

# Theory, Modeling and Simulation of the Collective Behavior of Dislocations

---

**Richard LeSar**

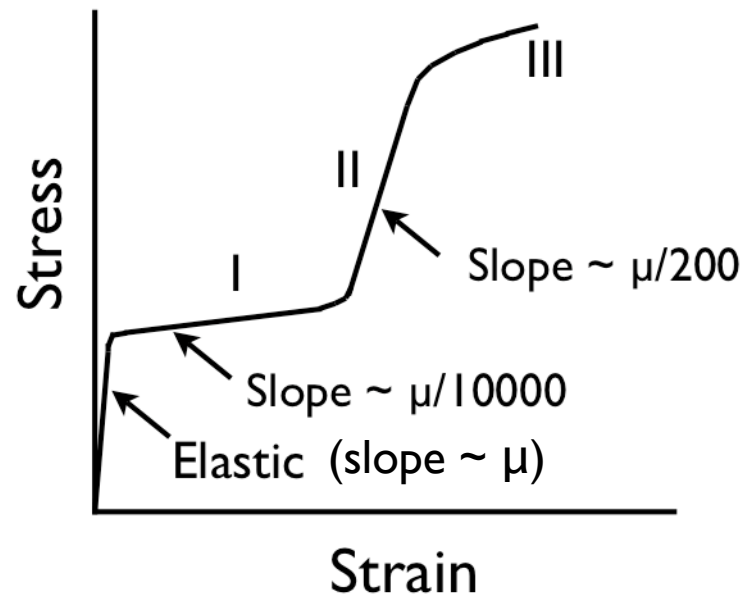
Iowa State University

- (1) Introduction to dislocations and plasticity
- (2) Simulation strategies
  - discrete dislocation dynamics in 2D and 3D
  - phase-field simulations
- (3) Coarse-graining strategies
  - temporal
  - spatial
- (4) Scaling and intermittency

*A disclaimer: no quantum mechanics (today)!*

# Macroscopic deformation in *fcc* metals

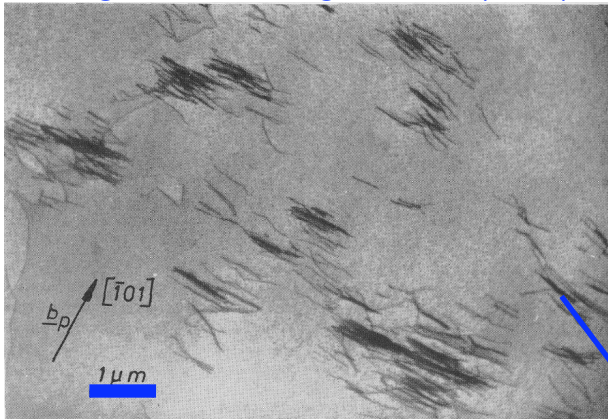
---



single crystal under single slip  
 $\mu$  is the shear modulus

# Macroscopic deformation in *fcc* metals

Mughrabi, Phil. Mag. **23**, 869 (1971)

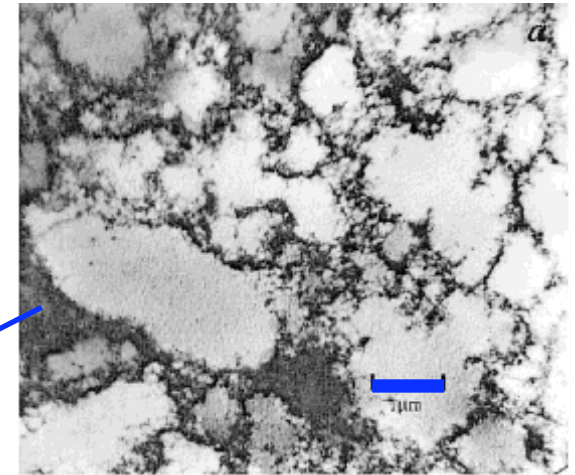


1 μm

$$\epsilon^P = b\rho \langle x \rangle$$

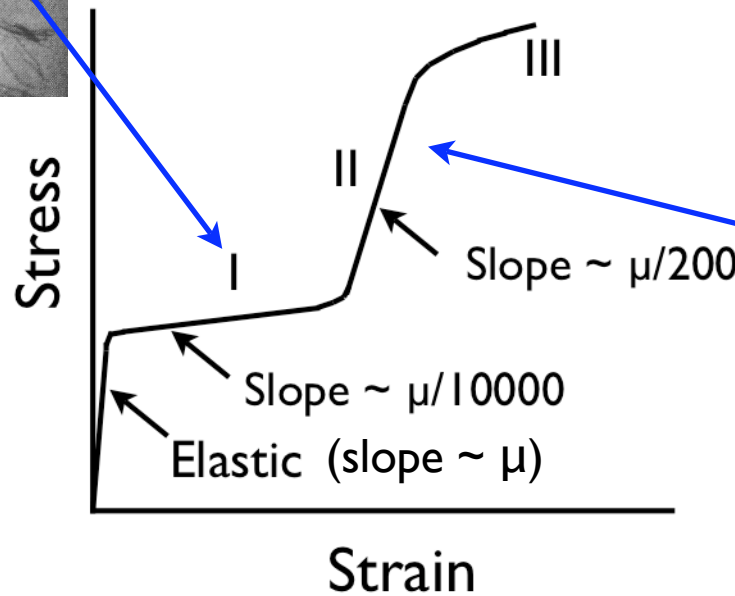
dark lines in micrographs are dislocations

All micrographs from a Cu single crystal

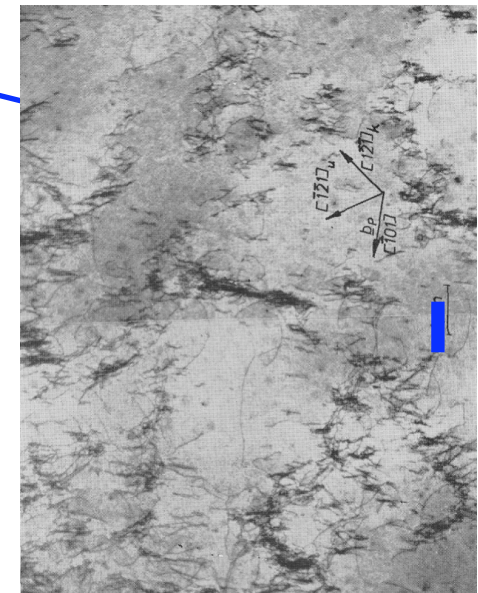


1 μm

Szekely, Groma, Lendvai, Mat. Sci. Engin.A **324**, 179 (2002)



single crystal under single slip  
 $\mu$  is the shear modulus

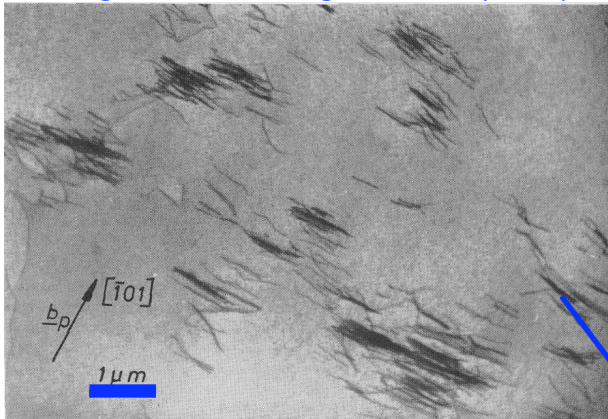


1 μm

Mughrabi, Phil. Mag. **23**, 869 (1971)

# Macroscopic deformation in *fcc* metals

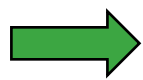
Mughrabi, Phil. Mag. **23**, 869 (1971)



1 μm

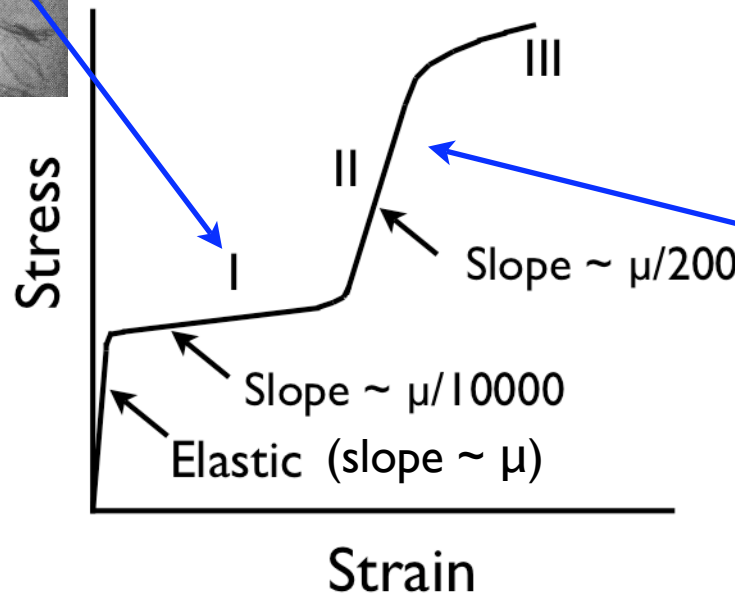
$$\epsilon^P = b \rho \langle x \rangle$$

- only a few macrovariables are relevant

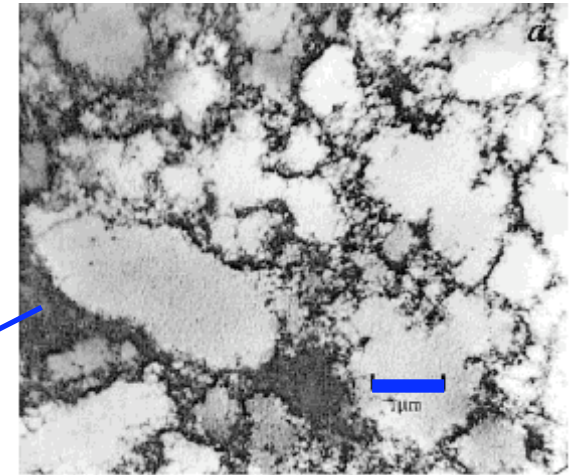


suggestive of inherent spatial coarse graining

All micrographs from a Cu single crystal

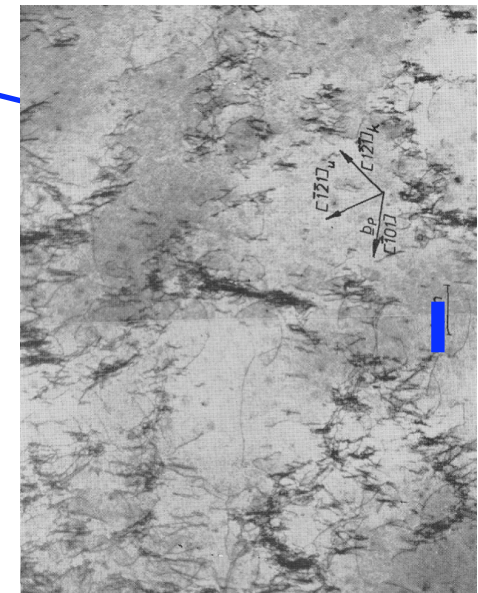


single crystal under single slip  
 $\mu$  is the shear modulus



1 μm

Szekely, Groma, Lendvai, Mat. Sci. Engin.A **324**, 179 (2002)



1 μm

Mughrabi, Phil. Mag. **23**, 869 (1971)

# Multiscale landscape

---

<b>Unit</b>	<b>Length Scale</b>	<b>Time Scale</b>	<b>Mechanics</b>
Complex Structure	$10^3$ m	$10^6$ s	Structural Mechanics
Simple Structure	$10^1$ m	$10^3$ s	Fracture Mechanics
Component	$10^{-1}$ m	$10^0$ s	Continuum mechanics
Grain Microstructure	$10^{-3}$ m	$10^{-3}$ s	Crystal plasticity
Dislocation Microstructure	$10^{-5}$ m	$10^{-6}$ s	Micro-mechanics
Single Dislocation	$10^{-7}$ m	$10^{-9}$ s	Dislocation Dynamics
Atomic	$10^{-9}$ m	$10^{-12}$ s	Molecular Dynamics
Electron Orbitals	$10^{-11}$ m	$10^{-15}$ s	Quantum Mechanics

# Multiscale landscape

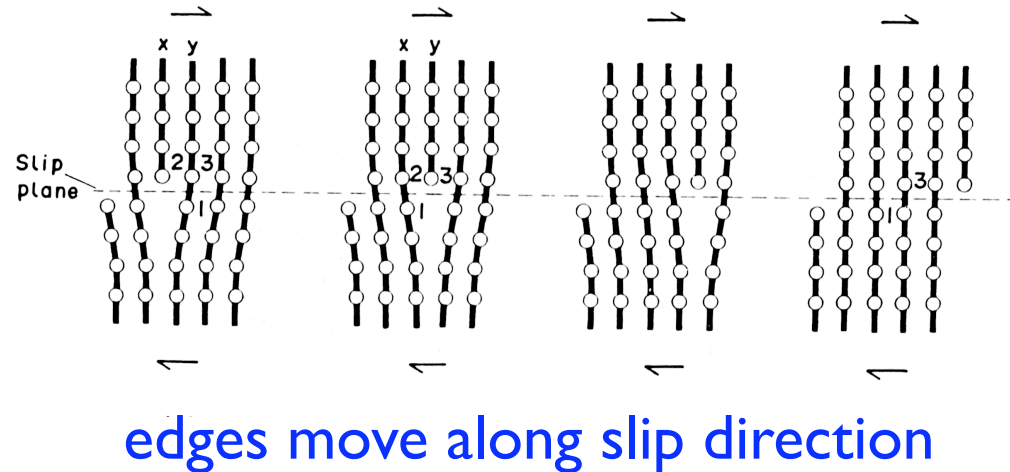
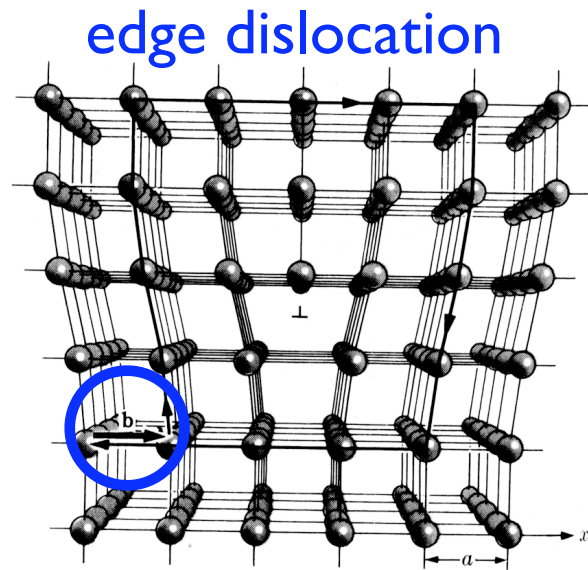
---

Unit	Length Scale	Time Scale	Mechanics
Complex Structure	$10^3$ m	$10^6$ s	Structural Mechanics
Simple Structure	$10^1$ m	$10^3$ s	Fracture Mechanics
Component	$10^{-1}$ m	$10^0$ s	Continuum mechanics
Grain Microstructure	$10^{-3}$ m	$10^{-3}$ s	Crystal plasticity
Dislocation Microstructure	$10^{-5}$ m	$10^{-6}$ s	Micro-mechanics
Single Dislocation	$10^{-7}$ m	$10^{-9}$ s	Dislocation Dynamics
Atomic	$10^{-9}$ m	$10^{-12}$ s	Molecular Dynamics
Electron Orbitals	$10^{-11}$ m	$10^{-15}$ s	Quantum Mechanics

