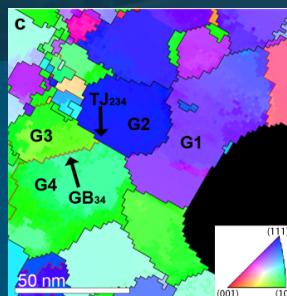
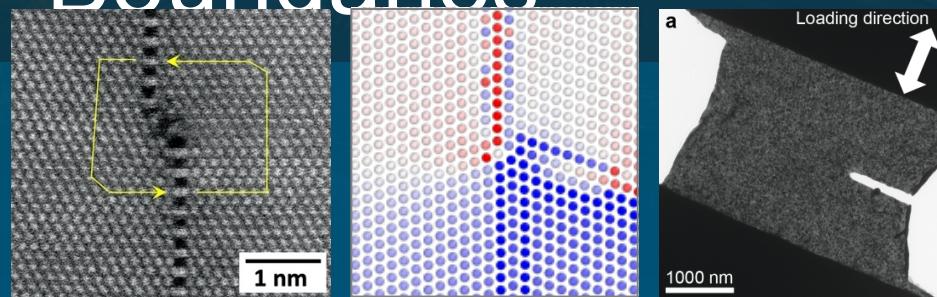


Nanomechanics and Nanometallurgy of Boundaries



Brad L. Boyce, Khalid Hattar, Doug Medlin,
Remi Dingreville

Sandia National Laboratories



Sandia National Laboratories

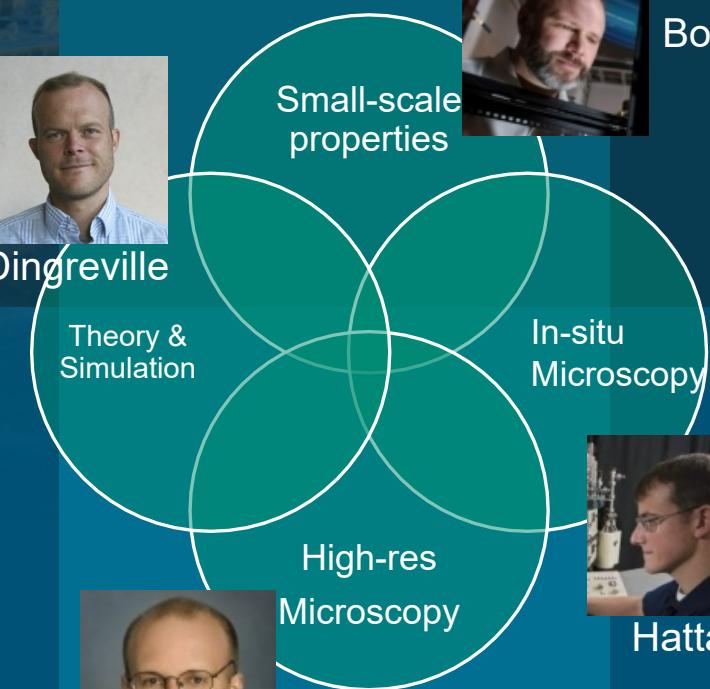


Boyce, PI



Dingreville

Theory & Simulation



Hattar



Medlin

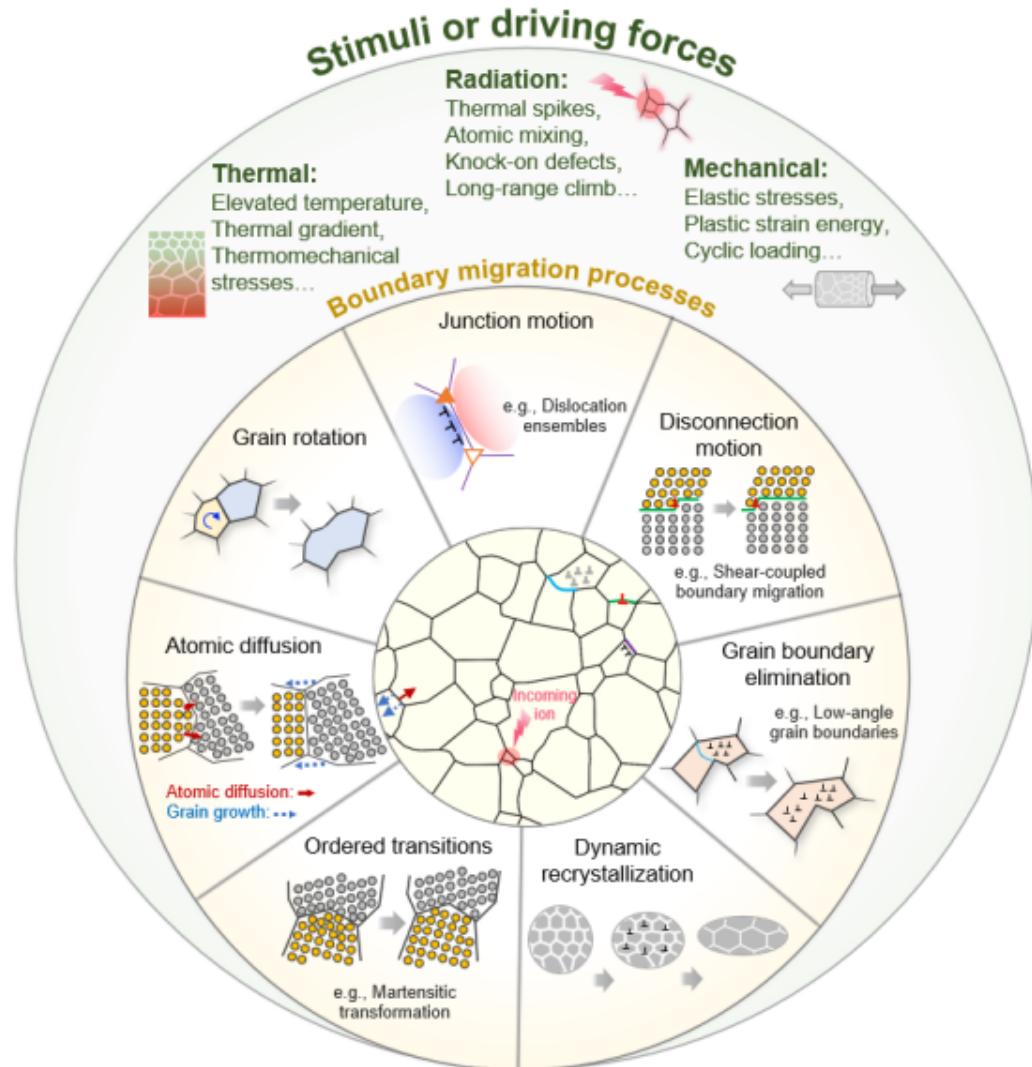


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Project Overview:



Guiding principle: By understanding the mediating role of grain boundaries and their networks, we can harness them to control monotonic and cyclic damage processes.



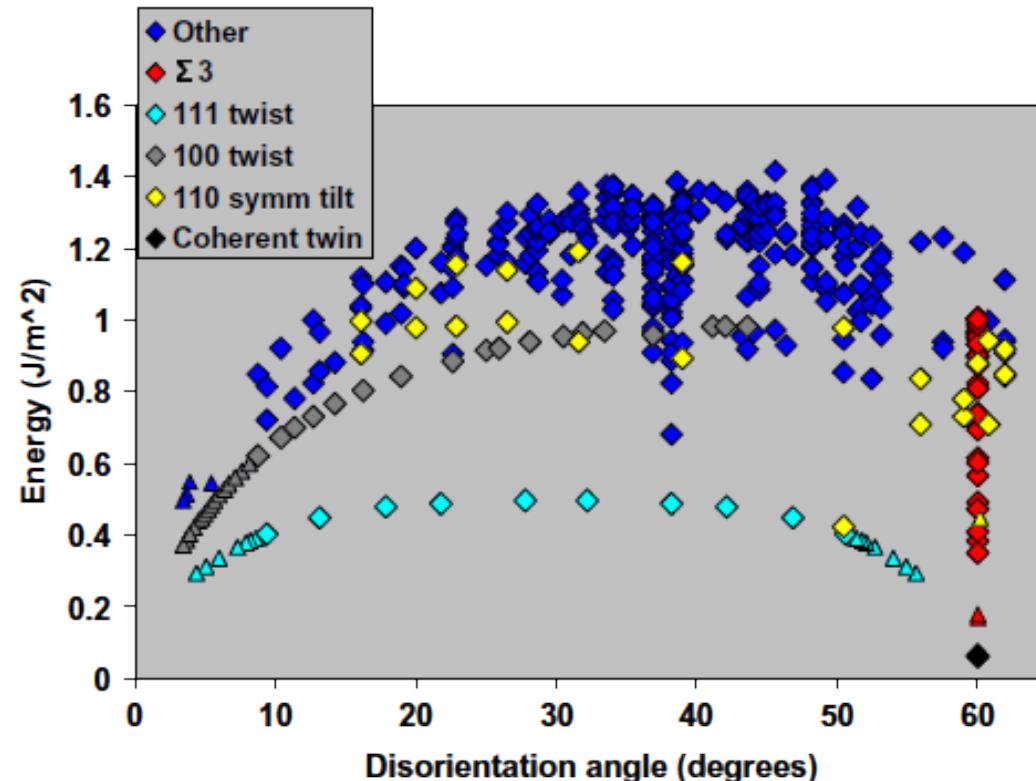
Nanocrystalline metals provide a unique '**microstructural grain boundary laboratory**' through which we can suppress better-understood mechanisms (e.g. dislocation plasticity) and amplify the unusual contributions of grain boundaries.

Current core hypothesis: the presence and evolution of defects within grain boundaries alter the GB behavior in response to thermal, irradiation, and/or mechanical driving forces

“Way back” in 2009...

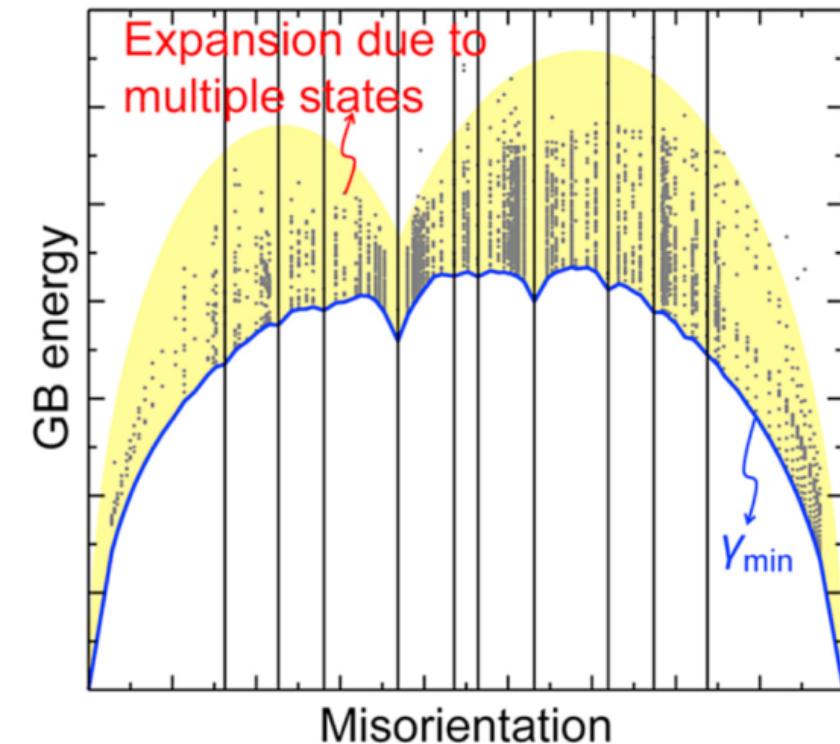


Grain boundary properties depend strongly on character



Olmsted, Foiles, Holm, *Acta Mater*, 2009

Grain boundaries can occupy a multiplicity of states

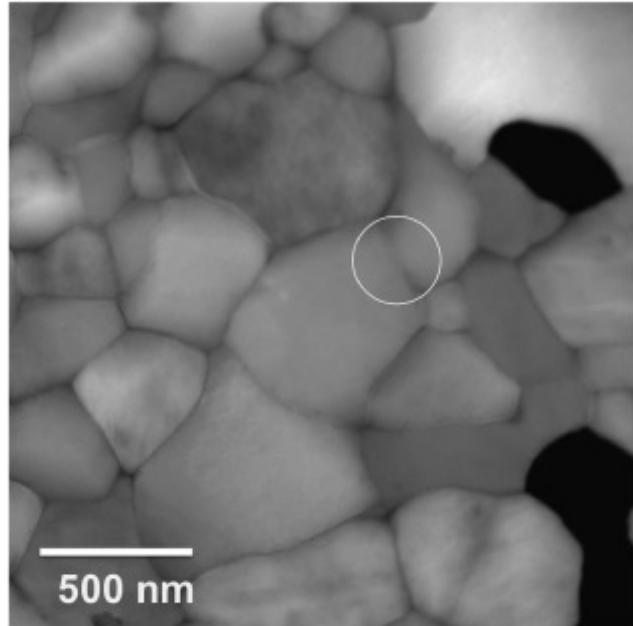


Han, Vitek, Srolovitz, *Acta Mater*, 2016

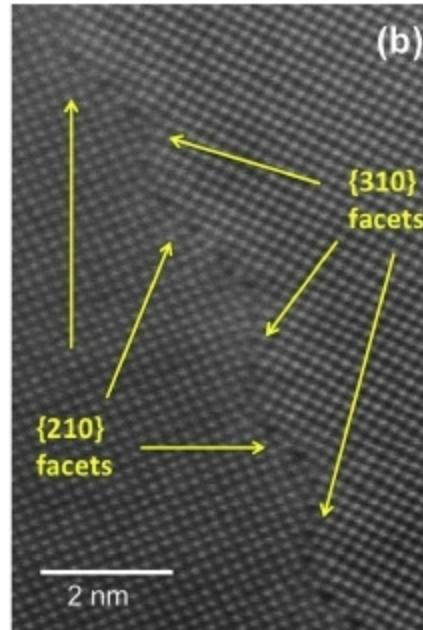
Theme of this presentation: Defected defects...

