





# Materials Applications of Atom Probe Tomography



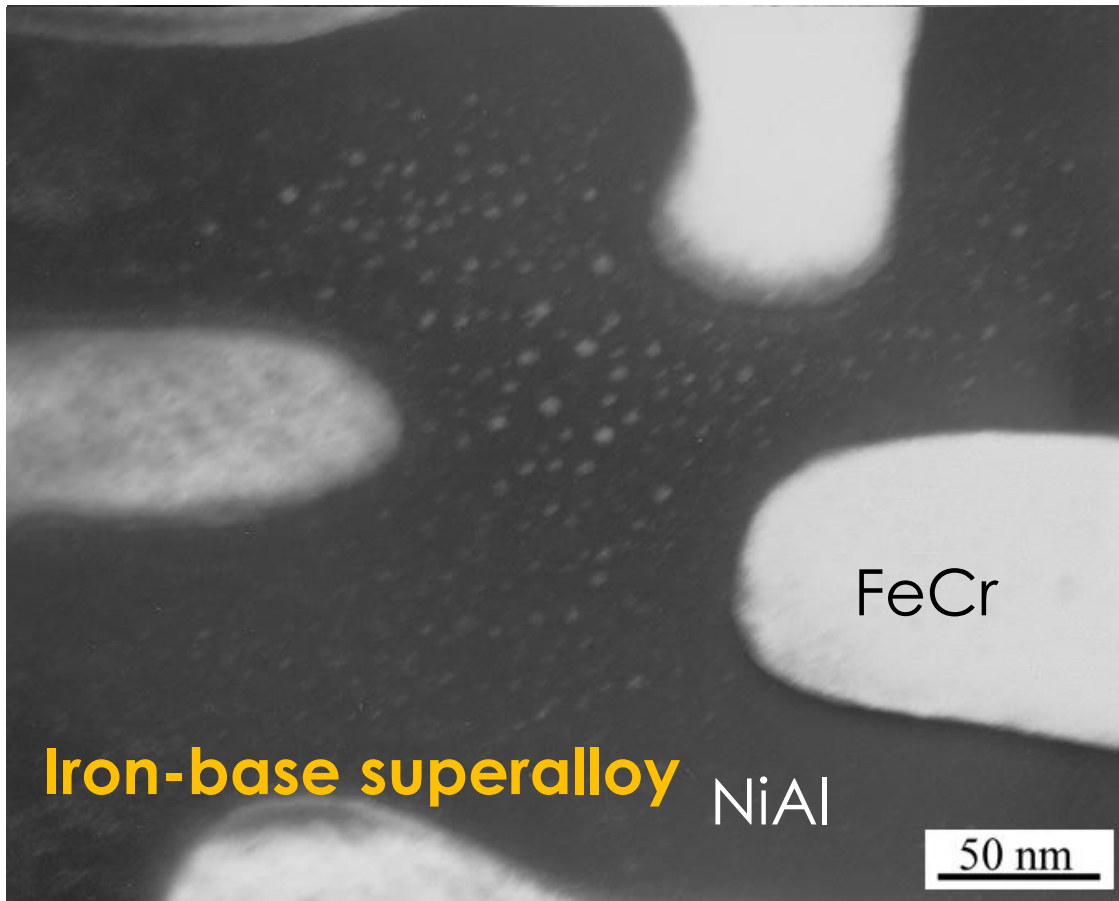


# Metals



# Correlative Microscopy & Characterization

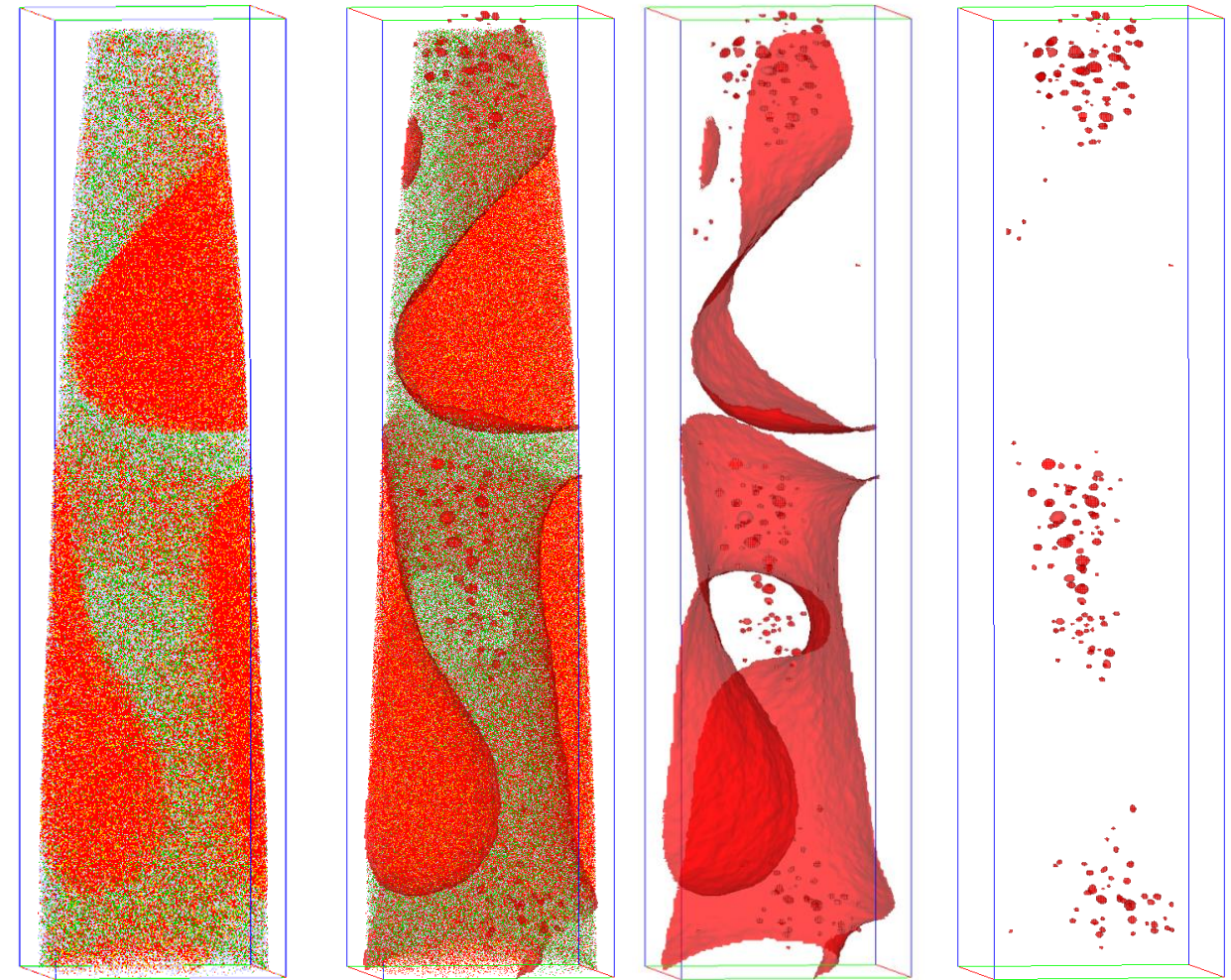
