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Adding Value in Healthcare with AM: From New Device Functions to Materials Discovery

Metamaterials for Health – Wolverhampton – 18th Sept 2024

Dr Sophie C. Cox

Associate Professor and UKRI Future Leaders Fellow
Healthcare Technologies Institute & School of Chemical Engineering
University of Birmingham

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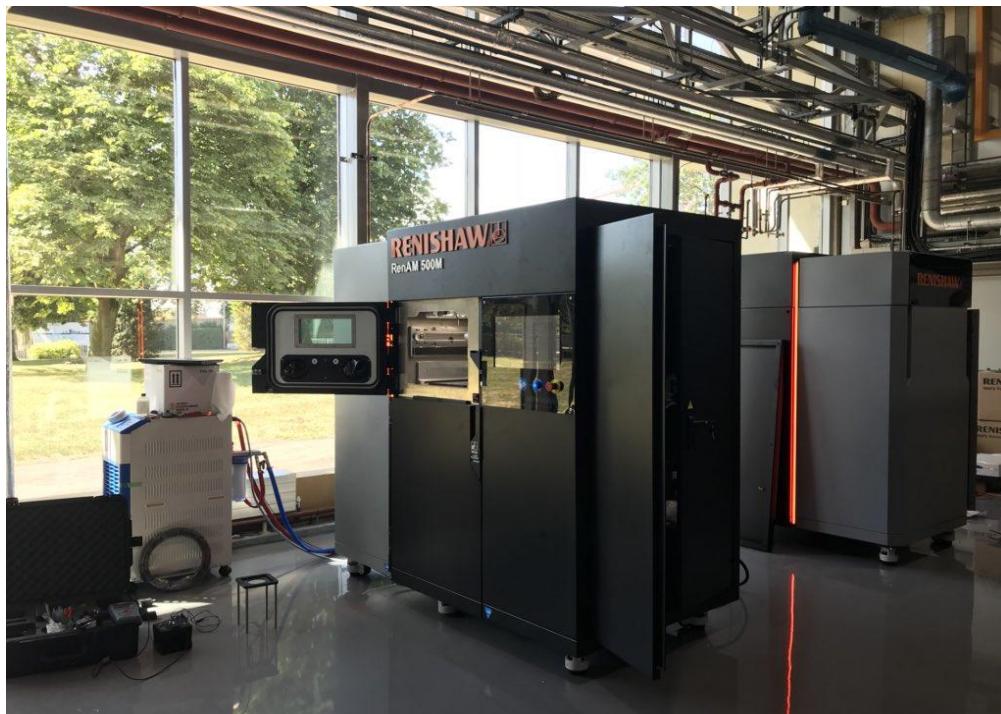
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MEDICAL
DEVICES



Birmingham
Health
Partners



Bring together multidisciplinary expertise to explore the full potential of additive manufacturing in the medical devices sector



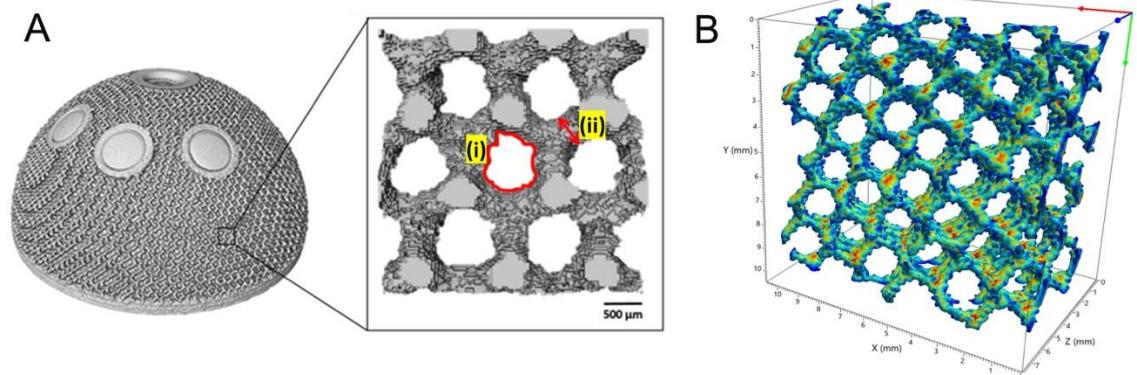
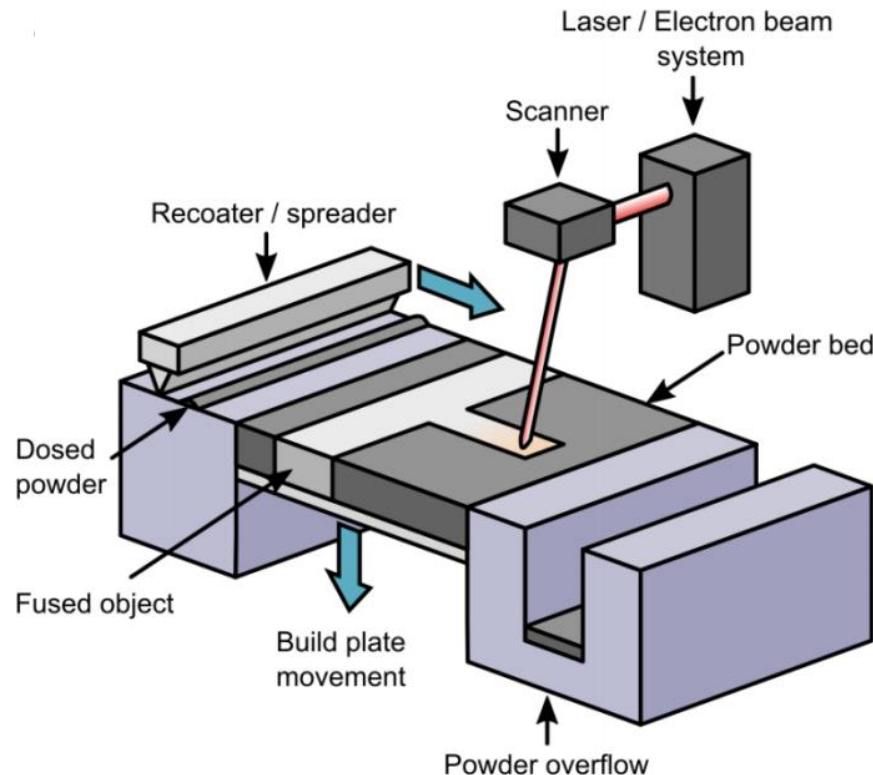
Laser Powder Bed Fusion

- RenAM 500S - Dedicated 'production style' Ti-6Al -4V
- RenAM 500S - Reduced Build Volume for material development
- Process monitoring enabled on both

Not just a physical space...

- Strategic partnership with Renishaw PLC
- Support in research translation
- Emulate ISO 13485 Quality Management System

Metamaterial Structures made via Powder Bed Fusion (PBF)

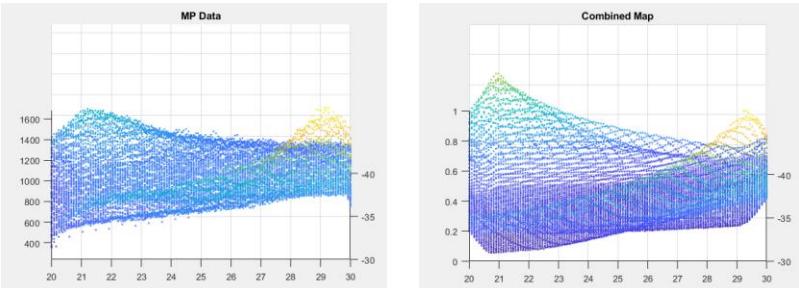


Nicum,A et al., EFORT Open Reviews, 2024

Areas of Focus

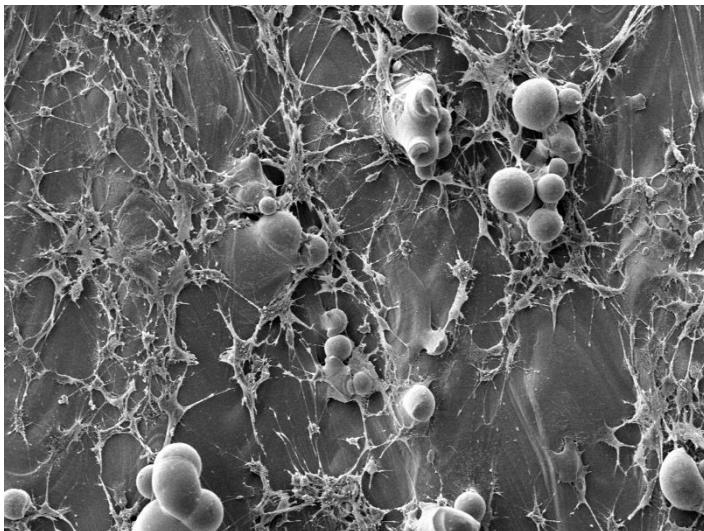


I. New Process Understanding



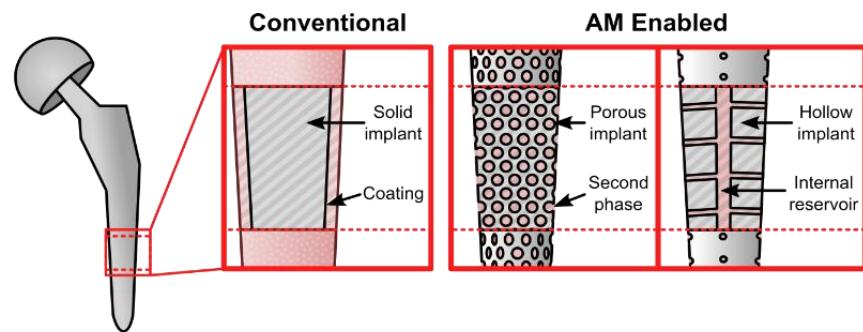
- Process monitoring
- Geometry optimisation

