

Functional fatigue recovery of superelastic cycled NiTi wires based on near 100°C aging treatments

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Superelastic NiTi wires: Use as dampers.



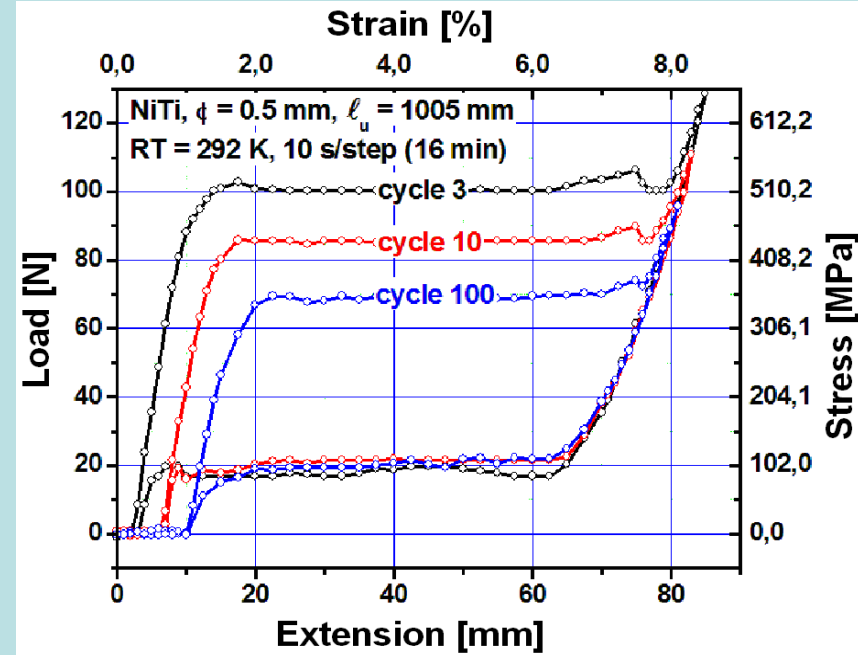
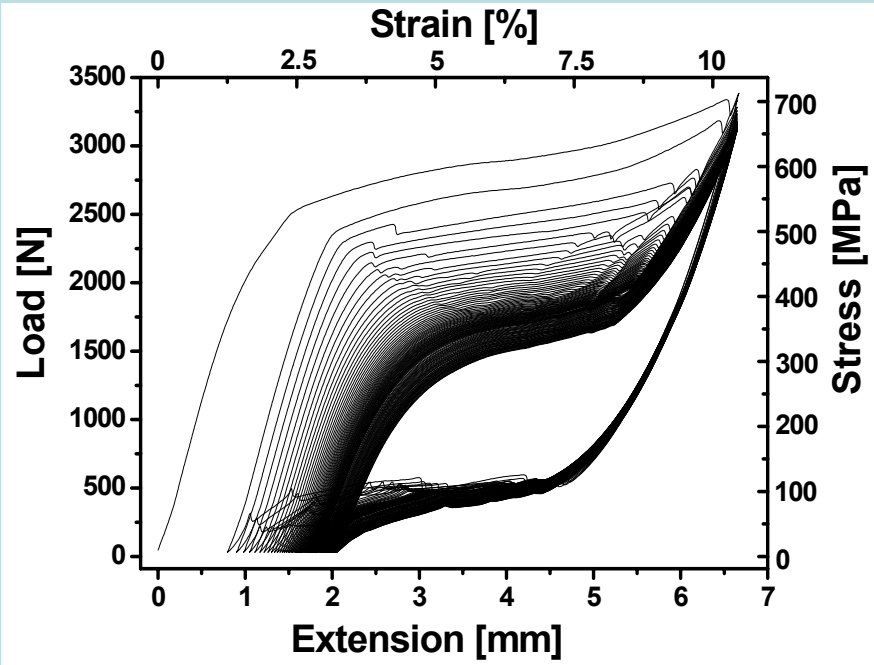
Superelastic NiTi wires: Use as dampers.

Functional fatigue: accumulation of residual strain and decrease of transformation stress on cycling

“Near asymptotic” behaviour,
but important loss of damping capacities

Here: Effect of “relatively low” temperature treatment (recovery)

Cycling effect:



Cycling effect: Left: 2.46 mm diameter NiTi wire. Cycles 1 to 100. The first cycle includes some gripping effects from the mechanical testing machine.

Right: Cycling effect on 0.5 mm diameter wire: cycles 3, 10 and 100.

