



**Politecnico
di Torino**

**IECME
2025
Conference**

IAM
Integrated Additive
Manufacturing@PoliTo

**The 2nd International
Electronic Conference on
Metals**

5–7 May 2025

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Development of new stainless steel via Laser powder bed fusion process

Outline

Introduction

Materials and Methods

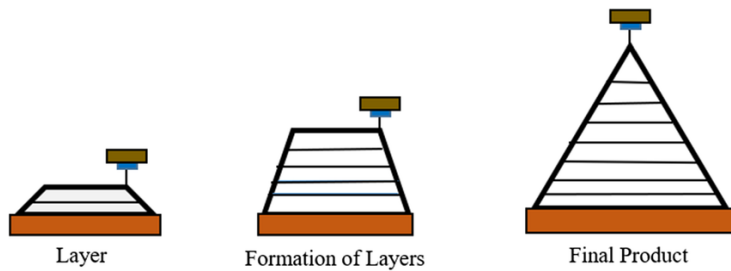
Results and Discussion

Conclusions

Thesis Outcomes

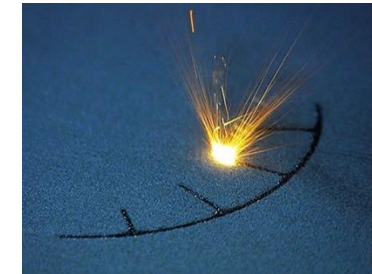
Introduction

Layer by Layer production of components by **CAD file**



Metal AM **Processes** (Powder Based)

- PBF $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \checkmark \text{ L-PBF} \\ \checkmark \text{ EB-PBF} \end{array} \right.$
- DED



**Additive
Manufacturing**

Limitations

- Poor **surface quality**
- Low **build up** rate
- Limited available **materials**



How to **overcome** these **challenges**?

Introduction

Challenges and solutions

Material development
Process Parameter Optimization

SOLUTIONS



Machine Learning

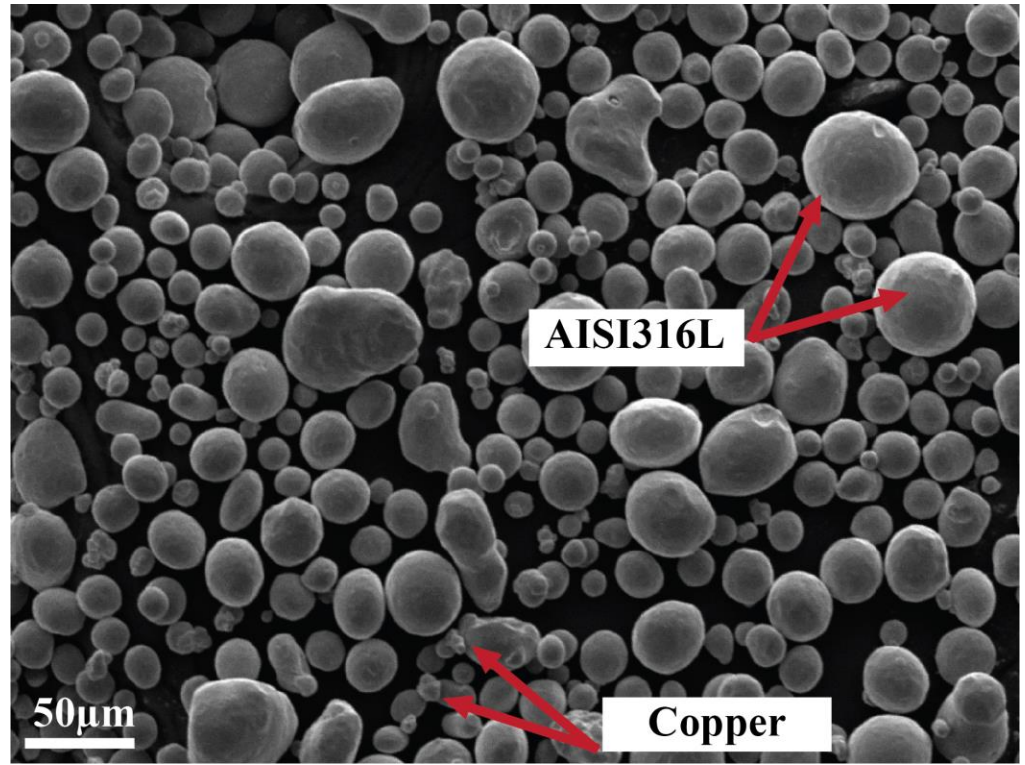
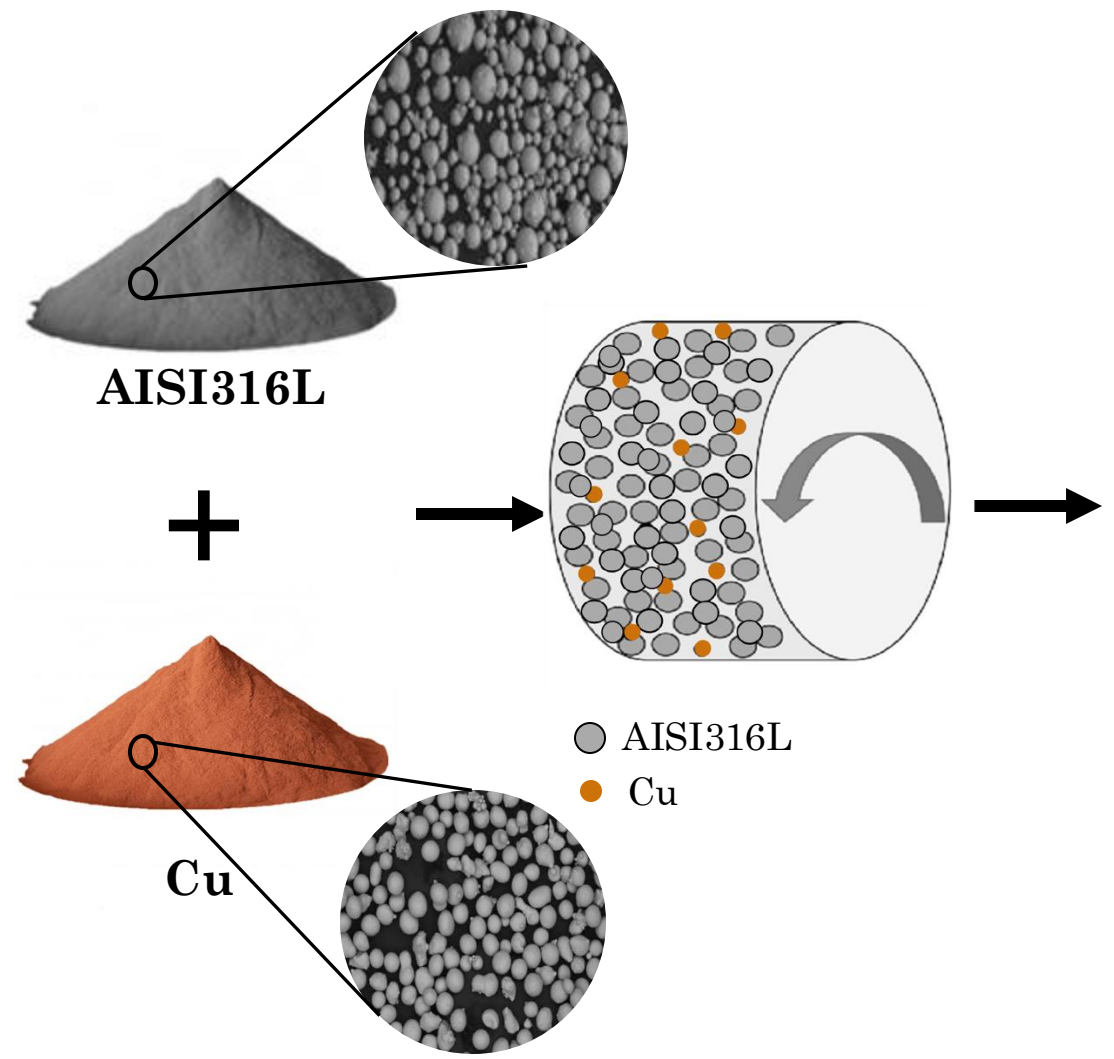
- Process parameter optimization
- In-situ monitoring
- Post process characterization



