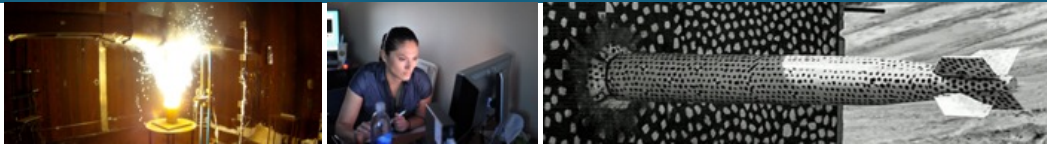


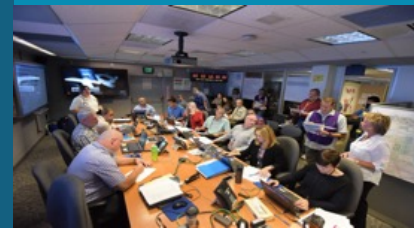


# Applications of 3D EBSD for understanding complex microstructures



*Andrew Polonsky, Julia Deitz, Hojun Lim, Philip Noel,  
Michael Melia, Kyle Johnson, Peter Renner, Kasandra  
Herrera, Luis Jauregui, and Damion Cummings*

Monday, March 4, 2024



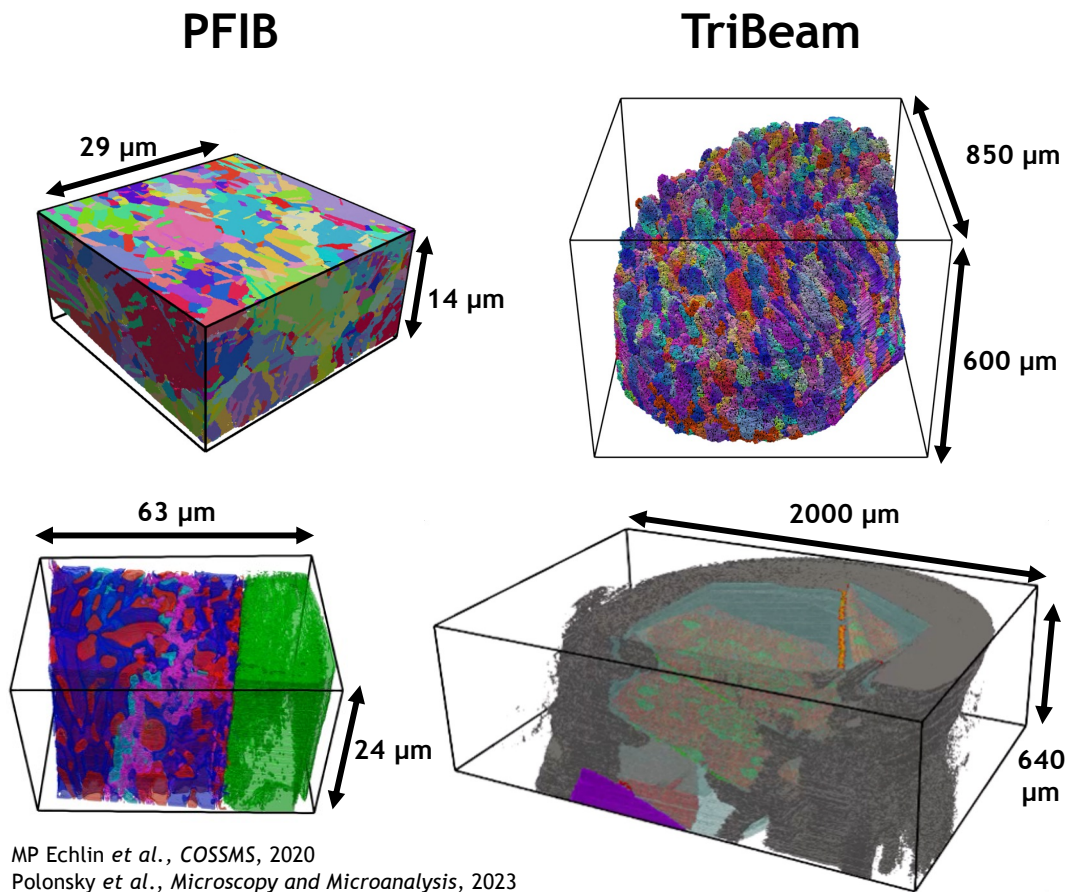
Sandia National Laboratories is a multimission laboratory managed and operated by National Technology & Engineering Solutions of Sandia, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Honeywell International Inc., for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-NA0003525.

## Outline

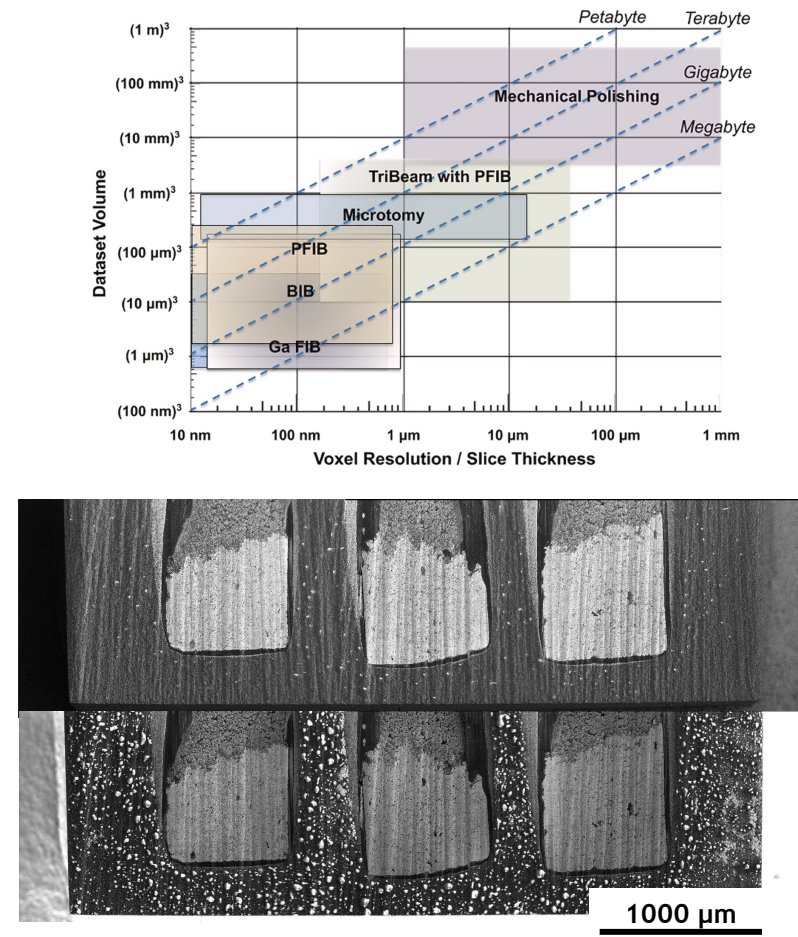
- Motivation
- Orientation Gradients in 3D
- Multimodal Data Fusion
- EBSD Distortion Correction
- Integration with Modeling
- Conclusion



### 3D Characterization has Advanced Significantly in the last Decade

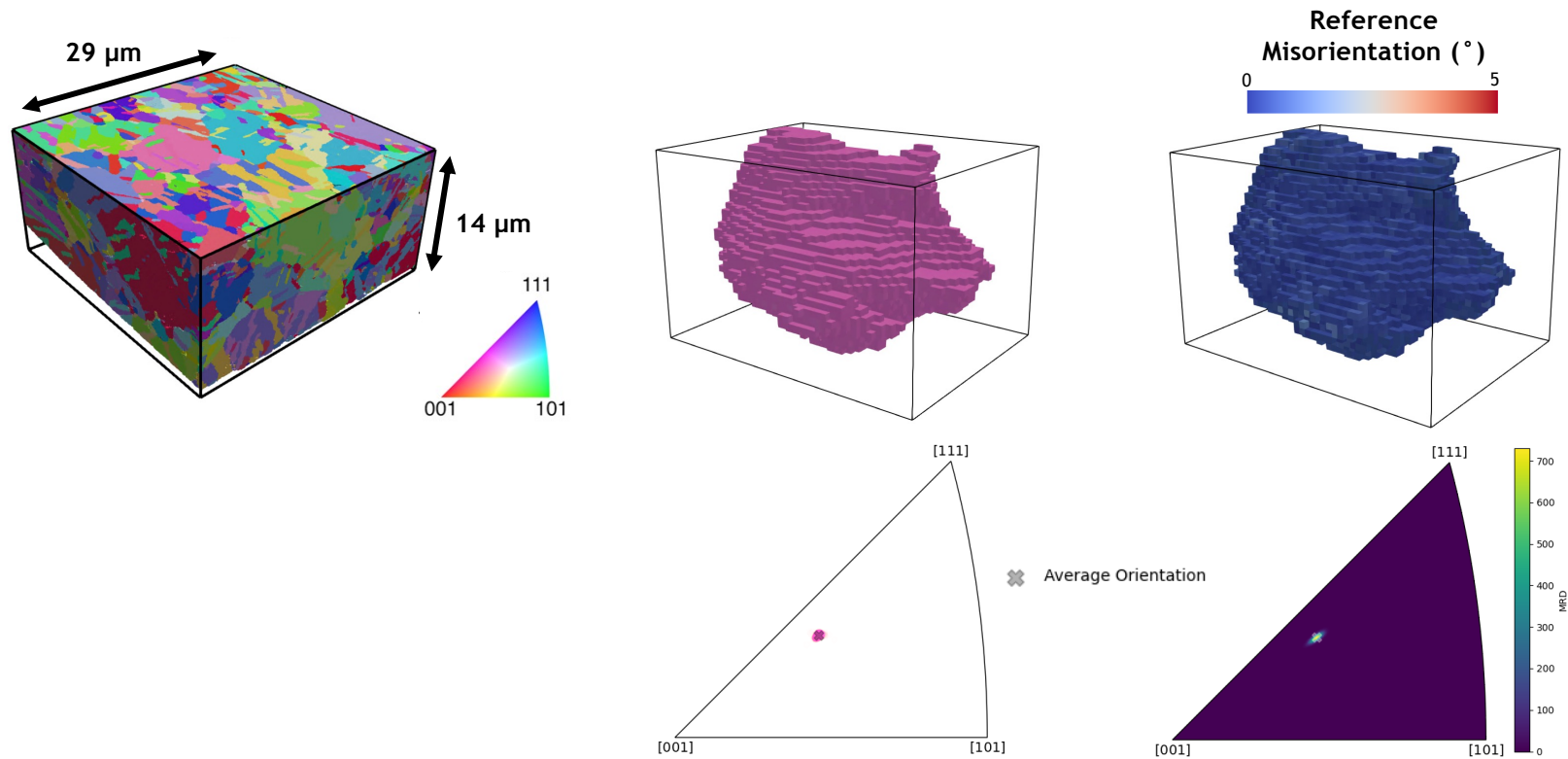


MP Echlin *et al.*, *COSSMS*, 2020  
 Polonsky *et al.*, *Microscopy and Microanalysis*, 2023



## 5 | Complex 3D microstructures exhibit large orientation gradients

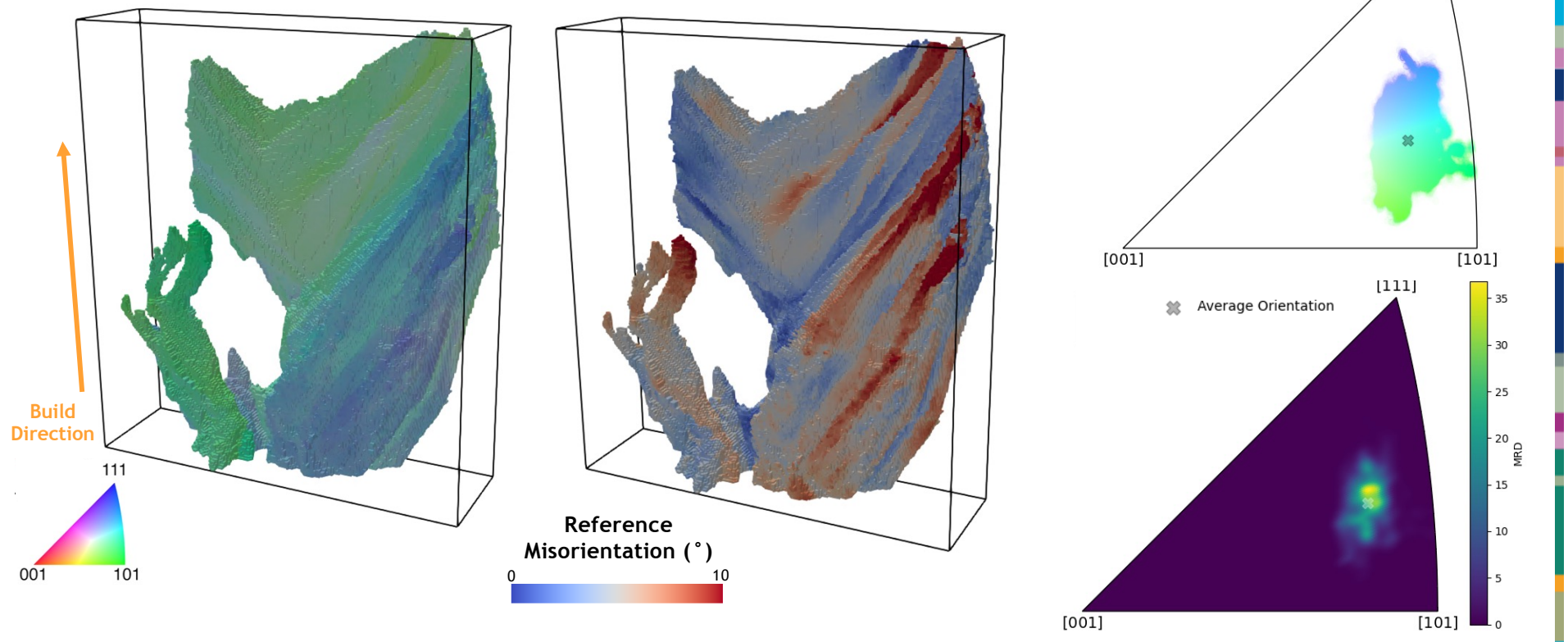
- Well-annealed or undeformed crystals are easily analyzed with approaches using 2D conventions



