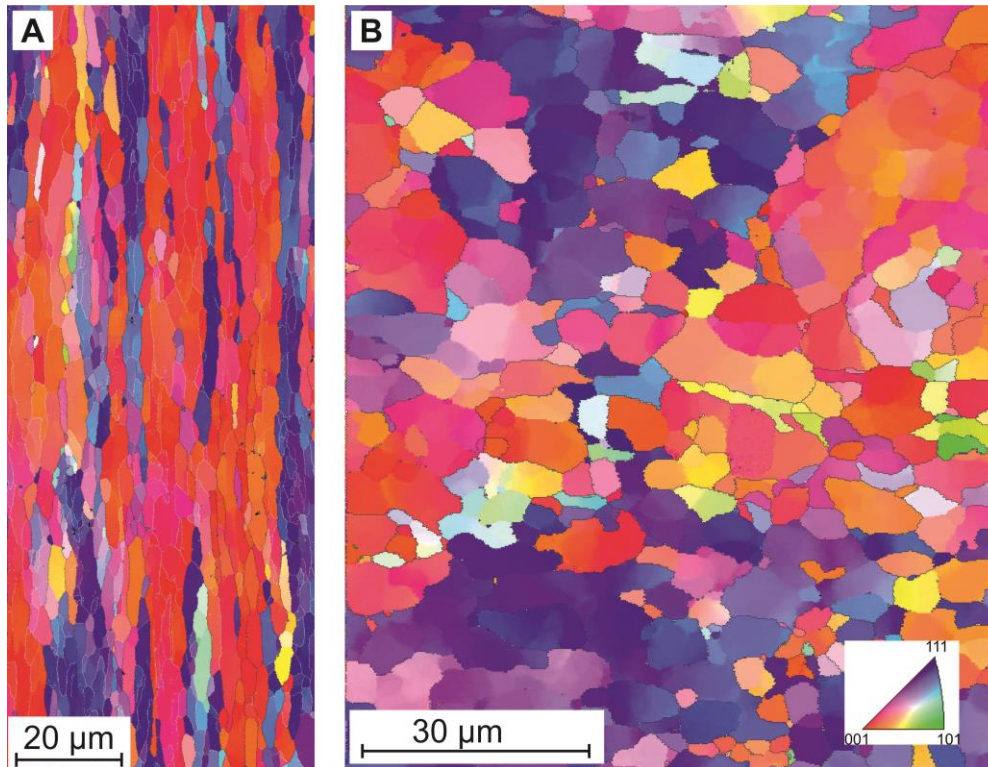


S. Antusch et al. (KIT)

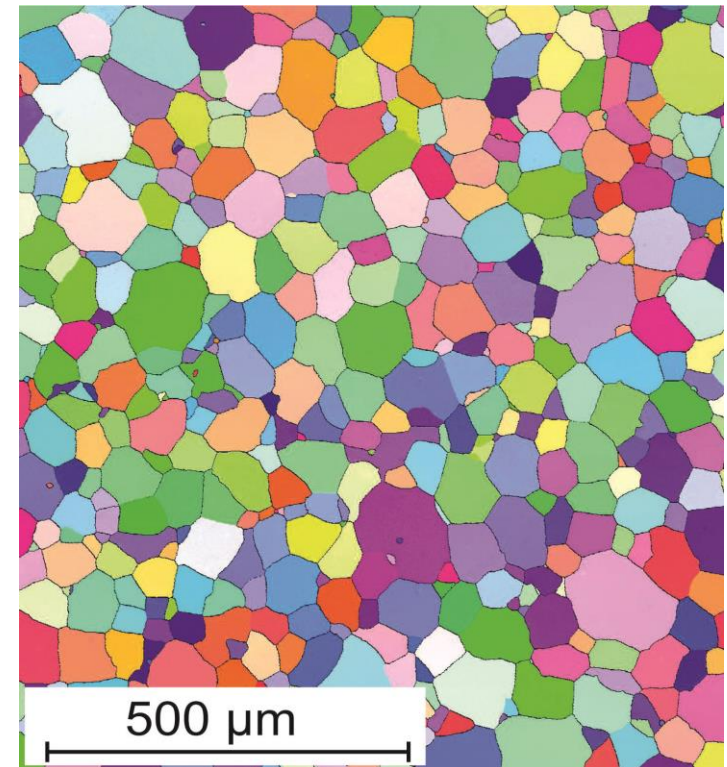




**rolled W (PLANSEE), as used for ITER monoblocks**



**pure W, produced by PIM**

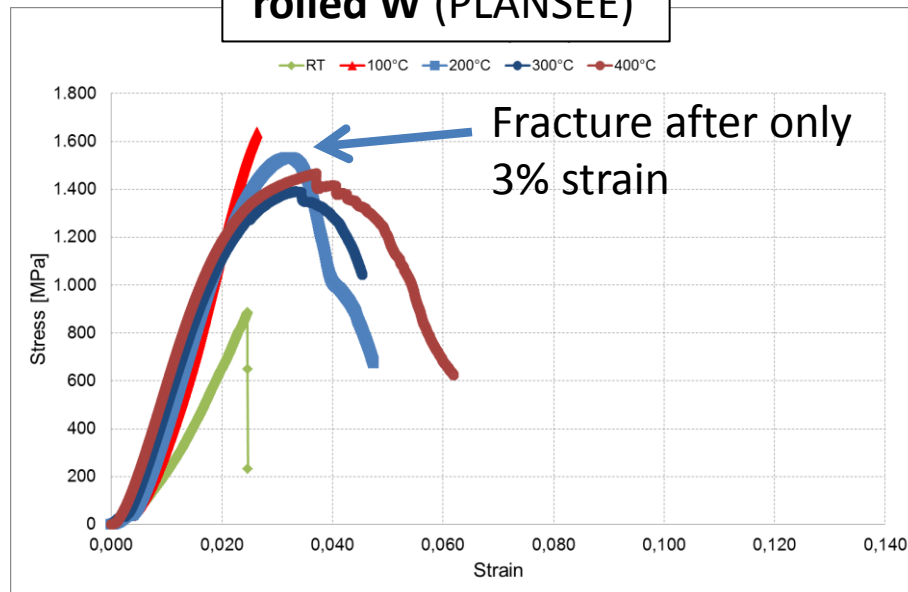


EBSD texture of rolled tungsten (Plansee): (A) in rolling direction; and (B) perpendicular to the rolling direction. The typical material properties - e.g. high strength - are only reached in the rolling direction. PIM W is anisotropic, coarse grained and insensitive to recrystallization.