Materials and Methods



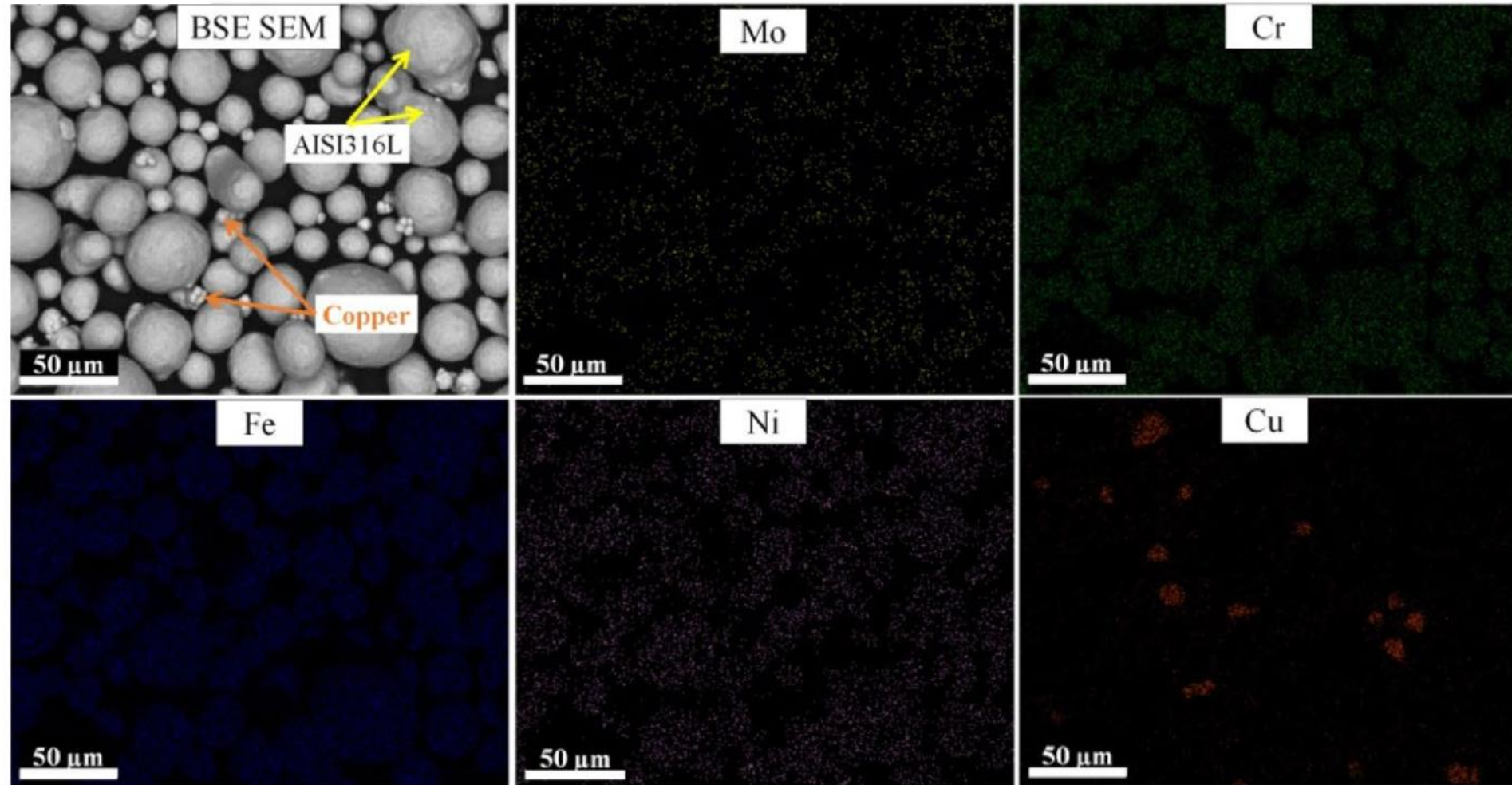
Powder Preparation: Jar milling (97.5%AISI316L+2.5%Cu)



