

Centr-Al: Solutions for Laser Welding of Aluminum

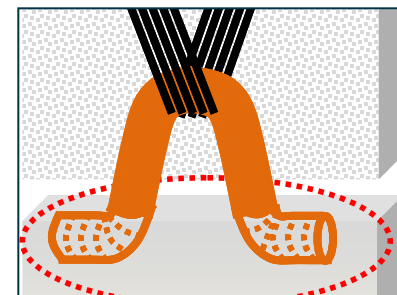
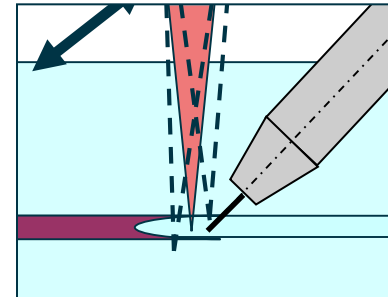
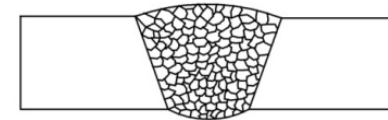
Thomas Seefeld

Olofström, October 6, 2011

- Introduction of BIAS
- Introduction of the Center of Competence for Welding of Aluminum Alloys – Centr-Al
- Novel Solutions from R&D
 - Brightness consideration
 - Filler materials
 - Gap bridging
 - Hybrid joints



Centr-Al





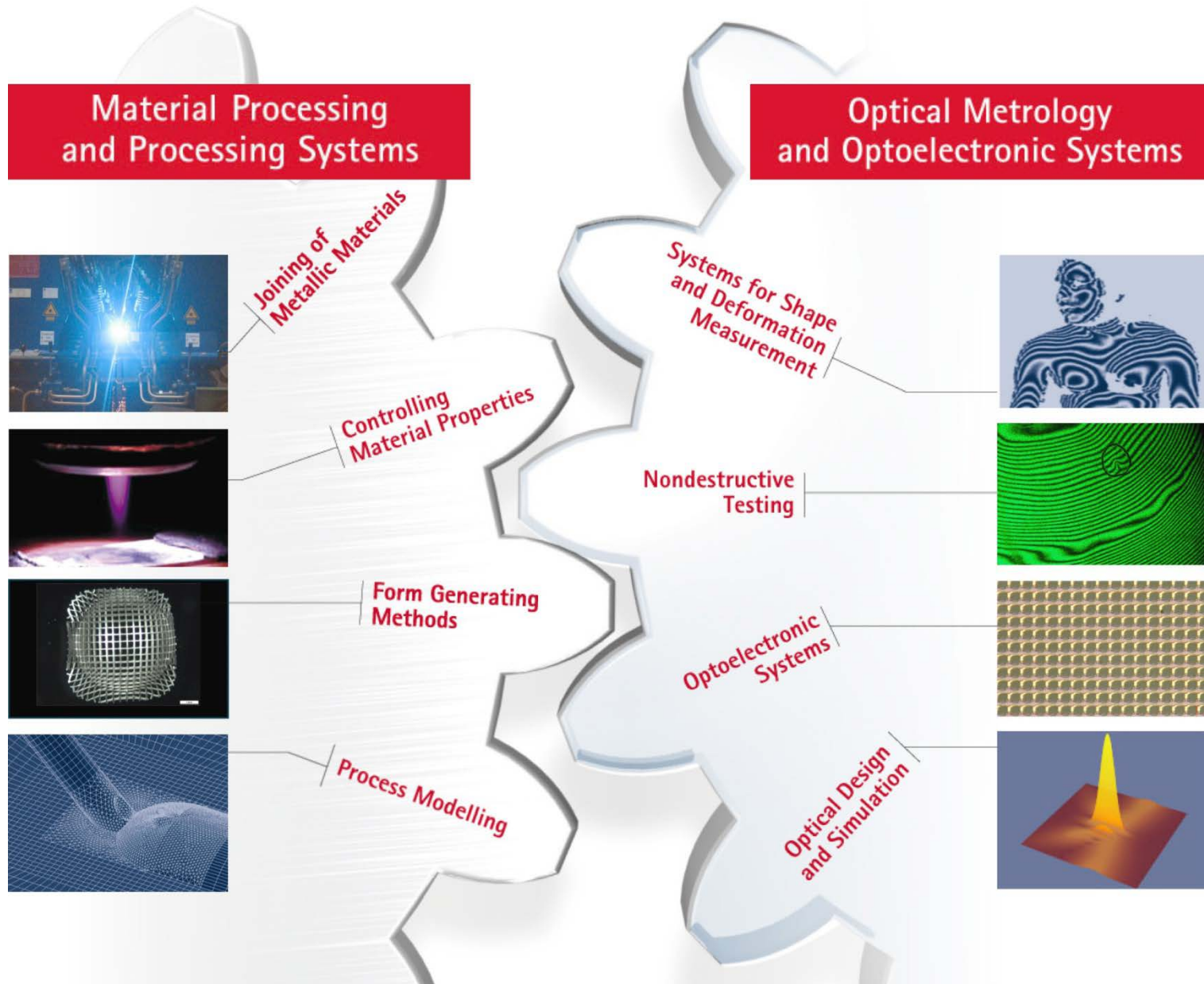
Foundation: 1977

Employees: 120+

Legal structure:
non-commercial
limited Company

Objective:
Research & Development
Technology Transfer in
Laser Materials Processing
and Optical Metrology

Clients:
Industry & Government

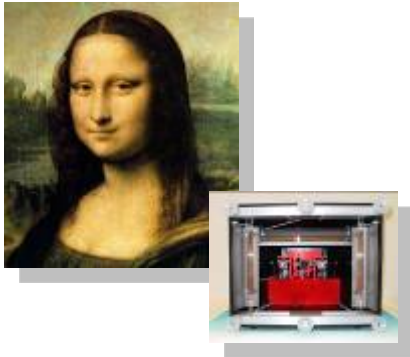


Application Areas

Train Car Manufacturing



Artwork



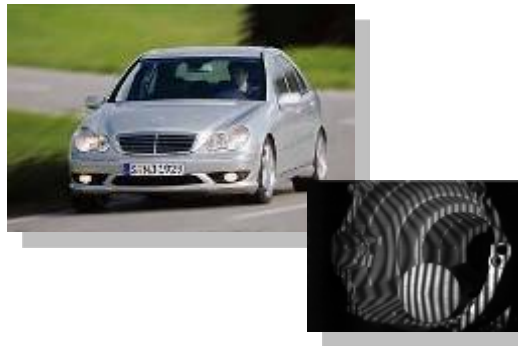
Medical Engineering



Aviation



Automotive Engineering



Shipbuilding



- Research and Development
- Consulting
- Technology Studies
- Prototype Manufacturing



What is Centr-AI?

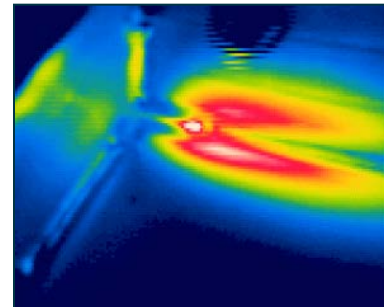
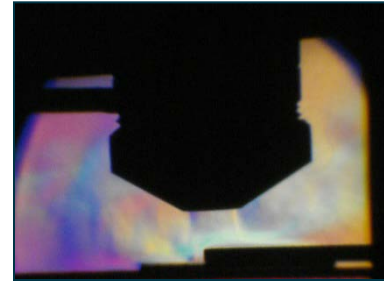
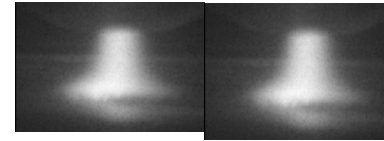


Center of Competence for
Welding of Aluminum Alloys

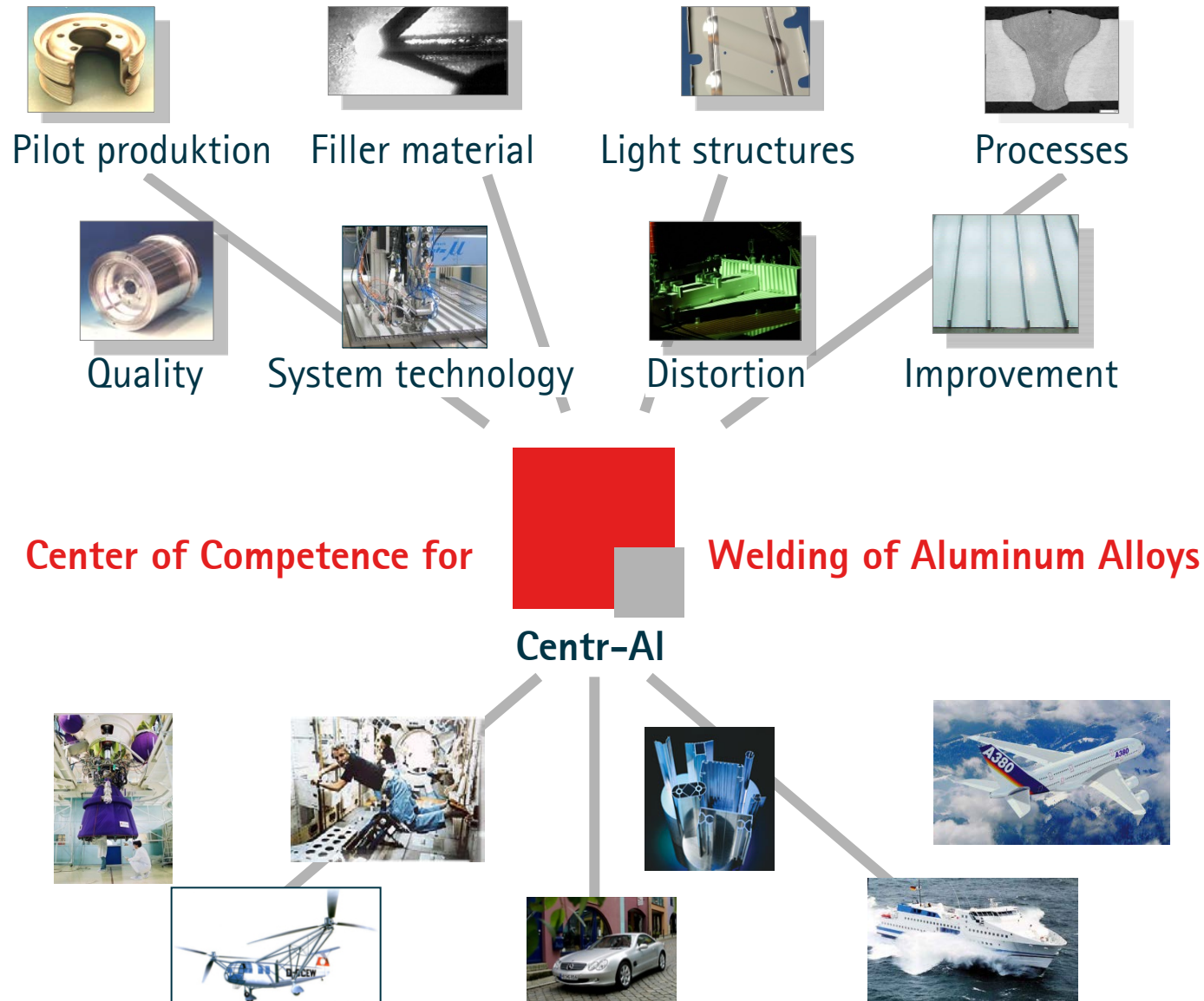
Centr-AI

R&D	Knowledge Transfer	Networking
Pre-Studies R&D Projects Industry Research Coordination	Cooperation Customer Support Technical Meetings Publication Education	Contacts Society work Information of the general public

- More than 10 Co-Workers
- 11 publicly funded projects: 2,7 Mio €
- Industry contracts: 1,9 Mio €
- 69 Publications
- Bremen based companies in advisory committee:
 - Ingenieurbüro Heidenreich
 - R. Seefried Schweiß- und Montagetechnik
 - Abeking+Rasmussen
 - Atlas Elektronik
 - Mercedes-Benz



