

Effect of friction stir processing on the damage resistance of 6xxx series aluminium alloys

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Pr. Thomas Pardoen (UCL, Belgium)

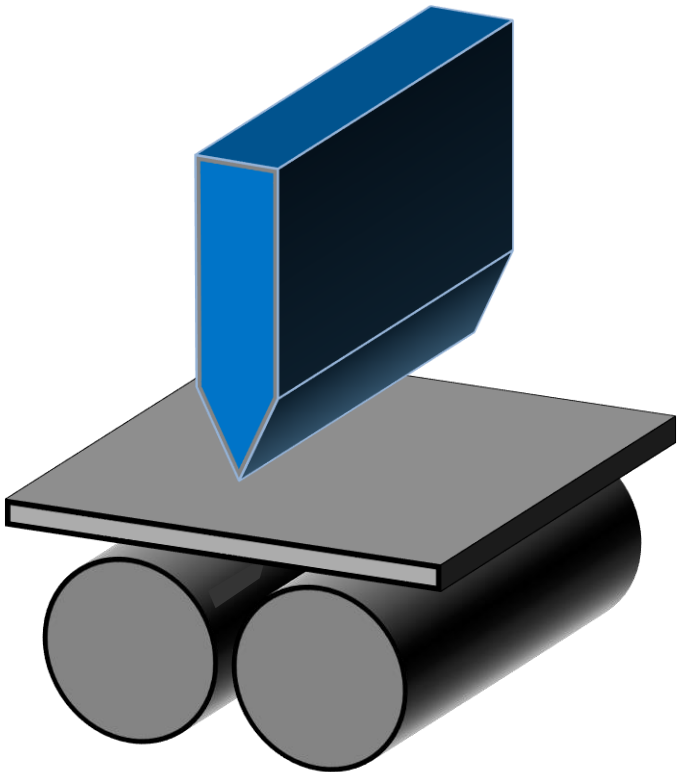
Dr. Eric Maire (INSA Lyon, France)



Selective formability : A balance between cost and performance

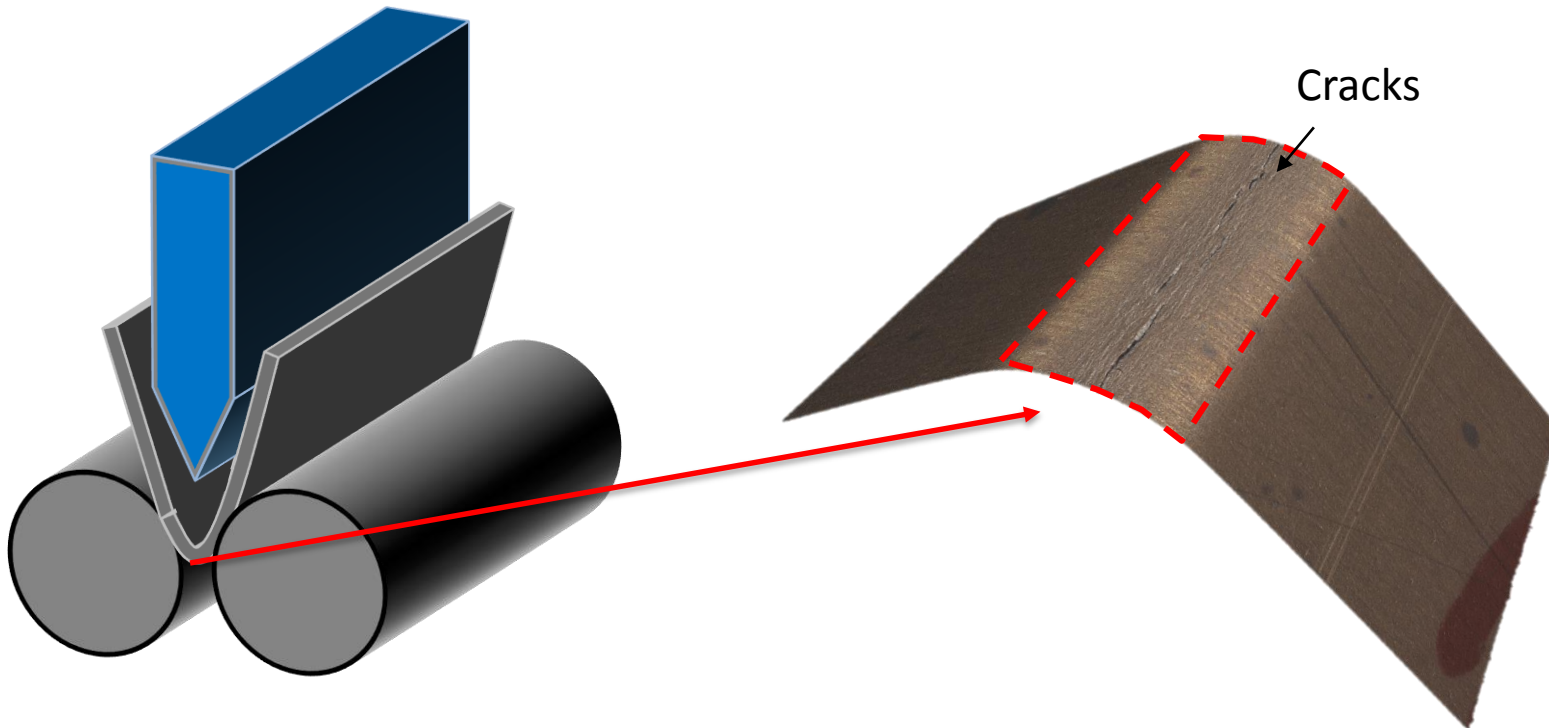
Selective formability : A balance between cost and performance

Improve ductility of sheets at locations where **forming**
involves **large strains**



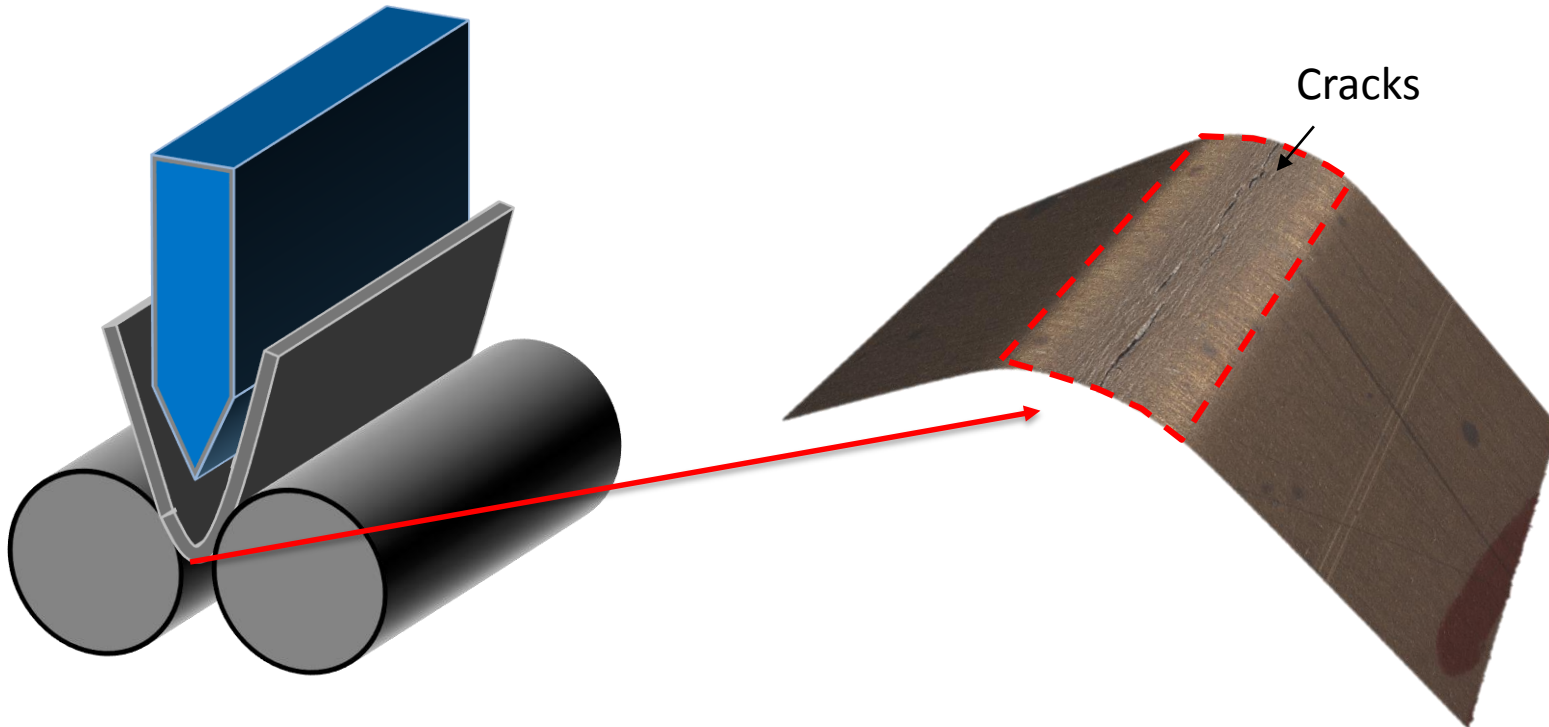
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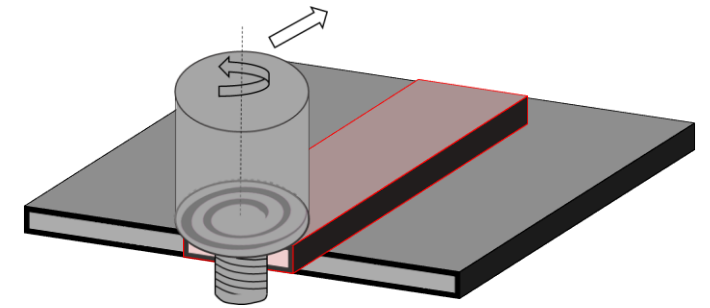


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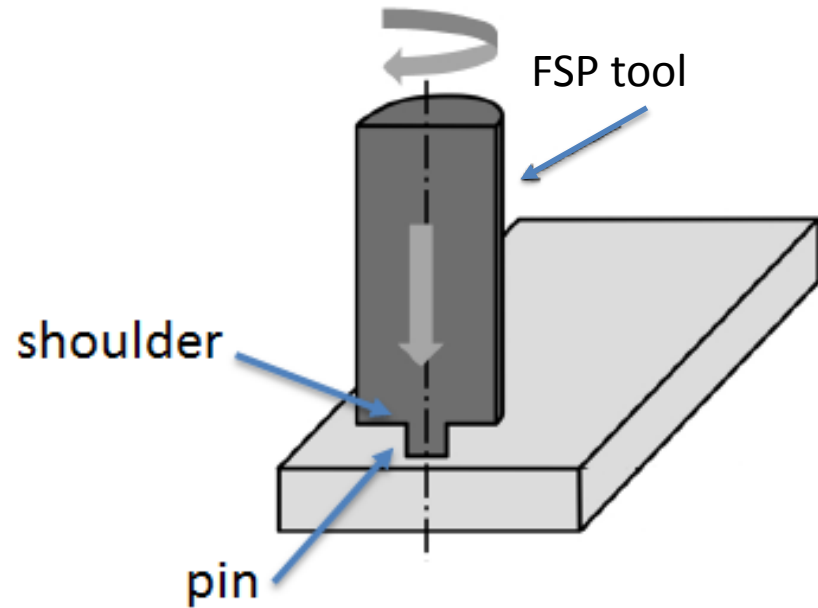
Improve ductility of sheets at locations where **forming** involves **large strains**



Friction stir processing

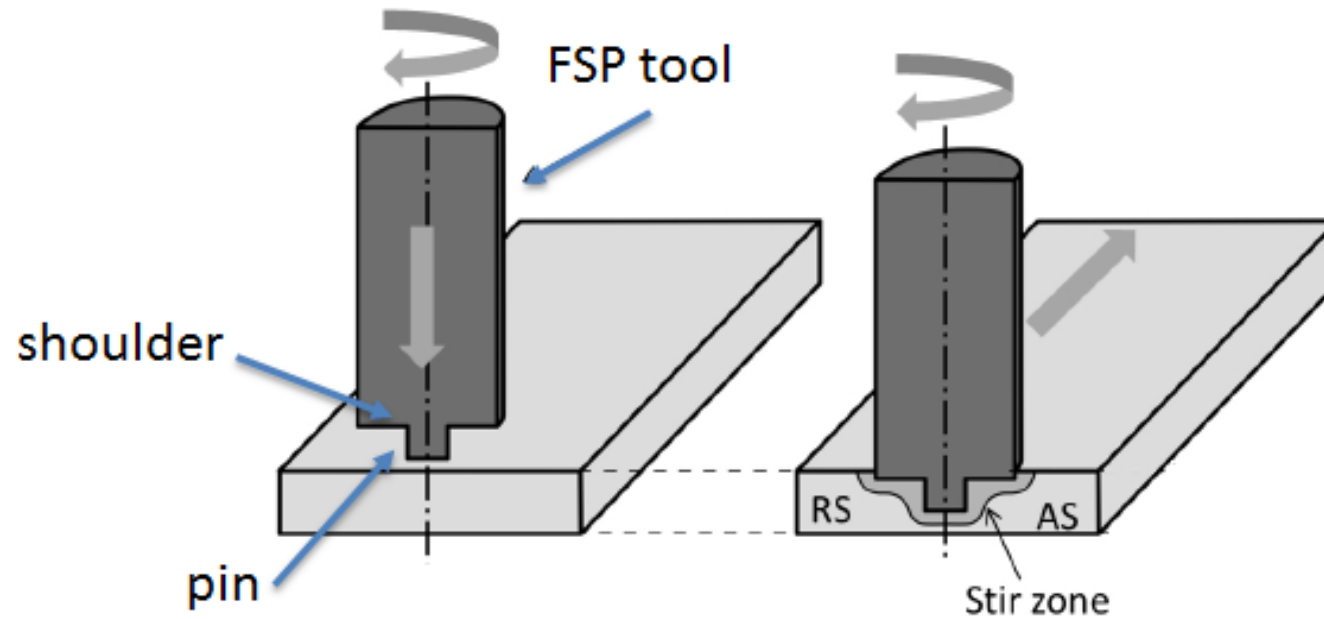


Aim : Improve the damage resistance of Al 6056 alloy by
friction stir processing (FSP)



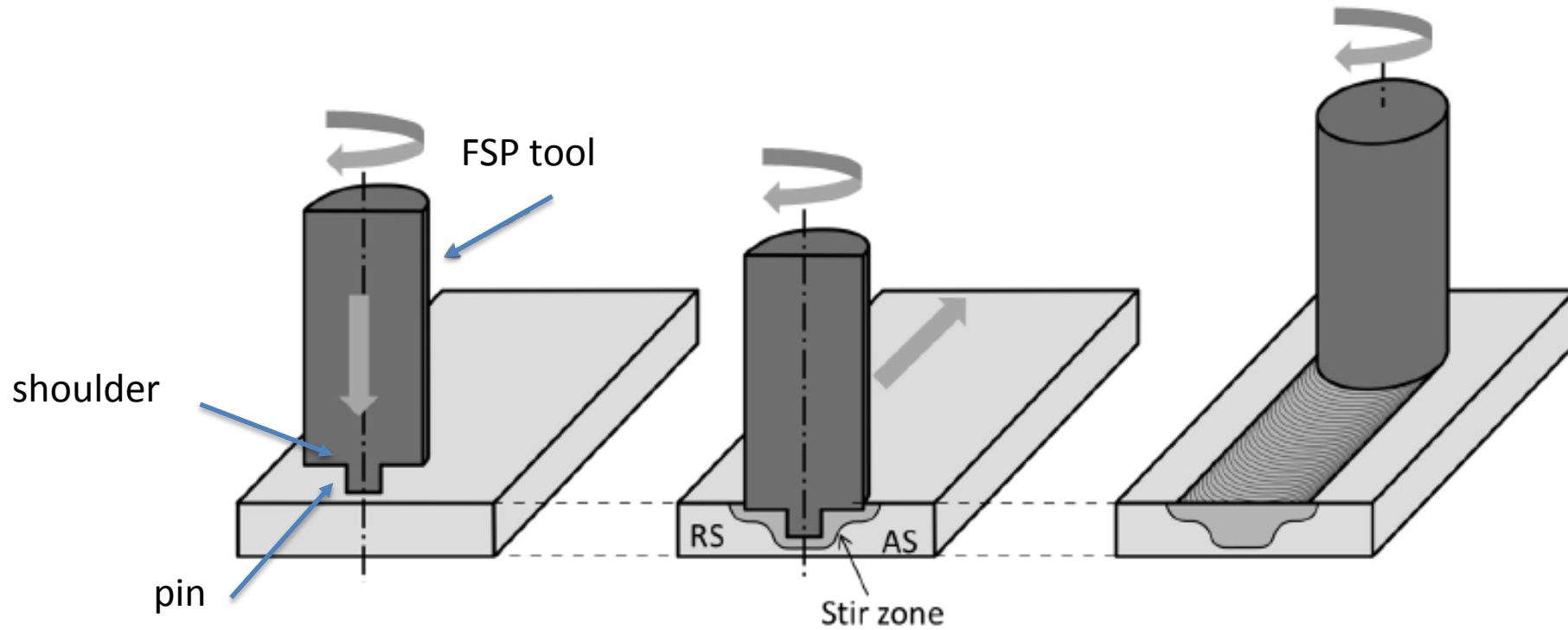
Rotating tool

Aim : Improve the damage resistance of Al 6056 alloy by **friction stir processing (FSP)**



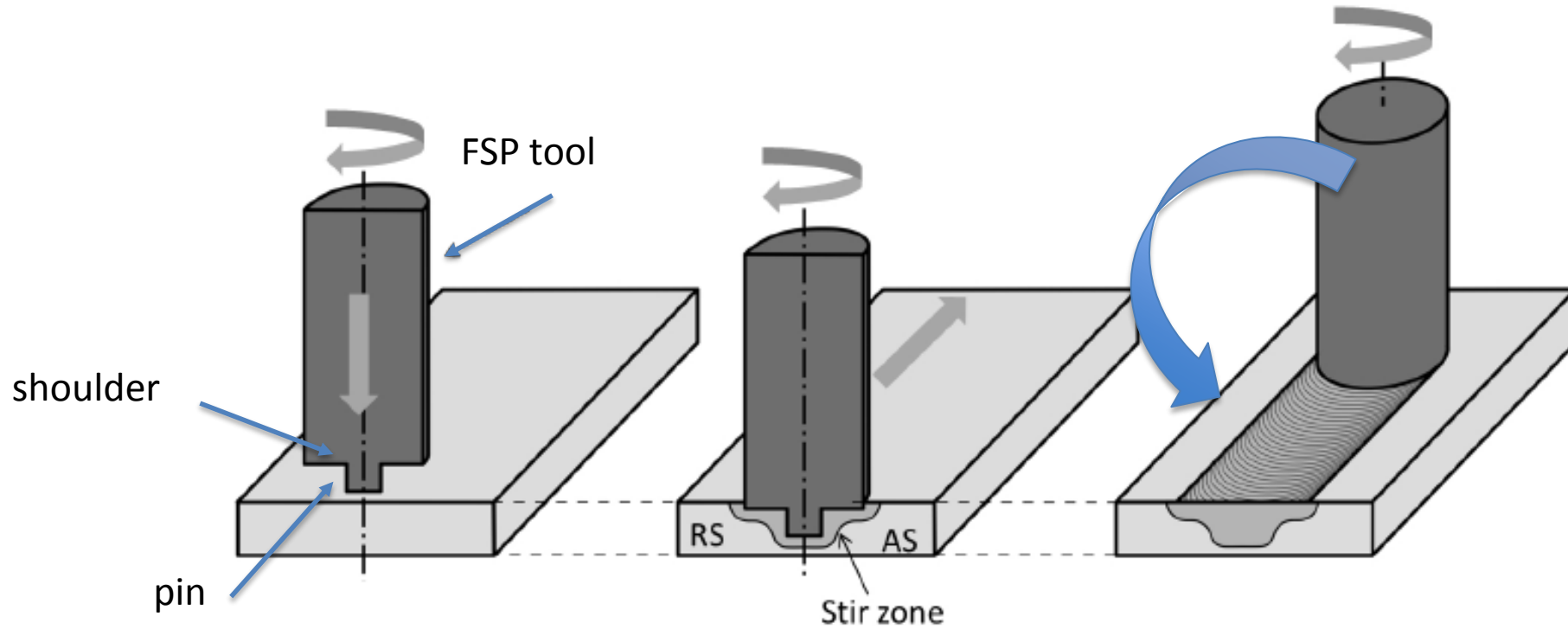
It is introduced into the material.

Aim : Improve the damage resistance of Al 6056 alloy by **friction stir processing (FSP)**



The tool is then travelling forward.

