

# Metallography, 3D Reconstructions & kinetic Monte Carlo

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J. Madison<sup>1</sup>, L. K. Aagesen<sup>2</sup>, V. Tikare<sup>3</sup>, E. Holm<sup>1</sup>,

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<sup>1</sup>SNL, Computational Material Science & Engineering, Albuquerque, NM

<sup>2</sup>University of Michigan, Material Science & Engineering, Ann Arbor, MI

<sup>3</sup>SNL, Advanced Nuclear Fuel Cycle Technologies, Albuquerque, NM



**Sandia  
National  
Laboratories**



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  - Alice Kilgo, Org. 1822 – Materials Characterization
  - John Emery, Org. 1524 – Solid Mechanics
  - James Foulk, III, Org. 8256 – Mechanics of Materials
  - Bethany Lust, Org. 1814 – Computational Materials
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Laboratory Directed Research & Development

# Outline

- Background
  - Sandia History; Evolving Mission; People; Disciplines & Thrusts
  - 3-Dimensionality (Characterization & Modeling)
- Interrogation Methods (Benefits & Challenges)
  - Length Scale
  - Destructive/Non-Destructive
  - Labor Intensity
  - Data Acquisition Time
- Weld Characterization
  - Mechanical Sectioning
  - Ultrasonic Scan
  - Micro-Computed Tomography
- Summary
- Future Work

# Sandia's History



exceptional service in the national interest.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON  
May 13, 1949

Dear Mr. Wilson:

I am informed that the Atomic Energy Commission intends to ask that the Bell Telephone Laboratories accept under contract the construction of a laboratory at Albuquerque, New Mexico.

This situation, which is of great importance to the atomic national defense, and should have the highest technical direction.

I hope that after you have heard more in detail from the Atomic Energy Commission, your organization will find it possible to undertake this task. In my opinion you have here an opportunity to render an exceptional service in the national interest.

I am writing a similar note direct to Dr. C. E. Buckley.

Very sincerely yours,  
*Harry Truman*

Mr. Leroy A. Wilson,  
President,  
American Telephone and Telegraph Company,  
195 Broadway,  
New York 7, N. Y.





# SNL's Evolving Mission

**1950s**

Production  
engineering &  
manufacturing  
engineering

**1960s**

Development  
engineering

**1970s**

Multiprogram  
laboratory

**1980s**

Research,  
development and  
production

**1990s**

Post-Cold War  
transition

**2000s**

Broader national  
security challenges

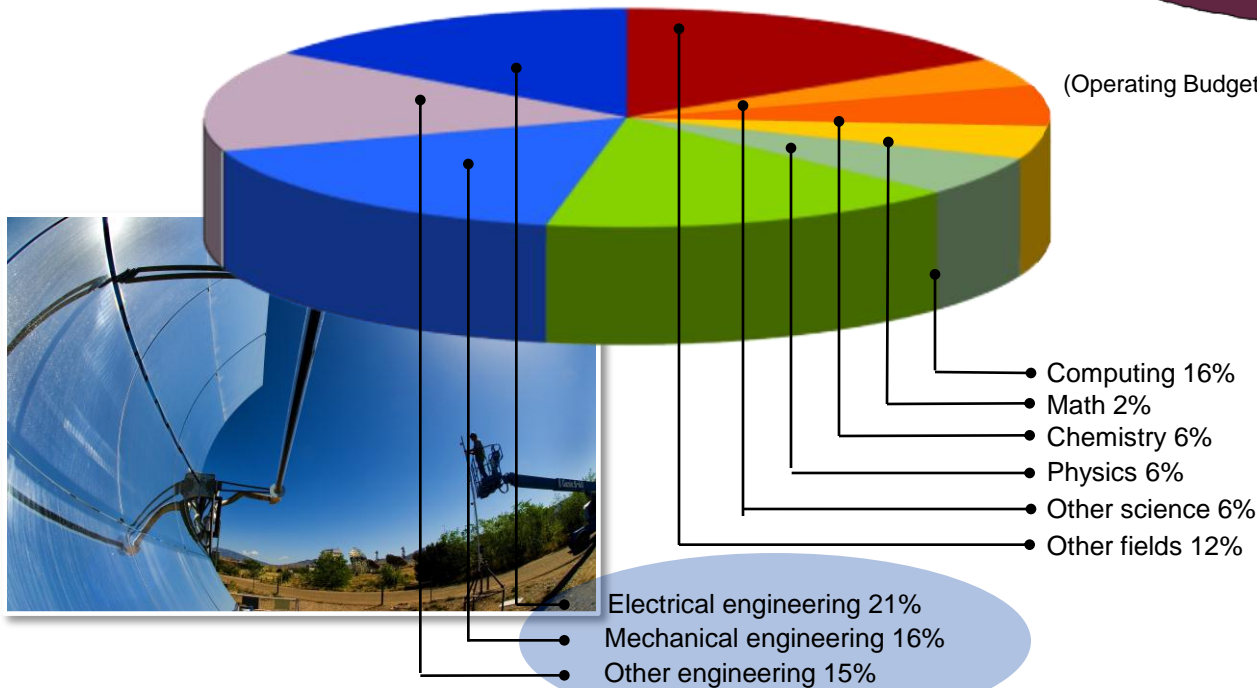
**% NON-NW FUNDING**

100%  
90%  
80%  
70%  
60%  
50%  
40%  
30%  
20%  
10%  
0%

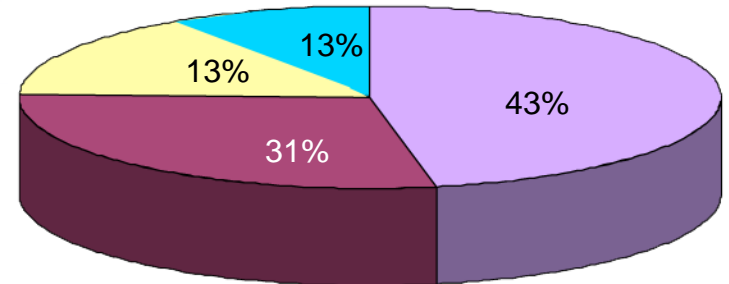
# People & Budget (FY 2010)

- On-site workforce: 11,677
- Regular employees: 8,607
- Gross payroll: ~ \$898.7 million

Technical staff (4,277) by discipline:



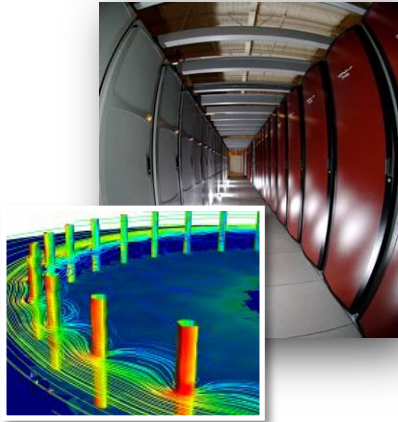
FY10 operating revenue  
\$2.3 billion



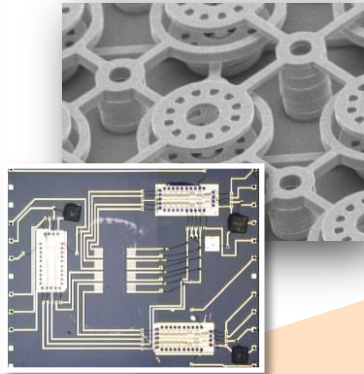
- Nuclear Weapons
- Defense Systems & Assessments
- Energy, Climate, & Infrastructure Security
- International, Homeland, and Nuclear Security



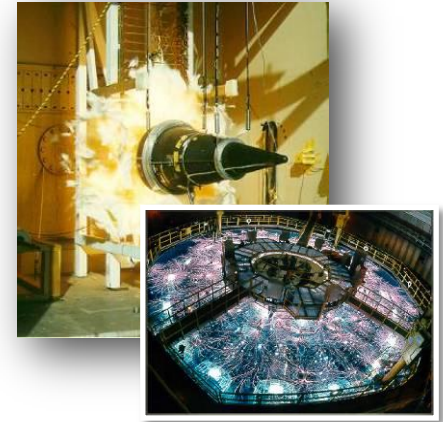
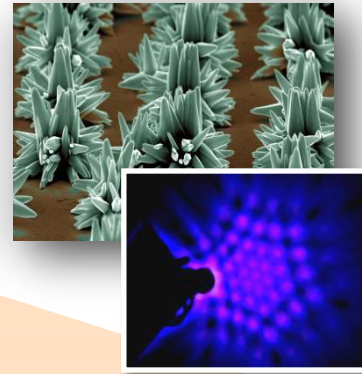
# R&D Disciplines & Capabilities



**High Performance Computing**



**Nanotechnologies & Microsystems**



**Extreme Environments**

**COMPUTER SCIENCE**

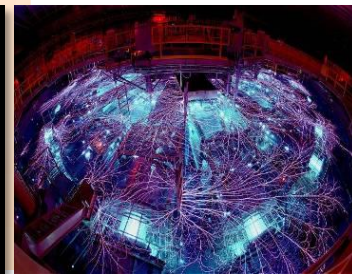
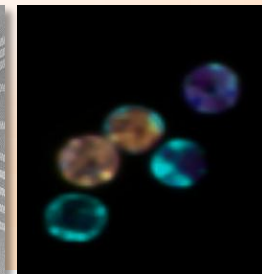
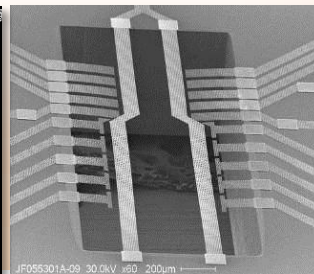
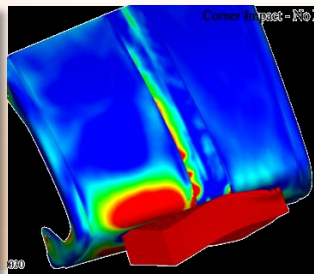
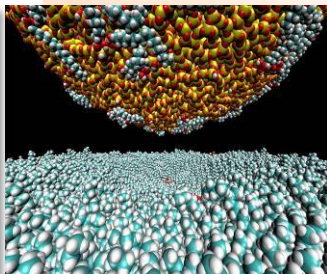
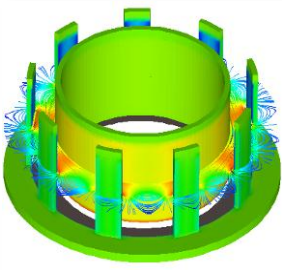
**MATERIALS**

**ENGINEERING SCIENCES**

**MICRO ELECTRONICS**

**BIOSCIENCE**

**PULSED POWER**



**RESEARCH DISCIPLINES**



# National Security Thrusts



Nuclear



Energy



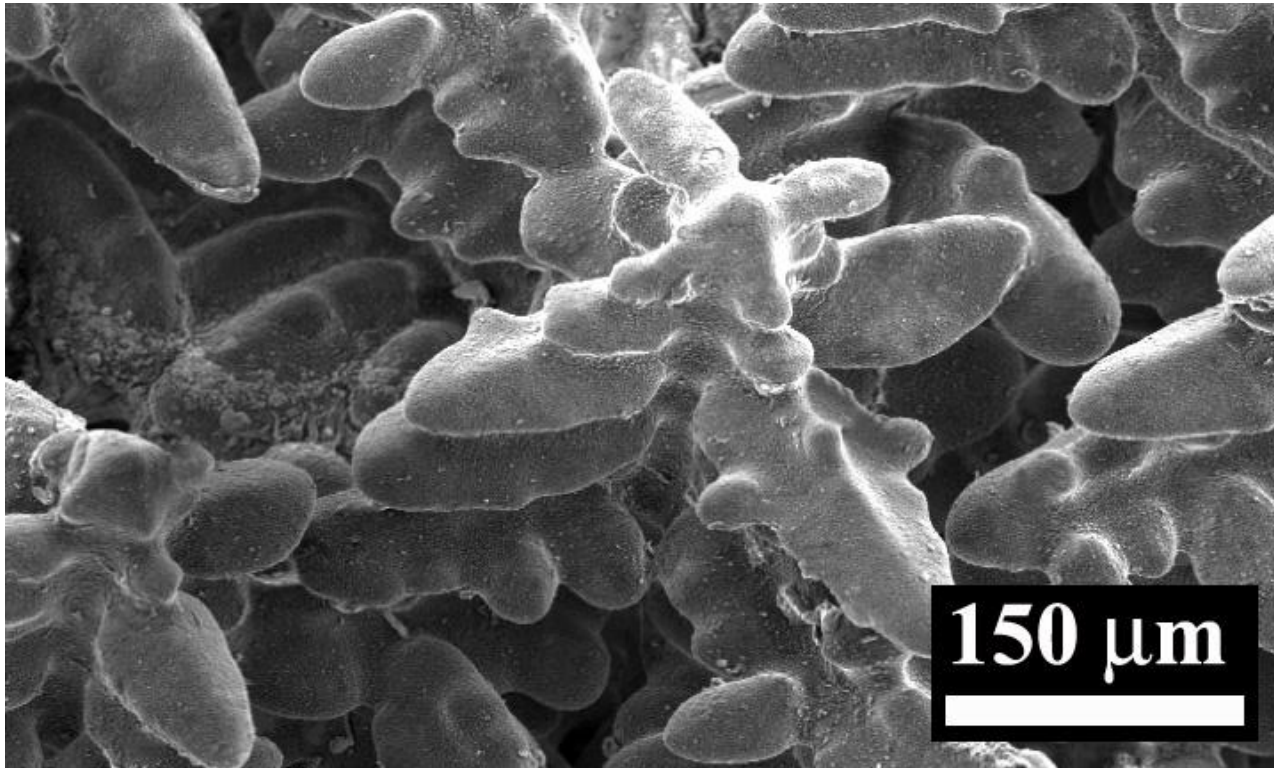
Cyber



Science & Technology



# 3-Dimensionality



J. Madison et al., "Fluid Flow and Defect Formation in the Three-Dimensional Dendritic Structure of Nickel-Based Single Crystals" **METALLURGICAL & MATERIALS TRANSACTIONS A** doi: 10.1007/s11661-011-0823-8

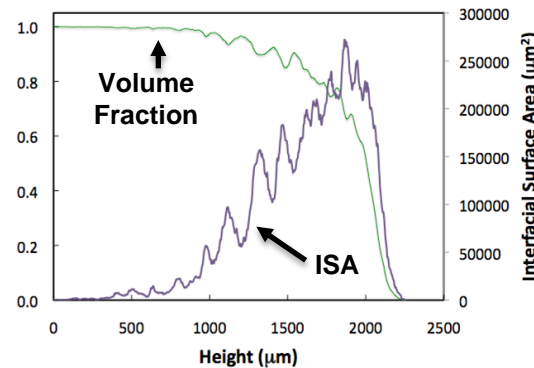
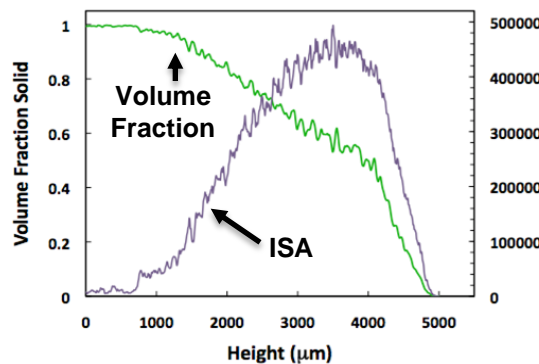
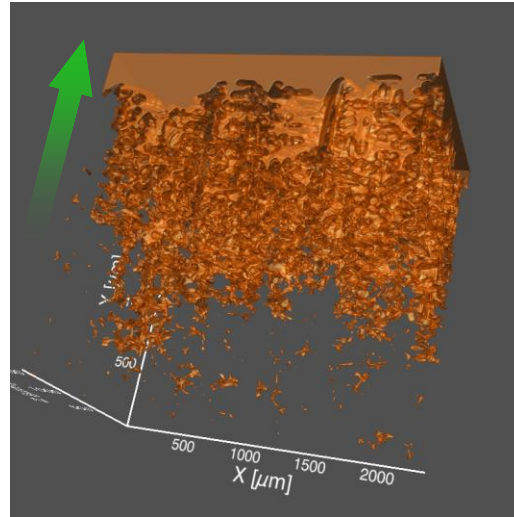
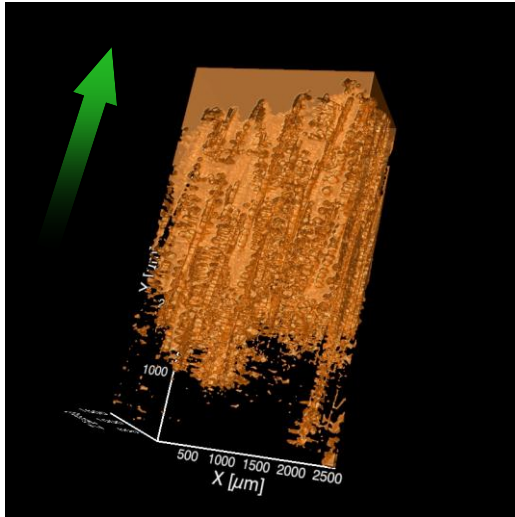
J. Madison et al., "Modeling Fluid Flow in Three-Dimensional Single Crystal Dendritic Structures" **ACTA MATERIALIA** 58 (2010) pp. 2864 – 2875

# Characterization > Modeling

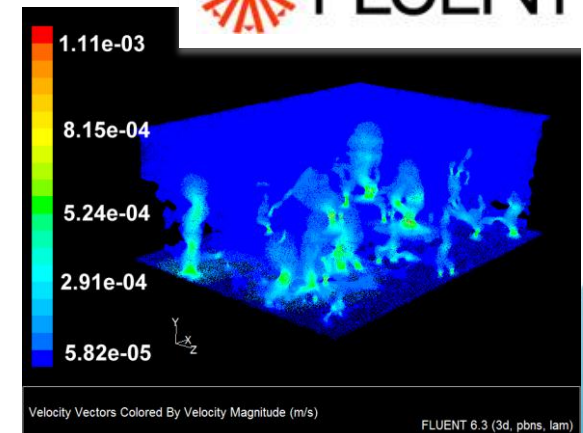
## LIQUID REPRESENTATIONS

### NI-AL-W TERNARY

### RENÉ N4



- 3D reconstructions at the dendritic front in two experimentally derived nickel-base superalloy systems
  - Characterization including direct measurement of interfacial surface area providing indication of its effect on flow
- Simulation of 3D fluid flow parallel ( $K_y$ ), and normal ( $K_x$ ), to the primary growth direction as functions of volume fraction.

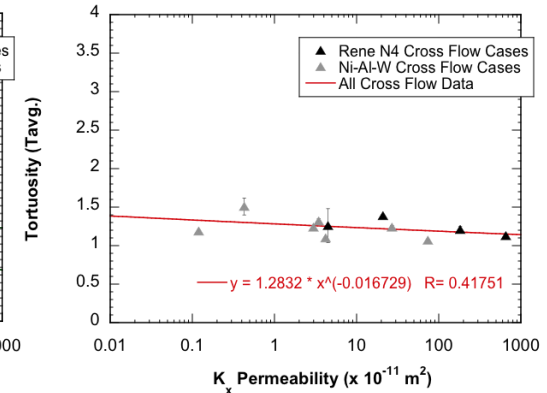
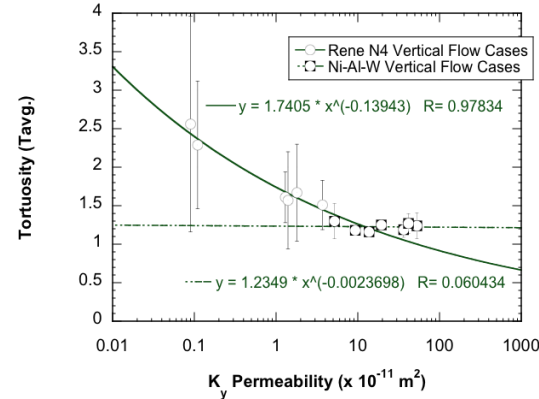
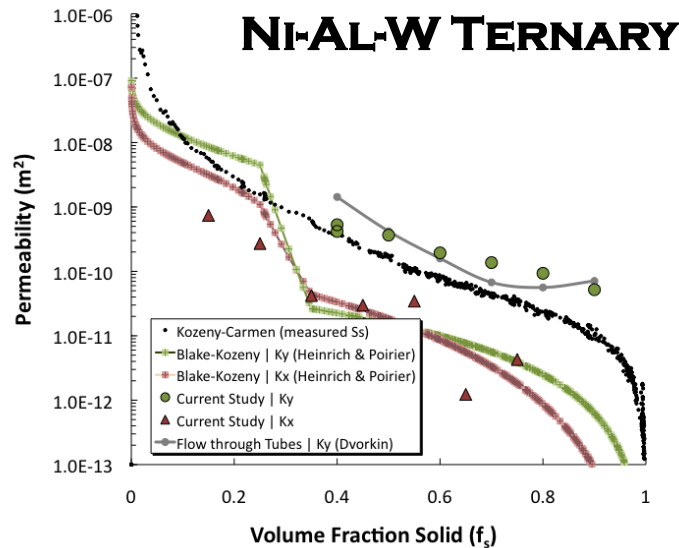