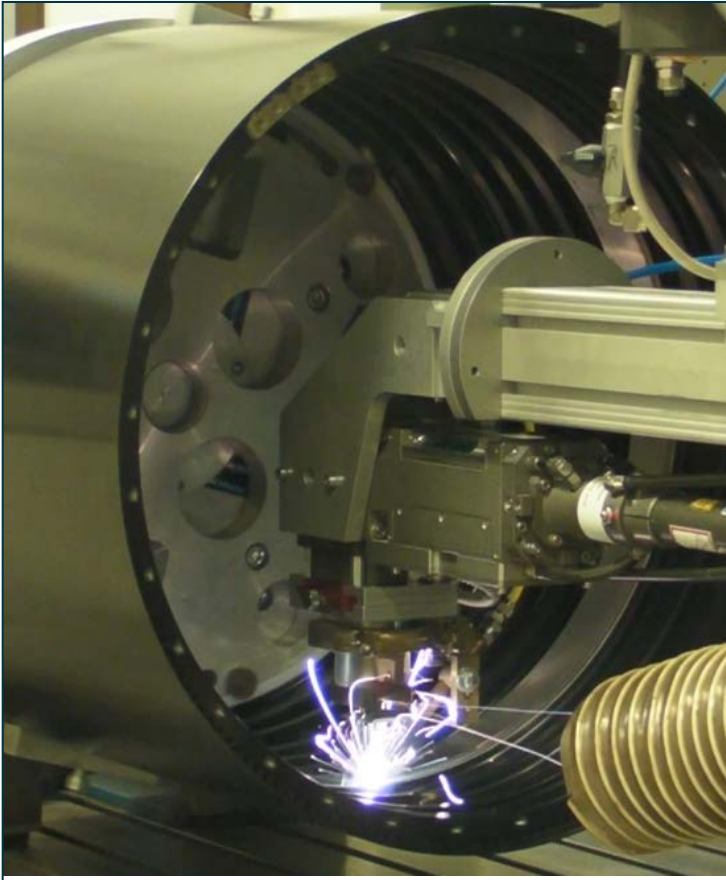
Competence in Aluminum



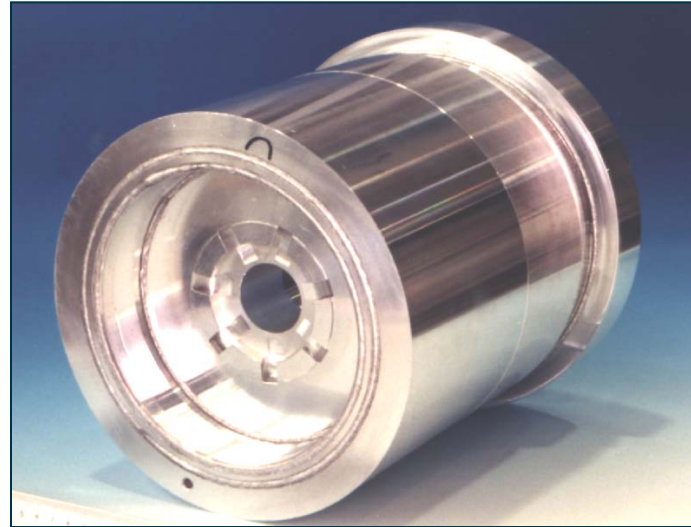
Research and development

Application

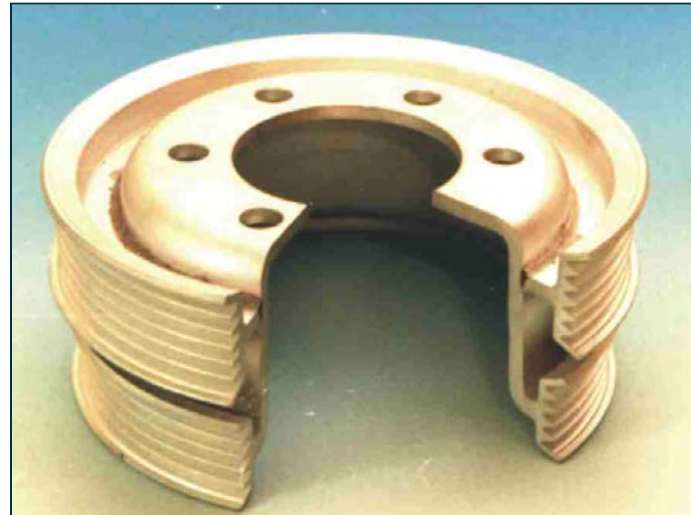
Laser Welding of Aluminum: Examples



Double-wall cell structure



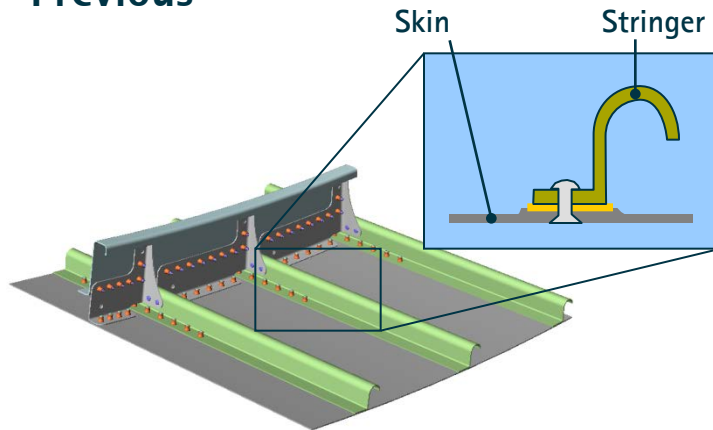
Motor housing



Poly-V belt drive

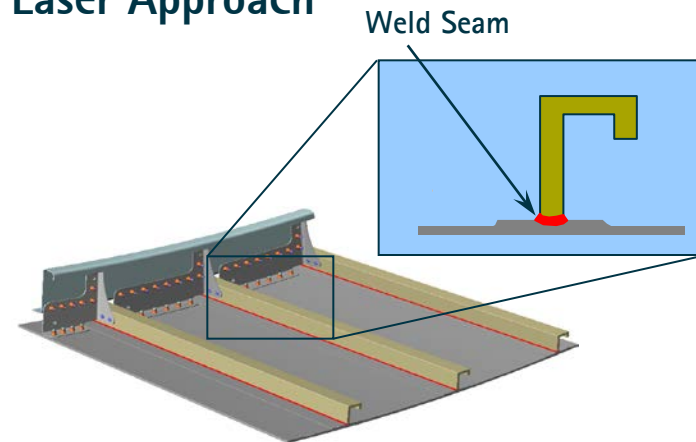
Laser Welded Aircraft Fuselage Panel

Previous



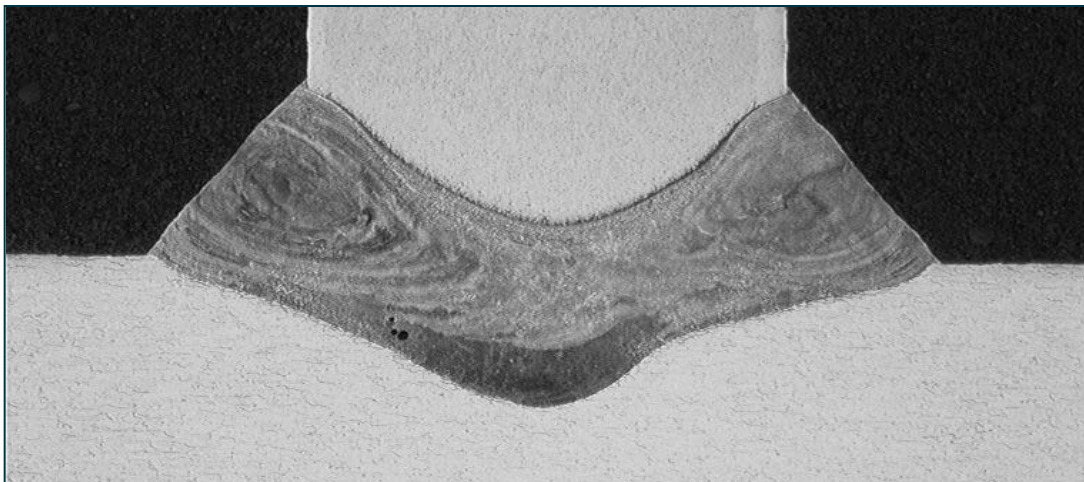
Riveting speed: 0,15-0,25 m/min

Laser Approach



Welding speed: 8-10 m/min

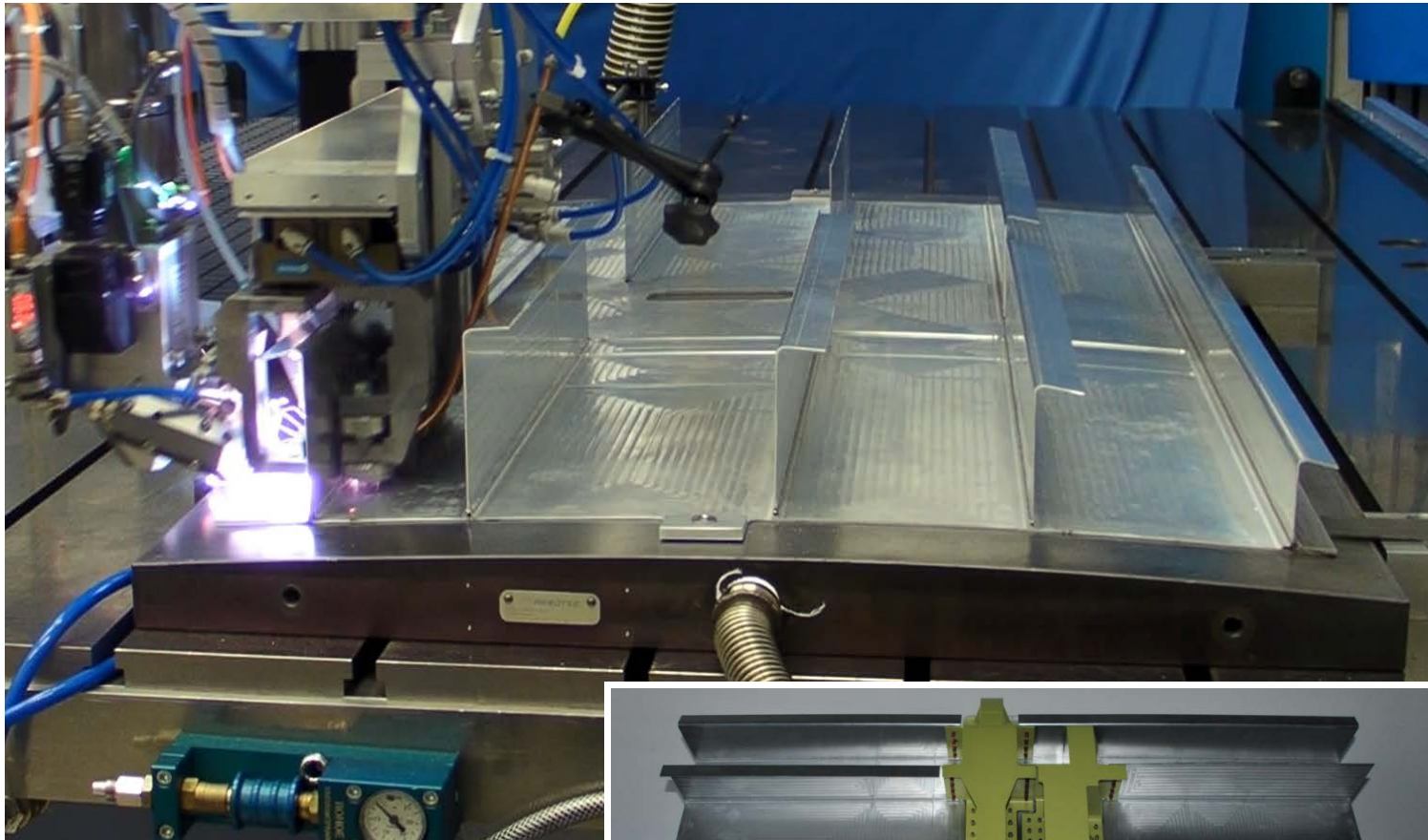
State of the Art



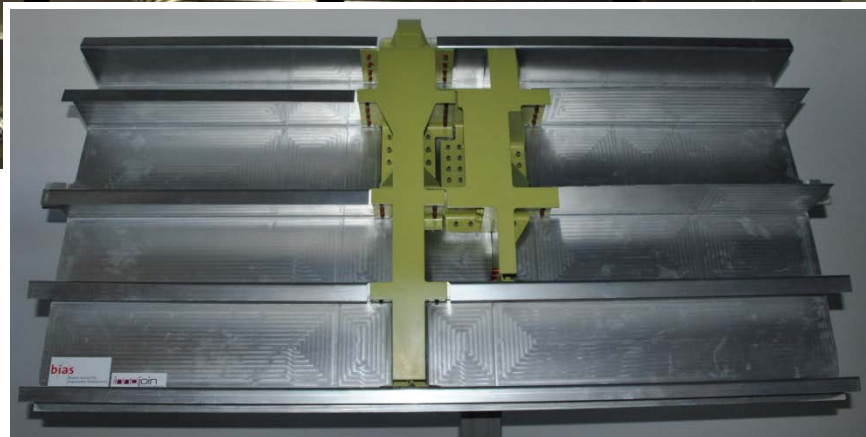
Application:

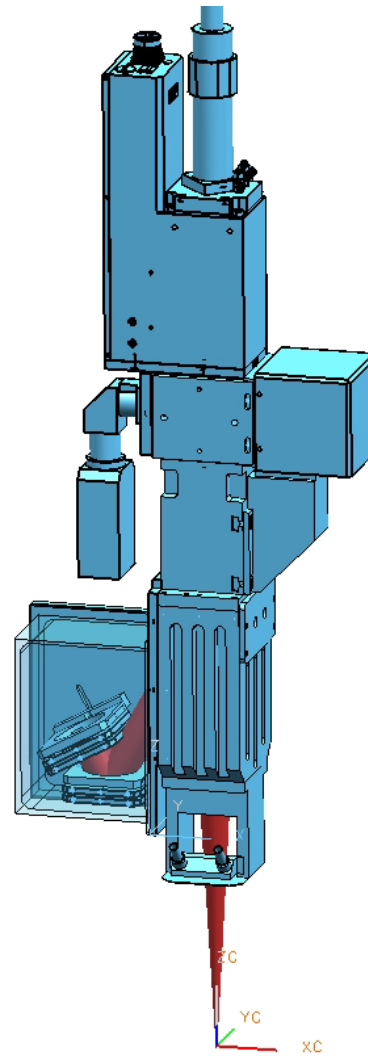
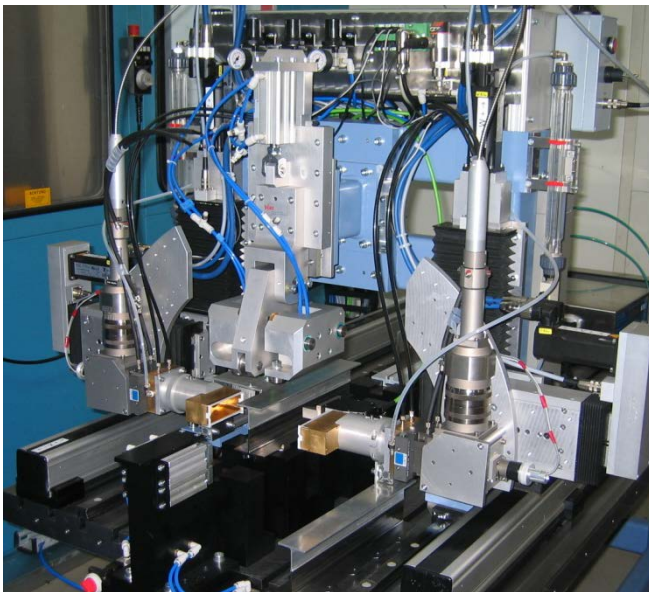
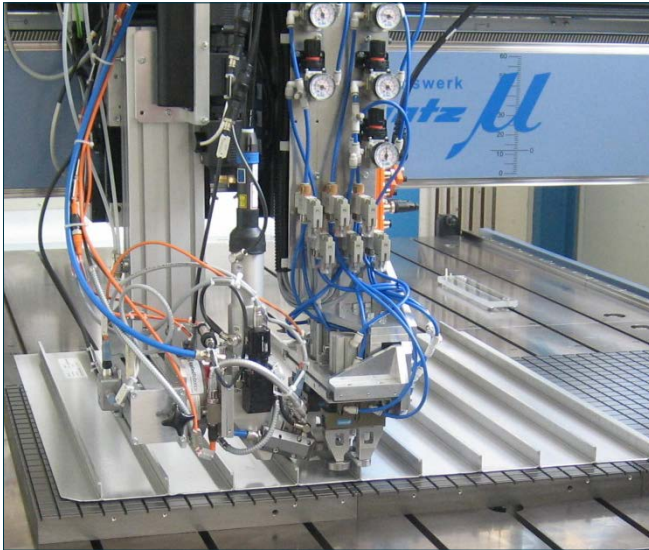
- A318
- A380
- A340 HGW

Laser Welded Flap Design



Material AlMgSc
Beam source: TruDisk 8002
Output power: 6 kW
Welding speed: 15 m/min



