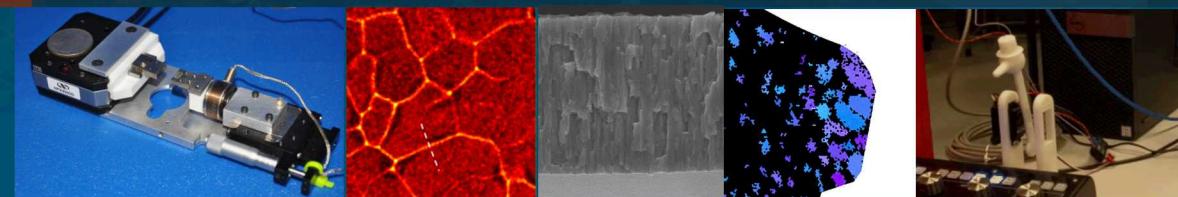


Watching High-cycle Fatigue in Nanocrystalline Pt and Pt-Au



Office of
Science

PRESENTED BY

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David P. Adams, Timothy A. Furnish, Brad L. Boyce



SAND2020-2457PE



TMS 2020:

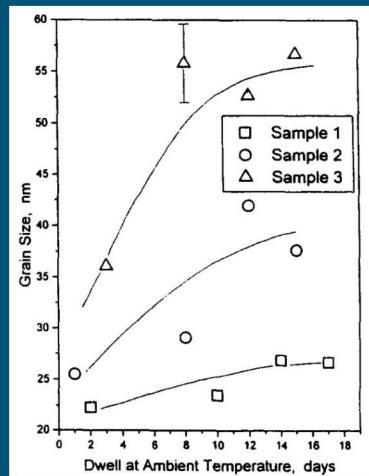
Fatigue in Materials:

Fundamentals, Multiscale

Characterizations and

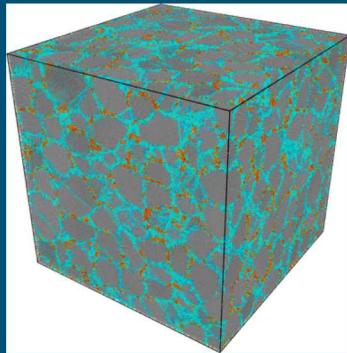
Computational Modeling

Motivation – solute segregated nanocrystalline alloys



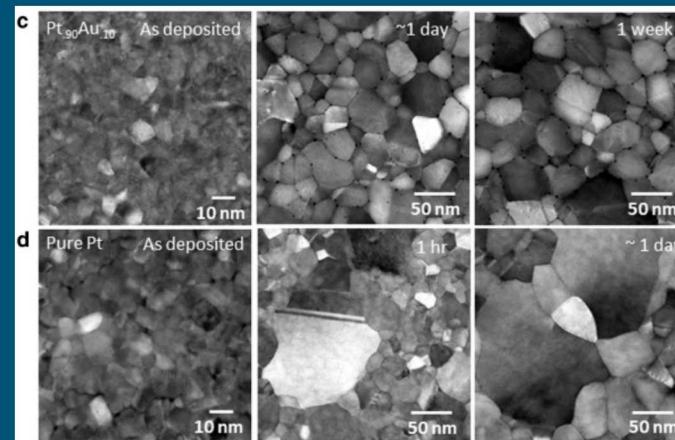
Gertsman, V.Y. and Birringer, R., *Scr. Metall. Mater.* 1994

Room temperature grain growth in pure nanocrystalline Cu



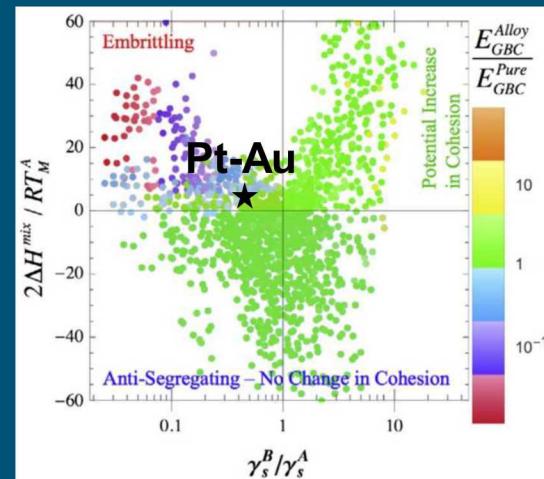
FCC Pt Non-FCC Pt Au
O'Brien, C.J. et al., *J. Mater. Sci.* 2018

Stabilization through grain boundary segregation



Lu, P. et al. *Materialia*, 2019

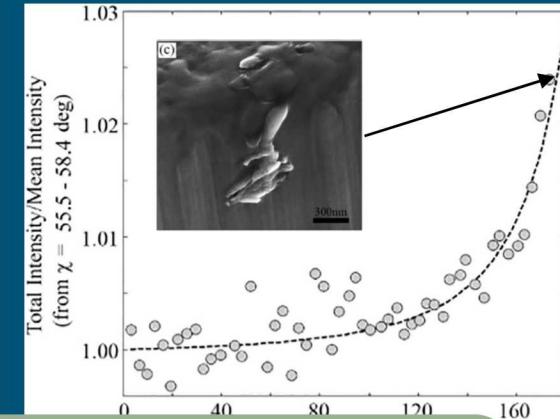
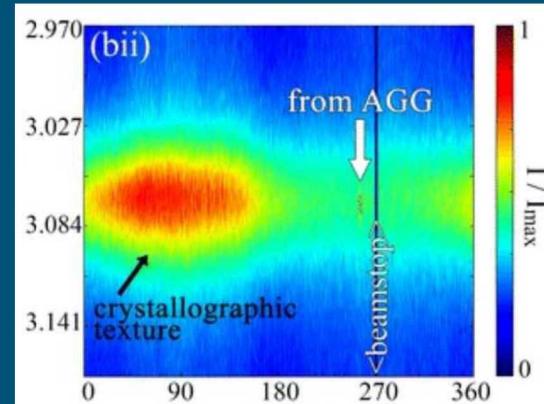
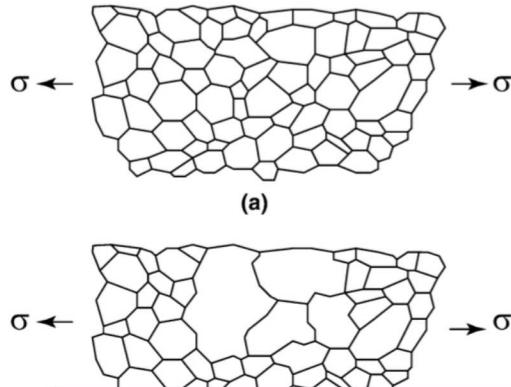
Improved thermal stability