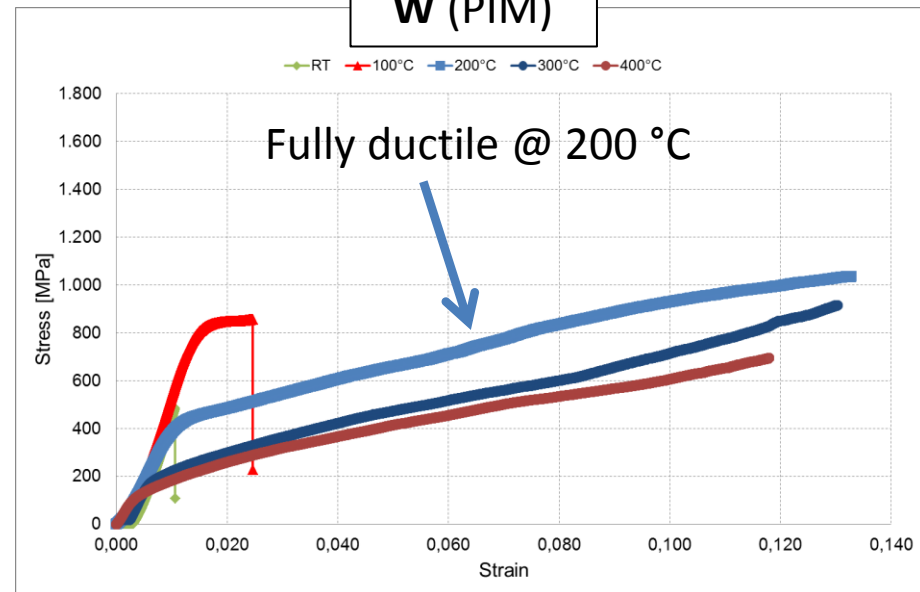
## 4Point-Bending Tests

Sample geometry: (12 x 1 x 1) mm  
Constant strain rate: 0.0330 mm/min

**rolled W (PLANSEE)**



**W (PIM)**



High strength only in rolling direction



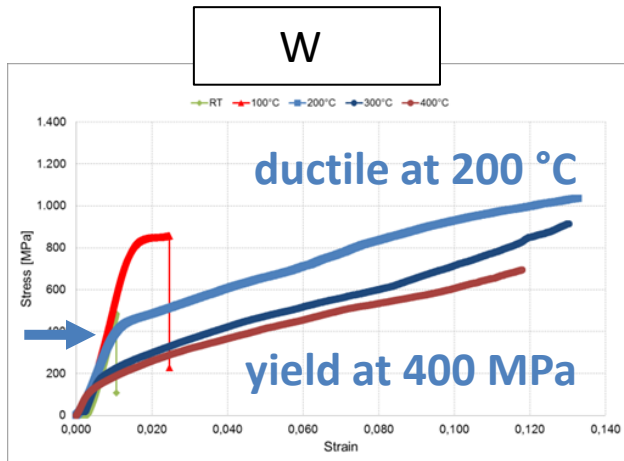
400 °C

Same strength in all directions

