

# ORIENTATION CHARACTERISTICS OF THE MICROSTRUCTURE OF MATERIALS.

Crystallographic orientations, Misorientations, Image  
Quality Factors.

**K. Sztwiertnia**

*Polish Academy of Sciences, Institute of Metallurgy and Materials  
Science, 25 Reymonta St., 30-059 Krakow, Poland*

K. Sztwiertnia: *Orientacja krystalograficzna w badaniach mikrostruktury materiałów*, Polska Akademia Nauk, Instytut Metalurgii i Inżynierii materiałowej, ISBN 978-83-607 68 02 0, Kraków 2009, 1-98.

# Contents

Introduction to SEM and TEM-base orientation imaging microscopy (OIM) techniques.

- Quantitative microstructure image in the nano scale (Transmission Electron Microscope TEM).

Example I: Investigation of recrystallization processes.

Example II: OIM applied to gradient materials.

- Quantitative microstructure image in the micro scale (Scanning Electron Microscope SEM).

Example III: OIM applied to composites.

Example IV: Image Quality Maps.

# OIM or COM; what is it?

**OIM<sup>®</sup>** = Orientation Imaging Microscopy<sup>®</sup>

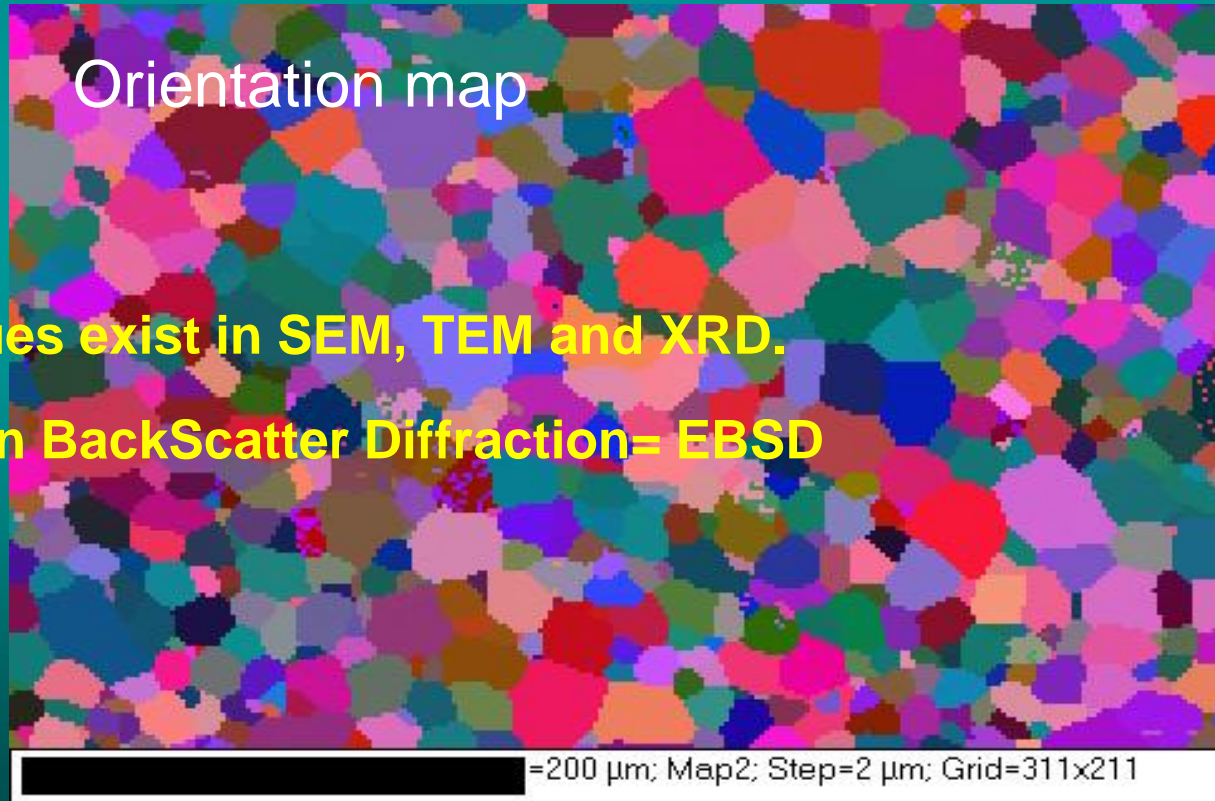
**COM** = Crystal Orientation Mapping

**COM=OIM**

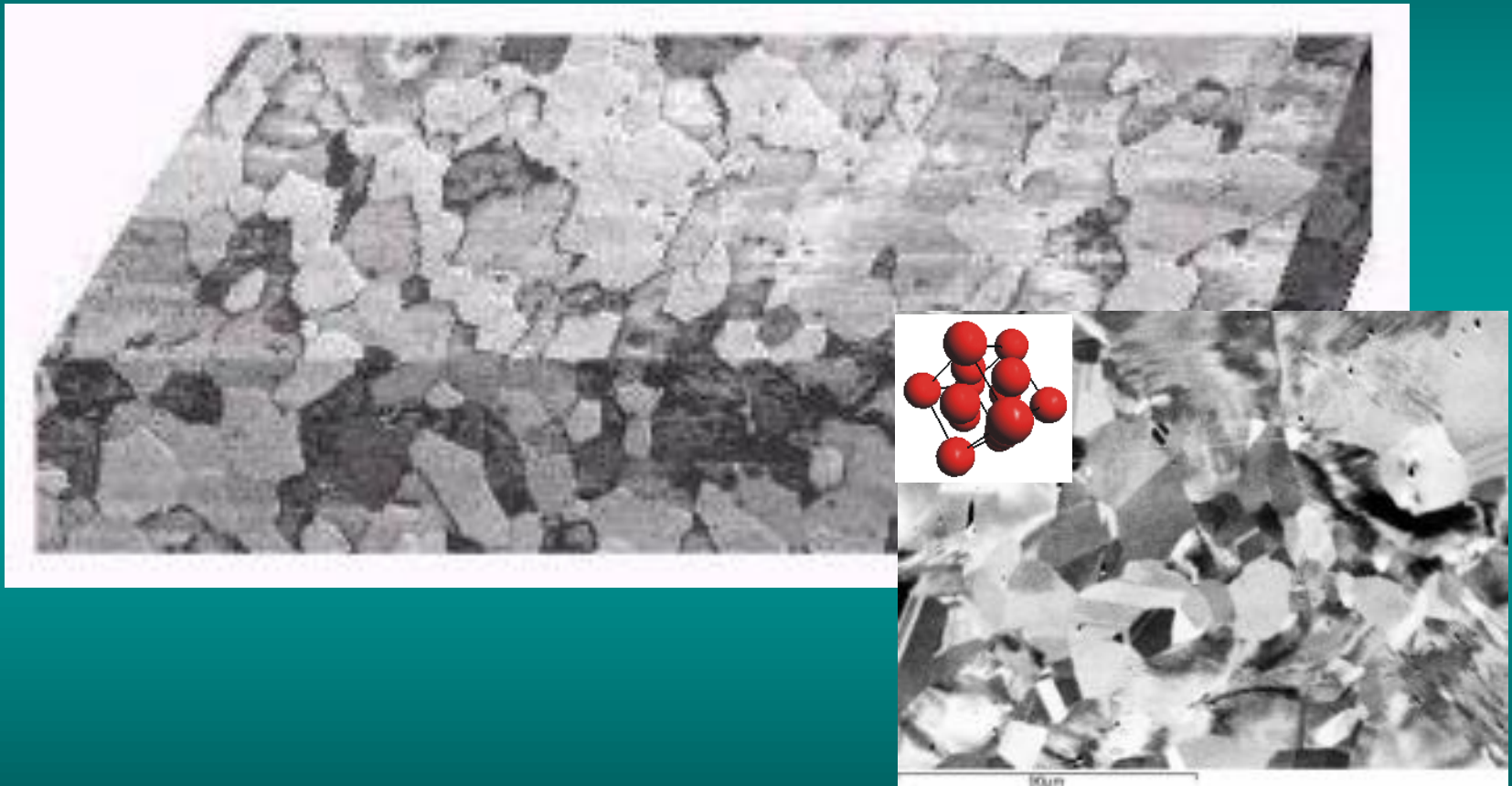
Orientation map

Techniques exist in SEM, TEM and XRD.

Electron BackScatter Diffraction= EBSD



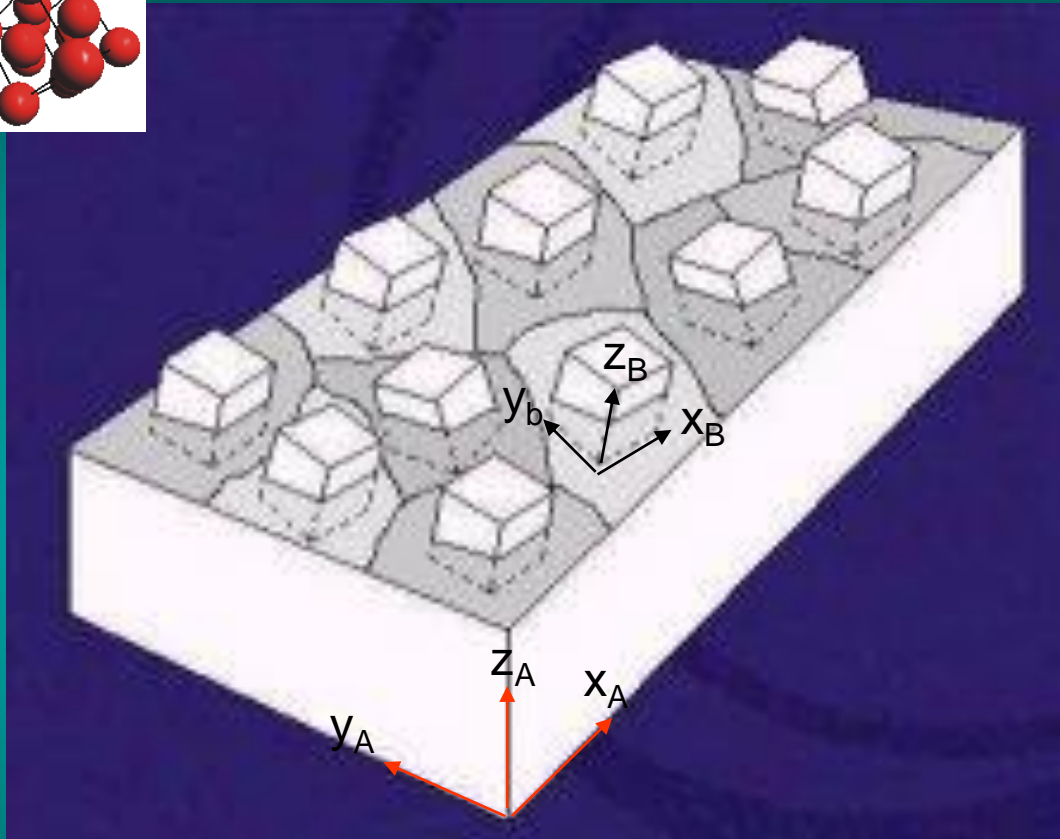
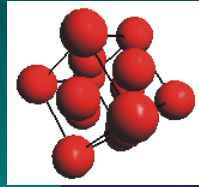
# Crystallographic orientation



Polycrystalline material → an aggregate of single crystal grains.



# Crystallographic orientation



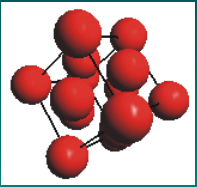
**The orientation**  $\Rightarrow$  a rotation or a set of special rotations with the help of them a coordinate system  $K_A$  will be oriented parallel to  $K_B$  ( $K_A$  and  $K_B$   $\Rightarrow$  right-handed rectangular systems).

**The orientation**  $\Rightarrow$  unambiguously characterised by three numbers combined in the symbol  $g$ .

$$K_B = g \cdot K_A$$



# Crystallographic orientation



If the crystal lattice possesses rotation symmetries  $\Rightarrow$  there are  $N_B > 1$  equivalent, physically undistinguishable  $K_{B_j}$  coordinate systems.

$$K_{B_j} = g_{B_j} \cdot K_B$$

In addition to the crystal symmetry, there can also be symmetries in the sample fixed coordinate system.

$$K_{A_i} = g_{A_i} \cdot K_A$$

$$K_{B_{ji}} = g_{B_j} \cdot g \cdot g_{A_i} \cdot K_A$$



# Crystallographic orientation

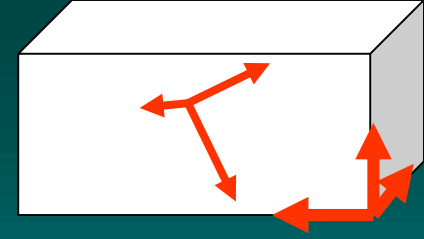
$$g = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

The direction cosines  $a_{ij}$  of the angle between the  $i$ -th axis of the B system, and the  $j$ -th axis of A system are the natural parameters which characterize the orientation of one system against another one.

The matrix  $g$  containing the direction cosines  $a_{ij}$  is called orientation matrix.



# Crystallographic orientation



Bunge

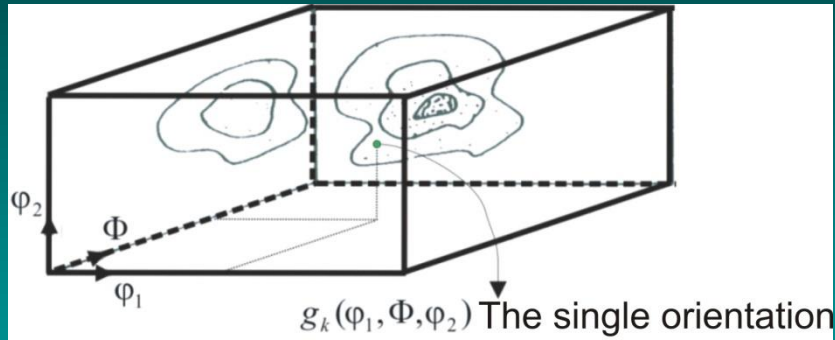
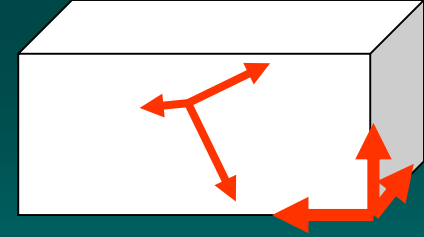
$$g = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \varphi_1 \cos \varphi_2 - \sin \varphi_1 \sin \varphi_2 \cos \phi & \sin \varphi_1 \cos \varphi_2 + \cos \varphi_1 \sin \varphi_2 \cos \phi & \sin \varphi_2 \sin \phi \\ -\cos \varphi_1 \sin \varphi_2 - \sin \varphi_1 \cos \varphi_2 \cos \phi & -\sin \varphi_1 \sin \varphi_2 + \cos \varphi_1 \cos \varphi_2 \cos \phi & \cos \varphi_2 \sin \phi \\ \sin \varphi_1 \sin \phi & -\cos \varphi_1 \sin \phi & \cos \phi \end{bmatrix}$$

Example of two different ways to define the orientation. The first way is the only one used in solid mechanics, the angles are noted  $(\psi, \theta, \phi)$ . In materials sciences, Bunge, who is one of the reference in crystallite orientation, uses different names:  $(\varphi_1, \Phi, \varphi_2)$ .



