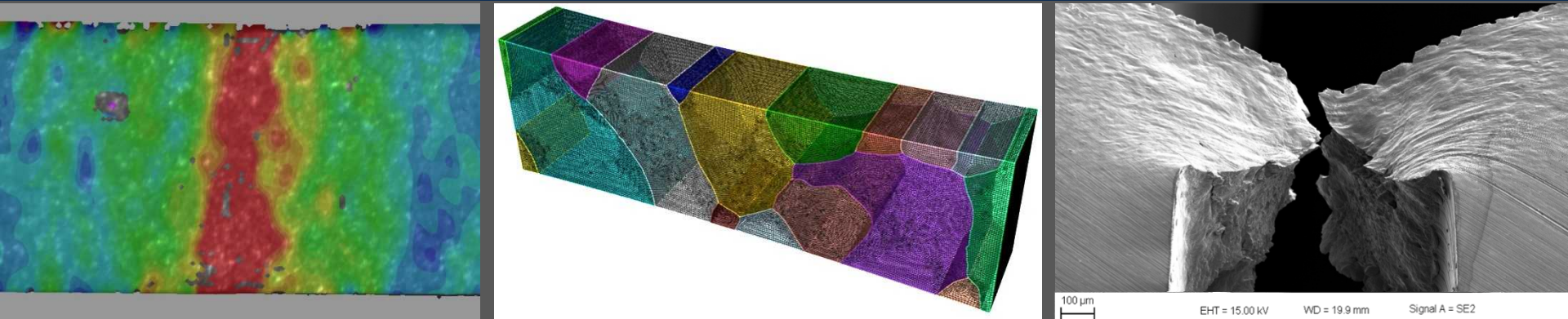


Exceptional service in the national interest



Characterization of Void-Dominated Ductile Failure in Pure Ta

B. G. Clark, J. R. Michael, B. B. McKenzie,
J. Carroll, H. Lim, and B. L. Boyce

May 30th, 2016 • THERMEC 2016 • Graz, Austria

The Land of Enchantment

Sandia Mountains at Sunset



Balloon Fiesta



Sandia National Labs

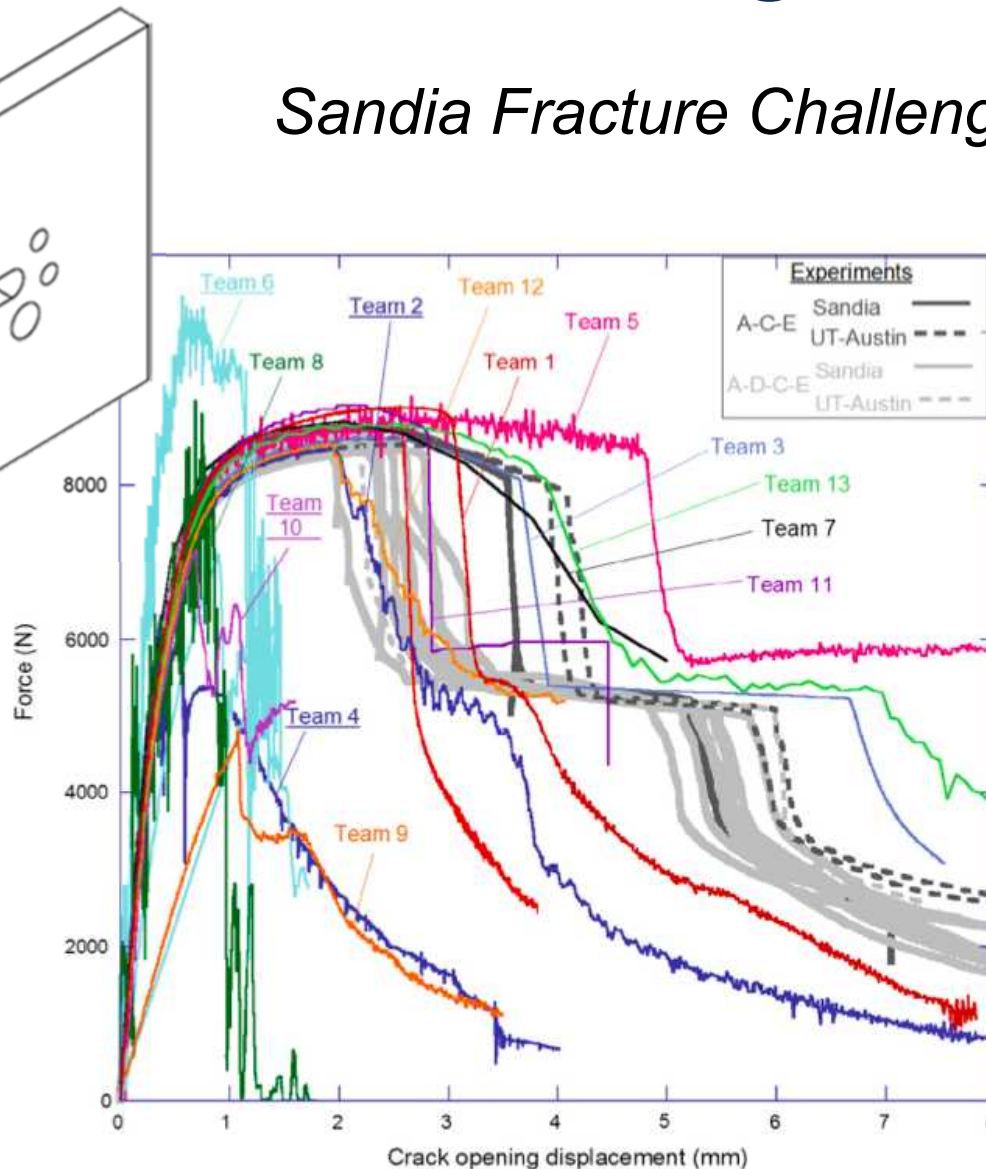


Predictive Modeling is Challenging

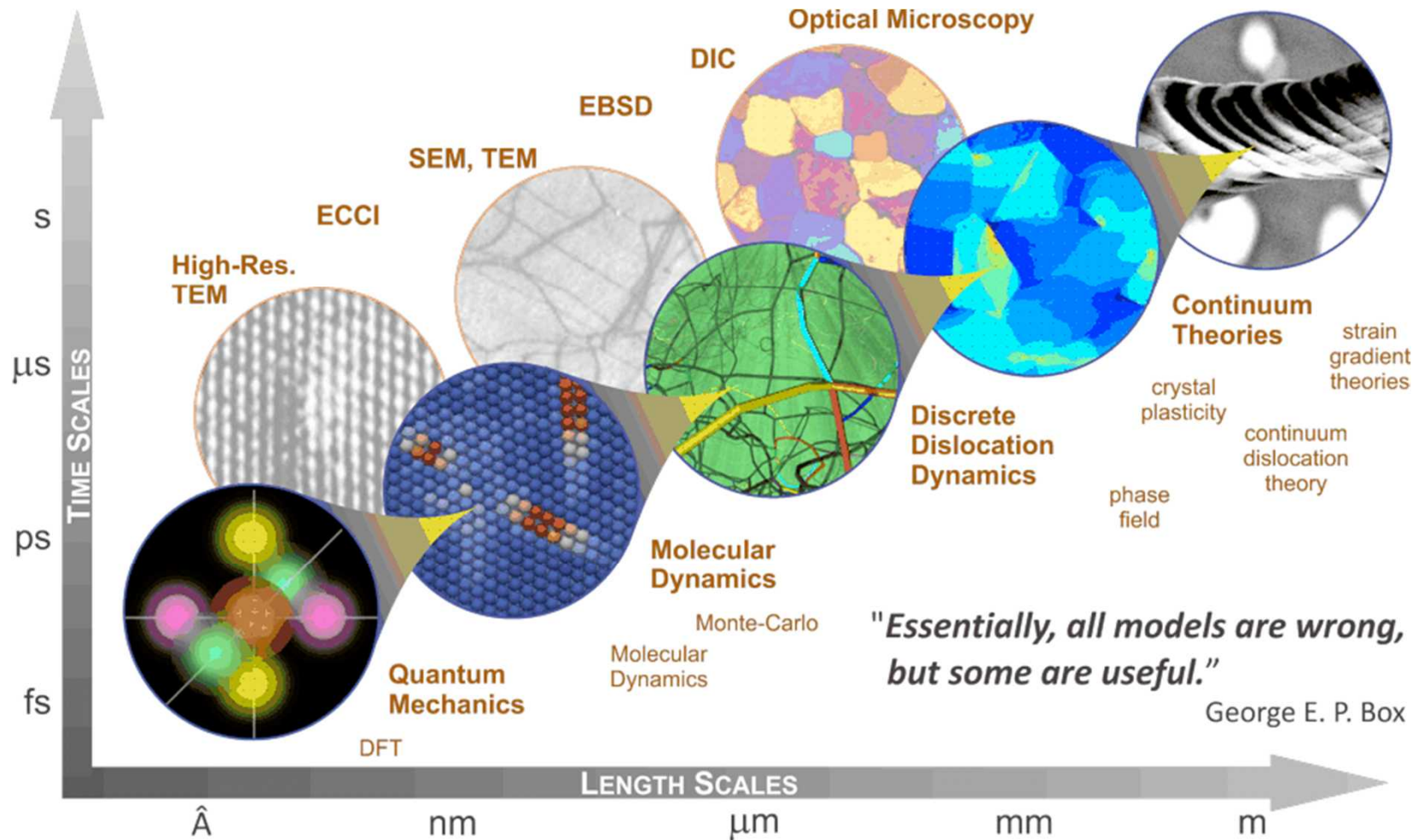
Sandia Fracture Challenge →

Teams asked to predict:

- Force and COD at which crack(s) initiate
- Path of crack
- 3 independent experimental labs collected data
- 13 groups gave predictions from models
- *Wide variety in predicted results*

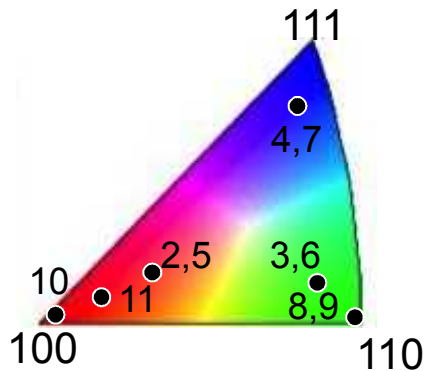
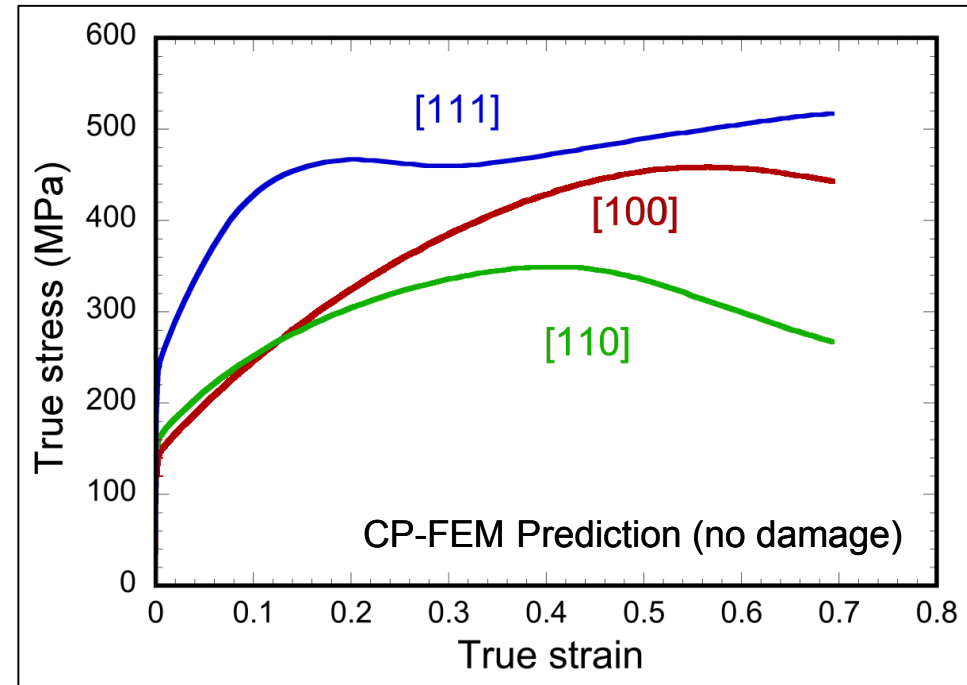
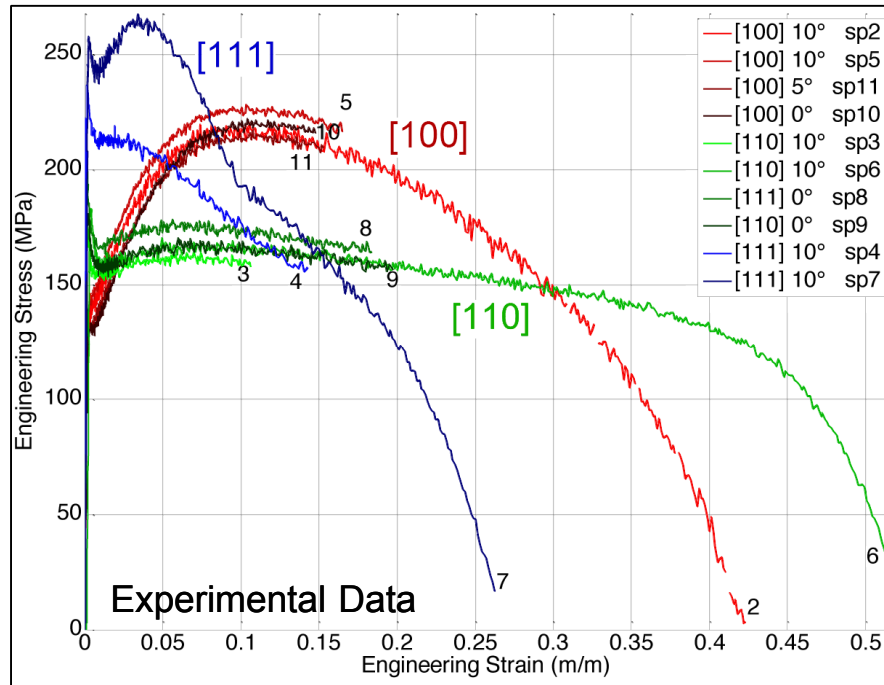


Microscopy Plays Key Role



Experimental data provides physical basis for predictive simulation development

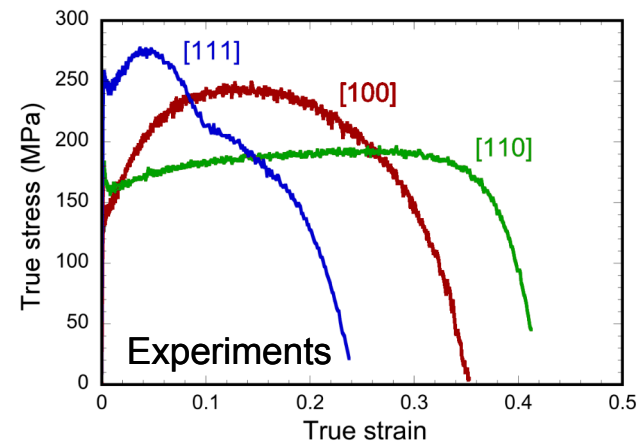
Predicting Ductile Failure in Ta



Without including damage in CP-FEM:

- No softening occurs other than necking
- The material does not “degrade” (e.g. voids, crack, tearing)
- Stress-strain response does not match experiments

Getting the Damage “Right”



Metrics for Microstructurally Small Fatigue Crack (MSFC)*

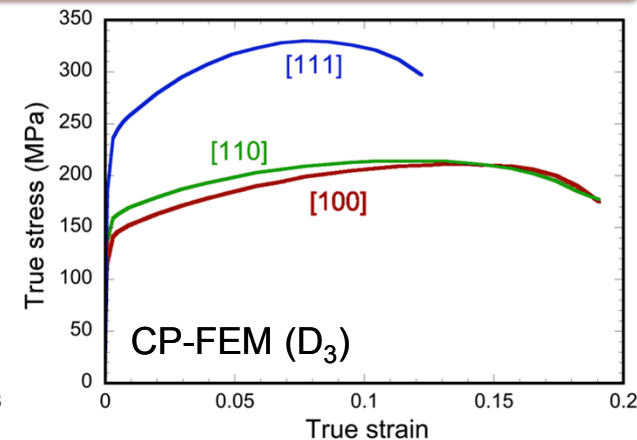
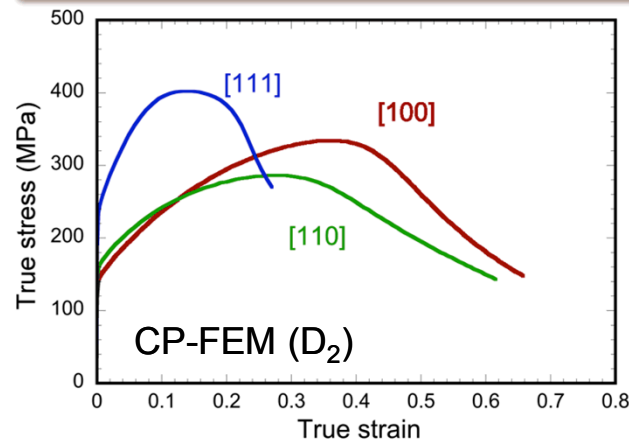
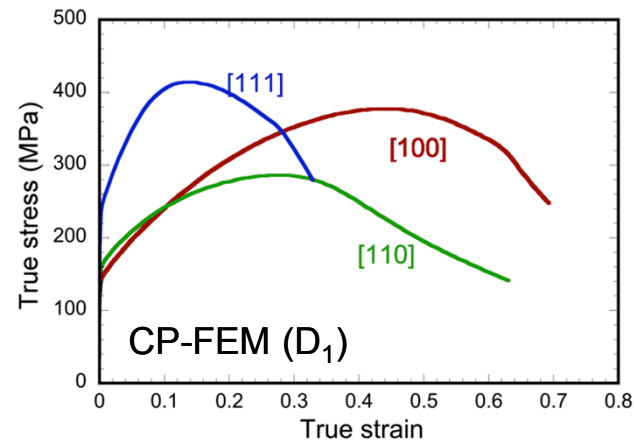
$$D_1 = \max_{\alpha} \int_0^t |\dot{\gamma}^{\alpha}| dt \quad (\text{Max. accumulated slip over each slip system})$$

$$D_2 = \max_p \int_0^t |\dot{\gamma}^p| dt \quad (\text{Max. accumulated slip over each slip plane})$$

$$D_3 = \sum_{\alpha=0}^N \int_0^t |\dot{\gamma}^{\alpha}| dt \quad (\text{Total accumulated slip over each slip system})$$