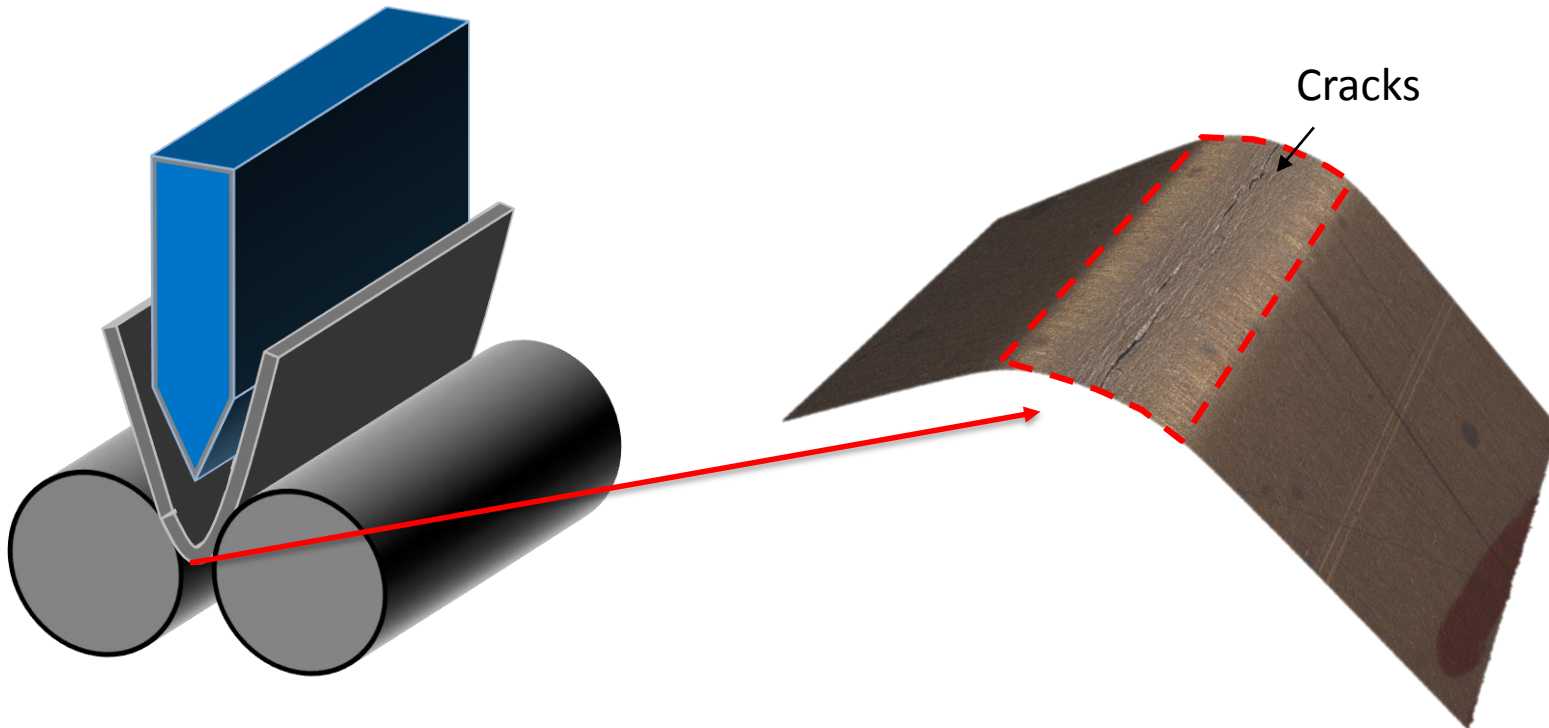
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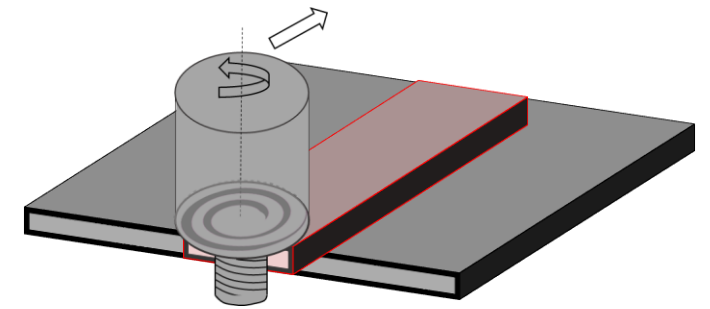
Number of FSP passes

Selective formability : A balance between cost and performance

Improve ductility of sheets at locations where **forming** involves **large strains**

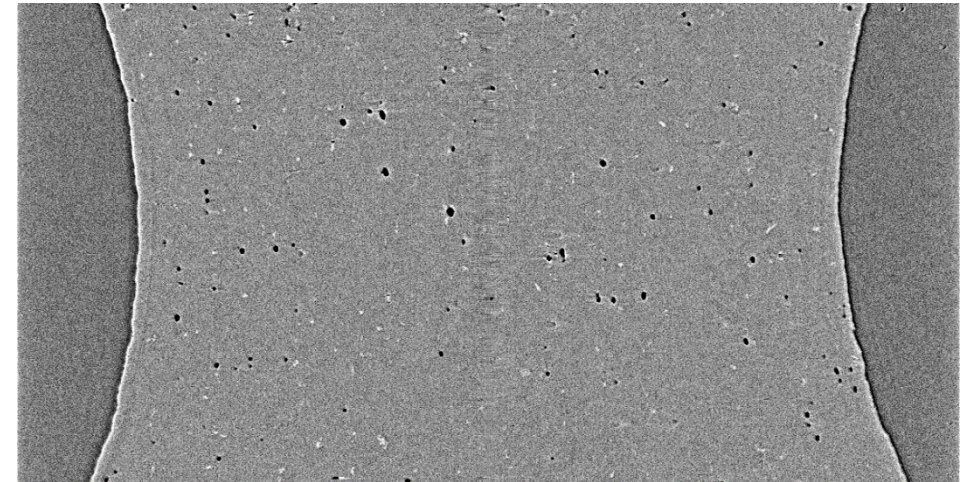
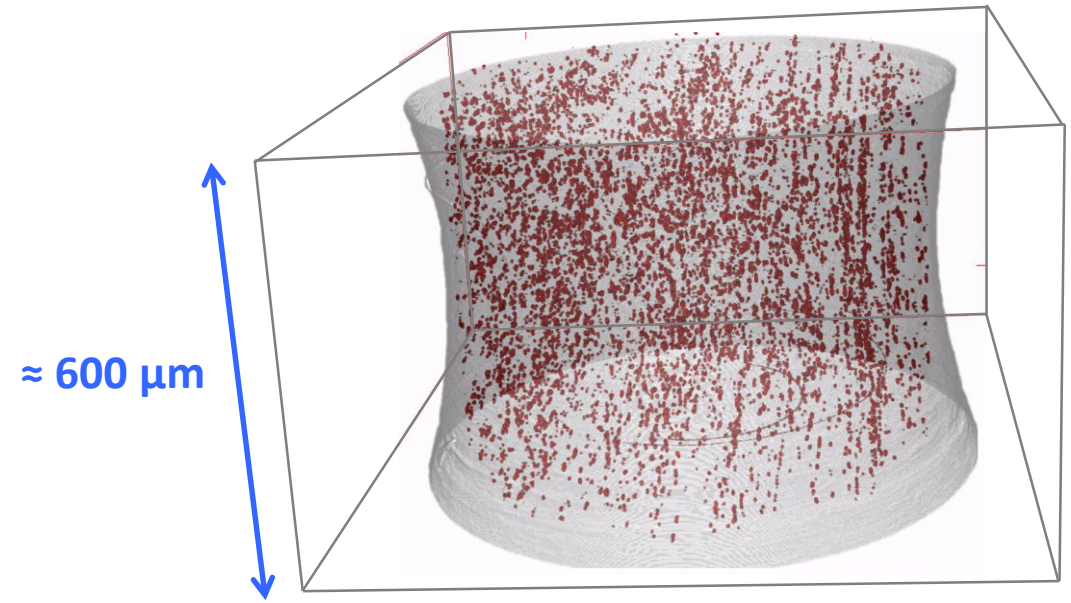
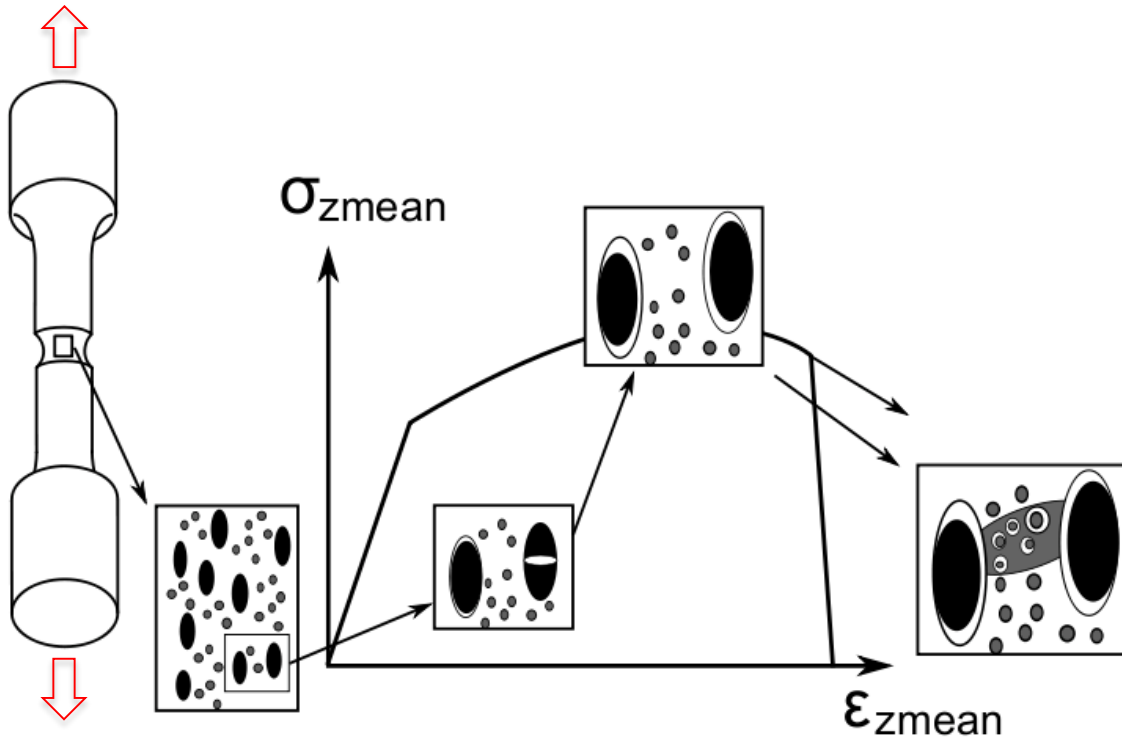


Friction stir processing



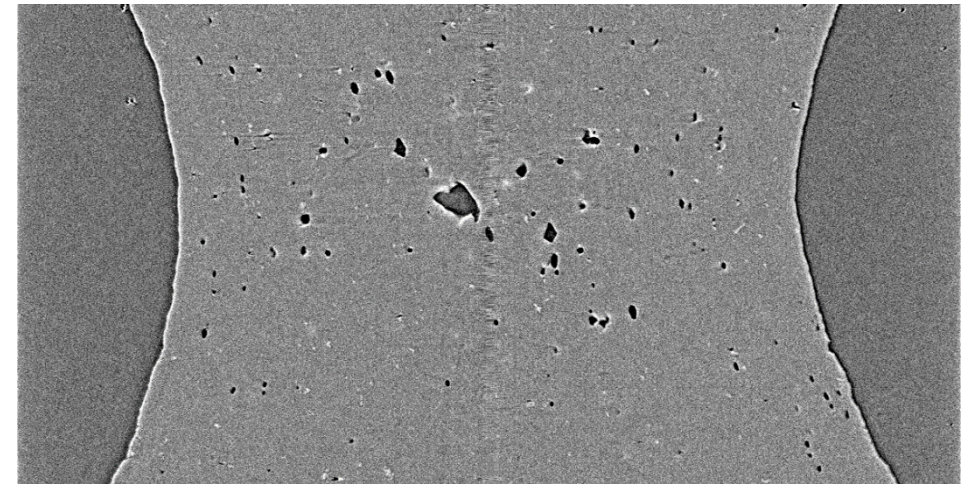
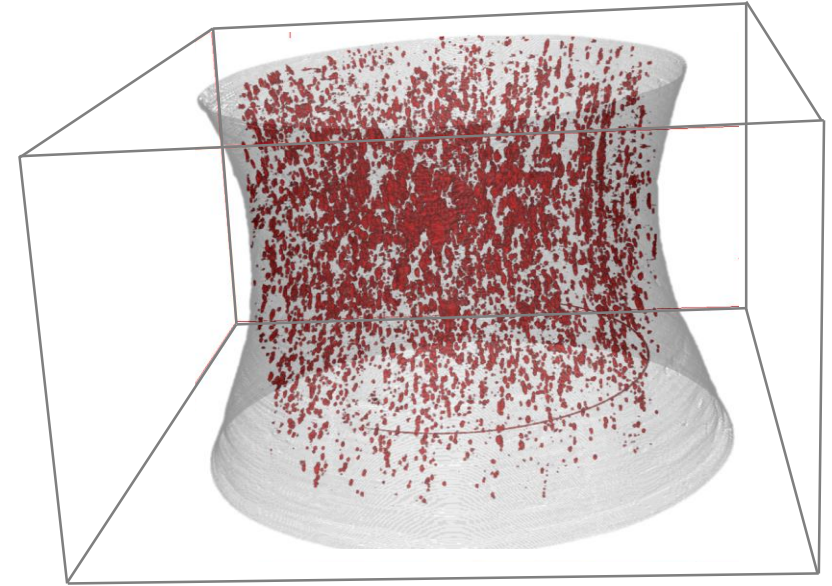
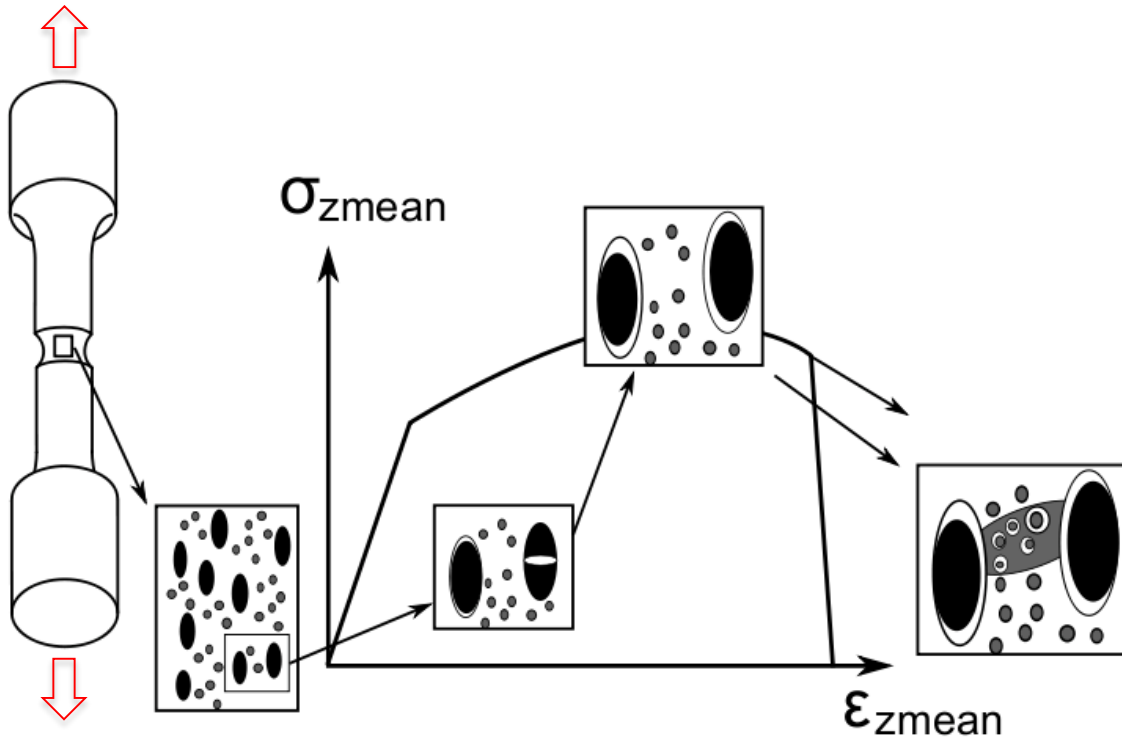
Ductile fracture is led by the damage mechanisms