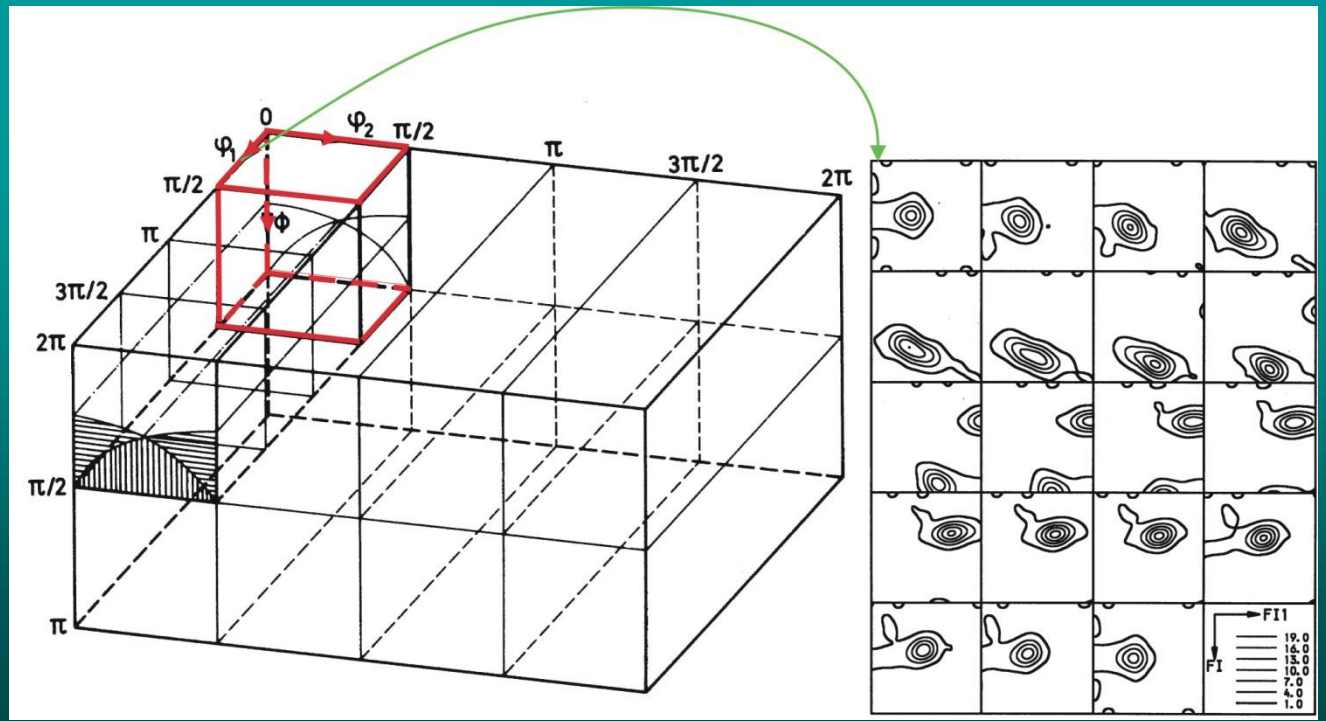


# Crystallographic orientation

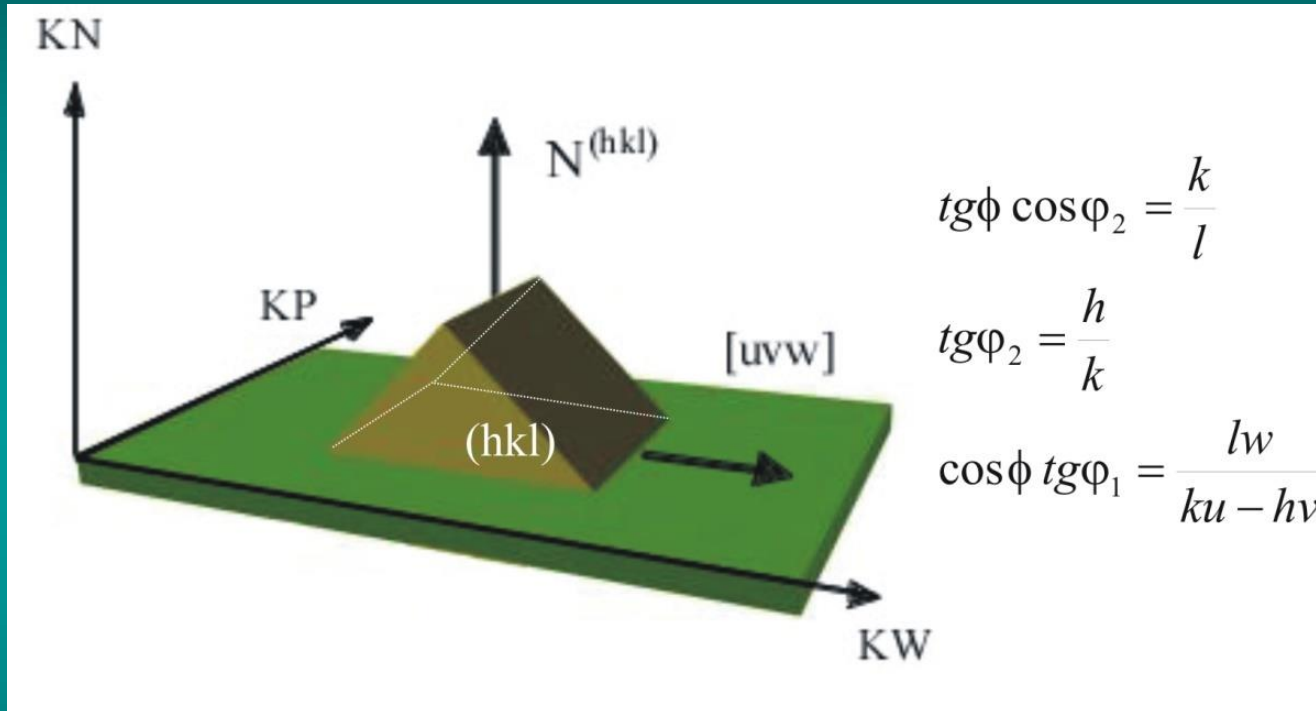
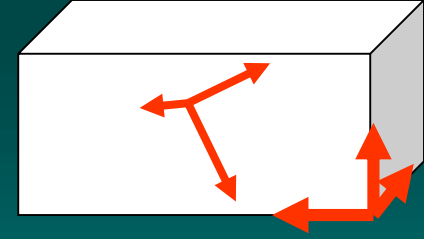


Schematic representation of the Euler space as the orientation space.

## ODF – Orientation Distribution Function



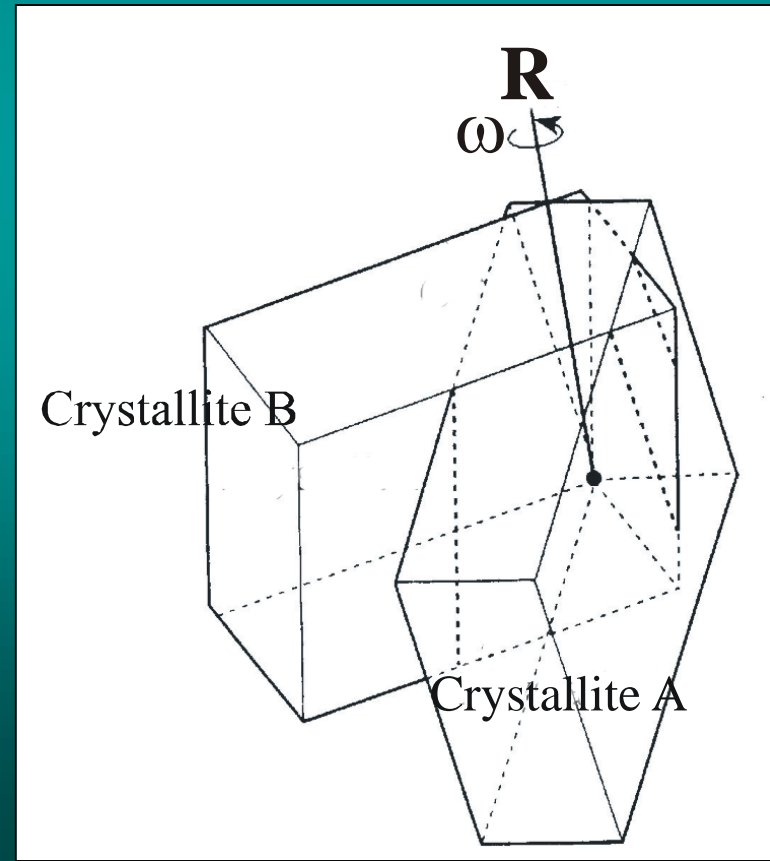
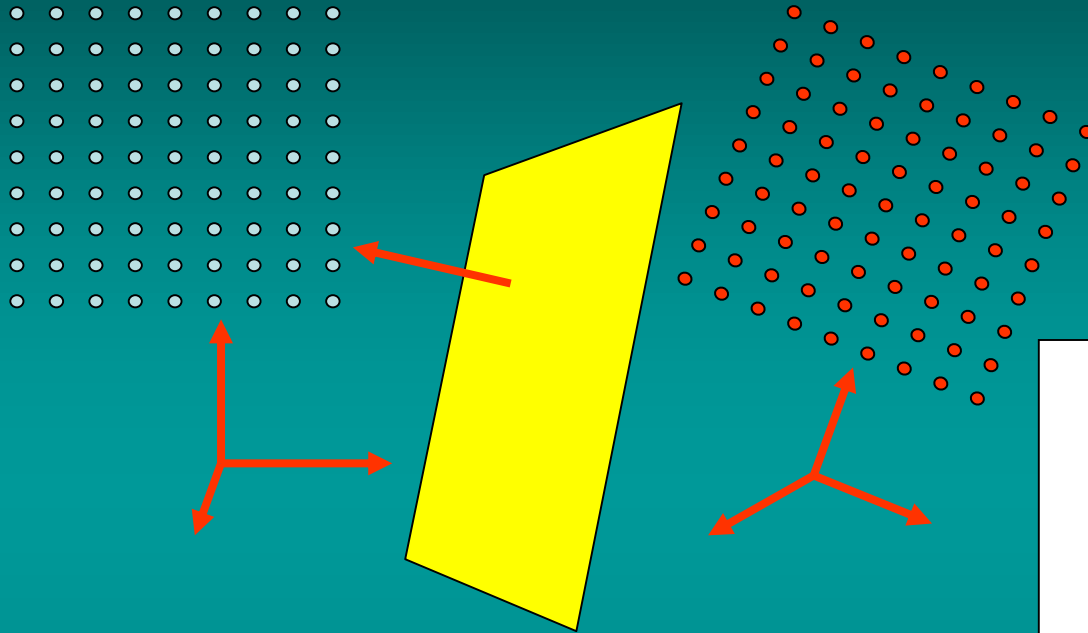
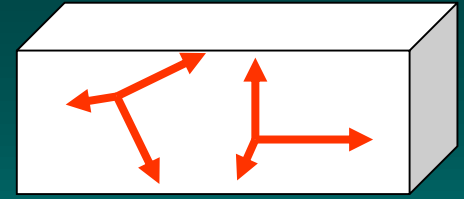
# Crystallographic orientation



The definition of crystallographic orientation with Miller indices (hkl) [uvw]; a relationship between indices and Euler angles for the cubic symmetry is shown.



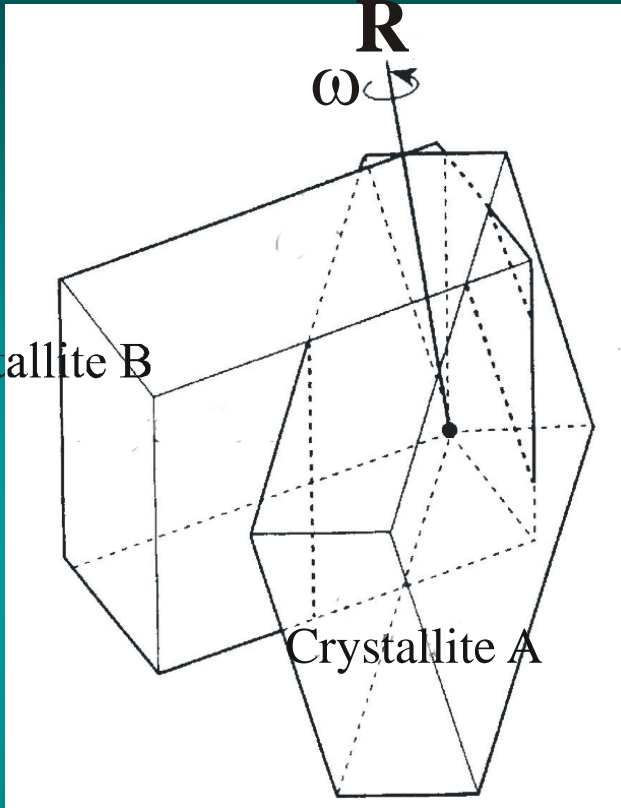
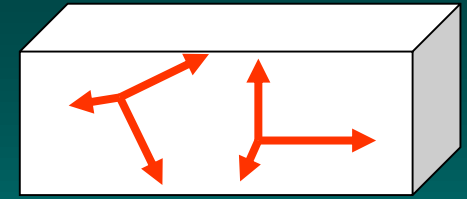
# The geometry of interfaces



Geometry of the grain boundary:

- ❑ The rotation between two misoriented crystal lattices (misorientation),
- ❑ The orientation of the boundary plane.

# Misorientation between two crystallites



$$K_A = \Gamma_{AB} \cdot K_B$$

$$\Gamma_{AB}^e = S_i \cdot \Gamma_{AB} \cdot P_j$$

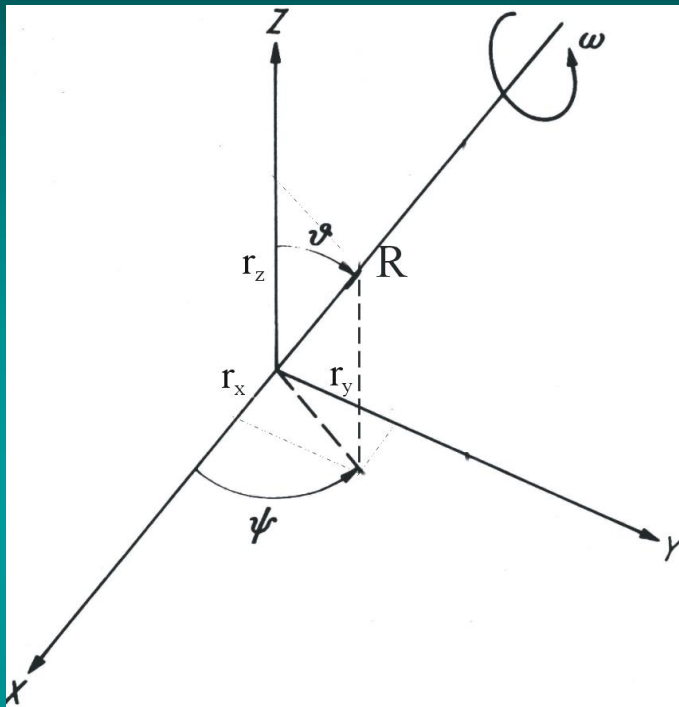
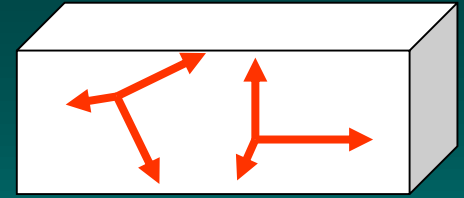
$(i = 1, \dots, M, j = 1, \dots, N)$

The misorientation is described by  $N \cdot M$  symmetrically equivalent variants  $\rightarrow$  for quantitative analysis of interfaces the misorientation should be made unique.

The rotation between two misoriented lattices may be described mathematically in several ways. These include the rotation matrix, the Euler angles, the axis/angle pair, the Rodrigues vector, the quaternion representation.



# Misorientation between two crystallites



Rodrigues' representation possesses certain properties of rectilinearity that make it relatively easy to construct asymmetric domains for different arrangements of crystallite symmetries.

The domains can be constructed in such a way that they contain rotations with smallest rotation angles.

The Rodrigues' parameters:

$$r_1 = r_x \cdot \operatorname{tg}(\omega/2)$$

$$r_2 = r_y \cdot \operatorname{tg}(\omega/2)$$

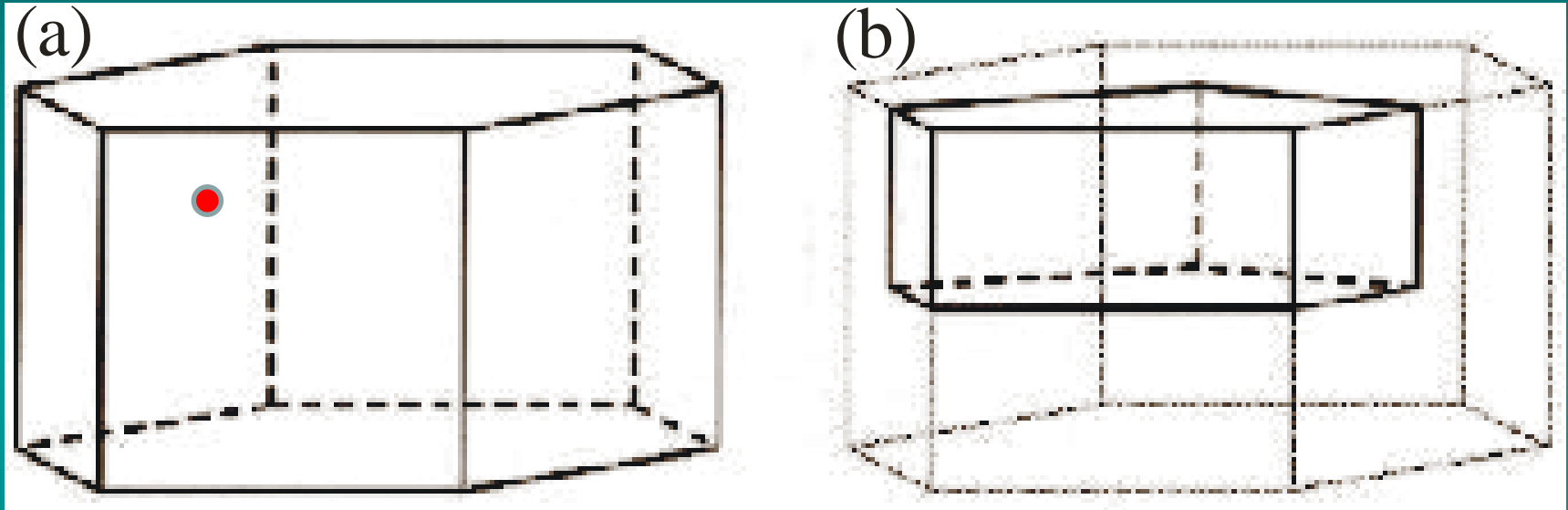
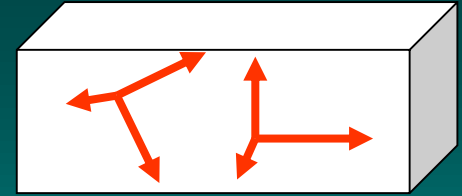
$$r_3 = r_z \cdot \operatorname{tg}(\omega/2)$$

Frank, F.C. (1987) Orientation Mapping, *Metall. Trans. A*, 19A, 403-408.