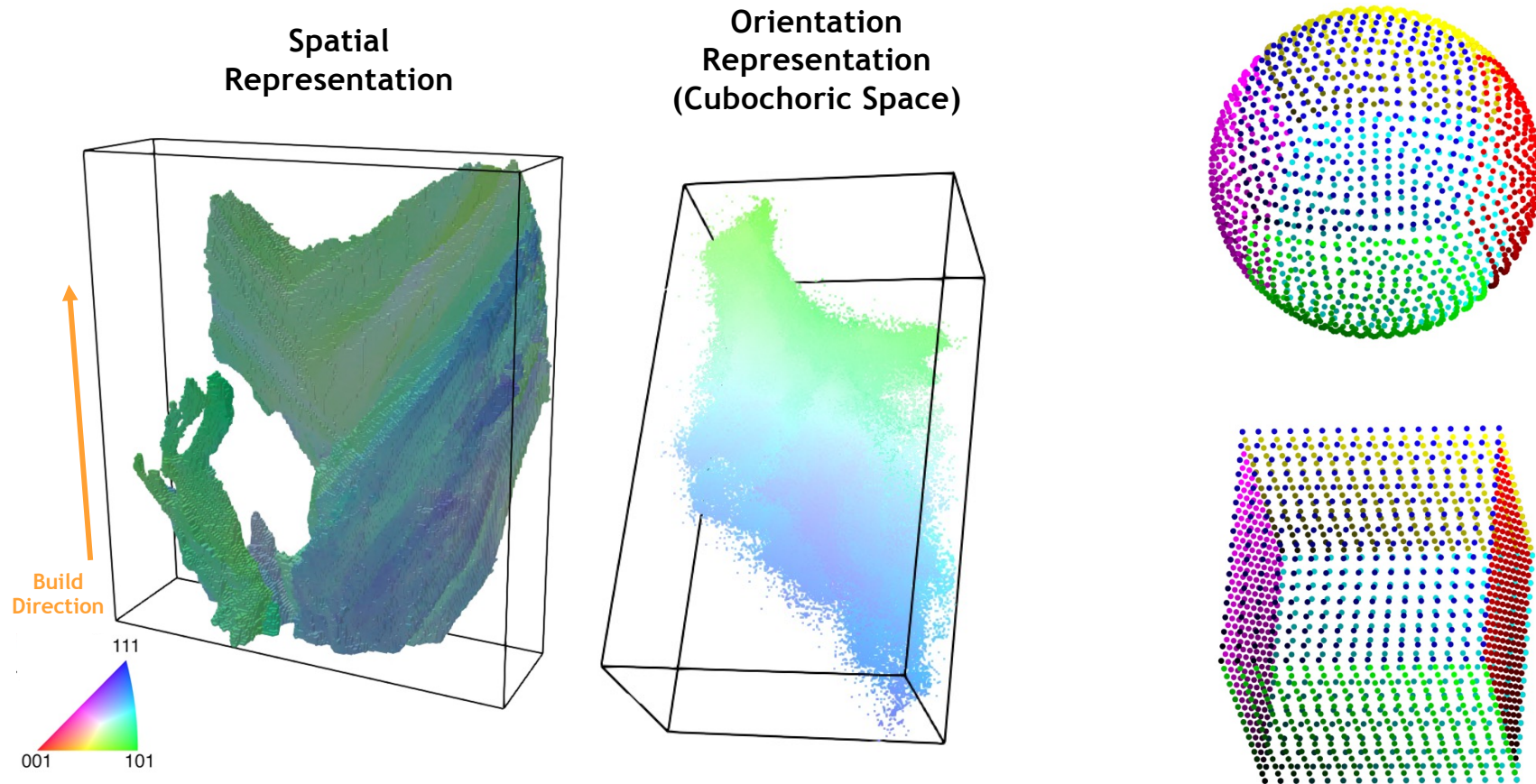


## 6 | Complex 3D microstructures exhibit large orientation gradients

- Average orientation is not necessarily a good reference in all cases

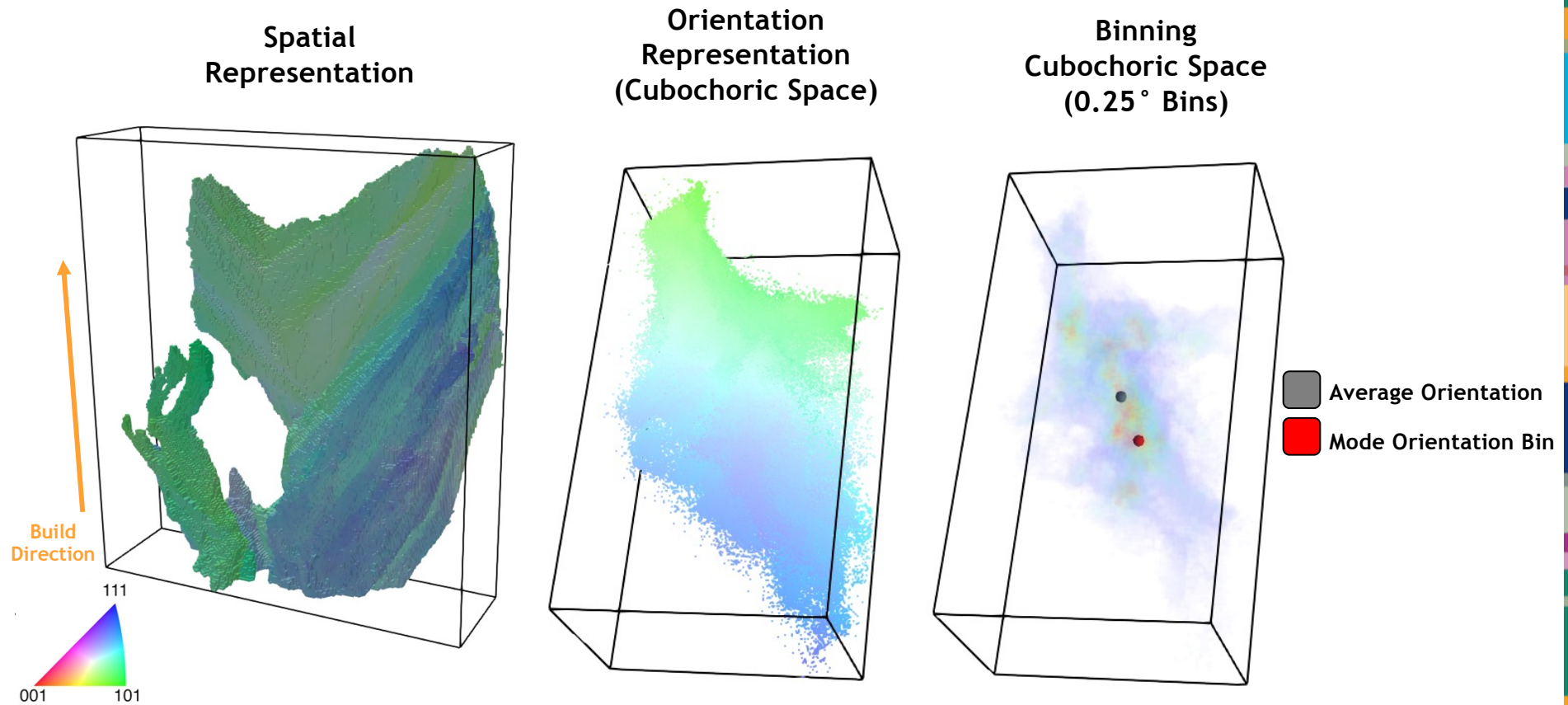


## 7 | Complex 3D microstructures exhibit large orientation gradients



D Roşca, A Morawiec, and M De Graef, *Modelling and Simulation in Materials Science and Engineering*, 2014  
S Singh and M D Graef, *Modelling and Simulation in Materials Science and Engineering*, 2016

9 | Complex 3D microstructures exhibit large orientation gradients



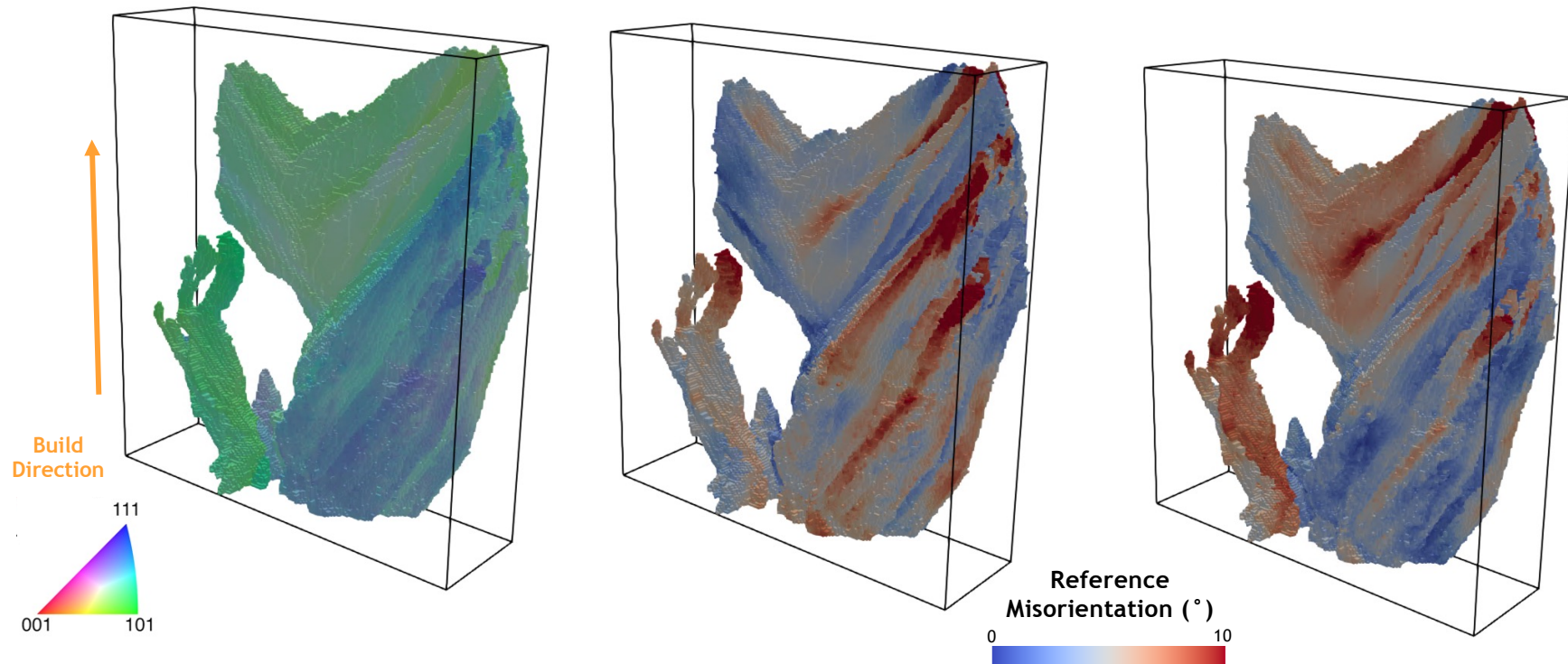
# Complex 3D microstructures exhibit large orientation gradients