### TEM Dark-field Images



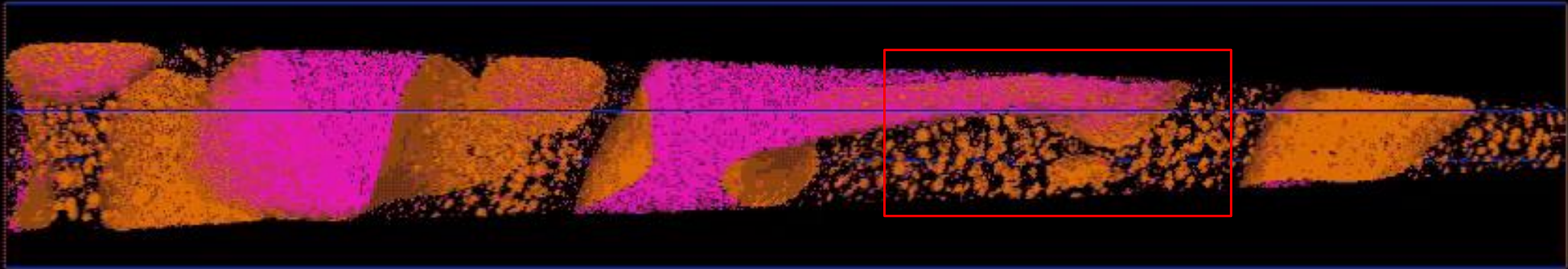
- C. Stallybrass, G. Sauthoff, A. Schneider, and Y. Degas, Max Planck Institut für Eisenforschung-Düsseldorf