Grain boundaries are 2D defects that move through the evolution of 0D and 1D defects within them

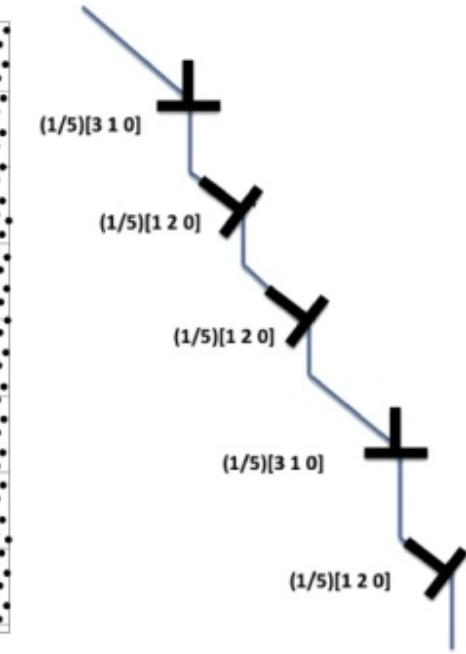
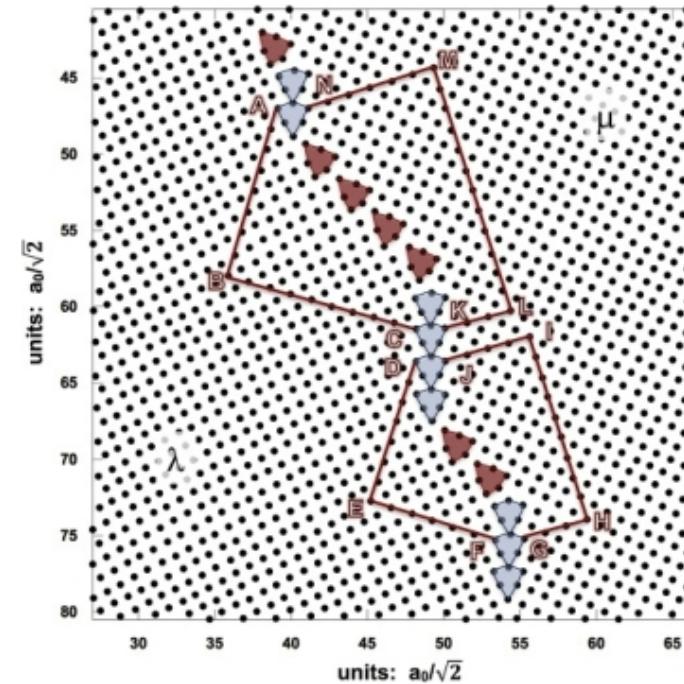
Defected Defects



An “ordinary”
 $\Sigma=5$ grain boundary



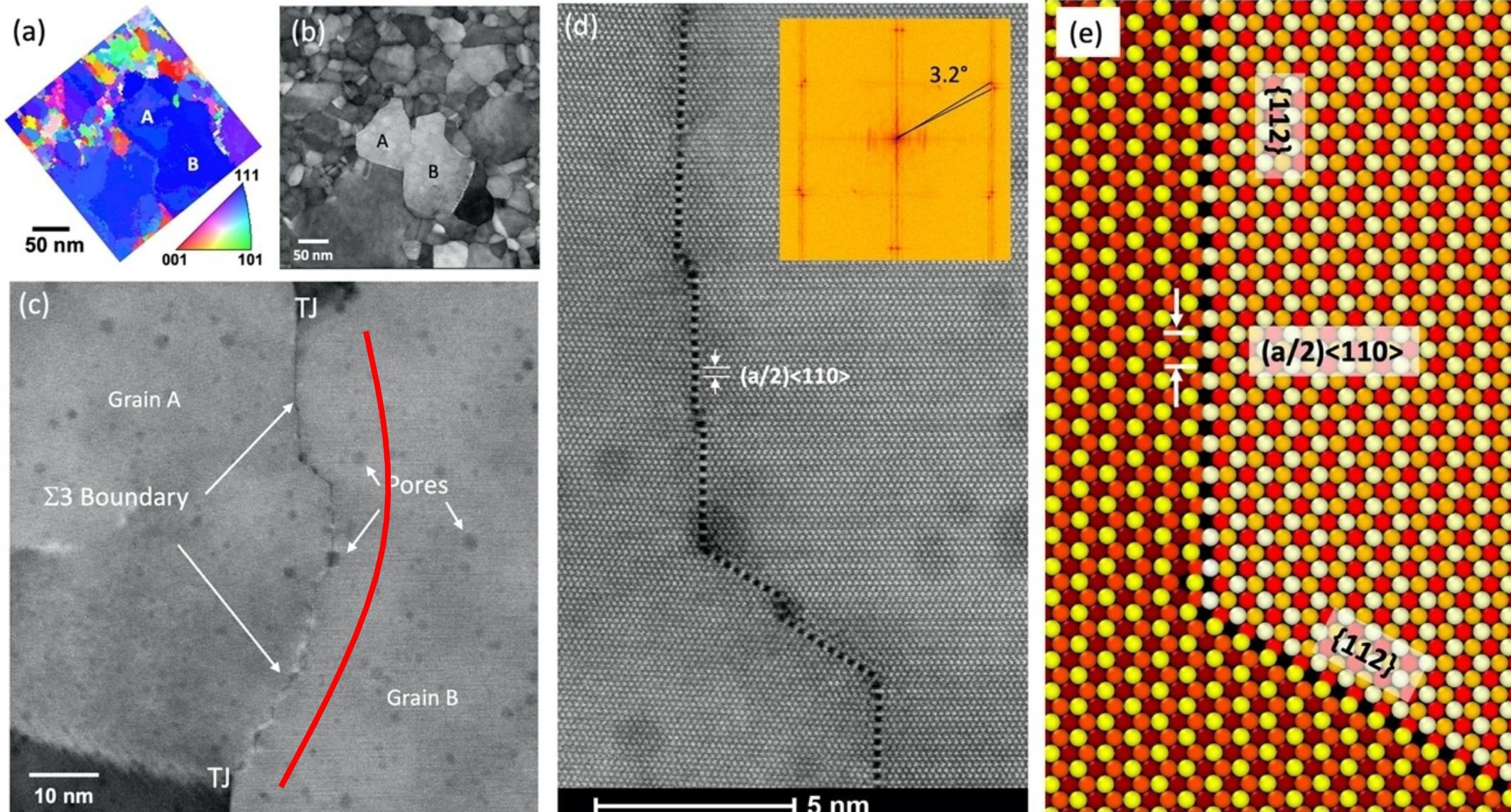
{310} and {210} facets



secondary grain boundary dislocations

Facets are a common GB feature found in many vicinal low-CSL boundaries.
 They are also found within many random HAGBs as the boundary locally tries to adopt a low energy structure

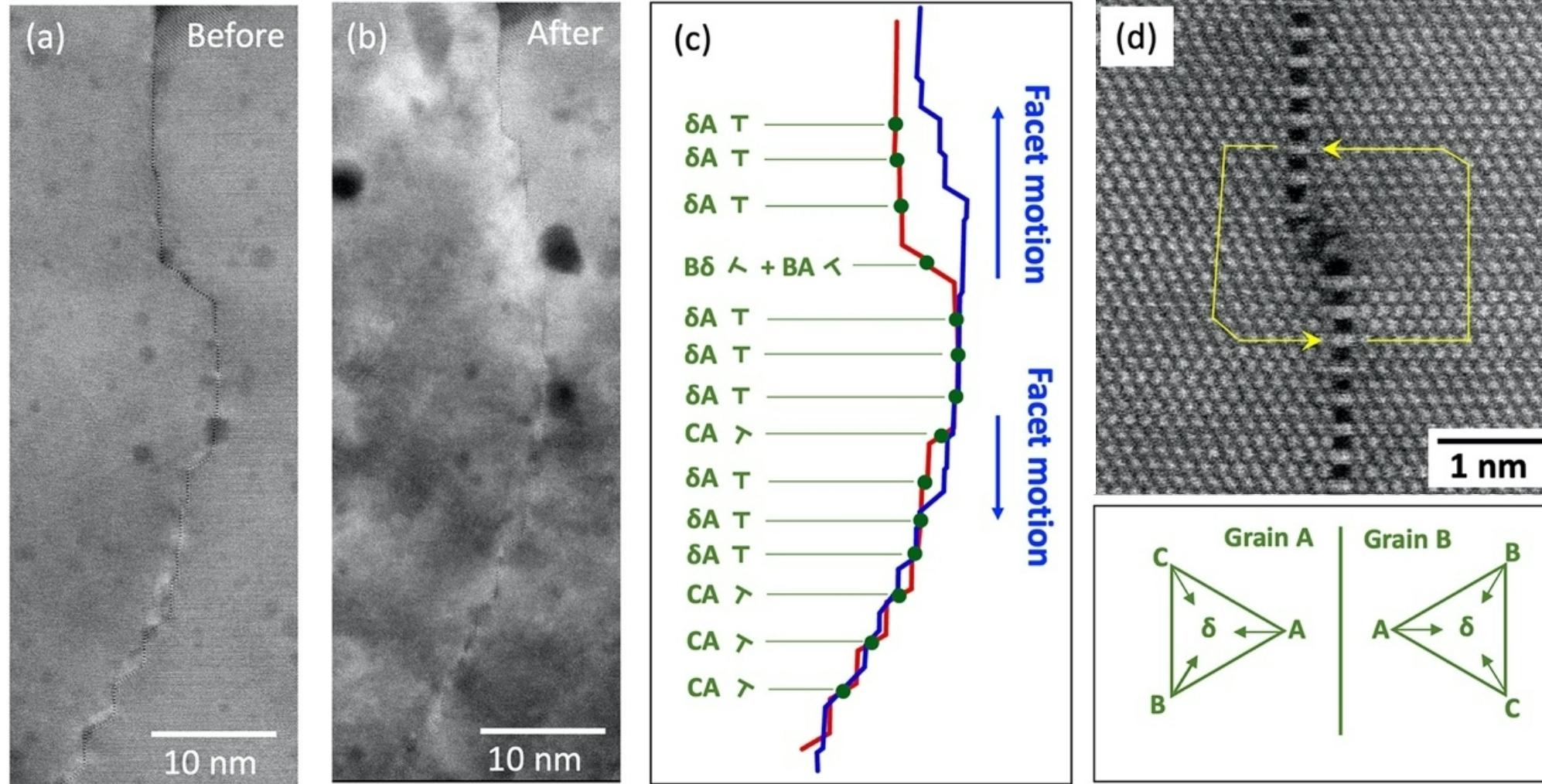
Defected Defects: Irradiation-induced migration of a $\Sigma 3$ grain boundary



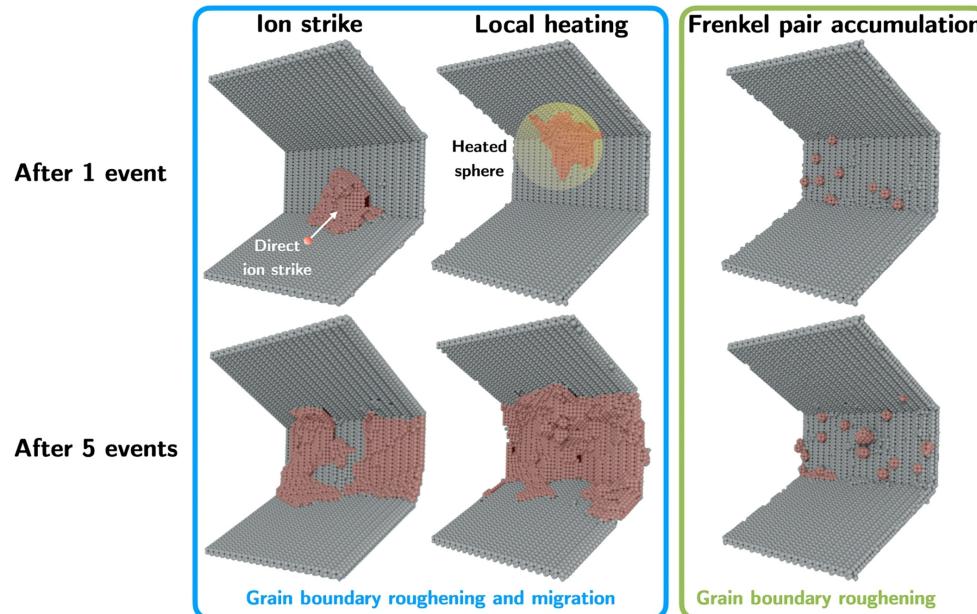
Facet migration of a $\Sigma 3$ grain boundary