# Asymmetric domains (Rodrigues' representation)



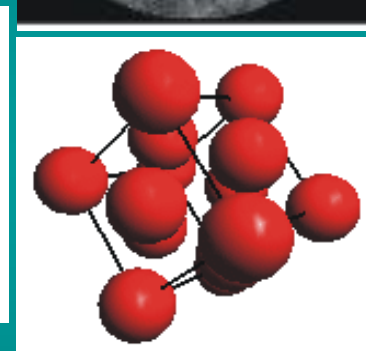
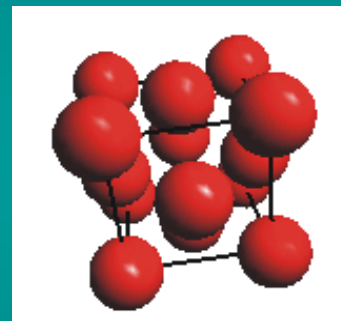
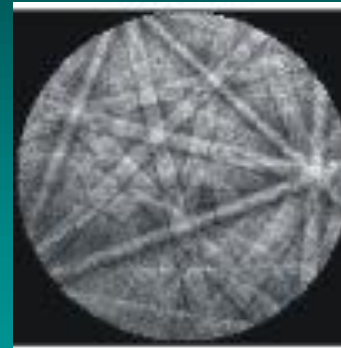
Schematic representation of the asymmetric domains for  $(D_3, C_1)$  (a) and  $(D_3, D_3)$  (b).

$$r_1, r_2, r_3 \rightarrow \begin{array}{l} (h_A \ k_A \ l_A) \parallel (h_B \ k_B \ l_B) \\ [u_A \ v_A \ w_A] \parallel [u_B \ v_B \ w_B] \end{array}$$

Morawiec, A. (2003) *Orientations and Rotations*, Springer Verlag, Berlin.



# The relationship between the microstructure, diffraction pattern and crystal orientation.



The microstructure of a stainless steel.

# Crystal Orientation Mapping

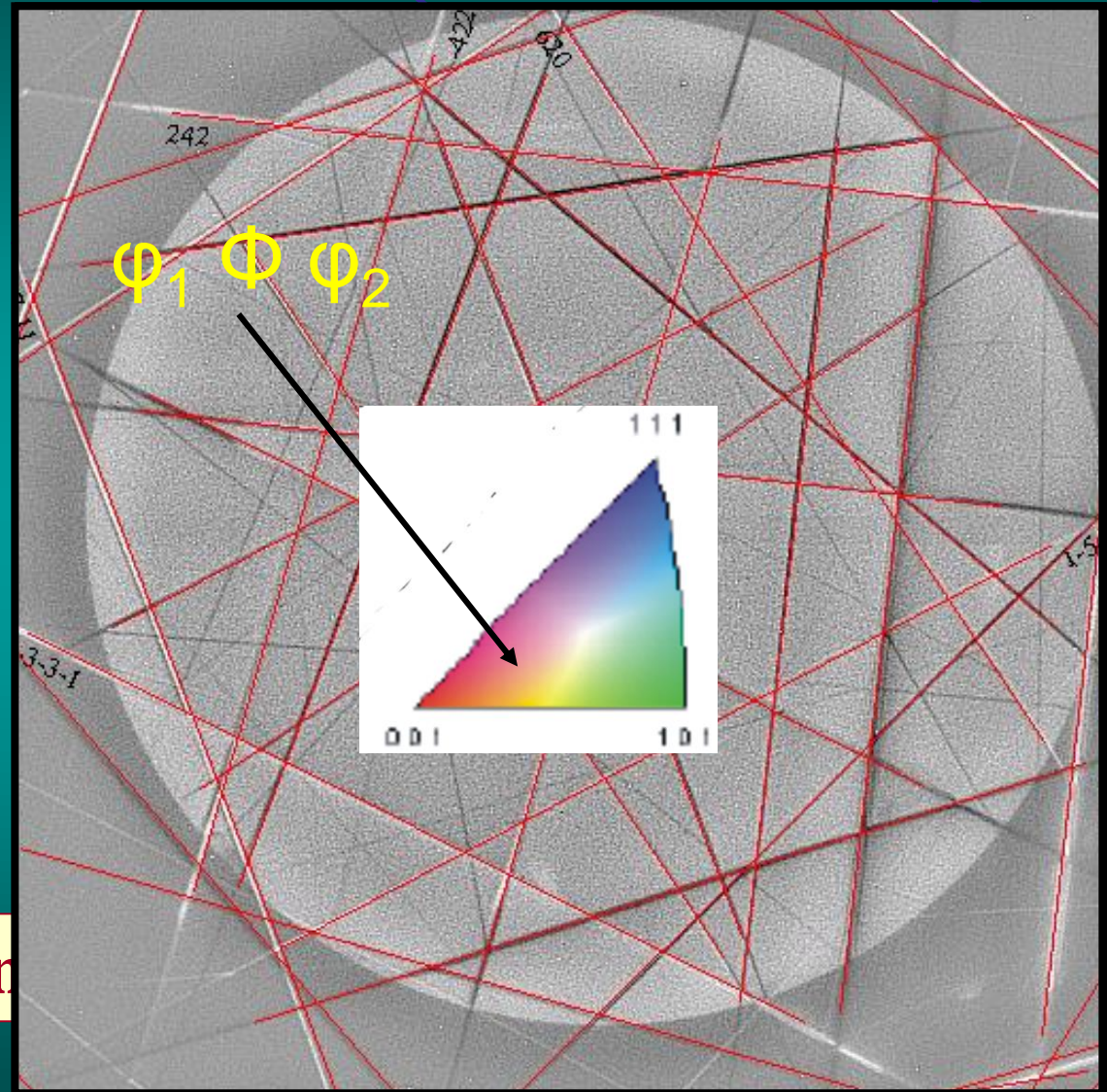
Lines detection



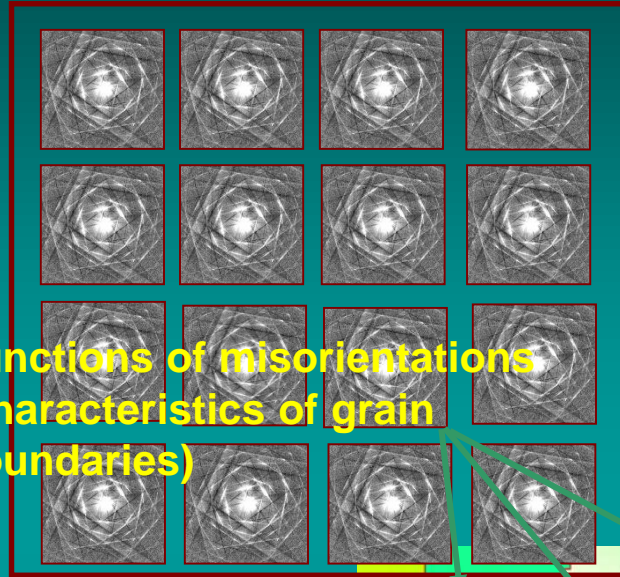
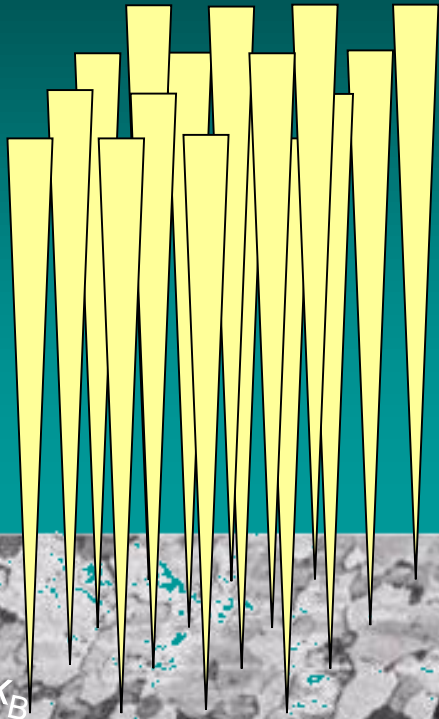
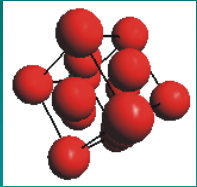
Lines indexing



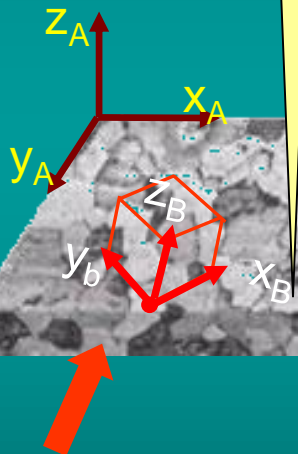
Crystal orientation



# Orientation mapping in SEM and TEM



Functions of misorientations  
(characteristics of grain boundaries)

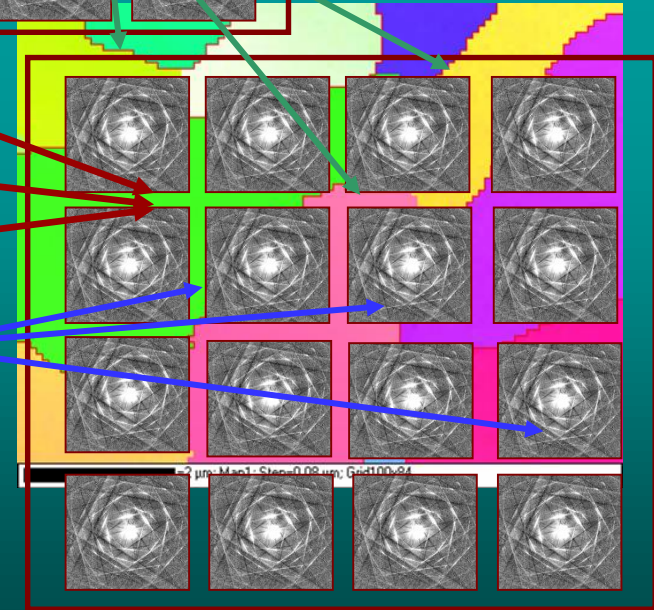


Thin foil (TEM) or surface of the bulk sample (SEM)

Orientation  
Phase

Diffraction quality factor

Functions of orientations  
(e.g. Texture)



The orientation  $\varphi$  a rotation or a set of special rotations with the help of them a coordinate system  $K_A$  will be oriented parallel to  $K_B$  ( $K_A$  and  $K_B$   $\varphi$  right-handed rectangular systems).

The orientation  $\varphi$  unambiguously characterised by three numbers combined in the symbol  $g$ .

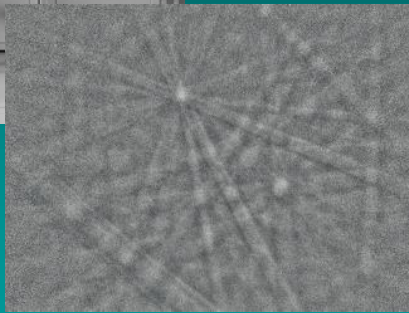
$$K_B = g \cdot K_A$$



# Orientation Microscopy

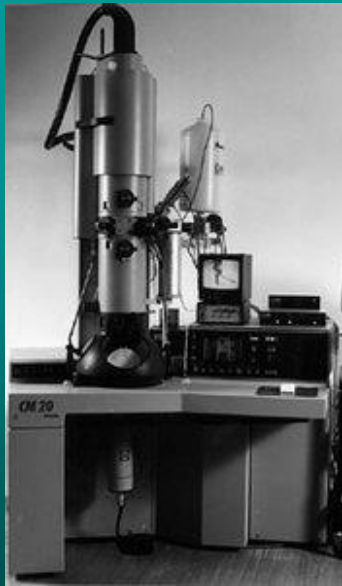
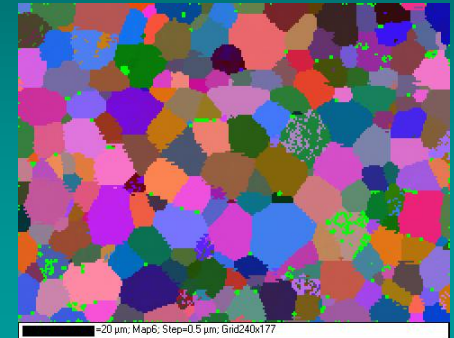
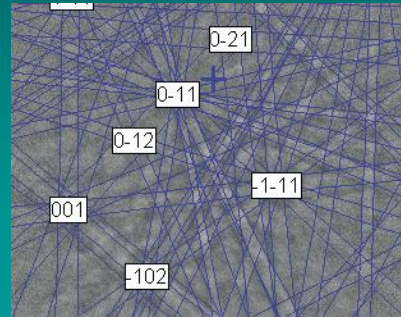


SEM

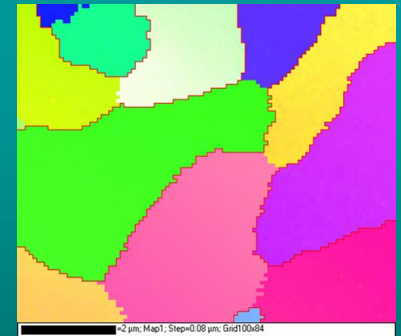
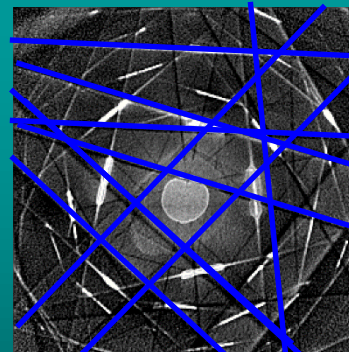
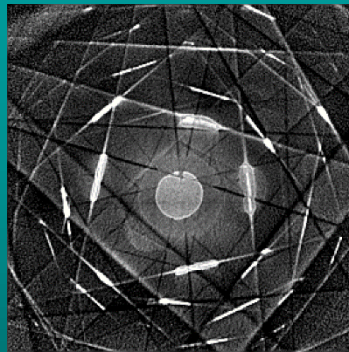


Spatial resolution ~ 100 nm (FEG)

Angular resolution > 0.5°



TEM



Spatial resolution ~ 10 nm

Angular resolution ~ 0.1°



# Example I: Recrystallization of 6013 aluminum alloy

Alloy 6013, chemical composition (% by weight).

Mg	Si	Cu	Mn	Fe	Others	Al
1.15	1.0	1.1	0.3	0.5	0.15	Remainder

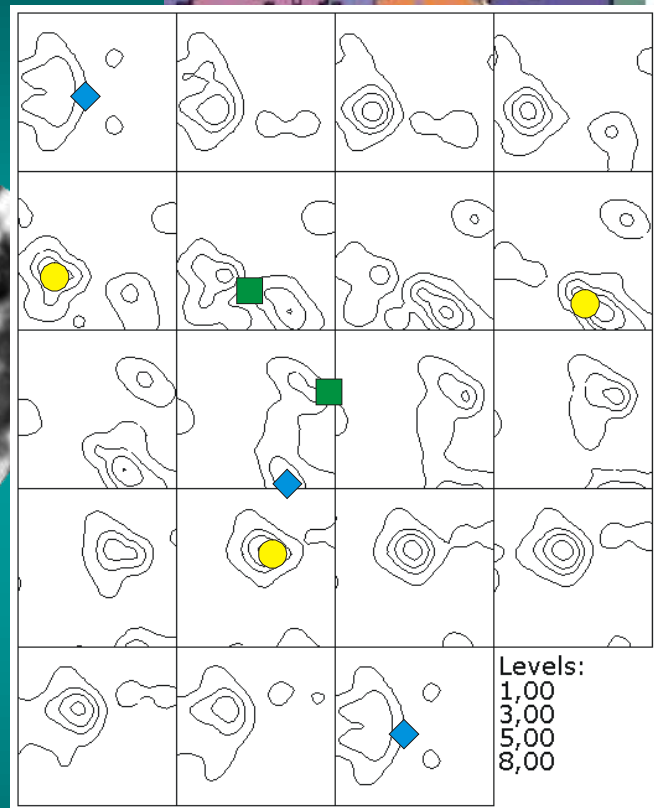
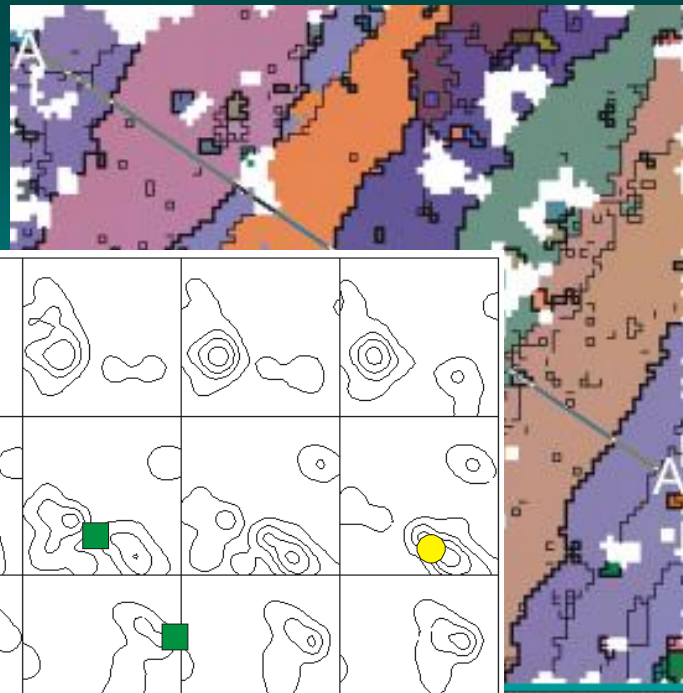
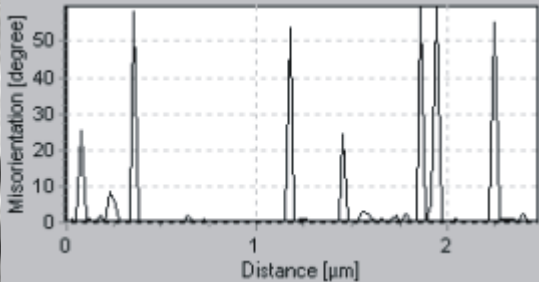
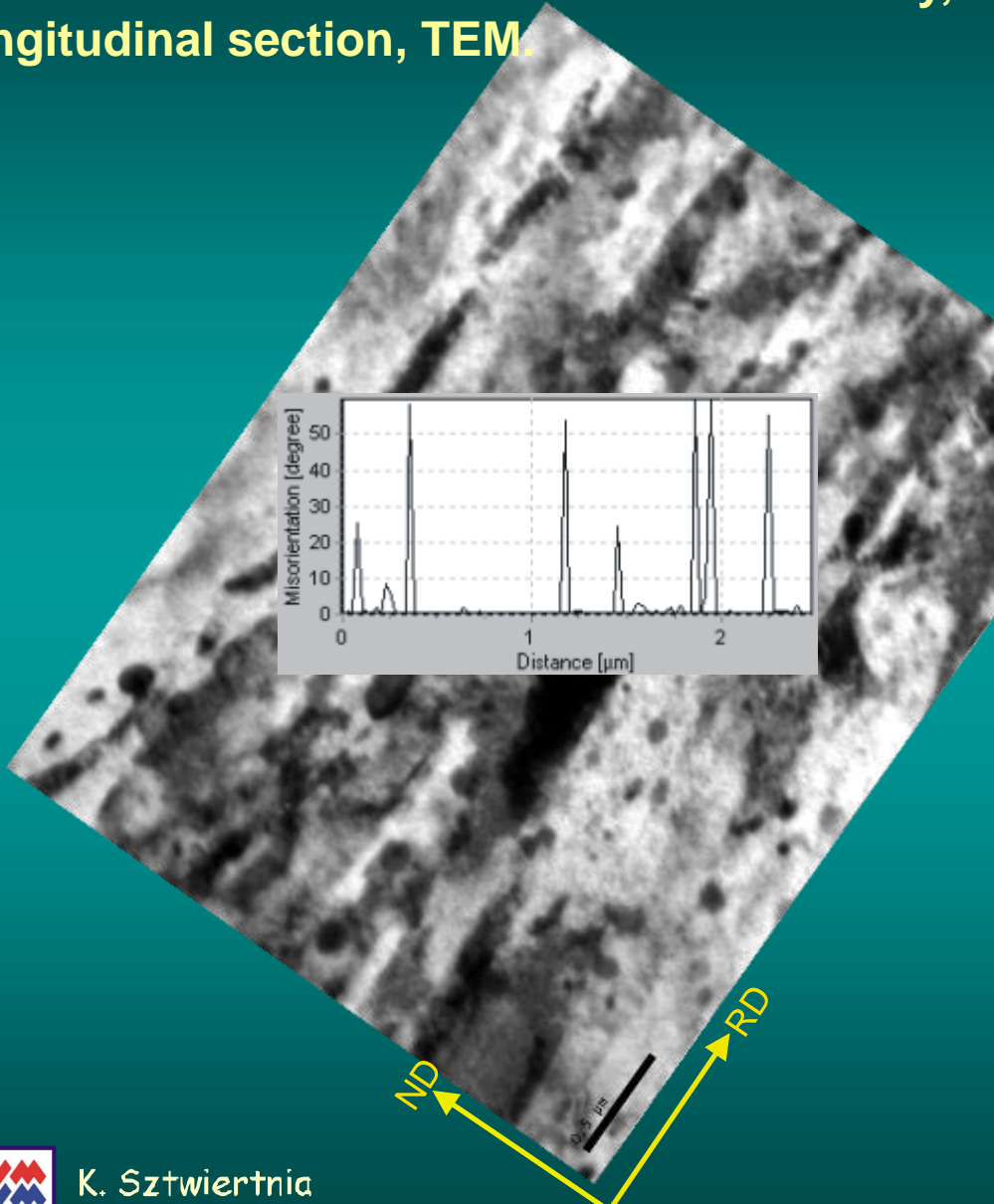
The investigations:

- Analysis of microstructure in a state after deformation. Measurement of local crystallographic orientations (TEM).
- Calorimetric measurements of recrystallization (non-isothermal method, differential calorimeter).
- Analysis of microstructures and local orientation distributions in samples annealed in a calorimeter to the various recrystallization stages.



# Example I: Recrystallization of 6013 aluminium alloy

Microstructure of 75% cold-rolled 6013 alloy, longitudinal section, TEM.

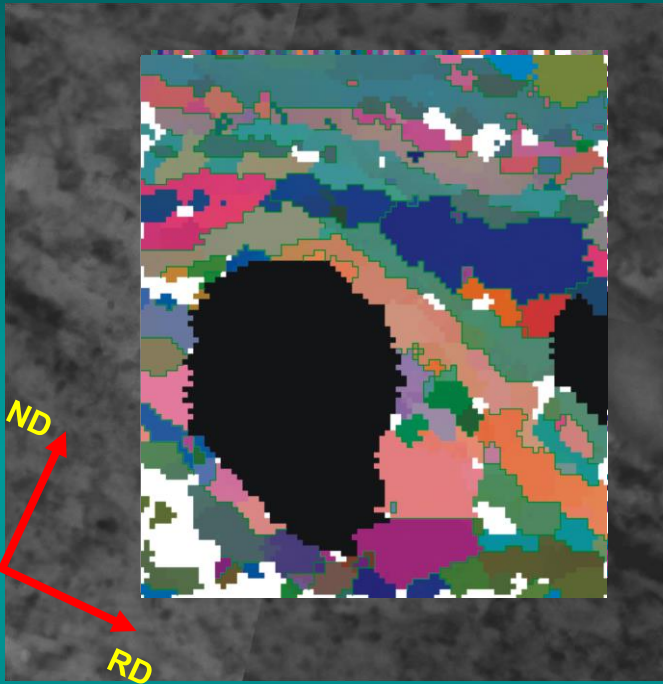


- S={123}<634> ,
- Copper={112}<111> ,
- ◆ Brass={011}<211> .

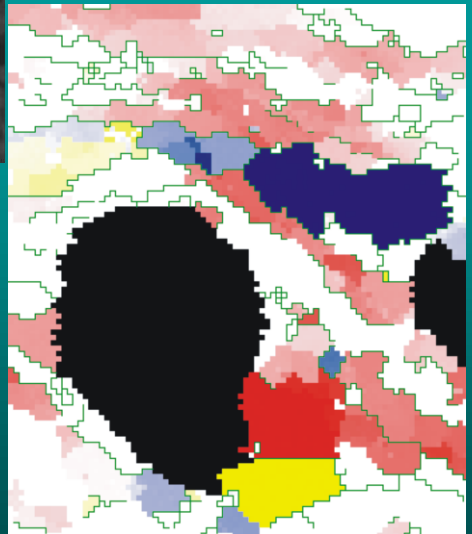
# Example I: Recrystallization of 6013 aluminium alloy

Microstructure of 90% cold-rolled 6013 aluminum alloy, *in-situ* annealing, longitudinal section, **TEM** (spatial resolution ~ 10 nm).

Orientation topography in the area of the deformation zone



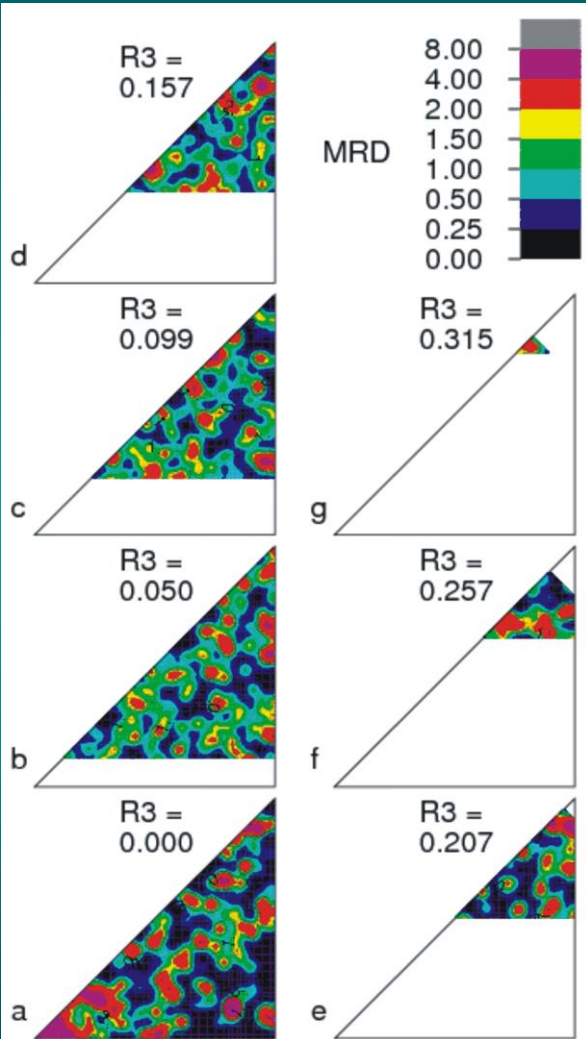
Orientation topography in the area of the deformation zone after heating *in-situ* in TEM



1 μm , Step= 30 nm, Grid 100 x 100

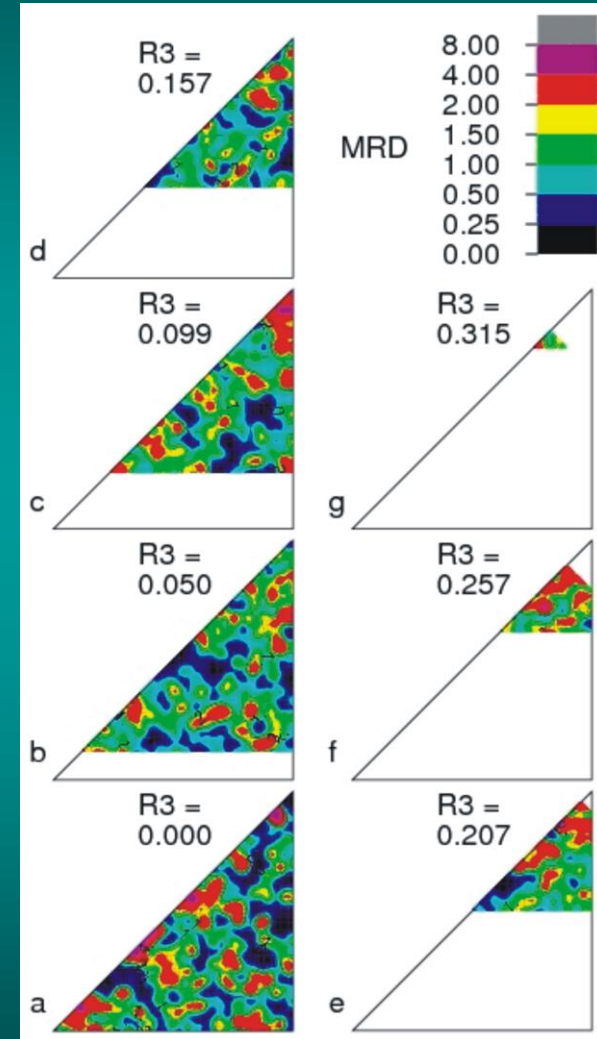
# Example I: Recrystallization of 6013 aluminium alloy

Rodrigues' representation  $r_1$ ,  $r_2$ ,  $r_3$ , cross-section  $r_3 = \text{const.}$ , asymmetric domain (O, O).  
(High Angle Grain Boundaries only;  $\omega > 15^\circ$ ).



Misorientation distribution between orientations of crystallites in deformation zones (before annealing) and new grains growing in the same places; 75% cold-rolled 6013 aluminum alloy

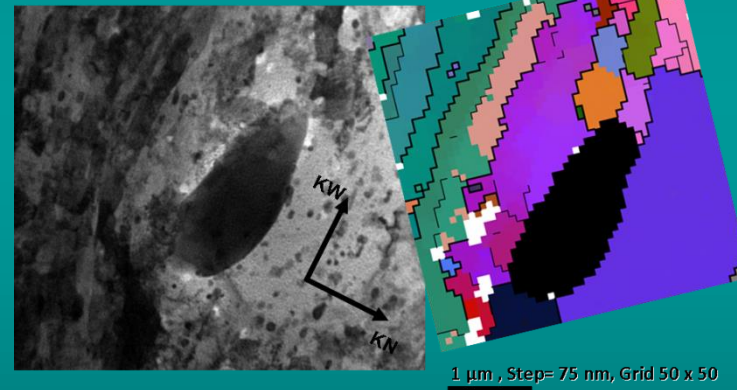
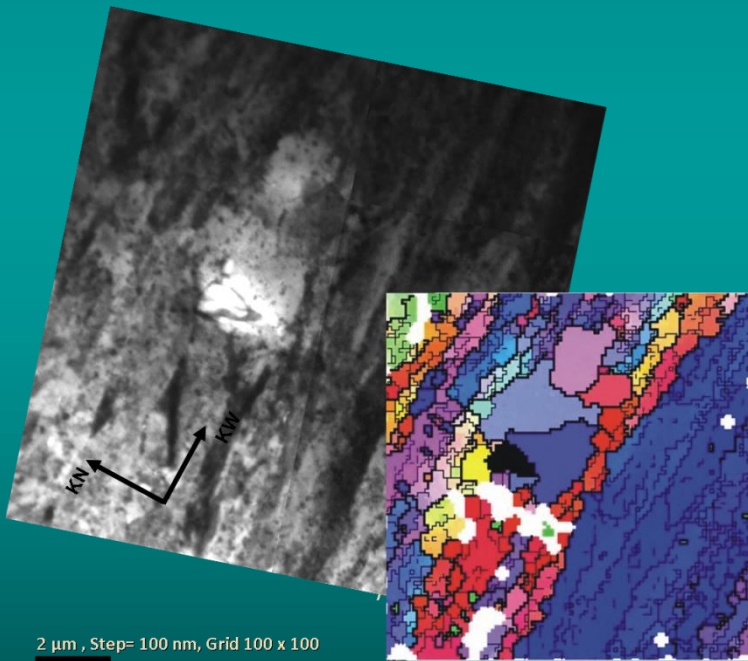
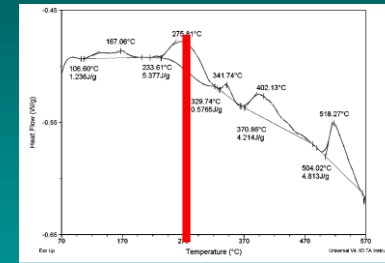
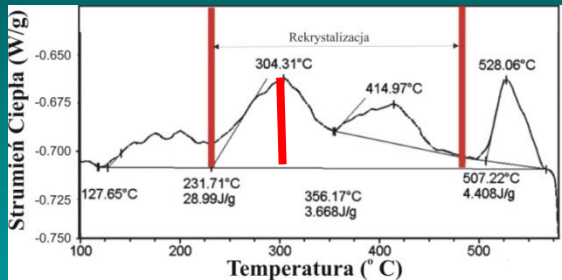
Misorientation distribution between orientations of crystallites in deformation zones (before annealing) and new grains growing in the same places; 90% cold-rolled 6013 aluminum alloy





# Example I: Recrystallization of 6013 aluminium alloy

Power difference, representing release of stored energy from 75% and 90% cold-rolled 6013 alloy, as a function of annealing temperature.

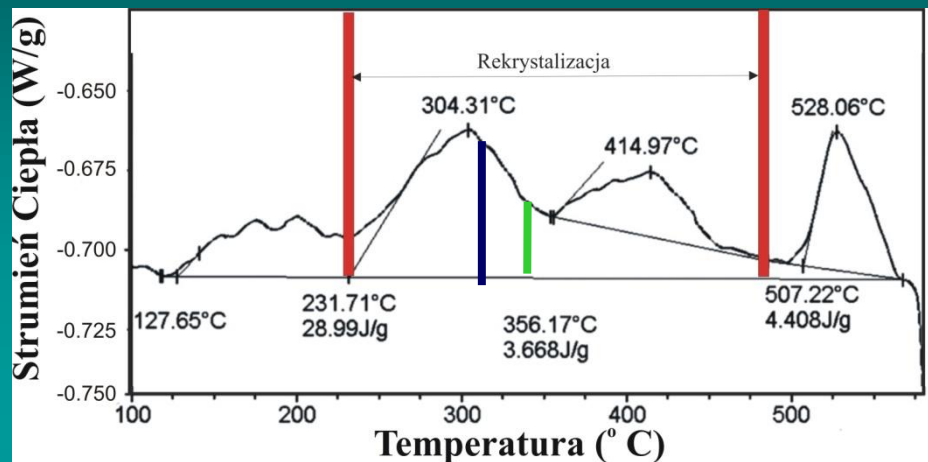


Microstructures of 6013 alloy, 75% and 90% cold-rolled and subsequently heated in the calorimeter to 300°C and 280°C, CBED/TEM, longitudinal section.

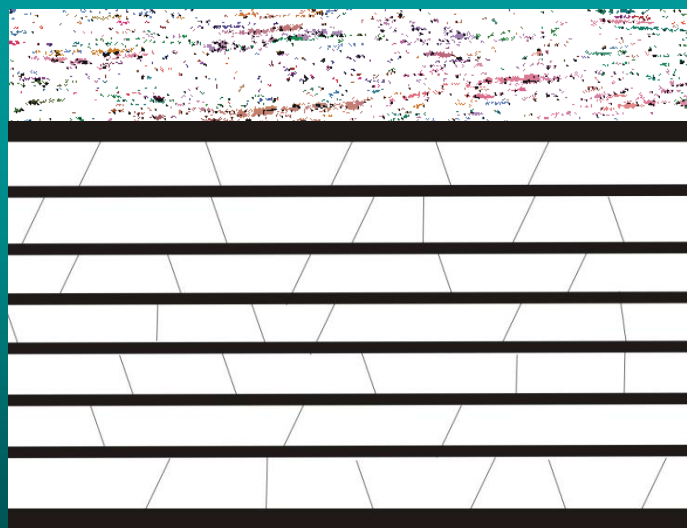


## Example I: Recrystallization of 6013 aluminium alloy

Power difference, representing release of stored energy from 75% cold-rolled 6013 alloy, as a function of annealing temperature.



