

# Interactions of X-rays with Matter - Scattering

NX School 2025, Argonne National Lab  
27 July 2025

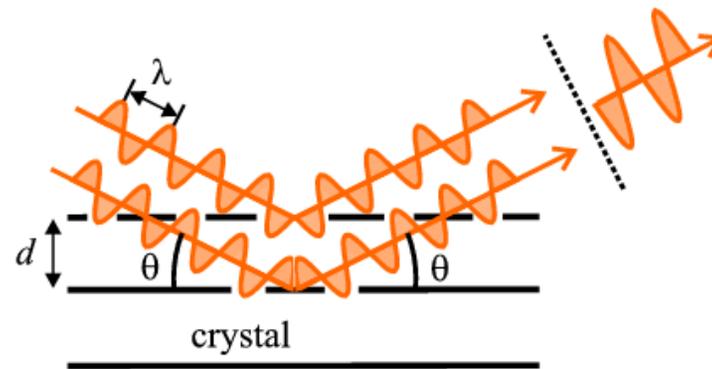
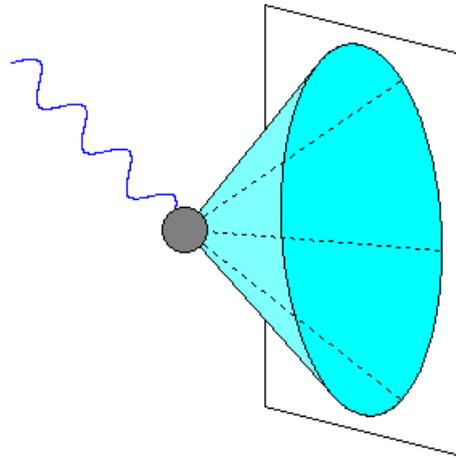
Ian Robinson

London Centre of Nanotechnology  
University College London

# X-ray Scattering Outline

- Powder diffraction methods “XRD”
  - Cora Lind-Kovacs’ lecture
- Surface diffraction and surface structure
  - Dillon Fong’s lecture
- Extension to Coherent X-ray Diffraction
  - Edwin Fohtung’s lecture
- XFEL study of thin film melting
  - Paul Fuoss’ lecture

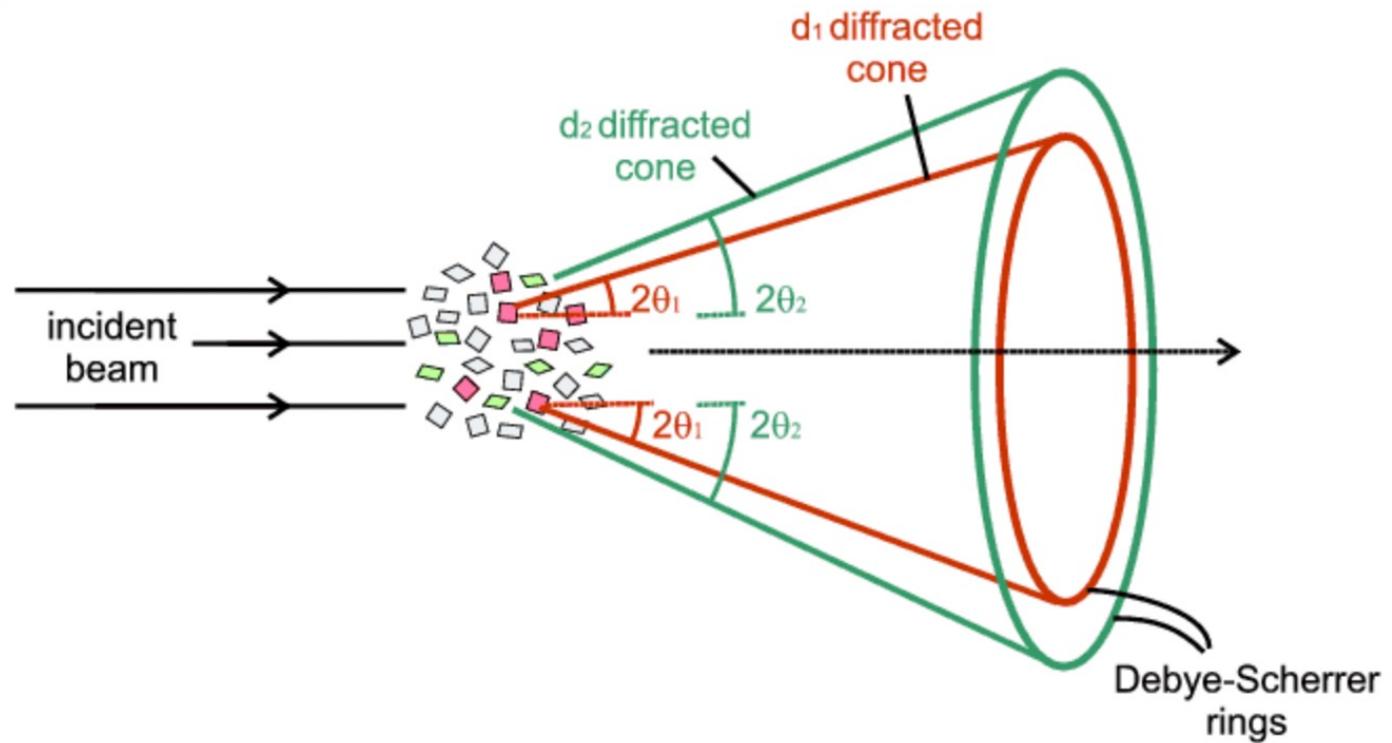
# X-ray Scattering vs Diffraction



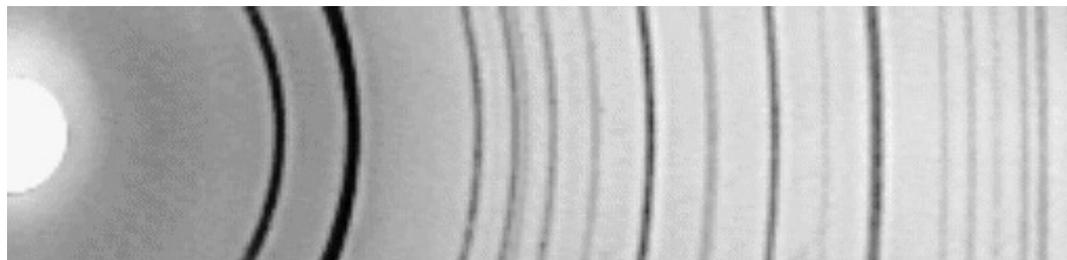
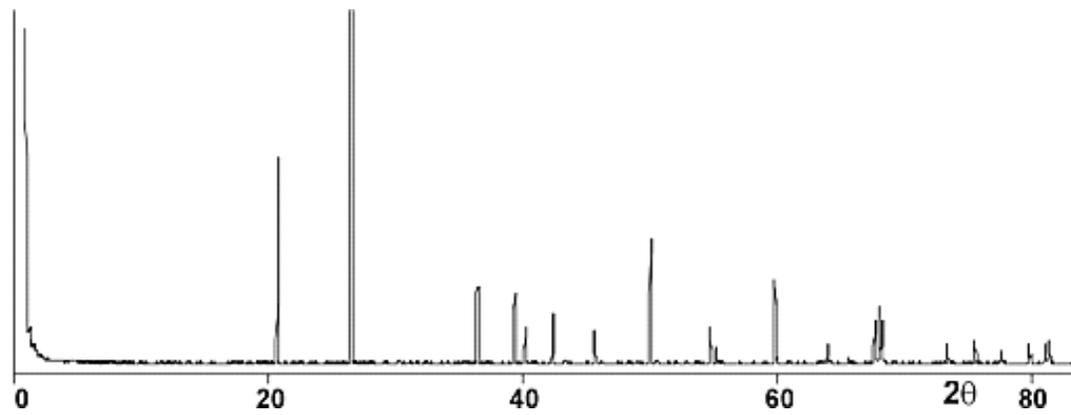
$$2d \sin \theta = \lambda$$

Bragg law

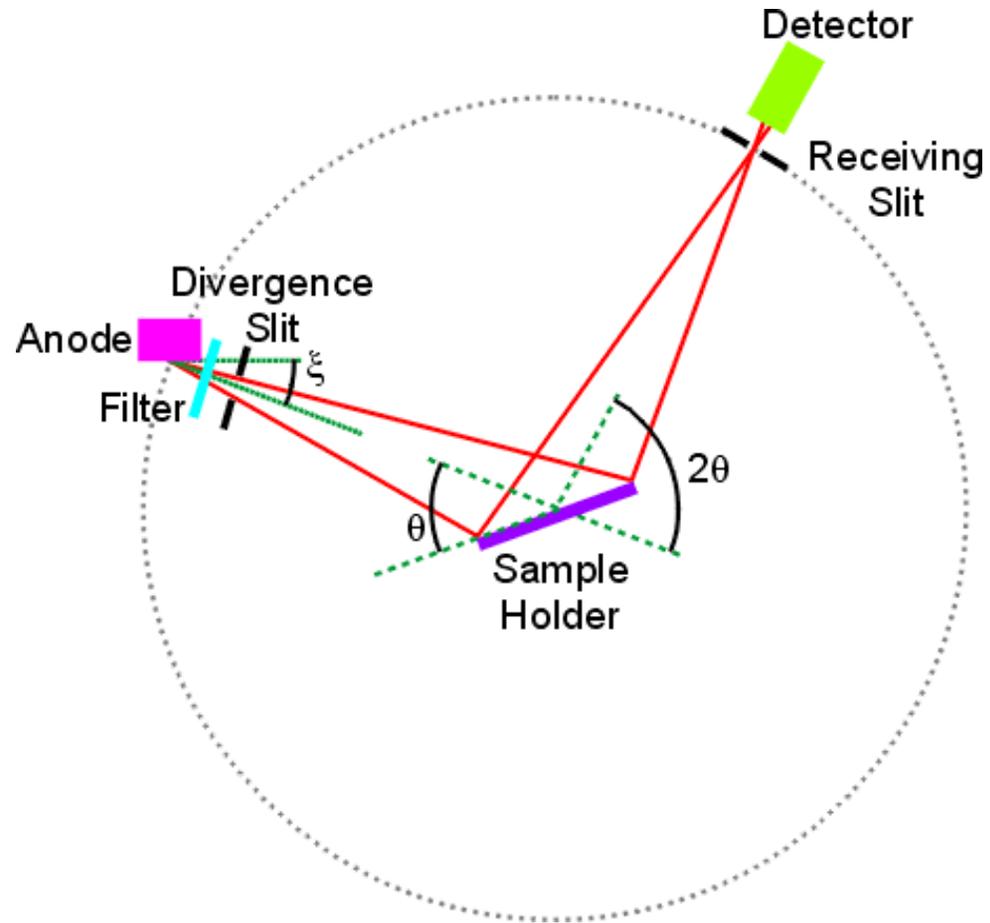
# Powder diffraction



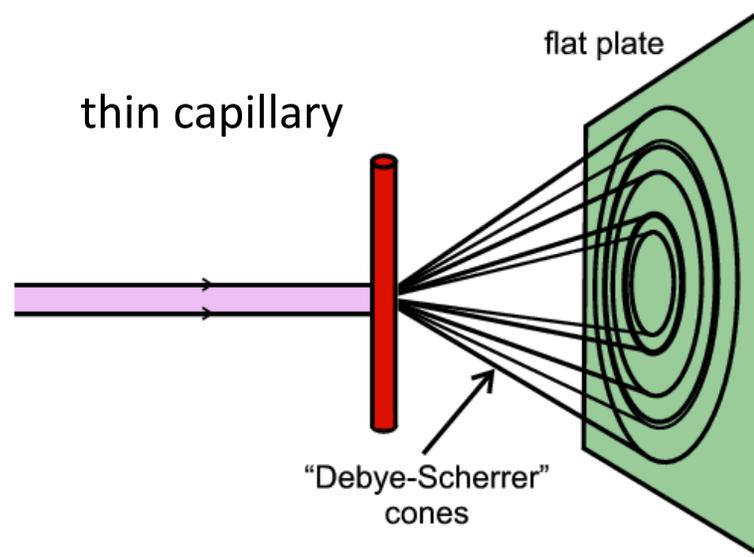
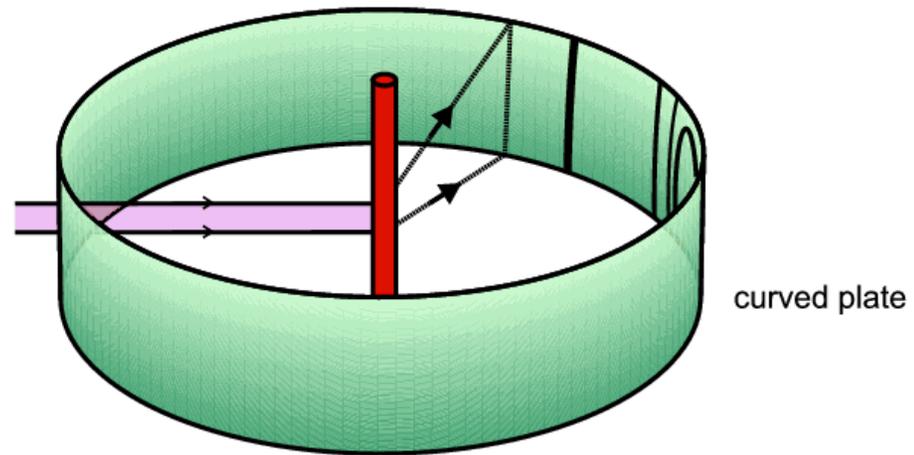
# Quartz powder pattern



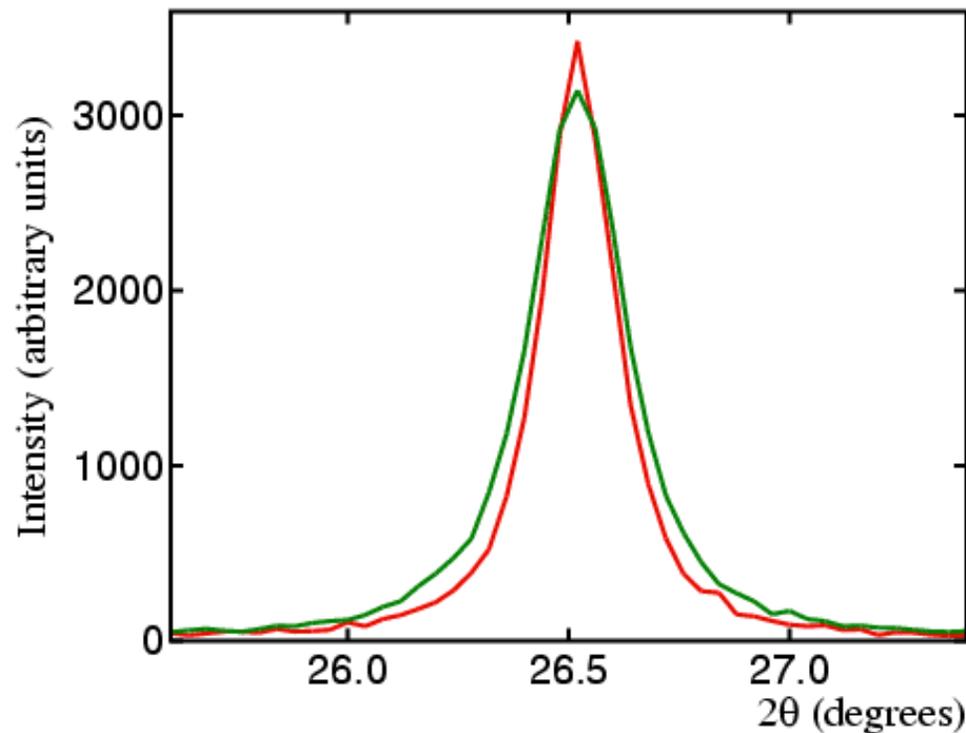
# Bragg-Brentano geometry



# Debye Scherrer method



## Size effect on lineshape



The Scherrer equation

$$\tau = \frac{K\lambda}{\beta \cos \theta}$$

$\tau$  = crystal size (nm)

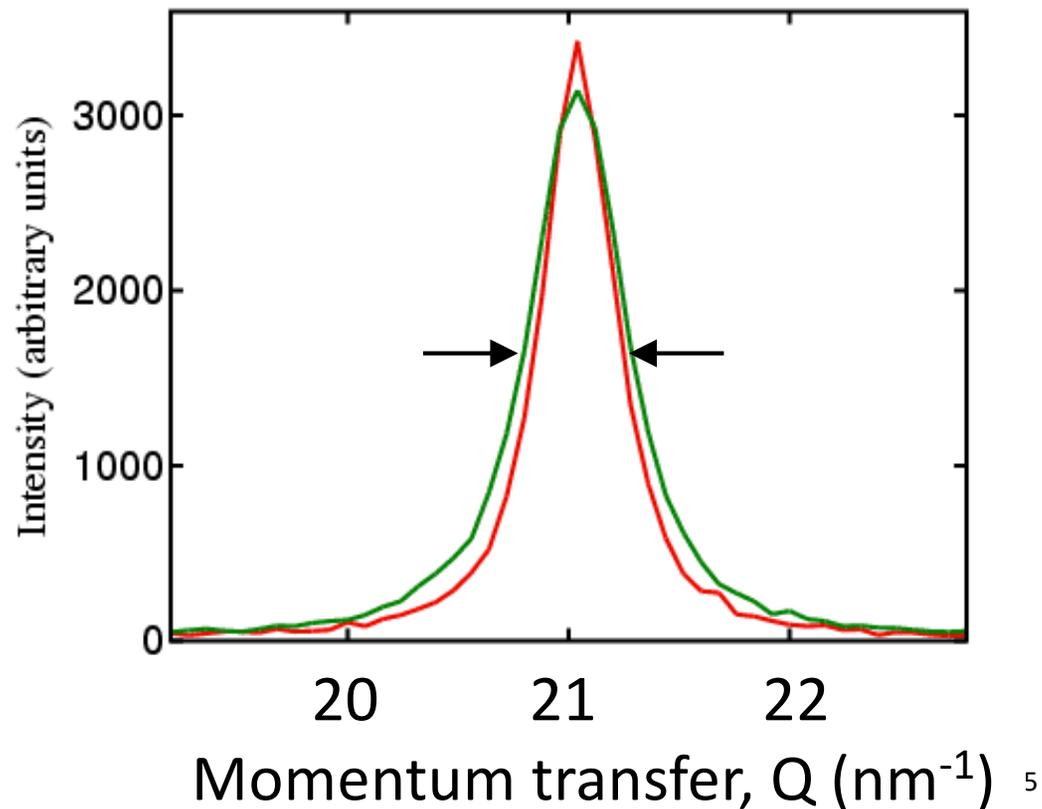
$\lambda$  = wavelength (nm)

$\beta$  = full width half max (rad)

$\theta$  = Bragg angle

$K$  = Scherrer shape factor  
= 0.94 for spheres

## “Physics” Notation may be Simpler



$$Q = k_f - k_i$$
$$= 4\pi/\lambda \sin \theta$$

$$\tau = 2\pi / \Delta Q$$

$\tau$  = crystal size (nm)

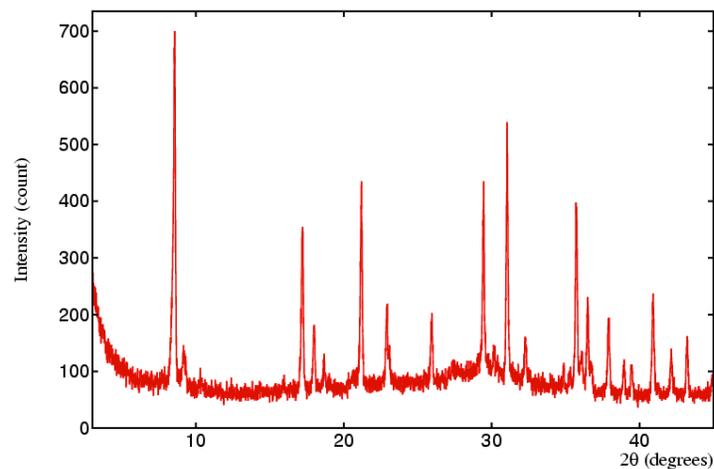
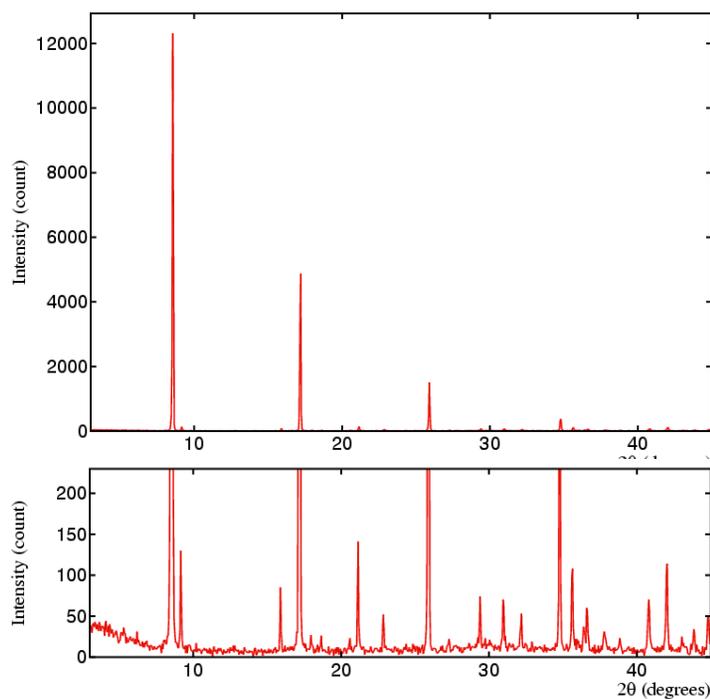
$\lambda$  = wavelength (nm)