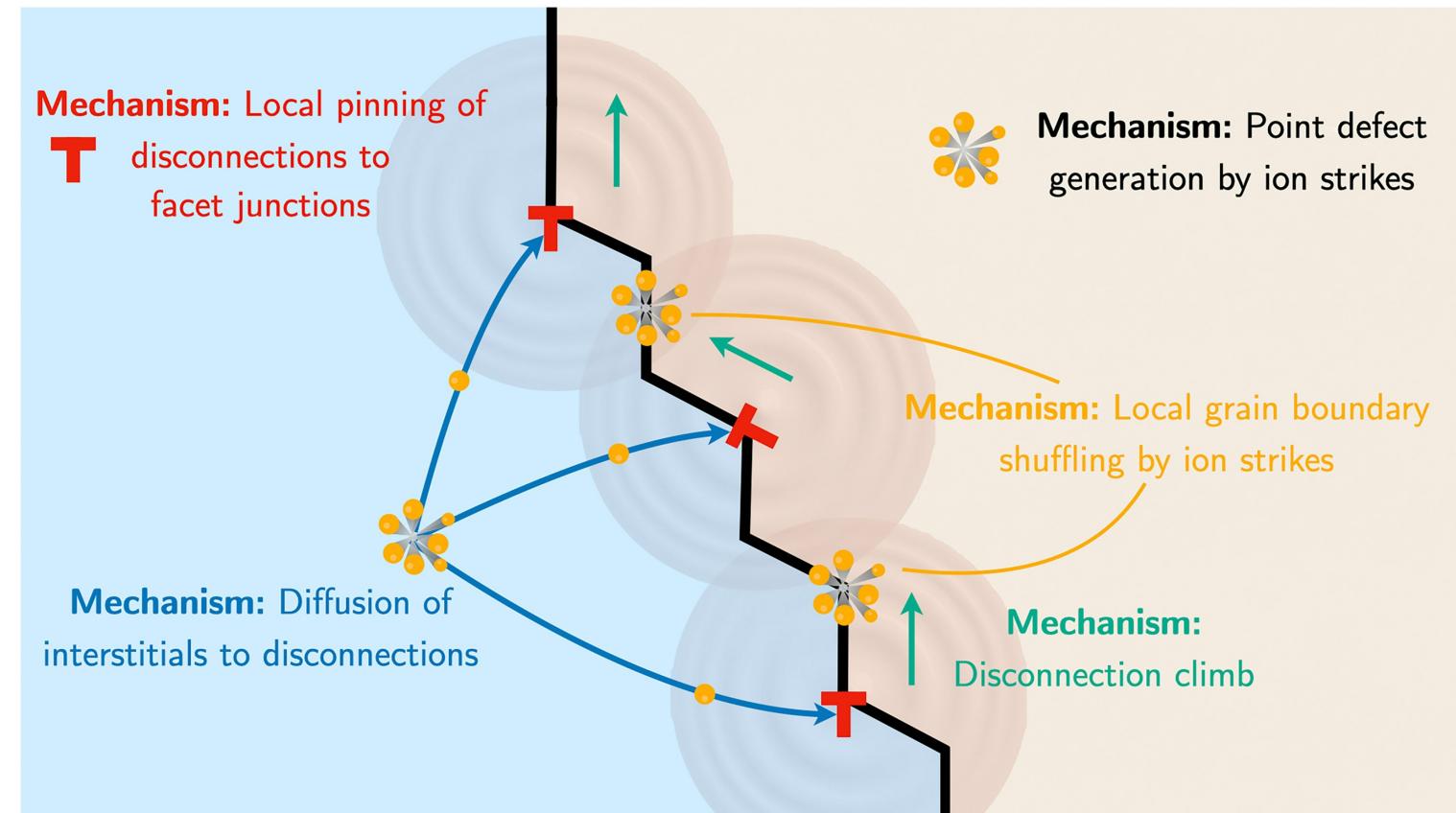
Irradiated with non-depositing 2.8 MeV Au^{4+} ; Total dose during exposure: 1 dpa



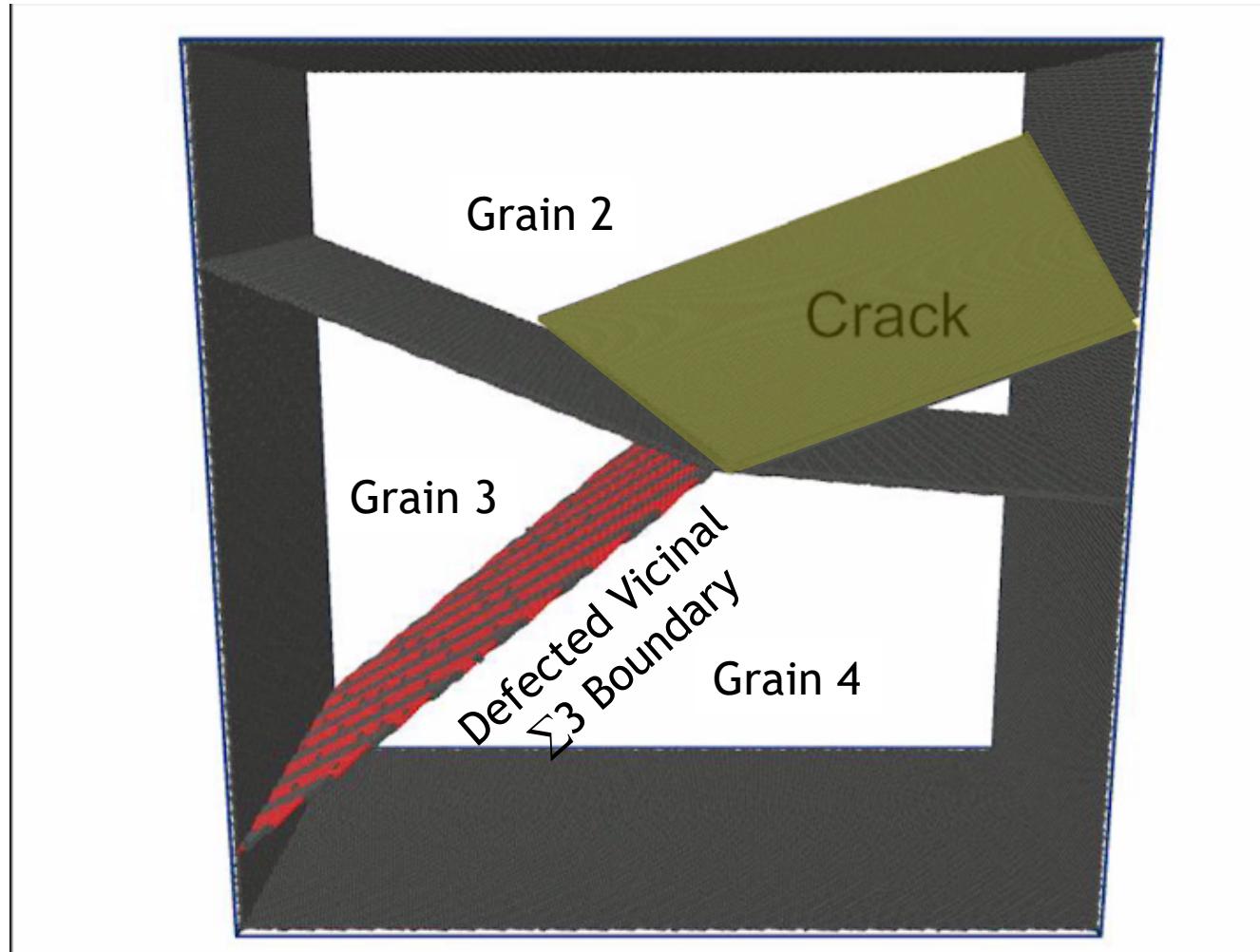
What atomic process(es) drive this migration of the facet junctions?



Three simulation techniques:
Localized heating
Ion strike (PKA)
Frenkel pair accumulation (NRT-dpa)



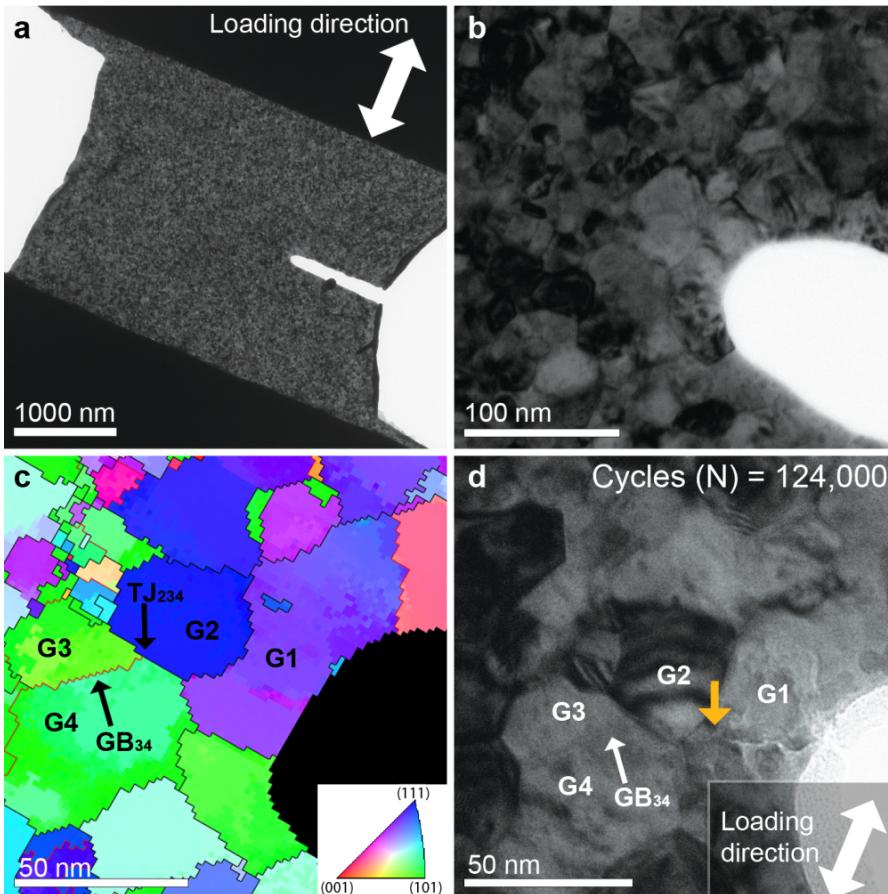
Defected Defects: Simulation of fatigue-induced gb migration



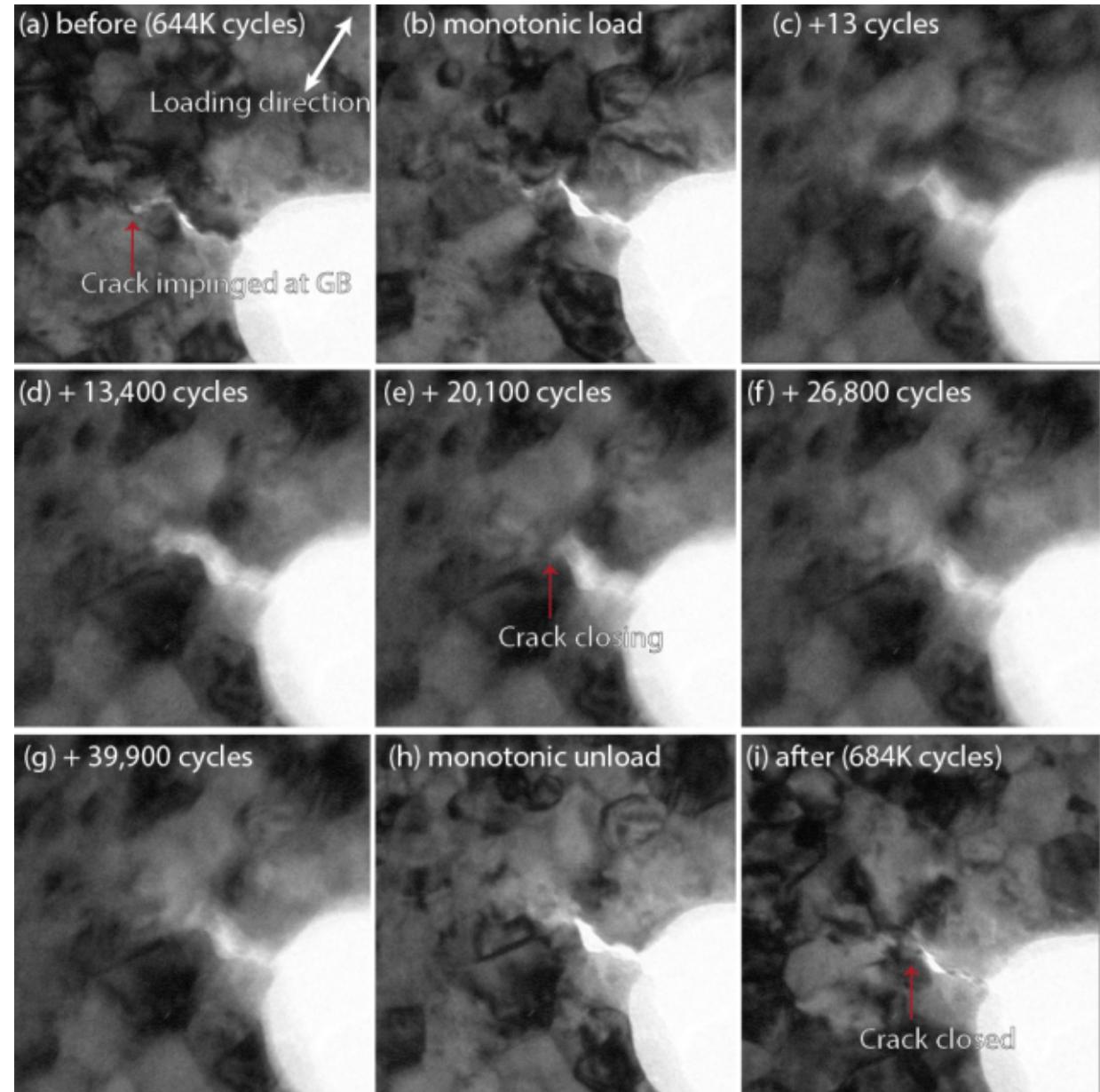
High-cycle fatigue-induced vicinal boundary migration



Polycrystalline Pt



200 times every second,
we apply $17 \mu\text{N}$, a force equivalent
to merely 10,000 C-C bonds.



