

Developing ultra-strong and ultra-tough metallic materials with gradient nano-grained structures

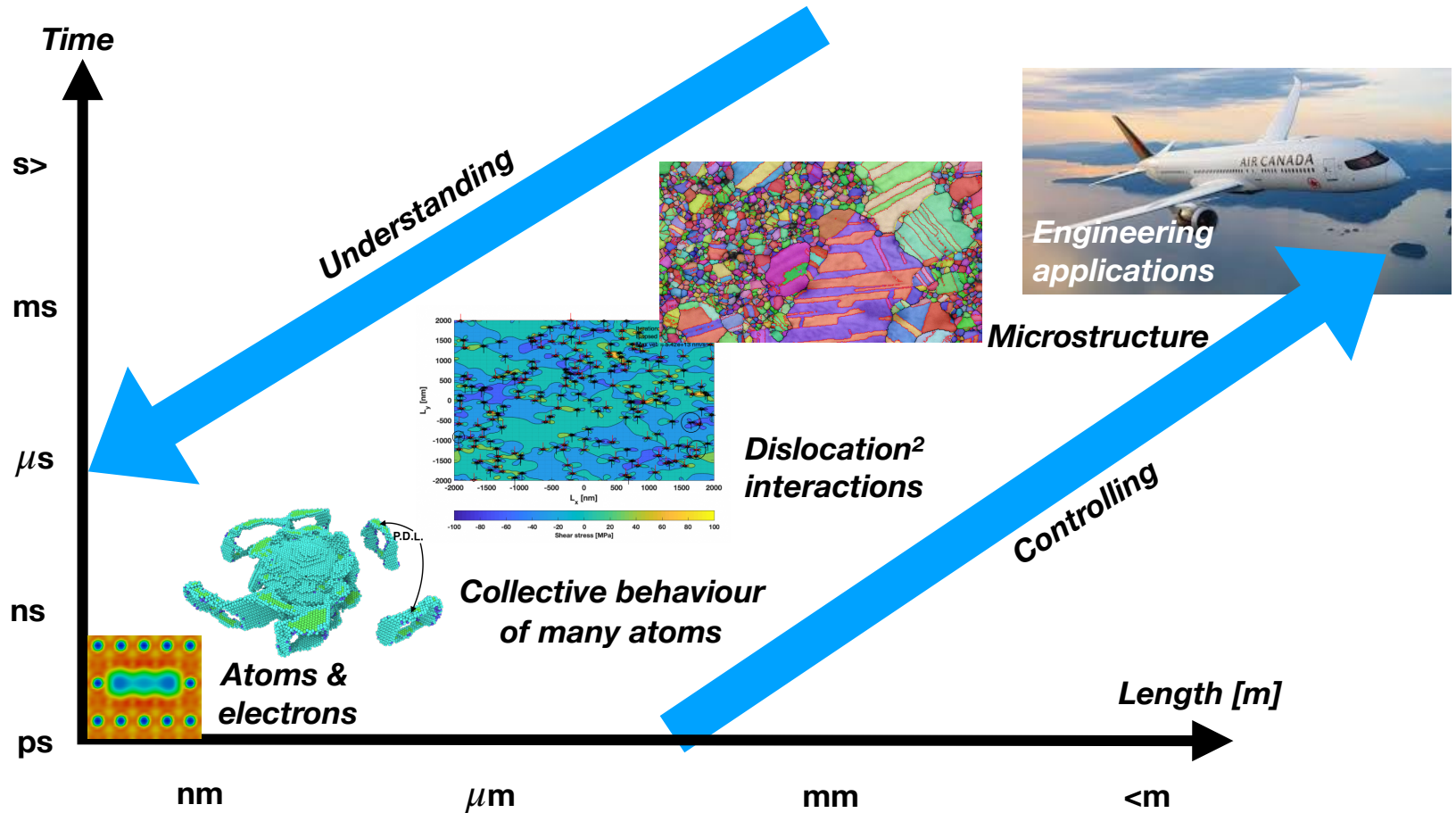
Radiate - TRIUMF - Vancouver

Assistant Prof. Mauricio Ponga
Department of Mechanical Engineering, UBC
December 11, 2019



Multiscale modelling of materials

Investigating the scales

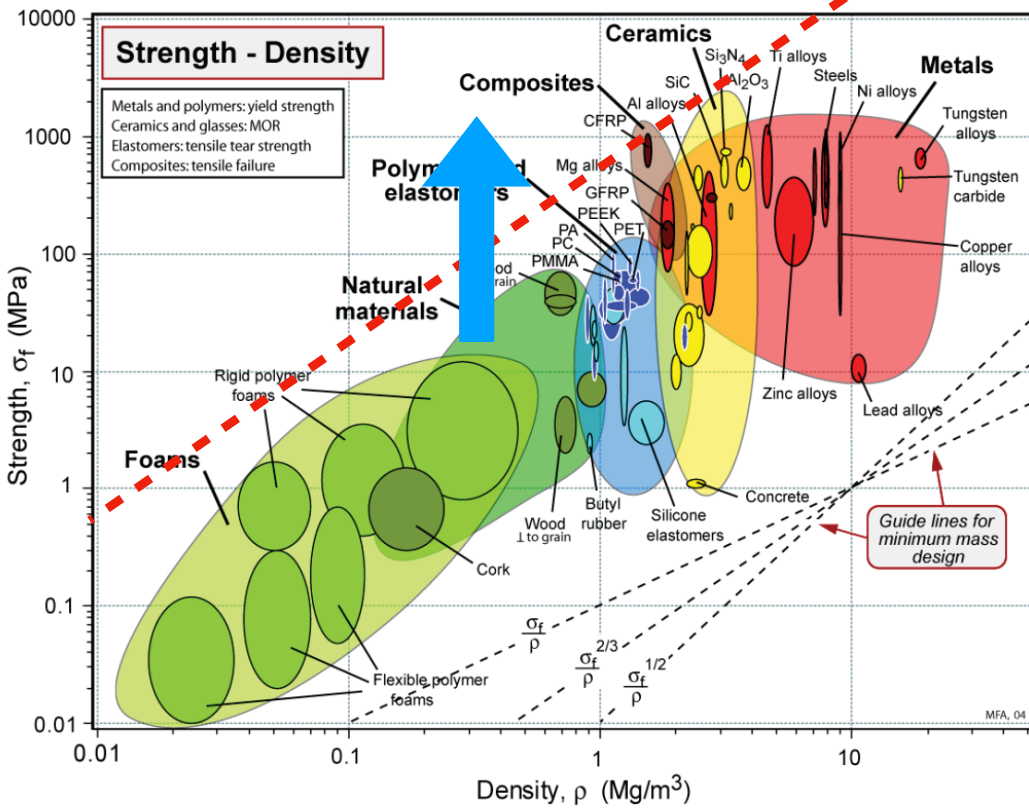


Materials selection and properties

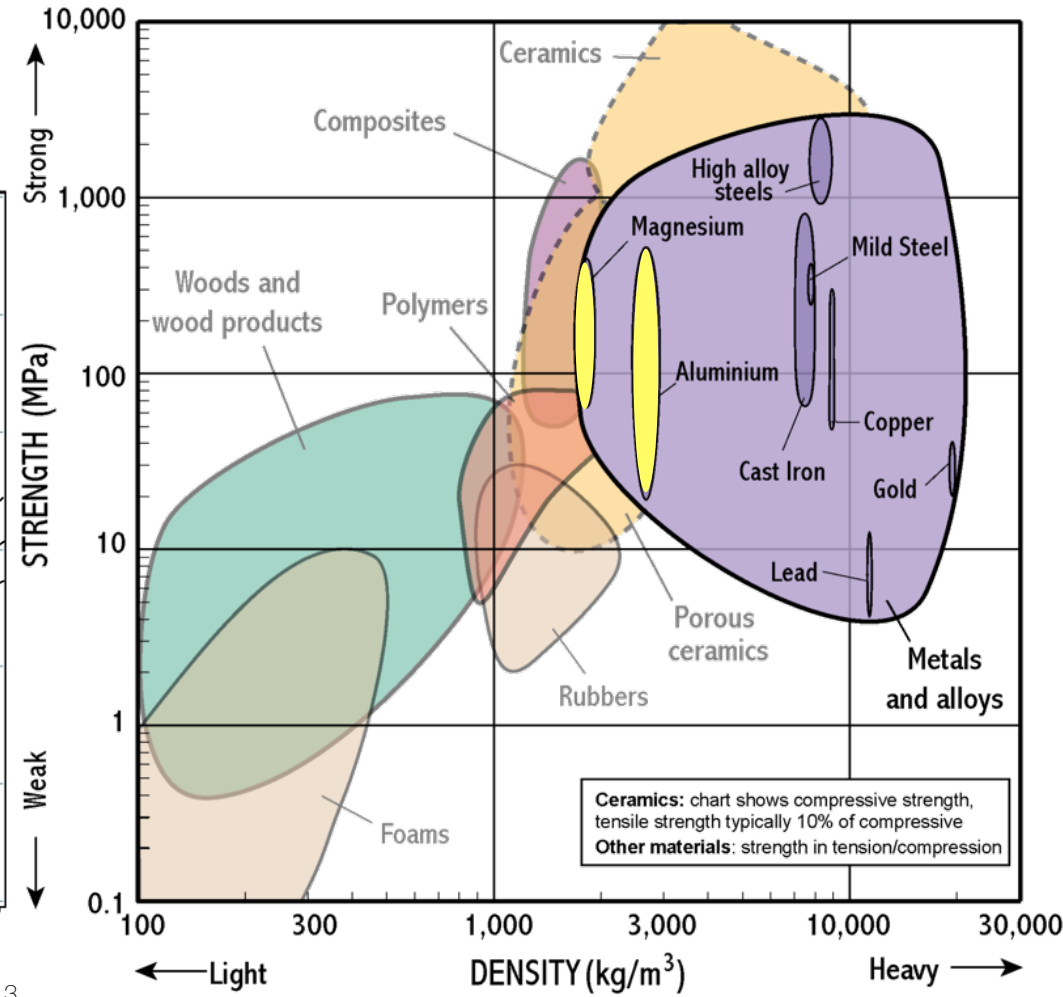
What is the figure of merit for targets?

Temperature vs. Time?

Stress vs. Temperature?



3

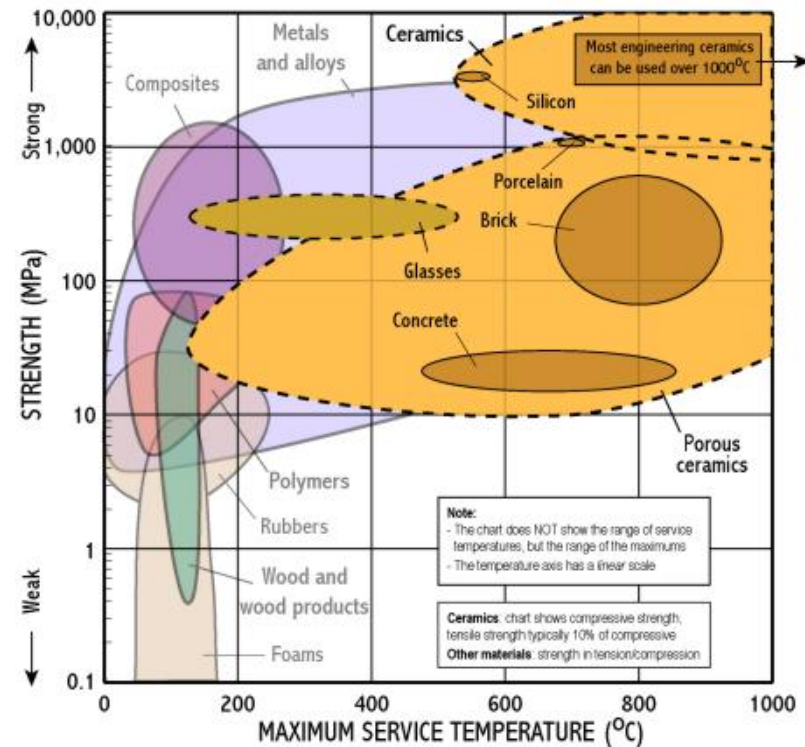
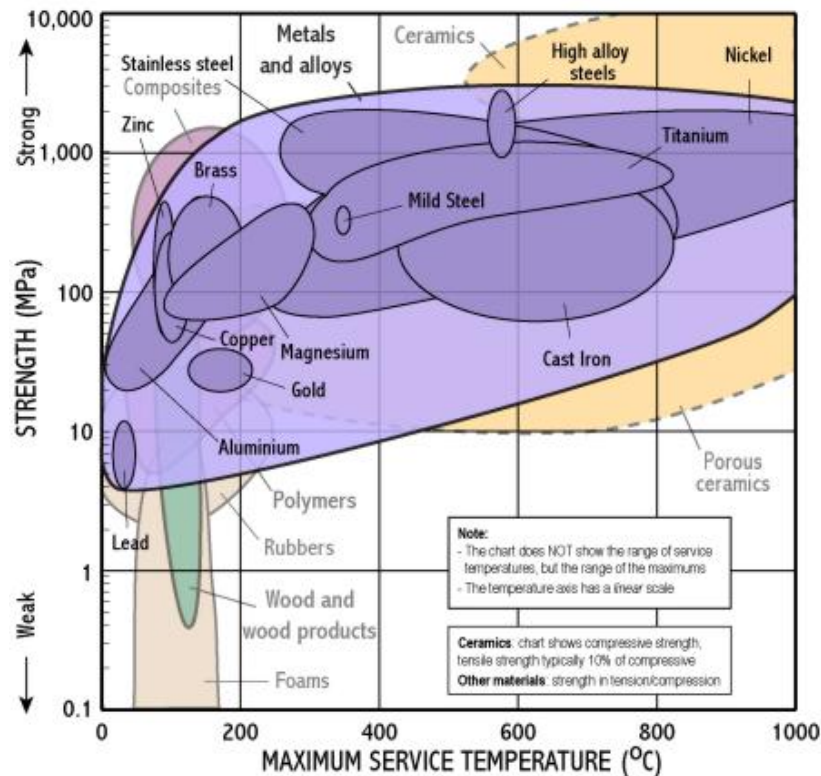


Materials selection and properties

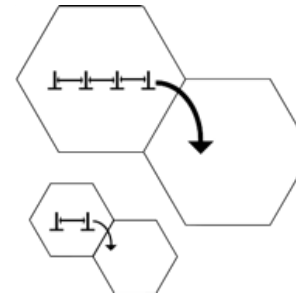
What is the figure of merit for targets?

