

Armor Simulation Experiments At Dragonfire Facility

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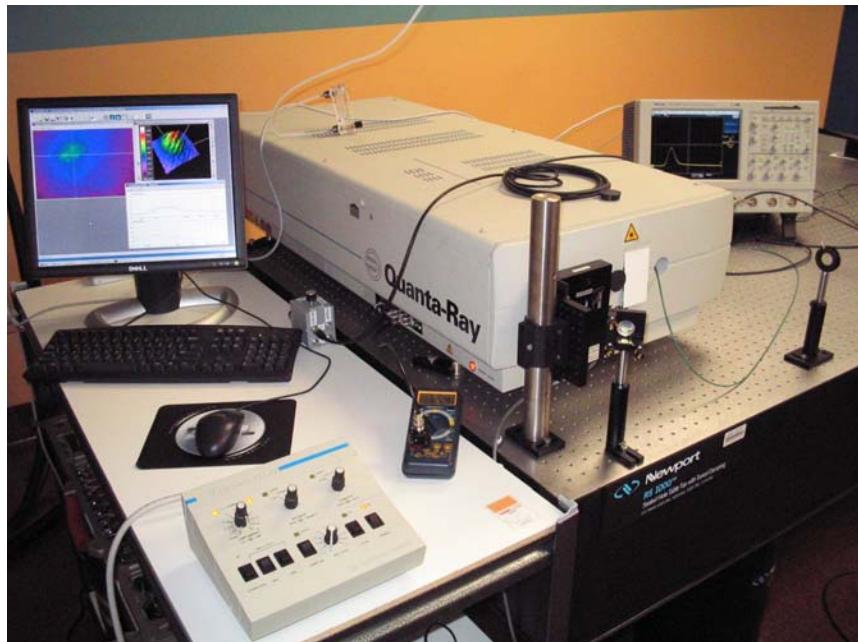
Electronic copy: <http://aries.ucsd.edu/najmabadi/TALKS>
UCSD IFE Web Site: <http://aries.ucsd.edu/IFE>

Armor Irradiation Test Matrix

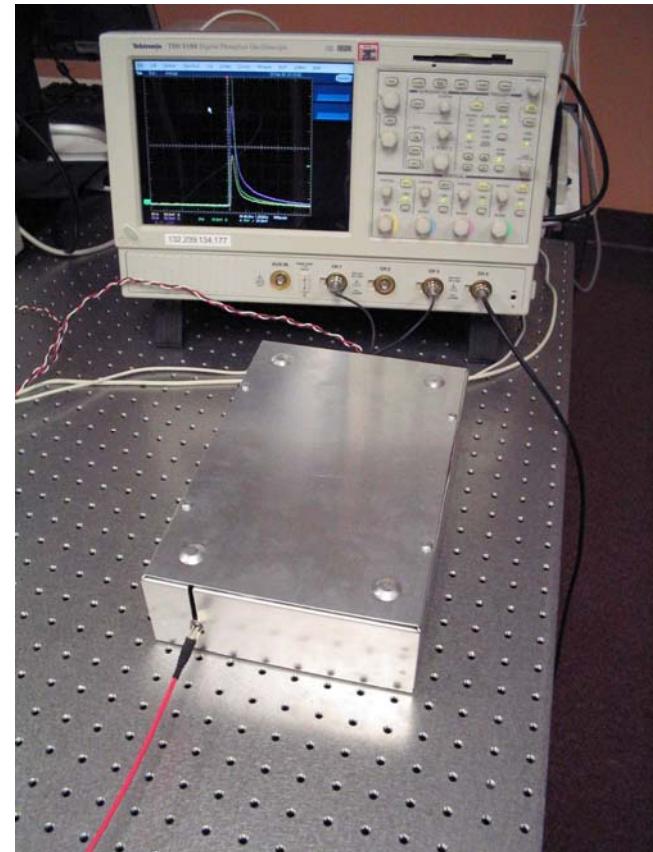
➤ Test matrix:	Initial Temp.	ΔT	No. of Shots
Sample 1A:	RT	2,000°C	10^3 (100s)
Sample 2A:	RT	2,000°C	10^4 (~16 mins)
Sample 1B:	RT	2,000°C	10^5 (~2.8 hr)
Sample 3A:	RT	2,500°C	10^3
Sample 2B:	RT	2,500°C	10^4
Sample 3B:	RT	2,500°C	10^5
Sample 4A:	500°C	2,000°C	10^3
Sample 5A:	500°C	2,000°C	10^4
Sample 4B:	500°C	2,000°C	10^5
Sample 6A:	500°C	2,500°C	10^3
Sample 5B:	500°C	2,500°C	10^4
Sample 6B:	500°C	2,500°C	10^5

➤ Samples: Powder metallurgy tungsten samples from Lance Snead.

