

Canadian Powder Diffraction Workshop

October 11 – 14, 2022

# In-situ diffraction

[beatriz.moreno@lightsource.ca](mailto:beatriz.moreno@lightsource.ca)

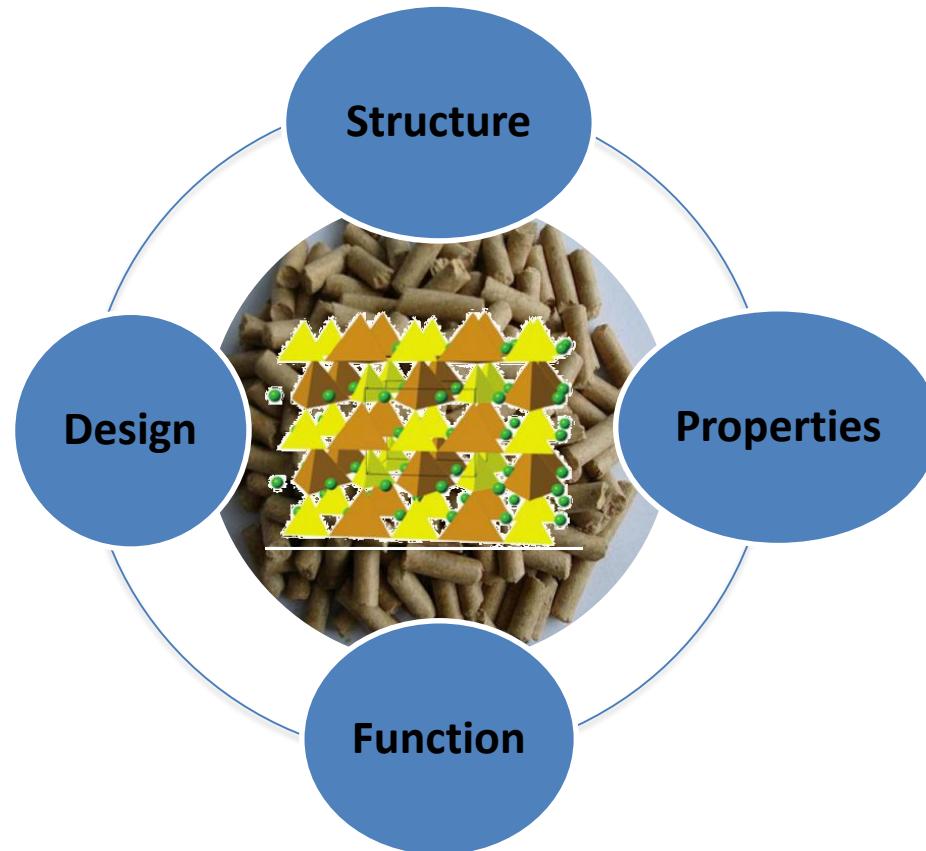


# In-situ diffraction motivation

Studying material under working conditions:

1. temperature
2. gas atmosphere
3. pressure
4. stress/strain
5. voltage/current
6. Light
7. ...

Provides information on the chemical and physical properties of materials and devices under realistic processing conditions



## Applications:

- Microelectronics
- batteries and fuel cells
- catalysis
- solar cells
- materials under extreme conditions
- cement
- and many others!



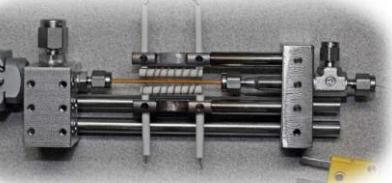
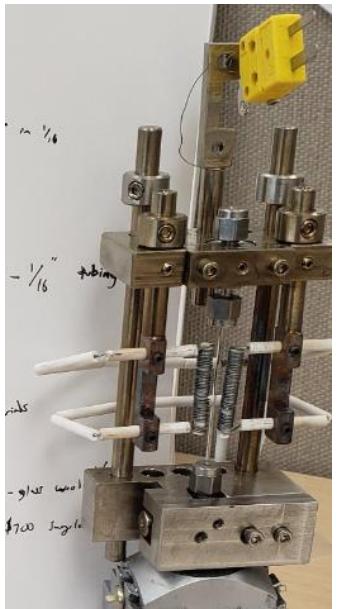
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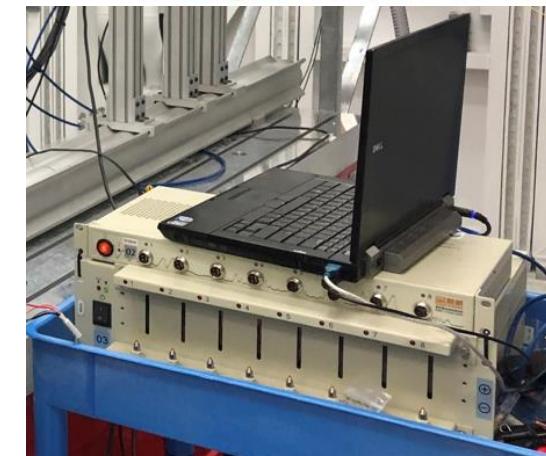
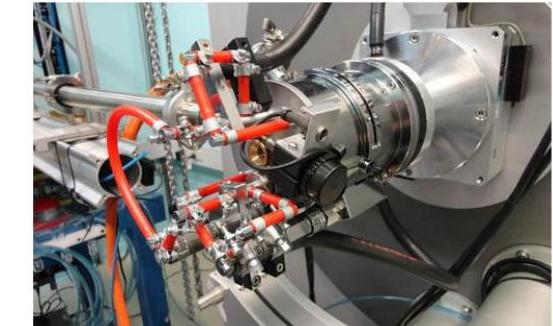
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# Sample environments

Sample environments seek to mimic the operation conditions of the materials or devices being tested

- Furnaces with controlled atmosphere and temperature
- Tensile rigs
- Temperature/humidity light chambers
- in situ cycling / temperature control for battery studies
- Customized setups



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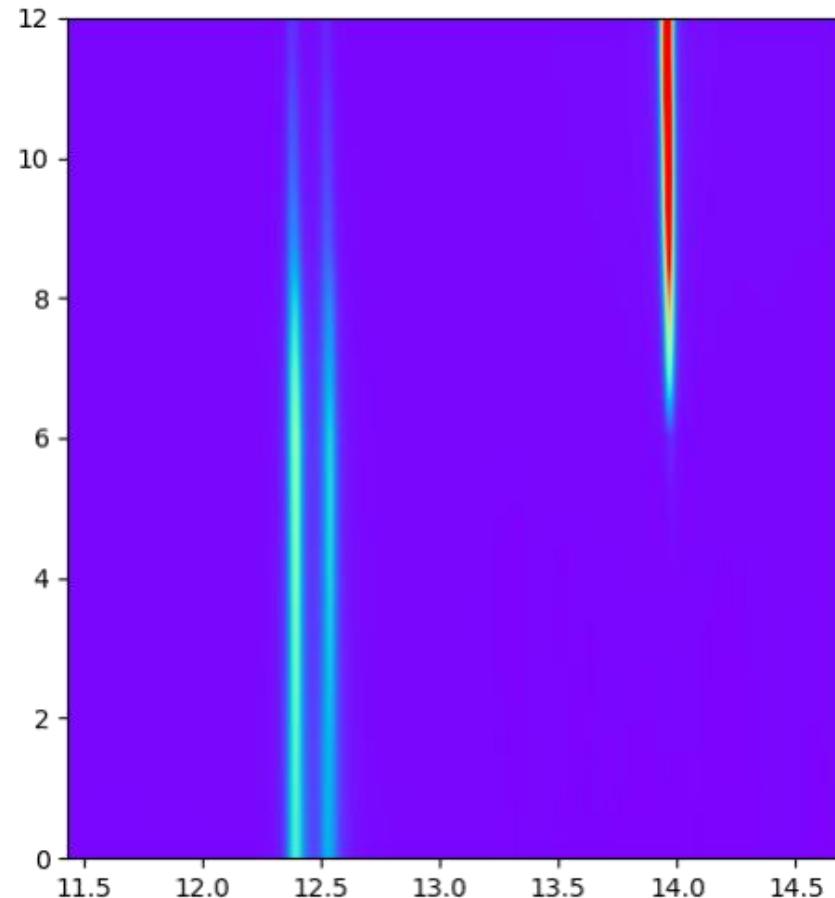
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# Contents:

1. Phase transitions
2. Microelectronics
3. Batteries
4. Solar cells
5. Mechanical rigs
6. Catalysts
7. Corrosion
8. High pressure



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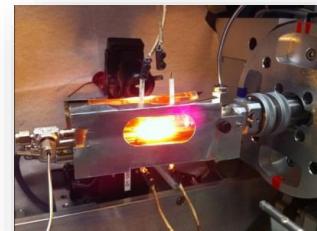
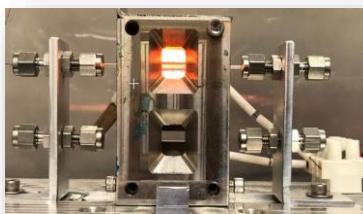
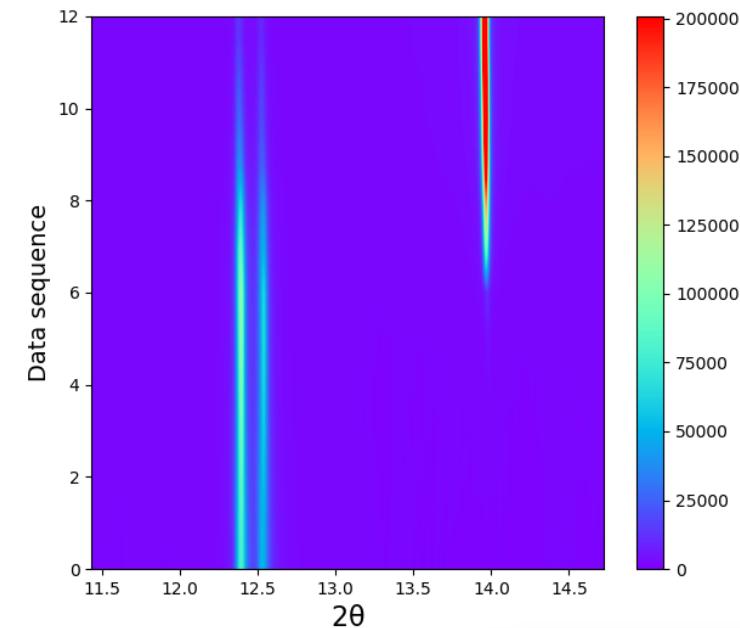
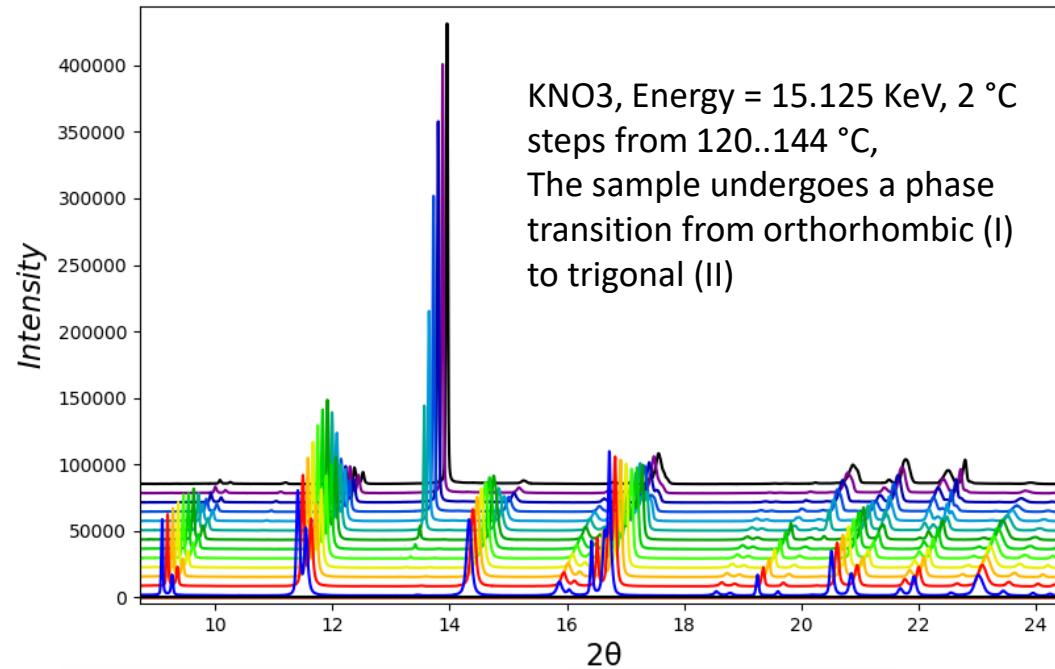
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# Applications – Structural phase transitions

Orthorhombic  $\alpha-KNO_3$  to trigonal  $\beta-KNO_3$  phase transition



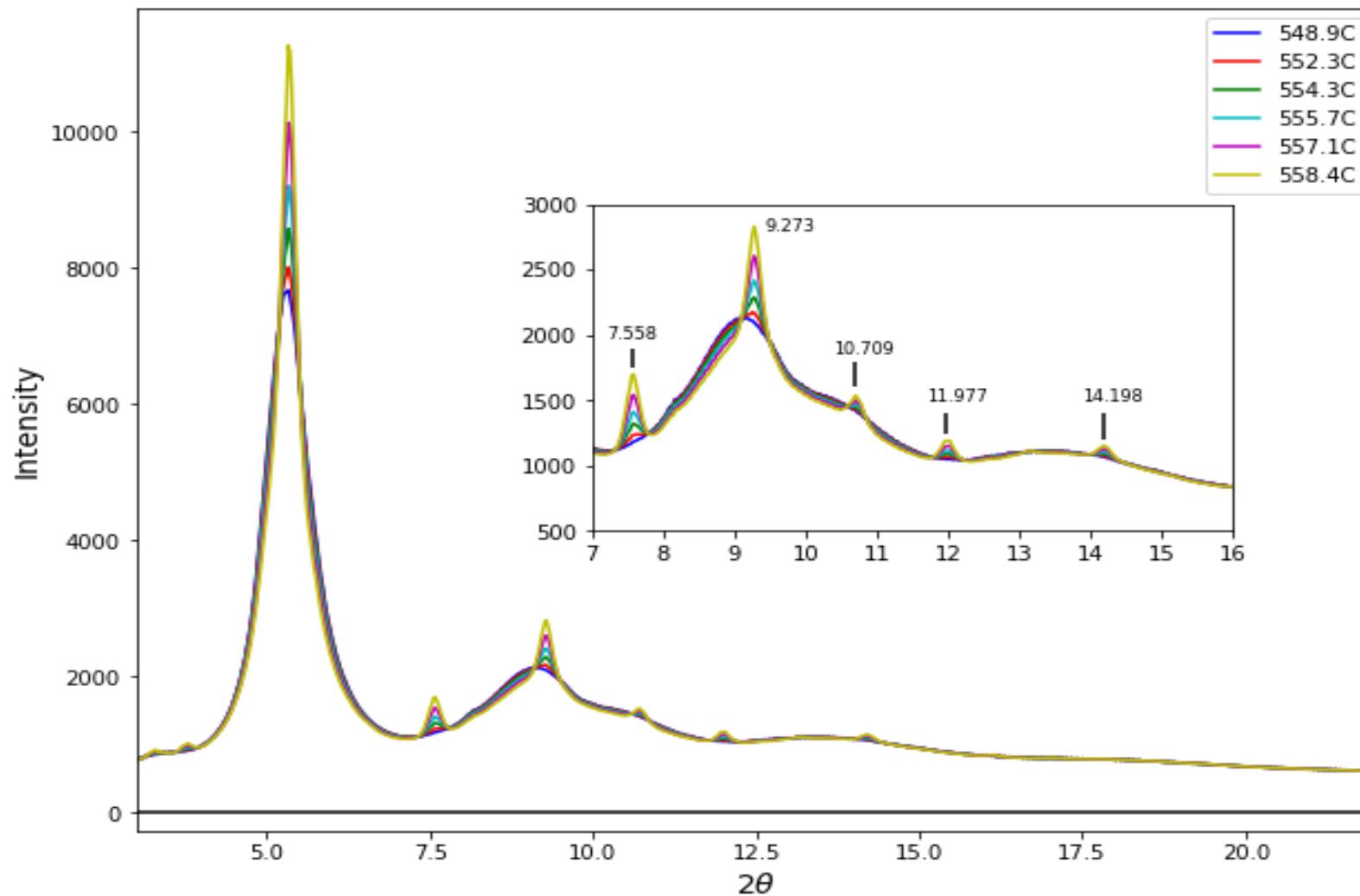
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# High entropy alloys phase transitions



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# Applications to Microelectronics



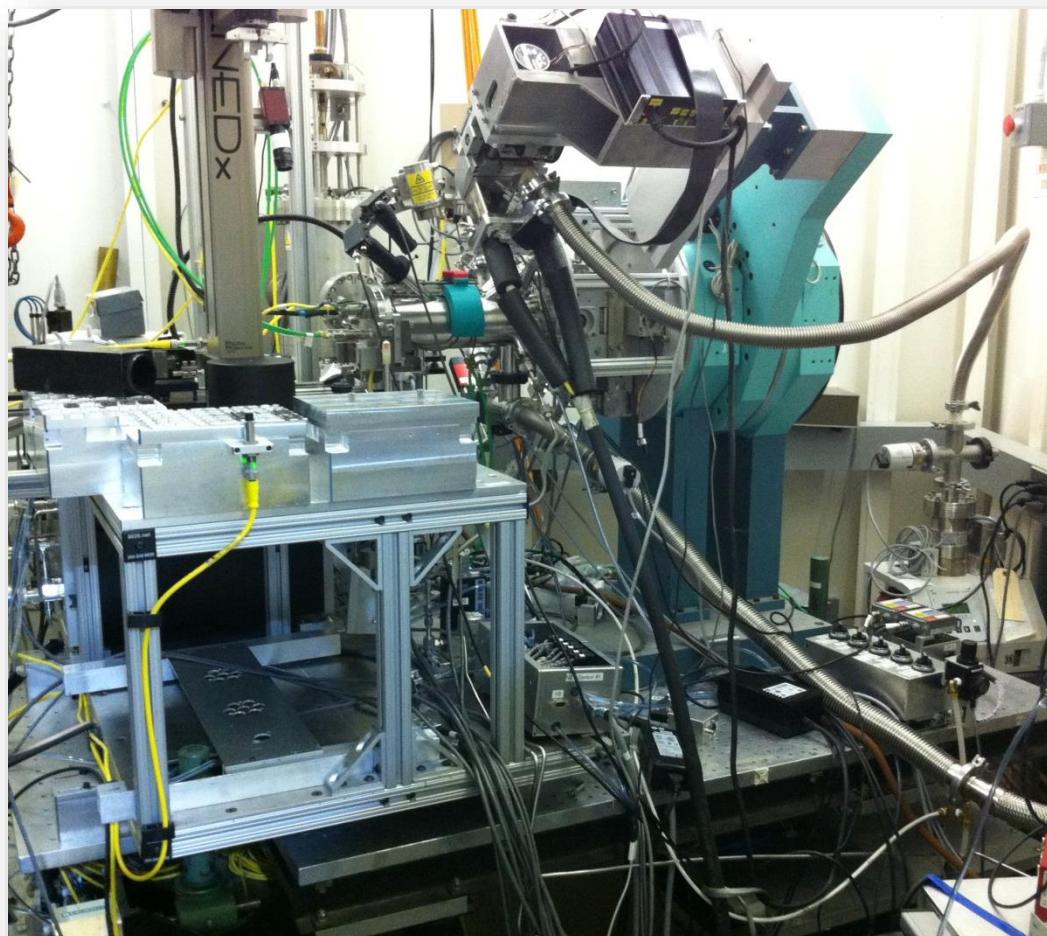
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# IBM end-station



- **In-situ characterization**
  - thin films
  - microelectronic materials
  - semiconductors
- **Rapid thermal annealing (up to ~ 1100°C)**

## Techniques

- ✓ X-Ray diffraction
- ✓ Four point probe to measure film resistivity
- ✓ Optical light scattering to measure surface morphology



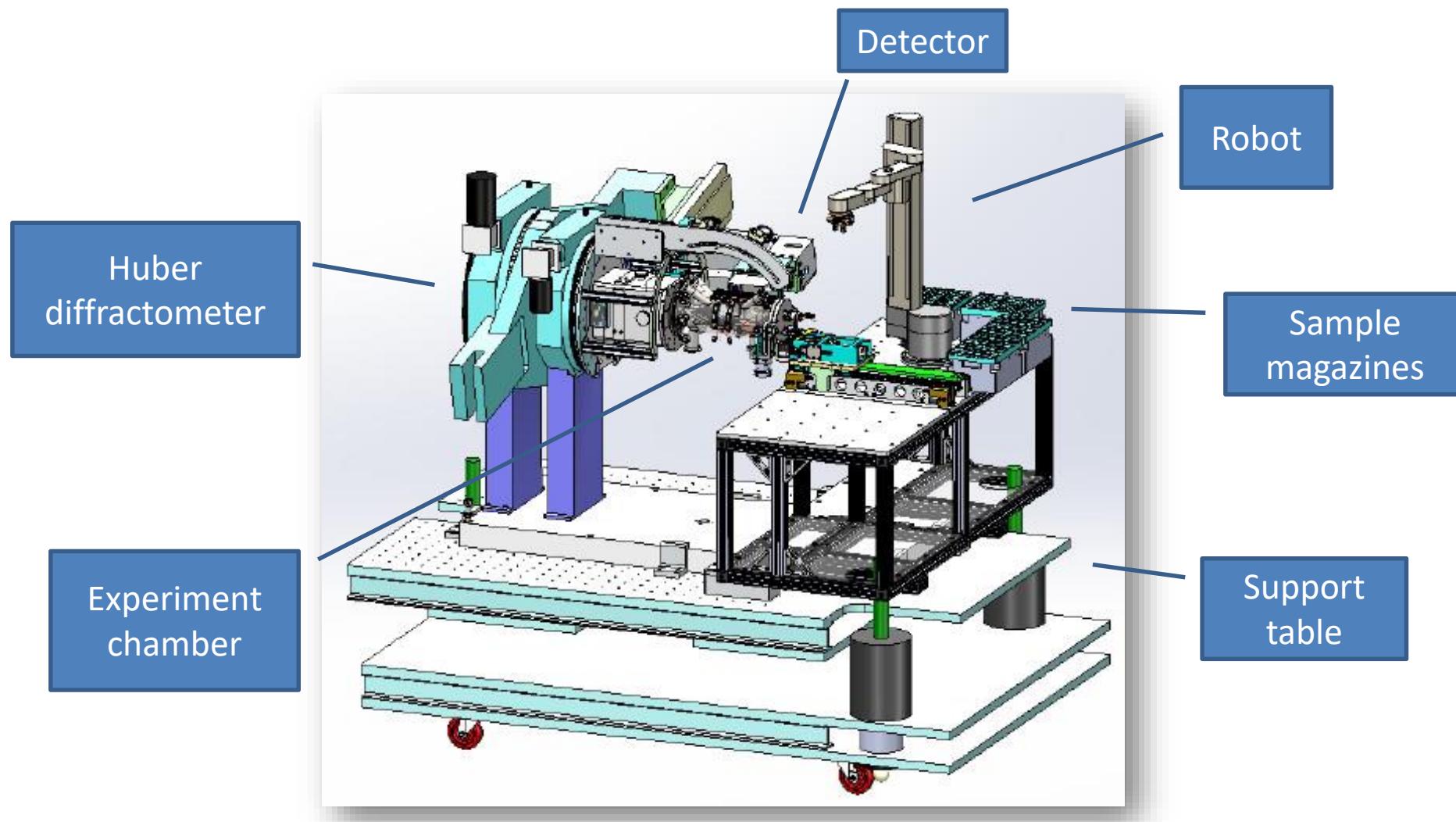
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# IBM end-station



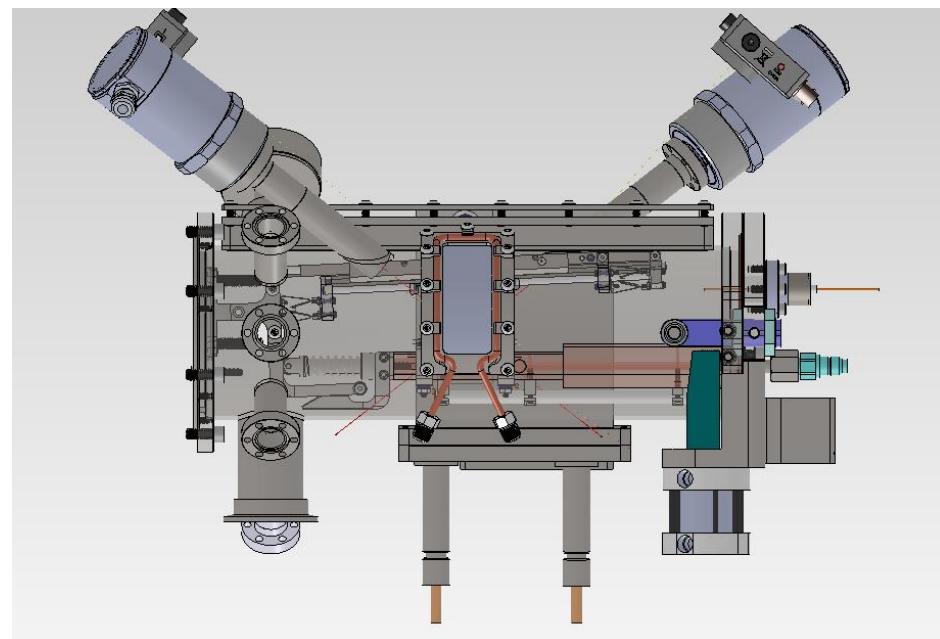
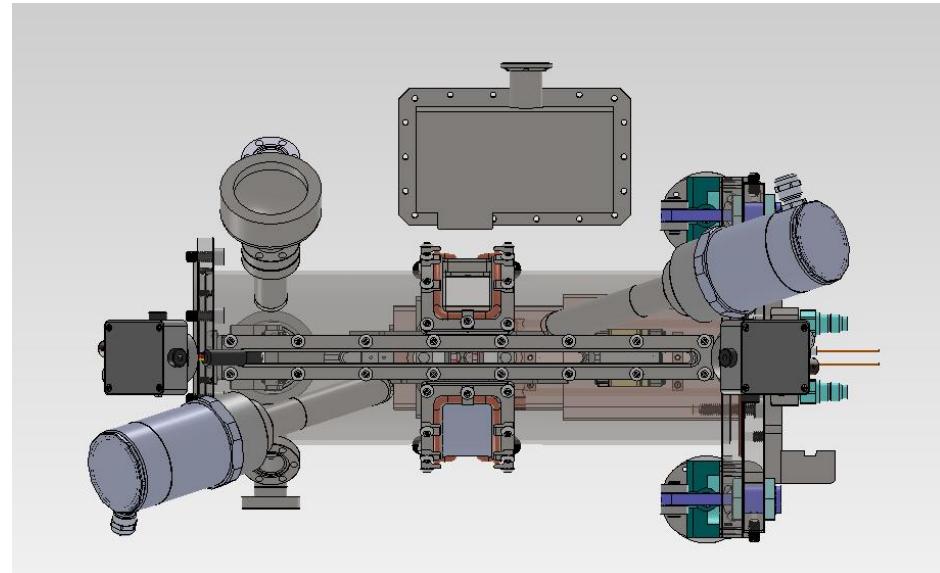
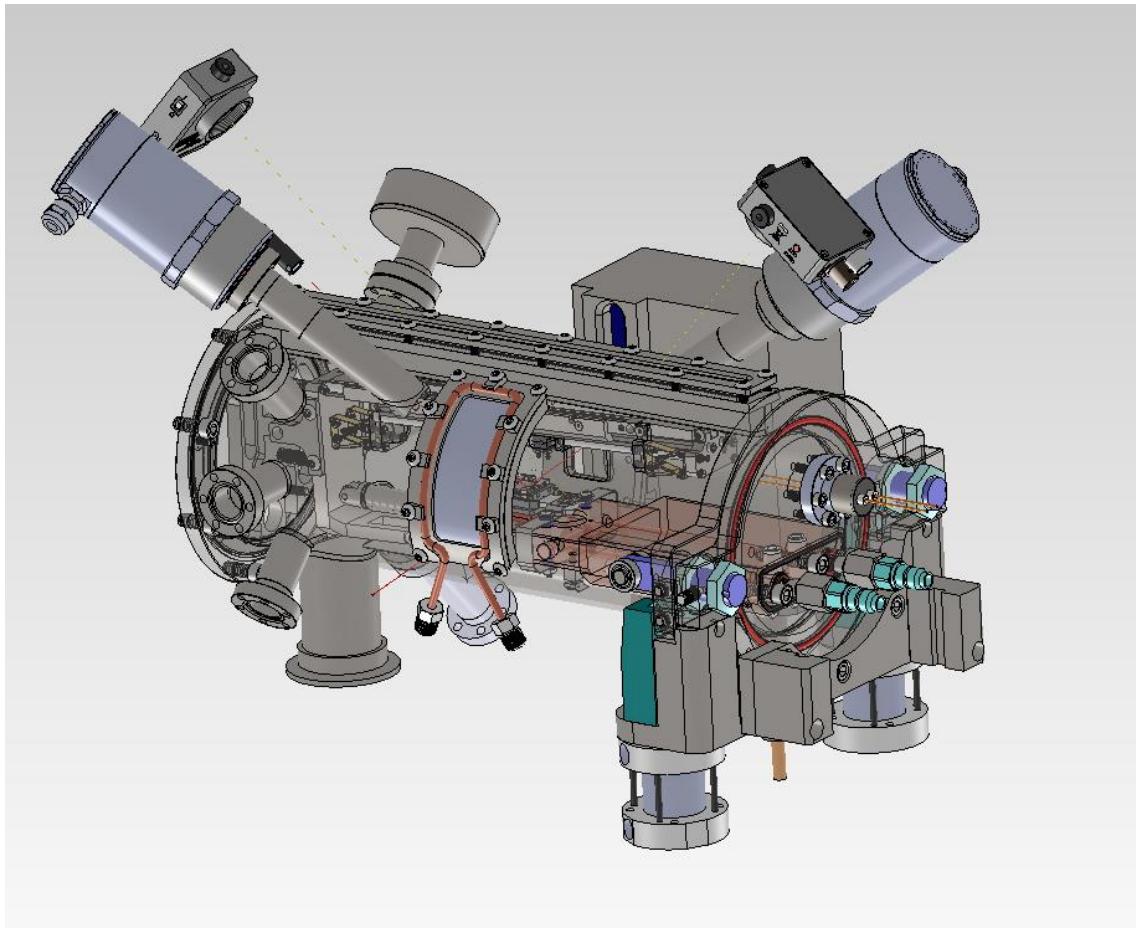
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# Experiment chamber