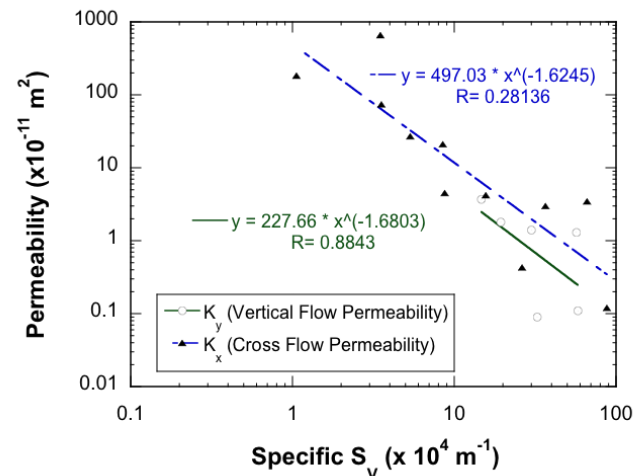
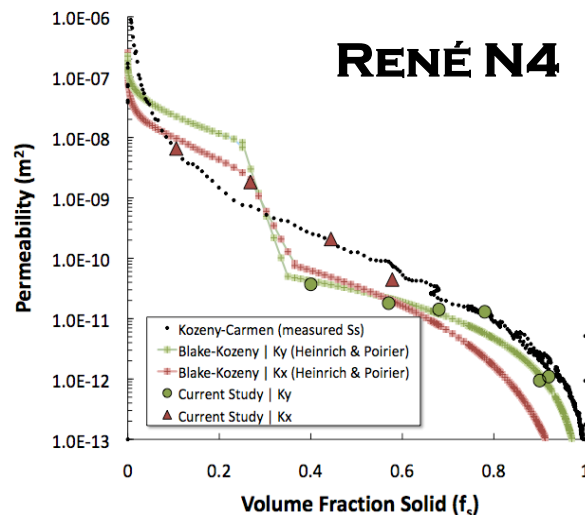
# Models > Predictors

$$Ra = \frac{(\Delta\rho/\rho_o)gKh}{\alpha\nu}$$

- Decreases in permeability coincide with increased tortuosity only in vertical flow ( $K_y$ )



- Permeability scales inversely with  $S_v$  in both vertical and cross flow ( $K_y$ ) regardless of volume fraction

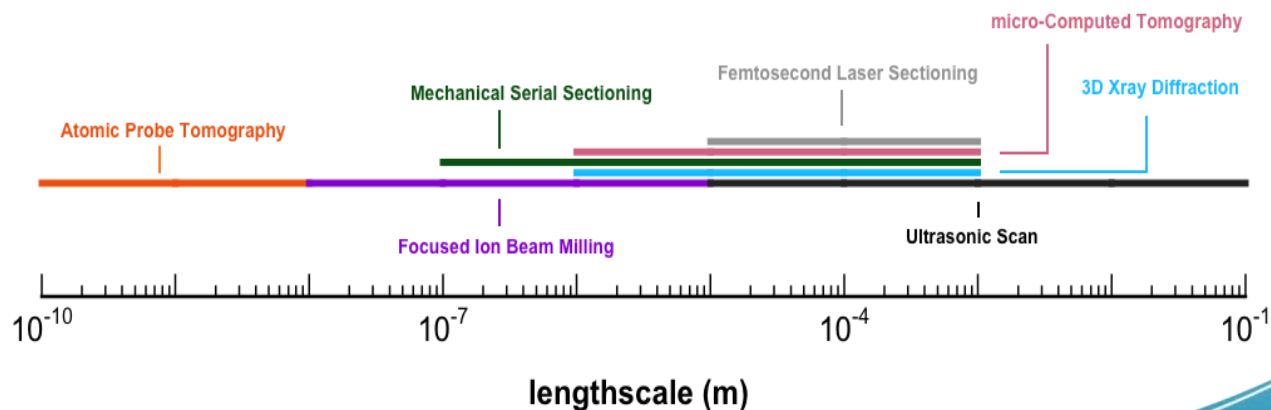


# Why Study Microstructure in 3D

- Typical imaging techniques which view 2-Dimensional sections can be inadequate for determining accurate internal 3-Dimensional microstructure
  - Many mistakes in past literature have been revealed in recent 3D studies
- 3-Dimensional shapes & distributions of morphologies:
  - Strongly influence mechanical properties of materials
  - Critical to predictive models for materials response
- Importance of 3-Dimensional analysis in materials science is well known and receiving increasing attention
  - (e.g. *Scripta Materiala*, 2006, vol. 55, no. 1)
  - (e.g. *JOM*, 2006, vol. 58, no. 12)
  - (e.g. *MRS Bulletin*, 2008 vol. 33, no. 6)
  - (e.g. *JOM*, 2011, vol. 63, no. 3 & no. 7)
  - (Int'l Congress on 3D Materials Science, Seven Springs 2012)
- Ability to combine imaging (and machining) modes for interrogation of materials to specifically address materials problems is unprecedented

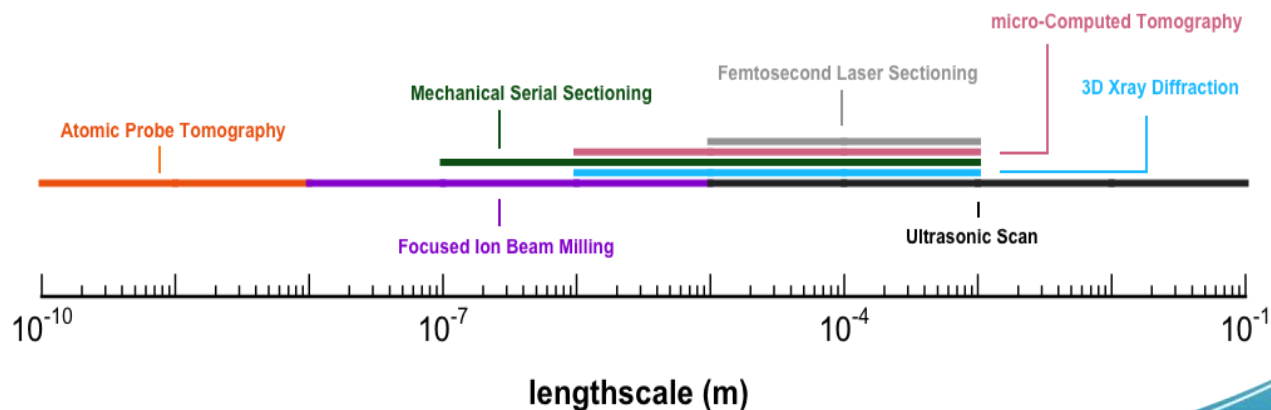
# Interrogation Methods

	Length scales (m)	Destructive (D/ND)	Labor Intensity	Data Acquisition Time
Atom Probe Tomography [ APT ]	$10^{-10} - 10^{-8}$	D	Medium	Medium
Focused Ion Beam Milling [ FIB ]	$10^{-8} - 10^{-5}$	D	Low	Medium
Mechanical Sectioning [ MecS ]	$10^{-7} - 10^{-3}$	D	High	High
3DXray Diffraction [ 3DXRD ]	$10^{-6} - 10^{-3}$	ND	High	High
Micro-Computed Tomography [ $\mu$ CT ]	$10^{-6} - 10^{-3}$	ND	Low	Low
Femto-second Laser Sectioning [ FSL ]	$10^{-5} - 10^{-3}$	D	Low	Low
Ultrasonic Testing Scan [ UTC ]	$10^{-5} - 10^{-1}$	ND	Low	Low



# Interrogation Methods

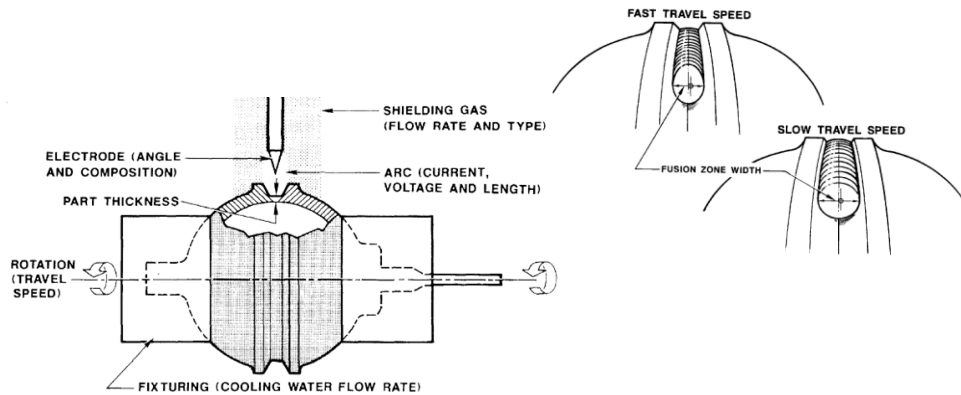
	Obtainable Data	References
	Atom Probe Tomography [ APT ]	( <i>in-situ</i> ) material absence, elemental composition, inclusion identification Y. Amouyal, D.N. Seidman, <i>Acta Mat.</i> , 2011, in press D. Isheim, <i>Scripta Mater.</i> , 2006, p. 355 D. Seidman, et al. <i>JOM</i> , 2006, p. 34
	Focused Ion Beam Milling [ FIB ]	( <i>in-situ</i> ) material absence, crystallography, inclusion identification M. Uchic, et al., <i>Scripta Mater.</i> , 2006, p. 23 M. Uchic, et al., <i>Ultramicroscopy</i> , 2009, p. 1229 M. Uchic, <i>JOM</i> , 2006, p. 24
*	Mechanical Sectioning [ MecS ]	material absence, crystallography, inclusion identification J. Spowart, <i>Scripta Mater.</i> , 2006, p. 5 G. Spanos, et al. <i>MRS Bulletin</i> , 2008, p. 597 D. Rowenhorst, <i>JOM</i> , 2011, p. 53
	3DXray Diffraction [ 3DXRD ]	material absence, crystallography, inclusion identification E. Lauridsen, et al., <i>Scripta Mater.</i> , 2006, p. 51 D. Juul Jensen, et al., <i>MRS Bulletin</i> , 2008, p. 621 E. Lauridsen, et al. <i>JOM</i> , 2006, p. 40
*	Micro-Computed Tomography [ $\mu$ CT ]	material absence J. Baruchel, et al., <i>Scripta Mater.</i> , 2006, p. 41 J.-Y. Buffiere et al., <i>MRS Bulletin</i> , 2008, p. 611
	Femto-second Laser Sectioning [ FSL ]	material absence, crystallography, inclusion identification M. Echlin, et al., <i>Adv. Mater.</i> , 2011, p. 2339
*	Ultrasonic Testing Scan [ UTC ]	material absence A.S. Birks & R.E. Green, <i>Ultrasonic Testing (NDT Handbook)</i> vol. 7, ASND, 1991



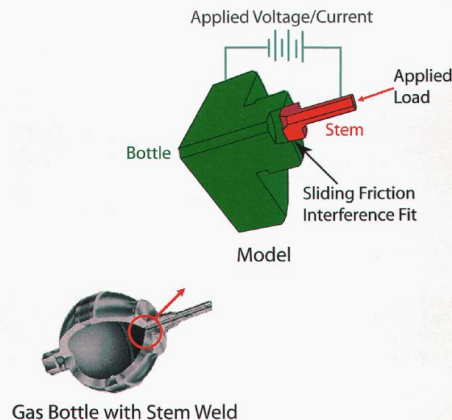
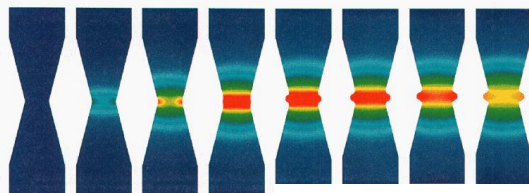
# Part I

## 3D Characterization of Weld Microstructures in 304L Stainless Steel

# Weld Applicability to SNL

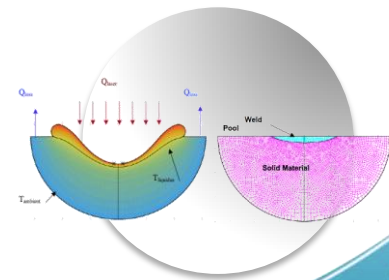


A. Bentley, **SAND2002-4014** : Feedback Control of Arc Welding Using Quantitative Feedback Theory, February 1991



W. Winters, A. Brown, D. Bammann, J. Foulk III, A. Ortega, **SAND2005-3000**: Progress Report for the ASCI AD Resistance Weld Process Modeling Project AD2003-15, May 2005

- M. Cieslak, A. Ritter, "Precipitate Formation in Austenitic Stainless Steel Welds," **Scripta Met.**, Vol. 19, Issue 2, (1985) pp. 165-168
- J. Jellison, M. Cieslak, *Laser Materials Processing at Sandia National Laboratories*, presented at Applications of Lasers and Electro-Optics, Orlando FL, October 1994
- J. Knorovsky, M. Kanouff, P. Fuerschbach, D. Noble, P. Schunk, D. MacCallum, Hooper, *Calculated versus experimental heat inputs in laser spot welding*, presented at The American Welding Society, Chicago IL, April 2000
- C. Robino, A. Hall, J. Brooks, T. Headley, R. Roach, **SAND2002-4014** : Solidification Diagnostics for Joining and Microstructural Simulations, January 2003
- V. Semak, G. Knorovsky, D. MacCallum, R. Roach, "Effect of Surface Tension on Melt Pool Dynamics During Laser Pulse Interaction," **J. Phys. D: Appl. Phys.** Vol. 39, (2006) pp. 590-595
- Boyce, Reu & Robino, *The Constitutive Behavior of Laser Welds in 304L Stainless Steel Determined by Digital Image Correlation*, **Met Trans A**, Vol. 37A (2006) pp. 2481-2492
- J. Norris, M. Perricone, R. Roach, K. Faraone & C. Ellison, **SAND2007-1051** : Evaluation of Weld Porosity in Laser Beam Seam Welds: Optimizing Continuous Wave and Square Wave Modulated Processes, February 2007

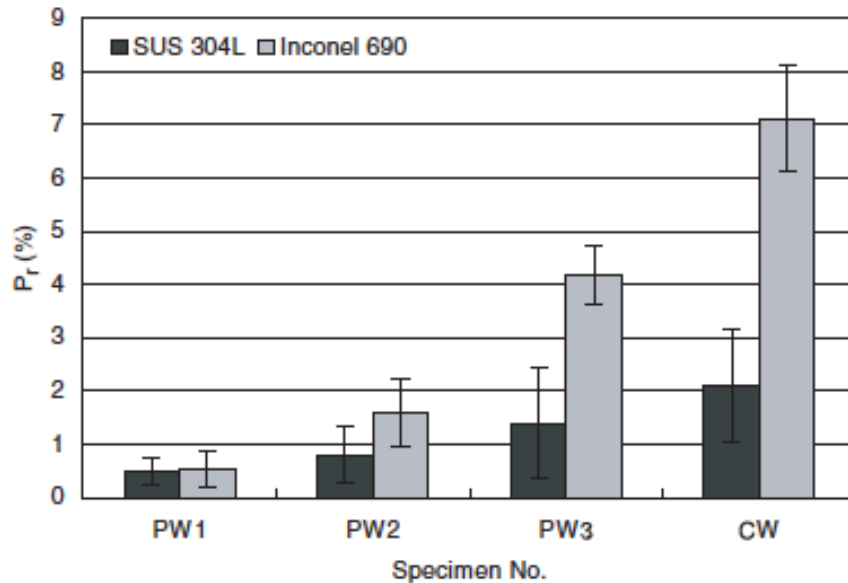




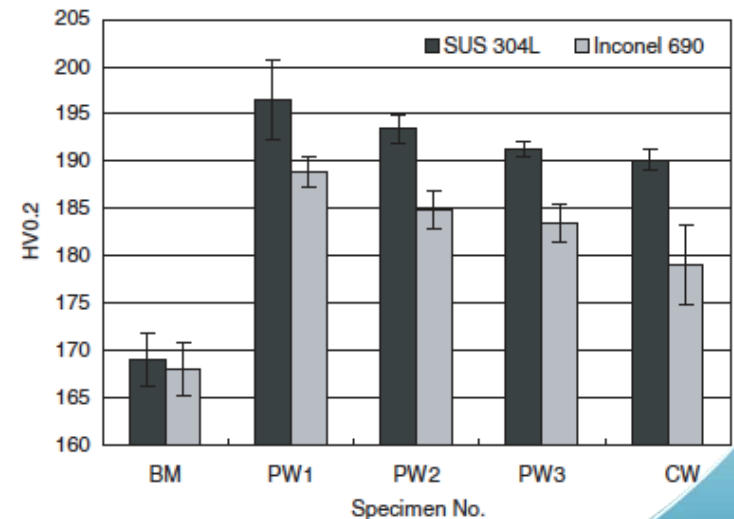
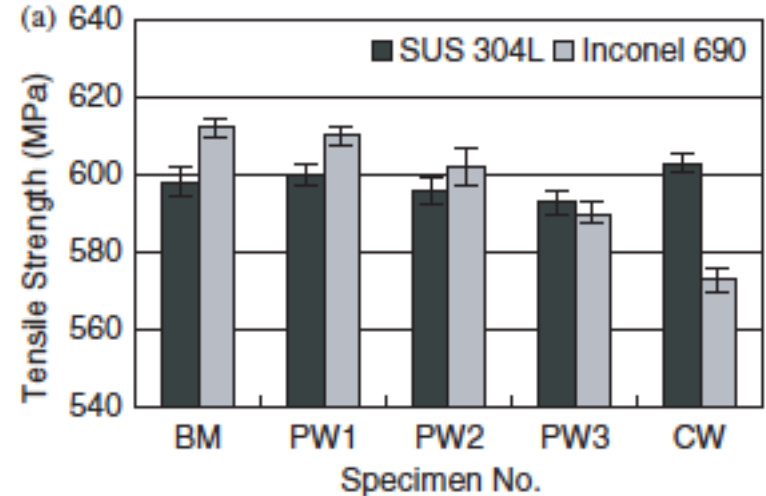
# Effect of Porosity

## Porosity reduction in Nd–YAG laser welding of stainless steel and inconel alloy by using a pulsed wave

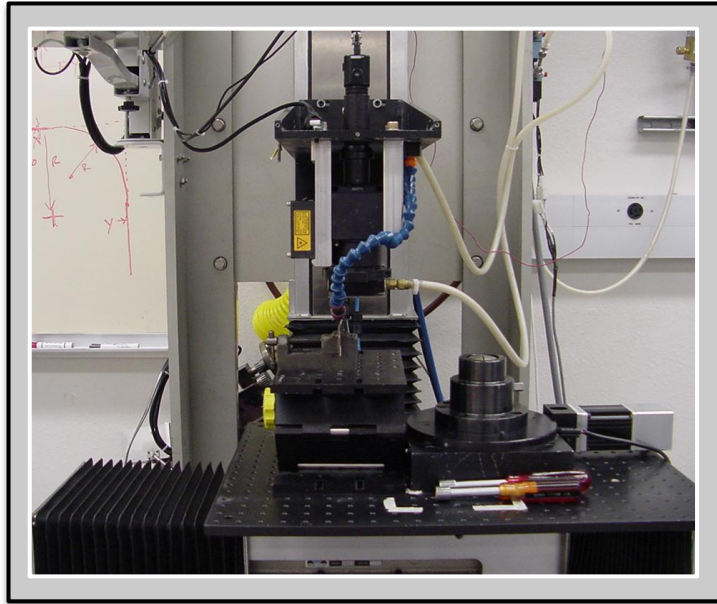
T Y Kuo<sup>1</sup> and S L Jeng<sup>2</sup>



Kuo and Jeng, Porosity Reduction in Nd–YAG Laser Welding of Stainless Steel and Inconel Alloy by Using a Pulsed Wave, *J. Phys. D: Appl. Phys.*, Vol. 38 (2005) pp. 722–728

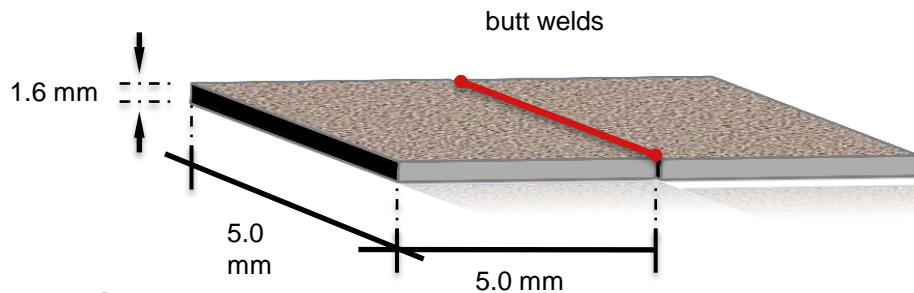


# Welds Examined I



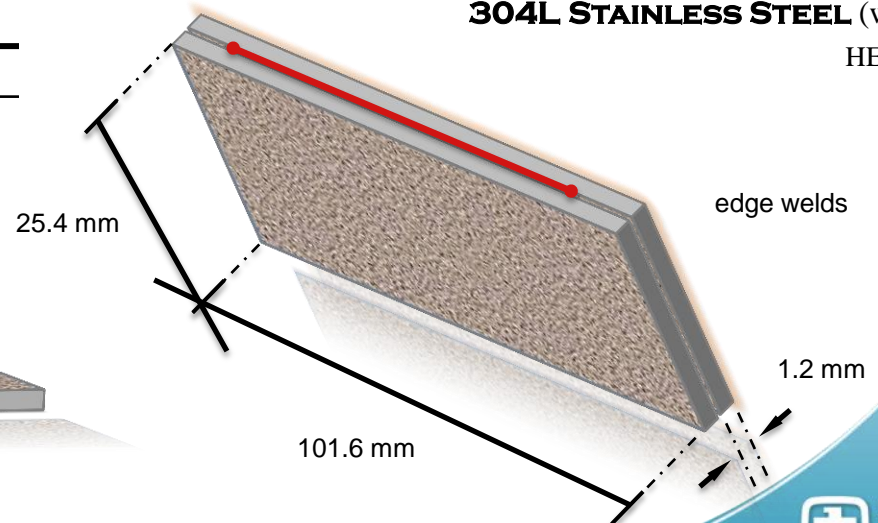
C	Cr	Cu	Mn	Mo	Ni	N	P	S	Si	Fe
0.024	18.2	0.42	1.83	0.16	8.3	0.041	0.03	0.001	0.45	bal.