$\theta$  = Bragg angle

$\Delta Q$  = full width half max

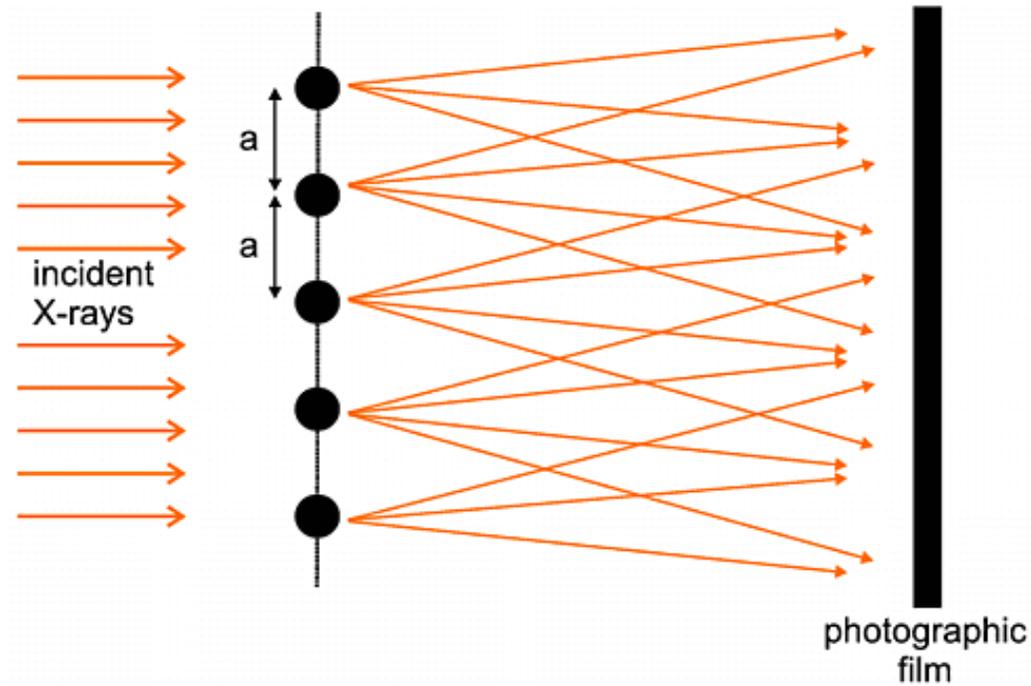
# Preferred orientation = texture

hydrated cement phase  $\text{Ca}_4\text{Al}_2(\text{SO}_4)\text{O}_6 \cdot 16\text{H}_2\text{O}$



left: flat plate holder  
right: capillary holder

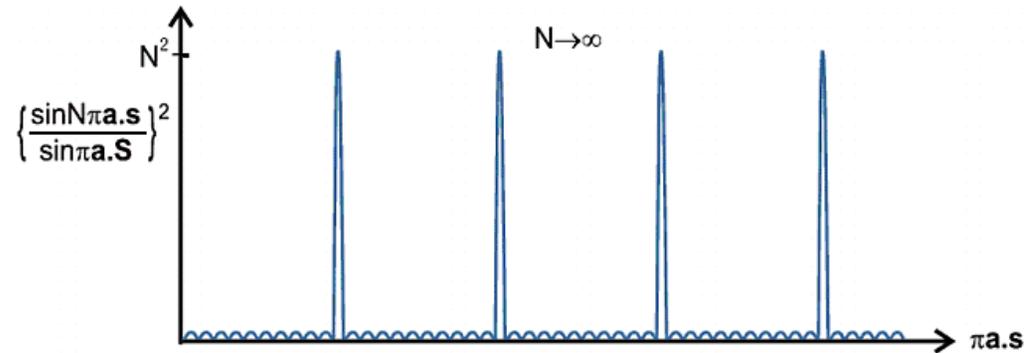
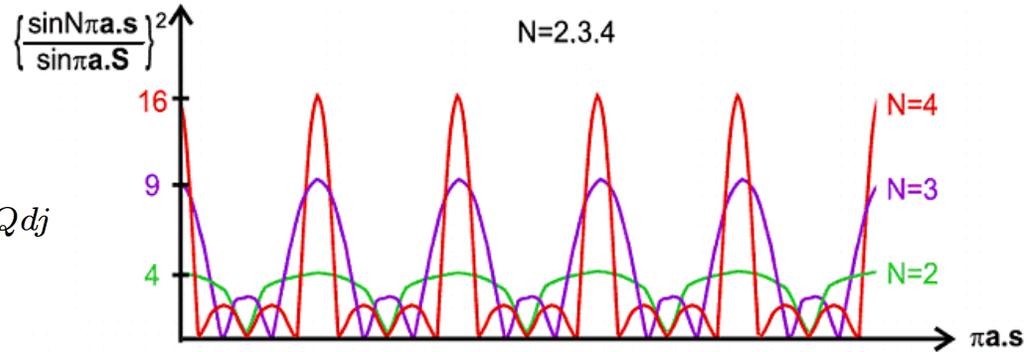
# Scattering from array of unit cells



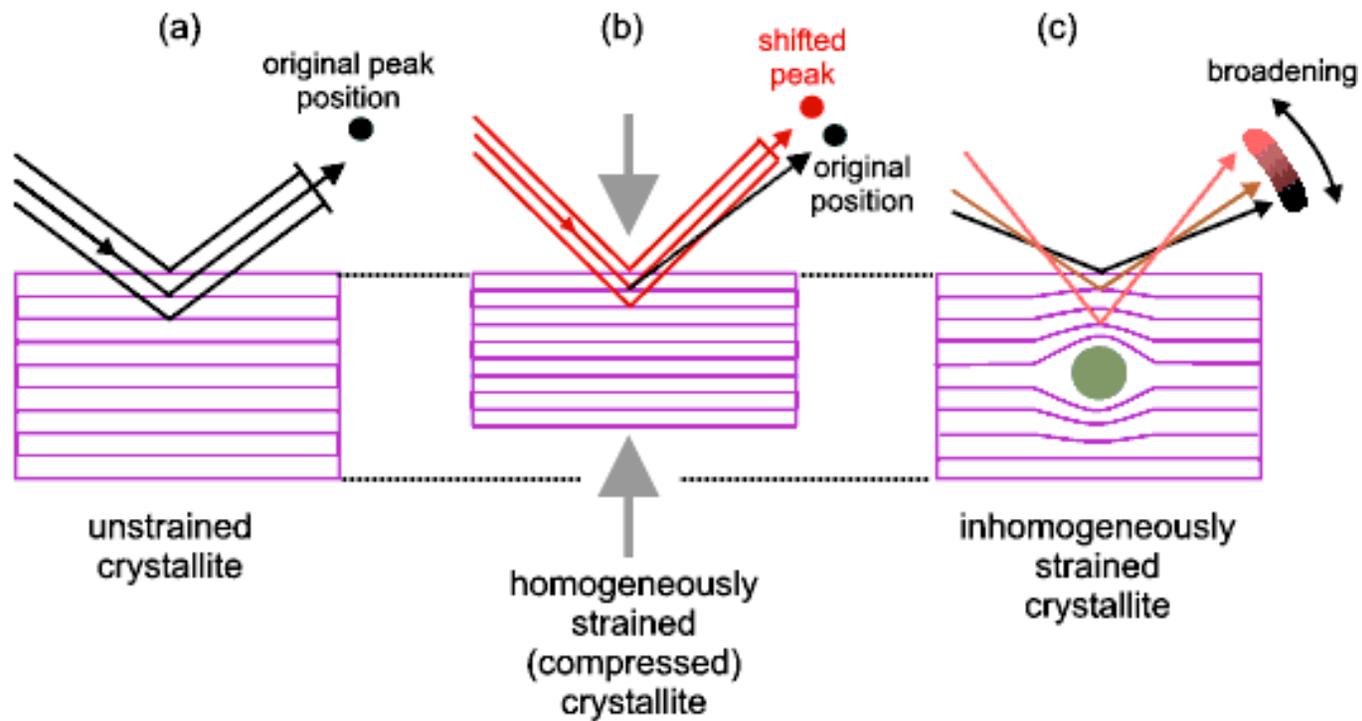
# Interference sum over unit cells

$$R_N(Q) = A \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} e^{iQdj}$$

$$= A \frac{1 - e^{iQdN}}{1 - e^{iQd}}$$



# Effect of Strain on Diffraction



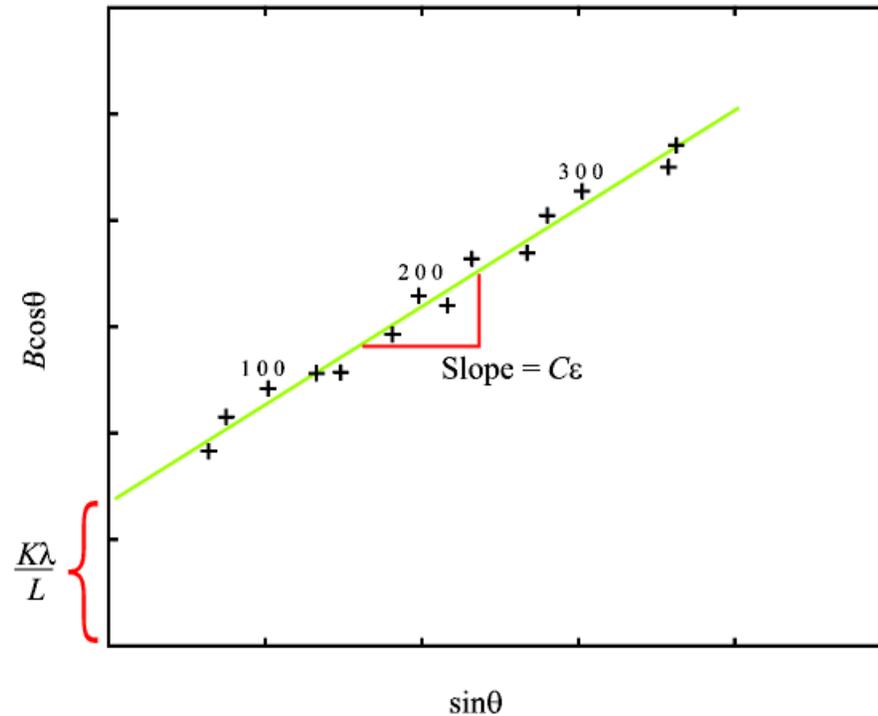
# G.K.Williamson and W.H.Hall Acta Metall. 1, 22-31 (1953)

Scherrer equation

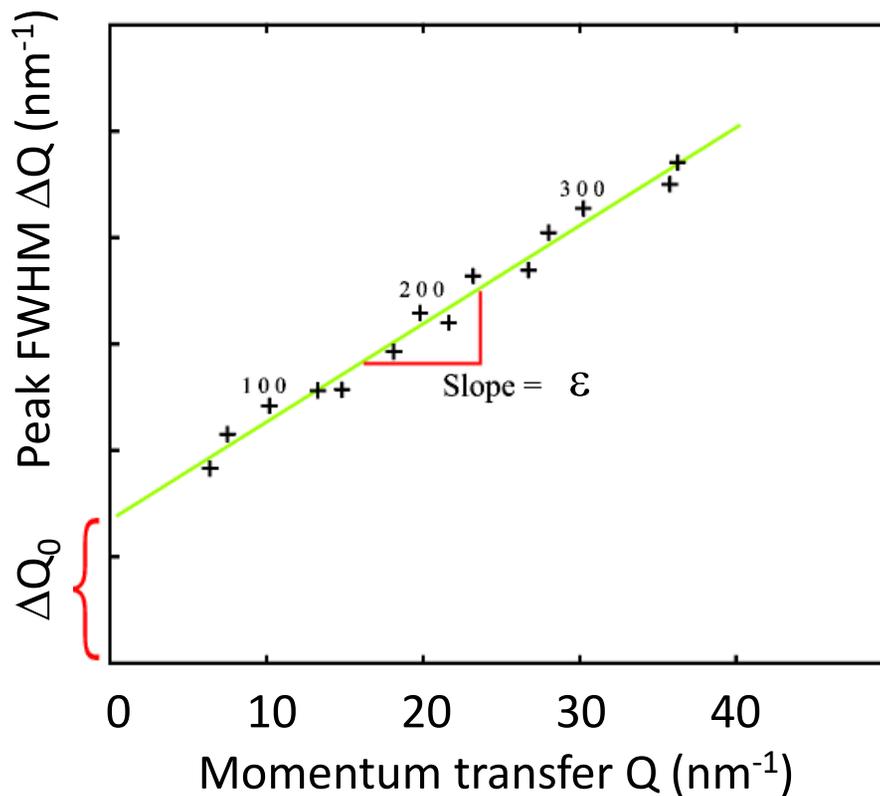
$$\beta_L = \frac{K\lambda}{L \cos\theta}$$

$$\beta_e = C\epsilon \tan\theta$$

$$\beta_{\text{tot}} = \beta_e + \beta_L = C\epsilon \tan\theta + \frac{K\lambda}{L \cos\theta}$$



# W-H Size-Strain in “Physics” Notation



$$Q = k_f - k_i \\ = 4\pi/\lambda \sin \theta$$

$$\tau = 2\pi / \Delta Q_0 = \text{size}$$

$$\tau = \text{crystal size (nm)}$$

$$\lambda = \text{wavelength (nm)}$$

$$\theta = \text{Bragg angle}$$

$$\Delta Q = \text{full width half max}$$

$$\epsilon = \delta d/d = \text{“microstrain”} \\ = \text{range of local strains}$$

# Scattering Outline

- Powder diffraction methods “XRD”
- Surface diffraction and surface structure
- Extension to Coherent X-ray Diffraction
- XFEL study of thin film melting

# First UHV Experiments (1981)

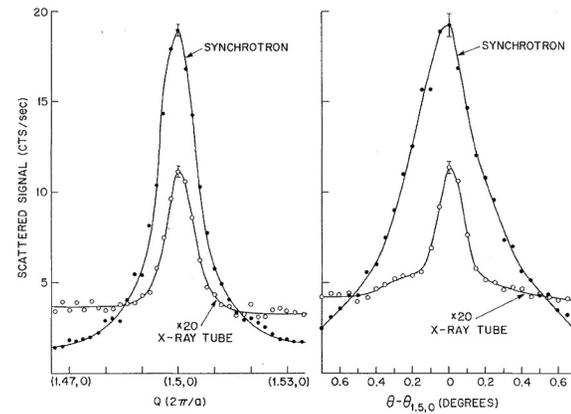
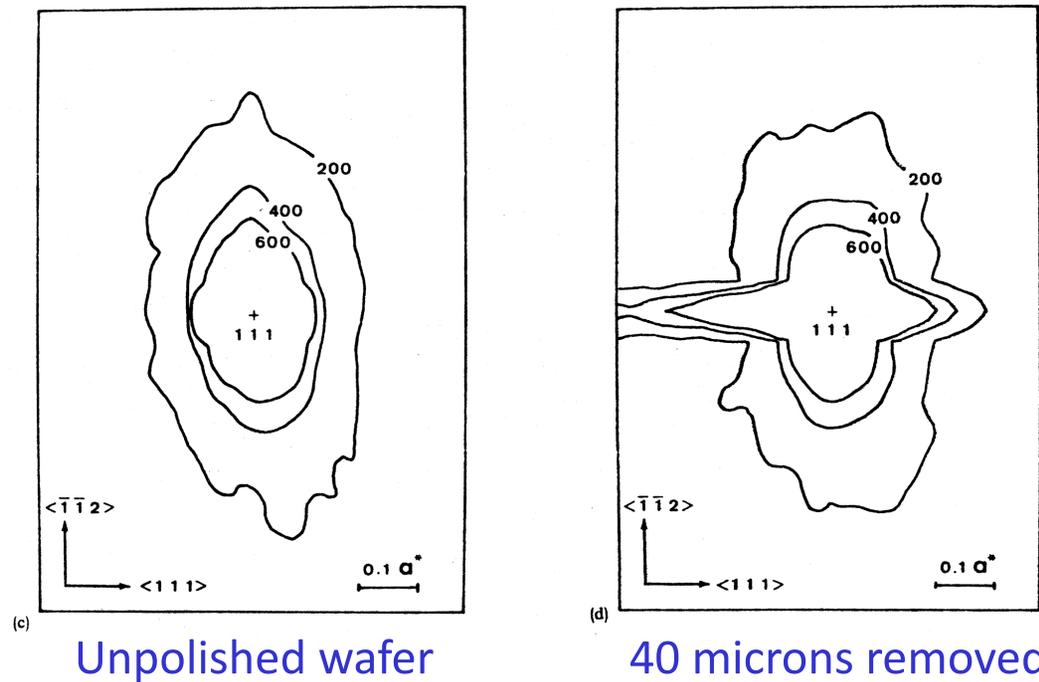


FIG. 1. A plot of the  $(\frac{3}{2}, 0)$  Bragg reflection as a function of the momentum transfer  $Q(2\pi/a)$  and the crystal's mosaic spread (deg).

P. Eisenberger and W. C. Marra,  
PRL **46** 1081 (1981)  
experiments done at SSRL

# Diffuse Scattering from Si Wafer



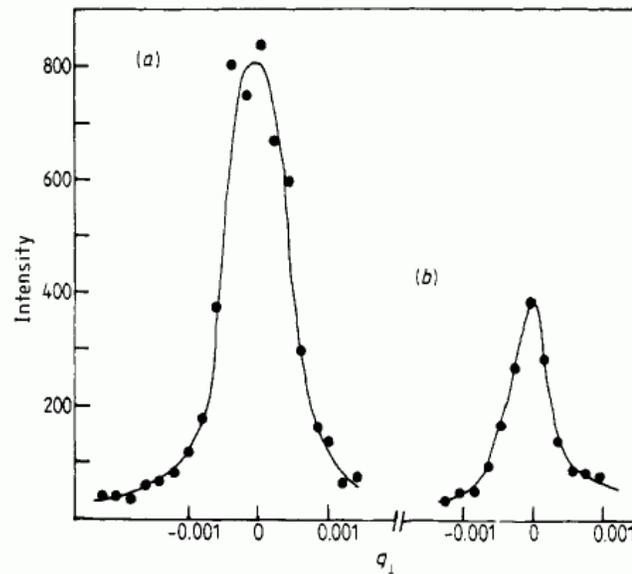
N. Kashiwagara, J. Harada and M. Ogino, J. Appl. Phys 54 2706 (1983)

# Scattering of X-rays From Crystal Surfaces

S. R. Andrews and R. A. Cowley JPCM **18** 6427 (1985)

Scattering of x-rays from crystal surfaces

6433

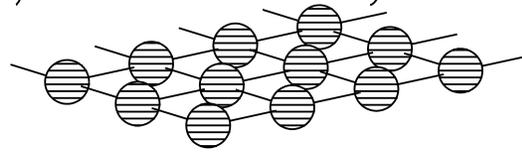


**Figure 1.** The intensity of scattering, as a function of  $q_1$ , (a) for  $Q = (0, 0, 4.005)$  (vertical scale in counts per 2 s) and (b)  $Q = (0, 0, 4.025)$  (vertical scale in counts per 300 s) in the GaAs sample with an (001) surface corresponding to figure 2, curve B.