Similar observations of crack healing have been made multiple times in Pt, and also in Cu

Defected Defects: Added complexity with alloying

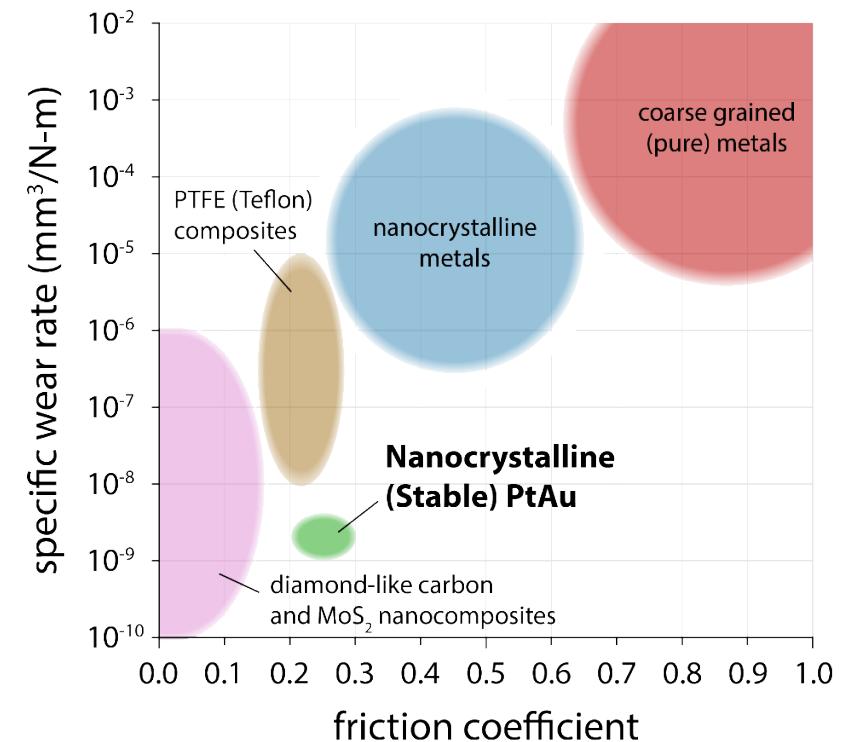
How does chemistry (solute content) affect these processes?



Cover art:

Barr, et al., *Nanoscale*, 2021

(simulations from Fadi Abdeljawad)



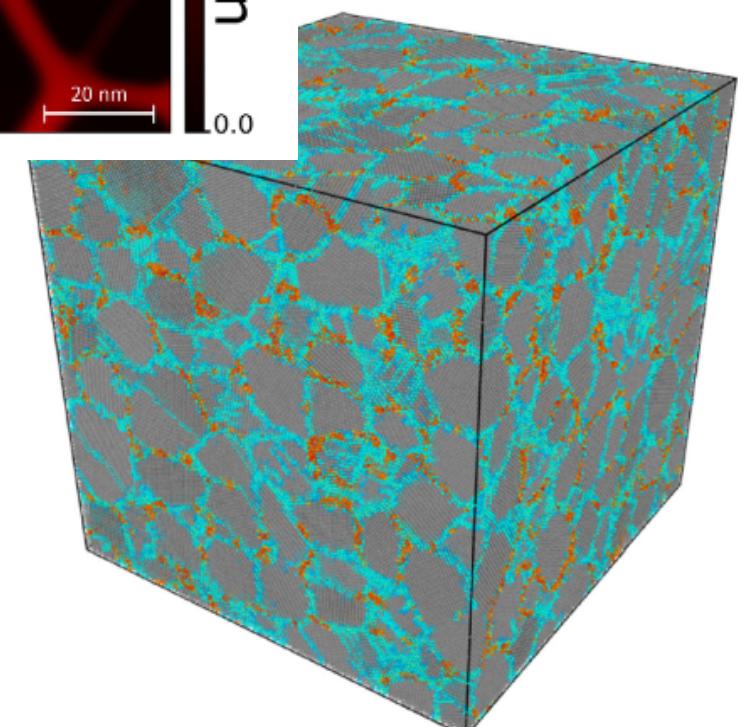
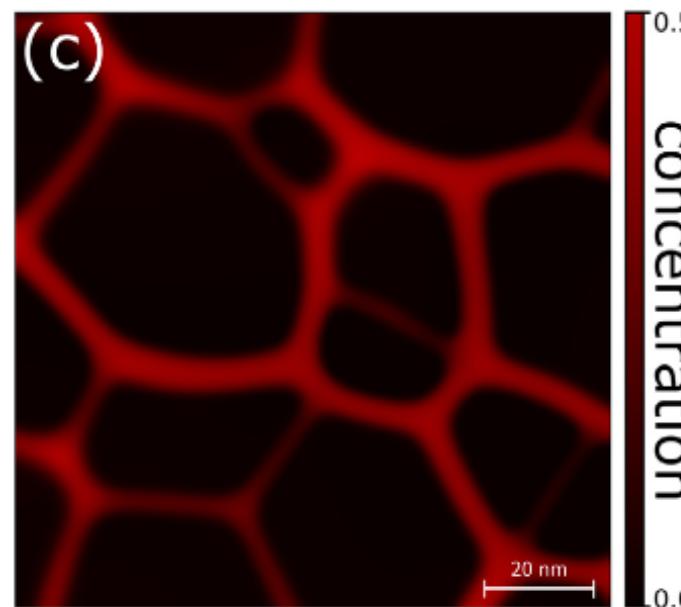
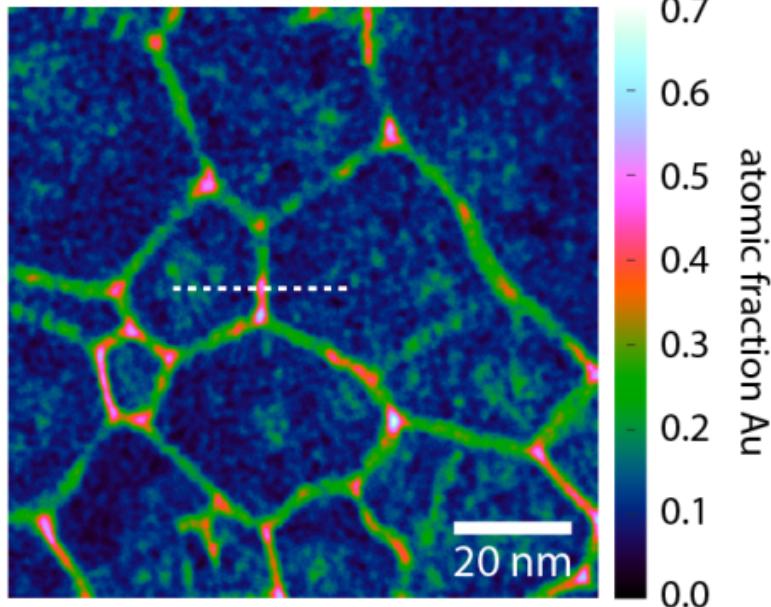
Wear Properties: Curry, et al., *Advanced Materials*, 2018

Tribocatalytic DLC formation: Argibay, et al., *Carbon*, 201

Pt-Au: the most noble binary nanocrystalline alloy



STEM-EDS



Phase Field with Heterogeneous Segregation: J. Monti et al., *Acta Mater.*, 2022

GB character: C.M. Barr, et al., *Nanoscale*, 2021

GB Spinodal decomposition: X. Zhou et al., *Acta Mater.*, 2021 (collab with G. Thompson, D. Raabe)

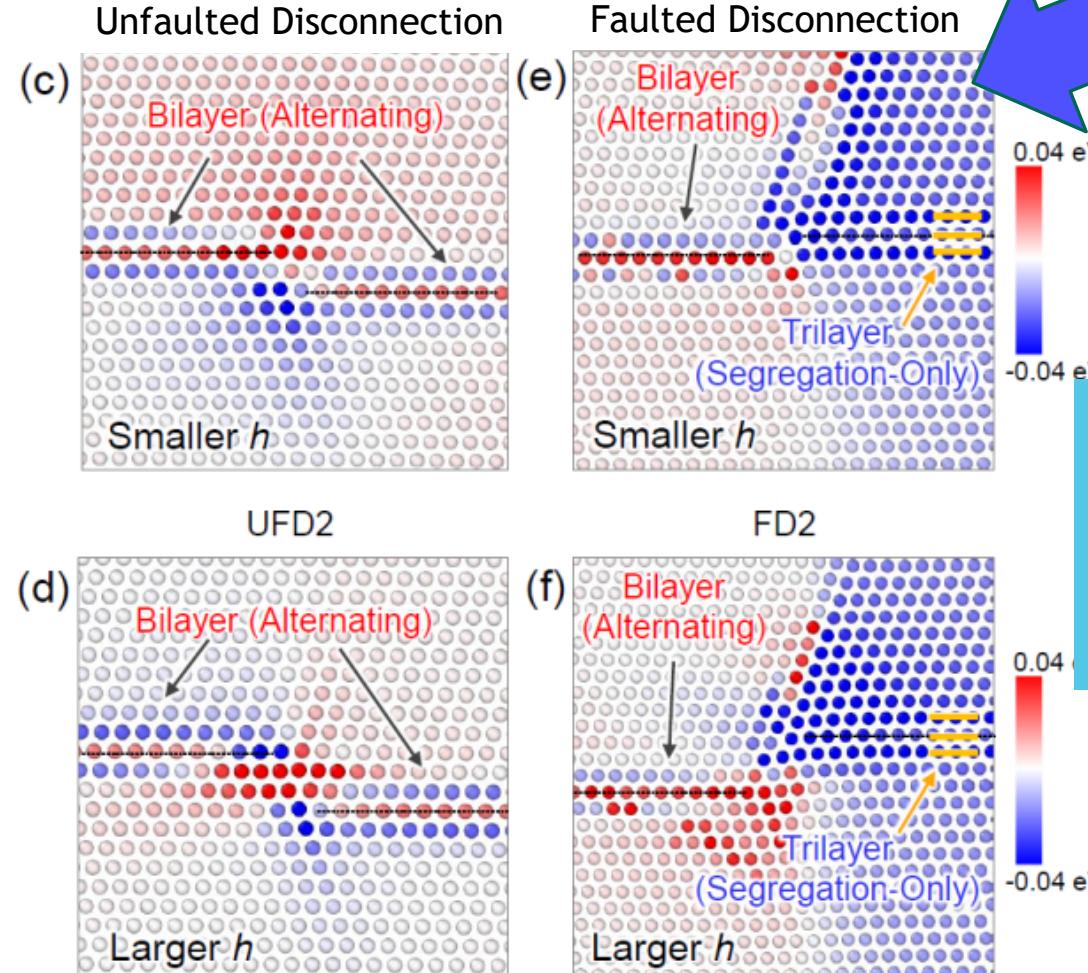
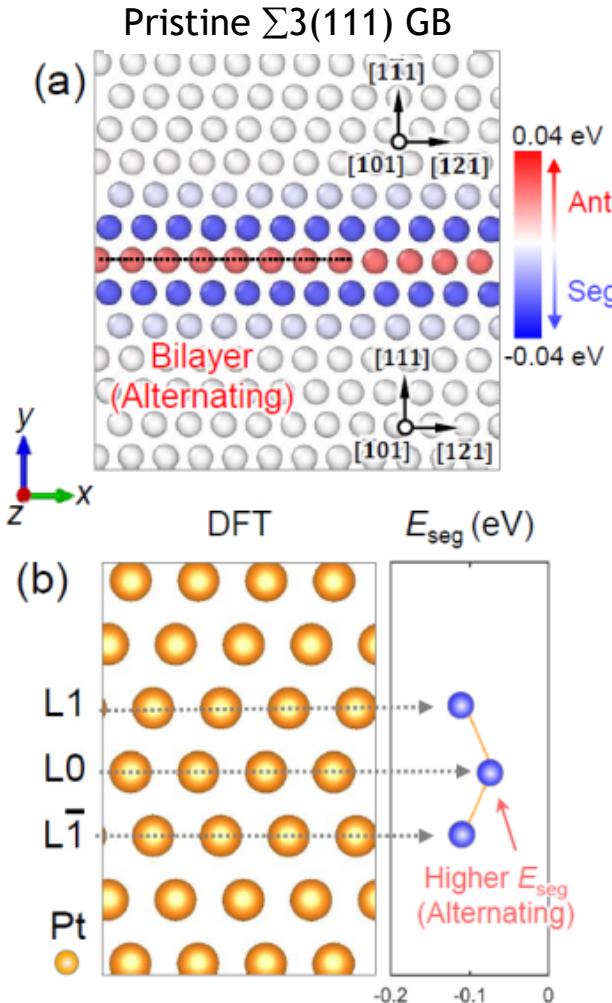
GB phase transformations: C.J. O'Brien et al., *J. Mater. Sci.*, 2018

Tensile behavior: N.M. Heckman et al., *Nanoscale*, 2018

Defected defects distort compositional effects



The local segregation potential depends on the nature of the defect structure.



Extensive changes in segregation potential as a result of defect type.

Some defects may trigger phase separation, Moreover, defects may become trapped by the excess solute

Ok, how do these chemically-stabilized GB defects alter macroscale polycrystalline behavior?