Temperature vs. Time?

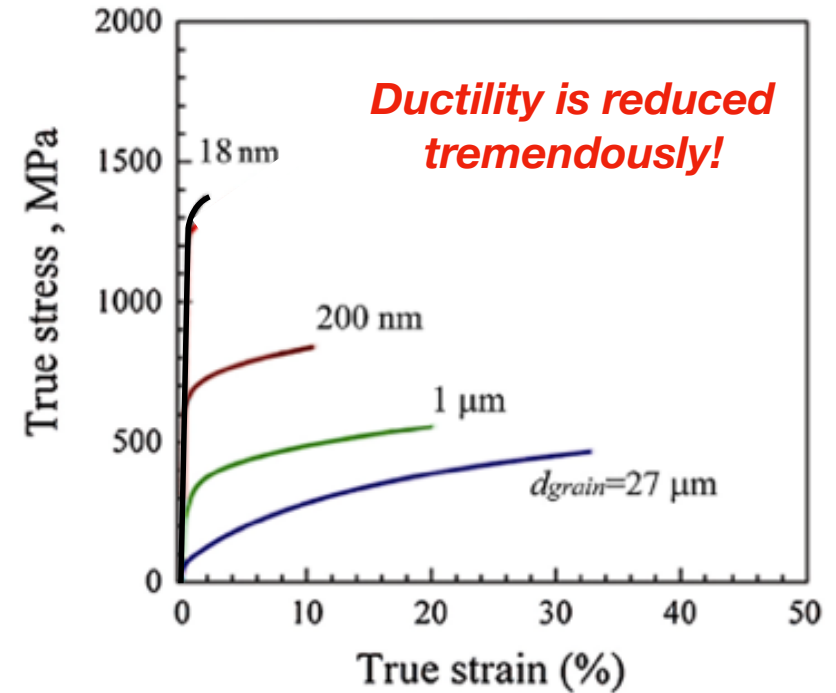
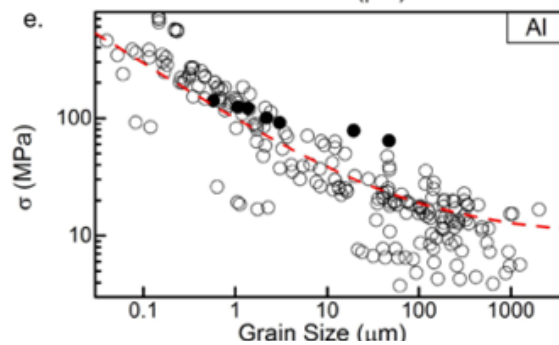
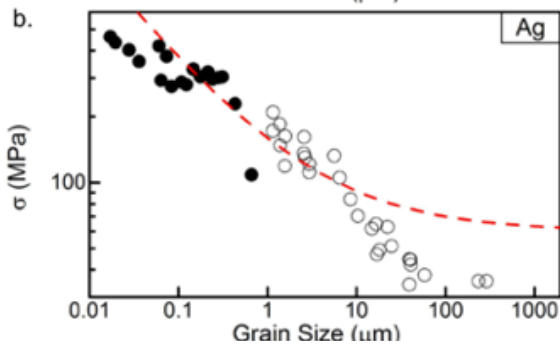
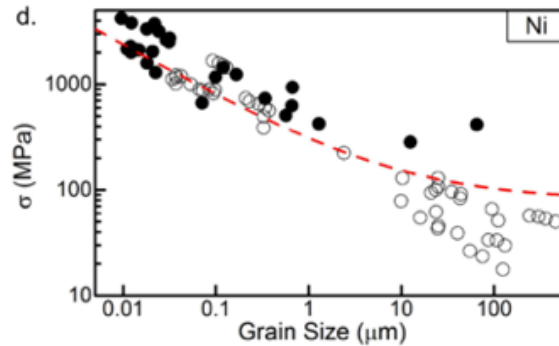
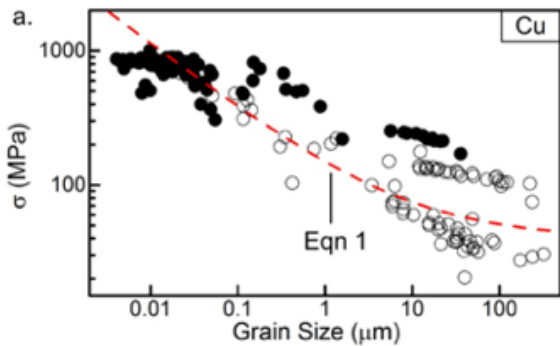
Stress vs. Temperature?



Nano-grained materials are very strong!

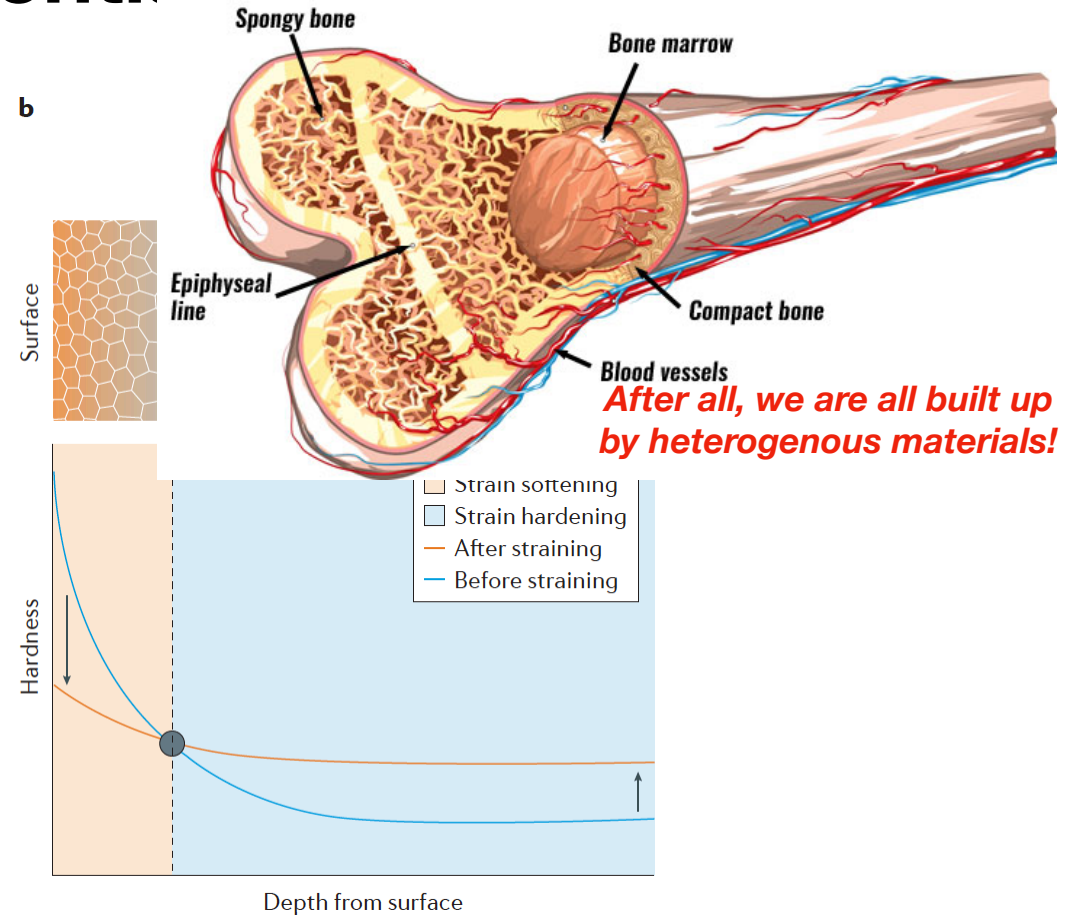
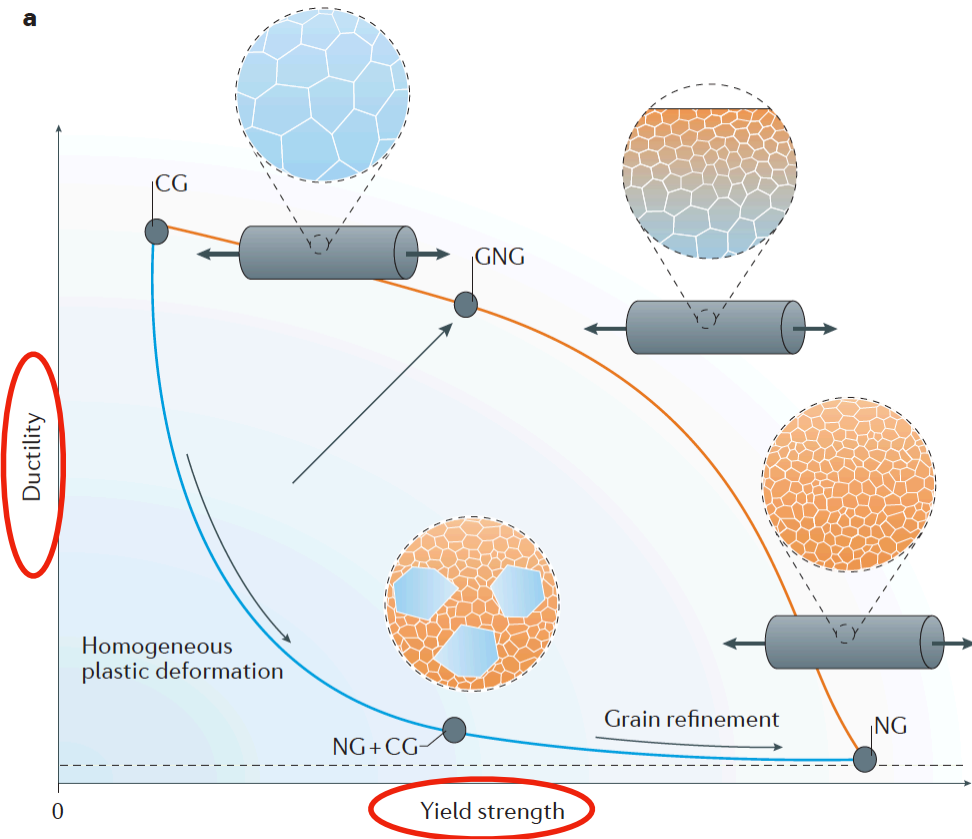


Dislocation provide extra hardening, at the expense of toughness

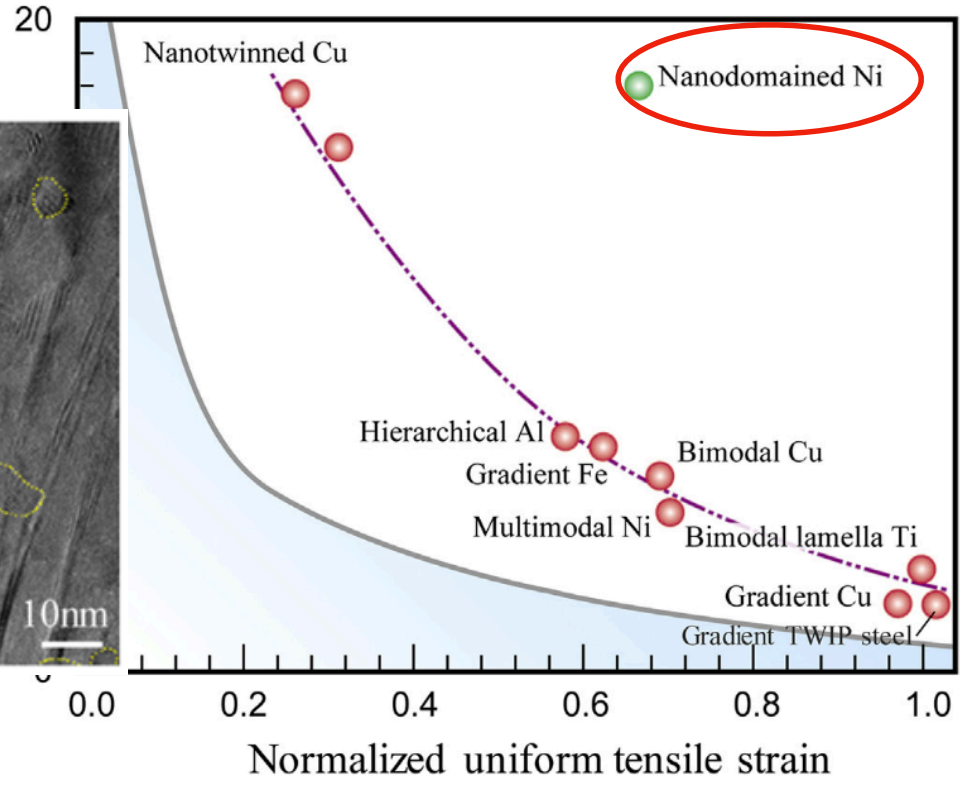
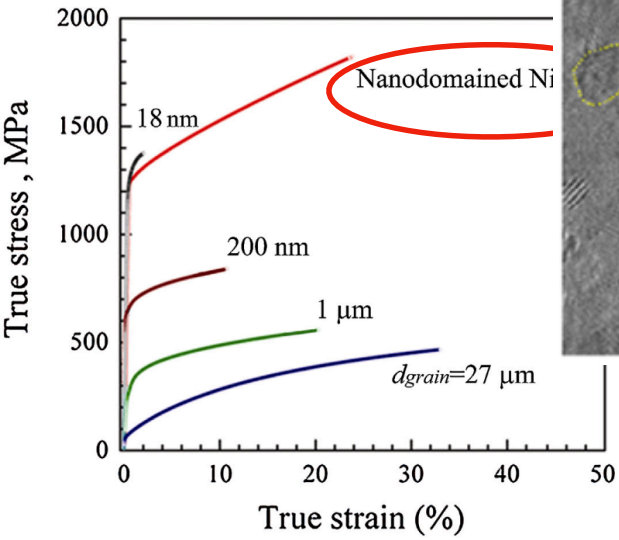
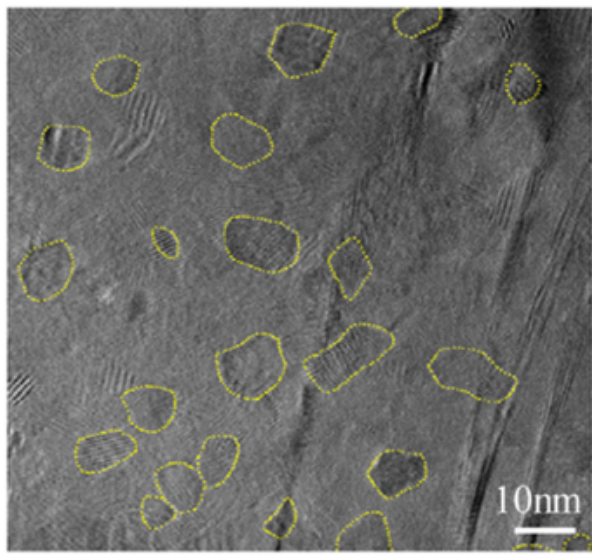
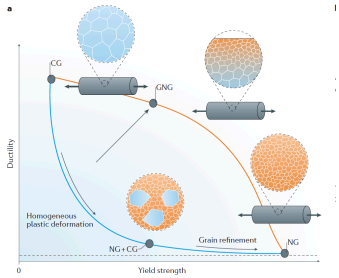


