



A comprehensive review on metallic implant biomaterials and their subtractive manufacturing

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Received: 25 July 2021 / Accepted: 17 January 2022 / Published online: 23 February 2022
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Abstract

There is a tremendous increase in the demand for converting biomaterials into high-quality industrially manufactured human body parts, also known as medical implants. Drug delivery systems, bone plates, screws, cranial, and dental devices are the popular examples of these implants - the potential alternatives for human life survival. However, the processing techniques of an engineered implant largely determine its preciseness, surface characteristics, and interactive ability with the adjacent tissue(s) in a particular biological environment. Moreover, the high cost-effective manufacturing of an implant under tight tolerances remains a challenge. In this regard, several subtractive or additive manufacturing techniques are employed to manufacture patient-specific implants, depending primarily on the required biocompatibility, bioactivity, surface integrity, and fatigue strength. The present paper reviews numerous non-degradable and degradable metallic implant biomaterials such as stainless steel (SS), titanium (Ti)-based, cobalt (Co)-based, nickel-titanium (NiTi), and magnesium (Mg)-based alloys, followed by their processing via traditional turning, drilling, and milling including the high-speed multi-axis CNC machining, and non-traditional abrasive water jet machining (AWJM), laser beam machining (LBM), ultrasonic machining (USM), and electric discharge machining (EDM) types of subtractive manufacturing techniques. However, the review further funnels down its primary focus on Mg, NiTi, and Ti-based alloys on the basis of the increasing trend of their implant applications in the last decade due to some of their outstanding properties. In the recent years, the incorporation of cryogenic coolant-assisted traditional subtraction of biomaterials has gained researchers' attention due to its sustainability, environment-friendly nature, performance, and superior biocompatible and functional outcomes fitting for medical applications. However, some of the latest studies reported that the medical implant manufacturing requirements could be more remarkably met using the non-traditional subtractive manufacturing approaches. Altogether, cryogenic machining among the traditional routes and EDM among the non-traditional means along with their variants, were identified as some of the most effective subtractive manufacturing techniques for achieving the dimensionally accurate and biocompatible metallic medical implants with significantly modified surfaces.

Keywords Metallic implant biomaterials · Subtractive manufacturing · Traditional and non-traditional machining · Biocompatibility · Cryogenic Machining · Electric discharge machining

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1 Introduction

With the constant growth of the world's population and globalization, a constant rise in people's living standards is being noticed, increasing the chances of lifestyle-related physical sicknesses, for example, cardiovascular and orthopedic diseases. Each day, many human bone or tissue fracture cases, possibly caused by sports injuries, falls, and vehicle accidents, are dealt with by medical practitioners across the globe. However, every type of injury or damaged tissue may not require surgical interventions due to the human body's self-renewing and regenerative abilities to conduct the healing process. For instance, minor damages to epithelial skin or a bone can receive easy healing without any surgery, unlike the spinal cord, articular-cartilage, neural-retina, cardiac muscle, lung, kidney glomerulus, etc., requiring either transplantation or reconstructive/regenerative surgery for complete restoration. In addition, the human body's self-healing potential tends to decrease or disappear over time due to many reasons such as aging, decreasing progenitor population within the body, poor repairing ability of tissues, and inflammation caused by the injured tissue. Therefore, in this regard, medical science, in association with material science and engineering, has been consistently attempting to introduce smart and novel materials that are biocompatible or biologically compatible with the human body, also known as biomaterials, to deal with such challenges, physical damages or fracture fixation/arthrodesis.

A recent report, having included the impact of COVID-19, demonstrated the present and forecasted growth of the global biomaterials market between 2018 and 2026. The study pointed to North America and the Asia Pacific as the most significant and fastest-growing biomaterials markets, respectively, with a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 13.69%. However, India is expected to display the most rapid growth in Asia to rising dental, cardiovascular, and orthopedic surgeries [1]. An extensive range of these biomaterials, including metals and their alloys, polymers, composites, and ceramics, is used to manufacture implantable medical devices. These medical devices, popularly known as biomedical implants or structures, have a great potential to prolong the survivability and comfort of the life of patients essentially suffering from diseased or missing body tissues.

Moreover, using these implants, the organs can be substantially supported, body functions can be monitored, and medication can be delivered at specific locations in the body [2]. In this regard, patients with damaged/lost tissues, and resultant challenges, are dealt with the assistance of biomedical implants such as ventricular assist devices, bone plate, cardiovascular devices, screws, and

maxillofacial devices. The functional abilities of these implants can cause them to replace a part or even the entire biological organ, however, with a finite lifespan and uses due to inferior biocompatible, immune repression, physiologic harm of associated tissues, and other similar characteristics [3]. Thus, the implants are designed and fabricated on the basis of an accurate selection of the potential biomaterials. In this relation, due to superior mechanical, fatigue, wear, and corrosion properties, Ti-6Al-4 V alloy, 316L stainless-steel (SS), Co-Cr-Mo, and nickel-titanium-shape memory alloy (NiTi-SMA) metallic implant biomaterials are often given preference over other biomaterials such as polymers and ceramics [4].

2 Biomaterials and biocompatibility

The constantly growing demand for biomedical implants depicts the expectations of a more comfortable life. These implants comprise a specific engineering material category, known as “biomaterials” or “biocompatible materials.” This category was duly recognized as an outcome of the 1st meeting on materials used in medicine at Clemson University in 1969, maintaining its incomparable contribution. Biomedical implants are mainly the emulation (biomimetic) of natural body parts, adopted to treat the afflicted or lost biological structure, regain its original structure, and work efficiently. In this regard, the term biocompatibility can be defined as the potentiality of a material to execute its anticipated activities associated with a particular remediation (without causing any unwanted local/systemic influences in the beneficiary's body), leading to a superior cellular response and optimized therapy amid a specific use [5]. Biomaterials were elucidated by the American National Institute of Health, as, “Any substance or combination of substances, other than drugs, synthetic or natural in origin, which can be used for any period, which augments or replaces partially or any tissue, organ or function of the body, to maintain or improve the quality of life of the individual.” Also, as outlined by [6], “Biomaterials or biocompatible materials do not produce any toxic/immune or malignant effect when exposed to the body (depending on the short-term or long-term use) and find their wide applications in biomedical implants and prosthetics to enhance a smooth functioning between the implant and the human body.” Moreover, the ISO (International Organization for Standardization) 10,993–1:2018 standard for the Biological Evaluation of Medical Devices—Part 1 defines biocompatibility as the “ability of a medical device or material to perform with an appropriate host response in a specific application.” In addition, the latest definition of biomaterials, receiving a signed agreement in 2018, stated,

“a biomaterial is designed to take a form that can direct, through interactions with living systems, the course of any therapeutic/diagnostic procedure” [7].

Hence, the biocompatibility testing of a biomaterial discovers its technical fitness for human use by critically checking the potentially harmful physiological effects. The biocompatibility can be examined through a series of analyses starting with cytotoxicity in vitro testing (ISO 10993–5), which is conducted to examine the toxicity and chemicals generally by bringing the sample biomaterial directly in contact with the cultured mammalian cells. Further, according to ISO 10993–18, the leachable materials are extracted from the sample biomaterial at an elevated temperature, followed by the assessment of the extracts. Subsequently, ISO 10993–4:2017 and ASTM F756 are used to assess the hemocompatibility, which ascertains the possibility of a sample to induce injurious effects on red blood cells, thrombosis, coagulation, platelets, and the complement system. Subsequently, depending upon the type of application, suitable in vivo testing(s) such as skin-irritation testing, sensitization testing, and implantation testing can be performed [8].

In short, biocompatibility can be referred to as the potential of a biomaterial to function, exhibiting an adequate host reaction without displaying an inflammatory or allergic reaction during a particular application. The term “host” refers to a living organism or system (microenvironment), and “host-response” can be briefly defined as the behavior of a host towards a foreign biomaterial. For instance, the resistance to bacterial colonization. Hence, the interactive physical attributes of a biomaterial with the adjacent host principally determine biocompatibility. The use of a non-biocompatible material can adversely affect the body's immune system, making it prone to attacks by viruses,

fungi, and bacteria. Additionally, according to Fig. 1, for satisfactory clinical performance, the biocompatibility of a biomedical implant needs to be pivotally supported by the implant’s own physical, mechanical, and degradation properties, sterilization (freeing implant’s surface from all types of microorganisms), toxicological aspects (examination and treatment of any toxin or intoxicating substance), surgical procedure, site of implantation, and load-bearing capacity [9]. For instance, (i) a hip-prosthesis needs to be rigid and is not expected to fail before 20 years irrespective of the type of loading, and (ii) a tissue’s heart-valve leaflet needs to be tough and should be able to flex sixty-times/minute without any tearing in the remaining life of the patient.

3 Interaction of biomaterials with the living-organism

Further, as shown in Fig. 2, some of the major activities occurring at the surface can be categorized as water-surface interaction, protein-adsorption, cell-adherence and spreading, and proliferation. In the initial phase, during the first few nanoseconds (ns), the water molecules react with the biomaterial surface, and on the basis of the wetting features of the surface, the surface can be endorsed as a “hydrophilic” (contact angle <math>< 90^\circ</math>) or “hydrophobic” (contact angle >math>> 90^\circ</math>) surface. A hydrophilic surface has a strong affinity towards water molecules and thus promotes their spreading and maximizes their contact with the surface. In contrast, a hydrophobic surface repels the water molecules and minimizes their contact with the surface, causing the formation of droplets. The angle at which the water molecules’ interface meets the biomaterial surface is termed as “contact

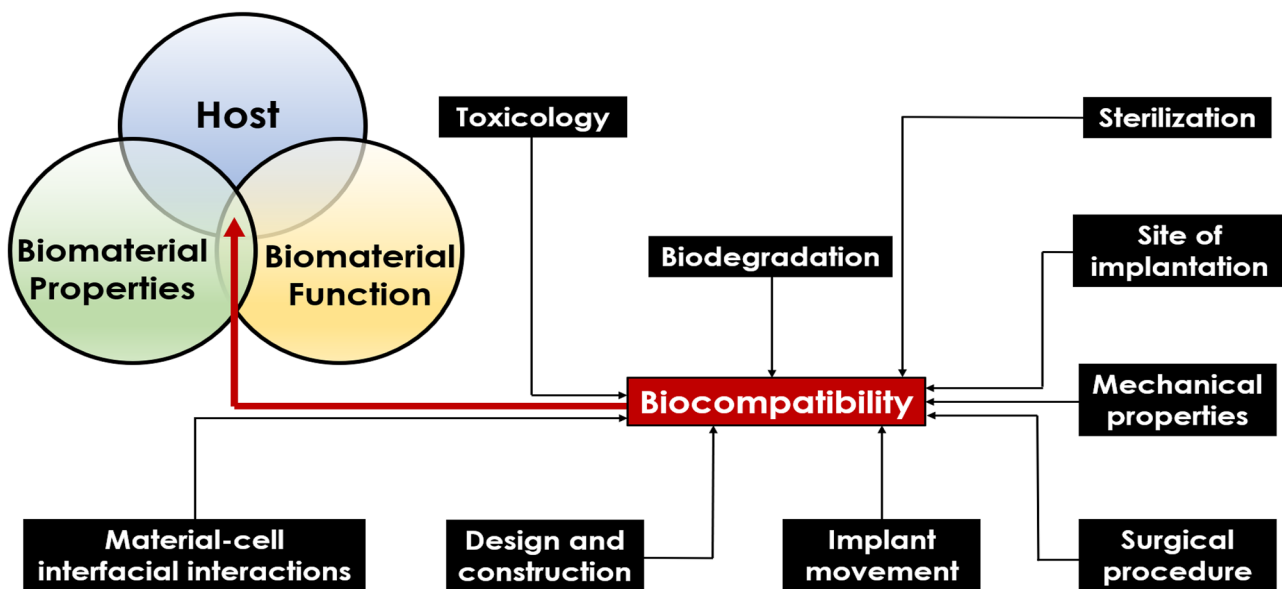


Fig. 1 Primary factors affecting the functional biocompatibility of a biomedical implant

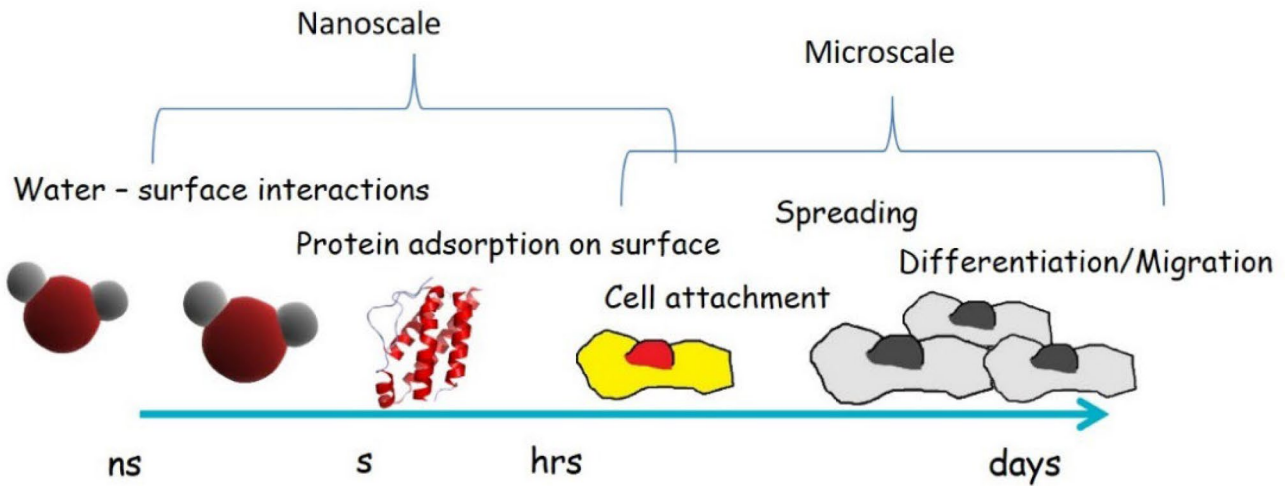


Fig. 2 Biomaterial's interaction with the living-organism [11]

angle.” Further, the second phase comprises the adsorption of several proteins in a few seconds (s) on the surface with the rapid migration of small proteins, followed by the big ones, forming a considerably thick protein layer [10]. Subsequently, the third phase consumes a few hours (hrs) of cells’ interaction along with the soaked-up protein layer and later with the surface’s topography. In this stage, the biomaterial’s surface gets exposed to numerous molecular interactions. It can be substantially affected by the biological molecules (cell membrane, cytoskeleton, and extracellular matrix proteins) and biophysical surroundings. The following evolved physicochemical characteristics such as stiffness, wettability

or wetting properties, functional groups (such as trimethyl-ammonium (hydrophilic) and n-butyl groups (hydrophobic)), topography (surface protrusions and depressions), and ion enrichment of the surface. Proliferation occurs in the last (fourth) phase and is continuing development of the previous stages and thus, may require a few days (for example, bio-degradable screw) or even several years (for example, total hip replacement). However, the occurrence of both the third and the fourth phases largely depends upon the surface’s topographic and wetting properties [11].

Further, in this regard, Fig. 3 attempts to demonstrate how the physicochemical characteristics of the biomaterials

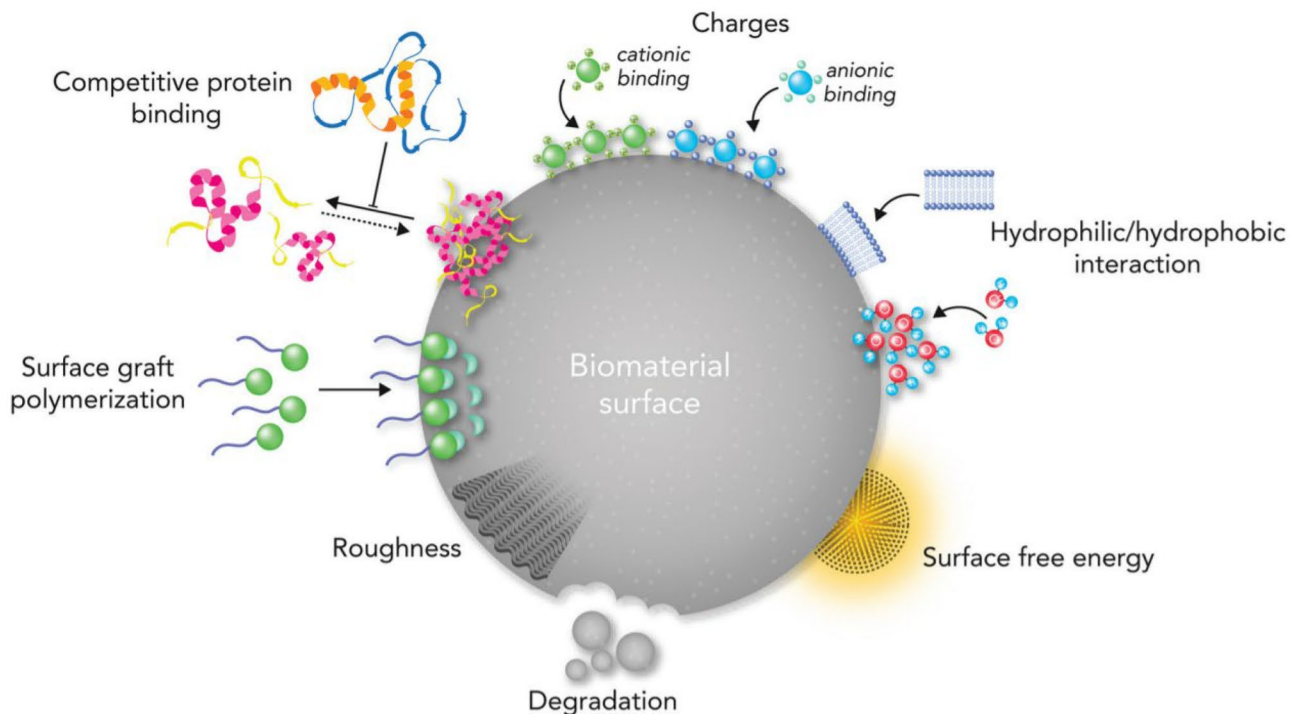


Fig. 3 Diagrammatic illustration of key-surface physicochemical characteristics in biological responses towards a biomaterial [12]

are intensely employed to govern the various molecular and cellular indicating pathways [12]. The mechanical-electrochemical aspect of these interactions may also lead to quick corrosion, disseminating ions, by-products, and particulate fragments in periprosthetic tissue. The biomaterial's surface is thus expected to contribute interim mechanical support and exhibit a profound affinity towards the targeted cells in terms of emitting physical and chemical signals to trigger the neo-tissue development.

4 Classification of biomaterials

Biomaterials can be categorized primarily based on the following.

4.1 Generation

Three generations have witnessed the advancements in the development of biomaterials for medical applications over the years. In the early 1930's SS and cobalt-chromium alloys and 1940's polymers were introduced as the acceptable biomaterials. The first total-hip prosthesis was released in 1938, and the first blood vessel (made up of Vinyon and Copolymer) in 1952. Similarly, the following years 1953, 1958, 1960, and 1976 reported the inventions of vascular grafts, total-hip replacement, heart valves, and artificial heart, respectively. In this regard, Fig. 4 displays the different generations and their respective goals in the last few decades (1940–2021).

Progressive growth in cell and molecular biology, materials science, chemistry, and engineering has been identified as some of the primary reasons for the consistent evolution of biomaterials. The first generation biomaterials were developed to combine the functional features to acceptably meet the tissue's requirements without any detrimental behavior of the surrounding biological environment. Due to the inertness, materials such as silicone rubber and SS were counted as bio-compatible. In comparison, the second generation biomaterials came into existence due to advances in the first generation and were targeted to develop an uninterrupted reaction with

the adjacent tissue. Based on the bioactivity of these materials, implants such as drug-eluting endovascular stents were developed. In addition, degradable materials such as polymeric biomaterials were also evolved in that period. Further, the expanding state-of-the-art gave rise to the fabrication of the third generation biomaterials, intending to stimulate the regeneration of functional or living tissues.

4.2 Elemental composition

- *Metals and alloys* such as SS, titanium (Ti) and Ti alloys, cobalt (Co) alloys, shape memory alloys, and magnesium (Mg) alloys.
- *Ceramics* such as aluminum oxide (Alumina), zirconium oxide (Zirconia), Ti oxide (Titania), bio-glass, carbon (pyrolytic), carbon (graphite), carbon (vitreous), and vitro-ceramic.
- *Polymers* such as polyethylene (PE), polyamide (PA), polyetheretherketone (PEEK), polyethylene terephthalate (PET), polymethylmethacrylate (PMMA), polystyrene (PS), polytetrafluorethylene (PTFE), polyurethane (PU), and synthetic rubber.
- *Composites* such as carbon-PTFE and alumina-PTFE.

4.3 Host-tissue's response

- *Bioinert materials* have the slightest or little interaction with their neighboring tissues. For example, Ti, Ti alloys, and Zr.
- *Bioactive materials* can develop direct chemical bonding with the surrounding bone or even soft tissues in particular cases. For example, Glass–ceramics.
- *Bio-tolerant materials* possess fibrous tissue encapsulation at the implant interface. For example, SS and tantalum.

Further, in the last few decades, biomedical implants have been finding an extensive application at different human body locations for the desired purposes. Some notable examples can be easily witnessed in orthopedics, neural prosthetics, pacemakers, and drug delivery systems [13, 14].

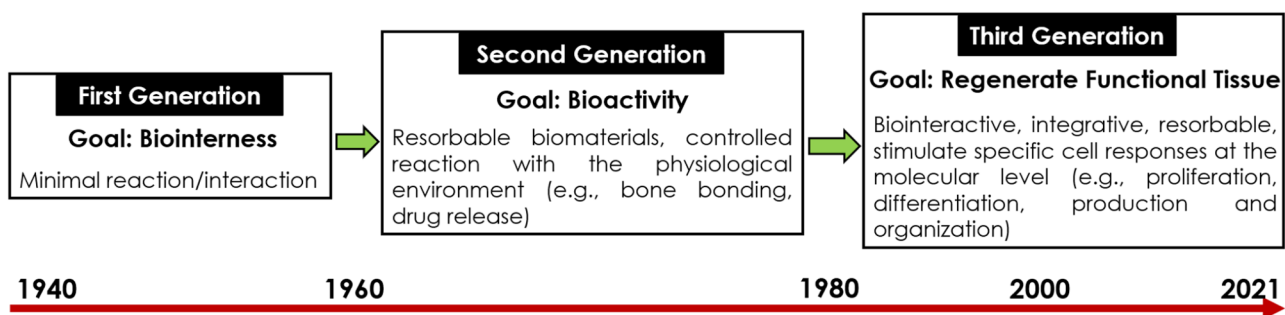


Fig. 4 The evolution of biomaterials science and technology

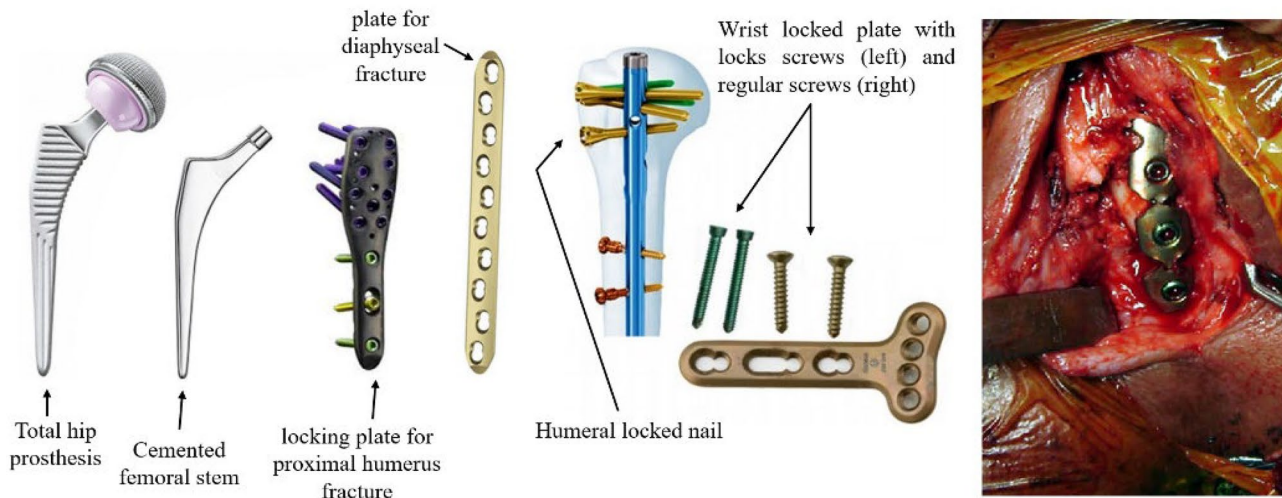


Fig. 5 Various orthopedic implants primarily made up of SS and Ti-6Al-4 V alloy [19, 20]

Therefore, based on the applications, these implant materials are expected to possess excellent corrosion resistance, surface integrity, mechanical strength, and compatibility with bones and surrounding tissues. Figures 5 and 6 represent different biomedical implants or devices, whereas Fig. 7 displays the X-ray images of various body parts with implanted devices. The durability of an implant largely depends on selecting the input biomaterial [15]. The manufacturing of implants from these biomaterials through potential techniques can directly impact the metallurgical, mechanical, and biocompatibility characteristics [16, 17]. Therefore, selecting a suitable manufacturing technique for a particular biomaterial needs to be predetermined. Moreover, finishing processes such as grinding, or polishing should achieve the desired surface finish (as the surface quality directly influences these implants' mechanical performance) [18].

For instance, orthopedics is demanding biomedical implants, such as highly engineered hip joint prostheses, on a larger scale from the manufacturers. The hip joint prosthesis facilitates smoother mobility and causes less pain inside the body of arthritic patients. The femoral head of such prosthesis should have physical properties such as high surface

finish, sufficient resistance towards friction, corrosion, wear, high mechanical strength, and enough compatibility to make the chances of inflammation and rejection null and void.

