

Assessment of laser peening induced effects on Ti6Al4V by non-destructive measurements

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Material: Ti-6Al-4V

One of the most appropriate biomaterials for **load-bearing implants**:

- Good mechanical properties
- High corrosion resistance
- Good biocompatibility (Bioinert)



Biological response is regulated by the material / tissue interface

SURFACE MODIFICATIONS BASED ON SEVERE PLASTIC DEFORMATION

GRIT BLASTING (GB)



$\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3 / \text{ZrO}_2$

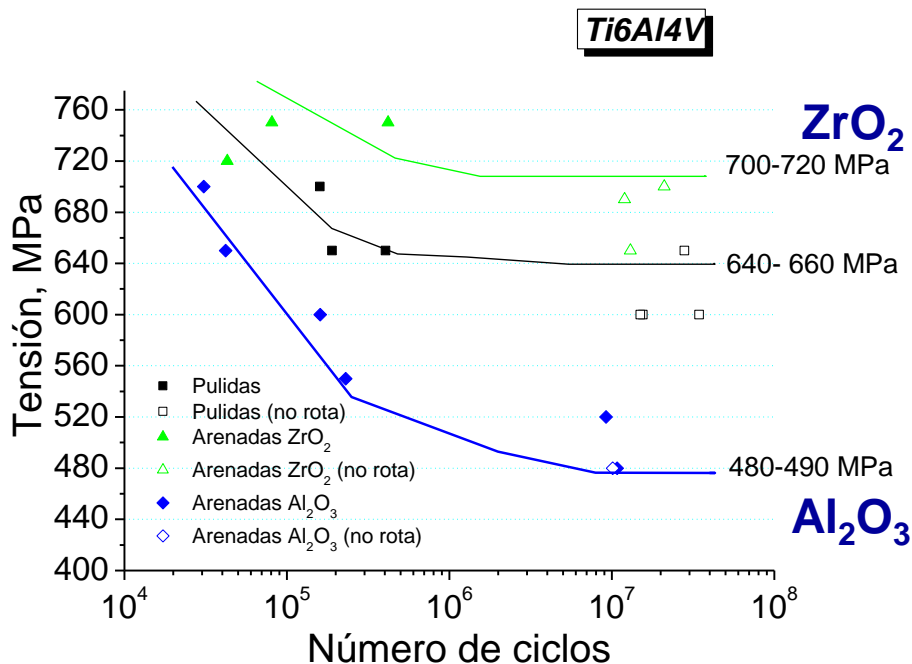
$$R_a \begin{cases} \text{GB-Al}_2\text{O}_3 \approx 5.1 \mu\text{m} \\ \text{GB-ZrO}_2 \approx 1.0 \mu\text{m} \end{cases}$$

Beneficial effects

- Increases surface roughness
 - Increases **compressive residual stress**
- ↓
- **Increases fatigue resistance**

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Beneficial effects

- Increases surface roughness
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Detrimental effects

- Surface contamination
 - **Stress concentrators**
- ↓
- **Decreases fatigue resistance**