Towards strength-ductility synergy through the design of heterogeneous nanostructures in metals, Evan Ma and Ting Zhu

Heterogenous MS have shown to have good potential

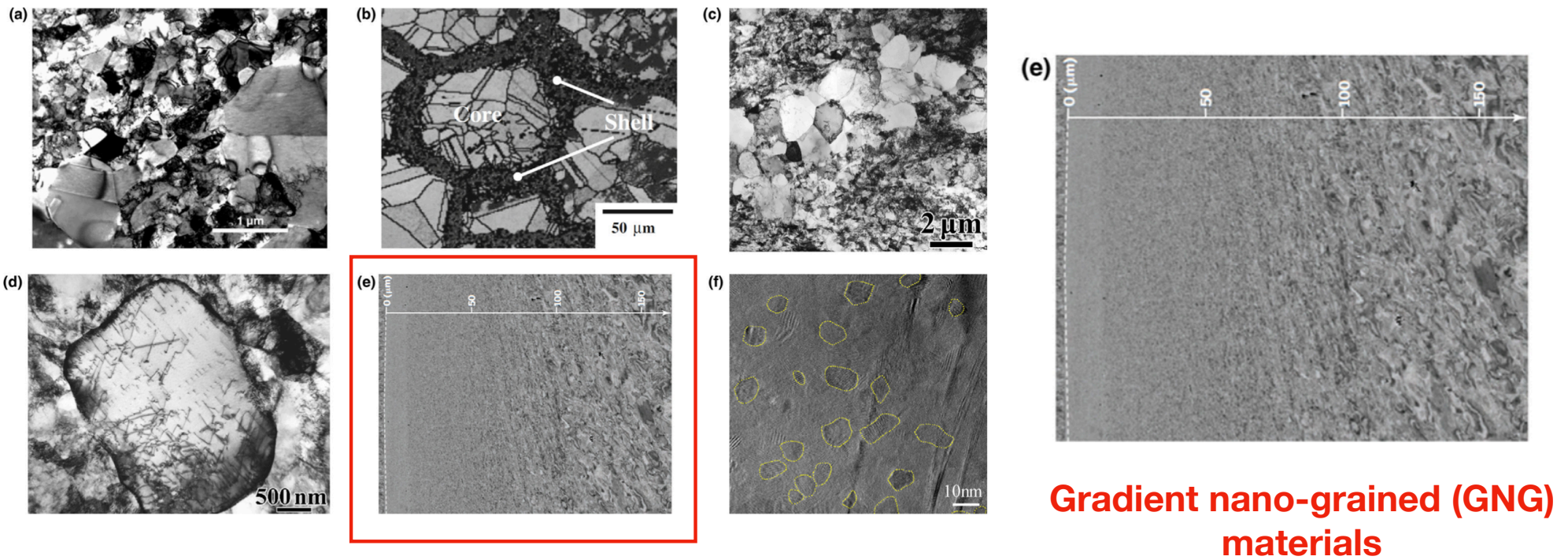


Heterogenous MS have shown to have good potential



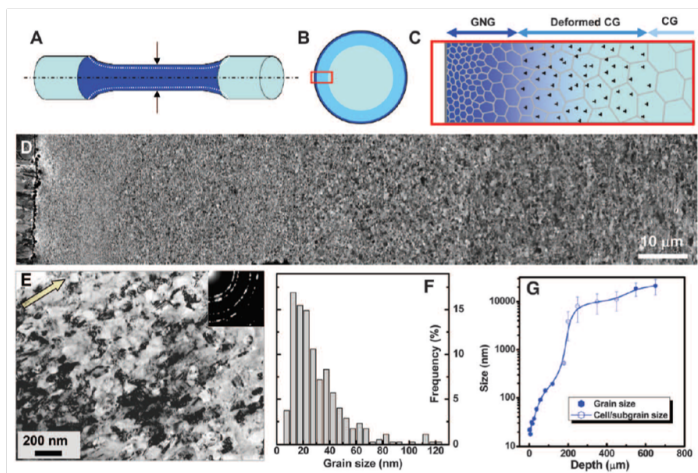
Towards strength–ductility synergy through the design of heterogeneous nanostructures in metals, Evan Ma and Ting Zhu

Examples of Heterogenous MS



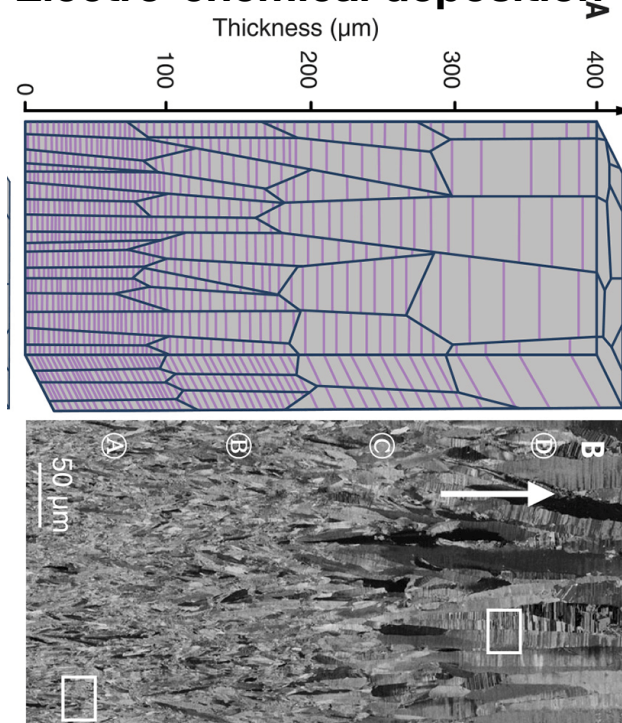
How can we obtain heterogenous MS?

Surface mechanical grinding

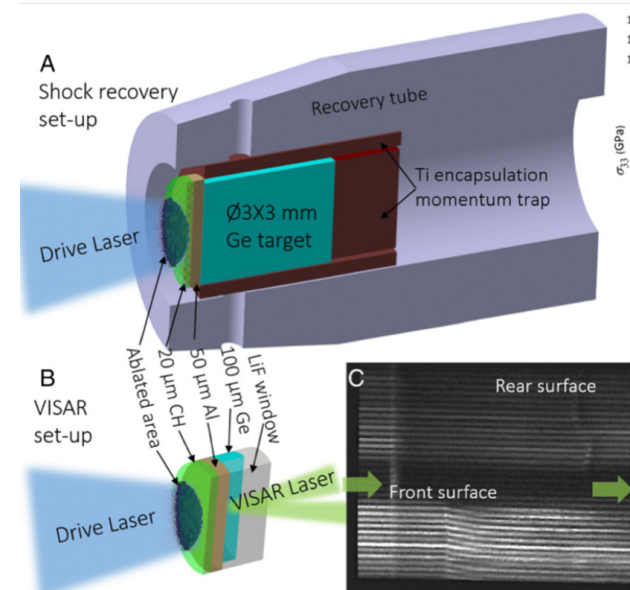


Today's presentation

Electro-chemical deposition



Severe plastic deformation through shock waves



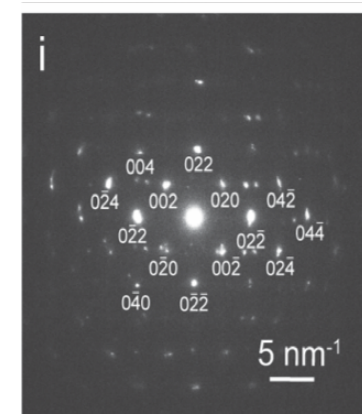
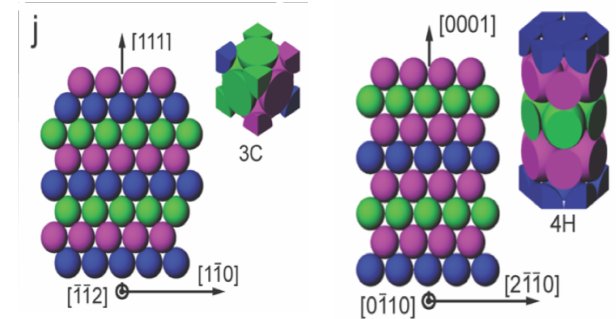
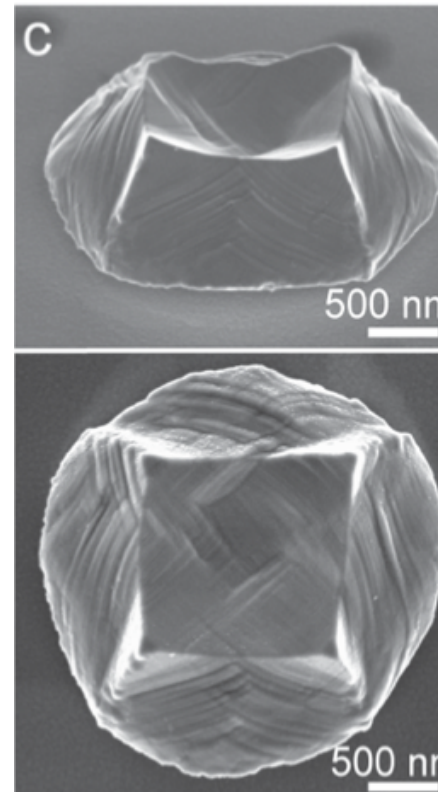
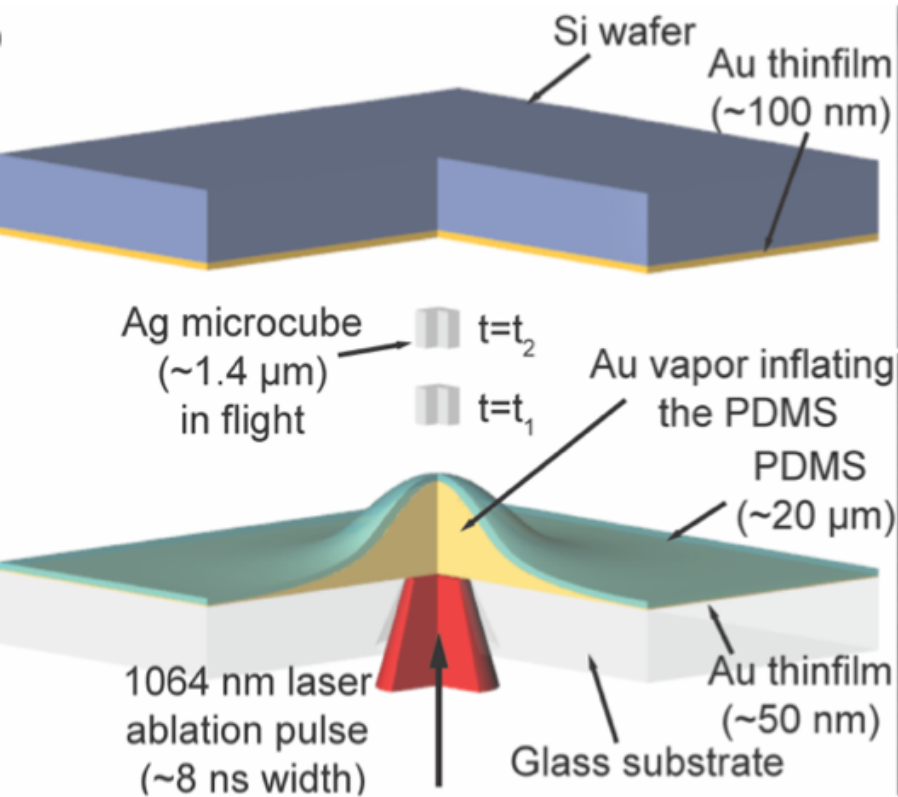
Today's presentation

Revealing Extraordinary Intrinsic Tensile Plasticity in Gradient Nano-Grained Copper, T. H. Fang, W. L. Li, N. R. Tao, K. Lu, *Science*, 2011.

Extra strengthening and work hardening in gradient nanotwinned metals, Z. Cheng et al. *Science*, 2018.