5 Metallic implant biomaterials and their common behavior

Generally, for load-bearing dental and orthopedic applications (such as bone repair), the biomedical implants, in addition to the satisfactory biocompatibility, need to exhibit high yield, fatigue, tensile, compressive, and shear strength along with sufficient ductility, hardness, and fracture toughness. Therefore, metallic implant biomaterials are superior and more suitable for such applications than the traditional ceramic and polymeric biomaterials. However, the release of ions (from the metallic surface), chemical reaction of a metallic surface with the body enzymes and acids, and high elastic modulus can cause toxicity, oxidative corrosion or galvanic corrosion, and stress shielding (bone resorption), respectively, leading to the implant failure. Consequently, adjacent tissue's vascularity can deteriorate [28]. Some

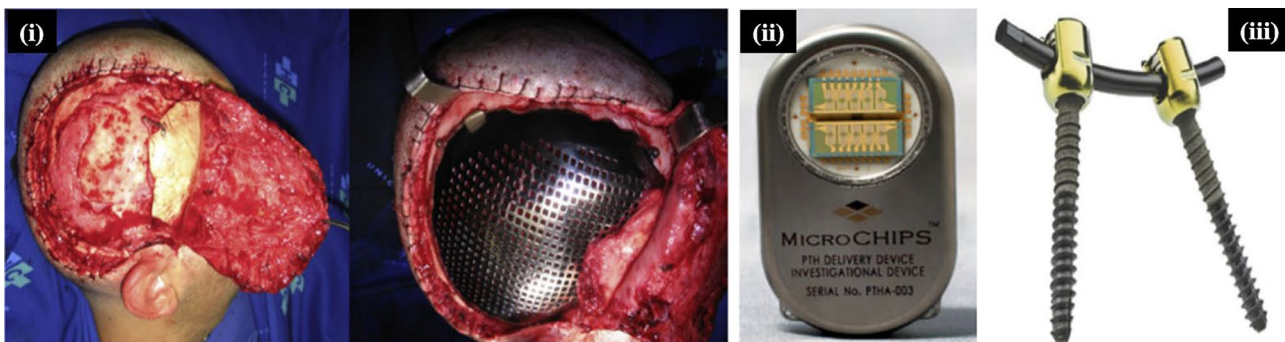


Fig. 6 (i) Titanium alloy cranial implant, (ii) Wirelessly controlled drug-delivery implantable chip, and (iii) Carbon fiber pedicle screws with titanium polyaxial head and carbon-fiber-reinforced rods [21–23]

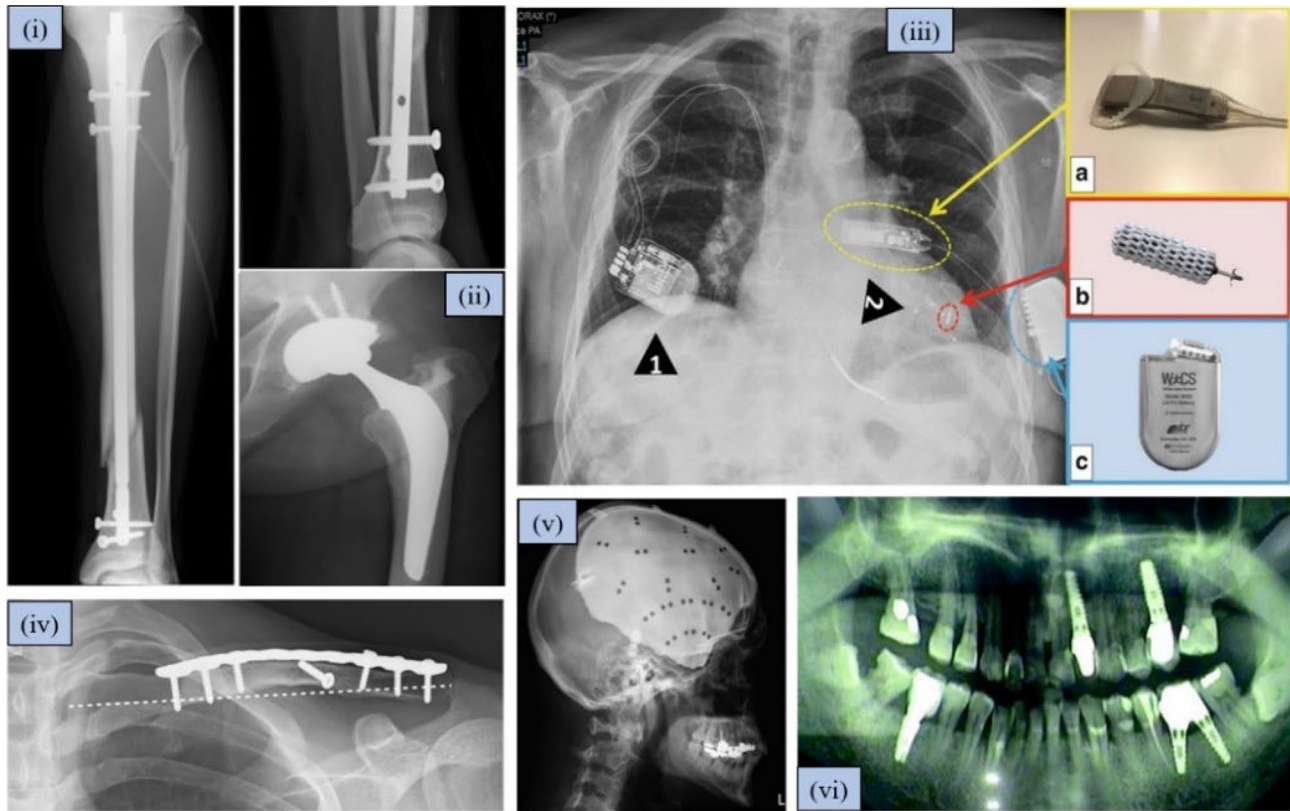


Fig. 7 X-ray image of (i) tibial fracture with a locked nail and distal locking, (ii) cemented femoral stem, (iii) wireless drug delivery system, (iv) projection of clavicle, (v) cranial, and (vi) dental implant [19, 24–27]

widely used metallic implant biomaterials and their mechanical properties are displayed in Table 1.

5.1 SS

Stainless-steel (SS) implants are considered to be one of the cheapest and easiest to manufacture medical devices. However, about ten times higher stiffness of SS than human bone often induces bone resorption due to stress shielding. Moreover, the conductive oxides of SS can cause inflammation. Nonetheless, nickel-SSs exhibit superb mechanical properties and ease of work hardening. In the annealed condition, they exhibit higher strength than other conventional SSs in implant manufacturing. This may cause the formation and advancement of more robust and tougher implants, as per the particular patient's need [40].

5.2 Ti-based alloys

Despite the high cost, the biomedical grade titanium (Ti), and its alloys, such as commercially pure titanium (CpTi) and Ti-6Al-4 V alloy, have always been some of the most reliable choices of the users due to their appealing properties such as outstanding biocompatibility, mechanical properties,

wear, and corrosion resistance, high strength-to-weight ratio, lower stiffness, and elastic modulus [41]. Titanium is widely used as a competent biomaterial in biomedical implants such as joint replacement, bone plate, screw, pacemaker, and dental implant. Ti and its alloys generally offer a satisfactory osteointegration and configure an adequately rich oxide layer, displaying a remarkable resistance to corrosion [42]. In this series, Ti-6Al-4 V was identified as one of the most useful alloys of titanium [41]. However, there are several issues with Ti and Ti alloys that do not allow their basic form. For instance, the contrast between the composition of Ti alloys and human bone opposes the fiber capsule formation around the implant, leading to the weak chemical bonding amid osseointegration [41].

Additionally, the spontaneous formation of a highly stable, thin, and biocompatible nanoporous layer of titanium oxide enhances titanium alloys' corrosion resistance and hinders the ions from getting released from the metallic surface into the body [43]. However, in the case of a weak passivation oxide layer, wear, and corrosion properties, the particles, and ions may get released from the Ti-implant and accumulate on the adjacent/host tissue. Subsequently, the problems of inflammation, hypersensitivity, and toxicity can be induced. Also, the almost negligible resorption of

Table 1 Mechanical properties of primarily used metallic implant biomaterials [28–33]

Metallic implant biomaterial	Yield strength (MPa)	Ultimate tensile strength (MPa)	Elongation (%)	Hardness (HV)
Stainless-steel (SS)				
AISI316L	220–260	500–540	55–65	130–160
PANACEA P558 [34]	600	923	54	367
Biodur®108 [35]	586	931	52	---
X13CrMnMoN18-14-3 [36]	590	1030	70	259
24Cr-1 N [37]	---	1032	26	---
24Cr-2Mo-1 N [38]	---	1167	45	---
BIOSSN4 [39]	559	938	54	248
Titanium-based alloys				
Ti-6Al-4 V (Equiaxed (Std))	951	1020	15	---
Grade 2 Cp Ti (Coarse-grained)	380	460	26	1800
Ti-6Al-4 V ELI (Annealed)	900	970	20	---
Ti-35Nb-7Zr-5Ta (ST (0.06% O))	530	590	21	---
Cobalt-based alloys				
Co-Cr-Mo (castable)	450–520	780–1080	10	298
Co-Cr-Mo (wrought)	452–660	860	30	240
Co-Ni-Cr-Mo (wrought)	242–655	795–1000	50	-
Shape memory alloys (SMAs)				
NiTi SMA (Nitinol)	195–690 (austenitic phase)	895	8	242
	70–140 (martensitic phase)	---	---	346
Magnesium-based alloys				
AZ31 (extruded)	200	385	15	62
AZ91D (die cast)	160	248	3–7	65
Mg-Zn-Mn (extruded)	156	259	12	59
Mg-Ca	148	240	9	55

titanium implants over time obstructs the diagnostic imaging process, and thus, the visualization of surrounding tissues becomes very difficult [44].

5.3 Co-based alloys

Therefore, to overcome such challenges, the researchers attempted to develop another alternative and its variants, chemically inert and known as cobalt-chrome (Co-Cr) alloys. The implants made up of Co-Cr alloys can also be used in dentistry and orthopedics, just like Ti-alloys. A review stated that the Co-Cr alloy implant rod possessed superior fatigue strength and corrosion resistance to Ti-alloy after posterior spinal arthrodesis. However, Co-Cr alloy implants with high nickel content may cause allergy and exhibit low biocompatibility with the host tissue [43, 45]. F75 (Co-Cr-Mo), F90 (Co-20Cr-15 W-10Ni), F562 (Co-35Ni-20Cr-10Mo), and F1537 (Co-28Cr-6Mo) are some of the widely used variants of Co-based alloys for implant applications.

5.4 NiTi SMAs

In recent years, another alloy comprising an association of approximately equiatomic proportions of nickel and titanium alloys, termed as nickel-titanium (NiTi) shape memory alloy (SMA), has attracted numerous researchers' attention as a result of its shape memory and superelastic characteristics. The NiTi SMA was also termed as “Nitinol” after the U.S. Ni-Ti-Naval Ordnance Laboratory. Nitinol is lightweight and exhibits high strength and corrosion resistance, shape-changing capabilities, no cytotoxicity, and even relatively lower cost than gold-cadmium SMAs [46]. The diffusionless thermal conversions between the austenitic and martensitic phases are primarily responsible for the well-known shape-memory effect of a NiTi SMA (Nitinol). According to Fig. 8 [47], with cooling, the progression from O to A presents the transformation of the predominant austenitic phase, giving rise to martensite start temperature (M_s), into complete martensitic phase (martensite finish temperature (M_f)). Whereas the progression from A to B shows the reorientation and

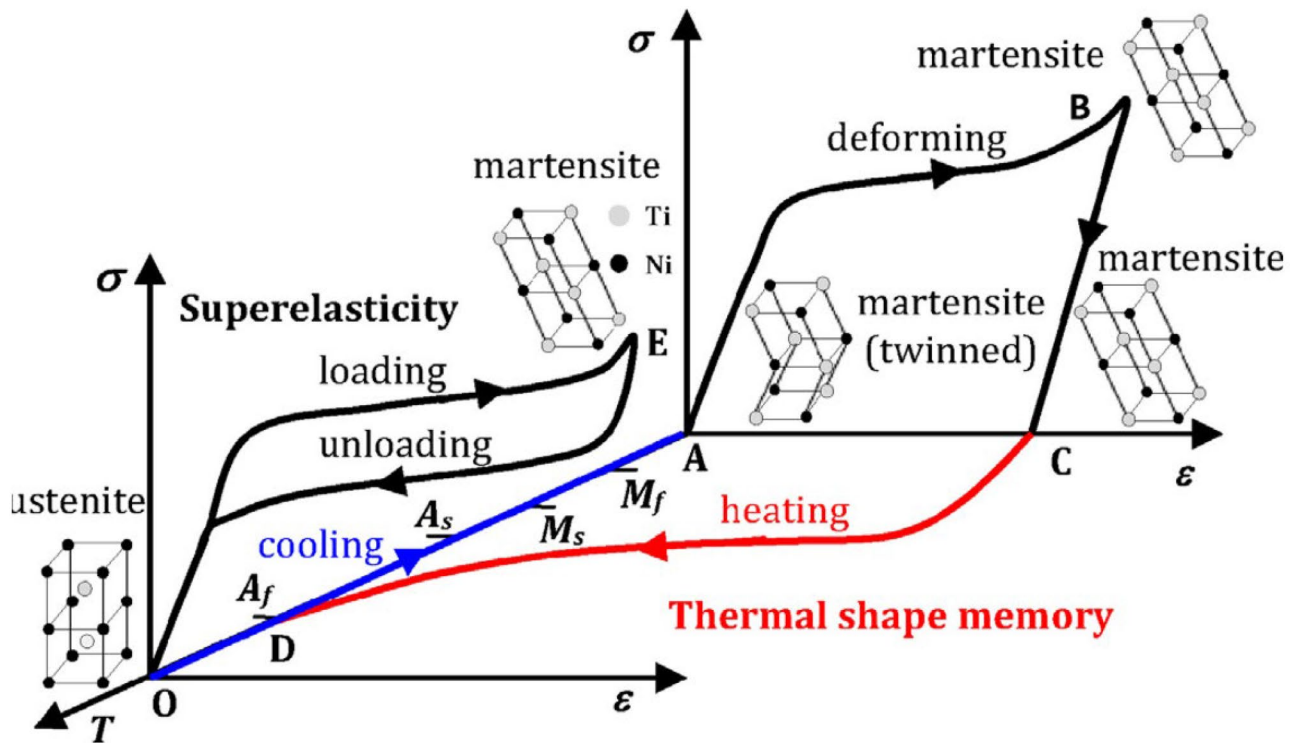


Fig. 8 Schematic display of stress–strain–temperature behavior shown by Nitinol [47]

detwinning of the martensitic phase towards the deformation of the material. Further, the progression from B to C displays the elastic-unloading (as soon as the load is lifted)

in the reoriented and detwinned martensite, confirming the deformation of Nitinol. However, heating of pure martensitic phase leads to austenite start temperature (A_s), leading the

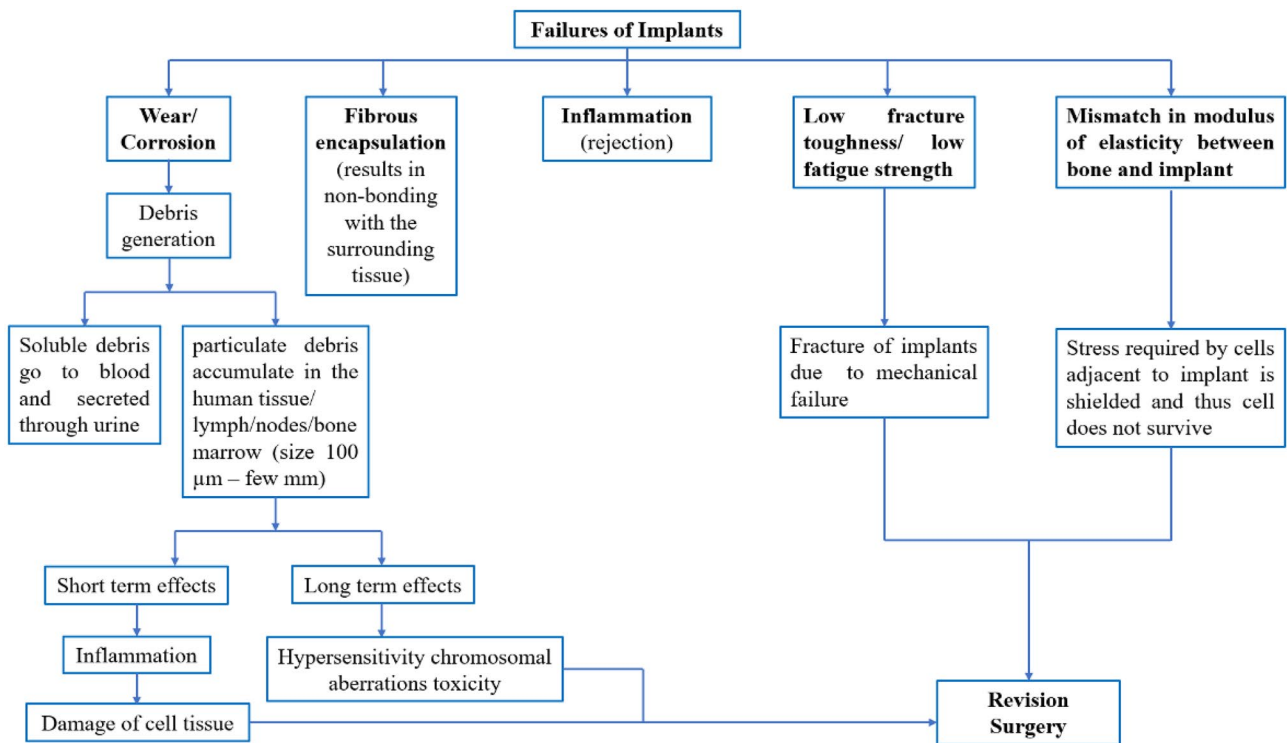


Fig. 9 Causes of deterioration of implants compelling for revision surgery [59]

conversion into complete austenite phase at austenite finish temperature (A_f). The reversible and insatiable behavior of this transformation along with martensite's deforming ability with no breaking of inter-atomic bonds, leads Nitinol to come back to its initial state imputed amid its austenitic phase [48]. In the similar manner, the progression from O to E and E to O present the conversion from austenite into martensite through an induced stress and vice versa, respectively. Nitinol displays a substantially lower elastic modulus and stiffness (closer to human bone) before transitioning to the martensitic phase than other Ti-alloys. Moreover, the superelastic properties of Nitinol wire facilitate greater comfort to the patient and lesser bone resorption than SS and Co-Cr wires during the application of continuous force on teeth by the dentist [49]. Also, NiTi stents find application in the reinforcement of blood vessels. The fundamental reasons behind the versatile performance of Nitinol can be principally found in terms of its featherweight, inertness, and shape memory features that are promising for its biomedical applications such as orthodontics and stents [50].

In some previous investigations, Nitinol implants assisted with a faster recovery of bone than SS, Ti, and Co-Cr implants due to its feature of reducing stiffness in the exact proportion of a bone, causing a superior load-bearing in the healing mechanism [46, 51, 52]. However, despite all such excellent features, the high amount of nickel may cause carcinogenic and allergic reactions [53].

5.5 Mg-based alloys

Further, the installation of an implant may be on a long-term or short-term basis. The implants can either replace the missing body part or support the injured ones on a permanent (non-degradable) or temporary (degradable) basis. Heart pacemakers, cardioverter defibrillators, dental devices, spine screws, rods, and disks are examples of non-degradable and degradable implants [2]. A relatively higher value of Young's modulus of the non-degradable metallic implants, for instance 200 GPa, being highly stiff, can deteriorate fractured bone's (10–45 GPa) density noticeably [54]. This is the reason why, the non-degradable implants, for example chemotherapy ports, are often detached after a specified timespan. However, the implant's removal might further involve the endanger of failure and side effects [2]. In this regard, according to Fig. 9, several causes play their roles in implant failure, which increases the chances of revision surgeries. These surgeries are not very successful and cause much discomfort to the patient. An engineered biomedical implant insertion inside the human body causes the implant surface to interact with the blood, fluids, tissues, proteins, and cells, even up to the micro-level. Such interactions may lead to the generation of fiber-like covering around

the inserted implant and ascertain the recovery time of the body's damaged tissue or organ. Thus, such unpredictable attributes led the researchers to discover some capable substitutes, that were later recognized as degradable implantable devices, that could avoid the anticipated hazards of post-surgical procedures. Also, the patient gets freed from the tense thought of secondary surgery if it can be avoided by removing the implant. In this series, in terms of superior degradability, Young's modulus (40–45 GPa), biocompatibility, and density (1.75–18.5 g/cm²), magnesium and its alloys were found to be the better alternatives to the degradable polylactide and polydioxanone and other similar synthetic polymers [55, 56]. Additionally, the alloying of Mg with Ag, Ca, Cu, and Sr results into a relatively faster bone-formation and cell simulation [57]. However, Mg and its alloys are often challenged by their early degradation that can partially heal or recover the damaged bone.

5.6 Bulk metallic glass (BMG)

Besides the abovementioned metallic alloys and crystalline metals, bulk metallic glass (BMG) has also been considered a suitable biomedical implant material due to its favorable toughness, tensile strength, elasticity, low internal friction, and sufficient resistance towards corrosion and wear. However, the absence of crystallinity causes problems in the production of BMG [58].

5.7 Merits, demerits, and applications of metallic implant biomaterials

Further, Table 2 presents some standard merits, demerits, and applications of the primarily or conventionally used metallic implant materials.

6 Basic design considerations for biomedical implants

The basic design procedure of biomedical implants includes considering the biomaterials' bulk and surface attributes/properties. The bulk attributes comprise the physical and mechanical properties such as crystallinity, thermal transition points, elasticity, strength, ductility, fatigue, and hardness of the biomaterial that are generally dictated by its physicochemical characteristics. The bulk attributes of an implant are displayed throughout its lifetime. The biomaterial can mimic the physicochemical properties of the tissue to be augmented or replaced by altering its bulk attributes.

On the other hand, the surface features of the implant can noticeably affect the host tissue. These surface interactions can accelerate healing and lead to toxicity, inflammation,

Table 2 Merits, demerits, and applications of primarily used metallic implant biomaterials

Metallic implant biomaterial	Merits	Demerits	Applications	Ref
SS	Excellent resistance to wear	The modulus of bone is lesser compared to Co-Cr alloy. Allergy is caused due to the presence of Ni	Hip and knee joint replacements, fixing the tooth with the help of dental implant, spinal instruments, heart valves, stents, pacemaker, surgical devices	[60, 61]
Ti-based alloys	Outstanding resistance to corrosion, highly bio-compatible, low Young's Modulus, less dense	For long term usage, Al and V can be referred to as toxic material and poor tribological properties	Cochlear replacement, pacemakers, heart valves, dental implants, hip and knee joint replacements, surgical devices	[62–64]
Co-based alloys	Excellent resistance to wear	The modulus of bone is much less in contradiction to Co and Cr; allergy is caused due to the presence of Ni	Dental implants, pacemakers, sutures, hip and knee joint replacements, heart valves, orthopedic prostheses	[61, 65]
Shape memory alloy	High biocompatibility, strength, stiffness, and elastic deformation, enlarged surface area, highly permeable	Challenging to melt as well as elaborate, very expensive	Catheters, stents, sutures, orthodontic wires	[66, 67]
Mg-based alloys	Low density, high damping capacity, machinability, dimensional stability, biocompatibility, and non-toxic	Resorption problems, high corrosion rate, the evolution of hydrogen	Bone repair and vascular stents	[68]

infection, and tumorigenesis in the host tissue. Moreover, the unfavorable body environment can adversely affect the implant and its performance through many physical–mechanical effects (such as wear, corrosion, fatigue, and stress-induced cracking) and biological effects (such as enzymatic degradation, adsorption of tissue constituents, and calcification), leading to implant failure. Hence, the surface attributes, such as chemical composition, wettability, topography, biocompatibility, corrosion resistance, and cytotoxicity, determine the cell response towards the surface [10]. Therefore, the various ISO (International Organization for Standardization), ASTM (America Society for Testing and Materials), BSI (British Standards Institution), AISI (American Iron and Steel Institute), and BIS (Bureau of Indian Standards) standards are adopted for the regulation purpose while designing and manufacturing the biomedical implants. For instance, ISO 25539–2:2020 is to be considered to examine the overall performance of cardiovascular implants- endovascular devices and the surface preparations including texture/coating, need to chiefly consider ASTM F86–21, ASTM F2791–15, and F-2743–11 standards [69].

Besides, as shown in Fig. 10, the basic procedure of achieving a biomedical implant in its intended application involves several facilitators. It encompasses the study of a biomaterial's properties, implementing various engineering tools on the biomaterial to process and fabricate a biomedical implant/device, getting the necessary approval from the concerned healthcare agencies, and obtaining permission from the concerned industries for product development and its commercialization.

The facilitators involved in the first step are generally researchers, whereas the second step requires physicians, engineers, and metallurgists/ceramicists/polymer chemists, and machinists. Subsequently, there comes a role of bioengineers and surgeons/physicians in the third step, followed by the approval of regulatory specialties/agencies and legislators. The last step incorporates the role of physicians/dentists/optometrists/pathologists [70].