400nm

### LEAP Tomographs (Fe)



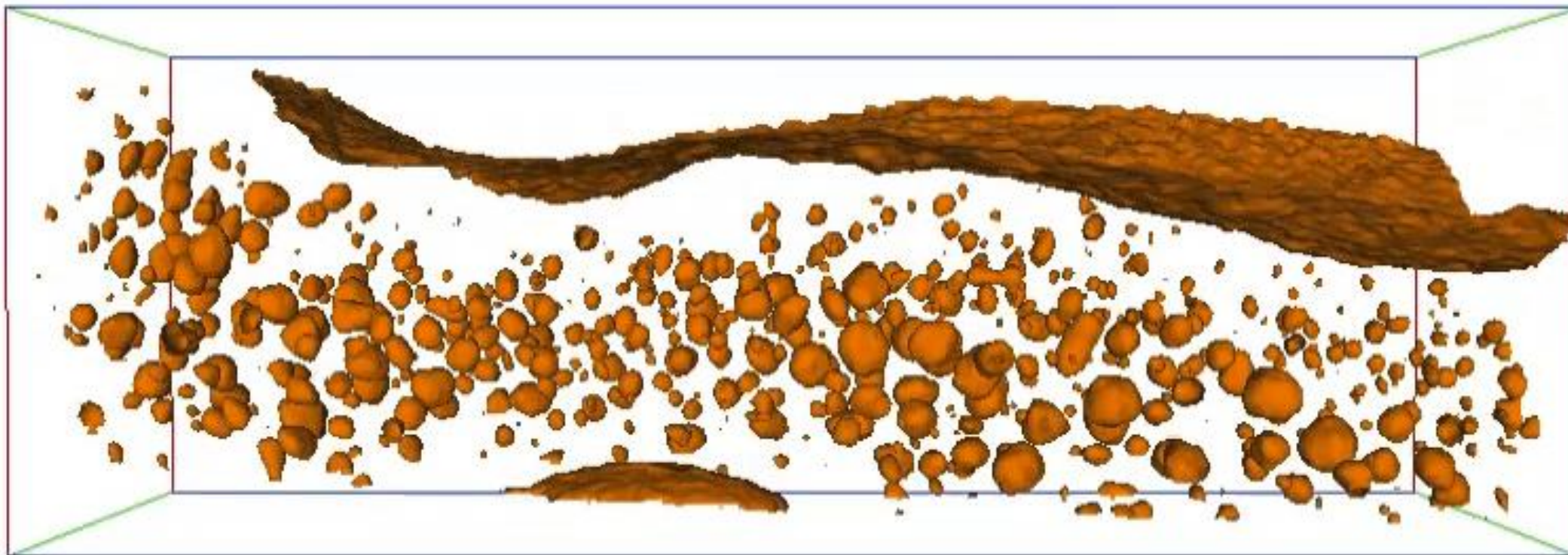
# APT Provides 3D Analysis



100 nm



There is a lot of 3D detail



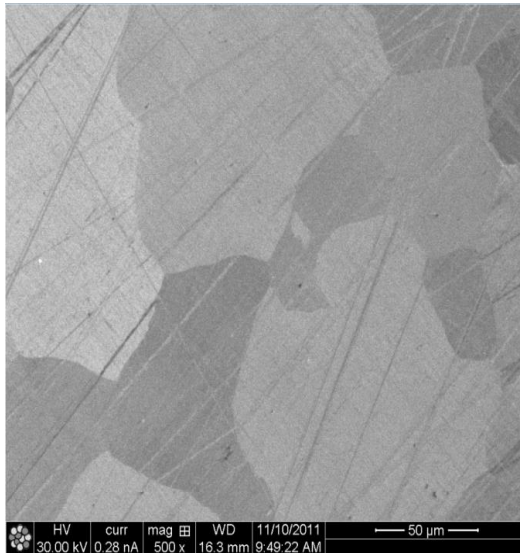
50 nm



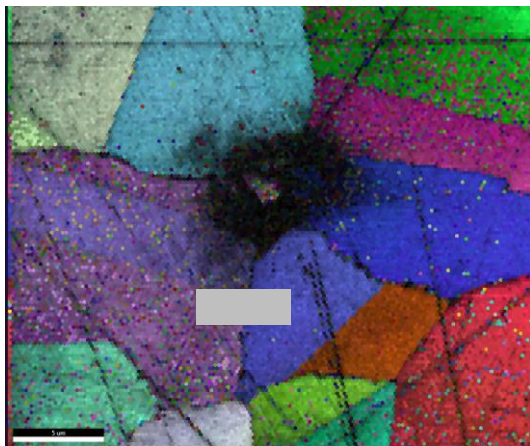


# Grain Boundary Analysis

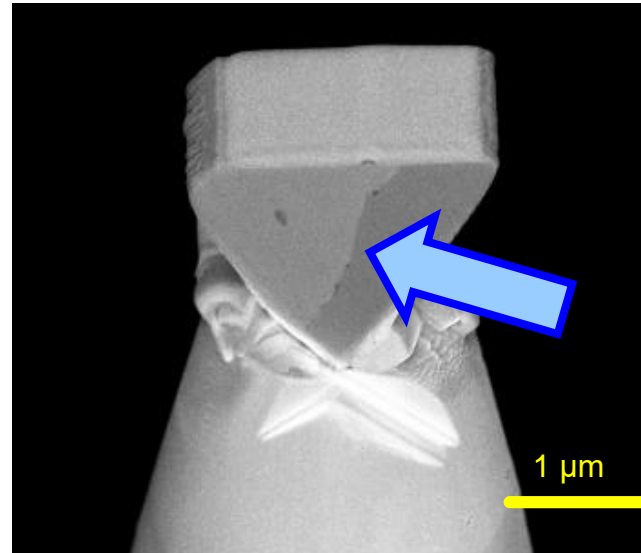
# Grain boundary visibility



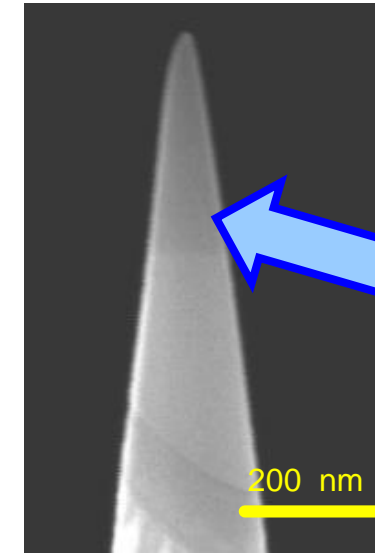
SE/BSE Contrast



EBSD Map



- Mounted wedge prior to sharpening.
- Precipitates visible at the interface.
- Grain boundary is clearly visible.