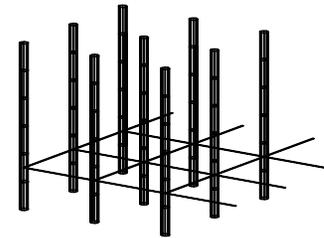
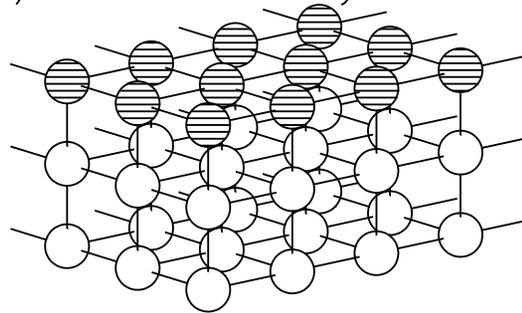


# Crystal Truncation Rods (1986)

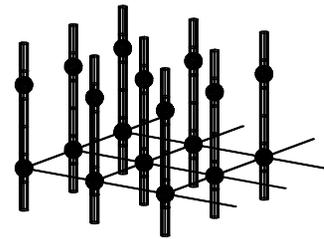
a) Isolated Monolayer



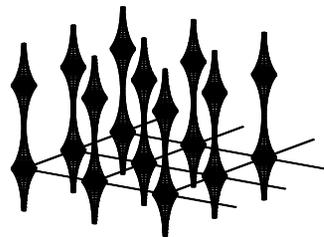
b) Surface of Crystal



2D  
LAYER  
ONLY

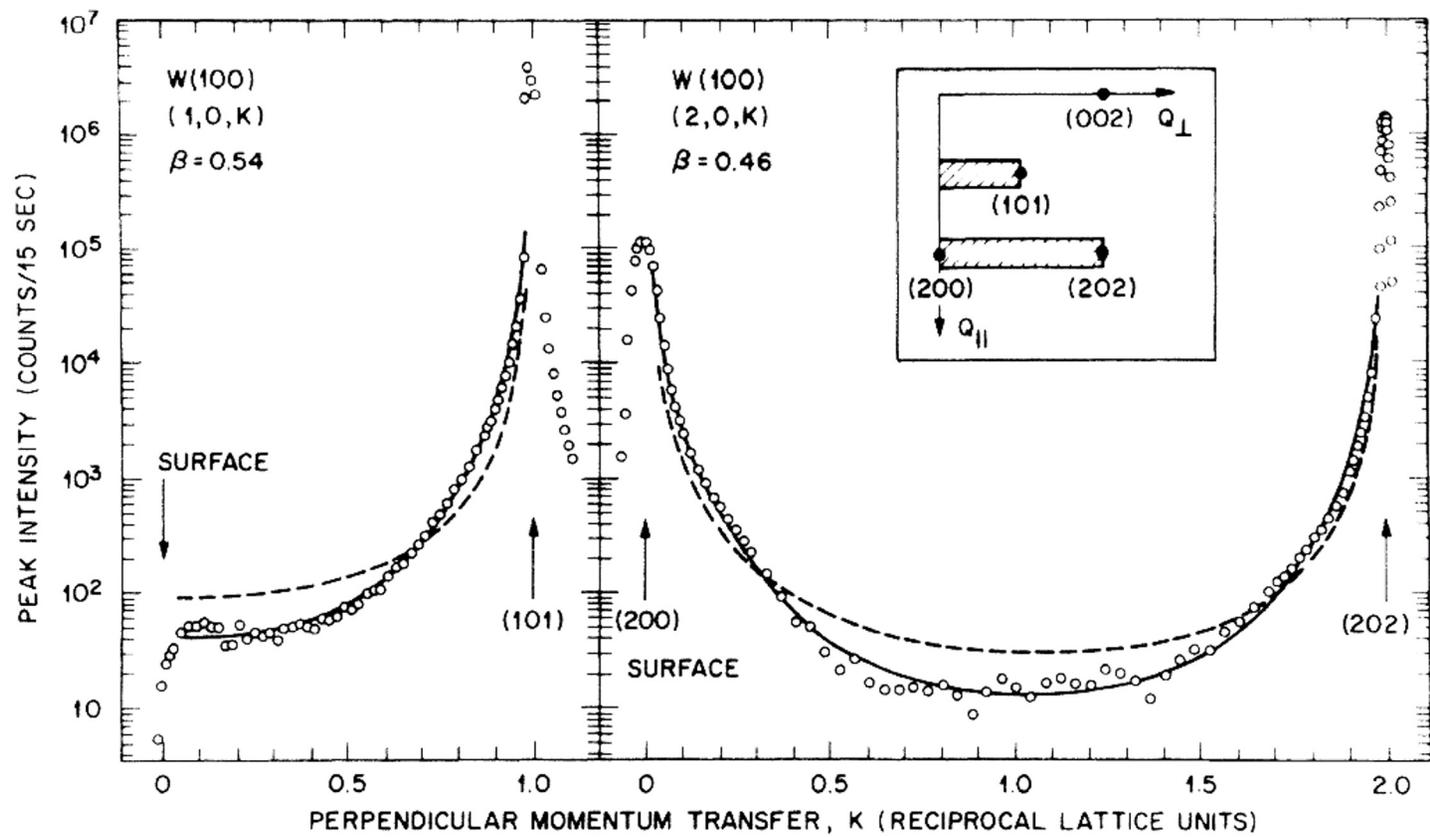


BULK  
CRYSTAL  
AND 2D  
LAYER

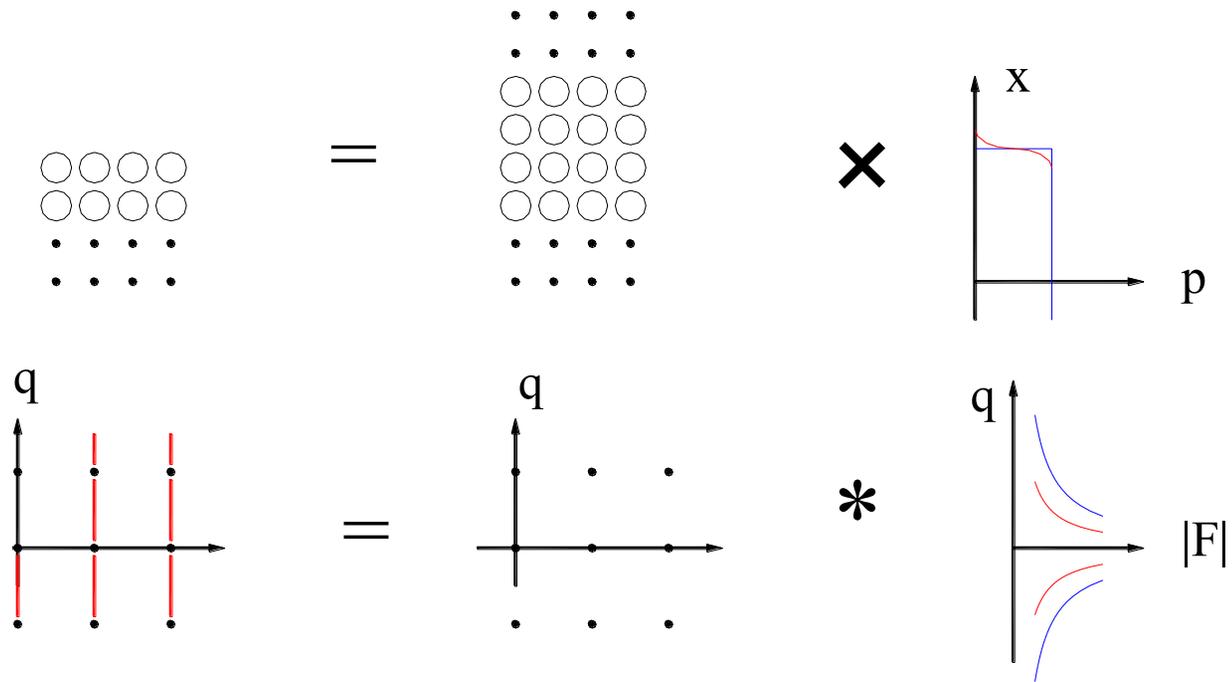


CRYSTAL  
TRUNCATION  
RODS

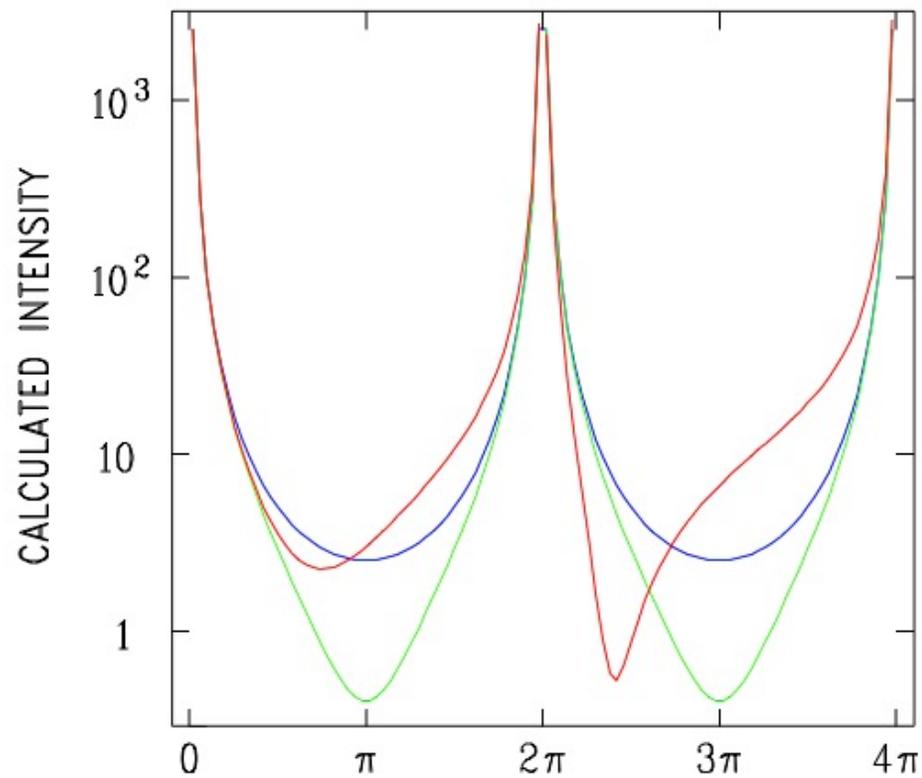
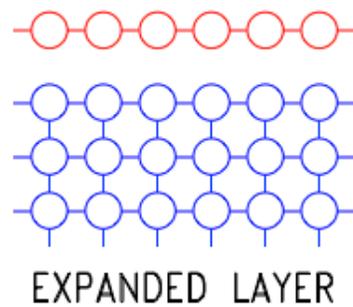
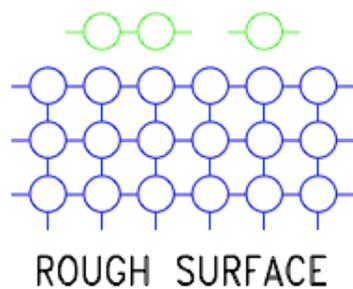
## CRYSTAL TRUNCATION RODS AND SURFACE ROUGHNESS



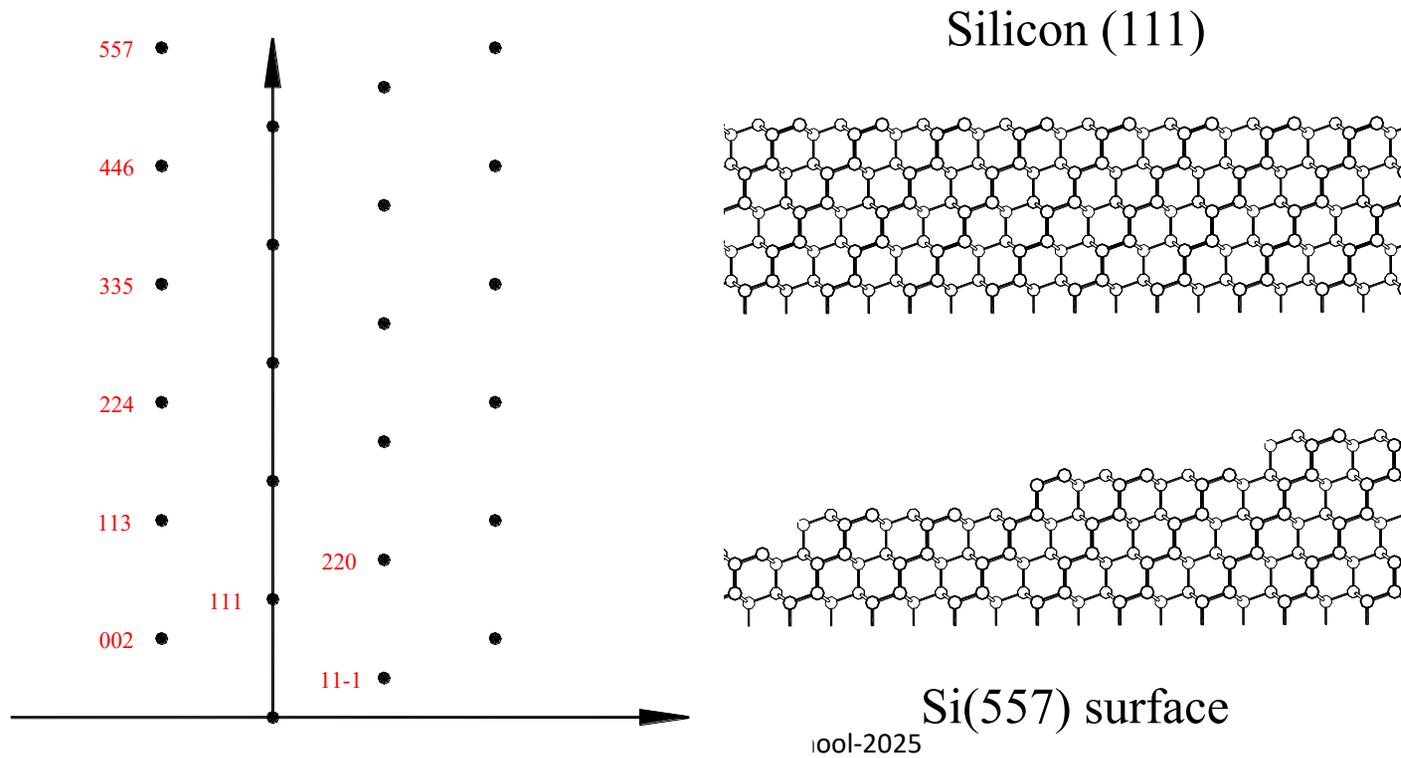
# CTR as Convolution



# CTR is Sensitive to Surface Structure



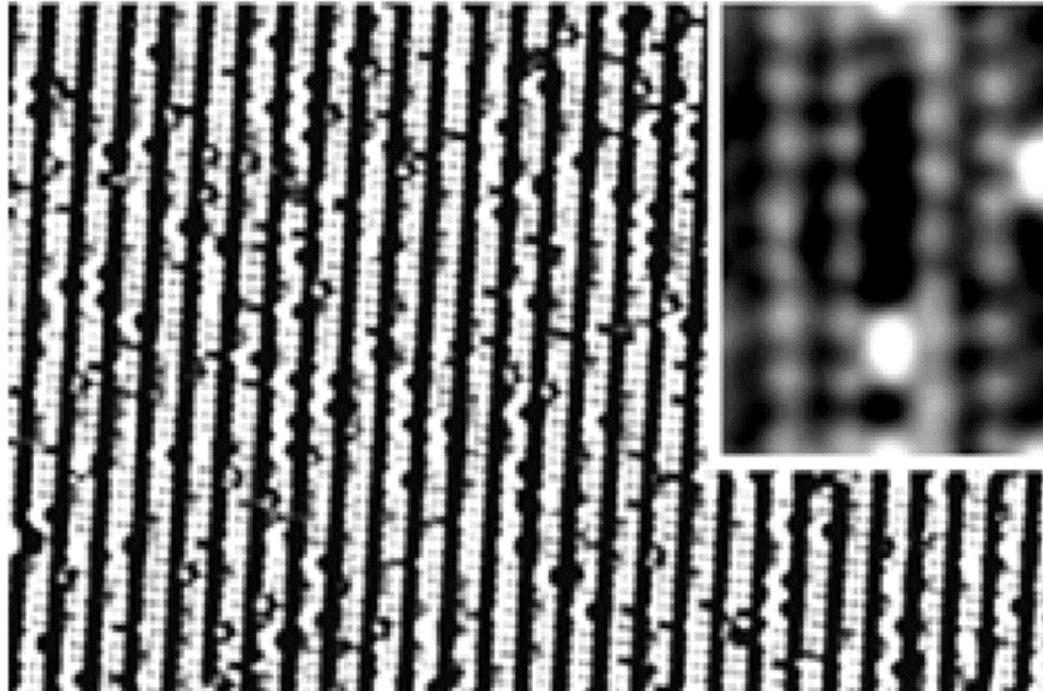
# Crystallography of Stepped Surfaces



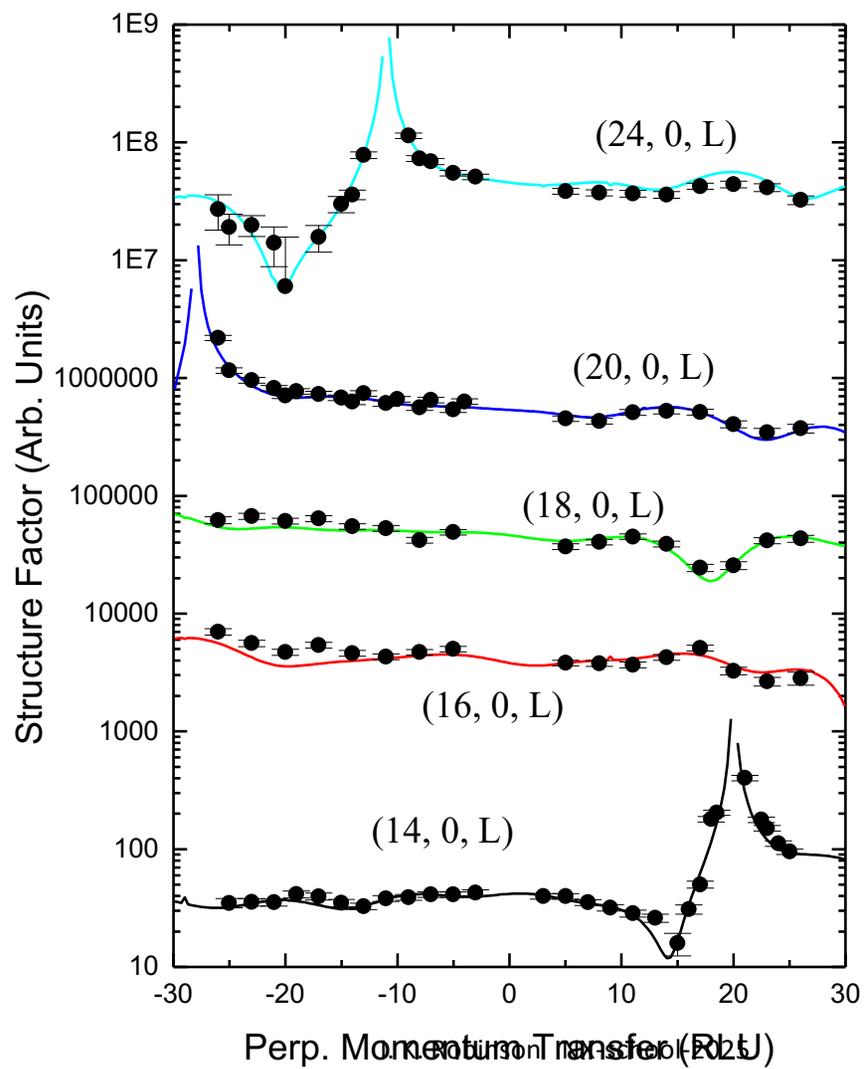
# Si(557) coated with Au

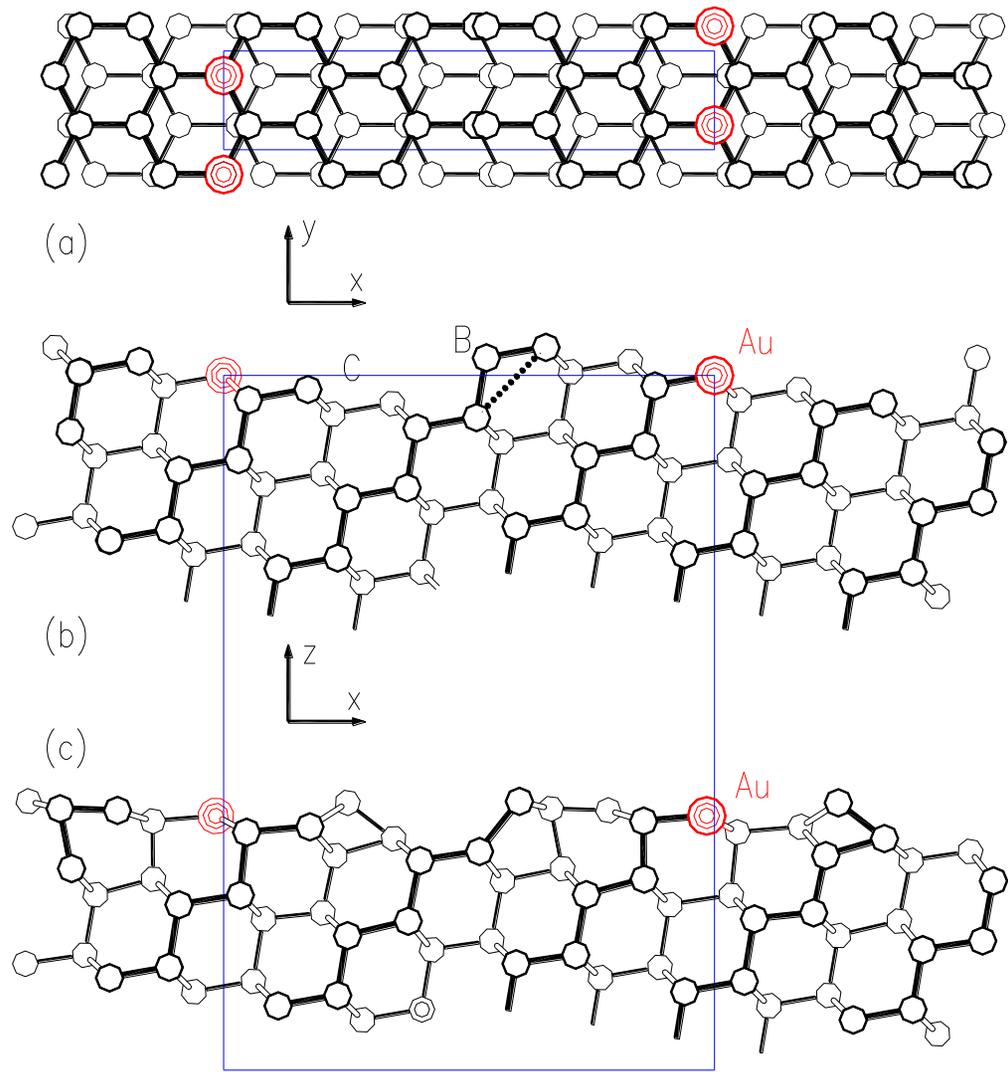
R. Losio, et. al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 86 4632 (2001)

