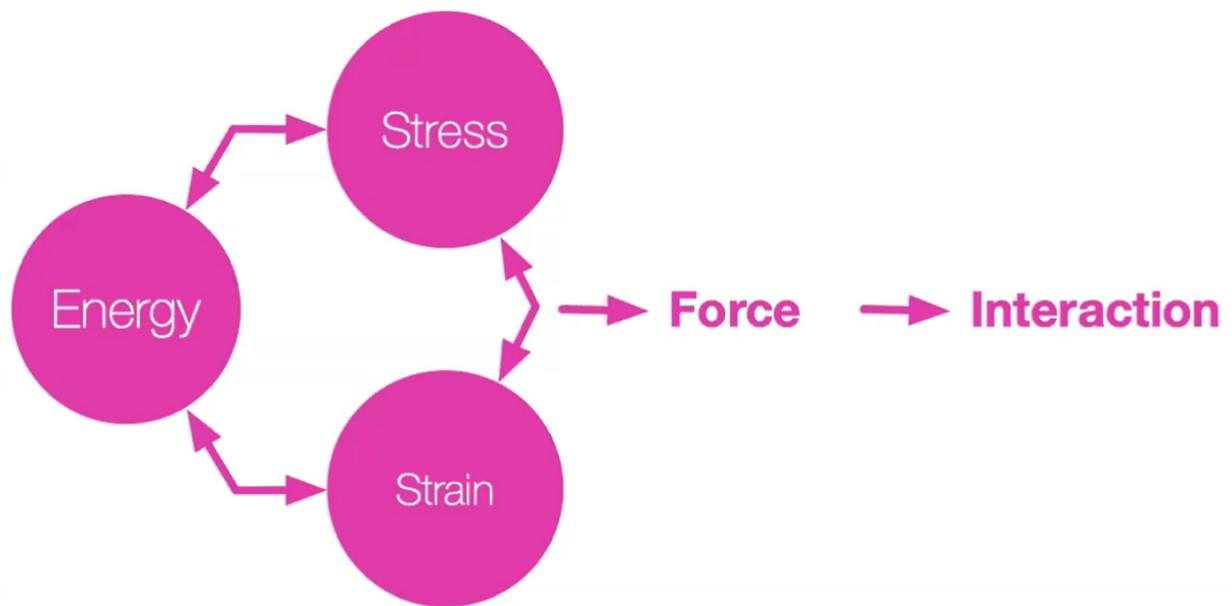
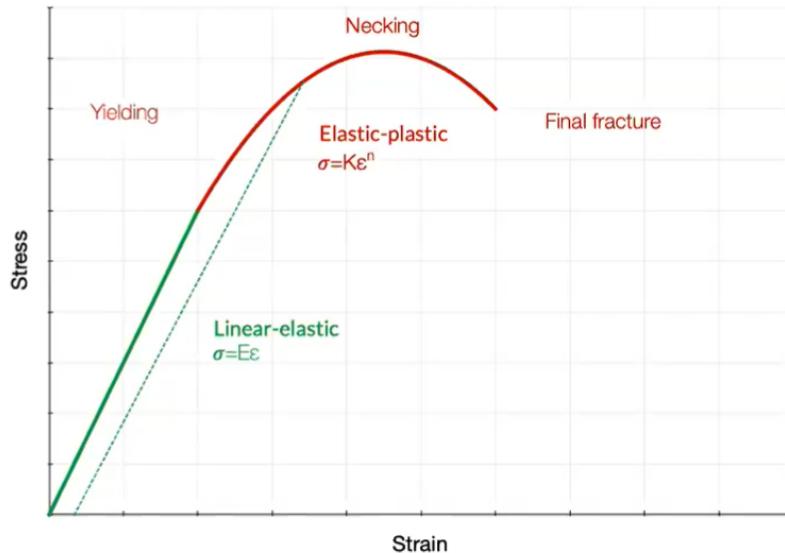


# Deformation II

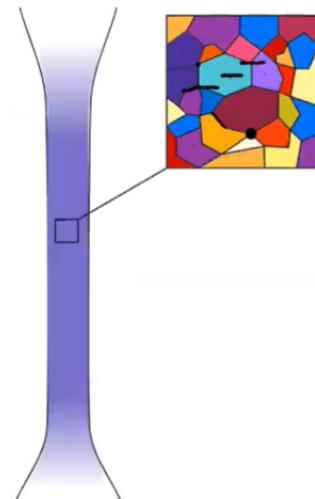


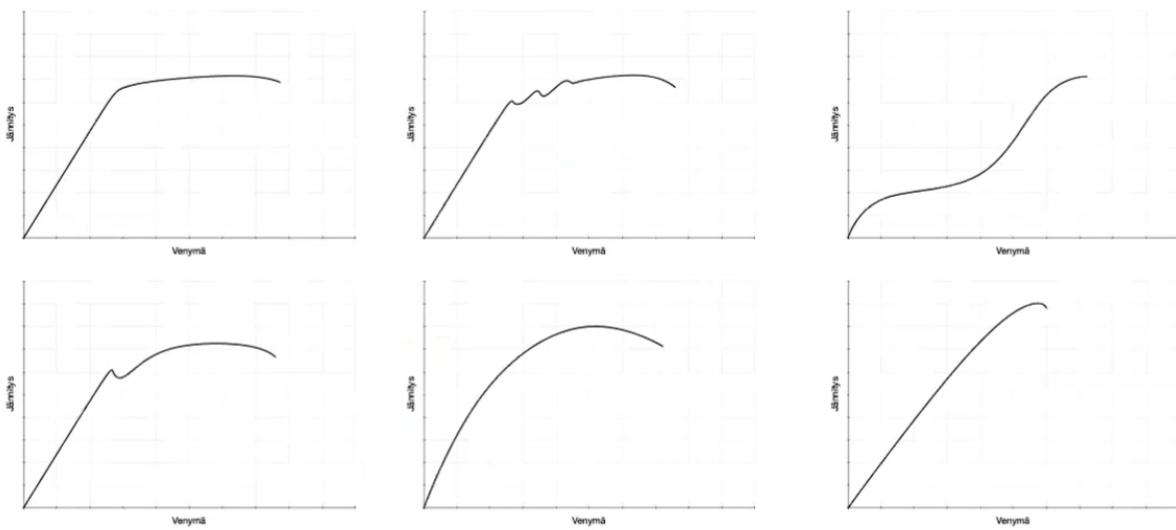
# Macroscopic approximation



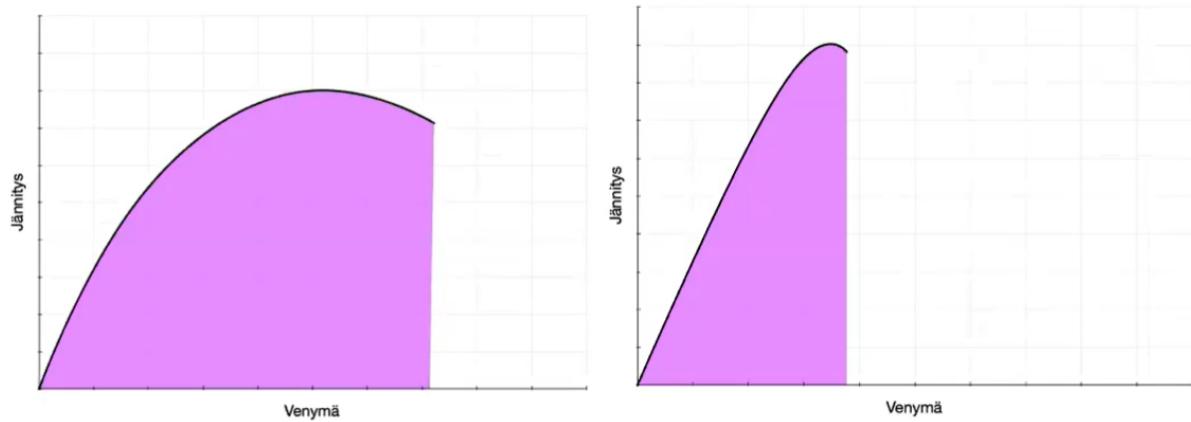
## Inhomogenous material

**Material has inclusions, precipitates, impurities and lattice defects. These cause stress concentrations in microscopic level.**





