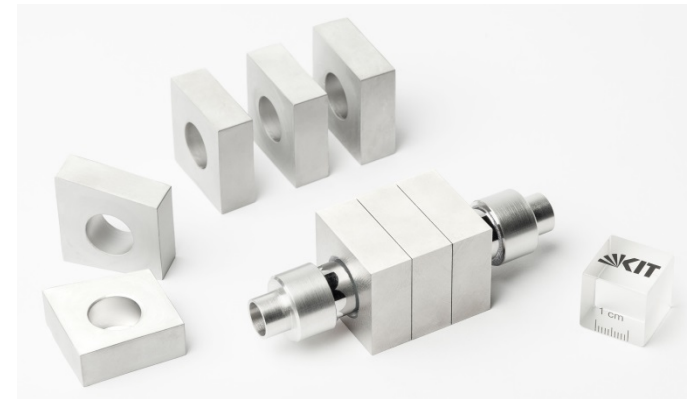


CIMTEC 2018, FORUM ON NEW MATERIALS, JUNE 10<sup>TH</sup> – 14<sup>TH</sup>, PERUGIA, ITALY

## ***Tungsten Powder Injection Molding @ KIT: Achievements and Trends***

Steffen Antusch\*, Jan Hoffmann, Peter Holzer, Alexander Klein, Dorit Noetzel,  
Kilian Pursche, Michael Rieth, Heinz Walter, Tobias Weingaertner

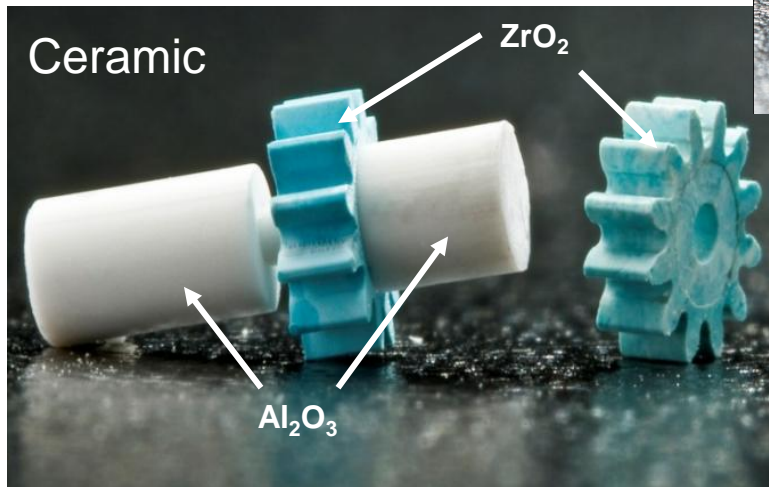
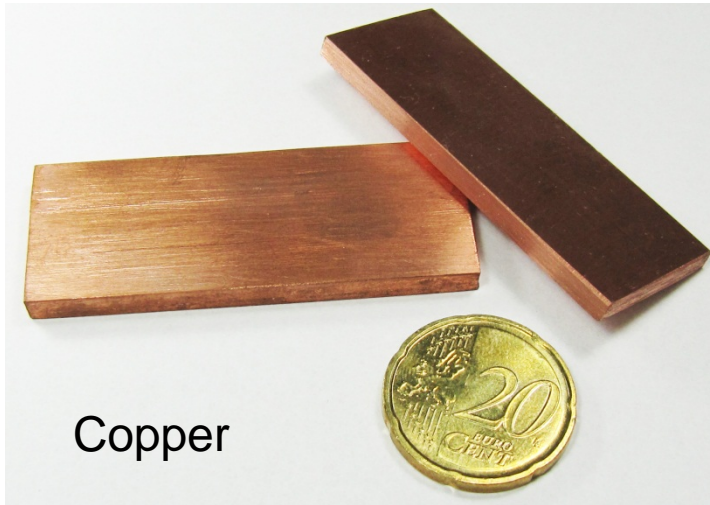
INSTITUTE FOR APPLIED MATERIALS



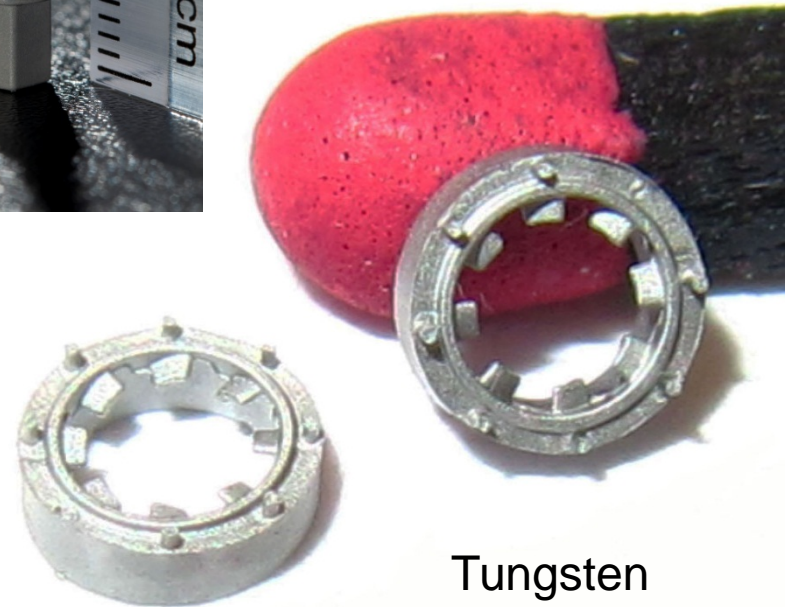
- **Powder Injection Molding @ KIT**
- **Mass fabrication of tungsten parts**
- **Development of new materials**
- **Summary**

- **Powder Injection Molding @ KIT**
- Mass fabrication of tungsten parts
- Development of new materials
- Summary

# Powder Injection Molding



Smallest ZrO<sub>2</sub> gear wheel of the world:  
outer-Ø 275 µm



# Powder Injection Molding @ KIT

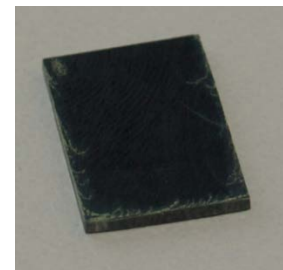
... Tungsten: Properties ...



Atomic number	74
Atomic mass	183.84
Atomic volume	0.0159 [nm <sup>3</sup> ]
Lattice structure	Body-centered
Lattice constant	0.3165 [nm]
Incidence into earth crust	1.25 [g/t]

- + Highest melting temperature of pure metals (3400 °C)
- + Density (19.25 g/cm<sup>3</sup>)
- + Hardness (Mohs 7,5)
- + Heat conductivity (170 W/(mK))
- + Corrosion resistance
- + Electric conductivity (18.52\*10<sup>6</sup> A/(Vm))

- Low ductility and fracture toughness @ RT
- Low oxidation resistance



Original state

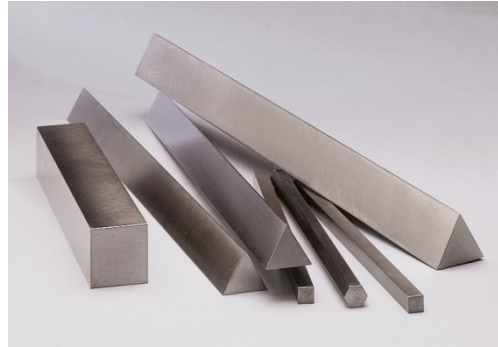
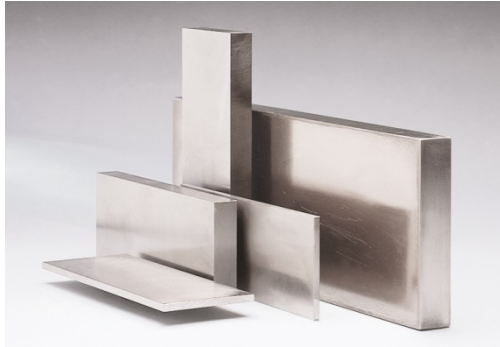


After 48 hours @ 600 °C oxygen atmosphere

# Powder Injection Molding @ KIT

... Tungsten: Industrial Production and Application ...

- ❖ Industrial production of semi-finished products (rods, plates) via Powdermetallurgy (powder compaction, sintering, rolling, forging)
- ❖ High density, large quantity



- The subsequent mechanical machining is time and cost intensive!

