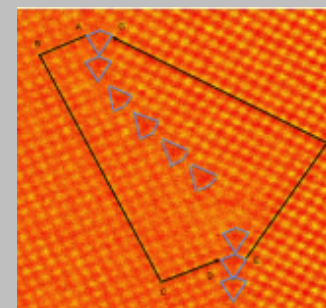
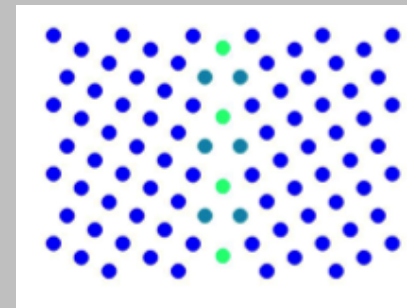
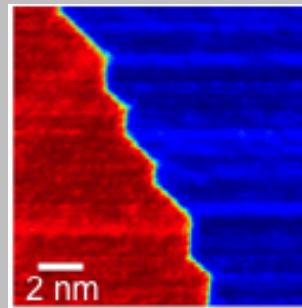
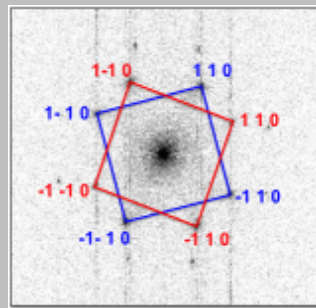
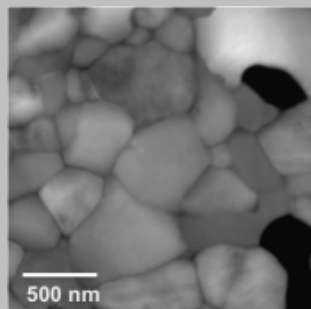


*Exceptional service in the national interest*



# 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>,

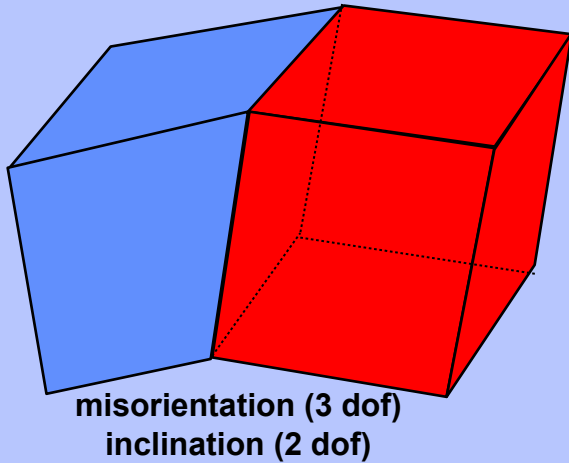
F. Abdeljawad<sup>2</sup>, S.M. Foiles<sup>2</sup>

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

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

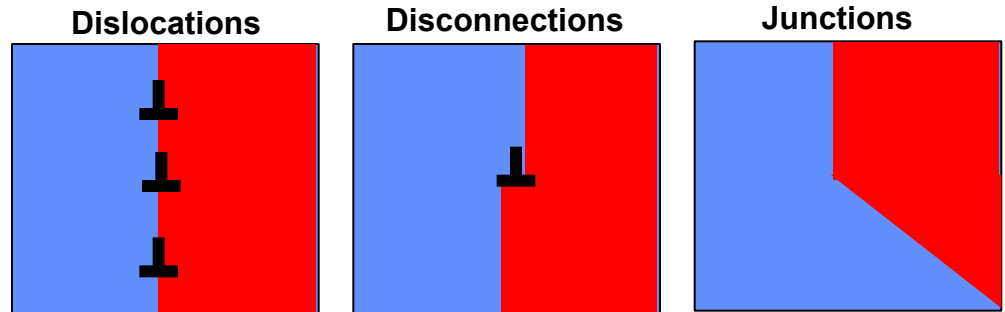
# How to connect between atomistic and continuum descriptions of grain boundaries?

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



Our approach:

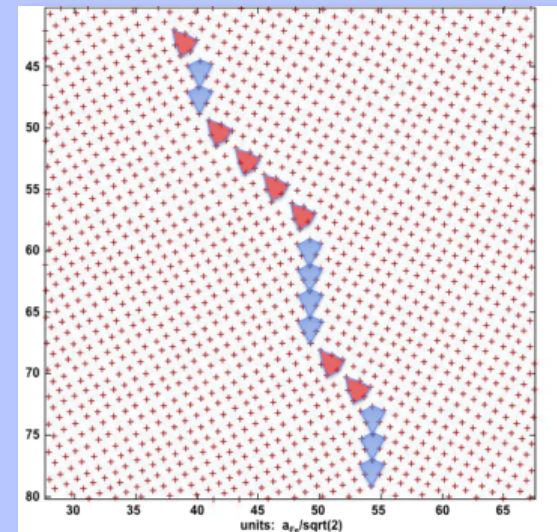
*Focus on arrangements and interactions of elementary interfacial line defects*



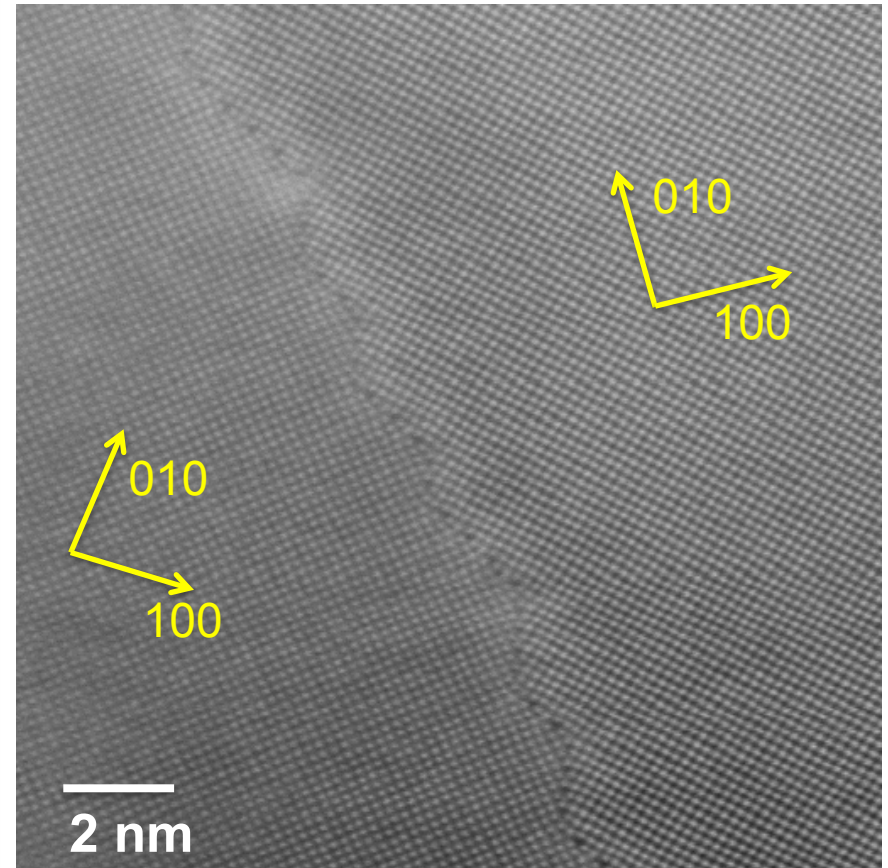
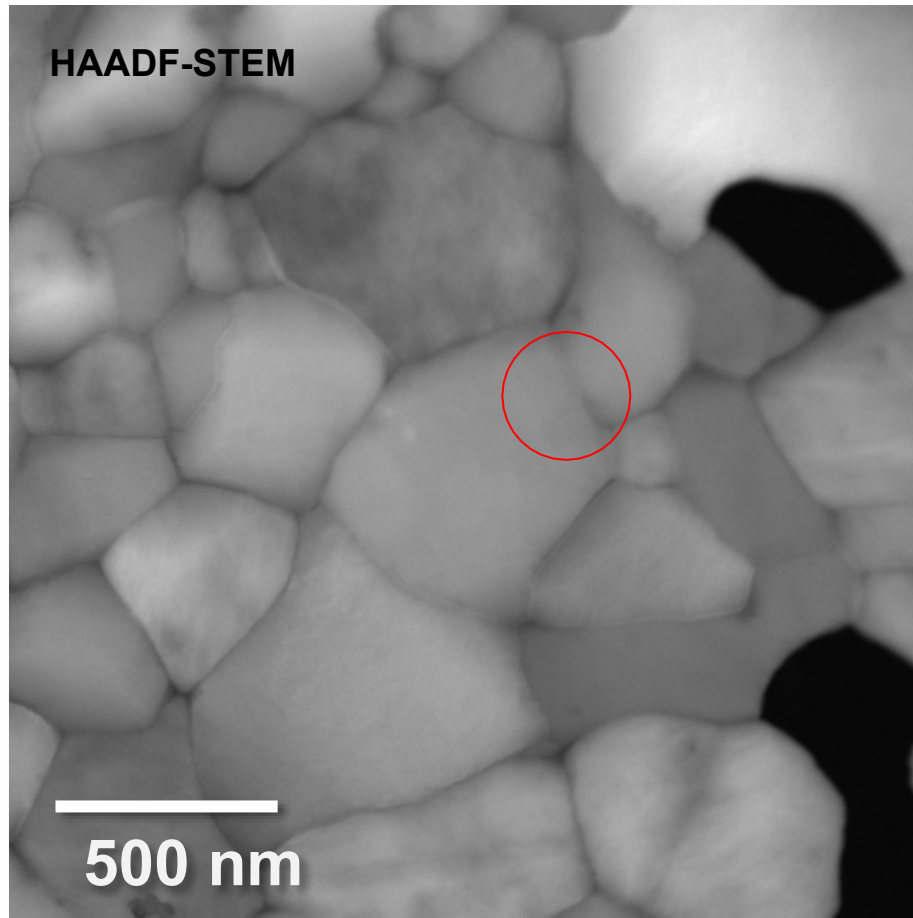
*Atomistic scale microscopy and modeling*