Two pseudoelastic wires used: 2.46 mm diameter and 0.5 mm diameter (55.95 wt% Ni)

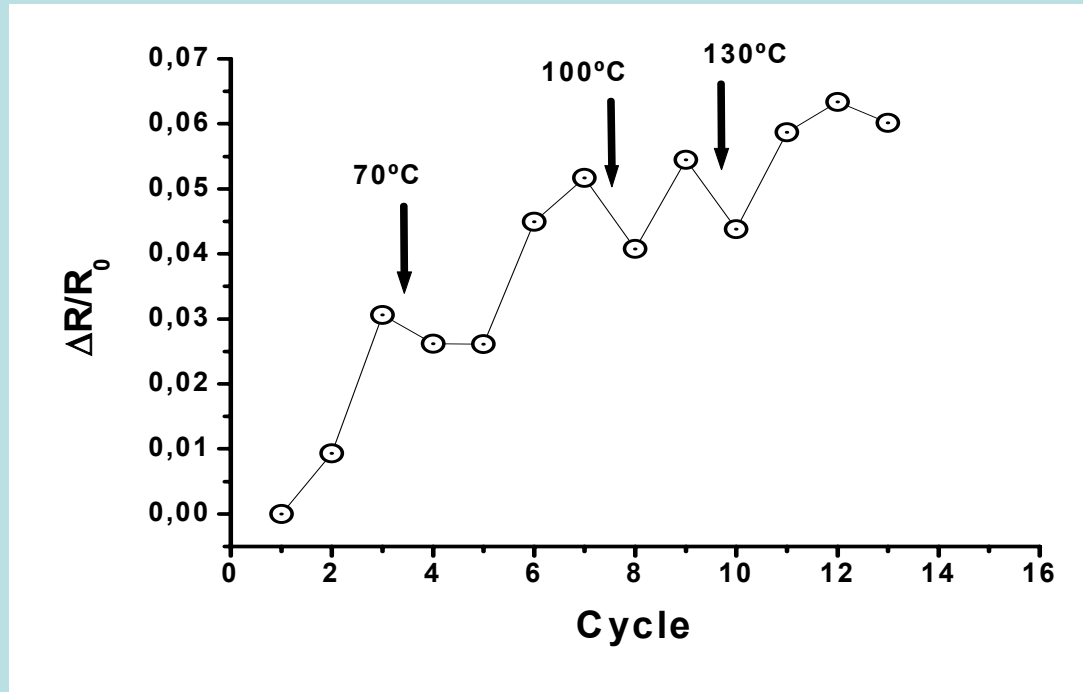
Thermal treatments near 100°C

Recovery on the residual strains and the transformation stresses?