- Void nucleation
- Void growth
- Coalescence of voids



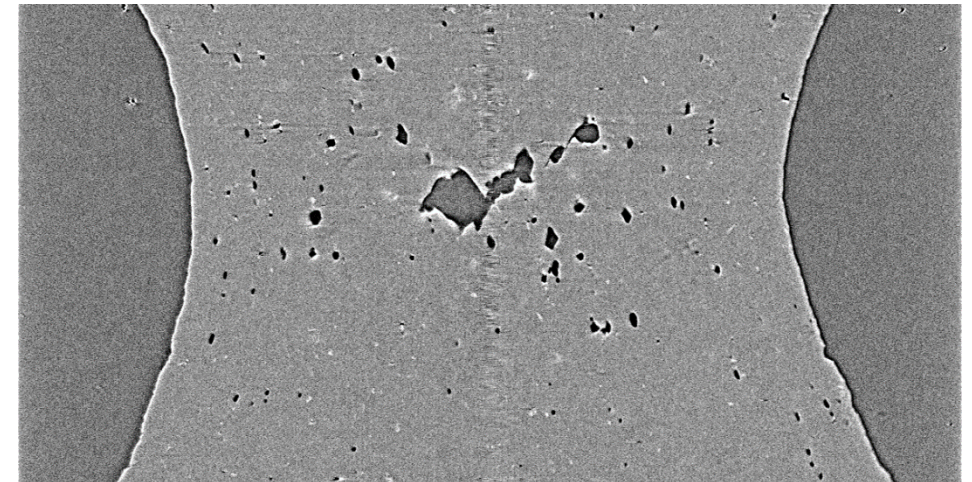
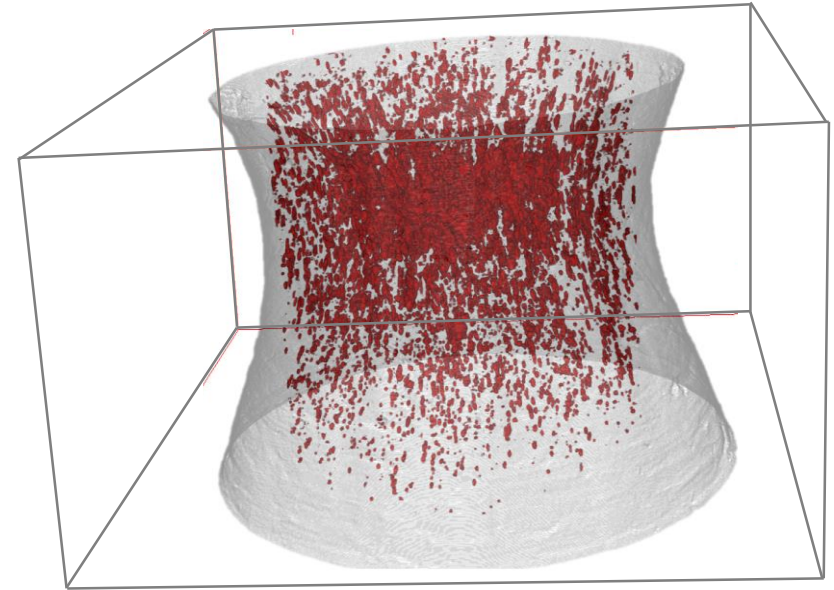
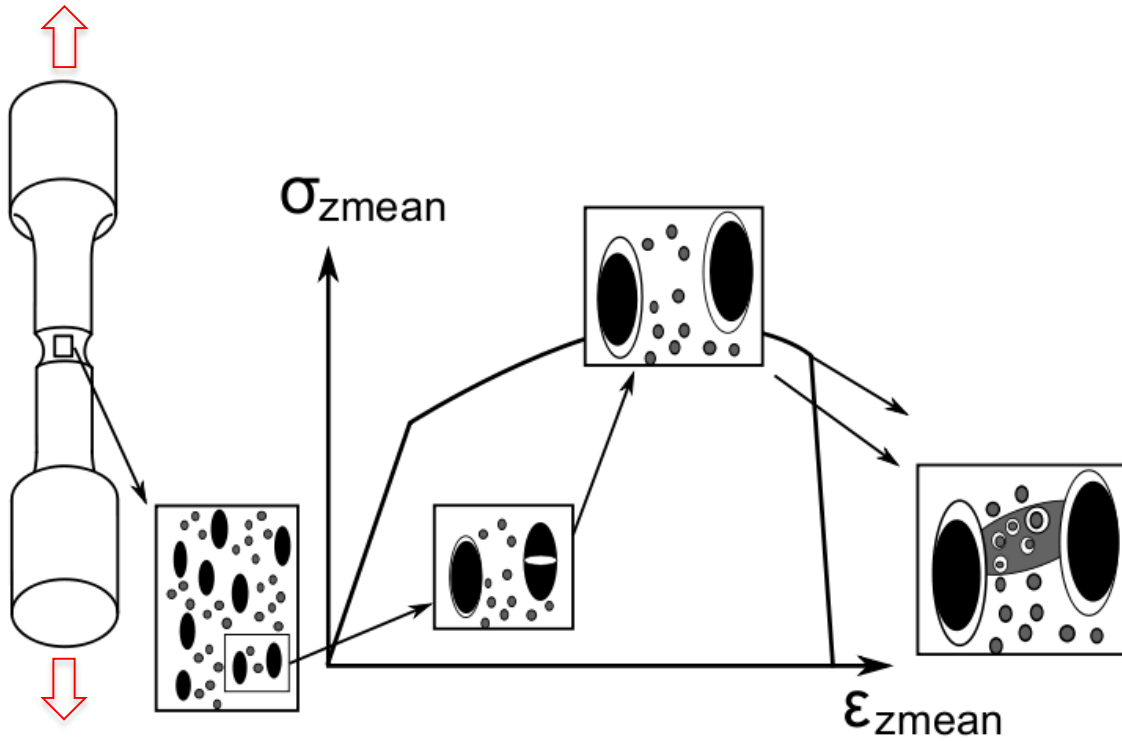
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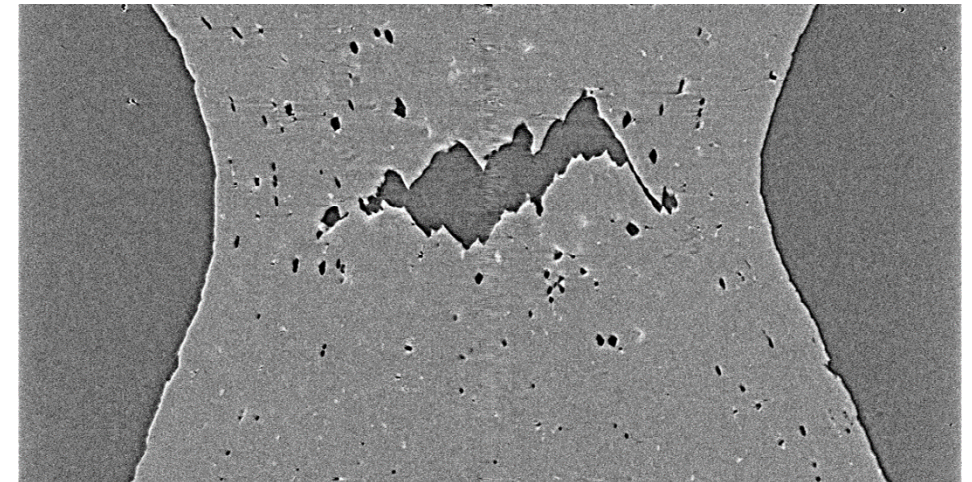
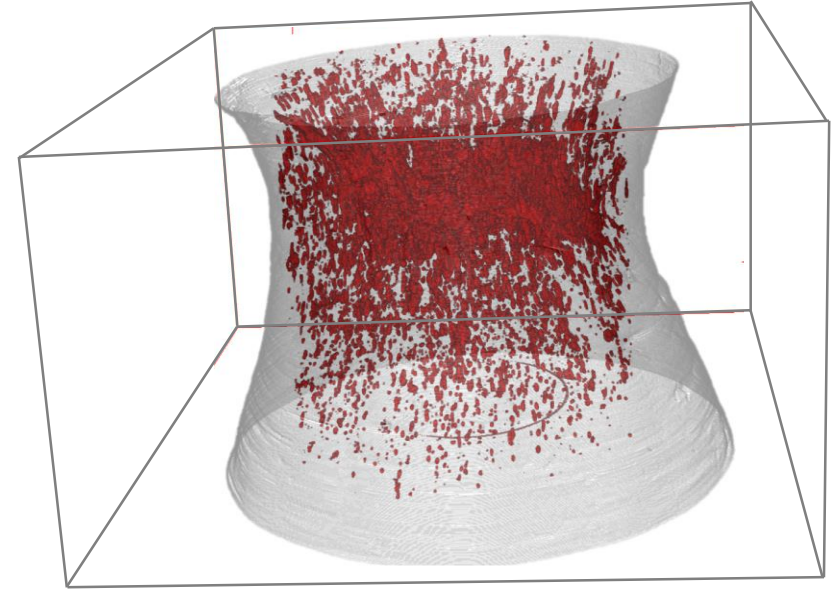
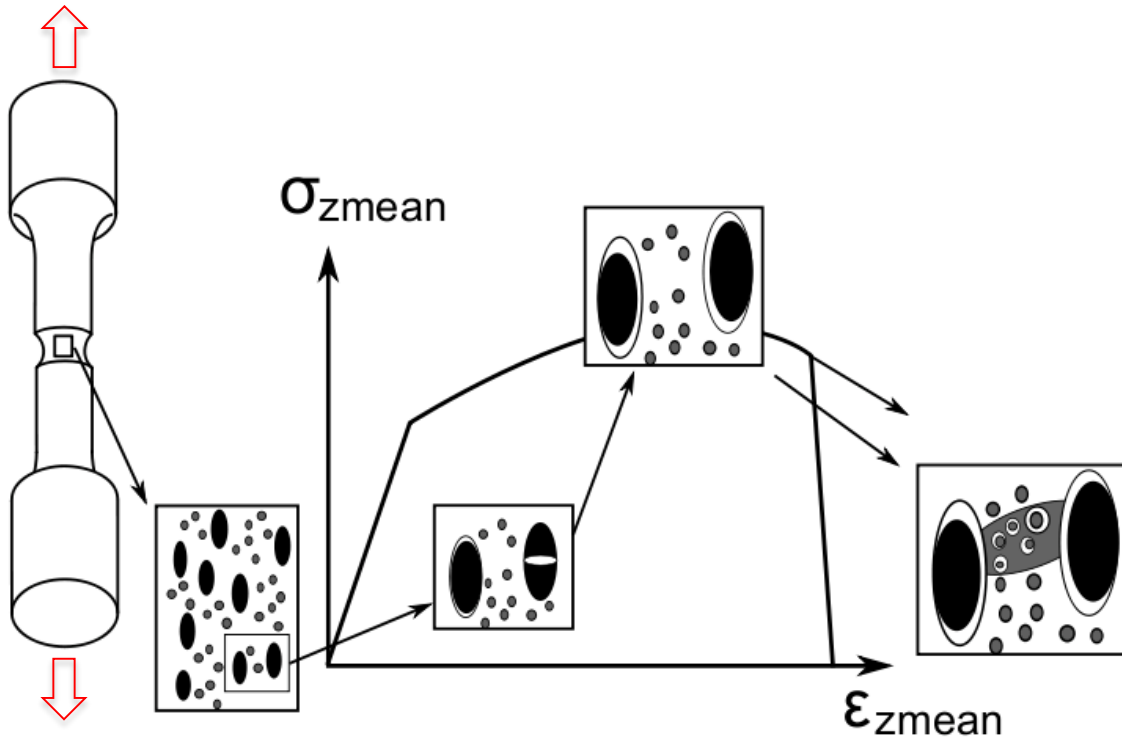
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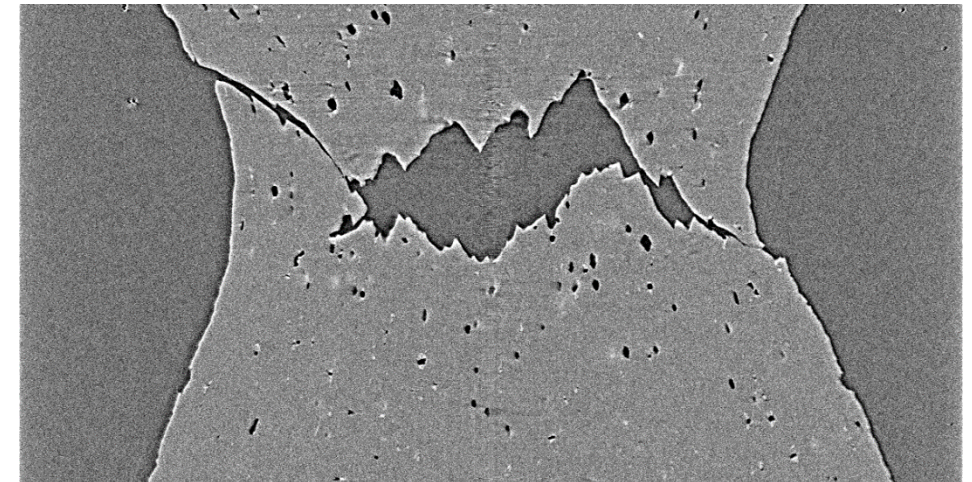
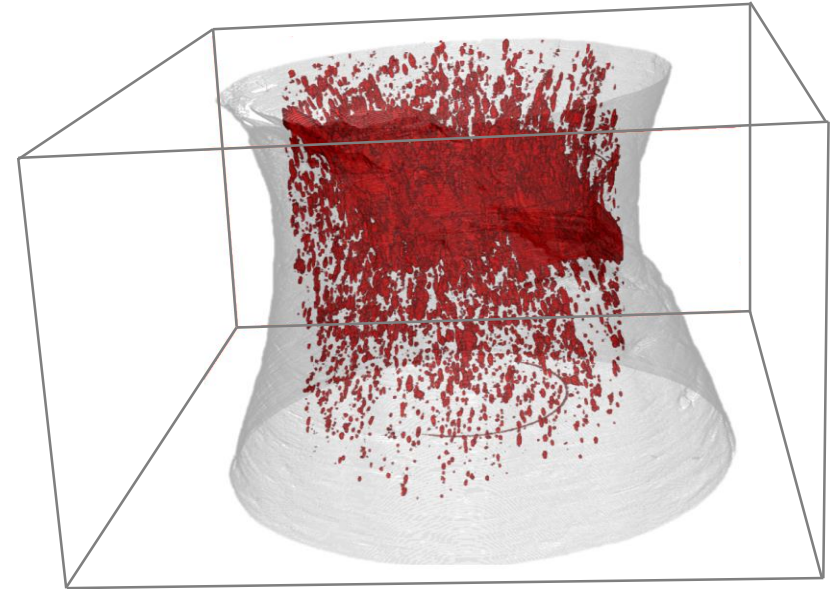
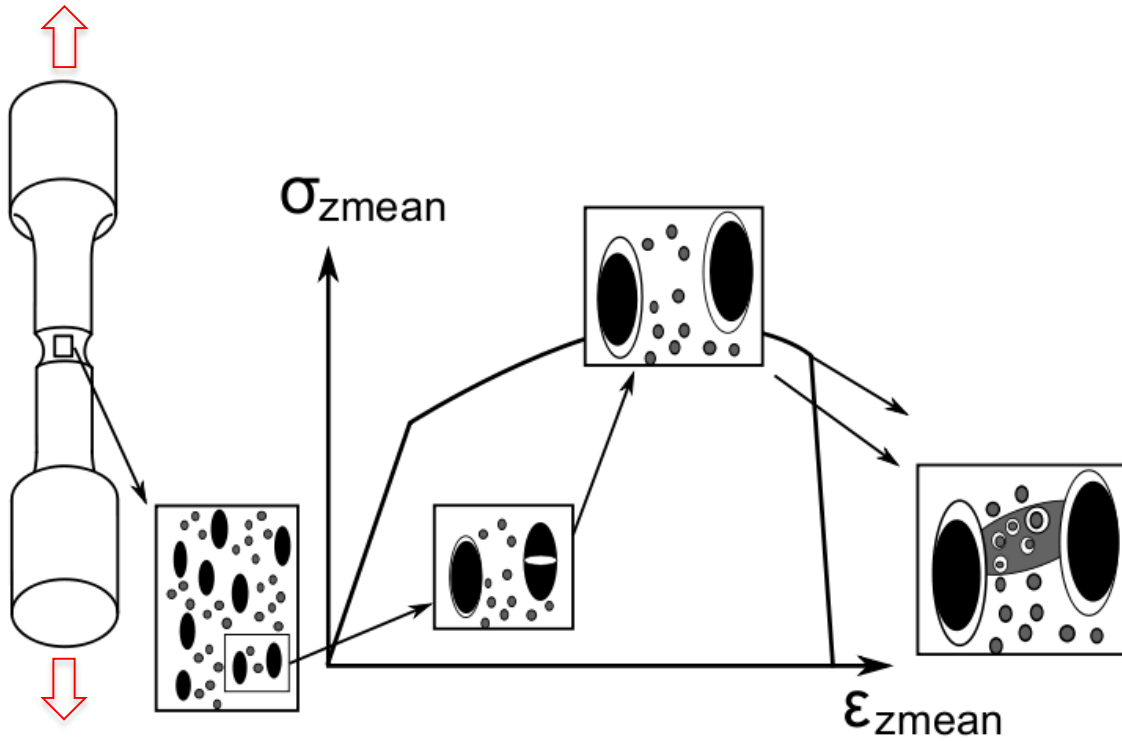
Ductile fracture is led by the damage mechanisms

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Ductile fracture is led by the damage mechanisms

- Void nucleation
- Void growth
- Coalescence of voids



3 main causes limiting the ductility in Al-6xxx Alloys

1 Size of intermetallic particles

 FSP breaks the large particles into smaller fragments

2 Pre-existing porosity

 FSP closes the existing initial porosity

3 Clustering of intermetallic particles

 FSP reduces the degree of clustering

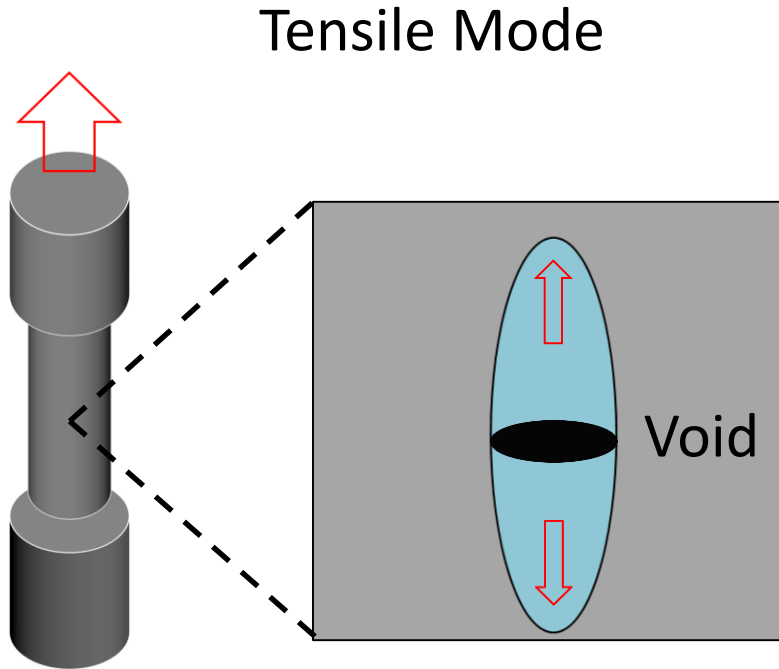
3 main causes limiting the ductility in Al-6xxx Alloys

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1

The ductility degrades when intermetallic particles are large

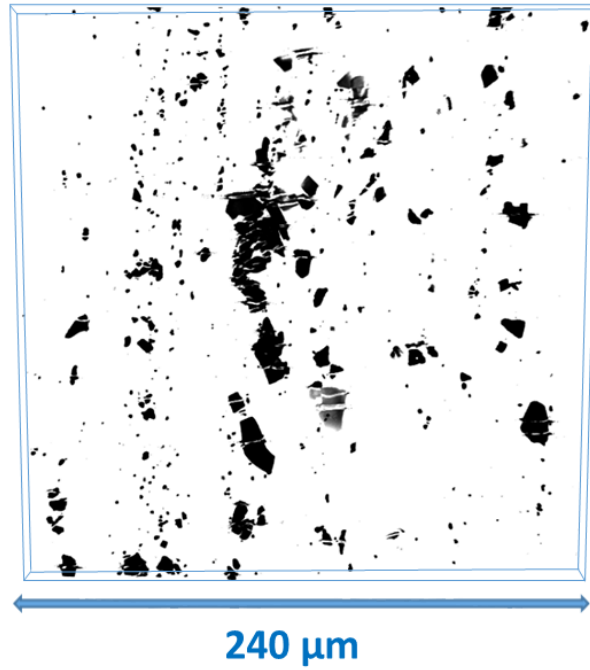
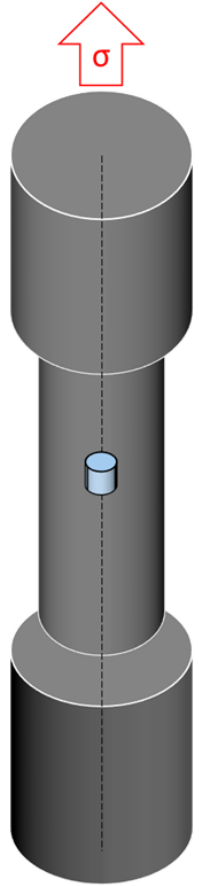


Particle fracture
⇔ Void formation

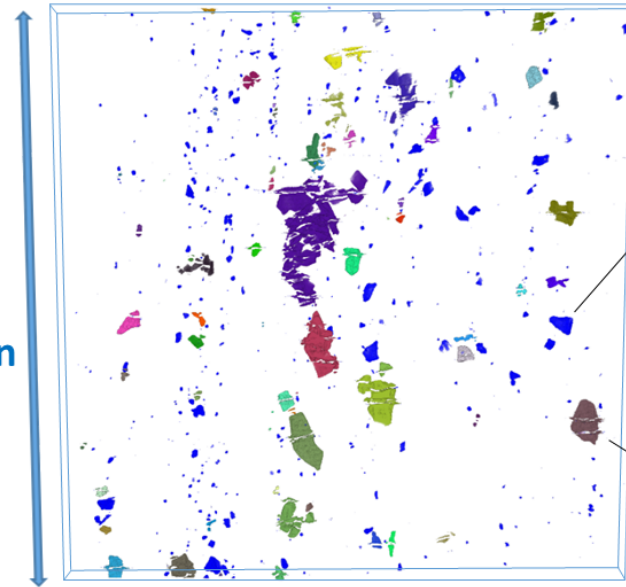
1

The ductility degrades when intermetallic particles are large

X-ray tomography of ex-situ tensile test



Rolling
direction



Blue = particle not
broken

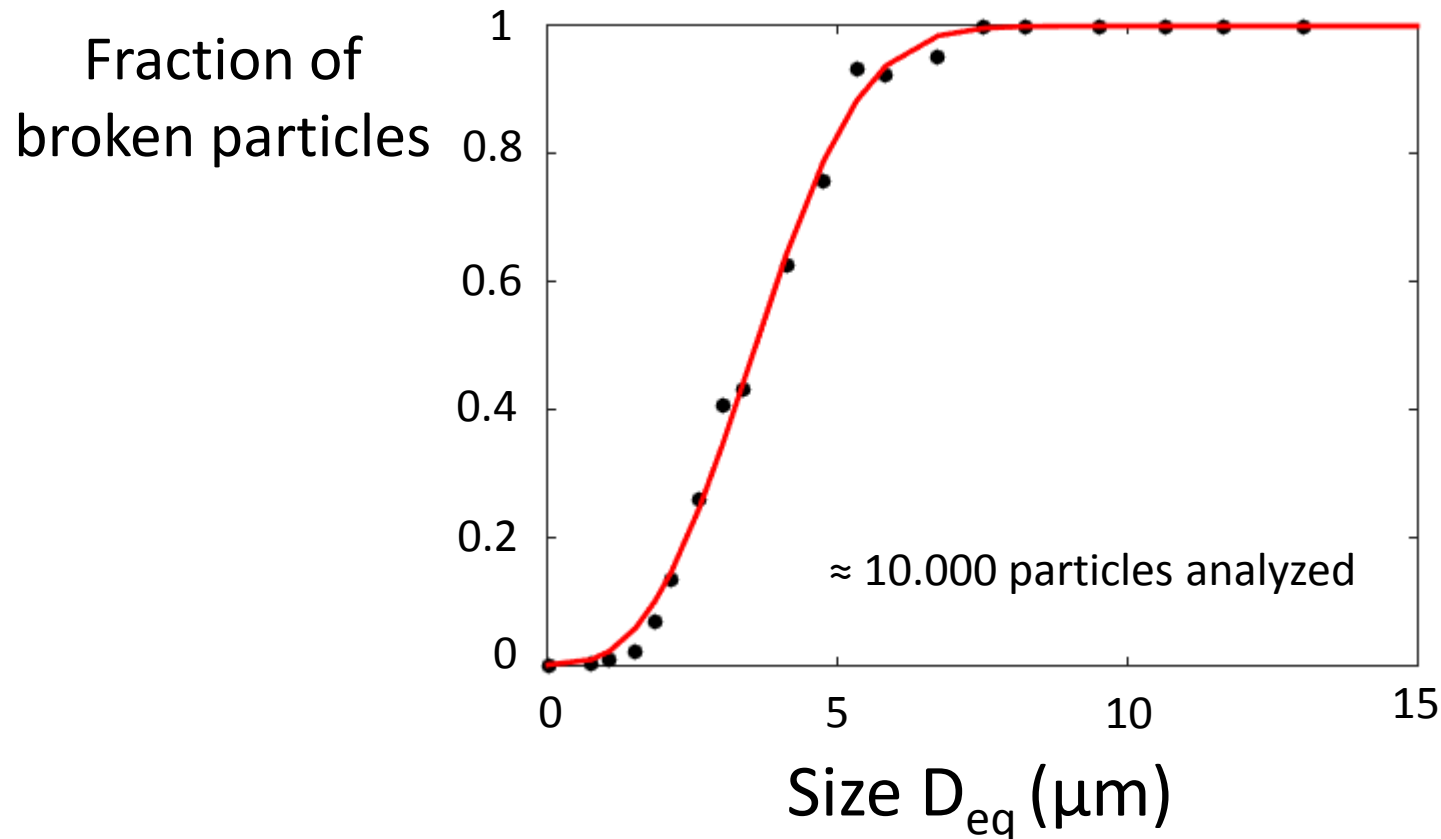
Color = reconstructed
particle

Resolution = 160 nm

1 The ductility degrades when intermetallic particles are large

The largest defects are more likely to be found in the largest inclusions.