## 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



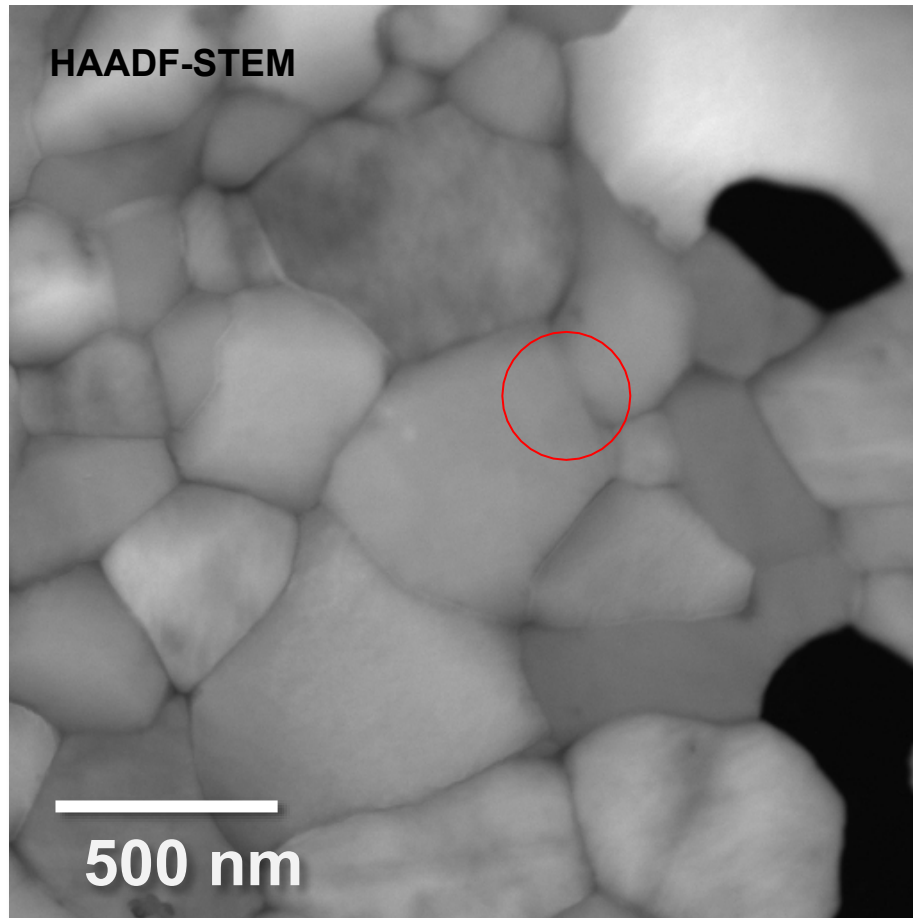
# Observations: Polycrystalline BCC Fe film



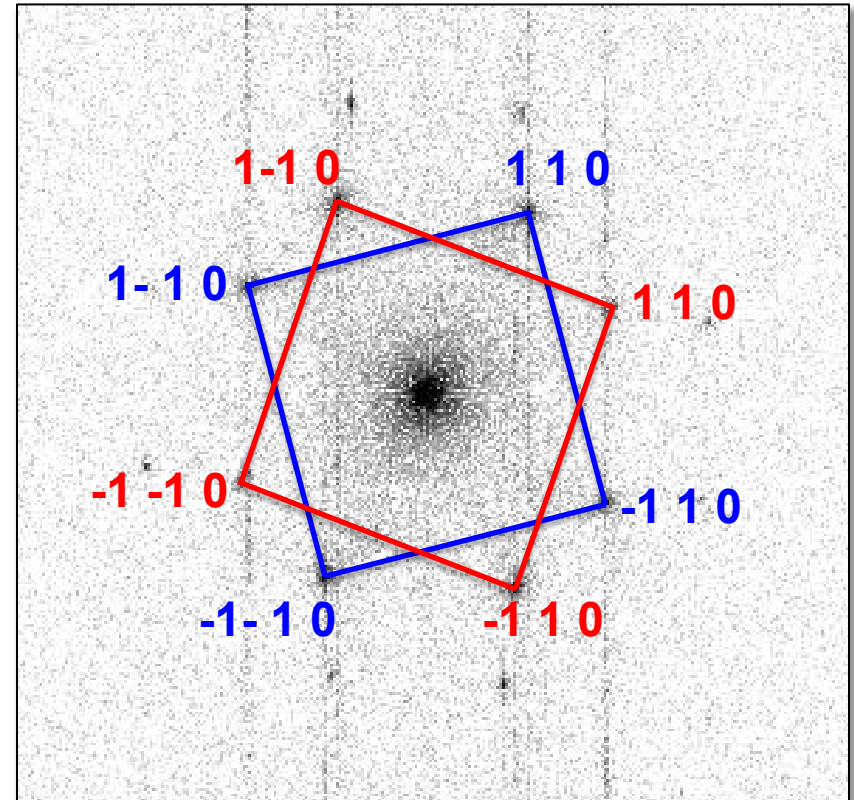
Pulsed Laser Deposited Fe on Rocksalt (NaCl). 36 nm thickness.  
Specimen released and annealed on Mo grid 675°C, 2 hours.  
under vacuum

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

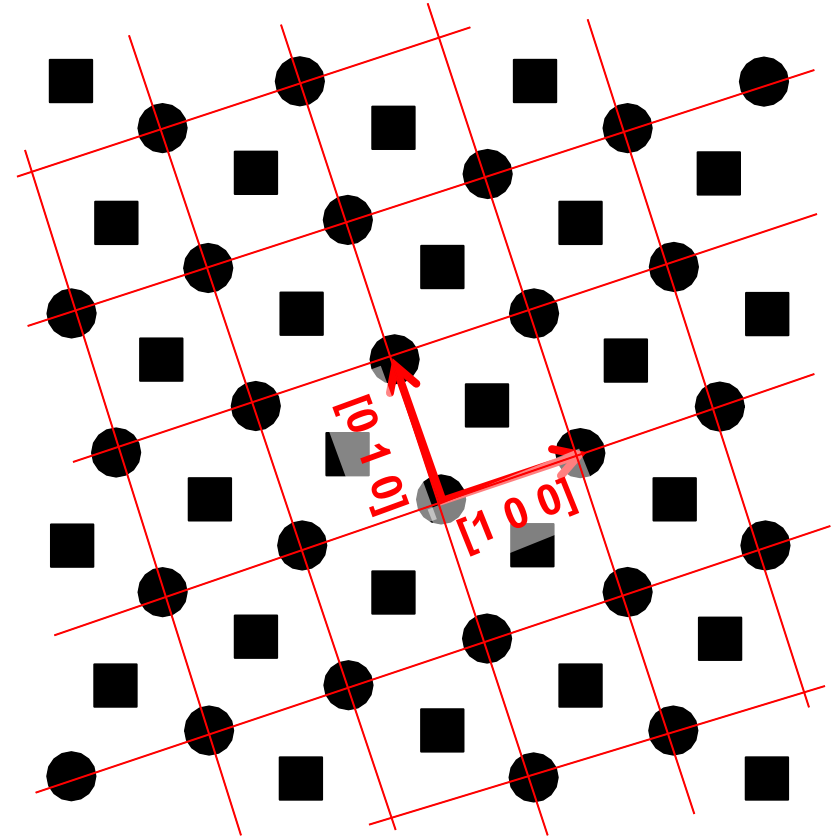
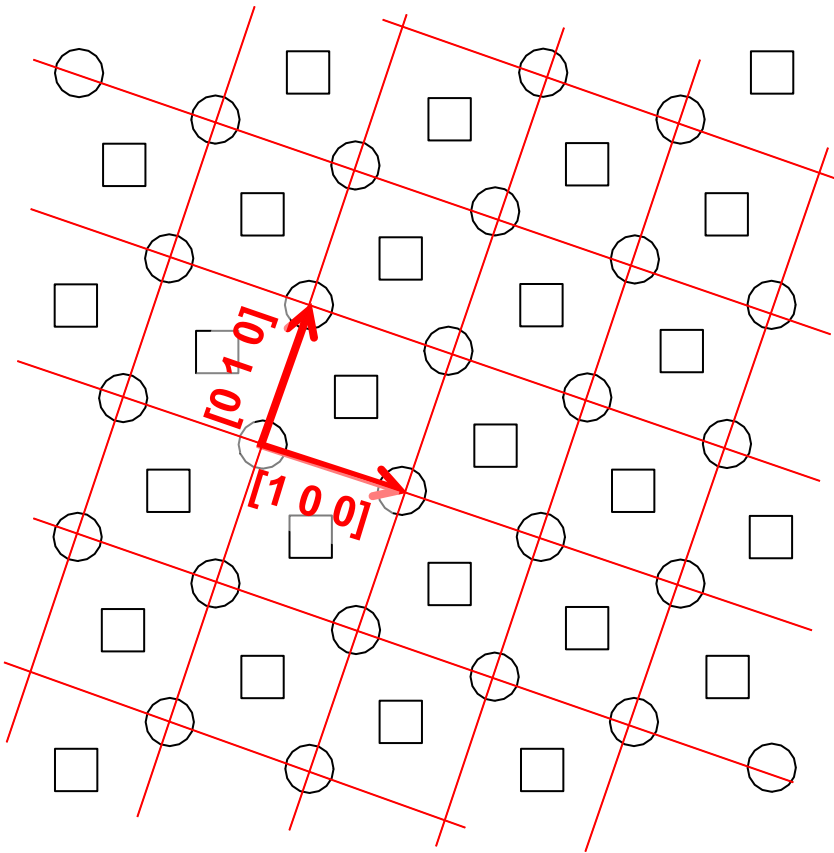