- ✓ Cutting tools
- ✓ Welding electrodes
- ✓ Rocket nozzles and heat shields for aerospace industry
- ✓ Heater for high-temperature furnace
- ✓ Screws, blanks, screw nuts
- ✓ X-ray equipment (anode)
- ✓ Sputtering targets



Source: PLANSEE GROUP

# Tungsten Powder Injection Molding



Powder



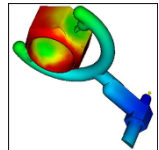
+

Binder

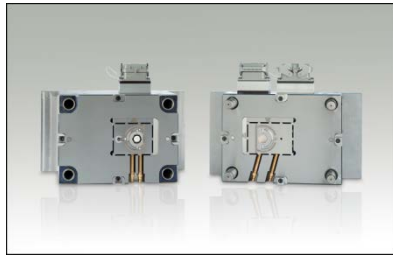
=



Feedstock



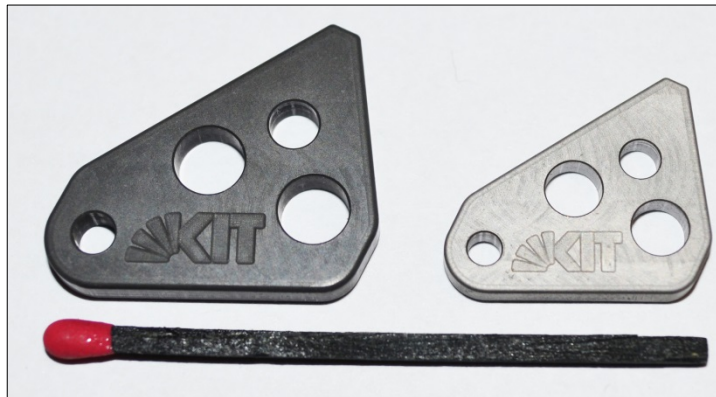
Simulation



PIM-Tool



Fabrication of green parts



Green part vs. Final part



Heat-treatment

~ 2000 °C

# Powder Injection Molding @ KIT

... Tolerances ...

Materials	min. lat. Dimension [μm]	min. Detail [μm]	Aspect Ratio [isolated walls]	Tolerance [%]	Roughness ** R <sub>max</sub> / R <sub>a</sub> [μm]	Materials tested
Plastics	10	≤0.08	>20 (200*)	± 0.05	0.05 / <0.05	Thermoplastics, TPE
Metals	50	10	>10	< ± 0.5	7 / 0.8	17-4PH, 316L, Cu, W, W-alloys
Ceramics	<10	<3	<15	(± 0.1) ± 0.3	2 / <0.3	ZrO <sub>2</sub> , Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> , ZTA, Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> /TiN, Si <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub>

\* flow length to wall thickness ratio

\*\* depending on mold insert



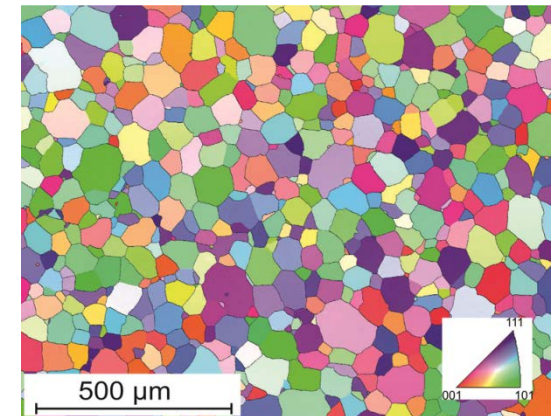
## Mass production of components



Time & cost effective  
near-net-shape forming process

Shape complexity & high final density

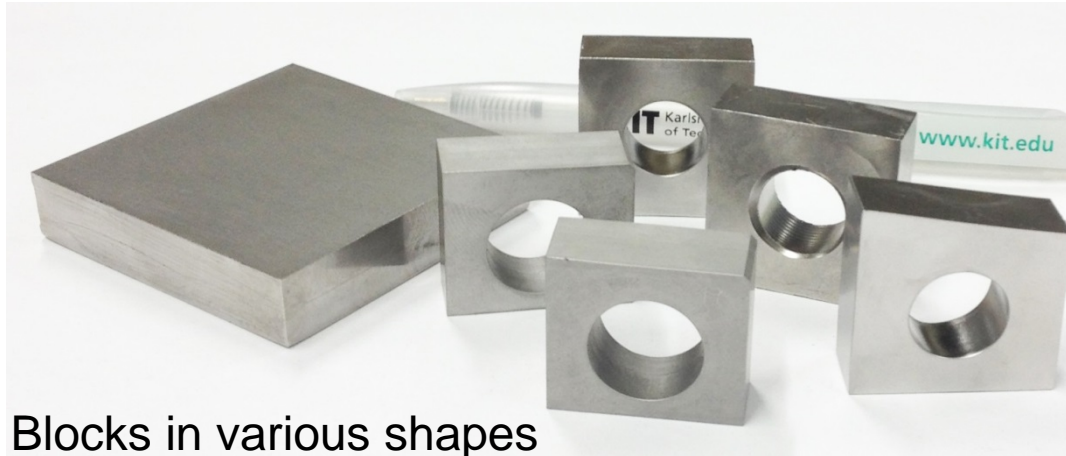
## Material development



Tailoring new materials  
&  
Investigation of properties

- Powder Injection Molding @ KIT
- **Mass fabrication of tungsten parts**
- Development of new materials
- Summary

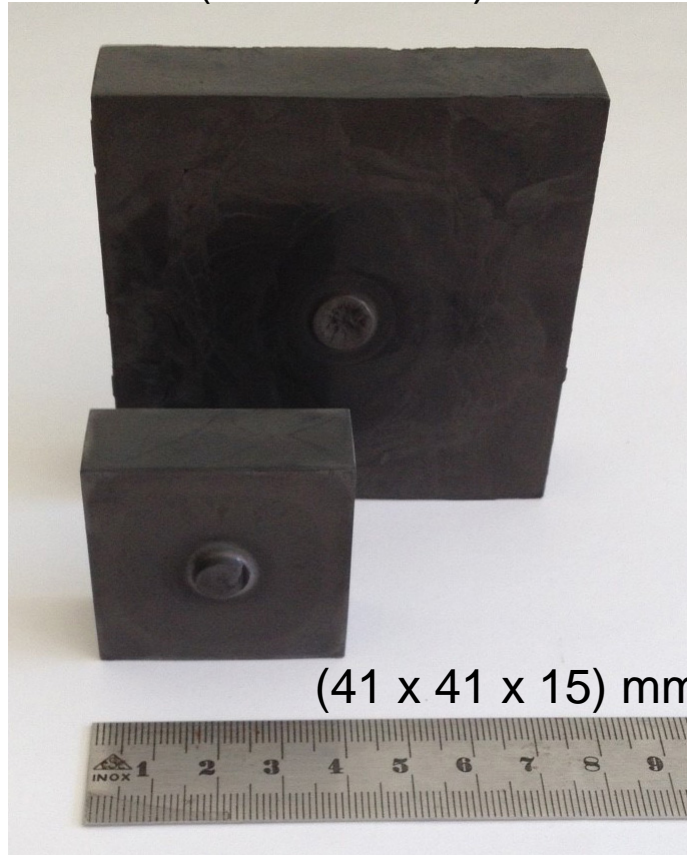
# Mass fabrication of tungsten parts



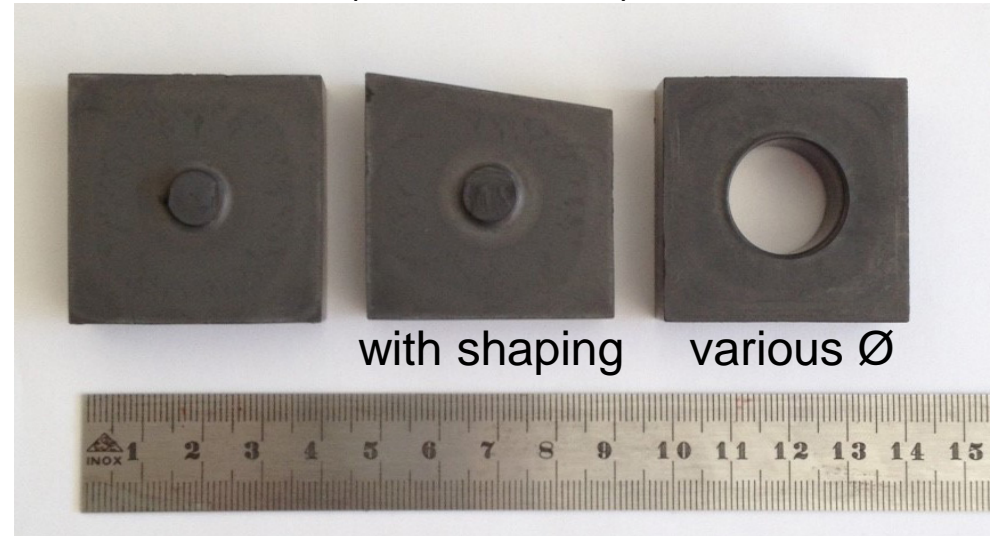
# Mass fabrication of tungsten parts

... Dimension of green-parts ...

(77 x 77 x 25) mm<sup>3</sup>



(41 x 41 x 15) mm<sup>3</sup>



(41 x 41 x 15) mm<sup>3</sup>

## Dimension & Quantity

(77 x 77 x 25) mm<sup>3</sup> (~1.4 kg): 4 parts/hour

(41 x 41 x 15) mm<sup>3</sup> (~0.25 kg): 15 parts/hour

(34 x 41 x 15) mm<sup>3</sup> (~0.24 kg): 27 parts/hour

# Mass fabrication of tungsten parts

... Dimension of finished parts ...

