

Processing of Mg alloys by SLM technology

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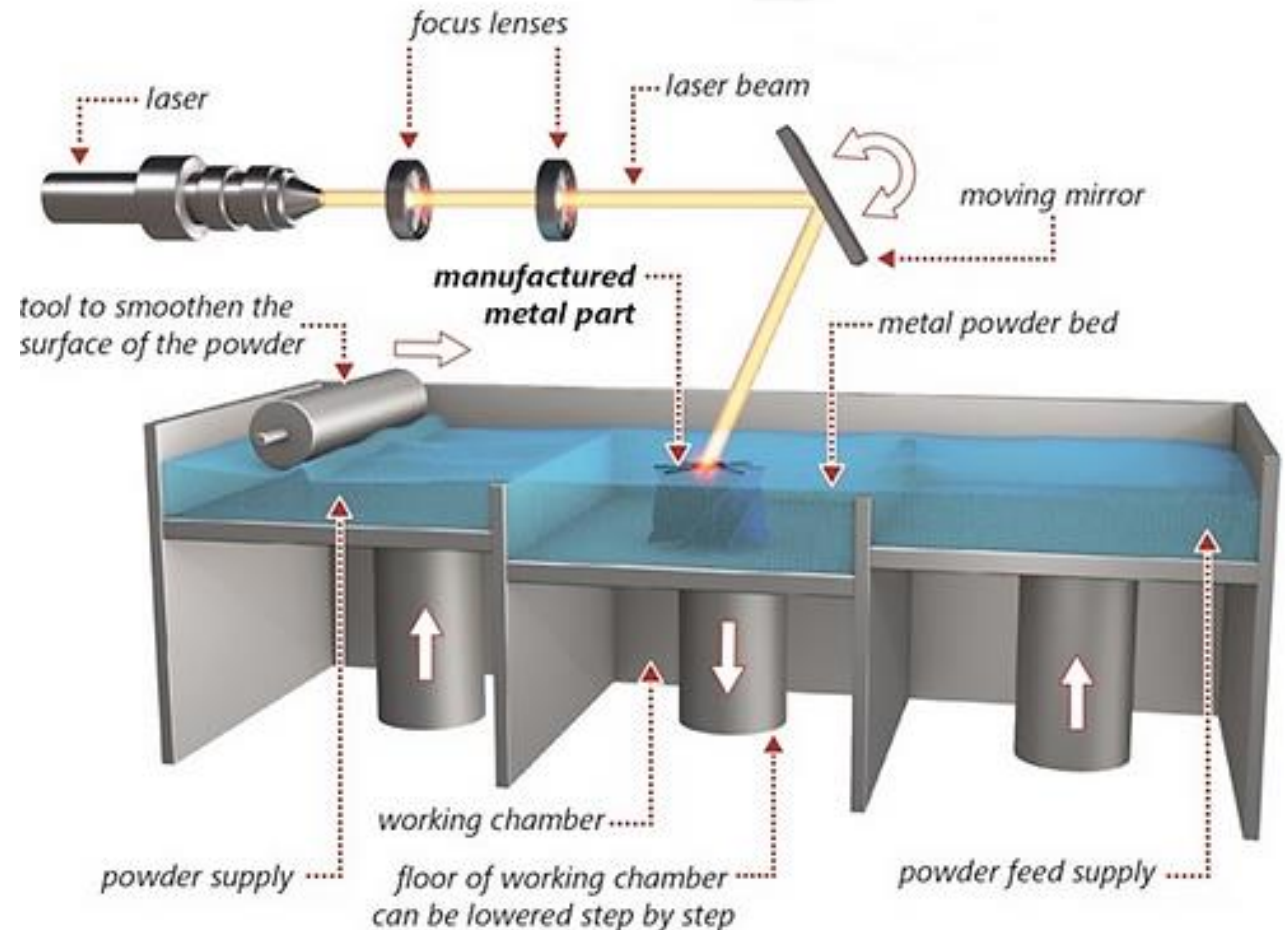
Dissertation defense, 01.7.2022



ÚSTAV
KONSTRUOVÁNÍ

Content

- Introduction and motivation
- State of art
- Main goals of the thesis
- Scientific questions
- Methodology
- Results and Discussion
- Conclusion



Motivation

Long Bone Fractures

Standard treatment

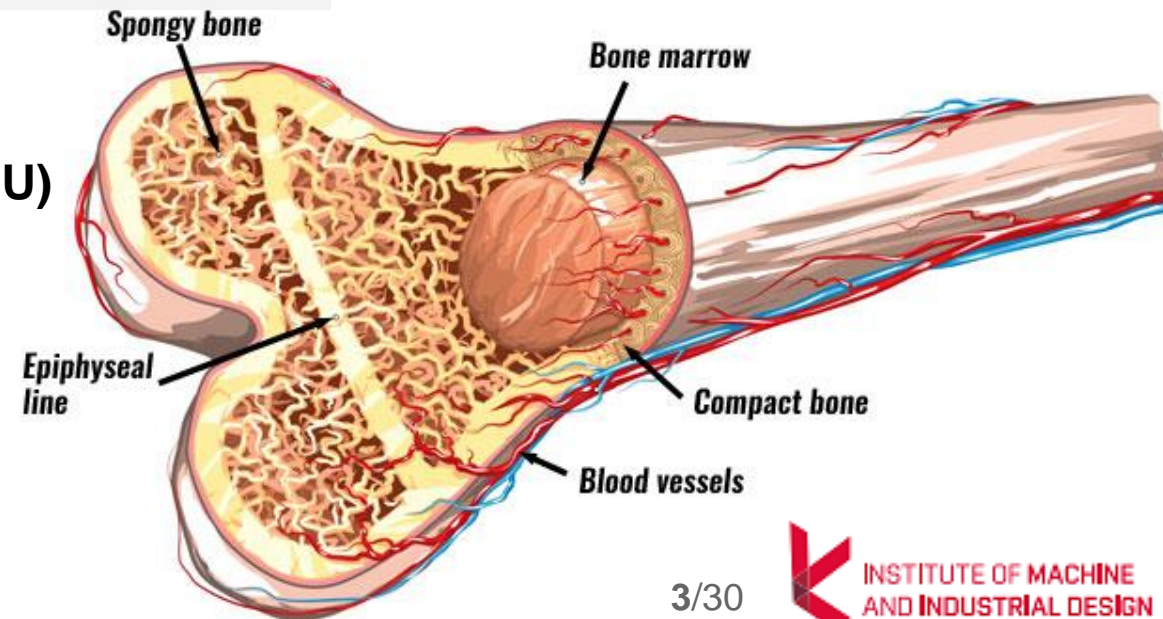
- Bolt fixation
- Necessity of reoperations
- Using of high-tensile and inert materials (Ti, CoCr, Cr-steels,...)

*Treatment of long bone fractures is actual issue of orthopaedic surgery
(Singaram and Naidoo 2019)*

Occurrence of fractures by patients older 50 years (EU)

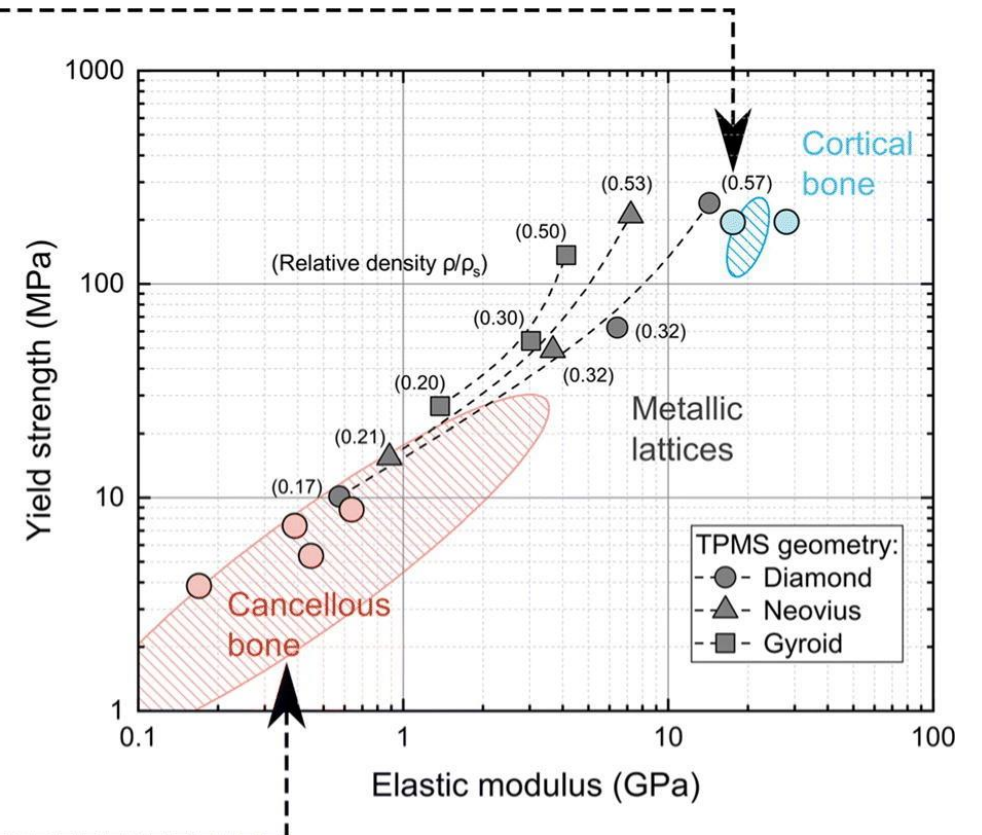
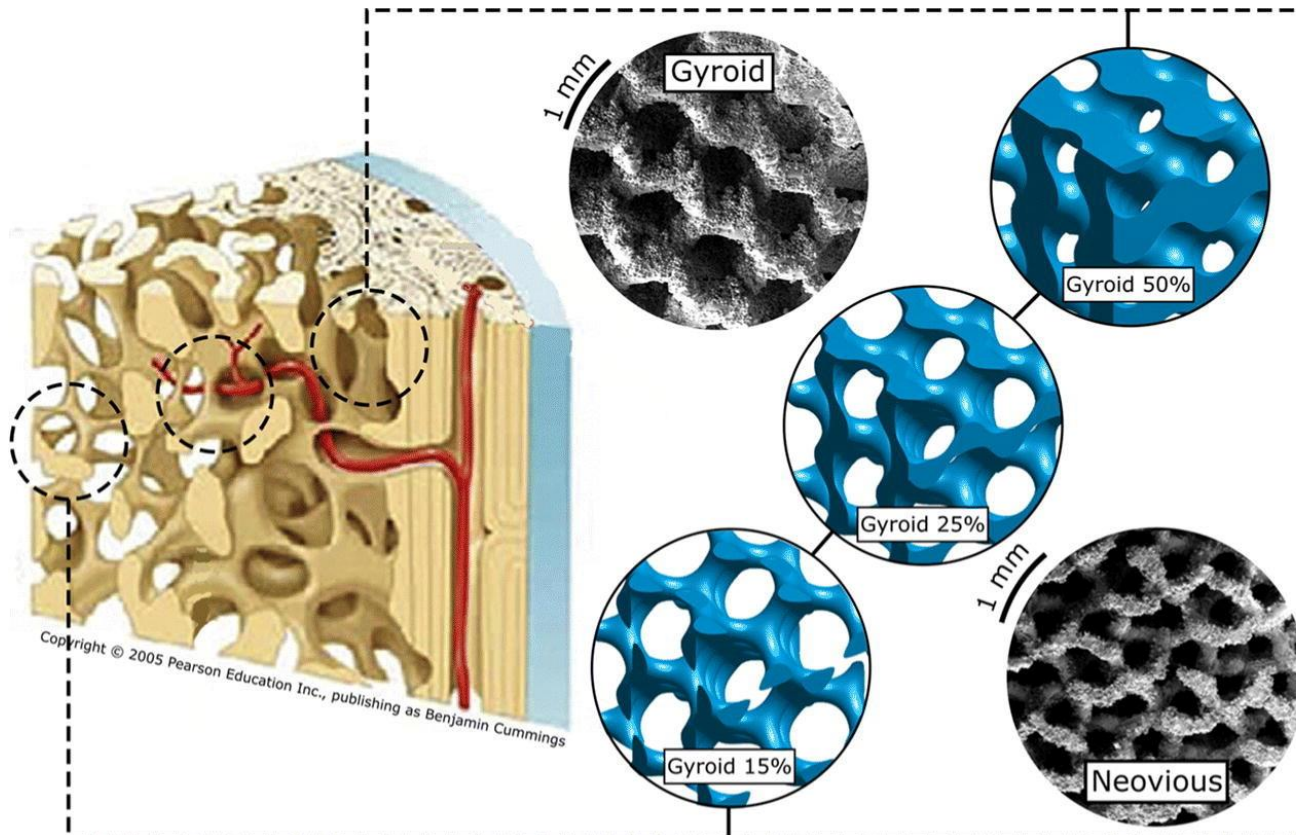
- 37.5 billions € per year of 2017
- 2.7 mil fractures per year of 2017
- Since 2030 increase of occurrence by 23 %

*Statistics of six key EU countries
(<https://www.osteoporosis.foundation/>)*



Motivation

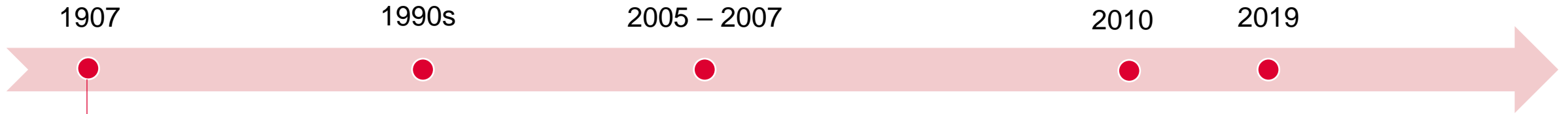
Collaboration with the SLM Method



Proposal of the metal bones by the additive technology
(Alabort 2019)

State of Art

Low Corrosion Resistance

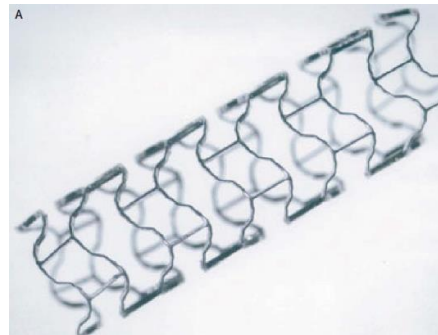
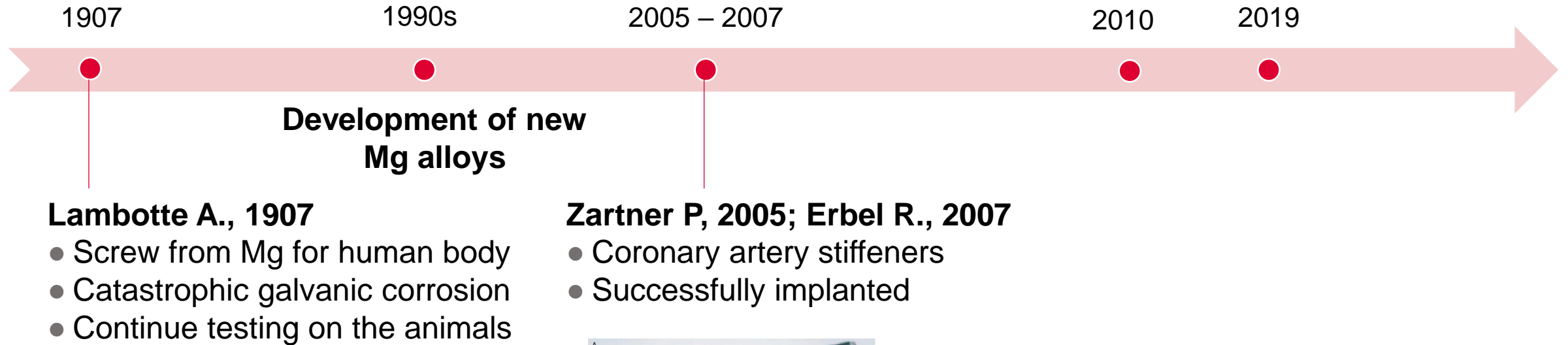


Lambotte A., 1907

- Screw from Mg for human body
- Catastrophic galvanic corrosion
- Continue testing on the animals

State of Art

Low Corrosion Resistance



State of Art

Low Corrosion Resistance

1907

1990s

2005 – 2007

2010

2019

Development of new Mg alloys

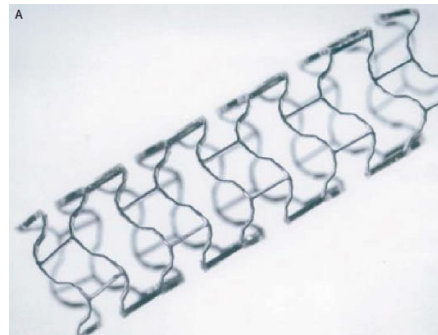
SLM of Mg alloys

Lambotte A., 1907

- Screw from Mg for human body
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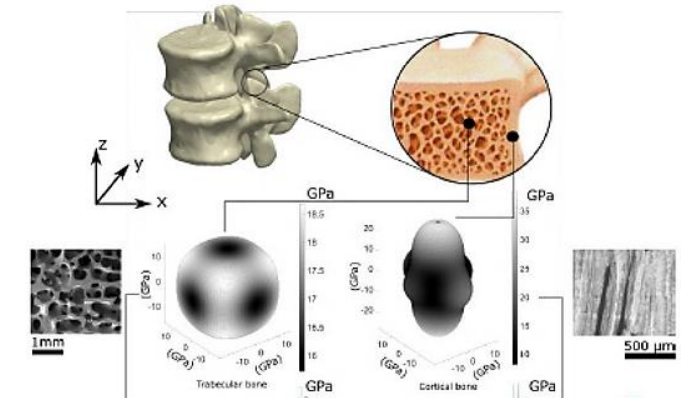
Zartner P, 2005; Erbel R., 2007

