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AND EXPERTISE

Hydrogen embrittlement of L-PBF manufactured 316L stainless steel

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Hydrogen Embrittlement



Liquid hydrogen storage tank

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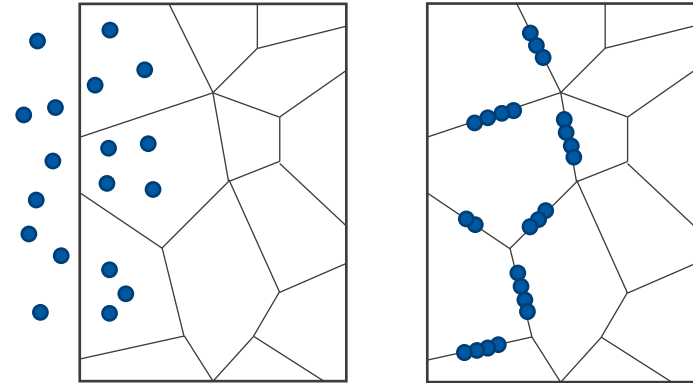
https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Liquid_hydrogen_storage_tank_at_Launch_Pad_39B.jpg



Hydrogen Induced Cracking

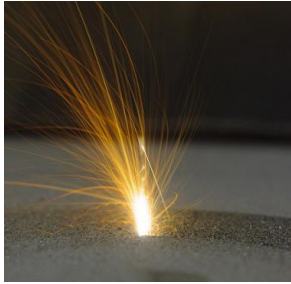
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Hydrogen Interaction with metals

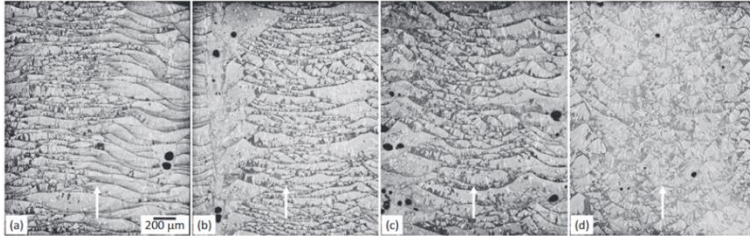
Laser Powder Bed Fusion



L-PBF process. Laser-material interaction

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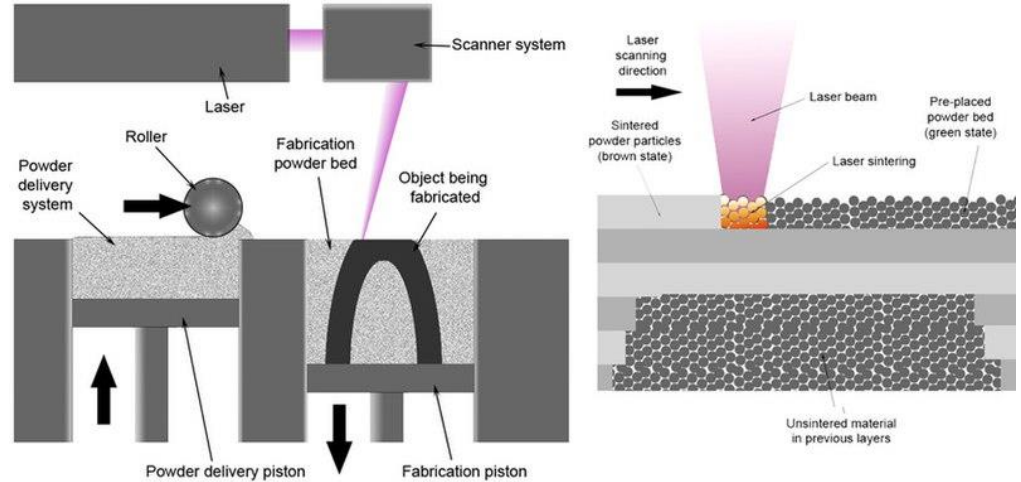
<https://www.twi-global.com/media-and-events/insights/a-more-holistic-approach-in-l-pbf-process-optimisation>



Light optical micrographs of longitudinal cross sections of as-printed L-PBF 316L SS cylinders.

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<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.matdes.2018.12.006>



Laser powder bed fusion process.

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https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Selective_laser_melting_system_schematic.jpg

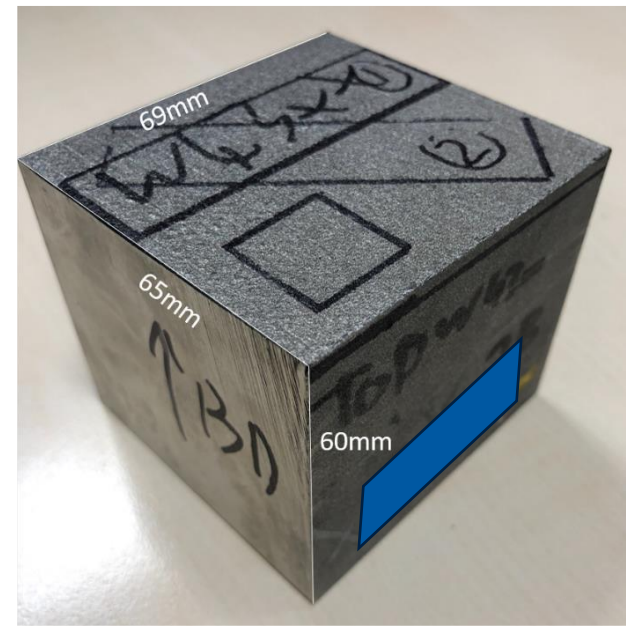
Sample and Specimen

Composition

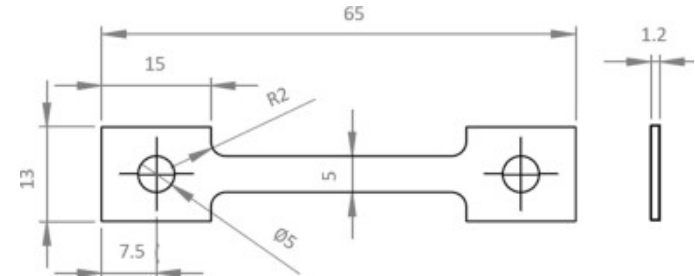
	Elements (wt%)									
	C	Cr	Mn	Mo	Ni	P	S	Si	N	O
W43	0.02	17.6	0.57	2.3	12.9	0.011	0.009	0.73	0.086	0.024
Wrought	0.065	16.35	1.72	2.15	10.11	<0.005	0.003	0.53	0.0052	0.0016

Process parameters

Scanning speed	Hatch space	Laser power	Layer thickness	Laser spot size	Energy density	Normalised enthalpy	Heat treatment
mm/s	mm	W	mm	μm	J/mm^3		
1037	0.09	280	0.04	100	75.0	2.92	As Built