Our laser was repaired and tuned in December

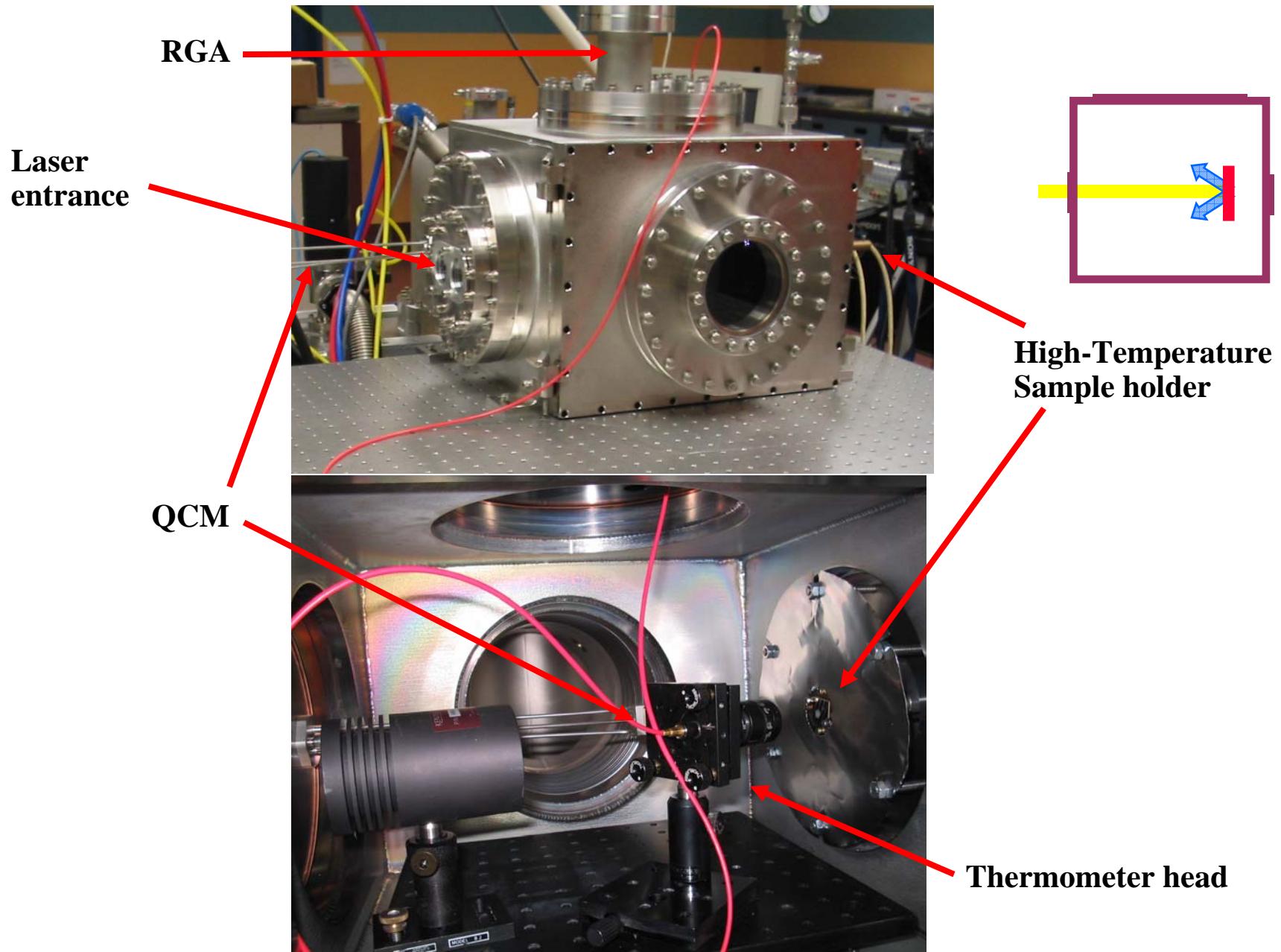


➤ Thermometer head and Scope.

