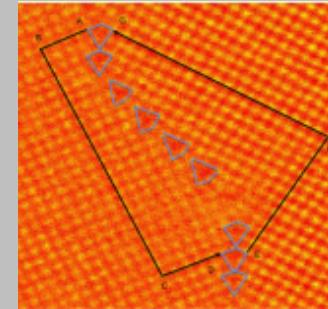
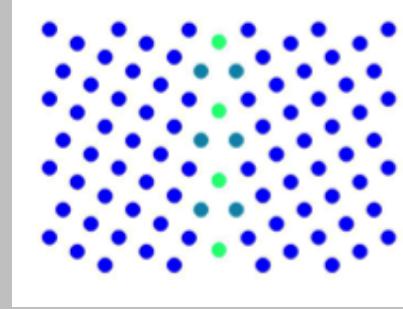
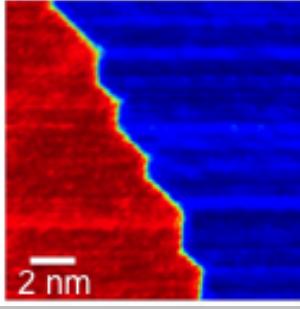
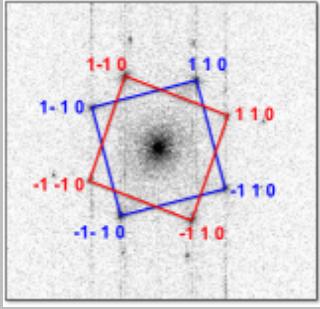
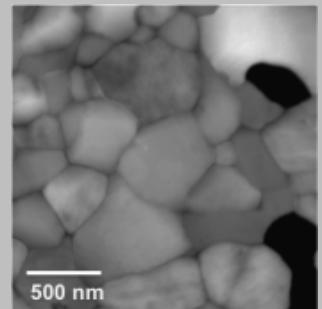


*Exceptional service in the national interest*



Sandia  
National  
Laboratories



# Defect Character at Grain Boundary Facet Junctions: *A combined HRSTEM and Atomistic Modeling Study of a $\Sigma=5$ GB in Fe*

D.L. Medlin<sup>1</sup>, K. Hattar<sup>2</sup>, J.A. Zimmerman<sup>2</sup>,

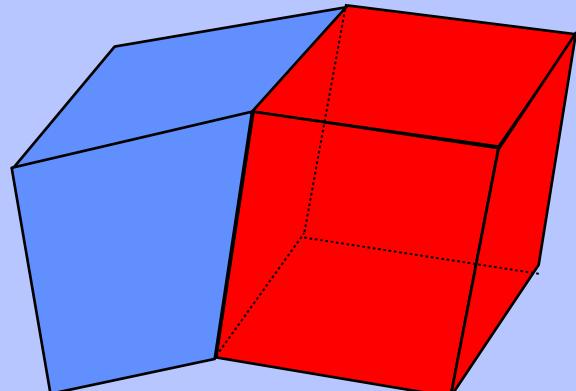
F. Abdeljawad<sup>2</sup>, S.M. Foiles<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Sandia National Laboratories, Livermore, CA

<sup>2</sup>Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, NM

# How to connect between atomistic and continuum descriptions of grain boundaries?

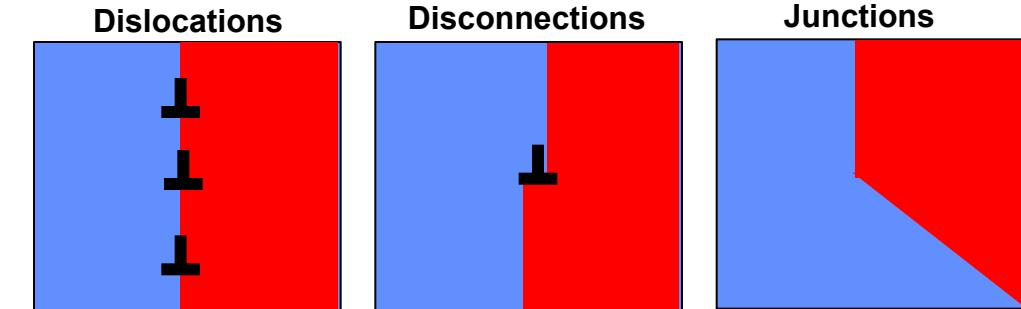
Grain boundary geometry characterized by 5 "macroscopic" degrees of freedom



misorientation (3 dof)  
inclination (2 dof)

## Our approach:

*Focus on arrangements and interactions of elementary interfacial line defects*



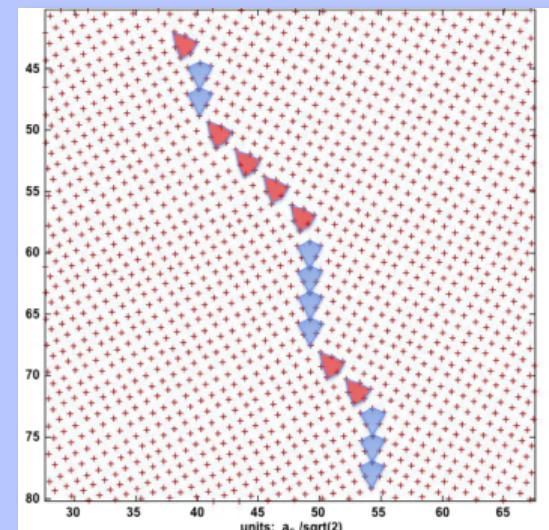
*Atomistic scale microscopy and modeling*

## Focus for Today's talk

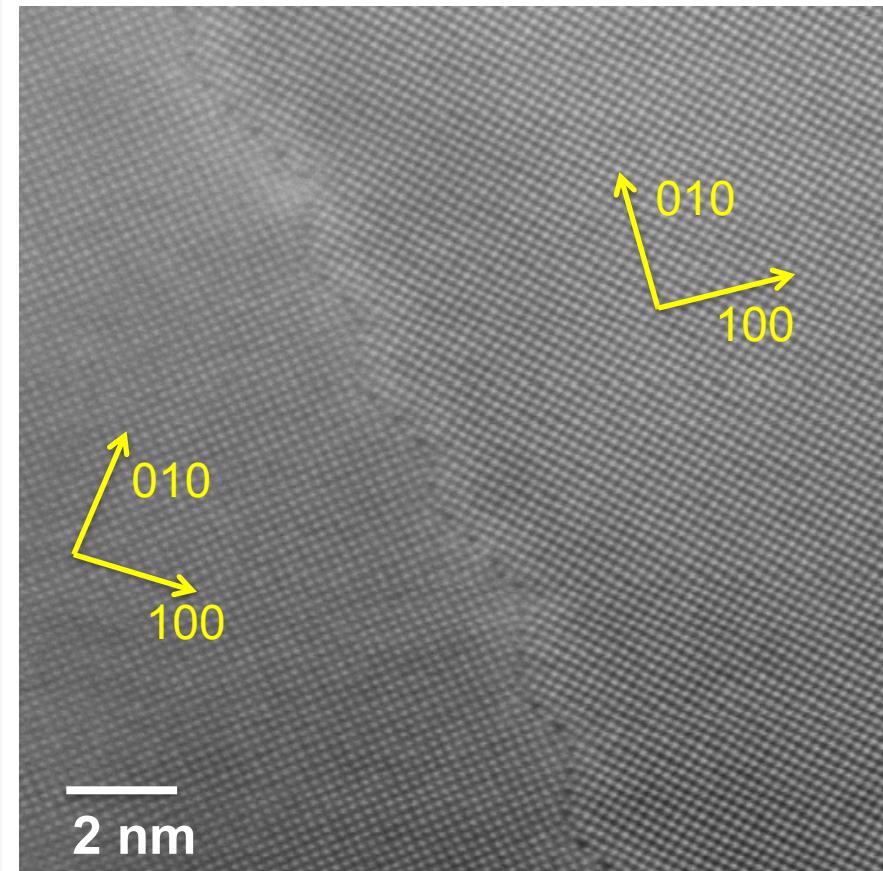
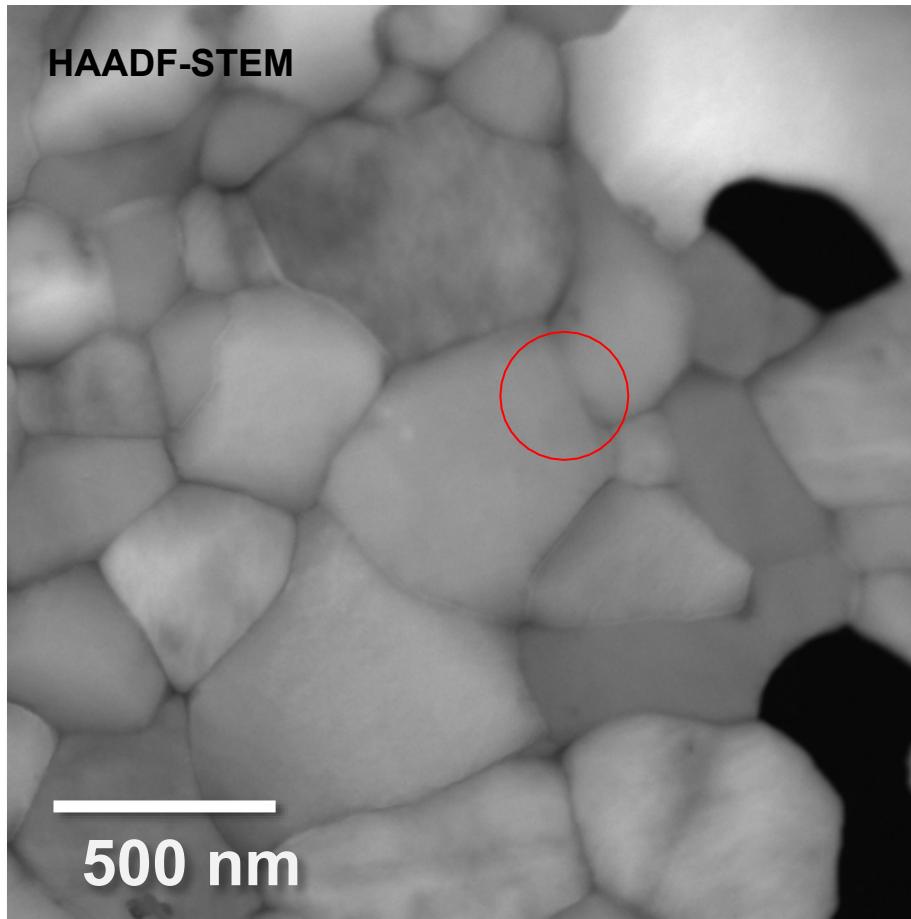
-Observations and calculations of a  $\Sigma=5$  Grain boundary in BCC Fe