**304L STAINLESS STEEL (wt%)**  
HEAT 1

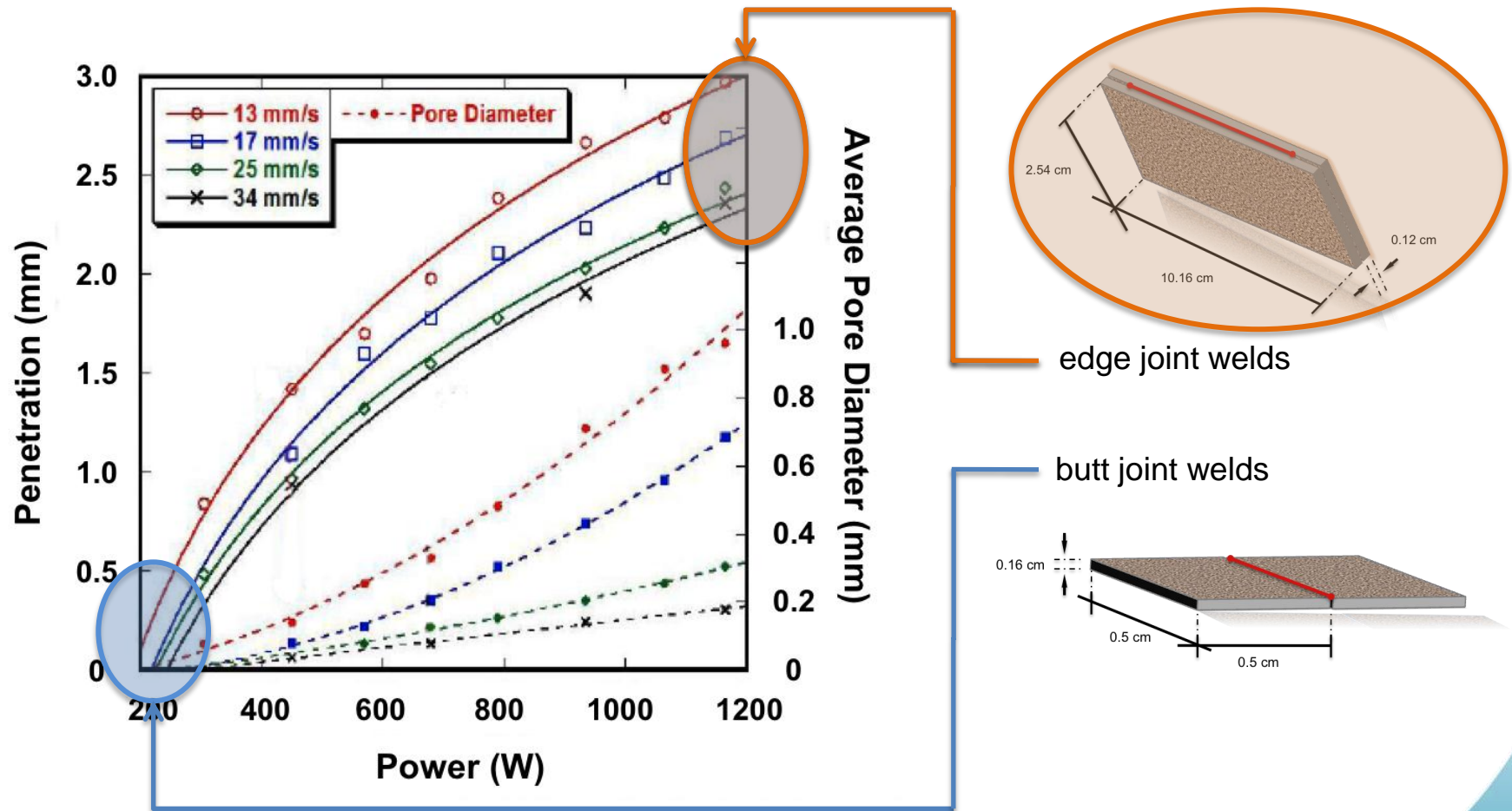


C	Cr	Cu	Mn	Mo	Ni	N	P	S	Si	Fe
0.03	18.09	0.2	1.73	0.16	8.57	0.06	0.024	0.001	0.36	bal.

**304L STAINLESS STEEL (wt%)**  
HEAT 2



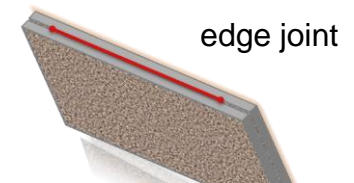
# Welds Examined II



J. Norris, et al. *Evaluation of Weld Porosity in Laser Beam Seam Welds: Optimizing Continuous Wave and Square Wave Modulated Processes*. **SANDIA REPORT** SAND2007-1051 (2007)



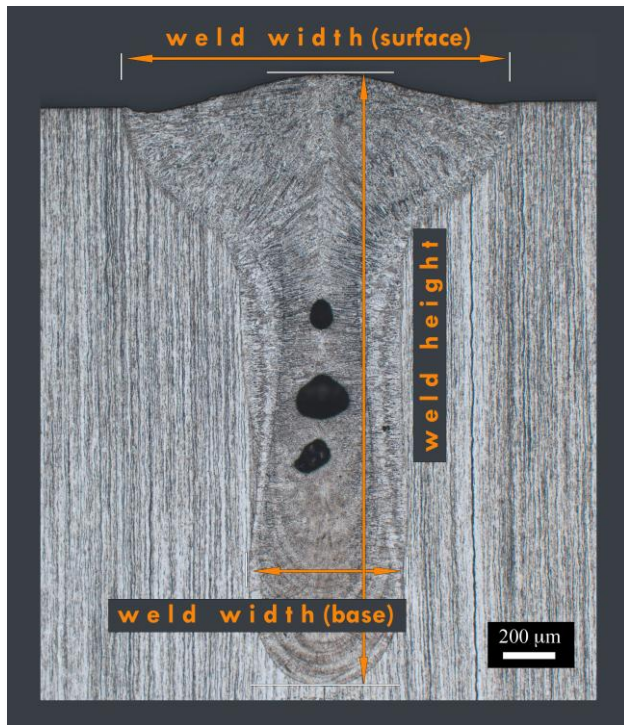
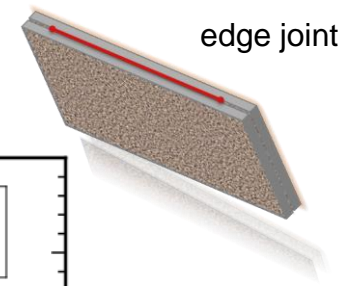
# Metallography



Quantity	Lens	Power (Measured)	Speed
(2)	80 mm	1200 W	40"/min
(2)	80 mm	1200 W	60"/min
(2)	80 mm	1200 W	80"/min
(2)	120 mm	1200 W	40"/min
(2)	120 mm	1200 W	60"/min
(2)	120 mm	1200 W	80"/min

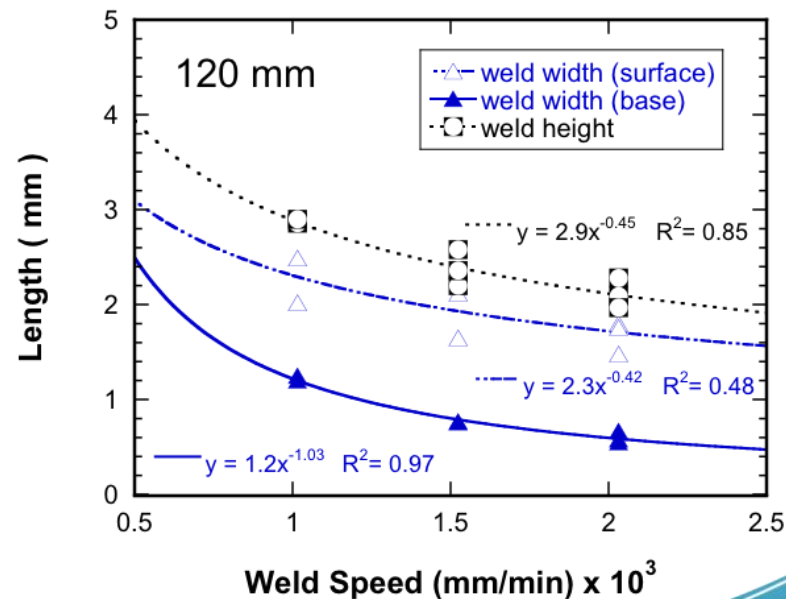
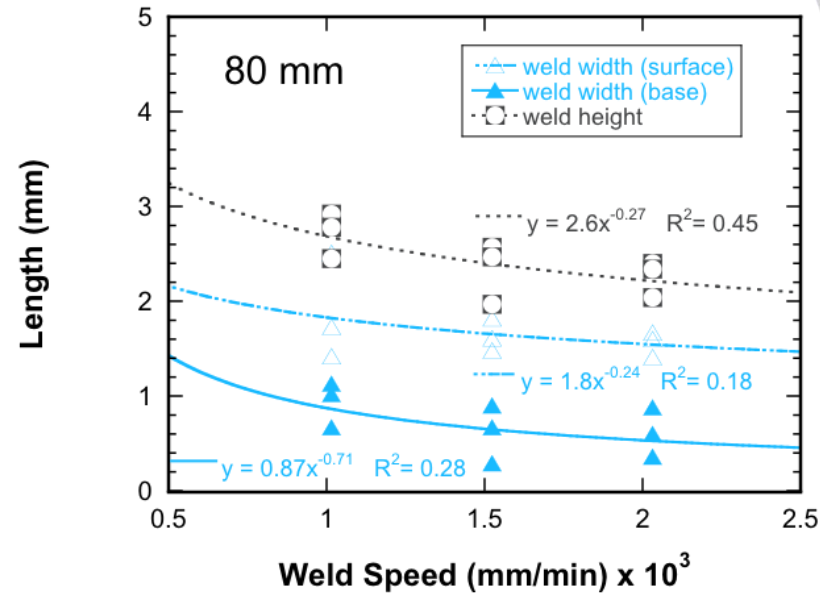
Material: 304L Stainless Steel  
Heat : 481361 (1.92 Cr/Ni)  
Laser: Rofin Nd:YAG

# Metallography



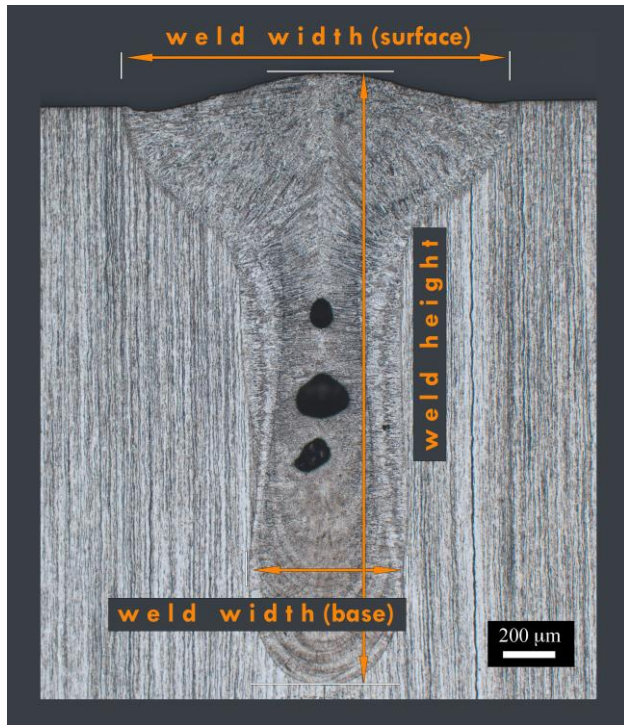
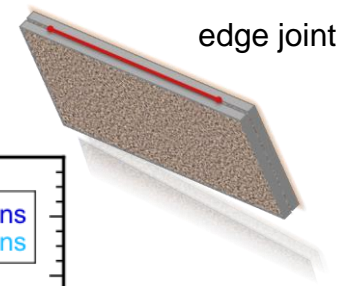
Quantity	Lens	Power (Measured)	Speed
(2)	80 mm	1200 W	40"/min
(2)	80 mm	1200 W	60"/min
(2)	80 mm	1200 W	80"/min
(2)	120 mm	1200 W	40"/min
(2)	120 mm	1200 W	60"/min
(2)	120 mm	1200 W	80"/min

Material: 304L Stainless Steel  
Heat : 481361 (1.92 Cr/Ni)  
Laser: Rofin Nd:YAG



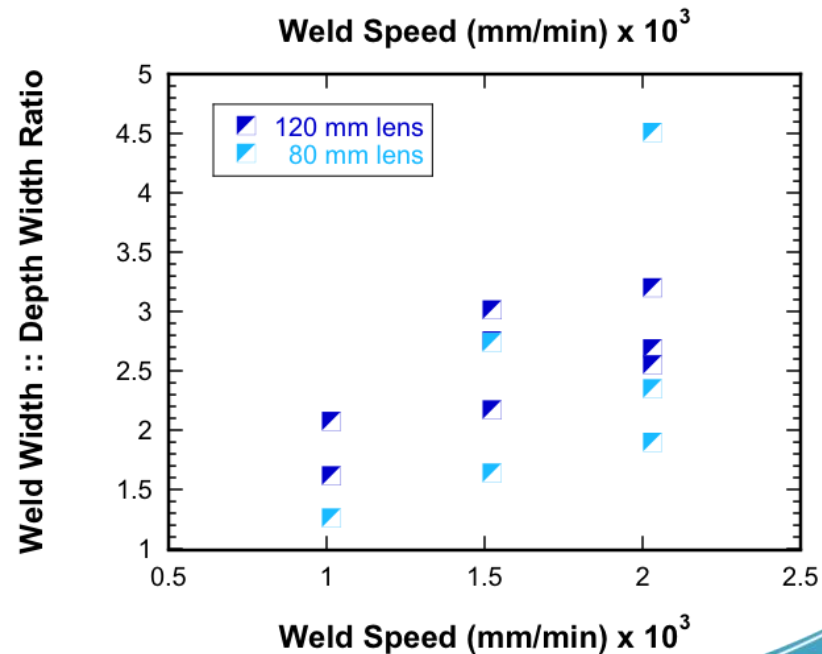
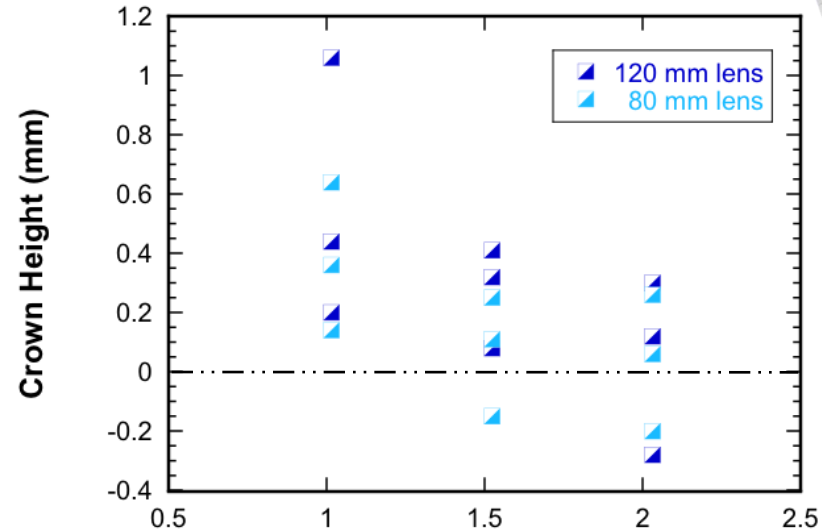


# Metallography



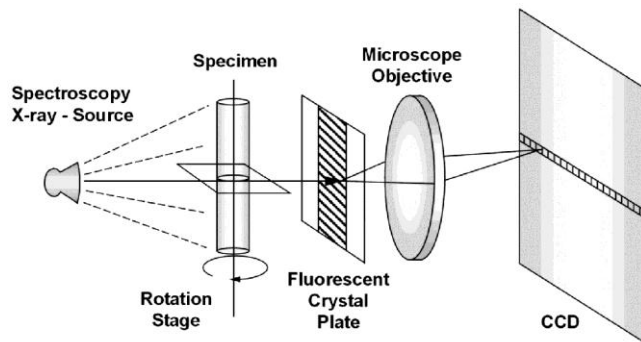
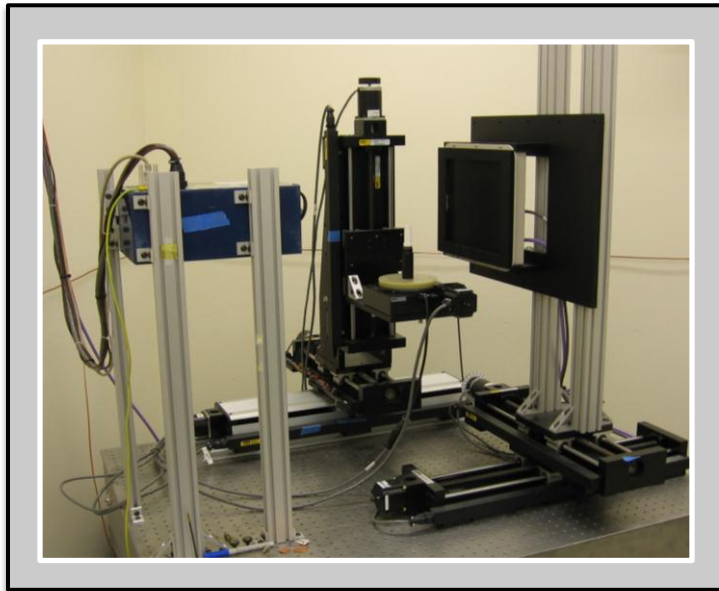
Quantity	Lens	Power (Measured)	Speed
(2)	80 mm	1200 W	40"/min
(2)	80 mm	1200 W	60"/min
(2)	80 mm	1200 W	80"/min
(2)	120 mm	1200 W	40"/min
(2)	120 mm	1200 W	60"/min
(2)	120 mm	1200 W	80"/min

Material: 304L Stainless Steel  
Heat : 481361 (1.92 Cr/Ni)  
Laser: Rofin Nd:YAG

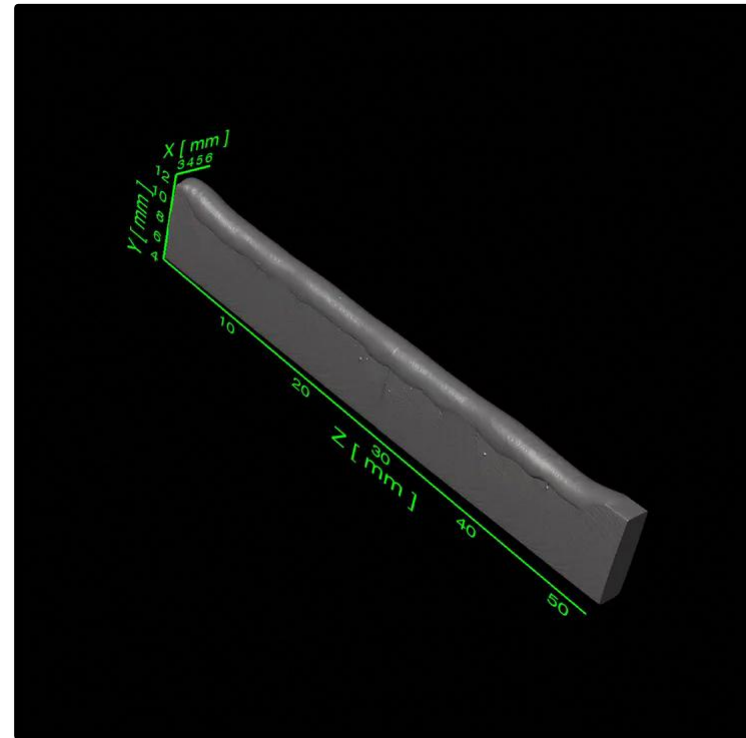




# $\mu$ -Computed Tomography

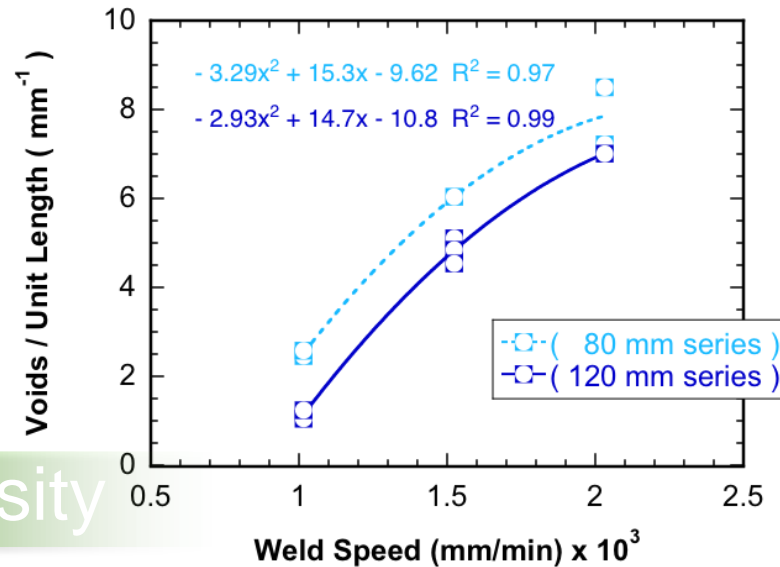
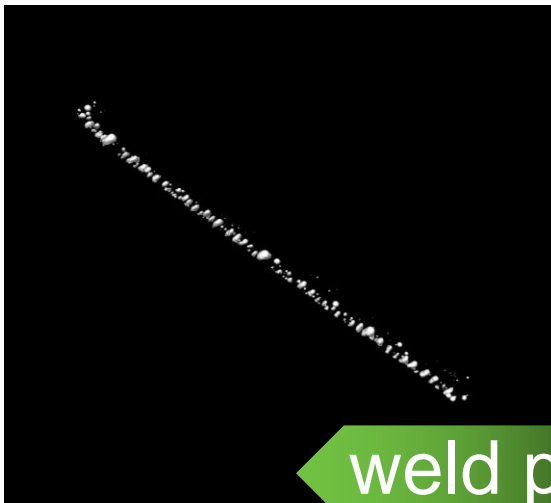
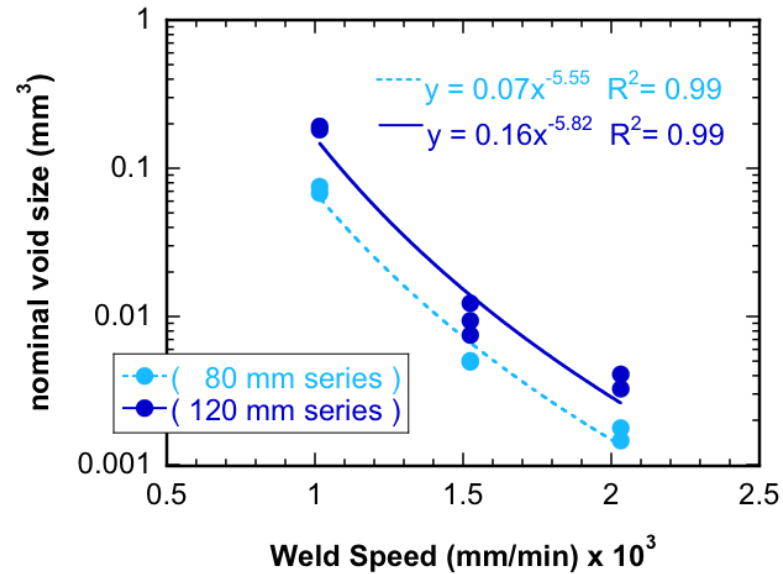
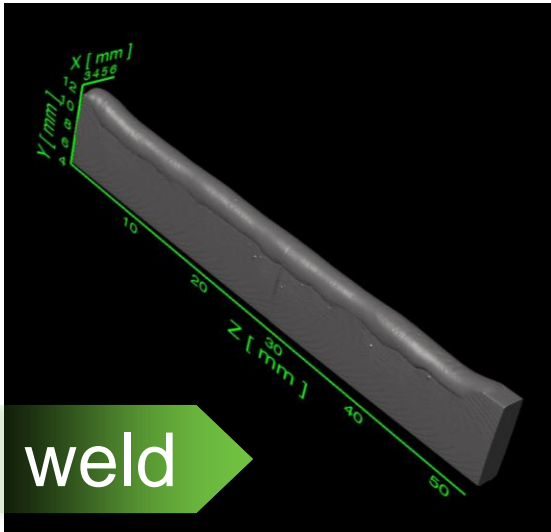
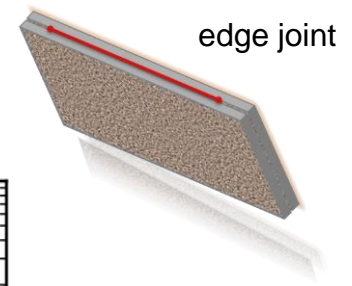


