

Phase Transformations

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NUCLEAR ENGINEERING &
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UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

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Your help in making this course better is greatly appreciated!



HW5

- Due tomorrow by noon (so I can grade them quickly)



Influence of phase stability and cavity growth

- Remember, our **cavity growth rate equation** in simple terms:

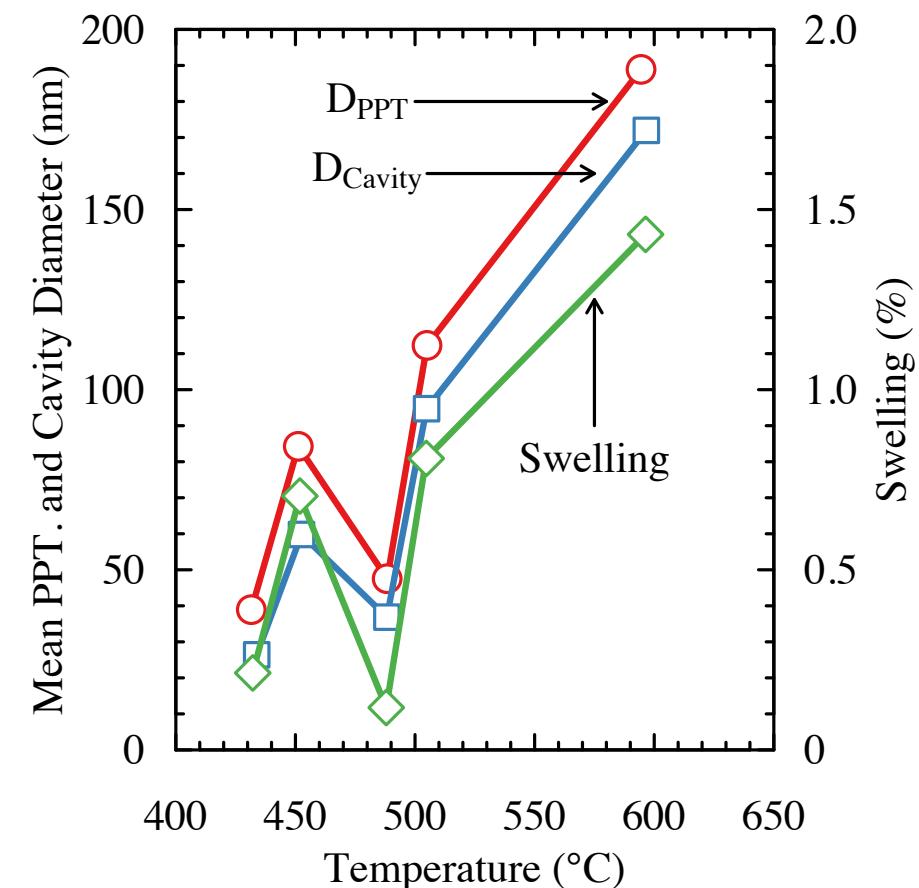
$$\frac{dr}{dt} = \frac{\Omega}{r} \left[\begin{array}{l} \text{(Radiation-induced)} \\ \text{plus thermal} \\ \text{vacancy influxes} \end{array} \right] - \left(\begin{array}{l} \text{(Radiation-induced)} \\ \text{interstitial influx} \end{array} \right) - \left(\begin{array}{l} \text{Thermal} \\ \text{vacancy outflux} \end{array} \right)$$

And the last term, which is the thermal emission term (E) is proportional to the cavity surface eg. $E \propto C_v^e(r)$ where $C_v^e(r)$ is dependent on the cavity size, the temperature, and the internal pressure by,

$$C_v^e(r) = C_v^0 \exp \left[\left(\frac{2\gamma}{r} - P \right) \frac{\Omega}{kT} \right]$$

If we account for cavity growth on a precipitate-matrix interface, then we can relate the **cavity growth to precipitate size** by:

$$\frac{dr_{cp}}{dr_c} = \frac{(r_{cp}^2 + r_p^2)^{1/2}}{r_{cp}^2} r_c$$



Influence of phase stability and cavity growth

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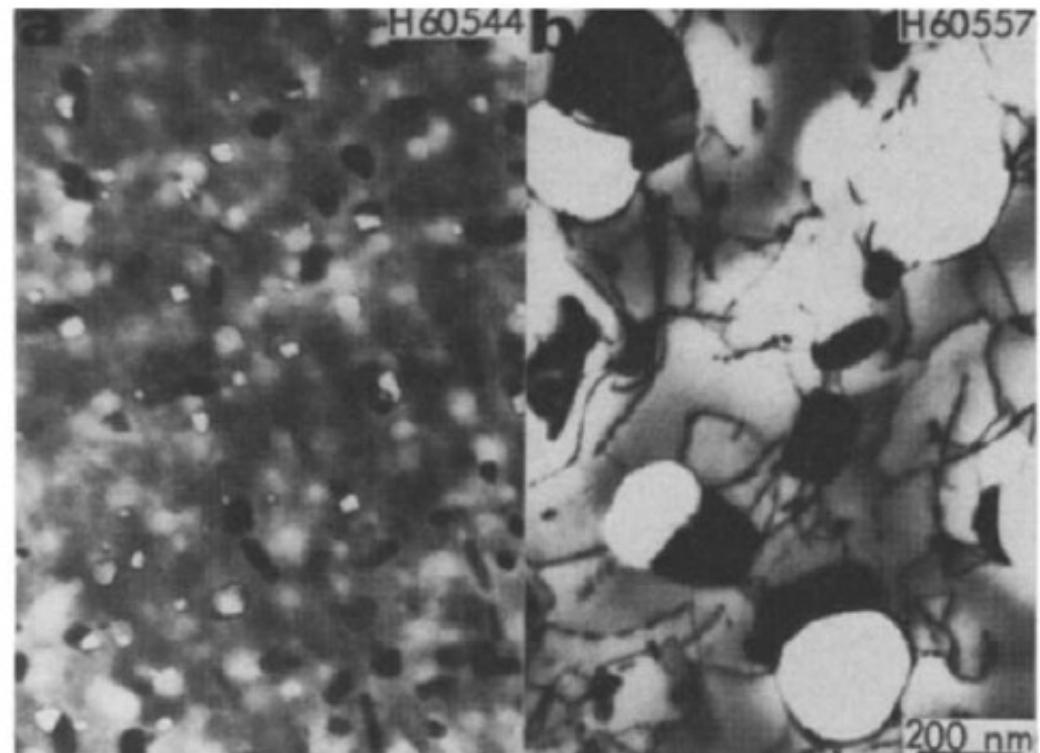


Fig. 2. Cavity-particle association in LS1C irradiated to ~35 dpa in EBR-II at (a) 425°C, (b) 600°C.



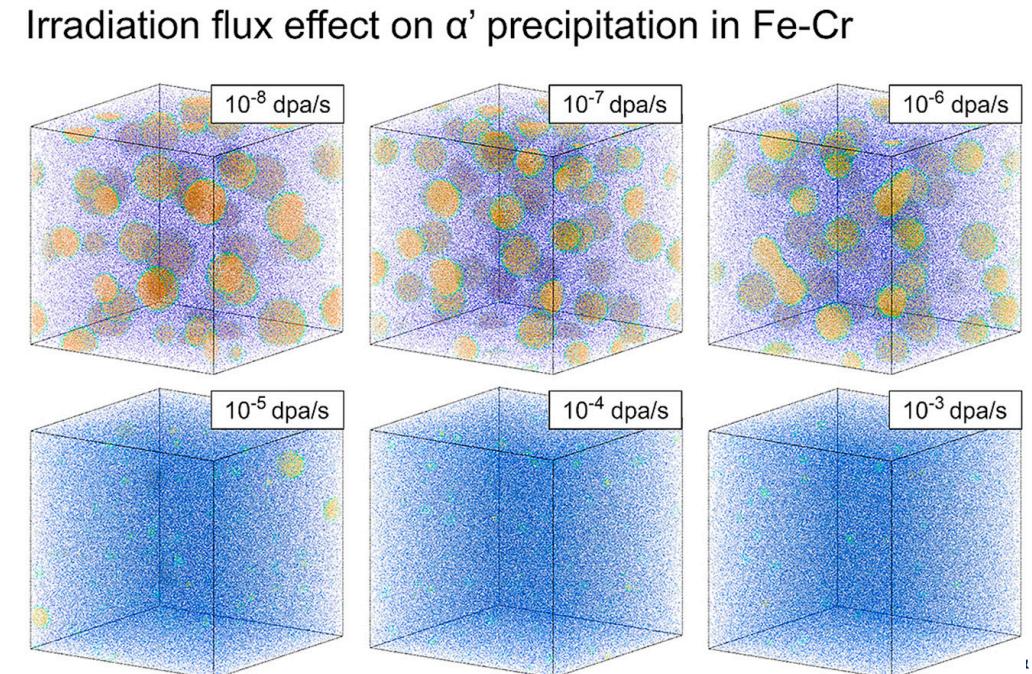
Two primary irradiation induced phase transformation types:

1. Constant composition

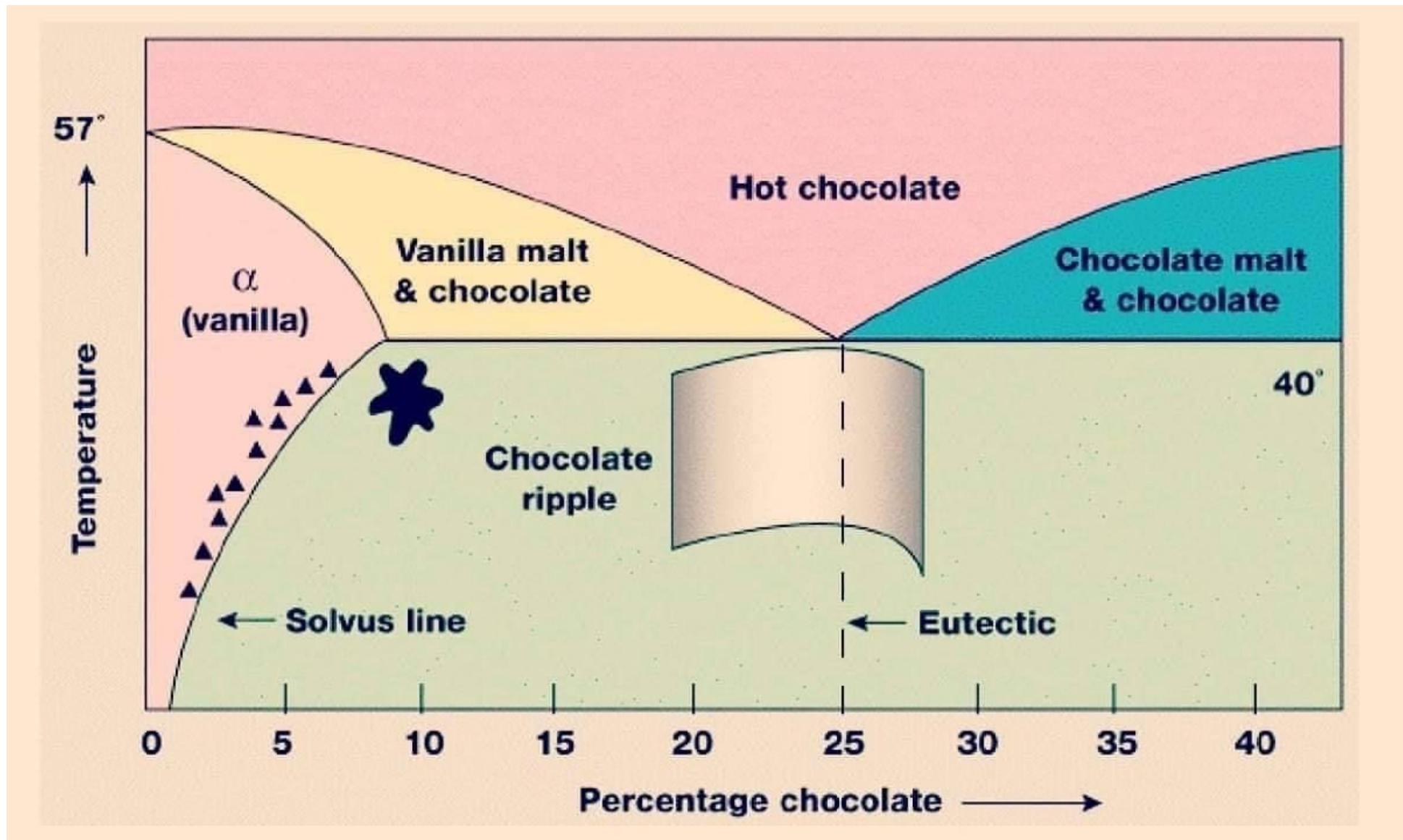
- Allotropic or Polymorphic
 - Allotropic: change in the crystal structure of a single element
 - Polymorphic: change in the structure of an alloy or compound
- Ordering/disordering
 - Loss of chemical order (disordering)
 - Loss of crystal structure, e.g. amorphization

2. Requires compositional changes

1. Induced precipitation from solid solution
2. Dissolution of precipitates

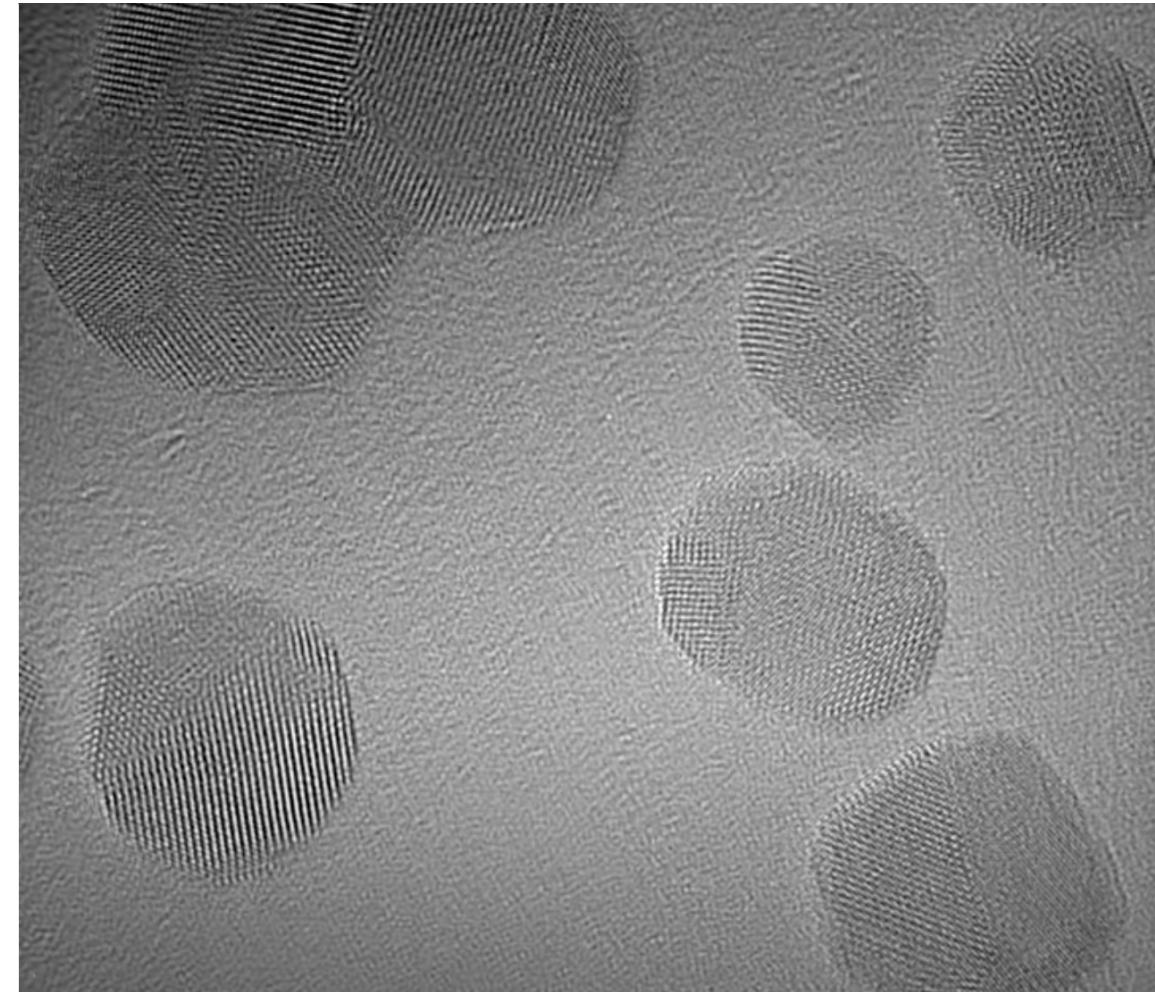


Food for thought



Ostwald Ripening

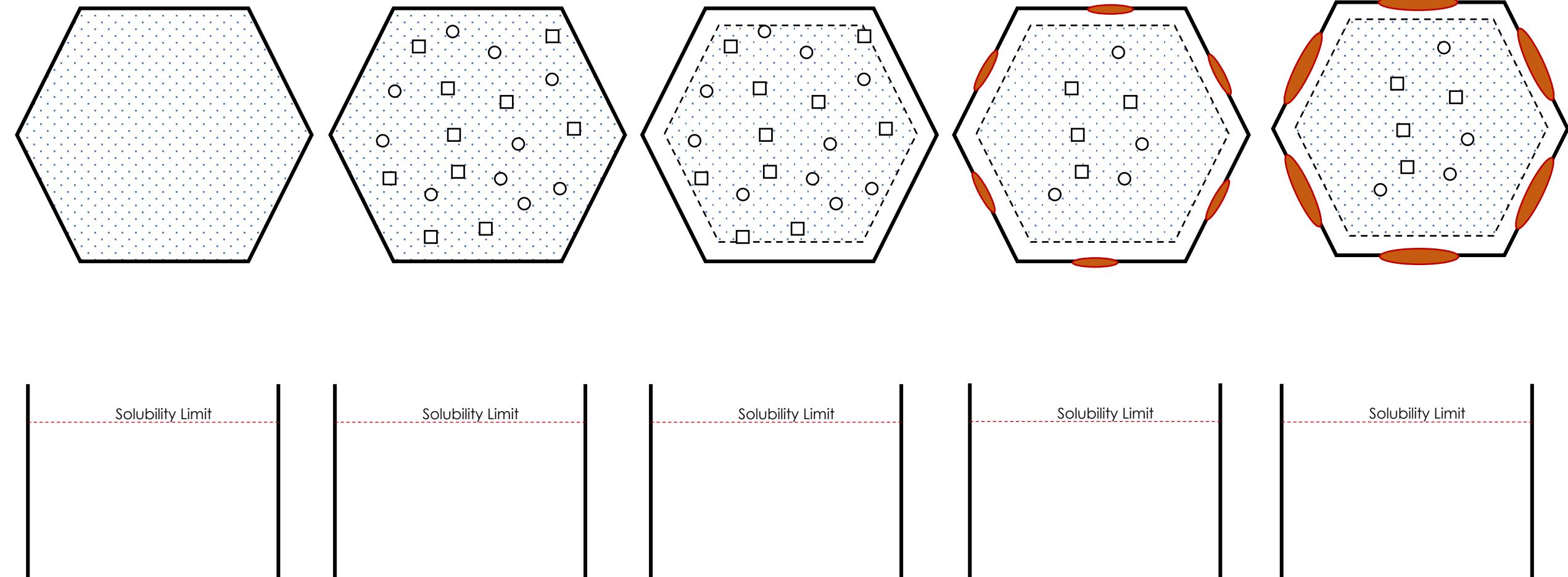
- Ostwald ripening is the spontaneous process of larger precipitates growing at the expense of small precipitates
 - This is because:
 - Large precipitates have lower energy states
 - The formation of small precipitates is kinetically favored (in thermal systems)
 - Small precipitates have a larger surface area to volume ratio
- Small precipitates will attain a lower energy by being consumed by larger precipitates then