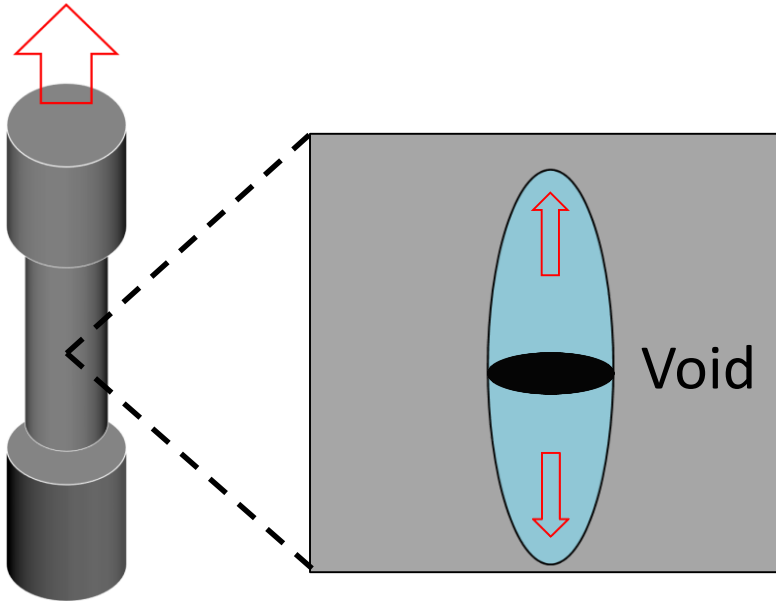
➔ Void nucleation becomes increasingly difficult with decreasing particle size.



1

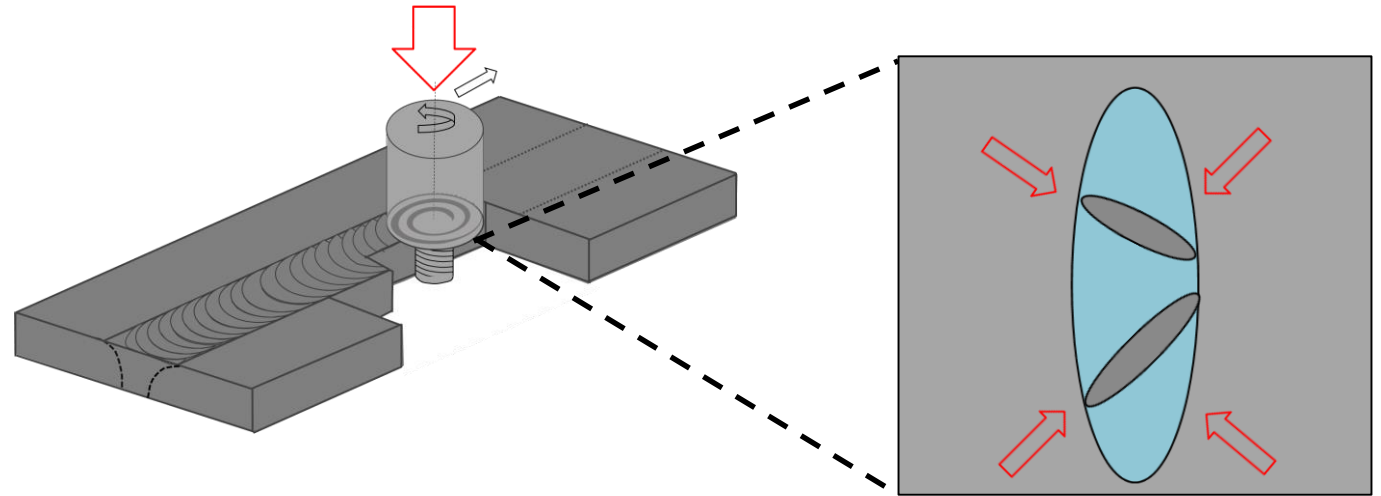
FSP breaks the large intermetallic particles into smaller and thus stronger fragments

Tensile Mode



Particle fracture
⇔ Void formation

High hydrostatic pressure

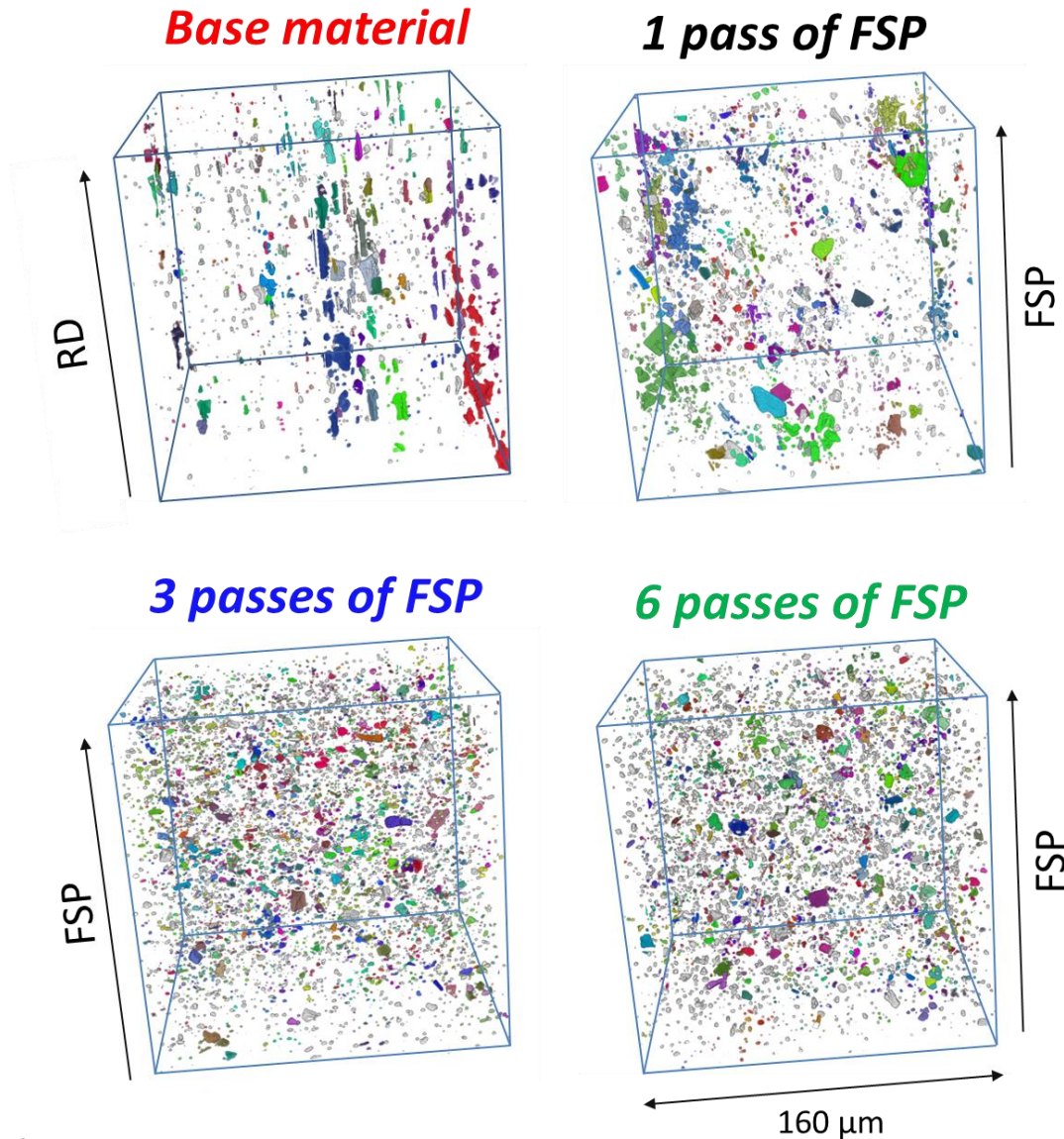


Matrix material
forced into cracks

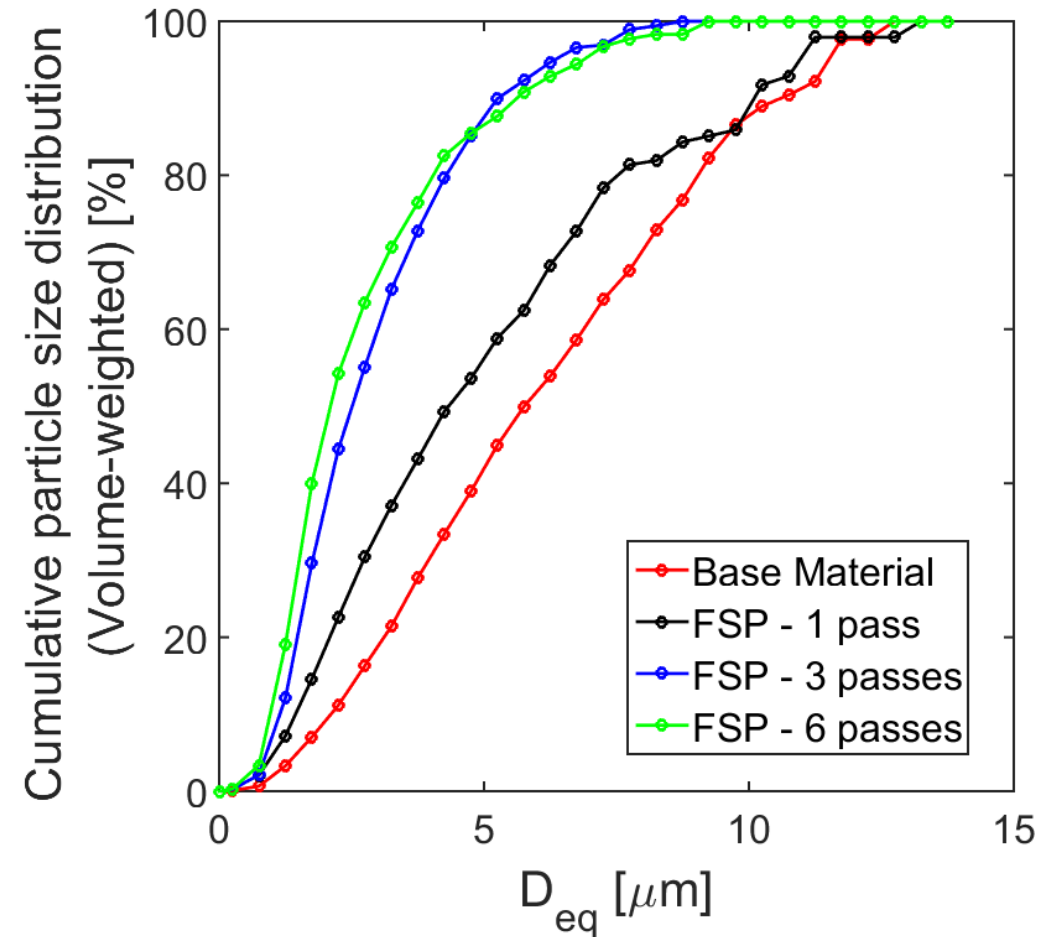
Particle fracture
⇔ Void « healing »

1

FSP breaks the large intermetallic particles into smaller and thus stronger fragments



Resolution = 160 nm



3 main causes limiting the ductility in Al-6xxx Alloys

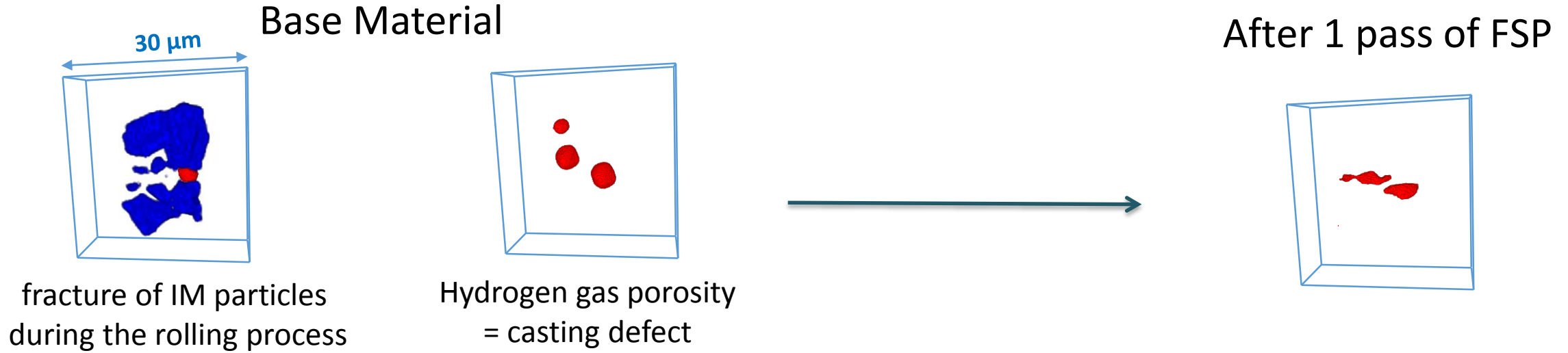
2

Pre-existing porosity

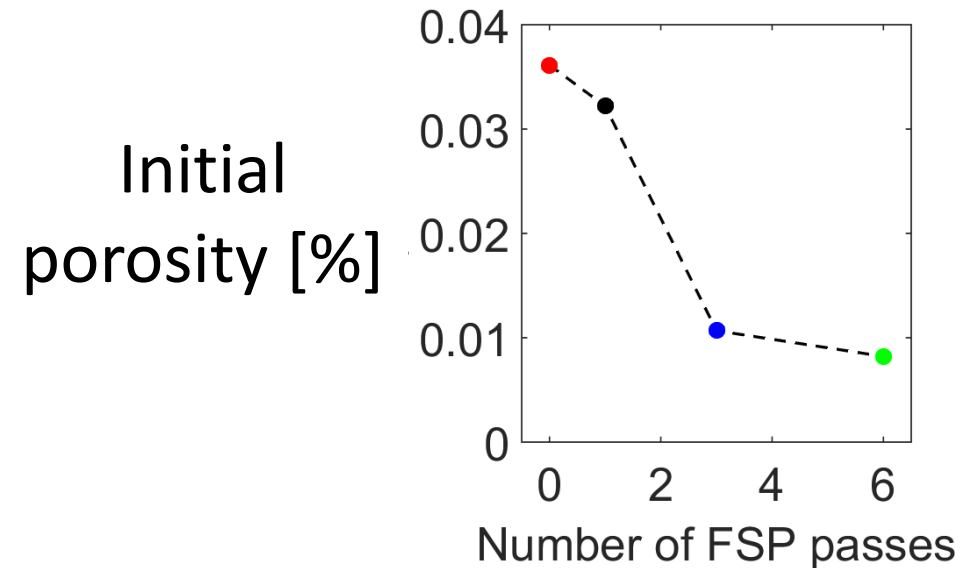
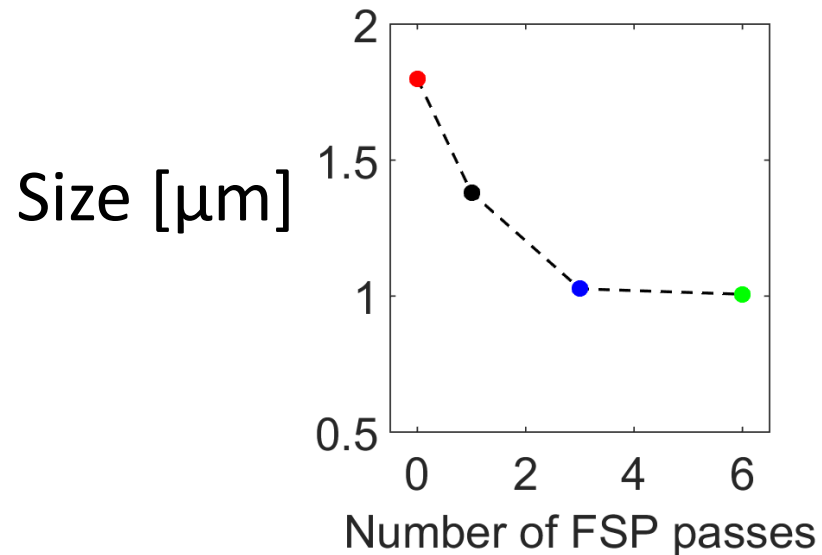
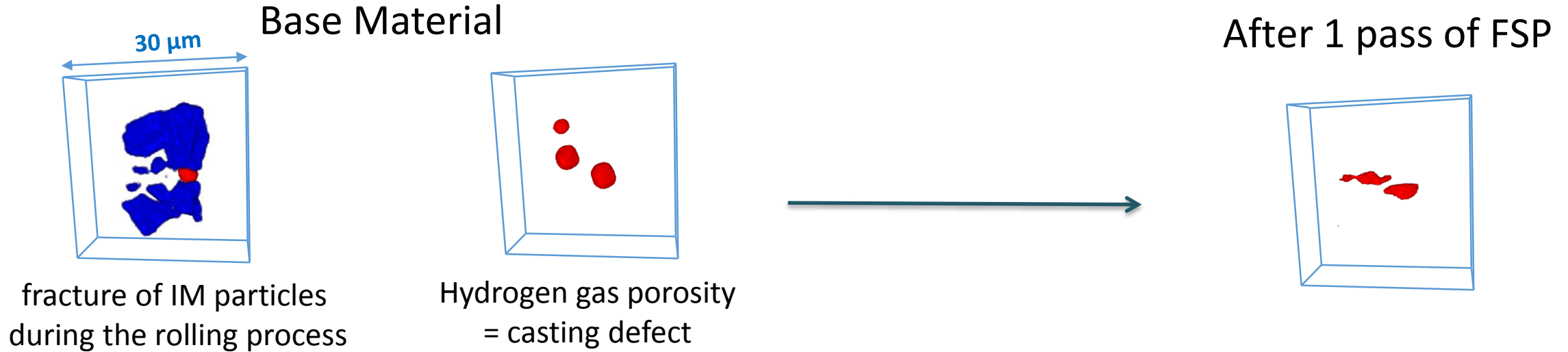


FSP closes the existing initial porosity

2 FSP closes the existing initial porosity



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3 main causes limiting the ductility in Al-6xxx Alloys