7 Surface modification of metallic implant biomaterials

As discussed in the previous sections and subsections, the surface of a biomaterial exhibits an inviolable affinity towards a large number and varieties of proteins and thus is prone to attract a plasma protein, mainly albumin, fibrinogen, and fibronectin. However, such a tendency of a biomaterial's surface can often lead to developing some undesirable alterations, such as an excess adherence of fibrinogen, in the surface attributes of the biomaterial, resulting in denaturation. Therefore, in such cases, the unwanted rise in the degree of neopeptides exposure following cell and tissue reactions

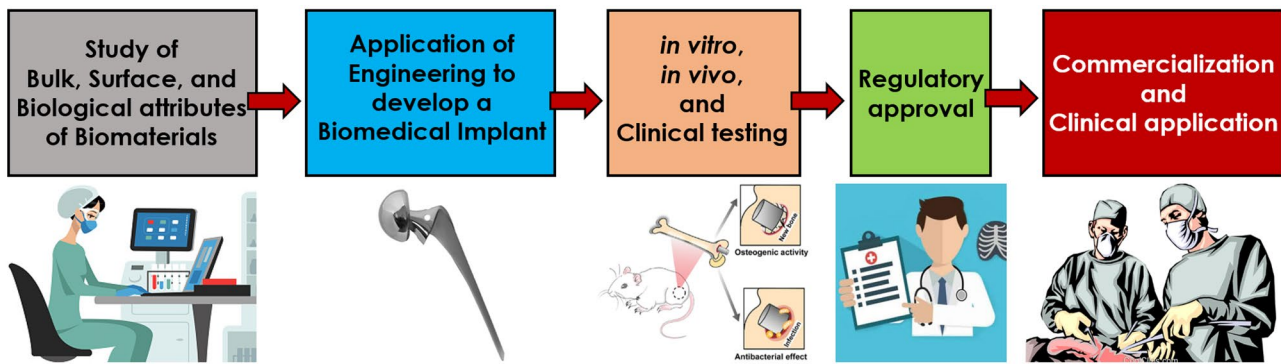


Fig. 10 The path from the fundamental study of biomaterials to the development of a biomedical implant, followed by its clinical application

needs to be treated to guard the biomaterial's surface during its anticipated service life for satisfactory performance. Moreover, some processing defects can also adversely affect the surface attributes of the biomaterials, leading to failure. For instance, titanium (Ti) is widely used as a competent biomaterial in medical implants such as joint replacement, bone plate, screw, pacemaker, and dental implant. However, there are several issues with Ti and Ti alloys that do not allow their basic form. The contrast between the composition of Ti alloys and human bone opposes the fiber capsule formation around the implant, leading to the weak chemical bone-bonding amid osseointegration [41].

Moreover, the sub-surface of Ti alloys remains prone to plastic shear and work hardening, which are unfavorable for the desired bone growth. In addition, even if a protective oxide (passive) layer gets formed on the Ti alloy implant surface due to specific chemical reactions, the low adhesive strength of Ti alloys might result in an easy peeling off the protective layer when exposed to substantial loading and human body fluid. Therefore, the unprotected implant surface may liberate the toxic elements from its surface into the body fluid and induce thrombus and inflammation [41, 71]. Also, some processing defects, such as poor machining, may adversely affect these desirable properties of Ti and its alloys and induce poor surface integrity, leading to implant loosening and final failure [72]. Besides, the relative motion between the bone and implant, in addition to the body fluid environment, triggers excess adhesive and abrasive wear, causing an impairment of the protective layer integrated into the implant surface [73].

Therefore, in this regard, “surface modification” of biomaterials is a potential solution to secure the biomaterial's surface against harmful reactions and elements and improve its existing attributes/properties remarkably. Surface modification can noticeably improve the biomaterial's/implant's performance by altering its physical, chemical, mechanical, and biological properties. Moreover, the damaged tissue is more responsive when interacting with a modified

implant surface [74]. Additionally, the surface modification of titanium implants results in their considerably improved osteointegration and antibacterial properties [73]. One of the latest articles thematically reviewed the most recent developments in the surface modification of titanium and its alloys via physical and chemical approaches, specifically for biomedical applications. In this relation, Fig. 11 presents various methods used to modify the biomaterials' surfaces with their respective advantages, disadvantages, and applications. The significant advantages of the various surface modification techniques, such as plasma immersion ion-implantation and deposition, physical-vapor-deposition (PVD), chemical-vapor-deposition (CVD), and micro-arc oxidation (MAO), were discussed in detail. However, the review also revealed some of the main limitations of the techniques mentioned above: poor bonding strength of the coated layer, the unstudied impact of the thermal effect on the modified surface, and considerable toxicity, leading to poor biological performance [73].

In this relation, another review systematically presented the recent progress and prospect of biomedical Ti alloys and found equal-channel-angular-extrusion (ECAP), accumulative-roll-bonding (ARB), and friction-stir-processing (FSP) as some of the most significant severe plastic deformation (SPD) tools for the improved bioactivity of Ti alloys in vivo [41].

7.1 Surface modification of metallic implant biomaterials via traditional subtractive manufacturing techniques

Based on some of the outlined negative aspects of the previously mentioned surface modification techniques, the researchers and scientists have realized the pressing need to develop some adequate substitutes or alternatives over the years to improve the surface properties of the biomaterials. In this relation, “subtractive manufacturing” has been proposed as one of the most influential processing methods to

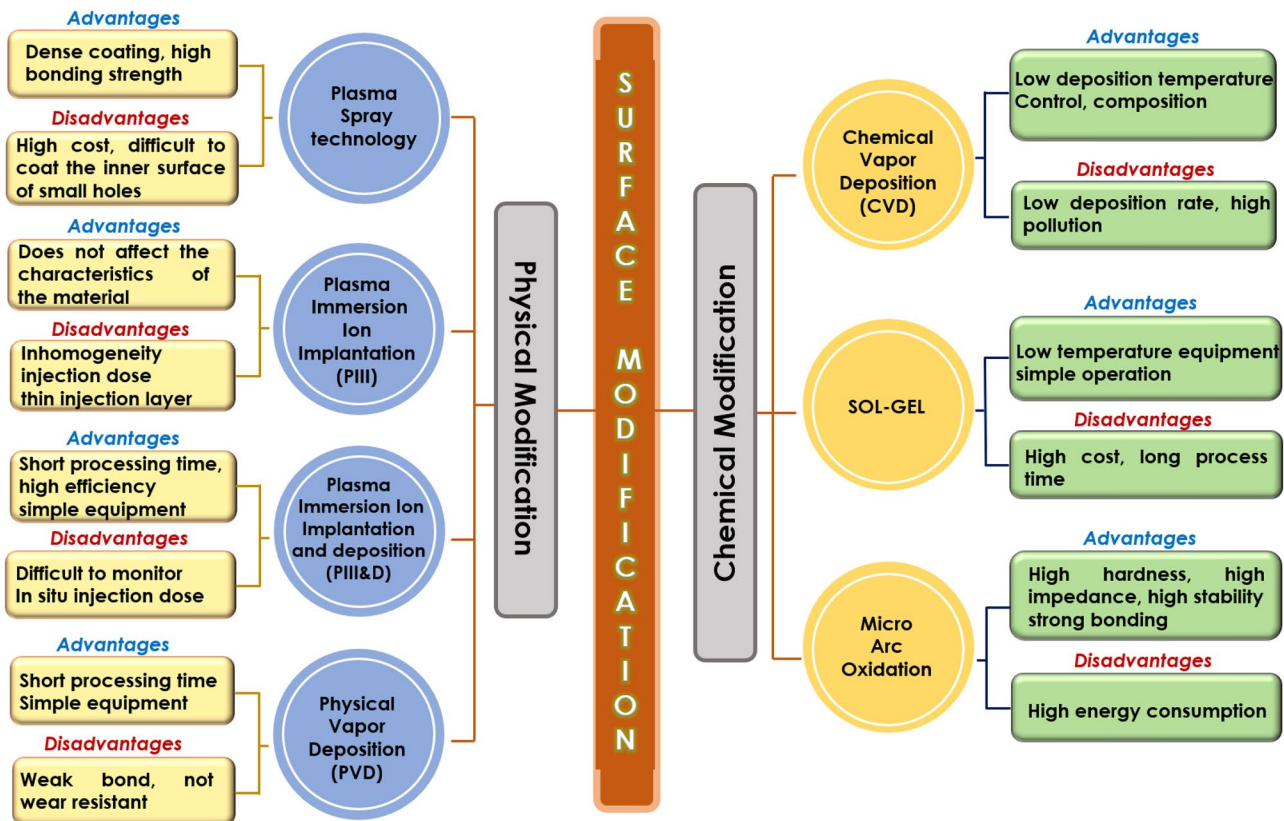


Fig. 11 Various surface modification methods with their respective advantages, disadvantages, and applications [73]

achieve a favorable and considerable surface modification on the surface of biomaterial/implant/device primarily via severe plastic deformation (SPD) and development of a passivating layer on the machined surface [75–77]. The process economy accompanying a massive output makes subtractive manufacturing or machining techniques such as milling, turning, and drilling the primary choice of the manufacturers. However, the surface defects (such as thermal cracks and corrosion pits) found on the finally produced medical implant can lead to failure or faster degradation under the joint influence of stress and corrosive environment. This gives rise to fatigue cracking and wear at defective sites [78]. Therefore, a manufactured part's functional behavior can be predicted primarily by those attributes that ultimately quantify the surface integrity and the magnitude of manufacturing-induced compressive residual stresses (induced by more mechanical deformation and less thermal influence). These residual stresses are responsible for enhanced surface hardness, leading to improved corrosion features. The physical, mechanical, chemical, and metallurgical aspects can be tailored during a particular manufacturing process of interest. Finally, surface integrity on the implant's surface can ascertain the probability of its success or failure. A generalized range of typical values of surface roughness expected on biomedical implants or parts is 1.5 to 4 μm [79, 80].

In addition, the physiochemical properties such as topography, wetting behavior, and elemental composition on the topmost layer of an implant surface basically ascertain its effectiveness in a biological setting. Thus, even slight changes in such properties are able to cause considerable variations in the reactivities of the implant as well as the cell at the point of their interaction [81, 82]. However, the topographical features such as surface roughness are mainly responsible for the cells' response such as osteogenic differentiation of cells, cell growth, and proliferation rates [82, 83]. In this regard, cutting speed, feed rate, cutting tool pressure, and lubrication and their various levels were identified as some of the major machining factors inducing specific topographies on the machined metallic biomaterials [84].

7.1.1 Effect of cutting tool's properties and lubrication/cooling (lubri-coolant) during machining

Traditional subtractive manufacturing techniques are best defined as subtracting excess material from the workpiece in the form of chips using a sharp-edged cutting tool by applying forces on the workpiece, thus removing the material under suitable manufacturing conditions. The process input variables should be adequately selected to achieve the

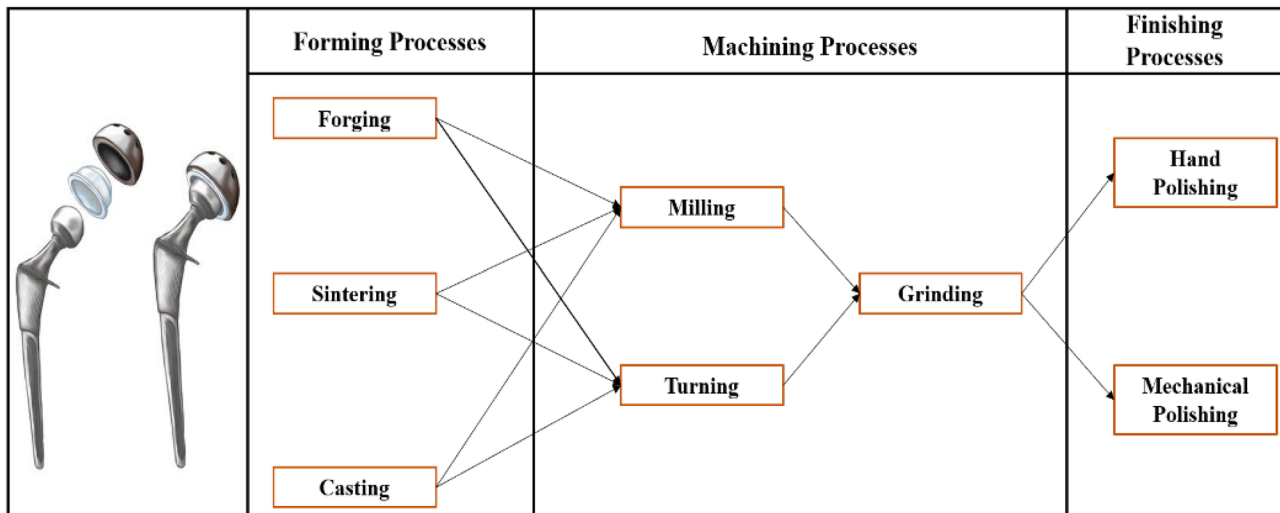


Fig. 12 Fabrication process plan for metallic components of the prosthesis

desired outcomes during the traditional subtractive manufacturing of biomaterials. Figure 12 shows the inclusion of some forming processes and machining techniques, followed by finishing processes, in attaining the prosthesis's metallic components [85].

However, due to undesirable properties such as low thermal conductivity and elastic modulus, chemical reactivity (with a cutting tool), high hot hardness, and flammability, the difficult-to-cut biomaterials exhibit poor machinability, challenging their effective machining [86]. Hence, to deal with the issue, several latest investigations optimizing machining input variables, researching chip-morphology, evaluating vibration and forces at the tool-biomaterial interface, studying the impact and behavior of cryogenically treated (cryo-treated) cutting tool, applying various types of cooling techniques were included and elaborated by a review based on Ti alloys [87]. The survey of the recent literature indicated the application of non-coated and coated cutting tools, which also play an important role [88, 89]. Moreover, cutting tools with coating such as AlTiN, TiAlN, AlCrN, TiAlSiN, and NbN and without coating were also used in some recent studies [89–92]. Besides, the applications of cryogenics as a treatment medium to enhance the existing properties (such as mechanical, chemical, metallurgical, thermal, and electrical) of uncoated as well as coated cutting tools and as a cooling agent amid machining of difficult to machine Ti alloys, were elucidated by several recent articles [92–95]. In addition, the wear properties of the carbide cutting tools were significantly improved as a result of cryogenic treatment that led a uniform spread of carbides [96–99]. Further, as highlighted by one of the latest reviews, cutting tools with textured surfaces are some leading tribological research fronts, improving the ease of machining.

Since a considerable number of metallic biomaterials fall in the category of difficult-to-machine materials, the variation in tool texture's features such as width, depth, and density, may lead to remarkable enhancements in chip-formation, cutting force, generated heat, lubri-cooling action, surface finish quality, and consequently, tool life. The textures comprising linear-grooves and dimple-geometries (obtained by laser ablation) were identified as the most competent textures [100]. However, so far, the literature has reported the use of textured cutting tools only with Ti-based biomaterials [101]. Two recent articles presented the effective use of micro-textured tungsten and cemented carbide cutting tools with MO disulfide + SAE 40 oil and ZJ846 lubri-coolants, respectively, against Ti-6Al-4 V alloy. In both the studies, a notable improvement in cutting force, surface roughness, chip-morphology, and tool life were witnessed [102]. Besides this, the exceptionally excellent cutting abilities of the advanced cutting tool materials such as cermet, polycrystalline cubic boron nitride (PCBN), ceramic, and polycrystalline diamond (PCD), are nowadays popularly known in the manufacturing community. As demonstrated by several studies, stainless steel and Ti-6Al-4 V alloy were quite easily machined with PCBN [103–107], PCD [105, 107–109] with enhanced cutting force, chip-behavior, tool safety, and surface quality. However, the ultra-high hardness (around 10,000 HV) of these cutting tools always challenges their manufacturing techniques [110]. In this regard, traditional abrasive-grinding and non-traditional electric discharge grinding (EDG) were identified as two effective methods to develop such ultra-hard cutting tools. EDG, being the variant of a conventional electric discharge machining (EDM) technique, erodes the excess material from the facial cutting tool such as PCD [111] and PCBN [112], via unceasing and repeated sparks

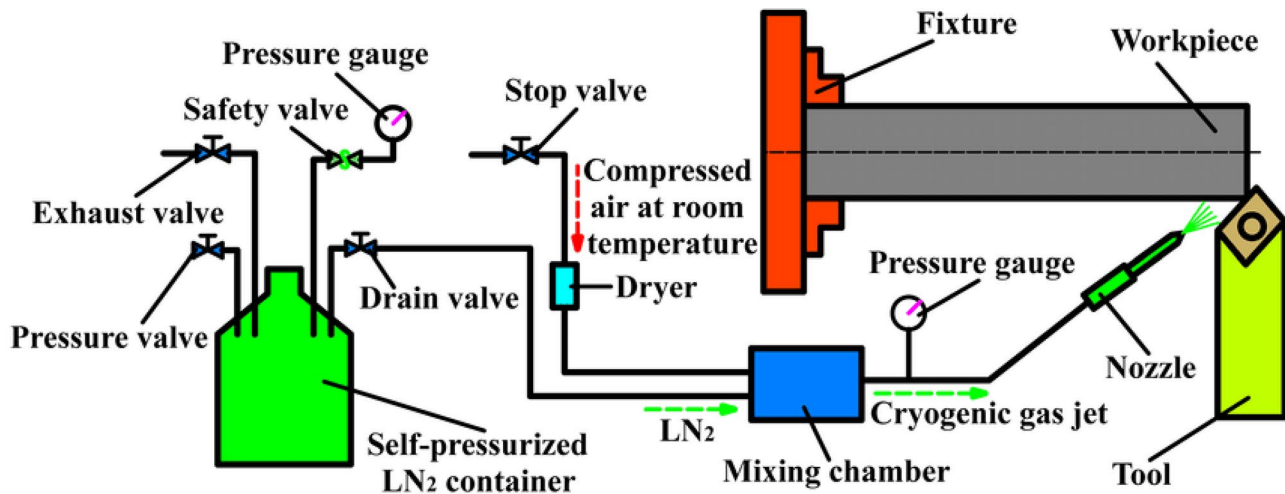


Fig. 13 Schematic display of cryogenic machining system [115]

generally with the assistance of a rotary copper-nickel alloy wheel (electrode). The rotary electrode simultaneously channels the dielectric into the space between electrode and workpiece and expels the debris from the same [109]. This leads to obtain an increased material removal and reduced wear and short-circuiting (by decreasing the probability of arcing and non-uniform sparking) [113]. Moreover, an EDG process achieves a superior material subtraction (up to $400 \text{ mm}^3/\text{min}$) to a traditional abrasive-grinding process [111]. A study revealed that the wheel rotation could notably influence the heat affected layer, surface finish, and edge-undercut [113].

Further, an immense use of cryogenic cooling strategies, noticeably decreasing the machining temperatures (developed due to the cutting tool and workpiece surface interaction), was witnessed by the past couple of decades. However, the heat removal capacity and produced surface finish are determined using the direction and approach angle of the cryo-lubri-coolant. The cryo-lubri-coolant might hit the cutting tool-chip interface or cutting tool flank-workpiece interface [114]. Figure 13 diagrammatically shows a cryogenic machining-system with several components when a Ti-6Al-4 V alloy was being turned [115].

An improved heat-transfer (forty-notch higher) and cooling rate (up to $8 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}/\text{ms}$) was witnessed as the gas was eliminated in the released jet (found in the sub-cooled boiling zone) comprising partial liquid-phase/drops at the exit of nozzle and with approximately 50% liquid when arrives at the target [116–118]. Moreover, the cryo-lubri-coolants displayed higher dynamic viscosity and specific heat in their liquid phase than gaseous phase [119, 120]. In addition, the heat-transfer coefficients with numeric values as $20,000 \text{ W}/\text{m}^2\text{K}$, $2000 \text{ W}/\text{m}^2\text{K}$, and $20 \text{ W}/\text{m}^2\text{K}$ were noticed during the cutting of Ti-6Al-4 V alloy using

cryo-lubri-coolant, dry compressed air, and free convection, respectively [114]. Also, being environment-friendly, health-friendly, and cost-effective, the cryo-lubri-coolant-assisted machining is identified as sustainable manufacturing [121]. Further, the machining of Ti alloys was reviewed in detail that consisted of application of several cooling strategies. It was found that conventional cutting fluid did reduce the formation of burrs and built-up edge (BUE) but ended up with chipping and flank wear of the cutting tool. Therefore, the application of minimum quantity lubrication (MQL), hybridized MQL + nano-fluids (Al_2O_3 , graphite, and molybdenum disulfide), minimum quantity cooling lubrication (MQCL), cold-water mist jet (CWMJ), cooled air-lubrication, vegetable oil + cooled-air, graphene-doped nanofluid mist-spray cooling, hybridized MQL + graphene nanoparticles and cryogenic machining (using either CO_2 or LN_2) were enumerated [122]. For example, greater amount of heat transfer and superior surface quality were noticed while TC9 alloy was being turned using CWMJ. Besides, at low cutting speeds and feed rates, a superior performance of MQL was observed over wet, cooled air-lubrication, hybridized vegetable oil + cooled air, and MQCL environments [123] and also shielded the cutting tool coating [124]. In contrast, the hybridized MQL with graphite nanofluids brought more amount of cutting temperatures down than the hybridized Al_2O_3 and molybdenum disulfide [114, 125]. In addition, cryogenic cooling noticeably dissipated the heat, however, the hybridized MQL + Al_2O_3 + multi-walled carbon nanotube decreased the cutting forces by 11.8% [126]. Also, graphene's excellent thermal conductivity in graphene-doped-nanofluid mist spray and its hybrid variant led to notably remove the excess heat [111]. The cryogenic machining again performed better than MQL and its variants in terms of enhanced heat transfer, and cutting tool wear [122, 127].

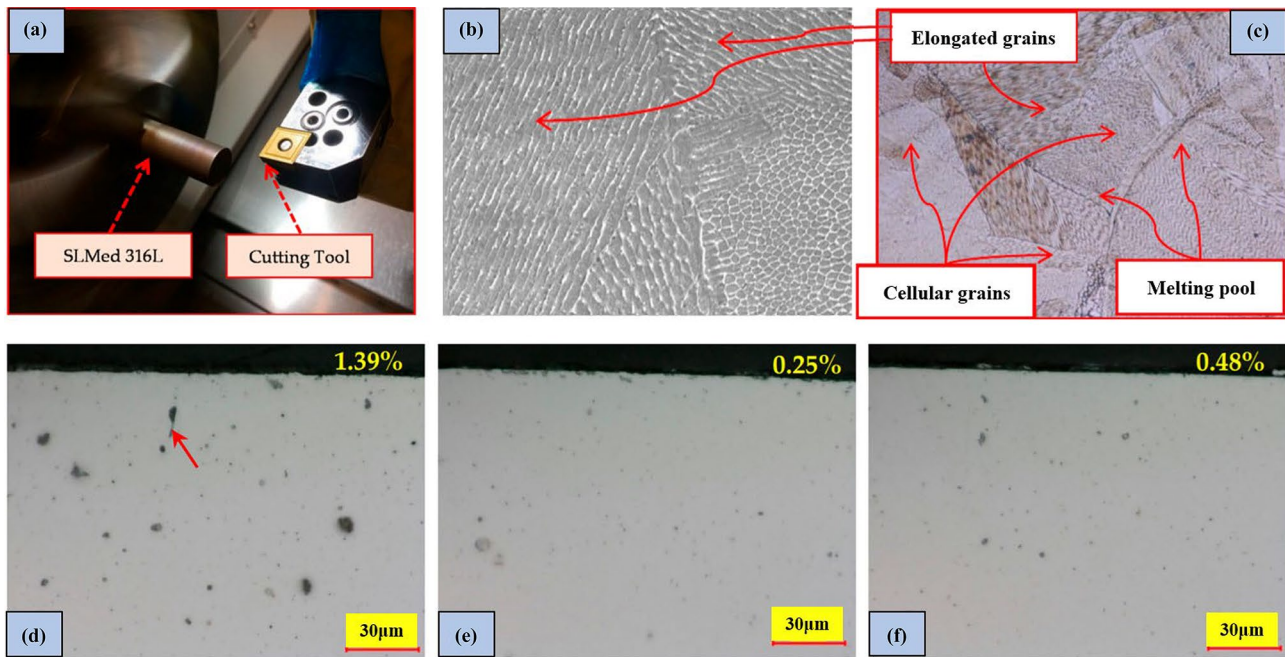


Fig. 14 **a** Experimental setup, **b** grain structure, and **c** melting pool of as-built SLMed part; **d** porosity noticed on as-built SLMed part, **e** turned part at 50 m/min cutting-speed, and **f** turned part at 200 m/min cutting speed [128]

7.1.2 Some relevant findings amid enhanced traditional machining of metallic implant biomaterials

As outlined by the study, the optimal value of surface roughness ($0.9 \mu\text{m}$) during turning a selective laser melted (SLMed) 316L SS by cementite carbide-cutting tools (SNMG form) was achieved at 200 m/min cutting speed 0.1 mm/rev feed-rate, and 1.25 mm depth-of-cut. The surface integrity was improved with the rise in cutting speed, as shown in Fig. 14 [128]. However, the same became worse with the rise in depth-of-cut and feed rate. The tensile residual stresses were more affected by cutting speed and feed rate [129].

Concerning the subtractive manufacturing of 316L SS, based on recent findings, researchers' interest is slowly shifting towards hybrid manufacturing (additive followed by subtractive manufacturing). In this regard, the hybrid manufacturing of 316L SS biomedical parts using additive (SLM) followed by subtractive manufacturing (finish turning) resulted in 88% surface roughness reduction. Moreover, the post-turned SLMed surface and subsurface were noticed with substantially reduced porosity density and considerably refined grains and strain-hardened layer [128]. Some latest research stated the significant role of macro and micro-milling in the subtractive processing of 316L SS for biomedical applications. A study of an additive manufactured 316L SS included cutting forces when the feed direction changed concerning the layer inclination. The resulting melt borders from the additive manufacturing obstruct the

dislocation distortion [130]. Another research reported a considerable impact on the anisotropy of powder bed fusion (PBF) micro-manufactured 316L SS with the alteration in feed direction and surface roughness values. The larger tool diameter ($800 \mu\text{m}$) achieved improved results [131]. In the case of SS, one of the prime complexities in machining SS is that it characteristically produces high cutting temperatures, which results in the depletion of part life and weakening of the workpiece's surface properties. Moreover, the traditional cooling methods are ineffectual in restraining these critical issues of quick tool wear and high cutting temperature. In a comparative investigation of wet and cryogenic turning, the results came out to favor cryogenic cooling when 44–51% reduction in cutting temperature, 16% reduction in cutting force, and 22–34% reduction in surface roughness were recorded [132].