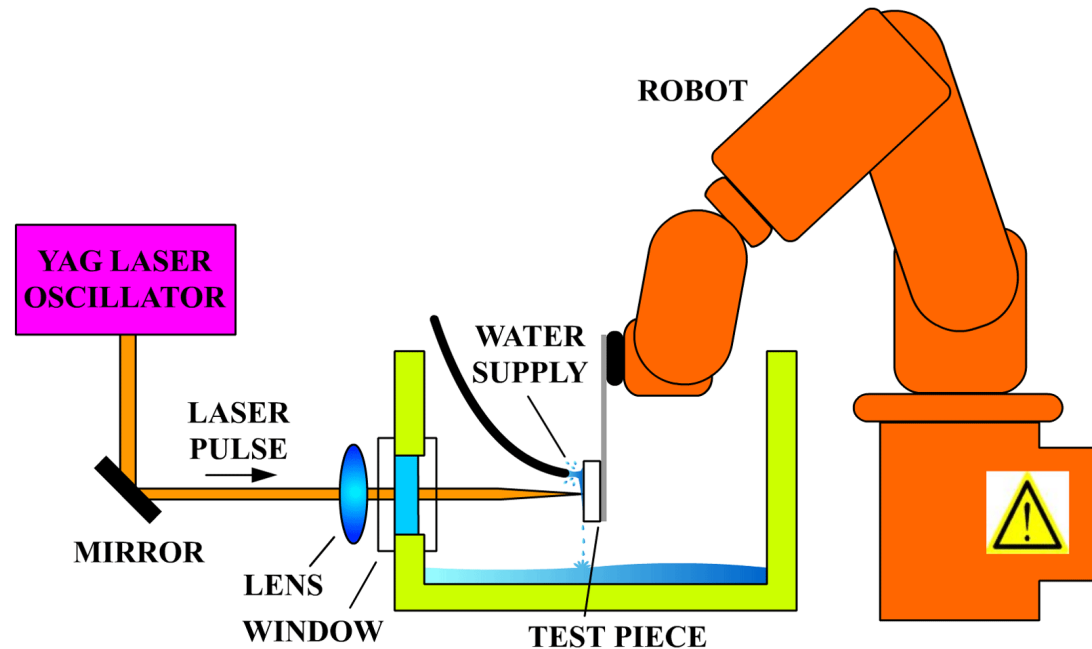
LASER PEENING WITHOUT COATING

Alternative to achieve **compressive residual stress** at a **depth of 1 mm**, **avoiding stress concentrators**:

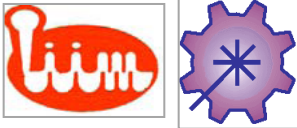
- **Delaying the nucleation and propagation of cracks.**
- **Improving the fatigue resistance.**

Q-switched Nd-YAG Laser irradiation:

- $E = 2,8 \text{ J / pulse}$
- $\tau = 9 \text{ ns}$
- $\varnothing \text{ pulse} = 1,5 \text{ mm}$
- $EOD = 5000 \text{ cm}^{-2}$
- **Confining medium: water**
- **No sacrificial coating**



Evaluating LP induced effects



RELEVANT ITEMS

S
U
R
F
A
C
E

Topography and surface roughness



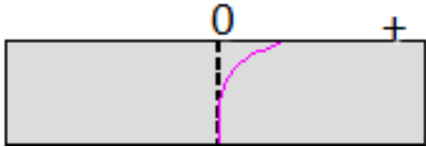
Strong effect on biological response

S
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S
U
R
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A
C
E

compressive residual stress



cold work (hardening, texture)



Strong effect on mechanical behaviour

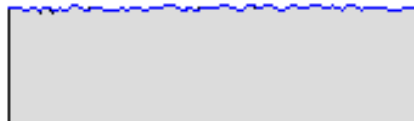
grain refinement / precipitates



RELEVANT ITEMS

S
U
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F
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Topography and
surface roughness



Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)

X-Ray Diffraction (XRD)

Mechanical profilometry

S
U
B
S
U
R
F
A
C
E

compressive residual stress

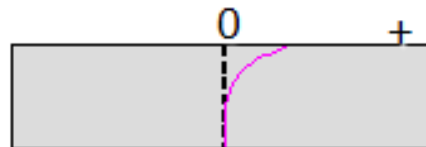


X-Ray Diffraction (XRD)

Synchrotron X-Ray Diffraction

Neutron Diffraction

cold work (hardening, texture)



Hole Drilling (HD)

Optical Microscopy (OM)

Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)

Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM)

Electron Backscatter Diffraction (EBSD)

grain refinement / precipitates



Vickers Microhardness (HV), ...

RELEVANT ITEMS

S
U
R
F
A
C
E

Topography and
surface roughness



Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)

X-Ray Diffraction (XRD)

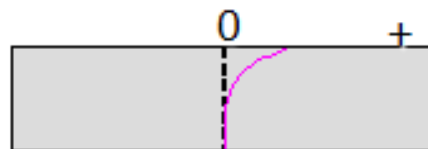
Mechanical profilometry

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Our proposal:

**THERMOELECTRIC
POWER
MEASUREMENTS**

METHODS

SEEBECK PRINCIPLE: Thermoelectric property that causes the conversion of a **temperature difference** into **electricity**.

Hot tip method



Mainly sensitive to:
**Solute content and
lattice defects**

Magnetic method

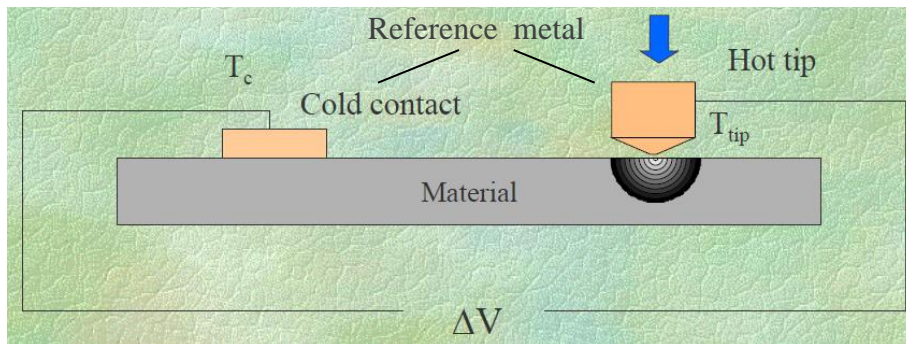


Mainly sensitive to:
Residual stress

Insensitive to the sample **geometry** and the **surface roughness**

METHODS

Hot tip method



- When a **closed loop** is made of two metals with a **temperature difference** at the joints between them, a **potential difference (ΔV)** is induced (**Seebeck effect**).