Spatial  
Representation

Average Orientation  
Reference

Mode Orientation  
Reference

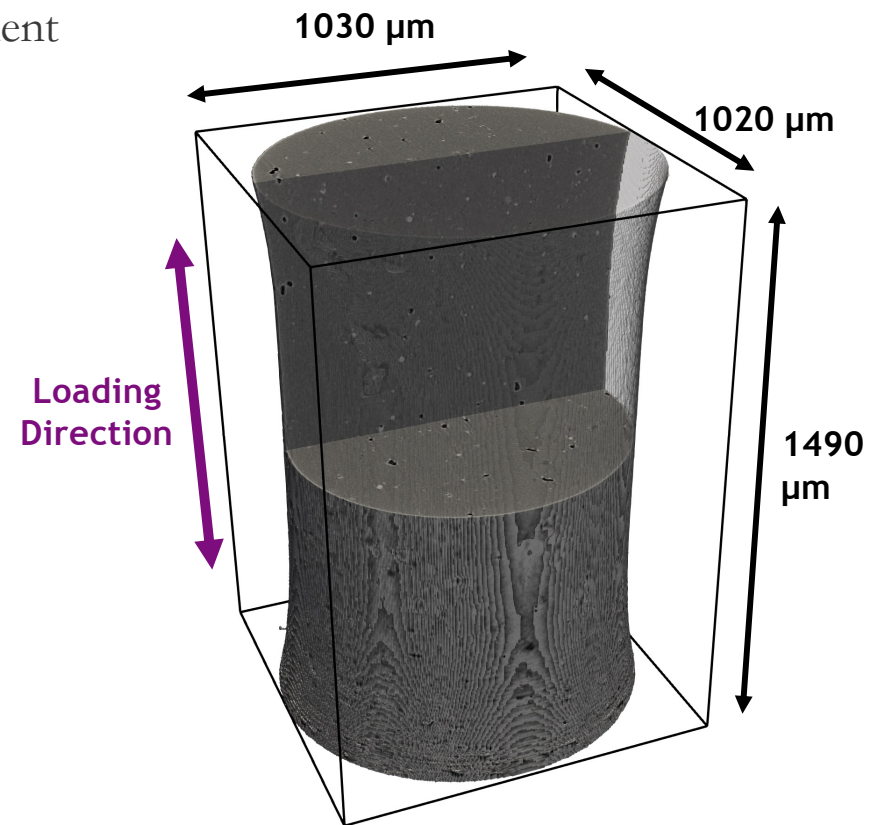
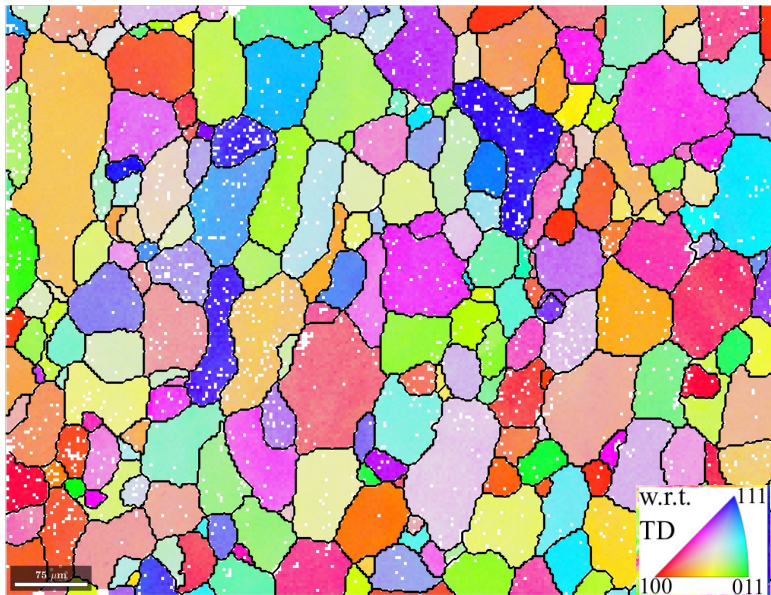




## In situ tensile experiment with $\mu$ CT and DCT



- Sample of Al 2219 processed with T6 heat treatment
  - Minimal texture
  - 55  $\mu\text{m}$  average grain size
  - 0.3% porosity
  - 0.5%  $\text{Al}_2\text{Cu}$  Particles





# In situ tensile experiment with $\mu$ CT and DCT



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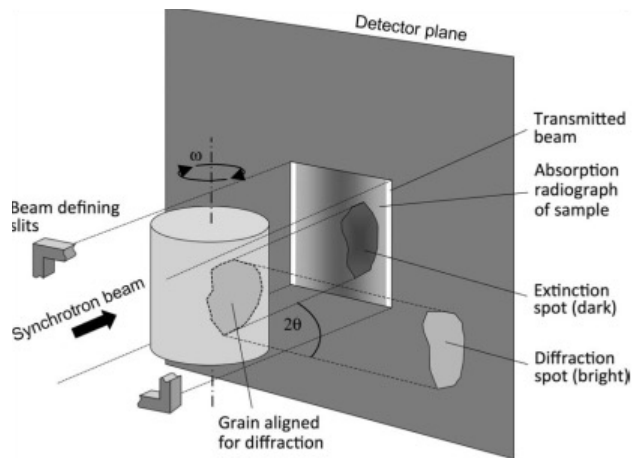
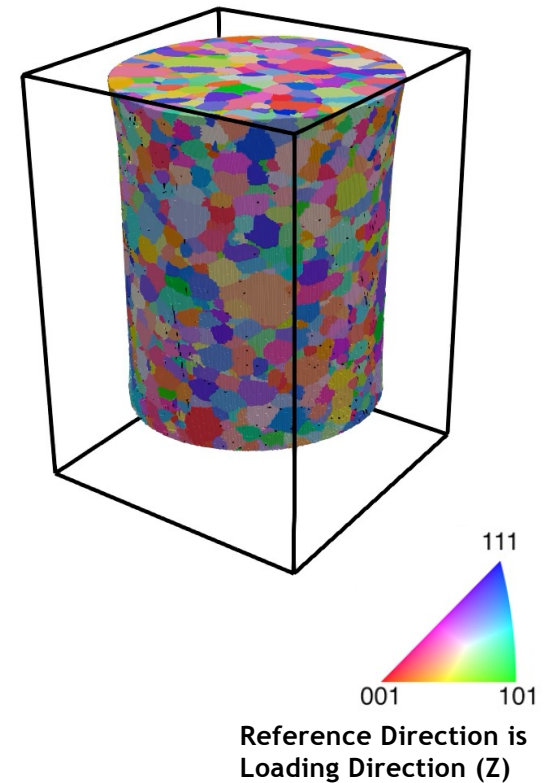
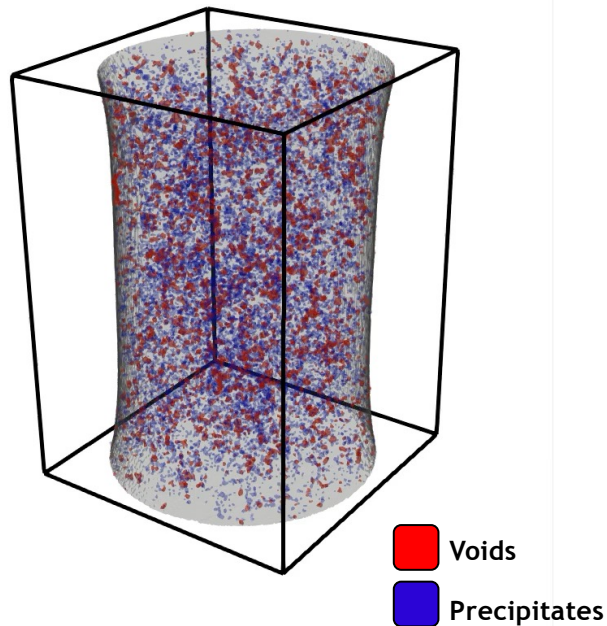
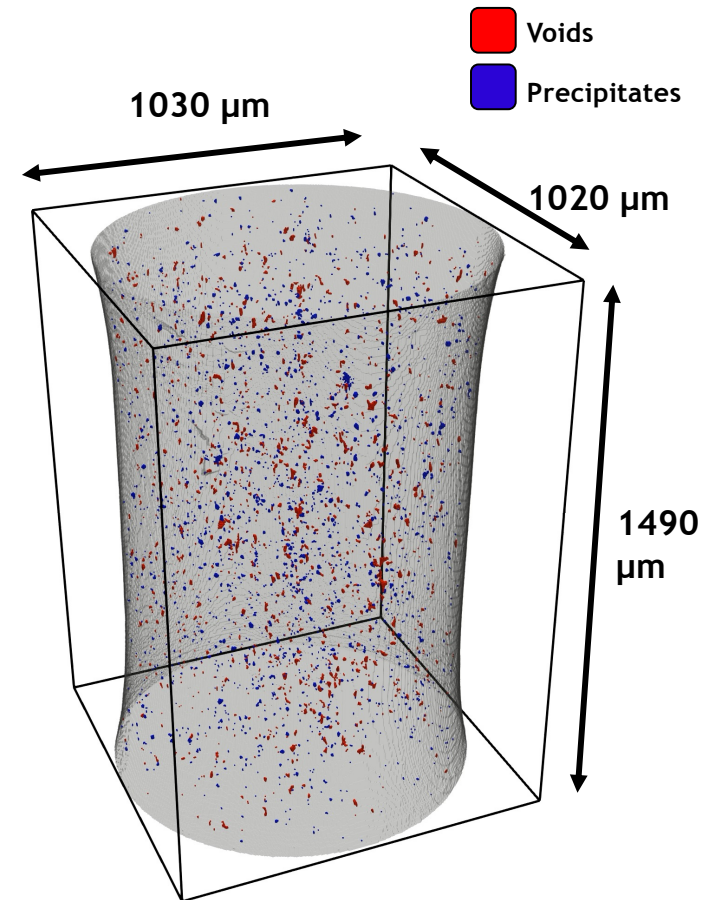
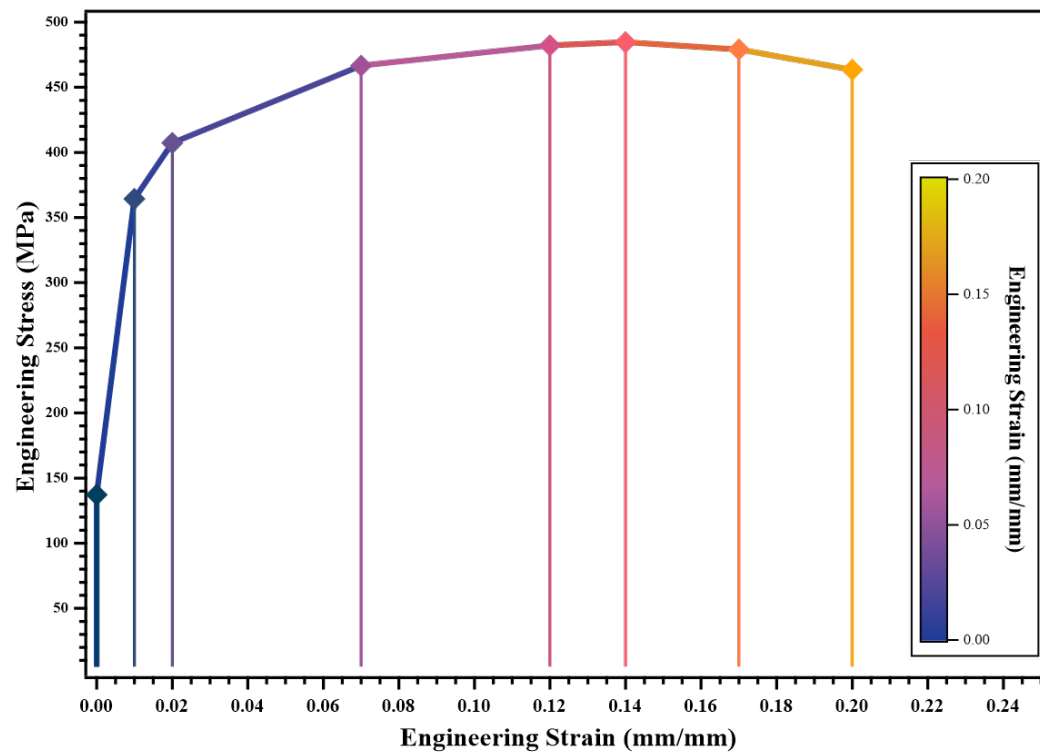


Image courtesy ESRF



## In situ tensile experiment with $\mu$ CT and DCT

- 8 intermittent scans taken at fixed displacements until fracture



## Ex situ analysis of fractured sample

- Understand deformation via orientation analysis
  - DCT cannot handle large deformations
- Utilized destructive serial sectioning in the SEM via TriBeam Tomography
- Ultimately want to fuse all data modalities into a single reference frame

