

# Collaboration across borders

Magnus Fredriksson *Ph.D.*



# Alfa Laval

## key figures

Founded in

1883

140 years of experience in  
engineering and innovation

Employees

22,000+

37 major production units globally  
Presence in over 100 countries

Order intake 2023 (MSEK)

70 742

EBITA: 16.1 %  
ROCE: 21.0 %

Patents

4,200+

Annual investment in research and  
innovation: 2.5 % of total net sales

# Key technologies

Applicable in +20 different product groups



Heat transfer



Separation



Fluid handling



# The world is facing some **big challenges**

These include rising demand for:

Energy transition



Clean water



Sustainable food



Marine transportation



# Emerging energy technologies

Proximity to material research is crucial for success



Green hydrogen



Fuel cells



Energy storage



Power-to-X



Carbon capture utilization and storage (CCU/S)



Biofuels



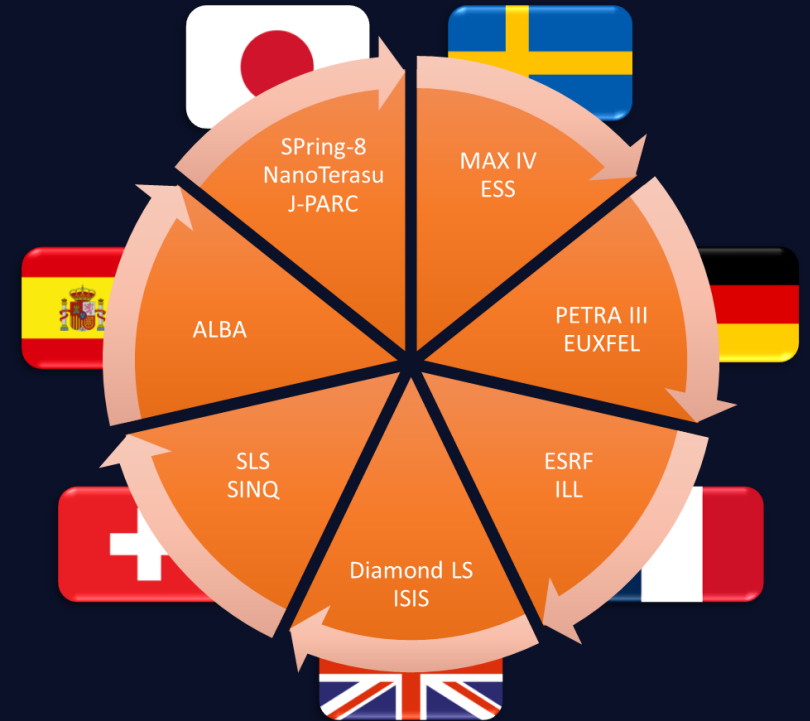
Concentrated Solar Power (CSP)



