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# **New generation ferritic and duplex stainless steels: Preliminary study on mechanical and in- service properties of welded joints**

**Mika Sirén, VTT  
Nordic Welding Conference  
Oslo 4 to 5 October, 2012**

# Presentation outline

1. Introduction
2. Base materials
3. Welding
4. Corrosion behaviour
5. Mechanical behaviour
6. Microstructural characterisation
7. Summary
8. Acknowledgements

# 1. Introduction

- Project background:
  - Lo-Ni stainless demand grows in pulp&paper and process industries
  - (Lean) duplex, Mn-alloyed austenitics and ferritics: lower alloying cost
    - !! Missing: Comparable corrosion data to traditional Hi-Ni austenitics
    - !! Missing: Codes of practice for welding in demanding applications
- Objectives:
  - To study the use of new advanced stainless steels for the existing applications and explore new ones
    - Demanding process equipment service
    - Less aggressive structural applications
    - Other, non-process applications
  - Special attention to interdependencies between fabrication processes (e.g. welding) and corrosion resistance

# 1. Introduction (2)

- Scientific & technical goals:
  - Knowledge on localised corrosion and repassivation behaviour in chloride-sulphate solutions, particularly
    - Effect of concentration due to evaporation
    - Crevice corrosion phenomena and behaviour in sheet metal structures, such as metal sandwich panels
  - Understanding the interactions between weld metallurgy, structural behaviour and corrosion resistance of welded joints
    - Mn and/or Lo-Ni alloyed stainless steels
    - Mo alloyed ferritics in pulp & paper and process industry environments and/or structures operating in such environments
  - Welding procedures to ensure of corrosion & mechanical properties
    - Processes, filler metals, post-weld treatments & their combinations
    - Comparable or better corrosion resistance than traditional Cr-Ni grades
    - Fracture behaviour fundamentals of new grades in structural applications

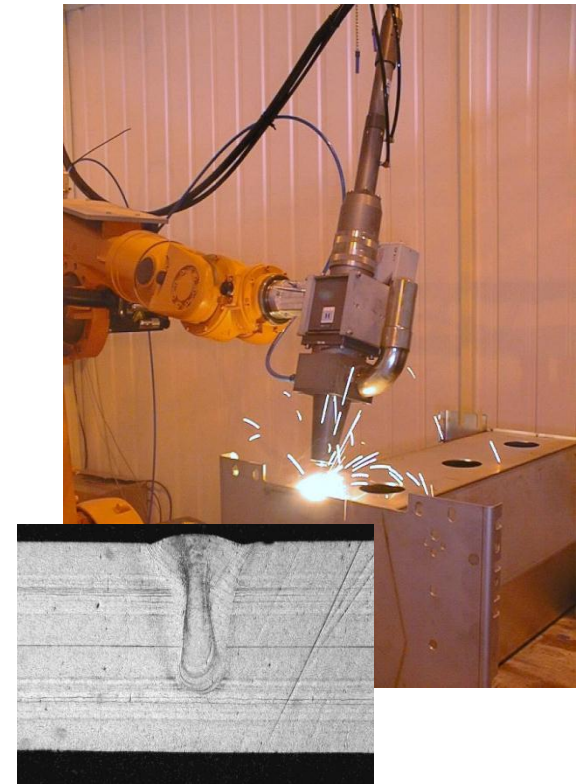
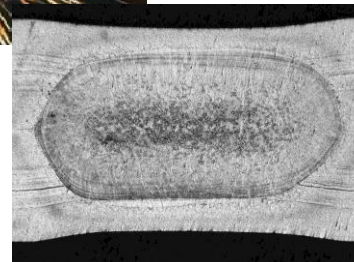
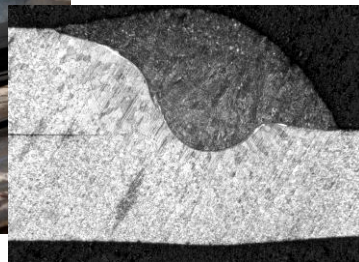
## 2. Base materials

Grade EN	Type	R <sub>p0.2</sub> (MPa)	R <sub>m</sub> (MPa)	Potential applications	Replacing
1.4318 X2CrNiN18-7 (2H)	Lo-Ni, Hi-N austenitic	591	922	Lesser corrosive applications, e.g. ambient service structures	Traditional Cr-Ni austenitics
1.4372 X12CrMnNiN17-7-5	Mn alloyed austenitic	428	754		
1.4509 X2CrTiNb18	Double stabil- ised ferritic	373	477		
1.4521 X2CrMoTi18-2	Mo alloyed, double stabilised ferr.	402	547	Paper machine environment (e.g. splash zones)	1.4404
1.4162 X2CrMnNiN21-5-1	Mn alloyed Hi- N "Lean Duplex"	568	770	Process industry: high strength & corrosion	1.4404/ 1.4432
1.4432 X2CrNiMo17-12-3	Austenitic	284	582	Established workhorse in process service	Reference

- All materials 2 mm sheet in soft 2B delivery condition except 1.4318 (2H)

# 3. Welding

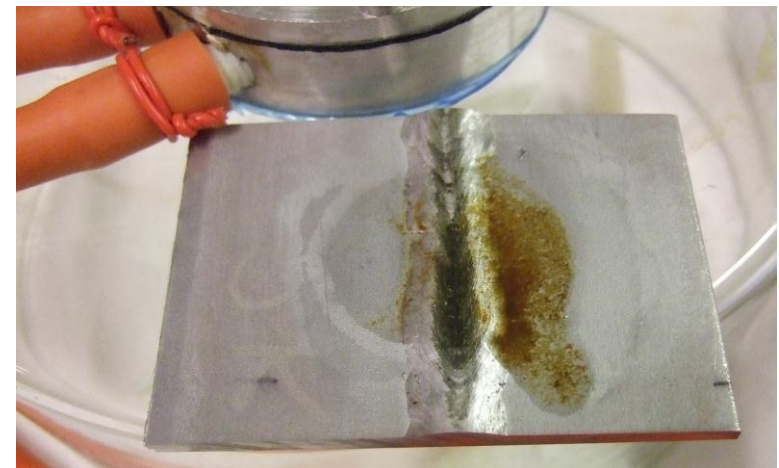
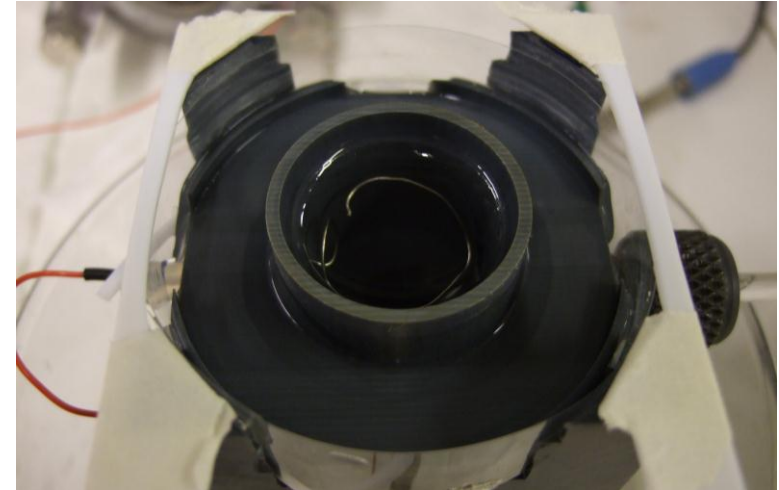
- Thin sheet feasible welding methods selected
  - Pulsed MAG welding with
    - LDX2101 filler metal for 1.4162
    - 316LSi filler metal for other BM's
  - Resistance spot welding (RSW)
  - Autogenous Nd:YAG laser welding (LBW)