3 Clustering of intermetallic particles



FSP reduces the degree of clustering

3

The ductility degrades when intermetallic particles are clustered

Al 6056

Rolling direction

Particles

Cavities

160 μm

160 μm

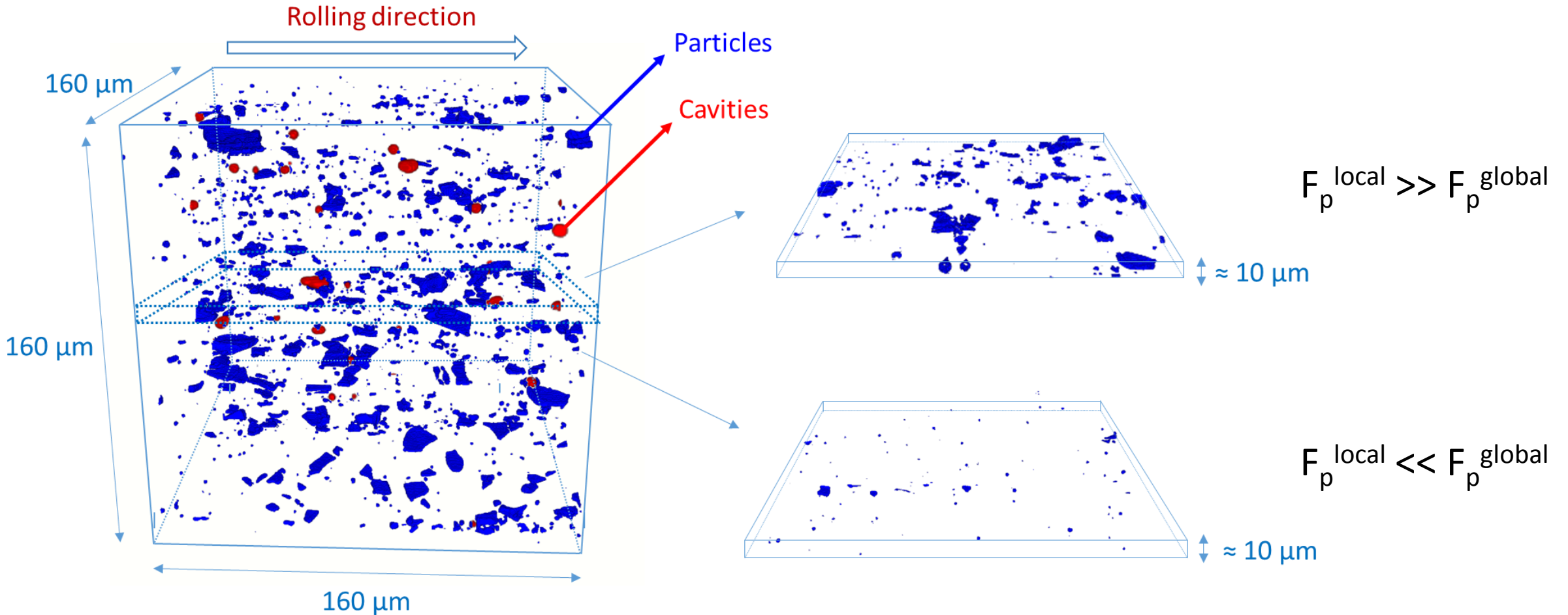
160 μm

$$F_p^{\text{local}} \gg F_p^{\text{global}}$$

$\approx 10 \mu\text{m}$

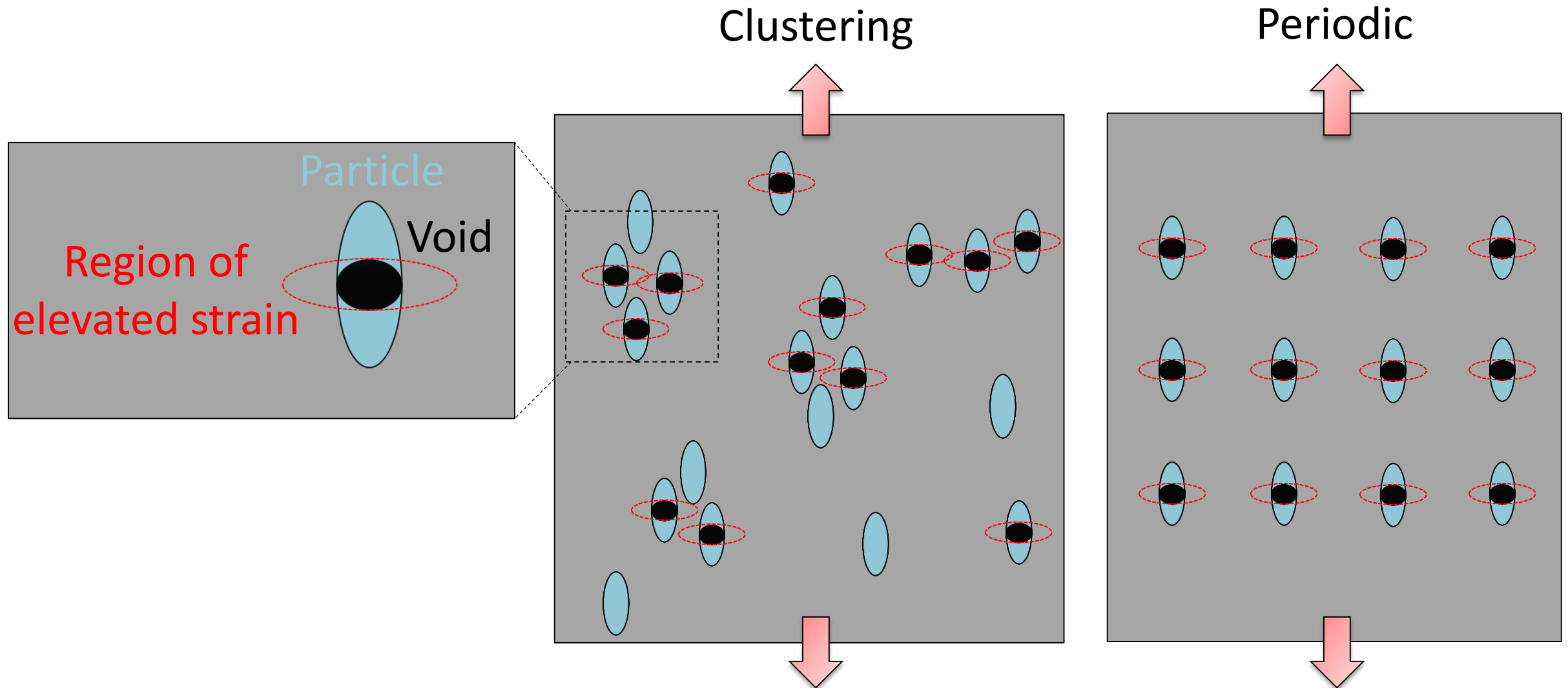
$$F_p^{\text{local}} \ll F_p^{\text{global}}$$

$\approx 10 \mu\text{m}$



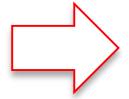
3

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➔ Void clusters favor earlier void coalescence by internal void necking.

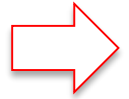
3 The ductility degrades when intermetallic particles are clustered



Identification of clusters

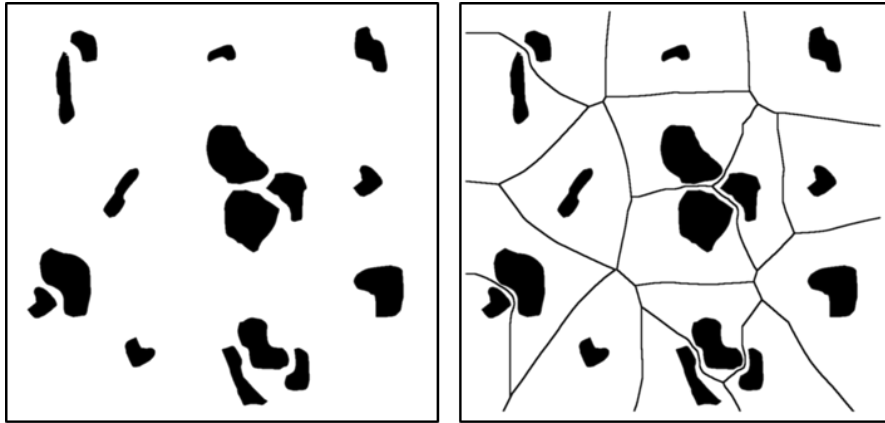
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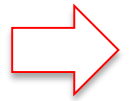
“Finite body” tessellation



Local volume fraction $F_p^{local} = \frac{V_{particle}}{V_{cell}}$

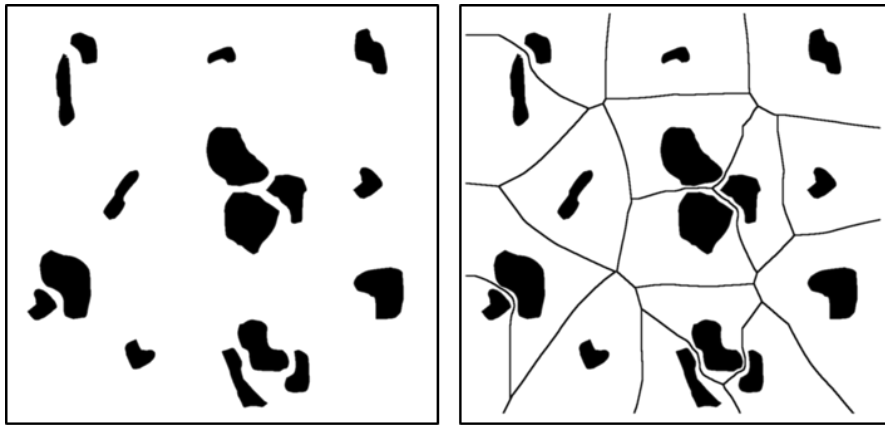
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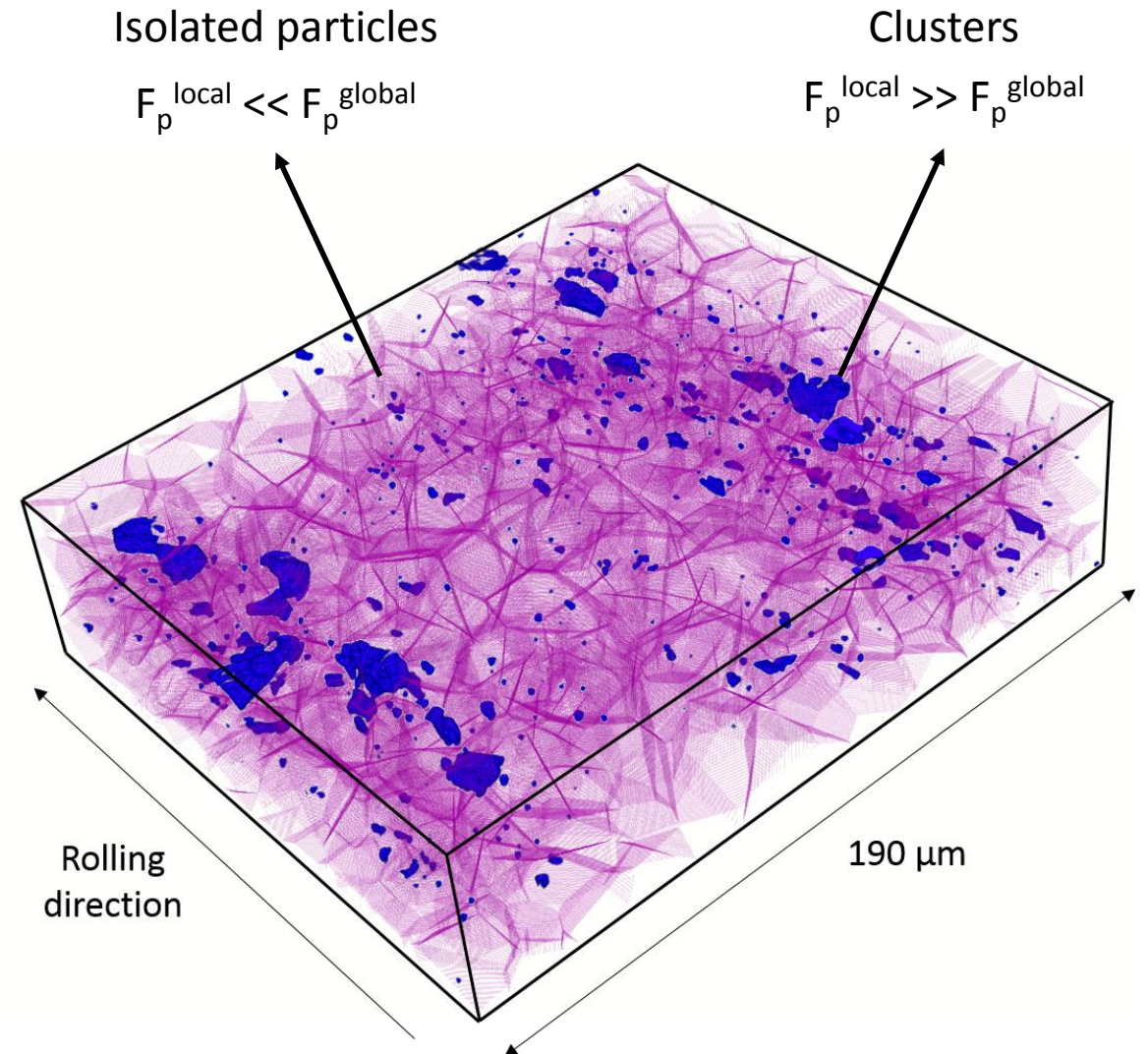


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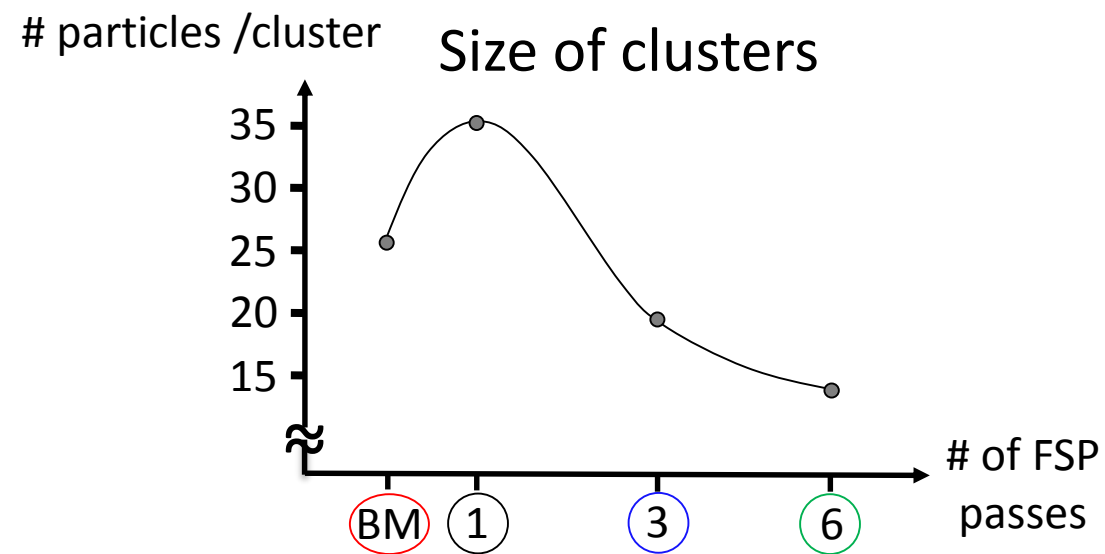
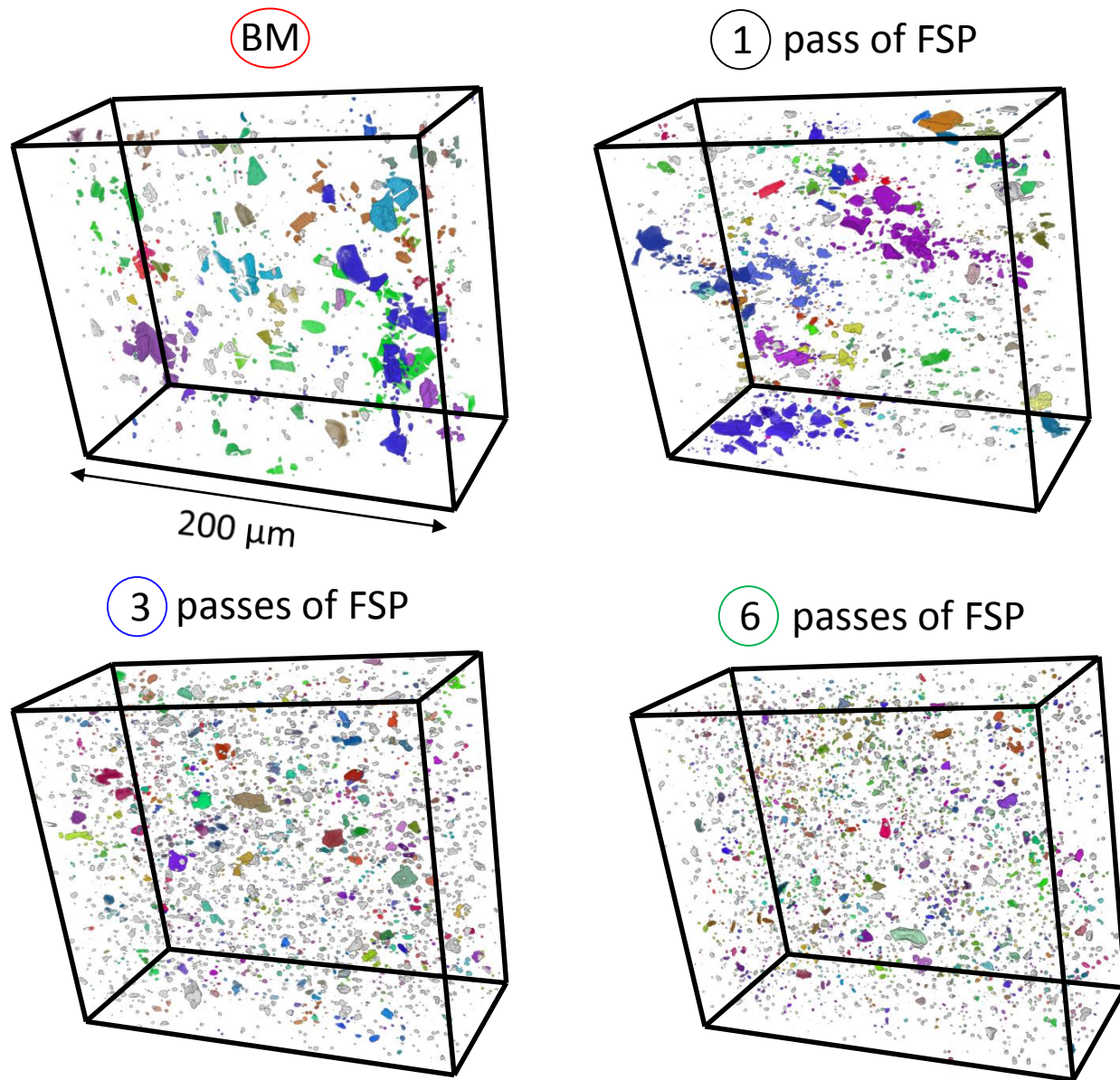
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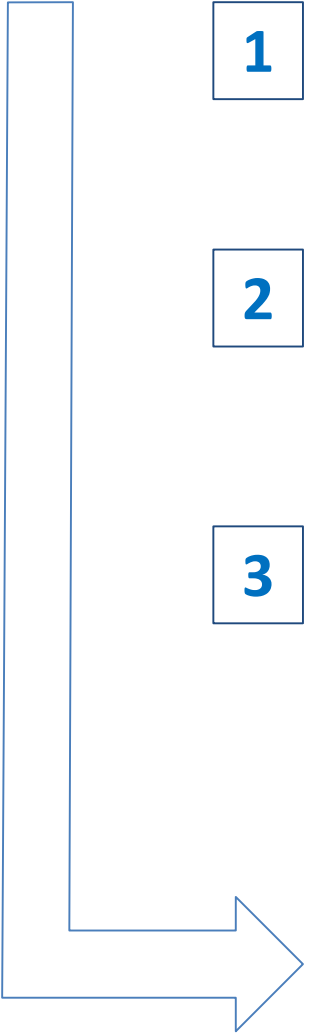


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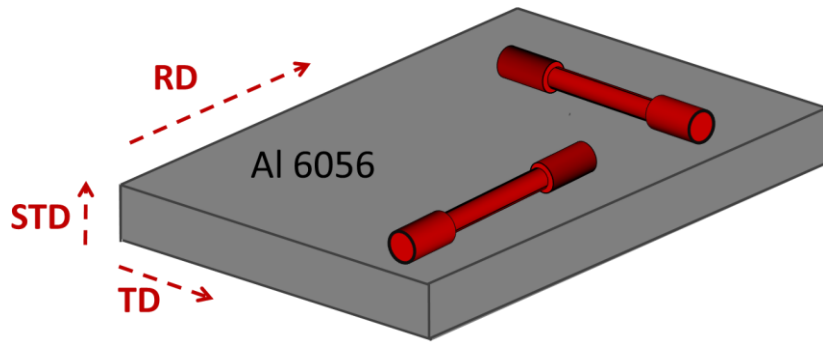
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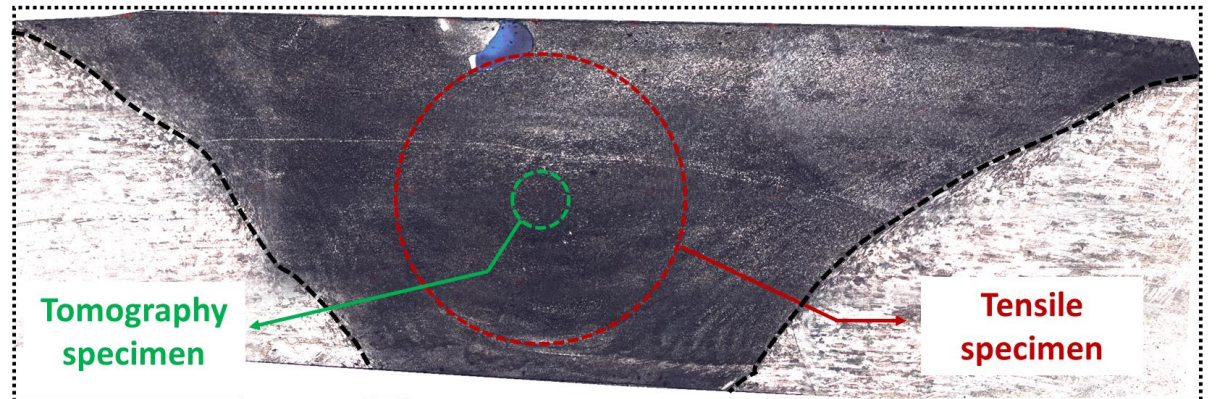
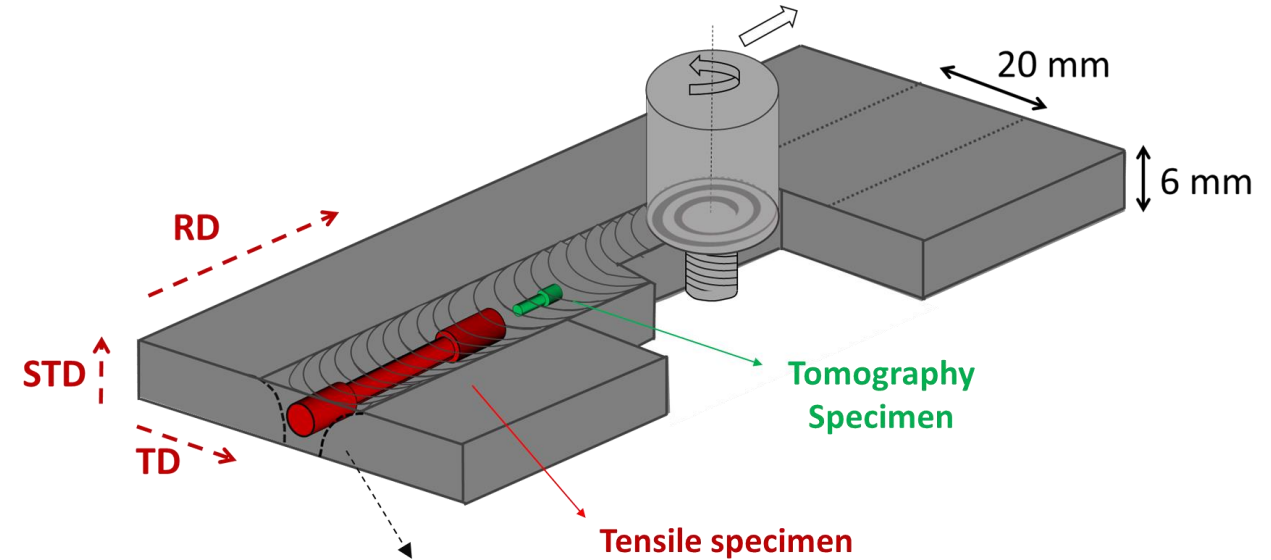
FSP has positive impacts on the damage process