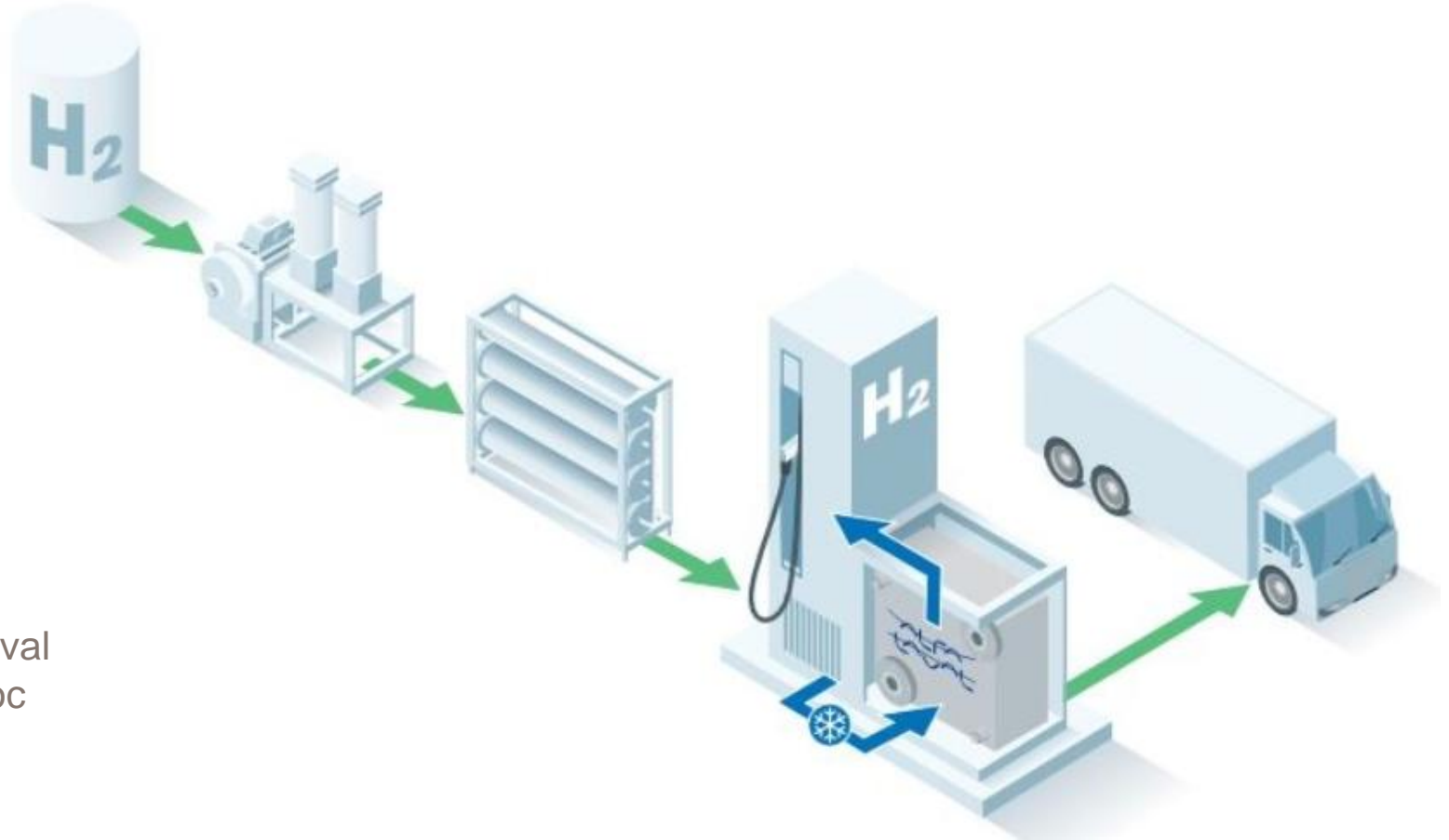
Wind power

# Large scale research infrastructures

Toolbox of excellence in our network

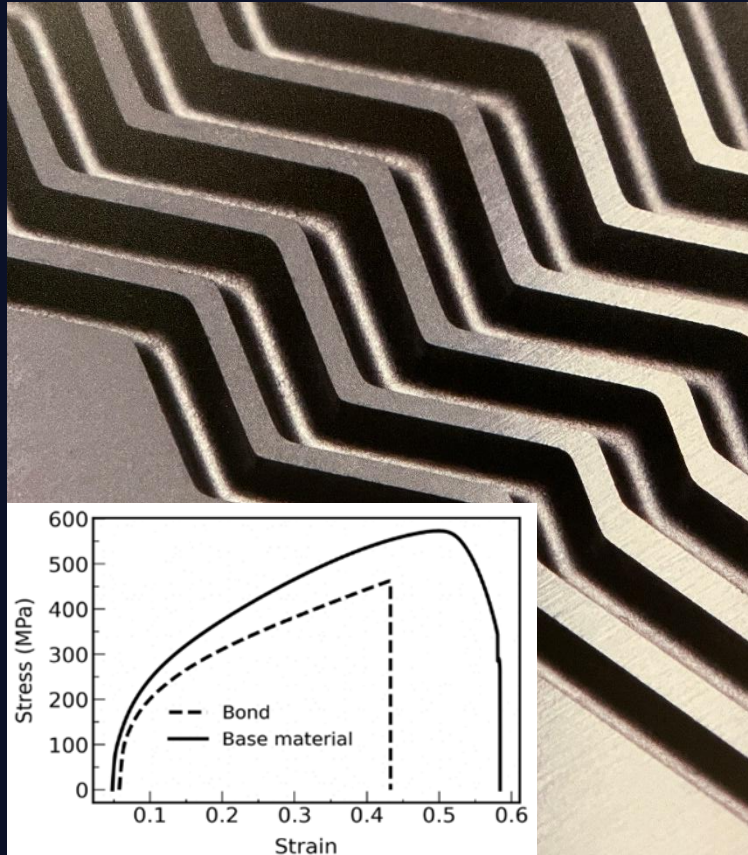


# Hydrogen refuelling pre-cooling