## 4. Corrosion behaviour

- Critical pitting temperature tests
  - Modified standard ASTM G150-99
  - Test surface area 6.6 cm<sup>2</sup>
  - 1M NaCl solution
  - Tests started at 0 °C
  - Temperature ramp 1 °C/min
  - Constant anodic potential 645 mV vs. Ag/AgCl reference electrode
  - The CPT point:
    - When rapid current increase occurs
    - OR
    - When current density > 100 μA/cm<sup>2</sup>





## 4. Corrosion behaviour

Materials	Critical pitting temperature (CPT), °C			
	Base material	LBW circle	RSW spot	MAG fillet
1.4318	12 (1.6)	< 10 (4.0)	< 10 (3.6)	< 10 (1.6)
1.4372	< 10 (3.6)	< 10 (1.9)	< 10 (2.6)	< 10 (1.8)
1.4509	< 10 (0.9)	< 10 (1.9)	< 10 (6.3)	< 10 (1.3)
1.4521	< 10 (0.8)	14 (5.3)	15 (0.8)	< 10 (1.2)
1.4162	19 (0.9)	23 (1.0)	23 (1.3)	14 (1.9)
1.4432	15 (1.0)	15 (1.1)	17 (0.6)	16 (1.0)

- Standard deviations in the parentheses
- All materials used as 2 mm sheet in soft 2B delivery condition except 1.4318 (2H)

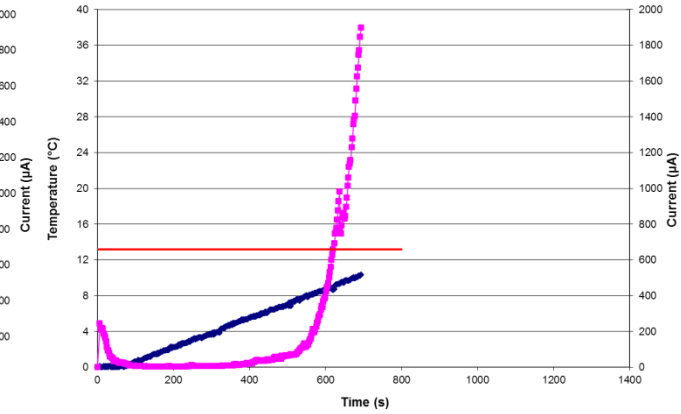
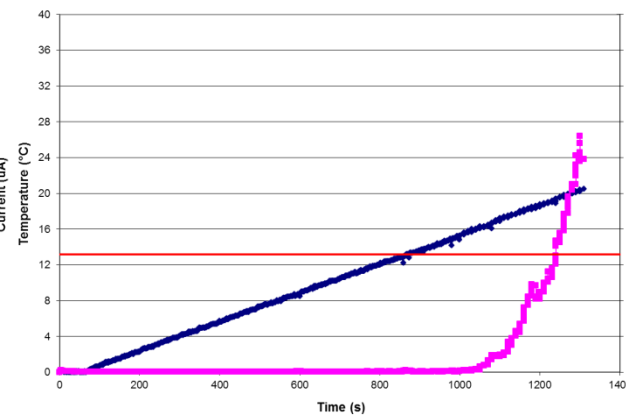
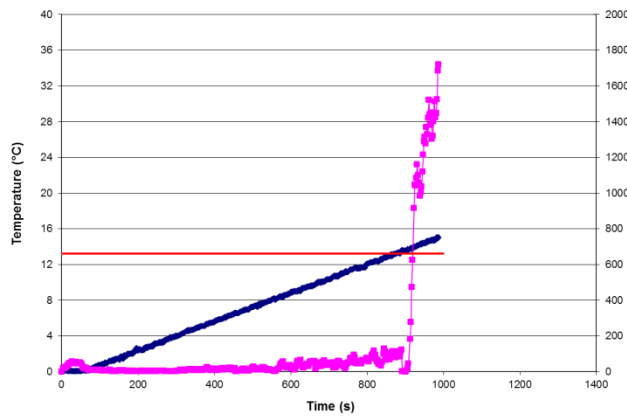
# 4. Corrosion behaviour

1.4432

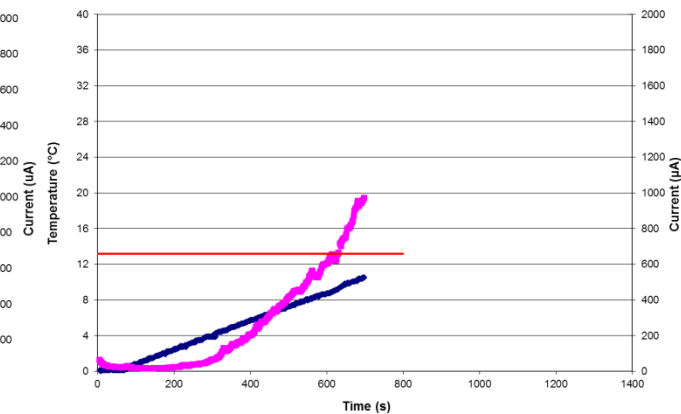
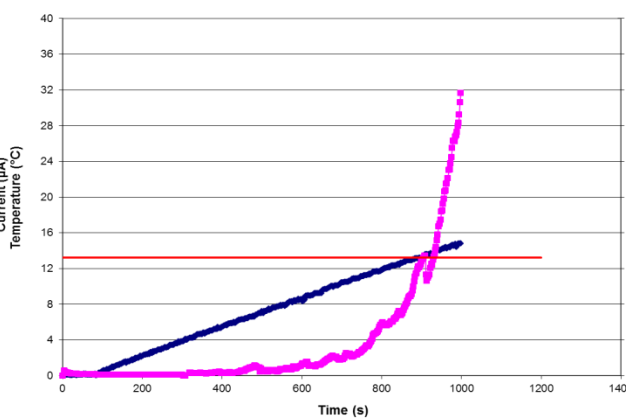
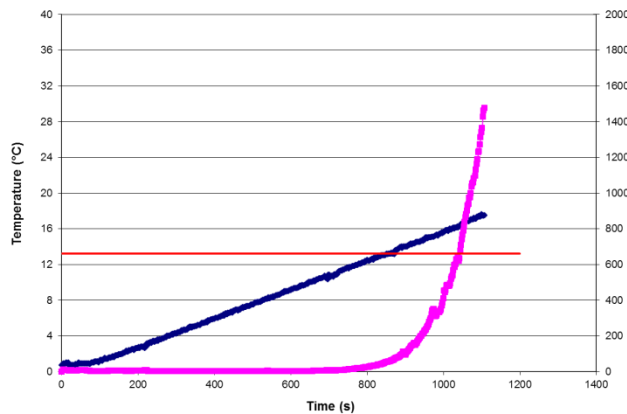
1.4162

