

Institut Laue-Langevin

Neutrons for society

When neutrons and modelling improve
aluminium casting process

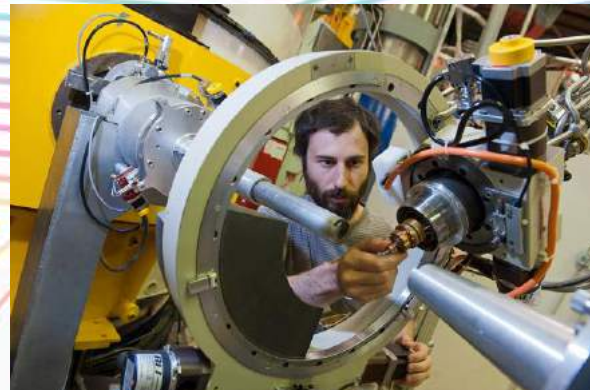
Strain & stress mapping

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30/11/2021

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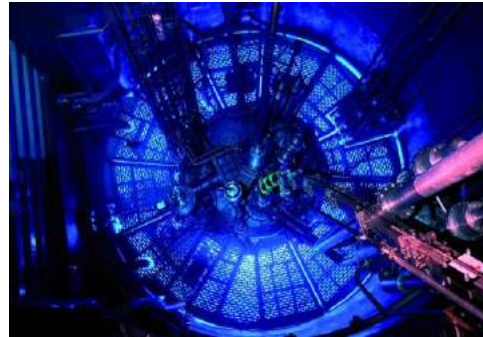


Institut Laue-Langevin (ILL)

- 1 site (Grenoble)
- Managed by FR, DE, GB
- 11 member states
- Budget 2020: 102 MEUR
- 543 employees
- Since 1967