## Ductility

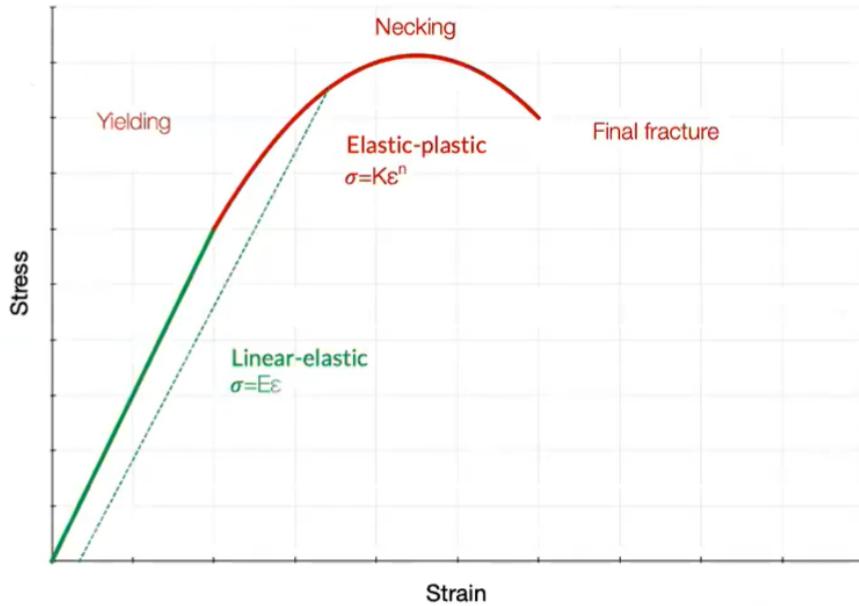


## Notch strengthening

**Notch turn uniaxial stress to triaxial stress  
Material inside notch behaves as if it's stronger**

**E.g. Brazing / soldering**

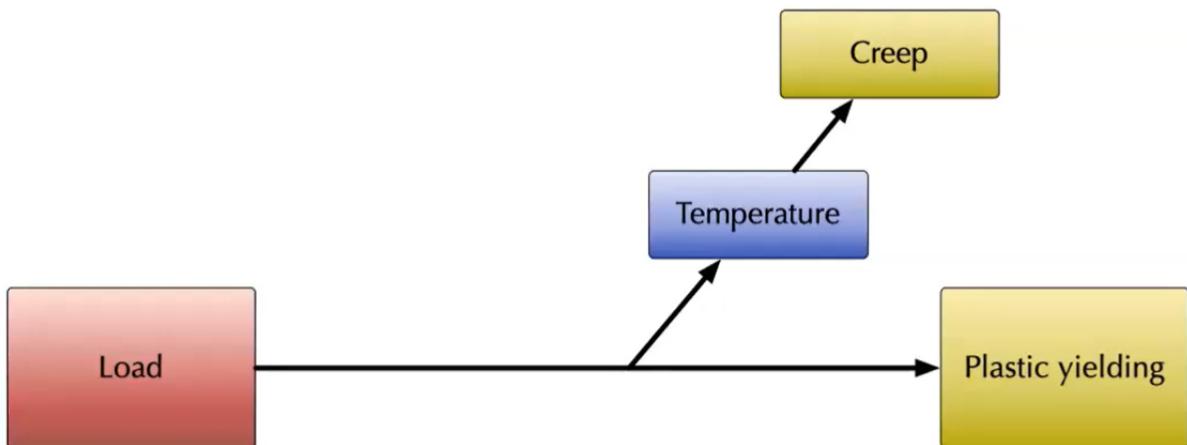
# Macroscopic approximation



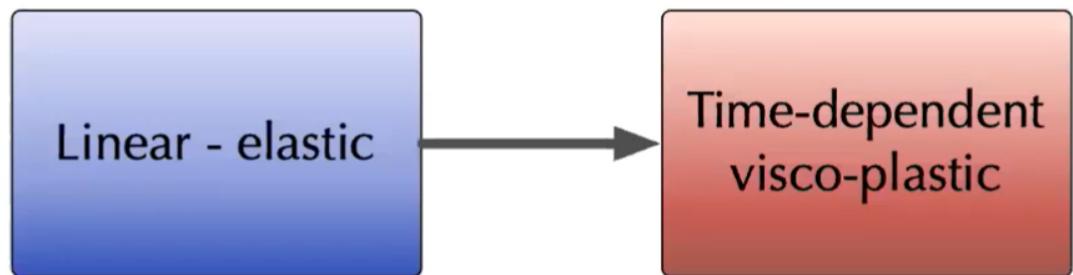
**A''**

Aalto-Ympäristö  
Insanirakenteiden  
korkeakoulu

## High temperature behaviour of materials



# High temperature deformation



## Spring-Dashpot model



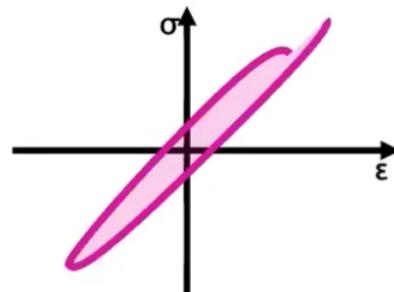
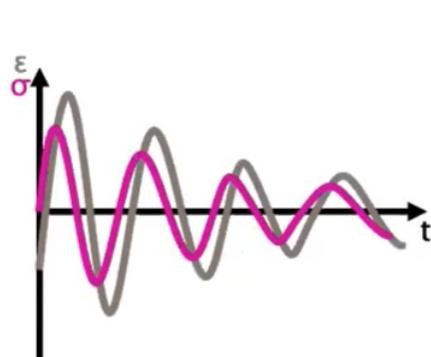
$$\varepsilon = \frac{\sigma}{R}$$



$$\dot{\varepsilon} = \frac{\sigma}{\eta}$$

$$\varepsilon = \frac{\sigma t}{\eta}$$

# Energy losses in cyclic loading



$$\begin{aligned}\sigma &= \Re \{ \sigma_0 e^{(i\omega - \zeta)t} \} \\ \varepsilon &= \Re \{ \varepsilon_0 e^{(i\omega - \zeta)t} \}\end{aligned}$$

$$\Delta U = \oint \sigma d\varepsilon$$

$$\eta = \frac{D}{2\pi} = \frac{1}{Q} \asymp \frac{\Lambda}{\pi} = 2\zeta$$

## Visco-plastic deformation: creep

### Elastic deformation

- instant
- reversible

### Plastic deformation

- irreversible
- strain rate dependent

### Primary creep

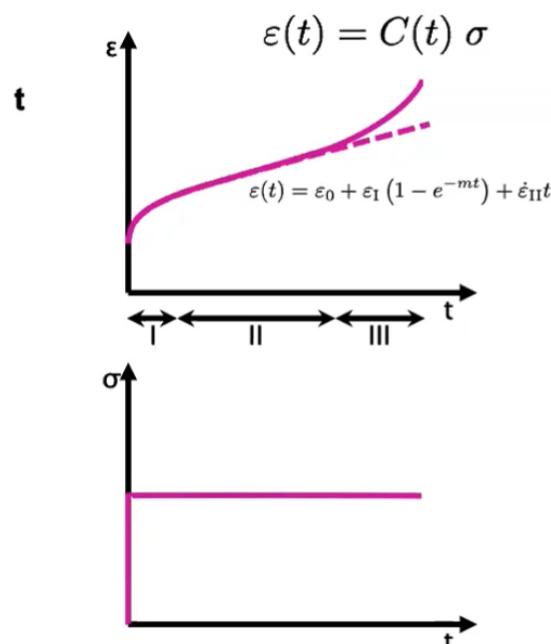
- changing
- creep rate decreases with time

### Secondary creep

- constant-rate

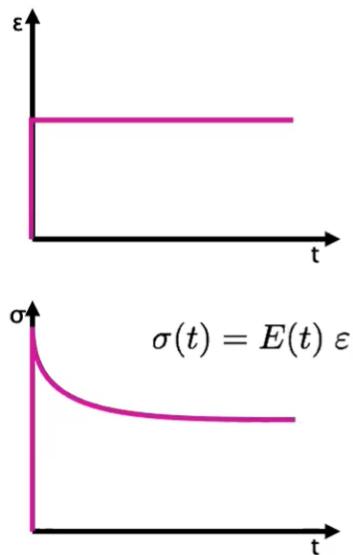
### Tertiary creep

- creep rate increases
- related to accumulating damage



## Stress relaxation

In strain (displacement) control  
creep decreases stresses

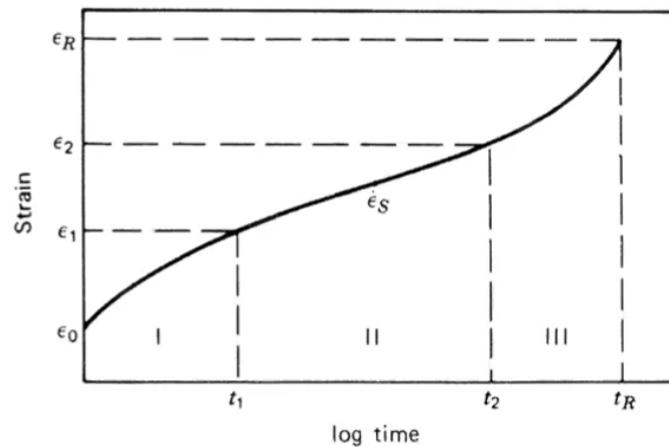


## Thermally activated plastic deformation

Creep

Numerous mechanisms

## Creep

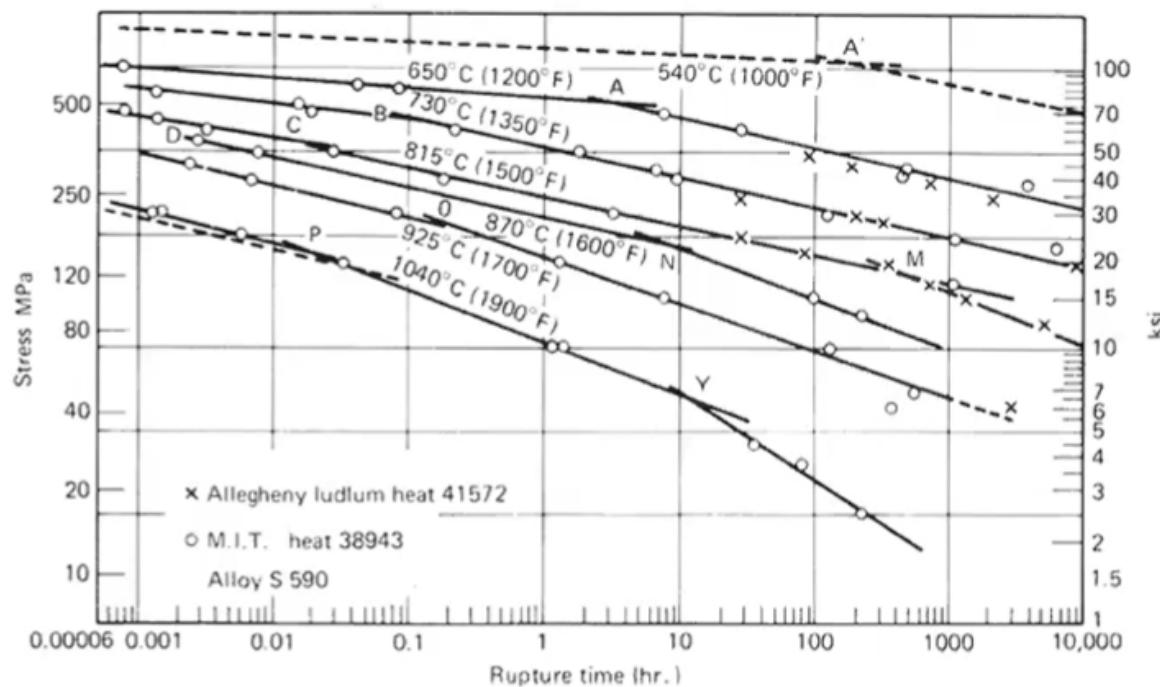




## **Creep is life-limiting mechanism in**

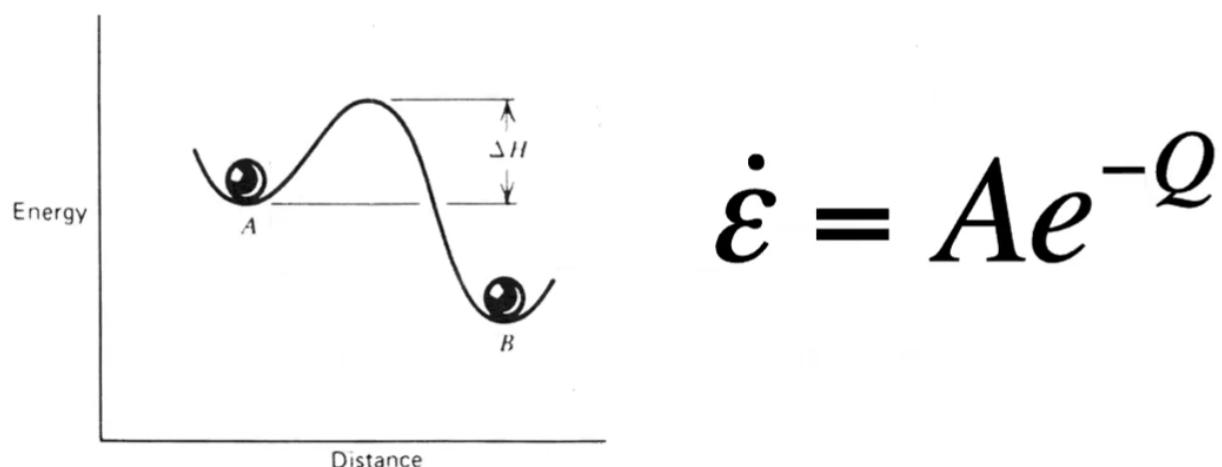
**Power plants  
Oil refineries  
Turbine blades**

...



**FIGURE 5.3** Stress-rupture life plot at several test temperatures for iron based alloy S-590. (From N. J. Grant and A. G. Bucklin, copyright American Society for Metals, Metals Park, OH, © 1950.)

