



# Calorimetry on pure substances and complex non-equilibrium Al-systems

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*GTT-Technologies' 18th Annual Users' Meeting  
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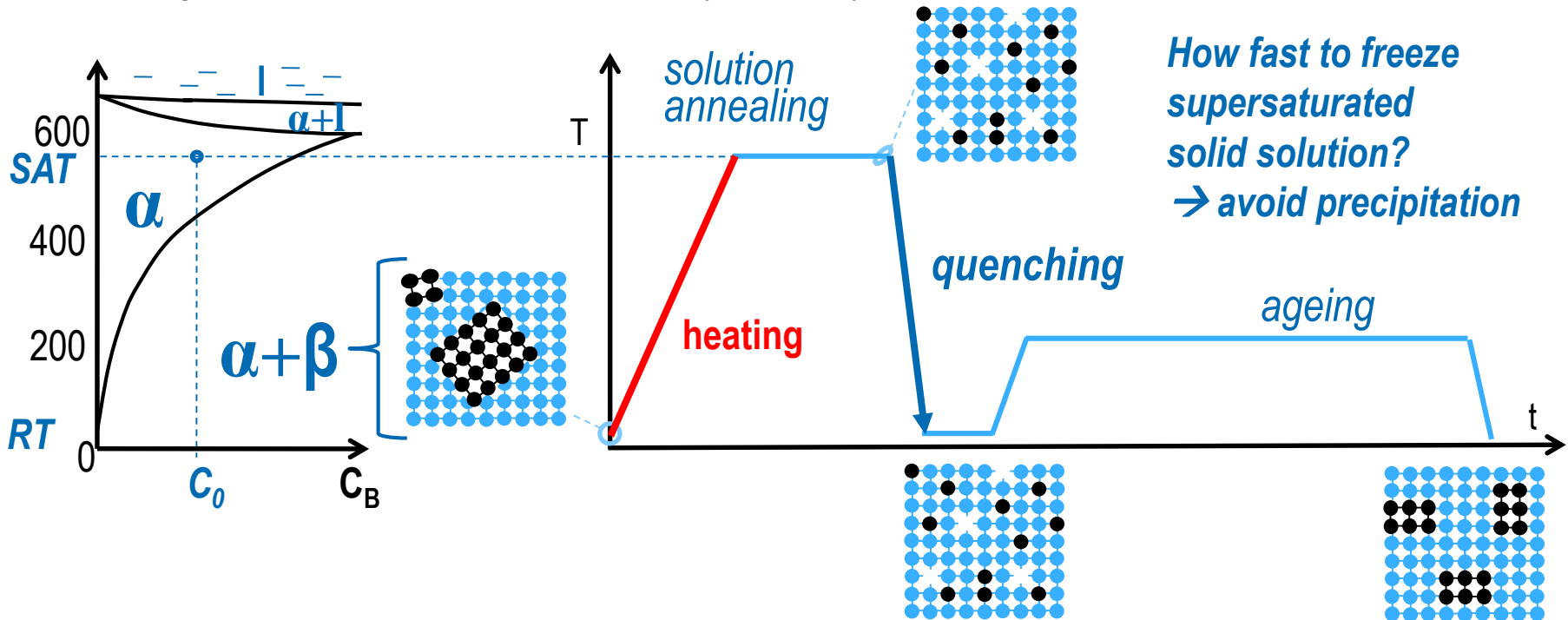


- *Motivation*
- *Differential Scanning  
Calorimetry on Aluminium  
alloys*
- *DSC Step Scan method  
for  $c_p$  measurement*

# heat treatment of metallic materials

basic scheme applies for several materials

e. g. steels, Ni- & Co based superalloys, Al alloys, ...



*How slow to dissolve everything?  
→ full solution*

*How fast to freeze supersaturated solid solution?  
→ avoid precipitation*



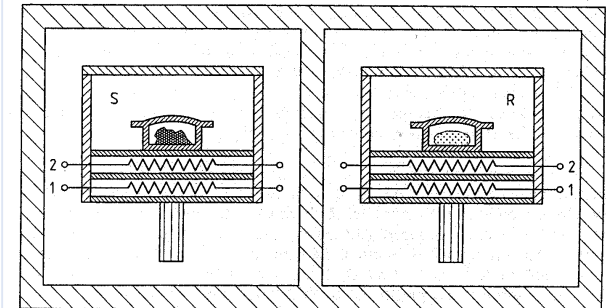
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## Differential Scanning Calorimetry (DSC)

### measurement of (tiny) heat

- 2 identical micro furnaces in symmetric system
- PC controlled temperature programs: heating/ cooling
- regulation: equal temperature
- difference in heating power or heat flow measured

G.HÖHNE, W. HEMMINGER, H.FLAMMERSHEIM:  
*Differential Scanning Calorimetry, SPRINGER*



S: sample furnace; R: reference furnace (equal S), 1 heating wire, 2 Thermopile; measuring systems – separately – in ambience of const. temperature

## Differential Scanning Calorimetry (DSC)

### functional principle

#### ideal:

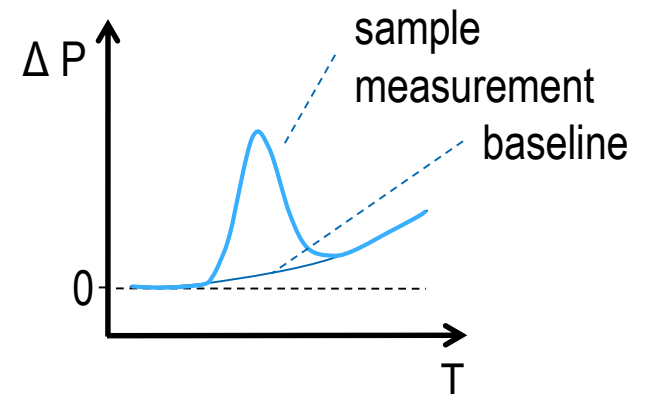
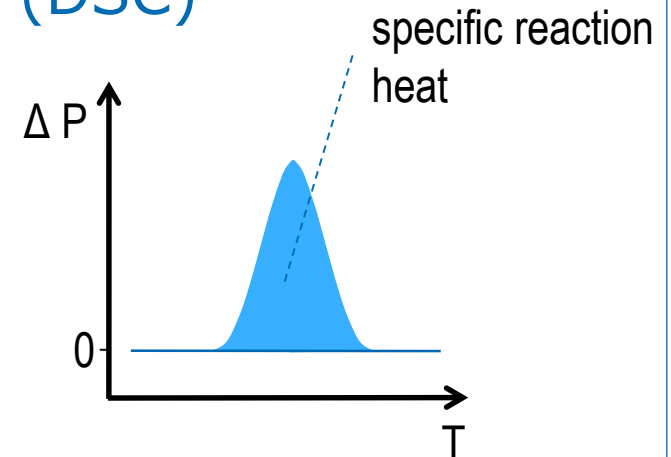
heating/ cooling empty system: signal = 0

thermal reaction in sample furnace: Signal  $\neq 0$

#### real:

certain asymmetry: device depending bending

correct: subtract baseline from sample measurement



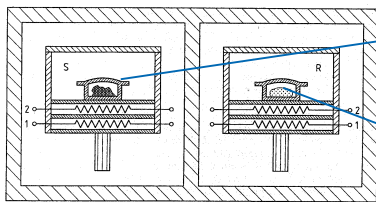
## Preliminary tests Al alloys

How to measure precipitation heat – Cp or excess-Cp?