Phase transformations with changes in composition



RIS and Radiation-induced precipitation



RIS and Radiation-induced precipitation

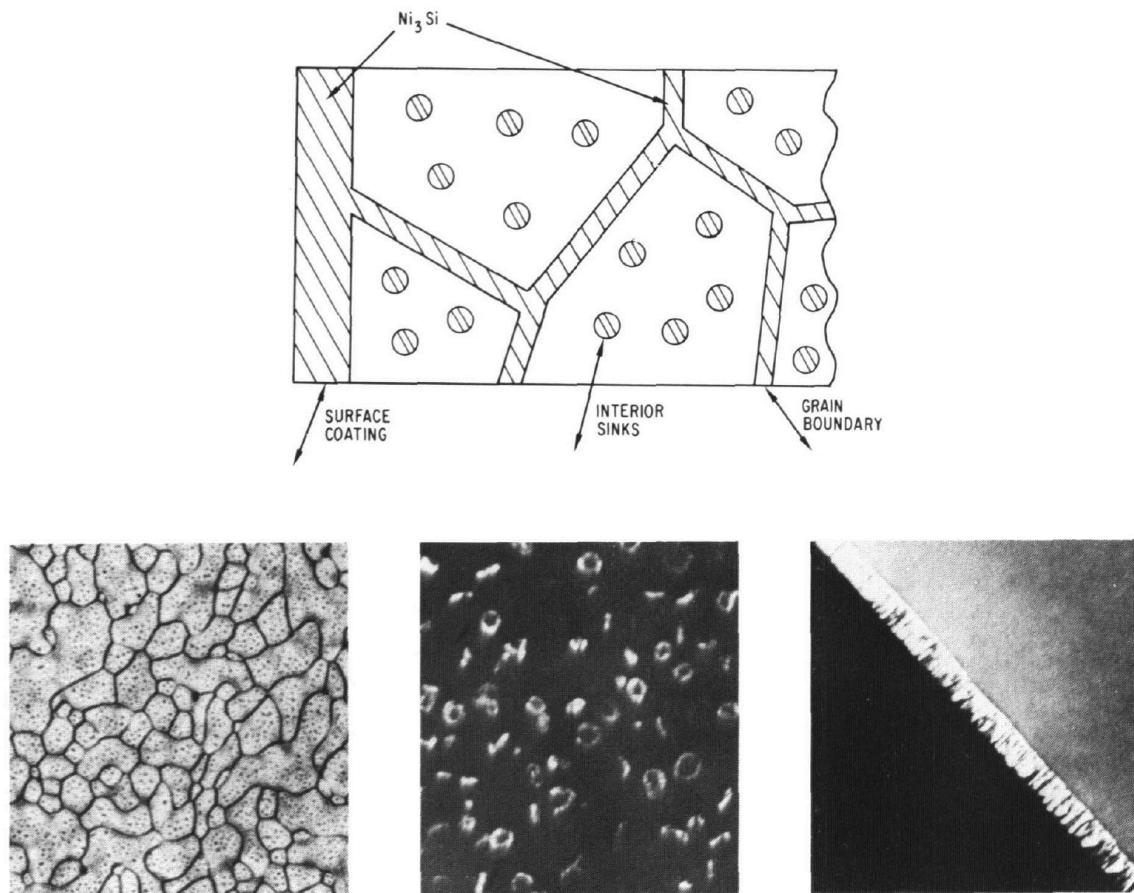
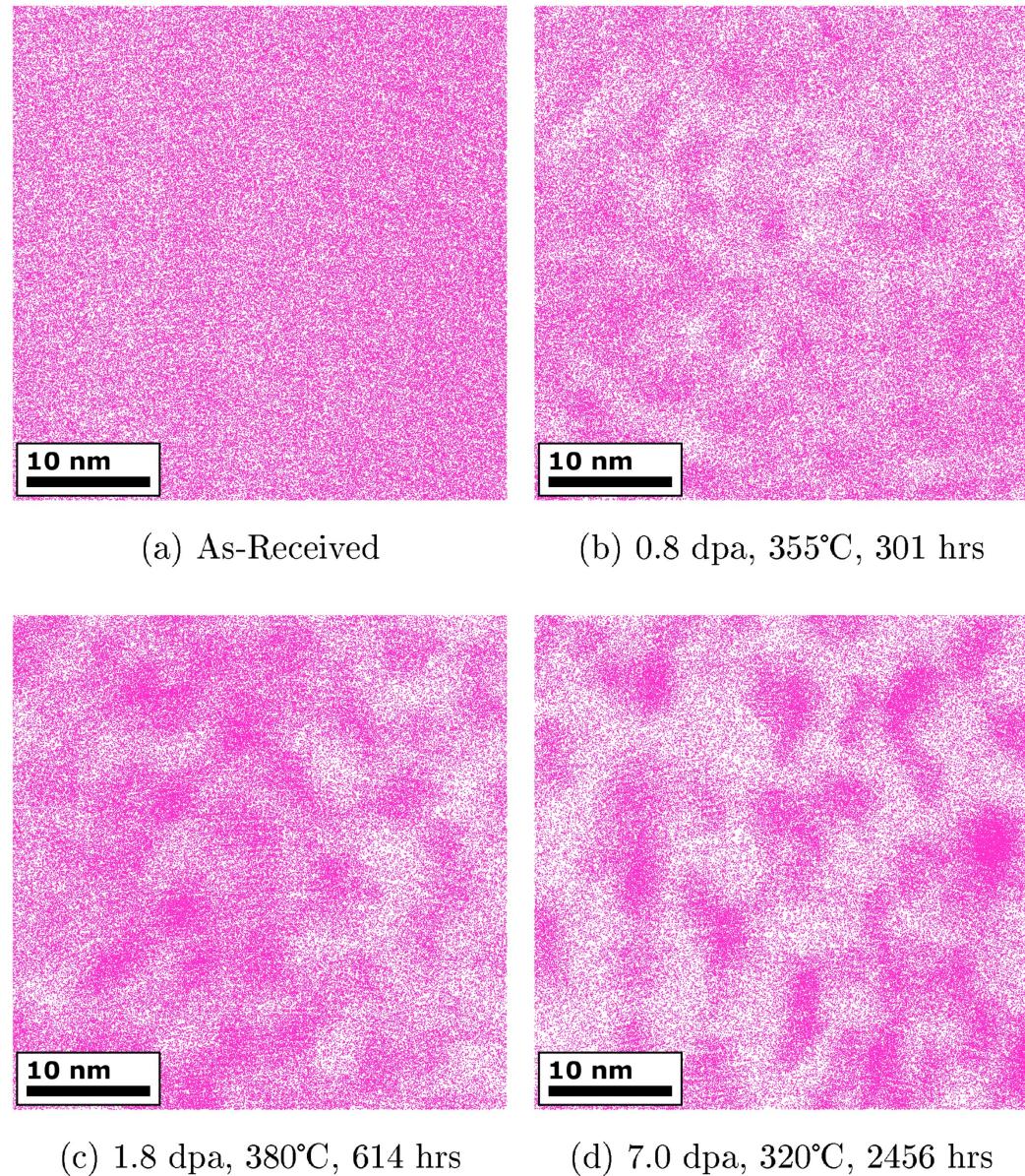
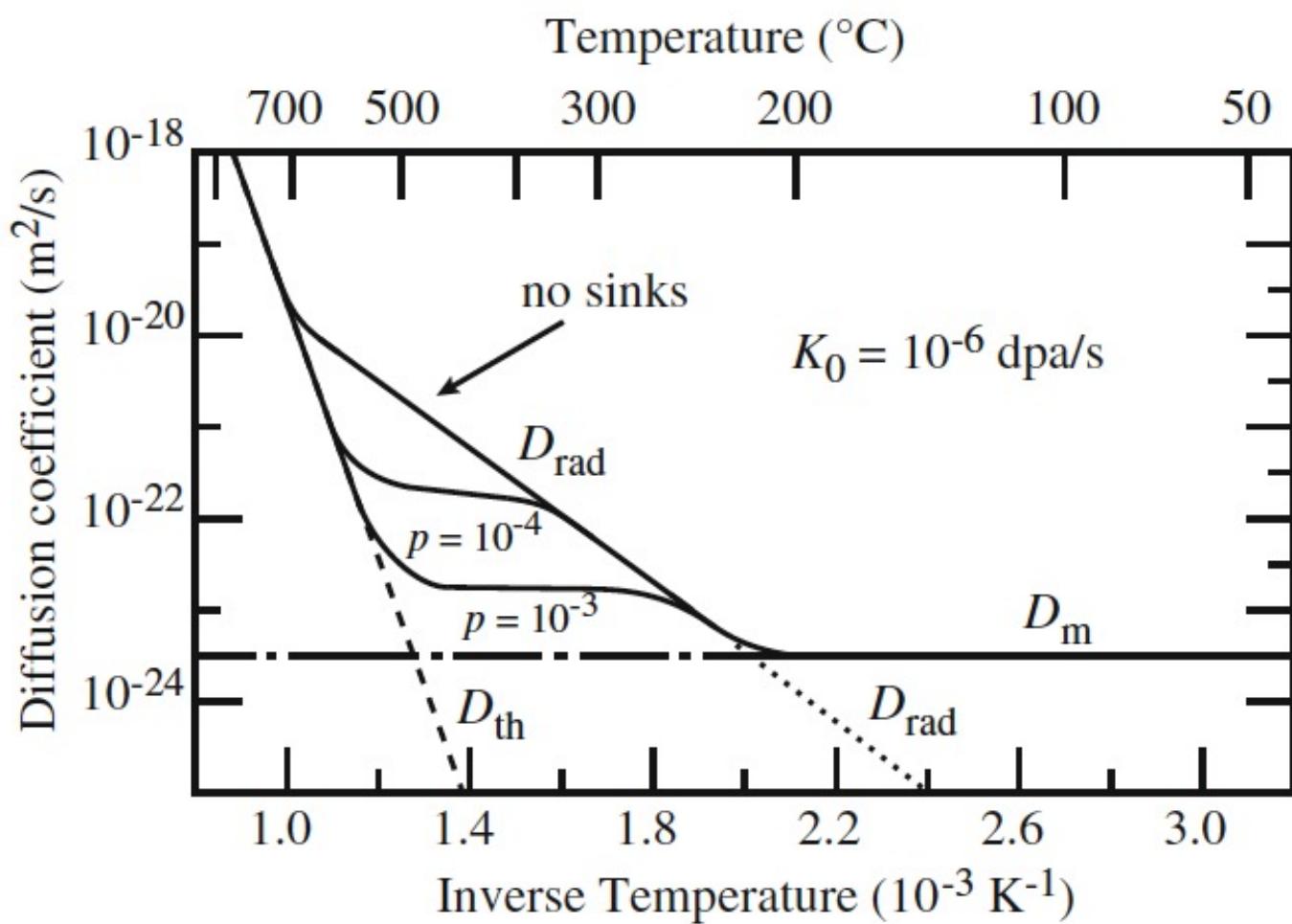
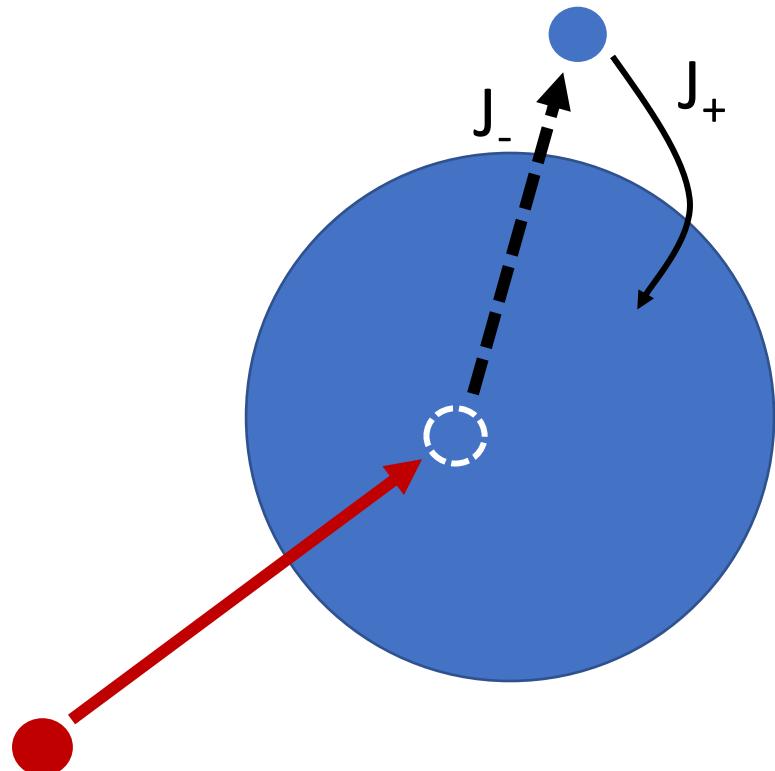