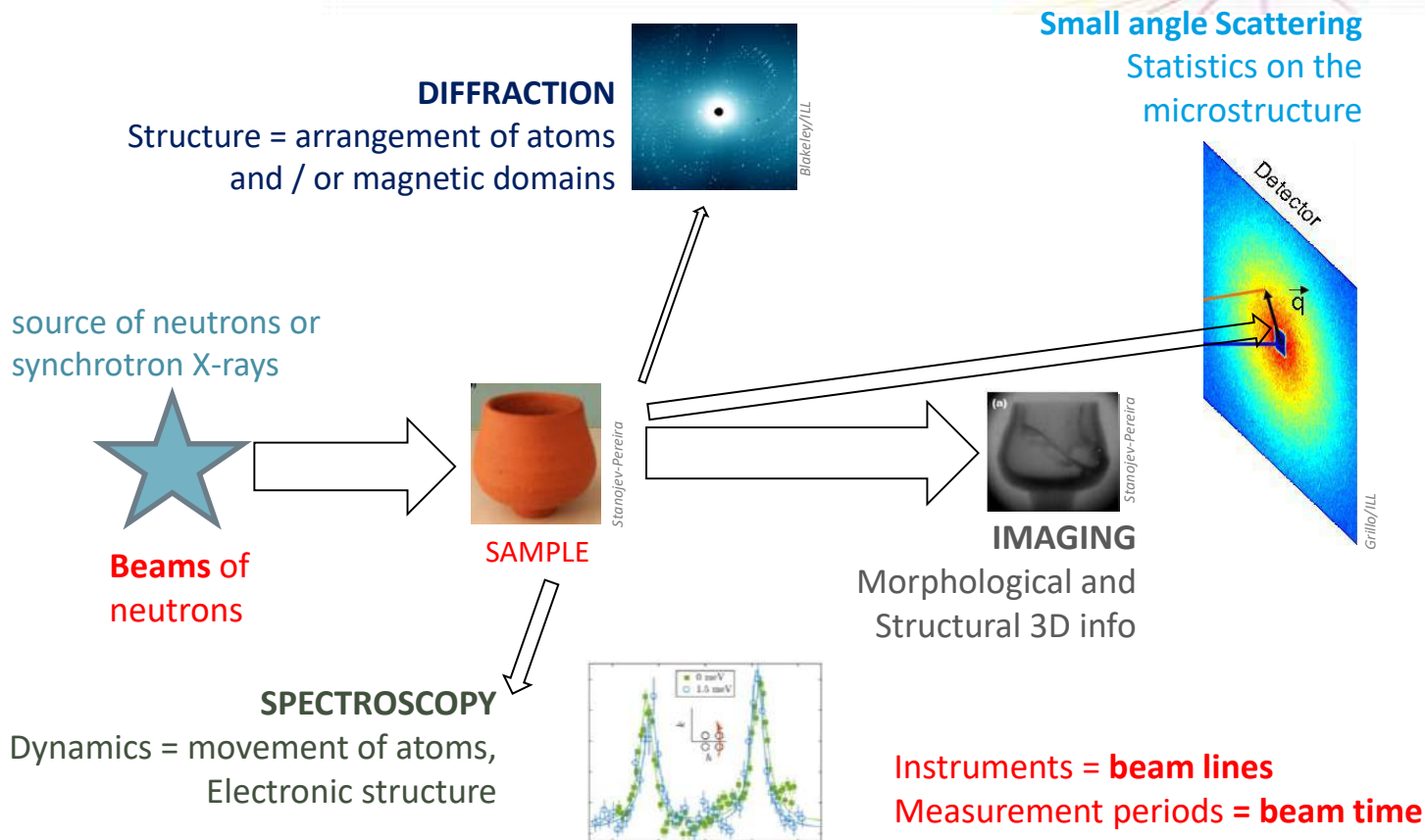


Source of neutrons to investigate materials, component and devices under real operational environment



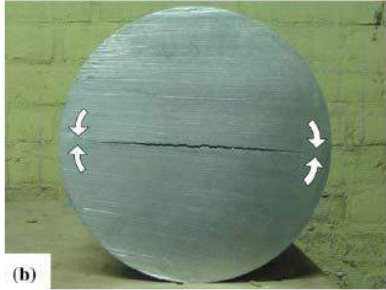
*Magnetism, Biology and Health,
Material and engineering, Chemistry,
Crystallography, Soft matter
Particle and nuclear Physics
+ production of radio-isotopes*

Neutron analytical techniques: probing the properties of materials



ILL: being part of industrial engineering R&D

- Improving casting process (1/2)



The issue: **cold-cracking**

internal cracks in billets of self hardening Al-alloys for aeronautics applications

A 3 year study:

Combination of **modelling** and input **stress data on actual industrial products**

=> non-destructive neutron diffraction based stress-determination



A 2 m Al billet being placed on the sample stage of an ILL instrument

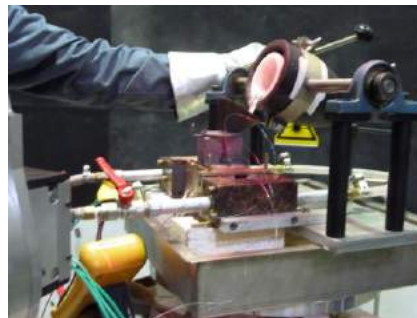
ILL: being part of industrial engineering R&D

- Improving casting process (2/2)

Stress determination in various Al billets

In-situ neutron experiments

determine solidification point and investigate building up of stress during cooling

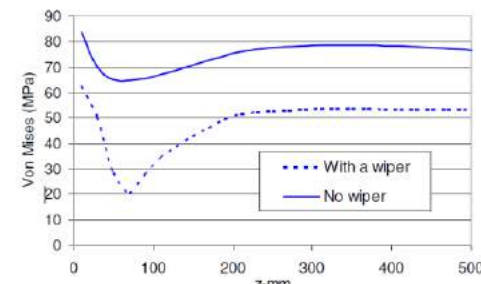
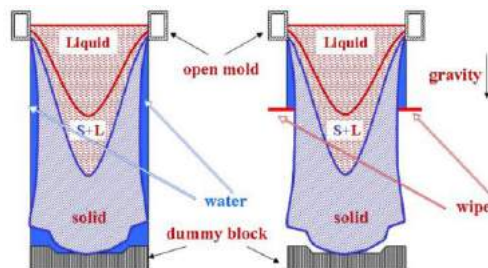
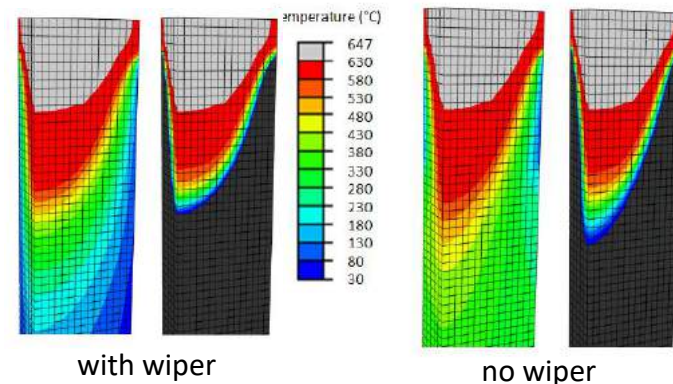