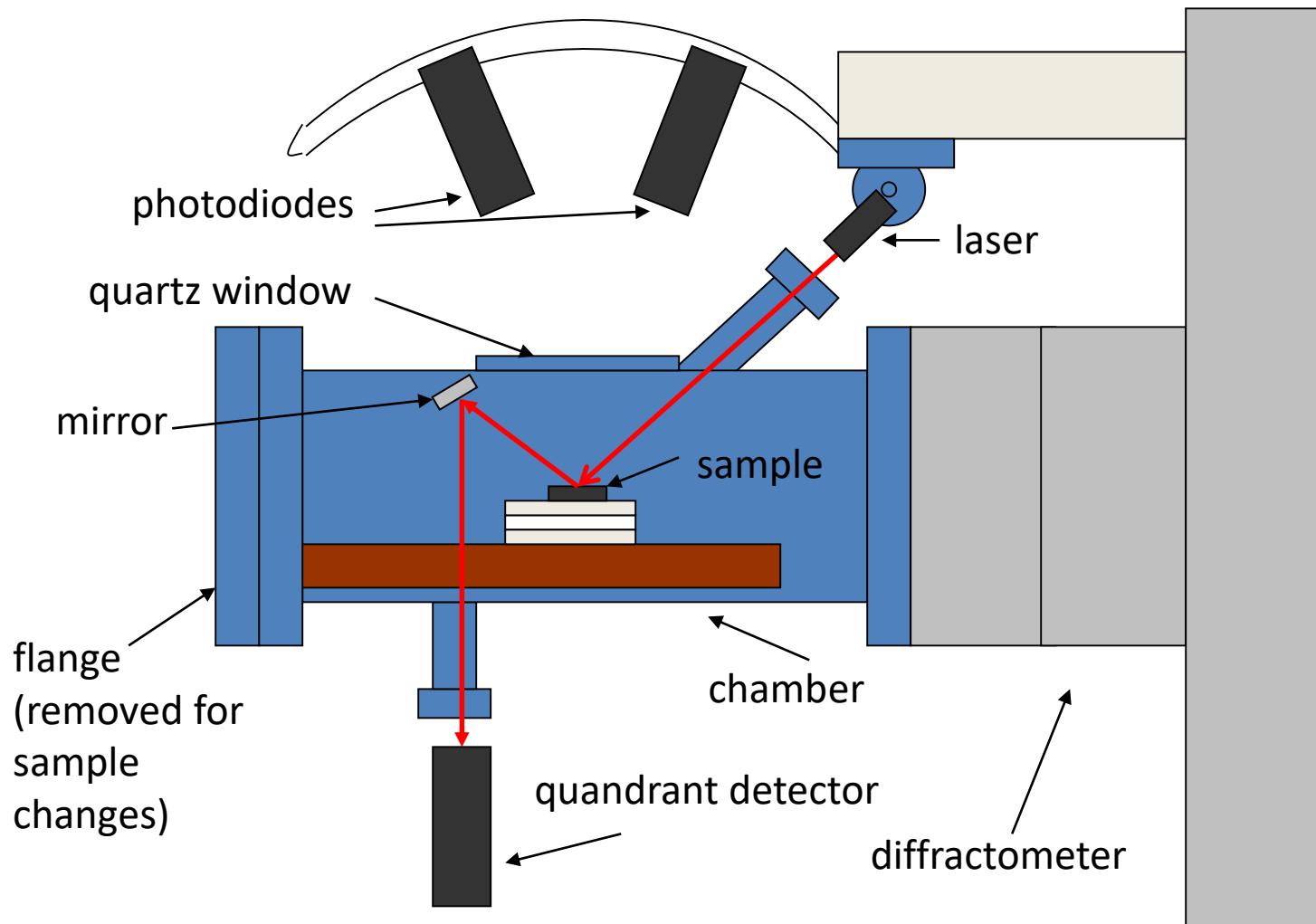
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# Experiment chamber



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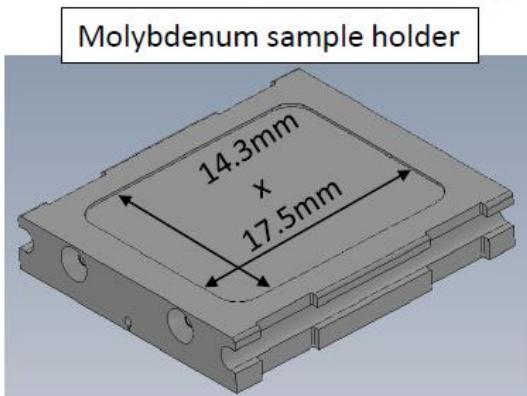
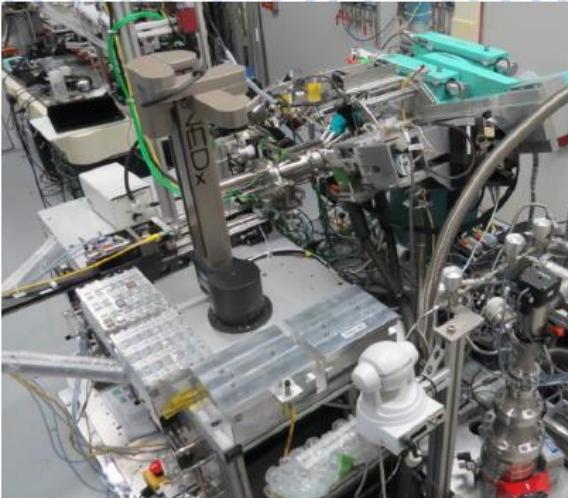
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# Sample size and format

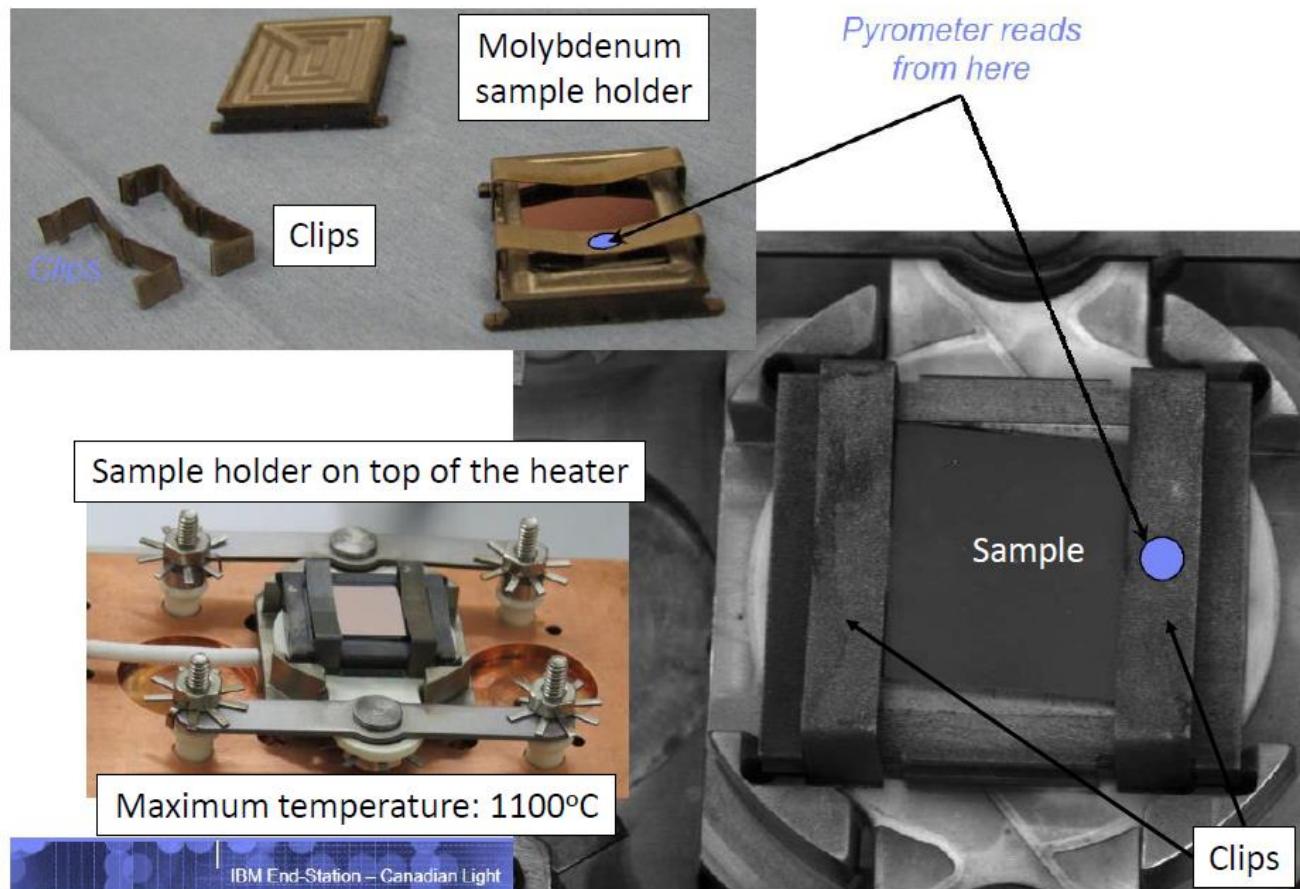
## IBM end-station



Sample size should be  
approximately 12mm x 15 mm

### Thin films studies

Combined diffraction,  
resistivity and roughness measurements  
under ultra high purity N<sub>2</sub> or He.  
Temperature up to 1100 °C.



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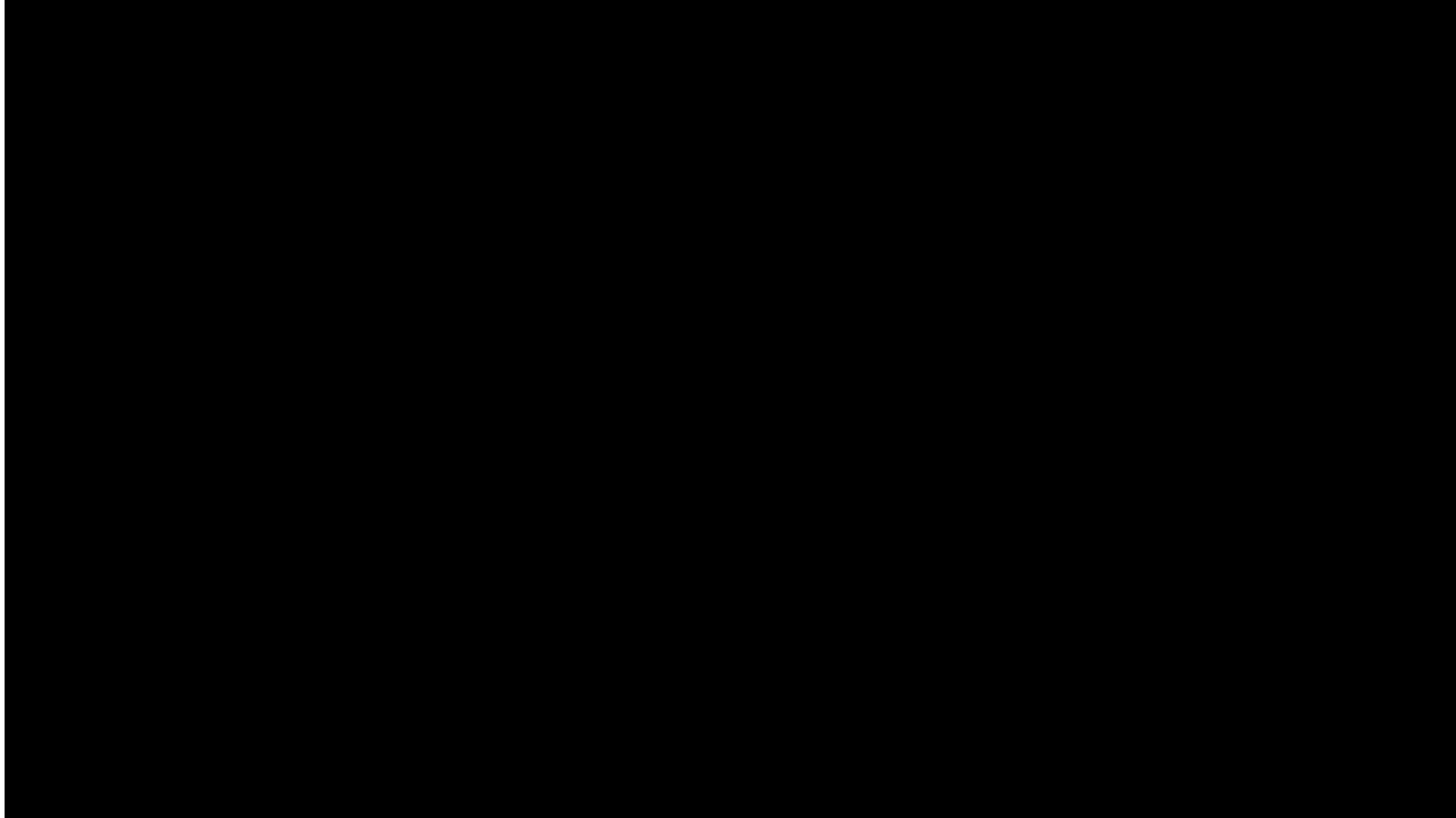
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IBM End-Station – Canadian Light

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# IBM end-station in action



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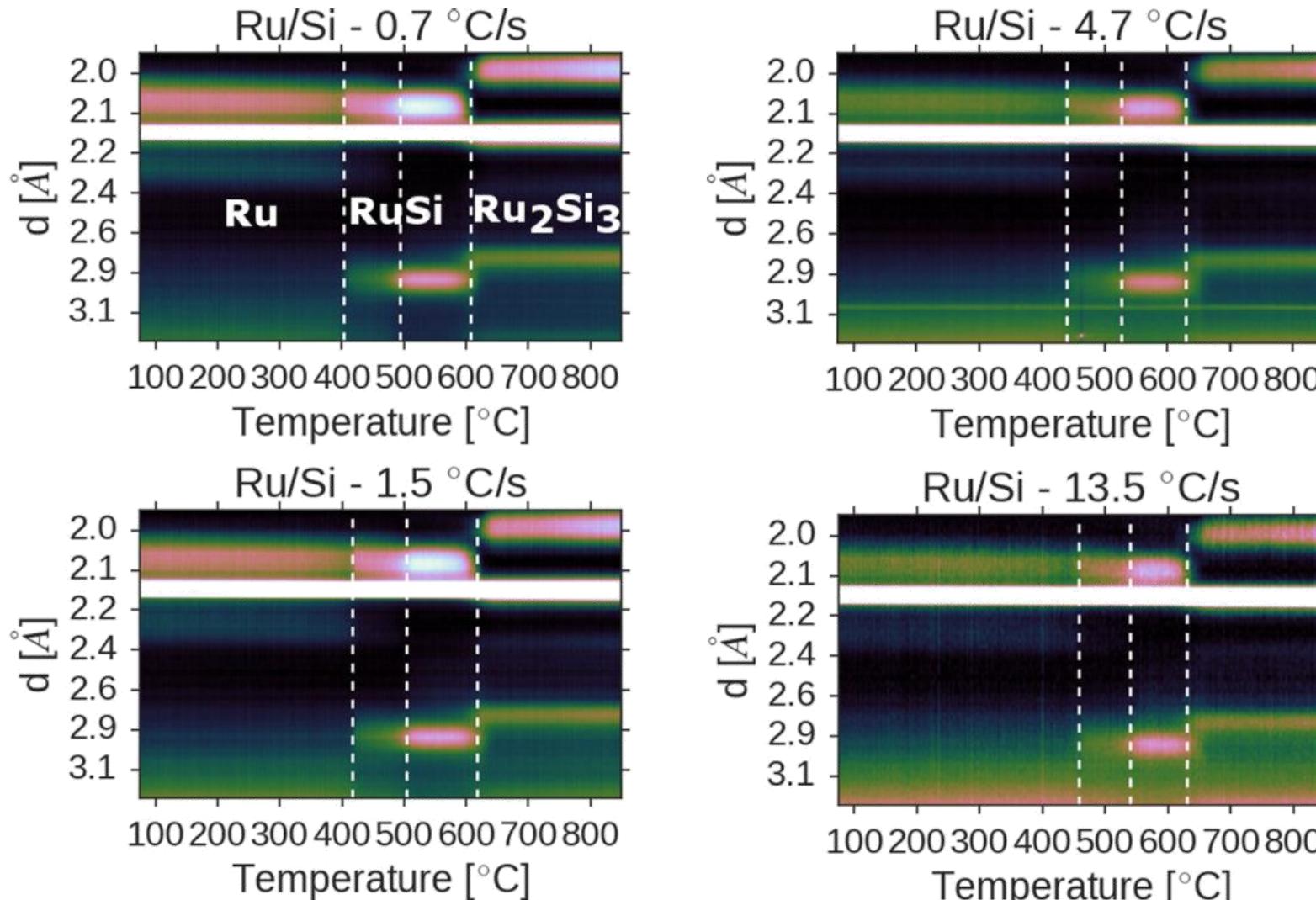
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# Atomic layer deposited ultrathin metal nitride barrier layers for ruthenium interconnect applications. Sonal Dey et al.



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Journal of Vacuum Science & Technology A 35, 03E109 (2017)

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- ✓ Quick investigation of different growth conditions
- ✓ Better nucleation processes
- ✓ Improved film stability at higher temperatures
- ✓ Lower interface roughness

Microelectronic Engineering  
83, 2042-2054 (2006)  
C. Lavoie et al.

Effects of additive elements on the phase formation and morphological stability of nickel monosilicide films

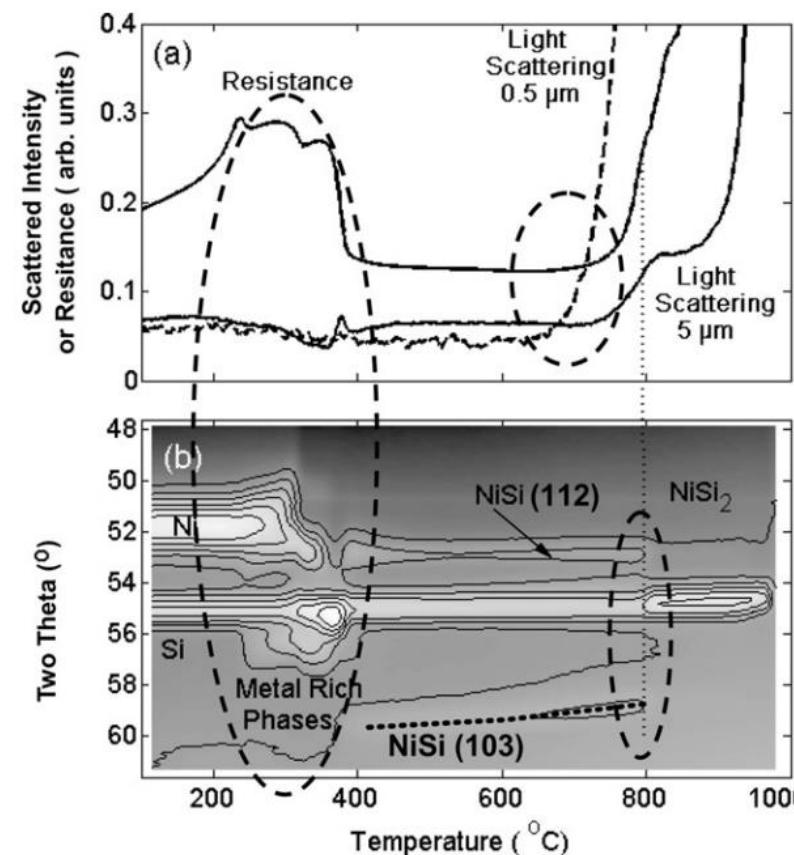


Fig. 4. (a) Elastic light scattering at 0.5  $\mu\text{m}$  and 5  $\mu\text{m}$  length scales and resistance measurements together with (b) X-ray diffraction measurements performed *in situ* during annealing in purified He of a 15 nm Ni layer deposited on a 100 nm poly-Si film (3  $^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{s}$ ). The three ellipses also refer to the challenges discussed using the phase diagram in Fig. 1.



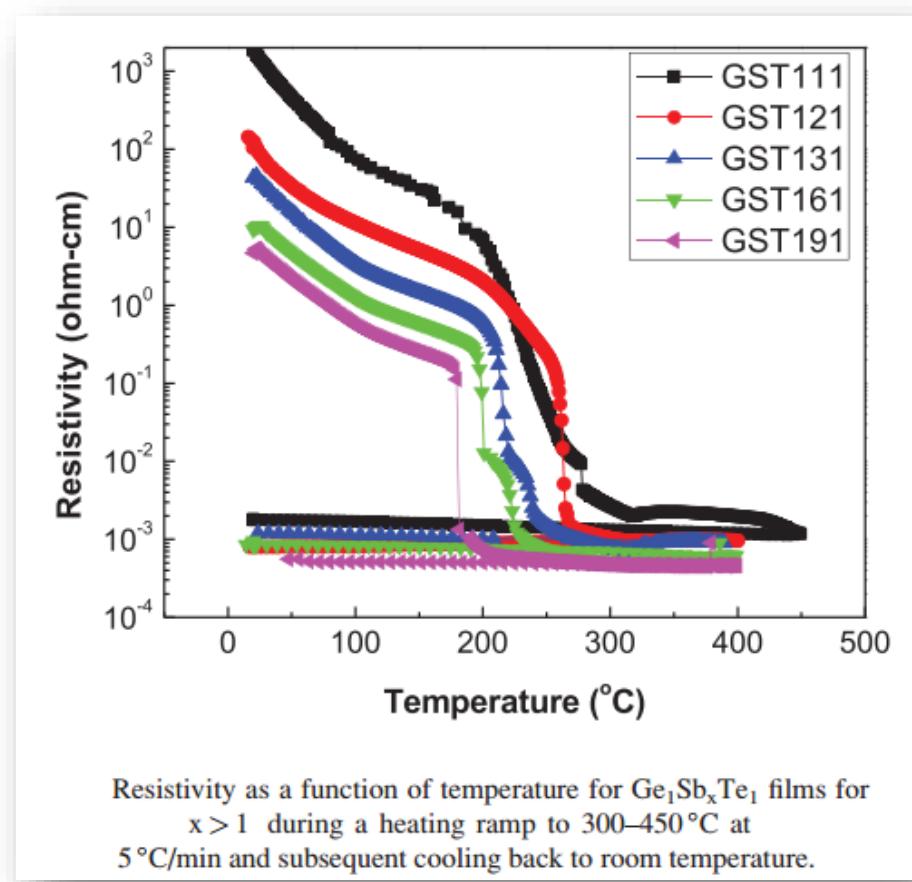
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Journal of Applied Physics **115**, 093101 (2014)  
Huai-Yu Cheng et al.



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Crystallization properties of materials along the pseudo-binary line between GeTe and Sb

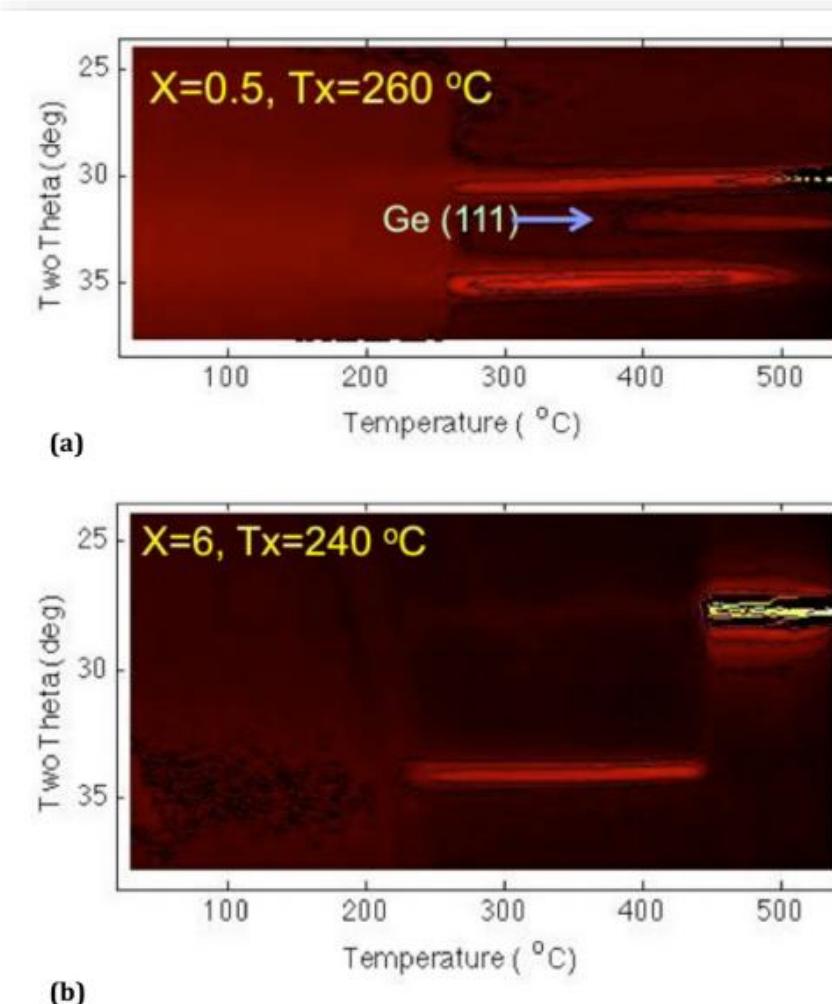


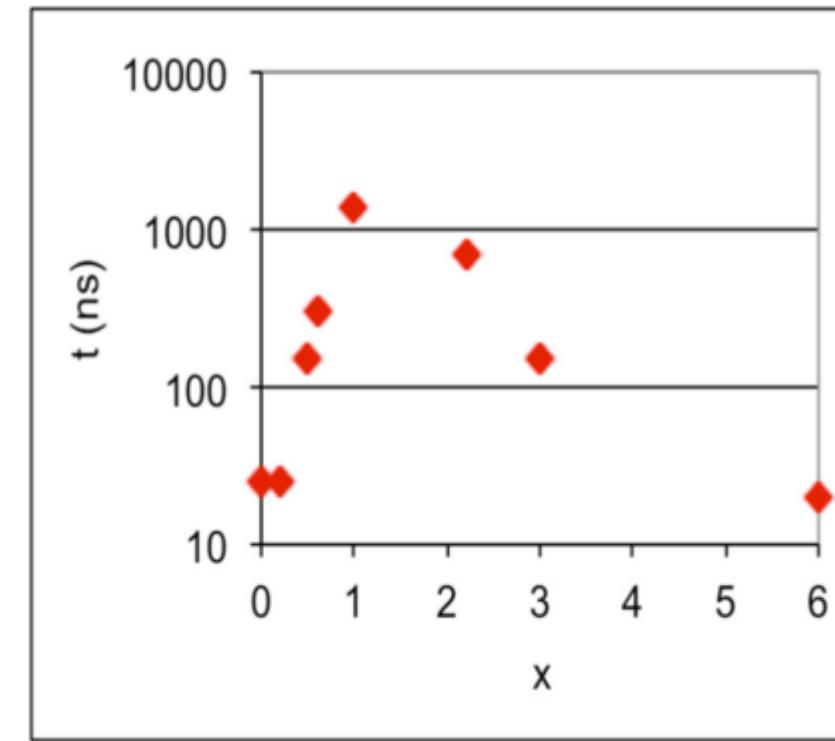
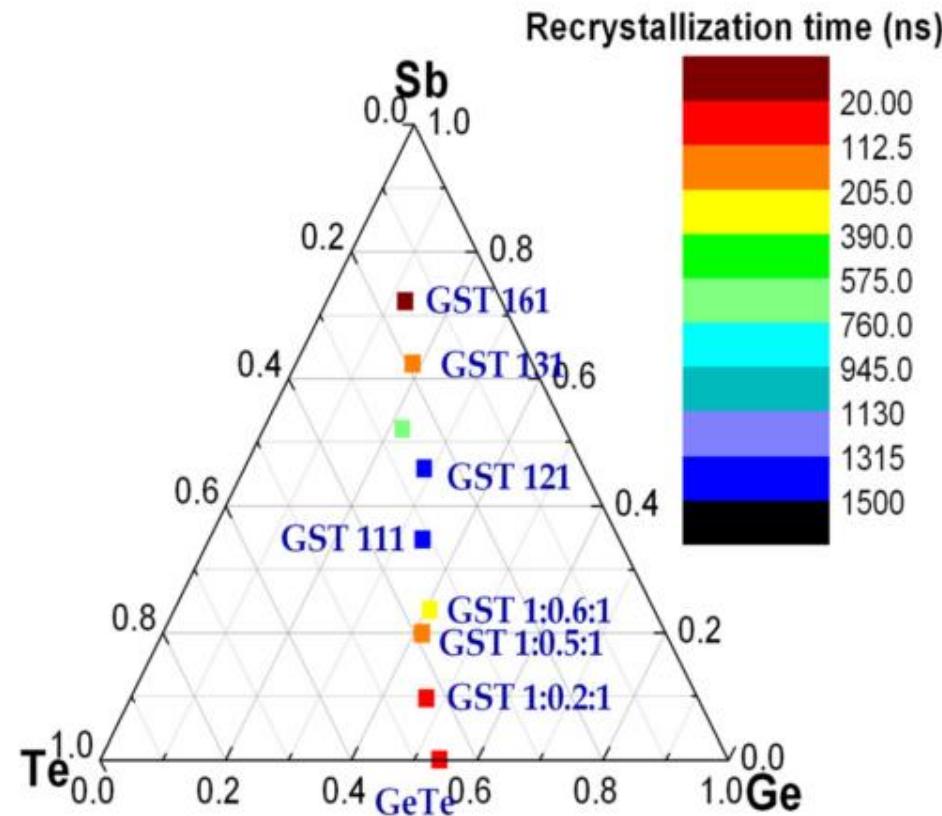
FIG. 2. XRD peak intensity as a function of temperature  $T$  during heating at 3 °C/s to 550 °C of a  $\text{Ge}_1\text{Sb}_x\text{Te}_1$  film with (a)  $x=0.5$  and (b)  $x=6$ , respectively.