- The **thermoelectric power (ΔS)** of the sample (**S_M**) relative to the reference metal (**S_{tip}**) is given by the relation:

$$\Delta S = S_M - S_{tip} = \Delta V / \Delta T \quad (\text{nV/K})$$

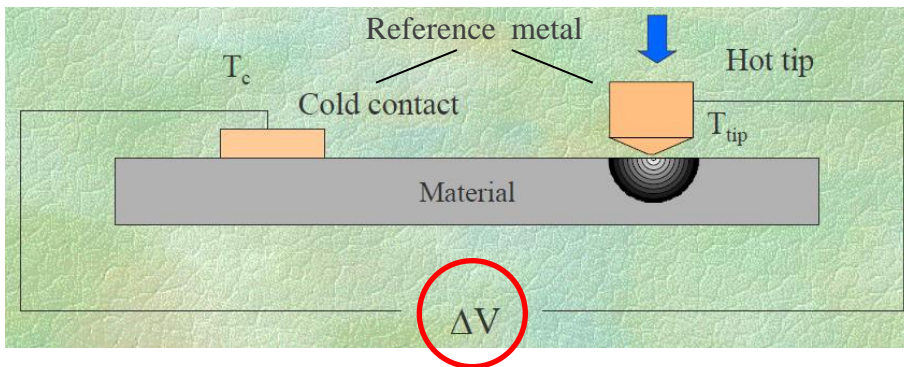
Measuring time 1 s

Accuracy $\pm 0.5\%$

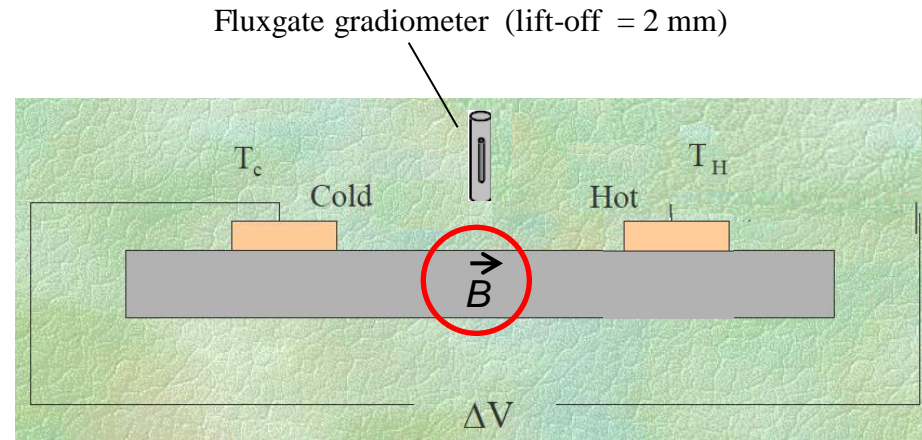
Resolution 1 nV/K

METHODS

Hot tip method



Magnetic method



Combination of LP with two standard heat treatments

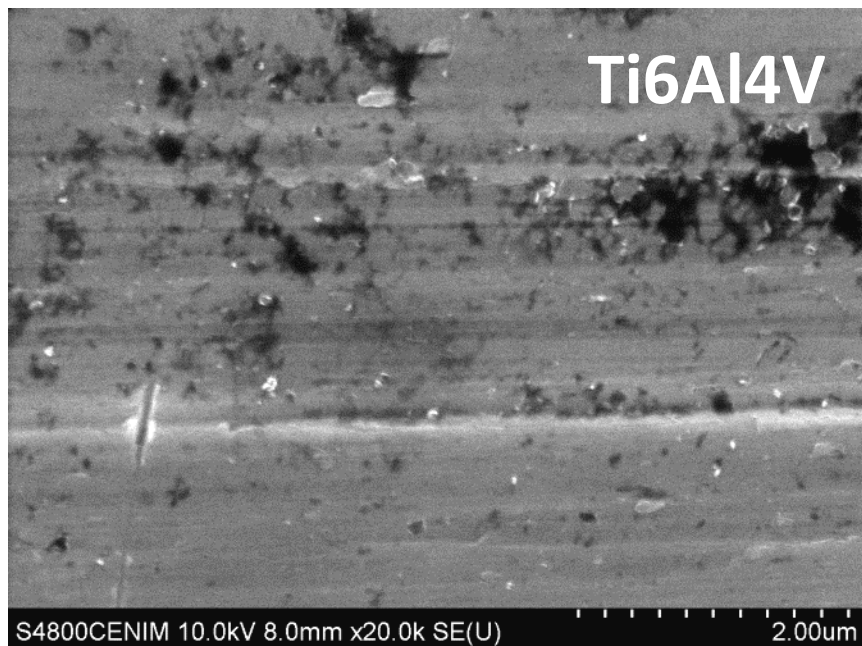
- 1- Partial residual stress relief (595°C / 1h)**
- 2- Total residual stress relief (710°C / 2h)**



