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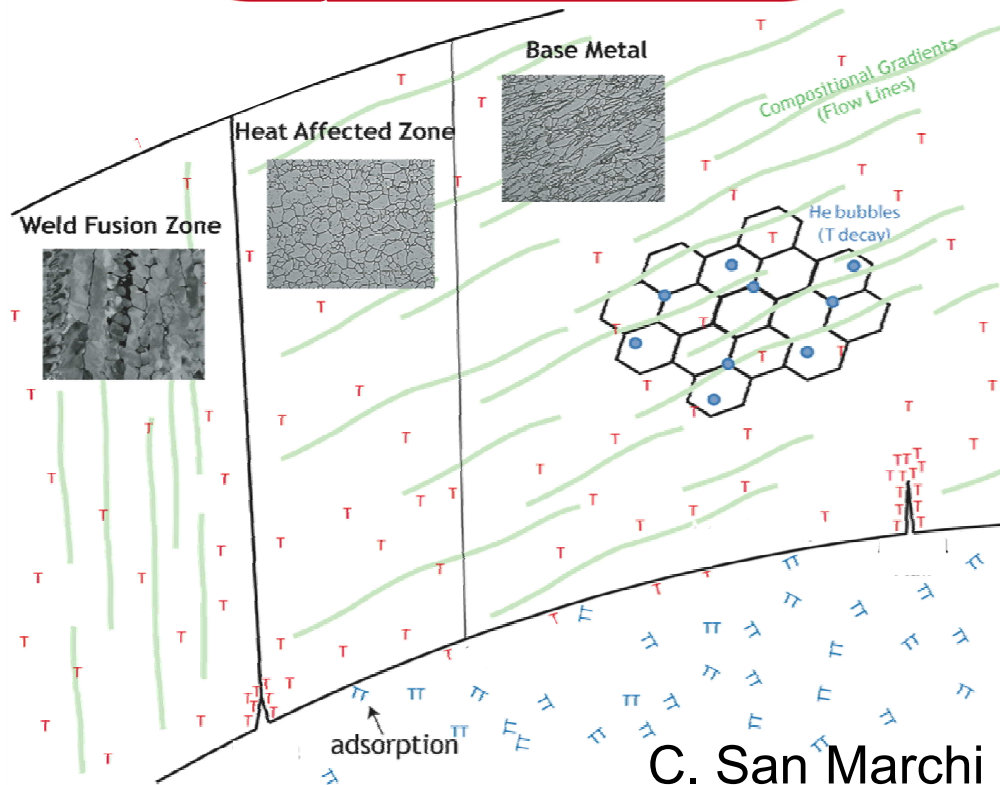
# Imaging and Quantification of Hydrogen Isotope Trapping

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(Sandia National Laboratories)

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(Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories)

