

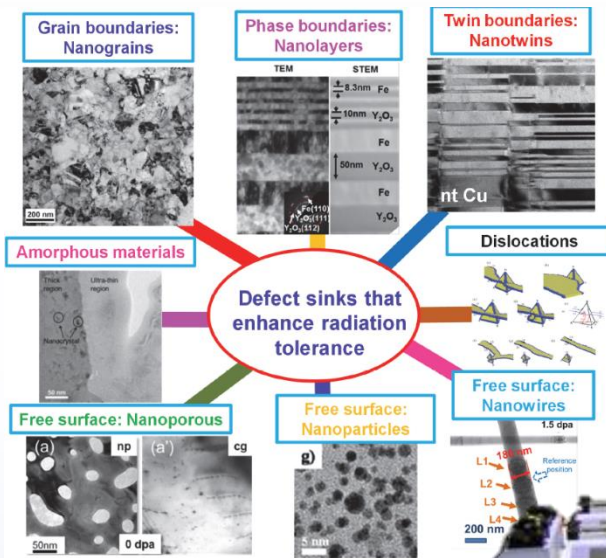
Understanding and Tailoring Nanomaterials for Extreme Environments

SAND2018-2313PE

K. Hattar

Ion Beam Lab at Sandia National Laboratories

March 5th, 2018



Collaborators:

- IBL: C.Taylor, C.M. Barr, S.A. Briggs, D.C. Bufford, D. Buller, C. Chisholm, B.G. Clark, M.T. Marshall, B. Muntifering, S.H. Pratt, & P. Price
- Sandia: M. Abere, B. Boyce, T.J. Boyle, R. Dingreville, R.F. Hess, A.C. Kilgo, B.E. Klamm, W.M. Mook, J.D. Puskar, J.A. Scott, & J.A. Sharon
- External: A. Aitkaliyeva, H. Bei, P.J. Ferreira, K.J. Ganesh, E.P. George, D. Gross, P. Hosemann, J. Kacher, S. Maloy, A. Minor, J. Qu, S. Rajasekhara, I.M. Robertson, D. Stauffer, & Hysitron Inc.

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Potential Evolution of System Design

Use the Nearest Stone



to

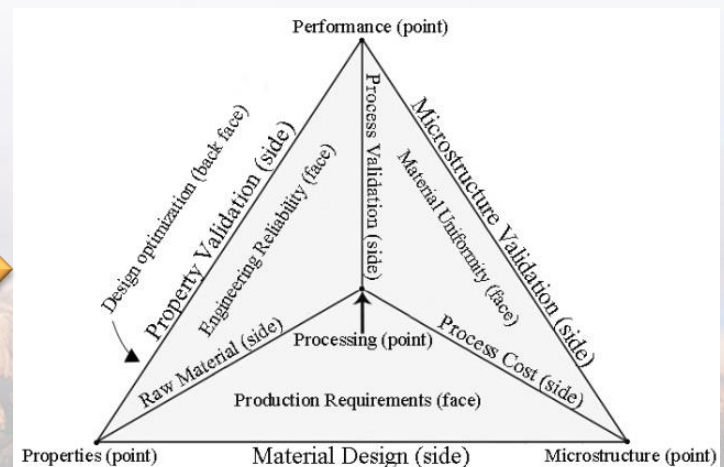
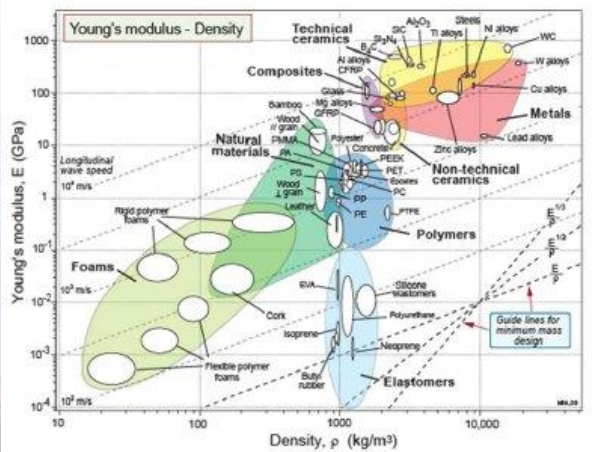


- Radar charts and Ashby plots of current material
- Accelerated and field testing
- **Scientist create a new materials. Engineers find an application.**

Materials by Design

- Physics-based approach
- Requires multiscale modeling
- **Engineers require given properties, Scientists tailor the chemistry and microstructure to achieve it.**

Great vision! We are making strides, but we are not there yet



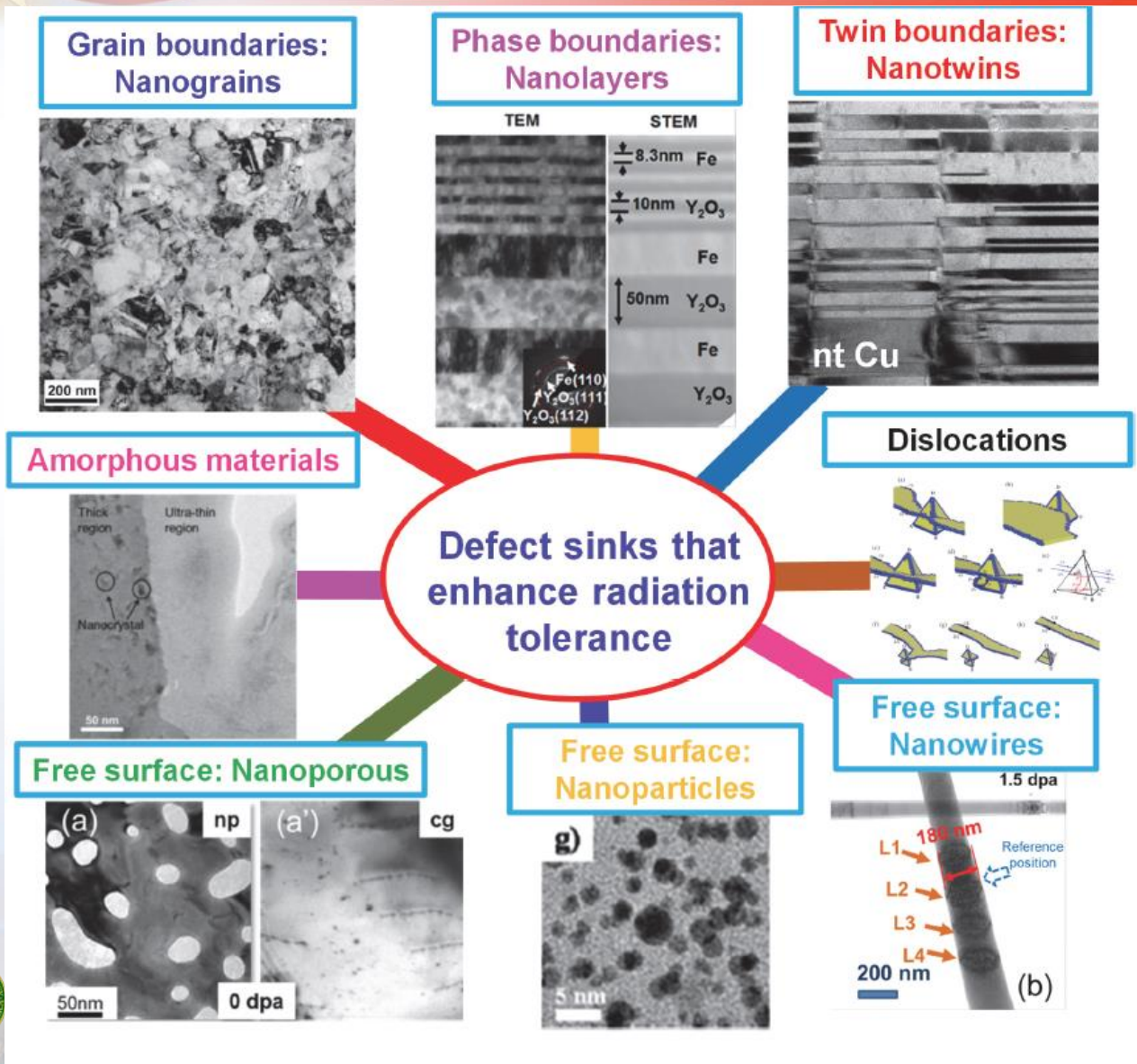


Outline

- 1. How Does Nanostructuring Effect a Materials Radiation Tolerances?**
- 2. Can We Tailor Boundaries/Interfaces to Control Radiation Tolerances?**
- 3. Can We Explore Other Aspects of the Complex Environment Present in Modern and Future Reactors Using *In situ* Techniques?**



Nanomaterials Proposed for Improving Radiation Tolerance



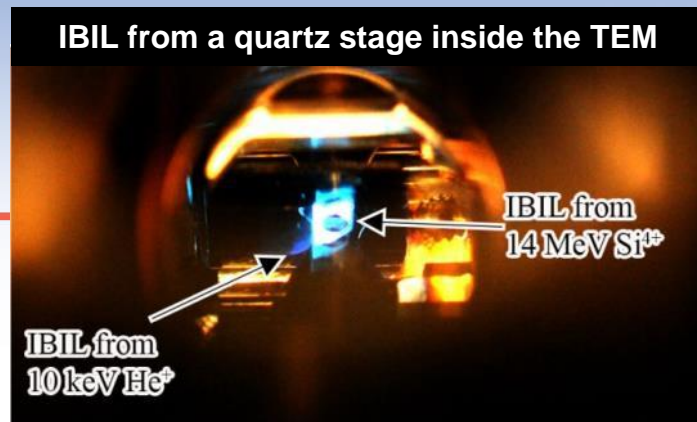
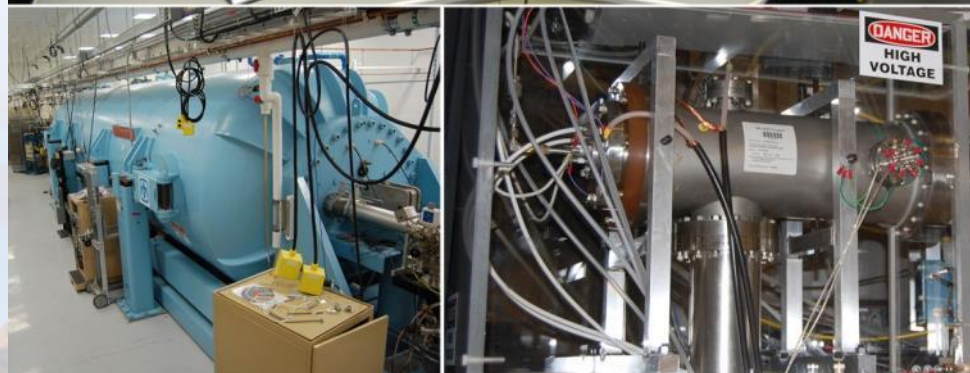
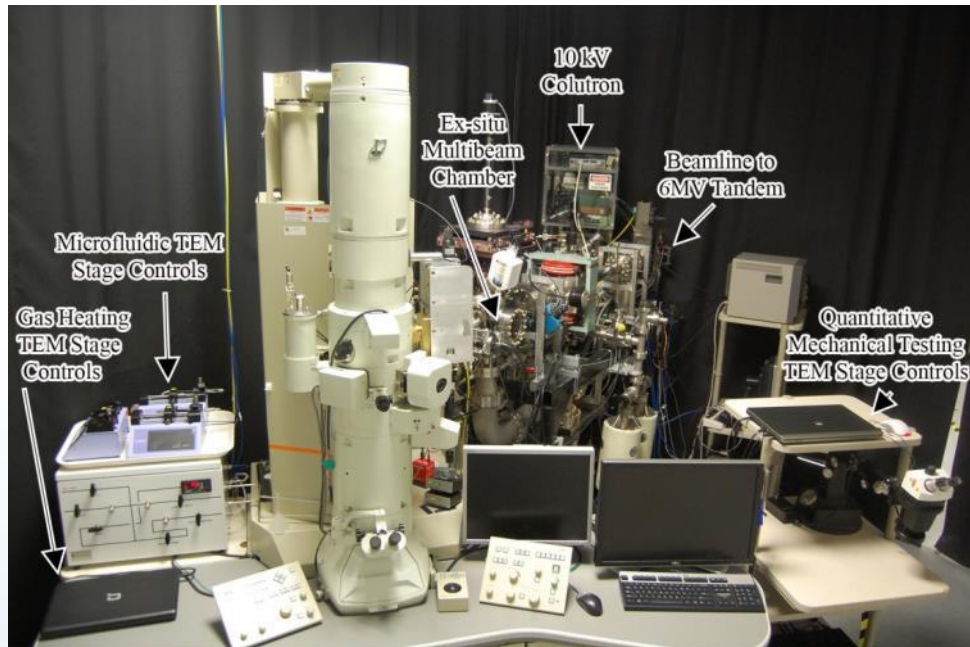
[X. Zhang et al., submitted 2017]



Sandia's Concurrent *In situ* Ion Irradiation TEM Facility

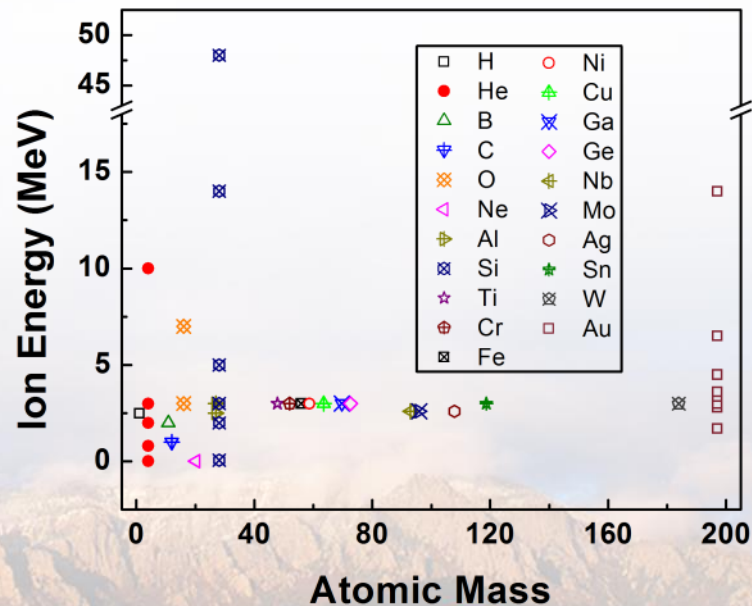
Collaborator: D.L. Buller

10 kV Colutron - 200 kV TEM - 6 MV Tandem



Direct real time observation of ion irradiation, ion implantation, or both with nanometer resolution

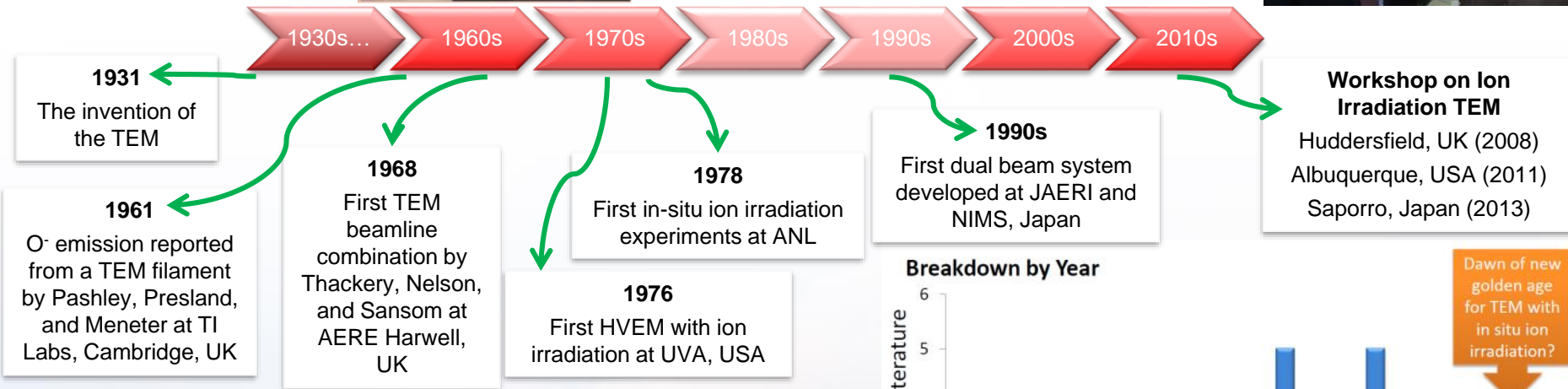
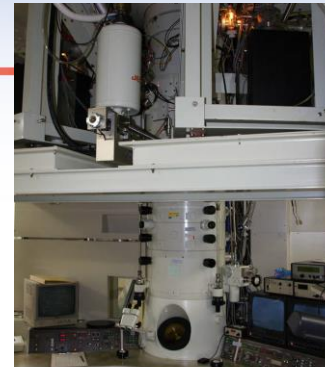
Ion species & energy introduced into the TEM



History of *In situ* Ion Irradiation TEM



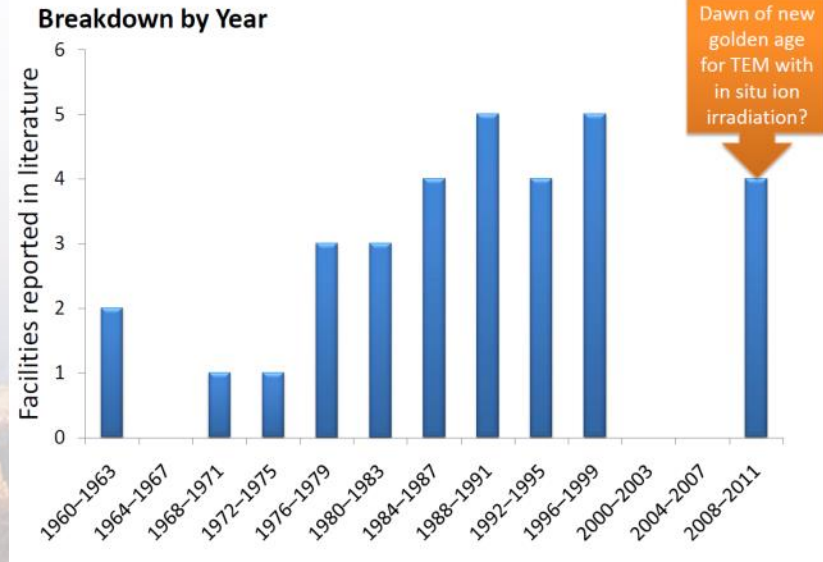
Courtesy of: J. Hinks



“The direct observation of ion damage in the electron microscope thus represents a powerful means of studying radiation damage”



D.W. Pashley and A.E.B. Presland Phil Mag. 6(68) 1961 p. 1003





Outline

- 1. How Does Nanostructuring Effect a Materials Radiation Tolerances?**
2. Can We Tailor Boundaries/Interfaces to Control Radiation Tolerances?
3. Can We Explore Other Aspects of the Complex Environment Present in Modern and Future Reactors Using *In situ* Techniques?



Cumulative Effects of Ion Irradiation as a Function of Ion Energy and Au Particle Size

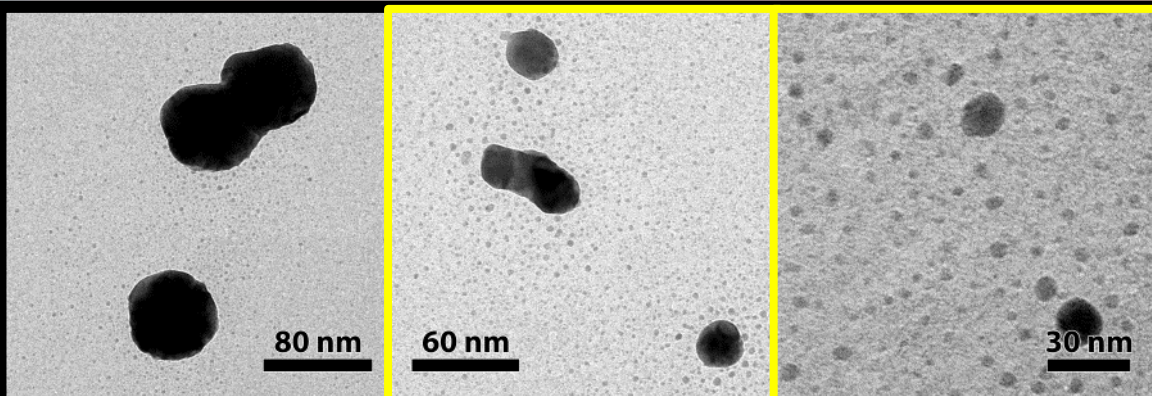
60 nm

20 nm

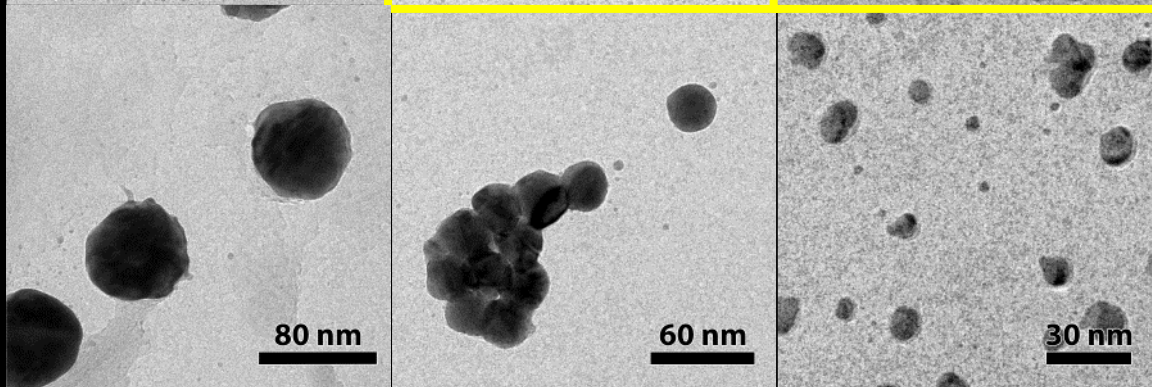
5 nm

Collaborator: D.C. Bufford

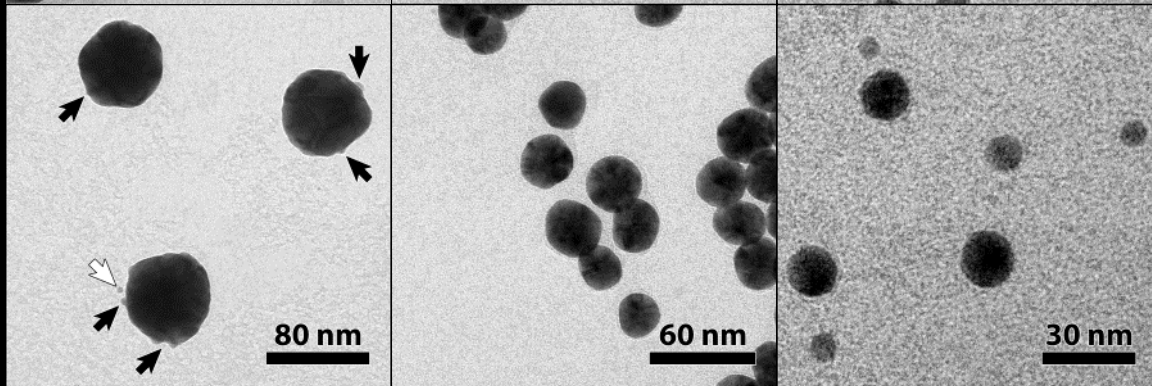
46 keV Au¹⁺
 $3.4 \times 10^{14} / \text{cm}^2$



2.8 MeV Au⁴⁺
 $4 \times 10^{13} / \text{cm}^2$



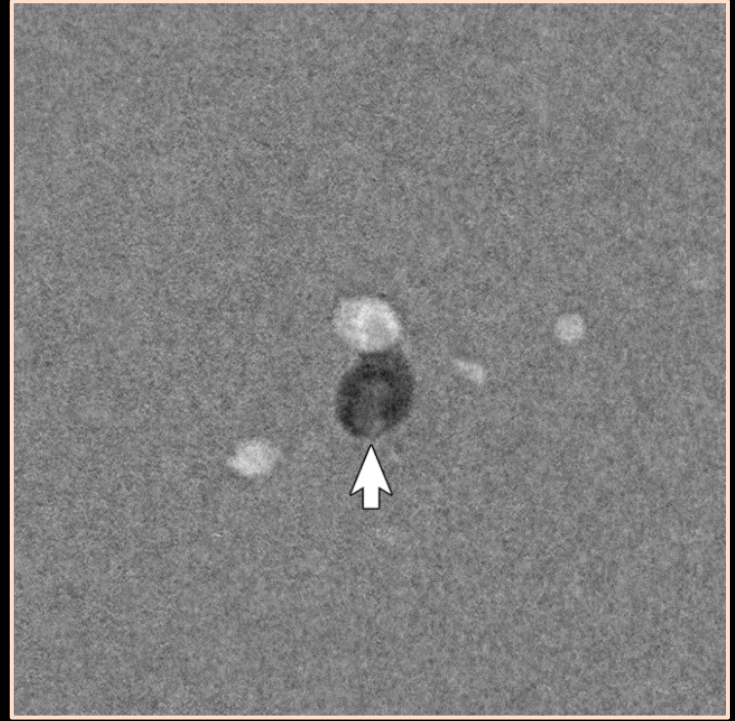
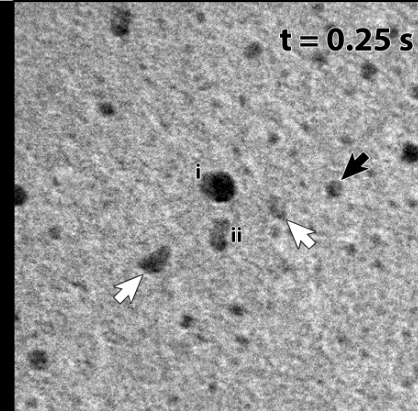
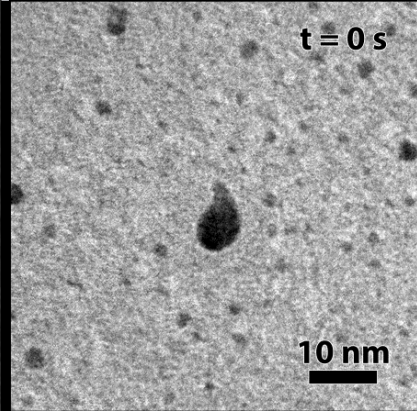
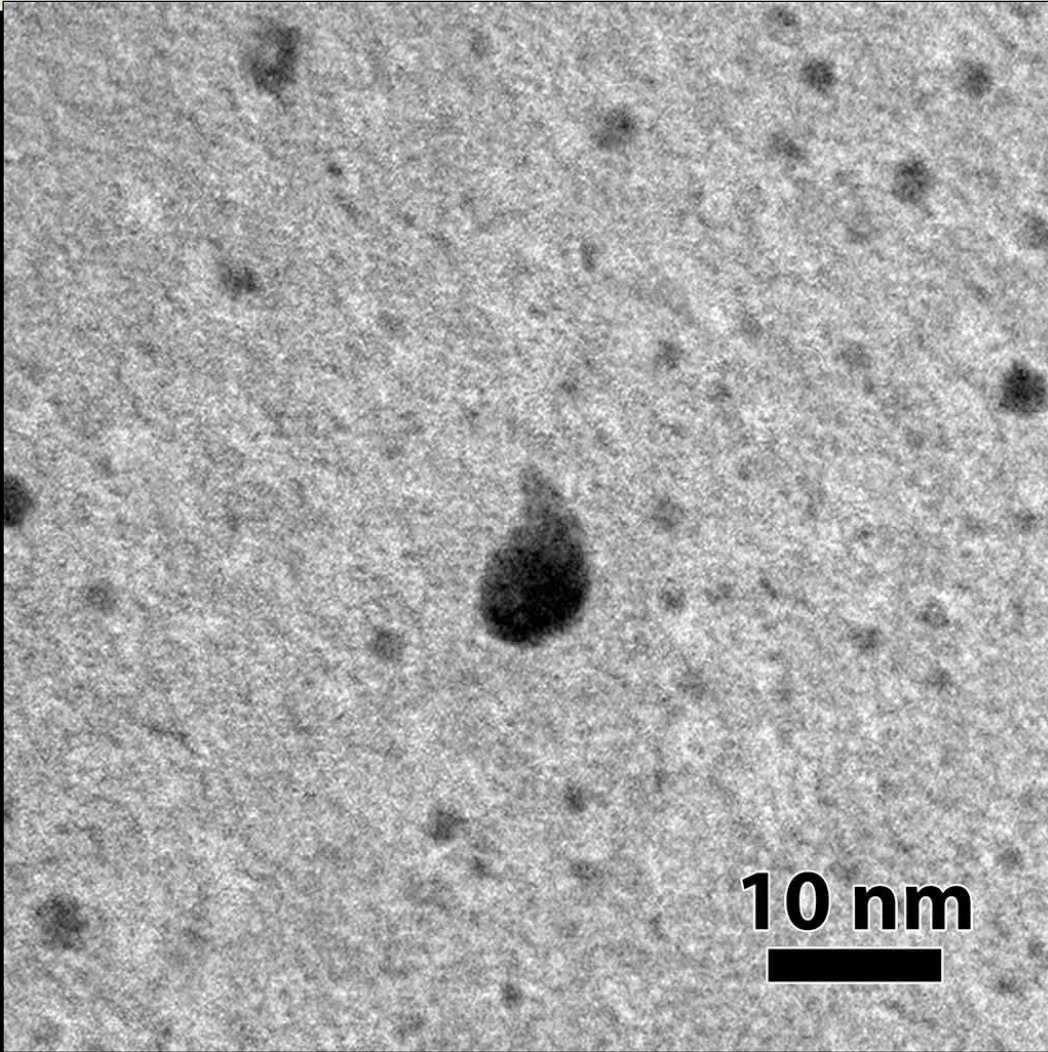
10 MeV Au⁸⁺
 $1.3 \times 10^{12} / \text{cm}^2$



Particle and ion energy dictate the ratio of sputtering, particle motion, particle agglomeration, and other active mechanisms