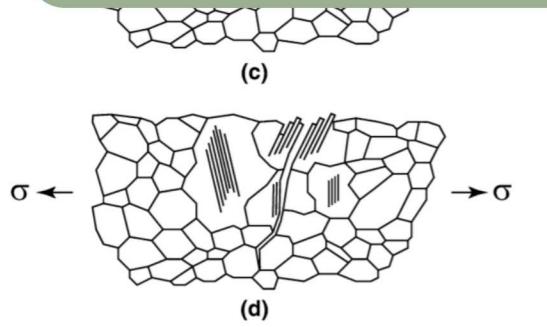
Gibson, M.A., Schuh, C.A., *Acta Materialia*, 2019

At the cost of grain boundary embrittlement

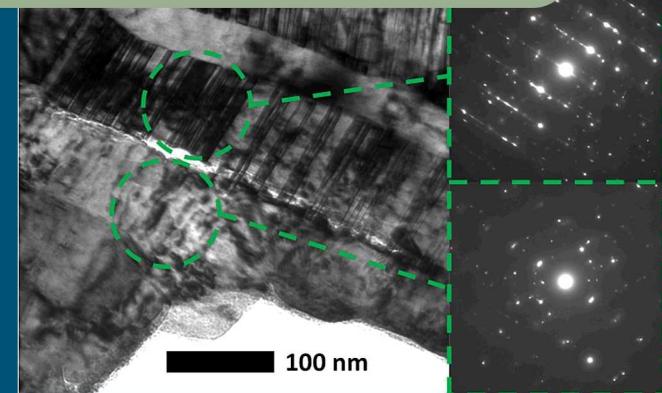
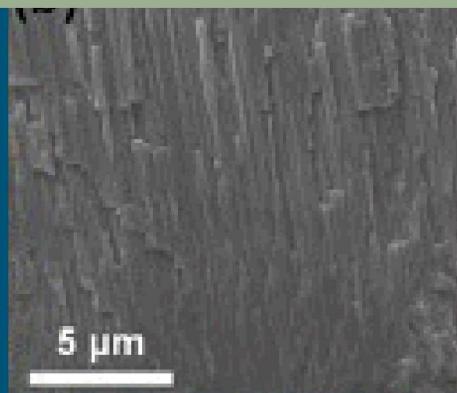
Background – fatigue in nanocrystalline metals



Goal: Understand how complex solute segregated nanocrystalline metals behaves under fatigue loading



Padilla, H., Boyce, B. *Exp. Mech* 2010



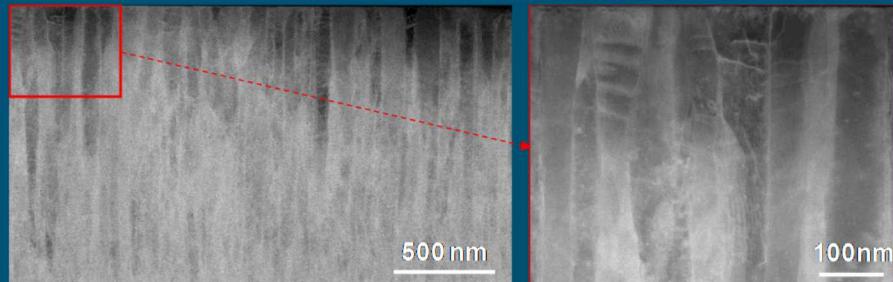
Heckman, NM et al., *Acta Mat.* 2017.

Abnormal grain growth typically observed in simple nanocrystalline FCC metal

Complex nanocrystalline metals (nanotwinned CuAl) can show other fatigue modes

Material System: Nanocrystalline Pt and Pt-Au

Cross-sectional TEM

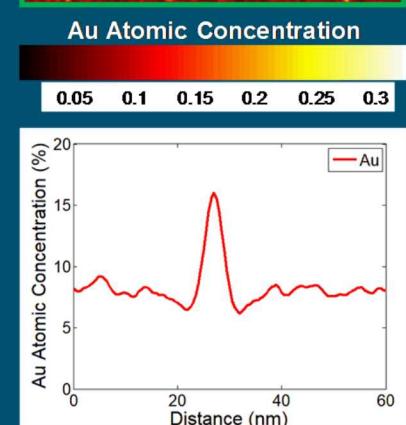
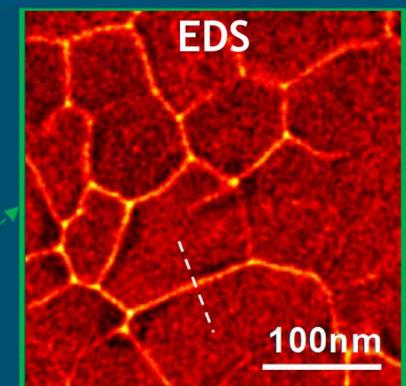
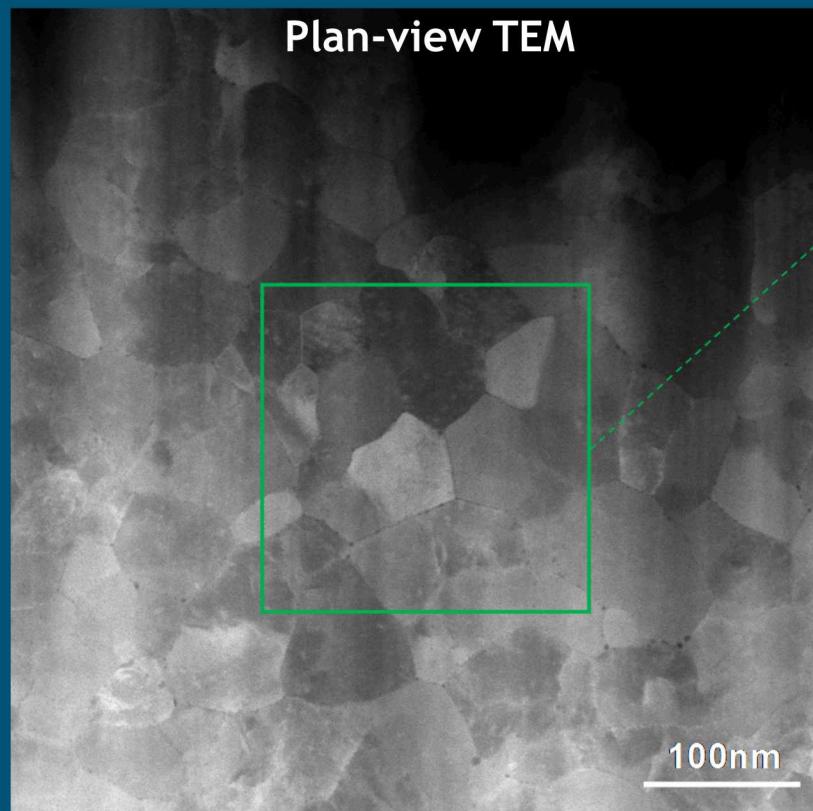


5 μm thick magnetron sputtered films

- Pure Pt, Pt-10at%Au (Pt-10Au)