-Deviation from symmetric inclination and ideal misorientation:

- nanoscale faceting
- interfacial dislocations



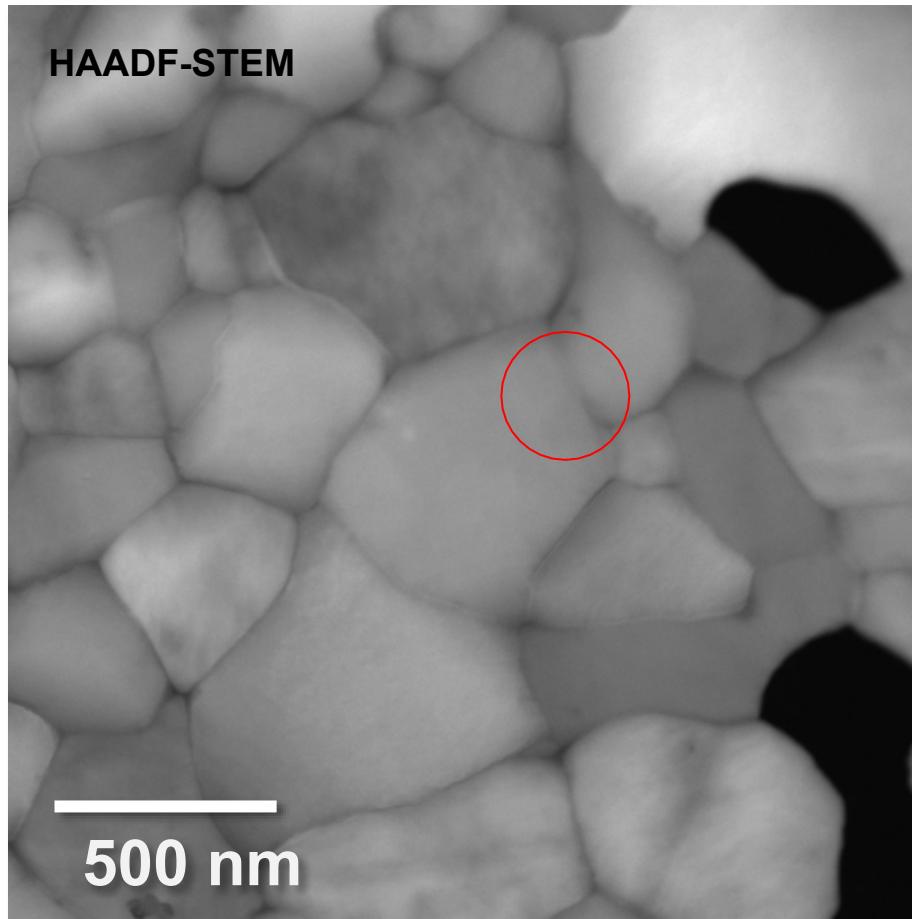
# Observations: Polycrystalline BCC Fe film



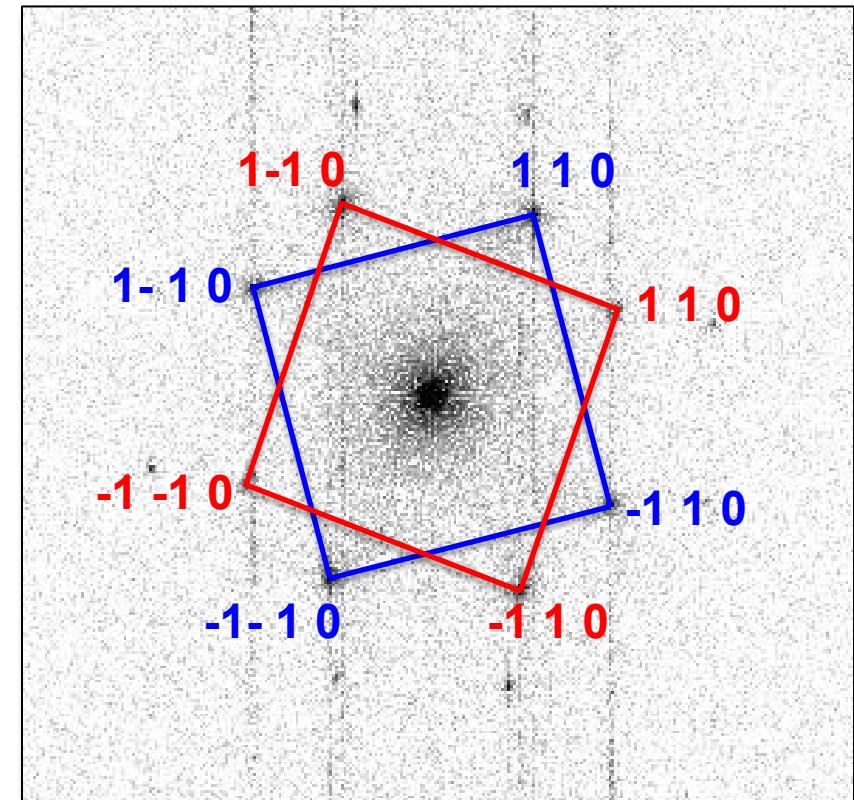
Pulsed Laser Deposited Fe on Rocksalt (NaCl). 36 nm thickness.  
Specimen released and annealed on Mo grid 675°C, 2 hours.  
under vacuum

HAADF-STEM  
FEI-200 keV probe corrected Titan

# Observations: polycrystalline Fe thin film

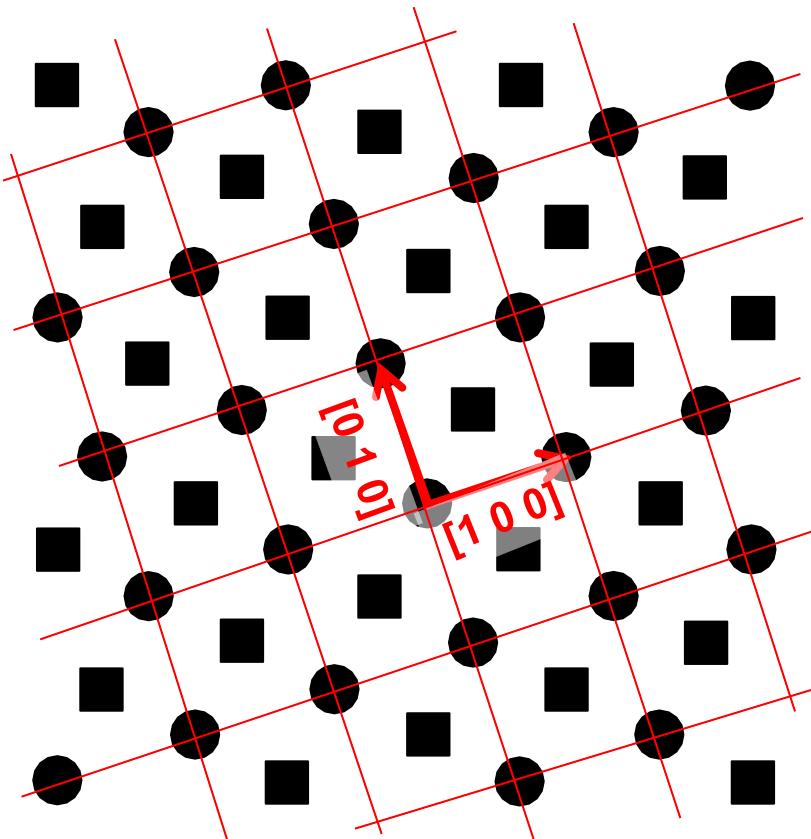
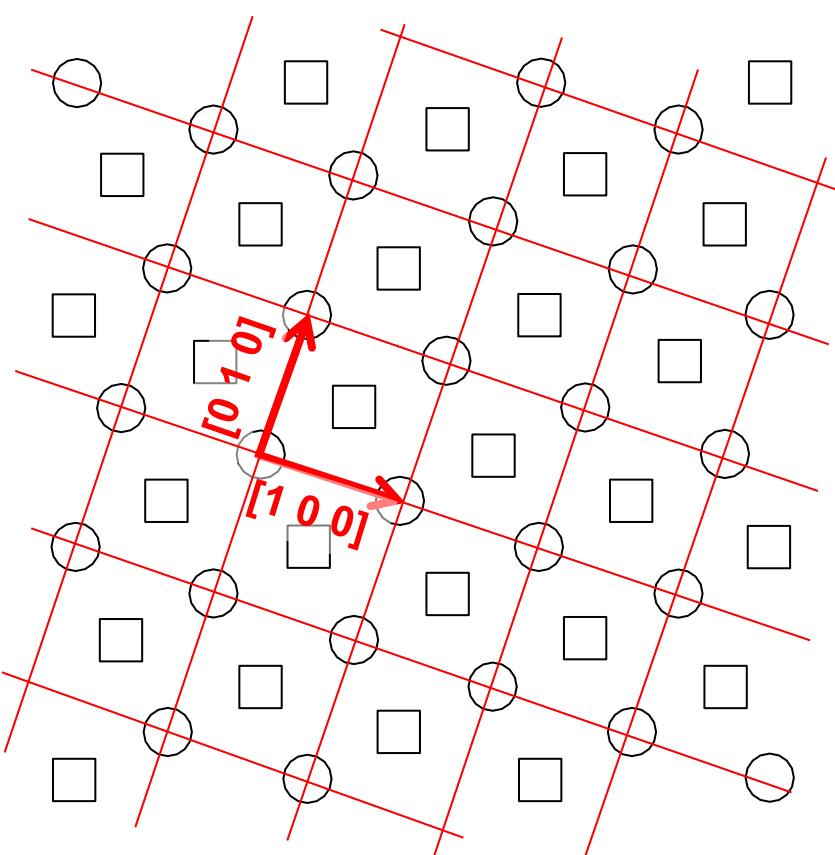


Pulsed Laser Deposited Fe on Rocksalt (NaCl). 36 nm thickness.  
Specimen released and annealed on Mo grid 675°C, 2 hours.  
under vacuum