Besides, titanium and its alloys are other categories of metallic implant biomaterials challenging to be machined. The premier obstacles in machining this material are the elevated cutting temperatures and instant tool deterioration at the machining time. Undeniably, several tool materials express instant wear and tear even when operated at adequate cutting speed. In the present scenario, the machining practice is cutting speed is reduced to less than 1 m/s so that the tool deterioration may be minimized. A single layer coating of Al_2O_3 is preferred due to its lower thermal conductivity than a tungsten carbide insert. This layer avoids heat dissipation from the intense temperature and stress at the cutting point. There are other options for machining

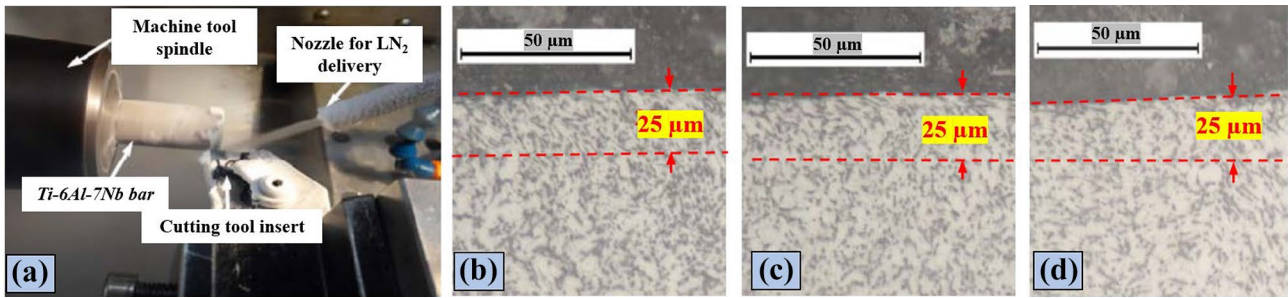


Fig. 15 a Cryogenic turning setup. Microstructure of surface and subsurface amid b cryogenic, c flood cooled, and d dry turning [77]

titanium alloys, such as carbide and nitride, yet they are not employed due to their chemical resemblance. Therefore, the cryogenic machining practice is employed for its twofold excellence in enriching chemical stability and reducing the cutting temperature while machining hard-to-machine metallic biomaterials. This practice is effective enough to increase the efficiency of titanium machining [133].

Further, it was depicted that cryogenic machining was the alternative to dry and flood machining of Ti-6Al-7Nb, resulting in an improved surface finish to be used as biocompatible medical implants [77]. It was also realized that the machined surface degraded because of adhesion formed as a product of dry machining and softening of the constructed surface due to the rapid rise in penetrating temperature. Due to some slight variations between dry and flood-cooled machining in terms of micro-level firmness of the surface and its underlying area, the best surface roughness was noticed in the case of cryogenic machining, which was 35% better than dry and 6% than flood-cooled machining as a result of SPD (as illustrated in Fig. 15).

Sun et al. [134] discussed the ramification of cryogenic compressed air cooling on the tool wear and the subsequent progression of cutting forces amid the turning of Ti-6Al-4 V alloy using two different speeds. A carbide insert (CNMX1204A2-SMH13A) was used to conduct the process of turning at an approach angle of 45°, the rake angle

of +15°, the effective rake angle of +9°, and inclination of -6°. Due to the dimensions of the built-up edge, chip and flank wear were reduced significantly by the cutting forces at more values of cutting speed. Therefore, cryogenic compressed air cooling was comparatively found better. Orthogonal cutting of Ti-6Al-4 V alloy having a more effective feed rate (0.1–0.25 mm) at high speed was examined in terms of the dynamics and generation of chip geometry. Implants were manufactured through turning with the help of a displaceable cutting plate made of coated cemented carbide. It was concluded that depth of cut and chip design play essential roles in mainly turning hard metallic biomaterials. A recent study on the dry turning of biomedical Ti-6Al-4 V-ELI with SNMA120408 uncoated inserts via experimentation and finite element modeling obtained phenomenal results. In Fig. 16, the SEM micrographs demonstrated the major fractures leading to chipping segment generation and the plastic flow of the workpiece surface via observed feed marks on the turned samples. Moreover, the subsurface analysis revealed that the substantial microstructural changes occurred due to the differently produced high heat energies with variation in cutting speed [135].

In a study on ultrasonic assisted-drilling of Ti-6Al-4 V, Pujana et al. [136] observed a 10–20% reduction in feed force. However, the drill bit experienced a higher temperature than the conventional drilling setup. Figure 17 presents

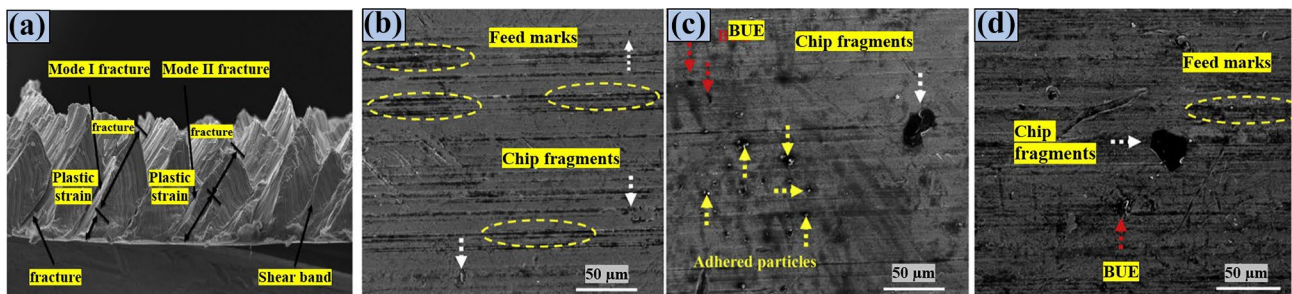


Fig. 16 a Major fractures leading to chipping segment generation. Machining induced imperfections on biomedical Ti-6Al-4 V-ELI surface at b 65 m/min, c 112 m/min, and d 124 m/min cutting speed [135]

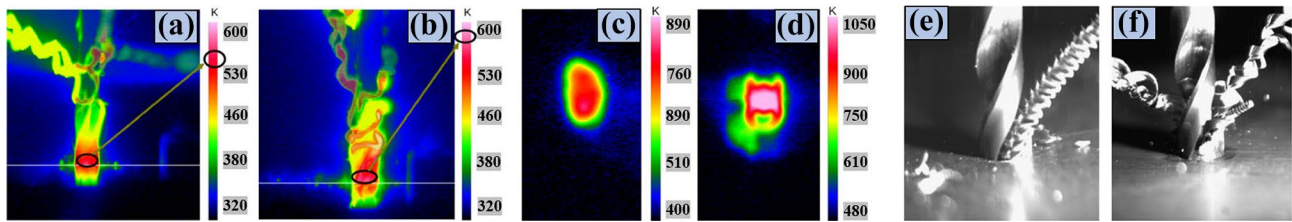


Fig. 17 Drill thermograms **a** without and **b** with ultrasonic assistance while entering into the Ti-6Al-4 V specimen. Drill thermograms **c** without and **d** with ultrasonic assistance while exiting the Ti-6Al-4 V specimen. Chip generation **e** without and **f** with ultrasonic assistance [136]

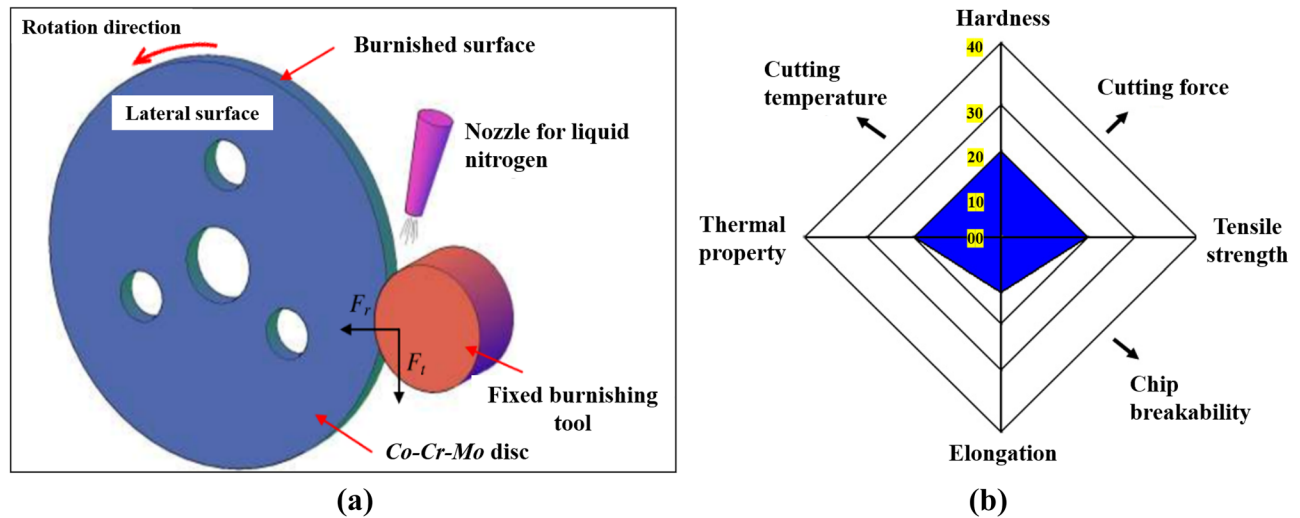


Fig. 18 **a** Schematic diagram of the burnishing of Co-Cr-Mo alloy [75] and **b** properties of Co-Cr-Mo alloys [137]

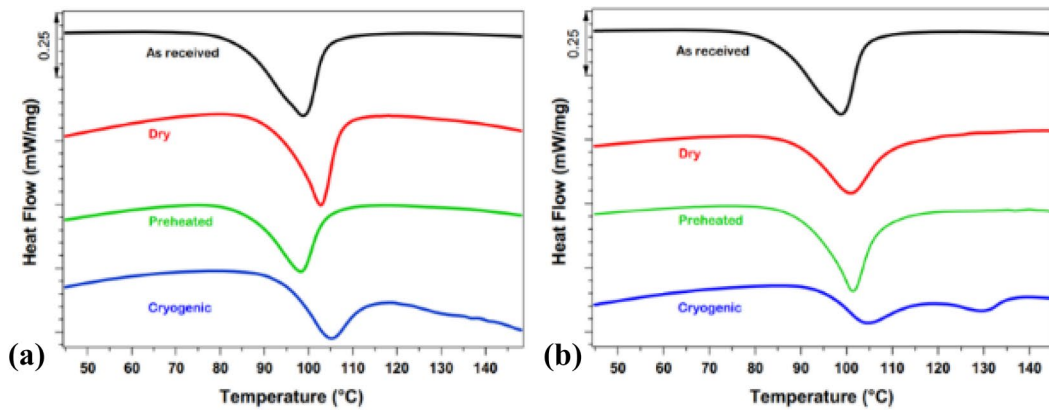


Fig. 19 **a** Cryo-turning; SEM micrograph of surface and sub-surface of the turned surface of NiTi alloy during **b** dry and **c** cryo-turning [139]

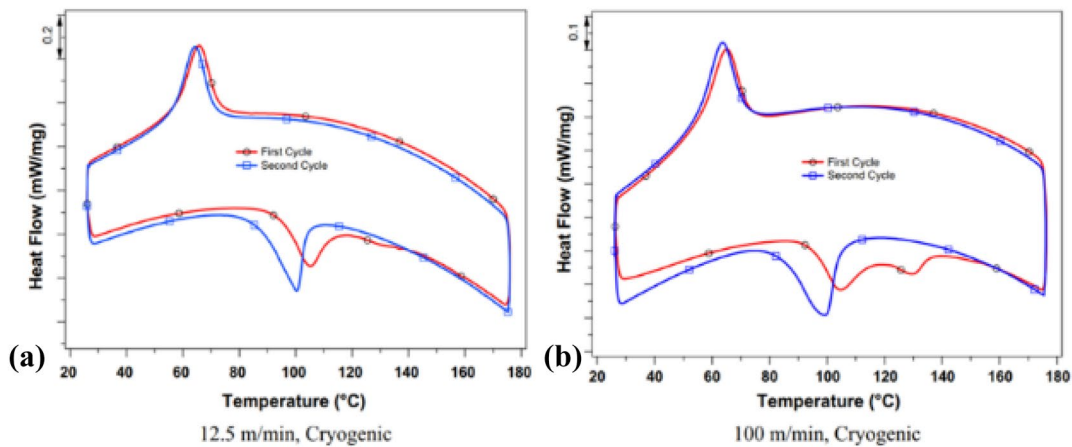
the thermograms of the observations without and with the assistance of ultrasonic vibrations.

Further, in the case of cobalt alloys, it was reported by Yang et al. [75] that under both conditions, either dry or cryogenic, when the refinement of grains occurs in the surface layer of Co-Cr-Mo (ASTM F75 cast alloy), the respective microstructures also change (Fig. 18). Also, on the surface, which was cryogenically burnished, a noteworthy increment

in the relative intensity was achieved, which could considerably improve the erode defiance of Co-Cr-Mo alloy presents burnishing (with the assistance of liquid nitrogen and burnishing tool) and Co-Cr-Mo alloy properties. Another study conducted by Ferreira et al. [137] milled the Co-28Cr-6Mo alloys at varying speeds to observe the changes in the thermal gradients, roughness, cutting forces, and hardness. The



DSC results of samples machined under different conditions at (a) 12.5 m/min, (b) 100 m/min cutting speed



DSC response of machined NiTi specimens at the first and second cycles, (a) 12.5 m/min cryogenically machined sample and (b) 100 m/min cryogenically machined sample

Fig. 20 DSC plots show machining operations' nature under varying heat flow, temperature, and cutting speed [140]

results endorsed a high impact of higher cutting speeds on the response outcome.

Besides, Nitinol SMAs possess some unique traits such as the transformation of phase, shape memory, and superelasticity, through which they are significantly employed in various industries. An experimental study conducted by Kaynak et al. [138] examined several dry and cryogenic machining considerations, named quality and roughness of surface, topography, phase transformation, and microstructure of induced surface integrity in SMA's machining. The study concluded that the machined components' surface eminence was significantly enriched in cryogenic machining compared to dry machining. Figure 19 presents the cryo-turning view and SEM micrographs of dry and cryo-turned surfaces. In cryo-turned specimen, relatively higher temperatures and broader peaks were observed when matched with the specimen undergoing dry machining (during the transformation from martensite to austenite). This result gestures that the influence of cryogenic machining is denser on the surface

principal aspects of SMAs because high disconnection density and residual stresses are introduced on their surfaces and sub-surfaces, as shown in Fig. 19.

Kaynak et al. [140] focused on turning NiTi alloy under dry, preheated, and cryogenic conditions and highlighted the influence of cryo-turning on phase state and transformation, which was evident in the form of broader peaks and 29% bigger austenite finish transformation temperature at high cutting speed. However, the total conversion of martensite to austenite took place in dry turning at each speed. In Fig. 20, the broader peaks and higher transformation temperature are easily noticeable in cryo-turned samples than other turned samples. Moreover, the variation in peak and transformation nature with a change in cutting speed is also clearly visible, as shown in Fig. 20.

Further, when considering magnesium and its alloys as the potential degradable metallic implant biomaterials, corrosion resistance is one of the prime documented aspects that need to be dealt with since the manufactured

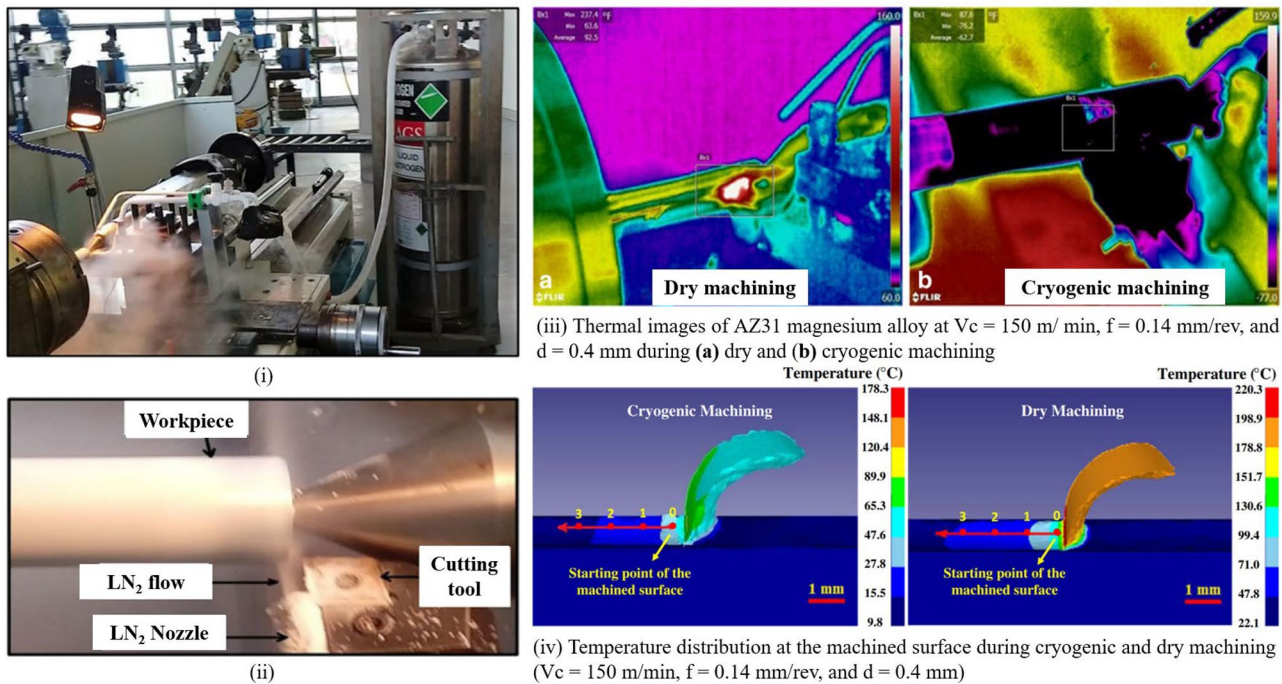


Fig. 21 (i) Cryogenic turning setup, (ii) cryogenic turning, (iii) thermal images, and (iv) simulated results of temperature distribution amid turning of Mg alloy AZ31 [146]

part/component has to deal with the human body. In addition, during Mg alloy implants' subtractive manufacturing, another common challenge that the manufacturers face is their low melting point. Therefore, there are chances of ignition or even explosion as soon as the machining zone temperature reaches around 450 °C [141]. Moreover, not every coolant can be used during magnesium's machining and its alloys to reduce this temperature since some can unexpectedly react and cause explosions by forming gases such as hydrogen [142]. Hence, the traditional subtractive manufacturing of Mg and its alloys is preferred under specific cooling environments. In this regard, cryogenic machining simplified the complexities of corrosion and ignition in some recent literature [143–145]. Danish et al. [146] conducted a simulated and comparative study on cryogenic assisted and dry turning of Mg alloy AZ31. They demonstrated the efficient and faster elimination of generated heat (up to 60%), followed by a decrease in surface roughness (by 56%) amid cryogenic-turning. Figure 21 shows the experimental setup and some findings. In similar studies performed by Bertolini et al. [147] and Davis and Singh [148] on Mg alloy AZ31B and AZ91D, respectively, comprising low-temperature sustainable lubrication/cooling, in addition to superior surface integrity, the cryogenically turned/milled surfaces were also noticed with a featureless layer, suggesting improved passivation against corrosion of that surface. The authors found

that the enhanced cooling improved the surface roughness up to 48.07% and generated a more uniform passivation layer.

Davis and Singh [149] used three different milling environments (wet, cryogenic, and hybrid) and the end mill tool in the untreated and cryo-treated form to mill Mg alloy AZ31B to improve its surface integrity. The findings improved surface integrity at the high-speed using cryo-treated end mill amid hybrid (wet + cryogenic) cooling. Figure 22 shows the different milling environments, obtained featureless oxide passivation layer on the surface hybrid-milled by cryo-treated end mill, energy-dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDS) showing the elements present on the finally manufactured surface, and the worn-out end mill cutting edges. Hybrid milling improved the end mill life, contributing to surface integrity enhancement. In continuation, the latest research performed by Davis et al. [150] machined Ti-6Al-4 V alloy also used the combination of the cryo-treated carbide end mill and different lubri-cooling environments and consequently achieved improved surface characteristics including morphology, chemistry, roughness, and microhardness. Moreover, the best achievement of this research was the observation reporting a remarkably improved in vitro cell proliferation and growth on the hybrid-lube-coolant-machined surface. In this regard, Fig. 23 compares and displays the modified surface with CpTi alloy and demonstrates the enhanced cell response

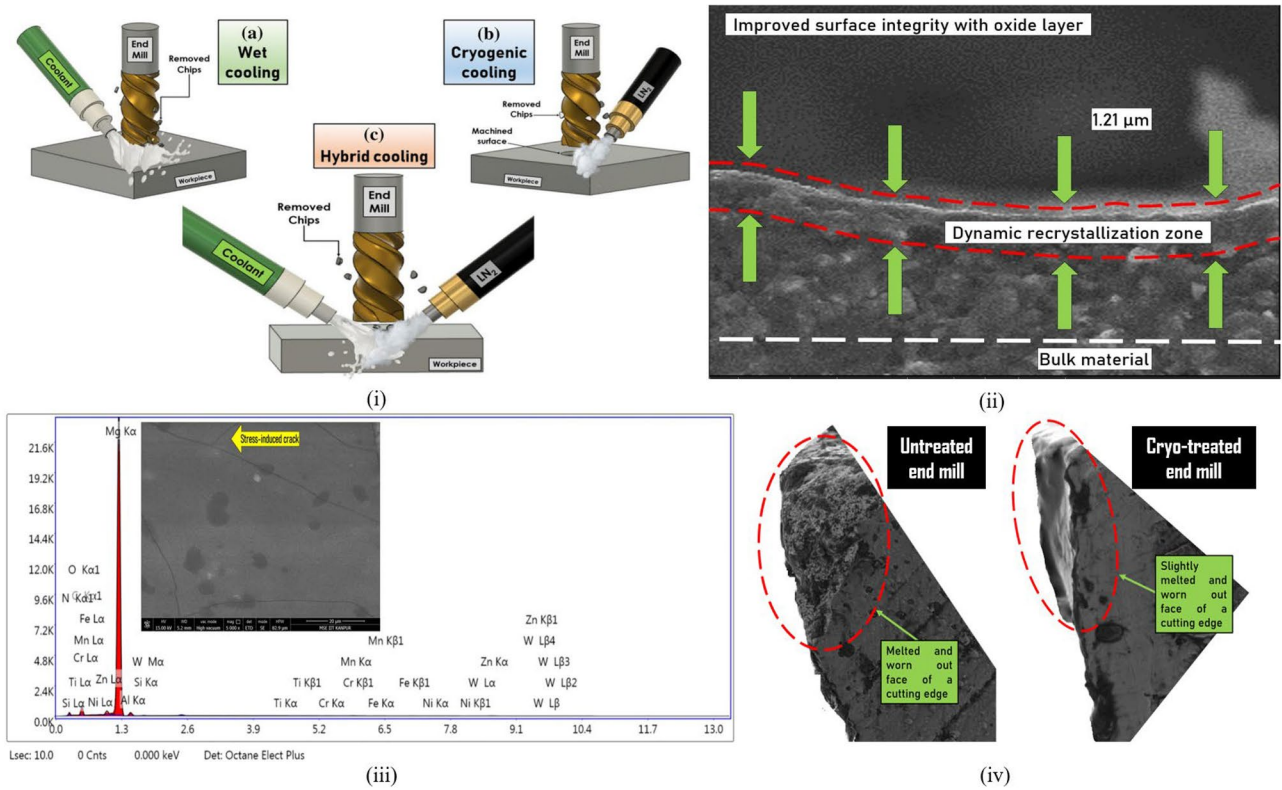


Fig. 22 (i) Schematic diagram of three different milling environments of machining Mg alloy AZ31B, (ii) SEM demonstration of the featureless oxide layer on the surface hybrid-milled (wet + cryo) by cryo-treated end mill, (iii) EDS and SEM image of the surface hybrid-milled by cryo-treated end mill, and (iv) SEM images displaying tool wear in both the end mills [149]

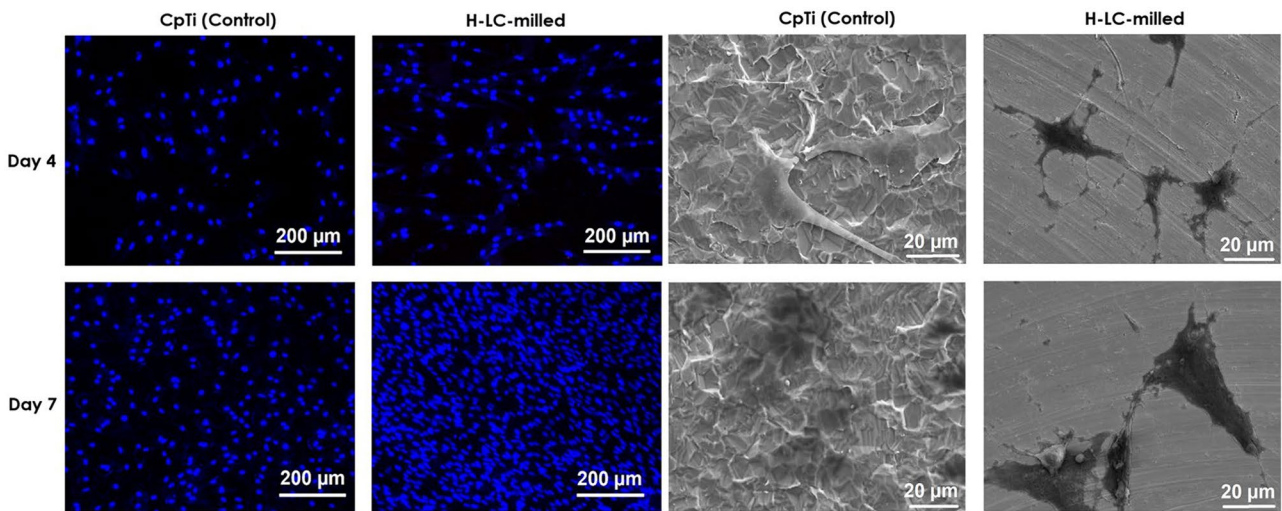


Fig. 23 Fluorescence (stained with DAPI (blue)) and SEM images are presenting ADSCs after 4 and 7 days of cell culture on CpTi and hybrid-lubri-coolant-milled surfaces (obtained with cryo-treated end mill) [150]

