




October 17th–18th, 2022

## **PSEUDOELASTICITY OF NiTi PARTS MANUFACTURED BY LASER POWDER BED FUSION: HOW FAR WE ARE FROM THE CONVENTIONAL MANUFACTURING ROUTE FOR MEDICAL DEVICES?**

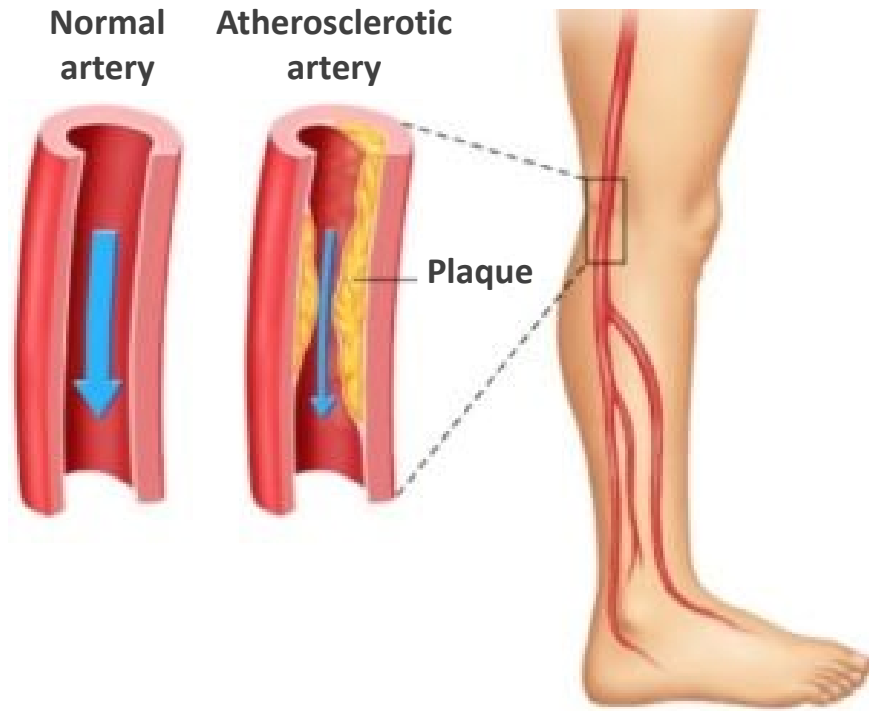
**L. Patriarca**

**Politecnico di Milano, Dipartimento di Meccanica**

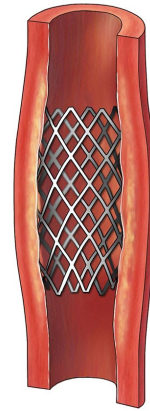
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Morgagni, 44-48, 50134 Firenze



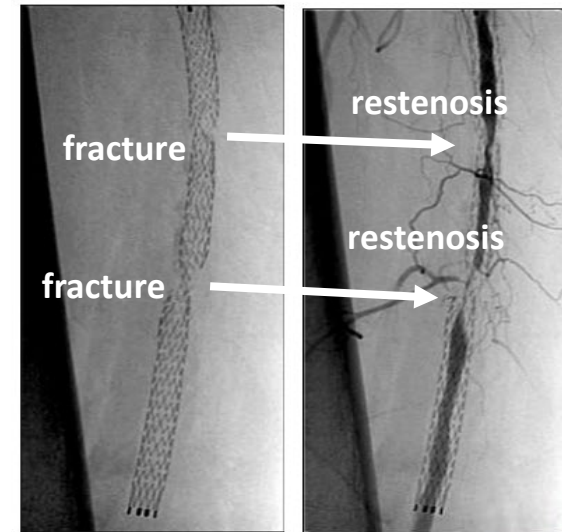
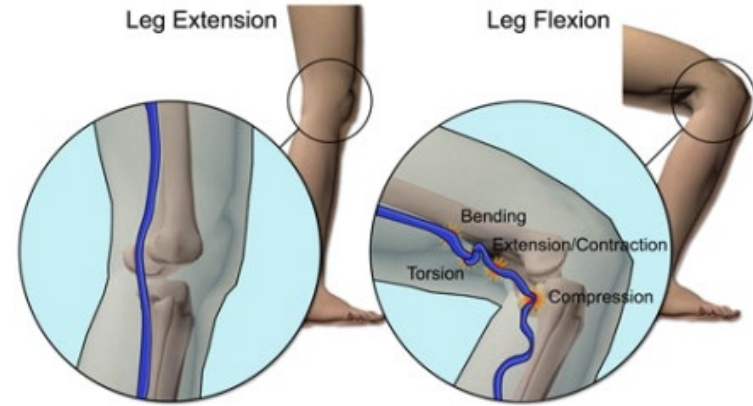
# INTRODUCTION



Gold standard  
→ stenting



1 million gaits/year  
stent **fatigue failure** and  
**severe consequences**



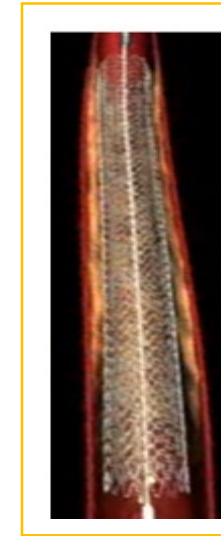
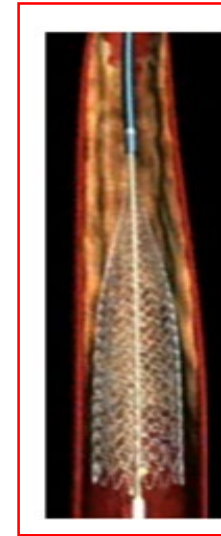
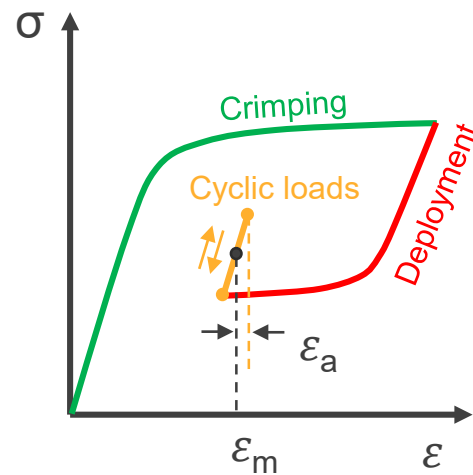
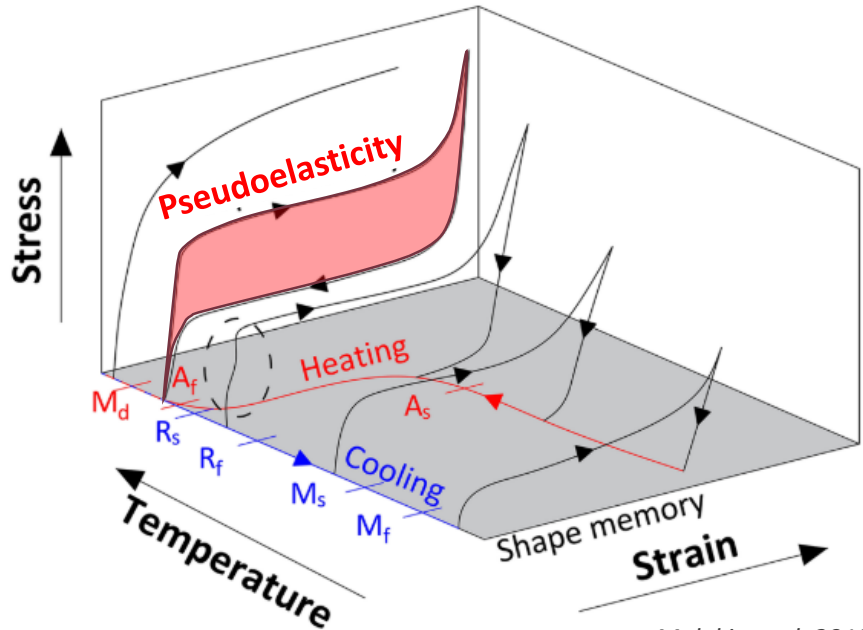
Scheninert et al. 2005



# INTRODUCTION

## Ni-Ti alloys

→ *gold standard* for peripheral stenting



**Crimping:** diameter reduction to fit on the catheter

**Deployment:** self-expansion into the vessel

**Cyclic loads:** movements due to gait

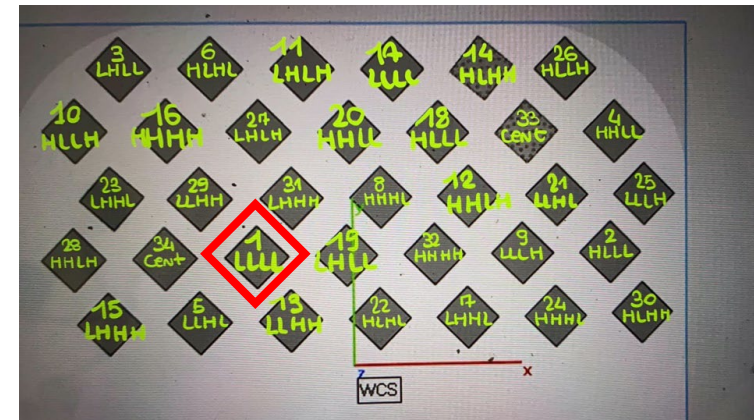
# TRADITIONAL MANUFACTURING APPROACHES vs AM

- The traditional manufacturing route for NiTi stents consists in obtaining a tubular geometry and then laser-cutting to the final shape
- Such manufacturing strategy enables to obtain a **texturized material** with enhanced mechanical/functional properties
- In principle, **Additive Manufacturing (AM)** could enable more flexibility in the final geometry
- However, the strict regulations for bio-medical applications prevents the adoption of AM process
- NiTi alloy behavior strongly depends on chemical composition and heat treatment
- AMed NiTi requires further efforts for reaching the best functional performances offered by the traditional manufacturing routes
- In this presentation, we investigate the functional properties of AMed NiTi
- All the specimens were produced by means of a Renishaw AM250 industrial LPBF system



# FULL DENSITY OR FUNCTIONALITY?

- The first part of the work investigated the effect of the L-PBF process parameters (PPs) on the **density** and on the **Transformation Temperatures** that dictate the NiTi functional behavior
- 34 different combinations of PPs were investigated
- The aim was to avoid PPs leading to low density and/or cracking