- Coronary artery stiffeners
- Successfully implanted



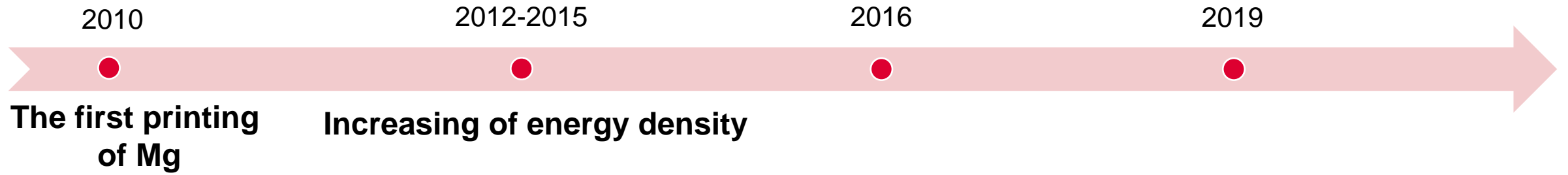
Alabort, 2019

- Proposal of metallic bones by additive technology



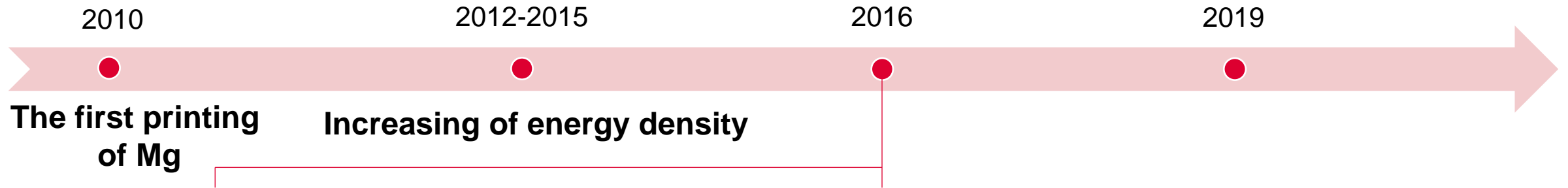
State of Art

Process Parameters



State of Art

Process Parameters

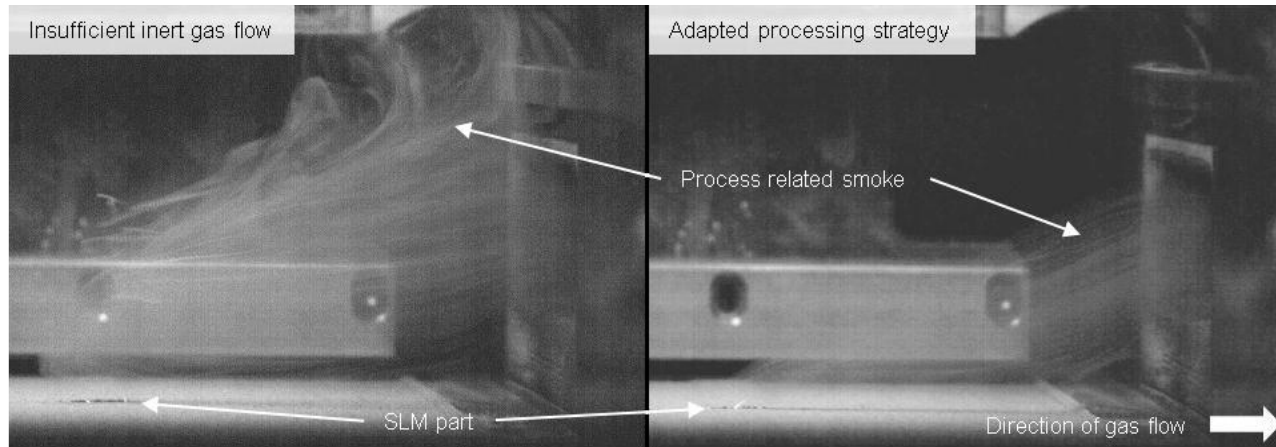


Jauer, 2016

- Continuation of the trend
- Upgrade the circuit in 3D printer

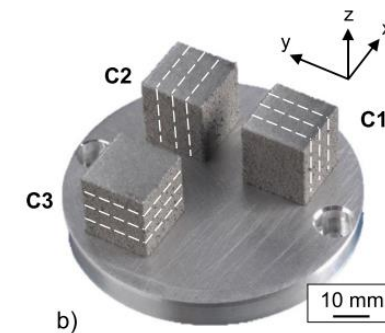
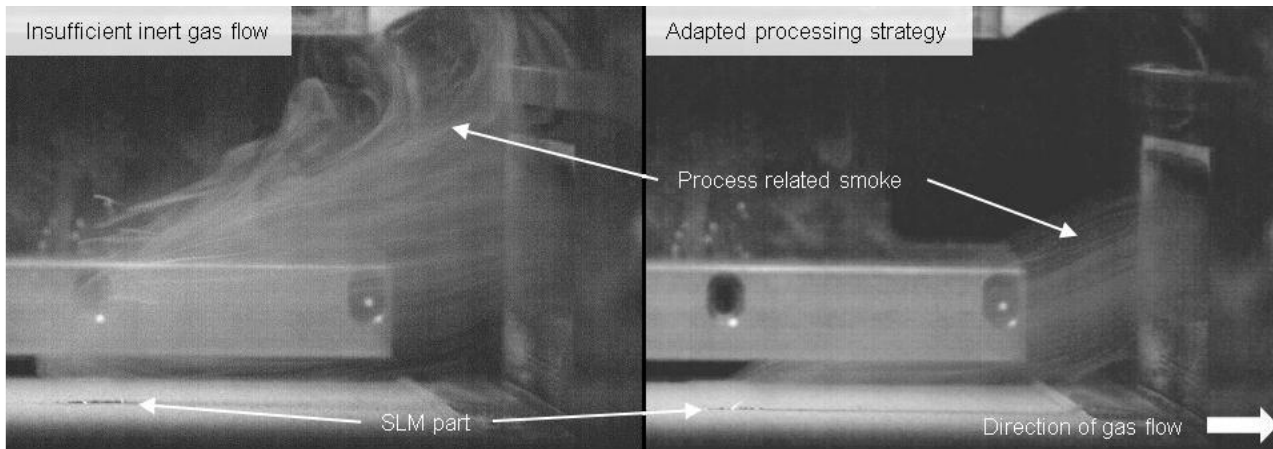
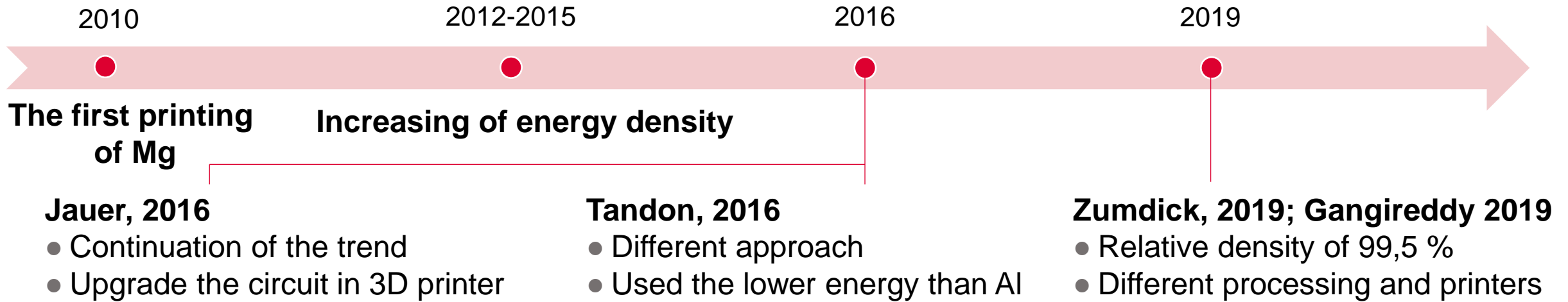
Tandon, 2016

- Different approach
- Used the lower energy than Al



State of Art

Process Parameters



State of Art

Corrosion Behavior

2010

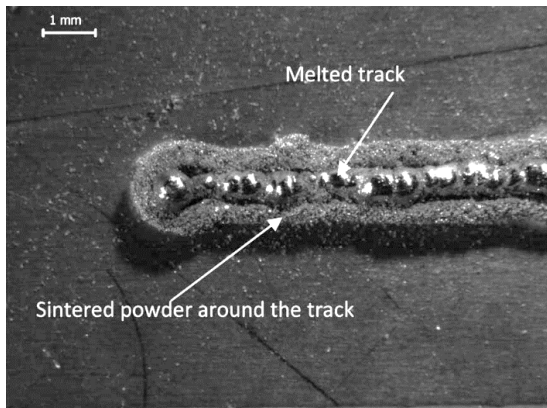
2011-2018

2019

Development of material
processing

C. C. Ng, 2010

- Sintering powder on the surface



State of Art

Corrosion Behavior

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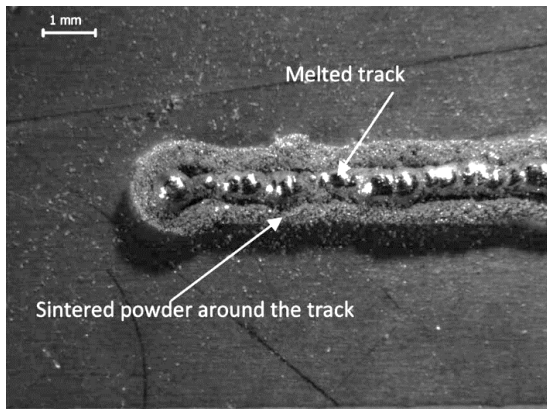
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Kopp, 2019

- Surface quality of microstructures
- Ruptures after etching



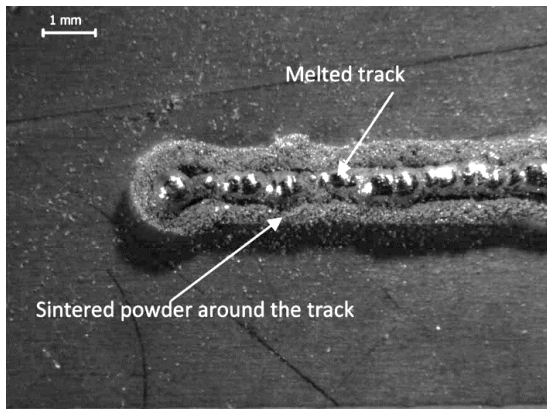
State of Art

Corrosion Behavior

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2011-2018

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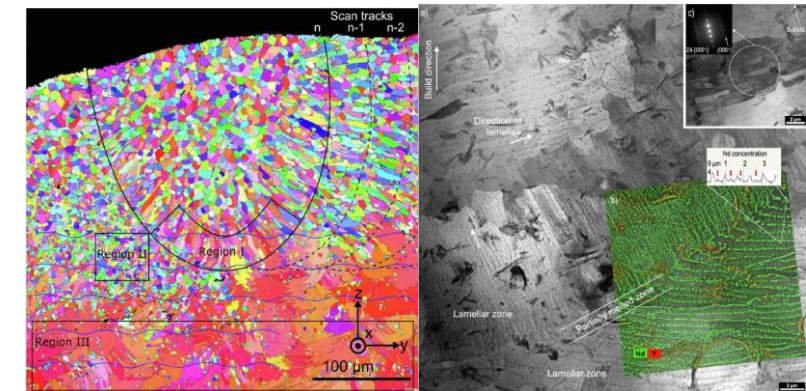
- Surface quality of microstructures
- Ruptures after etching



2019

Bär, 2019

- Microstructural analysis of WE43 printed alloy

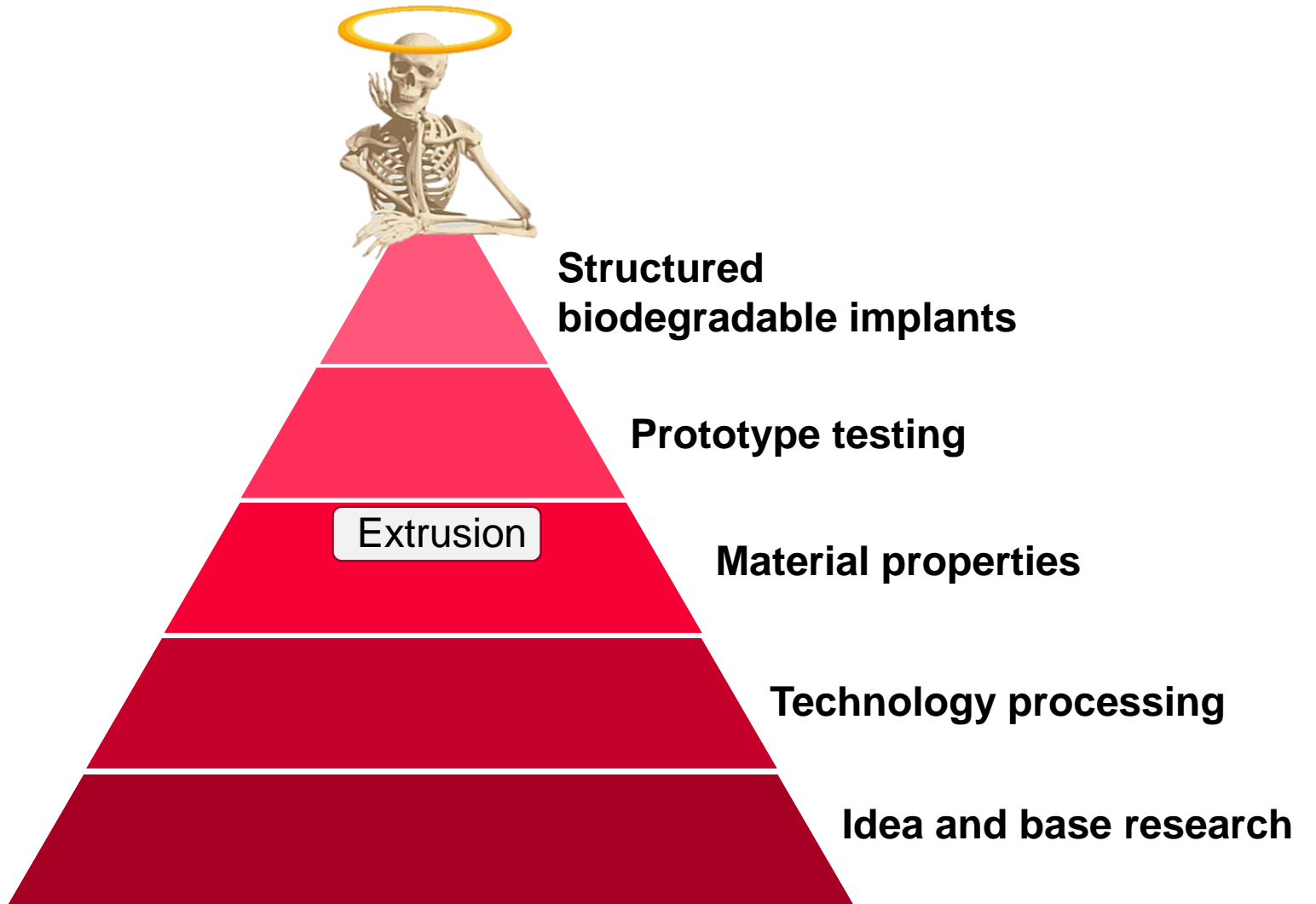


State of Art

Analysis of Blanks

Global problem

- Low corrosion resistance



State of Art

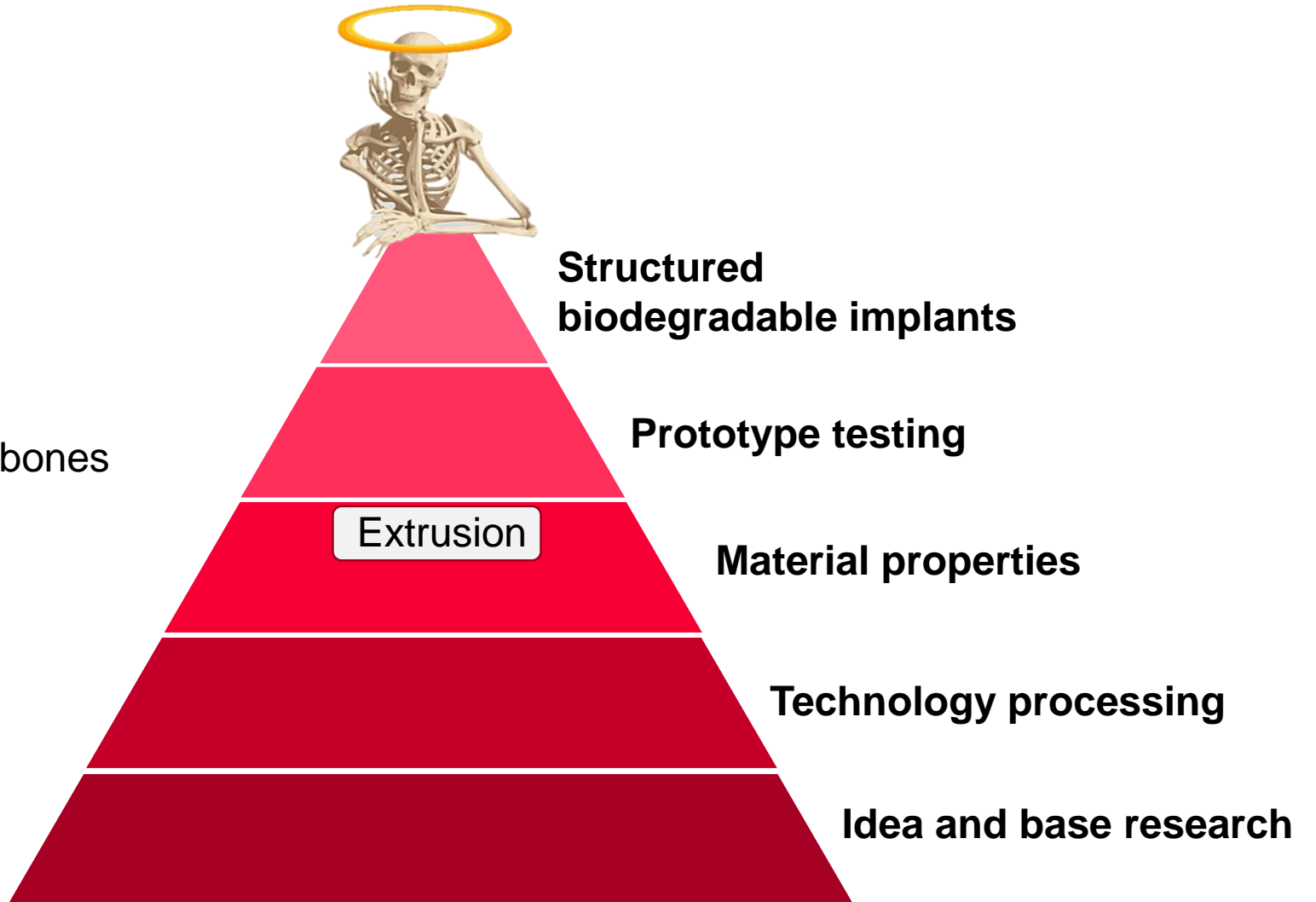
Analysis of Blanks

Global problem

- Low corrosion resistance

Material selection **WE43**

- Biocompatible
- Mechanical properties nearness to bones
- Accelerate regeneration
- Higher corrosion resistance