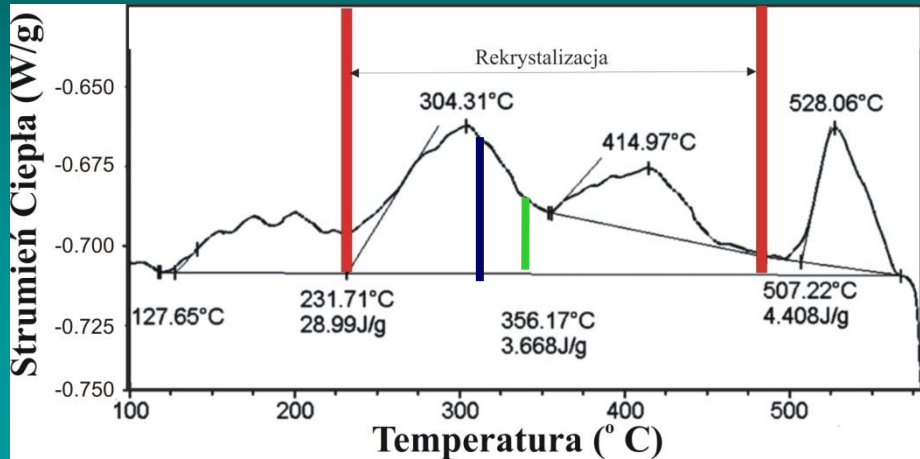
Microstructures of 6013 alloy, 75% cold-rolled and subsequently heated in the calorimeter to 330°C and 350°C, EBSD/SEM, longitudinal section.



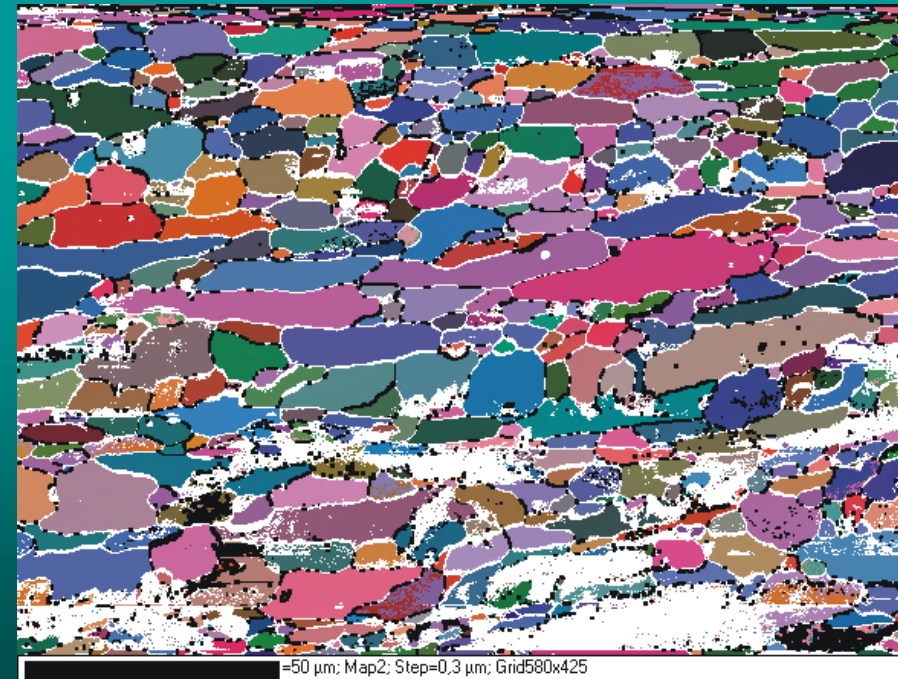
K. Sztwiertnia

## Example I: Recrystallization of 6013 aluminium alloy

Power difference, representing release of stored energy from 75% cold-rolled 6013 alloy, as a function of annealing temperature.



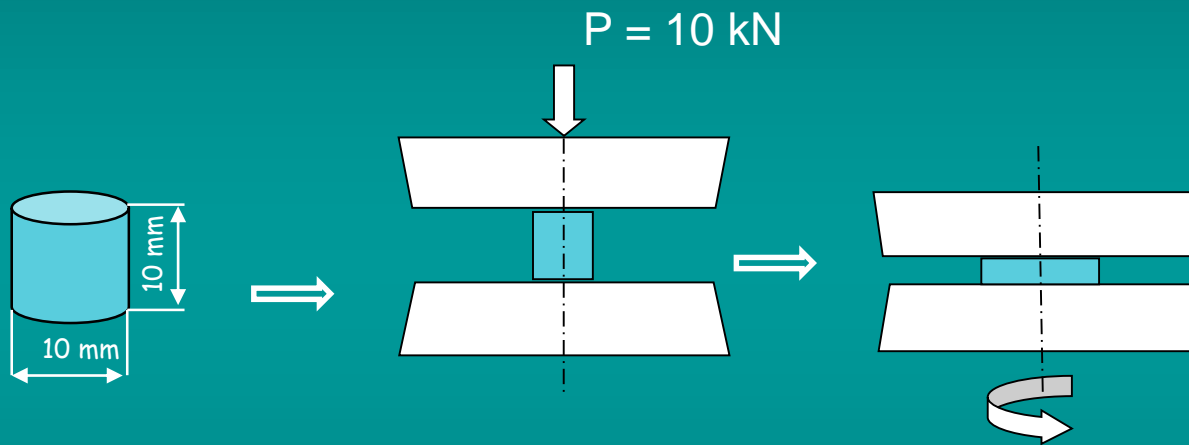
Microstructures of 6013 alloy, 75% cold-rolled and subsequently heated in the calorimeter to 480°C, EBSD/SEM, longitudinal section.



K. Sztwiertnia

## Example II, Orientation mapping applied to gradient materials

Hard magnetic Fe-Cr-Co alloy was subjected to severe plastic deformation by complex two-step loading.



Schema of deformation by upsetting and subsequent torsion.

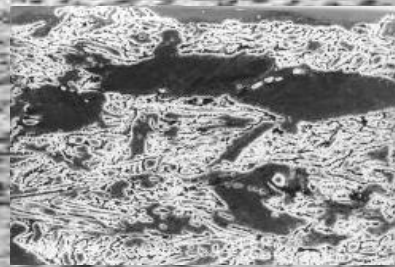
# Example II, Orientation mapping applied to gradient materials

The microstructure of the hard magnetic Fe-Cr-Co alloy after severe plastic deformation.

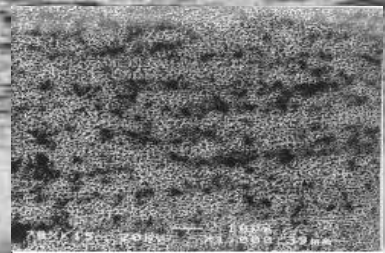
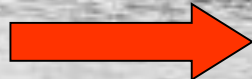
The top part of the sample



The middle part of the sample



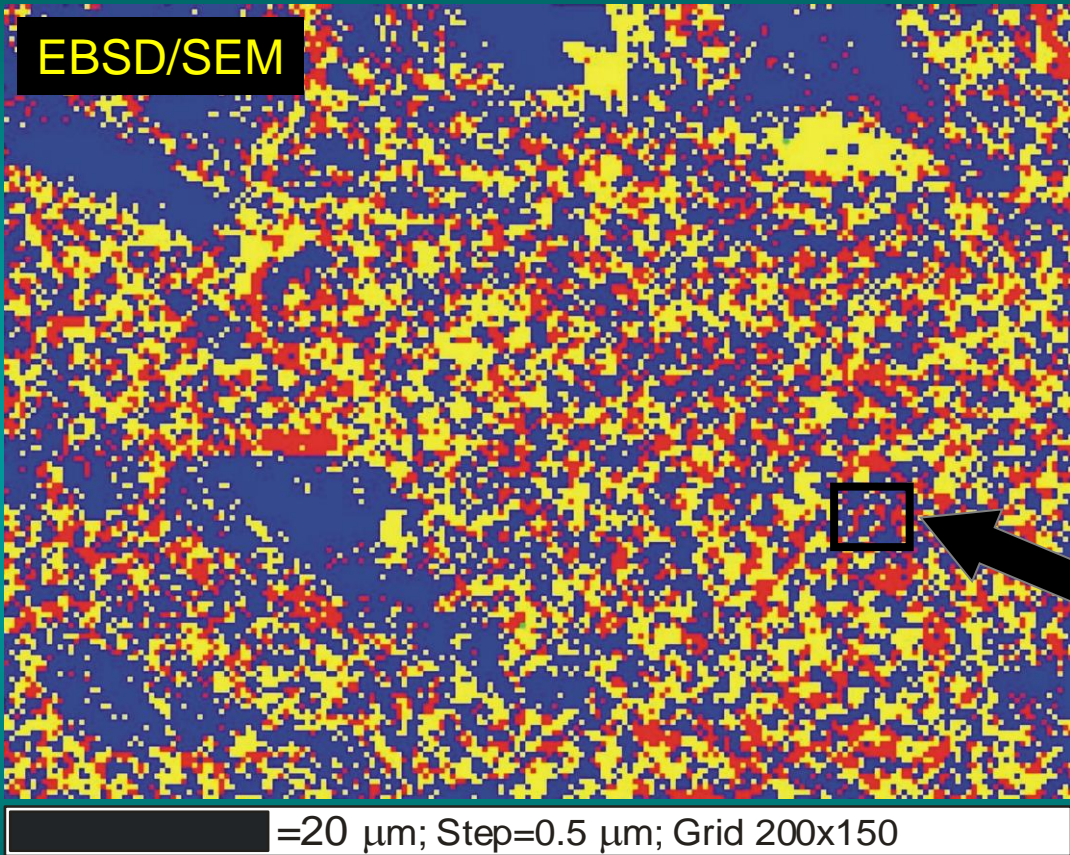
The bottom part of the sample



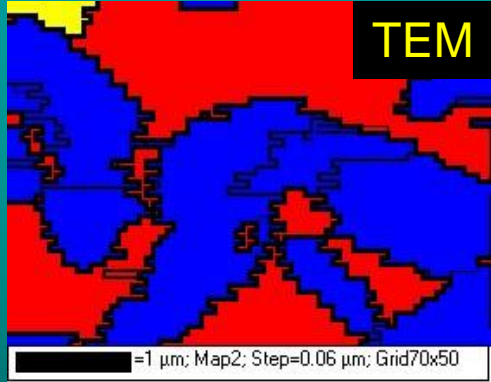
100  $\mu$ m



# Example II, Orientation mapping applied to gradient materials



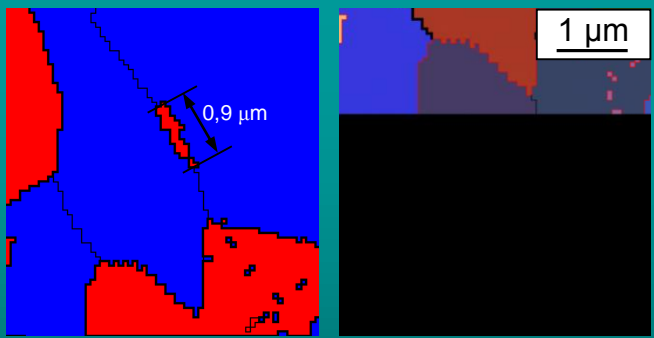
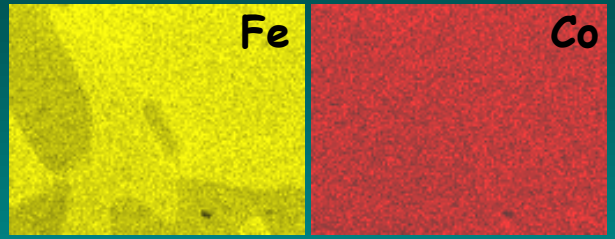
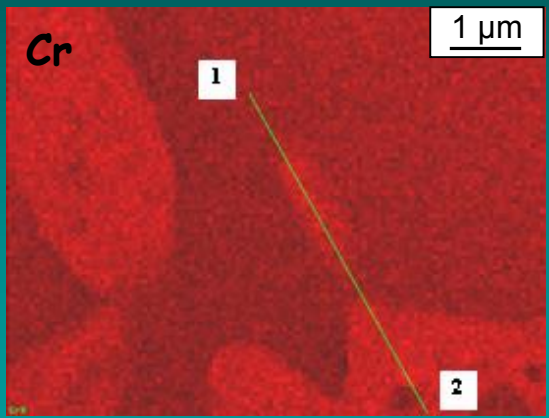
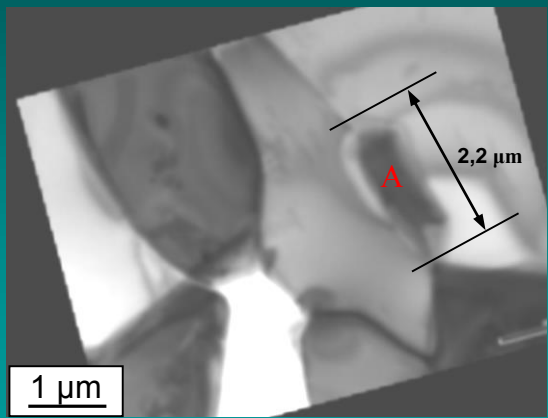
- -  $\alpha$  (bcc)
- -  $\gamma$  (fcc)
- -  $\sigma$ - (tetragonal)



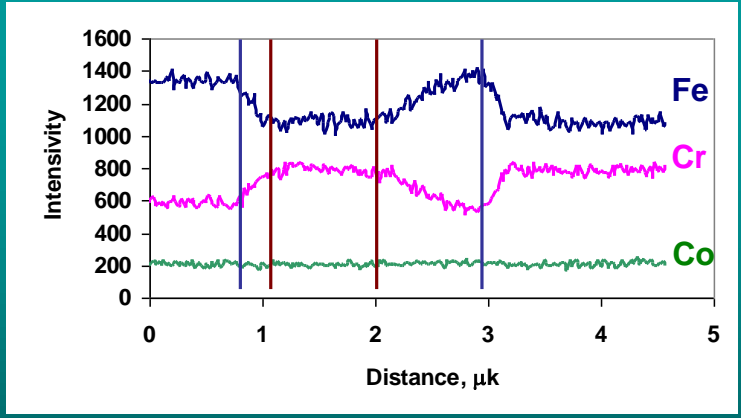
The top part of the sample, deformed at 700 °C, EBSD/SEM.



# Example II, Orientation mapping applied to gradient materials



□ a phase □ σ phase



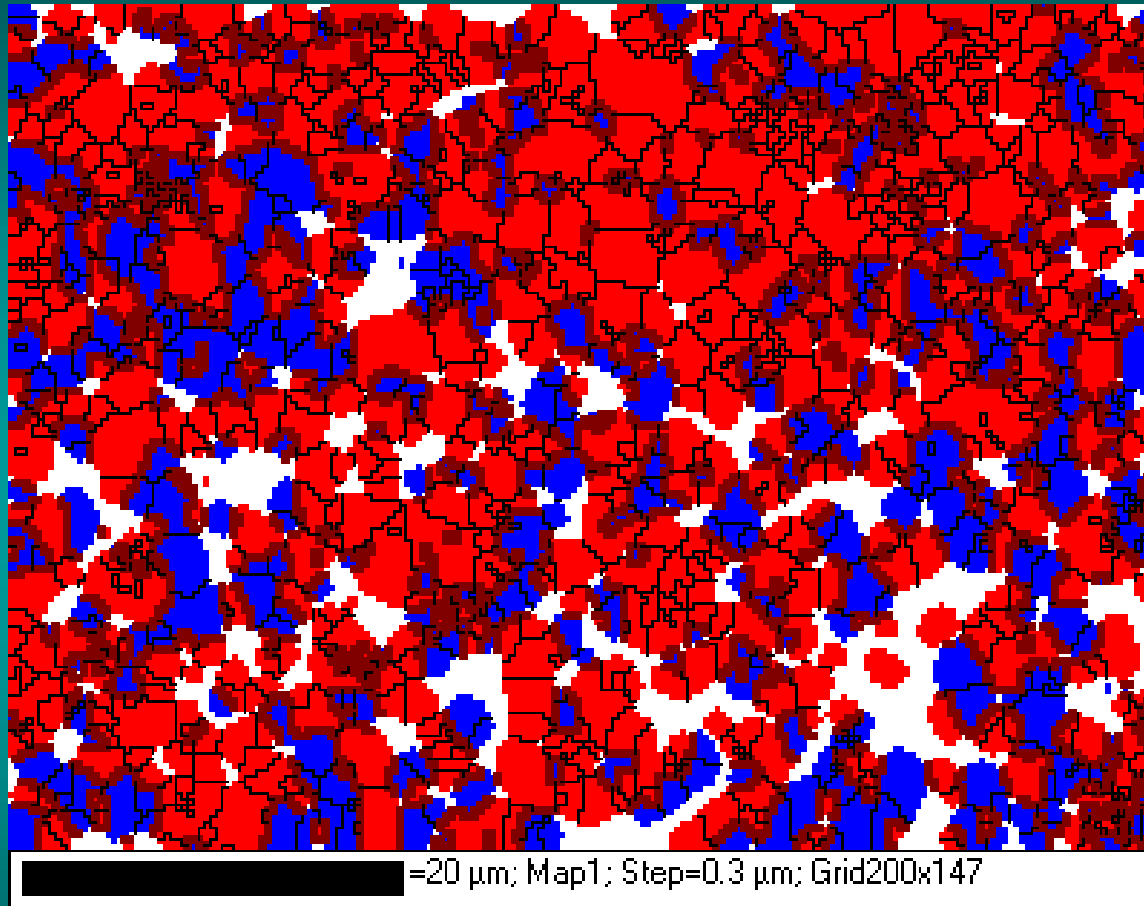
The bottom part of the sample, deformed at 800 °C and then annealed 30 min at 450 °C, TEM.

