

# Structural Materials for Fusion Power Plants Part II: Multi-scale Modelling Radiation Effects

Presented by J. L. Boutard <sup>1</sup>

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## **Fusion Materials Topical group: MAT-REMEV: Modelling Radiation Effects in EUROFER**

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- Co-Chairs: S. Dudarev (UKAEA), M. Rieth (FZK)
- Helsinki University: K. Nordlund, N. Juslin, C. Björkas
- VTT Finland: S. Tähtinen (VTT)
- Uppsala University: J. Wallenius, P. Olsson
- Riso National Lab: B. Singh
- UKAEA: S. Dudarev, D. Nguyen Manh, M. Lavrentiev
- SCK.CEN Mol: L. Malerba, D. Terentyev, M. Matijasevic,  
• A. Almazouzi, P. Jaquet
- FZK: A. Moslang, M. Rieth, M. Klimenkov
- TU Bratislava : V. Slugen
- CRPP: R. Schaeublin, G. Lucas, A. Ramar
- CEA: F. Willaime, C. C. Fu, A. Barbu, L. Ventelon
- University Polytech. Madrid: M. Perlado
- University Alicante: M. J. Caturla, C. Ortiz
- TU Karlsruhe: D. Weygand, M. Mrovec

## **Fusion or Fission National Programmes:**

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- UK: P. Klaver (Uni Belfast), S. Roberts & M. Jenkins (Uni Oxford)
- France: D. Rodney, J. Chaussidon

## **Radiation Effects Modelling: The Initial Objectives of the EU Programme 2001<sup>(1)</sup>**

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- **To study the radiation effects in the EUROFER RAFM steel**
  - In the range of temperatures from RT to 550 °C
  - Up to high dose ~100dpa
  - In the presence of high concentrations of transmutation impurities (i.e. H, He)
  
- **To Develop modelling tools and database capable of:**
  - Correlation of results from:
    - The present fission reactors & spallation sources
    - The future intense fusion neutron source IFMIF
  - Extrapolation to high fluences and He & H contents of fusion reactors
  
- **To experimentally validate the models on adequate systems & at the relevant scale**

*(1) M. Victoria, G. Martin and B. Singh,  
The Role of the Modelling Radiation Effects in metals in the EU Fusion Materials Long Term Program (2001)*

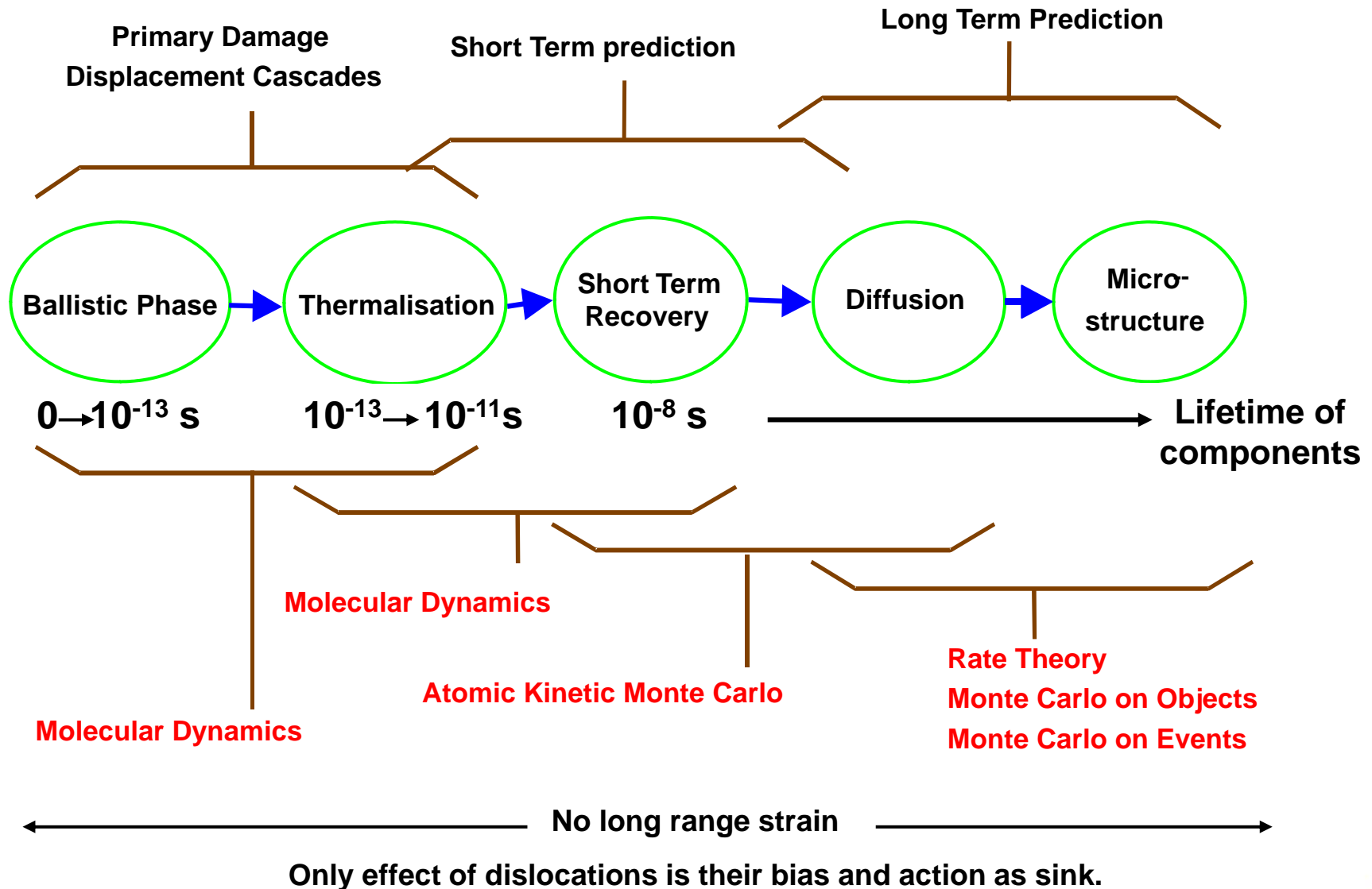
# Outline

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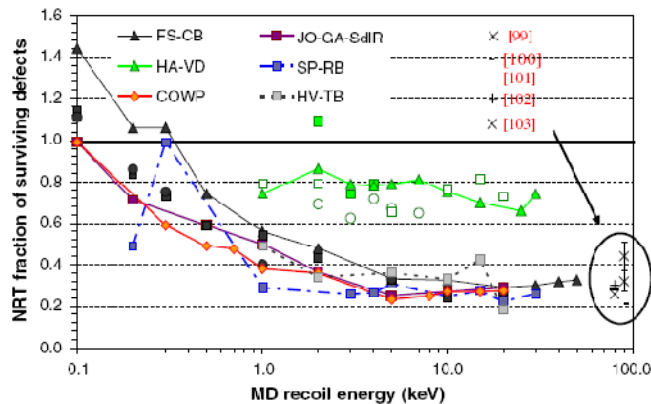
- Radiation Induced Defects: Thermodynamics & Kinetics in  $\alpha$ -Fe
- He diffusion mechanisms in Fe-C
- Phase Stability of Fe-Cr system, based on DFT
- Dynamical Properties of Dislocations in Fe and Fe-He
- Concluding remarks

# Radiation Induced Defects: Thermodynamics & Kinetics in $\alpha$ -Fe

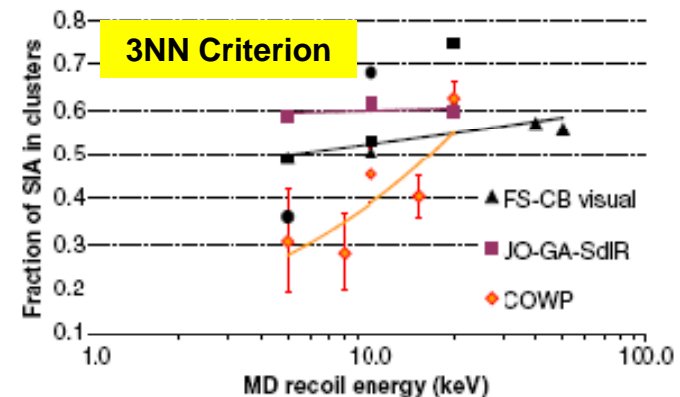
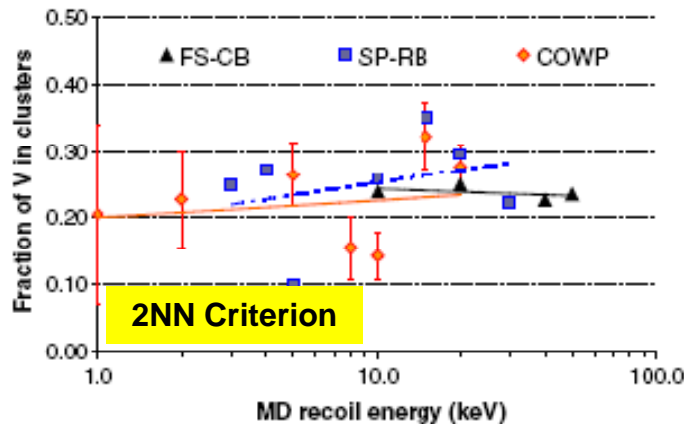
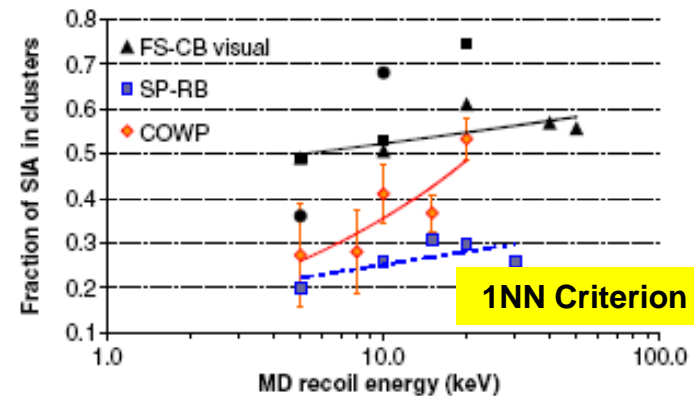
# Radiation Modified Microstructure Scale and tools for Multi-scale Modelling



# Molecular Dynamics Simulation Production Efficiency & Fraction of Clustered Defects



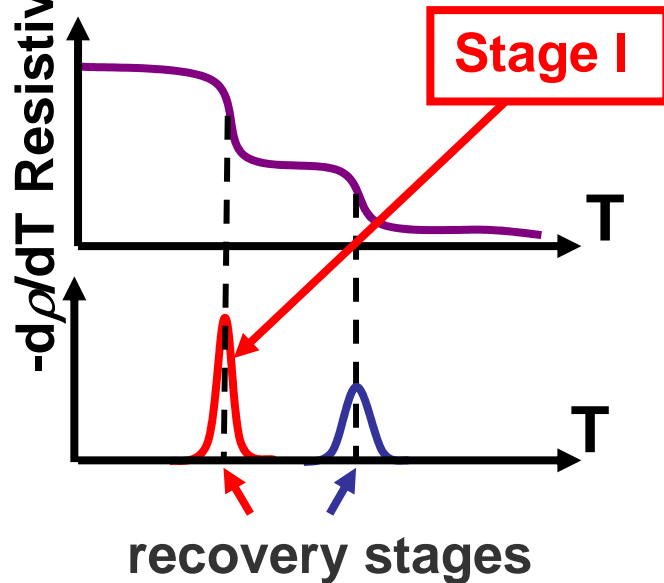
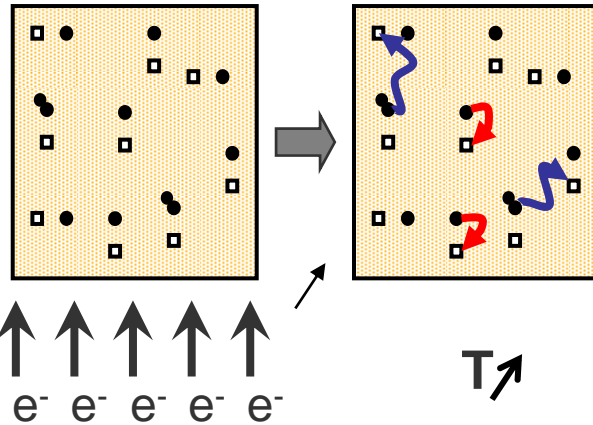
L. Malerba. J. Nucl. Mater. 351 (2006) 28-38