system

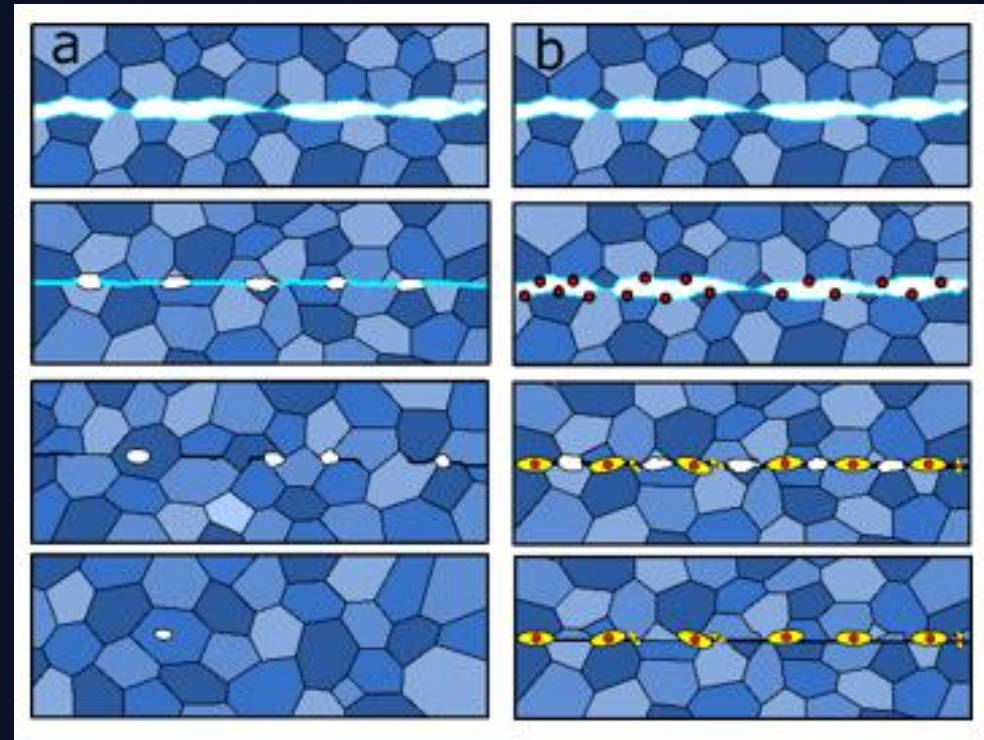


Alfa Laval  
HyBloc

# Diffusion bonded heat exchangers



Heat transfer plate

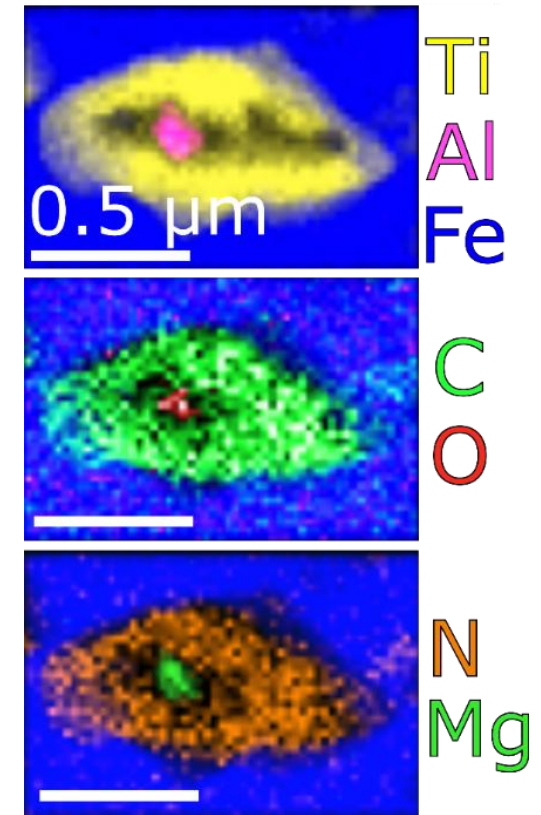
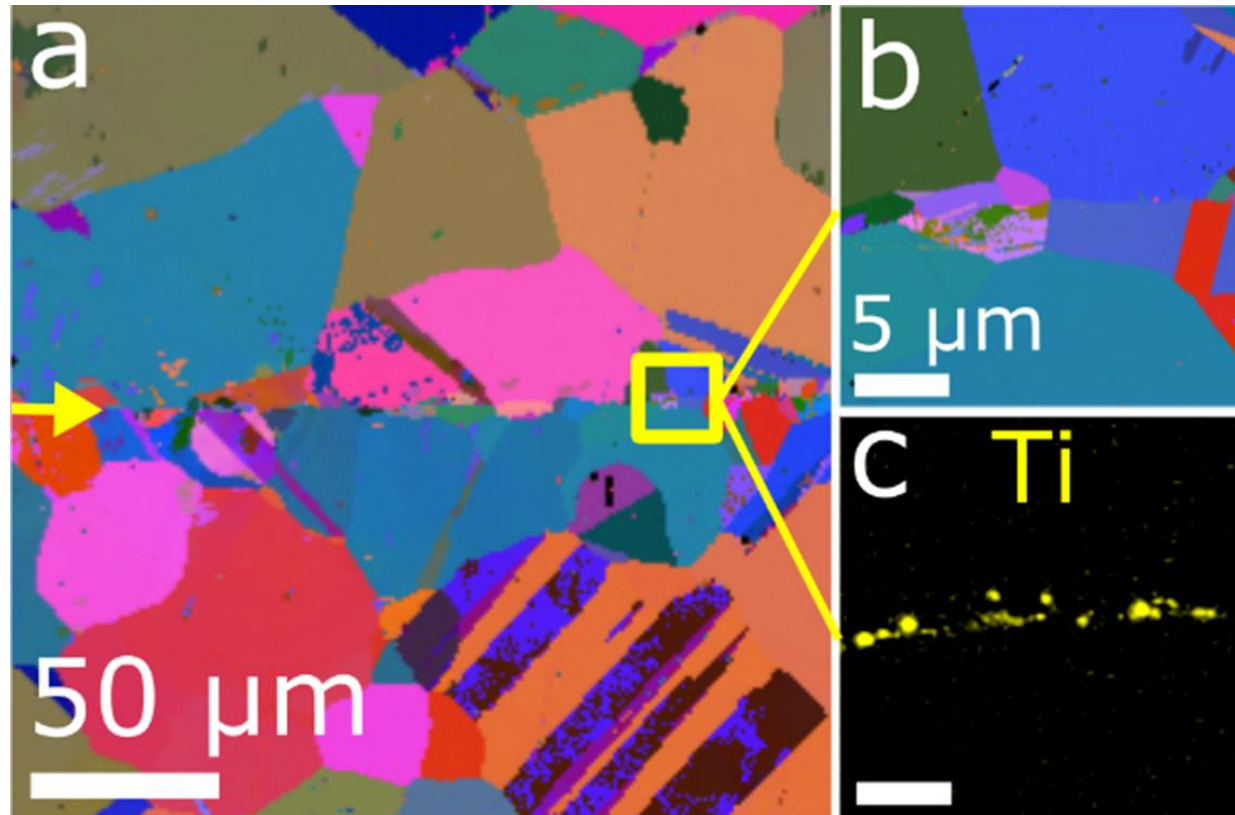