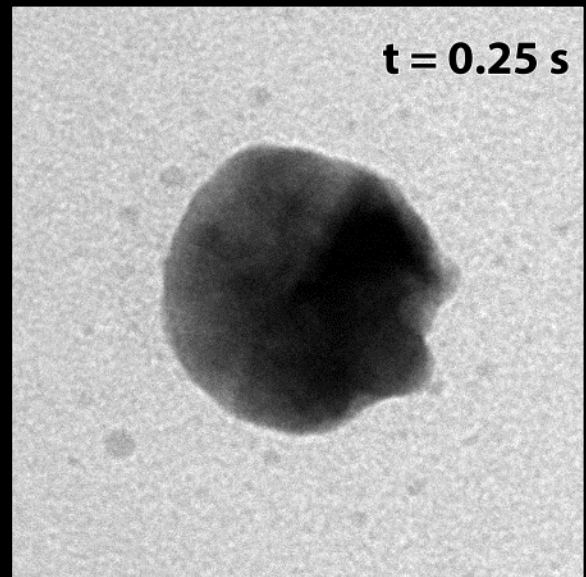
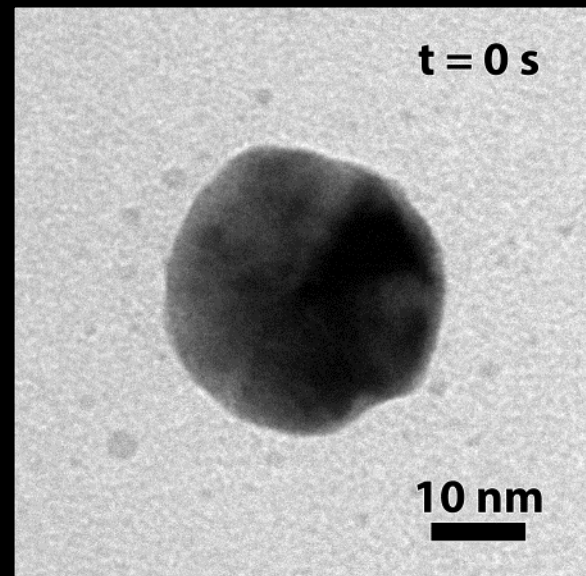
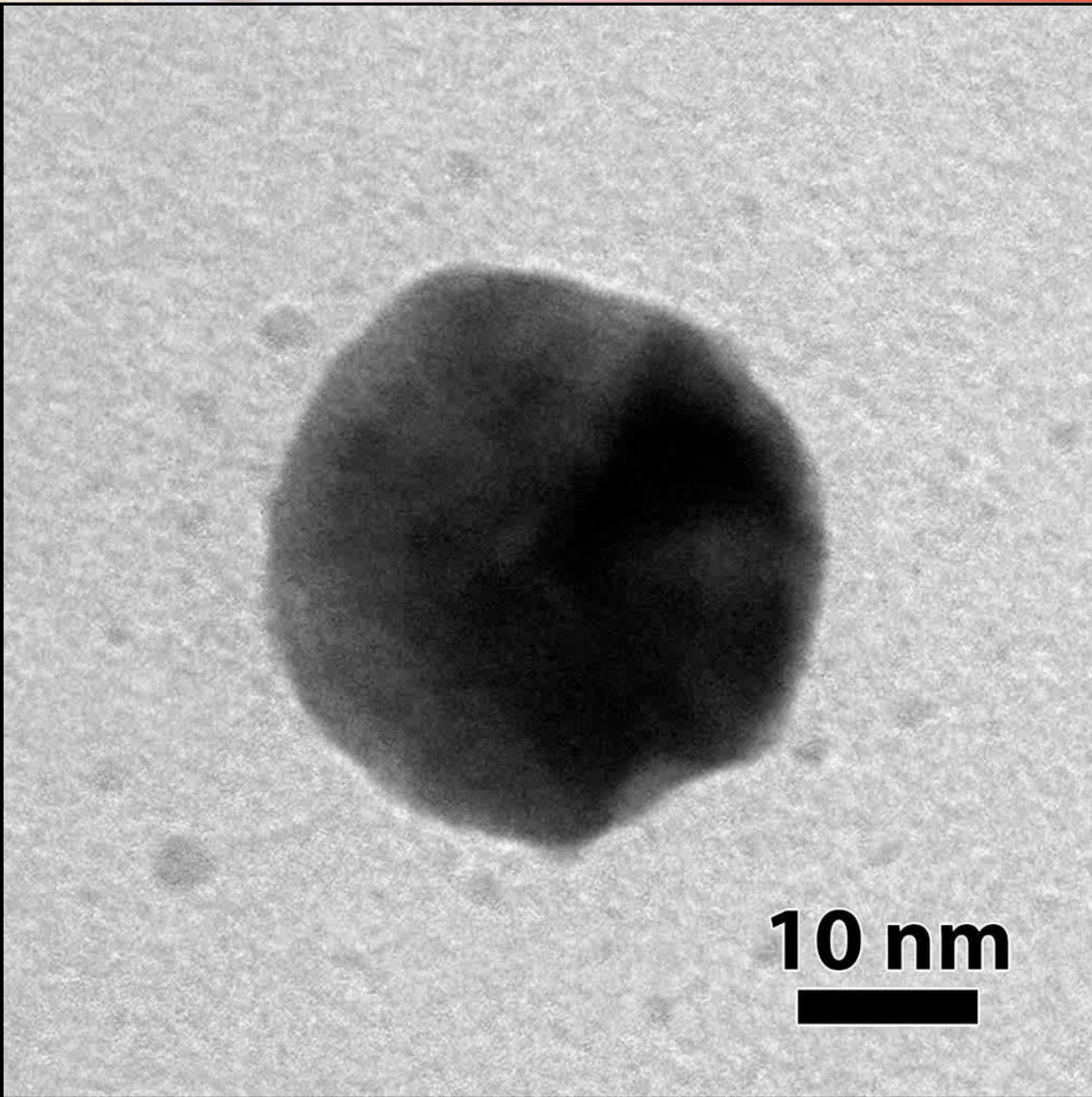
Single Ion Strikes: 46 keV Au¹⁺ ions into 5 nm Au nanoparticles

Collaborator: D.C. Bufford



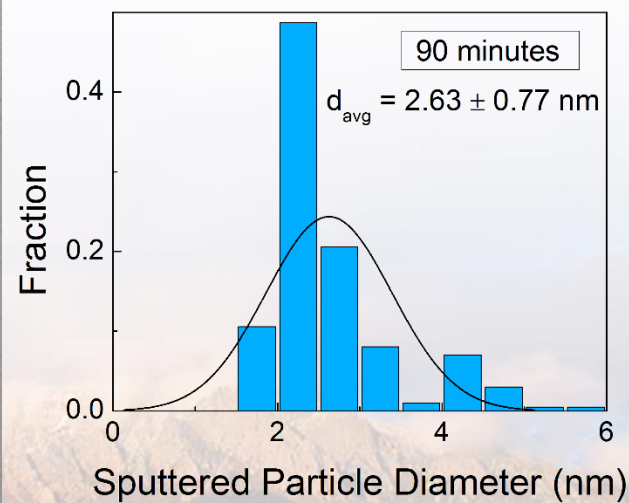
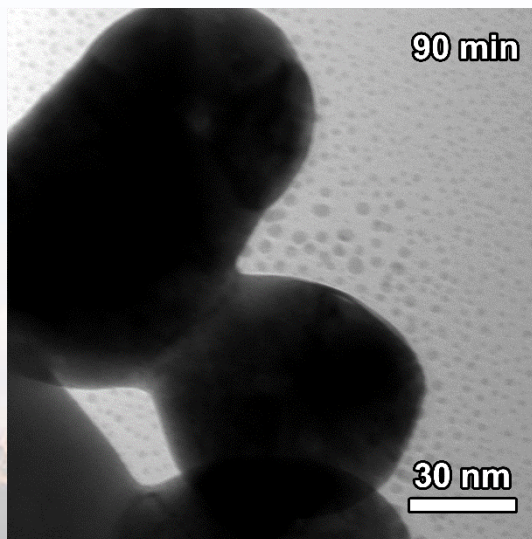
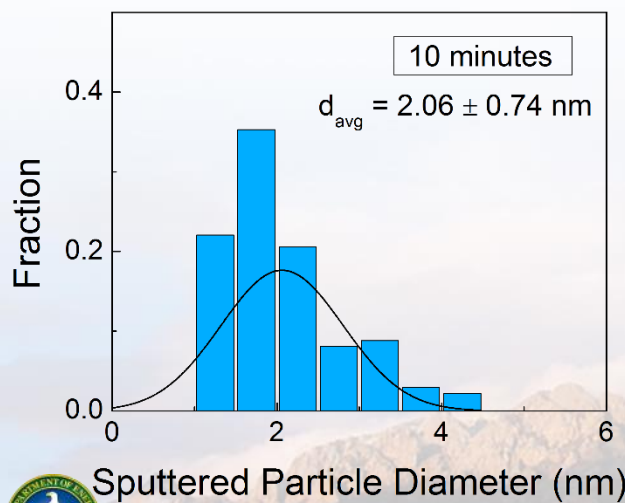
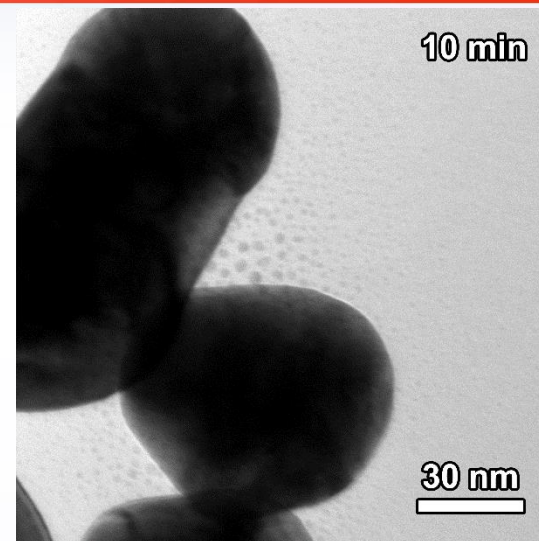
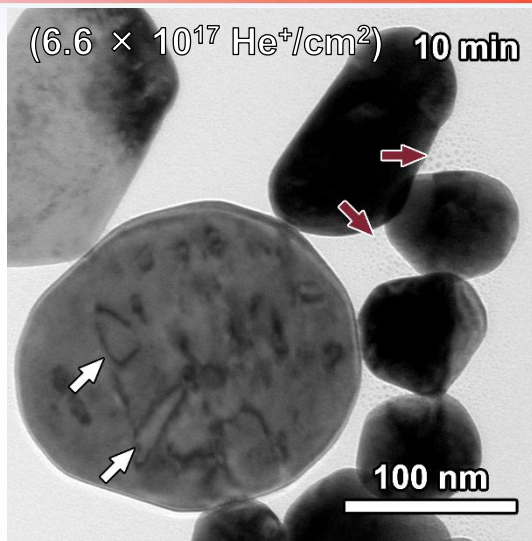
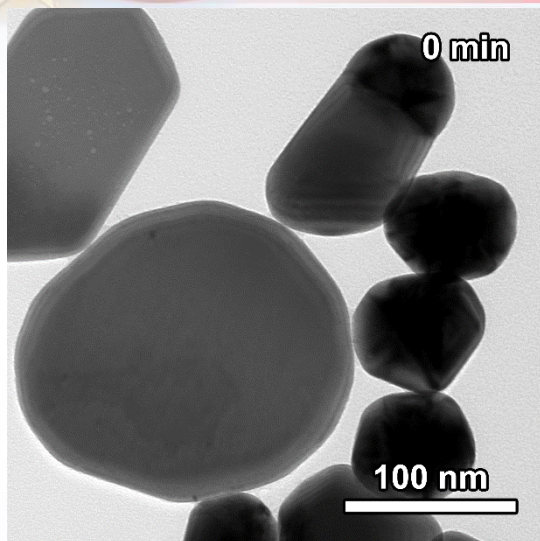
Single Ion Effects with 46 keV Au¹⁺ ions: 20 nm

Collaborator: D.C. Bufford



Formation of Dislocation Loops & Sputtered Particles due to He implantation

Collaborators: D.C. Bufford, S.H. Pratt & T.J. Boyle



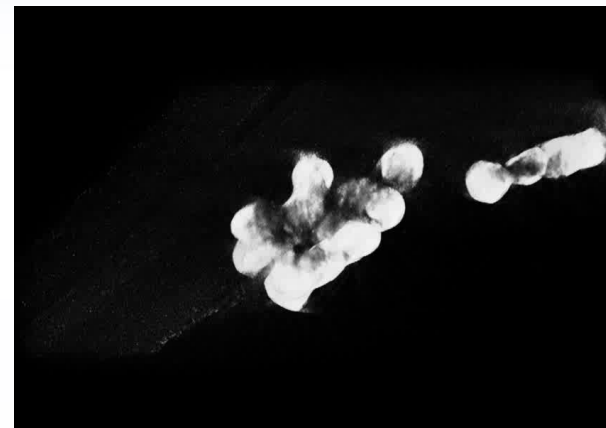
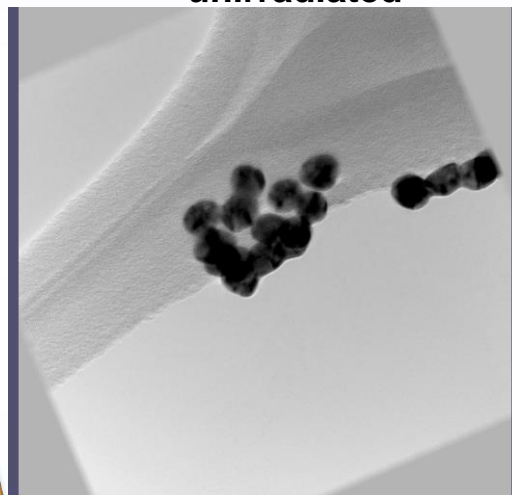
Electron Tomography Provides 3D Insight

Collaborators: S.H. Pratt & T.J. Boyle

In situ Ion Irradiation TEM (I³TEM)

Aligned Au NP tilt series -
unirradiated

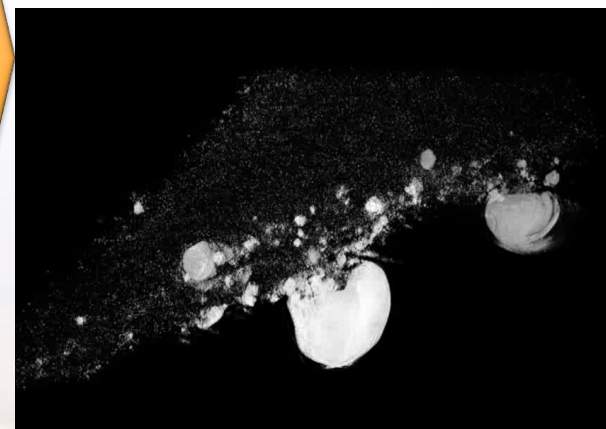
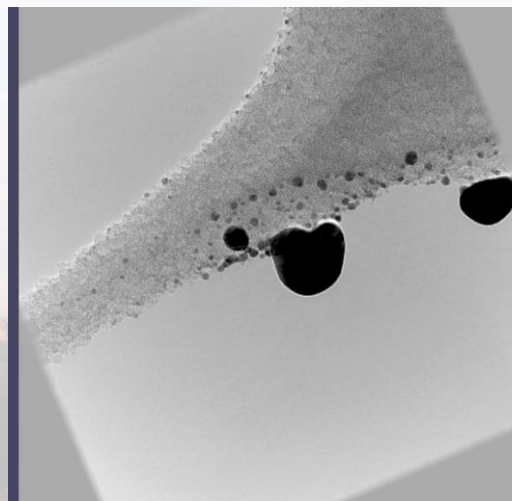
Unirradiated Au NP model



Hummingbird
tomography stage

Aligned Au NP tilt series -
irradiated

Irradiated Au NP model

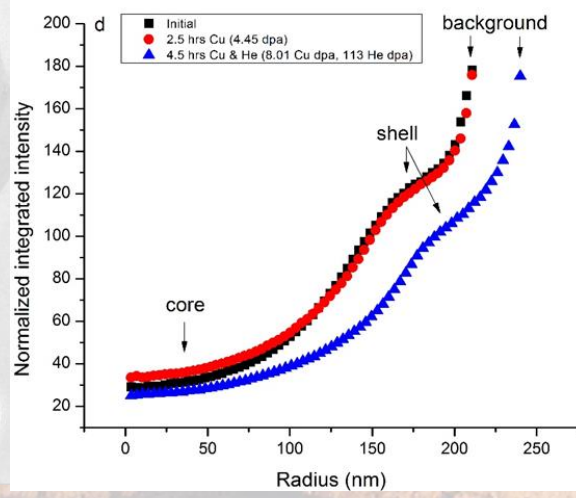
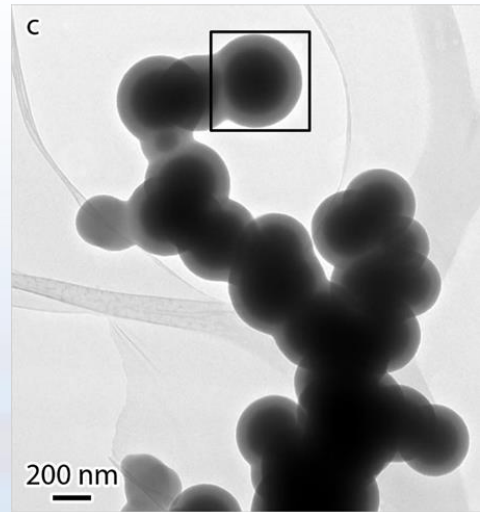
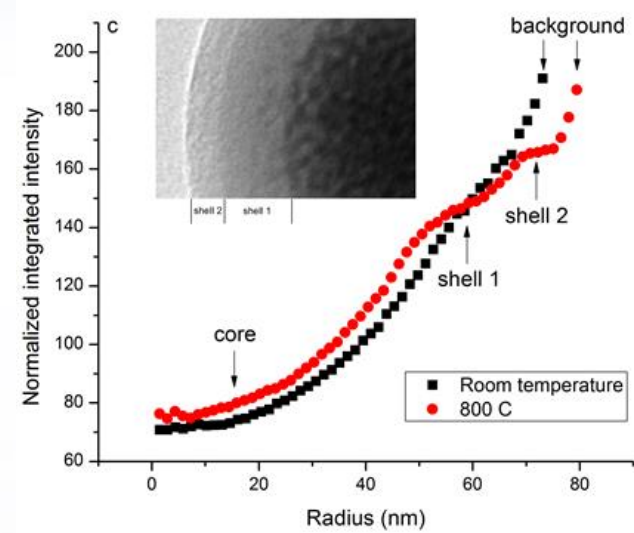
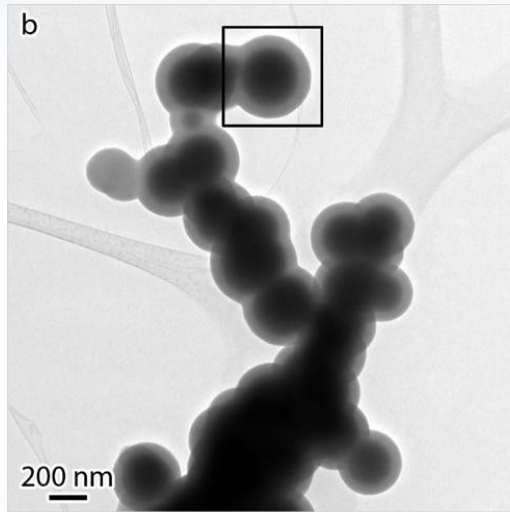
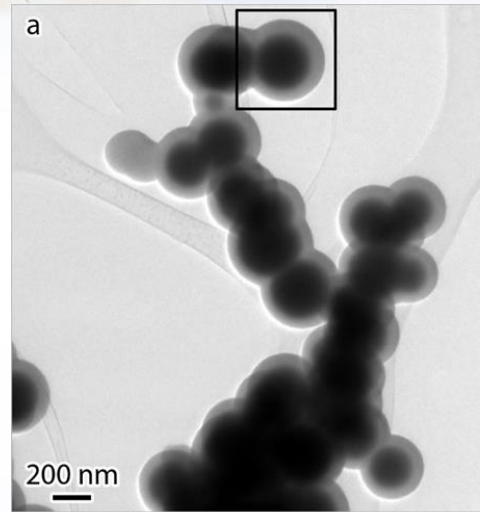


The application of advanced
microscopy techniques to
extreme environments provides
exciting new research directions



Radiation Stable Nanoparticles

Collaborators: T.J. Boyle, S.J. Blair, B. Muntiferung



Ion	Energy (keV)	Dose (ions/cm ²) Dose rate (ions/cm ² /s)	Damage (dpa) Damage rate (dpa/s)
Cu	3000	1.2 x 10 ¹⁴	4.45
		1.3 x 10 ¹⁰	4.9 x 10 ⁻⁴
He & Cu	3000	2.3 x 10 ¹⁸	113
		1.4 x 10 ¹⁴ 2.2 x 10 ¹⁴ 1.3 x 10 ¹⁰	7.0 x 10 ⁻³ 8.01 4.9 x 10 ⁻⁴

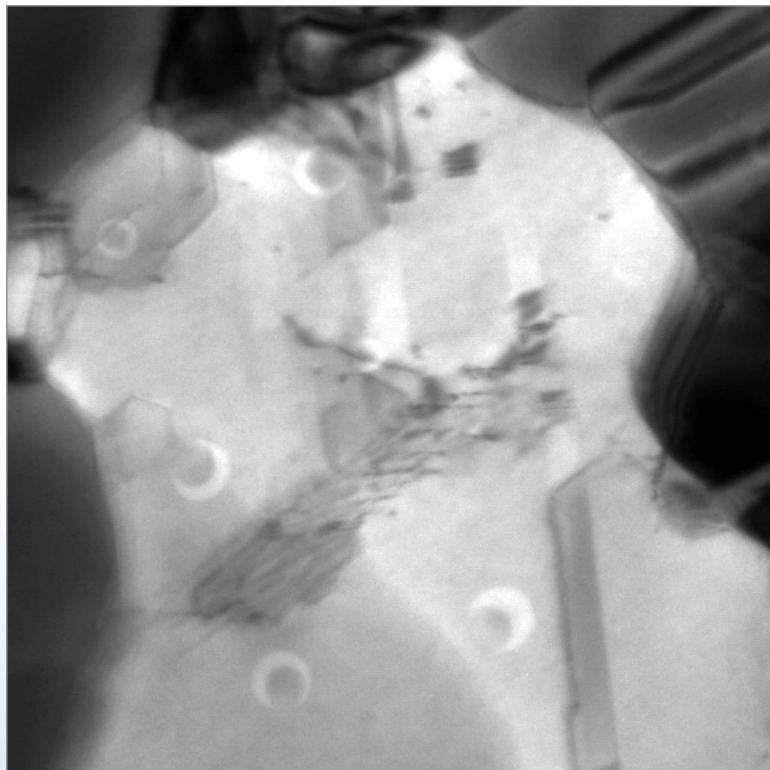


In contrast some NPs appear to be very radiation stable

Dose Rate Effects in Nanocrystalline Metals

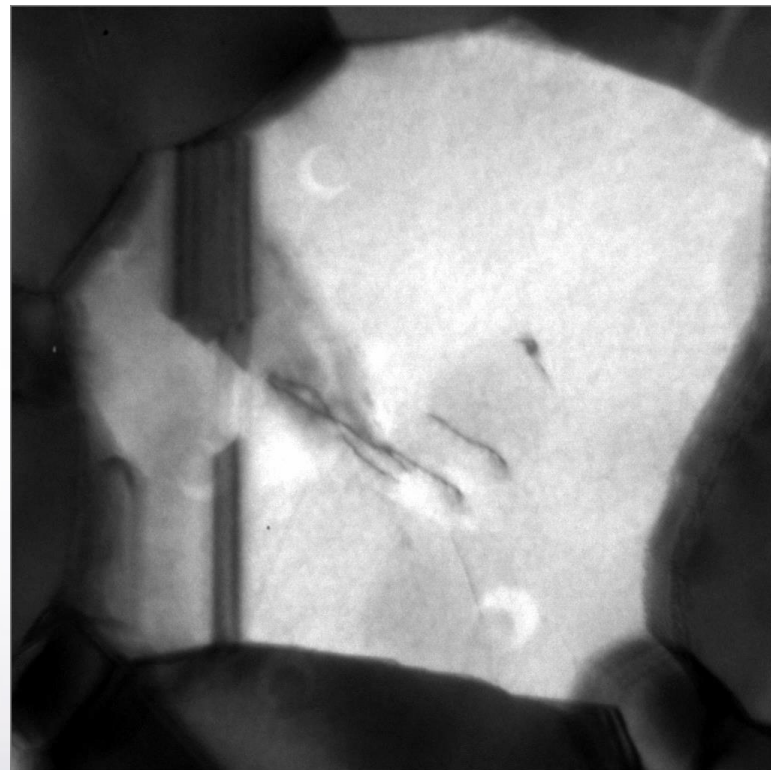
Collaborators: C. Chisholm , P. Hosemann, & A. Minor

7.9×10^9 ions/cm²/s



VS

6.7×10^7 ions/cm²/s



Improved vibrational and ion beam stability permits us to work at 120kx or higher permitting imaging of single cascade events

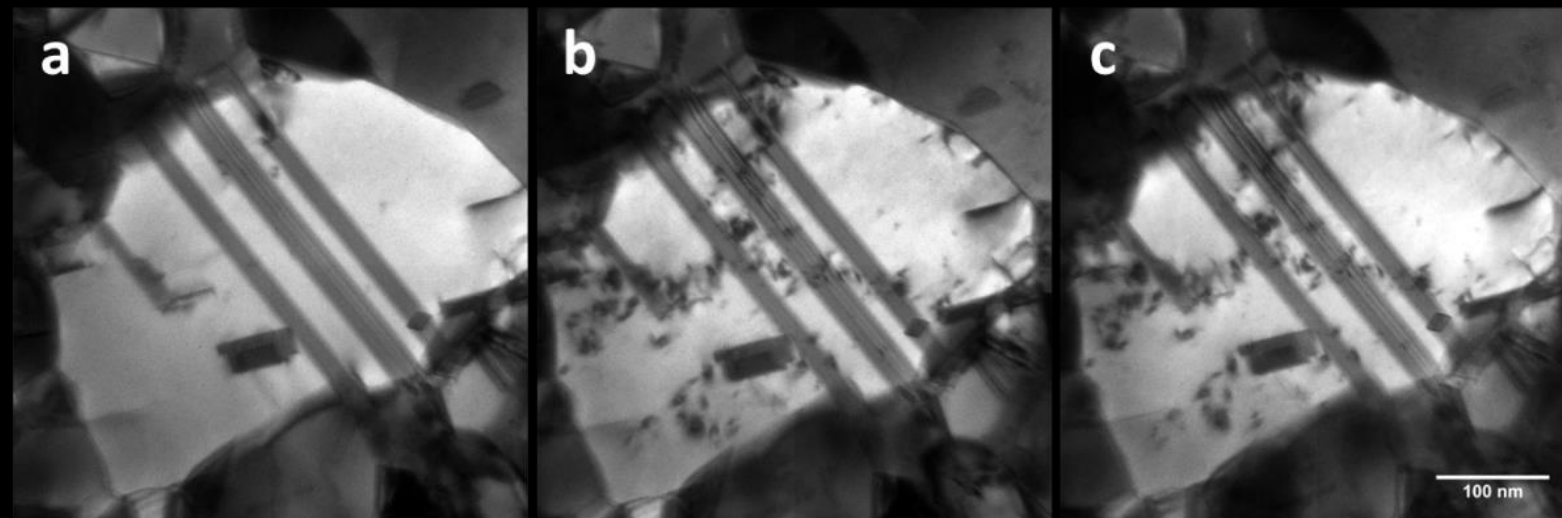


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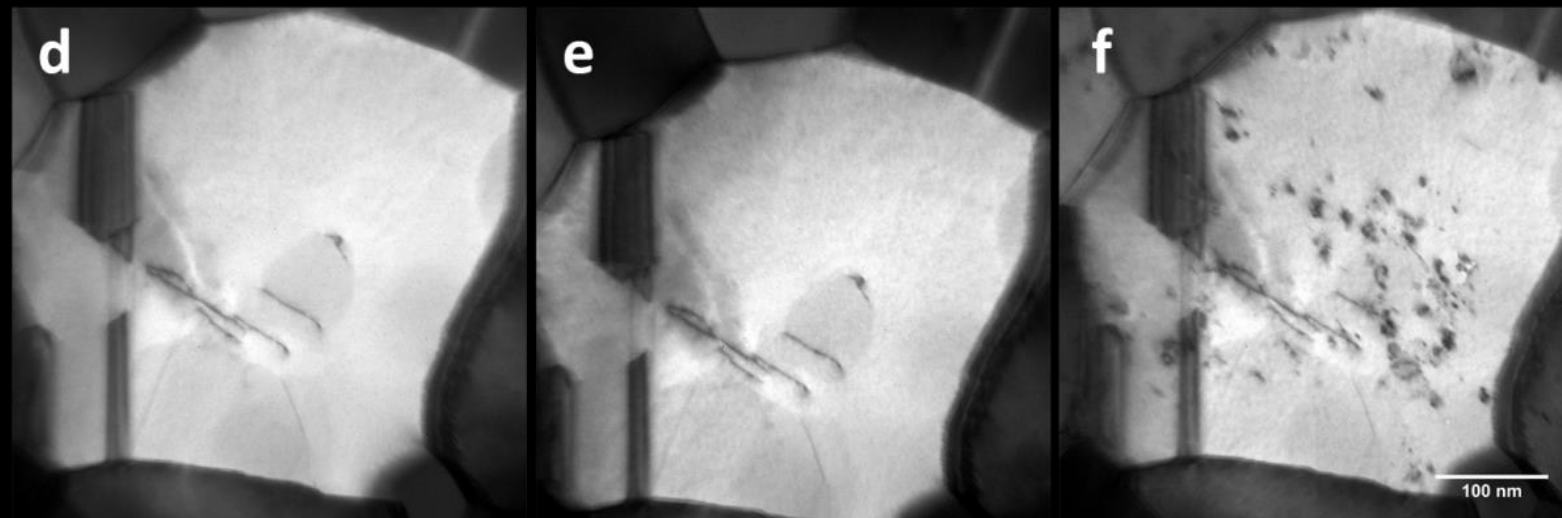
In situ Successive Implantation & Irradiation