M.D. Bentley, et al. *Am. J. Physiol. Regul. Integr. Comp. Physiol.*, vol. 282, no. 5 (2002)



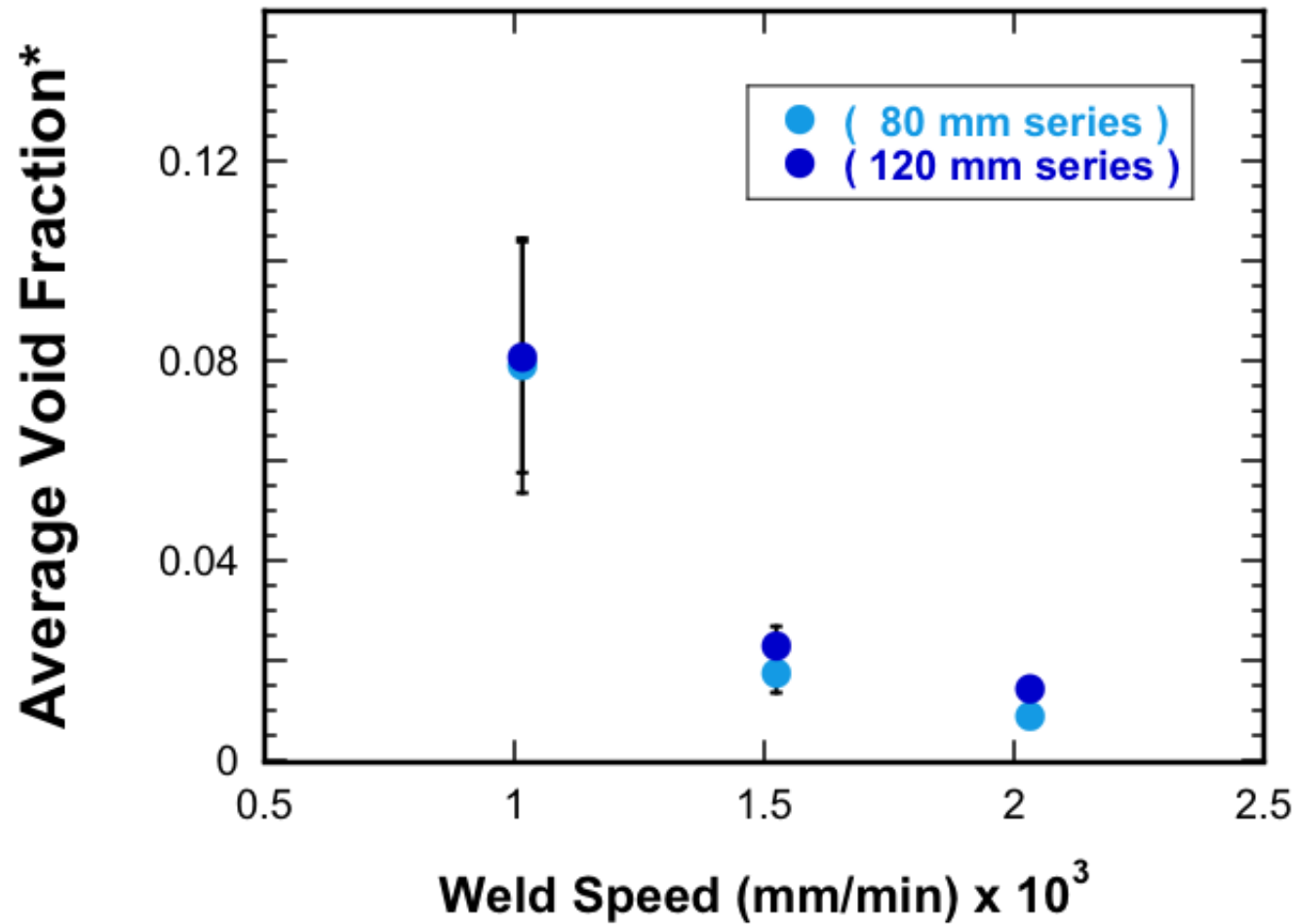
- Rotation occurs counter clock-wise in front of a fluorescent cesium iodide plate
- 9X magnification yields an effective pixel size of 14  $\mu\text{m}$
- Energy is set to 130KV and 250uA yielding a spot size on the order of 27  $\mu\text{m}$
- Objects 14  $\mu\text{m}$  in size can be detected but resolution is not adequate until objects reach 27  $\mu\text{m}$  in size

# Quantifying Porosity



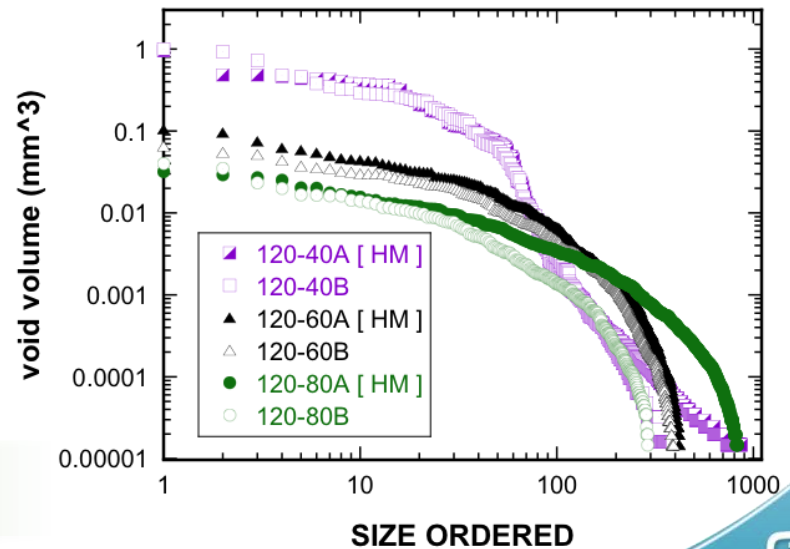
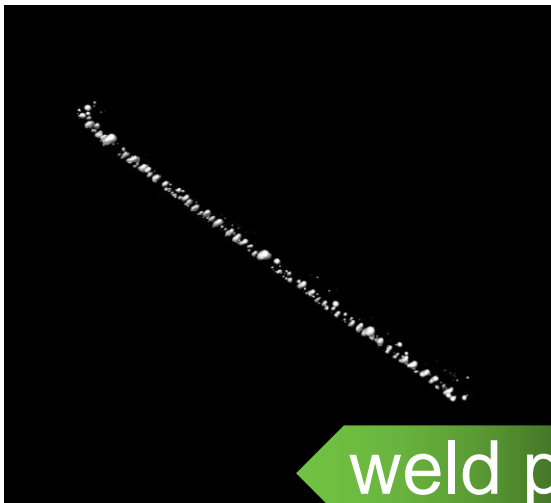
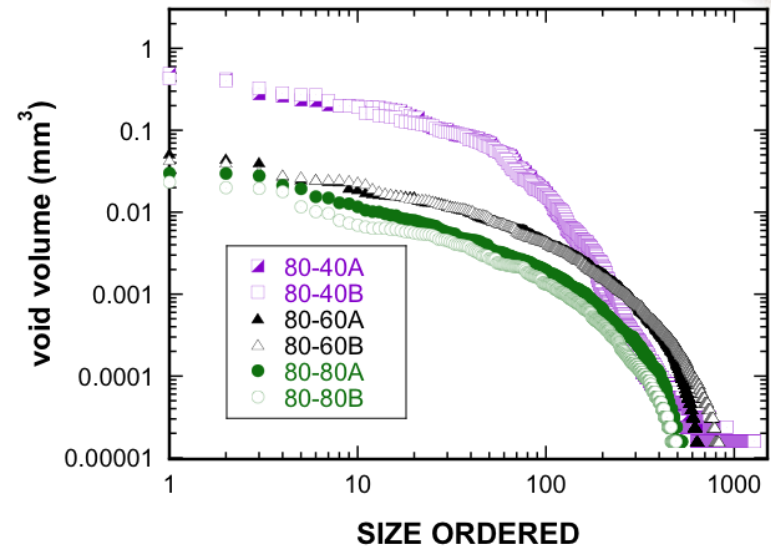
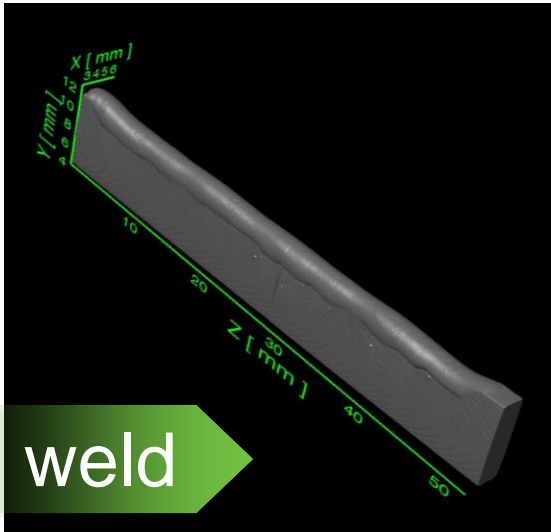
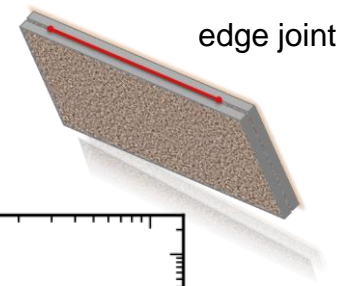
# Porosity Volume Fraction

edge joint



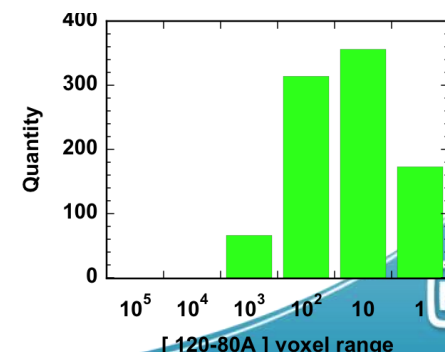
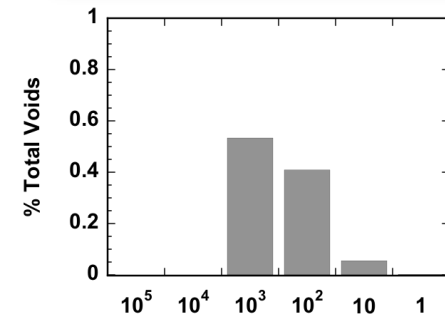
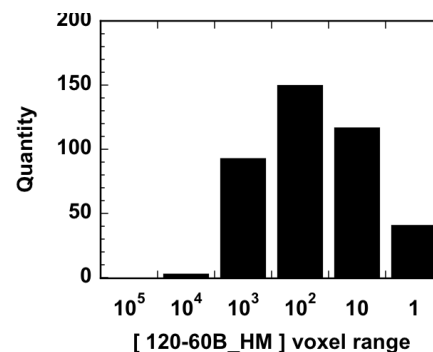
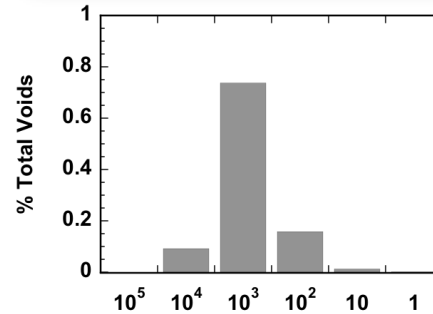
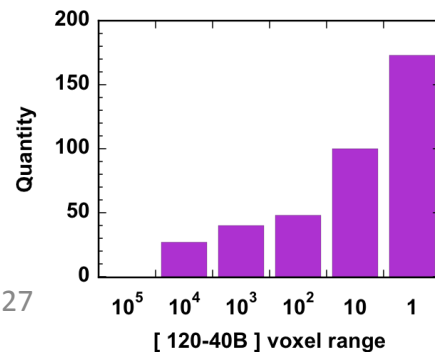
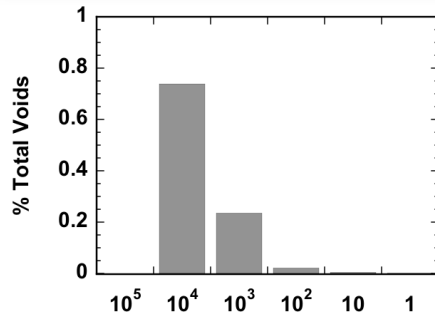
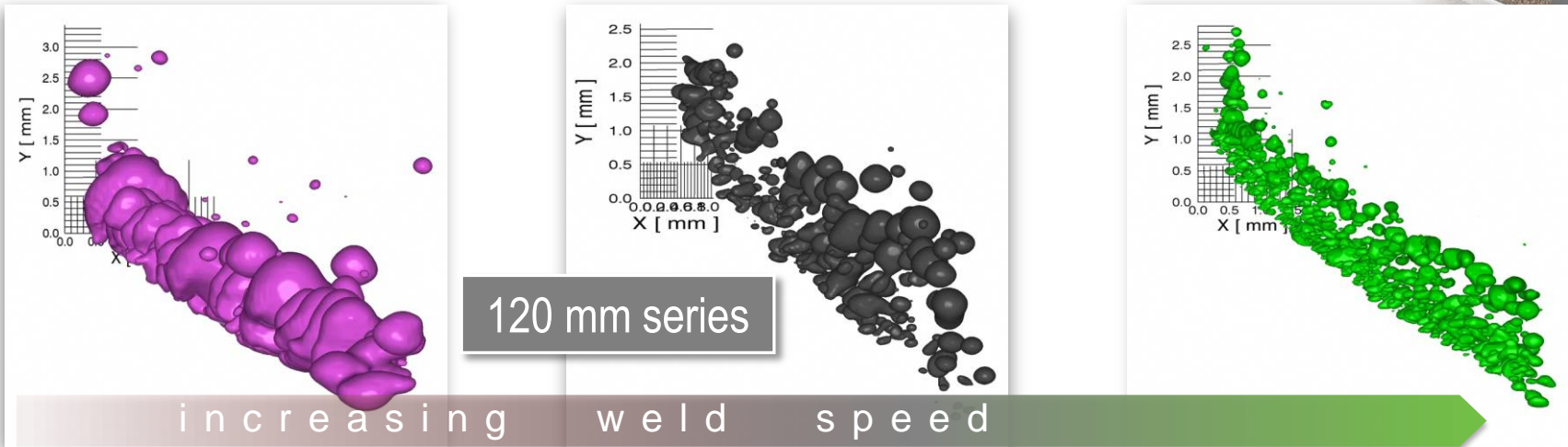
\* Uncertainty is derived from measuring weld volume precisely, not porosity amounts

# Quantifying Porosity



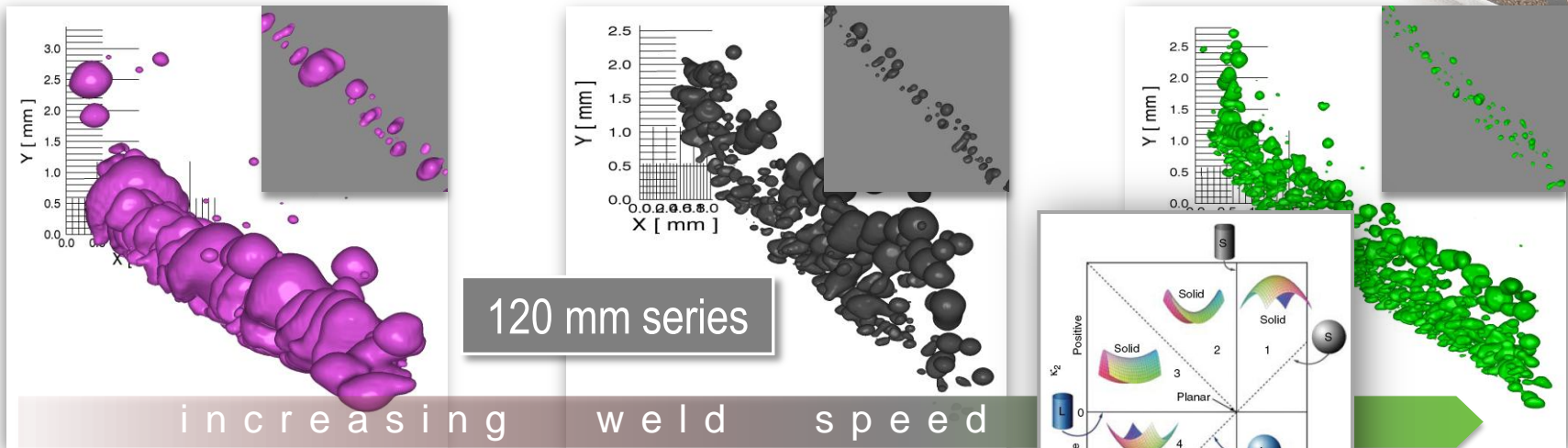
# Porosity Distributions

edge joint

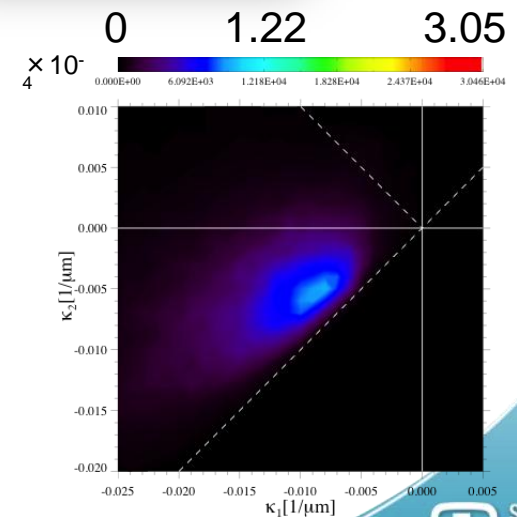
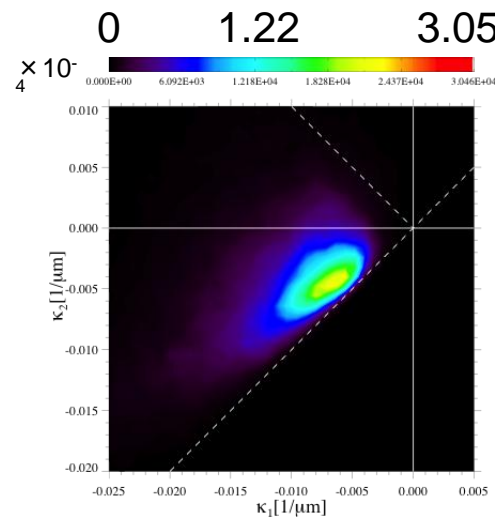
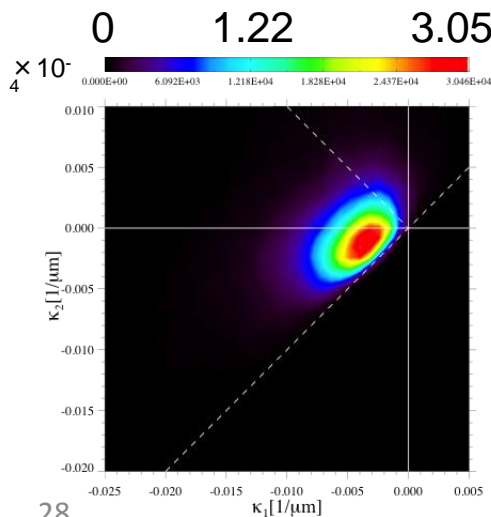
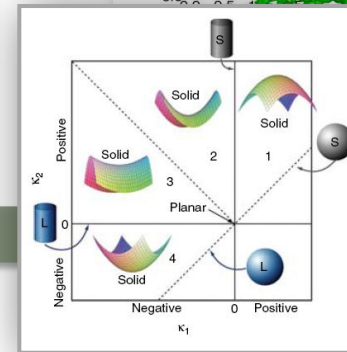