Mostly round particles, some hollow, with satellite particles

Materials and Methods

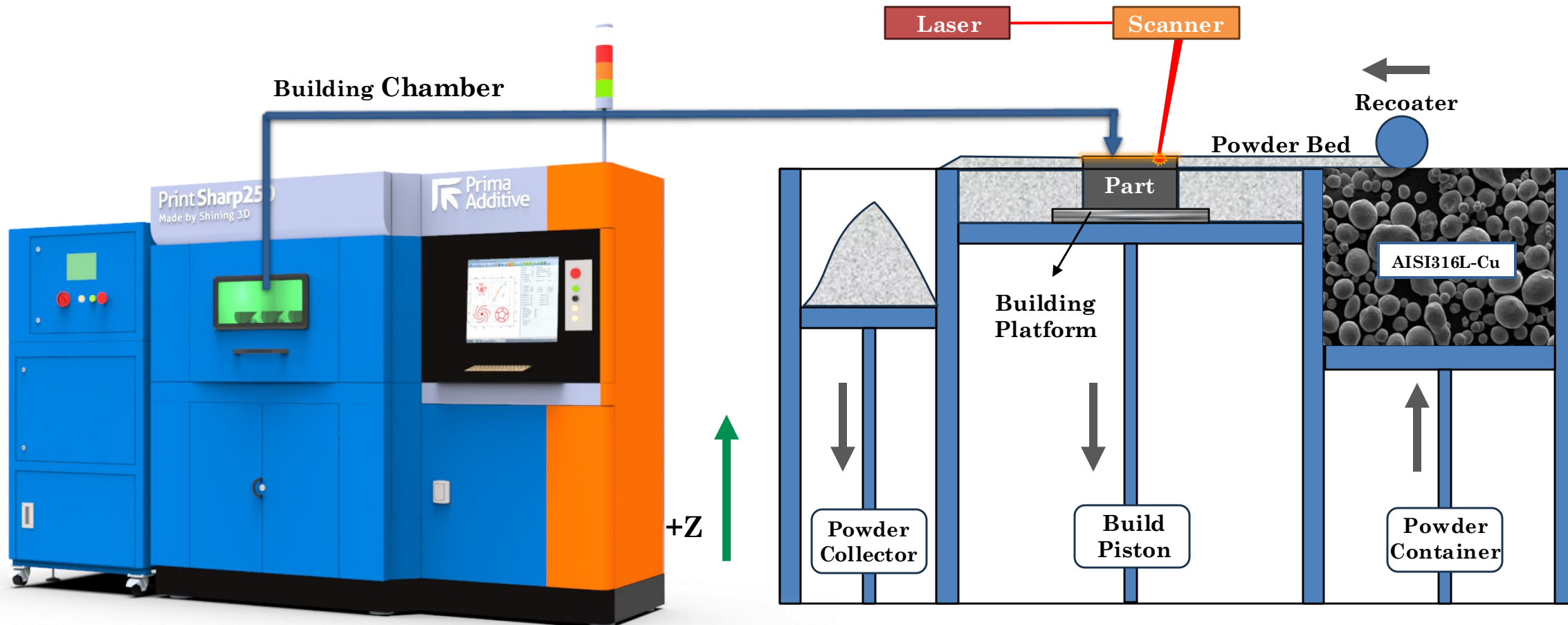
This BSE SEM image of the mixed powder is complemented by EDS elemental maps, showing the distribution of chemical elements within the material.



Materials and Methods

Laser Powder Bed fusion

Mechanism explanation: A laser beam is used to **selectively melt** fine metal **powder** and build up fully-dense parts **layer-by-layer**