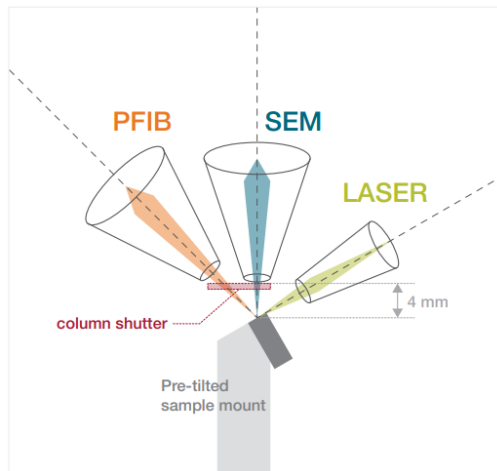
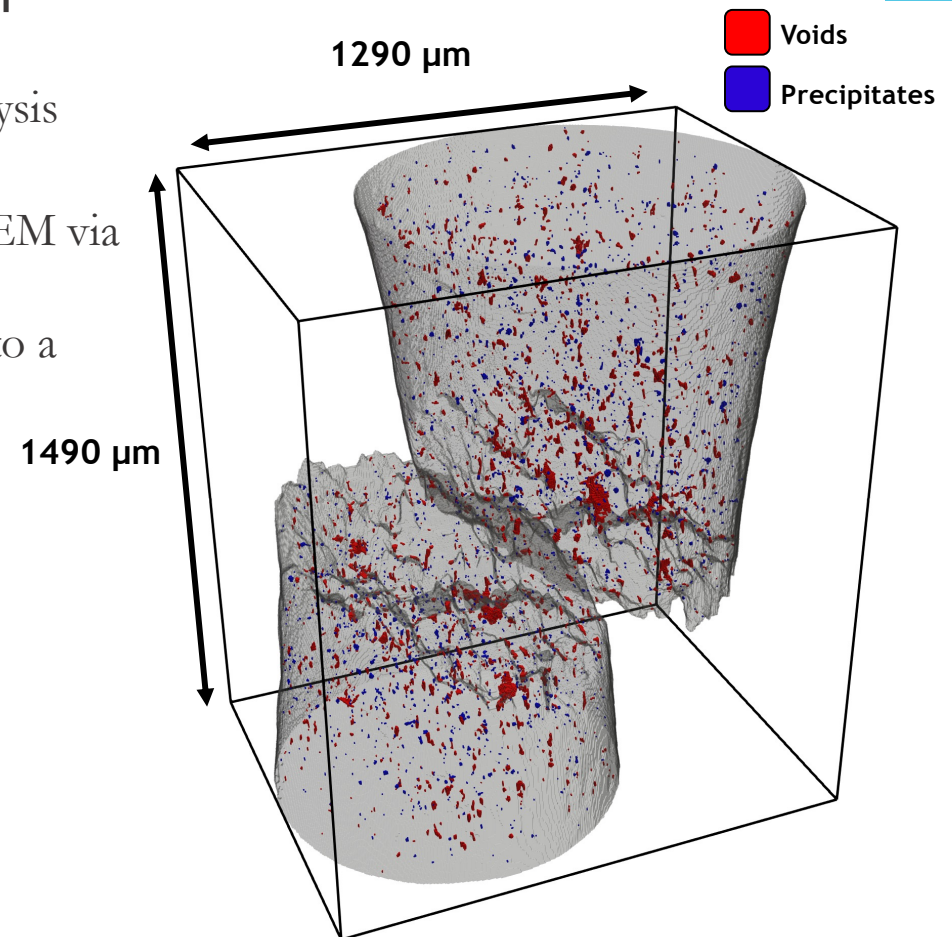


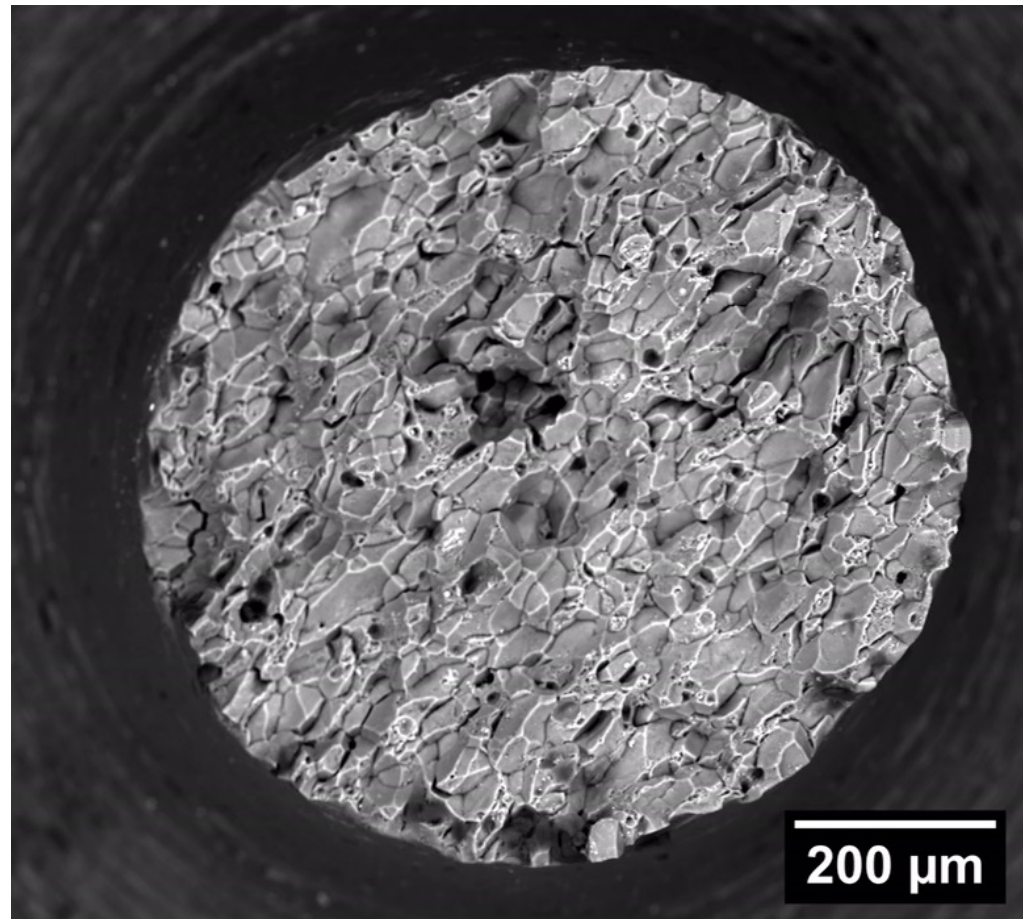
Image courtesy Thermo Fisher Scientific



## Backscatter Electron Image Flythrough



- Roughly 300 slices collected at a slice thickness of 2.0  $\mu\text{m}$ 
  - EBSD data also collected on each slice
  - Data collection is fully automated via in-house codebase using python interface with the SEM (autoscript package)
- Fracture surface shows mixture of transgranular and intergranular fracture
- Precipitates, voids, and cracks clearly visible in this imaging modality

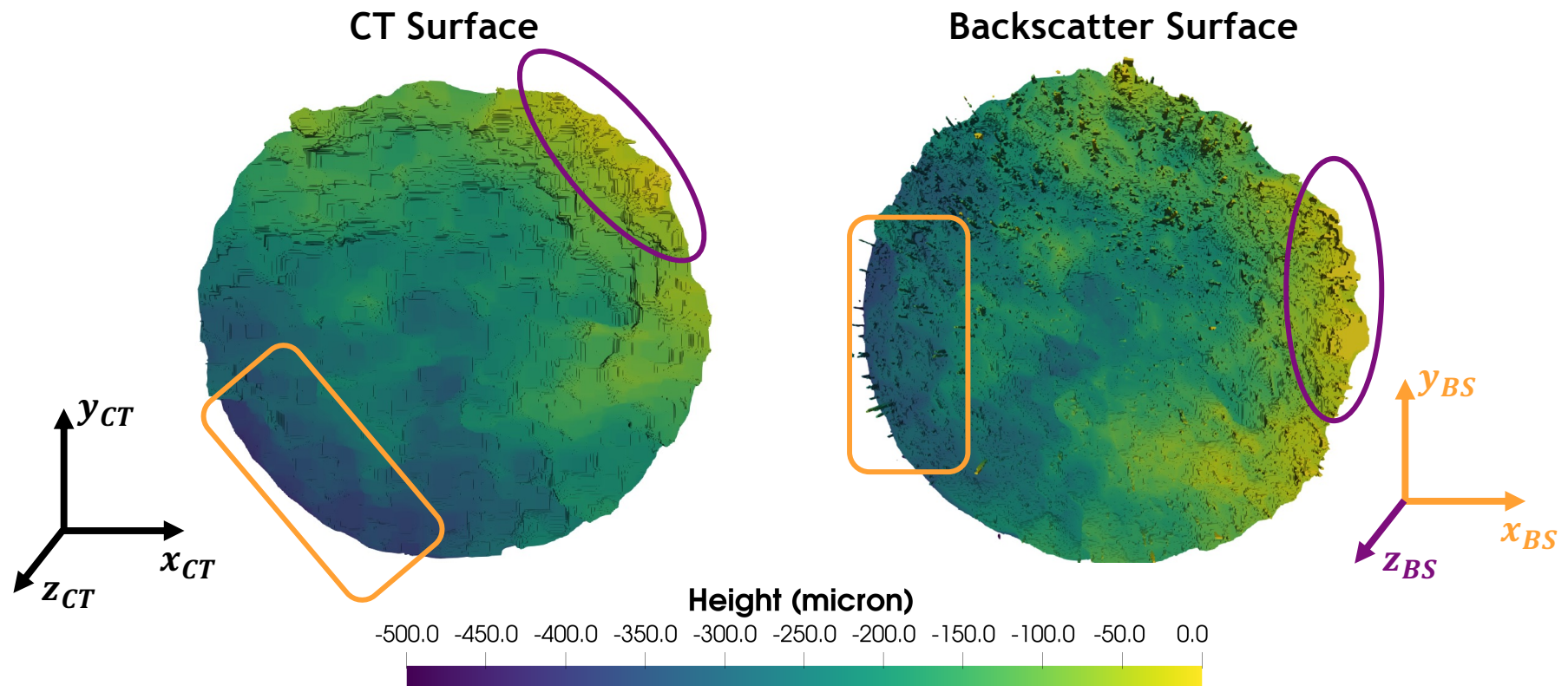




## Fracture Surface Profile Comparison



- Serial-sectioning captures surface profile well, but is rotated in 3D relative to the CT data







- Following approach of Lenthe et al. (2015) for least-squares affine transformation using a series of control points:

$$[A] \leftarrow \begin{bmatrix} a_1^x & a_1^y & a_1^z & 1 \\ a_2^x & a_2^y & a_2^z & 1 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_n^x & a_n^y & a_n^z & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$[B] \leftarrow \begin{bmatrix} b_1^x & b_1^y & b_1^z & 1 \\ b_2^x & b_2^y & b_2^z & 1 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ b_n^x & b_n^y & b_n^z & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$[T] \leftarrow A^T B (B^T B)^{-1}$$

**for all** *voxels* in data set A **do**

$x \leftarrow [\text{centroid}(\text{voxel}), 1]$

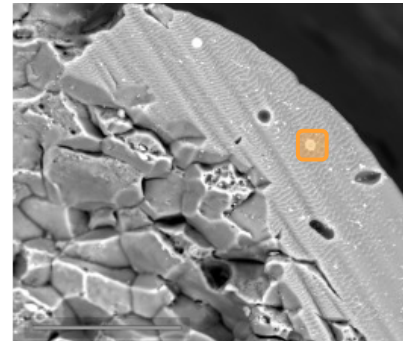
$x' \leftarrow [T]^{-1}x$

$v_b \leftarrow \text{voxel nearest } x'$

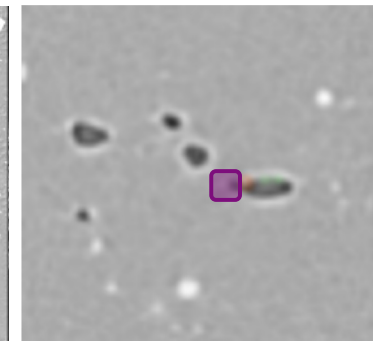
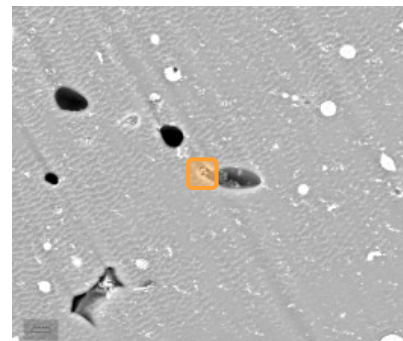
$\text{voxel} \leftarrow \text{data}(v_b)$