# Porosity Morphology

edge joint



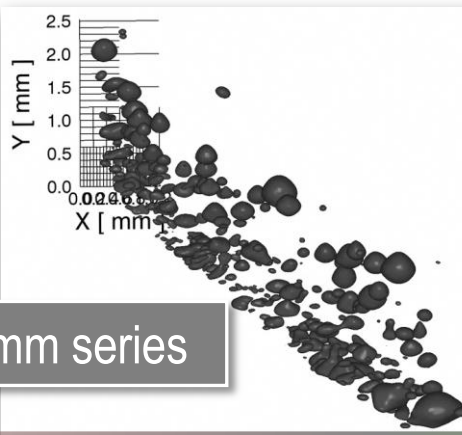
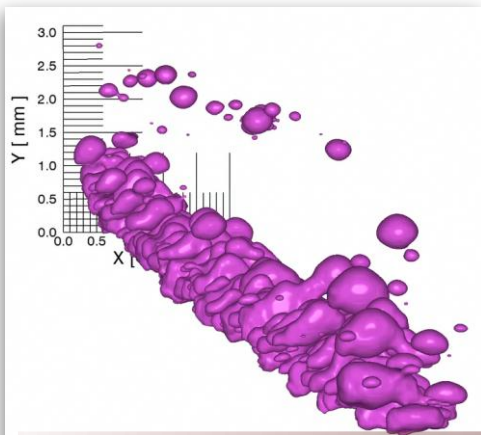
Mendoza, Alkemper & Voorhees, *The Morphological Evolution of Dendritic Microstructures During Coarsening*, **Met Trans A**, Vol. 34A (2003) pp. 481-489



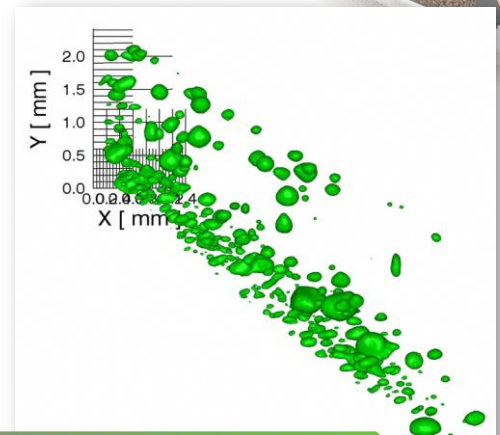


# Porosity Distributions

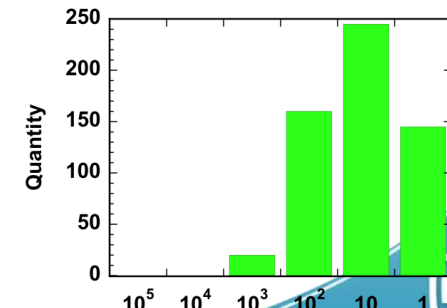
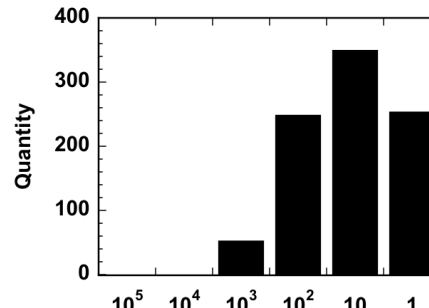
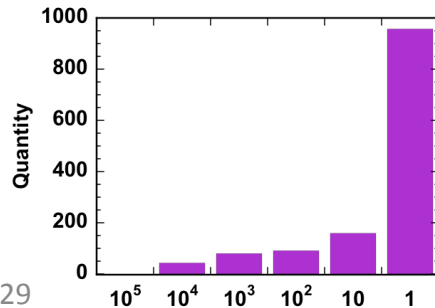
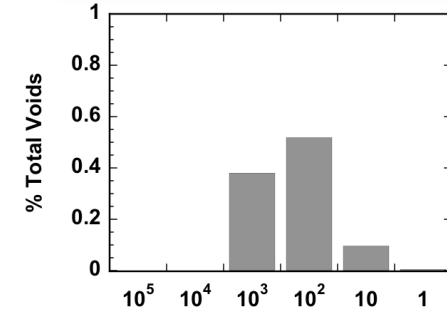
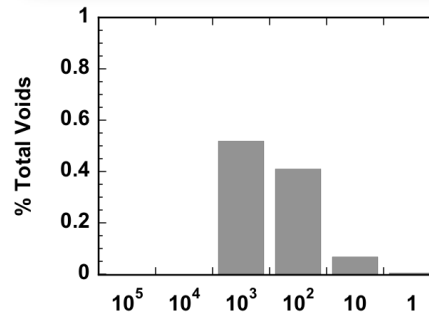
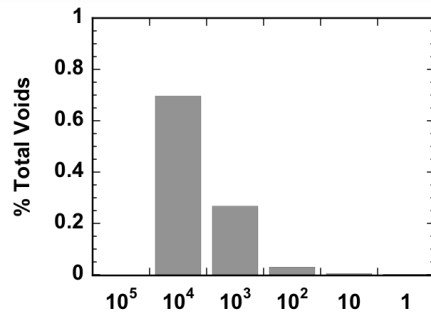
edge joint



80 mm series

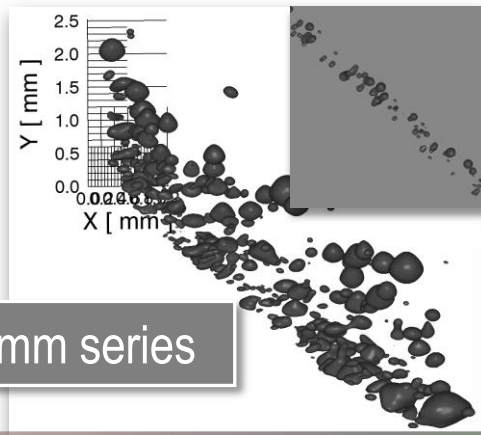
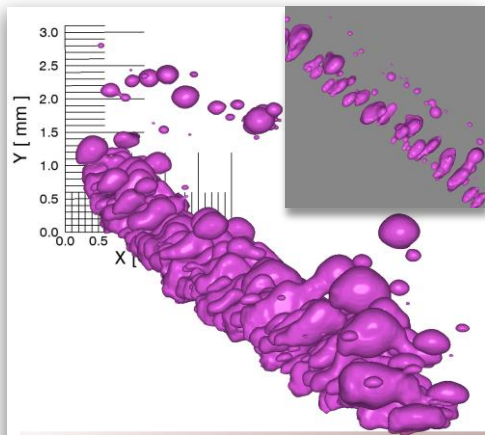


increasing weld speed

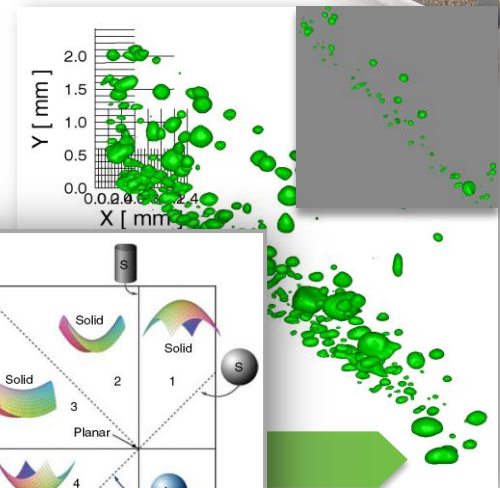


# Porosity Morphology

edge joint

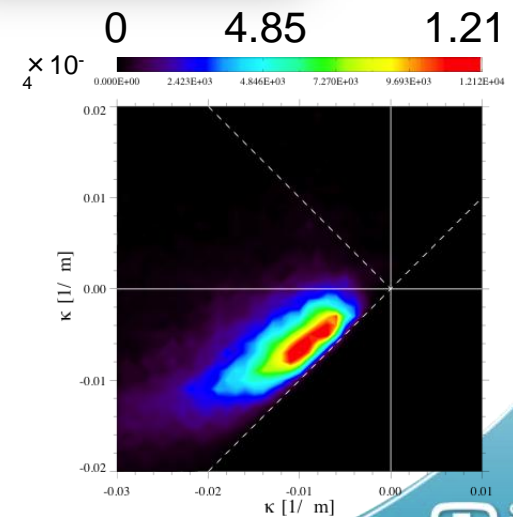
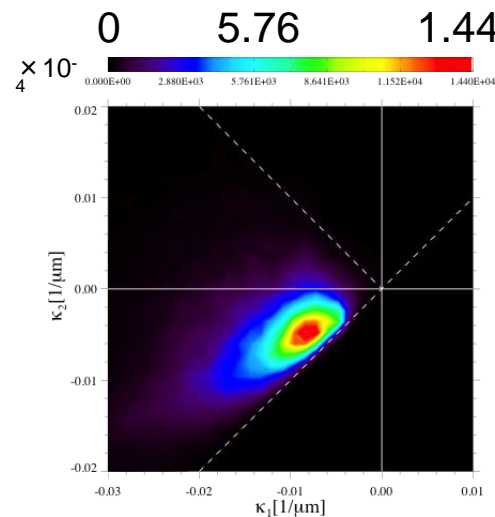
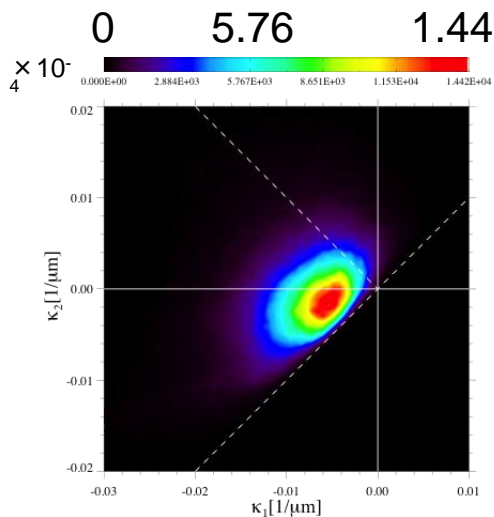
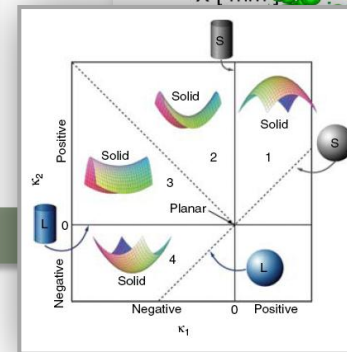


80 mm series

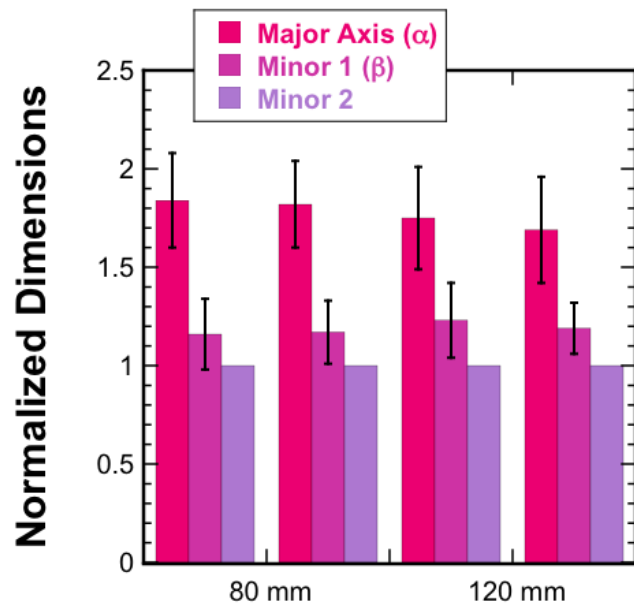
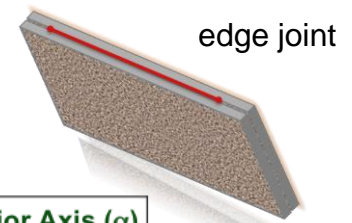


increasing weld speed

Mendoza, Alkemper & Voorhees, *The Morphological Evolution of Dendritic Microstructures During Coarsening*, **Met Trans A**, Vol. 34A (2003) pp. 481-489



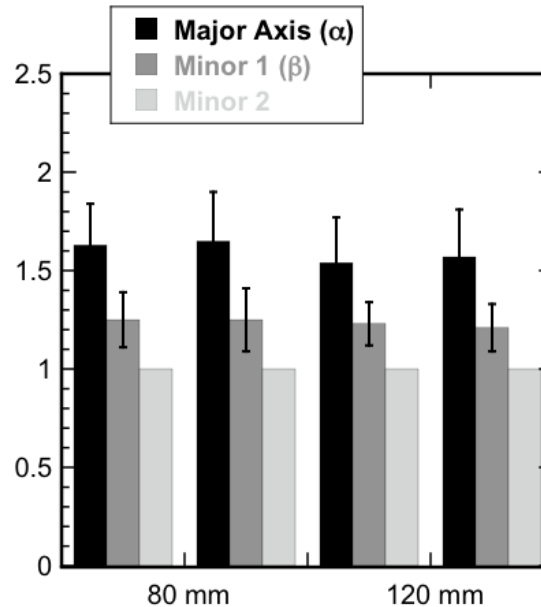
# Shape Anisotropy



1016 mm/min

$$\alpha = 1.69 - 1.85$$

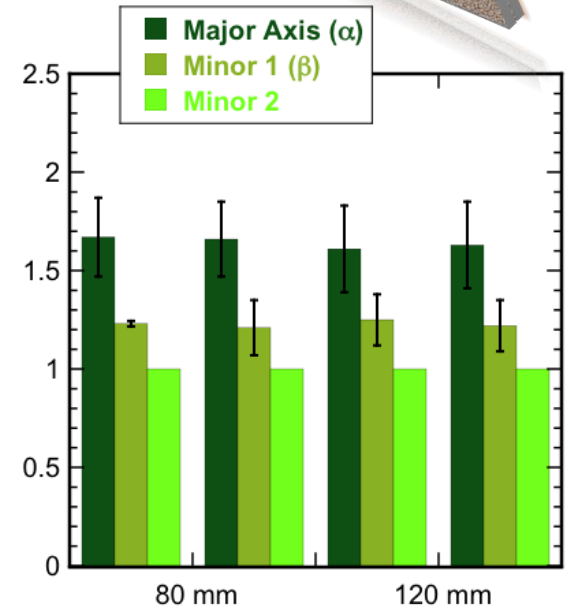
$$\beta = 1.19 - 1.23$$



1524 mm/min

$$\alpha = 1.54 - 1.65$$

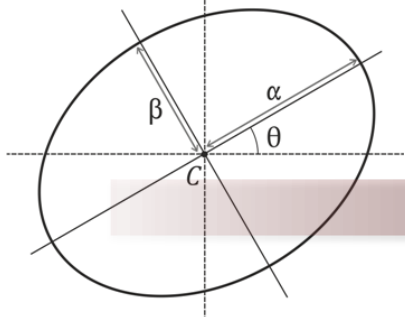
$$\beta = 1.21 - 1.25$$



2032 mm/min

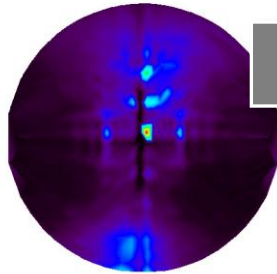
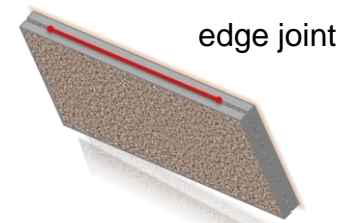
$$\alpha = 1.61 - 1.67$$

$$\beta = 1.21 - 1.25$$

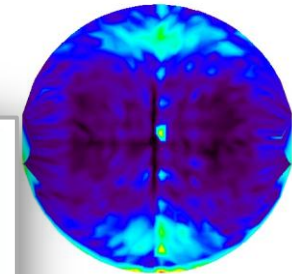
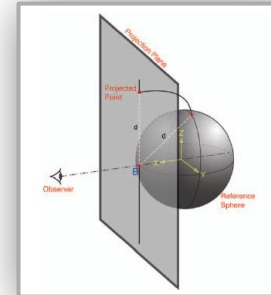
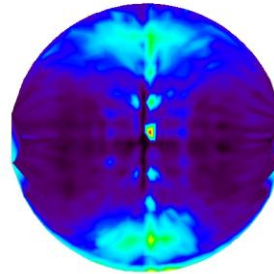


increasing weld speed

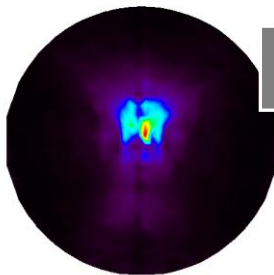
# Directional Anisotropy



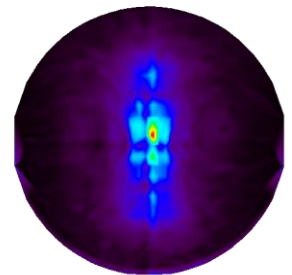
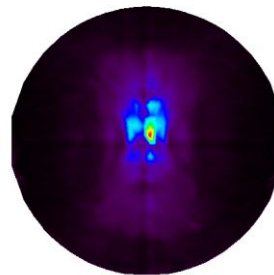
80 mm series



Kammer & Voorhees, *The Morphological Evolution of Dendritic Microstructures During Coarsening*, *Acta Mater.*, 54, (2006) pp. 1549-1558



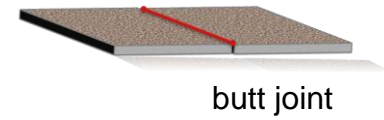
120 mm series



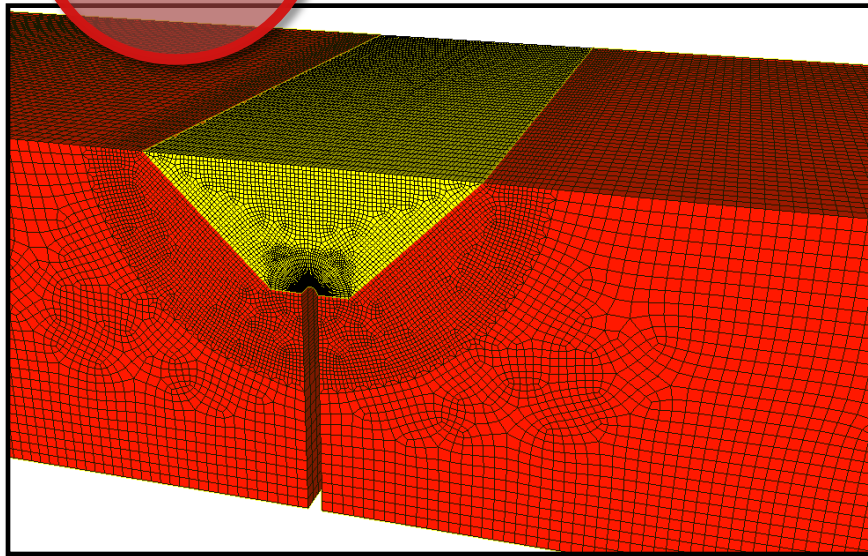
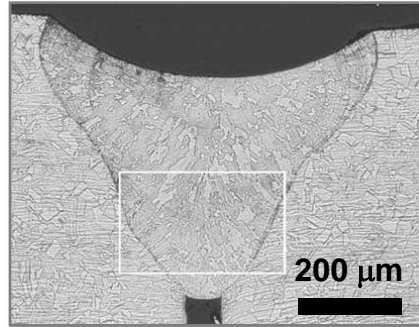
increasing weld speed



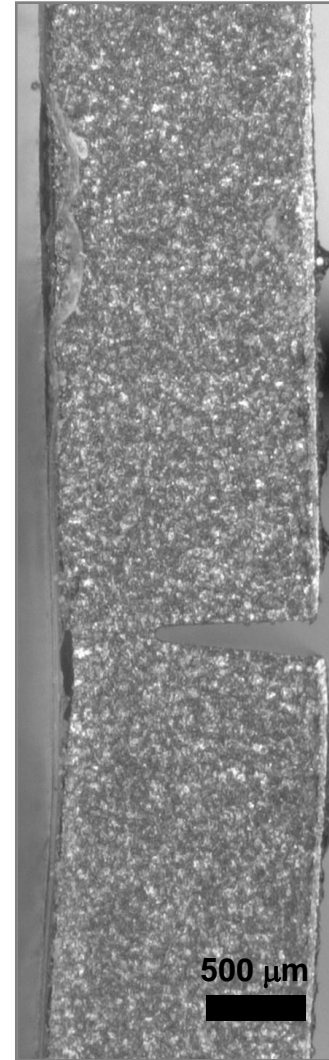
# Modeling Approach



**3D**



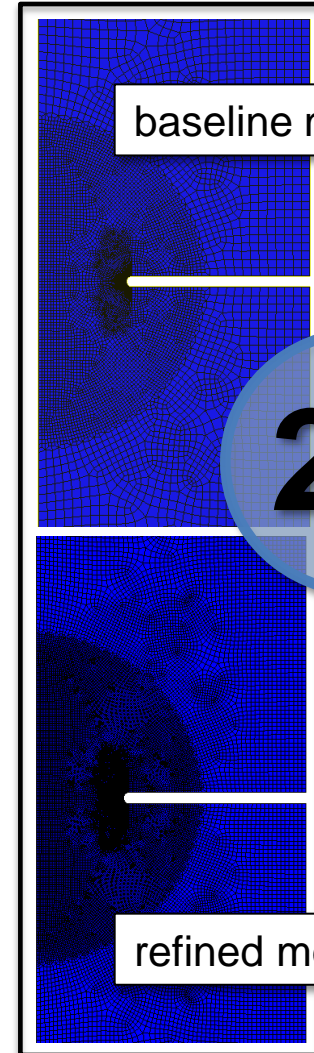
Initial models are vastly simplified. We only seek to understand general trends.