Measured misorientation:  $34.49^\circ \pm 0.7^\circ$   
Very close to  $\Sigma=5$ :  $\theta_{\Sigma=5}=36.87^\circ$   
 $\Delta\theta = -2.38^\circ$

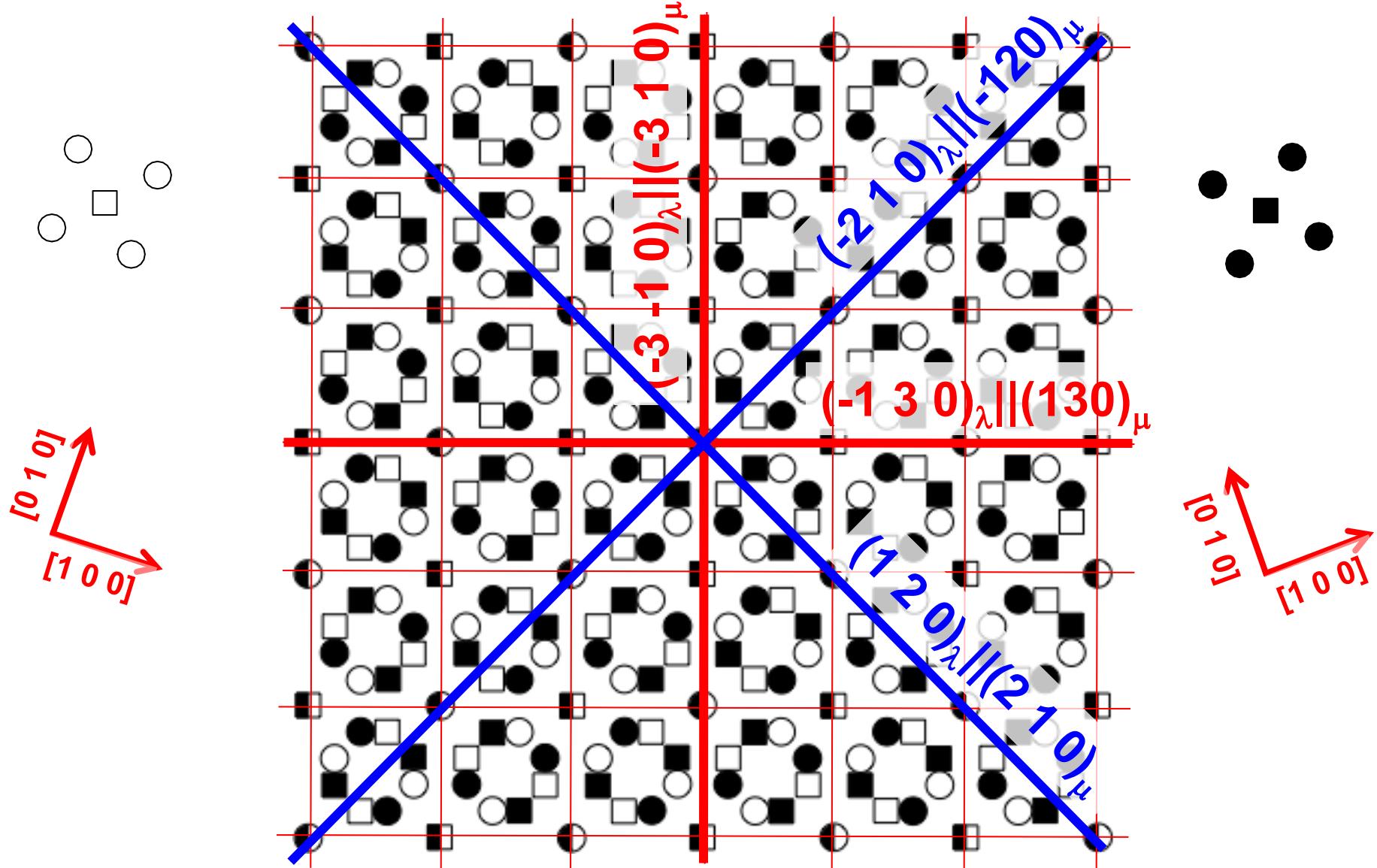
# BCC $\Sigma=5$ [001]: Interfacial Crystallography



**36.87° Rotation about [001]**

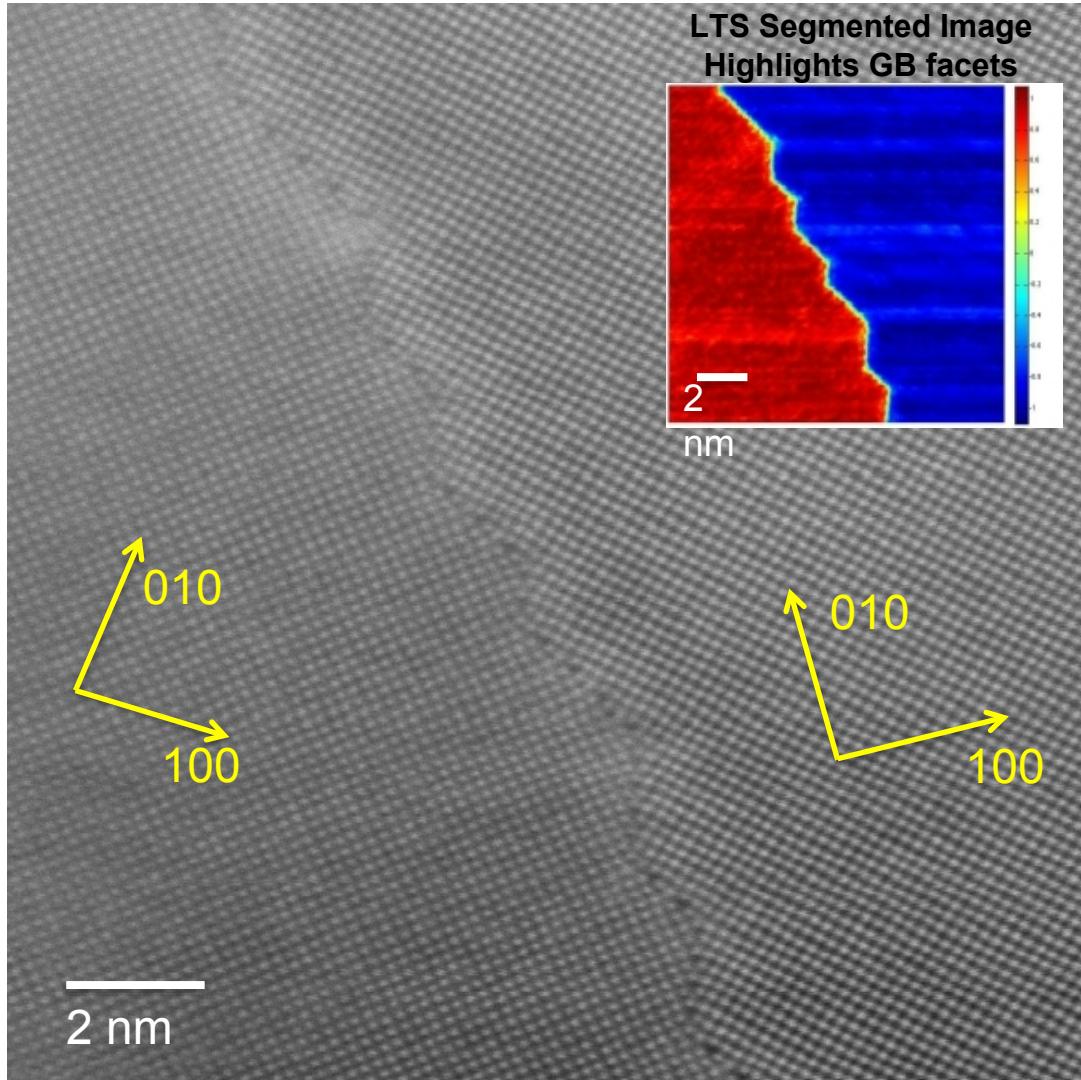
# BCC $\Sigma=5$ [001]: Interfacial Crystallography