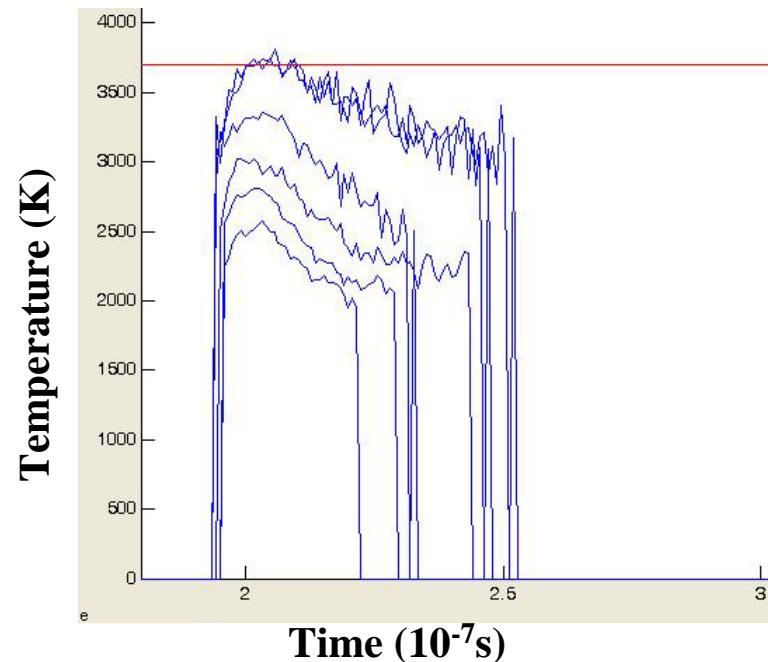
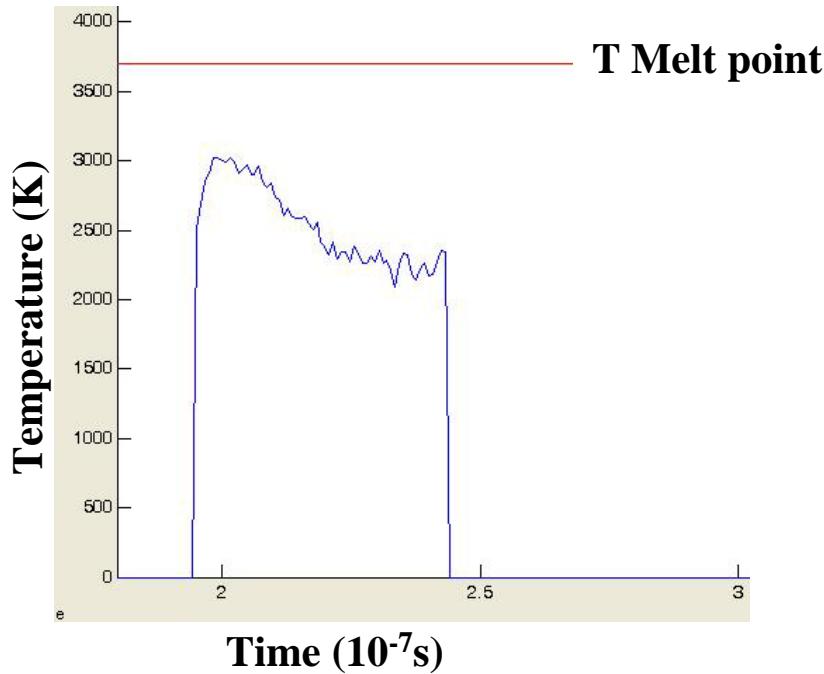


➤ We now continuously monitor temporal profile and spatial profile of the laser.

Experimental Setup



A Variety of Measure has reduced the noise in thermometer signal considerably



- Little difference in thermometer signal when averaged over 4, 8, 16, and 32 shots.

- Thermometer is calibrated based on the melting point of tungsten

Sample tests were performed at a fixed laser energy (no feedback to fix ΔT)

Evolution of sample ΔT :

- ✓ During the first 10-100 shots, reflectivity of sample surface changes and there is a change in sample ΔT . Afterwards, ΔT remains creatively constant.
- ✓ For large shot rates, spatial profile of laser over the target varies (very slowly) leading to changes in ΔT (< 10%).

Sample equilibrium temperature

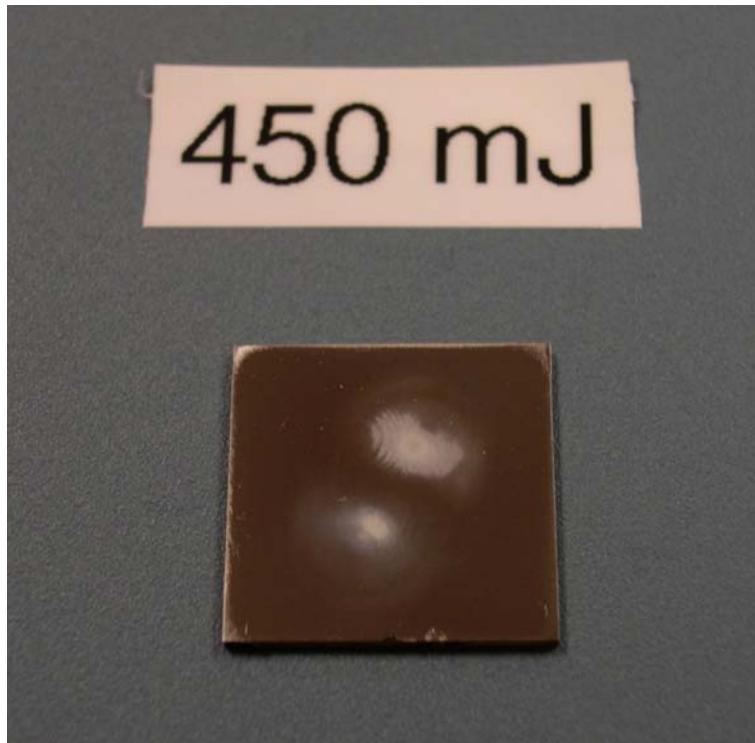
- ✓ Sample is cooled through conduction to the vacuum vessel.
- ✓ For heated samples, conduction cooling is large, power to the heating element is typically 10 times larger than laser energy. Sample temperature is easily maintained at the desired temperature.
- ✓ For RT samples, conduction cooling is negligible. For large shot rate, sample test temperature increases (from 28 to 132°C for 10^5 shots).