**Measured misorientation:  $34.49^\circ \pm 0.7^\circ$**

**Very close to  $\Sigma=5$ :  $\theta_{\Sigma=5}=36.87^\circ$**

**$\Delta\theta= -2.38^\circ$**

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

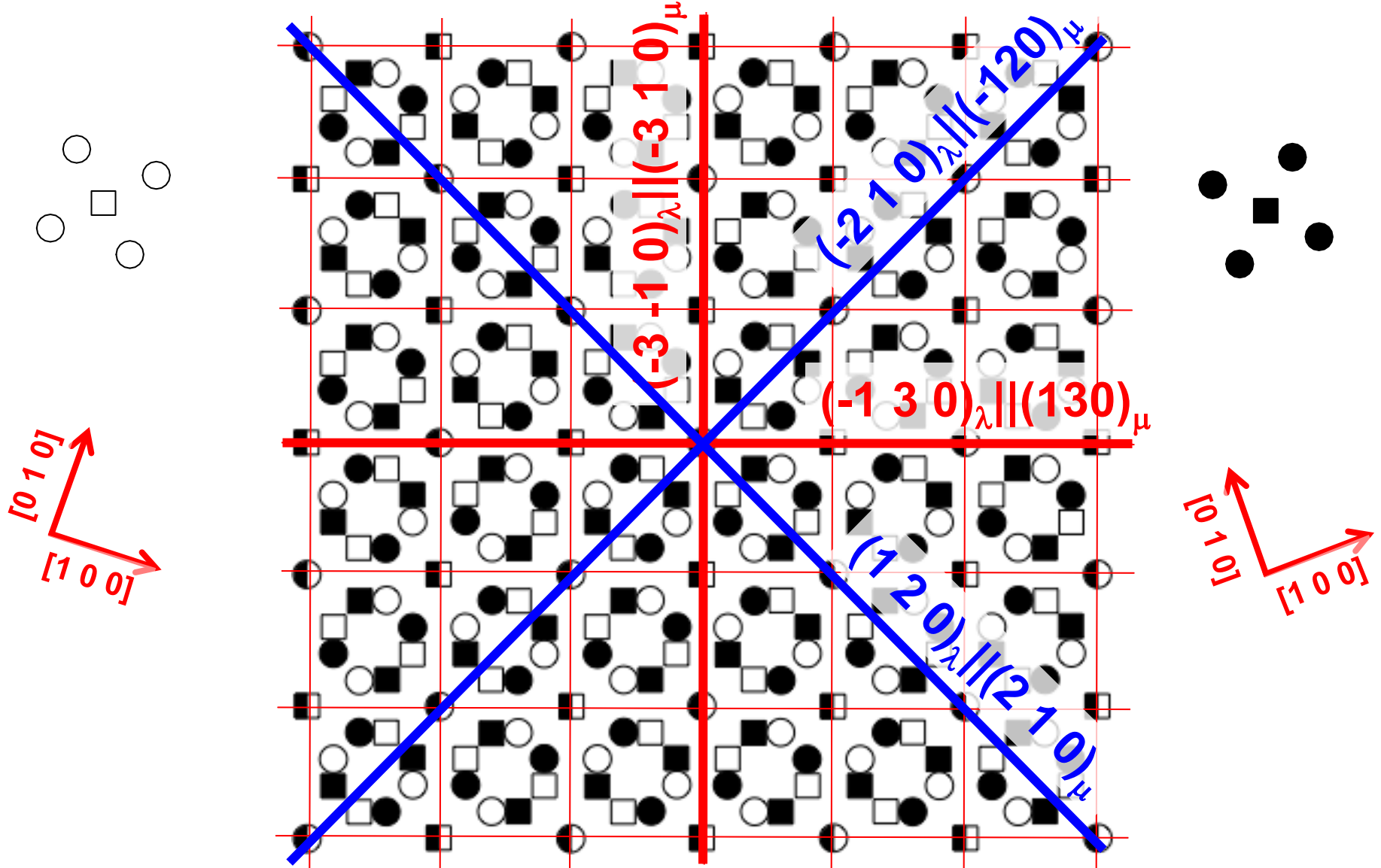


**36.87° Rotation about [001]**



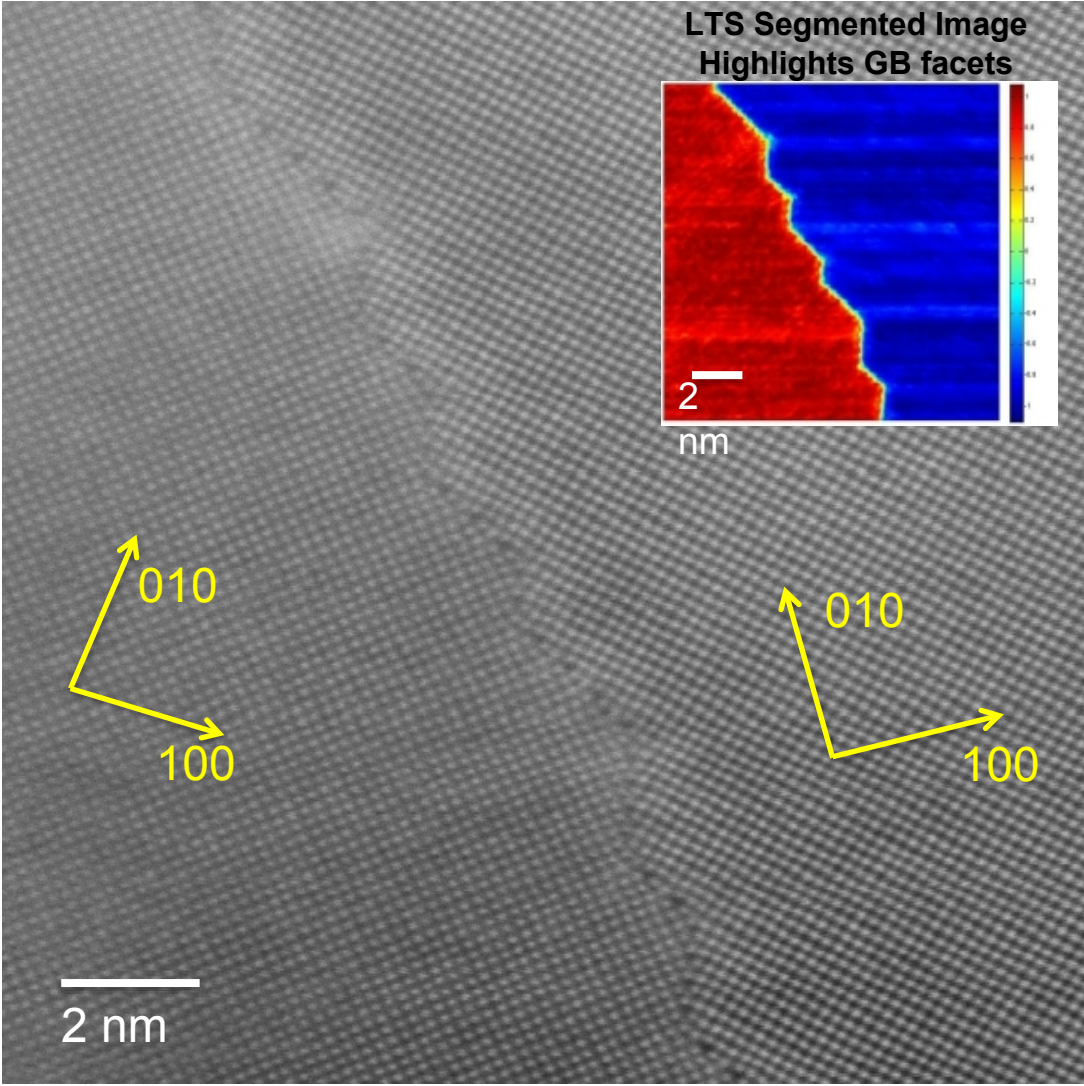
# BCC $\Sigma=5$ [001]: Interfacial Crystallography