## Dichromatic Pattern

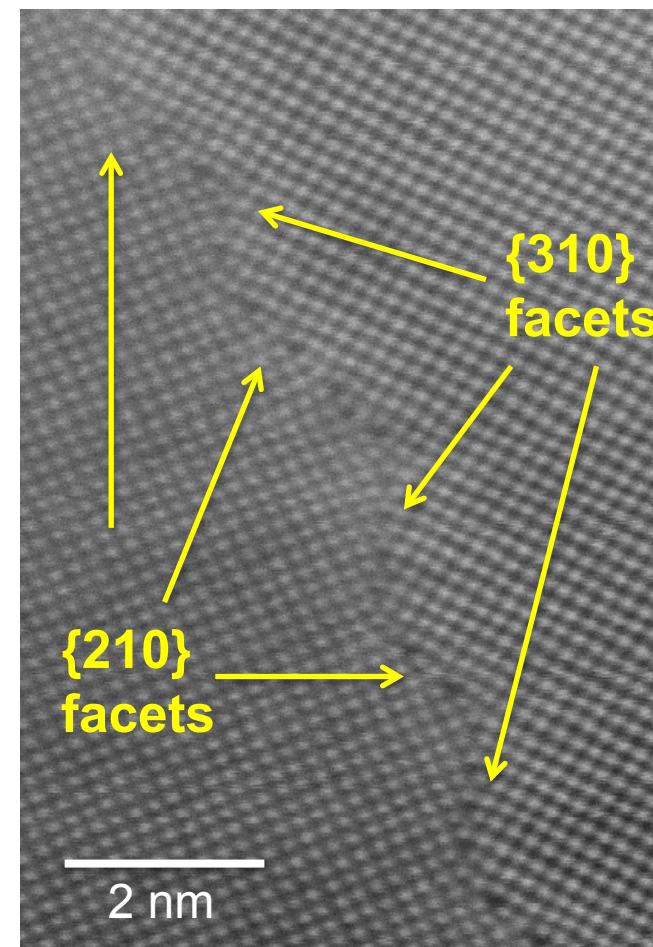


# HRSTEM shows nanoscale faceting at Grain boundary

## HAADF-STEM $\Sigma=5$ $\langle 001 \rangle$ Boundary in Fe



Boundary is faceted on  $\{210\}$  and  $\{310\}$  type inclinations



Inclination from  $\{310\}$ :  $\approx 25^\circ$

# Faceting: Signature of anisotropic interfacial energy

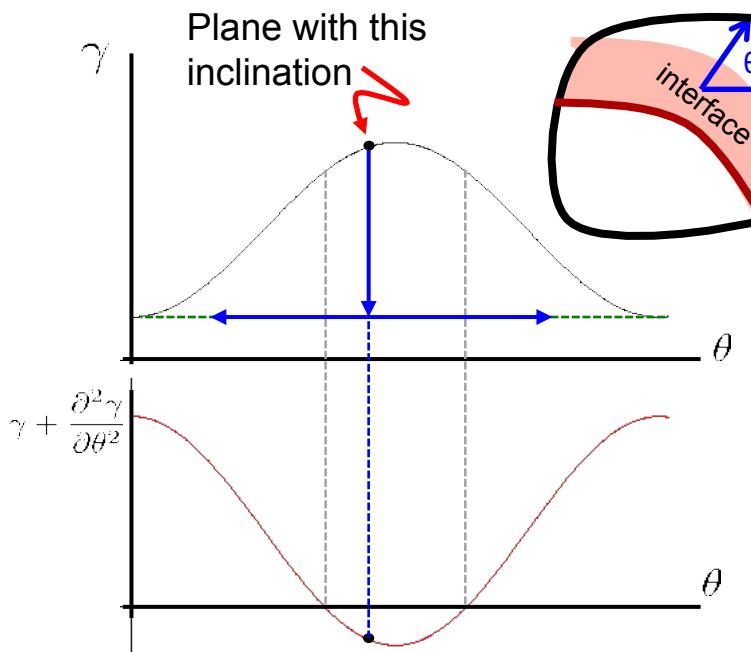
- Driving force ( $\mu$ ) for interface evolution:

$H$ : mean curvature  
 $V_m$ : molar volume  
 $\gamma$ : interface energy

$$\mu \sim v_m \left( \gamma + \frac{\partial^2 \gamma}{\partial \theta^2} \right) H$$

W. W. Mullins (1963)

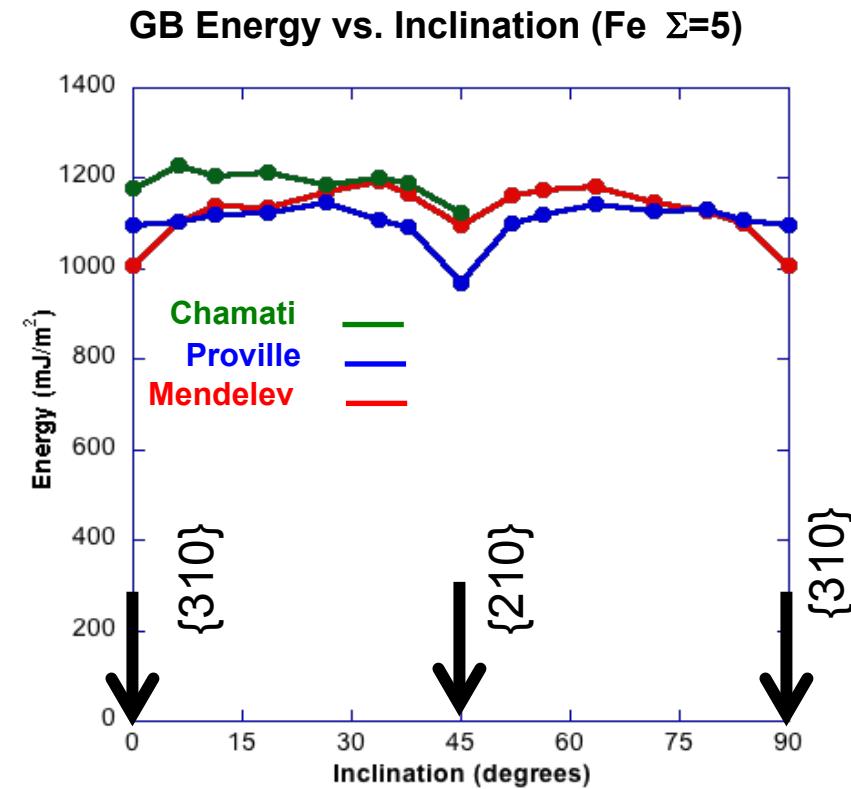
Interface stiffness



Frank (1963), Cabrera (1964),  
Stewart (1992), Liu (1993)

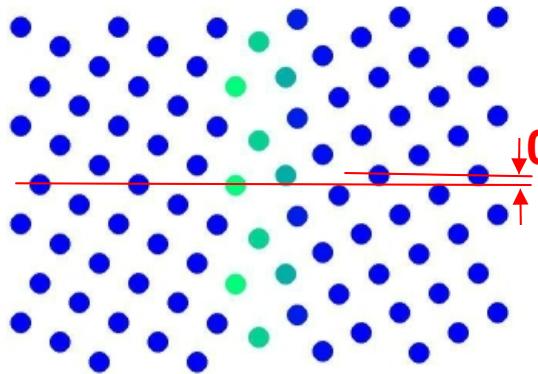
-Inclinations with negative interface stiffness break into facets with minimum energy orientations.

-"interface spinodals": analogous to phase separation in bulk materials.



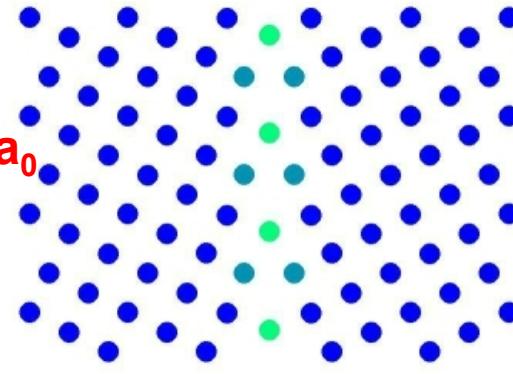
# $\Sigma=5 \{310\}$ Structures with different Potentials

Asymmetric



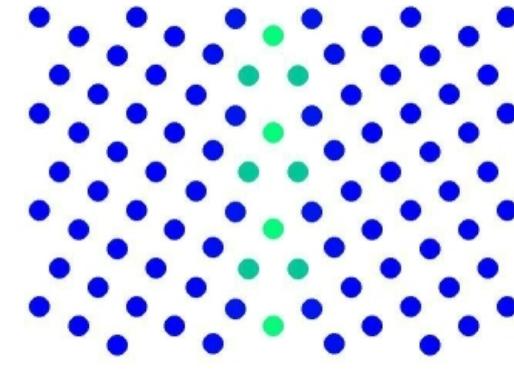
Potential: Chamati, 2006

Symmetric



Potential: Mendelev, 2003

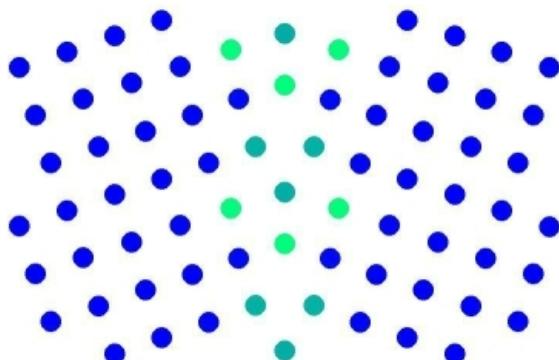
Symmetric



Potential: Proville, 2012

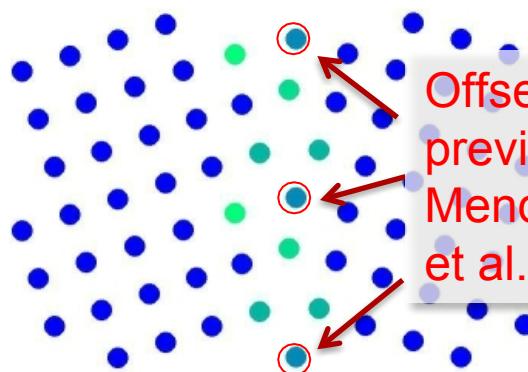
# $\Sigma=5 \{210\}$ Structures with different Potentials

Symmetric



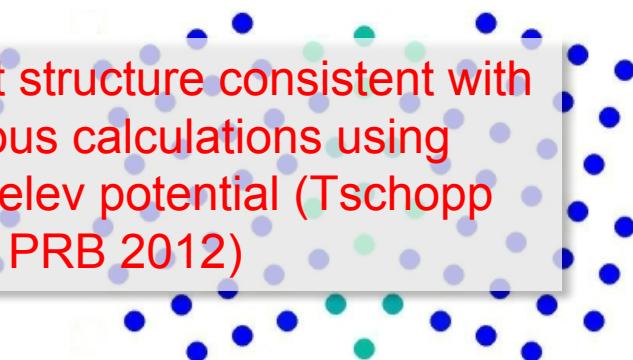
Potential: Chamati, 2006

Asymmetric



Potential: Mendelev, 2003

Symmetric

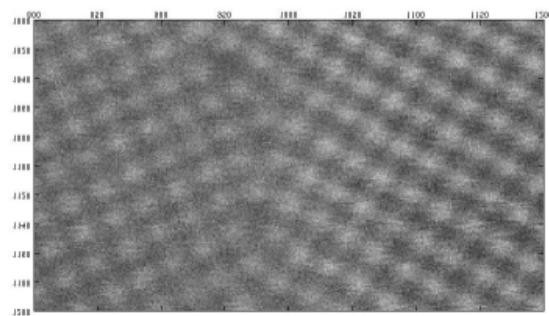


Potential: Proville, 2012

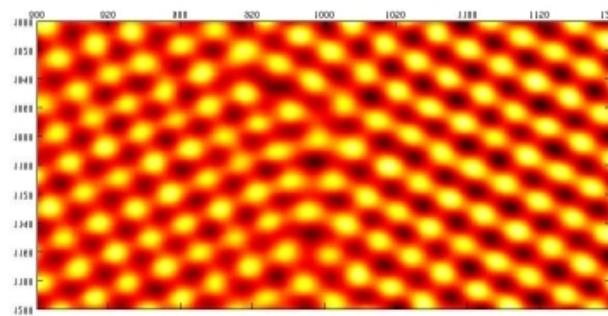
Offset structure consistent with previous calculations using Mendelev potential (Tschopp et al., PRB 2012)