**each level is based on different methods and often done by different groups**

**How do we link these together?**

# Dislocations are curvilinear topological defects that “carry” deformation



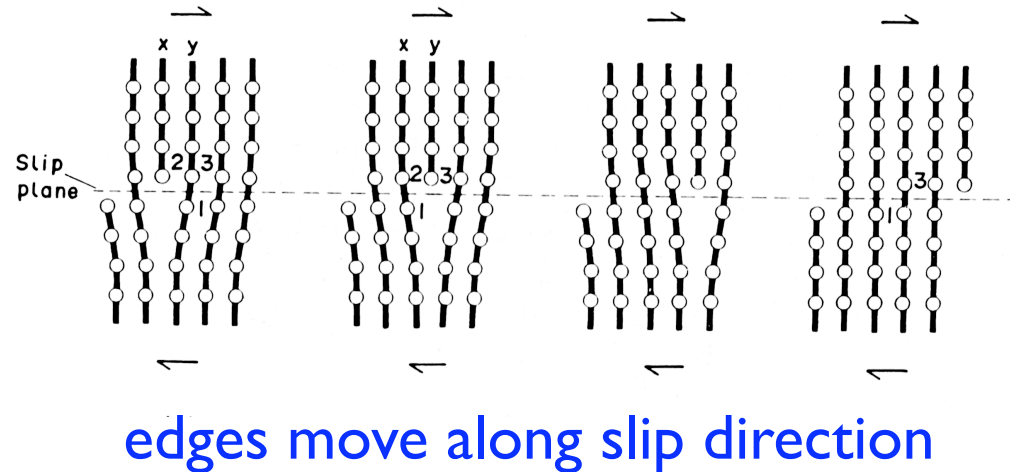
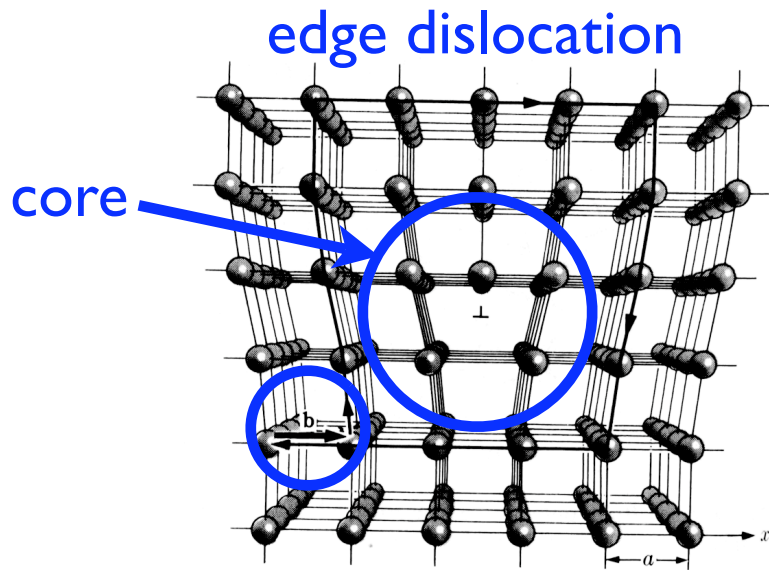
Burgers vector ( $\vec{b}$ ) measures displacement.

Edges defined by  $\vec{b} \perp \hat{\xi}$ . Note: dislocations are “signed.”

Concept connecting flow of dislocations to deformation dates to 1934.

- E. Orowan, Z. Physik, **84**, 605 (1934)
- G. I. Taylor, Proc. Roy. Soc. London Serial A **145**, 362 (1934)

# Dislocations are curvilinear topological defects that “carry” deformation



Burgers vector ( $\vec{b}$ ) measures displacement.

Edges defined by  $\vec{b} \perp \hat{\xi}$ . Note: dislocations are “signed.”

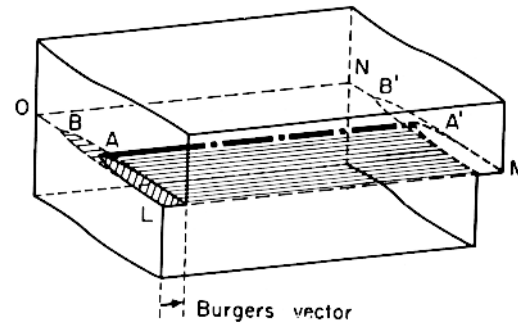
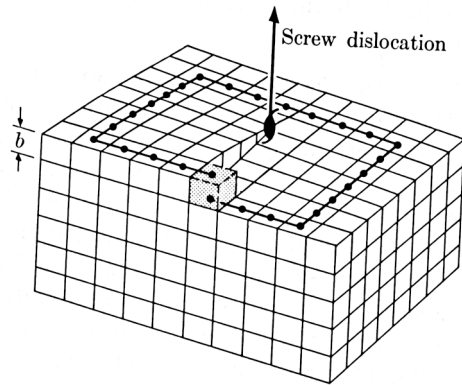
Concept connecting flow of dislocations to deformation dates to 1934.

- E. Orowan, Z. Physik, **84**, 605 (1934)
- G. I. Taylor, Proc. Roy. Soc. London Serial A **145**, 362 (1934)



# Other types of dislocations

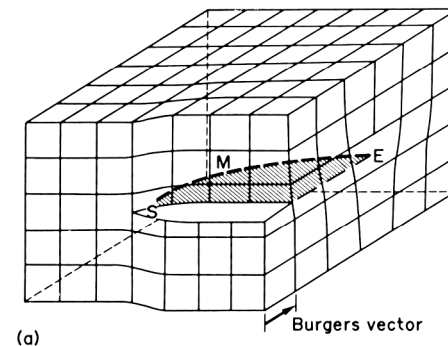
screw dislocation has  $\vec{b} \parallel \hat{\xi}$



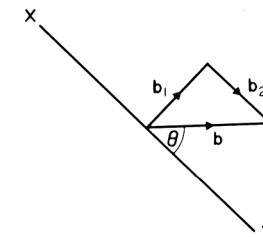
Screw dislocation structure and movement.

In general, dislocations are of mixed character:

- dislocations cannot end in a crystal
  - must exist as loops or end at surfaces or other defects
- the Burgers vector is constant for each dislocation loop
- must obey crystallographic constraints



(a)

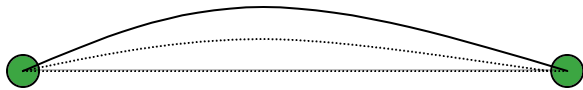


(b)

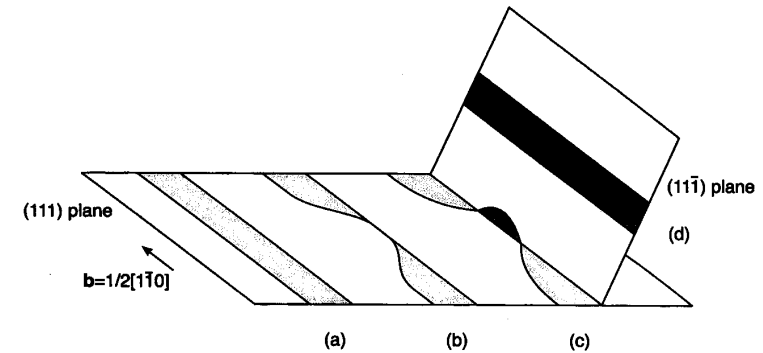
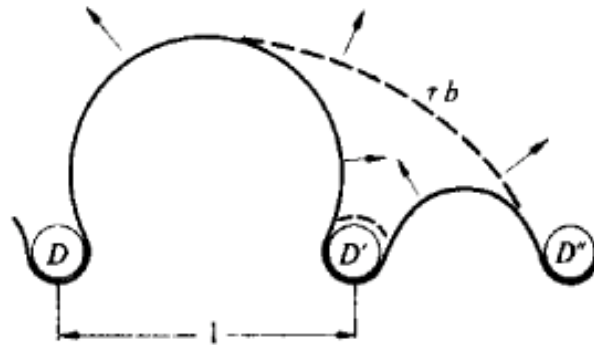
“Mixed” dislocation

# Crystallographic constraints

Owing to constraints of edge components, most dislocation movement is planar.



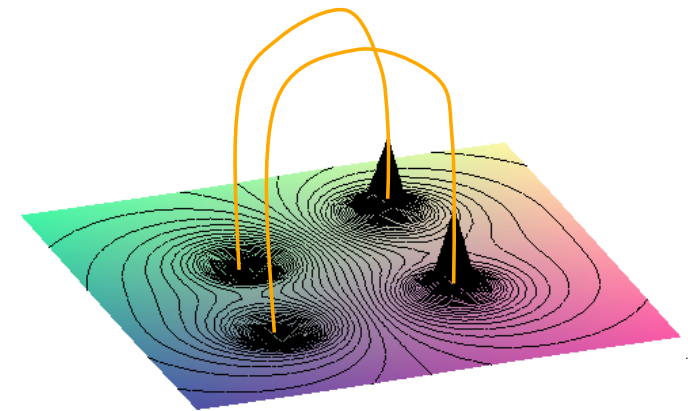
stress balanced  
by “line tension”



cross slip

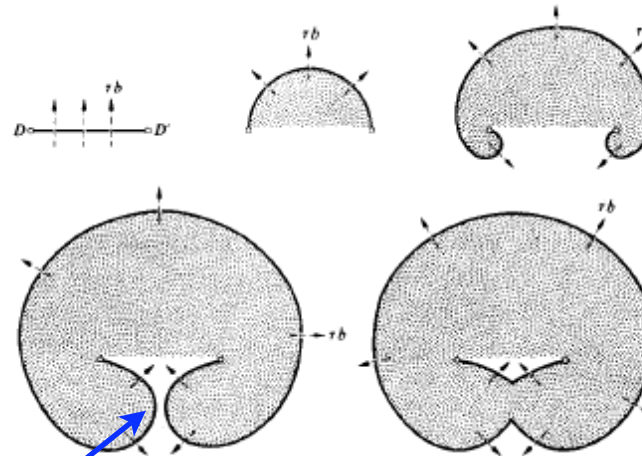
Movement off plane is atomic-level activated process.

In 3D, dislocations on other slip planes act as barriers to dislocation motion:



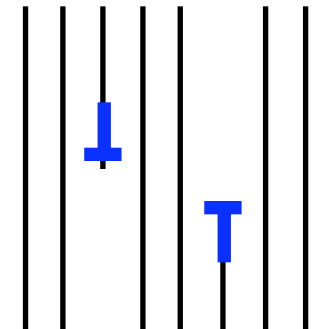
# Dislocations are not conserved

Frank-Read source:

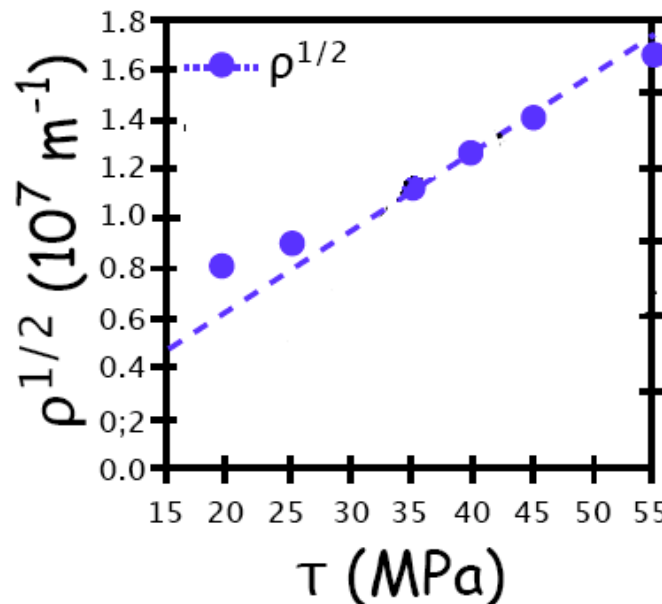


Annihilation

Dislocations of opposite sense can annihilate each other:



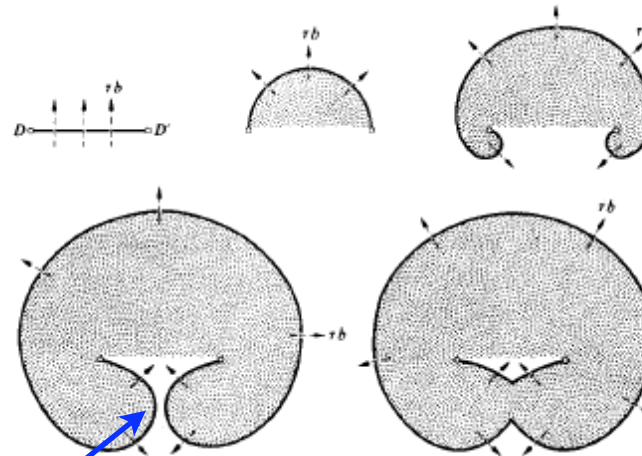
Dislocation density increases with deformation:



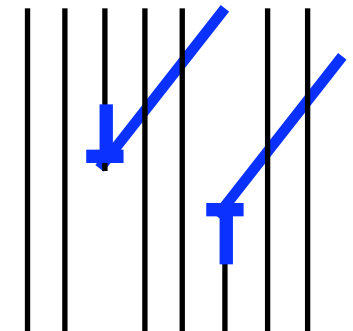
$$= \frac{\tau^2}{(\alpha\mu b)^2}$$

# Dislocations are not conserved

Frank-Read source:

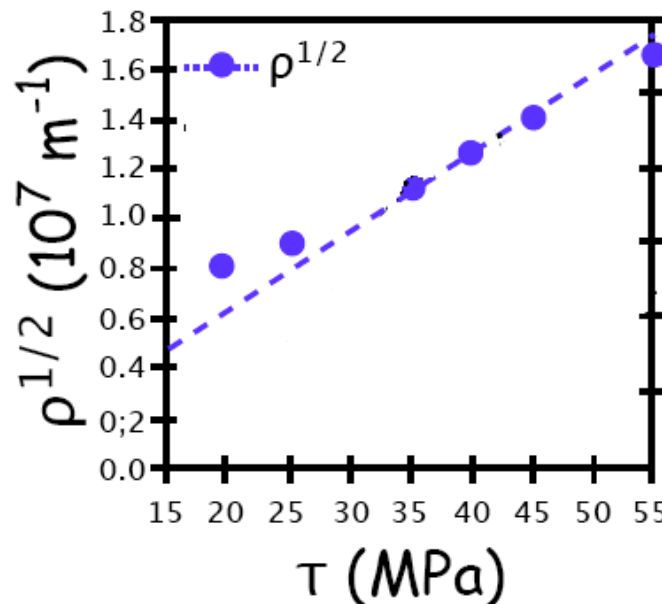


Annihilation



Dislocations of opposite sense can annihilate each other:

Dislocation density increases with deformation:



$$= \frac{\tau^2}{(\alpha\mu b)^2}$$

# Isotropic linear elasticity

---

Strain is derivative of displacement ( $\mathbf{u}$ ):

$$\varepsilon_{ij} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_i} \right) = \frac{1}{2} (u_{i,j} + u_{j,i}) \quad \left( f_{,i} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} \right)$$

Relation between stress and strain:  $\sigma_{kl} = c_{klij} \varepsilon_{ij}$   
 $c_{ijkl} = \lambda \delta_{ij} \delta_{kl} + \mu (\delta_{ik} \delta_{jl} + \delta_{il} \delta_{jk})$

We assume isotropic, linear elasticity:

- elastic properties independent of direction

$$\sigma_{11} = (\lambda + 2\mu) \varepsilon_{11} + \lambda \varepsilon_{22} + \lambda \varepsilon_{33}$$

$$\sigma_{12} = 2\mu \varepsilon_{12}$$

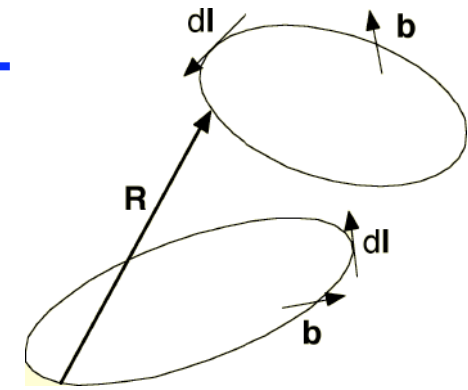
Elastic constants:  $\mu = c_{44}$     $\lambda = c_{12}$     $\nu = \frac{\lambda}{2(\lambda + \mu)}$

*Have formalism for anisotropic elasticity.*

# Dislocation interactions are long ranged and anisotropic

Peach-Koehler force:  $\frac{\vec{F}}{L} = (\vec{b} \cdot \bar{\bar{\sigma}}) \times \hat{\xi} = \epsilon_{ijk} b_l \sigma_{jl} \xi_k \hat{x}_i$

$$\sigma_{ij} = \frac{\mu b_n}{8\pi} \oint_C \left[ R_{,mpp} (\epsilon_{jmn} dl_i + \epsilon_{imn} dl_j) + \frac{2}{1-\nu} (R_{,ijm} - \delta_{ij} R_{,ppm}) \epsilon_{kmn} dl_k \right]$$



$$(R_{,ijk} = \partial^3 R / \partial x_i \partial x_j \partial x_k)$$

Total stress (linear elasticity):

$$\bar{\bar{\sigma}}_i = \bar{\bar{\sigma}}_{app} + \bar{\bar{\sigma}}_i^{self} + \sum_{j \neq i}^{N_{dis}} \bar{\bar{\sigma}}_j$$

self force is interaction of dislocation with self-line tension

Long-ranged interactions:

$$F \sim 1/R^2, E \sim 1/R$$

# Energetics

Dislocation density tensor: continuous, discrete

Kosevich:

$$E_I = \frac{\mu}{16\pi} \int \int \epsilon_{ipl} \epsilon_{jmn} R_{,mp}(\vec{r}, \vec{r}') d\vec{r} d\vec{r}'$$

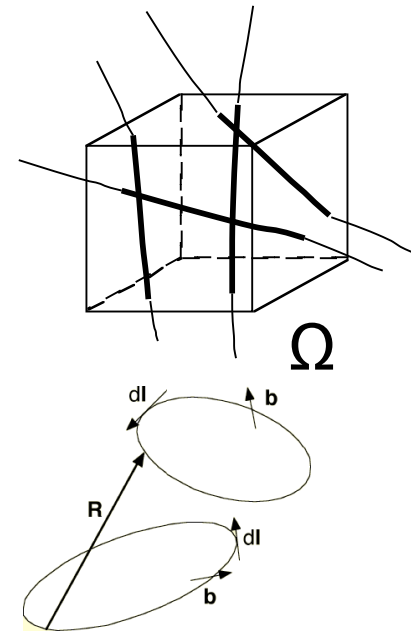
$$\times \left\{ \rho_{jl}(\vec{r}) \rho_{in}(\vec{r}') + \delta_{ij} \rho_{kl}(\vec{r}) \rho_{kn}(\vec{r}') + \frac{2\nu}{1-\nu} \rho_{il}(\vec{r}) \rho_{jn}(\vec{r}') \right\}$$

Nelson-Toner:

$$E[\rho(\vec{q})] = \frac{1}{2} \int d^3q K_{ijkl}(\vec{q}) \rho_{ij}(\vec{q}) \rho_{kl}(-\vec{q})$$

$$K_{ijkl} = \frac{\mu}{q^2} \left[ Q_{ik} Q_{jl} + C_{il} C_{kj} + \frac{2\nu}{1-\nu} C_{ij} C_{kl} \right]$$

$$Q_{ij} = \delta_{ij} - \frac{q_i q_j}{q^2} \quad C_{ij} = \epsilon_{ijk} \frac{q_k}{q}$$



$$R = |\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|$$

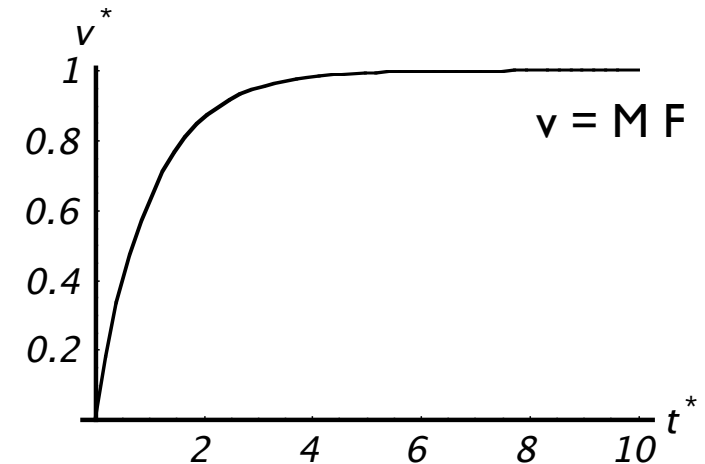
$$R_{,mp} = \partial^2 R / \partial x_m \partial x_p$$

# Dynamics

Dynamics are dissipative:  $m(v) \vec{a} = \vec{F} - \gamma \vec{v}$

If *inertial* effects are not important, assume over damped dynamics (i.e.,  $a=0$ )

$$\vec{v} = \vec{F} / \gamma = M \vec{F}$$

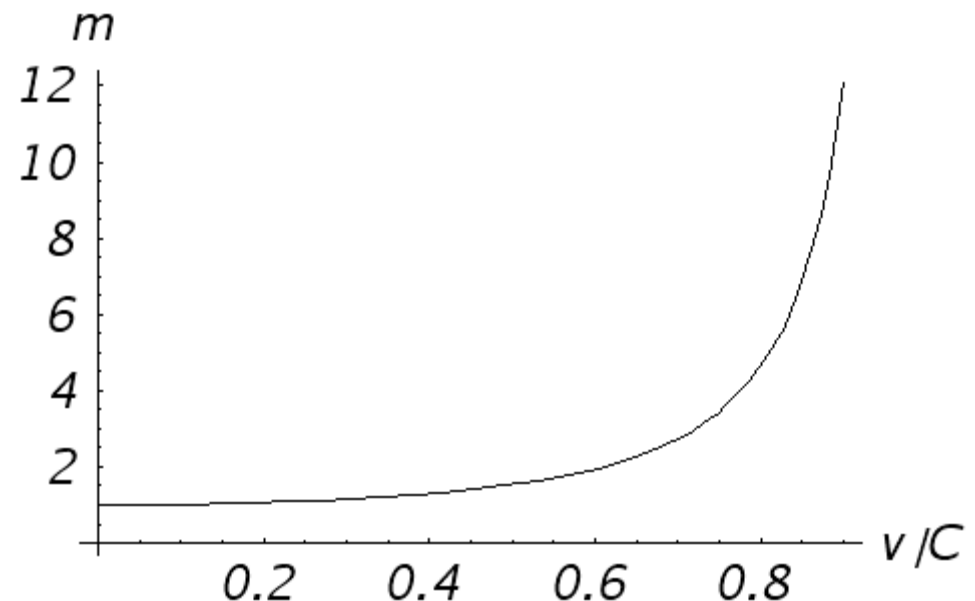


Velocity-dependent mass:

$$m_s(v) = \frac{W_0}{v^2} (-\gamma^{-1} + \gamma^{-3})$$

$$\gamma = (1 - v^2/C^2)^{1/2}$$

$$W_0 = \frac{\mu b^2}{4\pi} \ln \left( \frac{R}{r_0} \right)$$





# Simulation strategies

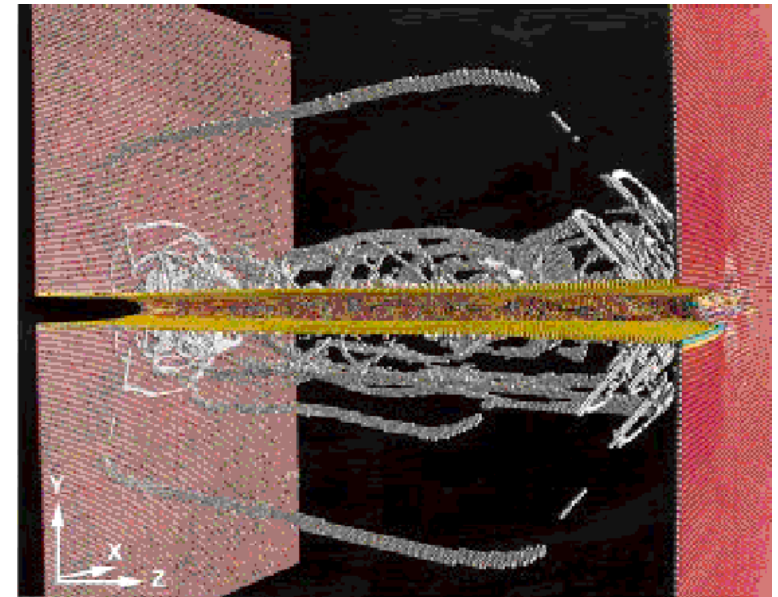
---

Microstructures on a scale of many microns

- $1 \mu\text{m}^3$  of copper includes approximately  $10^{11}$  atoms
- standard molecular dynamics methods can be used only for *small* numbers of dislocations

Mesoscale simulations:

- *dislocations are the entities of the simulations*
- atomic-level effects included as models



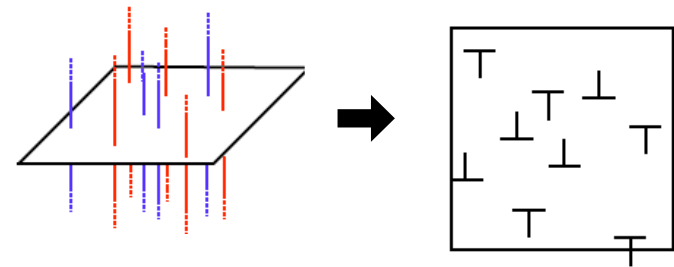
Dislocations around crack tip in shocked Cu. Example from Lomdahl, Holian, et al.

# 2D model

Parallel dislocations: “vector” lattice gas of charged particles in 2D.

$$\frac{F_i}{L} = \tau_{ext} b_i + \sum_j \frac{F_{ij}}{L} b_i b_j$$

$$\frac{F_{ij}}{L} = \frac{\mu}{4\pi(1-\nu)} \frac{x_{ij}(x_{ij}^2 - y_{ij}^2)}{(x_{ij}^2 + y_{ij}^2)^2}$$



Note:  $b$  can be +/-

sign change in  $F$  at  $45^\circ$

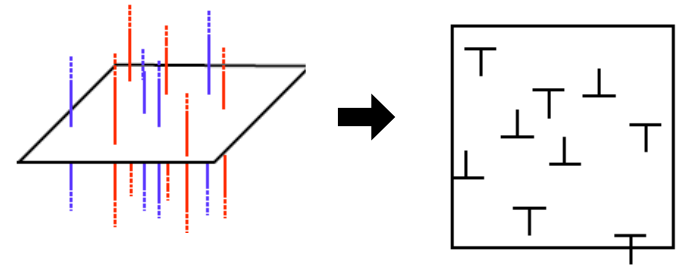
$F \sim 1/R$  (2D),  $E \sim \ln R$

*Constraints lead to frustration*

# Long-range interactions - the Fast Multipole Method in 2D

$$\frac{F_i}{L} = \tau_{ext} b_i + \sum_j \frac{F_{ij}}{L} b_i b_j$$

$$\frac{F_{ij}}{L} = \frac{\mu}{4\pi(1-\nu)} \frac{x_{ij}(x_{ij}^2 - y_{ij}^2)}{(x_{ij}^2 + y_{ij}^2)^2}$$



Greengard-Rohklin method applied to dislocations:

Stress for edge interactions:

$$\phi_c(z) = \cos \theta \ln(z) \quad \phi_s(z) = \sin \theta \ln(z)$$

$$\phi_x(z) = x\phi_c(z) \quad \phi_y(z) = y\phi_s(z)$$

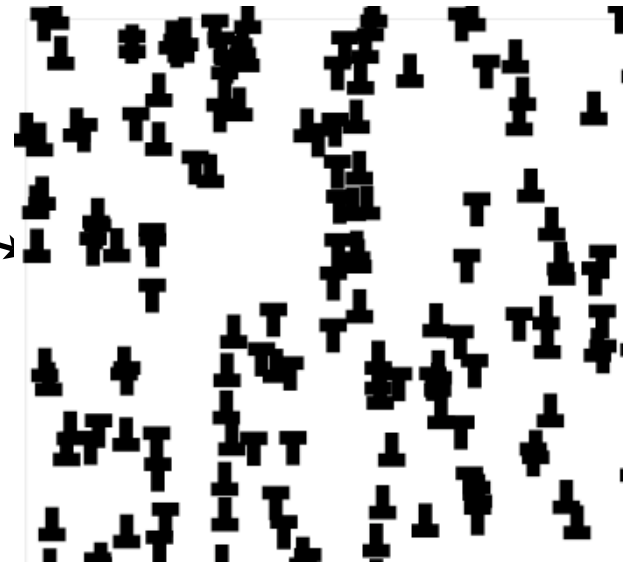
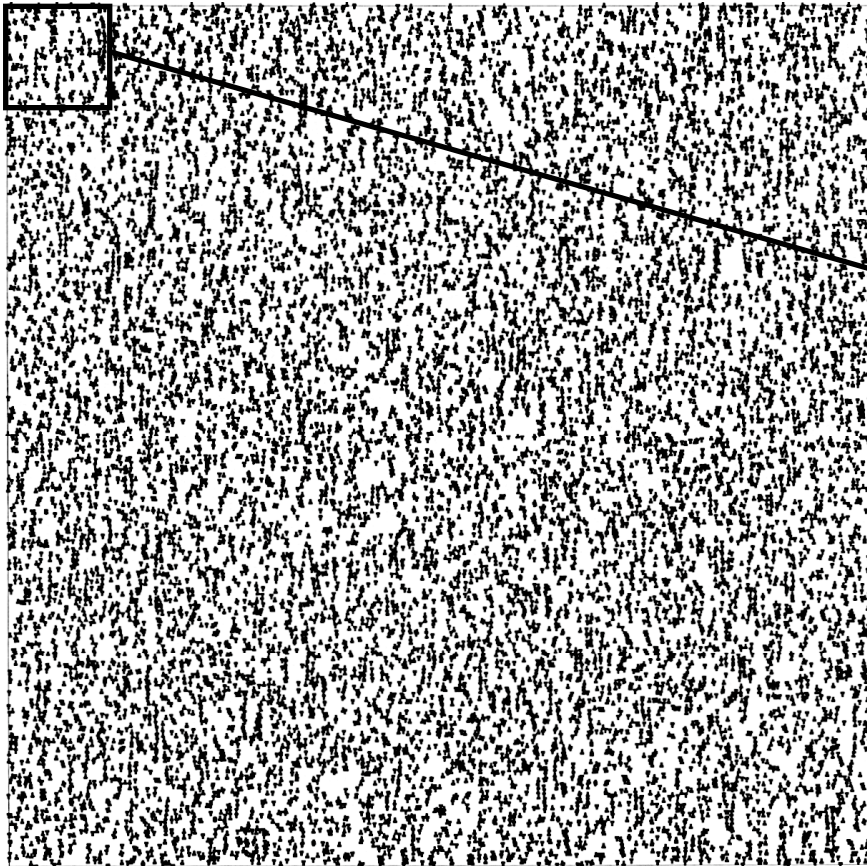
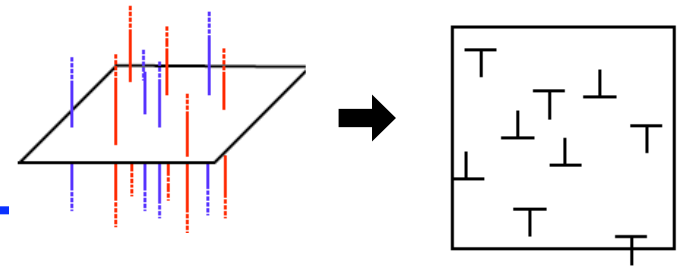
$$\sigma_{xx} = \frac{\mu b}{2\pi(1-\nu)} \left( 2 \operatorname{Im}(\phi'_c(z)) - \operatorname{Re}(\phi''_x(z)) + \operatorname{Re}(\phi''_y(z)) \right)$$