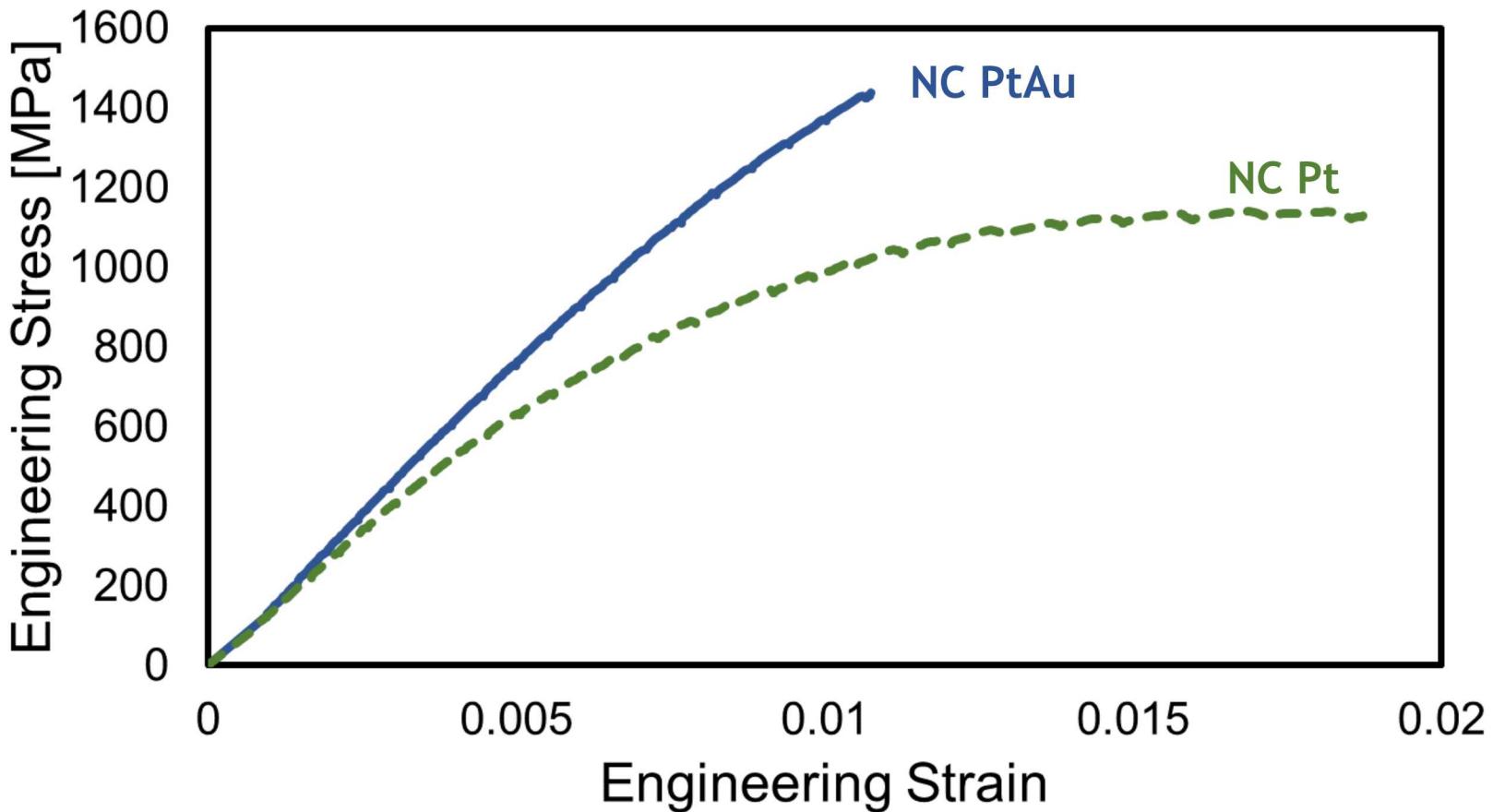
\sim 40 nm mean grain width

Plan-view TEM



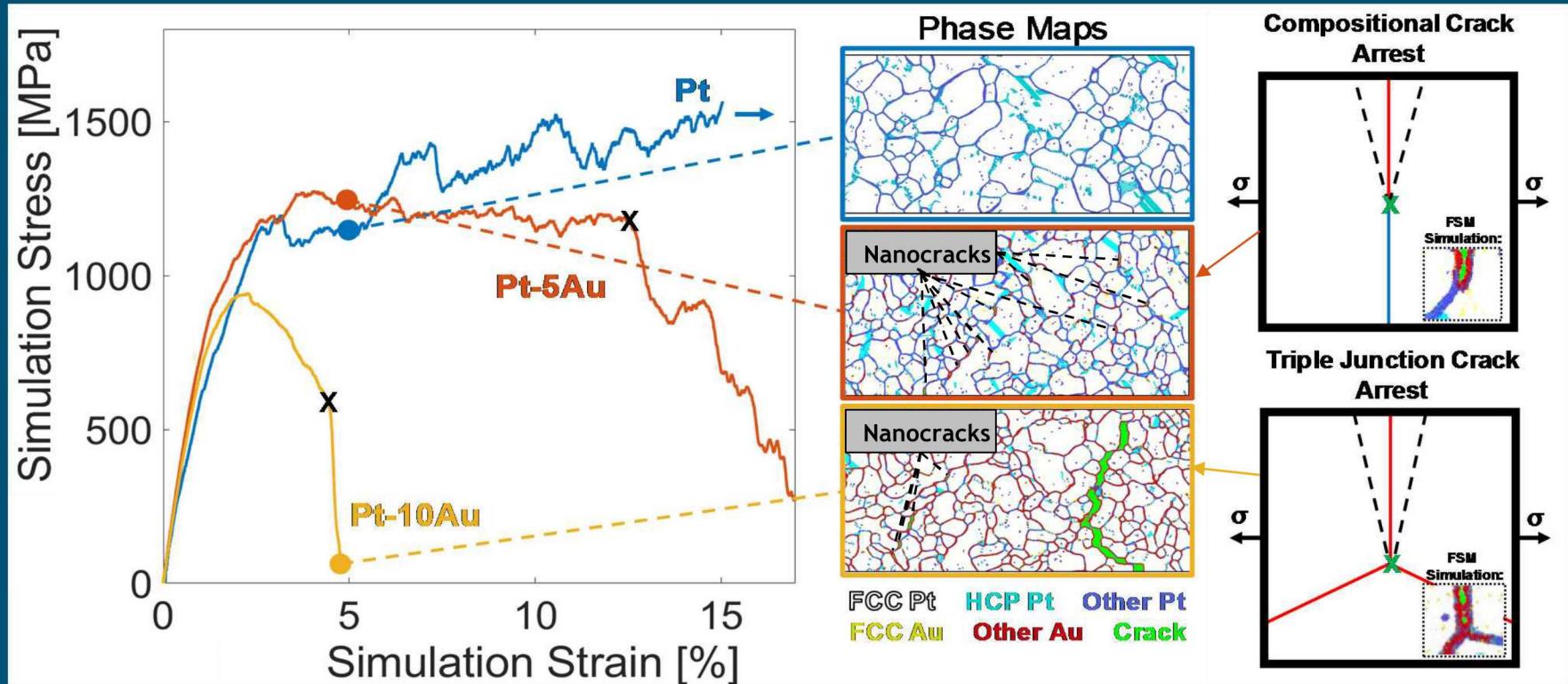
Au segregation to boundary observed in as-sputtered films