1.9 nm

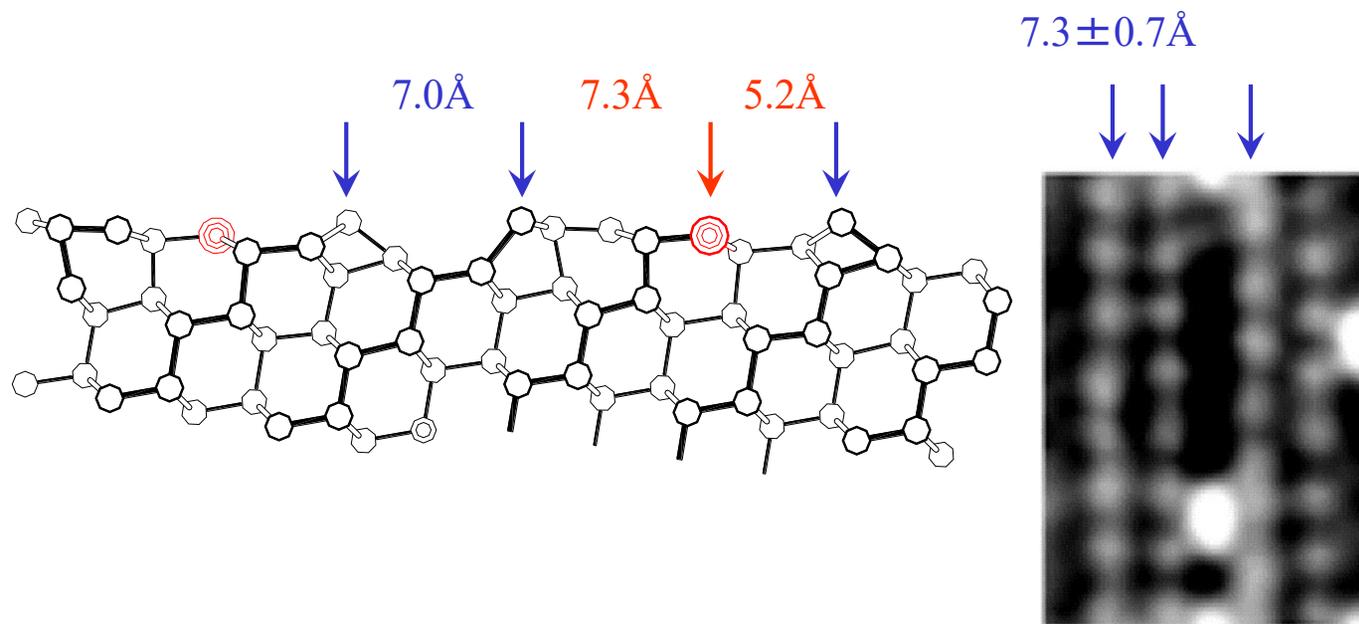


I. K. ROBINSON TX-SCT00F-2025

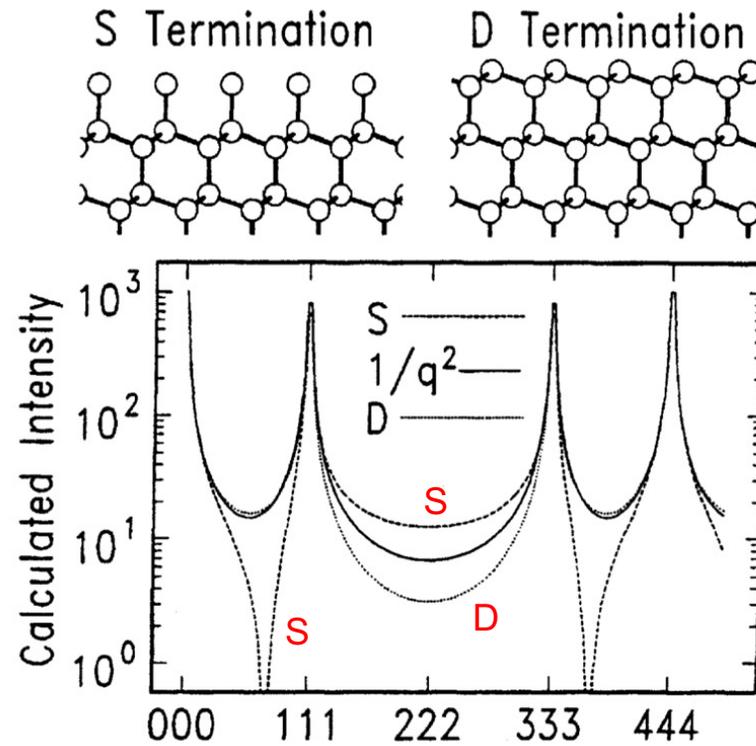
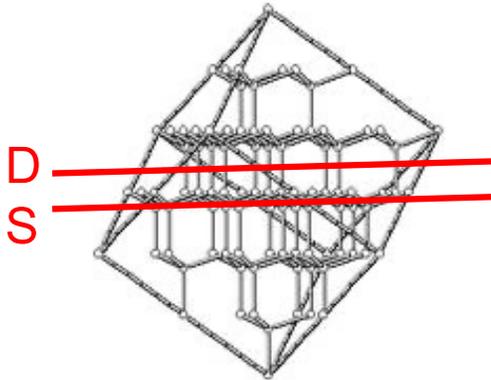




# Comparison with STM

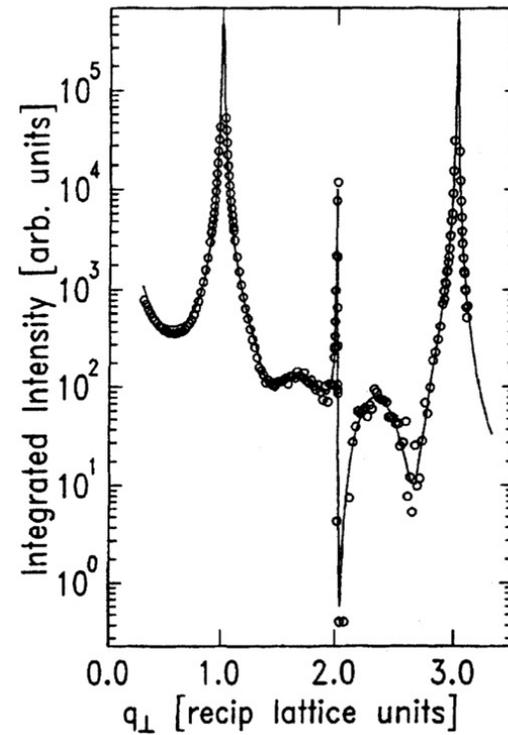
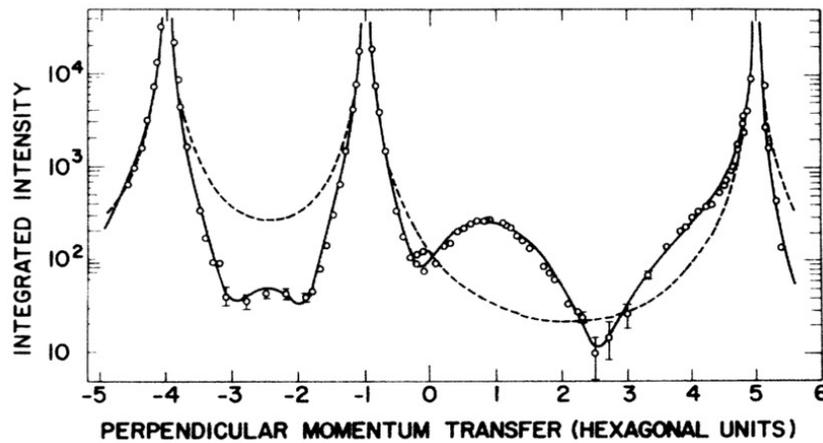


# (111) Surface of Diamond Lattice



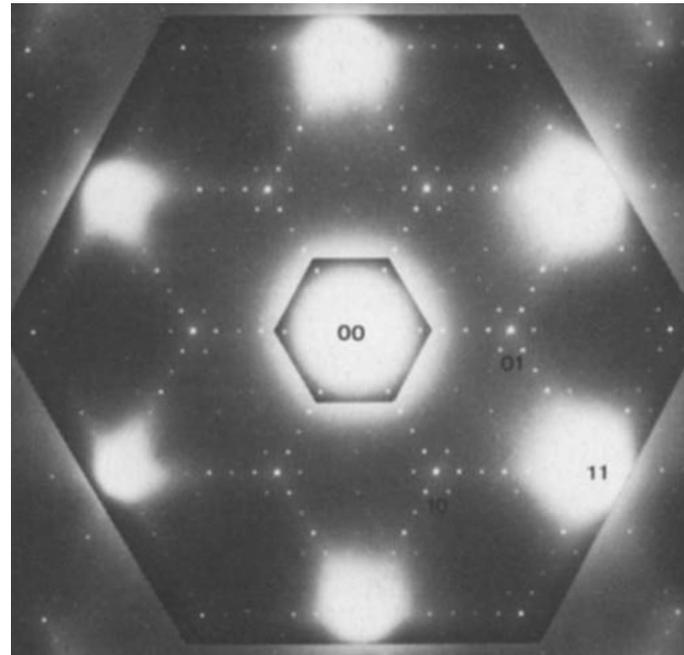
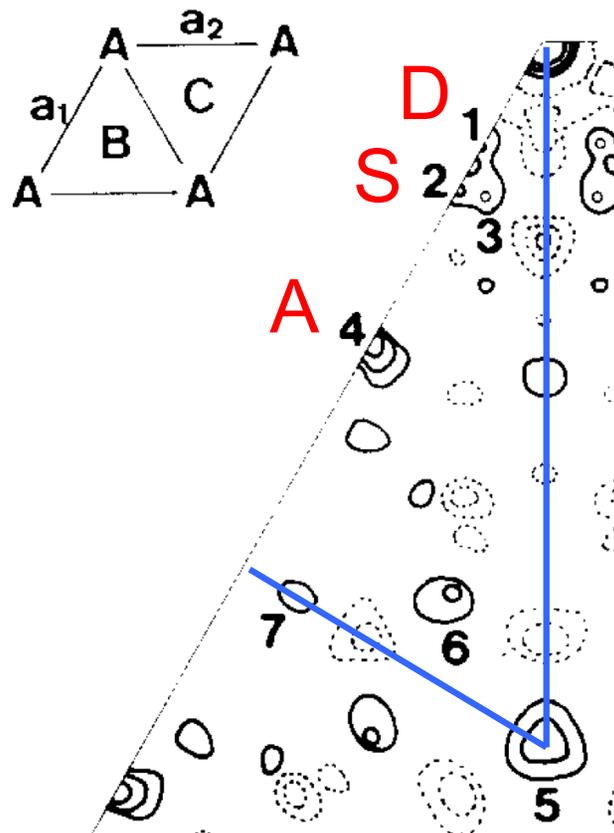
# (111) Surface of Diamond Lattice

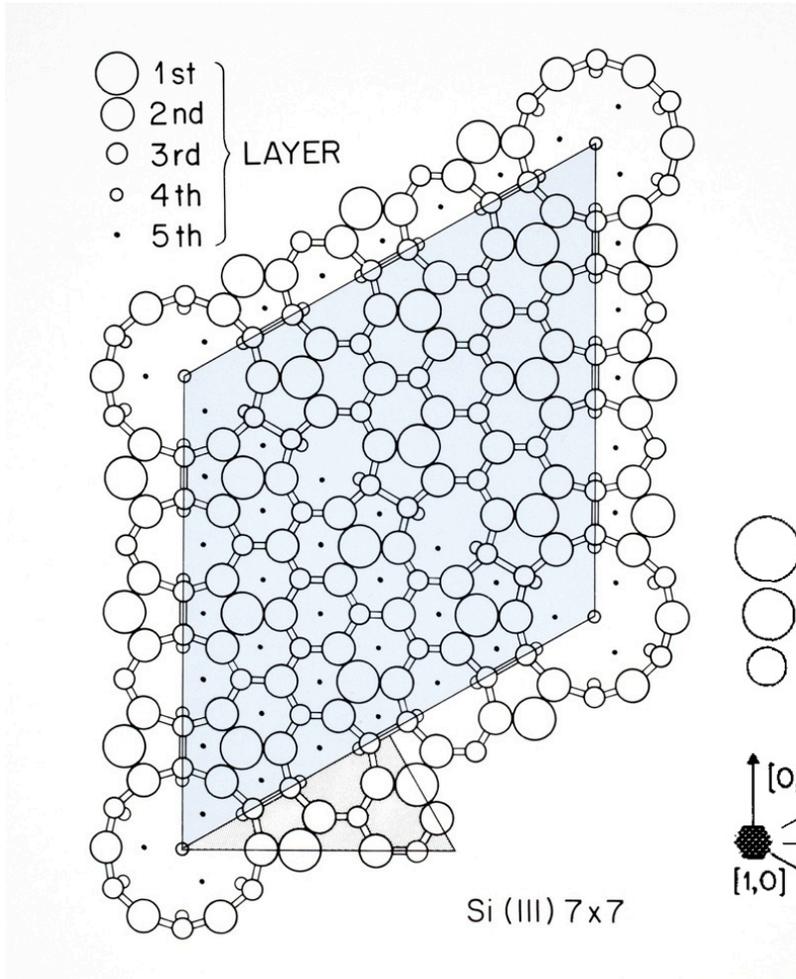
Si(111) 7x7 buried under a-Si  
PRL 57 2714 (1986)



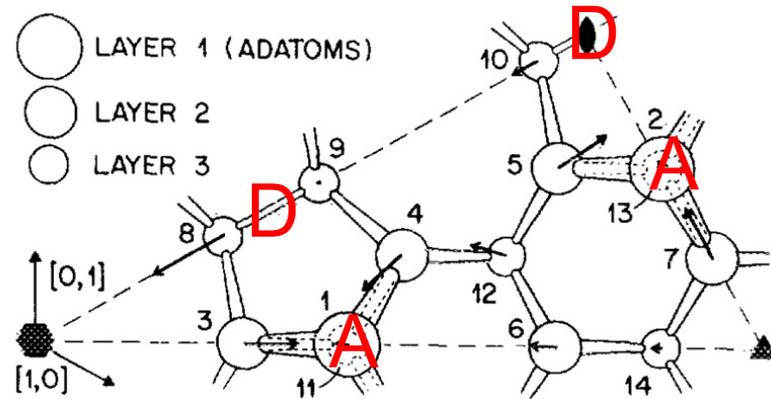
# Patterson: Dimer-Adatom-Stacking-Fault

K. Takayanagi et al, Surf. Sci. 164 367 (1985)





# DAS Model Si(111) 7x7



# Surface X-ray Diffraction Collaborators

Peter Eisenberger

Paul Fuoss

Peter Bennett

Doon Gibbs

Ben Ocko

Peter Eng

Robert Feidenhans' 1

Jens Als-Nielsen

Jakob Bohr

Mike Altman

Elias Vlieg

Sunil Sinha

Don Walko

Franz Himpsel

Bell Labs

Stanford

Arizona

Brookhaven

Brookhaven

Chicago

Copenhagen

Copenhagen

Copenhagen

HKUST

Nijmegen

San Diego

Urbana

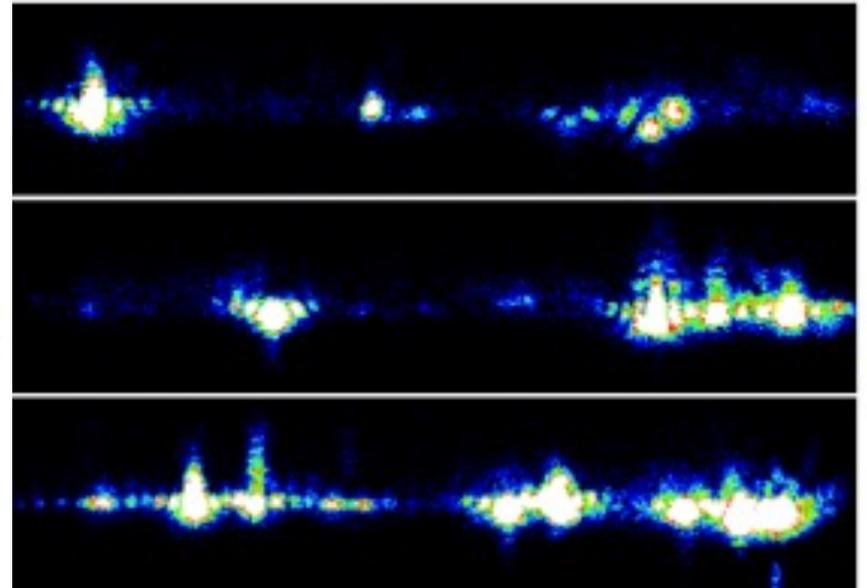
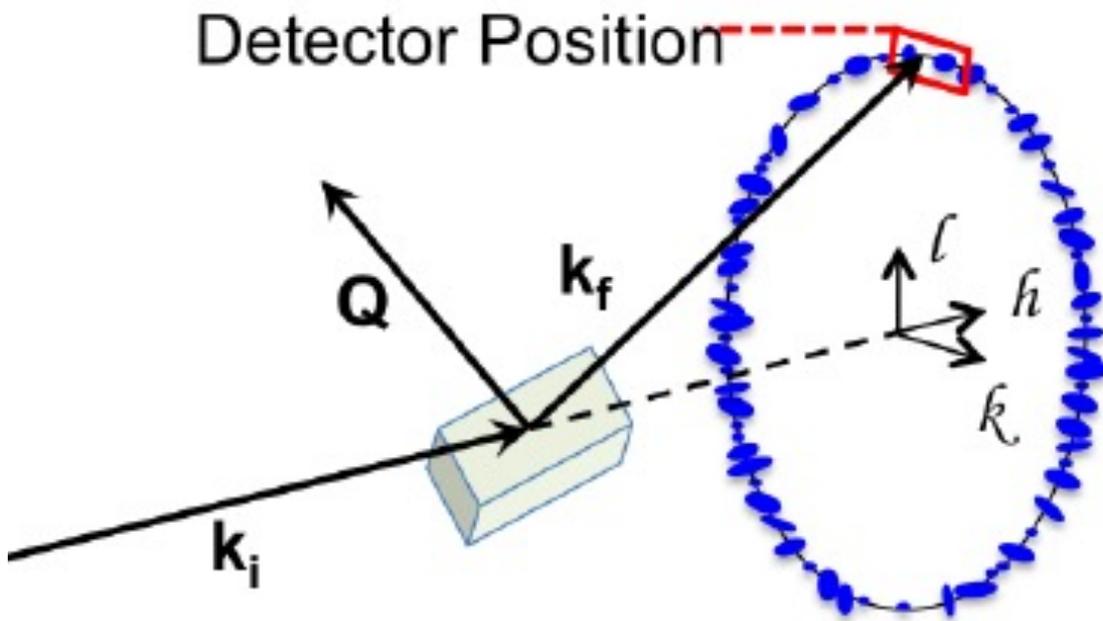
Wisconsin