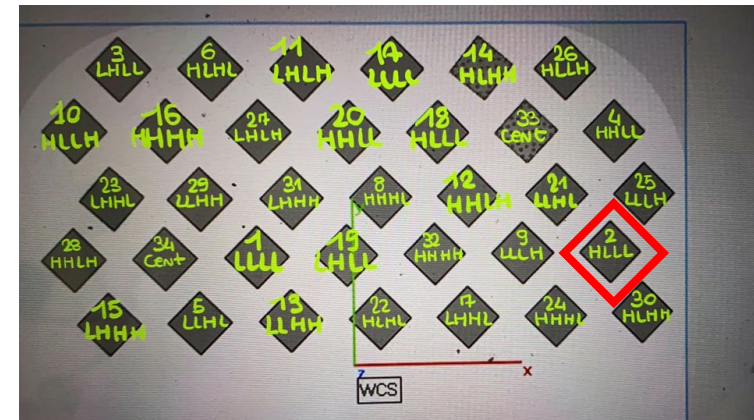


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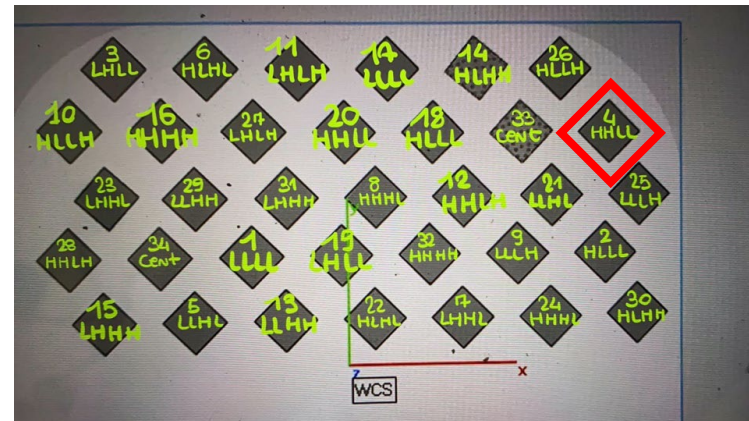
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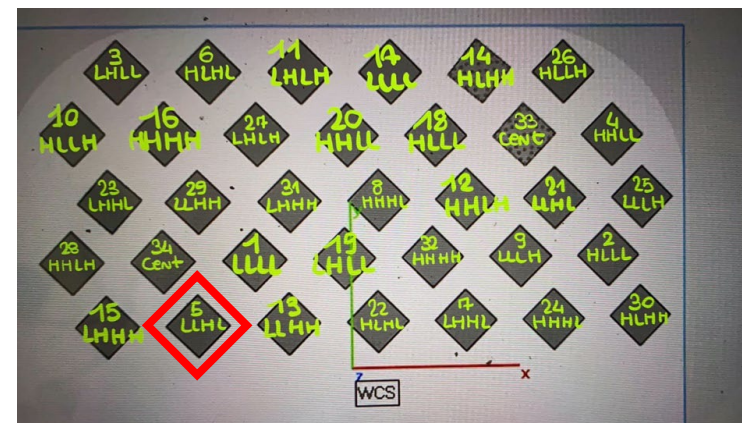
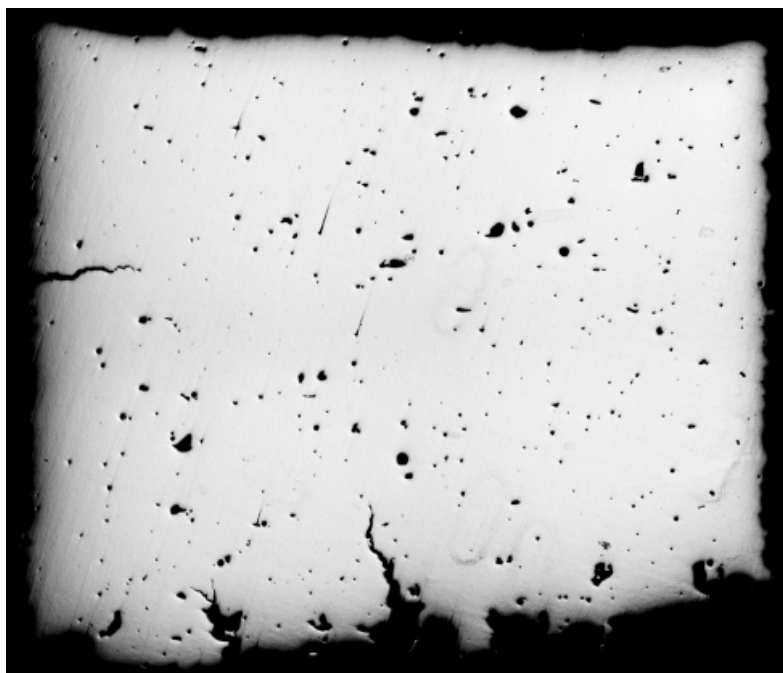


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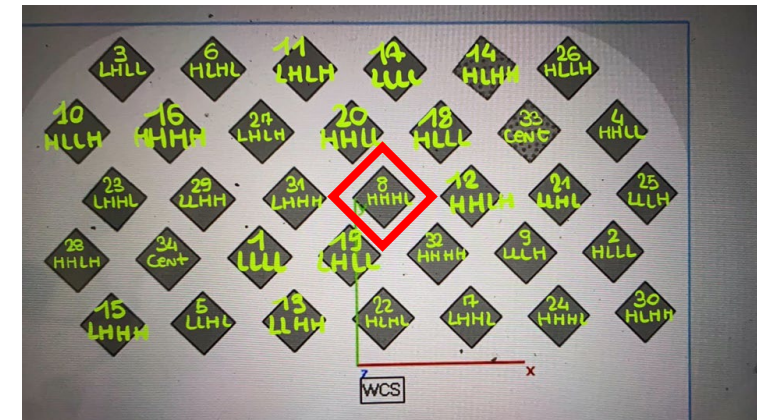
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# FULL DENSITY OR FUNCTIONALITY?

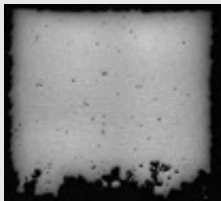
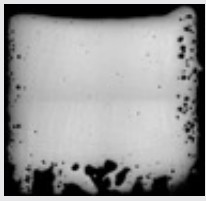

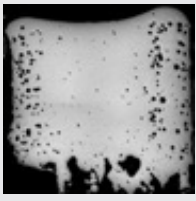
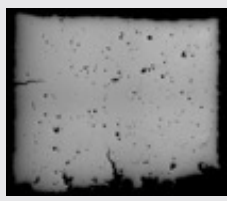


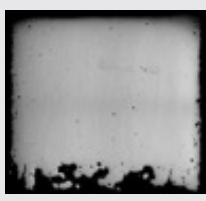
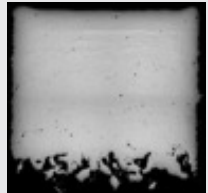
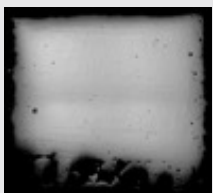
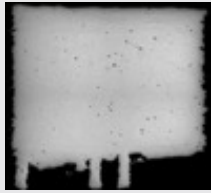
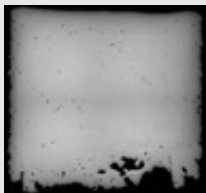

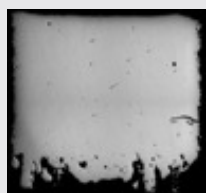
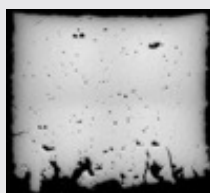
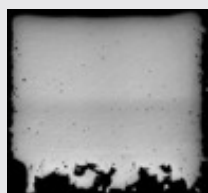
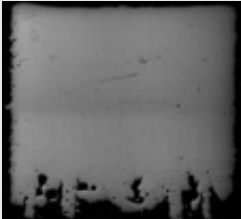
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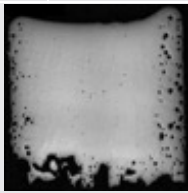

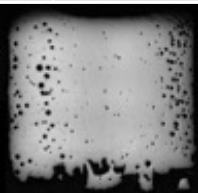



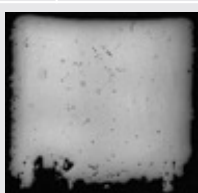
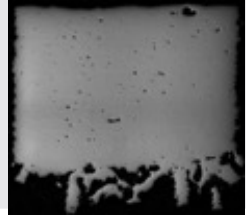
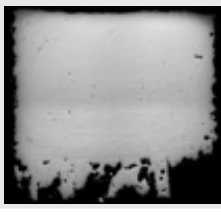

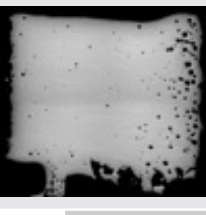
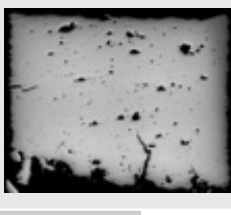
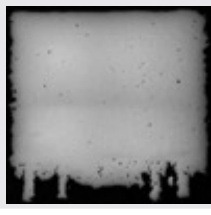
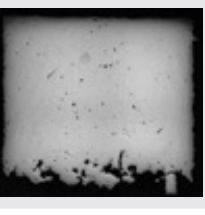
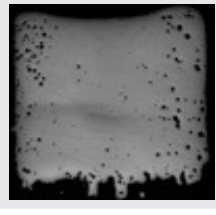



# PROCESS PARAMETERS

1: LLLL		2: HLLL		3: LHLL		4: HLLL		5: LLHL		6: HLHL		7: LLHL		8: HHHL	
Density [%]	99,36	Density [%]	97,45	Density [%]	Failed	Density [%]	94,78	Density [%]	99,21	Density [%]	99,37	Density [%]	99,22	Density [%]	99,35
															
9: LLLH		10: HLLH		11: LHLH		12: HHLH		13: LLHH		14: HLHH		15: LHHH		16: HHHH	
Density [%]	99,68	Density [%]	99,63	Density [%]	99,41	Density [%]	99,39	Density [%]	96,97	Density [%]	99,25	Density [%]	99	Density [%]	99,52
															
								33:Cent							
								Density [%]		99,52					
															



# PROCESS PARAMETERS

17:LLLL		18:HLLL		19:LHLL		20:HHLL		21:LLHL		22:HLHL		23:LHHL		24:HHHL	
Density [%]	99,37	Density [%]	97,45	Density [%]	Failed	Density [%]	96,22	Density [%]	99,34	Density [%]	99,62	Density [%]	99,7	Density [%]	99,3
															
25:LLLH		26:HLLH		27:LHLH		28:HHLH		29:LLHH		30:HLHH		31:LHHH		32:HHHH	
Density [%]	99,01	Density [%]	99,13	Density [%]	99,65	Density [%]	97,55	Density [%]	97,94	Density [%]	99,33	Density [%]	99,18	Density [%]	97,65
															