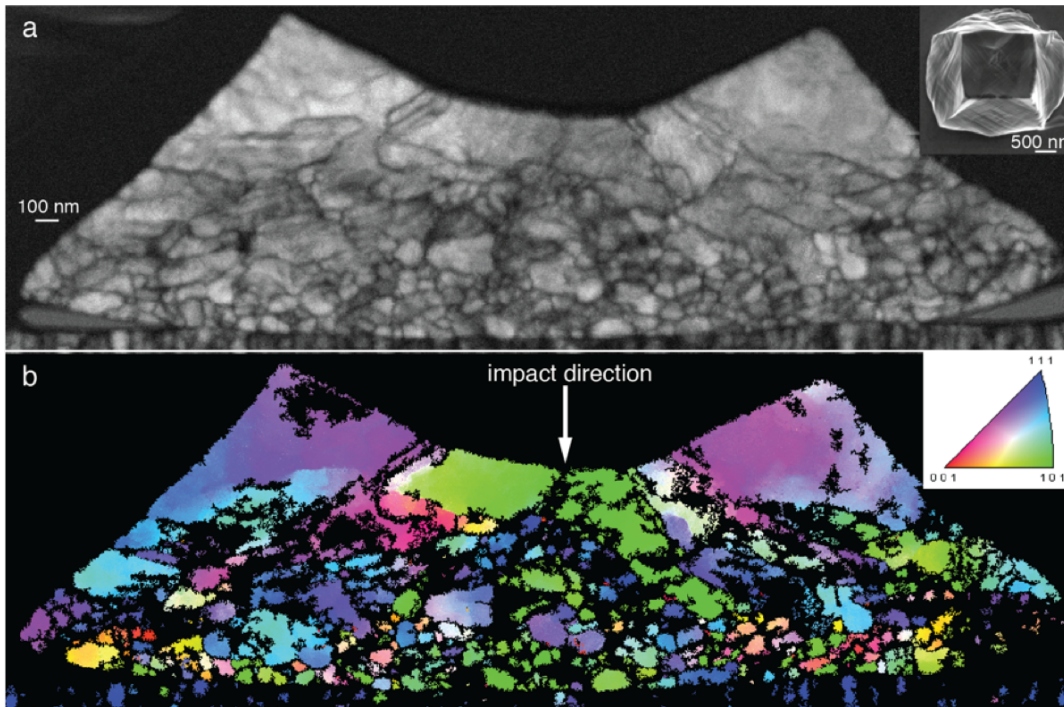
Generating gradient germanium nanostructures by shock-induced amorphization and crystallization, Shiteng Zhao, Bimal Kad, Christopher E. Wehrenberg, Bruce A. Remington, Eric N. Hahn, Karren L. More, and Marc A. Meyers, *PNAS*, 2017.

High-Velocity impact of Ag particles



High-Velocity impact of Ag particles

*Grain recrystallize,
and their size changes with distance*



What dominates this transformation remains unclear!

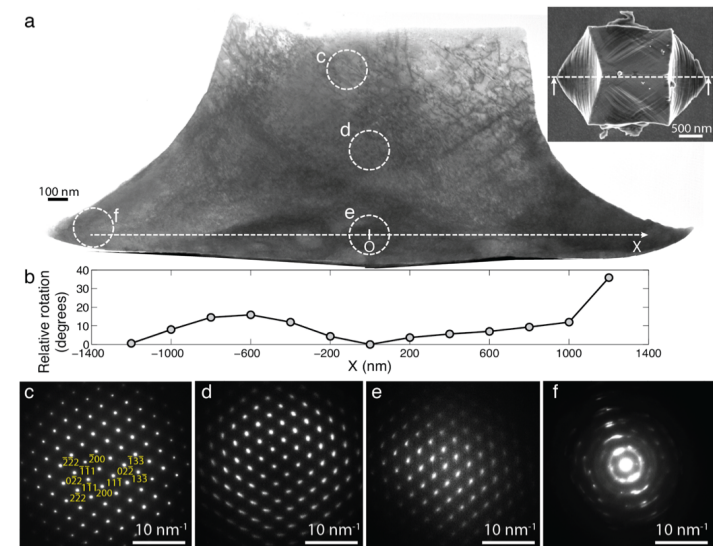
Several questions need to be answered:

1- Is a critical velocity for obtaining recrystallization?

2- Does the shape matters?

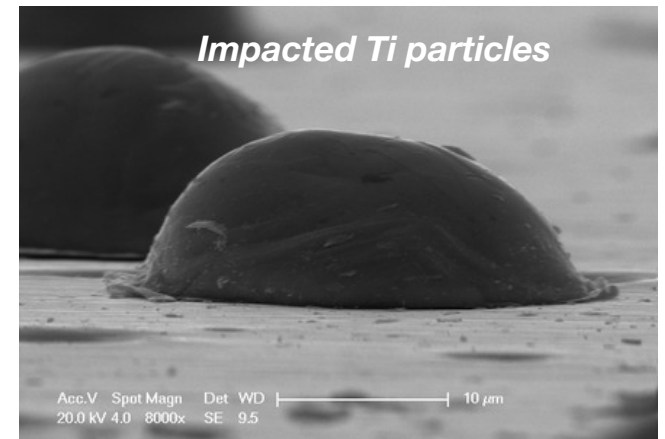
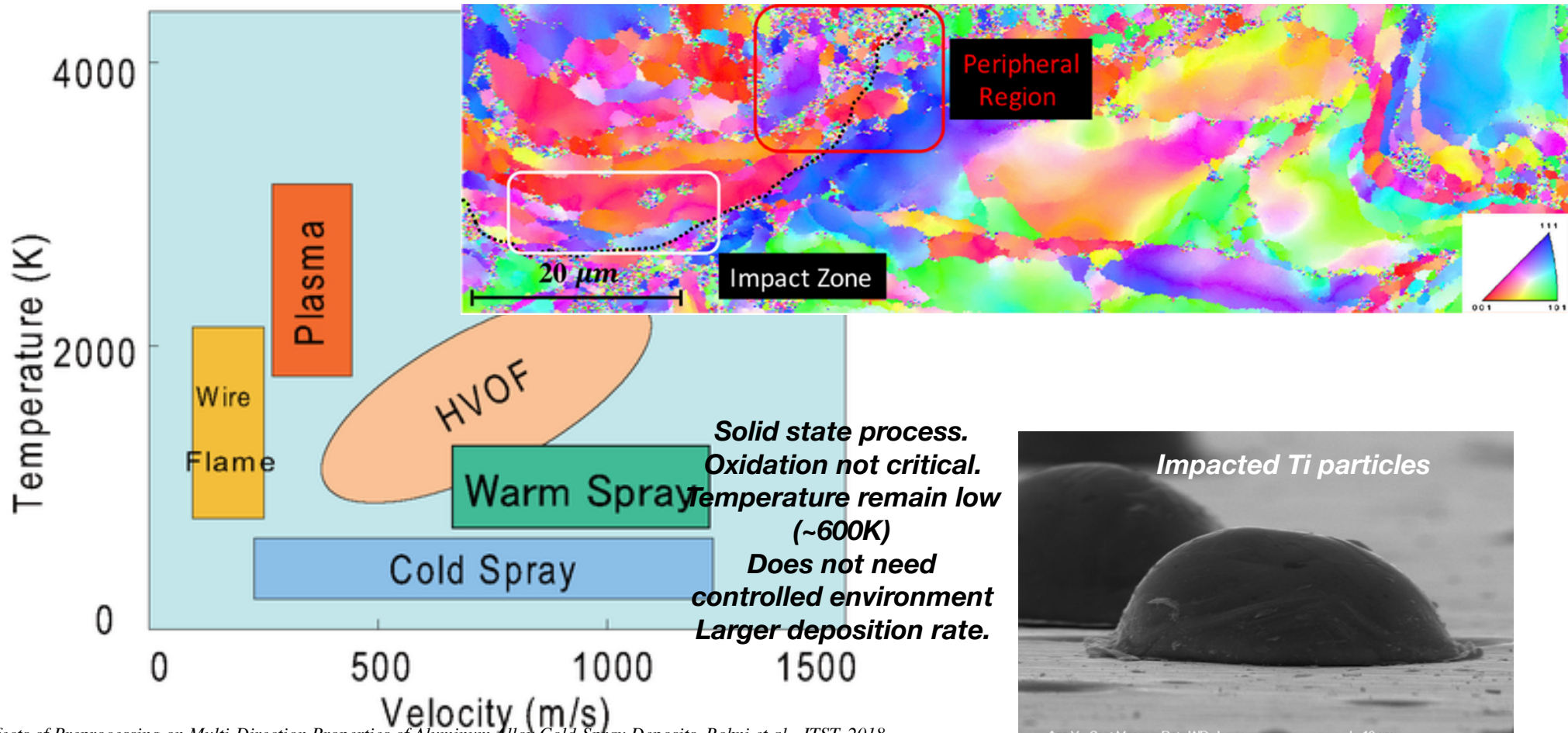
3- Does the orientation matters?

Intrinsic vs. Extrinsic effects!



Cold spray can be used as 3D printing technique

What dominates this transformation remains unclear!



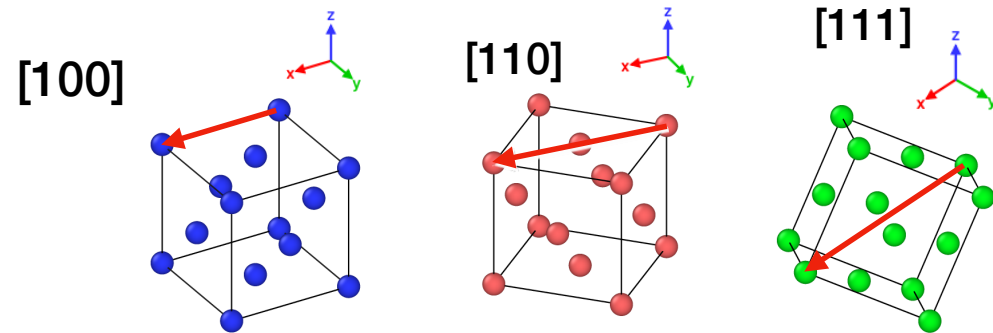
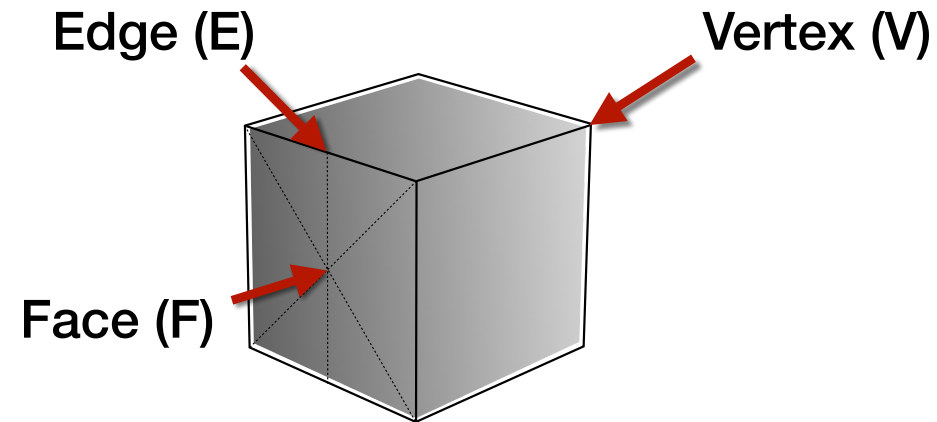
Methodology

- Impacting the cube on face, edge and vertex
- Changing lattice orientation.

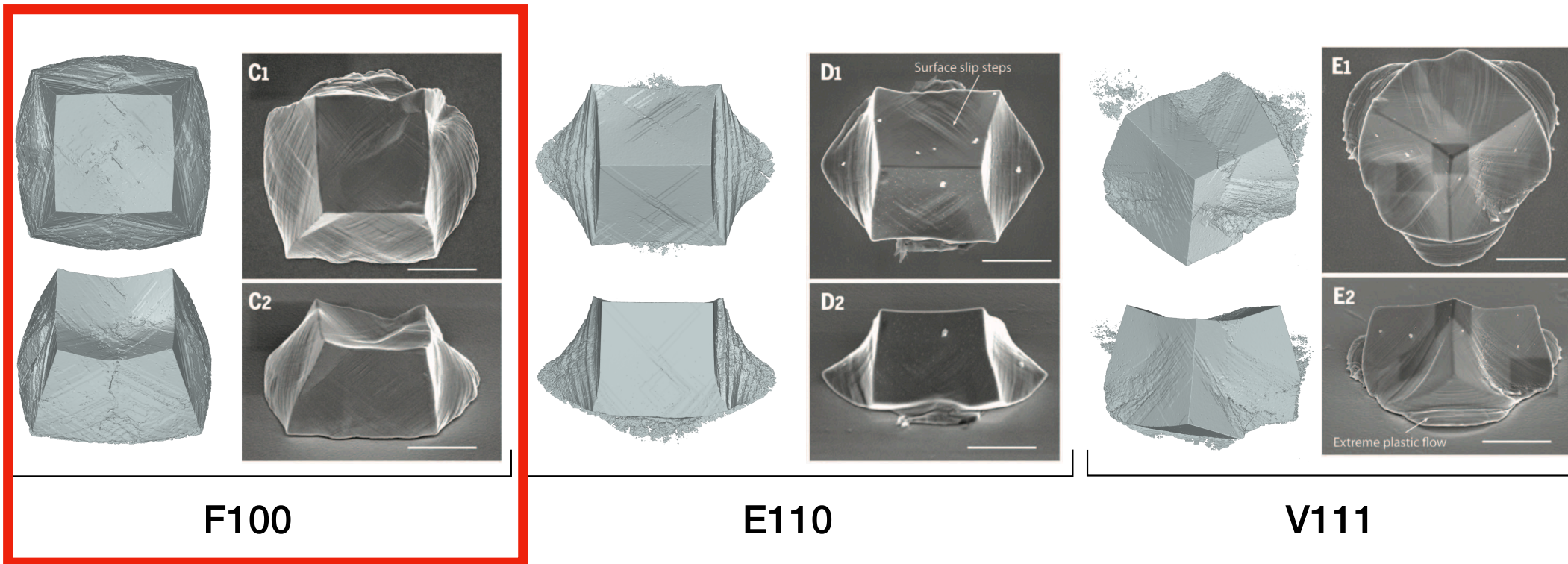
Orienting [100]
 [110] with x -axis
 [111]

→ 9 cases

- Molecular dynamic simulations - LAMMPS
- Impact velocity $400 \text{ m}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$
- About **~16 millions** of atoms
- Single crystal
- Dimensions: $L = 65 \text{ nm}$
- Potential EAM - Sheng et al. 2011