# Scattering Outline

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- XFEL study of thin film melting

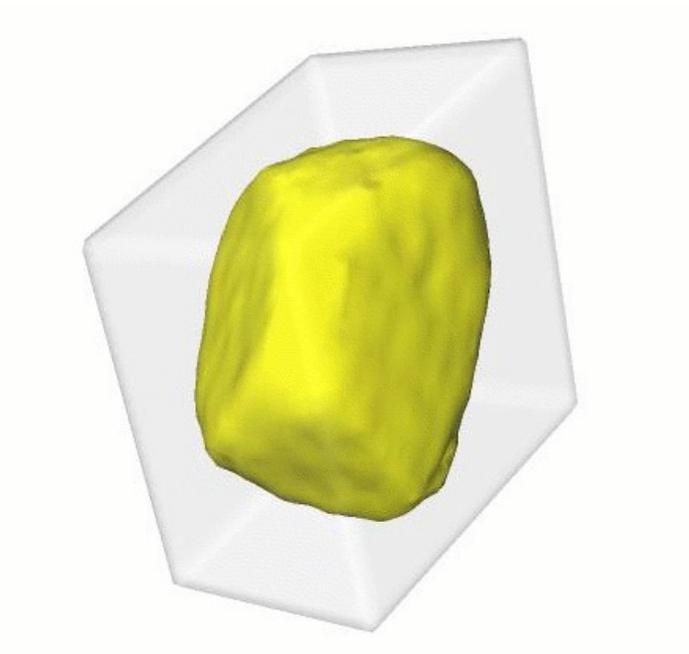
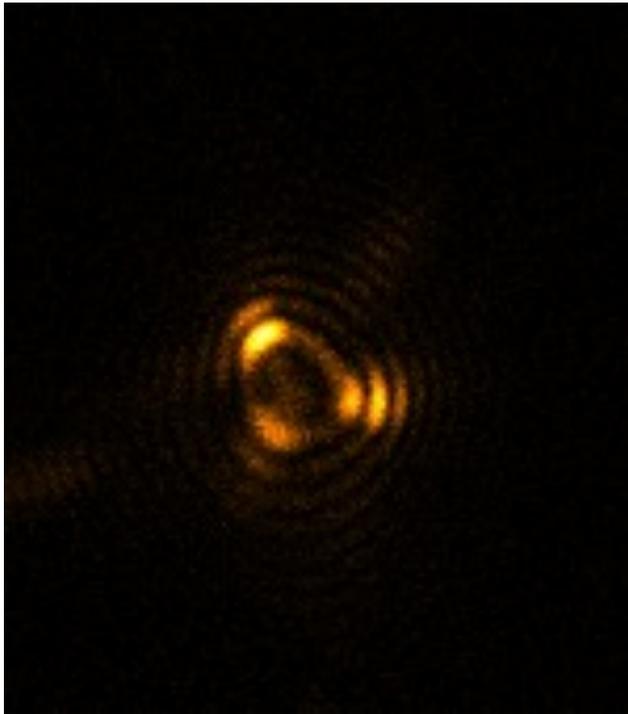
# Powder diffraction with Coherence

Detector Position

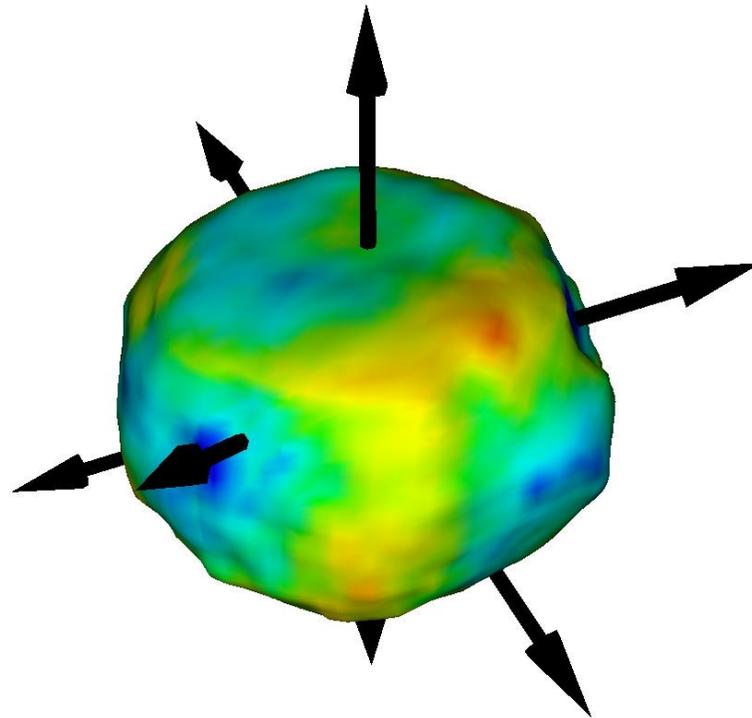


# Gold nanocrystal reconstruction

showing support used for 20 HIO followed by 10 ER

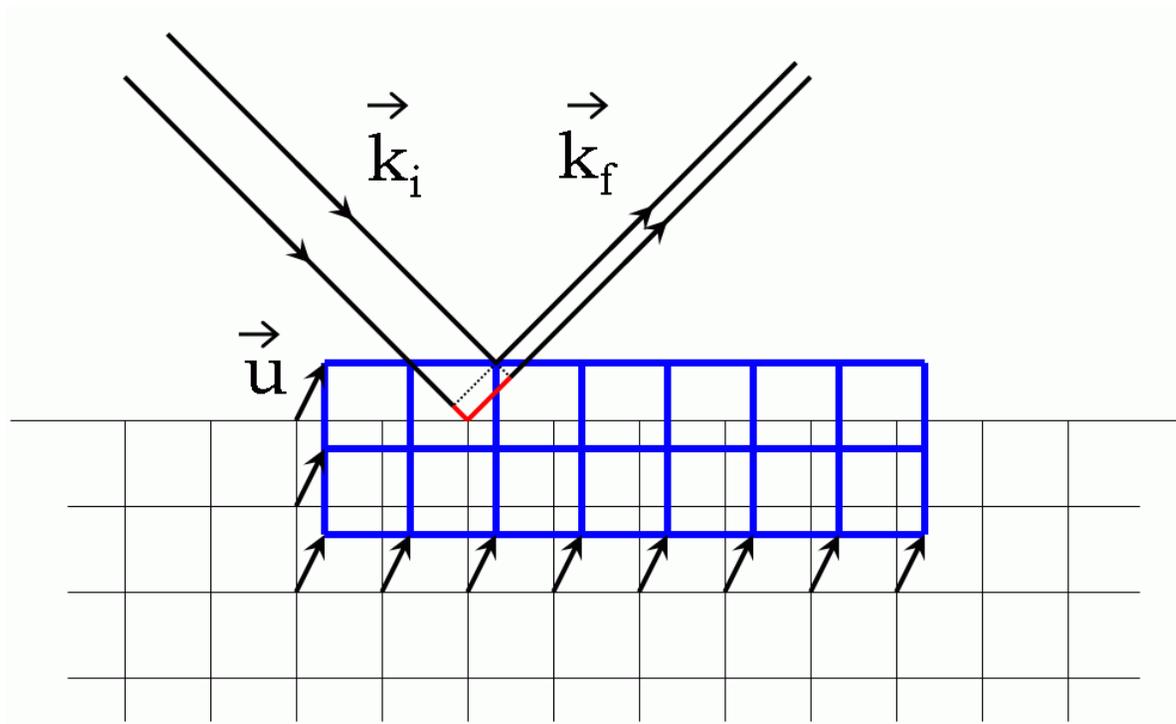


# Phase isosurface of residual strain

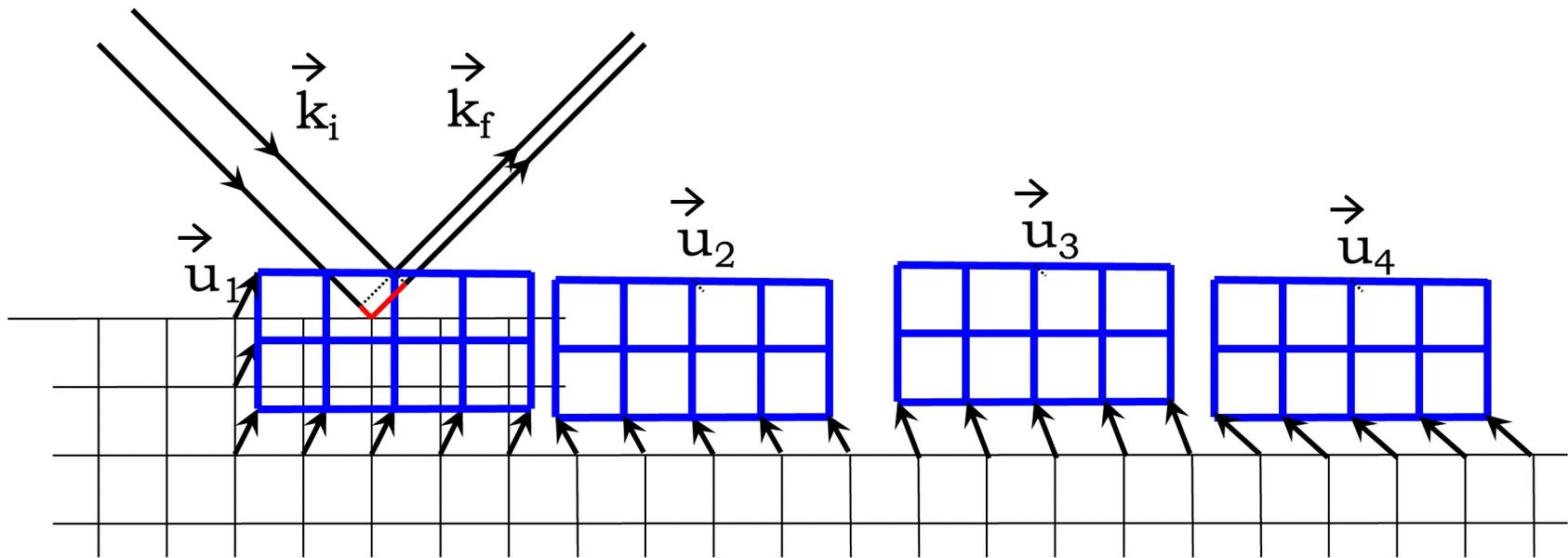


# Sensitivity to strain

$$\Delta\phi = \mathbf{k}_f \cdot \mathbf{u} - \mathbf{k}_i \cdot \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{Q} \cdot \mathbf{u}$$



# Generalization to Phase Domains

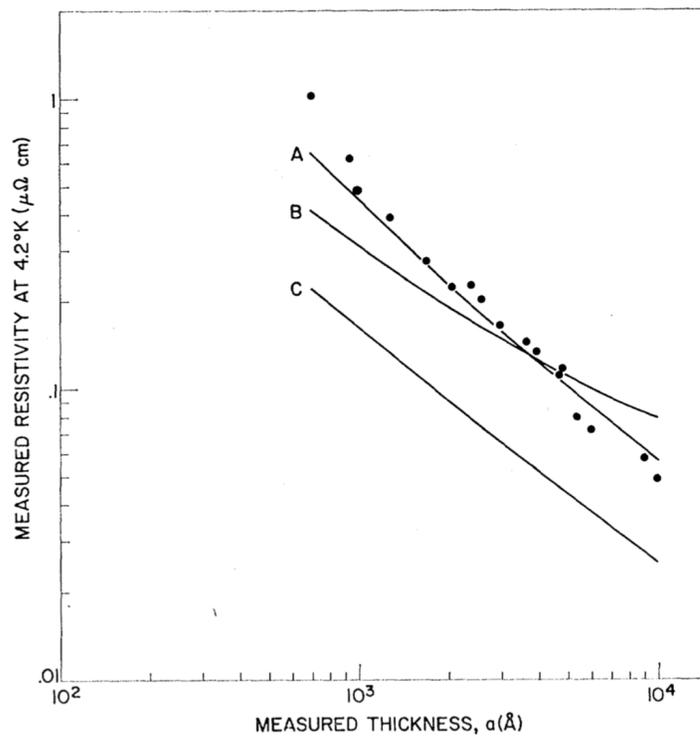


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# Resistivity of Al Thin Films

A. F. Mayadas and M. Shatzkes, PRB 1 1382 (1970)



- “Universal curve” of MFP vs electron energy
- Thermal MFP removed at low temperature
- Grain size proportional to thickness (model)



# “Two-temperature” model (2TM)

I. K. Robinson et al, Journal of Optics **18** 054007 (2016)

J. K. Chen et al, Int J. Heat Transfer **49** 307 (2006)

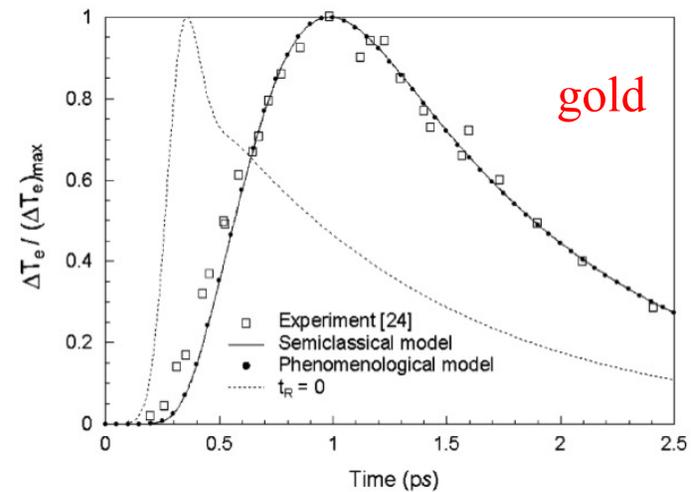
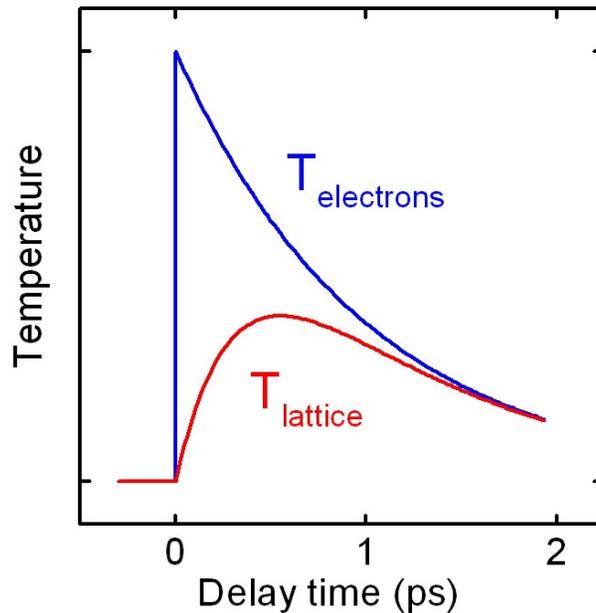
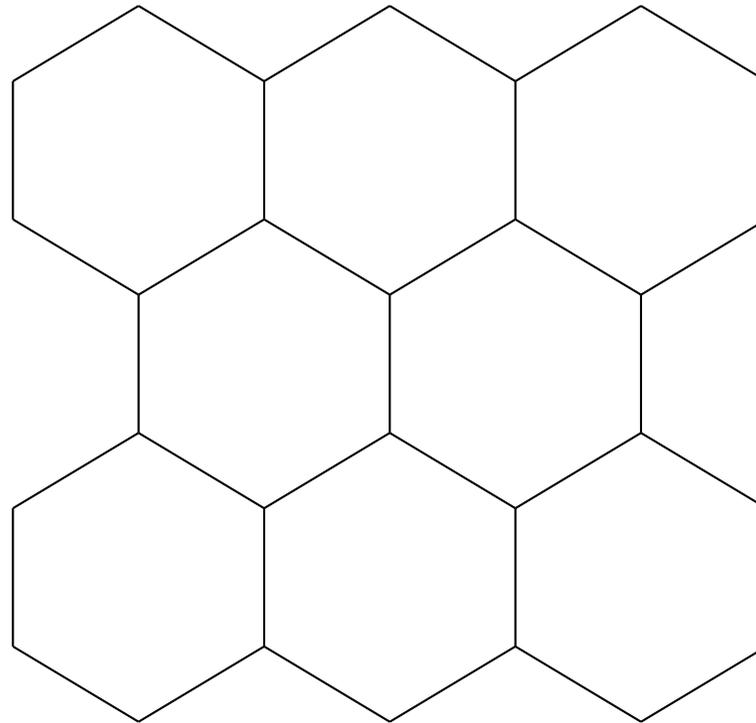
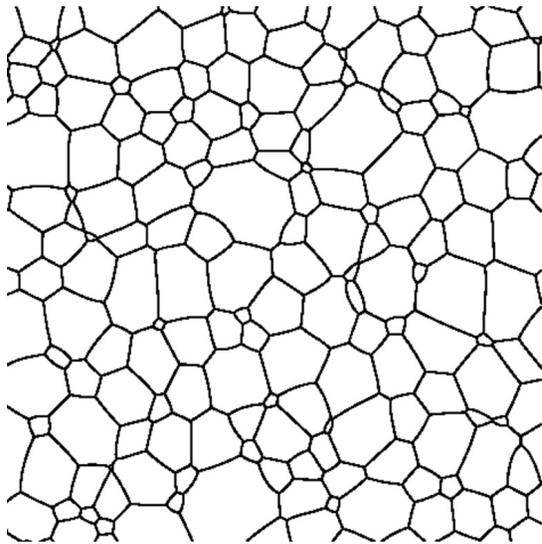


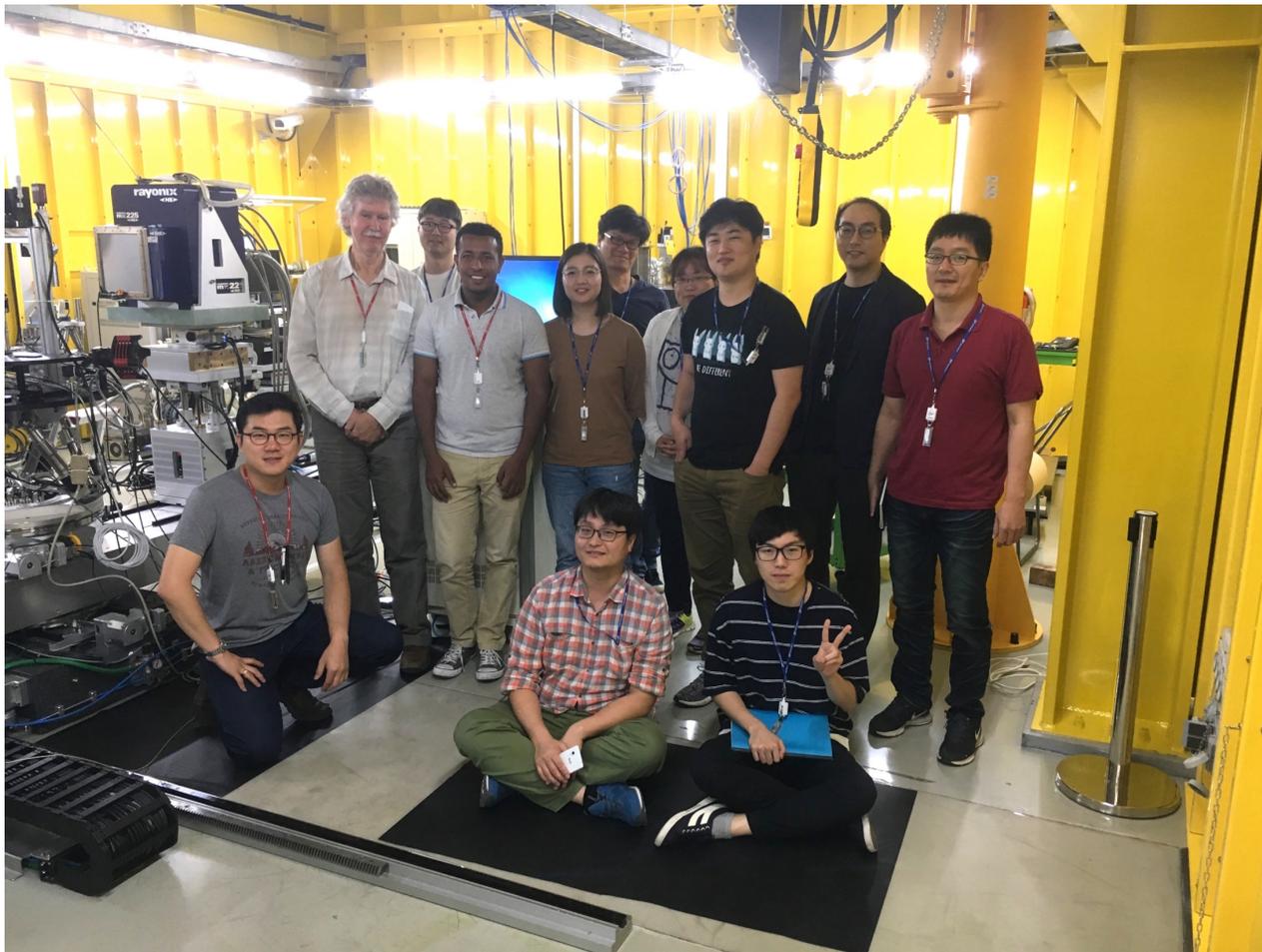
Fig. 2. Comparison of the change in electron temperature at the front surface of an 80-nm gold film irradiated by a 2.8 mJ/cm<sup>2</sup>, 800 nm, 150-fs laser pulse.