“Accumulated slip”

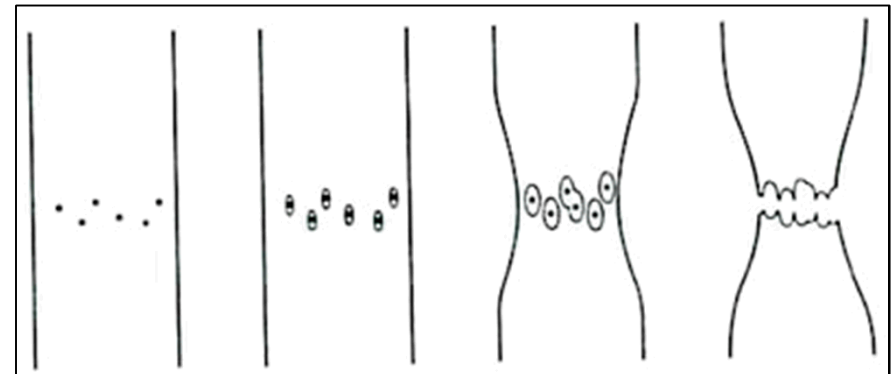
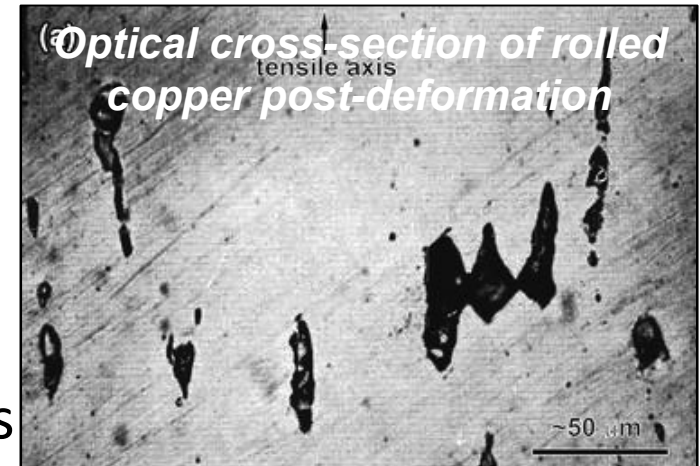
$$\dot{\gamma}^{\alpha} = \dot{\gamma}_0^{\alpha} \left(\frac{\tau^{\alpha}}{(1 - D_i) g^{\alpha}} \right)^{1/m}$$



What controls the initiation of damage in Ta?
How can we better understand how damage nucleates and accumulates?

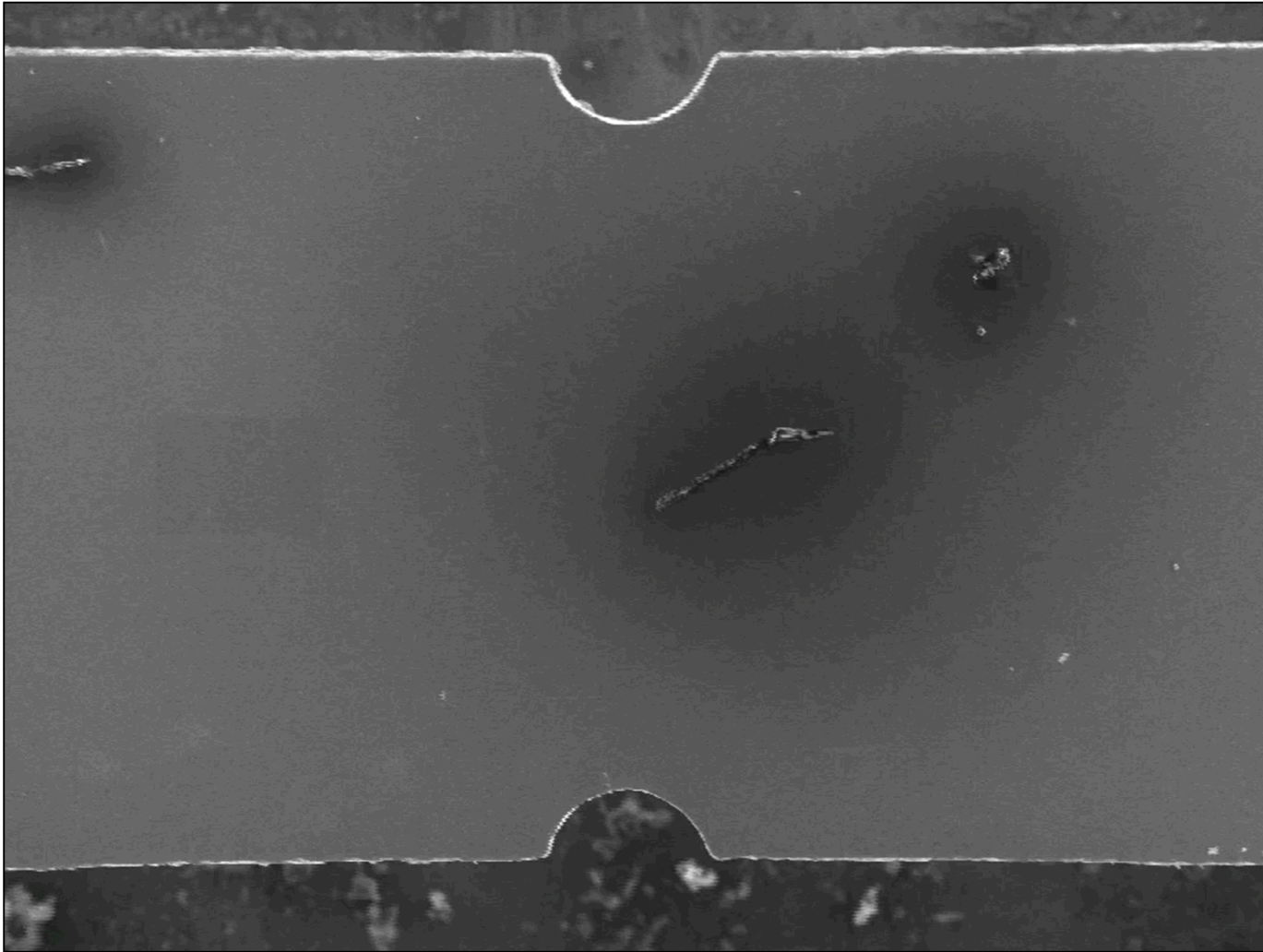
Ductile Fracture Mechanism

- Mechanical description of void nucleation, growth, and coalescence largely based on studies in 50's and 60's
- Initiation of voids through decohesion at second-phase particles or inclusions
- Voids continue to grow in response to high stresses, eventually coalesce
- *In this study, 99.9% Ta used; no evidence of second-phases or inclusions via SEM/TEM*



Can modern techniques reveal how voids initiate in pure metals?