## Activation energy



# Mechanisms

**Stress driven, thermally assisted deformation**

**Several mechanisms**

- Each with their own activation energy
- With increasing temperature, mechanisms with higher activation energy become active
- Largest strain rate dominates

# Mechanisms

**Activation of dislocation sources**

**Overcoming Peierls stress**

"jogs"

**Assisted dislocation climb**

**Movement of Cottrell clouds with diffusion**

**Diffusion creep**

- Cobble
- Nabarro-Herring

# Dislocation creep

**High stress, low temperature**

**Diffusion assisted dislocation movement over barriers**

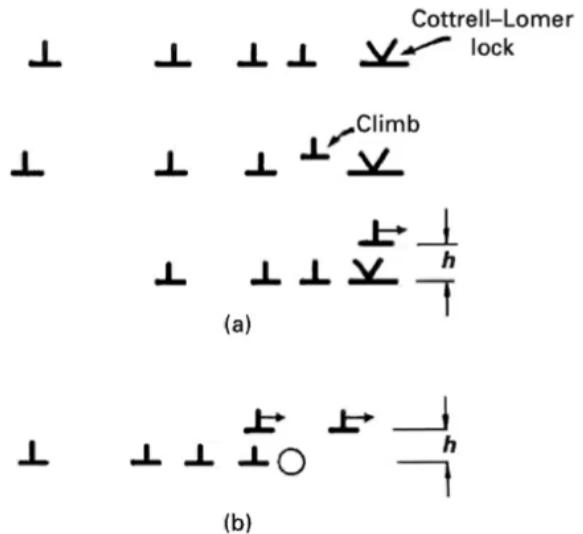
# Dislocation creep

## Power law -creep

- $10^{-4} \text{ G} \lesssim \sigma \lesssim 10^{-2} \text{ G}$
- Dislocation movement assisted by diffusion
- Balance between strain hardening and recovery
- Dislocation climb
- Stress increases driving force and dislocation density

## Dislocation glide

- $10^{-2} \text{ G} \lesssim \sigma$

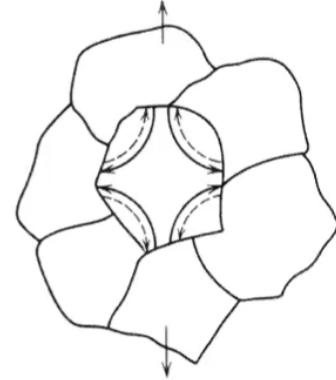


# Diffusion creep

High temperature, small stress

Vacancies gather in tensile stress zones

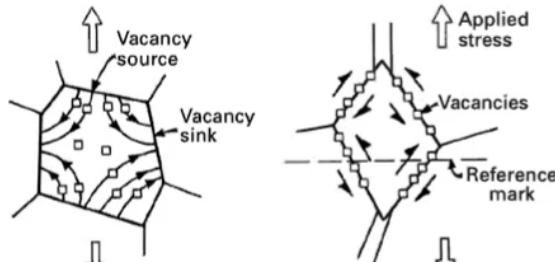
Diffusion controlled



# Grain boundary mechanisms

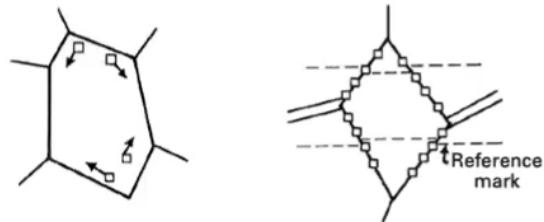
## Coble

- Gliding due to fast grain boundary diffusion



## Nabarro-Herring

- Grain boundaries act as sources (sinks) of vacancies
- Vacancies diffuse through grains



**Both are grain size dependent**

**Dominating in small stresses  
(high temperatures)**

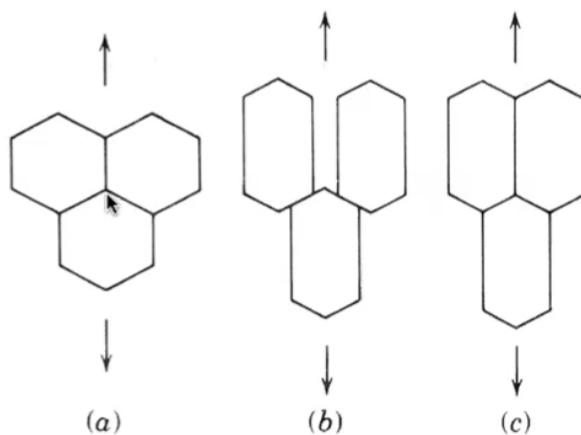
- $\sigma \lesssim 10^{-4} G$

$$\dot{\varepsilon}_{\text{NH}} = A_{\text{NH}} D \frac{Gb}{k_B T} \left( \frac{b}{d} \right)^2 \left( \frac{\sigma}{G} \right)$$

$$\dot{\varepsilon}_C = A_C D_{\text{gb}} \frac{Gb}{k_B T} \left( \frac{\delta}{b} \right) \left( \frac{b}{d} \right)^3 \left( \frac{\sigma}{G} \right)$$