(60 x 60 x 20) mm<sup>3</sup>

(32 x 32 x 12) mm<sup>3</sup>

(32 x 32 x 12) mm<sup>3</sup> with shaping

(26 x 32 x 12) mm<sup>3</sup>

(26 x 26 x 12) mm<sup>3</sup>

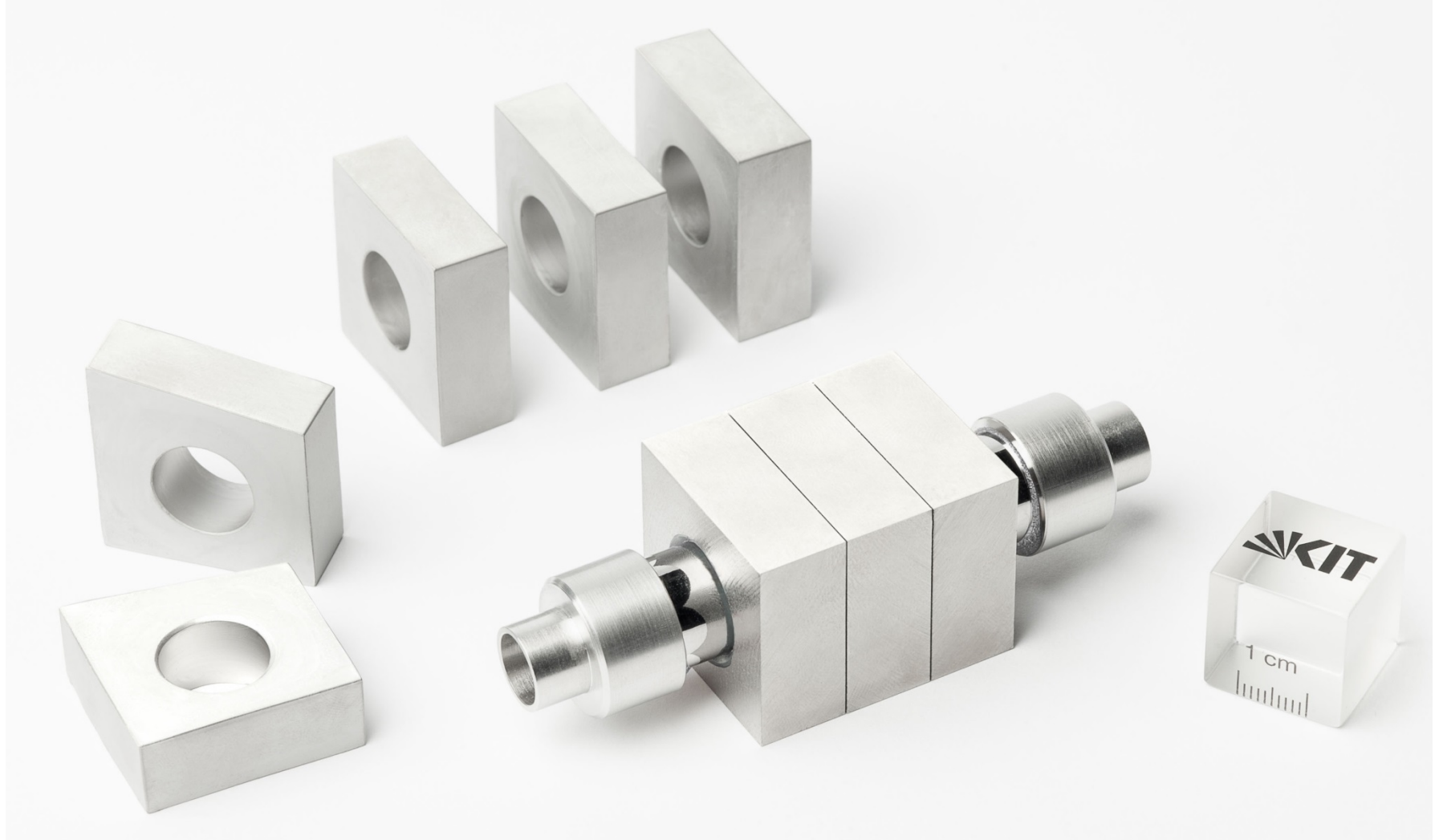
(24 x 22 x 4) mm<sup>3</sup>



...+ various  $\emptyset$  and position of the bore...

# Mass fabrication of tungsten parts

... W monoblocks – various size and shape – assembly to a component ...



# Mass fabrication of tungsten parts

... Qualification via high heat flux testing ...

W-PIM monoblocks produced by KIT (collaboration with RKT and PLANSEE)

Assembly to a Mock-up via Hot Radial Pressing by ENEA

Courtesy of H. Greuner, B. Boeswirth (IPP Garching),  
G. Pintsuk (FZJ), E. Visca (ENEA)

## HHF testing in GLADIS (IPP) Hydrogen ion source

- 1) Screening till 25 MW/m<sup>2</sup>
- 2) 200 cycles @ 20 MW/m<sup>2</sup>, 10 s, 20 °C
- 3) 100 cycles @ 20 MW/m<sup>2</sup>, 10 s, 130 °C, 4 MPa

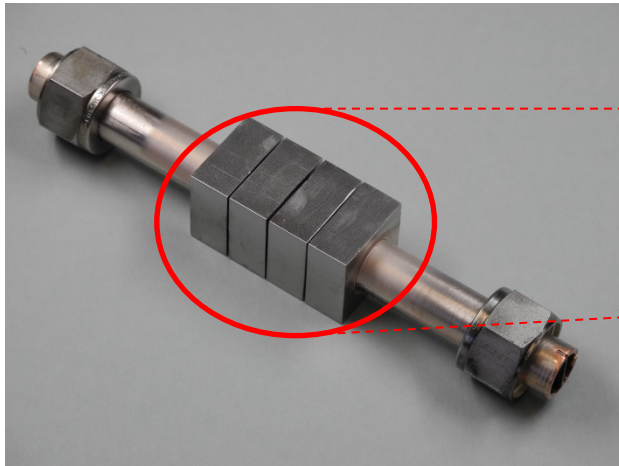


## HHF testing in JUDITH (FZJ) Electron beam testing

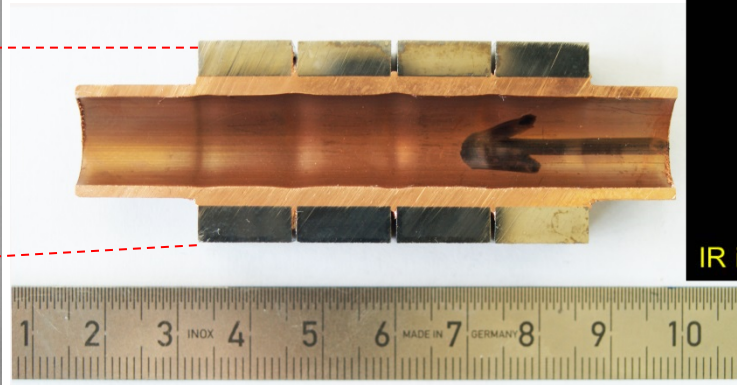
- 4) 100 cycles @ 10 MW/m<sup>2</sup>
- 5) 1000 cycles @ 20 MW/m<sup>2</sup>



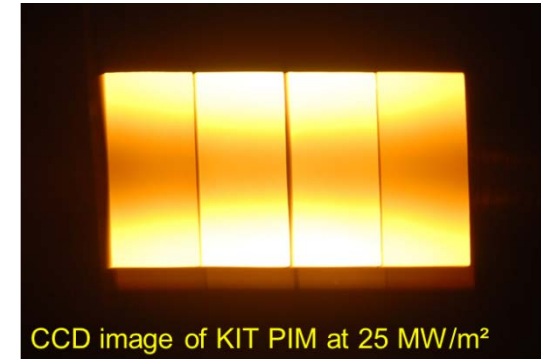
Total: 1400 cycles



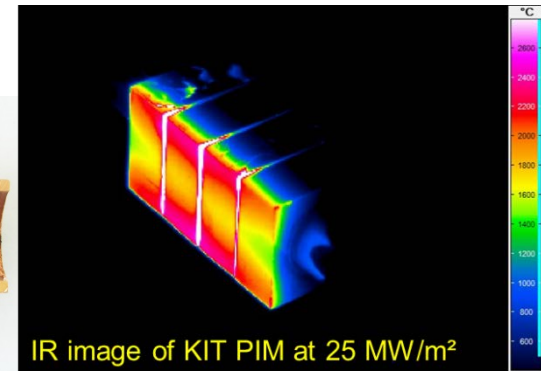
W-PIM mock-up



Mock-up (cross section) after HHF test



CCD image of KIT PIM at 25 MW/m<sup>2</sup>



IR image of KIT PIM at 25 MW/m<sup>2</sup>

# Mass fabrication of tungsten parts

... Samples for ASDEX Upgrade  
(Axialsymmetrisches Divertor-Experiment) ...