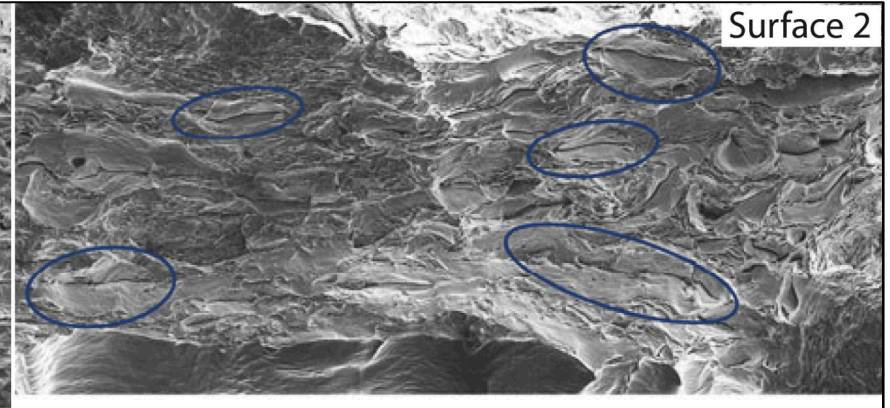
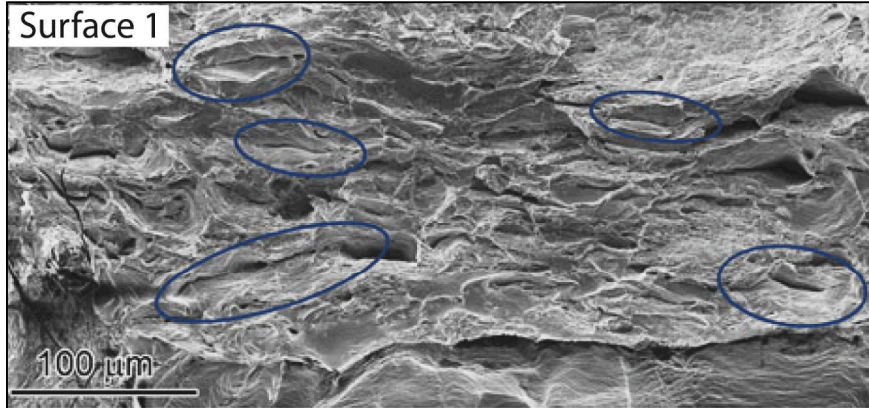
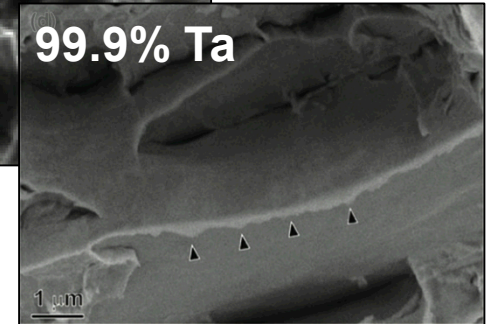
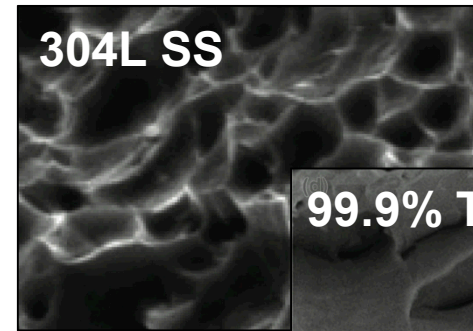
Tensile Testing of 99.9%Ta



In Situ Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM) tensile test on Ta

Fractography of 99.9%Ta

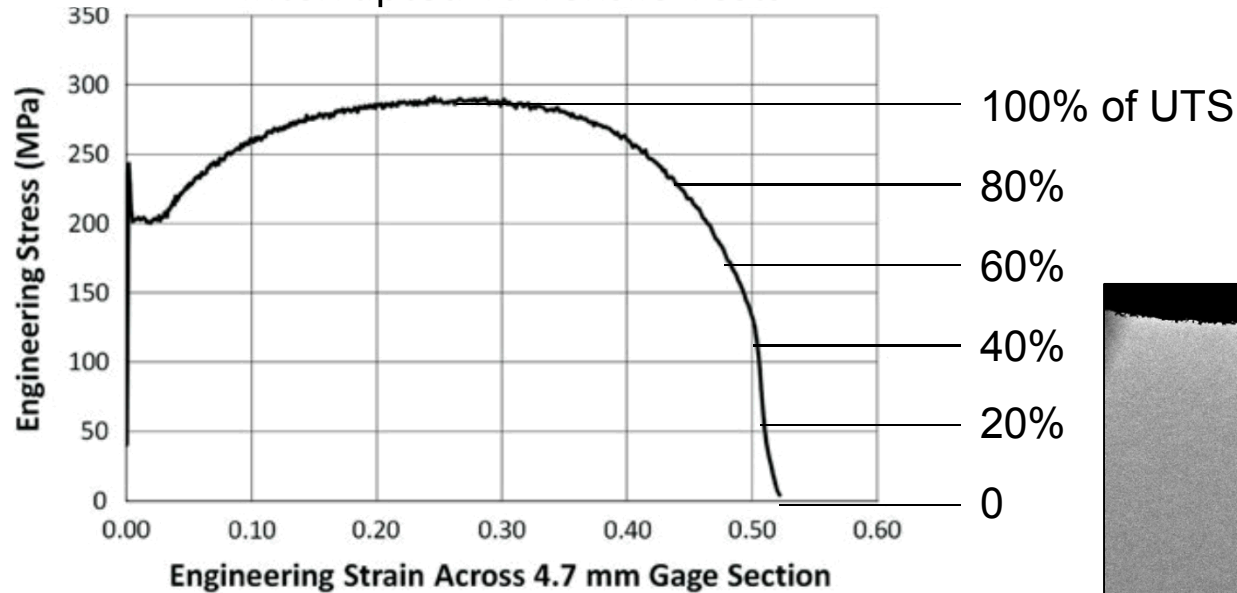
- Ta exhibits significant ductility, but with valley/ridge fracture surface
→ no 'classic' hemispherical dimpling
- Mating surfaces are mirrored
→ with no evidence of cup-cone



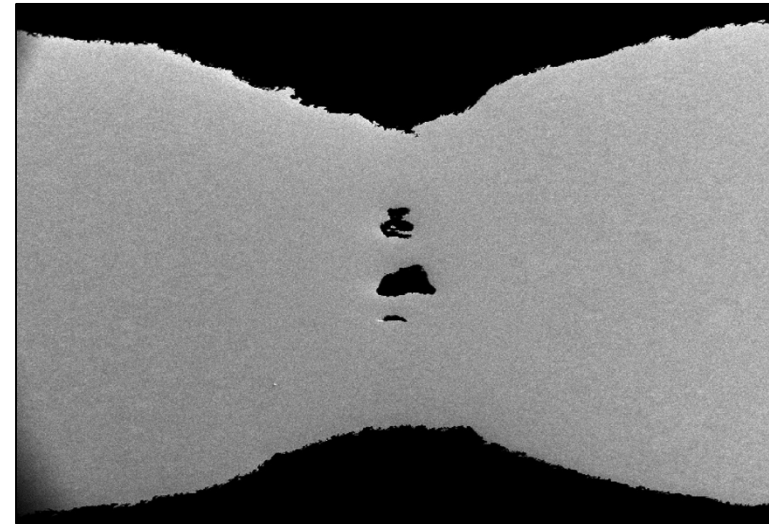
What role does local microstructure play in void initiation and growth?

Characterization of Deformed Ta

Interrupted Ta Tensile Tests

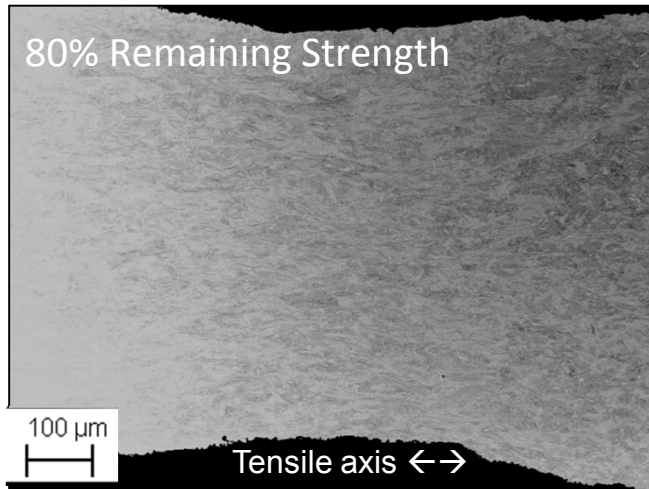


Deformed Ta samples polished to mid-plane to investigate local microstructure in voided regions

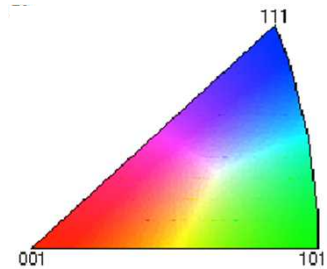
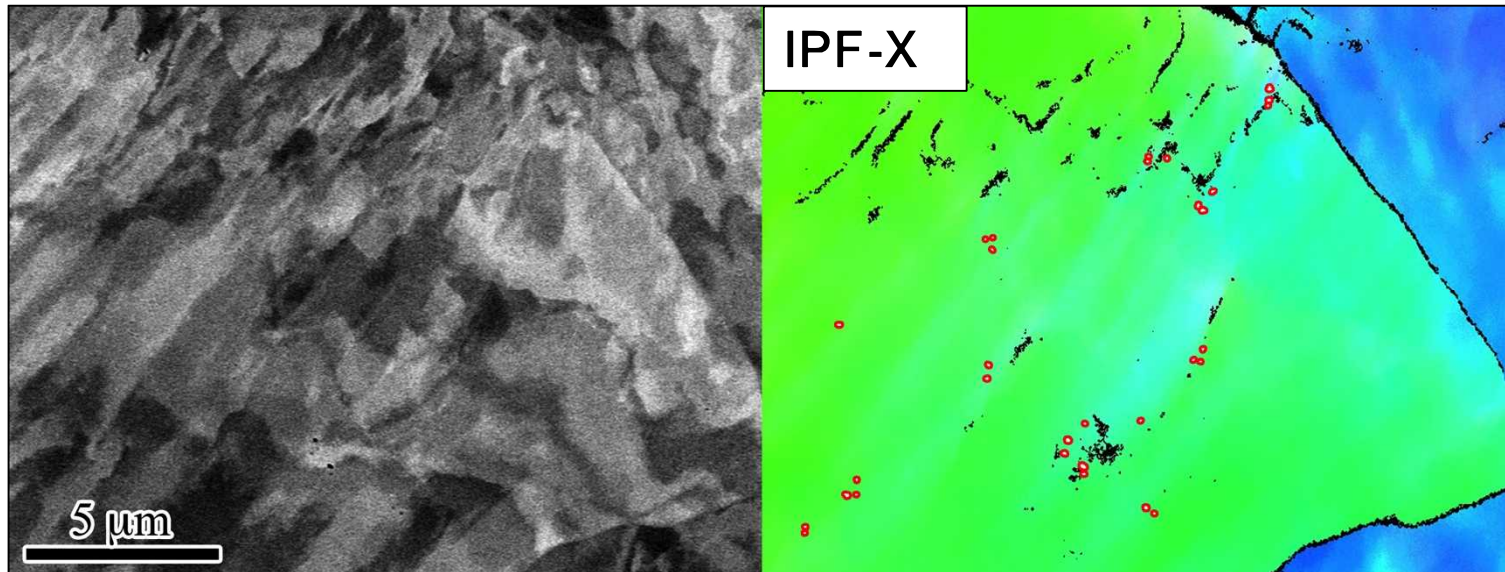