**end for**

Backscatter Data



CT Data

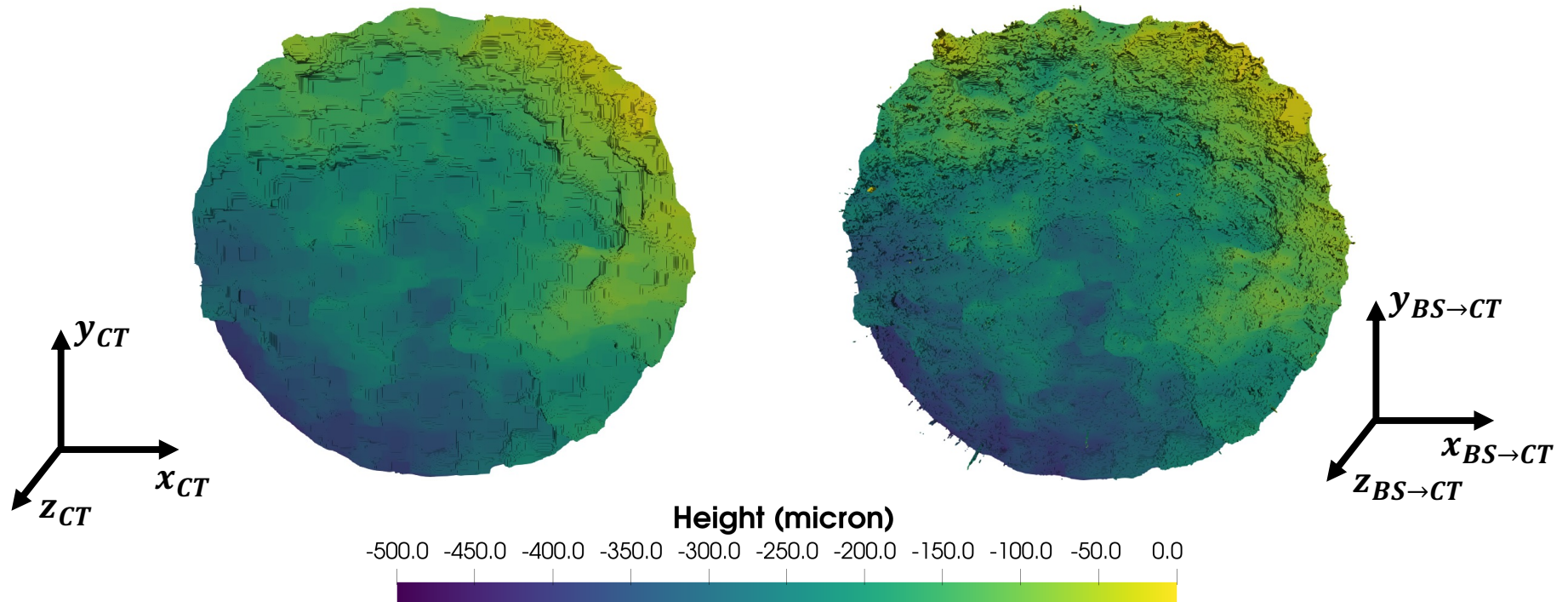




- Mapping to new reference frame yields unified coordinate system

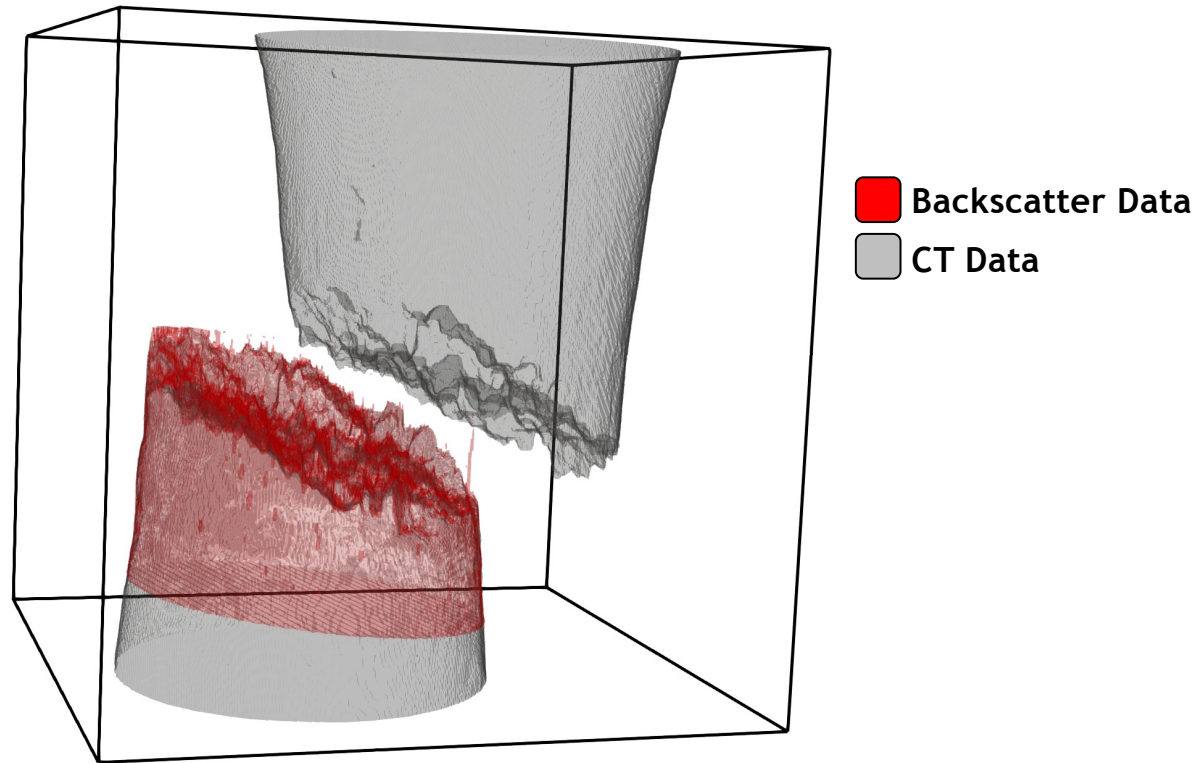
CT Surface

Mapped Backscatter Surface



## CT-Backscatter Data Fusion

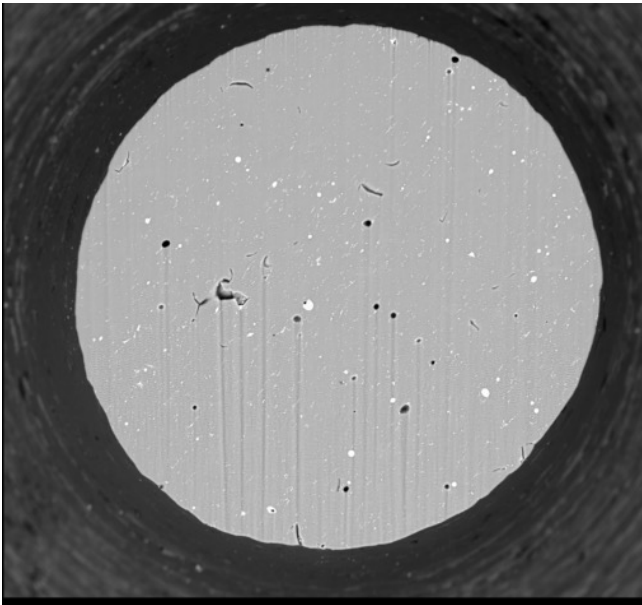
- Mapping to new reference frame yields unified coordinate system



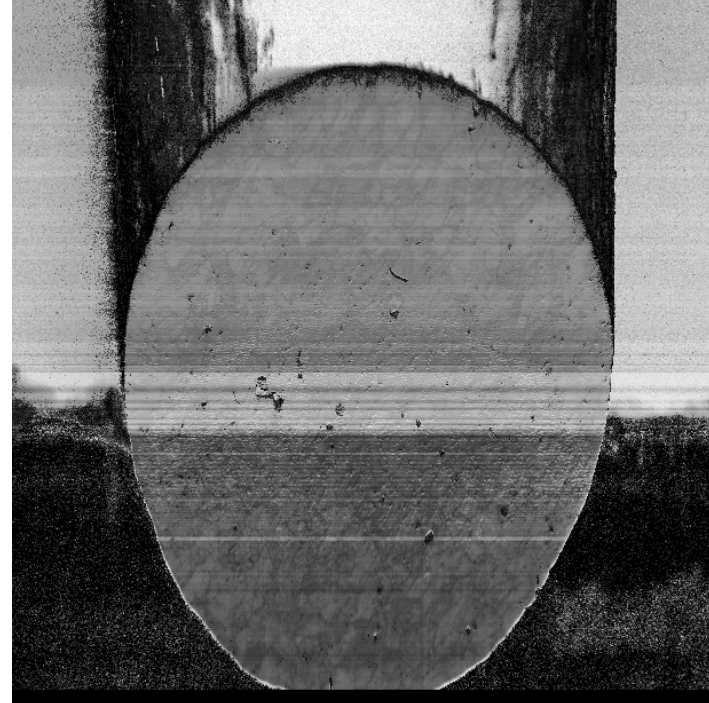
## EBSD-Backscatter Data Fusion

- Distortions in EBSD are generally non-affine

**Backscatter Image**



**EBSD Image Quality**



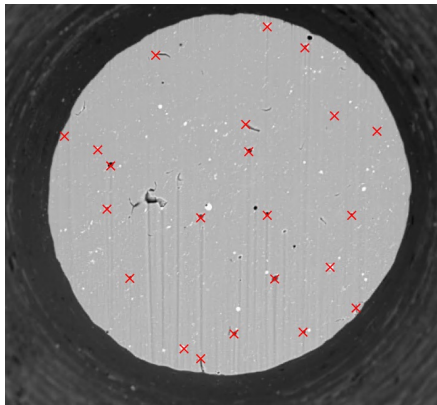


- Thin-plate spline enables non-linear relation of reference frames using control points

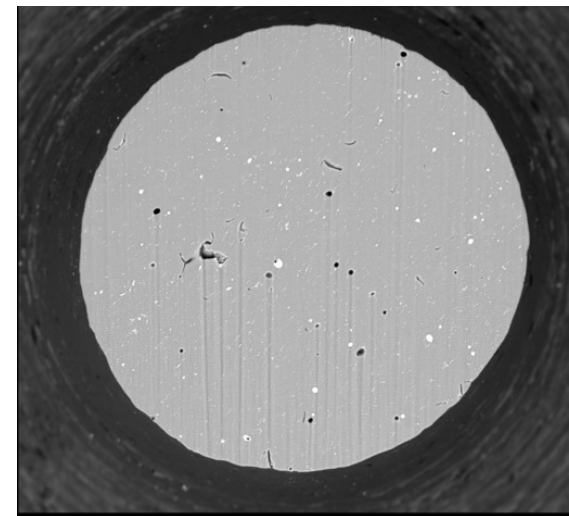
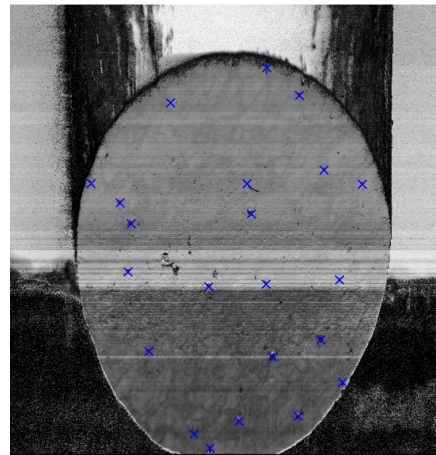
$$(X, Y, Z) = f(x, y, z) = \underbrace{a_1 + a_x x + a_y y + a_z z}_{\text{Affine Portion}} + \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i U(|P_i - (x, y, z)|)}_{\text{Bending Portion}}$$

$n$  = Control Points in distorted image  $(X_i, Y_i, Z_i)$  and reference image  $(x_i, y_i, z_i)$

**Backscatter Image**  
 $(x, y, z)$



**EBSD Image Quality**  
 $(X, Y, Z)$





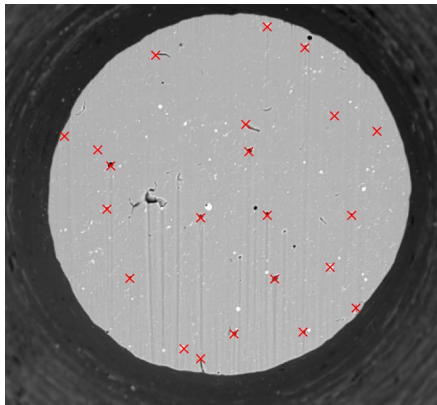


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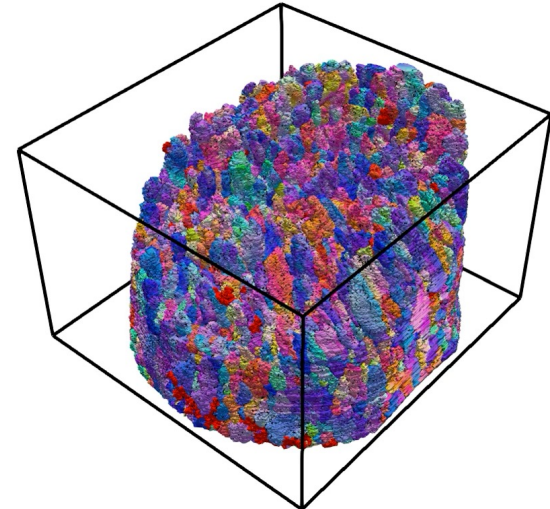
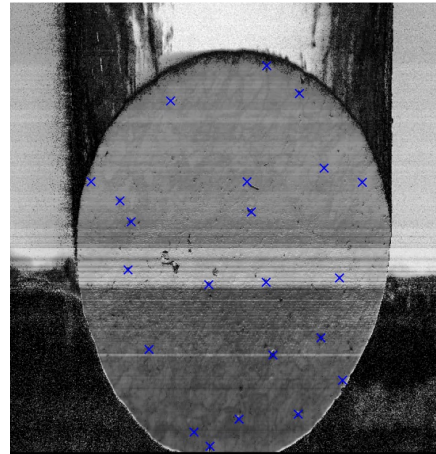
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**Backscatter Image**  
 $(x, y, z)$