3		3		3		3	
3		3		3		3	
2	2	2	2	3		3	
1	1	1	2	3		3	
1	0	1	2	3		3	
1	1	1	2	3		3	

Perform all expansions on generating functions

Materials Science and Engineering  
IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

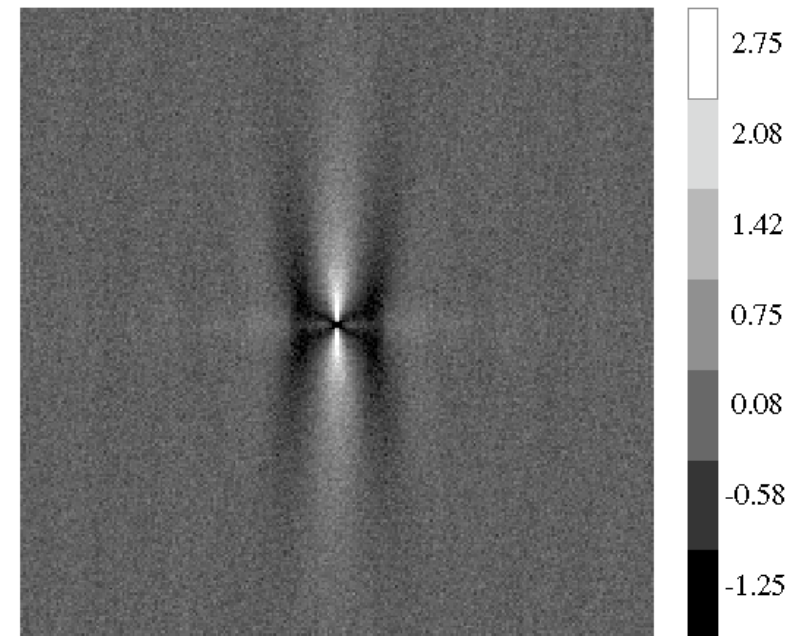
# Microstructure formation



Gulluoglu, Srolovitz, LeSar,  
Lomdahl, Scripta Metallurgica  
23, 1347-1352 (1989)

Wang, LeSar, and Rickman,  
Phil. Mag. A 78, 1195 (1998)

correlation functions:



# Representation of dislocations in 3D.

We represent dislocation loops with splines:‡

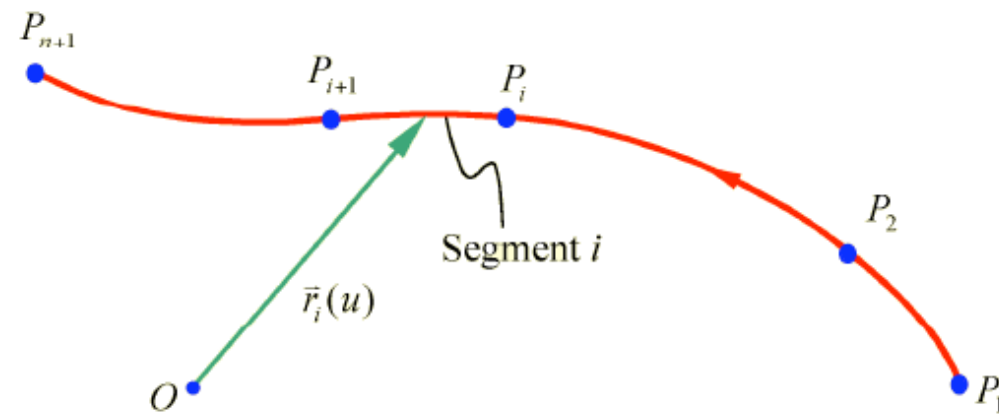
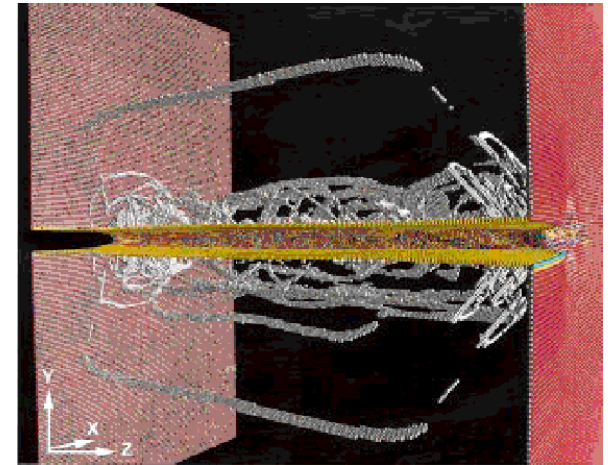
$$\begin{aligned}\vec{r}_i = & (1 - 3u^2 + 2u^3)\vec{P}_i + (3u^2 - 2u^3)\vec{P}_{i+1} \\ & + (u - 2u^2 + u^3)\vec{T}_i + (-u^2 + u^3)\vec{T}_{i+1}\end{aligned}$$

Node points are  $\vec{P}_i$  and tangent vectors at each node are  $\vec{T}_i$ .

$\vec{T}_i$  are completely determined by continuous curvature at nodes.

Most other groups employ straight dislocation segments

- Kubin and coworkers, LLNL

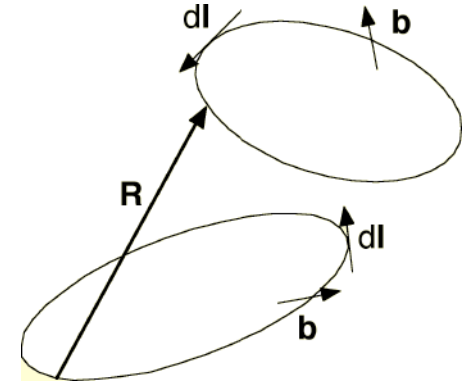


# Dislocation dynamics

$$\frac{\vec{F}}{L} = (\vec{b} \cdot \bar{\bar{\sigma}}) \times \hat{\xi} = \varepsilon_{ijk} b_l \sigma_{jl} \xi_k \hat{x}_i$$

$$\sigma_{ij} = \frac{\mu b_n}{8\pi} \oint_C \left[ R_{,mpp} (\varepsilon_{jmn} dl_i + \varepsilon_{imn} dl_j) \right. \\ \left. \frac{2}{1-\nu} (R_{,ijm} - \delta_{ij} R_{,ppm}) \varepsilon_{kmn} dl_k \right] \quad (R_{,ijk} = \partial^3 R / \partial x_i \partial x_j \partial x_k)$$

$$\bar{\bar{\sigma}}_i = \bar{\bar{\sigma}}_{app} + \bar{\bar{\sigma}}_i^{self} + \sum_{j \neq i}^{N_{dis}} \bar{\bar{\sigma}}_j$$



Numerical integration along lines gives force on the nodes.

Equation of motion for nodes:  $\vec{x}(t + \delta t) = \vec{v}(t) \delta t$

$$\vec{v} = \vec{F} / \gamma = M \vec{F}$$

# Basic dislocation motion and interactions

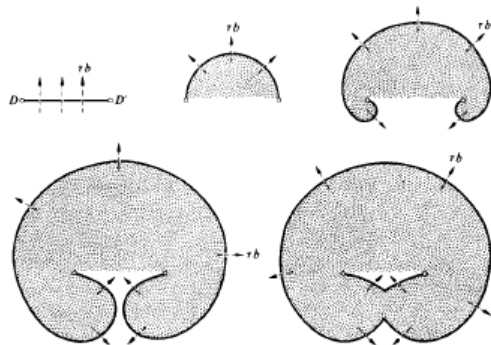
Time sequences of configurations:

(a) F-R source;

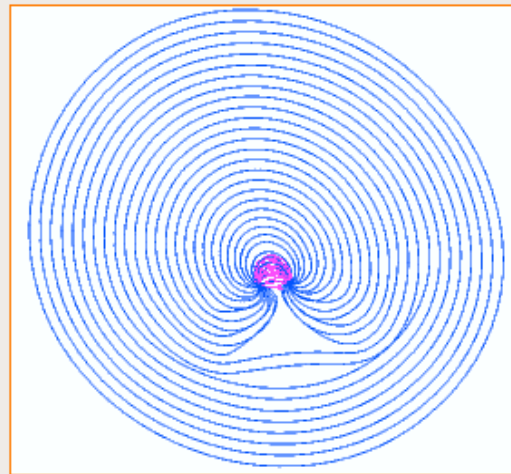
(b) Annihilation;

(c) Dipole;

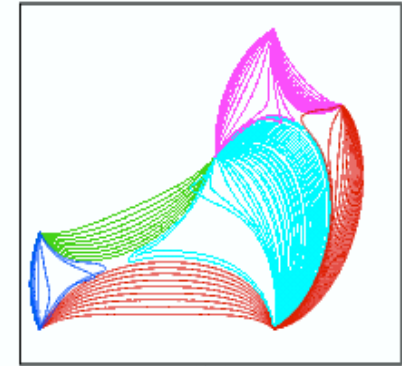
(d) Junction.



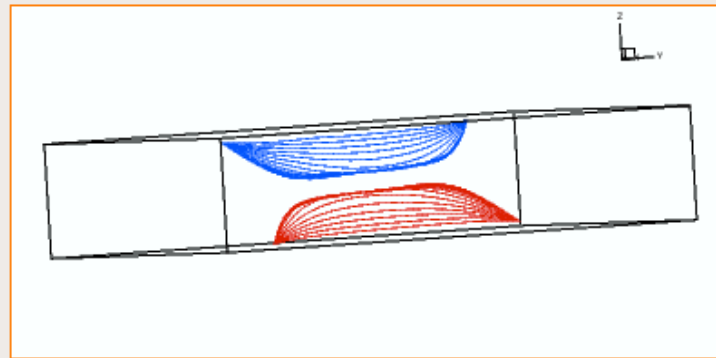
(a)



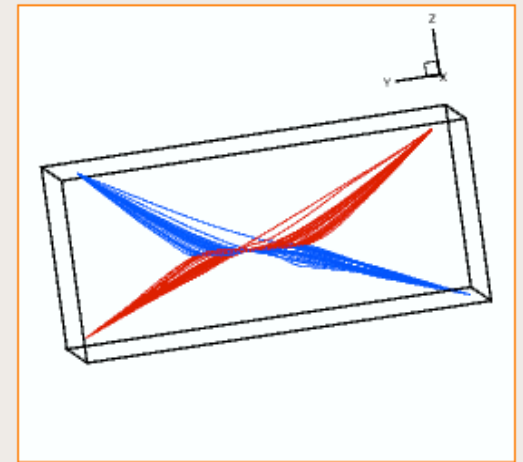
(a)



(b)

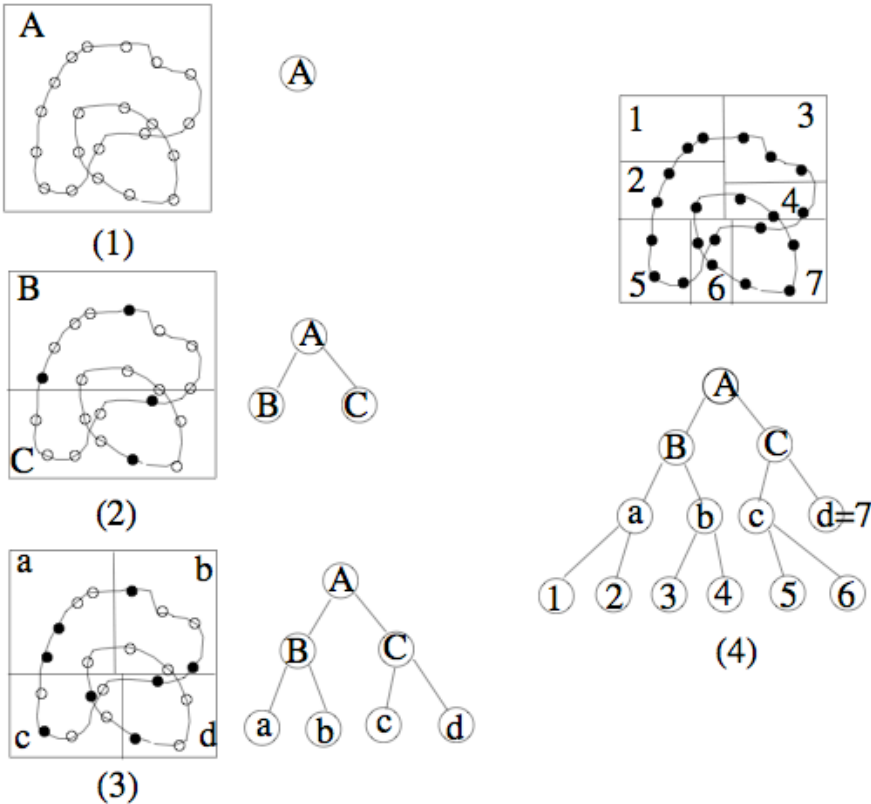


(c)