Simulation: use of neutron results as reliable input parameters
=> Strategy: modifying casting process

Verification:

Neutron stress-determination after modification of production process

=> **Reduction of tensile stresses by 30-50%**



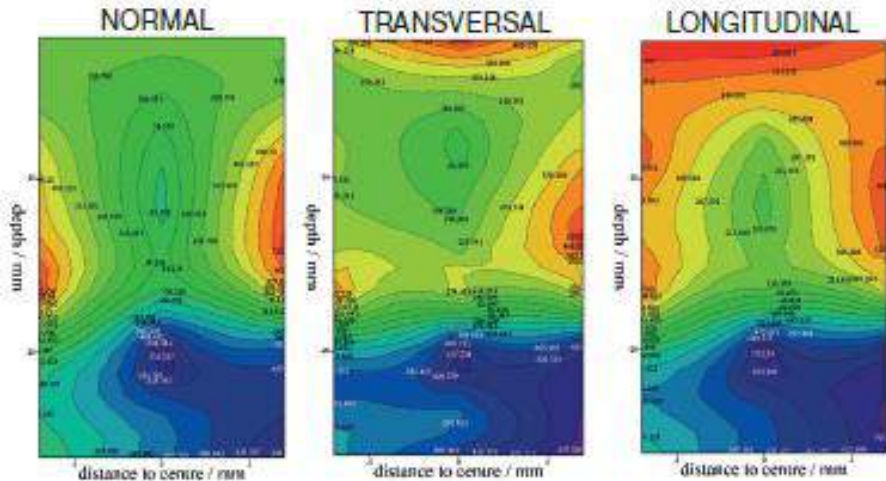
Influence of a wiper on residual stresses in {AA7050} rolling plate ingots, 2014, Drezet et al.

Neutron diffraction: stress determination

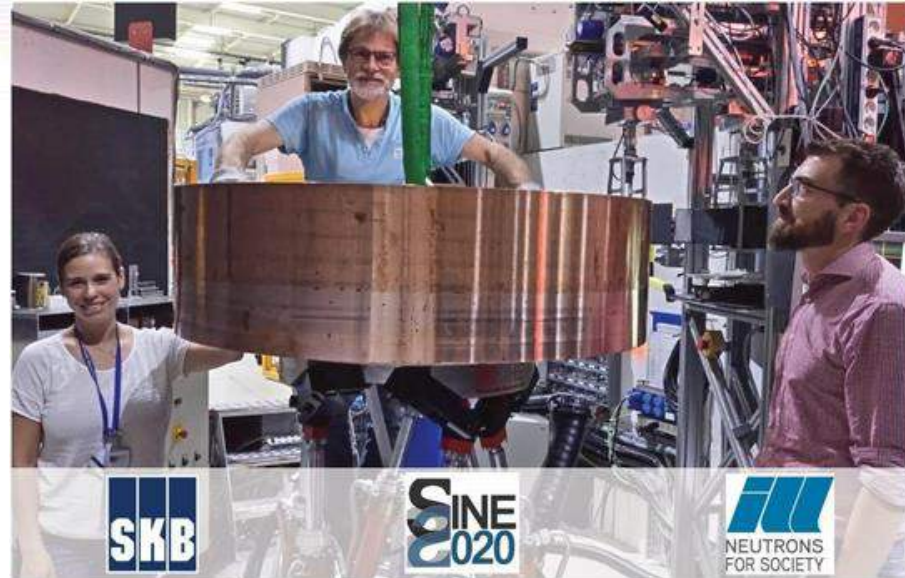
Investigation of residual stress in the thickness (4 cm) of the welded region (FSW)

