

An Overview of Light Metals and Additive Manufacturing Research at Monash University

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Monash University





- 2015 ~65,000 students
- 1970 Department of MSE

2 andrey.molotnikov@monash.edu

Department of Materials Science and Engineering



- Long history in light metal alloy research
- 24 academic staff, very global reach
- Strong track record of industrial delivery
 - Local
 - International
 - Defense
 - Spin offs





Department of Materials Science and Engineering, Monash University

- **FACILITIES**: Massive investment in worldclass infrastructure unique to the region (including the Australian Synchrotron, and the Clayton Precinct...).
- **BREADTH**: Capabilities in many materials and advanced manufacturing areas (modelling, nanomaterials, alloys, biomaterials, automotive/aerospaceAl, 3D printing...).
- **DEPTH**: Focused research with world-class expertise in key areas (e.g. light metals, additive manufacturing, aerospace materials, functional materials materials durability).
- **DELIVERY**: Strong track record of delivering useful results to industry (internationally).
- **COLLABORATION**: Collaborations around the world.





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Australian Research Council

Light metals areas of research



- Physical metallurgy
- Al, Ti, Mg
- Glasses and High entropy alloys
- Modelling
- Characterisation (structure and properties)
- Corrosion and coatings
- Fatigue
- Alloy design
- Processing

Light metals capabilities

- Induction melting, arc melting
- Extrusion, rolling, SPD (HPT, ECAP, etc)
- Spark plasma sintering
- Laser powder processing
- HIPing

Light metals alloys for dental application Example of output

- Ti–15Zr alloy
- Institut Straumann AG, Basel, Switzerland

Table 3 – Mean values for yield (YS), ultimate tensile strength (UTS) and uniform elongation (%) of Ti–15Zr and Ti-Grade4, measured for machined and SLA-treated surfaces. Samples are randomly chosen out of one production lot measuring 8 samples each. Bar diameter is 5 mm.

	YS (MPa)	UTS (MPa)	Uniform elongation (%)
Ti-Grade4, SLA Ti-Grade4, machined	712±9 722±8	851±7 864±11	6.8 ± 0.6 6.1 ± 0.3
Ti–15Zr, SLA Ti–15Zr, machined	799±26 784±34	968±26 987±35	6.2 ± 0.5 6.0 ± 0.7

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Research Paper

Microstructure and mechanical properties of Ti–15Zr alloy used as dental implant material



Alexander E. Medvedev^{a,*}, Andrey Molotnikov^a, Rimma Lapovok^b, Rolf Zeller^c, Simon Berner^d, Philippe Habersetzer^d, Florian Dalla Torre^d

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ABSTRACT

Article history: Received revised form 2 May 2016 Accepted 4 May 2016 Available online 11 May 2016 Keywords: Dental implants Fatigue Ti-Zr alloy Microstructure SLA (Sand blasting and acid etching) Ti-Zr alloys have recently started to receive a considerable amount of attention as promising materials for dental applications. This work compares mechanical properties of a new Ti-I5Zr alloy to those of commercially pure titanium Grade4 in two surface conditions – machined and modified by sand-blasting and etching (SLA). As a result of significantly smaller grain size in the initial condition (1-2 µm), the strength of Ti-I5Zr alloy was found to be 10-15% higher than that of Grade4 titanium without reduction in the tensile elongation or compromising the fracture toughness. The fatigue endurance limit of the alloy was increased by around 30% (560 MPa vs. 435 MPa and 500 MPa vs. 330 MPa for machined and SLA-treated surfaces, respectively). Additional implant fatigue tests showed enhanced fatigue performance of Ti-I5Zr over Ti-Grade4.