Five different conditions

TOPOGRAPHY

As machined

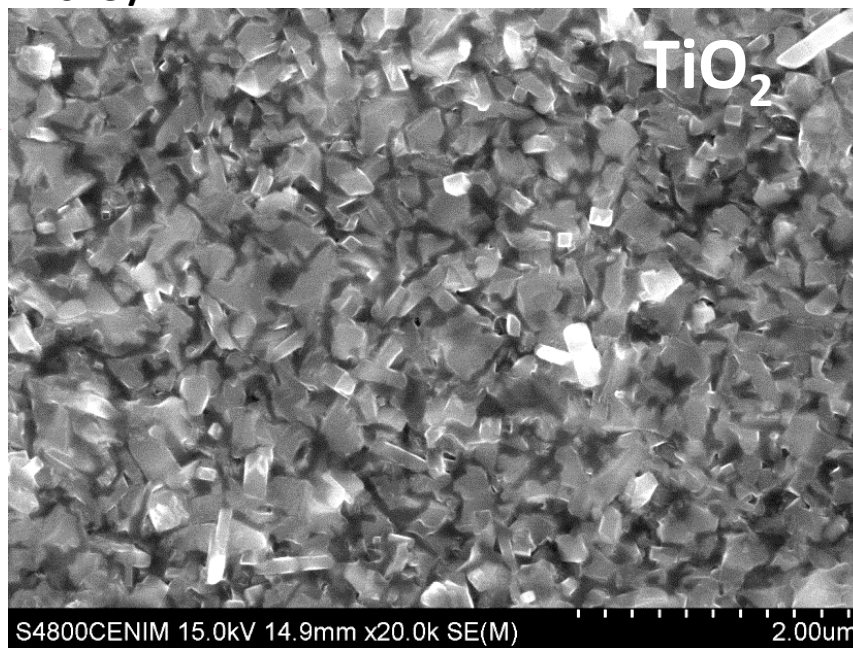


TOPOGRAPHY

As machined



710°C / 2h

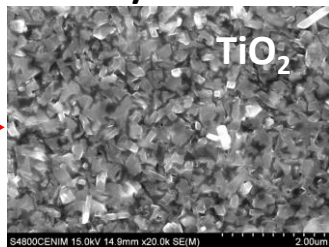


TOPOGRAPHY

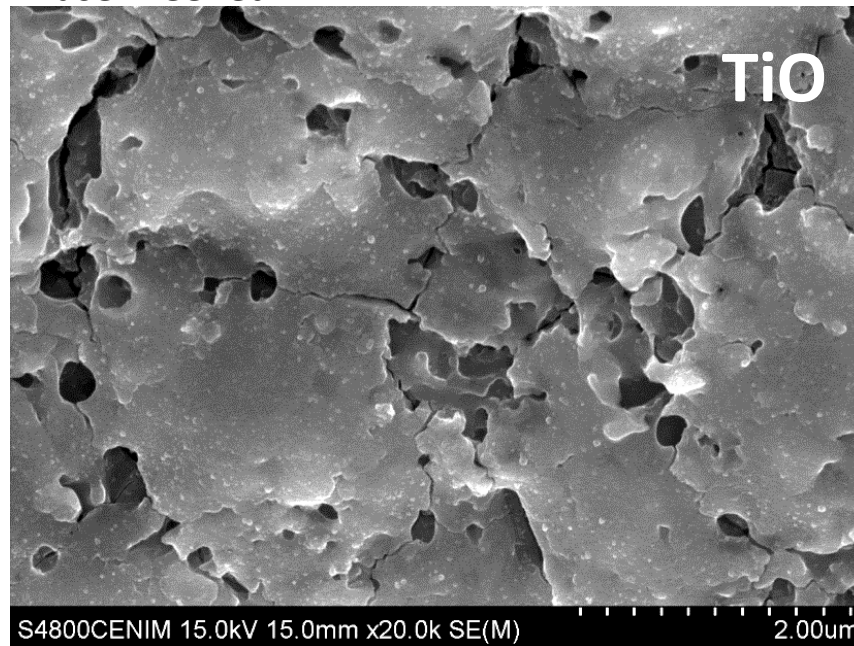
As machined



710°C / 2h

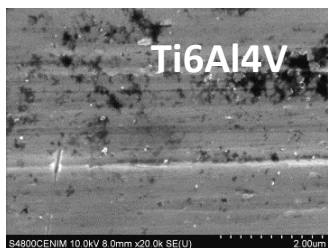