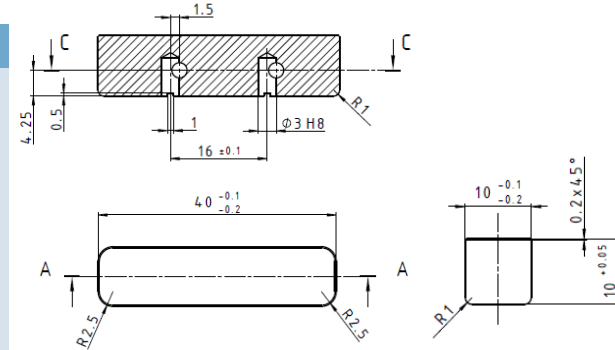


Courtesy of A. Herrmann (IPP Garching)

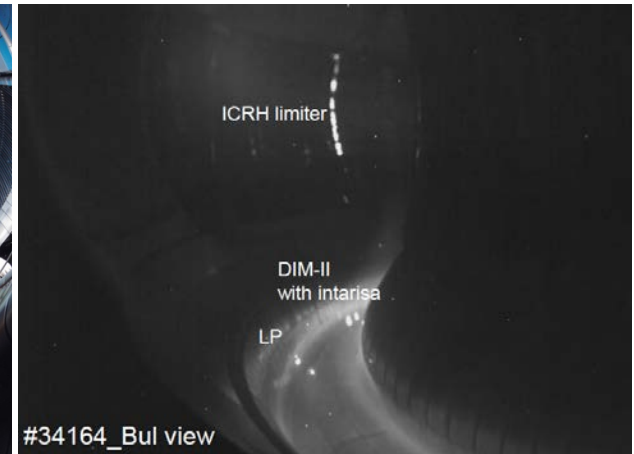
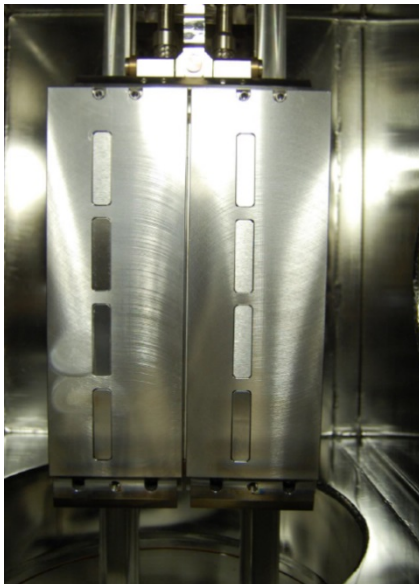


### Technical data:

Total height of the device	9 metres
Major plasma radius	1.6 metres
Minor plasma radii	0.5 / 0.8 metres
Magnetic field	3.9 tesla
Plasma current	2 megaamperes
Pulse length	10 seconds
Plasma heating	27 megawatts
Plasma volume	13 cubic metres
Plasma quantity	3 milligrams
Plasma mixture	hydrogen, deuterium
Plasma density	$2 \times 10^{20}$ particles per $m^3$
Plasma temperature	100 million degrees



**75 plasma shots up to 20 MW  
w/o visible damages of the  
probes**





# Mass fabrication of tungsten parts

... Samples for WEST

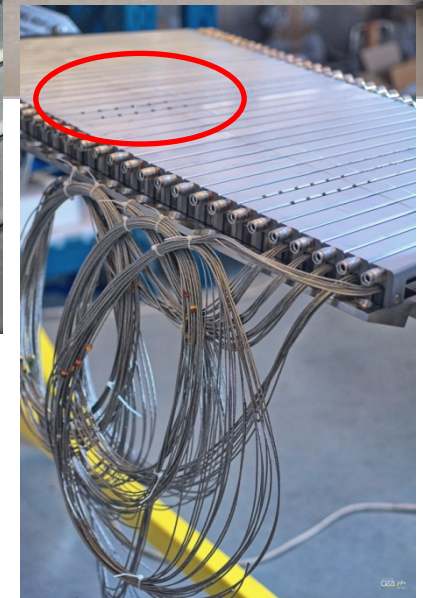
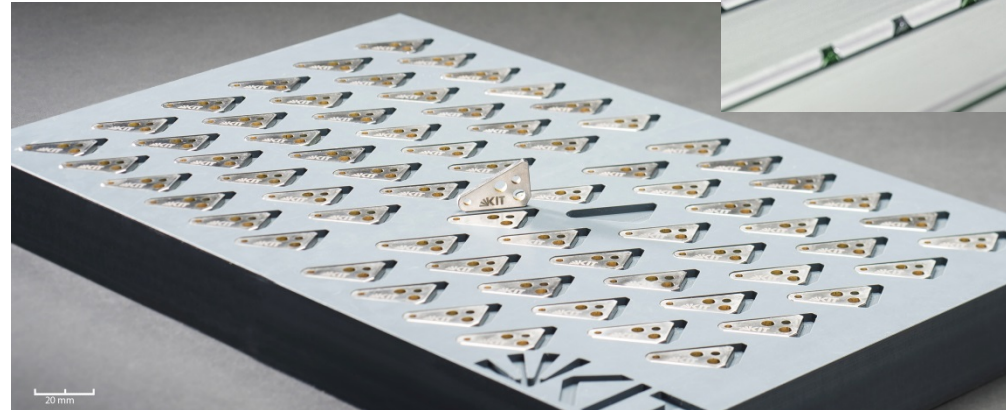
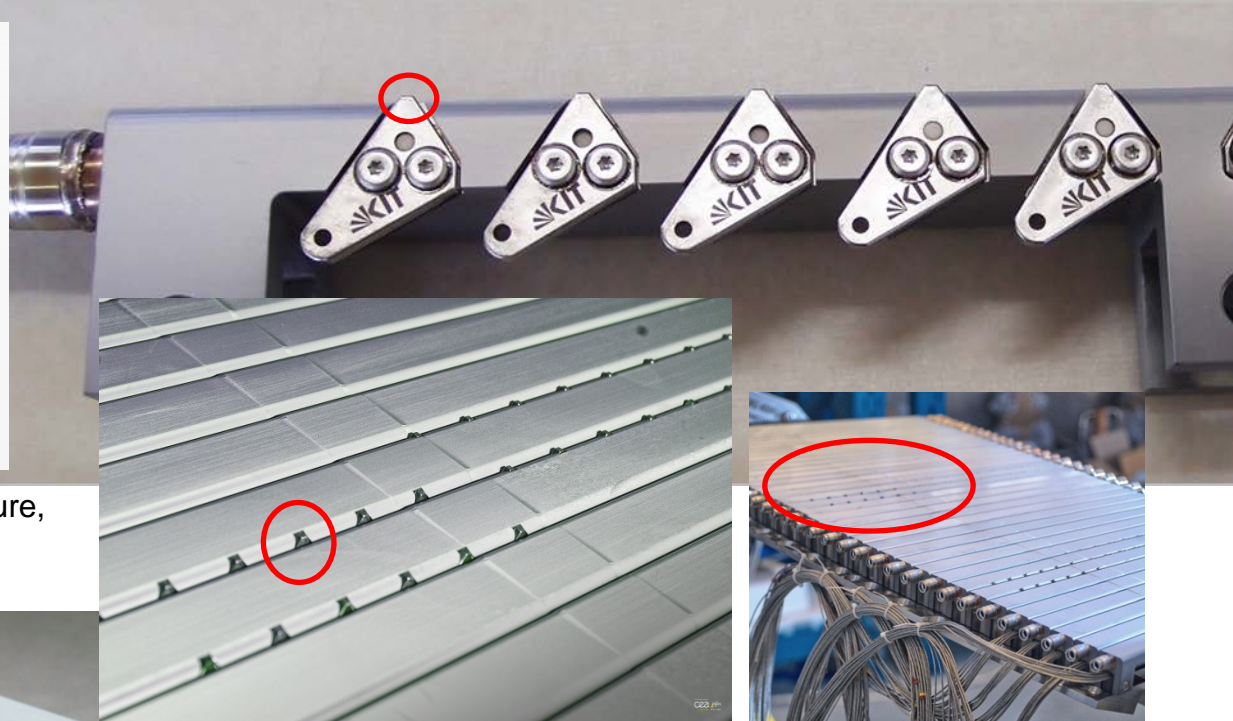
(Tungsten (W) Environment in Steady-state Tokamak) ...

Courtesy of J. Gunn (CEA)



Langmuir probes for WEST

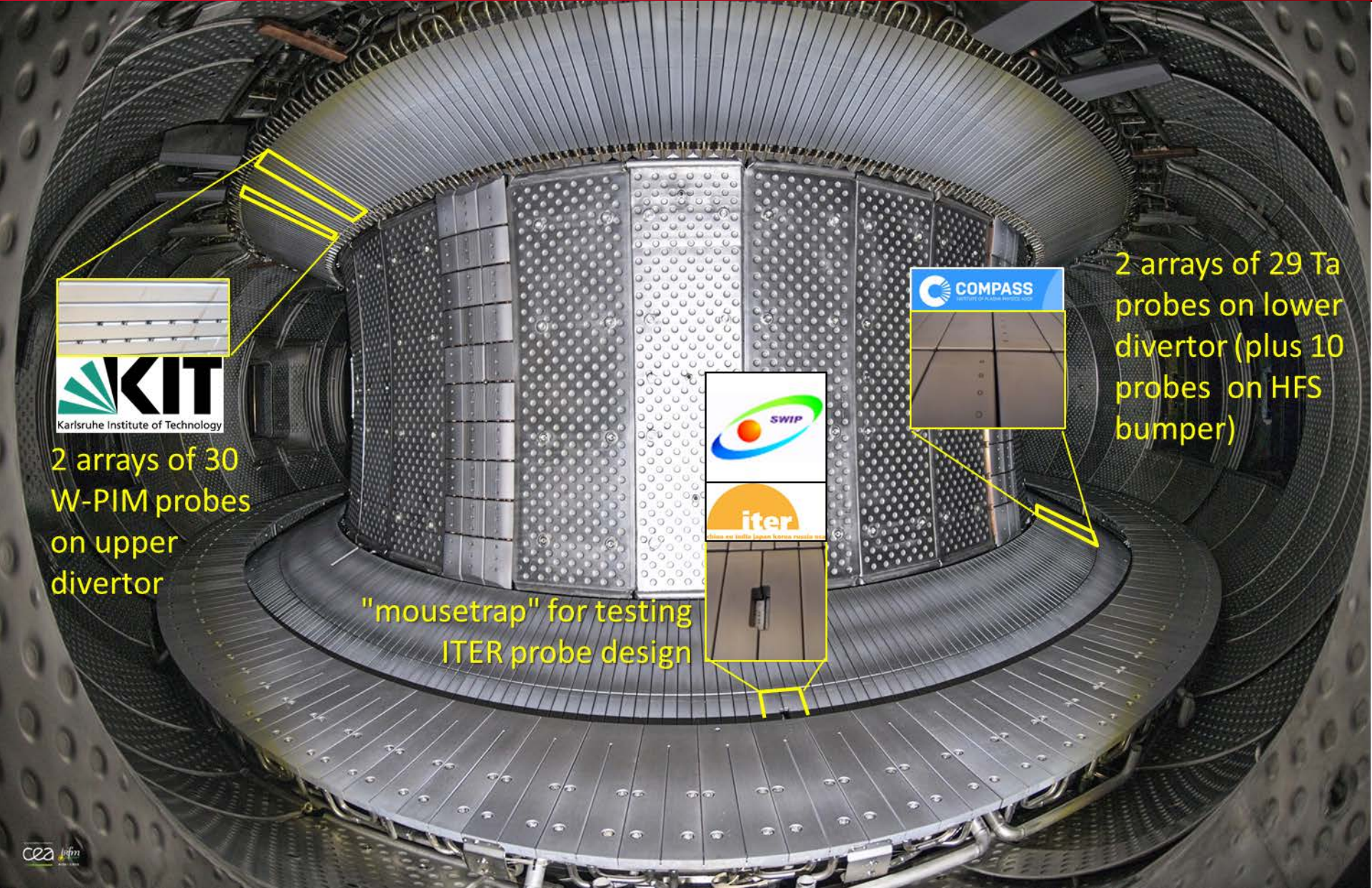
Device to determine the electron temperature, electron density, and electric potential of a plasma.