Ta tensile bar deformed at 5×10^{-3} to 40% remaining strength and polished to mid-plane for void analysis

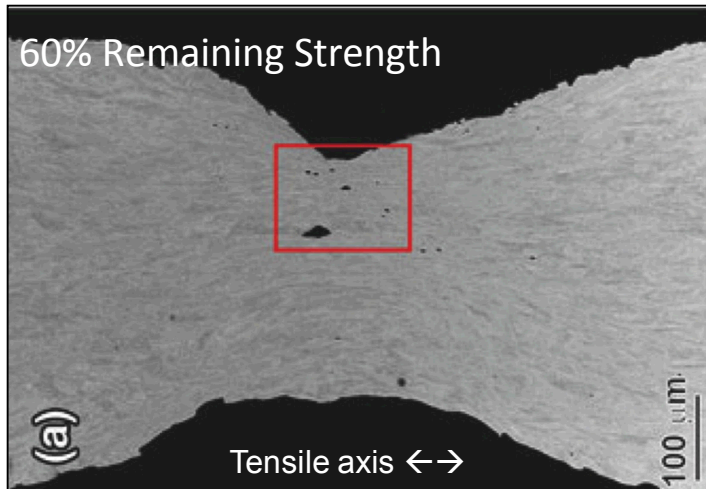
Void Formation at 80% RTS



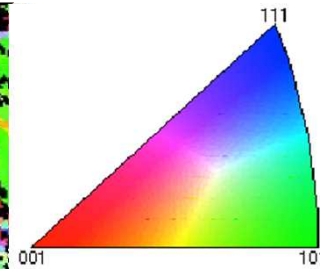
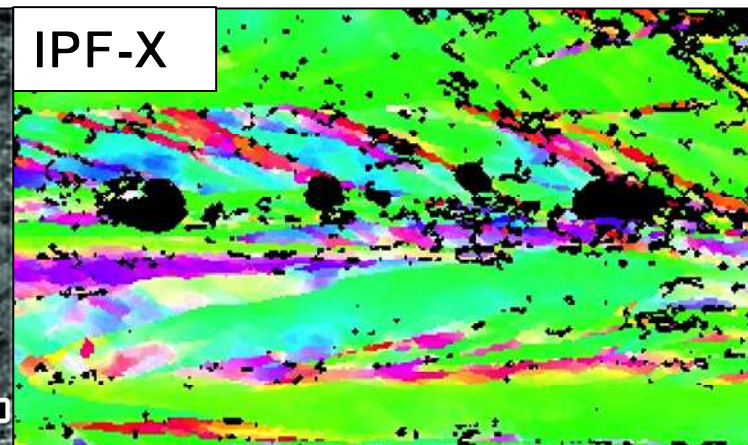
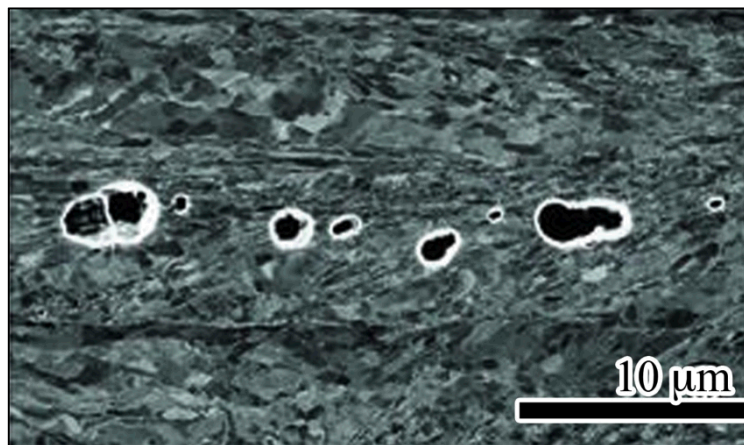
- Sample has begun to neck
- No large voids observed
- EBSD shows scattered small voids (30-100 nm) near bands of $[122]$ / $[110]$ aligned with tensile axis



Void Formation at 60% RTS

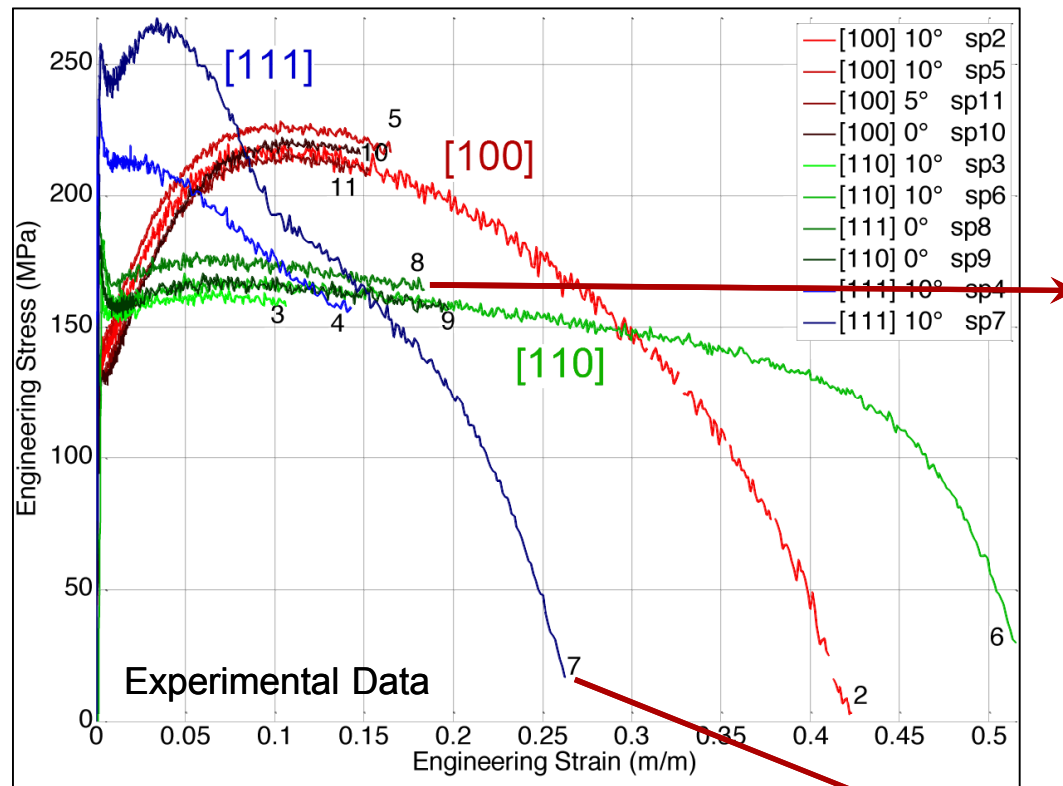


- Arrays of voids aligned along tensile axis
- EBSD shows elongated, inclined $[001]$ subgrains associated with each void
- Alternating regions of $[122]$ indicates high angle GBs