1.4521

Base material

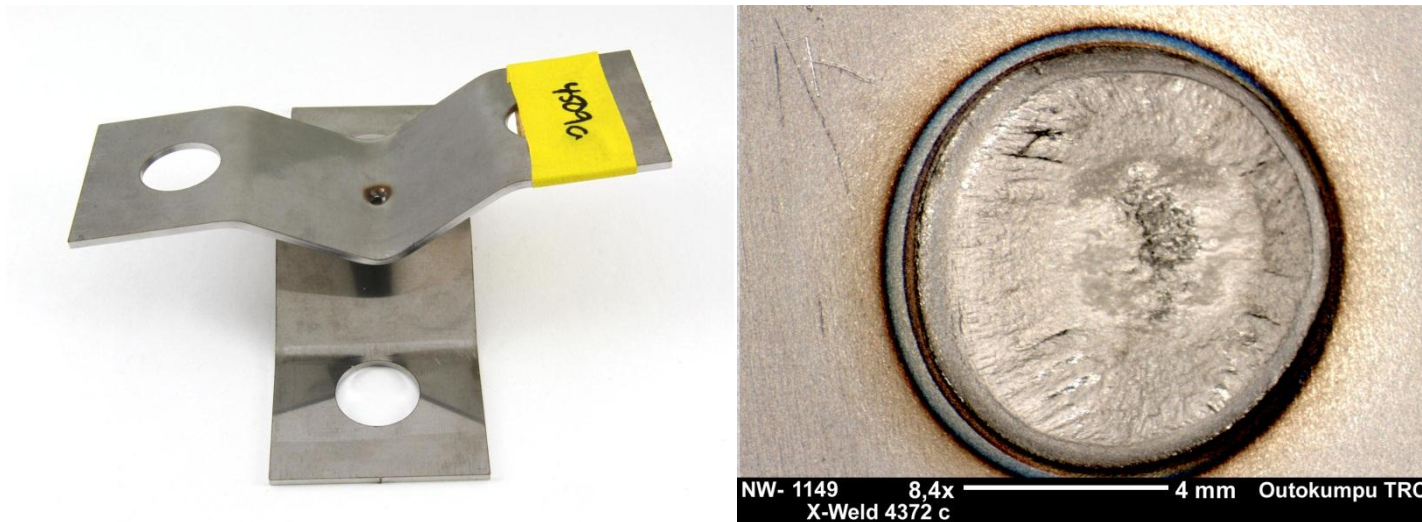


MAG weld



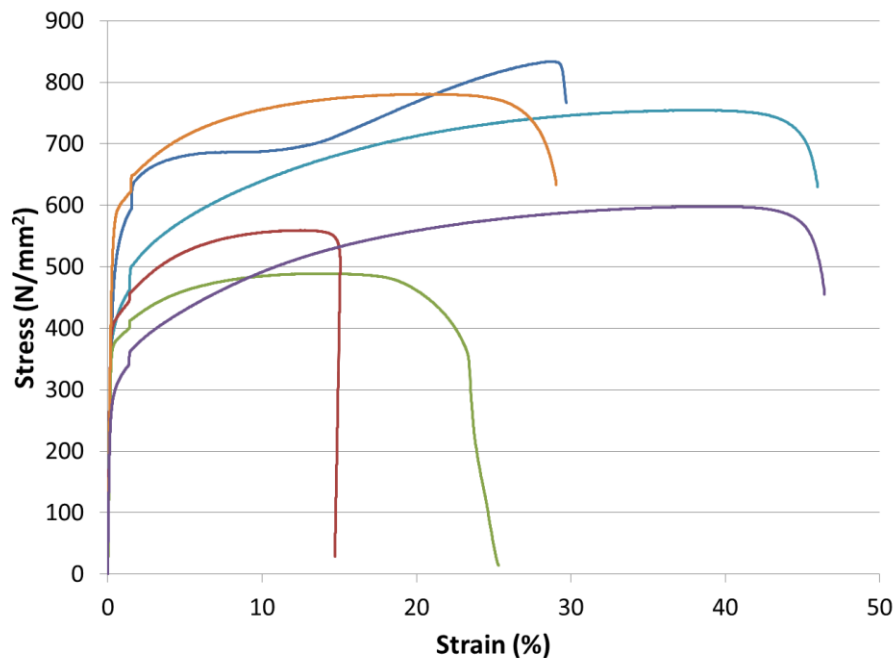
## 5. Mechanical behaviour

- Three types of mechanical testing
  - Transverse tensile testing for LBW & MAG butt joints (EN 895)
  - Cross-tension for circular LBW & RSW lap joints (EN ISO 14272)
  - Shear tensile for circular LBW & RSW lap joints (EN ISO 14273)