Precipitations at the bond interface prevent adequate grain migration.



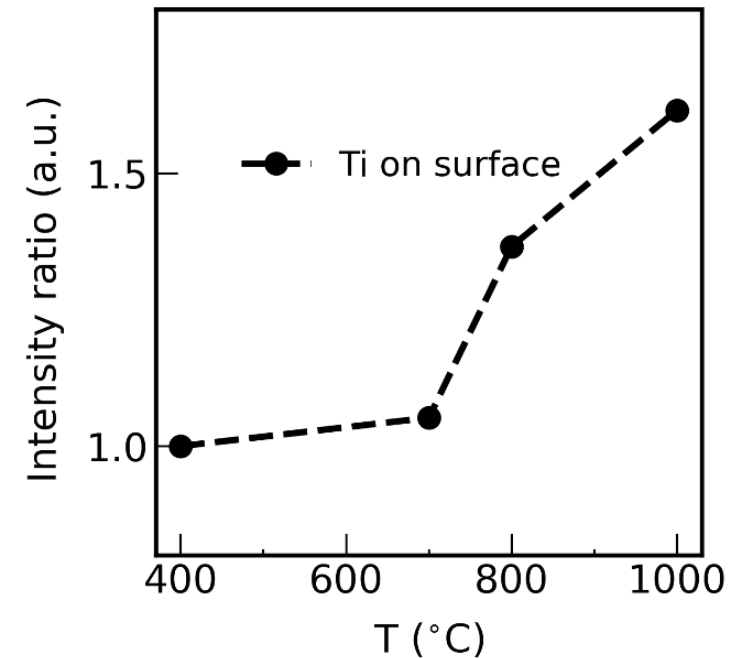
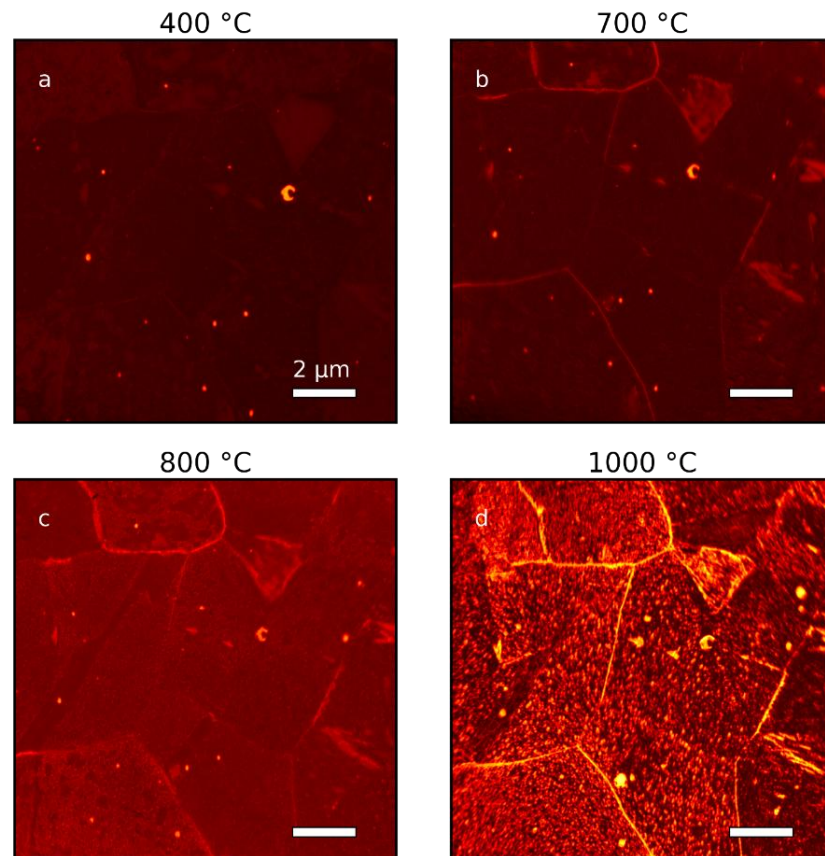
# Investigation of diffusion bonds