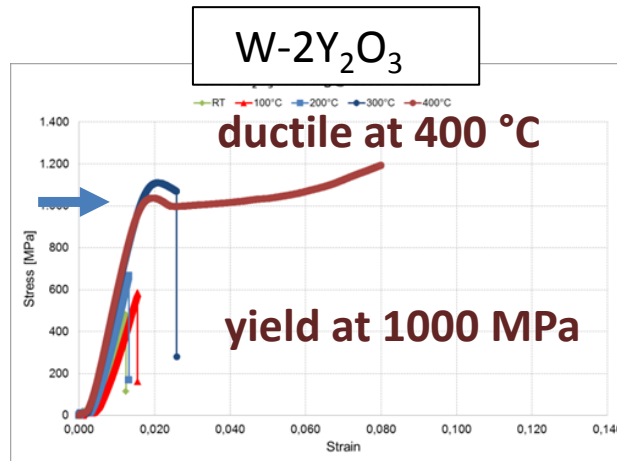


## 4Point-Bending Tests

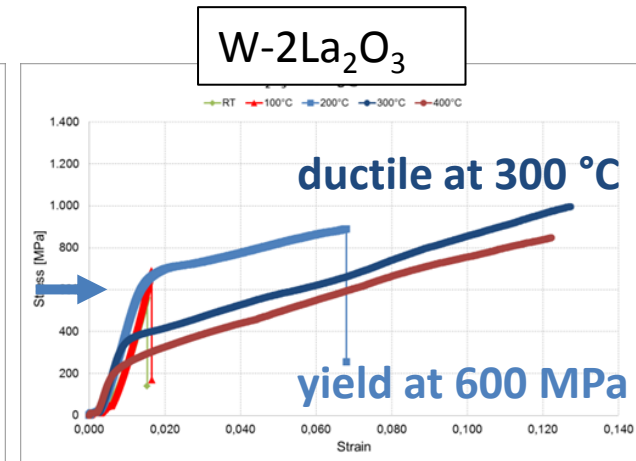
W



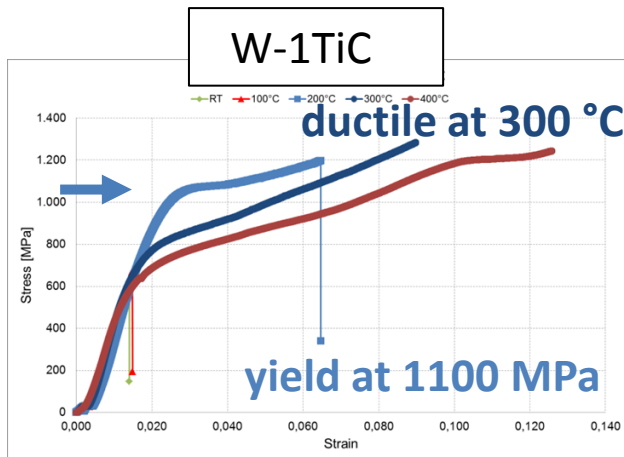
W-2Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>



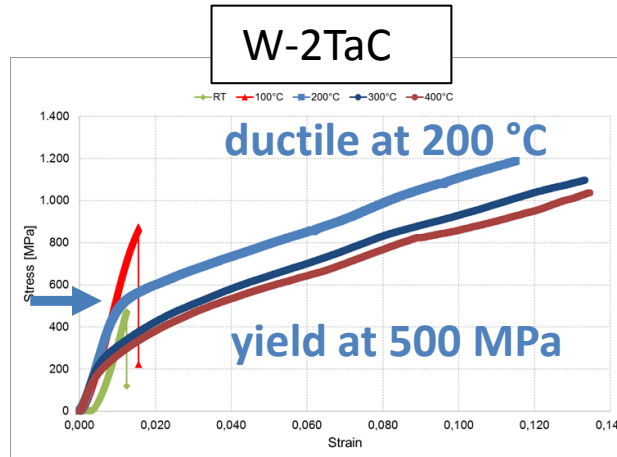
W-2La<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>