2. Surface Optimisation



- Characterisation
- Biological interactions

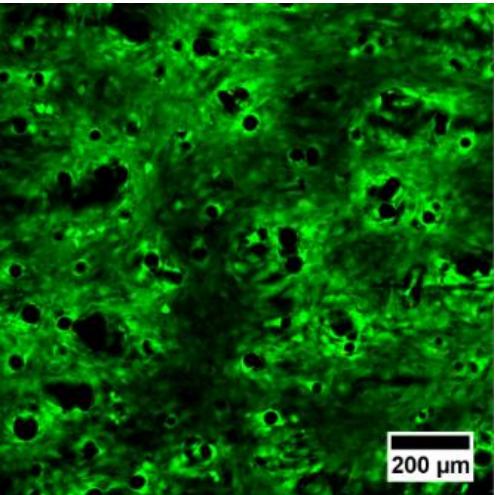
3. Adding Therapeutic Functionality



- Therapeutic loading
- Alloy development

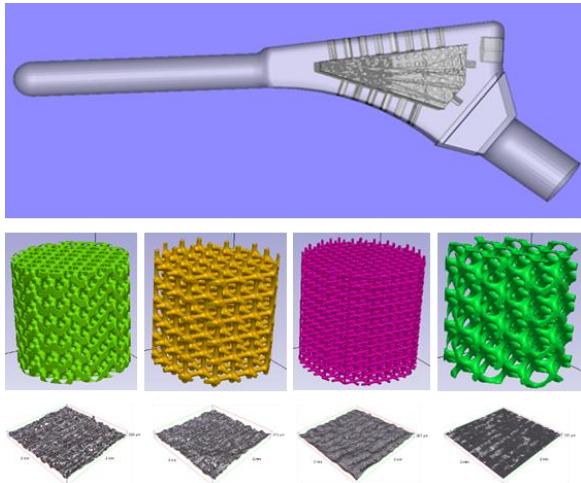
Case Studies

1. Importance of the Surface

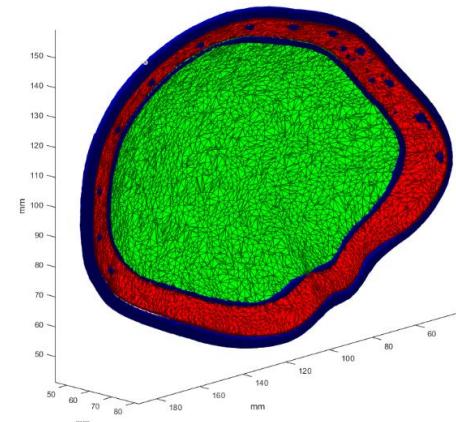


From understanding to optimising orientation and post-processing

2 & 3. Metamaterials to Add Implant Functionality

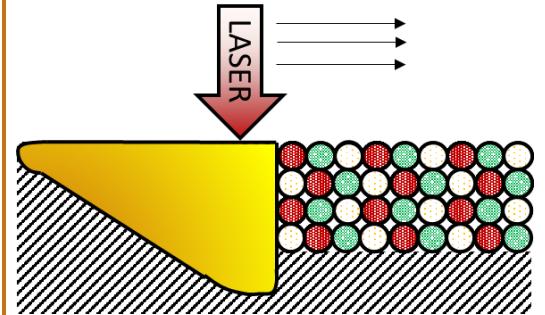


Incorporating injectable biomaterials



Facilitating post-operative imaging

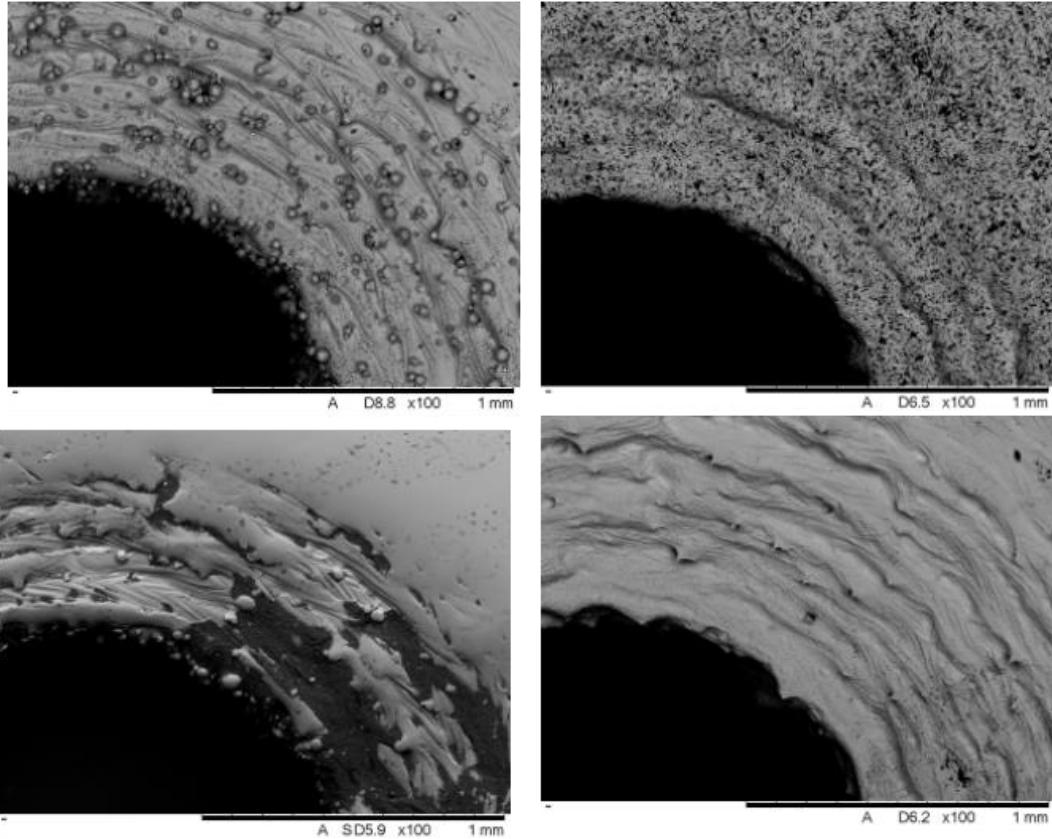
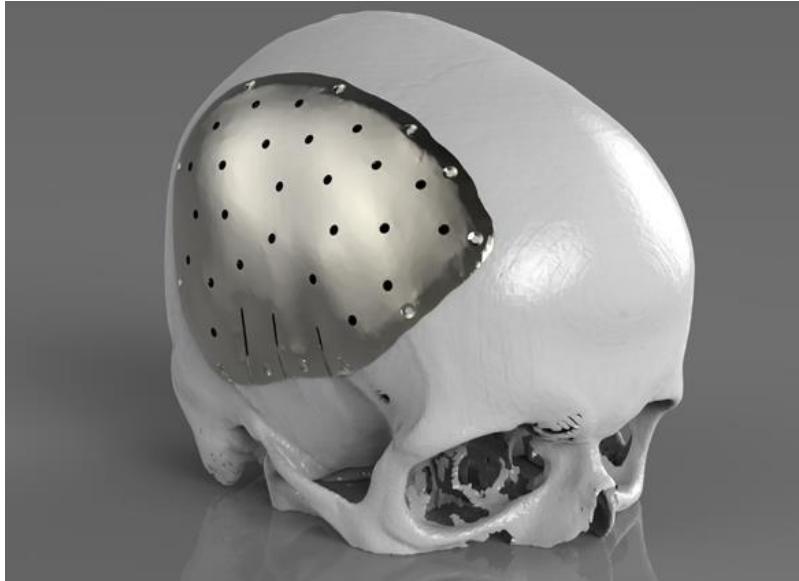
4. In Situ Alloy Development