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Crystallization properties of materials along the pseudo-binary line between GeTe and Sb



Journal of Applied Physics **115**, 093101 (2014)  
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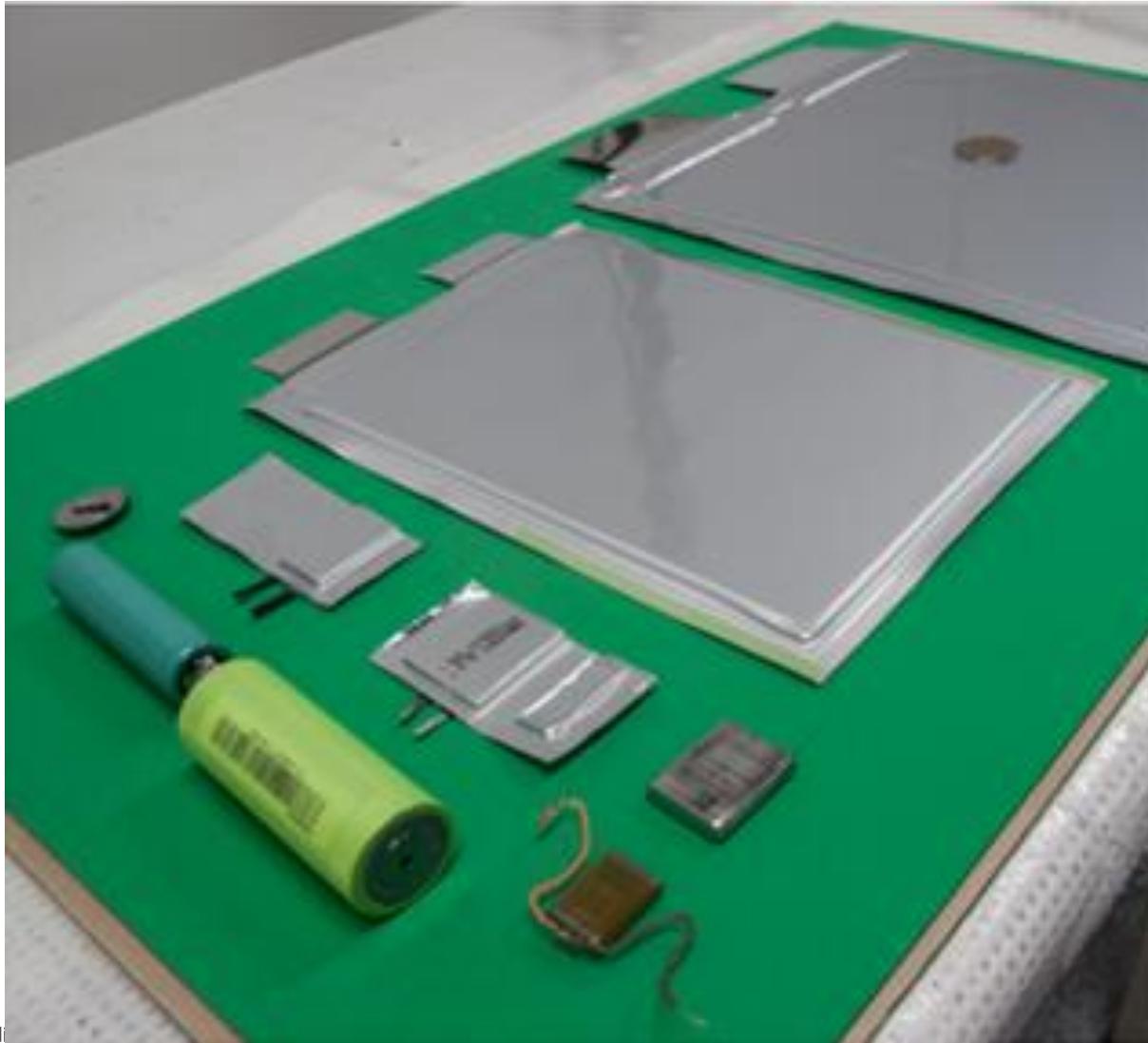


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# Battery experiments



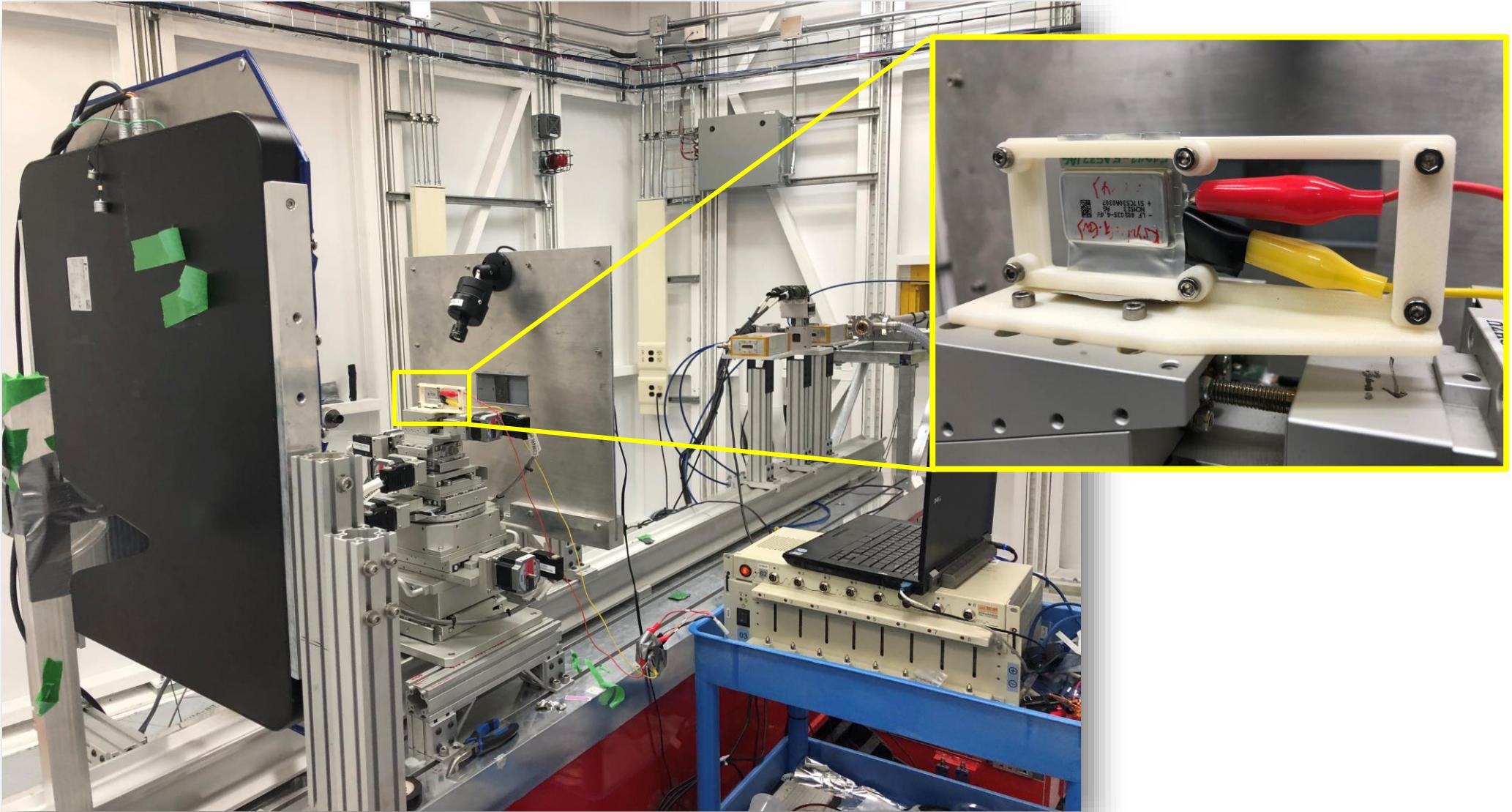
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# In-situ battery research



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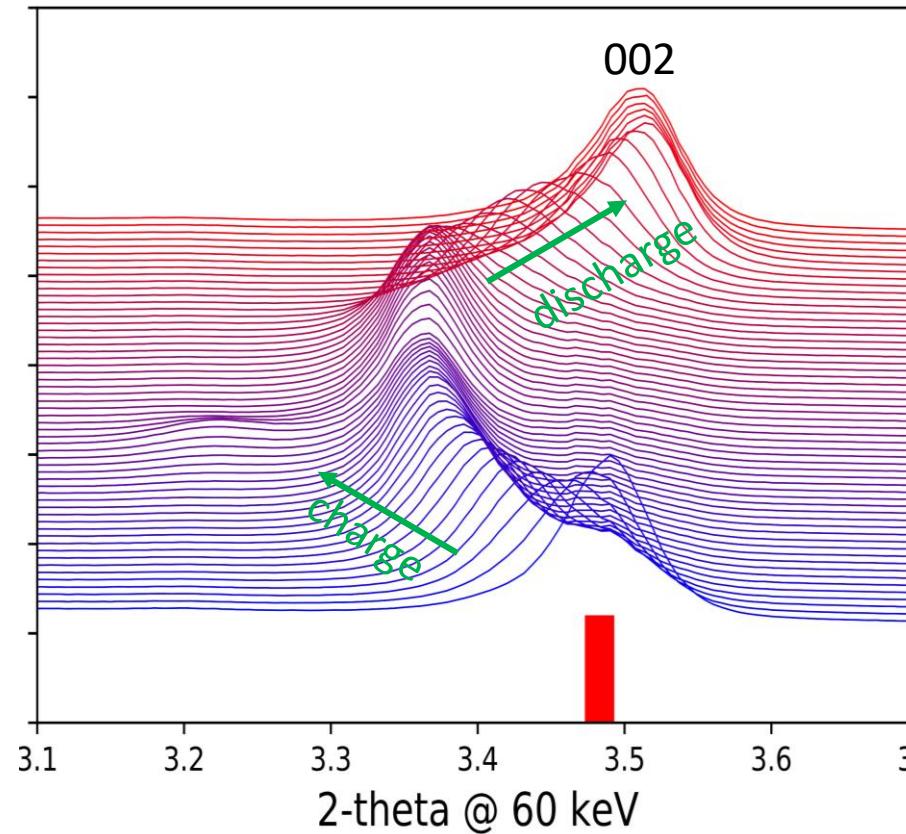
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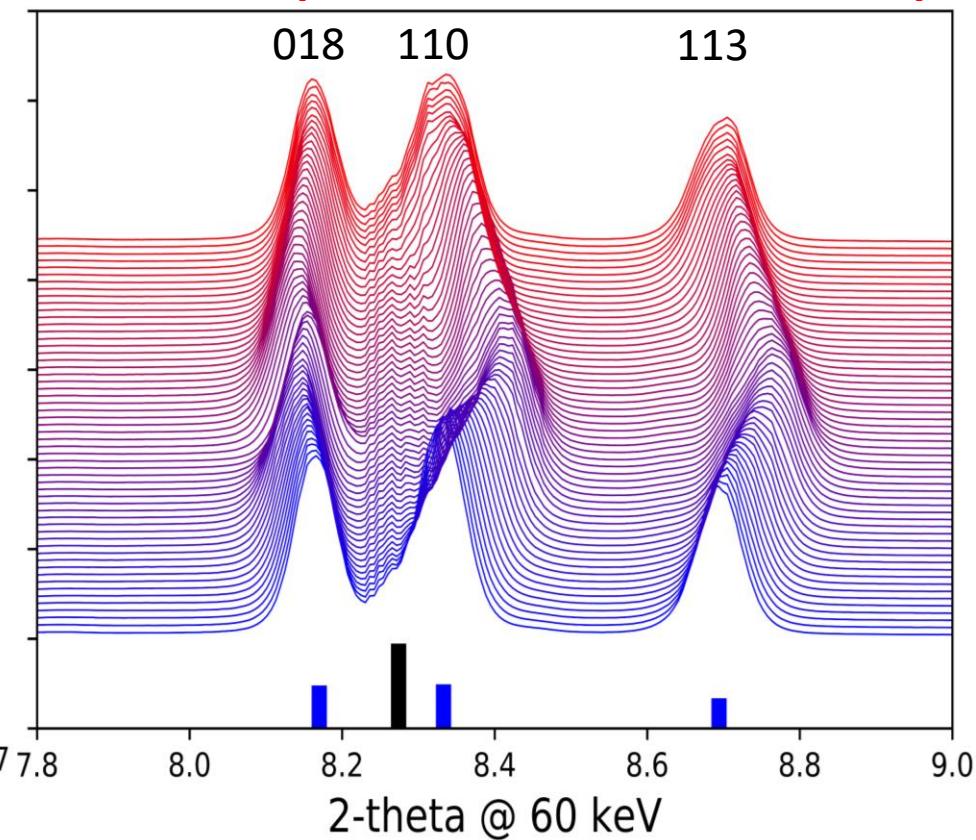
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# In-situ battery research

Anode (Graphite)



Cathode (Transition Metal Oxide)



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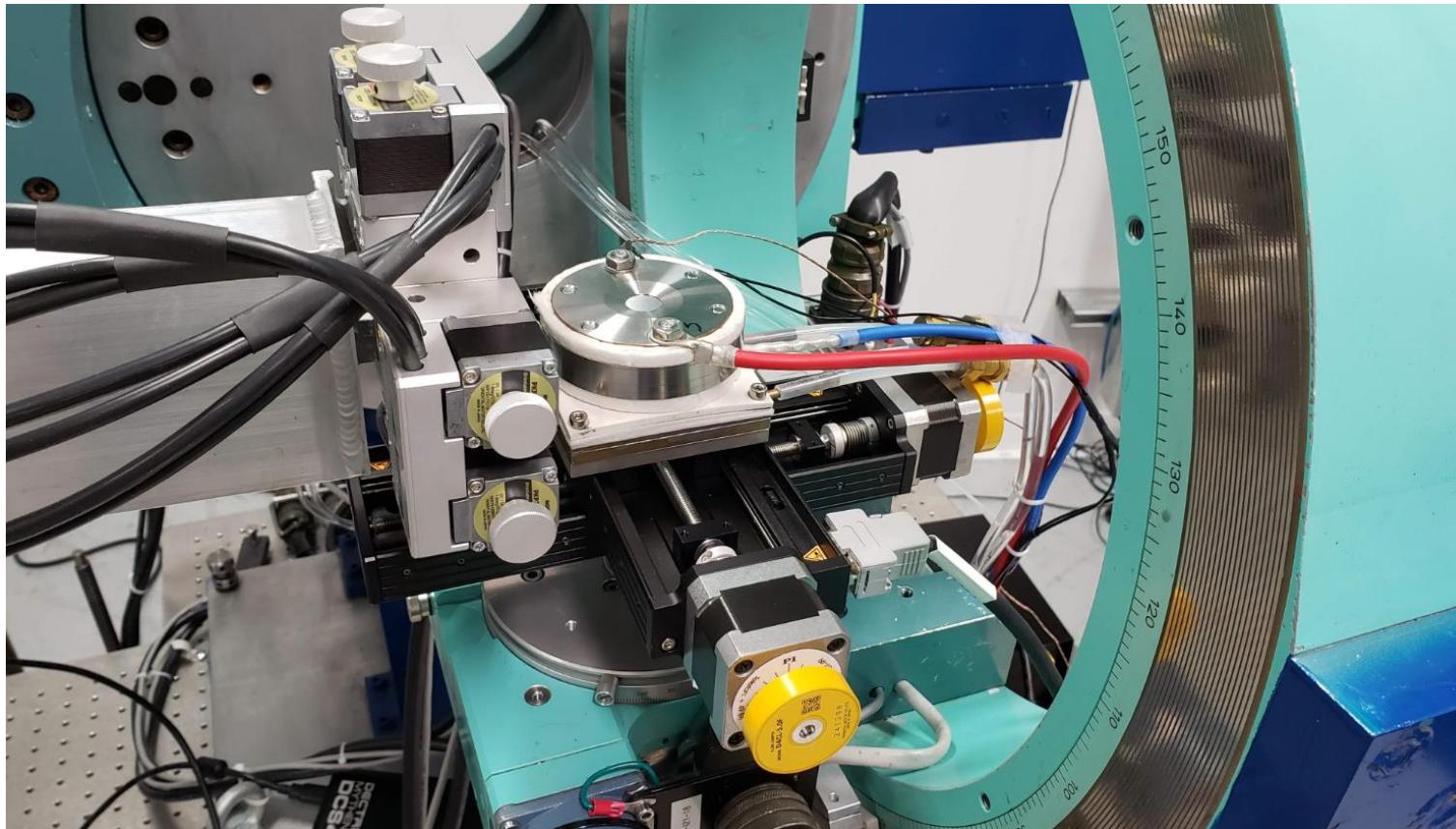
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XRD Summer School, August 2022 - October 2022

# In-situ battery research

High Temperature Compatible Conflat Cell with Adjustable Stack Pressure for  
In-Situ and Operando X-Ray Studies of Lithium-Ion Battery Materials



Michael Fleischauer - NRC / University of Alberta



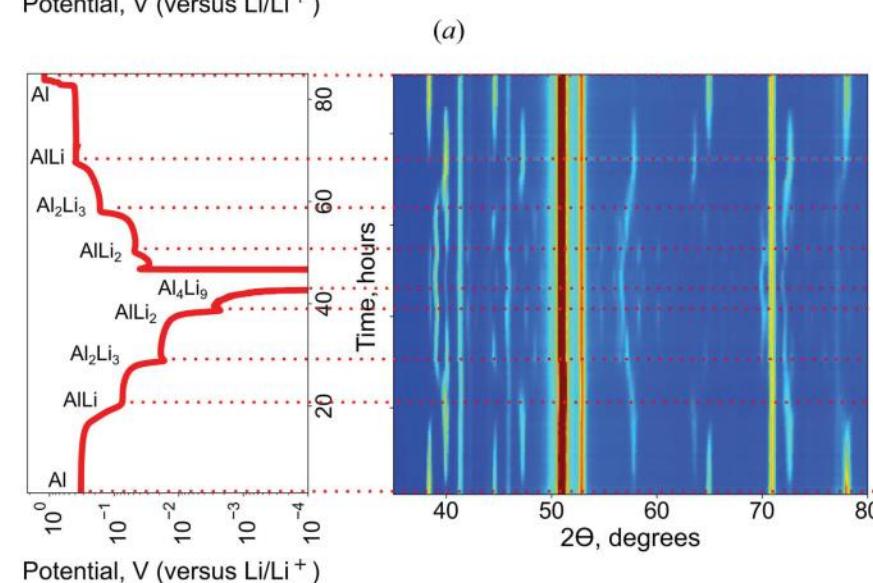
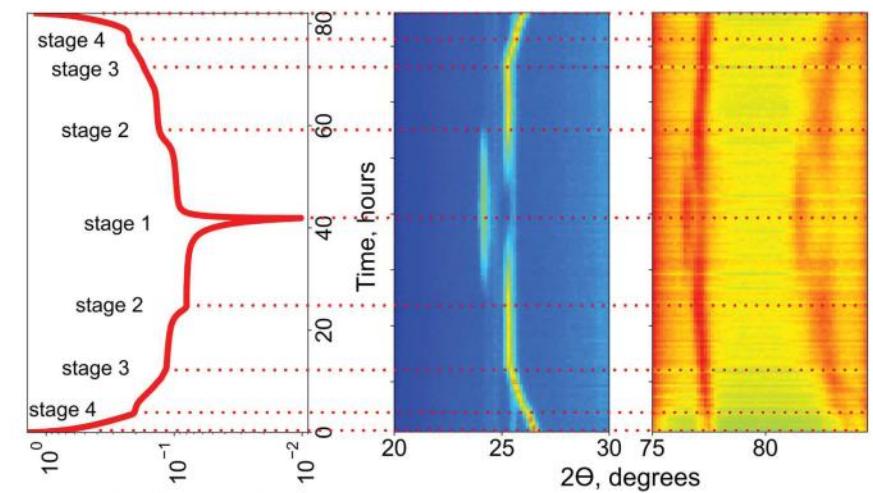
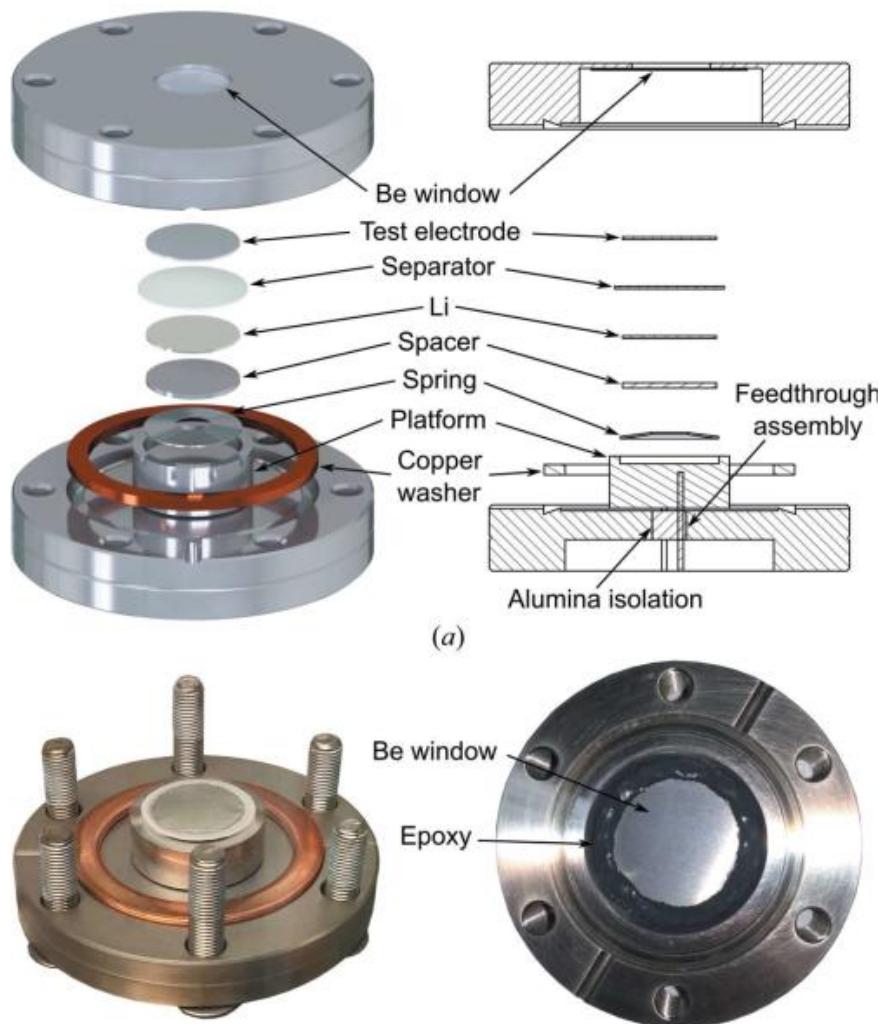
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# In-situ battery research



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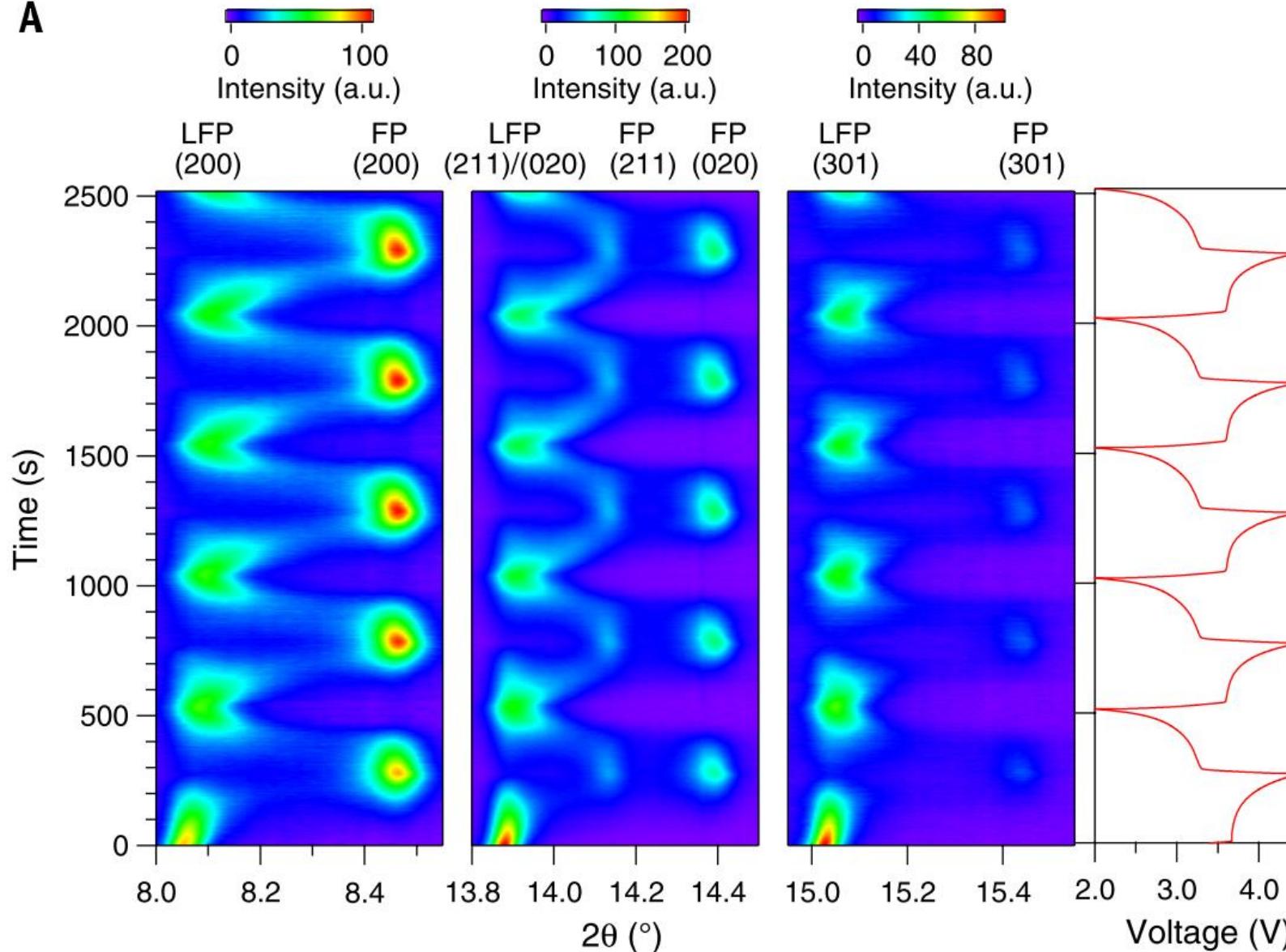
J. Appl. Cryst. (2021). 54, 1416–1423