# Hydrogen Isotopes in Metals

## Tritium/Hydrogen in Structural Metals

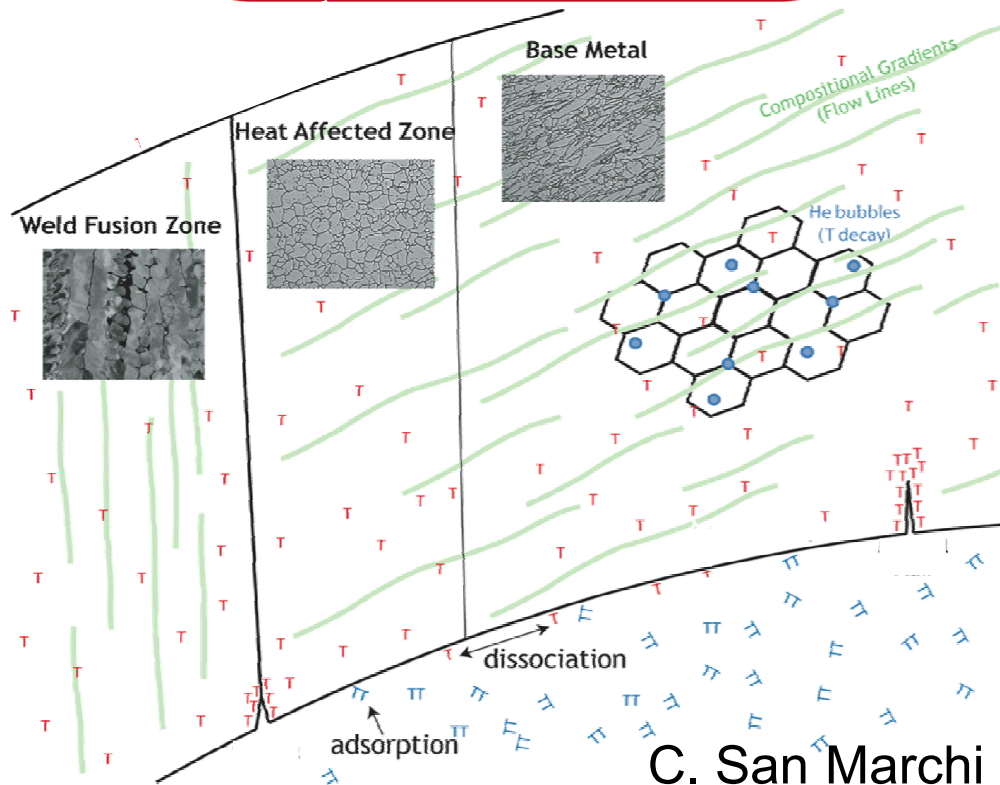


C. San Marchi



# Hydrogen Isotopes in Metals

## Tritium/Hydrogen in Structural Metals

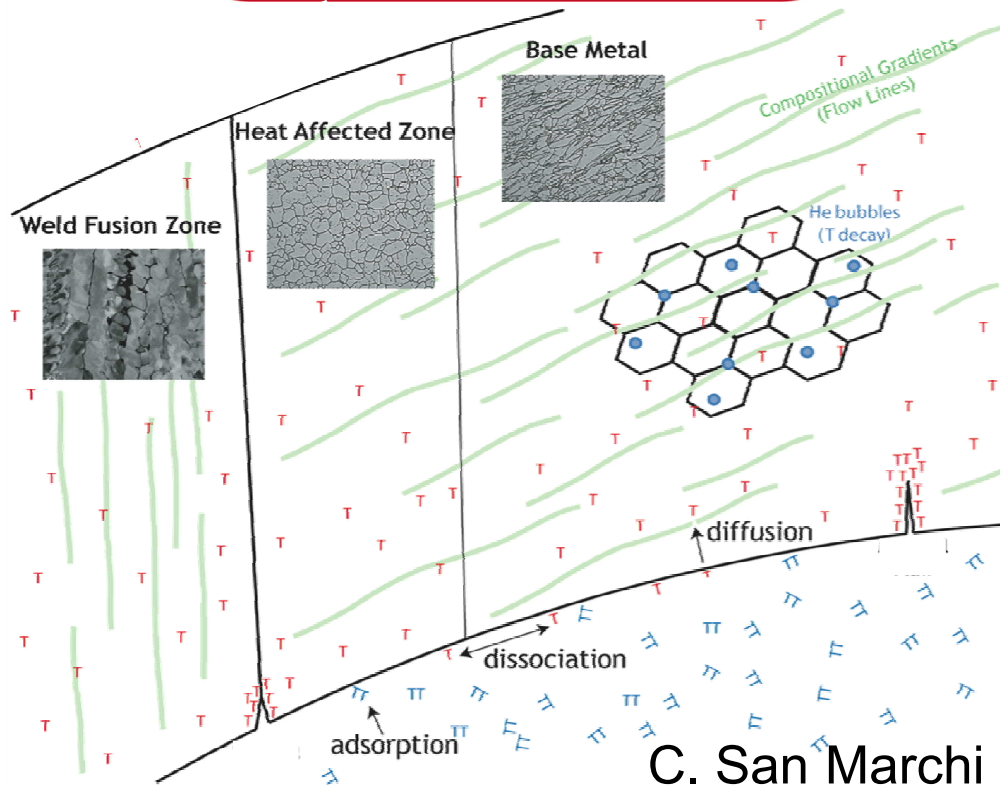


C. San Marchi



# Hydrogen Isotopes in Metals

## Tritium/Hydrogen in Structural Metals

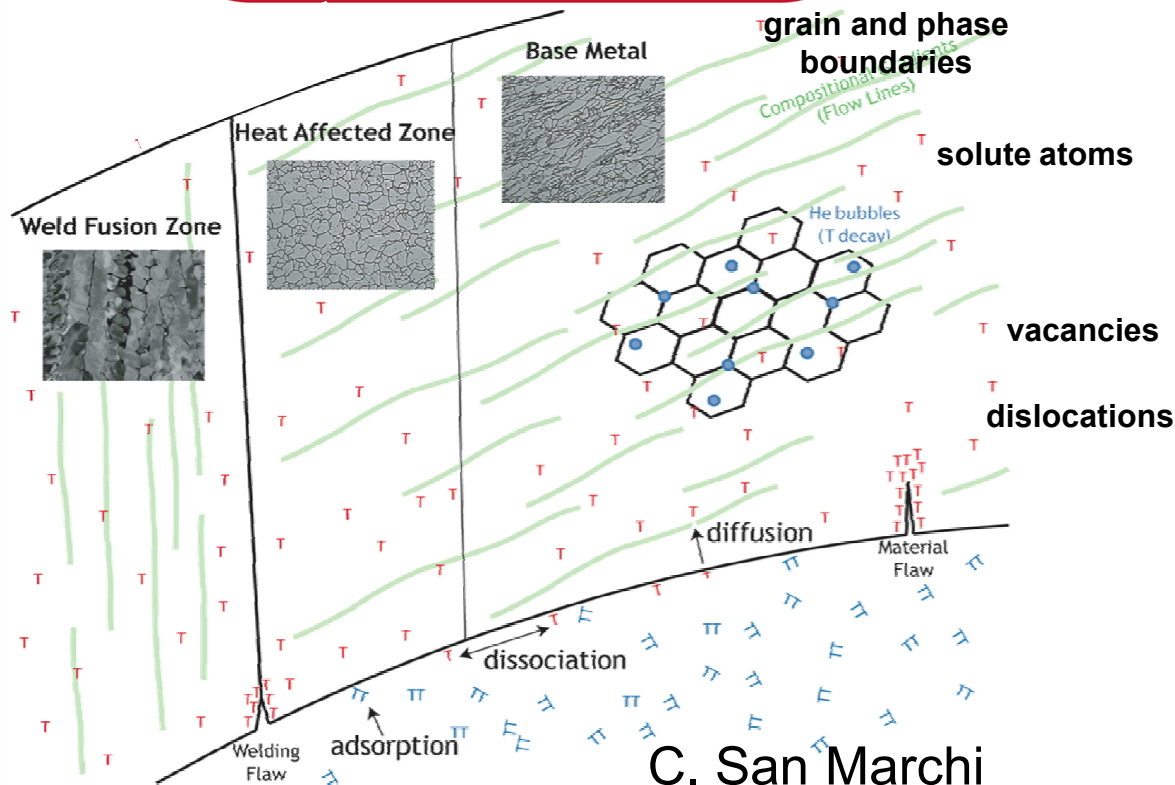


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# Hydrogen Isotopes in Metals

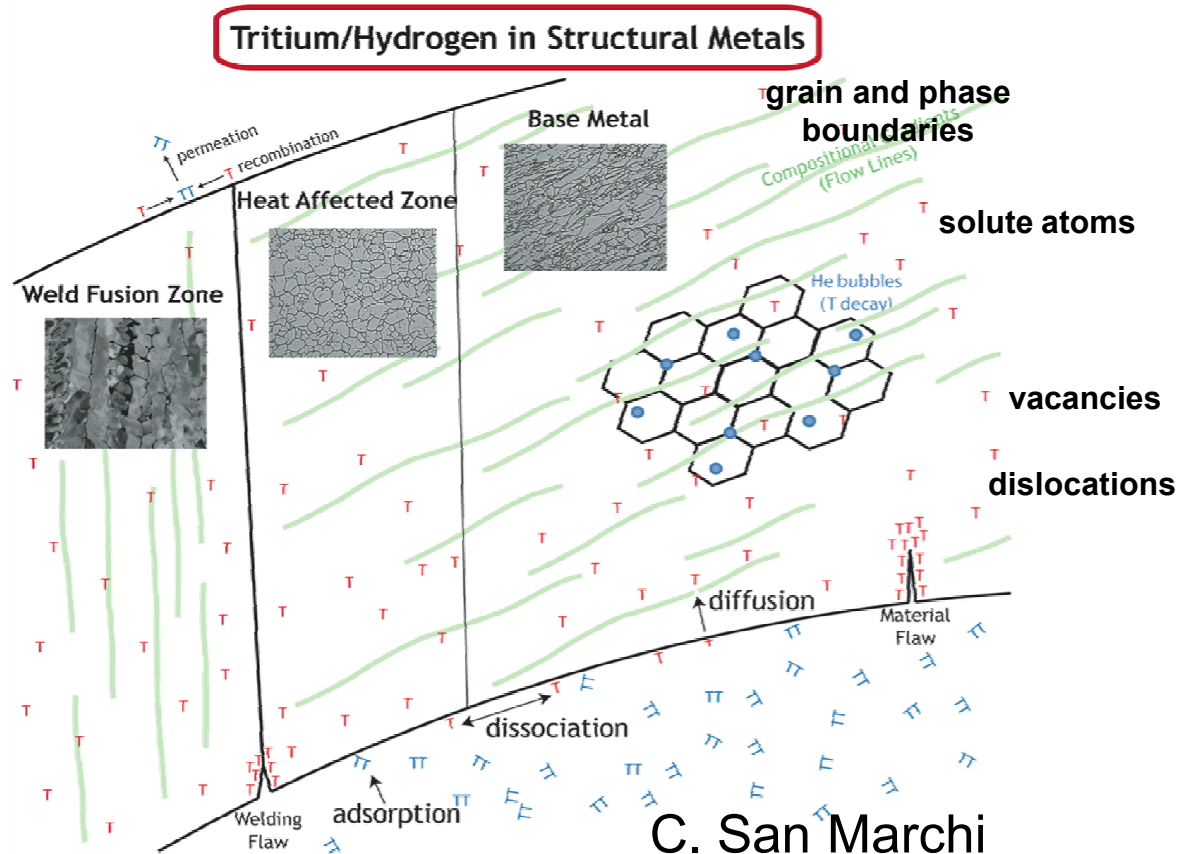
## Tritium/Hydrogen in Structural Metals



C. San Marchi



# Hydrogen Isotopes in Metals





# Local-Electrode Atom-Probe (LEAP) Tomography

Compositional and structural analysis at the atomic scale

- Pulse encodes **z**
- Area detector gives **(x,y)**
- TOF encodes **mass/charge**