Transforming the philosophy of biomedical alloy design

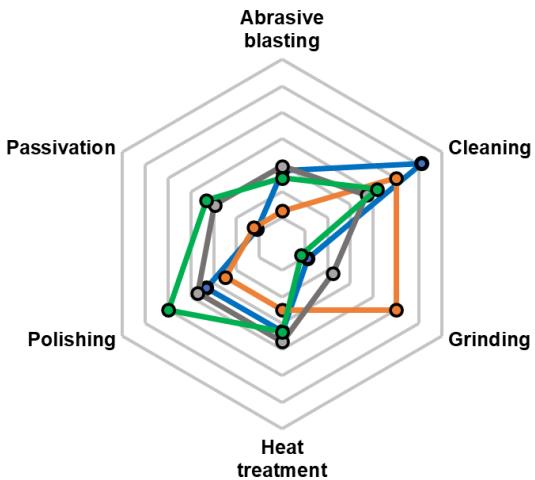
I. Importance of the Surface

Implant Design Features

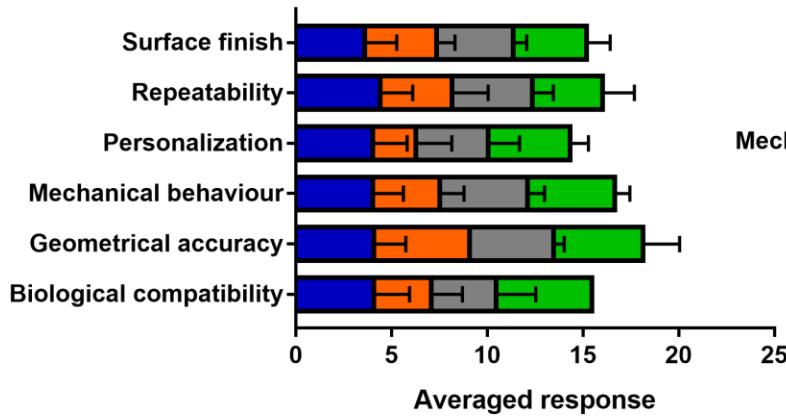


Influence of Surface Finishing

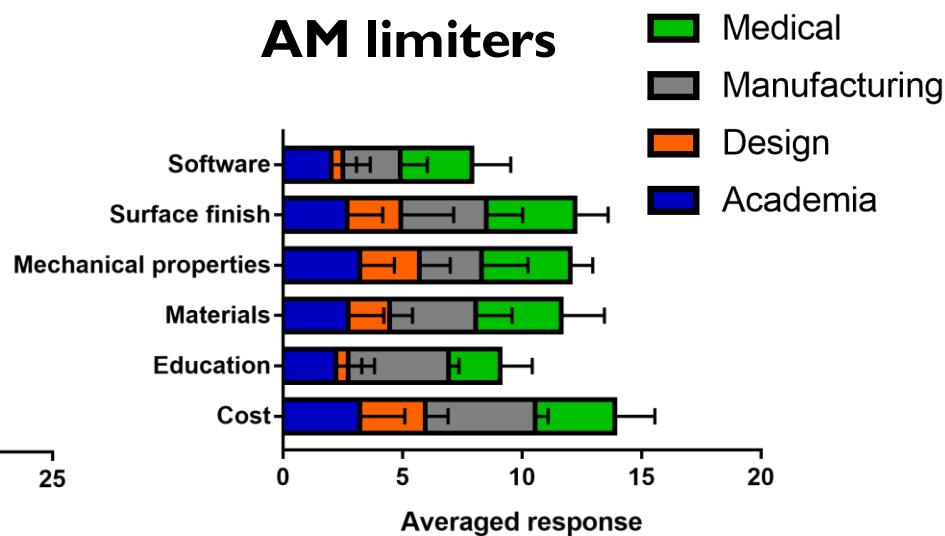
Post processing applied to AM parts



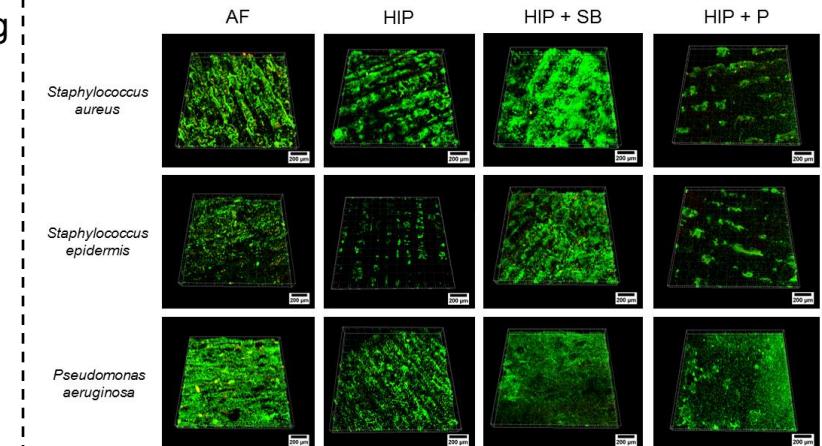
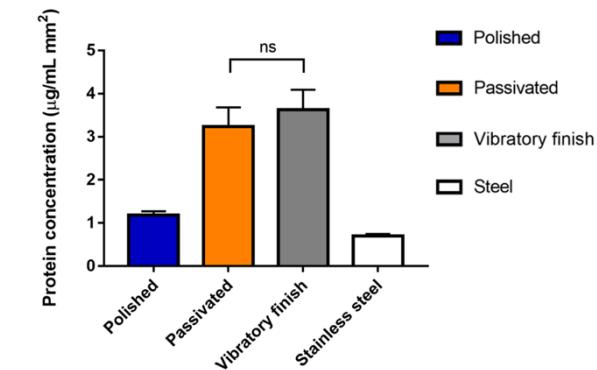
Requirements of a successful part



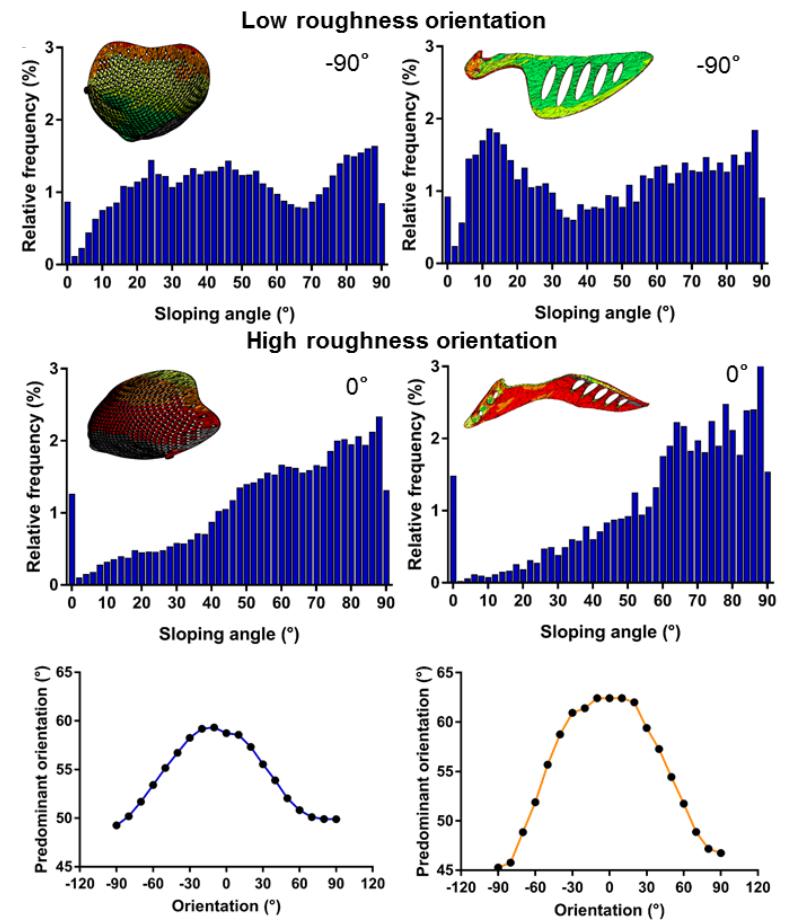
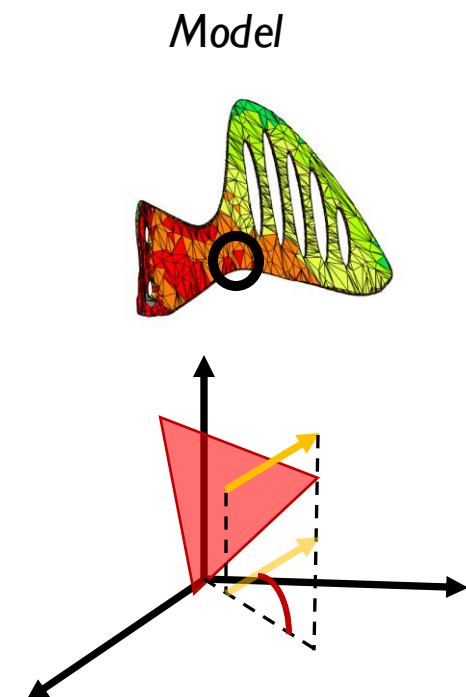
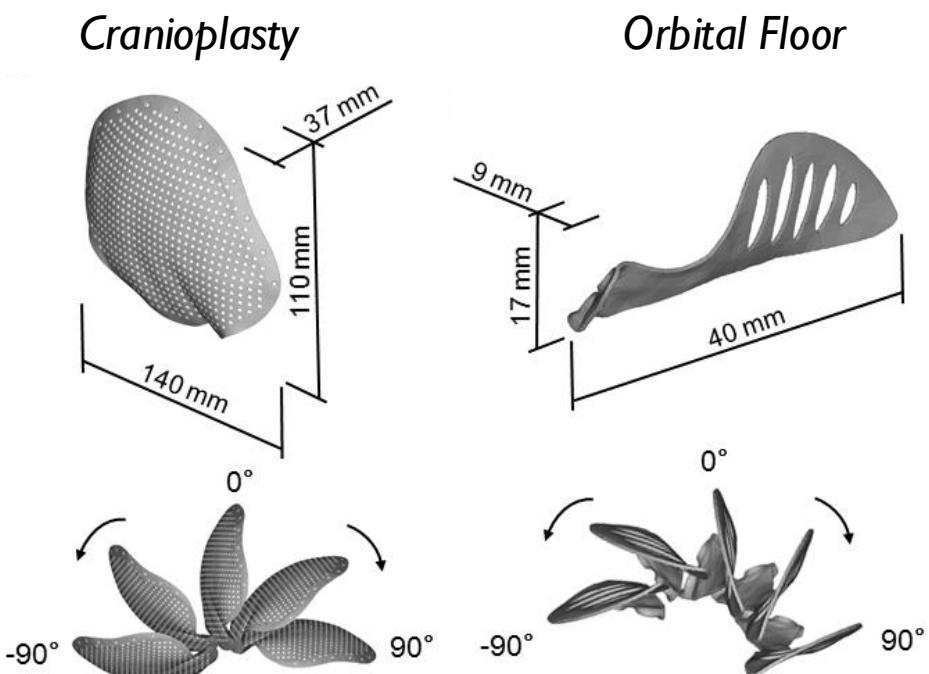
AM limiters