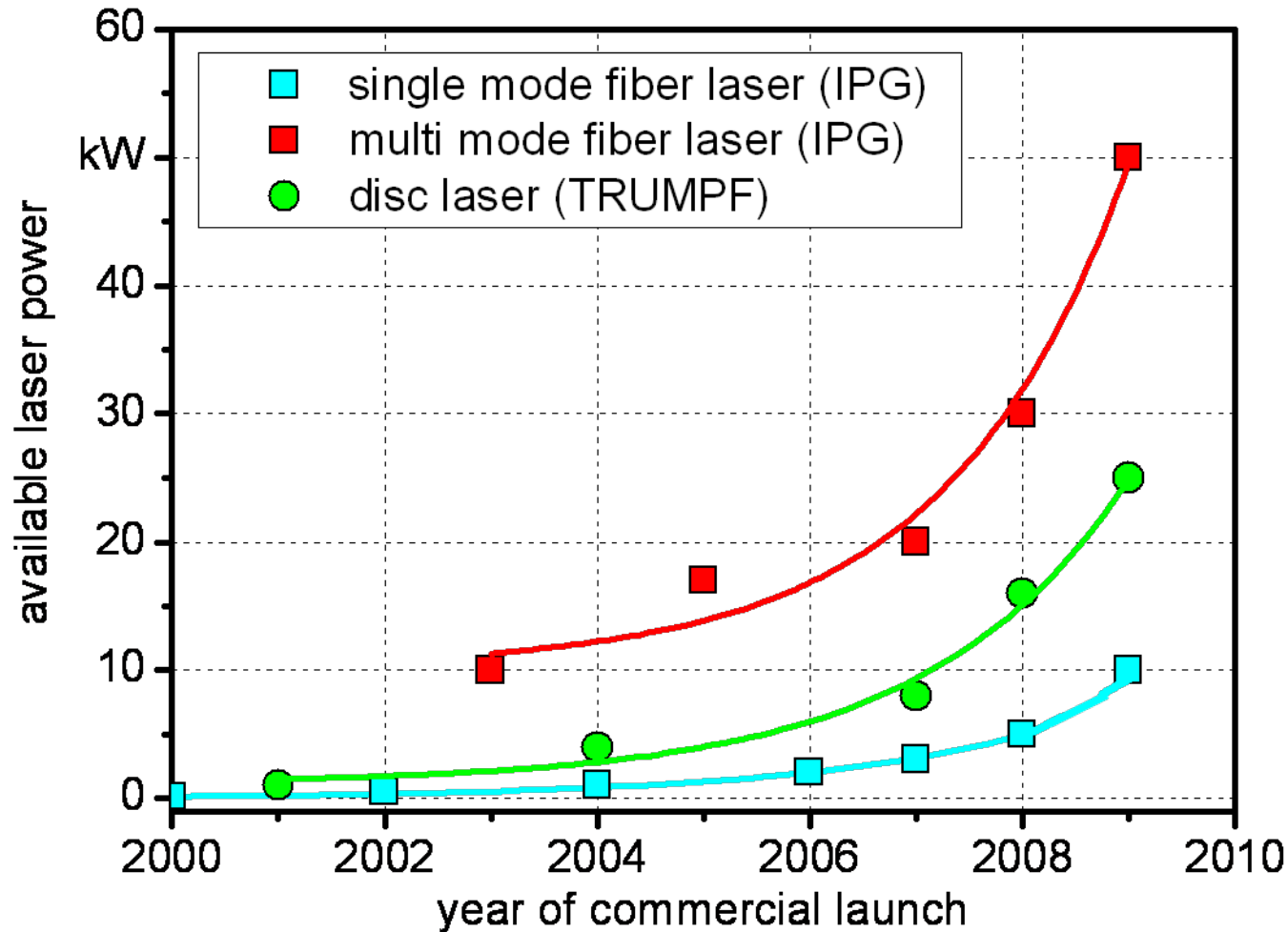


High Brightness Multi Mode Lasers for Welding

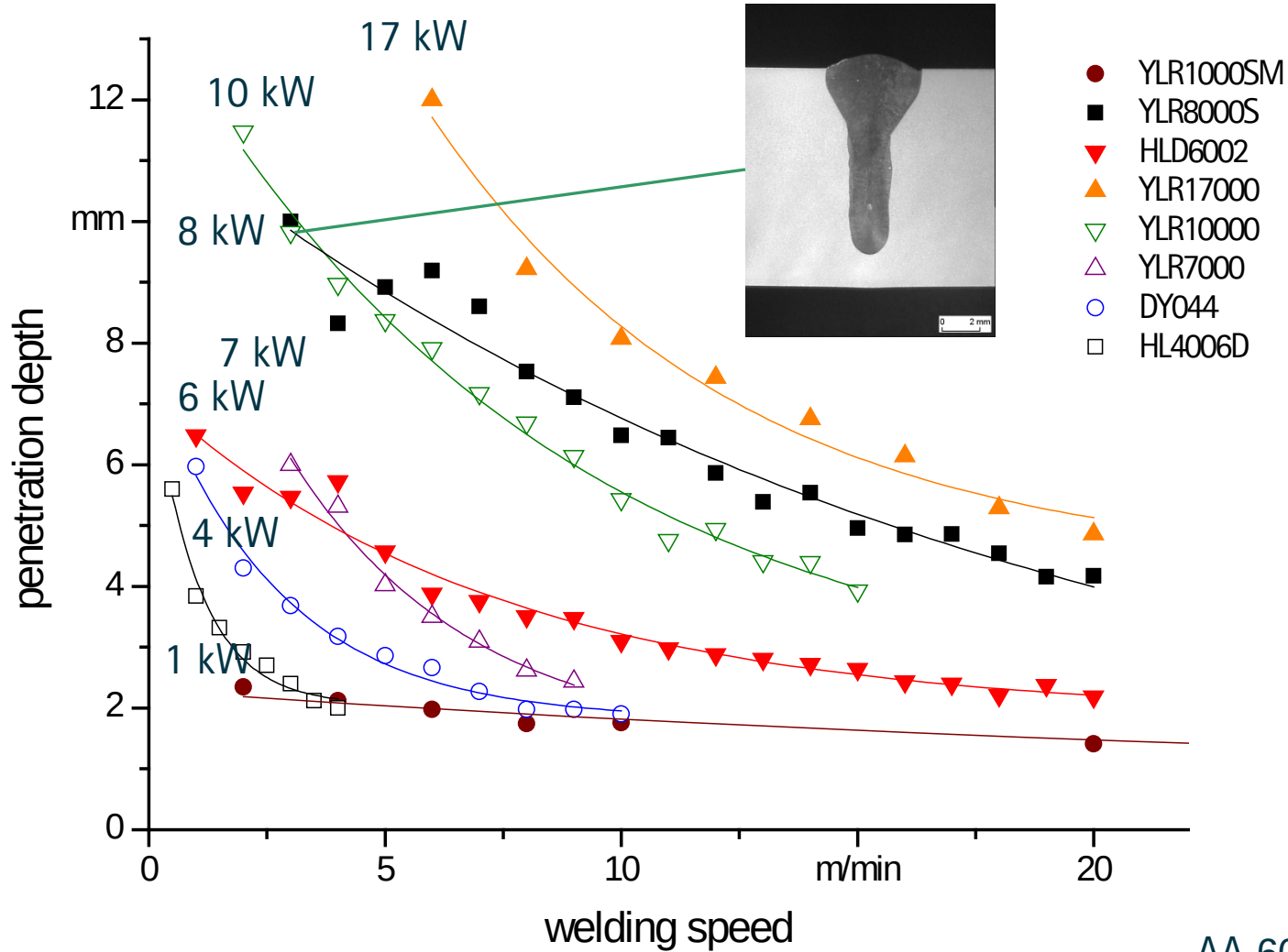


Source: Trumpf, IPG

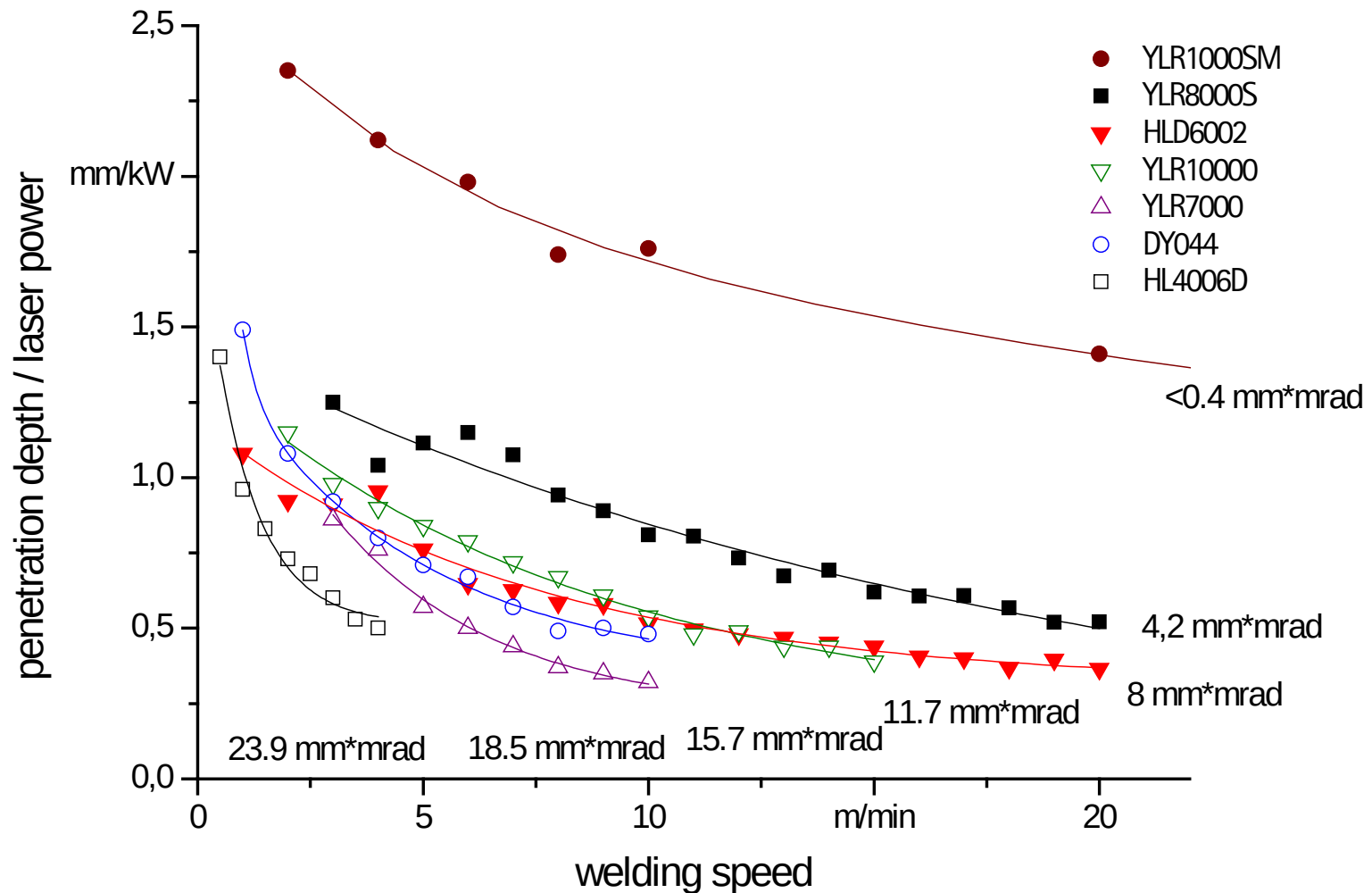
Development of commercial high power lasers



Penetration of various Solid State Lasers

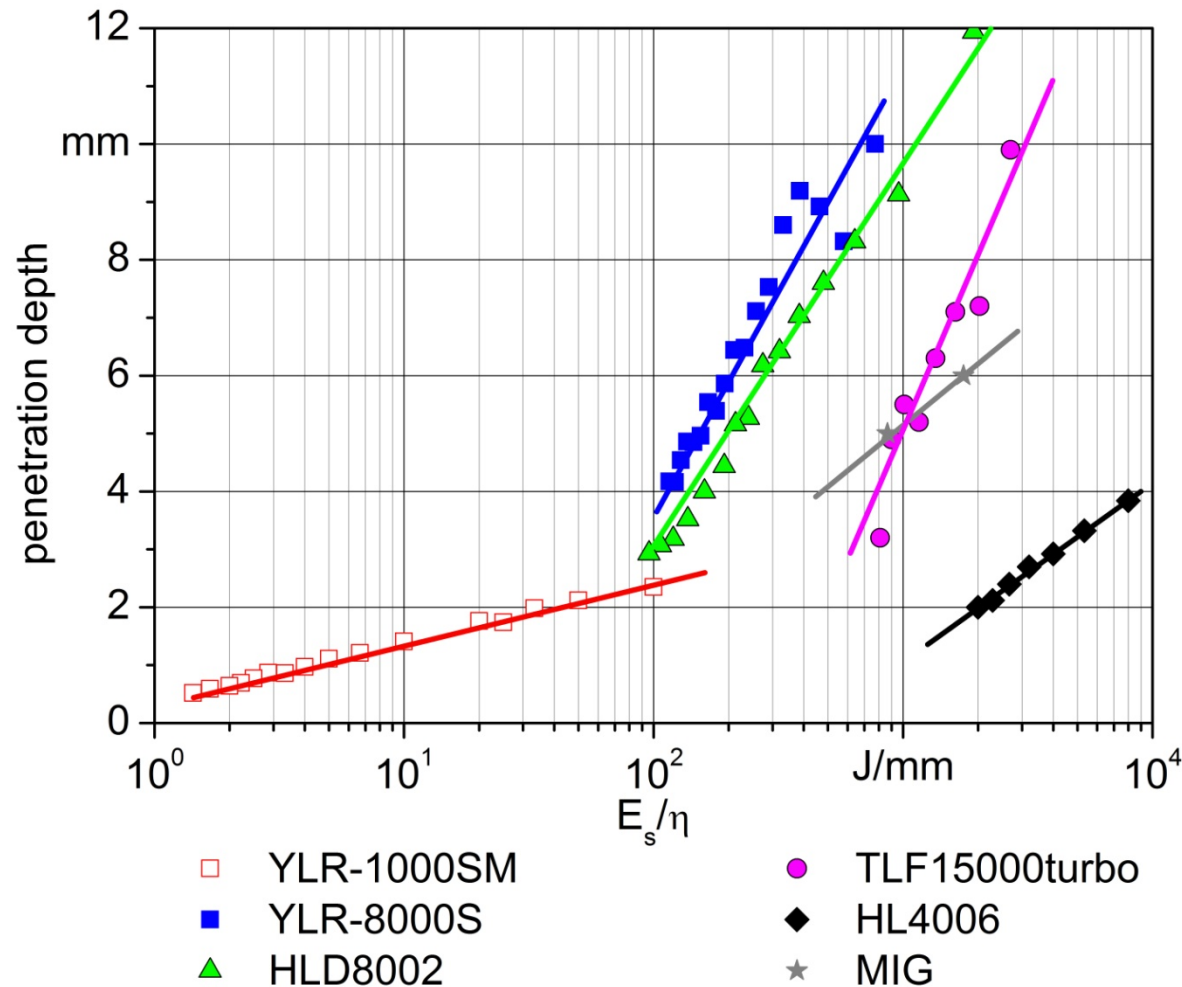


Penetration of various Solid State Lasers

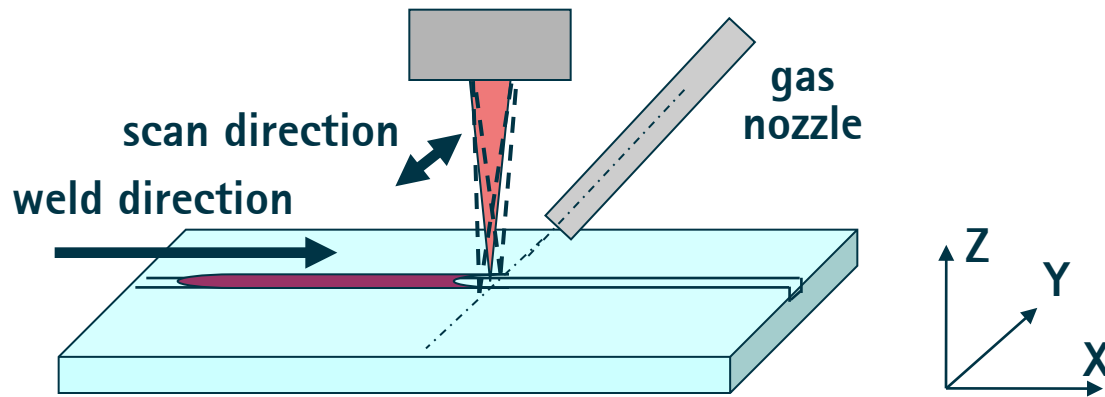
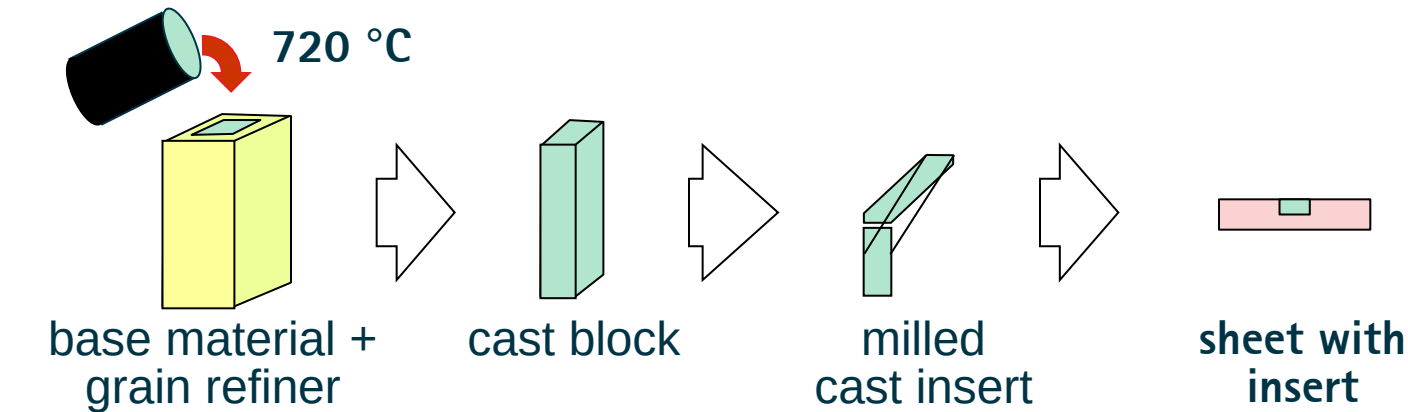