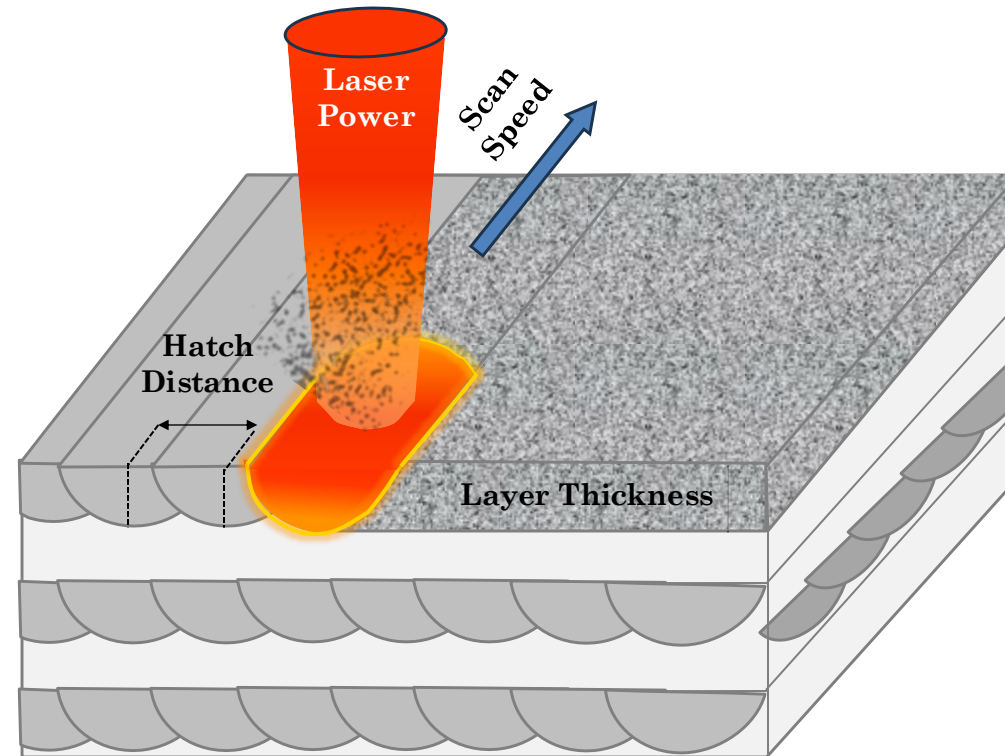


Materials and Methods

Design Of Experiments

64 different process parameters

- Power
100, 190, 200, 270, 340 W
- Scan Speed
400, 600, 800, 1000 mm/s
- Hatch Distance
0.1, 0.11, 0.12, 0.13, 0.2 mm
- Layer Thickness
0.03 mm



