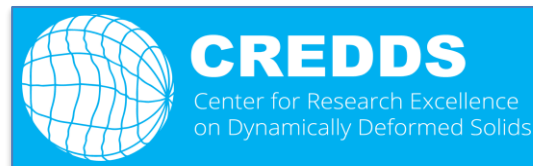


# Building a Virtual Framework to Model Laser Shock Experiments

Avinash M. Dongare,

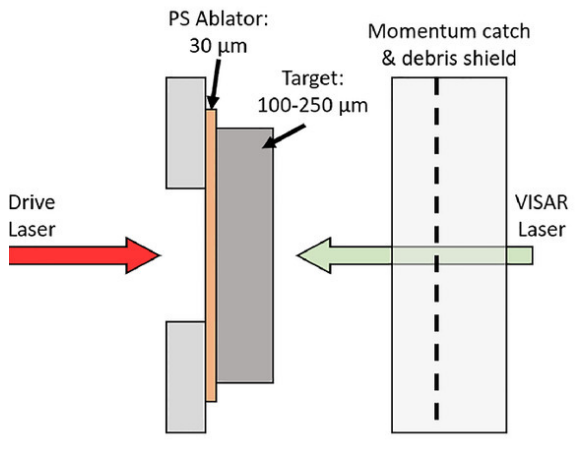
Avanish Mishra, Marco Echeverria, Ke Ma, Ching Chen and Sergey Galitskiy

Materials Science and Engineering, and Institute of Materials Science,  
University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT

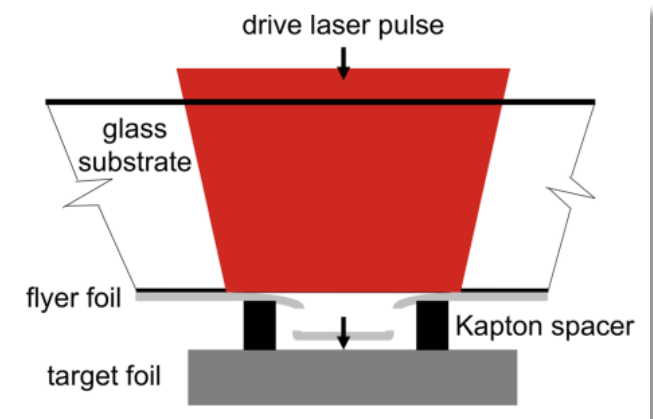


M. Demkowicz (TAMU)  
A. Misra (UM)  
I. Beyerlein (UCSB)

# Laser Shock Experiments

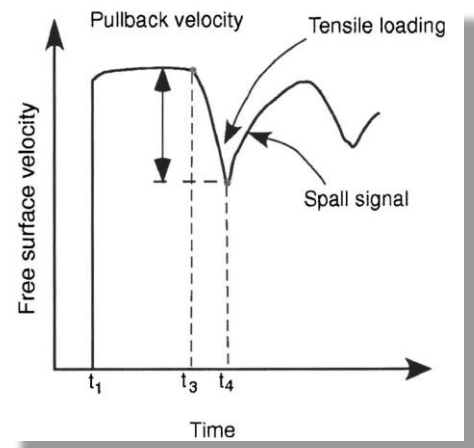


[Righi et al., Acta Mater (2021)]

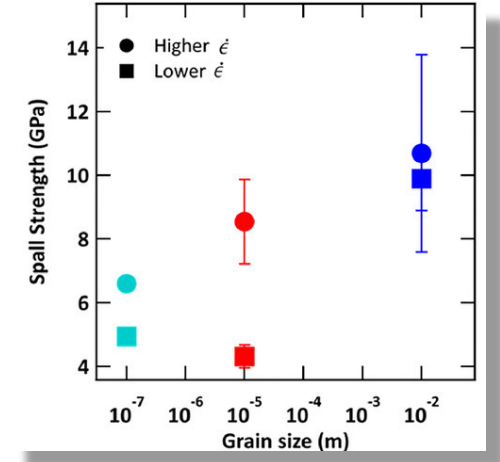


[D. D. Mallick et al. *Exp. Mech.* (2019)]

## Rear surface velocity

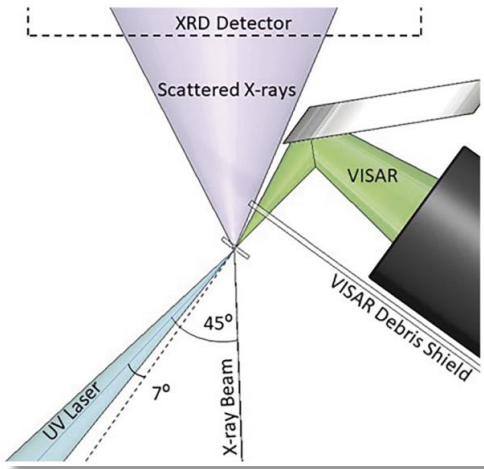


[Chen, et al., JAP (2006)]



[Righi et al., Acta Mater (2021)]

- *Rear surface velocity*: spall strength, strain rate, Hugoniot elastic limit, phase transformation behavior
- Strain Rates  $> 10^7 \text{ s}^{-1}$ . ; Small samples (< few hundred microns)
- **Challenge**: Predicting the plasticity contributions in BCC metal microstructures

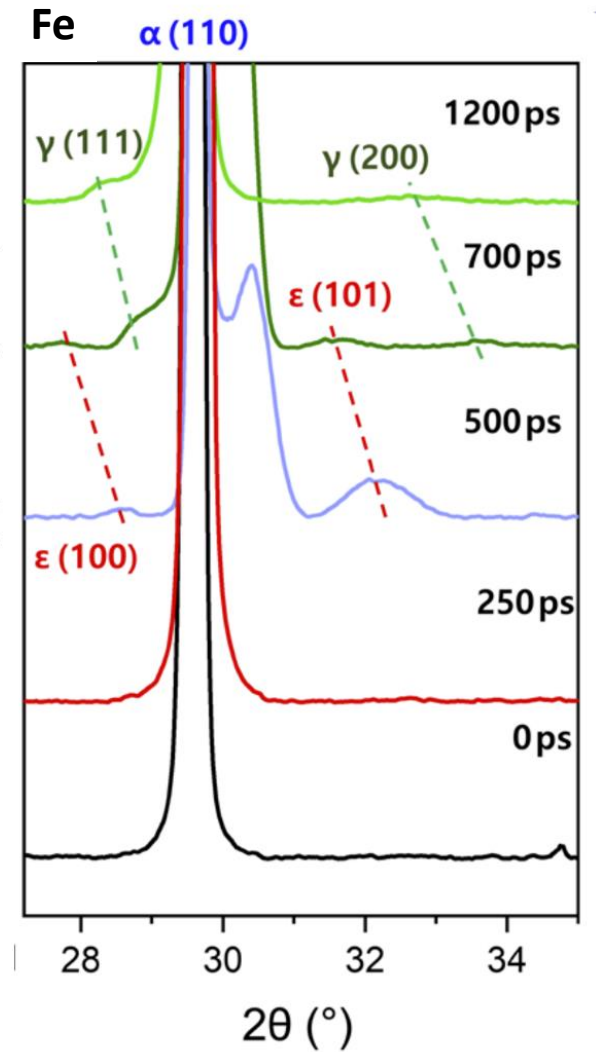
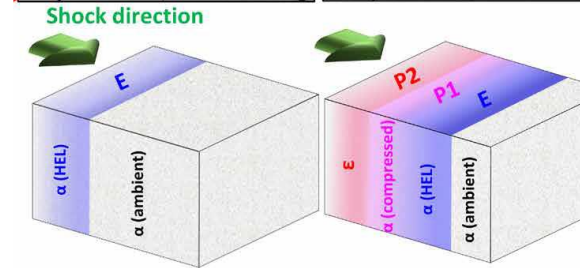
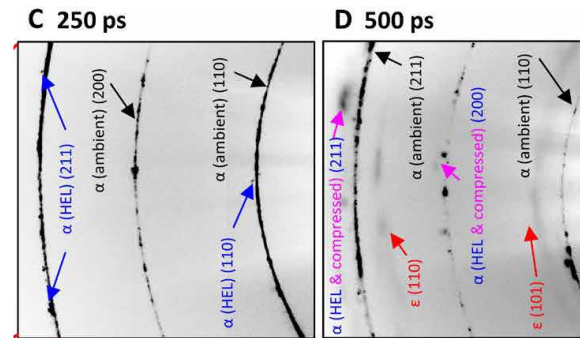
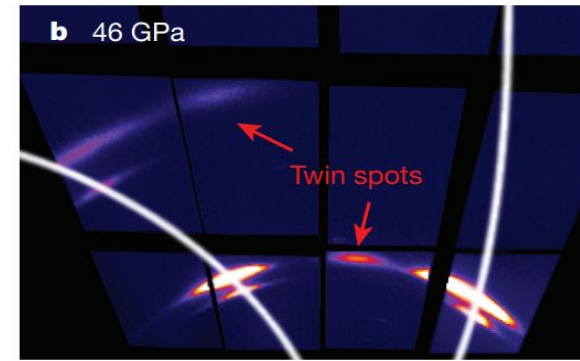


[Wang et al., Rev. Sci. Instrum. (2019)]

- Peak broadening (defects)
- Peak splitting (twins) or
- New peaks (phase transformation)

**Quantification of fractions of twins or phase fractions and dislocation density.**

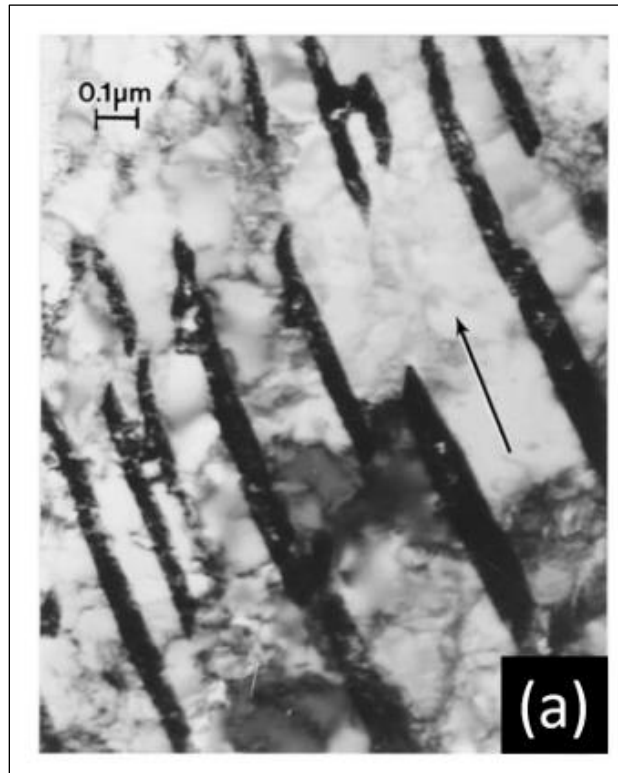
**Ta** [Wehrenberg et al., *Nature* (2017)]



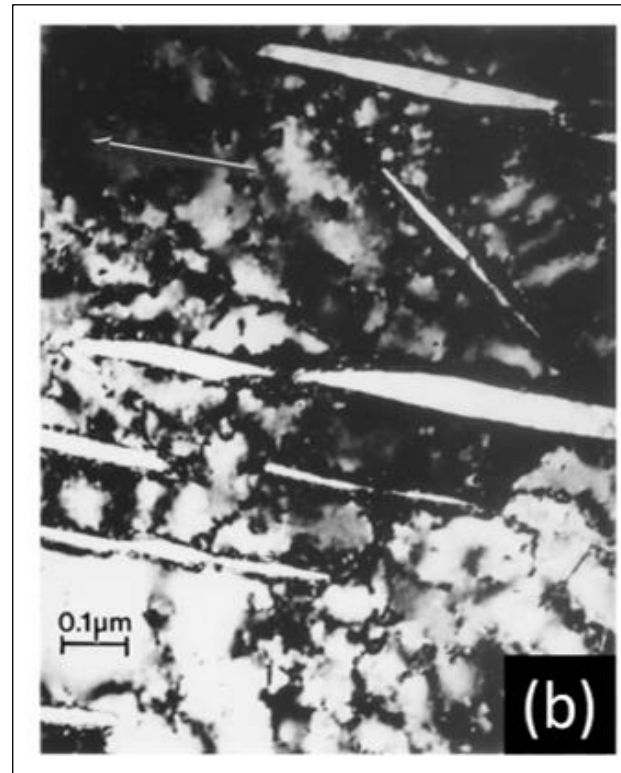
[Hwang et al., *Sci. Adv.* (2020)]

# Shock Recovery Experiments: Plasticity Contributions

[Murr and Esquivel, J. Mater. Sci. (2004)]

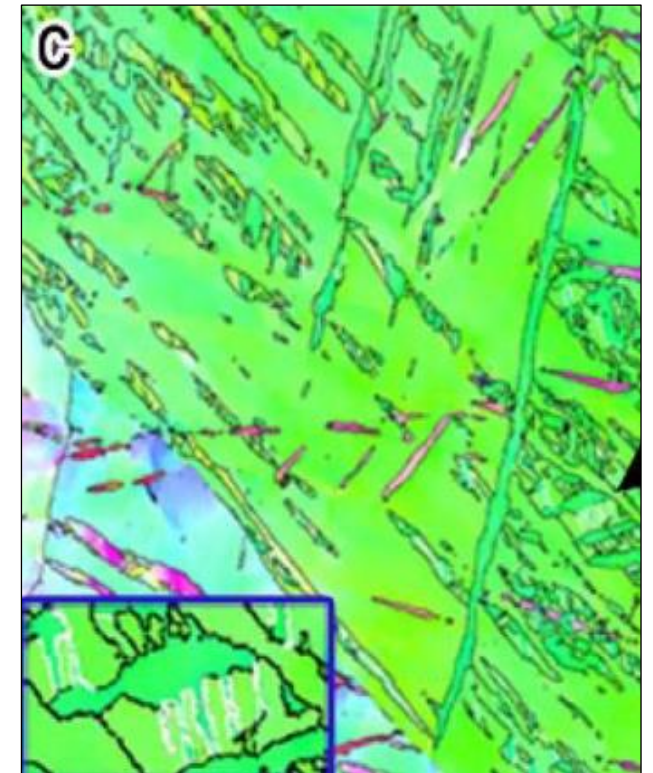


Ta



Mo

[Want et al., Sci. Rep. (2013)]



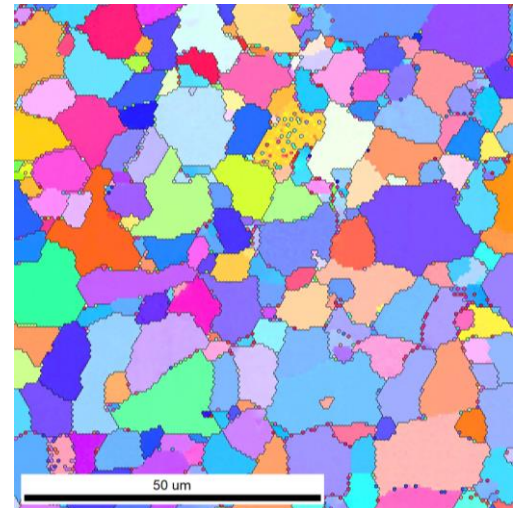
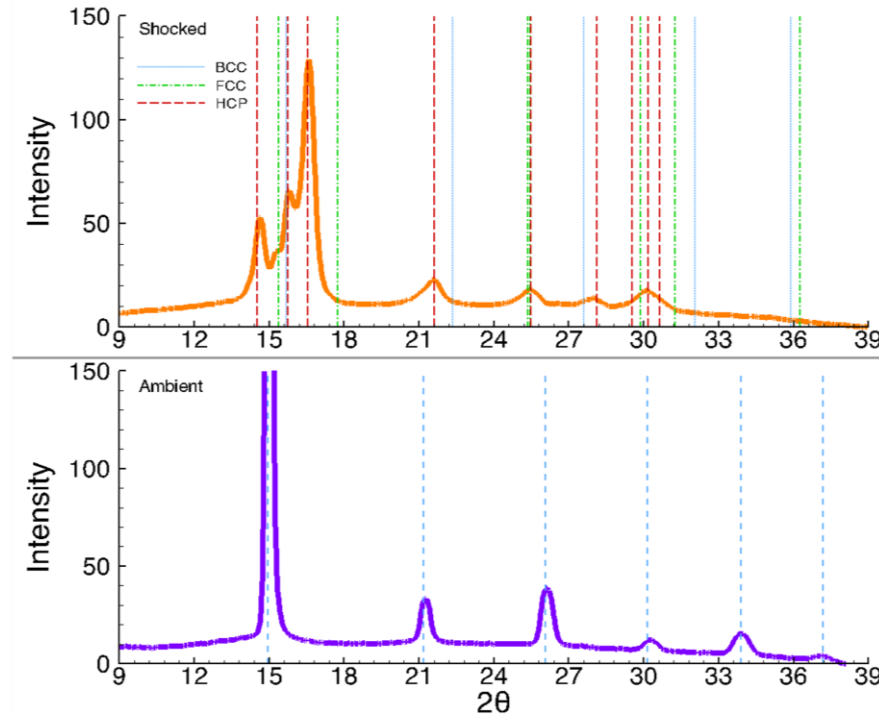
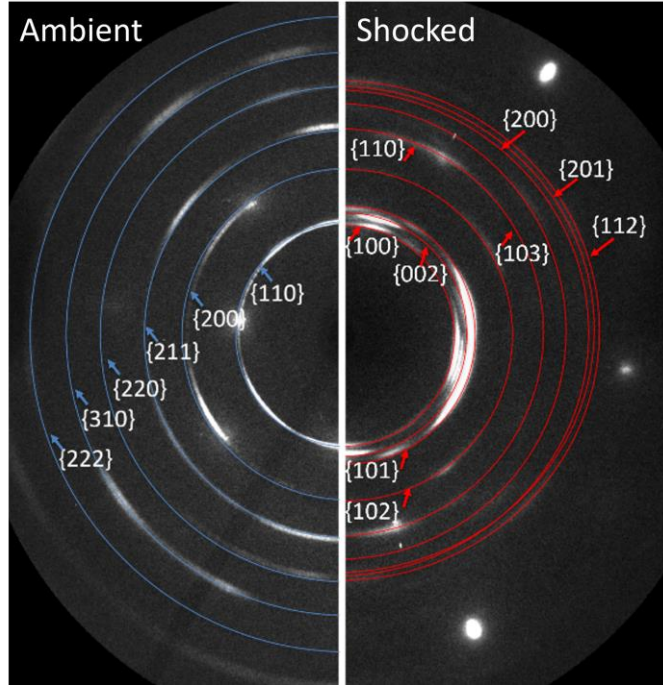
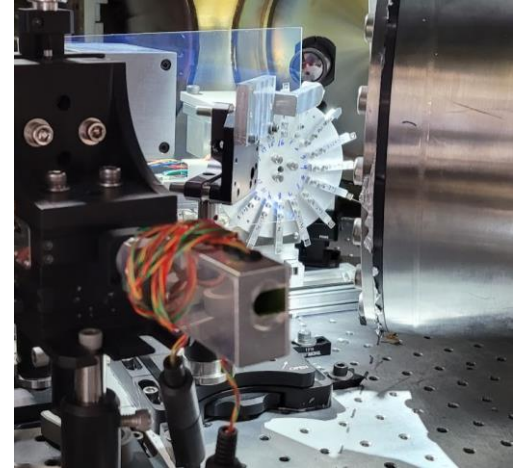
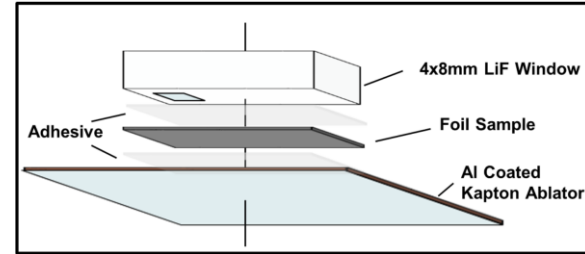
Fe

## ■ BCC Metals: Dislocation twins and dislocation density in Shock-recovered BCC metals

— Correlations between shock stress or strain rate and twinnability → critical twinning stress

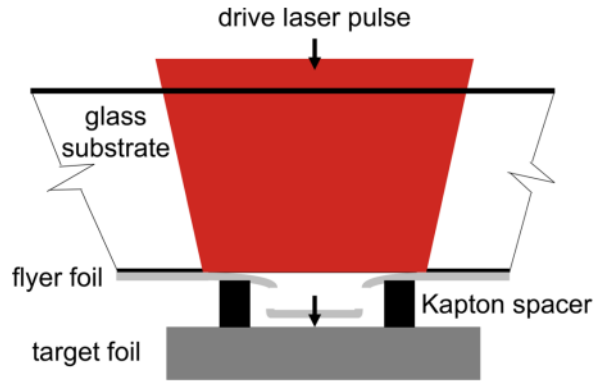
# In Situ Diffraction Experiments at DCS

- 100J laser system (10 ns pulse)
- ~25  $\mu\text{m}$  thick Fe foils

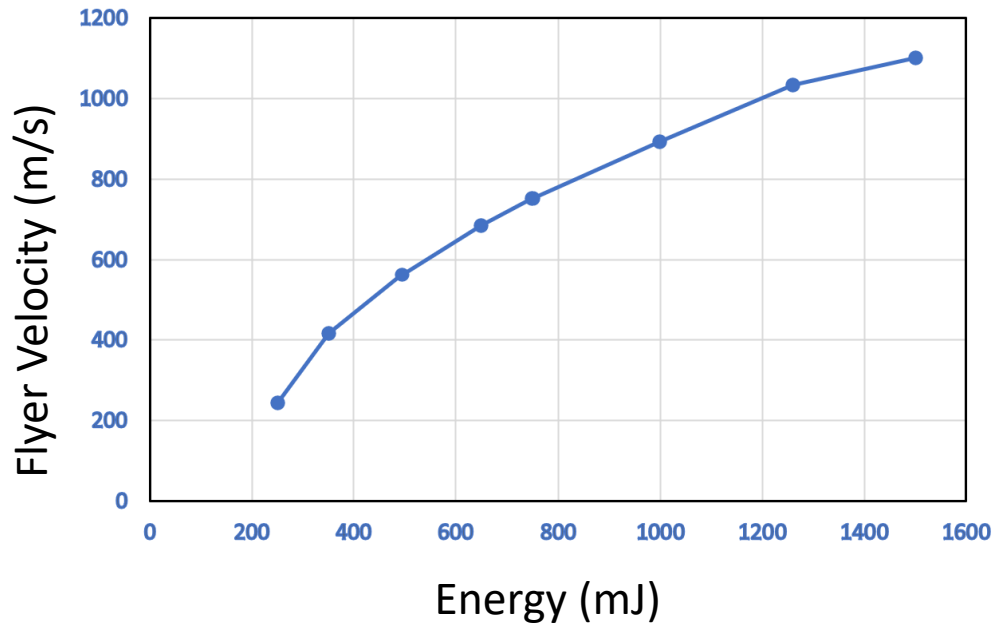


**Interpretation of diffraction patterns is difficult if mixed stress states (partial compressed/release)**

# Laser-Driven Micro-Flyers

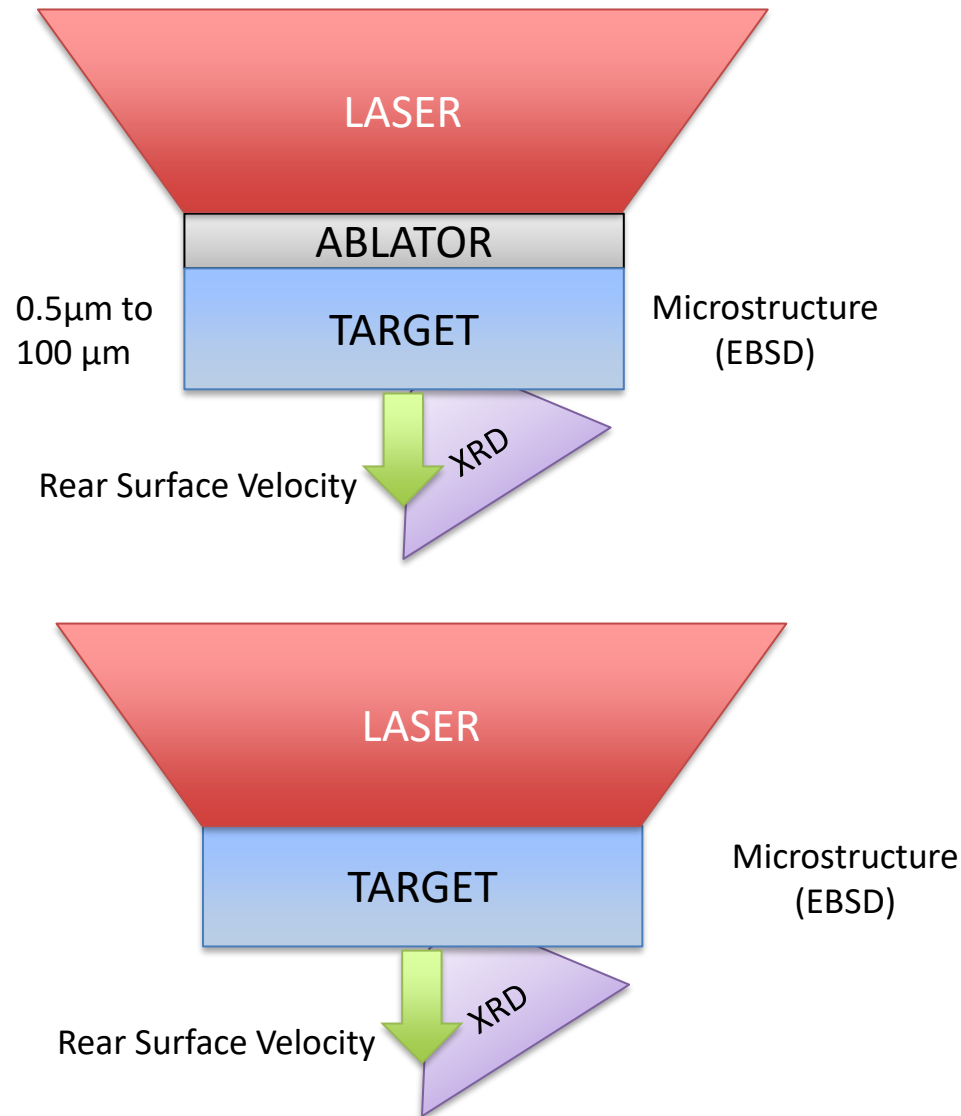


[D. D. Mallick et al. *Exp. Mech.* (2019)]