State of Art

Analysis of Blanks

Global problem

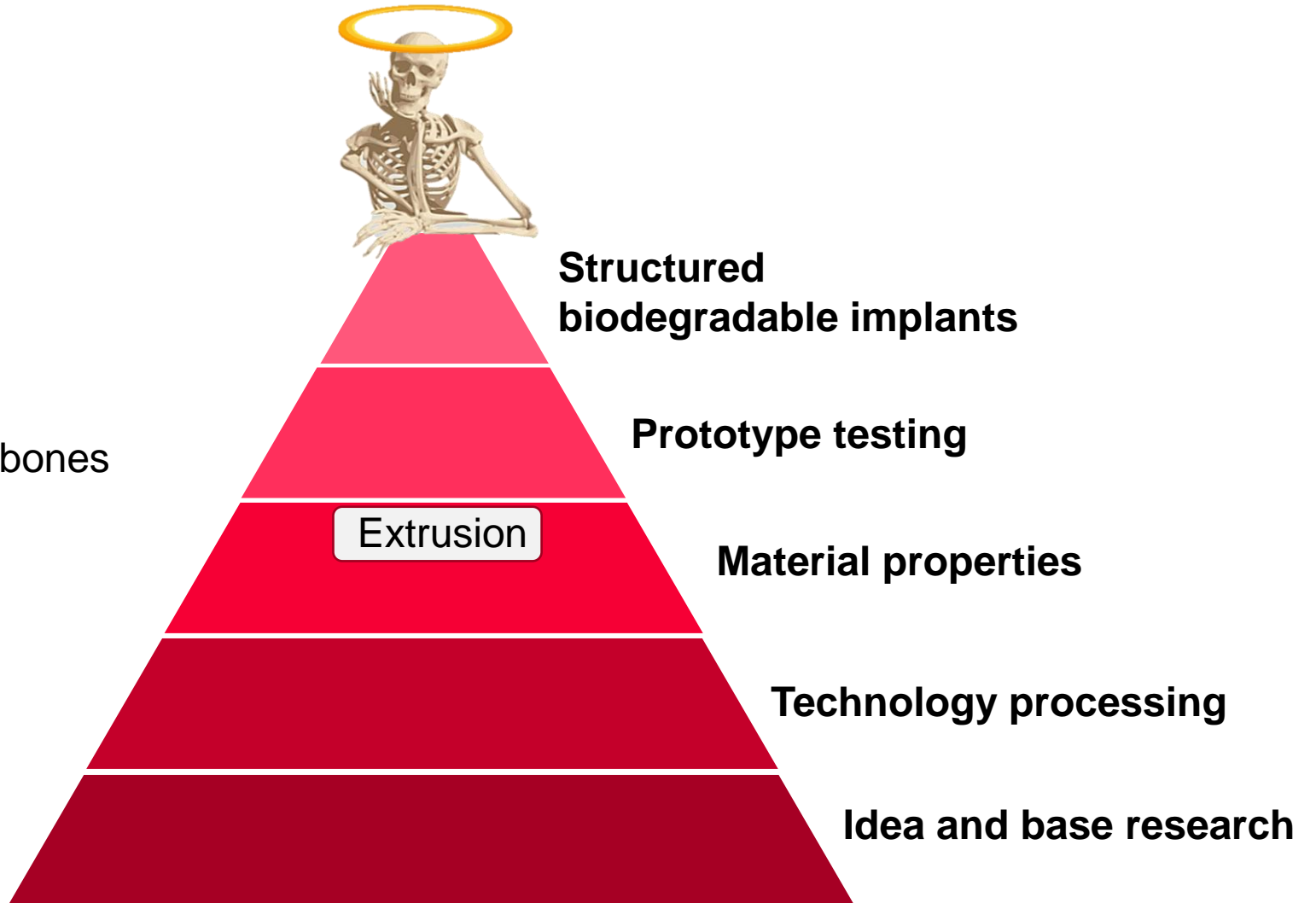
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Technology selection **SLM**

- Increased corrosion resistance
- Customized small implants



State of Art

Analysis of Blanks

Global problem

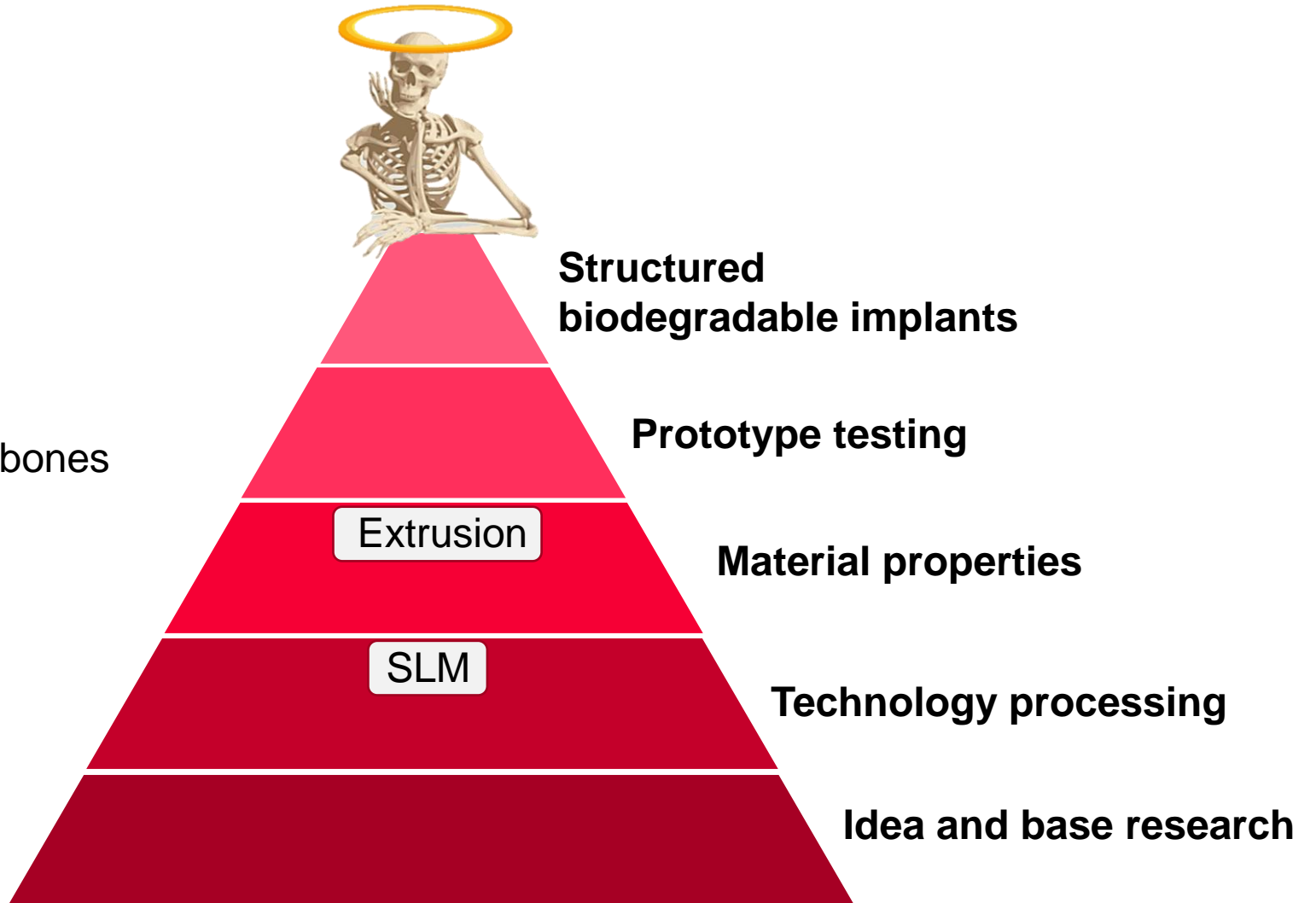
- Low corrosion resistance

Material selection **WE43**

- Biocompatible
- Mechanical properties nearness to bones
- Accelerate regeneration
- Higher corrosion resistance

Technology selection **SLM**

- Increased corrosion resistance
- Customized small implants



Goals of the thesis

The main goal of the work

- The main goal of the presented doctoral thesis is to clarify the influence of process parameters and technological conditions on the corrosion behavior of WE43 magnesium alloy produced by the SLM method.

Sub-goals

- The printing process setting
- Optimization of the printing process
- Determining of the corrosion rate of 3D printed material

Keywords

- Selective laser melting, Magnesium alloys, Homogeneous material, Microstructure, Corrosion rate

Scientific questions

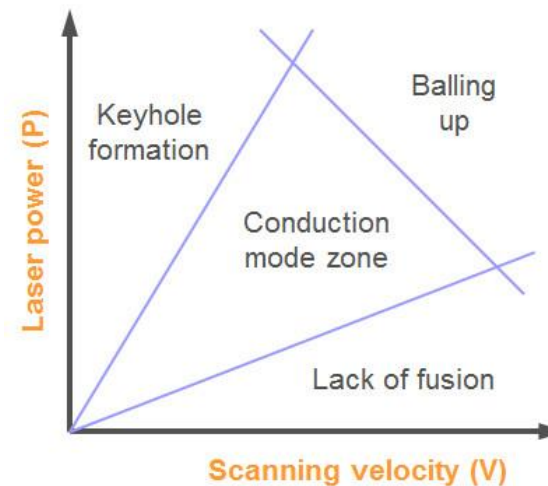
1. Scientific question

What influences most the final value of the relative density of the WE43 magnesium alloy?

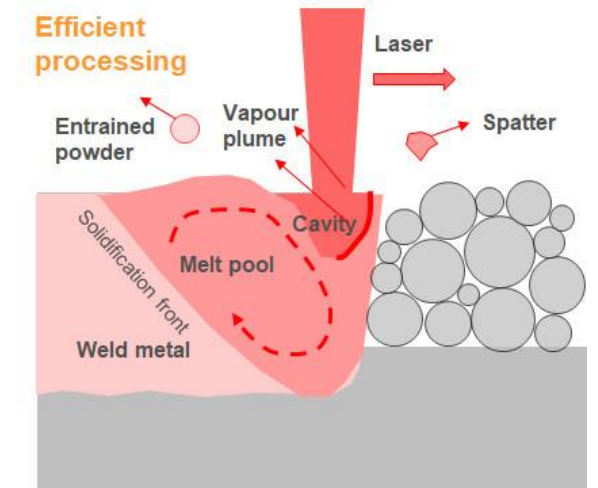
1. Hypotheses

- The laser beam is defocused by vapors
- It created non-stable printing conditions
- Vapors can be removed by setting the suitable combination of process parameters

Process mapping



Optimization



Scientific questions

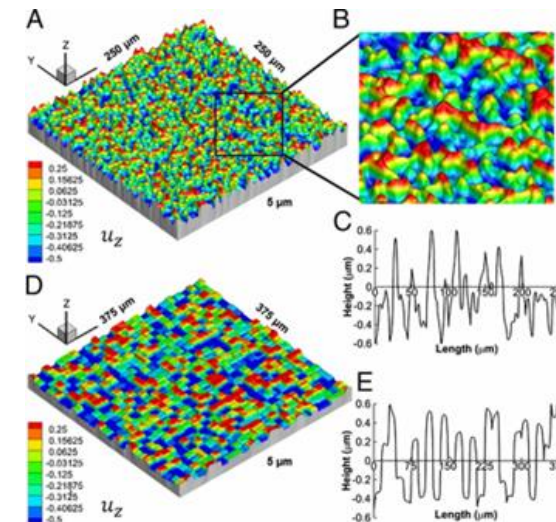
2. Scientific question

Is it possible to control the corrosion rate of the WE43 alloy processed by the SLM method by adjusting the process parameters?

2. Hypotheses

- Material properties can be changed by process parameters
- Especially the surface roughness and microstructure
- Its change can lead to improving the corrosion rate of the 3D printed material

Influence of parameters



Immersion testing



Methodology

Scientific question 1

What?

- Influence of process parameters
- 3D printing strategy

On what?

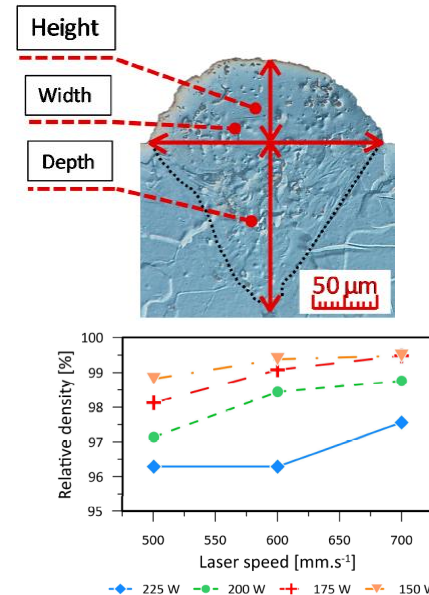
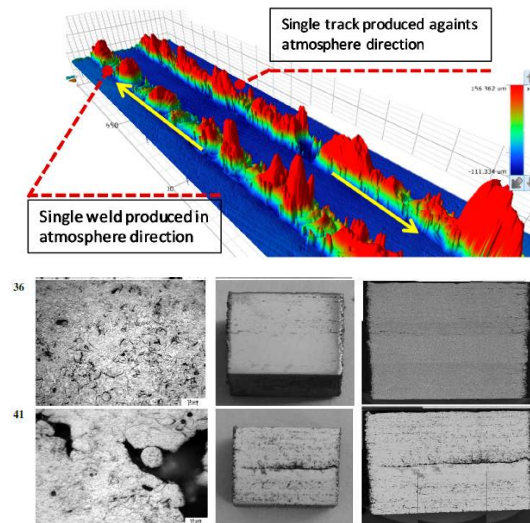
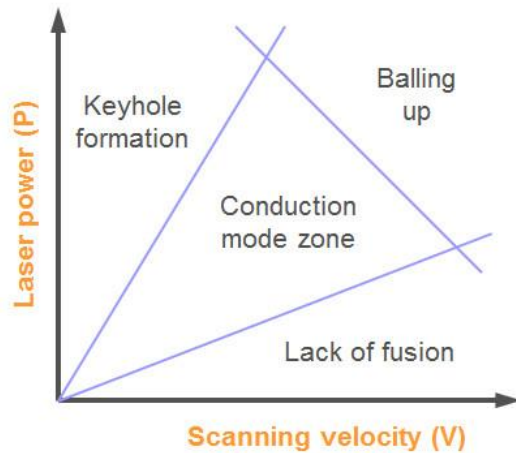
- Weld deposit
- Volume samples
- Cube samples made by different strategies

How?

- Weld deposit geometry
- Porosity
- Porosity

By what?

- Profilometer
- Optodigital microscope
- Optodigital microscope



Methodology

Scientific question 1

What?

- Influence of process parameters
- 3D printing strategy

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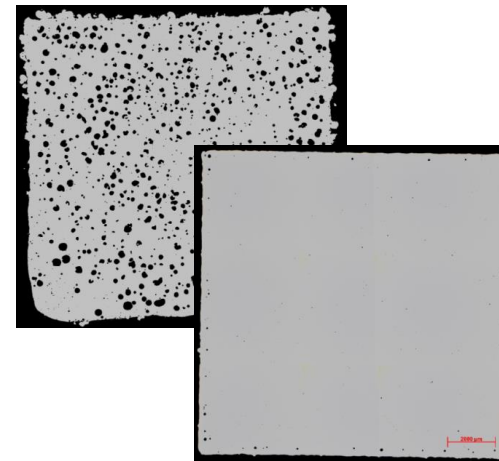
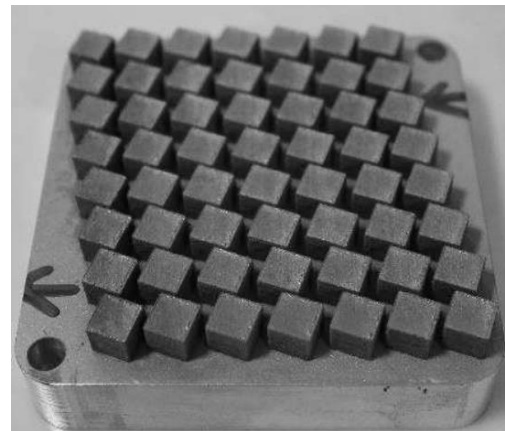
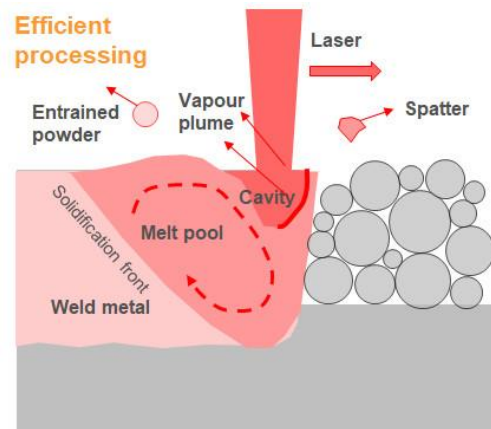
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Methodology

Scientific question 2

What?

- Sensitivity on the change of process parameters
- The trend of corrosion rate

On what?