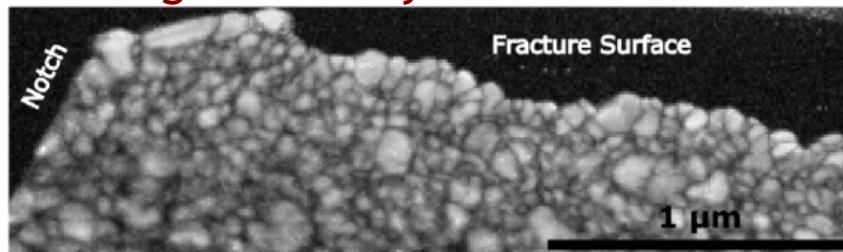
Net effects: Au in Pt stabilizes grain structure and enhances fatigue resistance

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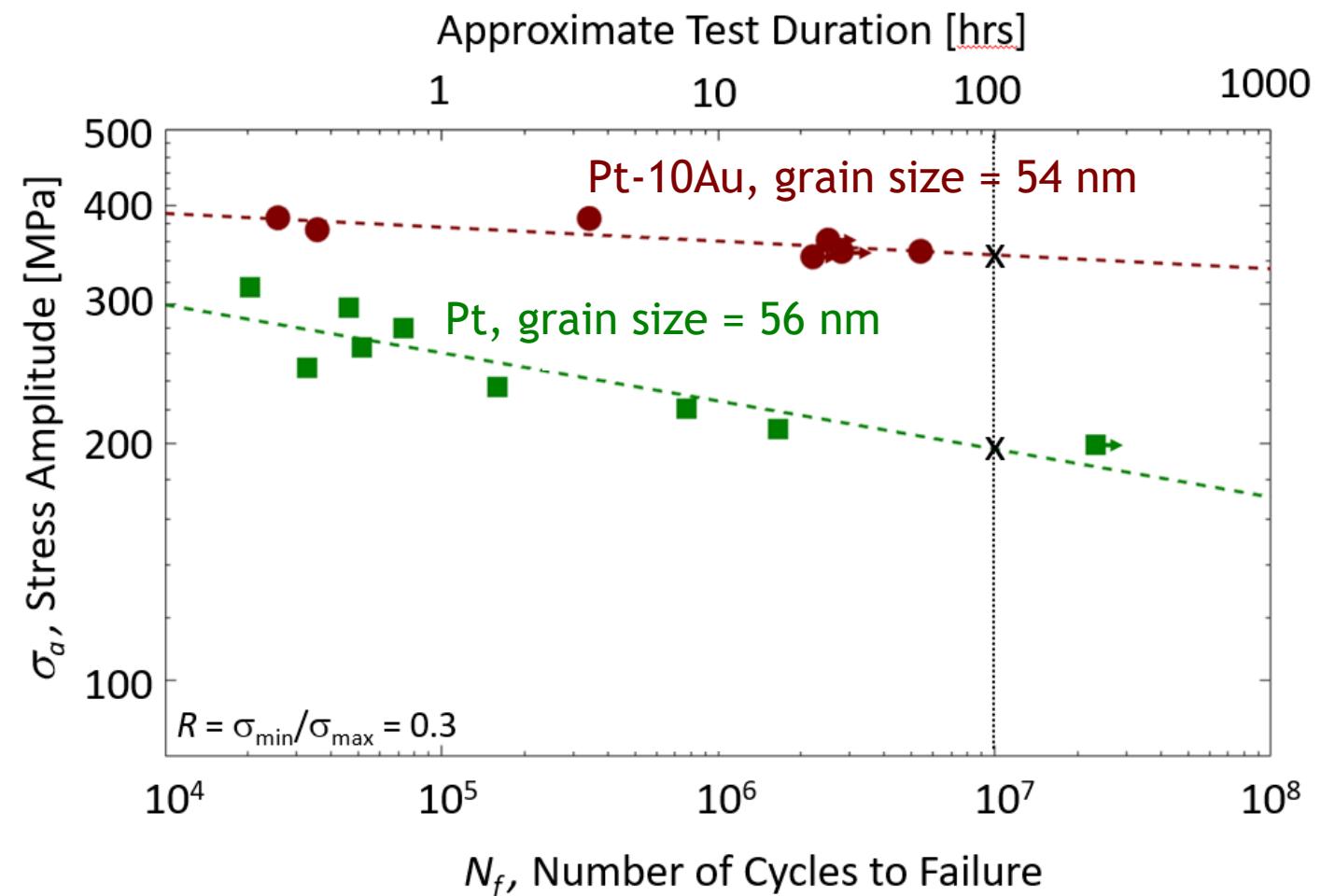
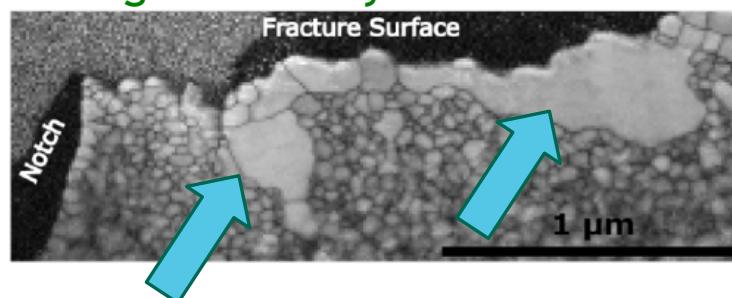
Pt-10Au, (initial grain size = 54 nm)

Fatigued ~1M cycles to failure

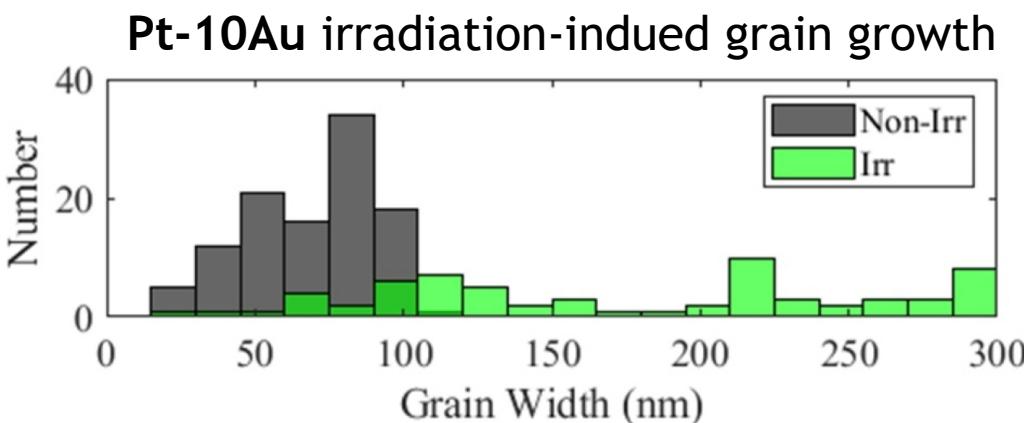
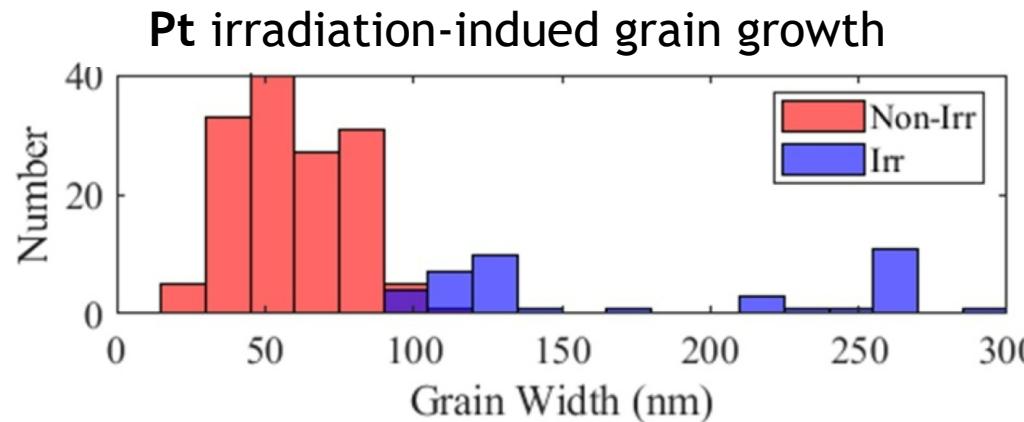


Pt, (initial grain size = 56 nm)