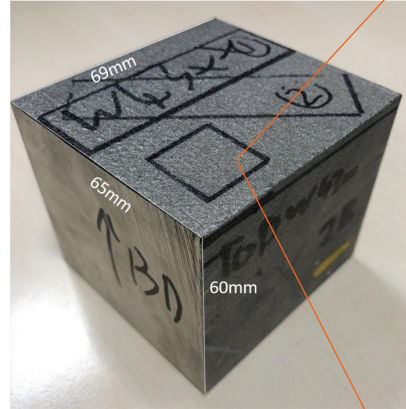


Sample Block, Specimen extracted from blue box



Test Specimen, dimensions in mm

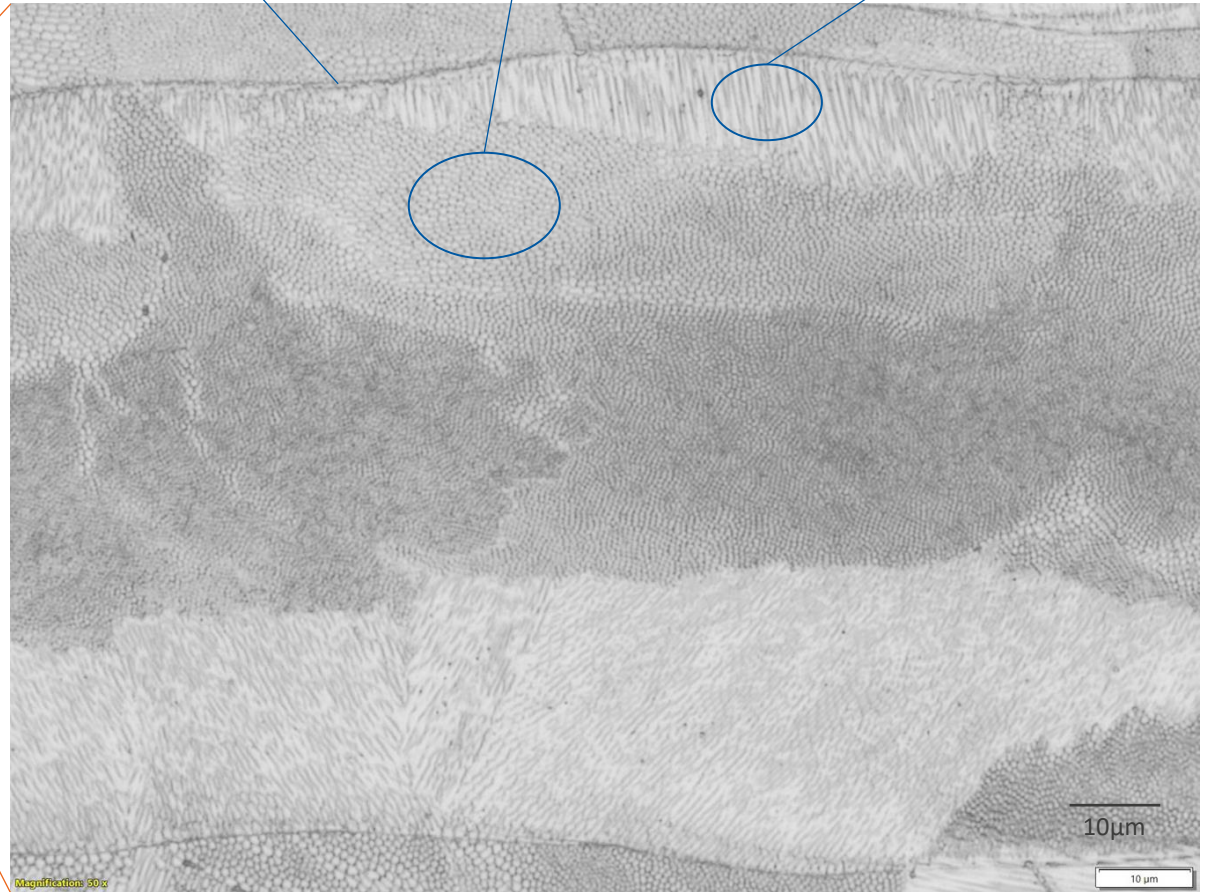
Sample and Specimen



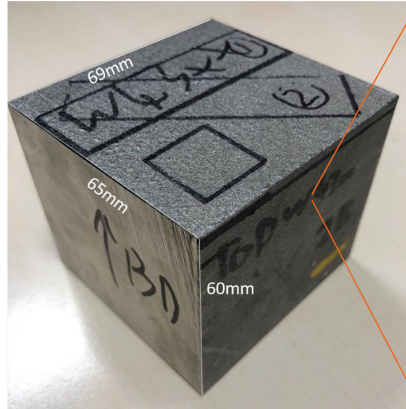
Fusion Boundary

Cellular Subgrains

Columnar Subgrains



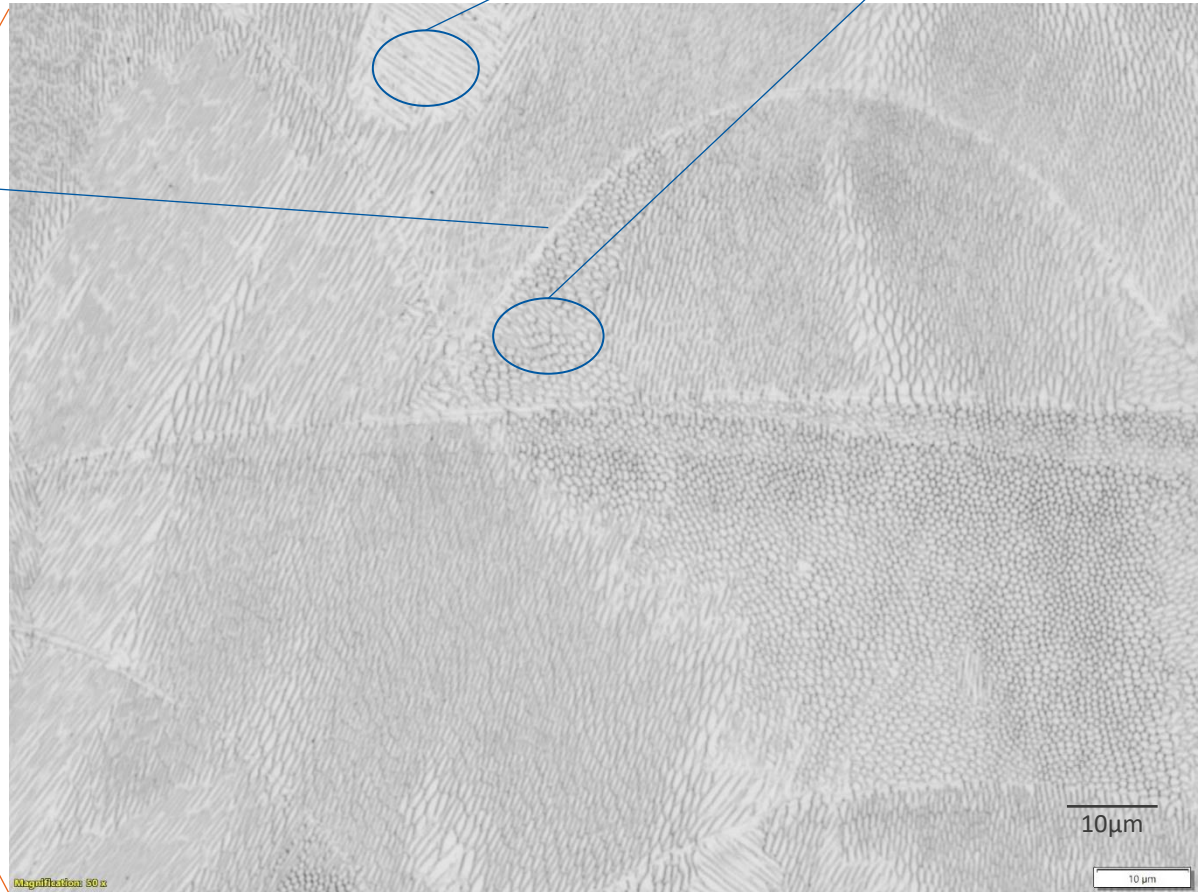
Sample and Specimen



Fusion Boundary

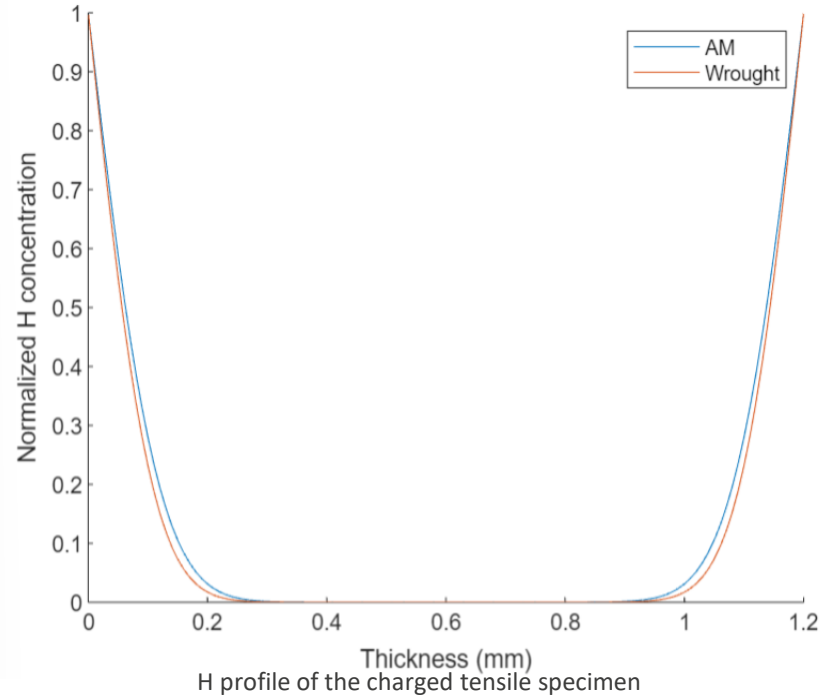
Columnar Subgrains

Cellular Subgrains



Hydrogen Charging Conditions for Tensile Specimens