# Quantifying the GB Images: Peak Location

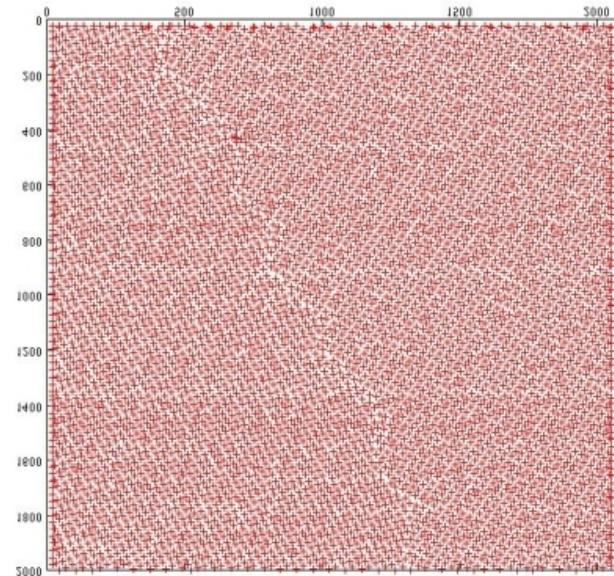
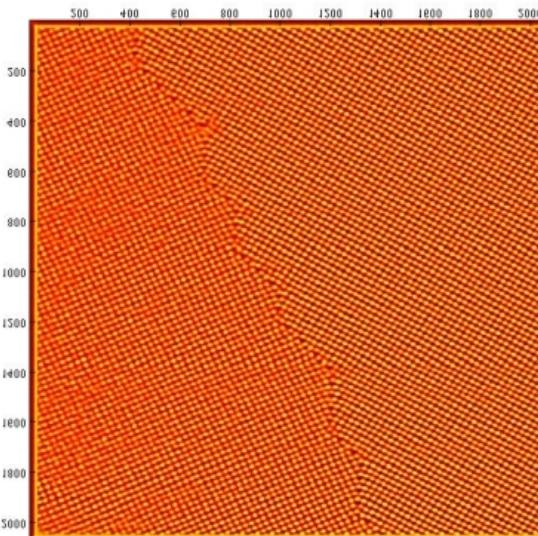
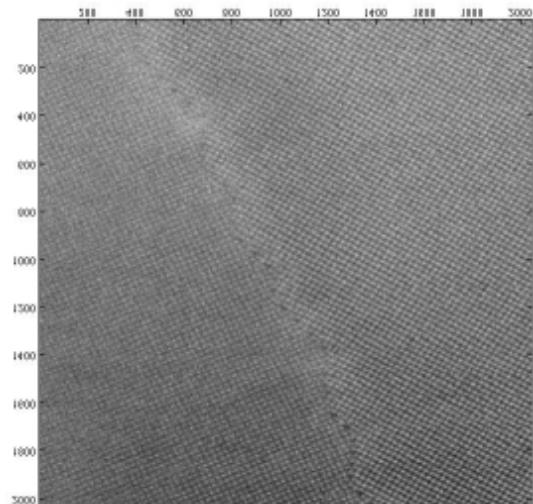
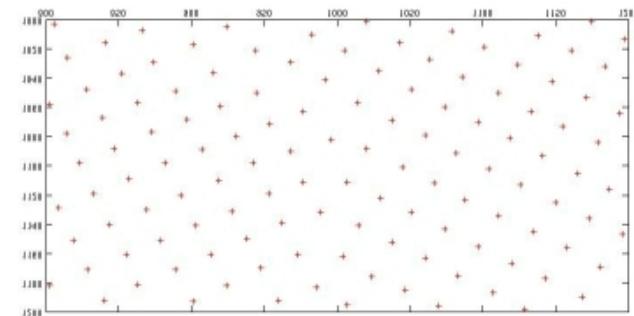
Raw HAADF STEM Image



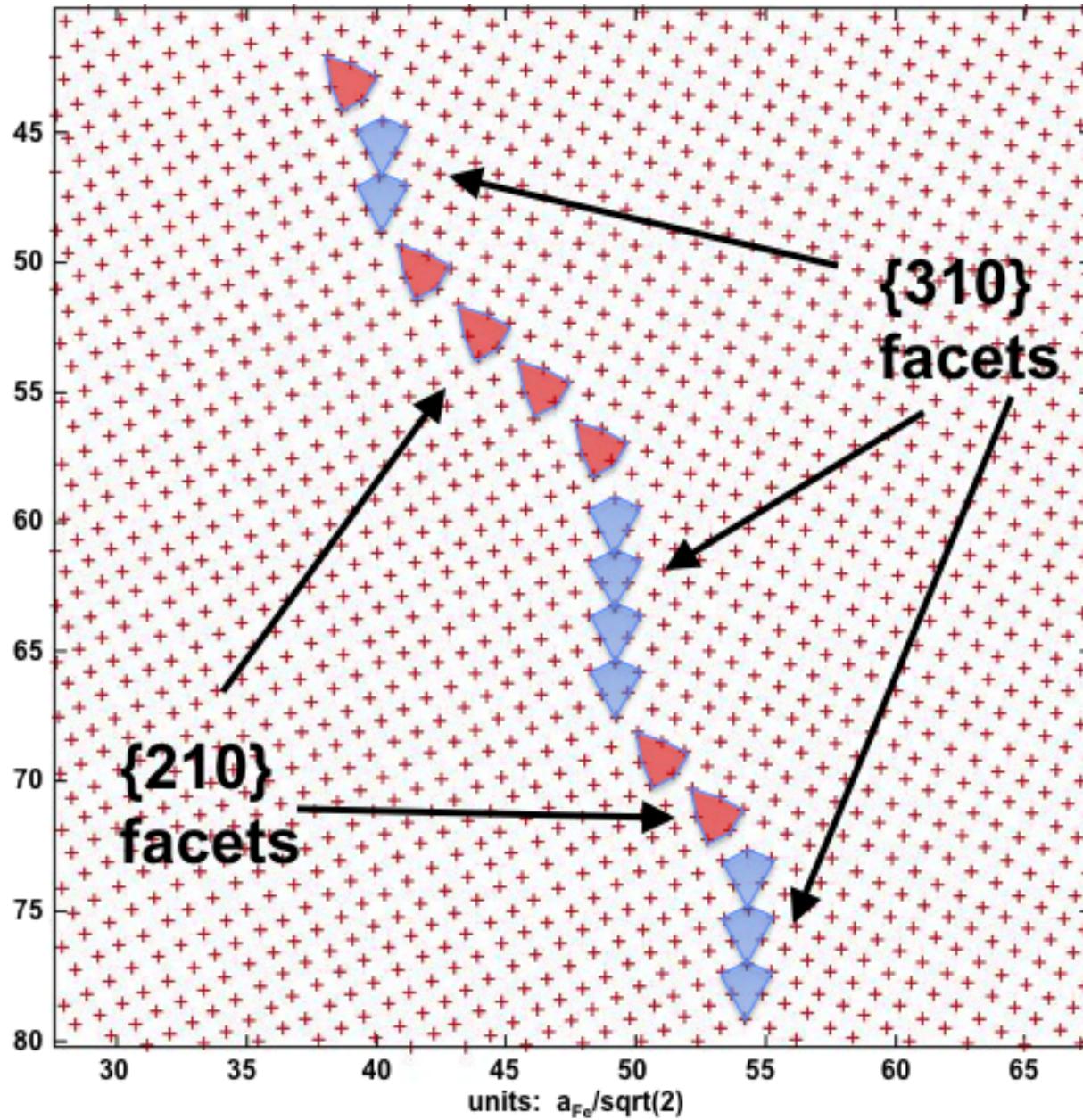
Correlation Image-Gaussian



Peak Positions



Shear distortion due to specimen drift during image acquisition.  
Corrected by affine transformation to peak position array.

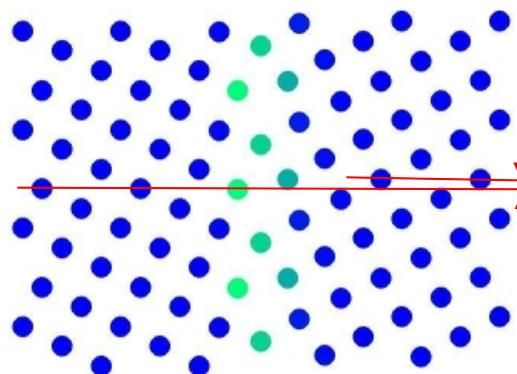


Intensity peak positions from HAADF-STEM of Fe  $\Sigma=5$  grain boundary

*How do the {310} and {210} structural units compare with atomistic predictions?*

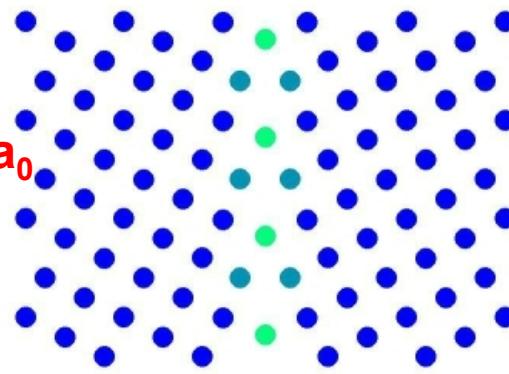
# $\Sigma=5$ {310} Structures with different Potentials