Materials and methods

Design Of Experiments: 64 Cubic Specimens



Powder Feedstock: AISI316L-2.5%Cu



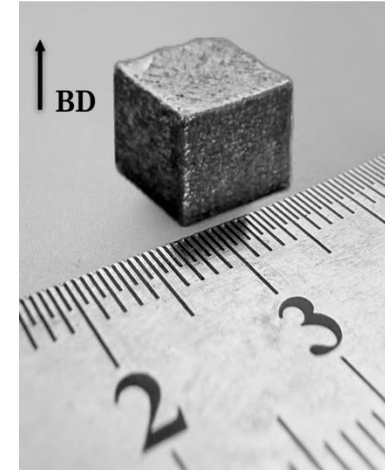
Metal AM Technology: L-PBF



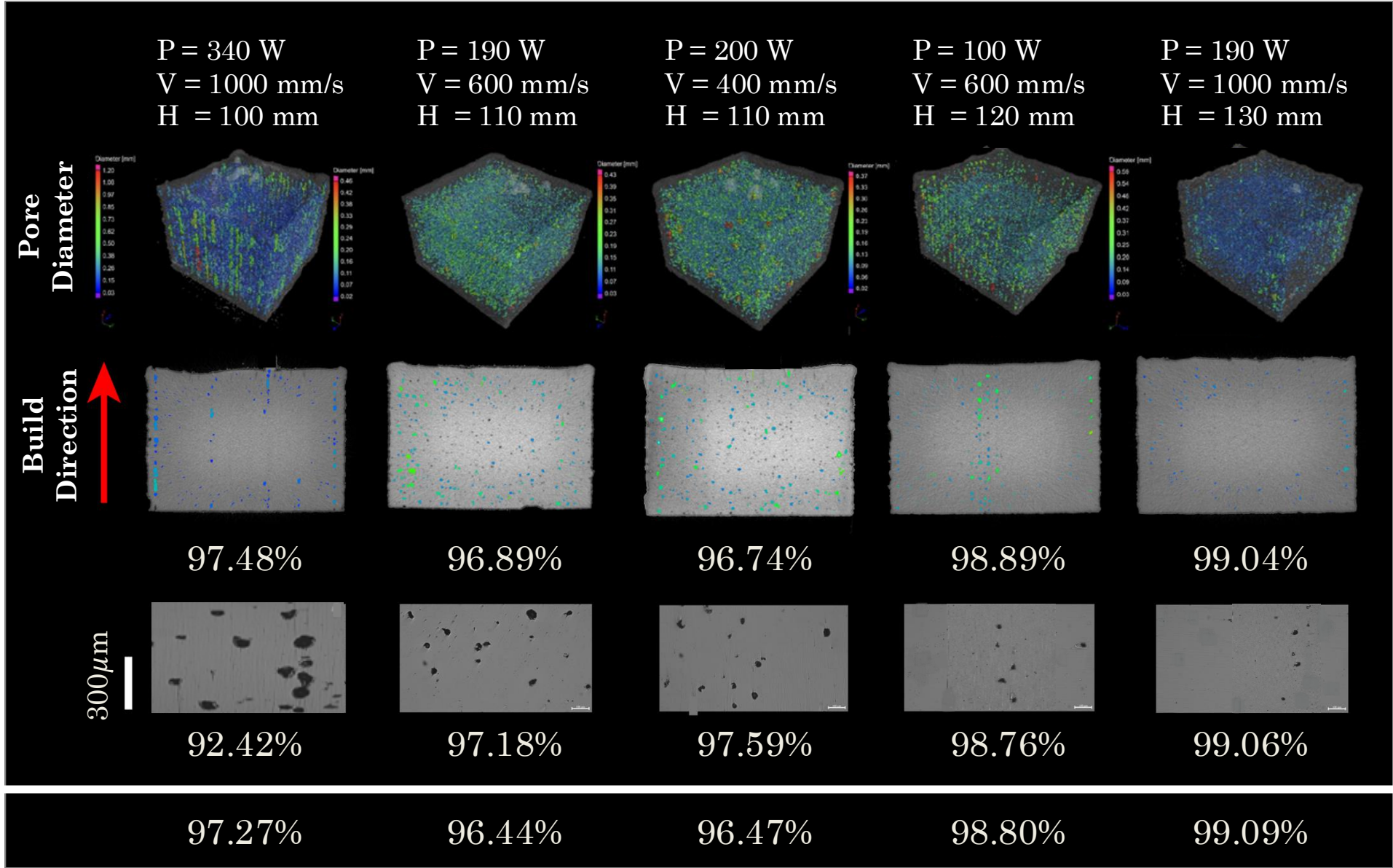
Analyzed conditions: As-Built



Characterizations: Powder characteristics, Density, X-ray Computed Tomography, Image analysis, Microstructure analysis, Mechanical properties



Result and Discussion



XCT
Method

Image
analysis
Method

Archimedes
Method

Result and Discussion

Volumetric Energy Density (VED): 33 ~ 283 J/mm³

$$VED = \frac{P}{v \cdot h \cdot t}$$

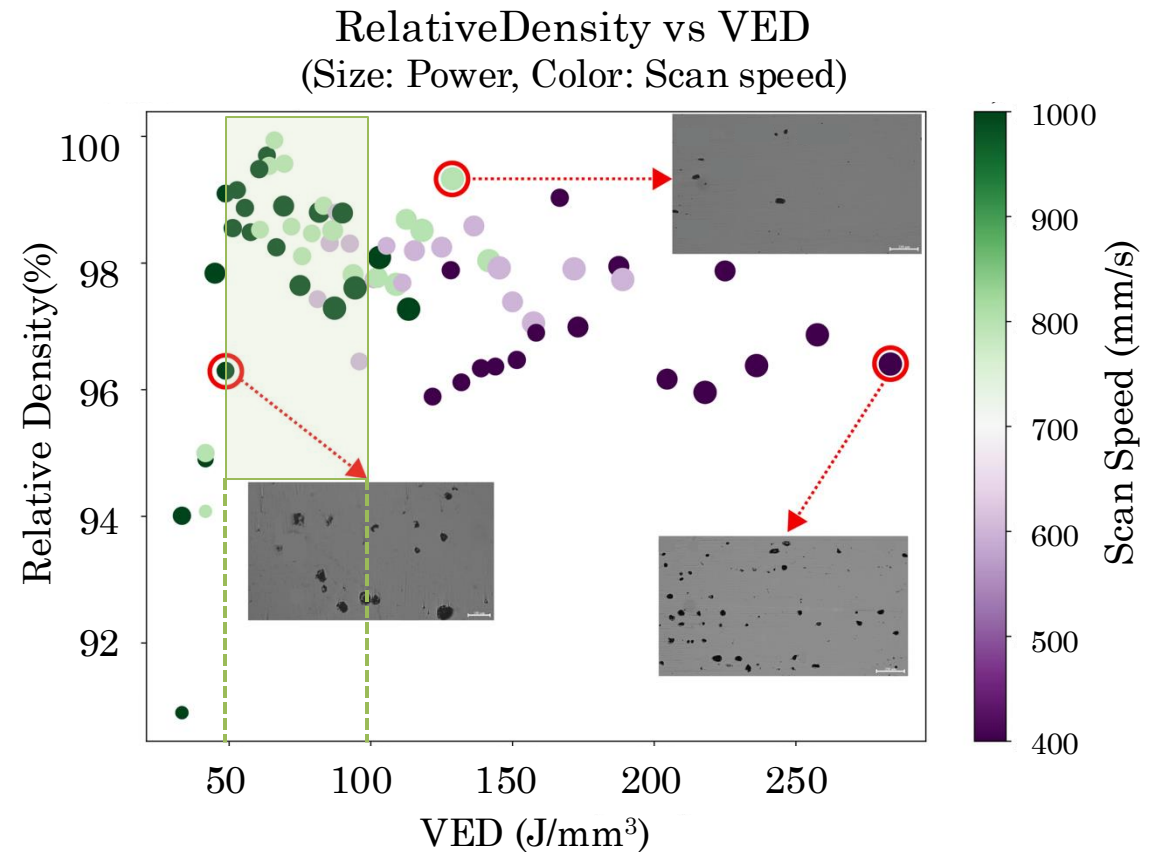
Power
Layer Thickness
Hatch Distance
Scan Speed

Max. Relative Density: 99.9

P: 190 (W), v: 800 (mm/s), h: 0.12 (mm)

Min. Relative Density: 90.9

P: 100 (W), v: 1000 (mm/s), h: 0.1 (mm)