Electrical resistance changes (in beta) follow the residual strain

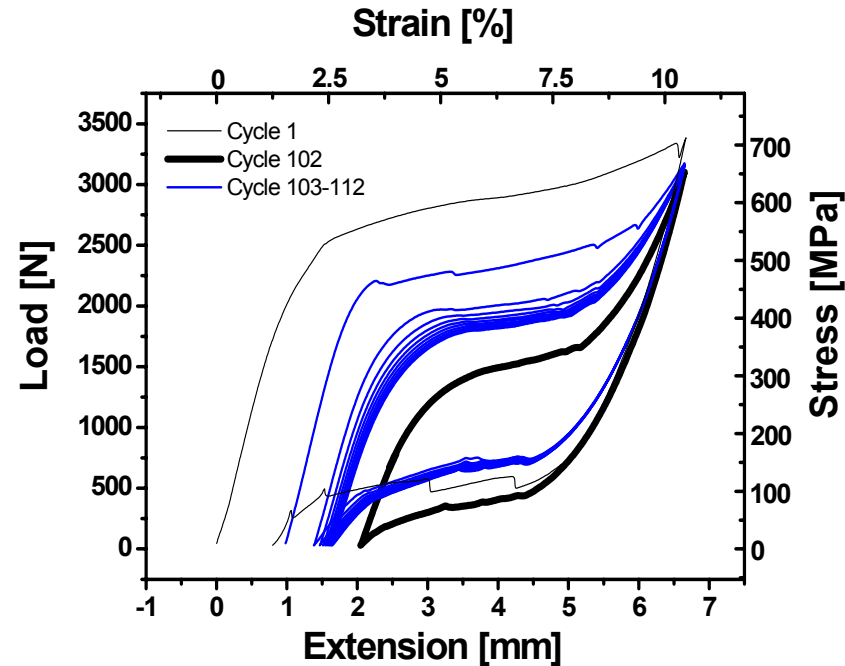
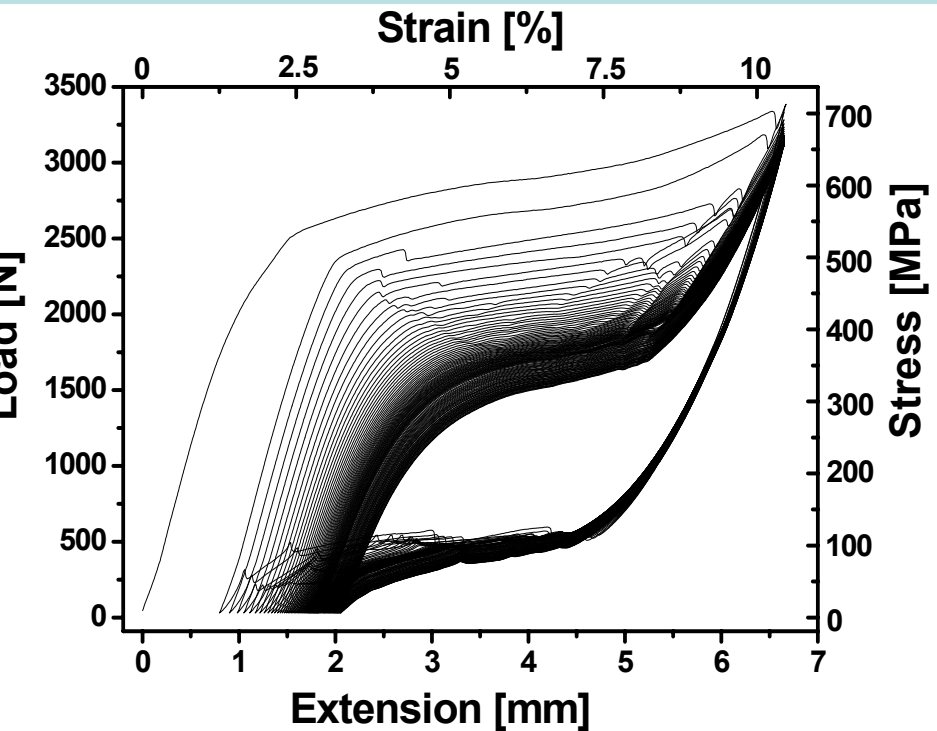
How do electrical resistance behave on cycled samples when heated?

Resistance measurements:



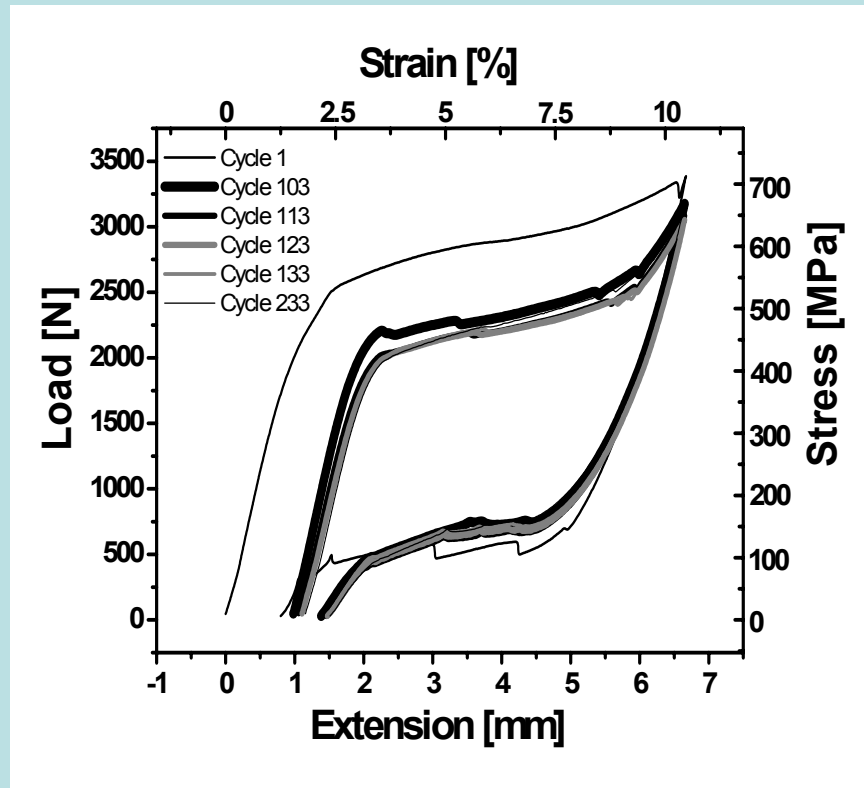
Cycling effect to 8% strain on 0.5 mm diameter NiTi wire. Relative change of electrical resistance on cycling (lines are only visual guides). Cycles 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 to 8% strain. Cycles 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, to 9.5% strain. Cycle 14, to 8% strain. A thermal treatment at 70°C (during 5 min) produces a small electrical resistance recovery. A thermal treatment to 100°C (5 min) produces a recovery very near that of a 130°C thermal treatment