- Al flyer Thickness: 25  $\mu\text{m}$  and 50  $\mu\text{m}$
- Laser Energy: up to 2 J; Spot size: 1.6 mm
- Pulse duration 10 ns

# A Virtual Framework ....



- XRD patterns to characterize twinning, phase transformation
- Characterize microstructure evolution to quantify twins and phase-transformed fractions
- Modeling the shock response at length scales and time scales of experiments
  - Sample thickness: 0.5 μm to 50 μm
  - Shock pulse: up to 10 ns
- Modeling the laser-metal interaction to capture ablation/melting/shock generation
- XRD patterns under laser shock conditions
- Mesoscale modeling of laser shock experiments

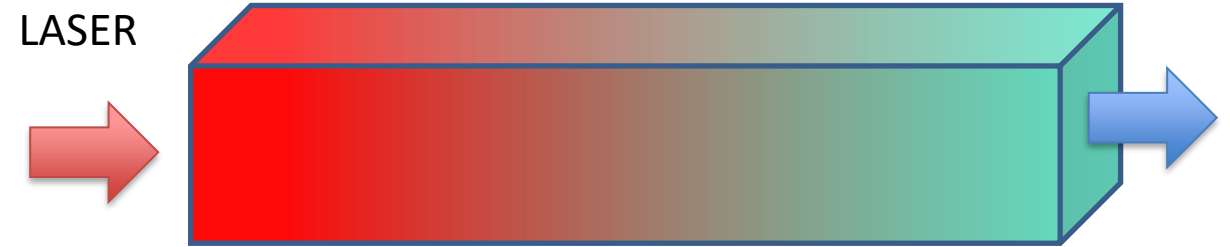
# Our Approach

## *In Situ* Diffraction Experiments (DCS)



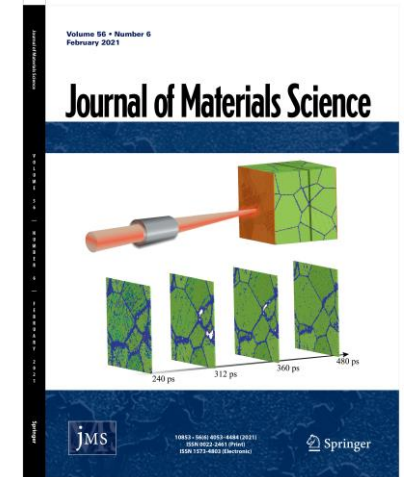
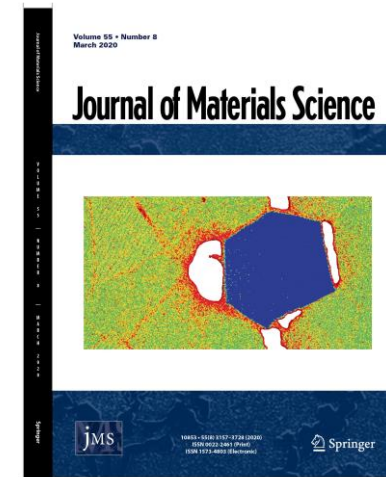
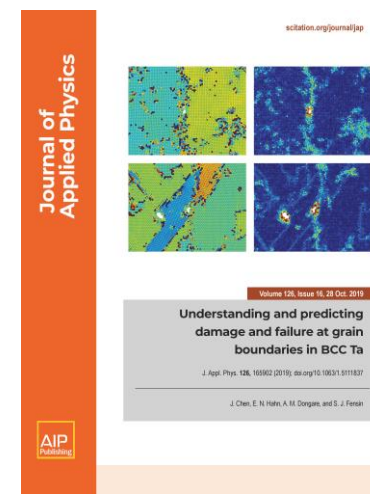
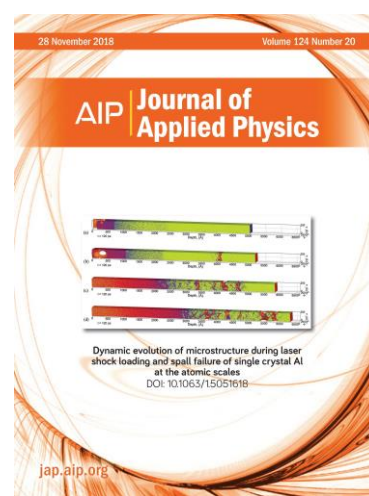
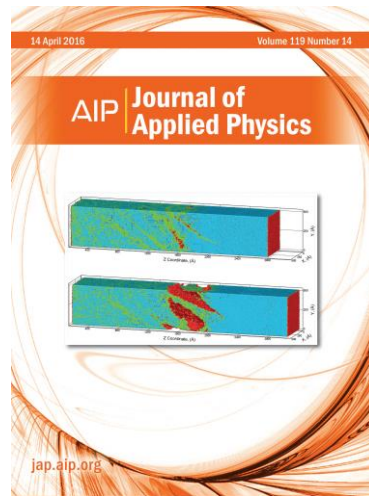
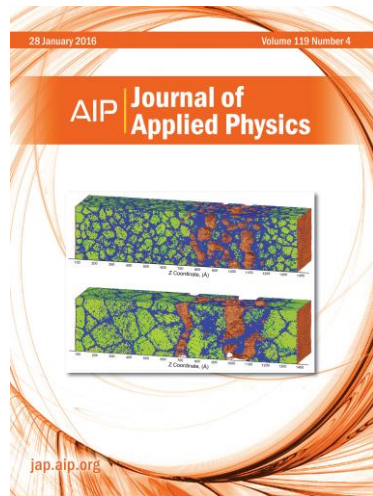
- **Atomic scale:** Molecular dynamics (shock/spall)
- **Virtual Diffraction (LAMMPS)**
- **Shock compression and release**
  - BCC (Fe)
- **Texture Analysis**
  - Phase/Twin Variant Selections
- **Mesoscale:** Quasi-Coarse-grained dynamics
  - Shock compression and release (BCC Fe)

## Laser-Driven Flyers (JHU)



- **Atomistic-Continuum method:** Molecular dynamics + two-temperature method (MD-TTM)
- **Spall Failure**
  - FCC (Al), BCC (Ta)
- **Virtual Diffraction (LAMMPS)**
- **Mesoscale:** Quasi-Coarse-grained dynamics
  - Laser shock compression/spall failure
  - Laser-driven Flyers





## ■ FCC

- Dongare et al., *Phys. Rev. B* 80, 10410 (2009)
- Dongare et al., *J. Appl. Phys.* 108, 113518 (2010)
- Mackenchery et al., *J. Appl. Phys.* 119, 044301 (2016)
- Agarwal et al., *Comp. Mater. Sci.* 145, 68 (2018)
- Valisetty et al., *Model. Simul. Mater. Sci. Eng.* 26, 055008 (2018)
- Galitskiy et al., *J. Appl. Phys.* 124, 205901 (2018).
- Valisetty et al., *Model. Simul. Mater. Sci. Eng.* 27, 065015 (2019)
- Agarwal et al., *Int. J. Plasticity* 128, 102678 (2020).
- Galitskiy et al., *J. Mater. Sci.* 56, 4446 (2021).
- Ma et al., *J. Appl. Phys.* 129, 175901 (2021)
- Echeverria et al., *Comp. Mater. Sci.* 198, 110668 (2021)

## ■ BCC:

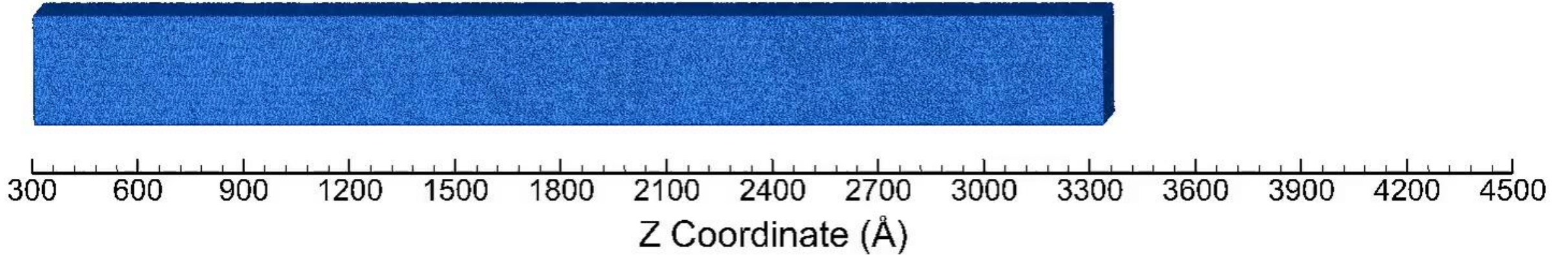
- Chen et al., *J. Appl. Phys.* 126, 165902 (2019)
- Mishra et al., *J. Appl. Phys.* 130, 215902 (2021).
- Ma et al., *J. Mater. Sci.* 57, pages12556 (2022).

## ■ HCP:

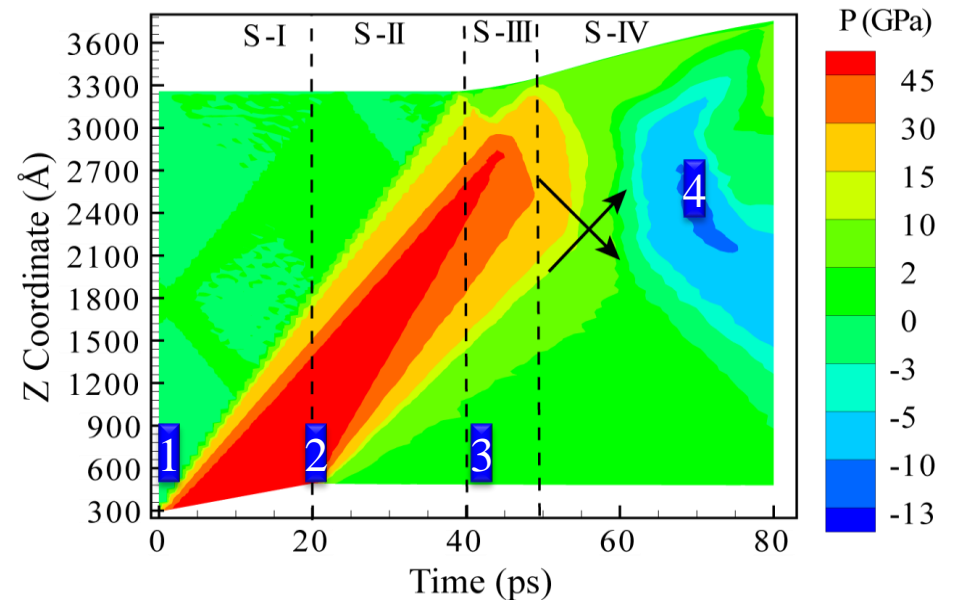
- Agarwal et al., *J. Mater. Sci.* 52: 10853 (2017)
- Agarwal et al., *Sci. Rep.* 9, 3550 (2019).
- Flanagan et al., *Materials & Design* 194: 108884 (2020)

# MD: Spall Failure of Fe (110)

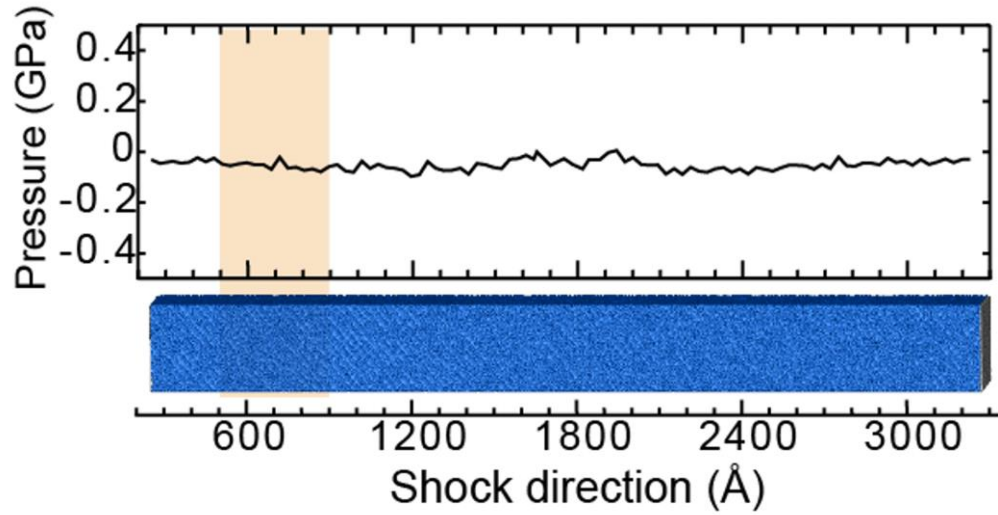
t = 0 ps



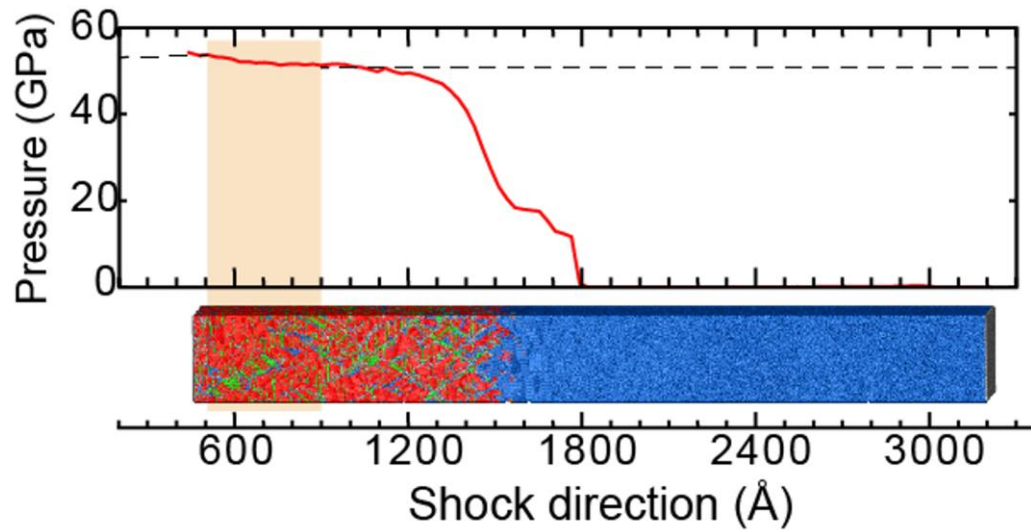
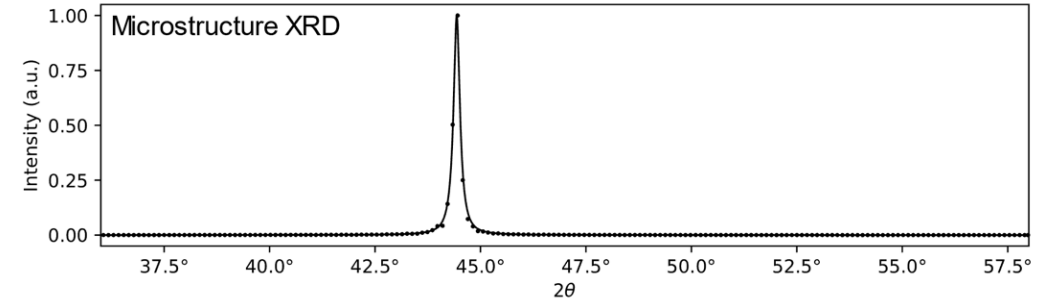
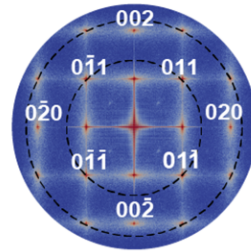
- **Microstructure:** Single-crystal Fe (110)
- **Impact velocity:** 1 km/s
- **Interatomic potential:** EAM [Gunkelmann, PRB (2012)]
- **Shock pressure:** ~ 85 GPa
- **Virtual XRD characterization using LAMMPS**



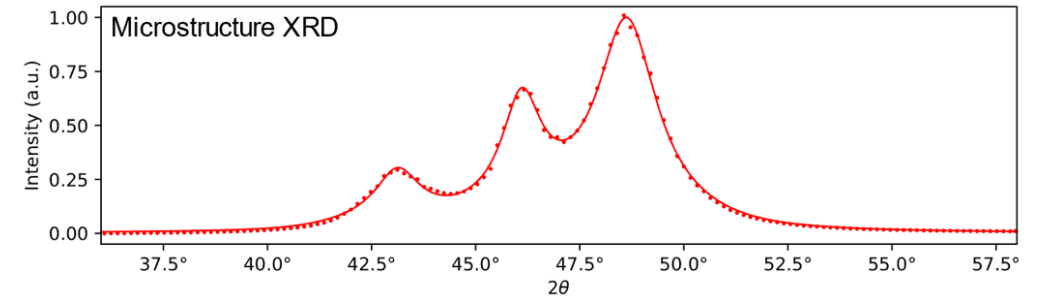
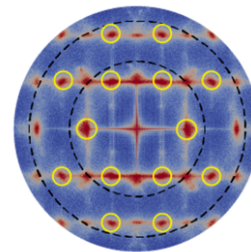
# Virtual XRD: Shock Compression - Fe (110)



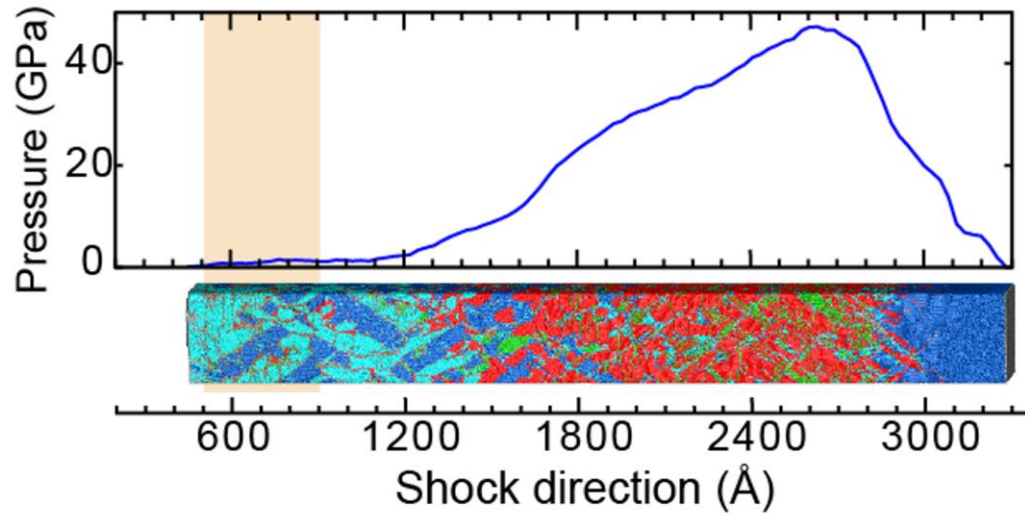
**Initial System: 100 % BCC**



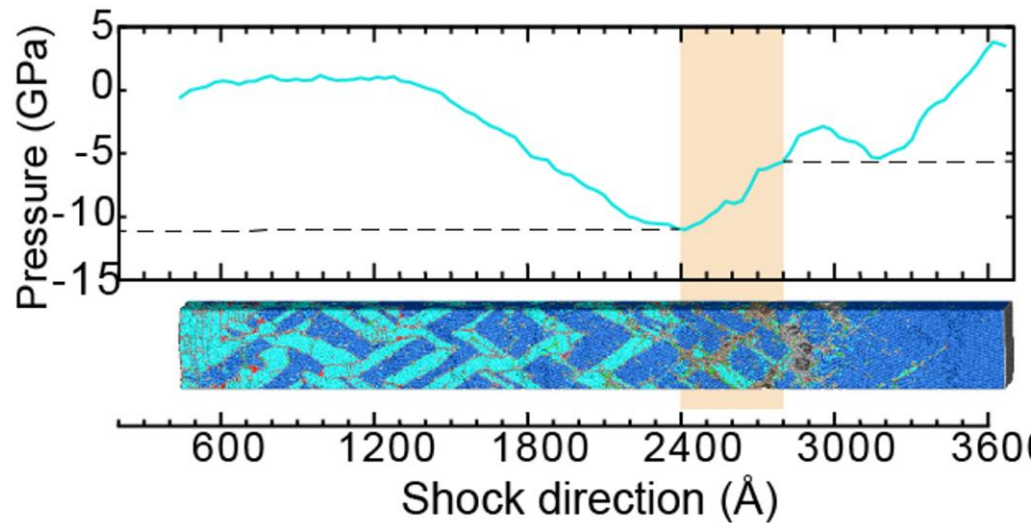
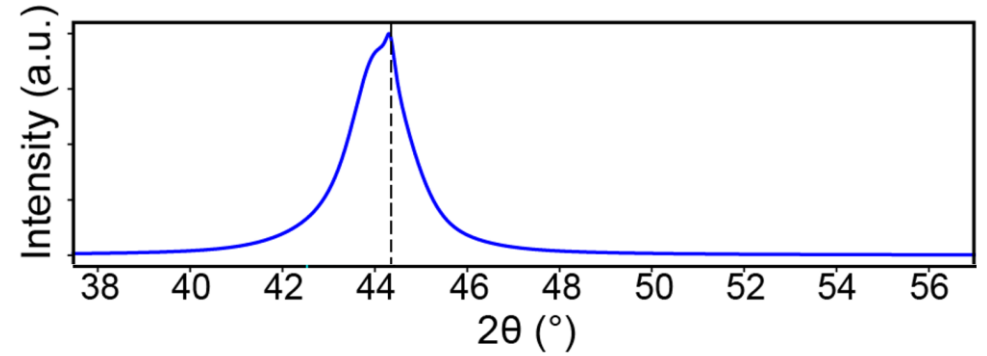
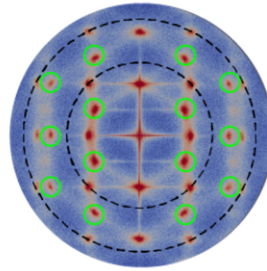
**Shock-compressed: ~8 % BCC, 67 % HCP, 11% FCC**