cooling EN AW-6005A , 50 K/min

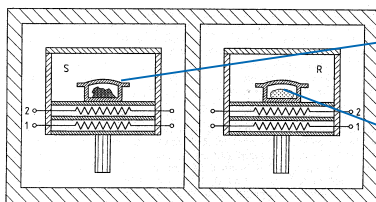
Perkin-Elmer Pyris 1

after: 540 °C 20 min



alloyed sample

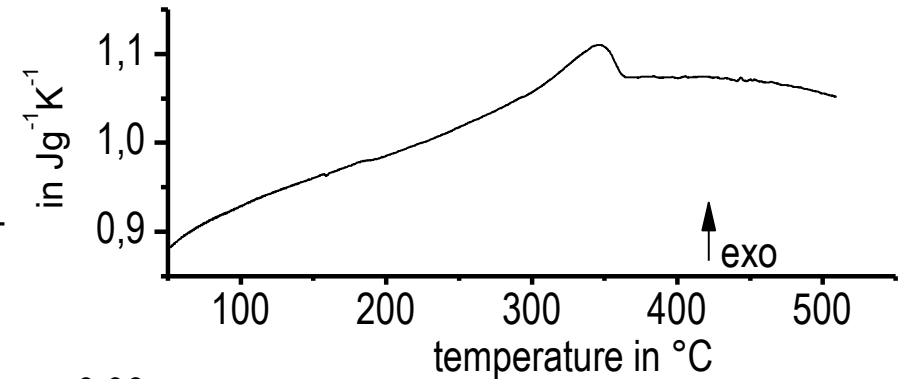
empty



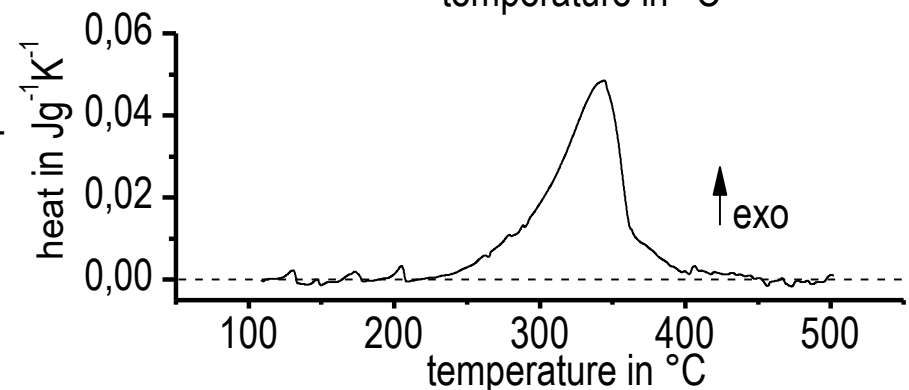
alloyed sample

pure Al sample

specific heat




excess specific



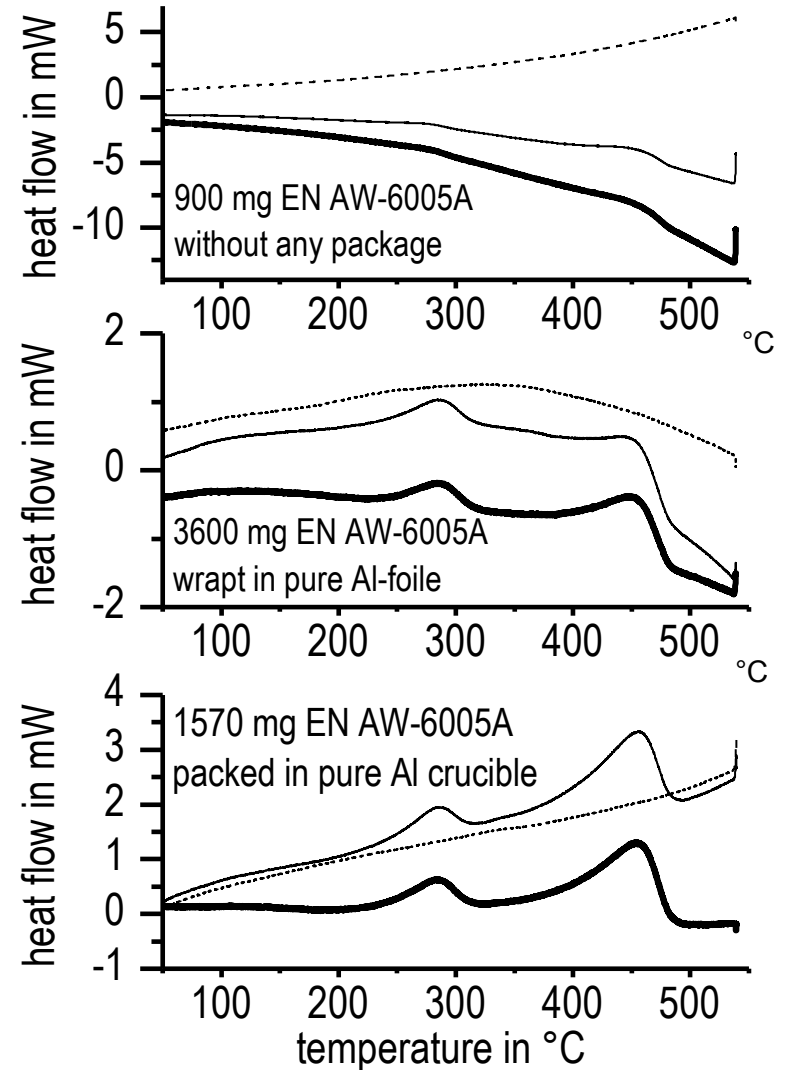
## Preliminary tests Al alloys

### Obligatory sample package!

- important role of radiation losses → baseline stability
- samples change surface color:  
 bright → dark grey
- radiation effect changing → bending
- bending reduction → sample package!

*Setaram 121 DSC*  
*cooling with 0.5 K/min after*  
*solution annealing: 540°C 20 min*

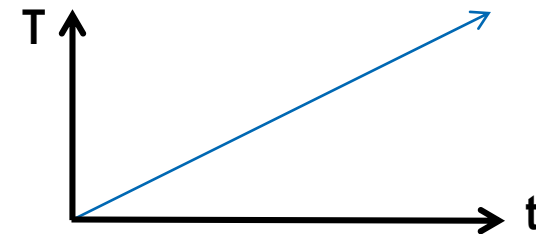
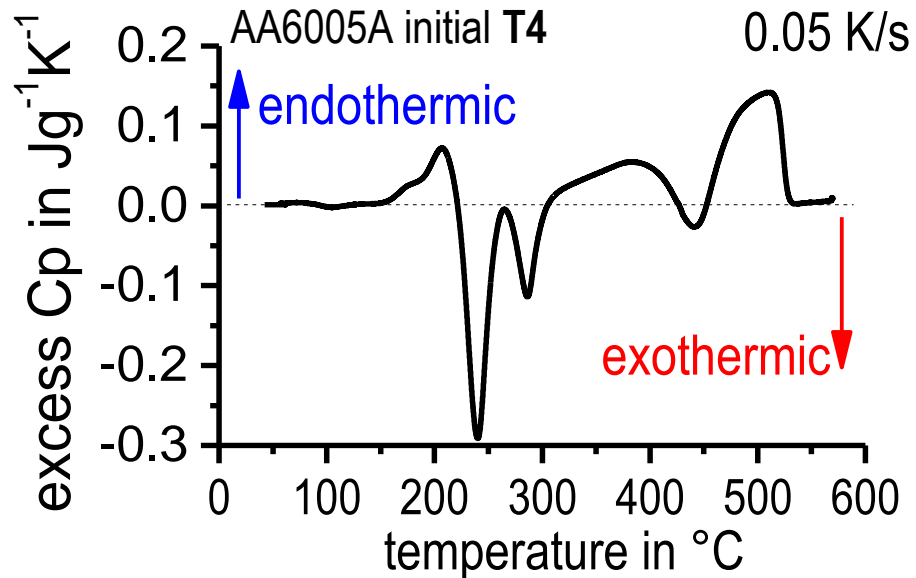
— Sample-measurement  
 - - - Baseline-measurement  
 — subtraction of sample- & baseline-measurement