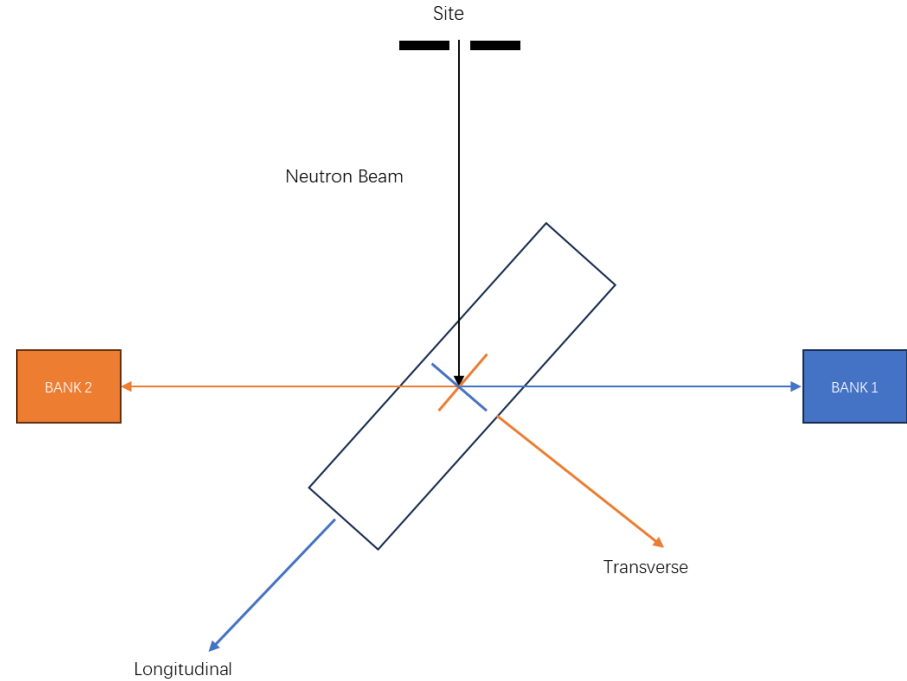
- Temperature: 80 °C
- Reference electrode: Calomel
- Counter electrode: Pt
- Solution: 3.5 wt% NaCl
- Potential (V.S. RE): -1050 mV
- Charging time: 10 days



Slow Strain Rate Tensile Test with In-situ Neutron Diffraction



ISIS EngX

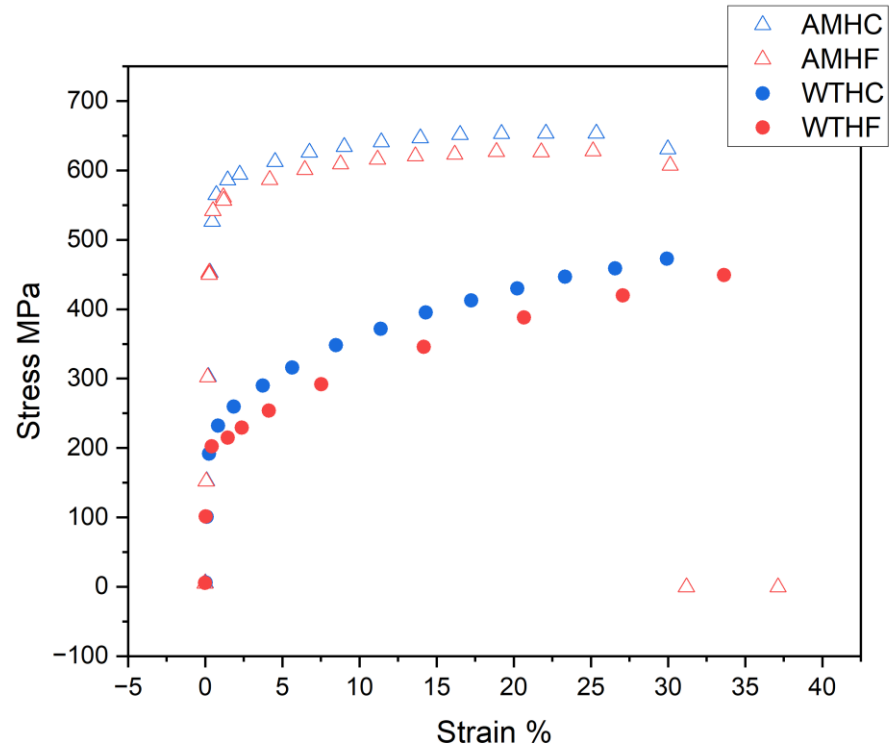


Neutron diffraction experiment set up

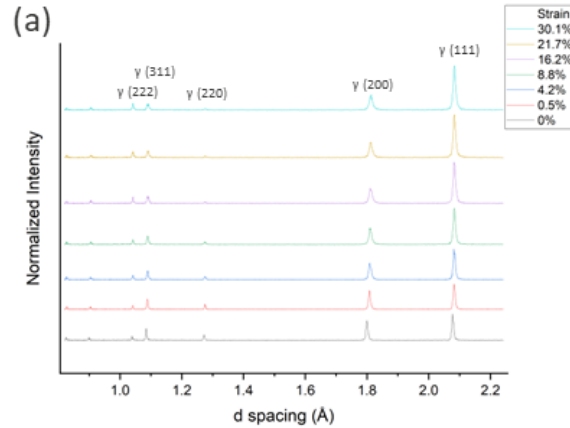
Specimen has to be static to take neutron diffraction measurement.