Tensile tests are performed to quantify impact of FSP on the damage process

Base Material

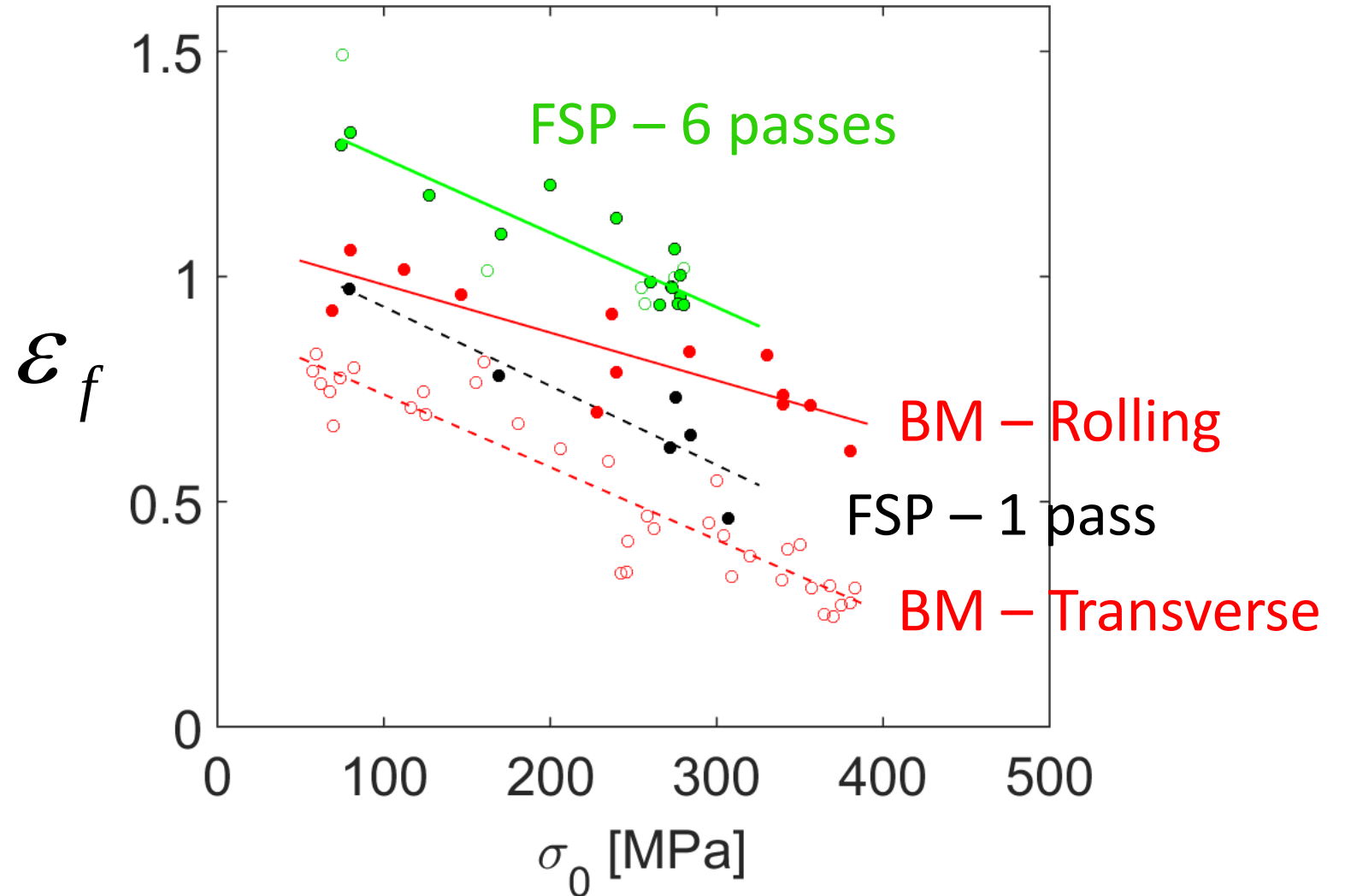
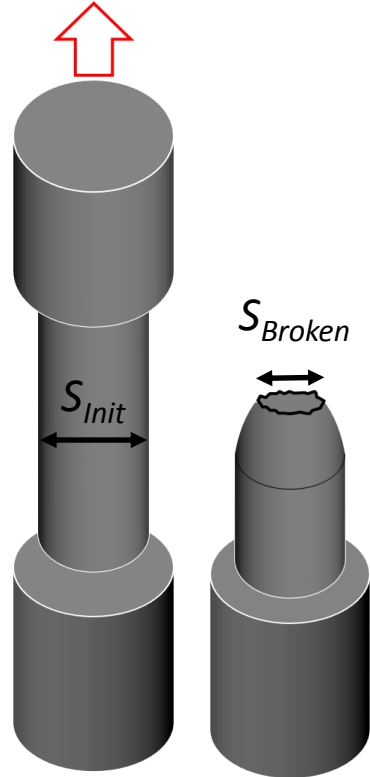


FSPed Material

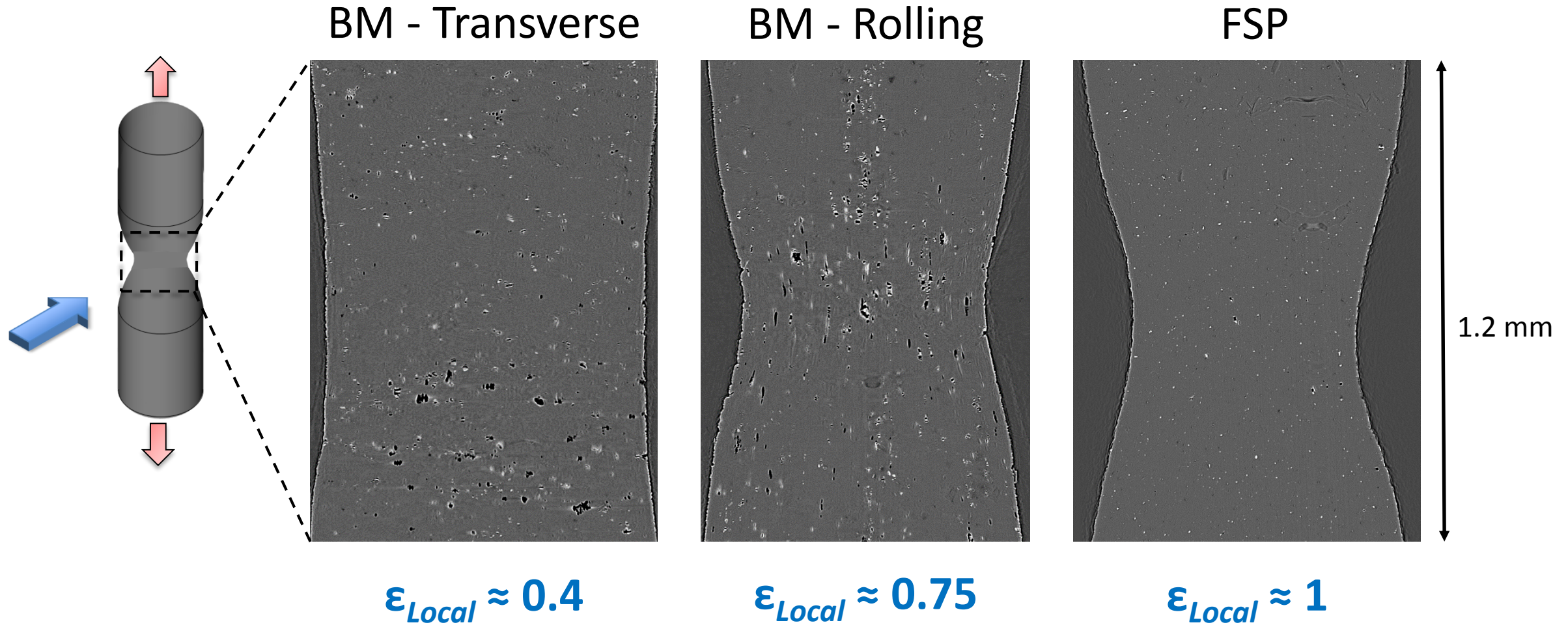


FSP increases very significantly the fracture strain of the Al alloy 6056

$$\varepsilon_f = \ln \left(\frac{S_{init}}{S_{broken}} \right)$$



FSP improves significantly the damage resistance of the Al 6056 alloy

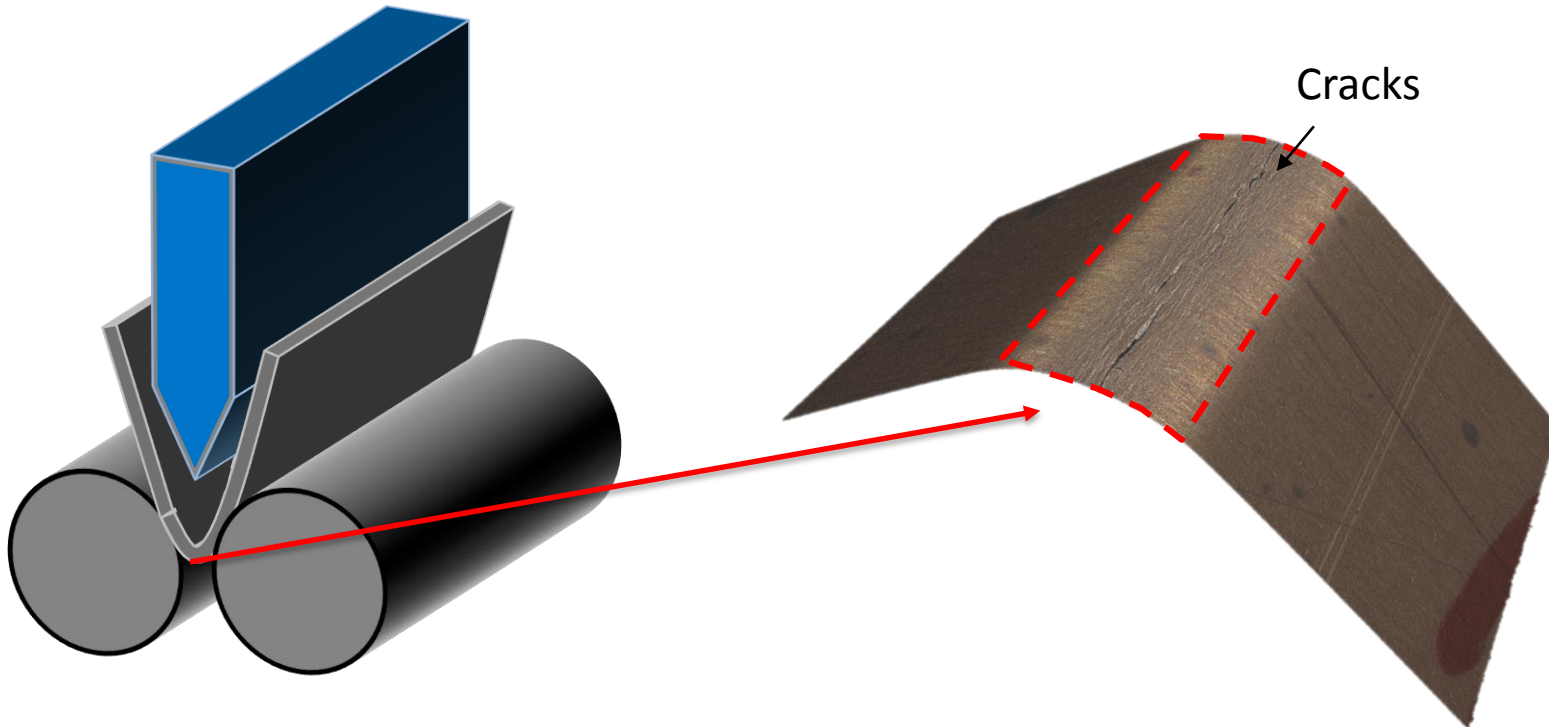


X-ray tomography of in-situ tensile test

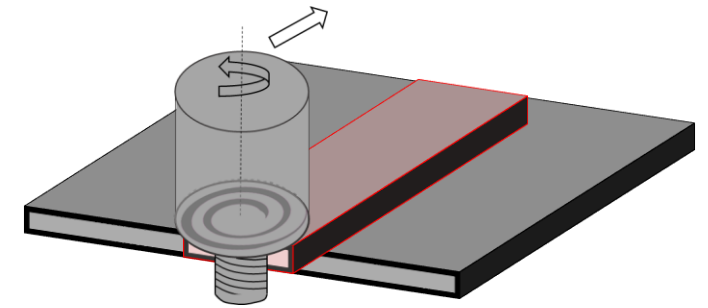
Thank you for your attention !

Selective formability : A balance between cost and performance

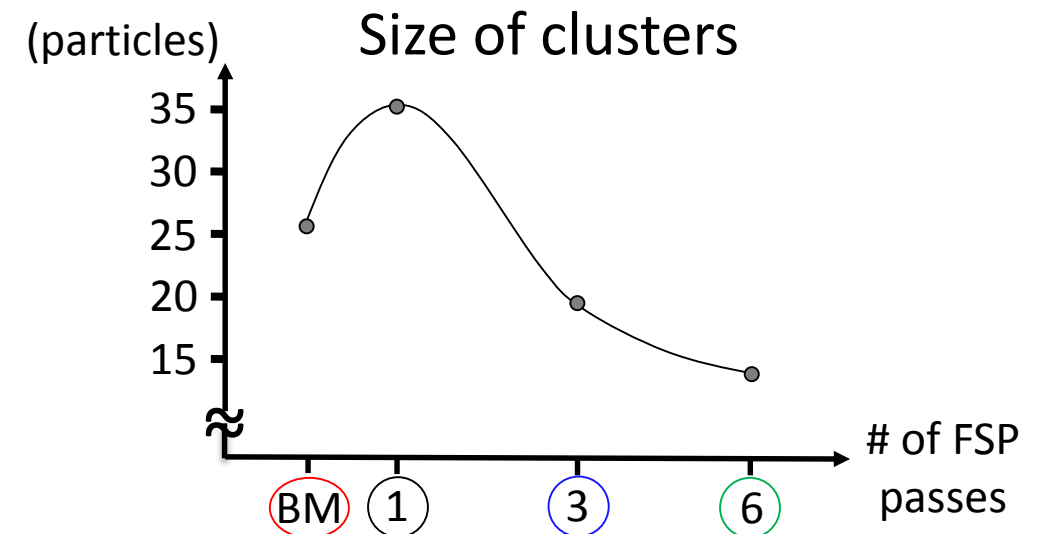
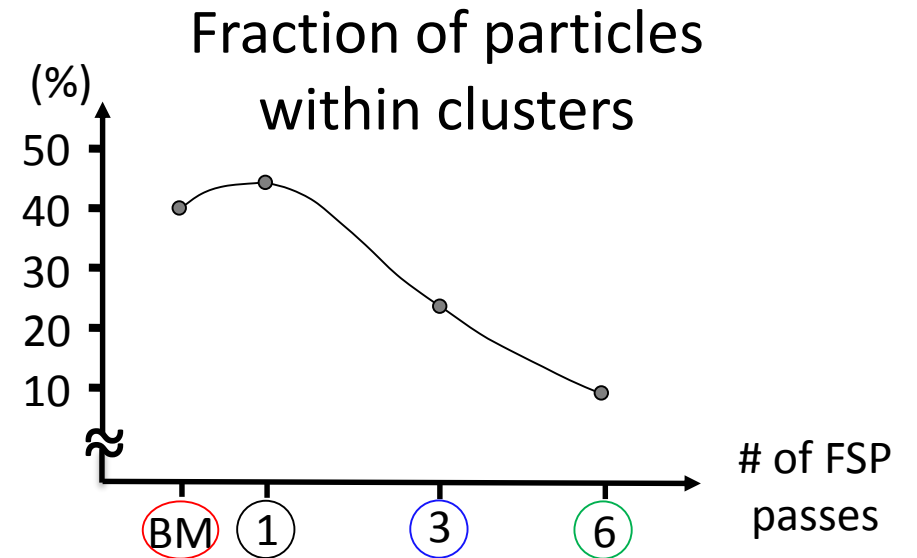
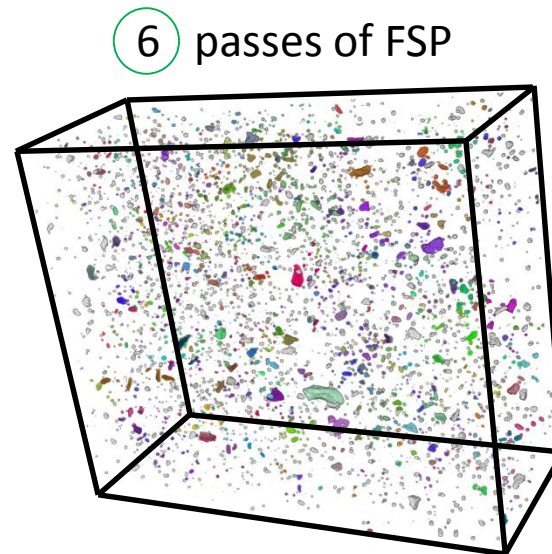
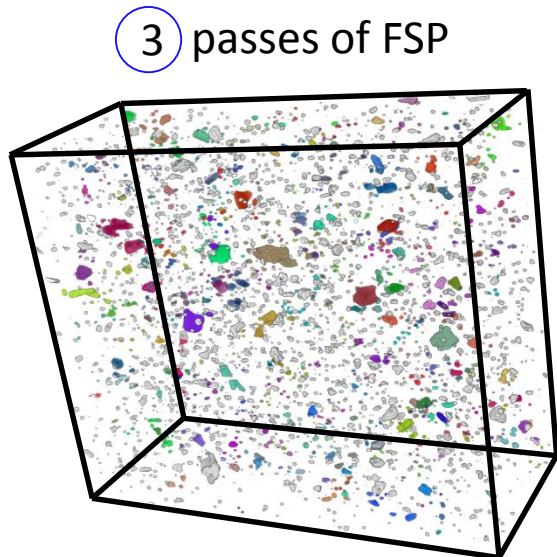
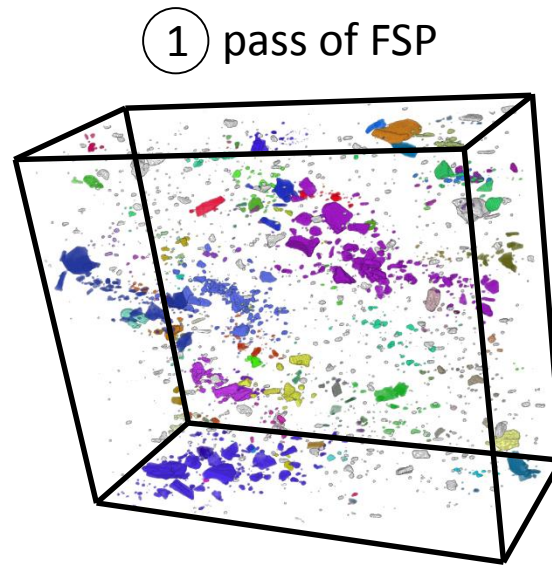
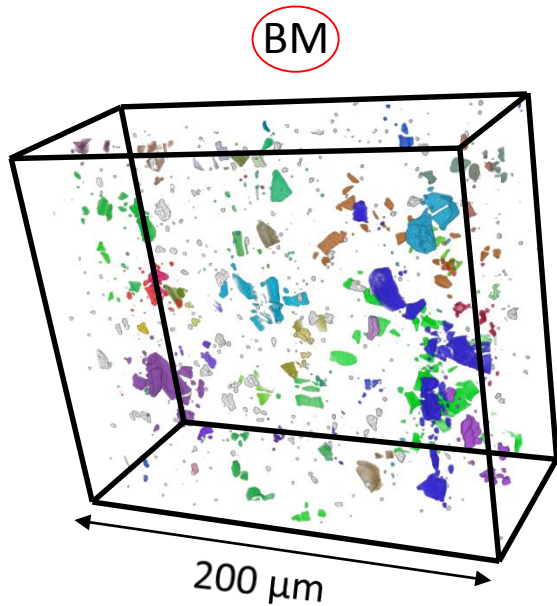
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Friction stir processing