## DSC measures heat effects

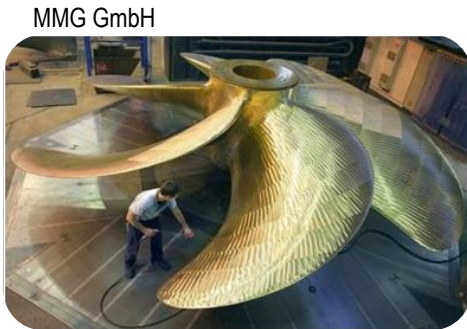
sample compared with inert reference sample



# Challenge

Very large scale of technically & physically interesting heating & cooling rates!

e.g. one cooling method – different component dimensions

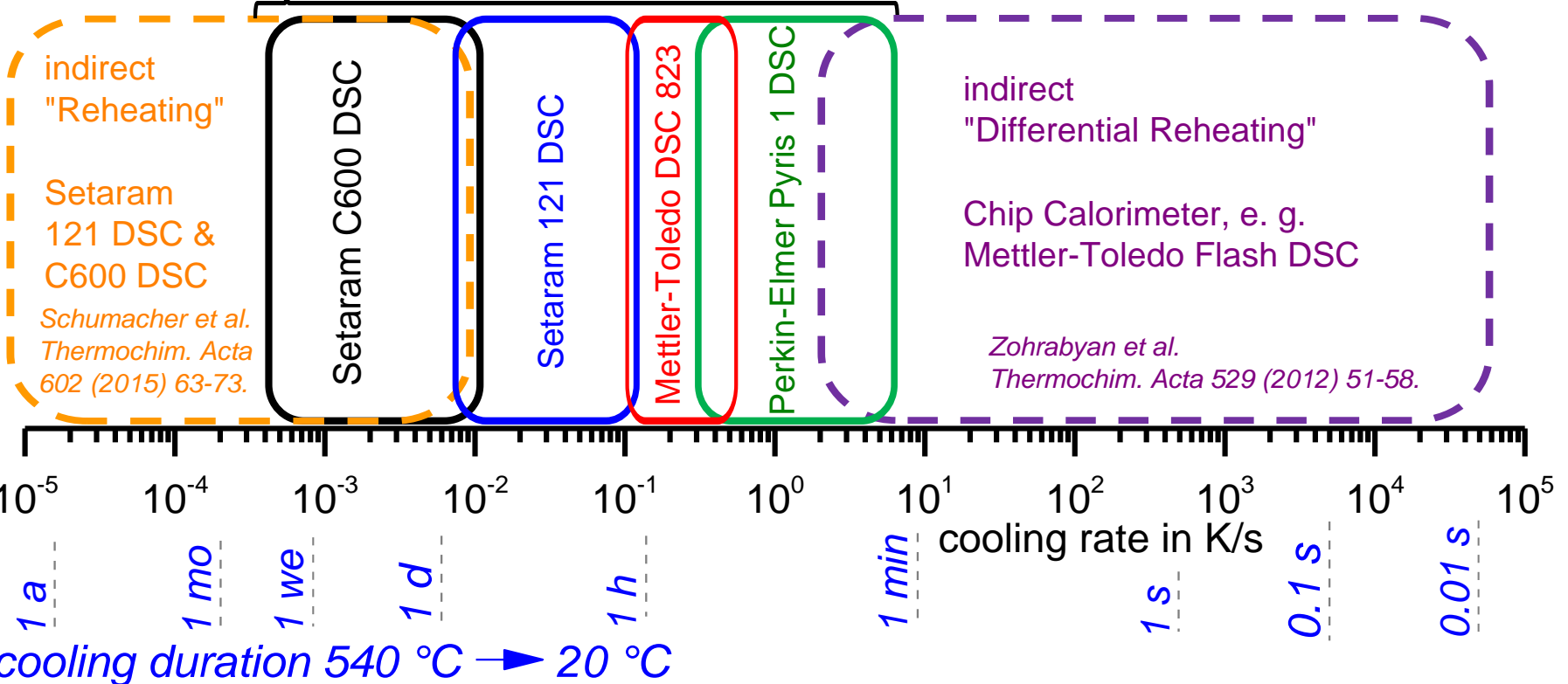


range depends on physical requirements alloy, heating/cooling procedure, dimensions

# How to cover all relevant rates?

Use different DSC types and methods

direct *in-situ* cooling experiments Milkereit et al., Thermochim. Acta 492 (2009) 73-78.

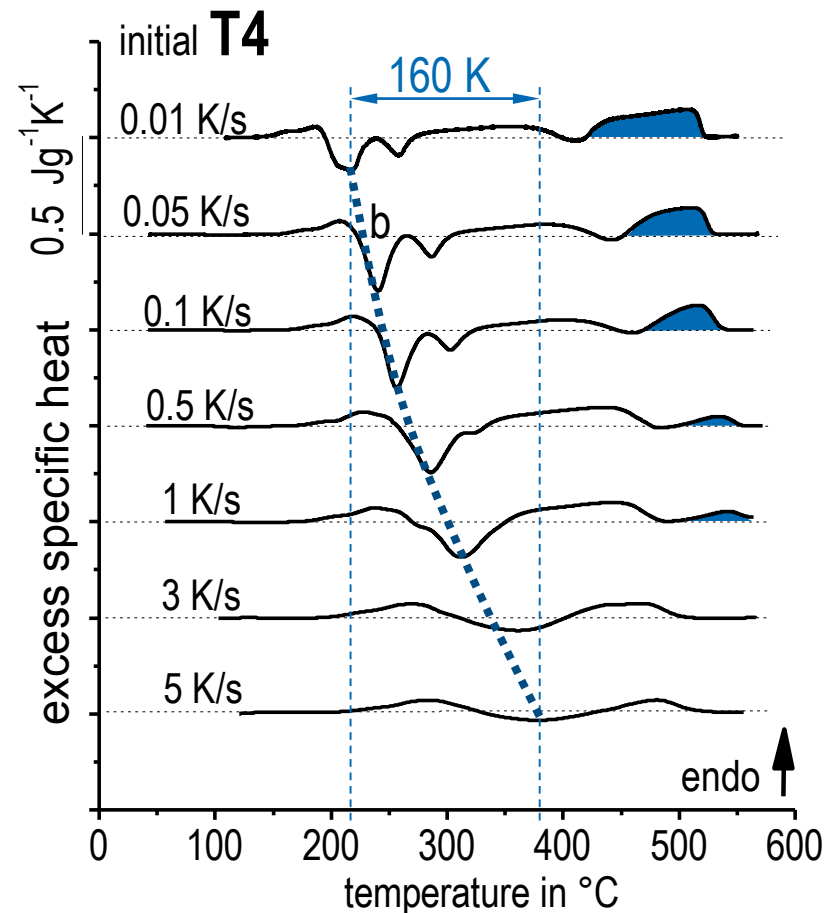
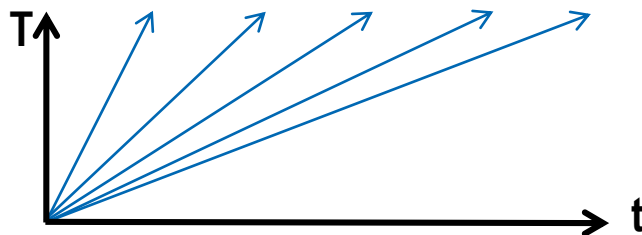


J. Osten et al.. Dissolution and Precipitation Behaviour during Continuous Heating of Al–Mg–Si Alloys in a Wide Range of Heating Rates. Materials 2015, 8, 2830-2848. DOI: 10.3390/ma8052830

## Continuous heating DSC AA6005A to 580 °C

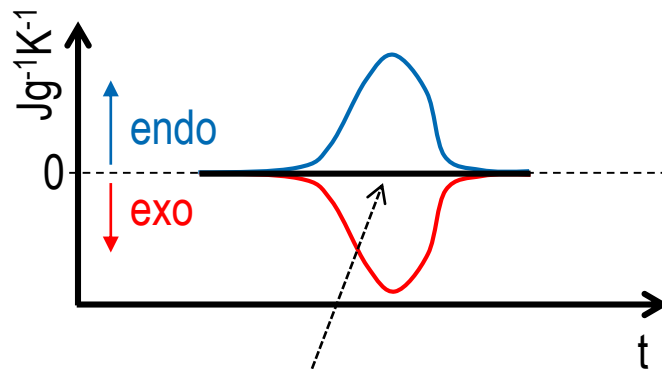
0.01 – 5 K/s

- suppression of reactions with increasing rate
- serious peak shift, e. g. peak b:
  - observed  $\Delta T$ : 160 K
  - thermal lag  $\approx 10$  K