**Asymmetric**



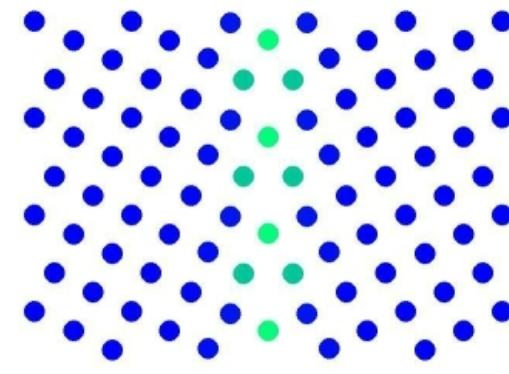
Potential: Chamati, 2006

**Symmetric**



Potential: Mendelev, 2003

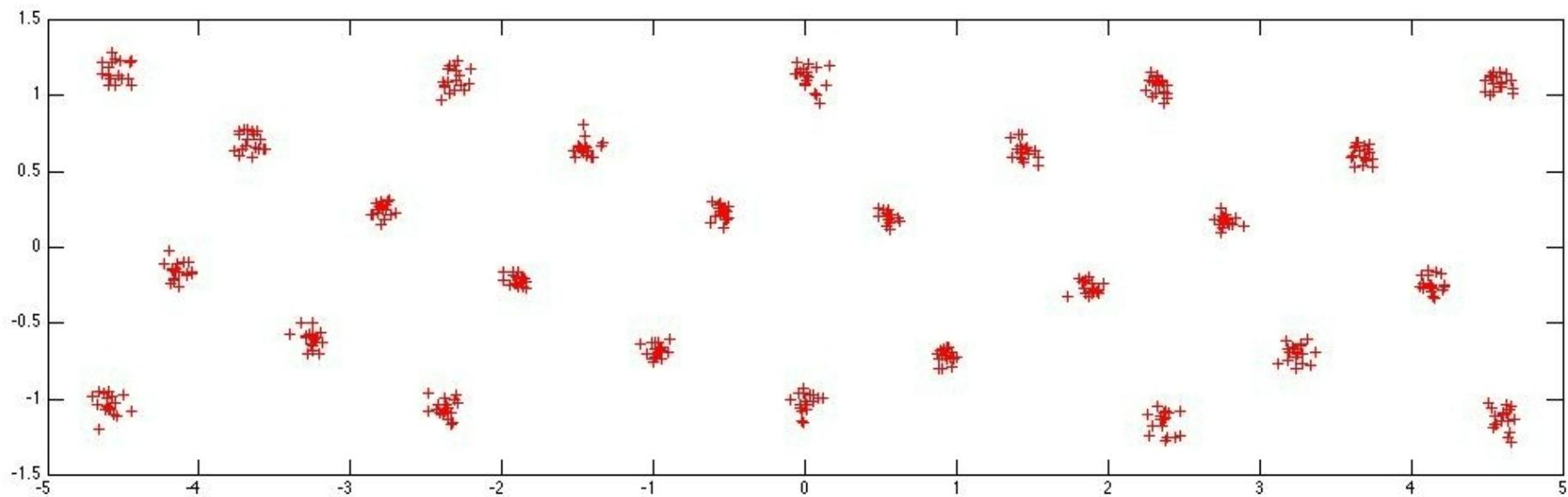
**Symmetric**



Potential: Proville, 2012

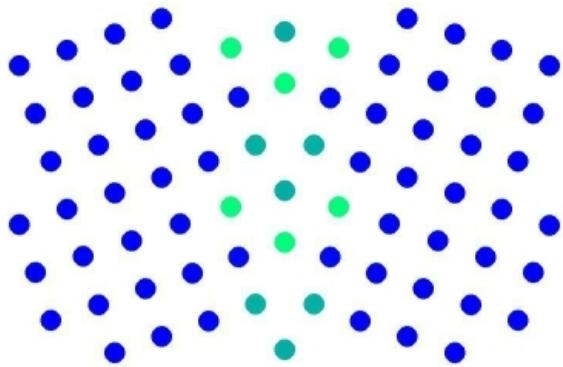
**Experimental Peak Positions (HAADF STEM)**

$$\Delta y = -0.015 \pm 0.036 a_0$$



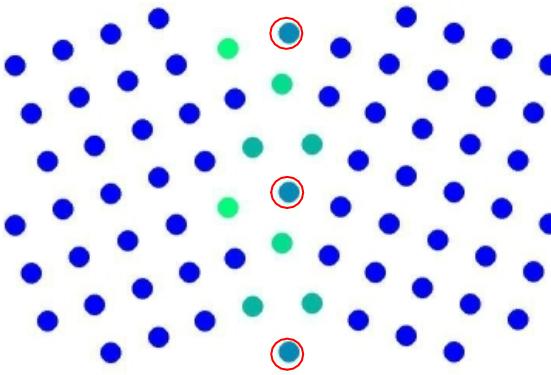
# $\Sigma=5 \{210\}$ Structures with different Potentials

Symmetric



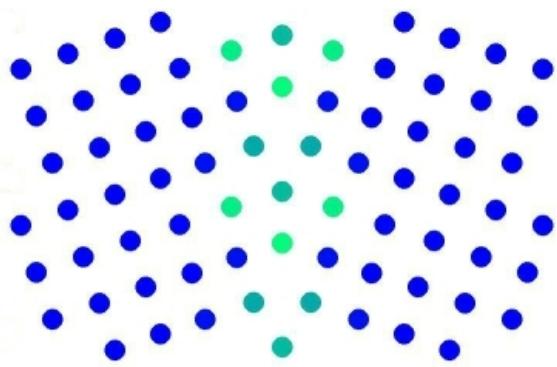
Potential: Chamati, 2006

Asymmetric



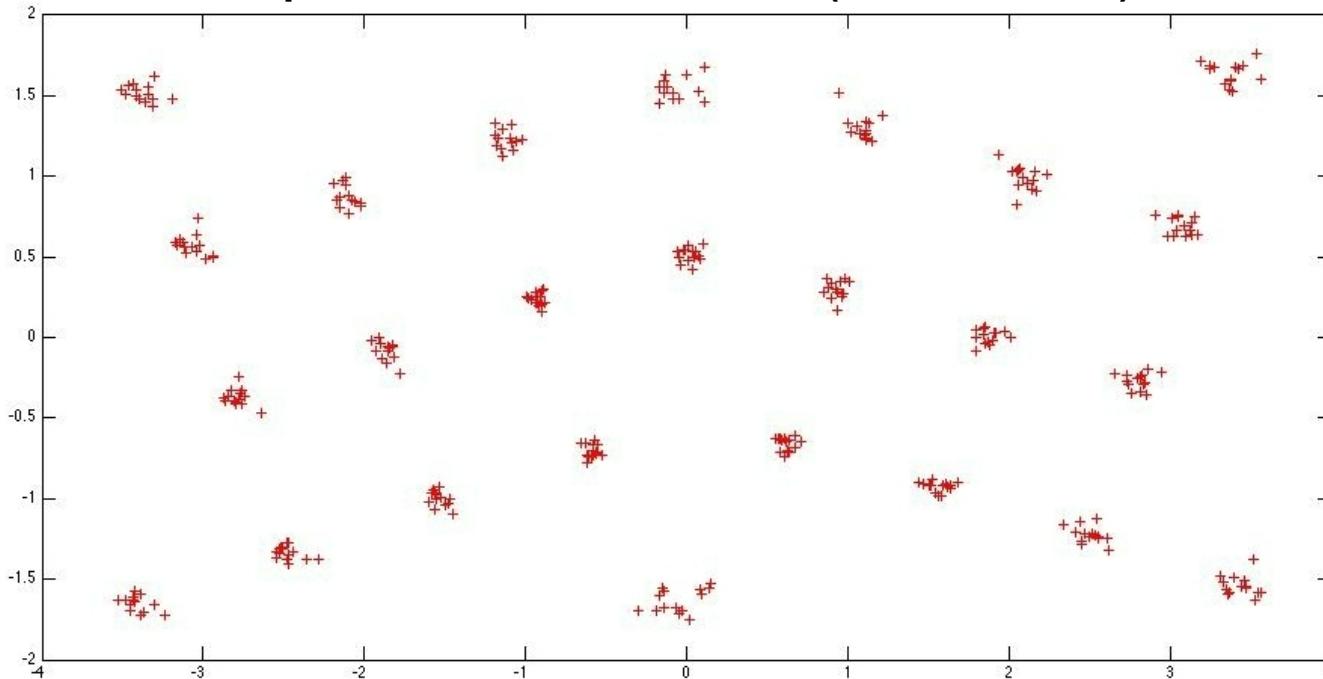
Potential: Mendelev, 2003

Symmetric

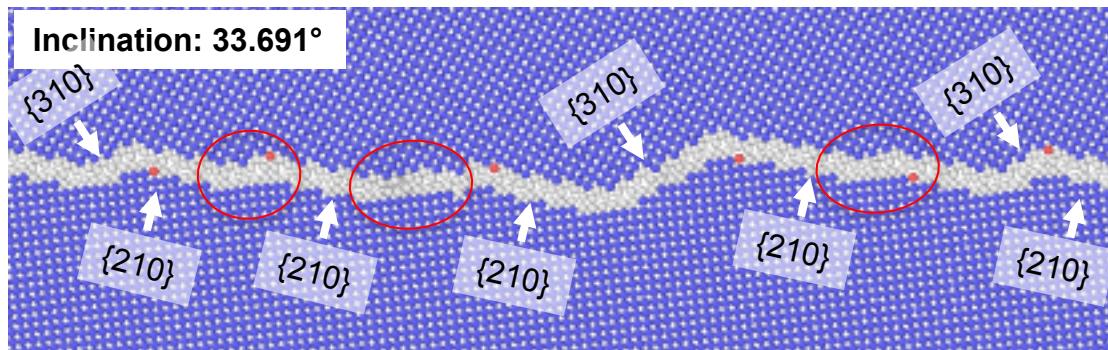
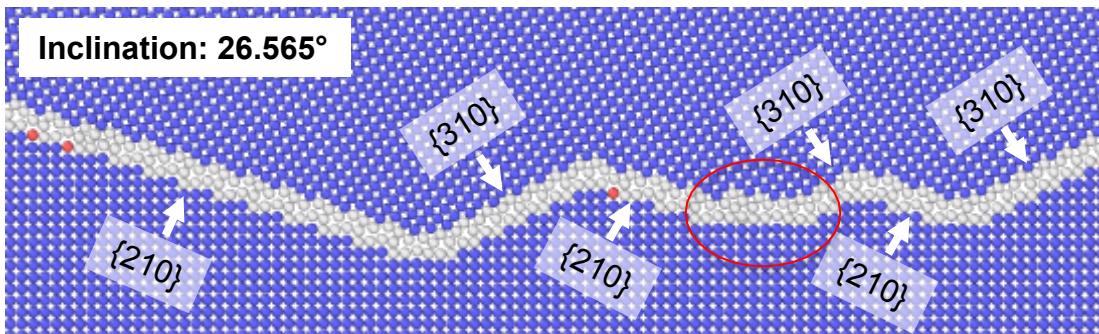
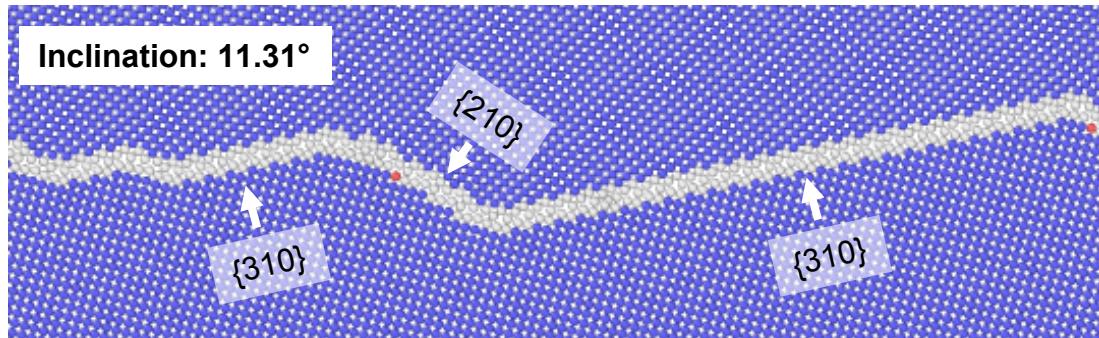