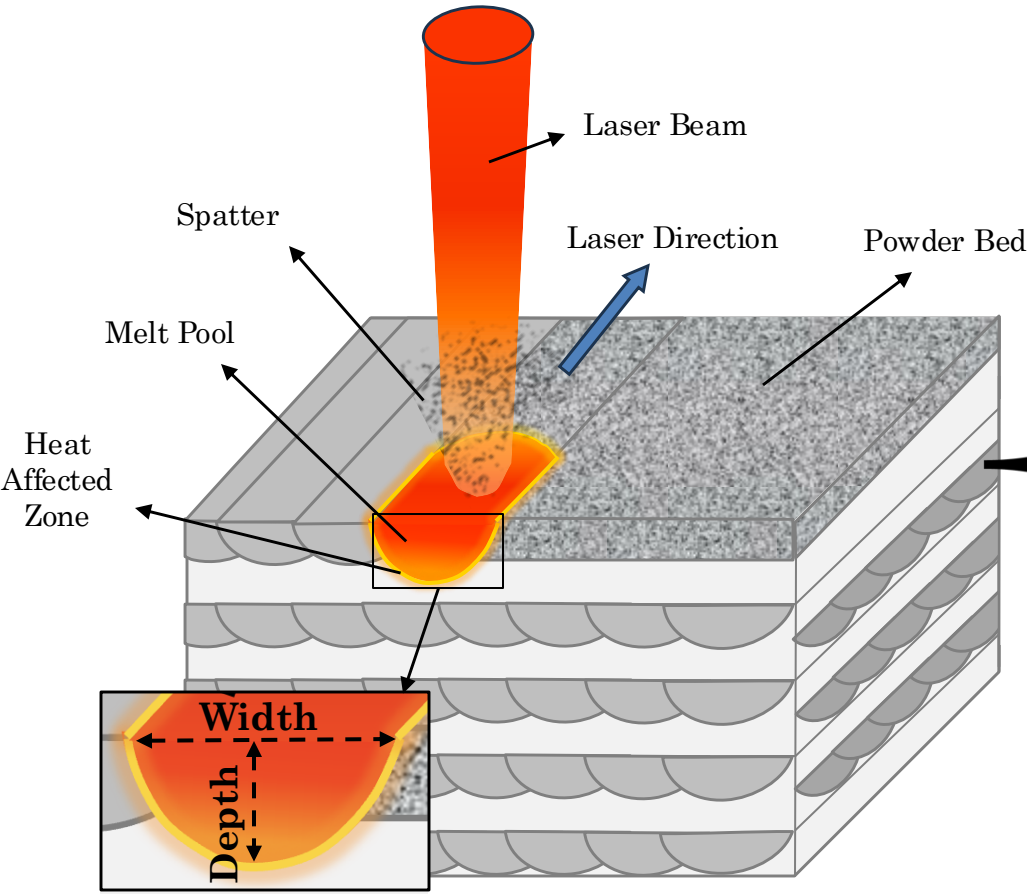


Applying Machine Learning models

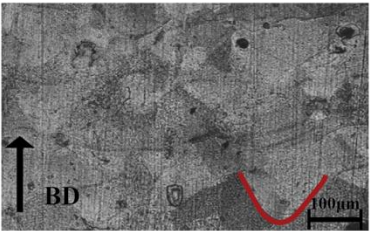


Results and Discussion

Microstructure Analysis of AISI316L-Cu



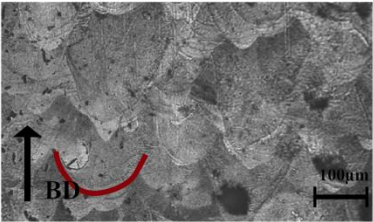
Sample 13



Melt pool width: $85 \pm 2\% \mu\text{m}$

Melt pool depth: $105 \pm 2\% \mu\text{m}$

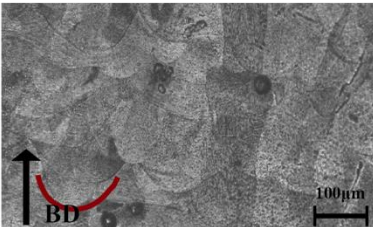
Sample 21



Melt pool width: $97 \pm 2\% \mu\text{m}$

Melt pool depth: $71 \pm 2\% \mu\text{m}$

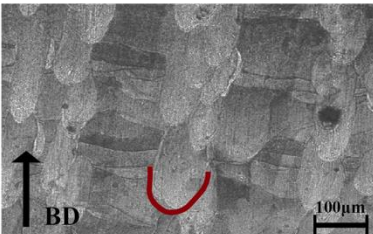
Sample 23



Melt pool width: $100 \pm 2\% \mu\text{m}$

Melt pool depth: $66 \pm 2\% \mu\text{m}$

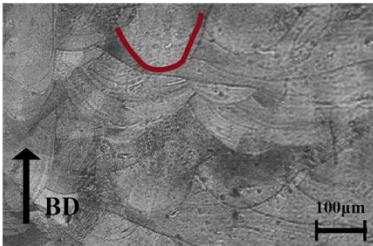
Sample 31



Melt pool width: $80 \pm 2\% \mu\text{m}$

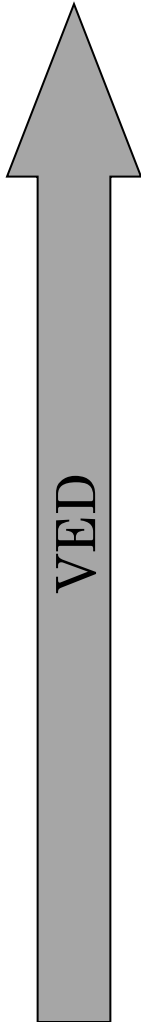
Melt pool depth: $120 \pm 2\% \mu\text{m}$