Tensile Test

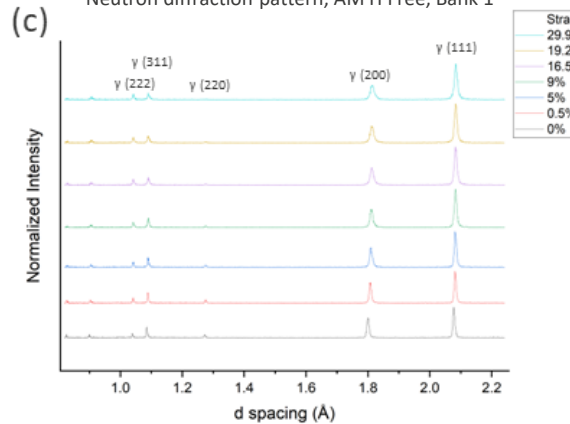
- Strain rate: $8 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ s}^{-2}$
- Stress data from static sampling points of neutron diffraction
- Both AM specimens failed at 30% elongation
- Wrought specimens were not tested to failure



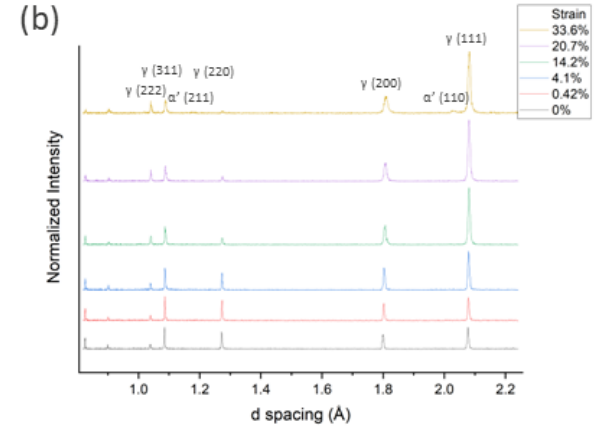
Diffraction Pattern Bank 1 Longitudinal Direction



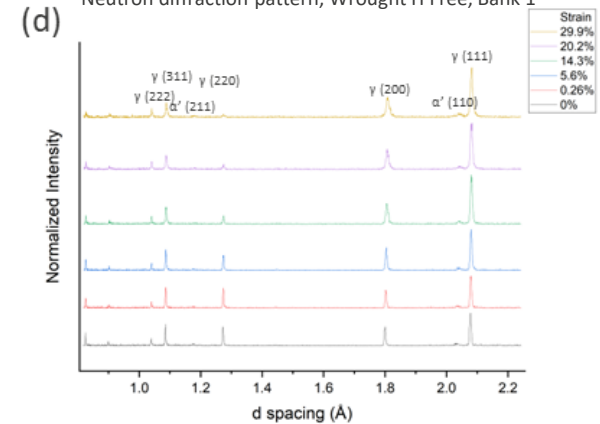
Neutron diffraction pattern, AM H Free, Bank 1



Neutron diffraction pattern, AM H Charged, Bank 1

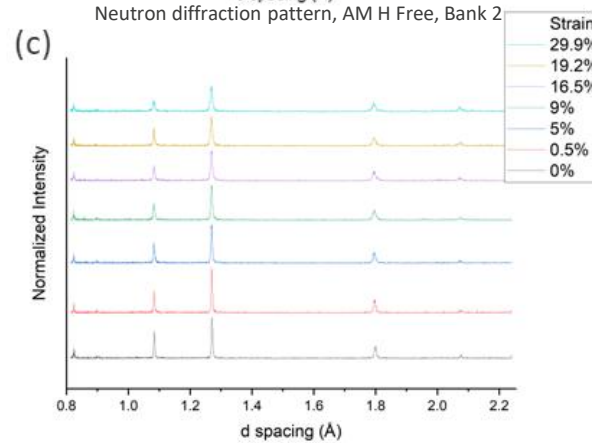
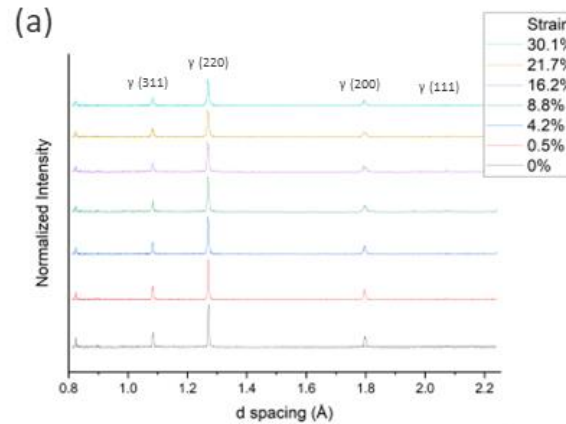


Neutron diffraction pattern, Wrought H Free, Bank 1

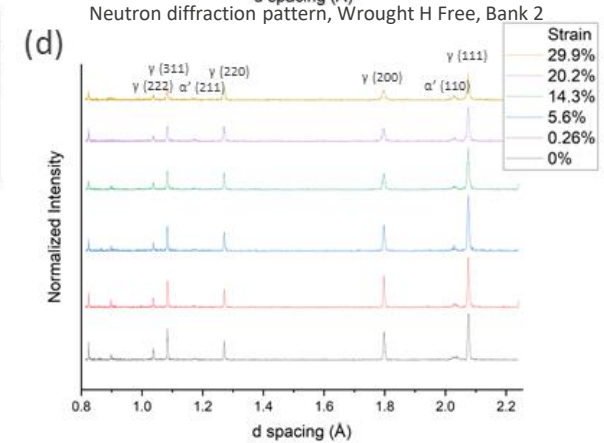
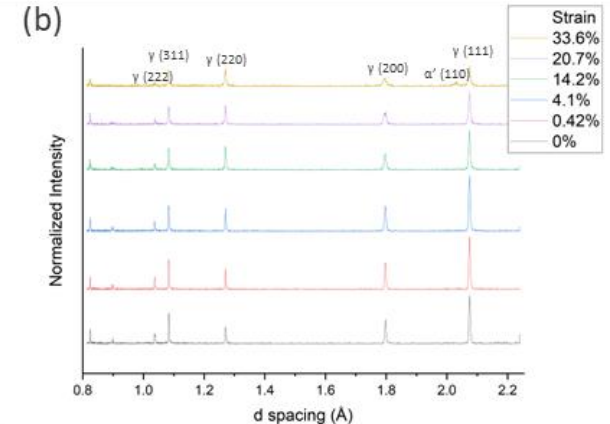