Recovery effect:



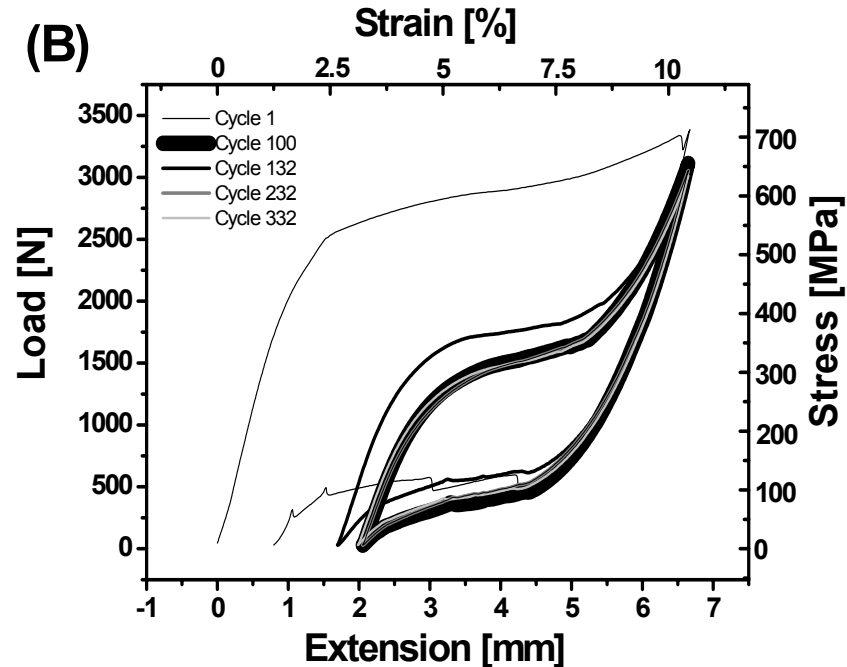
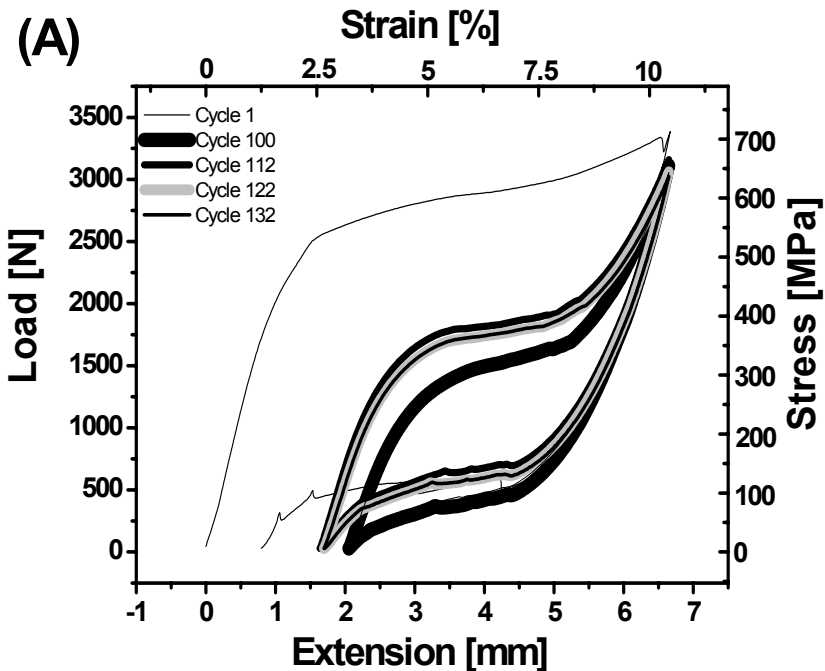
Recovery effect on 2.46 mm diameter NiTi wire. Left, first 100 cycles. Right, Cycles 1, 102 done after 5 h at room temperature once finished the first 100 cycles, and cycles 103-112 after heating to 100°C for 3.5 h.