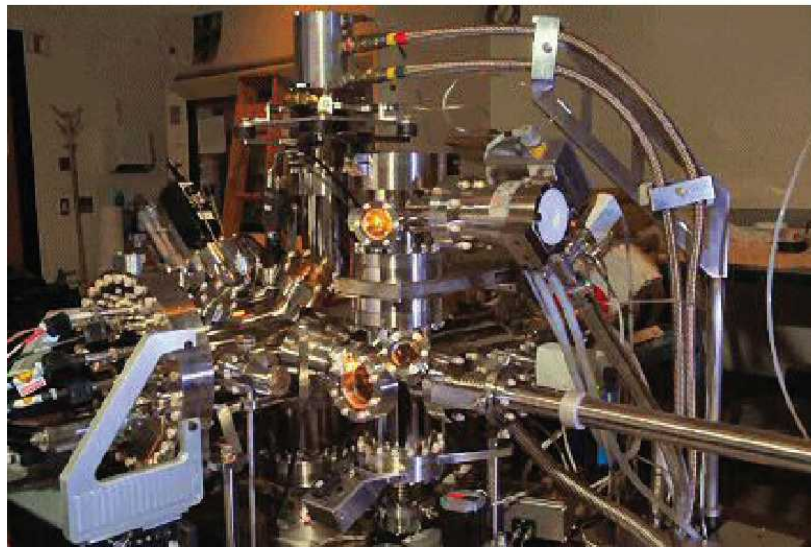
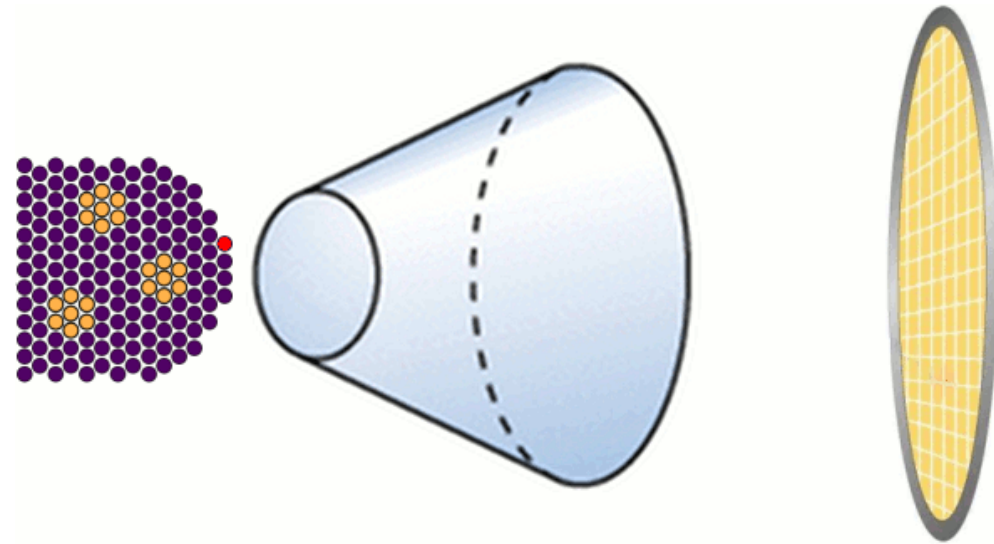


Photo courtesy of R.P. Koll

## Instrument capability

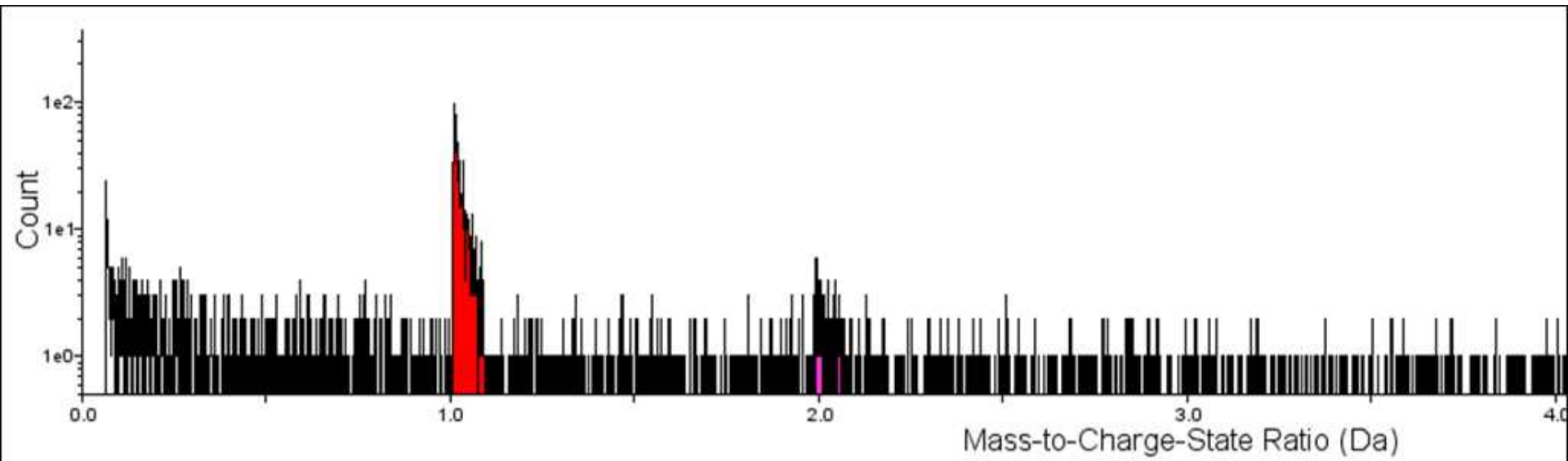
- $10^6$ – $10^7$  nm<sup>3</sup> analysis volume
- $3 \times 10^{-11}$ – $10^{-10}$  torr UHV
- 20–100 K specimen temp.
- 200 kHz electrical pulsing