Collaborators: C. Chisholm & A. Minor

Successive Au⁴⁺ then He¹⁺



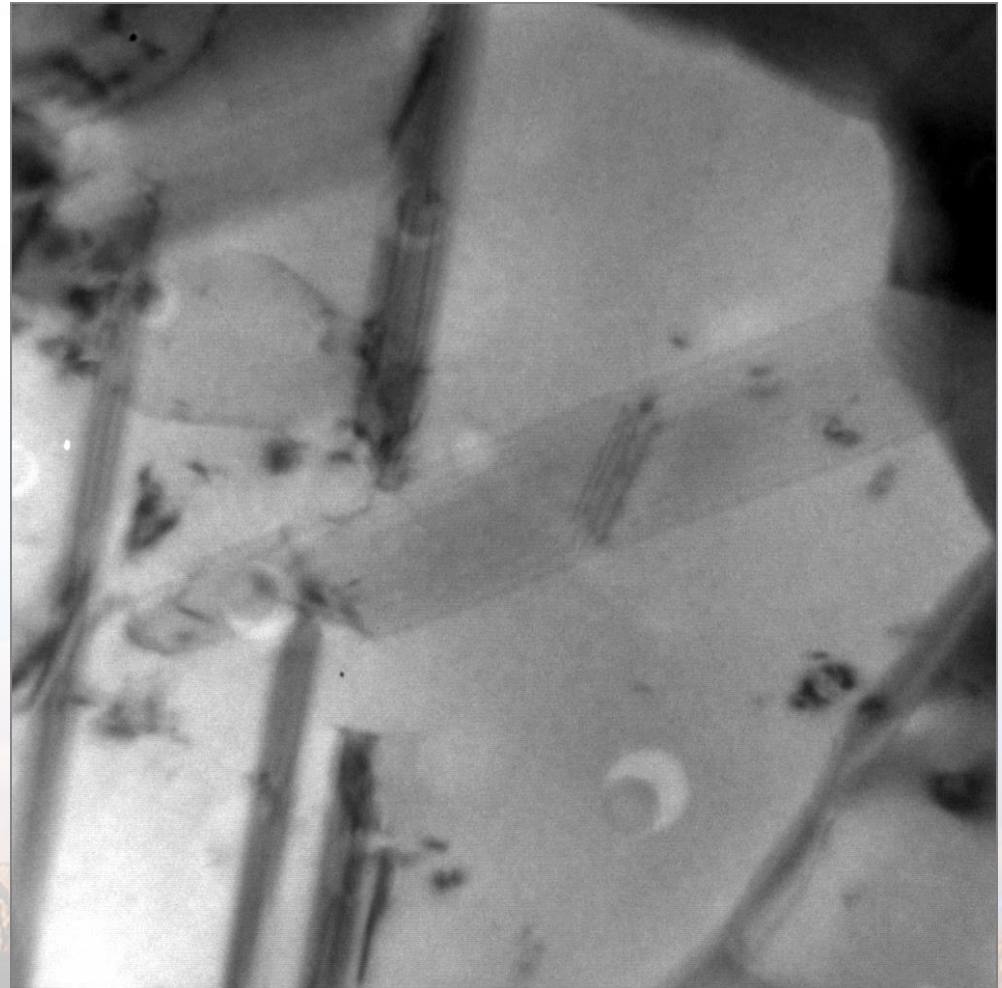
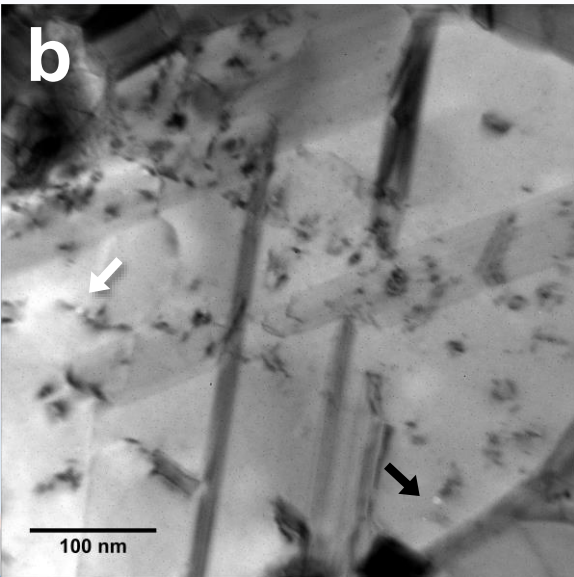
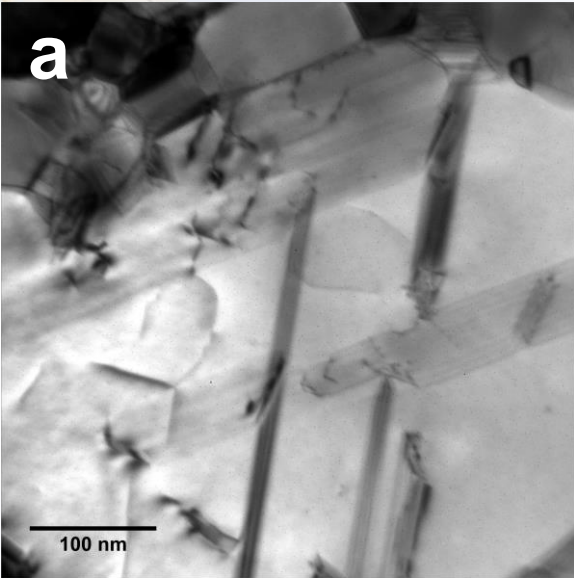
Successive He¹⁺ then Au⁴⁺



In situ Concurrent Implantation & Irradiation

Collaborators: C. Chisholm & A. Minor

He¹⁺ implantation and Au⁴⁺ irradiation of a gold film

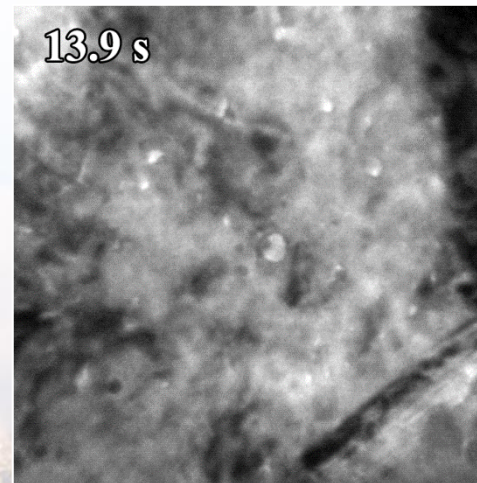
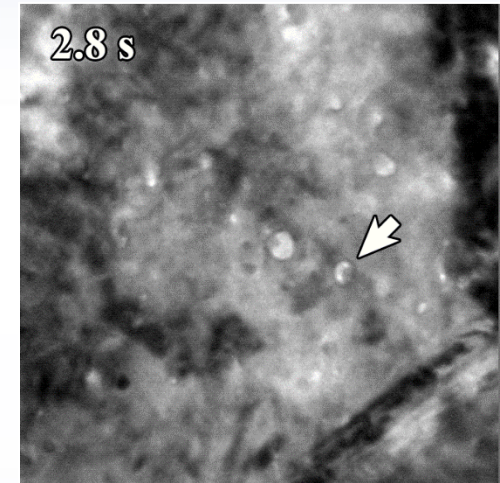
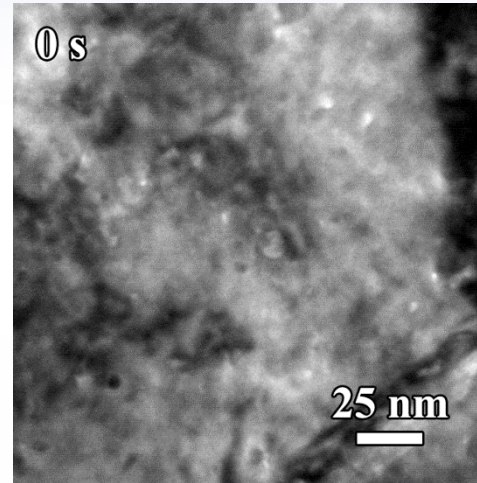
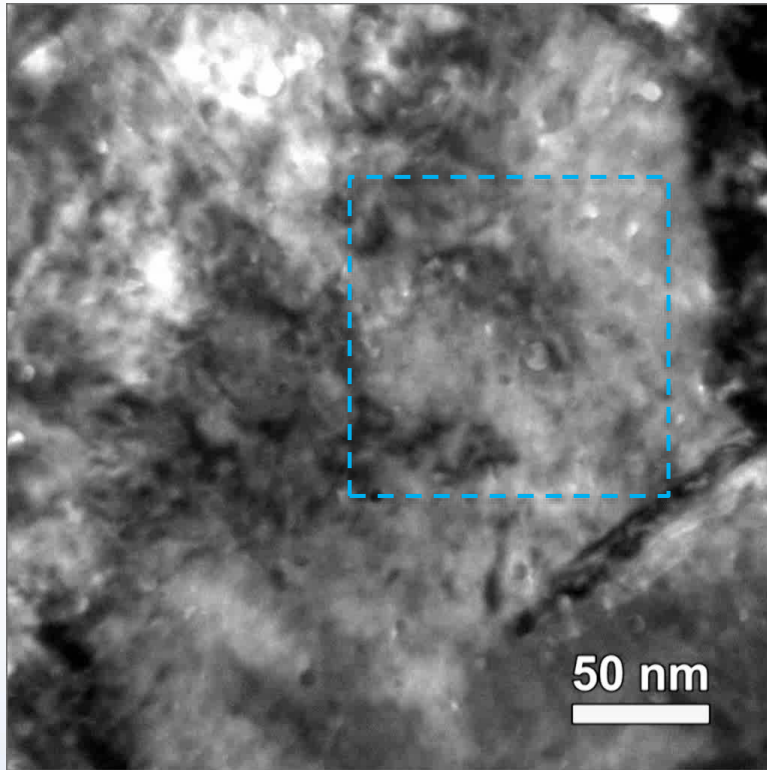


Simultaneous *In situ* TEM Triple Beam:

2.8 MeV Au⁴⁺ + 10 keV He⁺ / D₂⁺

Collaborator: D.C. Bufford

Video playback speed x1.5.



In-situ triple beam He, D₂, and Au beam irradiation has been demonstrated on Sandia's I³TEM!
Intensive work is still needed to understand the defect structure evolution that has been observed.

■ Approximate fluence:

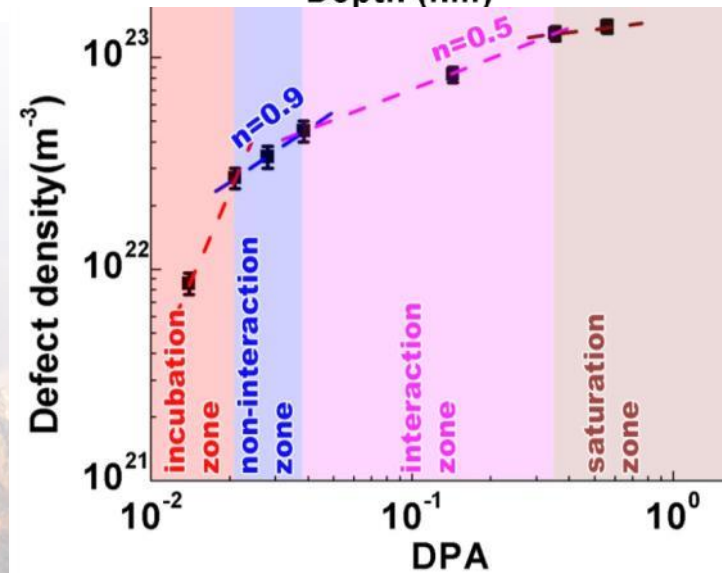
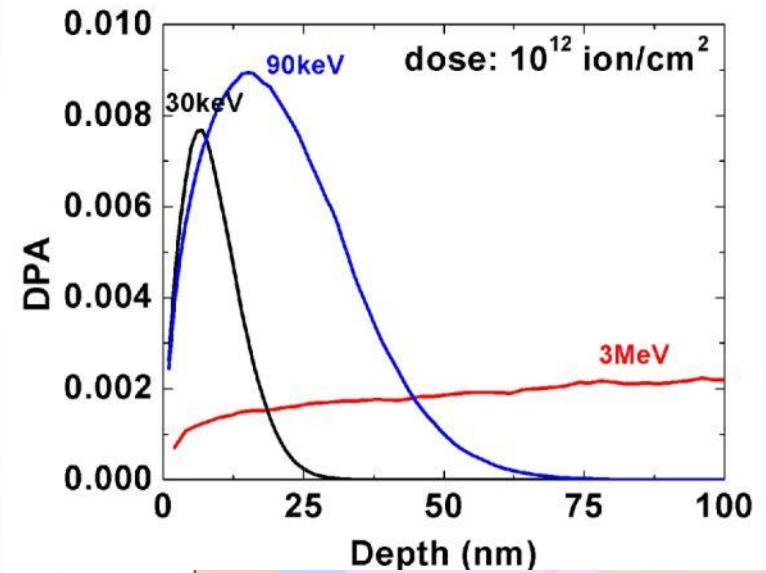
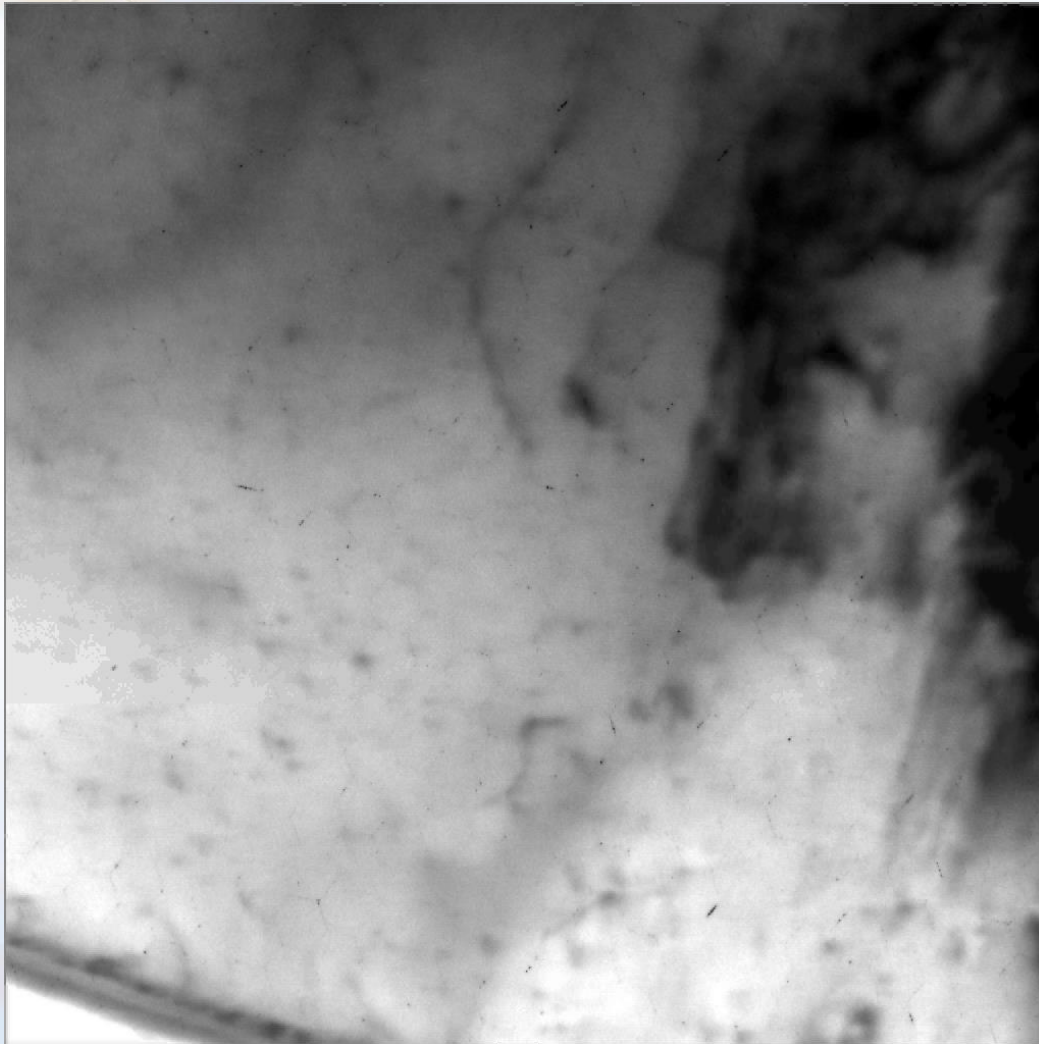
- Au 1.2×10^{13} ions/cm²
- He 1.3×10^{15} ions/cm²
- D 2.2×10^{15} ions/cm²

■ Cavity nucleation and disappearance



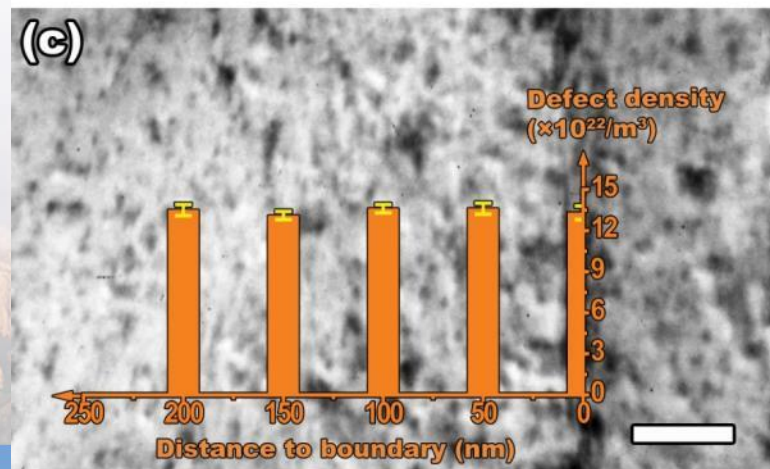
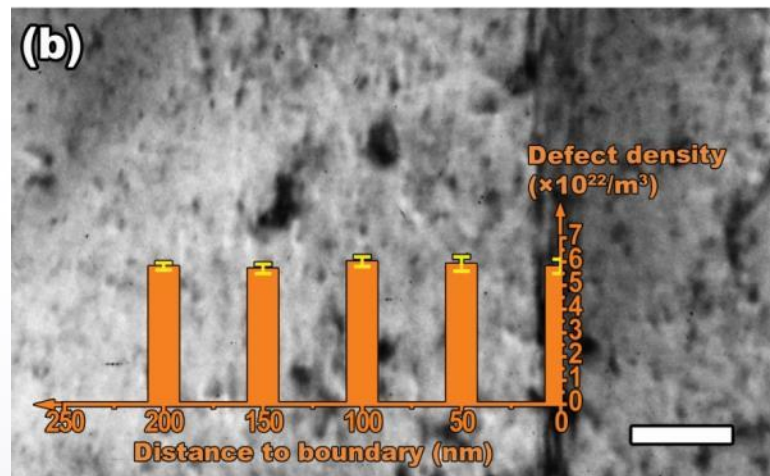
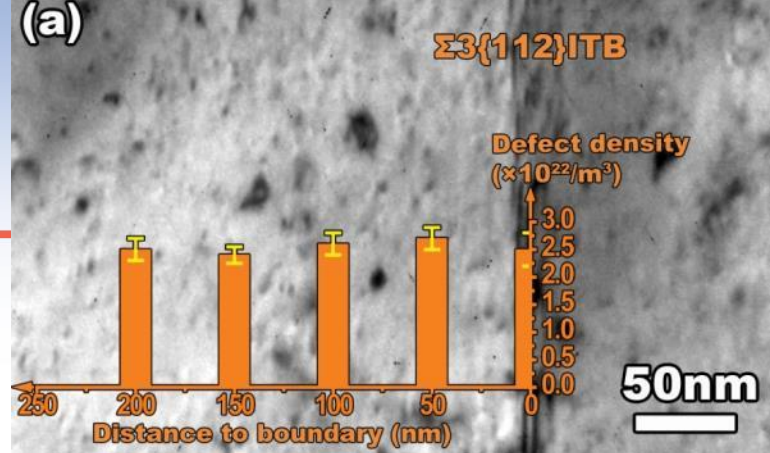
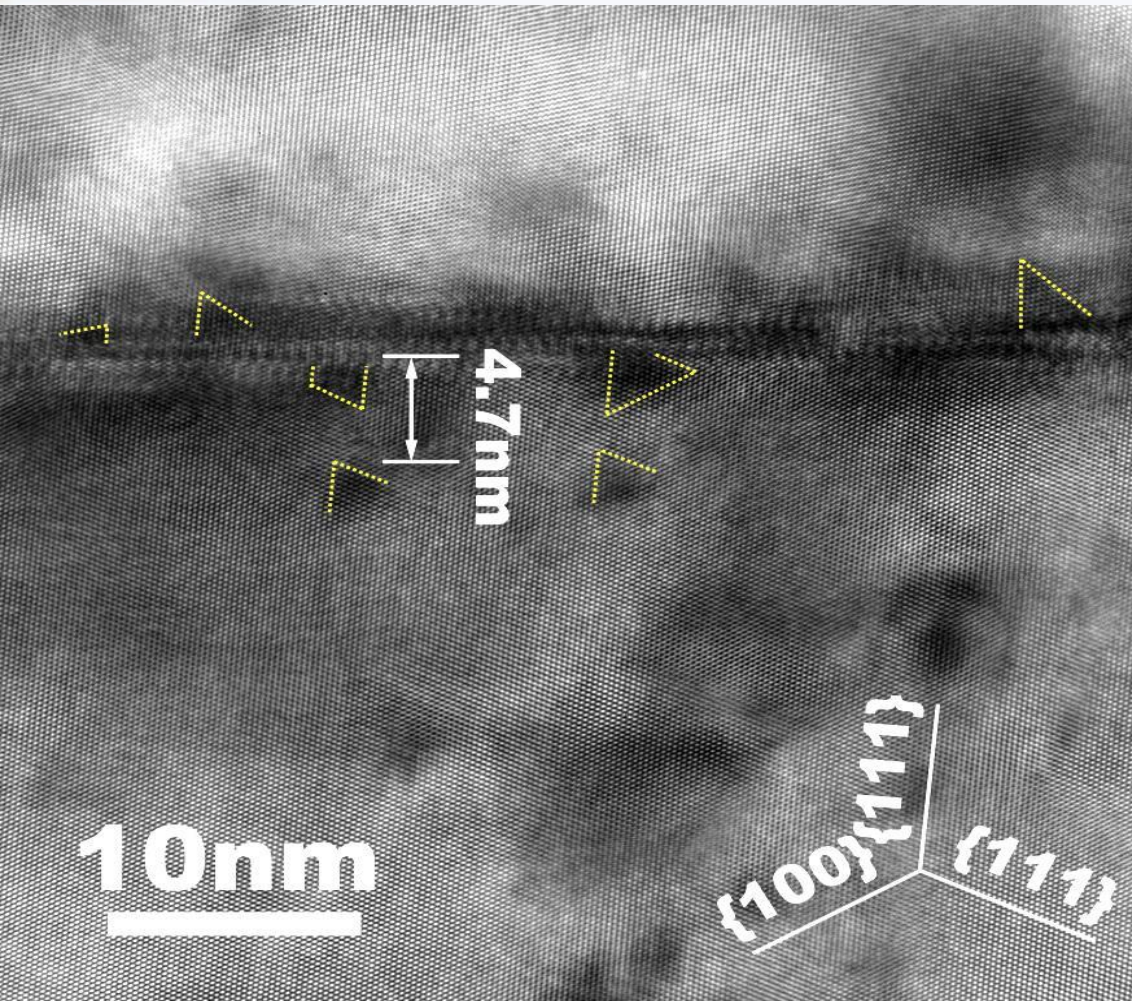
Quantifying Defect Evolution

Collaborators: N. Li & A. Misra



Defects are Altered Little by the Presence of Grain Boundaries

Collaborators: N. Li & A. Misra

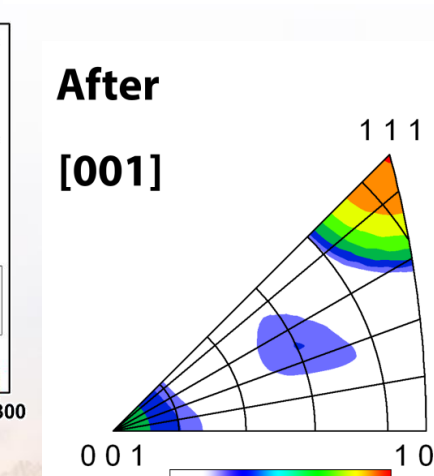
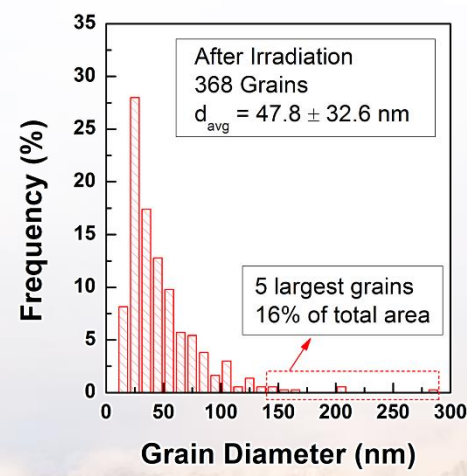
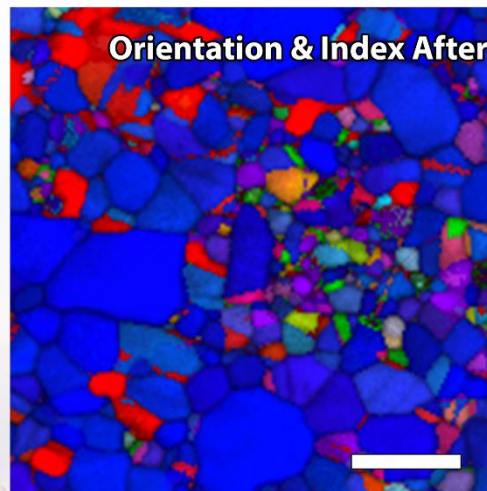
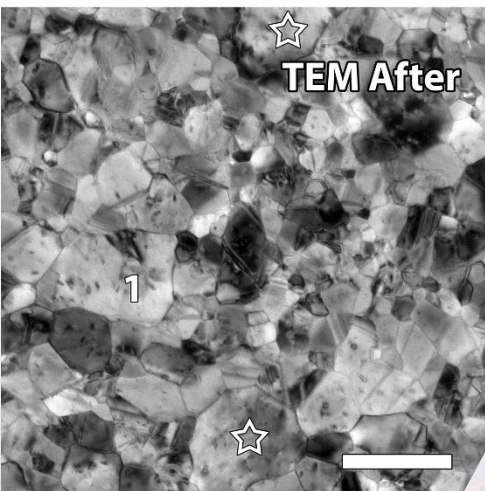
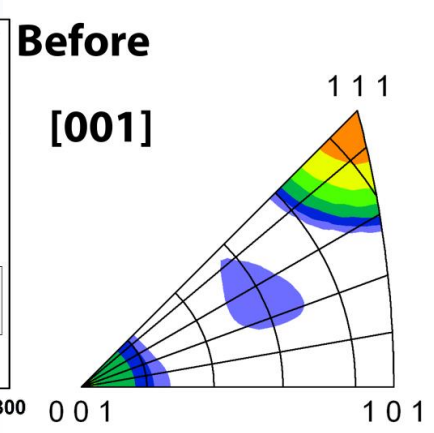
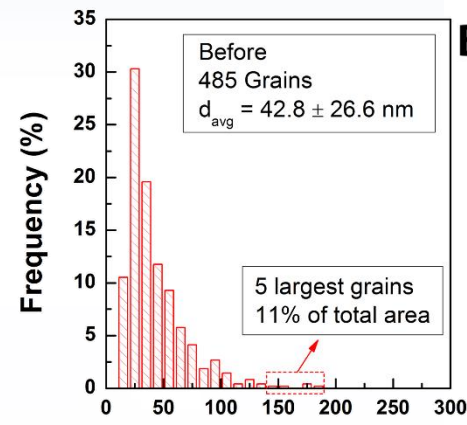
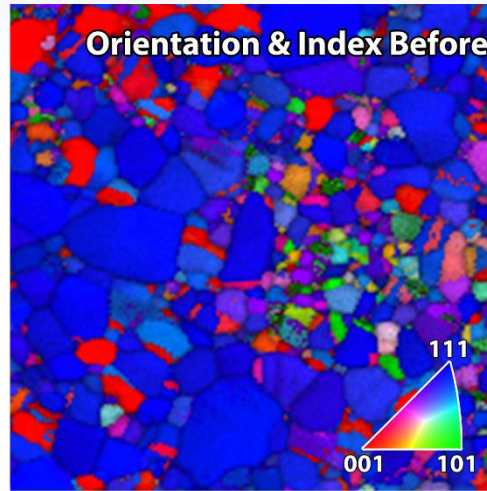
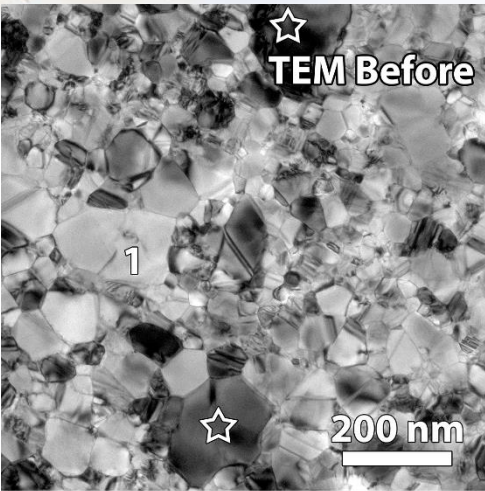