AA 6082

Effective energy consumption for welding



Controlled amount of grain refiner



laser welding of sheets with insert

beam source
base material

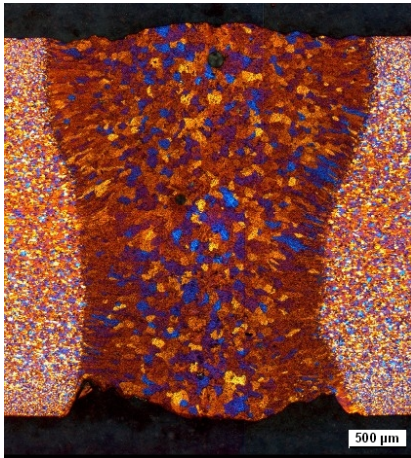
8 kW disc laser
AA 5083

master alloy
insert cross section

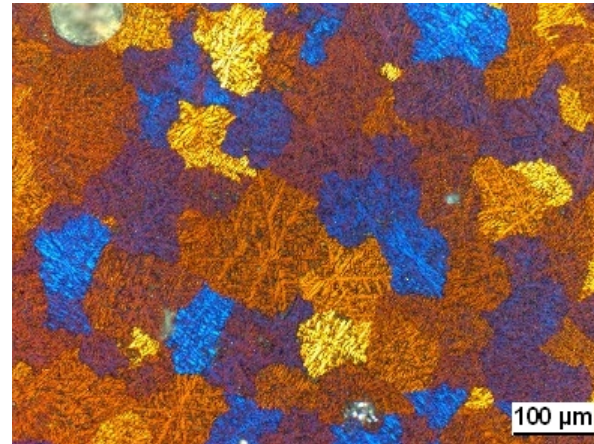
Al-5Ti-1B
2 x 1.5 mm²

BIAS ID 110294

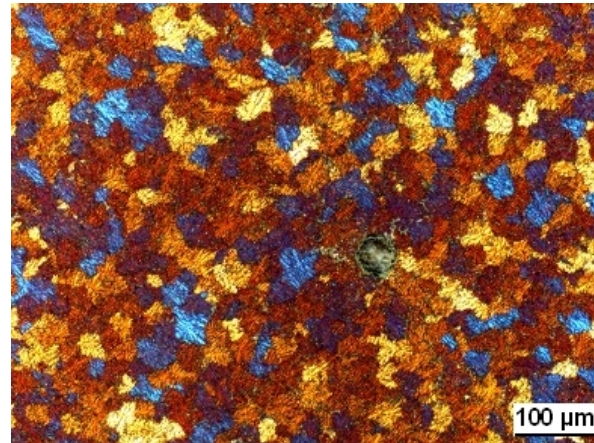
Grain structure



~0.03% Ti in
the weld



~0.26% Ti in
the weld

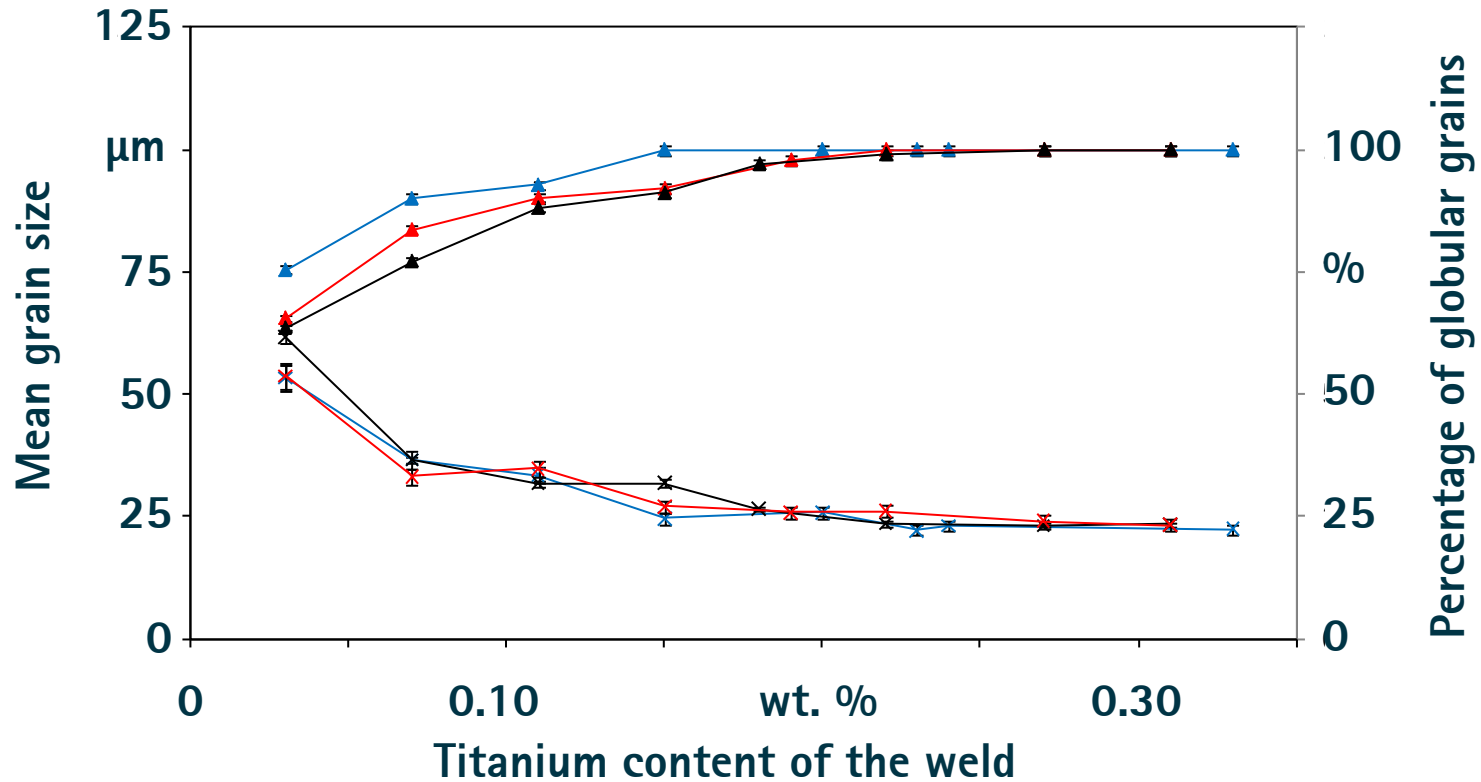


$P = 6 \text{ kW}$; $v = 4 \text{ m/min}$

Base Material: Al Mg4.5Mn0.7 (AW-5083)

Full grain refinement (complete equiaxed grains)

Influence of the Titanium content



mean grain size:

—×— v = 2 m/min P = 3.5 kW

—×— v = 4 m/min P = 6 kW

—×— v = 6 m/min P = 8 kW

Percentage of globular grains

—△— v = 2 m/min P = 3.5 kW

—△— v = 4 m/min P = 6 kW

—△— v = 6 m/min P = 8 kW

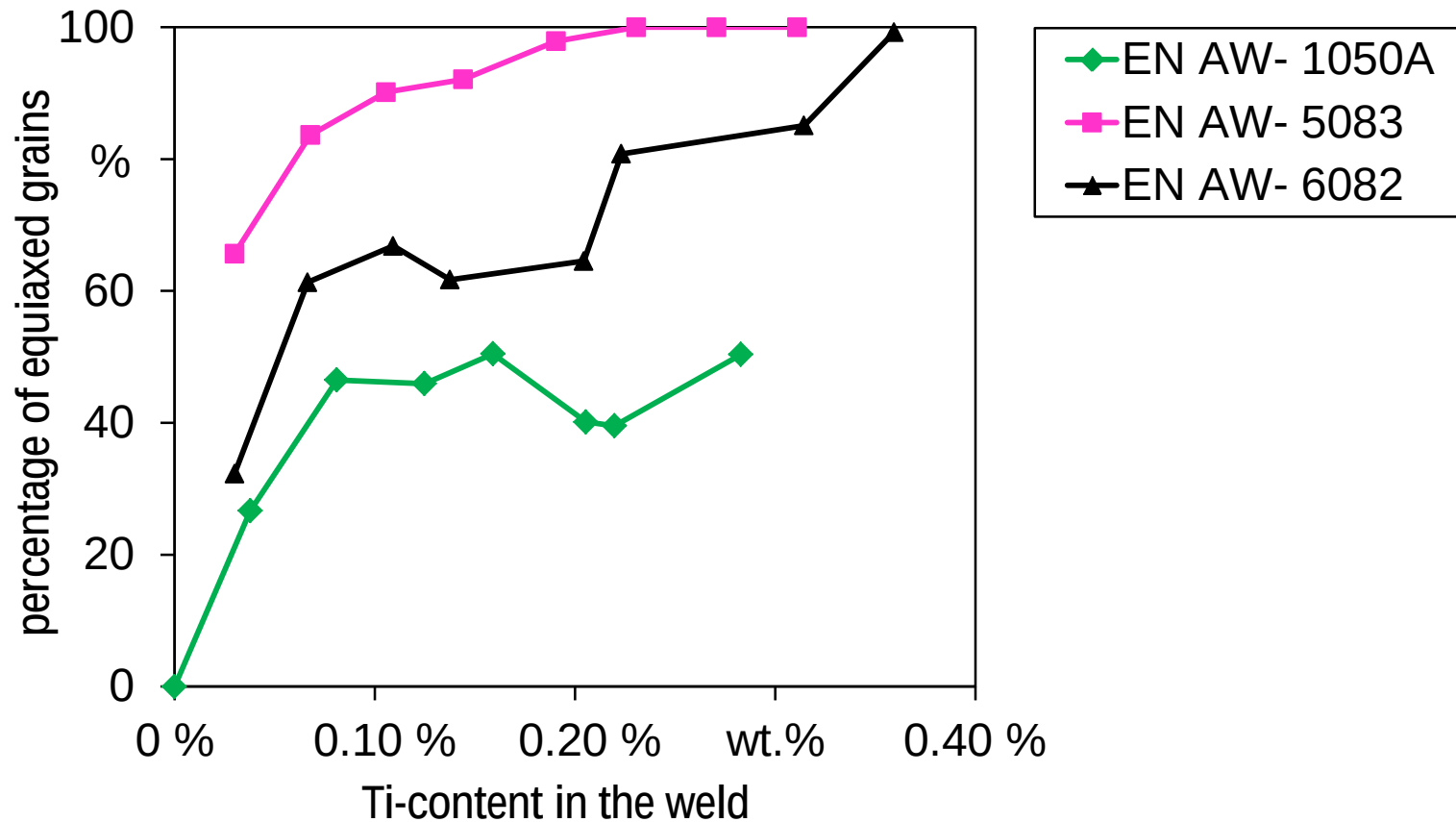
beam source 8 kW disc laser

base material

AA 5083

BIAS ID 110296

Influence of Ti/B-addition on grain form

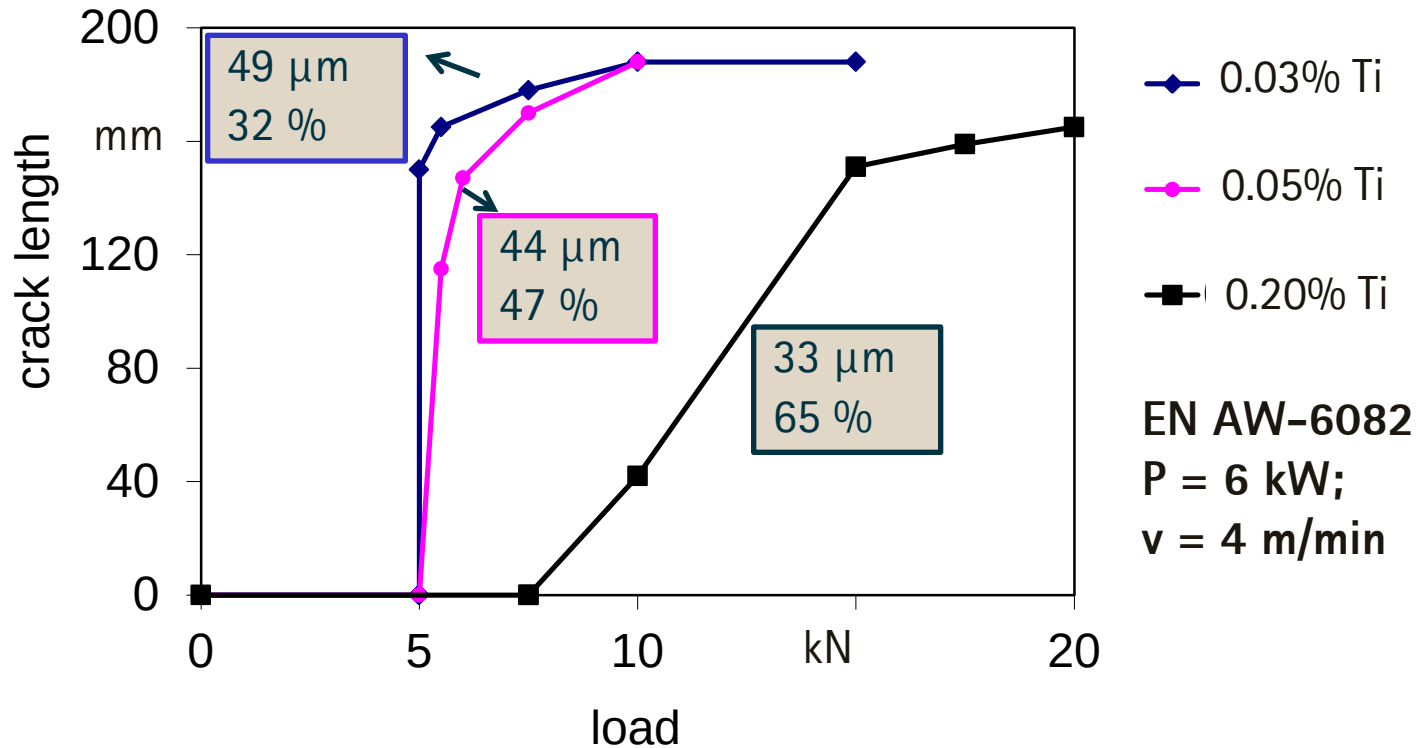


Laser: $P = 6 \text{ kW}$, $v = 4 \text{ m/min}$;