Watercooled CuCrZr PFU

**Fabrication of a series of 60 Langmuir probes via W-PIM @ KIT.**

# THANK YOU! NOW WE'RE READY TO HAVE FUN



2 arrays of 30 W-PIM probes on upper divertor



2 arrays of 29 Ta probes on lower divertor (plus 10 probes on HFS bumper)



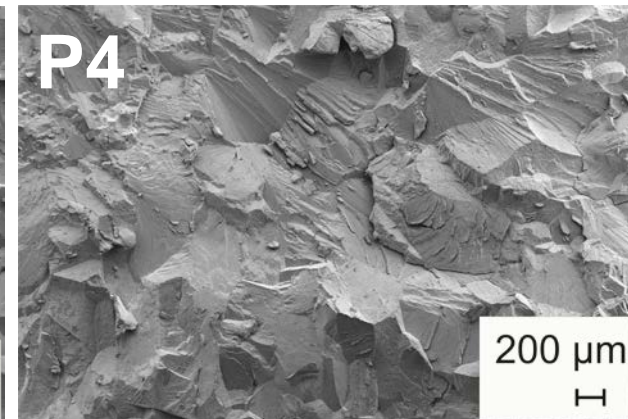
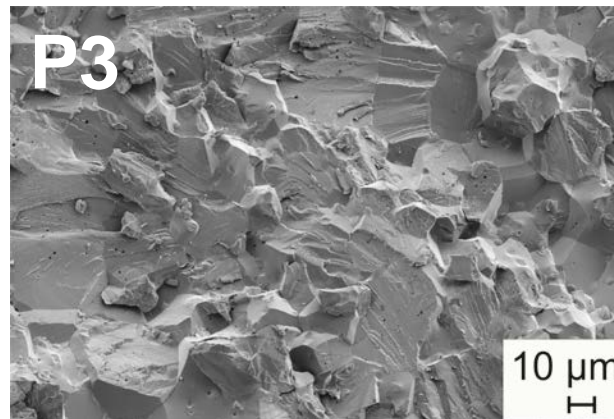
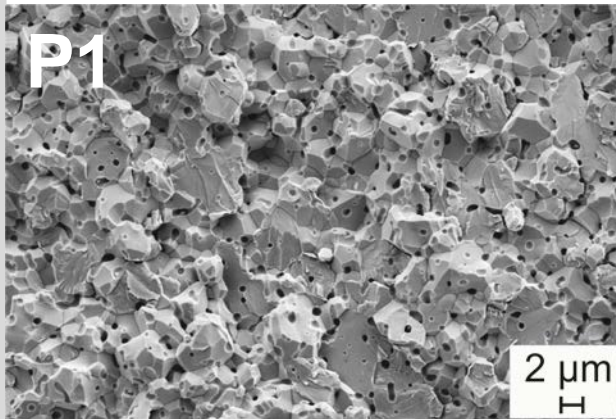
"mousetrap" for testing ITER probe design

- Powder Injection Molding @ KIT
- Mass fabrication of tungsten parts
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- Summary

# Development of new materials

... Sintering temperature vs. grain growth ...

Pure Tungsten



$T_{\text{sint}}$  1800 °C  
Density: 95 – 96% T.D.  
Grain size ~ 10 - 20 μm

$T_{\text{sint}}$  2400 °C  
Density: 98.8% T.D.  
Grain size ~ 50 -100 μm

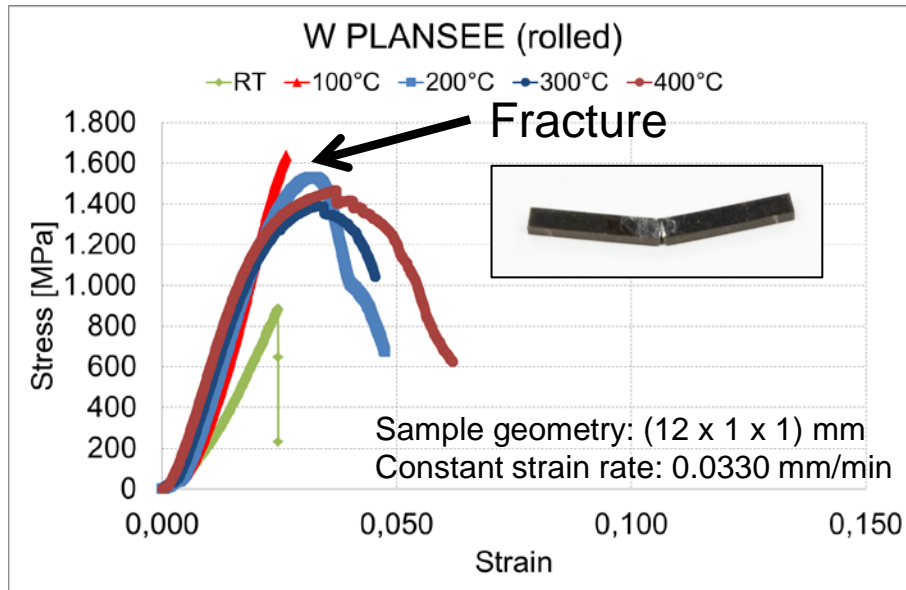
$T_{\text{sint}}$  2600 °C  
Density: 99% T.D.  
Grain size ~ 200 - 400 μm

Grain growth

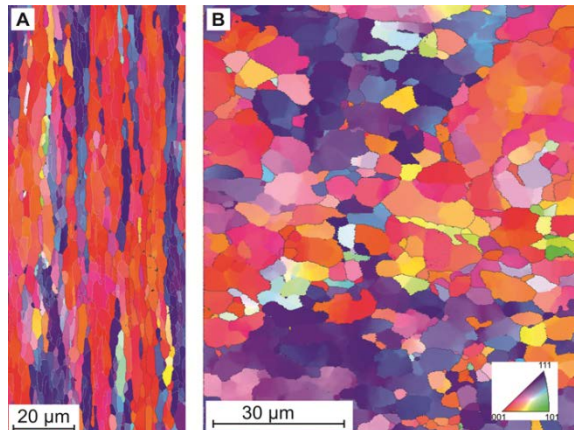
Sintering temperature

# Development of new materials

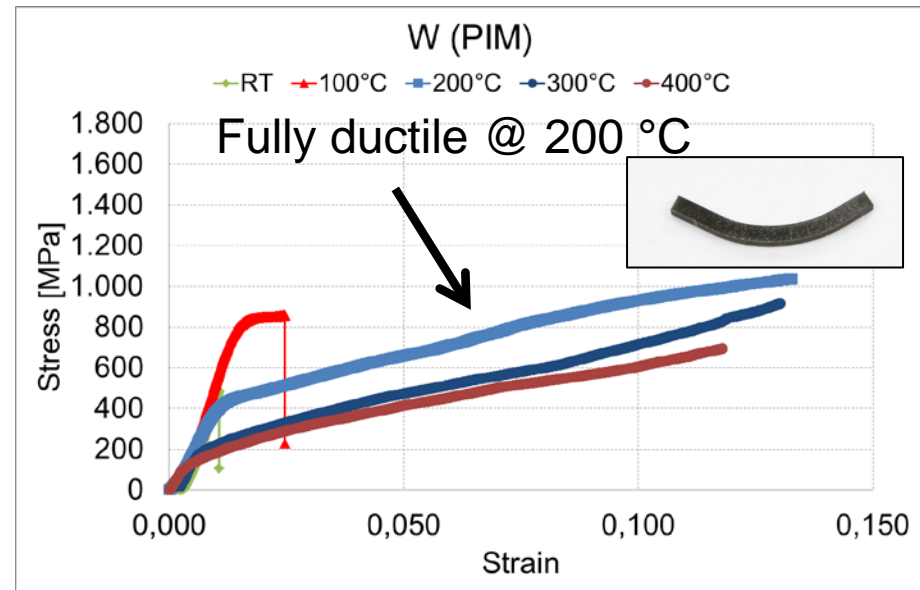
... Mechanical testing via 4-PB tests from 20 °C to 400 °C ...