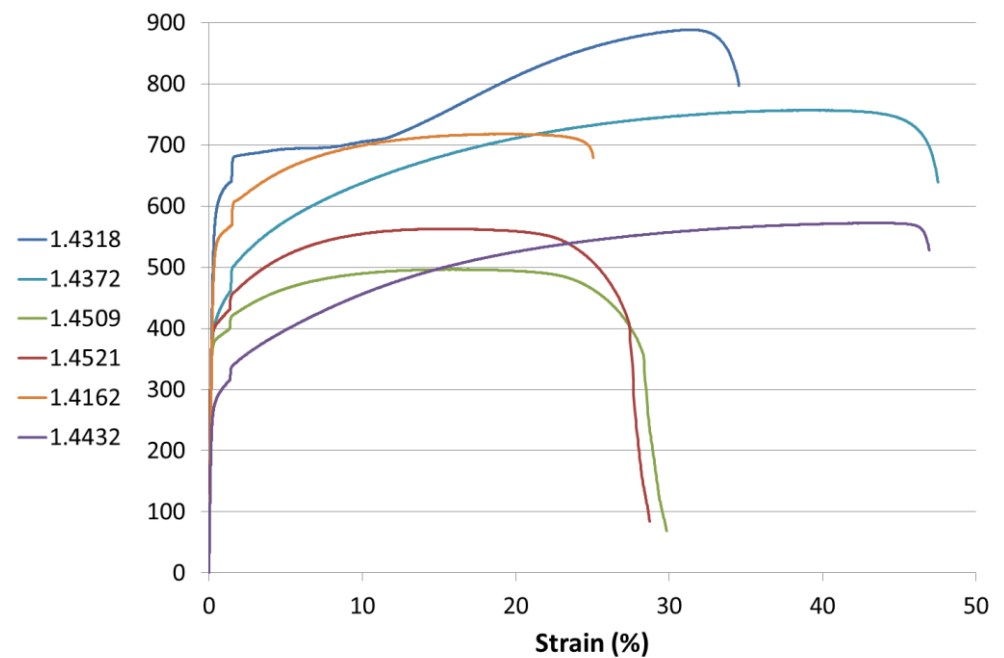


# 5. Mechanical behaviour: butt tensile

- Typical MAG butt welds
  - Filler metal 316 LSi and LDX2101 (23Cr-7Ni-N)



- Typical laser butt welds
  - Typical curves



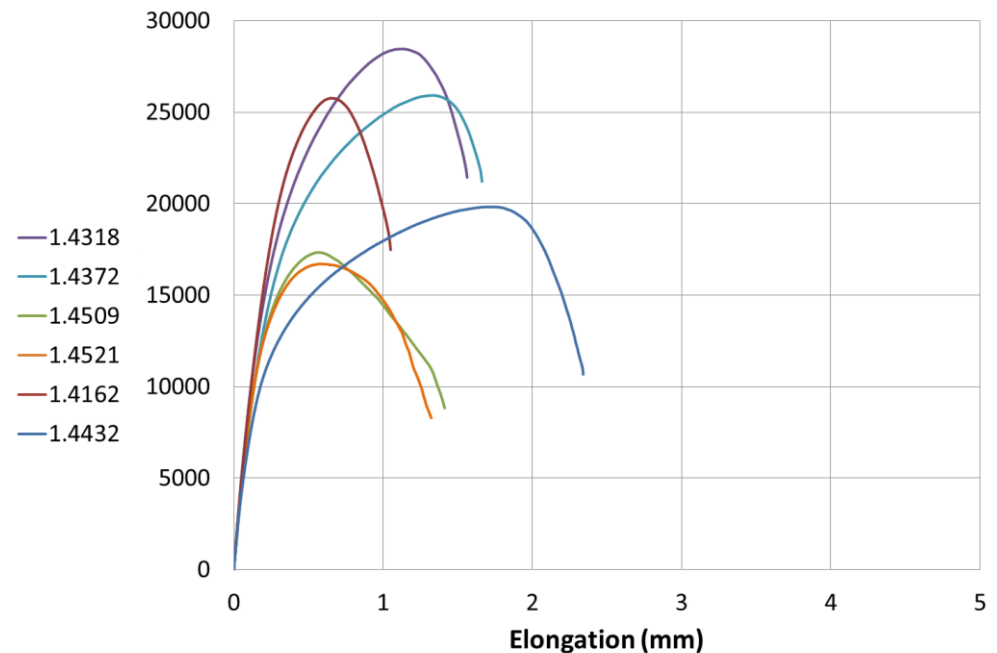
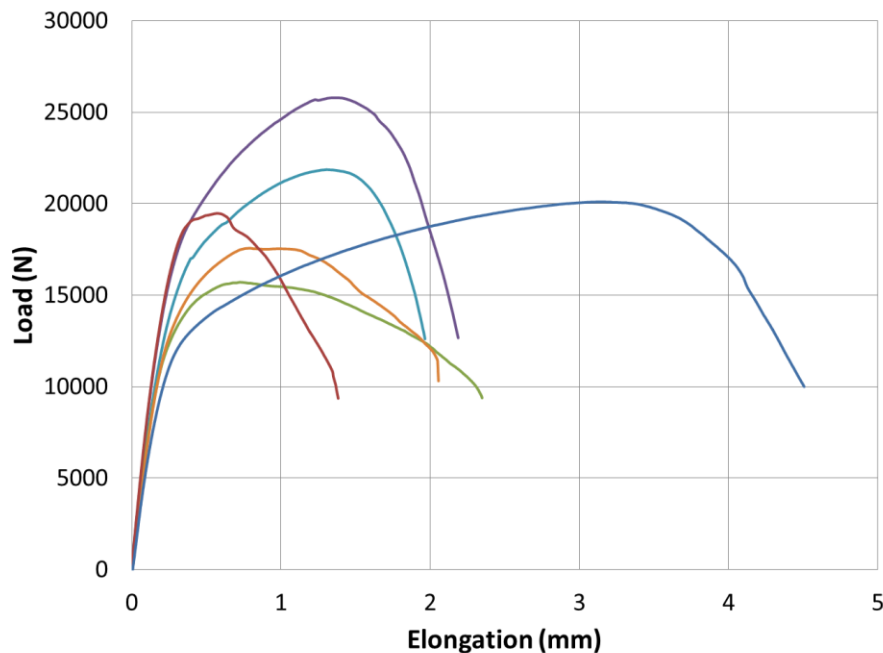
## 5. Mechanical behaviour: butt tensile

Materials		Weld	N	R <sub>p0.2</sub> (N/mm <sup>2</sup> )	R <sub>m</sub> (N/mm <sup>2</sup> )	A <sub>50</sub> (%)	Failure location
Base	Filler						
1.4318	316LSi	MAG	6	494	835	30	FL/BM
	-	LBW	4	583	892	35	HAZ
1.4372	316LSi	MAG	3	398	759	47	BM
	-	LBW	4	411	756	48	BM
1.4509	316LSi	MAG	3	374	489	25	BM
	-	LBW	4	379	496	30	BM
1.4521	316LSi	MAG	3	407	559	17	BM
	-	LBW	4	401	563	28	BM
1.4162	LDX2101	MAG	3	575	782	28	BM
	-	LBW	4	539	722	25	WM
1.4432	316LSi	MAG	3	289	598	46	BM
	-	LBW	4	282	581	51	BM/WM