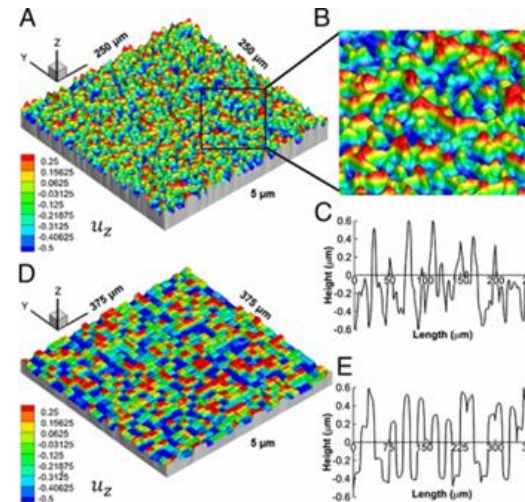
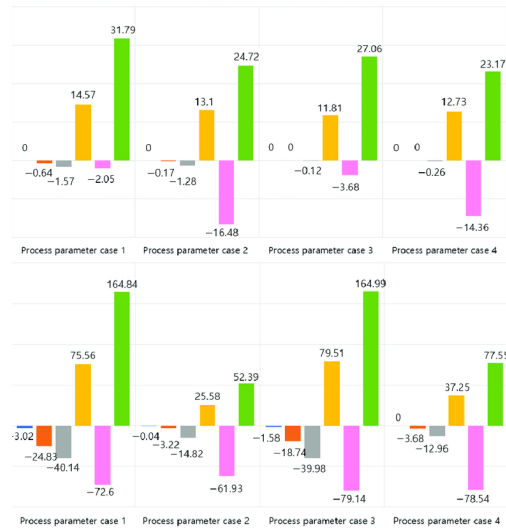
- Thin-wall samples
- Volume samples
- Cube samples with a different parameters

How?

- Surface roughness
- Microstructure
- Weight loss on time

By what?

- Profilometer
- Optodigital microscope
- Laboratory weighting machine



Methodology

Scientific question 2

What?

- Sensitivity on the change of process parameters
- The trend of corrosion rate

On what?

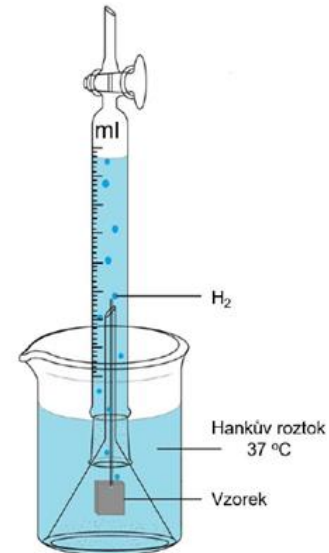
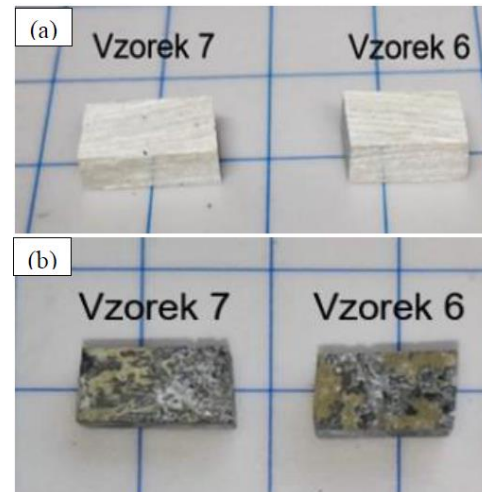
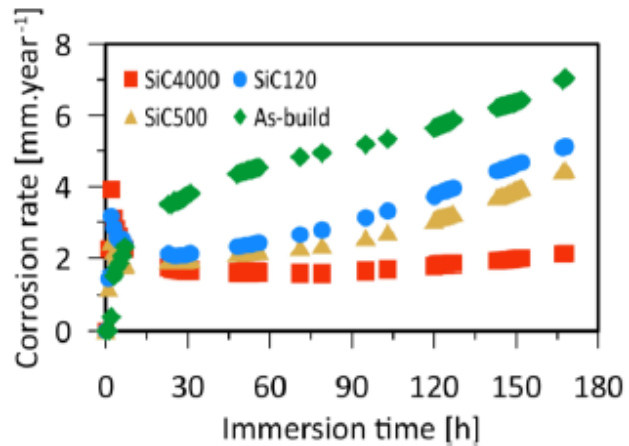
- Thin-wall samples
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- Microstructure
- H₂ catching

By what?

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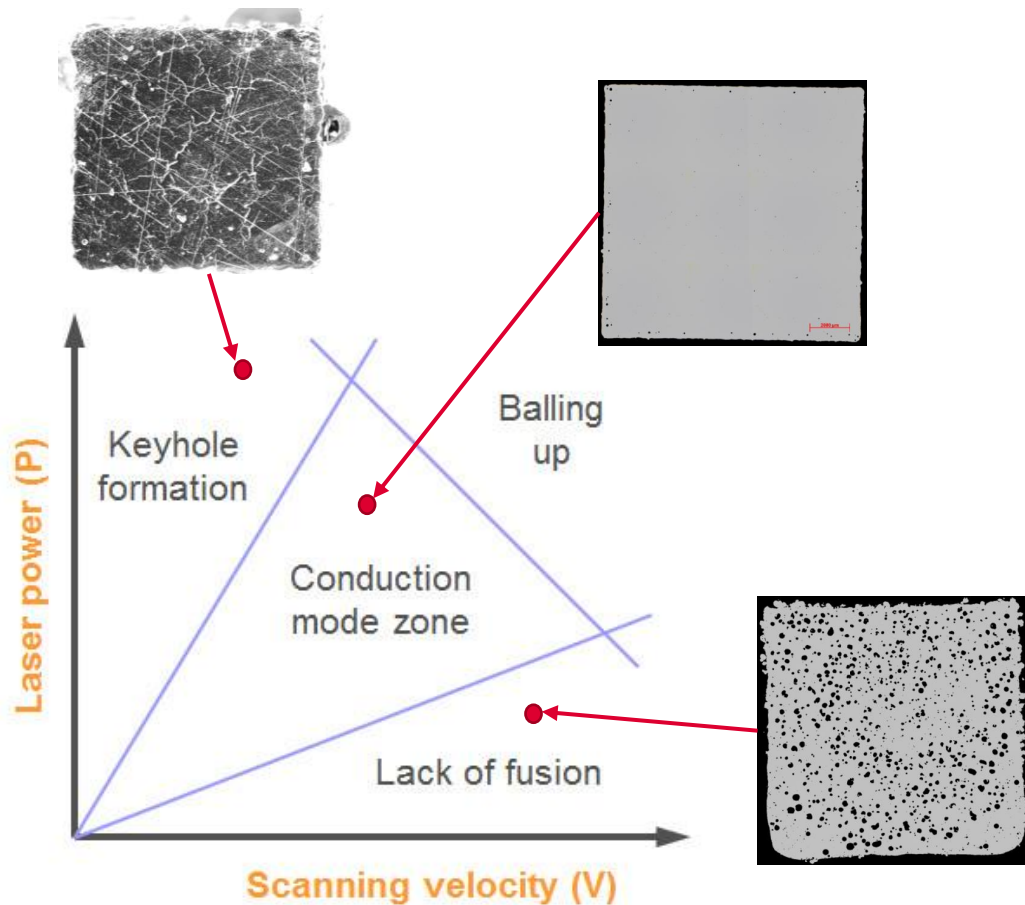


Results and discussion

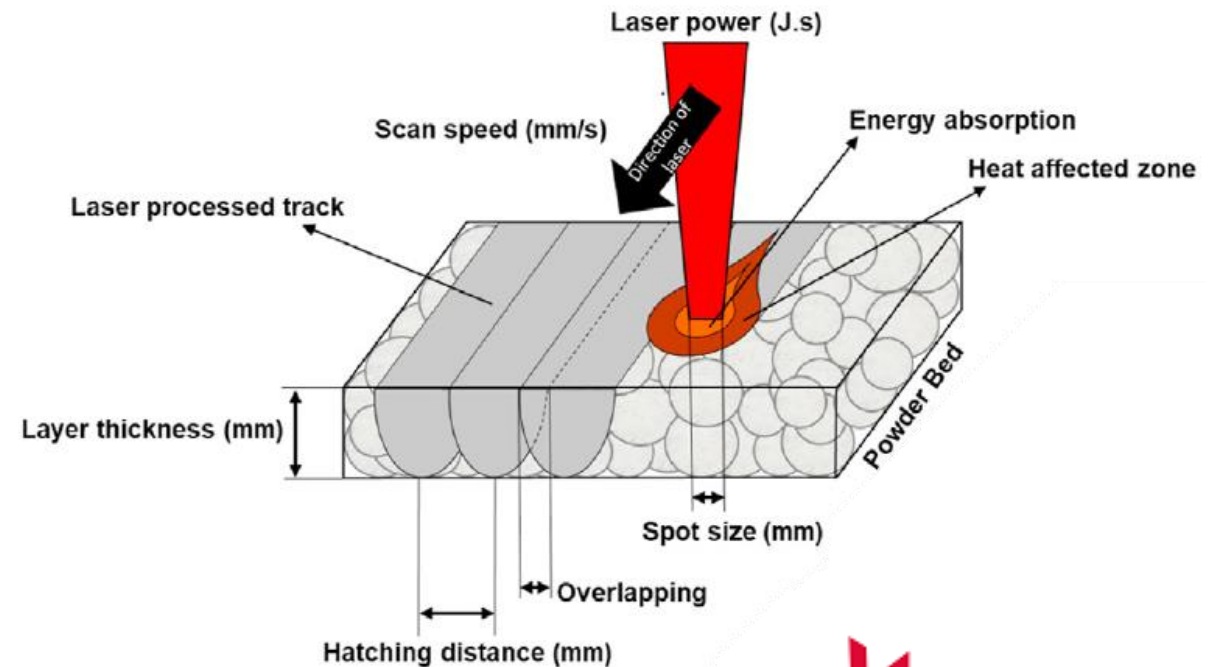
Scientific question 1

1/2

Process mapping



$$E = \frac{L_p}{L_s \times H_d \times L_t}$$



Results and discussion

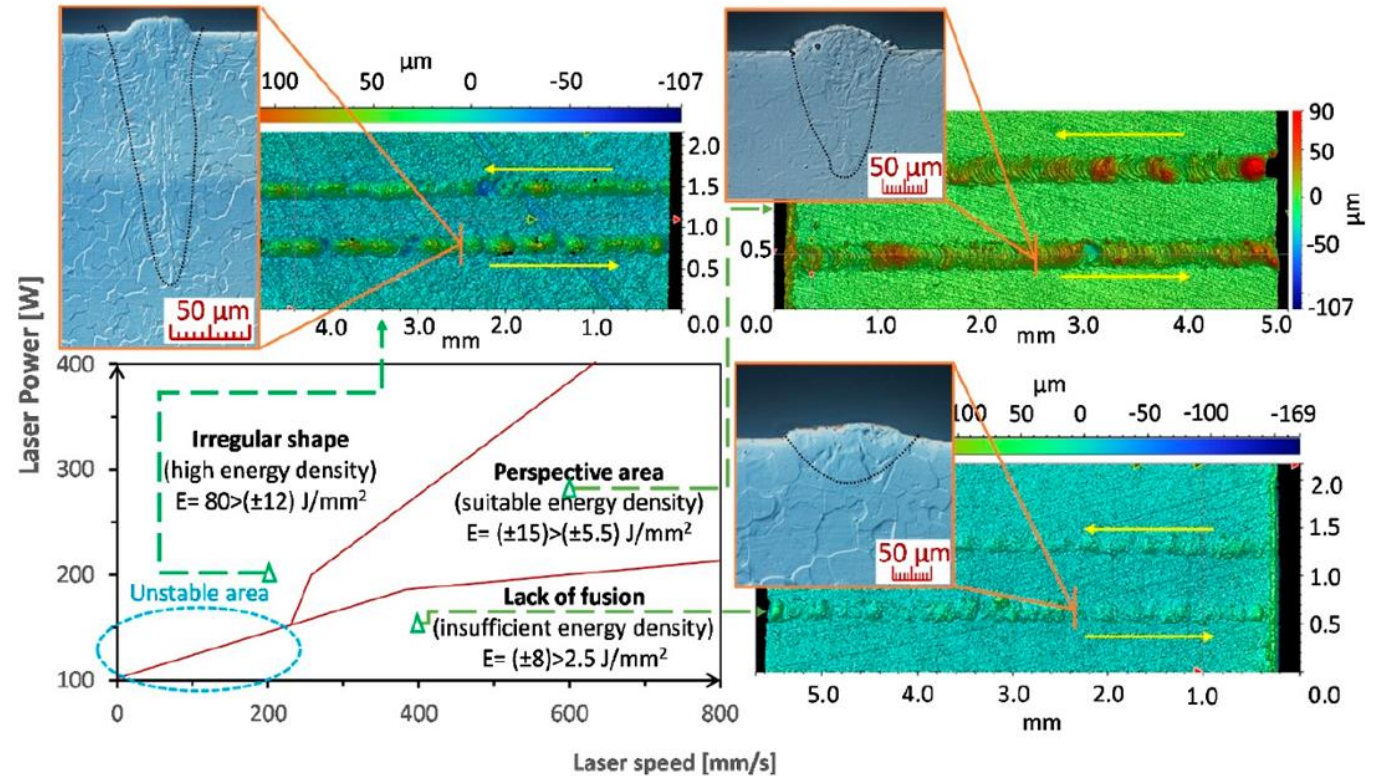
Scientific question 1

1/2

Process mapping

Major Findings

- Dominant effect of laser power on the shape of weld depositions
- The depth of the weld depositions corresponded to 3-6 deposited layers thickness



Results and discussion

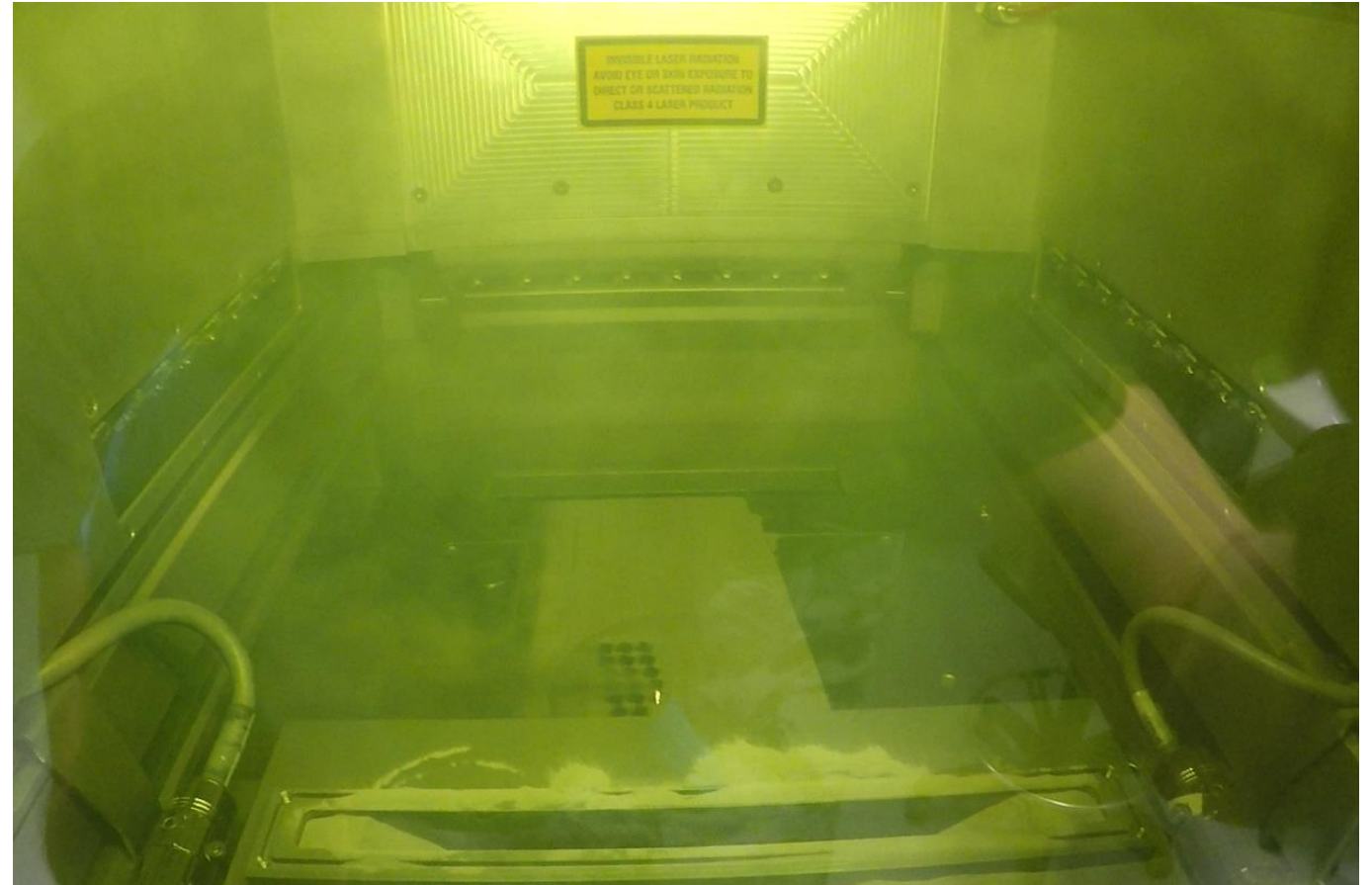
Scientific question 1

1/2

Process mapping

Major Findings

- Dominant effect of laser power on the shape of weld depositions
- The depth of the weld depositions corresponded to 3-6 deposited layers thickness
- The increase of input energy lead to massive evaporation of Mg