- Important scattered in clustered defect fraction makes these MD simulation useless as the first block of radiation effects modelling
  - No convincing argument **except**
  - The inter-atomic potentials were predicting the <111> SIA as stable configuration in  $\alpha$ -Fe

## Indirect Experimental Knowledge of Point Defect Energetics: Damage Resistivity Recovery in Pure Metals

Electron irradiation    Isochronal Annealing



### Damage Recovery: Stage I

V:  $T < 6\text{K}$

Nb:  $T < 6\text{K}$

Ta:  $T < 6\text{K}$

Cr:  $T = 40\text{K}$

Mo:  $T = 35\text{K}$

W:  $T = 27\text{K}$

$\langle 111 \rangle$   
 $E^m \sim \text{a few } 0.01\text{eV}$

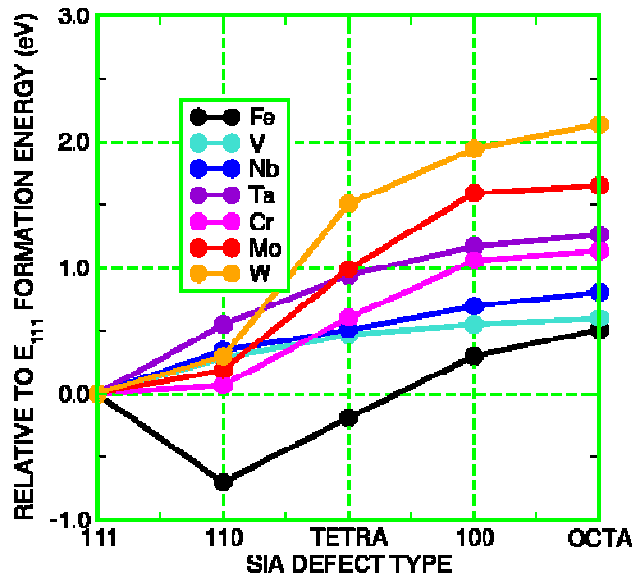
Fe:  $T = 140\text{K}$

$\langle 110 \rangle$   
 $E^m \sim 0.3\text{-}0.4\text{ eV}$

*H. Schultz, Atomic Defects in Metals, Landolt-Börnstein New Series, Group III, vol. 25, Springer-Verlag Berlin, 1991, p. 115.*

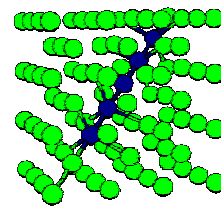


# Self Interstitial Atoms in bcc Transition Metals: DFT Calculations



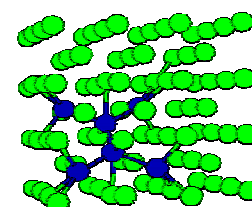
Non Magnetic

<111>

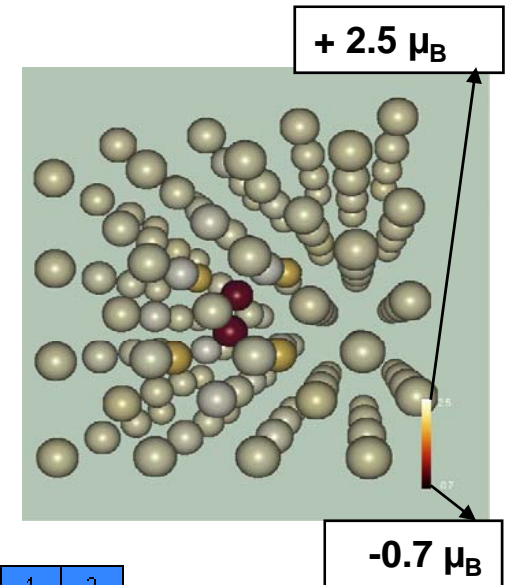


Magnetic Fe

<110>



Magnetisation Fe: <110>



1	2																	1	2				
3	4																	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12																	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36						
37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54						
55	56	57*	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86						
87	88	89**	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	114	116	118									

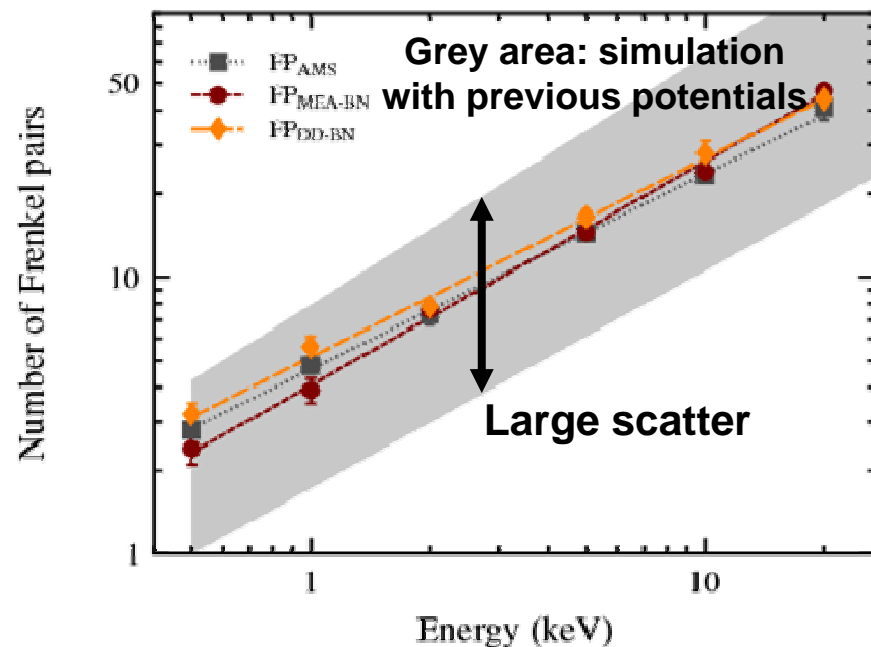
Arrows point to elements V (blue), Cr (pink), and Fe (black) in the periodic table.

D. Nguyen-Manh, A. P.Horsfield and S. L. Dudarev Phys. Rev. B73 (2006) 20101.

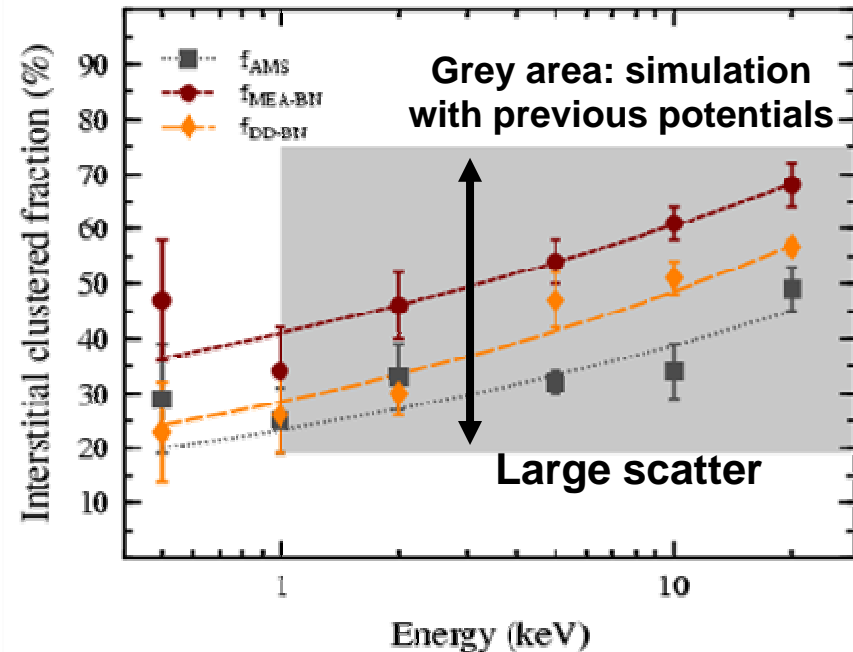
## Empirical Potential based on ab initio Molecular Dynamics simulation of cascades in $\alpha$ -Fe

### Three $\alpha$ -Fe Semi-Empirical potentials developed in 2006

- Based on different functional forms and physical assumptions
- **Reproducing ab-initio SIA energetics:  $\langle 110 \rangle$  SIA is the stable configuration in  $\alpha$ -Fe**



**Number of Frenkel pairs**  
**Strong reduction in the scatter**



**Interstitial clustered fraction**  
**Still some scatter to understand**

*K. Nordlund (TEKES) to presented at ICFRM-13 Nice December 2007*

# Isochronal Thermal Recovery of Radiation damage in $\alpha$ -Fe Ab initio based Event Kinetic Monte-Carlo

H. Schultz, *Atomic Defects in Metals, Landolt-Börnstein New Series, Group III, vol. 25, Springer-Verlag Berlin, 1991, p. 115.*