Fig. 1. Formation of γ' - Ni_3Si on defect sinks in a solid solution Ni-Si alloy because of RIS. The dark-field micrographs from the work of K.-H. Robrock and P. R. Okamoto show: (a) the anti-phase domain structure in a contiguous surface coating; (b) toroidal γ' -precipitates on interstitial loops; and (c) a grain boundary coated with γ' .

Radiation-enhanced effects on kinetics



Radiation-induced precipitate dissolution



Assumptions:

- Binary (simple) alloy
- Overall solute concentration: x_s
- Precipitates are evenly distributed
- Precipitates do not interact

Growth or dissolution of the precipitates will be governed by the solute flux at the precipitate interface:

$$\frac{dn}{dt} = J_+ - J_-$$



Radiation-induced precipitate dissolution

$$r_{eq}^3 = \frac{3}{4\pi N_p} \left(\frac{X_s}{C_p} - \frac{K_0 \mu}{4} [1 - X_s] \frac{r_{eq}}{D_s} \right)$$

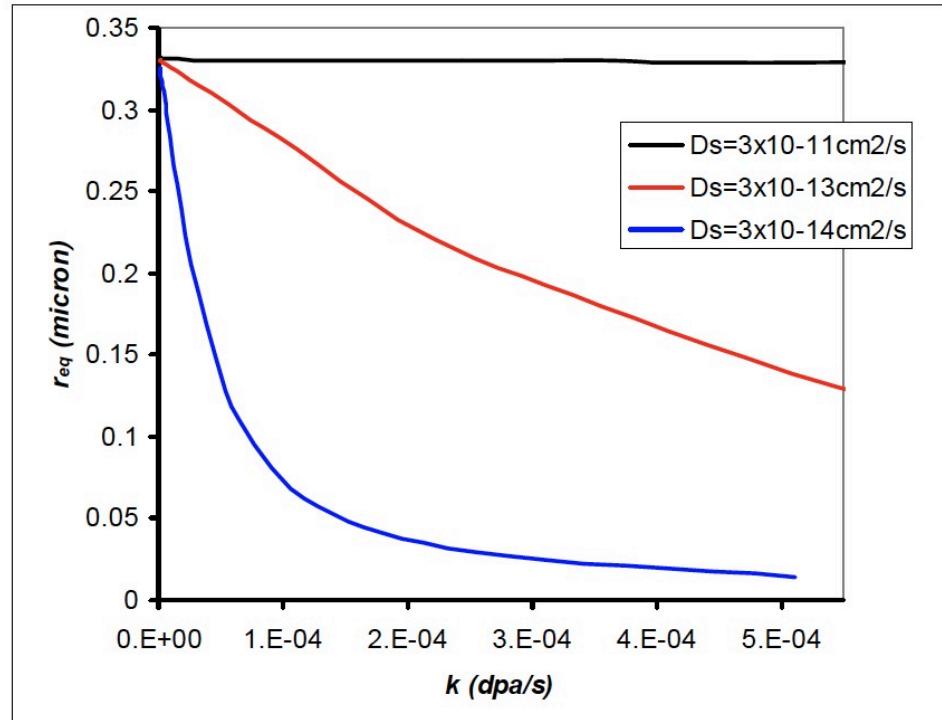


Figure 24.13: Equilibrium radius for a precipitate subjected to recoil dissolution as a function of displacement rate for three values of the solute diffusion coefficient. $x_s=1\%$ and $C_p=66\%$.

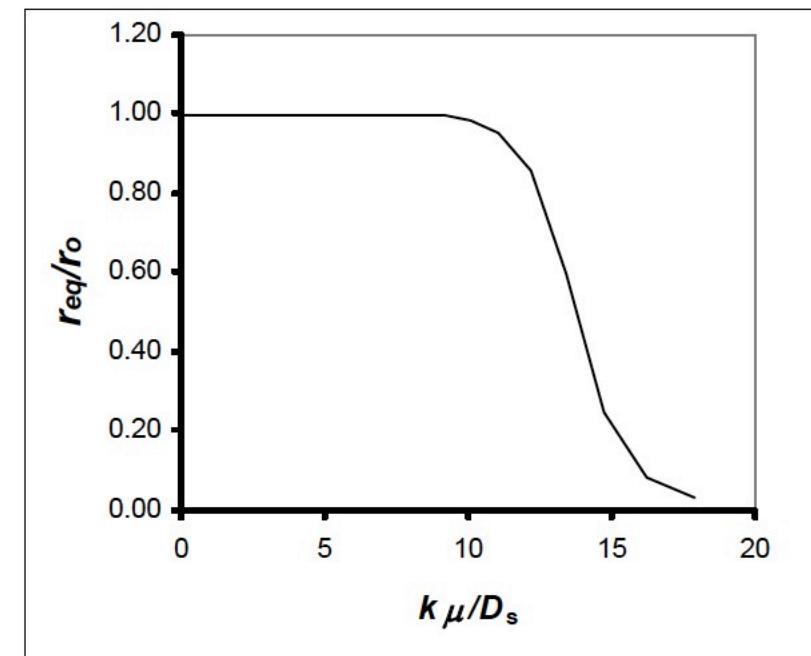
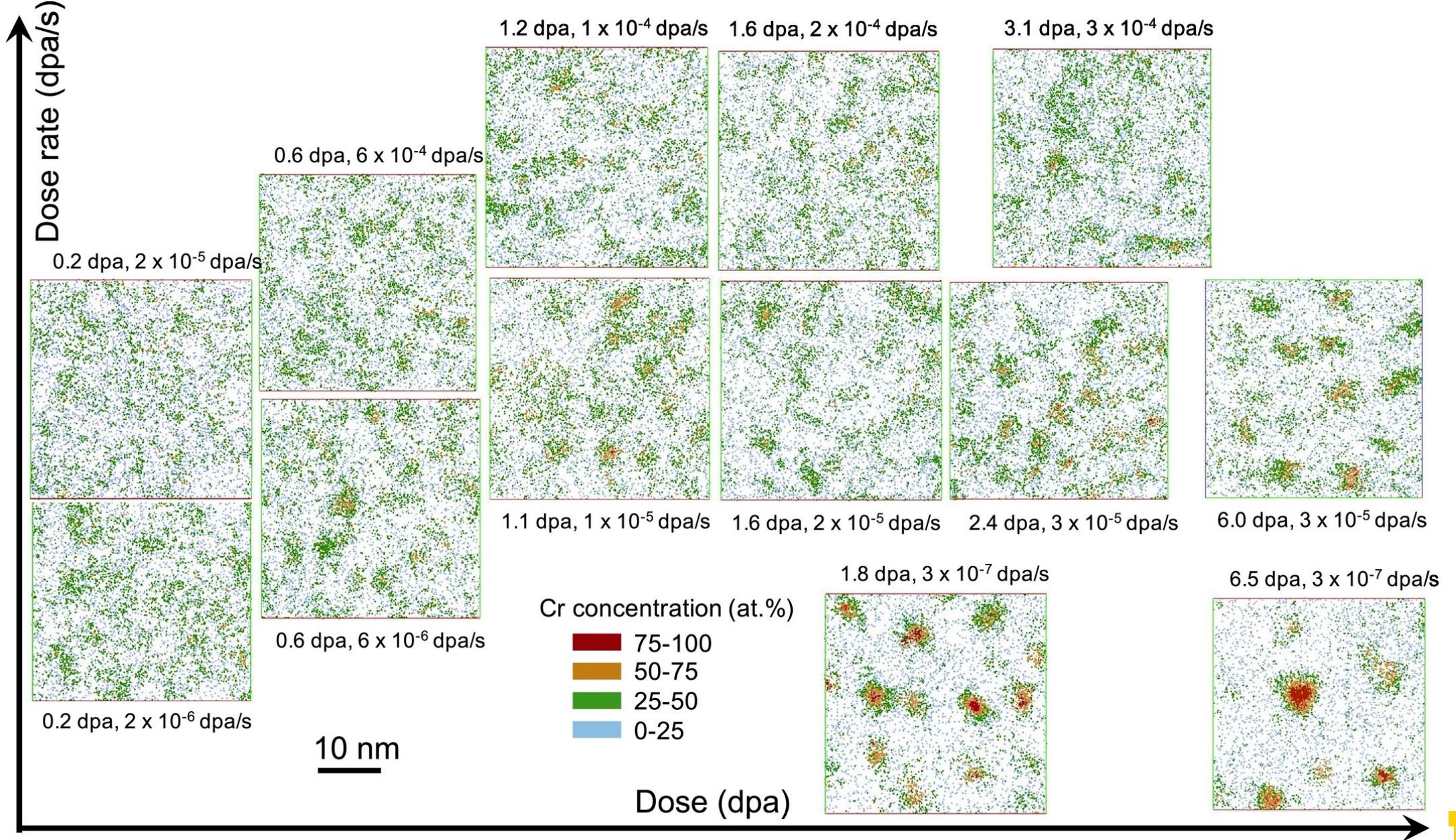


Figure 24.14: Ratio of equilibrium precipitate radius to radius in the absence of recoil dissolution, versus parameter $\frac{k \mu}{D_s}$.