Results and discussion

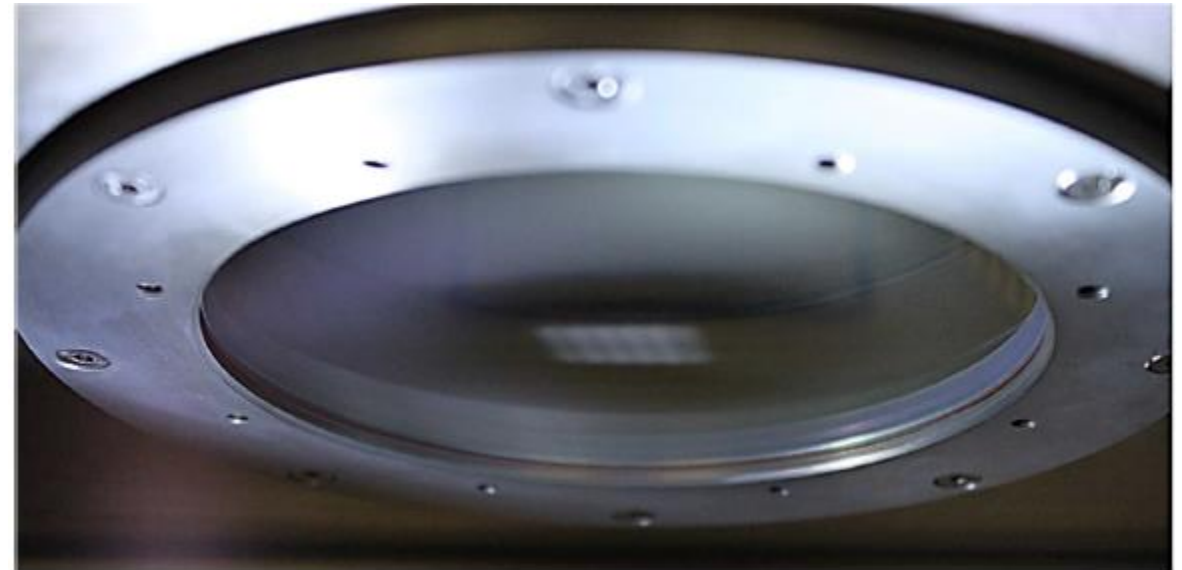
Scientific question 1

1/2

Process mapping

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Results and discussion

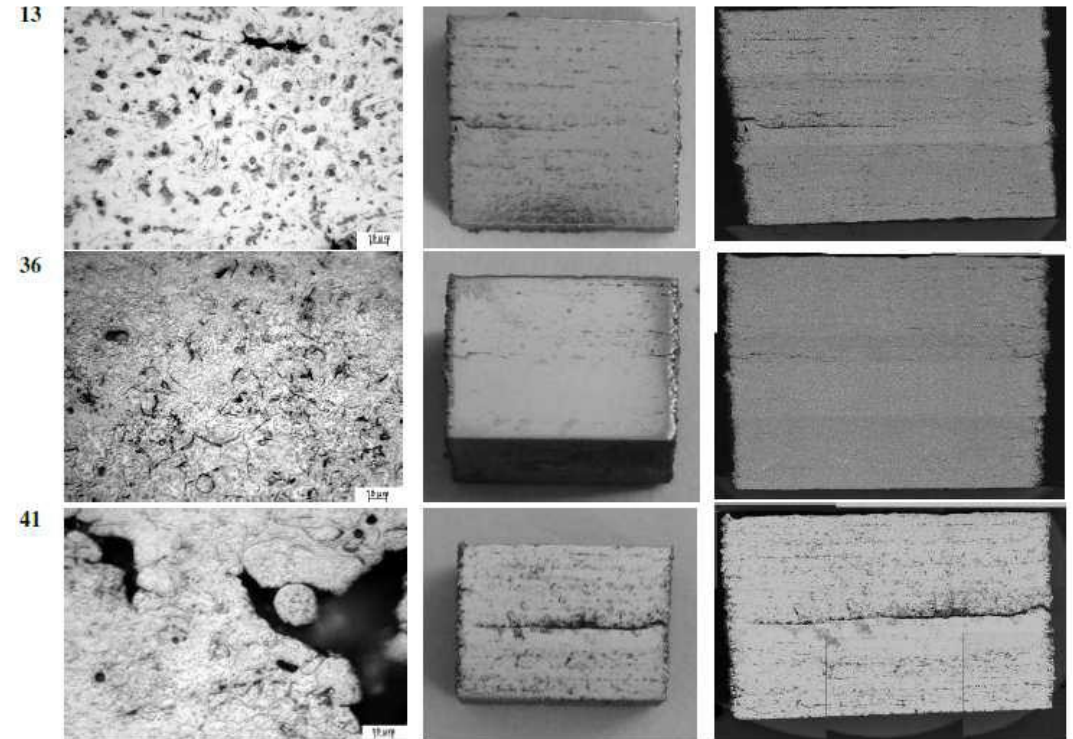
Scientific question 1

1/2

Process mapping

Major Findings

- Dominant effect of laser power on the shape of weld depositions
- The depth of the weld depositions corresponded to 3-6 deposited layers thickness
- The increase of input energy lead to massive evaporation of Mg
- The repeatability was too low



Results and discussion

Scientific question 1

1/2

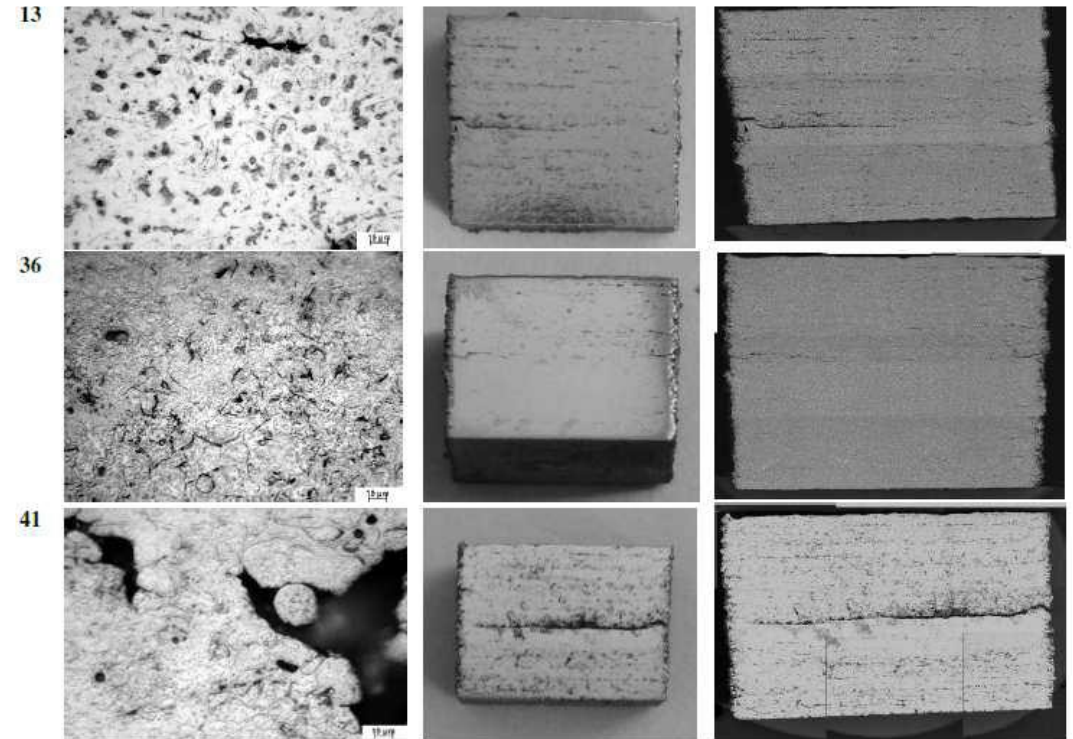
Process mapping

Major Findings

- Dominant effect of laser power on the shape of weld depositions
- The depth of the weld depositions corresponded to 3-6 deposited layers thickness
- The increase of input energy lead to massive evaporation of Mg
- The repeatability was too low

Summary

- The laser power has to be decreased
- A satisfactory reduction in the amount of vapor could not be achieved only by changing the process parameters



Results and discussion

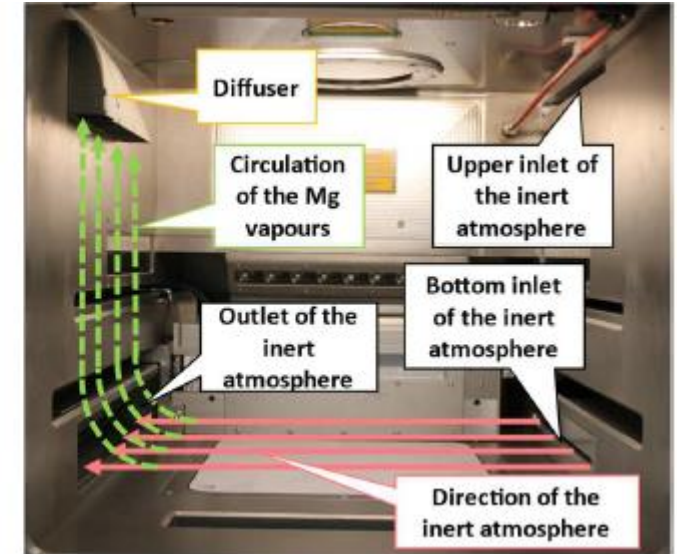
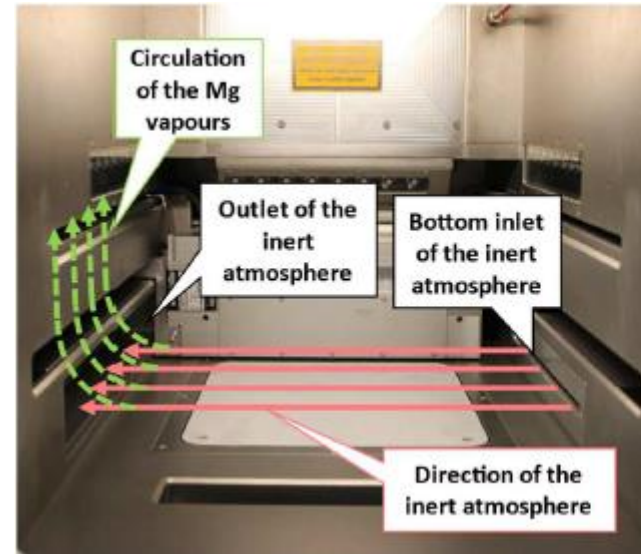
Scientific question 1

2/2

3D printing strategy setting

Major Findings

- Increased extraction of process emissions from the production chamber



Results and discussion

Scientific question 1

2/2

3D printing strategy setting

Major Findings

- Increased extraction of process emissions from the production chamber



Results and discussion

Scientific question 1

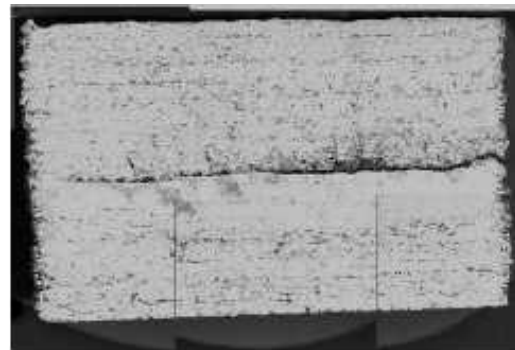
2/2

3D printing strategy setting

Major Findings

- Increased extraction of process emissions from the production chamber

Phase	Input energy	Output energy	Porosity
Original strategy	Low	Low	Homogeneous
After reduction of vapors			
Adding time delay			



Results and discussion

Scientific question 1

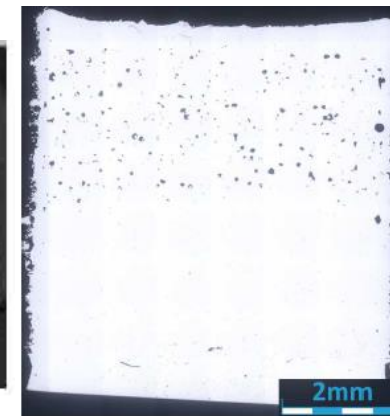
2/2

3D printing strategy setting

Major Findings

- Increased extraction of process emissions from the production chamber

Phase	Input energy	Output energy	Porosity
Original strategy	Low	Low	Homogeneous
After reduction of vapors	High	Low	Non-uniform
Adding time delay			



Results and discussion

Scientific question 1

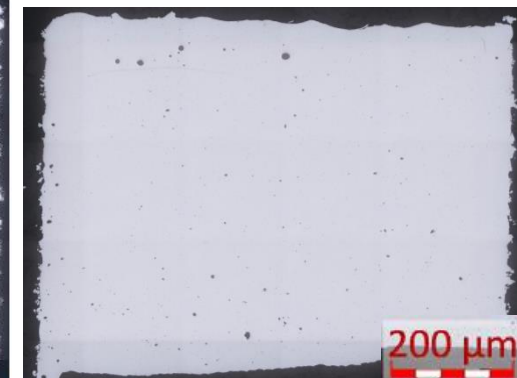
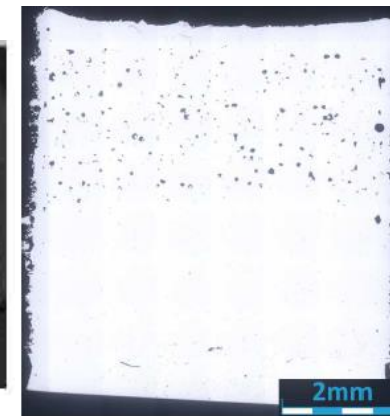
2/2

3D printing strategy setting

Major Findings

- Increased extraction of process emissions from the production chamber
- Print repeatability is ensured

Phase	Input energy	Output energy	Porosity
Original strategy	Low	Low	Homogeneous
After reduction of vapors	High	Low	Non-uniform
Adding time delay	High	Compensated	Homogeneous



Results and discussion

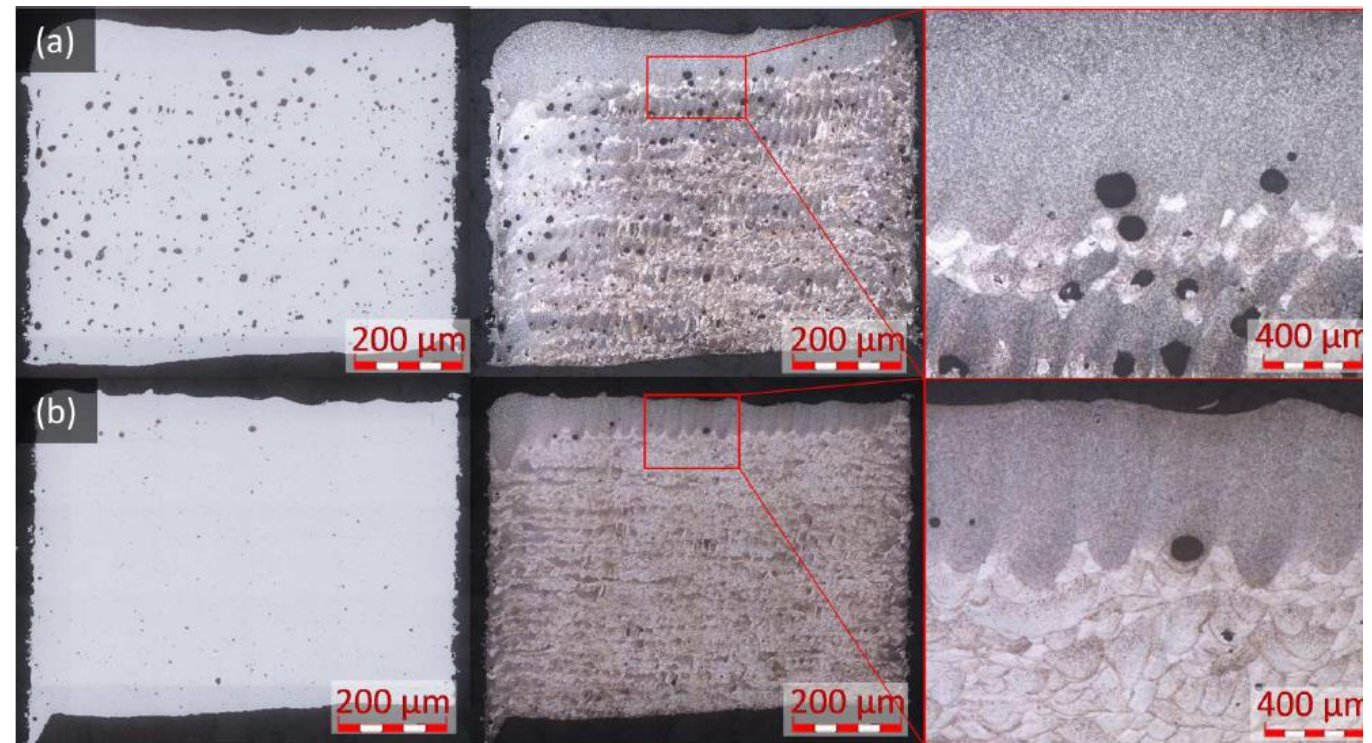
Scientific question 1

2/2

3D printing strategy setting

Major Findings

- Increased extraction of process emissions from the production chamber
- Print repeatability is ensured
- Relative density of material achieved of 99.5 %



Results and discussion

Scientific question 1

2/2

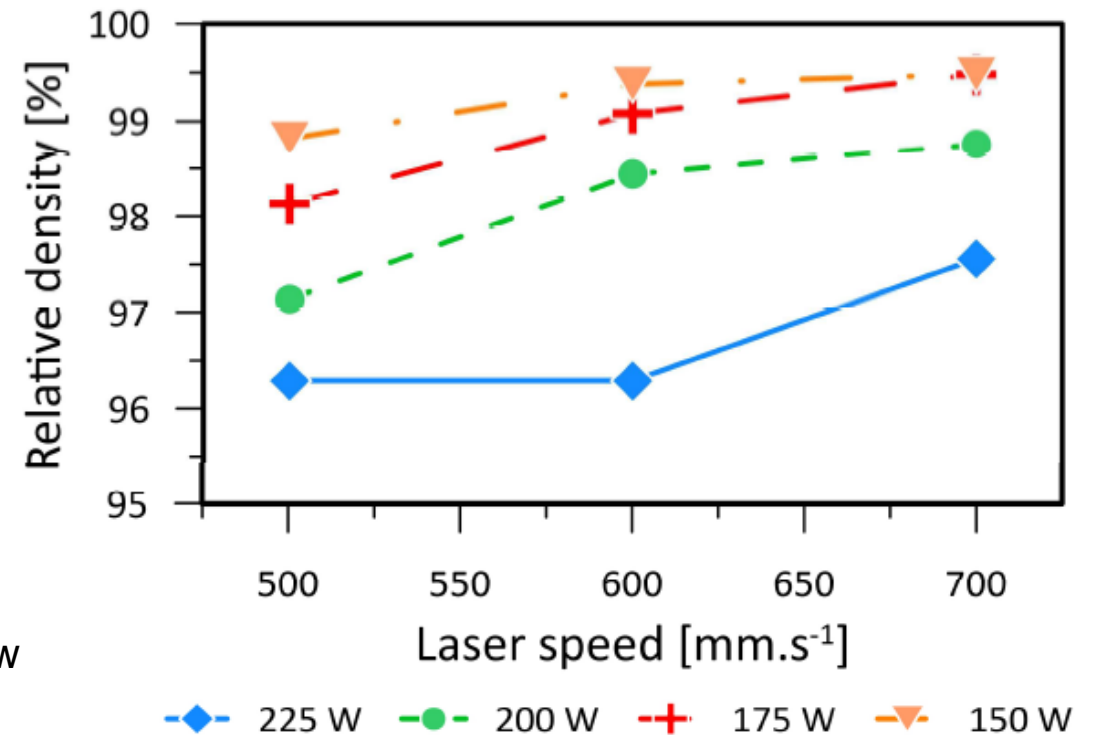
3D printing strategy setting

Major Findings

- Increased extraction of process emissions from the production chamber
- Print repeatability is ensured
- Relative density of material achieved of 99.5 %

Summary

- The ability to print repeatedly volume samples with a low level of porosity



Results and discussion

Scientific question 1

Scientific question

What influences most the final value of the relative density of the WE43 magnesium alloy?