NC Pt and PtAu – Monotonic Tensile Properties



NC PtAu system shows improved strength, however reduced ductility compared to NC Pt

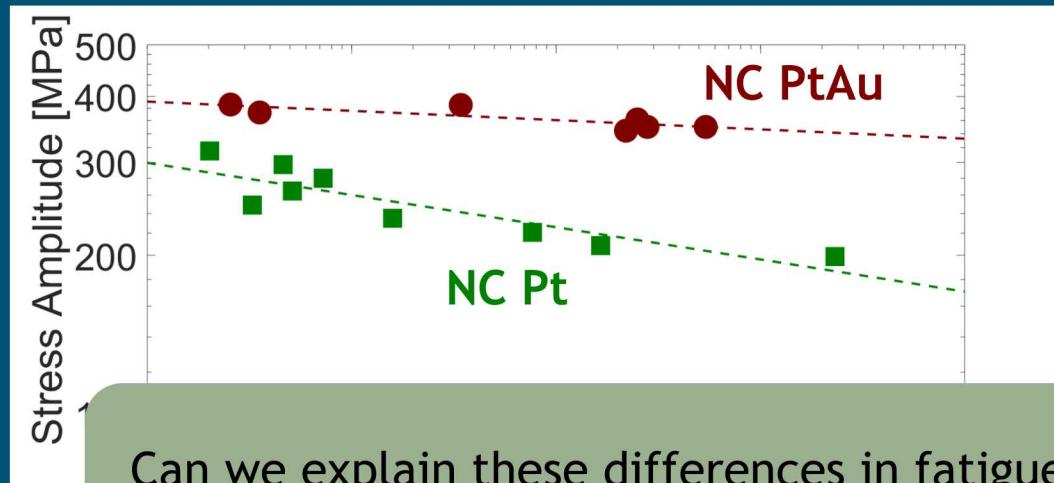
6 NC Pt and PtAu – Embrittlement and Crack Arrest



NC PtAu has the potential to maintain some toughness through the formation of nanocrack networks that form due to various crack arrest mechanisms

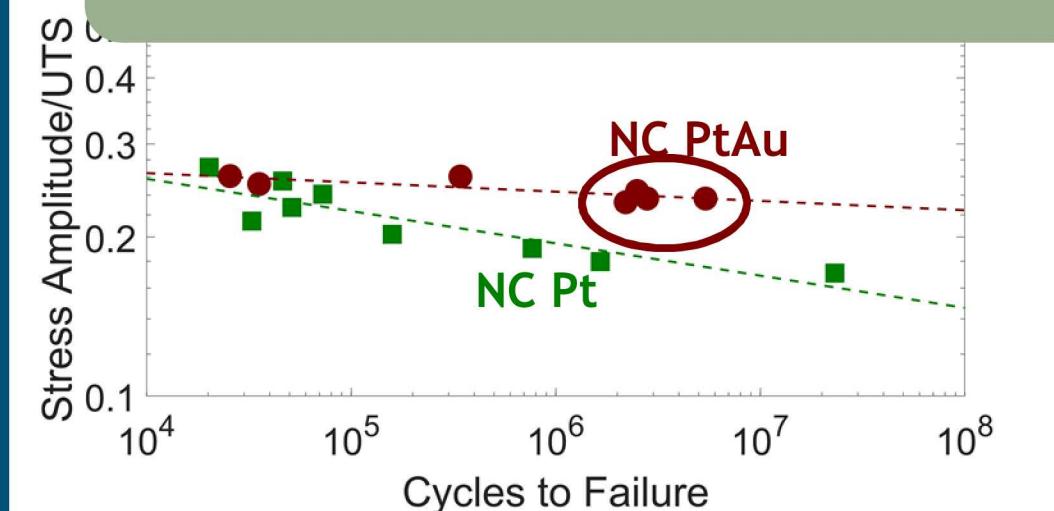
The experimental PtAu is most similar to Pt-10Au in the simulations, which shows the lowest toughness

NC Pt and PtAu – Unnotched Wöhler (S-N) Curves



High fatigue strengths in NC PtAu are at least partially due to high tensile strength of material

Can we explain these differences in fatigue properties by understanding the cyclic deformation mechanisms of each system?

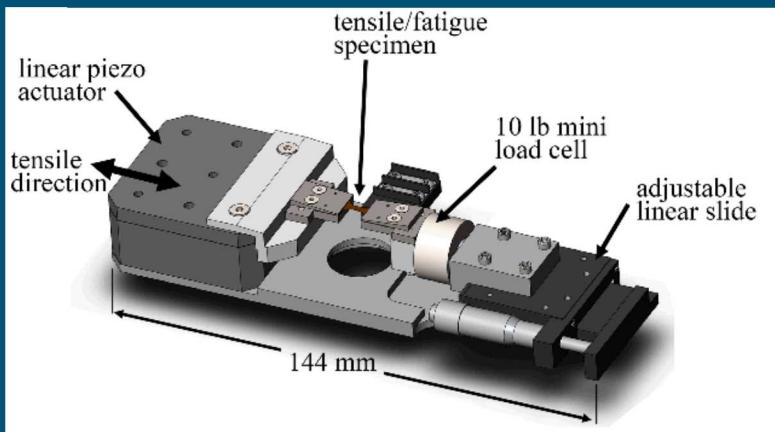


NC PtAu shows relatively high fatigue strengths at higher fatigue lifetimes, with relatively small Basquin slope