Radiation-induced precipitate dissolution

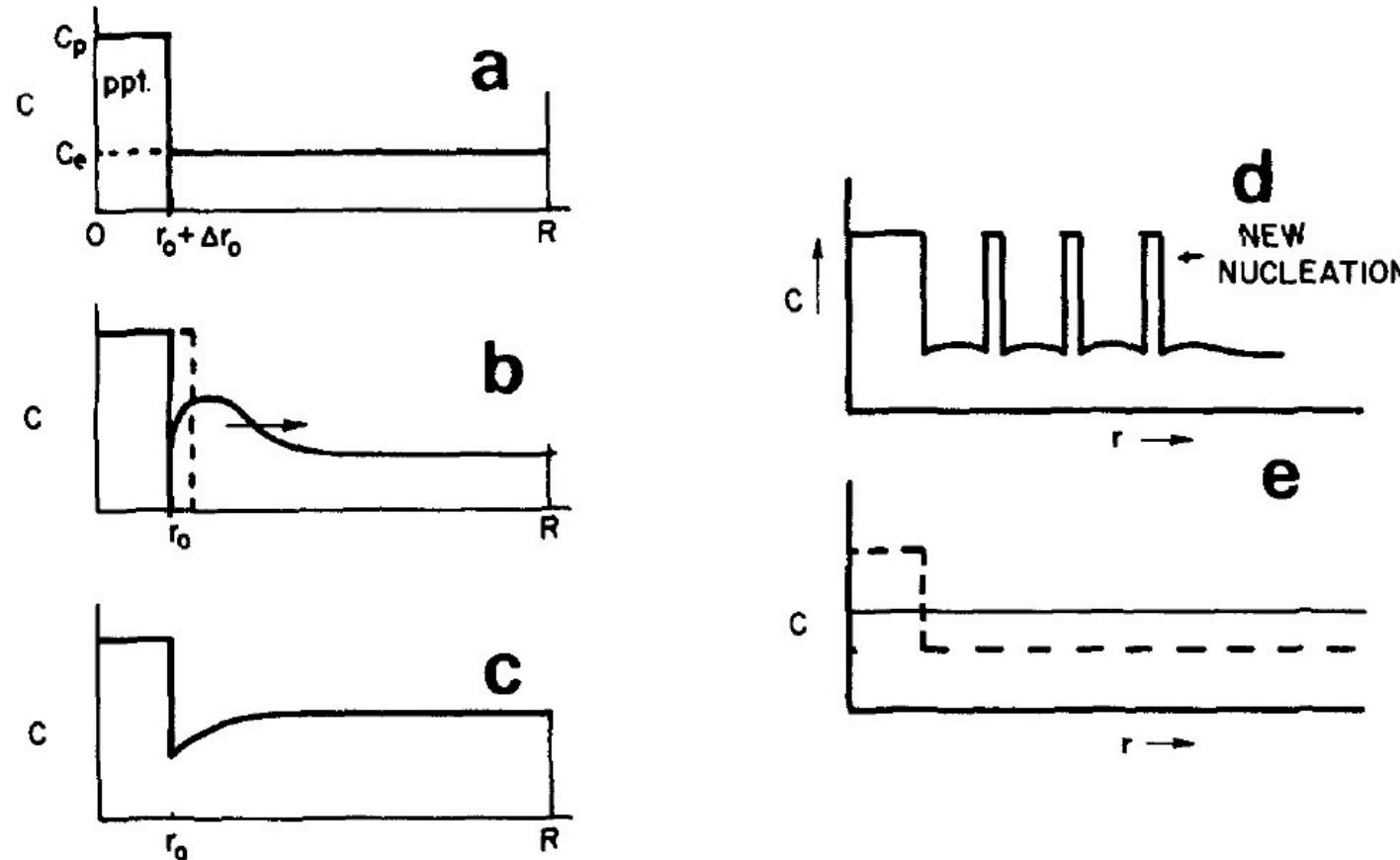


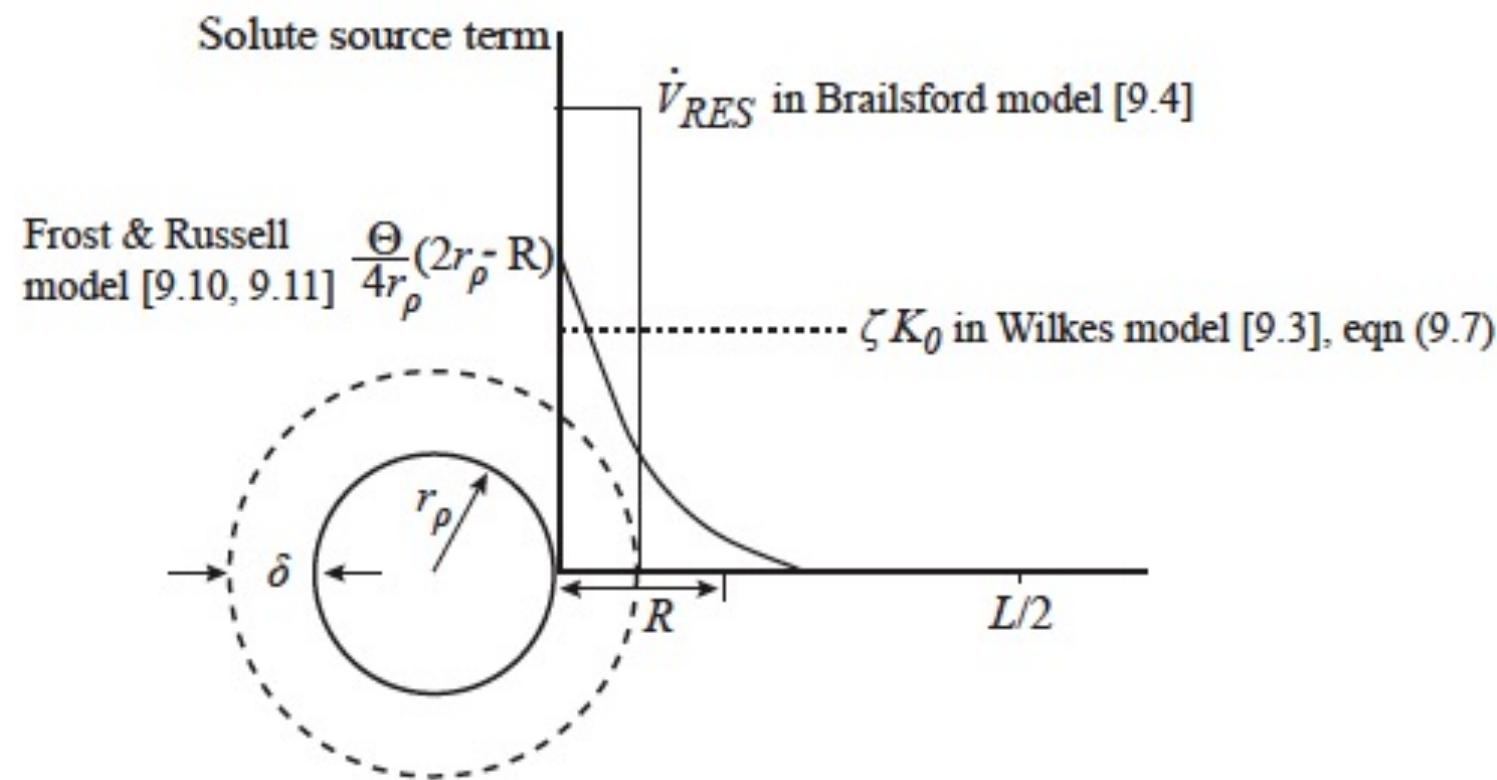
Fig. 3. A schematic diagram of concentration variations in a precipitate cell: (a) before irradiation with a precipitate of radius $r_0 + \Delta r$ in equilibrium with a uniform matrix concentration c_e ; (b) when irradiation begins surface dissolution causes a local solute supersaturation some of which diffuses outwards down the gradient; (c) at steady-state, the matrix is now uniformly supersaturated and the precipitate dissolution is matched by the back diffusion into the precipitate; (d) if the local supersaturation around the precipitate exceeds that required for nucleation, new precipitates may nucleate; (e) if the precipitates are widely spaced, the matrix may not reach the steady-state value and all precipitates will then dissolve.



Radiation-induced precipitate dissolution

In reality, modeling recoil distribution is inherently complex. Models that try to take this into account:

- Nelson model (NHM) – pg. 488-489 in Was
- Wilkes model – pg. 489-492 in Was
- Frost and Russell – pg. 492-493 in Was



Radiation-induced precipitate dissolution

In reality, modeling recoil distribution is inherently complex. Models that try to take this into account:

- Nelson model (NHM) – pg. 488-489 in Was: Simplest. Similar to that derived in class and uses rate theory. Proposed inverse Ostwald ripening:

$$\frac{dr_p}{dt} = -\delta K_0 \Omega + \frac{3DC}{4\pi r_p C_p} - r_p^2 D_p$$

- Wilkes model – pg. 489-492 in Was: Uses a cell model and add in a source term that is uniform in cell:

$$r_o^3 - r_p^3 = [.] ()$$

- Frost and Russell – pg. 492-493 in Was: Provides for a source term for redeposited solute as a function of radius.