Takaki et al. *Rad. Effects* 79 (1983) 87



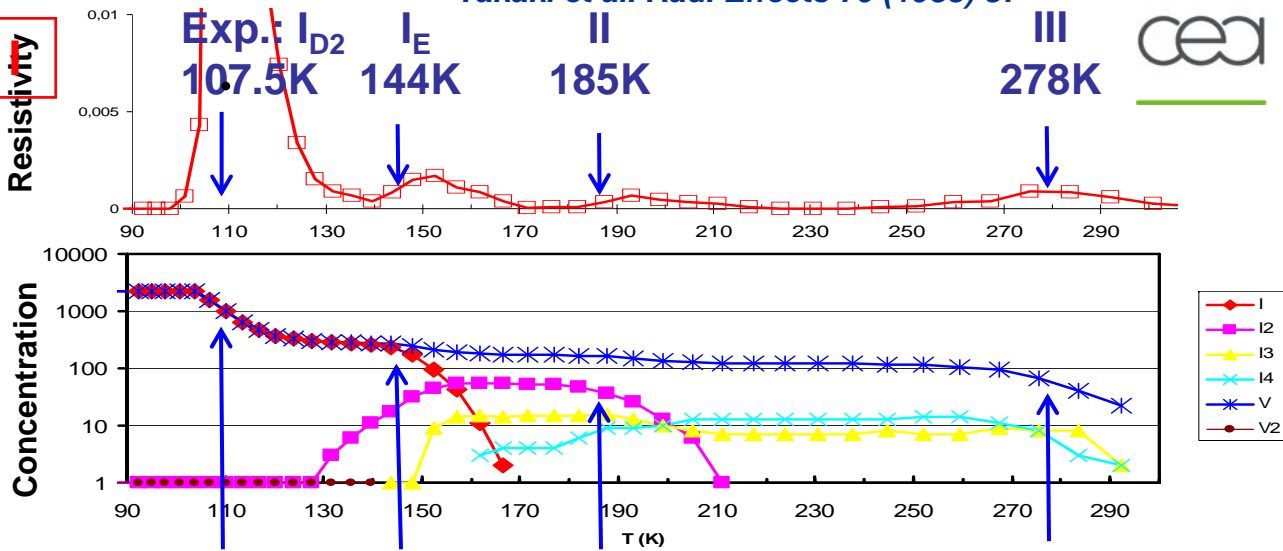
## Damage Recovery: Stage I

- V: T<6K
- Nb: T<6K
- Ta: T<6K
- Cr: T=40K
- Mo: T=35K
- W: T=27K

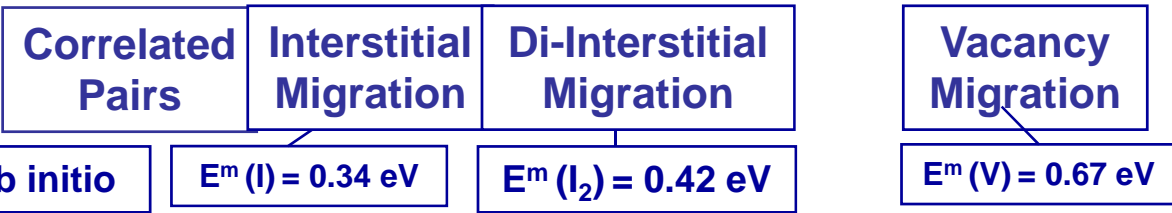
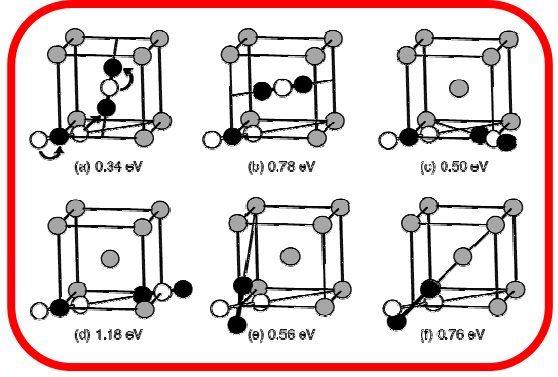
<111>  
 $E^m \sim$  a few 0.01eV

Fe: T=140K

<110>  
 $E^m \sim$  0.3-0.4 eV



## DFT: 3D Migration of SIA in $\alpha$ -Fe

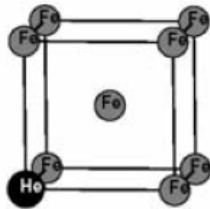


- New Insights:**
- $I_2$  and  $I_3$  contribute to stage II
  - $V_2, V_3, V_4$  contribute to stage (III)
- Dose Effects:**
- Peak shifts with dose are well reproduced
  - Effect of C reasonably understood and reproduced (unpublished work)

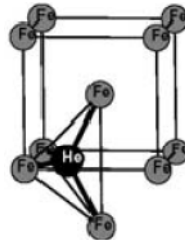
C.C. Fu, J. Dalla Torre, F. Willaime, J.L. Bocquet, A. Barbu, *Nature Materials* 4, 68 (2005)

# He Diffusion Mechanisms in $\alpha$ -Fe-C

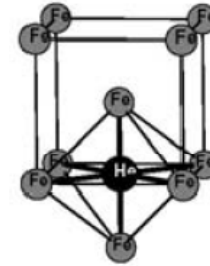
## He & point defects energetics based on DFT: Solution Energy



Substitution: HeV



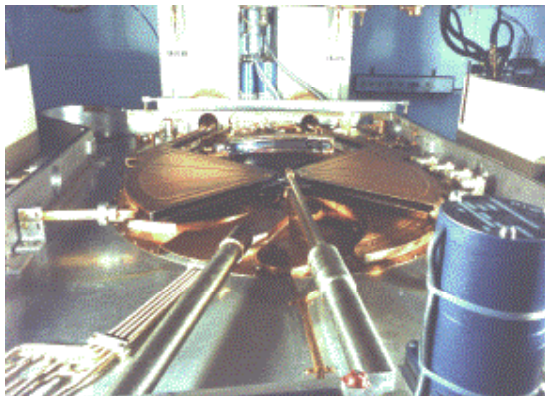
Tetrahedral: He



Octahedral: He

	HeV	He tetra	He octa
Esol(eV)	4.22	4.39	4.57

*C. C. Fu and F. Willaime Phys. Rev B72 (2005) 064117.*



### 23 MeV $^4\text{He}^{2+}$ : Jülich Compact Cyclotron

Microstructure after Implantation:

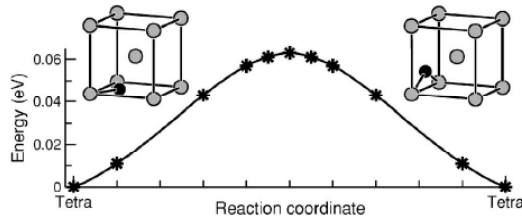
- Frenkel Pairs
- He in substitution:

He is Created as interstitial but  $E^m=0.06$  eV so that migration is fast even at room temperature and reaction with vacancies easy

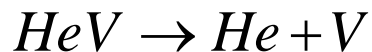
## He and point defect energetics based on DFT: (2) Diffusion and Clustering with vacancies

- Interstitial He Diffusion

$$E^m = 0.06 \text{ eV}$$



- Dissociative Diffusion Mechanism



$$\Delta E = E^b(\text{He} - \text{V}) = 2.20 \text{ eV}$$

- Kick-out mechanism



$$\Delta E = E^b(\text{He} - \text{V}) - (E^f(\text{I}) + E^f(\text{V}))$$

$$\Delta E = -3.60 \text{ eV}$$

- ~~Vacancy mechanism by migration of HeV<sub>2</sub> Complex~~

~~$$E^m(\text{HeV}_2) = 1.1 \text{ eV}$$~~

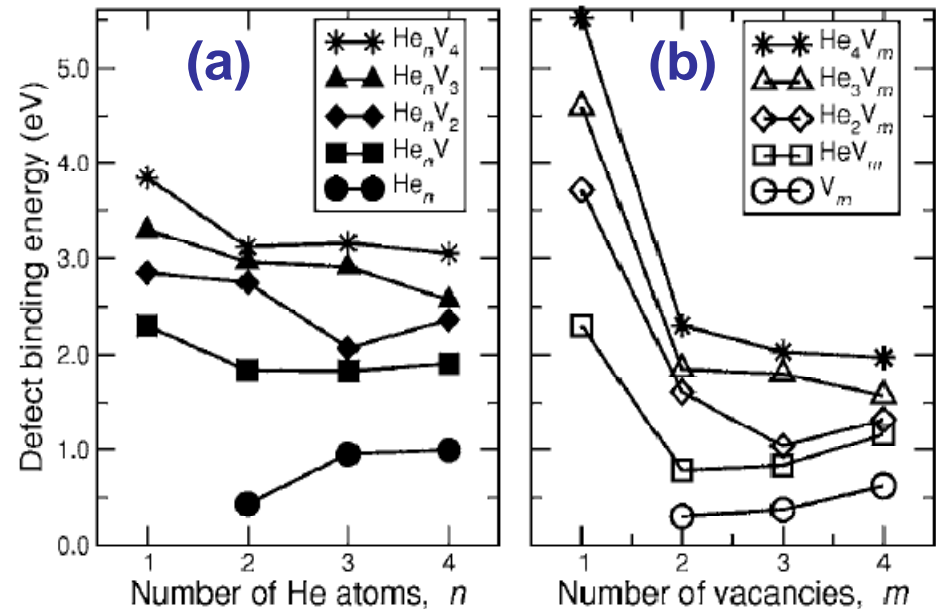
~~$$E^b(\text{V} - \text{HeV}) = 0.78 \text{ eV}$$~~

~~C.C. Fu and F. Willaime, Phys. Rev. B72, (2005) 064117.~~

- Binding Energy:

(a) He with He<sub>m-1</sub>V<sub>m</sub>

(b) V with He<sub>n</sub>V<sub>m-1</sub>



C. C. Fu and F. Willaime Phys. Rev B72 (2005) 064117.

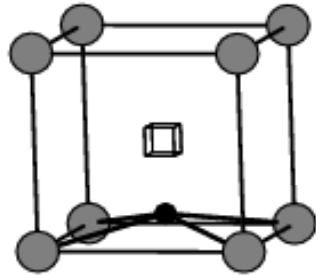
- Mobile Defects: V, SIA & di-SIA

$$E^m(\text{SIA}) = 0.34 \text{ eV} \quad E^m(\text{di-SIA}) = 0.42 \text{ eV}$$

$$E^m(\text{V}) = 0.97 \text{ eV}$$

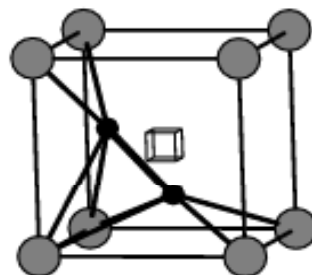
C.C. Fu et al. Nature Materials 4, 68 (2005)

## Interaction of carbon with V & He-V clusters



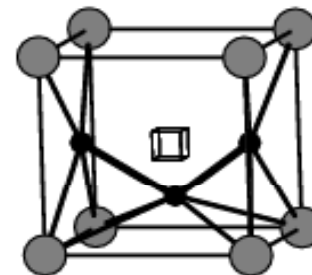
**VC**

$$E_b^{V-C} = 0.52 \text{ eV}$$



**VC<sub>2</sub>**

$$E_b^{VC-C} = 0.89 \text{ eV}$$

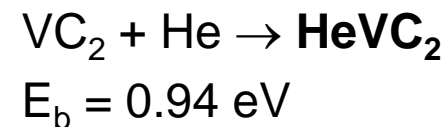
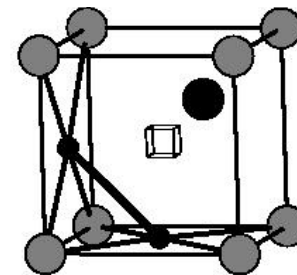
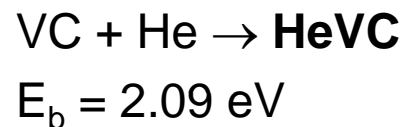
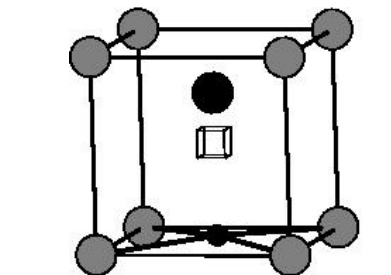
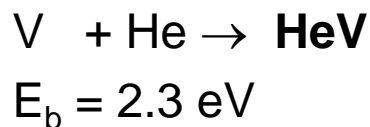
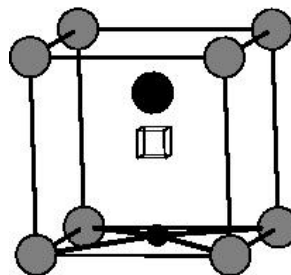


