



## Metallic Thin Films: Microstructure and Property Design

Guest Editors:

### Dr. Alla Sologubenko

1. ETH Zurich, Scientific Center for Optical and Electron Microscopy (ScopeM), August-Piccard-Hof 1, CH-8093 Zürich, Switzerland

2. ETH Zurich, Laboratory for Nanometallurgy (LNM), Department of Materials, Vladimir-Prelog-Weg 5-1, CH-8093 Zürich, Switzerland

### Dr. Patric A. Gruber

Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT), Institute for Applied Materials (IAM), Herrmann von Helmholtz Platz 1, 76344 Eggenstein-Leopoldshafen, Germany

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### Message from the Guest Editors

*Metallic thin films are one of the key components of modern electronic devices and therefore are the subject of substantial attention in research and technology. An outstanding combination of the physical and mechanical properties of metallic thin films originate from their nano-sized grain morphology and the high sensitivity of the film microstructure to production conditions. These factors and modern thin film manufacturing techniques facilitate the control over the film microstructure, enable the design of new metallic thin film systems and allow their optimization with the purpose of meeting the demands of specific applications.*

*An important aspect of thin film material design is to control the film microstructure and phase stabilities during processing and device fabrication. Temperature and stress-induced grain growth, phase transformations, oxidation and cracking/delamination manifest microstructure instability and are the subject of extensive studies.*

*Moreover, a particular interest of this special issue is the complex characterization of the film phase and microstructure evolution with highest possible resolution and with a focus on in-operando studies.*





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### **Prof. Dr. Hugo F. Lopez**

Department of Materials Science  
and Engineering, College of  
Engineering & Applied Science,  
University of Wisconsin-  
Milwaukee, 3200 N. Cramer  
Street, Milwaukee, WI 53211, USA

### **Prof. Dr. Yong Zhang**

Beijing Advanced Innovation  
Center of Materials Genome  
Engineering, State Key  
Laboratory for Advanced Metals  
and Materials, University of  
Science and Technology Beijing,  
30 Xueyuan Road, Beijing 100083,  
China

## Message from the Editorial Board

Metallic materials play a vital role in the economic life of modern societies; contributions are sought on fresh developments that enhance our understanding of the fundamental aspects related to the relationships between processing, properties and microstructure – disciplines in the metallurgical field ranging from processing, mechanical behavior, phase transitions and microstructural evolution, nanostructures, as well as unique metallic properties – inspire general and scholarly interest among the scientific community.

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Metals Editorial Office  
MDPI, St. Alban-Anlage 26  
4052 Basel, Switzerland

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