# Grain boundary sliding

To preserve material integrity, grain boundaries must slide

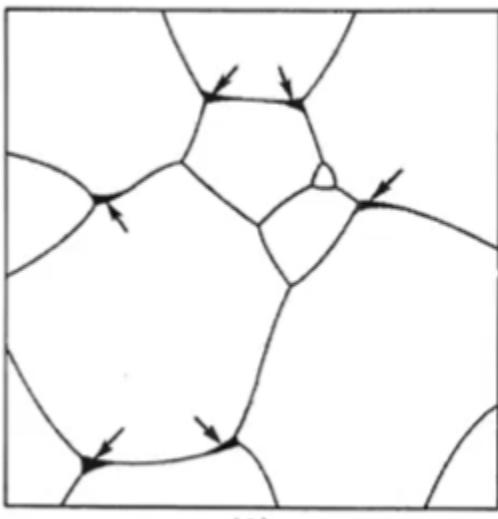


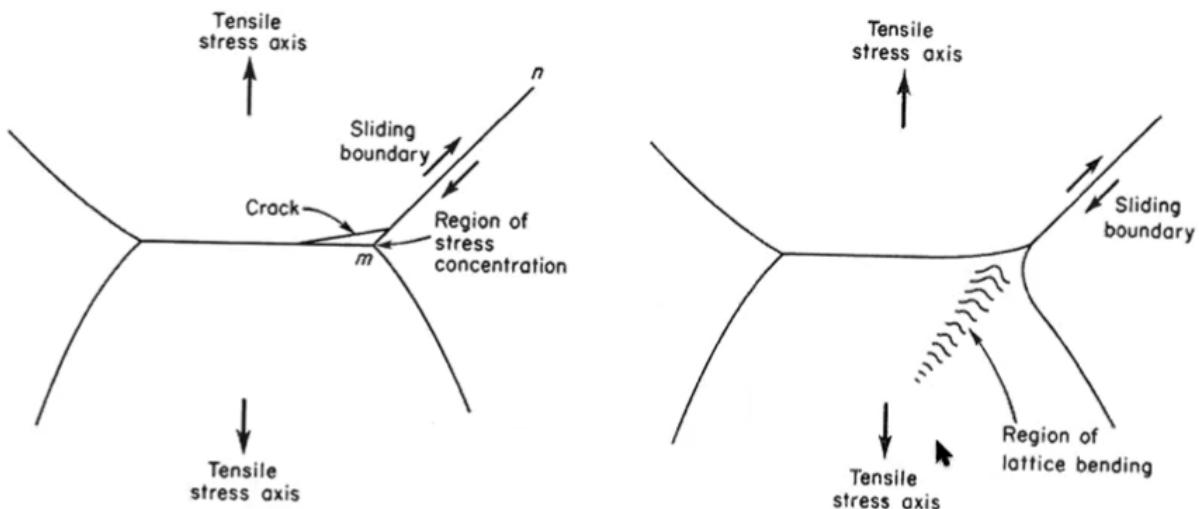
# Creep failure

**Grain boundaries open**

**Opening grain boundaries form cracks**

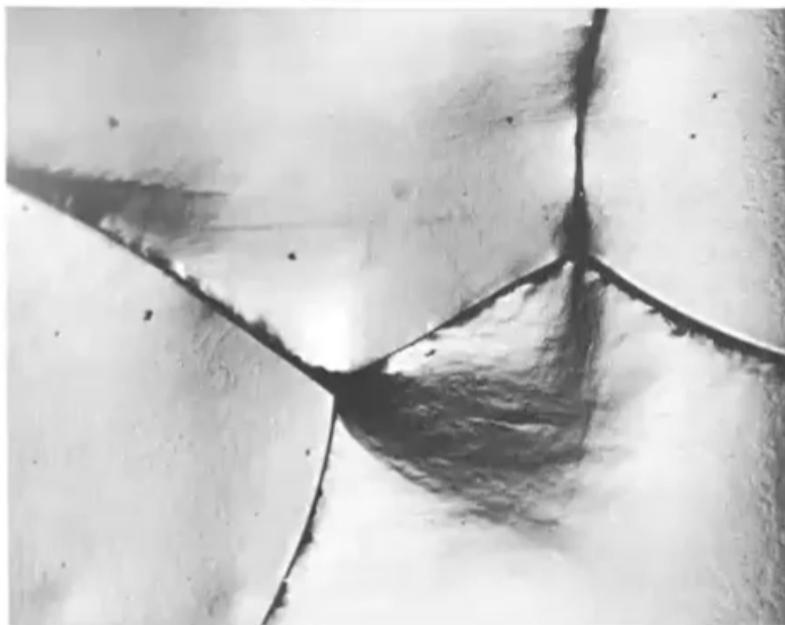
**Cracks increase local stress**



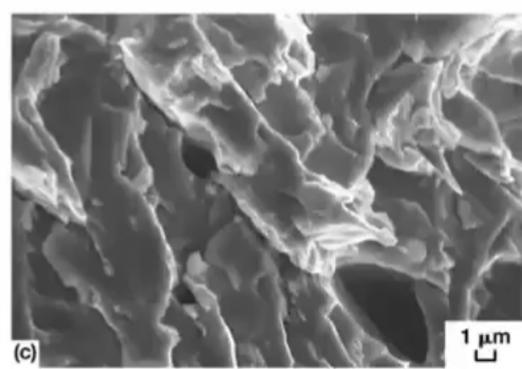
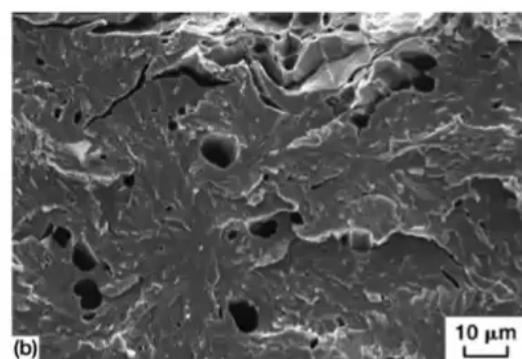
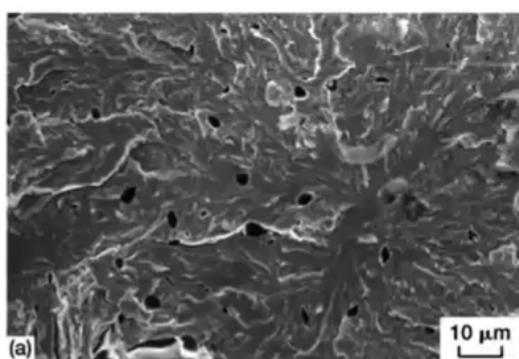
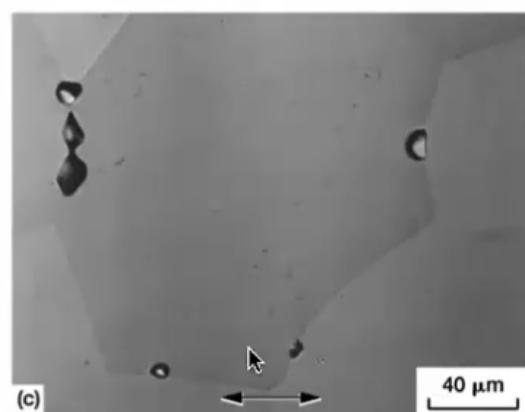
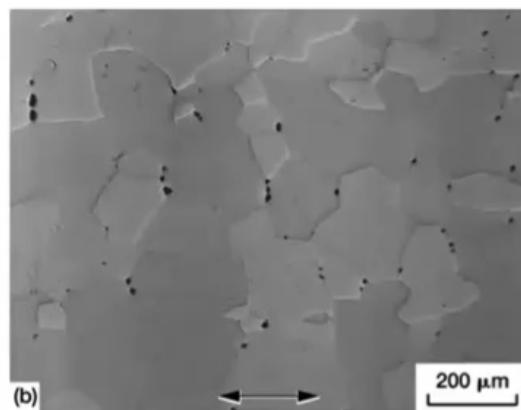
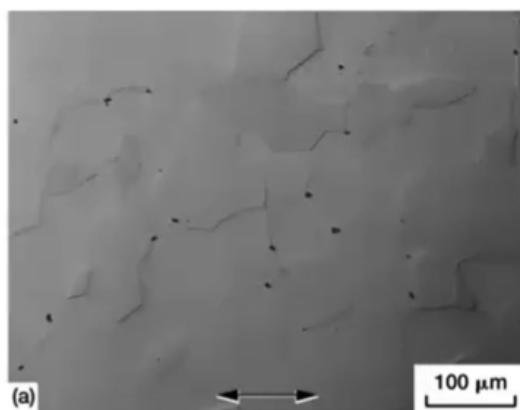


**Fig. 23.29** Zener's method for the formation of wedge-shaped cavities. Sliding along the boundary  $mn$  relaxes the shear stress along the boundary and concentrates the stress at the grain corner.

**Fig. 23.30** The stress concentration at a grain corner may be relieved by plastic deformation in the grain ahead of the sliding boundary.

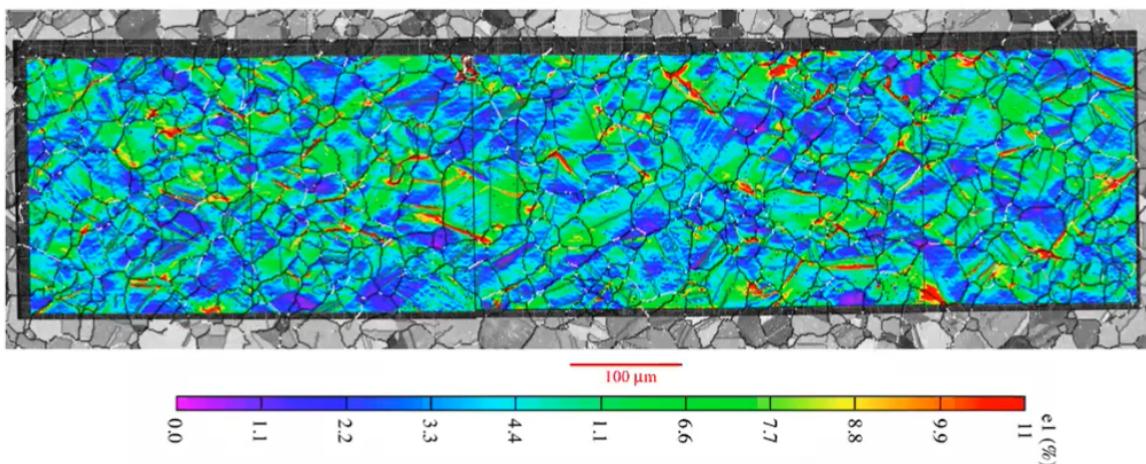


**Fig. 23.31** A double fold on the surface of a 20 percent Zn-Al creep specimen tested at 500°F and 2300 psi. 75X. (Chang, H. C., and Grant, N. J., *Trans. AIME*, 206 544 [1956].)



# Direct observation in electron microscopy

- Digital Image Correlation and Electron BackScatter Diffraction



## Superplasticity

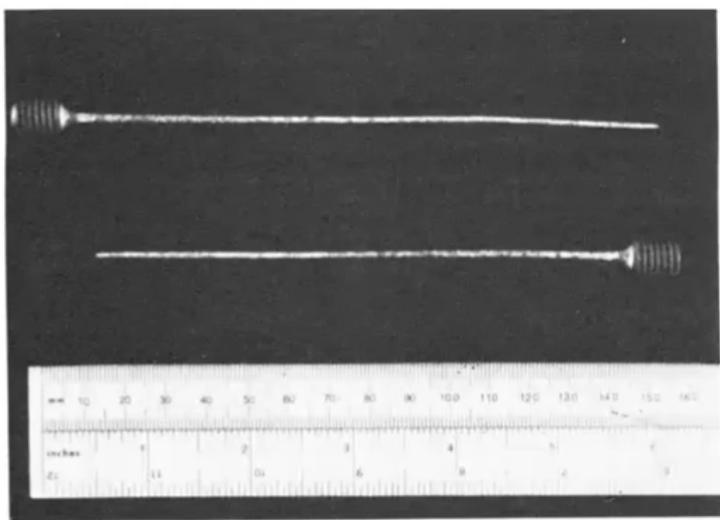
### Some materials

- small grain size

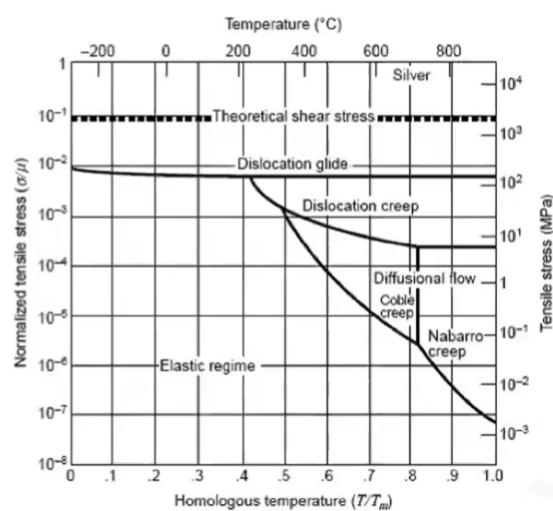
Certain strain-rate / temperature region

Large deformations attainable

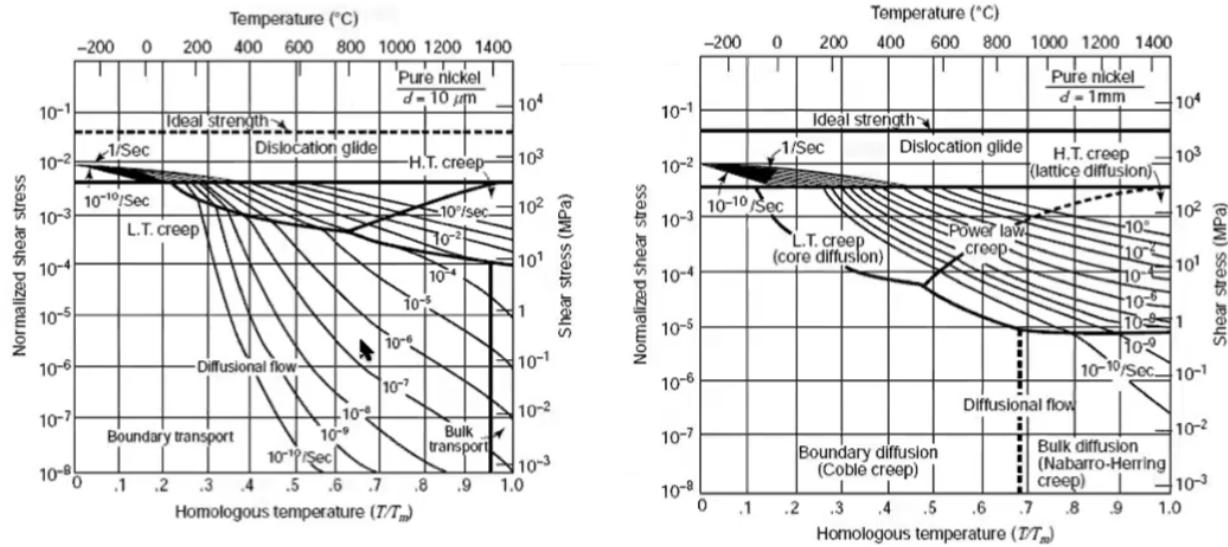
>1000%



## Deformation map



# Grain boundary dependence



## Design

**Testing is time consuming**

**Accelerated testing is difficult**

- higher temperature or higher stress
- different mechanism activates

**Unified parameter to correlate behavior in different regions**

**Several (conflicting) parameters proposed**

## Larson - Miller

**Do testing in high temperature (fast)**

**Use material in lower temperature (where service time is long)**

**For given stress, correlate time-to-rupture in different temperatures with Larson-Miller parameter**

# Larson-Miller parameter

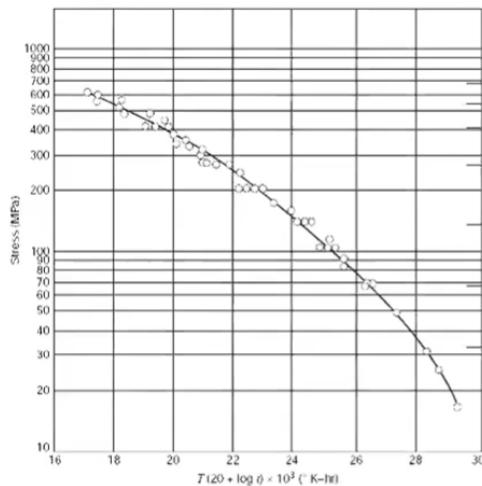
## Activation energy $\Delta H$

- Driving force depends from stress
- Activation energy may be stress dependent

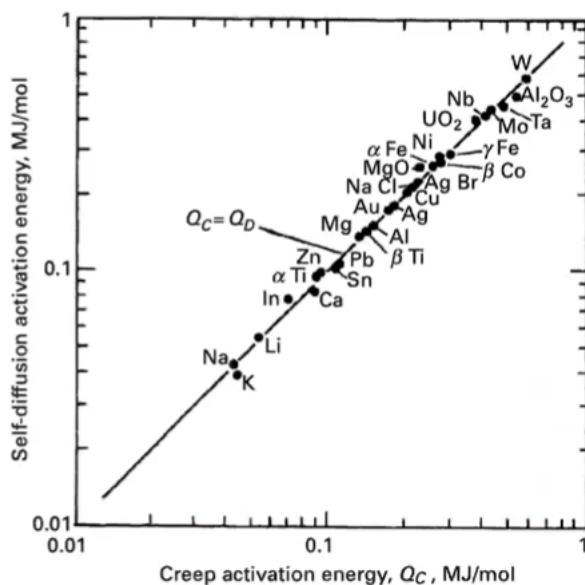
$$\text{rate} \sim Ae^{\frac{\Delta H}{RT}}$$