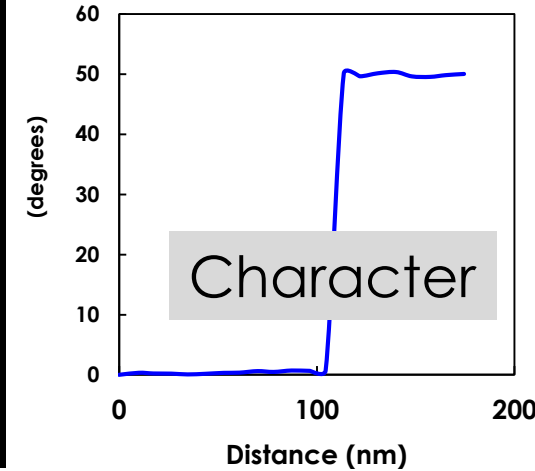
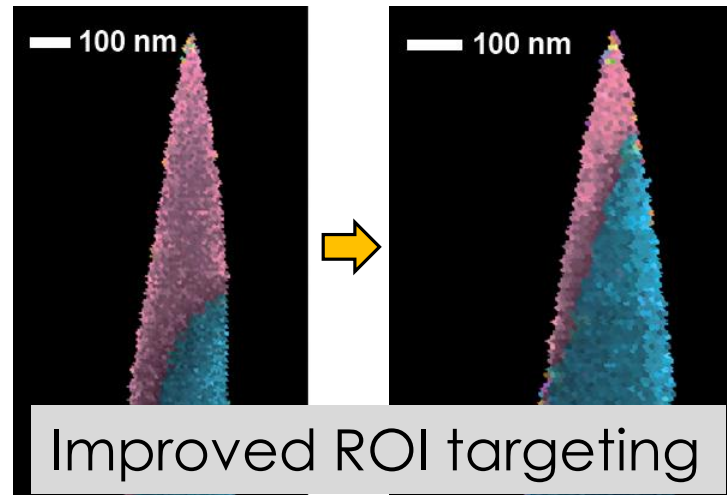
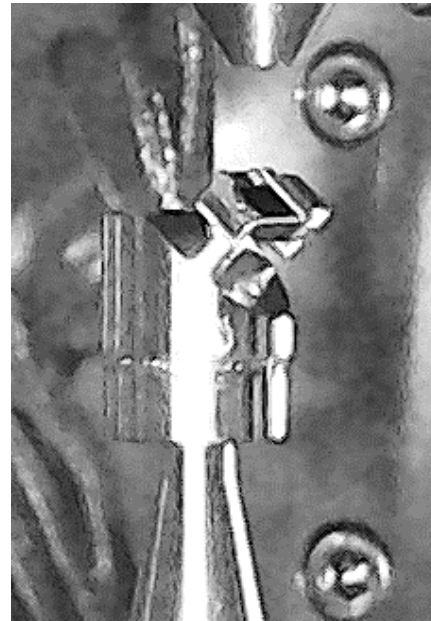
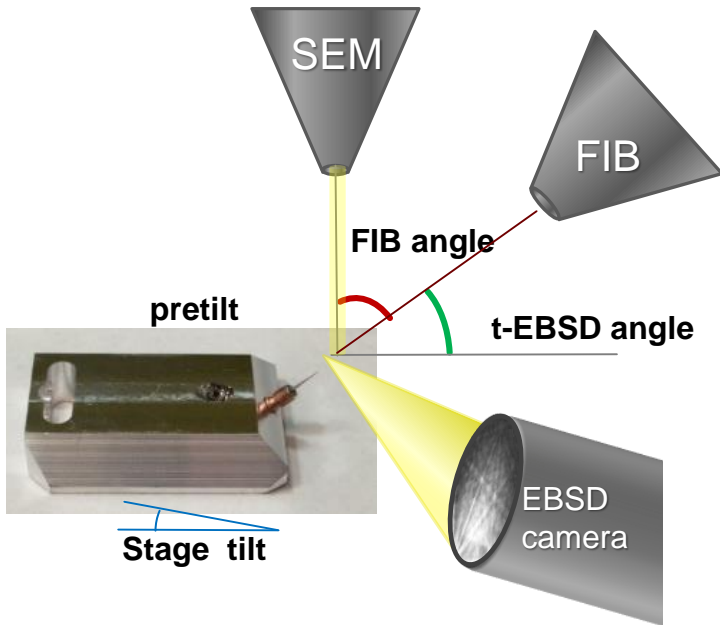


- Final tip shape: grain boundary no longer visible.

- Without TKD, targeting an ROI can be difficult
- During final tip shaping, often channeling contrast is lost

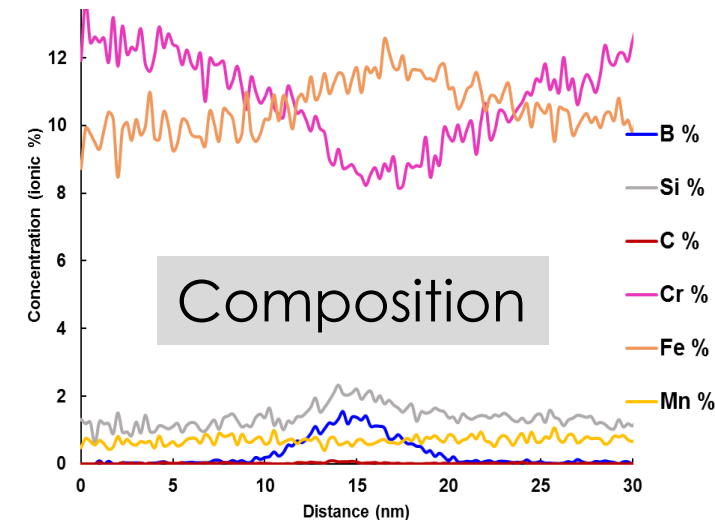
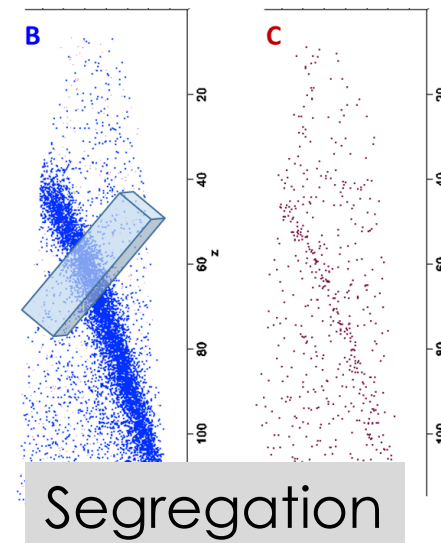