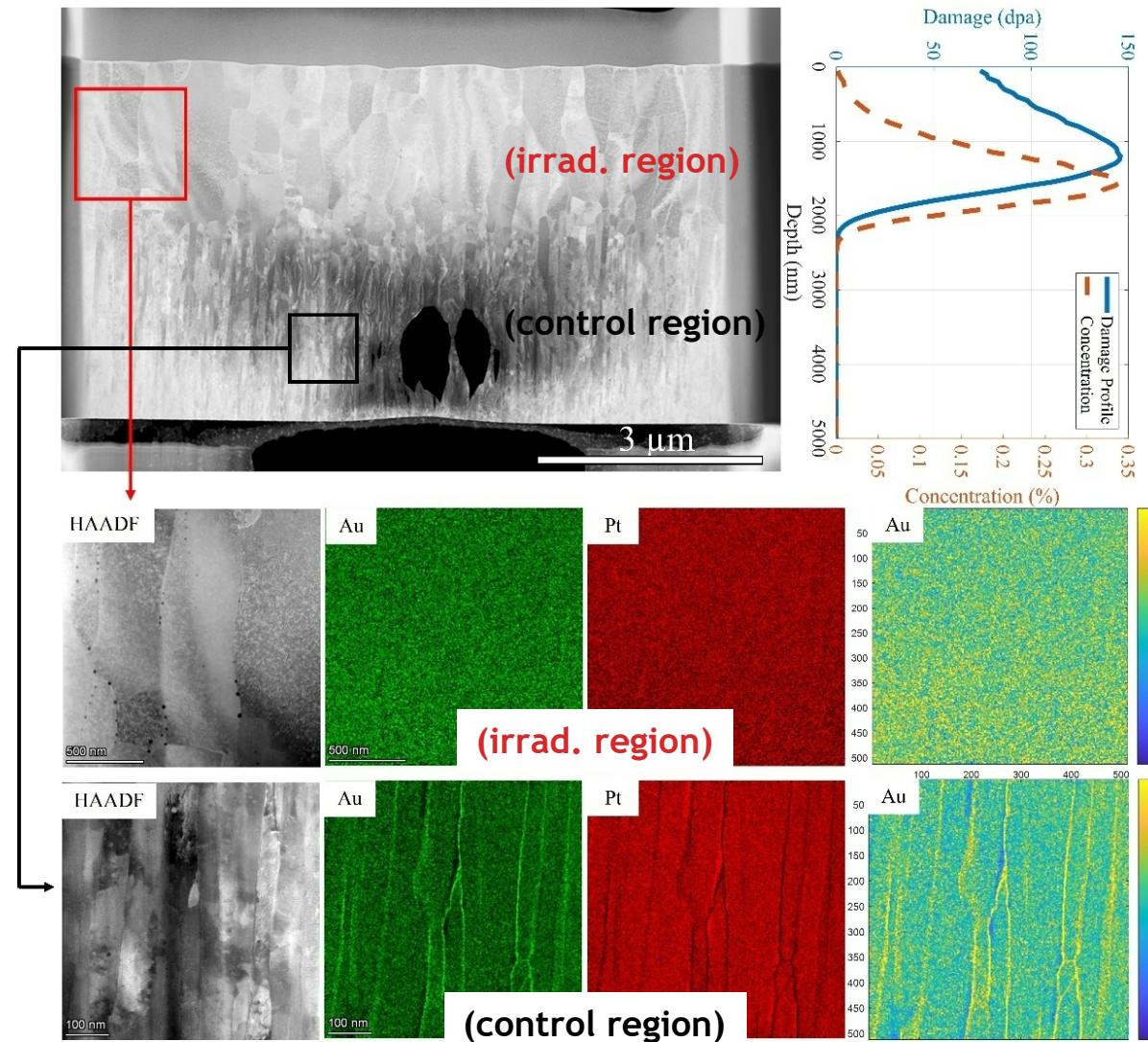
Fatigued ~1M cycles to failure



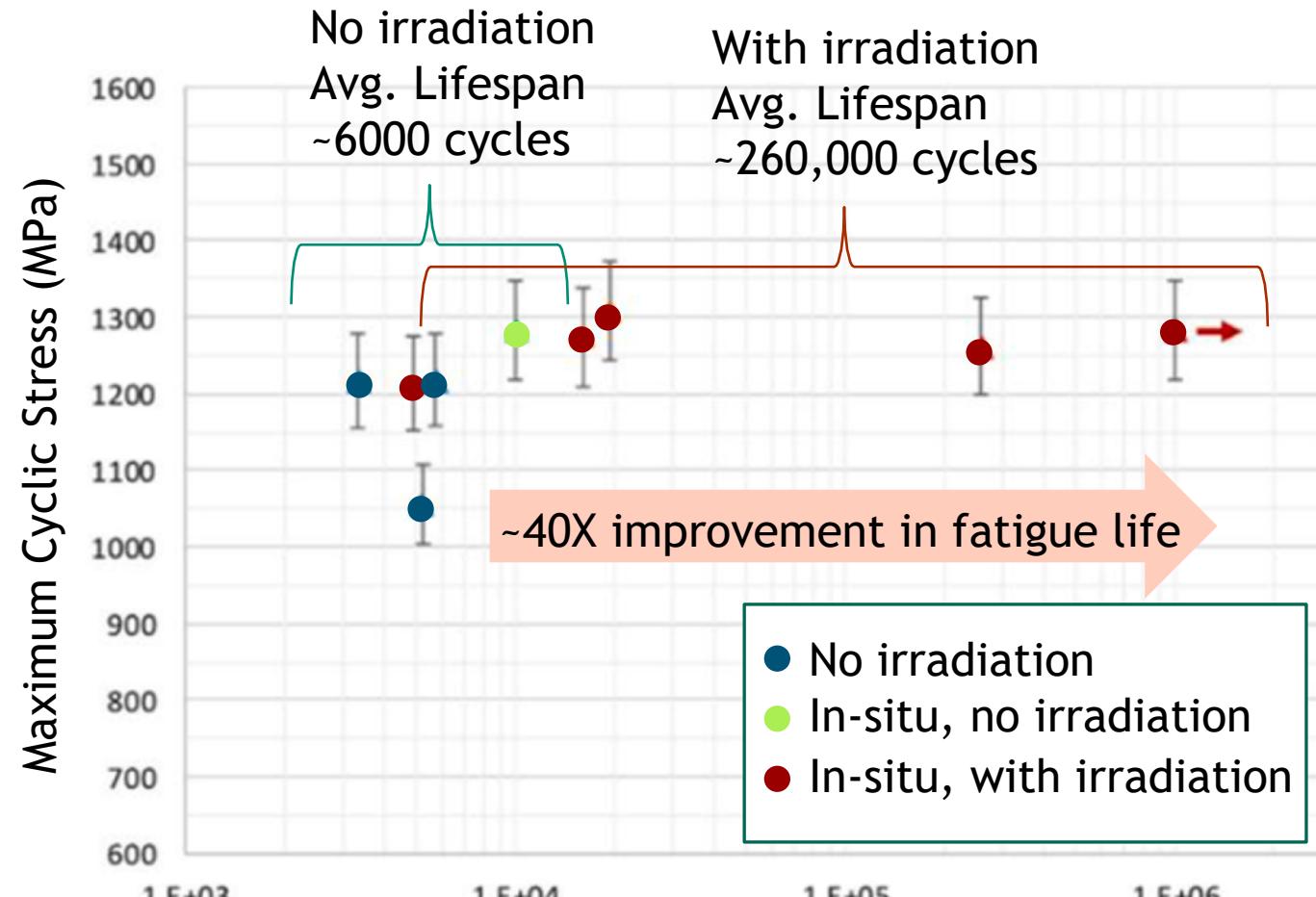
But the presence of Au at the GB does not resist irradiation-induced growth



20 MeV Au⁴⁺ ion irradiation
room temperature to a
fluence of 2×10^{16} ions/cm²



Simultaneous Irradiation + High-cycle Fatigue



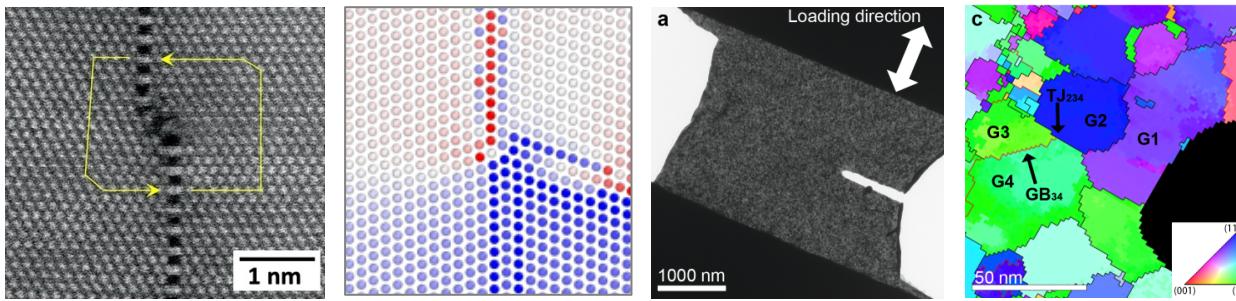
What causes radiation-enhanced fatigue?

COLLECTIVE DEFECTS:

Compressive residual stress?

Radiation-induced hardening?

Complex superimposed defect-interactions?



While there are many distinct unit processes for grain boundary migration in response to thermal, radiation, and mechanical stimuli, a unifying theme is the critical role of defects within the grain boundary.



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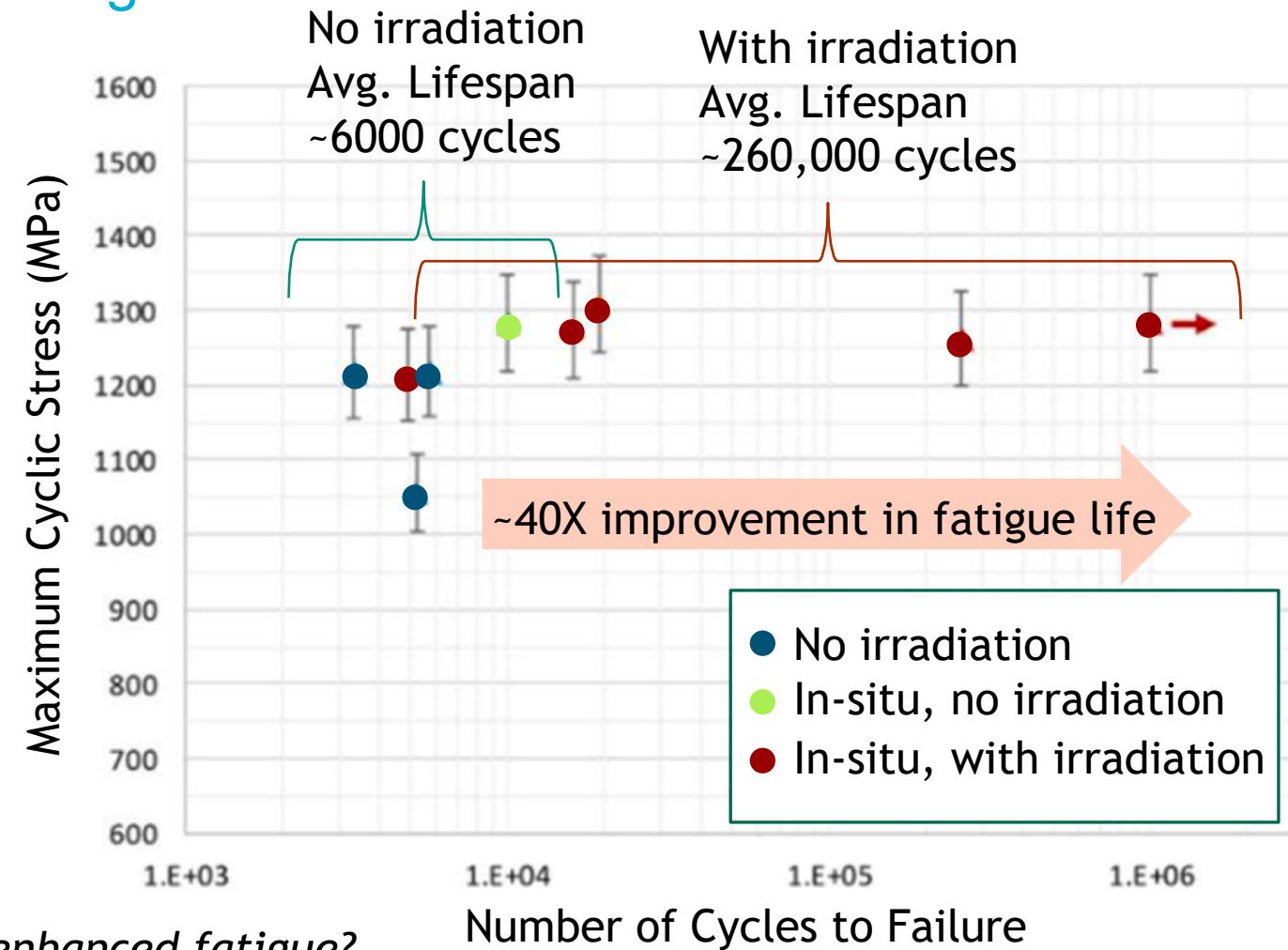


U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

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Science



Backu
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What causes radiation-enhanced fatigue?

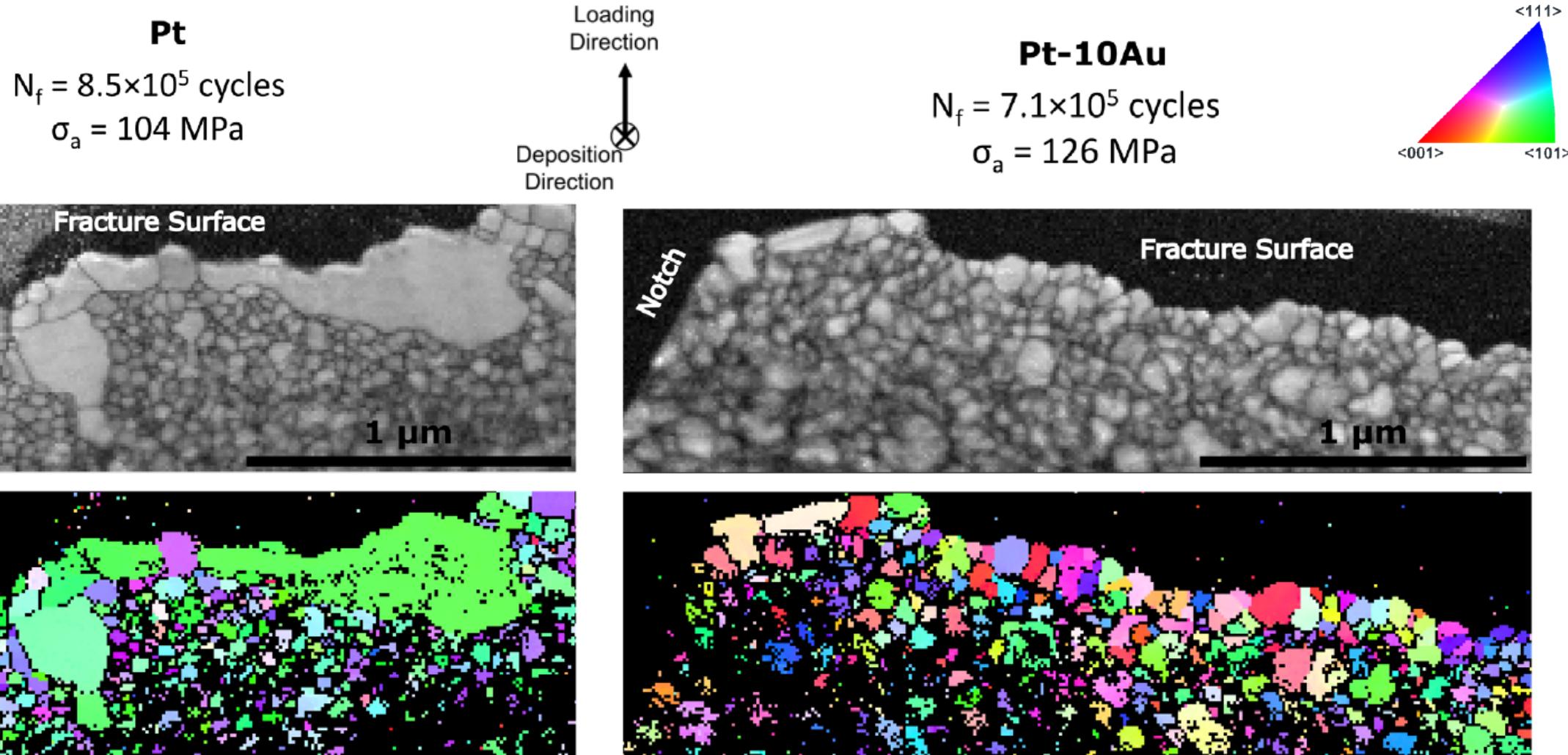
Compressive residual stress?

Radiation-induced strengthening?

Complex superimposed defect-interactions?

What else?

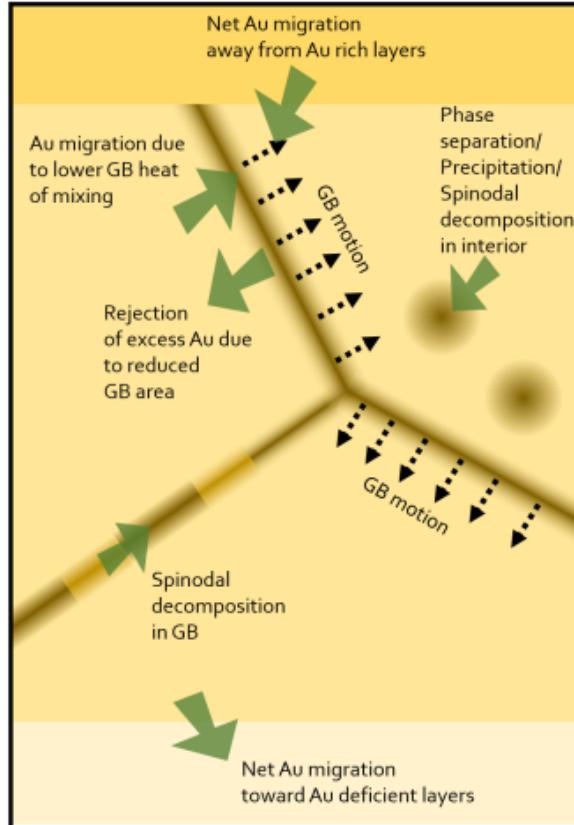
Did the Pt-Au actually resist fatigue-induced grain growth?