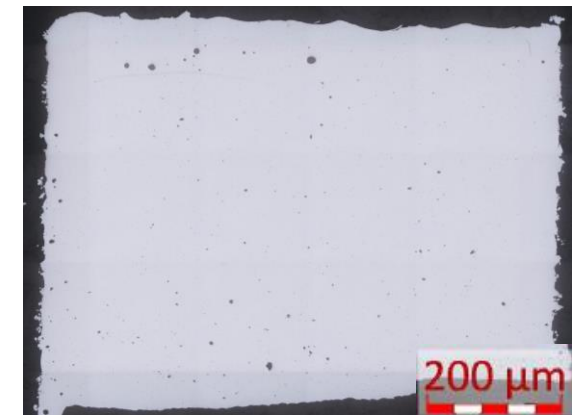
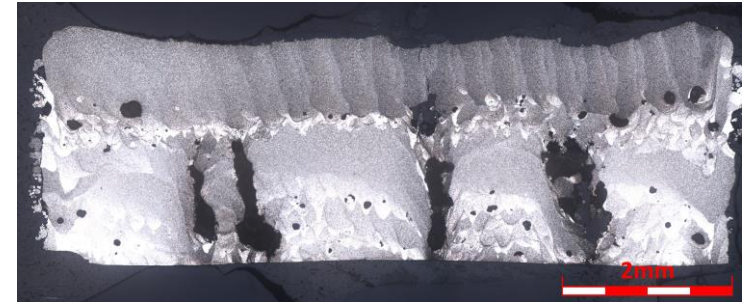
Hypotheses

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- Vapors can be removed by setting the suitable combination of process parameters



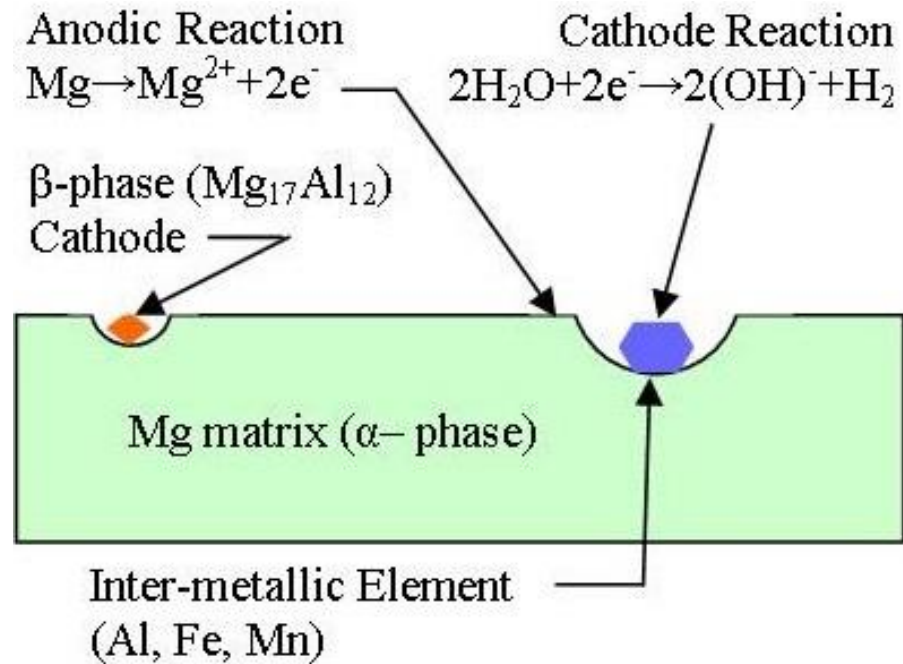
The hypothesis was particularly confirmed

3D printing strategy setting

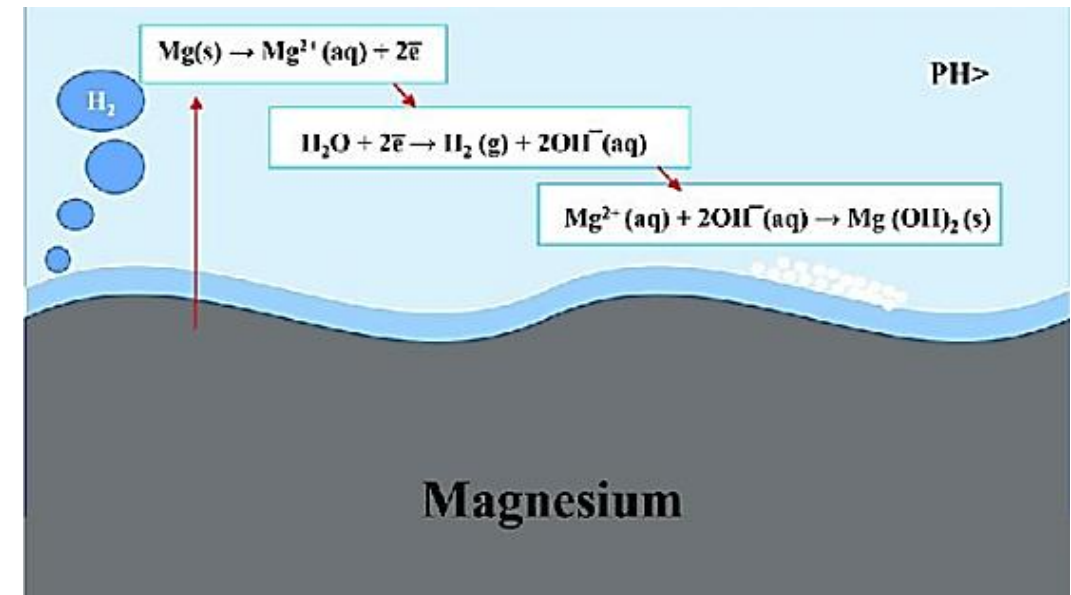


Results and discussion

Galvanic corrosion Microstructure



Atmospheric corrosion Surface roughness



Results and discussion

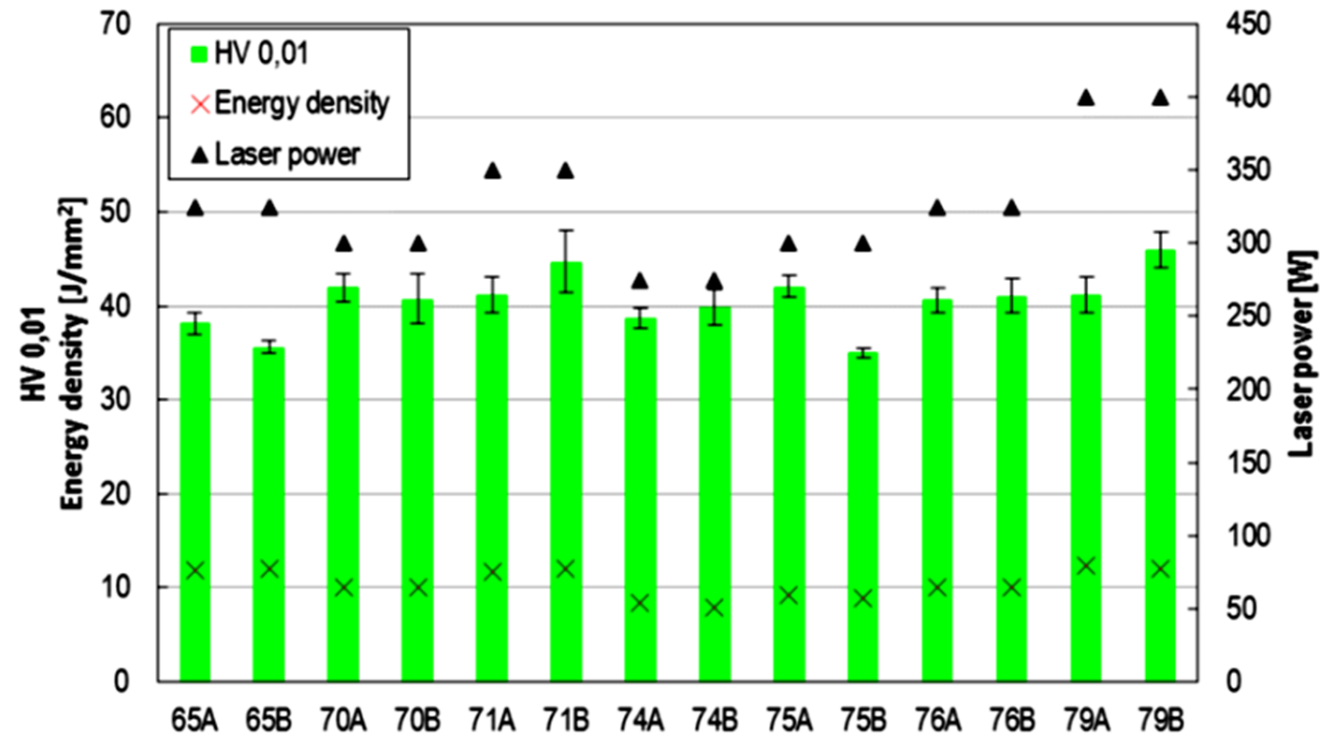
Scientific question 2

1/2

Influence of process parameters

Major Findings

- No change in the microhardness



Results and discussion

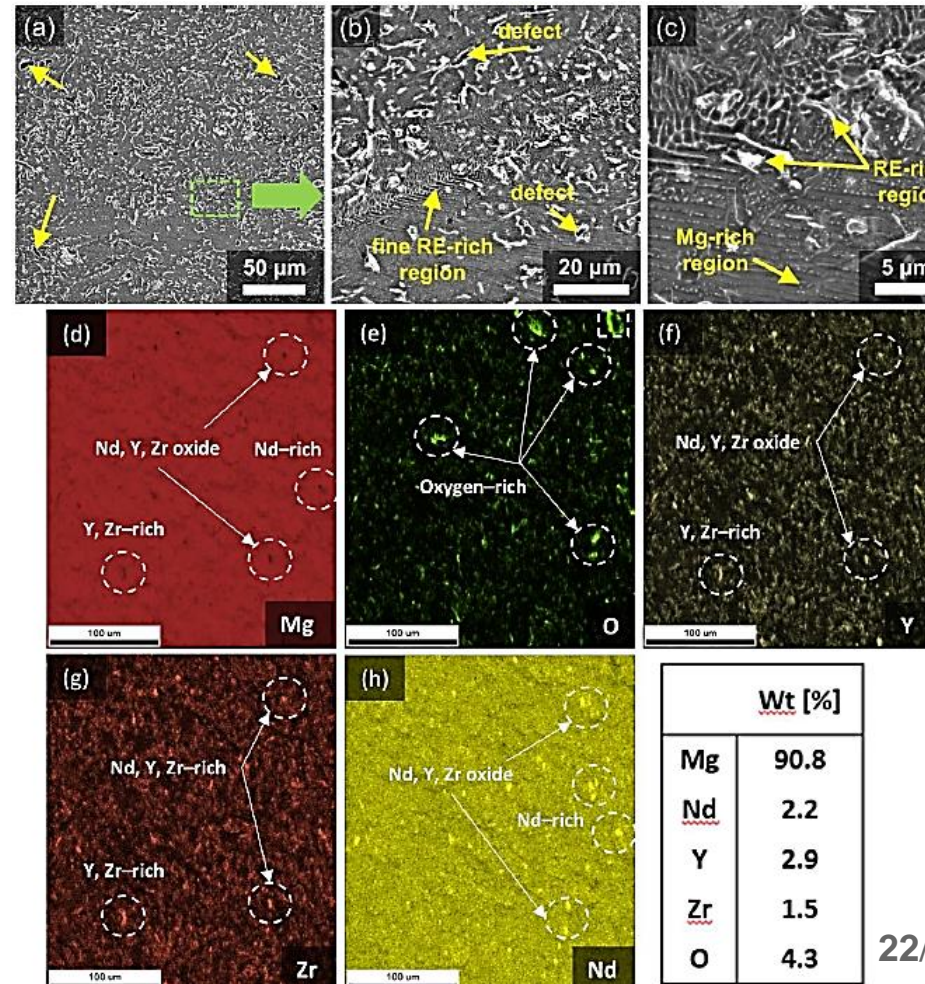
Scientific question 2

1/2

Influence of process parameters

Major Findings

- No change in the microhardness
- No change in the distribution or chemical compositions of phases



Results and discussion

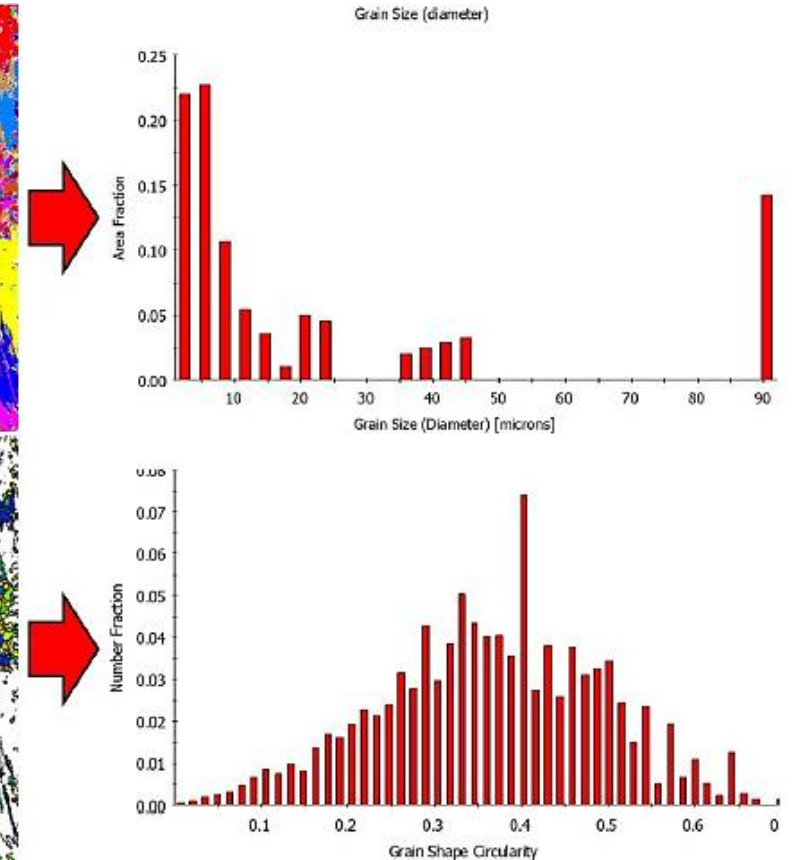
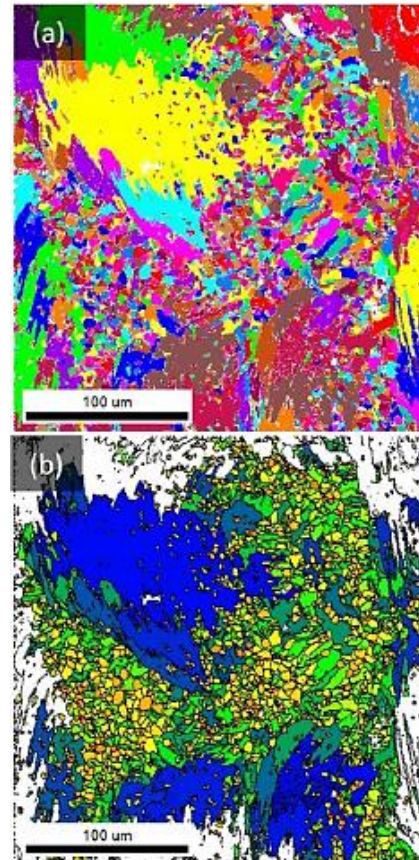
Scientific question 2

1/2

Influence of process parameters

Major Findings

- No change in the microhardness
- No change in the distribution or chemical compositions of phases
- No change in the shape or size of grains