**VC<sub>3</sub>**

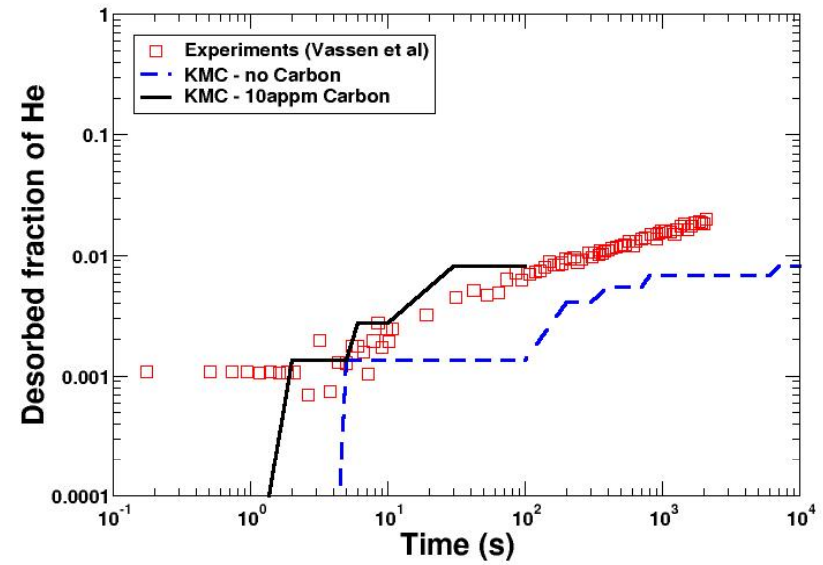
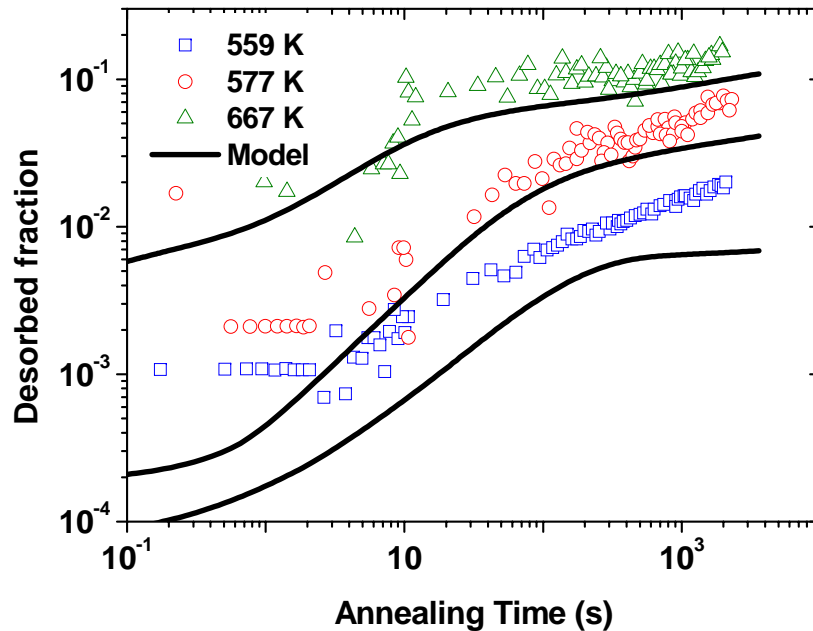
$$E_b^{VC_2-C} = 0.12 \text{ eV}$$

\* C.C Fu et al.  
Sol. State Phen.  
**139**, 157 (2008)

Strong vacancy-carbon interaction  
=> reduces the effective migration energy of vacancies



Carbon reduces the He-V binding energy



- Vacancies are mainly trapped in CV and VC<sub>2</sub>.
- Carbon traps a large amount of V, which inhibits the growth of stable He-V clusters  
→ He desorption favored.

But there are other mechanisms also involving Helium...

- 1) HeV + C<sub>int</sub> → HeVC and 2) HeVC + C<sub>int</sub> → HeVC<sub>2</sub> occur easily with 50 appm C
- 3) HeVC<sub>2</sub> → VC<sub>2</sub> + He<sub>i</sub>. HeVC<sub>2</sub> releases Helium with a low E<sub>diss</sub>(1.0 eV) of HeVC<sub>2</sub> much lower than E<sub>diss</sub> of HeV (2.30 eV).

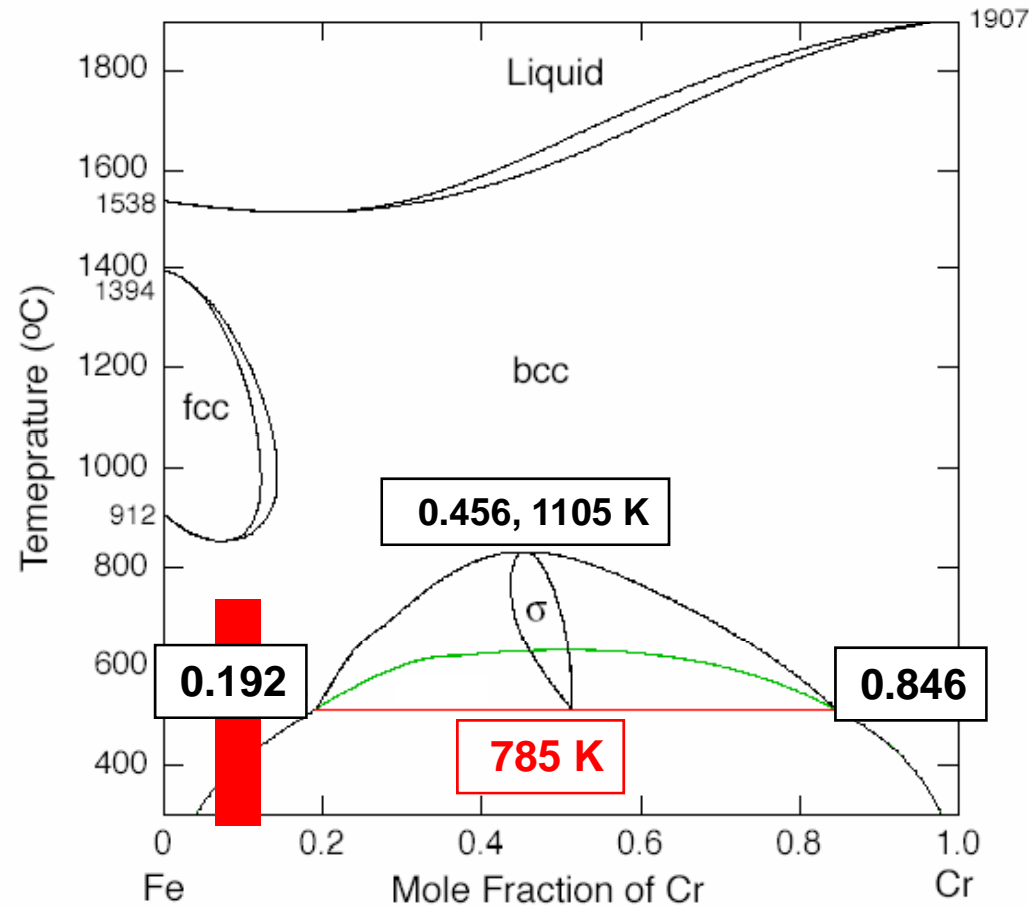
→ He desorption is enhanced.





# Phase Stability based on DFT calculated Enthalpy of Atomic Configurations

# CALPHAD Fe-Cr Phase Diagram



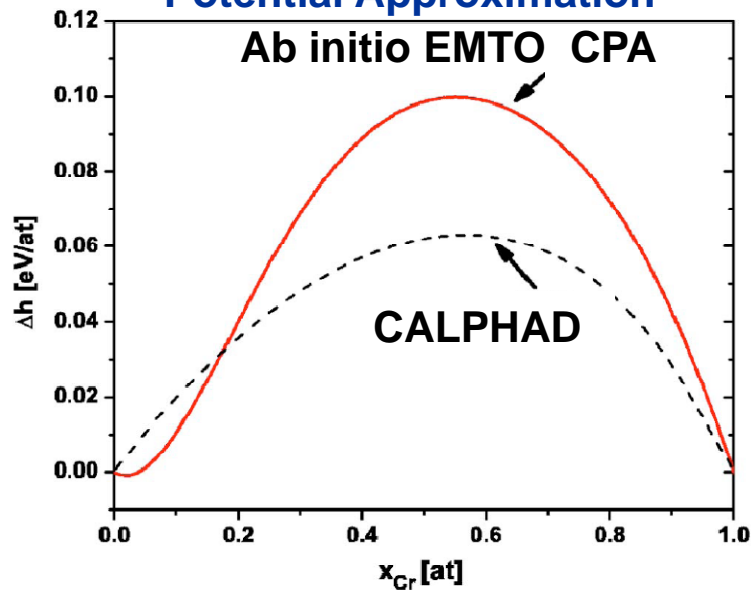
**The important region for Fusion is the low temperature 9-14%Cr domain where  
Experiments are difficult since low temperature means low time to reach equilibrium  
There is phase instability at lower temperature range**

## Non-symmetric Fe-Cr Formation Enthalpy

- Fe-Cr System: DFT Calculation of the Formation Enthalpy

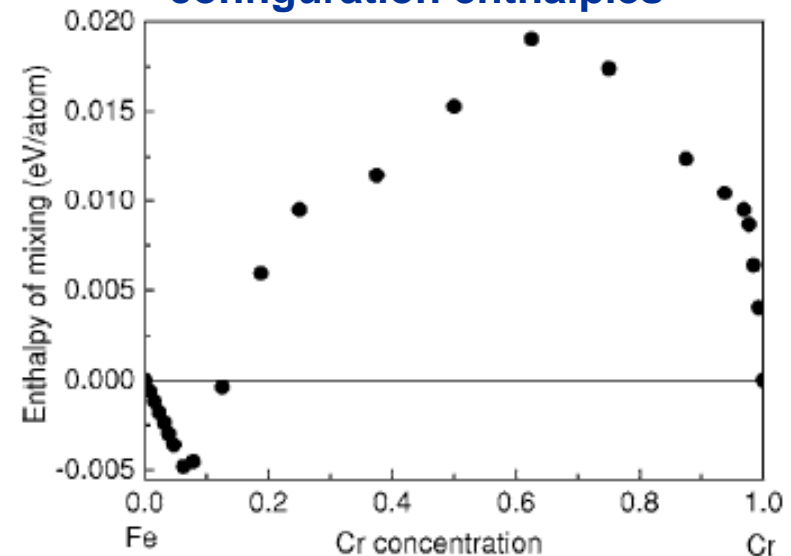
$$\Delta H_{mix} = H[(1-x)Fe + xCr] - (1-x)H_{Fe} - xH_{Cr}$$

Random Solid Solution  
described by Coherent  
Potential Approximation



P. Olsson et al. *J. Nucl. Mater.* 321(2003) 84-90

Minimum value obtained by Exchange  
Monte Carlo on a ab initio set of  
configuration enthalpies