# XFEL Questions about Melting

- Where does the melting start?
- Where does the 2TM couple to the lattice?
- Role of sample geometry?
- Can we see the liquid phase?
- Are there transient liquid structures?
- How fast does melting take place?

# XFEL Grain Boundary Melting ?



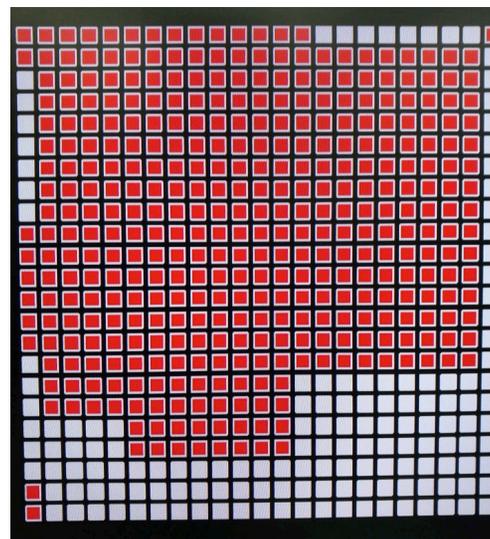
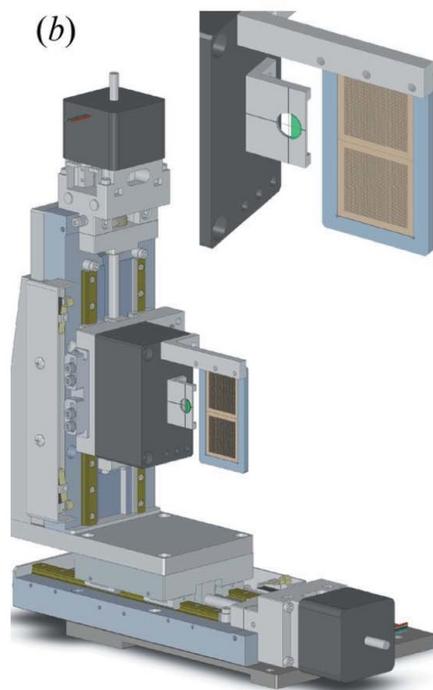


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# Scan Stage for MAXIC chamber

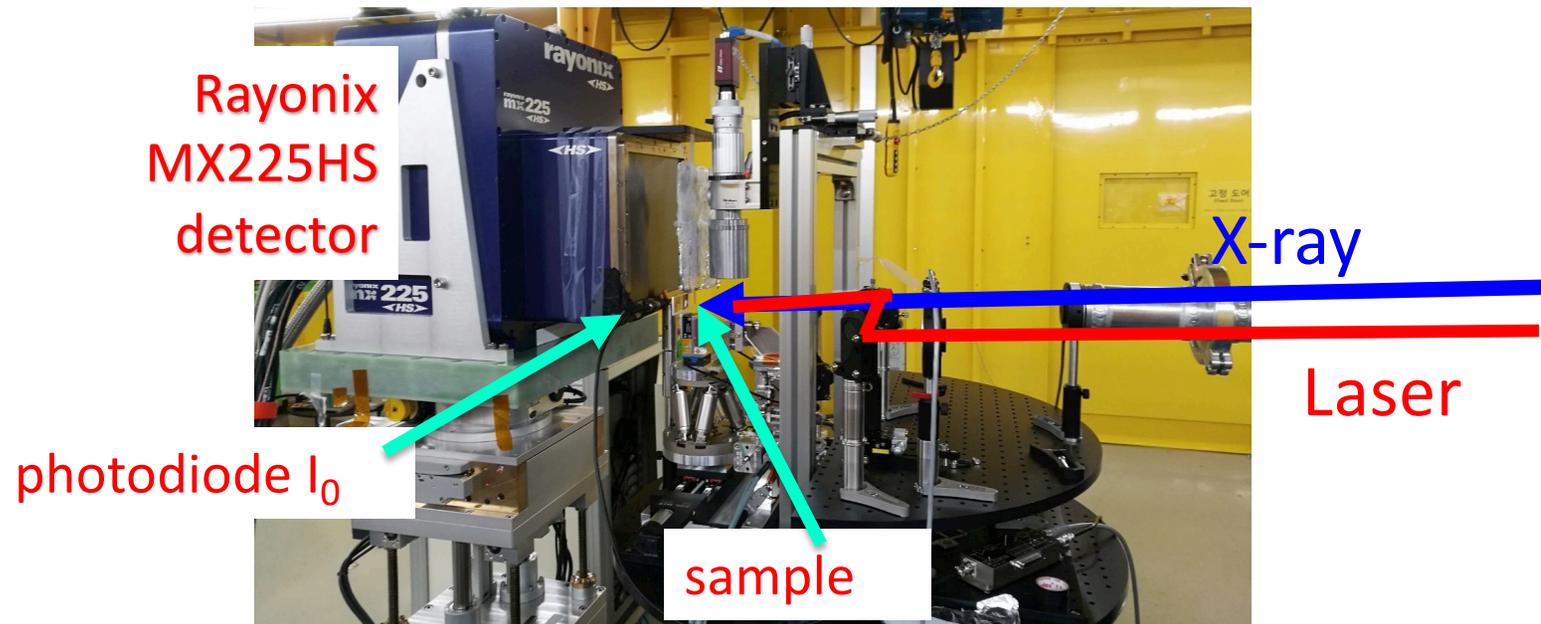
Changyong Song et al, J. Appl. Cryst. **47** 188 (2014)

Daewoong Nam, scanning software

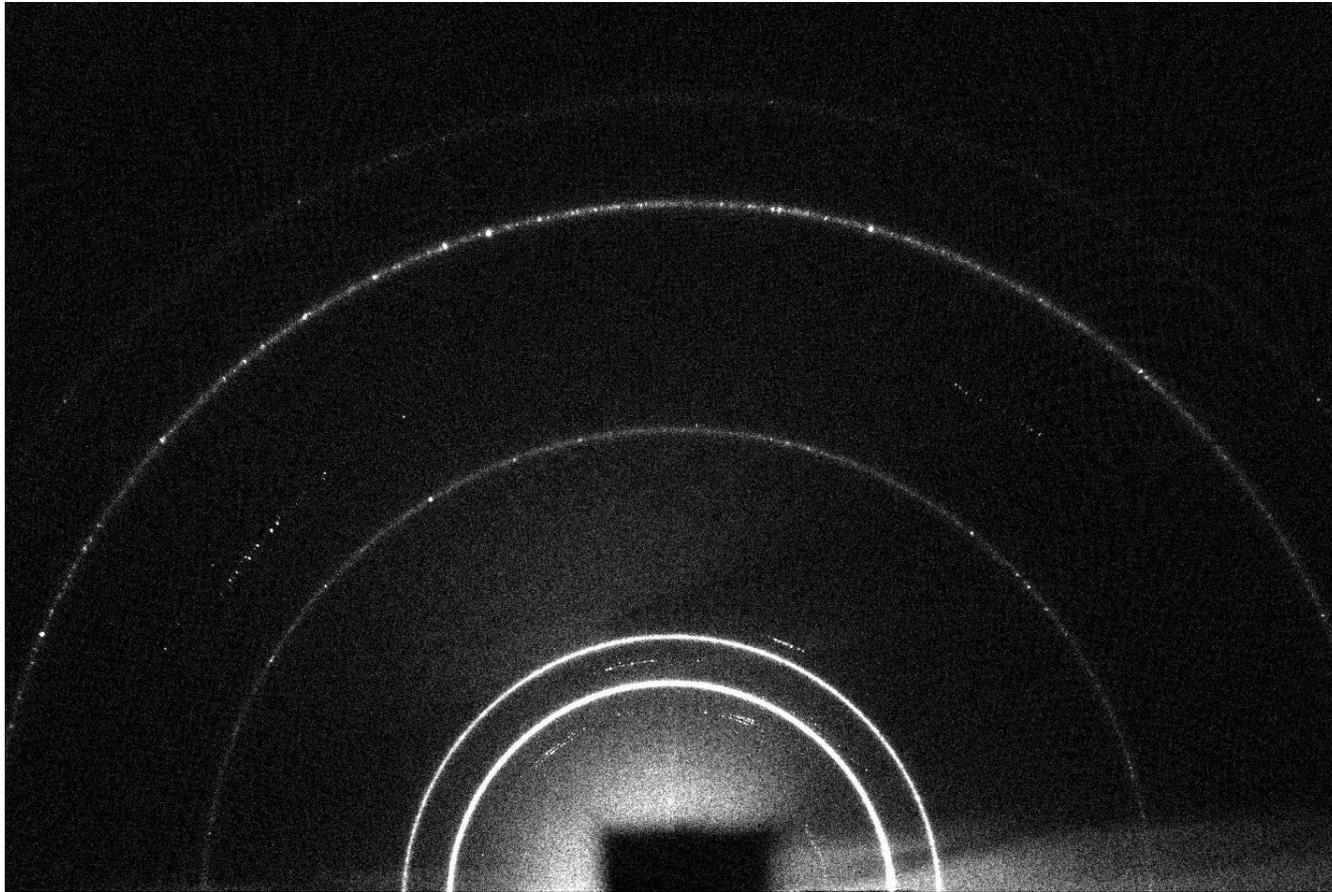


23x23 windows

# Experimental set-up at PAL-XFEL September 2017

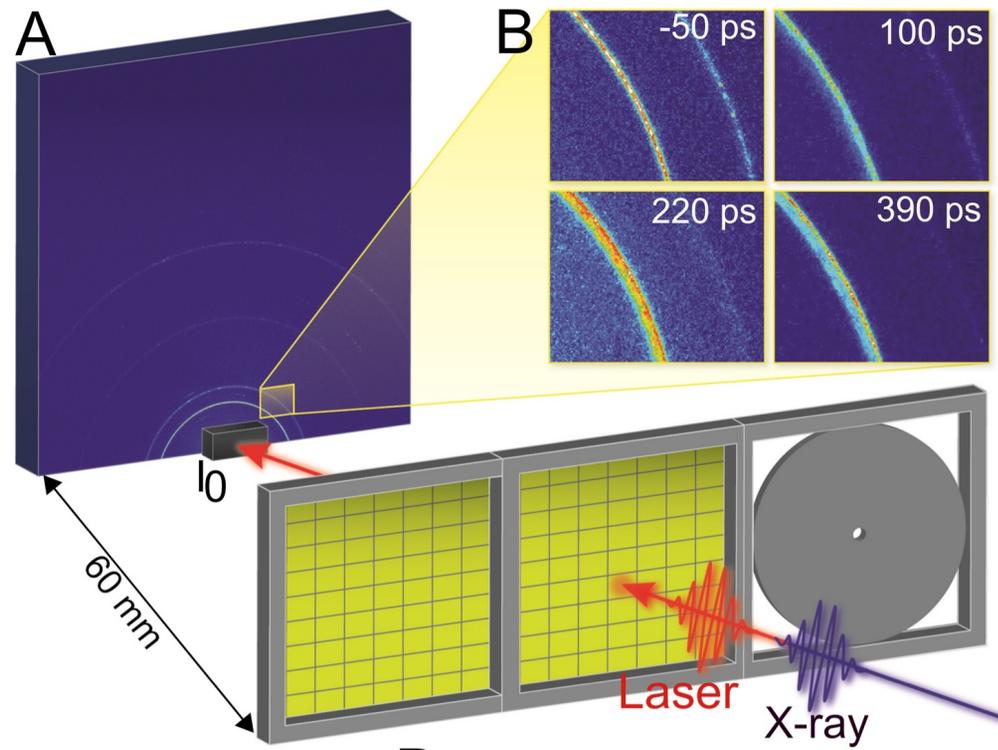


## Raw data #397 300nm film

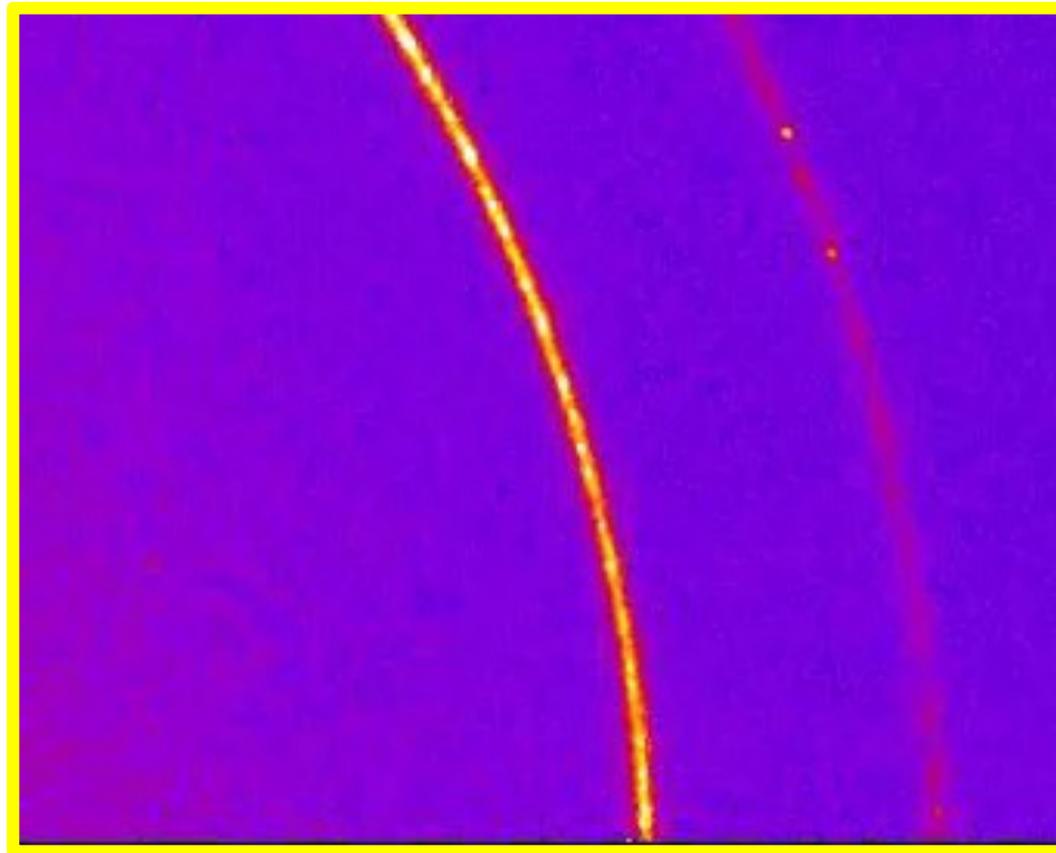


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# Powder Diffraction Geometry

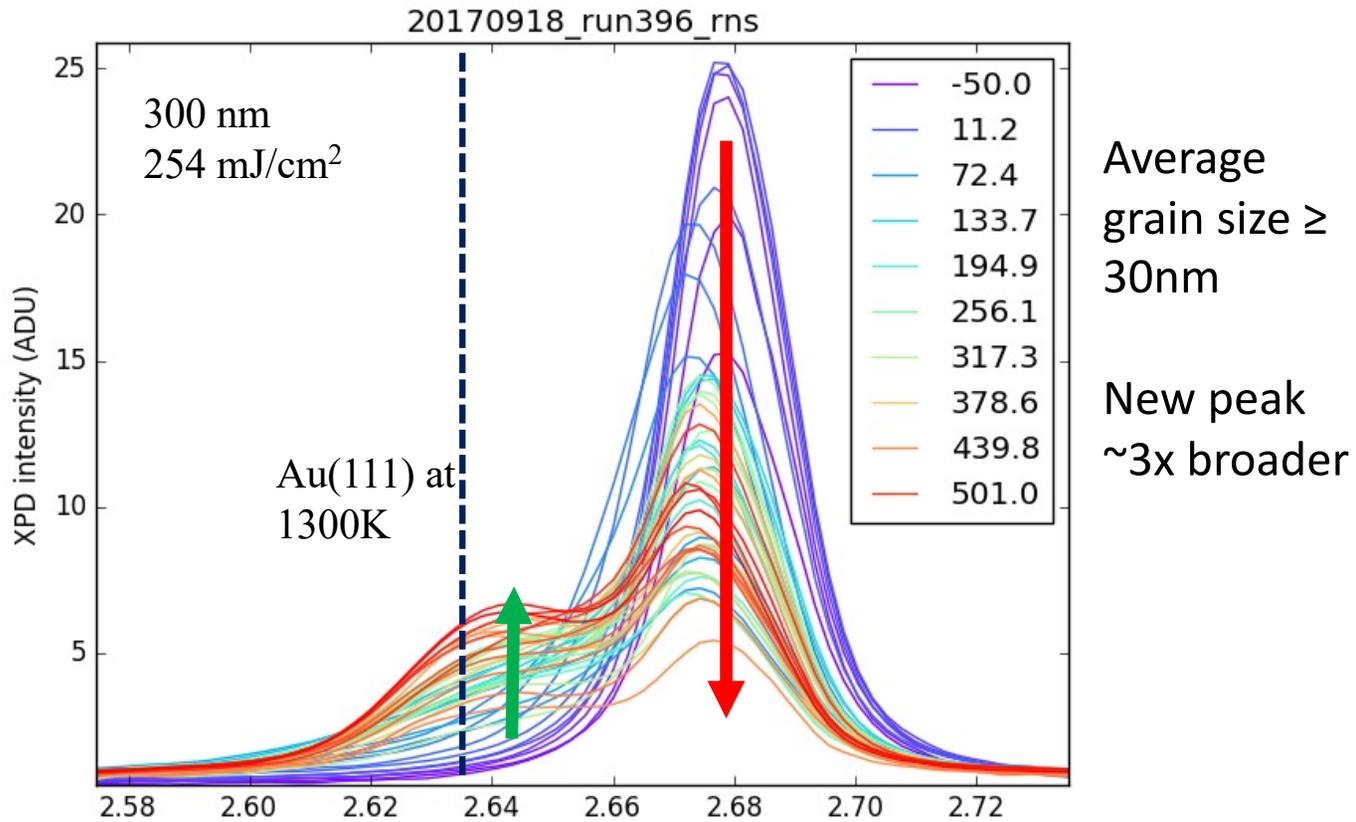


# Raw data #396 300nm film, 254 mJ/cm<sup>2</sup>



T. R. ROBINSON IAX-SC1001-2023

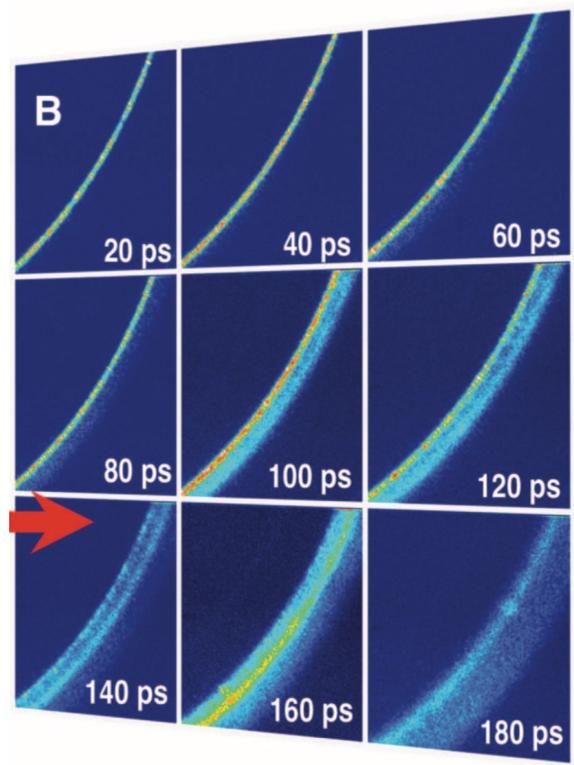
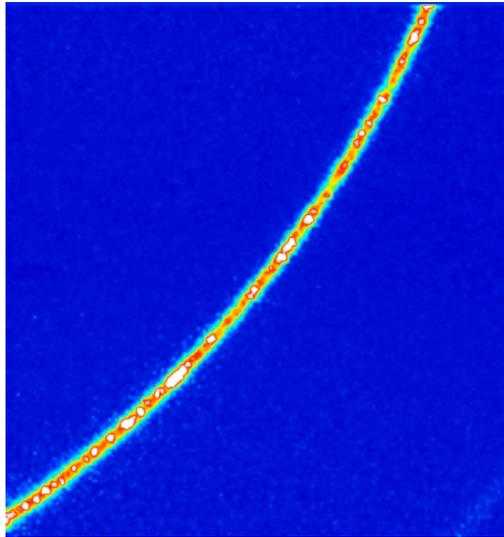
# PyFAI integration around ring