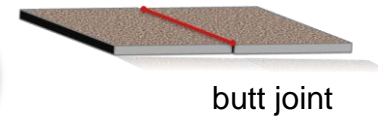
baseline mesh

**2D**

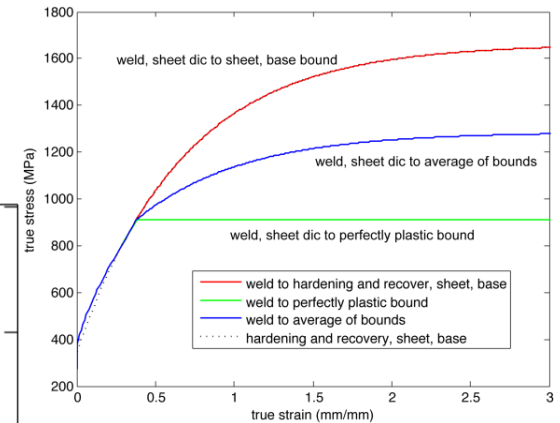
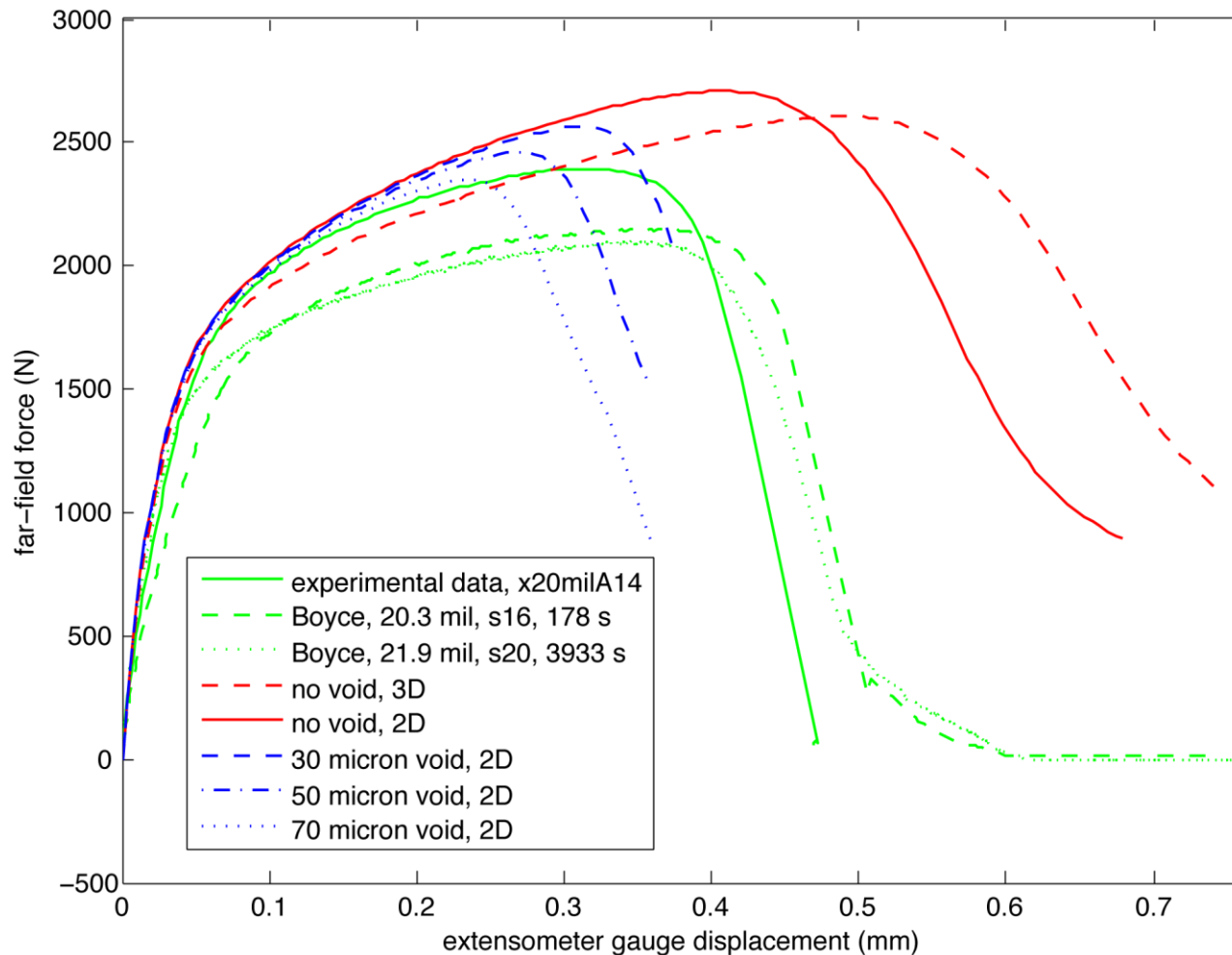
refined mesh



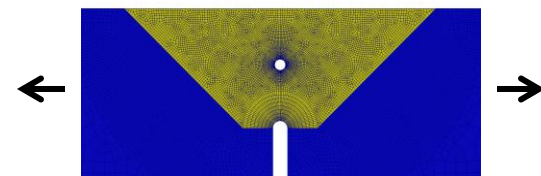
# Simulation Trends (2D)



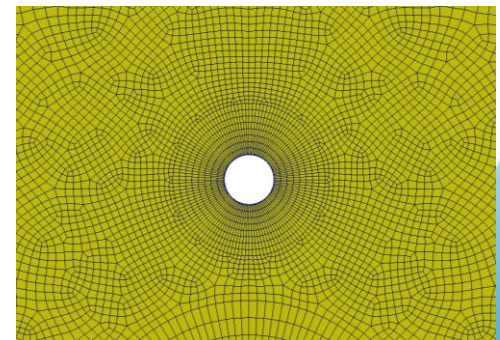
Rather than model an effective media, we attempt to model individual pores and initially take the matrix to be the bound for the weld material. To facilitate our understanding, we begin with 2-D plane strain.



weld, sheet dic to sheet, base bound



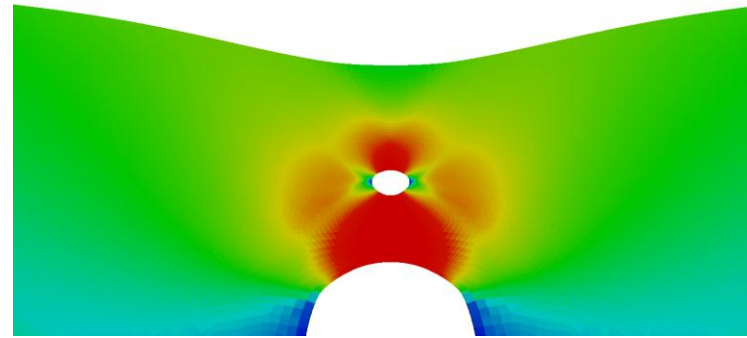
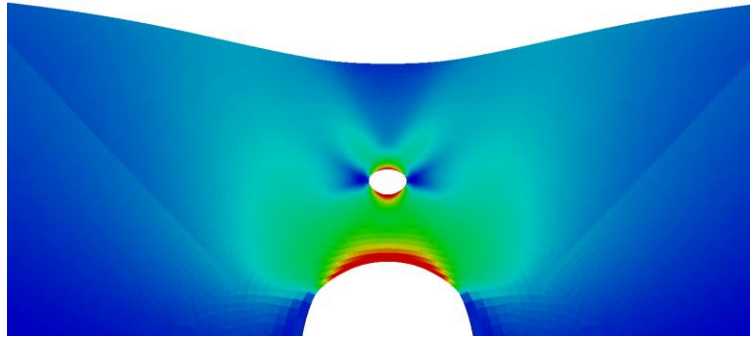
50  $\mu\text{m}$  pore centered in ligament



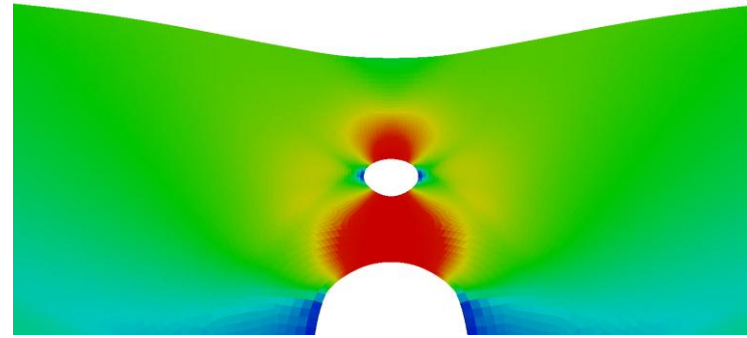
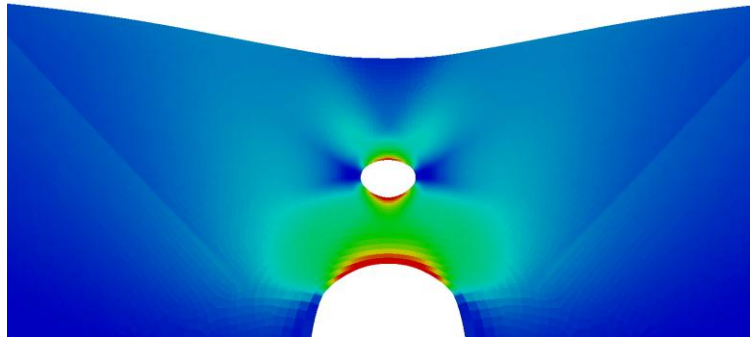
# Void Interaction and Necking (2D)



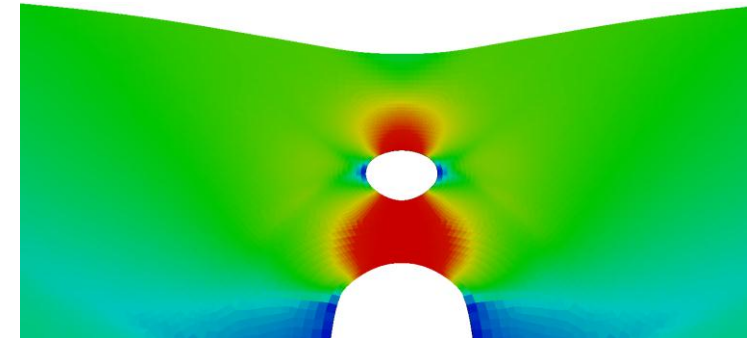
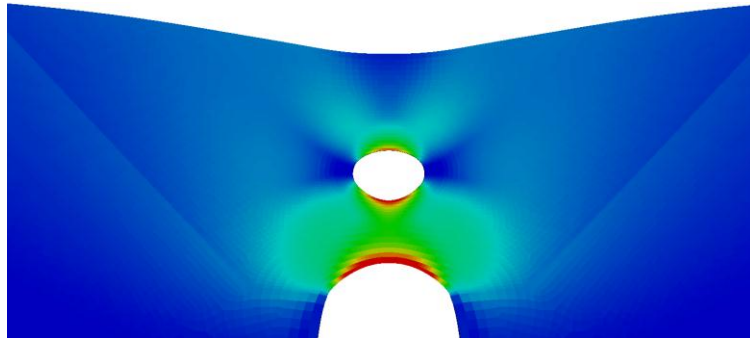
The peak load is heavily influenced by the void interaction with the notch and the free surface



30  $\mu\text{m}$  pore  
 $P_{max} = 2570 \text{ N}$   
 $\Delta = 0.314 \text{ mm}$



50  $\mu\text{m}$  pore  
 $P_{max} = 2460 \text{ N}$   
 $\Delta = 0.270 \text{ mm}$



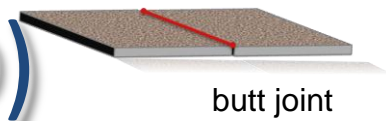
70  $\mu\text{m}$  pore  
 $P_{max} = 2350 \text{ N}$   
 $\Delta = 0.236 \text{ mm}$

$0 < \varepsilon_p < 1$

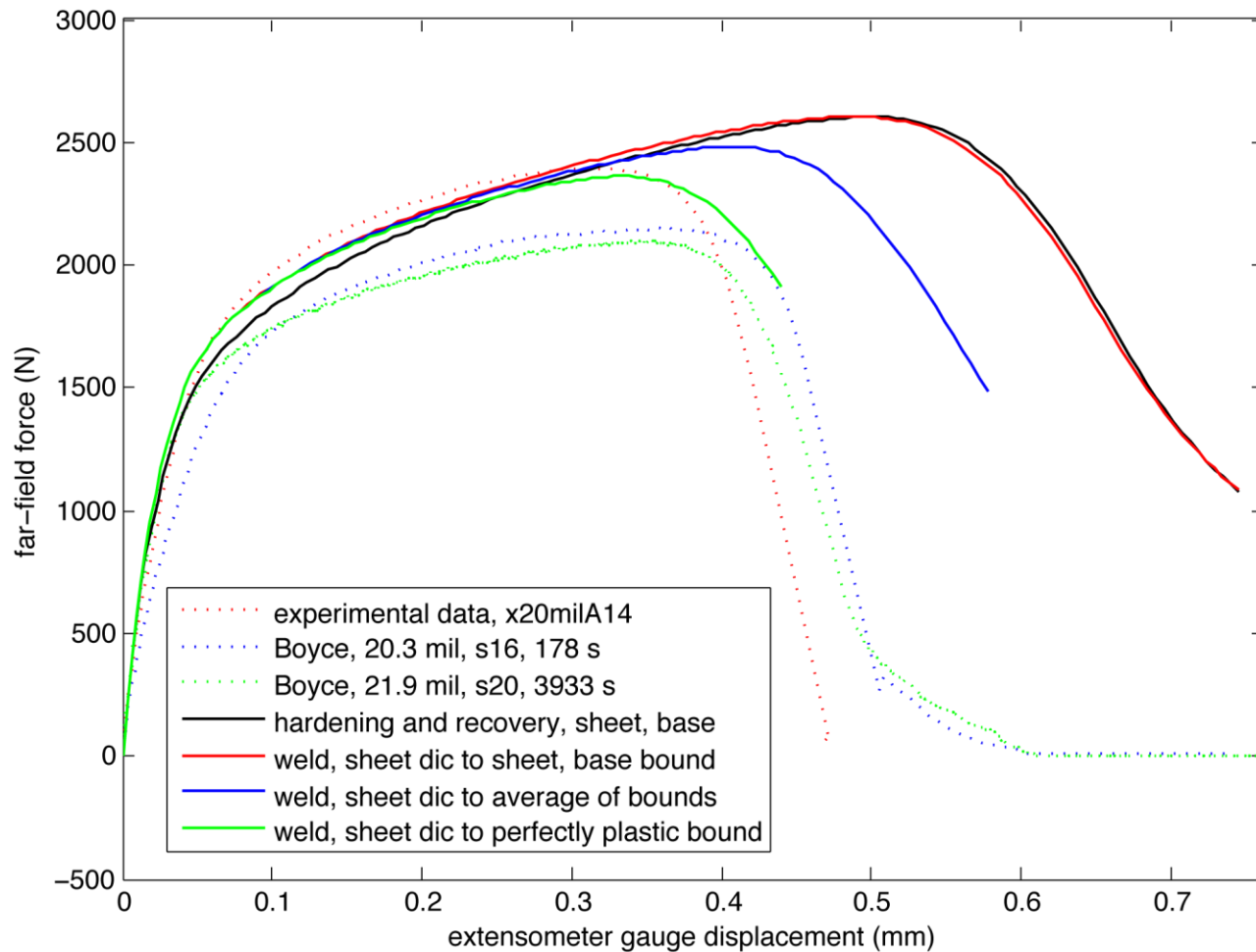
$0 < \sigma_{axial} < 1.5 \text{ GPa}$



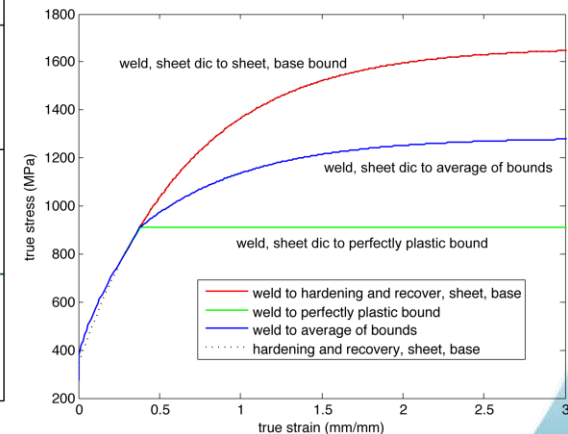
# Simulations of Yield (3D)



butt joint

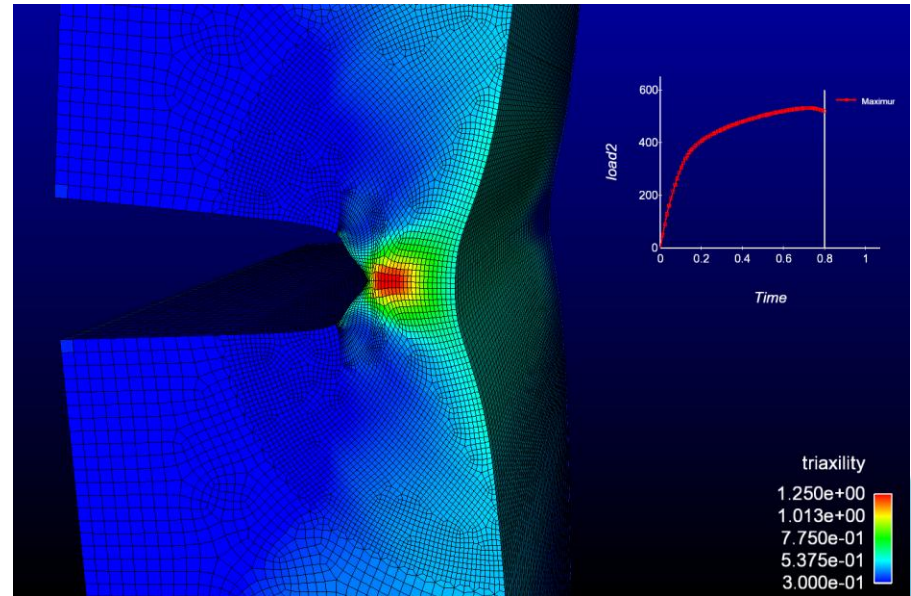
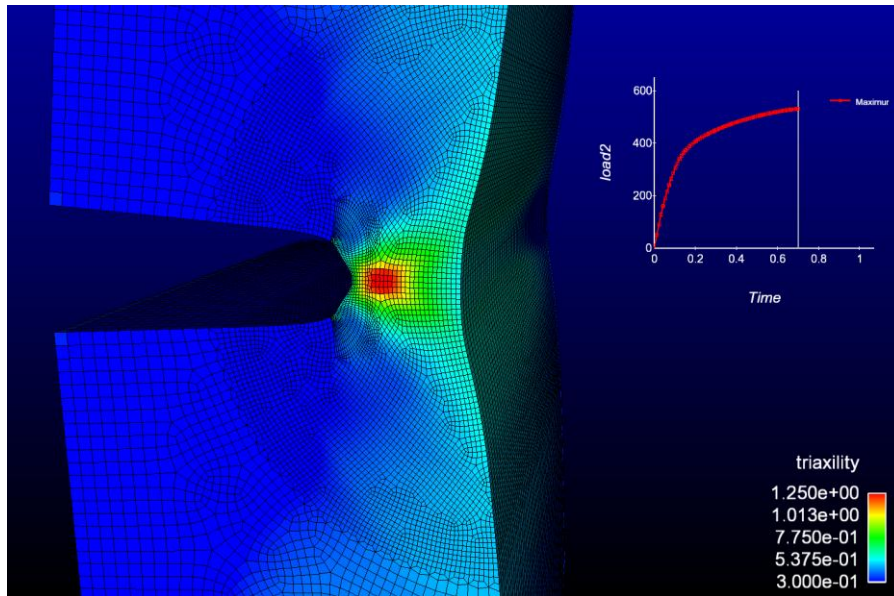
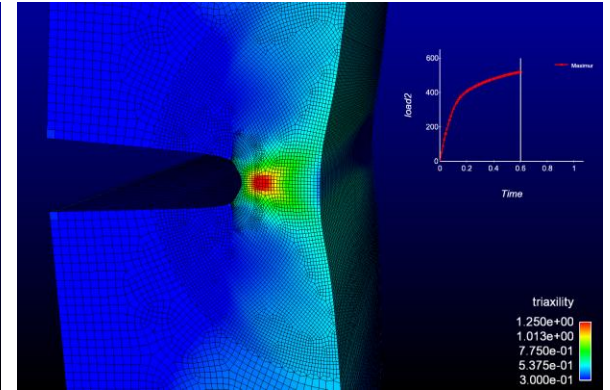
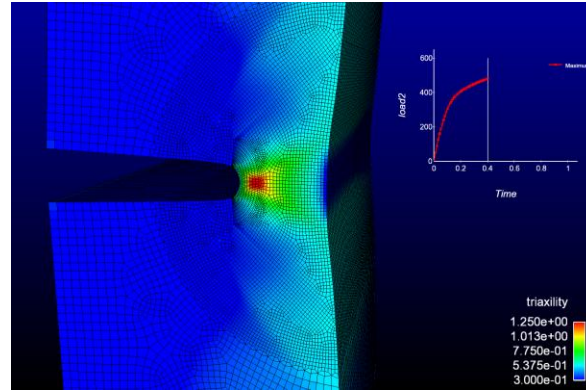
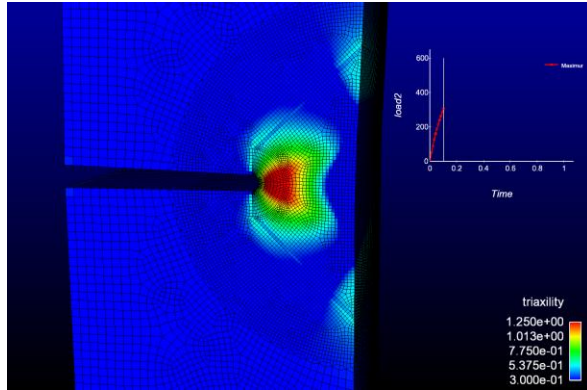


*We must assume perfect plasticity to correlate with experimental findings.*



These limited findings illustrate the need for including more than plasticity. Limited softening from porosity evolution might explain both tensile and weld configurations. More work is needed.

# Fields for Perfect Plasticity (3D) butt joint



The triaxiality is elevated throughout the entire deformation process. Void growth need not be limited to the secondary necking response.