Neutron diffraction pattern, Wrought H Charged, Bank 1

Diffraction Pattern Bank 2 Transverse Direction

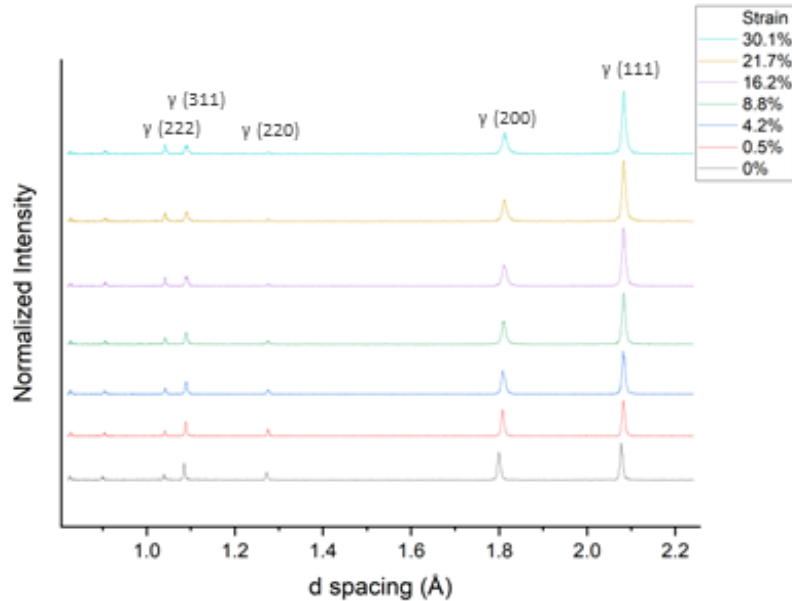


Neutron diffraction pattern, AM H Charged, Bank 2

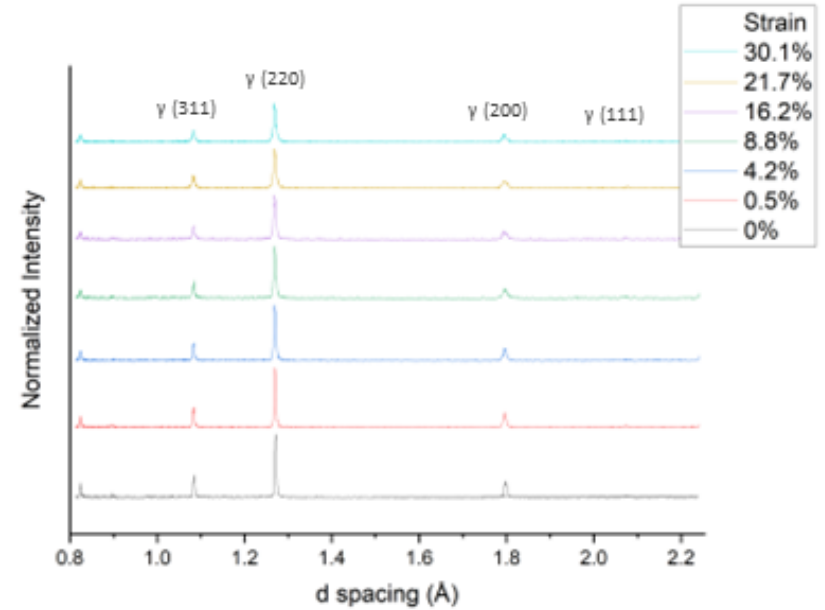


Neutron diffraction pattern, Wrought H Charged, Bank 2

Diffraction Pattern

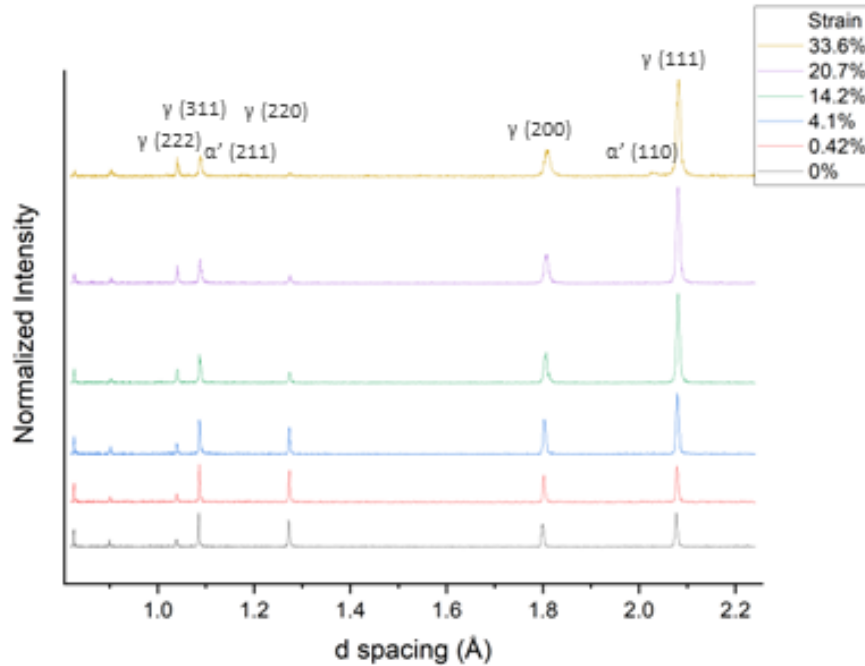


Neutron diffraction pattern, AM H Free, Bank 1

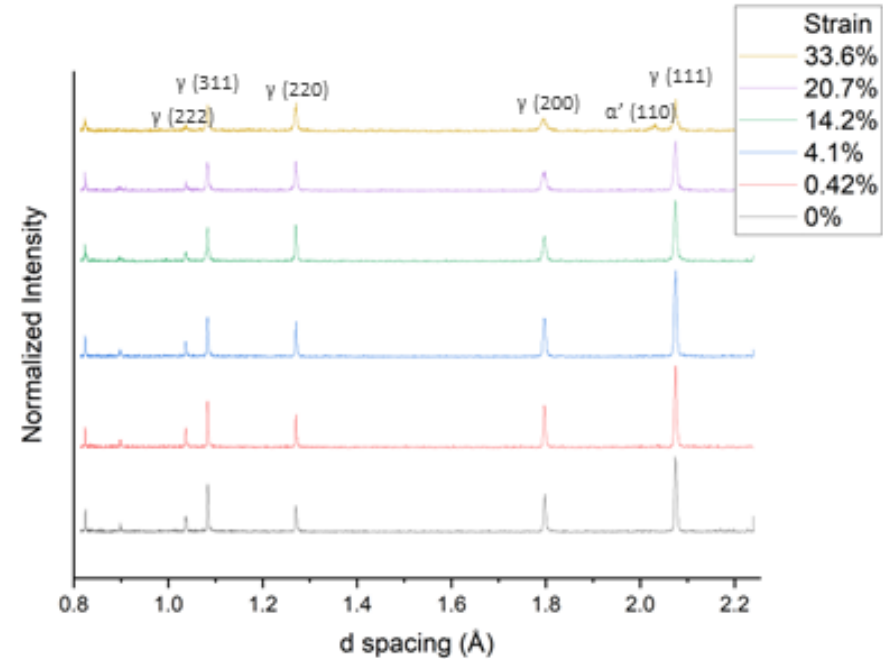


Neutron diffraction pattern, AM H Free, Bank 2

Diffraction Pattern