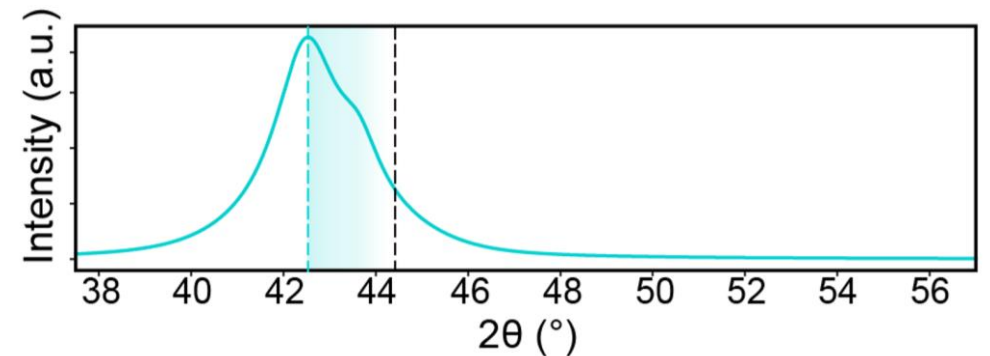
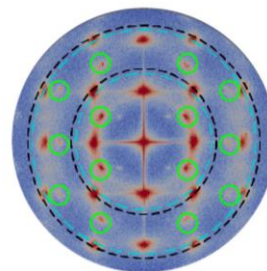
# Virtual XRD: Shock Release and Spall Failure - Fe (110)



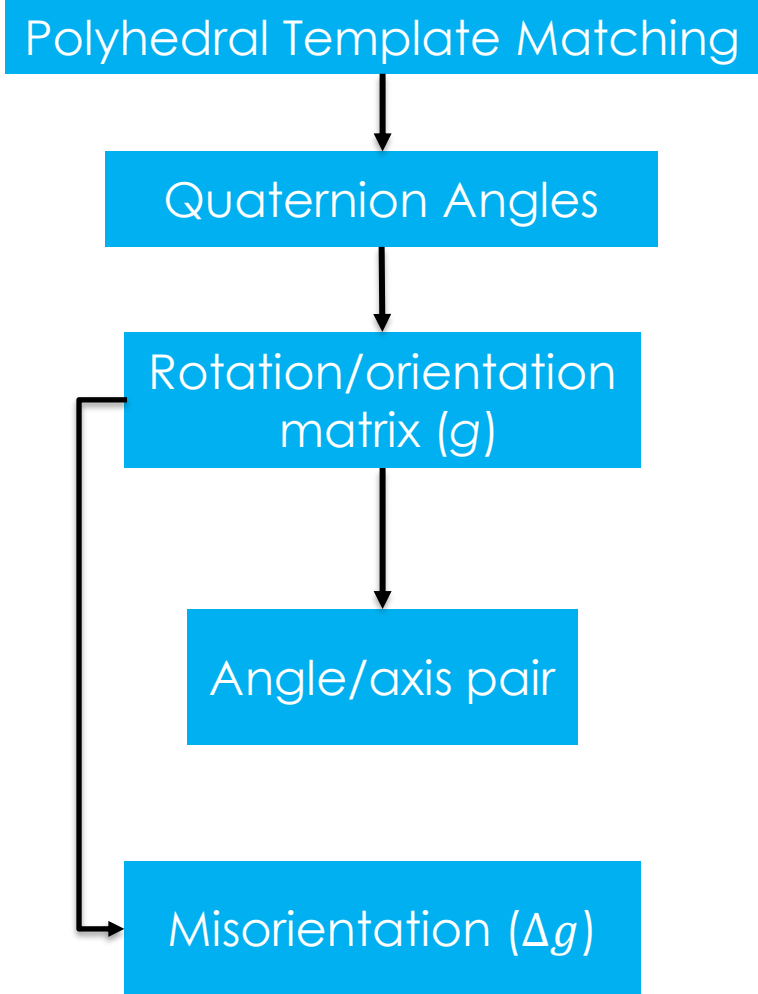
**Shock release:** 71% BCC (46% twins), 4% HCP, and 1% FCC



**Spall Failure:** 64% BCC (46% twins), 1% HCP, and 3% FCC



- A tool for texture analysis of atomistic microstructures to identify phase and twin variants



Quaternions:  $(q_x \ q_y \ q_z \ q_w)$

$$g = \begin{bmatrix} g_{11} & g_{12} & g_{13} \\ g_{21} & g_{22} & g_{23} \\ g_{31} & g_{32} & g_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$g = \begin{bmatrix} 1 - 2(q_y^2 + q_z^2) & 2(q_x q_y - q_z q_w) & 2(q_x q_z + q_y q_w) \\ 2(q_x q_y + q_z q_w) & 1 - 2(q_x^2 + q_z^2) & 2(q_y q_z - q_z q_w) \\ 2(q_x q_z - q_y q_w) & 2(q_y q_z + q_x q_w) & 1 - 2(q_x^2 + q_y^2) \end{bmatrix}$$

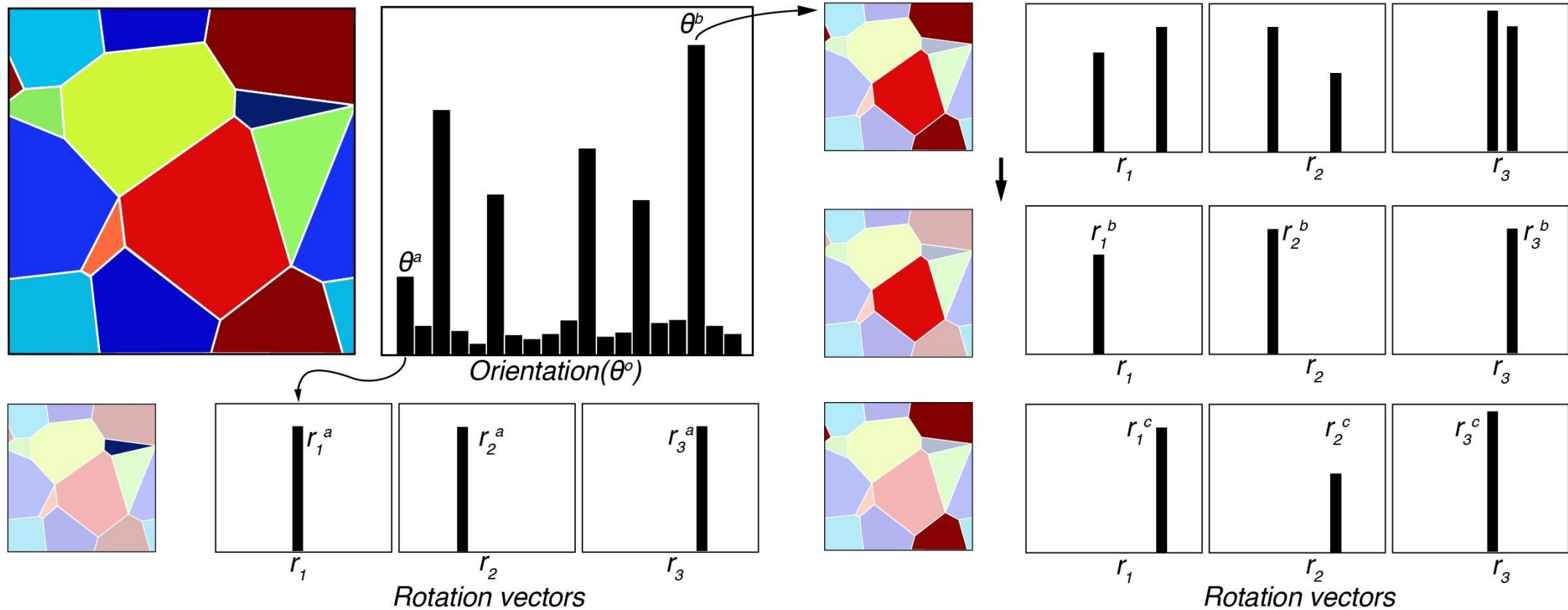
$$\theta = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{g_{11} + g_{22} + g_{33} - 1}{2} \right)$$

$$r_1 = \left( \frac{g_{23} - g_{32}}{2 \sin \theta} \right), r_2 = \left( \frac{g_{31} - g_{13}}{2 \sin \theta} \right), r_3 = \left( \frac{g_{12} - g_{21}}{2 \sin \theta} \right),$$

$$\Delta g = g_1 \cdot g_2^{-1} \qquad \Theta = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{\Delta g_{11} + \Delta g_{22} + \Delta g_{33} - 1}{2} \right)$$

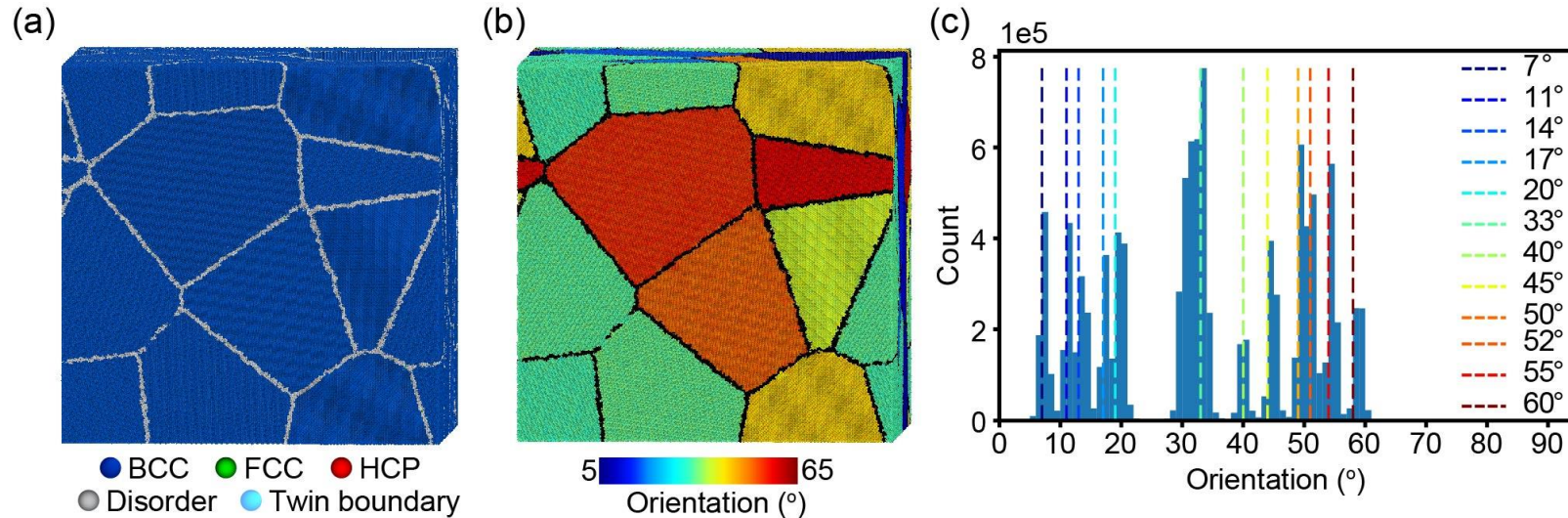
# Virtual Texture Analysis (VirTex)

- A unique set of angle/axis pairs is determined to identify grain, phase, twins, and their variants

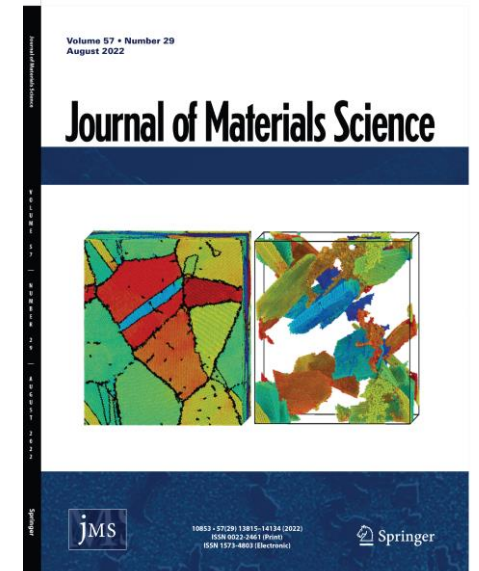
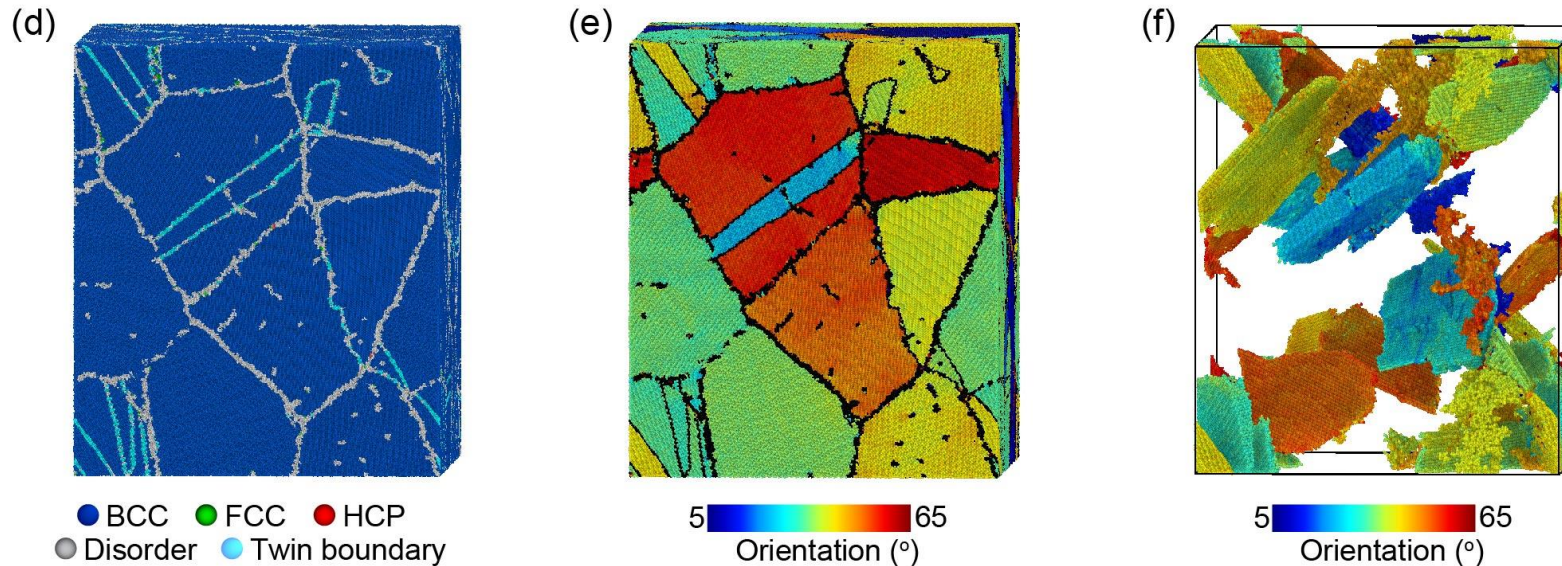


- Automatic peak identification from histograms and determination of unique set of angle/axis pairs

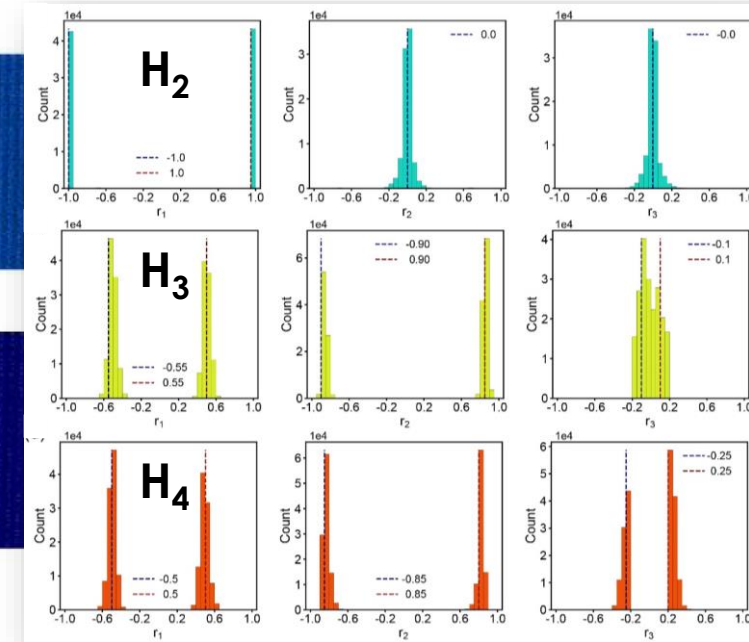
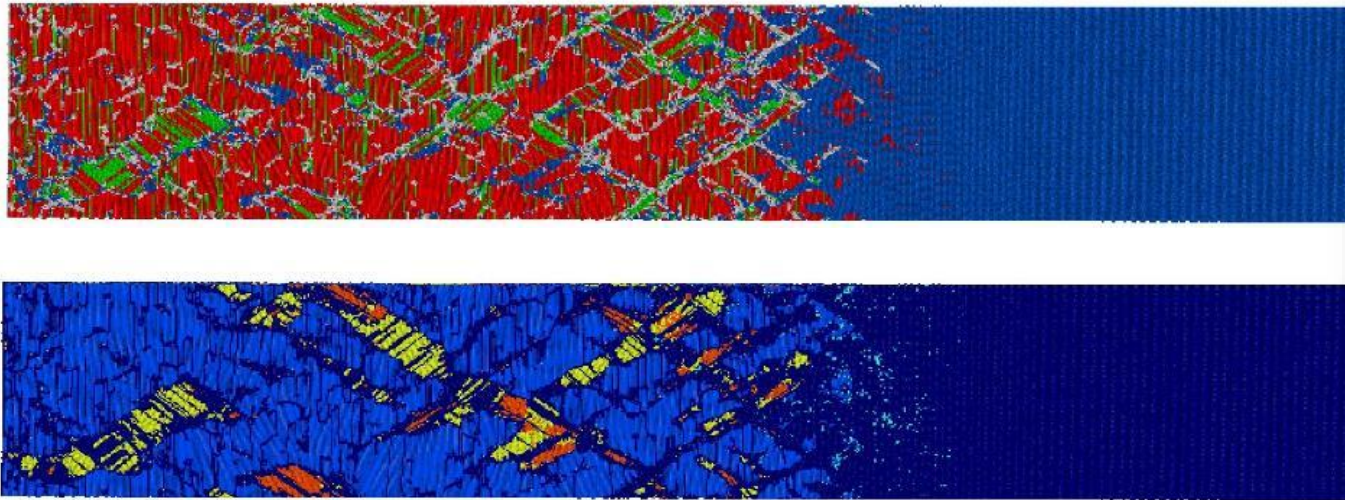
# Variant Selections during Compression in Ta



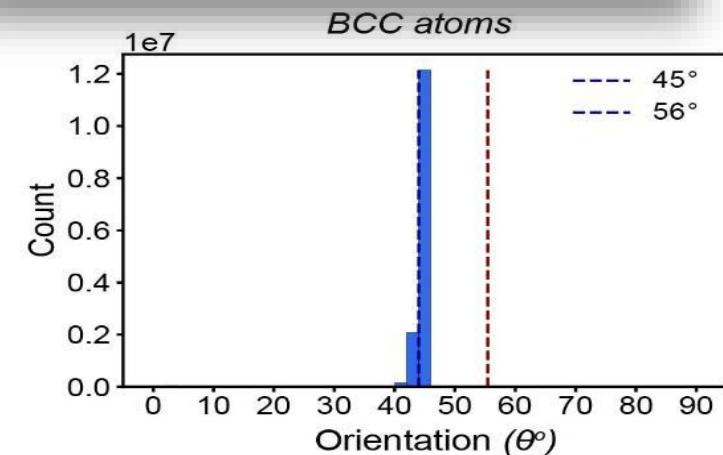
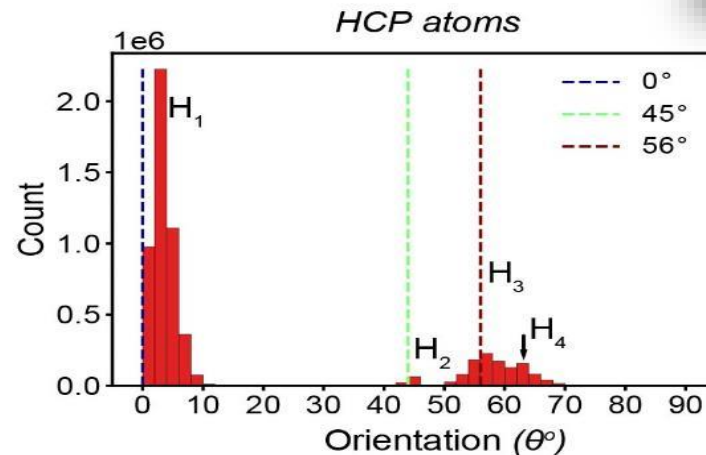
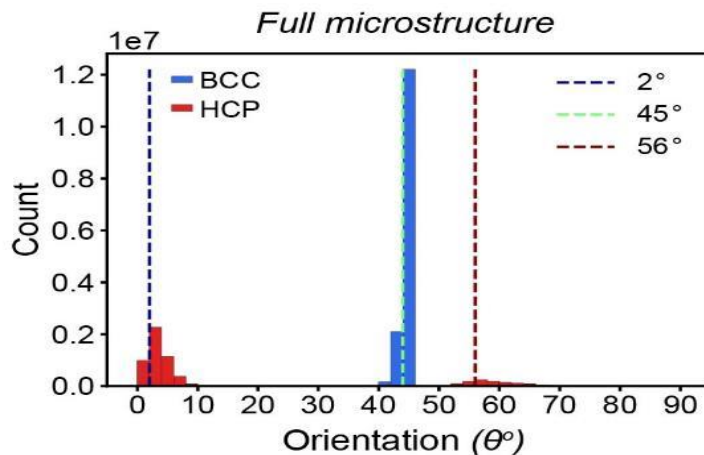
- VirTEX: Characterize twin/phase variants in deformed microstructures generated using MD simulations.