W-1TiC



W-2TaC



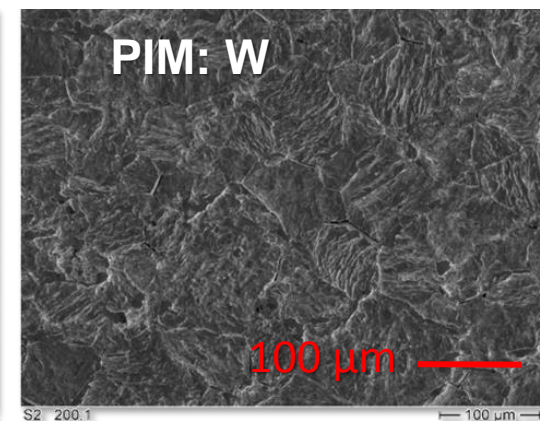
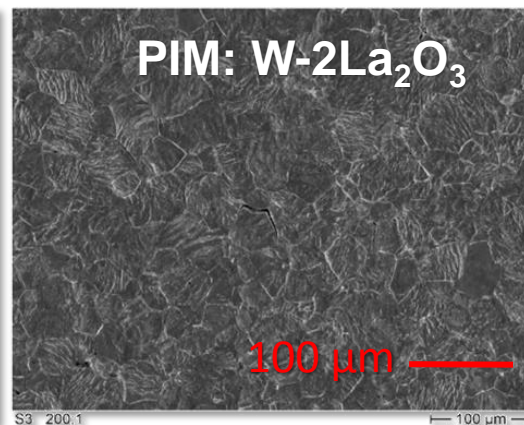
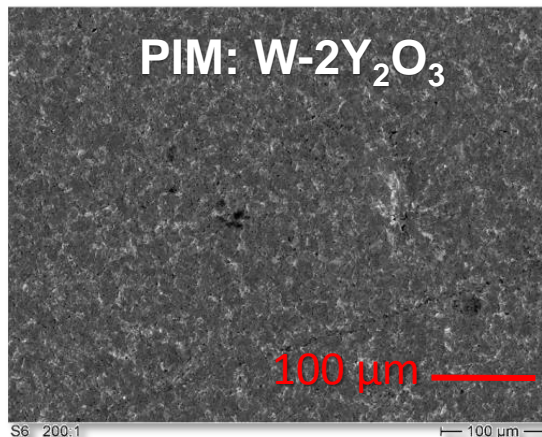
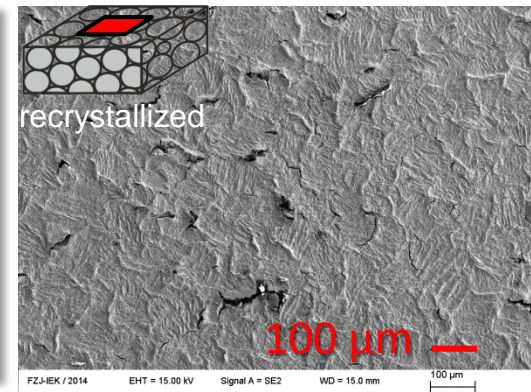
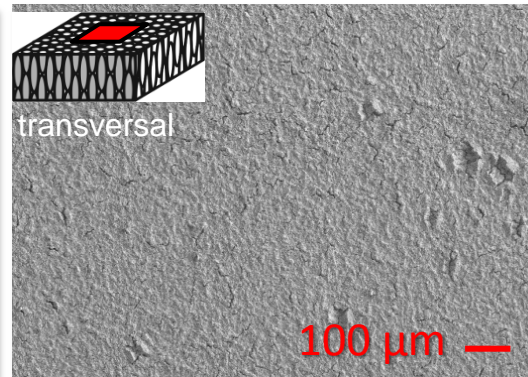
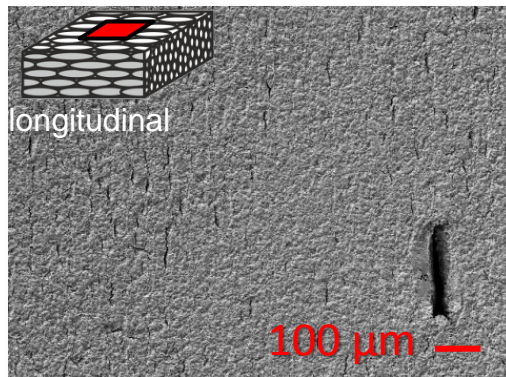
S. Antusch *et al.* (KIT)

→ strength and ductility can be adjusted within a broad range



## PLANSEE pure tungsten according to ITER specifications (“IGP”) compared to PIM W alloys

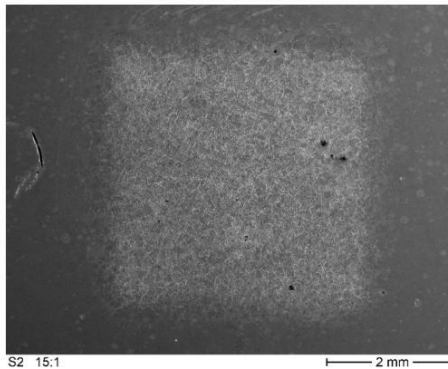
#	T [°C]	P <sub>abs</sub> [GW/m <sup>2</sup> ]	Δt [ms]	E <sub>abs</sub> [MJ/m <sup>2</sup> ]	FHF [MW/m <sup>2</sup> *s <sup>1/2</sup> ]	# shots
°C	1000	0.38	1	0.38	12	1000



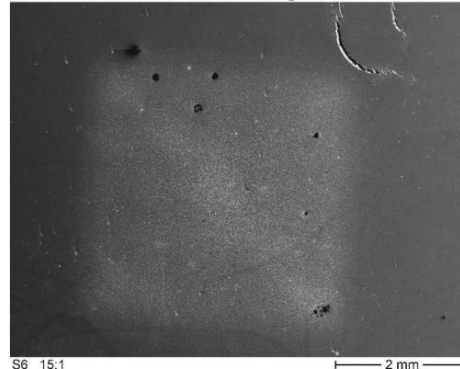
## Thermal shock tests on PIM-W alloys by e-beam in JUDITH-1