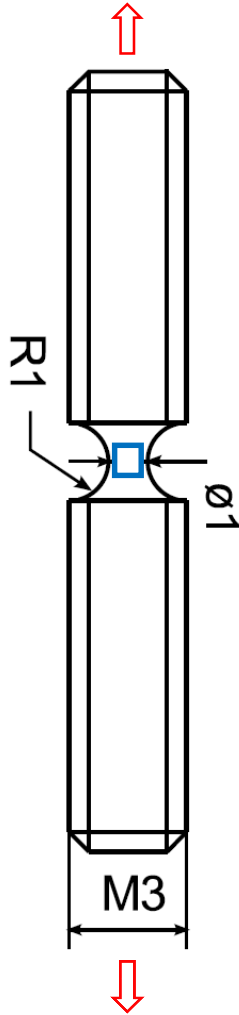


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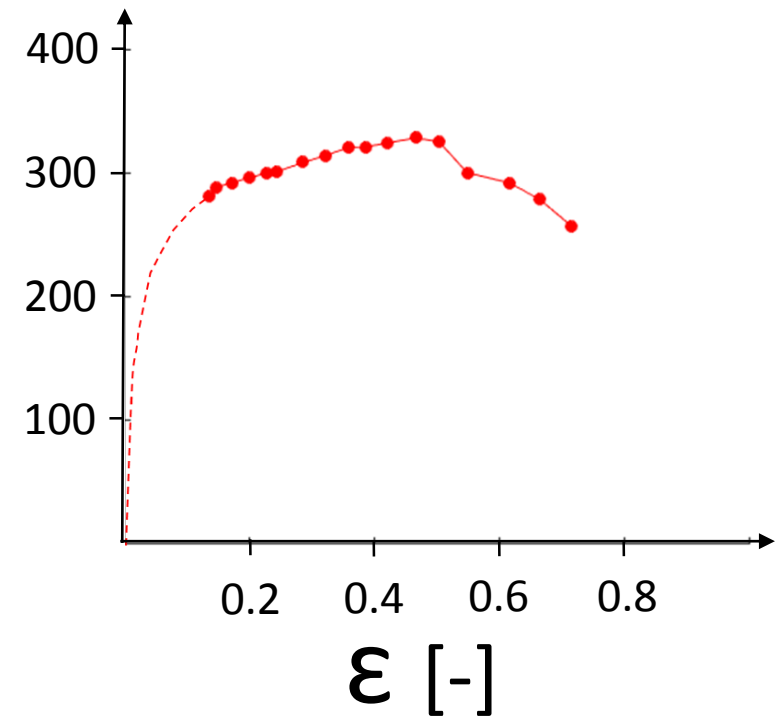


2

Pre-existing porosity decreases the ductility



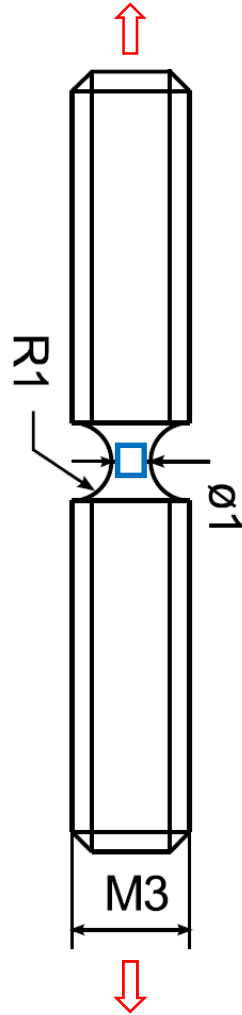
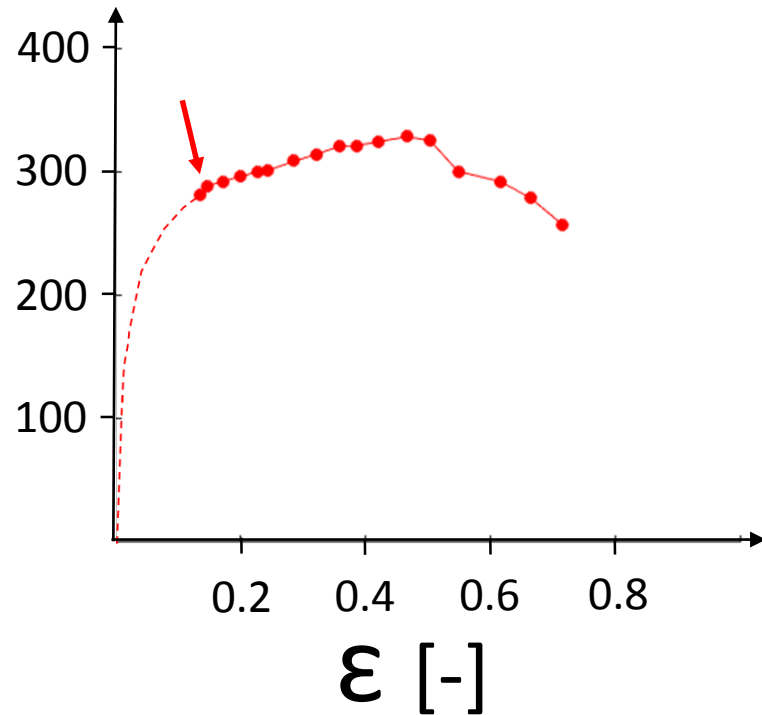
σ [MPa]



2

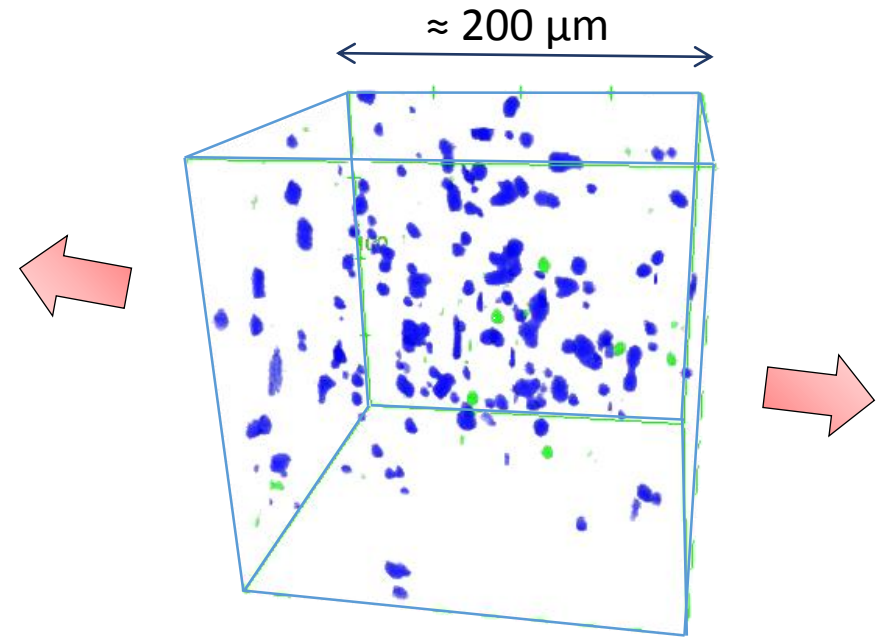
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σ [MPa]



Initial voids

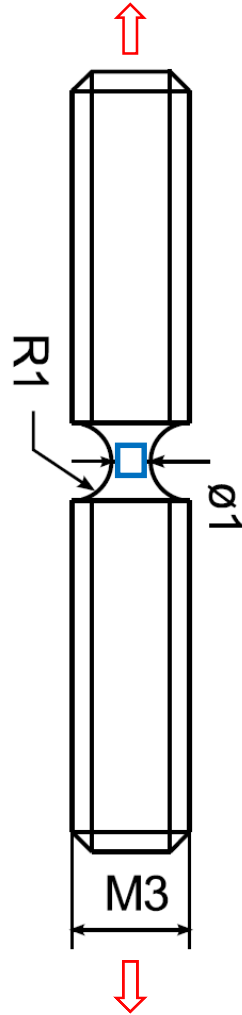
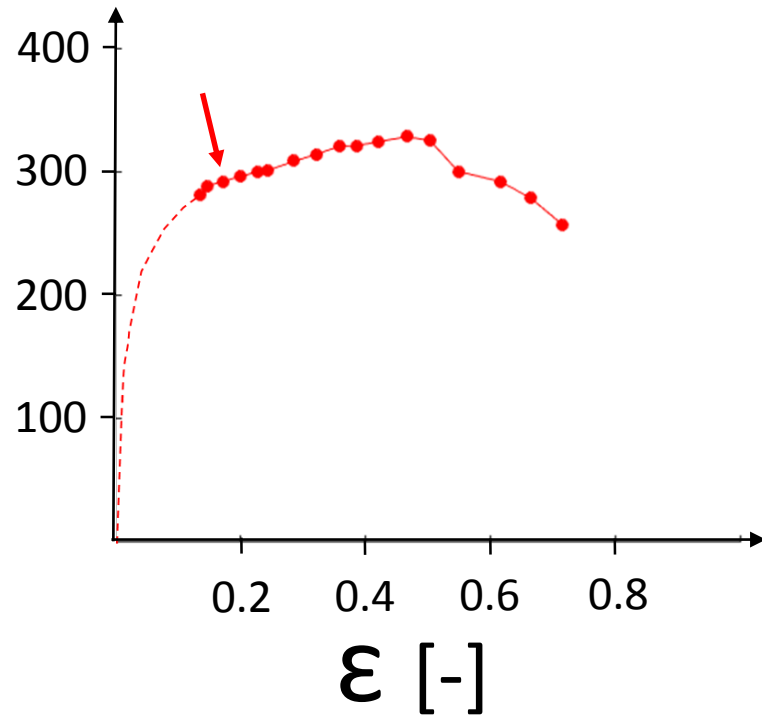
Nucleated voids



2

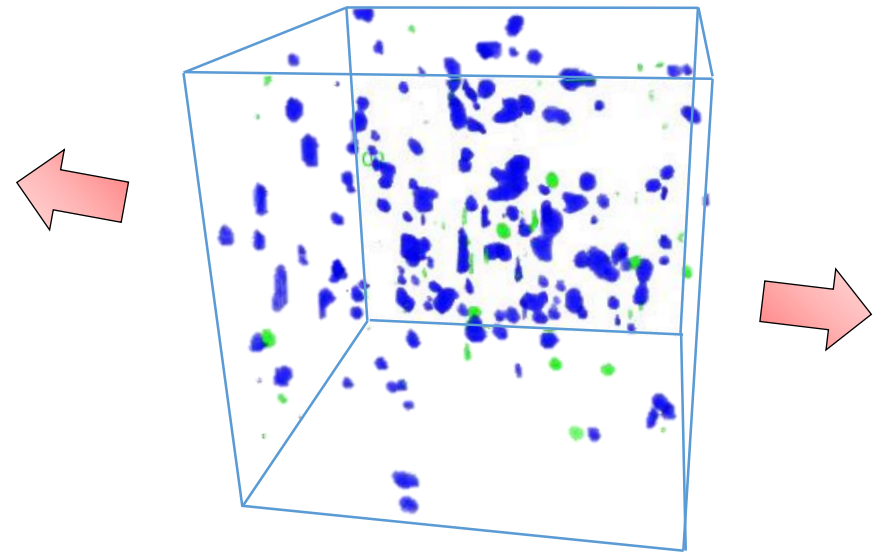
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Initial voids

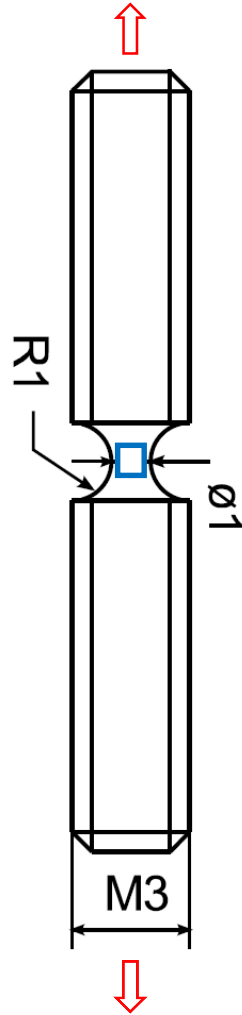
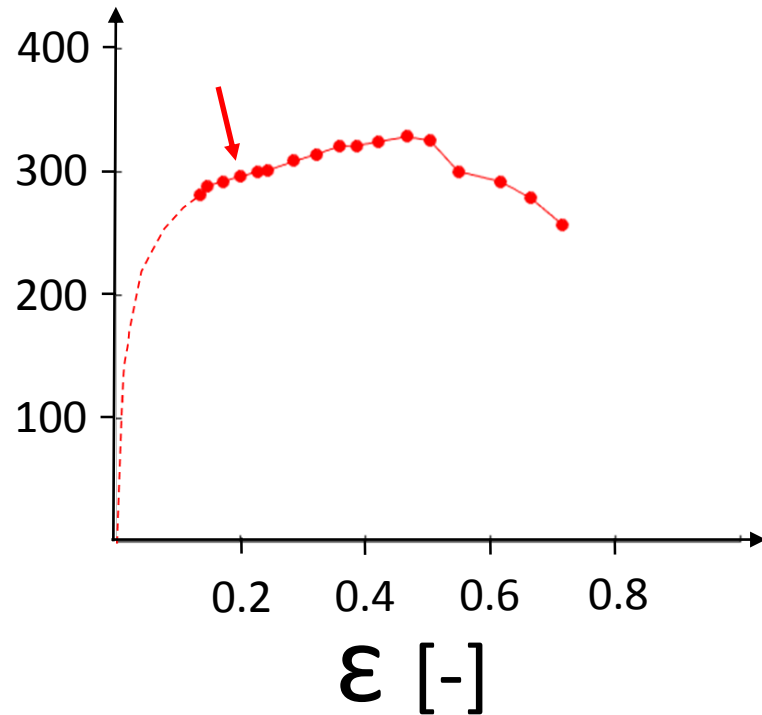
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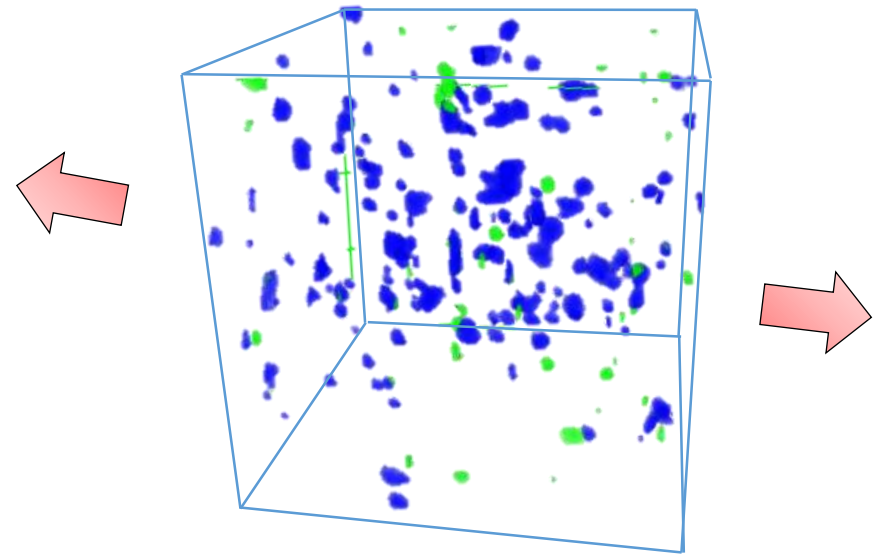
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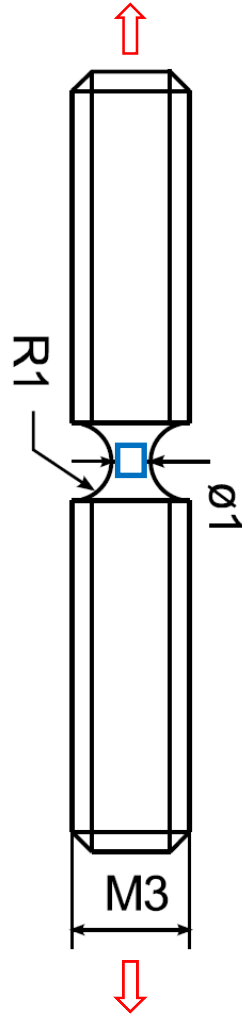
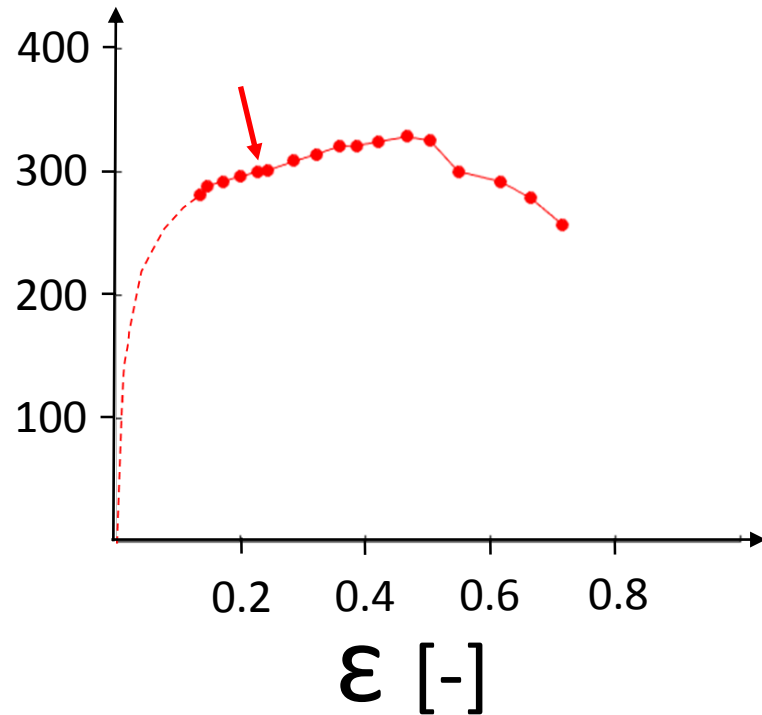
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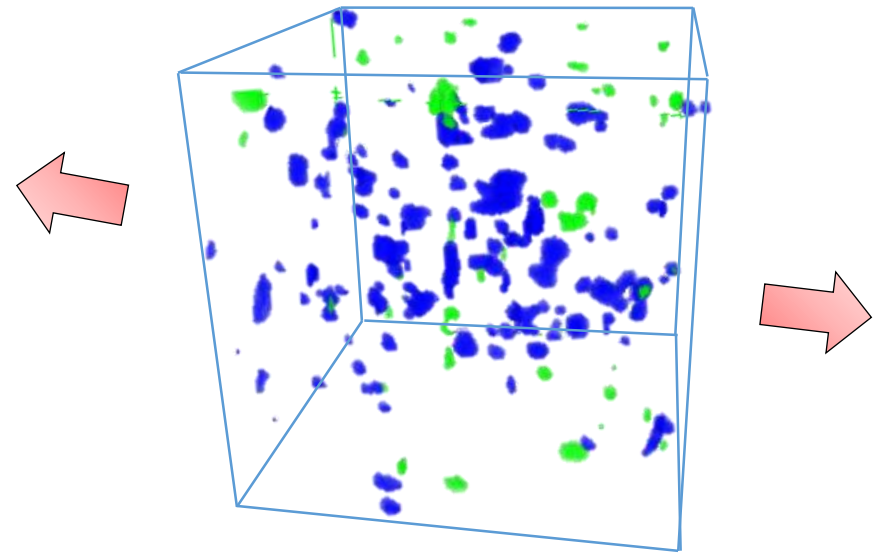
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Initial voids

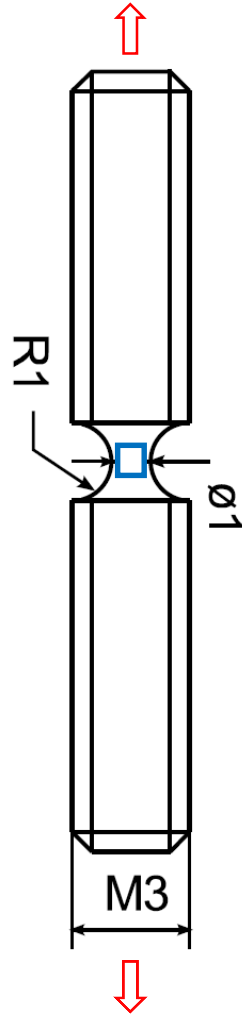
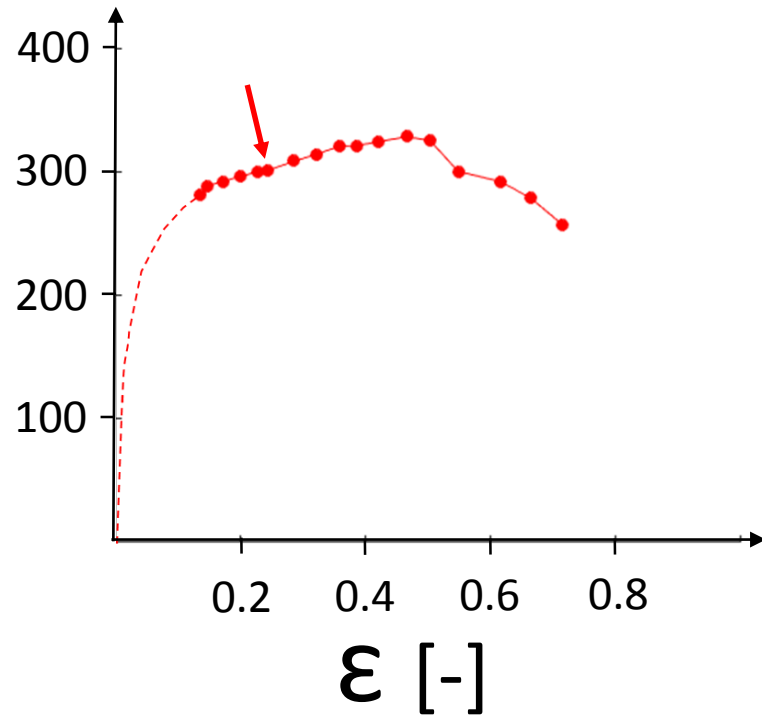
Nucleated voids