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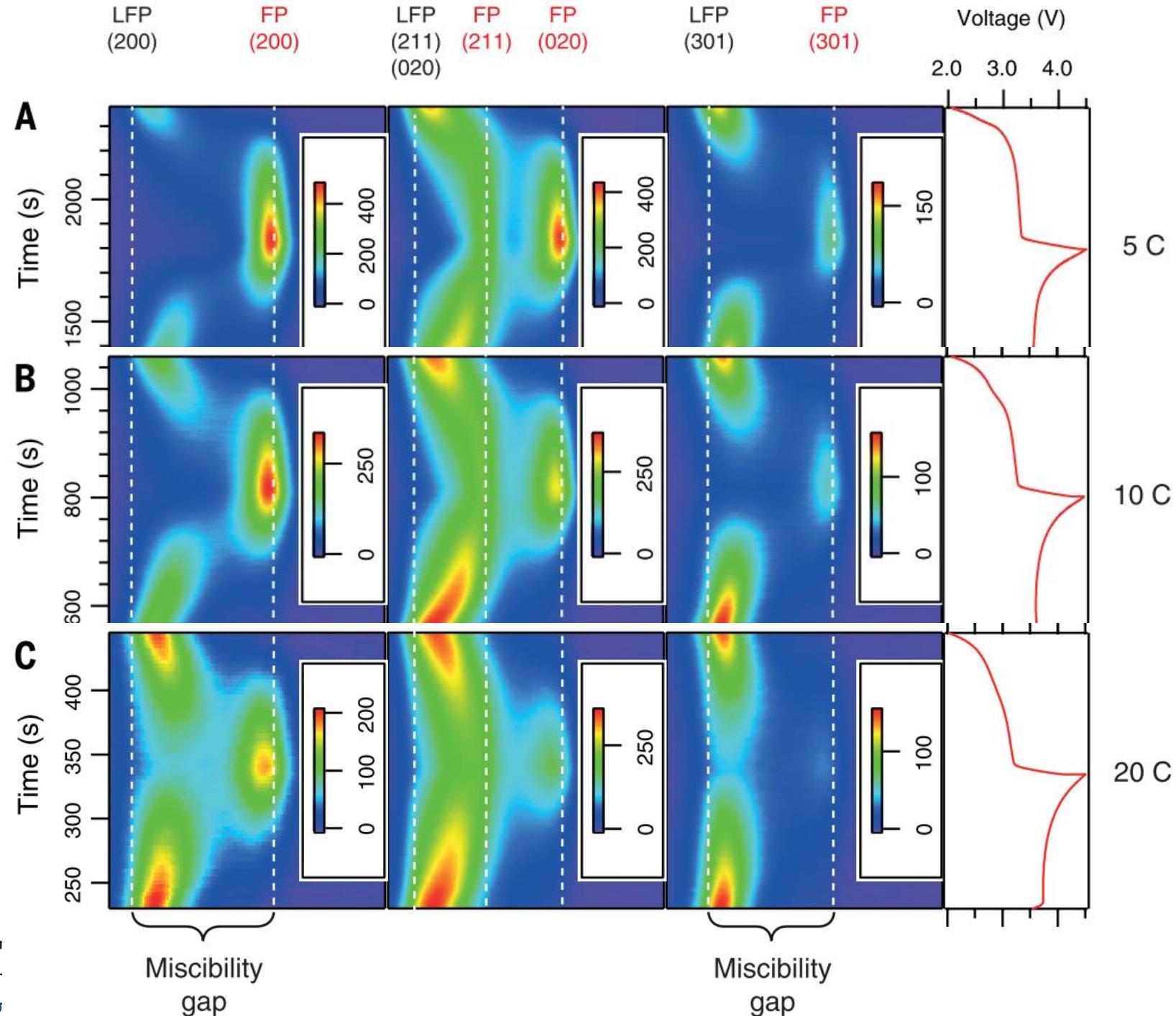
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# Capturing metastable structures during high-rate cycling of LiFePO<sub>4</sub> nanoparticle electrodes

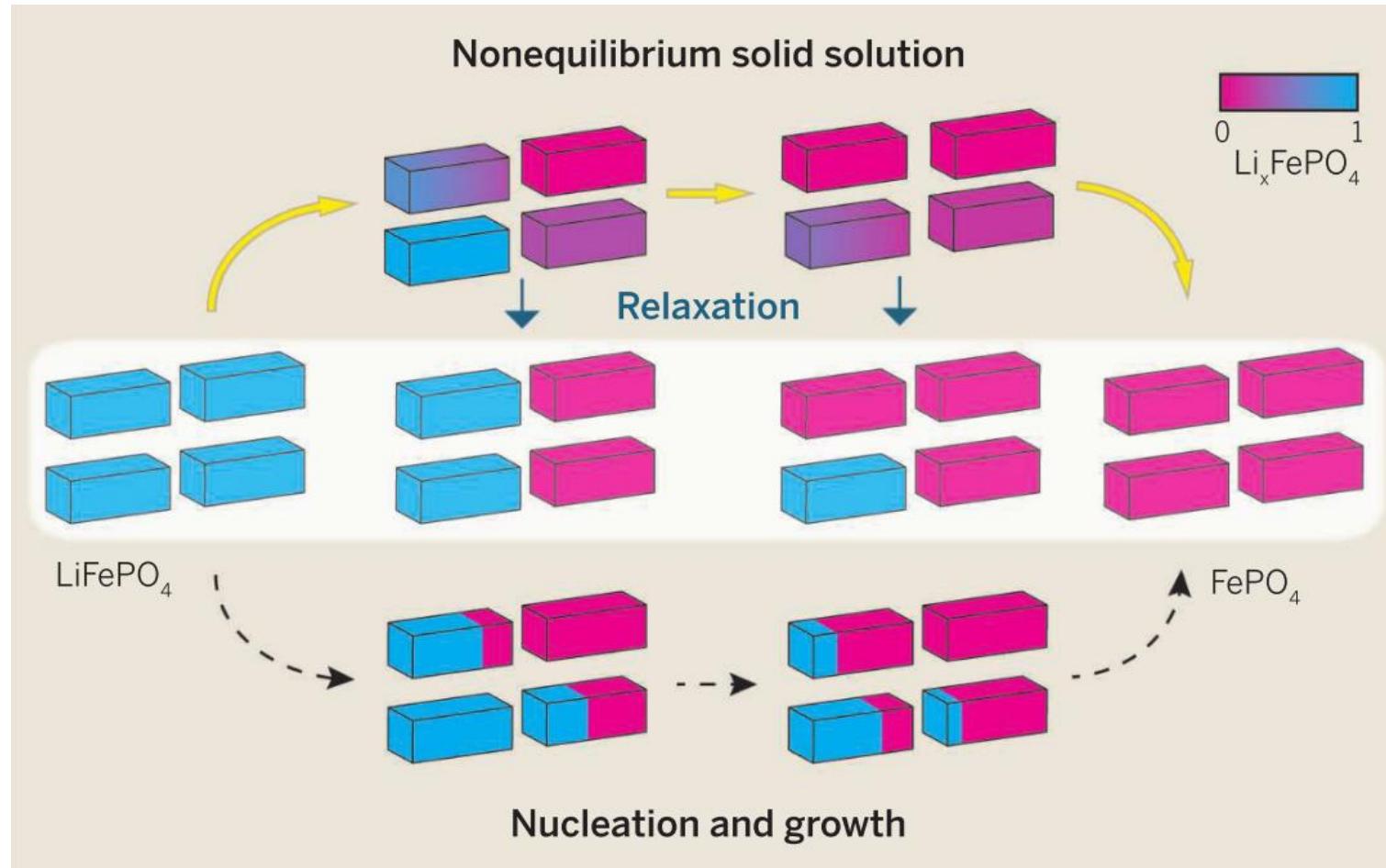
A



Liu et al.  
Science 344(6191): 1252817



# Capturing metastable structures during high-rate cycling of LiFePO<sub>4</sub> nanoparticle electrodes



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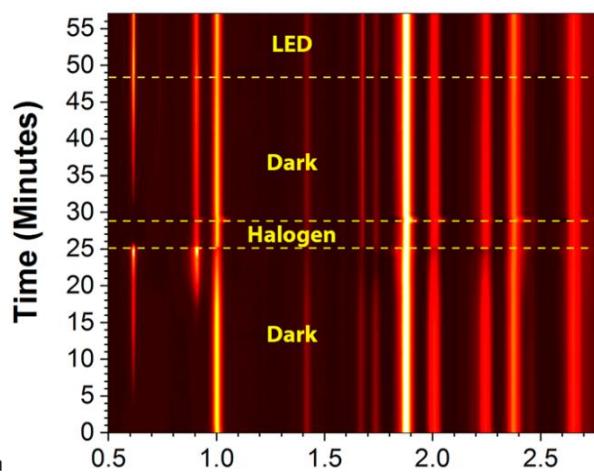
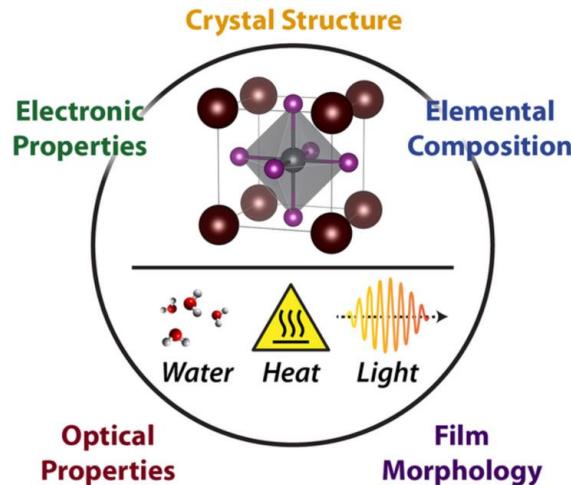
Liu et al. Science 344(6191): 1252817

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# Solar cell research

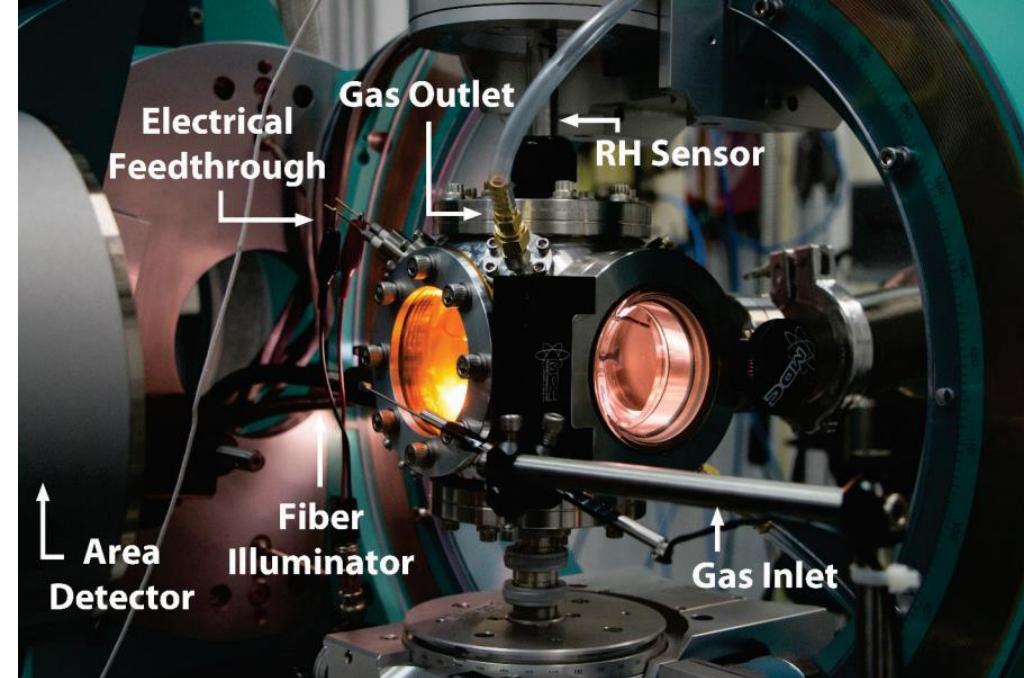
## In situ studies of the degradation mechanisms of perovskite solar cells



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GIWAXS pattern of an ITO/ZnO/CH<sub>3</sub>NH<sub>3</sub>PbI<sub>3</sub>/P3HT/Ag device exposed to a nitrogen atmosphere with RH ≈ 90%.



Elucidating the Failure Mechanisms of Perovskite Solar Cells in Humid Environments Using In Situ GI-WAXS

Tim Kelly - USASK

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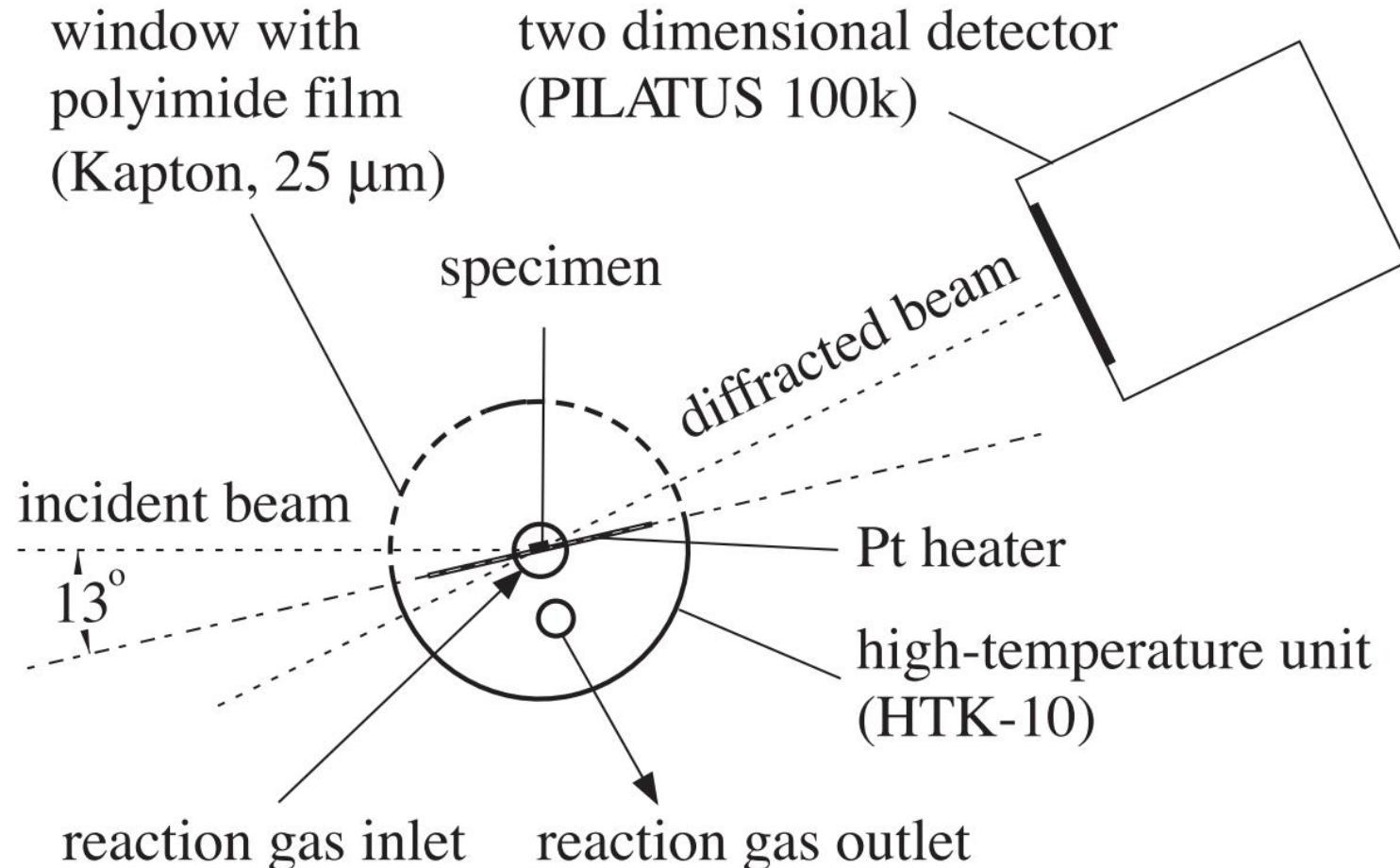
# Corrosion studies

Corrosion can lead to failure involving personal injuries, fatalities, unscheduled shutdowns and environmental contamination



- One 2003 study estimated that the total annual direct and indirect **impact of corrosion** on the Canadian economy had a staggering \$46.4 billion price tag.
- That's roughly 2.5 % of Canada's gross domestic product.

# In situ studies of breakaway oxidation in type 430 stainless steel



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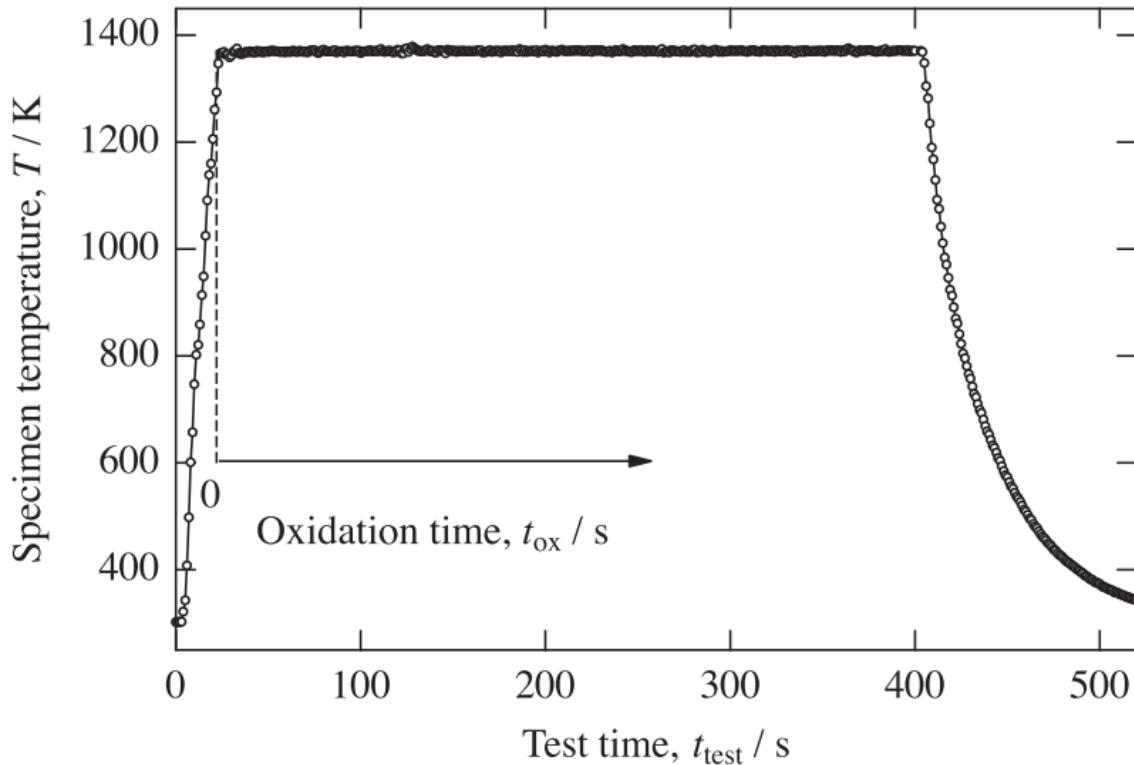
BL-46XU in SPring-8

Saeki et al. *Corrosion Science* 55, 219, 2012

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# In situ studies of breakaway oxidation in type 430 stainless steel



These specimens were heated at a rate of 50 K/s and kept at 1373 K for  $\sim 400$  s;

They were then cooled in the high-temperature unit.

Gas mixture:

- 17 vol.% O<sub>2</sub>
- 20 vol.% H<sub>2</sub>O
- N<sub>2</sub> gas

Rate of 8.3 cm<sup>3</sup>/s



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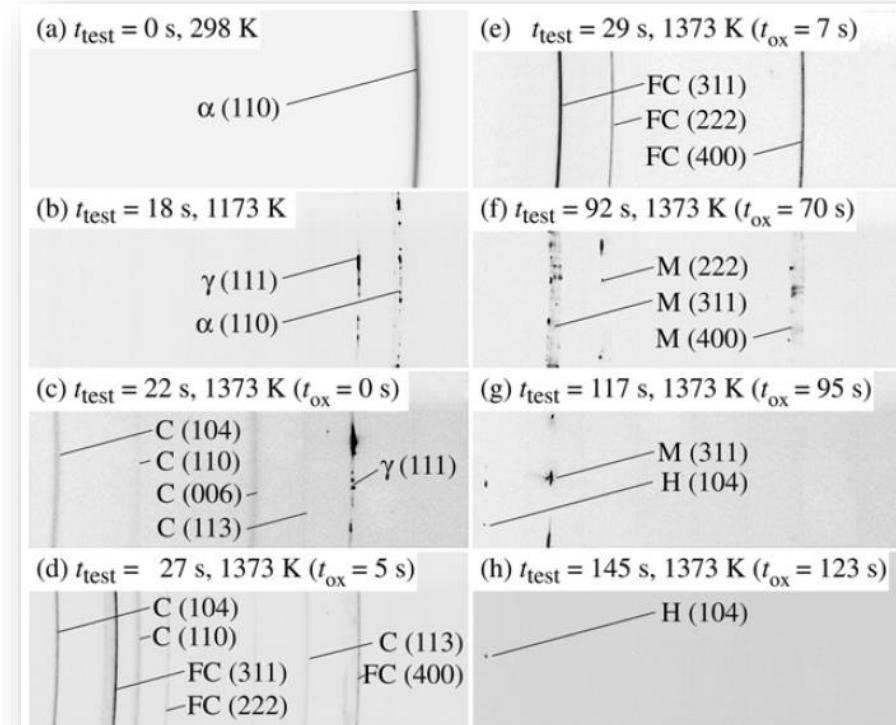
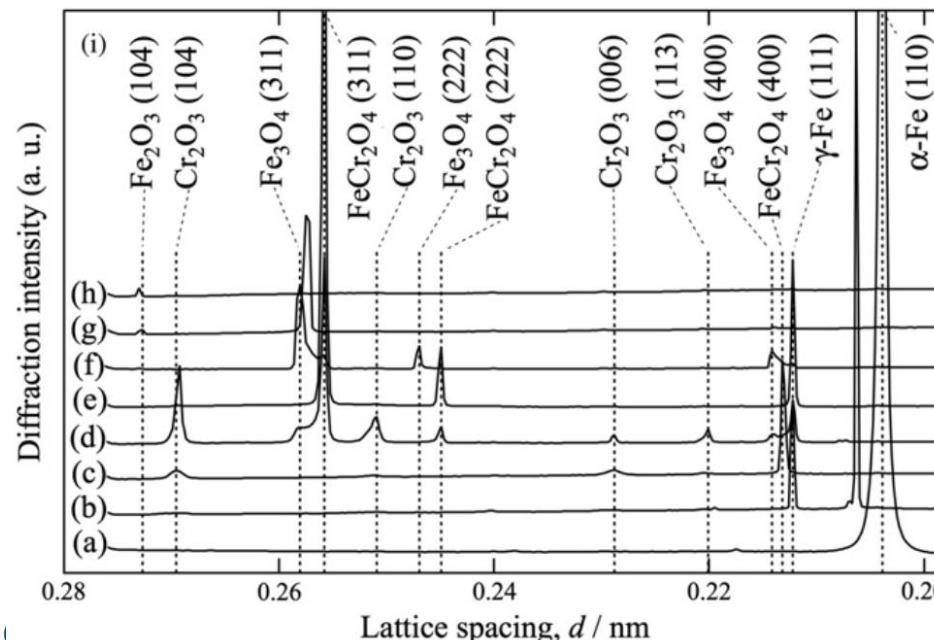
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# In situ studies of breakaway oxidation in type 430 stainless steel

Commercial type 430 stainless steel was used.