# TKD During APT Specimen Preparation



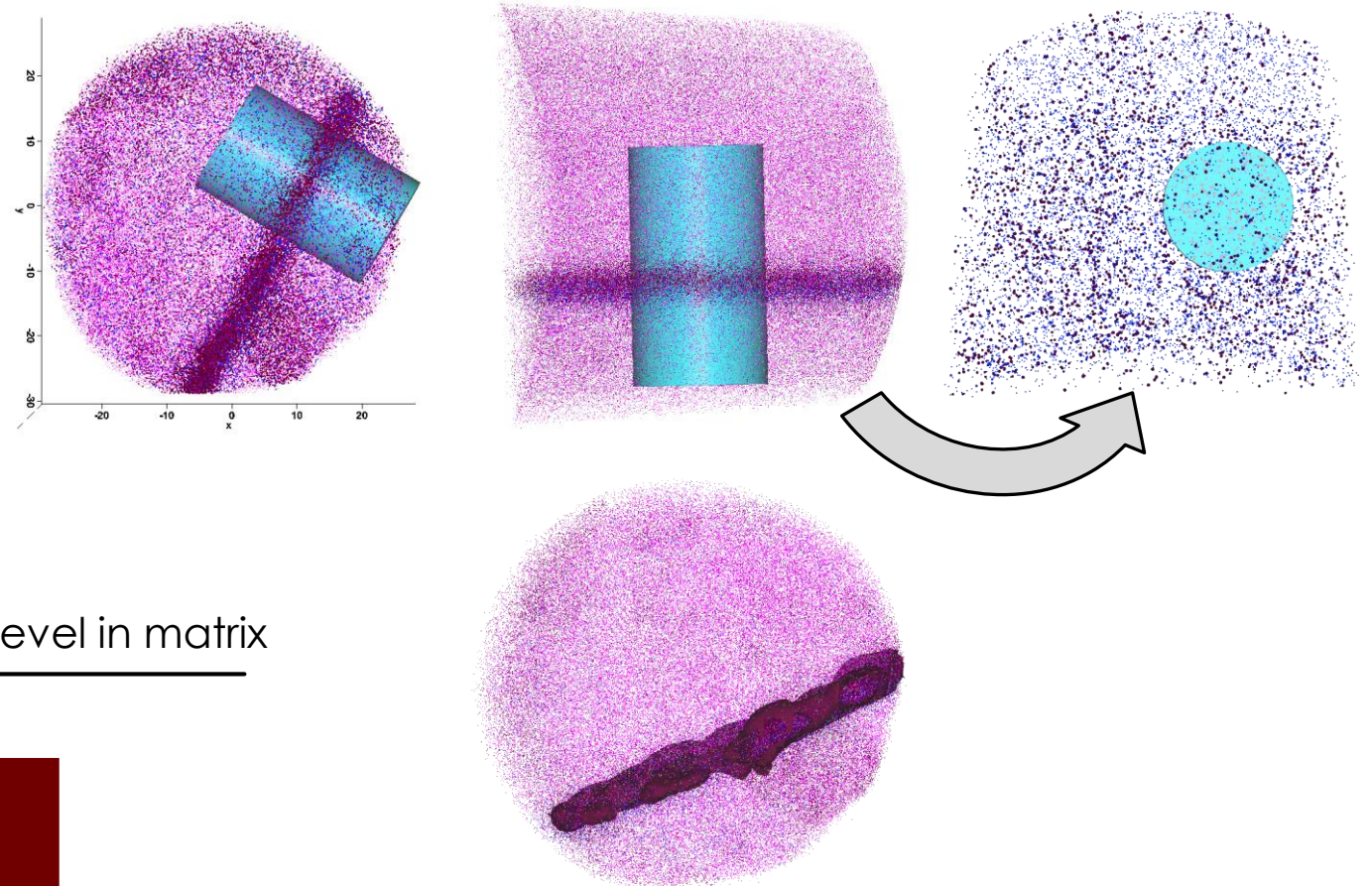
- TKD can be combined with atom probe to provide crystallographic information
- It is quick and easy in the FIB/SEM without needing to move the specimen from the milling position

K.P. Rice, R.R. Keller, M.P. Stoykovich, Specimen-thickness effects on transmission Kikuchi patterns in the scanning electron microscope, *Journal of Microscopy*. 254 (2014) 129–136.



# Quantifying Segregation: Interfacial Excess

- Gibbsian Interfacial Excess is a measure of the amount of segregation at a grain boundary, **normalized by area**<sup>1</sup> (i.e., excess over the concentration in the bulk)
- This allows a measure of segregation to be calculated
- Light elements and heavy elements can be measured simultaneously



$$\text{Interfacial excess} = \frac{\text{Species level at GB} - \text{Species level in matrix}}{\text{Sampling area}}$$

| Ion    | Interfacial Excess          |
|--------|-----------------------------|
| Carbon | 34.5 atoms/ nm <sup>2</sup> |
| Boron  | 7.6 atoms/ nm <sup>2</sup>  |