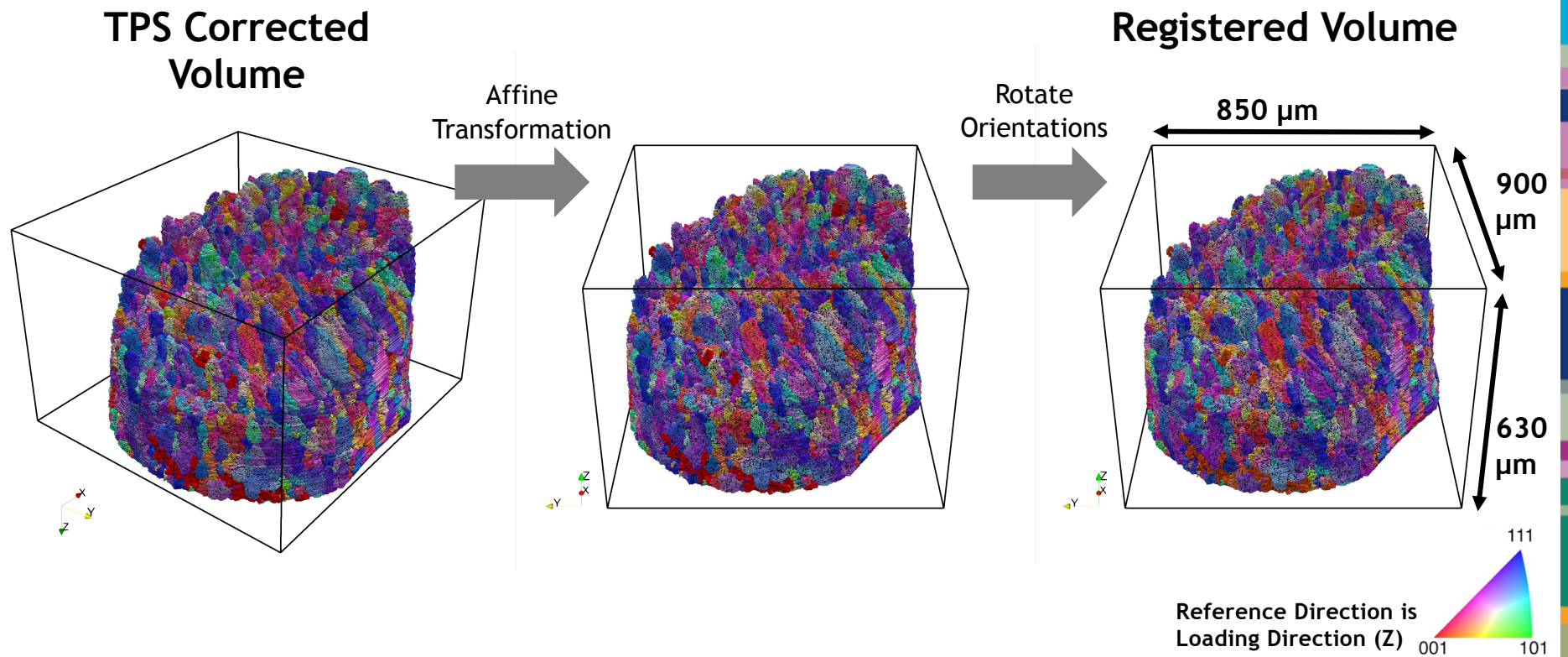


**EBSD Image Quality**  
 $(X, Y, Z)$





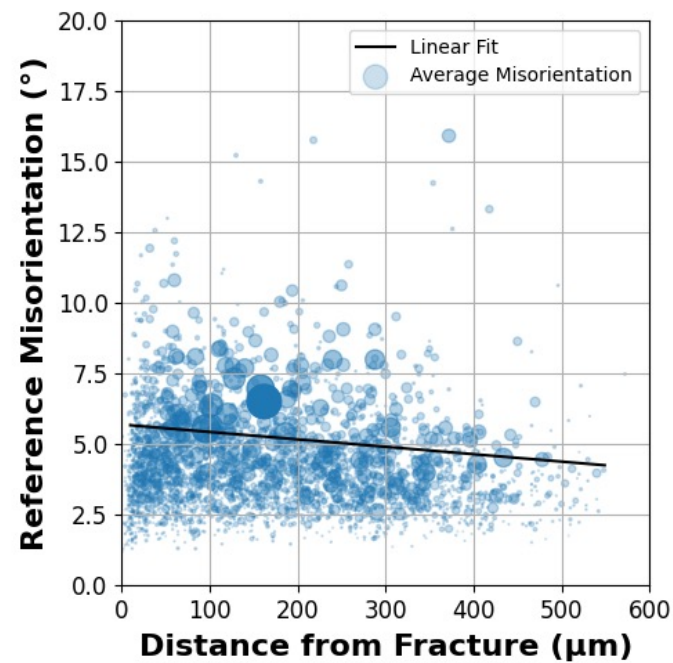
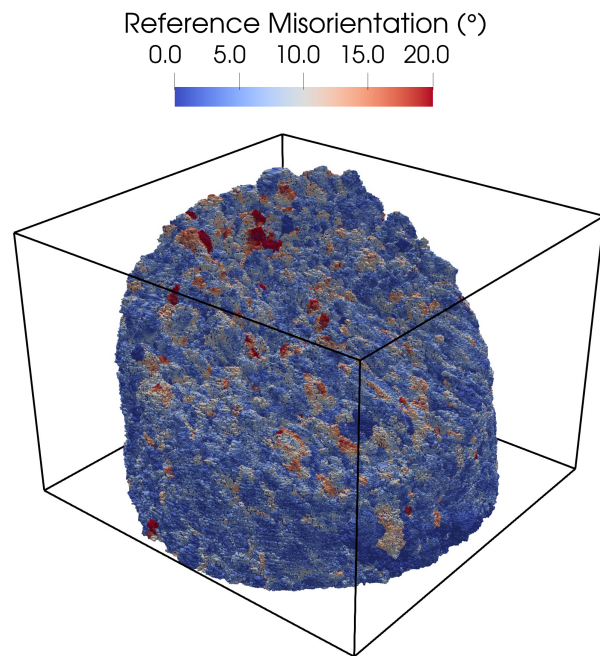
- Apply BS $\rightarrow$ CT transformation to distortion-corrected EBSD volume



## Intragrain misorientation distributions (mode reference)



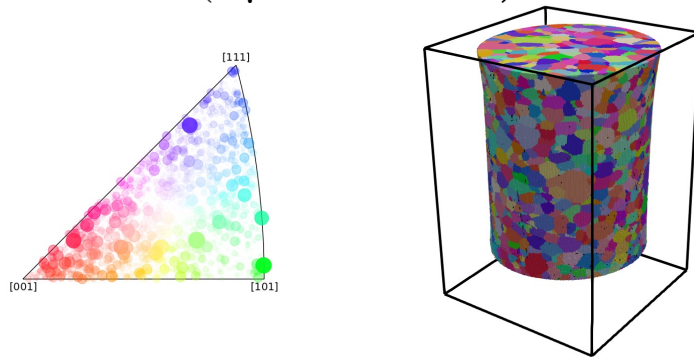
- Linkage between distance from fracture surface and total misorientation accumulation at failure



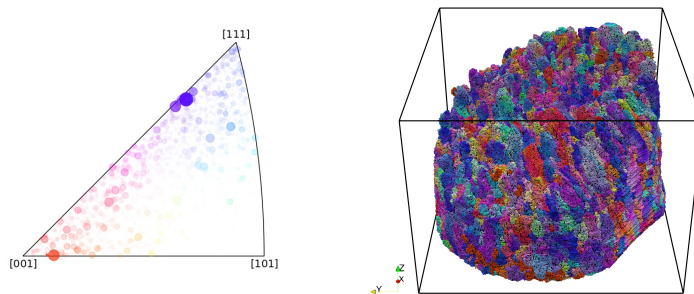
## Clear changes in texture and morphology during deformation



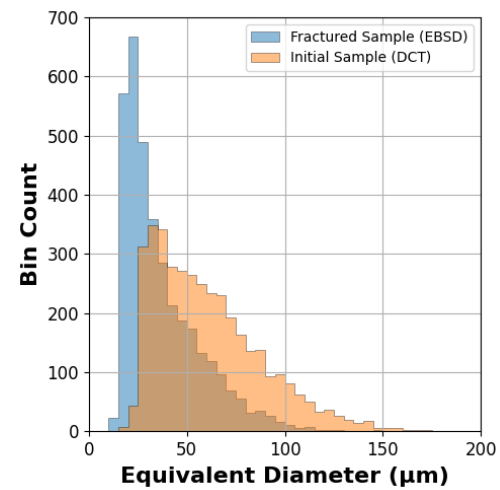
- DCT Data (5  $\mu\text{m}$  resolution)



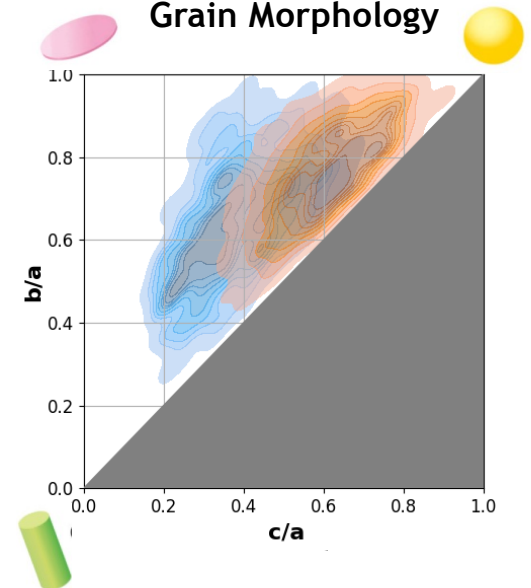
- EBSD Data (2  $\mu\text{m}$  resolution)