## Example III: Orientation mapping applied to composites.

Misorientation characteristic of interphase boundaries.  
( $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3/\text{WC}$ , SEM).

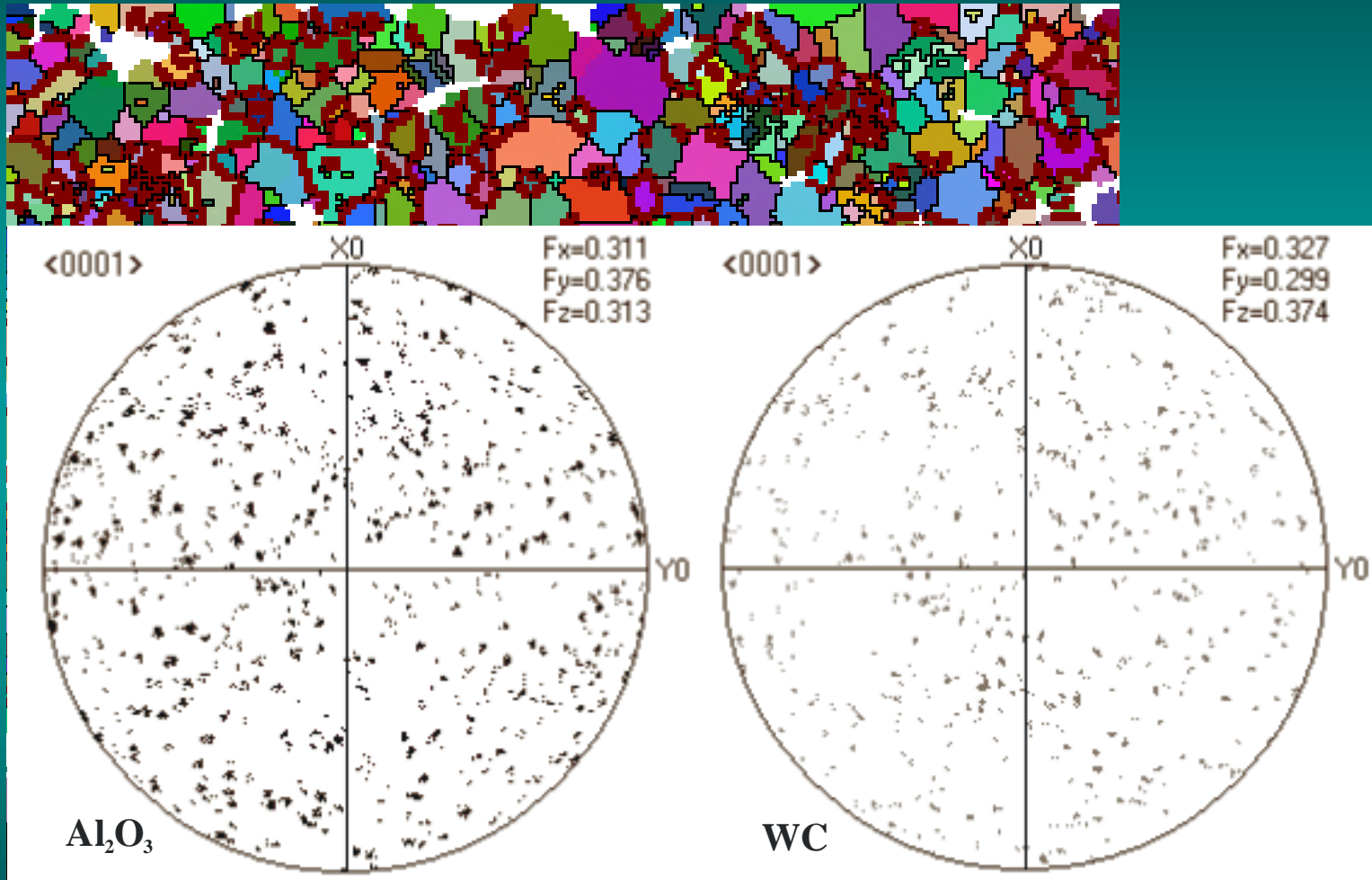


## Example III: Microstructure of $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3/\text{WC}$ composite (ESEM/EBSD phase map)



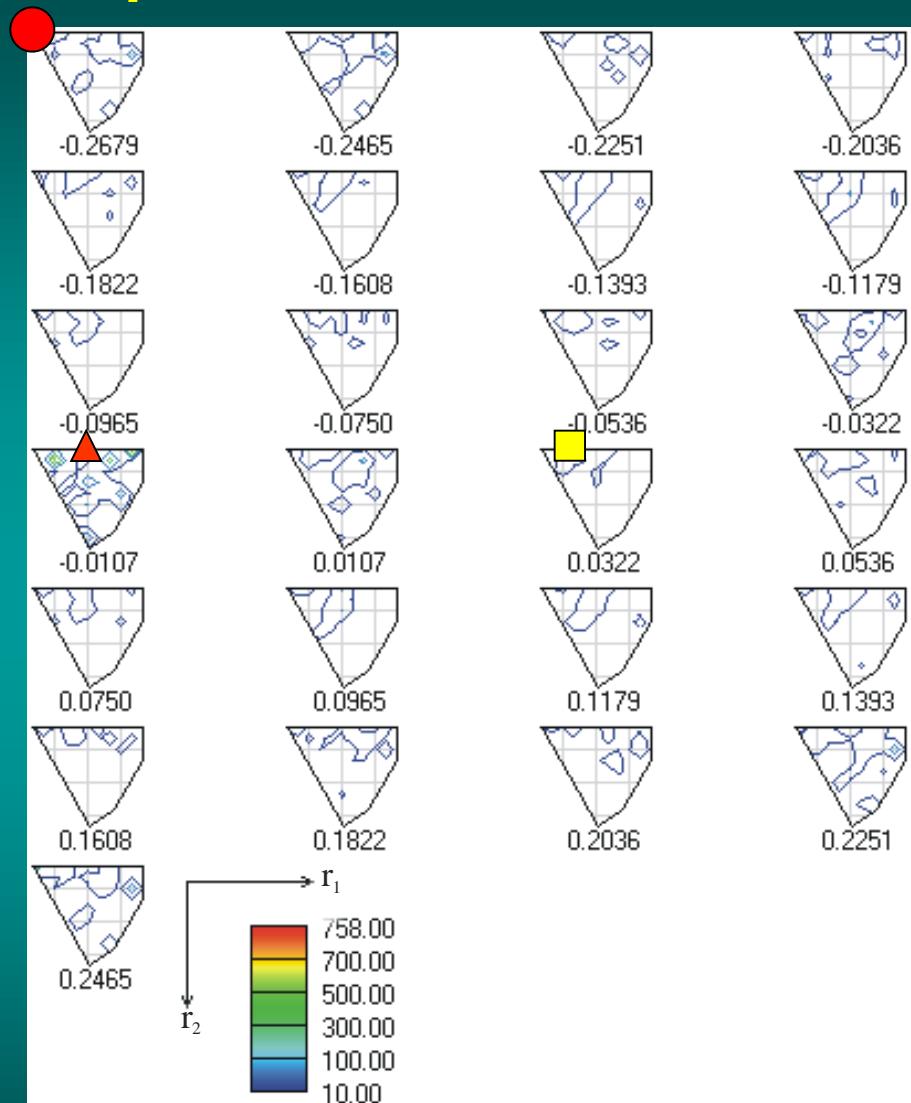
$\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  grains – red, WC grains – blue, white regions – not indexed; thick lines –  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3/\text{WC}$  interphase boundaries, thin lines – grain boundaries.



# Example III: Microstructure of $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3/\text{WC}$ composite (ESEM/EBSD orientation map)




Stereographic projections of directions  $\langle 0001 \rangle$  in  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  grains and WC grains, respectively.

# Example III: Misorientation Distribution Function ( $Al_2O_3/WC$ )



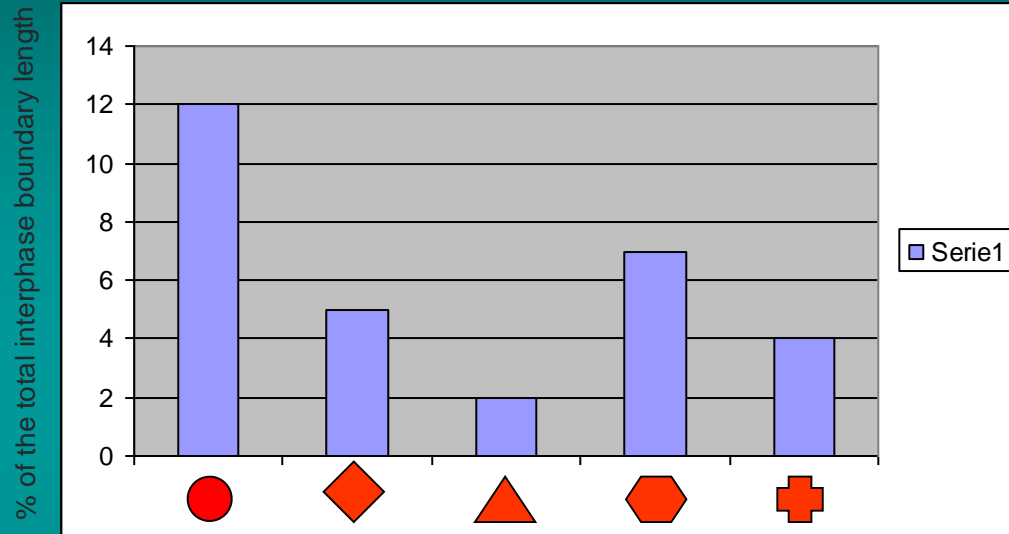

 $(0\bar{1}11) WC \parallel (1\bar{1}05) Al_2O_3$   
 $[11\bar{2}3] WC \parallel [\bar{2}3\bar{1}1] Al_2O_3$   

 $(0\bar{1}11) WC \parallel (\bar{1}011) Al_2O_3$   
 $[2\bar{1}\bar{1}0] WC \parallel [01\bar{1}1] Al_2O_3$


 $(0001) WC \parallel (0001) Al_2O_3$   
 $[11\bar{2}0] WC \parallel [10\bar{1}0] Al_2O_3$






MDF between  $Al_2O_3$  and WC grains;  
 Rodrigues' representation  $r_1, r_2, r_3$ ,  
 cross-section  $r_3=const.$ , asymmetric  
 domain ( $D_6, D_3$ ).



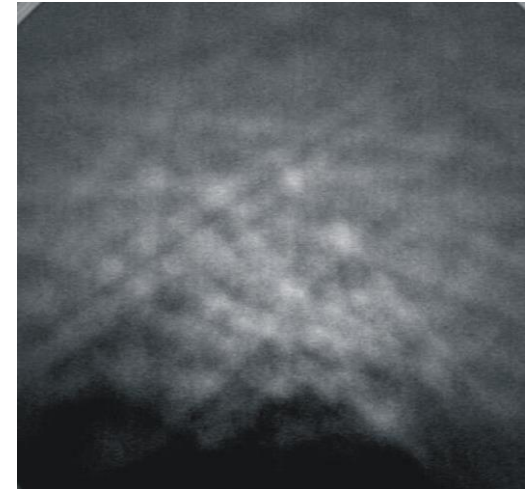
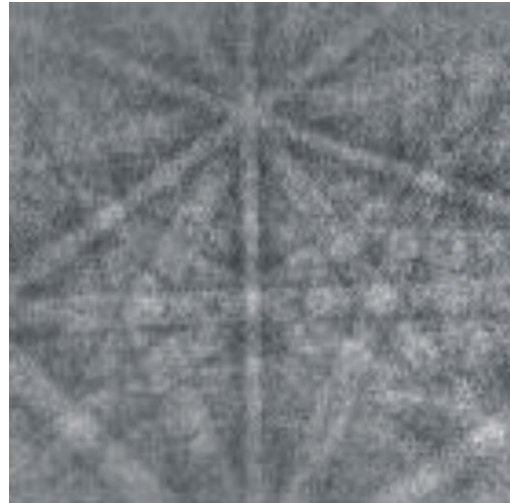
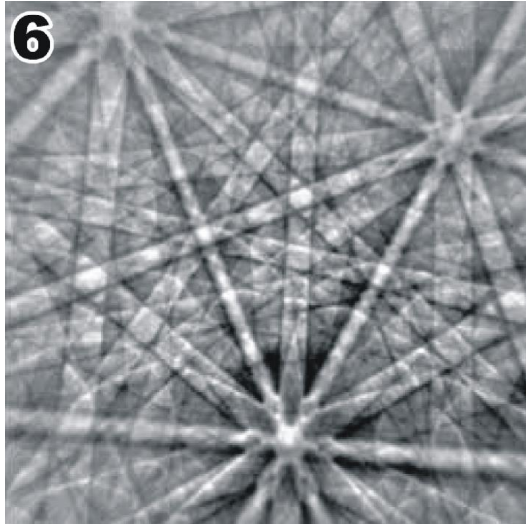
# Example III: Misorientation Distribution Function ( $Al_2O_3/WC$ )



The crystallographic relationships correspond respectively to: 12%, 5%, 2%, 7% and 4% of the total  $WC/Al_2O_3$  interphase boundary length.

- 
 $(0001) WC \parallel (0001) Al_2O_3$   
 $[11\bar{2}0] WC \parallel [10\bar{1}0] Al_2O_3$
- 
 $(10\bar{1}0) WC \parallel (10\bar{1}0) Al_2O_3$   
 $[000\bar{1}] WC \parallel [\bar{1}3\bar{2}\bar{2}] Al_2O_3$
- 
 $(10\bar{1}0) WC \parallel (10\bar{1}0) Al_2O_3$   
 $[000\bar{1}] WC \parallel [\bar{4}9\bar{5}2] Al_2O_3$
- 
 $(2\bar{1}\bar{1}0) WC \parallel (2\bar{1}\bar{1}0) Al_2O_3$   
 $[000\bar{1}] WC \parallel [01\bar{1}0] Al_2O_3$
- 
 $(3\bar{1}\bar{2}0) WC \parallel (3\bar{1}\bar{2}0) Al_2O_3$   
 $[01\bar{1}\bar{1}\bar{2}] WC \parallel [\bar{1}9\bar{8}\bar{1}] Al_2O_3$

## Example IV: EBSD Image Quality Maps



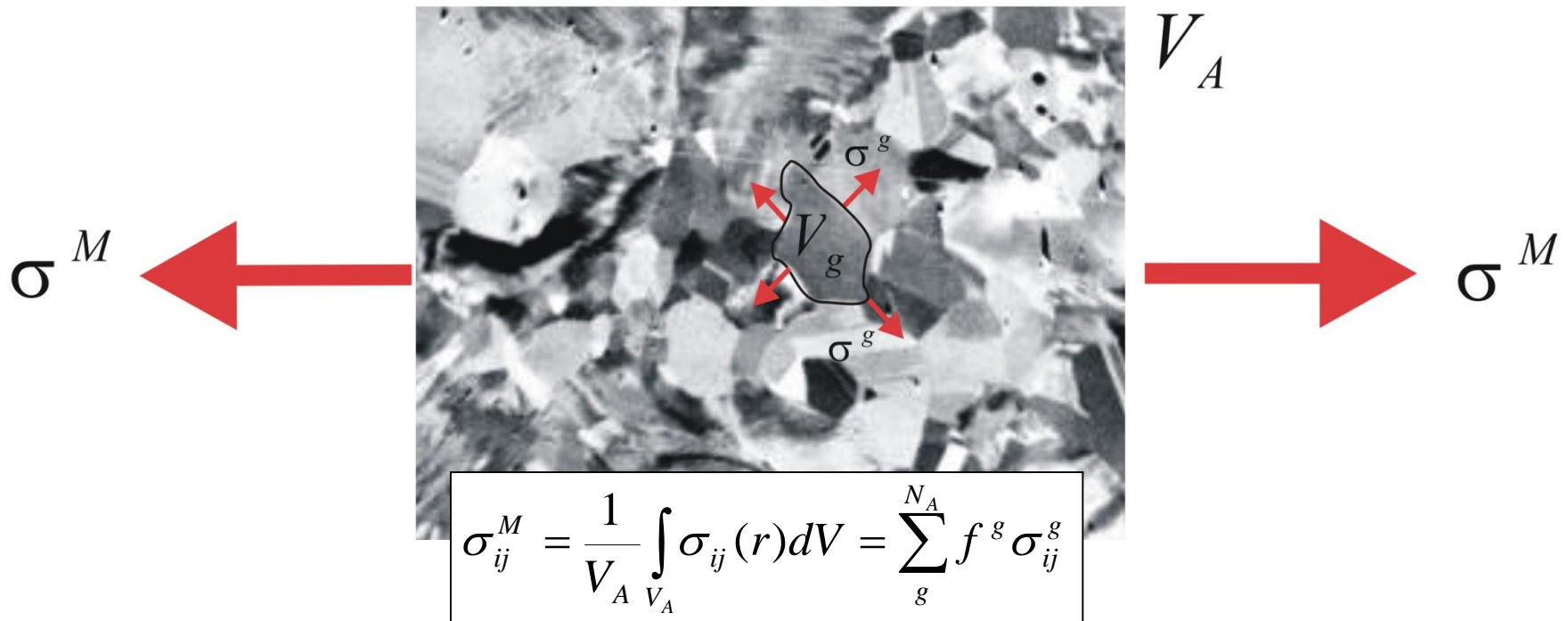
Diffraction patterns from places with various dislocation densities ( $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ ).