Laser Peened

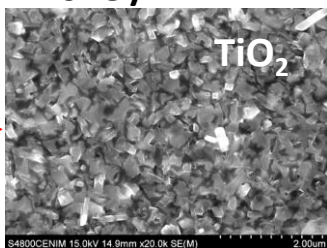


TOPOGRAPHY

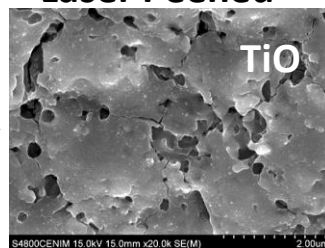
As machined



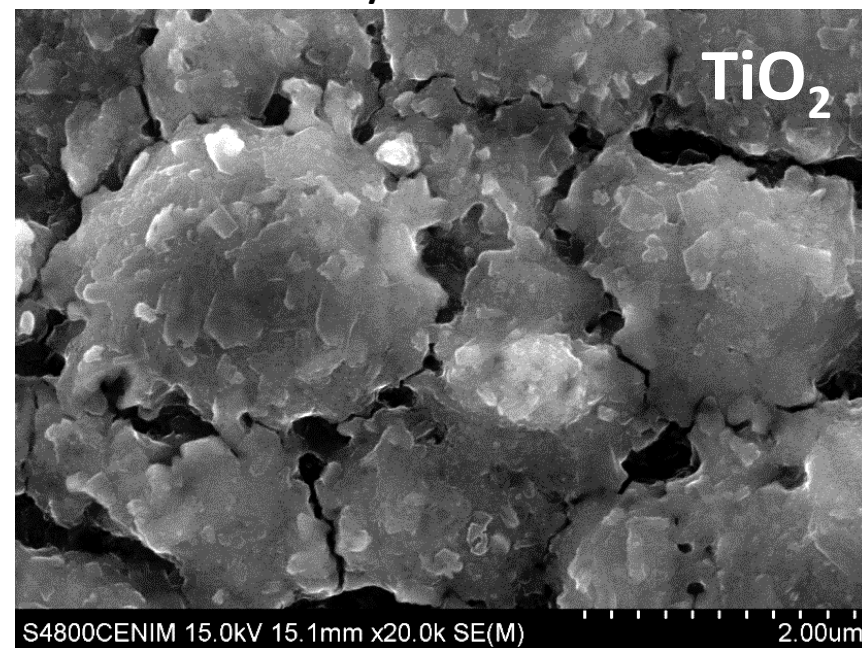
710°C / 2h



Laser Peened

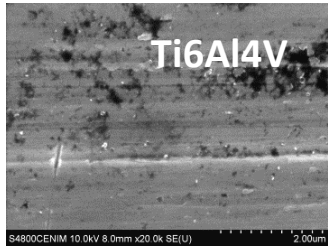


595°C / 1h

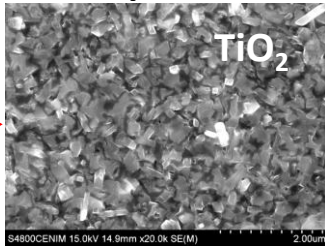


TOPOGRAPHY