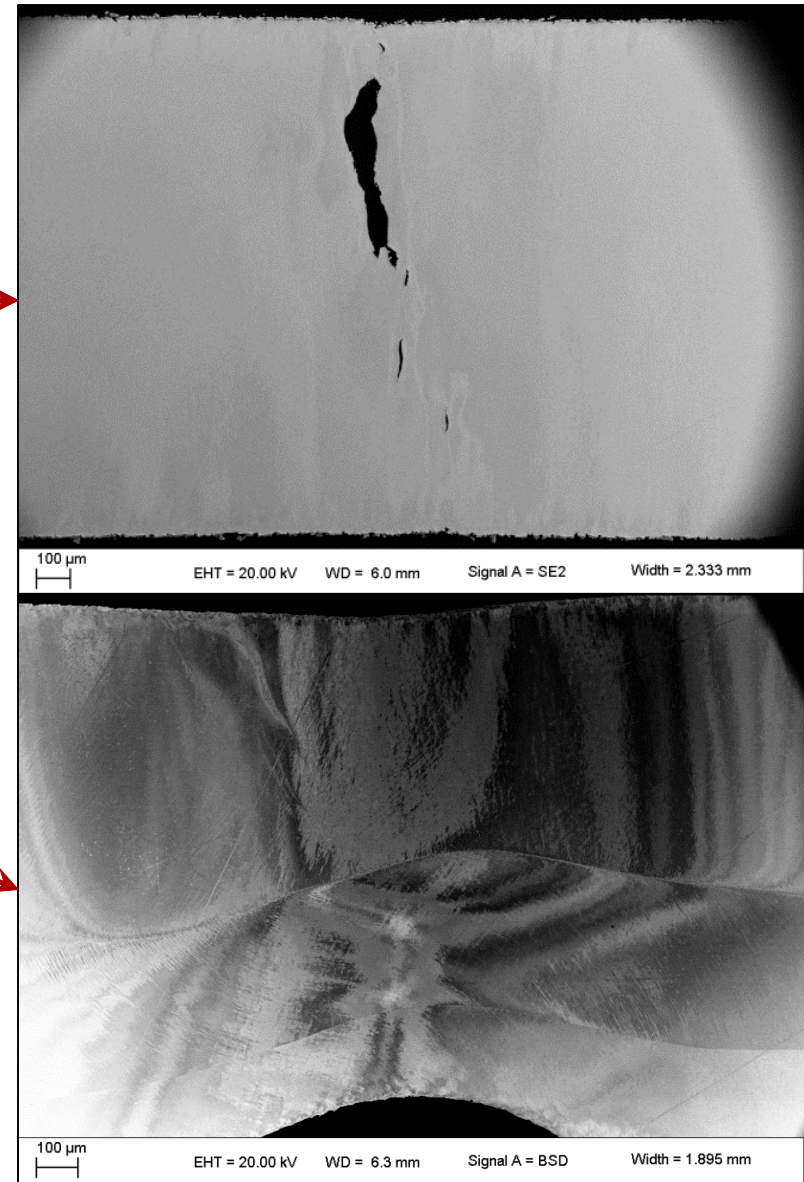


Deformation-induced microstructural changes and stress state controls the initiation/growth of voids

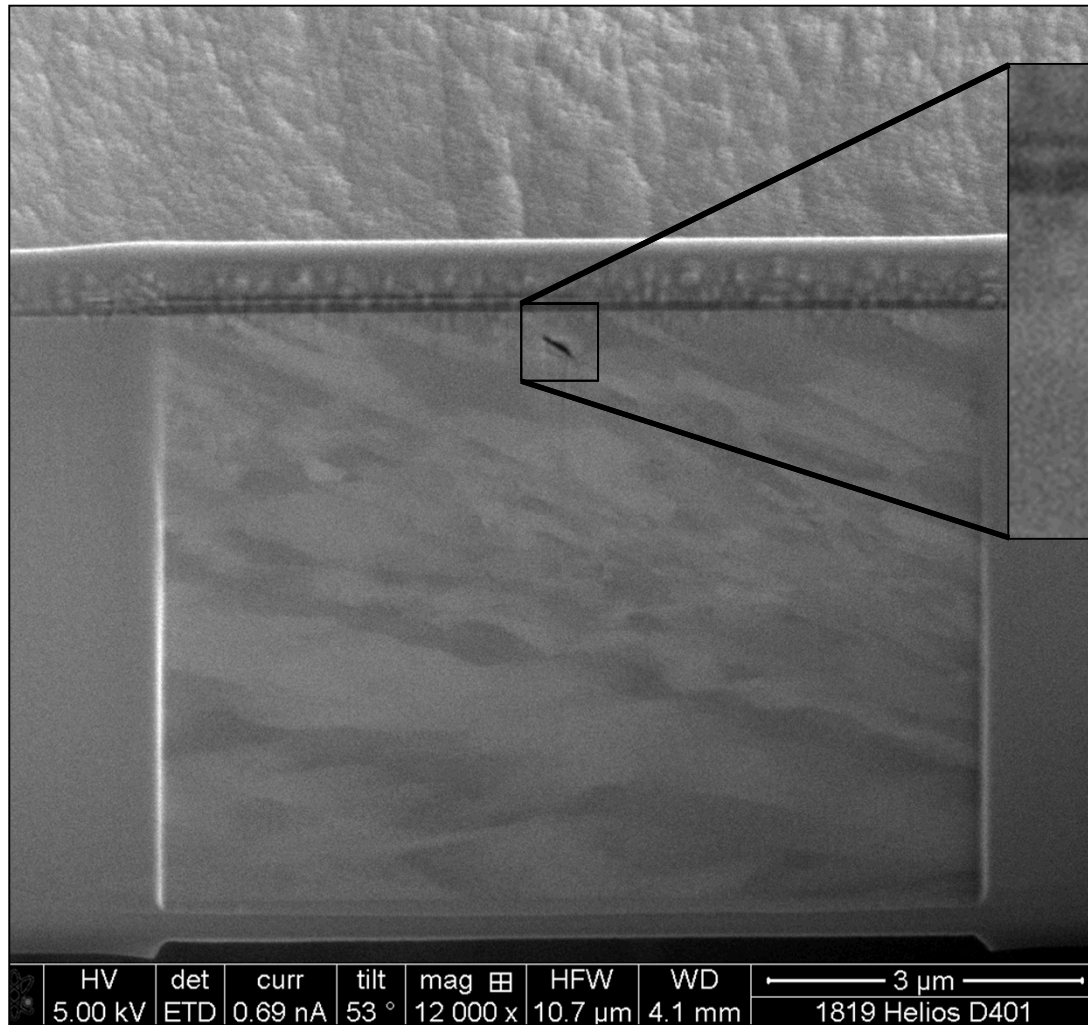
Void Formation in Single Crystal Ta



- [110] Ta shows void formation well before failure
- [111] Ta shows necking, but no evidence of voiding, right up to point of failure

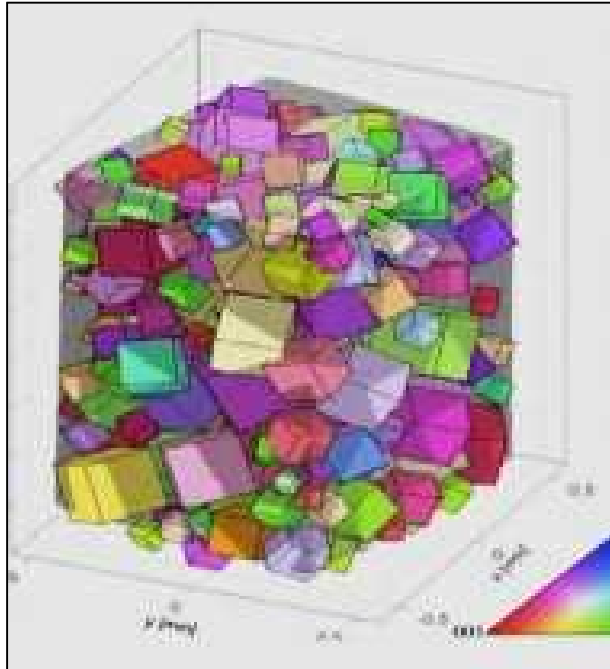


Future Work: TEM of Voids in Ta

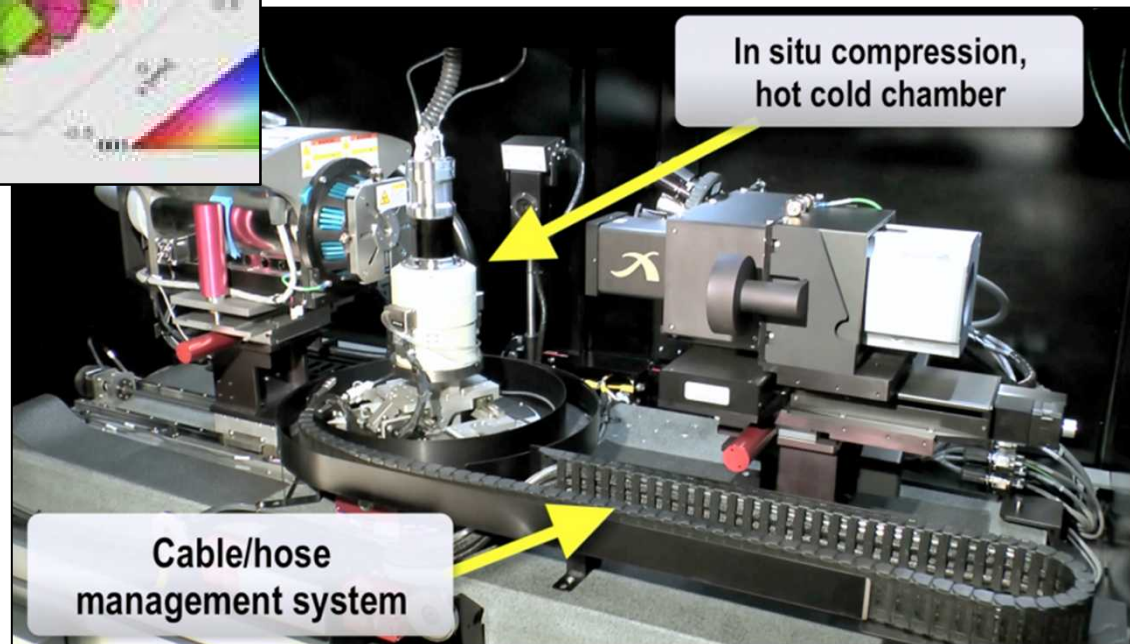


- FIB cross-sections of sub-surface voids in interrupted tensile bars
- TEM of dislocation/defect structures
- Further insight into void nucleation mechanism