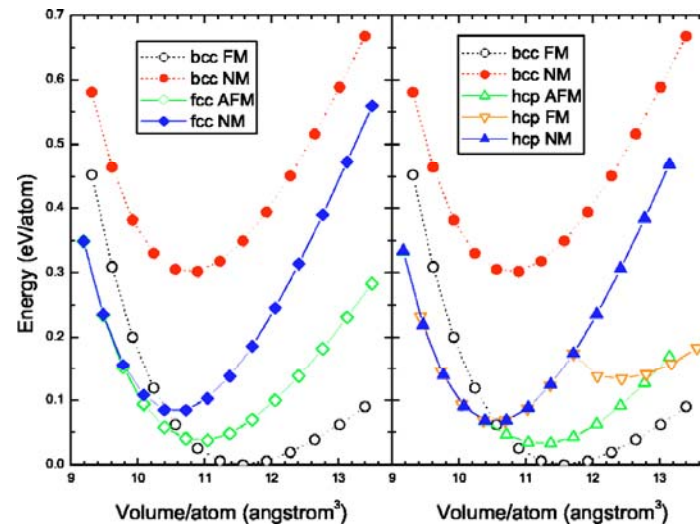


M. Yu. Lavrentyev *Phys. Rev. B* 75, (2007) 014208

- Consequences of the sign change** in the Fe rich domain at **0K**: Cr is soluble in Fe & above ~6%Cr the system unmix into Cr and Fe- ~6%Cr alloy
- Present CALPHAD Fe-Cr phase diagram does not reproduce this behaviour as the Formation Enthalpy does not change Sign (see Part III)

## Phase Stability of Fe-Cr: Essential Role of Magnetism

- **Fe: Large Ferromagnetic Ordering Energy  $\sim 0.3$  eV/atom. Stabilisation of the ferromagnetic bcc crystalline structure versus:**
  - **NM fcc structure: high temperature crystalline structure of Fe**
  - **NM hcp structure: structure of the isovalent 4d (Ru) and 5d (Os)**



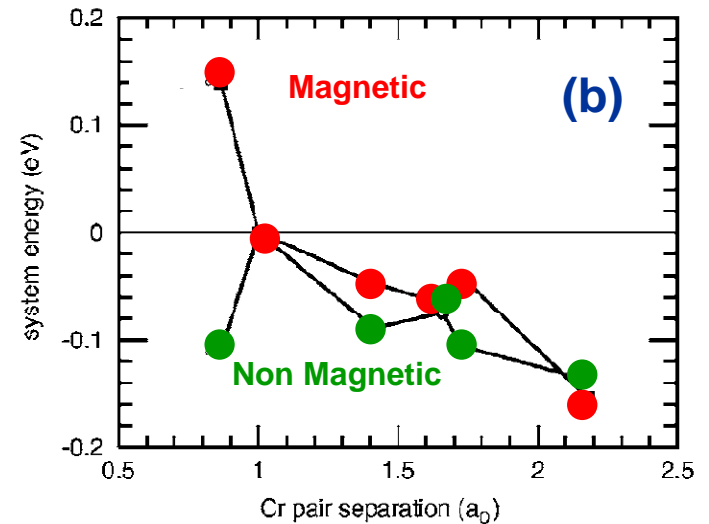
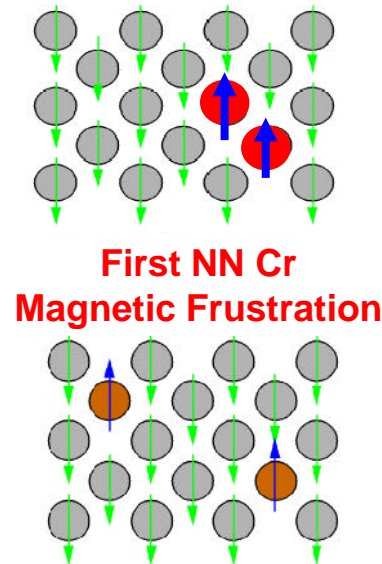
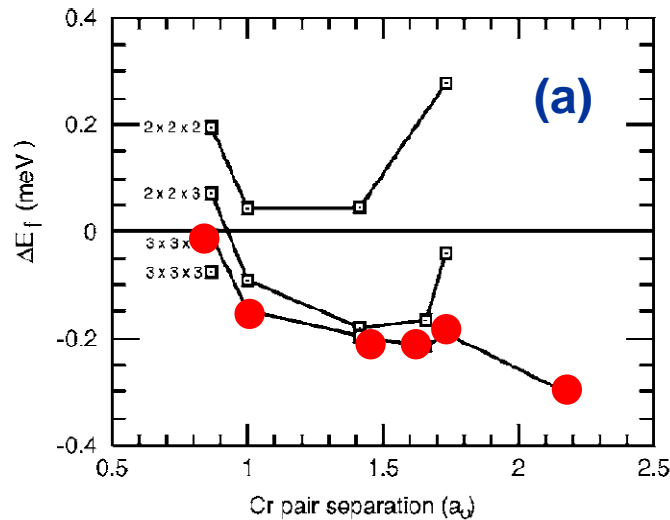
*G. Liu, D. Nguyen-Manh, B.G. Liu and D. G. Pettifor Phys. Rev. B71, (2005)174115*

- **Cr: spin density wave or anti-ferromagnetic ground state are matter of debate, with very small energy difference. Metallic impurities (Mn) are reported to stabilize the Anti-Ferromagnetic Magnetic (AFM) order:**
  - **The AFM-ordering energy is weak  $\sim 0.014$  eV/atom.**

*T. P. C. Klave, R. Drautz and M. W. Finnis Phys. Rev. B74 (2006) 094435.*

*R. Hafner, D. Spisák, R. Iorentz and J. Hafner J. Phys.: Condens. Matter 13 (2001) L239-L247.*

- Solution energy of Cr in  $\alpha$ -Fe is slightly negative:  $\Delta E^{\text{sol}} \sim -3 \text{ meV/atom}$



- (a) For a system with two Cr the highest energy is when both Cr are Nearest Neighbours (NN) and the system energy decreases monotonically with Cr separation by at least 0.3 eV:

Such an energetics maximize Cr-Cr separations favours ordering and the existence of solid solution and ordering

- (b) The nearest neighbour Cr-Cr repulsion is due to magnetism as it has completely changed in the Non Magnetic (NM) case.

Magnetic frustration is governing the solubility of Cr in Fe in the Fe-rich domain

*T. P. C. Klaver, R. Drautz and M. W. Finnis Phys. Rev. B74 (2006) 094435.*

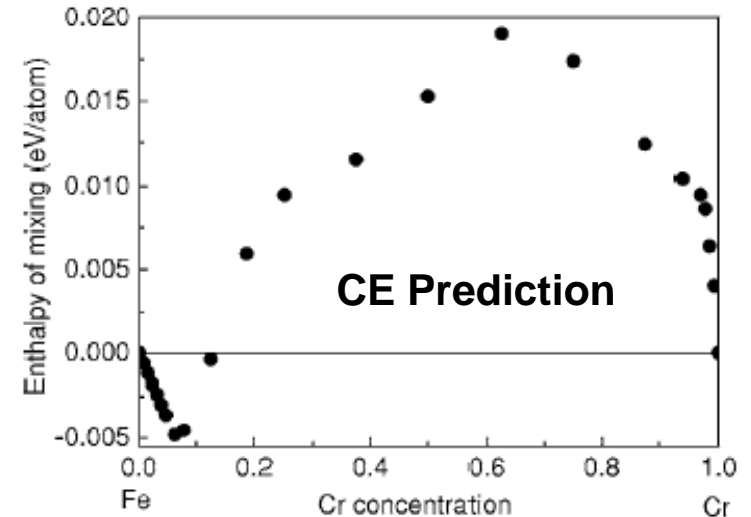
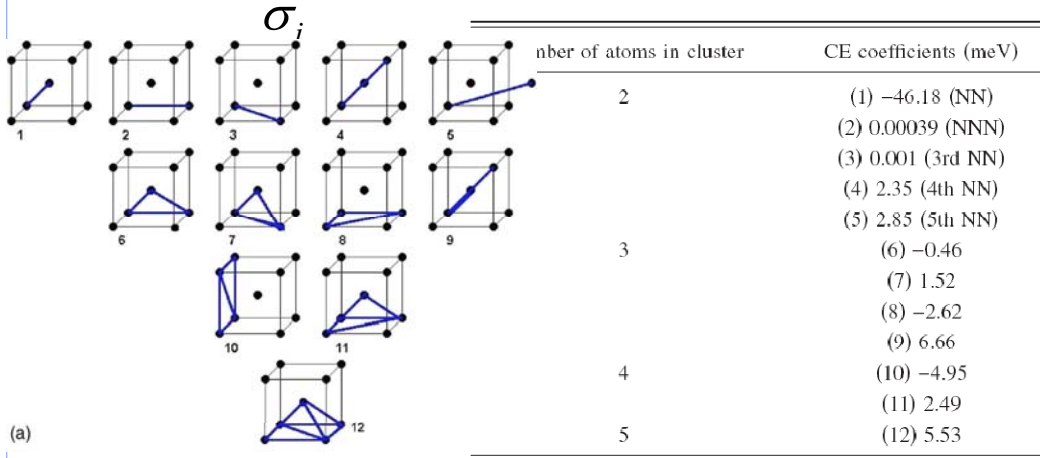
## Phase Stability in the Fe-Cr system (MCX & CE) (1) Cluster Expansion (CE) based on DFT calculation

- The Mixing enthalpy calculated ab initio can be mapped exactly onto Ising-like Hamiltonian:

Where :

$$E^{CE} = J_0 + \sum_{\text{sites}} J_i \sigma_i + \sum_{\text{pairs}} J_{ij} \sigma_i \sigma_j + \sum_{\text{triplets}} J_{ijk} \sigma_i \sigma_j \sigma_k + \dots$$

- $J_i$   $J_{ij}$   $J_{ijk}$  are an infinite set of effective interaction independent of the atom occupying the site  $i$ ,  $j$  or  $k$
- $\sigma_i$  is equal to 1 if the site  $i$  is occupied by a Fe atom
- $\sigma_i$  is equal to -1 if the site  $i$  is occupied by a Cr atom



With 12 clusters and CE  $J$  coefficients independent of the occupancy of the crystalline site:

DFT formation enthalpies (4x4x4 supercell) of **74** atomic configurations are reproduced with a predictive error  $\sim 7$  meV

*M. Yu. Lavrentiev, R. Drautz, D. Nguyen-Manh, T.P.C. Klaver and S.L. Dudarev Phys. Rev. B75 (2007) 014208*

- **Exchange Monte Carlo (MCX) allows:**
  - sampling the various configurations in system where configuration disorder is important like in Fe-Cr and
  - calculating easily enthalpies and variation of Gibbs free energy at thermal equilibrium
- **A random exchange between the different atoms of a pair is proposed. The decision whether to accept or to reject the move is made according the Metropolis scheme:**
  - If the induced energy change  $\Delta U$  is negative the change is accepted,
  - if  $\Delta U$  is positive the exchange is accepted with if the probability

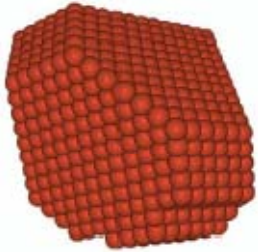
$$P = \exp(-\Delta U / kT) > r$$

$r$  is a random figure between 0 and 1

- **System handled can have a few hundreds of thousands of atoms:**
  - 40x40x40 bcc units cells (128,000 atoms), 60x60x60 unit cells 432,000 atoms or 80x80x80 unit cells (1,024,000 atoms)
  - with for each run a total of  $\sim 10^8$  exchanges
- **Mixing enthalpy versus T and Cr content**
- **Chemical potentials in the semi-grand canonical ensemble**
- **Clustering and Ordering behaviour**