EBSD and EDS of the joint cross-section



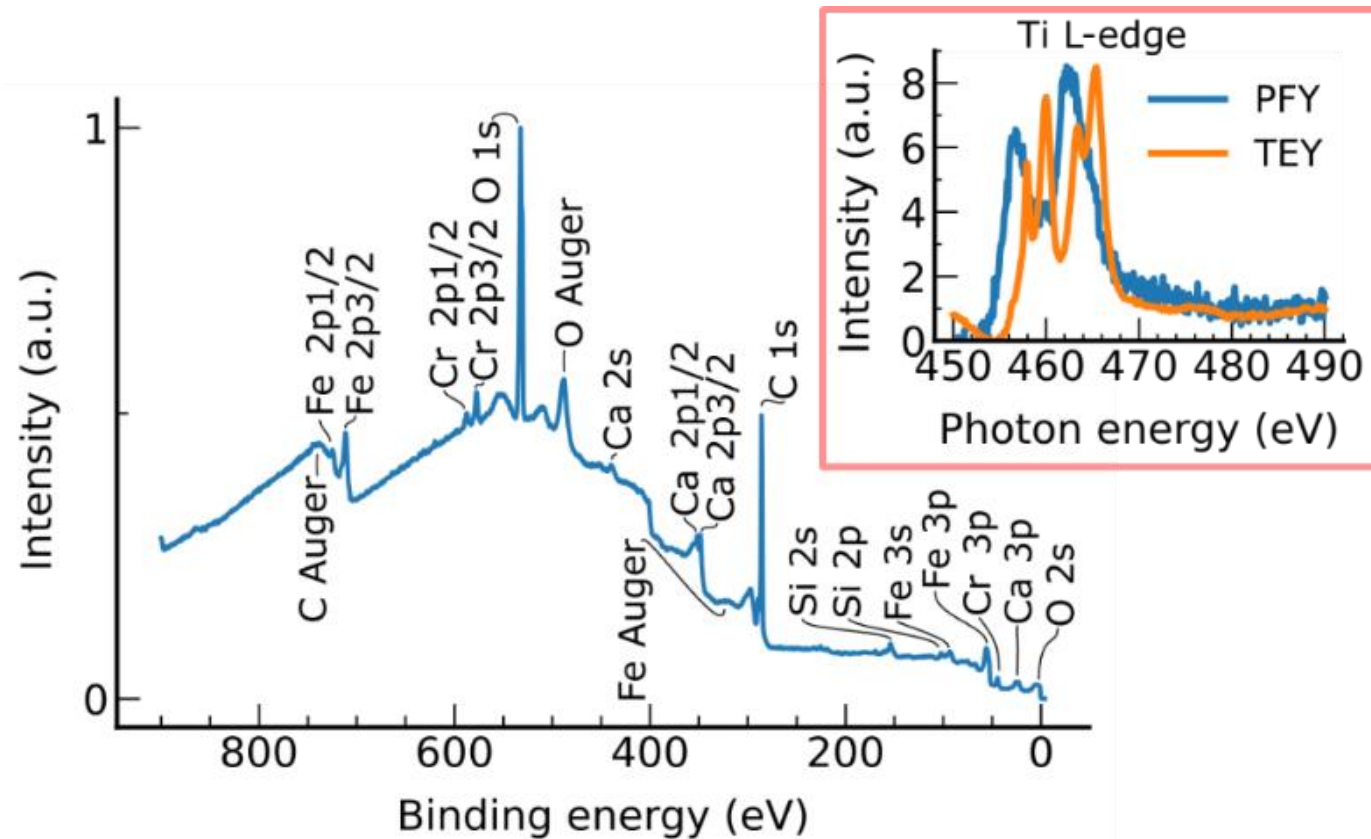
# In situ characterization using MAXPEEM