Armor Irradiation Test Matrix

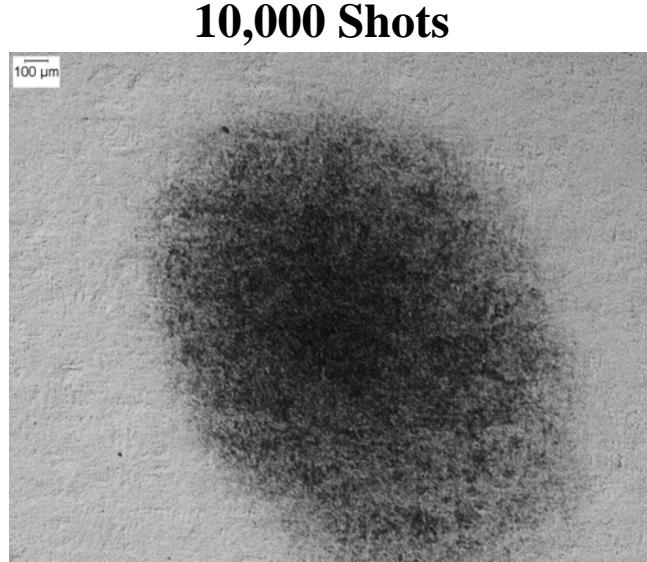
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Sample 3B:	~ RT	2,500°C	10^5
Sample 4A:	500°C	2,000°C	10^3
Sample 5A:	500°C	2,000°C	10^4
Sample 4B:	500°C	2,000°C	10^5
Sample 6A:	500°C	2,500°C	10^3
Sample 5B:	500°C	2,500°C	10^4
Sample 6B:	500°C	2,500°C	10^5

➤ Samples: Powder metallurgy tungsten samples from Lance Snead.

Powder Metallurgy Tungsten Samples After Laser Irradiation



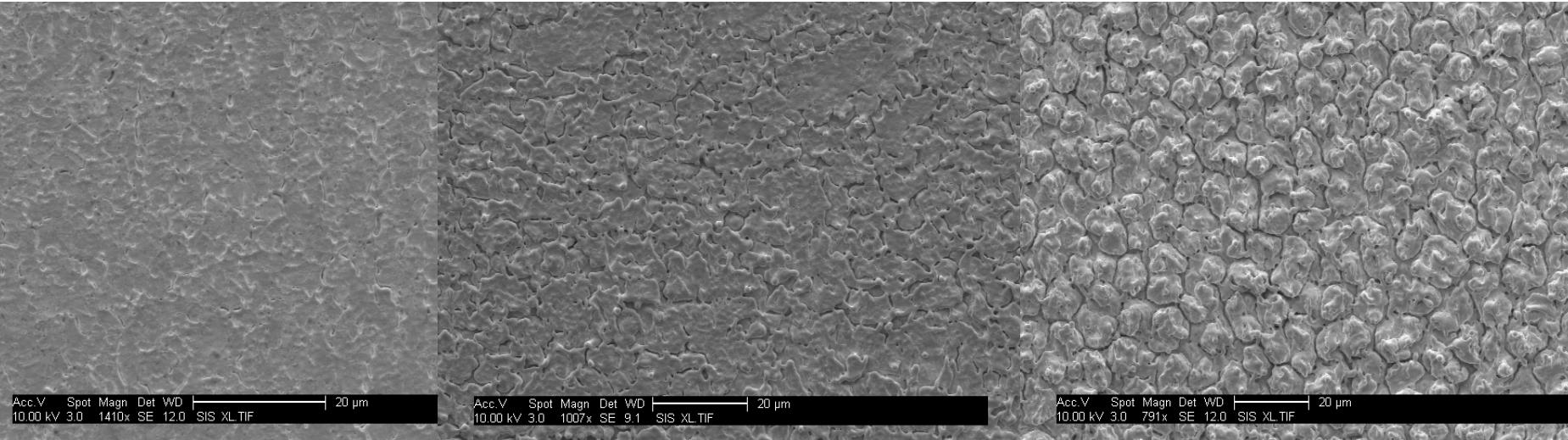
- Samples are polished to a “mirror-like” finish.
- The “damaged” area has a “dull” finish.
- A brown background is placed in the photograph to enhance contrast.



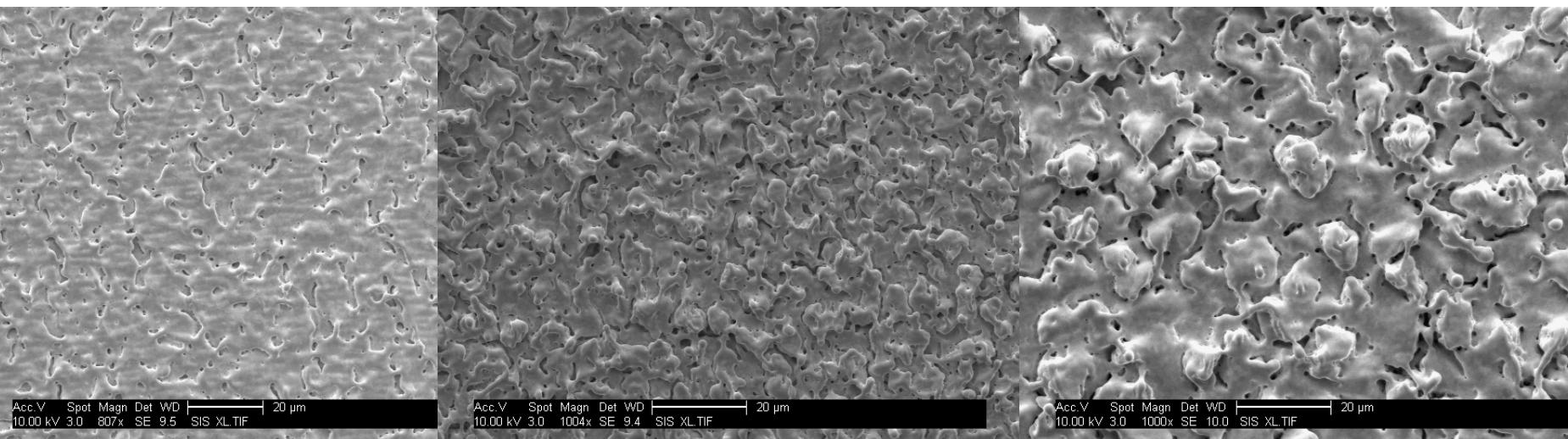
- Optical microscope at low resolution
- “Black” areas appear black because of the “dull finish” (they appear as whitish to the naked eye)