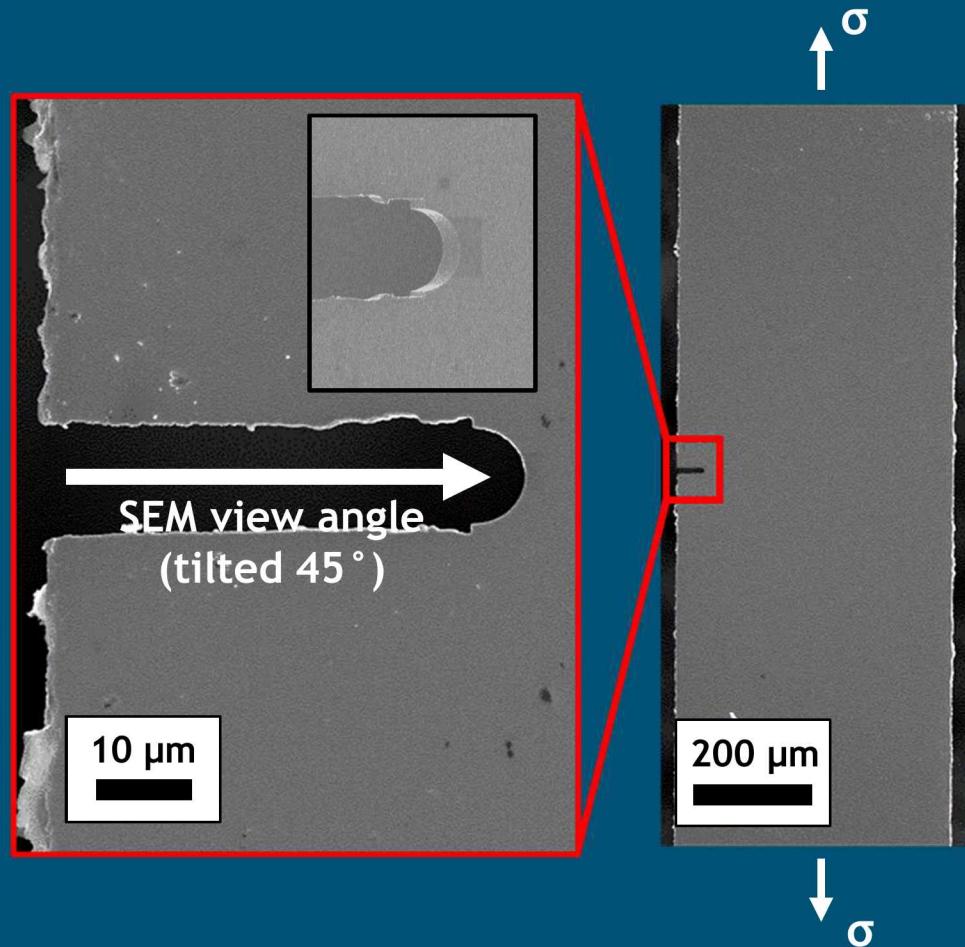
Method: Automated In-situ SEM Fatigue Tests