## challenges for interpretation of DSC heating curves

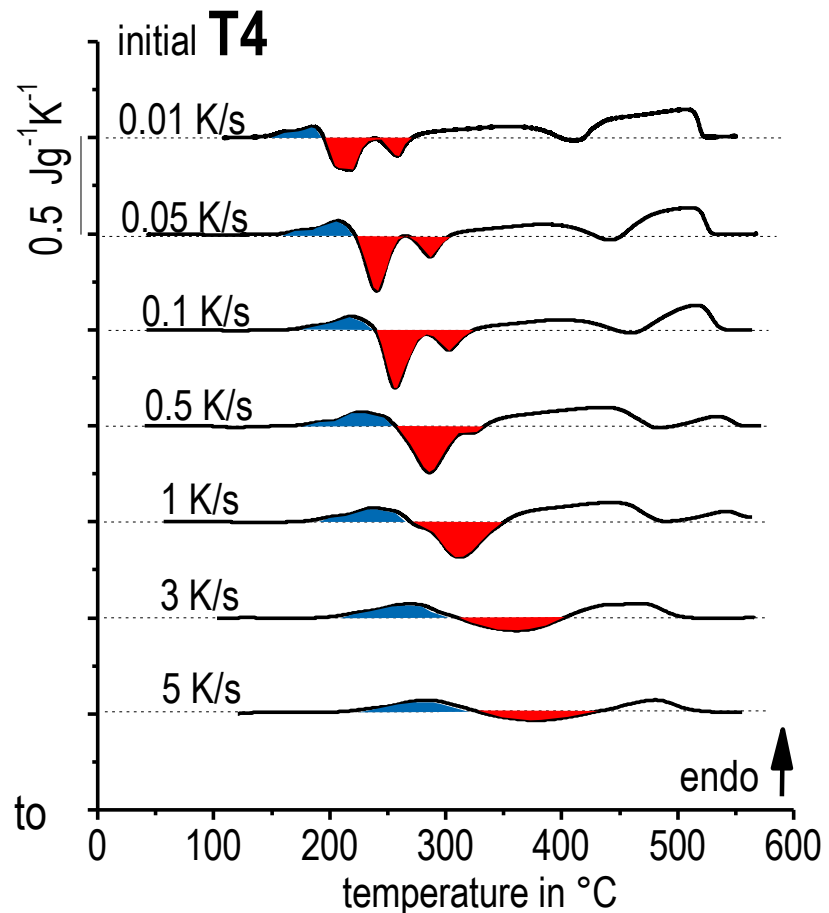
serious overlapping several reactions



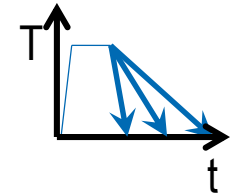
DSC measures sum signal!

sum might be zero...

→ separation of overlapped reactions problem to solve in future



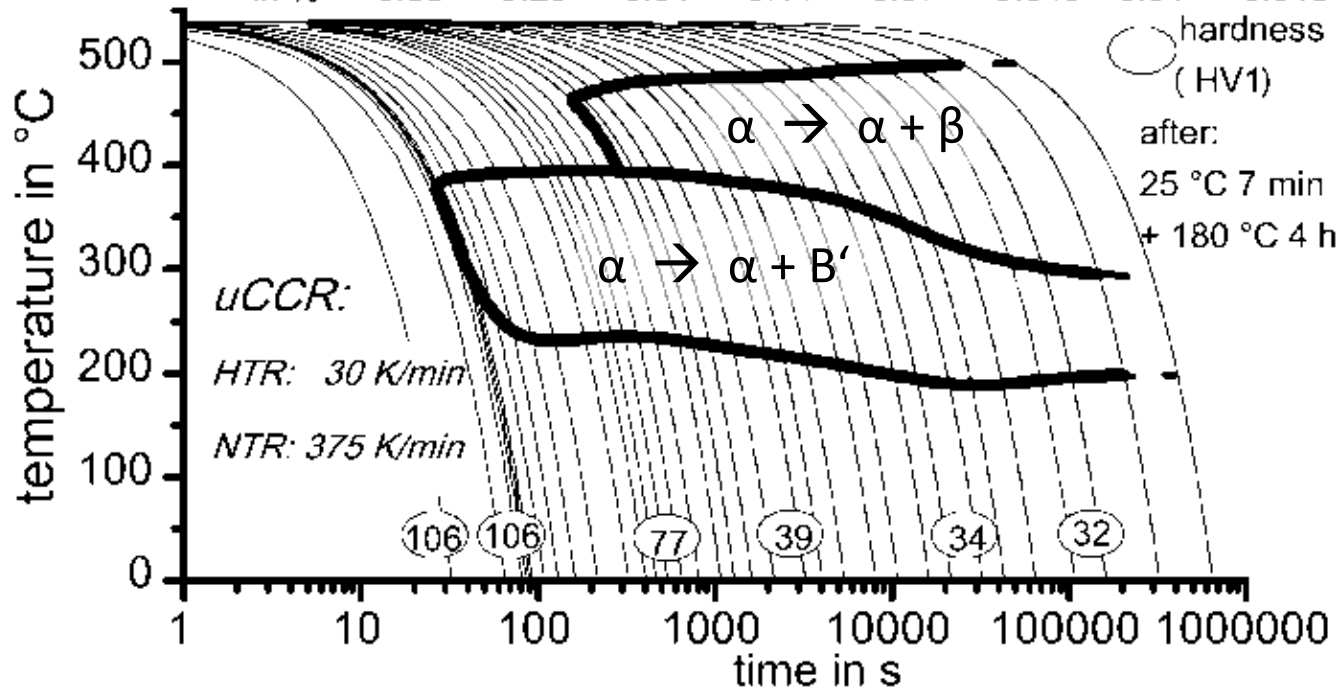
# Continuous cooling precipitation diagrams