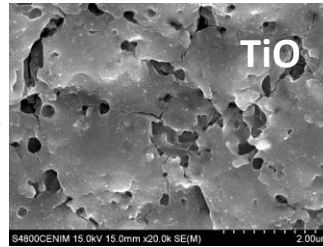
As machined



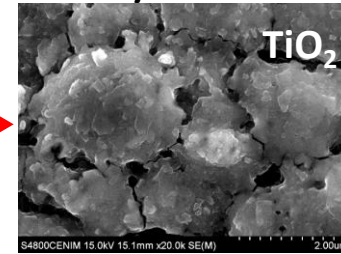
710°C / 2h



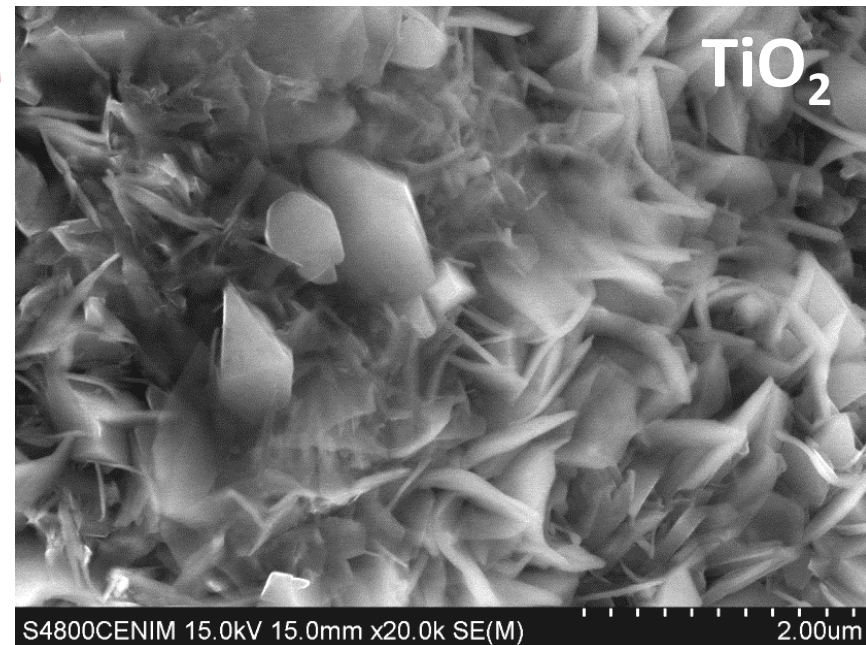
Laser Peened



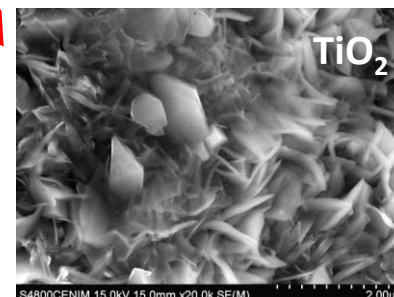
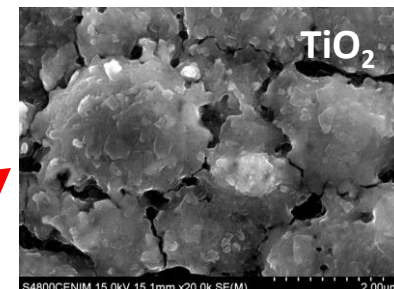
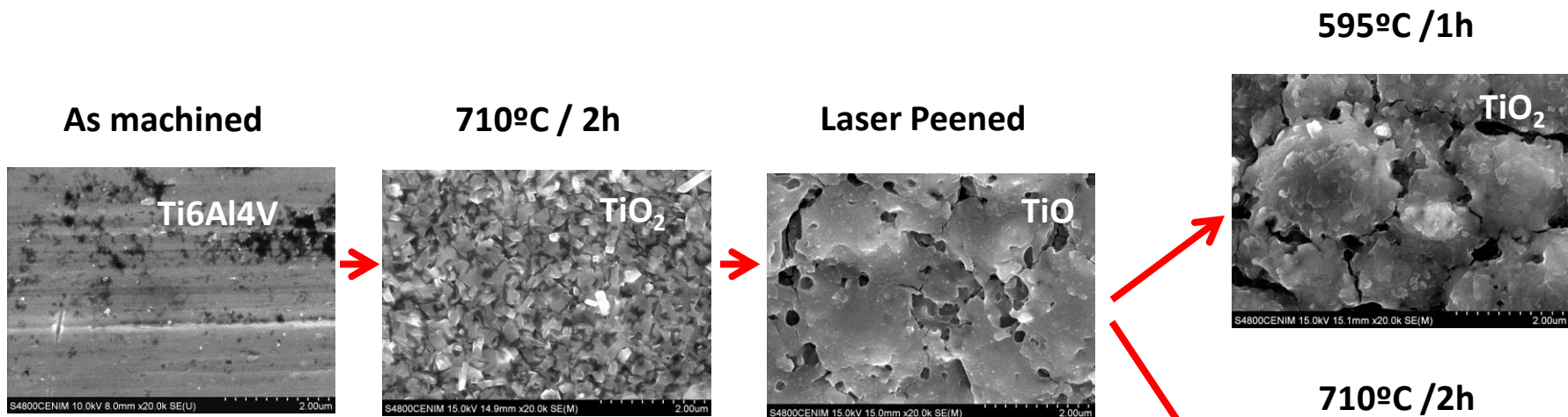
595°C / 1h