Custom fatigue load frame



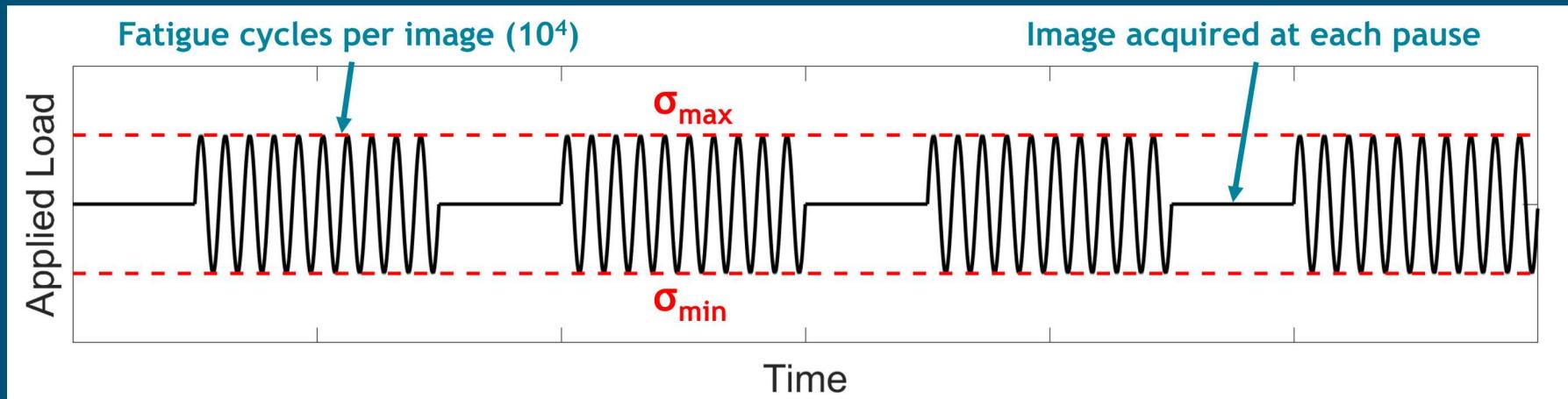
Sample preparation



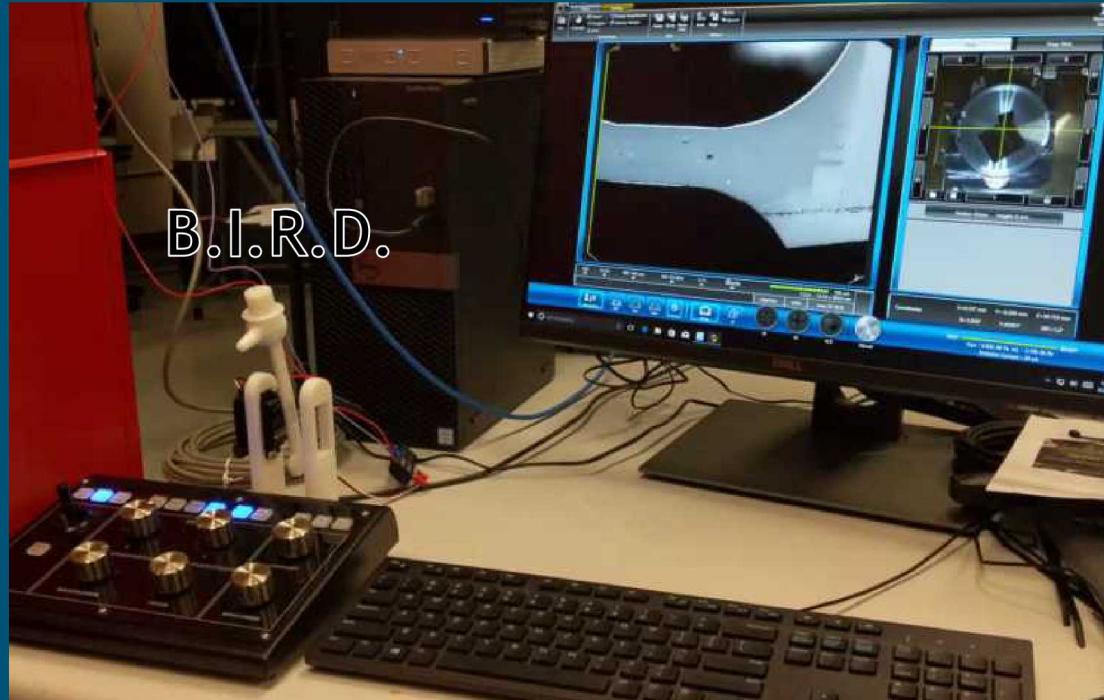
I³SEM at Sandia National Labs*



Method: Automated In-situ SEM Fatigue Tests

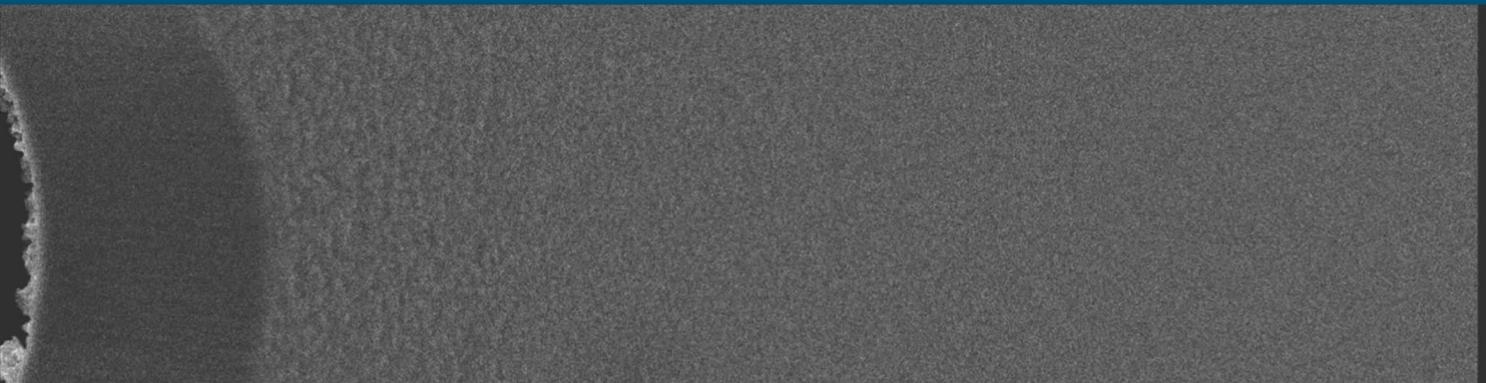


- Automation of entire process with Basic Image Recording Device (B.I.R.D.)
- All fatigue tests performed at 30 Hz, $\sigma_{\min}/\sigma_{\max}=0.3$
- 3-5 tests in 10^6 - 10^7 cycle regime (varying load) for both Pt and Pt-Au
- Longest test performed: 2.7×10^7 cycles over 15 days



Watching High-cycle Fatigue in Nanocrystalline Pt and Pt-Au

NC PtAu
 5.7×10^6 cycles
to failure



Understand the following:

(1) How the crack initiates (2) How the crack propagates

NC Pt
 4.0×10^6 cycles
to failure

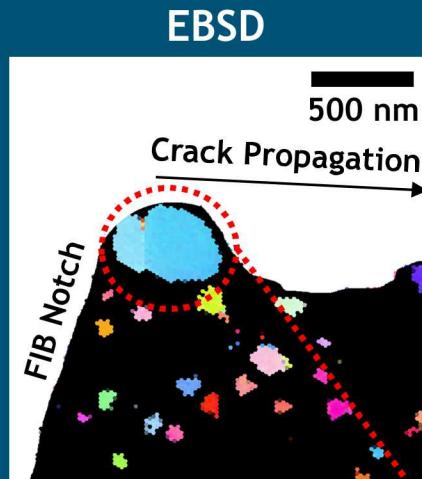
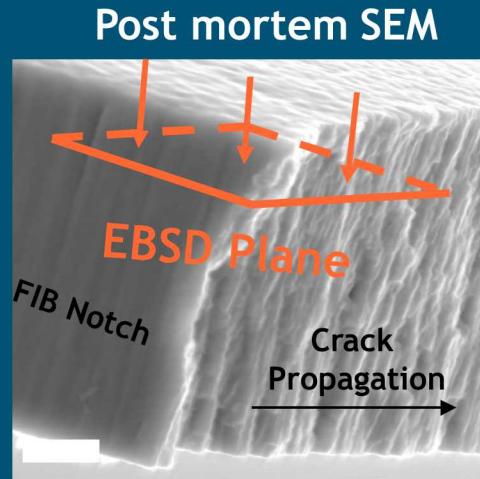
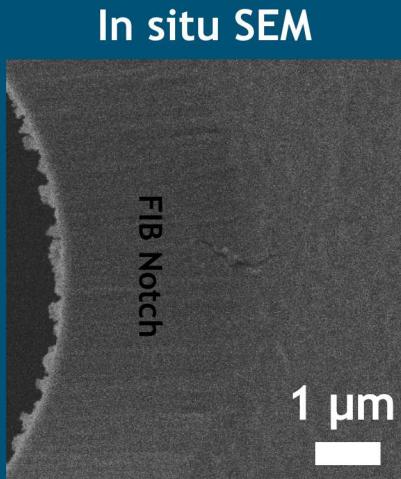


5 μm

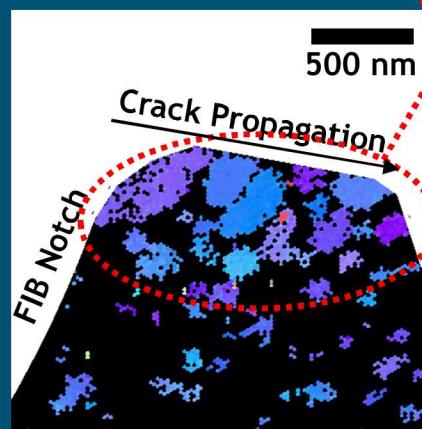
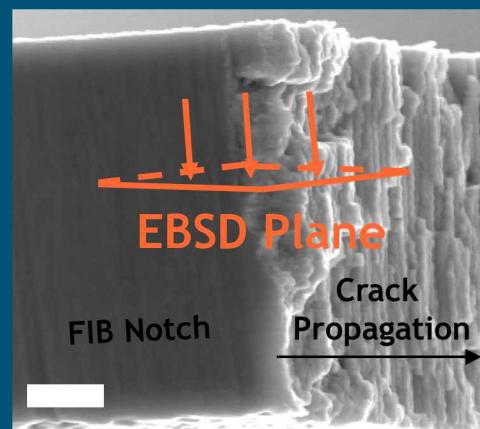
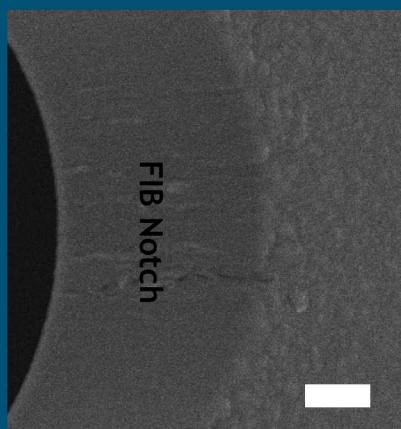
10,000 \times speed \rightarrow 3×10^5 fatigue cycles per second