- FL = fusion line; BM = base material; WM = weld metal

# 5. Mechanical behaviour: shear tensile

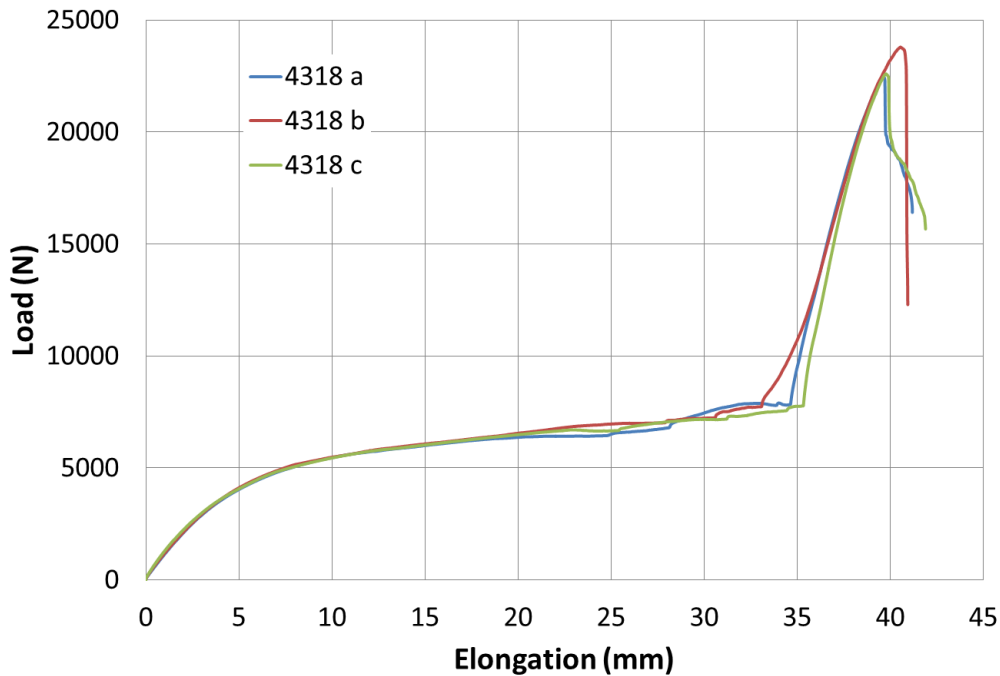
- Typical resistance spot weld
  - $\varnothing \sim 7$  mm "solid spot" weld
  - $A_{\text{weld}} \approx 38 \text{ mm}^2$
- Typical laser circle weld
  - $\varnothing 7$  (o.d.)  $\times$  5 (i.d.) circle
  - $A_{\text{weld}} \approx 18 \text{ mm}^2$



