

## Supplementary

### S 2.1. Equations used in XRD calculations

The texture coefficient (TC) for each (hkl) reflection was calculated after subtraction of background radiation by equation (1) [1]:

$$TC(hkl) = \frac{I(hkl)/I_o(hkl)}{\frac{1}{n} \sum I(hkl)/I_o(hkl)} \quad (1)$$

where  $I(hkl)$  and  $I_o(hkl)$  are the measured diffraction intensity of the experimental spectra and powder pattern in JCPDS files, respectively, and  $n$  is the number of reflection peaks. For random distribution, TC is equal to 1.

The weight fractions of rutile ( $W_r$ ) and anatase ( $W_a$ ) phases in the coatings were determined by formula 2 and 3 [2].

$$W_r = \frac{I_r}{KI_a + I_r} \quad (2)$$

$$W_a = \frac{KI_a}{KI_a + I_r} \quad (3)$$

where  $I_r$  and  $I_a$  are the integrated intensities of (110) and (101) planes of the rutile and anatase phase.  $K$  is a coefficient equal to 0.886.

The grain size ( $D$ ) was determined by the Debye-Scherrer equation (4):

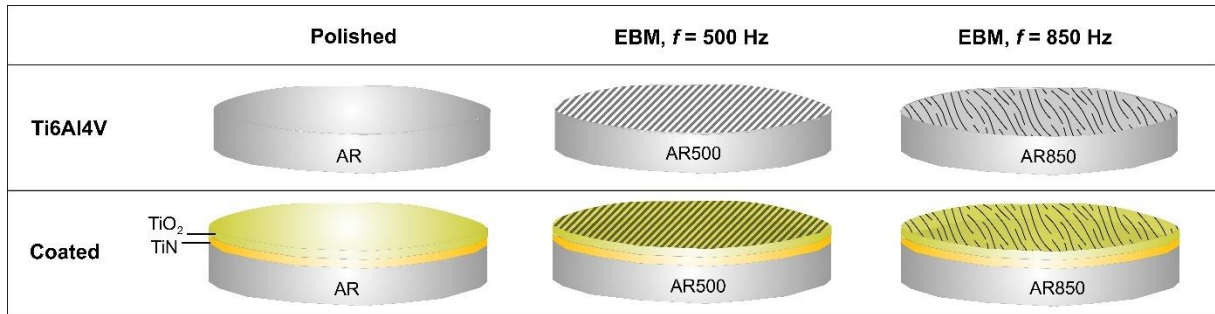
$$D = \frac{0.9\lambda}{\beta \cos \theta} \quad (4)$$

where  $\lambda$  is the X-ray wavelength of Cu  $K_\alpha$  radiation (1.5406 Å) and  $\beta$  is the full width at half maximum (in radian) and  $\theta$  is Bragg's angle. Dislocation density ( $\delta$ ) which represents the number of defects in the films was calculated by using equation 5 [3]:

$$\delta = \frac{15\beta \cos \theta}{4aD} \quad (5)$$

where  $a$  is the cell parameter, and  $D$  is the grain size.

### S 3.1



**Figure S1.** A schematic view of the specimens together with the samples' codification.

Figure S1 presents an overall view of the samples that have been examined in this study. After polishing, Ti6Al4V samples have been subjected to EBM with different electron beam frequencies ( $f = 500$  and  $850$  Hz) and their surface roughness became different. The polished and EBM

specimens were coated with PVD deposited coatings consisting of thicker underlying TiN and thinner overlaying TiO<sub>2</sub>.

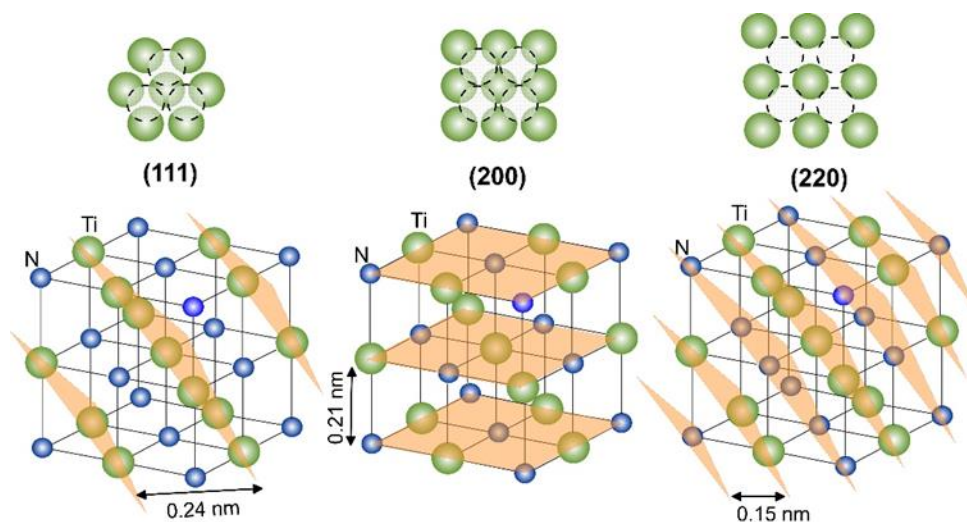
#### S 3.4.