# Specifications of Atom-Probe Tomography

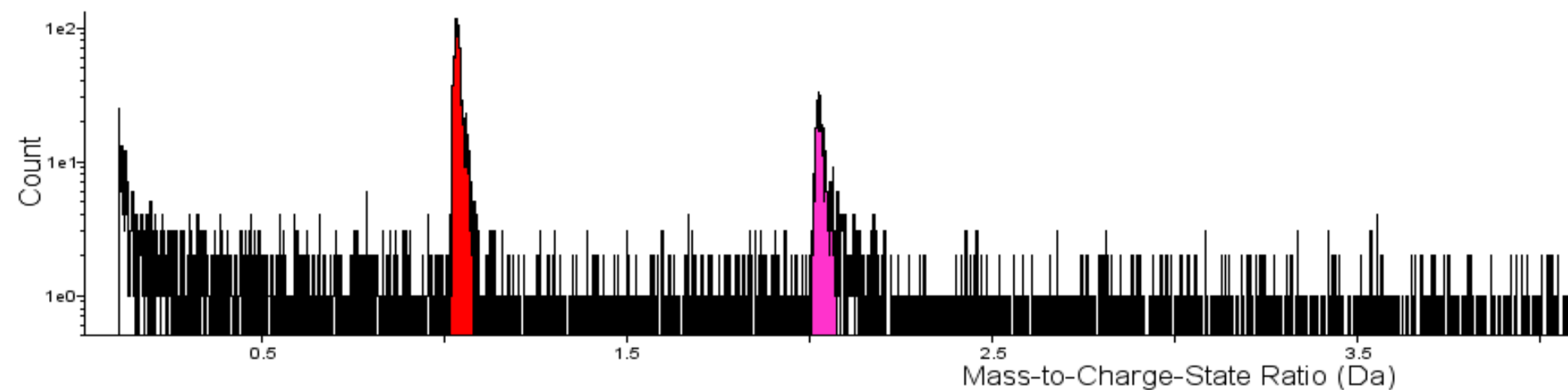
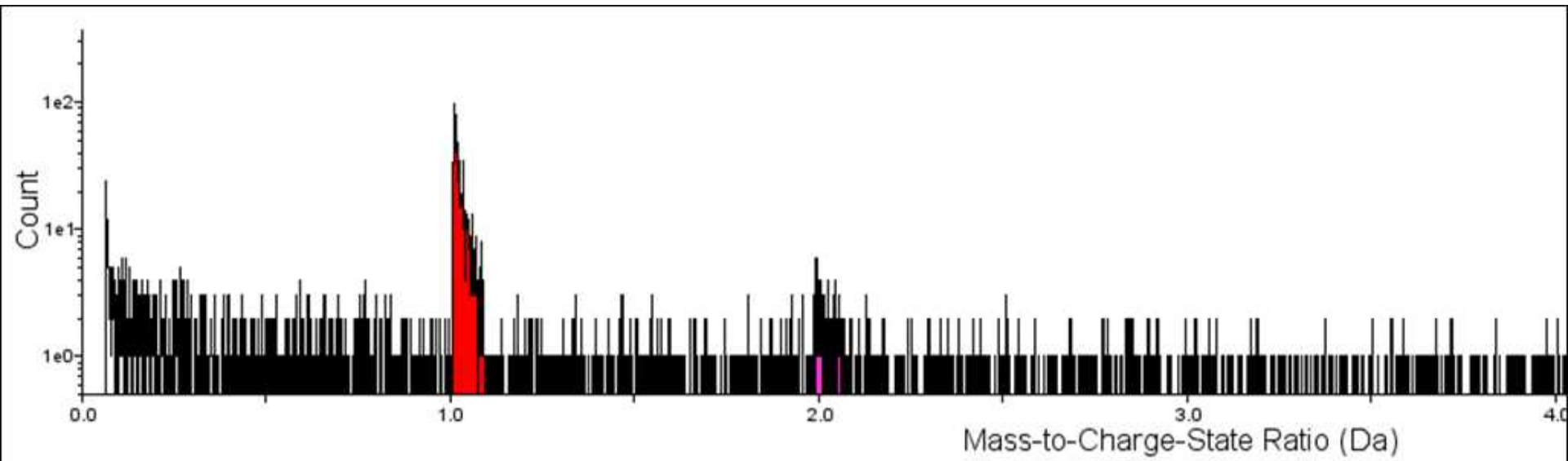
- 3-D
- Sub-nm resolution
- Equal sensitivity across periodic table
- 1 PPM detection
- 50-60% detection efficiency
- 200 kHz pulsing



# Protium in Base Vacuum



# Deuterium Signal can be Deconvolved



# Material Systems Investigated

- UFG Al-Mg
- GB-engineered Ni
- 21-6-9 (Cr-Ni-Mn) SS with various amount of N

# Observation of trapping sites

- **Observe trapped hydrogen isotopes by LEAP tomography**

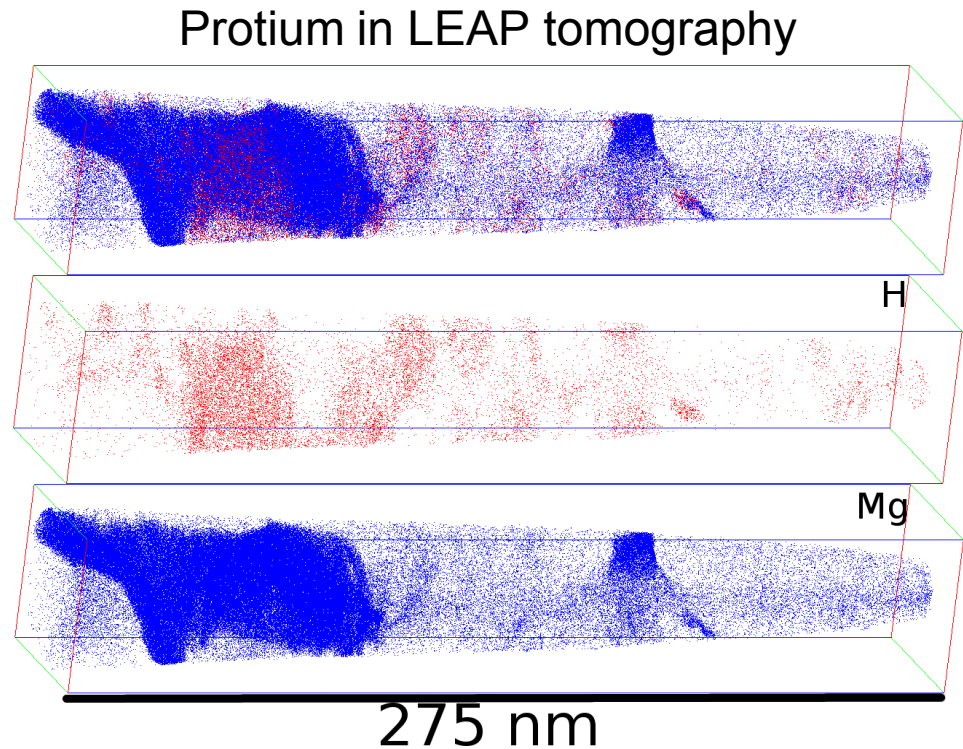
*Establishes direct evidence of how microstructural features (solute atoms, precipitates, grain boundaries) trap hydrogen isotopes.*

## Approach:

- Cryomill Al-7.5Mg
- Consolidation
  - Hot Isostatic Pressing
  - Extrusion
- Precharge in 20 ksi, 300C
- Atom-probe tomography

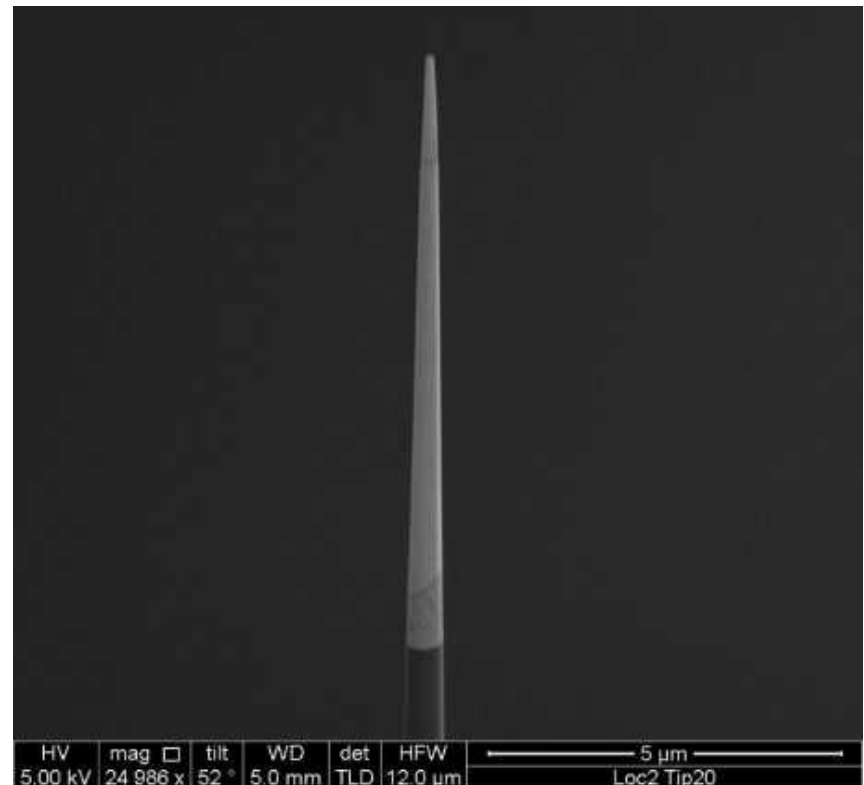
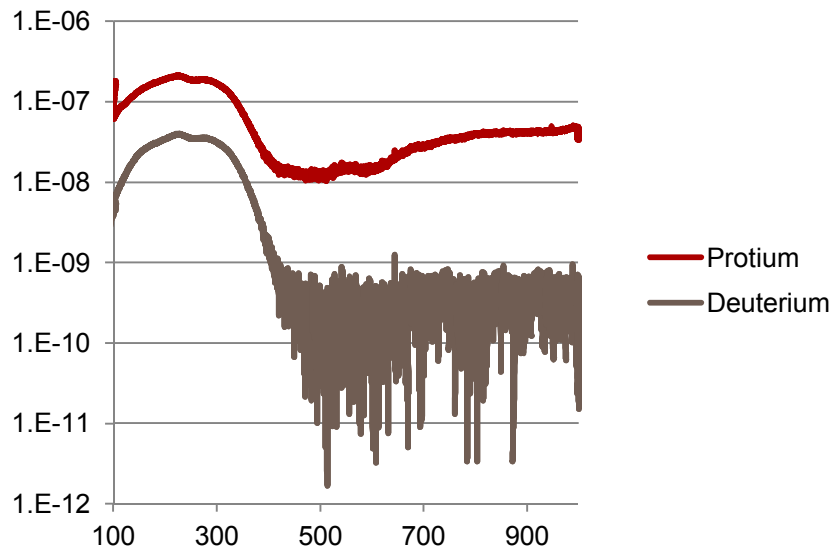
## Results:

- Excess Mg segregate to GB
- H segregates to Mg-rich GB

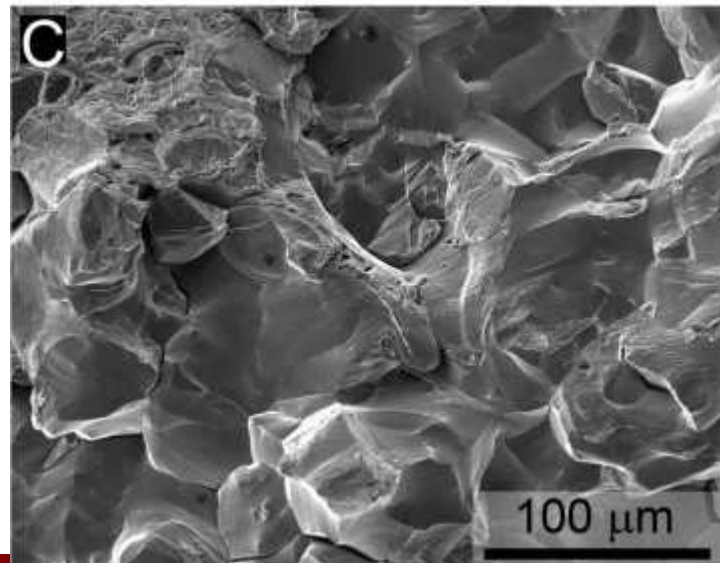
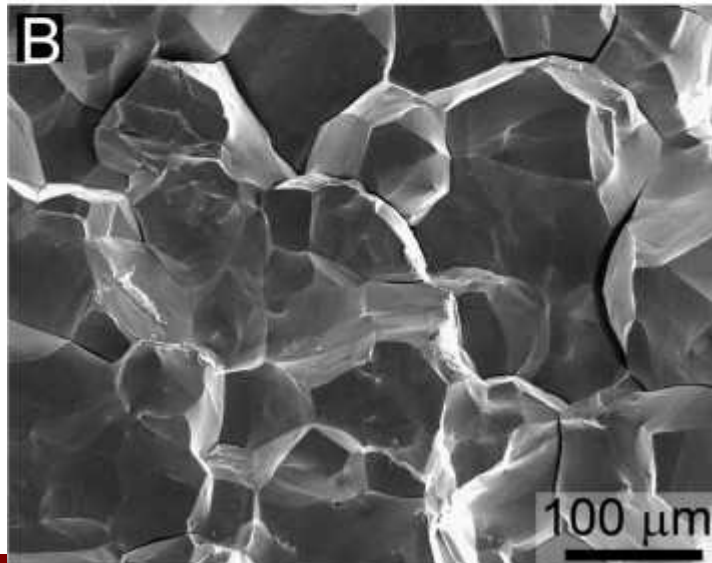
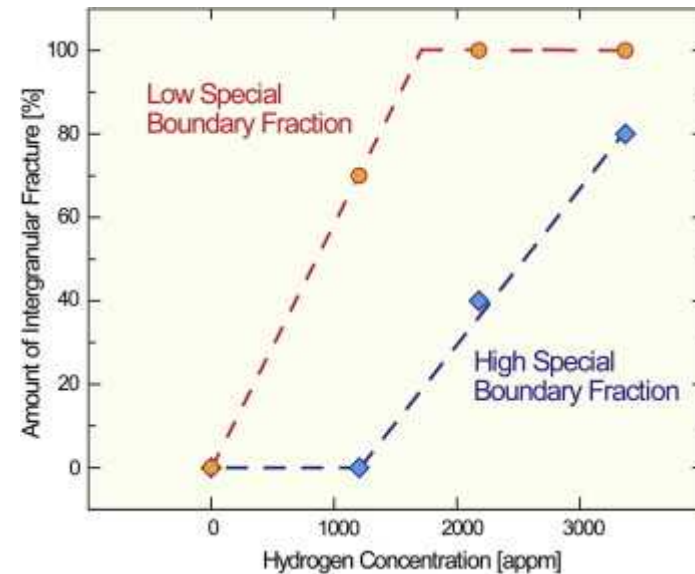
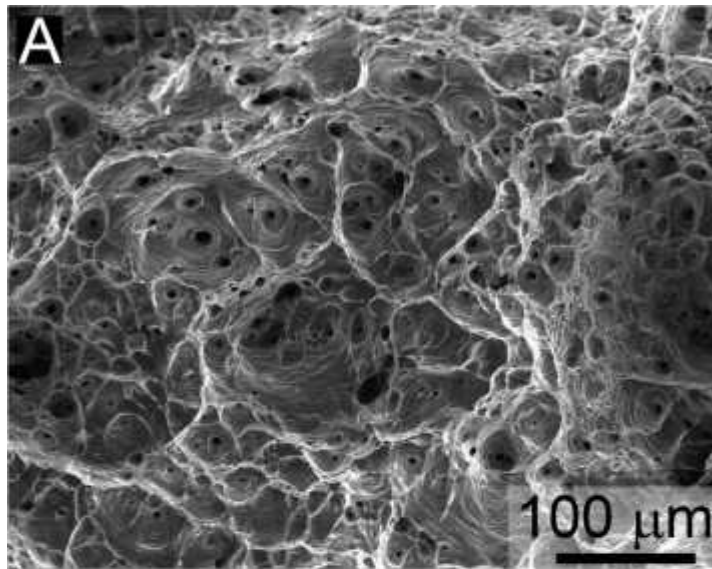


# TDS of LEAP tips

- H replaces D during electropolishing
  - Ion-beam milled specimens; Charge pre-sharpened specimens