# Variant Selections during $\alpha \rightarrow \varepsilon$ HCP Phase Transformation in [110] Fe

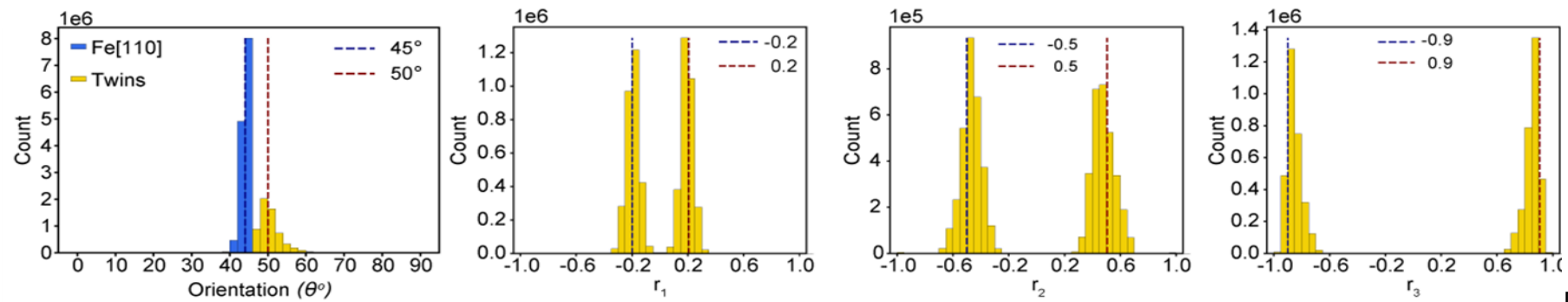
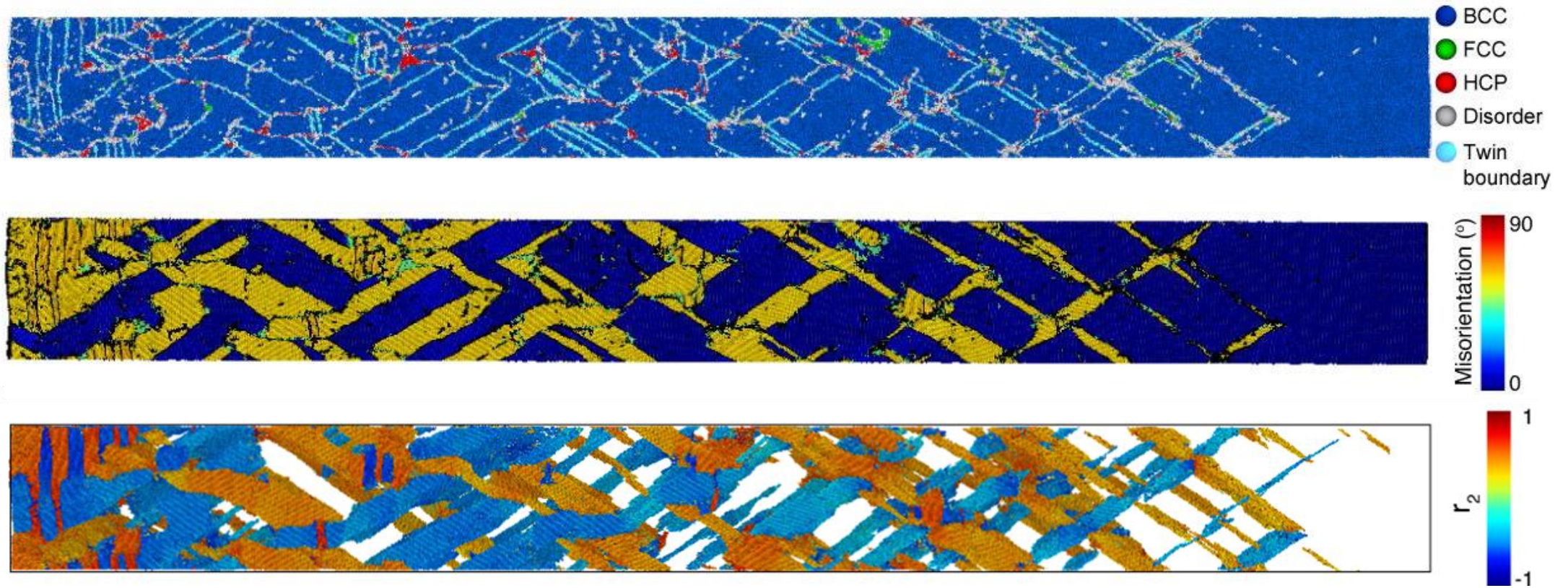


- BCC
- FCC
- HCP
- Disorder
- H<sub>1</sub> variant
- H<sub>2</sub> variant
- H<sub>3</sub> variant
- H<sub>4</sub> variant
- Not HCP

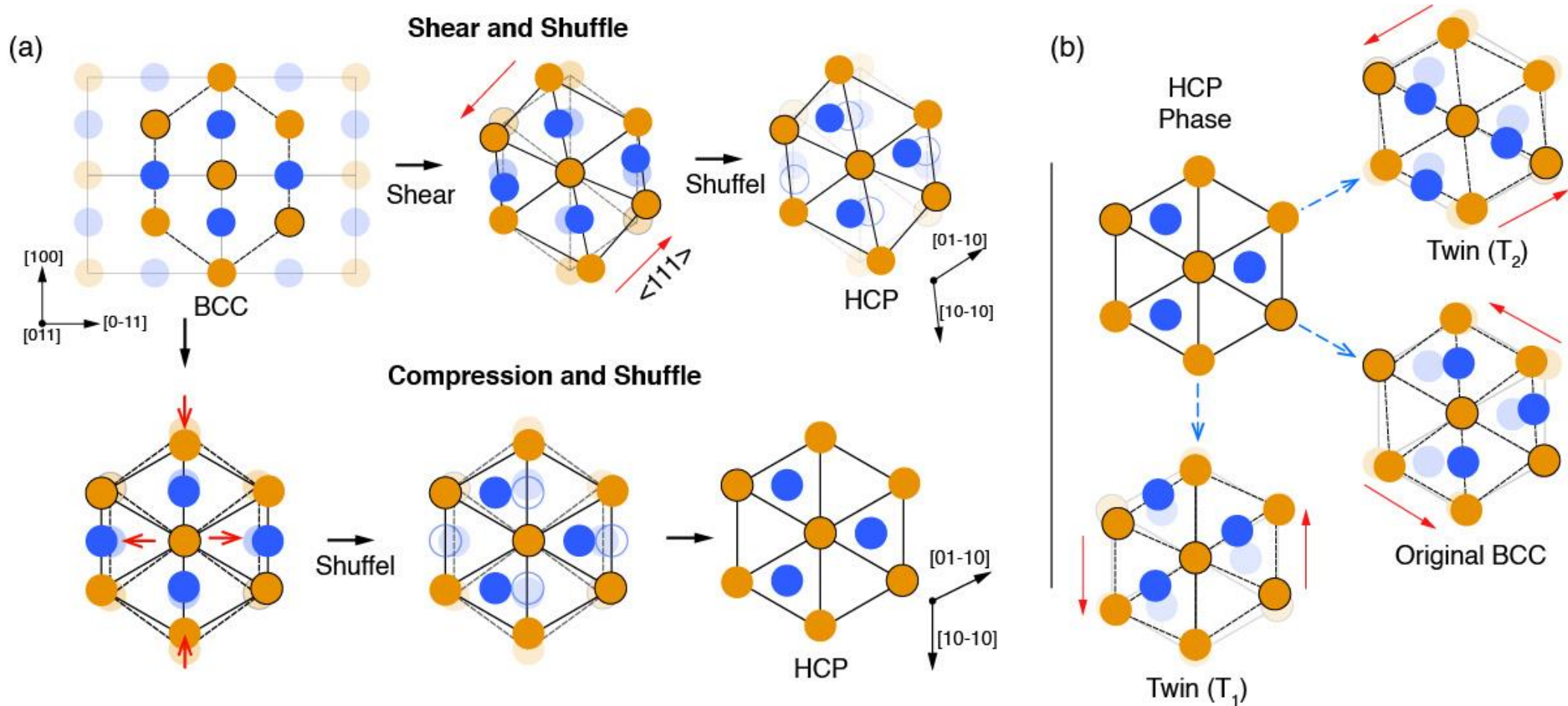




# Variant Selections during $\varepsilon \rightarrow \alpha$ Phase Transformation in [110] Fe

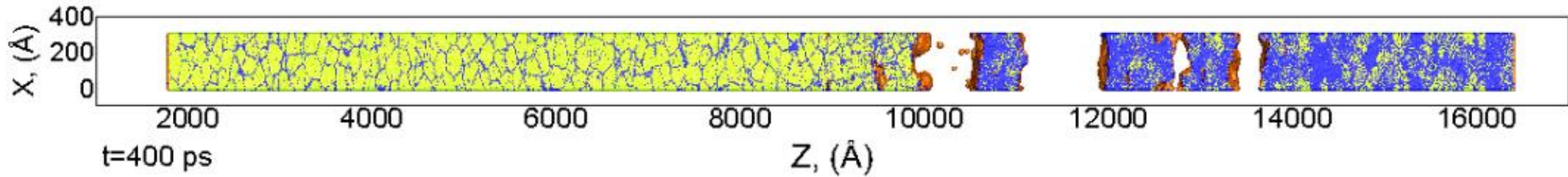


# $\alpha \rightarrow \varepsilon \rightarrow \alpha$ Phase Transformation in Fe



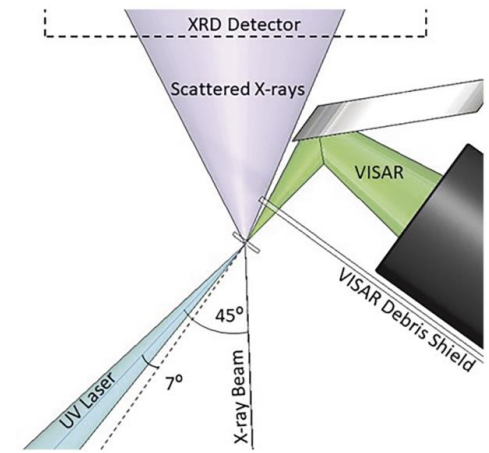
$\alpha \rightarrow \varepsilon \rightarrow \alpha$  follows the Burgers pathway model: The orientation relationships allow 12 different HCP variants from a single BCC phase orientation. The symmetries in the HCP phase allow six BCC variants upon reverse phase transformation, two of which are twinning variants.

# MD Simulations: Time and Length Scale Challenges



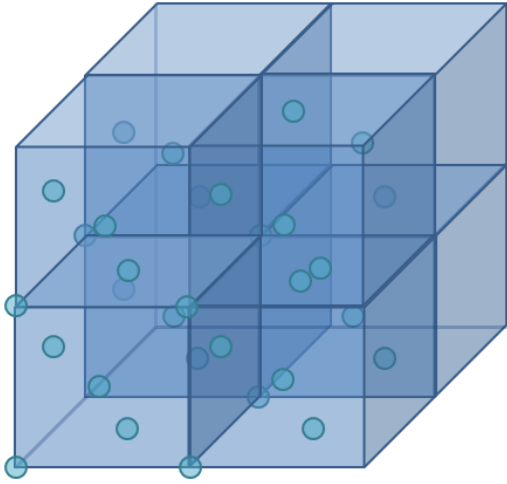
- Mechanisms of nucleation and evolution of defects/damage is a challenge
- **MD Simulations limited to small system sizes** (100s of nm) and short simulation times (up to a few tens of ps) for shock loading
- **Big-data Challenge:** post-processing of very large data sets (TBs)
- *In situ* diffraction experiments have samples with dimensions ranging from **1-50 microns** and **wave propagation times of up to 10 ns**

## In situ diffraction



[Wang et al., Rev. Sci. Instrum. (2019)]

**Mesoscale models to replicate length/time scales of *in situ* shock experiments**

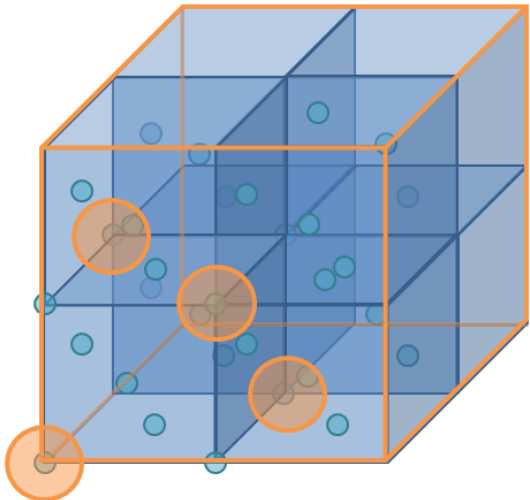


- Coarse graining the structure using representative atoms (R-atoms) and retain the crystal structure orientation relationships and symmetry
- MD Energy of each R-atom retained by scaling bond lengths in the interatomic potential

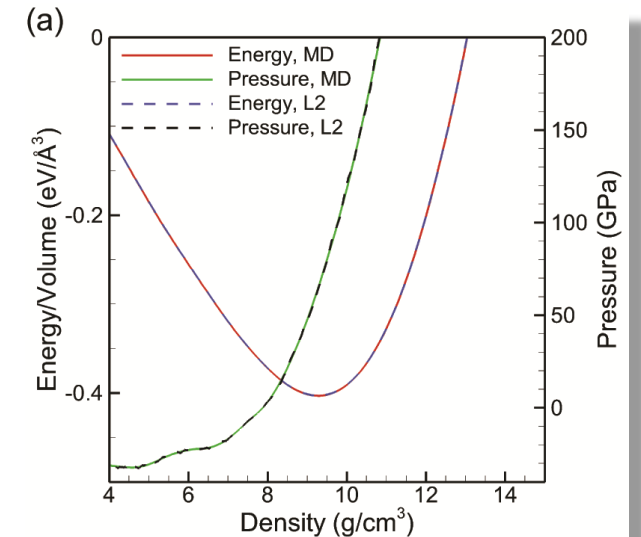
$$E_i^R = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j \neq i} \varphi_{ij} \left( \frac{r_{ij}^R}{A_{cg}} \right) + F_i \left[ \sum_{j \neq i} f_j \left( \frac{r_{ij}^R}{A_{cg}} \right) \right]$$

Distance scaling:  $A_{cg}$

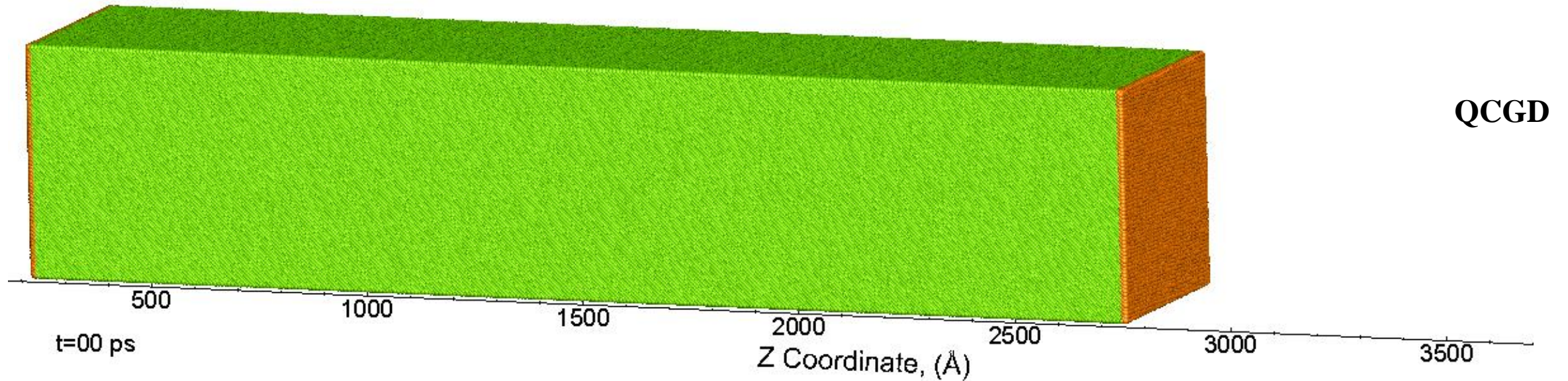
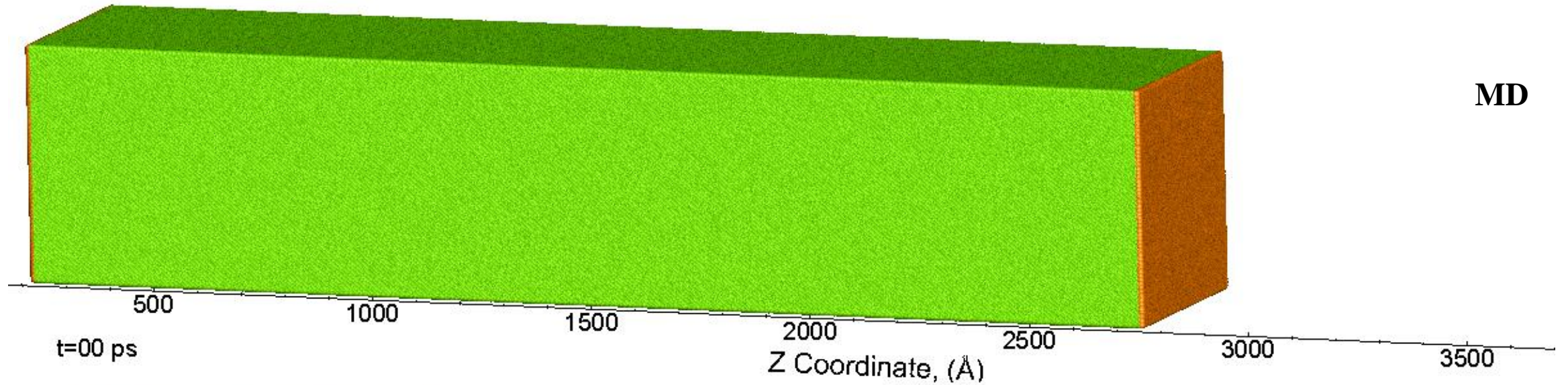
No. of Atoms scaling:  $N_{cg}$



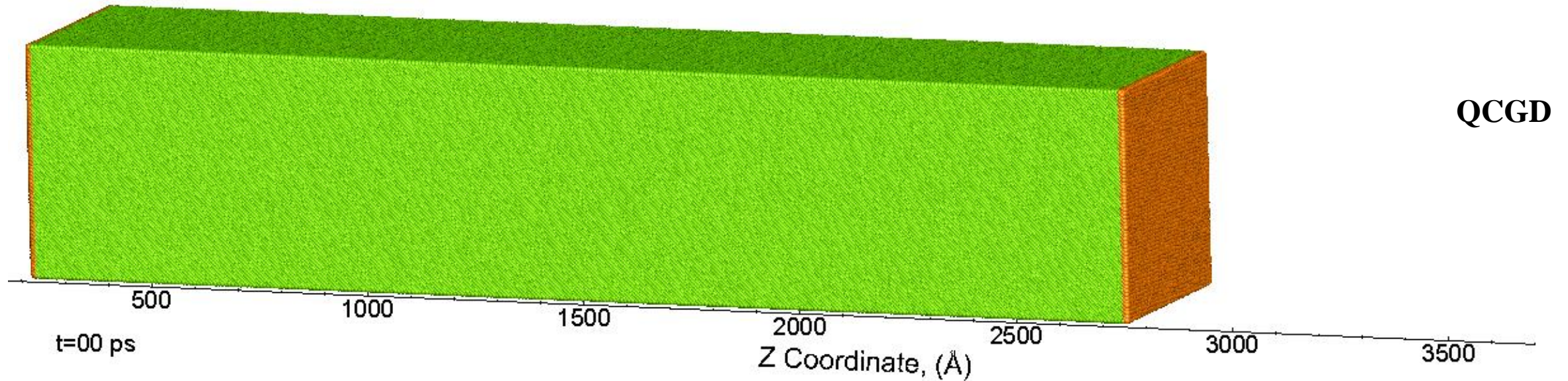
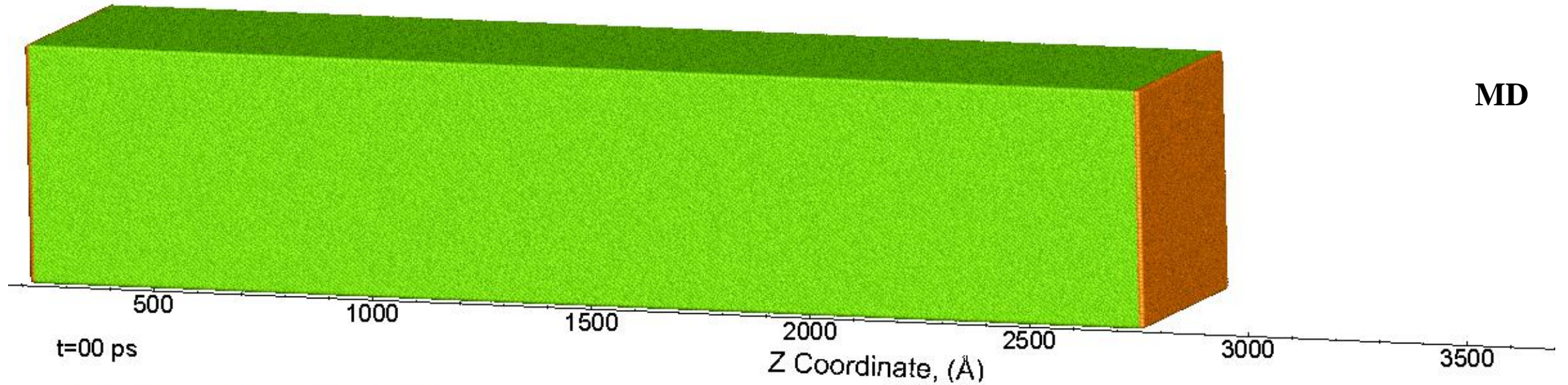
- The energy of each R-atom is scaled to account for missing atoms
  - **L2**: 2x2x2 unit cells → 1 CG cell;  
 $A_{cg} = 2; N_{cg} = 8$
  - **L4**: 4x4x4 unit cells → 1 CG cell;  
 $A_{cg} = 4; N_{cg} = 64$



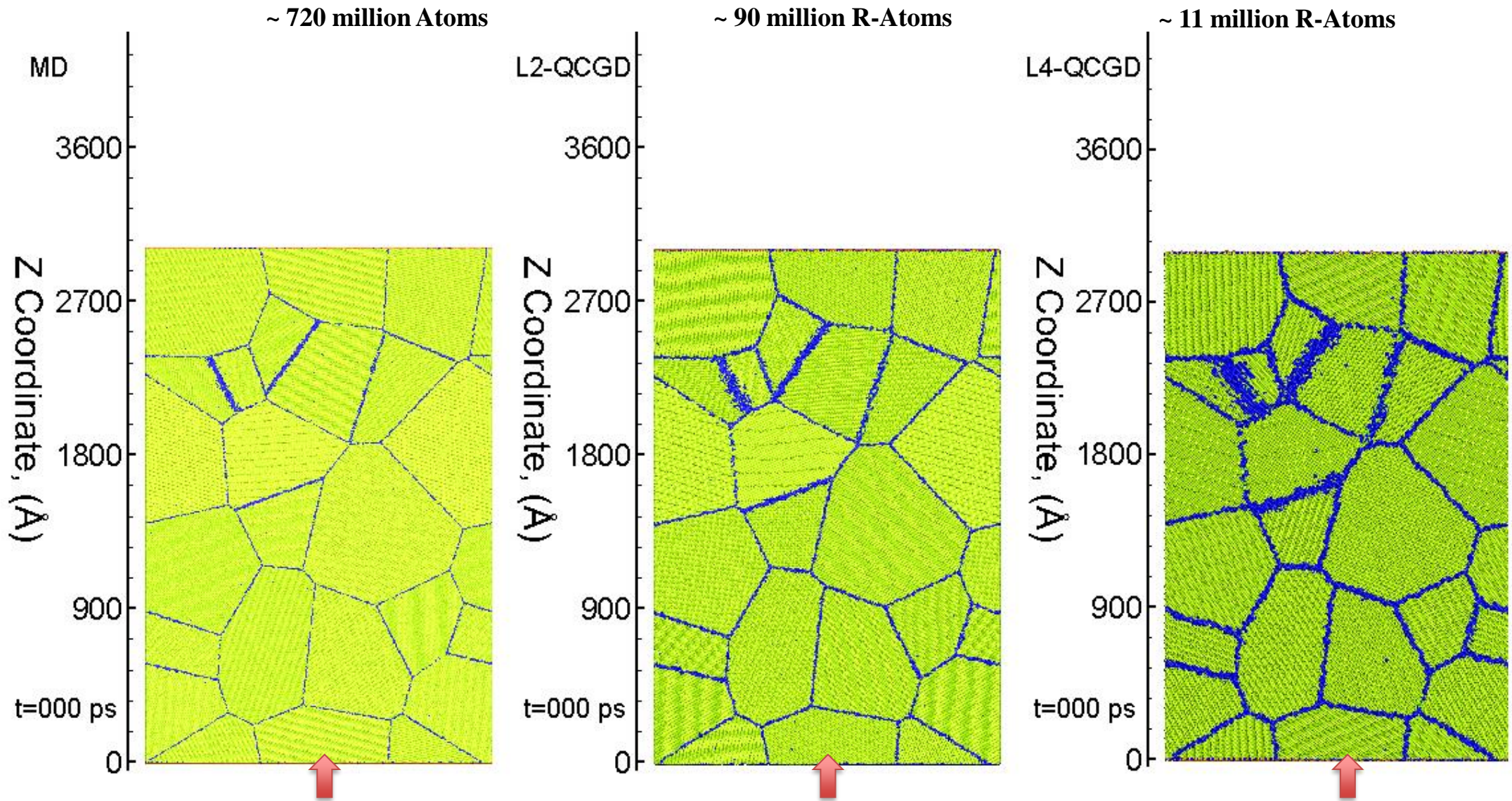
# Single Crystal Al (001) Spall Failure: MD vs L2-QCGD