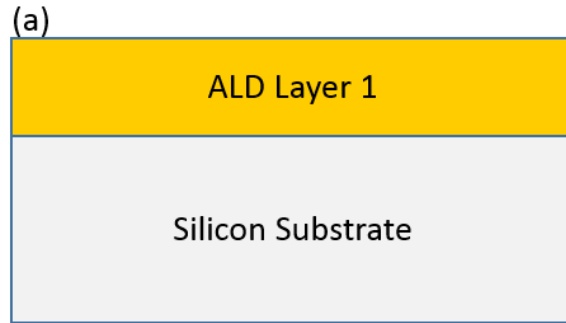
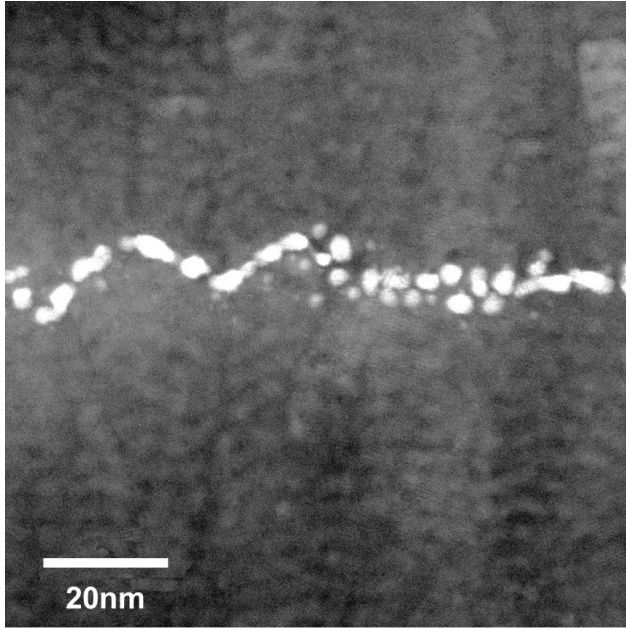
Hellman, O.C., Seidman, D.N., 2002. Measurement of the Gibbsian interfacial excess of solute at an interface of arbitrary geometry using three-dimensional atom probe microscopy. *Materials Science and Engineering: A* 327, 24–28.



# Materials Applications

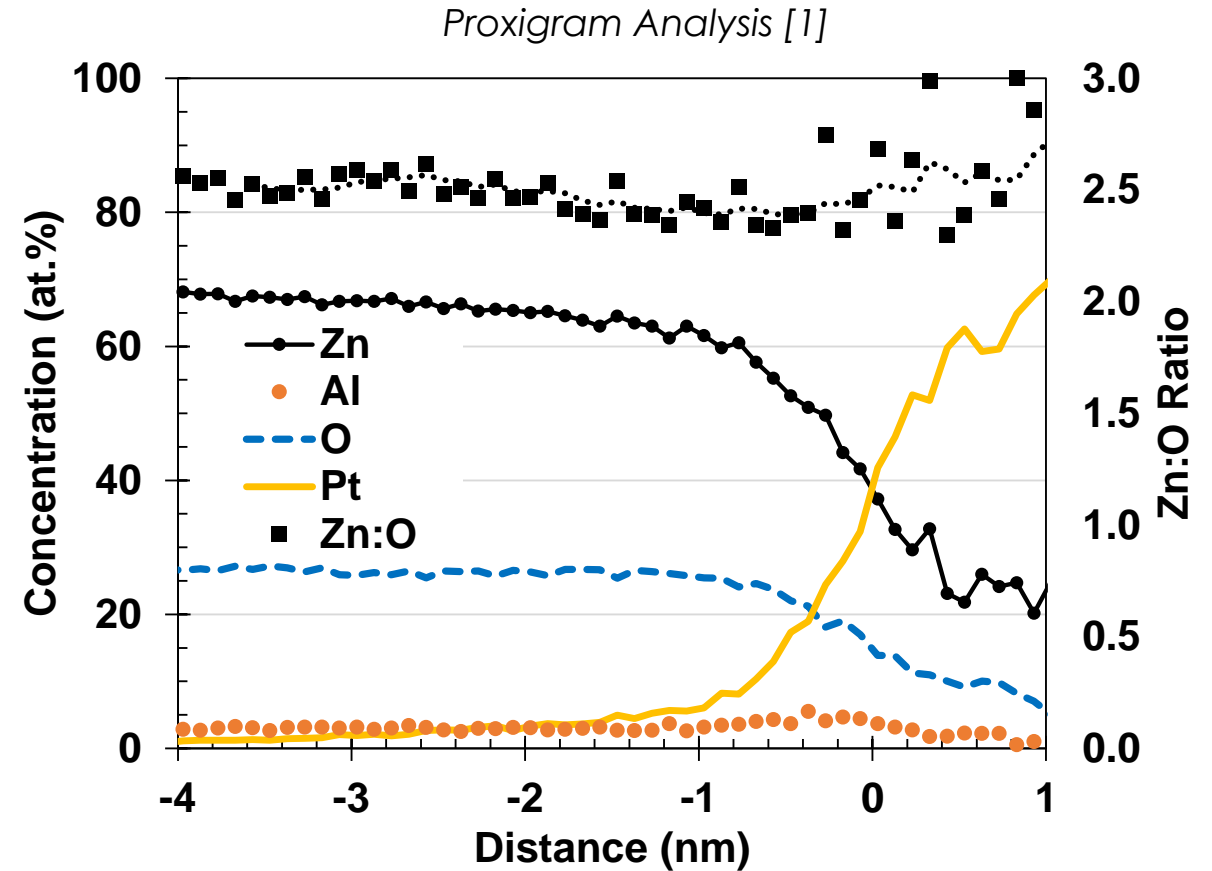
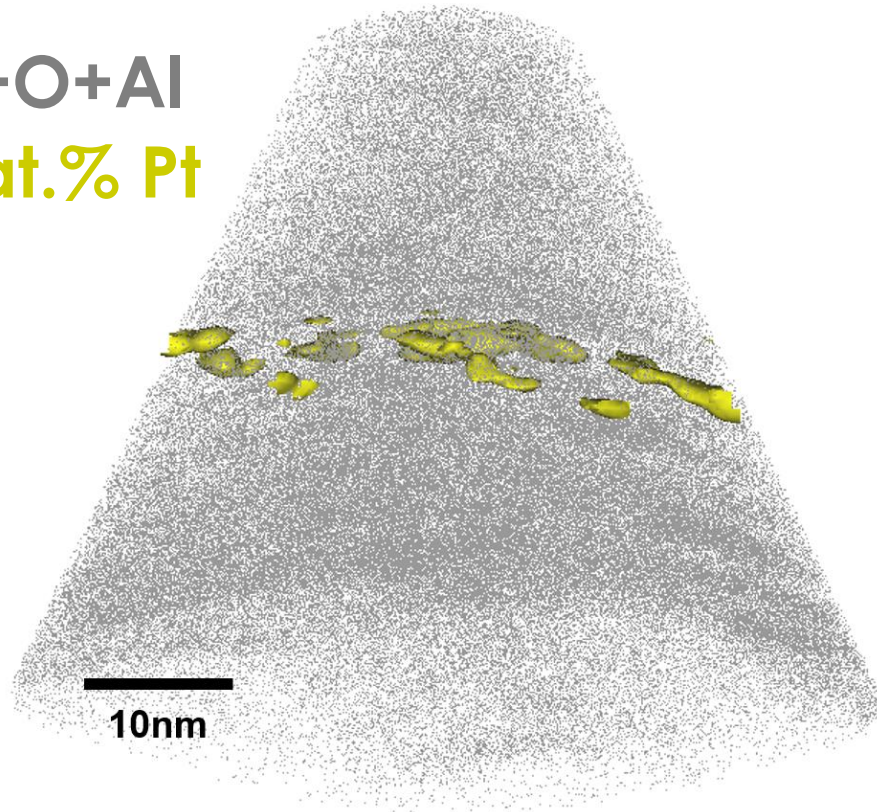
Nanowires and Nanoparticles