#	T [°C]	P <sub>abs</sub> [GW/m <sup>2</sup> ]	Δt [ms]	E <sub>abs</sub> [MJ/m <sup>2</sup> ]	FHF [MW/m <sup>2</sup> *s <sup>1/2</sup> ]	# shots
°C	1000	0.38	1	0.38	12	1000

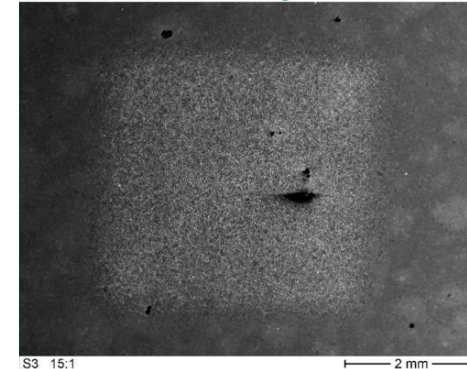
W



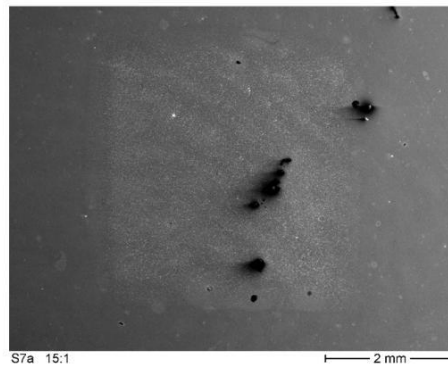
W-2Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>



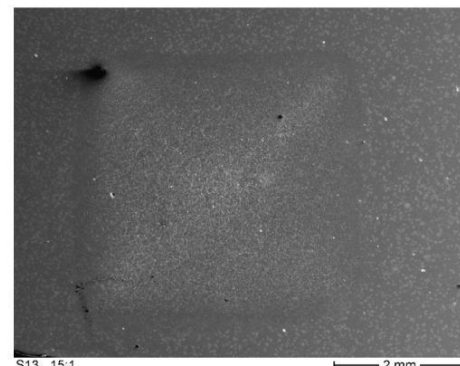
W-2La<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>



W-1TiC



W-2TaC





## □ Tungsten Alloys (armor)

- **PIM**: W, W-La<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, W-TiC, W-Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>
- W<sub>f</sub>-W, WC & SiC **reinforced W**
- mass production, HHF testing, mockup fabrication

## □ Composites (heat sink, structure, interlayer)

- **WCD**: CuCrZr-W laminated pipes, W fiber and particle reinforced CuCrZr pipes
- **HCD**: W-X laminates (X=**V**, Ti, Cu, ...)
- **Interlayer**: Cu-WC, Cu/W (laminate, particle mix), FGM





In the European fusion materials programme we have

- ❑ **Promising materials**
- ❑ **Technologies on high readiness levels**
- ❑ **Many gaps in the database**



**But there is still no neutron  
irradiation campaign !!!**



- CCFE
- CEA
- CIEMAT (+ CEIT, URJC, UPM, ...)
- DTU
- ENEA-Frascati
- ENEA-CNR
- FZJ
- Wigner RCP (HAS)
- NCSR D (HELLENIC)
- MPG (IPP)
- IPPLM
- IST
- KIT
- ISSP-UL (LATVIA)
- IAP (MEdC)
- JSI (MESCS)
- FOM-DIFFER (NRG)
- OEAW
- LPP-ERM-KMS (SCK.CEN)
- UT (TARTU)
- VTT (TEKES)
- VR



Slovenska Fuzijska Asociacija  
Slovenian Fusion Association



Vetenskapsrådet