11 Crack Initiation: Mechanism

NC PtAu
 2.8×10^6 cycles
to failure



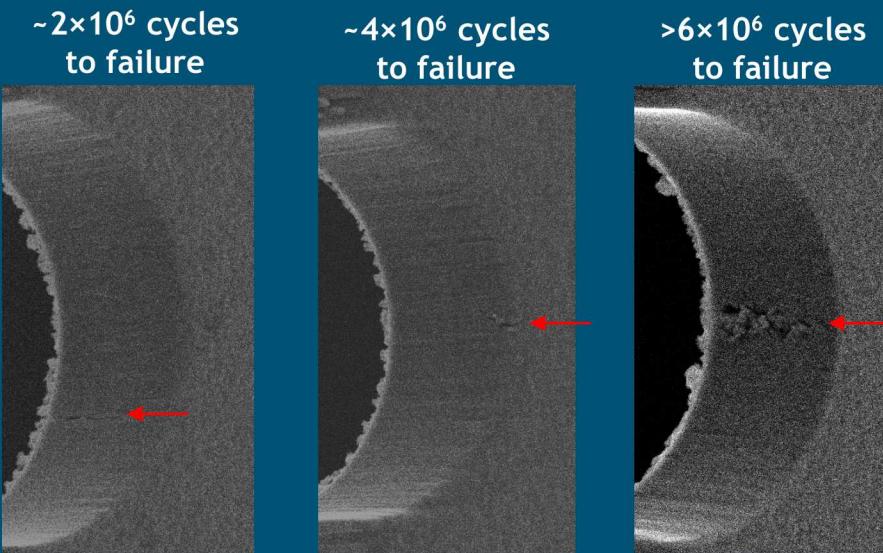
NC Pt
 4.0×10^6 cycles
to failure



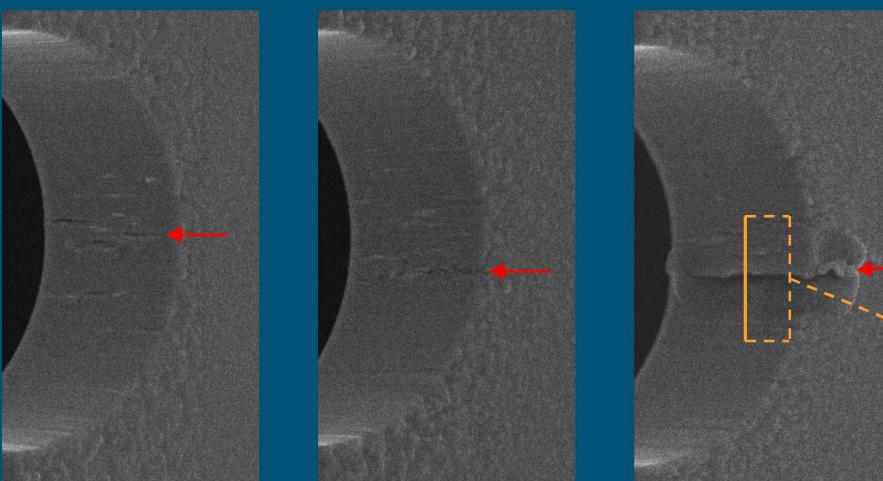
In both NC Pt and PtAu, the crack initiates through abnormal grain growth