2

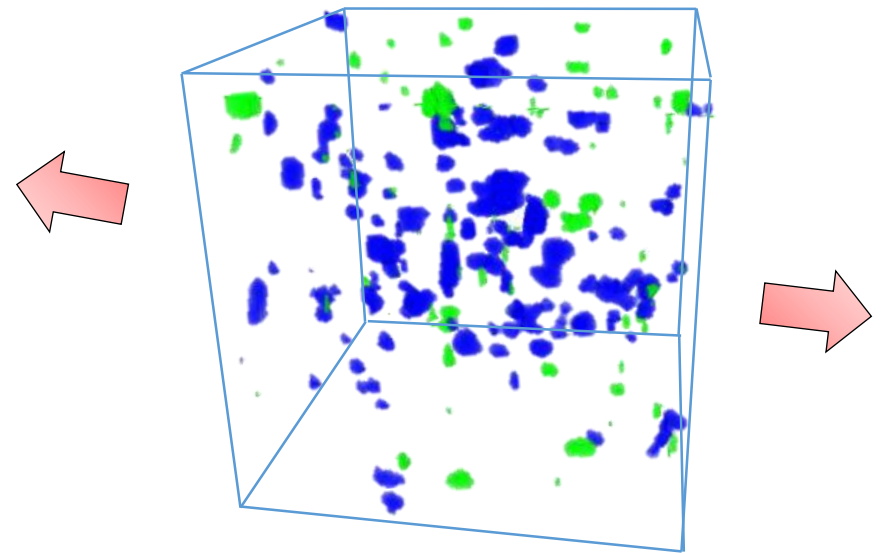
Pre-existing porosity decreases the ductility

σ [MPa]



Initial voids

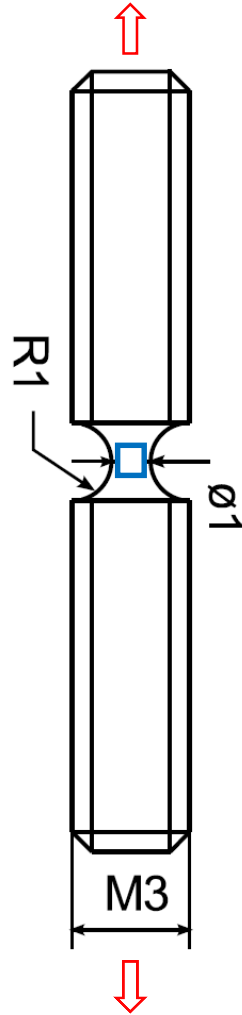
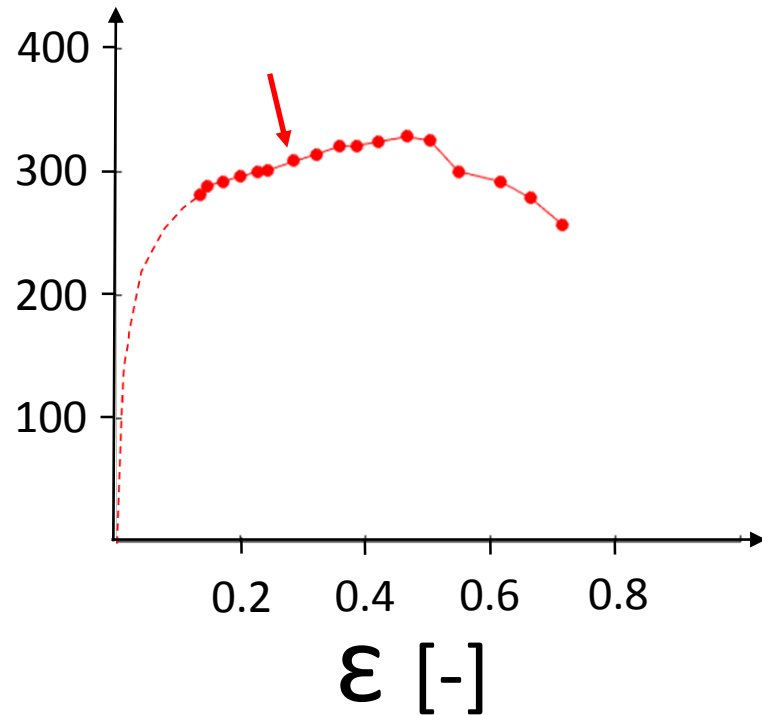
Nucleated voids



2

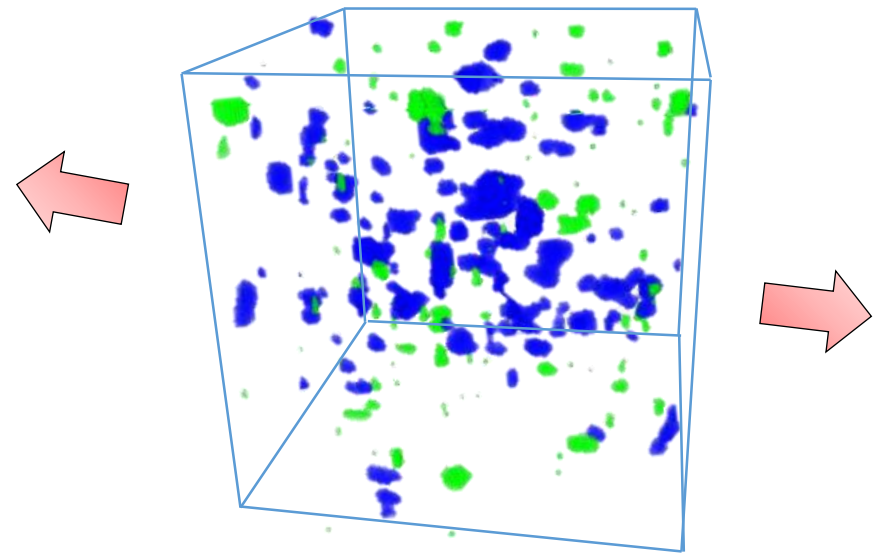
Pre-existing porosity decreases the ductility

σ [MPa]



Initial voids

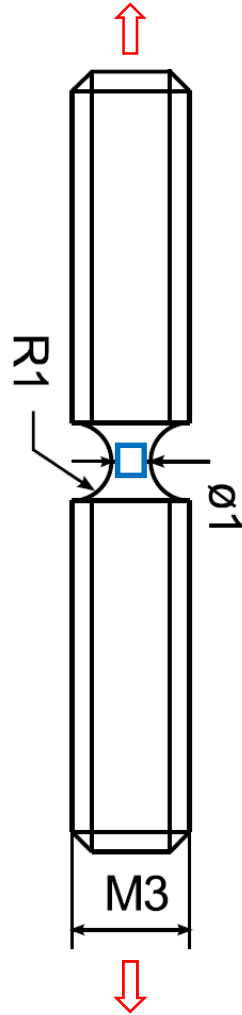
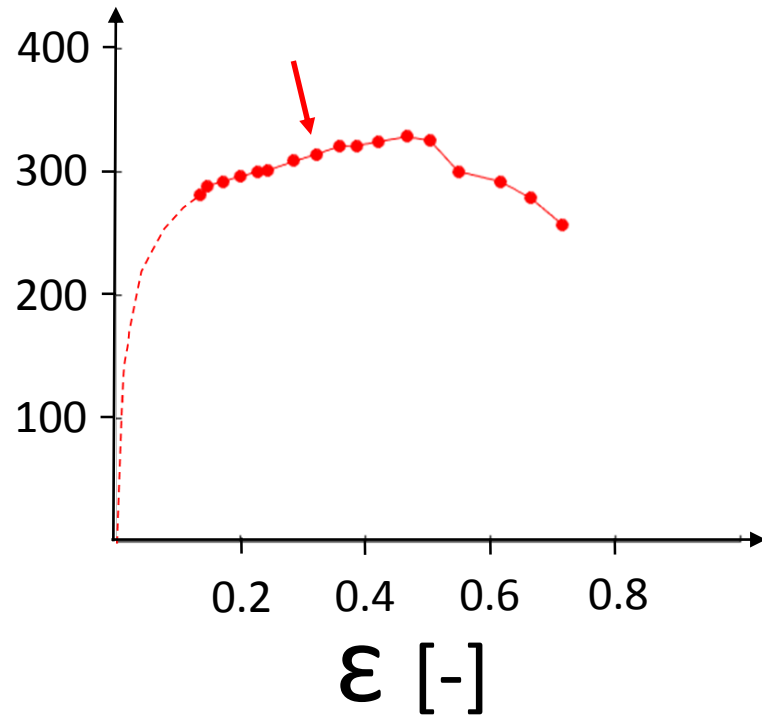
Nucleated voids



2

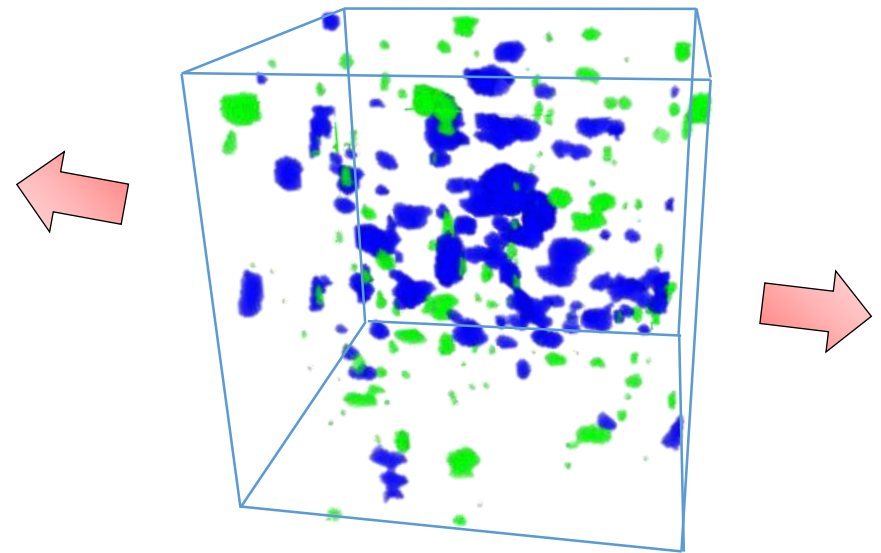
Pre-existing porosity decreases the ductility

σ [MPa]



Initial voids

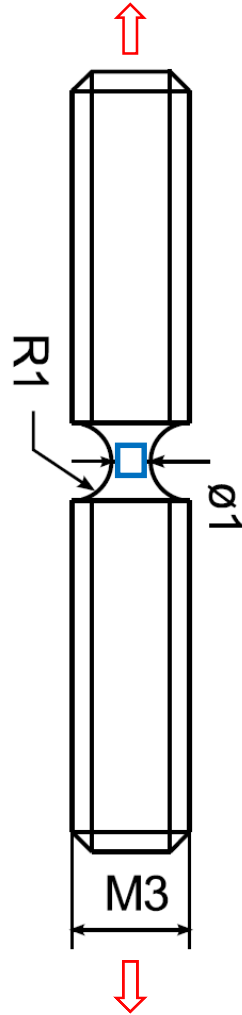
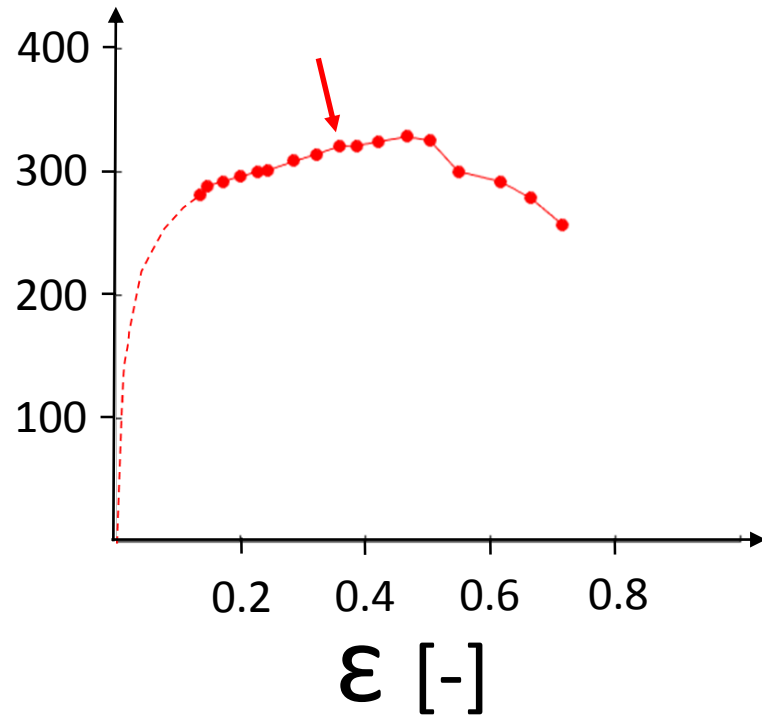
Nucleated voids



2

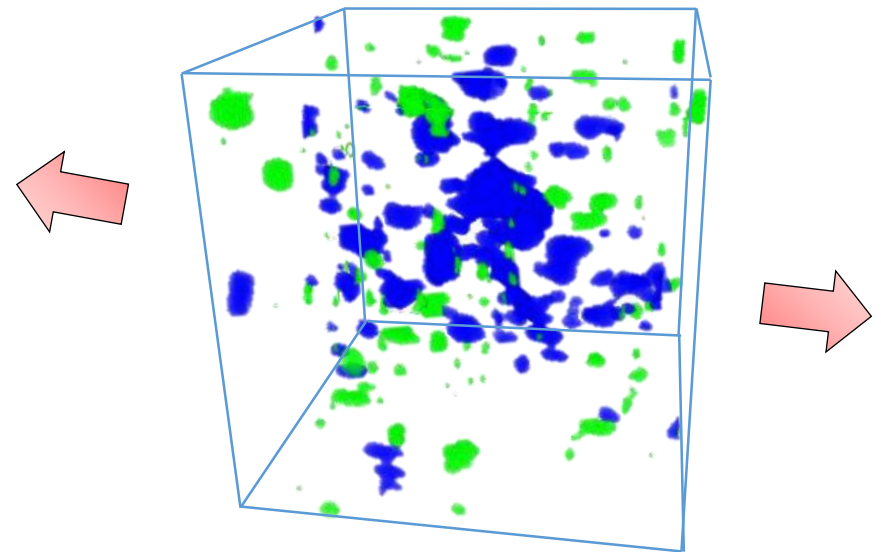
Pre-existing porosity decreases the ductility

σ [MPa]



Initial voids

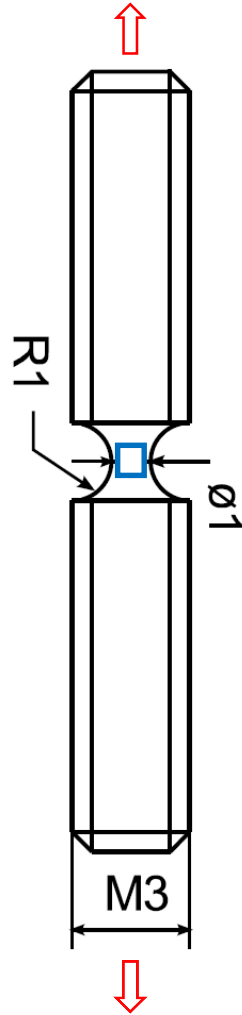
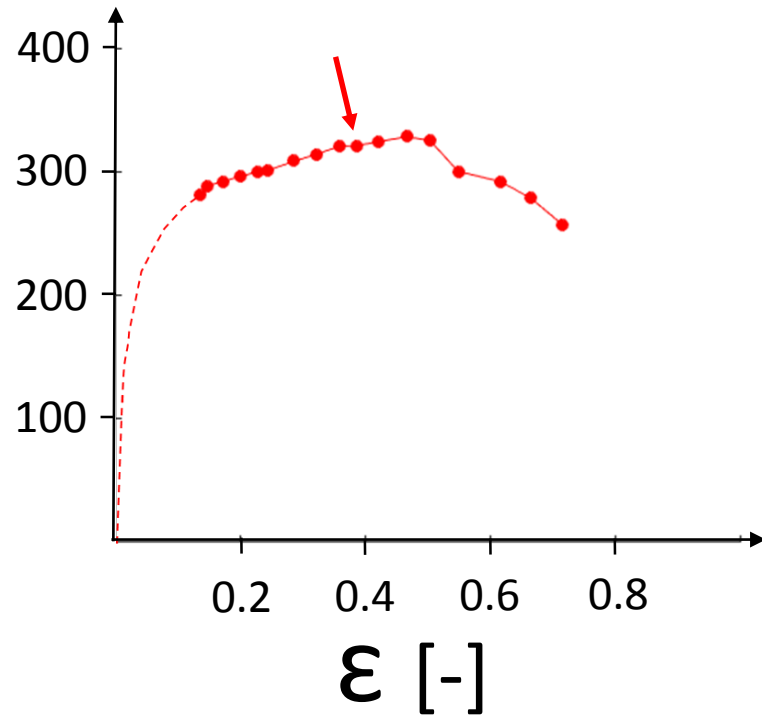
Nucleated voids



2

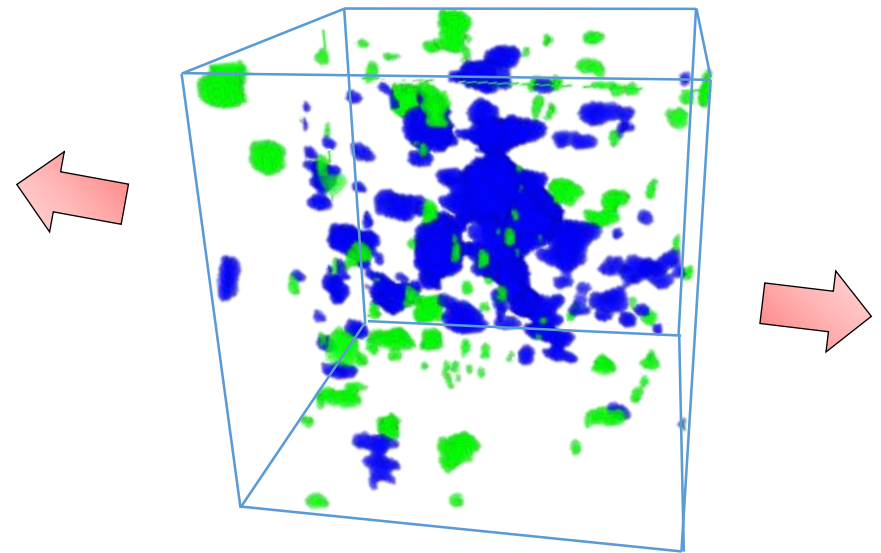
Pre-existing porosity decreases the ductility

σ [MPa]



Initial voids

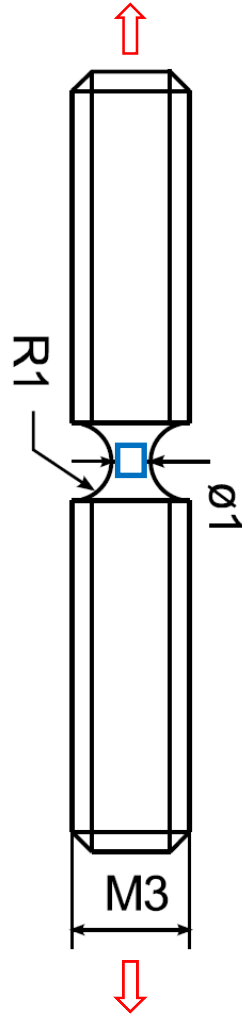
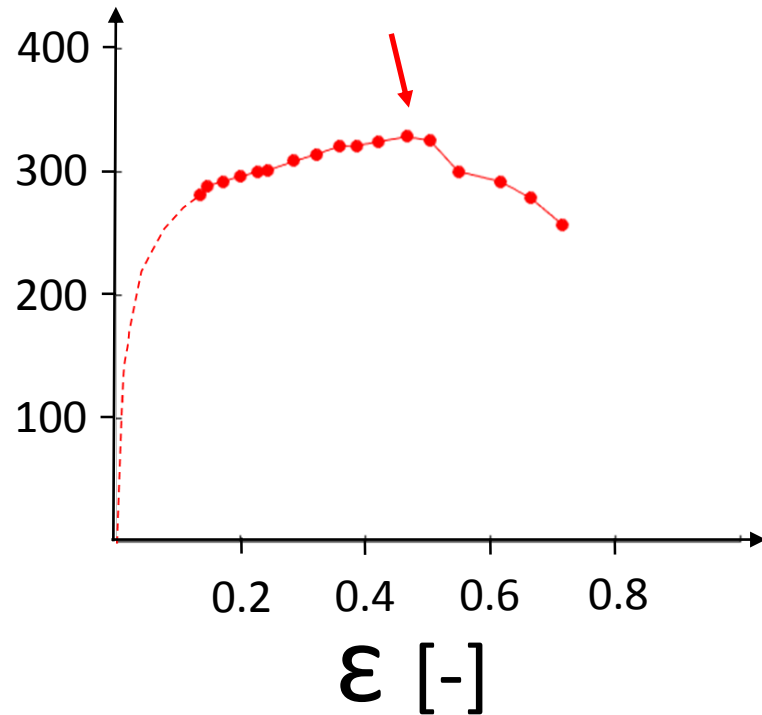
Nucleated voids



2

Pre-existing porosity decreases the ductility

σ [MPa]



Initial voids

Nucleated voids