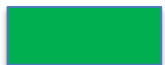
# Single Crystal Al (001) Spall Failure: MD vs L2-QCGD



# Polycrystalline Al: MD vs QCGD-L2 vs QCGD-L4



FCC



Stacking fault

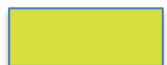
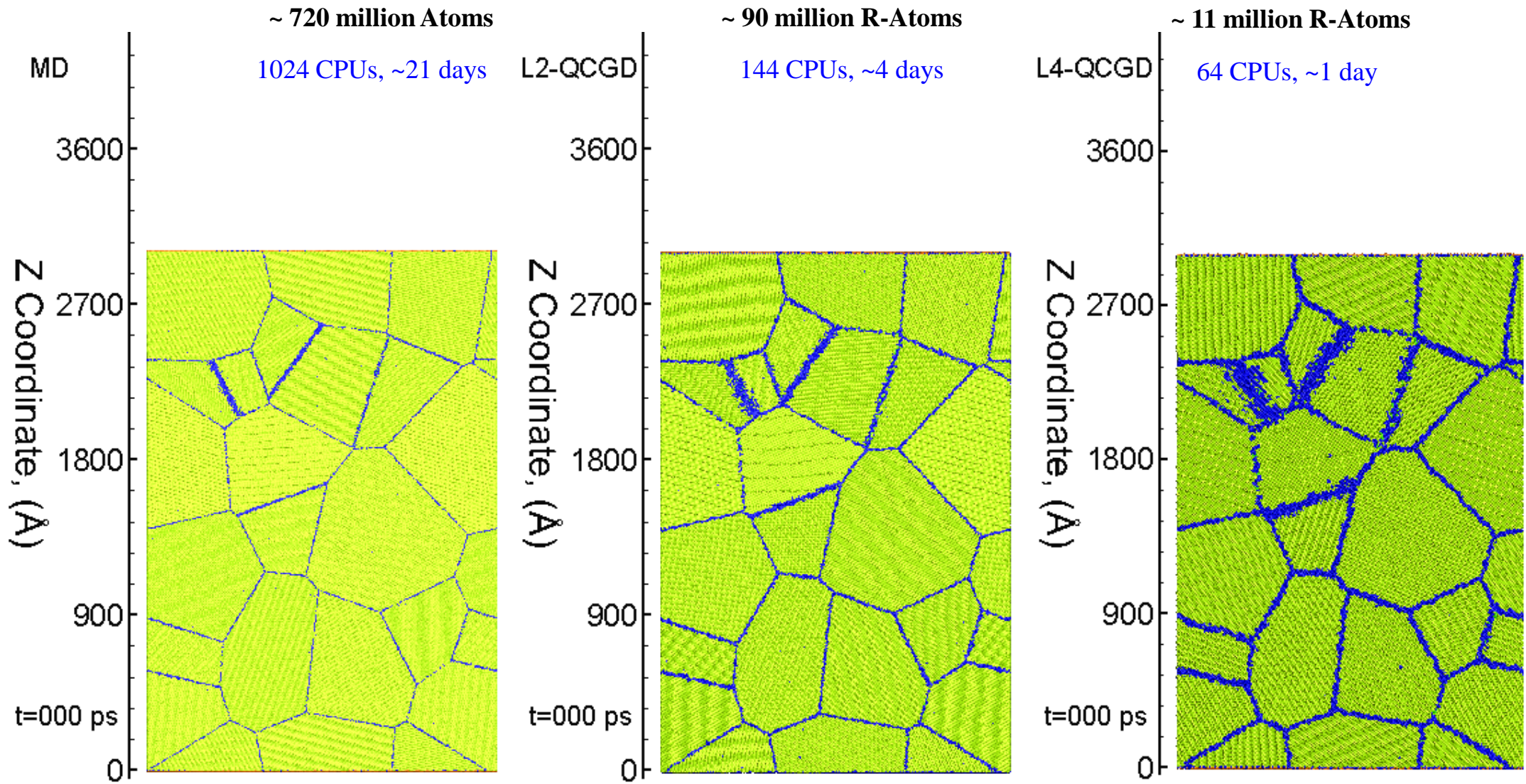


Disordered

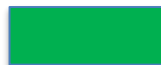


Surface

# Polycrystalline Al: MD vs QCGD-L2 vs QCGD-L4



FCC



Stacking fault



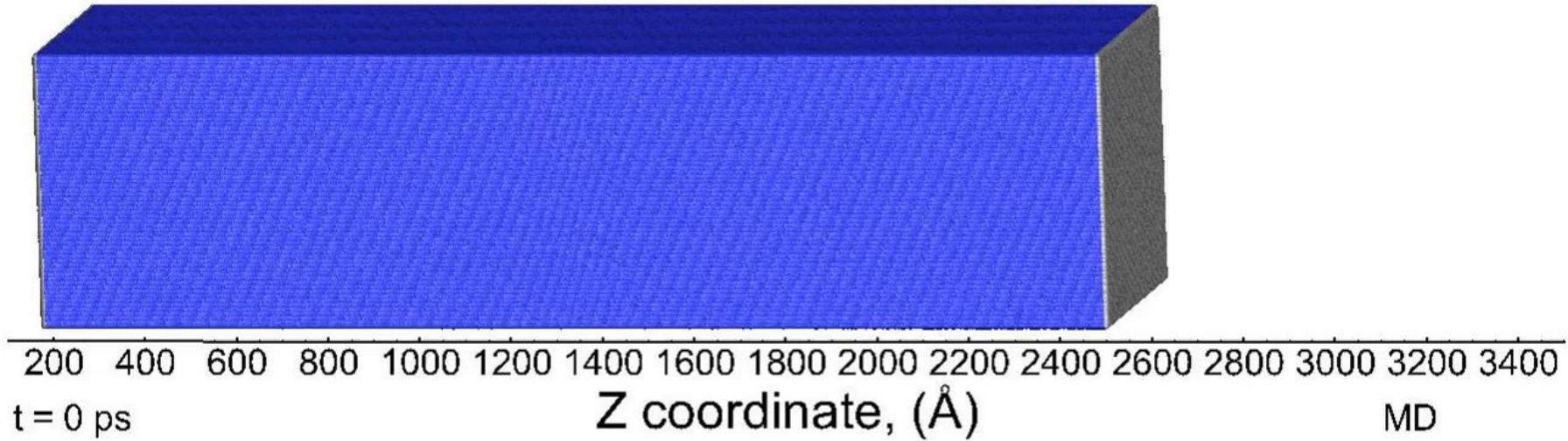
Disordered



Surface

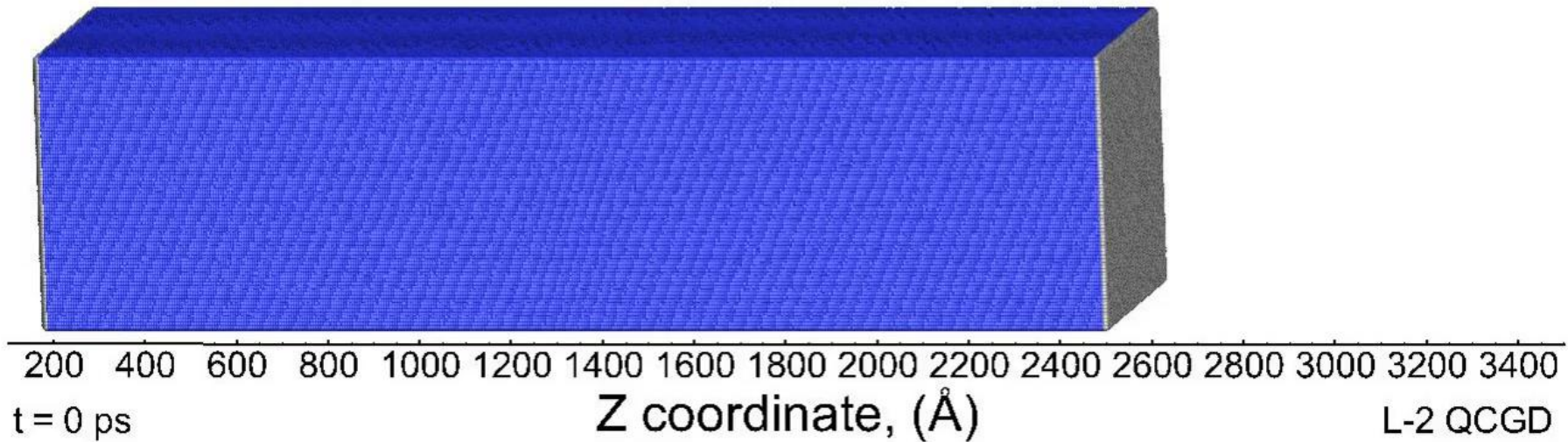


# Single Crystal Fe (001) Spall Failure: MD vs L2-QCGD



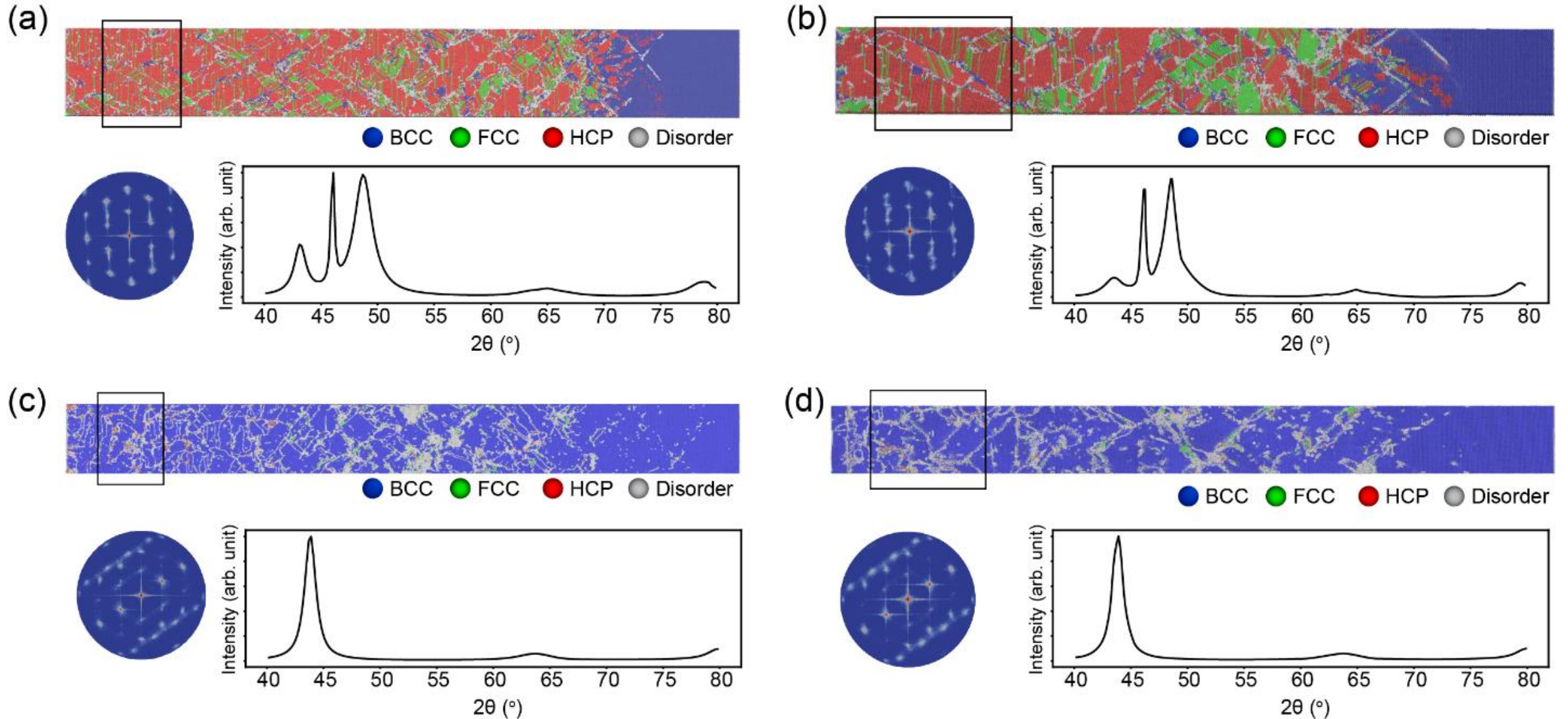
HCP BCC  
FCC OTHER

MD: ~ 40M atoms



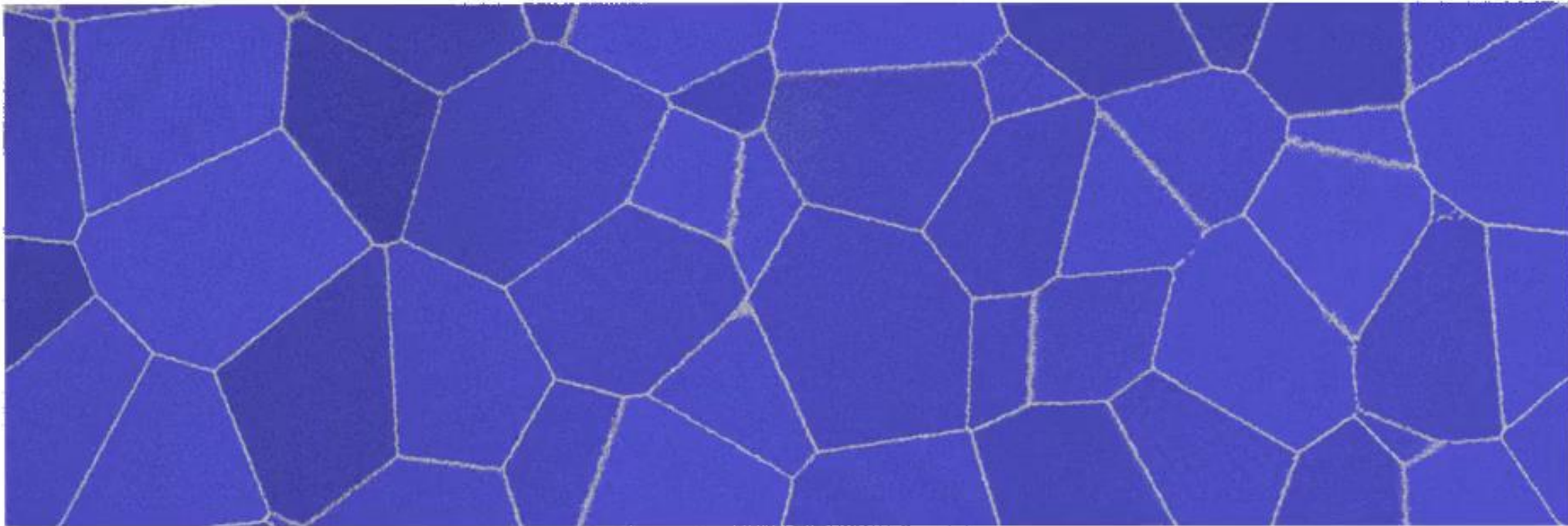
L2: ~ 5M R-atoms

# Fe [110] Shock Compression/Release: MD vs. QCGD



# $\alpha \rightarrow \varepsilon \rightarrow \alpha$ Phase Transformation in Polycrystalline Fe

QCGD (8  $\mu\text{m}$  x 8  $\mu\text{m}$  x 25  $\mu\text{m}$ ): ~ 400M atoms



HCP

BCC

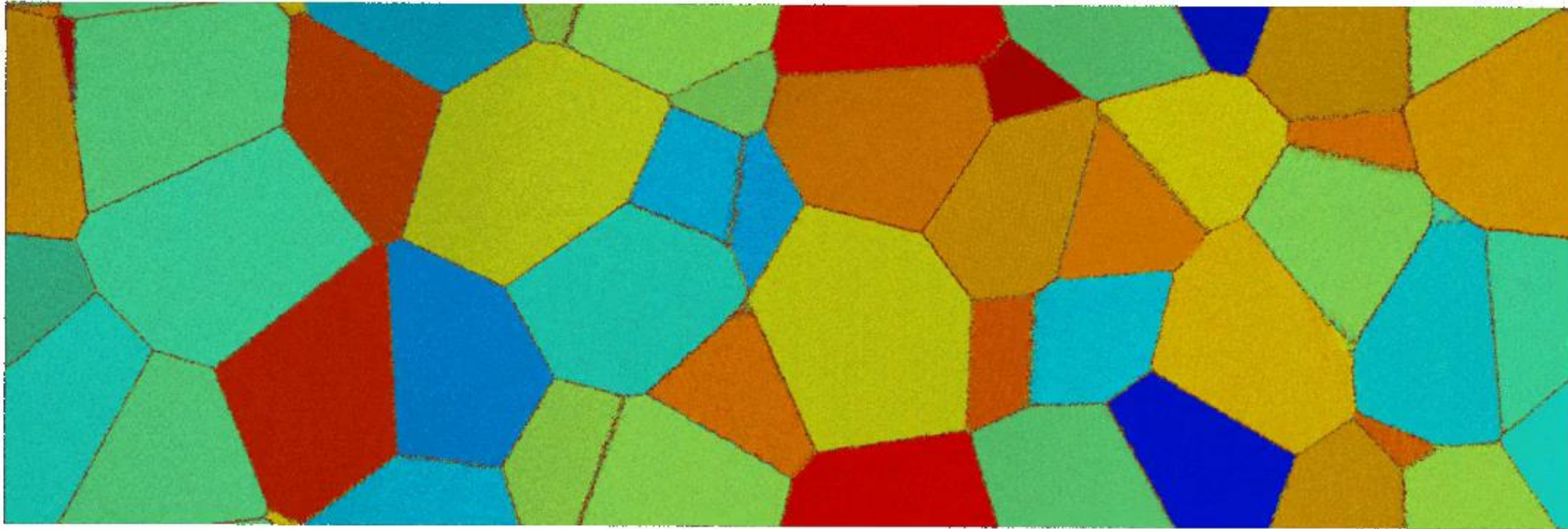
FCC

OTHER

- Polycrystalline Fe shocked to  $\alpha \rightarrow \varepsilon \rightarrow \alpha$  Phase Transformation during shock compression and release

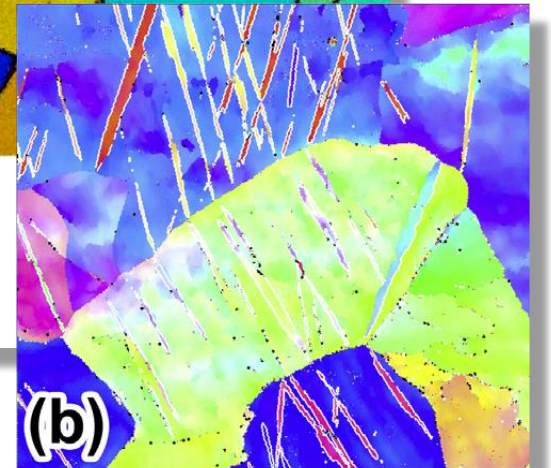
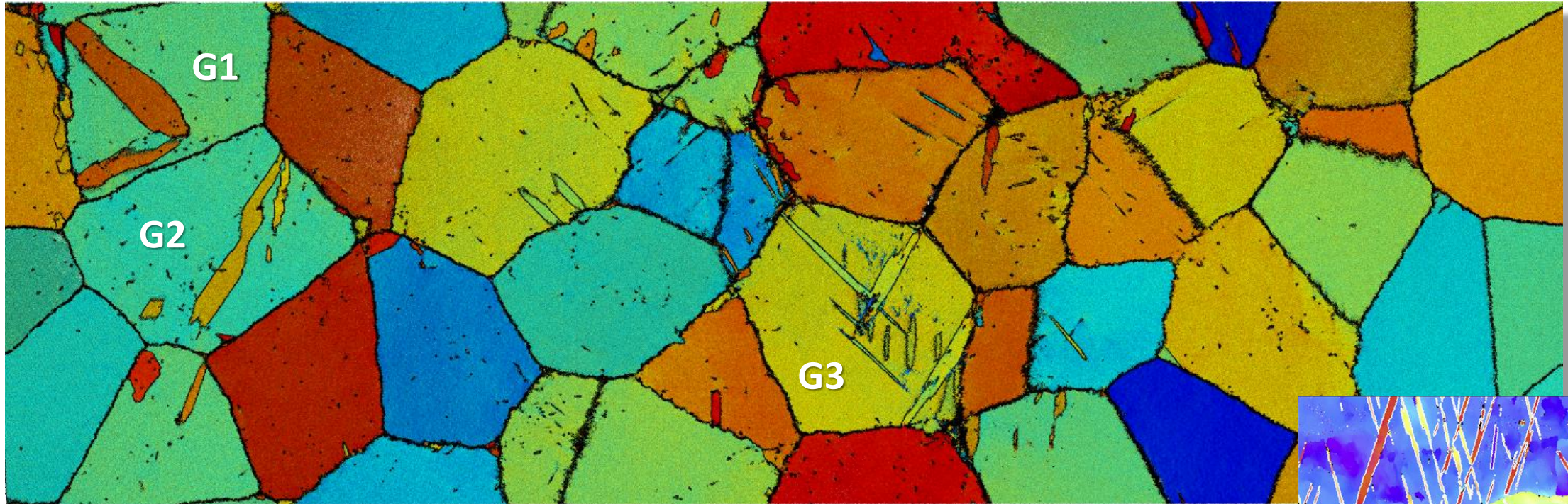
# $\alpha \rightarrow \varepsilon \rightarrow \alpha$ Phase Transformation in Polycrystalline Fe

QCGD (8  $\mu\text{m}$  x 8  $\mu\text{m}$  x 25  $\mu\text{m}$ ): ~ 400M atoms



- Polycrystalline Fe shocked to  $\alpha \rightarrow \varepsilon \rightarrow \alpha$  Phase Transformation during shock compression and release