Different recoveries:



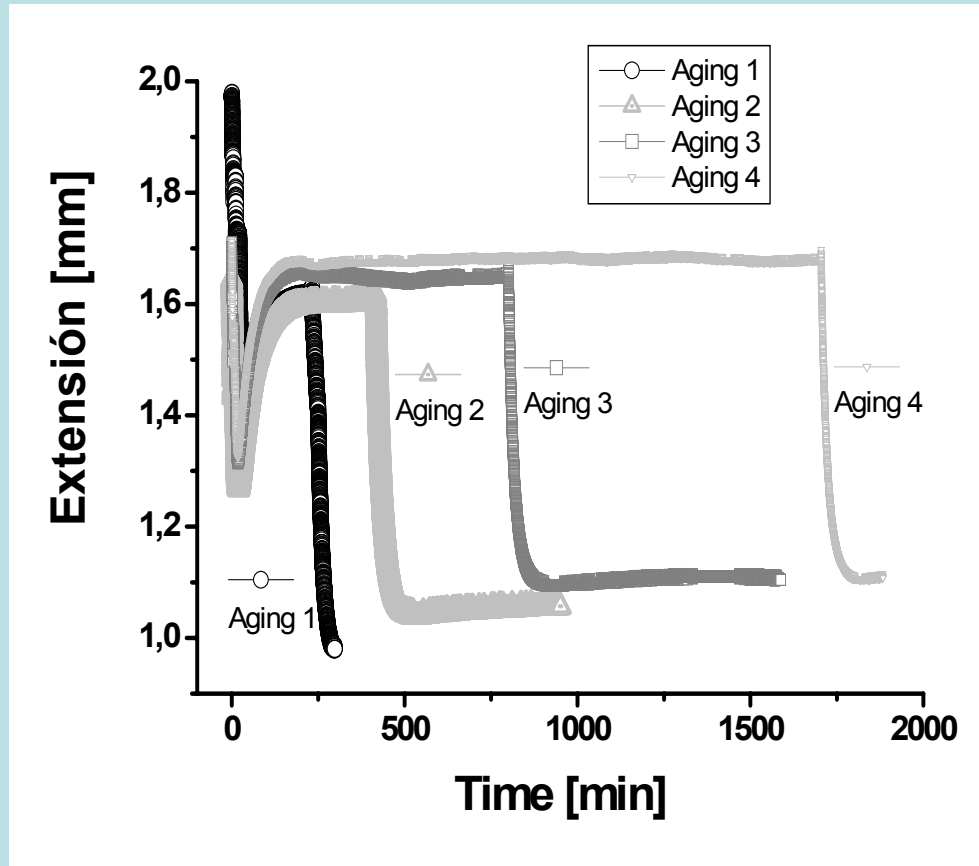
Recovery of 2.46 mm diameter NiTi wire by heating to 100°C. Cycle 1 compared with the cycles after thermal treatments to 100°C: cycles 103 (first recovery), 113 (second recovery), 123 (third recovery), 133 (fourth recovery), 233 (fifth recovery). The cycles after heat treatment to 100°C result very similar among them

Different recoveries:



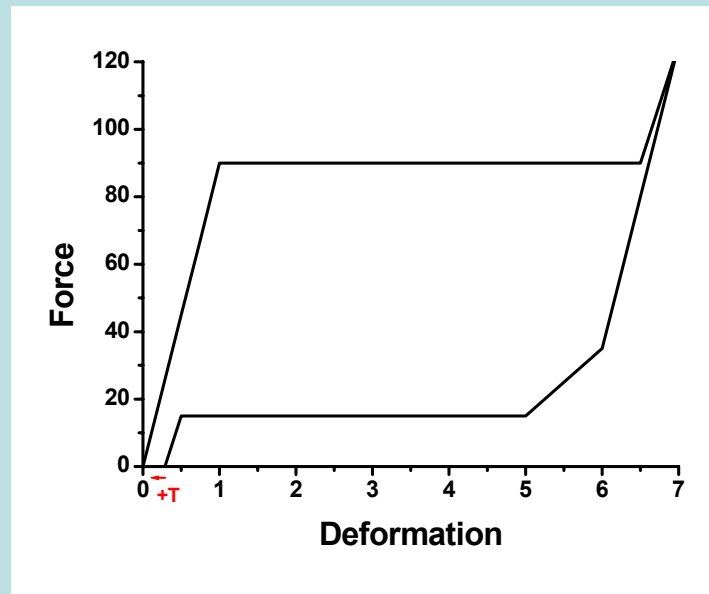
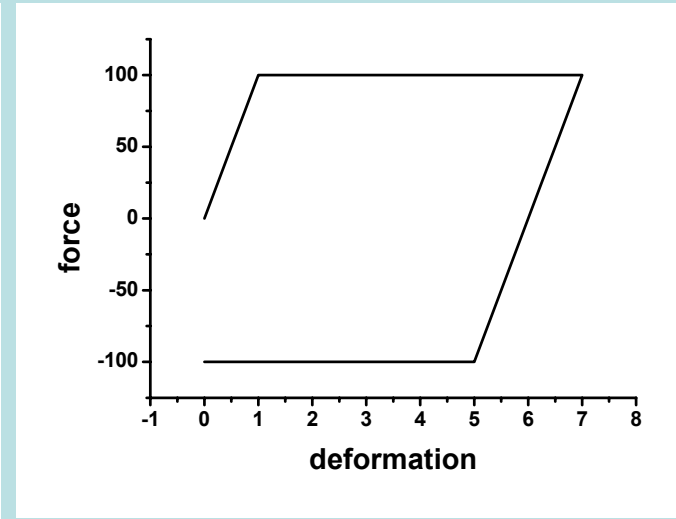
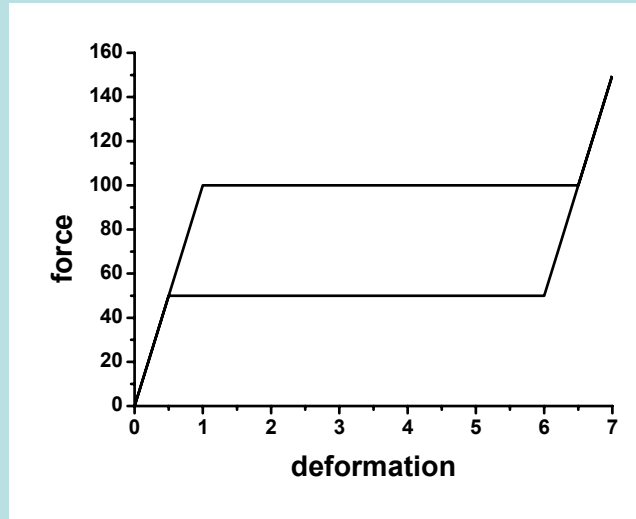
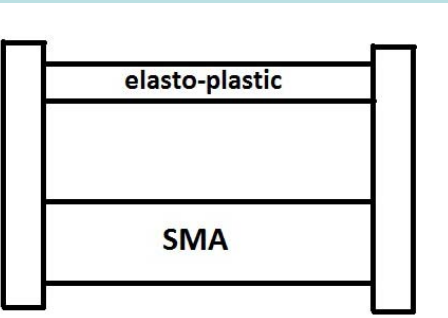
Cycling effect on 2.46 mm diameter NiTi wire. (A): Cycles 1, 100 (at the end of continuous cycling), 112 (10 cycles more after first heat treatment), 122 (10 cycles more after second heat treatment), 132 (10 cycles more after third heat treatment). (B): Cycle 1, 100, 132, 232 (100 cycles more after fourth heat treatment), 332 (100 cycles more after fifth heat treatment).

Effect of time at 100°C:



Extension as a function of time during the thermal treatment of NiTi wire 2.46 mm diameter, at 100°C, for different recoveries.

Understand the behaviour: simple model



Include material with pseudoelasticity plus elasto-plastic behaviour

Recovery:

-100°C considered “good” temperature of recovery for actual NiTi wires ($A_s=247/248$ K by DSC).

Higher T not improve.