# Thin Film of Cu at CXI, LCLS

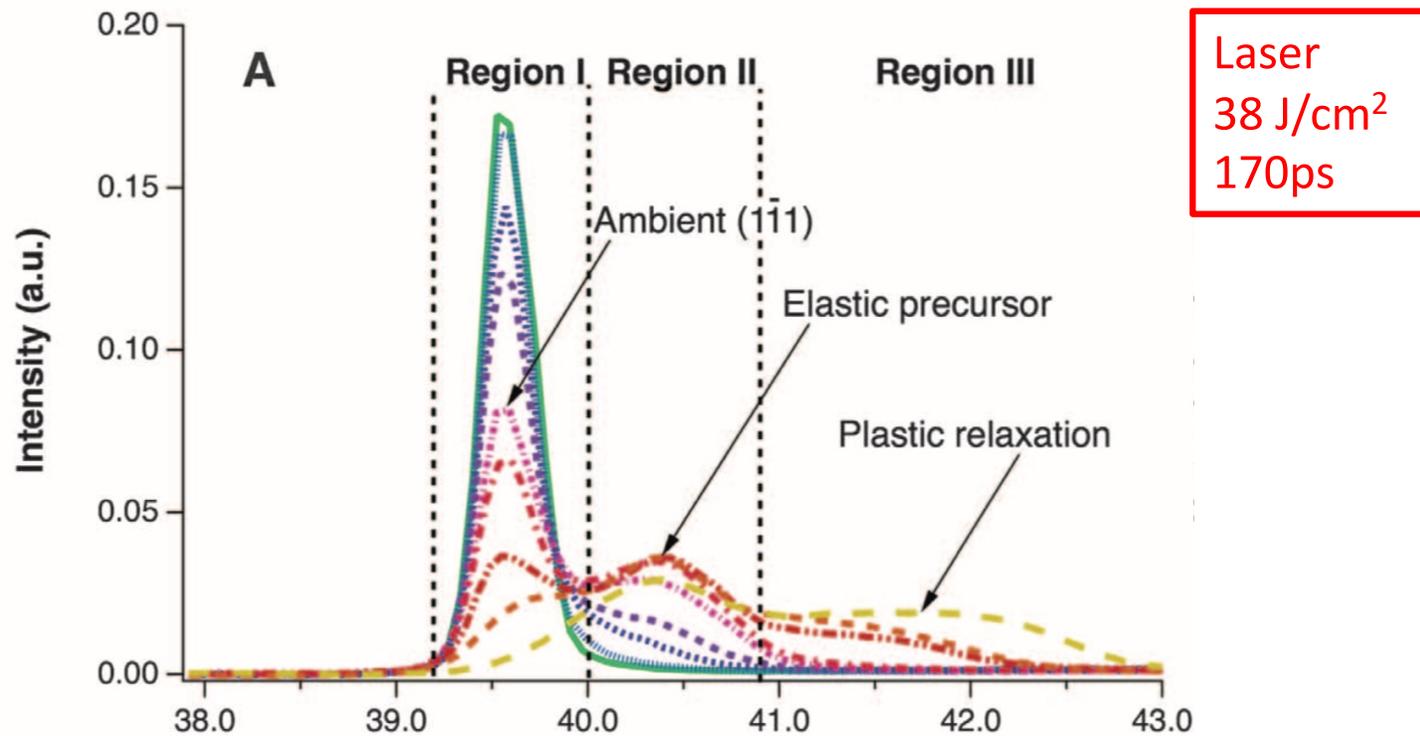
D. Milathianaki et al, Science **342** 220 (2013)

Laser  
38 J/cm<sup>2</sup>  
170ps

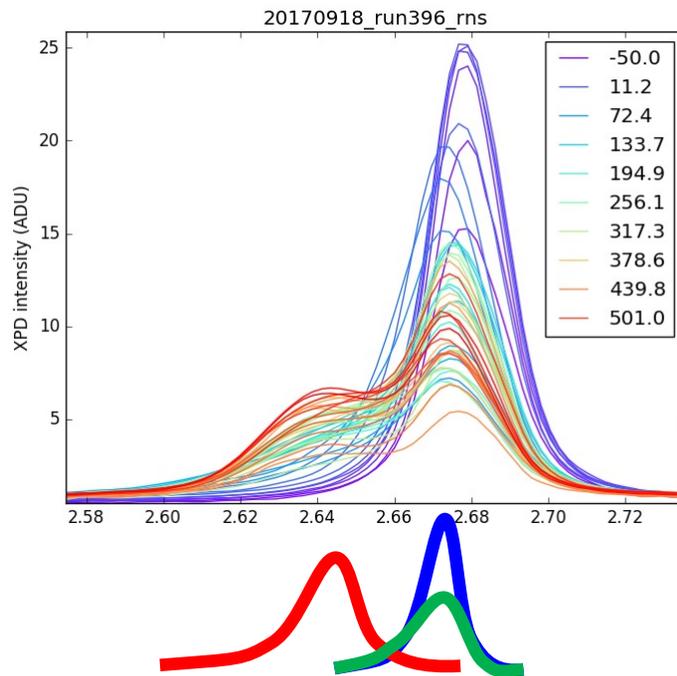


# Thin Film of Cu at CXI, LCLS

D. Milathianaki et al, Science **342** 220 (2013)

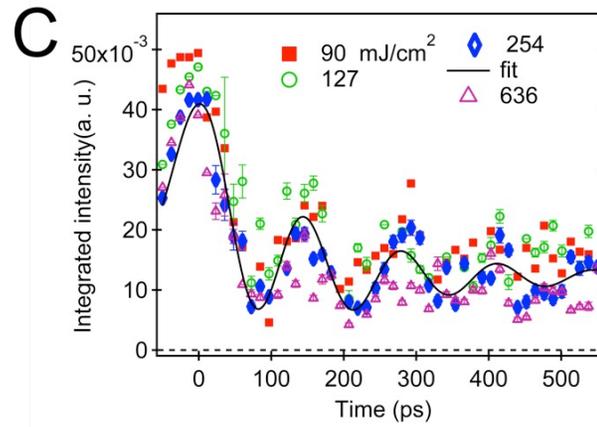
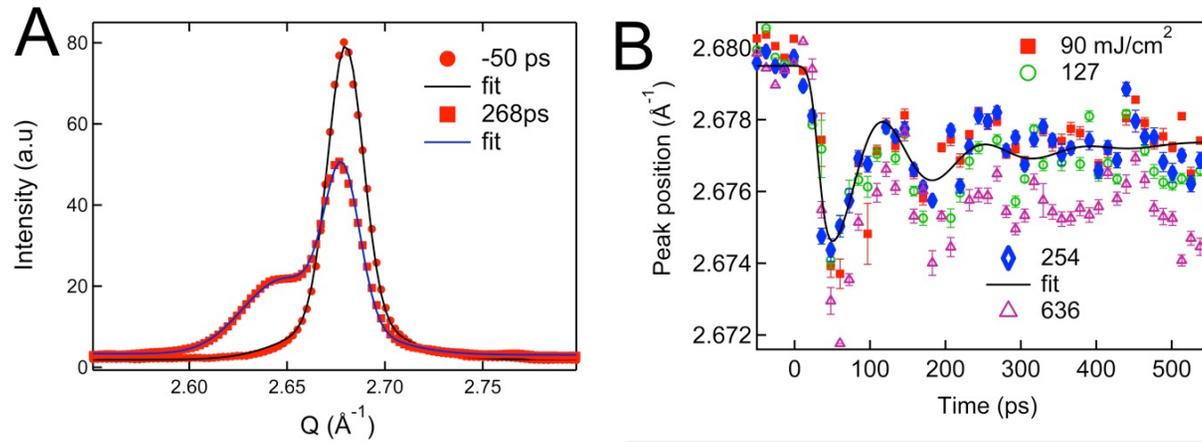


# Gaussian fitting procedure



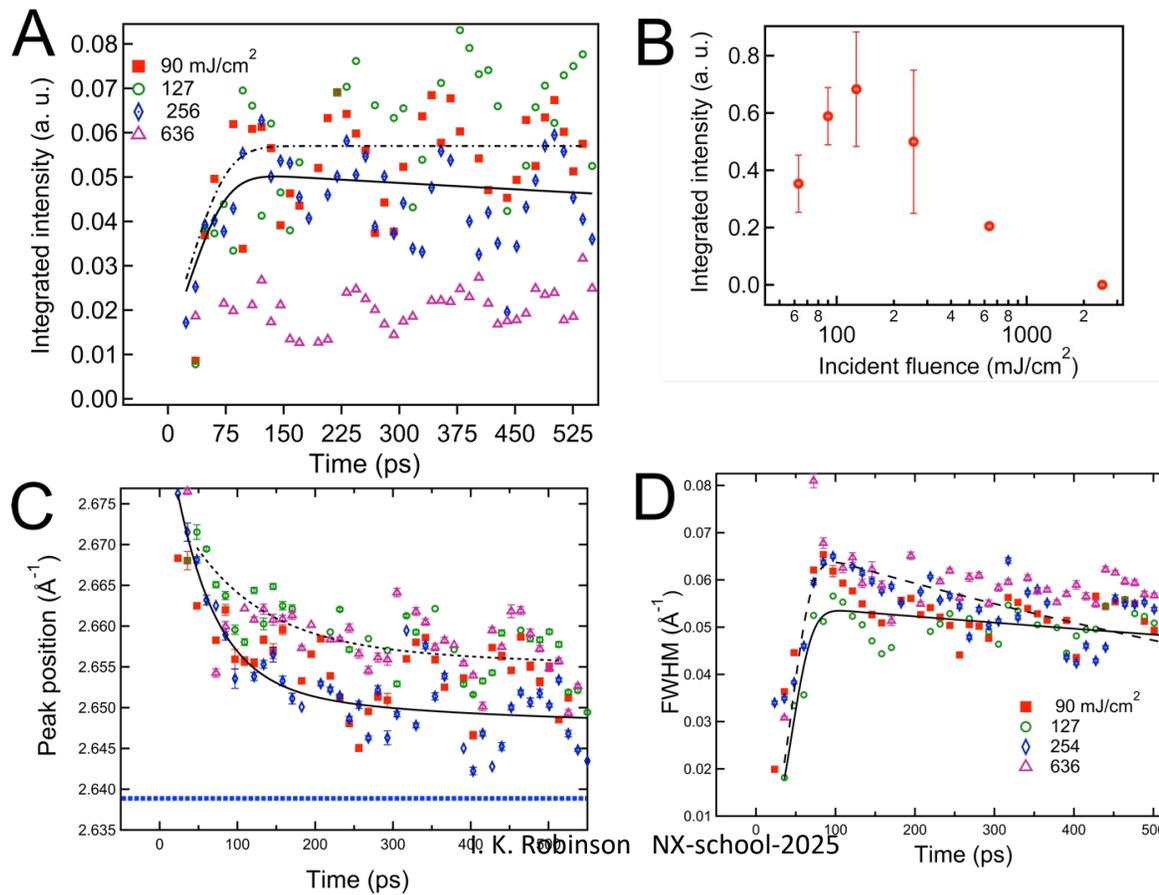
- Crystal Peaks (2x)
  - fixed widths
  - fixed height ratio
  - variable position
- “New” Peak
  - variable width
  - variable height
  - variable position

# Response of the Crystal 111 peak



# Response of New Melt-front Peak

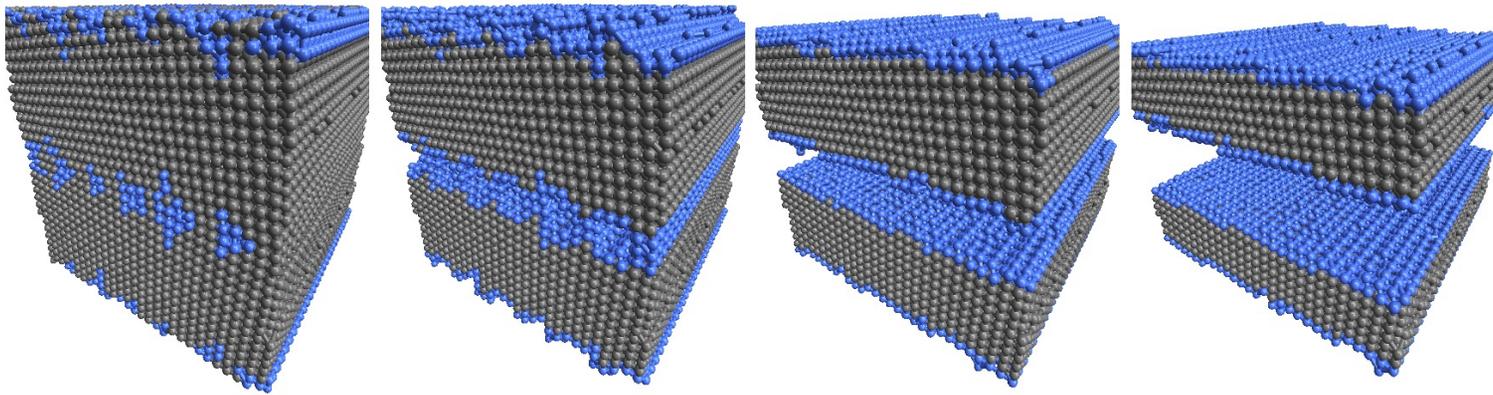
## Material trapped at the melting point



K. Robinson NX-school-2025

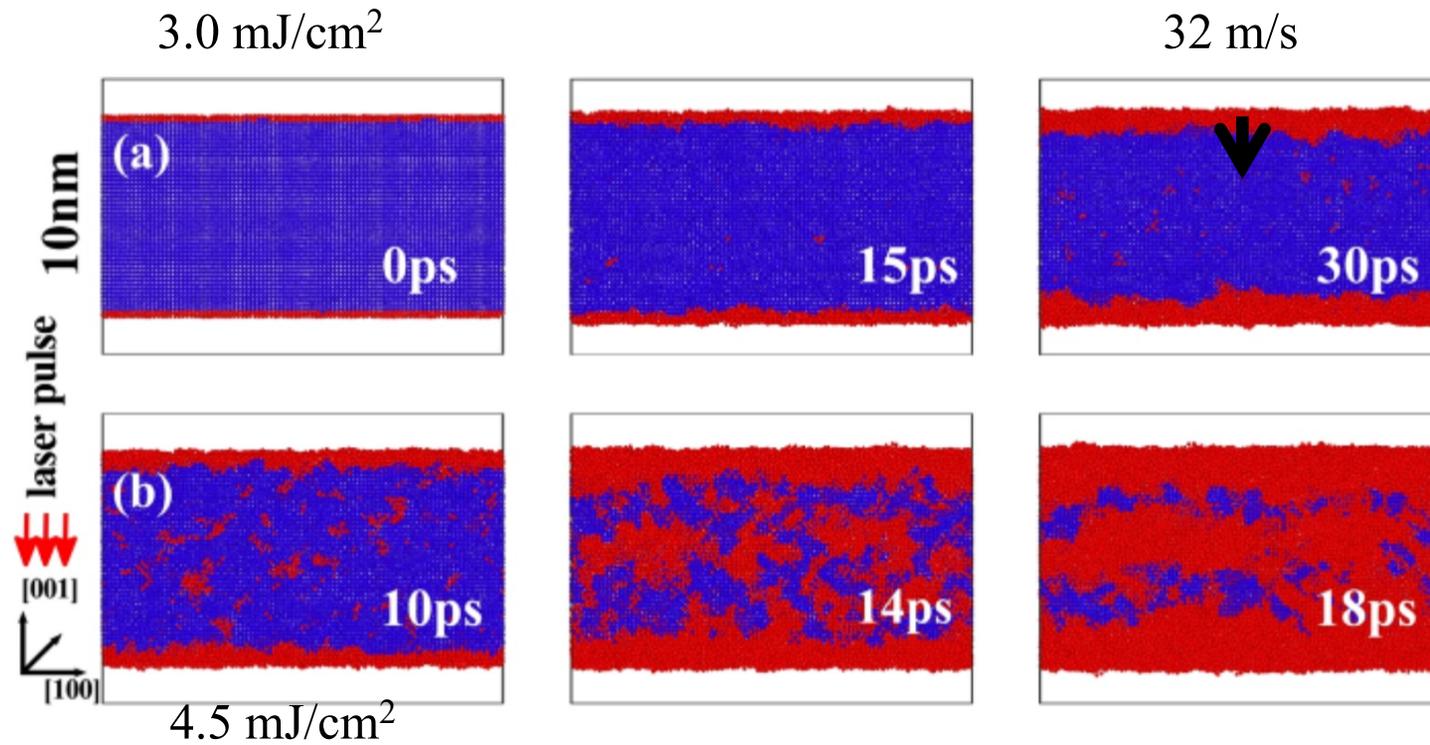
# Force-Field Simulation of GB melting

J. Berry, K. Elder and M. Grant, PRB 77 224114 (2008)

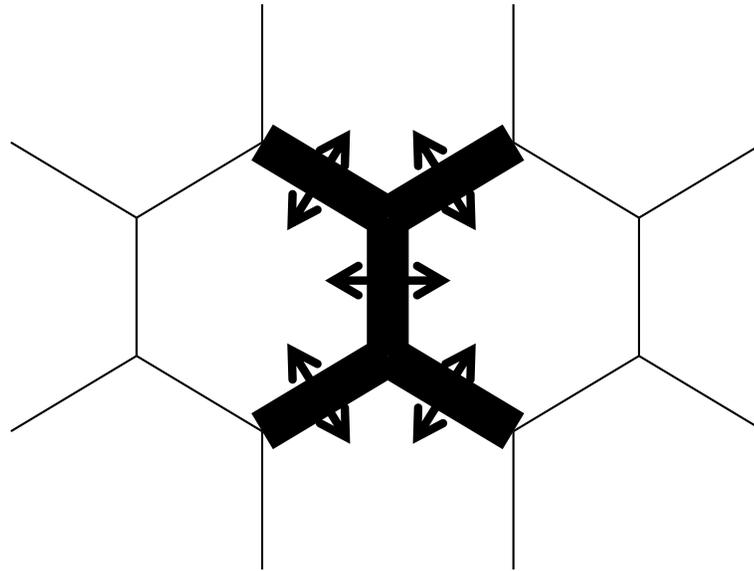
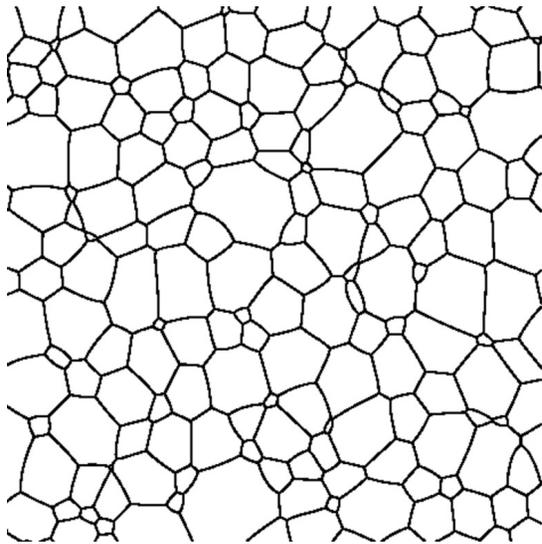