						34:Cent									
						Density [%]		99,53							
															



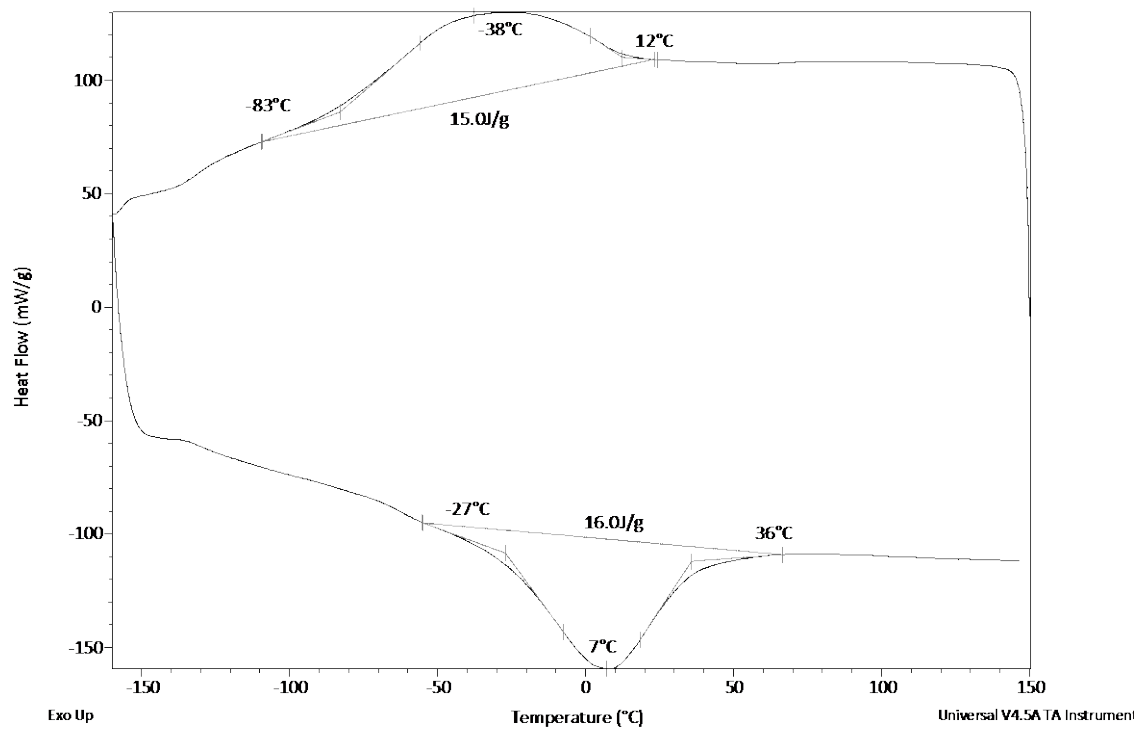
# FULL DENSITY OR FUNCTIONALITY?

## P33 – As-Built

Sample: Provino 33-St2-TQ-Alto  
Size: 42.5000 mg

DSC

File: C:\TQ\Provino 33-St2-TQ-Alto.001  
Operator: Mary  
Run Date: 16-Sep-2020 17:07



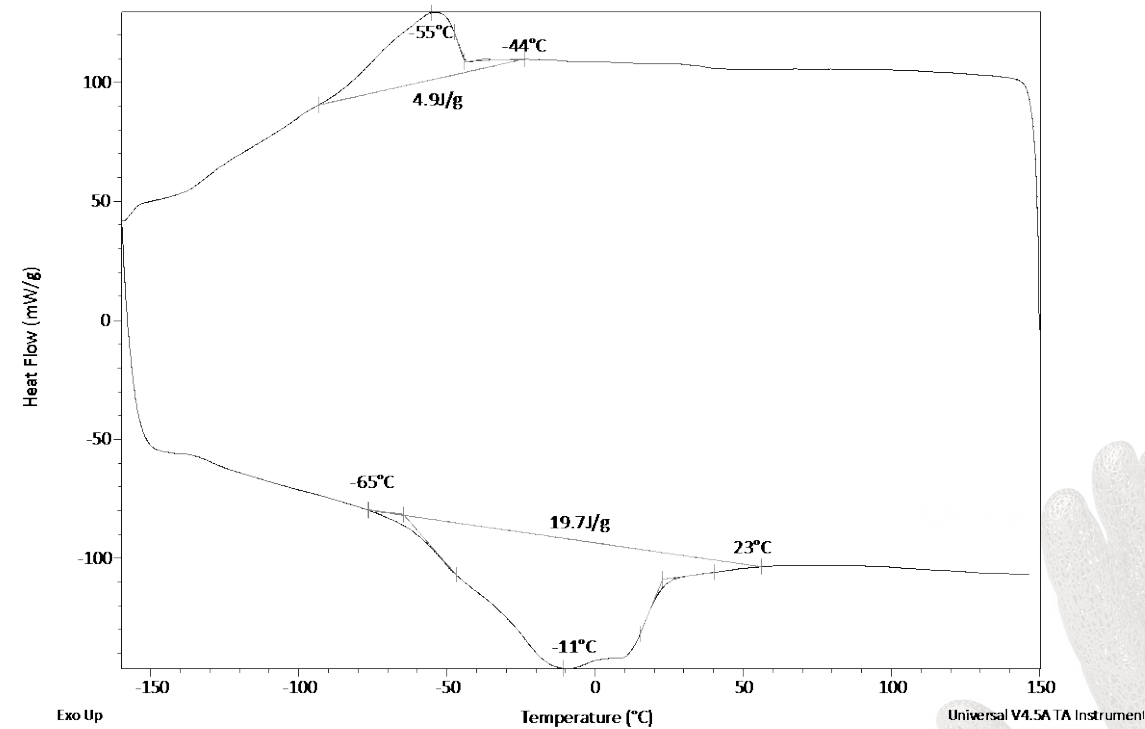
## P33 – 850°C/30min

Sample: Provino 33-St2-850x30m-Alto  
Size: 43.0000 mg

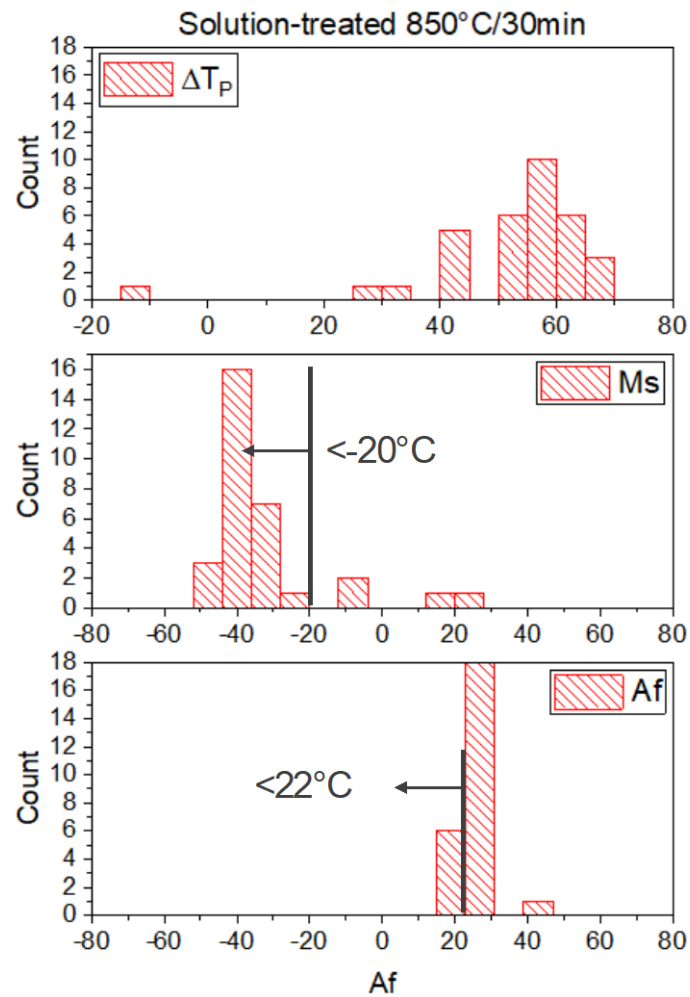
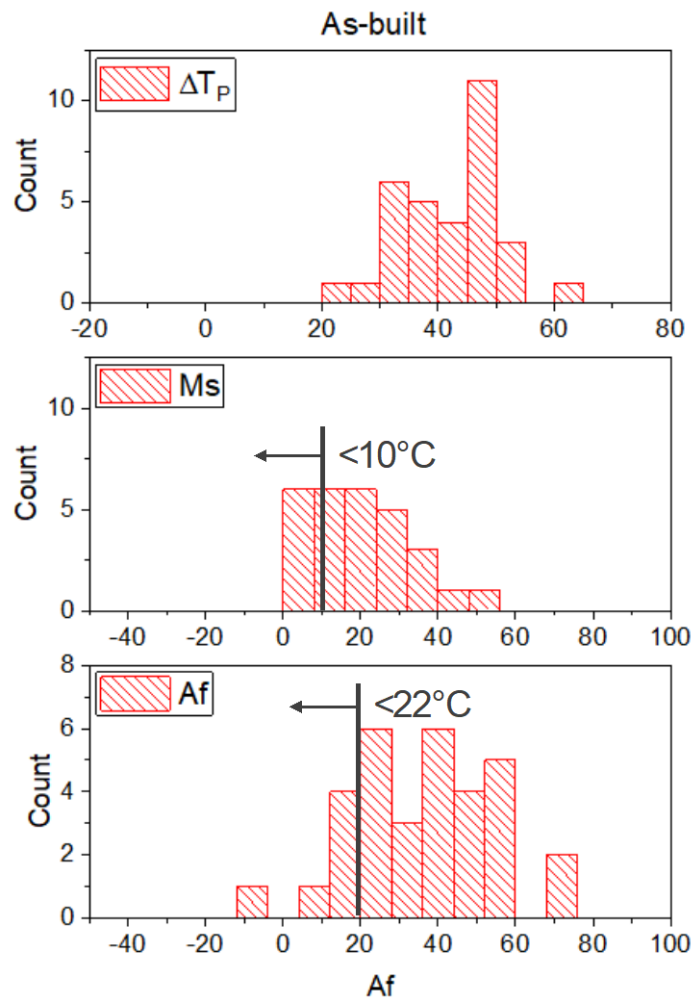
DSC

File: C:\TQ\Provino 33-St2-850x30m-Alto.001  
Operator: Mary  
Run Date: 23-Sep-2020 19:24

Comment: Forno ATV



# PROCESS PARAMETERS AND TRANSFORMATION TEMPERATURES



The objective is to obtain superelastic response at Room Temperature

- **Ms**: Martensite Start Temperature
- **As**: Austenite Start Temperature
- **Mf**: Martensite Finish Temperature
- **Af**: Austenite Finish Temperature