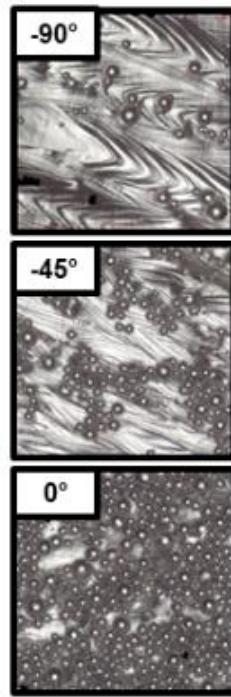
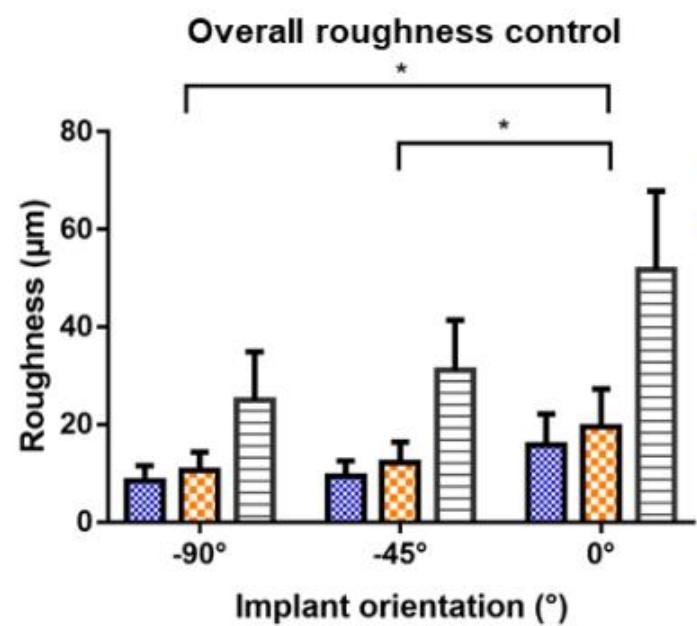
Biological Implications



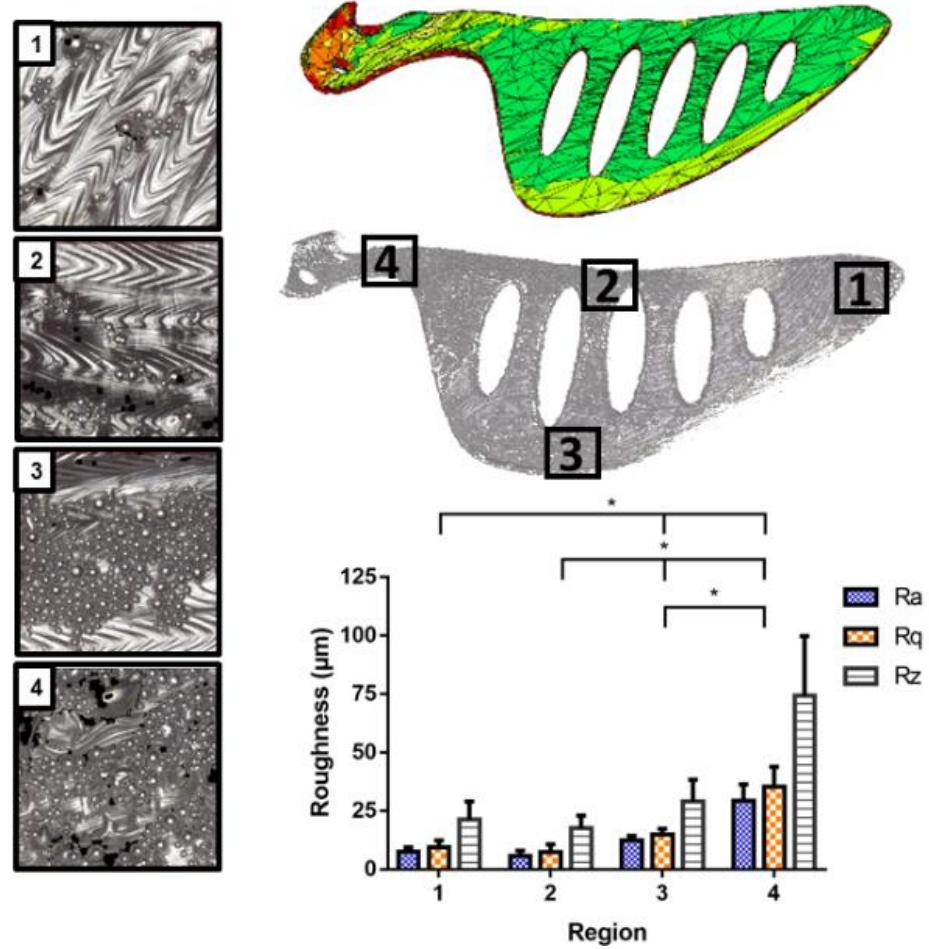
Tools to Support – Printing Orientation



Tools to Support – Printing Orientation

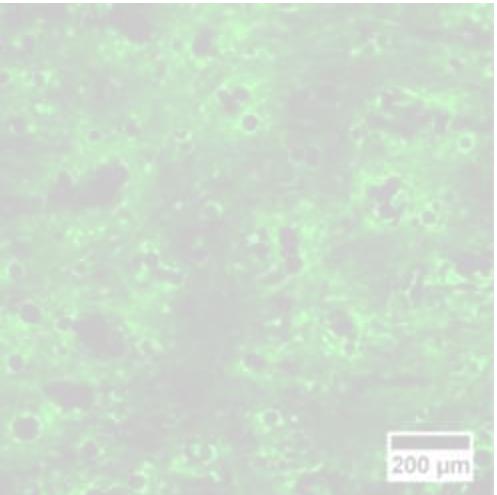


Regions of interest for post processing



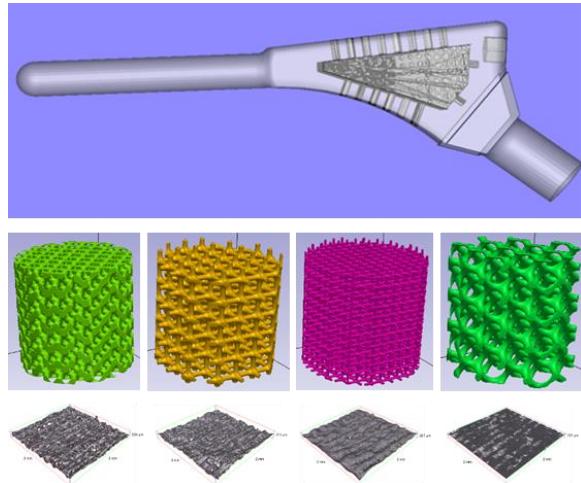
Case Studies

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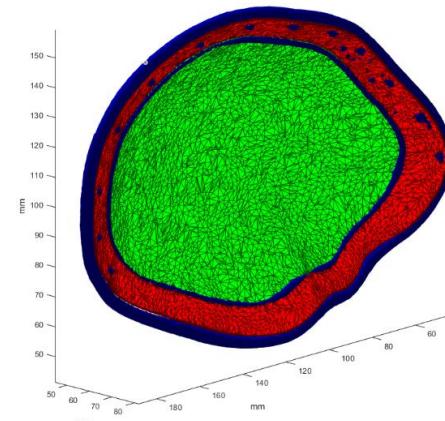