Potential: Proville, 2012

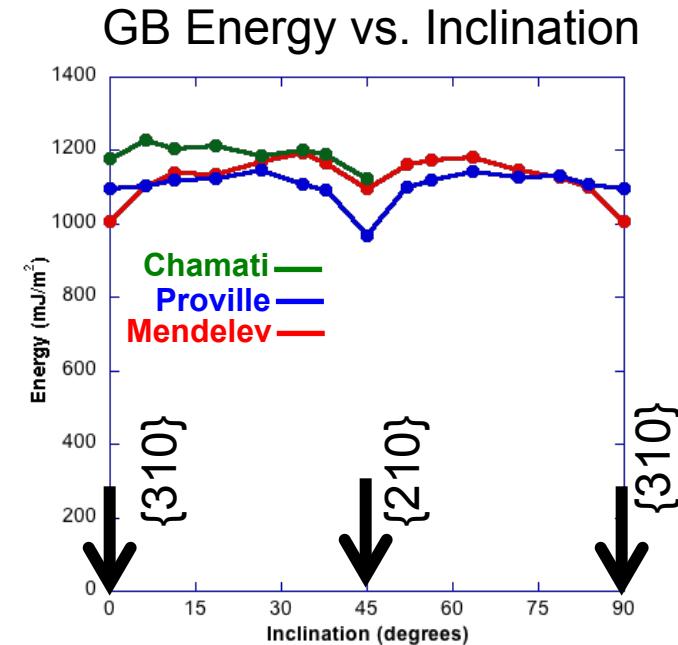
Experimental Peak Positions (HAADF STEM)



# Variation in Structure and Energy with inclination: MD shows 310 and 210 faceting



Mendelev Potential



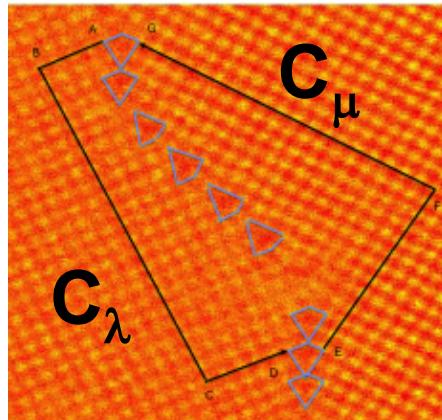
Atomistics show  
dissociation into coexisting  
{310} and {210} facets.

Additional faceting on  
{710}/{110} planes:  
-1:1 ratio of {310} and {210} units  
-Not fully coarsened into lower  
energy {210}, {310} facets.

# Are Grain Boundary Dislocations Present?

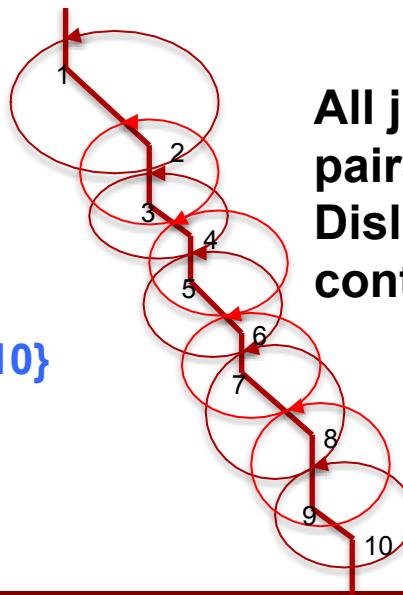
Boundary is misoriented from exact  $\Sigma=5$  ( $\Delta\theta=-2.38^\circ$ )

Determine defect content by Circuit  
Mapping over all facet junctions



Path in  $\mu$  crystal  
↓  
 $b = -(C_\lambda + PC_\mu)$   
↑  
Burgers vector  
Path in  $\lambda$  crystal  
↓  
Re-express  $\mu$  path  
in  $\lambda$  crystal  
coordinates.

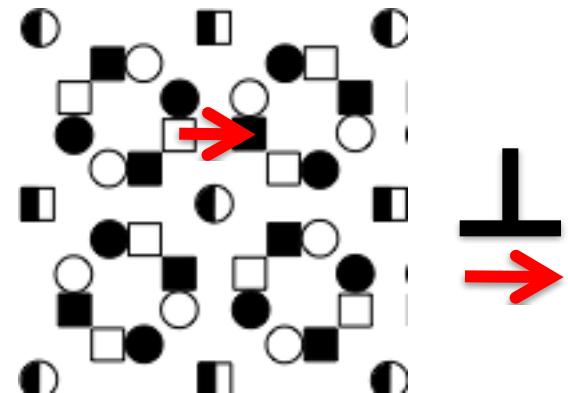
- Circuits must cross at equivalent GB sites
- Every circuit then includes 2 junctions.
- Alternate between circuits on  $\{210\}$  and  $\{310\}$  inclinations



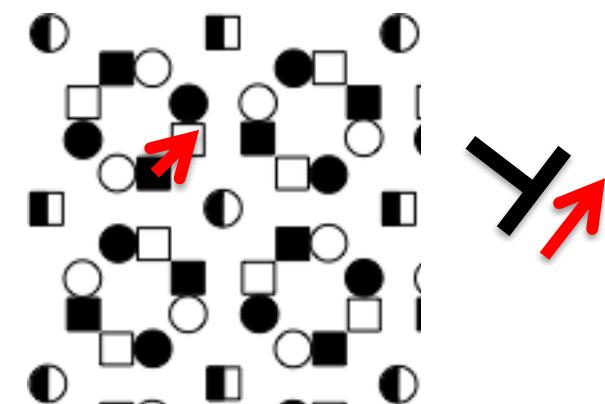
All junction pairs exhibited Dislocation content

Two types of defect observed:

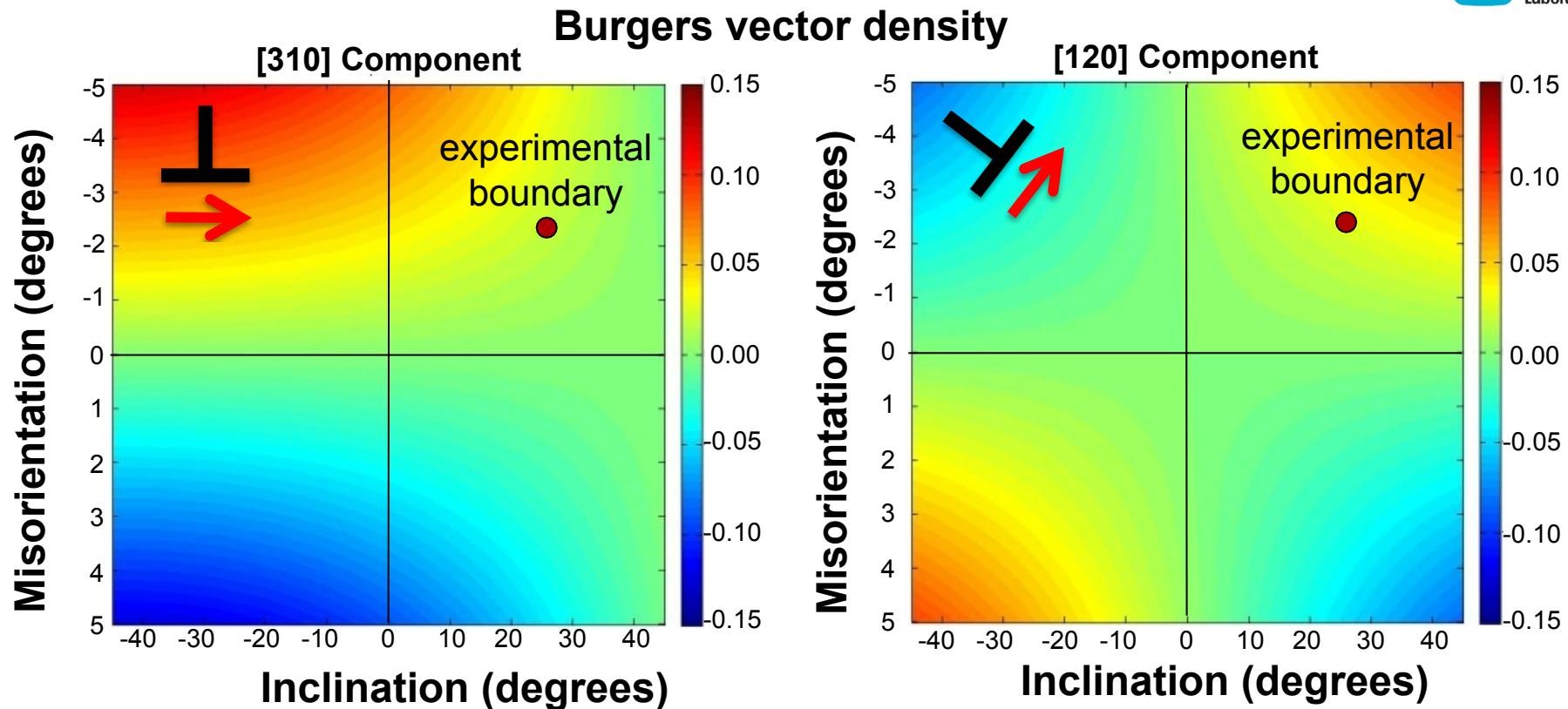
$b=(1/5)[3,1,0]$



$b=(1/5)[1,2,0]$



# Defect content tied to misorientation and inclination



- Burgers vector density related to misorientation and inclination through Frank-Bilby Equation:  $B = (I - P^{-1}) v$