The additional data contained in the diffraction image can be used, e.g. for differentiation of material areas with different dislocation density.

# Definition of different types of stresses at various spatial scales

## Scale of the first order stresses

(the macrostress  $\sigma_{ij}^M$  is the mean value over  $V_A$  volume)



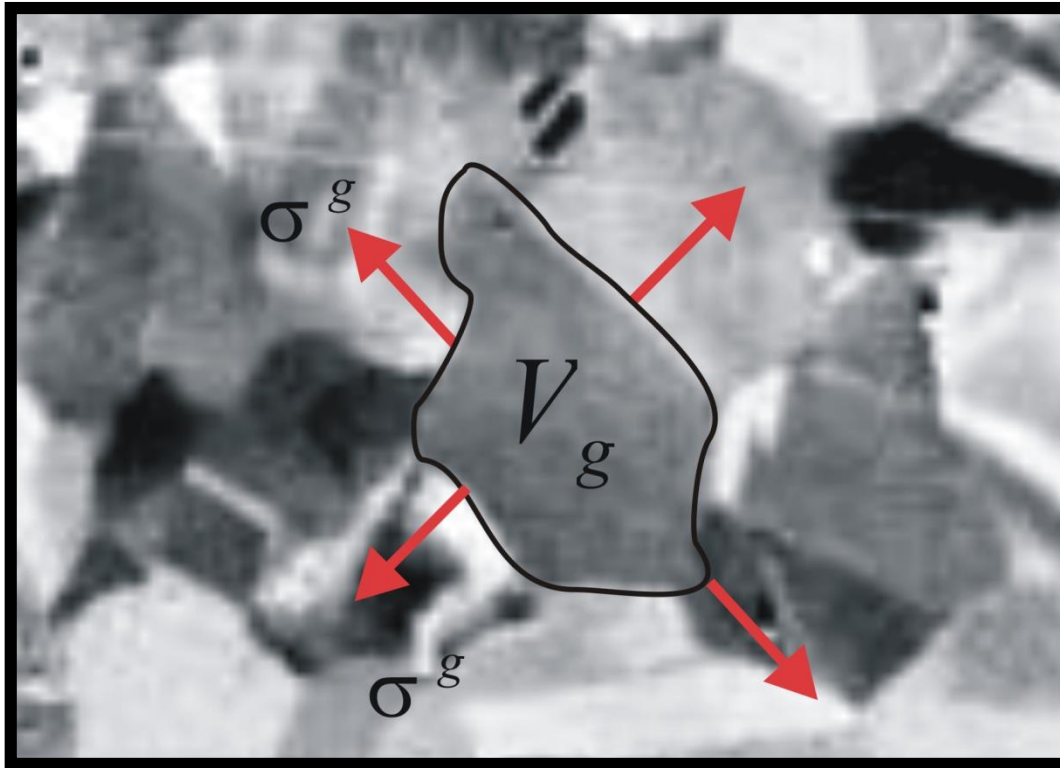
where:  $N_A$  - total number of grains       $\sigma_{ij}(r)$  - local stress at  $r$  position

$f^g = \frac{V_g}{V_A}$  and  $\sigma_{ij}^g$  - the volume fraction and the mean stress for grain  $g$  having volume  $V_g$

## Definition of different types of stresses at various spatial scales

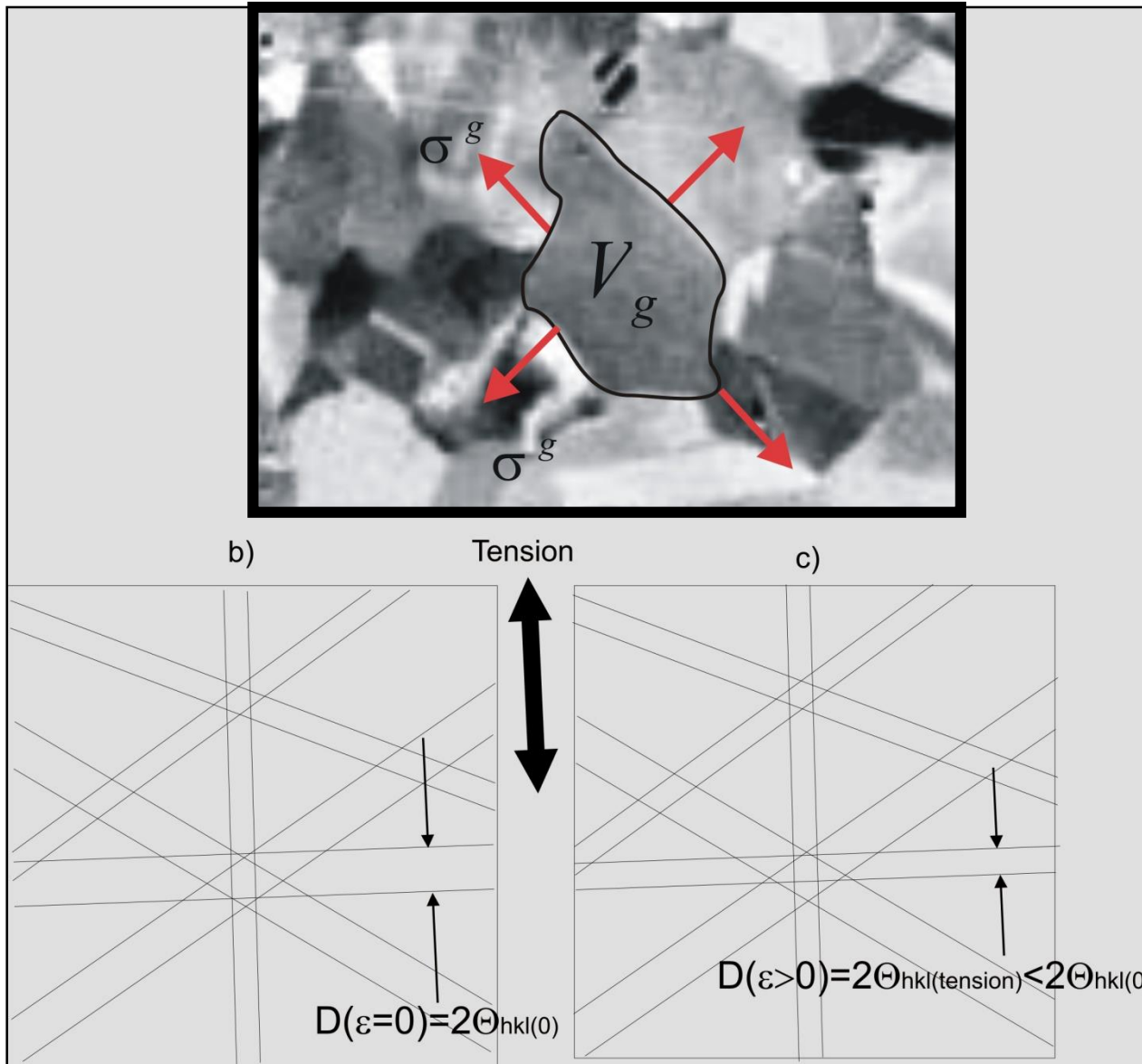
### Scale of the second order stresses

(  $\sigma_{ij}^g$  is the mean stress for the volume  $V_g$  of the  $g$ -th grain)



$$\sigma_{ij}^{IIg} = \sigma_{ij}^g - \sigma_{ij}^I \quad \text{where} \quad \sigma_{ij}^I = \sigma_{ij}^M \quad \text{for single phase material}$$

# Effect of tensile elastic strain on Kikuchi band width



Second order stresses

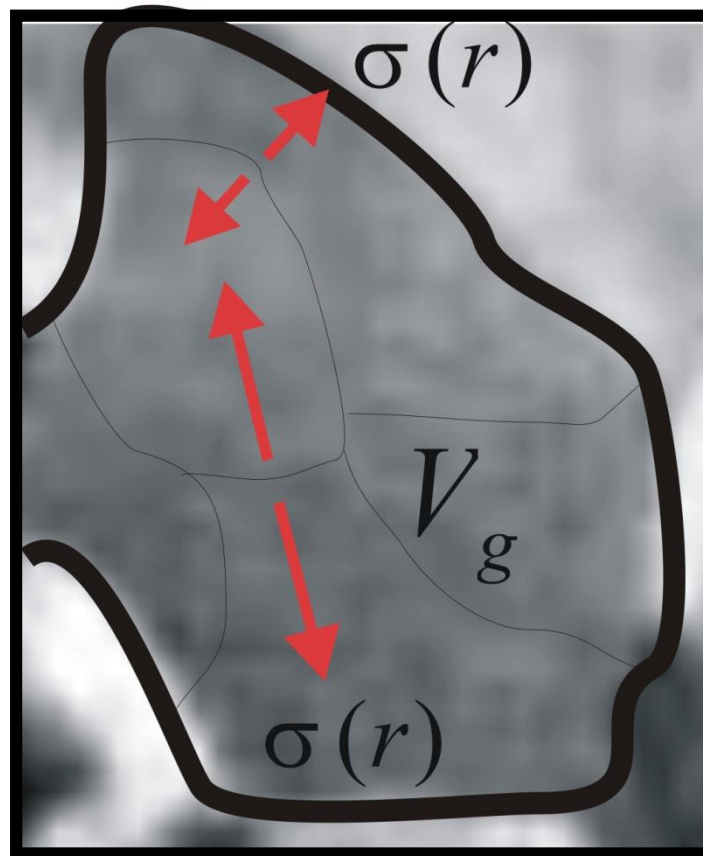


## Definition of different types of stresses at various spatial scales

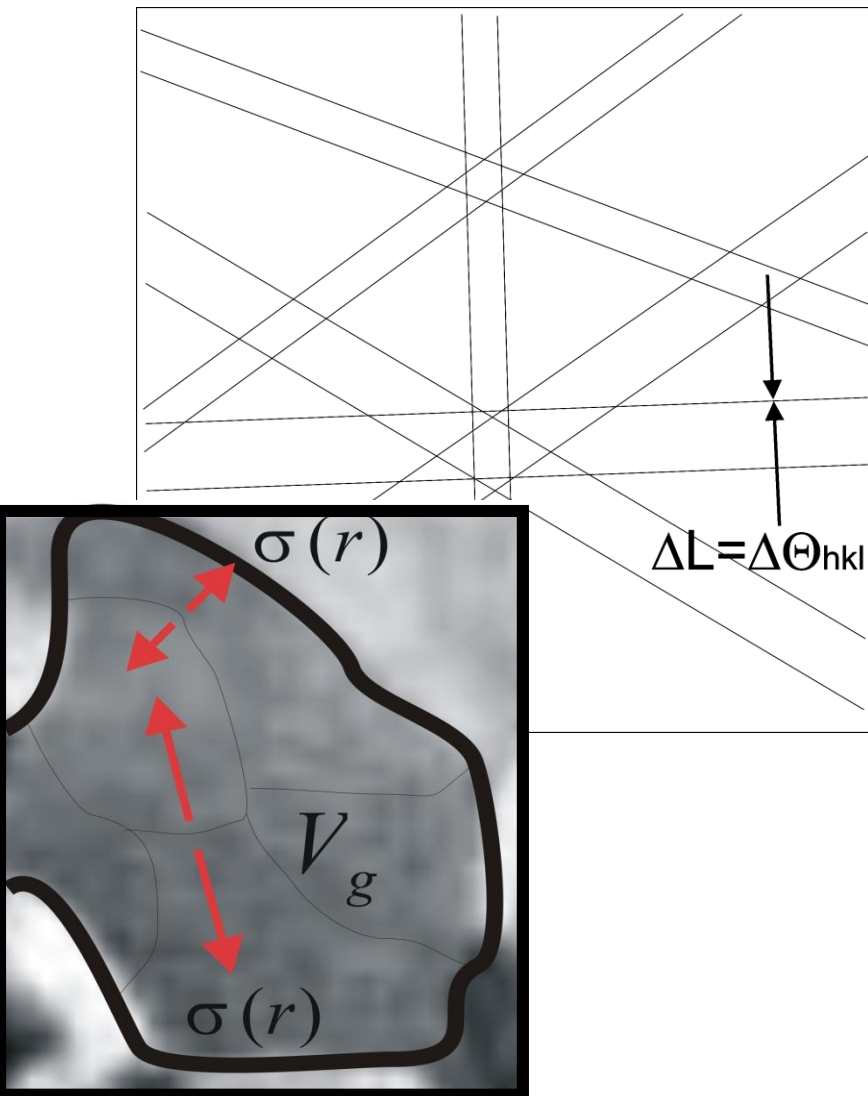
### Scale of the third order stresses

(the local stress at  $r$  position is indicated)

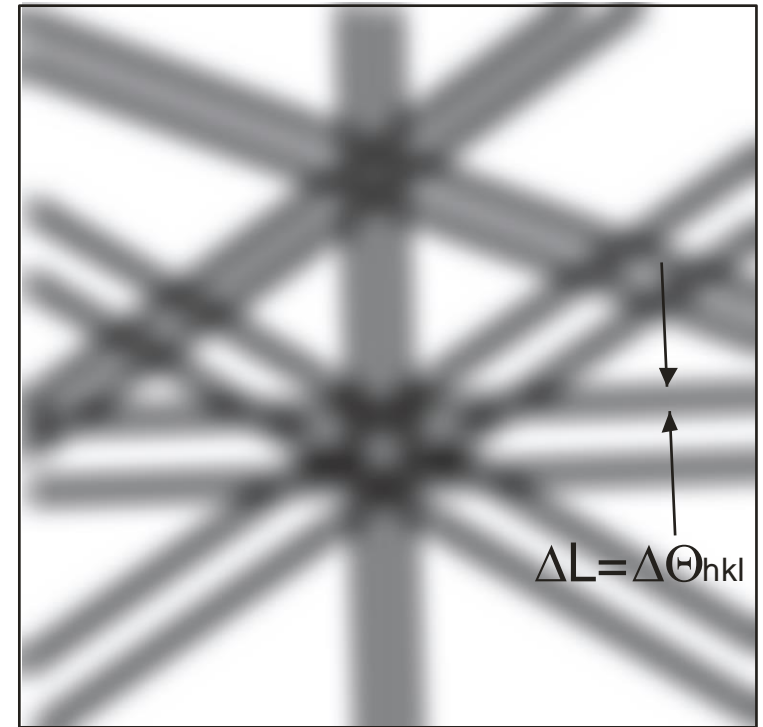
$$\sigma_{ij}^{III}(r) = \sigma_{ij}(r) - \sigma_{ij}^g$$



The broadening of original sharpness of diffraction line connected with the local strain (stress) associated with the local increasing of lattice defects concentration)

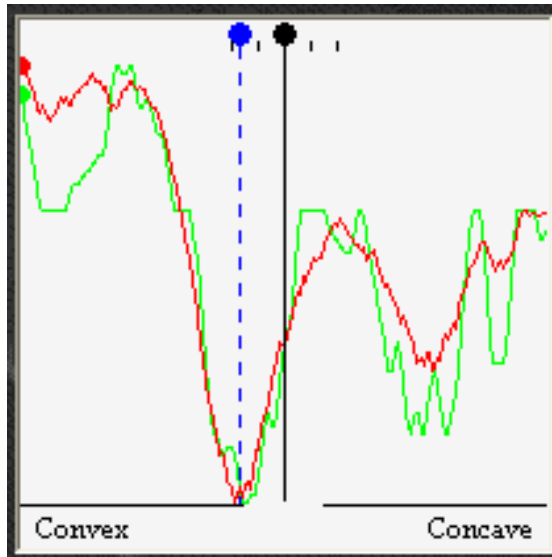


Third order stresses

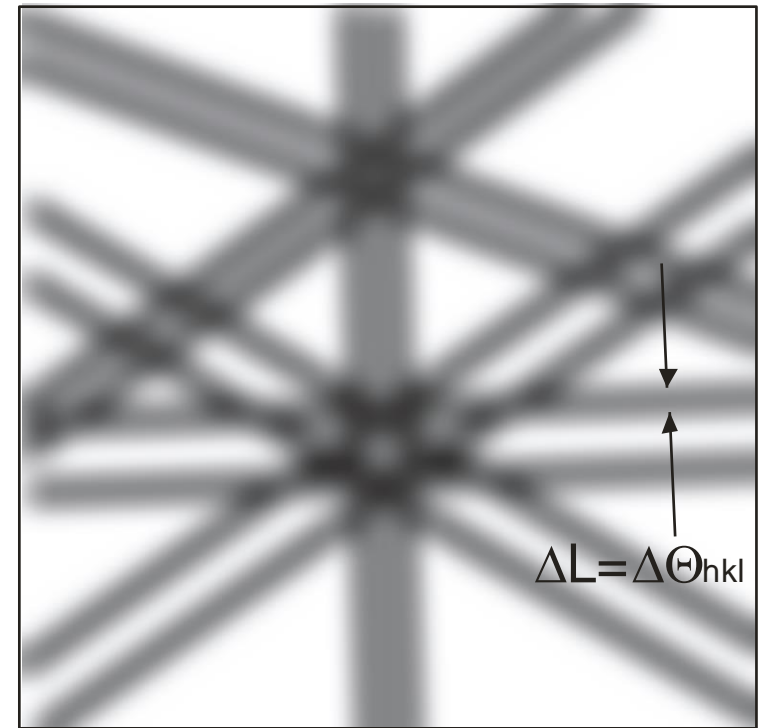


The originally sharp line edge associated with a single d-spacing broadens as numerous spacings contribute to the band.