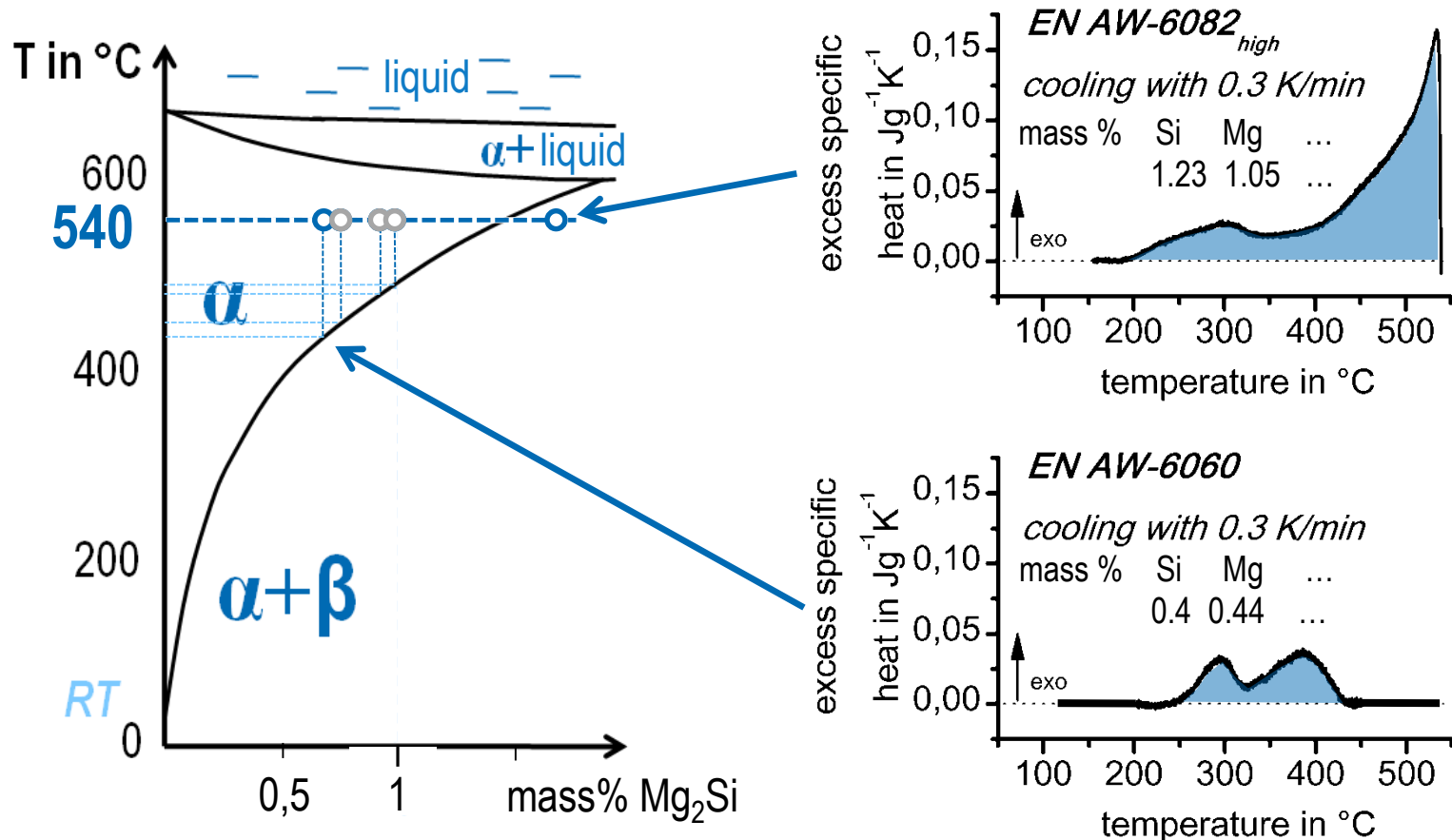
**EN AW-6005A**

solution annealing: 540 °C 20 min

mass fraction	Si	Fe	Cu	Mn	Mg	Cr	Zn	Ti
in %	0.68	0.20	0.01	0.11	0.57	0.040	0.01	0.018



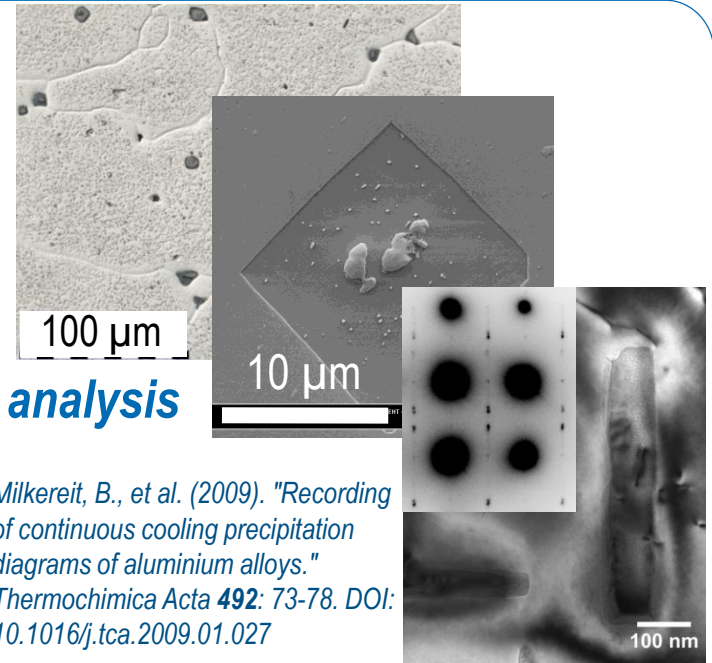
## precipitation start temperature



# Method

Which reactions occur when and how intensive?

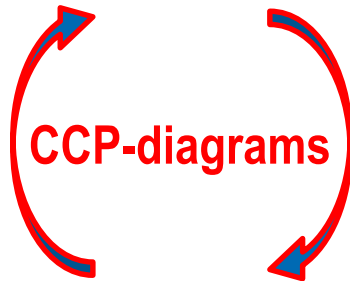
Milkereit, B., et al. (2012). "Continuous cooling precipitation diagrams of Al-Mg-Si alloys." *Materials Science & Engineering A* 550: 87-96. DOI: 10.1016/j.msea.2012.04.033



Structure analysis

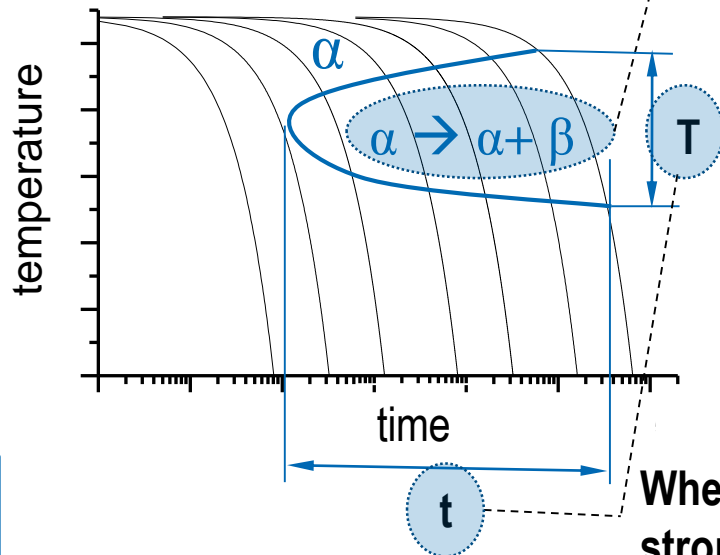
Milkereit, B., et al. (2009). "Recording of continuous cooling precipitation diagrams of aluminium alloys." *Thermochimica Acta* 492: 73-78. DOI: 10.1016/j.tca.2009.01.027

Which?

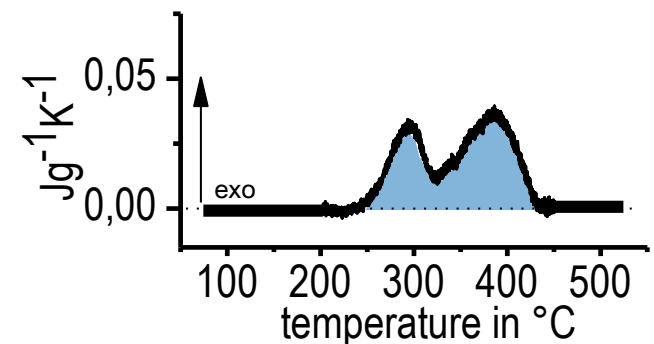


Differential Scanning Calorimetry

When & how strong?