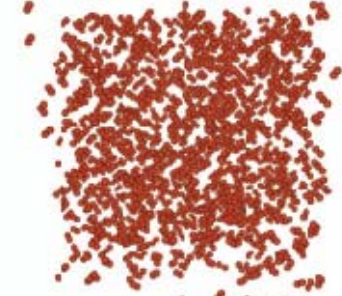
### Phase stability in the Fe-Cr system (MCX & CE) (3) Enthalpy of mixing and clustering

One large cluster

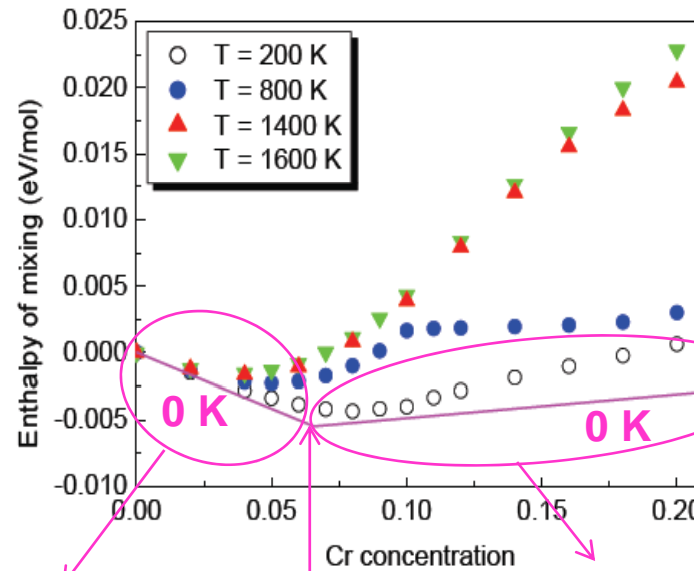


10 %Cr, 0K

No clustering



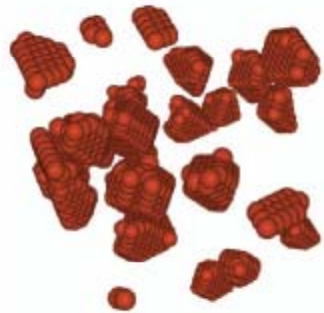
10 %Cr, 800K



Solid Solution Fe-Cr

Unmixing into Fe-6.25%Cr and Cr phase

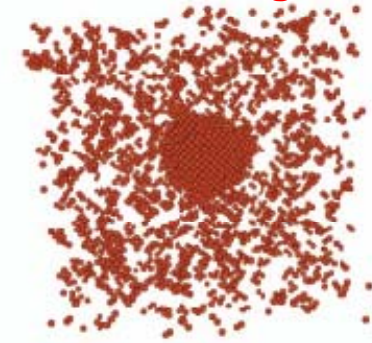
Clustering



10 %Cr, 200 K

Ordered Compound Fe-6.25%Cr  
8 Cr atoms in the 4x4x4 super-cell (128 atoms)  
Cr are not closer than 6<sup>th</sup> NN

Clustering



11 %Cr, 800K

M. Yu. Lavrentiev et al. Phys. Rev. B 75 (2007) 014208



## Comparison with experimental data: Short Range Order inversion in Fe-Cr

- Short Range Order**

- Described by the Warren-Cowley parameter  $\alpha_n(x) = 1 - \frac{P_n^{Cr-Fe}}{1-x}$

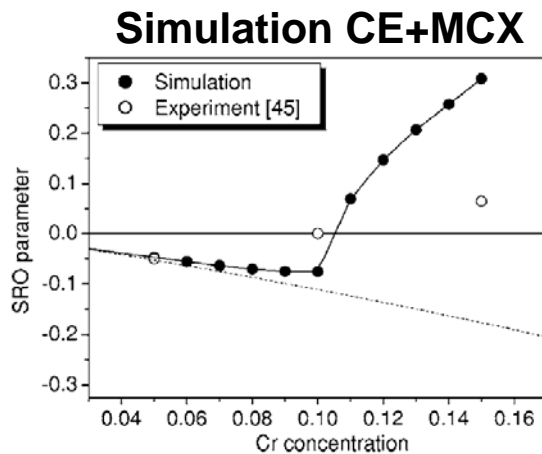
- $P_n^{Cr-Fe}$  Is the conditional probability of finding Fe atom in the N<sup>th</sup> coordination sphere of a Cr atom

- If no Short Range Ordering:  $P_n^{Cr-Fe} = 1 - x$  therefore  $\alpha_n(x) = 0$

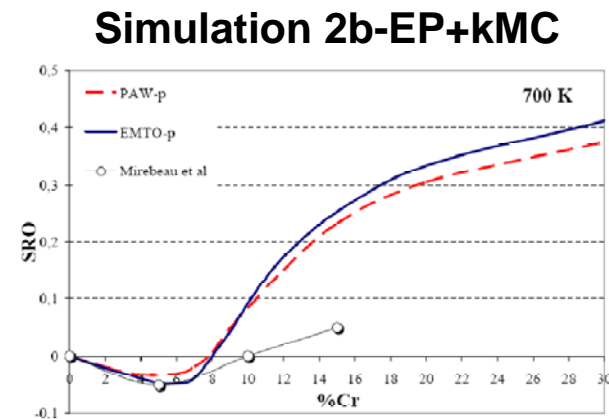
- If Cr clustering:  $P_n^{Cr-Fe} < 1 - x$  therefore  $\alpha_n(x) > 0$

- If Cr ordering:  $P_n^{Cr-Fe} > 1 - x$  therefore  $\alpha_n(x) < 0$

- Diffuse neutron scattering & electrical resistivity measurements showed that the SRO parameter change sign at 705 K around 10% Cr (\*)**



*M. Yu. Lavrentiev et al. Phys. Rev. B75 (2007) 014208*

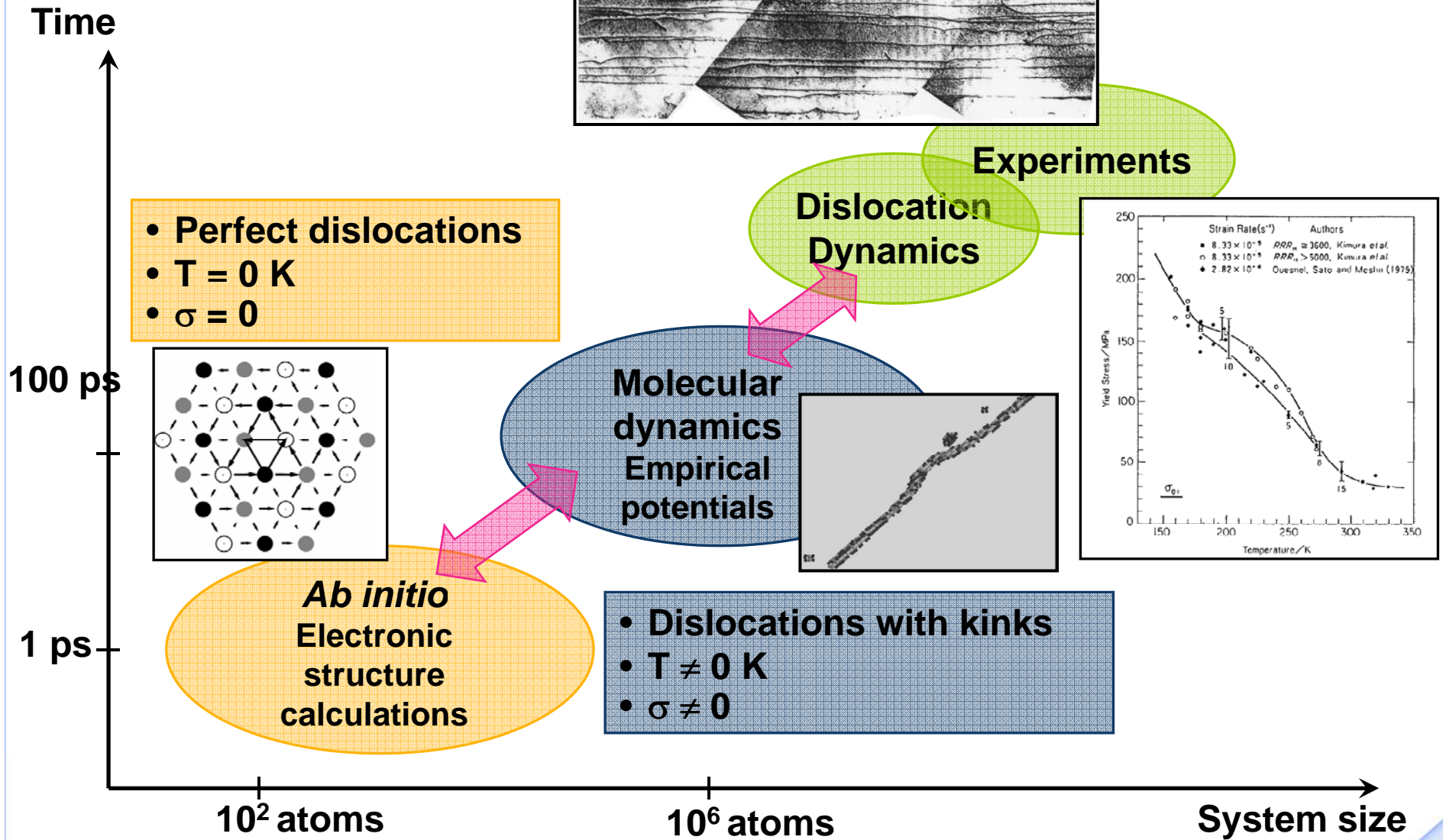


*P. Olsson, K. Nordlund and al.*

(\*) *I. Mirebeau, M. Hennion and G. Parette Phys. Rev. Lett. 53 (1983) 2351.*

# Modelling Dynamical Properties of Dislocations

# Multiscale modeling of Dislocation Coupling with experiments



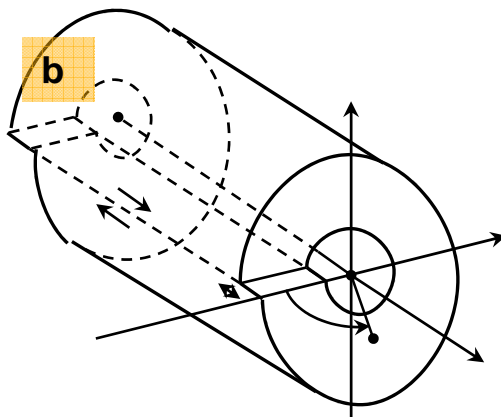
After F. Willaime SRMP CEA/Saclay

# Dislocations in bcc metals

## Elasticity Theory (1)

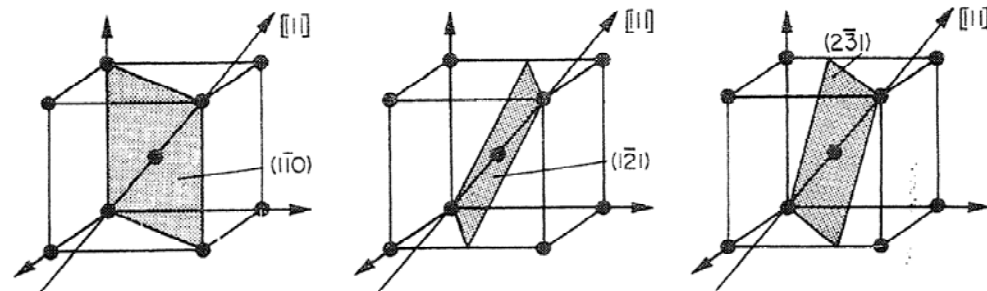
Screw dislocation:

**b** is parallel to the dislocation line



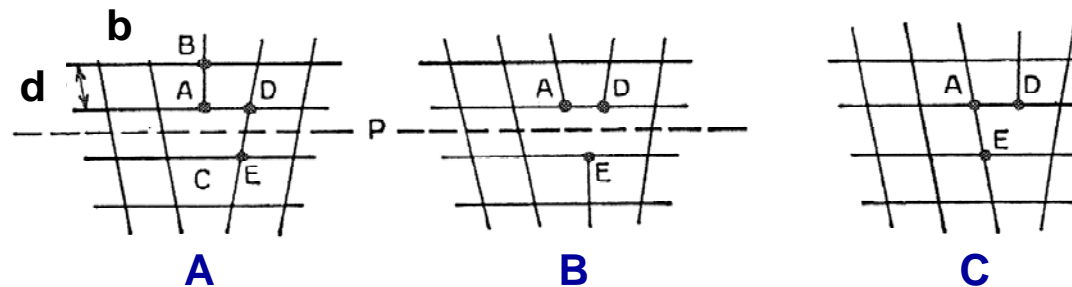
## Geometry and Crystallography

- The dislocation line separates two parts of the crystal (i) one has glided (ii) the other has not.
- The glide is defined in direction and value by the Burgers vector **b** equal to  $a/2\langle 111 \rangle$
- **b** can belong two three planes (110), (120) and (231), which are a priori possible glide planes



## Peierls Barrier or Peierls Nabarro stress

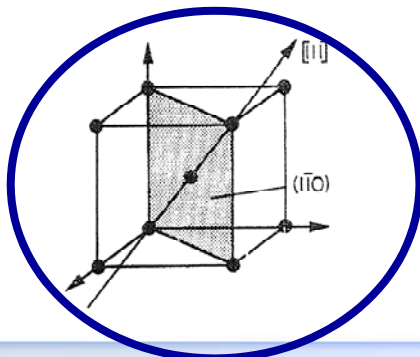
To move a dislocation as a whole from the equilibrium A to the next one C to overcome an enthalpy of activation per unit line  $\Delta W$  or a critical stress  $\sigma_{PN}$  characteristic of the position B



$$\Delta W = \frac{\mu b^2}{2\pi K} \exp\left(-\frac{2\pi d}{K b}\right)$$

$$\sigma_{PN} = \frac{2\mu}{K} \exp\left(-\frac{2\pi d}{K b}\right)$$

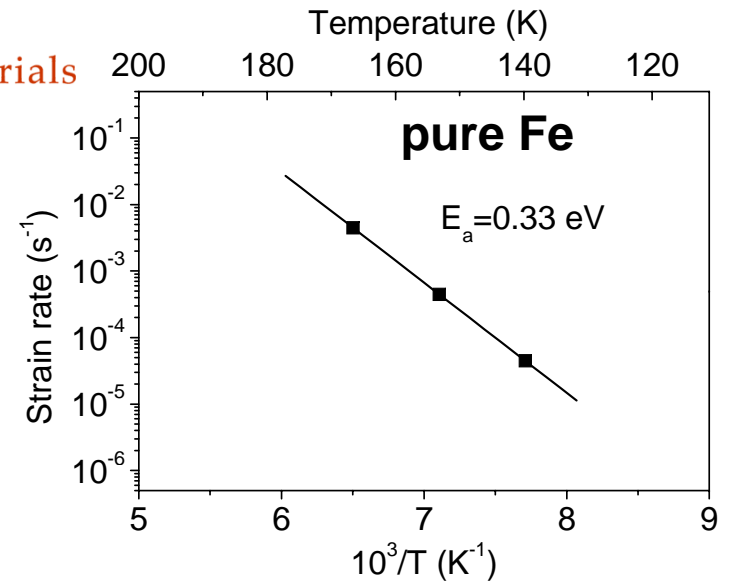
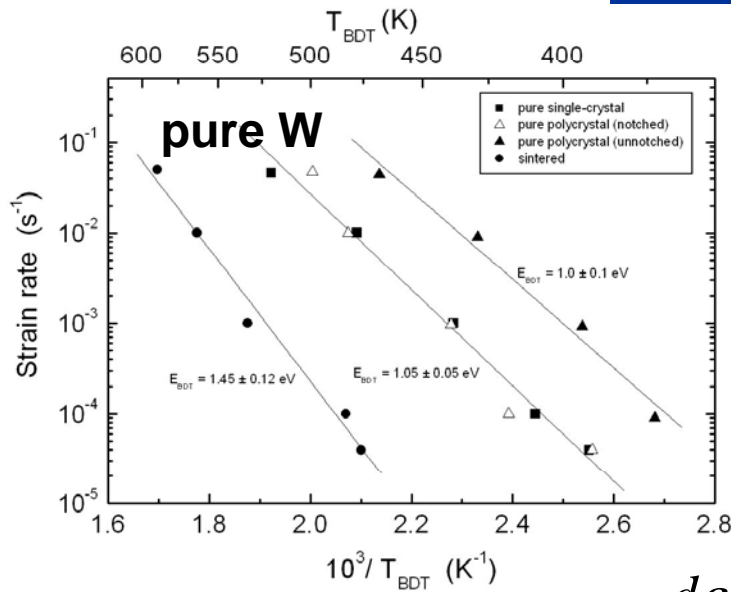
The  $a/2 \{110\}$  glide system is the most favourable in agreement with experimental observation in bcc Fe [a]



h k l	110	121	231
$\Delta W$ in meV per b	1.1	24	104
$\sigma_{PN}$ in GPa	0.14	3.2	14

[a] W.A Spitzig and S. A. Keh, *Acta Metall.* 18 (1970)611

# Dislocation Mobility and Ductile-Brittle Transition (DBT) Temperature

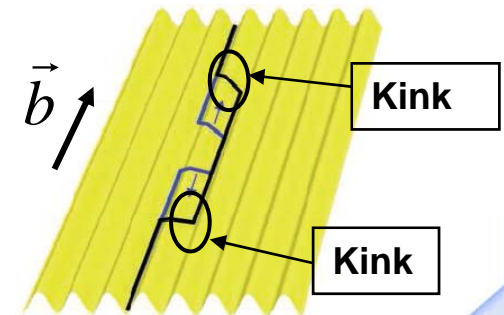


$$\frac{d\varepsilon}{dt} = A \exp\left(-\frac{\Delta H_{DBT}}{k \cdot T_{DBT}}\right)$$

$\Delta H_{DBT}$  is equal to the activation energy of the yield strength

$$\Delta H_{DBT} = \Delta H_d = H_{double.kink}^{formation} - \Omega \cdot \sigma \approx 0.5 H_{double.kink}^{formation}$$

	Fe	W
H (kink-pair) eV	0.8	2
$\Delta H_{DBT}$ eV	0.2 to 0.3	1.05
$T_{DBT}(10^{-3} s^{-1})$ K	150	475-525

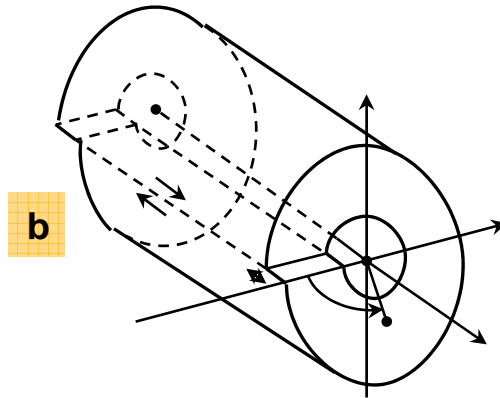
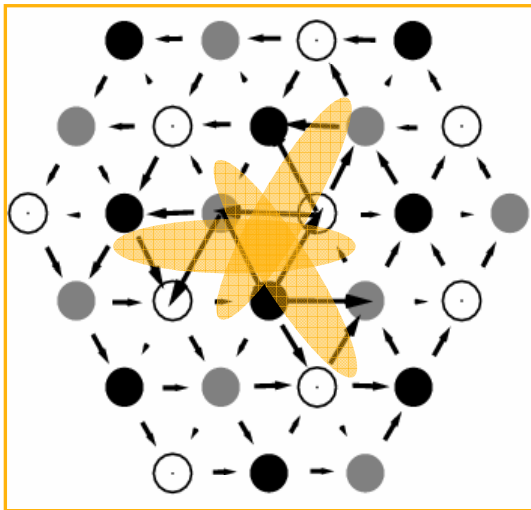


A. Giannattasio, M. Tanaka, T. D. Joseph and S. G. Roberts *Phys. Scripta* T128 (2007)87-90

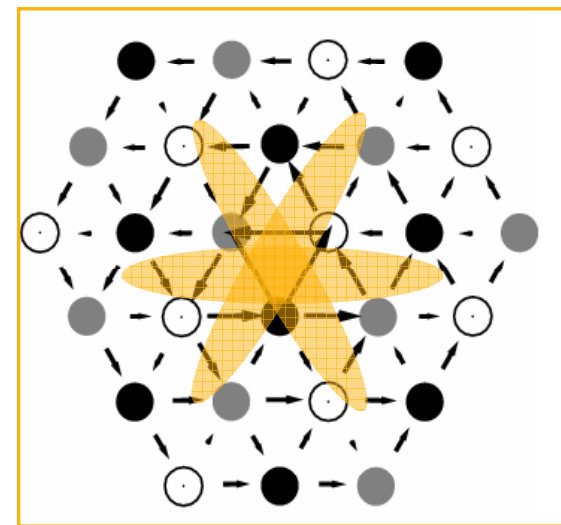
# Core structure of $\langle 111 \rangle$ screw dislocations in bcc metals

Lisa Ventelon & F. Willaime Invited talk ICFRM-13 Dec2007 Nice (F)

## Degenerate core



## Non-degenerate core



- Pair potentials (Vitek, '70)
- For bcc Fe:
  - Dudarev-Derlet (J. Phys. Cond. Mat. 2005)
  - Ackland (Phil. Mag. 1997)

- DFT in V, Ta, Nb, Cr, Mo, W and Fe
- Mendelev potential in Fe (Phil. Mag. 2003)

**Molecular Simulation of Fe screw dislocation with degenerate core :  $a/2 \{112\}$  is the glide system at odds with experimental results**

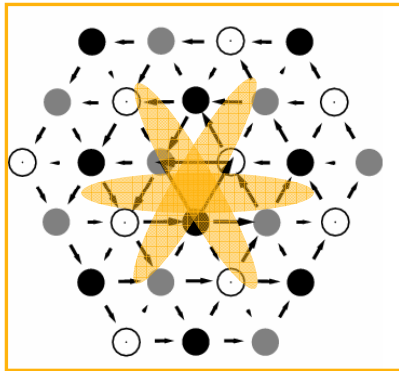
*J. Marian, W. Cai and V. Bulatov Nature Materials, Vol 3, March 2004, 158-163*