TIG: $U = 11.2 \text{ V}$, $I = 175 \text{ A}$, $v = 0.252 \text{ m/min}$

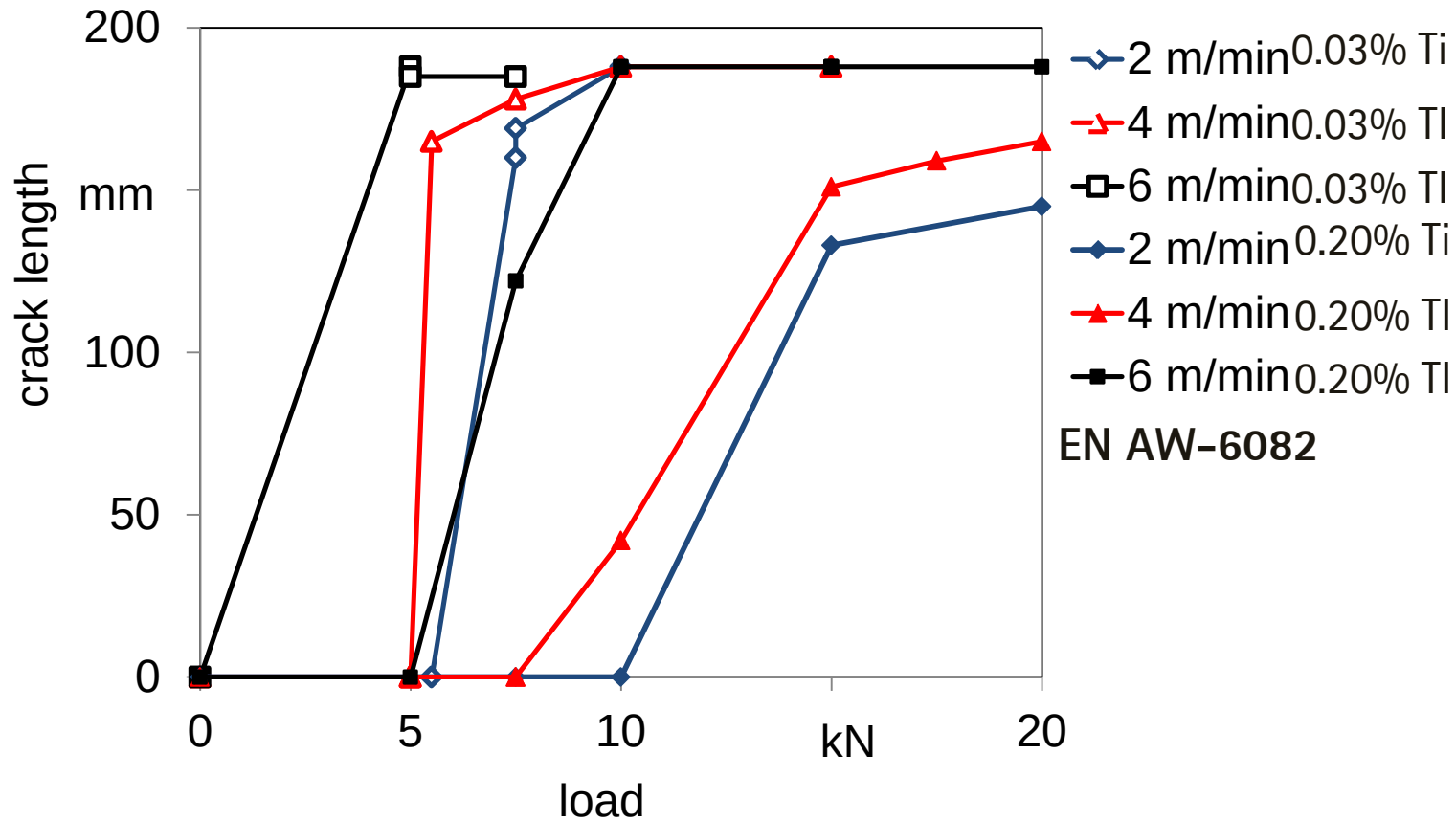
Great influence of the alloys on the grain form.

Hot cracking test – DELTA test



Influence of grain refinement on hot cracking susceptibility.

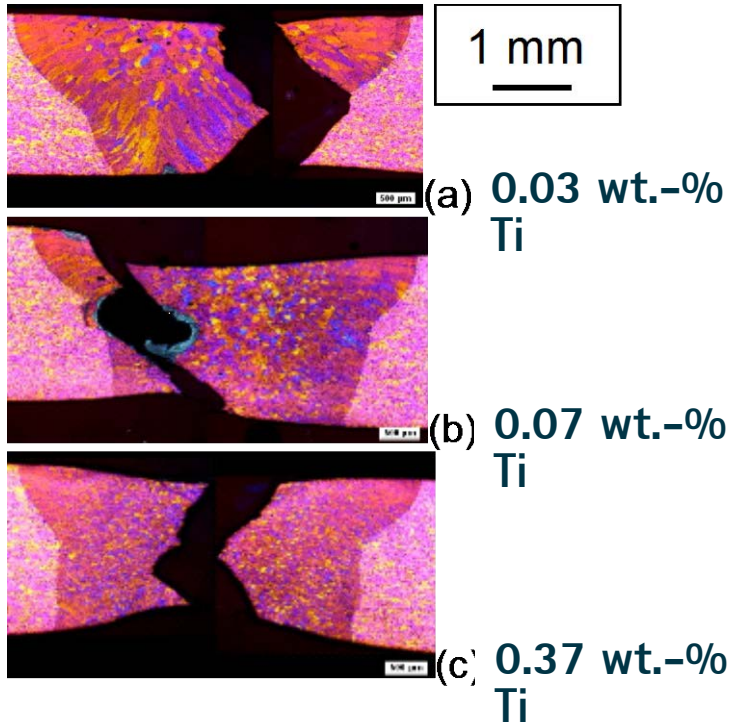
Hot cracking test – DELTA test



EN AW-6082

Influence of welding parameter on hot cracking susceptibility.

Tensile test (DIN EN 895)

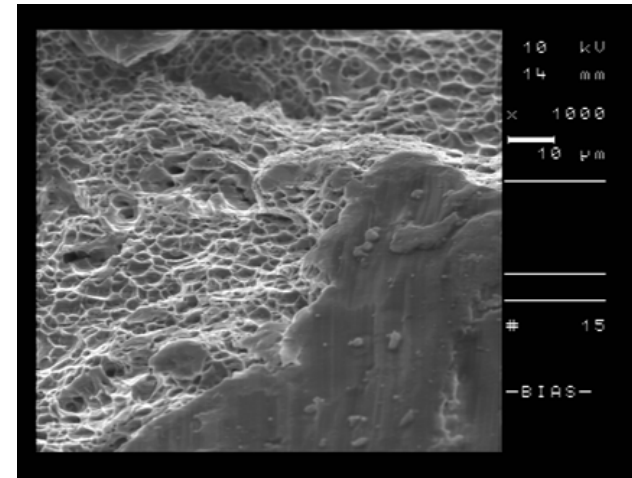


EN AW-6082

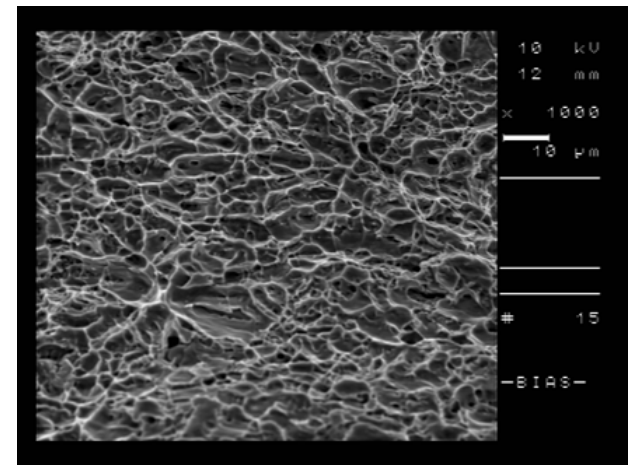
$P = 6 \text{ kW}$;

$v = 4 \text{ m/min}$;

$L_0 = 10 \text{ mm}$



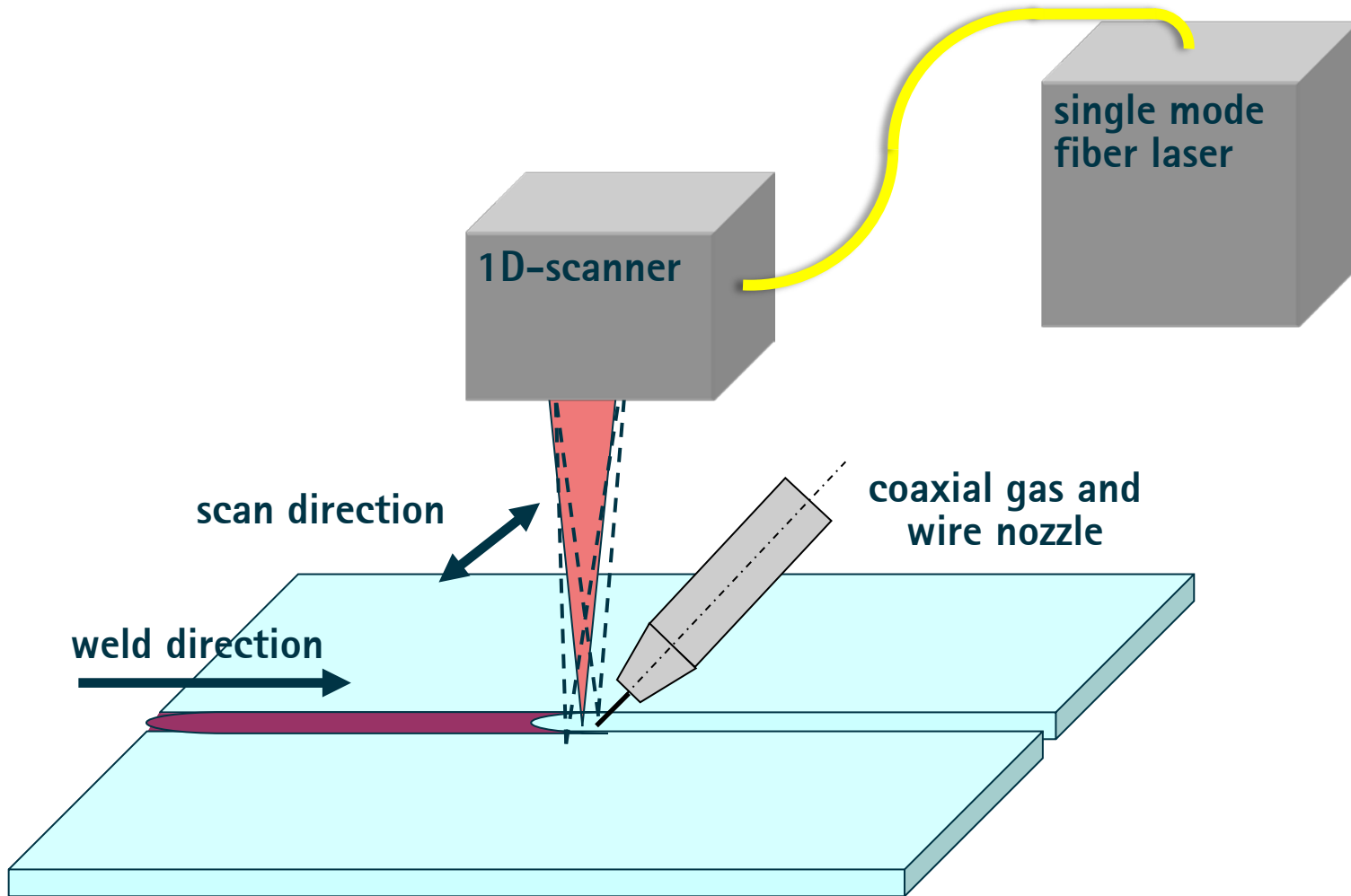
0.03 wt.-% Ti



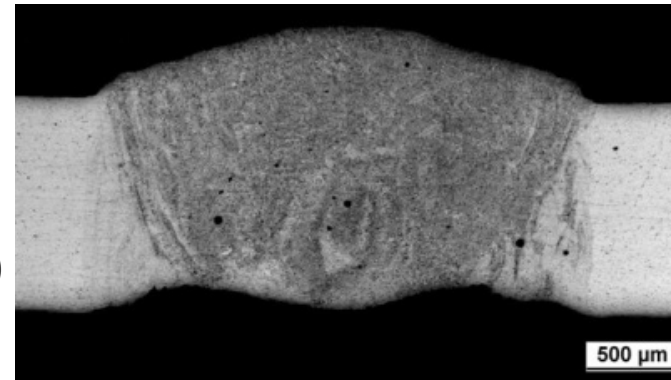
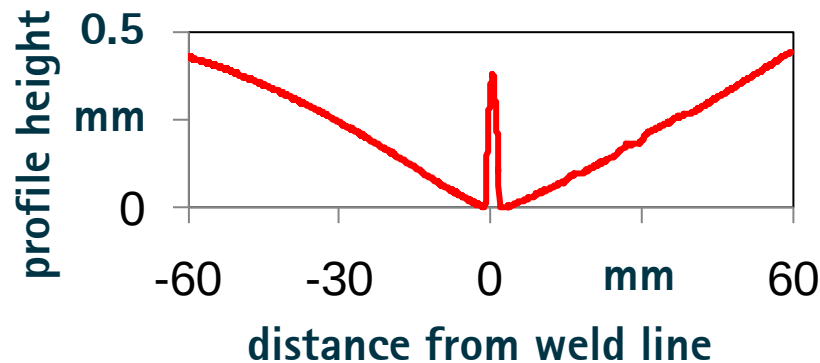
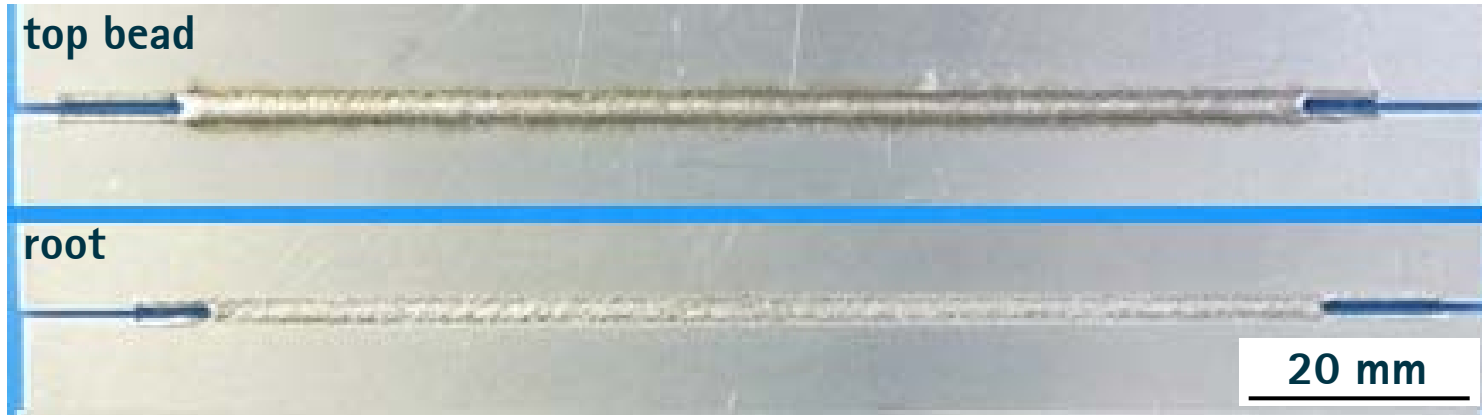
0.37 wt.-% Ti