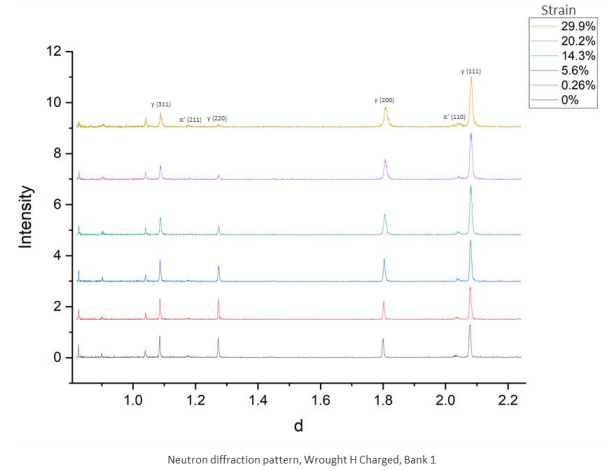
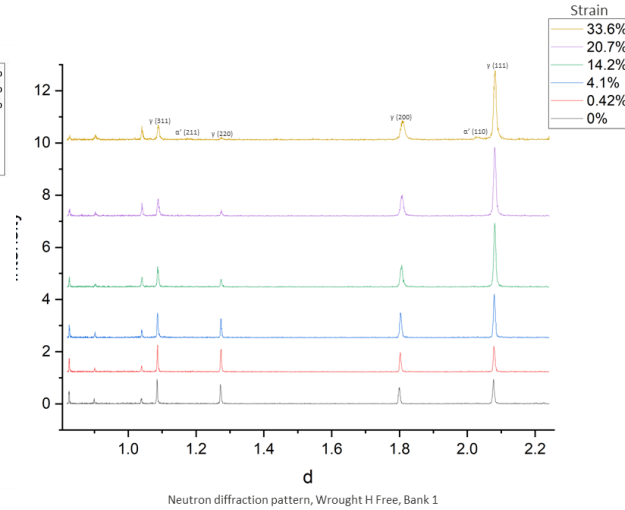
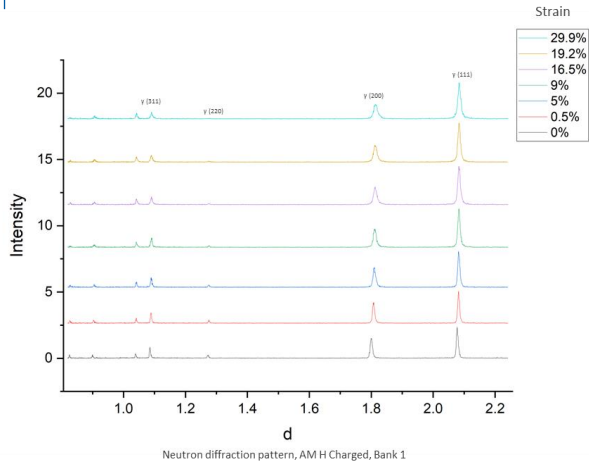


Neutron diffraction pattern, Wrought H Free, Bank 1



Neutron diffraction pattern, Wrought H Free, Bank 2

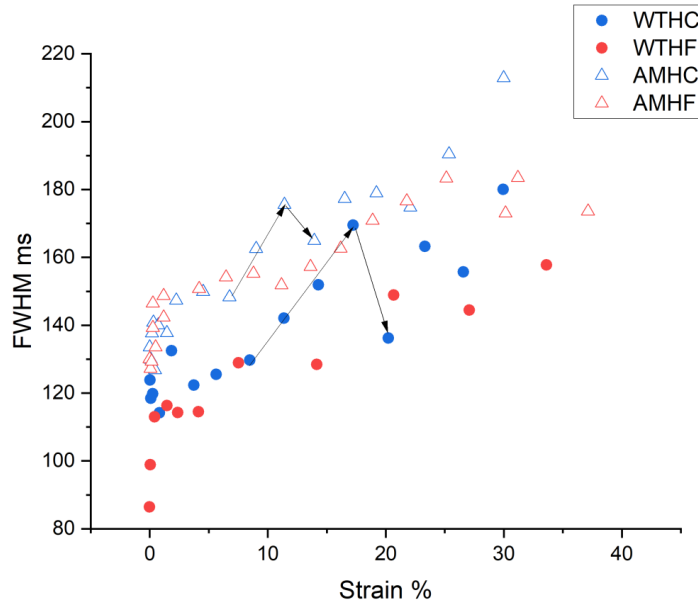
Diffraction Pattern



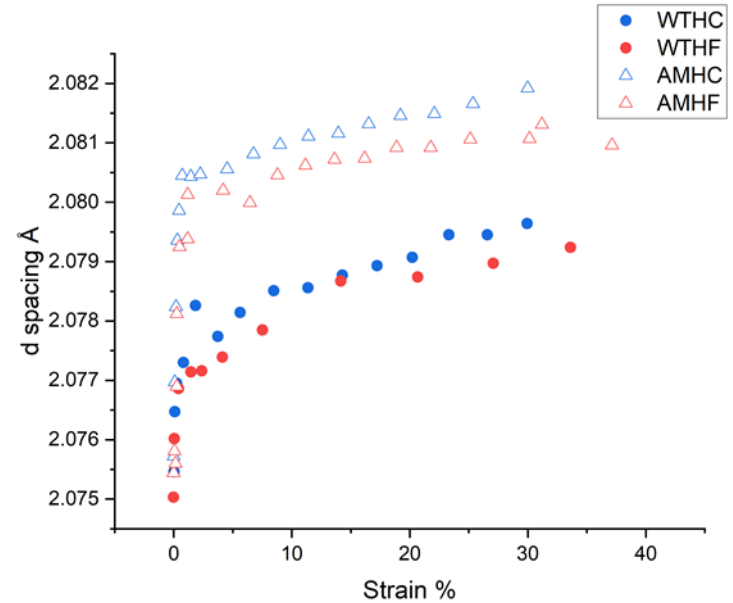
Diffraction Pattern

- AM specimens showed strong texture;
- Inhibition of formation of strain induced martensite (SIM) observed in AM specimens;
- Promotion of formation of SIM observed in H charged wrought specimens.