## Dichromatic Pattern

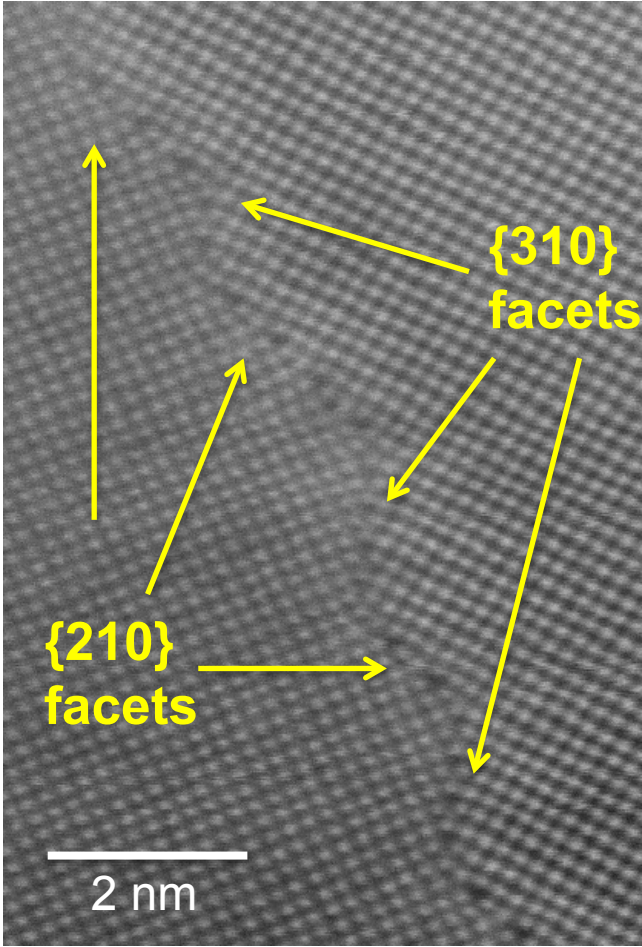


# HRSTEM shows nanoscale faceting at Grain boundary

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

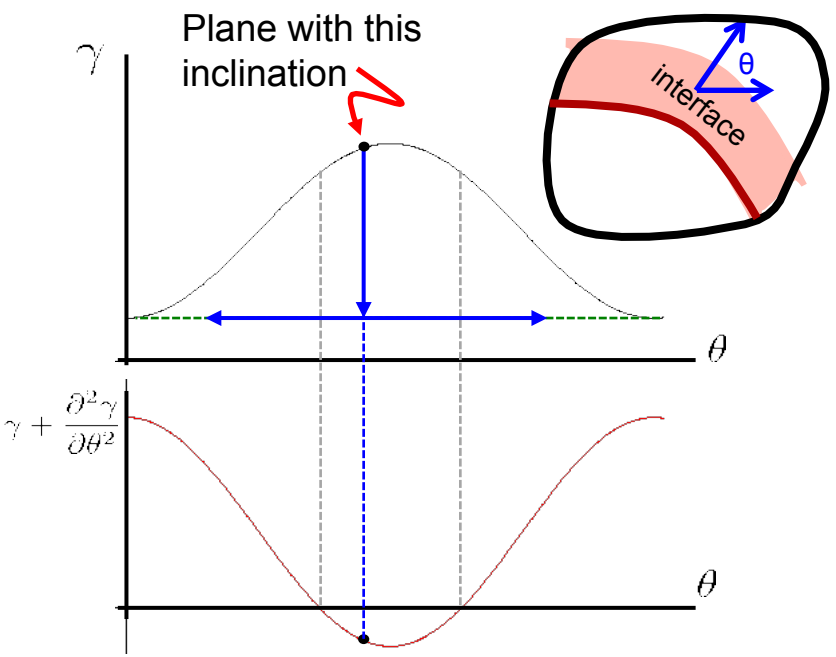
$$\mu \sim v_m \left( \gamma + \frac{\partial^2 \gamma}{\partial \theta^2} \right) H$$

W. W. Mullins (1963)

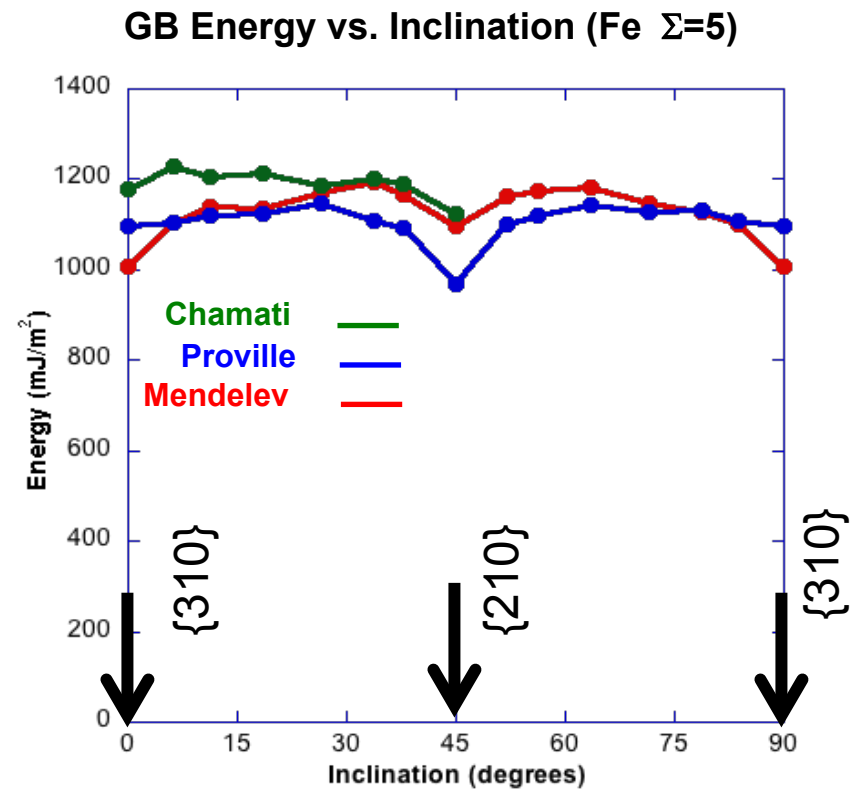
**Interface stiffness**

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

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



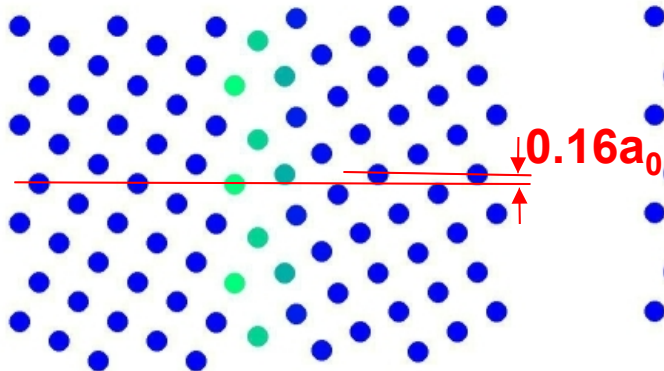
Frank (1963), Cabrera (1964),  
Stewart (1992), Liu (1993)





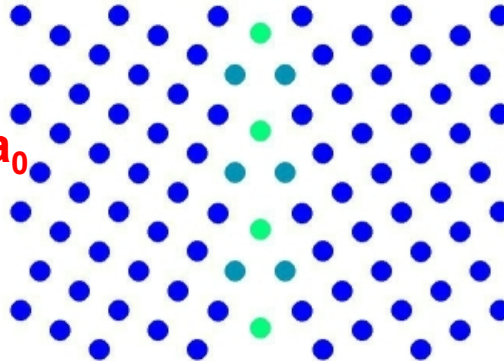
# $\Sigma=5$ {310} Structures with different Potentials

Asymmetric



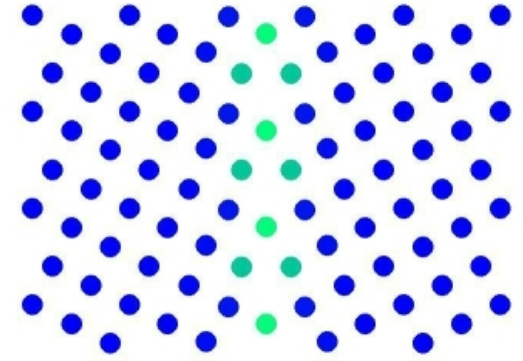
Potential: Chamati, 2006

Symmetric



Potential: Mendelev, 2003

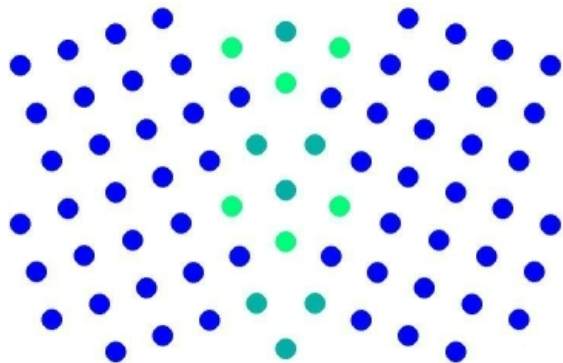
Symmetric



Potential: Proville, 2012

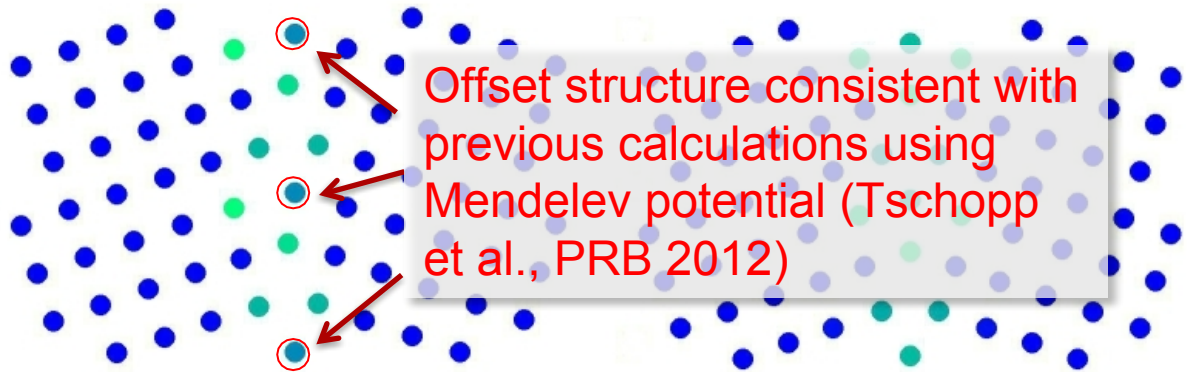
# $\Sigma=5$ {210} Structures with different Potentials