The composition of the steel was:

- 0.054 mass% C,
- 0.55 mass% Si,
- 0.09 mass% Mn,
- 0.004 mass% S,
- 0.13 mass% Ni,
- 16.1 mass% Cr,
- and Fe



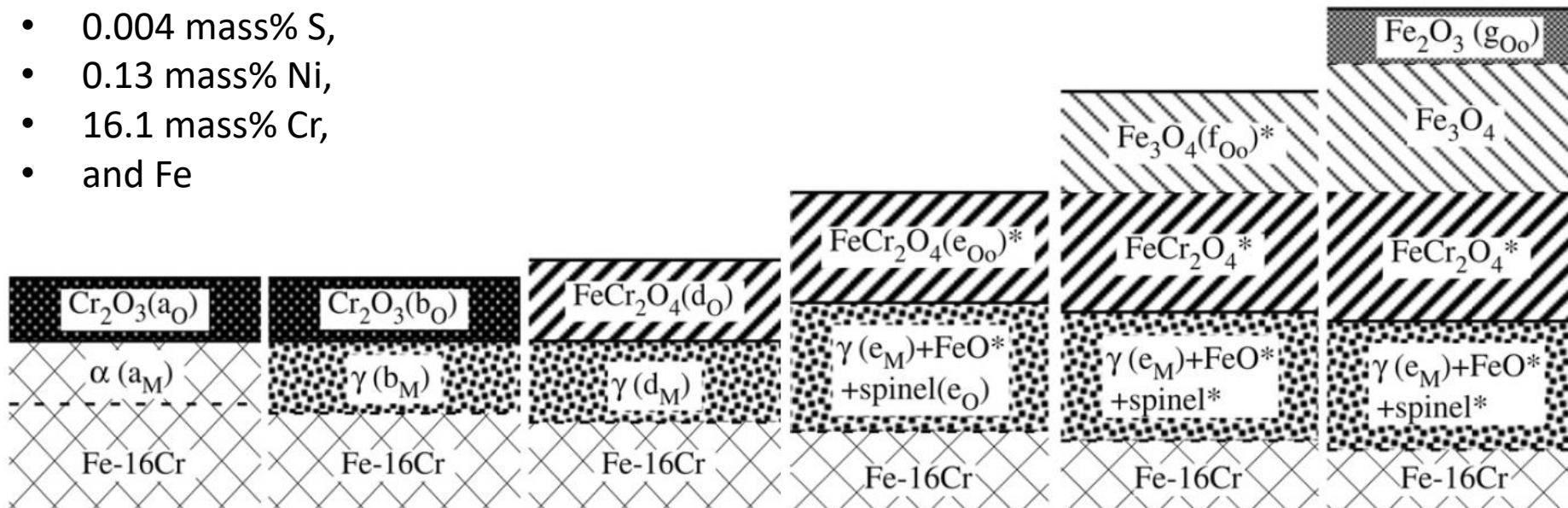
Saeki et al. Corrosion Science 55, 219, 2012

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Saeki et al. Corrosion Science 55, 219, 2012



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# In situ mechanical testing



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# Gleeble 3S50

## Gleeble®Synchrotron

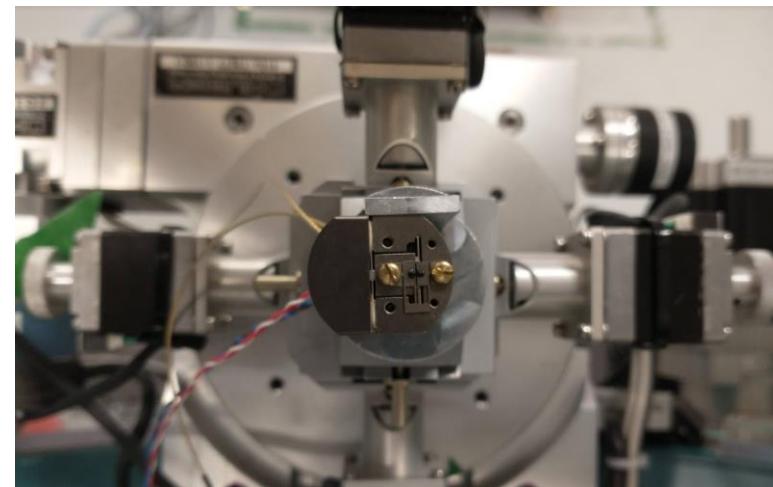
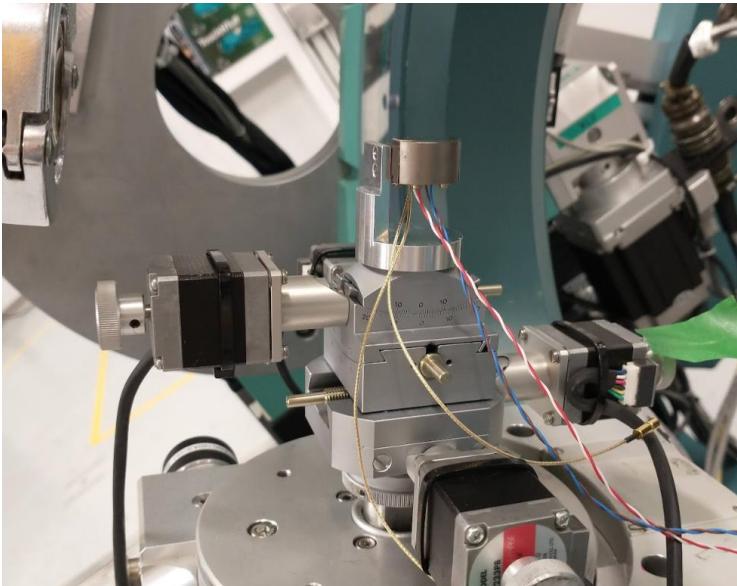
Allows the material of interest to be subject to a wide range of thermo-mechanical conditions

### Applications:

- ✓ Phase transformations
- ✓ Residual stress evolution
- ✓ Corrosion
- ✓ Oxidation



# Razorbill strain cell



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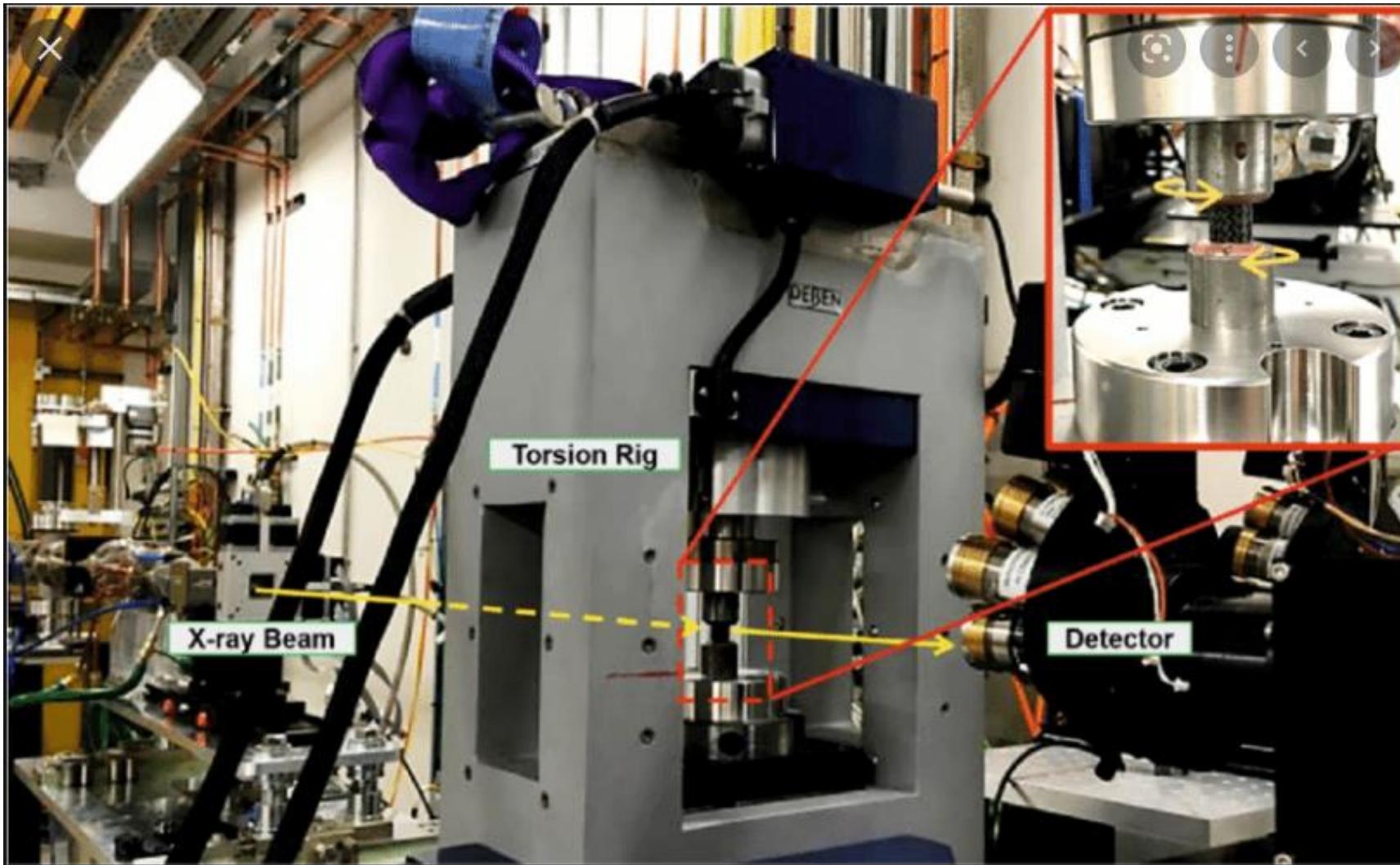
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<https://razorbillinstruments.com/uniaxial-strain-cell/>

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# Deben 20kN stress rig at Diamond



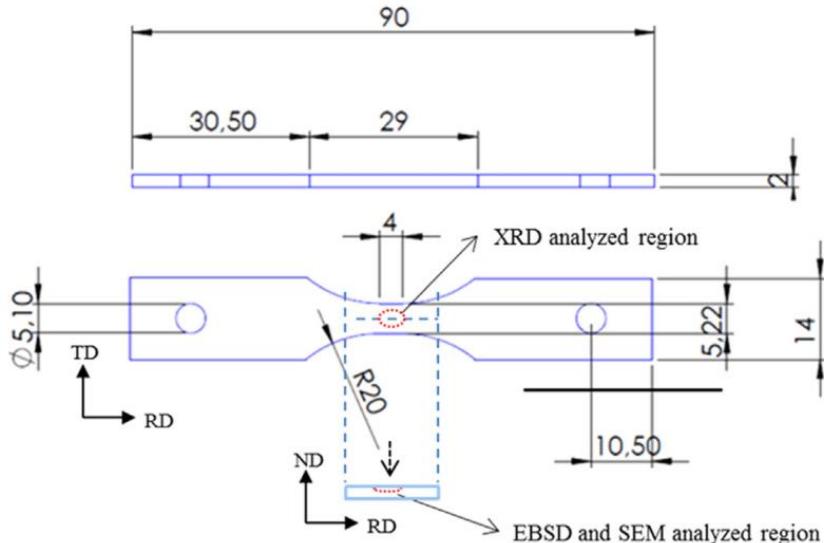
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# In-situ synchrotron x-ray evaluation of strain-induced martensite in AISI 201 austenitic stainless steel during tensile testing



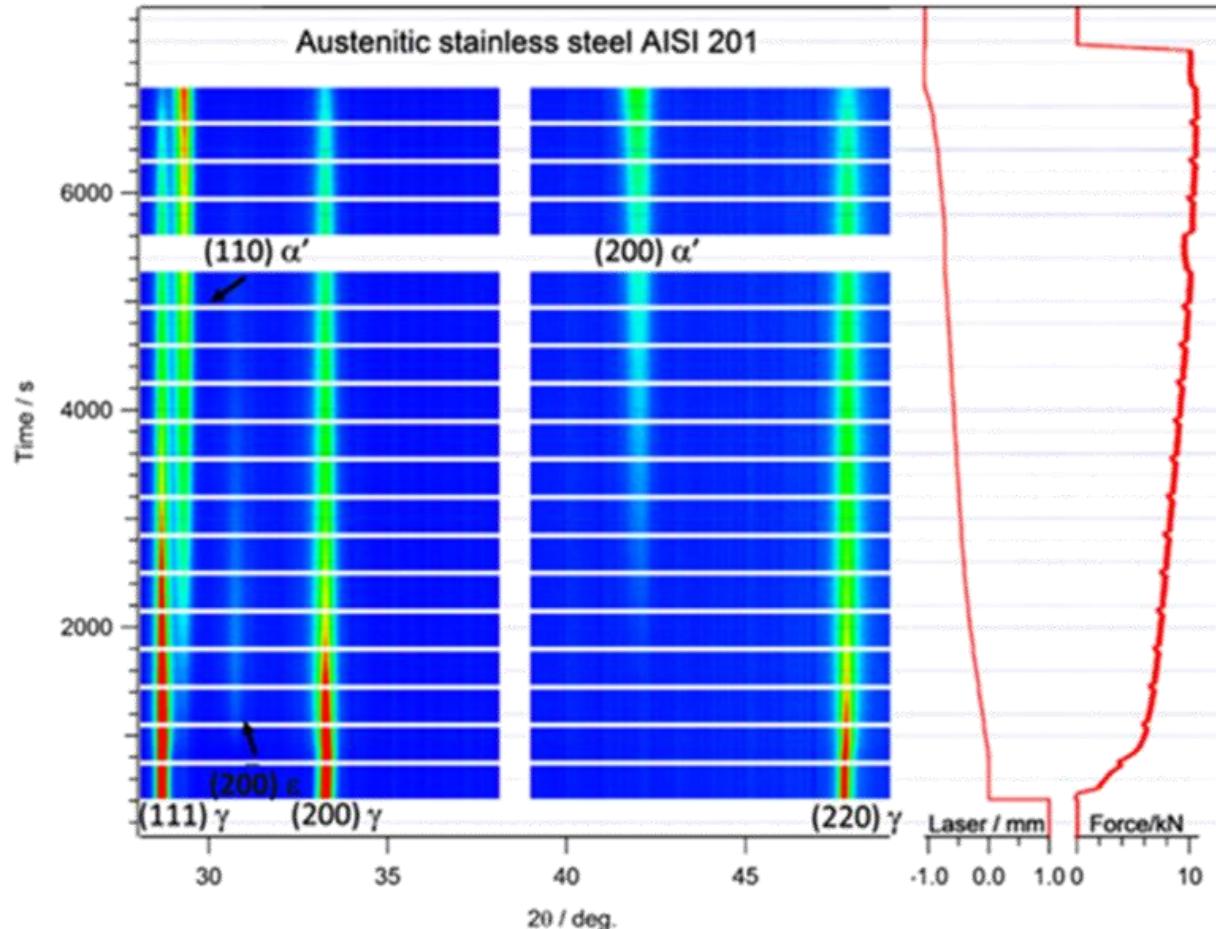
## Goal:

- To understand the changes in microstructure of AISI 201 by applying a tensile stress using in-situ XRD.
- To track phase transformation and strain partitioning among the phases

Chemical composition of the austenitic stainless steel AISI 201 used in this work.  
Values expressed in wt%.

C	Mn	Si	P	S	Cr	Ni	Mo	Al
0.0237	7.018	0.382	0.037	0.0014	17.06	4.07	0.0429	0.0047
Cu	Co	V	Nb	Ti	Sn	W	N	O
0.0717	0.0616	0.0408	0.0038	0.0041	0.0064	0.0147	0.1640	0.0029

# In-situ synchrotron x-ray evaluation of strain-induced martensite in AISI 201 austenitic stainless steel during tensile testing



Metastable austenite ( $\gamma$ ) decomposes into  
➤ hcp- $\epsilon$ -martensite and  
➤ bcc- $\alpha'$ -martensite



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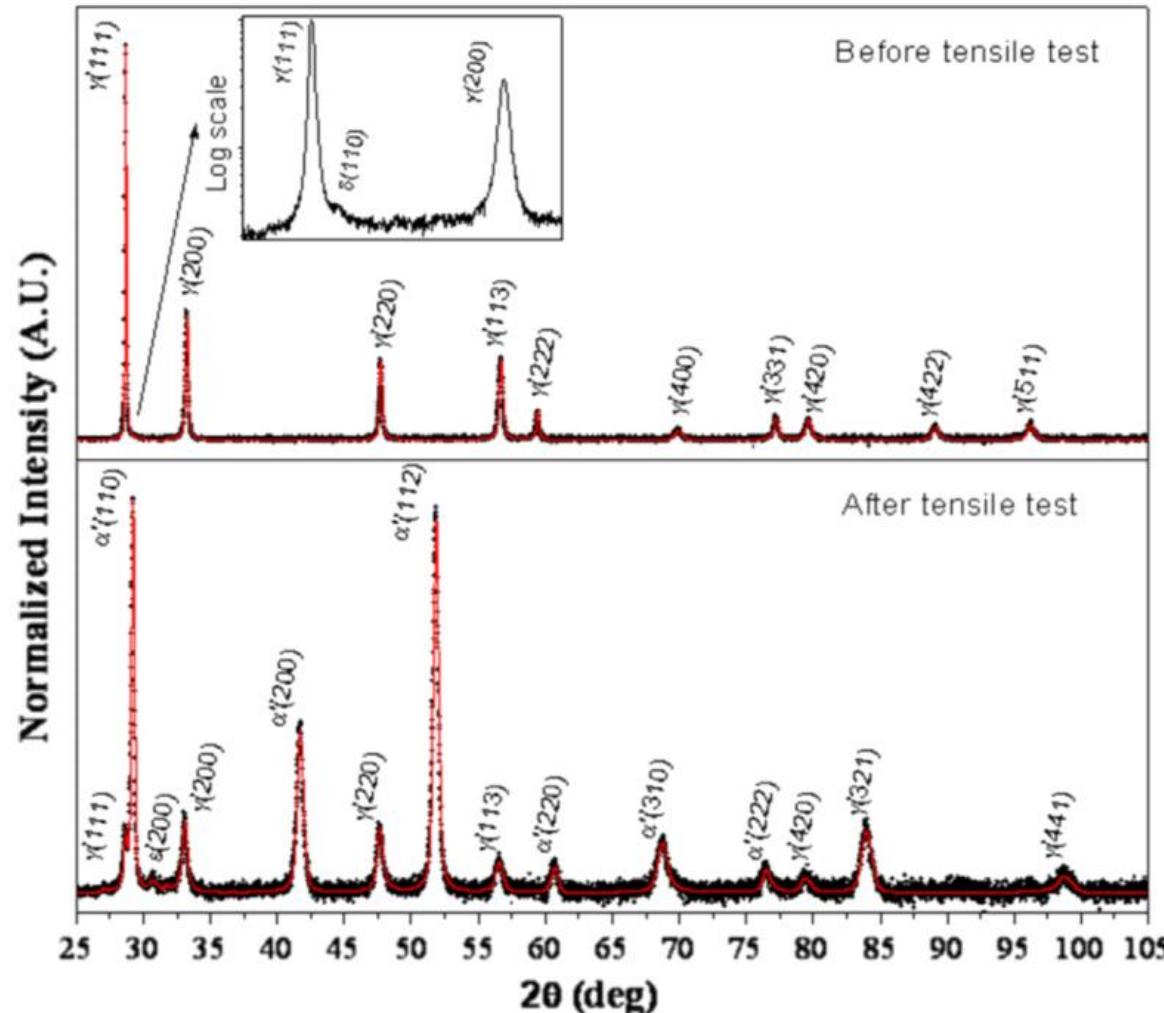
Gauss, C. et al. Materials Science & Engineering A **651**, 507, 2016

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# In-situ synchrotron x-ray evaluation of strain-induced martensite in AISI 201 austenitic stainless steel during tensile testing

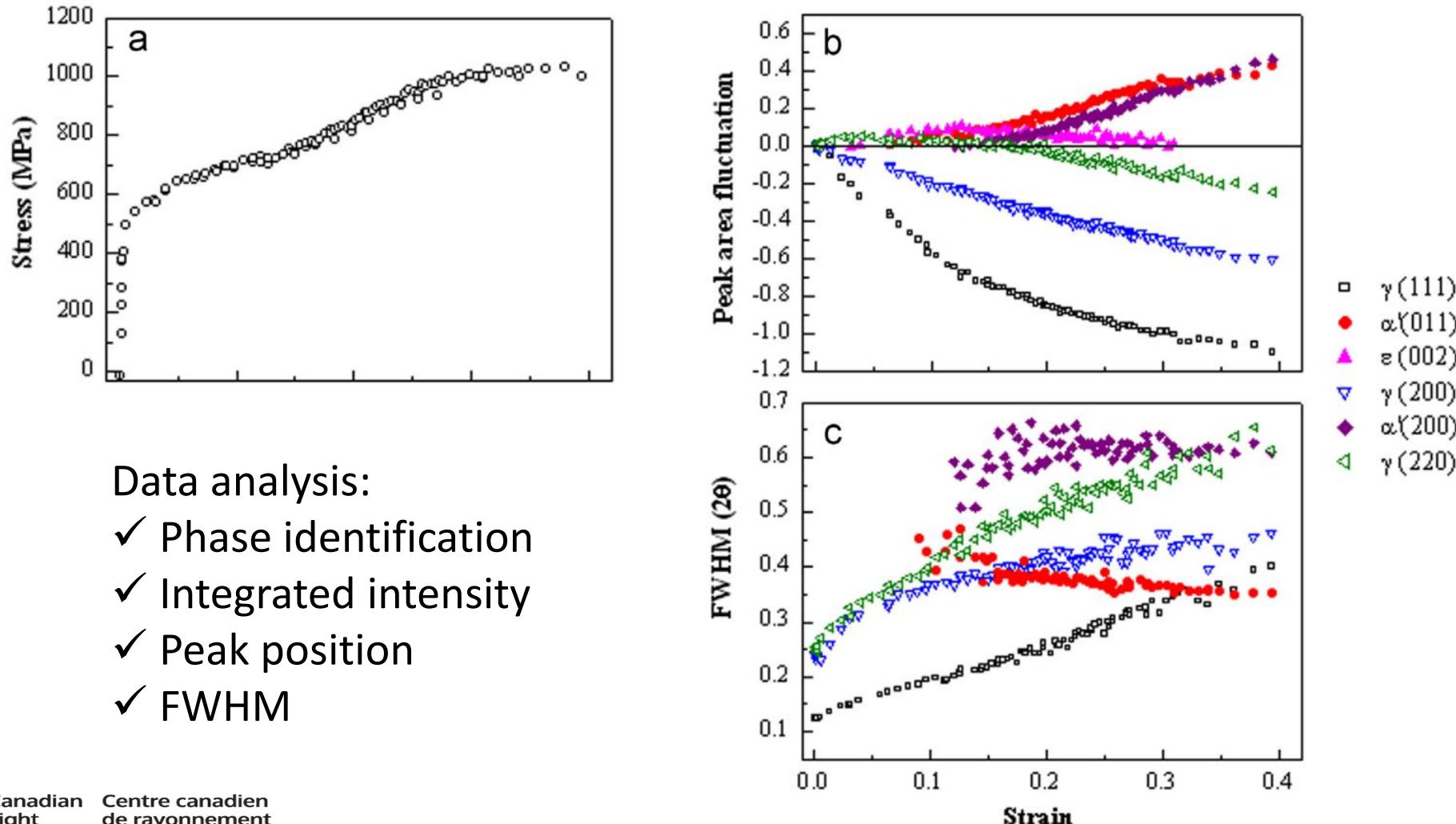


Metastable austenite ( $\gamma$ ) decomposes into

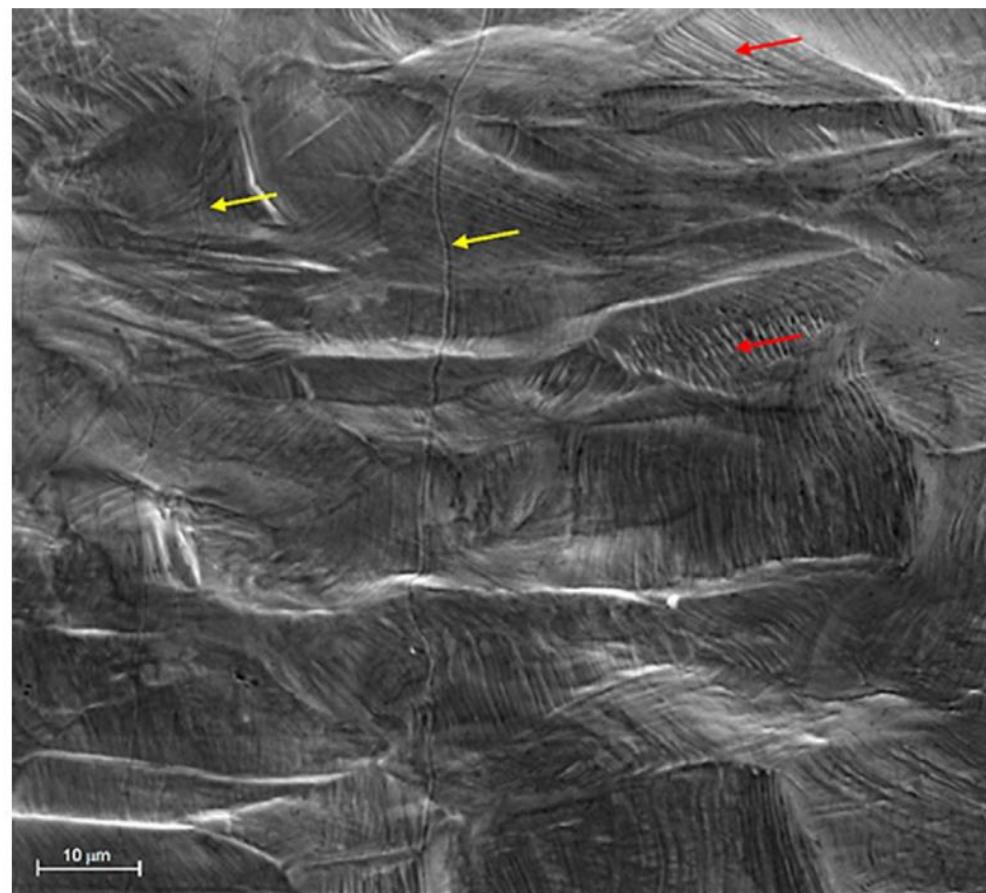
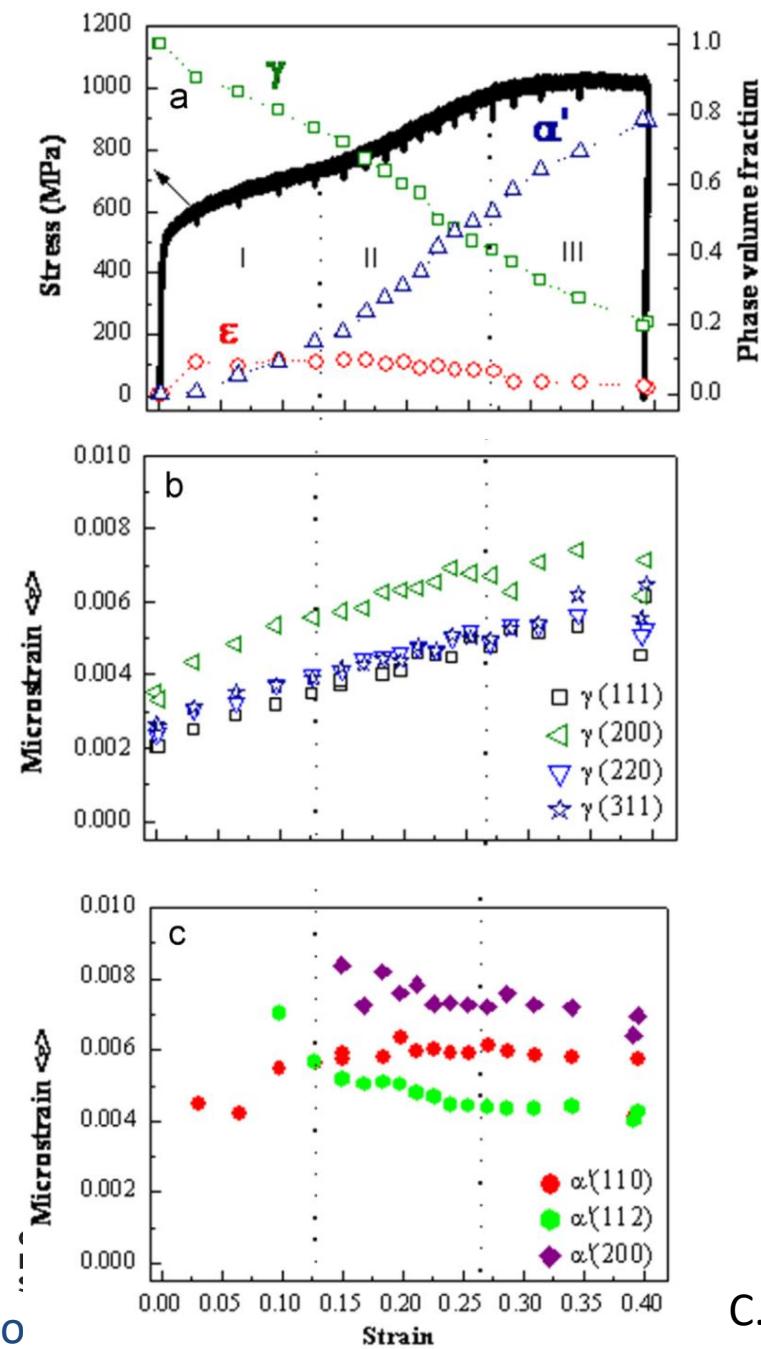
- hcp- $\varepsilon$ -martensite and
- bcc- $\alpha'$ -martensite



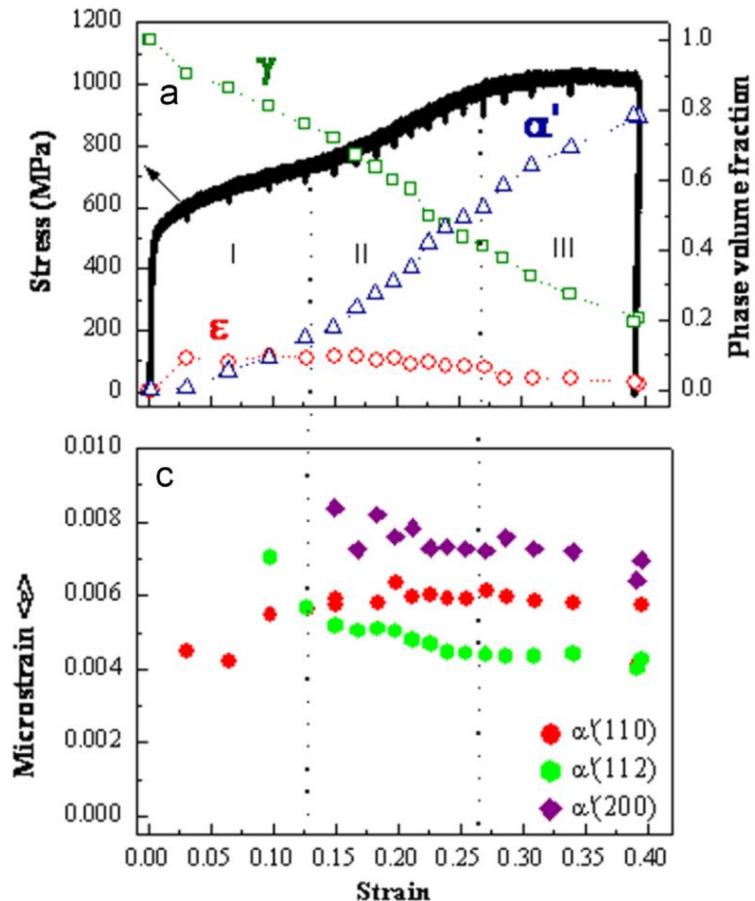
# In-situ synchrotron x-ray evaluation of strain-induced martensite in AISI 201 austenitic stainless steel during tensile testing



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# In-situ synchrotron x-ray evaluation of strain-induced martensite in AISI 201 austenitic stainless steel during tensile testing



- ✓ The strain induced transformation of metastable gamma austenite(fcc structure) was followed in real time.
- ✓  $\epsilon$ -martensite is the first phase to appear followed by  $\alpha'$  – martensite.
- ✓ Got information about the phase volume fractions and microstrain.
- ✓ FWHM of peaks is related to macroscopic mechanical properties. FWHM remains constant in the elastic regime and increases at the yield strength with the onset of plastic flow.