Sample 39



Melt pool width: $85 \pm 2\% \mu\text{m}$

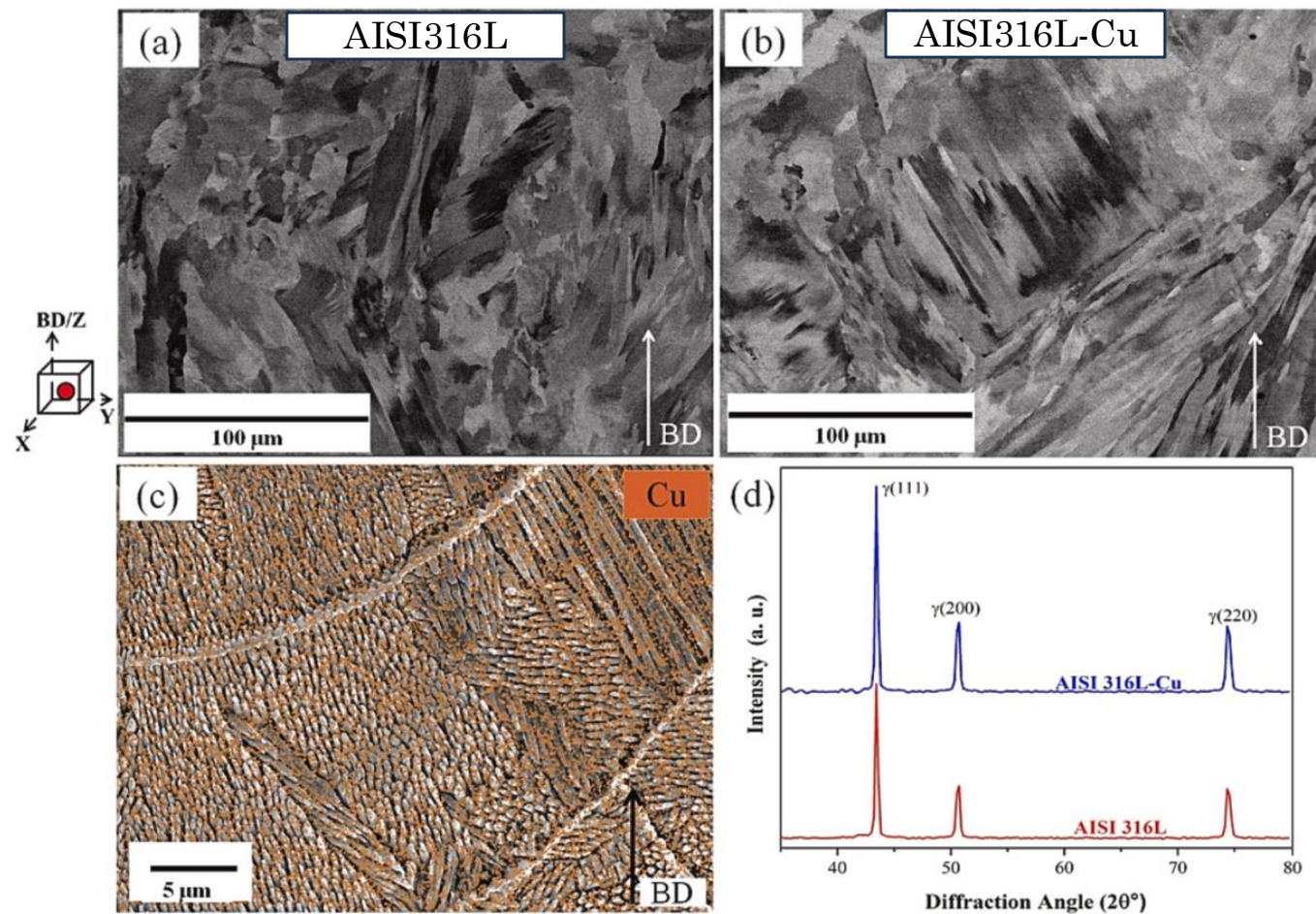
Melt pool depth: $36 \pm 2\% \mu\text{m}$



Results and Discussion

Microstructure Analysis

- Irregular grains formed due to rapid solidification in L-PBF.
- Cu fully dissolved into the austenitic phase with no segregation.
- Cu increases lattice distortion, reduces crystallite size, and boosts hardness.
- In-situ alloying with Cu improves mechanical properties.