Table 3 Chronological literature review on the low-temperature sustainable lubrication/cooling and cutting tool treatment condition amid the traditional subtractive manufacturing of metallic implant biomaterials towards a possible surface modification

Biomaterial	Machining environment	Cutting tool	Approach	Finding/biomedical application	Ref
Ti-6Al-4 V alloy	Dry, emulsion coolant and liquid nitrogen (LN ₂)	Kennametal insert CNMA432-K68 (carbide grade)	The study comprised impingement of a minimum amount of LN ₂ (through a micro-nozzle) during turning operation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The evaporating LN₂ reduced the friction by cushion effect at the cutting tool-chip interface • Improvement in tool life by five times of traditional emulsion cooling 	Hong et al. [151]
		KC850 grade coated WC/CO and K68 grade uncoated	Simulation of pure frictional attributes at cutting tool-chip interface followed by experimental validation during turning operation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compared to dry and emulsion cooling, a significant reduction in friction was observed due to the lubrication effect of LN₂ 	Hong et al. [152]
	Dry, flood, nitrogen-oil mist, compressed cold-nitrogen gas (CCNG), and compressed cold-nitrogen gas and oil -mist (CCNGOM)	Walter ZDGT150420R, TiN/TiC/TiN coated carbide	Different cooling techniques were employed to investigate their effect amid end milling Dry, flood (using conventional cutting fluid)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCNGOM outperformed all the other cooling conditions and achieved the highest cutting tool life 	Su et al. [153]
SUS 304 SS	Water-soluble coolant	Uncoated WC/Co and TiAlN-PVD-coated carbide drills (K30/40 grade)	The two types of drills' performance were compared in wear and failure during the drilling operation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coated drills achieved better tool life and surface roughness compared to an uncoated drill 	Sharif and Rahim [154]
	Kutwell 40 soluble oil and LN ₂	TiCN-coated tool (Grade AC 2000)	The application of LN ₂ was executed using a hole within the newly designed cutting tool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The modified design of the cutting tool could raise the tool life by more than four times 	Khan and Ahmed [155]
Ti-6Al-4 V alloy	—	Cemented carbide inserts with TiAlSiN ₂ film coating	The efficacy of coated cutting tool was examined via experimental trials on end milling, followed by their validation via finite element method (FEM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A relationship was established between the impact resistance of coating with machining performance at different temperatures 	Klocke et al. [88]
Mg alloy AZ31	Dry and LN ₂	Uncoated carbide C5/C6 inserts	LN ₂ notably suppressed the grain growth (due to high heat generation) during turning operation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The turning-induced white layer exhibited 60% higher hardness, which enhanced corrosion properties in the simulated body fluid 	Pu et al. [143]

Table 3 (continued)

Biomaterial	Machining environment	Cutting tool	Approach	Finding/biomedical application	Ref
ASTM F75 Co-Cr-Mo and Mg alloy AZ31	LN ₂		Burnishing and machining, comprising severe plastic deformation (SPD), were employed to modify the surface integrity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The turning induced-severe plastic deformation refined the grains • The in vitro trials confirmed an improved degradation rate of Mg alloy • Cryogenic burnishing, using a novel tool, remarkably refined Co-Cr-Mo grains and induced 80% higher microhardness • In the case of Mg alloy, the surface was detected with a 2 mm thick SPD layer possessing 95% higher microhardness, leading to a considerably improved corrosiveness in the simulated body fluid 	Pu et al. [144] Yang et al. [76]
Mg alloy AZ31B	Dry and LN ₂	Uncoated carbide inserts	Attempts were made using a dry and liquid nitrogen spray to enhance the functional performance of Mg alloy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The outcomes included improved surface finish, grain-refinement (from 12 μm to 31 nm), the more significant intensity of basal-plane on the turned surface, and ten times more significant compressive sites in residual-stress profiles 	Pu et al. [145]
Co-Cr-Mo biomedical alloy	Dry and LN ₂		Dry and cryogenic burnishing was used to improve the surface properties of Co-Cr-Mo biomedical alloy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The findings reported notably enhanced surface layer displaying improved finish, refined grains, and augmented microhardness 	Yang et al. [75]
Ni _{49.9} Ti _{50.1} (NiTi) shape memory alloy (SMA)	Dry, minimum quantity lubrication (MQL), and LN ₂	TiB ₂ -coated DCGT 11T308HP (Grade KC5410)	Tool wear and surface quality of NiTi shape memory alloy were analyzed during turning with different machining environments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LN₂ significantly enhanced the progressive wear of the tool and surface quality of turned SMA 	Kaynak et al. [156]
			Experiments were performed primarily to examine the turning-induced phase transformation in SMA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cryogenically turned specimens exhibited martensitic phase 	Kaynak [157]

Table 3 (continued)

Biomaterial	Machining environment	Cutting tool	Approach	Finding/biomedical application	Ref
Ti-6Al-4 V alloy	Cold air cryogenic cooling	H25-uncoated cemented carbide (XOMX090308TR-ME06), and F40M-TiAlN + TiN coated carbide inserts	Cutting forces and surface roughness were studied during high-speed end milling using uncoated and coated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cutting forces were reduced with the uncoated tool, low level of feed rate, and high level of cutting speed. The coated tool produced superior surface roughness 	Safari et al. [158]
Ni _{49.9} Ti _{50.1} alloy	Dry and LN ₂	TiB ₂ -coated DCGT 11T308HP (Grade KC5410)	Based on phase transformational, microstructural, and topographic characteristics, the surface integrity was assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cryogenic machining substantially impacted the surface integrity as well as the phase transformation 	Kaynak et al. [139]
NiTi (Ni: 55.82 wt % and Ti balance)		Kennametal TPGN 220,412 -TPG433 (grade K313)	Precooled specimens were orthogonally turned with LN ₂	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A deformed layer was observed on the turned precooled specimens due to severe twinning 	Kaynak et al. [159]
Ti-6Al-4 V alloy	Dry, CO ₂ snow, MQL, CO ₂ snow + MQL	TiN-coated tungsten carbide cutting insert	The behavior of turned NiTi alloy was studied under the varying cutting speeds during dry and LN ₂ 's environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cutting speed affected the surface and subsurface properties most remarkably 	Kaynak et al. [160]
NiTi (Ni: 50.8 wt % and Ti balance)	Dry, MQL, and LN ₂	TiB ₂ -coated DCGT 11T308HP (Grade KC5410)	A fuzzy knowledge-based system was incorporated to optimize and predict the findings during cylindrical grooving	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At low levels of cutting parameters with cryogenic CO₂ impinging, the tool face attained desired results 	Al-Ghamdi et al. [161]
Ti-6Al-4 V alloy	Dry, flood, and LN ₂	TiN-TiAlN-coated solid carbide end mill	The influence of fabrication approaches, processing techniques, and machining environments was analyzed during turning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Machining via LN₂ enhanced the progressive tool-wear, productivity and decreased the manufacturing costs 	Kaynak et al. [162]
			A comparative investigation was conducted in end milling using different cooling environments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cryogenic machining obtained 3-times higher tool life and reduced the surface roughness by 40% 	Shokrani et al. [163]
			The cooling effects of the cooling environments were compared amid end milling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LN₂ enhanced the surface roughness by 39% and 31% when compared to dry and flood cooling 	Shokrani et al. [164]

Table 3 (continued)

Biomaterial	Machining environment	Cutting tool	Approach	Finding/biomedical application	Ref
Ti-6Al-7Nb alloy		TiAlN-coated CNMG 431 RP inserts	The study intended to compare the effects of the various cooling environments on surface integrity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cryogenic machining obtained 35% and 6.6% better surface roughness and 33.6% and 14.7% better microhardness than dry and flood-cooling due to SPD with α-phase 	Sun et al. [77]
Mg alloy AZ31	Dry and LN ₂	VCEX110301-LF1125 insert	The experiments intended to observe the corrosion behavior of Mg alloy under varying turning conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LN₂ cooling produced a featureless layer exhibiting enhanced wettability and corrosion resistance 	Bertolini et al. [147]
Ti-6Al-4 V alloy	Dry, wet, MQL (mixed with ~0.1% exfoliated graphite nano-platelets), and LN ₂	R245-12T3M-KM(H13A) Uncoated carbide insert	The outcomes achieved with cryogenic and MQL were compared with the ones obtained via dry and wet machining	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The results demonstrated that both cryogenic and MQL displayed superior performance. However, in comparison to cryogenic, MQL produced fewer surface defects 	Park et al. [95]
Mg alloy AZ31	Dry and cryogenic	ISO NC 3020 CNMG 120,408 carbide	This study investigated the effect of coolants in the turning of Mg alloy, followed by its validation via an FE-model's simulated results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to 60 and 56% reductions were observed in cutting temperatures and surface roughness when using LN₂ 	Danish et al. [146]
Ni _{49.9} Ti _{50.1} alloy	Dry machining (at ambient temperature), preheated condition, and cryogenic cooling	TiB ₂ -coated DCGT 11T308HP (Grade KC5410)	The research aimed to examine the turning-induced phase transformation in the surface and subsurface of the sample	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cryogenic machining notably varied the austenite finish temperature of NiTi alloy in martensite state 	Kaynak et al. [140]
Ti-6Al-4 V alloy	Flood cooling (using emulsion), LN ₂ , hybrid (MQL + LN ₂)	Polycrystalline diamond (PCD) tools	The rarely used PCD tool for machining Ti-6Al-4 V alloy was used to analyze its response in different turning environments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cryogenic machining decreased the tool wear ($VB_{C(cryogenic)} < 10 \mu\text{m}$ after 65 min of cut) and roughness to 40 nm Hybrid-cooling achieved the minimum cutting force 	Schoop et al. [165]
SS	Dry, wet, MQL, and LN ₂	PVD-AlTiN-coated KC5010 tungsten carbide inserts	Cutting temperature, flank and rake tool-wear, surface integrity, and chip-morphology were investigated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cryogenic machining outperformed all the other machining environments and achieved the best results 	Sivaiah and Chakradhar [166]
Ti-6Al-4 V alloy	Dry, flood, and LN ₂	TiN – TiAlN-coated solid tungsten carbide	The influence of the three coolants was studied in the end milling operation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cryogenic machining reduced the energy consumption by 88% and improved tool life 	Shokrami et al. [167]

Table 3 (continued)

Biomaterial	Machining environment	Cutting tool	Approach	Finding/biomedical application	Ref
Mg alloy AZ31		VCEX110301-LF1125	The turning-induced transformations were examined via microstructural, topographic, and in vitro corrosion studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cryogenic machining at a low feed rate level improved the corrosion resistance most significantly 	Bruschii et al. [168]
Additive manufactured Ti-6Al-4 V alloy		CNMG120404-SM 1105 insert	The poor surface integrity of electron beam melted (EBM) Ti-6Al-4 V alloy was improved using cryogenic machining	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The results report noticeable improvements in microstructural properties, mechanical and topographic properties • Moreover, the corrosion performance in the simulated physiological conditions was satisfactory 	Bertolini et al. [169]
Ti-6Al-4 V alloy	Flood, MQL, cryogenic, and hybrid cryogenic MQL	TiSiN-coated carbide	A newly developed hybrid cryogenic MQL cooling/lubrication technique and three other cooling strategies were used amid end milling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new hybrid cooling strategy achieved 30-times higher tool life and 50% higher productivity 	Shokrani et al. [170]
Mg alloy AZ31B	Dry, MQL, and cryo-MQL	Uncoated carbide TNMA 220,412 inserts	A hybrid lubrication/cooling environment was proposed comprising LN ₂ + MQL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cutting forces were reduced by 27% and surface roughness by 46% 	Gajrani [171]
Mg alloy AZ91D	Wet (conventional/flood lubrication), LN ₂ , hybrid (wet + LN ₂)	TiAlN-coated carbide in the untreated and cryo-treated form	The experiments were carried out using the three types of lubricants with untreated and cryo-treated end mills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The combination of cryo-treated end mill and hybrid lubricant outperformed all the other combinations of end mill and lubricants, achieving the best surface integrity, followed by the combination of untreated end mill and LN₂ 	Davis and Singh [149] Davis and Singh [148]
Ti-6Al-4 V alloy				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The best surface integrity, topography, chemistry, and in vitro biological response was achieved by the surface milled by the combination of cryo-treated end mill and hybrid lubricant-coolant 	Davis et al. [150]

Table 3 (continued)

Biomaterial	Machining environment	Cutting tool	Approach	Finding/biomedical application	Ref
ASTM F2063 Ni _{49.3} Ti _{50.7} alloy	Dry, MQL, minimum quantity nano-lubricant, MQNL with vortex tube-generated chilled-compressed air	Coated carbide inserts	Some new cooling approaches were applied in turning operation, such as minimum quantity nano-lubricant (MQNL), MQNL with vortex tube-generated chilled-compressed air (MQNL Vortex)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The hybrid cooling approach of minimum quantity nano-lubricants with vortex cooling could enhance tool life and reduce cutting force most noticeably with notable sustainable attributes 	Khalil et al. [172]

after 4 and 7 days on the machined surface with the superior performance of the end milling.

7.1.3 A rigorous chronological survey on the strategies used to modify the metallic implant biomaterials using traditional machining techniques

This section presents an elaborated review focused on some significant attempts made in the last 20 years (in chronological order) to achieve surface modification on metallic implant biomaterials via traditional machining approaches. In this regard, Table 3 and Fig. 24 demonstrate the primary approaches (in terms of lubrication/cooling and cutting tool) adopted to modify the metallic implant biomaterials via traditional machining techniques substantially. The significant findings have been pointed. However, only a few studies report an improvement in the biological behaviors of the traditionally machined workpiece biomaterials. Based on the findings observed in the previous literature recorded in Table 3 and graphical analysis of Fig. 24, the chiefly used metallic implant biomaterials for biomedical implant applications and manufactured by traditional subtractive manufacturing techniques were Ti-based alloys, followed by NiTi-based, Mg-based, SS, and Co-Cr-based alloys. However, a tremendously increasing trend in using NiTi-based and Mg-based alloys as implant biomaterial could be witnessed easily in the last ten years in Table 3. Moreover, according to Fig. 24, the low-temperature sustainable approach of cryogenic machining has appeared with its dominant use over the conventionally used cutting fluids.

In addition, a slow but notable rise in the incorporation of hybrid lubrication/cooling (lubri-cooling) methods could also be observed, indicating the increasing scope of the same in the days to come. Hence, some of the main merits/applications, demerits, challenges, and possible solutions amid the traditional machining of Mg, NiTi, and Ti-based metallic implant biomaterials, can be further elucidated with the help of Table 4.

7.2 Surface modification of metallic implant biomaterials via non-traditional subtractive manufacturing techniques

Besides high toughness and strength, some of the significant challenges in the traditional machining of metallic implant biomaterials lie in the extreme sensitivity of these materials such as Mg (due to high flammability), NiTi (due to susceptibility to the temperature-induced transition of phase), and Ti-based alloys (due to high hardness) towards cutting-induced temperature variations, high strain-rate, and consequent phase transformations [54, 135, 176]. In this regard, the advanced manufacturing processes constituting the non-traditional subtractive manufacturing techniques

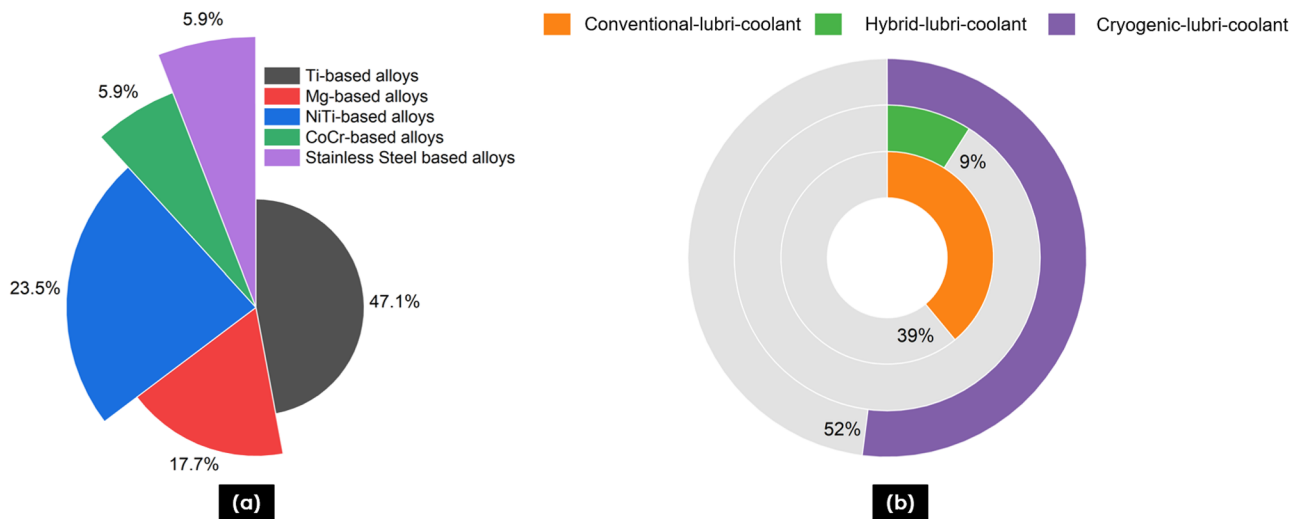


Fig. 24 Percentage of published research articles in the last 20 years on **a** traditional machining of metallic implant biomaterials **b** using different lubri-coolants/machining environments

such as laser machining (LM), waterjet machining (WJM), and electric discharge machining (EDM) are the potential alternatives for effective machining of Nitinol [177, 178]. The non-traditional subtractive manufacturing techniques subtract unwanted and surplus material by different electrical, chemical, mechanical, thermal, or combinations of these energies without applying the cutting tools used in traditional machining techniques. Following are some commonly employed non-traditional machining techniques to modify the metallic implant biomaterials’ surfaces for implant applications.

7.2.1 AWJM technique

Abrasive water jet machining (AWJM) is a cold processing technique that comprises efficient shaping tools and fulfils the necessities of material removal structuring for metallic implant biomaterials. Silica sand, garnet, silicon carbide,

and aluminum oxide commonly use abrasive particles in AWJM. The AWJM favors high flexibility with a relatively sensitive material removal rate, amicability with the ambient conditions, and exhibits inexpensive and high machining adaptability. In this type of subtractive manufacturing, the ultra-high pressurized water is forced through a very tiny opening, generating a high speed (800 m/s) water flow [179]. The inclusion of abrasive particles in this high-speed water flow raises the standard of machining capability considerably. In this relation, a review revealed the versatility of AWJ on all the commonly used metallic implant biomaterials, including stainless steel, Ti-based, Co-based, NiTi, and Mg-based alloys [180]. Also, an experimental study achieved enhanced fatigue life, compressive residual stress, and surface finish after AWJ assisted peening in the orthopedic application of stainless steel 304 and Ti-6Al-4 V alloy.

Moreover, a recent investigation on AWJ-milling on stainless steel 304 was carried out to produce an implant rough

Table 4 A comparative study of the major applications, demerits, challenges, and possible solutions during the traditional machining of Mg, NiTi, and Ti-based alloys

Metallic implant biomaterial	Implant application	Demerit/risk involved amid traditional machining	Possible solution
Mg-based alloys	Cardiovascular stent	Flame-ignition	Low depth of cut and speed [173]
	Orthopedic device	Flank-built-up	Cryogenic machining [145]
	Implantable screw	Early degradation	Cryogenic-burnishing [76]
NiTi-based alloys	Bone plate	Excessive burrs and chip-formation, and tool-wear	High-speed machining with cryogenic cooling [162]
	Osteosynthesis plate		
Ti-based alloys	Spherical-prosthesis	Chip-thickness variations	Low-temperature coolant [134]
	Dental screws	Heat-stress	Cryogenic cooling [174]
	Hip replacement	Pressure-load	Coated carbide cutting tool [175]

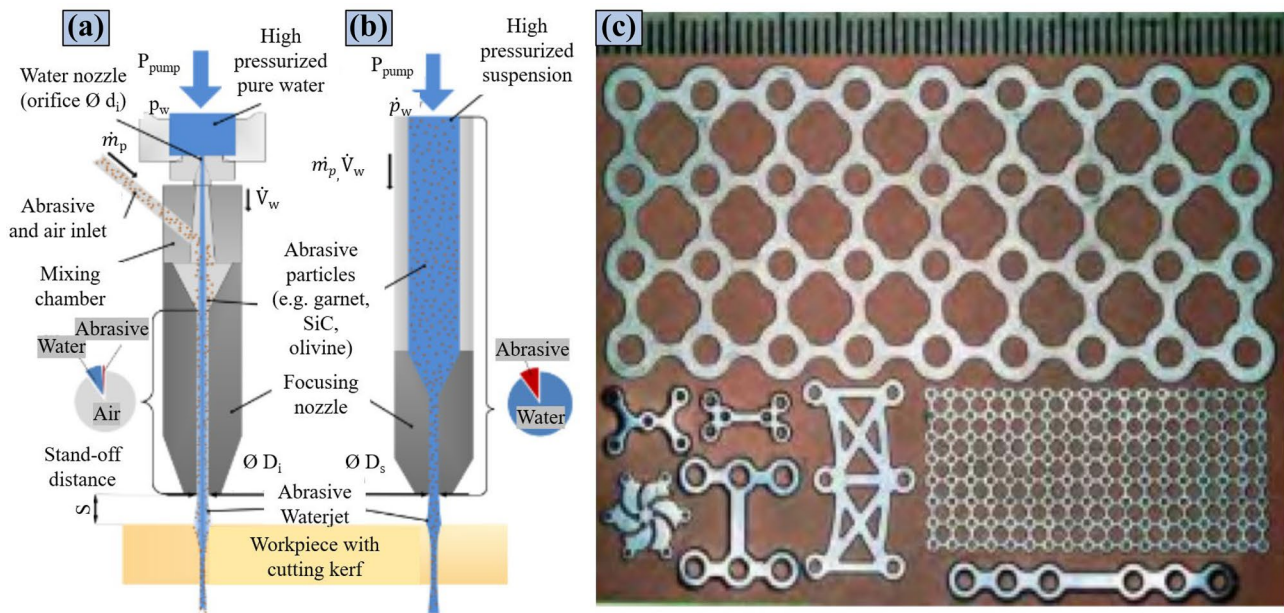


Fig. 25 (a) Injection and (b) suspension type of AWJ; (c) orthopedic implants made up of titanium alloys and stainless steel [185]

spot groove surface pattern [181]. In another study, the surface roughness and irregularities improved using artificial neural networks amid AWJM of Mg alloy AZ91D. Abrasive flow rate and jet feed-velocity primarily affected the surface characteristics [182].

Further, abrasive water jet machining at micro-level (μ -AWJM) using #220 to #320 abrasive mesh size is a recent state-of-the-art subtractive micro-manufacturing technique. Unlike many other thermally manufactured products, the μ -AWJMed products not only exhibit a high degree of surface integrity and profile geometry, but they are also free from stresses and heat-affected zone(s), which can further improve the functionality of metallic implants. μ -AWJM consumes lesser processing time than many other micro-subtractive manufacturing processes, such as micro-electric discharge machining (μ EDM). However, it consumes more time than macro-AWJM and μ -AWJM set up developed by M/s. OMAX corporation can miniaturize the products in the domain of 200 to 300 μm with the aid of a nozzle with a tiny diameter ($< 200 \mu\text{m}$) [183]. Figure 25 demonstrates the schematic diagrams of two different AWJ setups and μ -AWJMed orthopedic implants. One recent research conducted on μ -AWJM of Co-Cr-Mo to produce micro-channels concluded μ -AWJM as one of the most potential and promising techniques for the tribological surface texturing of artificial joints. Figure 26 shows some essential technical details of the strategic parameters and desired outcome, followed by the achieved findings [184].

Since AWJM is known for inducing imperceptible temperature variation in the produced parts, NiTi alloys' mechanical and metallurgical responses drastically change

even with a slight change in the phase transition. Therefore, it became essential to validate the influence of AWJM on the phase transition of NiTi alloys. In this relation, a comparative experimental work included water jet machining (WJM) of $\text{Ni}_{49.8}\text{Ti}_{50.2}$ with and without garnet abrasive particles of #80 mesh size. Figure 27 presents a phase transformation diagram, SEM image of one of the surfaces exhibiting martensitic transformation, and finally achieved improved results. The joint evaluation of operating temperatures (of the two WJM processes) and NiTi alloys' phase transformation temperatures revealed a significant AWJM approach for controlled-depth milling. The application of high-speed abrasives on a particular spot could raise the localized temperature above 86°C (A_s), leading to the transformation of martensite into austenite. However, the temperature beyond A_f (110°C) reversed (pseudoelasticity) due to stress-induced transformation. The literature does not report much research on AWJM of NiTi alloys since its most effective variant AWJ-milling loses the surface quality due to grit embedment with increasing penetration depth, which weakens fatigue strength in Ti alloys [186].