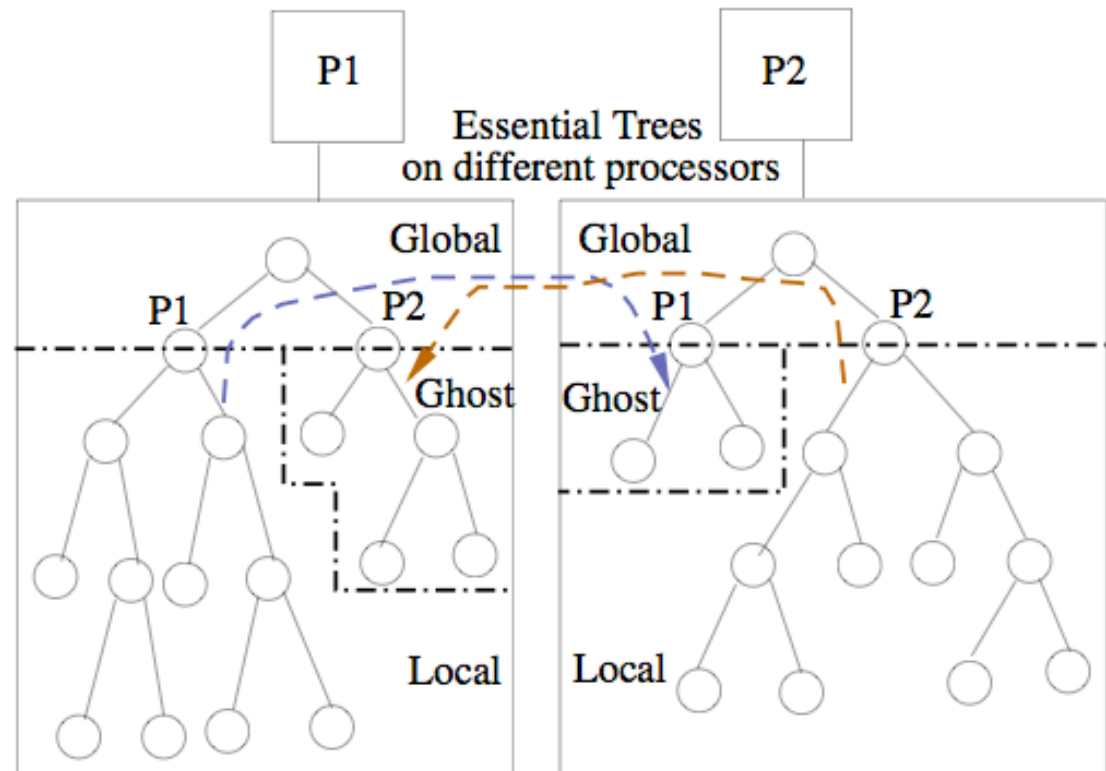
(d)

# Parallel algorithm



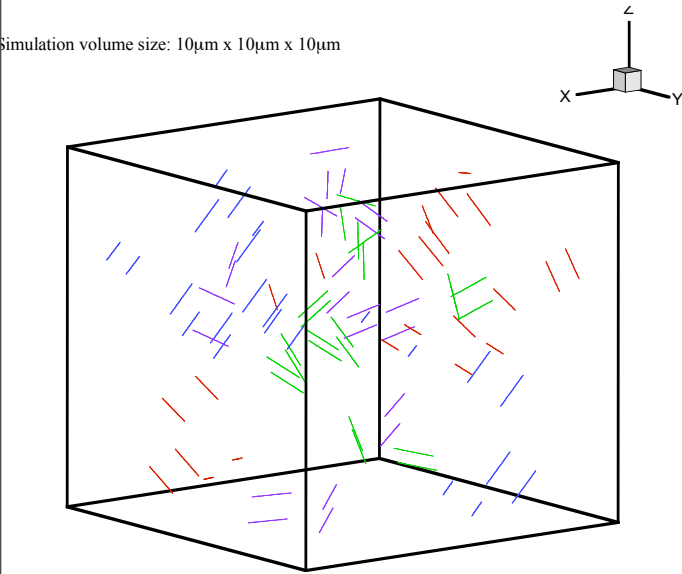
distribution of dislocations is inhomogeneous

- dislocations span regions
- long-range forces through multipole expansion

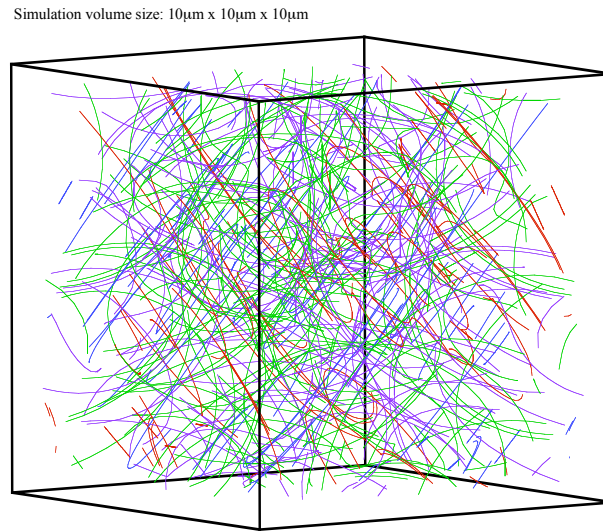




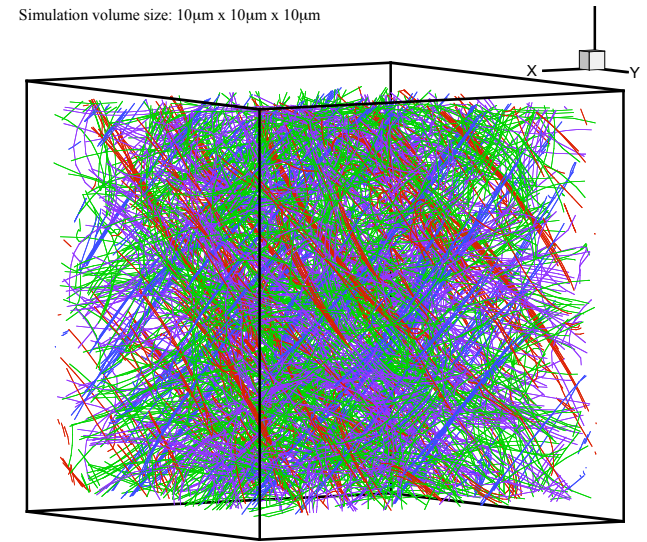
# Development of dislocation microstructure



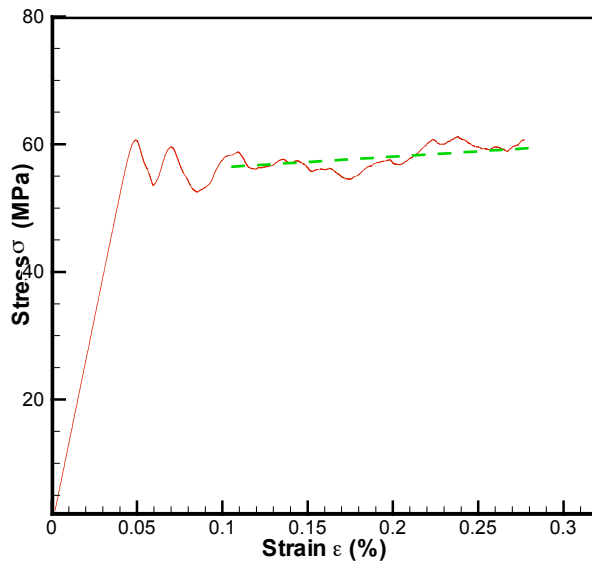
$$\rho = 10^7 / \text{cm}^2$$



$$\rho = 2 \times 10^8 / \text{cm}^2$$



$$\rho = 7.5 \times 10^8 / \text{cm}^2$$

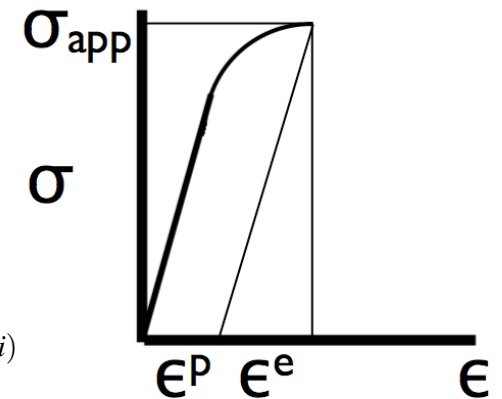


$$\epsilon_{ij} = \epsilon_{ij}^e + \epsilon_{ij}^p$$

$$\sigma_{kl} = c_{klij} \epsilon_{ij}^e$$

$$= c_{klij} (\epsilon_{ij} - \epsilon_{ij}^p)$$

$$\dot{\epsilon}^p = -\frac{1}{2V} \sum_{i=1}^N \oint_{l^{(i)}} v^{(i)} [\mathbf{n}^{(i)} \otimes \mathbf{b}^{(i)} + \mathbf{b}^{(i)} \otimes \mathbf{n}^{(i)}] dl^{(i)}$$



# Energy-based modeling of dislocations

- dislocation content as order parameter
- Ginzburg-Landau dynamics
- Khachaturyan and coworkers in 3D

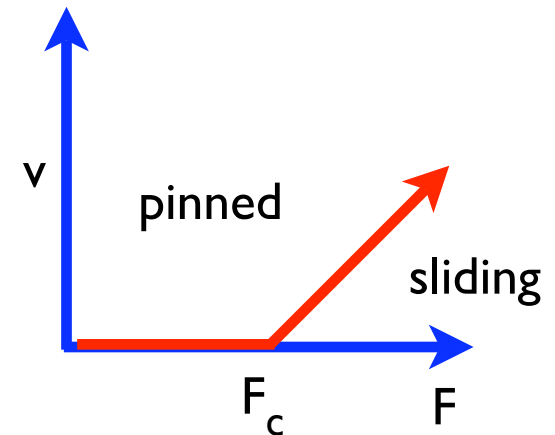
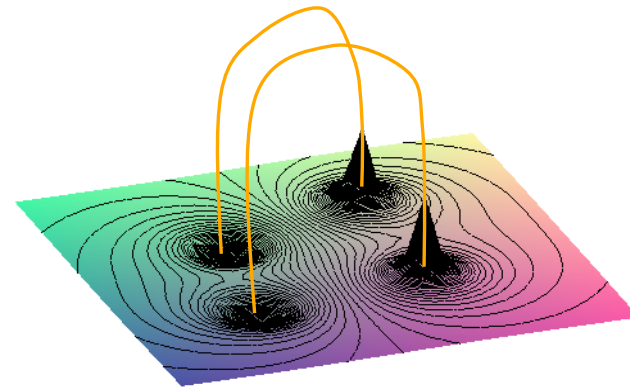
2D model:

- fundamental quantity is the **slip**  $\xi$
- dislocation content is given by gradient of the slip

$$\beta_{ij}^p = \xi(y) m_j s_i \quad u_{i,j} = \beta_{ij}^e + \beta_{ij}^p \quad \rho_{hi} = -\varepsilon_{hlj} \beta_{ji,l}^p$$

$$E[\xi] = \int \left( \frac{\mu b^2}{4} \frac{K}{1 + Kd/2} |\hat{\xi}|^2 - \frac{b s \hat{\xi}}{1 + Kd/2} \right) \frac{d^2k}{(2\pi)^2}$$

$$K = \frac{k_2^2}{\sqrt{k_1^2 + k_2^2}} + \frac{1}{1 - \nu} \frac{k_1^2}{\sqrt{k_1^2 + k_2^2}}$$



non-local energy

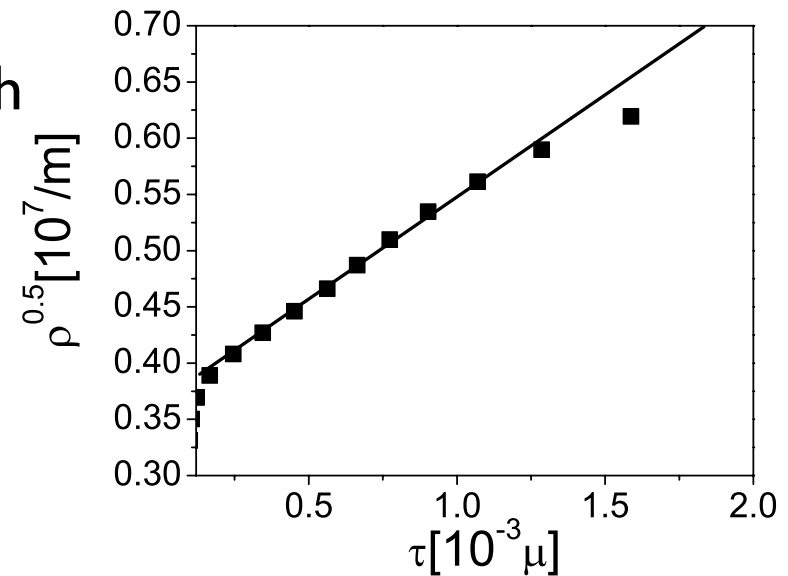
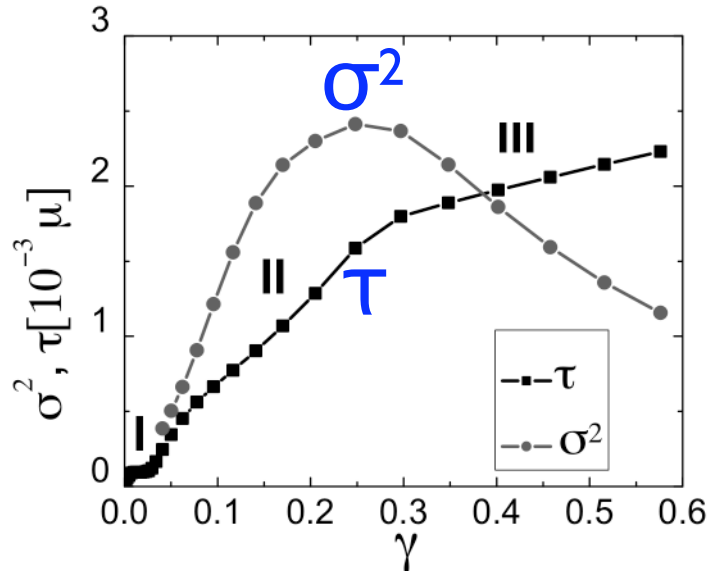
pinning potential

$$\frac{\partial \xi(x)}{\partial t} = \frac{\delta E[\xi(x)]}{\delta \xi(x)} + \tau - \eta(x, \xi(x))$$

# Large-scale deformation

2D model of 3D behavior:

- stress-strain in good agreement with experiment
- variance shows peak at Stage II-III (agrees with Szekely et al.)

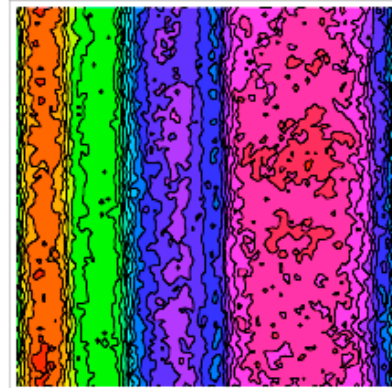
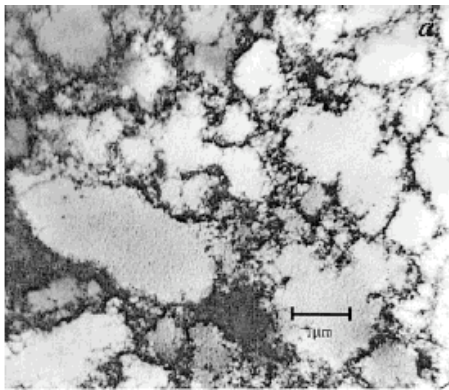


Once number of obstacles “saturates”

- Stage III behavior

Mimics removal of LC locks (obstacles) that pin cell walls to reach steady-state.