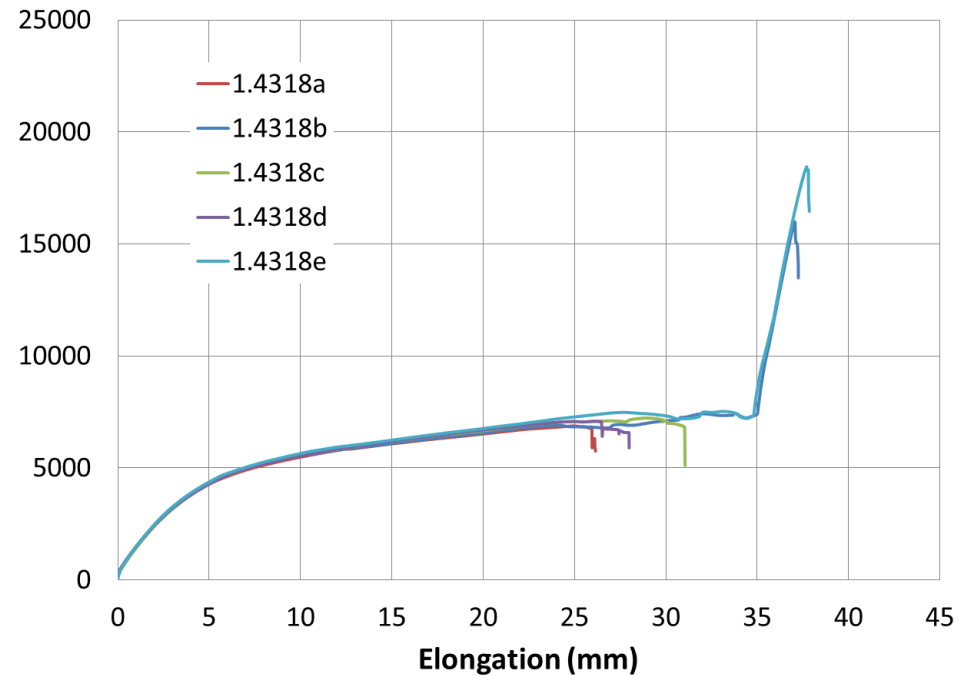


# 5. Mechanical behaviour: cross tension

## 1.4318 RSW

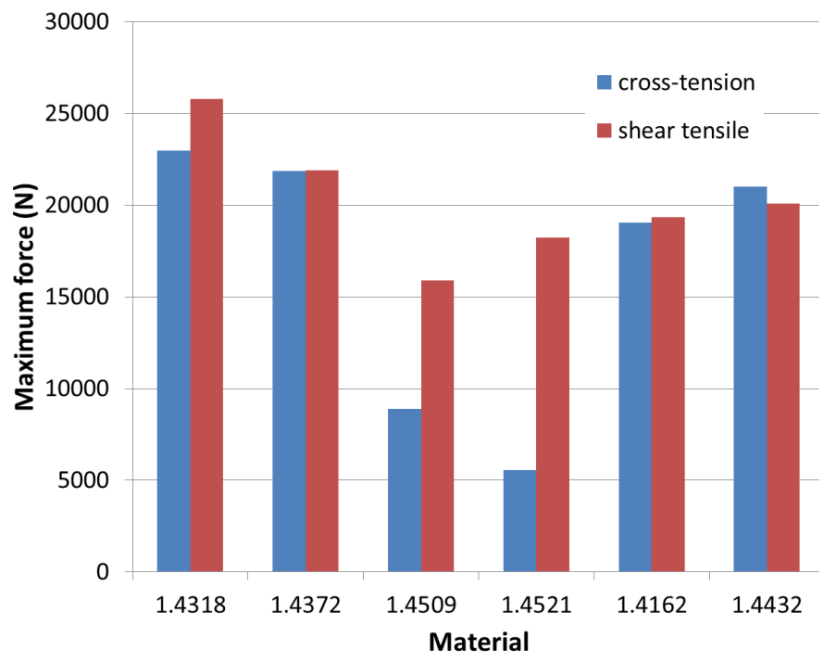


## 1.4318 LBW

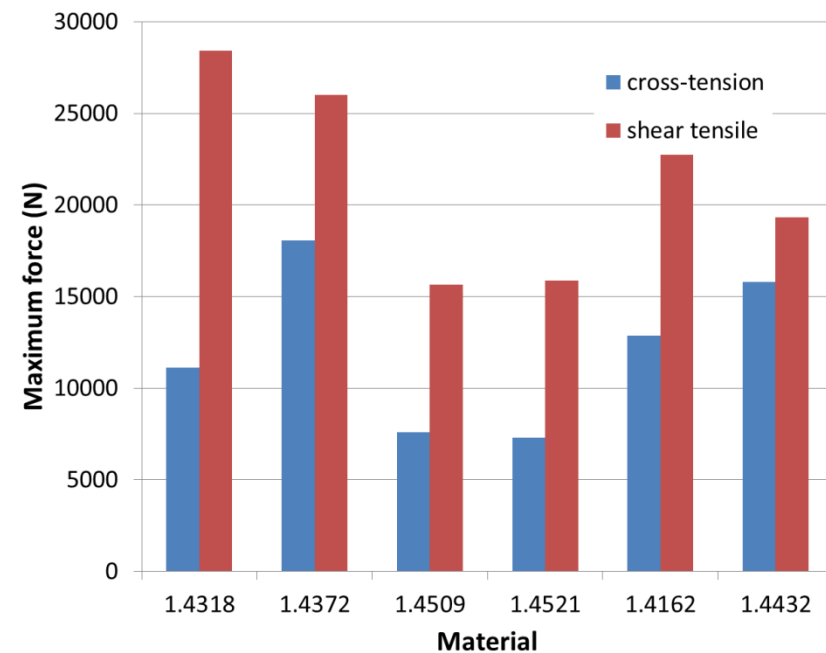


## 5. Mechanical behaviour: cross tension

- Cross-tension vs. shear tensile: RSW



- Cross-tension vs. shear tensile: circle LBW

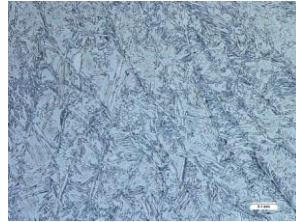


# 6. Microstructural characterisation

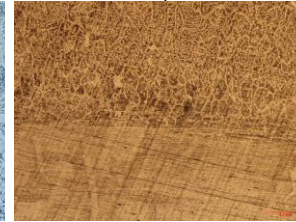
1.4162, Ring laser weld



MAG weld



Resistance spot weld



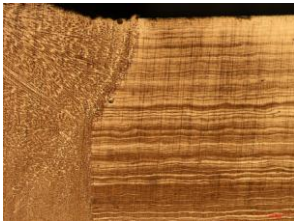
1.4162, Single straight laser weld



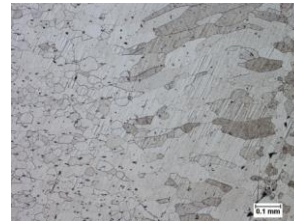
1.4318



1.4372



1.4509 Laser weld



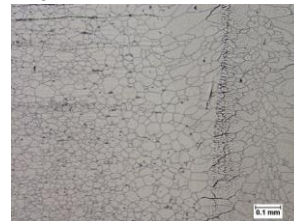
MAG weld



Resistance spot weld



1.4521

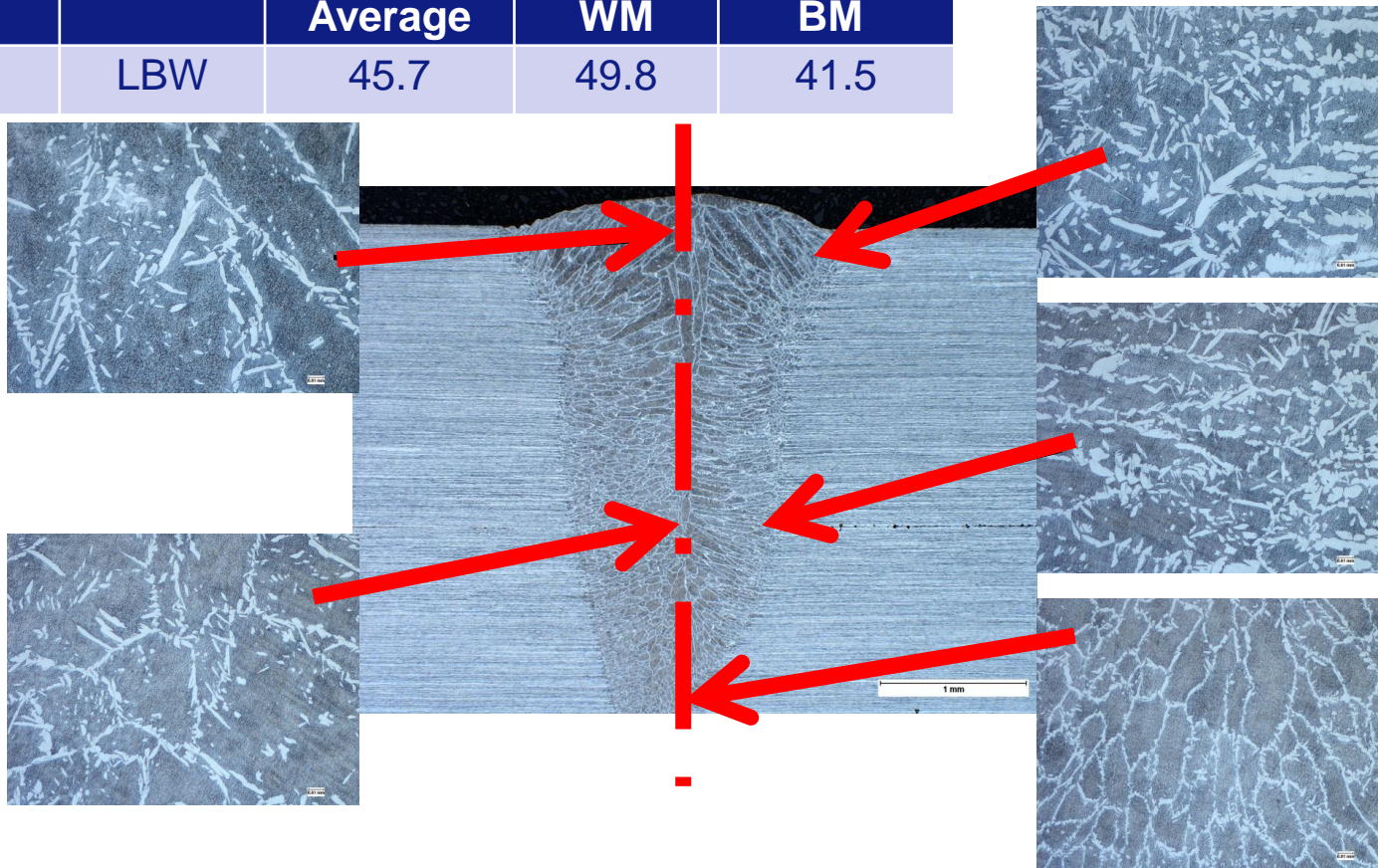