Effects of Shot Rate and Temperature Rise

370mJ (~2000°C ΔT), RT



530mJ (~2500°C ΔT), RT



10³ shots

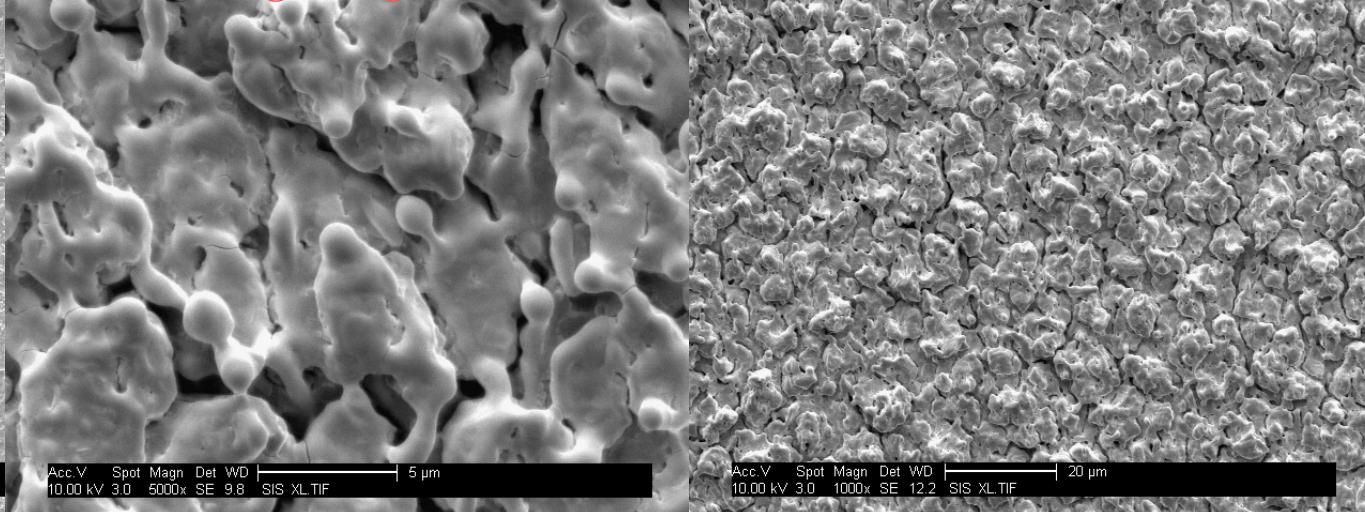
10⁴ shots

10⁵ shots

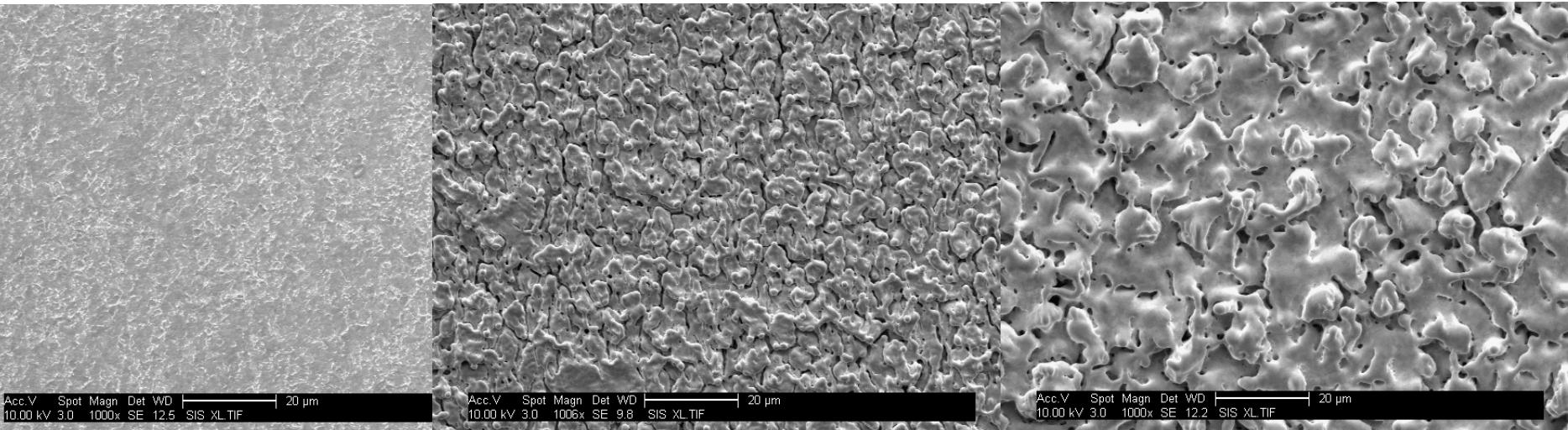
Effects of Shot Rate and Temperature Rise