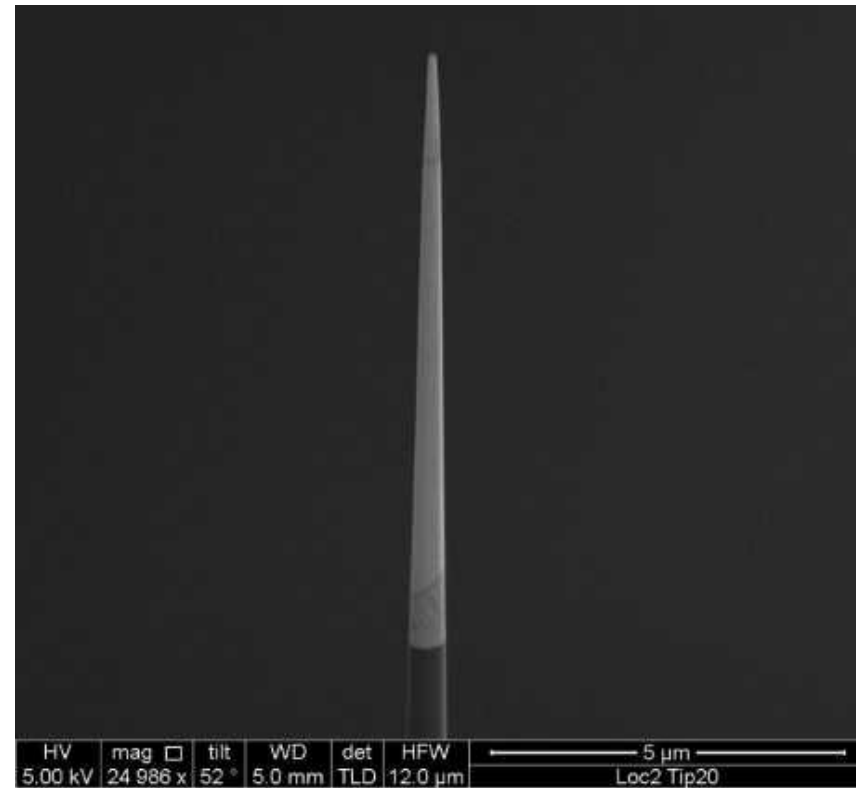
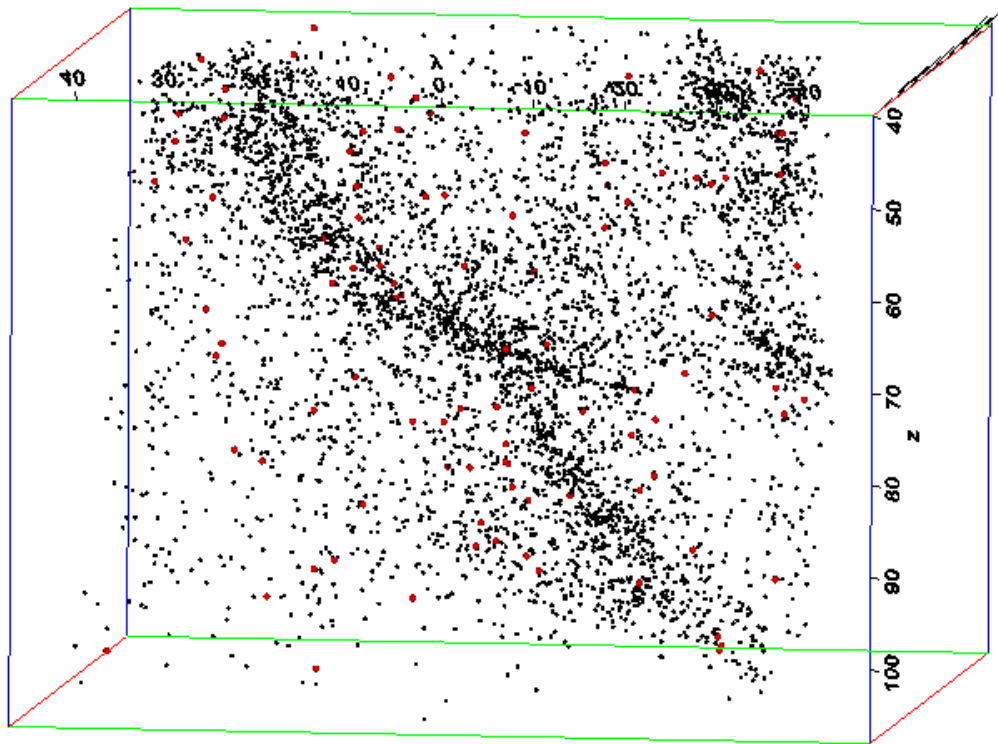


# Intergranular Fracture Properties Depend on Microstructure and Environment





# S and D at “non-special” GB



# Deuterium Trapping to N in 21-6-9

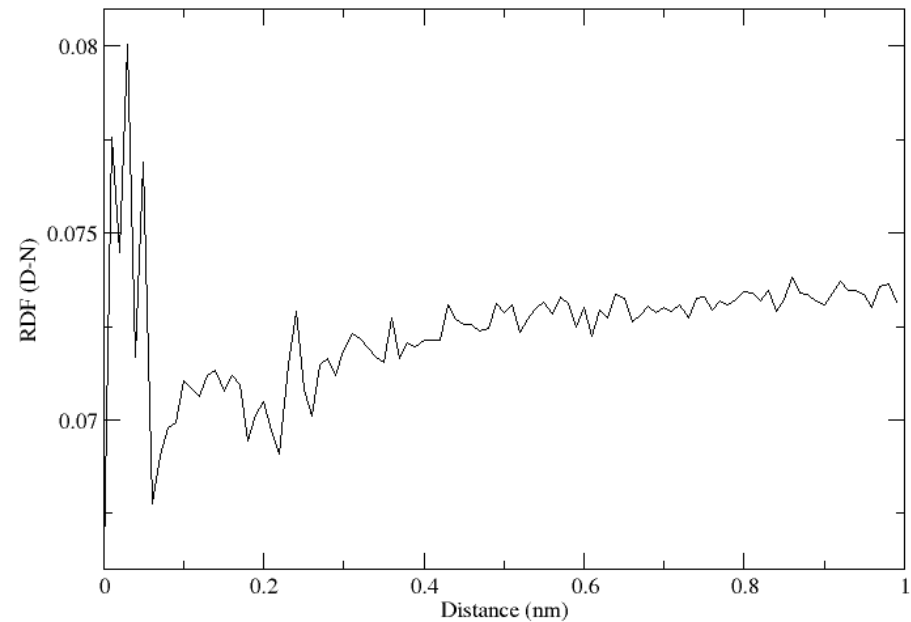
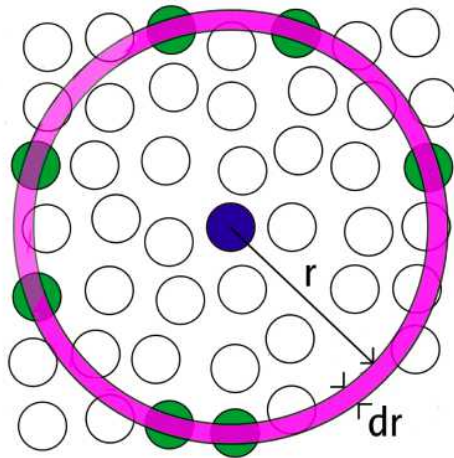
## Verified by RDF