# $\alpha \rightarrow \varepsilon \rightarrow \alpha$ Shock-Recovered Polycrystalline Fe Microstructure

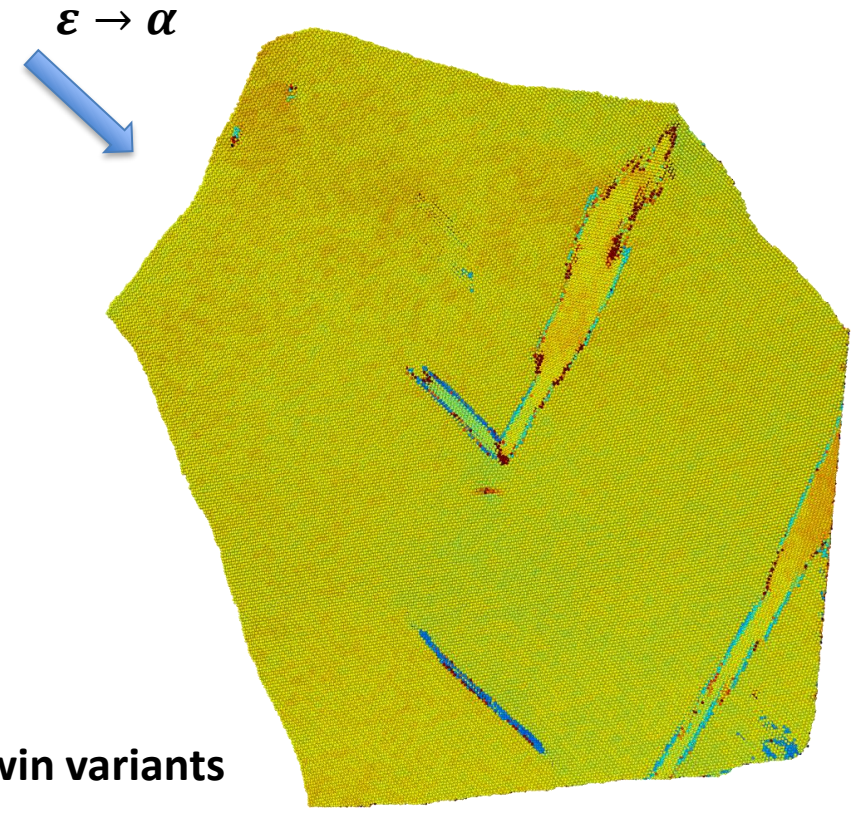
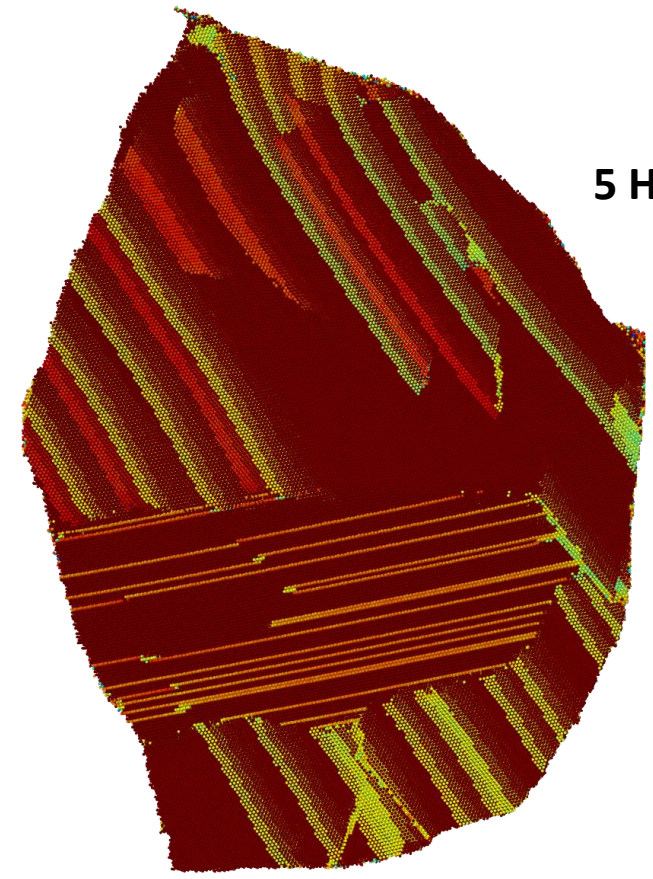
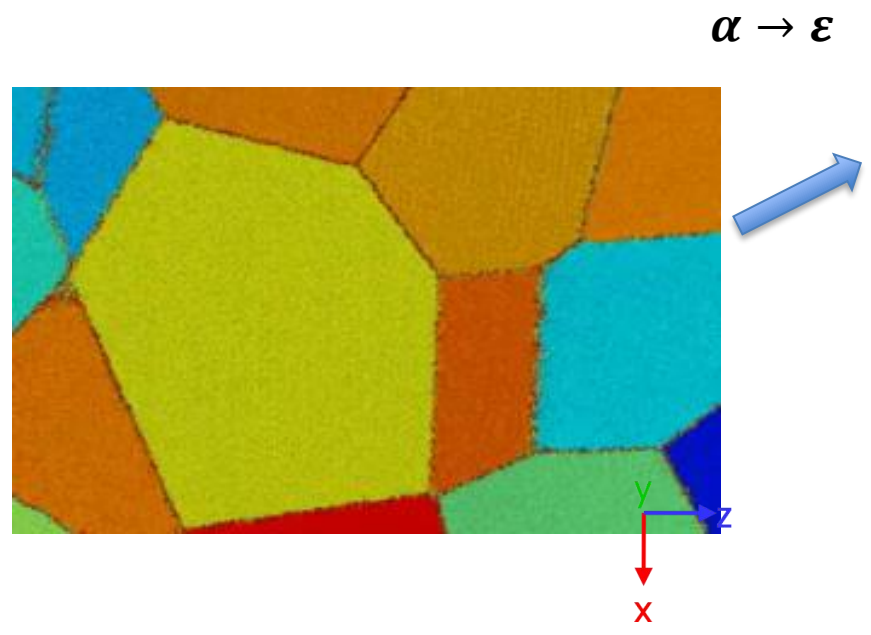


**Twin structures during shock release are determined by loading orientations**

# Variant Selections in Individual Grains: G3



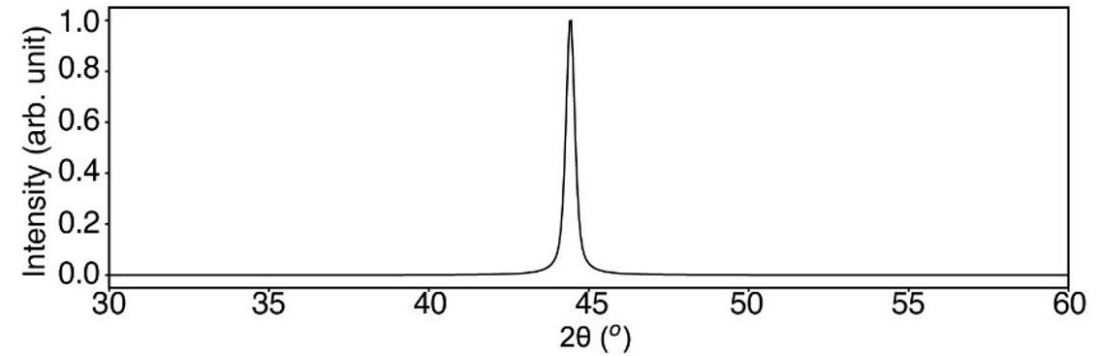
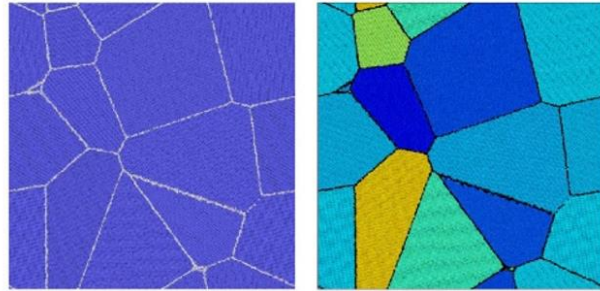
- Phase  $\alpha \rightarrow \epsilon$  transformation initiates at grain boundaries



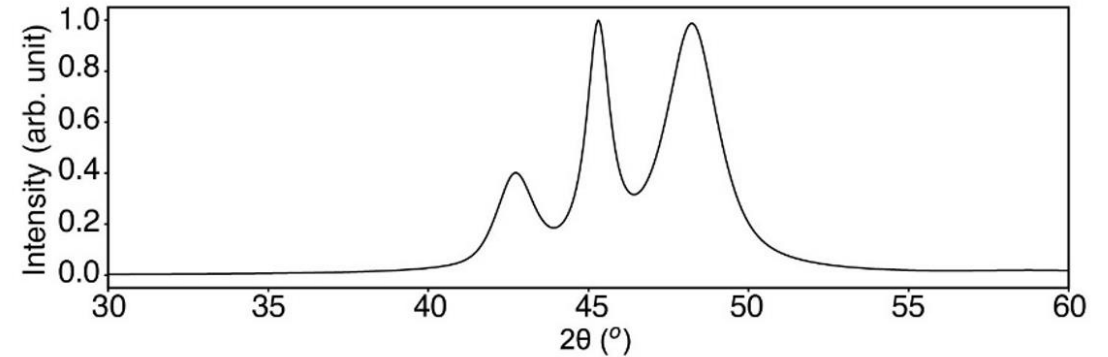
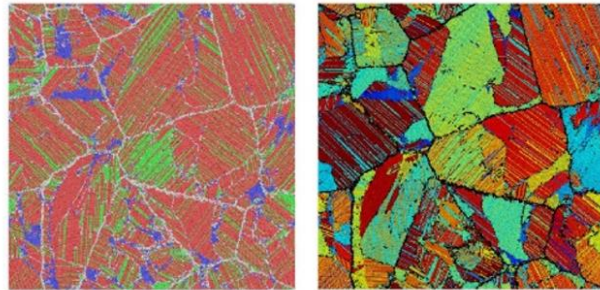
- Reverse  $\epsilon \rightarrow \alpha$  transformation initiates at the boundaries between the hcp variants

# Deformation + Virtual Texture Analysis + Virtual Diffraction

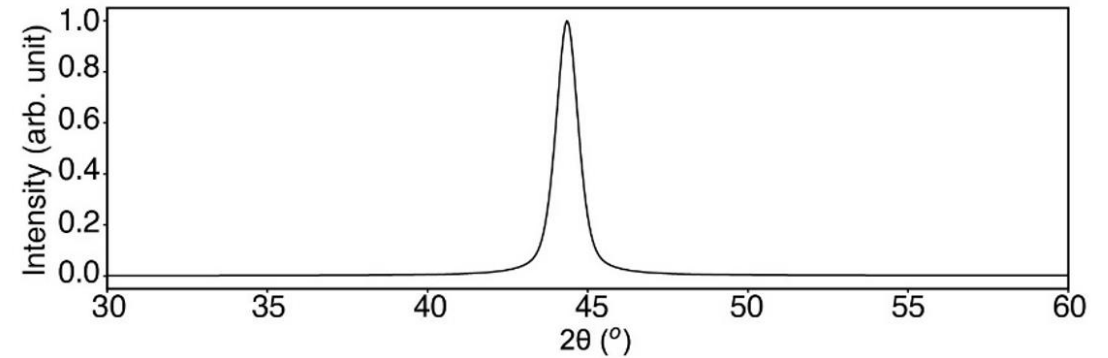
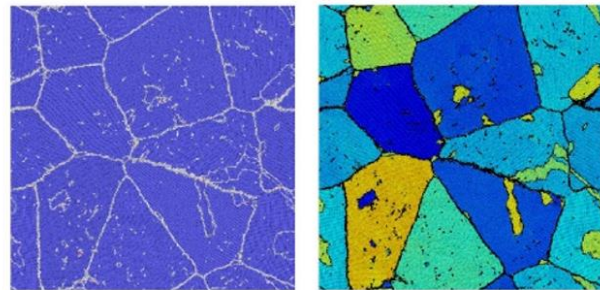
Initial



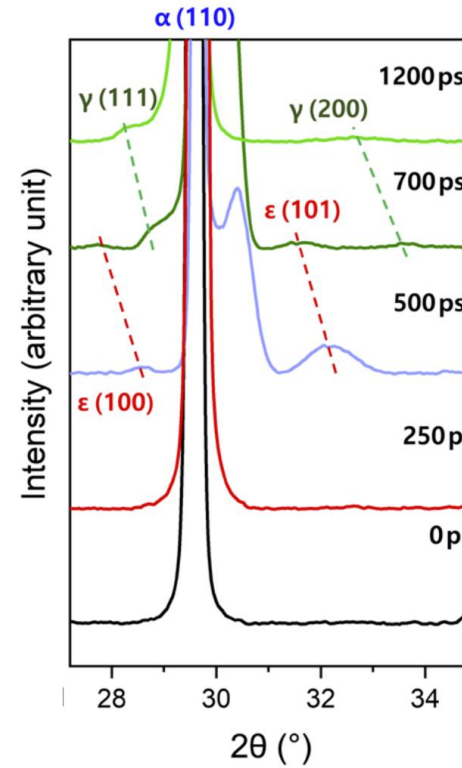
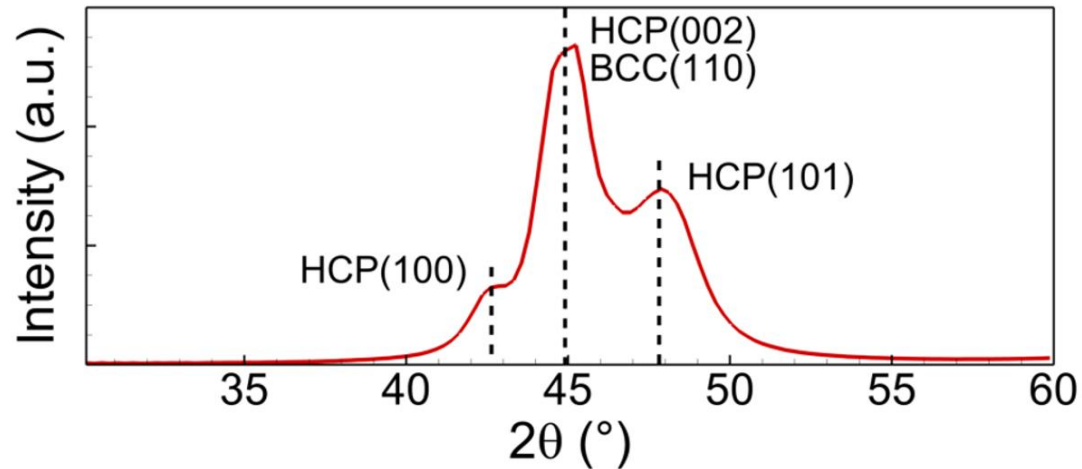
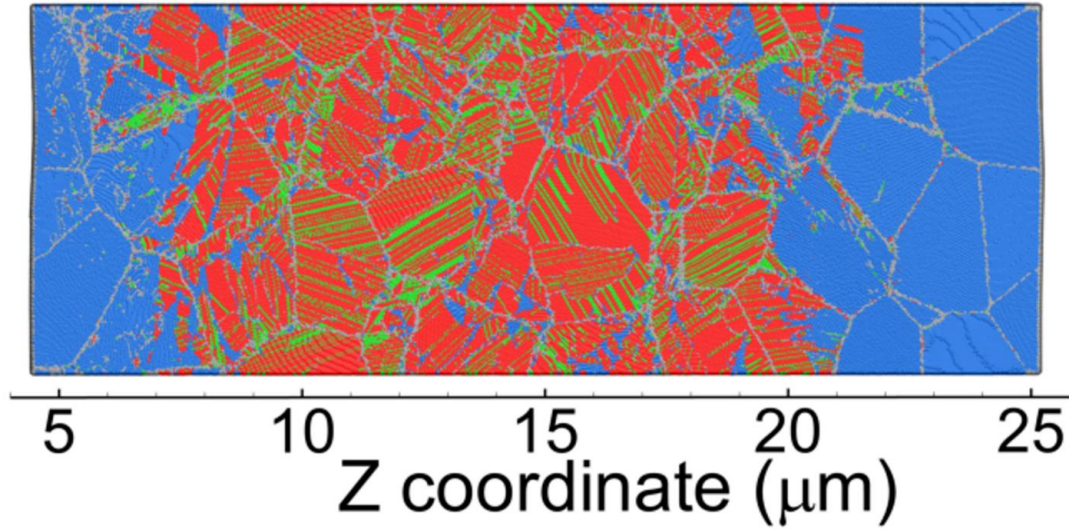
Compressed



Release



# Replicating *in situ* Diffraction Experiments using QCGD



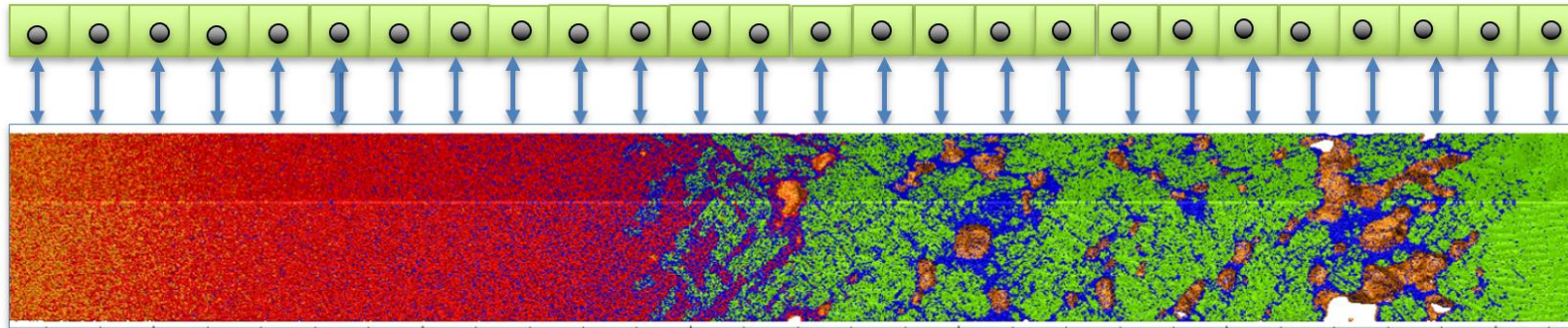
- Microstructure:
- Uncompressed BCC Fe
- Phase-transformed HCP Fe
- Relaxed BCC Fe

The mesoscale simulations with virtual diffraction allow investigation of mesoscale phenomenon where experimental interpretation is challenging.



Electrons

$$C_e(T_e) \frac{\partial T_e}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( K_e(T_e, T_l) \frac{\partial T_e}{\partial z} \right) - G(T_e - T_l) + S(z, t)$$



Lattice

$$C_l(T_l) \frac{\partial T_l}{\partial t} = G(T_e - T_l)$$

$$T_l^{\text{cell}} = \sum_{i=1}^{N^{\text{cell}}} m_i (\vec{v}_i^T)^2 / (3k_B N^{\text{cell}})$$

$e$ : electron

$C$ : heat capacity

$G$ : electron-phonon coupling factor

$l$ : lattice

$K$ : thermal conductivity

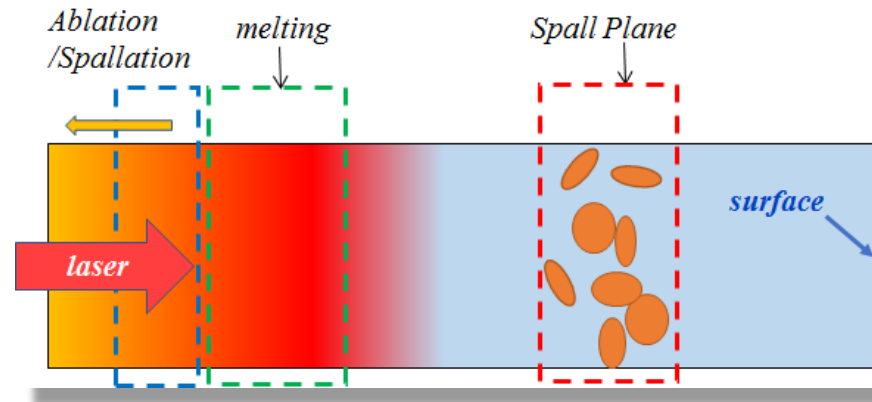
$S$ : Source term for laser energy deposition

- Continuum TTM describes laser energy absorption/dissipation and electron temperature evolution.
- Classical MD provides the description of lattice superheating and atomic movements during simulation.

# Laser Shock Compression and Spall Failure: Al

## Experimental details:

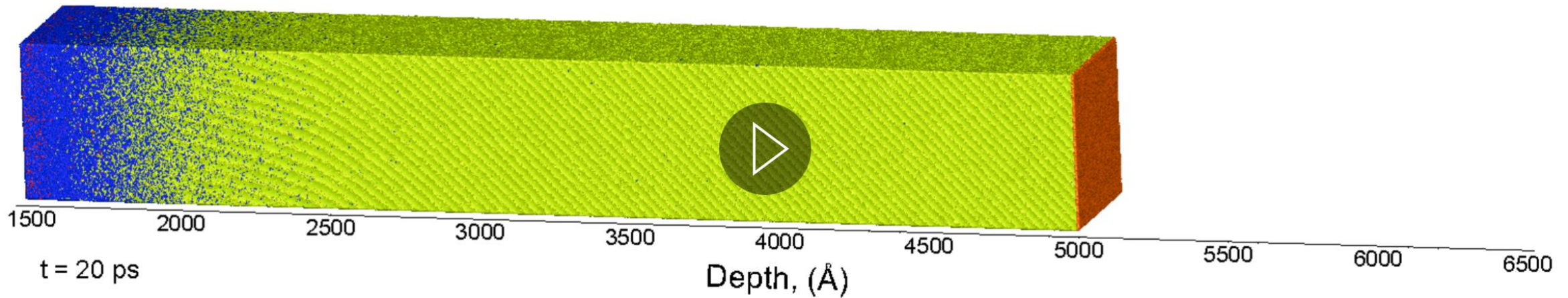
- 500 nm Al foil
- Fluence = 13 KJ/m<sup>2</sup>
- Laser:  $\tau_L = 150$  fs



## Density Function Theory (DFT): temperature-dependence of

- Electron thermal conductivity ( $K_e^{solid}$ ,  $K_e^{liquid}$ )
- Electron-phonon coupling factor ( $G$ )
- Electron heat capacity ( $C_e$ )

[S. I. Ashitkov et al. *JETP Letters*. (2010)]



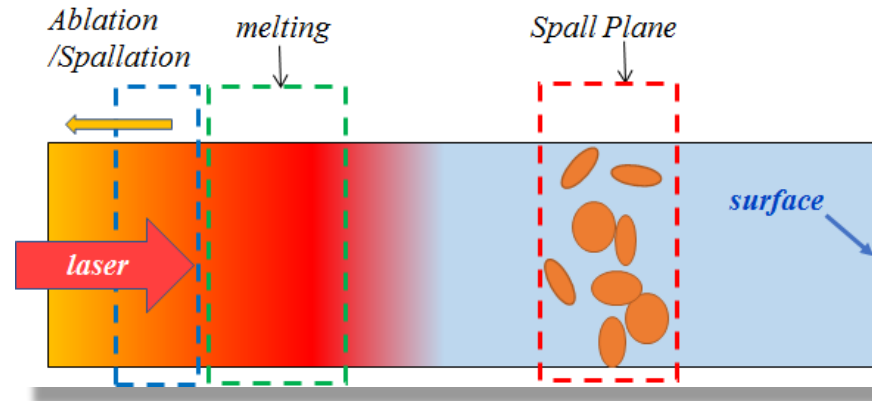
[Galitskiy et al., *JAP* (2018)]



# Laser Shock Compression and Spall Failure: Al

## Experimental details:

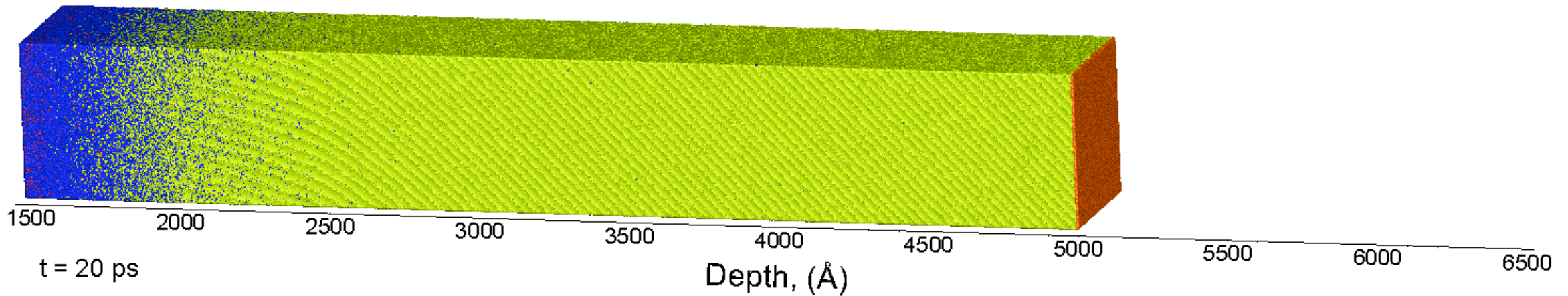
- 500 nm Al foil
- Fluence = 13 KJ/m<sup>2</sup>
- Laser:  $\tau_L = 150$  fs



## Density Function Theory (DFT): temperature-dependence of

- Electron thermal conductivity ( $K_e^{solid}$ ,  $K_e^{liquid}$ )
- Electron-phonon coupling factor ( $G$ )
- Electron heat capacity ( $C_e$ )

[S. I. Ashitkov et al. *JETP Letters*. (2010)]