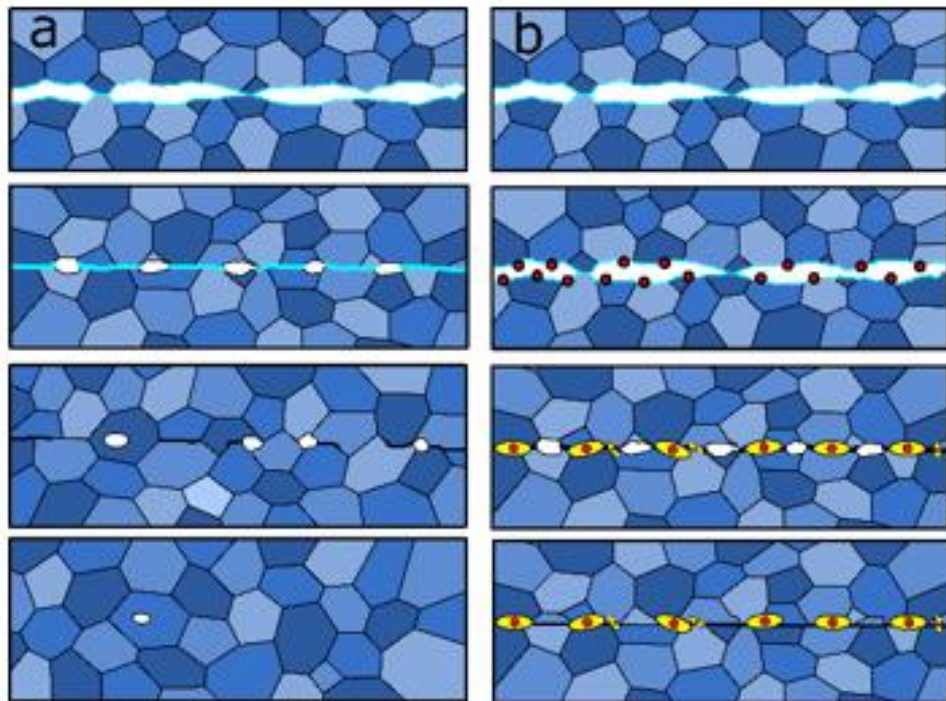
XAS-PEEM images show increase in Ti concentration and agglomeration as temperature rises



# Using FlexPES for surface analysis

X-ray photoemission spectrum of 321H steel at room temperature







*Microscopy and Microanalysis*, 2024, **00**, 1–8  
<https://doi.org/10.1093/mam/ozae019>  
Advance access publication 25 March 2024  
**Original Article**

Microscopy  
AND  
Microanalysis

## Diffusion Bonding 321-Grade Stainless Steel: Failure and Multimodal Characterization

Isac Lazar<sup>1</sup>, Axel Knutsson<sup>2</sup>, Hector Pous Romero<sup>2</sup>, Johan Hektor<sup>3</sup> , Volodymyr Bushlya<sup>4</sup>, Anders Mikkelsen<sup>1</sup>, and Filip Lenrick<sup>4,\*</sup> 

<sup>1</sup>Department of Physics, Division of Synchrotron Radiation Research, Lund University, 221 00 Lund, Sweden

<sup>2</sup>Materials Technology & Chemistry, Alfa Laval, Lund, Sweden

<sup>3</sup>Department of Materials Science and Applied Mathematics, Faculty of Technology and Society, Malmö University, 21119 Malmö, Sweden

<sup>4</sup>Department of Mechanical Engineering Sciences, Division of Production and Materials Engineering, Lund University, 221 00 Lund, Sweden