Experimental

$<310>$  component: 0.0323

$<120>$  component: 0.0152

Frank-Bilby equation ( $\theta = -2.38^\circ \pm 0.8^\circ$ ,  $\phi = 25.9^\circ \pm 1.0^\circ$ )

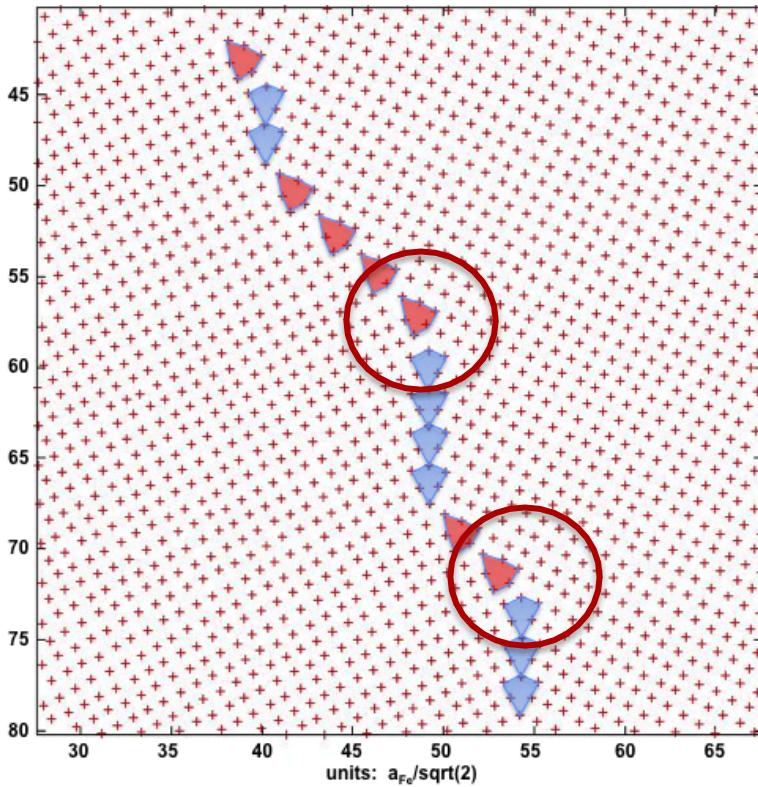
$<310>$  component:  $0.0180 \pm 0.006$

$<120>$  component:  $0.027 \pm 0.010$

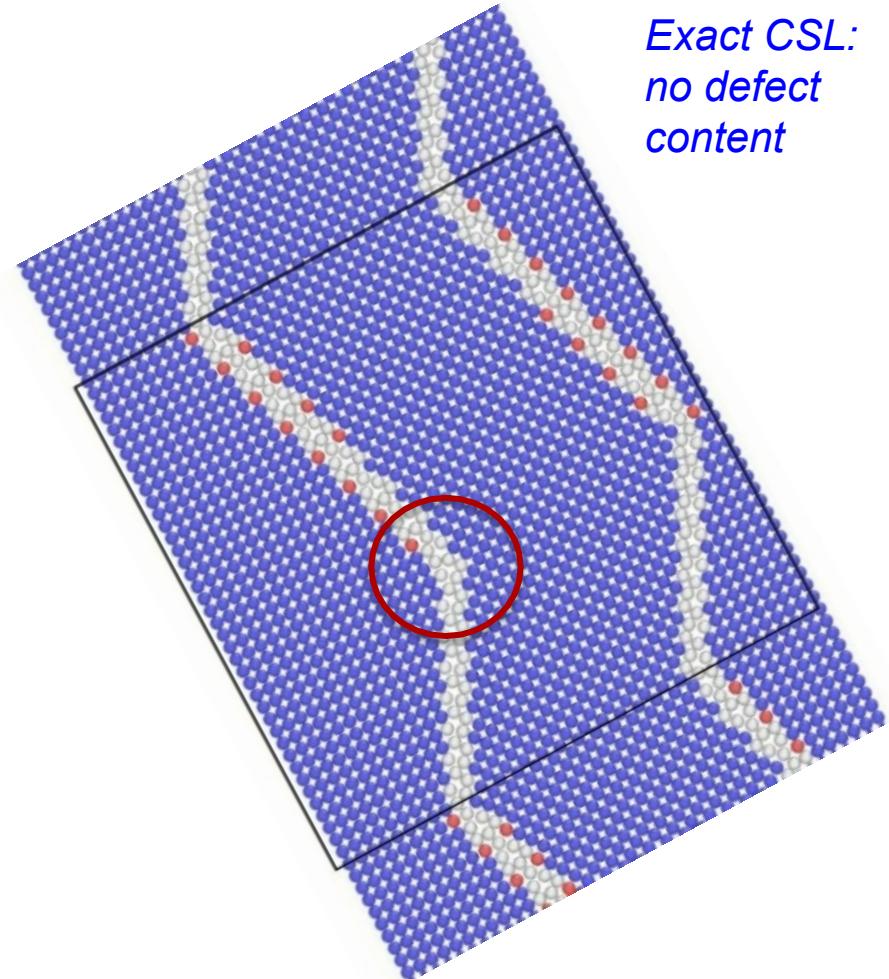
- For inclinations away from {310},  $b_{120}$  component required to accommodate interfacial coherency strains.

# How are the grain boundary dislocations manifested in the junction structure?

Experimental Junctions  
 $b=(1/5)(120)$  and  $(1/5)(310)$



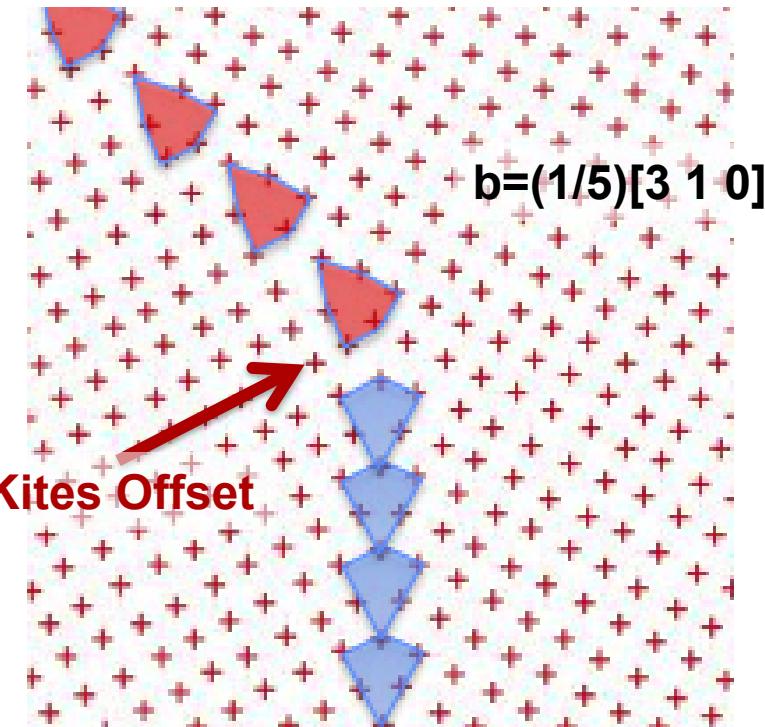
Relaxed Periodic Atomistic Structure



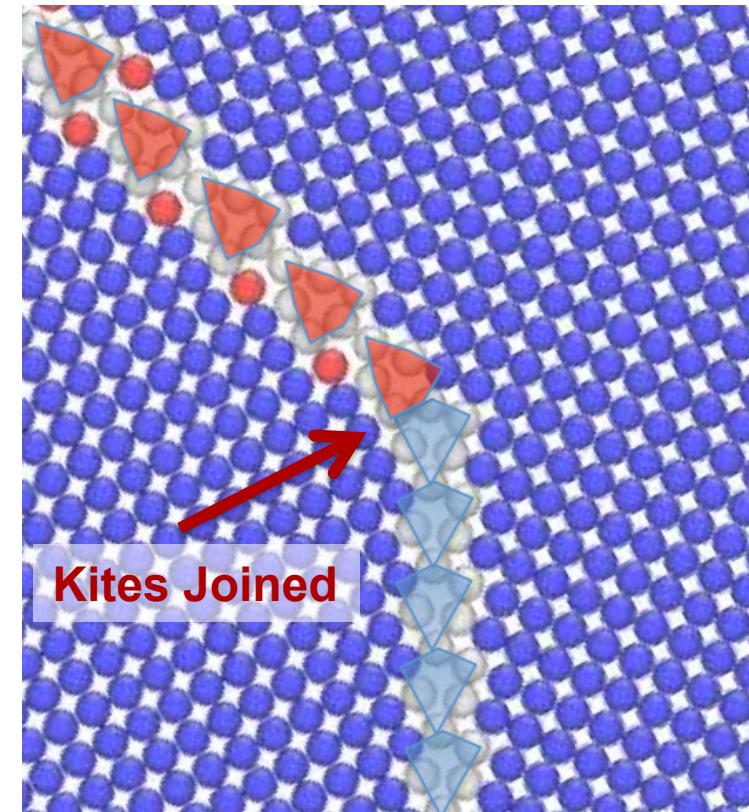
Exact CSL:  
no defect  
content

# How are the grain boundary dislocations manifested in the junction structure?

Experimental Junctions  
 $b=(1/5)(120)$  and  $(1/5)(310)$



Relaxed Periodic Atomistic Structure



# Conclusions.

- HRSTEM observations of a  $\Sigma=5$   $\langle 001 \rangle$  Boundary in Fe shows nanoscale faceting
  - Facets are on  $\{310\}$  and  $\{210\}$  planes, which correspond to the mirror symmetry planes for the  $\Sigma=5$  dichromatic pattern.
- The atomic structures observed along the  $\{310\}$  and  $\{210\}$  facets are consistent with predictions of atomistic calculations.
- Circuit analysis shows presence of grain boundary dislocations at all facet junction pairs.
  - two types of defect observed:  
 $b=(1/5)(3,1,0)$  and  $b=(1/5)(1,2,0)$ .
  - Defect density accommodates misorientation/inclination.
- *Open question: Does the distribution of grain boundary dislocations dictate the facet length scale?*