### Grain Size

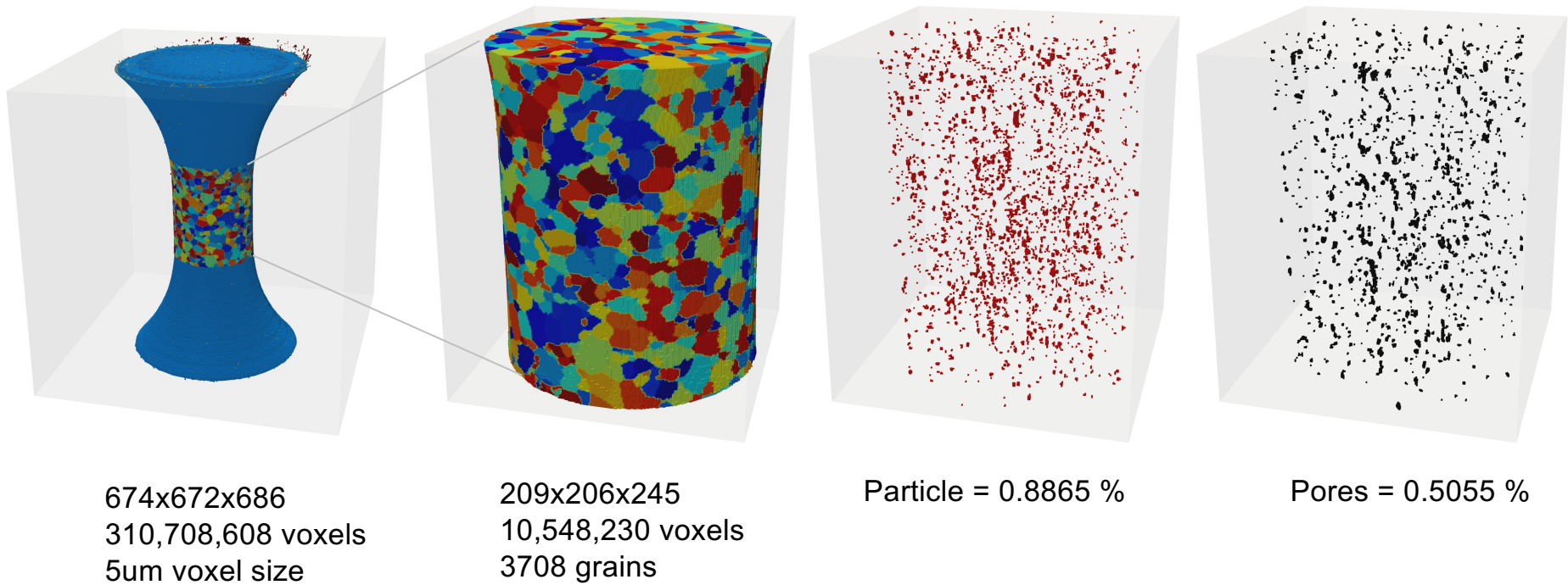


### Grain Morphology



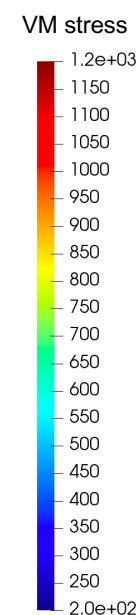
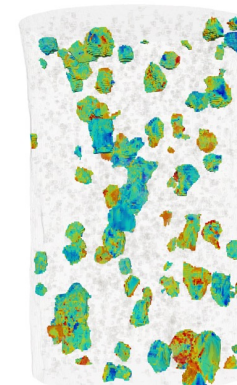
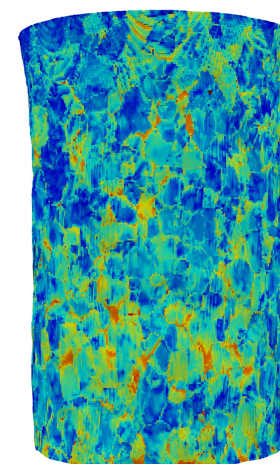
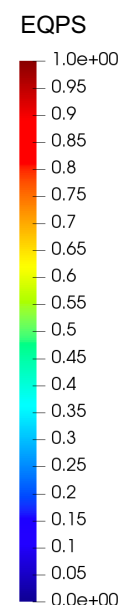
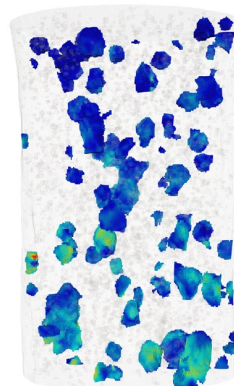
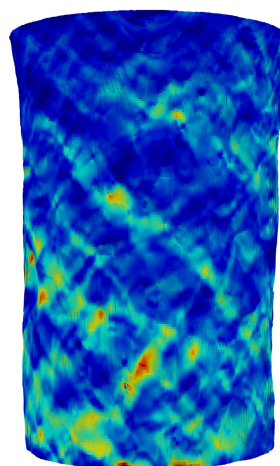
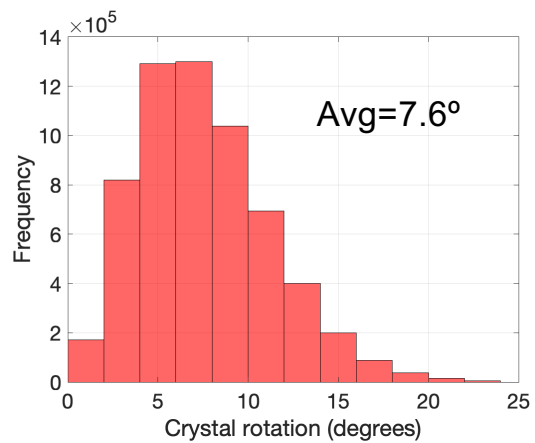
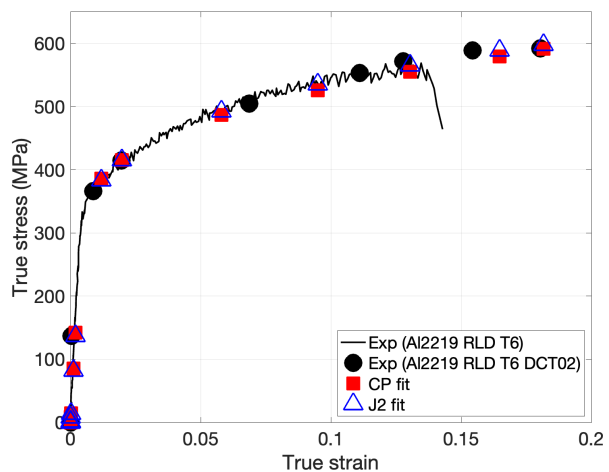


## Crystal plasticity simulation initialized from DCT data

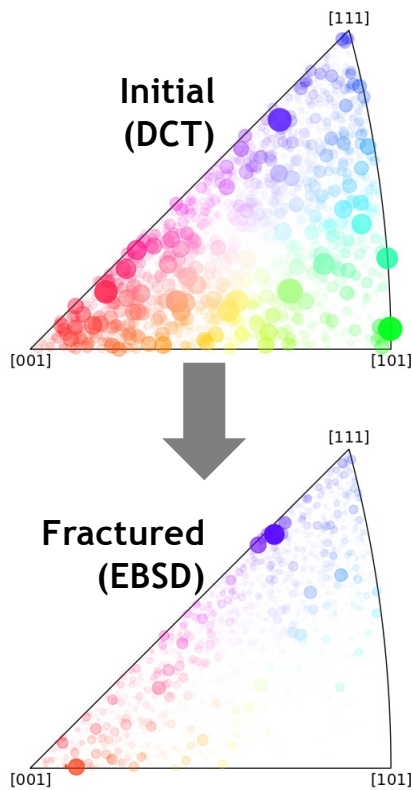




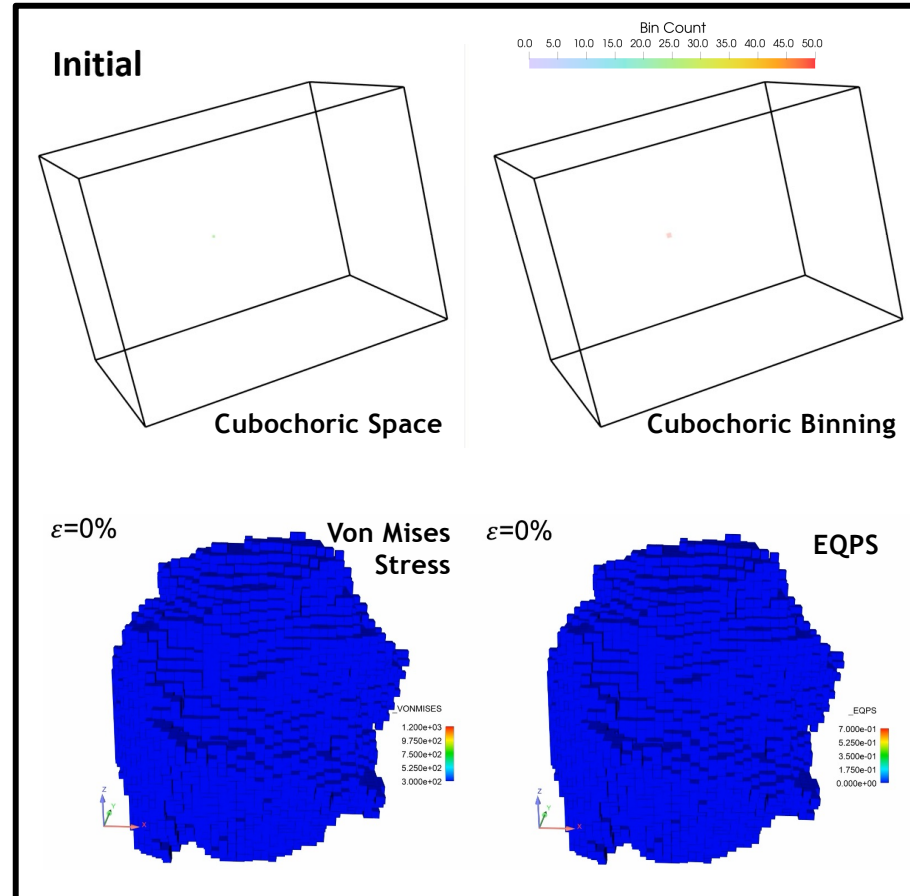
## CP Local Fields at 19% Strain



# Grain rotation seen with CP explains change in texture

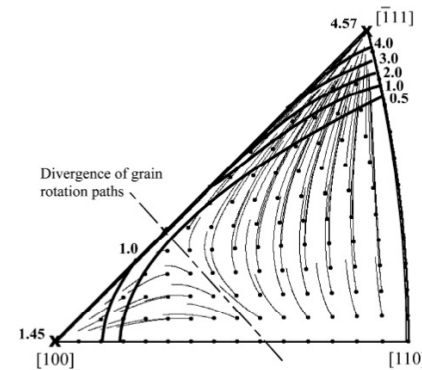
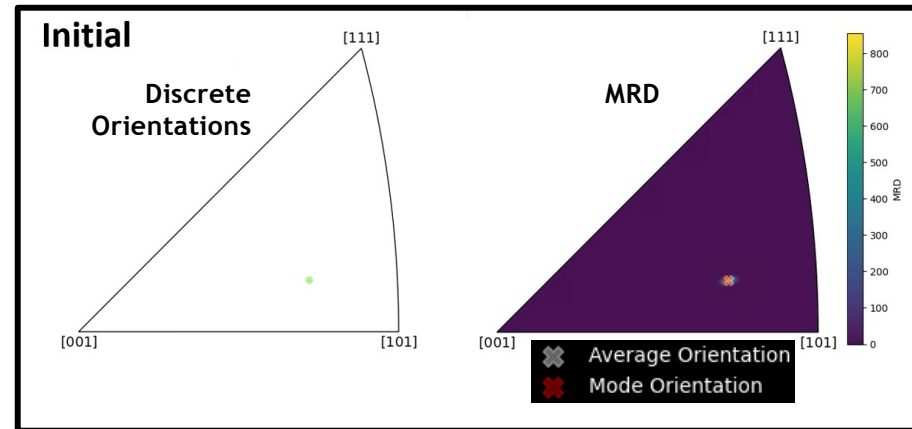
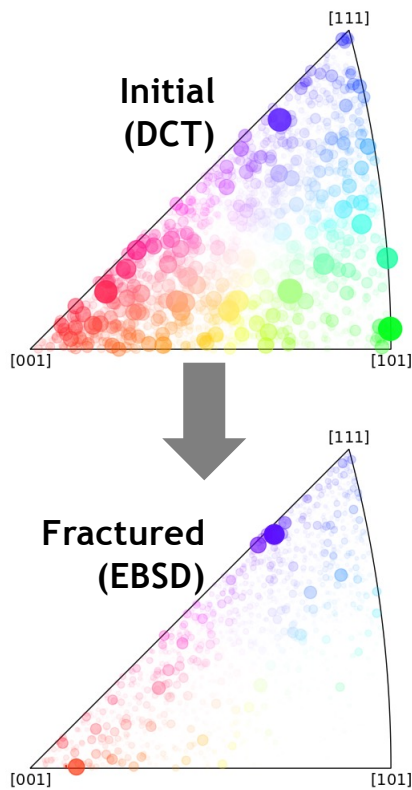


**CP results from single grain:**

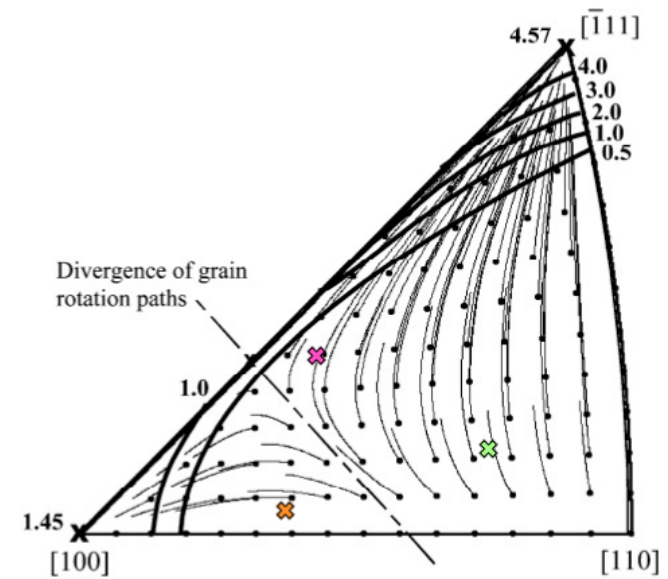
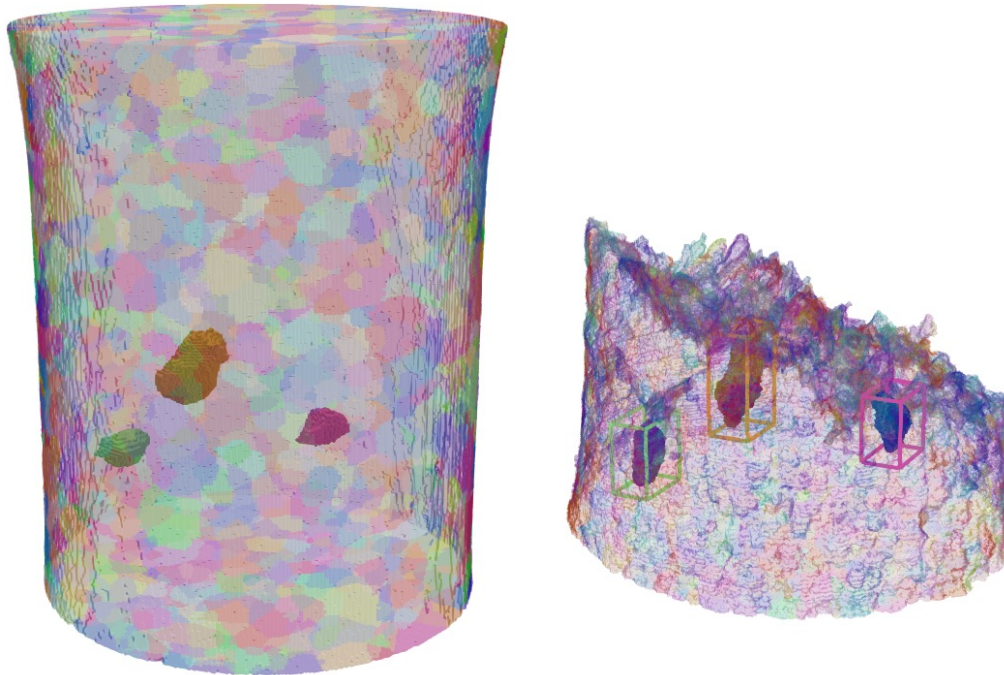