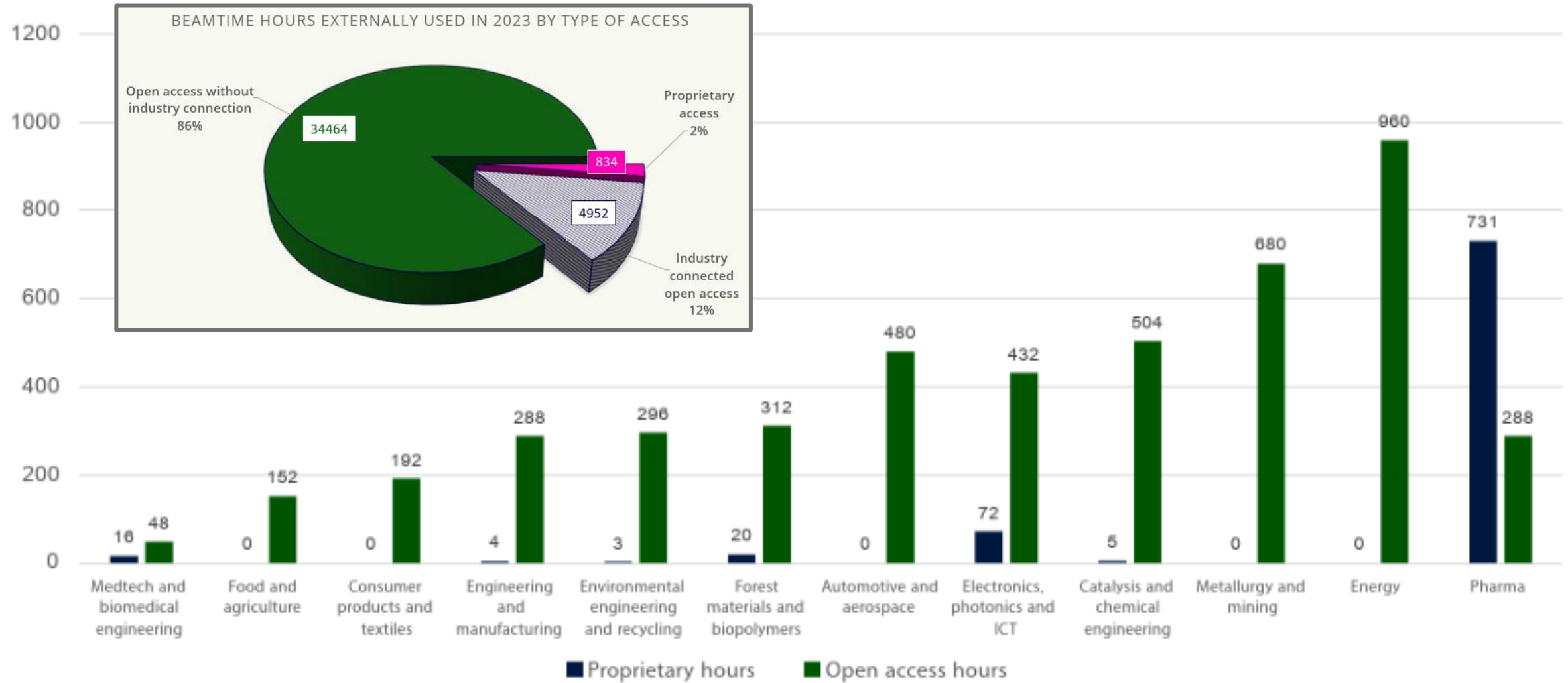
\*Corresponding author: Filip Lenrick, E-mail: [filip.lenrick@iprod.lth.se](mailto:filip.lenrick@iprod.lth.se)

### Abstract

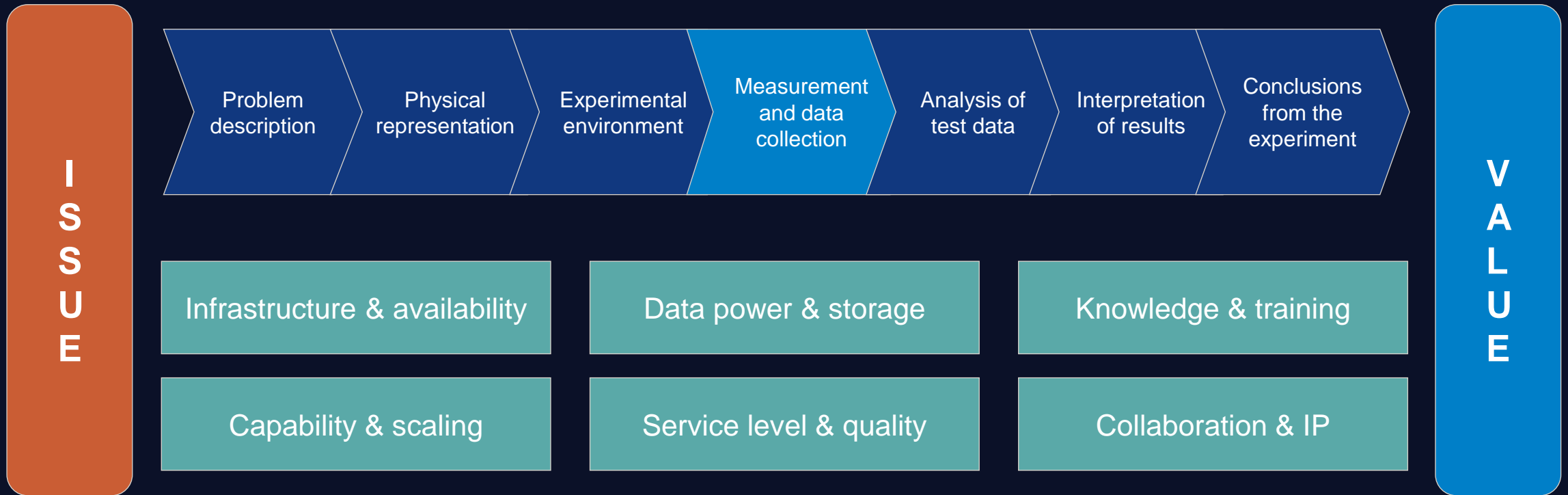
Vacuum diffusion-bonded printed circuit heat exchangers are an attractive choice for the high-temperature, high-pressure demands of next-generation energy applications. However, early reports show that the high-temperature materials desired for these applications suffer from poor bond strengths due to precipitation at the bond line, preventing grain boundary migration. In this study, a diffusion bond of the high-temperature stainless steel grade 321H is investigated, and poor mechanical properties are found to be caused by Ti(C, N) precipitation at the bond line. Through *in situ* studies, it is found that Ti diffuses from the bulk to the mating surfaces at high temperatures. The Ti subsequently precipitates and, for the first time, an interaction between Ti(C, N) and Al/Mg-oxide precipitates at the bond line is observed, where Ti(C, N) nucleates on the oxides forming a core-shell structure. The results indicate that small amounts of particular alloying elements can greatly impact diffusion bond quality, prompting further research into the microstructural evolution that occurs during bonding conditions.