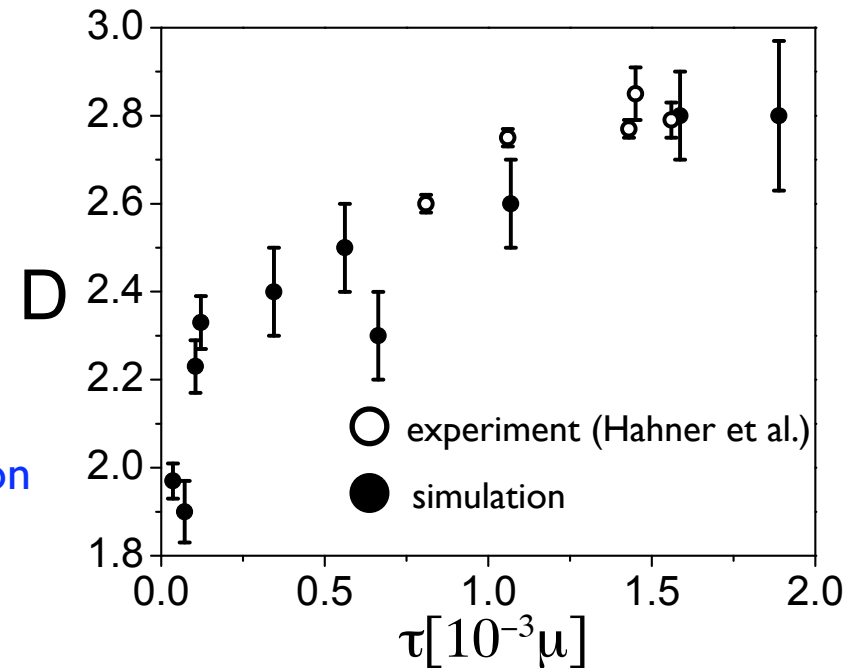
# Simulations and experiment indicate structures are fractal



number of “cells”  
of area A

fractal dimension

$$n(A) = CA^{-D}$$



From 2D phase field, we find same fractal dimension as experiment

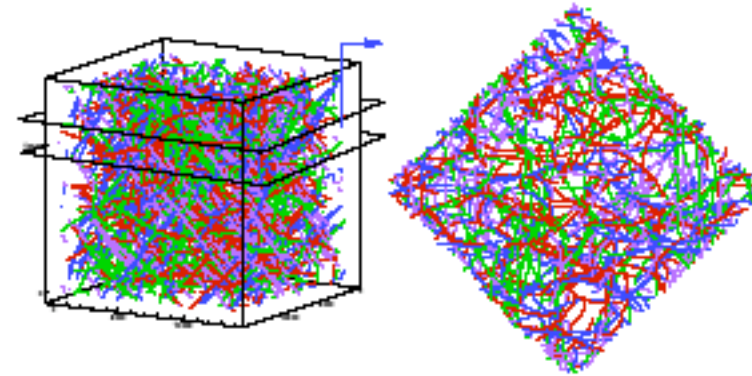
- implies self-similarity extends from our structures to full cellular structure.
- we measure “cell” sizes as areas with no dislocations, extending scaling to smaller scales

# Direct simulations are computationally challenging

---

Time per force calculation  $t \sim L^2$   
(length of dislocation), but  $L \propto \rho \propto \tau^2$

- time  $t \sim \tau^4$
- calculations slow down considerably as system is deformed
- too slow to include directly in continuum calculations
- we have formalism for  $O(N)$  simulation (FMM)
- some issues with boundary conditions



We are developing a *coarse-graining* approach that enables inclusion of dislocation content without resolving dislocation content.

# Spatial coarse graining

---

## *Quest in coarse graining:*

- identify a relatively small set of coarse-grained variables, selected from among a myriad of degrees of freedom
- describe system on larger length/time scales than practical (or possible) at scales associated with microscopic simulations

## *Coarse graining in other systems:*

- systems exhibiting coupling on multiple scales, including turbulent fluids, critical magnets, mesoscale mechanics of solids, ...
- there has been some success for some systems

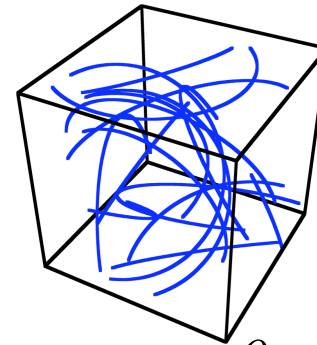
## ***A critical question:***

- Is the development of a CG for dislocations even possible?

# Dislocation density tensor

Average dislocations over volume  $\Omega$  to obtain the dislocation density **tensor**,  $\rho_{ij}$

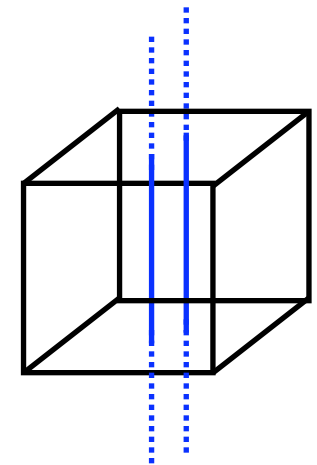
- first index is the line direction
- the second is the Burgers vector.



$$\rho_{\alpha\beta} = \sum_i b_{\beta}(i) \oint_{C_i} dl_{\alpha}(i)$$

Limitations:‡

- $\rho_{ij}$  is an average
- no information about structure and energy within  $\Omega$
- no information about crystallography
- no differentiation between stored and “geometrically necessary” dislocations
- unclear what sets optimal length scale for  $\Omega$
- need evolution equations



‡E. Kröner, *Inter.J. Solids and Structures* **38**, 1115-1134 (2001).

# Development of a density functional

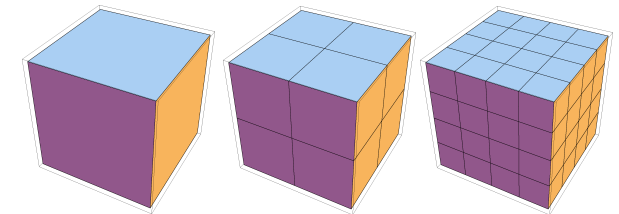
$$E_I = \frac{\mu}{16\pi} \int \int \epsilon_{ipl} \epsilon_{jmn} R_{,mp}(\vec{r}, \vec{r}') d\vec{r} d\vec{r}'$$

$$\times \left\{ \rho_{jl}(\vec{r}) \rho_{in}(\vec{r}') + \delta_{ij} \rho_{kl}(\vec{r}) \rho_{kn}(\vec{r}') + \frac{2\nu}{1-\nu} \rho_{il}(\vec{r}) \rho_{jn}(\vec{r}') \right\}$$

$$R = |\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|$$

$$R_{,mp} = \partial^2 R / \partial x_m \partial x_p$$

We divide space into regions with volume  $\Omega$ .



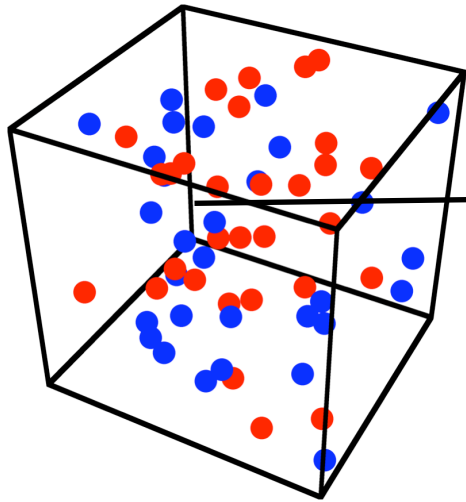
Moment expansion of  $E_I$

- find good convergence with gradient expansion (first order)
- does not provide information on structures smaller than  $\Omega$



# Multipole expansion of dislocation interactions.

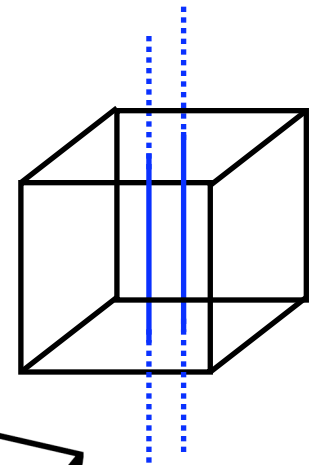
Volume of point charges.



$$\Phi(\vec{r}) = \sum_j \frac{q_j}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}_j|} \approx \frac{Q}{R} + \frac{\vec{\mu} \cdot \vec{R}}{R^3} + \dots$$

$$Q = \sum_j q_j$$

$$\vec{\mu} = \sum_j q_j \vec{r}_j$$

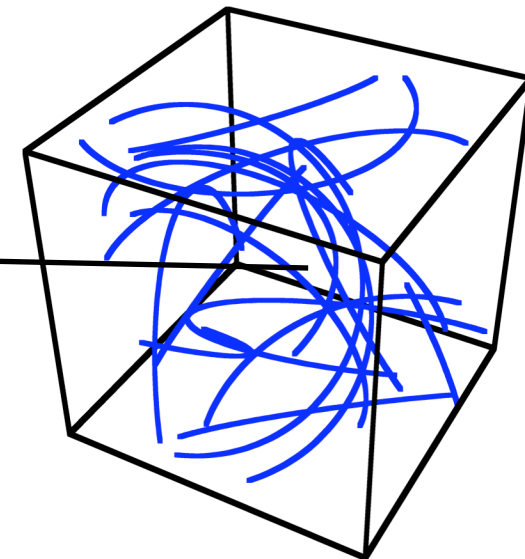


$$\sigma_{ij} = \frac{\mu b_n}{8\pi} \oint [R_{,mpp}(\epsilon_{jmn} dl_i + \epsilon_{imn} dl_j) + \frac{2}{1-\nu} \epsilon_{kmn} (R_{,ijm} - \delta_{ij} R_{,ppm}) dl_k]$$

$$\rho_{\alpha\beta} = \sum_i b_\beta(i) \oint_{C_i} dl_\alpha(i)$$

$$\rho_{\alpha\beta\gamma} = \sum_i b_\beta(i) \oint_{C_i} r_\gamma(i) dl_\alpha(i)$$

$$\sim \nabla_\gamma \rho_{\alpha\beta}$$



Volume of dislocation loops.

# Multiple length scales

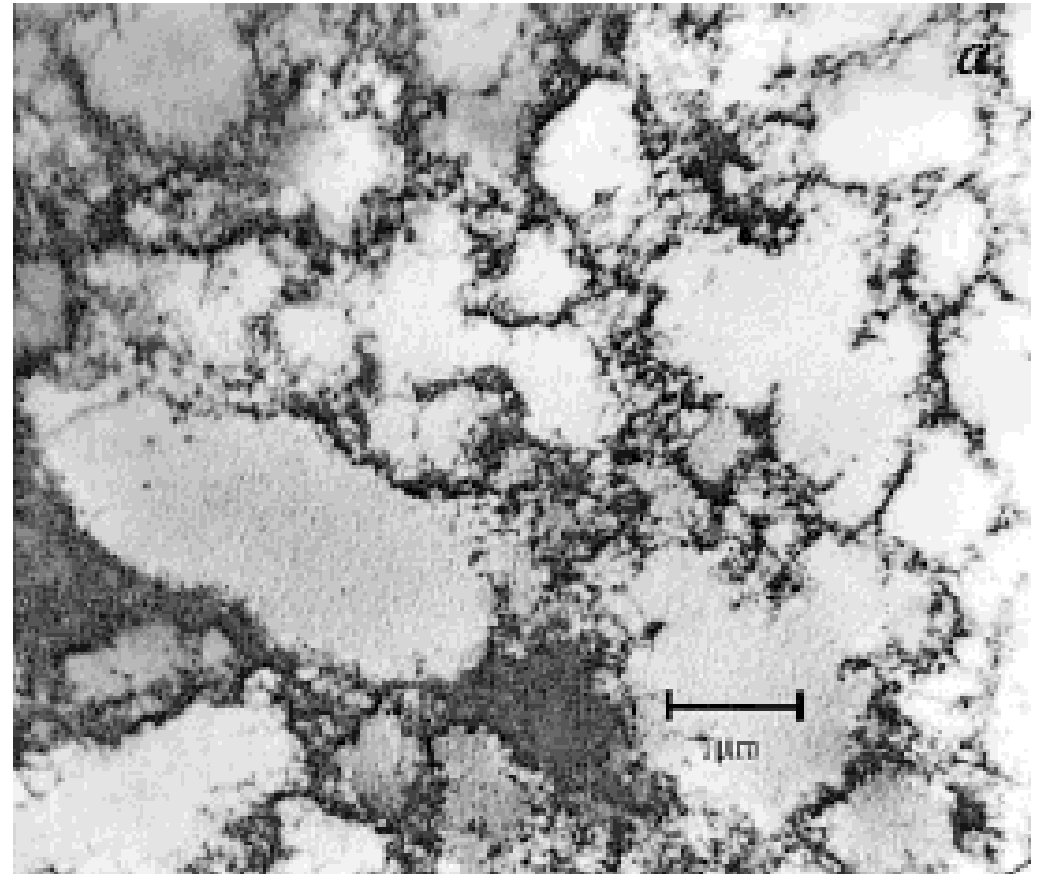
---

Polygonization:

- dislocations form walls
- structures within walls

Are there scaling laws that connect across scales?

What is the impact of substructure on mechanical properties?



*We are developing local governing equations for substructure energetics and dynamics*

- *define coarse-graining length*

# Temporal coarse graining

---

Phenomenological approach (Holt, Rickman and Viñals):

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \rho_{ij} + \varepsilon_{ilm} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_l} j_{mj} = 0 \quad \text{conservation of Burgers vector}$$

$$\vec{j} \propto \nabla \frac{\delta E}{\delta \vec{\rho}} \quad \text{flux law}$$

Connection to mesoscale simulation:

$$\left\langle \rho_{ij}(\vec{q}, t) \rho_{mn}(-\vec{q}, t) \right\rangle \quad \text{dynamical structure factor}$$

$$S_{loop} \propto \int \int ds ds' \left\langle \exp \left[ i\vec{q} \cdot \left( \vec{R}(s, t) - \vec{R}(s', t') \right) \right] \right\rangle \quad \text{polymer loop structure factor}$$

# Finite temperature effects

Thermally-induced kinks and jogs lead to *entropic* interactions between dislocations.