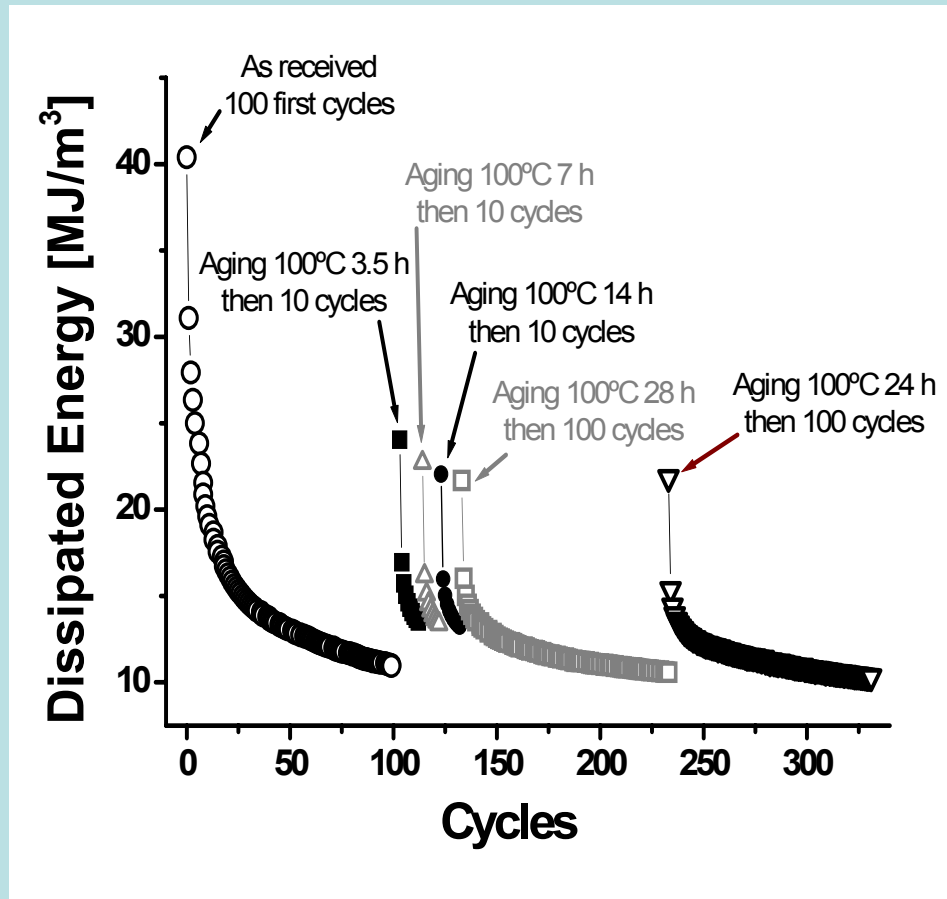
-Partial recovery on residual strain

-Partial recovery on stress to transform

-Successive recoverings tend to keep accumulating residual strain

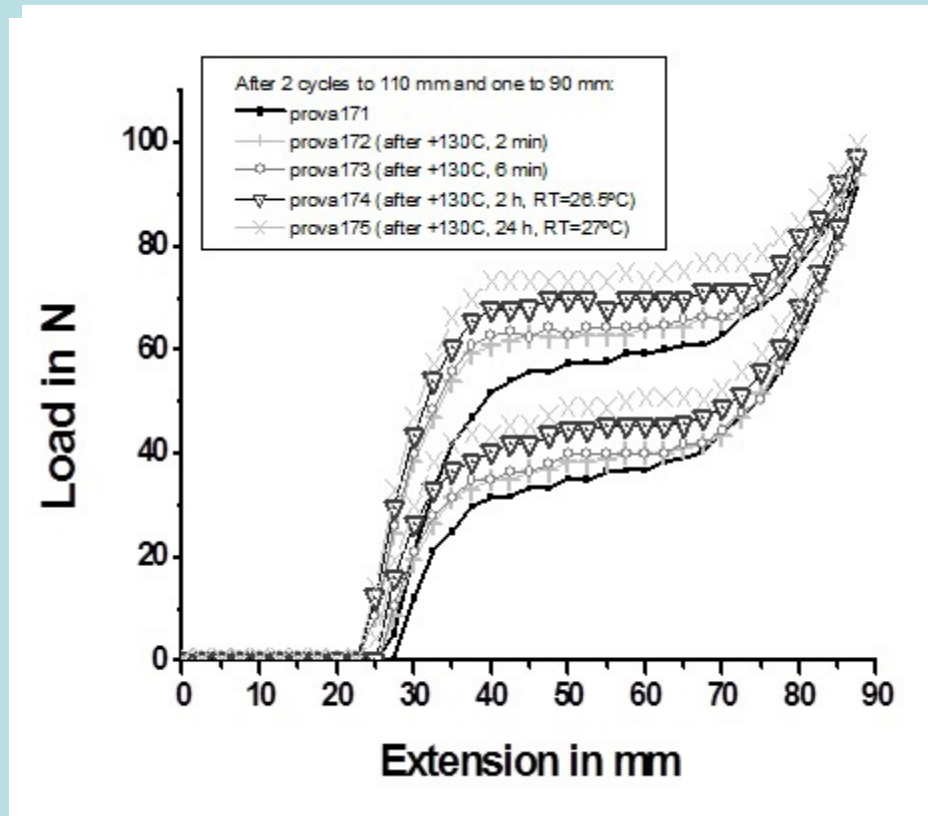
-Low importance of time at 100°C

Effect on energy dissipation:



Specific dissipated energy per cycle. Recovery with thermal treatment to 100°C on 2.40 mm diameter NiTi wire.

Lower recovery on overstrained wire:



overstrained 1m long, 0.5 mm diameter NiTi wire. An as furnished wire was subjected to 2 cycles to 11% and one to 9%, and then followed the represented cycles: one cycle (prova171) to 8.75%, 2 min at 130°C, one cycle to 8.75%, 6 min at 130°C, one cycle to 8.75%, 2 hour at 130°C, one cycle to 8.75%, 24 h at 130°C and one cycle to 8.75% (prova175).

Conclusions:

Properties of SMA degrade with mechanical cycling:
functional fatigue

Pseudoelastic NiTi wires tested: transformation stress decreases, residual permanent deformation increases with number of cycles in nearly asymptotic way, if maximum strain is kept constant. Dissipated energy cycle decreases.