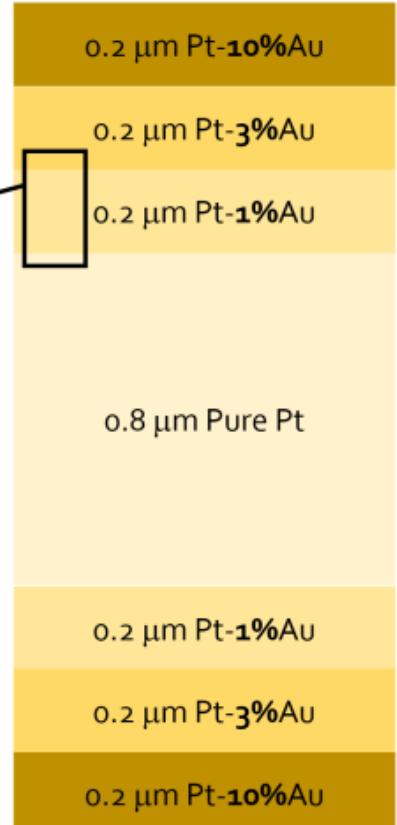
Gradient Pt-Au by composition not severe plastic deformation



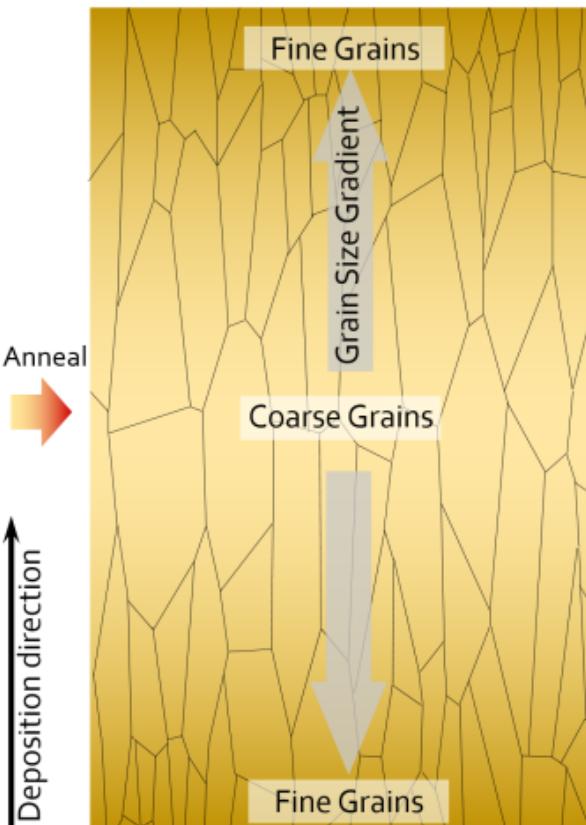
(a)



(b)



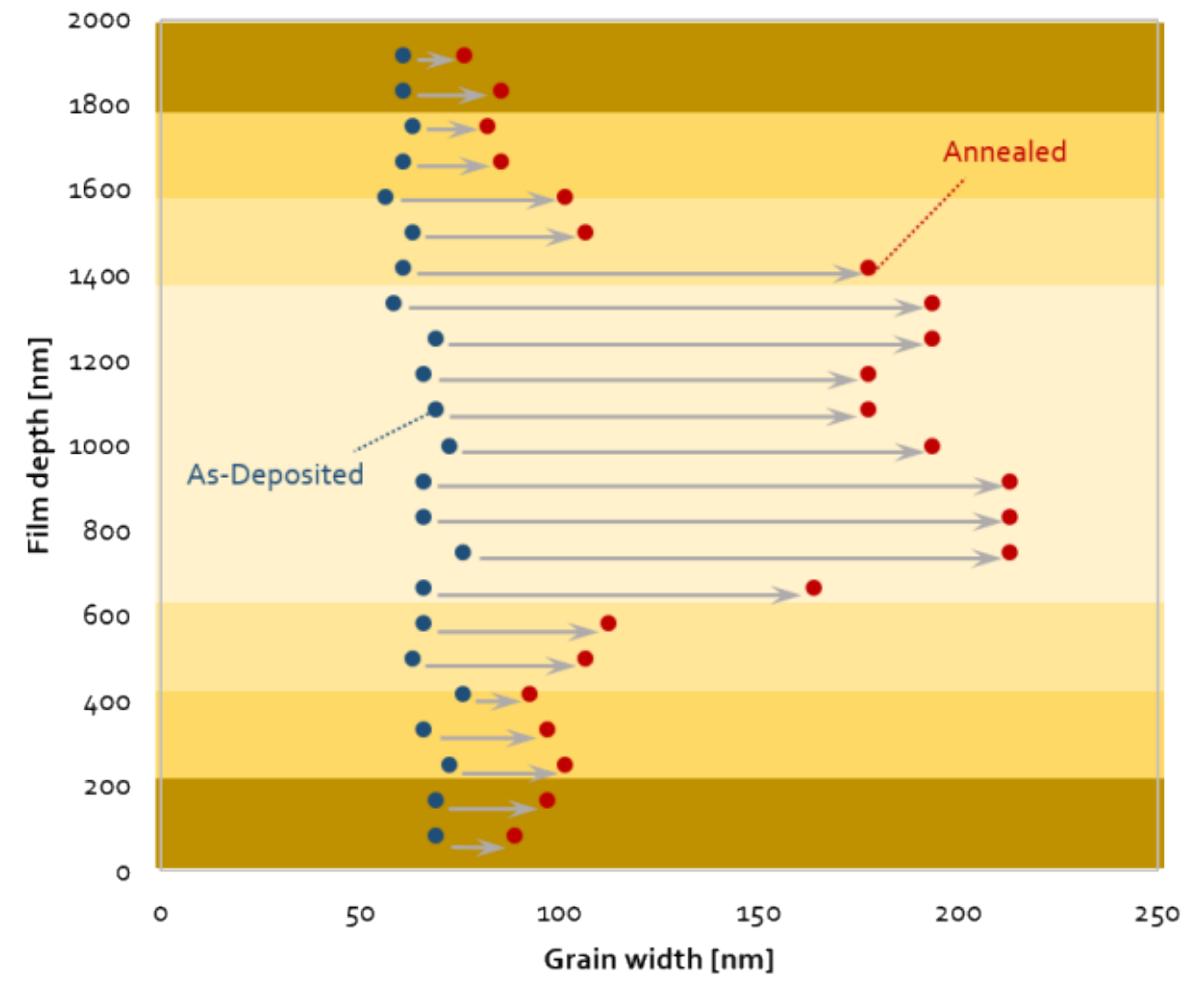
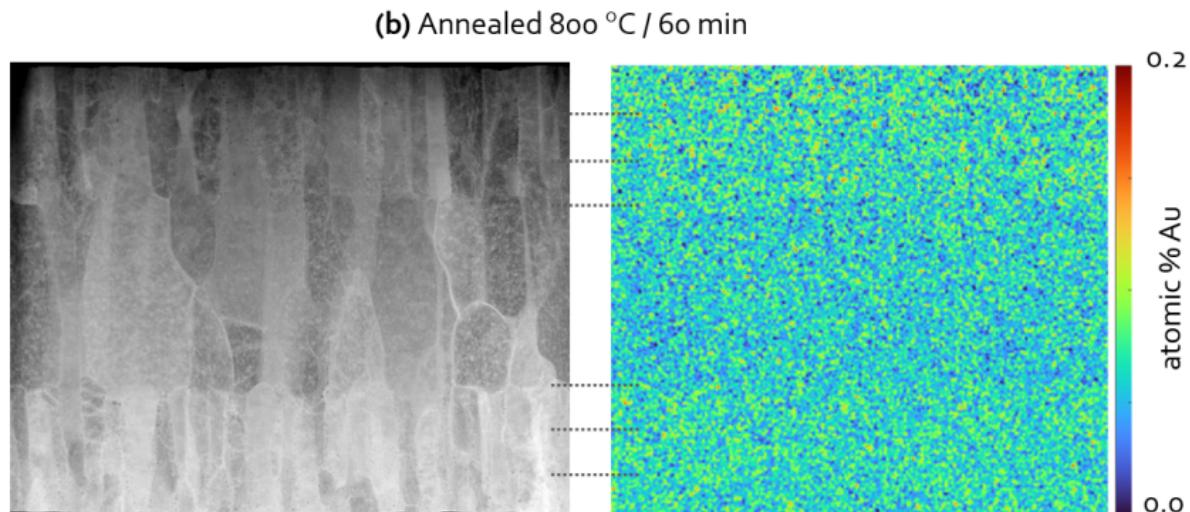
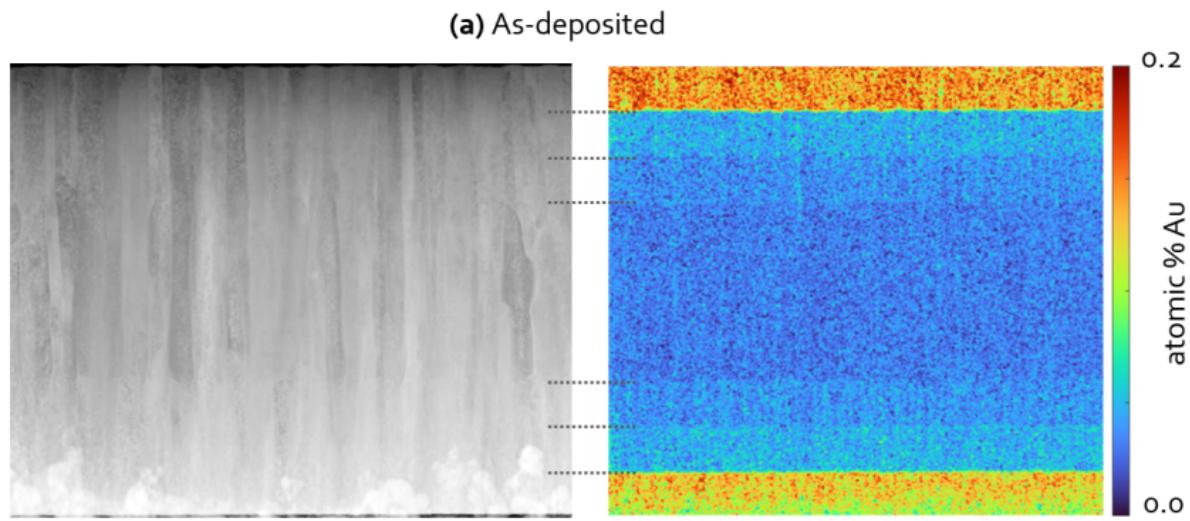
(c)