Results and discussion

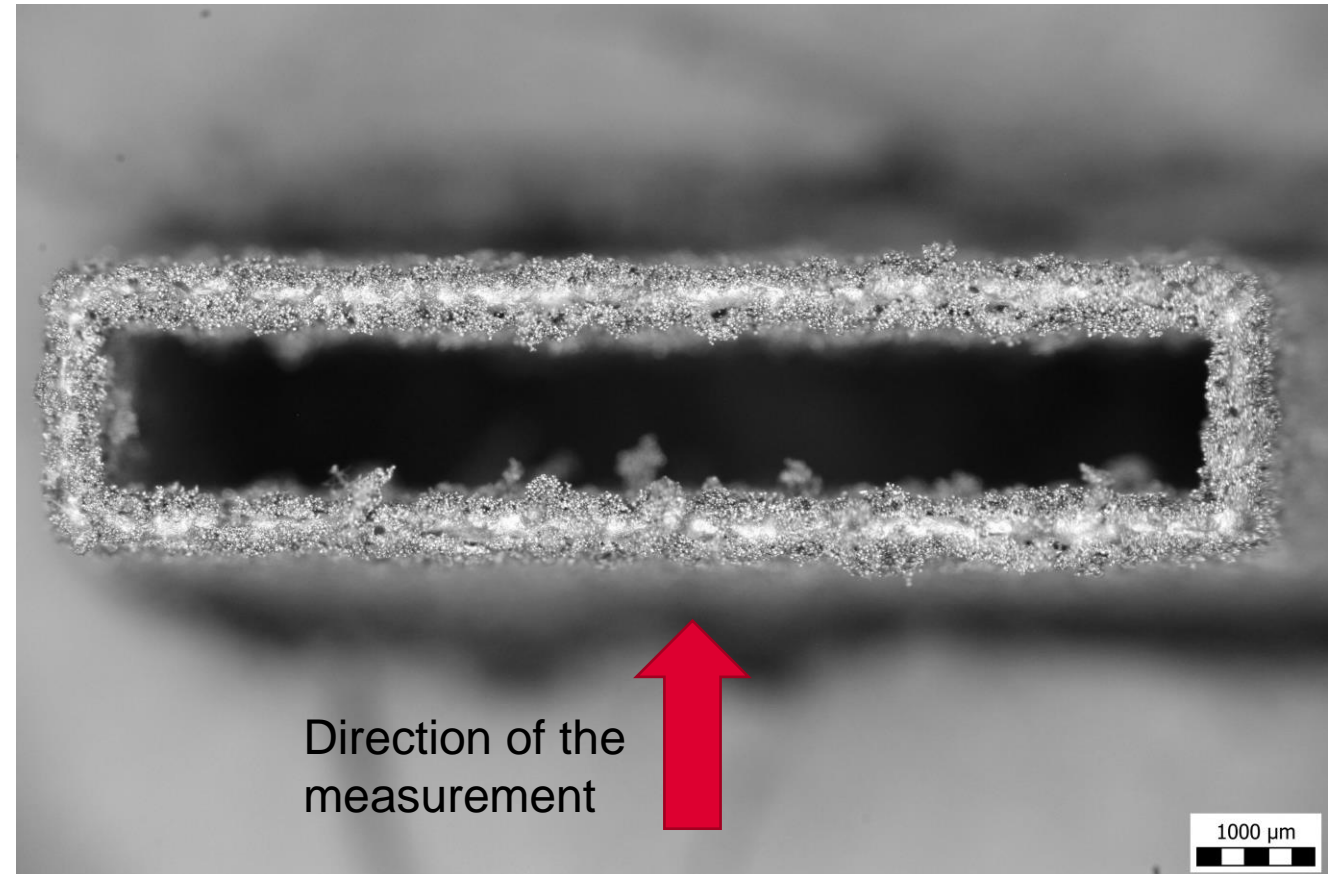
Scientific question 2

1/2

Influence of process parameters

Major Findings

- No change in the microhardness
- No change in the distribution or chemical compositions of phases
- No change in the shape or size of grains



Results and discussion

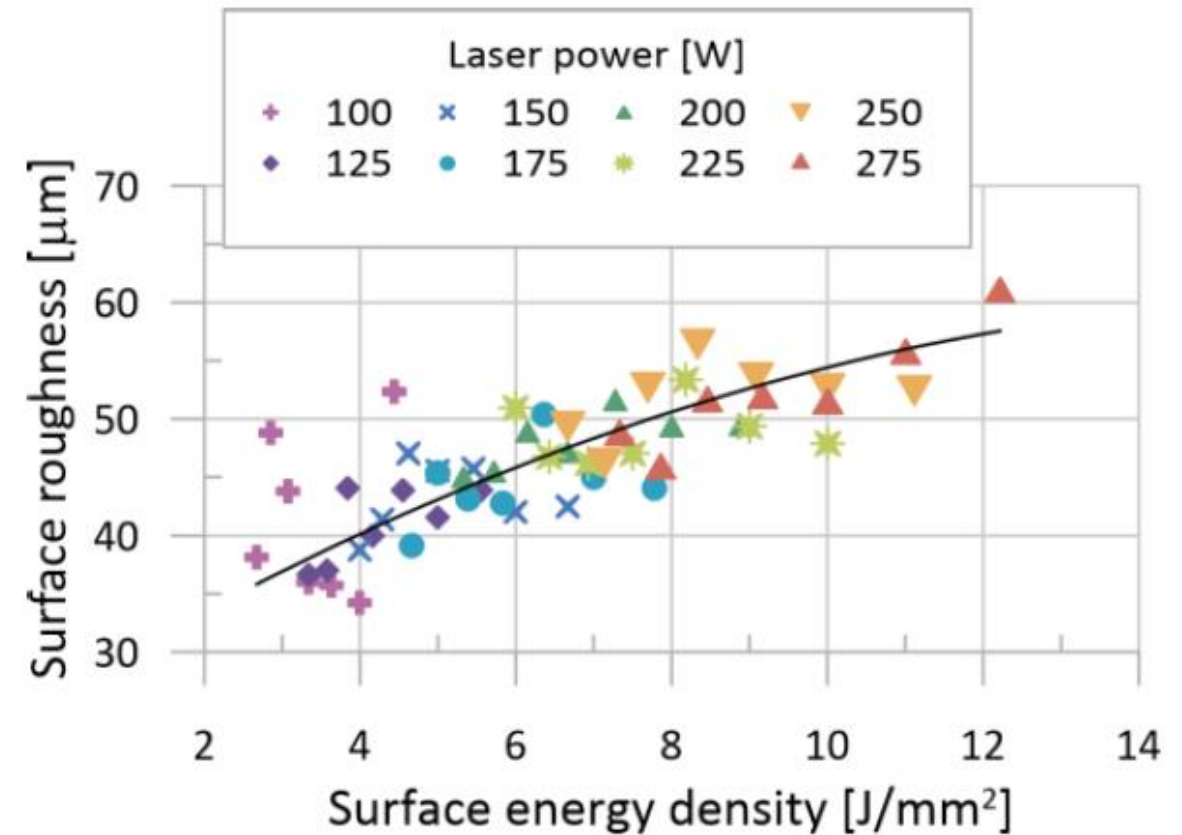
Scientific question 2

1/2

Influence of process parameters

Major Findings

- No change in the microhardness
- No change in the distribution or chemical compositions of phases
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- The laser power has the biggest influence on the surface quality
- The value of Ra was changed up to 50 %



Results and discussion

Scientific question 2

1/2

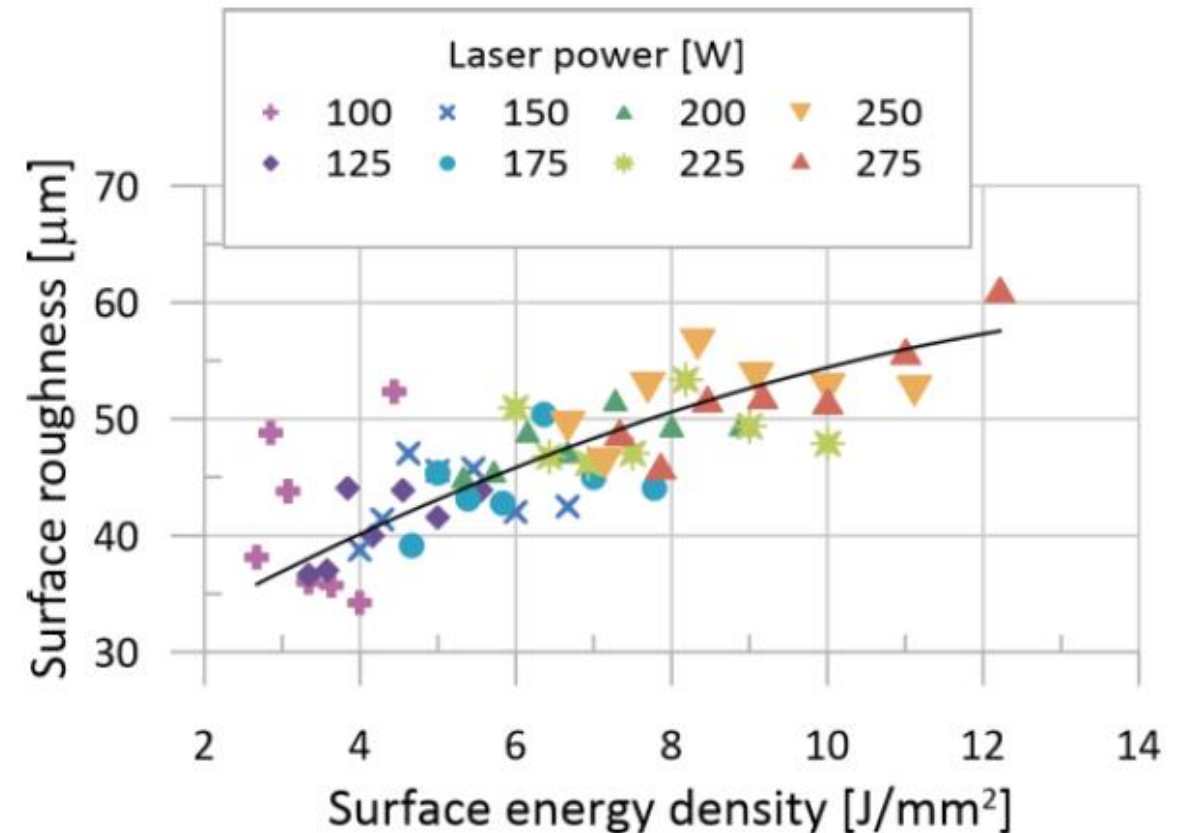
Influence of process parameters

Major Findings

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Summary

- The surface roughness can be significantly changed by process parameters in comparison to microstructure



Results and discussion

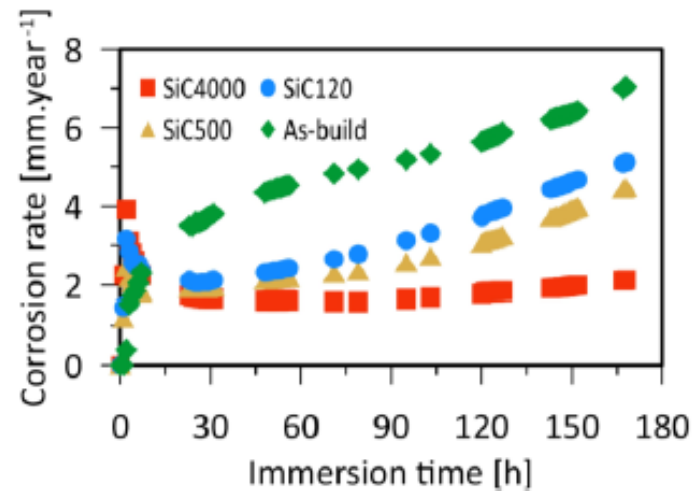
Scientific question 2

2/2

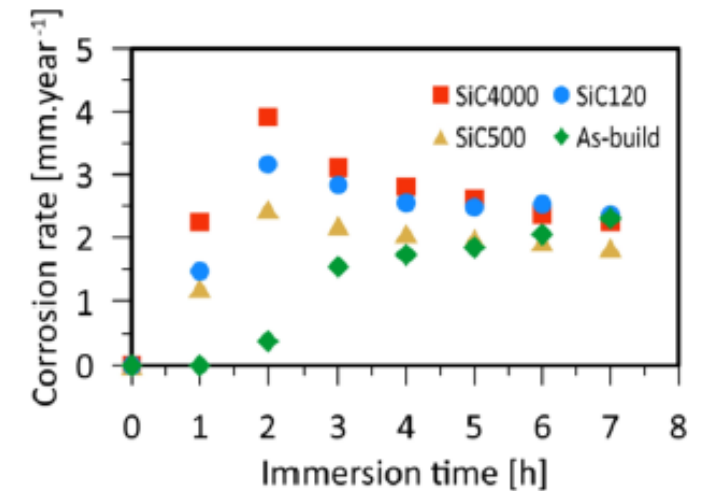
Corrosion behavior

Major Findings

- Decrease of Ra from 51 to 34 led to an improvement in corrosion rate by 10 %
- The sintered powder removal can lead to reducing about 30 %



- As- build Ra 51.02
- SiC120 Ra 3.84
- SiC500 Ra 1.02
- SiC4000 Ra 0.11



- $i_g = 7.04 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{year}^{-1}$
- $i_g = 5.12 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{year}^{-1}$
- $i_g = 4.48 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{year}^{-1}$
- $i_g = 2.11 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{year}^{-1}$

Results and discussion

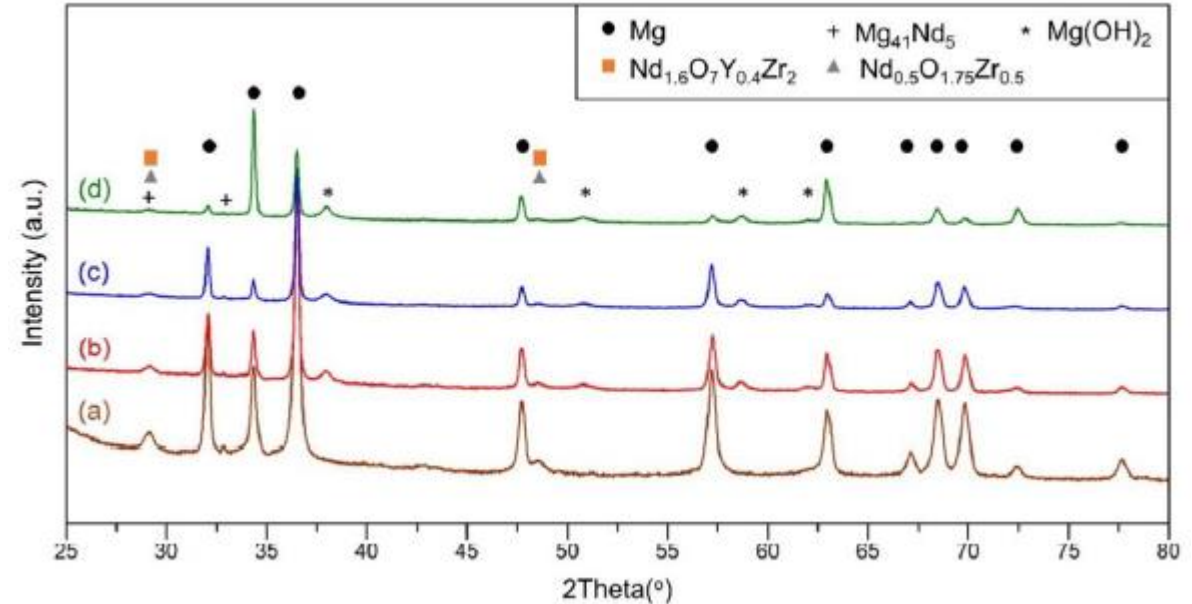
Scientific question 2

2/2

Corrosion behavior

Major Findings

- Decrease of Ra from 51 to 34 led to an improvement in corrosion rate by 10 %
- The sintered powder removal can lead to reducing about 30 %
- Zr-rich phases were consumed really quickly



Results and discussion

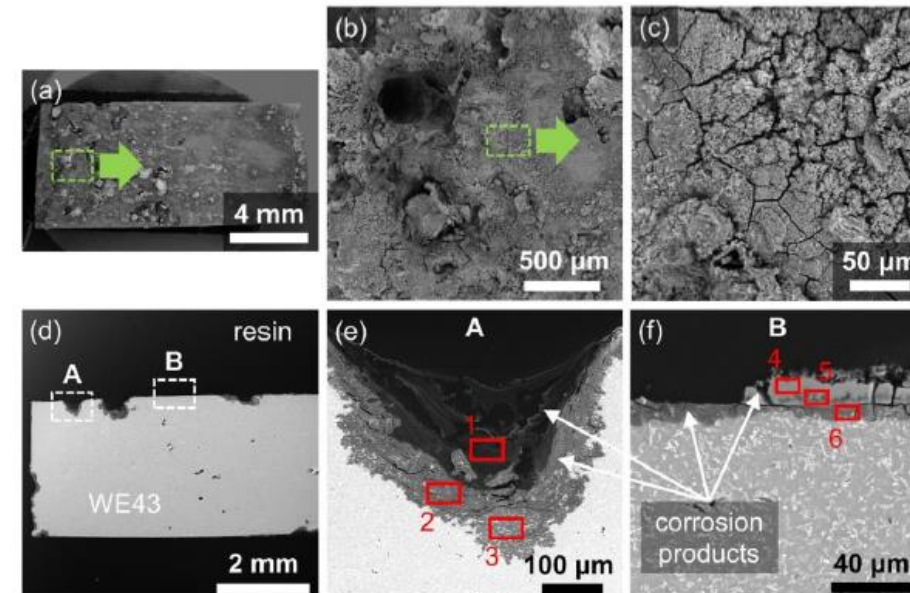
Scientific question 2

2/2

Corrosion behavior

Major Findings

- Decrease of Ra from 51 to 34 led to an improvement in corrosion rate by 10 %
- The sintered powder removal can lead to reducing about 30 %
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(g)

Position	Element (wt.%)								
	Mg	O	Y	Nd	Si	P	Cl	Na	Ca
1	47.8	45.1	-	-	1.2	1.0	4.4	-	0.5
2	46.0	50.5	2.3	1.2	-	-	-	-	-
3	43.3	49.6	4.2	1.7	0.5	-	-	-	0.7
4	5.5	50.1	-	-	-	17.3	-	0.6	26.5
5	12.9	51.8	-	1.4	-	15.2	-	1.0	17.7
6	34.6	51.1	4.8	3.5	-	2.7	1.2	0.7	1.4

Summary

- The corrosion resistance of the printed material is possible significantly controlled by the process parameters like laser power or scanning speed

Results and discussion

Scientific question 2

Scientific question

Is it possible to control the corrosion rate of the WE43 alloy processed by the SLM method by adjusting the process parameters?