BIAS ID 111522

Low distortion thin sheet welding with gap



Low distortion thin sheet welding with gap



beam source 1 kW sm fiber laser
base material AA 6082
filler wire AlSi 5

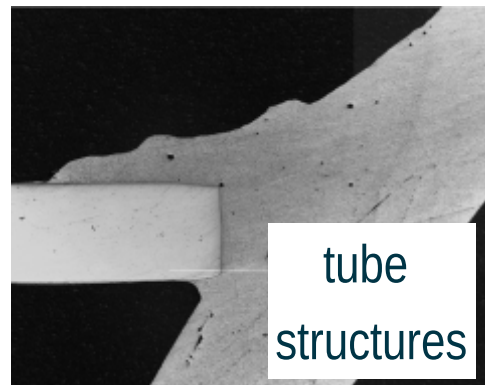
laser power 1 kW
welding speed 2 m/min
wire feed rate 3 m/min

BIAS ID 110303

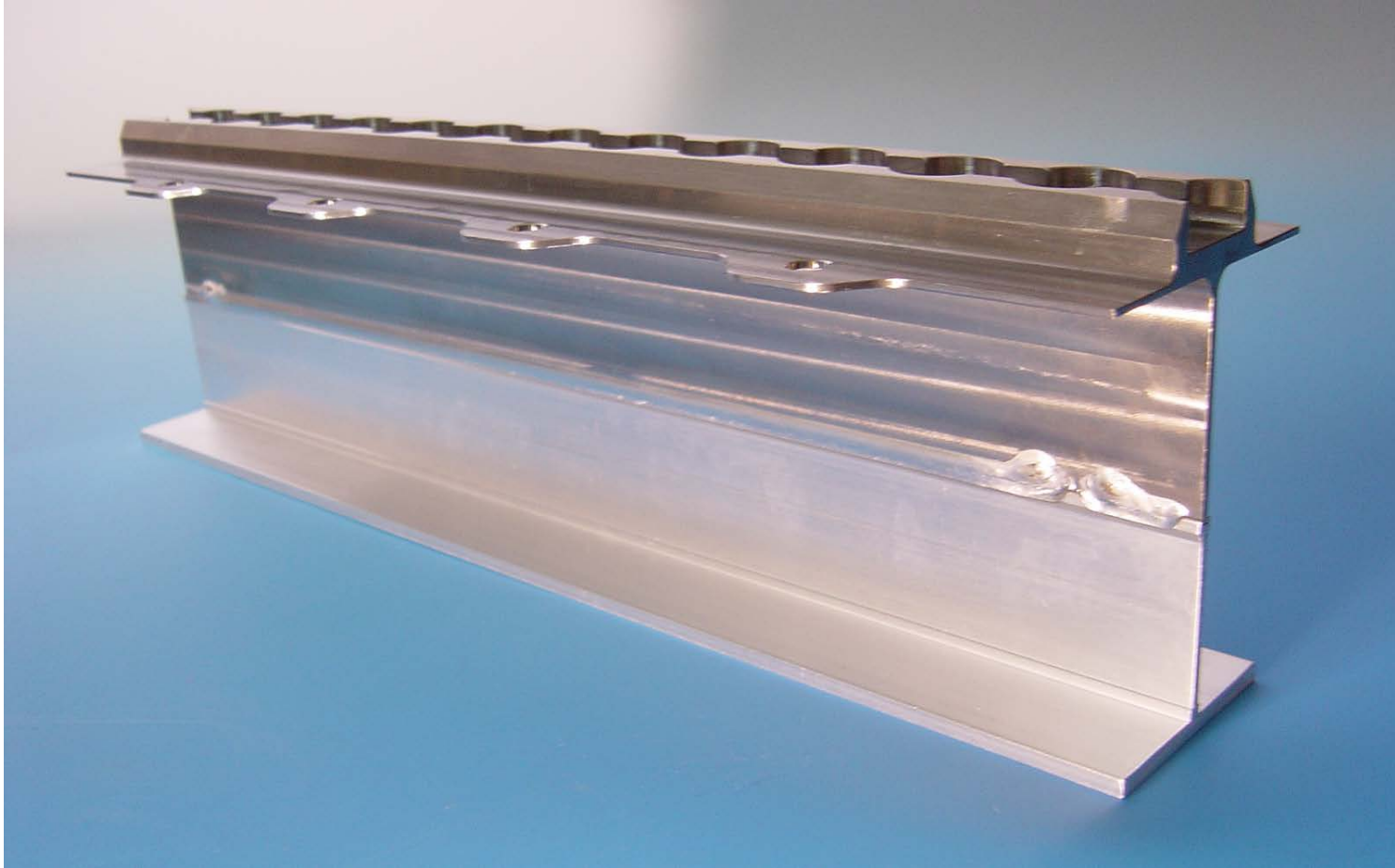
Aluminum-Steel Welding



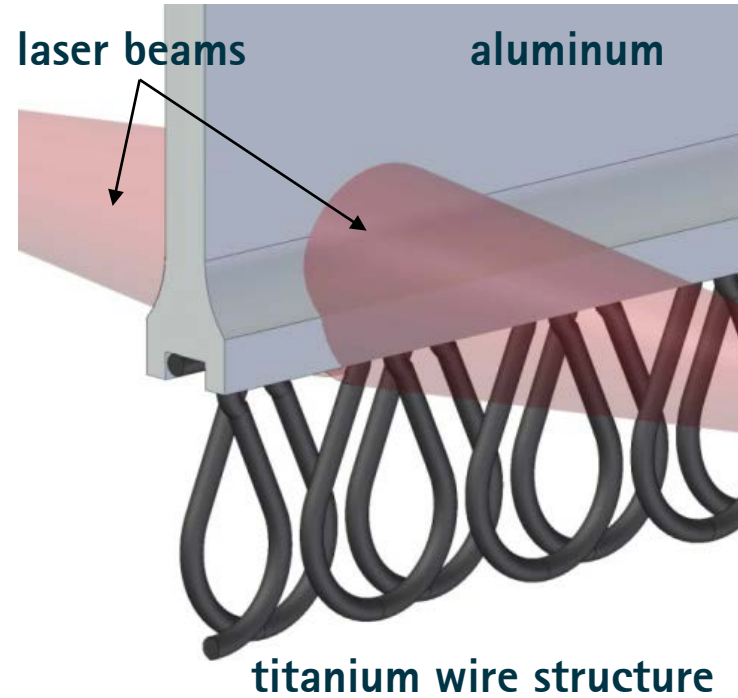
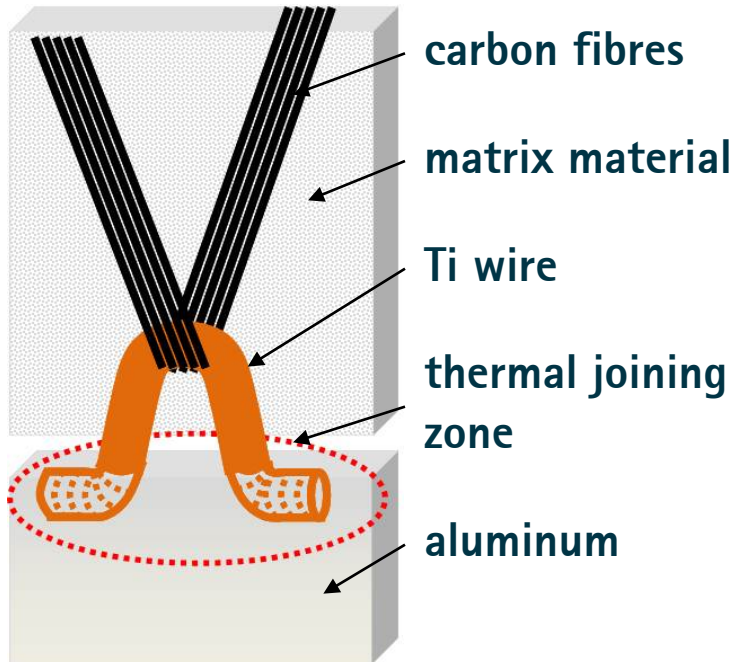
BIAS, LFT



Aluminum-Titanium Aircraft Component



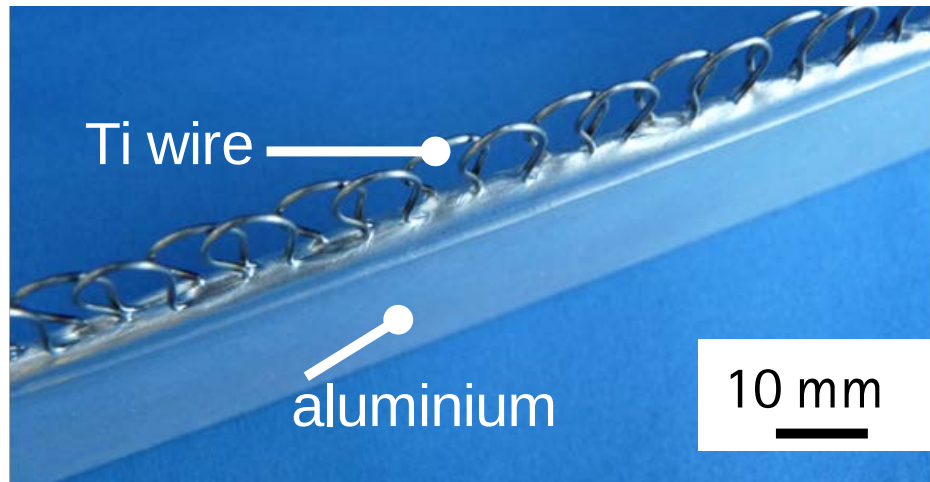
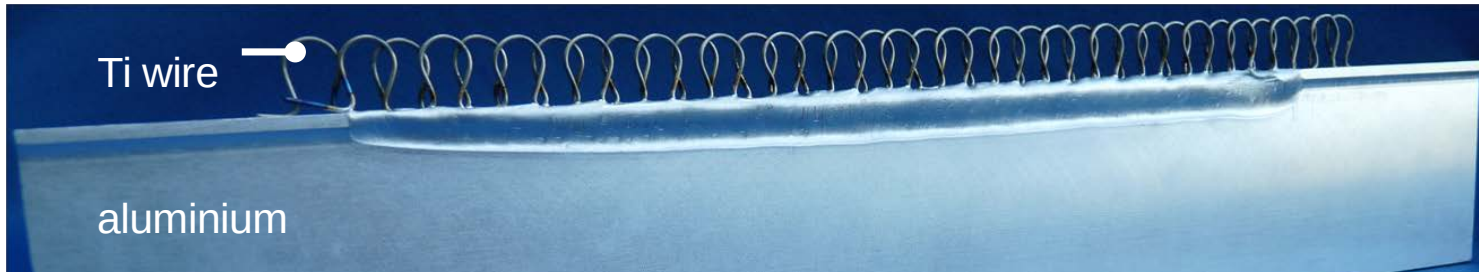
Design approach for Al-Ti-CFRP joint



aluminum alloy	AA 6056	fiber type	HTS 5631 24k
titanium wire alloy	Grade 2 (pure)	filament diameter	7 μm
titanium wire diameter	0.8 mm	matrix material	2-comp. epoxy