# 6. Microstructural characterisation

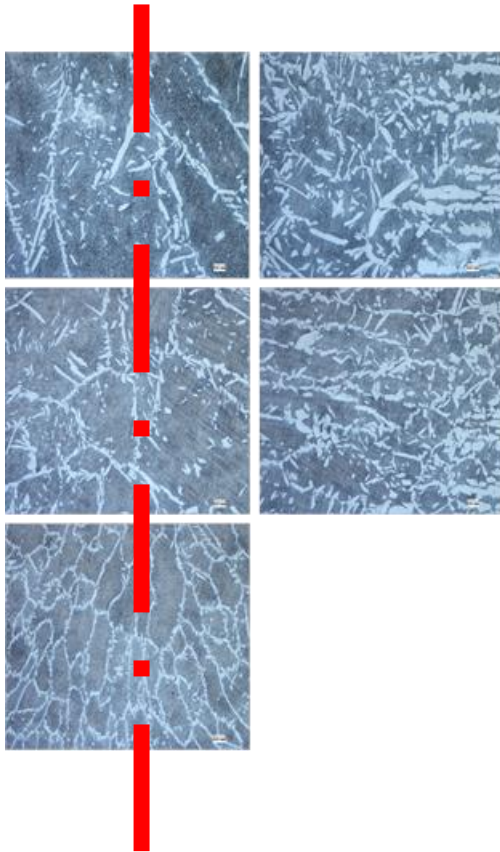
## ■ LBW 1.4162 Ferritescope results

Material	Weld	Ferrite-%		
		Average	WM	BM
1.4162	LBW	45.7	49.8	41.5

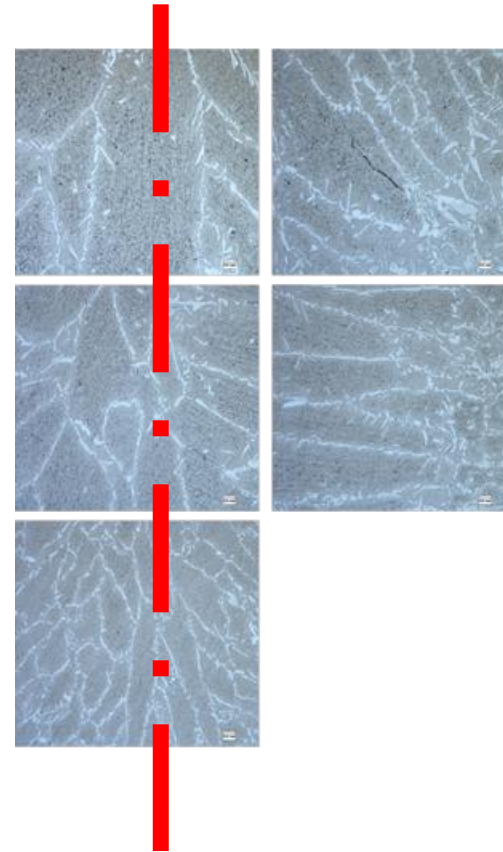


## 6. Microstructural characterisation

- Phase relation image analysis of 1.4162: ring laser weld



- Phase relation image analysis of 1.4162: line laser weld



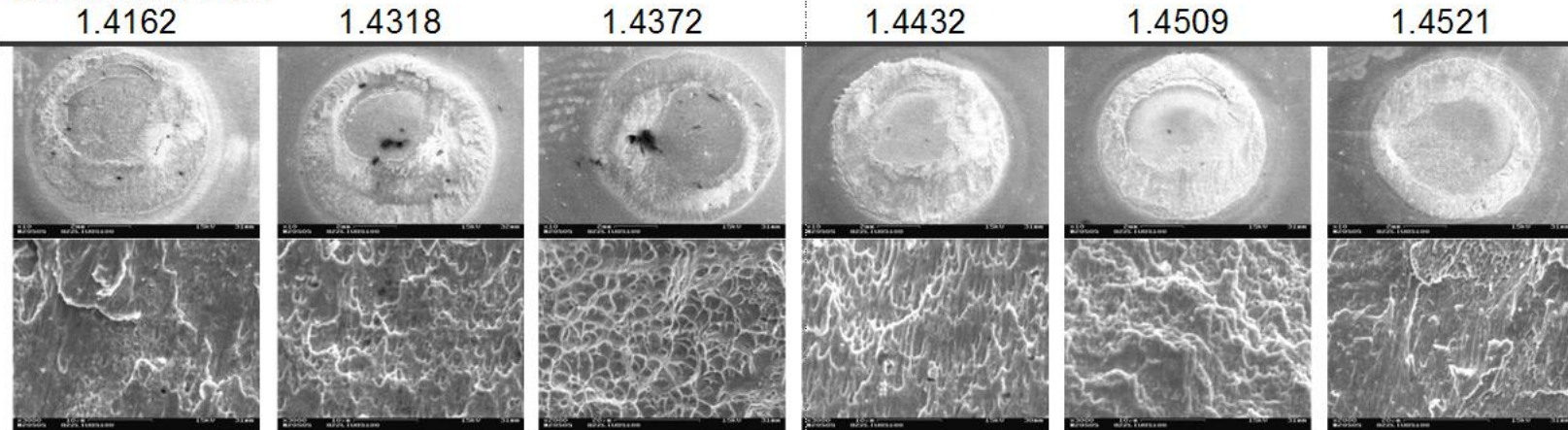
## 6. Microstructural characterisation

LBW circle lap	Location	Austenite concentration (%)	Ferrite concentration (%)
	Up, center	15.4	84.6
	Up, HAZ	34.8	65.2
	Center, center	16.7	83.3
	Center, HAZ	29.1	70.9
	Bottom, center	17.8	82.2
<b>Average</b>		<b>22.8</b>	<b>77.2</b>
LBW single line lap			
	Up,center	7.6	92.4
	Up, HAZ	16.5	83.5
	Center, center	9.9	90.1
	Center, HAZ	15.6	84.4
	Bottom, center	11.8	88.2
<b>Average</b>		<b>12.3</b>	<b>87.7</b>