SFT appear to be directly at GB

No change in defect density is observed near GB

Quantifying Stability of Nanocrystalline Au during 10 MeV Si Ion Irradiation

Collaborators: D.C. Bufford, F. Abdeljawad, & S.M. Foiles

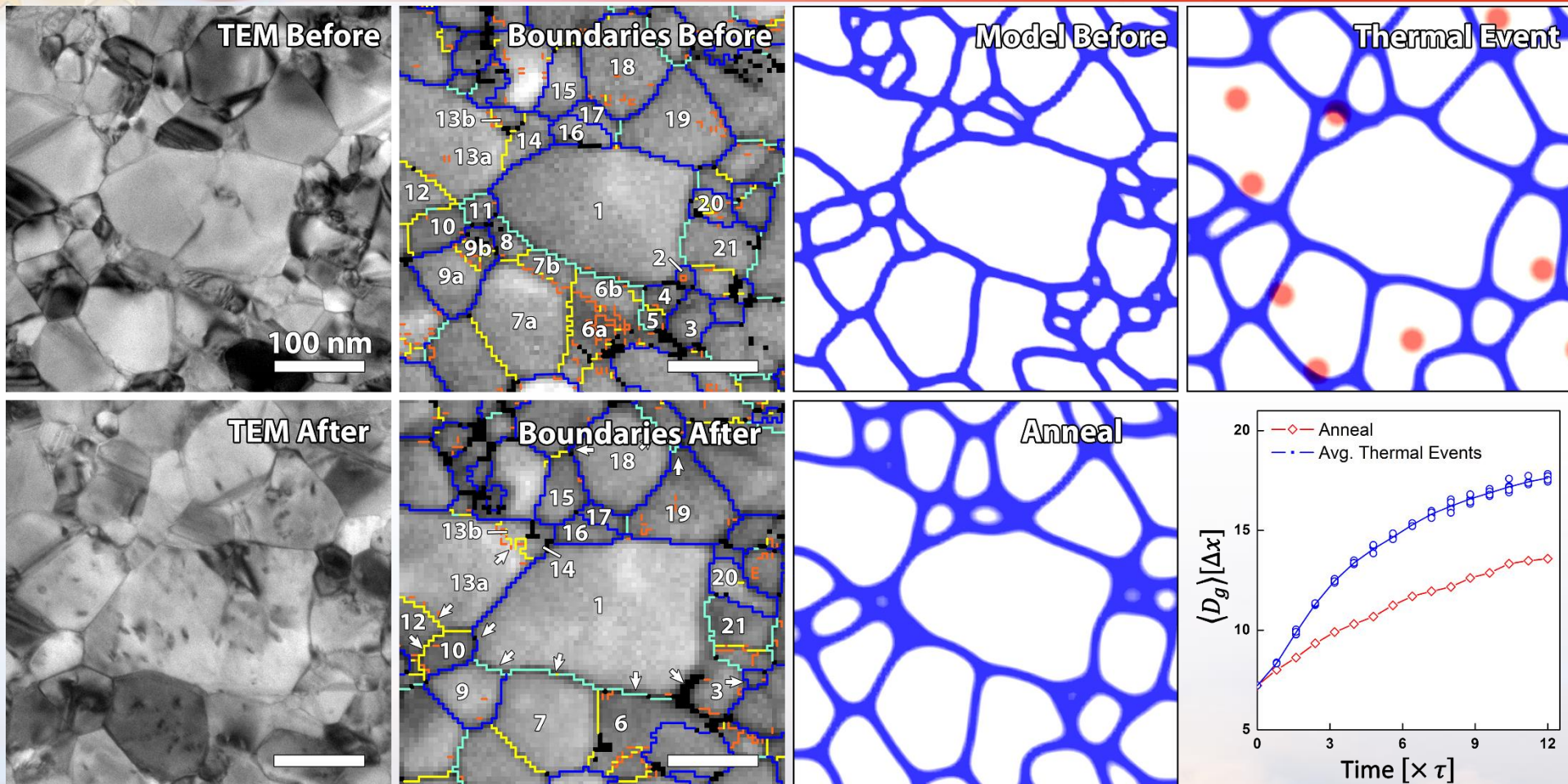


Any texture or grain boundary evolution can be directly observed and quantified



Direct Comparison to Mesoscale Modeling

Collaborators: D.C. Bufford, F. Abdeljawad, & S.M. Foiles



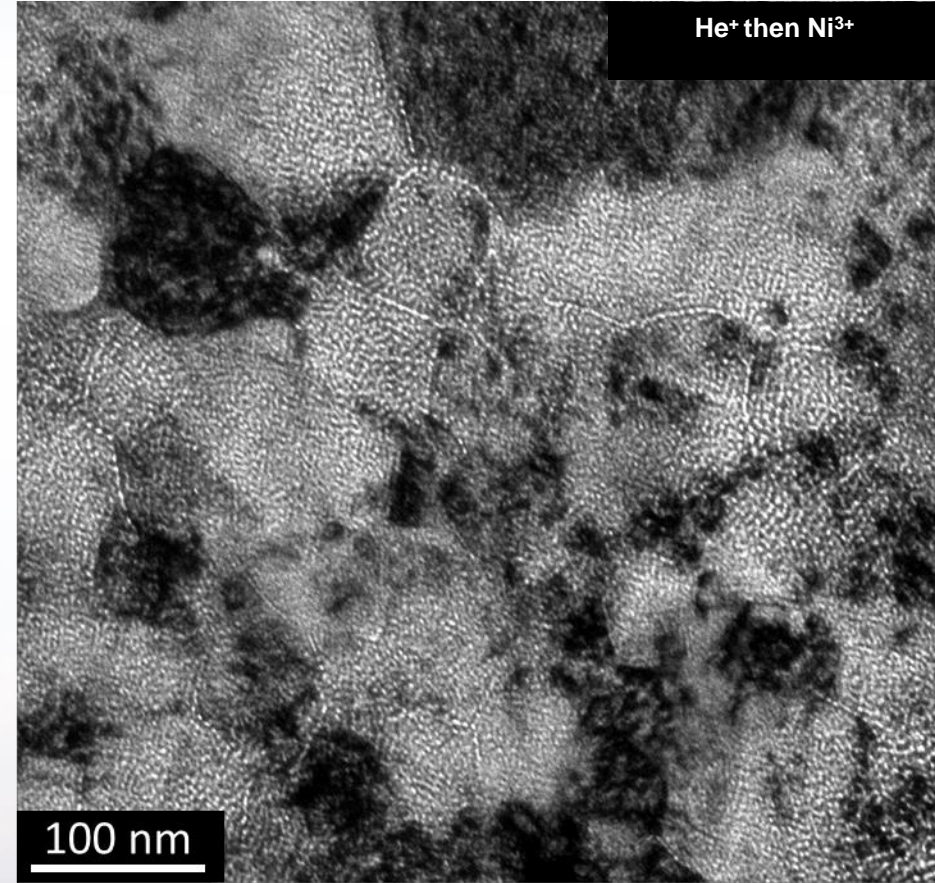
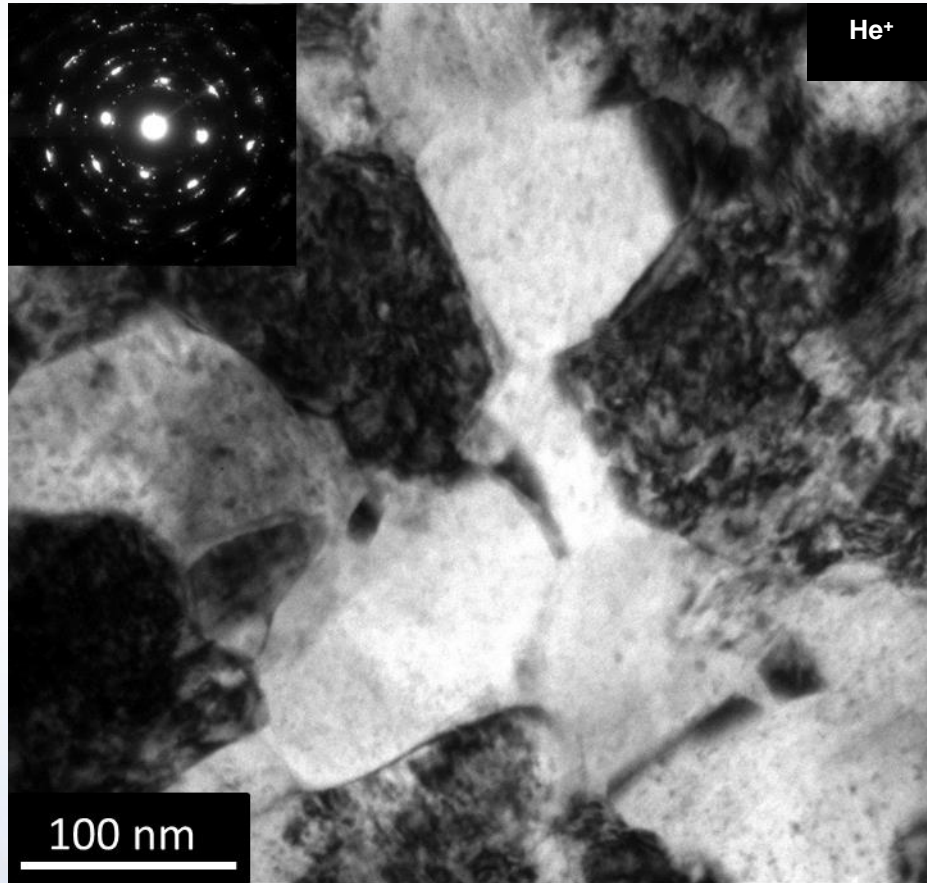
Because of the matching length scale, the initial microstructure can serve as direct input to either MD or mesoscale models & subsequent structural evolution can be directly compared.



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Heterogeneous Bubble Formation under Some Radiation Environments

Collaborator: B. Muntifering & J. Qu



10^{17} He⁺/cm²

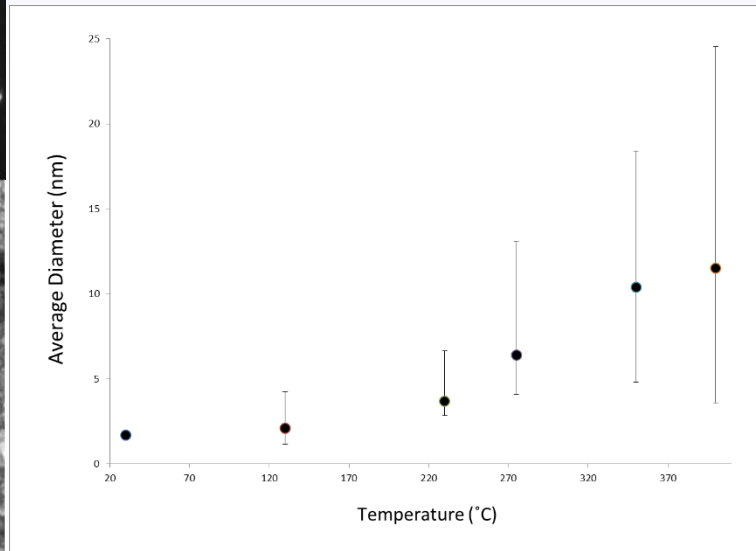
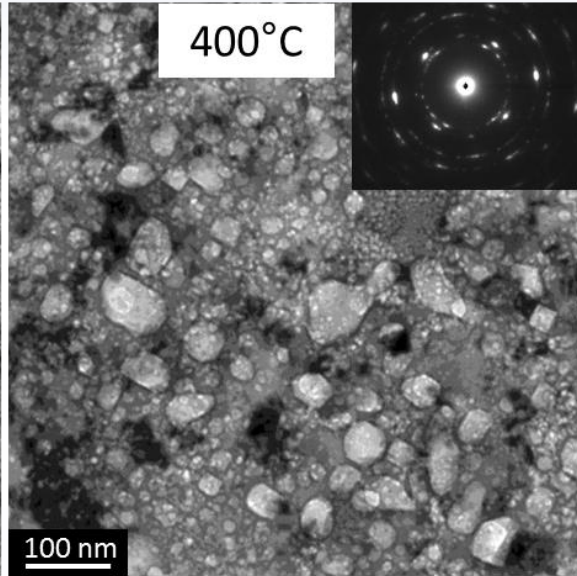
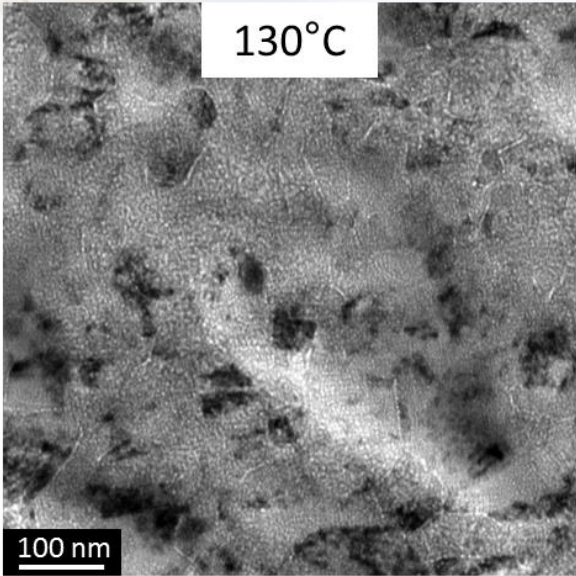
Visible damage to the sample

0.7 dpa Ni³⁺ irradiation

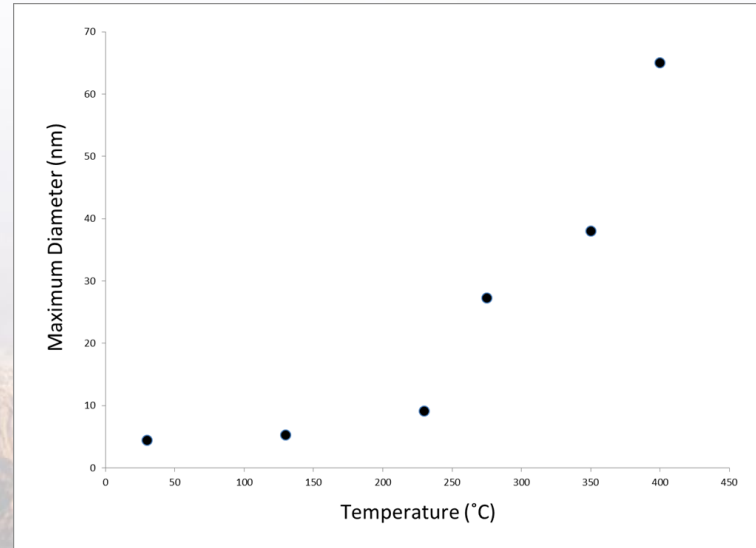
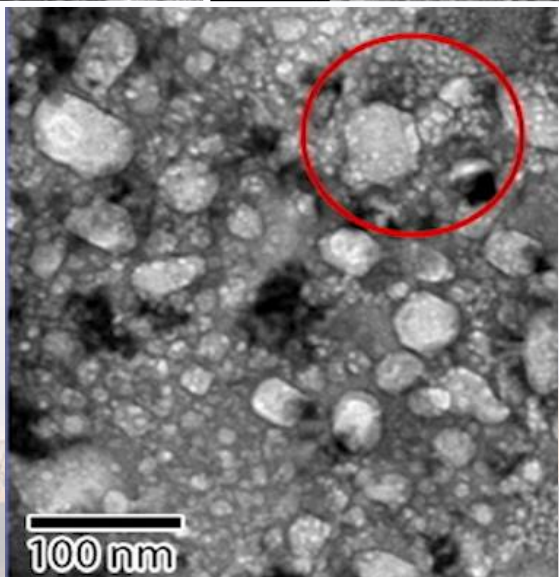
High concentration of cavities along grain boundaries



Cavity Growth during In-situ Annealing of 10 keV He⁺ Implanted and then 3 MeV Irradiated Ni³⁺

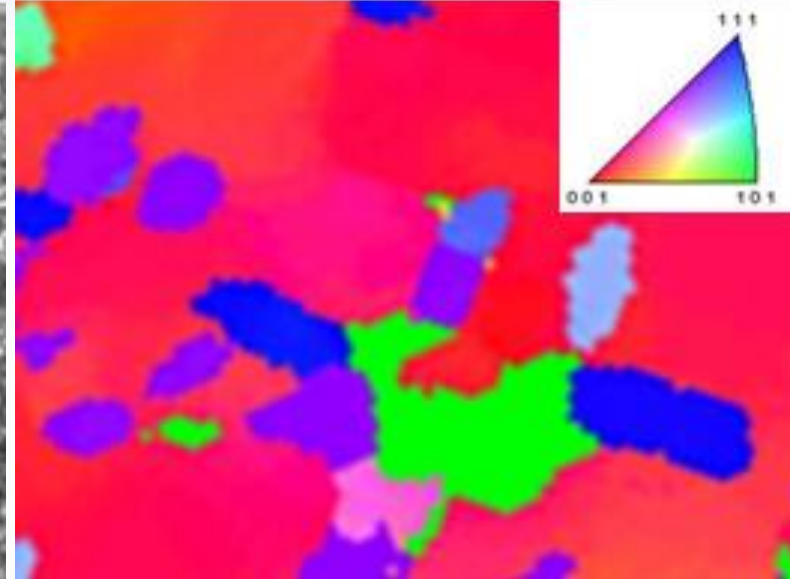
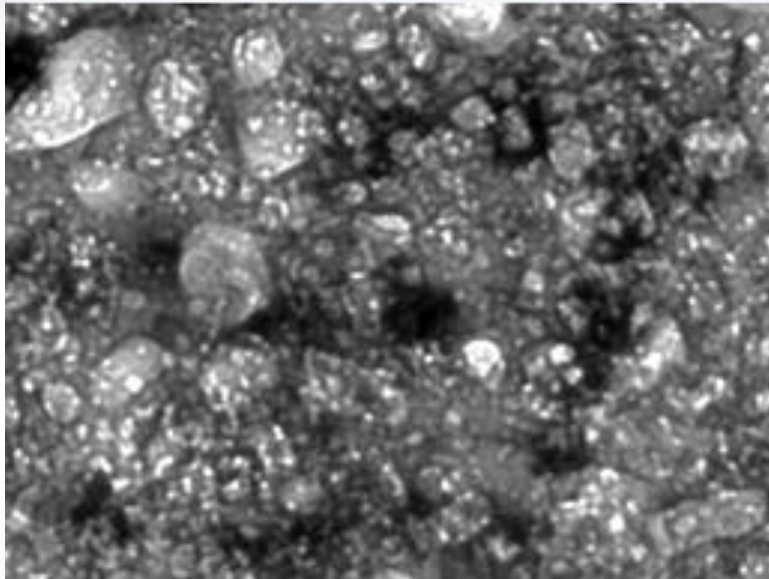


Bubble to cavity transition and cavity evolution can be directly studied

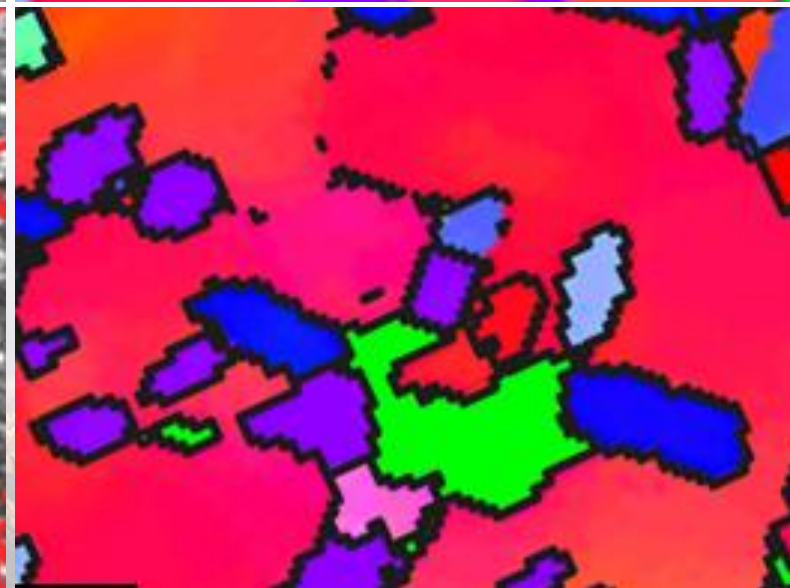
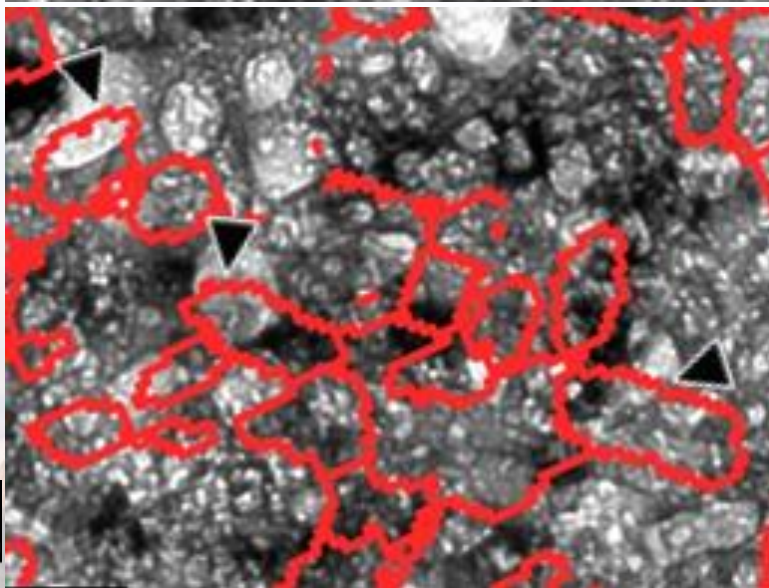


Precession Electron Diffraction Reveals Hidden Grain Structure

Cavities in helium implanted, self-ion irradiated, nc nickel film annealed to 400 °C



Cavities span multiple grains at identified grain boundaries

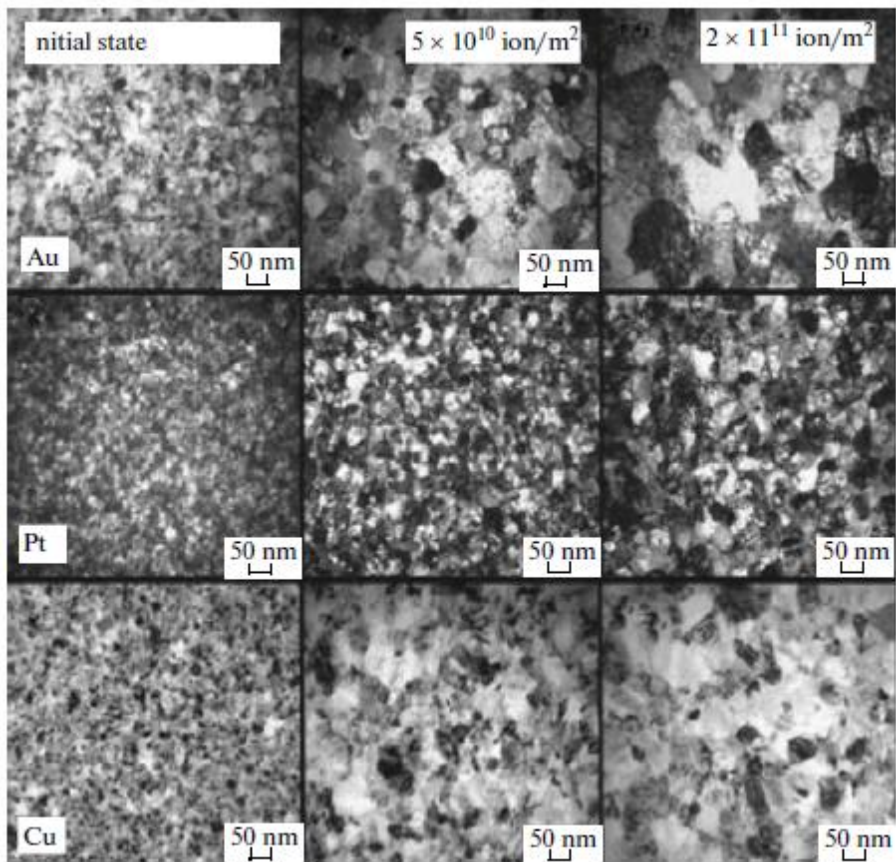


100 nm

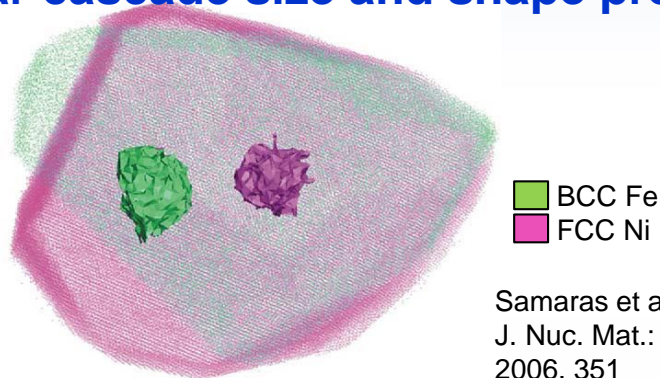
Section Summary: Radiation Tolerance from Nanostructured Metals

Variation in radiation tolerances

Similar cascade size and shape predicted



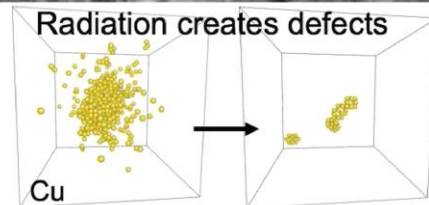
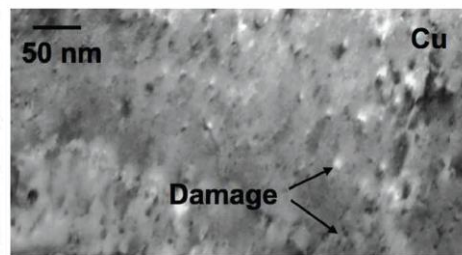
Kaomi et al., JAP: 2008. 104 073525



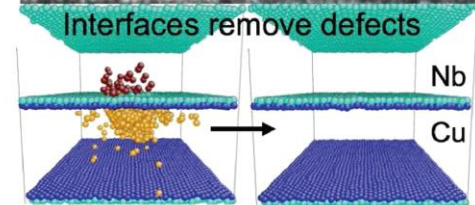
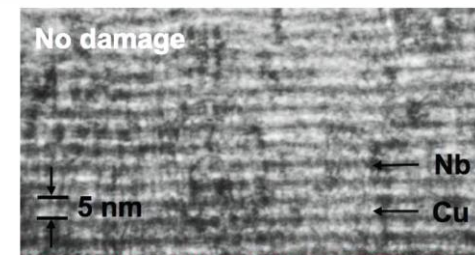
■ BCC Fe
■ FCC Ni

Samaras et al.,
J. Nuc. Mat.:
2006. 351

Nanolamellars are radiation tolerant



Demkowicz et al., MRS Bulletin: 2010. 35



To a first order mean grain size comparison, these reports appear conflicting.

Not necessarily the case if initial microstructural details and associated properties are considered



This research was partially funded by the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Science, Office of Basic Energy Sciences, Division of Materials Sciences and Engineering and by the Laboratory Directed Research and Development (LDRD) program at Sandia National Laboratories. Sandia National Laboratories is a multimission laboratory managed and operated by National Technology and Engineering Solutions of Sandia, LLC., a wholly owned subsidiary of Honeywell International, Inc., for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-NA-0003525. SAND2017-4611 A



Sandia National Laboratories



Outline

1. How Does Nanostructuring Effect a Materials Radiation Tolerances?

2. Can We Tailor Boundaries/Interfaces to Control Radiation Tolerances?

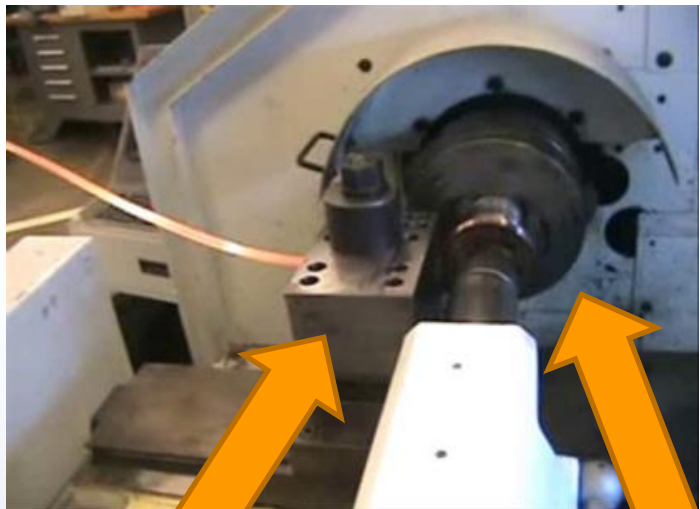
3. Can We Explore Other Aspects of the Complex Environment Present in Modern and Future Reactors Using *In situ* Techniques?



Large Scale Production of Ultrafine Grained Tungsten

Collaborators: O. El-Atwani, M. Efe, J.P. Allain

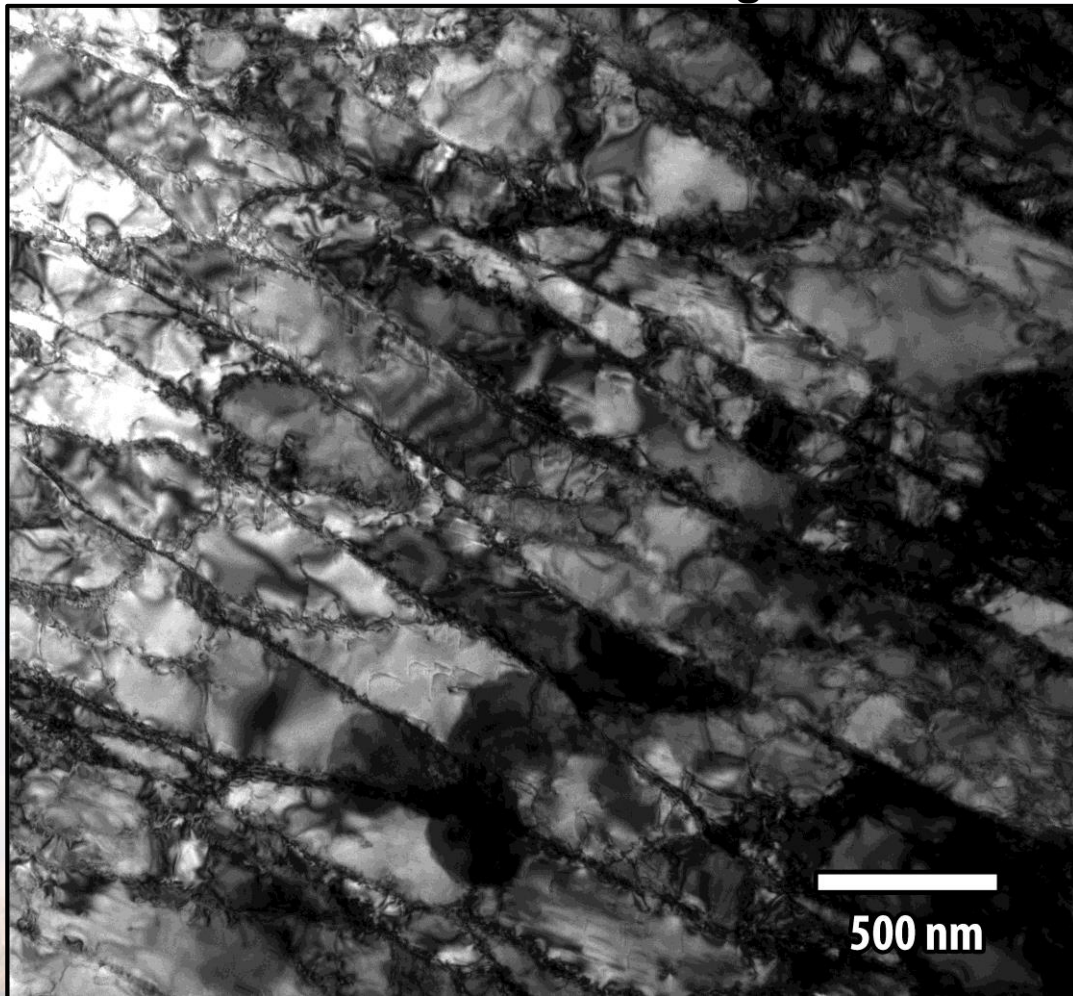
Snapshot of the Process



Extrusion Machining
tooling

Commercially
available lathe

Ultrafine Grained Tungsten



500 nm



Displacement Damage Evolution at Nanometer Resolution

Collaborators: O. El-Atwani, M. Efe, J.P. Allain

In situ TEM self-ion irradiation at 3 MeV of a samples from the same SPD tungsten lot used for the He implantation.