Crack Initiation: Size Effects

NC PtAu

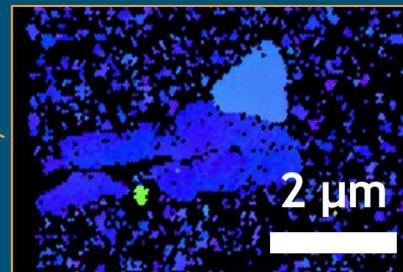


NC Pt



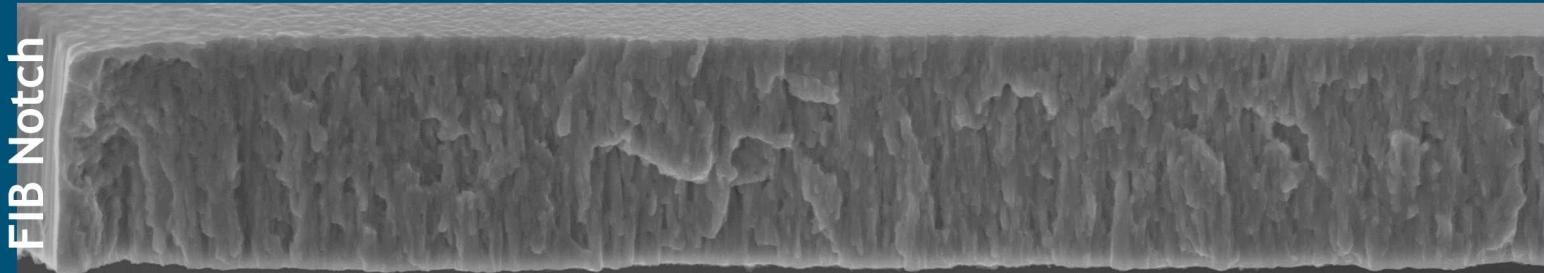
Increased fatigue lifetime

**Larger grain growth
required prior to crack
initiation at lower
fatigue stresses/higher
fatigue lifetimes**

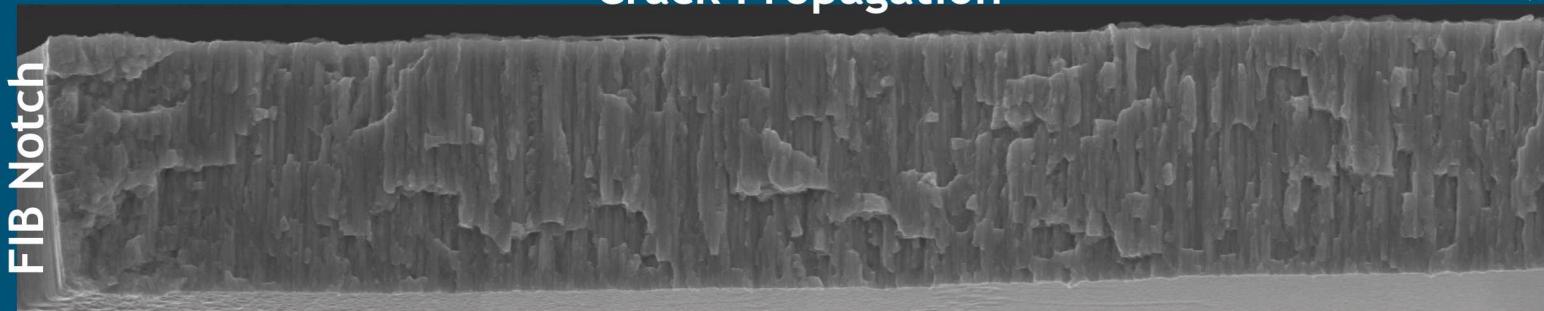


Crack Propagation: Mechanisms

NC PtAu
 2.8×10^6 cycles
to failure

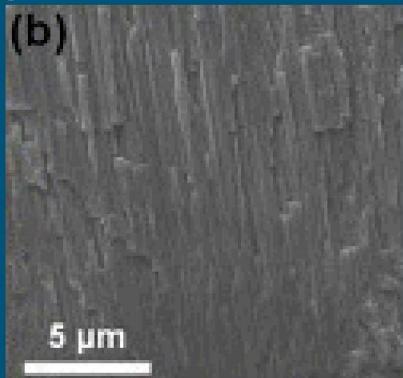


NC Pt
 4.0×10^6 cycles
to failure



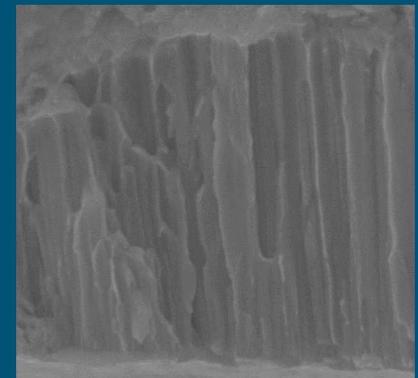
2 μ m

Fatigue: Nanotwinned Cu-Al



Fracture surface morphologies in both systems consistent with intergranular fracture observed in previous studies

Tension: Nanocrystalline PtAu

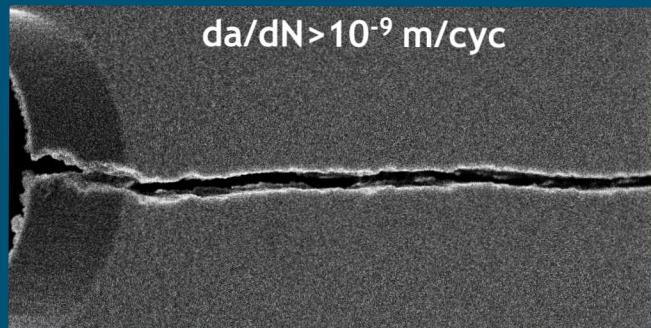


Crack Propagation: Rates

NC PtAu
 5.0×10^6 cycles
to failure



10^4 cycles
 $\Delta K \sim 3.8 \text{ MPa} \sqrt{\text{m}}$

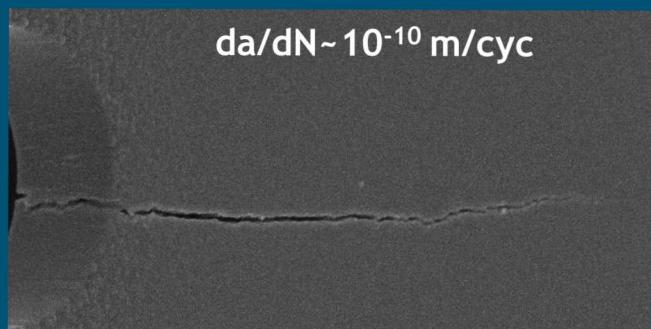


$da/dN > 10^{-9} \text{ m/cyc}$

NC Pt
 4.0×10^6 cycles
to failure



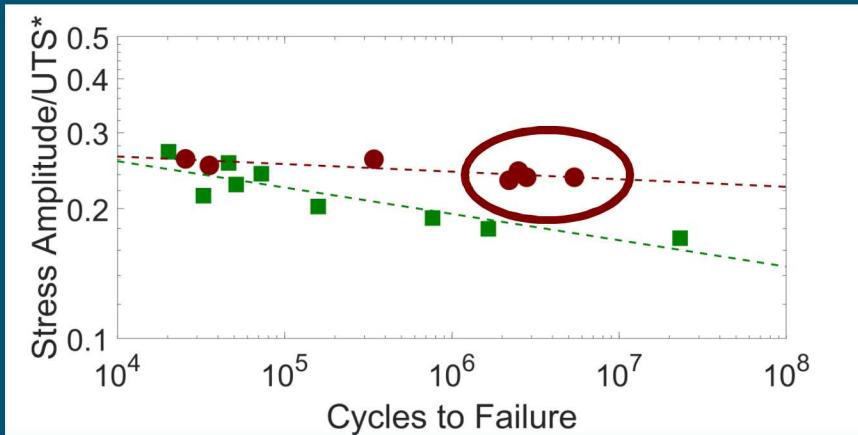
10^5 cycles
 $\Delta K \sim 3.0 \text{ MPa} \sqrt{\text{m}}$



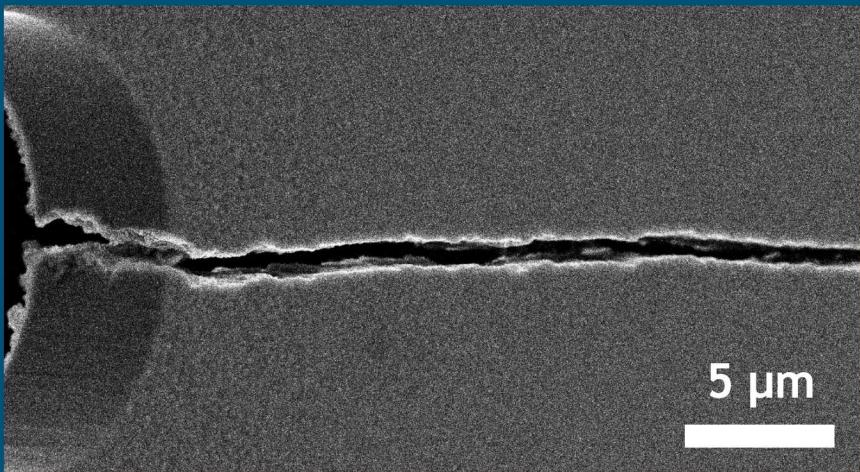
$da/dN \sim 10^{-10} \text{ m/cyc}$

In the high cycle fatigue regime, stable crack propagation was much faster in the PtAu system

Conclusion: Cyclic vs Monotonic Deformation



High fatigue strength in PtAu, especially at high lifetimes



Higher crack growth rates in PtAu

Future work will further investigate the nanoscale deformation mechanisms through TEM

Larger grain growth required for crack initiation at higher regimes



Higher resistance to grain growth in monotonic loading in NC PtAu

Fracture surfaces consistent with intergranular fracture



Grain boundary embrittlement in NC PtAu due to Au segregation

Thank you!



Relevant talk: Watching cracks heal in TEM in nanocrystalline Pt

4:00 PM Invited

Fatigue-crack Healing in Pure Nanocrystalline Pt Enabled by Boundary Evolution: Christopher Barr¹; Ta Duong²; Daniel Bufford¹; Nathan Heckman¹; Michael Demkowicz²; Khalid Hattar¹; Brad Boyce¹;

¹Sandia National Laboratories; ²Texas A&M University