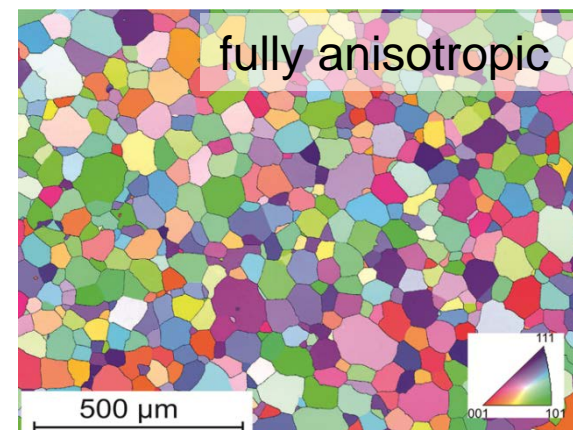
High strength in rolling direction (A)



S. Antusch et al., Nuclear Materials and Energy 3-4 (2015), 22-31

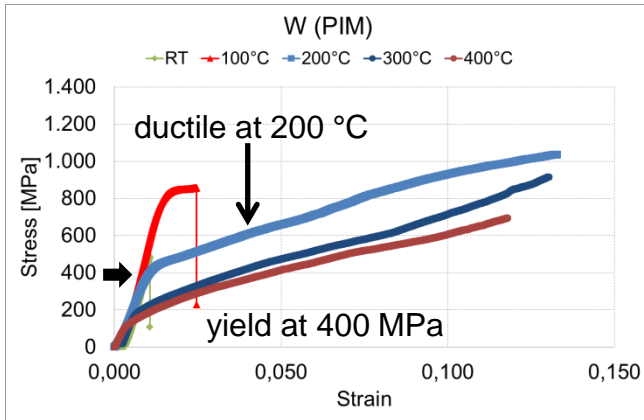


Same strength in all directions

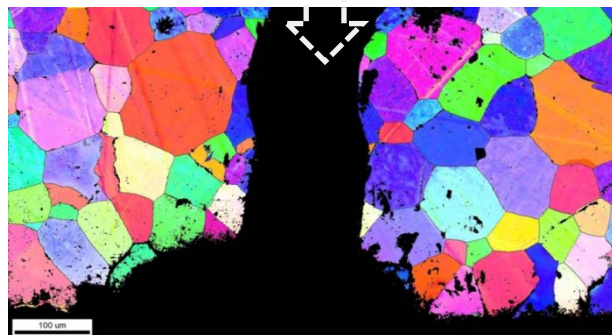
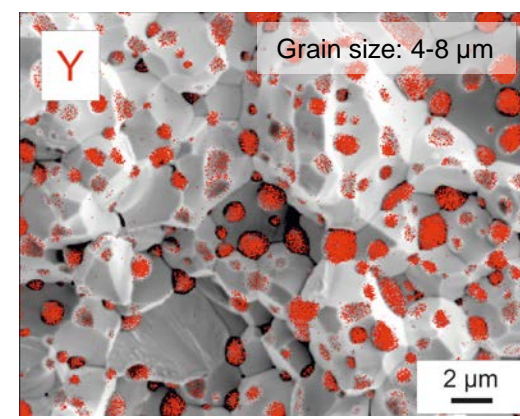
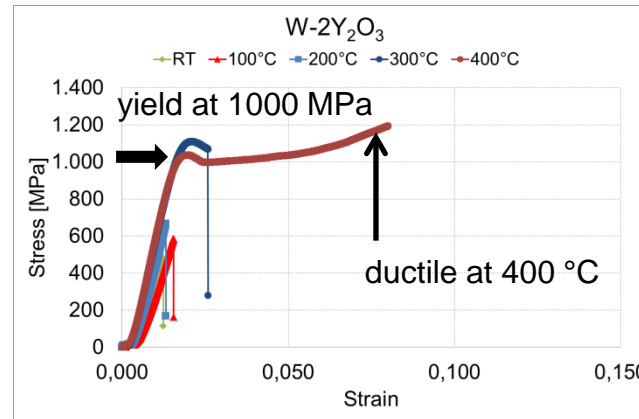
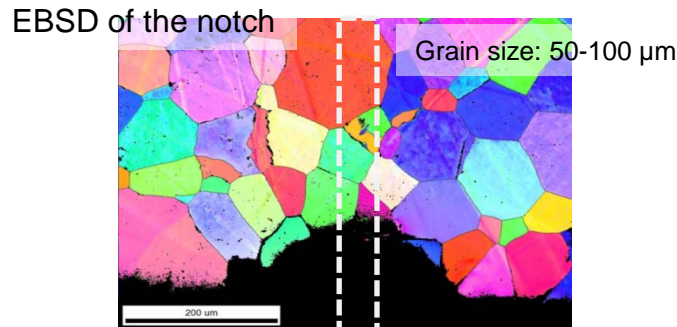
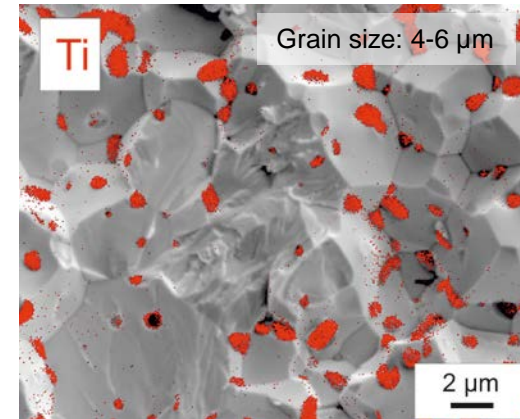
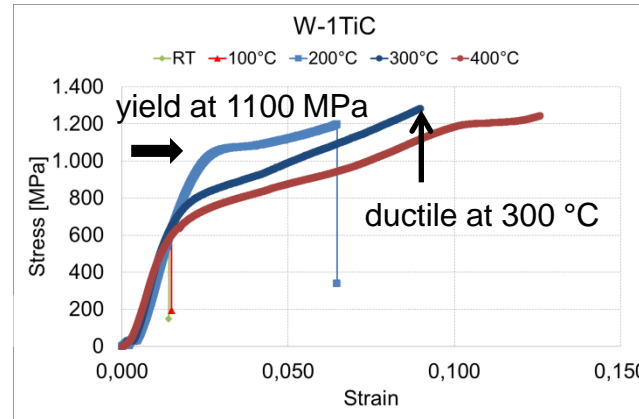


# Development of new materials

... Mechanical testing via 4-PB tests from 20 °C to 400 °C ...