Symmetric



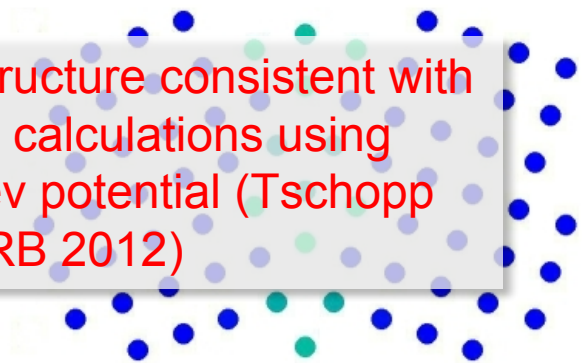
Potential: Chamati, 2006

Asymmetric



Potential: Mendelev, 2003

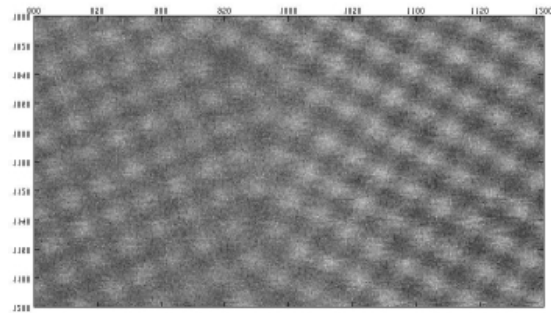
Symmetric



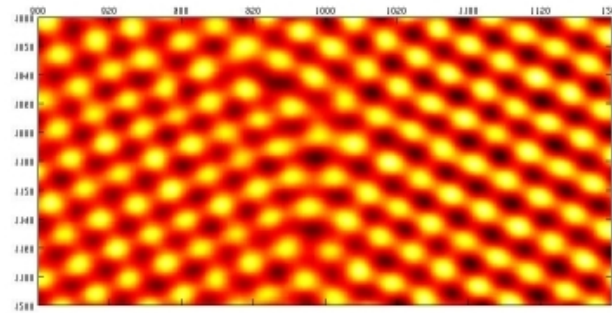
Potential: Proville, 2012

# Quantifying the GB Images: Peak Location

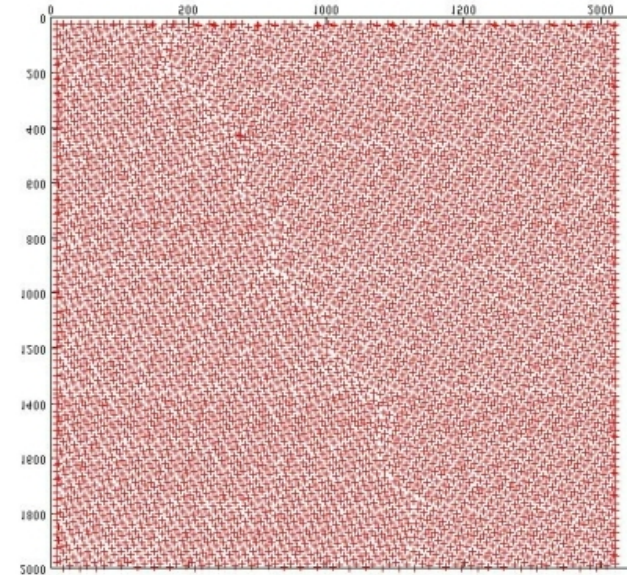
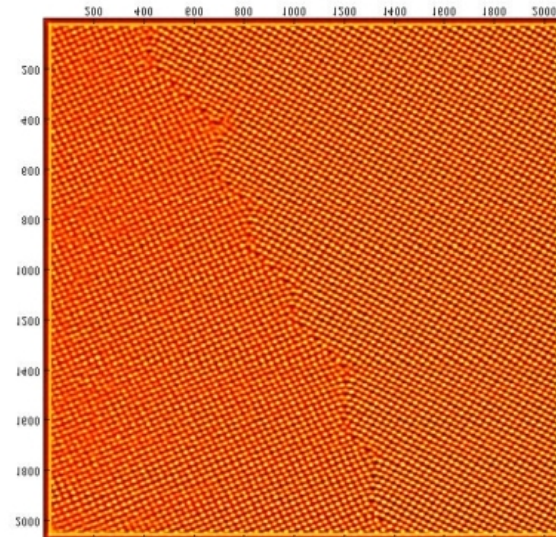
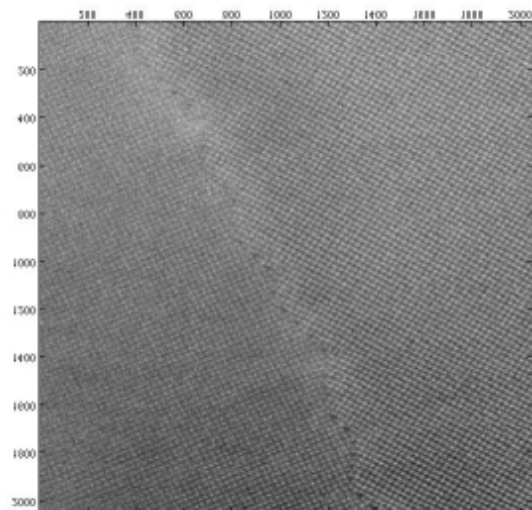
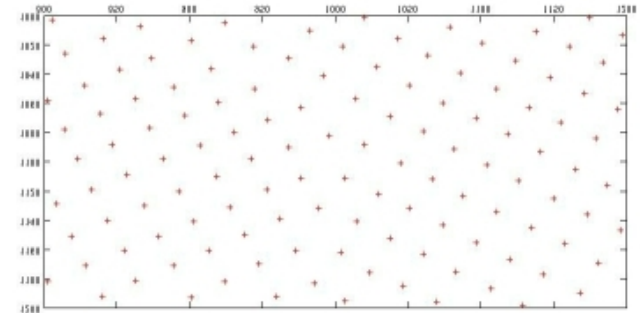
Raw HAADF STEM Image



Correlation Image-Gaussian

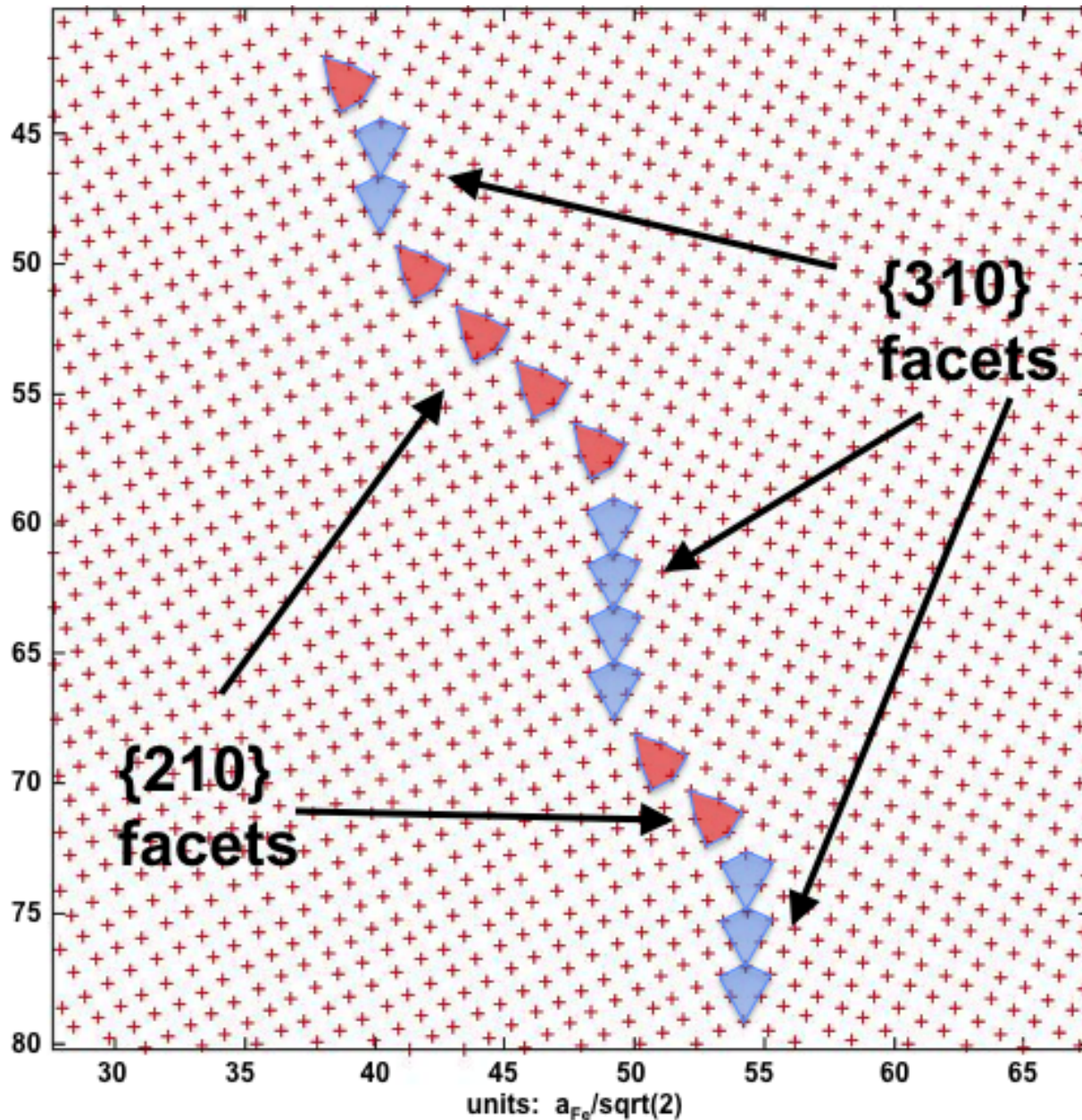


Peak Positions



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



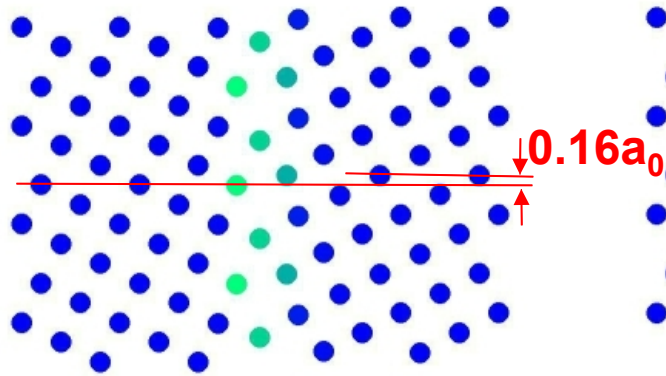


Intensity peak  
positions from  
HAADF-STEM  
of Fe  $\Sigma=5$   
grain boundary

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

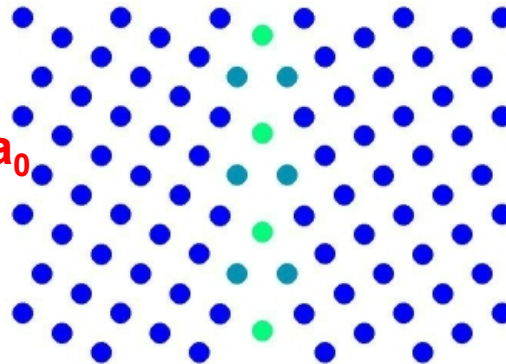
# $\Sigma=5$ {310} Structures with different Potentials