Phase field prediction of Gradient Grain size



Experimental confirmation of gradient Pt-Au

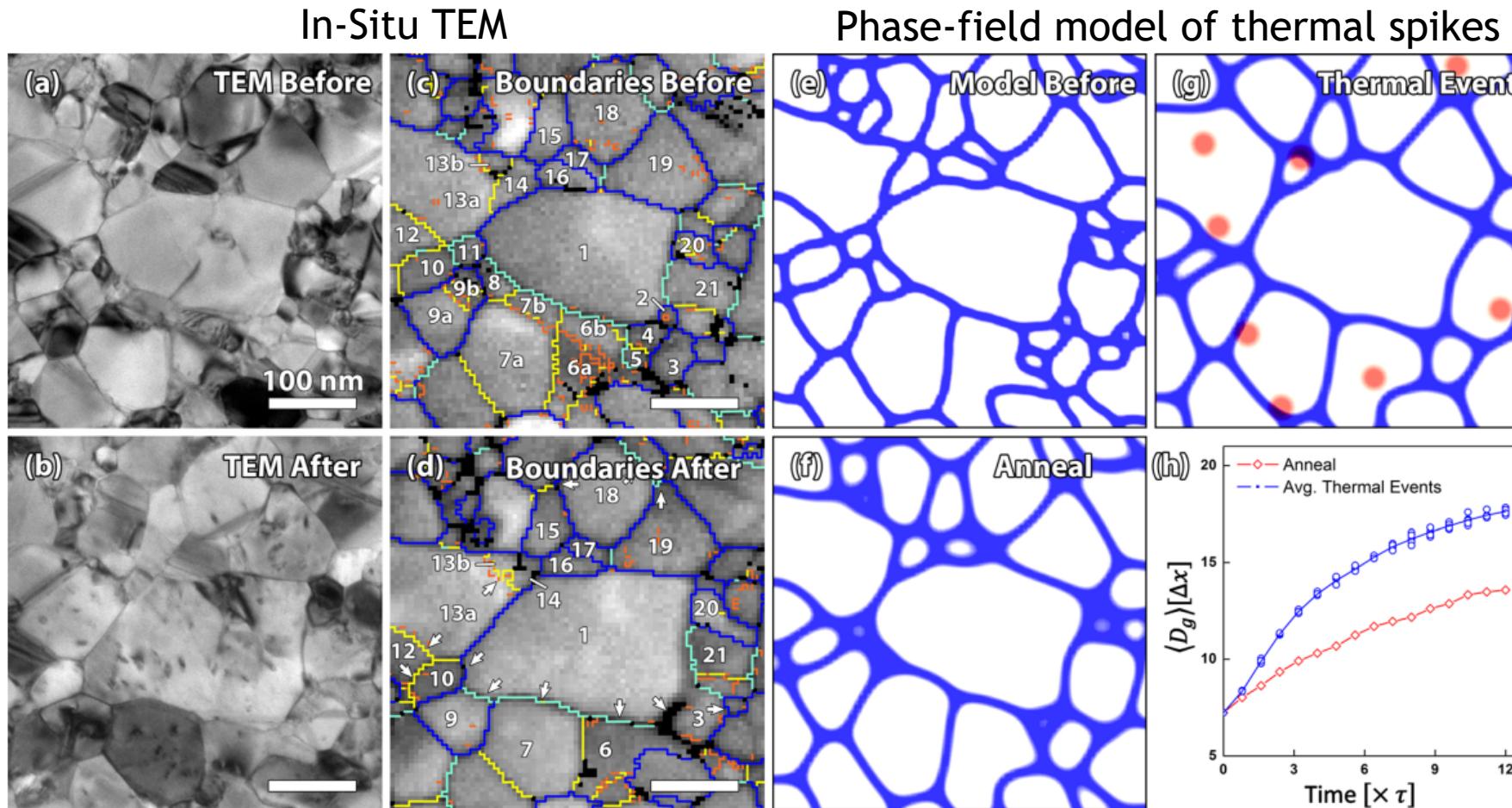


A macroscopic view of irradiation-induced evolution

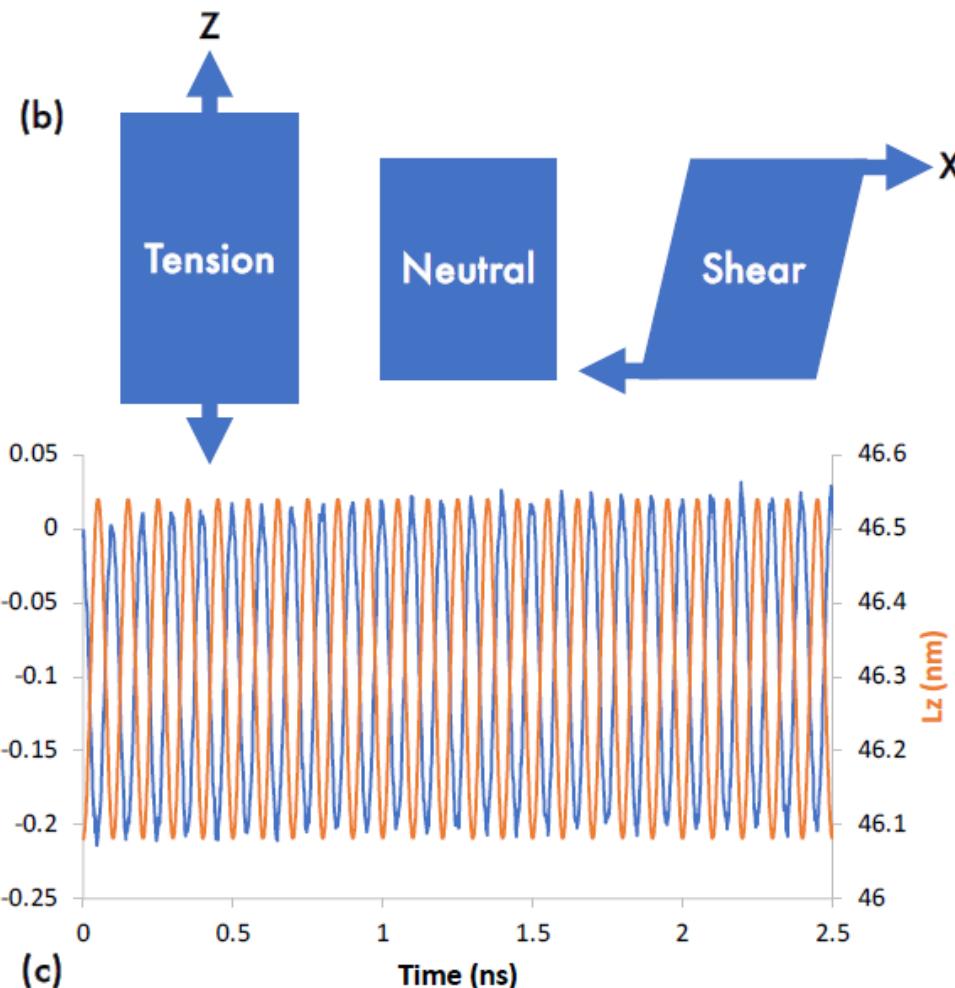
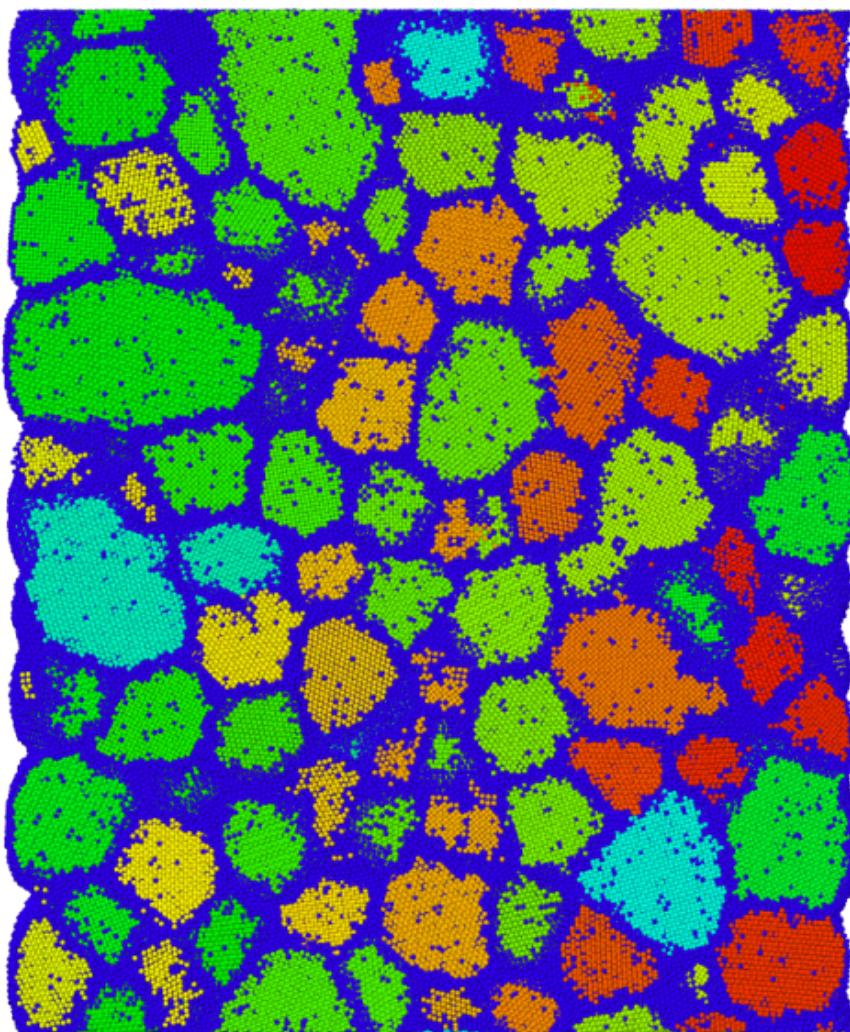


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Au foil during bombardment with 10 MeV Si3+

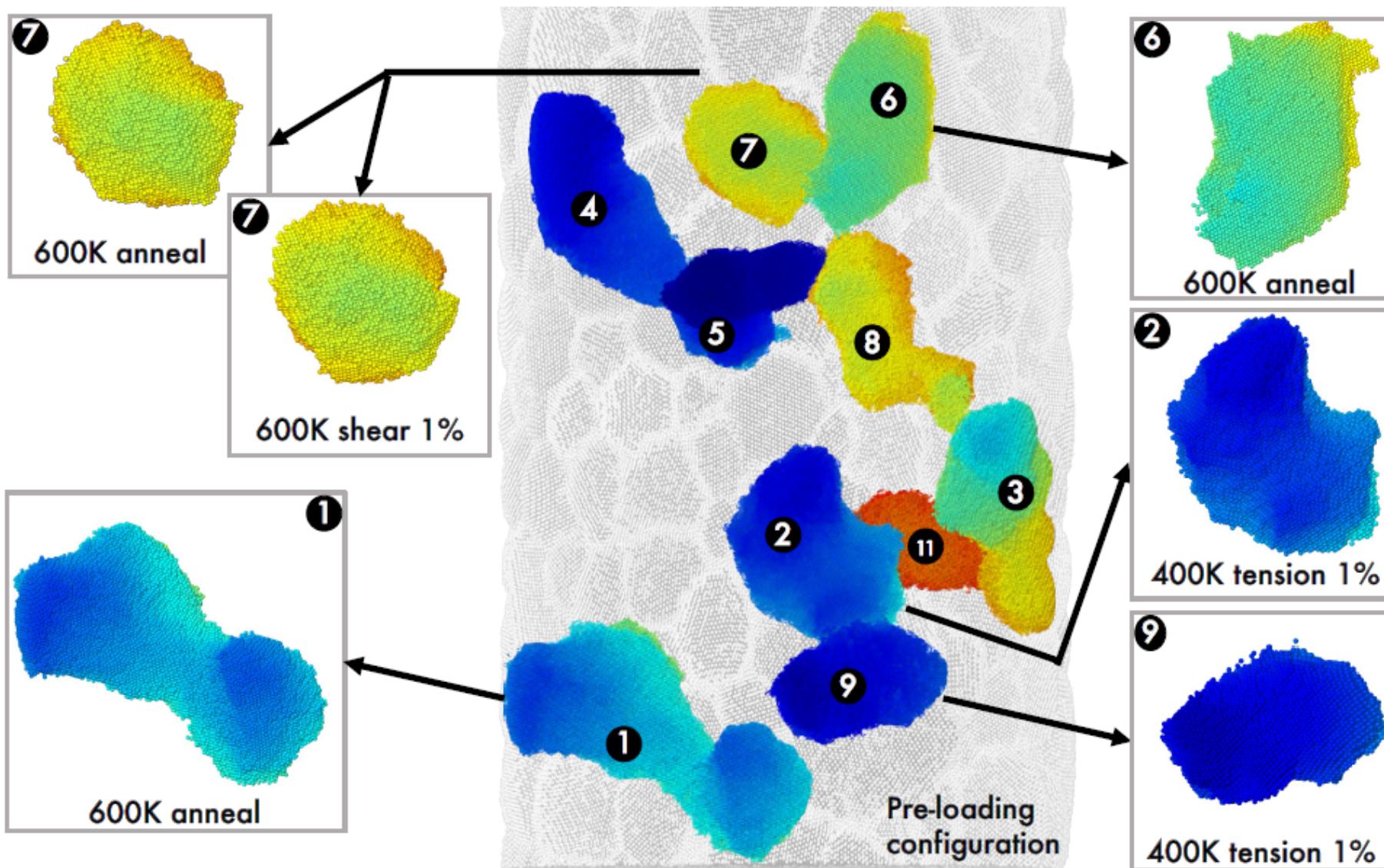


Collective activity of stimulated polycrystals: a complex statistical picture



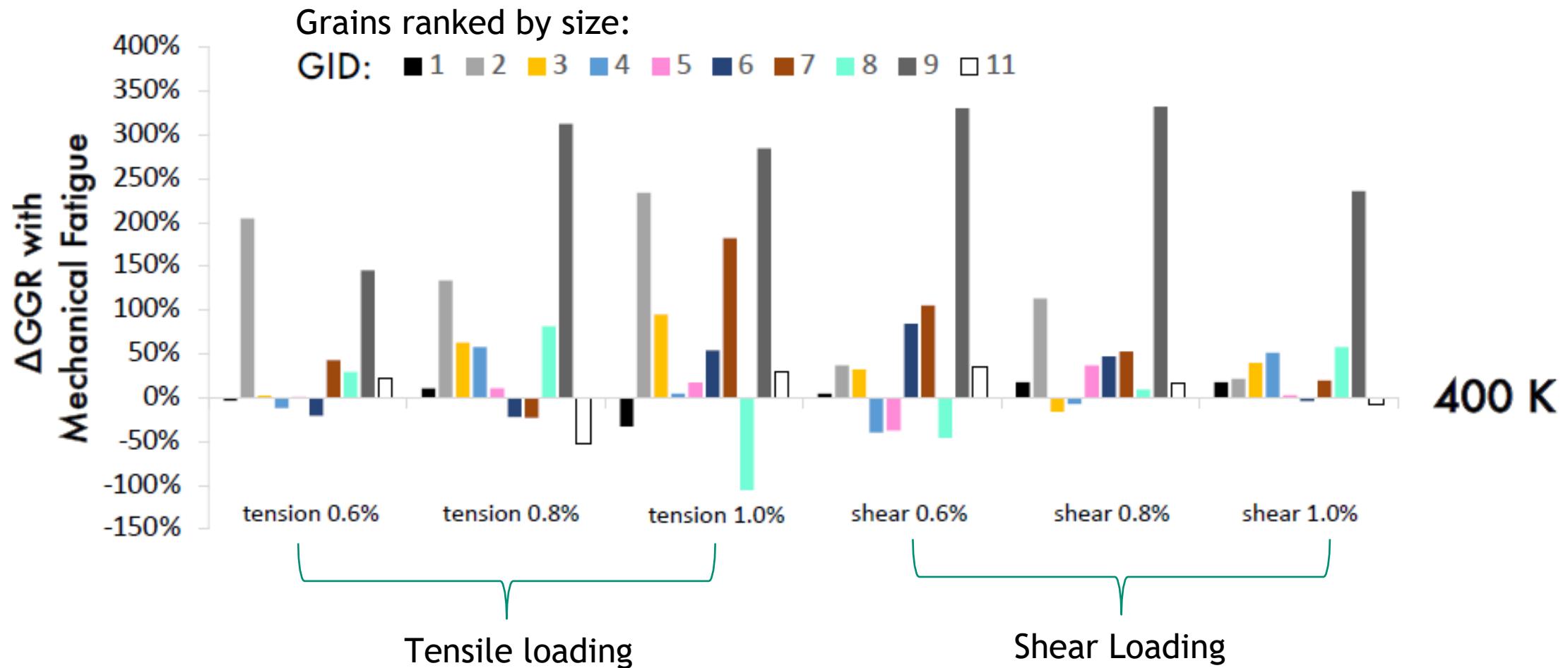
Parsing the response of the 10 biggest grains under 6 different stimuli

28



Defected defects: facet junctions as a network of dislocations

29



The complexity of grain growth...