Sample geometry: (12 x 1 x 1) mm  
Constant strain rate: 0.0330 mm/min



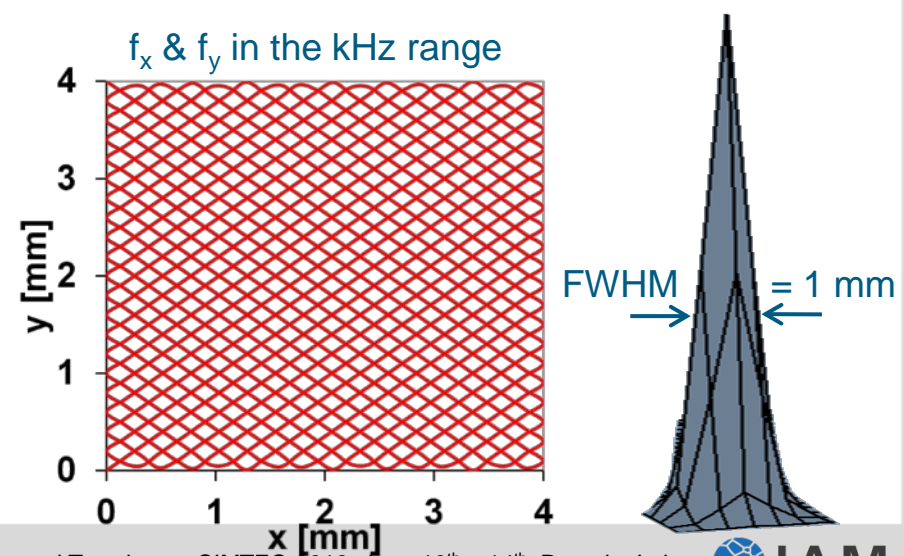
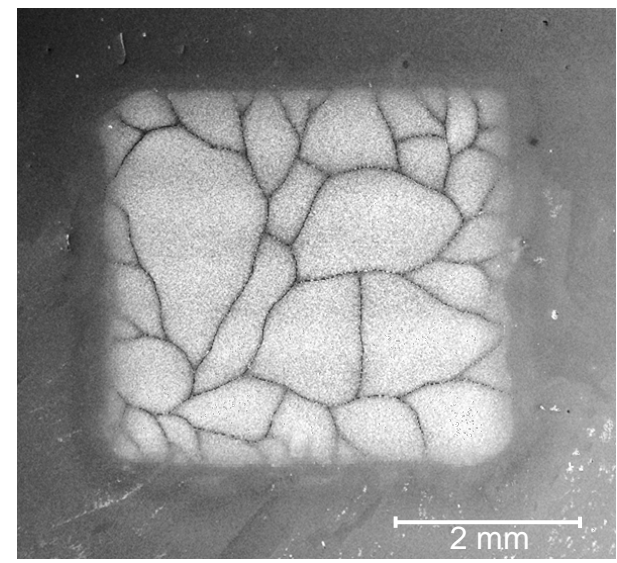
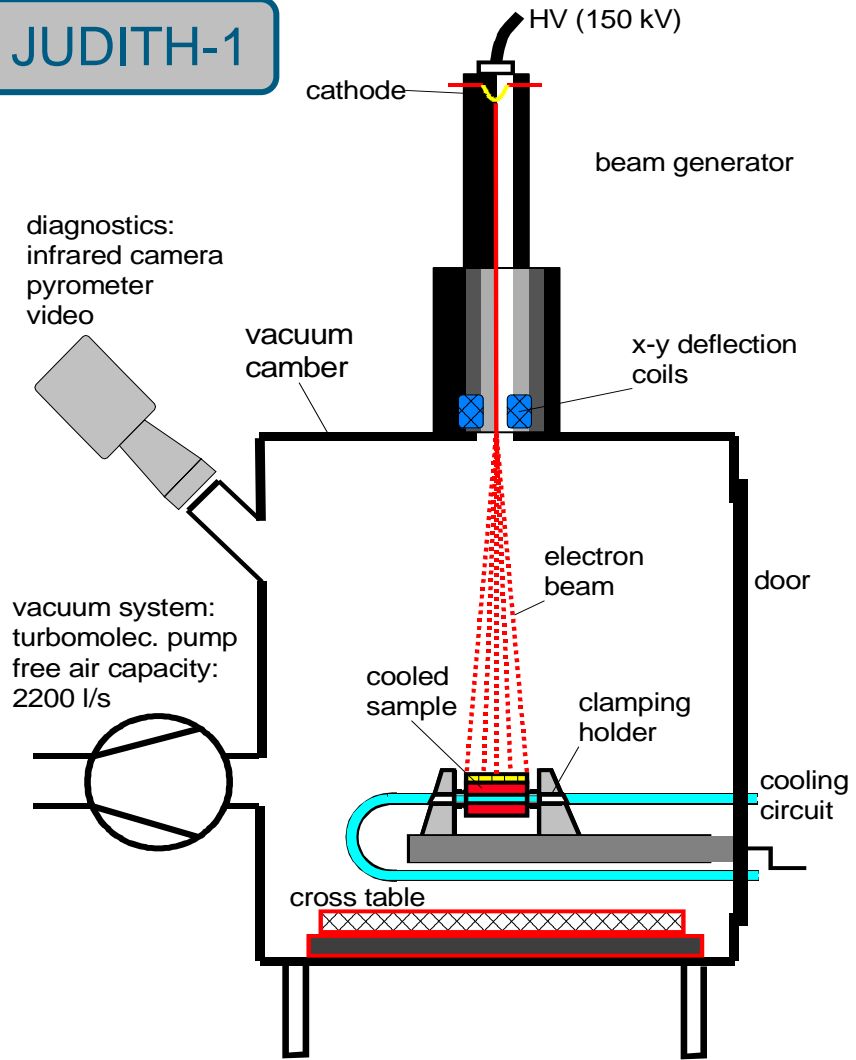
AES: Microstructure & element allocation

S. Antusch et al. Nuclear Materials and Energy (accepted)

# Development of new materials

... Thermal shock testing with e-beam in JUDITH-1 ...

**JUDITH-1**



Total power: 60 kW  
 Acceleration voltage: 120 kV

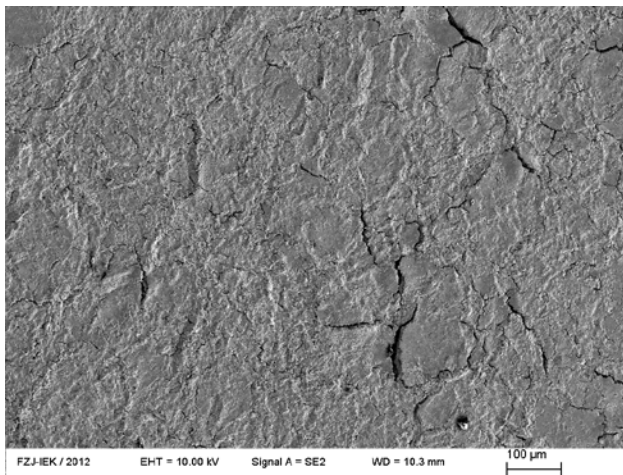
# Development of new materials

... Thermal shock tests via e-beam @ JUDITH-1 ...

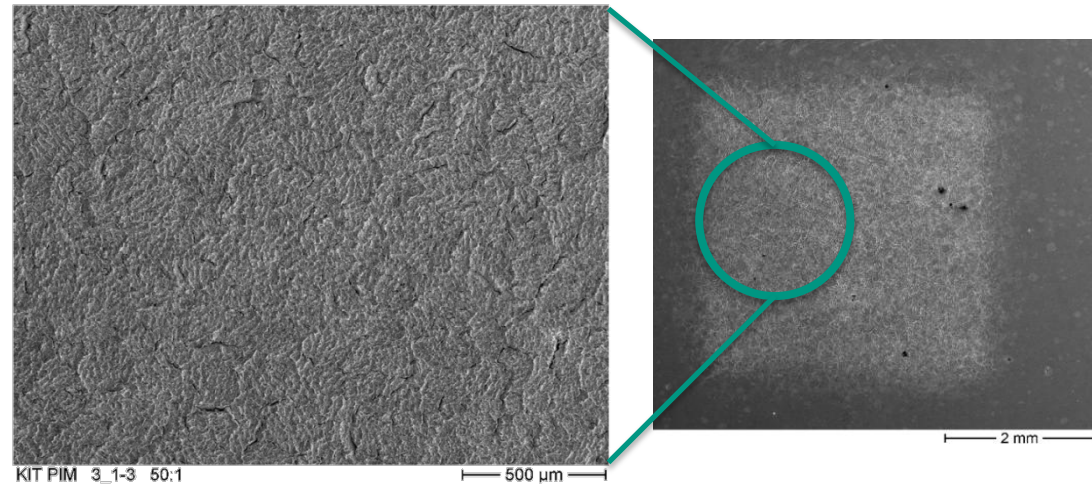
Courtesy of G. Pintsuk (FZJ)

#	T [°C]	P <sub>abs</sub> [GW/m <sup>2</sup> ]	Δt [ms]	E <sub>abs</sub> [MJ/m <sup>2</sup> ]	FHF [MW/m <sup>2</sup> *s <sup>1/2</sup> ]	# shots
C	1000	0.38	1	0.38	12	1000

**W PLANSEE**  
(single forged)



**W**  
(PIM)



*Note the different scale markers !*





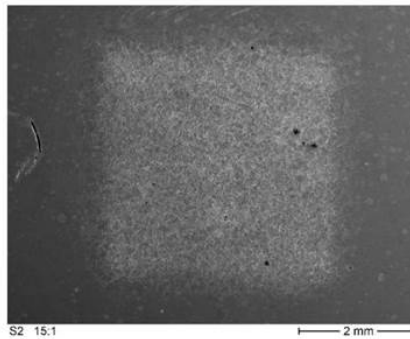
# Development of new materials

... Thermal shock tests via e-beam @ JUDITH-1 ...

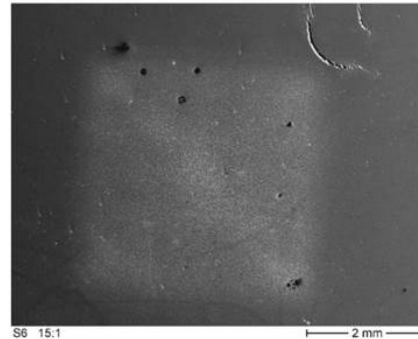
Courtesy of G. Pintsuk (FZJ)

T [°C]	P <sub>abs</sub> [GW/m <sup>2</sup> ]	Δt [ms]	E <sub>abs</sub> [MJ/m <sup>2</sup> ]	F <sub>HF</sub> [MW/m <sup>2</sup> *s <sup>1/2</sup> ]	# shots
1000	0.38	1	0.38	12	1000