Asymmetric



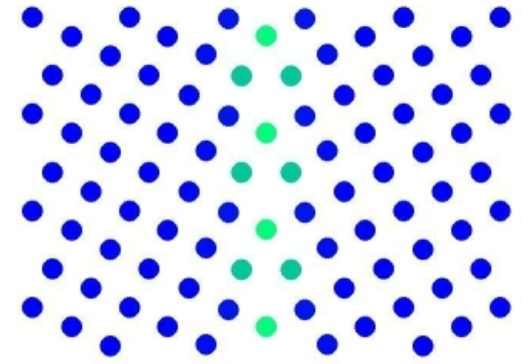
Potential: Chamati, 2006

Symmetric



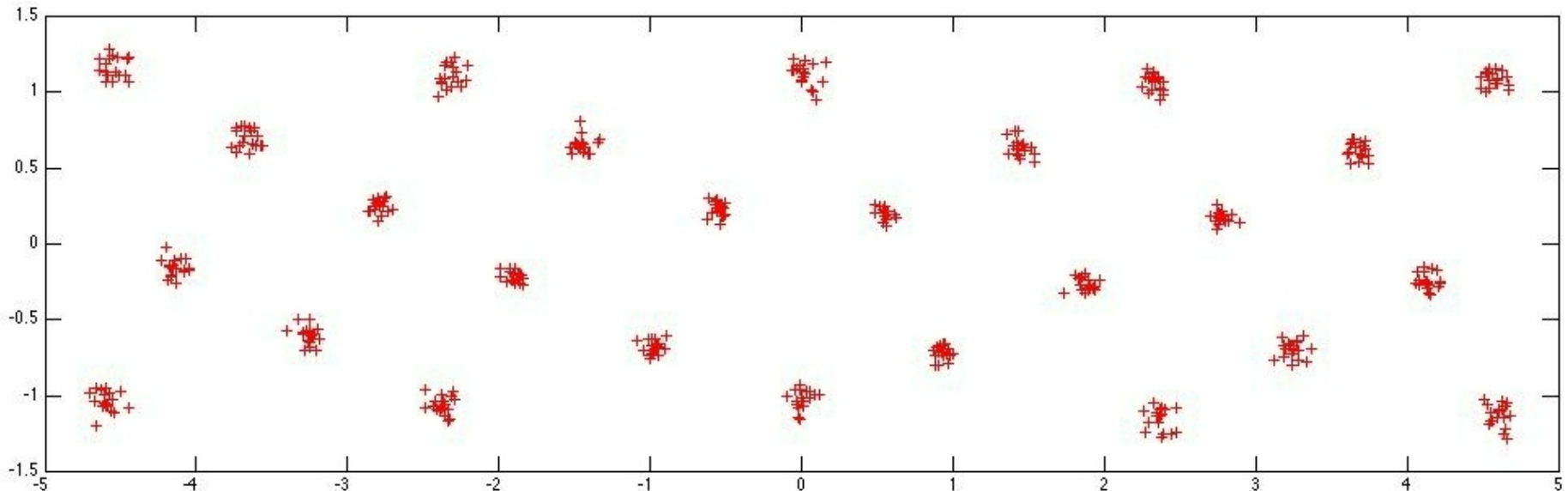
Potential: Mendelev, 2003

Symmetric



Potential: Provile, 2012

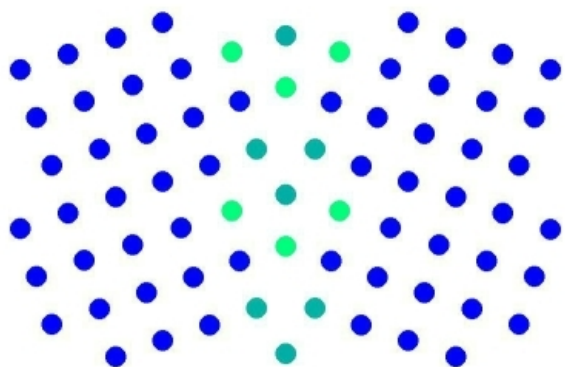
Experimental Peak Positions (HAADF STEM)  $\Delta y = -0.015 \pm 0.036 a_0$





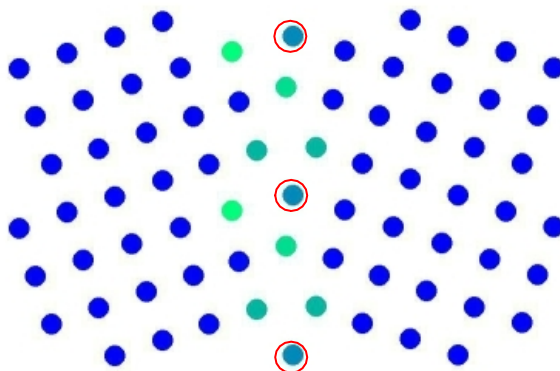
# $\Sigma=5$ {210} Structures with different Potentials