# PROCESS PARAMETERS AND TRANSFORMATION TEMPERATURES

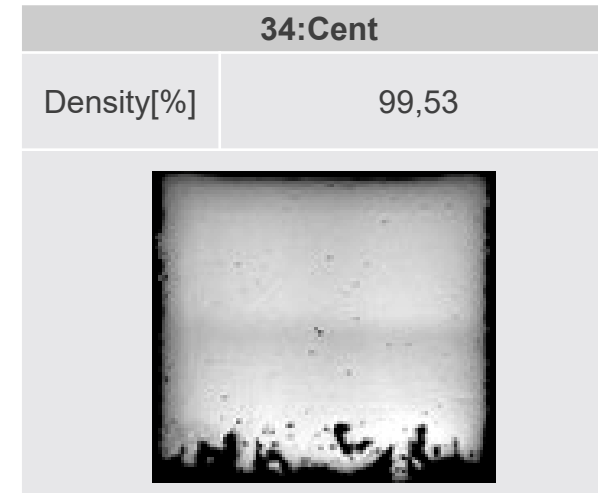
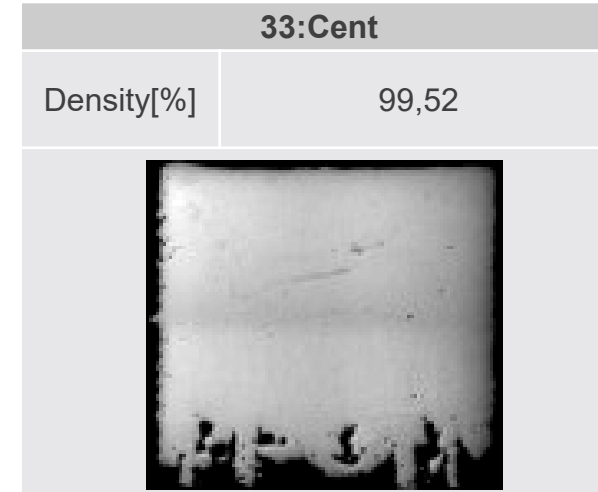
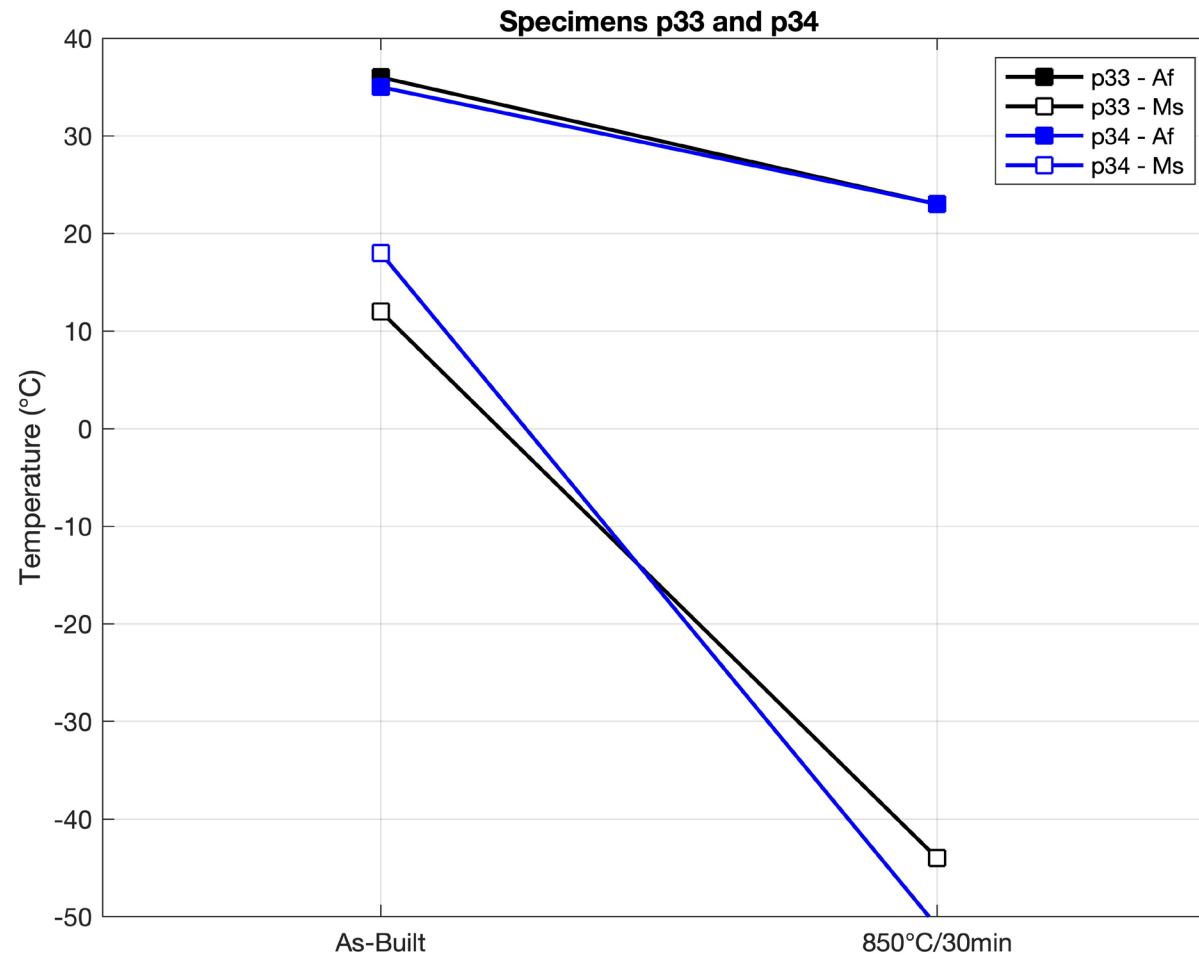
Camp.ALTO	AB	As	Ap	Af	Mf	Mp	Ms	$\Delta T_p$	$\Delta H_A$	Note
Provino 1-ST2	✓	-32	18	52	-82	-18	29	36	18,2	
Provino 2-ST2	✓	-21	6	26	-76	-35	15	41	17,6	
Provino 3-ST2	✓	-72	-39	-10		-61		22	11,3	
Provino 4-ST2	✓	-2	26	44	-58	-23	24	49	19,9	
Provino 5-ST2	✓	-74	-28	15		-73		45	14,4	
Provino 6-ST2	✓	-48	-8	16	-91	-56	5	48	16,8	
Provino 7-ST2	✓	-71	-20	19		-65		45	11,9	
Provino 8-ST2	✓	-40	-3	18	-88	-57	1	54	18,4	
Provino 9-ST2	✓	-21	16	56	-86	-14	32	30	21,8	
Provino 10-ST2	✓	-3	31	55	-45	-2	36	33	18,2	2 M peak
Provino 11-ST2	✓	2	44	69	-39	1	45	43	18,6	
Provino 12-ST2	✓	-15	16	42	-68	-21	18	37	19	
Provino 13-ST2	✓	-80	-37			-		#VALUE!	11,8	No M Peak
Provino 14-ST2	✓	-33	11	32	-92	-34	16	45	20,1	
Provino 15-ST2	✓	-66	-7	37		-39	14	32	18	
Provino 16-ST2	✓	-7	23	51	-51	-12	26	35	17,3	
Provino 33-ST2	✓	-27	7	36	-83	-38	12	45	16	

Camp.ALTO	AB	As	Ap	Af	Mf	Mp	Ms	$\Delta T_p$	$\Delta H_A$	Note
Provino 17-ST2	✓	-17	12	53	-51	-18	26	30	16,4	
Provino 18-ST2	✓	-29	1	29	-86	-38	10	39	15,7	
Provino 19-ST2										
Provino 20-ST2	✓	-19	5	21	-86	-55	5	60	10,9	Double M Peak
Provino 21-ST2	✓	-74	-29	22		-75	3	46	12,3	
Provino 22-ST2	✓	-43	-6	24	-94	-55	9	49	15,8	
Provino 23-ST2	✓	-32	1	36	-87	-28	20	29	15,9	
Provino 24-ST2	✓	-40	-7	20		-56	3	49	17,5	
Provino 25-ST2	✓	-32	15	58		-15	32	30	19,1	
Provino 26-ST2	✓	-51	-6	24	-87	-54	11	48	18,3	
Provino 27-ST2	✓	10	49	75	-25	12	52	37	22	
Provino 28-ST2	✓	-78	29	50		-21	29	50	18,6	Elongated Peaks
Provino 29-ST2	✓	-75	-32	7		-74		42	13,6	
Provino 30-ST2	✓	-13	12	38	-72	-31	17	43	12,6	
Provino 31-ST2	✓	-45	-2	36	-92	-35	18	33	17,4	
Provino 32-ST2	✓	-73	-6	49		-58	2	52	10,9	
Provino 34-ST2	✓	-19	12	35	-82	-35	18	47	15,2	

# PROCESS PARAMETERS AND TRANSFORMATION TEMPERATURES

Camp.ALTO	Sol	As	Ap	Af	Mf	Mp	Ms	$\Delta Tp$	$\Delta HA$	Notæ	Camp.ALTO	Sol	As	Ap	Af	Mf	Mp	Ms	$\Delta Tp$	$\Delta HA$	Notæ
Provino 1-ST2	✓	-33	9	28	-87	-56	-7	65	19,6	Irregular M Peak	Provino 17-ST2	✓	-45	0	23	-93	-55	-39	55	19,7	
Provino 2-ST2	✓	-40	-7	25	-94	-60	-42	53	19,7		Provino 18-ST2	✓	-61	9	23	-89	-51	-42	60	21	Irregular Peaks
Provino 3-ST2	✓	-75	5	27	-81	-60	-31	65	15,8	Low dH M Peak	Provino 19-ST2										
Provino 4-ST2	✓	-53	-18	25	-114	-76	-43	58	17,7	Small double peaks	Provino 20-ST2	✓	-64	7	29	-67	-49	-37	56	14,5	Low dH M Peak
Provino 5-ST2	✓	-72	8	26	-94	-58	-37	66	18,5		Provino 21-ST2	✓		7	22	-74	-49	-33	56	17,9	Irregular A Peak
Provino 6-ST2	✓	-48	-14	23	-95	-66	-44	52	20,6		Provino 22-ST2	✓	-54	2	21	-90	-52	-39	54	19,5	
Provino 7-ST2	✓	-58	10	27	-81	-53	-38	63	18,3	Irregular A peak	Provino 23-ST2	✓	-37	-6	22	-89	-60	-42	54	18,6	
Provino 8-ST2	✓	-57	11	25	-89	-51	-40	62	21	Small double peaks	Provino 24-ST2	✓	-68	-23	24	-64	-51	-43	28	14,9	Low dH M Peak
Provino 9-ST2	✓	-34	8	27	-83	-52	-33	60	22,4	Irregular M Peak	Provino 25-ST2	✓	-37	3	25	-86	-53	-34	56	19	
Provino 10-ST2	✓	-19	11	24	-66	-45	14	56	19,9	Irregular M Peak	Provino 26-ST2	✓	-71	9	26	-79	-53	-42	62	17,5	Low dH M Peak
Provino 11-ST2	✓	-36	-7	26	-97	-62	-45	55	18,4		Provino 27-ST2	✓	-3	26	43	-52	-16	23	42	21,8	
Provino 12-ST2	✓	-43	-6	19	-80	-50	-40	44	20,5	Irregular M Peak	Provino 28-ST2	✓	-65	-20	27		-52		32	15	Irregular Peaks
Provino 13-ST2	✓	-10	15	26	-64	-44	-32	59	20,2		Provino 29-ST2	✓		8	26	-79	-54	-33	62	18,9	
Provino 14-ST2	✓	-35	-2	23	-79	-57	-6	55	19,2	Irregular M Peak	Provino 30-ST2	✓	-25	4	23	-74	-54	-47	58	15,6	Irregular M Peak
Provino 15-ST2	✓	-53	-11	21		-53	-34	42	18,9		Provino 31-ST2	✓	-40	-8	22	-86	-52	-40	44	19,8	
Provino 16-ST2	✓	-21	6	24	-72	-48	-23	54	19,8	Irregular M Peak	Provino 32-ST2	✓	-70	-13	27				-13	13,7	No M Peak
Provino 33-ST2	✓	-65	-11	23		-55	-44	44	19,7	Low dH M Peak	Provino 34-ST2	✓	-31	0	23	-78	-54	-51	54	19,4	