Diffraction Pattern

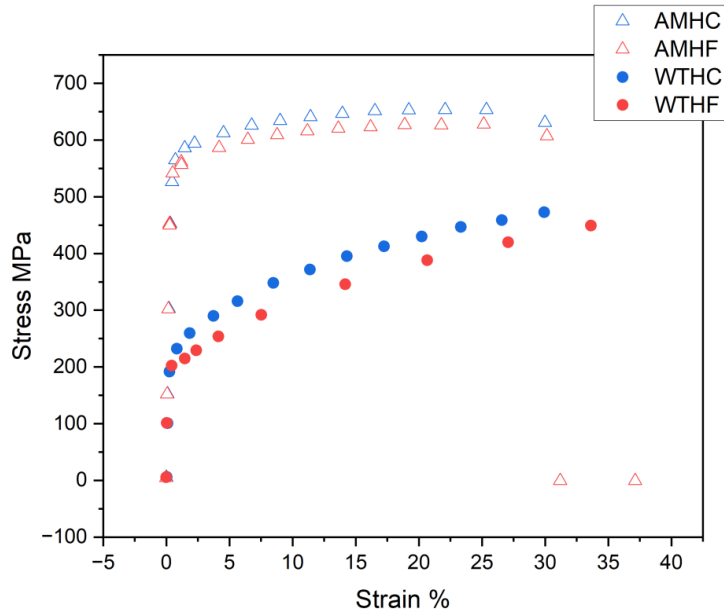


111 plane, FWHM vs strain

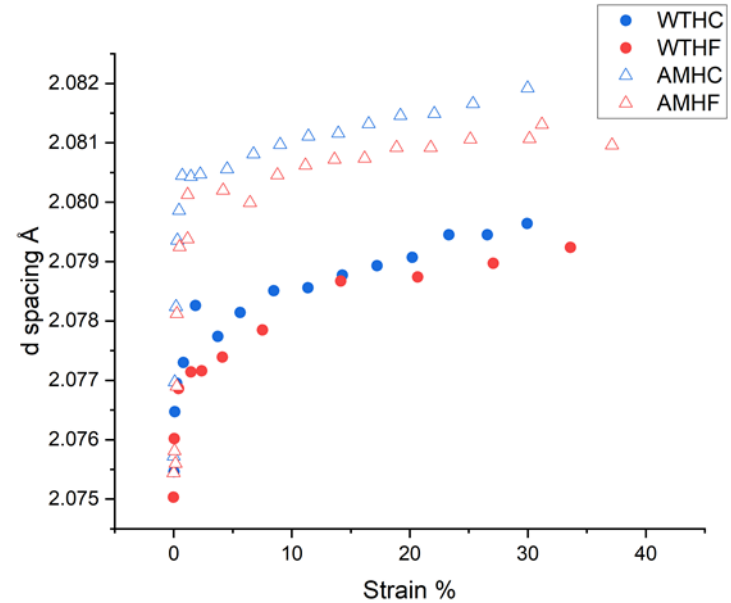


111 plane, d spacing vs strain

Diffraction Pattern

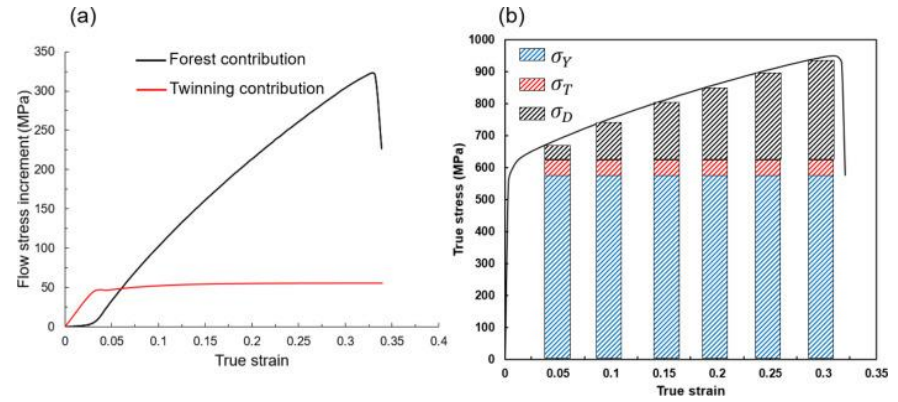
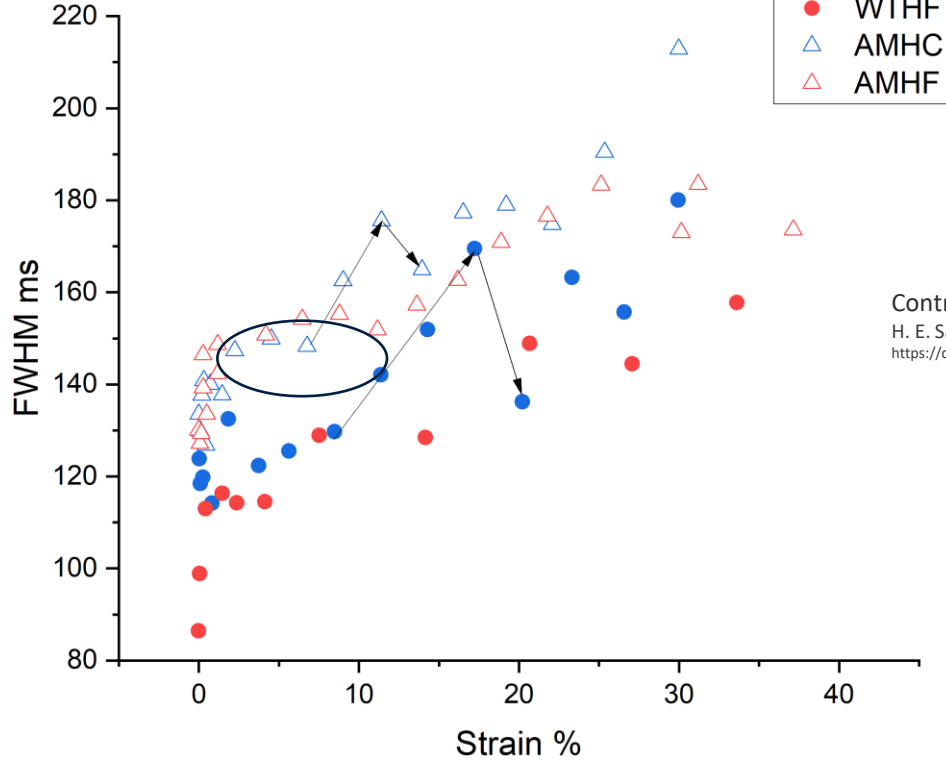