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Gauss, C. et al. Materials Science & Engineering A 651, 507, 2016

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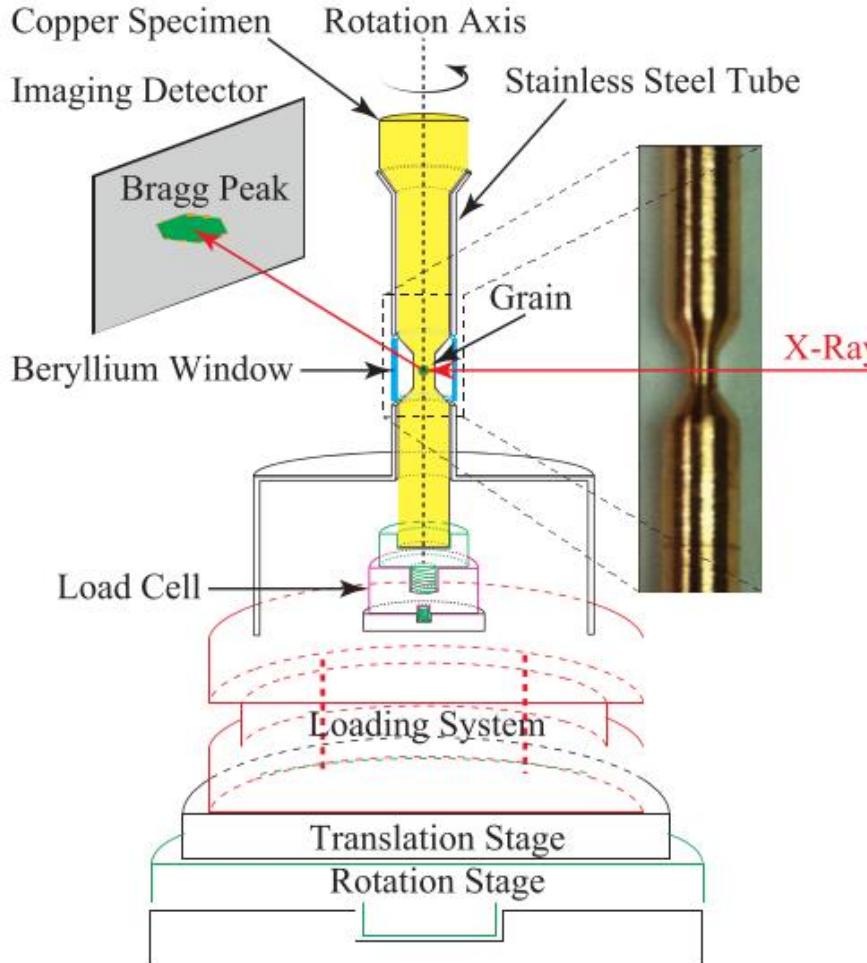
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# *In-situ* observation of bulk 3D grain evolution during plastic deformation in polycrystalline Cu



Reeju Pokharel <sup>a,c,\*</sup>, Jonathan Lind <sup>a,b</sup>, Shiu Fai Li <sup>b</sup>, Peter Kenesei <sup>d</sup>, Ricardo A. Lebensohn <sup>c</sup>, Robert M. Suter <sup>a</sup>, Anthony D. Rollett <sup>a</sup>

99.995% pure  
polycrystalline  
copper during  
tensile loading



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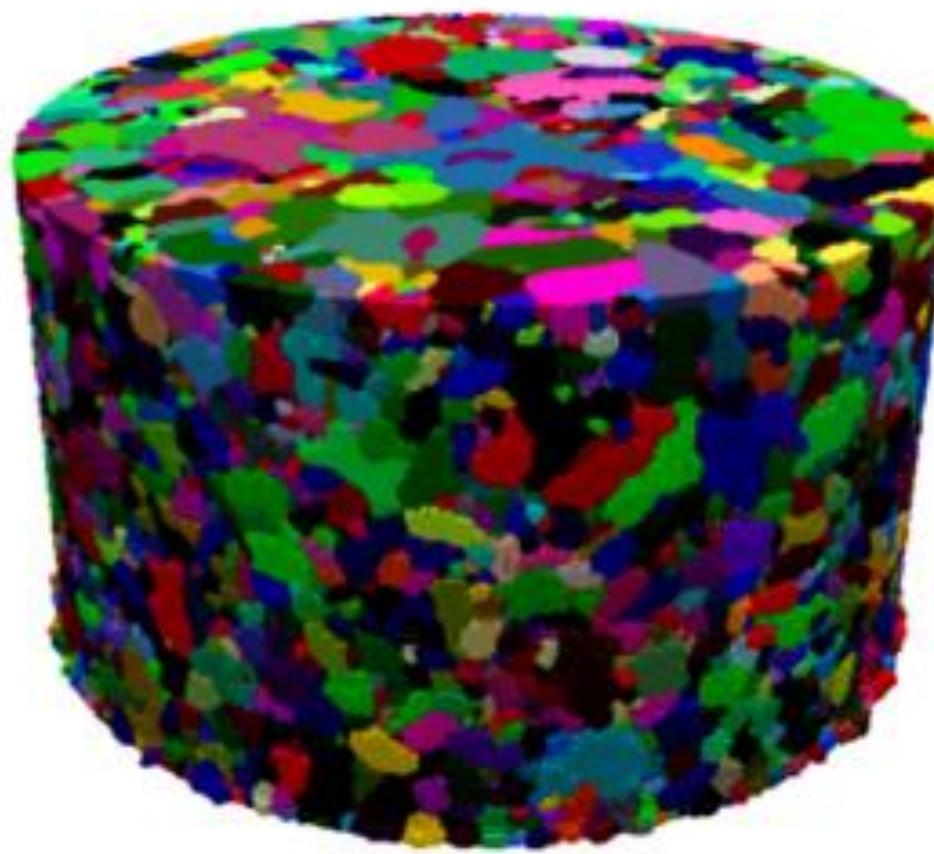
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R. Pokharel et al./International Journal of Plasticity 67 (2015) 217–234

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# *In-situ* observation of bulk 3D grain evolution during plastic deformation in polycrystalline Cu



99.995% pure polycrystalline copper during tensile loading



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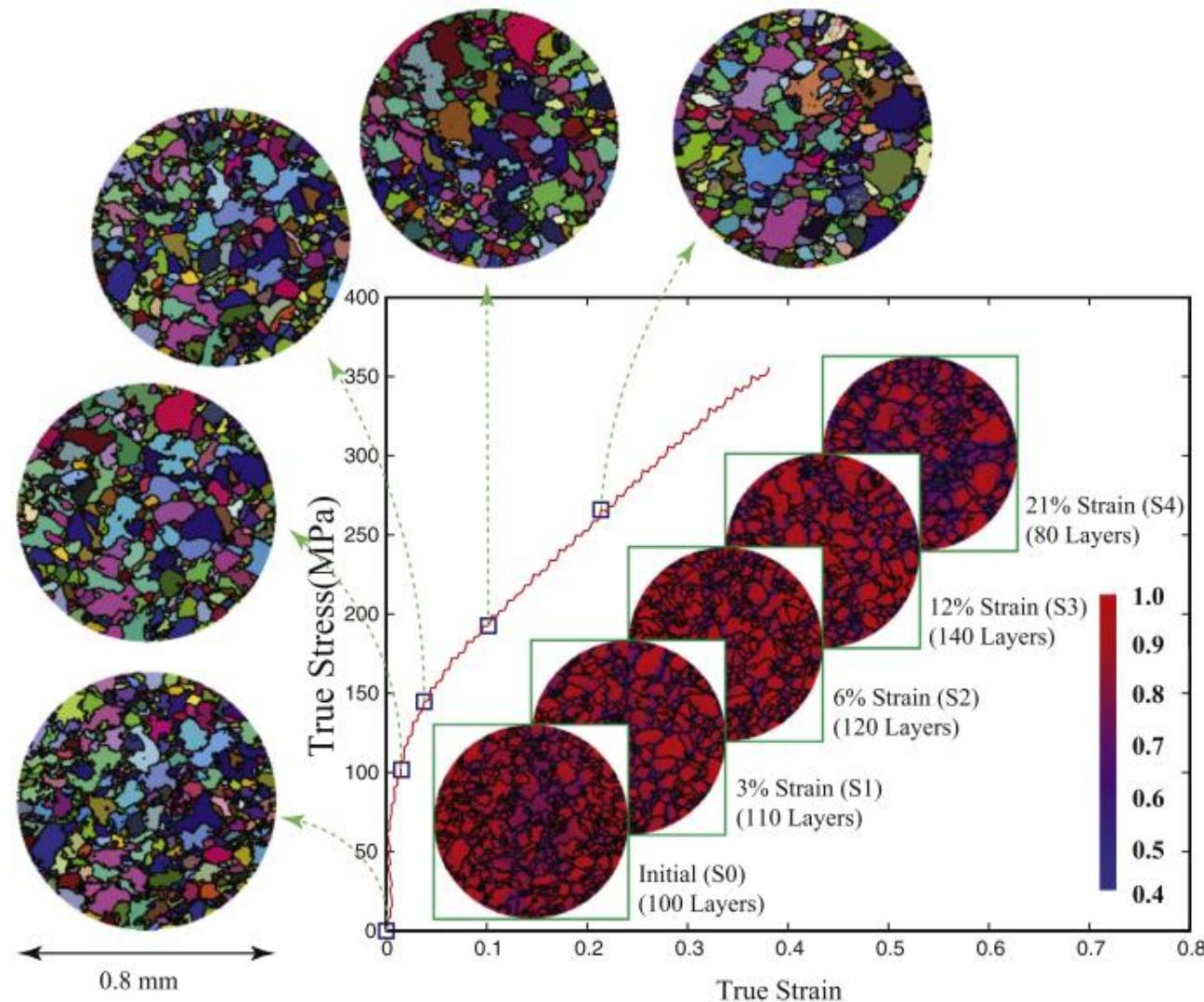
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# *In-situ* observation of bulk 3D grain evolution during plastic deformation in polycrystalline Cu



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R. Pokharel et al. / International Journal of Plasticity 67 (2015) 217–234

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# Catalysts



Oil refinery catalytic reactor



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# Catalysis

Catalysts play an important part in many chemical processes.  
More than 85% of chemicals come from catalytic reactions

Catalysts:

- increase the rate of reaction
- are not consumed by the reaction
- are only needed in very small amounts

**In-situ and operando catalytic experiments include**

- Temperature and pressure control
- Structural characterization of intermediate compounds
- Gases in/out, flow control, analysis of gases out of the catalytic reaction

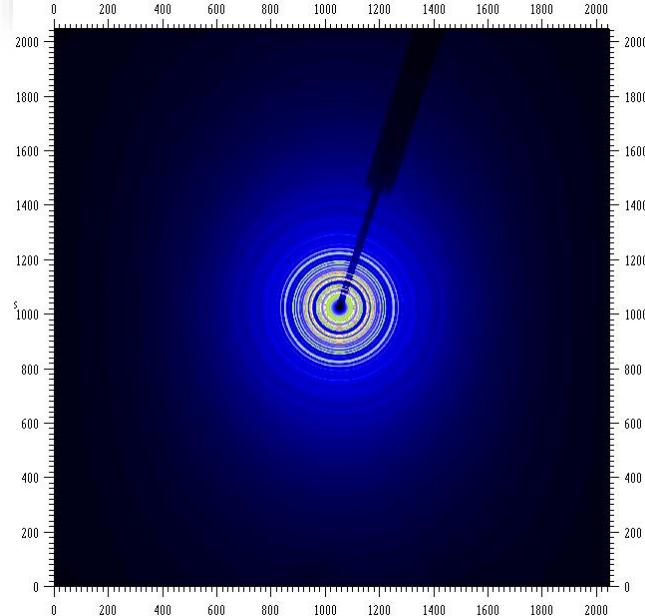
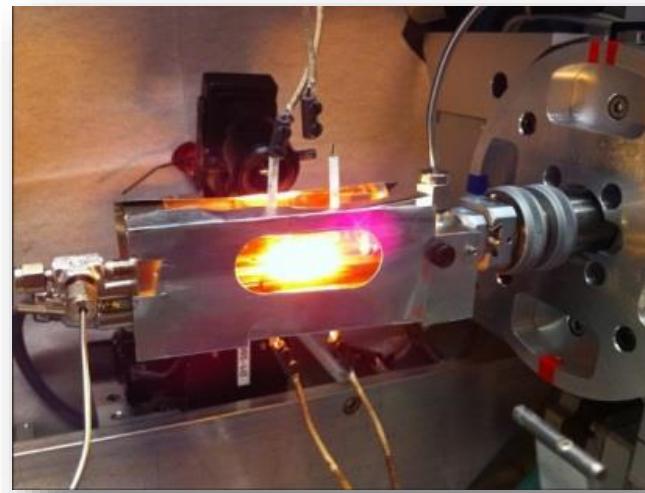
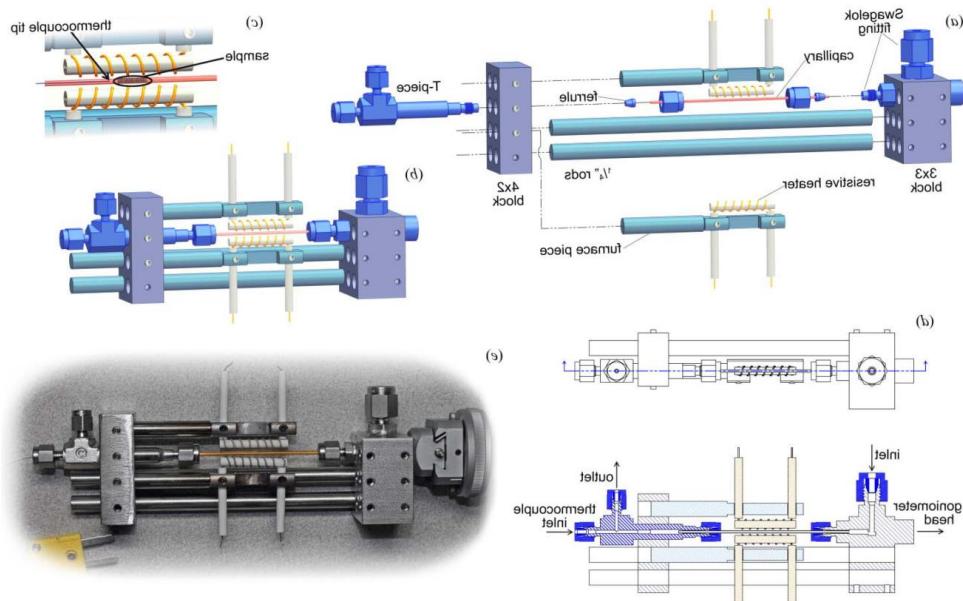


# In-situ catalytic experiments

A versatile sample-environment cell for non-ambient X-ray scattering experiments

Peter J. Chupas,<sup>a\*</sup> Karena W. Chapman,<sup>a</sup> Charles Kurtz,<sup>a</sup> Jonathan C. Hanson,<sup>b</sup>  
Peter L. Lee<sup>a</sup> and Clare P. Grey<sup>c</sup>

*J. Appl. Cryst.* (2008). **41**, 822–824



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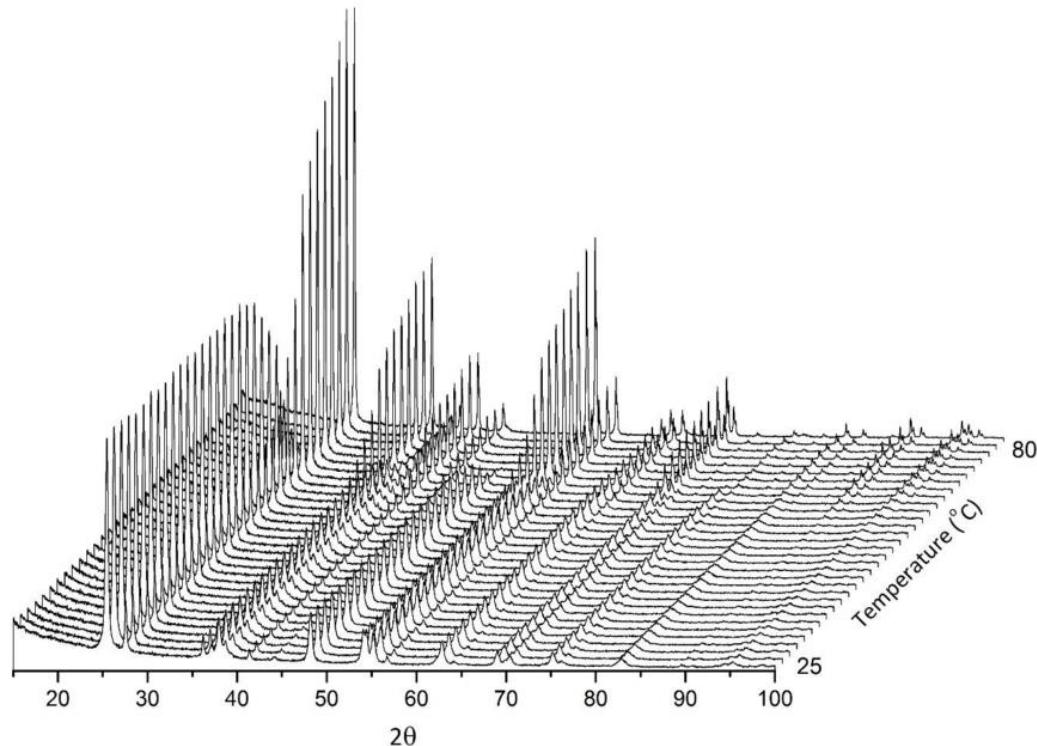
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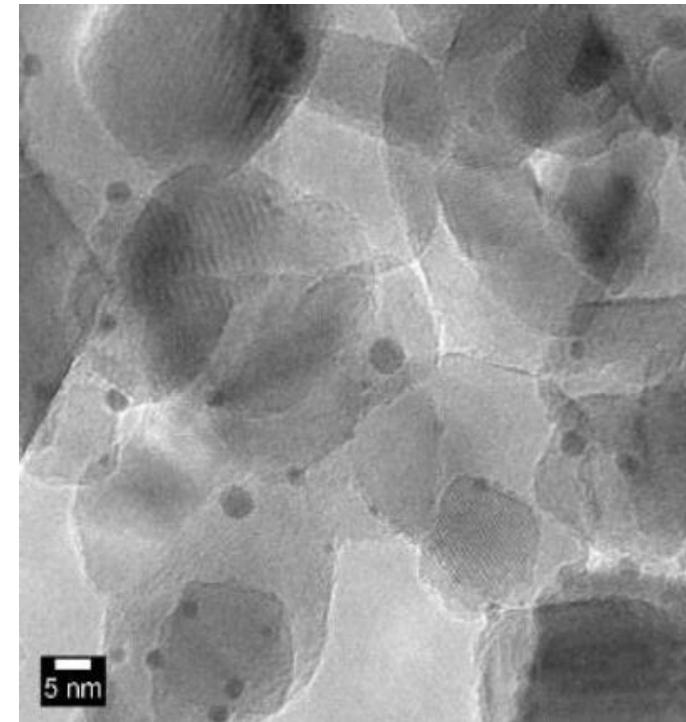
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# In-situ catalysis

Commercial catalyst Aurolite® (1% Au-P25)



Phase change from anatase to the  
thermodynamically stable rutile phase



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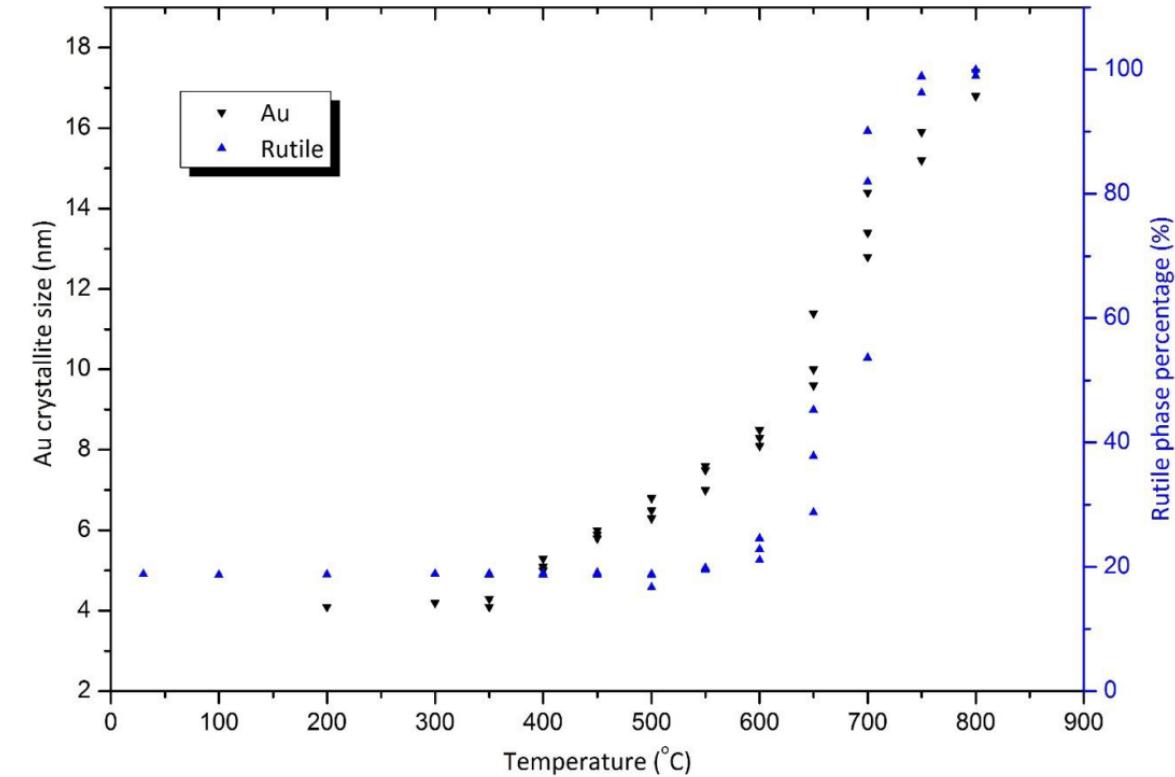
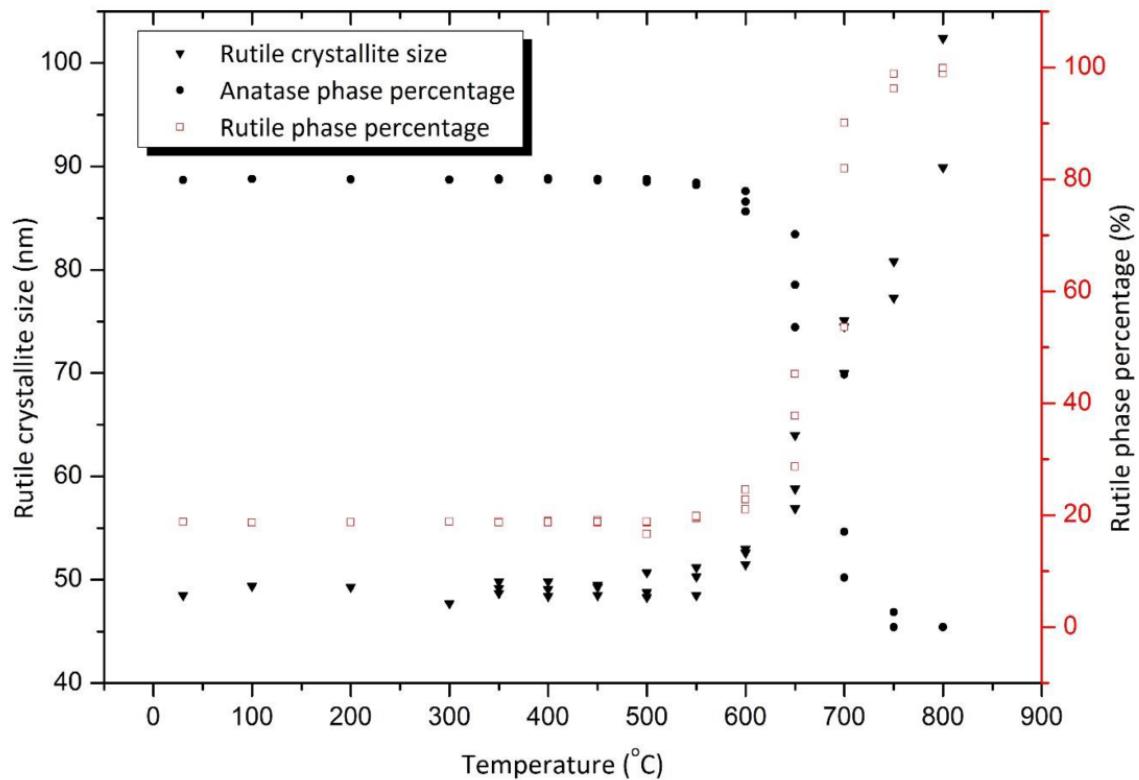
Achieving nano-gold stability through rational  
design† D. Barret et al.