- **Measured deuterium near nitrogen using radial distribution functions**

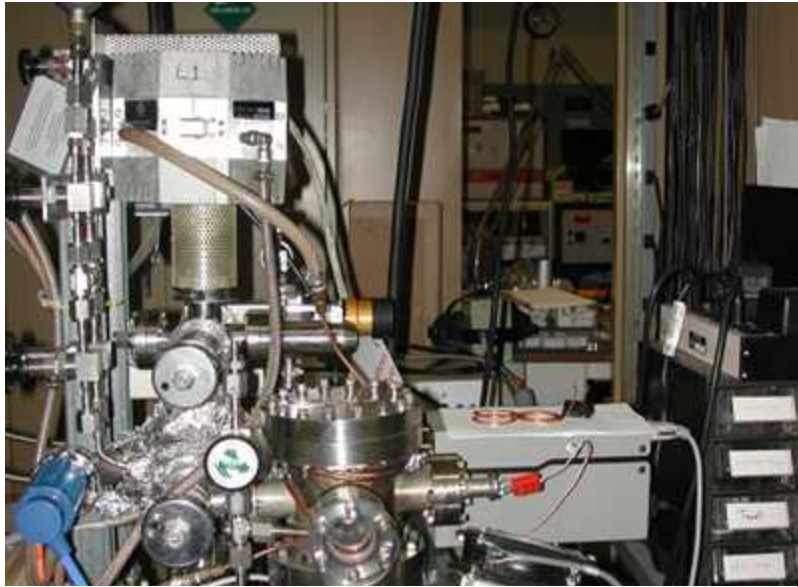
*Confirm that nitrogen is an important trap*

Results:

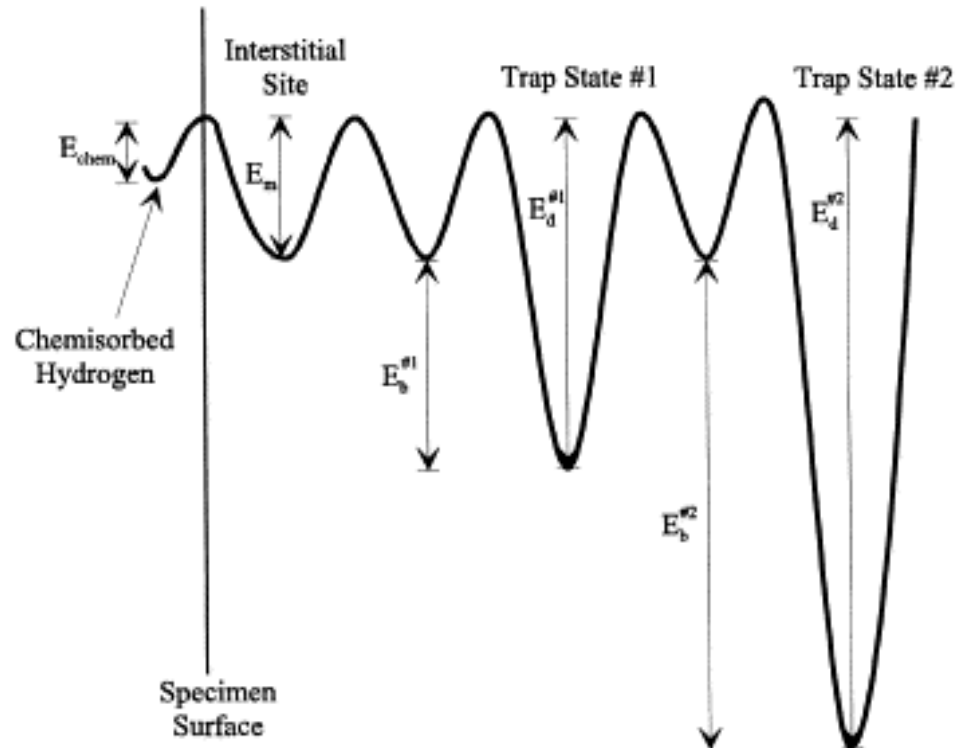
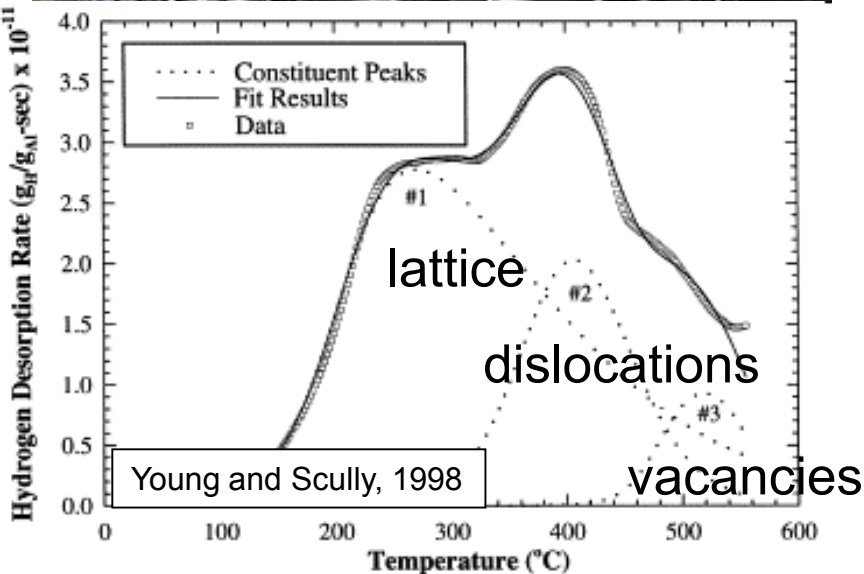
- No trapping is obvious visually.
- RDF shows there is a preference for D-N SRO



# Bulk Analysis Using TDS



- Measures total dissolved and trapped hydrogen and deuterium using an RGA
- Peak fitting spectra reveals trapping energies and occupancies
  - IR furnace ( $>1000^{\circ}\text{C}$ )
  - $10^{-9}$  torr base pressure



# Measure hydrogen trapping energies

## • Measure trapping energies in stainless steel using TDS

*Establishes energies to use in bulk transport models and can be compared to first principles approaches*

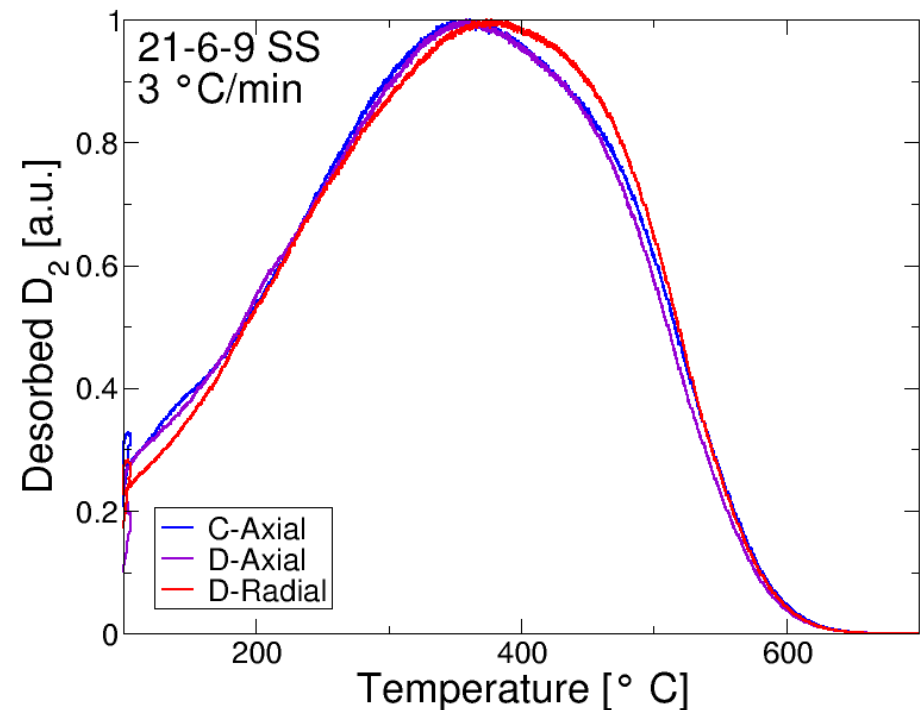
### Approach:

- Precharge in 20 ksi, deuterium at 300C
- Thermal desorption spectroscopy

### Results:

- 21-6-9 with varying ferrite levels
  - Independent of ferrite orientation and content
- 21-6-9 with varying N
  - Height of 26 kJ/mol trapping peak varies with N
  - Similar E to dislocations and other solutes

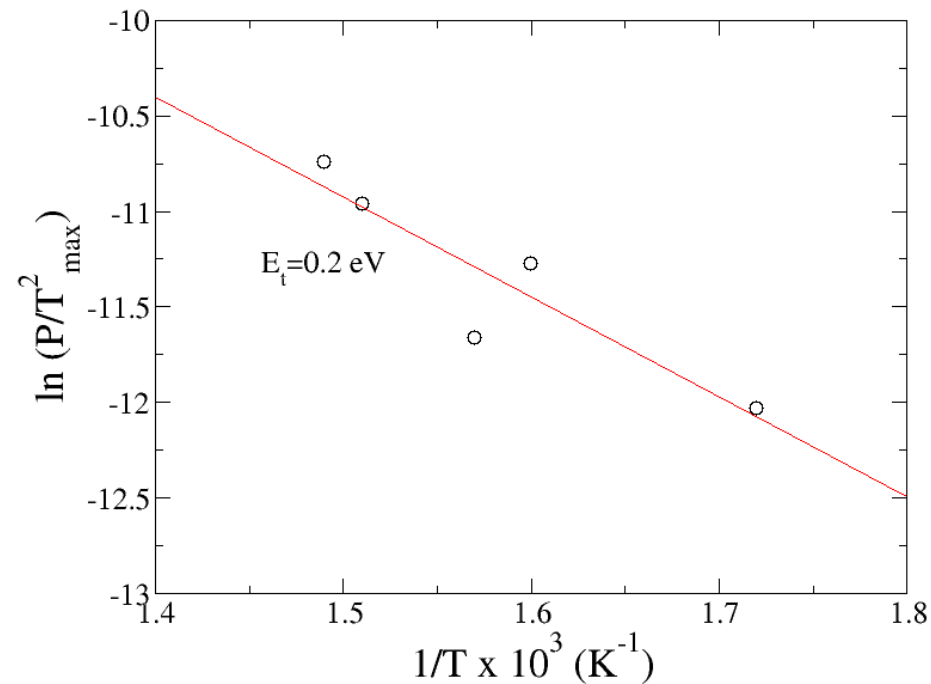
### TDS of 21-6-9 with varying ferrite content



# Trapping in 21-6-9 with N

- **Calculate hydrogen-solute binding energy in Fe**  
*and compare to experimental results*

- In agreement with VASP first principles model shows:
  - N and D prefer octahedral sites
    - RDF of LEAP data agrees
  - Binding energy of 0.08 eV/atom (with no magnetism)
    - Smaller than 0.2 eV measured
  - With magnetism, there is actually repulsion
    - Need to check with vacancies



# Model trap energies and densities

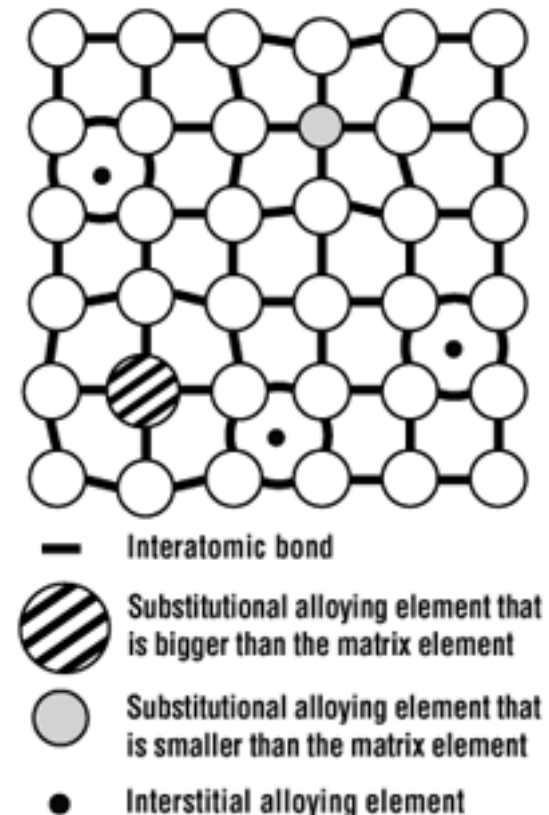
- **Calculate hydrogen-solute binding energy in Fe**  
*and compare to experimental results*

Approach:

- VASP first principles modeling

Status:

- Simulated lattices have been generated for solute studies.
- Solutes priority will be selected from LEAP results
- Elements of interest:
  - Cr, Ni, Mn, C, Cu, N, Co, V, W, Ti, Nb, Al, Mo, Si
  - Also vacancies
- More complicated features (dislocations, precipitates, grain boundaries in next FY)





# Summary

- LEAP observations show:
  - GB segregation of Mg and H in UFG-Al-Mg
  - Segregation to “non-special” GB of S, D in CP Ni
  - SRO of N-D in 21-6-9 containing various N
- TDS observations show:
  - H replacement of D on electropolishing
  - 0.2 eV/atom trapping of D to N in 21-6-9

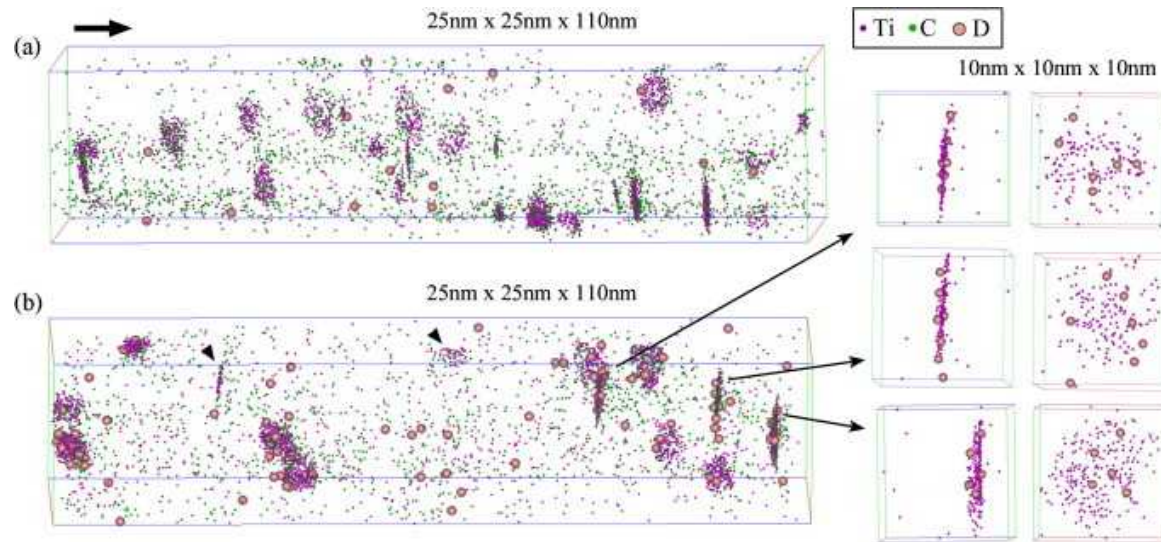
# Acknowledgements

- SNL LDRD, GTS funding
- D Balch, C San Marchi, B Somerday (discussion)
- D Isheim

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# LEAP of Trapped Deuterium



J. Takahashi, K. Kawakami, Y., Kobayashi, T. Tarui (2010) *Scripta Mater* **63**:261-264

J. Takahashi, K. Kawakami, Y., T. Tarui (2012) *Scripta Mater* **67**:213-216