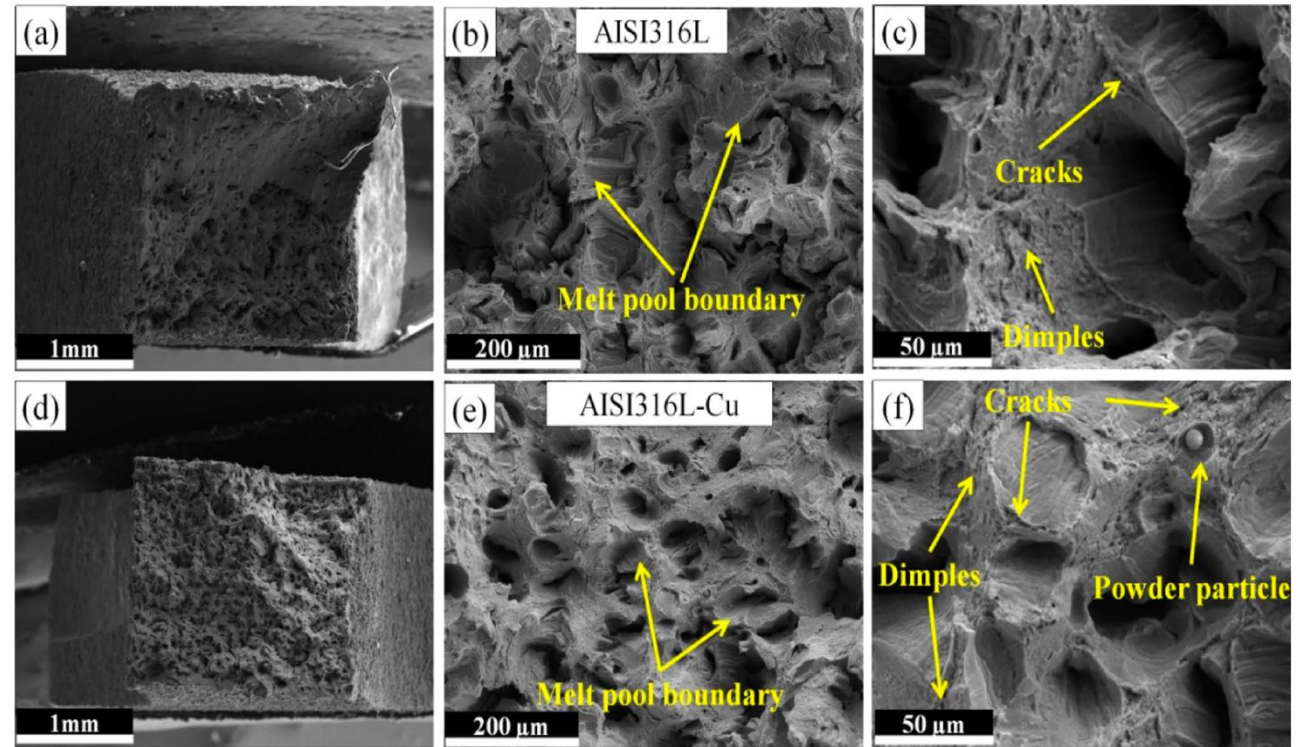
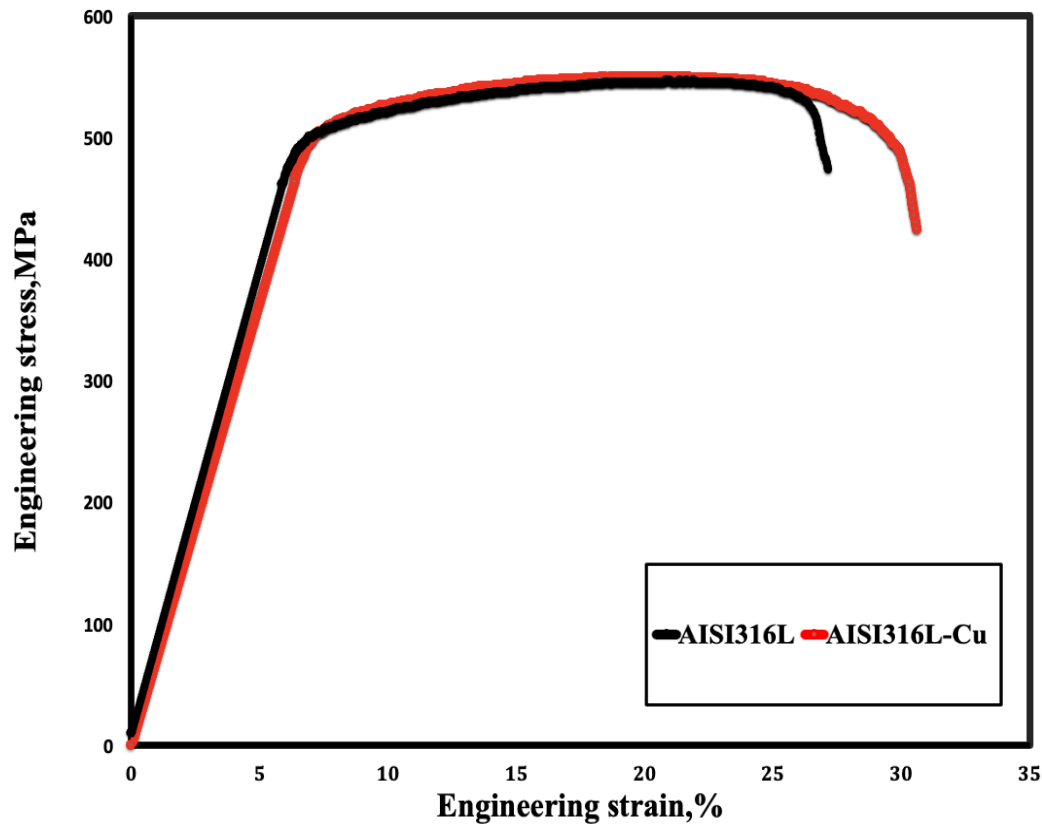
(e)

| Sample | 2 θ (°) | FWHM (rad) | Crystallite size (Å°) | Micro strain (%) | Hardness (HV) | YS (MPa) | UTS (MPa) | Elongation (%) |
|--------------------|----------------|------------|-----------------------|------------------|---------------|----------|-----------|----------------|
| LPBFed AISI316L | 43.624 | 0.385 | 221 | 4.23 | 228±7 | 500±8 | 536±11 | 28.6±1.1 |
| LPBFed AISI316L-Cu | 43.452 | 0.475 | 147 | 6.37 | 245±8 | 510±7 | 558±6 | 30.4±1.4 |

Results and Discussion

Mechanical Properties

Cu addition strengthens AISI316L, improving its mechanical properties compared to pure AISI316L.





Conclusions

1. SVR was the best model for predicting L-PBF process parameter defect content relationship, achieving high accuracy with an 80/20 data split and low error rates.
2. Higher energy densities create deeper melt pools, while lower energy densities produce shallower melt pools.
3. According to the XRD analysis, the copper atom dissolves into iron, forming a complete austenitic structure under the L-PBF process.
4. Tensile test results show that even a small copper addition slightly impacts the mechanical properties of as-built AISI 316L.

Any Question!

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