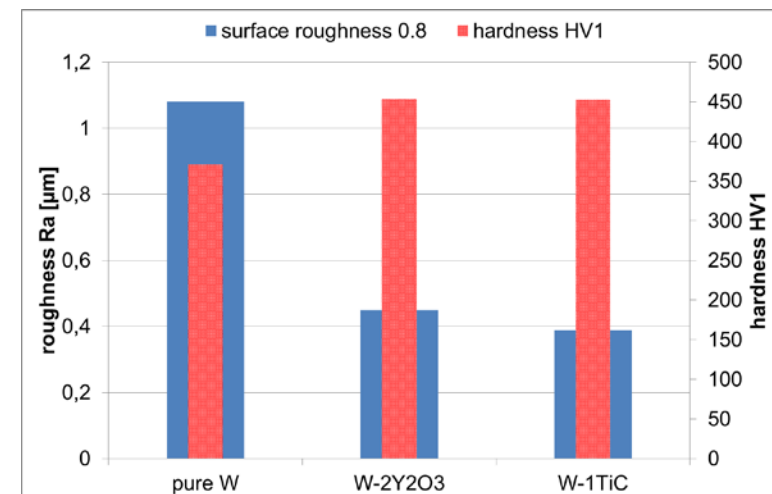
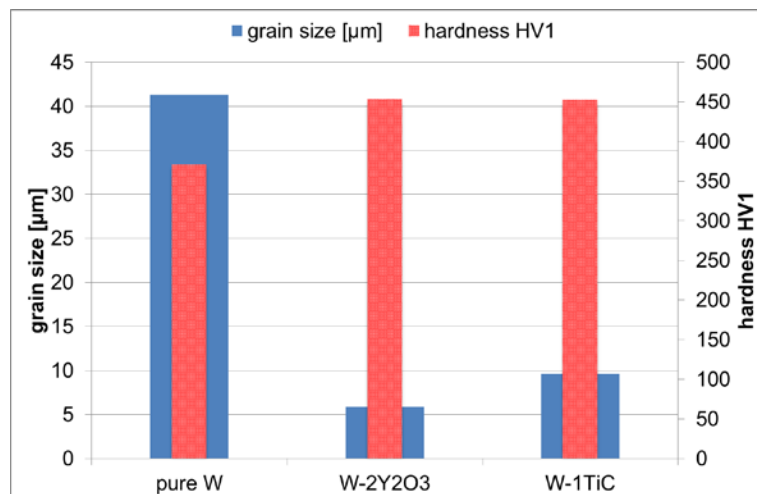
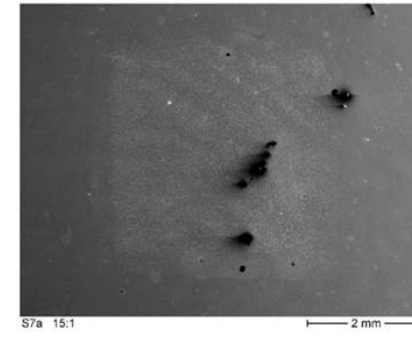
W



W-2Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>



W-1TiC



# Development of new materials

... Urgent need of irradiation data ...

Fabrication of parts for an irradiation campaign organized by EUROfusion

**W-2Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>** and **W-1TiC**

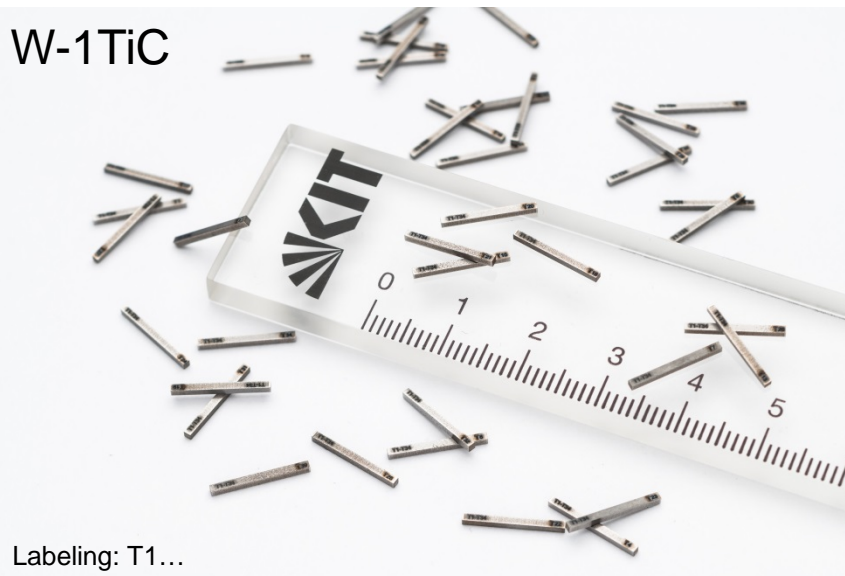
Mini 4P bend bars (12 mm x 1 mm x 1 mm): 40 samples / material

Irradiation dose: 0.7 – 0.8 dpa

Irradiation temperatures: 600, 1000, 1100 °C

→ Time schedule by SCK-CEN, Belgium: June 2018 – May 2019

W-1TiC



W-2Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>



# Development of new materials

... 3D printing of Tungsten ...

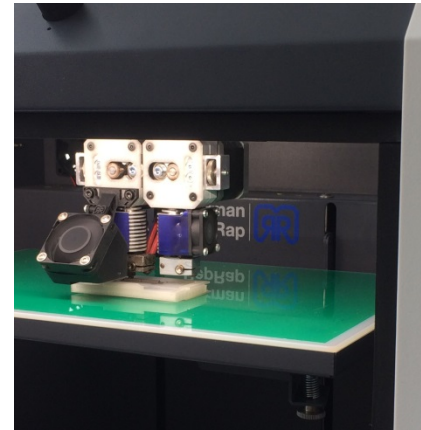
Fused Filament Fabrication (FFF) /  
Fused Deposition Modelling (FDM)



Powder + Binder



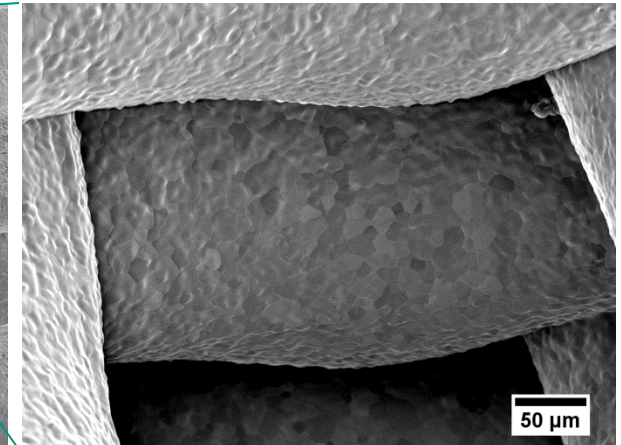
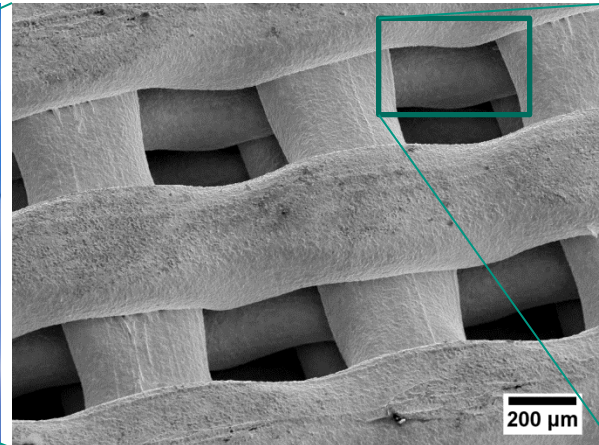
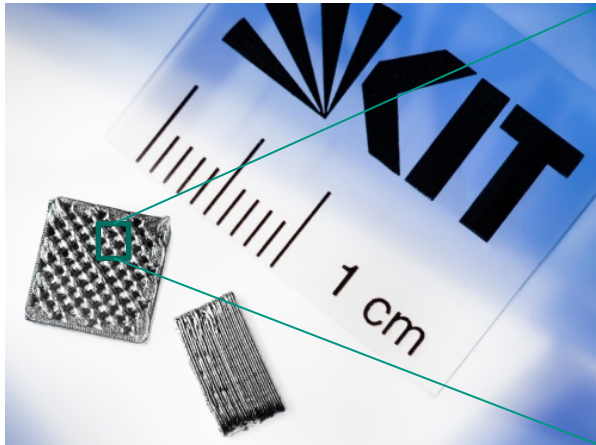
Filament fabrication



3D printing of green parts



Heat-treatment



S. Antusch : Need a tricky tungsten piece ? Print it ! Fusion in Europe 1/2018 (2018)

- Powder Injection Molding @ KIT
- Mass fabrication of tungsten parts
- Development of new materials
- **Summary**

# Summary

## Tungsten Powder Injection Molding @

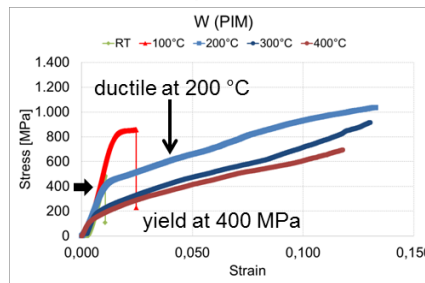
### Mass production of components



Time & cost effective  
near-net-shape forming process

Shape complexity &  
high final density

### Properties



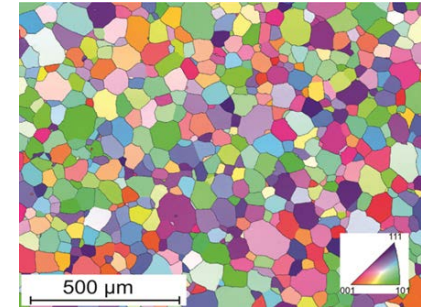
Brittle to ductil transition at 200 °C

No recrystallisation

High thermal shock resistance

Fully anisotropic

### Rapid material development



Create new materials  
&  
Investigation of properties

3D printing of Tungsten: new method for rapid prototyping

**THANK YOU VERY MUCH!**



PL FUSION



**EUROfusion**



**WPMAT**