I³TEM can providing insight into:

- 1) Loop formation**
- 2) Loop stability & migration**
- 3) Rad & structural defect interactions**

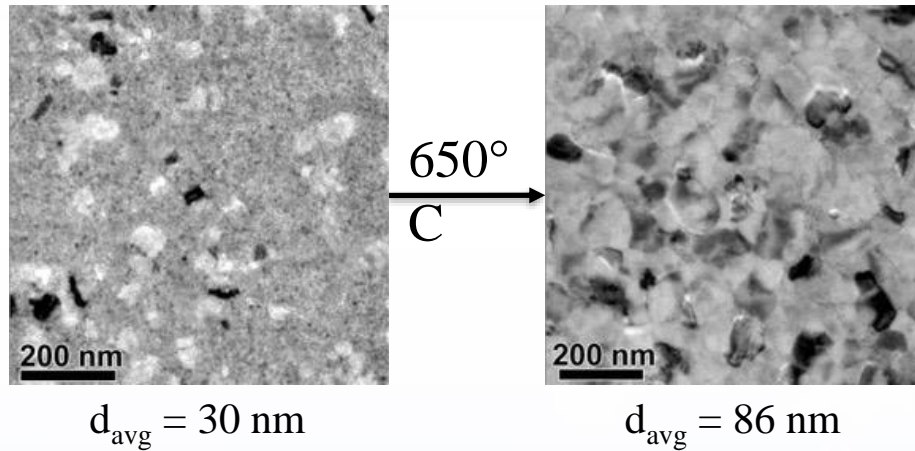
200 nm



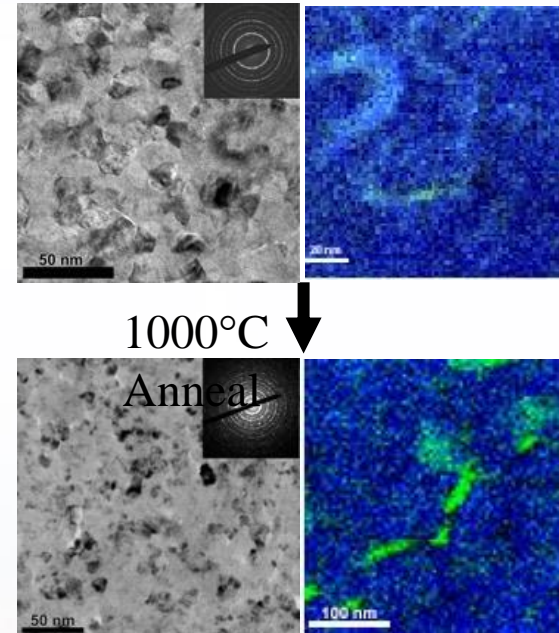
Scaling down to Nanocrystalline Tungsten Alloys

Collaborators: O.K. Donaldson, T. Kaub, G. Thompson, and J. Trelewicz

Nanocrystalline W

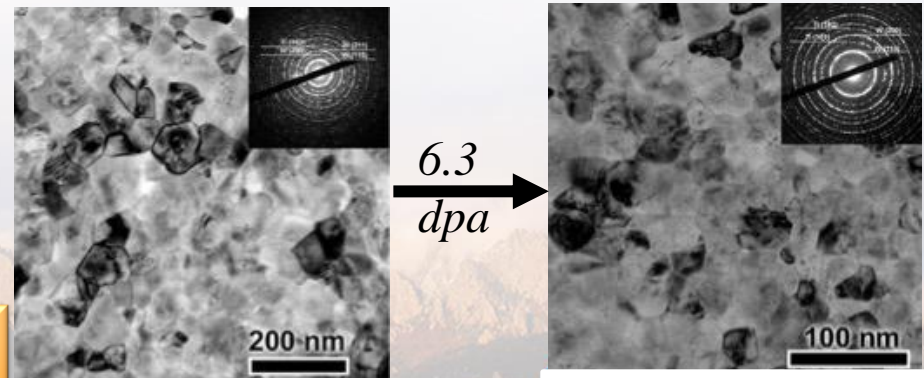
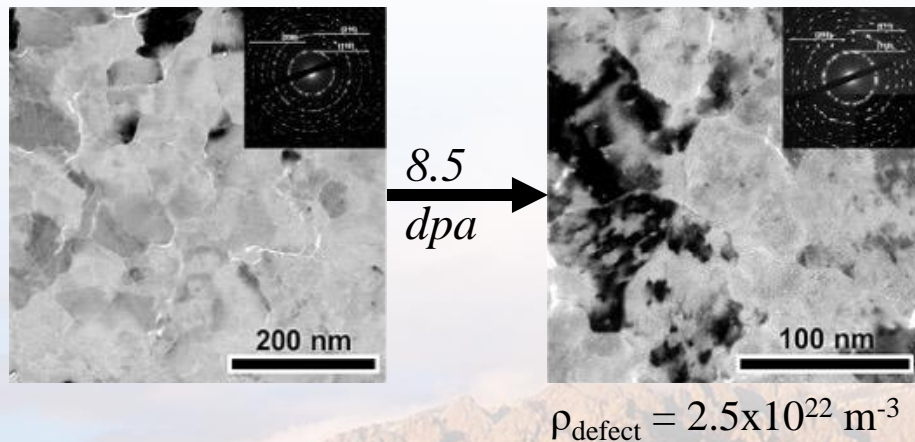


Nanocrystalline W-20at.%Ti



Grain growth is hampered by the addition of Ti

Ti solute is heterogeneously distributed after annealing

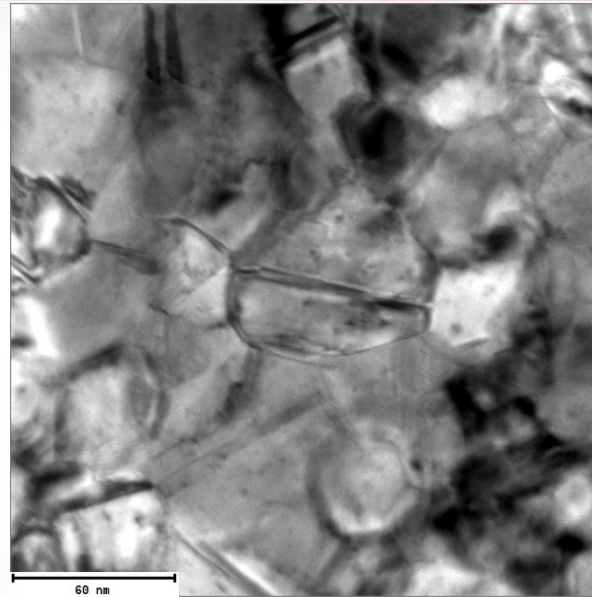
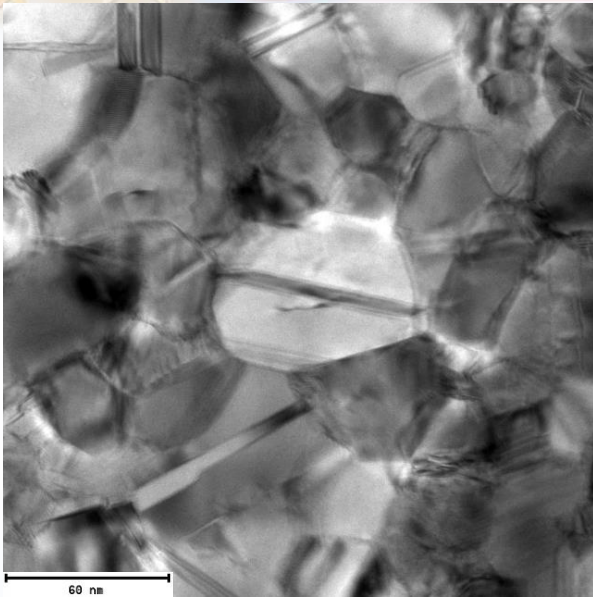


$\rho_{\text{defect}} = 2.8 \times 10^{22} \text{ m}^{-3}$

Alloying does not negatively effect radiation tolerance, while improving thermal and mechanical properties

Nanocrystalline vs. Nanoporous Au results

Collaborators: N. Briot and T.J. Balk



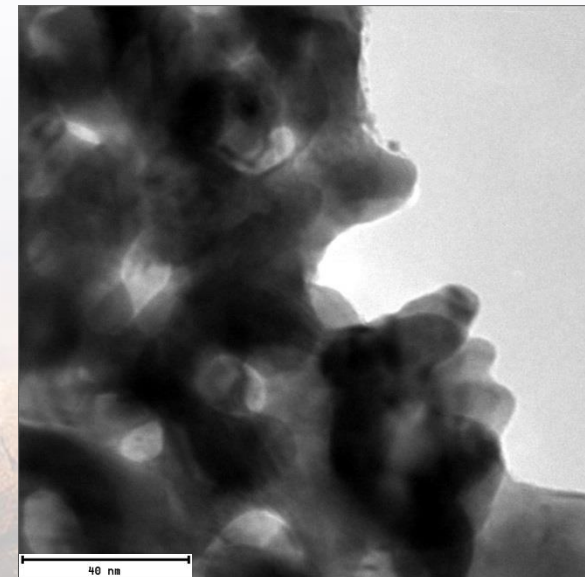
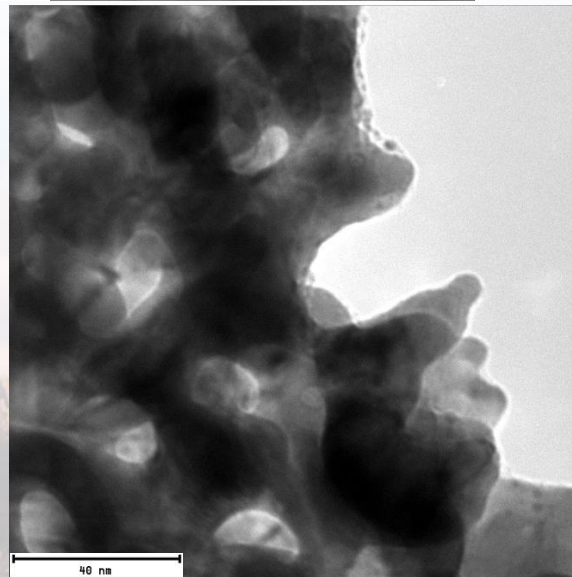
Nanoporous Au after ~ 6.6 dpa at 46 keV:

Melting of the ligament

Nanocrystalline Au after ~ 0.5 dpa at 46 keV:

Lots of defects constantly created

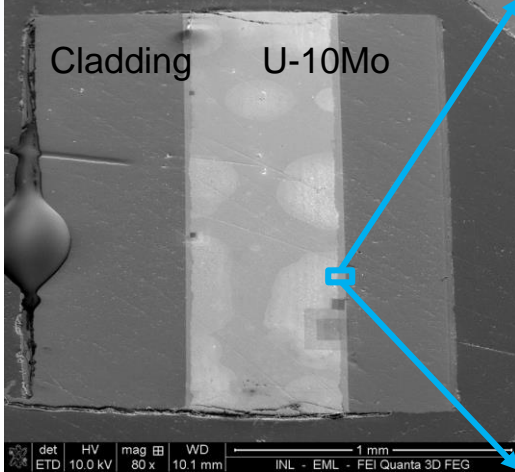
Free surfaces provide the ideal sink, but nanoporous materials undergo surface modification and many other effects under radiation damage



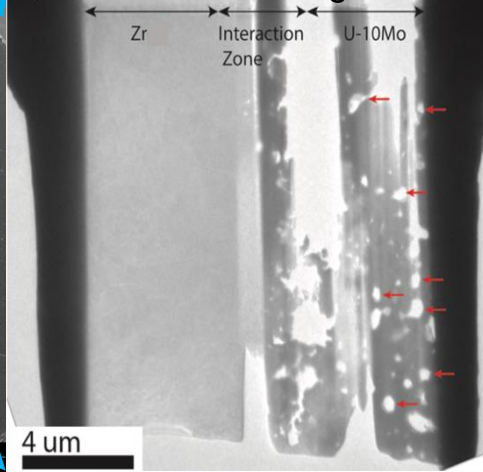
Post Irradiation Characterization of U-10Mo/Zr monolithic interface

Collaborators: C. Barr, A. Aitkaliyeva

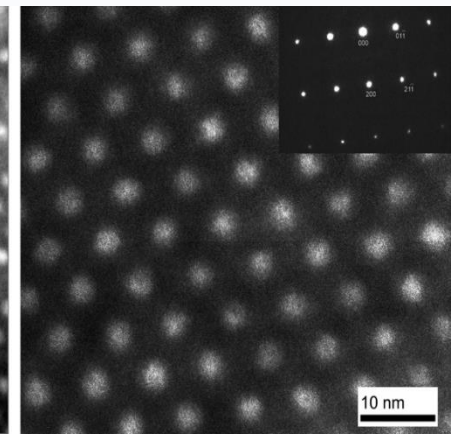
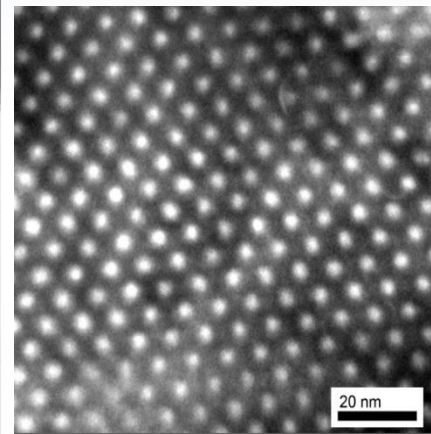
SEM Overview Image



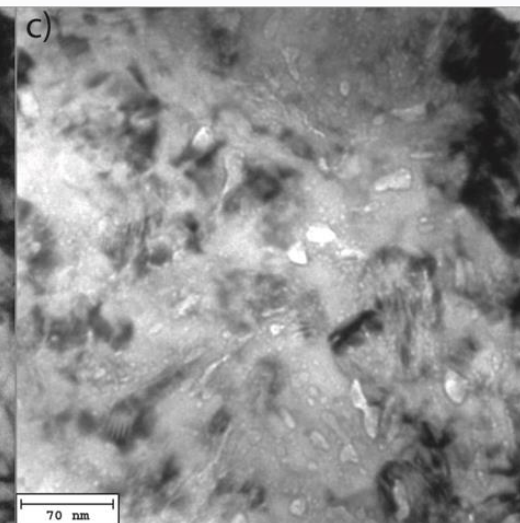
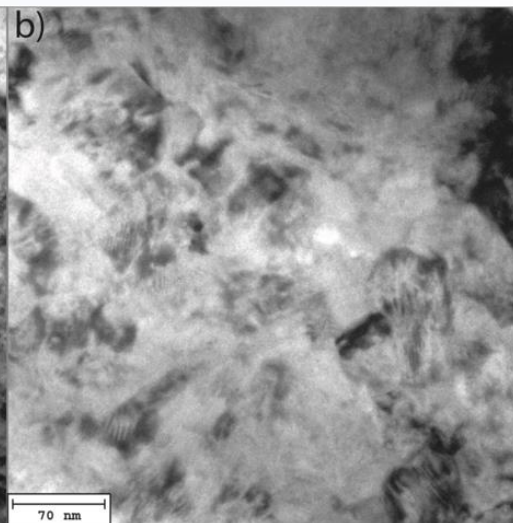
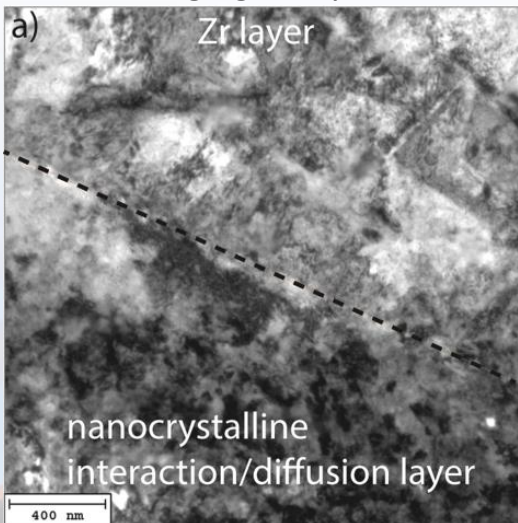
TEM Overview Image



Gas superlattice bubbles ZA [110] in U-10Mo.



- U-10Mo Monolithic fuel with fission density (fiss/cm³) = 4.4×10^{21}
- Average gas superlattice bubble diameter distribution is 3.5 ± 0.25 nm diameter.

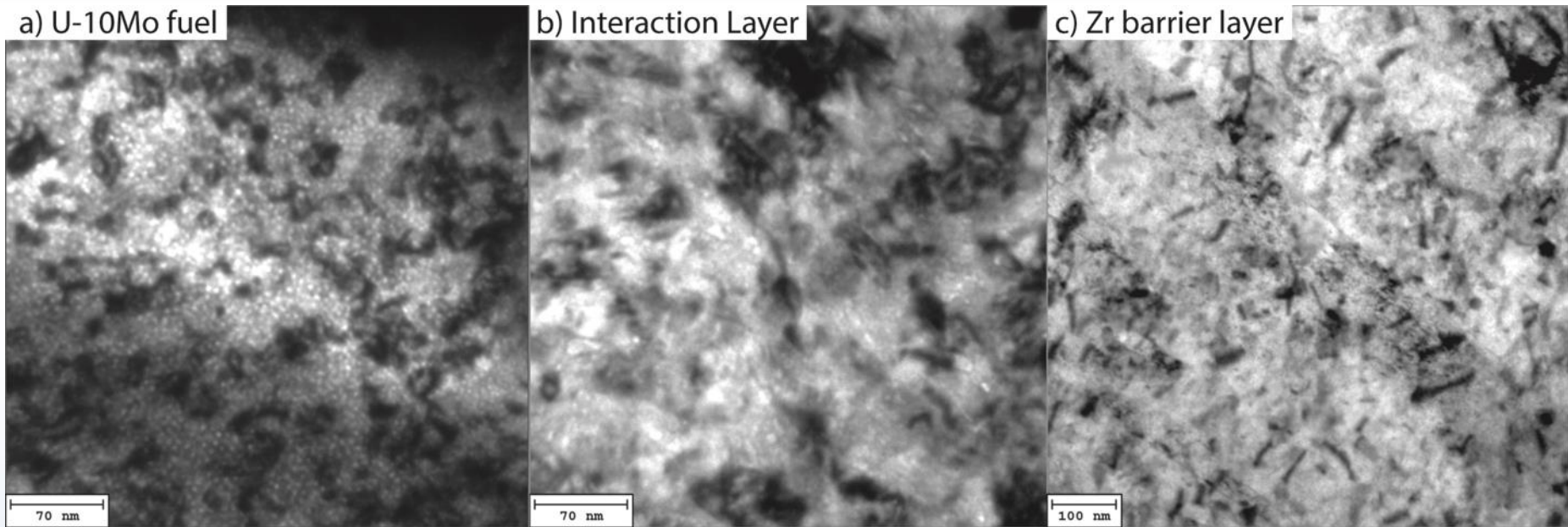


Zr layer and interaction layers where in-focus image of interaction layer (center) and de-focus (-2um) image of interaction layer with high level of porosity apparent
 India National Laboratories

In-situ TEM ion irradiations of PIE U-Mo/Zr interface

Collaborators: C. Barr, A. Aitkaliyeva

Irradiation Conditions: Fluence = 1.1×10^{16} ions/cm²; 3MeV²⁺ Zr ions at RT



- Continued stability of the periodic gas bubble superlattice in the U10Mo fuel
 - Apparent surface oxide (likely UO_2) post in-situ TEM irradiation
- Growth of dislocation loops (arrowed in red) in Zr barrier layer apparent and indications of increased coalescence of porosity in interaction layer





Outline

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2. Can We Tailor Boundaries/Interfaces to Control Radiation Tolerances?
- 3. Can We Explore Other Aspects of the Complex Environment Present in Modern and Future Reactors Using *In situ* Techniques?**



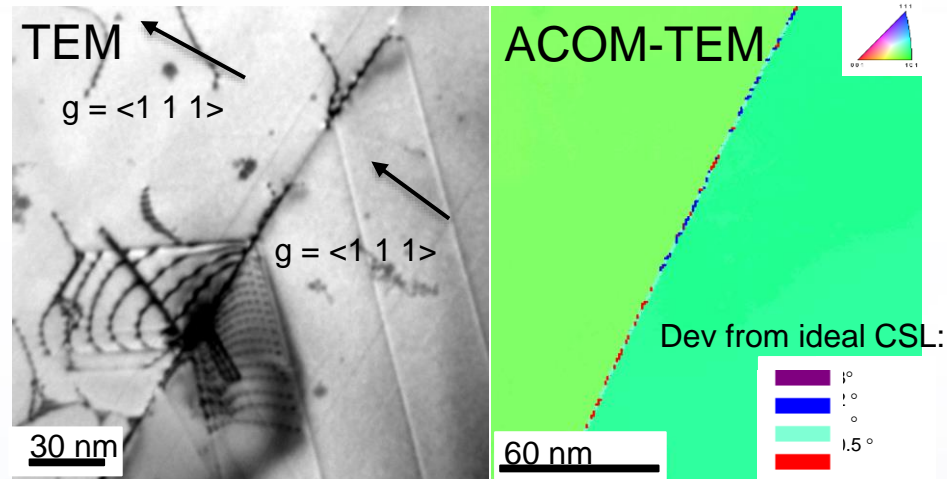
In situ Qualitative Mechanical Testing

Collaborators: C. Barr

Gatan straining TEM Holder

- Minimal control over displacement and no “out-of-box” force information
- Successful in studies in observing dislocation-GB interactions/mechanisms
- Ideally both grains have kinematic BF 2-beam conditions: challenging in ST holder

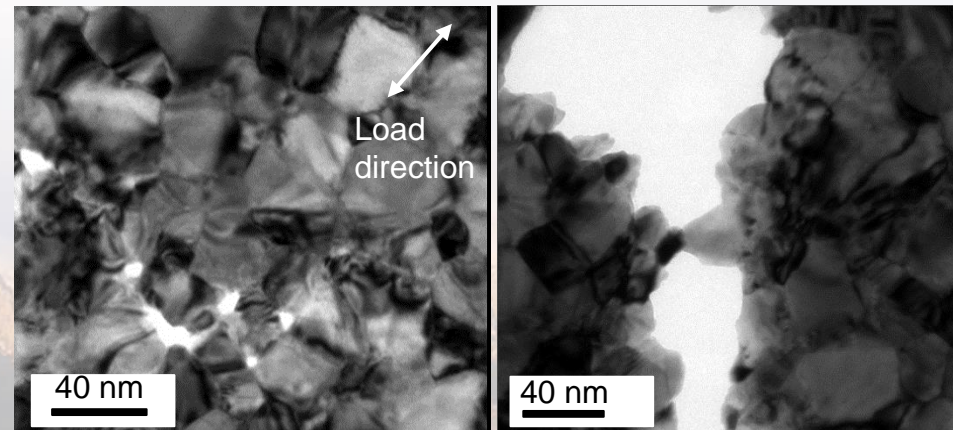
Dislocation interactions as a function of GB character ($\Sigma 3$ twin GB below):



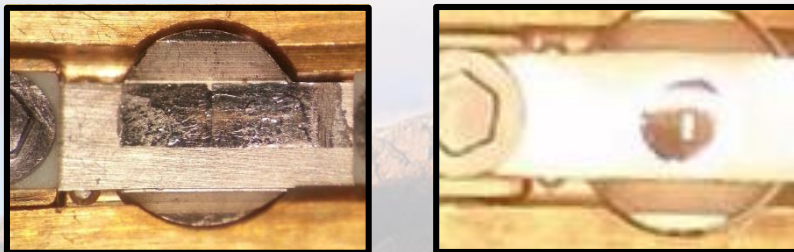
Traditional Gatan Heating and Straining Holder



Observe deformation mechanisms in nanocrystalline metals during tensile straining:

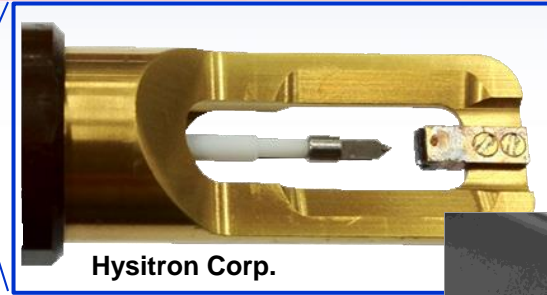


Thin film tension “jig”: Jet thinned disk:



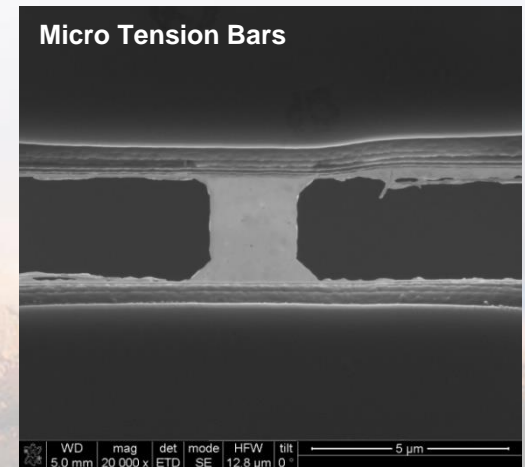
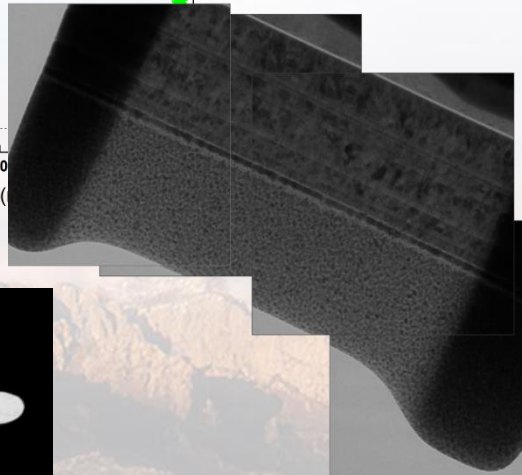
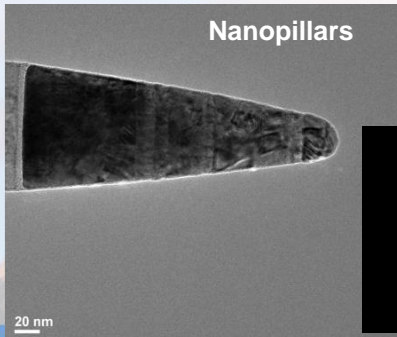
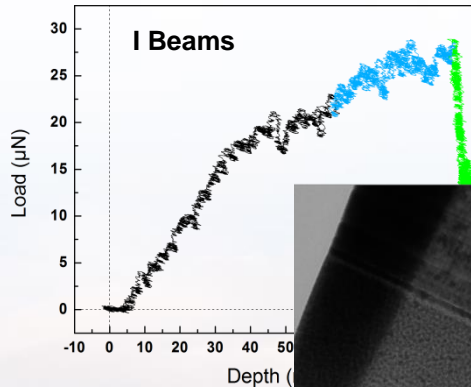
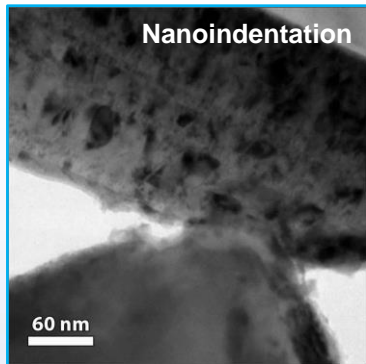
In situ Quantitative Mechanical Testing

Contributors: J. Sharon, B. L. Boyce, C. Chisholm, H. Bei, E.P. George, P. Hosemann, A.M. Minor, & Hysitron Inc.



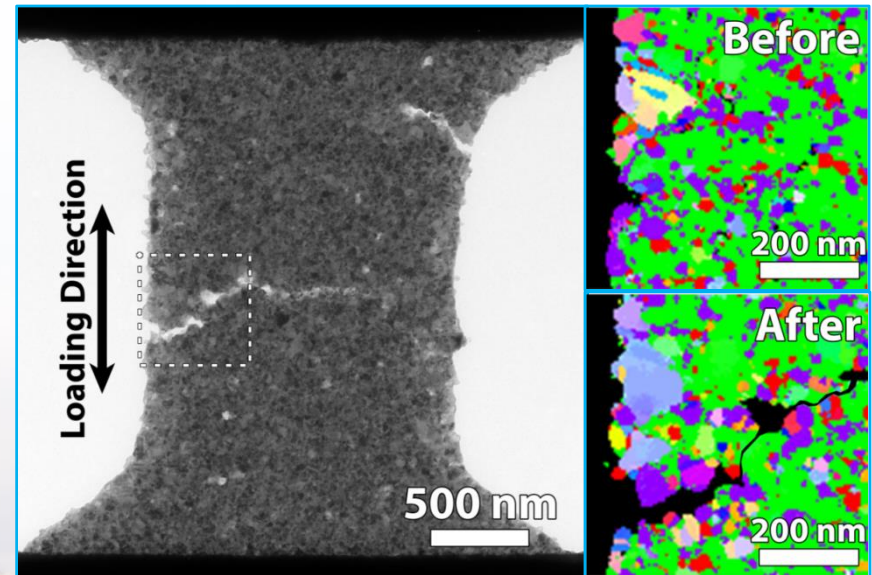
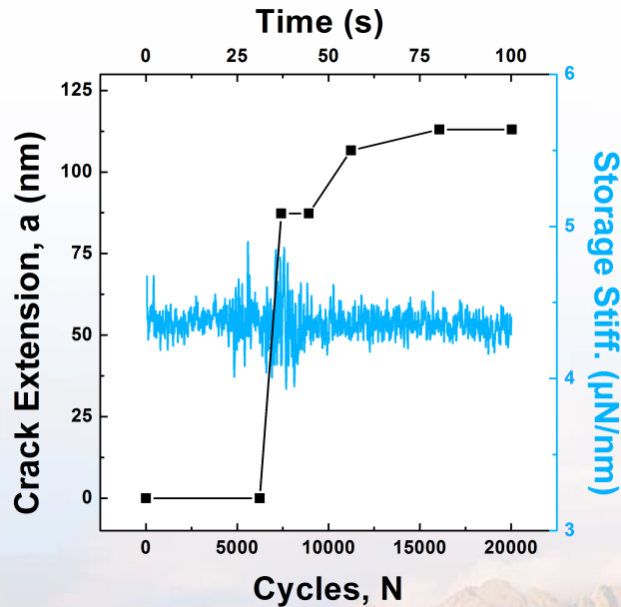
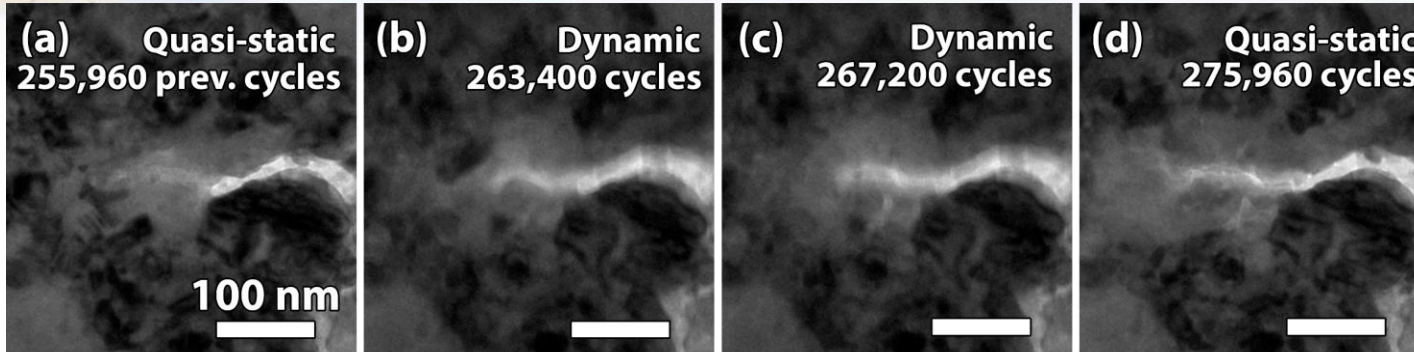
Hysitron PI95 *In Situ* Nanoindentation TEM Holder

- Sub nanometer displacement resolution
- Quantitative force information with μN resolution
- **Concurrent real-time imaging by TEM**



High Cycle Fatigue: Crack Growth Quantified

Contributors: D.C. Buller, B. L. Boyce, W. Mook, D. Stauffer & Hysitron Inc.



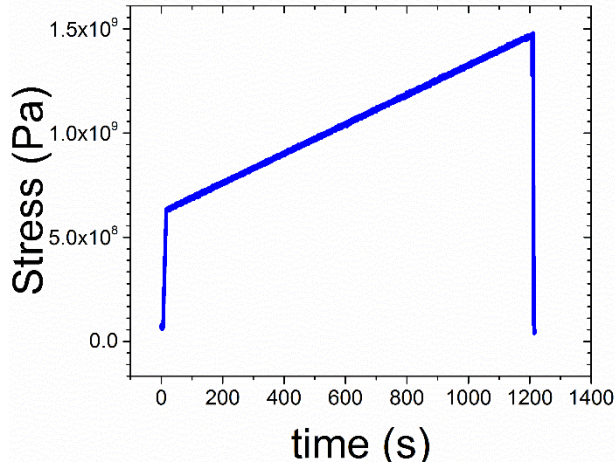
- Picometer-per-cycle measured crack growth rate
 - Evidence of fatigue-induced grain growth.