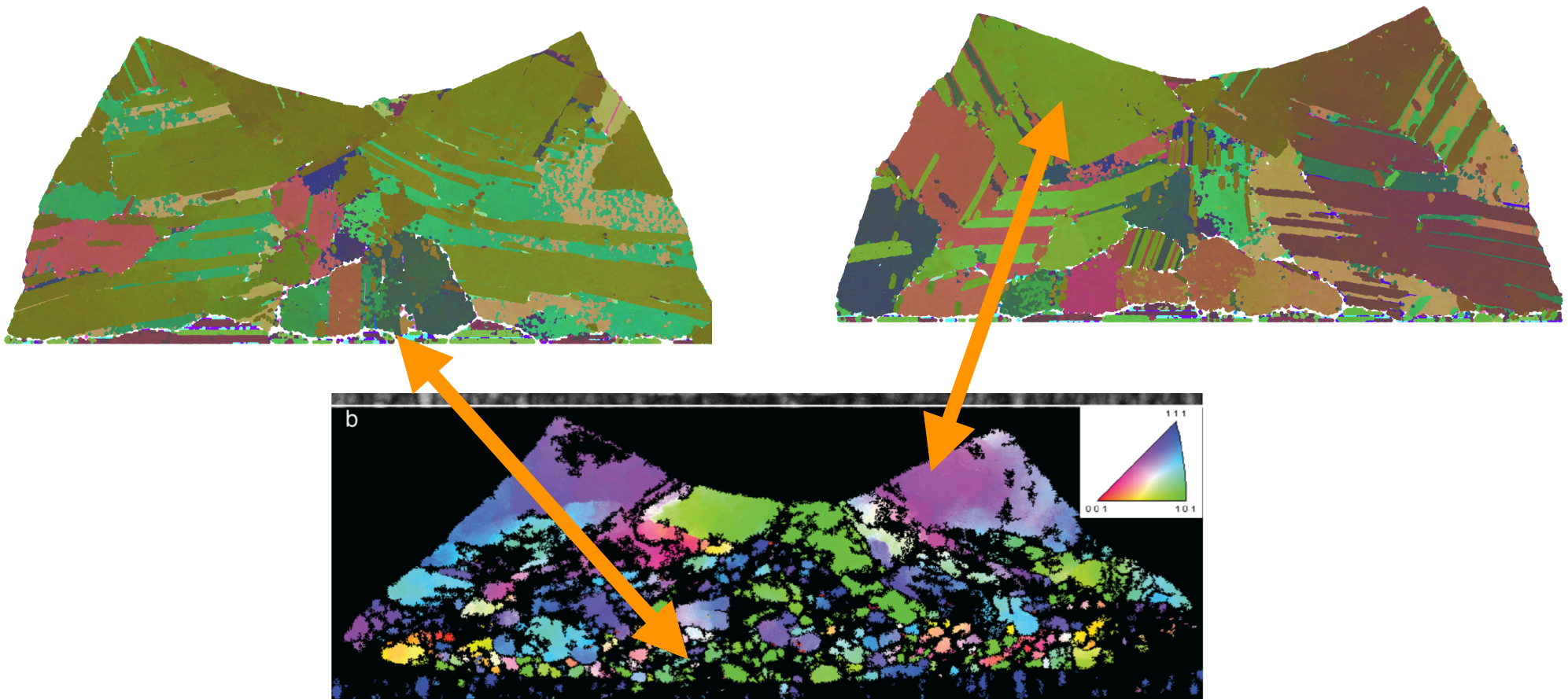


Comparison with experiments



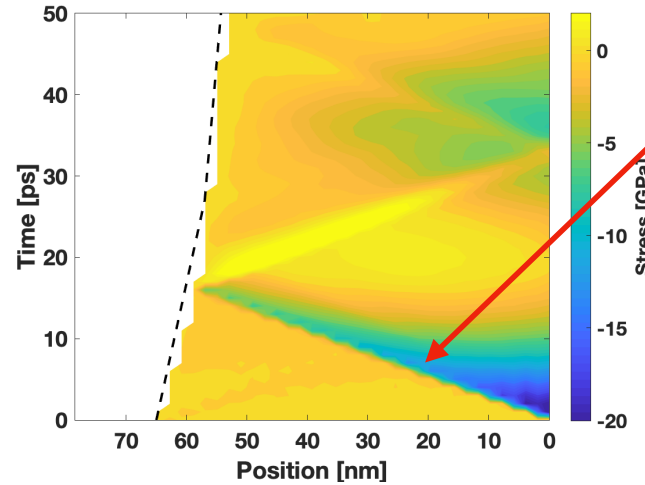
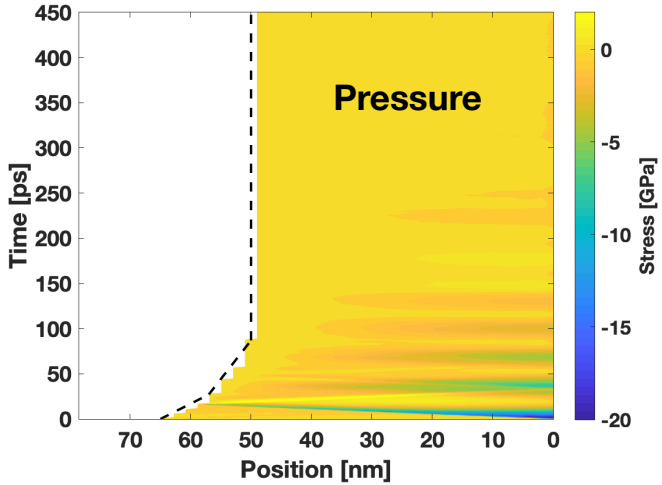
Cubes after the impacts. Simulation results compared with experiments, Thevamaran et al. 2016
The impacts shown are along [100], [110] and [111] directions, targeting the face, edge and vertex of the cube respectively

Comparison with experiments



What is really happening

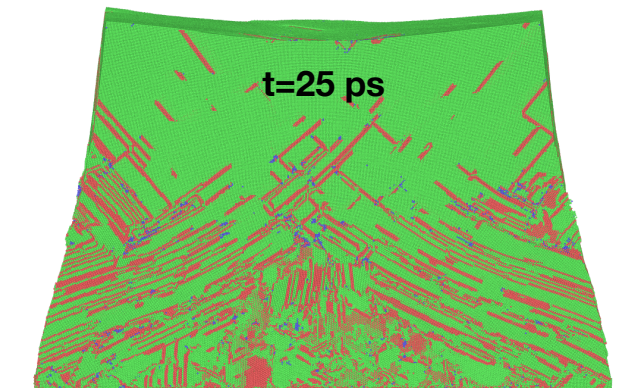
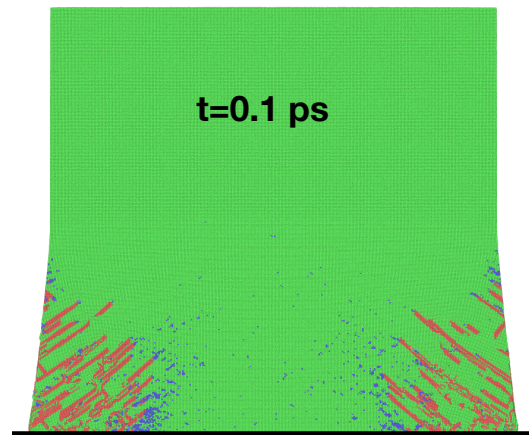
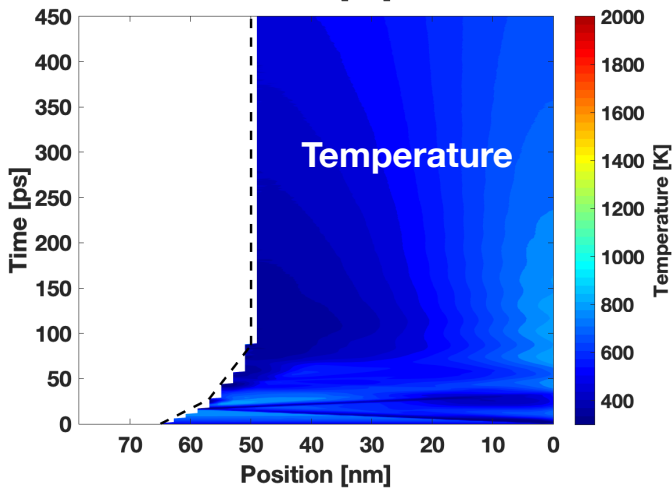
F100



Shock wave propagating in the material

Avalanche of dislocations!

Microstructural changes happen in a sub nanosecond scale!
Temperature way below melting point.



Dynamic recrystallization model based on dislocation density

$$\frac{\partial \rho_m}{\partial t} + \nabla \mathbf{j}_m = \left[p_m(\rho_m, \rho_i) + q_m(\rho_m, \rho_i, \dot{\epsilon}_p, \tau) \right] \dot{\epsilon}_p$$

Interaction terms

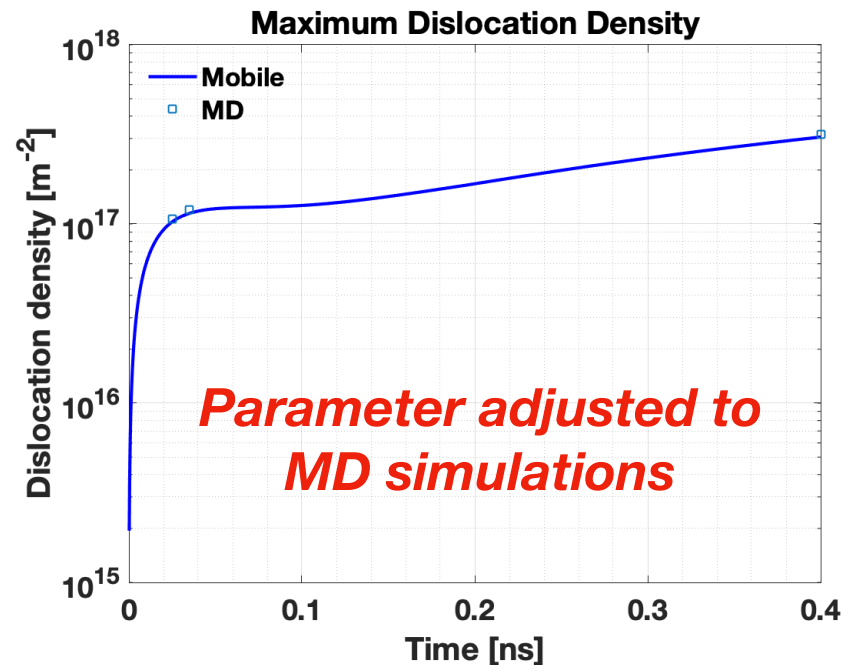
Flux terms

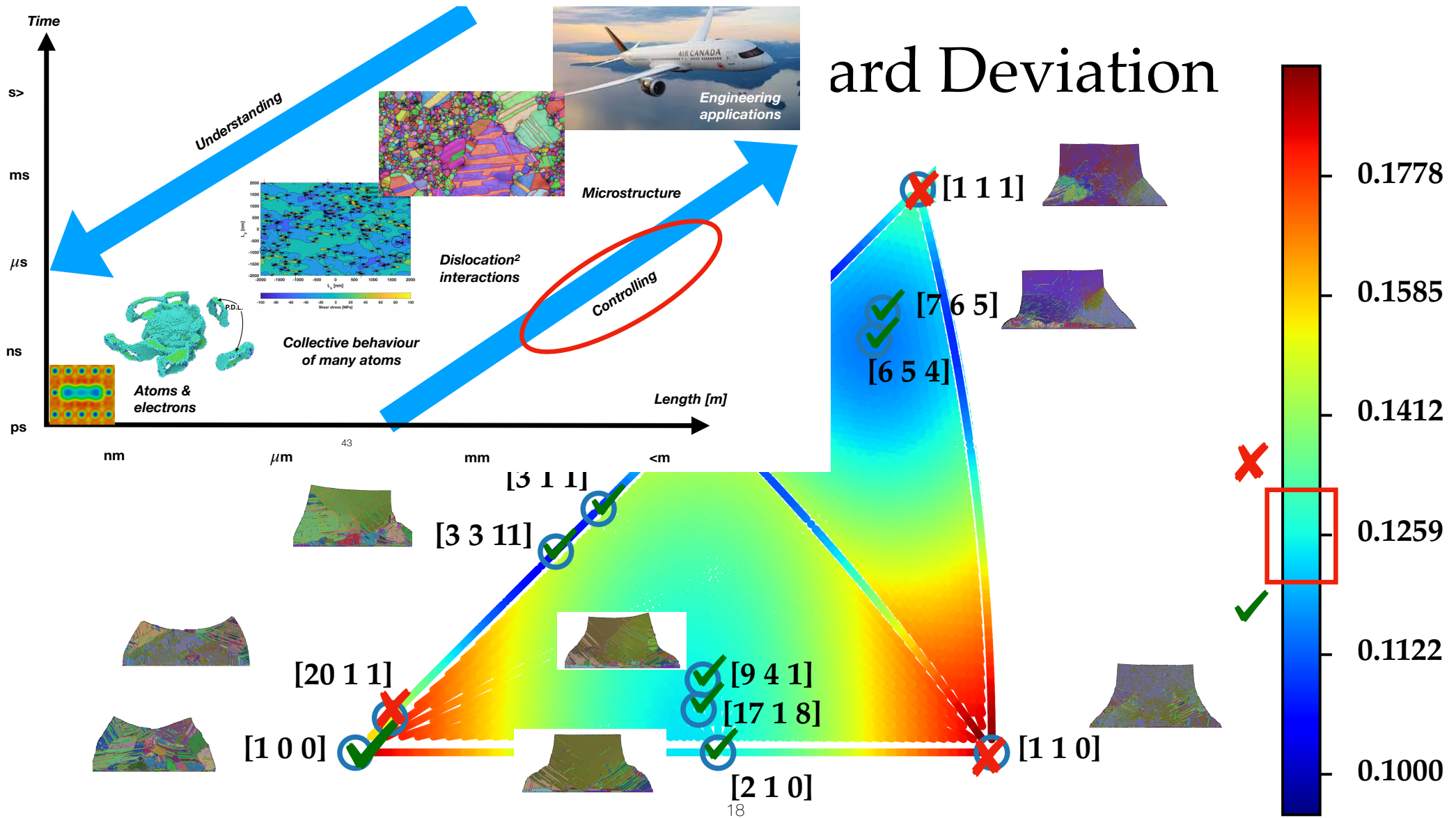
$$\frac{\partial \rho_i}{\partial t} + \nabla \mathbf{j}_i = \left[p_i(\rho_m, \rho_i) + q_i(\rho_m, \rho_i) \right] \dot{\epsilon}_p$$