From understanding to optimising orientation and post-processing

2 & 3. Metamaterials to Add Implant Functionality

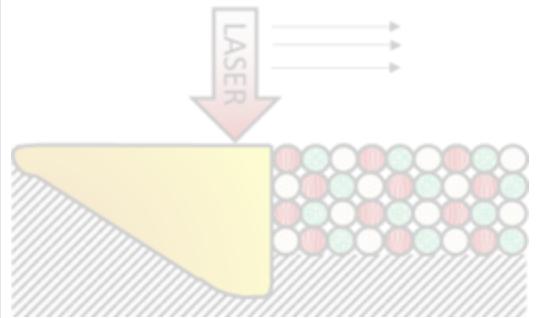


Incorporating injectable biomaterials



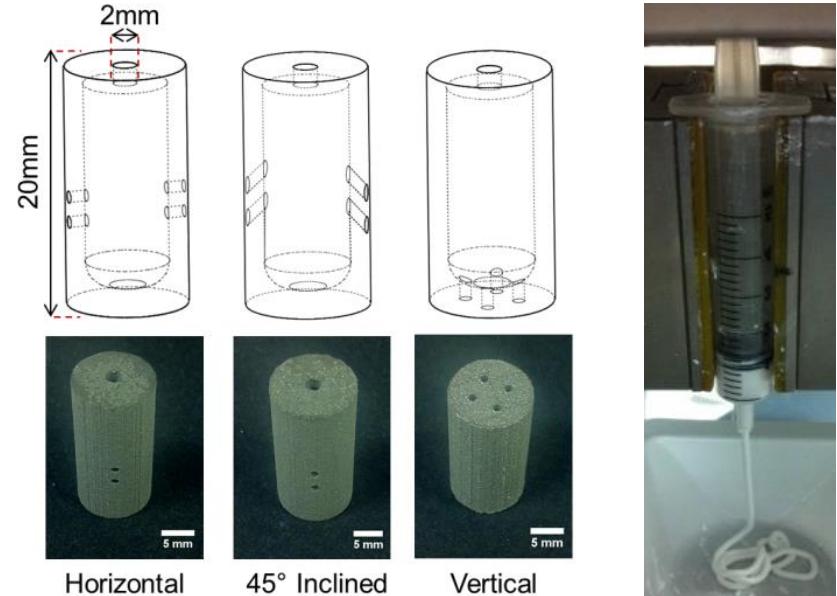
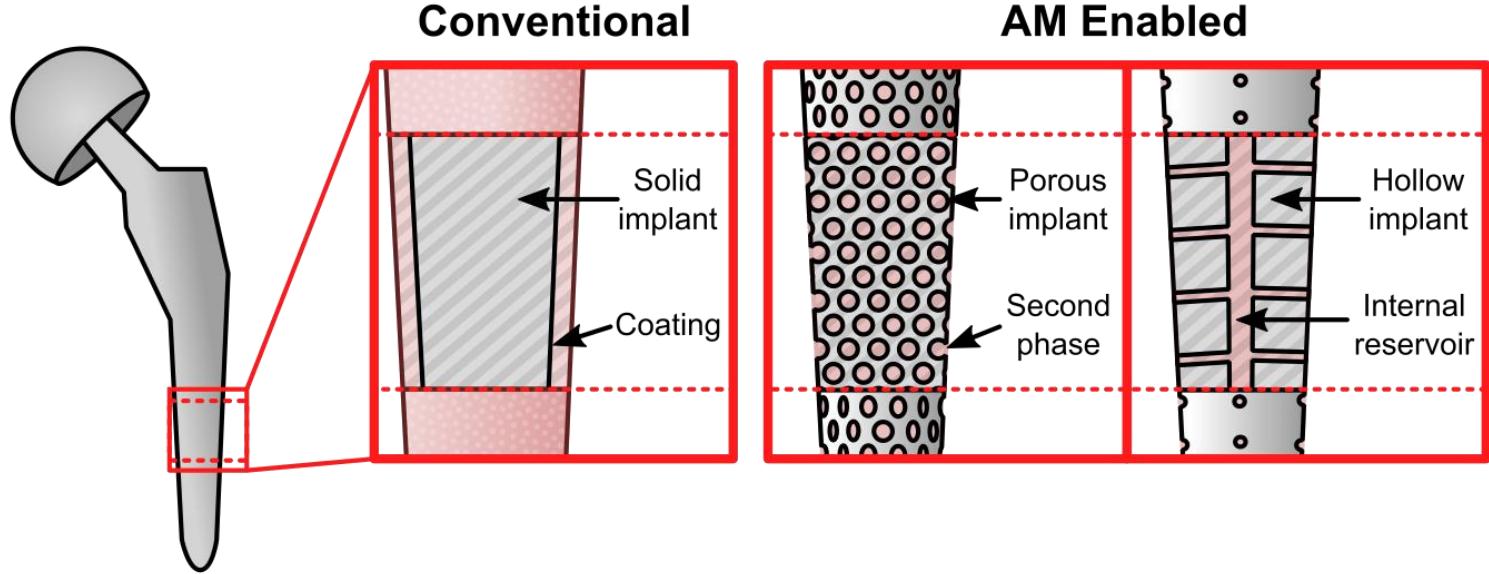
Facilitating post-operative imaging

4. In Situ Alloy Development



Transforming the philosophy of biomedical alloy design

2. Metamaterial Structures as Therapeutic Reservoirs

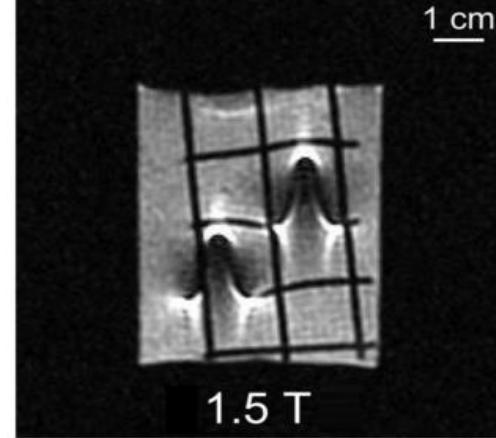
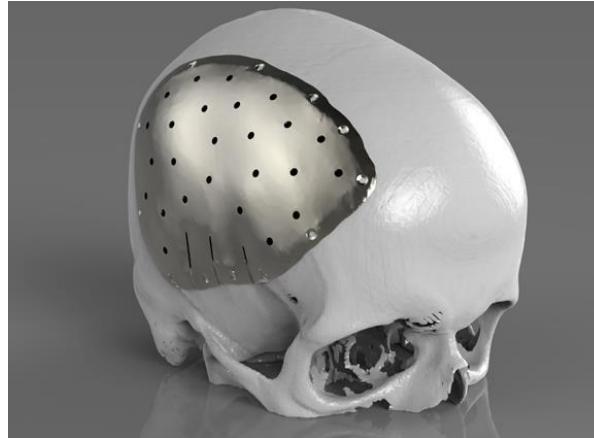


Cox, S. C., et al - Mater Sci and Eng C, vol. 64, pp. 407-415, 2016
Hassanin, H., et al – Additive Manufacturing, vol. 20, pp. 144 – 155, 2018
Burton, H., et al - Mater Sci and Eng C, 2019
Lowther, M., et al – Additive Manufacturing, 2019

3. Metamaterials to Facilitate Post-Operative Imaging

Imaging around metal implant sites beneficial for:

- Early diagnosis of implant site infection
- Post-operative bleeding (microbleeds)
- Visualisation of surrounding anatomic structures



Use is limited by **susceptibility artefacts** even in traditionally ‘non-magnetic’ titanium implants due to:

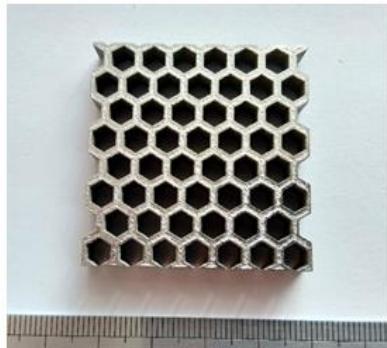
- Weak paramagnetic properties of titanium
- Increasing field strength systems
- Gradient echo imaging sequences

3. Metamaterials to Facilitate Post-Operative Imaging

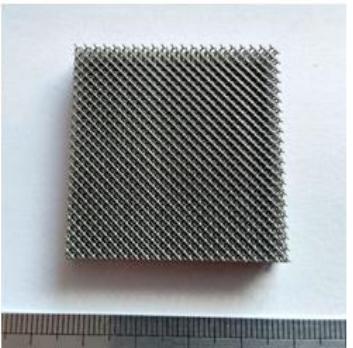
3T Siemens Prisma system (*University of Alberta*)

- GRE imaging sequence (T_E 1.5 ms)
- 52 coronal slices (2mm thickness)
- 0.86 x 0.86 mm in-plane pixel size
- 300s acquisition time