Irradiation Creep (4 MeV Cu³⁺ 10⁻² DPA/s)

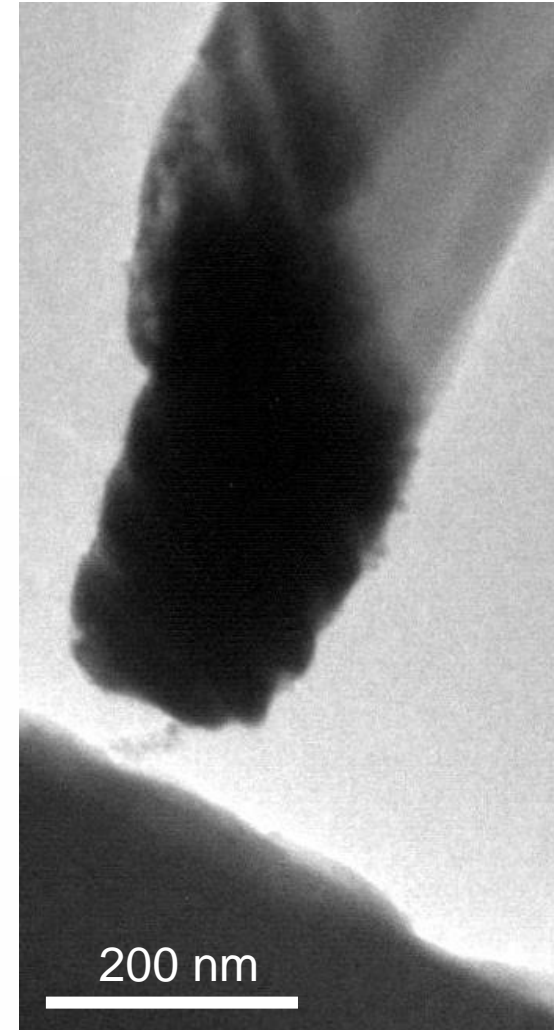
Contributors: S. Dillon & R.S. Averback

Controlled Loading Rate Experiments

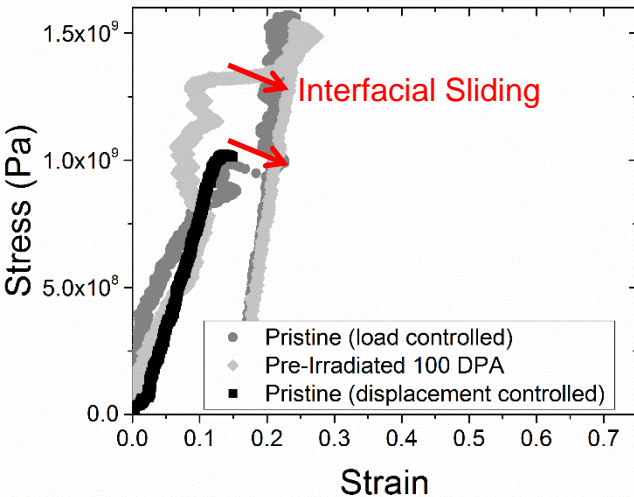


In-situ TEM
radiation
creep is
feasible!

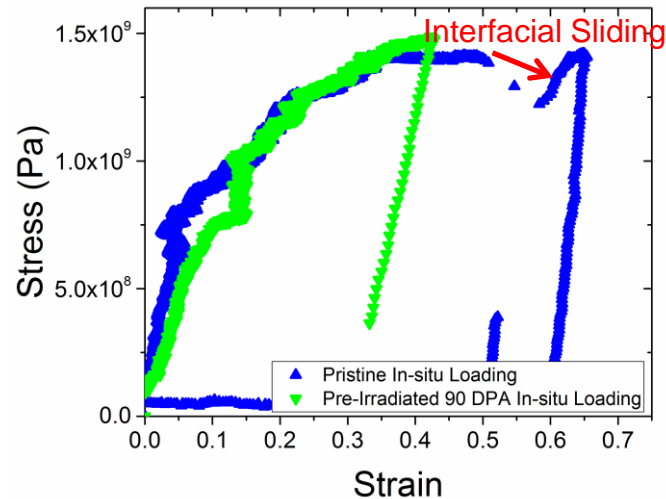
50 nm Cu-W multilayer
20 Min



No Irradiation (Loading rate 0.6 Mpa s⁻¹)



Irradiation Creep (Loading rate 0.6 Mpa s⁻¹)



Initial Laser Heating Observations

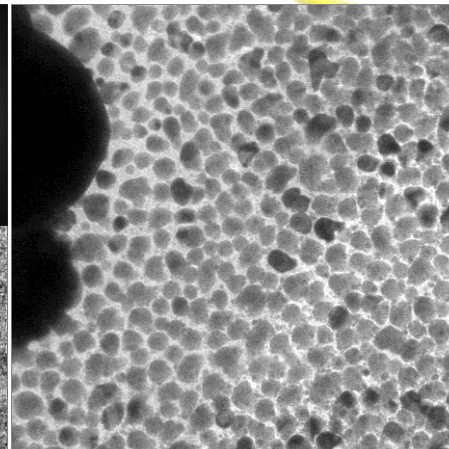
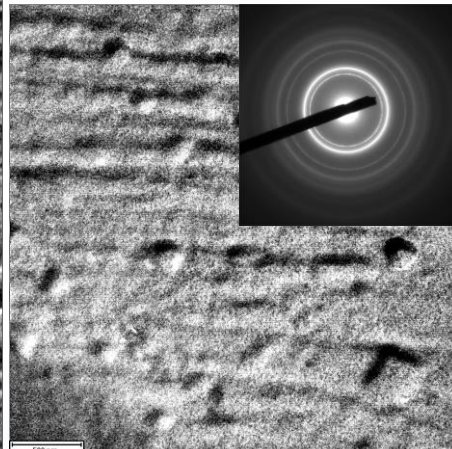
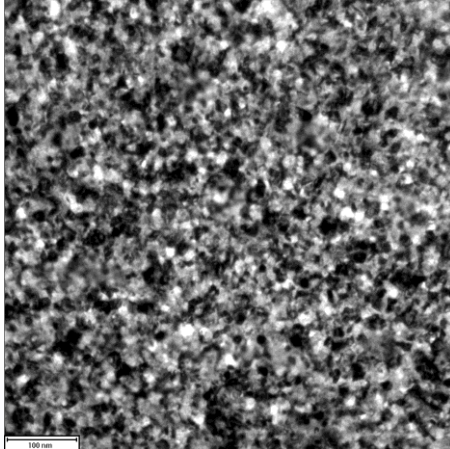
Collaborator: P. Price, C.M. Barr, D. Adams, M. Abere

Pt Grain Growth

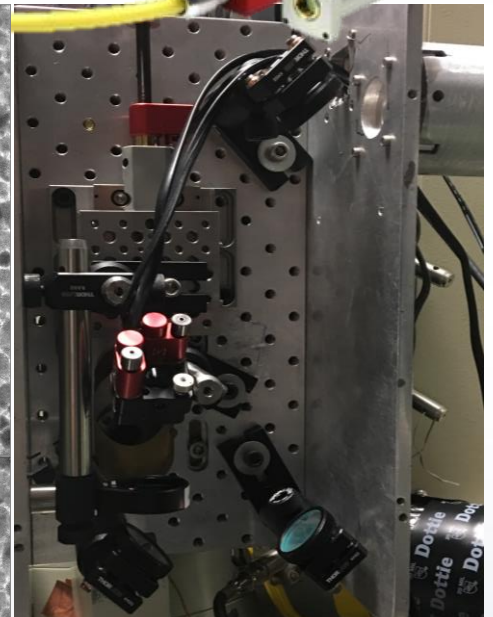
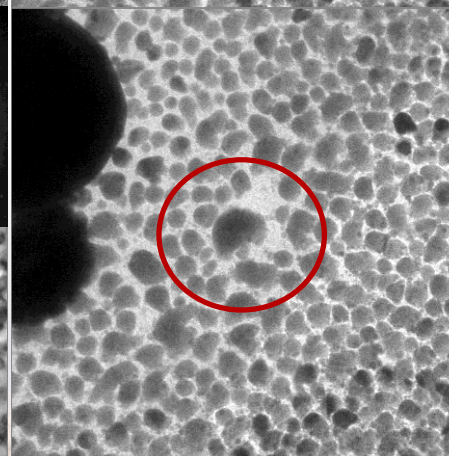
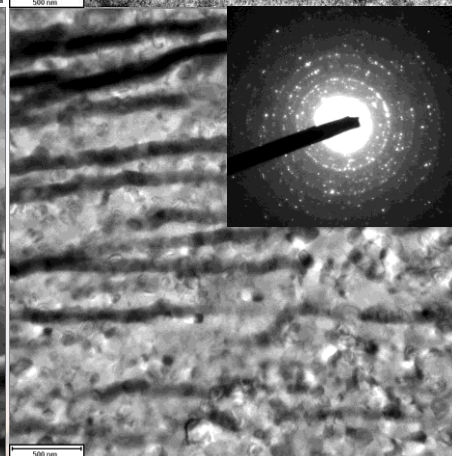
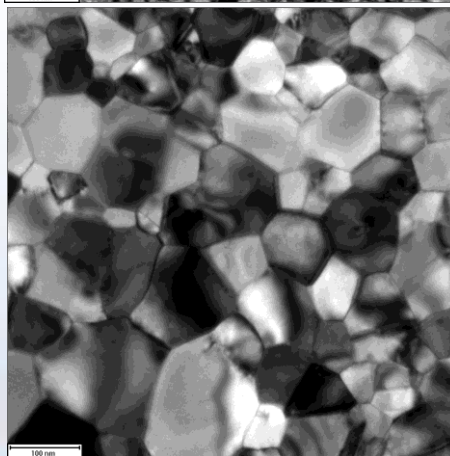
Reactive Multilayer Films

Nanoparticle Sintering

Before



After



Electron Beam

IR Laser

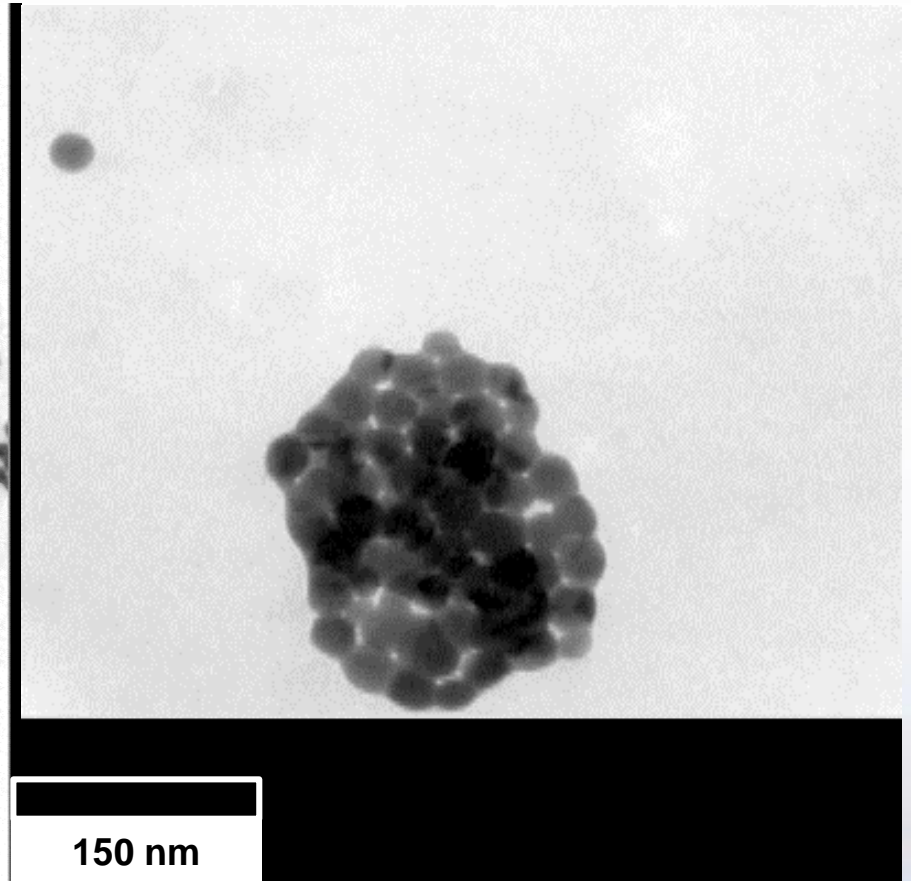
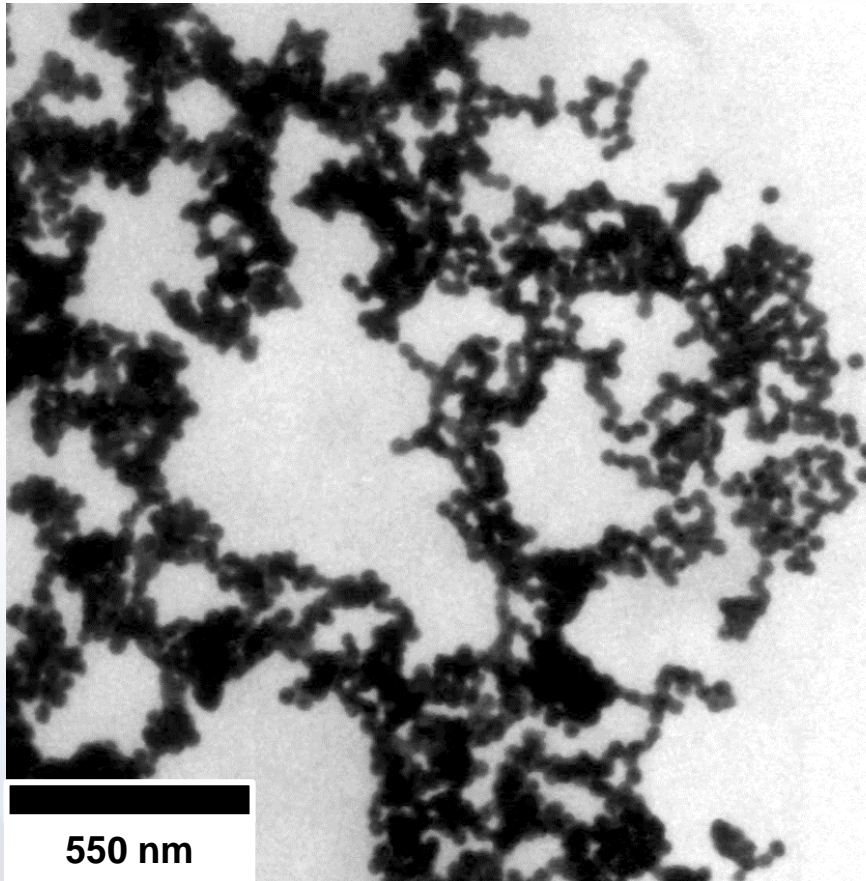
We can now introduce rapid thermal heating with any TEM stage or ion beam conditions



Sandia National Laboratories

Complex Interaction Au NPs Exposed to Laser Irradiation

Contributors: P. Price, L. Treadwell, A. Cook



Speed = 2.5x



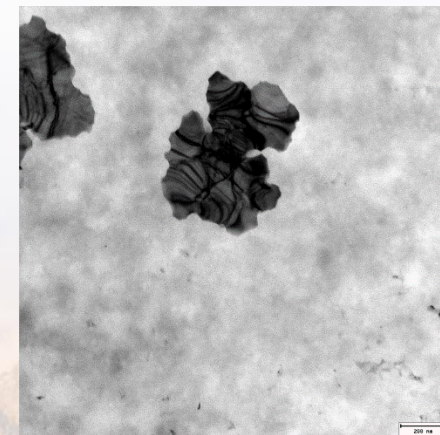
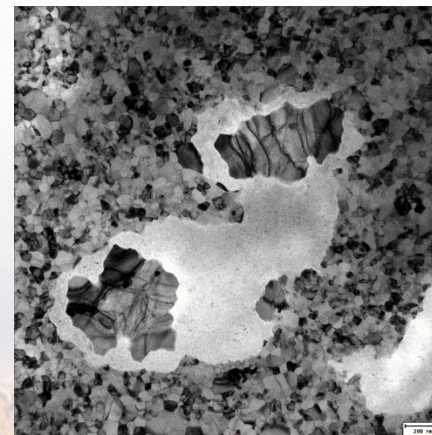
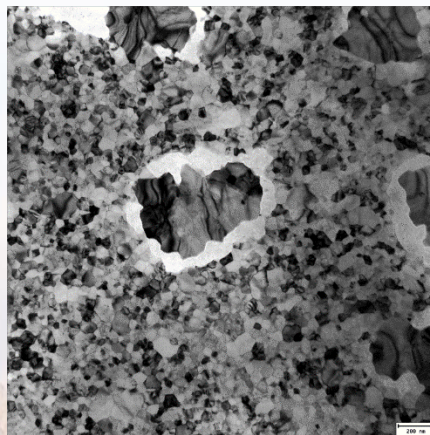
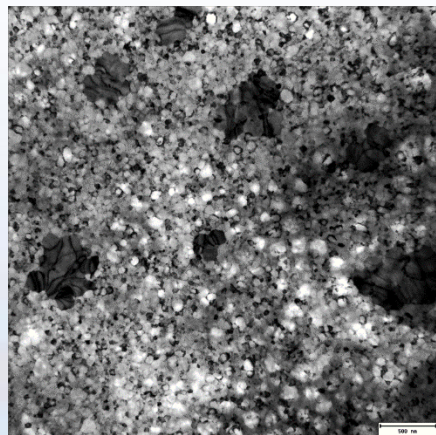
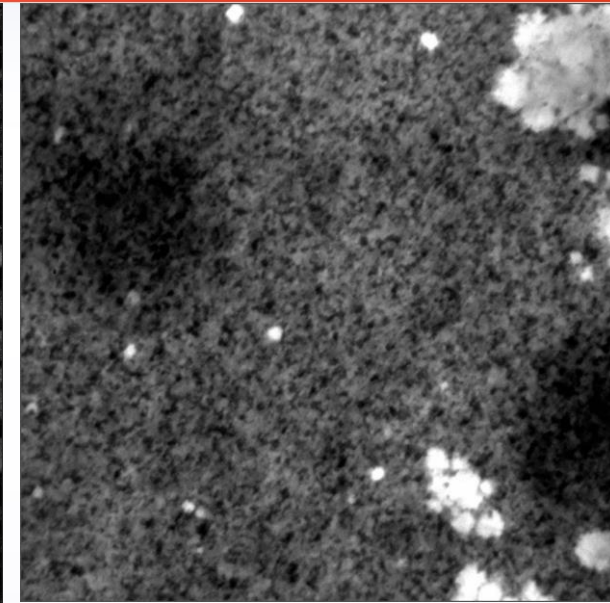
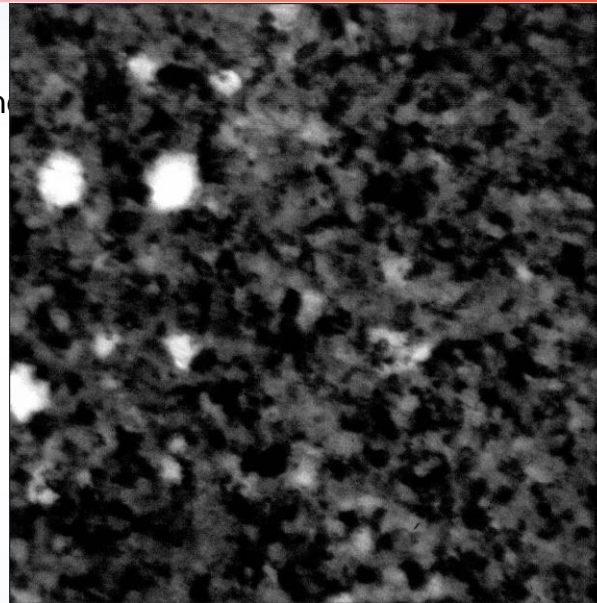
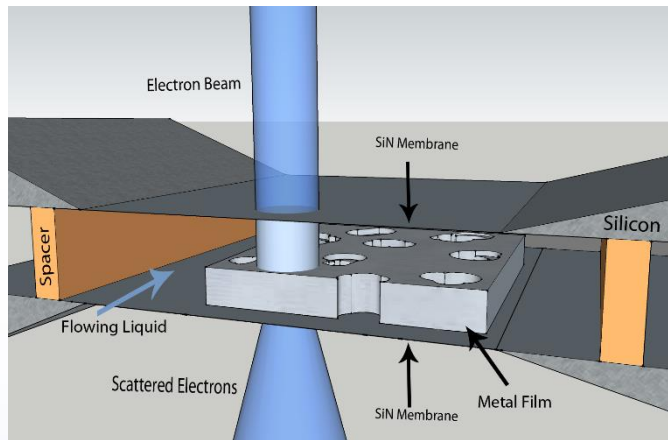
A Complex Combination of Sintering, Reactions, and Ablation Occurs

Can We Gain Insight into the Corrosion Process through *In situ* TEM?

Contributors: D. Gross, J. Kacher, I.M. Robertson & Protochips, Inc.

Microfluidic Stage

- Mixing of two or more channels
- Continuous observation of the reaction channel



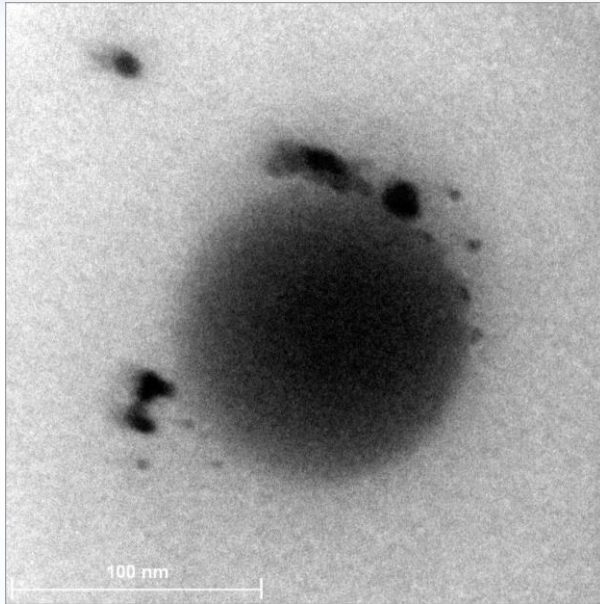
Pitting mechanisms during dilute flow of acetic acid over 99.95% nc-PLD Fe involves many grains. Large grains resulting from annealing appear more corrosion tolerant

Other Fun Uses of Microfluidic Cell

Protocell Drug Delivery

S. Hoppe,
E. Carnes,
J. Brinker

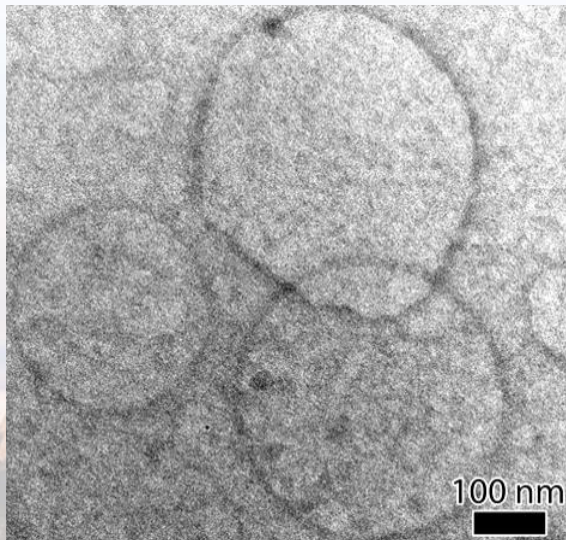
Liposome
encapsulated
Silica destroyed
by the electron
beam



Liposomes in Water

S. Hoppe,
D. Sasaki

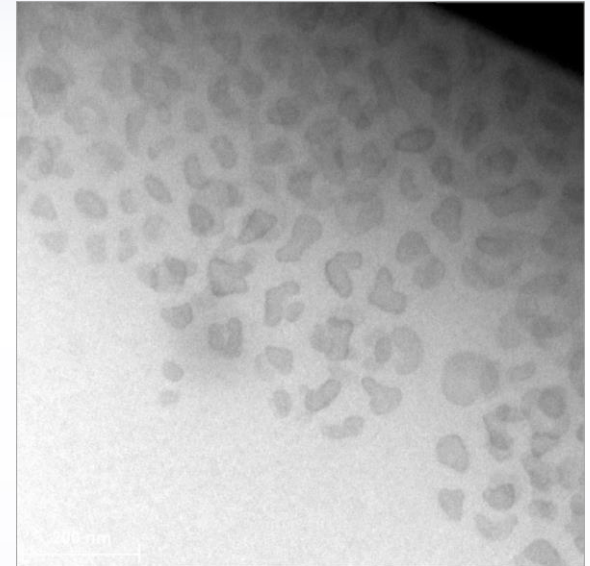
Liposomes
imaged in
flowing aqueous
channel



BSA Crystallization

S. Hoppe

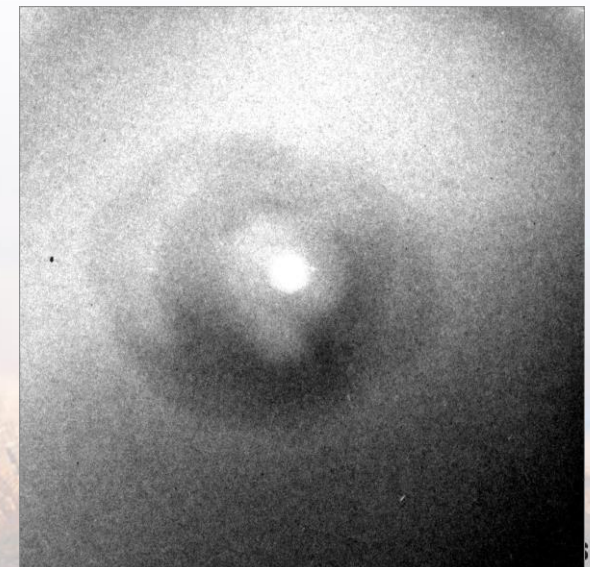
Crystallization of excess
Bovine Serum Albumen
during flow



La Structure Formation

S. Hoppe,
T. Nenoff

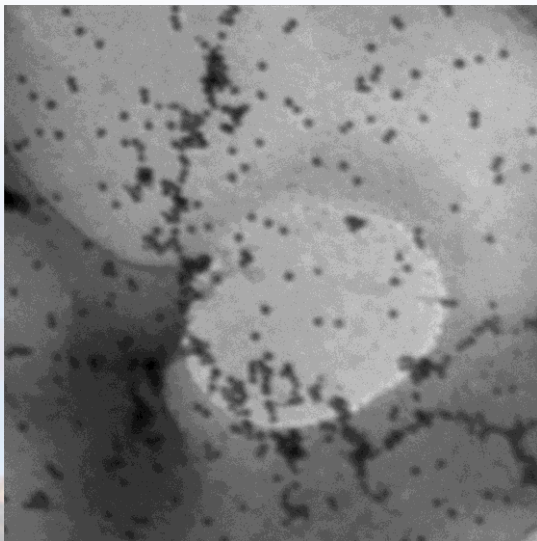
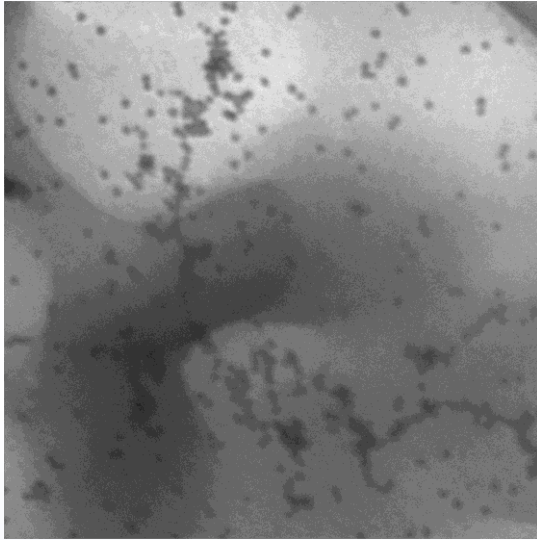
La
Nanostructure
form from LaCl_3
 H_2O in wet cell
due to beam
effects



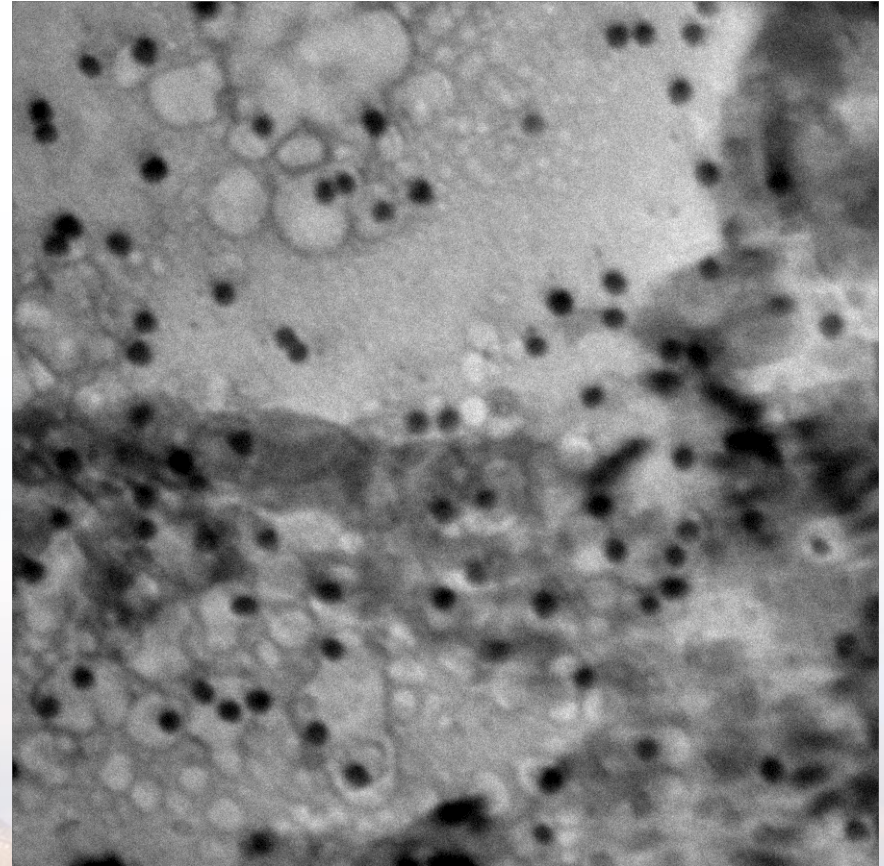
In Situ TEM observation of three-phase mixture