Symmetric



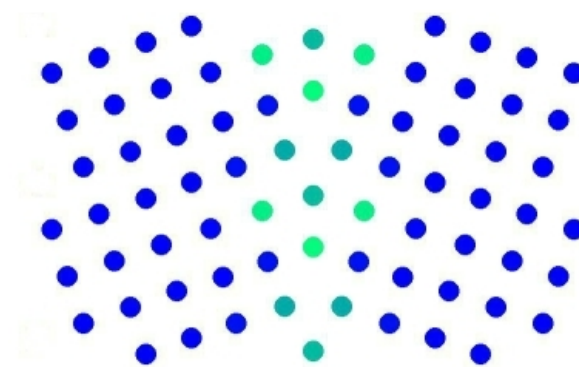
Potential: Chamati, 2006

Asymmetric



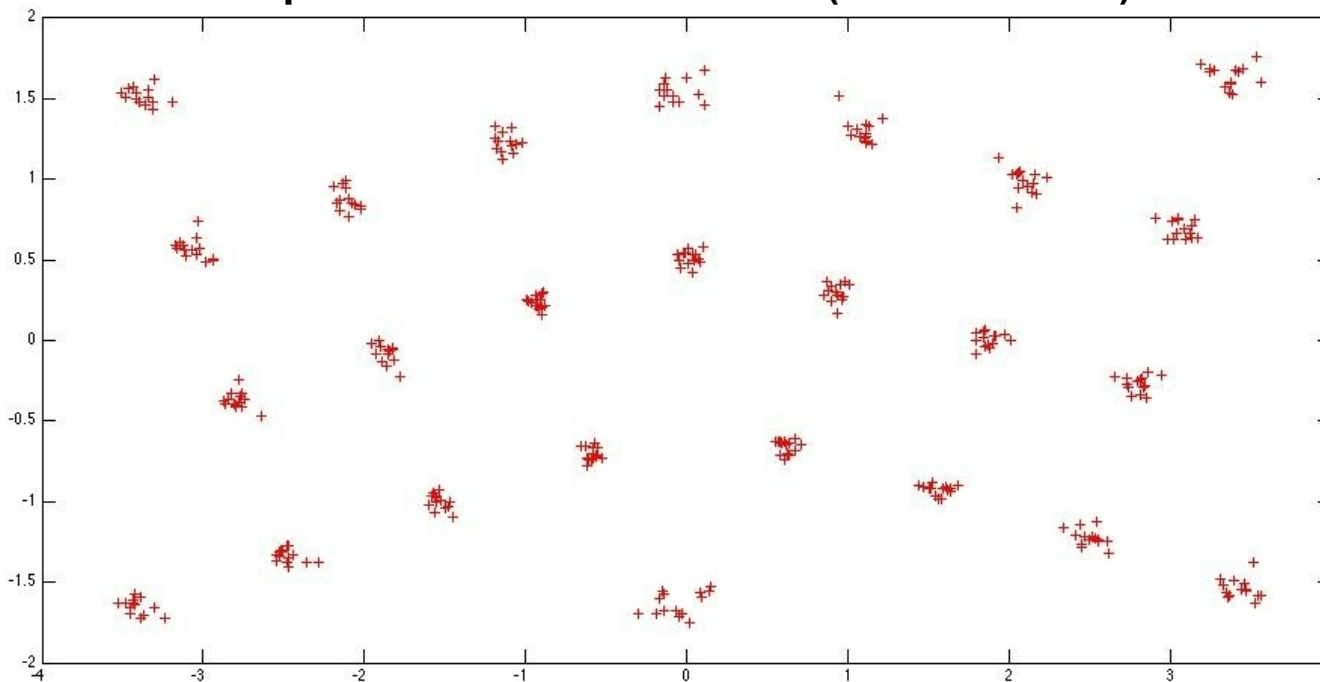
Potential: Mendelev, 2003

Symmetric



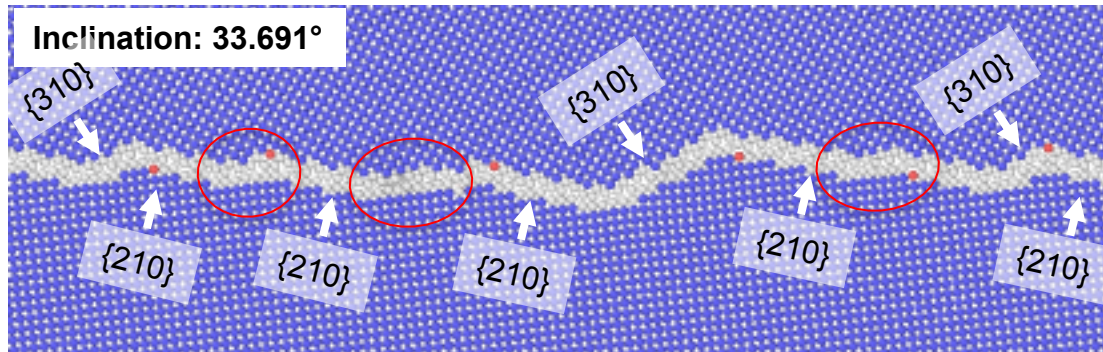
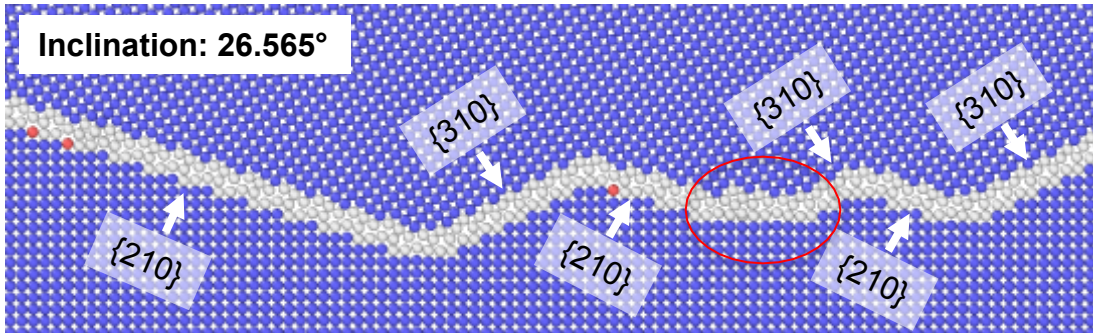
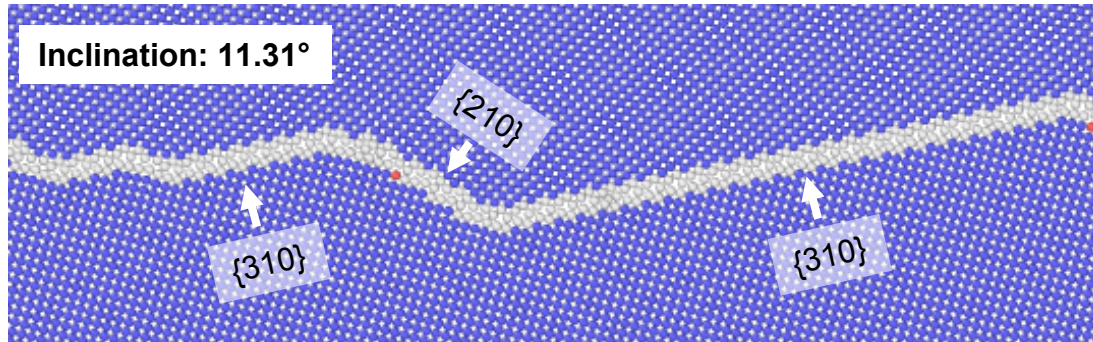
Potential: Provile, 2012

## Experimental Peak Positions (HAADF STEM)



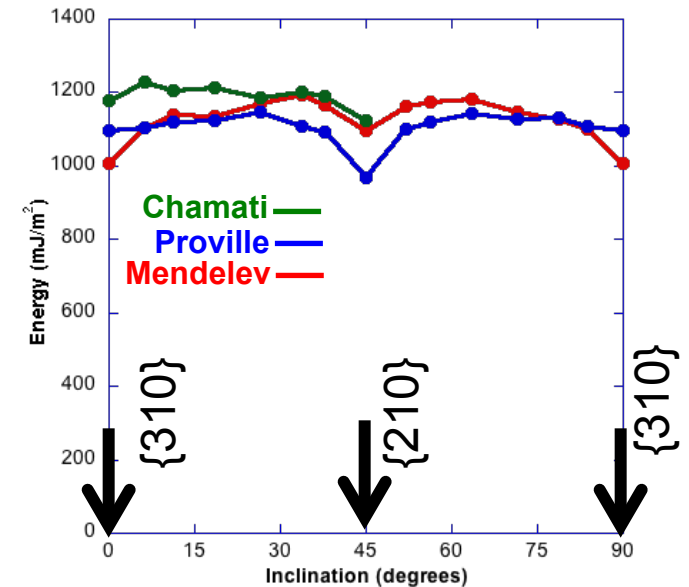
$$\Delta y = 0.035 \pm 0.015 a_0$$

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



Mendelev Potential

GB Energy vs. Inclination



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

**Additional faceting on  
{710}/{110} planes:**

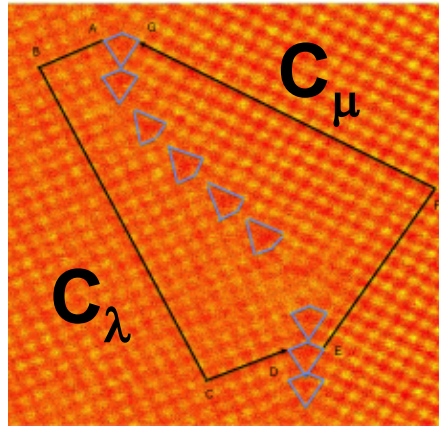
- 1:1 ratio of {310} and {210} units
- Not fully coarsened into lower energy {210}, {310} facets.

# 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

Two types of defect observed:

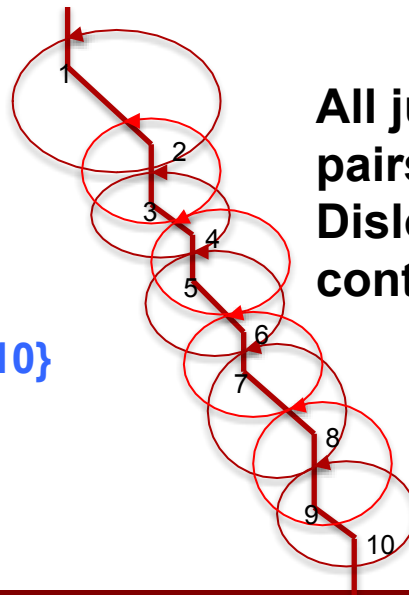


Path in  $\mu$  crystal      Path in  $\lambda$  crystal

$\mathbf{b} = -(C_\lambda + \mathbf{P}C_\mu)$

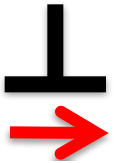
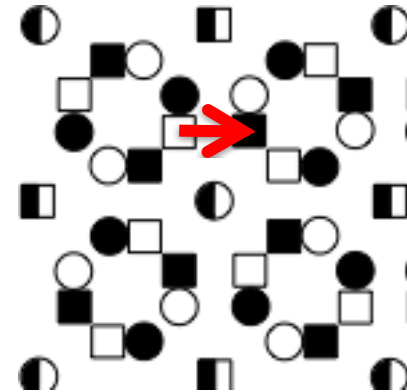
Burgers vector      Re-express  $\mu$  path in  $\lambda$  crystal coordinates.

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

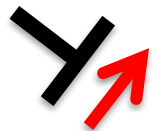
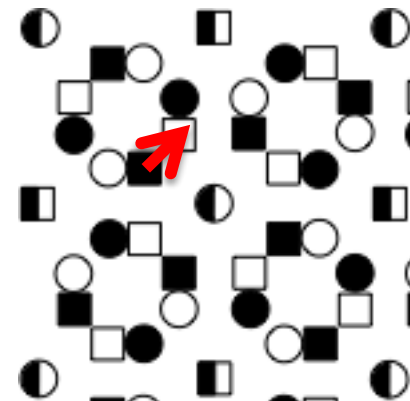