Flux terms for mobile dislocation has to be modified due to large shock wave!

$$\tau = \frac{l_0}{c_L}$$

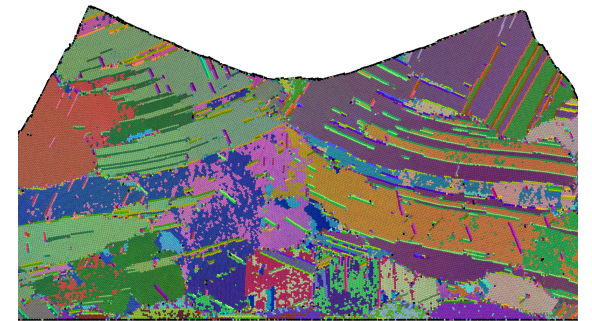
Characteristic time that depends on wave speed



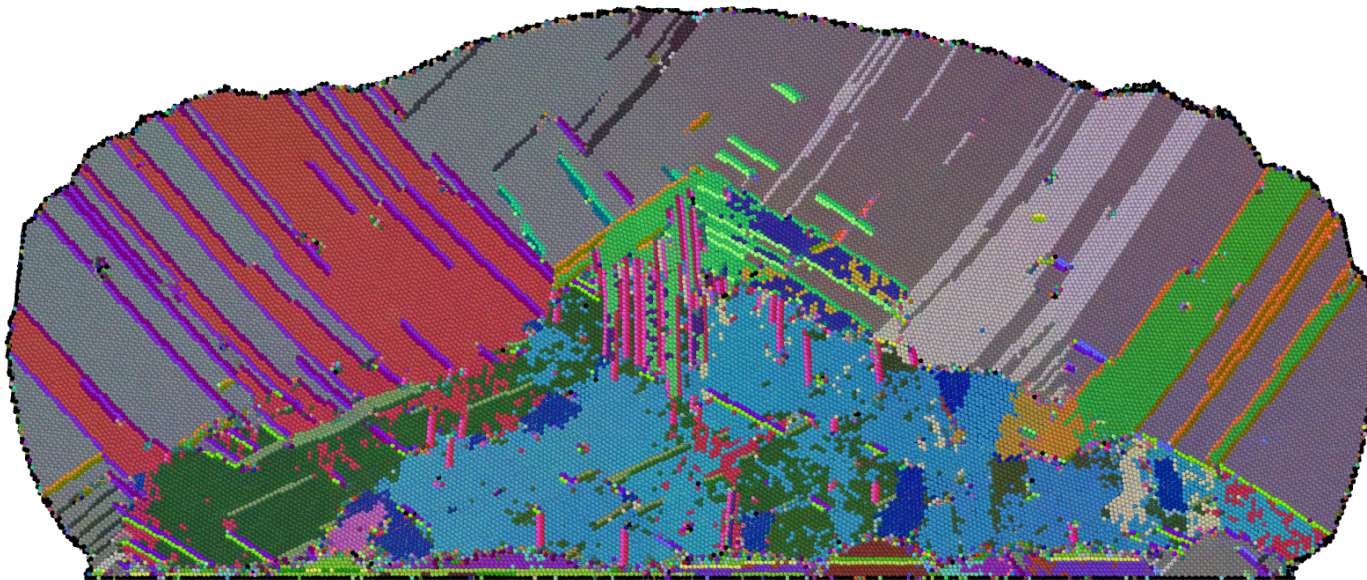


Shape of the particle and material

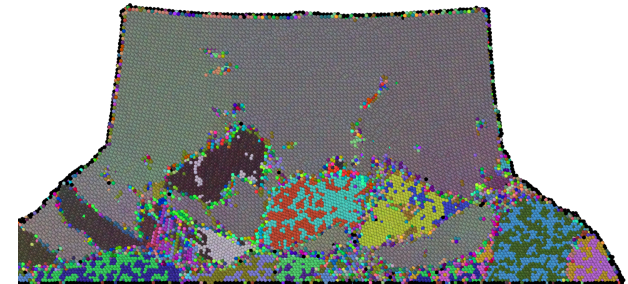
Copper FCC



Sphere [100]



Iron BCC



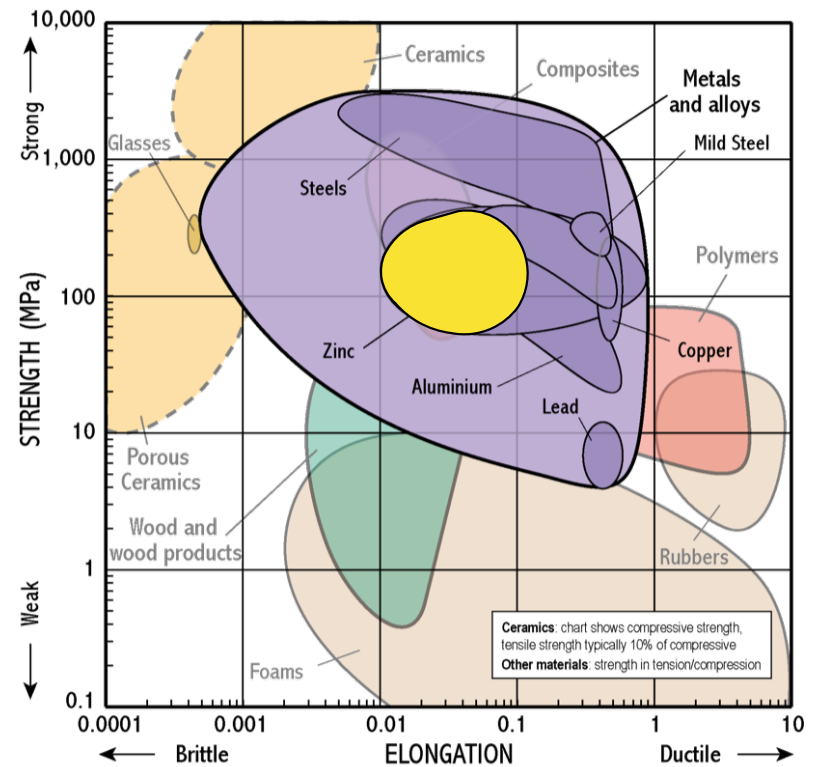
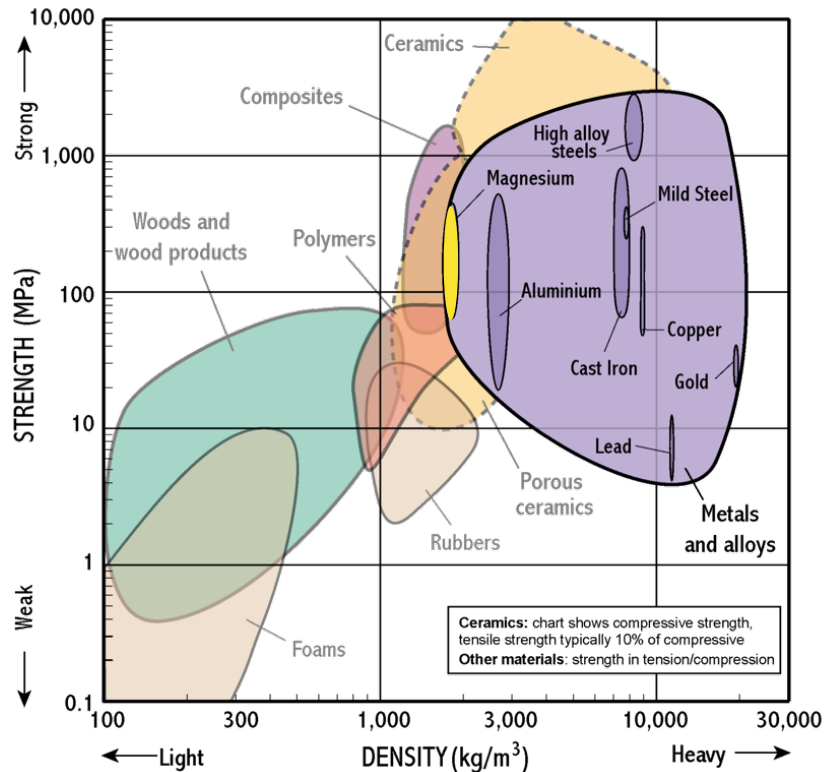
Lightweight structural materials with GNG structure

Metals dominate this sector.

Good strength, good ductility, good fracture toughness.

Heavy and exhausted - Same alloys used since the last two decades!

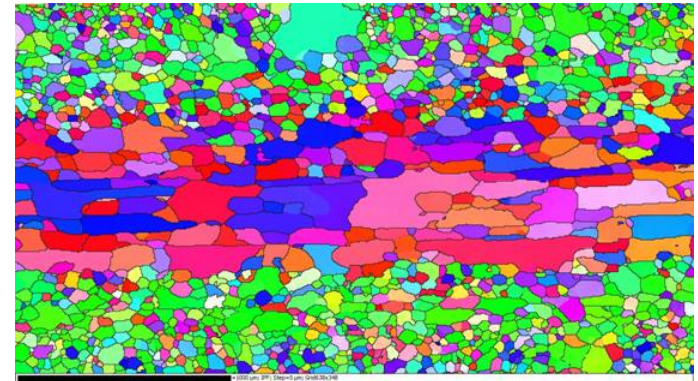
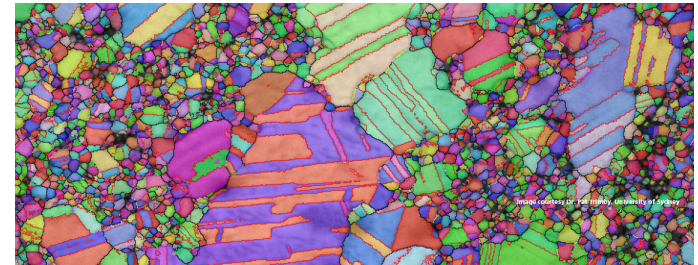
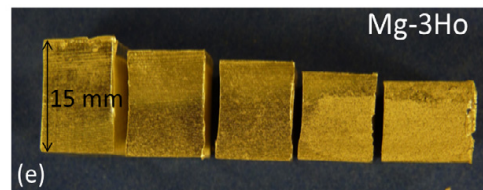
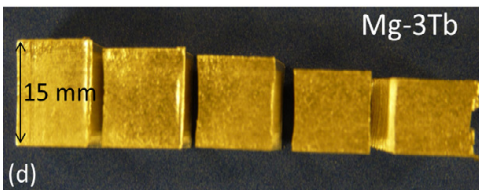
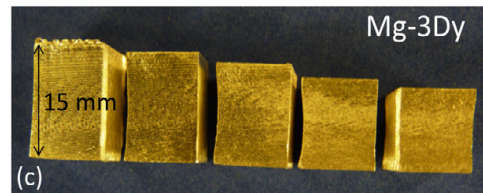
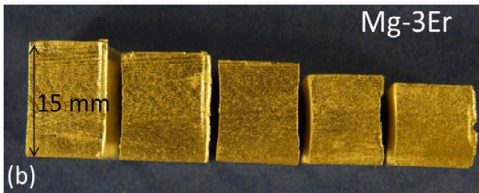
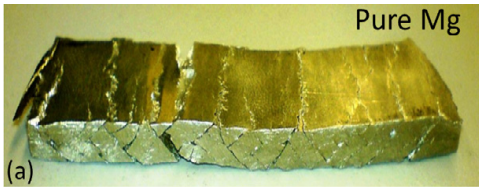
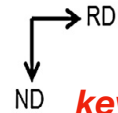
Innovation: Introduce more exotic materials (e.g., Mg).



Alloying and microstructure

Controlling microstructure is one key to achieve better properties!

Alloying materials is one key to achieve better properties!