$$\frac{\Delta H}{R} = T(C - \log(t))$$

$$C = \log(A) \approx 20$$



## Creep activation energy close to diffusion activation energy

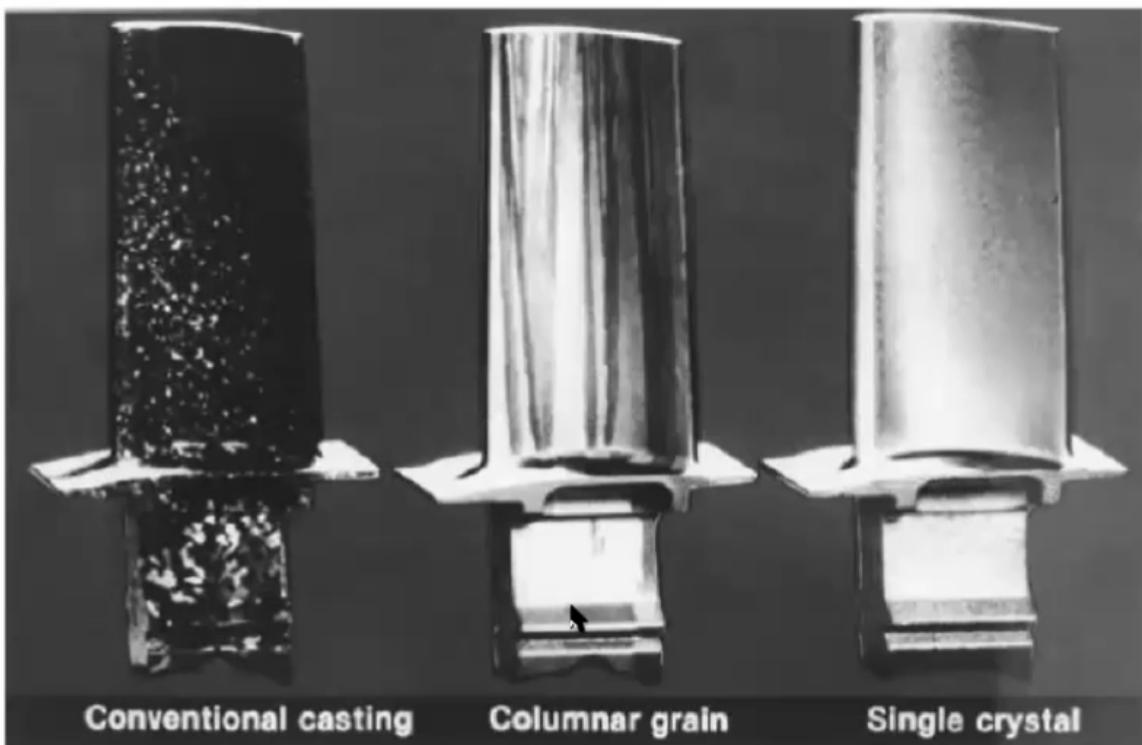
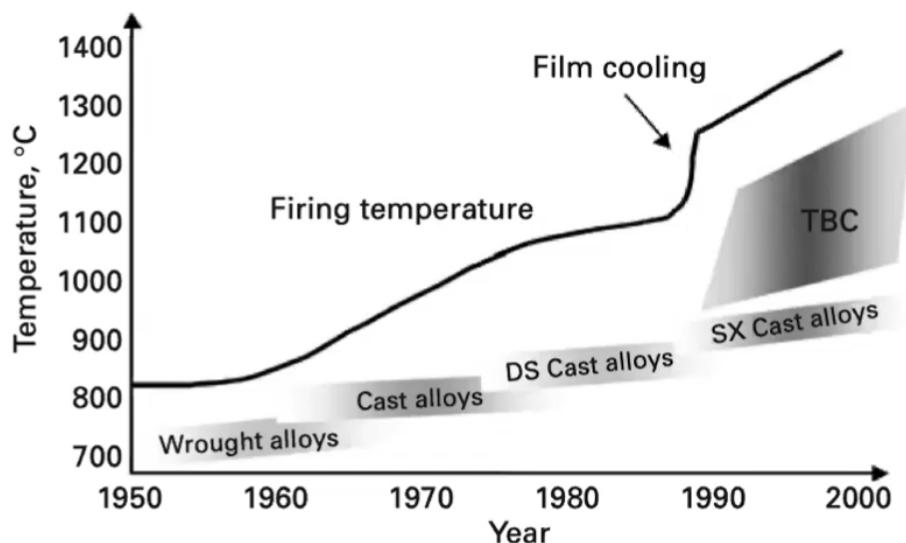


# High temperature materials

High melting point

High temperature precipitates (dispersions)

Large grain size (!)



## Case

Example of current development

*Alloy design of creep resistant 9Cr steel using a dispersion of nano-sized carbonitrides*

Int. J. of Pressure Vessels and Piping

F. Abe, M. Taneike, K. Sawada

84 (2007), 3-12

**Target: Ultra-super-critical power plants**

lower CO<sub>2</sub>

higher temperature >650° C

old materials insufficient

=> better oxidation resistance and creep resistance

## Significant factors

### Dispersion strengthening

- inversely proportional to the mean inter-particle distance
- proportional to the volume fraction

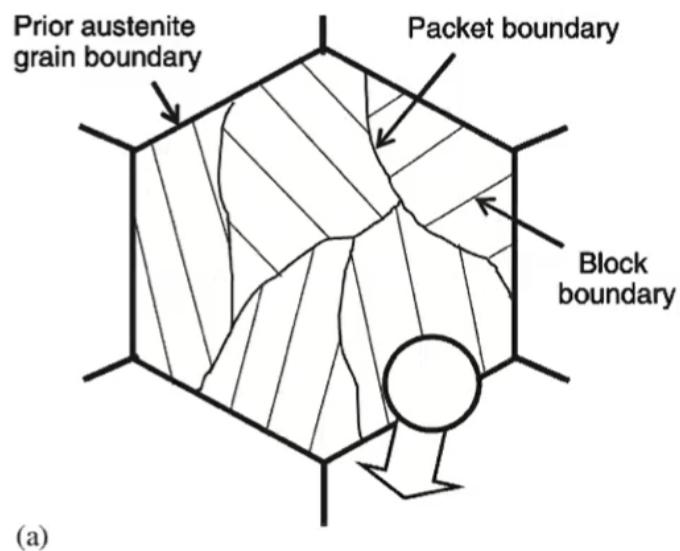
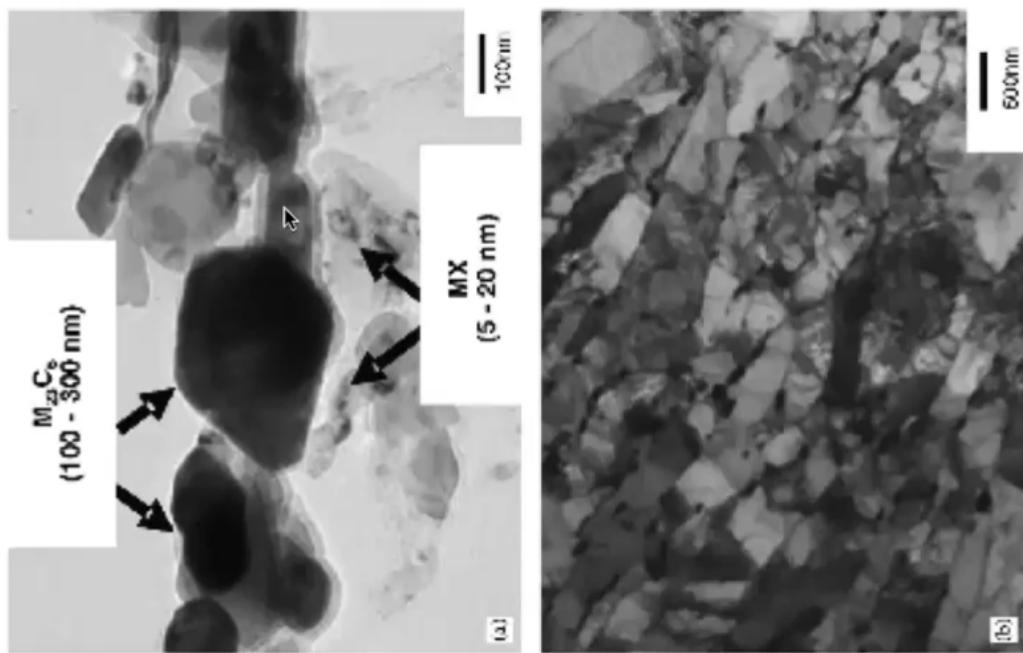
### conventional 9 to 12Cr steels such as

- P91 (9Cr-1Mo-VNb steel),
- P92 (9Cr-0.5Mo-1.8W-VNb steel) and
- P122 (11Cr-0.4Mo-2W-CuVNb steel)

### tempered martensite

### high density of dislocations and fine precipitates

### M23C6 carbides rich in chromium and MX carbonitrides



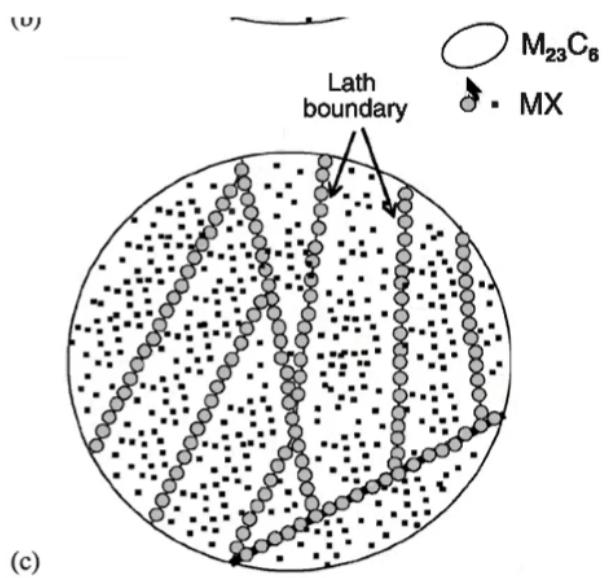
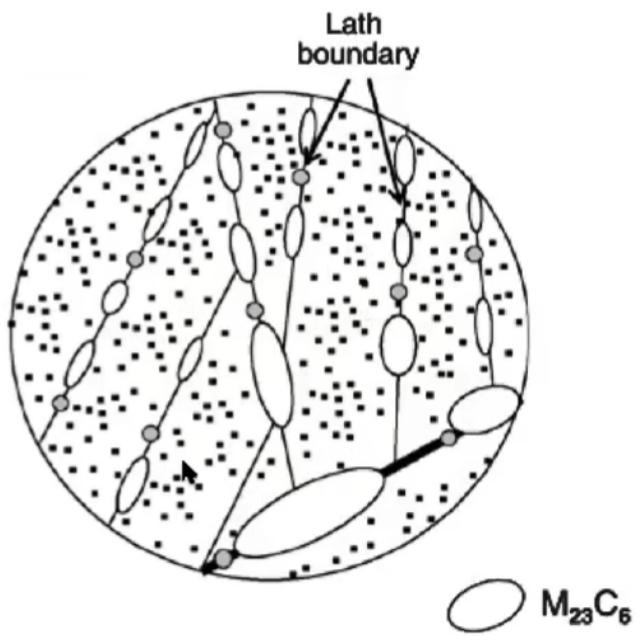