# Specimen Preparation - Encapsulation



# APT of Pt Nanoparticles

Zn+O+Al  
40at.% Pt

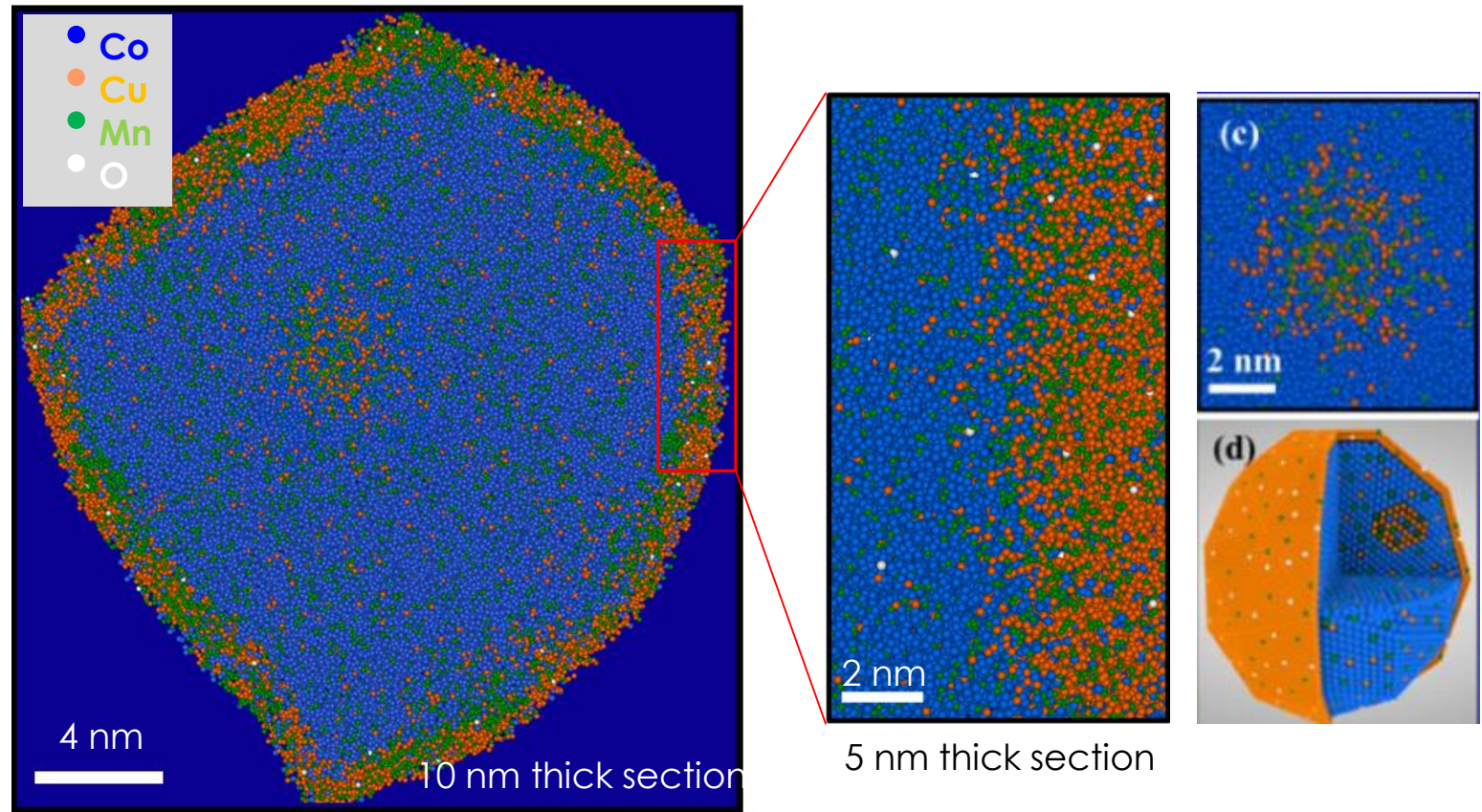


[1] O. Hellman et al., *Micro. Microanal.* 6 (2000) 437.