1 RE-atom per 1000 atoms - Alloying plays a critical role in materials properties

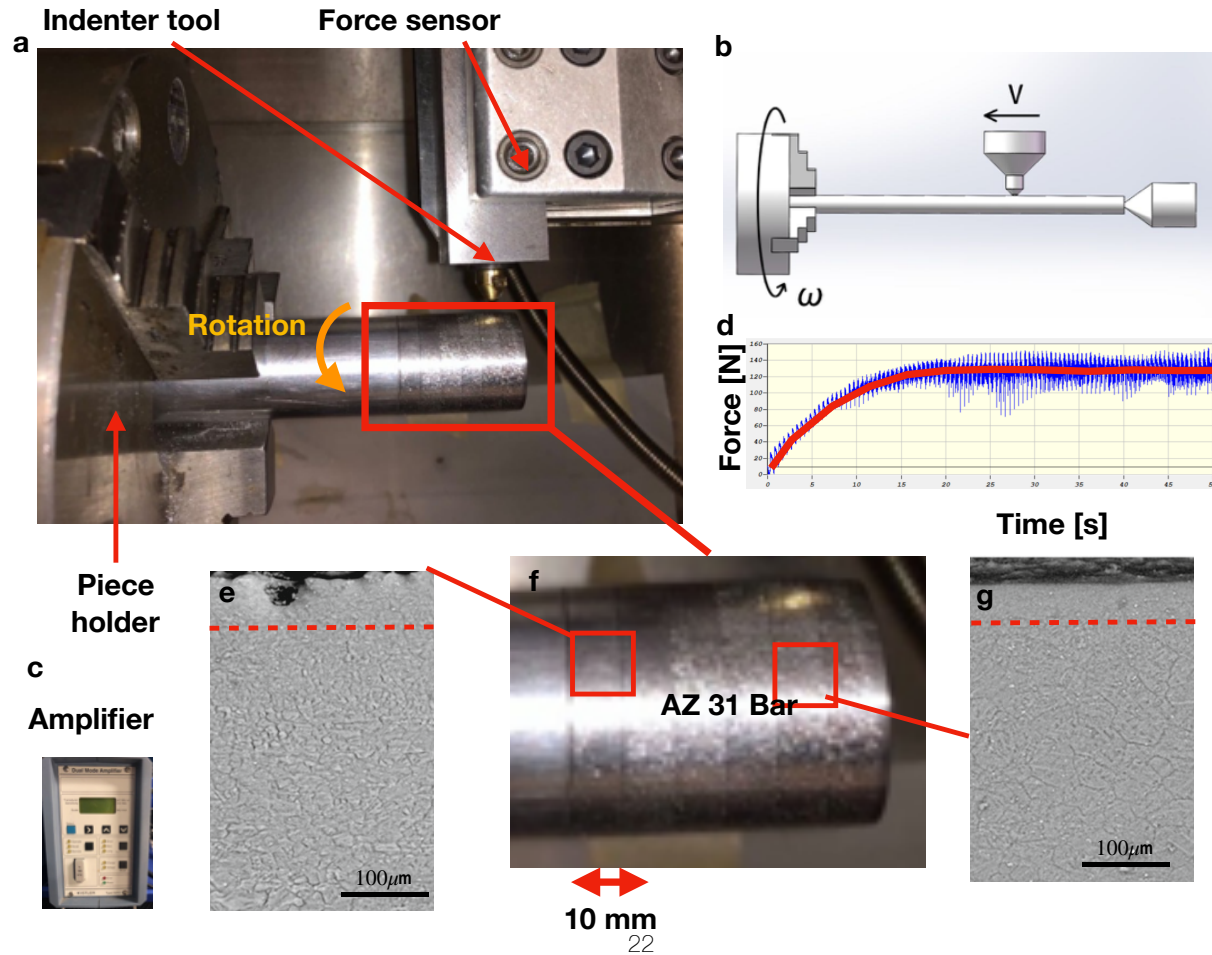
*But the questions is:
 What is the optimal microstructure?
 Can I control the microstructure?
 What are the key factors involved in
 generation of MS?*

“Imparting high strength without conceding too much ductility is one of the major challenges in nano-structuring metals”

S. Sandlöbes, Z. Pei, M. Friak, L.-F. Zhu, F. Wang, S. Zaeferrer, D. Raabe, J. Neugebauer, Acta Materialia 70 (2014) 92–104
 Oxford instruments - EBSD maps of different materials
 Towards strength–ductility synergy through the design of heterogeneous nanostructures in metals, Evan Ma and Ting Zhu

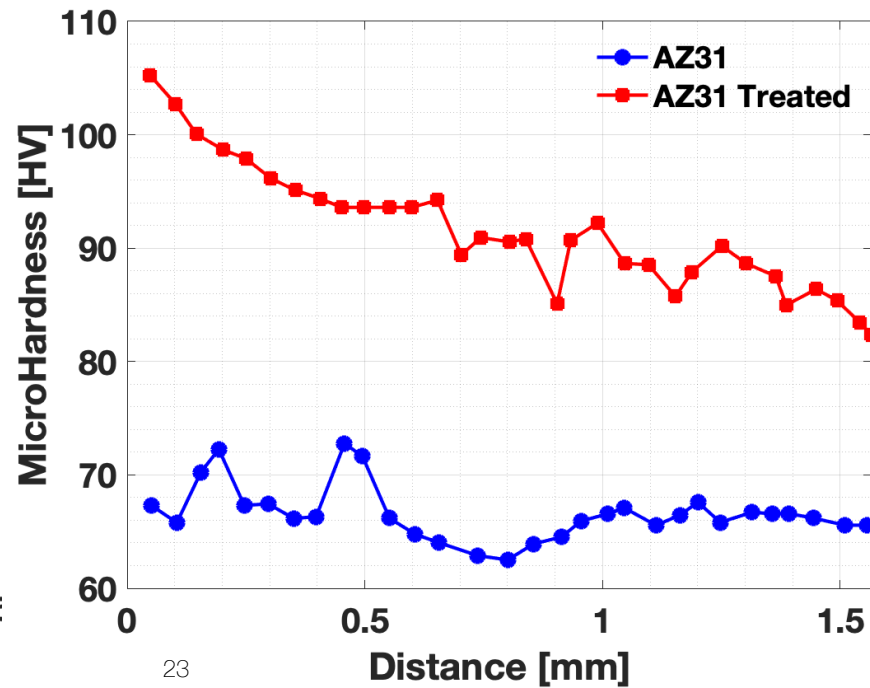
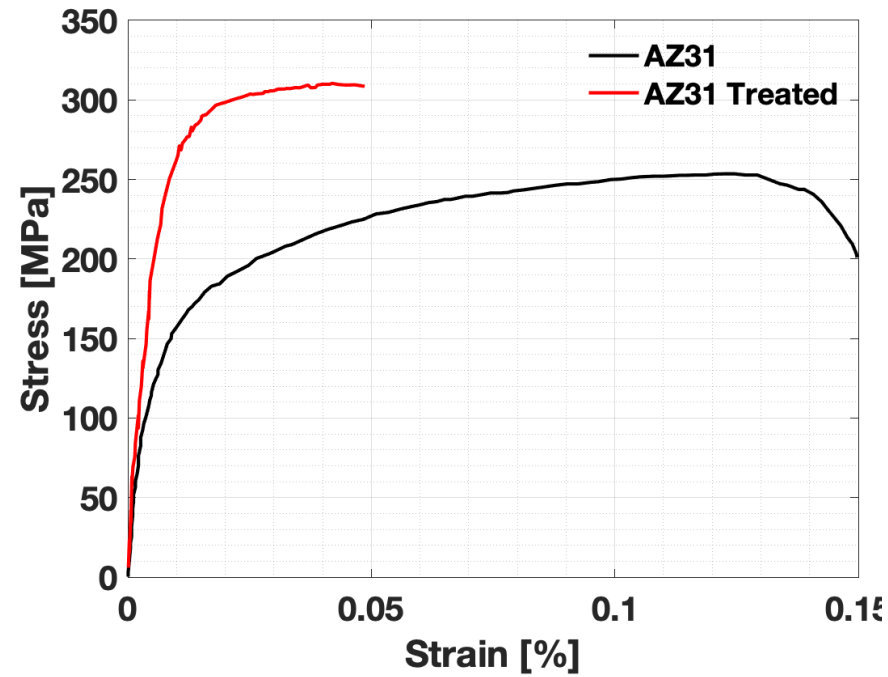
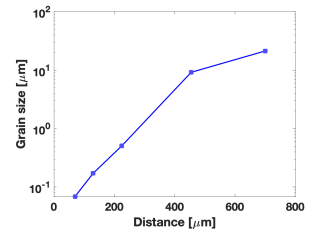
Surface mechanical grinding in Mg alloys

Other ways to achieve GNG in (soft) metals



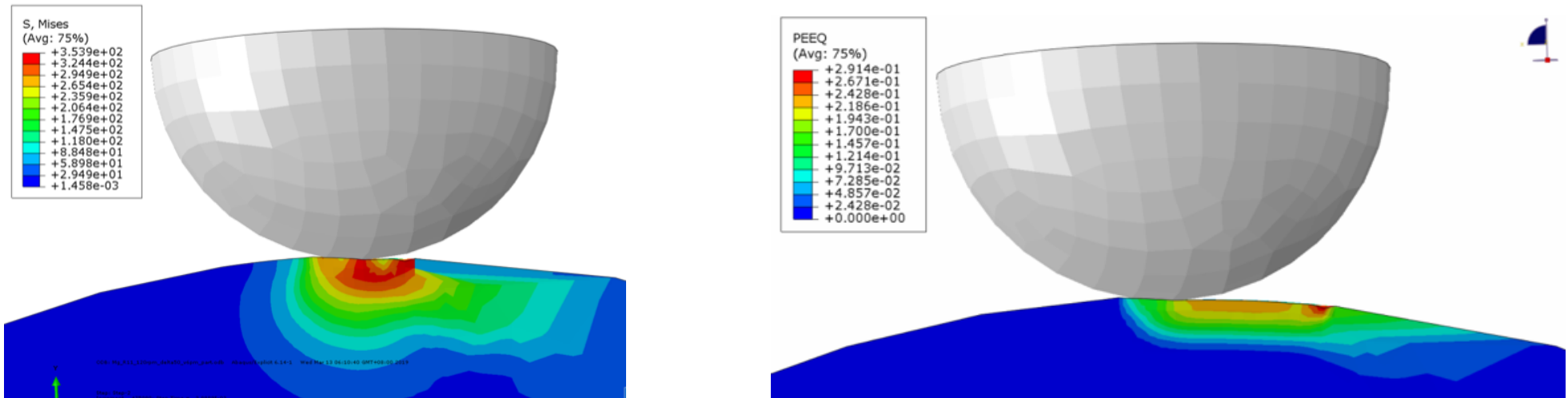
Surface mechanical grinding in Mg alloys

Mechanical properties of treated Mg AZ31



Surface mechanical grinding in Mg alloys

Simulations reveal a plastic stress and strain under the indenter



This generate an avalanche of twins, recrystallizing the material near the surface

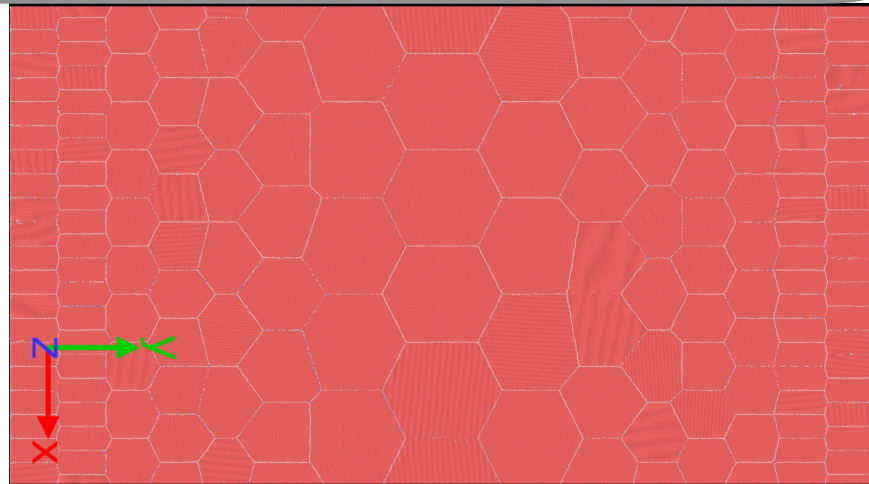
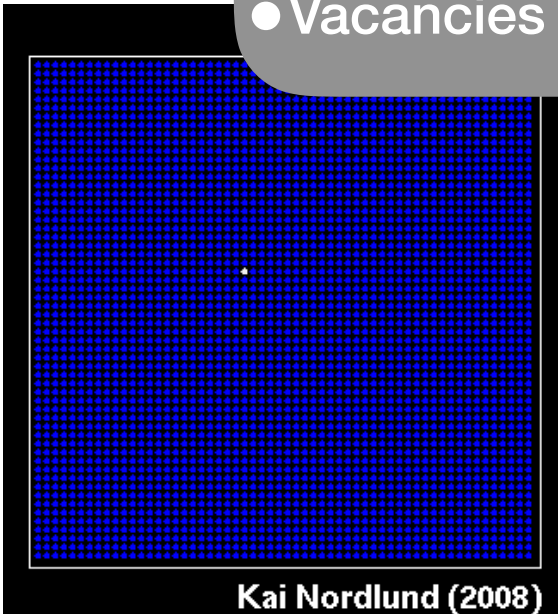
GNG use as a shield for radiation

- Large number of interfaces per volume (near the surface).
- Good mechanical properties and toughness.
- Good thermal conductivity.

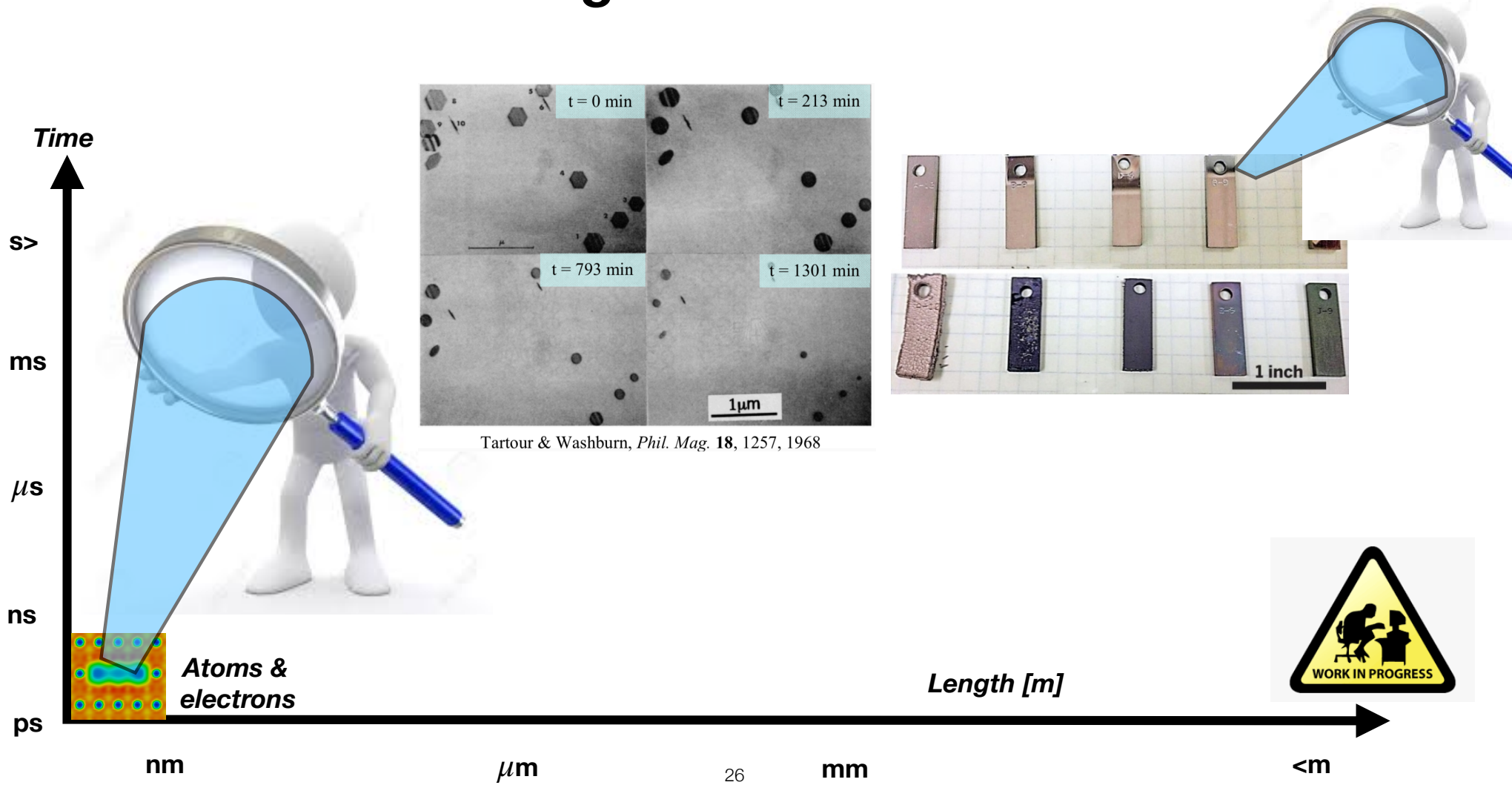
- Warning! Ions move very quickly! ($>50\text{KeV}$).
- Their interaction with radiation shield is very fast (20 ps).
- Requires coupling of phonons and electrons.
- Vacancies diffuse in a long (min and hours) scale.