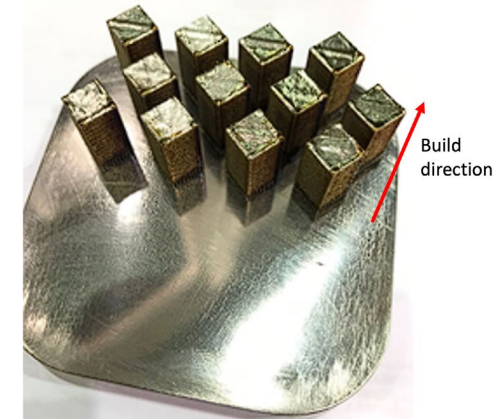
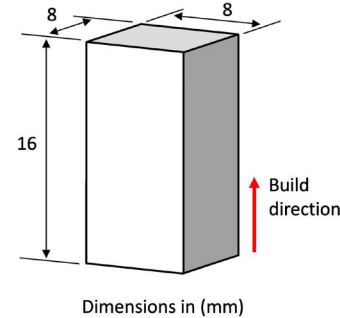
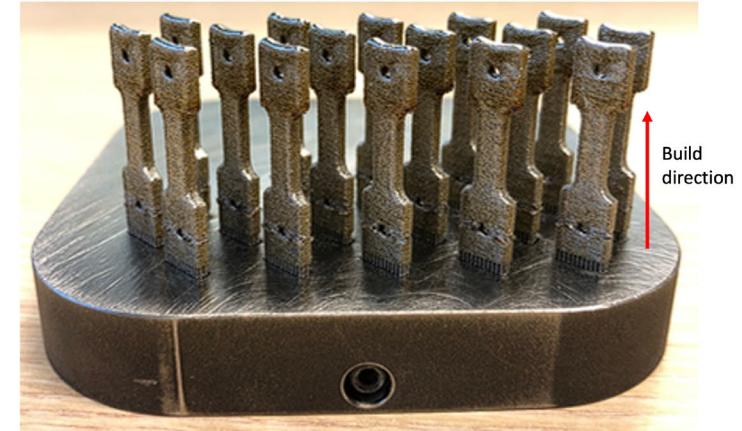
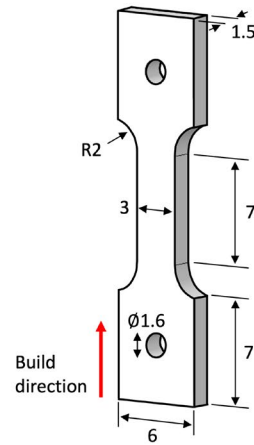
# FULL DENSITY OR FUNCTIONALITY?



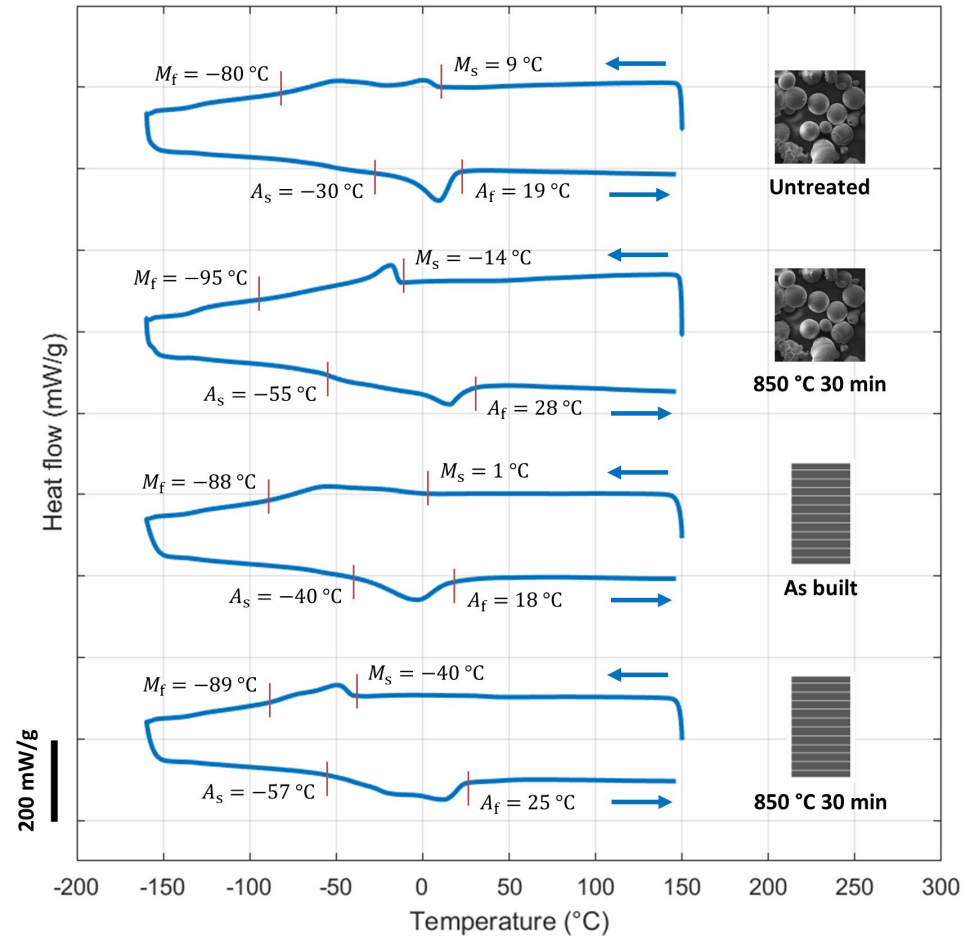


# EXPERIMENTAL SET-UP

- **Tensile** dog-bone micro specimens were manufactured in two different orientations:
  - **Vertical**
  - **Horizontal**
- Solid **compressive** specimens were also manufactured



# TRANSFORMATION TEMPERATURES

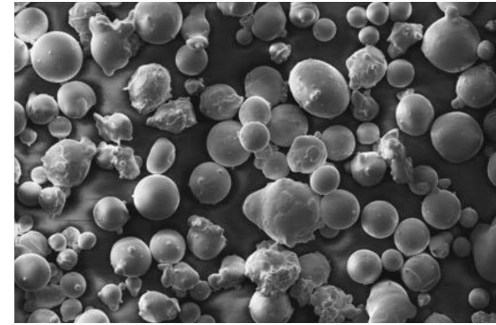
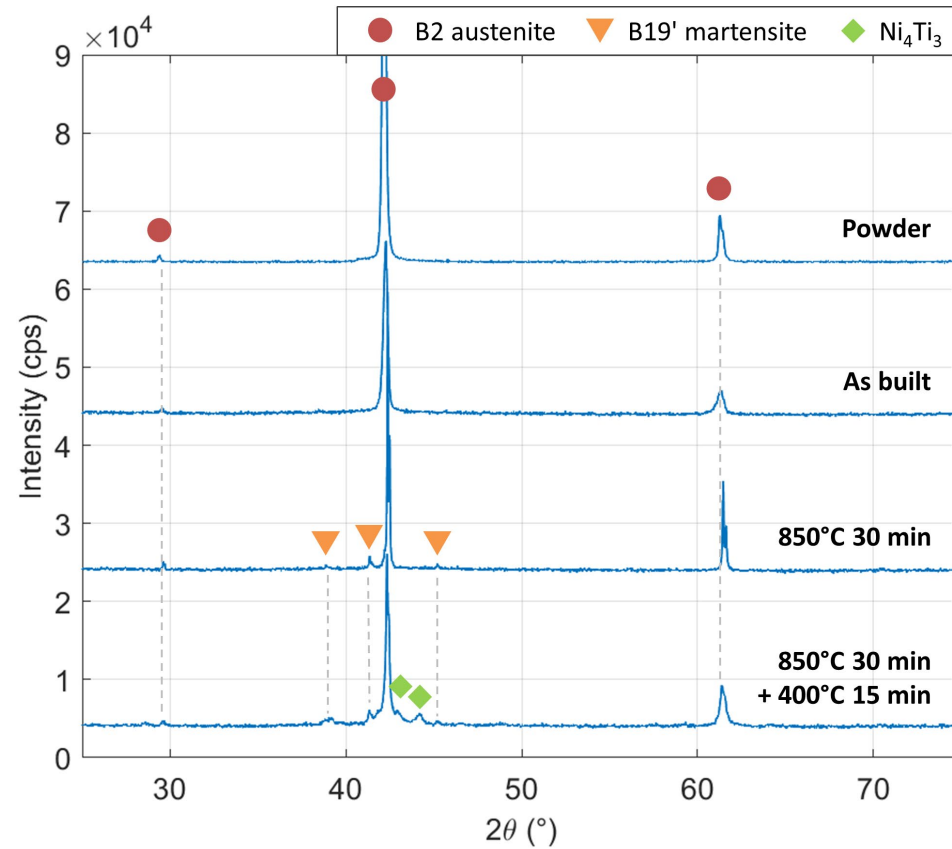


- **DSC analyses** were performed on gas-atomized powder and solution treated (850°C/1h) powder
- Additional DSC analyses were performed also on two compressive specimens to verify the Transformation Temperatures

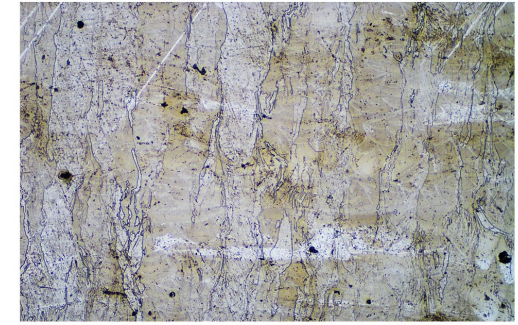
Carlucci, G., et al. "Building Orientation and Heat Treatments Effect on the Pseudoelastic Properties of NiTi Produced by LPBF." Shape Memory and Superelasticity (2022): 13.