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Corrosion of light metals Example of outputs

Key focus areas are 'stainless light metals'

- Development of corrosion resistant Mg-alloys
- Development of corrosion resistant Al-alloys



A high-specific-strength and corrosion-resistant magnesium alloy

Wanqiang Xu^{1,2}, Nick Birbilis^{2,3}, Gang Sha⁴, Yu Wang⁵, John E. Daniels¹, Yang Xiao⁶ and Michael Ferry^{1,2*}

 A magnesium alloy containing (at.%/wt%) 30.30/10.95Li, 2.34/3.29Al, 0.039/0.19Zr and 0.128/0.59Y





PAPER



Cite this: RSC Adv., 2016, 6, 43408

Stifling magnesium corrosion *via* a novel anodic coating

Y.-J. Wu,^a X.-B. Chen,^a G. Williams,^b J. R. Scully,^c T. Gengenbach^d and N. Birbilis*^a



Corrosion of light metals



8



Credit: Prof Nick Birbilis

Monash Centre for Electron Microscopy



- Provides advanced instrumentation, expertise and training to conduct specialist research in advanced electron microscopy and atom probe microscopy;
- The suite of instrumentation can determine the composition, structure and bonding of materials down to the atomic scale;
- Building designed to provide exceptional mechanical, thermal and electromagnetic stability to optimise instrument performance.



www.mcem.monash.edu

An example of outputs



Periodic Segregation of Solute Atoms in Fully Coherent Twin Boundaries

J. F. Nie,¹* Y. M. Zhu,¹ J. Z. Liu,² X. Y. Fang³

The formability and mechanical properties of many engineering alloys are intimately related to the formation and growth of twins. Understanding the structure and chemistry of twin boundaries at the atomic scale is crucial if we are to properly tailor twins to achieve a new range of desired properties. We report an unusual phenomenon in magnesium alloys that until now was thought unlikely: the equilibrium segregation of solute atoms into patterns within fully coherent terraces of deformation twin boundaries. This ordered segregation provides a pinning effect for twin boundaries, leading to a concomitant but unusual situation in which annealing strengthens rather than weakens these alloys. The findings point to a platform for engineering nano-twinned structures through solute atoms. This may lead to new alloy compositions and thermomechanical processes.

www.sciencemag.org SCIENCE VOL 340 24 MAY 2013



Materials Modelling Development of physically based constitutive models

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- Phenomenological Models
 - Large number of fit parameters
 - Limited predictive capability

- Physically based Models
 Small number of adjustable parameters
 Excellent predictive
 - Excellent predictive capabilities



Materials Modelling Process optimisation







Extrusion

Qform 8 Extrusion, www.qform3d.com



Materials modeling Extrusion

- Optimisation of extrusion process
 - Increase productivity
 - Improve die life
 - Quality of the product surface
 - Different materials (Al, Mg)







13

Definition of Additive Manufacturing



- A process of joining materials to make objects from 3D model data, usually layer upon layer, as opposed to subtractive manufacturing methodologies.
- Synonyms: additive fabrication, additive processes, additive techniques, additive layer manufacturing, layer manufacturing, and freeform fabrication



Designation: F2792 – 12a

Standard Terminology for Additive Manufacturing Technologies^{1,2}



Monash Centre for Additive Manufacturing Prof Xinhua Wu





EOS M280 (x2)

- 400 W fibre laser
- Max build: ~ 250 x 250 x 300 mm³
- Ni, Ti, Al alloy and steel powders



Concept Laser X1000R LaserCUSING®

- 1000 W fibre laser
- Largest in world: 400 x 600 x 500 mm³
- Ni, Ti, Al alloy and steel powders



Trumpf TLC 7040 DLD

- 4 kW Disk Laser
- 5 axis + rotation
- 4000 mm x 1500 mm chamber
- Programmable spot size (0.2-6 mm)
- Blown powder mixing capabilities 16
- Local shielding to 10 ppm O₂





Design for Additive Manufacturing





The promise of design

3D Printing of a Small Jet Engine

Sponsored by: The Science and Industry Endowment Fund (SIEF) and Microturbo (SAFRAN Group)