Collaborator: Sarah Hoppe

Au nanoparticles, aqueous solution, and gas bubbles

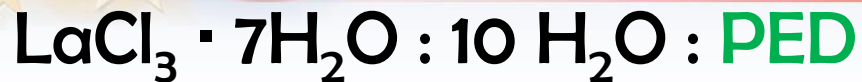


A pair of images
before and after
radiolysis from
focusing the
electron beam

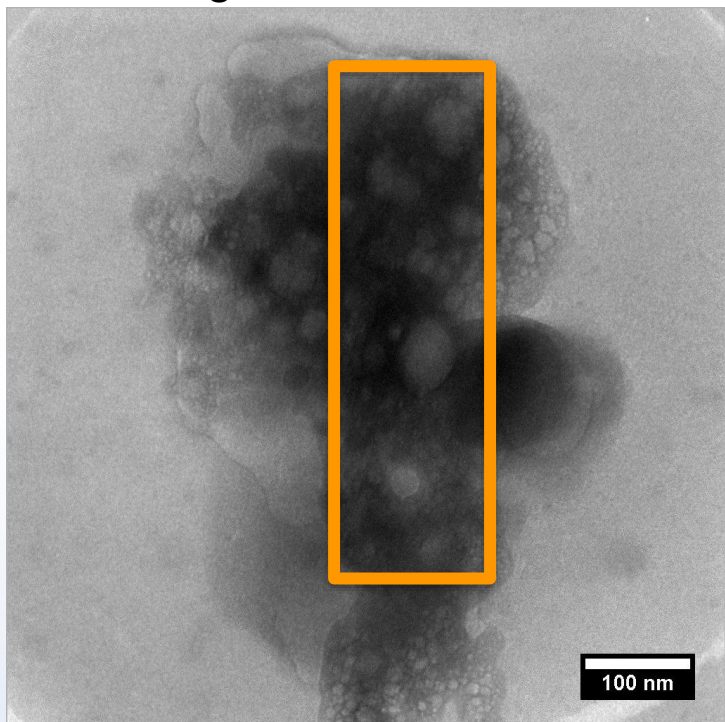


PED in Liquid Cell Environment

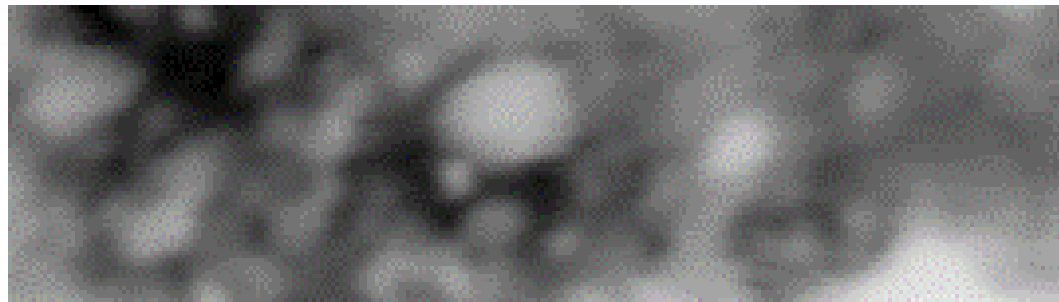
Contributors: C. Taylor, S. Pratt, & T. Nenoff



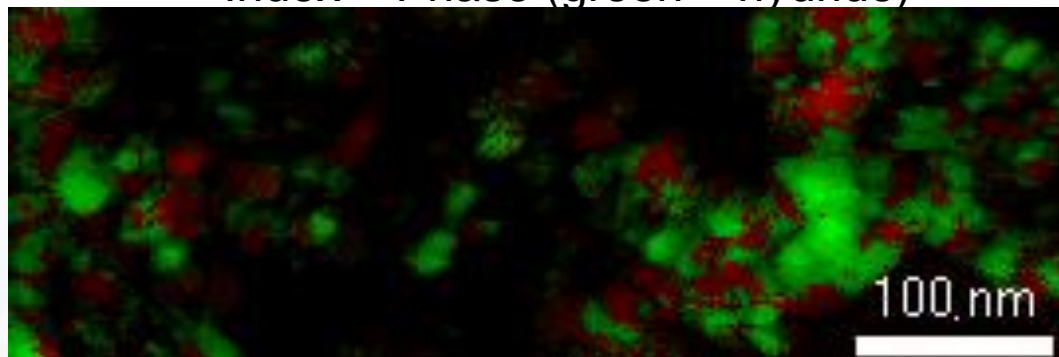
TEM Image



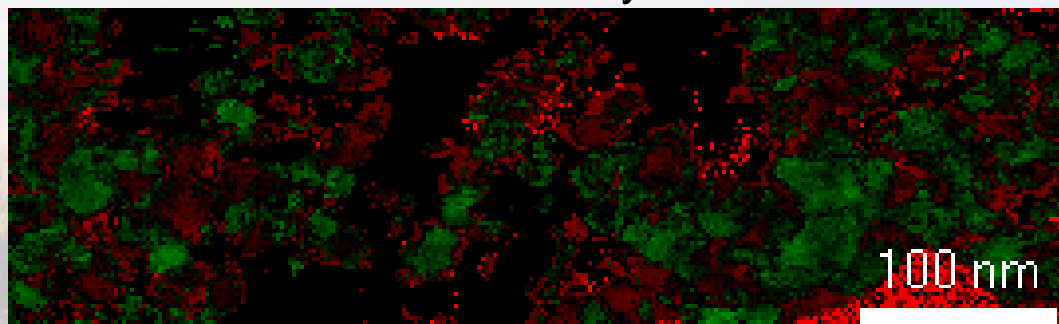
Virtual BF



Index + Phase (green = hydride)



Phase Reliability + Phase

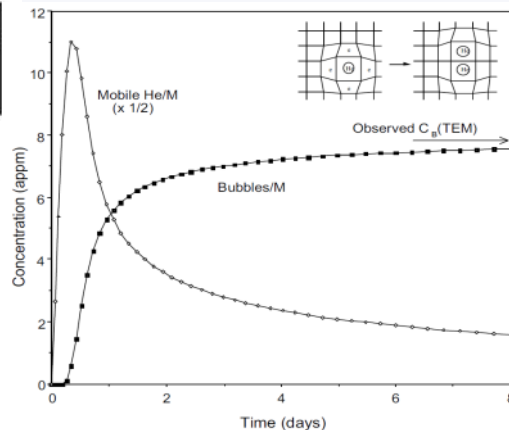
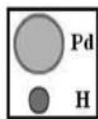
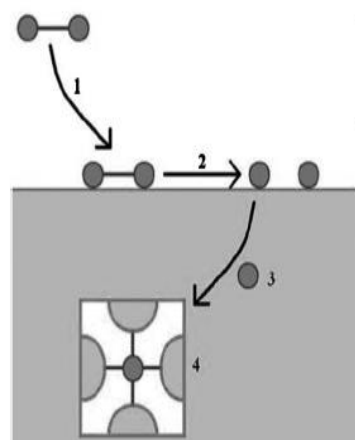


Virtual BF



In situ TEM Hydrogen Exposure

Contributors: B.G. Clark, P.J. Cappillino, B.W. Jacobs, M.A. Hekmaty, D.B. Robinson, L.R. Parent, I. Arslan, & Protochips, Inc.



R. Delmelle, J., Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys. (2011) p.11412

Cowgill, D., Fusion Sci. & Tech., 28 (2005) p. 539
 Trinkaus, H. et al., JNM (2003) p. 229
 Thiebaut, S. et al. JNM (2000) p. 217

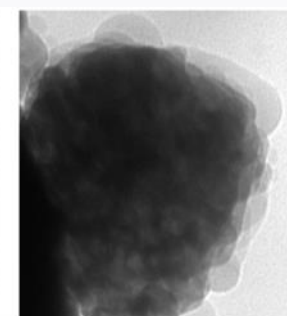
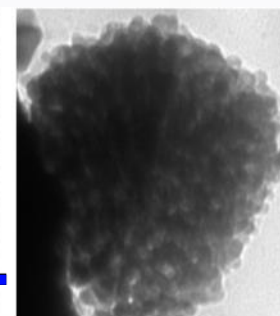
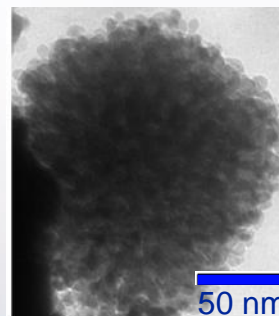
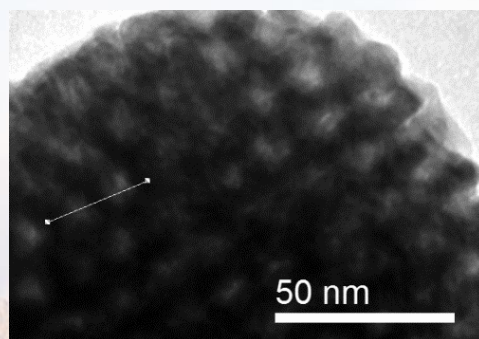
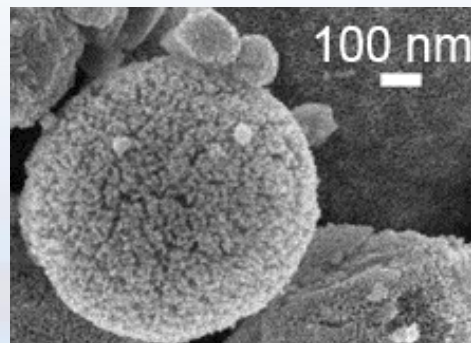
Vapor-Phase Heating TEM Stage

- Compatible with a range of gases
- *In situ* resistive heating
- Continuous observation of the reaction channel
- Chamber dimensions are controllable
- Compatible with MS and other analytical tools



- 1 atm H₂ after several pulses to specified temp.

Harmful effects may be mitigated in nanoporous Pd



125°

200°

300°

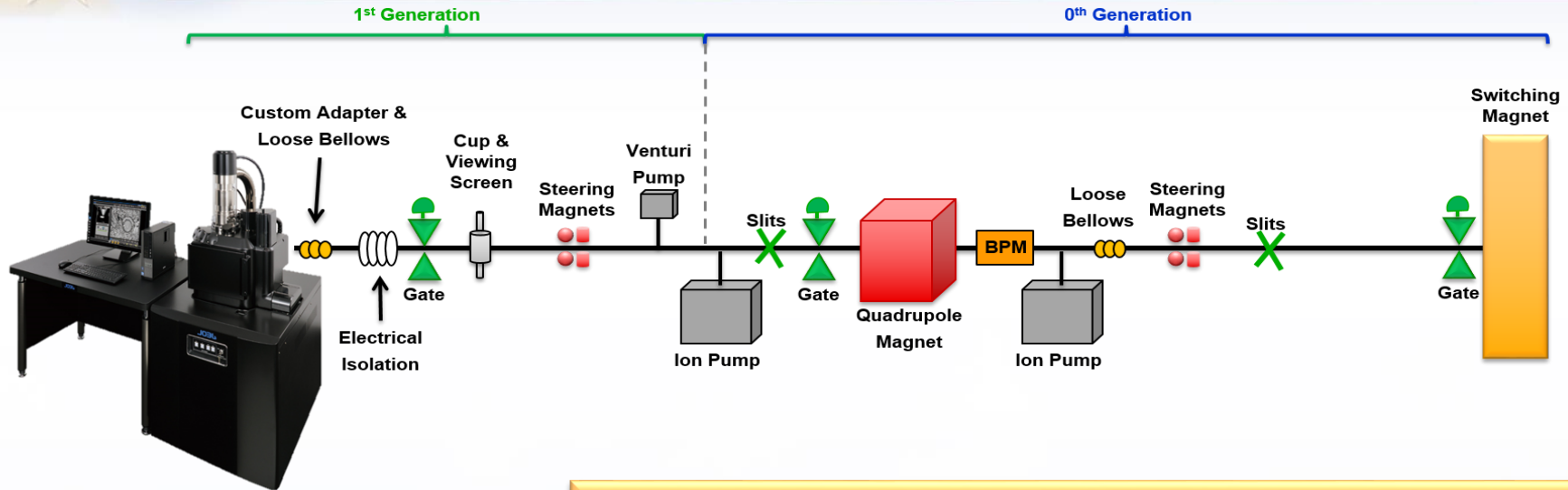
New *in situ* atmospheric heating experiments provide great insight into nanoporous Pd stability



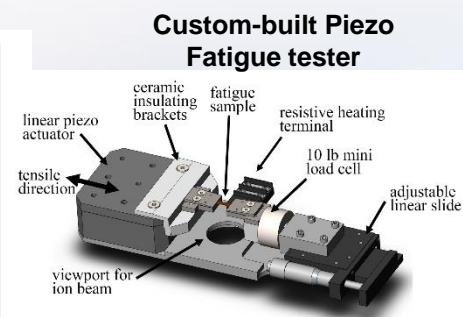
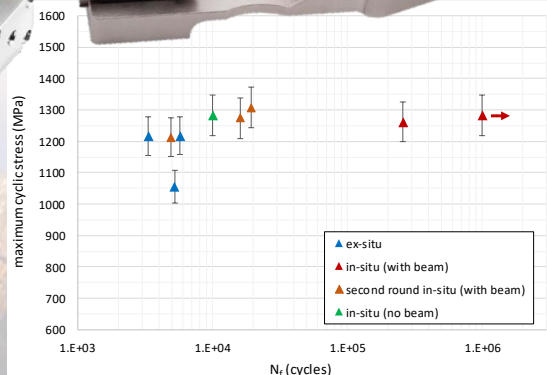
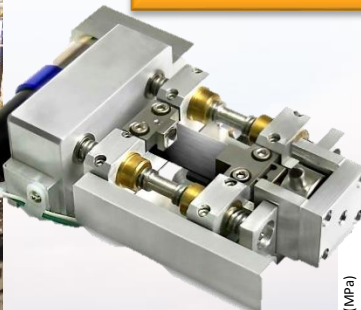
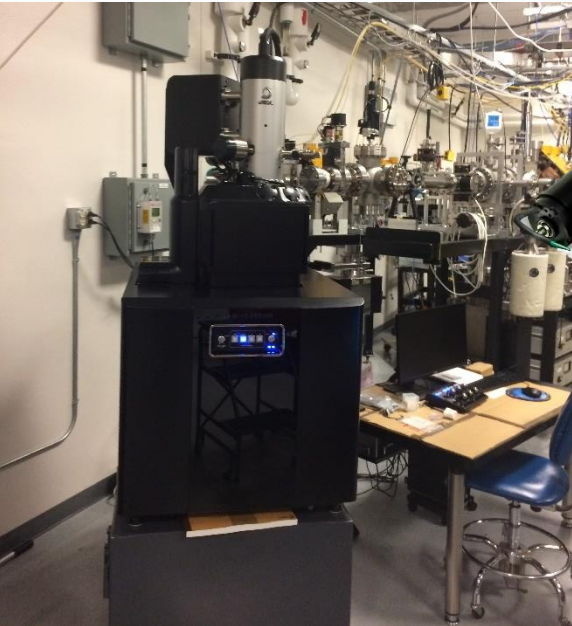
Schematic of the *In situ* SEM Beamline

Collaborators: D.L. Buller & S. Briggs

8/24/2017



Beam Line planned for the *in situ* SEM will be developed in phases. Ultimate plan is for multiple accelerators being attached for dual or triple beam experiments.

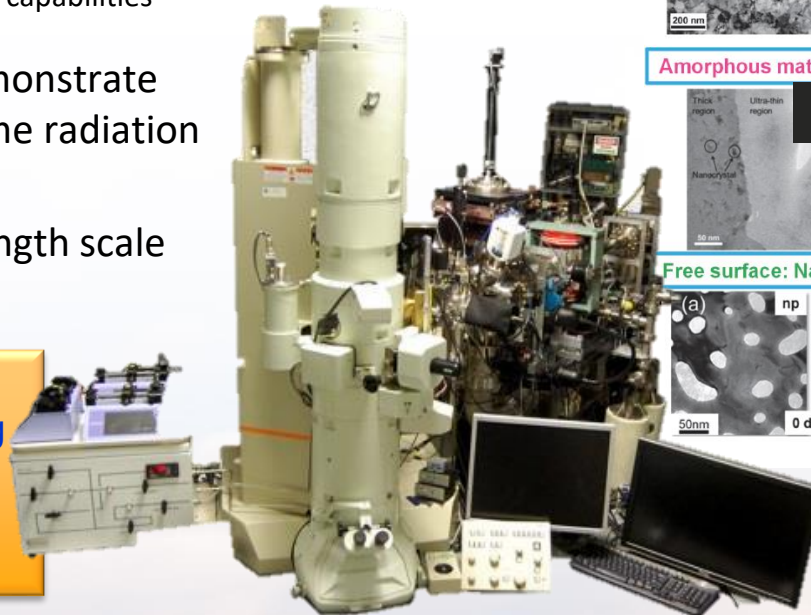
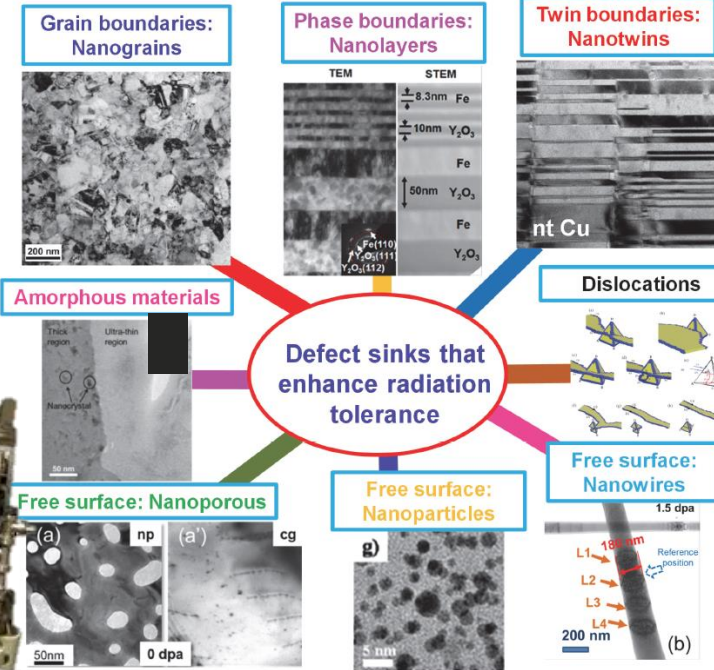




Summary



- Sandia's I³TEM is a unique facility for understanding mechanisms at the nanoscale
 - Only facility in the world with a wealth of overlapping *in situ ion irradiation* capabilities
 - *In situ* high energy ion irradiation from H to Au
 - *In situ* gas implantation
 - 11 TEM stages with various capabilities
- Some nanostructures demonstrate improved response in some radiation environments, but **not** all
- More than just a single length scale matters



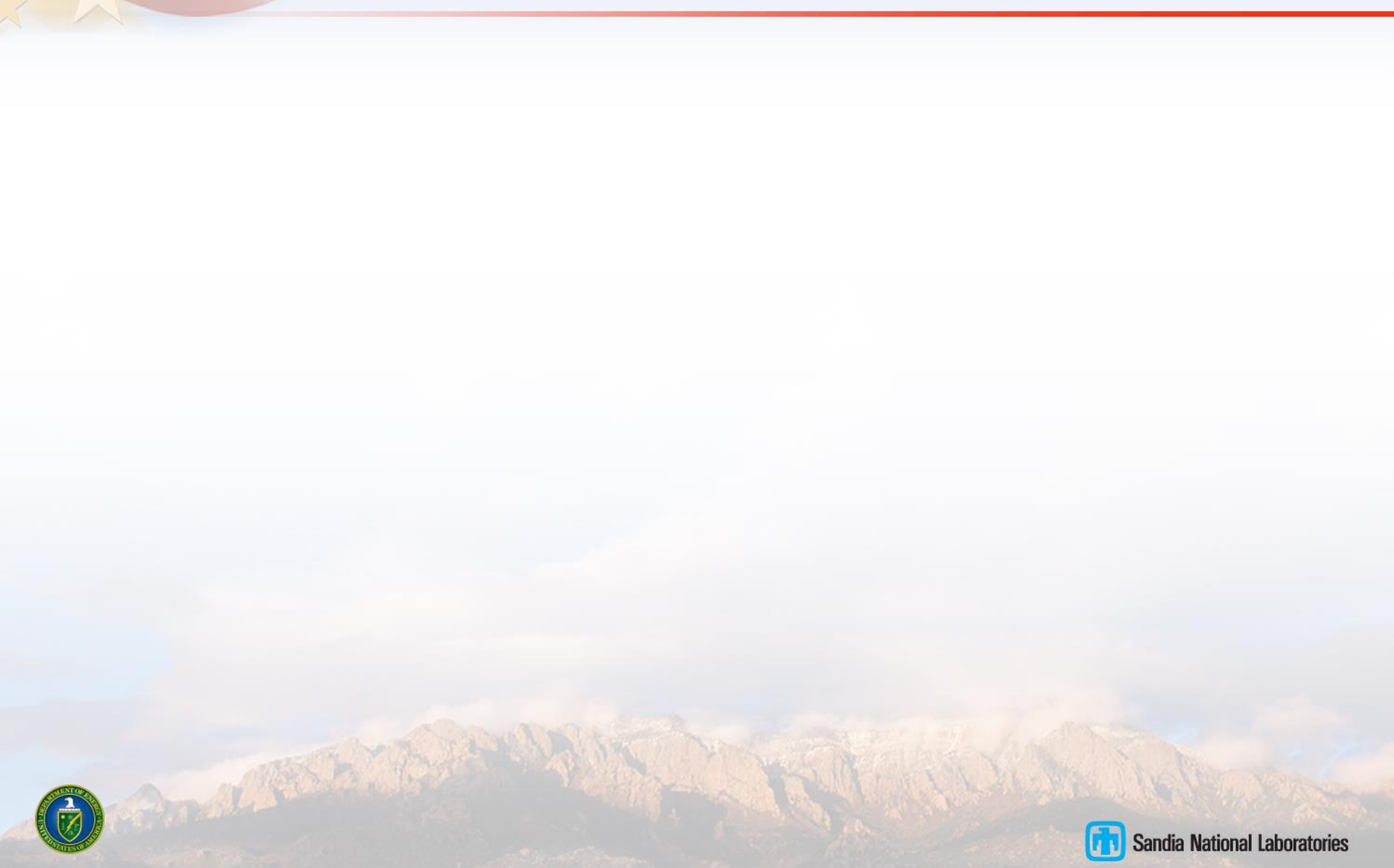
Sandia's I³TEM although still under development is providing a wealth of interesting initial observations in a range of extreme environments

This work was partially funded by the Division of Materials Science and Engineering, Office of Basic Energy Sciences, U.S. Department of Energy. Materials Science and Engineering, Office of Basic Energy Sciences, U.S. Department of Energy. This work was performed, in part, at the Center for Integrated Nanotechnologies, an Office of Science User Facility operated for the US Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Science by Los Alamos National Laboratory [Contract DE-AC52-06NA25396] and Sandia National Laboratories [Contract DEAC04-94AL85000]. Sandia National Laboratories is a multi-mission laboratory managed and operated by National Technology and Engineering Solutions of Sandia, LLC., a wholly owned subsidiary of Honeywell International, Inc., for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-NA0003525.



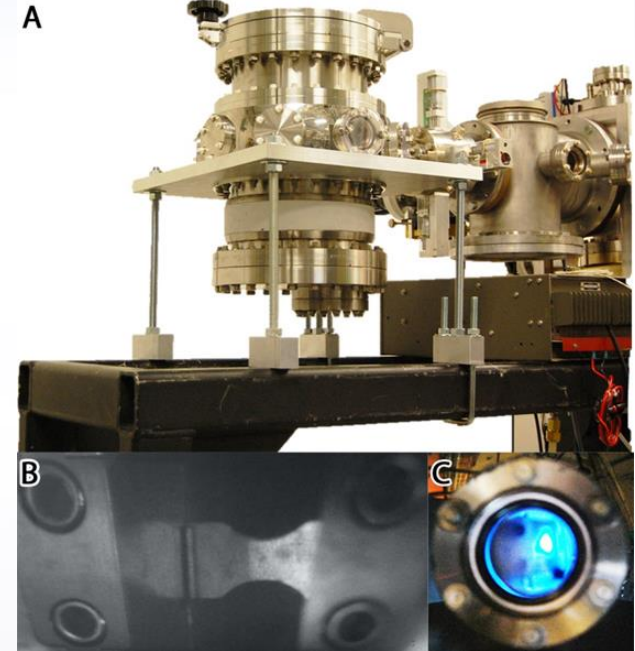
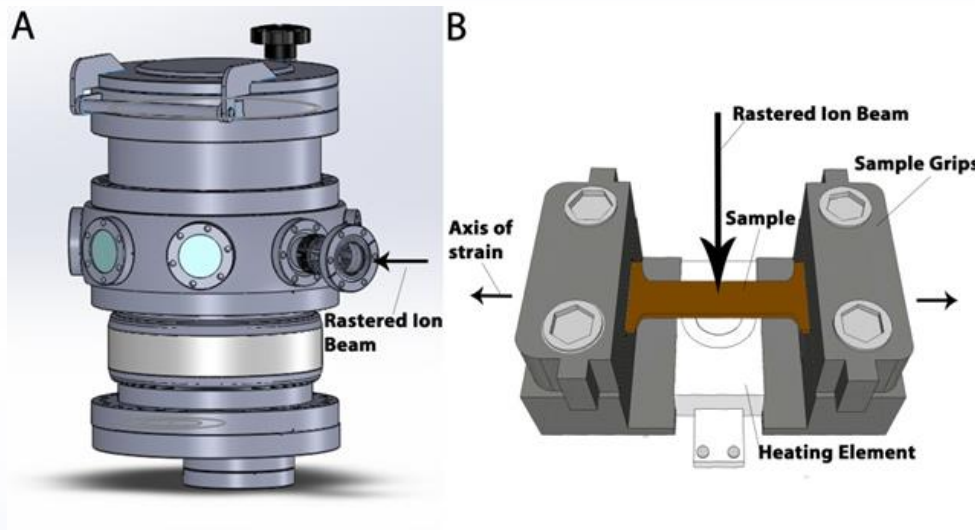


Back-up Slides



Mechanical Testing End Station

Collaborator: M. Steckbeck, B. Boyce, T. Furnish, D. Bufford, D. Buller, C. Barr

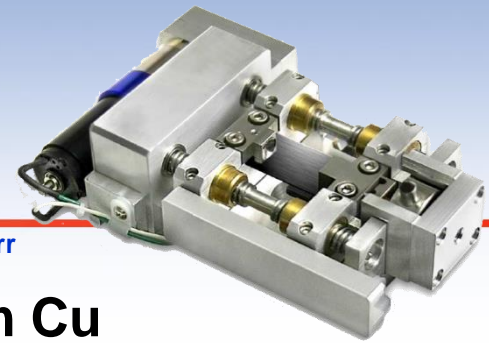


End-station developed consists of a two possible micro-mechanical test frames situated to receive a variety of ion species at energies up to 88 MeV from the 6 MV Van de Graff Tandem accelerator:

1. Commercial MTI/Fullham Multi-use Mechanical Stage (4000 N max): tensile, three point bend, creep, stress relaxation, others
2. Fatigue (custom design) for thin (5 to 10 micron samples)



Irradiation and Stress Relaxation

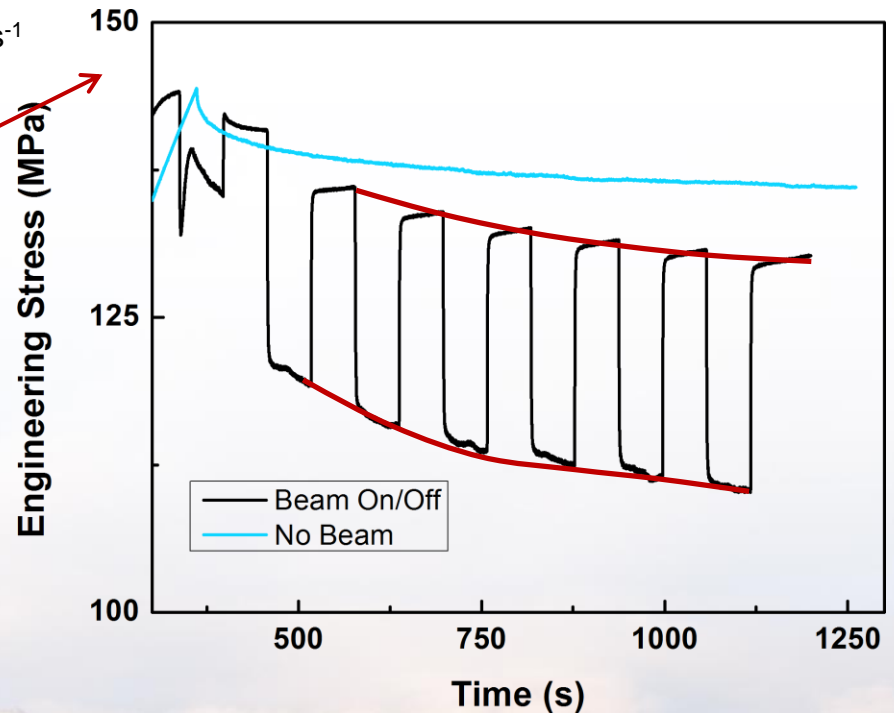
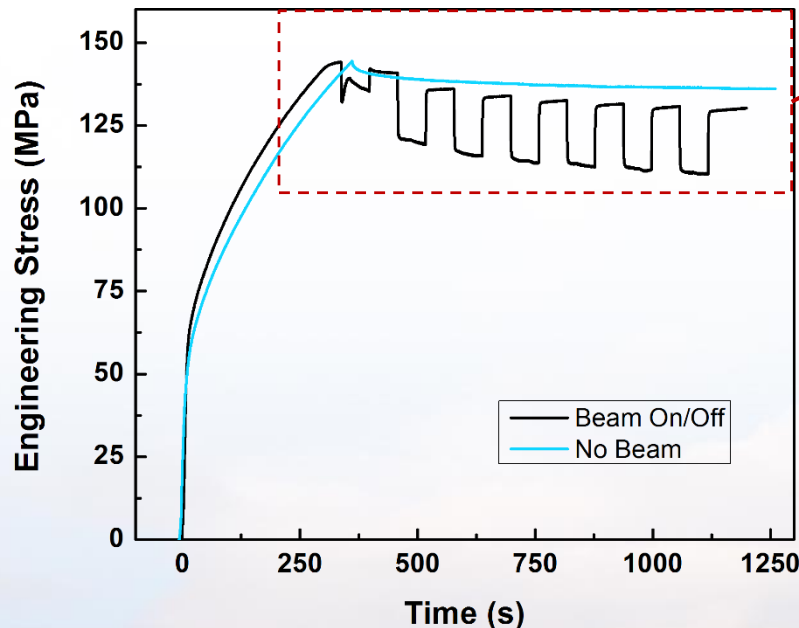


Collaborator: M. Steckbeck, B. Boyce, T. Furnish, D. Bufford, D. Buller, C. Barr

■ 0.25mm/min elongation rate to 22.5 N load in 50 μm Cu

- Approximately 75% of typical ultimate tensile load
- 900 s hold at constant position
- Beam cycled on/off at 60 s intervals
- Beam conditions: 4.5 MeV H⁺: 2.1×10^{11} ions cm⁻²s⁻¹