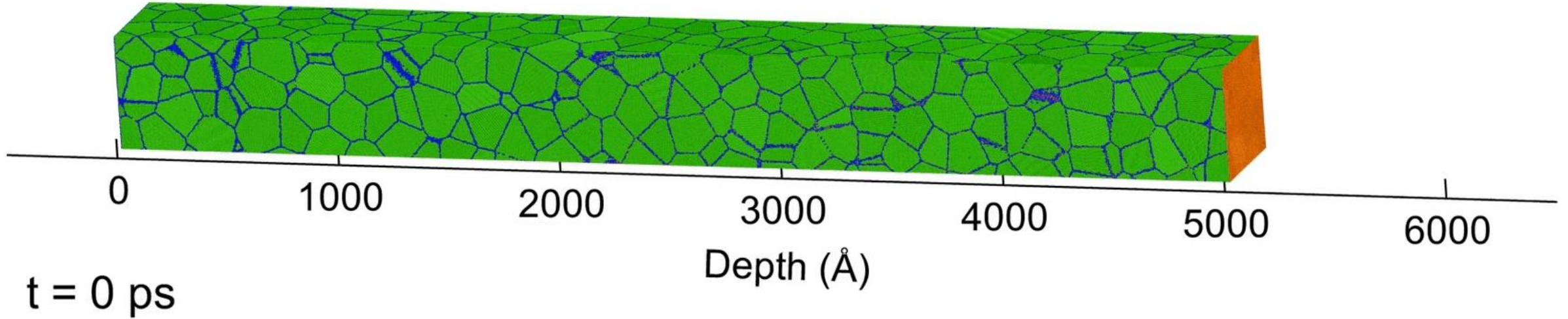


[Galitskiy et al., *JAP* (2018)]

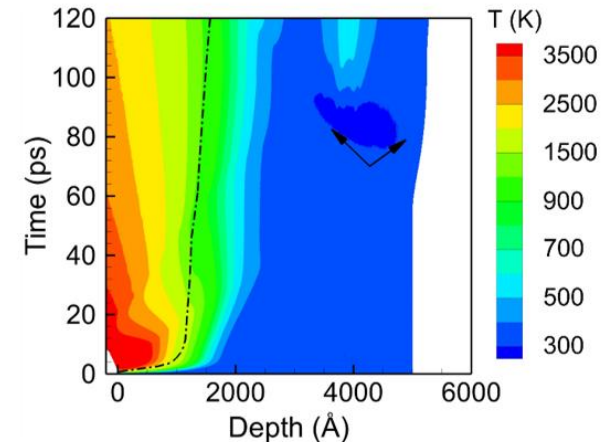
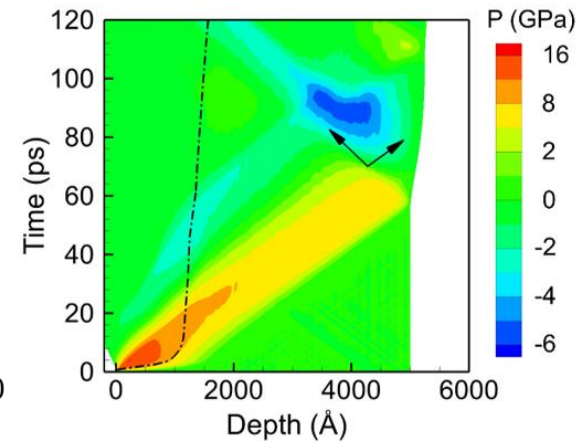
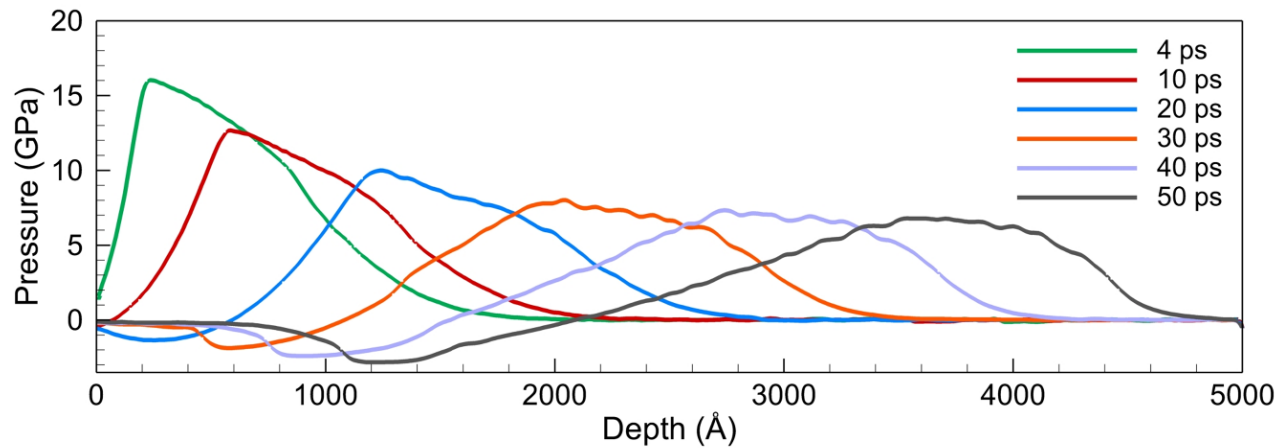


# Laser Shock Compression and Spall Failure: Al

Laser fluence of 13 KJ/m<sup>2</sup> with a pulse duration ( $\tau$ ) of 150 fs.

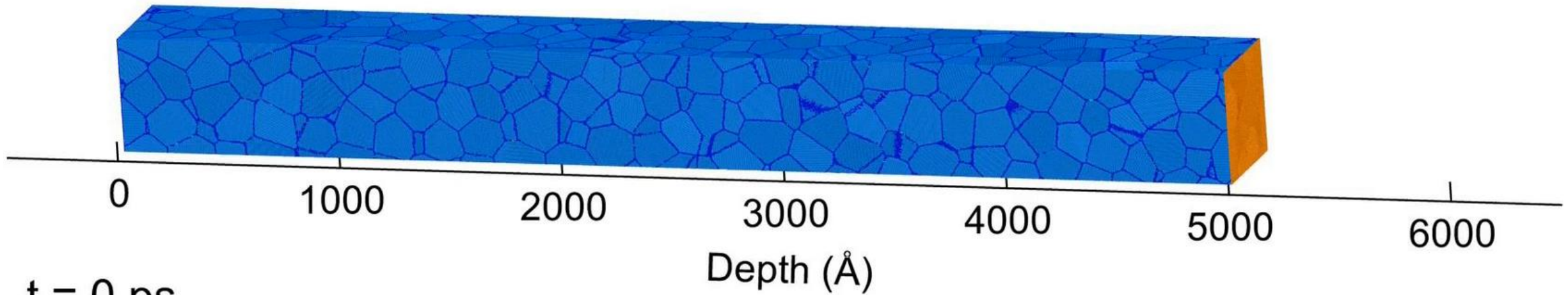


$\sigma_{spall} = 5.3$  GPa (Exp = 5.7 GPa)



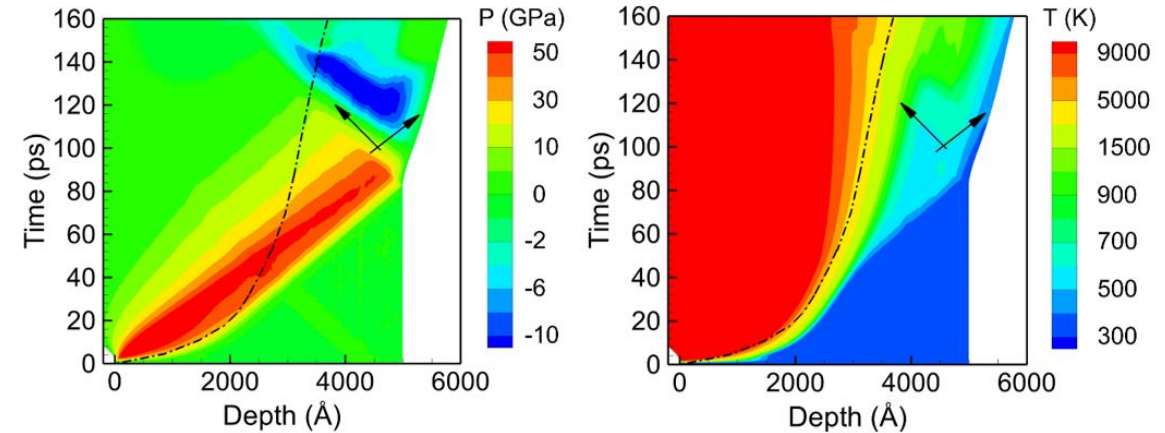
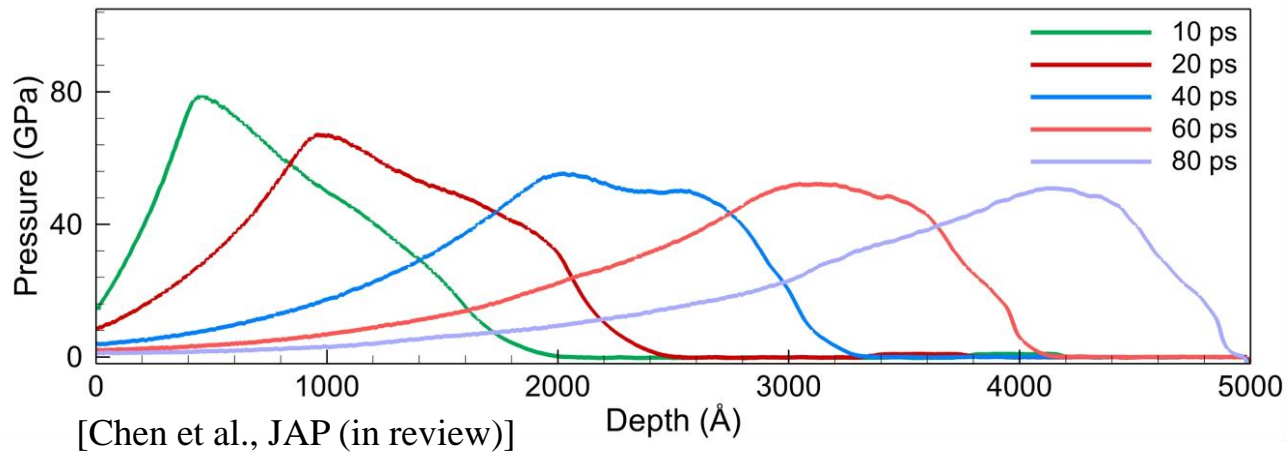
# Laser Shock Compression and Spall Failure: Ta

Laser fluence ( $F$ ) of 29  $\text{kJ/m}^2$  and a pulse duration ( $\tau$ ) of 500 fs

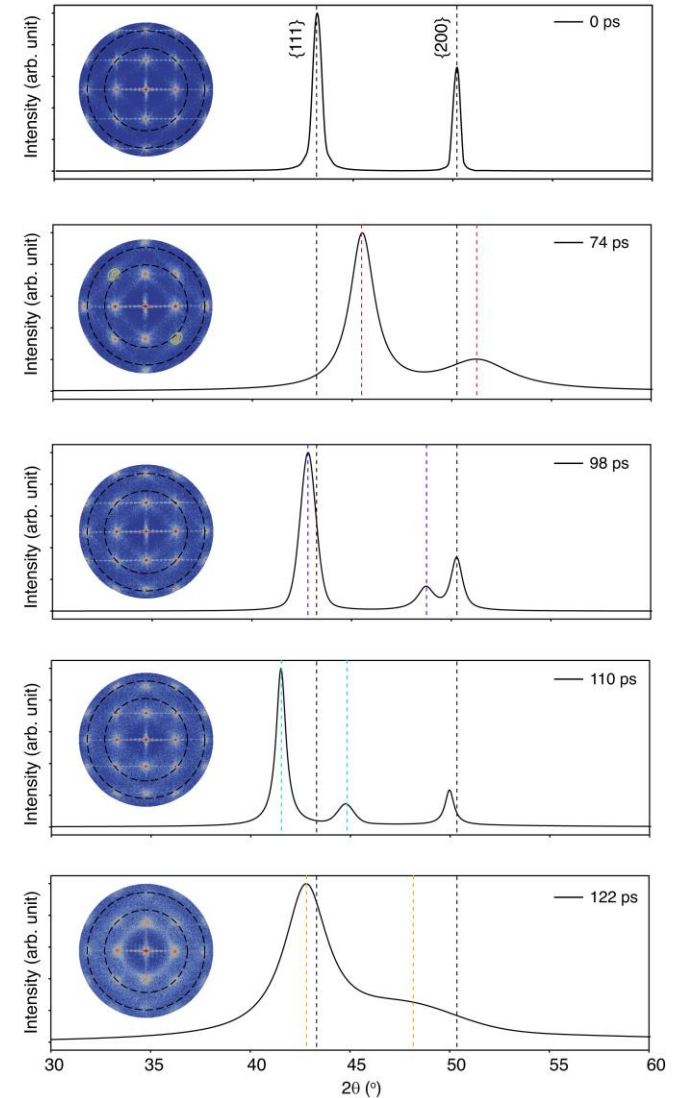
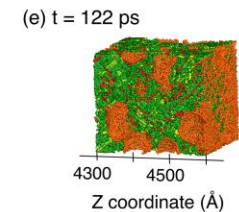
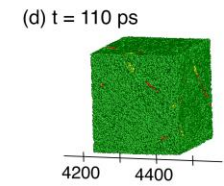
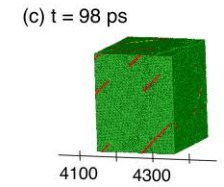
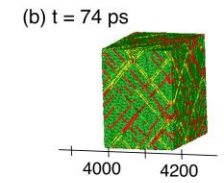
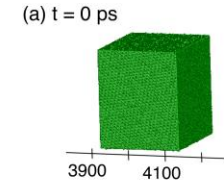
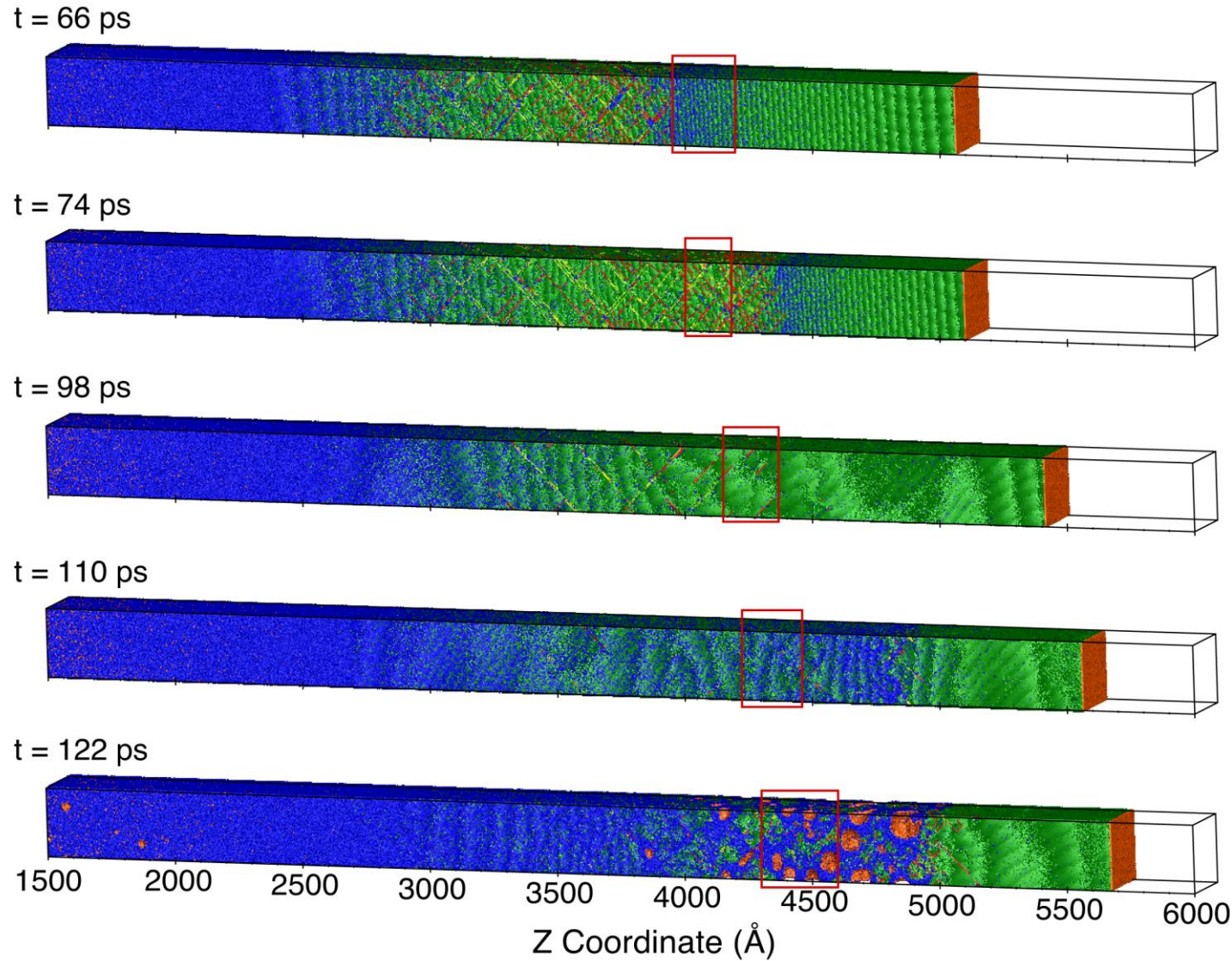


$t = 0$  ps

$\sigma_{spall} = 17.7$  Gpa (Exp = 26.7 Gpa)



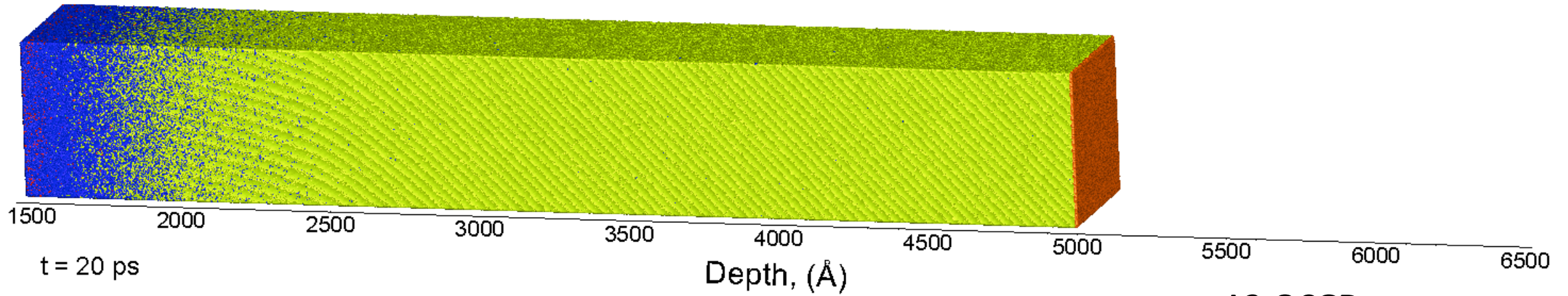
# In Situ Diffraction Laser Shock Compression and Spall Failure: Cu



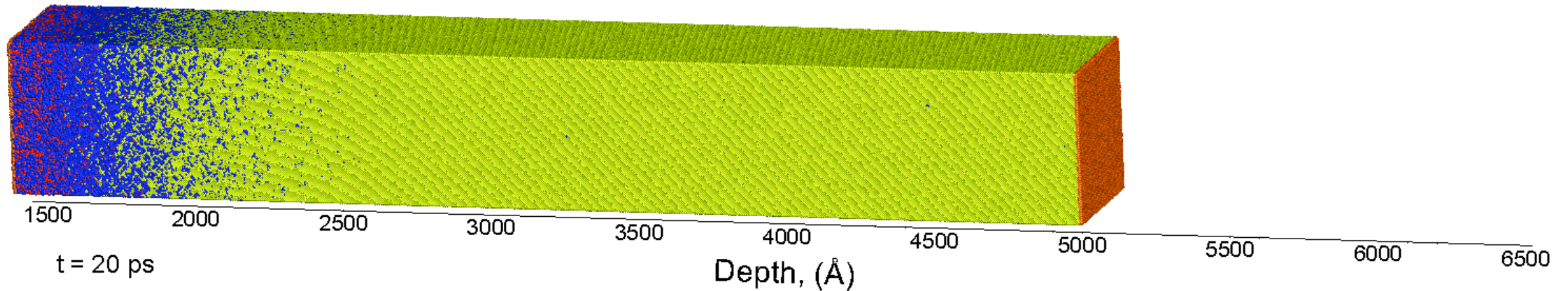
# Maser-Metal Interactions at the Mesoscales: QCGD/TTM

Laser Fluence: 13 KJ/m<sup>2</sup>; Pulse 150 fs

MD



L2-QCGD



■ Liquid

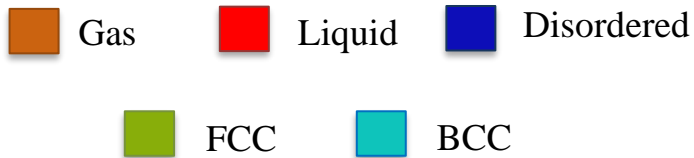
■ Surface

■ Disordered

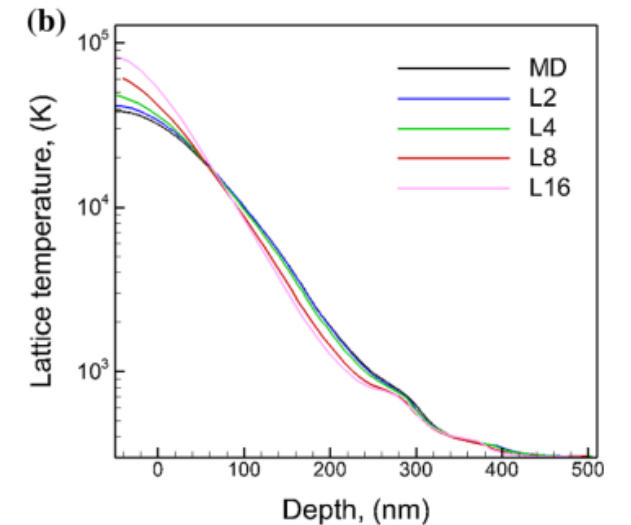
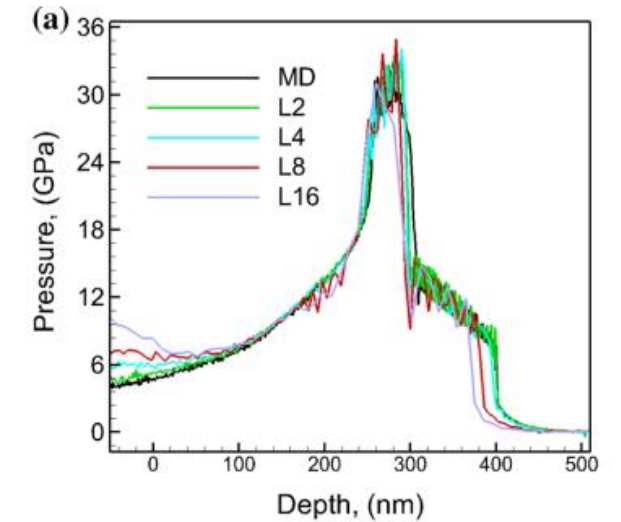
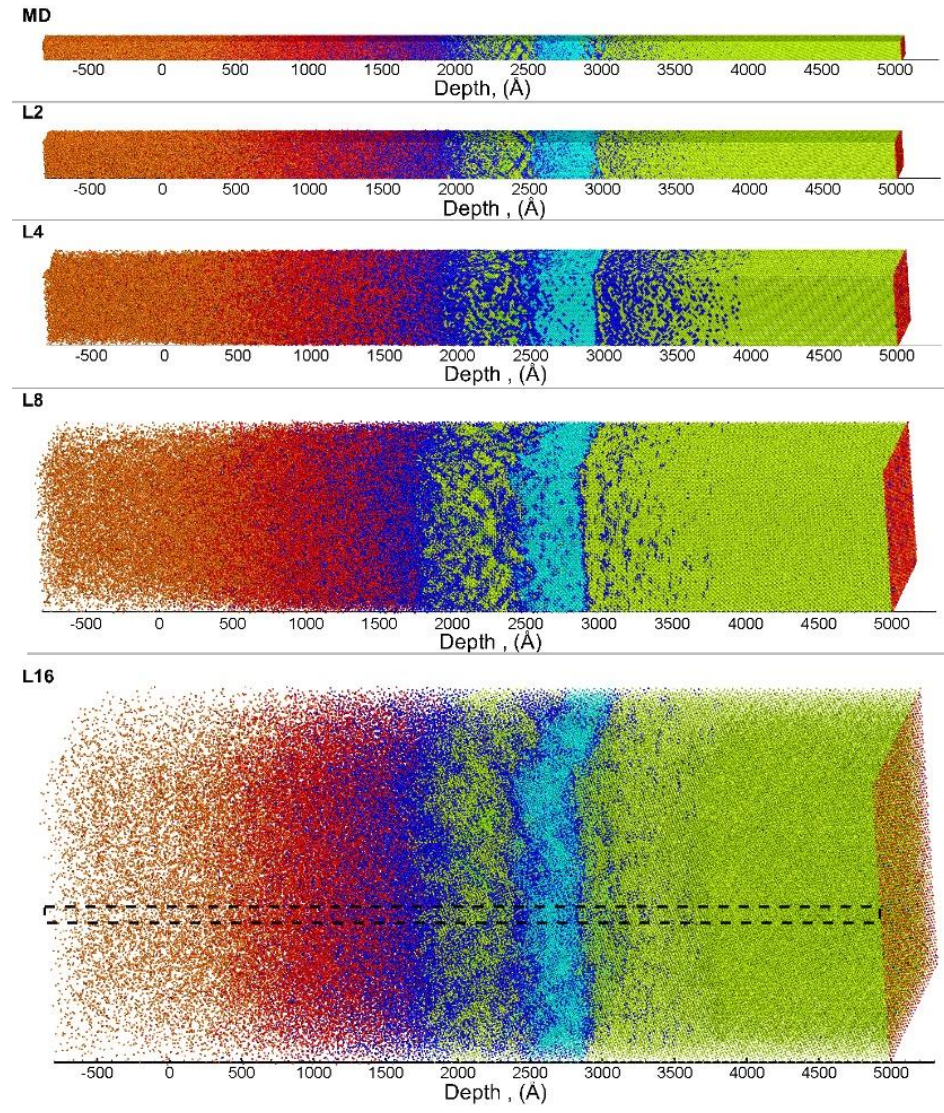
■ FCC