7.2.2 LBM

The last four decades have recorded industrial subtractive manufacturing via laser beam machining (LBM) as one of the most dominating non-traditional material subtraction processes for achieving complex geometrical features on the product. However, some investigations on LBM of bio-compatible Ti-6Al-4V and 316L stainless steel revealed that

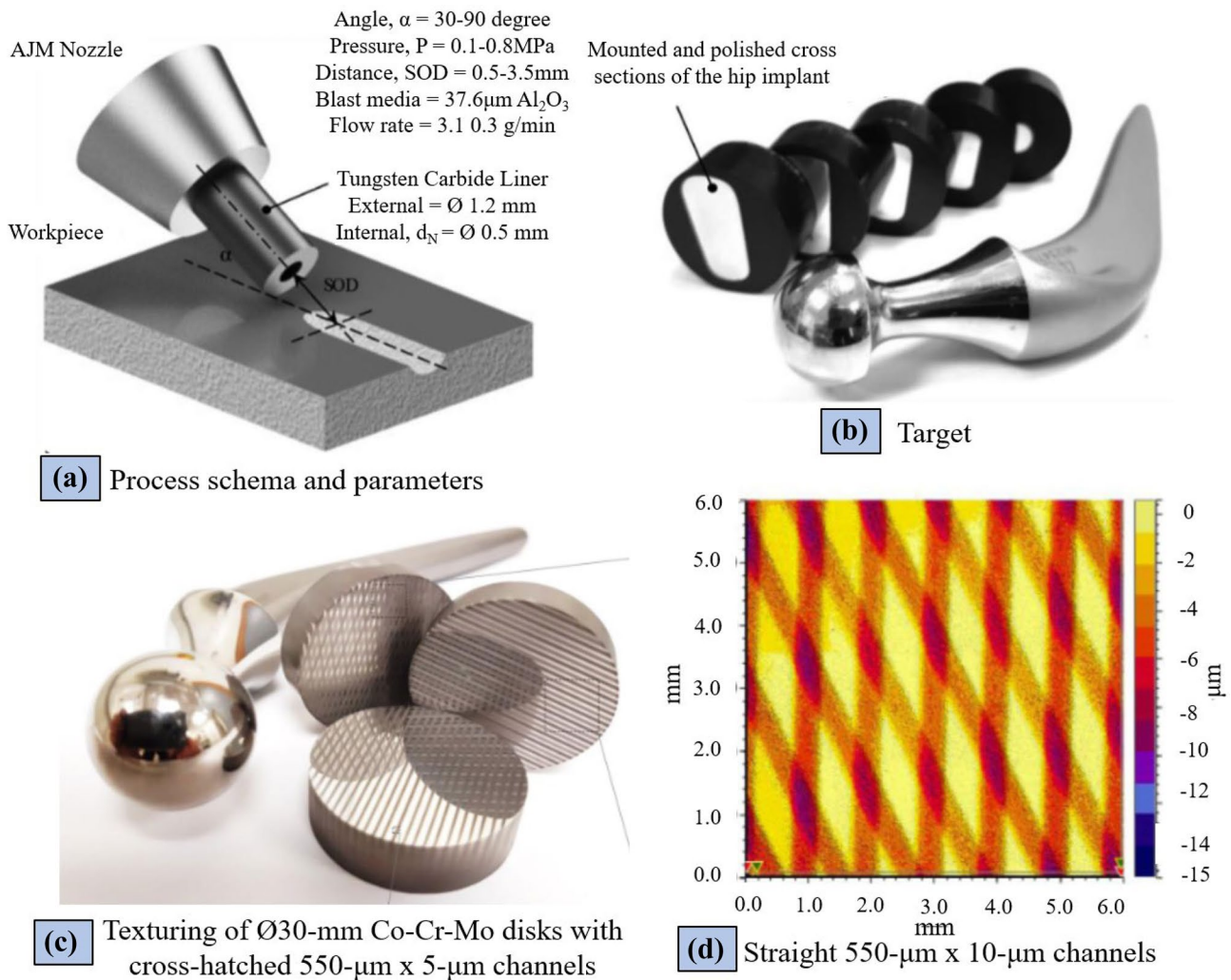


Fig. 26 Experimental plan and outcome [184]

the laser beam's unwanted and undesired convergence and divergence, especially during low-power application fiber laser, resulted in the formation of large kerf taper. Moreover, cracks and a rise in the grain size (present in the heat-affected zone) were reported [187, 188]. Therefore, such failures in machining metallic implant materials can limit their implant applications seeking tight dimensional fit. Hence, in this relation, attempts were made in an experimental work where a 50-W fiber laser was used to machine 316 L stainless steel to apply an additional process variable, known as cutting wedge angle. The increase in cutting wedge angle widens the kerf and reveals the kerf taper. Hence, by obtaining optimum settings of all the process variables, the most crucial cutting wedge angle, 316 stainless steel, could be machined with high dimensional accuracy [189].

Additionally, recent research on laser (Q-switched Nd:YAG pulsed laser) milling could decrease the surface roughness of micro-impressions (with slot depth of $12\text{ }\mu\text{m}$) of

Ti-6Al-4 V from $6.38\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ to $0.965\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ (Ra) with a considerable material subtraction with the help of a mathematical model. It was also observed that the finish of laser-milled surfaces got improved at low levels of current intensity (approx. 75–80%) and mid-levels of track displacement ($10\text{ }\mu\text{m}$), layer thickness ($2\text{ }\mu\text{m}$), and scanning speed (300 mm/s) [190]. Besides, in the laser subtractive process, the temperature raised by the laser itself can alter the metallurgical, mechanical, physical properties of the targeted spot on the workpiece and thermally damage the same and accumulate ablated debris if it remains ungovernable. Moreover, such thermal deterioration becomes a prime and pivotal concern in micro-machining. A recent study compared the water and ice-assisted laser micro-machining of Ti-6Al-4 V alloy, keeping the inexpensive, safe, and recyclable water features in mind. Figure 28 shows schematic and SEM images of some of the significant findings. This work's outcome divulged that the water-assisted laser ablation could achieve

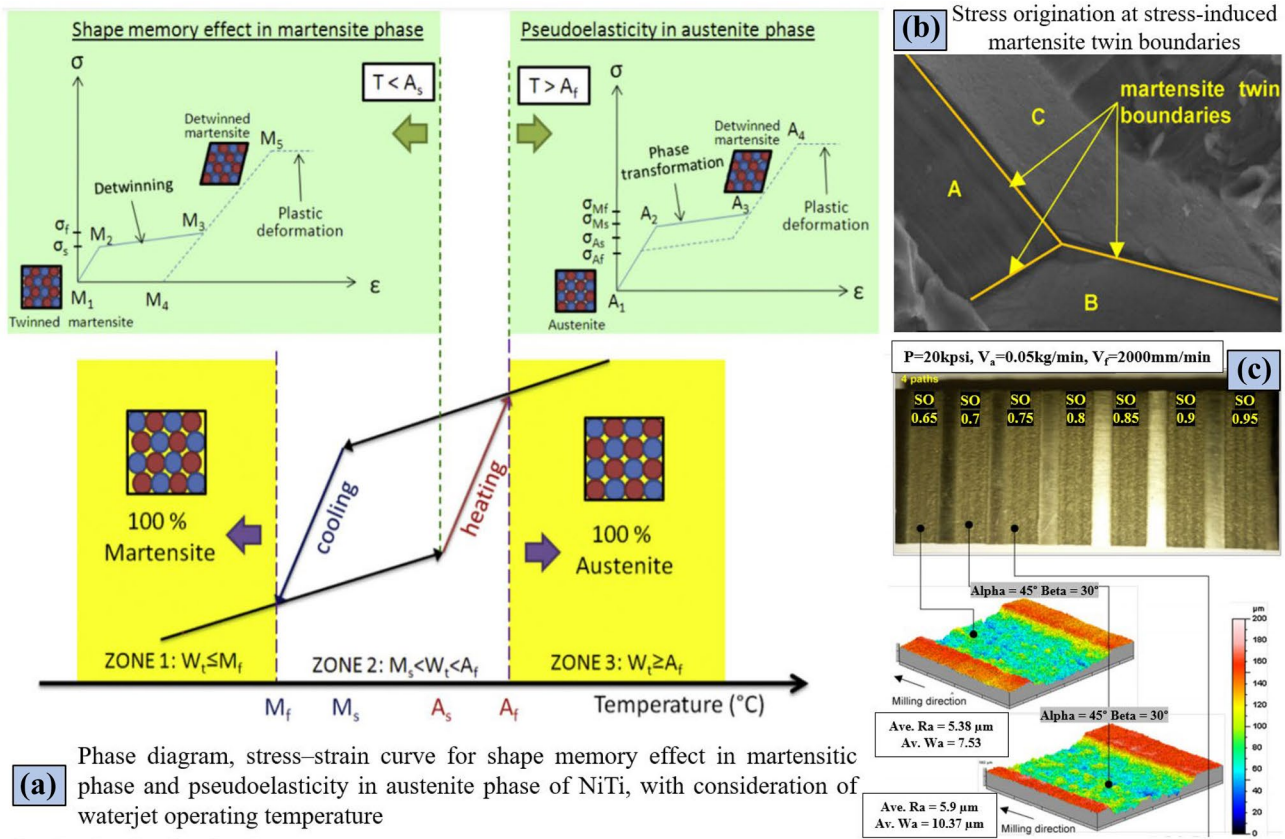


Fig. 27 a Phase diagram and stress–strain curve, b transformed martensite on AWJ-milled surface, and c AWJ-milled actual and simulated results with improved surface finish [186]

the cleaner machined groove with slower laser traverse speed and more passes than the ice-assisted one. However, the gas bubble generation water wave and high refractive index value caused more laser beam dispersion [191].

In the case of subtractive manufacturing of NiTi alloys via LBM, this machining process can manufacture the mechanical stress-free cardiac stents and fabricate microchannels in the medical implants. Moreover, it can also enhance the

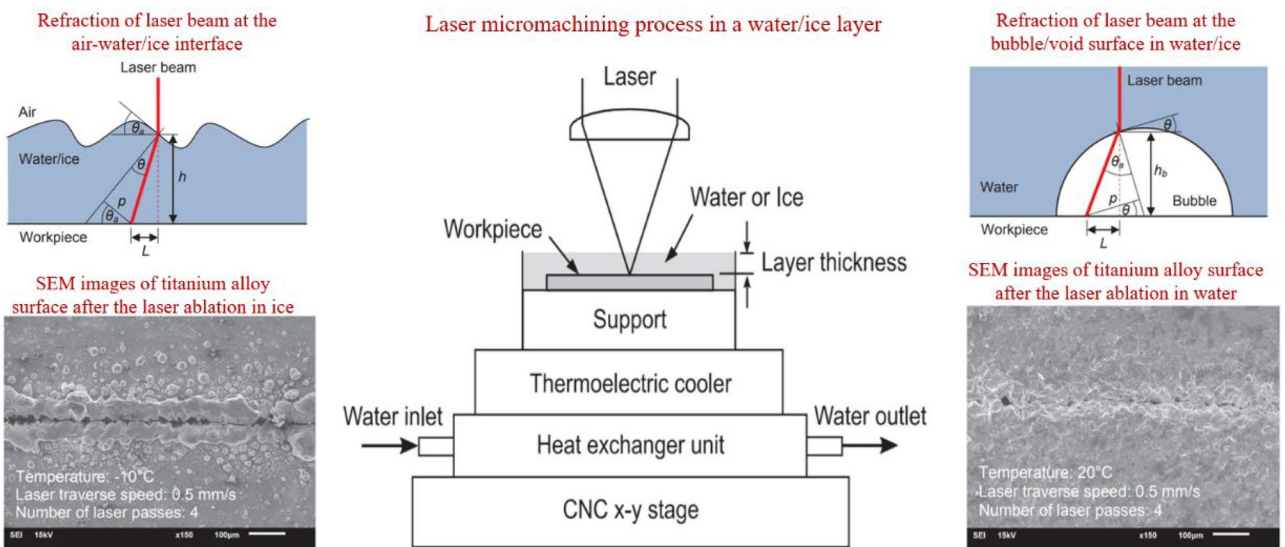


Fig. 28 Laser micromachining of Ti-6Al-4 V using ice and water [191]

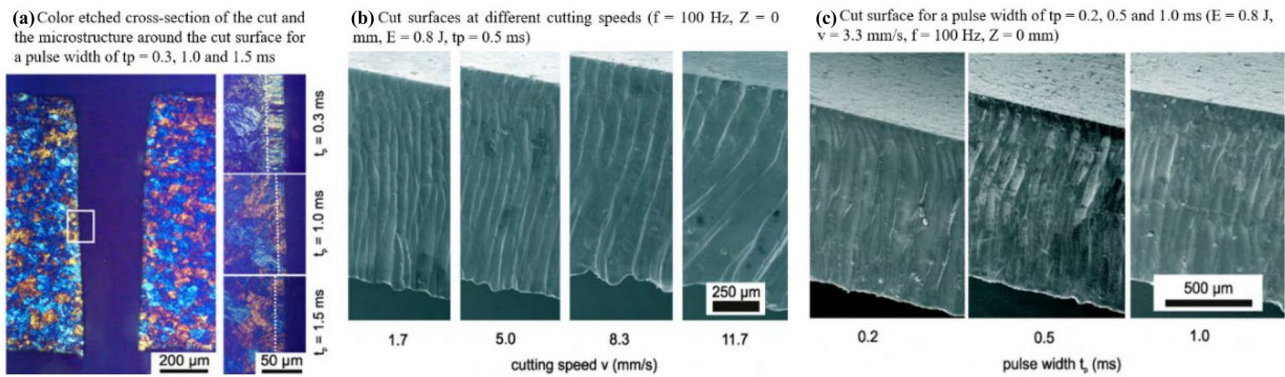


Fig. 29 Representation of various cut surfaces under the influence of variation in process variables [195]

osseointegration of orthopedic implants morphologically [192, 193]. However, as a result of high heat application and setting of process variables of LBM, heat affected zone (influencing the strain restoration), hysteresis, high ablation rate, recast layer, and burr formation are some of the significant challenges while machining NiTi alloys using LBM [194, 195]. A previous study reported the micro-cutting on NiTi alloy sheets (350 μm thick) via an Nd:YAG laser (355 nm). The taper angle could be substantially reduced. Another research consisted of pulsed Nd:YAG laser precision cutting of NiTi alloy sheet for biomedical implant application. The influence of LBM process variables on surface integrity and dimensional accuracy was examined. The results revealed the finally achieved kerf width in the range of 150 to 300 μm and a taper angle less than 2° . Moreover, the machined quality was achieved in the range of 10–30 μm [195] presents the images displaying the outcome due to variation in input variables (Fig. 29).

Besides, a recent experimental investigation using the response surface method (RSM) and genetic algorithm (GA) found the considerable influence of layer thickness on

the taper angle, top-width error (TWE), and spatter thickness during the laser subtractive manufacturing of NiTi microchannel. Besides, scan speed and strategy also substantially affected the output parameters (taper and spatter). Figure 30 presents some of the significant observations via SEM micrographs during the study. Figure 30g displays a 3D bubble chart towards maximizing the output parameters' objective function. The lower extreme in the solution space projects the optimal solution. 12.5 and 30.8 μm were the minimized optimal taper values and spattered, respectively [196].

7.2.3 USM

Unlike many other non-traditional subtractive manufacturing techniques, ultrasonic machining (USM) is neither a chemical nor a thermal process, and therefore, it brings neither chemical nor metallurgical changes on the machined surface. USM can machine any hard-to-machine material irrespective of its hardness ($> 40\text{HRC}$) and electrical conductivity or insulation properties. The

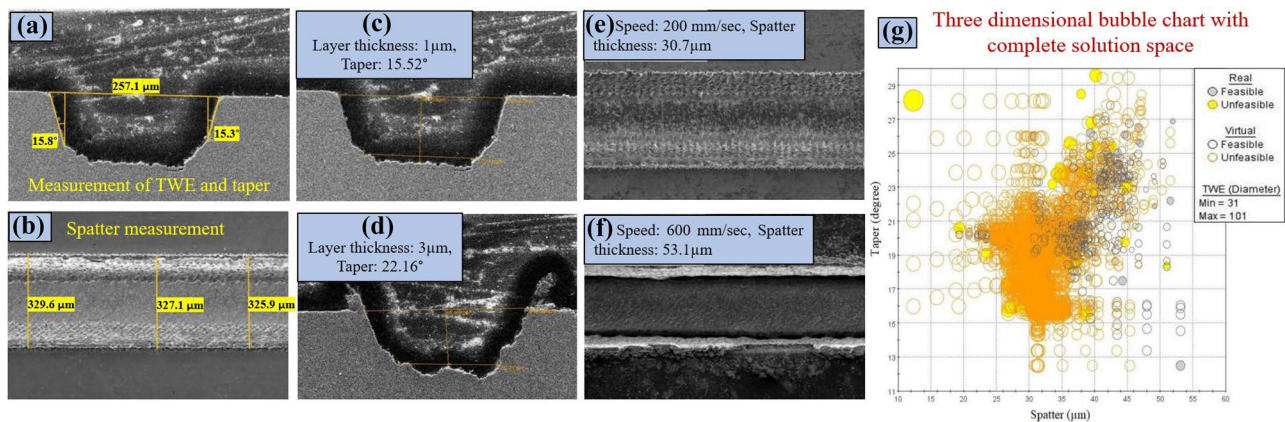


Fig. 30 SEM micrographs showing the measurement of **a** TWE and taper and **b** spatter [196]

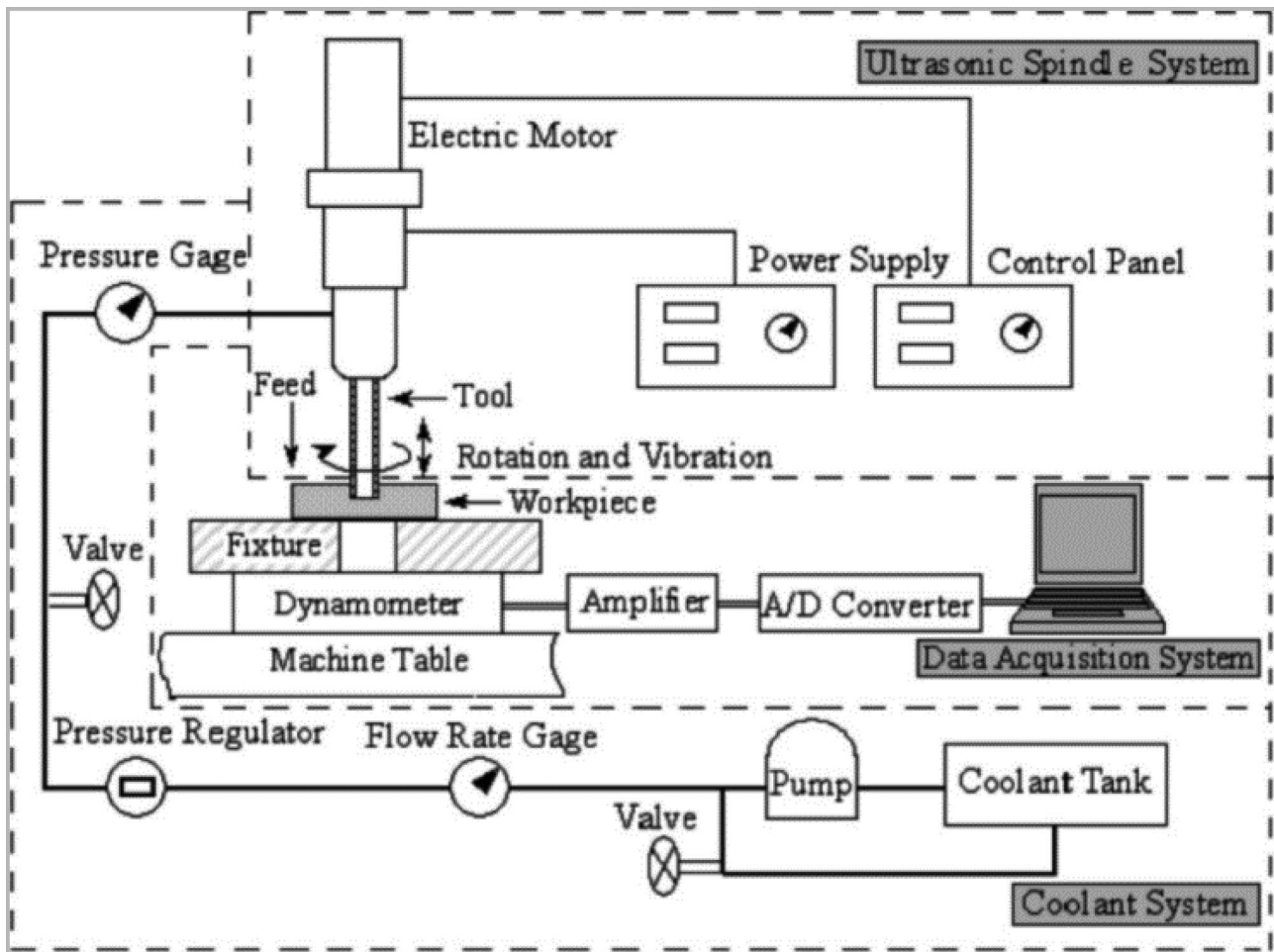


Fig. 31 RUM setup [199]

transformation of electrical energy with low frequency into an electrical signal with high frequency is the primary mode of working of USM. Further, the transformed signal is supplied to the transducer, transfiguring the same into mechanical vibrations. The next stage consists of transmitting these vibrations to the tool via an energy-focusing unit. The USM setup also comprises an abrasive slurry (a blend of abrasive particles such as Al_2O_3 and SiC in oil or water) circulated in the system impinged in the machining zone. The material subtraction occurs through micro-chipping as a result of joint hammering action of tool (subjected to a static load) vibration and abrasive slurry's (which is between the tool and workpiece) abrasion characteristics [197].

Rotary-USM (RUM) is one of the commonly used variants of USM. A study investigated the effect of various input process variables ultrasonic power, feed rate, and spindle speed primarily on stainless steel's surface integrity amid RUM. The surface finish was noticed with acceptable values at 30% ultrasonic power and lower feed

rate and spindle speed. Additionally, the experimental setup consisted of a fiber optic sensing and data acquisition system and a coolant system [198]. As outlined by research on the RUM of Ti-6Al-4 V, unlike feed rate, a rise in ultrasonic power and spindle speed led to a considerable reduction in surface roughness [199] (Fig. 31). Another investigation observed a noticeable influence of slurry concentration and grit size during ultrasonic drilling of Ti-6Al-4 V [200].

7.2.4 EDM

Electric discharge machining (EDM) is often identified as one of the most adequate non-traditional machining processes engaged to machine difficult-to-process metallic biomaterials under tight tolerances [201, 202]. EDM's working principle is based on spark erosion since it uses electrical energy to generate an electric spark, followed by the removal of excess material. The process involves huge amount of heat induced by the thermal energy. EDM is able

to produce refined micro-structures, 3D (three-dimensional) shapes, complex intricacies, reduce cracks and burr formation, and create high tolerances [203, 204].

Among various non-traditional machining approaches, EDM is known for its unique ability to achieve an elemental composition comprising considerable oxides and carbides on the produced surfaces of metallic biomaterials. Such a surface chemistry in addition to improved morphological and topographical features, can be obtained by an EDM possesses. Further, the EDMed surfaces are often detected with enhanced biocompatibility, hardness, and resistance to wear and corrosion [205, 206]. The significance of EDMed biomaterial surface is often observed in the produced nano-structures, favoring enhanced human osteoblastic cell's biological attachment [207]. A study discovered that the EDMed surface exhibited noticeably improved bone-forming cell response, leading to enhanced cell differentiation and attachment due to the high hydrophilicity of the produced surfaces [208]. Besides the biocompatibility attributes (highlighted in the recent literature), EDM can handle the temperature issues with the Mg alloy workpiece by using the dielectric medium [209]. The significance of electric discharge machining (EDM) was acknowledged in manufacturing the biocompatible surface of nano-structure. Its influence on the human osteoblastic cell's biological attachment was also mentioned [207]. EDM can generate three-dimensional shapes and complicated geometries and does not require any preparation beforehand. Instead, it can convert the layer to be machined into a layer of oxide and coat considerable carbides of pre-determined thicknesses. It improves biocompatibility, provides a more effective means for cell growth, and enhances hardness and thus resistance to wear and corrosion. EDM can be defined as a non-traditional machining technique that works on the principle of spark erosion as it utilizes electrical energy to produce an electric spark and removes the material by immense heat caused by the thermal energy. In an EDM process, the heat flux or thermal energy gets developed due to electrons and ions' interaction with the workpiece and tool surface. An extreme and instantaneous rise in the temperature from 10,000 to 20,000 °C is observed [180]. An intense localized heat flux basically results in material subtraction. In a previous study, the best results for surface roughness amid machining of Ti-6Al-4 V alloy were obtained at the tool electrode's negative polarity [210].

Exploring EDM's optimum machining parameters resulted in a noticeable change in the parameters such as pulse on-time and output response such as surface integrity. EDM produced a more robust layer for the growth and adhesion of cells acquired from human bone than the sprayed alloy plasma of TiO₂. The bone-forming cell reaction on the biocompatible titanium surfaces made by EDM and standard machining techniques were compared. As a result, it was discovered that an EDM machined surface leads to better

bone-forming cell responses in promoting cell differentiation and attachment due to its high hydrophilicity on the Ti surfaces. However, it did not affect cell proliferation [208]. It was discovered that the EDM process is suitable for developing shapes with aspect ratios and refined microstructures of biocompatible materials. Their reports also confirmed EDM's wire machining of magnesium-alloys or biodegradable and biocompatible orthopedic implants [211].

However, based on the literature reflecting the surface modification of metallic implant biomaterials such as Ti alloys, the central observation comprised a coating on the modified surface. Therefore, various modifications have been done in the field of technologies induced within the EDM processes to enhance the surface properties and scale back the areas negatively influenced by the high temperatures. In this regard, applying powder mixed EDM (PM-EDM) technique can considerably improve the surface properties. For this reason, a comprehensive review critically summarized a large number of studies introducing powder mixed electric discharge machining (PM-EDM) as a cutting-edge technique for executing two simultaneous processes: excess material subtraction and surface modification [212]. A PM-EDM process includes impregnating fine powder particles or additives such as Al₂O₃, SiC, Ti, TiC, B₄C, and W in the dielectric. These powder particles can significantly reduce the dielectric's insulating strength and broaden the tool electrode-workpiece gap, resulting in considerable surface modification due to enhanced process capabilities [213]. The modification on a PM-EDMed surface can be evidenced in the form of a noticeably thick recast layer exhibiting upgraded surface properties such as improved surface integrity, micro-cracks, corrosion resistance, wear resistance, and biocompatibility [214, 215]. In the case of PM-EDM of Ti and Ti alloys, B₄C [216], surfactant, graphite, TiO₂ [217, 218], SiC, Al₂O₃ [219–222], Si [223], and carbon nanotubes (CNTs) [224] powder particles were primarily used. For instance, with variation in the powder characteristics (particle sizes and concentrations) of SiC and Al₂O₃ powders and dielectric mediums (such as EDM oil, deionized water, and tap water), considerable changes in the surface roughness (SR), recast layer thickness (RLT), material subtraction/removal rate (MRR), and tool wear rate (TWR) were witnessed [225–227]. Besides, the literature also records a noteworthy improvement in the biological response of PM-EDMed Ti alloys when the enhanced biocompatibility, osteoblastic cell activity, and bone-bonding ability were achieved using hydroxyapatite (HA) [228–230]. Two recent articles used silver nanopowder and obtained remarkable improvement in the antibacterial properties of PM-EDMed Ti-6Al-4 V alloy [215, 231]. One of the latest related research on PM-EDM of NiTi-60 SMA used Al₂O₃ powder amid an improved surface roughness and tool electrode wear. The Al₂O₃ powder could successfully

reduce the kinetic energy of the ions by filling up the tool electrode-workpiece gap [232].