Future Work: X-Ray Tomography



- Diffraction contrast tomography to map grain orientations in Ta tensile bar
- Deform in-situ with 3D x-ray tomography to map void evolution
- Compare 1:1 experimental and modeling results from **same** starting microstructure

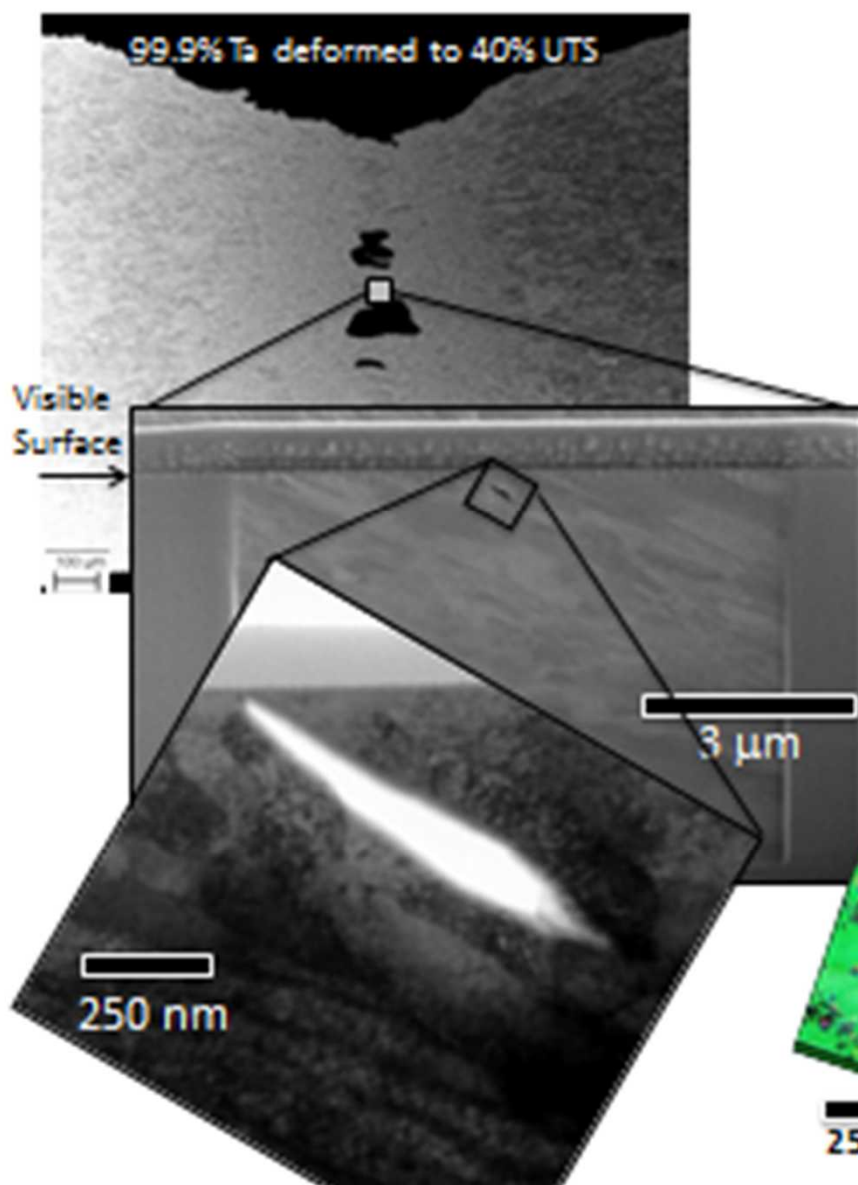


Conclusions

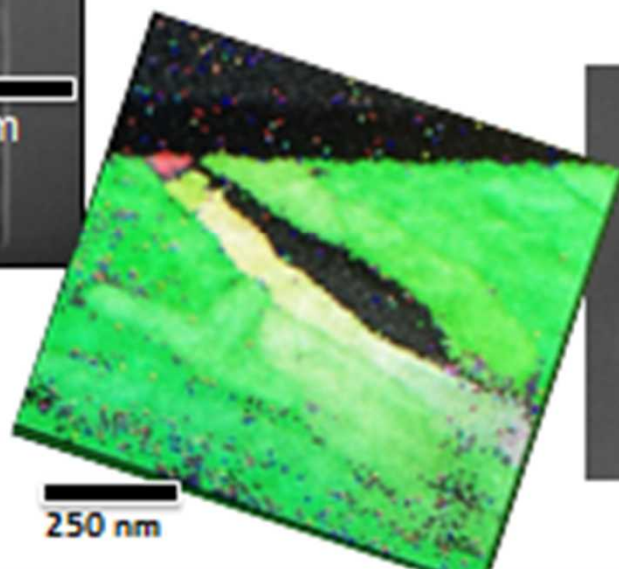
- 99.9% pure Ta is ductile, but does not exhibit a ‘classic’ ductile fracture surface (i.e. hemispherical dimples)
→ but, fracture surface still indicates void-driven failure
- Voids in interrupted tensile test specimens were analyzed by SEM and EBSD
→ voids prevalent in regions of high misorientation
- No inclusions or second-phases observed via SEM or TEM
→ void initiation likely at dislocation junctions / sub-boundaries
- Early single crystal Ta results are consistent with polycrystalline results: Grains oriented as $[110]$ form voids readily in Ta

Failure mechanism of Ta is void-driven, with deformation-induced microstructural changes and stress state controlling the initiation and growth of voids

Nanoscale Analysis of Void Initiation



- Focused Ion Beam (FIB) used to locate subsurface, deformation-induced voids in interrupted tensile bar.
- Preliminary TEM shows void shape aligned with angle of sub-boundaries
- Transmission Kikuchi Diffraction (TKD) to determine crystallographic orientation near void.
- Orientations are consistent with EBSD analysis showing void nucleation along high angle misorientation boundaries



Damage model in crystal plasticity

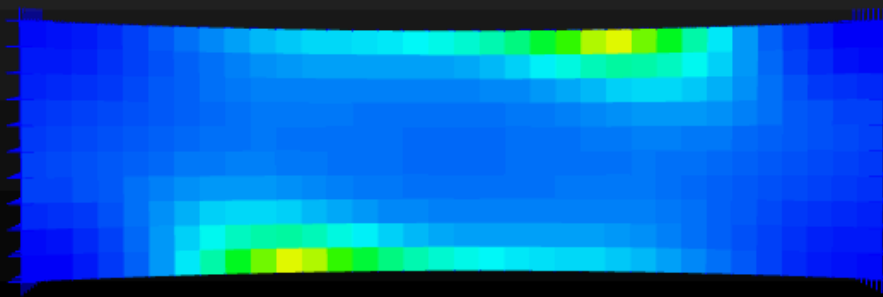
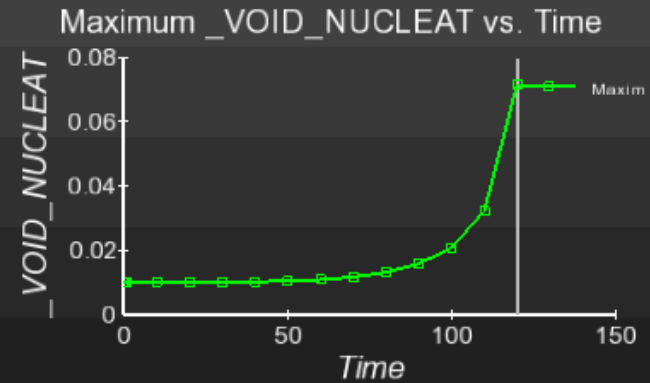
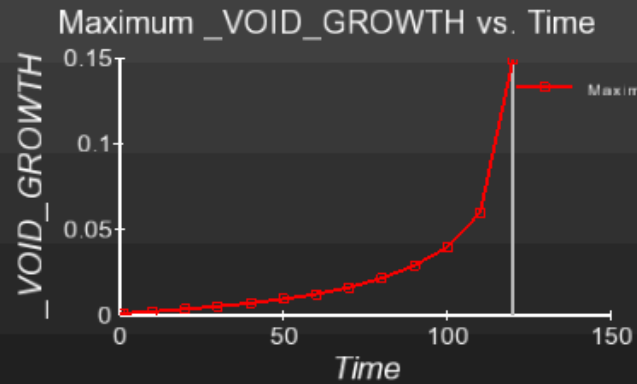
- Damage

$$\dot{\phi} = \underbrace{\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \dot{\epsilon}_p \frac{1 - (1 - \phi)^{m+1}}{(1 - \phi)^m} \cdot \sinh \left[\frac{2(2m - 1)}{2m + 1} \frac{\langle p \rangle}{\sigma_e} \right]}_{\text{Void growth}} + \underbrace{(1 - \phi)^2 \dot{\eta} v_{vo}}_{\text{Void nucleation}}.$$