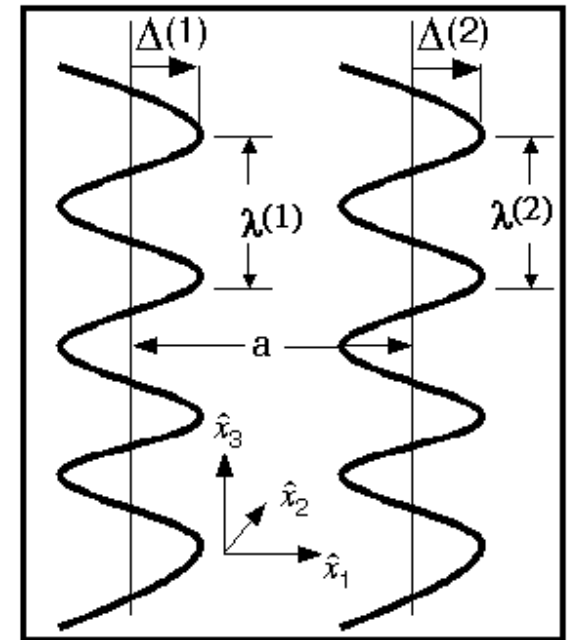
- analogues:
  - dipolar chains in electrorheological fluids
  - Type II superconductors (Halsey and Toor)

Energetics (Kosevich, Nelson-Toner):

$$E[\rho(\vec{q})] = \frac{1}{2} \int d^3q K_{ijkl}(\vec{q}) \rho_{ij}(\vec{q}) \rho_{kl}(-\vec{q})$$

$$K_{ijkl} = \frac{\mu}{q^2} \left[ Q_{ik}Q_{jl} + C_{il}C_{kj} + \frac{2\nu}{1-\nu} C_{ij}C_{kl} \right]$$

$$Q_{ij} = \delta_{ij} - \frac{q_i q_j}{q^2} \quad C_{ij} = \epsilon_{ijk} \frac{q_k}{q}$$



# Energetics

Isolated line defects: theory of distributions

- e.g., straight screw along z

$$\rho_{ij}(\vec{r}) = b \delta_{i3} \delta_{j3} \delta(x) \delta(y)$$

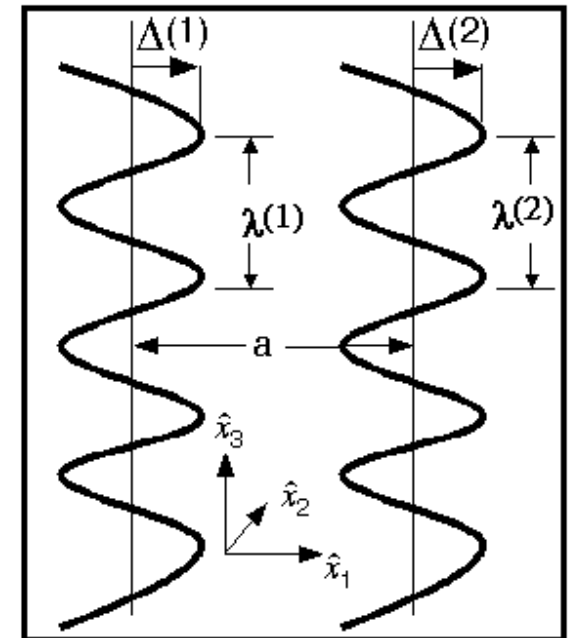
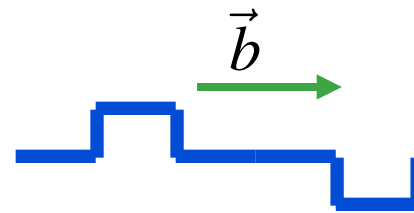
- energy between straight dislocations

$$e_{straight}(a) = -\frac{\mu b^{(1)} b^{(2)}}{2\pi} \ln(a)$$

$$\int d^2q \frac{1}{q^2} \exp(-iq_x a) = -2\pi \ln(a)$$

Thermally induced kinks and jogs:

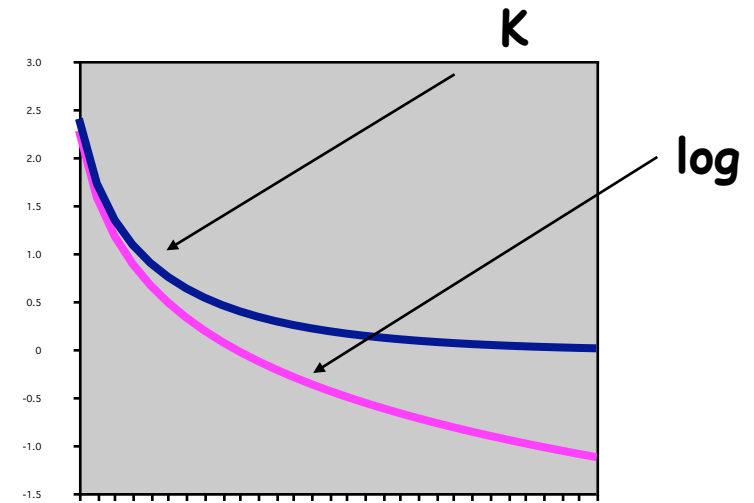
- Fourier expansion in modes



# Temperature-dependent force

screened line "charge"

$$\int d^2q \frac{1}{q^2 + k^2} \exp(-iq_x a) = 2\pi K_0(ka)$$



partition function

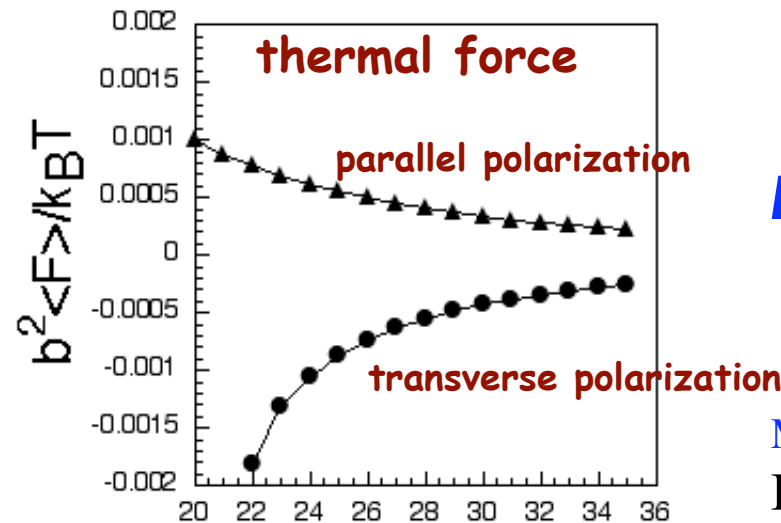
$$Z = N \left[ \int d\omega_{\perp} \exp\left(\frac{-L\Delta e_{\perp}}{kT}\right) \right] \left[ \int d\omega_{\perp} \exp\left(\frac{-L\Delta e_{\perp}}{kT}\right) \right]$$

free energy

$$F = -kT \ln(Z)$$

force

$$f = -\frac{\partial F}{\partial a}$$



$kT \ll \text{elastic force}$

# Temperature and noise

$kT \ll$  elastic energies

- effect of thermal noise mainly through atomic-level processes (cross slip, climb, jogs)

Noise arises from fluctuations in long range strain fields

- multiplicative

Some work has been done with simple rate equations with added multiplicative noise term:

- Hahner et al: fractal structures
- our group: wall stability

# Thermodynamics of local order

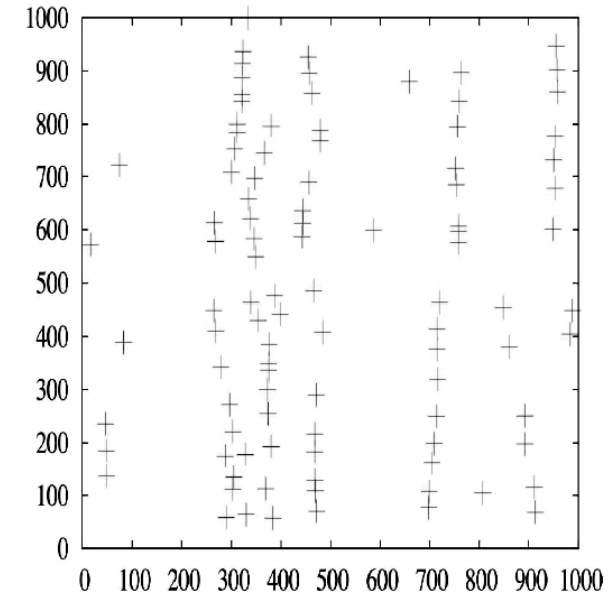
Find that ordering, noise, energetics all functions of dislocation density - define force for ordering

noise:  $\mathcal{R} \sim \rho^{1/2}$

structural order:  $\xi_w \propto \rho^\alpha$   
 $\alpha = -0.36 \pm 0.01$   
 $\xi_w \propto \mathcal{R}^{-0.73}$

energy:  $E_{int} \propto -\rho^\alpha$   
 $\alpha = 0.998 \pm 0.001$

force:  $\mathcal{F}_{\xi_w}(t, N) = -\left. \frac{\partial E / \partial t}{\partial \xi_w / \partial t} \right|_N$   
 $\mathcal{F}_{\xi_w}(2\tau) \propto \rho^\beta \quad \beta = 0.94 \pm 0.05$



$C(x,y)$  = standard correlation function

$$q(x) = \sum_y C(x,y)$$

$$\xi_w = \sum_{q(x) > q_{random}} q(x)$$



# Data provides measure of intermittent flow

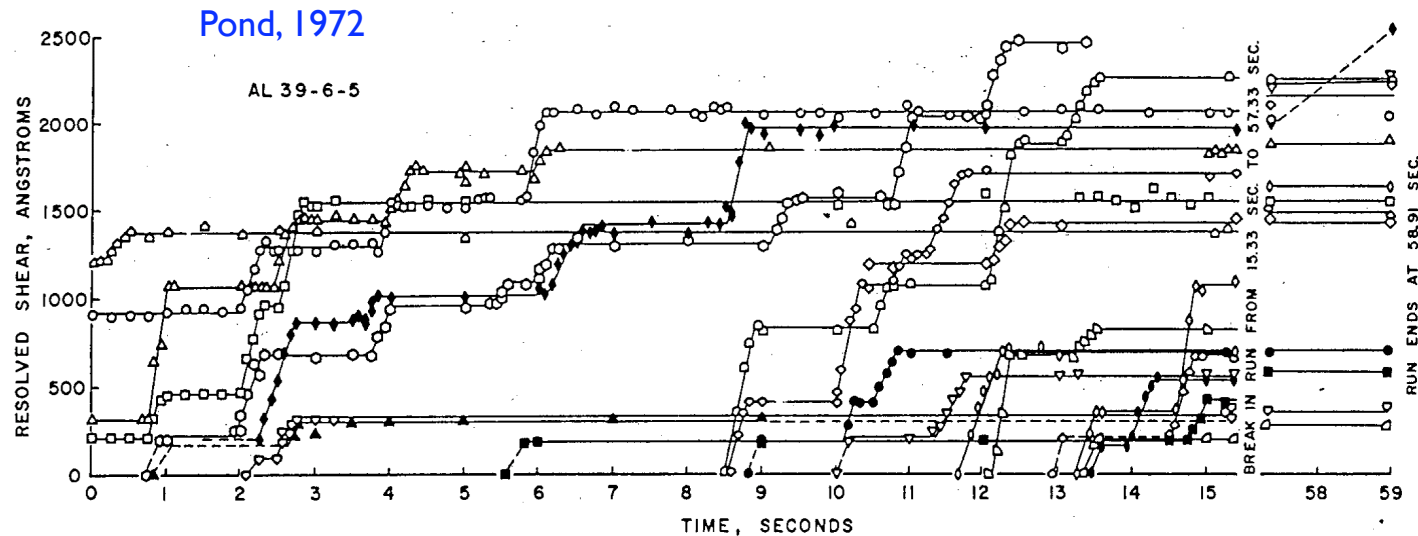
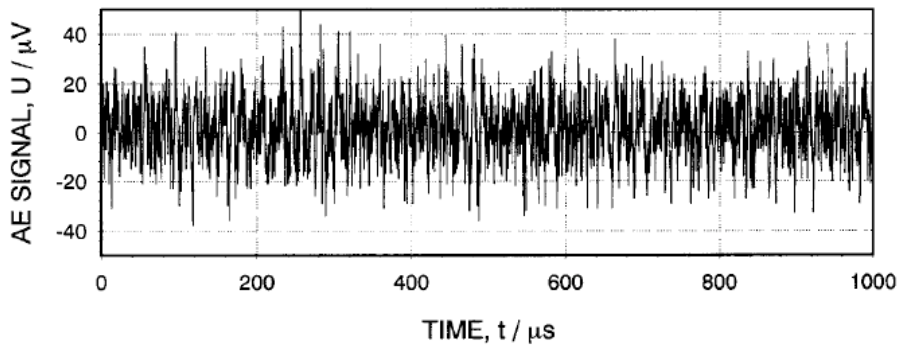


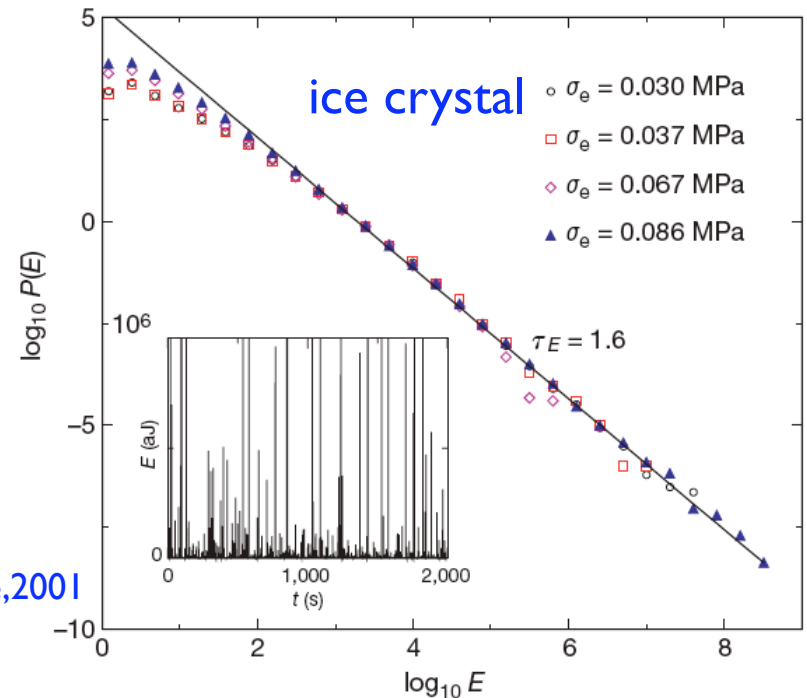
Fig. 5. Resolved shear for each slip band as a function of time for 19 slip bands is shown for an aluminum single crystal extended at 100 C

## Acoustic emission experiments:



Find power law distribution of avalanche size with exponent 1.6 - 2.0.