# Summary

- [μCT] provides a relatively rapid means to gain 3d evaluations of millimeter scale weld porosity down to a resolution of  $27\text{ }\mu\text{m}^3$
- In larger welds, across all welds examined, the most frequently occurring void sizes constitute less than 10% of the total porosity found
- We can now measure subtle changes in average and specific measures of porosity in millimeter scale welds (*i.e. porosity size, amount/length, volume fraction, size distributions*) in welds and relate them to changes in processing parameters
- We have been able to effectively quantify changes in porosity shape as well as directionality which may present useful inputs for modeling mechanical response in welds of this size and character

# **Part II**

## **Simulation of Dynamic Recrystallization in Uranium Dioxide Nuclear Fuels**

# Outline

- Background
  - Nuclear Fuels
  - High Burn Up Structure
- Simulation Framework
- Algorithm Components
  - Grain Growth via kMC
  - Recrystallization via CA
  - Energy Accumulation & Nucleation
- Results
  - Effects on System Energy & Grain Size
  - Hybrid Algorithm
  - Representative Volume
- Future Work
- Conclusions



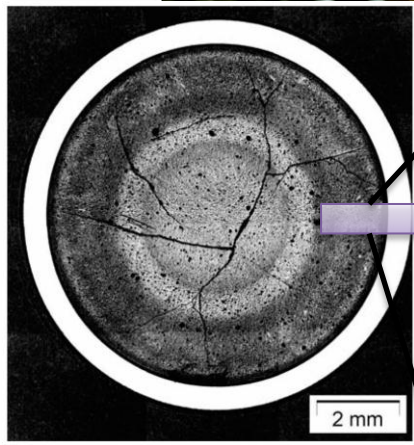
# Nuclear Fuels



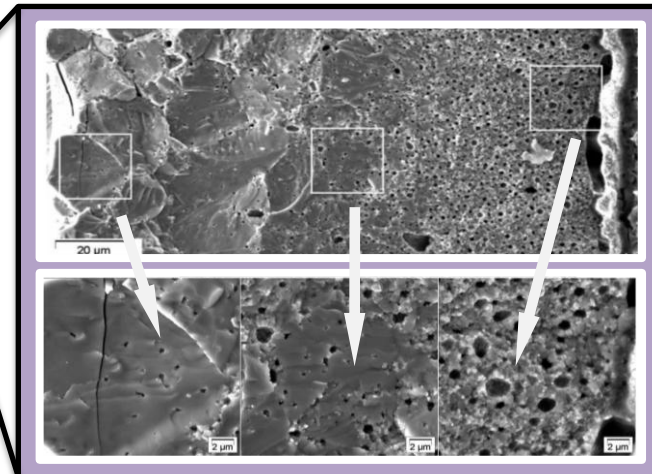
Pressurized Water Reactor  
[www.nrc.gov](http://www.nrc.gov)



Nuclear Fuel Pellet  
[www.nrc.gov](http://www.nrc.gov)



Irradiated Fuel Cross-Section  
*Noirot, et. al NE&T, vol. 41 2009*



- The rim of LWR fuels is enriched relative to the rest of the fuel by resonance neutrons which are preferentially absorbed by  $^{238}\text{U}$  at the surface.
- $^{238}\text{U} + n \rightarrow ^{239}\text{U} \rightarrow ^{239}\text{Np} + \beta^- \rightarrow ^{239}\text{Pu} + \beta^-$
- Enrichment of fissile material in the rim, resulting in more fission events
- Damage accumulates follows fission rate
- Relatively low temperature causing repeated recrystallization

## RESULT

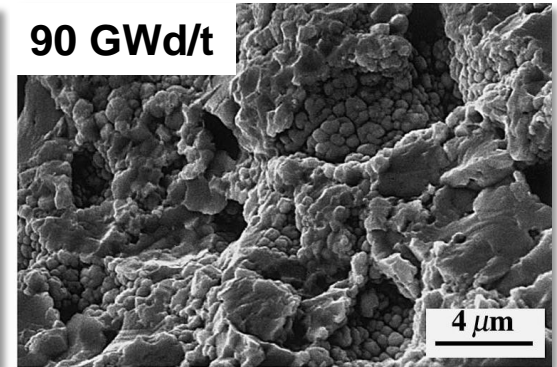
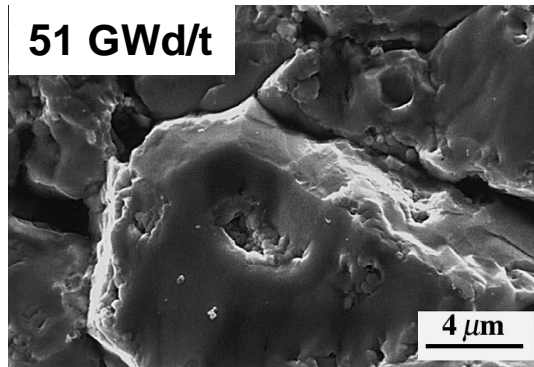
### Tremendous Variation In Microstructure

1. Grain size
2. Porosity
3. Percolation
3. Composition
4. Hardness



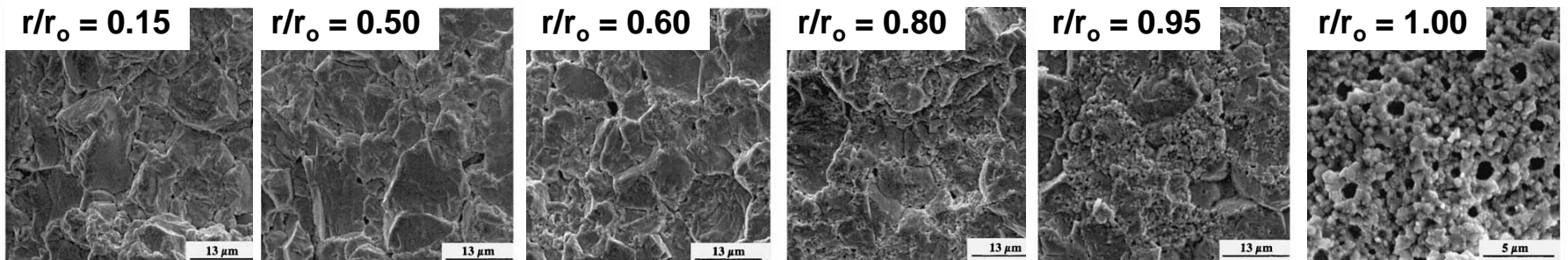
# High Burn-Up Structure I

- Rim structure is a function of burn-up
- Low burn-up, original grain structure
- With  $^{239}\text{Pu}$  formation, recrystallization occurs where enrichment is most pronounced



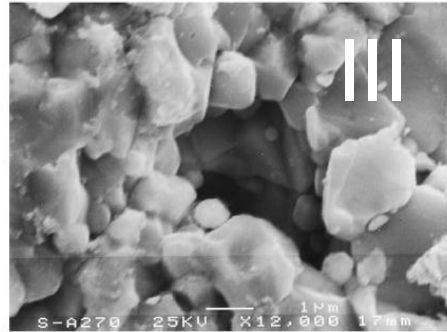
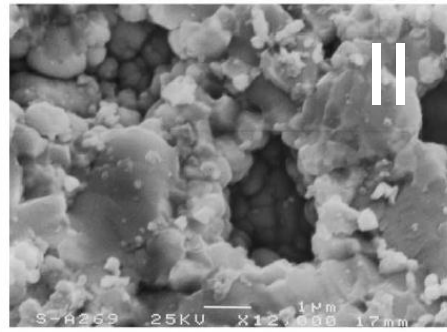
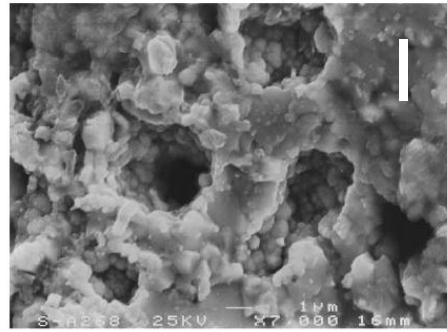
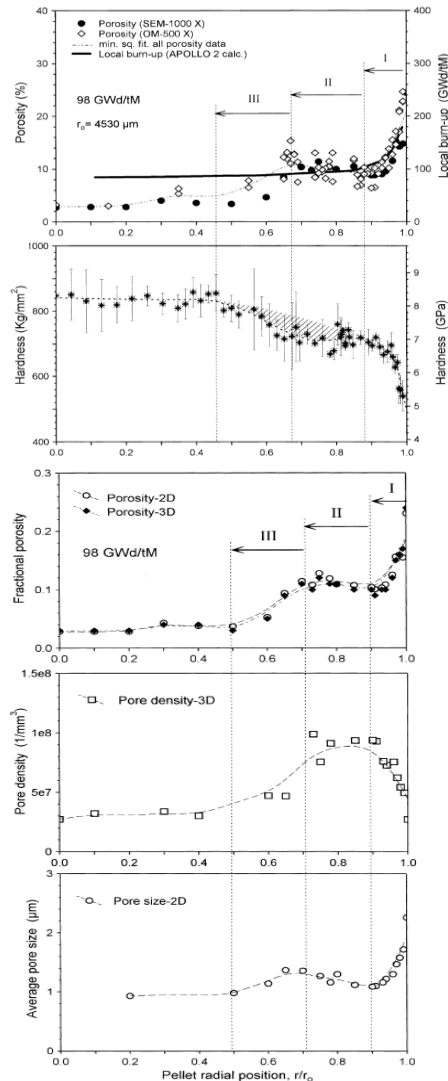
Une, et. al, *JNM* vol. 288, 2001

- Since burn-up correlates with radial position recrystallization is largely absent as  $r/r_o$  decreases



Manzel & Walker, *JNM* vol. 301, 2002

# High Burn-Up Structure II



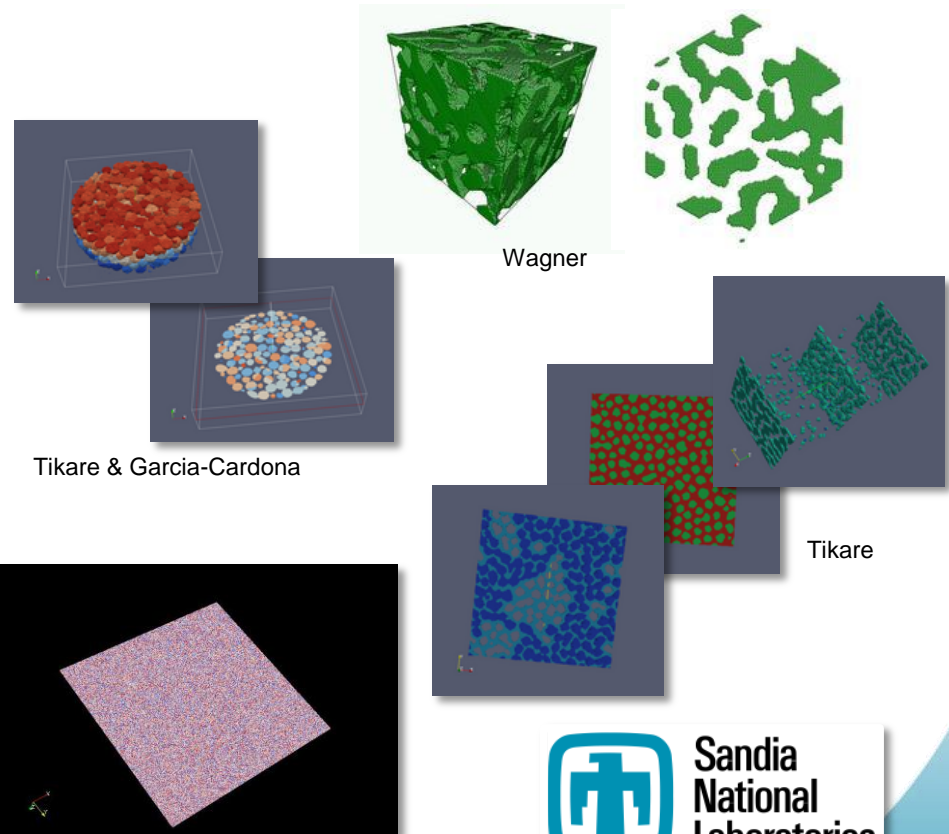
- Understanding the rim effect is important
  - Effects fuel performance (thermal conductivity, fission product distributions, ...)
  - Effects mechanical properties during storage and transportation
  - Modifies the separation processes for fuel recycling.
- Various aspects of the evolutionary process are analogous to metallic systems undergoing dynamic recrystallization.

# Simulation Framework

## SPPARKS

Kinetic Monte Carlo via Stochastic Parallel PARTicle Kinetic Simulator

- Development a new user application for SNL's SPPARKS open-source environment
- Treat grain growth + dynamic recrystallization events simultaneously
- Incorporate probabilistic cellular-automaton approach to more accurately capture realistic kinetics (KJMA rates)
- Toward prediction of microstructural evolution in irradiated materials beyond currently established NRC regulations



<http://www.cs.sandia.gov/~sjplimp/spparks.html>

# Algorithm Components

**KINETIC MONTE CARLO**

+

**CELLULAR AUTOMATA**

Stochastic, probability driven evolution

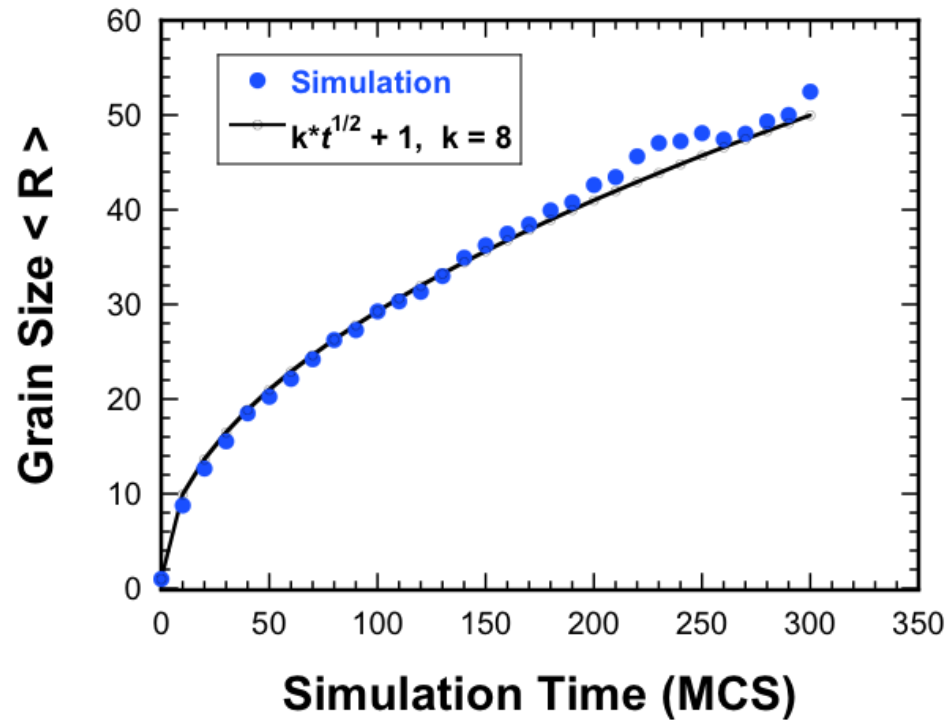
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Deterministic, rule-based evolution

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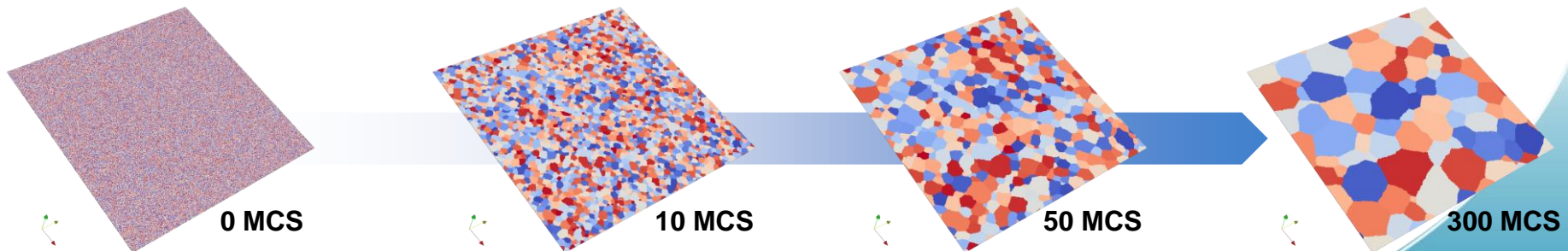


# Grain Growth (kMC)



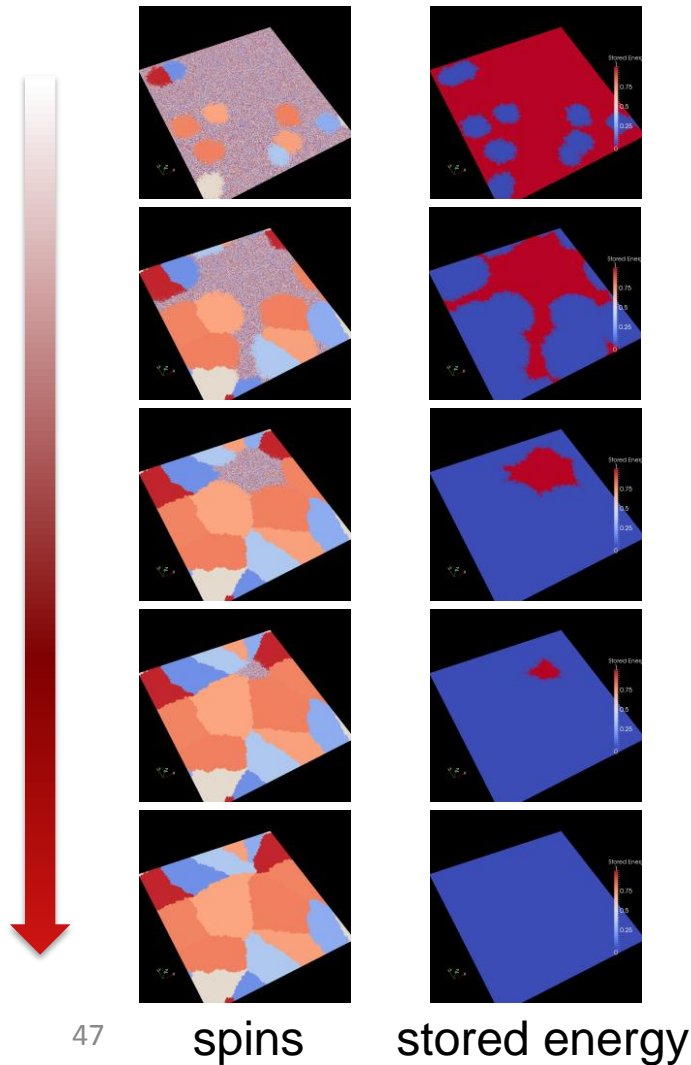
$$E_{GG} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^{neigh} [1 - \delta(q_i, q_j)]$$

$$P = \begin{cases} \exp\left(\frac{-\Delta E}{k_B T_S}\right) & \text{if } \Delta E > 0 \\ 1 & \text{if } \Delta E \leq 0 \end{cases}$$



# Recrystallization (C.A.)

Binary Energy Case [  $e = 1$  or  $0$  ]  
2Dimensional, Site Saturated



$$\text{if } \Omega_i < \Omega_j^{initial} \begin{cases} \Omega_j = \Omega_i \\ spin_j = spin_i \end{cases}$$

Although the CA approach is entirely stored energy dependent, changes of spin accompany all recrystallization events. Should a neighboring grain possess a higher energy, under recrystallization, that grain will inherit both the lower stored energy and spin of the adjacent grain

$$\Delta E_{i,RC} = \Omega_i^{final} - \Omega_i^{initial} \quad P = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \Delta E > 0 \\ \frac{|\Delta E_{i,RC}|}{\Omega^{MAX}} & \text{if } \Delta E \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

# Recrystallization (C.A.)

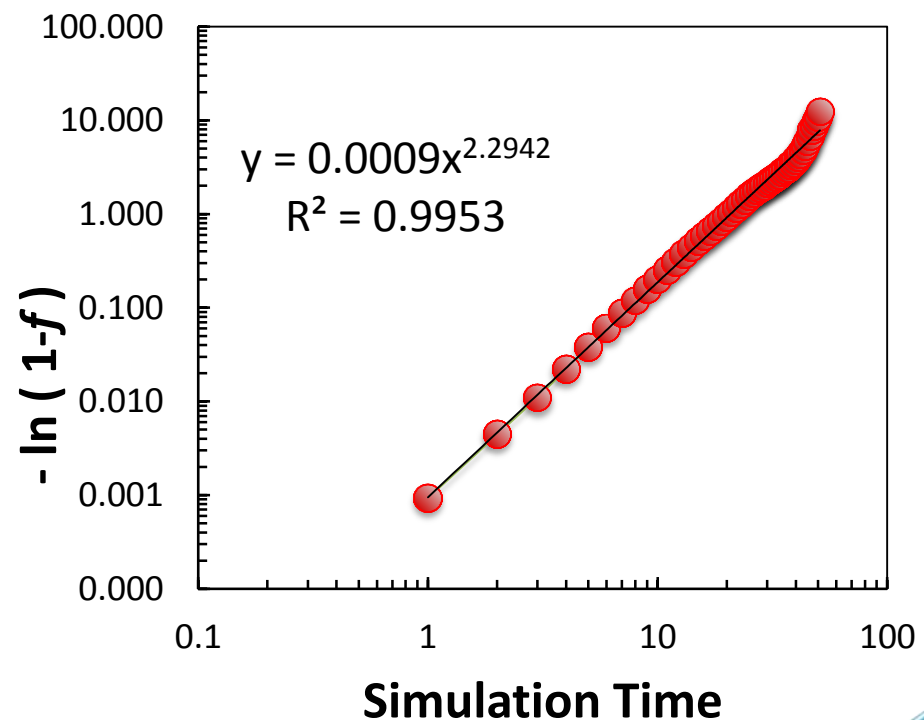
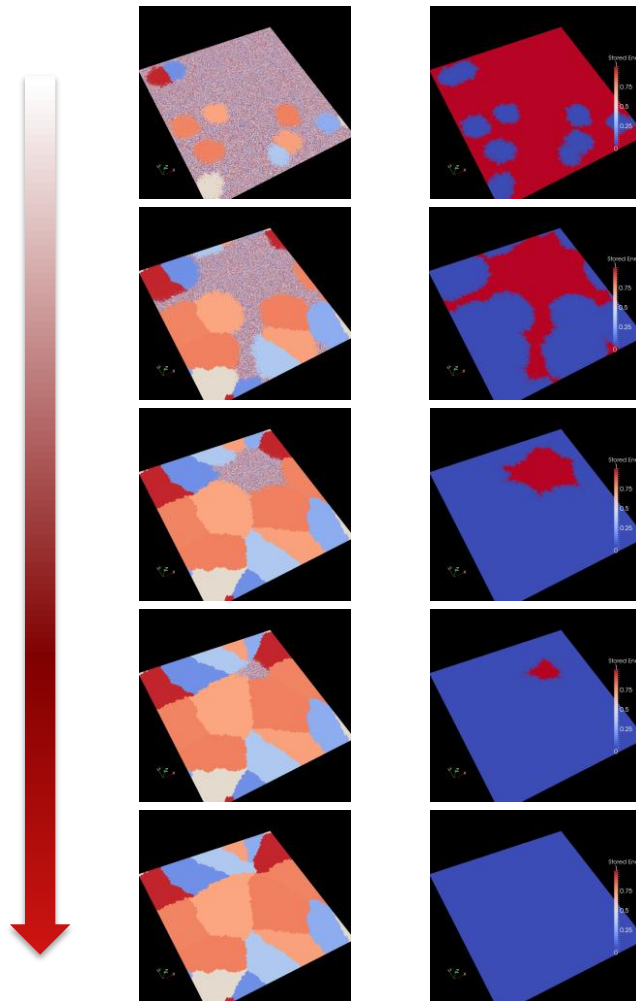
Binary Energy Case [  $e = 1$  or  $0$  ]  
2Dimensional, Site Saturated