Phase transformations without changes in composition

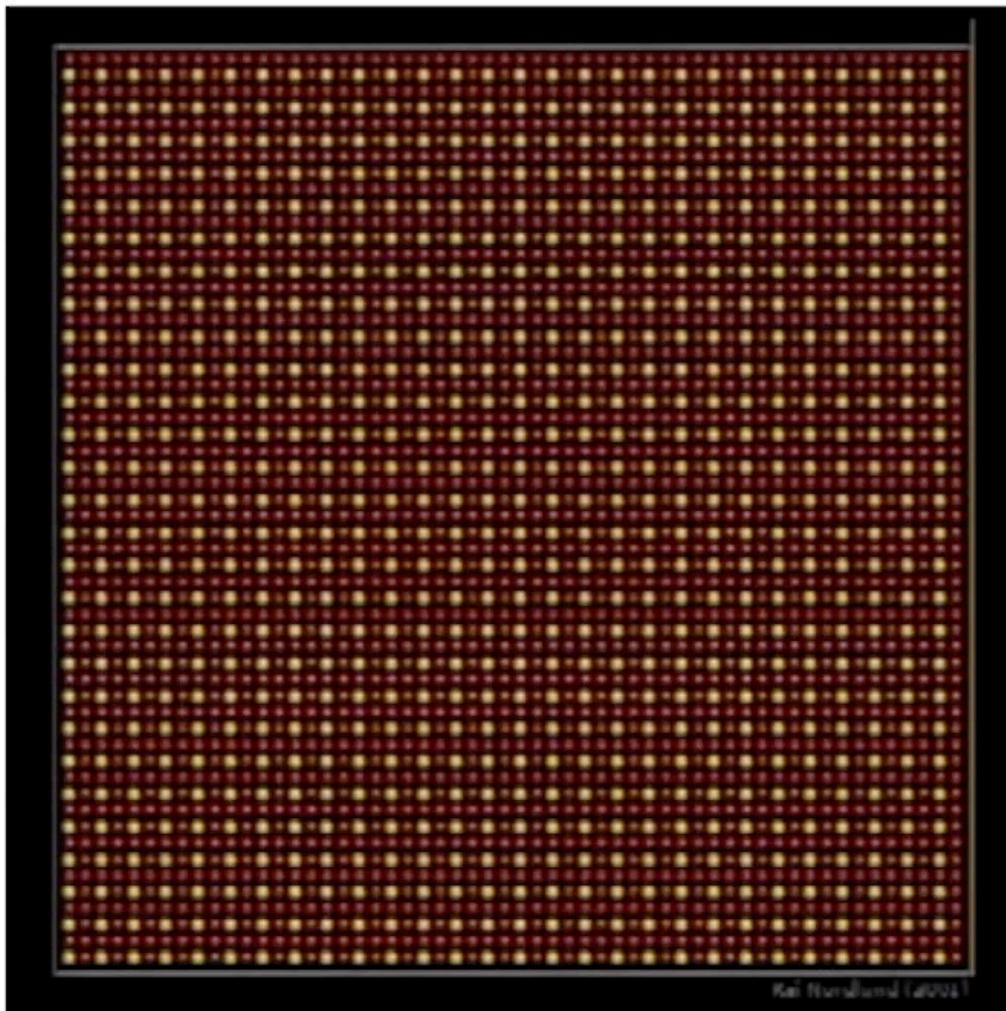


Radiation Disordering

9.1 Irradiation-induced disordering.

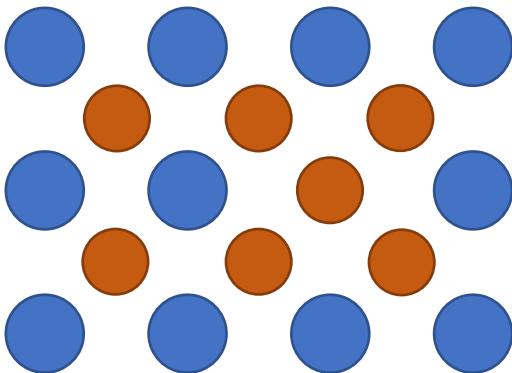
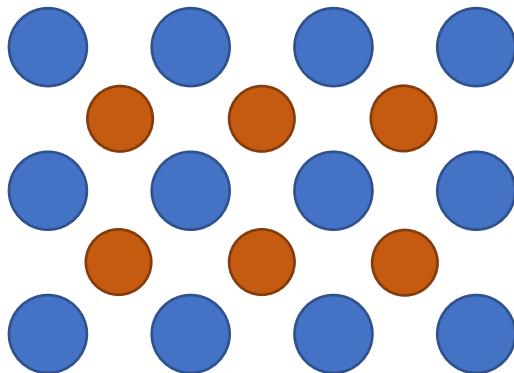
Disordering of Cu₃Au (L1₂ structure)
by bombardment with 10 keV Au ions.
(courtesy K. Nordlund, University of Helsinki)

Radiation disordering:
Loss of long-range
order



Radiation Disordering

- Antisite defects:
 - Occur in an ordered alloy or compound when atoms of different type exchange position



- We now need to consider random recombination so:

Radiation Disordering

- The steady state solution then becomes:

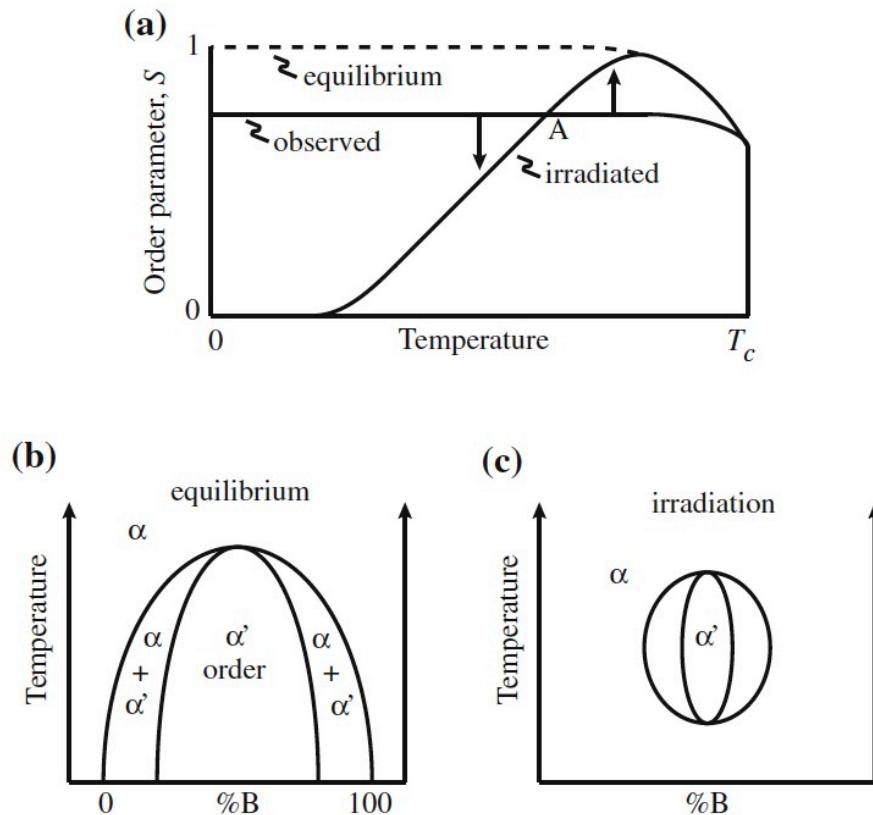
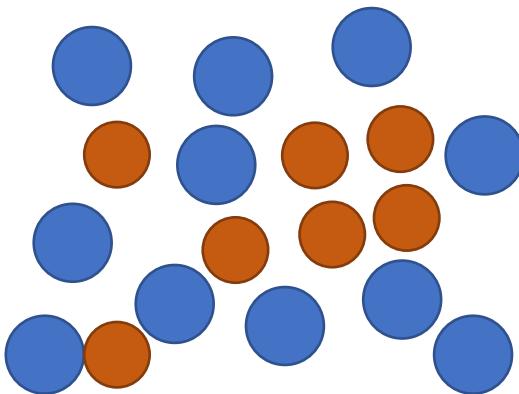
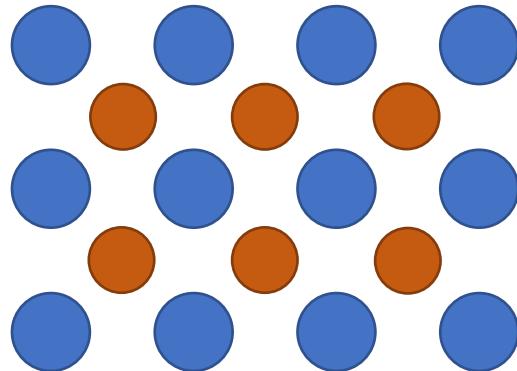


Fig. 9.11 (a) Effect of irradiation on the temperature dependence of the order parameter for a phase structure that is not at the equilibrium order, S_e . (b) Equilibrium phase diagram showing a first-order phase transformation of the disordered α phase to the ordered α' -phase. (c) Modification of the phase diagram by irradiation reflecting the change in order as given in (a). (d) Dependence on the irradiation-modified phase diagram with dose rate (after [3])



Temperature dependence of amorphization

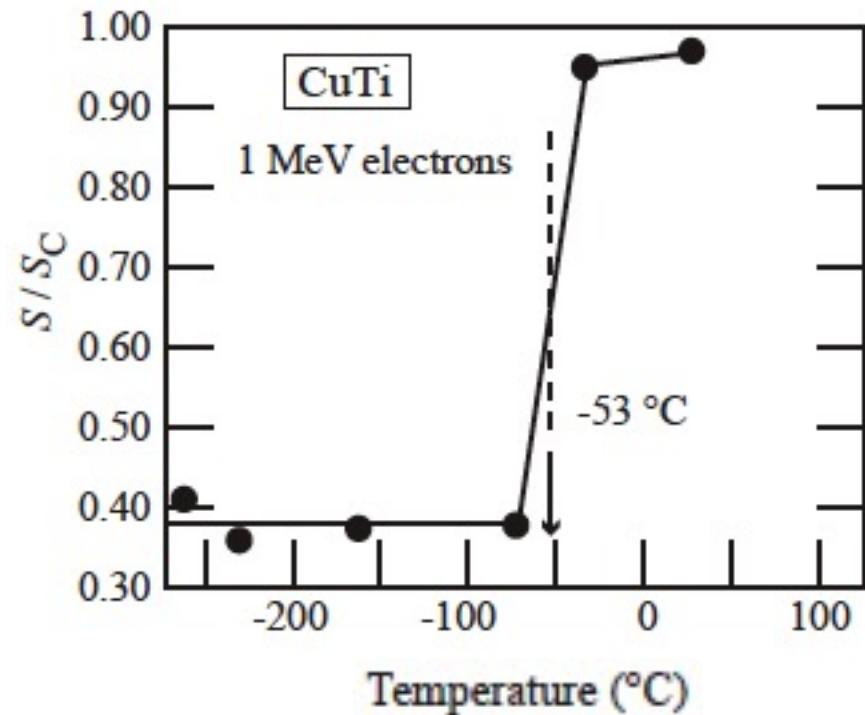
- Amorphization by particle irradiation refers to the complete loss of long-range crystalline structure