# Grain rotation seen with CP explains change in texture

CP results from single grain:



## Grains Pairs in undeformed DCT and fractured TriBeam data

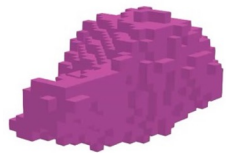




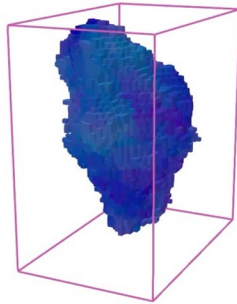
# Grains Pairs in undeformed DCT and fractured TriBeam data



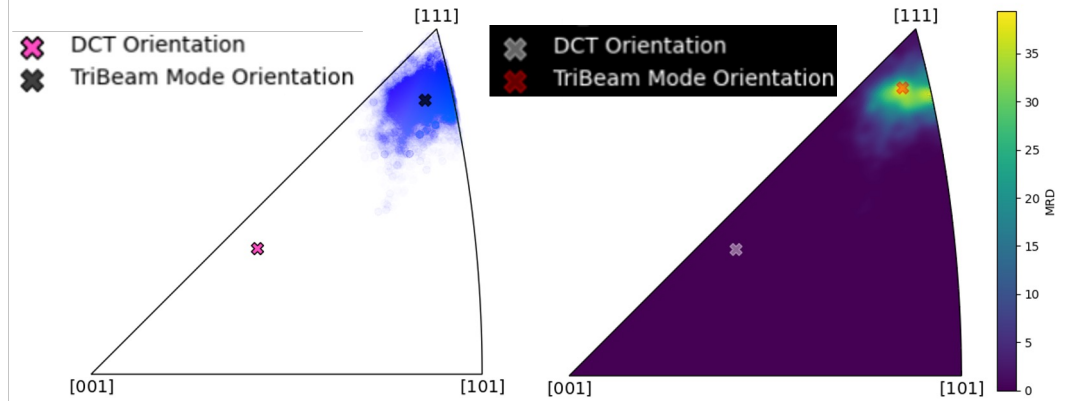
Undeformed  
(DCT)



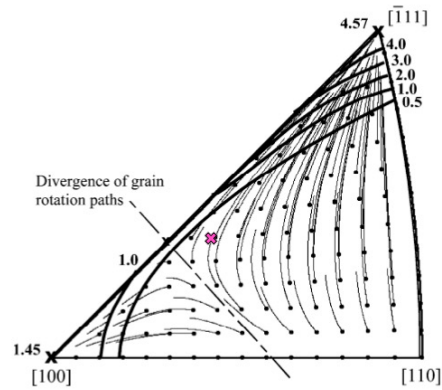
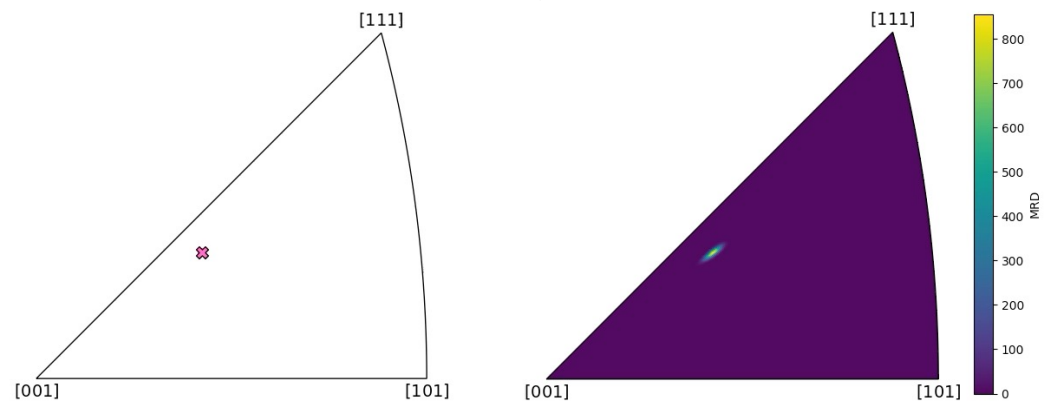
Fractured  
(TriBeam)



Experimental



Modeling



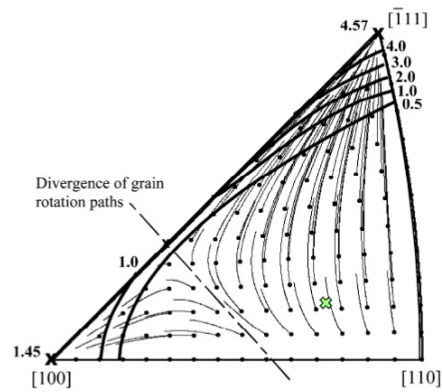
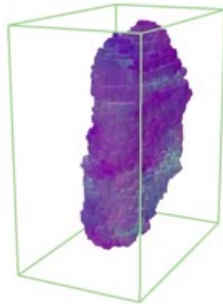
# Grains Pairs in undeformed DCT and fractured TriBeam data



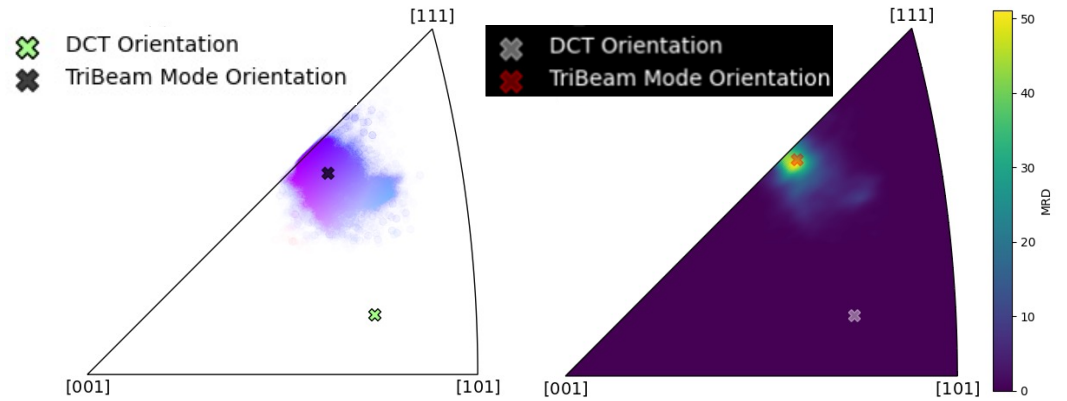
Undeformed  
(DCT)



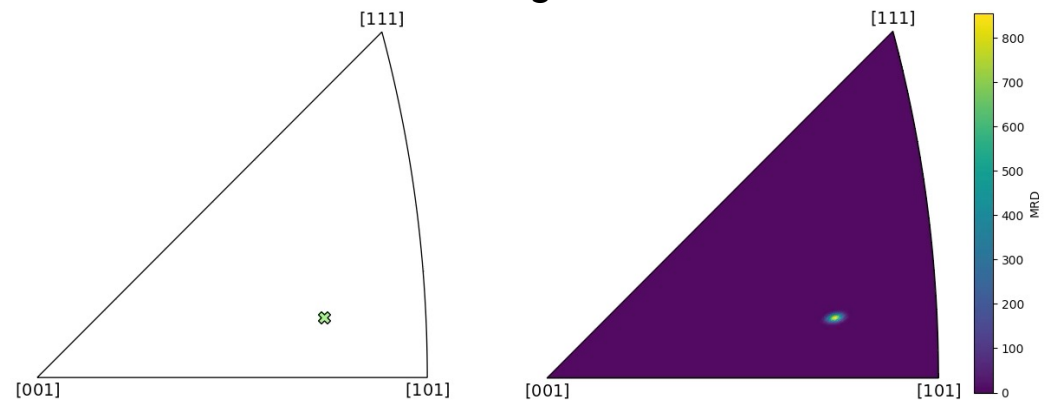
Fractured  
(TriBeam)



Experimental



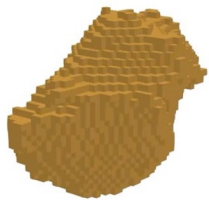
Modeling



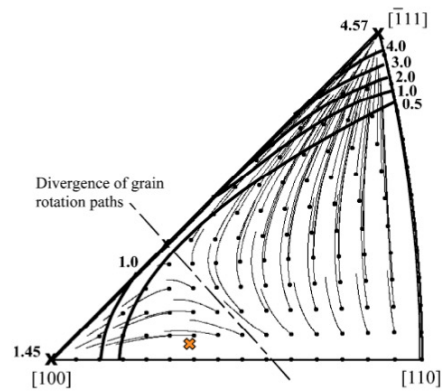
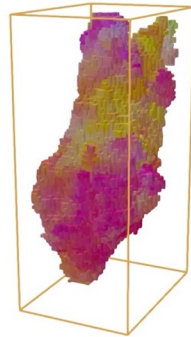
# Grains Pairs in undeformed DCT and fractured TriBeam data



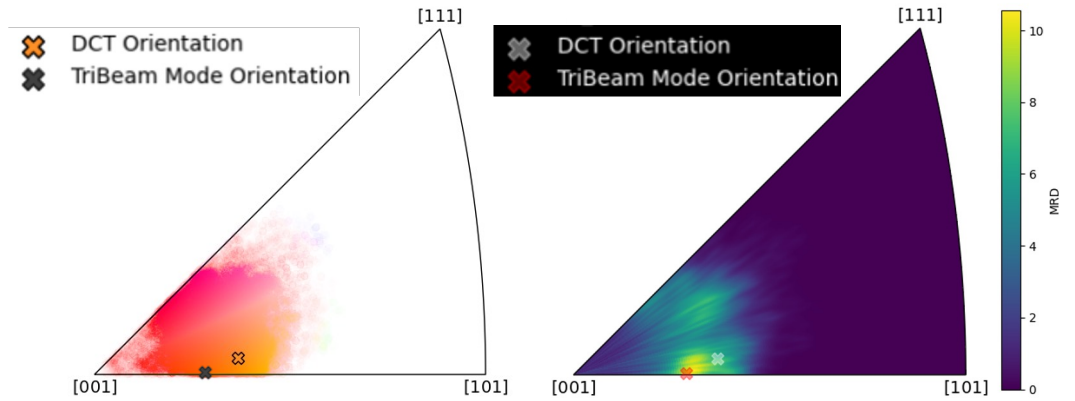
Undeformed  
(DCT)



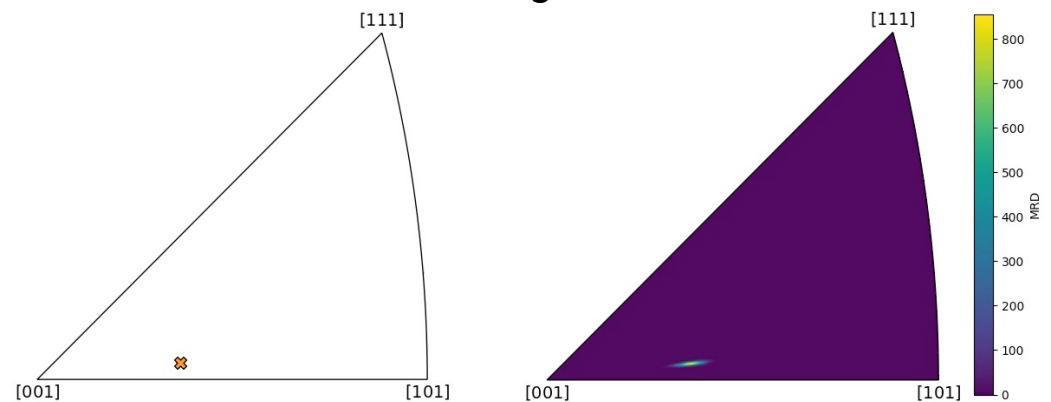
Fractured  
(TriBeam)



Experimental



Modeling



## Conclusions

- Improvements in characterization approaches offers new opportunities for 3D EBSD to understand microstructure
- For complex microstructures with large orientation gradients, choice of reference orientation must be considered
- Data fusion with 3D EBSD is best approached as a combination of affine and non-affine transformations
- Ground truth EBSD data can be used to benchmark and improve high-fidelity modeling approaches