710°C / 2h



ROUGHNESS



Sample	Ra (μm)
As machined	1.84 ± 0.05
710°C / 2h	1.70 ± 0.10
Laser Peened	5.43 ± 0.40
595°C / 1h	5.67 ± 0.29
710°C / 2h	5.33 ± 0.31

R_a {

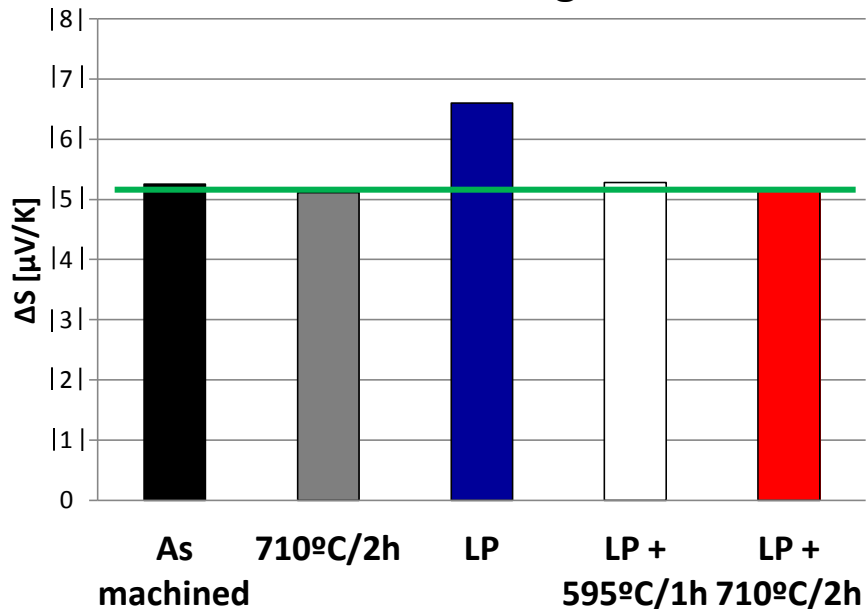
 GB-Al₂O₃ ≈ 5.1 μm

 GB-ZrO₂ ≈ 1.0 μm

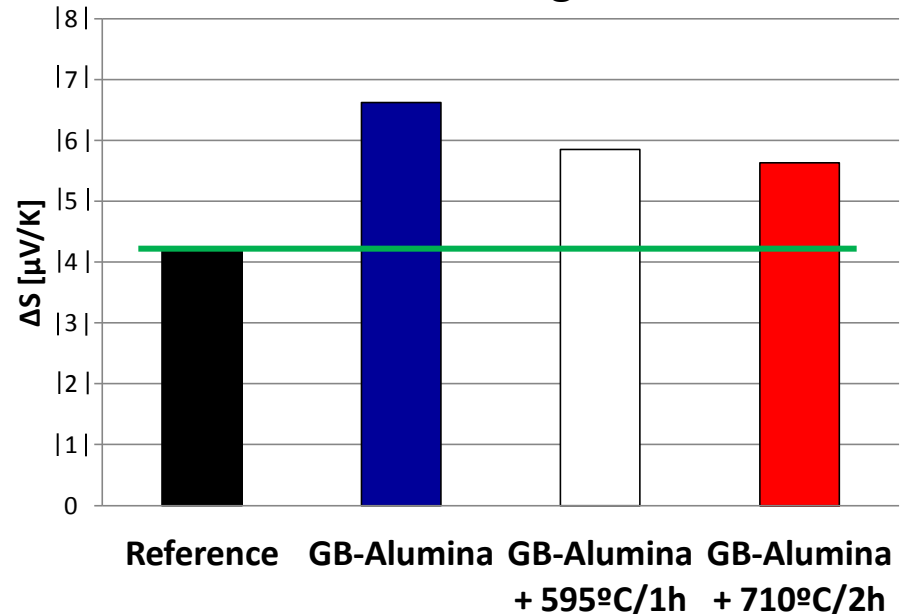
TEP MEASUREMENTS: MICROSTRUCTURAL CHANGES