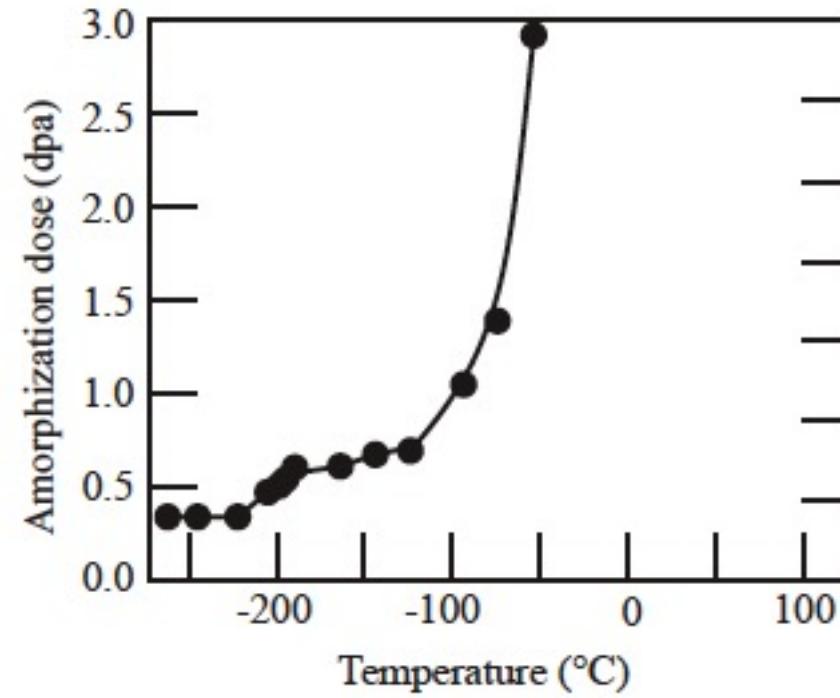
- Irradiation induced amorphization is difficult to describe (model) in a general basis
- Let's consider just describing the critical temperature and dose of amorphization for a simple system based on disordering



Temperature dependence of amorphization



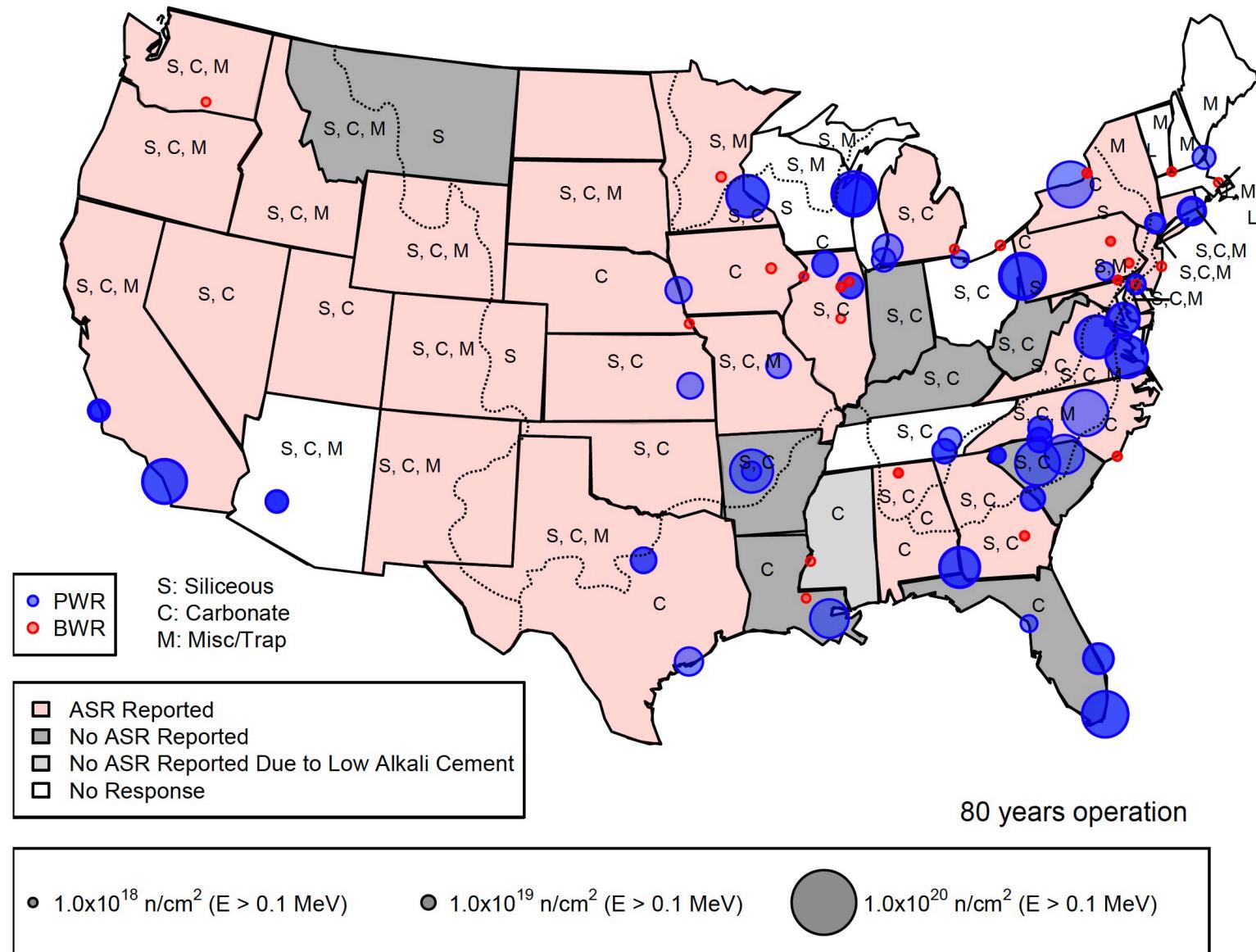
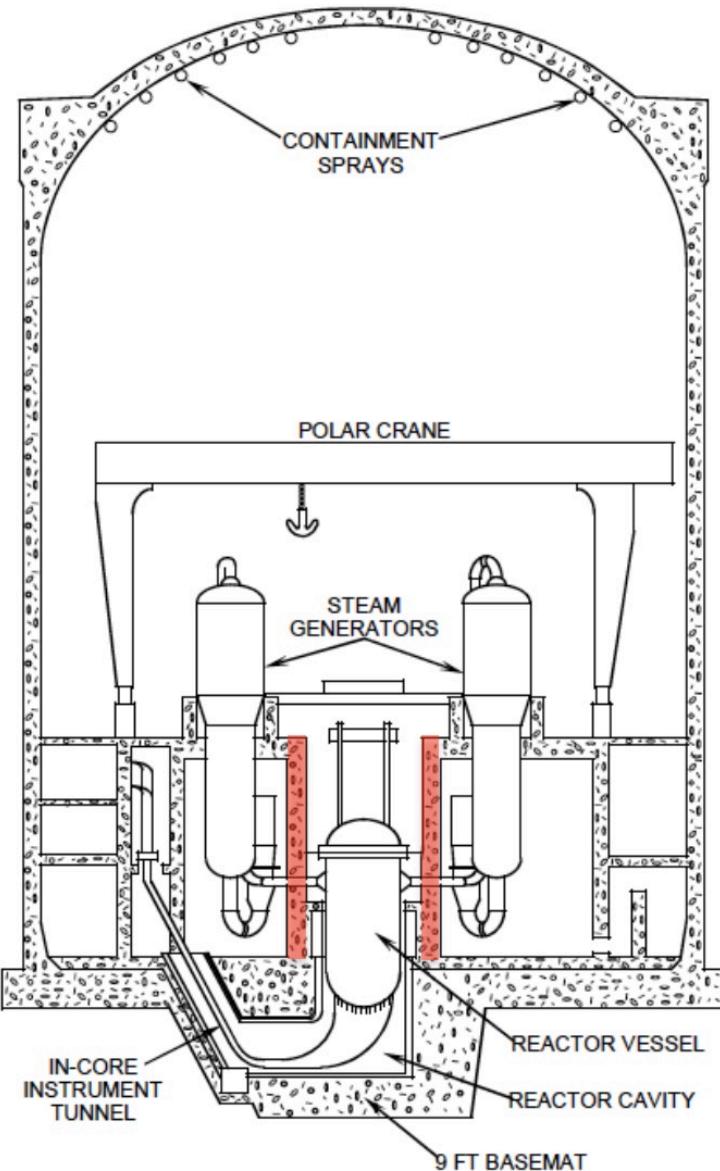
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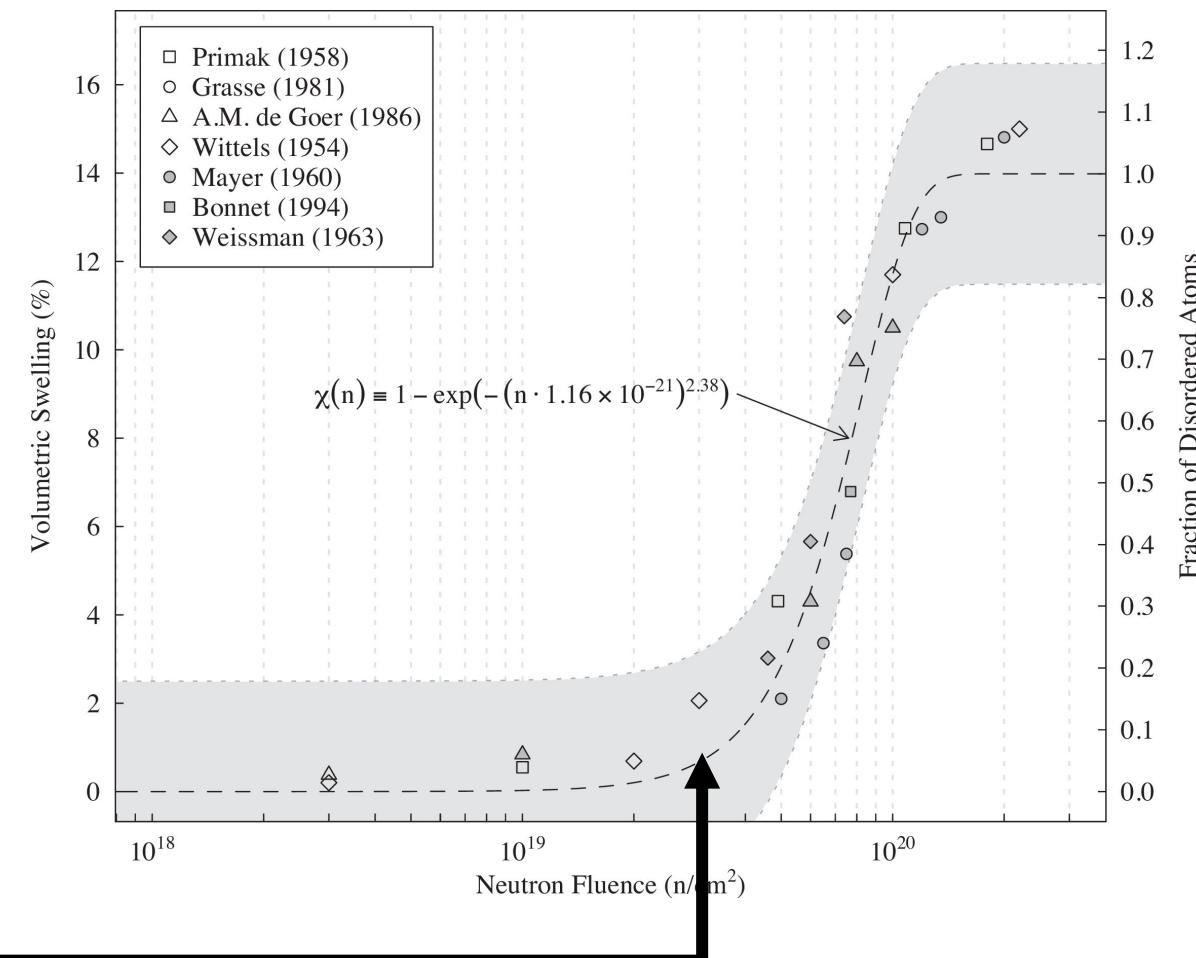
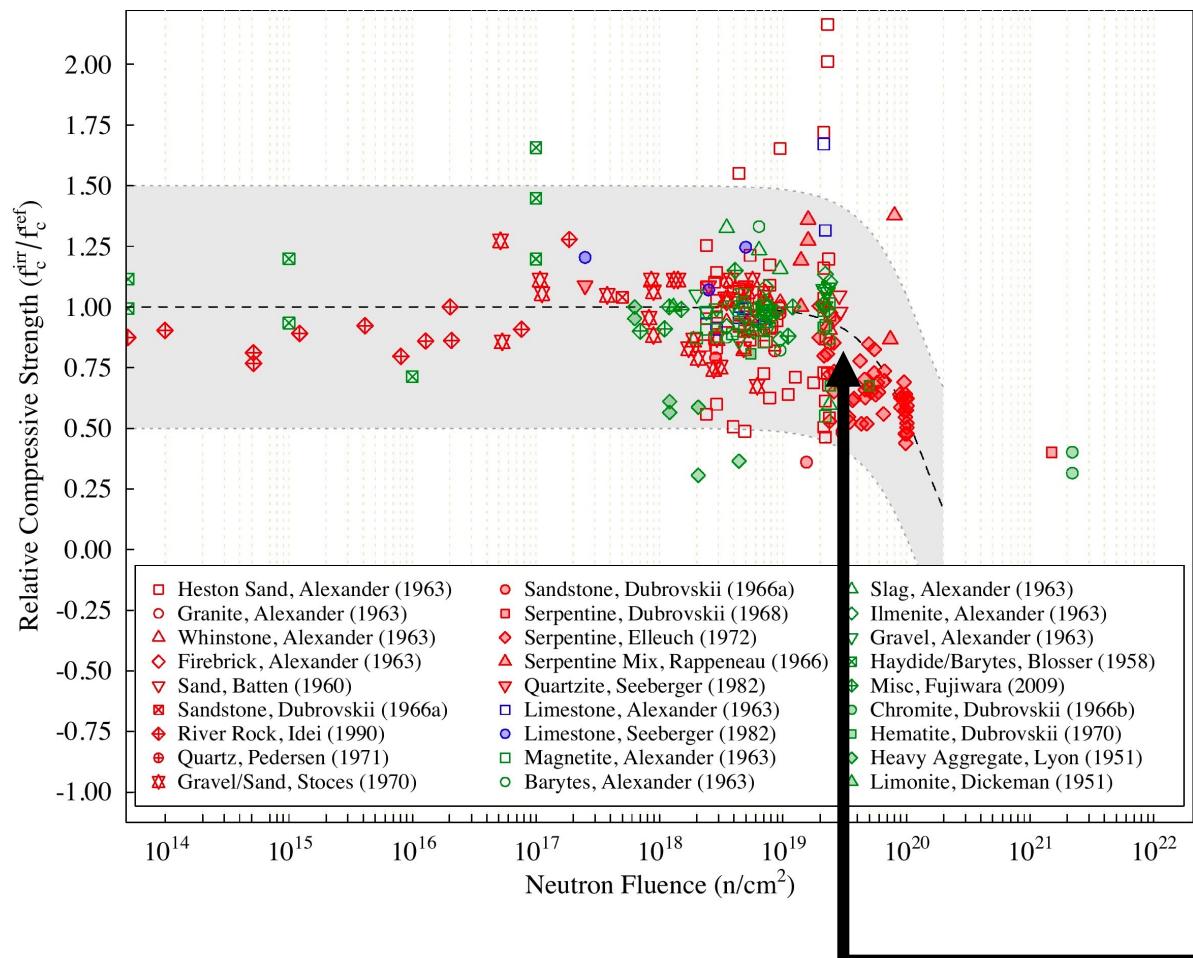
b