370mJ (~2000°C ΔT), 500°C

High Magnification



530mJ (~2500°C ΔT), 500°C



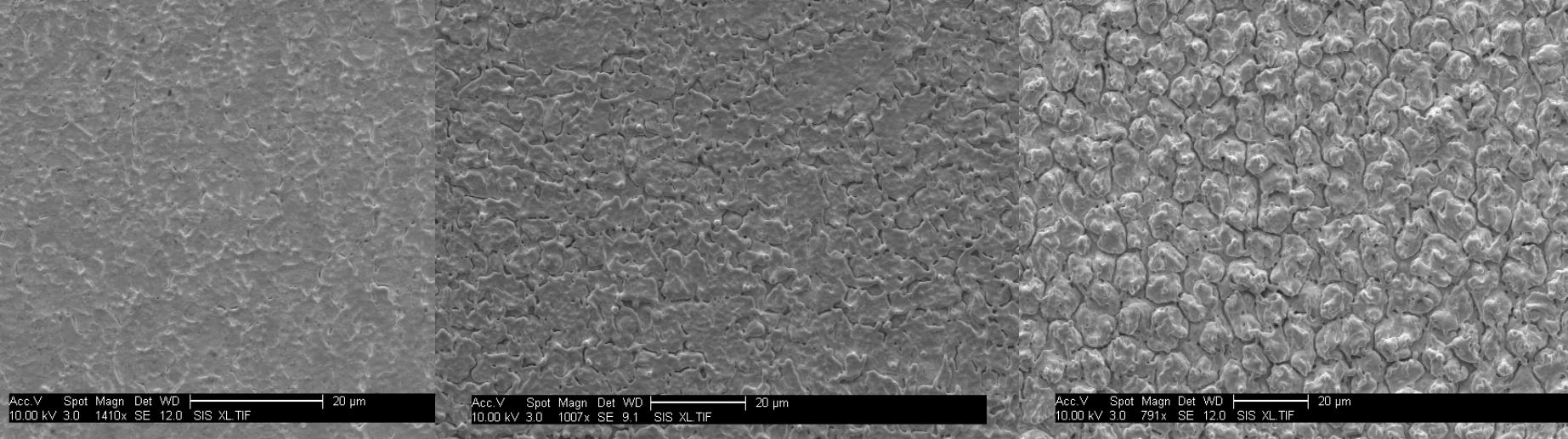
10^3 shots

10^4 shots

10^5 shots

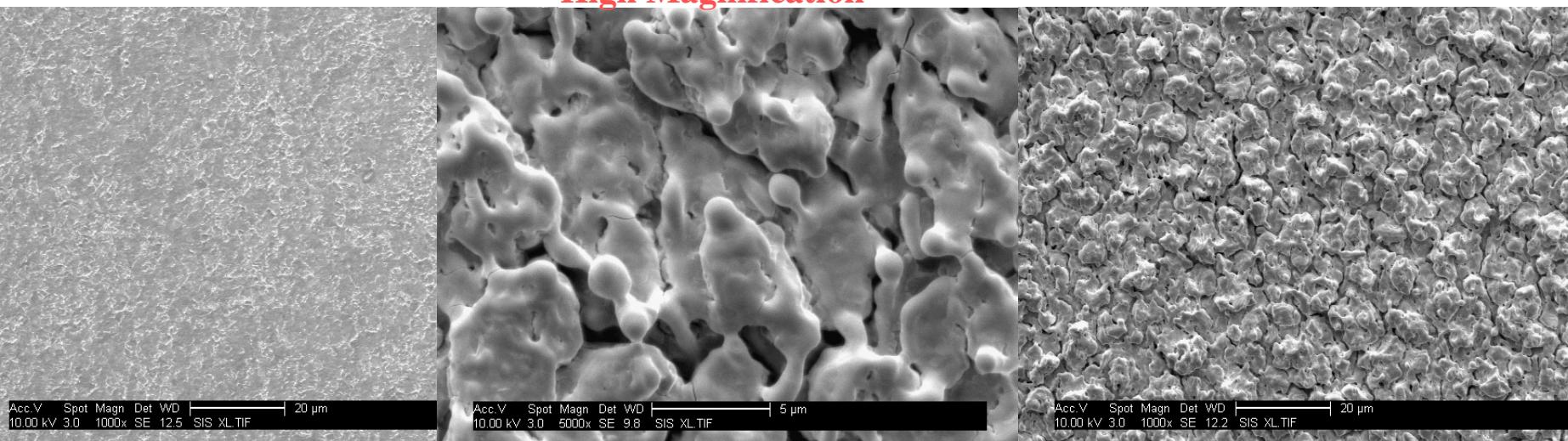
Effects of Shot Rate and Base Temperature