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# In-situ catalysis

Commercial catalyst Aurolite® (1% Au-P25)



Structural instability of the support is a major factor in Au-nanoparticle growth  
→ catalytic activity decreases

Achieving nano-gold stability through rational design† D. Barret et al. 2016



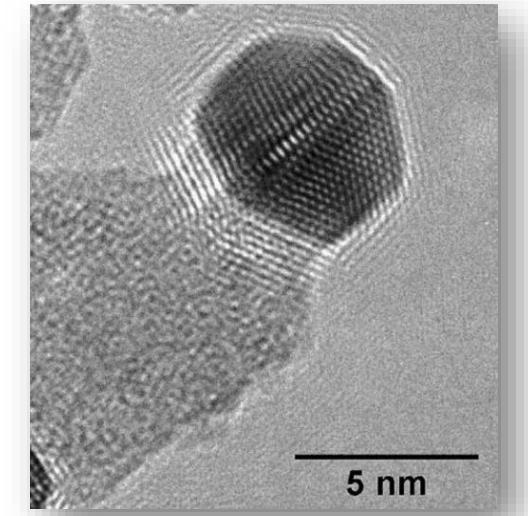
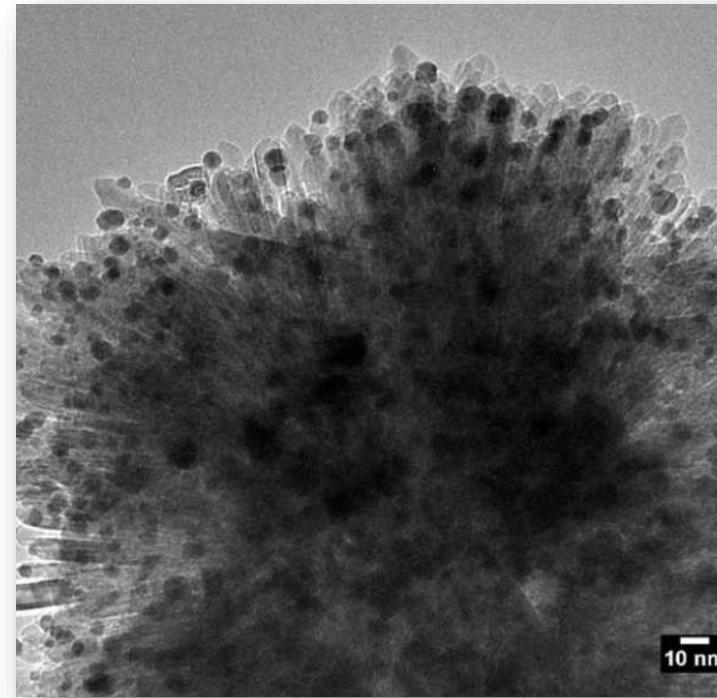
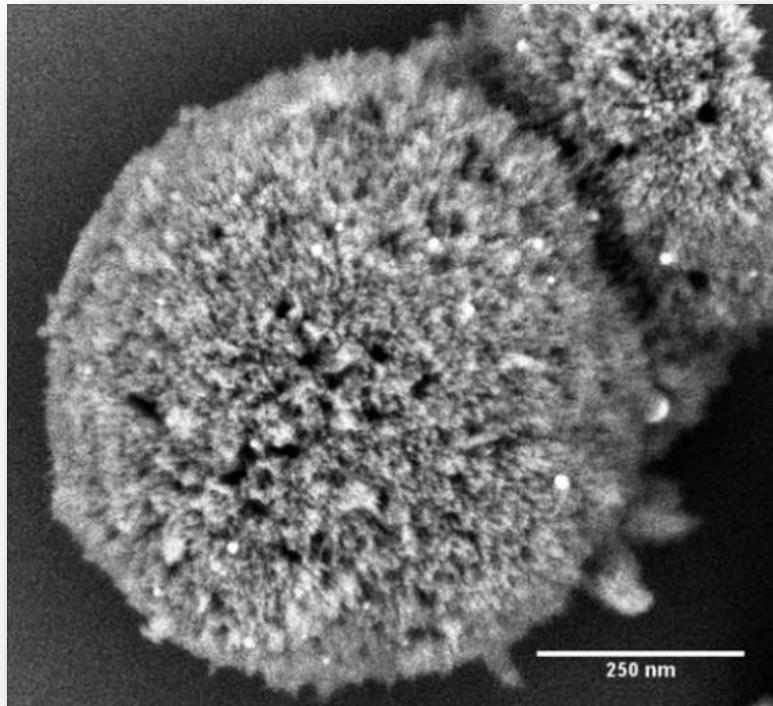
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# In-situ catalysis



Achieving nano-gold stability through rational design† D. Barret et al. 2016



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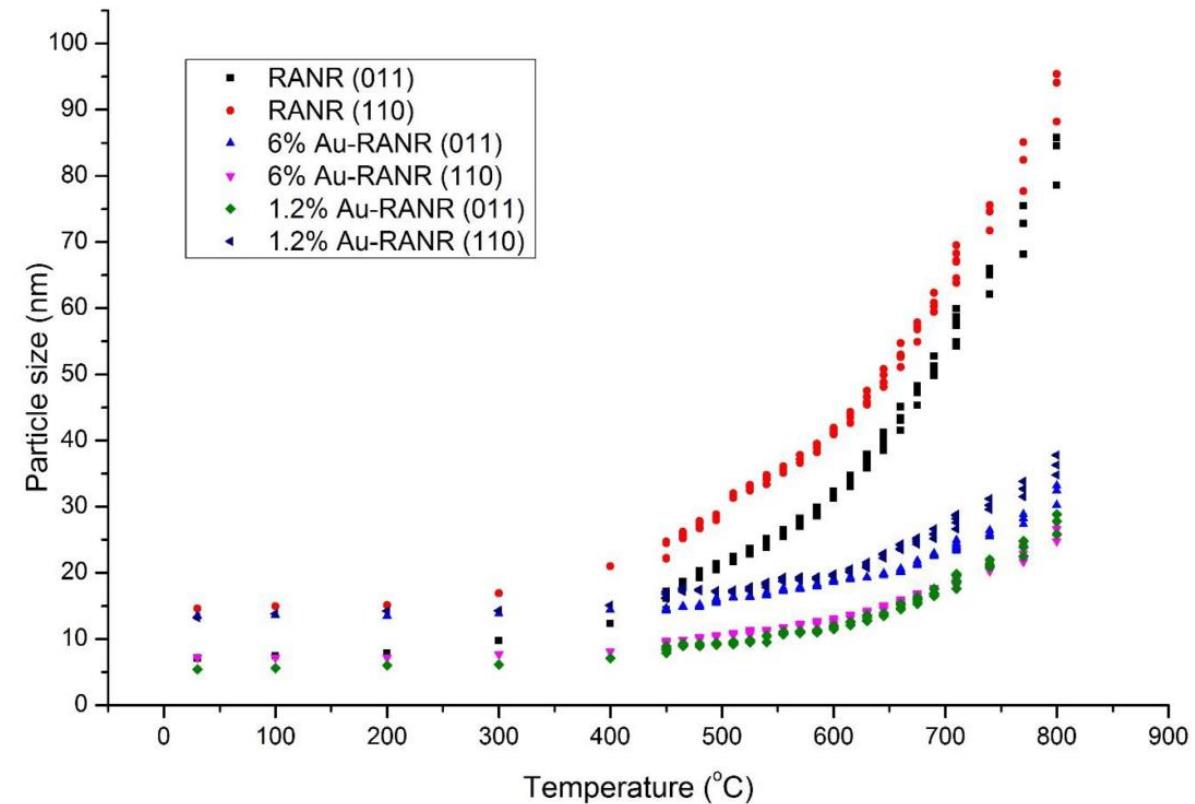
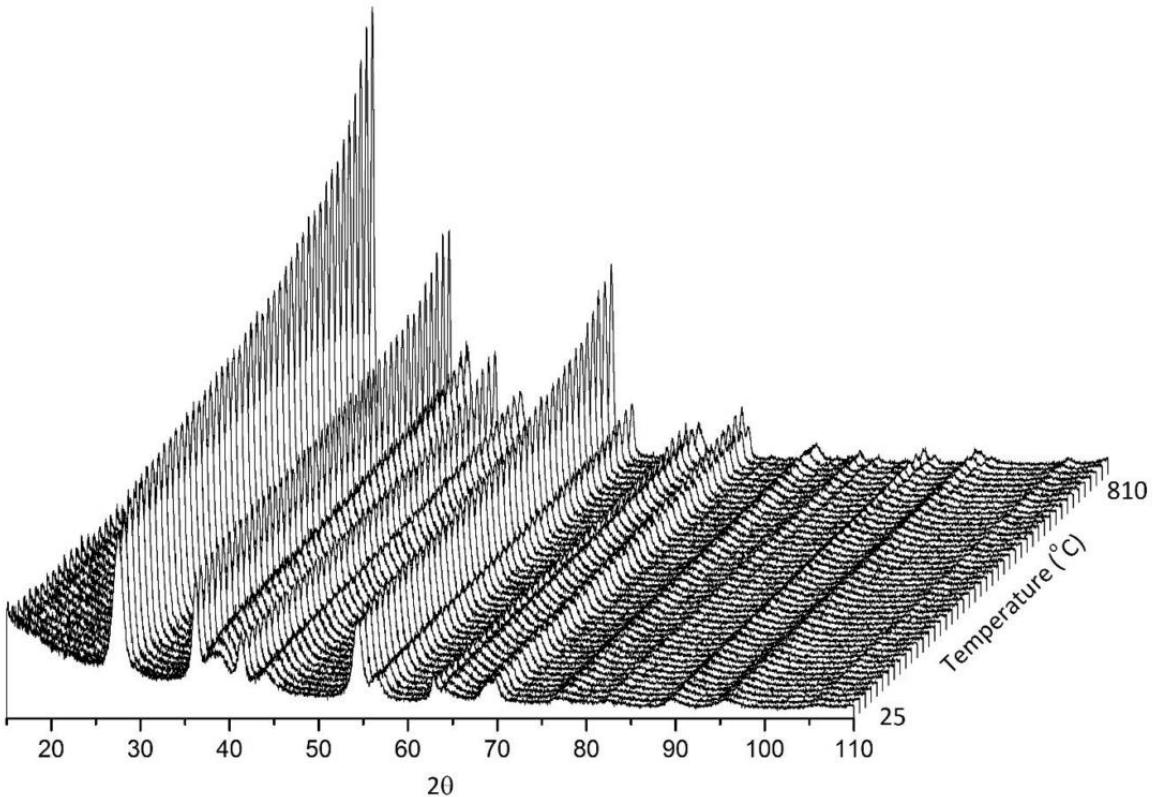
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# In-situ catalysis

The presence of Au resulted in a stabilizing effect with regards to the growth of the support structure.



Achieving nano-gold stability through rational design† D. Barret et al. 2016



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# In-situ catalysis

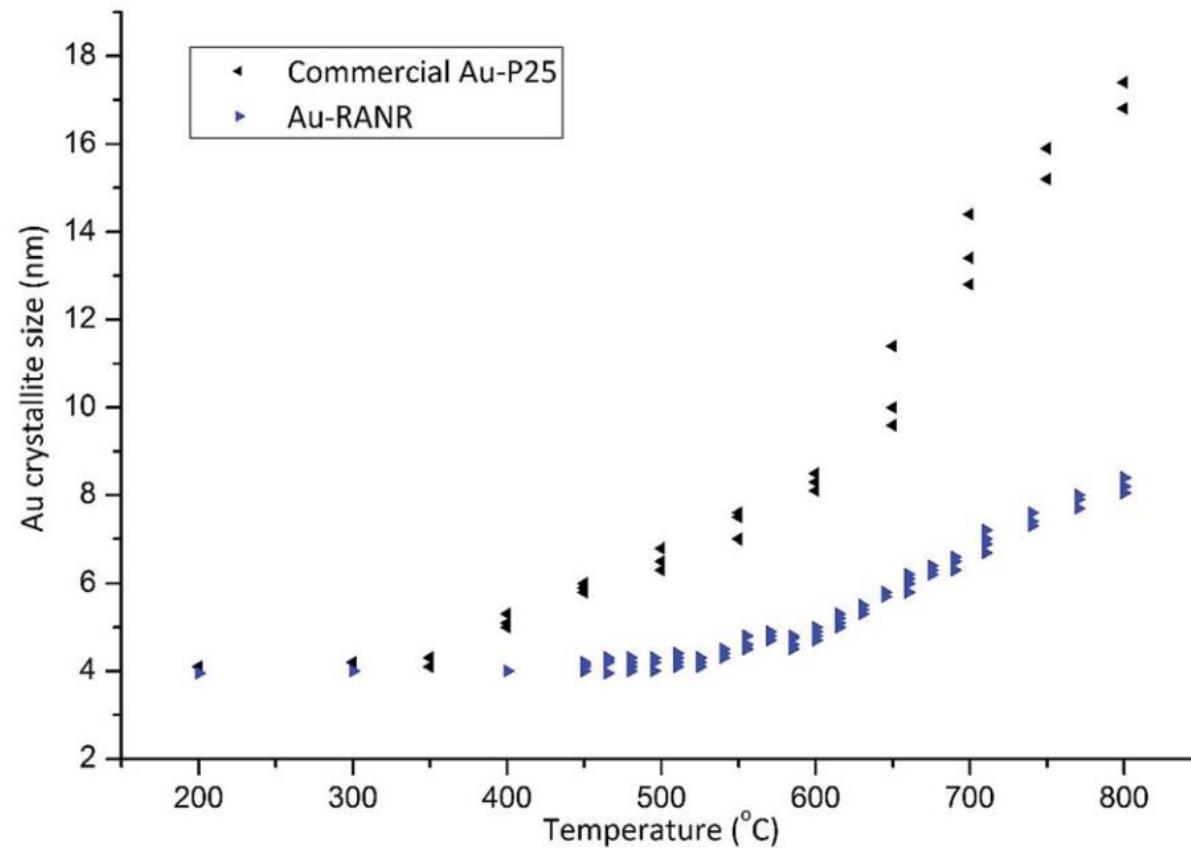


Fig. 3 Au crystallite sizes of the commercial Au-TiO<sub>2</sub> and Au-RANR catalysts determined from Rietveld refinement from *in situ* PXRD.

**Achieving nano-gold stability through rational design† D. Barret et al. 2016**



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# In-situ catalysis

- ✓ Thermodynamically stable support material
- ✓ Improved morphology
- ✓ Au nanoparticles sit isolated on the rod tips -> reduced mobility and coalescence
- ✓ Remarkable catalytic stability tested with CO oxidation

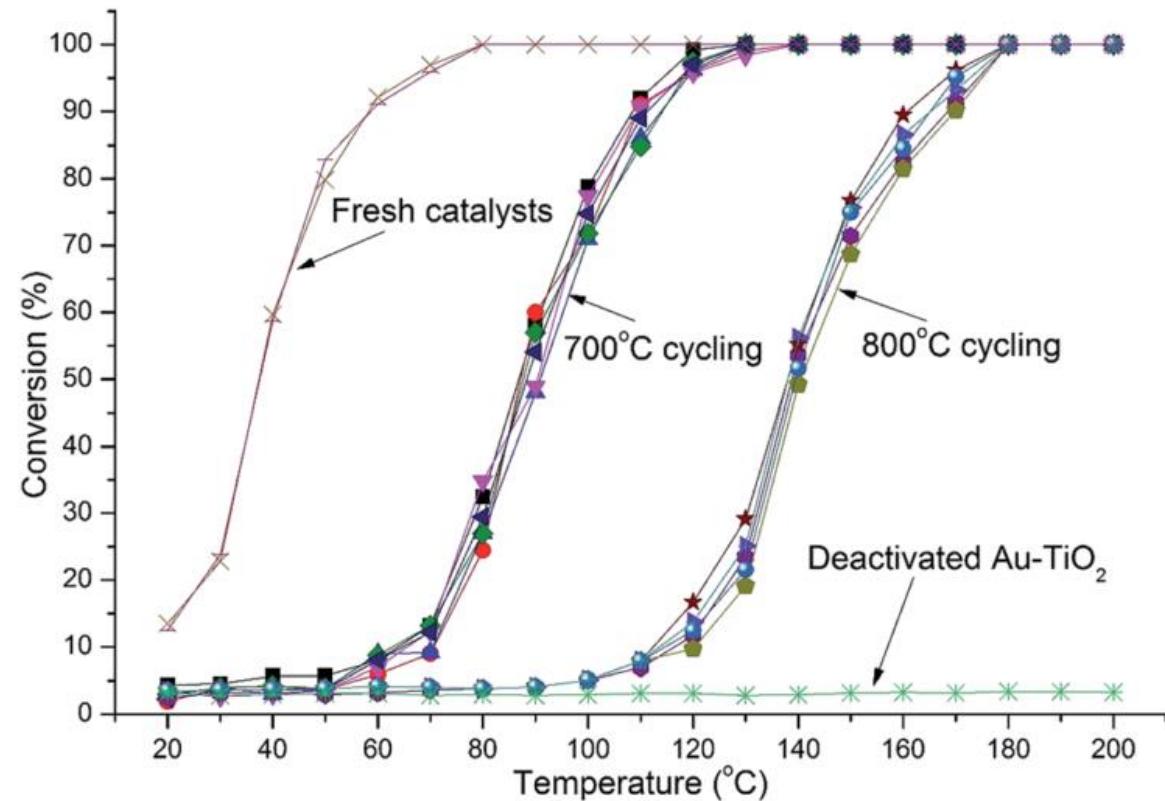


Fig. 4 Light-off curves for catalysts with 1.2% Au-RANR and commercial Au-TiO<sub>2</sub> after multiple 700 and 800 °C heating cycles (10 cycles in total).

Achieving nano-gold stability through rational design† D. Barret et al. 2016



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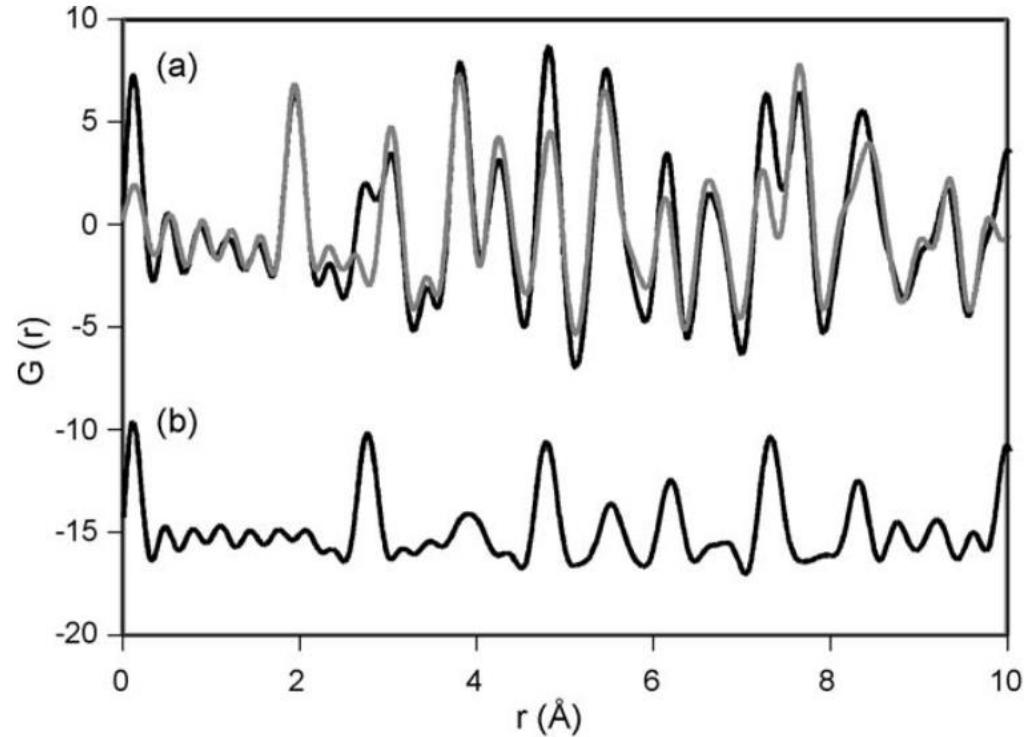
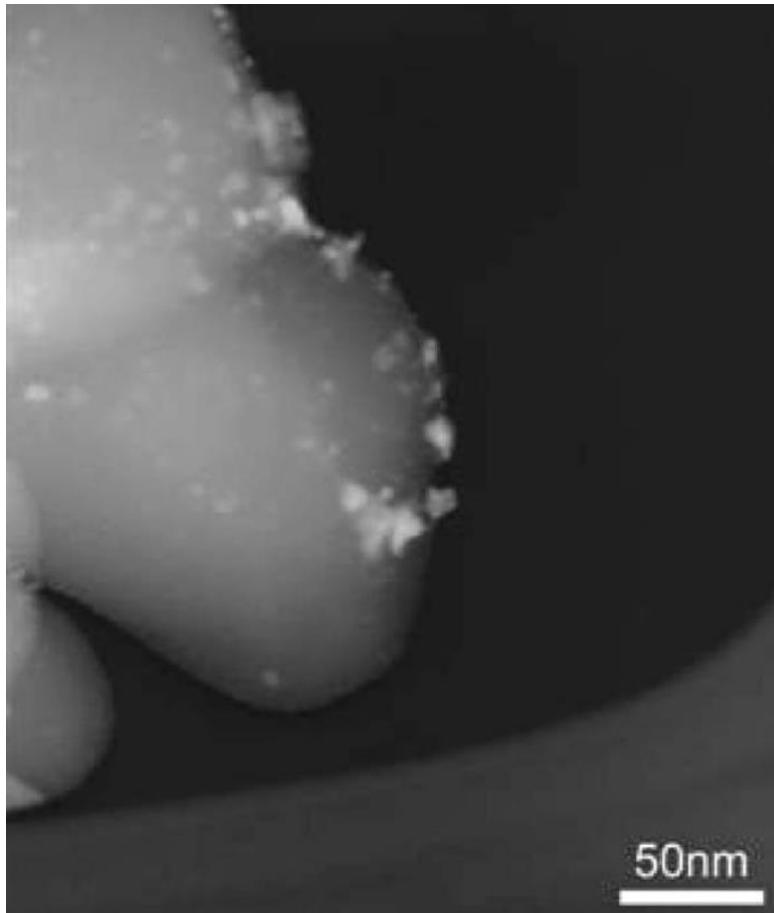
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# Application of high-energy X-rays and Pair-Distribution-Function analysis to nano-scale structural studies in catalysis

Peter J. Chupas <sup>a,\*</sup>, Karena W. Chapman <sup>a</sup>, Hailong Chen <sup>b</sup>, Clare P. Grey <sup>b</sup>



- (a) Grey line:  $G(r)$  for  $\text{TiO}_2$  support  
Black line:  $G(r)$  for 2.5% Pt on  $\text{TiO}_2$  calcined  
under  $\text{H}_2$  flow
- (b) Differential PDF



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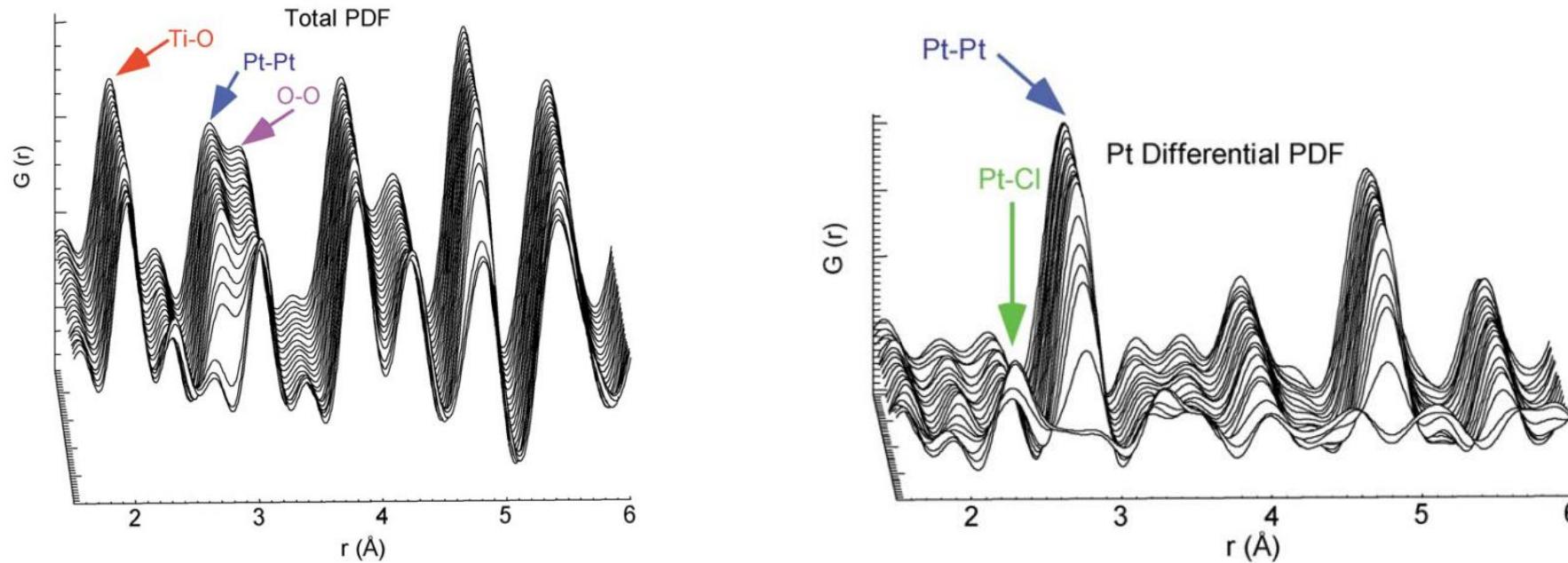
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# Application of high-energy X-rays and Pair-Distribution-Function analysis to nano-scale structural studies in catalysis

Peter J. Chupas <sup>a,\*</sup>, Karena W. Chapman <sup>a</sup>, Hailong Chen <sup>b</sup>, Clare P. Grey <sup>b</sup>



1. Pt nano-particles examined with atomic resolution
2. In-situ transformation of  $\text{Pt}^{4+}$  in  $\text{PtCl}_6^{2-}$
3.  $\text{Pt}^{4+}$  reduced in situ with  $\text{H}_2$  forming metallic fcc Pt nano particles
4. Observation of the Pt-O bond yields insight about catalyst interaction with  $\text{TiO}_2$  support
5. Initial nano-particles are  $\sim 1\text{nm}$ , while by  $200\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  they are larger and more crystalline
6. Suggests agglomeration of smaller particles to form larger particles

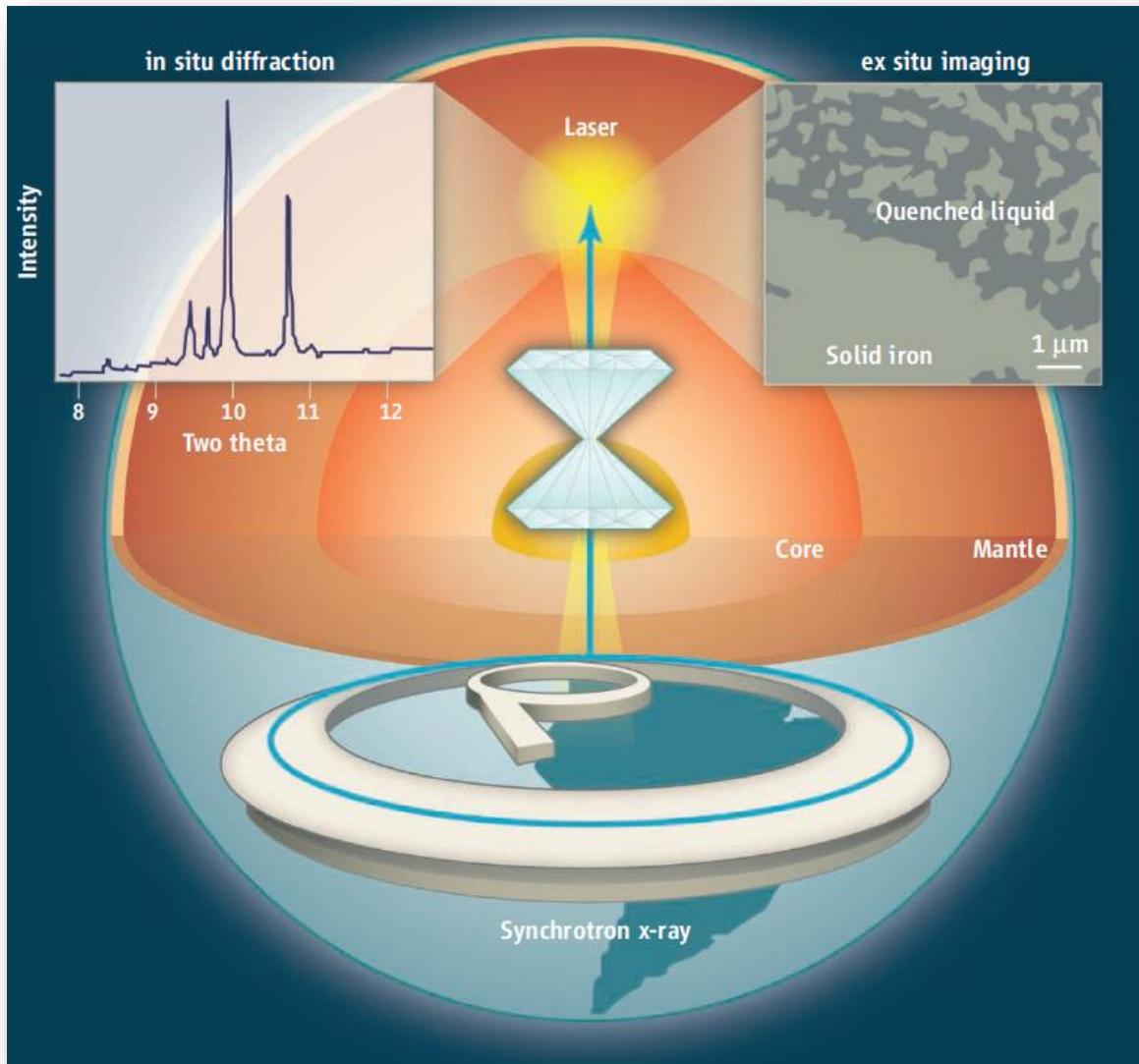


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# High pressure studies



Probing extremes:

Melting Earth's core ...