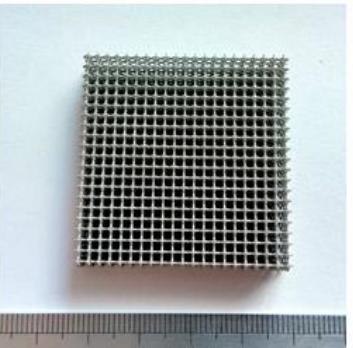
Structure	Unit Cell Size (mm)	Design Strut Dia. (μm) / Wall thickness (mm)	Relative Density (%)
Octohedral	1	250	13.0
		350	40.8
		450	55.3
	1.5	250	5.7
		350	20.5
		450	30.8
	2	250	3.1
		350	12.7
		450	17.6
Diamond	1	250	17.0
		350	48.5
		450	72.1
	1.5	250	7.7
		350	30.5
		450	37.7
	2	250	4.2
		350	18.0
		450	24.5
Honeycomb	2	0.5	37.9
		1	72.1
		1.5	89.1
	4	0.5	20.3
		1	41.4
		1.5	59.2
	6	0.5	13.6
		1	29.4
		1.5	42.4
Solid	N/A	N/A	96.7*



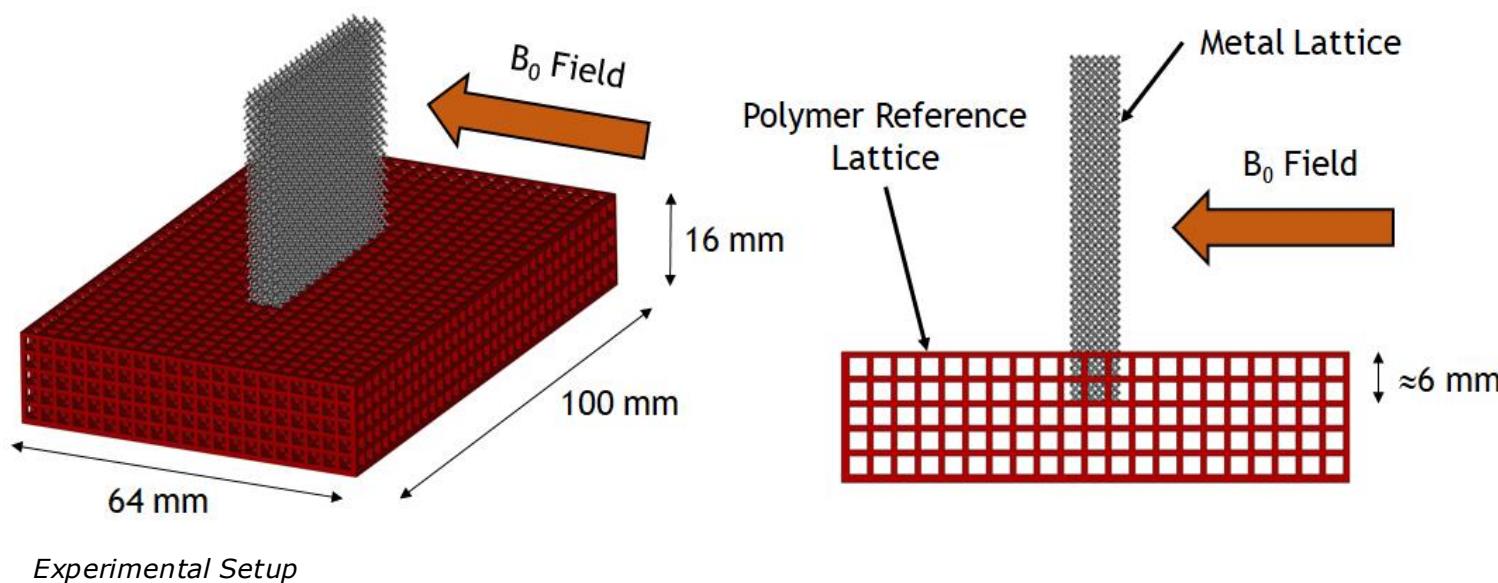
Honeycomb:
6 mm Unit Cell;
1.5 mm Wall Thickness



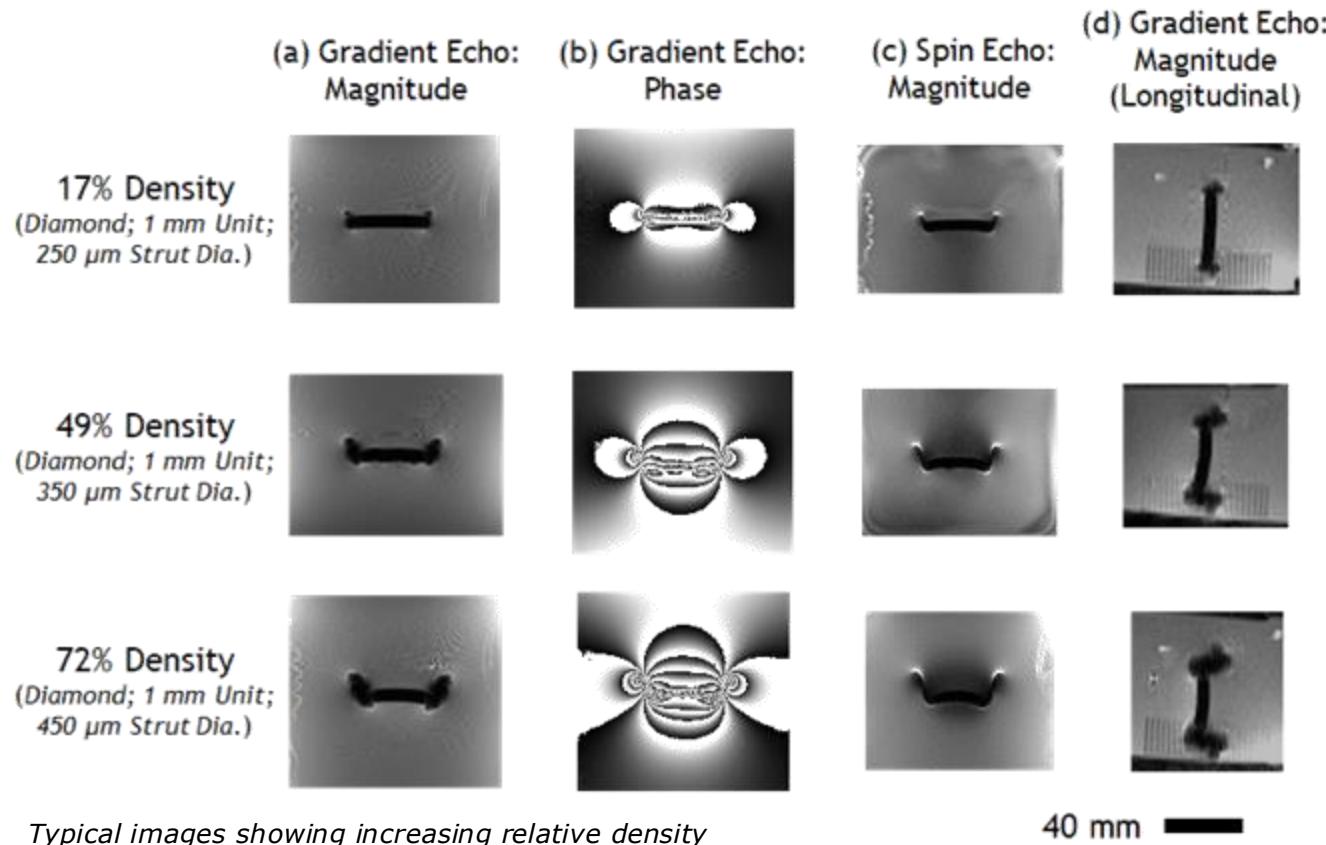
Diamond:
2 mm Unit Cell;
350 μm Strut Thickness



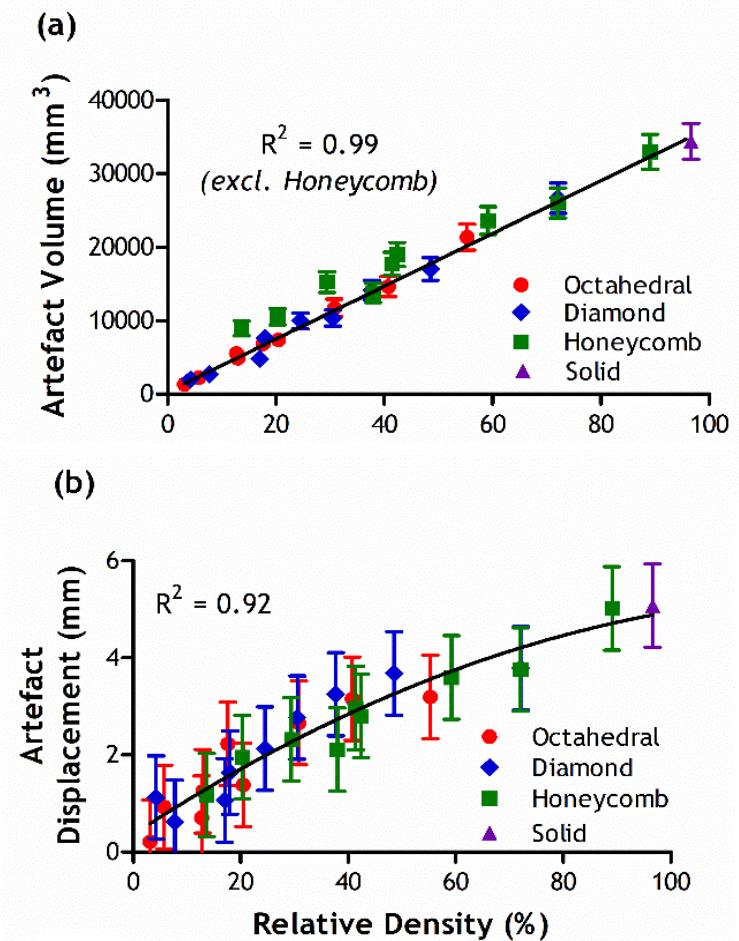
Octahedral:
2 mm Unit Cell;
350 μm Strut Thickness