**Table S1.** Texture coefficients of different (hkl) reflections of the substrates and coatings.

(hkl)	TC(hkl)		
	AR	AR500	AR850
<i><math>\alpha</math>-Ti</i>			
(100)	2.27	1.43	0.61
(002)	0.32	1.85	2.44
(101)	0.77	2.10	1.66
(102)	0.22	1.32	0.33
(110)	0.52	0.94	0.24
(103)	0.13	0.80	0.11
(201)	2.77	3.42	1.61
<i>Titanium nitride</i>			
(111)	0.02	0.01	0.01
(200)	0.82	1.93	2.07
(220)	2.16	0.79	0.92
<i>Titanium Oxide – phase %</i>			
R (110)	72.9	65.8	57.3
A (101)	27.1	34.1	42.7

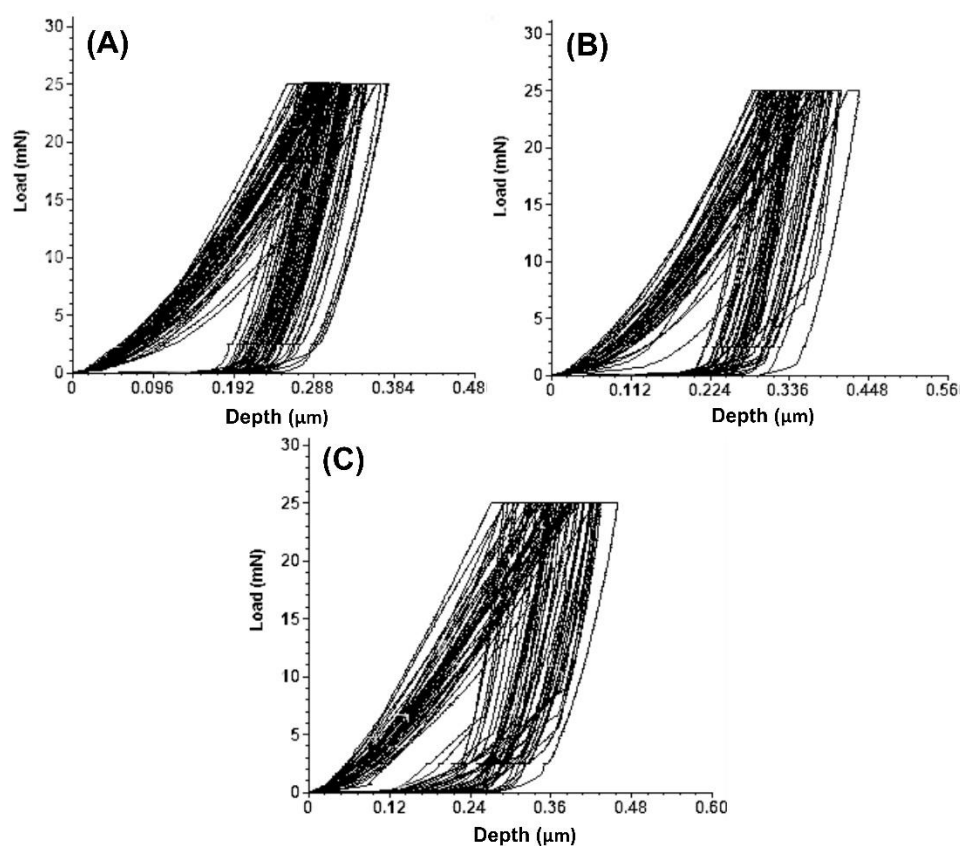
**Table S2.** Average grain sizes and dislocation density of  $\alpha$ -Ti, TiN, and TiO<sub>2</sub> calculated by using Scherrer's equation.

Phase	Reflection	Grain size, (nm)			Dislocation density, ( $\times 10^{-14}$ lines m <sup>-2</sup> )		
		AR	AR500	AR850	AR	AR500	AR850
$\alpha$ -Ti	D <sub>100</sub>	221.29	161.70	155.65	33	62	67
	D <sub>101</sub>	197.16	159.22	153.34			
TiN	D <sub>200</sub>	97.90	105.42	105.41	111	96	96
	D <sub>220</sub>	71.51	72.89	75.77	176	159	157
TiO <sub>2</sub>	Anatase-D <sub>101</sub>	165.62	187.23	187.25	49	37	37
	Rutile-D <sub>110</sub>	178.63	186.42	178.63	34	31	34



**Figure S2.** Crystallographic planes with their atomic arrangement and inter-planer distances in TiN phase.

### S 3.5



**Figure S3.** Load-depth curves of TiN/TiO<sub>2</sub> coatings deposited on the polished AR (A) AR500 (B) and AR850 (C) samples.

## References

1. M. Hashemzadeh, K. Raeissi, F. Ashrafizadeh, S. Khorsand, Effect of ammonium chloride on microstructure, super-hydrophobicity and corrosion resistance of nickel coatings. *Surf. Coat. Technol.* 283 (2015) 318–328. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.surfcoat.2015.11.008>
2. H. Zhang, J.F. Banfield, Understanding polymorphic phase transformation behavior during growth of nanocrystalline aggregates: Insights from  $\text{TiO}_2$ , *J. Phys. Chem. B.* 104 (2000) 3481–3487. <https://doi.org/10.1021/jp000499j>
3. Y.P.V. Subbaiah, P. Prathap, K.T.R., Reddy, Structural, electrical and optical properties of ZnS films deposited by close-spaced evaporation, *Appl. Surf. Sci.* 253(5) (2006) 2409–2415. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apsusc.2006.04.063>