Exploring EDM’s optimum machining parameters resulted in a noticeable change in the parameters such as pulse on-time and output response such as surface integrity. EDM produced a more robust layer for the growth and adhesion of cells acquired from human bone than the sprayed alloy plasma of TiO₂. The bone-forming cell reaction on the biocompatible titanium surfaces made by EDM and standard machining techniques were compared. As a result, it was discovered that an EDM machined surface leads to better bone-forming cell responses in promoting cell differentiation and attachment due to its high hydrophilicity on the Ti surfaces. However, it did not affect cell proliferation [208]. It was discovered that the EDM process is suitable for developing shapes with aspect ratios and refined microstructures of biocompatible materials. Their reports also confirmed EDM’s wire machining of magnesium-alloys for biodegradable and biocompatible orthopedic implants [211].

Besides, in the past few years, a considerable expansion has been noticed in the miniaturization of medical parts and devices with micron dimensions. The technologically advanced designs combined numerous parts of relatively smaller dimensions with augmented potentialities. For instance, the initial design patterns of medical devices with relatively larger sizes, such as drug delivery systems and heart pacemakers, were not readily accepted by the human body [233]. Therefore, researchers have attempted to develop manufacturing processes that can produce miniaturized medical parts and assemblies in recent years, leading to relatively quicker healing and greater patient comfort [234]. Hence, the researchers were led to establish the

powder mixed-micro-EDM (PM-μ-EDM), a downscaled form of PM-EDM with a smaller process variables’ domain including tool electrode diameter in the submillimeter range, for obtaining miniaturized components of various complex to machine materials, including Ti and Ti alloys [235]. The most recent study on PM-μ-EDM of TiNi SMA presented the favorable effect of TiC powder at 5 g/l powder particle concentration on the recast layer of improved microhardness 438.7 HV, suggesting its use in orthodontic applications [236]. Davis et al. [237] used various powder particle concentrations (PPCs) to obtain remarkable dimensional accuracies and in vitro biocompatible behavior on the PM-μ-EDMed Ni_{55.6}Ti_{44.4} alloy. The research finally achieved improved cytocompatibility using Zn powder (6 g/l PPC) and copper tool. Figure 32 displays some of the significant findings of this work.

Further, with the help of Fig. 33, Davis et al. [238] presented the schematic demonstration of the sparking phenomenon during non-PM-μ-EDM and PM-μ-EDM performed at different PPCs. According to Fig. 33, the spark directly strikes the work surface during non-PM-μ-EDM. The sparking behavior at different PPCs could be observed in the top-most part of Fig. 33a–e. It is evident that all other concentrations, except 4 g/l PPC, end up with poor machinability. The possible reasons for the same are discussed in this subsection. At 2 g/l PPC, the spark travelled via powder particles but could not strike the machined surface with the desired intensity, possibly due to a weak bridging effect between the tool-workpiece electrodes. As a result, the formation of more craters and heat-affected zone is generally noticed. However, as shown in the middle part of Fig. 33a–c, 4 g/l PPC resulted in shallow, small craters. The possible reason for the same

Table 5 Non-traditional machining techniques, their merits, demerits, and abilities to machine the Mg, NiTi, and Ti-based alloys

Non-traditional machining technique	Merits	Ref	Demerits	Ref	Metallic implant biomaterials			Ref
					Mg-based alloys	NiTi-based alloys	Ti-based alloys	
AWJM	Has high productivity at a cheaper cost with no thermal influences for machining biomaterials having high brittleness and hardness	[240]	Has machining depth-regulation issues	[241]	---	✓	✓	[186, 240–245]
USM	It involves manageable heat and can effectively machine the brittle and hard biomaterials	[197]	Lacks a high machining rate	[246]	---	---	✓	[180, 197]
EDM	Complex, intricate features can be achieved with high surface quality	[247]	Require workpiece to be considerably conductive and display adverse thermal effects in heat-affected zones and excess recast layer thickness	[248]	✓	✓	✓	[201, 211, 247]
LBM	Able to machine almost all the biomaterials, including macro as well as micro-machining	[249]		[250]	✓	✓	✓	[251–253]

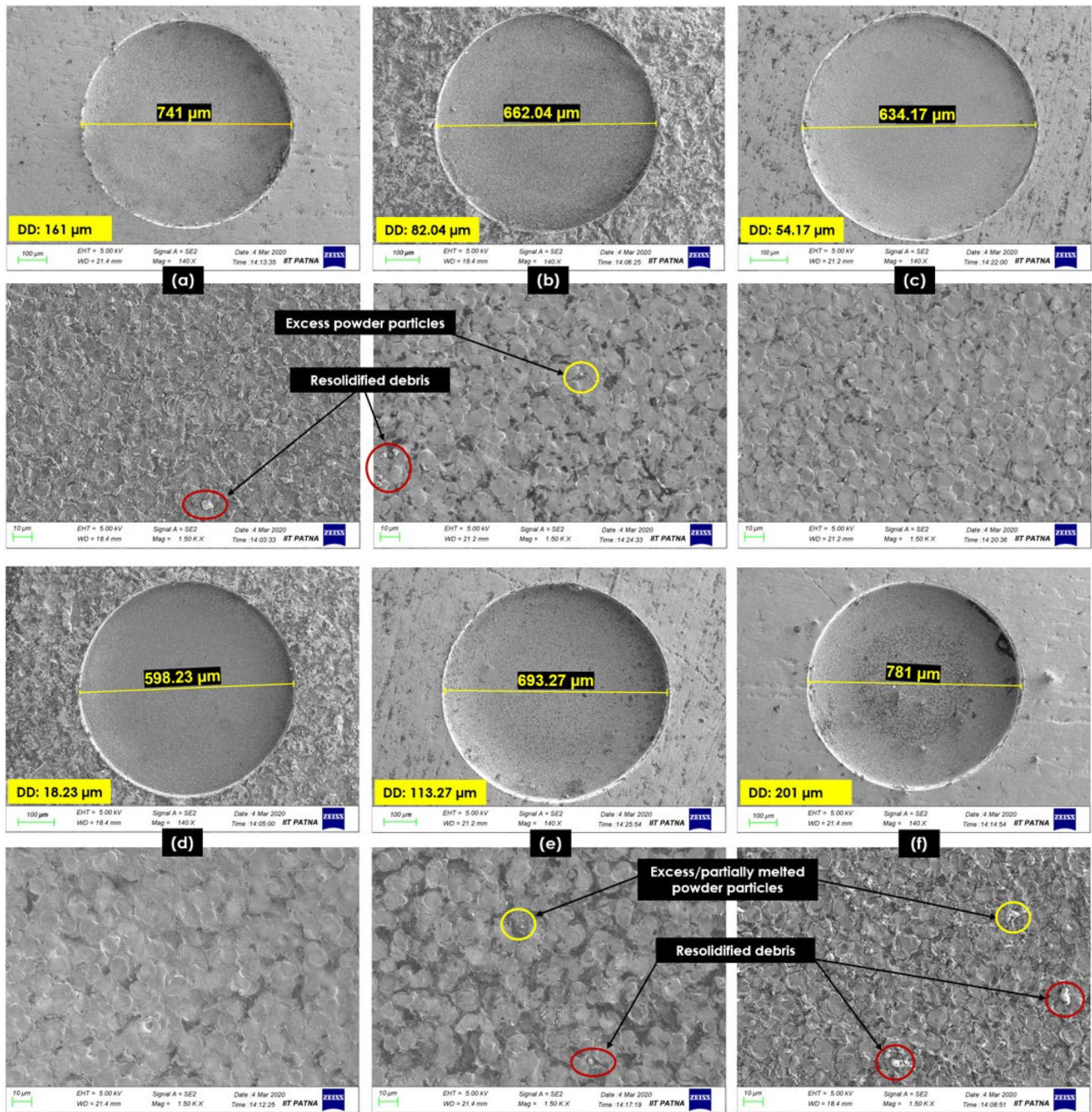


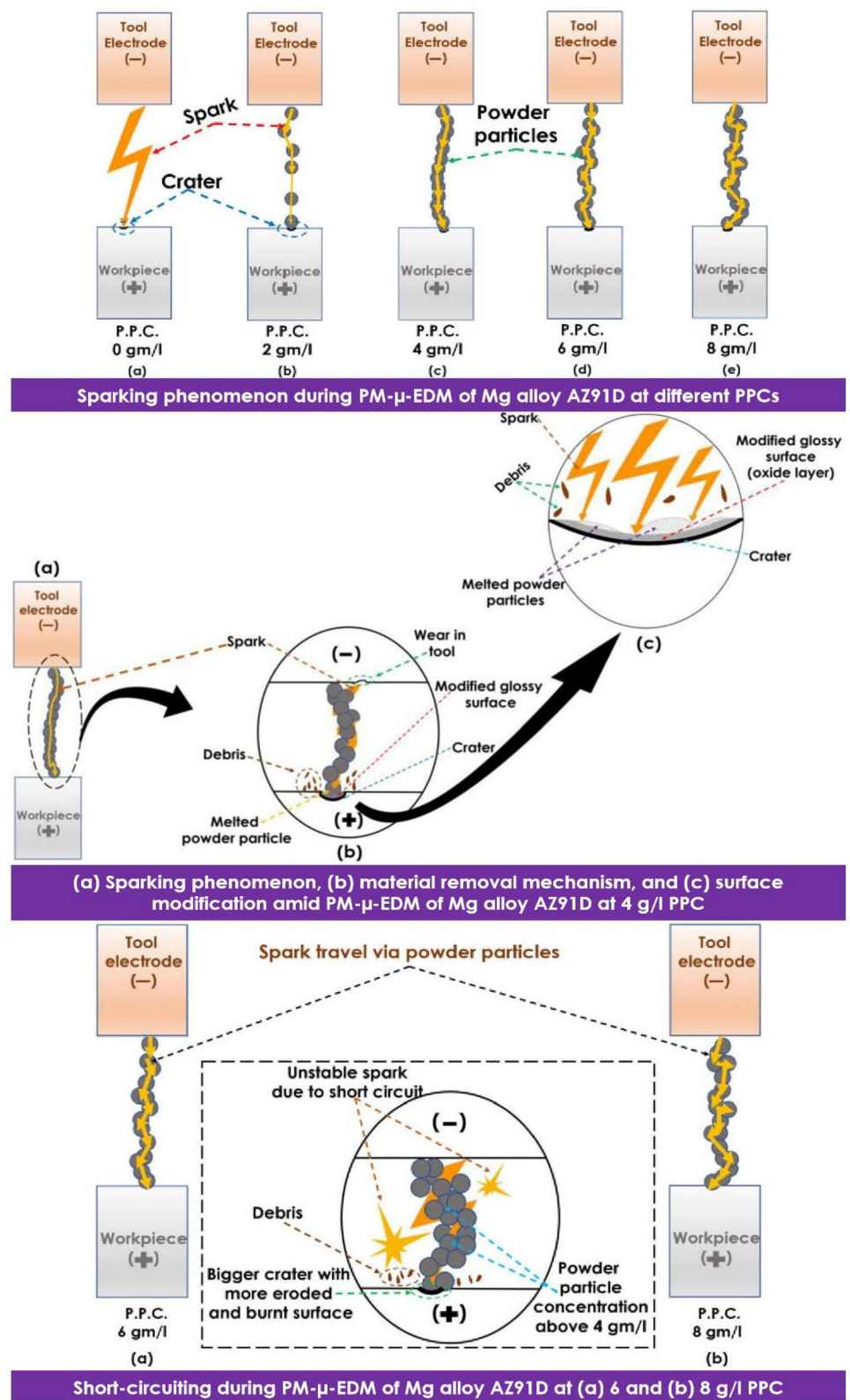
Fig. 32 Dimensional-deviation and surface morphology observed on the $\text{Ni}_{55.6}\text{Ti}_{44.4}$ alloy during PM- μ -EDM with (a) 0, (b) 2, (c) 4, (d) 6, (e) 8, and (f) 10 g/l PPC [237]

was forming the most effective bridging effect between the tool-workpiece electrodes. Further, it shows the striking of a focused spark via 4 g/l PPC to the work surface, followed by the material removal in the form of debris and the modified surface. However, as demonstrated in the down most of Fig. 33a, b, the rise in PPC from 4 to 6 g/l and further 8 g/l, possibly caused more deposition of the powder particles and debris in the craters, resulting in inefficient flushing. These unflushed accumulated powder particles and debris give rise

to short-circuiting, and therefore, the occurrence of short-circuiting (due to increasing PPCs beyond 4 g/l) is displayed at the PPC of 6 and 8 g/l. The machining with both the μ -tool electrodes was unstable because of short-circuiting at higher PPCs.

Hence, most metallic implant biomaterials exhibiting high hardness, abrasive attributes, ordered-microstructures, and relatively less stiffness often complicate their machinability in terms of high precision and complex geometrical

Fig. 33 Schematic presentation of the sparking phenomenon with surface modification



intricacies inappropriate metallurgical and biological properties via traditional means. Therefore, advanced manufacturing methods such as AWJM, LBM, USM, and EDM

were found to be some of the well-known non-traditional subtractive manufacturing techniques for machining varieties of metallic implant biomaterials. In this regard, Table 5

Table 6 Chronological literature review on the electric discharge machining (non-traditional subtractive manufacturing) of metallic implant biomaterials towards the possible surface modification

Biomaterial	EDM/ μ -EDM	Tool electrode/dielectric	Powder particles, particle size	PPC (g/l)	Finding	Biocompatibility/biomedical application	Ref
Au–Ag, Co–Cr, and CpTi	EDM	Copper/kerosene	—	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The EDMed surfaces were detected with approximately 2 μm thick recast layer containing an enhanced concentration of C and Cu (from the decomposed dielectric and electrode, respectively), indicating improved surface properties 	Dental application	Zinelis [254]
SS	μ -EDM	Pure tungsten/Daphne Cut HL-25 EDM oil	SiC, 45–55 nm	0.02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Powder particles lowered down the charges between the tool-electrodes The dimensions of the formed craters were effectively controlled by the PM-μ-EDM, resulting in better morphological features 	—	Yeo et al. [255]
Fe–Al–Mn	EDM	Copper/kerosene	—	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The produced recast/oxide layer possessed the combination of nano-structured γ-phase and Fe_{0.6}Mn_{5.4}C₂ carbide (k-carbide), primarily responsible for the improved in vitro biocompatibility of the EDMed surface 	The enhanced NIH3T3 cells' response towards the machined surface confirmed its improved biocompatibility	Chen et al. [207]
Al–Zn–Mg alloy	Integrated EDM and ultrasonic machining (USM)	Copper/kerosene	TiC, 10 μ m	60	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The combined effect of EDM and USM, with the assistance of Ti and C elements, resulted in the formation of a hard and wear-resistant modified layer on the machined surface Improved material removal rate (MRR), surface roughness (SR) 	—	Chen and Lin [256]
ASTM F67 Grade IV-Ti	EDM	Copper	—	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short-duration electric-discharge produced a nanostructured (γ+δ hydrides) and nanoporous TiO₂ layer on the machined surface The biocompatibility of the PM-EDMed surface was improved with the presence of α and γ-hydride-phases 	Achieved SR and nanoporosity suitable for enhanced implantation performance	Peng et al. [257]
Ti-6Al-4 V alloy	μ -EDM	W/ kerosene, pure de-ionized water, and powder mixed kerosene and de-ionized water	B ₄ C, 13–16 μ m	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> B₄C powder mixed deionized achieved better characteristics in the accuracy of cut micro-holes in terms of circularity and taper compared to pure de-ionized water and kerosene Machining without powder obtained a relatively better TWR but inferior surface quality 	—	Kibria and Bhattacharyya [258]

Table 6 (continued)

Biomaterial	EDM/ μ -EDM	Tool electrode/dielectric	Powder particles, particle size	PPC (g/l)	Finding	Biocompatibility/biomedical application	Ref
Ti alloy	Wire EDM	Ti electrode/de-ionized water	—	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EDMed surface was considered modified due to its super-hydrophilicity and positive behavior towards the MC3T3-E1 cells, possibly due to TiO and TiO₂ • The machined surface favored cell attachment. However, the proliferation was opposed 	MC3T3-E1 cell could be easily attached to the W-EDMed surface	Otsuka et al. [208]
Ti-6Al-4 V alloy	EDM	Graphite electrode/hydrocarbon oil	—	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The human osteoblast-like MG-63 cells displayed a better response towards the EDMed surface than the plasma sprayed TiO₂-coated surface • The modified layer comprised an ample amount of carbides and oxides 	The cells grew, adhered, and proliferated well on the EDMed surface	Harcuba et al. [259]
SUS 304 SS	EDM	Copper/kerosene	TaC	5–15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A considerable enhancement was reported in SR, MRR, and microhardness (MHD) with the variation in PPCs 	—	Zain et al. [260]
Ti-6Al-4 V alloy (ASTM F136-92)	EDM	Ti (Grade -2)/distilled water	—	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Superior surface chemistry and crystallography were observed on the EDMed surfaces over the unmachined surfaces • Moreover, the developed oxide layer contributed to the enhancement of biocompatible characteristics 	Improved cytocompatible response and osteoblast features of EDMed surface towards adhesion MG-63 cells	Lee et al. [261]
Titanium	μ -EDM with vibration assistance to the workpiece	Tungsten/kerosene	Graphite nanopowders, 55 nm	0, 5, 10, 15, And 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Machining time was notably reduced (3.52 min) at 10 g/l PPC, and surface quality was substantially enhanced at 15 g/l PPC • Vibration assisted in augmented debris removal • Crater sizes were noticeably improved 	—	Prihandana et al. [262]
Ti-6Al-4 V alloy	EDM	Ti/distilled water	—	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ti tool electrode achieved a nano-porous TiO₂/oxide layer on the EDMed surface, pointing towards its enhanced modification • Improved surface quality was observed 	The significant MG-636 cell growth and attachment on the EDMed surface endorsed its considerable modification	Yang et al. [263]
Ti-6Al-4 V alloy	μ -EDM	Tungsten/pure de-ionized water	B ₄ C, 600 nm	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B₄C powder obtained an intense and even discharge, attaining higher MRR, lower tool wear (TWR), and better surface properties than the non-powder mixed machining 	—	Kibria et al. [264]

Table 6 (continued)

Biomaterial	EDM/ μ -EDM	Tool electrode/dielectric	Powder particles, particle size	PPC (g/l)	Finding	Biocompatibility/biomedical application	Ref
Ti ₅₀ Ni ₅₀ And Ti ₅₀ Ni _{49.5} Cr _{0.5} SMA	EDM	Ti/pure nitrogen gas	—	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To reduce the martensitic temperature of Ti₅₀Ni₅₀, an addition of Cr was made to it The modified layers comprised CrN and TiN The EDMed Ti₅₀Ni_{49.5}Cr_{0.5} displayed better SR, MRR, TWR, shape-recovery ability, wear, and corrosion resistance than Ti₅₀Ni₅₀ 	The modified surface might be suitable for biomedical implant applications	Huang et al. [265]
Ti-Nb-Ta-Zr (β -phase Ti alloy)	EDM	CpTi/EDM oil	Si, <50 μ m	4 and 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The in vitro bioactivity examination with MG-63 osteoblast-like cells responded positively towards the PM-EDMed nanoporous layer The outstanding porosity, corrosion, and hardness characteristics' response of this surface confirmed its suitability for biomedical applications Moreover, the PM-EDMed surface displayed favorable bioactivity and biocompatibility 	The Ti alloy's nanoporous surface obtained by PM-EDM comprised bio-ceramic oxides and carbides, indicating its successful application in orthopedics	Prakash et al. [266]
Ti-6Al-4 V alloy	μ -EDM	Tungsten carbide/EDM-3 oil	SiC, 600 nm	5, 15, And 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The best machining outputs such as MRR, TWR, and recast layer thickness were significantly influenced by the Tungsten carbide PPC (5 g/l) and capacitance A special surface coating was reported in a developed modified layer comprising tungsten and SiC elements 	—	Kuriachen and Mathew [267]
CpTi—Grade II (ASTM B265)	EDM	Ti- Grade II (ASTM B348)/water	—	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The EDMed surface was observed with a considerably thick TiO₂ layer The biocompatibility tests found early differentiation dual-topography surface The in vitro test of the EDMed surface with osteoblast-like MC3T3-E1 cells reported improved cell differentiation 	The favorable in vitro findings can suggest the modified surface for dental and orthopedic implant applications	Lee et al. [268]
ASTM B348 6AL-4 V Grade 5 Ti6Al4V alloy	EDM	Graphite/deionized water	Calcium chloride (CaCl ₂)	0.1 mol/l	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ti6Al4V alloy surface was enriched with titanium perovskite during the EDM process Approximately 200 μm thick layer was formed with relatively higher hardness, indicating a significant surface modification 	Based on the modified surface properties, improved biocompatibility can be predicted	Sales et al. [269]

Table 6 (continued)

Biomaterial	EDM/ μ -EDM	Tool electrode/dielectric	Powder particles, particle size	PPC (g/l)	Finding	Biocompatibility/biomedical application	Ref
316L SS	Micro-electric discharge drilling (μ -EDD)	Tungsten/DCO 1000i EDM oil	Al, SiC, and Gr, 300 nm	0, 2, And 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The increase in PPC increases the MRR but also the overcut (OC) The stainless-steel attained a modified surface after μ-EDD as a result of melting, evaporation, and deposition of powder particles 	—	Cyril et al. [270]
Mg alloy AZ31	EDM	Copper/EDM oil	Zn, 80 nm	1, 2, and 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SR was reduced by 44% during PM-EDM at 2 g/l PPC 	The study suggested the use of PM-EDM in biomedical implant manufacturing	Abdul-Rani et al. [271]
53Ti–35Nb–7Ta–5Zr (β -phase Ti alloy)	EDM	CpTi/EDM oil	Si, <50 μ m	4 and 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The PM-EDMed surface exhibited a favorable biological response through its specific topographic features towards bone growth According to the finite element analysis method (FEM), the finally achieved porous structure on the machine's surface could promote cell growth and interlocking between the cells and implant 	The study suggested the use of the modified surface in orthopedic applications	Prakash et al. [272]
Ti-6Al-4 V alloy And NiTi shape memory alloy (SMA)	μ -EDM	Tungsten carbide/EDM oil	—	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The PM-EDMed/modified surface of Ti-6Al-4 V alloy and NiTi SMA alloy were detected with TiO₂ and NiTiO₃, respectively. However, the Ti alloy surface possessed a higher amount of oxide and lower finish than SMA The topographic and microhardness studies of these surfaces suggested the protection of the surface against unwanted failures 	The achieved surface modification in the form of desirable oxide layers could suggest enhanced biocompatibility	Jahan et al. [273]
Ti-6Al-4 V alloy	μ -EDM	Tungsten carbide/EDM oil	—	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The μ-EDMed surface exhibited surface roughness under 100 μm The presence of a porous TiO₂ layer with no toxic residues on it might promote bony-ingrowth The surface defects could be controlled with μ-EDM 	The enhanced wear properties of the modified surface might be recommended for orthodontic applications	Mahbub et al. [205]

Table 6 (continued)

Biomaterial	EDM/ μ -EDM	Tool electrode/dielectric	Powder particles, particle size	PPC (g/l)	Finding	Biocompatibility/biomedical application	Ref
Nitinol	μ -EDM, Laser, and chemical jet machining (jet-ECM)	SS for μ -EDM	—	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A comparative study was performed among the three machining processes to determine the one having the maximum influence on the characteristics of Nitinol μ-EDM displayed the most significant effect on the thermal behavior of Nitinol The electric discharges of μ-EDM can noticeably impact Nitinol's phase transformation 	—	Mwangi et al. [202]
Co-Cr alloy knee-joint sample	EDM	Graphite/EDM oil	—	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The EDMed surfaces were observed with macro and nano features in roughness and porosity, which promoted cell viability and proliferation The resolidified debris augmented the surface performance amid in vitro study 	The modified surface was validated via in vitro hemolysis to enhance its interaction with blood	Mahajan and Sidhu [274]
Mg alloy AZ31	EDM	Copper/EDM oil	Zn, 80 nm	1, 2, and 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At 2 g/l PPC, the machined surface was observed with a notable modification in improved corrosion resistance The surface micro-cracks could be effectively minimized with Zn powder particles 	The study suggested the use of Zn-PM-EDM in enhancing corrosion resistance of biomedical implant surfaces	Razak et al. [275]
Ti-6Al-4 V alloy	μ -EDM	WC (6 wt.% Co)/HEDMA111	Silver (99.9%), 50–60 nm	0, 2.5, 5, 7.5, 10, 12.5, 15, 17.5, 20, 22.5, and 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With the rise in PPC, the surface roughness (up to 0.016 μm) and MRR improved, but only up to certain levels of PPCs The study achieved a significant antibacterial effect at pulse-energies lower than 17.5 μJ It was suggested that the finally obtained modified layer needs to have an even distribution of the powders responsible for antibacterial attributes 	The modified surface exhibited antibacterial properties	Bui et al. [215]
Co-Cr alloy	EDM	Graphite, tungsten, and copper-tungsten/ mineral oil and deionized water	—	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The finally produced recast layer by copper-tungsten electrode was noticed with a considerable amount of carbide, oxide, and boride, resulting in its augmented modification and bioactivity The copper-tungsten electrode achieved 80% higher corrosion resistance and enhanced biological response via in vitro hemocompatibility tests on the machined surface 	The EDMed/modified surface was observed with a sound interaction with the human blood	Mahajan and Sidhu [276]

Table 6 (continued)