3. Metamaterials to Facilitate Post-Operative Imaging

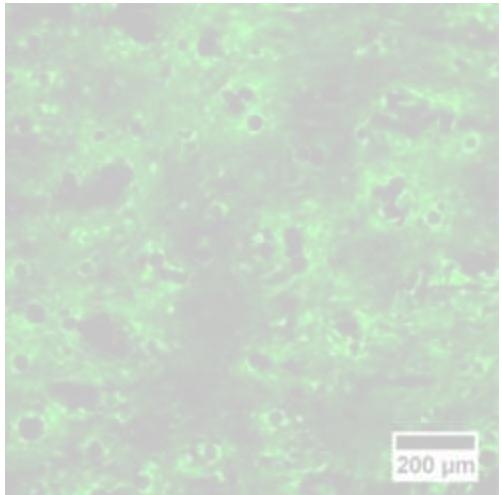


Artifact Severity



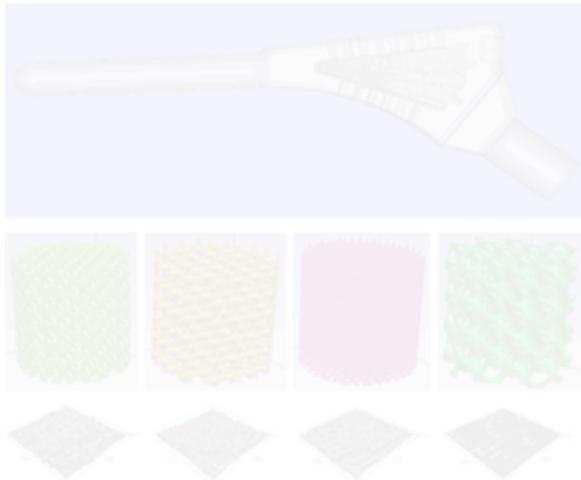
Case Studies

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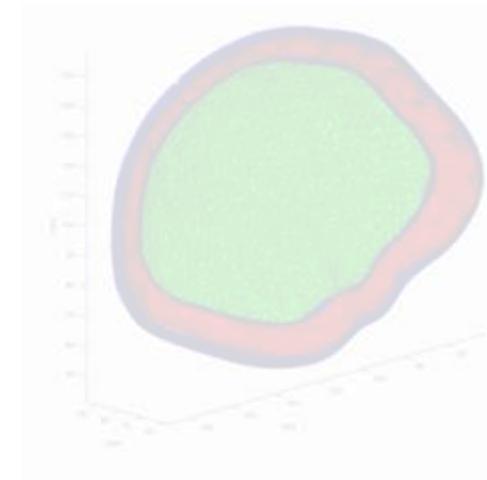


From understanding to optimising orientation and post-processing

2 & 3. Metamaterials to Add Implant Functionality

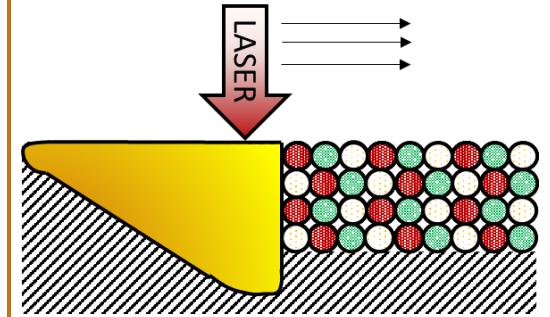


Incorporating injectable biomaterials



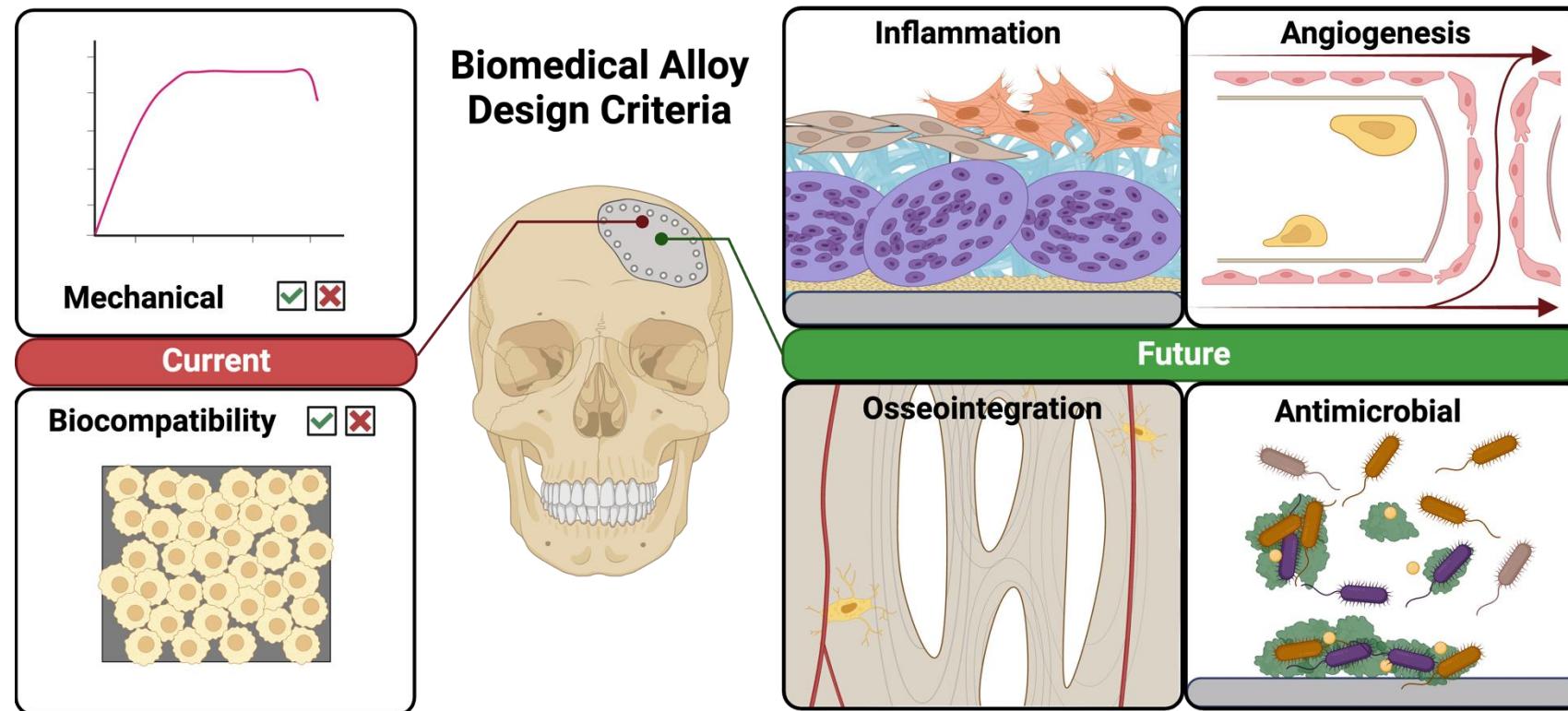
Facilitating post-operative imaging

4. In Situ Alloy Development

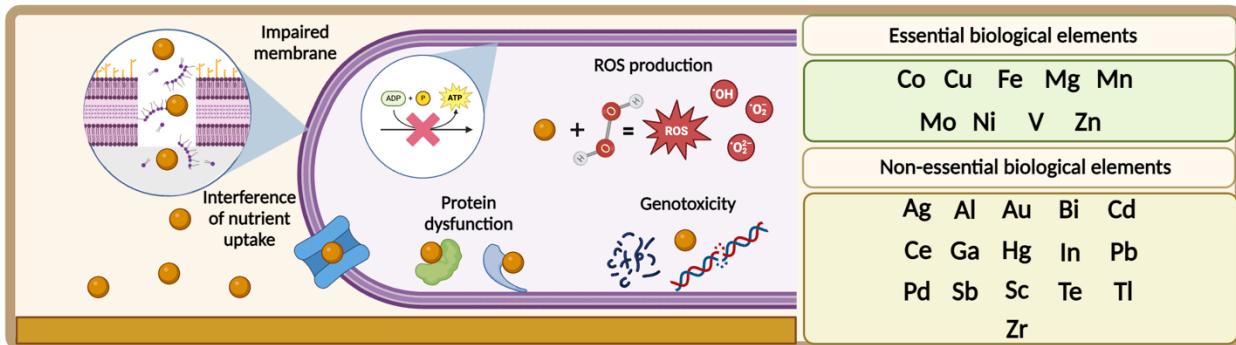


Transforming the philosophy of biomedical alloy design

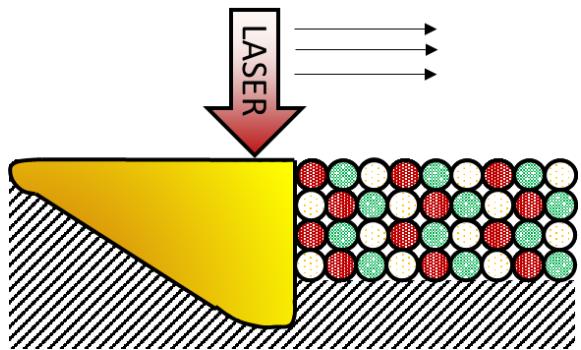
4. In Situ Alloy Development – Transforming Mindset