$Spins = 100$

$Total Sites = 250\,000$

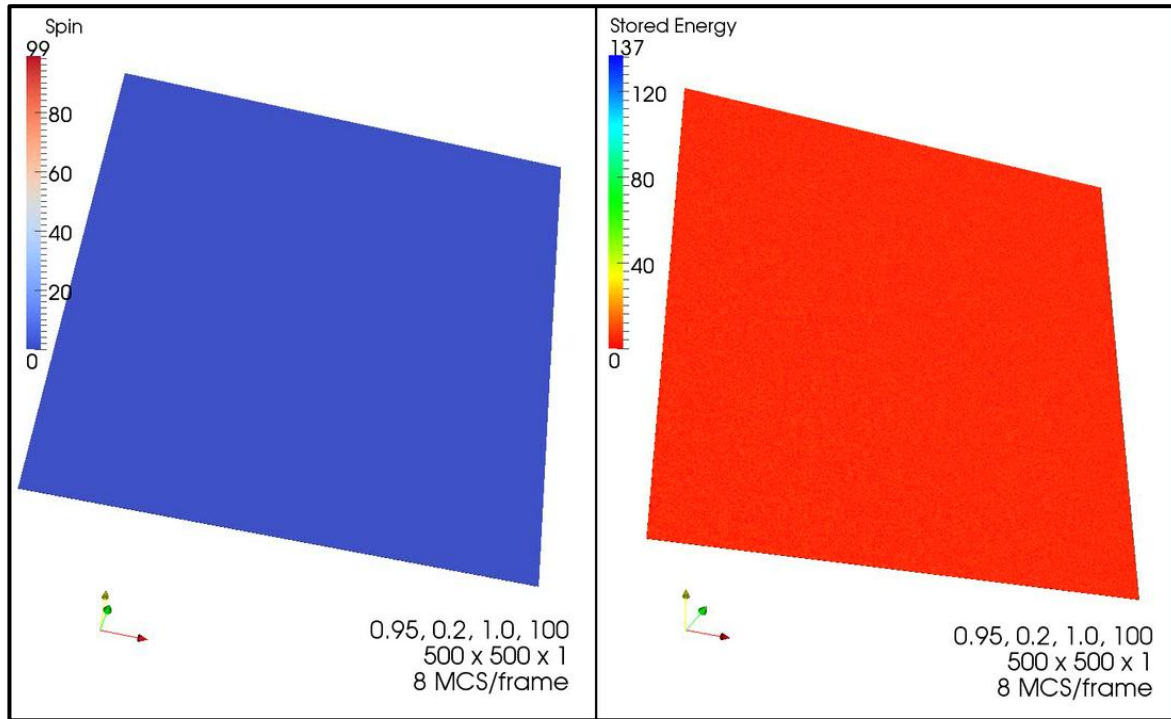
$Total N_{accepted} = 247\,418$

$$(1 - f) = \frac{(Total N_{accepted} - N_{accepted})}{Total N_{accepted}}$$



# Energy Accumulation & Nucleation

$$\Omega(i, t + 1) = \Omega(t) + \Delta t (\text{uniform } e_i)$$



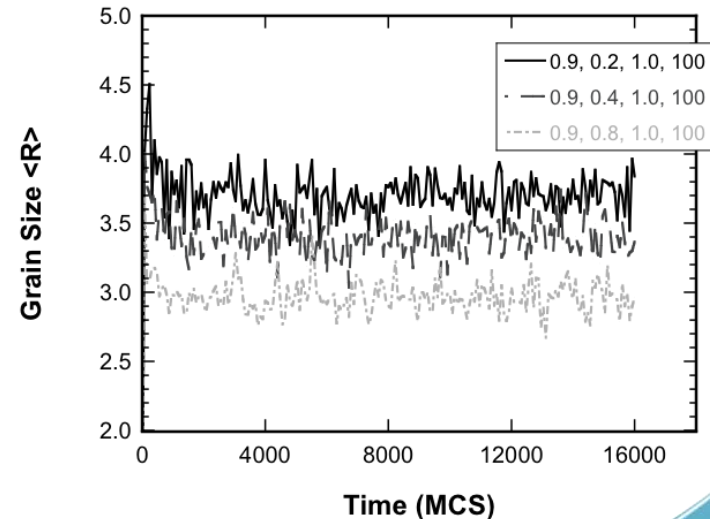
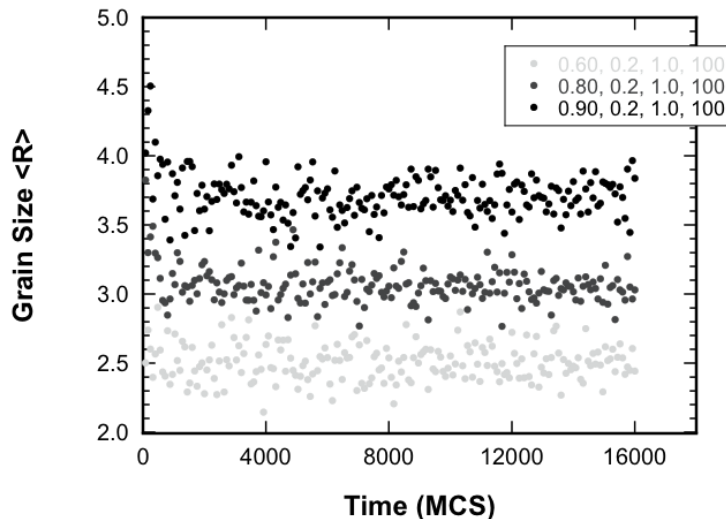
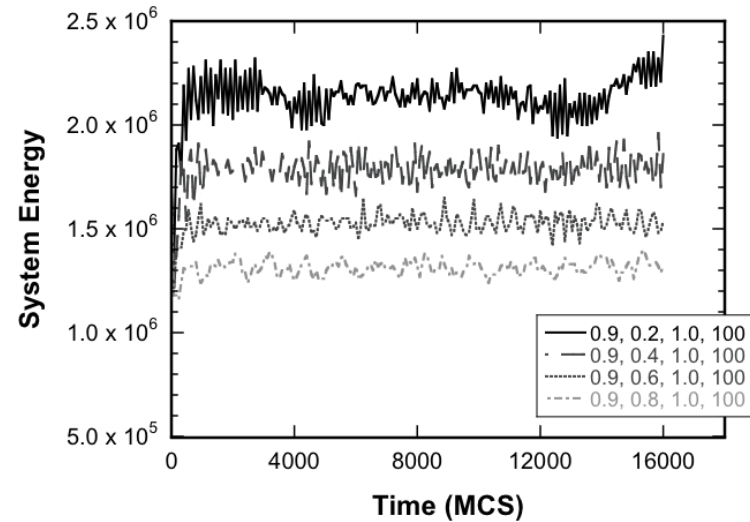
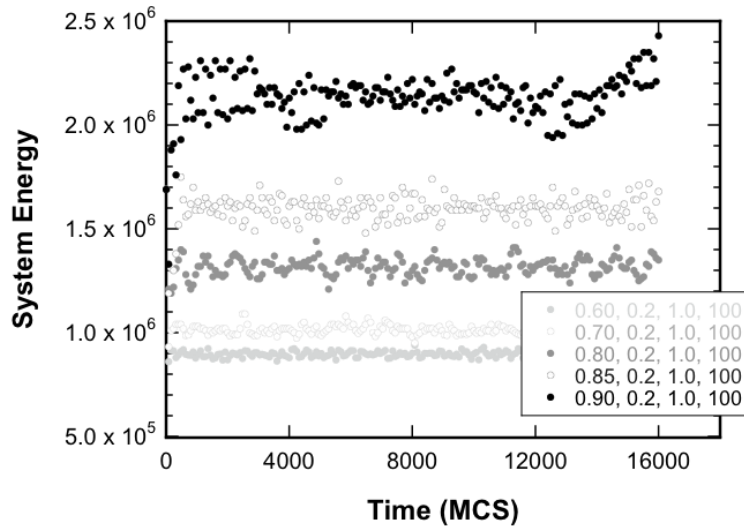
Damage energy is continually supplied to the system with time

Nuclei are introduced to the system in time and space according to the system's maximum stored energy

Newly introduced nuclei decrease local and global system energy



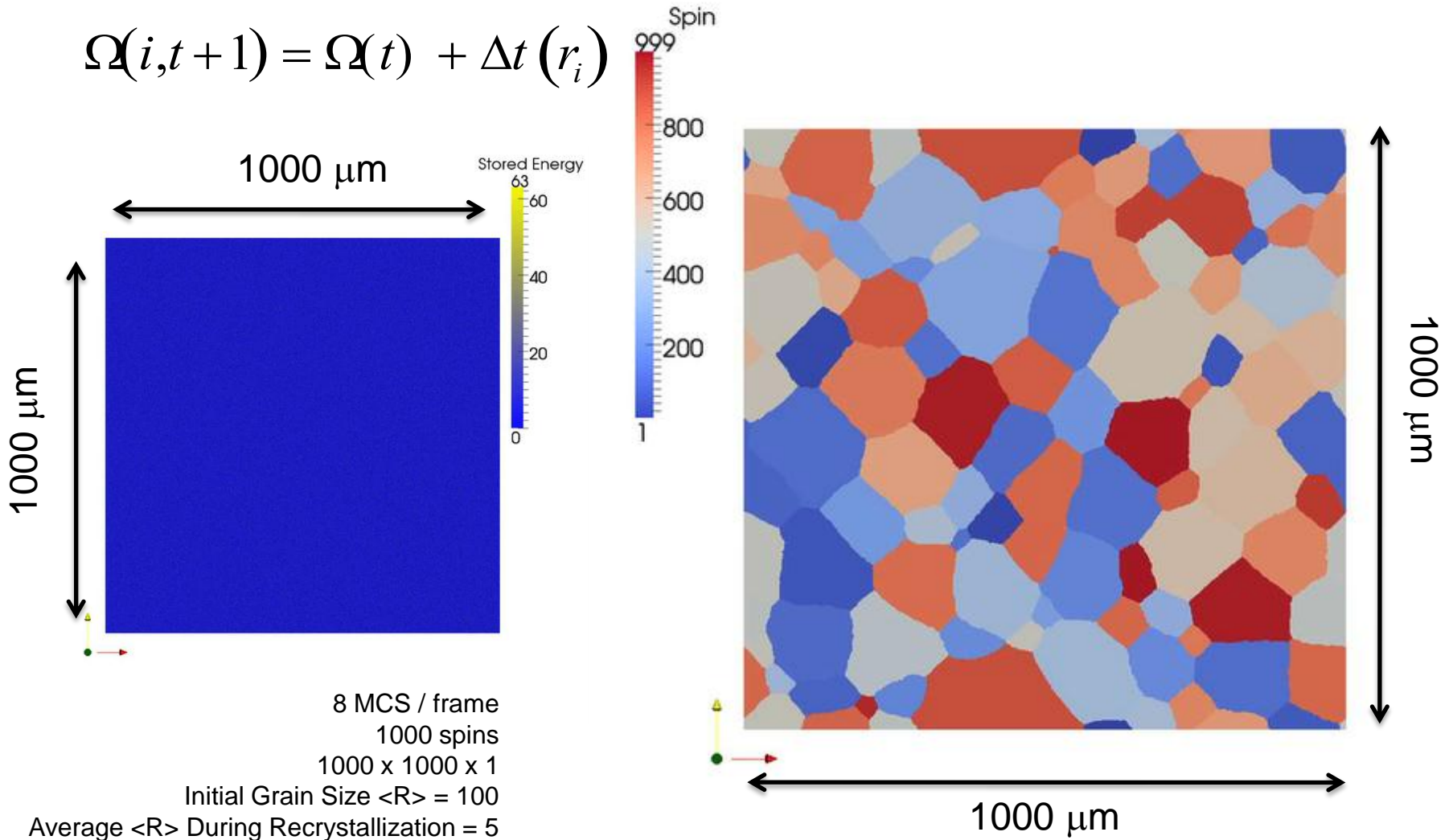
# Effects on System Energy & Grain Size



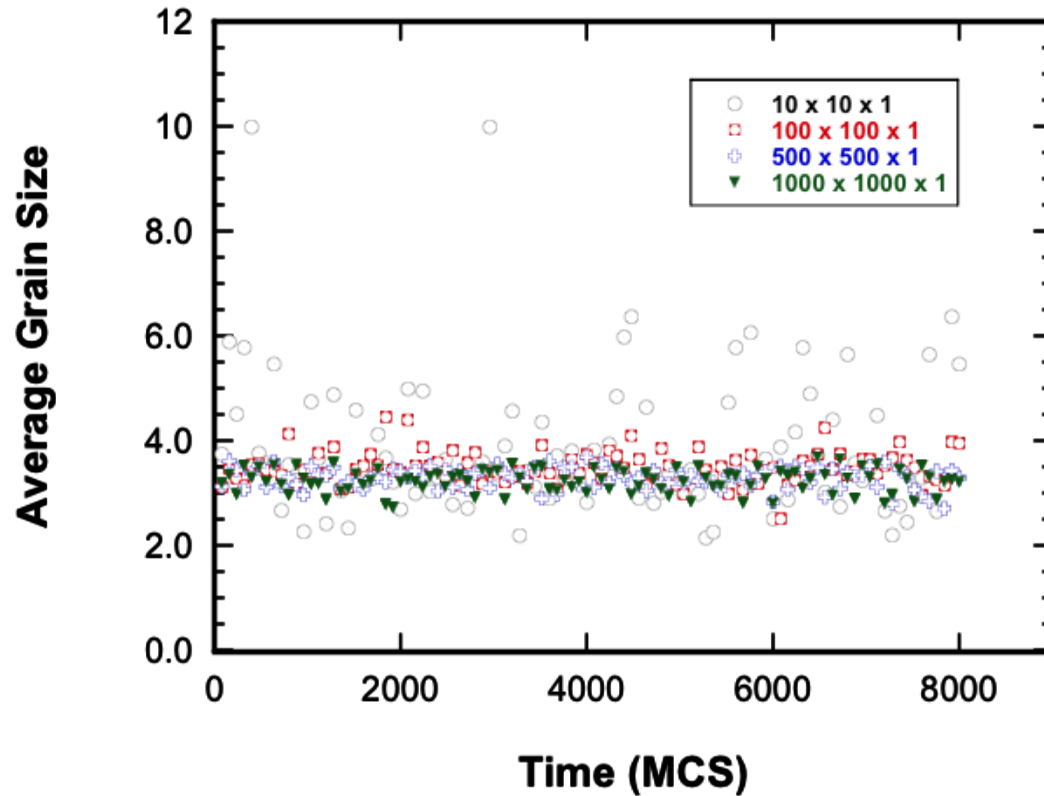
**Legend notation:** (1) threshold, (2) nucleation rate,  
(3) % grain growth, (4) % recrystallization

# Hybrid Algorithm

$$\Omega(i, t+1) = \Omega(t) + \Delta t (r_i)$$

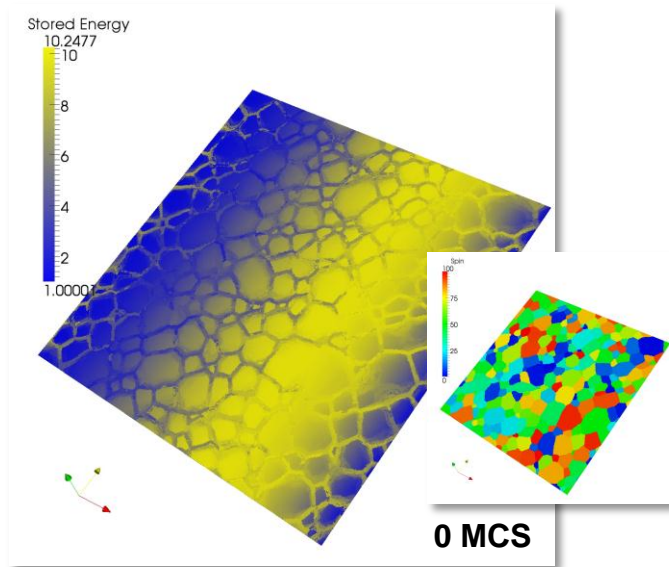


# Representative Volume Element (RVE)

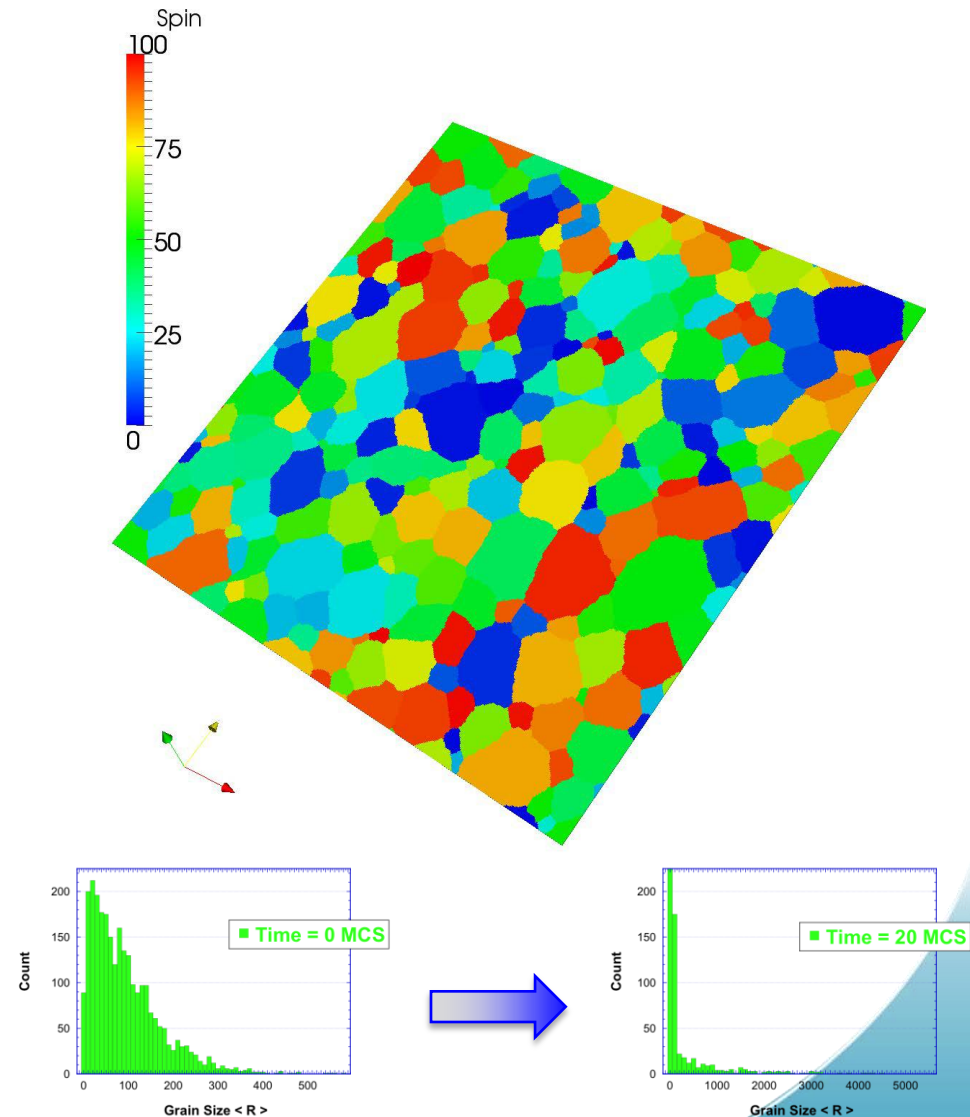


	AVG. <R>	ST. DEV
10 <sup>2</sup>	3.99	1.61
100 <sup>2</sup>	3.49	0.31
500 <sup>2</sup>	3.29	0.20
1000 <sup>2</sup>	3.24	0.22

# Future Work



- Future work will focus on ascribing a damage accumulation which is both a function of position and time
- Toward a more realistic description of a nuclear fuel microstructure to include porosity, pore migration, variable boundary mobility and thermal gradients





# Conclusions

A hybrid model combining kinetic Monte Carlo and Cellular Automata can successfully demonstrate dynamic recrystallization for basic description of microstructural evolution in nuclear fuels.

Increases in nucleation threshold, result in increased nominal system energy and higher average grain size, while increases in nucleation rate result in lower nominal system energy and lower average grain size.

The hybrid algorithm effectively provides characteristic trends in grain size, relative scaling and microstructural evolution with abbreviated domains down to  $100^2$  elements.

# Questions