Miguel et al., Nature, 2001

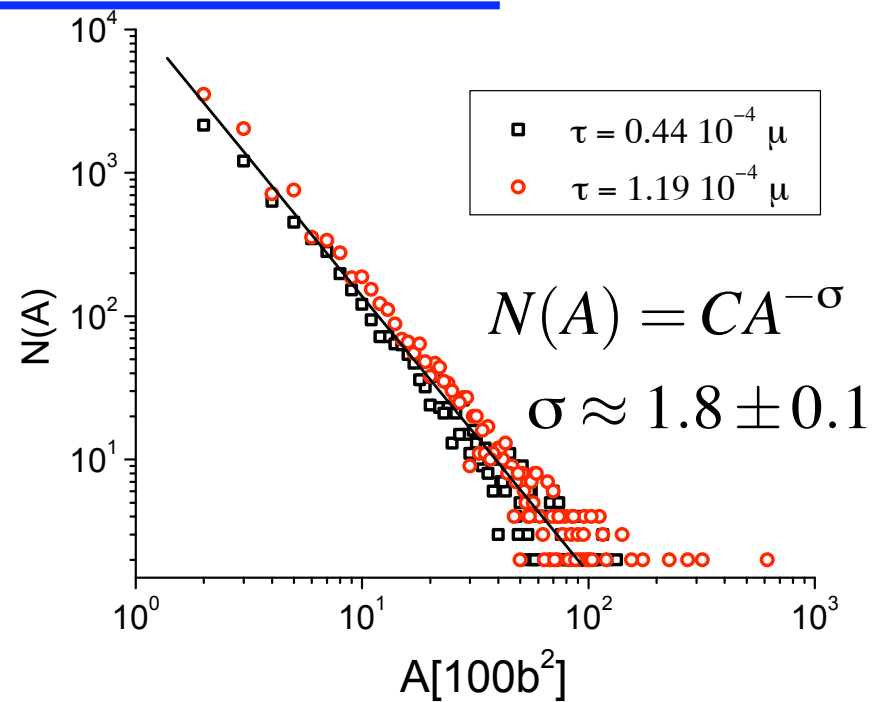
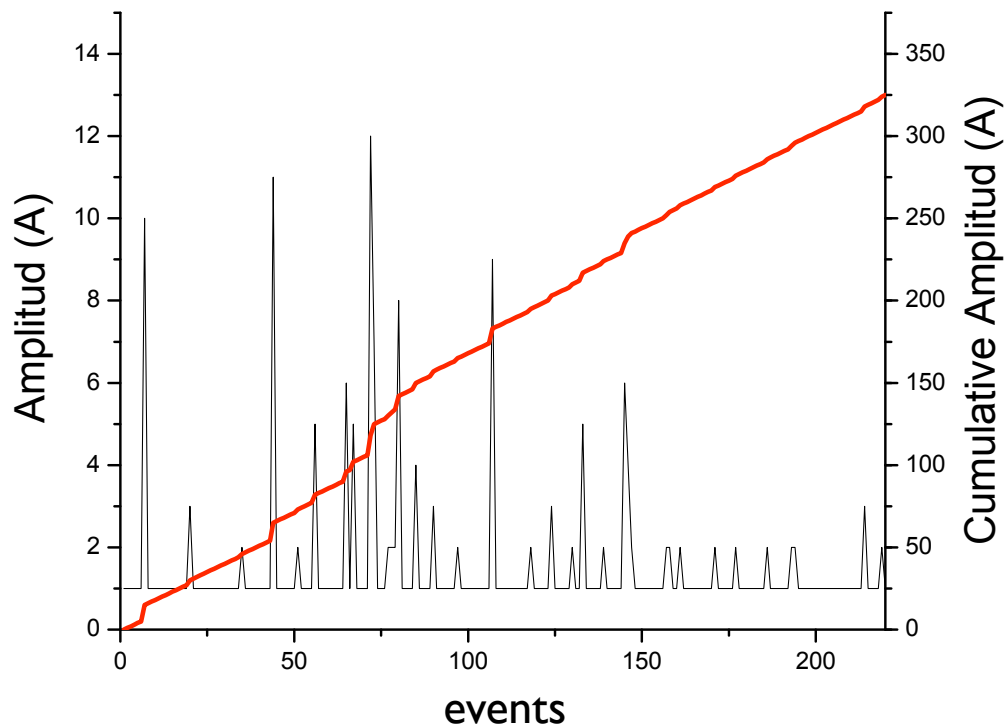


# Phase-field simulations

Employed phase-field calculations as before:

- in Stage I
- stress raised in small increments

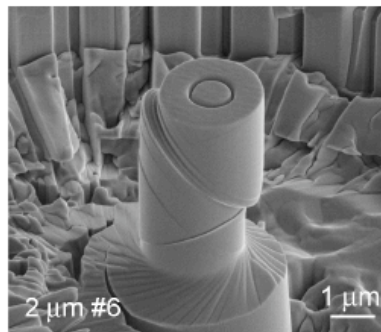
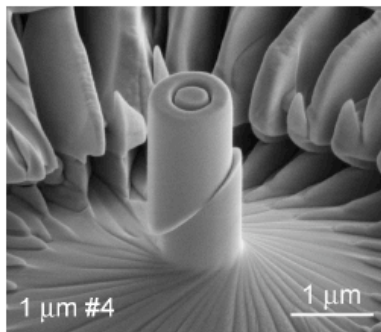
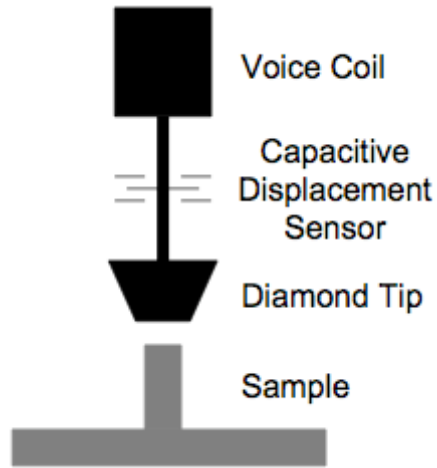
Bursts during one loading step:



Phase-field simulations show avalanche behavior:

- power-law scaling
- same class as fracture, earthquakes, ...
- example of self-organized critical system?

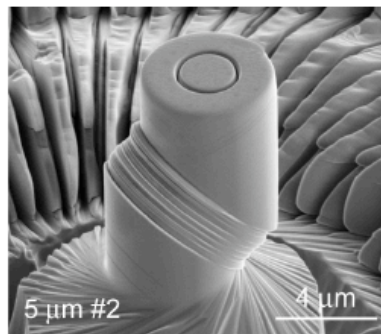
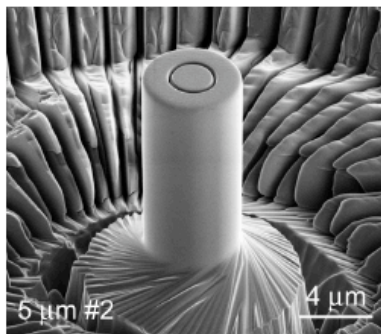
# Small-scale deformation



a

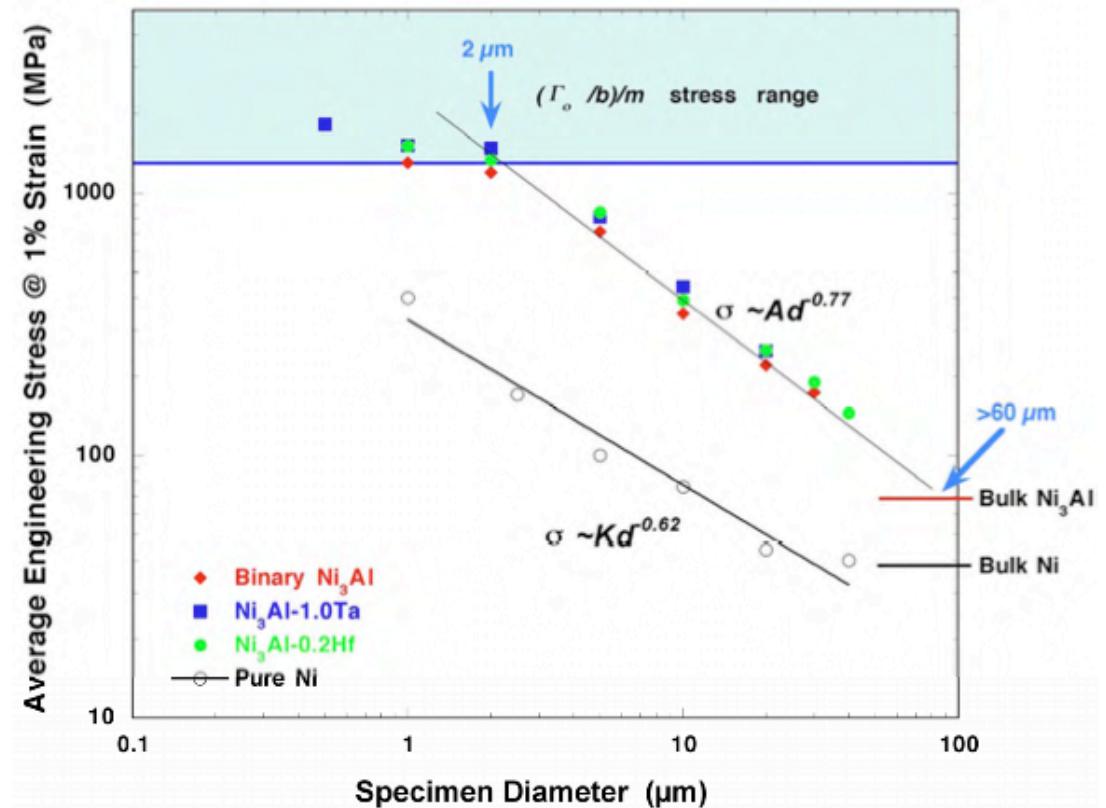
b

Single crystal Ni



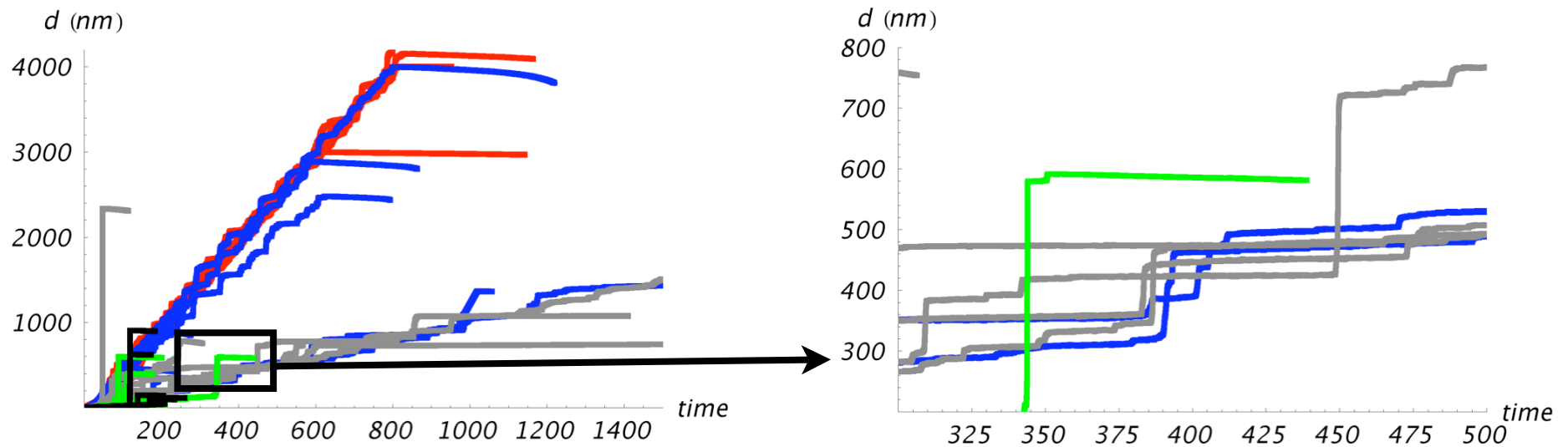
c

d



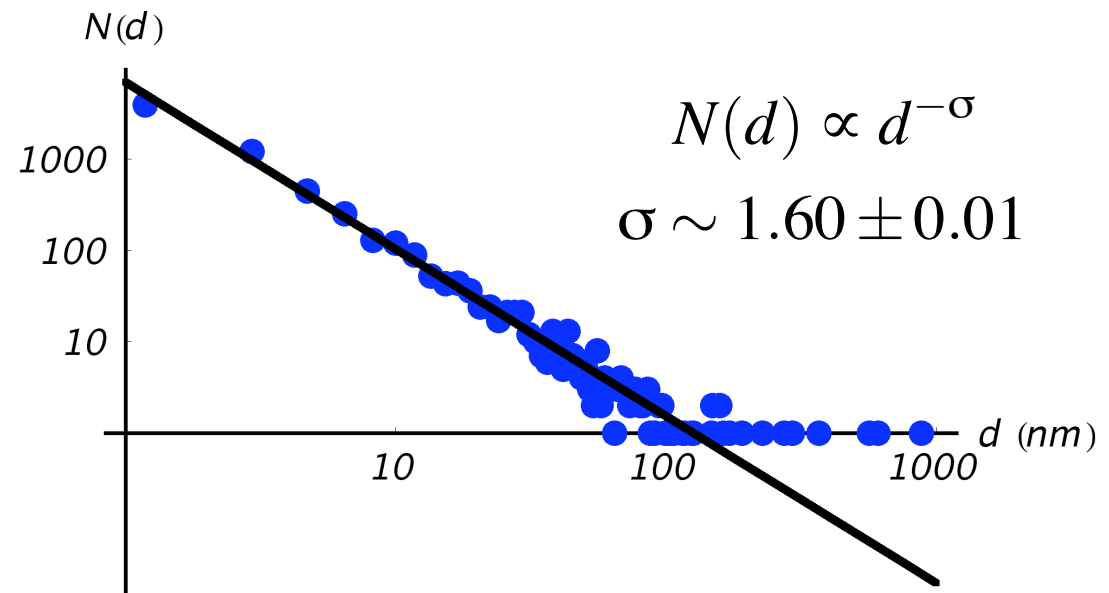
Uchic, Dimiduk et al. in Science and Acta Mater.

# Direct measurement of intermittent behavior in deformation



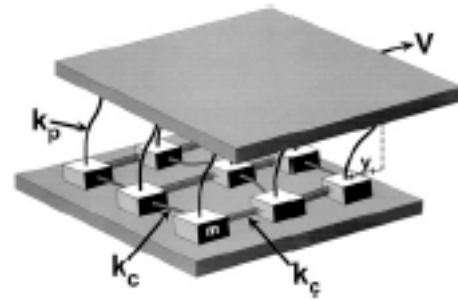
- 30-40  $\mu\text{m}$
- 20  $\mu\text{m}$
- 10  $\mu\text{m}$
- 2  $\mu\text{m}$
- 1  $\mu\text{m}$

Dimiduk, Woodward, LeSar, Uchic,  
**Science** 312, 1188-1190 (2006).



# Implications

Simulations and experiment indicate that dislocations form self-organized critical systems.



*Enables us to employ a new set of theories and analysis in dislocation theory.*

## Other recent theoretical work of note

Javier Gil Sevillano - size effects (with analogy to flow through porous media)

Michael Zaiser - scaling, statistical mechanics of dislocations

Anter El Azab - kinetic theory of dislocations

Jim Sethna - mesoscale theory based on continuous dislocation theory

Ishtvan Groma - Debye screening in dislocations

...

# How far have we progressed as a field?

---

A. H. Cottrell:

In 1953 said of strain hardening that ``it was the first problem to be attempted by dislocation theory and may be the last that is solved''

In 2002, Cottrell summed up progress since 1953 by stating that ``It is sometimes said that the turbulent flow of fluids is the most difficult remaining problem in classical physics. Not so. Work hardening is worse''

*After 50 years, still much to understand about the relation of dislocation structure and mechanical response.*

---

# QUESTIONS?