# QCGD-TTM Scaling: Higher Levels of Coarsening

- 500 nm length (Z) Al thin film subjected to high energetic ( $I \sim 10^{17} \text{ W/m}^2$ ) ultra-fast laser ( $\tau = 150 \text{ fs}$ )
- QCGD level 2-16 compares excellent with MD data



Microstructure evolution (ablation, melting, phase transformation) predicted with higher levels of coarsening in QCGD compares very well MD predicted evolution



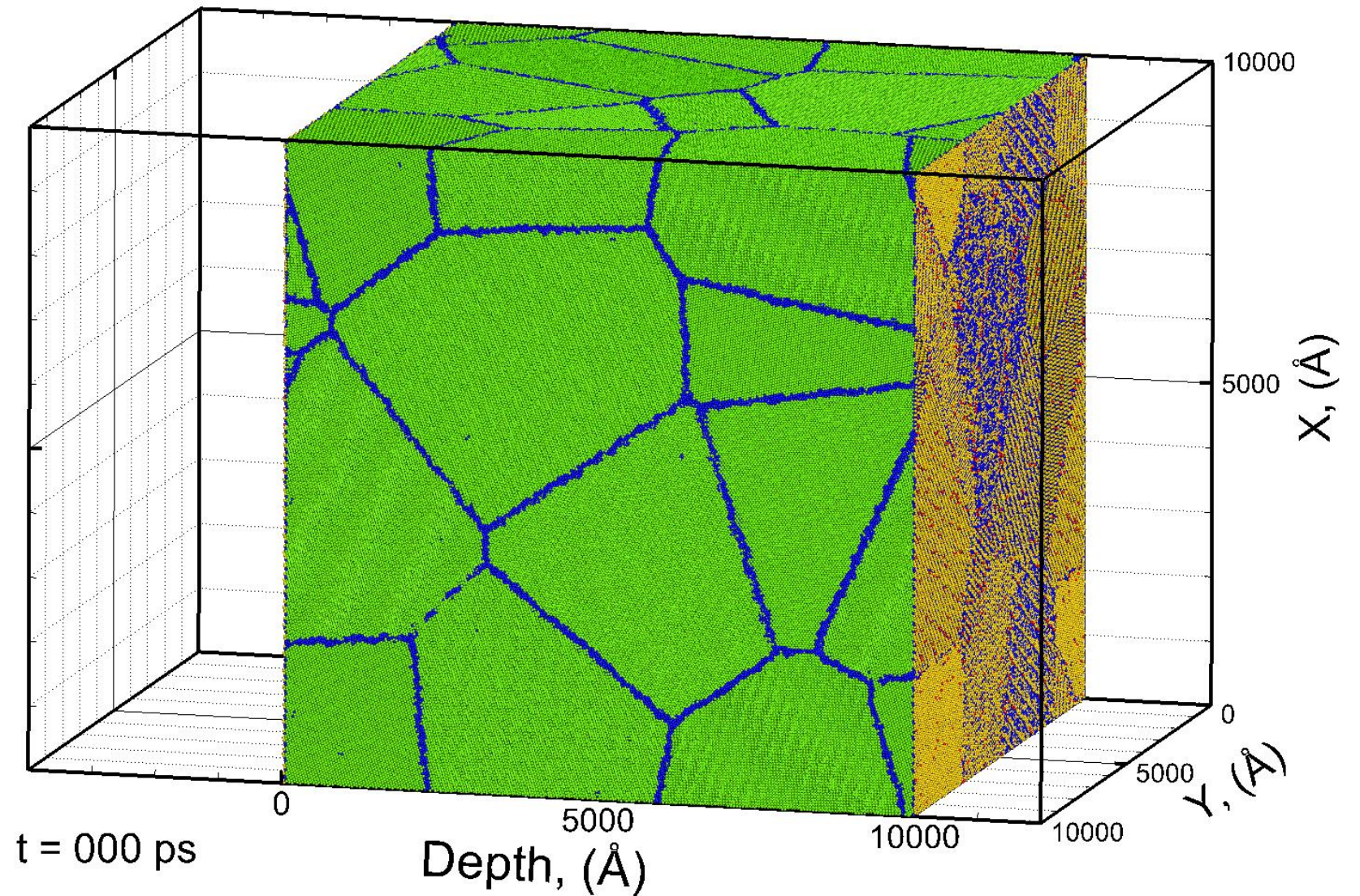


# Laser-Shock Loading at Experimental Scales

Laser fluence: 13 KJ/m<sup>2</sup>

Pulse duration ( $\tau$ ): 150 fs.

Polycr-Al: d = 500 nm



■ Liquid

■ Surface

■ Disordered

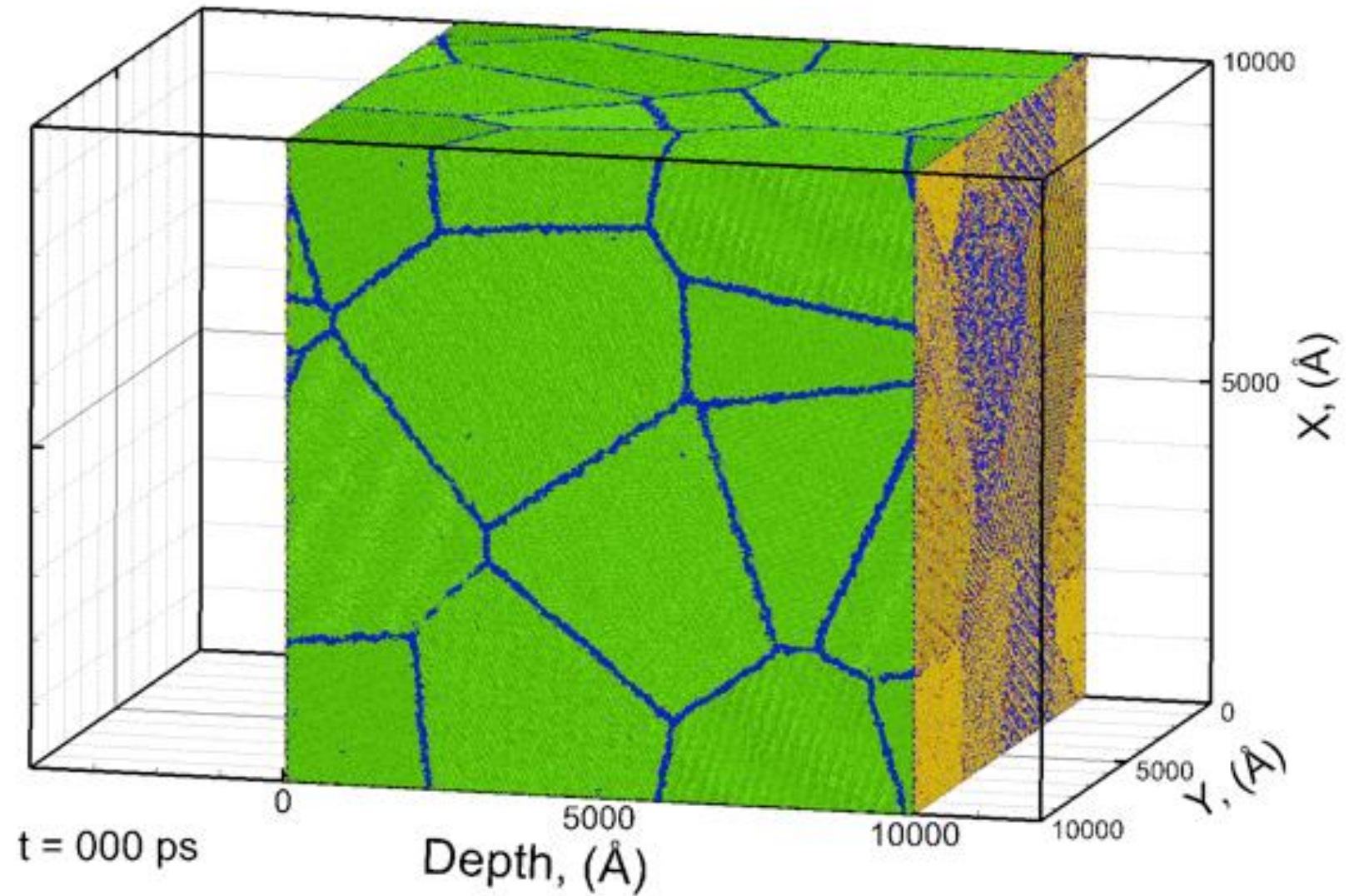
■ FCC

# Laser-Shock Loading at Experimental Scales

Laser fluence: 13 KJ/m<sup>2</sup>

Pulse duration ( $\tau$ ): 150 fs.

Polycr-Al: d = 500 nm



■ Liquid

■ Surface

■ Disordered

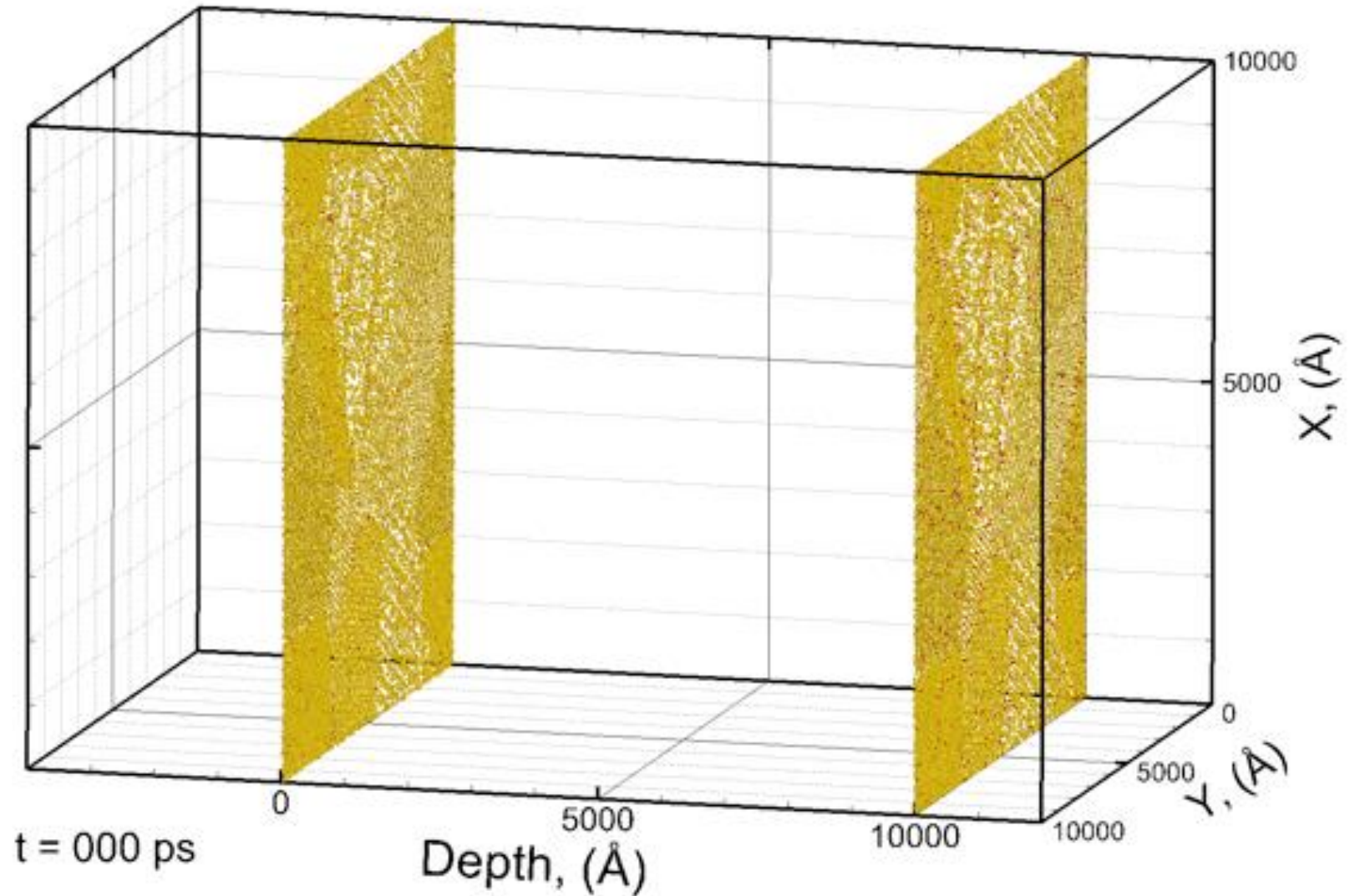
■ FCC

# Laser-Shock Loading at Experimental Scales

Laser fluence: 13 KJ/m<sup>2</sup>

Pulse duration ( $\tau$ ): 150 fs.

Polycr-Al: d = 500 nm



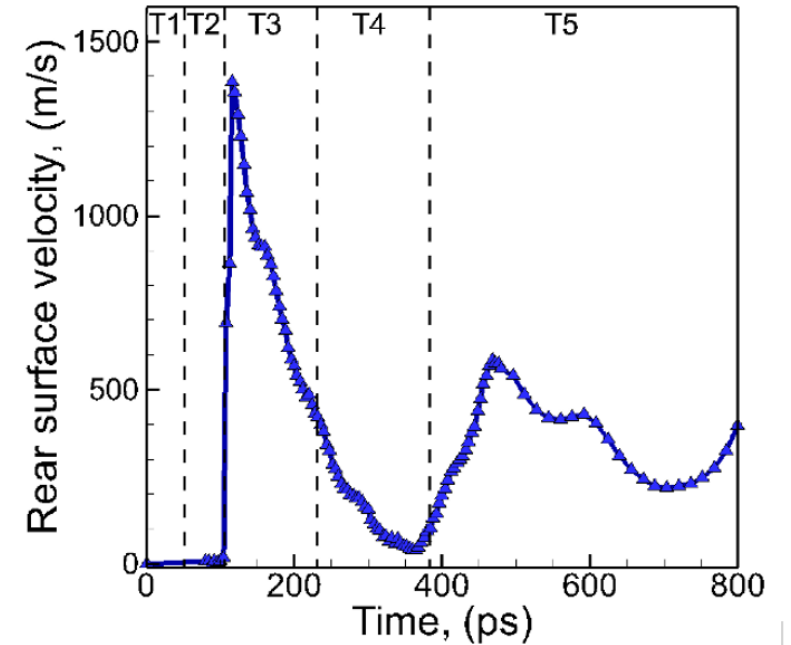
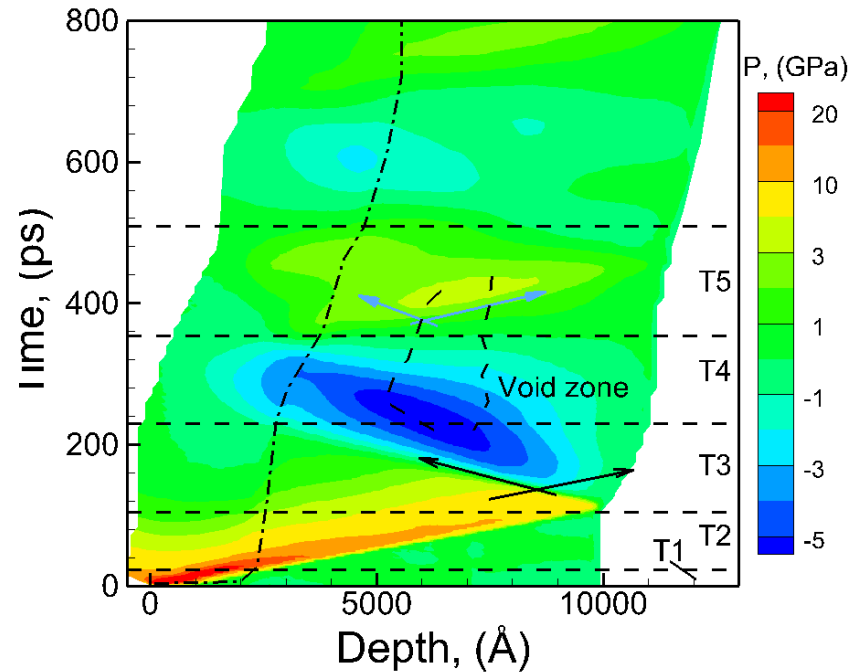
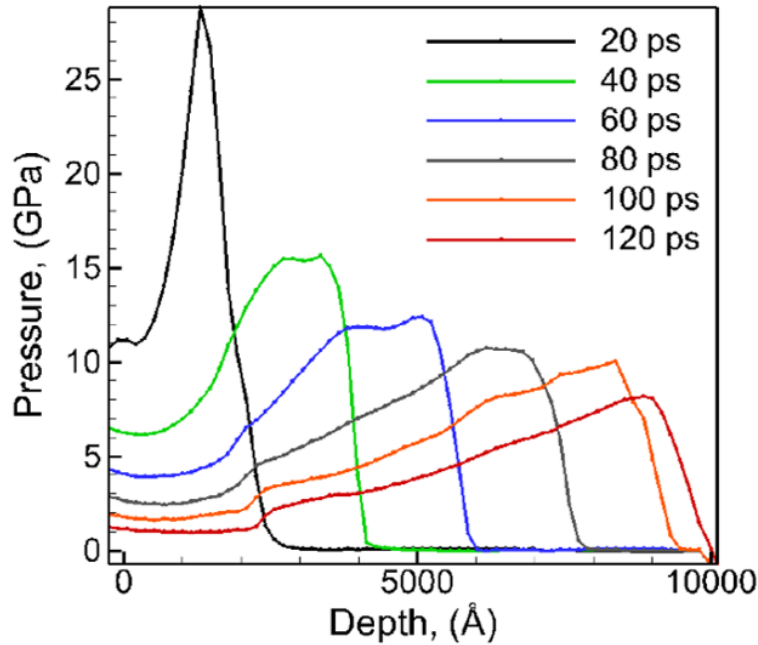
■ Liquid

■ Surface

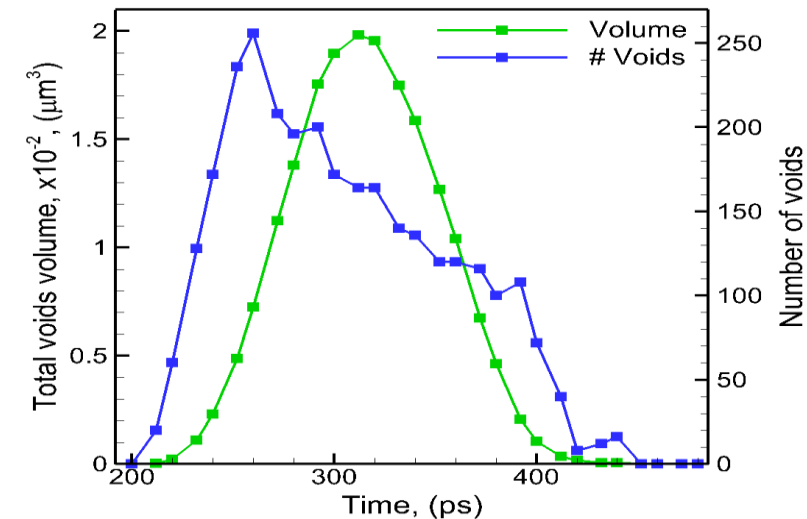
■ Disordered

■ FCC

# Laser-Shock Loading at Experimental Scales

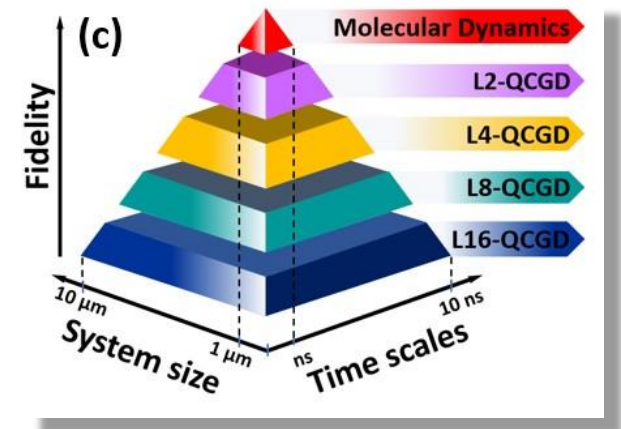


- Nucleation of voids at 200 ps, their growth and coalescence till 320 ps
- The tensile wave reflects from the solid-liquid interface to create a recompression wave
- Gradual decrease of void number and void volume up to zero
- Recompression signal is observed in rear surface velocity profiles



# Summary

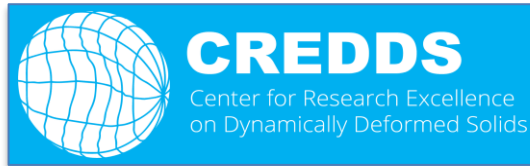
- MD simulations using virtual diffraction enable the characterization of plasticity contributions during shock compression in polycrystalline BCC microstructures (Ta and Fe)
- A new virtual texture (VirTex) analysis approach to characterize phase transformation and twinning variants in deformed microstructures generated using MD simulations.
- A hybrid atomistic-continuum method (MD-TTM) enables the modeling of laser material interactions providing an accurate description of ablation, melting, and shock phenomena at the atomic scales
- **Quasi-coarse-grained dynamics** is a **low-fidelity model** that enables the scaling of MD simulations to the mesoscales and retains the MD-predicted plasticity contributions from dislocation slip, phase transformation, and twinning in metals and **allows *in situ* diffraction at experimental scales**
- **Current focus:** Building digital twins of laser shock experiments to build a database of virtual diffractograms



[Mishra et al., *J. mater. Sci.* (2022)]

## ■ Funding

This material is based upon work supported by the Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration under Award No. DE-NA0003857. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Nuclear Security Administration.



## ■ Computing Resources:

→ High Performance Computing (HPC) facilities at UCONN

## ■ Collaborations:

→ Saryu Fensin (LANL), Remi Dingreville (SNL), Mukul Kumar (LLNL), John Lind (LLNL), KT Ramesh (JHU)

## ■ Contact: [dongare@uconn.edu](mailto:dongare@uconn.edu)

**Thank you**