MTI/Fullham SEMTester

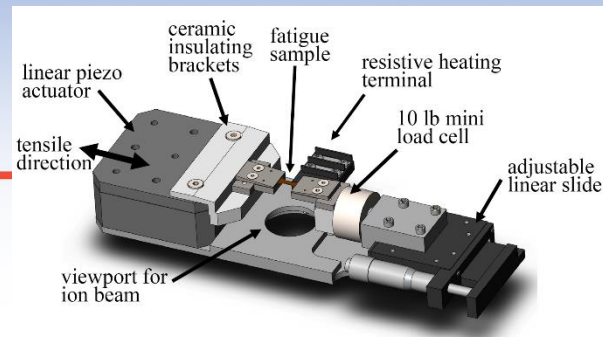


- Offset likely an artifact
- Different relaxation rates with beam on and off

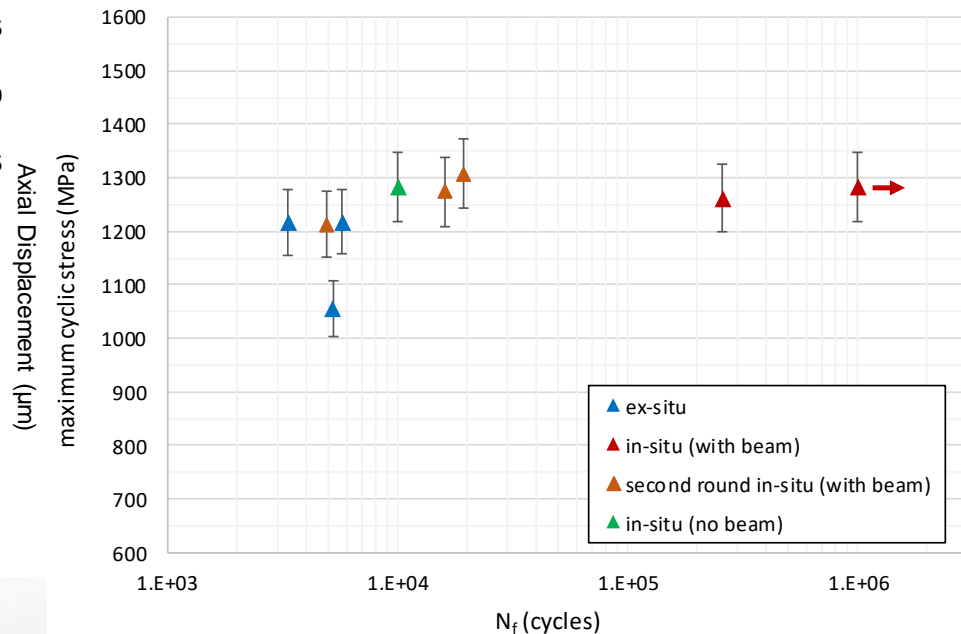
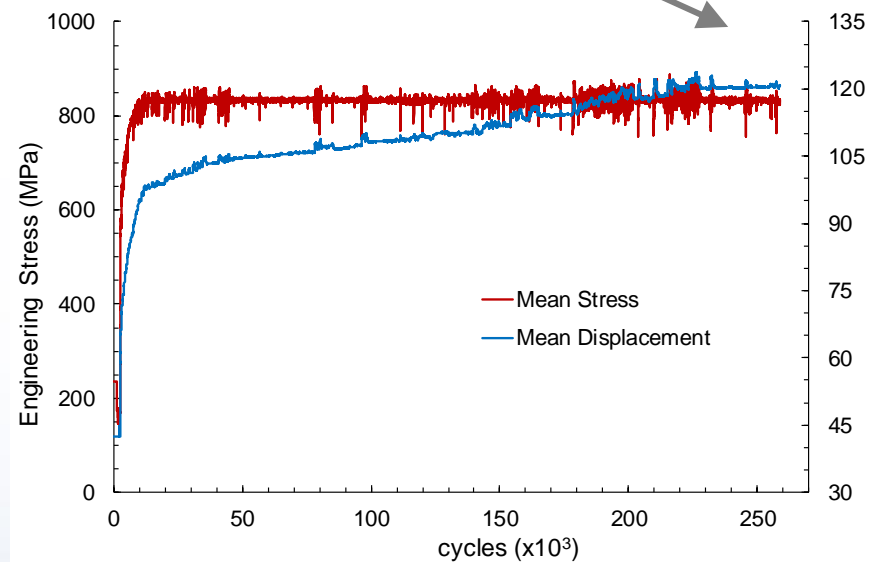


Irradiation and Fatigue

Collaborator: B. Boyce, T. Furnish, D. Buller



Fatigue Failure after 259k cycles



- Preliminary fatigue results in Ni-Fe alloy with both irradiation beam on sample (10 MeV He⁺) and beam off sample.
- Custom mechanical stage designed for thin samples (5 to 10 μm thickness: suitable for allowing entire thickness to be irradiated with raster or defocused beam)



Feasibility of Studying Zircaloy 2 at Nominally 1 atm

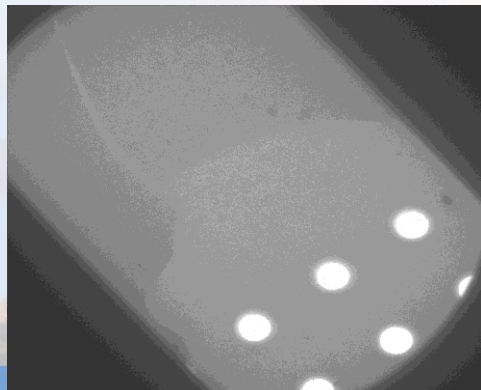
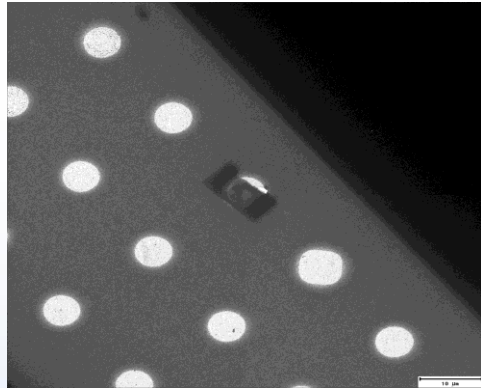
Collaborators: S. Rajasekhara and B.G. Clark



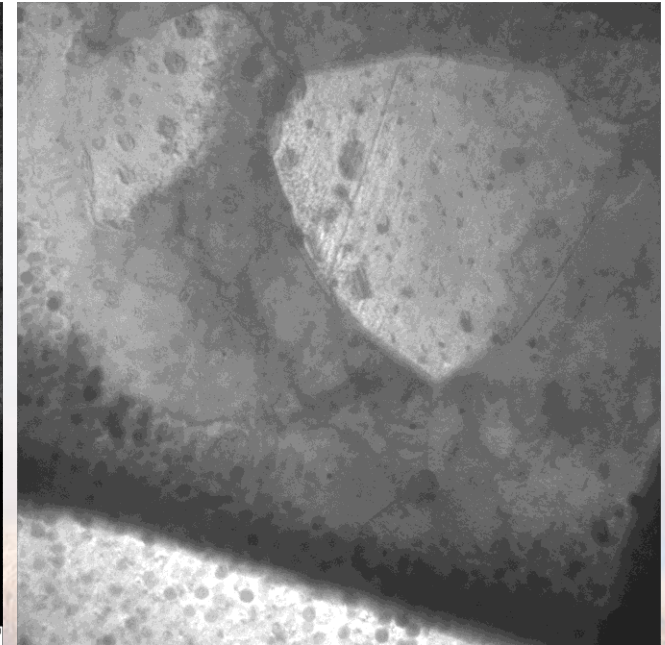
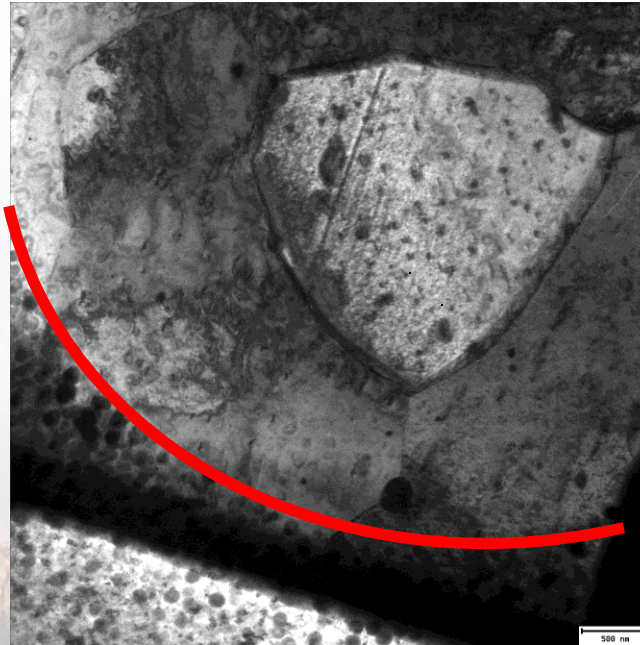
Vapor-Phase Heating TEM Stage

- Compatible with a range of gases
- *In situ* resistive heating
- Continuous observation of the reaction channel
- Chamber dimensions are controllable
- Compatible with MS and other analytical tools

Vacuum & Single Window



Nominally 1 atm H₂ & Two Windows

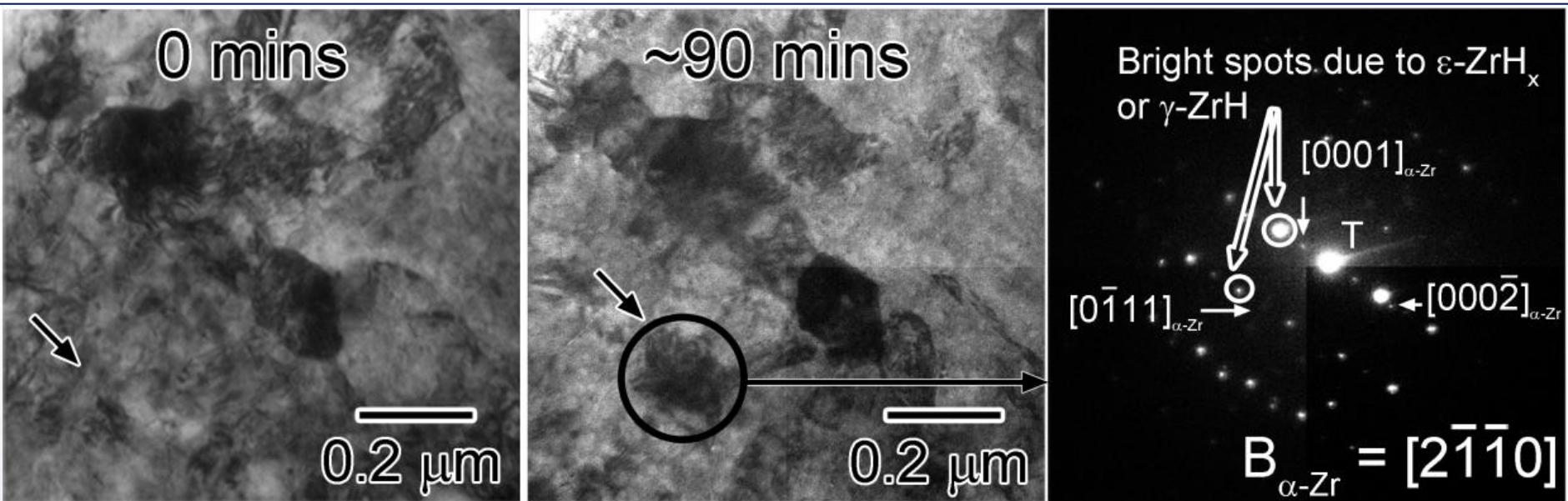


Most features are observed in both despite the decreased resolution resulting from the additional SiN window and 5 μm of air

In situ Observation of Hydride Formation in Zirlo

Collaborators: S. Rajasekhara and B.G. Clark

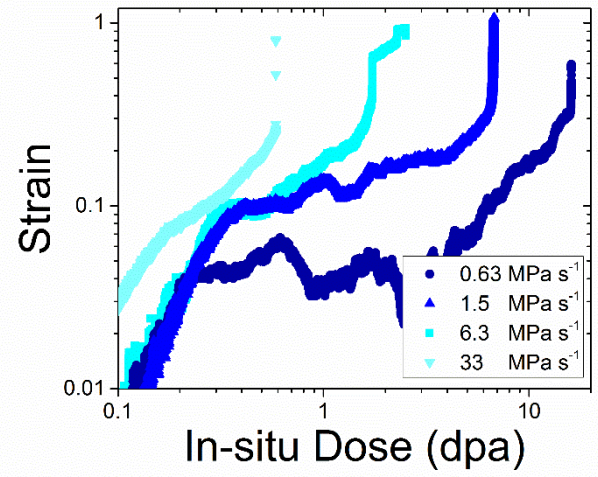
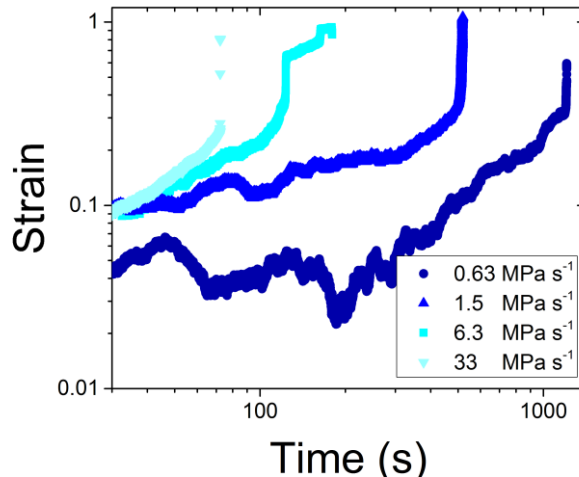
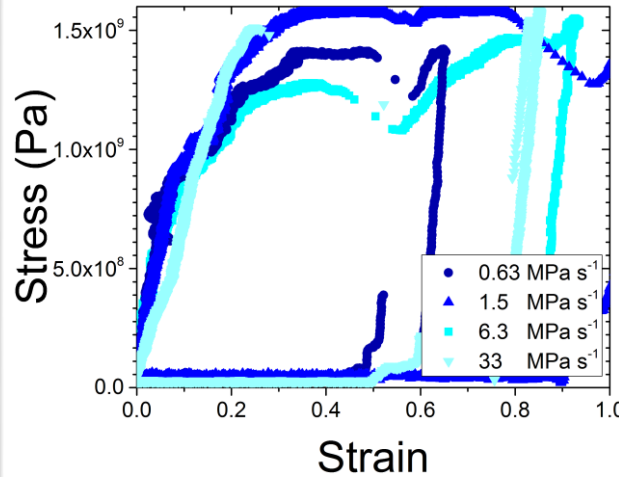
Absolute hydrogen pressure: 327 torr (~ 0.5 atm),
Ramp rate: 1 °C/s, Final temperature: ~ 400 C, Dwell time: ~ 90 mins



Hydride formation shown, for the first time by use of a novel TEM gas-cell stage, at elevated temperature and hydrogen pressure

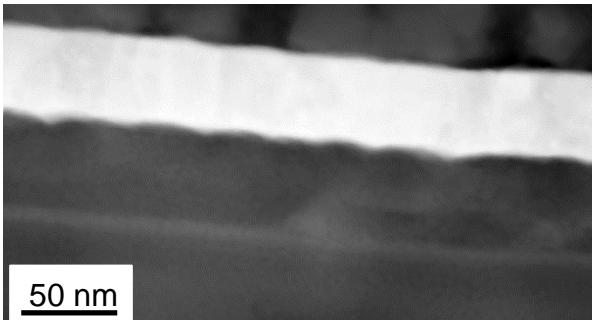


Creep Response at Different Loading Rates

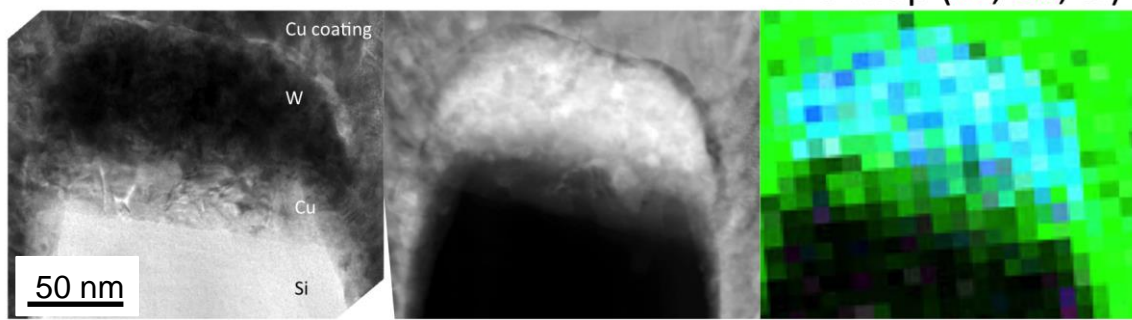


Significant creep observed at a fraction of the bulk yield strength

As-deposited Sample
ADF-STEM



Post Creep Characterization
BF-TEM ADF-STEM EDS Map (W, Cu, Si)



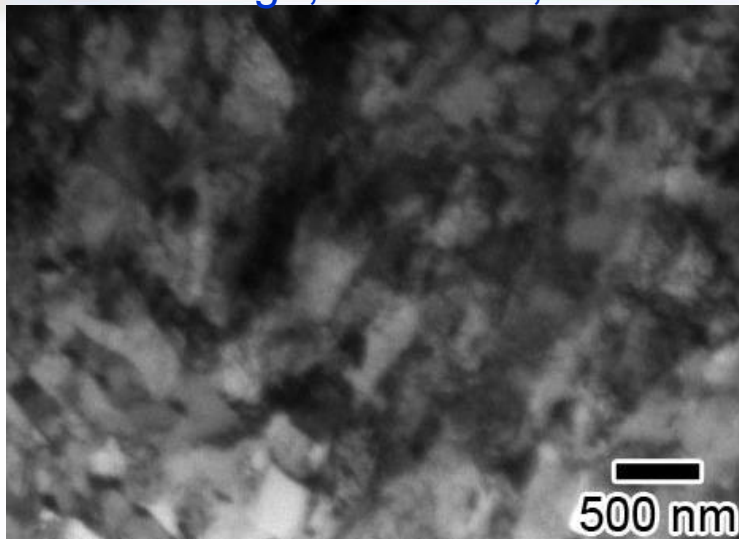
Compression (creep) only observed in Cu layer

In situ TEM Ion Irradiation

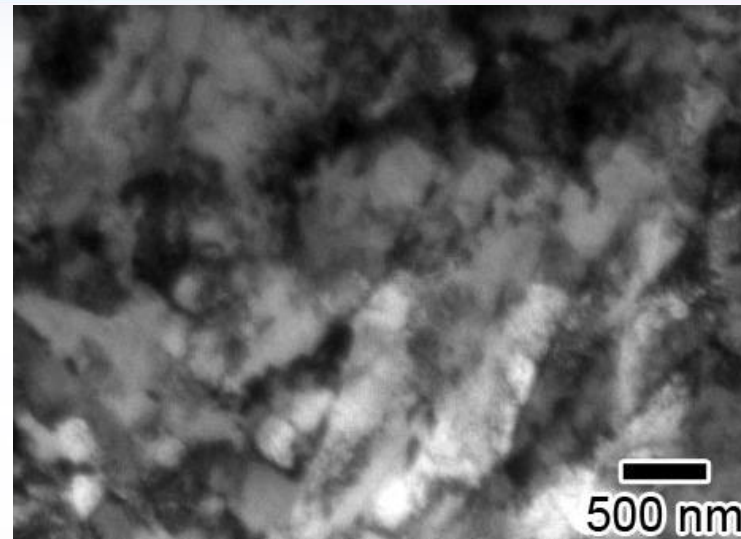
HT9 3 MeV Cu³⁺ at ~10 nA RT

Collaborators: A. Kilgo, J. Puskar, and S. Maloy

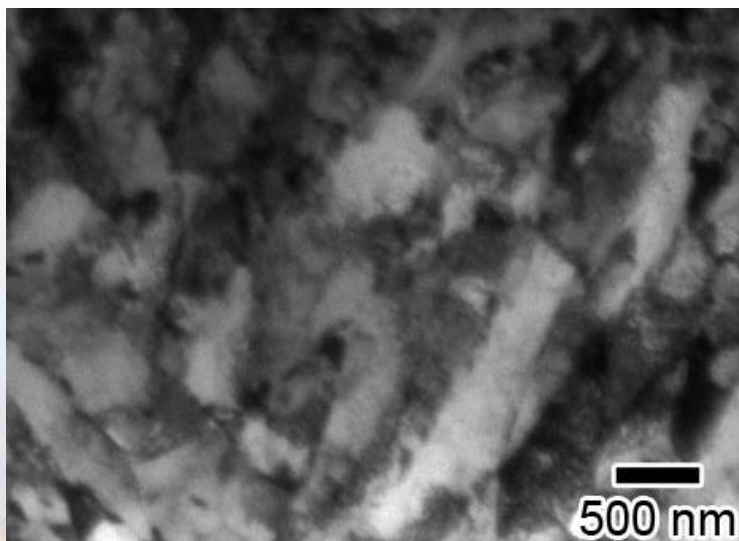
Initial



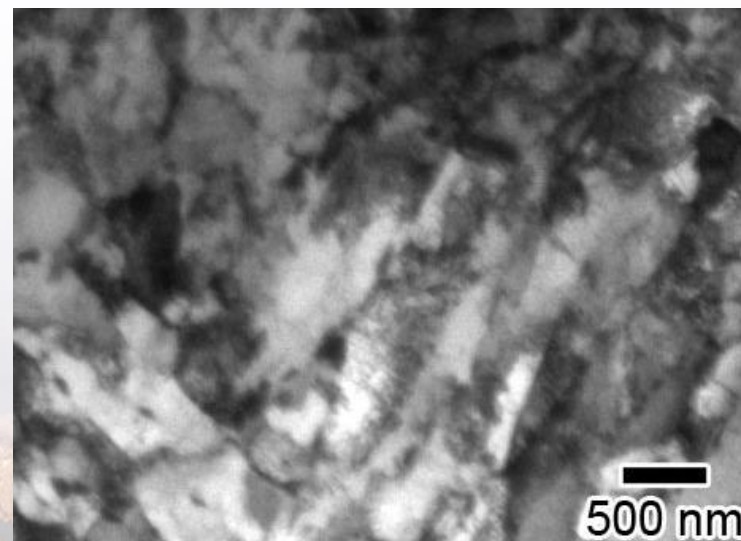
2 hrs



3 hrs

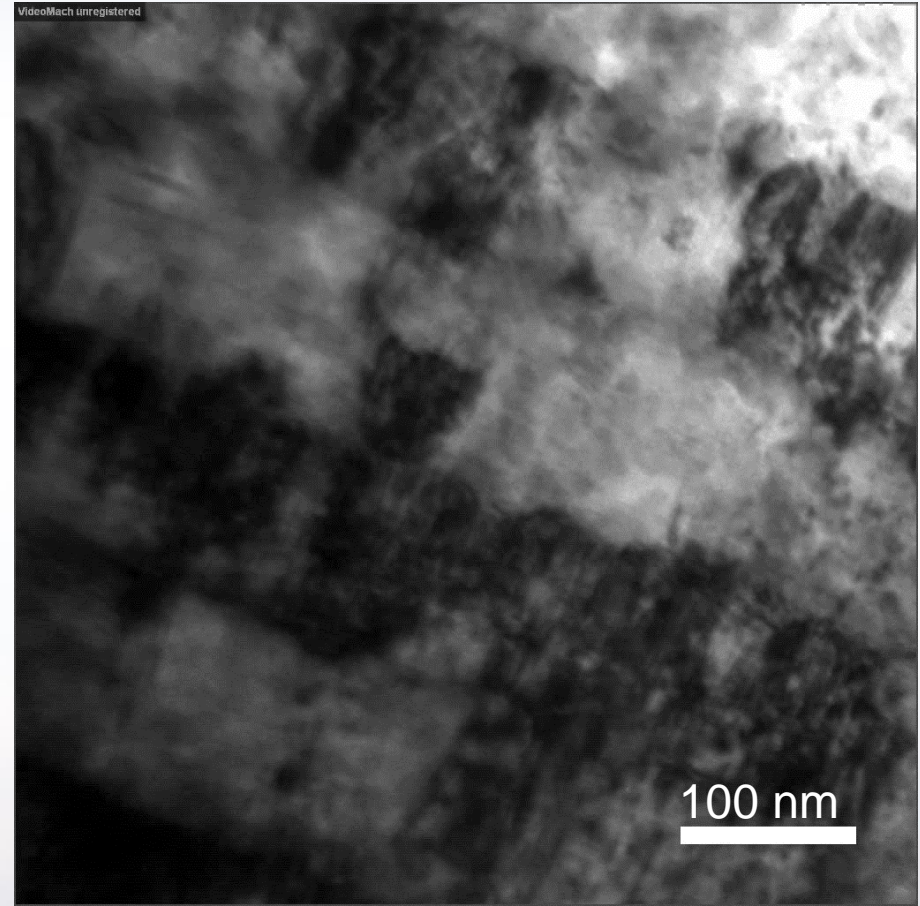
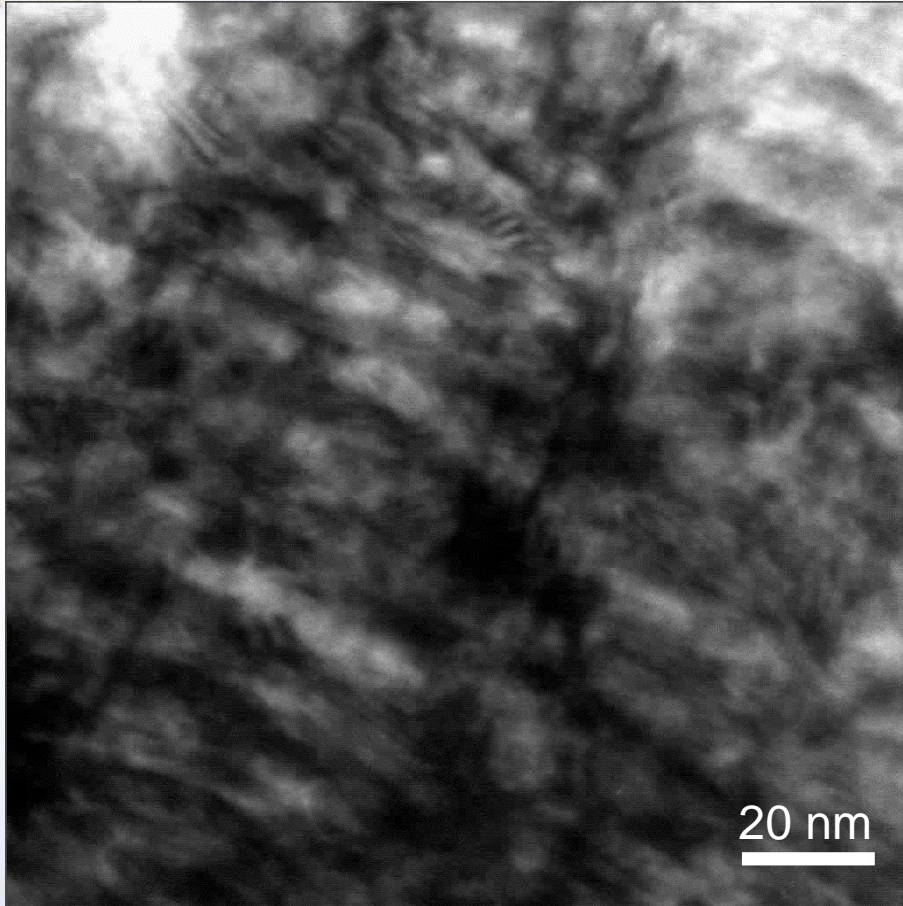


6 hrs



Layer Deposition to Provide Defect Sinks

Collaborators: Y. Chen, N. Li, D. Bufford, X. Zhang



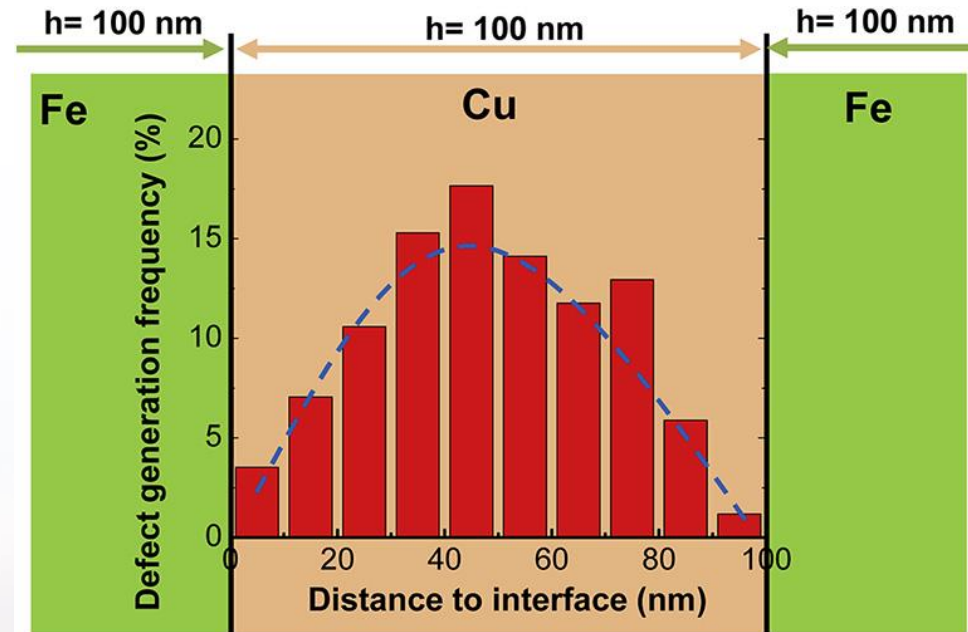
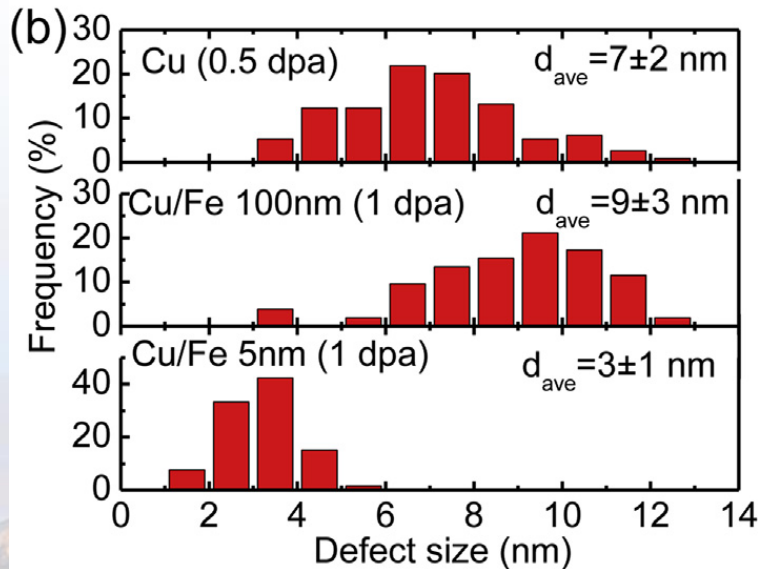
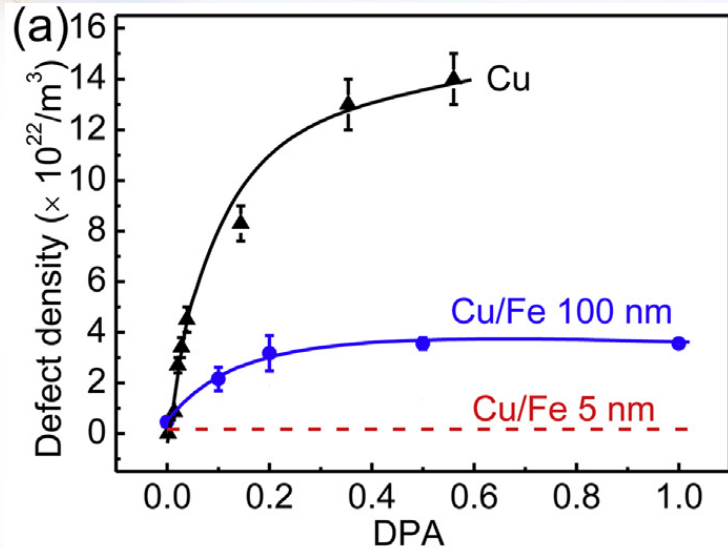
In situ TEM self-ion irradiation of Cu/Fe 100 nm and 5 nm multilayers with 3 MeV Cu

Film deposition of layered structures can also provide an opportunity for radiation defect sinks



Layer Deposition to Provide Defect Sinks

Collaborators: Y. Chen, N. Li, D. Bufford, X. Zhang



- Layered structure provides significant improvement over either pure system.
- The radiation tolerance improves with decreasing layer thickness.