Biomaterial	EDM/ μ -EDM	Tool electrode/dielectric	Powder particles, particle size	PPC (g/l)	Finding	Biocompatibility/biomedical application	Ref
Ti-6Al-4 V alloy	μ -EDM	Brass/deionized water	Cu, Ni, and Co, 1–2 μ m	2, 4, and 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At 4 g/l PPC, Cu powder obtained the desired outcome in terms of improved MRR, followed by Co and Ni powders. However, TWR and OC got adversely affected with PM-μ-EDM Non-PM-μ-EDM achieved better results for TWR, and OC compared to Co and Ni powders However, Cu powder could most effectively affect the output variables at different concentrations among all the three powder variants 	—	Tiwary et al. [277]
F90 Co-20Cr-15 W-10Ni alloy	EDM	Copper-tungsten (Cu-W)/ deionized water	—	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The wear and friction properties of the EDMed surfaces were significantly improved The elemental composition ascertained by XRD on the EDMed surface comprised many oxides and carbides, responsible for the achieved surface modification The MG-63 cells showed a remarkably enhanced viability with the modified surface 	The observed in vitro cytocompatibility confirmed the acceptability of the modified surface for orthopedic applications	Mahajan and Sidhu [278]
Ti-6Al-4 V alloy	μ -EDM	Brass/deionized water	Tungsten disulfide, 15 μ m	6, 8, 10, and 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The results reported a notable augmentation in material deposition rate, MHD, SR, and recast layer thickness (RLT) at 12 g/l PPC, leading to a significant surface modification 	—	Mohanty et al. [279]
ASTM Grade 5 Ti-6Al-4 V alloy	EDM	Electrolytic copper/ EDM oil	n-Hap $\text{Ca}_3(\text{PO}_4)_3(\text{OH})$, 20–45 nm	30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The superior performance of PM-EDM over non-PM-EDM was observed in terms of improved MRR, SR corrosion, and wear behavior of the machined surface 	—	Bains et al. [280]
TiNi SMA	μ -EDM	Brass (C2680)/deionized water	TiC, 2 μ m	0, 3, 5, 7, and 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SR, MRR, RLT, and MHD could considerably achieve the desirable values with 5 g/l PPC The size of craters and melting drops was effectively regulated using the PM-μ-EDM 	The findings suggest the use of the produced surface in orthodontic applications	Zhu et al. [236]

Table 6 (continued)

Biomaterial	EDM/ μ -EDM	Tool electrode/dielectric	Powder particles, particle size	PPC (g/l)	Finding	Biocompatibility/biomedical application	Ref
Ti-6Al-4 V alloy	μ -ED milling	Tungsten carbide/100 DI	SiC, 25 nm	0, 2, 4, and 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A reduction in breakdown-voltage by 40% was reported with PM-μ-ED milling 2 g/l PPC raised MRR, and 6 g/l PPC gave rise to MHD A considerable reduction in micro-cracks and voids was observed with the SiC powder mixed milling 	—	Arun Pillai et al. [281]
Ti-6Al-4 V (ELI)	EDM	Cu/deionized water	HAp, micro and nano size	0, 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The surface roughness was achieved in the range of 0.38 μm to 6.61 μm Micro-sized powder could produce a considerable effect on the surface wettability and roughness 	The outcomes reported an improved MG-63 osteoblast-like cells viability amid in vitro investigation	Yaşar and Ekmekeci [282]
Mg alloy AZ91D	μ -EDM	Copper and brass tool electrodes	Zn, 5 μ m	0, 2, 4, 6, and 8 g/l	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The combination of copper μ-tool electrode and 4 g/l PPC outperformed all the other tool electrodes and PPCs and achieved the most superior surface morphology and improved corrosion resistance 	—	Davis et al. [238]
Ni _{55.6} Ti _{44.4} alloy				0, 2, 4, 6, 8, and 10 g/l	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An augmented and favorable phase transformation was observed on the surface machined with copper μ-tool electrode associated with 6 g/l PPC 	The results were observed with an enhanced in vitro cytocompatibility	Davis et al. [237]

summarizes the literature reporting successful machining only of the Mg, NiTi, and Ti-based metallic implant biomaterials due to their increasing applications. Further, with the help of Table 5, the capabilities of all these commonly used and displayed non-traditional machining techniques could be compared, showing the largest influence of LBM and EDM in this regard. Thus, EDM and LBM may be chosen for the desired response in most cases. However, both of these processes also display almost similar disadvantages. Hence, the final selection from these two might be based on the overall cost and outcome. In this regard, EDM was outlined as a better alternative compared to LBM due to the ease of its modification, overall efficiency, and productivity to achieve the desired results [239].

7.2.5 A rigorous chronological survey on the strategies used to modify the metallic implant biomaterials using EDM and its variants

Based on some critical observations in the last subsection regarding non-traditional machining process capabilities for metallic implant biomaterials, the present review further converges the literature to processing only via EDM (at the macro- and micro-scale levels). In this relation,

Table 6 demonstrates the wide use of macro and μ -EDM for machining the various metallic implant biomaterials in the last 15 years, followed by their significant findings. Subsequently, as it could be noted from the literature that the powder mixed variant (PM-EDM) of EDM has been producing superior results for clinical uses in many cases. The PM-EDM setup used different conductive powder particles with varieties of sizes and concentrations and reported unprecedented output variables. In addition to the observations of Table 6, the graphical analysis presented in Fig. 34 also reveals the remarkable percentage rise in the application of PM-EDM at the micro-level (PM- μ -EDM), producing excellent outcomes in terms of significantly enhanced biocompatibility and bioactivity of biomaterials. However, in both Table 6 and Fig. 34, the number of research articles including or attesting the biological response of the EDMed surfaces is comparatively less, but with an increasing trend in the last 5 years, pointing towards the attraction of researchers towards the production of EDMed surfaces supplemented with a specific biocompatibility study. In the literature survey, a more extensive study on the in vitro biocompatibility investigation of the non-traditionally machined biomaterials (Table 6) was observed compared to the traditionally machined biomaterials (Table 3).

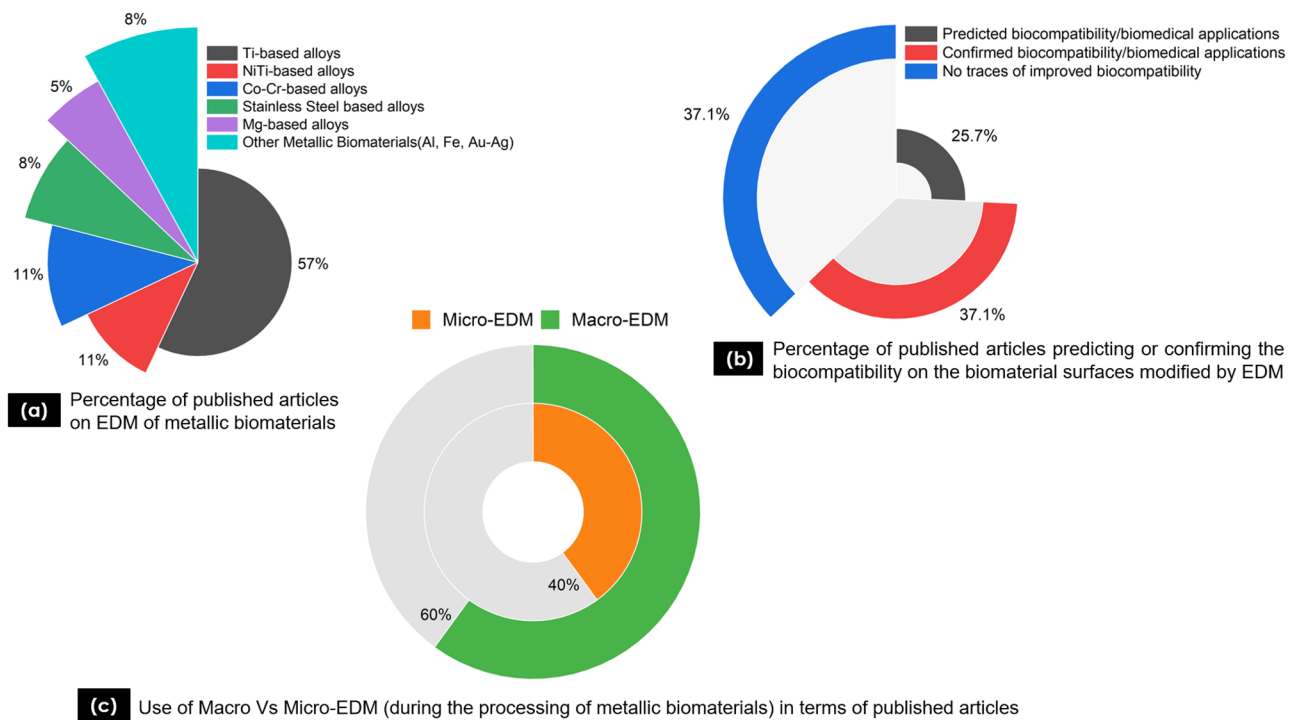


Fig. 34 Graphical analysis of published articles in the last 15 years on EDM of metallic implant biomaterials

8 Conclusions

The biocompatible materials may lack insufficient ability to meet the needed proper bonding between the implant and nearby bones and tissues. Such bonding requires improved implant surface bioactivity, which can be achieved with suitable machining and surface modification techniques. The same can impart greater stability and strength to the implant biologically employing changing the mechanical biocompatibilities (preferably by subtracting or adding the excess material from or to the surface of the work material) for uniform transmission of the stress bone-implant interface. This results in the regeneration and recovery of the damaged tissue or bone. Hence, surface modification enables the metallic implant biomaterials to match the intricacies of a biological environment by enhancing the functional attributes of the biomedical implants or devices.

Moreover, the customizable ease associated with some specific surface modification approaches in attaining the desired surface quality can primarily ascertain the interactive limits of the implant's surface with the adjacent tissues/cells. In this regard, the present review has explored the metallic implant biomaterials, their properties, and the possible techniques to achieve their best applications in making human life more comfortable. Subsequently, the review highlighted the high standard need for an extensive range of practice of various subtractive manufacturing processes as potential means to modify the surfaces of metallic implant biomaterials.

Thus, this review can lead to the following concluding remarks:

- The risk of inflammatory reactions is reduced vastly with the degradable metallic implant biomaterials compared to non-degradable ones. No foreign material is left in the biological system with the application of degradable biomaterials.
- The development of surgical implants of nickel-free stainless steel is still under research, which may open up a greater possibility of human life saving and comfort. Besides this, orthodontics and orthopedics are also using this nickel-free stainless steel.
- The last decade witnessed a significant rise in the use of degradable Mg, and non-degradable NiTi, and Ti-based alloys as competent metallic implant biomaterials. Titanium was one of the best biocompatible materials suitable for the human body, even costlier.
- In the absence of practical traditional machining approaches (in terms of the adequate cutting tool and lubricants), the barrier still to be faced for the potential use of Mg-based alloys is their machinability since some biomedical applications require high geometric precision. The feeble traditional machining of Mg-based alloys generally causes notable vibrations, chip-formation with variable sizes, and the appearance of a built-up edge due to the low melting point of Mg (about 650 °C), adversely affecting its stability at high temperatures.
- The poor subtractive processing/machining even increases the oxidation rate of Mg alloys which are more susceptible to corrosion. Therefore, it is not easy to achieve high precision on the incompetent traditionally machined Mg surfaces such as AZ (Mg–Al–Zn), WE (Mg–RE–Zr), and ZK (Mg–Zn–Zr), generally developed for clinical applications.
- During the ineffectual traditional machining of highly ductile and elastic NiTi-based alloys, the mechanism of their poor machinability could be explained by the required high cutting forces, leading to increased cutting temperatures and subsequent thermal stresses. This further deforms the cutting tool and causes complex issues, such as stress-induced phase transformations in NiTi-based alloys.
- Similarly, the poor machinability characteristics of Ti-based alloys, including high chip-thickness, pressure-load, spring-back, and developed residual stresses, often hinder the manufacturer from obtaining the desired surface properties.
- As a result of continued use, while machining NiTi and Ti-based alloy, the cutting tool is expected to experience a varying loading and, thus, a severe tool-wear, generation of built-up-edge (BUE), under low-cutting conditions, chip-adhesion, and inferior chip-breaking. Consequently, the worn-out cutting edge instigates several imperfections such as undesirable work-hardening, tearing, feed-marks, micro-cracks, slip-zones, lay-patterns, and grain-deformation on the NiTi and Ti-based alloys' surfaces.
- Hence, to improve the machinability of metallic implant biomaterials such as Mg, NiTi, and Ti-based alloys, the machine operator needs to be highly skilled and experienced to select the optimum process parameters. However, that raises the overall cost of manufacturing.
- The cryogenic and hybrid cooling strategies were found superior approaches over conventional flood (wet)-cooling to noticeably improve the efficacy of traditional subtractive manufacturing techniques for machining the degradable and non-degradable metallic implant biomaterials.
- A conventional EDM produces specific geometrical features and improves biocompatibility. However, in an EDM process, under the effect of the tremendous rise in temperature, sudden cooling, and inefficient flushing, the cut, melted, and unflushed workpiece material gets resolidified in the form of a layer (also known as recast or white layer) on the workpiece surface.

- In the case of biomedical implants, the recast layer of non-uniform thickness with several micro-cracks on the surface may further weaken the workpiece's resistance towards abrasion, corrosion, and wear, resulting in implant failure.
- Although some of the latest studies have also reported this issue in EDM of all the metallic implant biomaterials, they have provided a potential solution in a variant of EDM, known as powder mixed-EDM (PM-EDM).
- However, these studies could not be considered conclusive because the literature has been listing another competent variant of EDM, termed as powder mixed-micro-EDM (PM- μ -EDM), which appears to capture the attention of numerous researchers nowadays gradually.
- The use of more hybrid cooling techniques associated with cryo-treated cutting tools can be strongly suggested for subsequent experimental trials during traditional machining of biomaterials.
- The noteworthy results attained amid the use of CWMJ, vegetable oil, cooled-air, MQL, nano-fluids (Al_2O_3 , graphite, and molybdenum disulfide) MQCL, and graphene-doped nanofluid mist-spray cooling (during traditional machining of biomaterials), etc. encourage the development of newer potential lubri-coolants.
- Moreover, the detailed studies on the application of coated cryo-treated cutting tools in conjunction with these lubri-coolants need to be conducted and promoted. Most importantly, the use of promising hybridized combinations of the existing and newly developed lubri-coolants in conjunction with coated cryo-treated cutting tools achieving considerable biocompatibility features are still unstudied, indicating the need and broad research scope in this area for the present and budding researchers.

9 Future trends

A closer look at the literature on new cooling approaches and cutting tool treatment conditions in the traditional machining and non-traditional EDM of Mg, NiTi, and Ti-based alloys, reveals a number of vacancies to work within these areas in subsequent studies. Therefore, some of the possible future scopes are as follows:

- The majority of prior research on traditional machining of Mg, NiTi, and Ti-based alloys, which used a different cooling strategy other than the conventional cutting fluid and achieved profound findings, was exclusively noticed with cryogenic cooling. However, the use of hybrid cooling strategies, which could also achieve superior findings, particularly the biological response of the machined surface, was rarely recorded during the machining of these biomaterials. Thus, subsequent *in vitro/in vivo* biological studies must be conducted to validate the process capability.
- The past research illuminated the extensive use of an untreated cutting tool during dry, wet, and cryogenic machining of these biomaterials. However, as per the available literature, the application of cryo-treated cutting tools during the cryogenic and hybrid machining of these metallic implant biomaterials has been reported only in a minimal most recent study. Hence, there are ample opportunities to explore this area.
- The performance of the cryo-treated end mill seemed to be dependent on the temperature of the machining environment. However, further testing would need to be performed to validate the same.
- Consequently, rare attempts were made to integrate a cryo-treated cutting tool with different low-temperature cooling environments and study its subsequent effect on surface properties, including wettability and biocompatibility.
- Despite the exceptional cutting performance of advanced cutting tool materials such as cermet, PCD, and PCBN, a very rare studies consisting of the traditional machining of metallic biomaterials by these cutting tool materials showing augmented biological responses are available, prompting the immediate requirement of extensive investigations on the same.
- The textured cutting tools displayed an outstanding performance against stainless steel and Ti-based alloys. However, so far, these studies are limited and therefore, the application of these tools need to be expanded against all the metallic biomaterials.
- The literature observed a dramatic improvement in the performance of textured tools as well when used as self-lubricating or with conventional cutting fluid, MQL, and wet + nanoparticles. Hence, more types of lubri-coolants and their hybridized forms will need to be used along for further investigations.
- Additionally, the difficulty of producing ideal texturing on coated and on ultra-hard cutting tools such as ceramic, PCBN, and PCD, signals the necessity of achieving the same for improved machinability.
- Moreover, many current investigations in the broader literature have conducted the cryogenic turning of these biomaterials, whereas a minimal study is available on the cryogenic milling and drilling of these metallic implant biomaterials.
- The optimized input control factors that appeared to be persistent with the macro-PM-EDM of metallic implant biomaterials may turn to be conflicting with PM- μ -EDM. Hence, further investigation is needed to explore the critical precepts of PM- μ -EDM when applied to the metallic implant biomaterials.

- The excellent use of bioactive powder particles associated with different μ -tool electrode materials amid PM- μ -EDM of a few metallic implant biomaterials has just been addressed. Hence, the unstudied areas and undiscovered facts on the micro-machining of various metallic implant biomaterials for medical applications signal the necessity for further research.
- Due to a minimal study on the biocompatibility investigation of metallic implant biomaterials processed by PM- μ -EDM, the other studies cannot be convincing for the medical applications of these metallic implant biomaterials since a surface modification process substantially alters the topography and chemistry of the modified surface, possibly leading to an increase or development of toxicity on the modified surface towards the associated cells. Hence, further related studies are required.
- PM-EDM (at macro and micro level) via more bioactive powders in conjunction with copper tool electrode needs to be explored to modify the biomaterials' surfaces.
- The biocompatibility study in the latest research evaluated a short-term in vitro biological response of the significantly modified surfaces. However, a more comprehensive in vitro biocompatibility study and in vivo hemocompatibility investigation will be conducted to validate the long-term biological responses and the subsequent clinical use of these modified surfaces.

9.1 Advances in biocompatible metals and alloys

The field of metallic implant biomaterials has experienced intense growth in the last decade, and new alloys and manufacturing methods are currently under investigation to improve the performance of biomedical implants inside the human body. Although fundamental advances were achieved for biocompatibility, tensile limits or wear, and fatigue resistance, improving one of these characteristics might still require sacrificing the other or yielding low process productivity. Nevertheless, future trends include porous metallic structures, functionalized metal surfaces, and new biodegradable alloys, intending to improve biocompatibility without losing mechanical and tribological properties.

The most common metal for implants nowadays is, without doubt, the Ti-6Al-4 V alloy, but there are some new promising alternatives. Nagase et al. [283] developed the high-entropy TiZrHfCr_{0.2}Mo and TiZrHfCo_{0.07}Cr_{0.07}Mo alloys with improved mechanical hardness and biocompatibility, even greater than that of commercially-pure Ti. However, the casting method yields ingots that would be usually milled for biomedical use, posing an extra challenge due to the increased hardness. Besides, porous structure metals exhibit another important field of interest. According to Kargozar et al. [284], the open-cell structure with porosity

above 60% yields a lower modulus of elasticity and higher friction, similar to cancellous bone. These interconnected pores also present remarkable future capabilities as scaffolds for tissue engineering in vitro before surgery. Even though they are mainly produced by powder metallurgy [285] and additive manufacturing [286], non-traditional subtractive manufacturing processes may also be implemented for this purpose. Sales et al. [269] were able to produce a porous perovskite layer on the surface of Ti-6Al-4 V alloy through EDM. Calcium insertion into the Ti-6Al-4 V alloy surface was attributed to re-solidification and ion implantation; thus, functionalization was also achieved. The traditional subtractive manufacturing processes should be studied to produce small external channels, holes, or threads for fixation of the part, but with much care, saving from disruption of the microporous features.

Biocompatible Cermets (ceramic–metal composites) is another upcoming trend in biomaterials. Esteban-Tejeda et al. [287] produced mechanically stable biocide glass coatings with ZnO on 3Y-TZP/Ta and 3Y-TZP/Nb for antimicrobial activity. At the same time, He et al. [288] used spark plasma sintering of bio-Cermet Ti-13Nb-13Zr-HA to improve cell attachment. Just as in the case of porous materials, future works might evaluate the feasibility of traditional milling and drilling, which might be necessary in the case of patient custom devices.

Regarding biodegradability, besides the traditional magnesium alloys, there are several ongoing research for the use of zinc or ferrous biodegradable alloys, which do not present the flame hazard of the former during machining. Also, their degradability rate is lower [289], making them more suitable options for future biodegradable metal implants.

9.2 Developments in subtractive manufacturing processes

Traditional cutting processes such as milling, drilling, and turning have already been substantially investigated in several different configurations and techniques, making it harder to innovate in these fields. Although 5 axes machines and cryogenic cooling using LN₂ have already been discussed for milling, progress can be achieved by combining them. Romero-Resendiz et al. [285] used these with liquid CO₂ for clean manufacturing of Ti-6Al-4 V implants, achieving optimum geometrical tolerance in reduced lead time.

On the other hand, an active cutting fluid could be an exciting idea for the functionalization of an implant surface in milling operations. Shang et al. [290] produced nano-lubricants from nitrogen-doped carbon dots (N-CDs) that adsorbed into the metal surface during tribological tests. Carbon nanotubes and graphene are other possible choices that are being researched nowadays as additives for machining fluids. Also, as shown by Amiril et al. [291],

biocompatible lubricants based on ionic liquids might be used to reduce tool wear in machining operations due to their non-toxicity. Since Khemchandani et al. [292] also observed uniform deposition of phosphorous compounds on the wear marks of pin-on-disc tests with ionic fluids, there is hope that the lubricant could also perform ion or molecule implantation on the material surface.

Another significant concern that can be addressed through adjusting machining input variables is the achievement of specific crystalline structures in complex implant alloys for orthopedic implants. Depending on the cutting variables, temperature and deformation might induce phases and microstructures beneficial or deleterious for osseointegration in the metal surface. She et al. [293] researched the different responses of biocompatibility in Co-29Cr-5Mo, 316L SS, and Ti-6Al-4 V, finding different responses of biocompatibility depending on the resultant microstructure during surface deformation, which depends not only on input variables but also on each material's capability for martensitic phase transformation, dislocation slipping and mechanical twinning. In this sense, ultrasonic vibration-assisted machining is also an exciting topic for future studies since one of the main advantages of this process is reducing cutting force in elliptic milling and turning. The development of new metal-ceramic composites might also require this technology due to traditional machining approaches' high tool wear and surface damage [294].

9.3 Non-traditional subtractive manufacturing processes for surface engineering

The surface defects present on the finally manufactured degradable biomedical implant can cause an early degradation or failure under the joint influence of stress and corrosive environment inside the human body. A noticeable variation in the biomaterial's physical, mechanical, chemical, metallurgical, and biological properties occurs during manufacturing. In this regard, the upcoming research needs to remarkably improve the existing potentialities of the non-traditional machining processes by incorporating some novel strategies amid machining the metallic implant biomaterials. As explained by Duraccio et al. [295], a machined dental implant, for instance, usually undergoes further processing through plasma spray, grit blasting, etching, anodization, and acid treatment or ion implantation to adjust the surface chemical composition and roughness of dental implants, the essential characteristics for osseointegration. However, it would be highly beneficial if a single manufacturing process could achieve the final product. In this regard, according to Davis et al. [237, 238], powder-mixed EDM (PM-EDM) is a promising technique since it can be used for both roughing and finishing operations. The authors found that PM-EDM

reduced machining time and increased dimensional accuracy, two of the critical variables in the machining process of implants. Bains et al. [280] performed nano-HAp powder-mixed EDM (PM-EDM) on Ti alloy surface for producing HAp bio-coatings, for which the wear and corrosion rates were also hampered. However, as Al-Amin et al. [296] discussed, powder mixing still poses challenges in obtaining uniform thickness, proper adhesion, and controlling HAp phase transformation, which must be solved before the widespread use of this method for orthopedic implants. As further explained by Al-Amin et al. [297], the more significant weight of HAp particles and its polar nature produces a heterogeneous mixture with dielectric oil impairs Ca-P ions deposition's regularity. Besides, this creates an uneven discharge and surface energy, which also prejudice coating adhesion. This could be overcome by using new combinations of Ca-P salts and electrolytes together with better control of EDM process parameters, which might be achieved through current research in EDM simulation. Another possibility would be to use particle mixing with EDM milling [298] since the small rotary tool would keep the material removal confined to a smaller region, and calcium phosphate compounds could be flushed more consistently. Additionally, as discussed previously, EDG, owing to its fine cutting propensity, can be incorporated in future research to produce desired surface characteristics primarily on the hard-to-be-machined metallic biomaterials. The absence of flushing and easy removal of debris might make the process economic. Moreover, the rotating wheel of EDG can effectively minimize the heat-affected layer, leading to less damage of the produced surface [299].

Regarding surface preparation, there are several promising non-conventional or hybrid methods to tailor micro or even nano-sized structures favorable to cell adhesion and proliferation. For instance, Bouet et al. [300] has combined femtosecond laser with Selective Laser Melting to reduce product surface roughness and create periodic surface nanostructures due to laser-induced ablation. Additionally, IBM and EBM have been used as subtractive strategies for hard-to-cut metals, SMAs and Cermets, but the ongoing research aims to use these techniques for surface modification. Saptaji et al. [180] reviewed these fields and found that controlled heating of the outer metal layer might be used for tempering or relaxing residual stresses. The latter is desired to avoid cracking and delamination while the former may improve wear resistance, both of which contribute to greater adhesion. Although these processes require expensive equipment and possess lower productivity, technological development in the following years might facilitate their use for improving adhesion and cohesion, the most challenging characteristics regarding subtractive processing of biocompatible coatings.

Author contribution The authors declare that all co-authors participated in all the development stages of this review.

Availability of data and material All the authors declare that this paper has no available data or material.

Code availability All the authors declare that this paper has no available code.

Declarations

Ethics approval Not applicable to this paper.

Consent to participate Not applicable to this paper.

Consent for publication Not applicable to this paper.

Conflict of interest The authors declare no competing interests.

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