in the laboratory

Science 340, 442 2013  
Yingwei Fei



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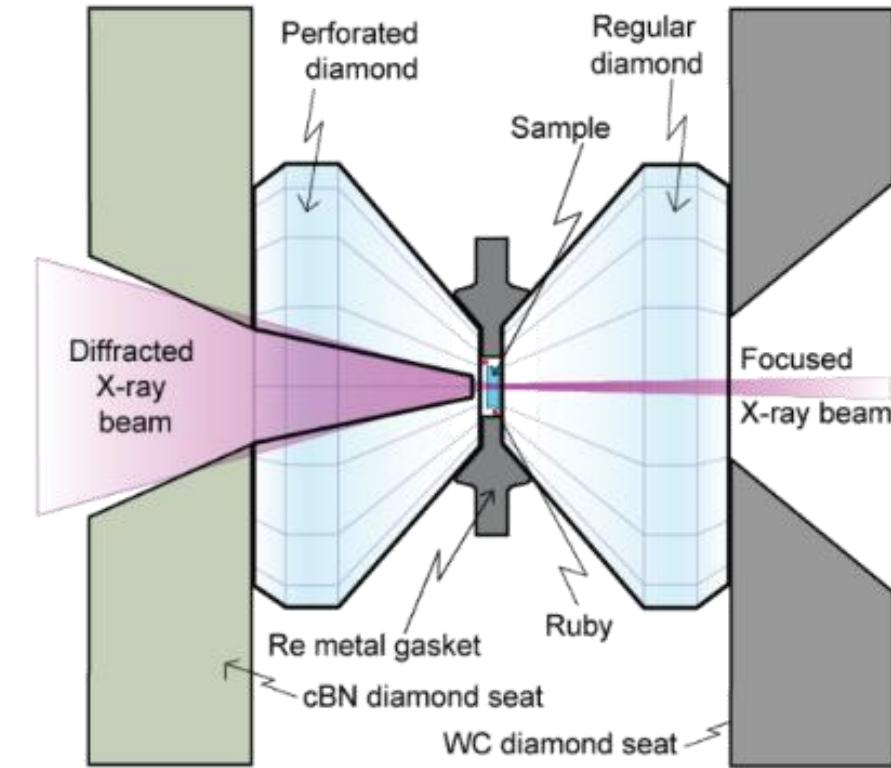
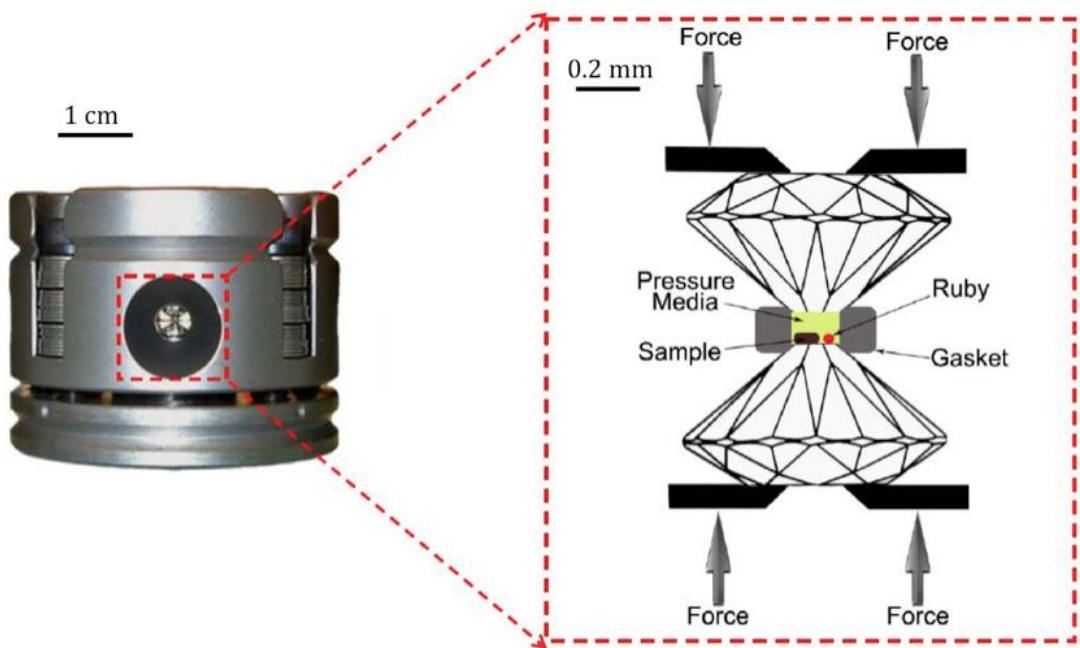
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# High pressure studies



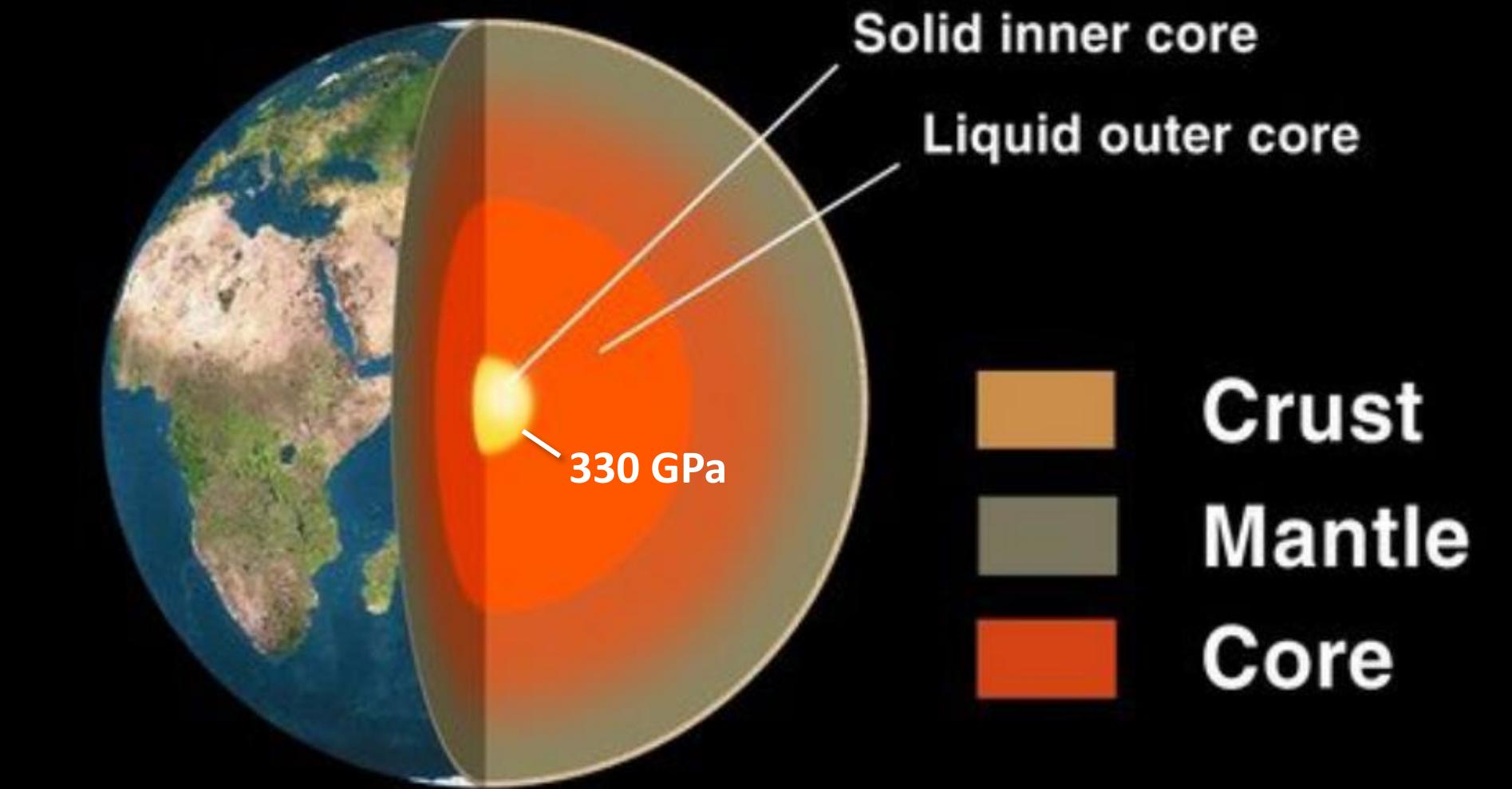
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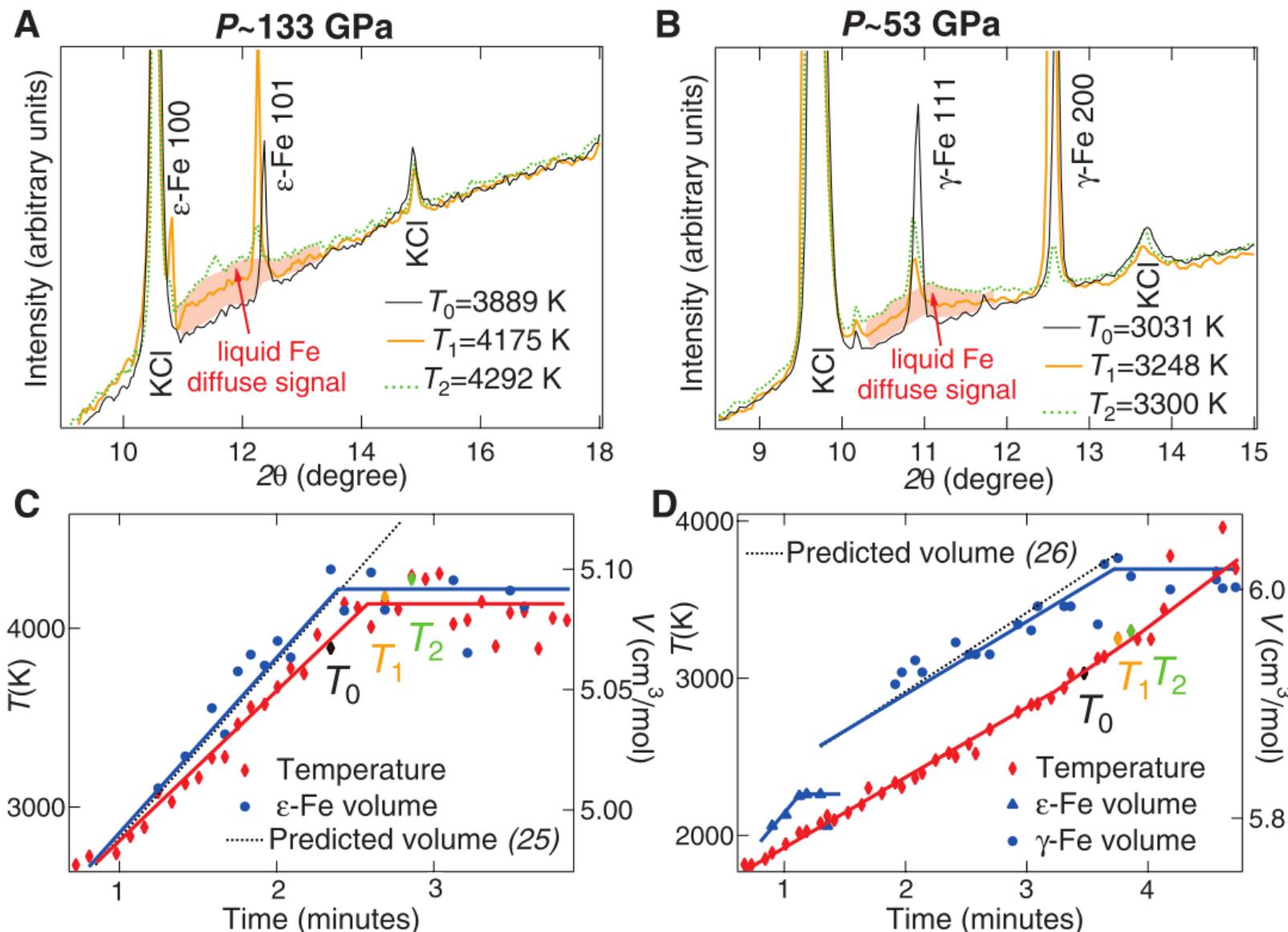
Earth's core is structured in a solid inner core, mainly composed of iron, and a liquid outer core.



How does iron behave at these extreme temperatures and pressures?

# Melting of Iron at Earth's Inner core Boundary based on Fast X-ray Diffraction

Static laser-heated diamond anvil cell experiments up to 200 GPa



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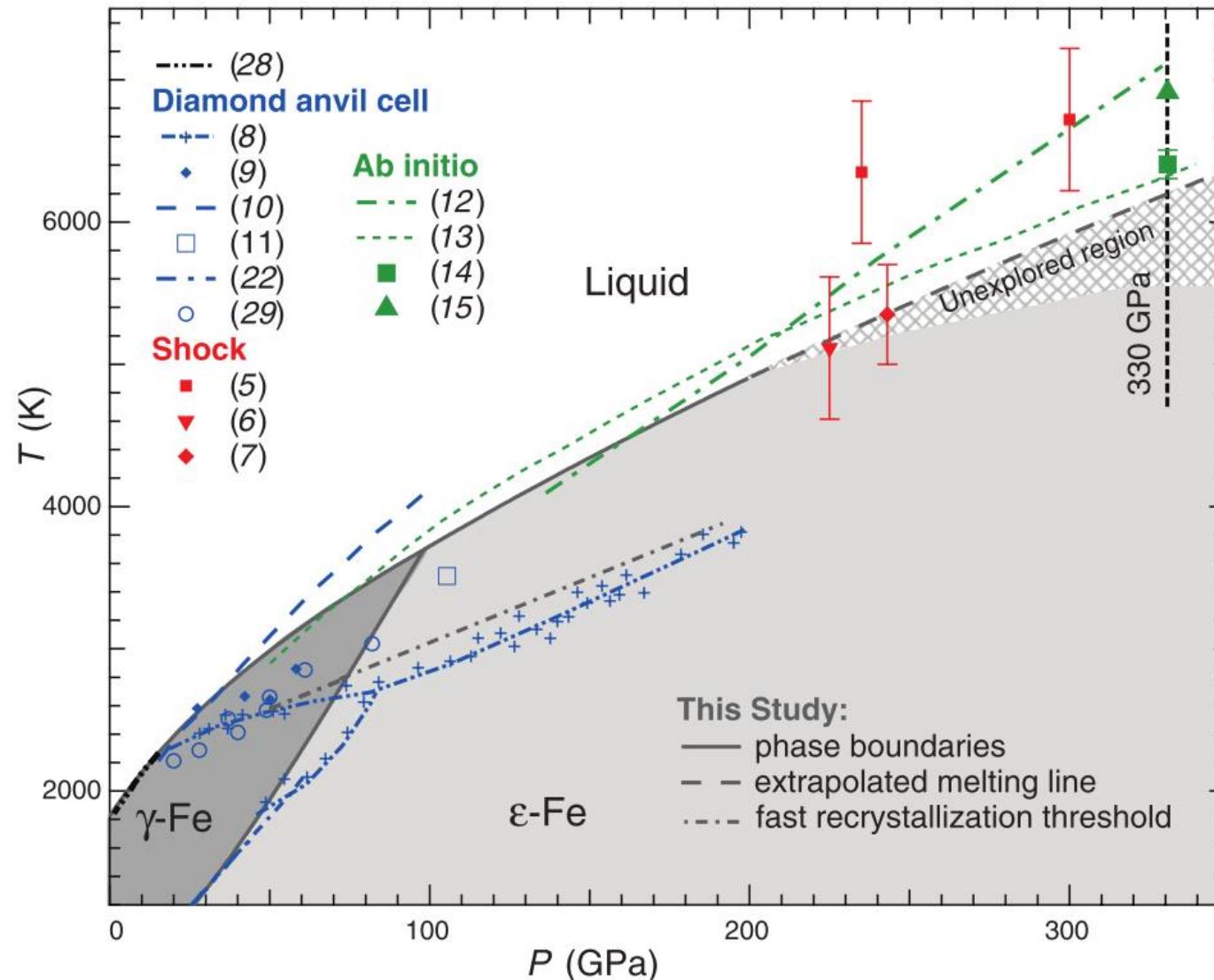
4000 K = 3727 °Celsius

1 GPa = 9869 atm

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Science 340, 464, 2013. Anzellini et al.

# Melting of Iron at Earth's Inner core Boundary based on Fast X-ray Diffraction



**Fig. 3. Phase stability domains for Fe obtained in the literature and in this study.** The stability field for  $\epsilon$ -Fe is based on the current study data and data from (19).



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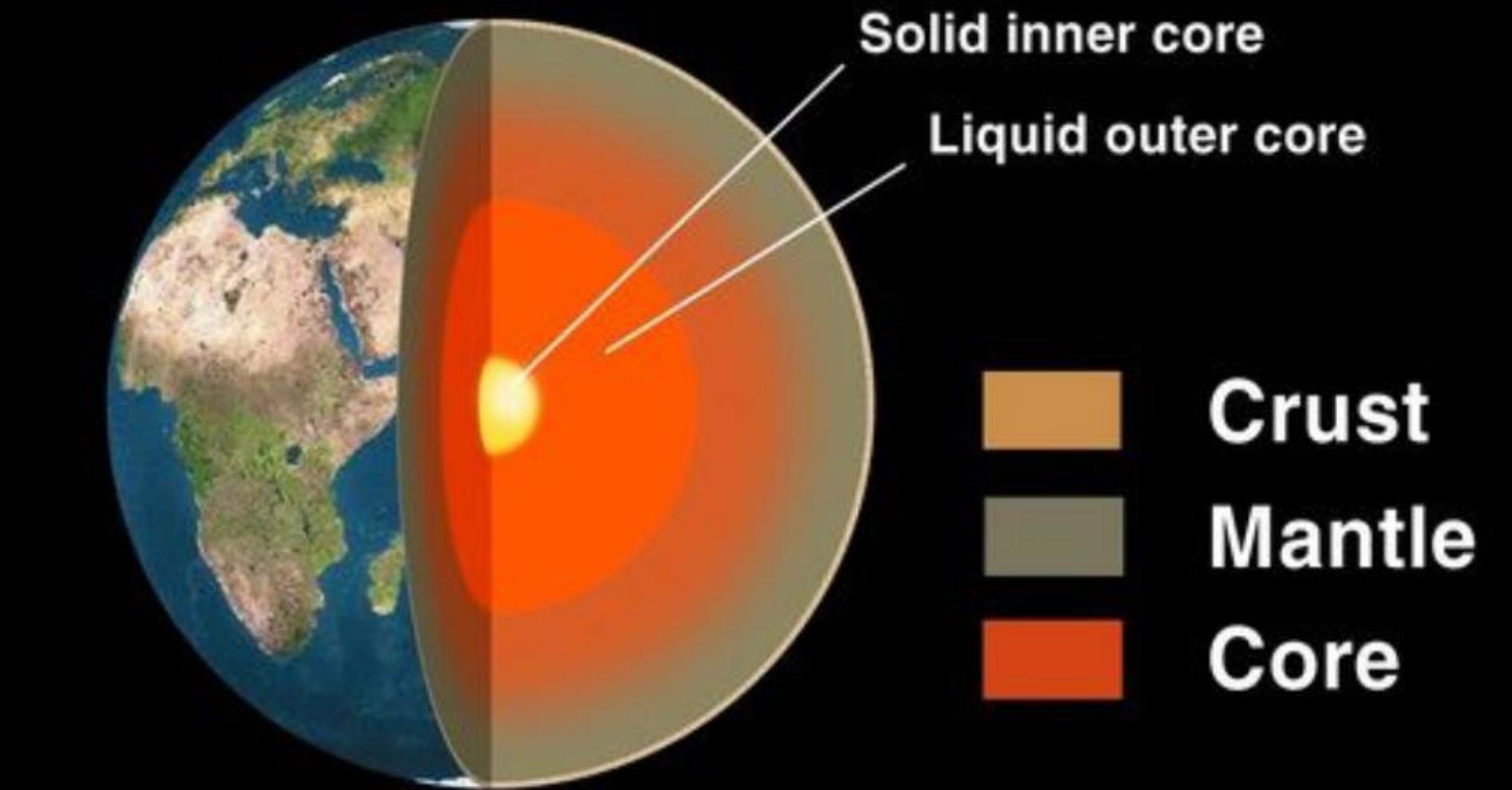
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Earth's core is structured in a solid inner core, mainly composed of iron, and a liquid outer core.

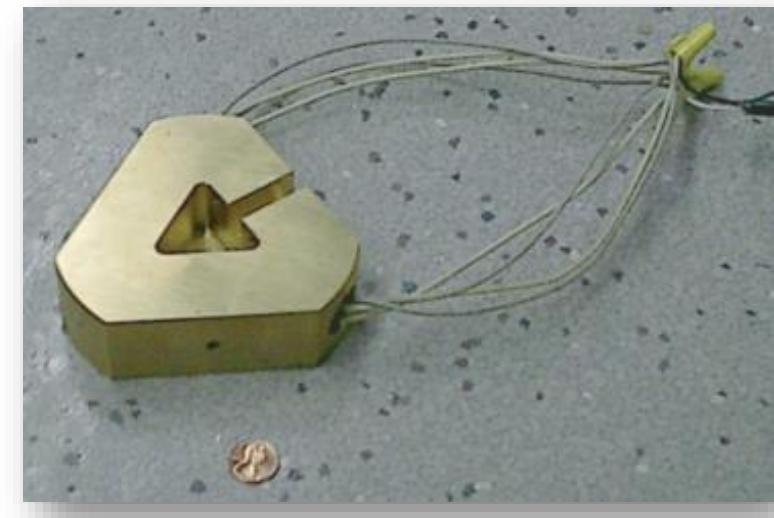
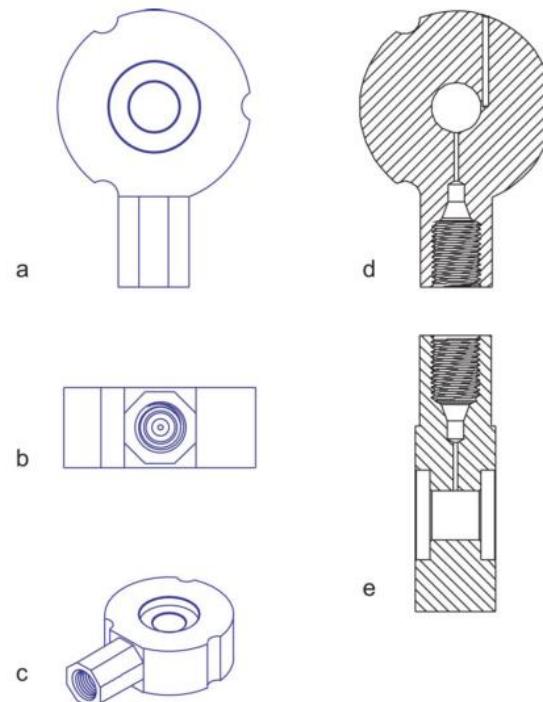


we conclude that the melting temperature of iron at the inner core boundary is  $6230 \pm 500$  kelvin.  
This estimation favors a high heat flux at the core-mantle boundary with a possible partial  
melting of the mantle.

# Externally controlled pressure and temperature microreactor for *in situ* x-ray diffraction, visual and spectroscopic reaction investigations under supercritical and subcritical conditions

Micro-reactor for pressure and temperature control

- In-Situ XRD and XAS experiments
- From ambient to up to 400 °C and 310 bar (external control)
- ✓ Structural studies
- ✓ *in situ* reaction processes



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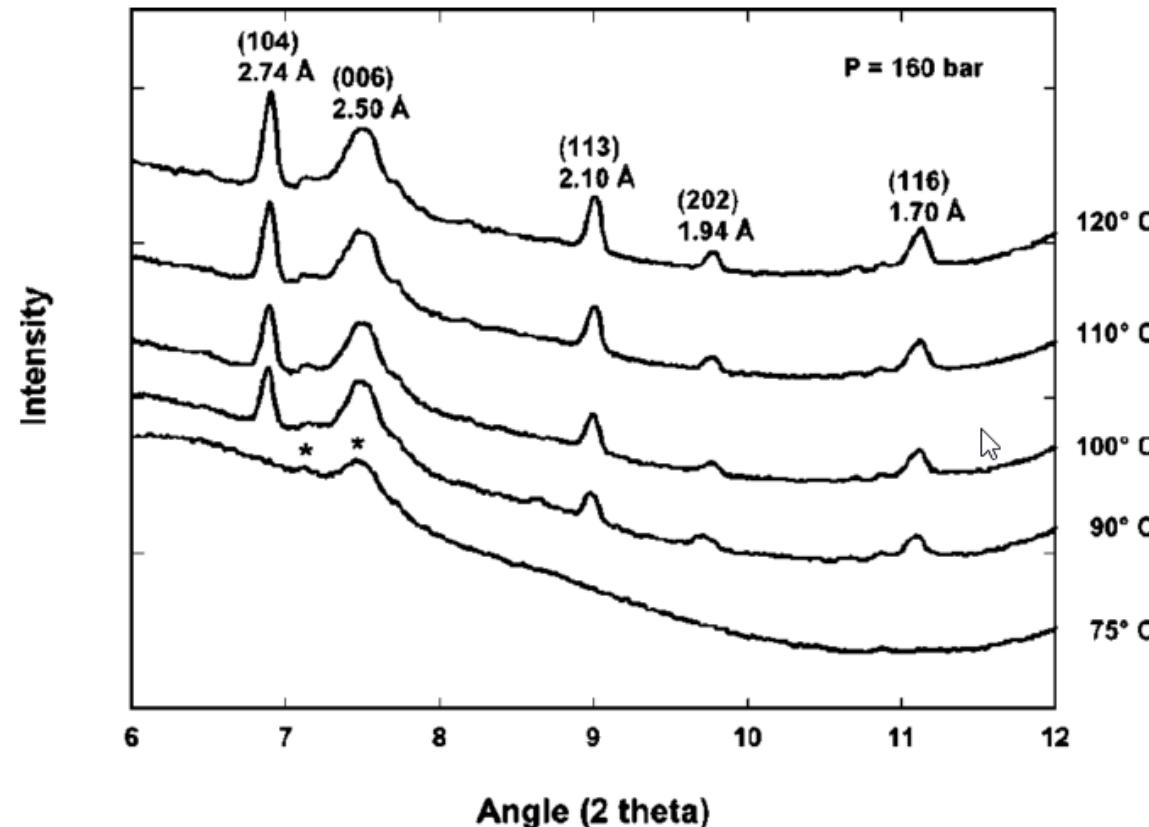
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Jason Diefenbacher, Rev. Sci. Instrum. 76, 015103 (2005)

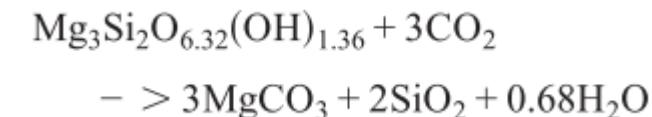
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# Externally controlled pressure and temperature microreactor for *in situ* x-ray diffraction, visual and spectroscopic reaction investigations under supercritical and subcritical conditions



Conversion of a meta-serpentine to magnesite under high pressure and temperature:



Carbonation of serpentine:

- 100,000 years for nature
- 1h with this high P/T setup



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Jason Diefenbacher, Rev. Sci. Instrum. **76**, 015103 (2005)

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# Conclusions

- In-situ experiments allow to study the materials and components under working conditions
- They yield very important information about the processes, facilitating the improvement of the materials and devices
- Many options exist both for in-house diffractometers and synchrotrons
- Synchrotrons are very flexible and well suited for in-situ experiments.

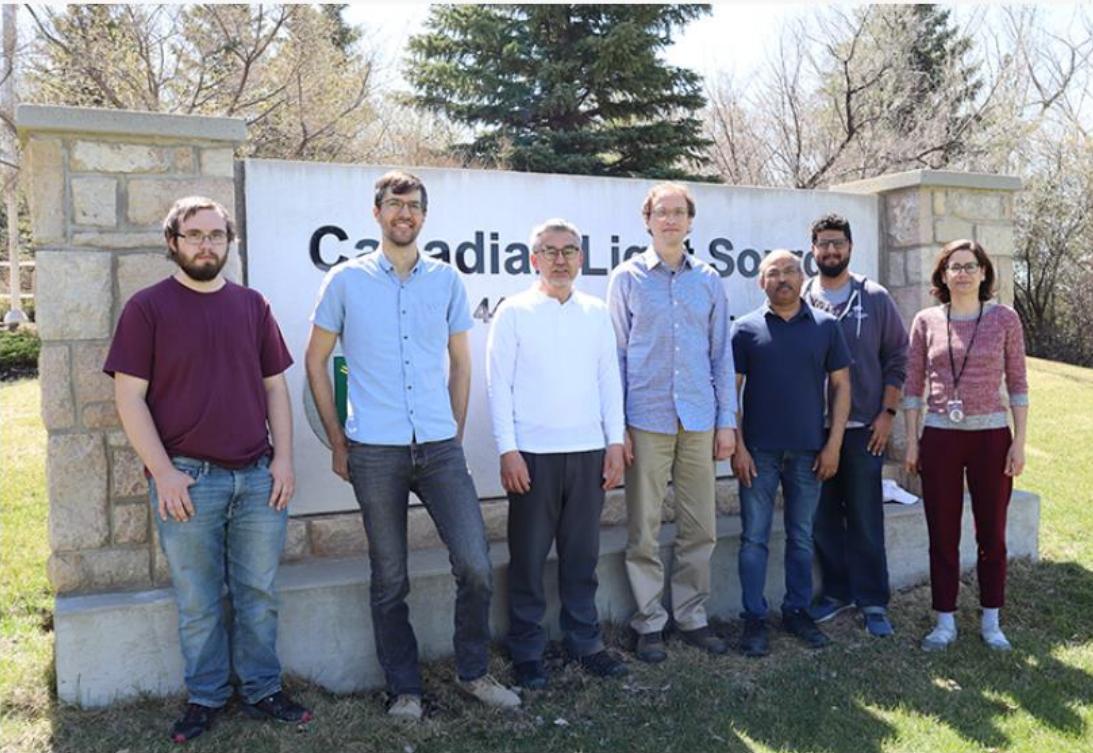


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High resolution powder diffraction

Pair distribution function (PDF)

High energy diffraction for in-situ studies

Reciprocal space mapping

Small/wide angle X-ray scattering (SAXS/WAXS)

High pressure crystallography

X-ray reflectivity

Grazing incidence diffraction (GID)

Anomalous diffraction and magnetic diffraction

All 3 beamlines are now part of the general user program!



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