Table 1

Chemical compositions and heat treatment conditions of carbon series of 9Cr-3W-3Co-VNb-0.05N steels with different carbon concentration

C	Si	Mn	Cr	W	V	Nb	Co	N (mass %)	B	Normalizing	Tempering
0.002C	0.002	0.29	0.51	9.19	2.96	0.20	0.060	3.09	0.049	0.0070	1100 °C × 0.5 h
0.018C	0.018	0.29	0.50	9.16	2.91	0.20	0.058	2.94	0.050	0.0058	1100 °C × 0.5 h
0.047C	0.047	0.30	0.51	9.24	2.90	0.20	0.059	3.07	0.050	0.0063	1100 °C × 0.5 h
0.078C	0.078	0.31	0.51	9.26	2.93	0.20	0.061	3.08	0.049	0.0064	1100 °C × 0.5 h
0.12C	0.120	0.30	0.50	9.27	2.93	0.20	0.058	3.08	0.048	0.0065	1100 °C × 0.5 h
0.16C	0.160	0.30	0.51	9.26	2.94	0.20	0.058	3.08	0.047	0.0061	1100 °C × 0.5 h

Table 2

Chemical compositions and heat treatment conditions of nitrogen series of 9Cr-3W-3Co-VNb-0.002C steels with different nitrogen concentration

C	Si	Mn	Cr	W	V	Nb	Co	N (mass %)	B	Normalizing	Tempering
0.05N	0.0020	0.29	0.51	9.19	2.96	0.20	0.060	3.09	0.049	0.0070	1100 °C × 0.5 h
0.07N	0.0019	0.30	0.50	8.84	3.02	0.20	0.059	3.02	0.074	0.0066	1200 °C × 0.5 h
0.10N	0.0020	0.29	0.53	8.87	2.90	0.19	0.060	3.03	0.103	0.0062	1200 °C × 0.5 h

Table 3

Chemical compositions and heat treatment conditions of Ti series of 9Cr-2W-VNb-0.13C steels with and without 0.05Ti

C	Si	Cr	W	V	Nb	Co	N (mass %)	Normalizing	Tempering
0Ti	0.13	0.51	8.49	1.93	0.195	0.045	<0.001	0.006	1100 °C × 1 h
0.05Ti-S	0.13	0.50	8.42	1.91	0.192	0.044	0.047	0.006	1100 °C × 1 h
0.05Ti-H	0.13	0.50	8.42	1.91	0.192	0.044	0.047	0.006	1300 °C × 1 h

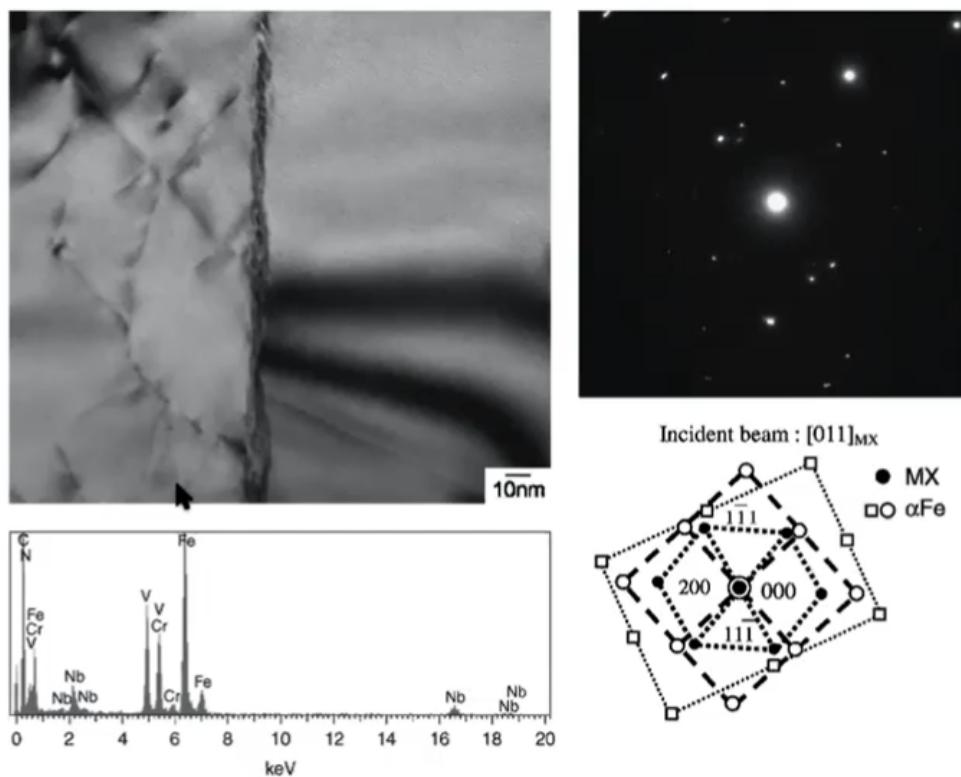


Fig. 5. Nano-size MX precipitates along boundaries in 0.002C steel in Table 1, after tempering.

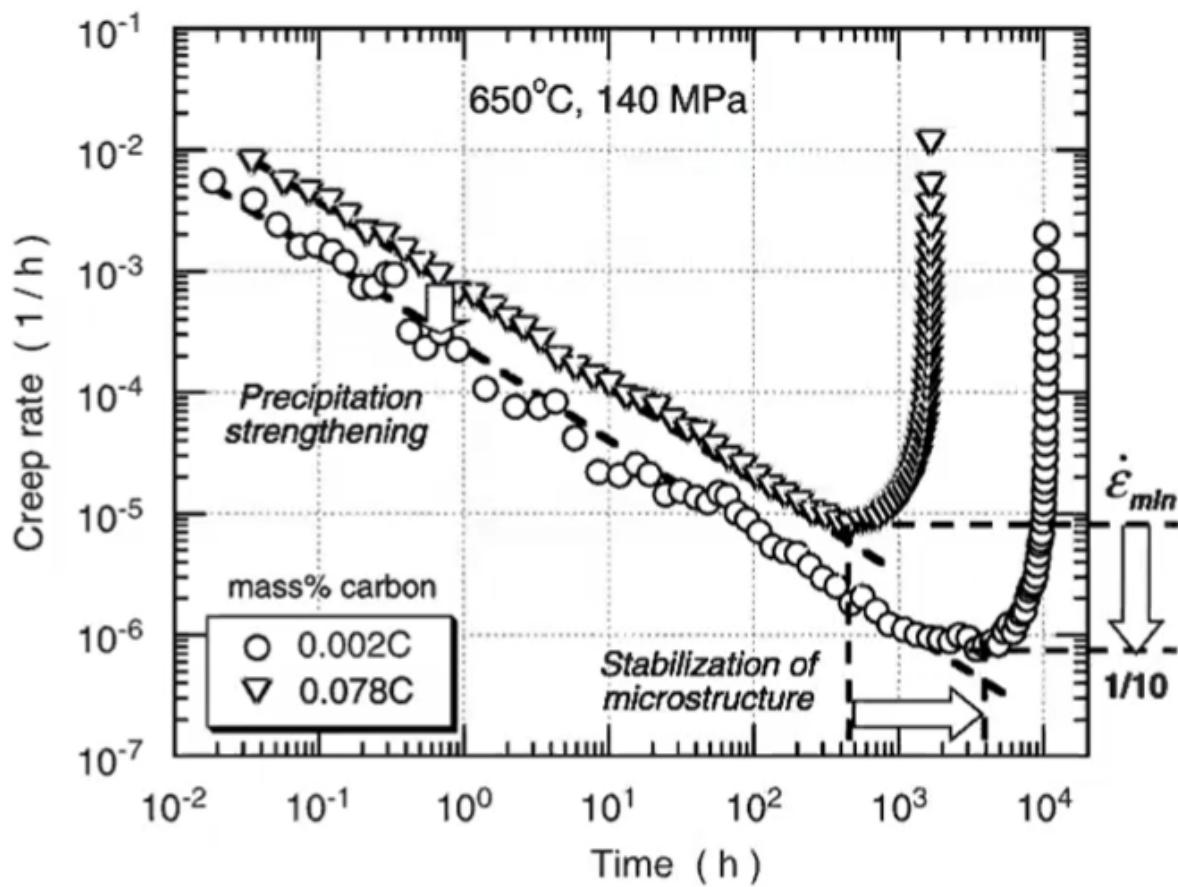


Fig. 7. Creep rate versus time curves of 0.002C and 0.078C steels in Table 1 at 650 °C and 140 MPa.

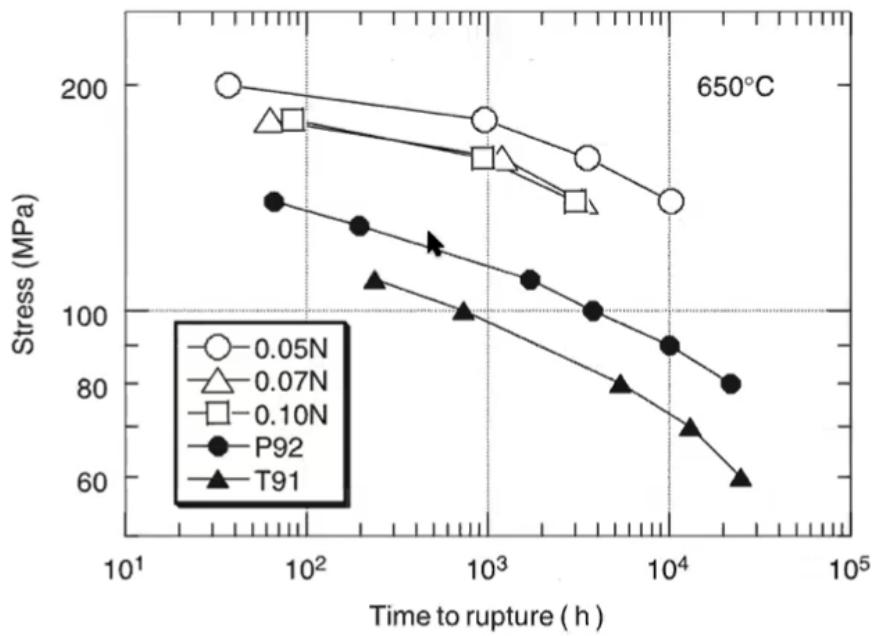


Fig. 8. Creep rupture data for the 0.05N, 0.07N and 0.10N steels in Table 2 at 650 °C, comparing with those for conventional steels P92 and T91.