Hot tip method

Laser Peening



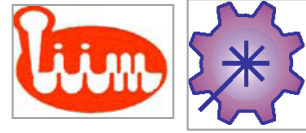
Grit blasting



LP induces less plastic deformation than GB

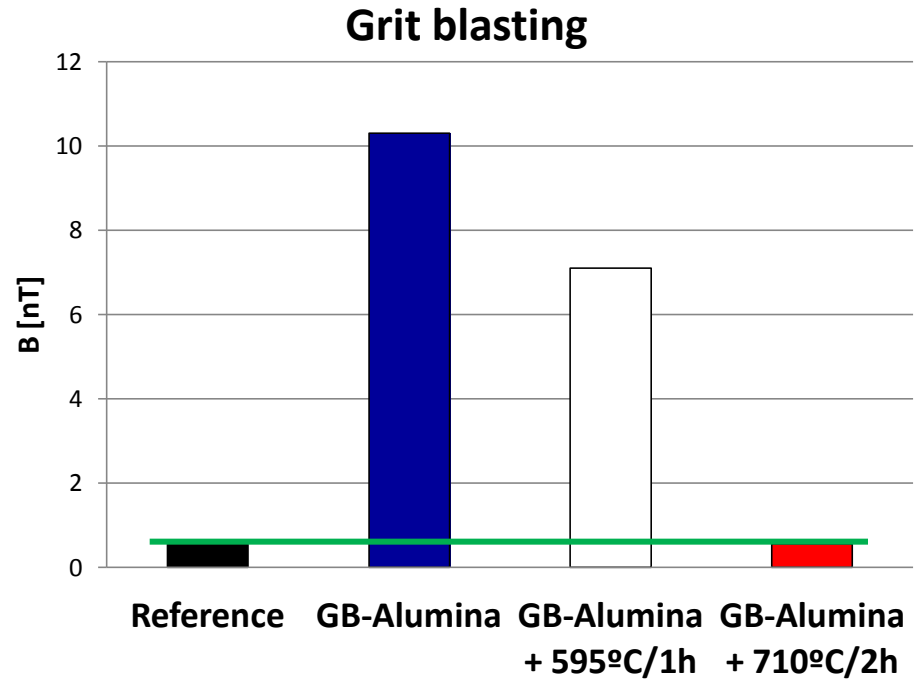
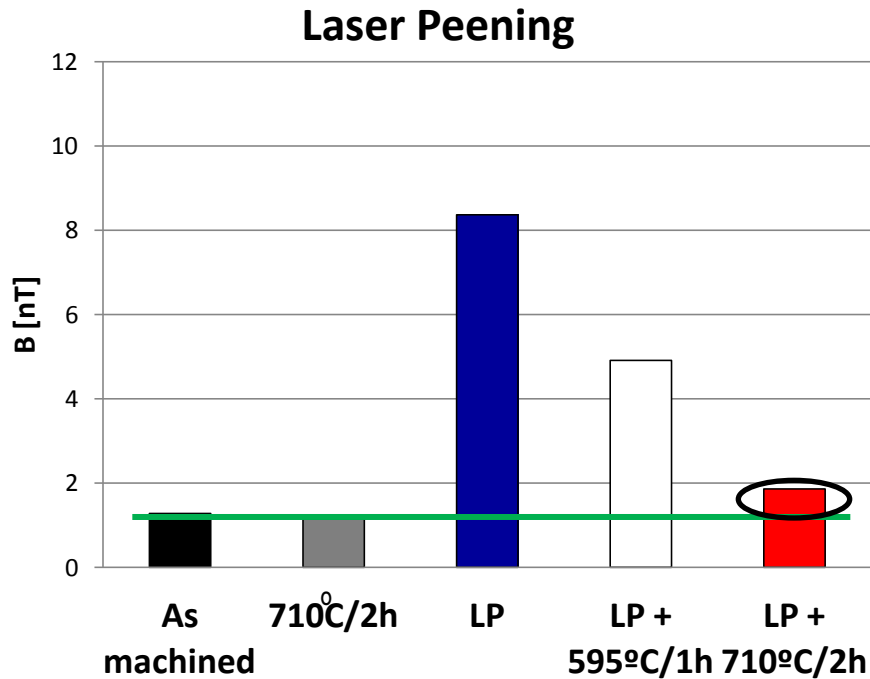
*H. Carreón, S. Barriuso, M. Lieblich,
J.L. González-Carrasco, J.A. Jimenez, F.G. Caballero.
Materials Science and Engineering C 33 (2013) 1417–1422*

Sub-surface Evaluation



TEP MEASUREMENTS: RESIDUAL STRESS

Magnetic method



LP might induce higher residual stress than GB

- **Laser Peening without coating** is a good method to generate **biocompatible surfaces** with **roughness** of **clinical interest**.
- **Thermoelectric Power** measurements is a good method to evaluate in a **fast, non destructive** and **qualitative** way the **laser peening induced effects**.
- **Laser peening** induced effects on **Ti6Al4V** can be detected by **TEP** and the contribution of the **residual stress** can be **distinguished** from the **microstructural changes**.
- Strong support for these conclusions should be confirmed by **microstructural analyses** (SEM, TEM,...) and **residual stress measurements** (hole drilling, synchrotron).



4th International Conference on Laser Peening and Related Phenomena



POLITÉCNICA

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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