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# MICROSTRUCTURAL ANALYSIS



100 μm



400 μm



40 μm

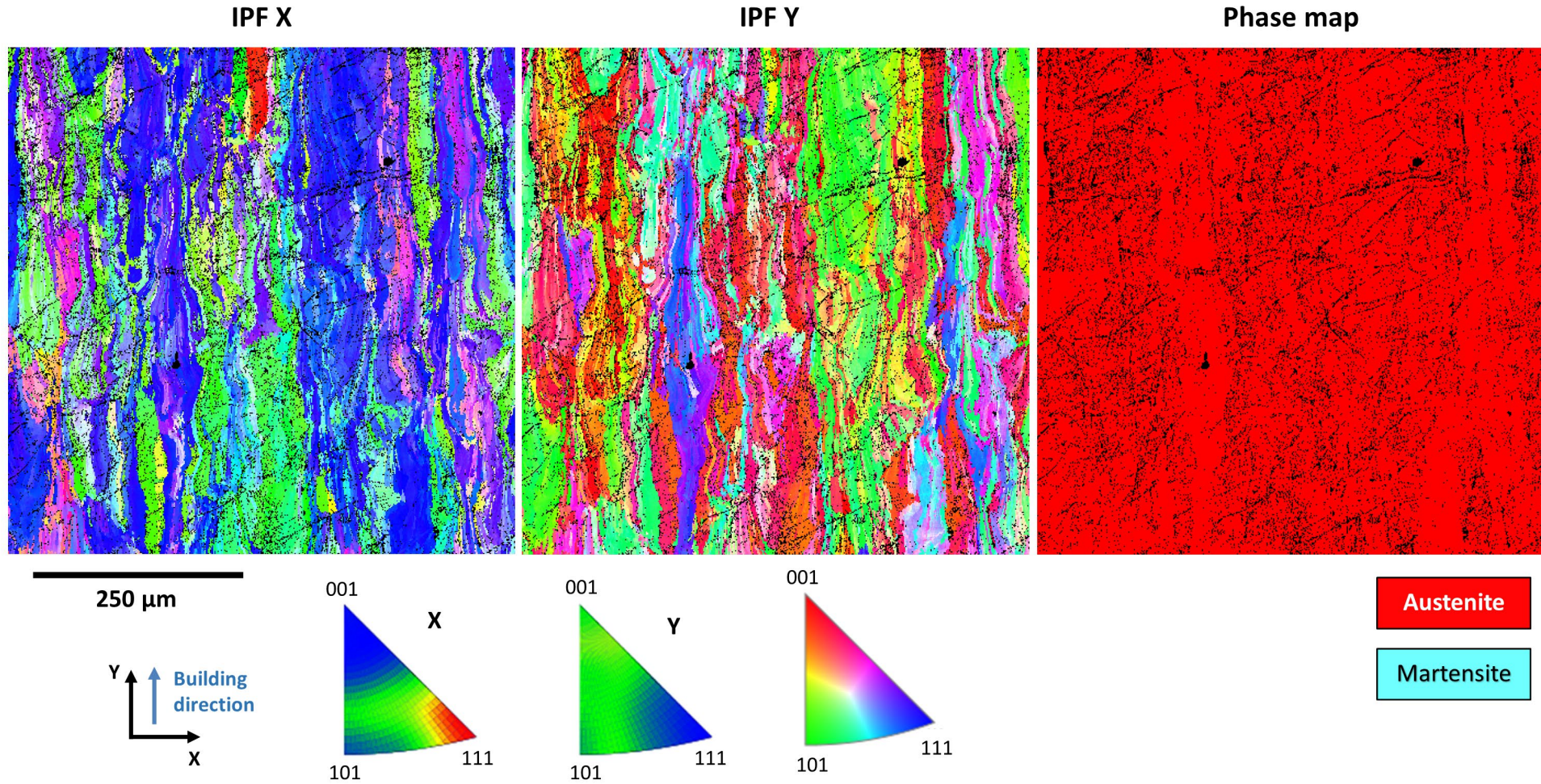


15 μm

Carlucci, G., et al. "Building Orientation and Heat Treatments Effect on the Pseudoelastic Properties of NiTi Produced by LPBF." Shape Memory and Superelasticity (2022): 13.

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# EBSD – LOW RESOLUTION

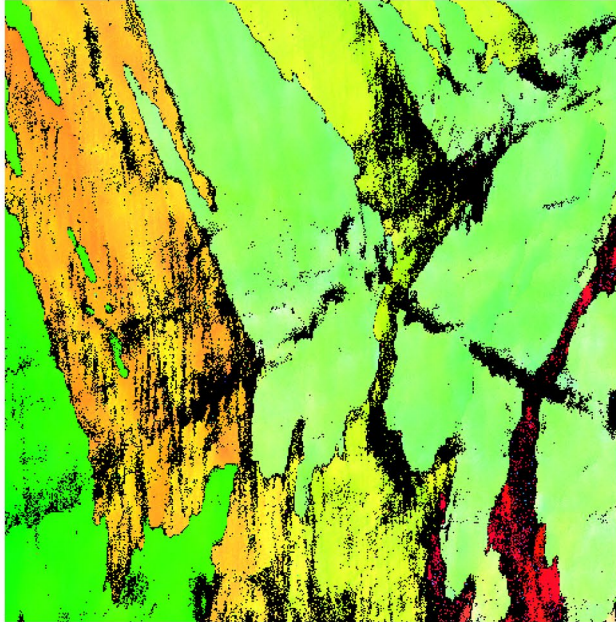


Carlucci, G., et al. "Building Orientation and Heat Treatments Effect on the Pseudoelastic Properties of NiTi Produced by LPBF." Shape Memory and Superelasticity (2022): 13.

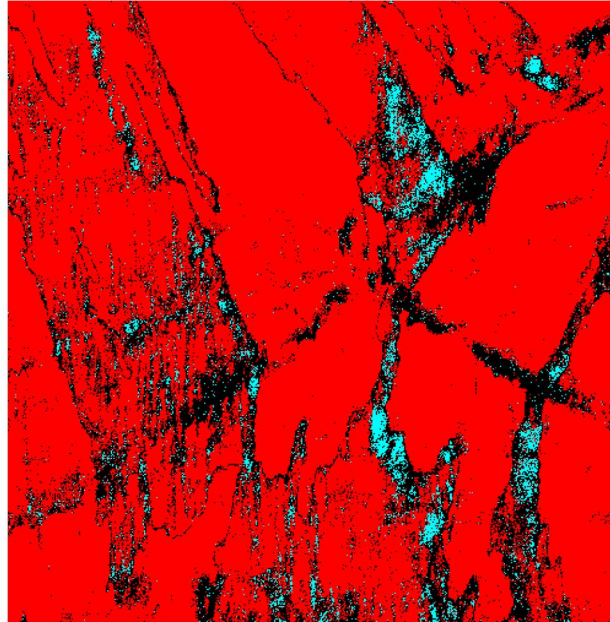
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# EBSD – HIGH RESOLUTION

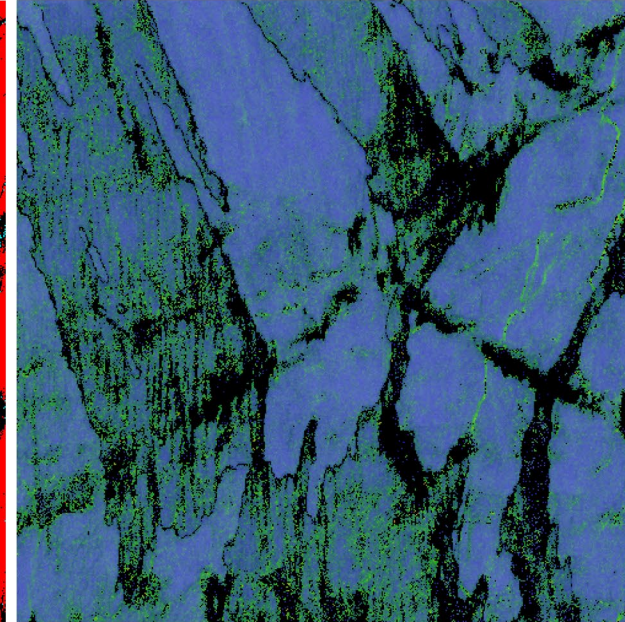
IPF Y



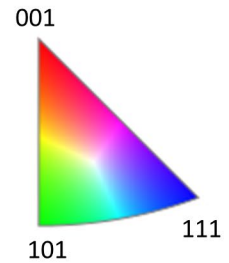
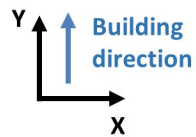
Phase map



KAM map

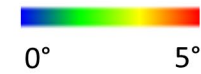


10  $\mu\text{m}$



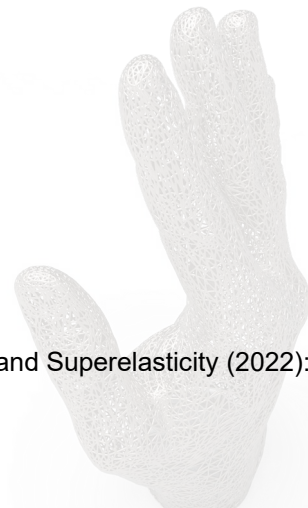
Austenite

Martensite

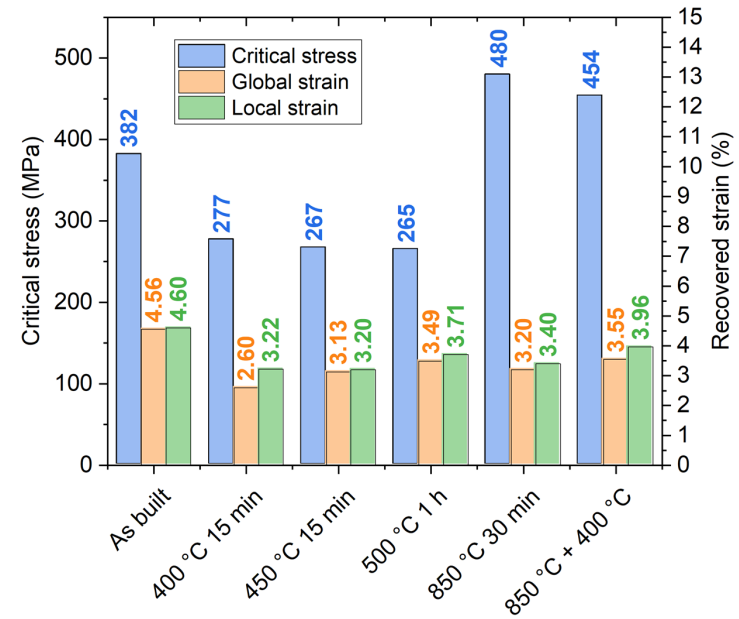
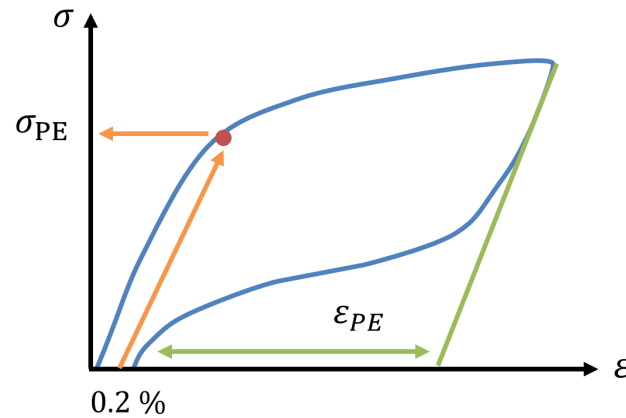
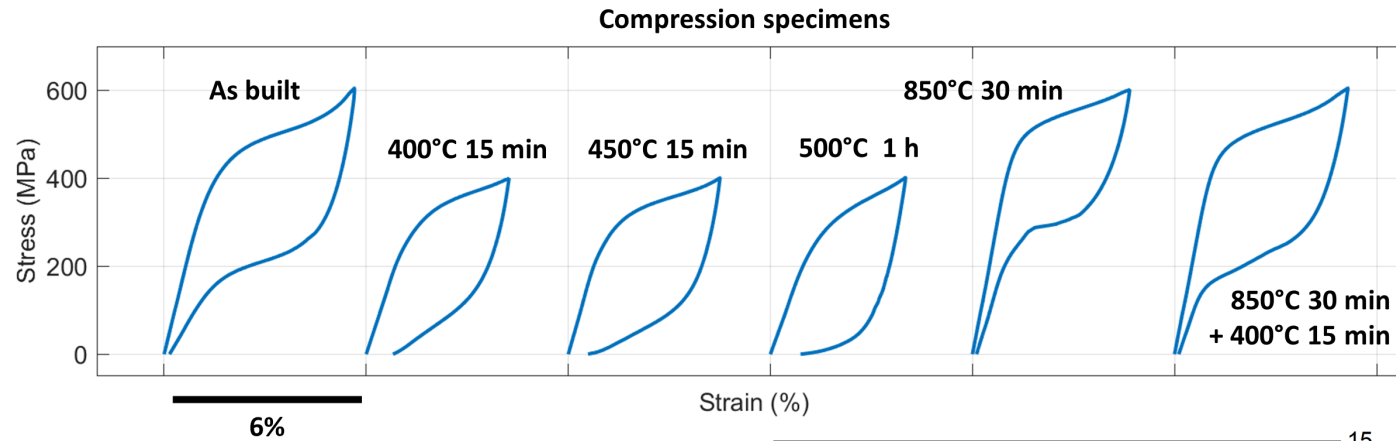