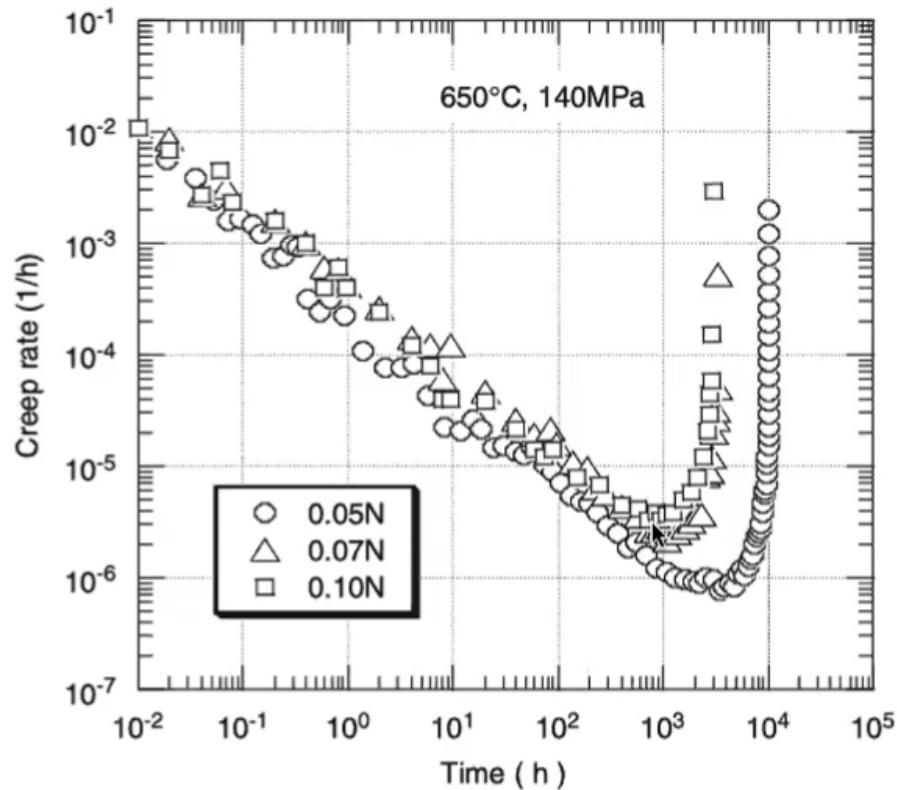
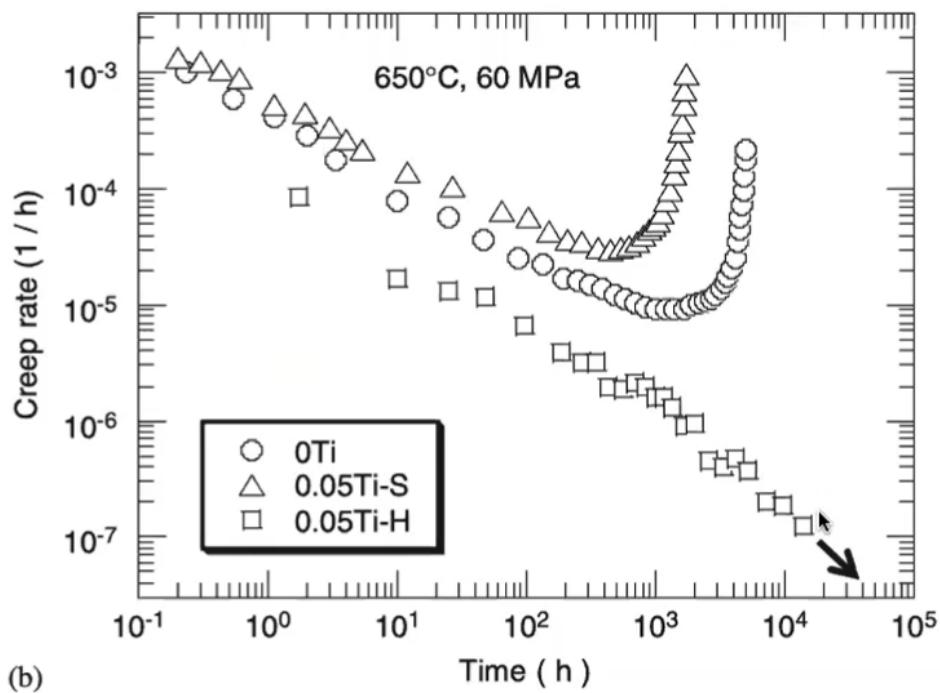
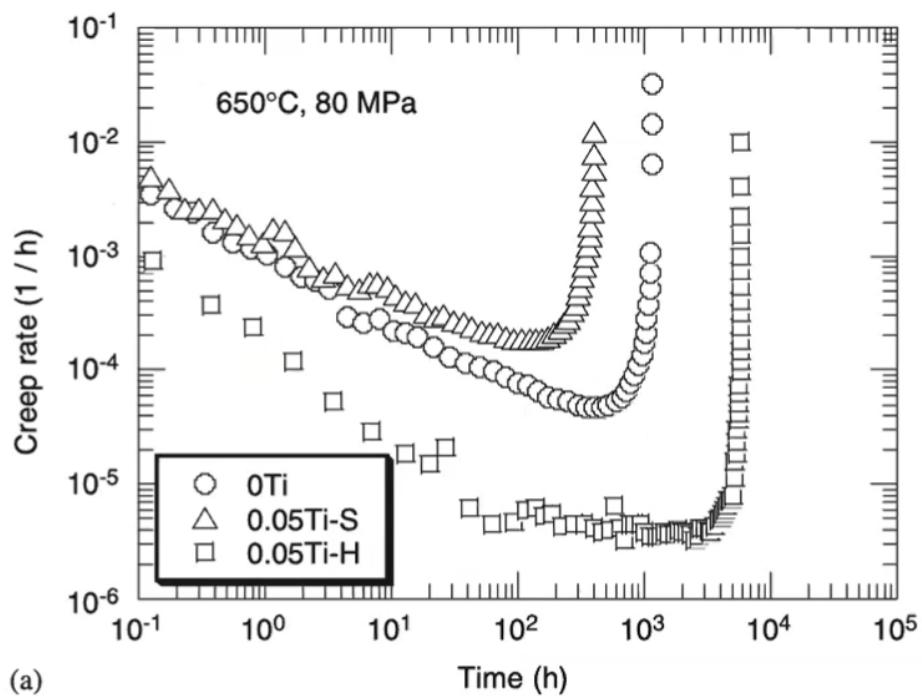


Fig. 10. Creep rate versus time curves of the 0.05N, 0.07N and 0.10N steels in Table 2 at 650 °C and 140 MPa.



# Conclusion

**MX-nitrides in grain boundaries improve creep strength  
(attained by lower carbon content)**

**Increased nitride decreases creep strength  
(MX nitrides change to coarser Z-phase)**

**TiC carbides increase creep strength in low stresses**

Engineering Failure Analysis 18 (2011) 1407–1414



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Engineering Failure Analysis

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/engfailanal](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/engfailanal)



Creep failure of low pressure turbine blade of an aircraft engine

N. Ejaz \*, I.N. Qureshi, S.A. Rizvi

*Institute of Industrial Control Systems, P.O. Box 1398, Rawalpindi, Pakistan*

# Detection

**After overhaul, changes and sound and vibrations were noticed  
Visual examination showed cracks**

**Blade had seen 270 hours of use**

**Root cause analysis of failure and comparison to unbroken  
blade**

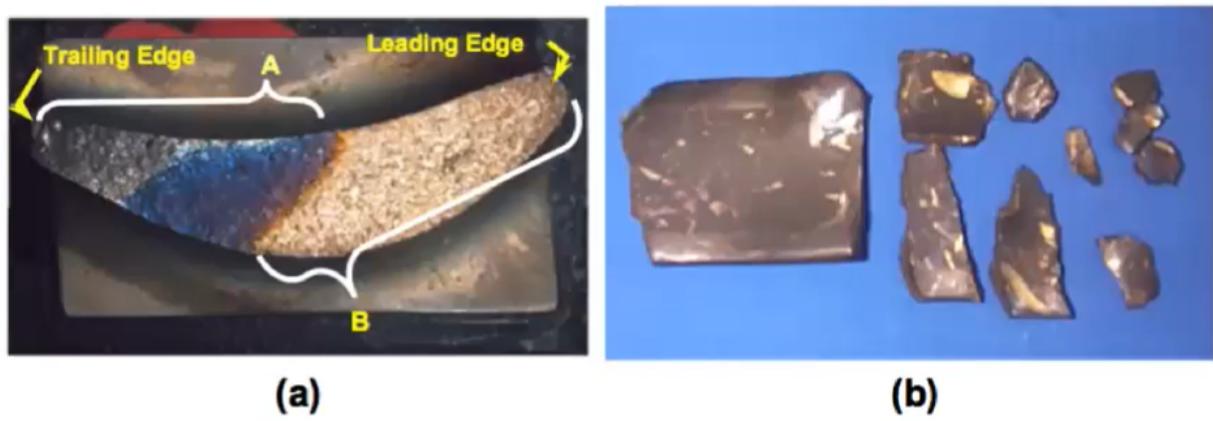


Fig. 1. Failed blade, (a) fracture surface, (b) remains of the airfoil.