# 2TM-MD (EAM) simulation Au slab

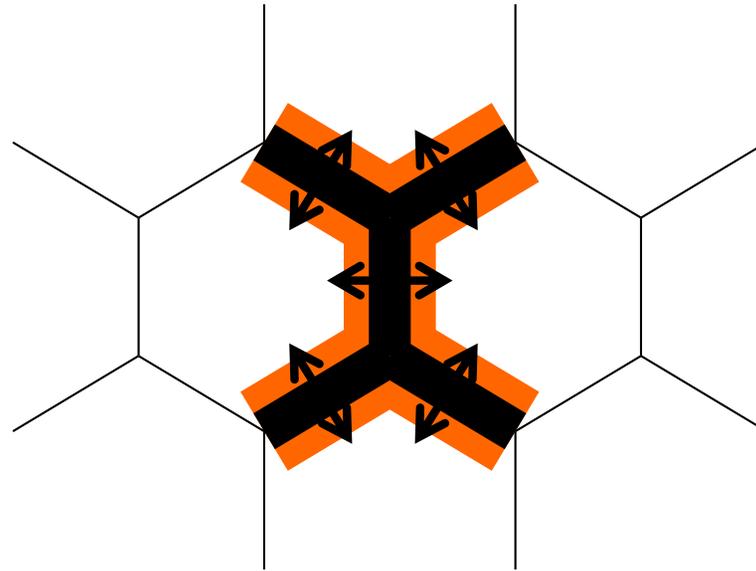
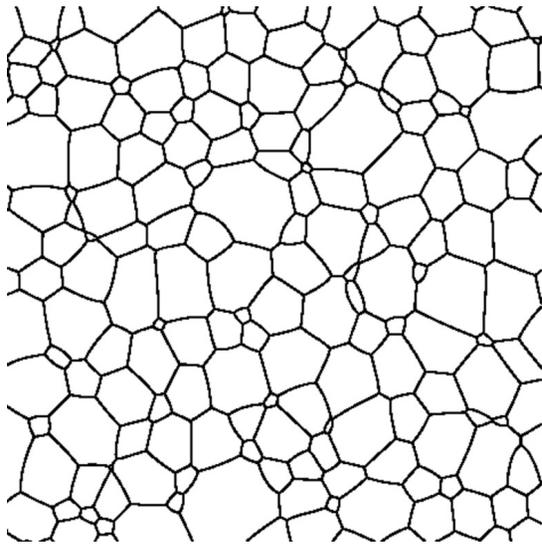
Giret et al, APL **103** 253107 (2013)



# Grain Boundary Melting

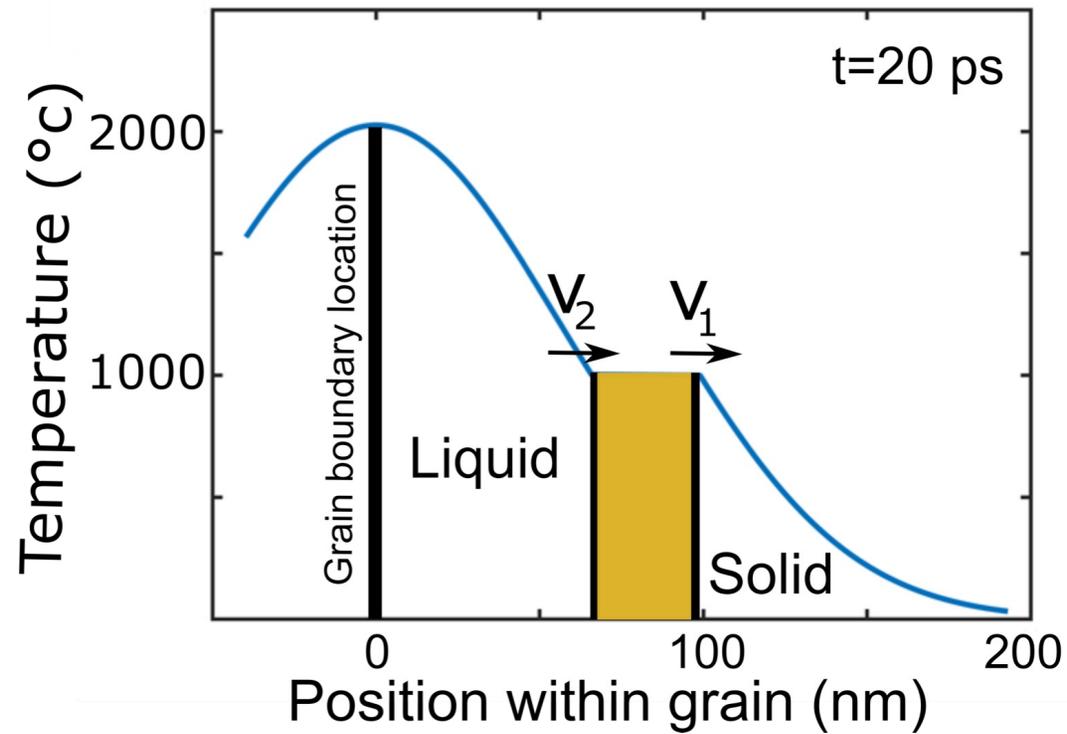


# Grain Boundary Melting



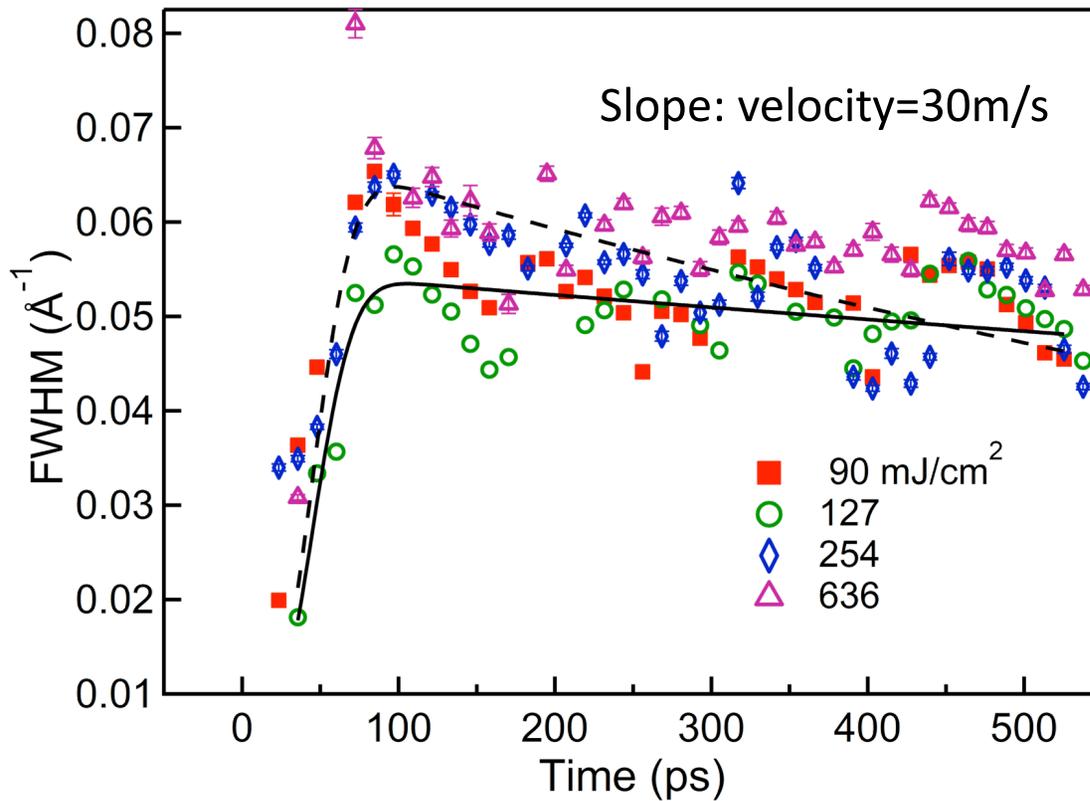
# Grain Boundary Induced Melting

T. A. Assefa et al Science Advances 6 eaax2445 (2020)



# Width of new “Melt-Front” Peak

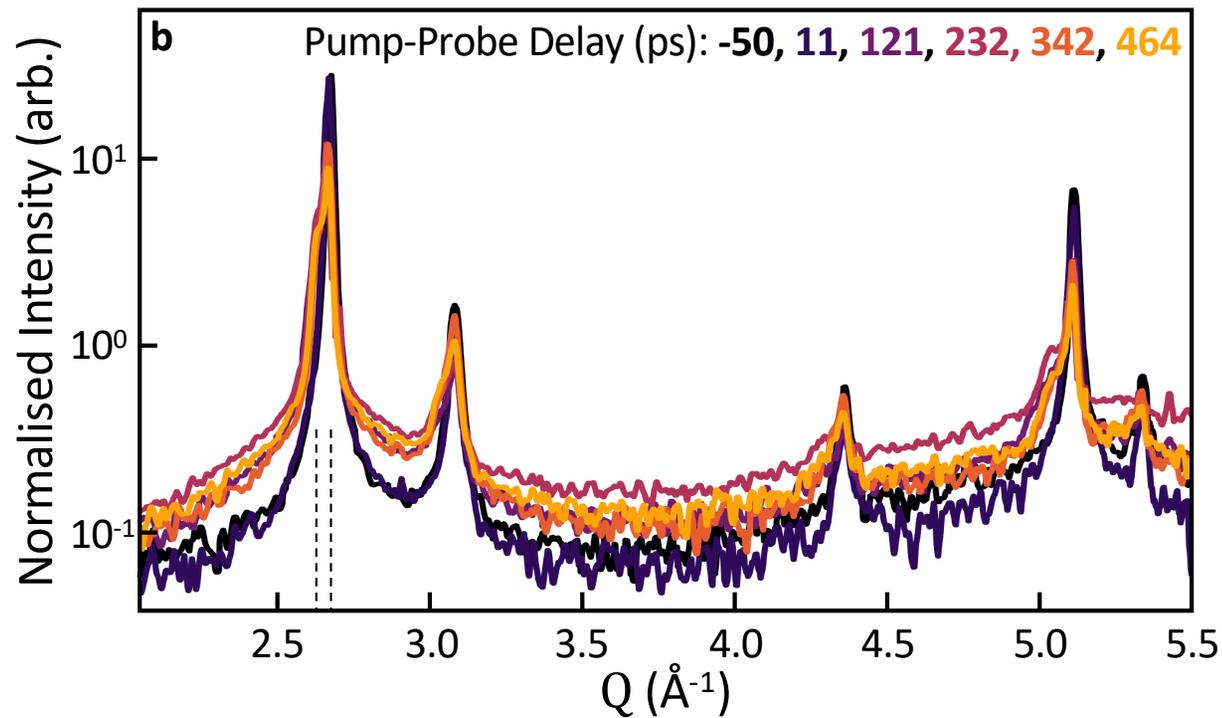
T. A. Assefa et al Science Advances 6 eaax2445 (2020)



$$\tau = 2\pi / \Delta Q$$
$$= 12 \text{ nm}$$

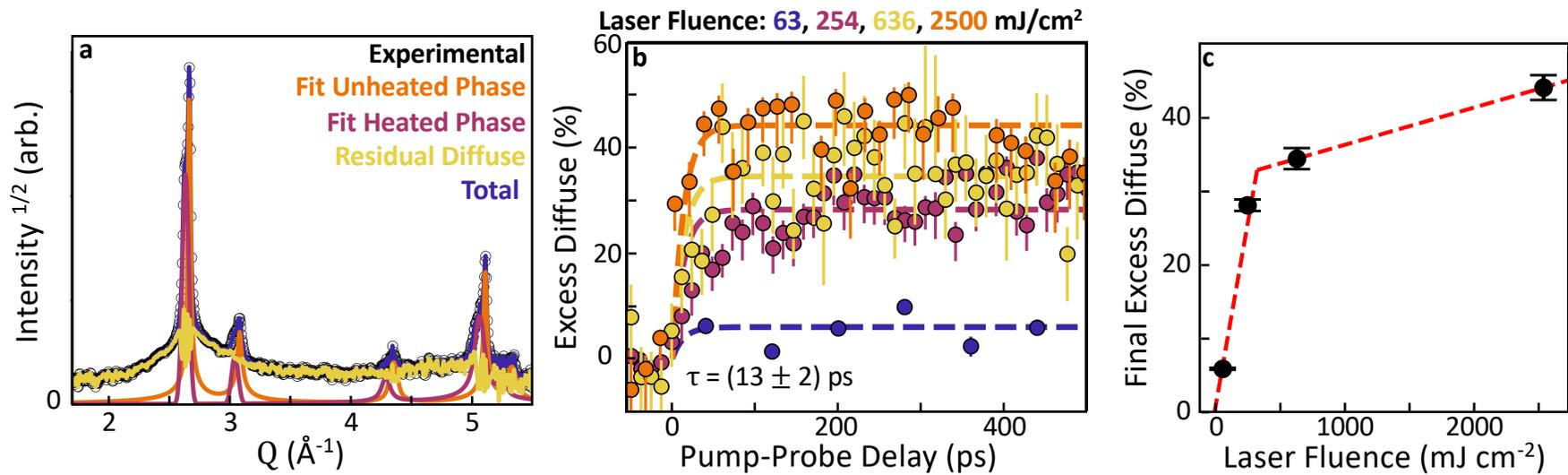
# Liquid structure factor

I. K. Robinson, et al, IUCrJ 10 656–661 (2023)

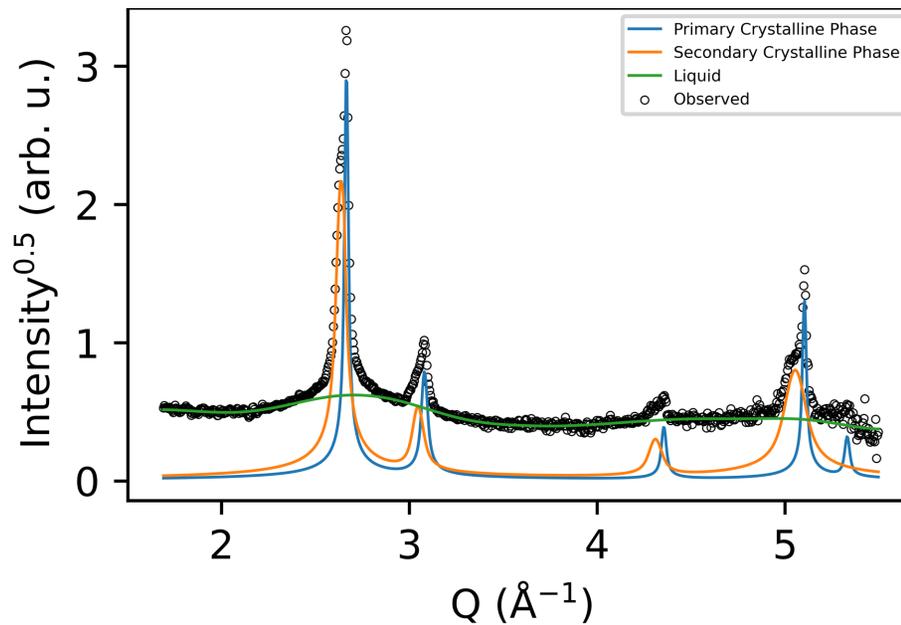


# Extracting Liquid structure factor

I. K. Robinson, et al, IUCrJ 10 656–661 (2023)



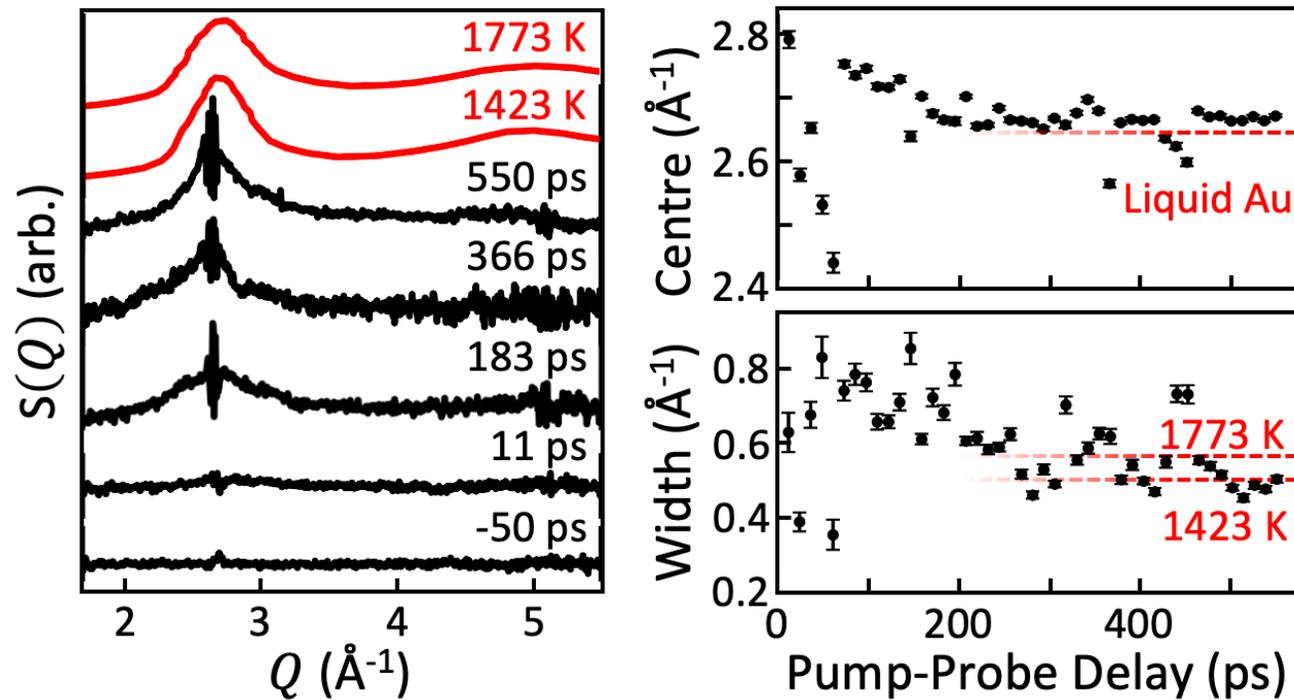
# Extracting the diffuse signal



- Raw data plotted, 231 ps, square root intensity scale
- Unconstrained peak fitting approach
- Remove Bragg components

# Liquid structure factor

I. K. Robinson, et al, IUCrJ 10 656–661 (2023)



# Melt-front description of melting in polycrystalline materials

- Laser induced disorder
- Three phases: liquid, solid, melt
- 2-phase inhomogeneous melting
- Energy transfer at Grain Boundaries
- Interface melting like nanoparticles
- Measured structure of Melt Front

# Thin-film melting collaborators

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Jack Griffiths  
Yue Cao  
Emil Bozin  
Rob Koch  
Pavol Juhas  
Simon Billinge

Dongjin Kim  
Sungwon Kim  
Hyunjung Kim  
Changyong Song

Sunam Kim  
Jae Hyuk Lee  
Yongsam Kim  
Jaeku Park  
Sang-Youn Park  
Intae Eom  
Hyojung Hyun  
Tae-Yeong Koo  
Jaehun Park  
Daewoong Nam  
Sang Soo Kim



# X-ray Scattering Summary

- Powder diffraction methods “XRD”
  - Cora Lind-Kovacs’ lecture
- Surface diffraction and surface structure
  - Dillon Fong’s lecture
- Extension to Coherent X-ray Diffraction
  - Edwin Fohtung’s lecture
- XFEL study of thin film melting
  - Paul Fuoss’ lecture