cooling of an aluminium alloy





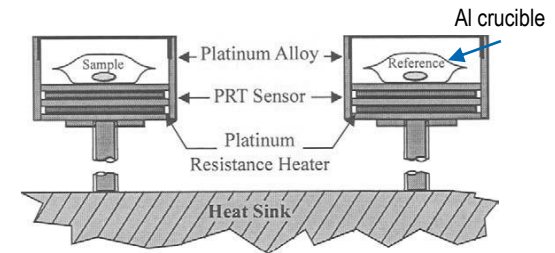


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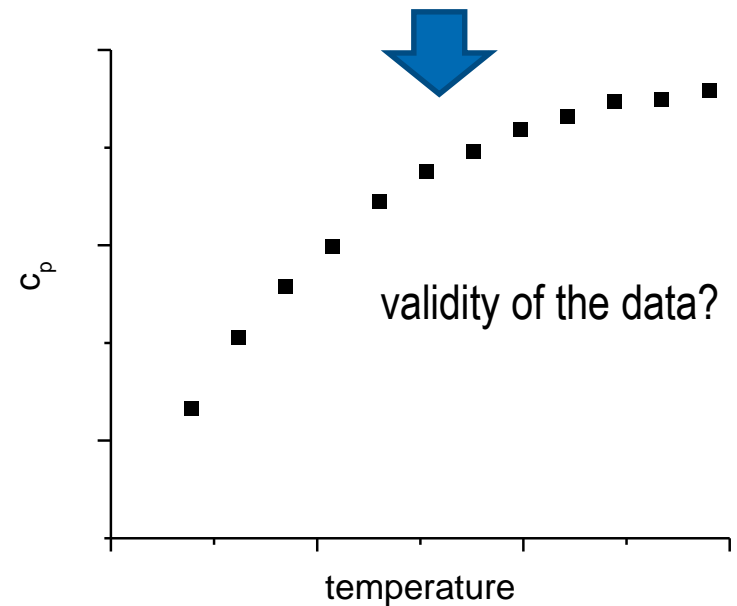
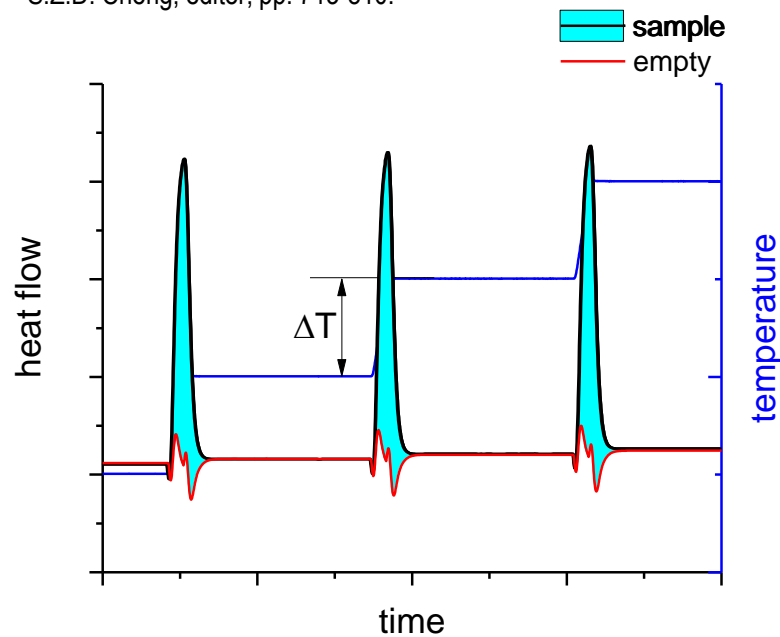
# cp measurement with DSC

## high accuracy through step scan method

C. Schick (2002): Temperature modulated differential scanning calorimetry (TMDSC)- basics and applications to polymers In: Handbook of Thermal Analysis and Calorimetry. Vol. 3: Applications to Polymers and Plastics S.Z.D. Cheng, editor, pp. 713-810.



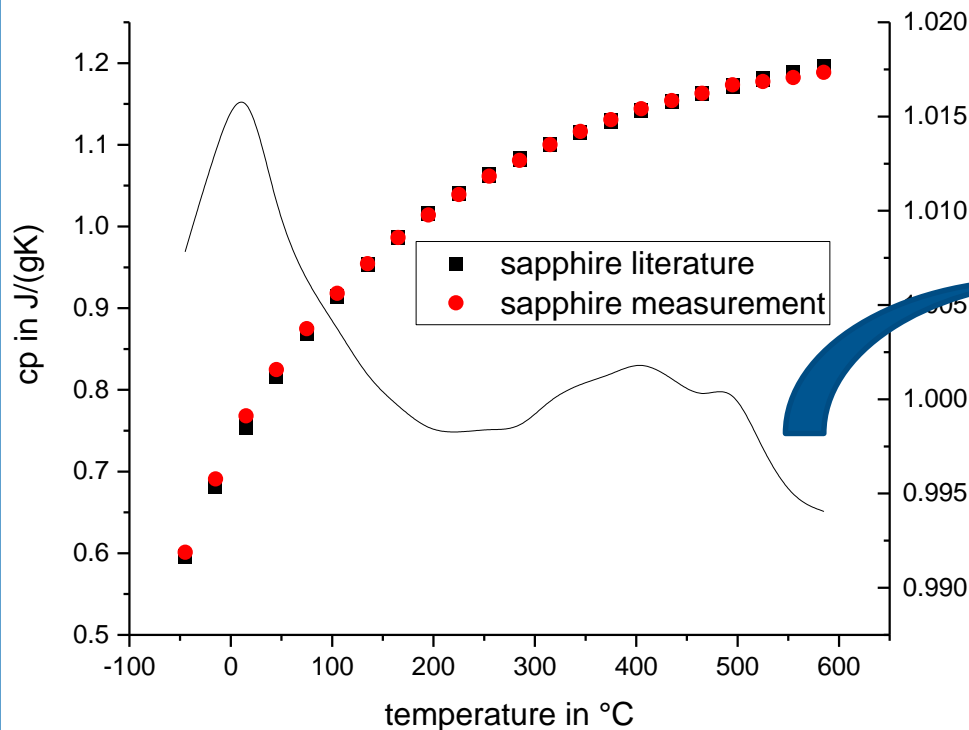
$$\frac{\int \dot{Q}_{sample} - \dot{Q}_{empty} dt}{m \Delta T}$$



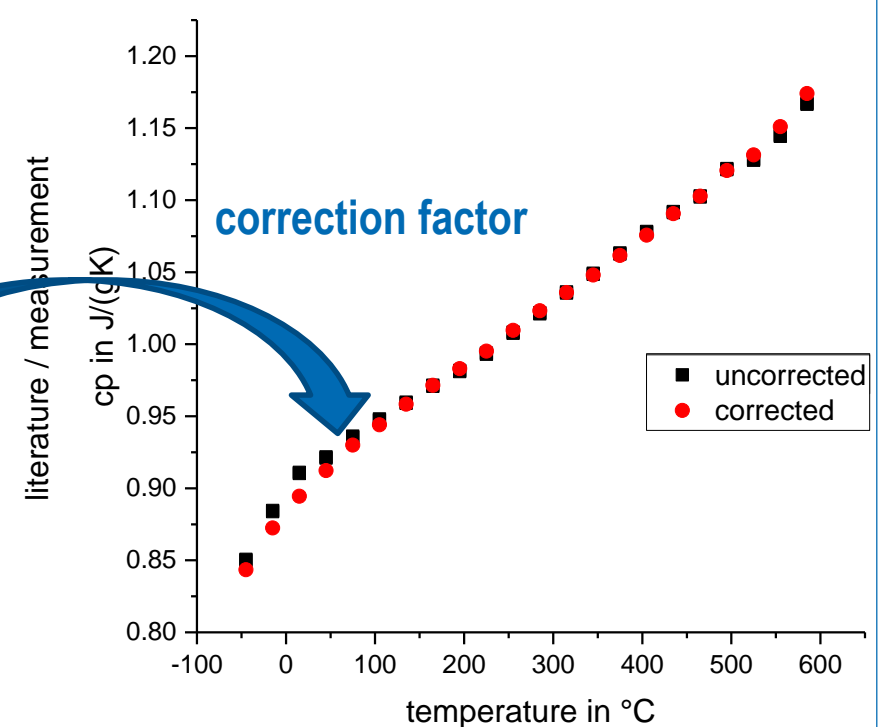
## calibration with sapphire

- well known cp of sapphire
- after each sample measurement  
→ error correction

cp of sapphire ( $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ )

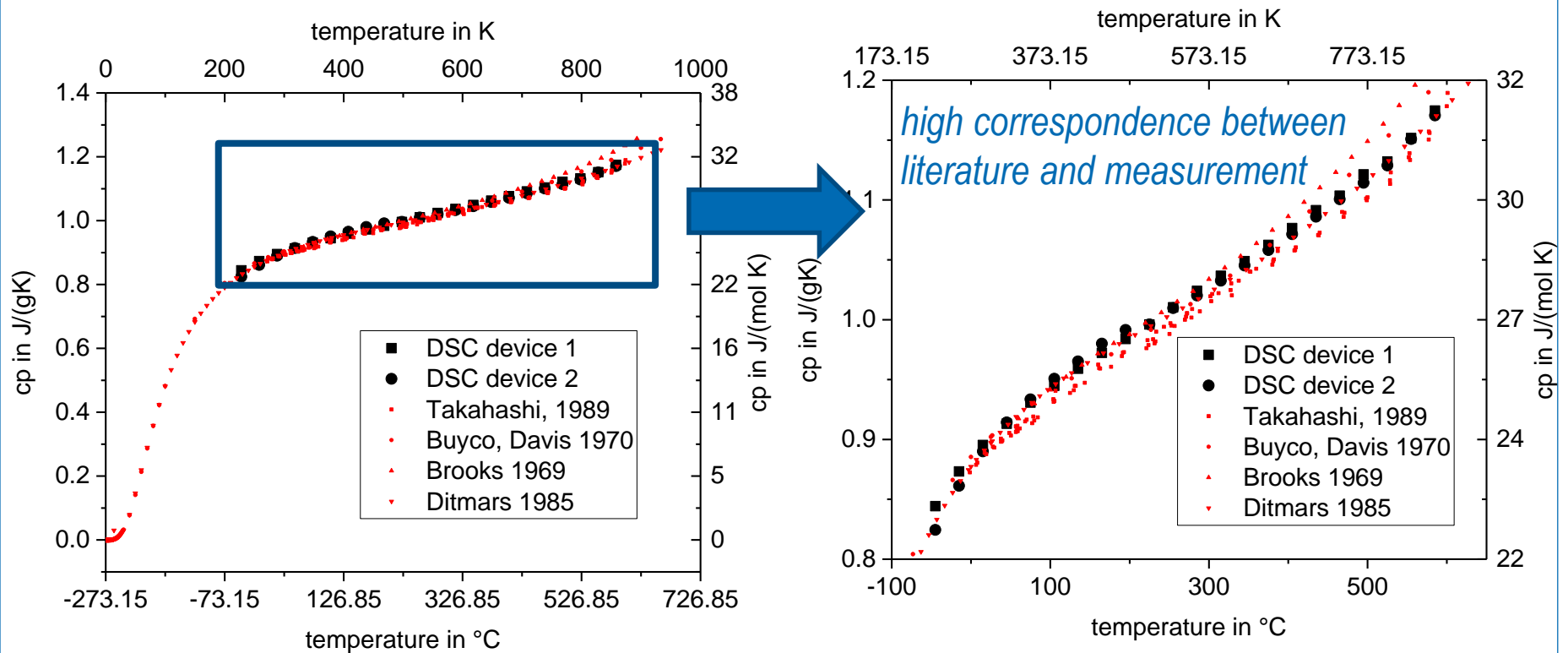


cp of Al5N5 (Al 99.995%)



# evaluating the data

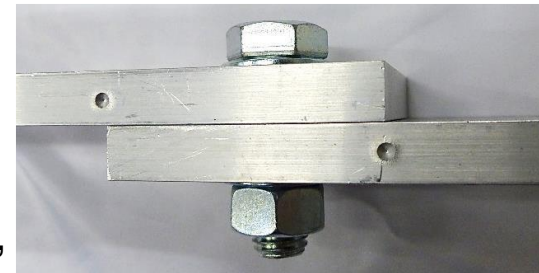
## comparison cp of pure Al with different literature sources



## step scan application on intermetallic phases

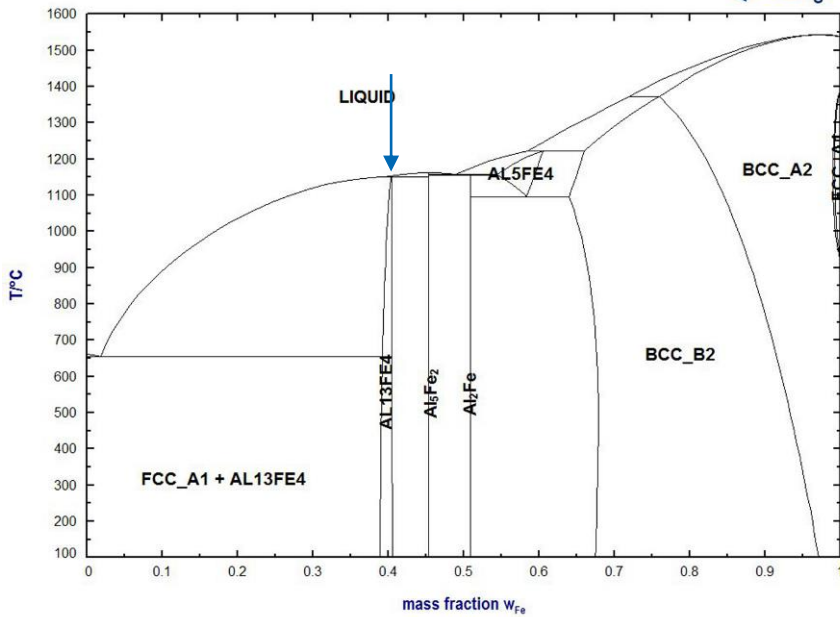
### why important?

- aluminium alloys for long-term stable electrical aluminium connections (ALLEE)  
→ large collaborative project (GTT, Hydro Aluminium, TU Dresden, RWTH Aachen)
- **goal:**  
long-term stable intermetallic phases (e.g.  $\text{Al}_3\text{Zr}$ ,  $\text{Al}_3\text{Ni}$ )  
also at elevated temperatures (140 °C)
- **challenge:**  
prediction (modelling) of precipitation and dissolution/growth  
investigation of Al alloy: sum cp of all phases ☹️
- **solution:** *very difficult to produce!*  
investigation of **pure intermetallic phases** (Uni Jena, Germany) 😊