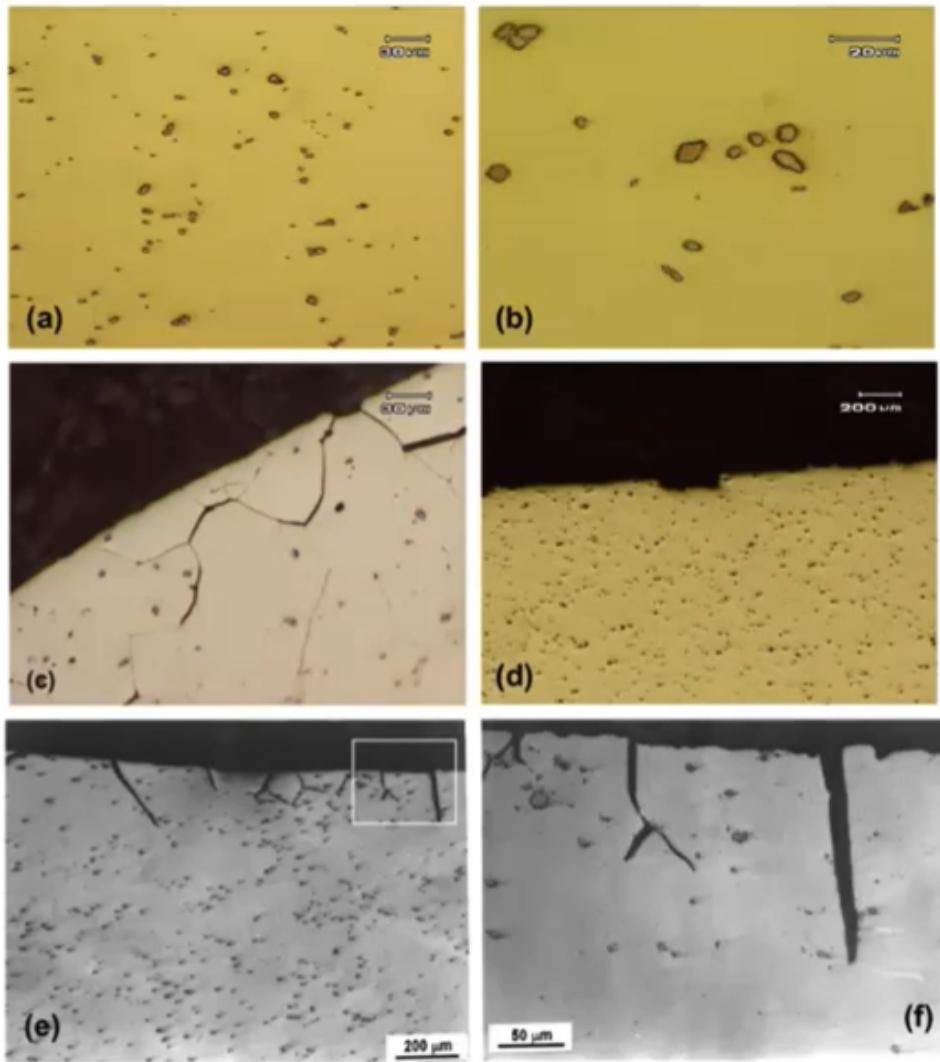
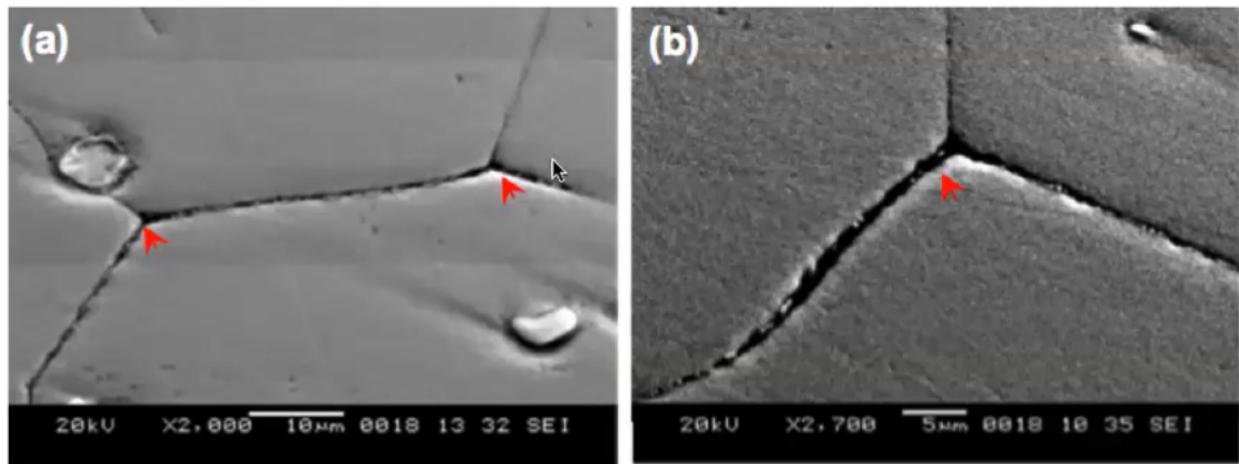
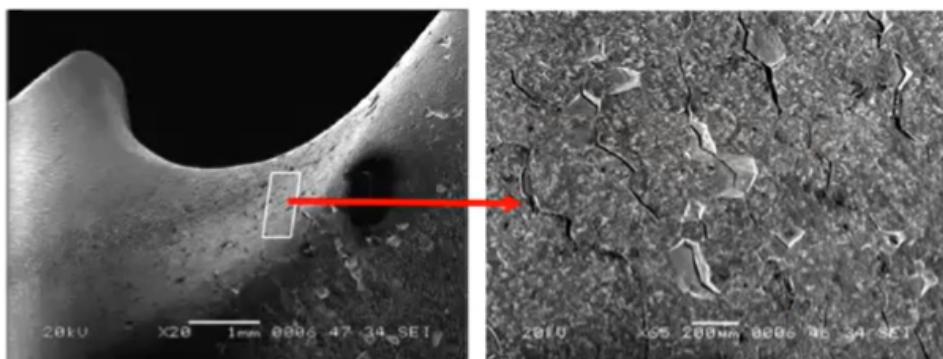


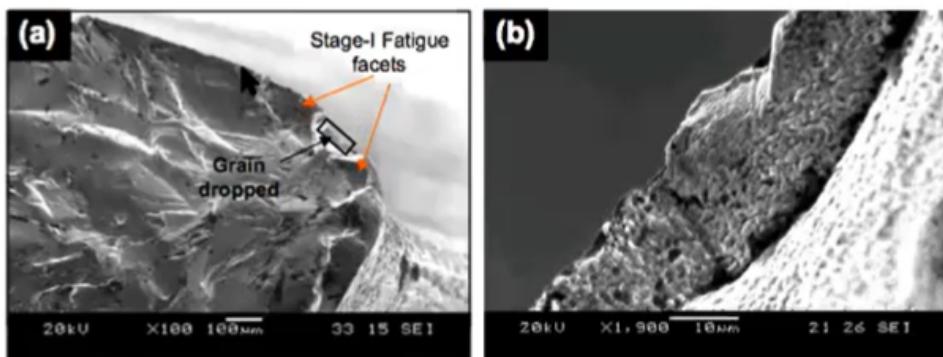
Fig. 3. Polished sample of failed blade, (a) revealing primary carbides, (b) same as (a) at high magnification, (c) cracks at the grain boundaries at region 'C' (see Fig. 2), (d) region 'B', (e and f) neighboring blade at region 'C'.



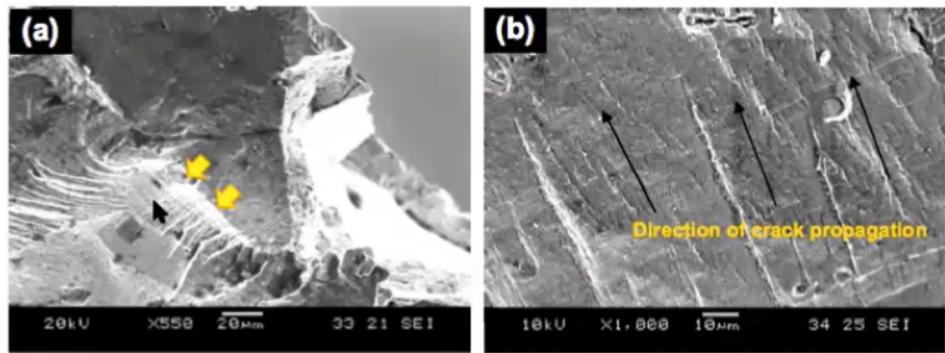
**Fig. 5.** Triple point wedge type cracks near the root region of airfoil in, (a) failed blade, (b) adjacent unfailed blade.



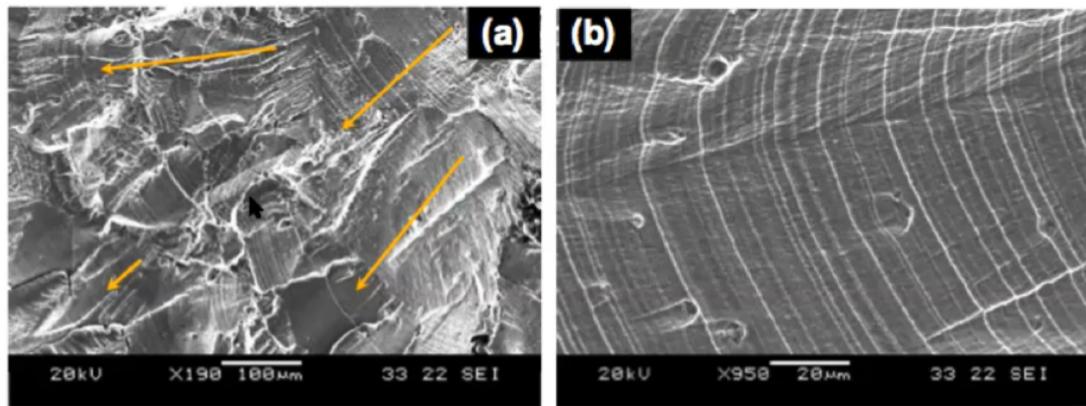
**Fig. 6.** Opened cracks with dropped grains at the 'C' region of an unfailed blade.



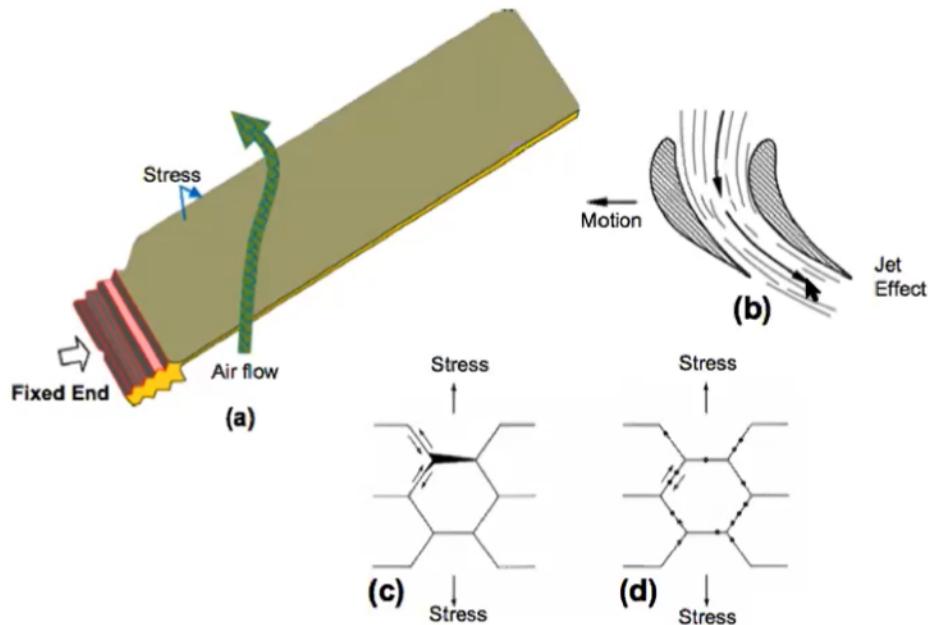
**Fig. 7.** Failed blade fractured surface revealing crack initiation from a dropped grain region as well as stage-I fatigue facets; (b) is the high magnification of boxed region in the (a).



**Fig. 8.** Failed blade fractured surface showing start of stage-II fatigue, (a) fatigue striations (arrows) next to the stage-I fatigue along with tear ridges, (b) high magnification showing striations and tear ridges.



**Fig. 9.** Failed blade; fractured surface revealing coarse striations near overload region, (a) low magnification, (b) high magnification.



**Fig. 11.** Schematic revealing, (a) blade pressure side, (b) movement of the gases and motion of the turbine, (c and d) triple point cracking and cavitation, respectively in intergranular creep; small arrows show the grain boundary sliding direction.

## **Discussion**

**Rims had been grinded**

**OEM-guidance required rim grinding of 1 mm after certain number of hours (!)**

**Failure started from "triple point creep crack"**

**Neighboring unbroken blades had similar starter cracks**

**Failure continued with fatigue (crack growth)**

## **Chain of events**

**Wedge-like triple point creep cracks nucleated on the tail-edge**

**Creep cracks nucleated fatigue cracks**

**Fatigue cracks grew with high-cycle fatigue driven by vibrations**

**Cracks grew to critical dimension and caused final fracture of the blade**

## **Conclusions**

**The primary cause of the failure was creep cracking**

**Thermally caused microstructural weakening was cited as contributing factor**

**Blade grinding has changed blade geometry and may have increased loading**

**Engine service history (higher than expected loads) may have contributed to the failure**

**Note: no macroscopic plastic deformation**