Results show that important levels of recovery on the residual strains and the transformation stresses were attained after the aging treatments

Conclusions

Electrical resistance increase produced by cycling can be interpreted as due to two terms: the retained martensite, and defect accumulation (plasticity).

The 100°C treatment relieves retained martensite that retransforms to beta. Above 100°C: stress cannot increase more because of maximum tension in NiTi (CC 6.5 MPa/K).

Temperature of the thermal treatment able to give partial recovery of electrical resistance, in a parallel way to the residual deformation reduction.

Near no observable time dependence of treatment at 100°C is coherent with a very slow change of properties with time at 100°C. (NiTi alloy has been shown to present a very slow change of transformation temperature with time at 100°C, representative times of the order of a year).

Conclusions:

Part of the functional fatigue produced by mechanical cycling on NiTi 2.46 diameter wires can be recovered by moderate thermal treatment (to 100°C, during some hour).

However, the degradation of properties with cycling continues after the thermal treatment.

The thermal treatment at 100°C would ease the use of NiTi wires as dampers for extreme situations as cable damping or as earthquake mitigation in civil engineering, because after an event it is easy to recover partly the properties of the implied material.

Thanks for your attention!

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By moderate thermal treatment of the wires after cycling, part of the residual permanent deformation was recovered, as well as part of the specific energy dissipated per cycle, and the stress to transform did also recover. The recovery at 100°C was larger than the recovery at 70°C but the recovery at 130°C was similar to the one at 100°C. It is suggested that part of the degradation of properties was due to retained martensite in the samples, producing residual permanent deformation. The retained martensite coexists with an internal stress distribution change (respect the material without martensite) and different density of defects. These internal stress distribution and density of defects are related to the decreased stress to transform in the cycled samples.

Both changes in properties, residual strain and reduced stress to transform, would produce the reduction in dissipated mechanical energy per cycle. The moderate heating to 100°C is able to retransform a large part of the retained martensite, producing a change in residual strain. A large part of the remaining residual strain should be due to plastic deformation. The retransformation of martensite would give a change in the distribution of internal stresses that recovers partially the transformation stress, and, as a consequence of extended strain span useful and higher transformation stress, the dissipated energy per cycle recovers.

The properties of SMA tend to degrade with mechanical cycling, this is called functional fatigue when mechanical failure (fracture) does not occur, but the working point of the material can hinder its applications. For the NiTi wires tested, the transformation stress decreased, and the residual permanent deformation increased with number of cycles in an asymptotic, nearly exponential way if maximum strain on cycling was kept constant. The dissipated energy per cycle also decreased.

By moderate thermal treatment of the wires after cycling, part of the residual permanent deformation was recovered, as well as part of the specific energy dissipated per cycle, and the stress to transform did also recover. The recovery at 100°C was larger than the recovery at 70°C but the recovery at 130°C was similar to the one at 100°C. It is suggested that part of the degradation of properties was due to retained martensite in the samples, producing residual permanent deformation. The retained martensite coexists with an internal stress distribution change (respect the material without martensite) and different density of defects. These internal stress distribution and density of defects are related to the decreased stress to transform in the cycled samples.

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The electrical resistance increase produced by cycling can be interpreted as due to two terms: the appearance of retained martensite, and the defect accumulation (related to plasticity) [23]. The thermal treatment applied relieves retained martensite that retransforms to beta, this quantity increases when the thermal treatment temperature is increased respect to room temperature. At 100°C most of the retained martensite is relieved. The temperature of the thermal treatment is able to give a partial recovery of the electrical resistance, in a parallel way to the residual deformation reduction.

The very low dependence of the recovery with the time at 100°C is coherent with a very slow change of defect density with time at 100°C. In fact, NiTi alloy has been shown to present a very slow change of transformation temperature with time at 100°C, with representative times of the order of a year [24]. At 130°C, however, the dependence of recovery with time becomes more effective. The observed near constancy of residual strain on the time, and the increase of the stress to transform on the time at this temperature, are coherent with the strain being determined by retained martensite in the sample, and slow evolution of defect density with time would relate to the increase of transformation stress with time at 130°C.

In conclusion, part of the functional fatigue produced by mechanical cycling on NiTi 2.46 diameter wires can be recovered by moderate thermal treatment (to 100°C, during some hour). However, the degradation of properties with cycling continues after the thermal treatment (see figure 8). The thermal treatment at 100°C would ease the use of NiTi wires as dampers for extreme situations as earthquake mitigation in civil engineering, because after an event it is easy to recover partly the properties of the implied material.