## Screw Dislocation in bcc Fe (3) DFT calculation of Peierls Barrier

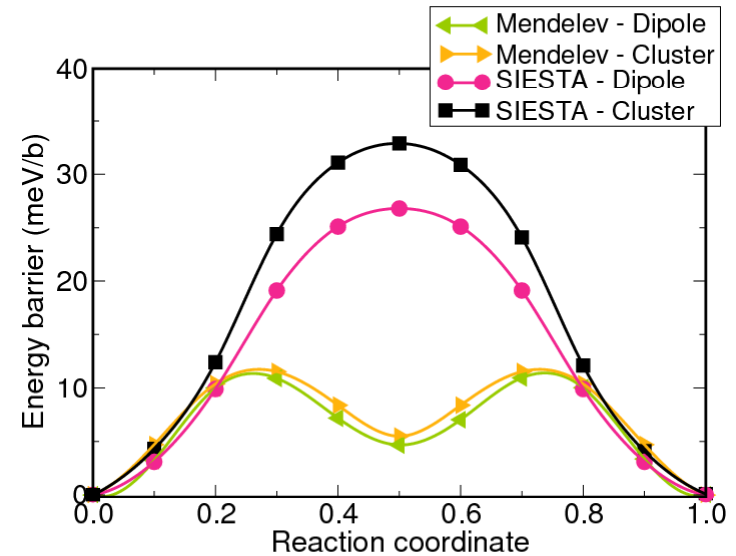
*Lisa Ventelon & F. Willaime Invited talk ICFRM-13 Dec2007 Nice (F)*

- Energy Barrier of a Screw Dislocation calculated ab initio with SIESTA and via MD with the Mendelev Empirical Potential [*M. I. Mendelev et al. Phil. Mag.83 (2003) 3977*]

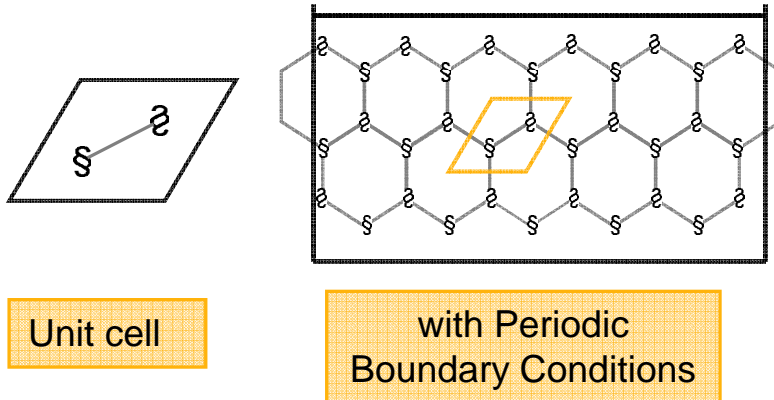
Non-degenerate core:  
MD & SIESTA



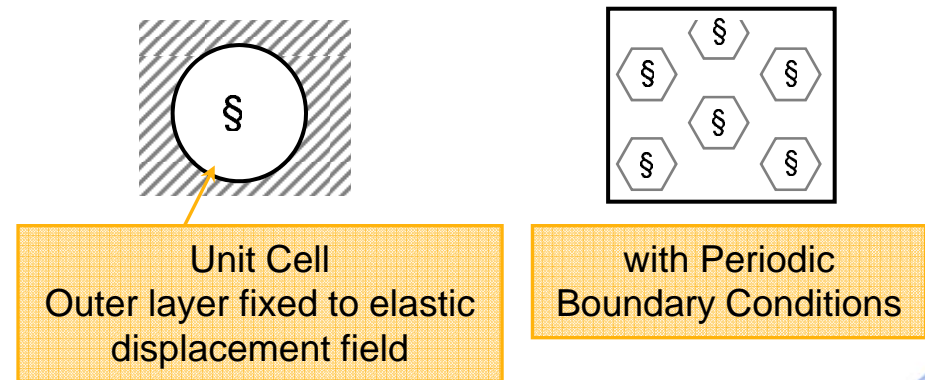
In agreement with other DFT calculations on bcc Fe by:  
S. L. Frederiksen and K.W. Jacobsen *Phil. Mag. 83 (2003)365*.



- Dipole Method as rationalized by Cai & Bulatov



- Cluster Method similar to Woodward et al.



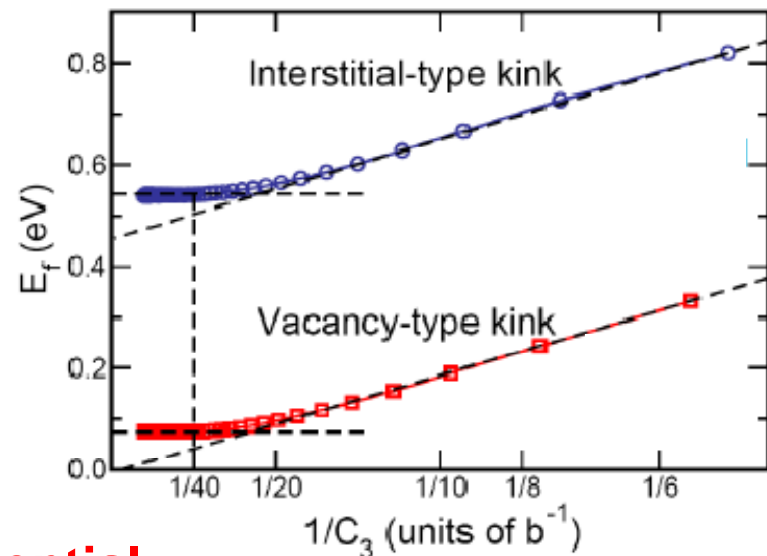
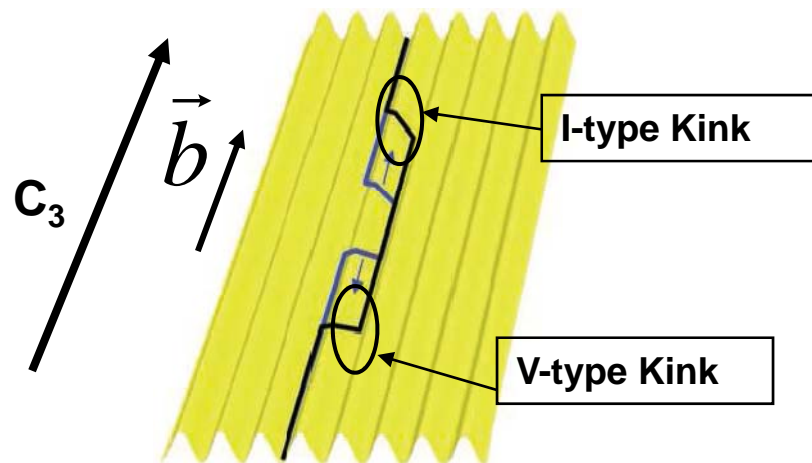


## Activity 4: Screw Dislocation at Low Temperature in $\alpha$ -Fe: (2) Kink Formation Energy

Development of a New Procedure for:

Dislocation Line Arrangement & Boundary Conditions to handle one type of kink V-or-I

Feasibility with Empirical Potential



**Empirical Potential:**

Feasibility & Convergence demonstrated for long enough dislocation line.

**Preliminary DFT results:**

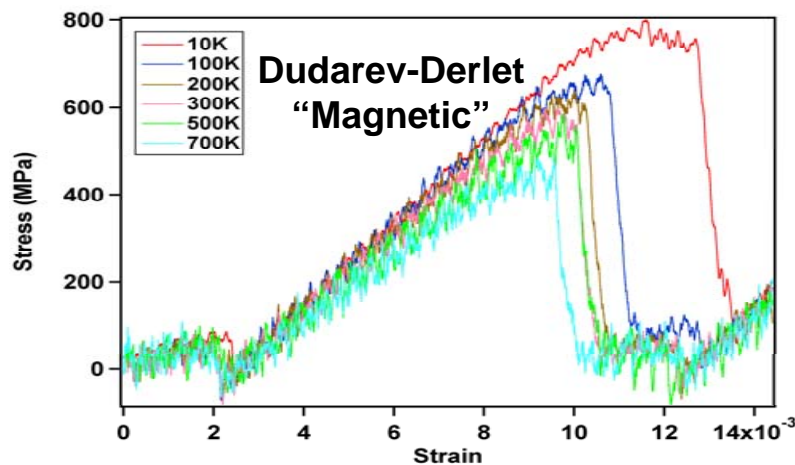
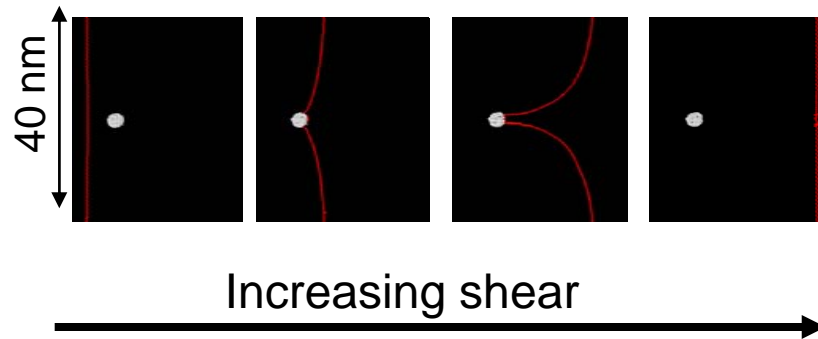
Calculation achieved with 63 atoms along the dislocation line,

Convergence obtained with 135 atoms.

Unpublished Work by L. Ventelon & F. Willaime

## Dynamical Properties of Dislocation: MD simulation of Hardening induced by He, and He-V-Clusters

- **Obstacle forces: 2nm void**



- **Molecular Dynamic Simulation**

- Strain Controlled :  $3 \cdot 10^7 \text{ s}^{-1}$  (60 m/s)
- T: 10, 100, 200, 300, 500, 700 K
- Simulation cell: 14 nm x 20nm x 20 nm

- **Obstacle strength ranking**

- He atom: negligible
- Void : strong obstacle
- He-V cluster:
  - Similar to voids:  $\text{He}/\text{V} < 5$
  - Stronger than void:  $\text{He}/\text{V} > 5$

*Robin Schaeublin et al. CRRP-EPFL (CH)*

# Conclusion

## Thank you for your Attention

***Comptes Rendus Physique***

**“Materials Subjected  
to Fast Neutron Irradiation”**

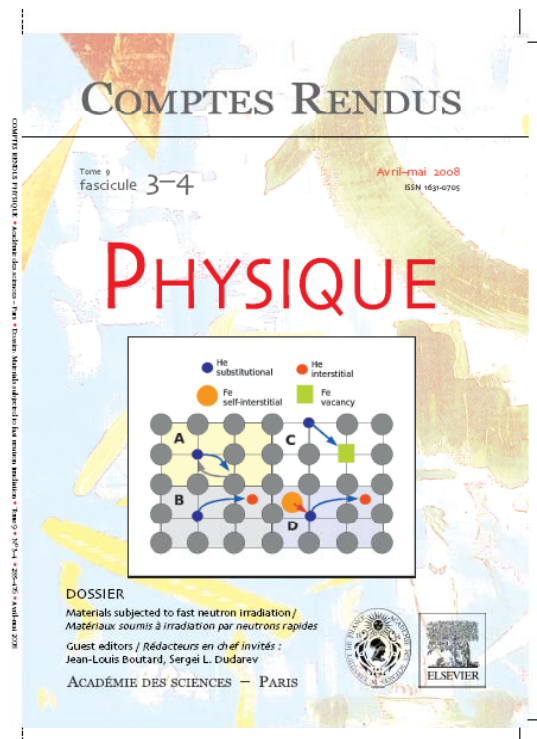
**Volume 9, n° 3-4, April-May 2008**

**Elsevier Publishers**

**(online on ScienceDirect)**

**Guest Editors:**

**J. L. Boutard, S. L. Dudarev**



# Thank you for your Attention