370mJ (~2000°C ΔT), RT



370mJ (~2000°C ΔT), 500°C

High Magnification



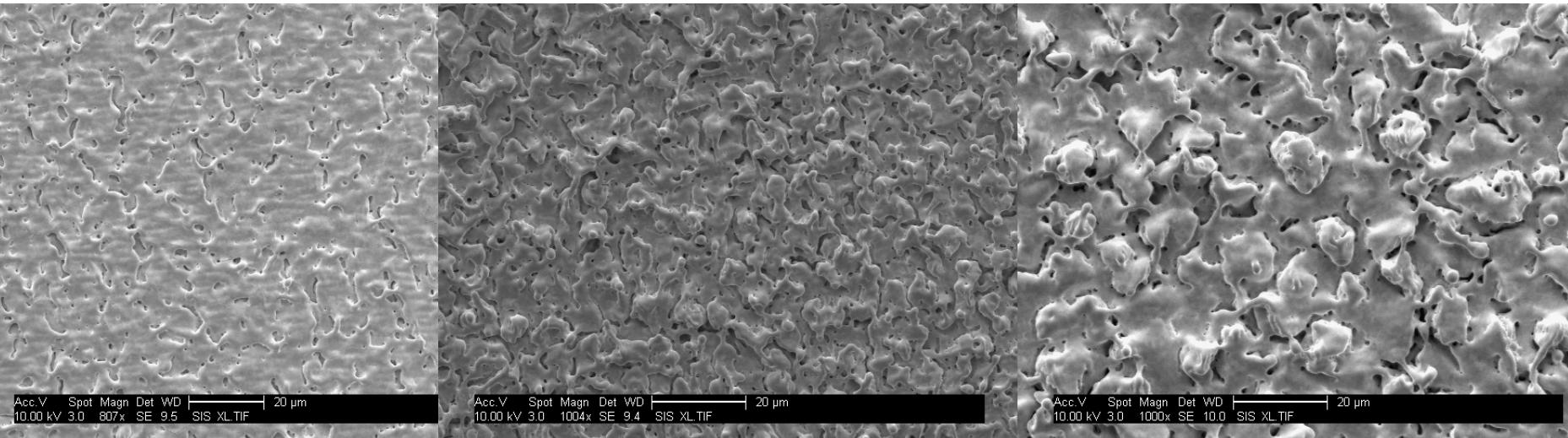
10^3 shots

10^4 shots

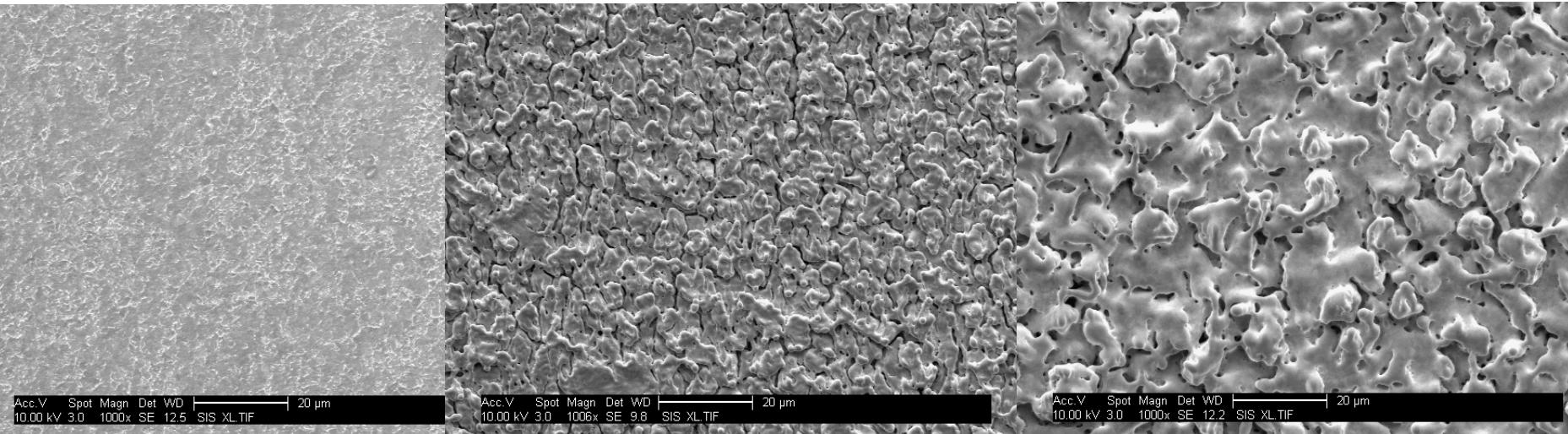
10^5 shots

Effects of Shot Rate and Temperature Rise

530mJ (~2500°C ΔT), RT



530mJ (~2500°C ΔT), 500°C



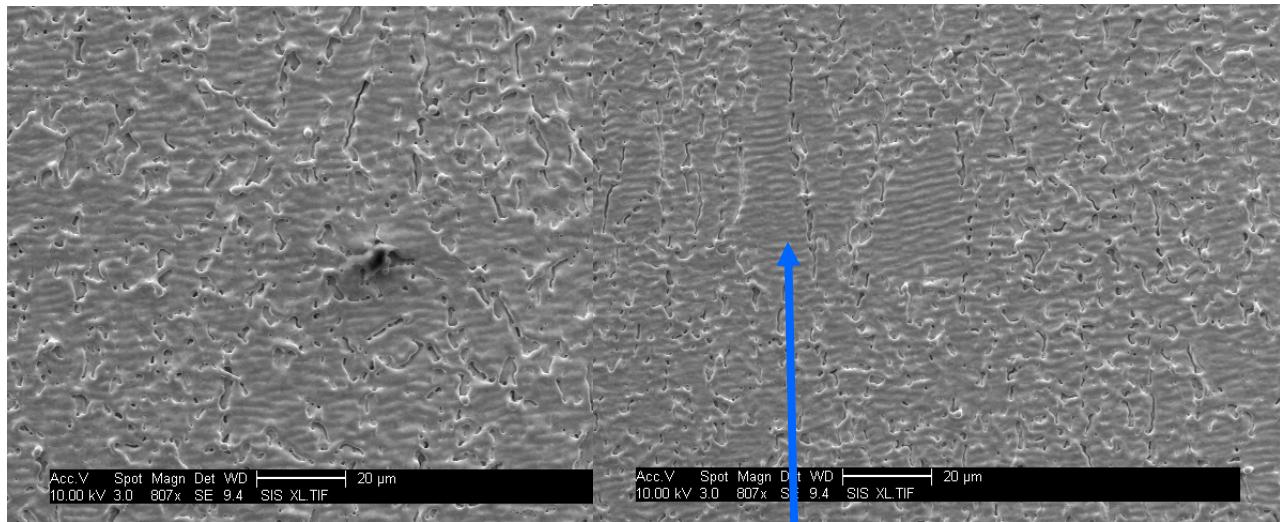
10³ shots

10⁴ shots

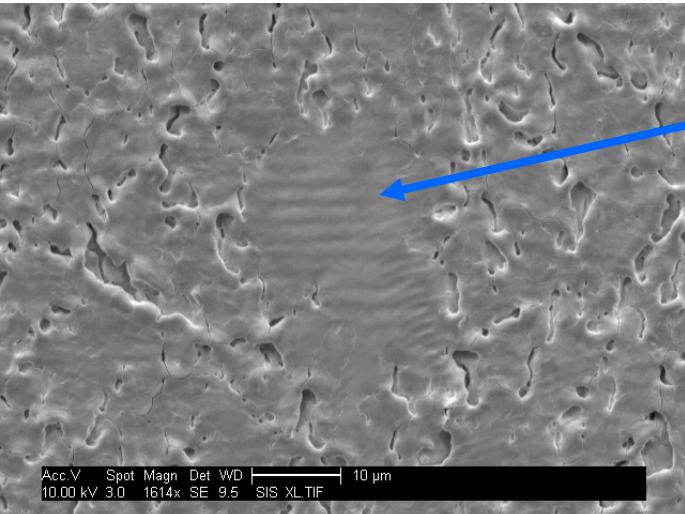
10⁵ shots

Interesting Features

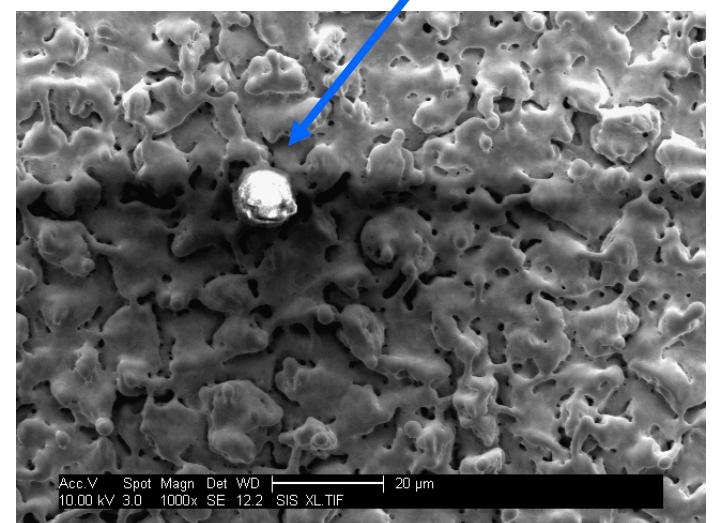
370mJ (~2000°C ΔT), RT, 1000 shots



550mJ (~2500°C ΔT), RT , 1000 shots



Slip planes?



Impurities?

Material Response: At First Glance

- It appears that samples evolves at two different time scales:
 - ✓ Low shot count: Defect planes appear,
 - ✓ High shot count: Individual “nuggets” form (are we seeing the powder constituents breaking apart?)
- Higher equilibrium temperature leads to less damage
 - ✓ Highly visible in low shot counts, For example, 1,000 shots at $\Delta T \sim 2,500^\circ\text{C}$ with 500°C sample is “almost” damage free while the corresponding RT sample shows damage.
 - ✓ At high shot count, samples with higher equilibrium temperature also show “slightly” less damage.

Towards 10^6 shots on Dragonfire

- It would be difficult to take 10^6 shots continuously:
 - ✓ 10^6 shots would take about 28 hours.
- Can we break 10^6 shots into three days of ~9 hour shooting?
- As a test, we have shot a sample at 10^5 shots in two series: (half of the shots in the morning and half in the afternoon)
 - ✓ Sample ΔT was different in afternoon series compared to morning series (by 15%).
 - ✓ Not clear if this was due to changes in laser profile or material response.
- We plan to repeat this experiment and compare with a sample shot continuously for 10^5 shots.