Research Partners: Monash University, Deakin University and CSIRO

Design for Additive Manufacturing





Design for Additive Manufacturing





- A357 aluminium cast alloy
 - Al, Si (6.5% 7.5%), Mg (0.4% - 0.7%)
- structural durability, corrosion resistance
- T6 heat treatment (Cast alloy)





Credit: Chris Davies and Heng Rao

Selective Laser Melting of Aluminium Alloy A357 Density measurement

Sample scanning parameters	А	В		
Substrate temperature (°C)	35	200		
Powder layer thickness (µm)	30	30		
Hatch distance (µm)	100	100		
Spot size diameter (µm)	100	100		
Laser power (W)	100, 175, 225, 300, 370			
Scan speed (mm/s)	500, 1000, 2000, 3000, 4000, 5000			
Specimen geometry (mm)	15 x 15 x 10			



Relative Density (%)



500 µm

Rao, S Giet, K Yang, X Wu, CHJ Davies, Materials & Design 109, 334-346, (2016)

500 µm

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The microstructure & molten pool morphology of as-SLMed specimen built at 200°C





Rao, S Giet, K Yang, X Wu, CHJ Davies, Materials & Design 109, 334-346, (2016)

Tensile testing Influence of SLM process and post heat treatment



Vertical direction

Horizontal direction



Selective Laser Melting of Aluminium Alloy A357 Summary



- Optimised SLM process parameters based on density measurement;
- Influence of SLM process and post heat treatment on the microstructure and mechanical properties;
- Mechanical property difference in relation to the directionality.

Credit: Marten Jurg

27

Selective Laser Melting SLM Surface Finish

- Highly complex geometries
 possible
- Near fully dense components (>99.9%)
- High value proposition





Selective Laser Melting SLM Surface Finish

- SLM surface a limiting factor
- Some improvement possible through parameter development
- Adhered powder and melt pool fluctuation remain an issue
 - Surface roughness \propto angle
 - Typical R_a 10-60µm



As built surface (vertical)



Marten Jurg, W. Yan, A. Molotnikov, unpublished

Non-Contact Polishing Chemical Polishing

- Roughness results in poor fatigue performance & reduces effective specific strength
- Fatigue crack initiation result of surface roughness
- In simple cases machining applicable → Complex geometry prohibitive
- Only non-contact methods applicable

- Titanium alloys corrosion resistant – limited chemical treatment options
- Hydrofluoric acid solutions
 proven & effective





Non-Contact Polishing HF-HNO₃ Polishing





Solution Trials: (a) As-built (b) 10% HF (c) 5% HF + 5% HNO₃ (d) 5% HF + 10% HNO₃

10 minute immersion

Marten Jurg, W. Yan, A. Molotnikov, unpublished

30

Non-Contact Polishing Initial Roughness Reduction



 5% HF and 10% near stoichiometric optimum – greatest roughness reduction

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31

 Very aggressive, greatest material reduction

Non-Contact Polishing Design Methodology





- 1. Initial designed geometry
- 2. As-built geometry
- 3. Chemically polished result

Design for Surface Quality Design Example





- Desired final $R_a < 6 \mu m$
- Desired thickness 1mm
- Solution: 5% HF & 10% HNO₃
- 3.5 minutes @ 63µm/min = 220µm
- Design thickness 1440µm

Biomedical applications





Biomedical applications EXAMPLE Case study: Thumb Phalange





Biomedical applications



- New generation of metallic orthopaedic implants with tailored mechanical and biological properties
- Design of functionally graded
 structures
- Cell behaviour with Cell line MG-63 cell line (human osteoblast cells)
- Mechanical Characterization,
- Simulation..





Australian International Aerospace Congress

INNOVATION INTO AEROSPACE FUTURE

26 FEBRUARY - O2 MARCH 2017

In conjunction with the

th

AIAC17





- Five symposia focusing on Material Science and Engineering
 - Additive manufacturing
 - Corrosion
 - Light metals design
 - Composite materials
 - Fatigue and Fracture
- Abstract submission: open



Thank you for your attention!

Questions?

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