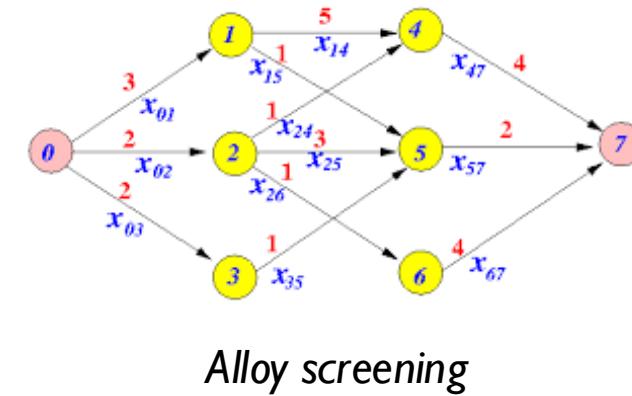
Transforming the Whole Process...



Targeted Biological Criteria

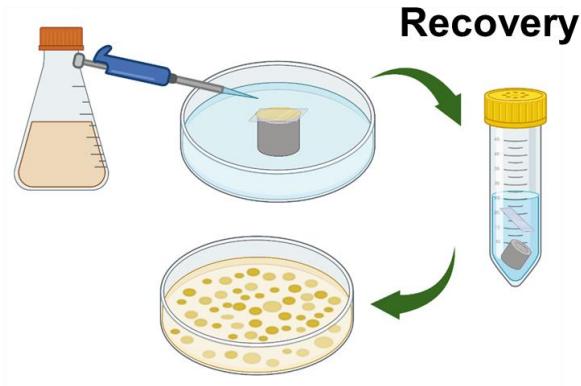


Manufacture
E.g. Ti-Mo, Ti-Cu



Alloy screening

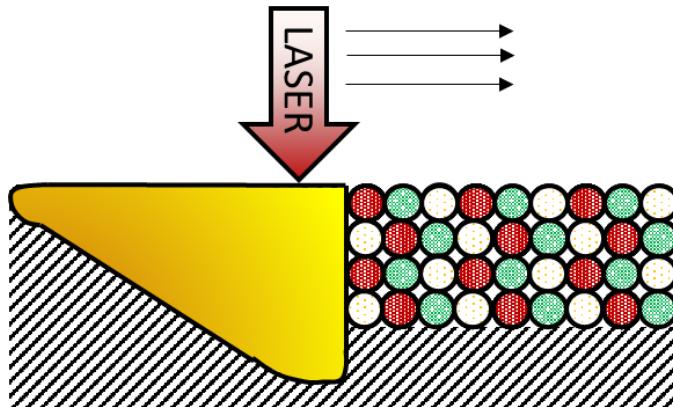
Inoculation



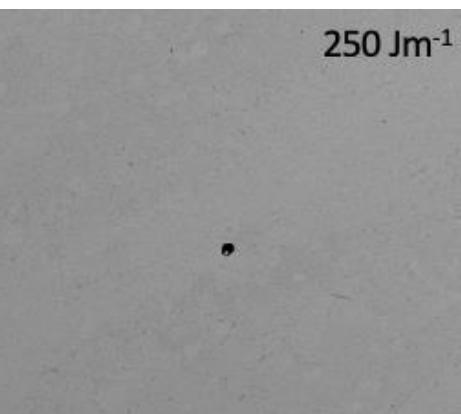
Counting

Validation

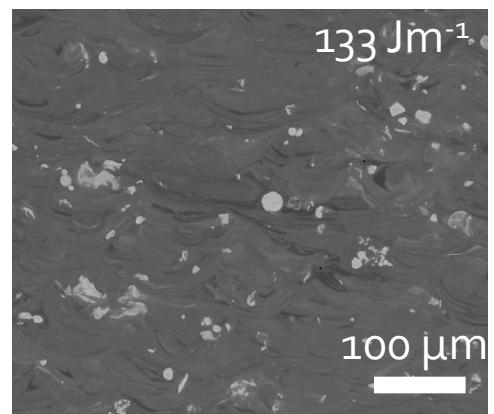
Blended Powder PBF-LB



RenAM 500S with RBV insert following BP-LBPF



Ti-11.5Cu (as built)



Ti-21.5Mo (as built)

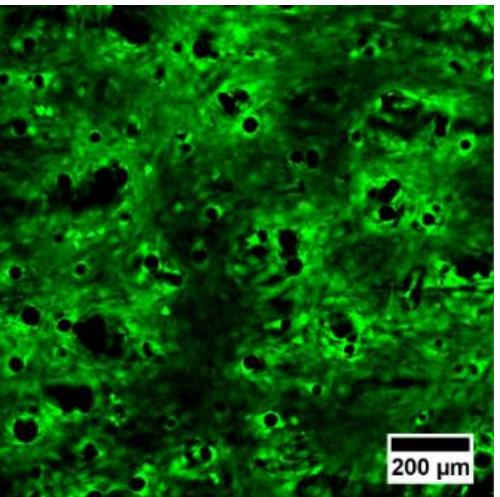


Ti-21.5Mo LPBF specimens
on build substrate

- Small ($\sim 150\mu\text{m}$) molten pool provides good mixing, and limits macro-segregation
- Single step production of high-density specimens
- Process parameters can be used to control elemental segregation (see *Ti-Cu* and *Ti-Mo* micrographs)
 - ✗ Requires liquid-range overlap
 - ✗ Dissimilar laser absorptivity may lead to pore defects
 - ✗ Typically requires an initial study to determine process window
 - ✗ Dissimilar powders can lead to poor spreading during the process

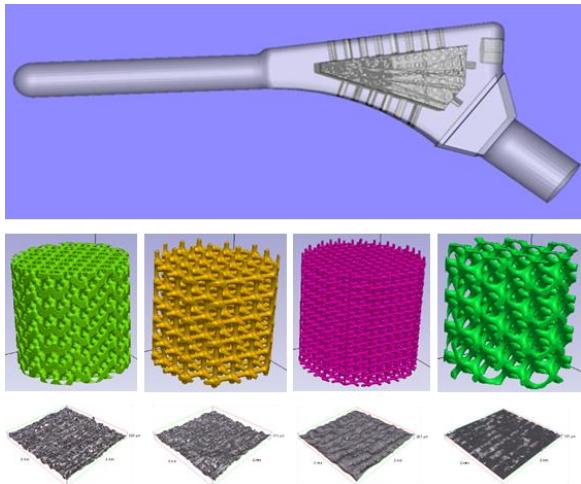
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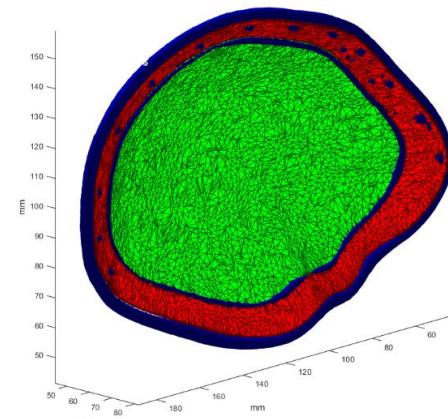


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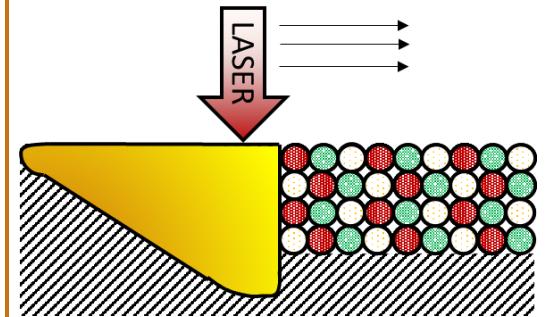


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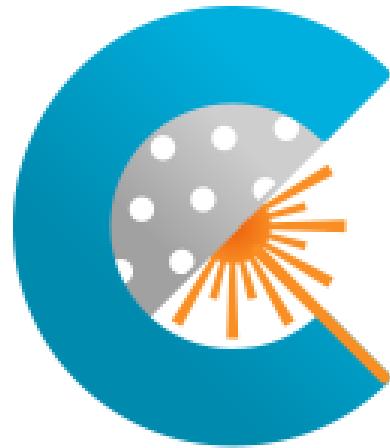


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<https://www.nature.com/collections/cbghfjhjah>

Submission Deadline: 14 November,
2024

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