Thus, GNG
radiation s

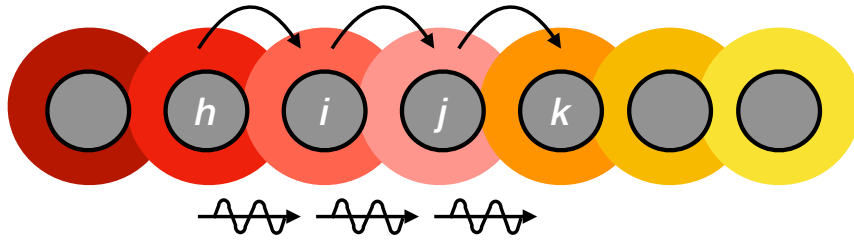
our with



Multiscale modelling of materials radiation damage



Coupling phonons and electrons in MD systems



$$T_i^{lat} = \sum_{j=1}^{N_j} \frac{\frac{1}{2} m_j \mathbf{v}_j \cdot \mathbf{v}_j}{\frac{3}{2} k_B N_j}$$

$$\frac{\partial T_i^e}{\partial t} = T_{max}^e \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq i}}^{N_n} K_{ij} \{ \theta_j^e (1 - \theta_i^e) \exp[\Delta e_{ji}] - \theta_i^e (1 - \theta_j^e) \exp[\Delta e_{ij}] \} - \frac{G}{C_e} (T_i^e - T_i^{lat}),$$

$$m_i \dot{\mathbf{v}}_i = \mathbf{F}_i + \mathbf{F}_i^{damp} = \mathbf{F}_i + \xi_i m_i \mathbf{v}_i$$

$$\xi_i = \frac{G V_{atom} (T_i^e - T_i^{lat})}{2K_i},$$

M. Ullah and M. Ponga, MSMSE 27 (2019) 75008.

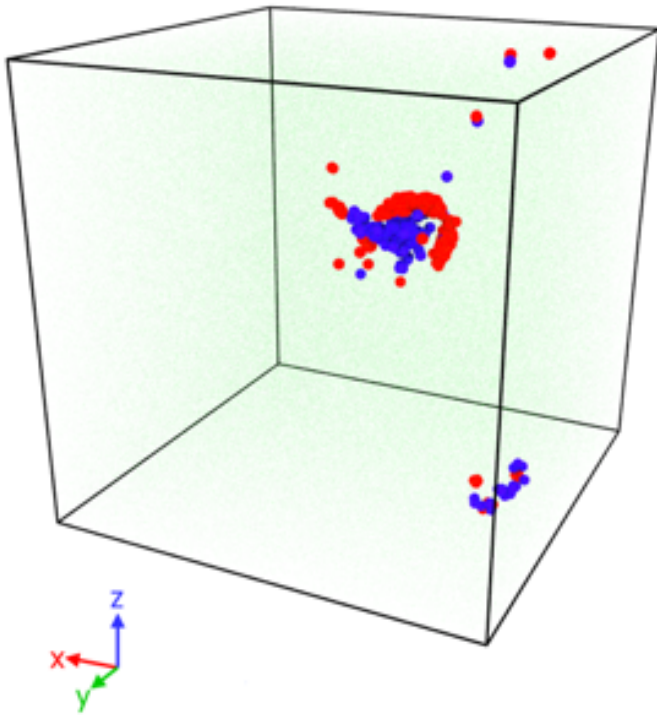
M. Ponga, D. Sun, MSMSE 26 (2018) 035014.

D. M. Duffy, A. M. Rutherford, JPCM 19 (2007) 016207.

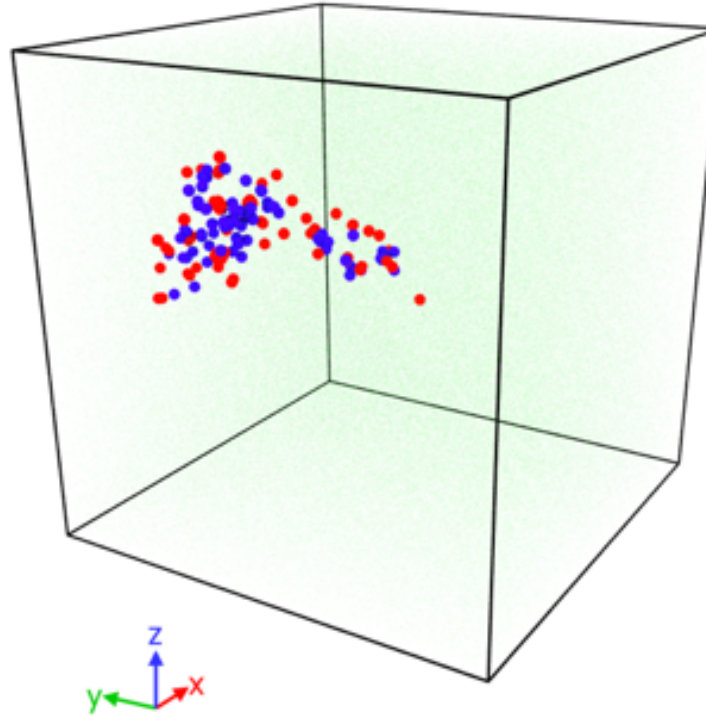
D. S. Ivanov, L. V. Zhigilei, PRB 68 (2003) 064114.

50 KeV PKA simulations in Nickel

Classical MD



2T-MD



Defect (FPs) Statistics

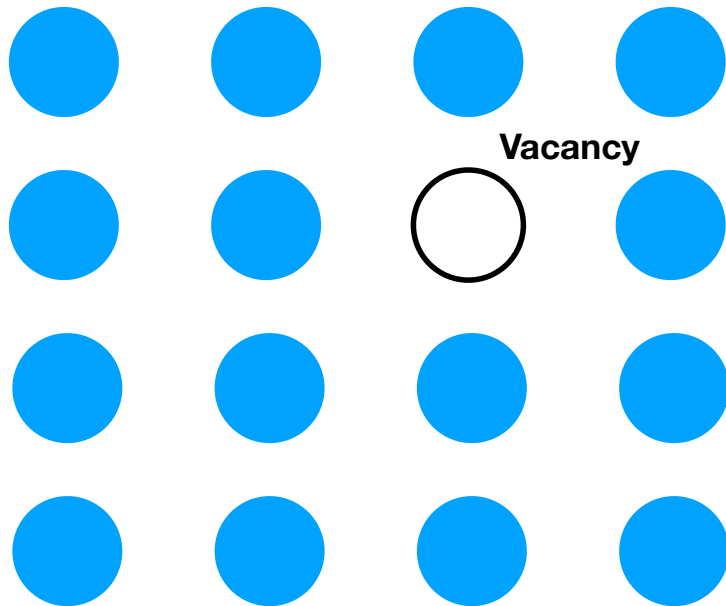
2T-MD : 102 ± 7
MD : 144 ± 14

*Electrons increase
their heat capacity
and thermal
conductivity at large
temperatures.*

M. Ullah and M. Ponga, MSMSE 27 (2019) 75008.
M. Ponga, D. Sun, MSMSE 26 (2018) 035014.
D. M. Duffy, A. M. Rutherford, JPCM 19 (2007) 016207.
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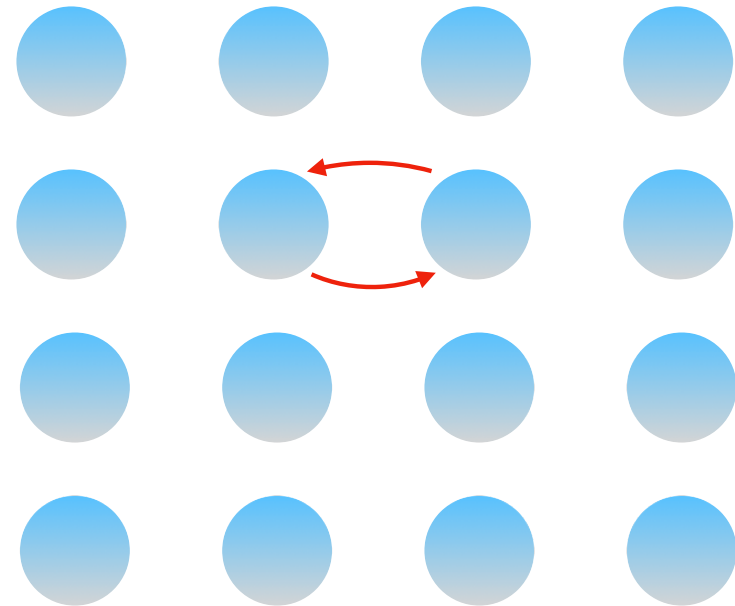
Simulating long-term diffusion of vacancies in GNG

Traditional MD



Restriction: Time step very small (1 fs max!)

Diffusive MD

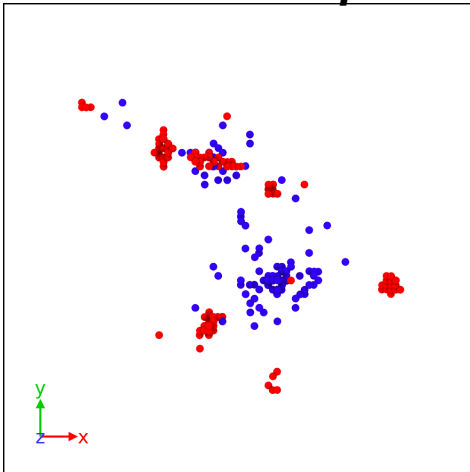


Concentration of vacancies same everywhere

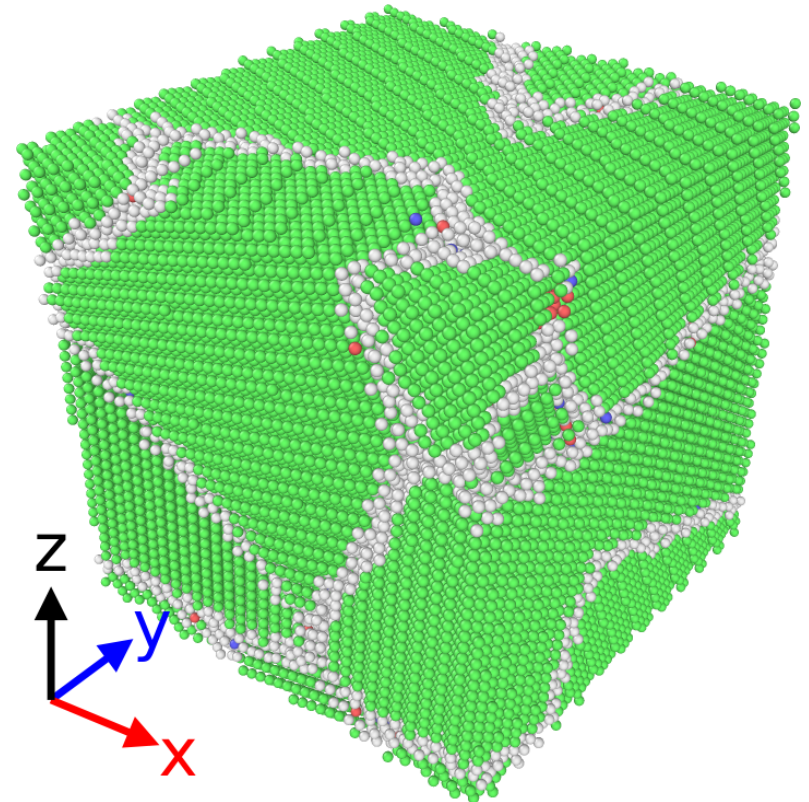
Time step very large (1 ms max!)

Self-healing of GNG materials

Realistic doses can be simulated (<50KeV) to obtain Frenkel pairs.



Simulate long term diffusion (< t=500 s) to investigate the behaviour of GNG materials



After t = 500 s, GNG absorbs 66% of vacancies reducing porosity.

Concluding remarks and future directions

- **GNG materials is a promising avenue to tailor mechanical properties in a broad sense.**
- **Several techniques are available to develop such a rich microstructure.**
- **This can be combined with alloying and other techniques.**
- **GNG arise as promising materials against radiation damage.**
- **Controlling particle orientation during impact a the key to manipulate microstructural features during cold spray.**
- **High entropy alloys and lightweight materials, are ideally candidates to generate GNG.**

Thank you!