Stress-strain curve



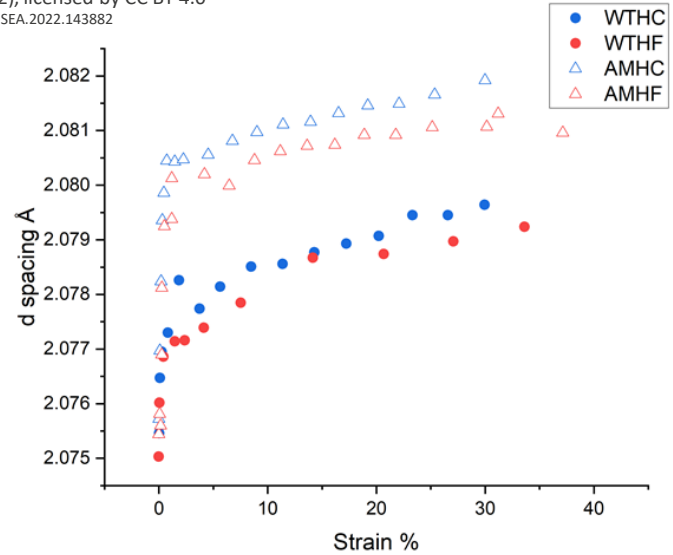
111 plane, d spacing vs strain

Dislocation density

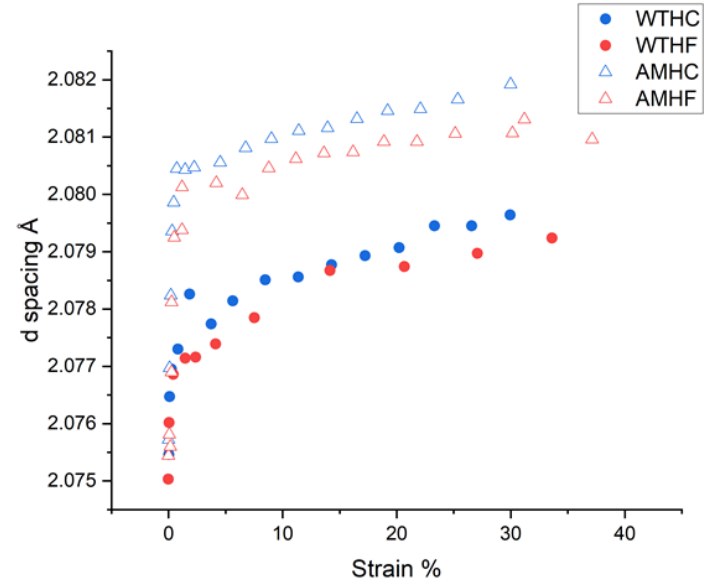
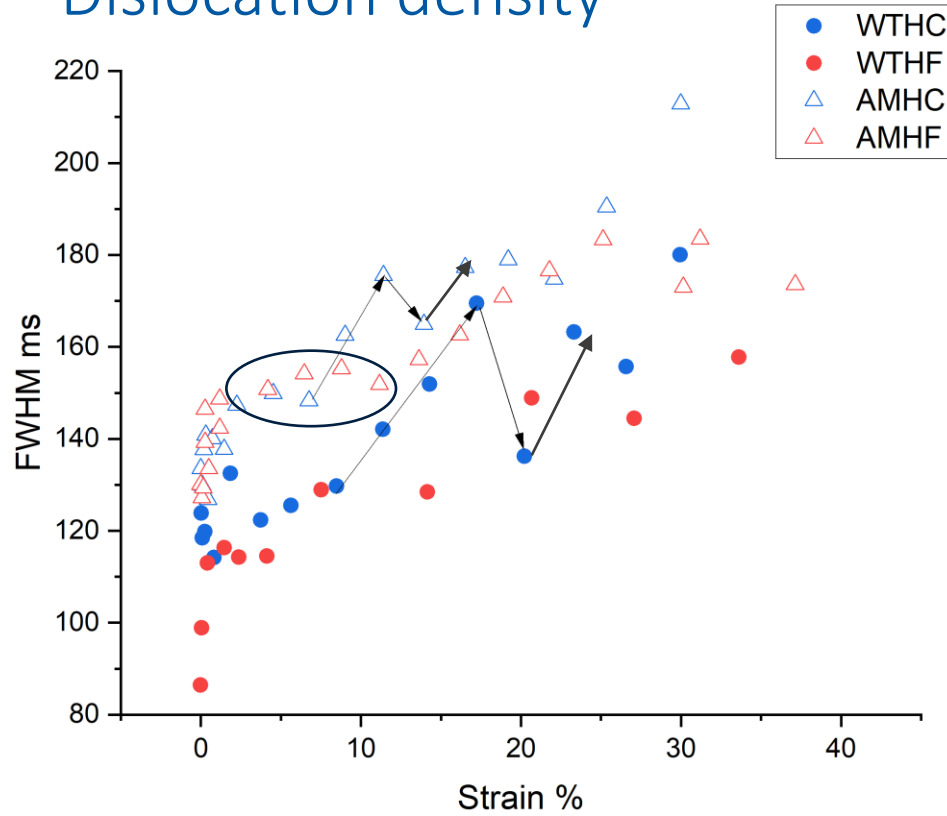


Contribution of dislocation and twinning in strained L-PBFed 316L

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<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jmse.2022.143882>



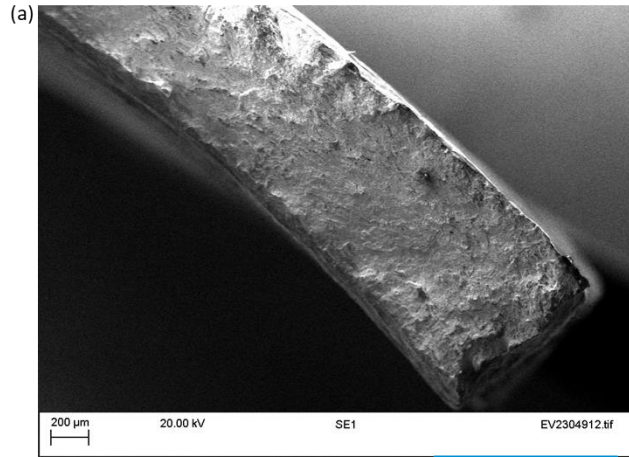
Dislocation density



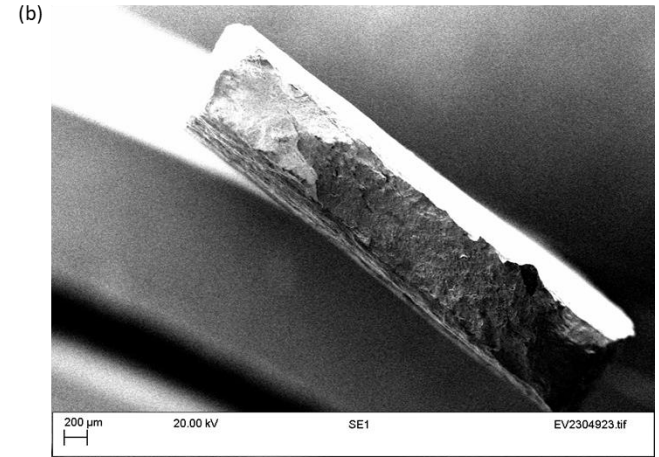
Fractography

- Theoretical H depth: 100 μm
- Both HC and HF specimens showed typical ductile fracture at magnification used for presented images

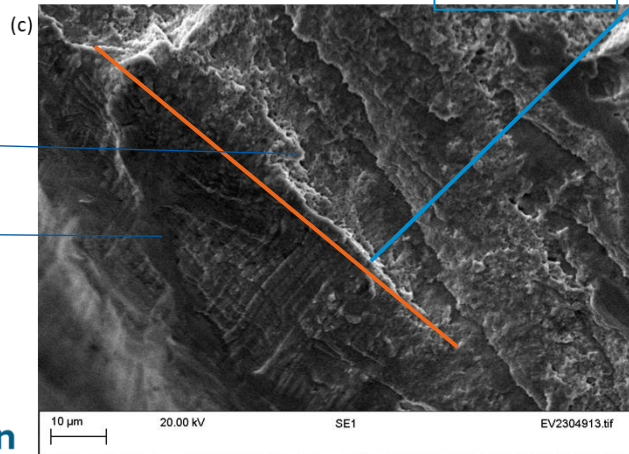
AMHC



AMHF

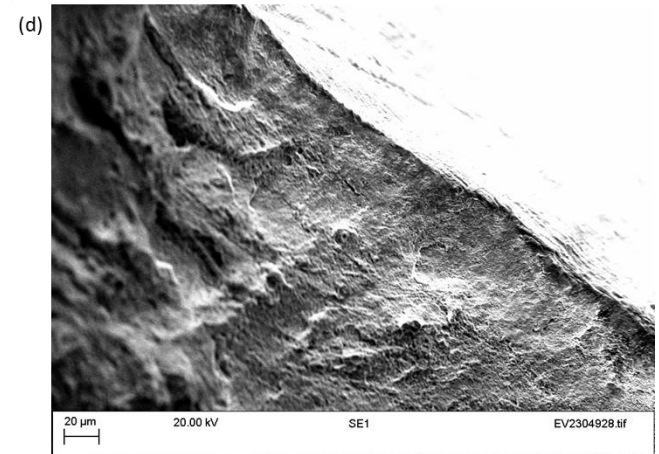


Hydrogen depth



Fracture surface

Side surface



Preliminary Conclusions

- Inhibition of formation of strain induced martensite (SIM) observed in AM specimens;
- Promotion of formation of SIM observed in H charged wrought specimens;
- Dislocation activation during deformation in AM materials was delayed;
- Faster dislocation multiplication observed in H charged specimens;
- No obvious hydrogen embrittlement in AM specimens was observed.

Future work

- Tensile test with lower strain rate;
- Hydrogen trapping and diffusion analysis with thermal desorption spectroscopy;
- Modelling of hydrogen migration with dislocations, and accumulation of hydrogen at sub grain walls.

Acknowledgements

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