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# **Additive Manufacturing**

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- Additive Manufacturing:
   Selective laser Sintering process (SLS)
- Materials for SLS Indirect fabrication or direct fabrication
- > CMAs as alternative materials
- > Perspectives



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Automatic freeform fabrication of physical objects (metals, plastics or composite materials) using additive manufacturing technology



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> Automatic freeform fabrication of physical objects (metals, plastics) or composite materials) using additive manufacturing technology

## > Examples of freeform parts



**Ti-based implant** 



knee implant (CoCr alloy)



**Polyamide** 



**Polyamide based composite** 



#### Steel/bronze composite





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> Automatic freeform fabrication of physical objects (metals, plastics or composite materials) using additive manufacturing technology

> Additive manufacturing worldwide by activities:





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> Automatic freeform fabrication of physical objects (metals, plastics or composite materials) using additive manufacturing technology

> Additive manufacturing worldwide by activities:

> Additive manufacturing worldwide by utilizations:





# **Selective Laser Sintering (SLS)**

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Powder based method

## Fabrication of freeform shaped parts

3D CAD model (STL file format)





Selective laser sintered part (SLS part)

> Additive layer manufacturing process









# SLS: How does it work ? Layer by layer manufacturing

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 Powders are heated a few °C below its first melting point
 Laser brings just enough energy to melt the nylon
 Build chamber is lowered and a new layer of powders is leveled

4- Similar steps are repeated





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Indirect fabrication Metal parts

#### **Direct fabrication**

Polymer matrix composites

Several steps are necessary

Parts can be used directly



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Indirect fabrication Metal parts **Direct fabrication** Polymer matrix composites

#### Several steps are necessary

- Steel / bronze composite

Parts can be used directly



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Indirect fabrication Metal parts

#### Several steps are necessary

- Steel / bronze composite
  - 1- <u>SLS</u> of steel + 10 vol.% nylon powders (preform)
    - Nylon acts as binder
    - Preform has ≈ 40 vol.% of porosities
    - Preform is handleable
  - 2- Infiltration of bronze in the porous steel preform
    - Tm bronze < Tm steel





Typical SEM images of SLS preform

















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# Towards light-weight materials: Al-based materials



# Light-weight materials: Al-based materials

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## Al<sub>1</sub> / Al<sub>2</sub> composite

- 1- <u>SLS of Al1</u> + 10 vol.% nylon powders
- 2- Nitridation of Al1 preform
- 3- Infiltration of Al2 in the porous AI-AIN preform
   Tm Al2 infiltrant < Tm Al1 preform</li>



≈ 2.7 g/cm<sup>3</sup>



#### T.B. Sercombe and G.B. Schaffer, Science 301 (2003)

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# Light-weight materials: Al-based materials

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   Tm Al2 infiltrant < Tm Al1 preform</li>



T.B. Sercombe and G.B. Schaffer *Acta Mater.* **52** (10), (2004)

#### Nitridation is essential to achieve a successful infiltration of Al<sub>1</sub> by Al<sub>2</sub>



# Light-weight materials: Al-based materials

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Nitridation embrittles Al<sub>1</sub>/Al<sub>2</sub> interface

Fracture strain < 1%



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### Al<sub>1</sub> / Al<sub>2</sub> composite

## Al-based CMA / Al composite

- 1- <u>SLS of Al1</u> + 10 vol.% nylon powders
- 2- Nitridation of Al1 preform
- **3-** Infiltration of Al2 in the porous Al-AIN preform
   Tm Al2 infiltrant < Tm Al1 preform</li>

Preform materials	Е	Hardness	Density	Thermal stability
	(Gpa)	(Hv)	(g.cm <sup>-3</sup> )	$(\Im)$
Al alloys	≈ 70	50 - 320	2.7	550 - 660
CMA - AICuFe(X)	160 - 200	600 - 900	4 - 5	800 - 900
Steel	≈ 200	300 - 1000	7.8	> 1300



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Phys. Rev. Lett. 53, 1951, 1984							
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S. Kenzari

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L. Bindi et al., Science 324, 1306, 2009

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## Al-based CMA / Al composite

1- SLS of AI-based CMA + 10 vol.% nylon powders

#### 2- Nitridation of CMA preform

- 3- Infiltration of AI in the porous CMA preform
  - Tm AI infiltrant < Tm CMA preform



Nitridation is avoided by using vacuum or Argon



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Al-based CMA / Al composite

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2- Nitridation of CMA preform

3- Infiltration of AI in the porous CMA preform

• Tm AI infiltrant < Tm CMA preform





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Quasicrystalline Preform

### Al-based CMA / Al composite

1- SLS of Al-based CMA + 10 vol.% nylon powders

2- Infiltration of AI in the porous CMA preform
Tm AI 1050 < Tm *i*-AlCuFeB



#### EDS map of Mg in the infiltrated part



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Quasicrystalline Preform

### Al-based CMA / Al composite

1- SLS of Al-based CMA + 10 vol.% nylon powders

2- Infiltration of AI in the porous CMA preform • Tm AI 1050 < Tm *i*-AlCuFeB



Preform is fully infiltrated by aluminium 36



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Quasicrystalline Preform

#### *i*-AlCuFeB infiltrated by aluminium alloy (98%)





10 mm

## Al-based CMA / Al composite

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- 2- Infiltration of AI in the porous CMA preform • Tm AI 1050 < Tm *i*-AlCuFeB



Preform is fully infiltrated by aluminium 37



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λCoKα<sub>1</sub> = 1.788965 Å



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# **Conclusions - Perspectives**

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Preforms can be produced by SLS from quasicrystalline + nylon powders and infiltrated by commercial aluminium alloys (AI 98%, AISi)



This work shows a new application of CMAs and extends the SLS process towards a new class of light-weight materials

> What is the maximum part size?

> What are mechanical properties?



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### **Direct fabrication**

#### Parts can be used directly

- Polyamide (nylon)
- Polyamide based composites Nylon+glass fiber, Carbon fiber, Al...





Polyamide+Al



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#### **Direct fabrication**

#### Polymer matrix composites









**Friction and Wear** 

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## **Friction and Wear**

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Reduction of the volume loss by about 70%









## **Friction and Wear**

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Glass

Qc

glass fibers



## Leak-tight part

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#### (PA+CMA) intake manifold

Leak tests : High air pressure and water pressure (up to 7 bars)

#### No post-impregnation of resin







Composite polymer powders with CMA particles

# Conclusions

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- Quasicrystal-polymer composite was adapted and commercialized for applications in Selective laser sintering process



**Functional part** 



-This new light-weight composite extends the materials choice compatible with the SLS process and offers improved functional properties





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