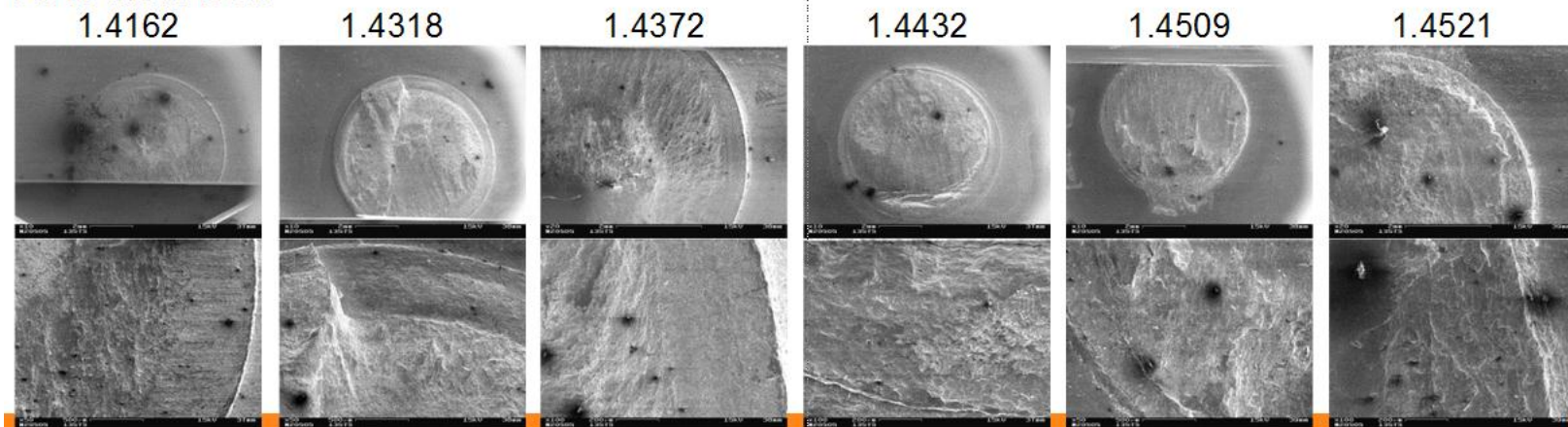


# 6. Characterisation: fractography ST

Laser shear tests



RSW shear tests



# 6. Characterisation: fractography CT

Laser cross-tension tests

1.4162

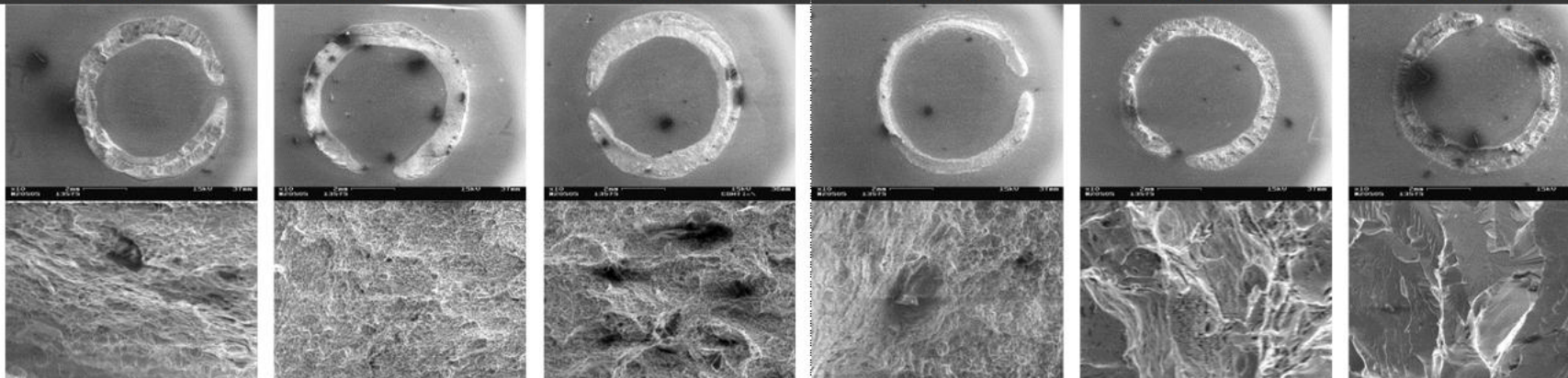
1.4318

1.4372

1.4432

1.4509

1.4521



RSW cross-tension tests

1.4162

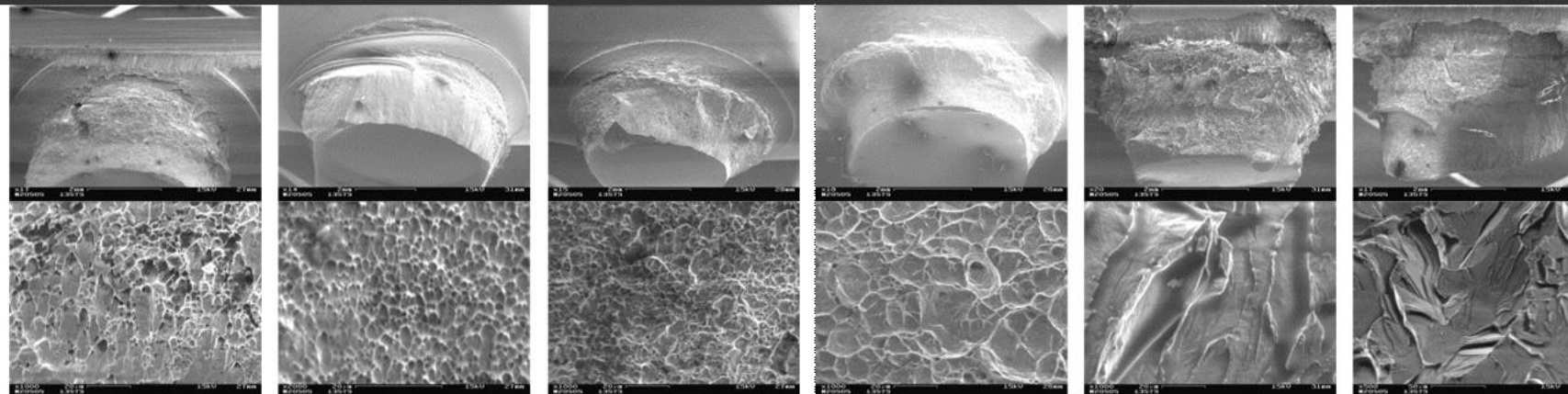
1.4318

1.4372

1.4432

1.4509

1.4521



# 7. Summary

## Corrosion properties

- Lean duplex 1.4162 showed equal or better pitting corrosion resistance than the reference 1.4432 (316L)
- Ferritic 1.4521 shows promise but also inconsistent behaviour (scatter)
- The ASTM standard test is too severe for low-Ni austenitics 1.4318 & 1.4372 and the ferritic 1.4509
  - Further experiments in milder conditions (U) for "resolution"

## Mechanical properties

- Laser butt welds showed excellent tensile properties (esp. A!)
- Circle LBW lap shear strength comparable to RSW, reduced A
- Full LBW penetration vital for cross-tension test

## 7. Summary (2)

### **Metallography and fractography**

- Microstructures were as expected and as in the literature
  - Cracks or porosity were not found
  - Penetration, orientation and weld dimensions were satisfying
- Phase relations in LBW duplex stainless steel vary significantly in different parts of welds
- It is possible to improve the austenite-to-ferrite ratio with laser welding parameter optimisation
  - Ferrite concentration depends highly on cooling rate!
- SEM fractography revealed correspondence with similar base materials even when the welding method was different



## 8. Acknowledgements

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