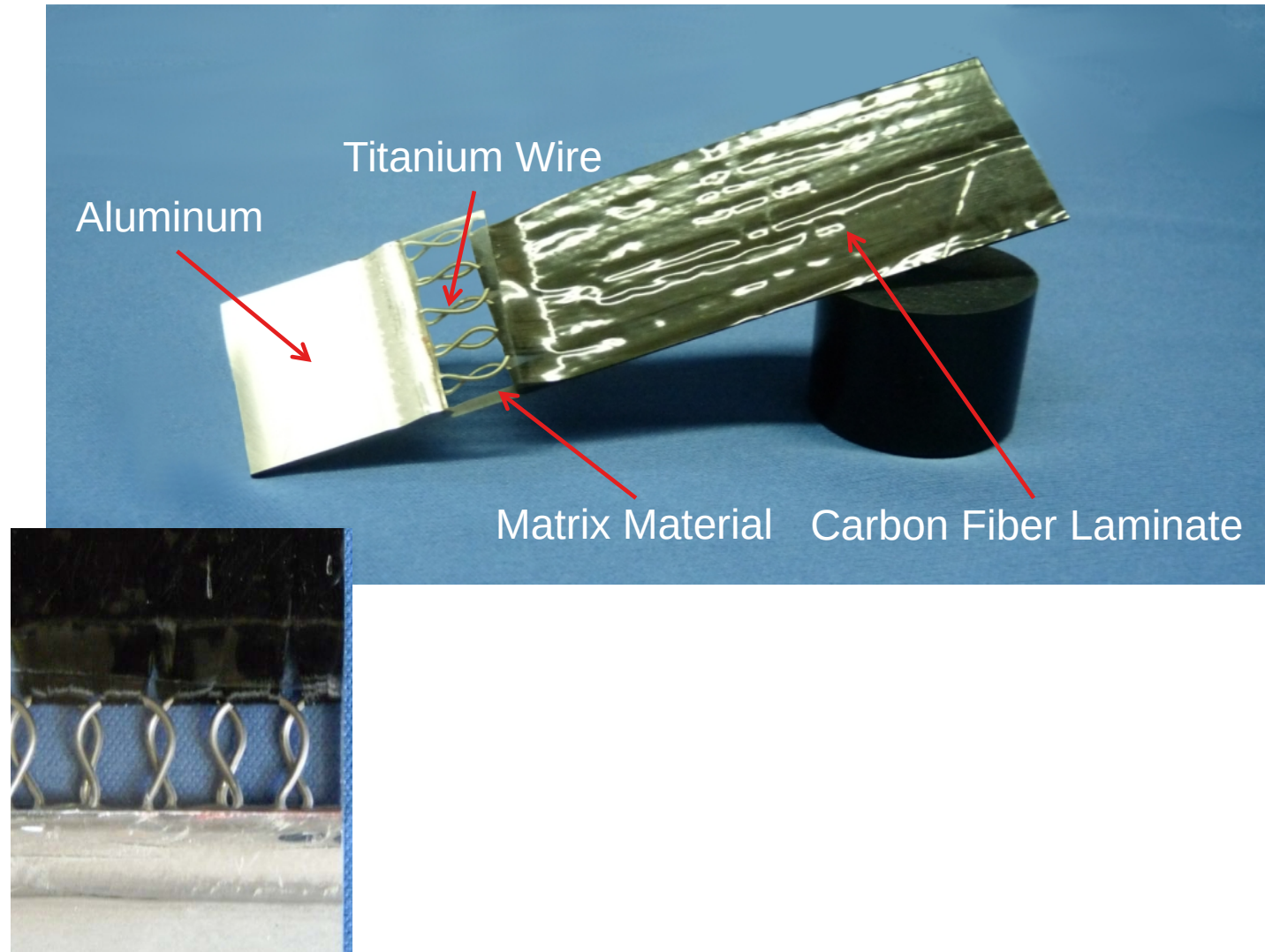
BIAS ID 110304

Welded specimen

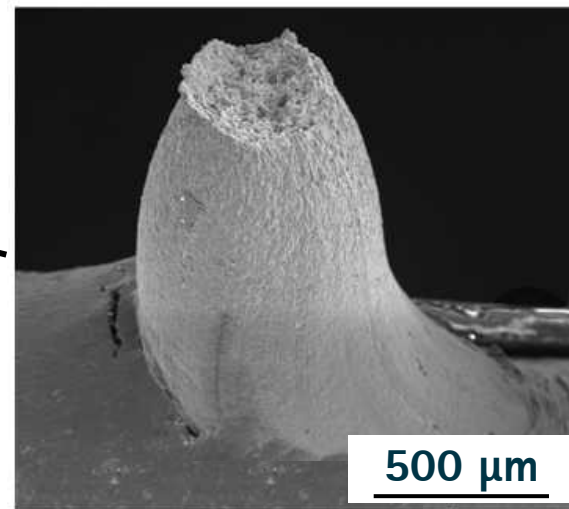
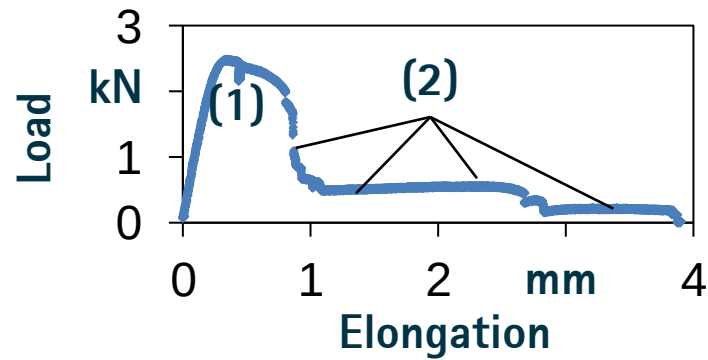
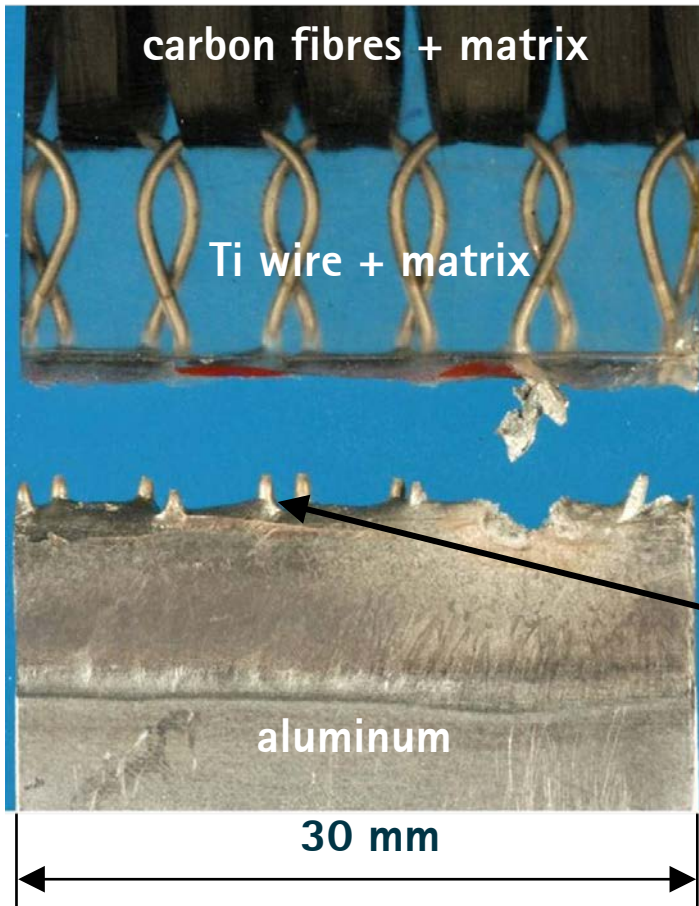


beam source	4 kW Ip Nd:YAG	titanium wire diameter	0.8 mm
aluminum alloy	AA 6056	laser power	2 x 1.4 kW
titanium wire alloy	Grade 2 (pure)	joining speed	0.22 m/min

Aluminium-CFRP Joint



Tensile testing



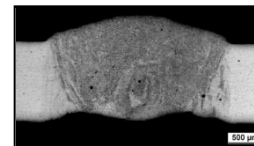
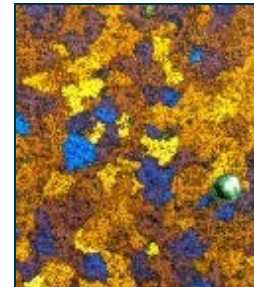
beam source 4 kW Ip Nd:YAG
aluminum alloy AA 6056
titanium wire alloy Grade 2 (pure)

titanium wire diameter 0.8 mm
laser power 2 x 1.4 kW
joining speed 0.22 m/min

BIAS ID 110307

Examples of current research of the Center of Competence for Welding of Aluminum Alloys – Centr-Al have been presented:

- High brightness lasers offer previously unattained laser power and beam quality, allowing for highly efficient welding processes with faster welding speed, deeper penetration and slender welds with low heat input and low distortion.
- Weldability can be significantly increased by using grain refinement. These results are intended for a fast transfer into application by the companies involved in the projects.
- Gap and distortion can be addressed when using a highly focused laser beam with scanner. Application oriented R&D on this topic is just starting.
- A new design concept for joining aluminum and CFRP was introduced that is promising with respect to size, weight and corrosion of such joints. Fundamental research has started on this topic.

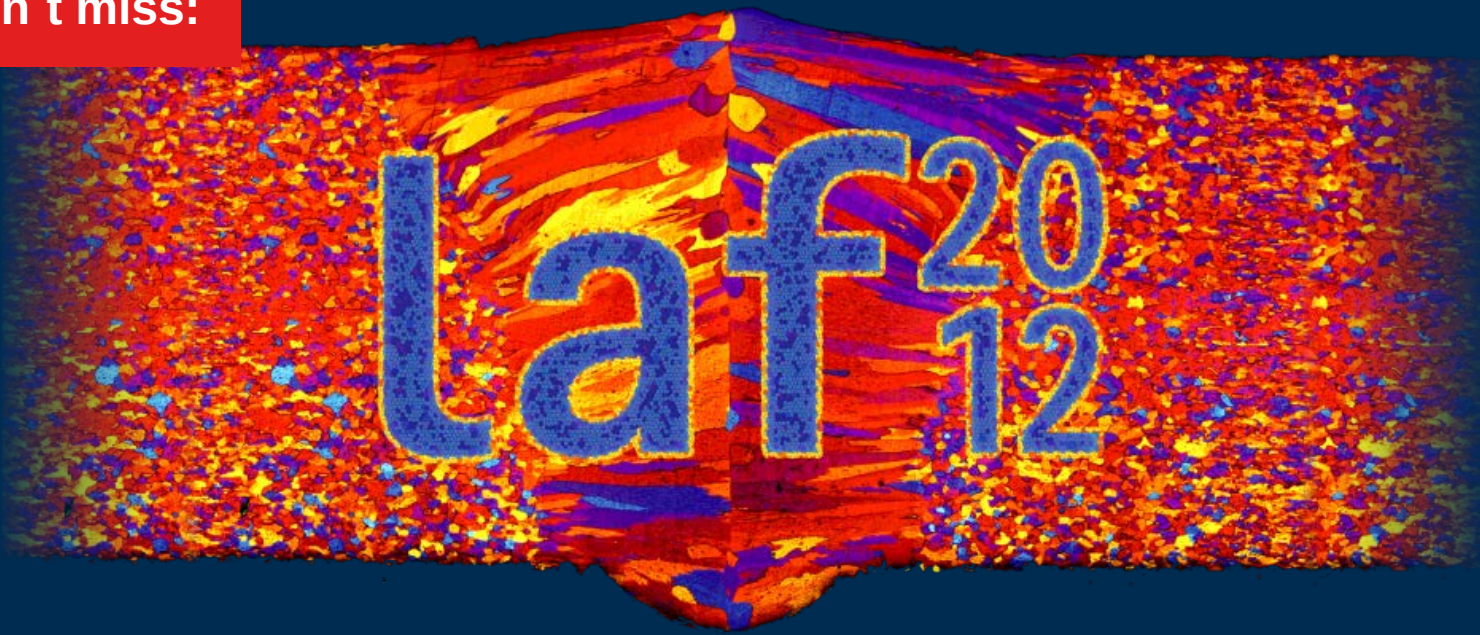


Thank you for your attention!

bias

Bremer Institut für
angewandte Strahltechnik GmbH

Don't miss:



laf2012

Schwerpunkt Qualitätssicherung

8. Laser-Anwenderforum

12.–13. September 2012 · Park Hotel Bremen

www.das-schweisst-zusammen.de



bias

www.bias.de