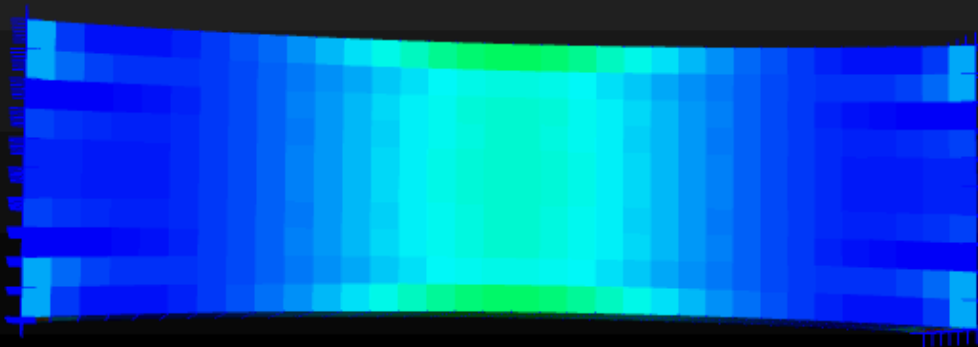
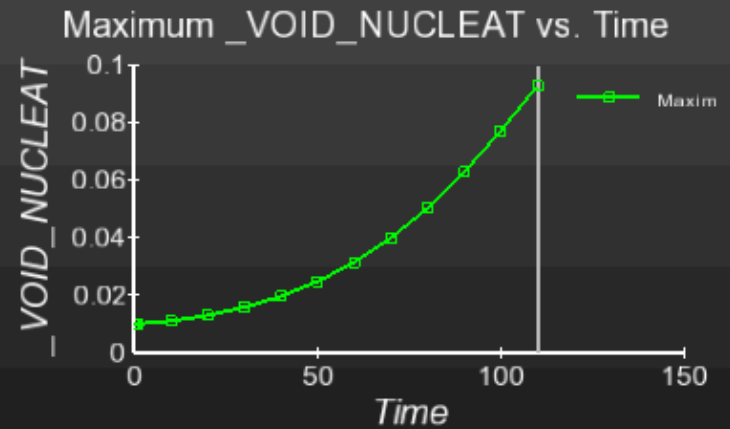
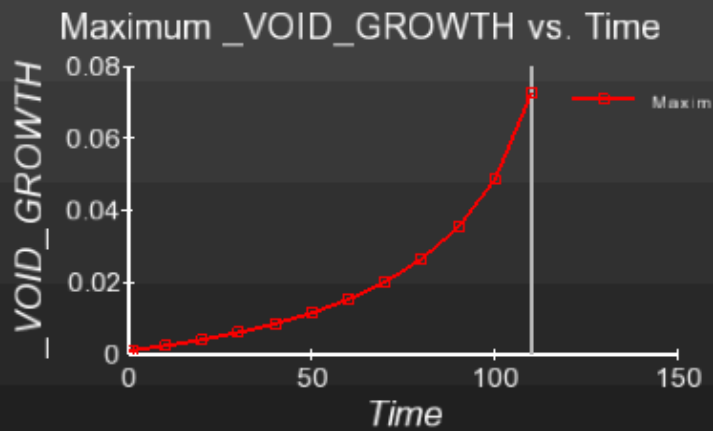
- Constitutive model

$$\dot{\gamma}^\alpha = \dot{\gamma}_0 \left(\frac{\tau^\alpha}{(1 - \phi) g^\alpha} \right)^{1/m}$$

Ta single crystal simulation: [111]

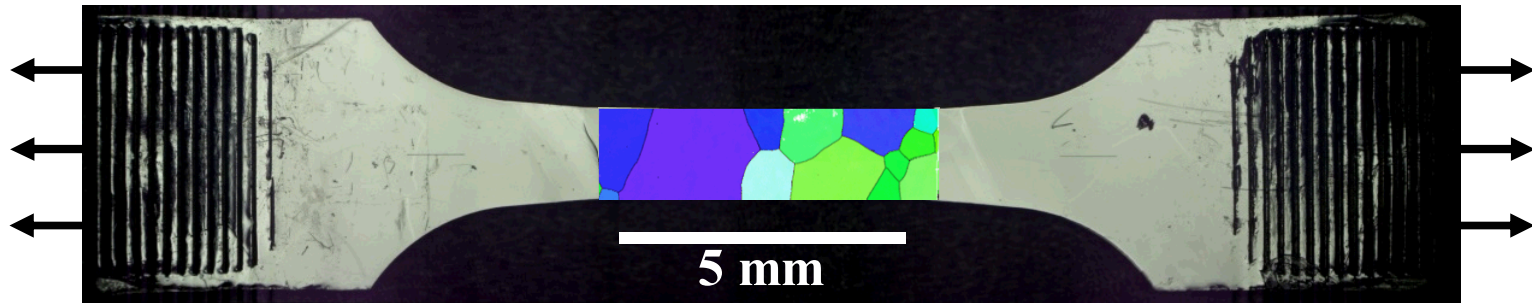


Ta single crystal simulation: [110]

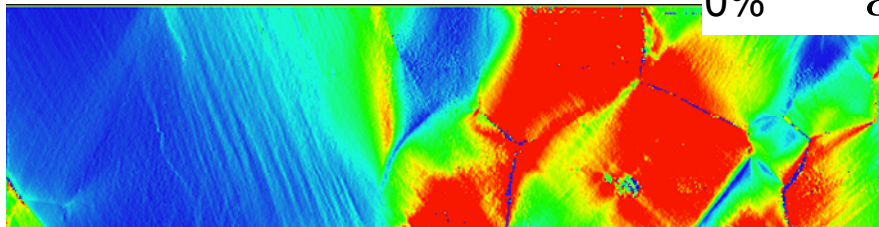


[110]

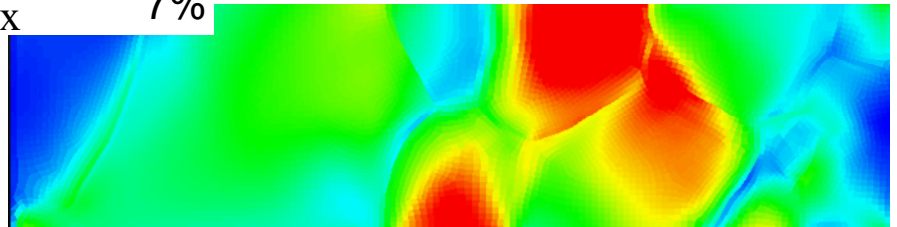
Crystal Plasticity Predictions



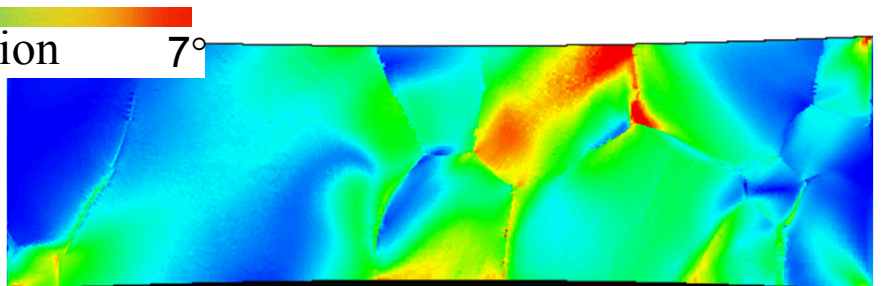
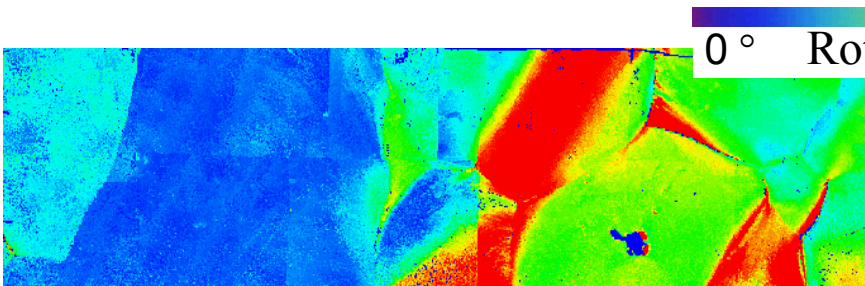
Experimental Strains (DIC)



Model Strains (CP-FEM)



0% ϵ_{xx} 7%



0° Rotation 7°

Great comparison *qualitatively*, but strain and rotation are underpredicted