The broadening of original sharpness of diffraction line connected with the local strain (stress) associated with the local increasing of lattice defects concentration)



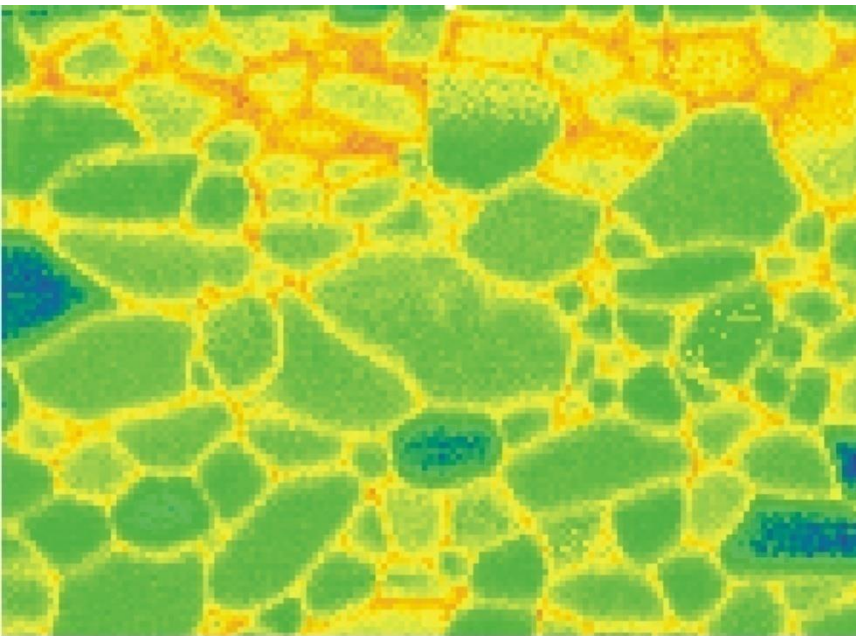
Third order stresses



The originally sharp line edge associated with a single d-spacing broadens as numerous spacings contribute to the band.

# EBSD measurements of surface local strains in alumina ceramic before shot peening (test sample).

Color scale

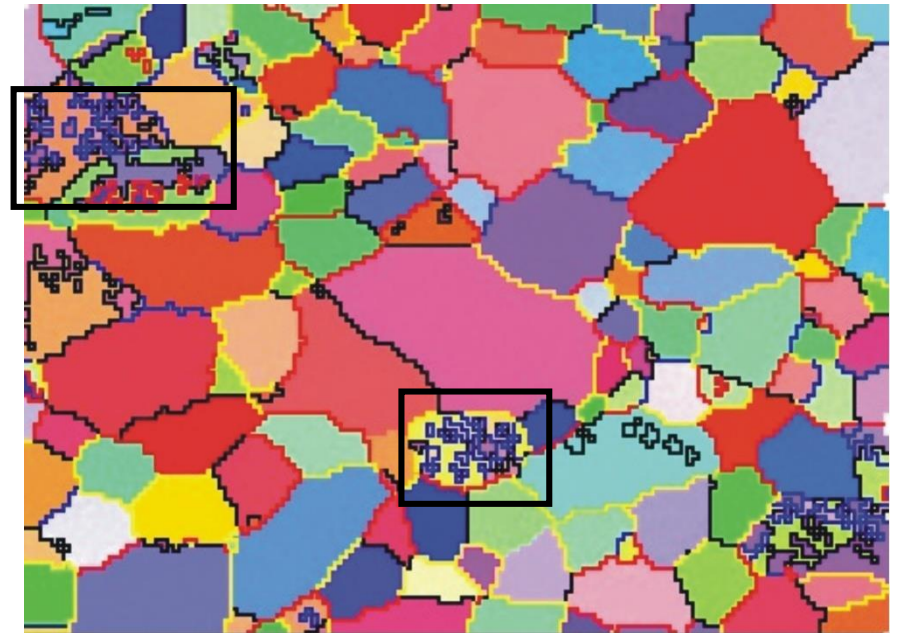


10  $\mu\text{m}$ , step=0.2  $\mu\text{m}$ , 150x110

Orientation map; grain boundaries with disorientation angle  $20 - 40^\circ \rightarrow$  blue,  $40 - 60^\circ \rightarrow$  black,  $60 - 80^\circ \rightarrow$  yellow,  $> 80^\circ \rightarrow$  red

coarse-grained ceramic

q map.



10  $\mu\text{m}$ , step=0.2  $\mu\text{m}$ , 150x110

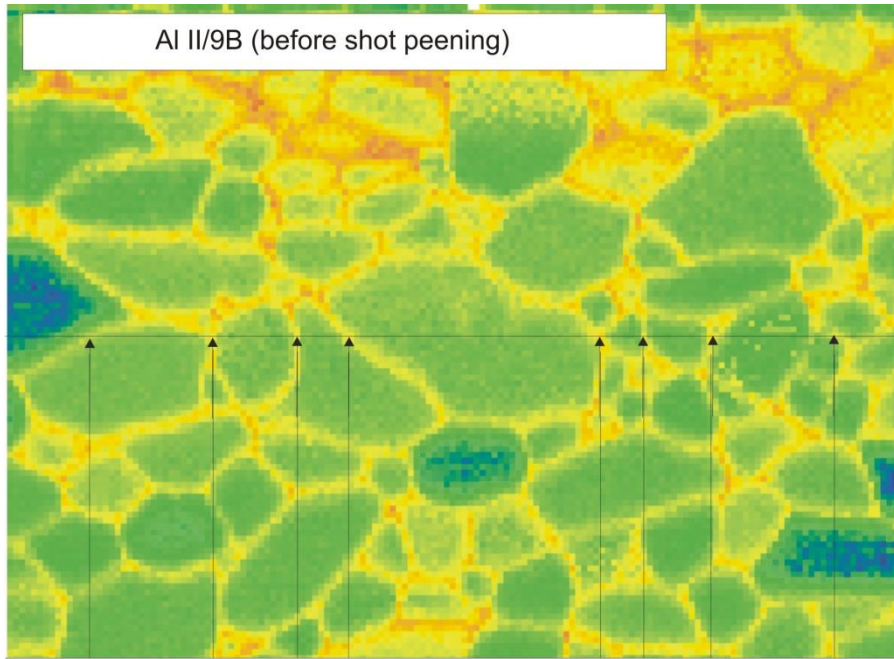


Al II/9B (before shot peening)

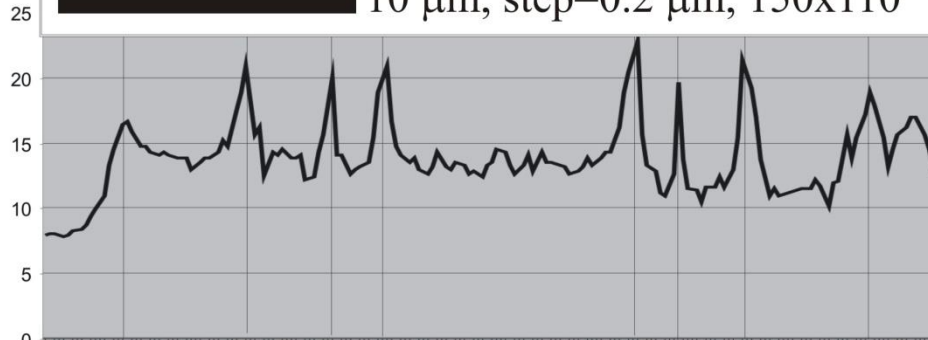
# EBSD measurements of surface local strains in $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ ceramic before shot peening

A

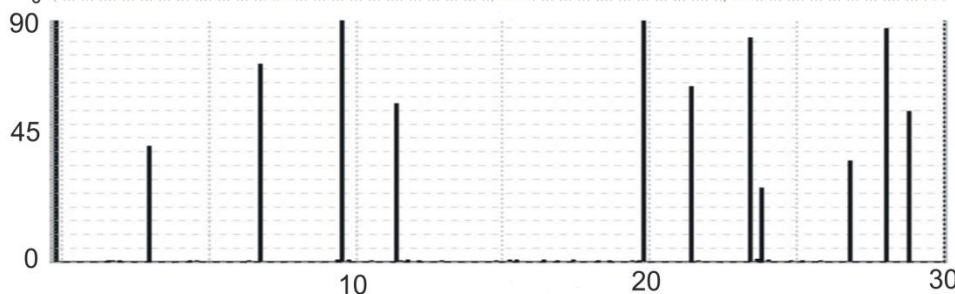
*Map of Quality index (q)*



10  $\mu\text{m}$ , step=0.2  $\mu\text{m}$ , 150x110



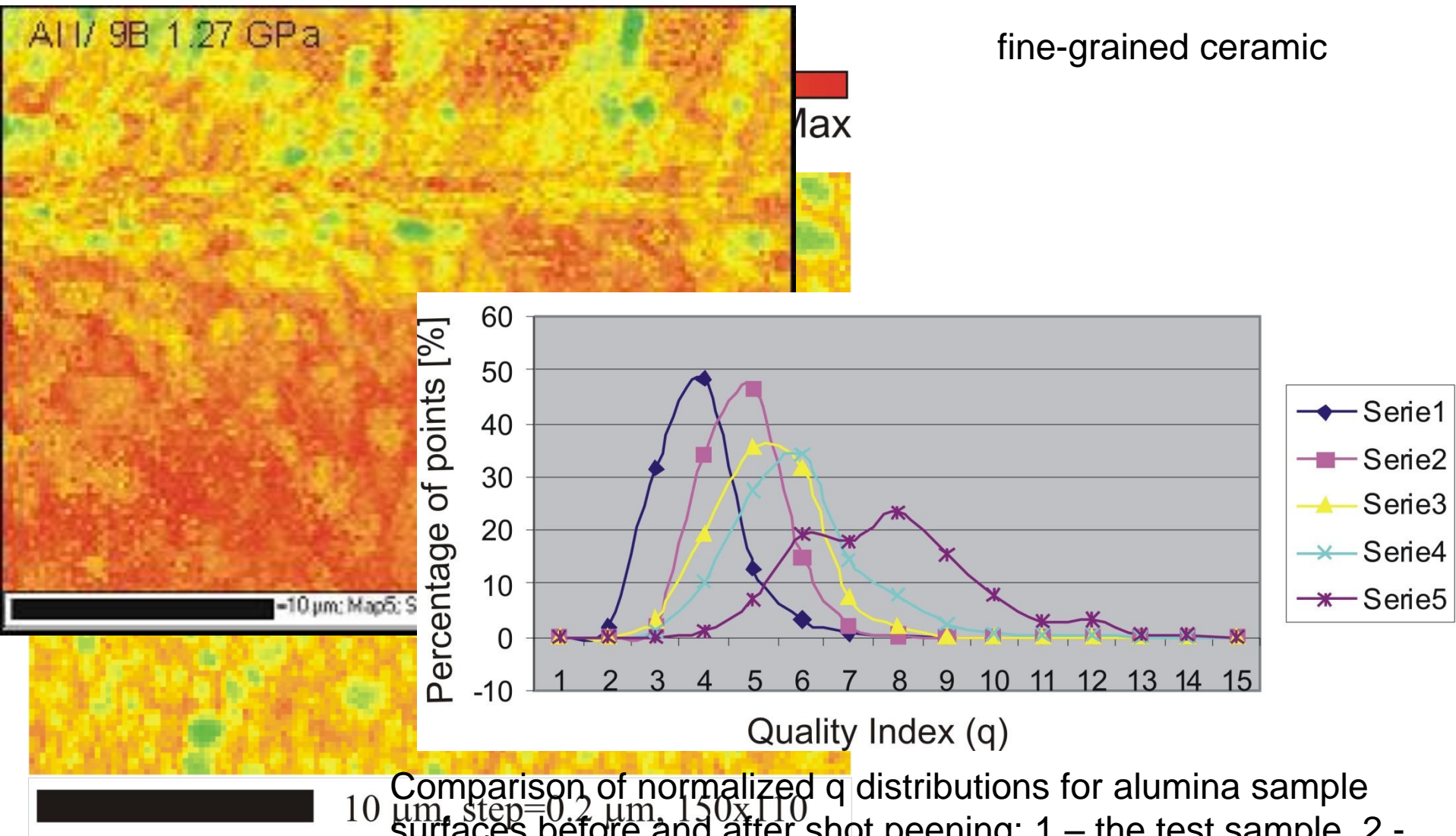
*Changes of Quality index (q) along the A-A line*



*Changes of misorientation angle along the A-A line*



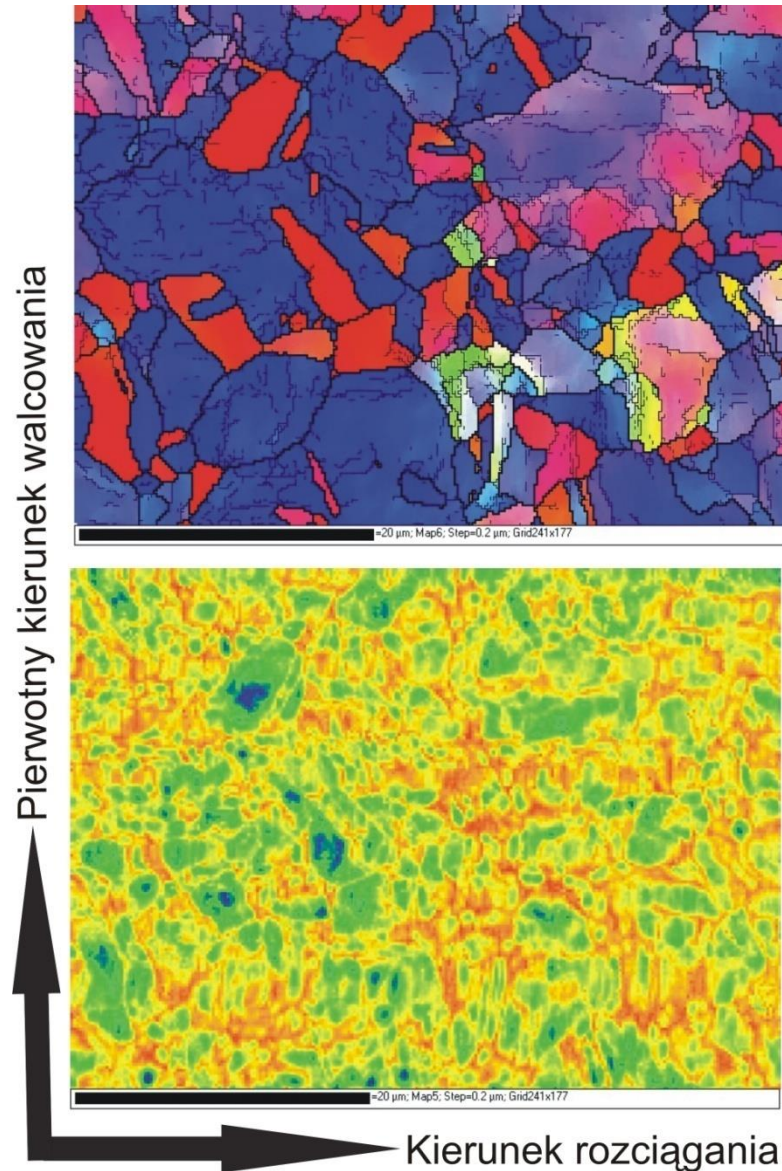
# EBSD measurements of surface local strains in alumina ceramic after shot peening



Comparison of normalized q distributions for alumina sample surfaces before and after shot peening: 1 – the test sample, 2 - (first order stresses  $\sim 0.35$  GPa), 3 - (first order stresses  $\sim 0.083$  GPa), 4 and 5 - (first order stresses 1.27 GPa).

# EBSD measurements of local strains in copper after cold rolling, recrystallization and tension.

Color scale

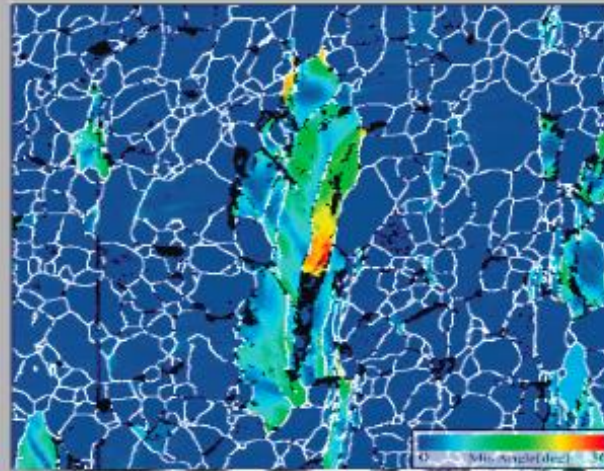


# Conclusions

- ❑ **Microstructure refers to the assemblage of grains and other constituents such as pores and precipitates.**
- ❑ COM is a technique which allows crystal orientations to be measured.
- ❑ Maps of crystal orientation can be collected using SEM/COM and TEM/COM. They remove any ambiguity regarding the recognition of grains and grain boundaries in the sample.
- ❑ The grains in polycrystalline material are usually not randomly oriented, and crystallographic texturing can confer special properties on materials.
- ❑ COM is as an important technique for texture analysis because it allows the relation between texture and microstructure to be studied.
- ❑ Grain boundaries are the interfaces between grains. Boundaries formed between grains with particular orientation relationships to one another can have desirable properties.
- ❑ COM can characterise these boundaries and measure the distribution of various boundary types in a sample.
- ❑ **COM is a technique for microstructural analysis.**



**Krzysztof Sztwiertnia**



**Orientacja krystalograficzna  
w badaniach mikrostruktury  
materiałów**



**Polska Akademia Nauk  
Instytut Metalurgii i Inżynierii Materiałowej  
Kraków 2009**