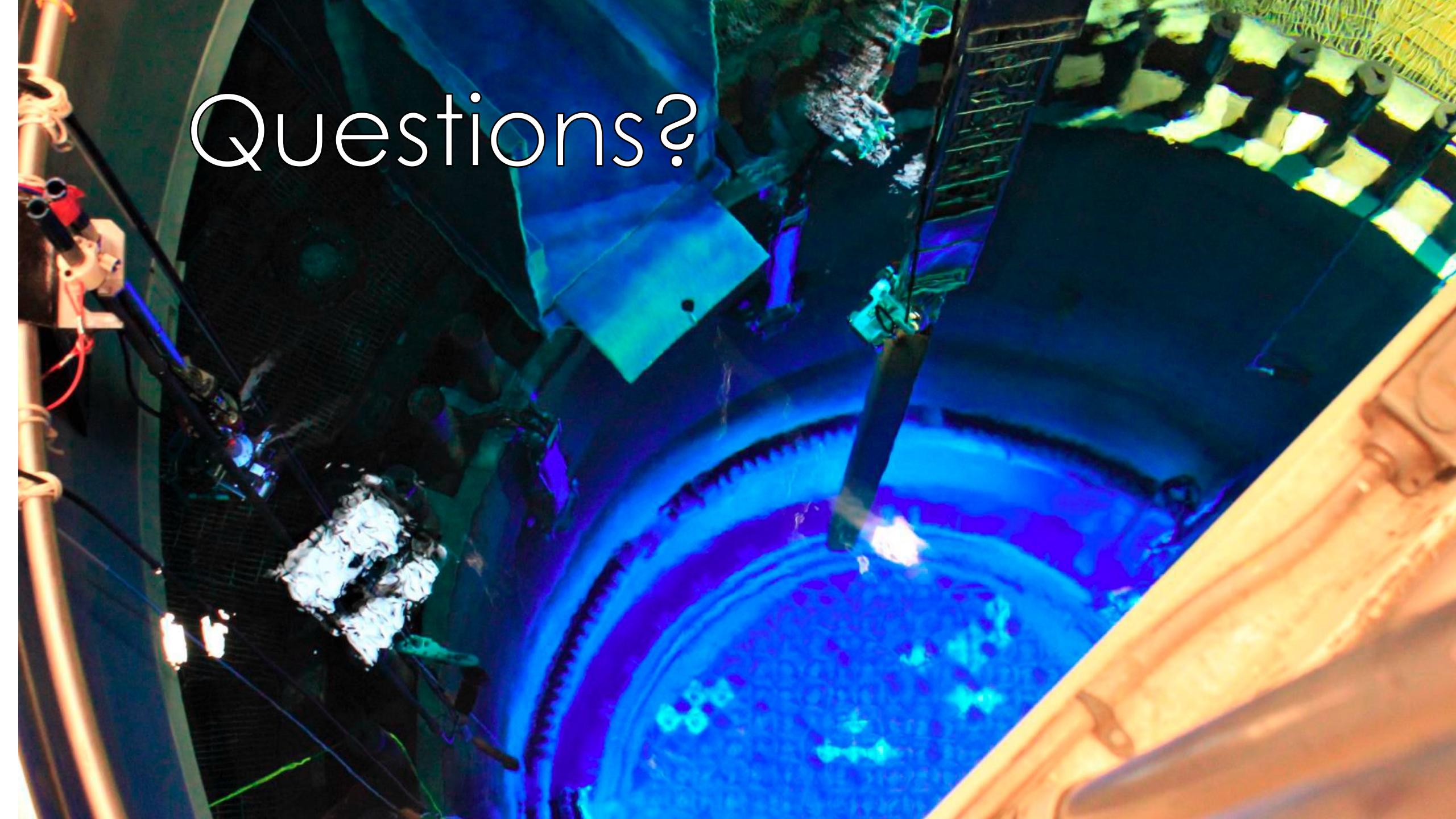
Temperature dependence of a) the long-range order parameter S/S_C , and b) the critical amorphization dose for CuTi, irradiated with 1 MeV electrons

Irradiation-induced amorphization



Irradiation-induced amorphization





Questions?