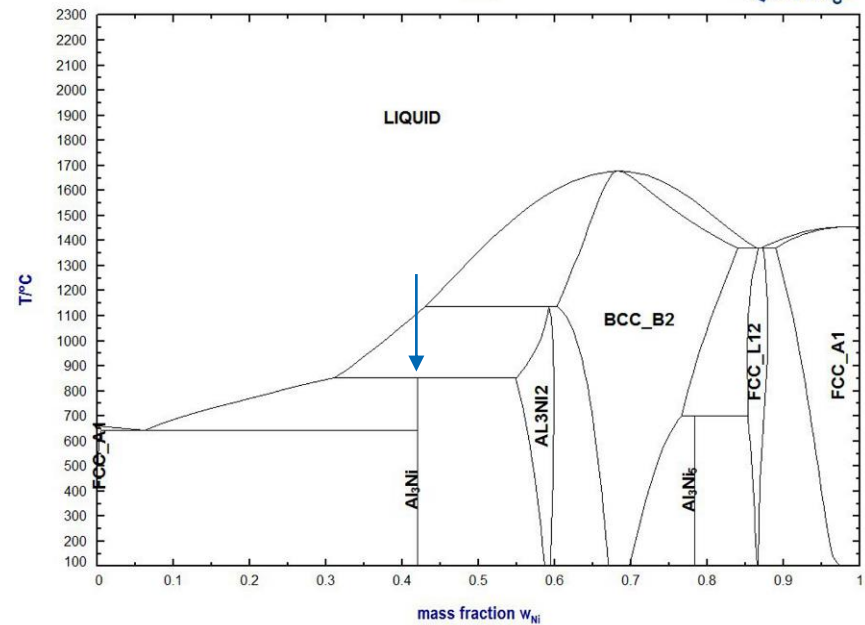


# intermetallic phases

Al - Fe  
1 bar

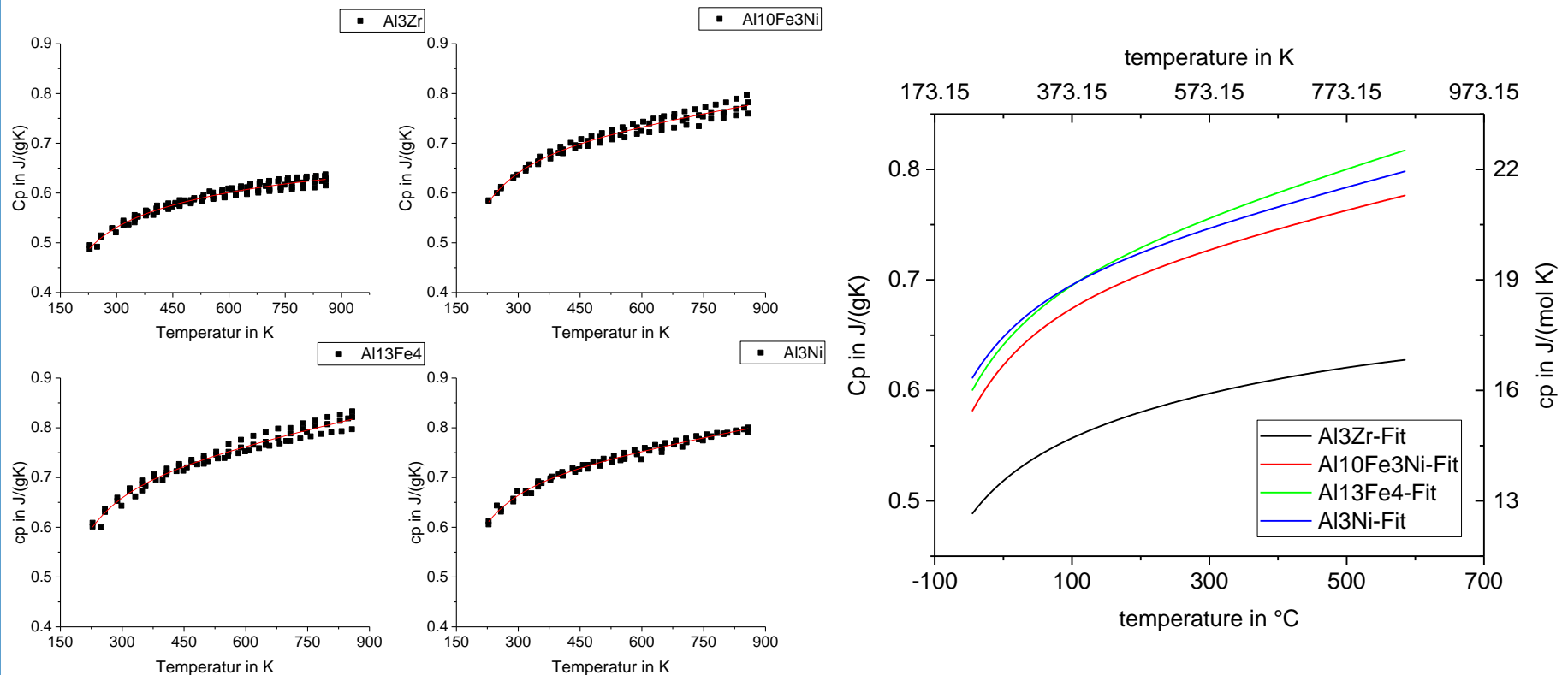


Al - Ni  
1 bar

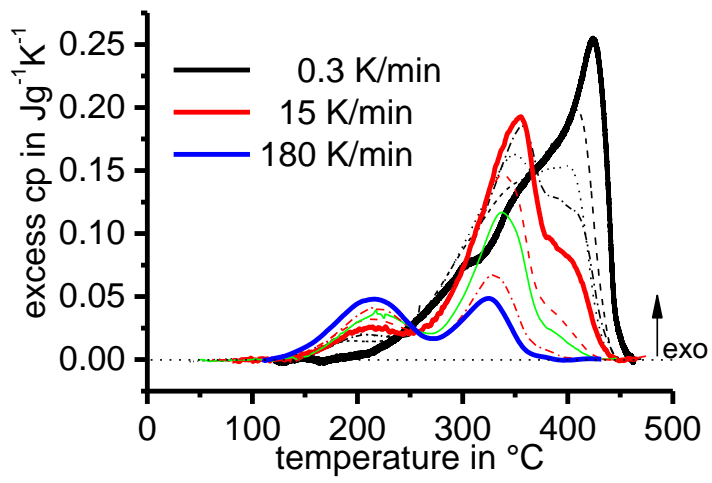


## results

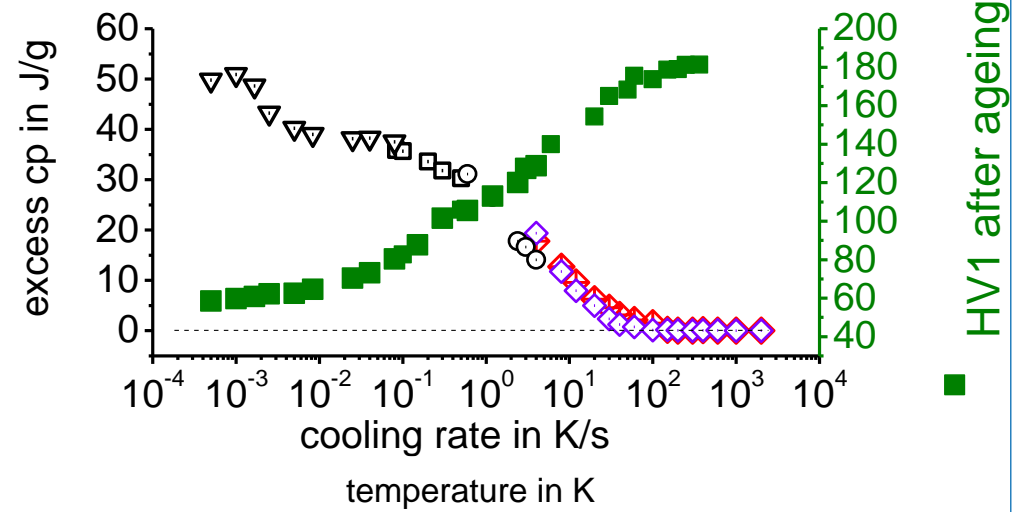
### pure intermetallic phases Al<sub>3</sub>Zr, Al<sub>13</sub>Fe<sub>4</sub>, Al<sub>3</sub>Ni, Al<sub>10</sub>Fe<sub>3</sub>Ni



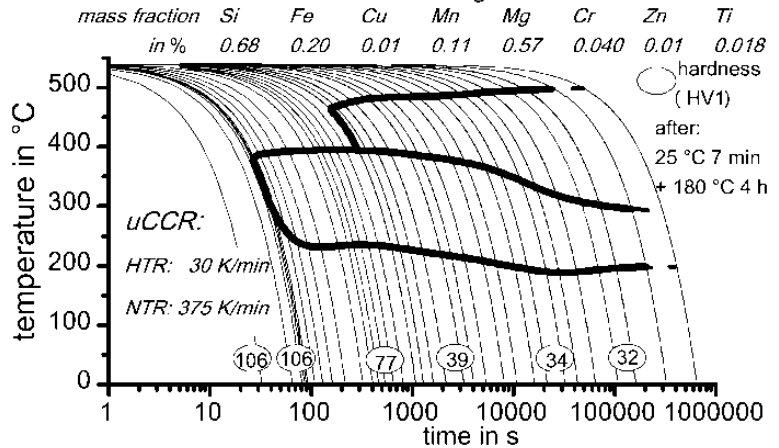
cooling of EN AW-7150 after 480 °C 1 h



cooling EN AW-Al Zn8MgCu from 470 °C



EN AW-6005A solution annealing: 540 °C 20 min



173.15 373.15 573.15 773.15 973.15