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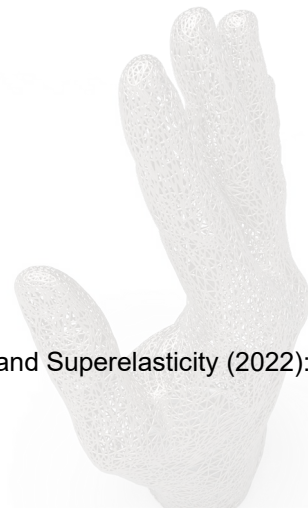


# SUPERELASTICITY IN COMPRESSION

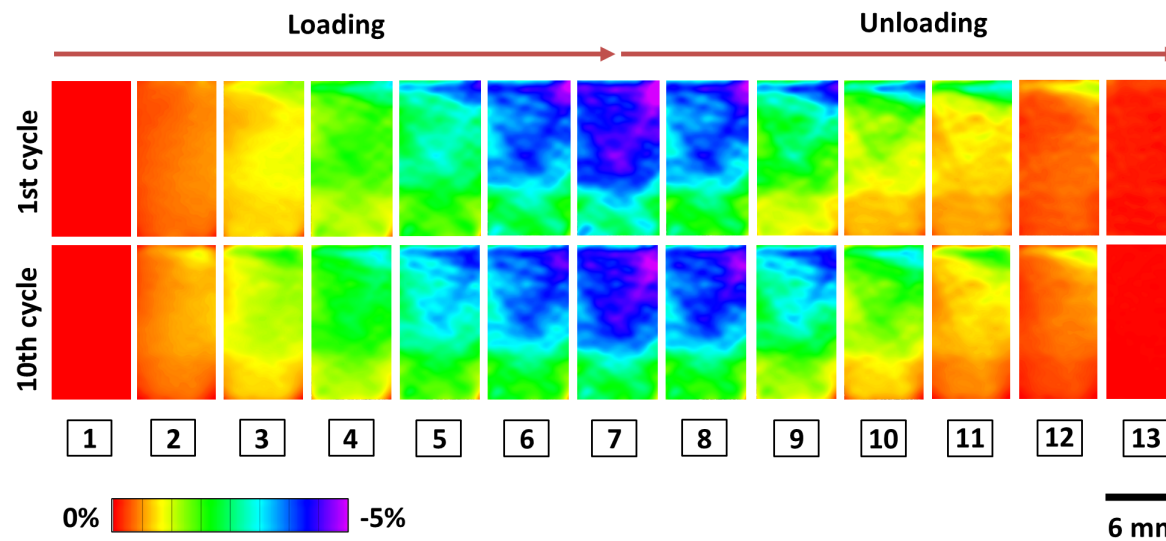
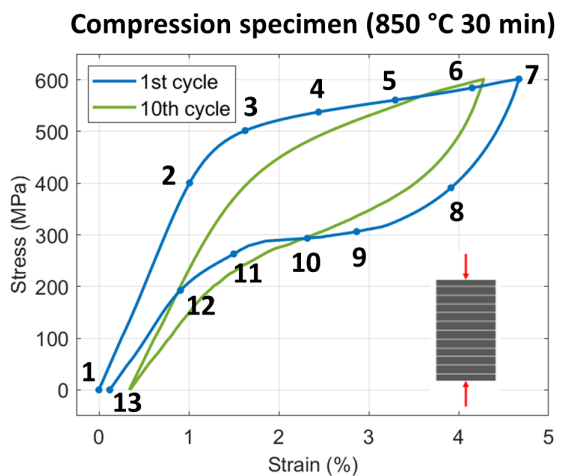
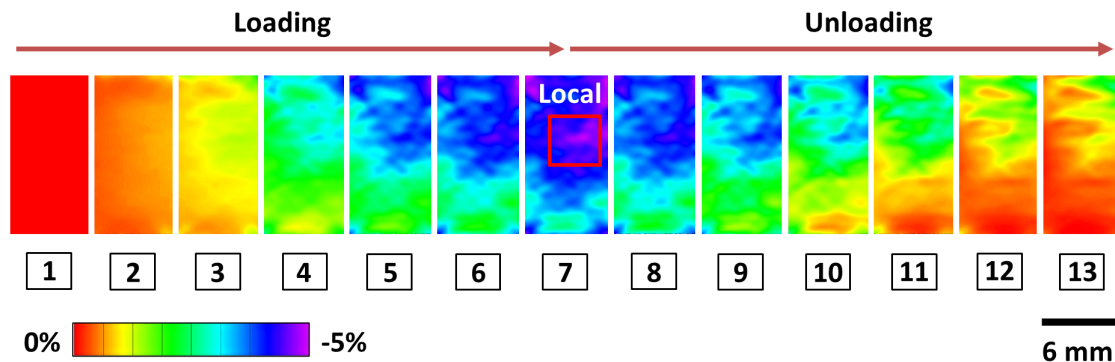
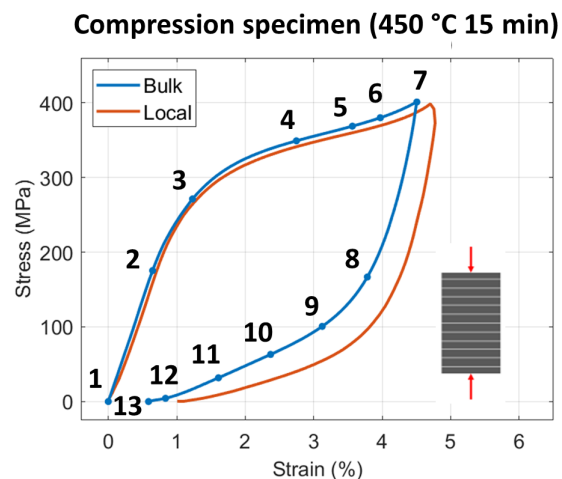


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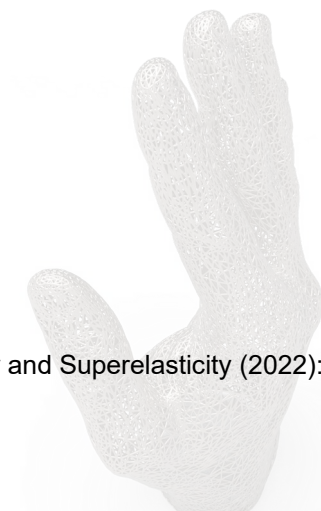


# SUPERELASTICITY IN COMPRESSION

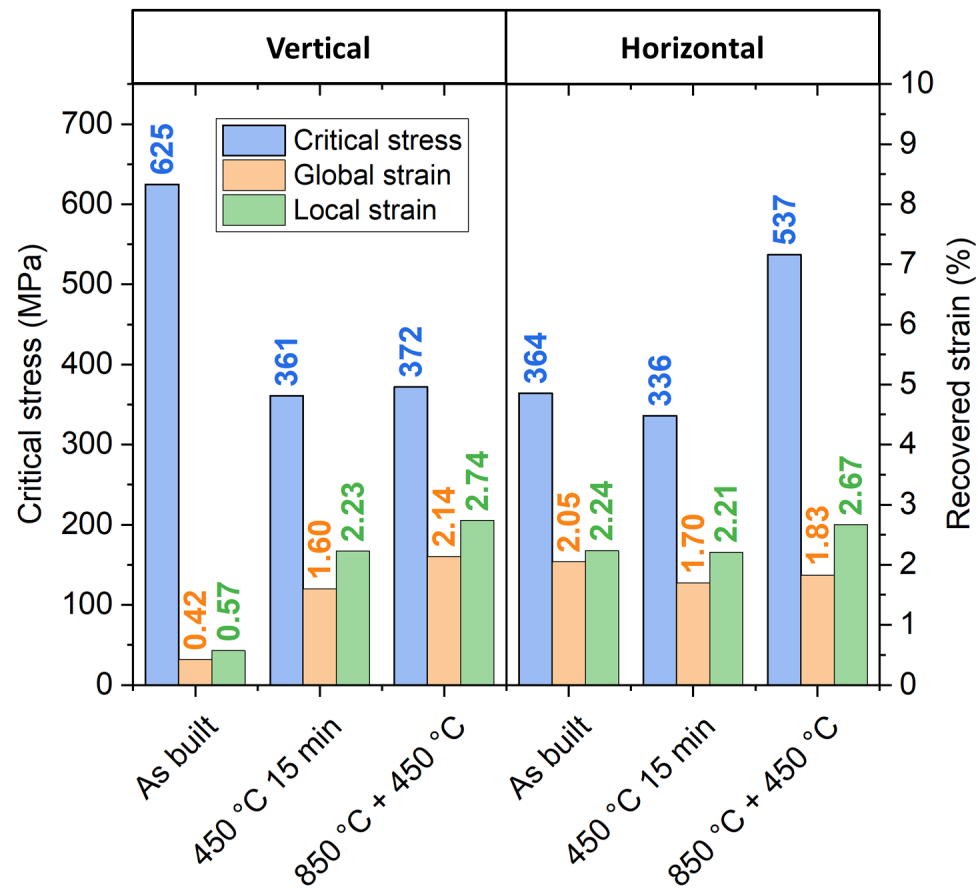
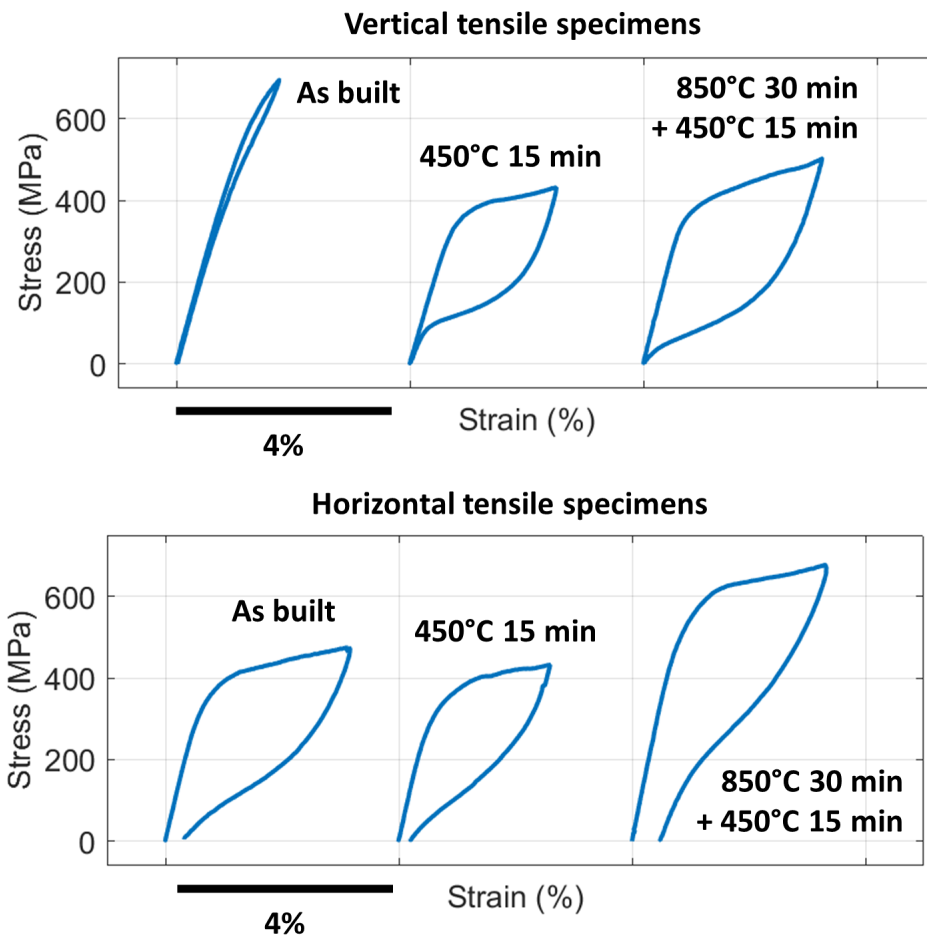