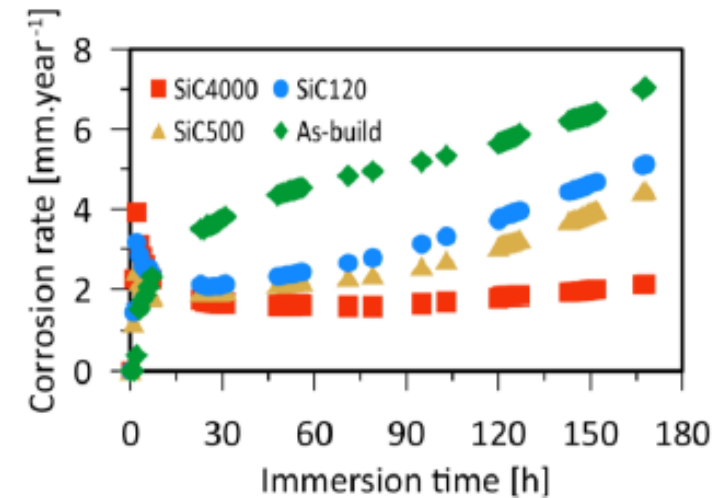
Hypotheses

- Material properties can be changed by process parameters
- Especially the surface roughness can be improved
- It will have effect on the corrosion rate of the 3D printed material



The hypothesis was confirmed

Corrosion behavior

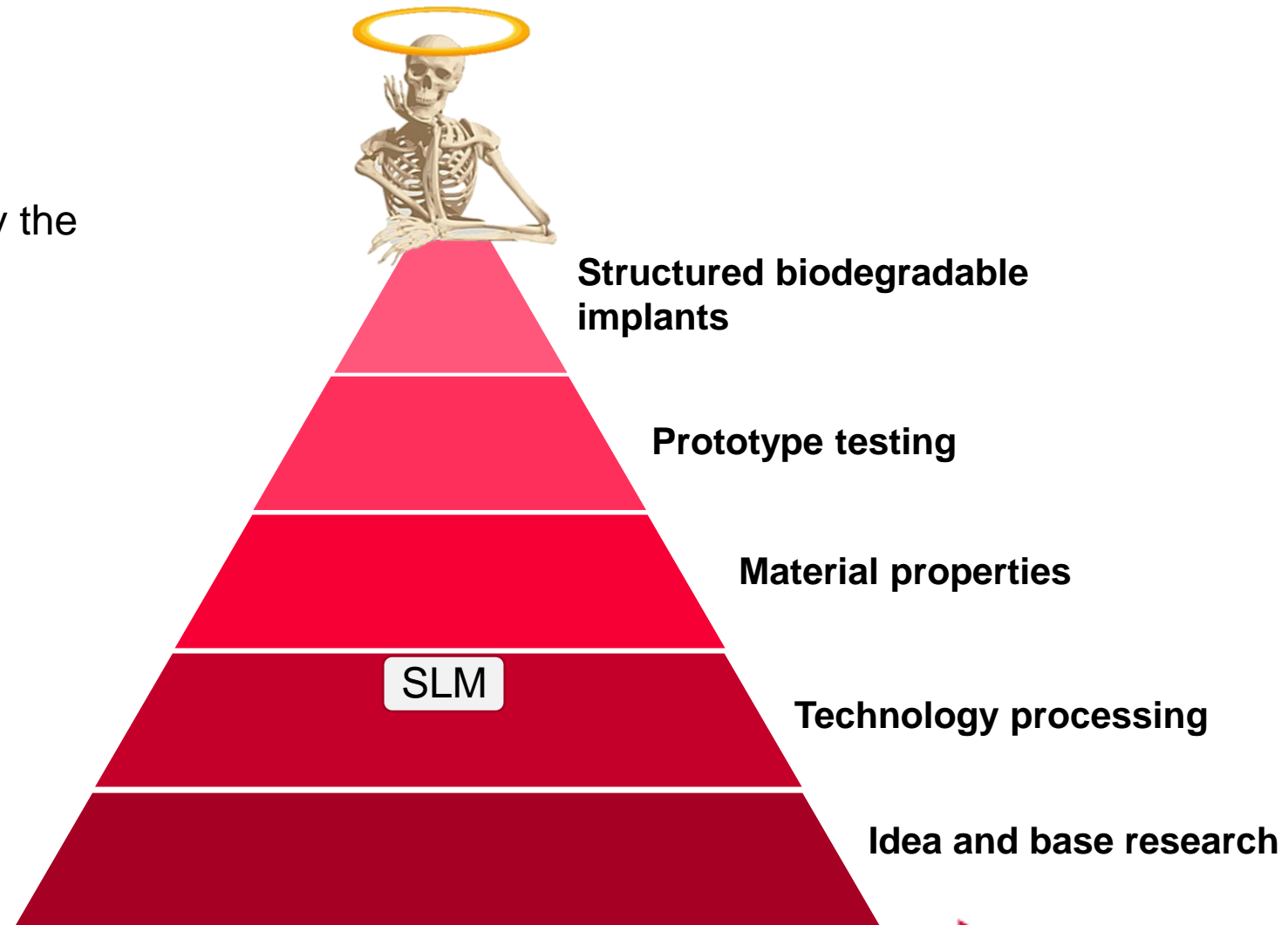


- | | | |
|-------------|----------|--|
| • As- build | Ra 51.02 | $i_g = 7.04 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{year}^{-1}$ |
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| • SiC4000 | Ra 0.11 | $i_g = 2.11 \text{ mm}\cdot\text{year}^{-1}$ |

Summary

Main achievement

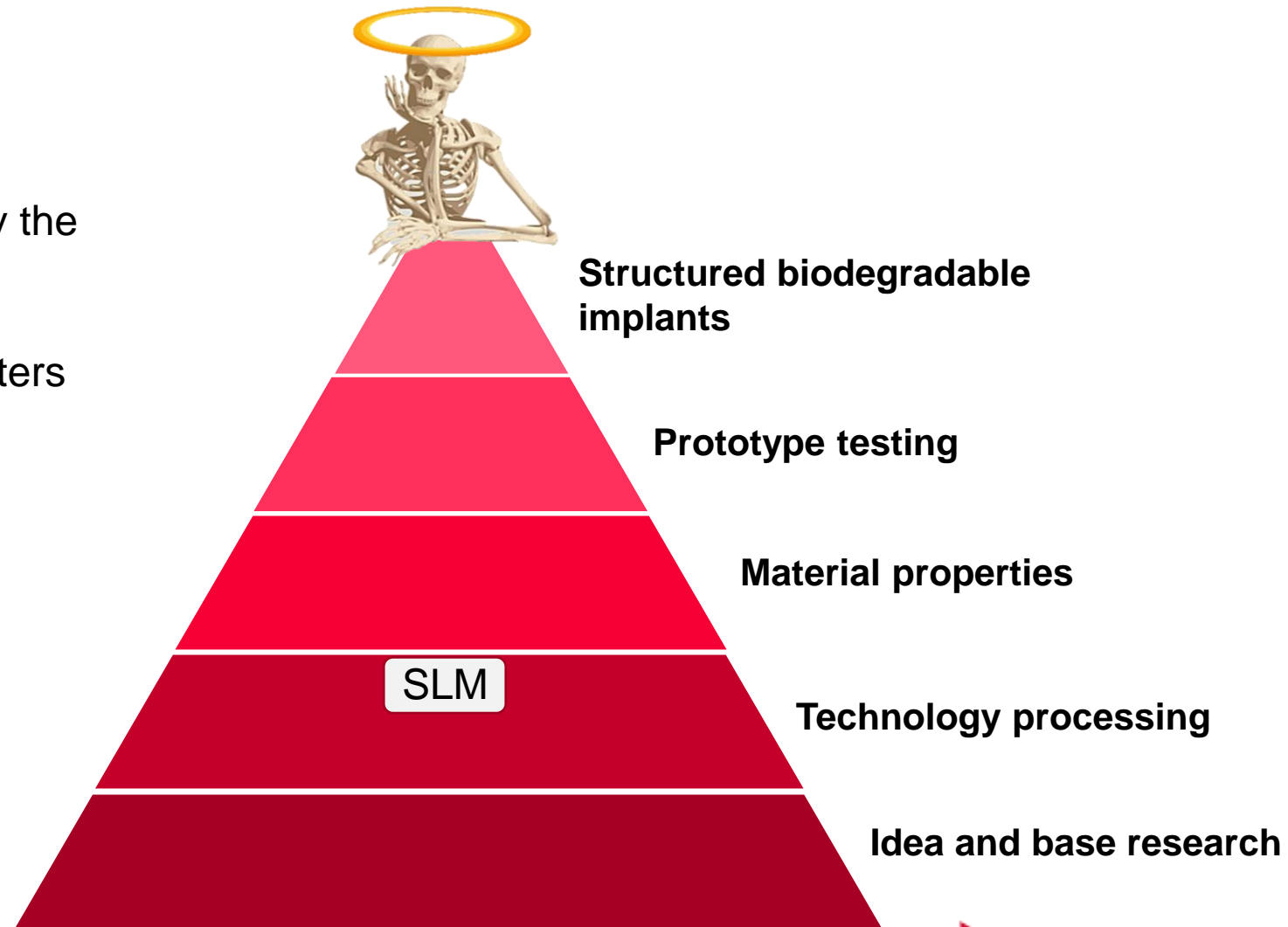
- Clarified the way how to process WE43 by the SLM method



Summary

Main achievement

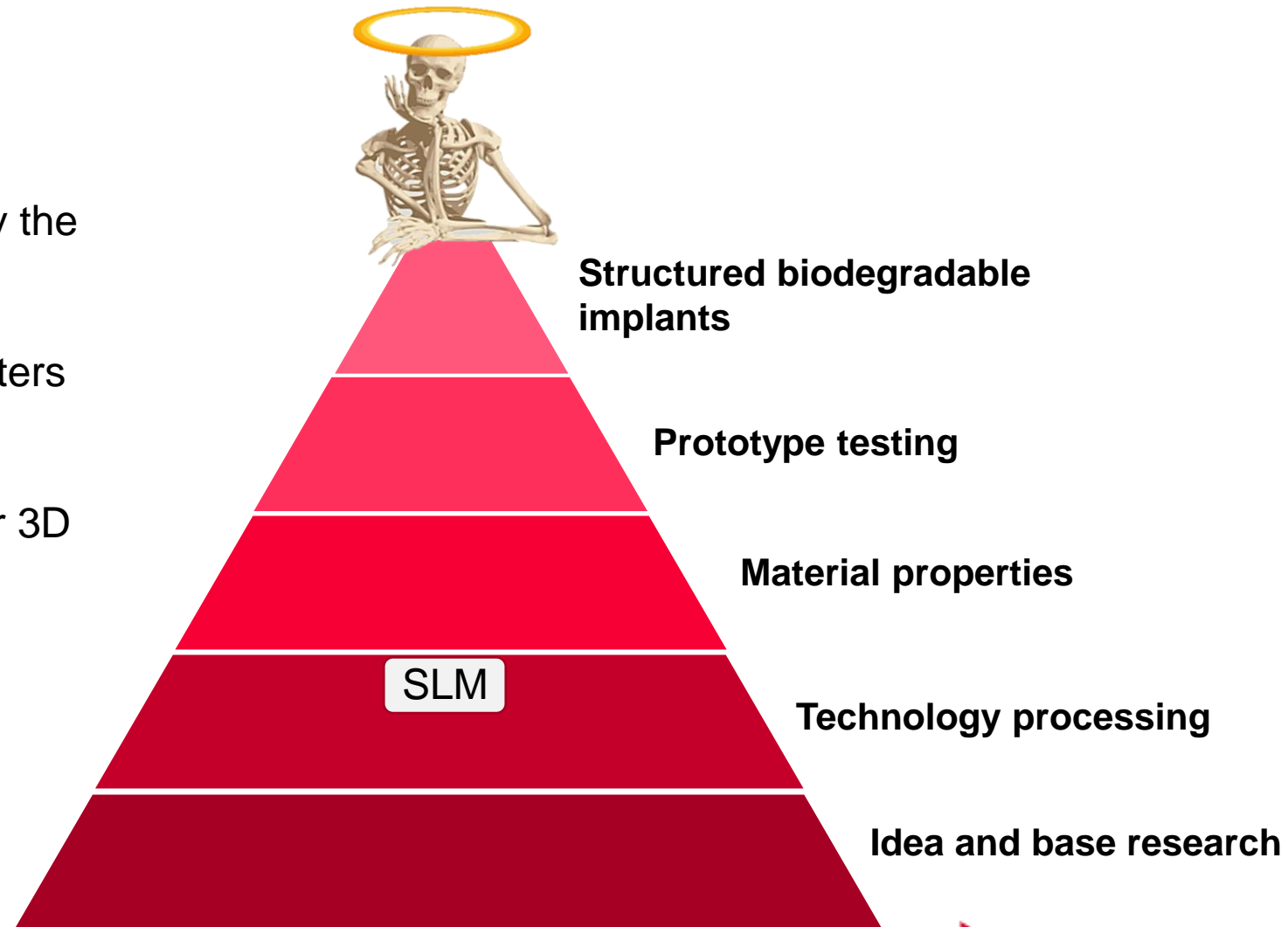
- Clarified the way how to process WE43 by the SLM method
- Describe the influence of process parameters on the printing process



Summary

Main achievement

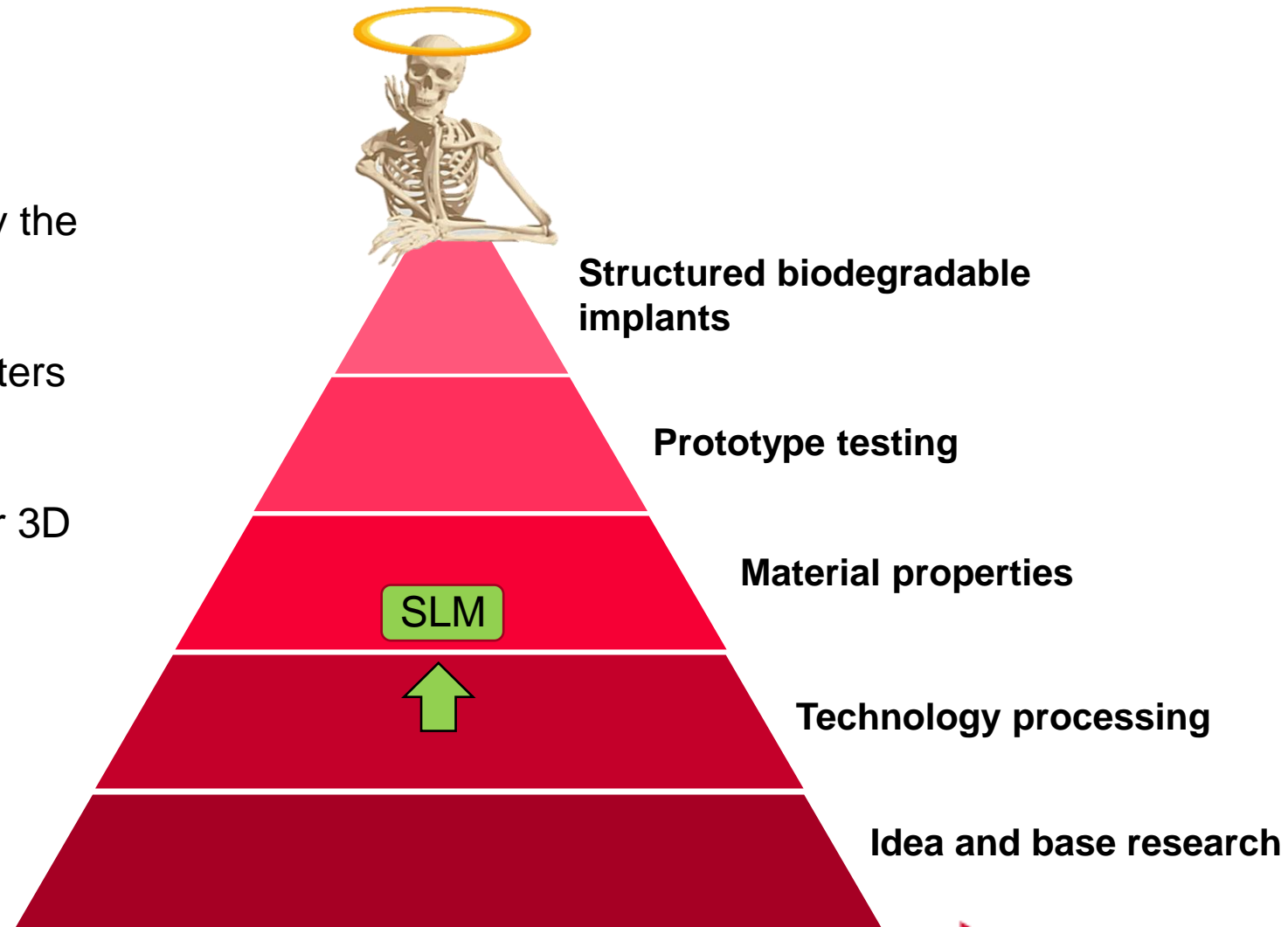
- Clarified the way how to process WE43 by the SLM method
- Describe the influence of process parameters on the printing process
- Determining the value of corrosion rate for 3D printed material
- The corrosion resistance of 3D printed material was improved



Summary

Main achievement

- Clarified the way how to process WE43 by the SLM method
- Describe the influence of process parameters on the printing process
- Determining the value of corrosion rate for 3D printed material
- The corrosion resistance of 3D printed material was improved



Summary

1. **SUCHY, Jan**, Miroslava HORYNOVÁ, Lenka KLAKURKOVÁ, David PALOUSEK, Daniel KOUTNY a Ladislav CELKO. Effect of laser parameters on processing of biodegradable magnesium alloy WE43 via selective laser melting method. *Materials* [online]. 2020, 13(11). ISSN 19961944. Dostupné z: doi:10.3390/ma13112623
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7. **SUCHY, Jan**, Libor PANTELEJEV, David PALOUSEK, Daniel KOUTNY a Jozef KAISER. Processing of AlSi9Cu3 alloy by selective laser melting. *Powder Metallurgy* [online]. 2020, 63(3), 197–211. ISSN 17430901. Dostupné z: doi:10.1080/00305899.2020.1792675
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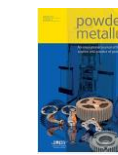
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Thank you for your attention

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