All junction  
pairs exhibited  
Dislocation  
content

$\mathbf{b} = (1/5)[3,1,0]$

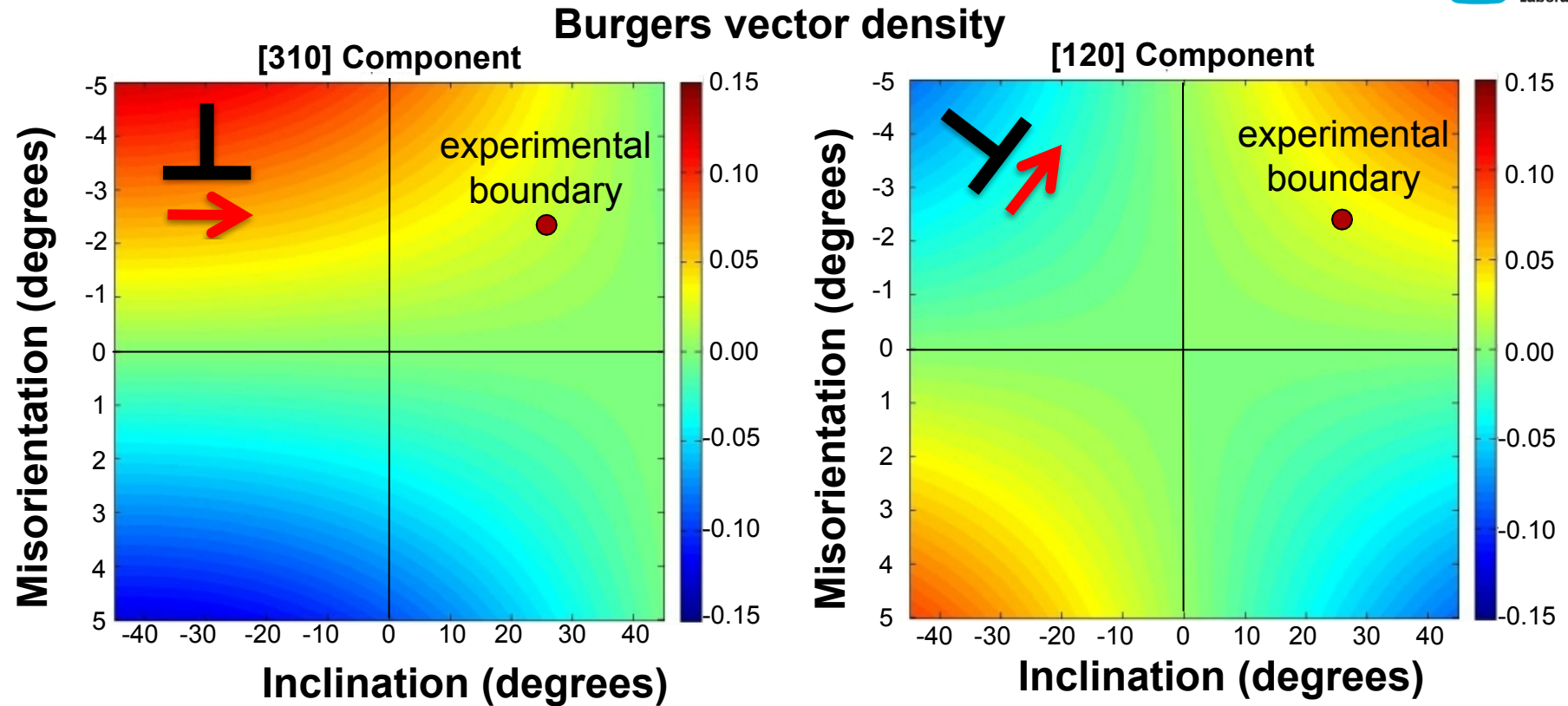


$\mathbf{b} = (1/5)[1,2,0]$





# 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

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

<310> component: 0.0323

<310> component:  $0.0180 \pm 0.006$

<120> component: 0.0152

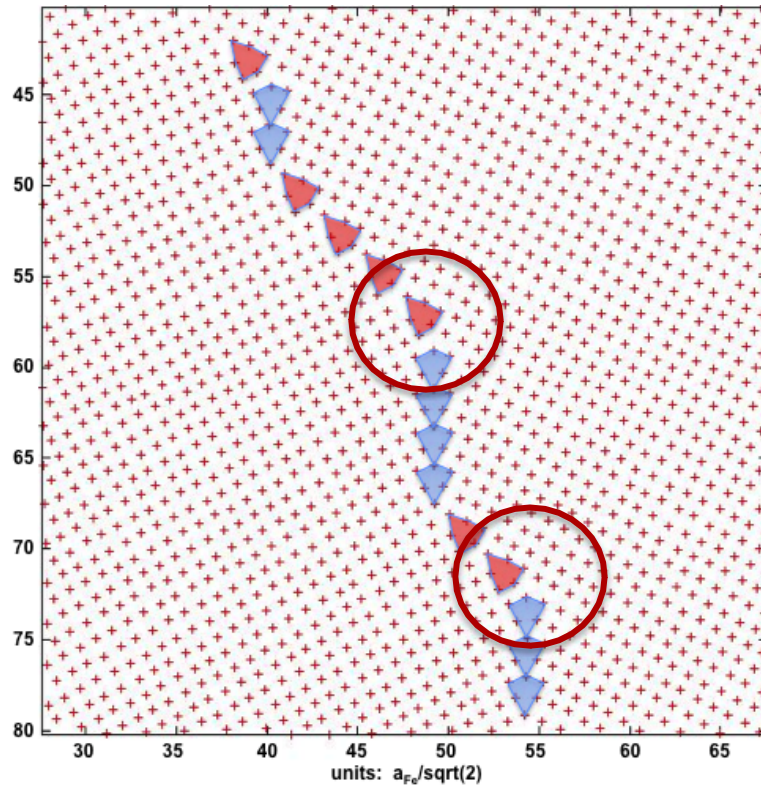
<120> component:  $0.027 \pm 0.010$

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

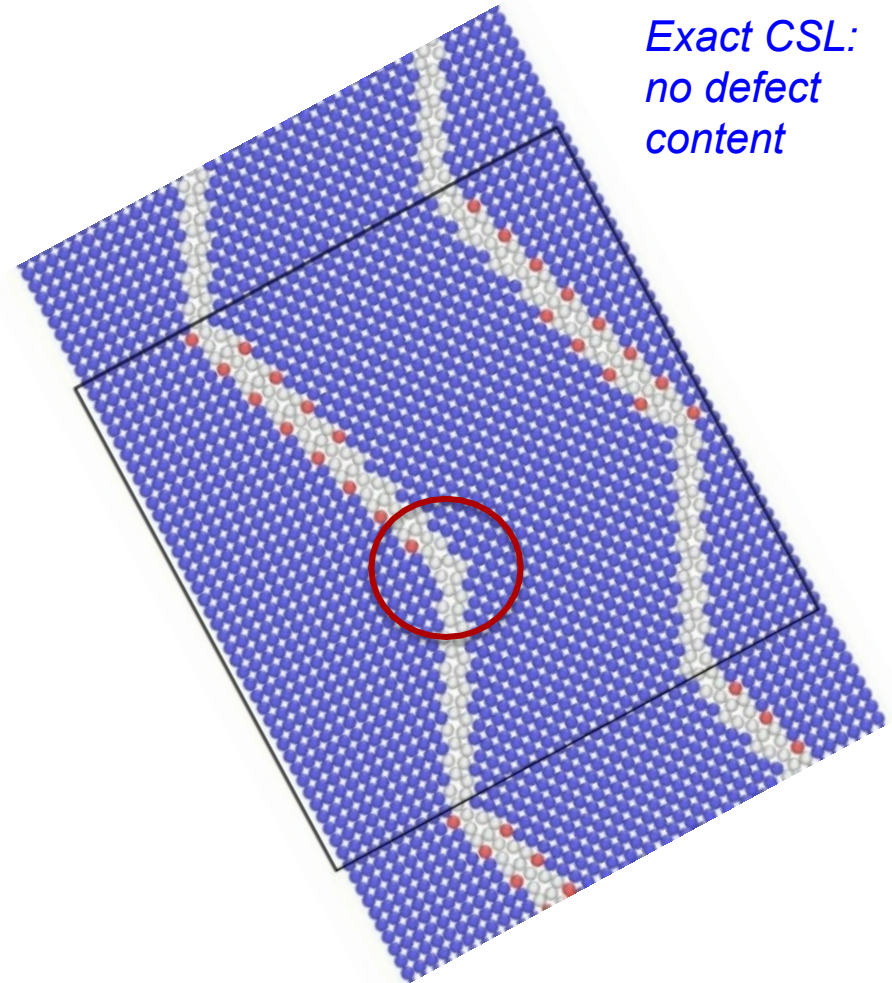


# How are the grain boundary dislocations manifested in the junction structure?

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



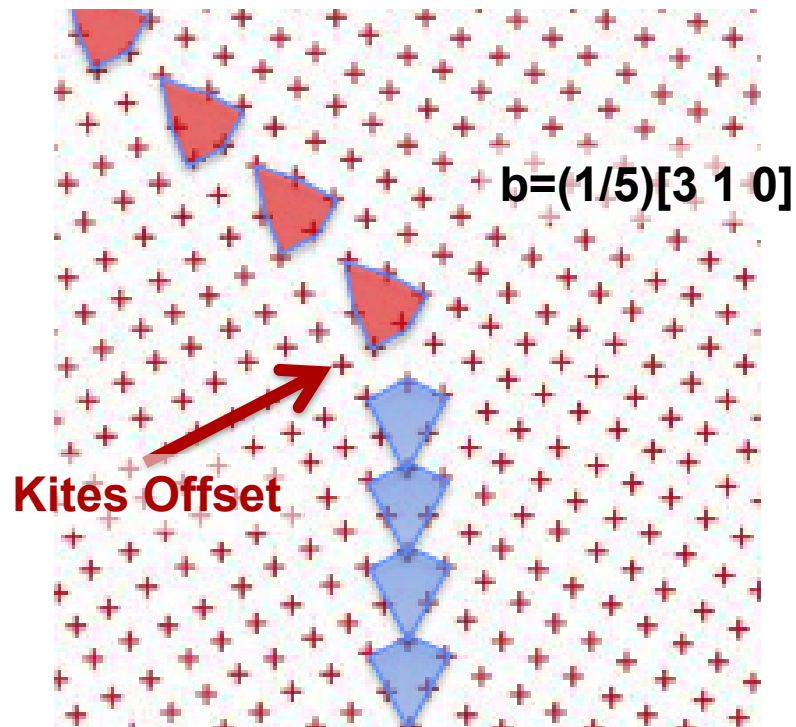
Relaxed Periodic Atomistic Structure



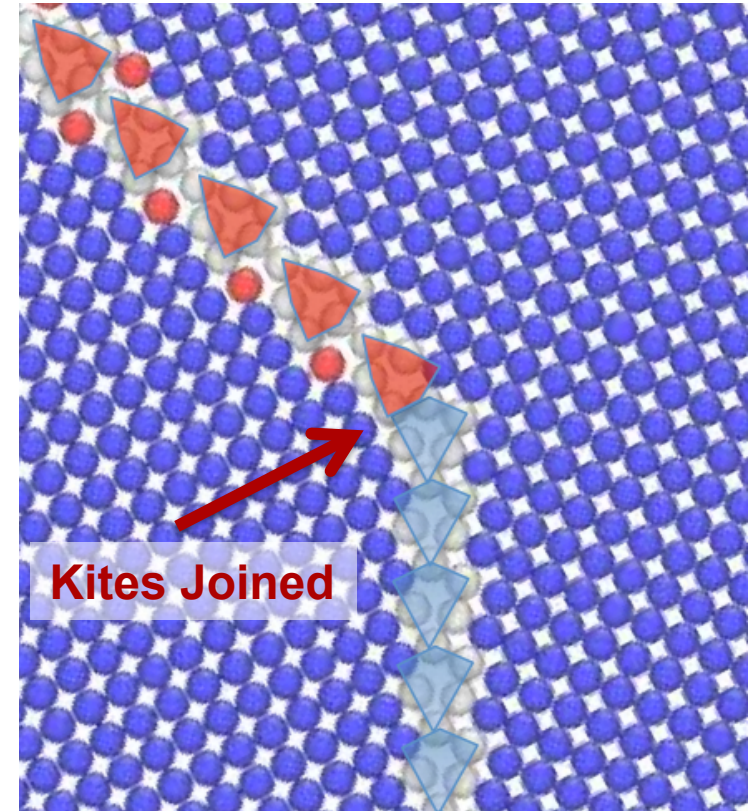
*Exact CSL:  
no defect  
content*

# 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?*