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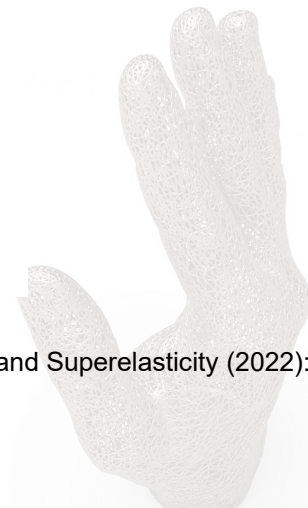


# TENSILE BEHAVIOR: VERTICAL vs HORIZONTAL



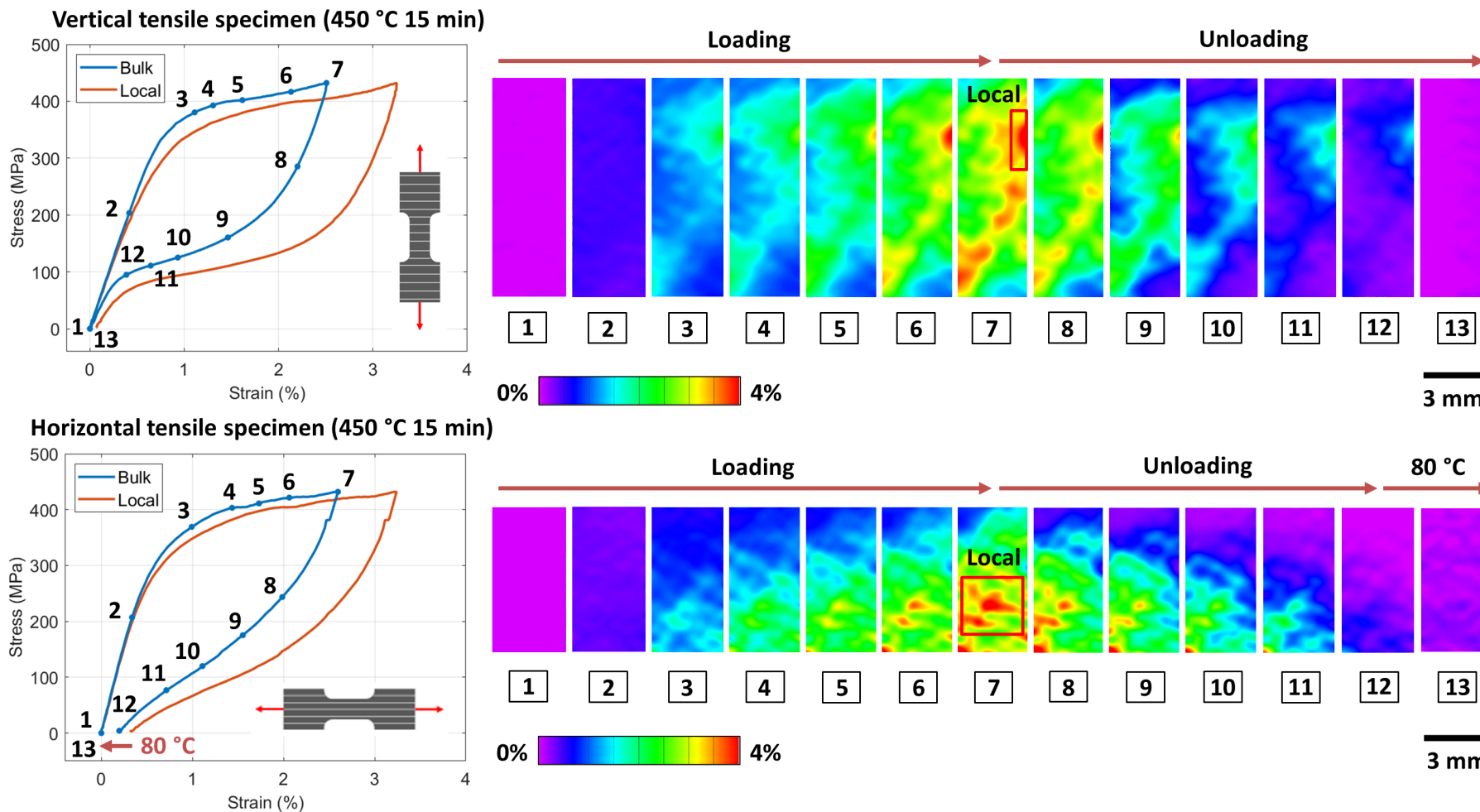
Carlucci, G., et al. "Building Orientation and Heat Treatments Effect on the Pseudoelastic Properties of NiTi Produced by LPBF." Shape Memory and Superelasticity (2022): 13.

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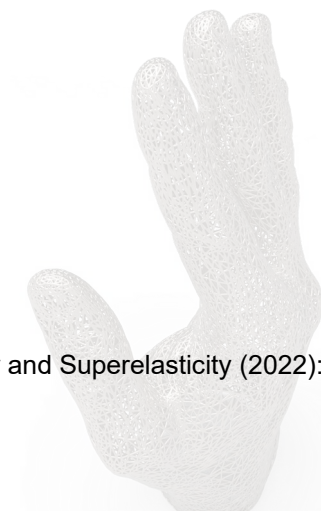


# TENSILE BEHAVIOR: VERTICAL vs HORIZONTAL



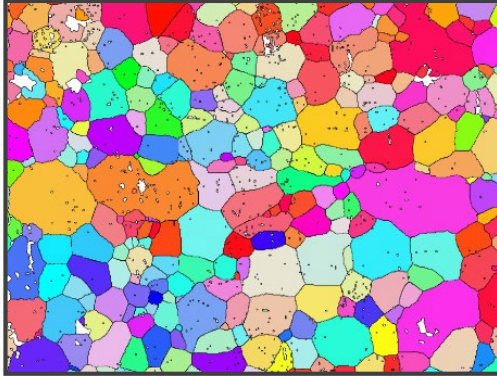
Carlucci, G., et al. "Building Orientation and Heat Treatments Effect on the Pseudoelastic Properties of NiTi Produced by LPBF." Shape Memory and Superelasticity (2022): 13.

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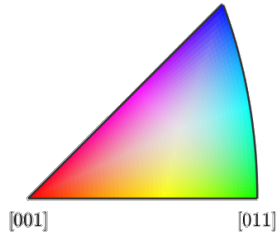
# COMPARISON BETWEEN THE MICROSTRUCTURES

As cast

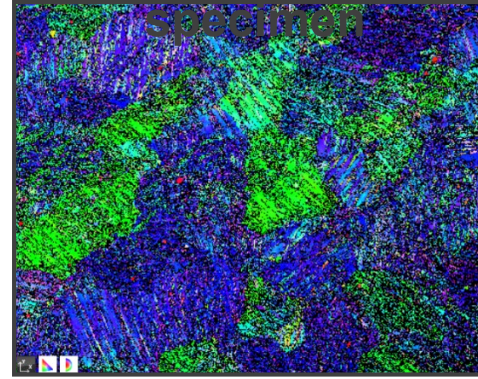


75  $\mu\text{m}$

[111]



Multi-wires  
specimen

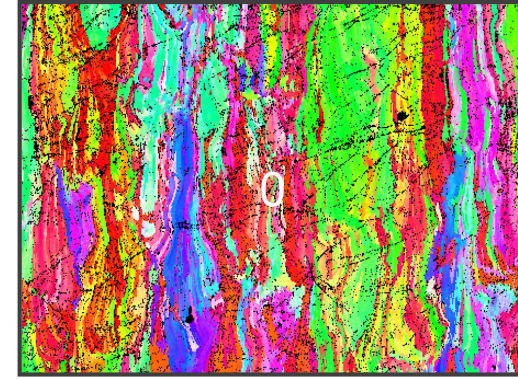


25  $\mu\text{m}$

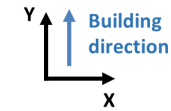


2 mm

L-PBF



250  $\mu\text{m}$



# CONCLUSIONS

- NiTi superelastic behavior of AMed NiTi can be easily tailored to precise target operational temperatures
- A density of 99.5% was obtained according to the PPs study
- A maximum tensile transformation strain of 2.74% was obtained for the vertical specimens, while 2.64% for the horizontal ones
- Higher transformation strain (4.60%) was obtained in compression
- To compete with state-of-art stent manufacturing techniques:
  - Density has to be further required
  - Superelastic behavior of current NiTi stents can not be reached as the AMed NiTi is not texturized (texture favors higher transformation strains)
  - Surface roughness is still a problem, a surface treatment is required to remove asperities that are detrimental for fatigue performances