**Key words:** core-shell, diffusion bonding, microstructure, PEEM, stainless steel, TEM, Ti-rich precipitation

# INDUSTRY-CONNECTED BEAMTIME HOURS IN 2023 BY TYPE OF ACCESS AND INDUSTRY SECTOR



# Value chain and functions for industry



# Identified barriers for industry



Cost



Access



Packaging

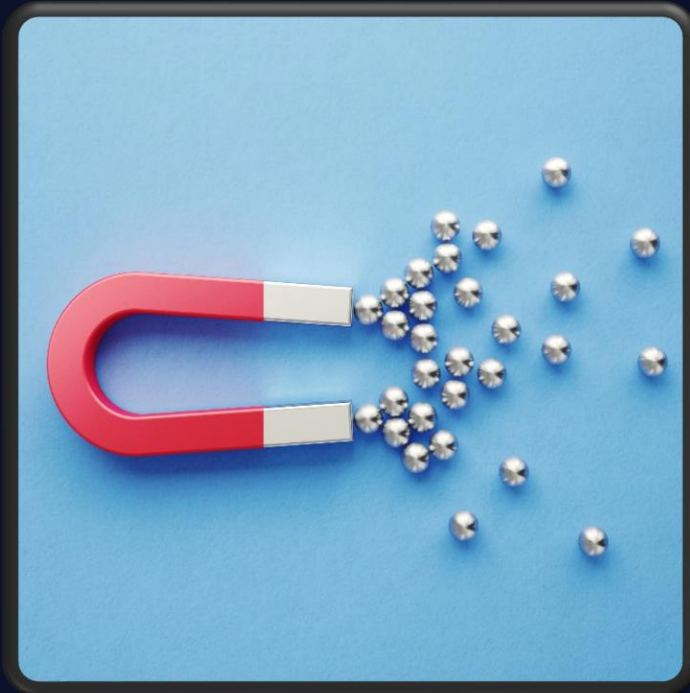


Mandate



Dependencies

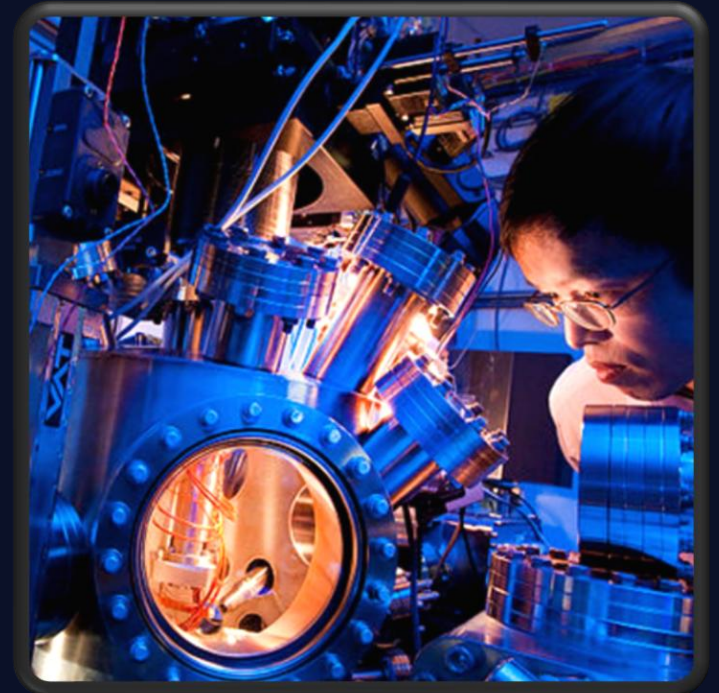
# The way forward to establish the industry platform



Join



Align



Execute



מחנה  
המנוחה