- SKB, Sweden
- a 850 kg piece made of copper

Stress maps for the three principal components of the stress tensor



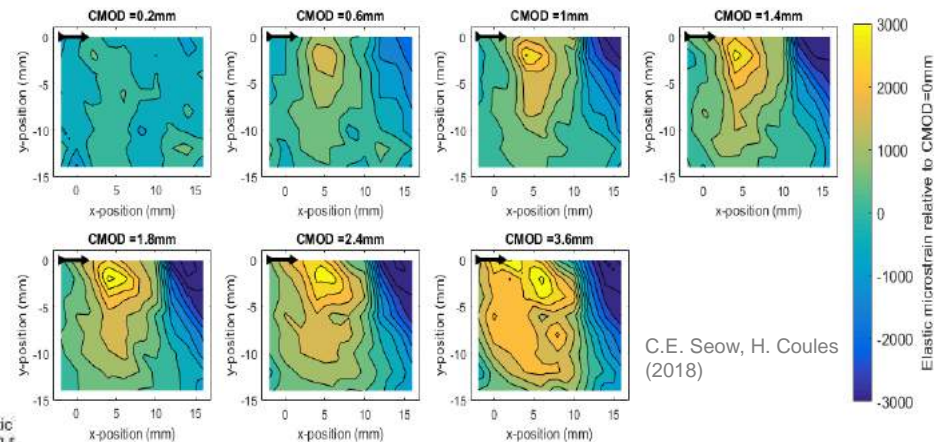
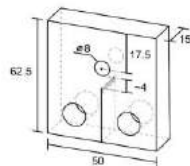
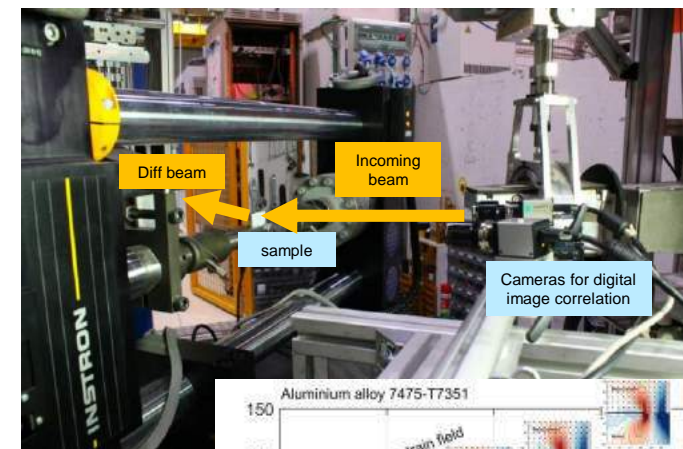
(values in MPa, maps not built from the SKB measurements)



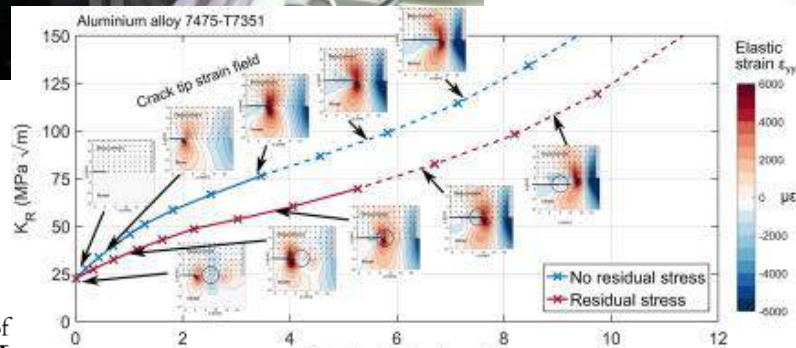
Additive manufacturing: In-situ characterization

In-situ crack growth in WAAM Ni-superalloy IN-625

- Load Rig (50KN)
- Surface (DIC) and bulk (ND) strain field around crack during loading.
- Effect of crack orientation: elastic strain distribution is anisotropic



C.E. Seow, H. Coules (2018)



H. Coules, T. Pirling (2018)

How to work with the ILL?

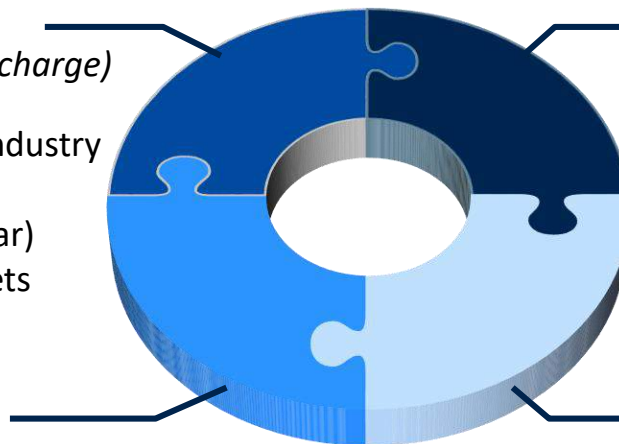
Public Access

Results must be published (free of charge)

- Universities with Industry or Industry on its own
- Competitive access (2 calls/year)
- Innovation-led long term projects

Technology Transfer

- Licencing technologies
- In-house manufacturing
- Consultancy



Proprietary Access

- Rapid access
- Full IP rights to client
- paid for services

Collaboration and Grants

- Industry sponsored staff (PhD, post-doc, trainees...)
- Horizon Europe, French PIA, IRT, UK CASE, etc.



BIG-MAP

brightness²



EASI-STRESS



SINE
2020

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FOR SOCIETY



Thank you for your attention!



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