# CoCuMn Catalyst Particle

## Motivation

- -High efficiency production of Long-Chain Terminal Alcohols
- a Co-rich core structure and a Cu-dominated CoCuMn mixed shell that is highly effective in enabling chain lengthening with terminal alcohol or olefin production
- Sample Preparation was eBeam deposited Pt

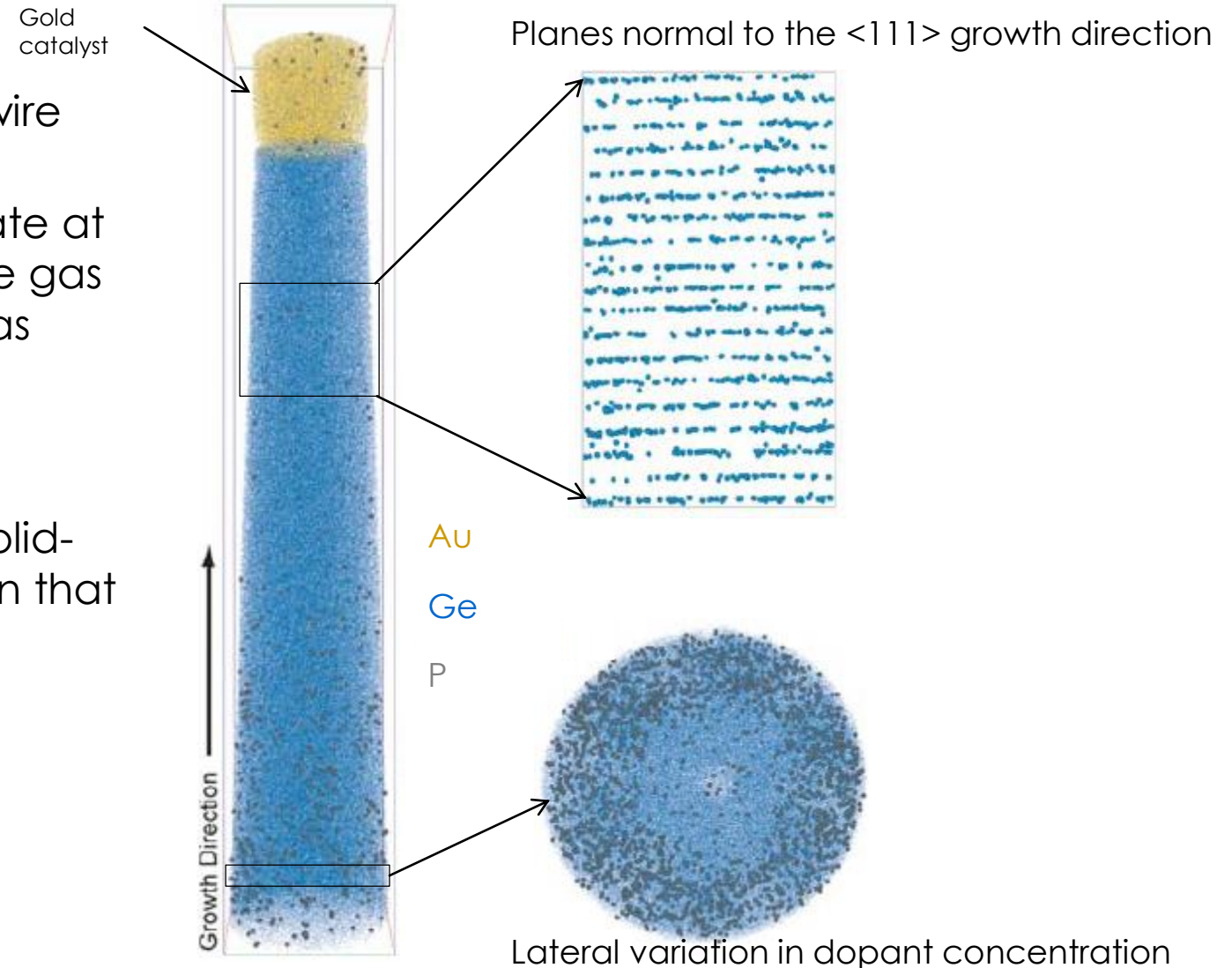


- Images are sections through 3D tomographic reconstructions
  - Faceted core-shell structure that contain intra-core clusters
- Oxygen was distributed throughout the core-shell interface
- Surface contains a high concentration of Cu and Mn

Xiang et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2013, 135 (19), pp 7114–7117.

# Nanowires: P-Doped VLS Germanium

- Phosphorous-doped germanium nanowire grown with a gold nanoparticle<sup>2</sup>
- The doping rate is determined by the rate at which the dopant atoms move from the gas phase as precursors to the solid phase as substitutional impurities
  - Quantitative analysis of the mass spectrum showed that the dopant concentration in the vapor-liquid-solid-grown nanowire was much less than that of the gas phase



1. Lauhon, L. J., *MRS Bull.* 2009, 34, 738-743.
2. Perea, D. E., *Nature Nanotech.* 2009, 315-319



# Materials Applications

Geological Materials



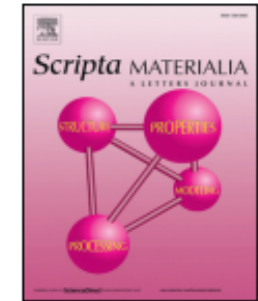
Scripta Materialia 148 (2018) 115–121



Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

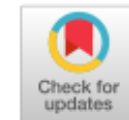
## Scripta Materialia

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/scriptamat](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/scriptamat)



Viewpoint article

## Atomic worlds: Current state and future of atom probe tomography in geoscience



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nature  
geoscience

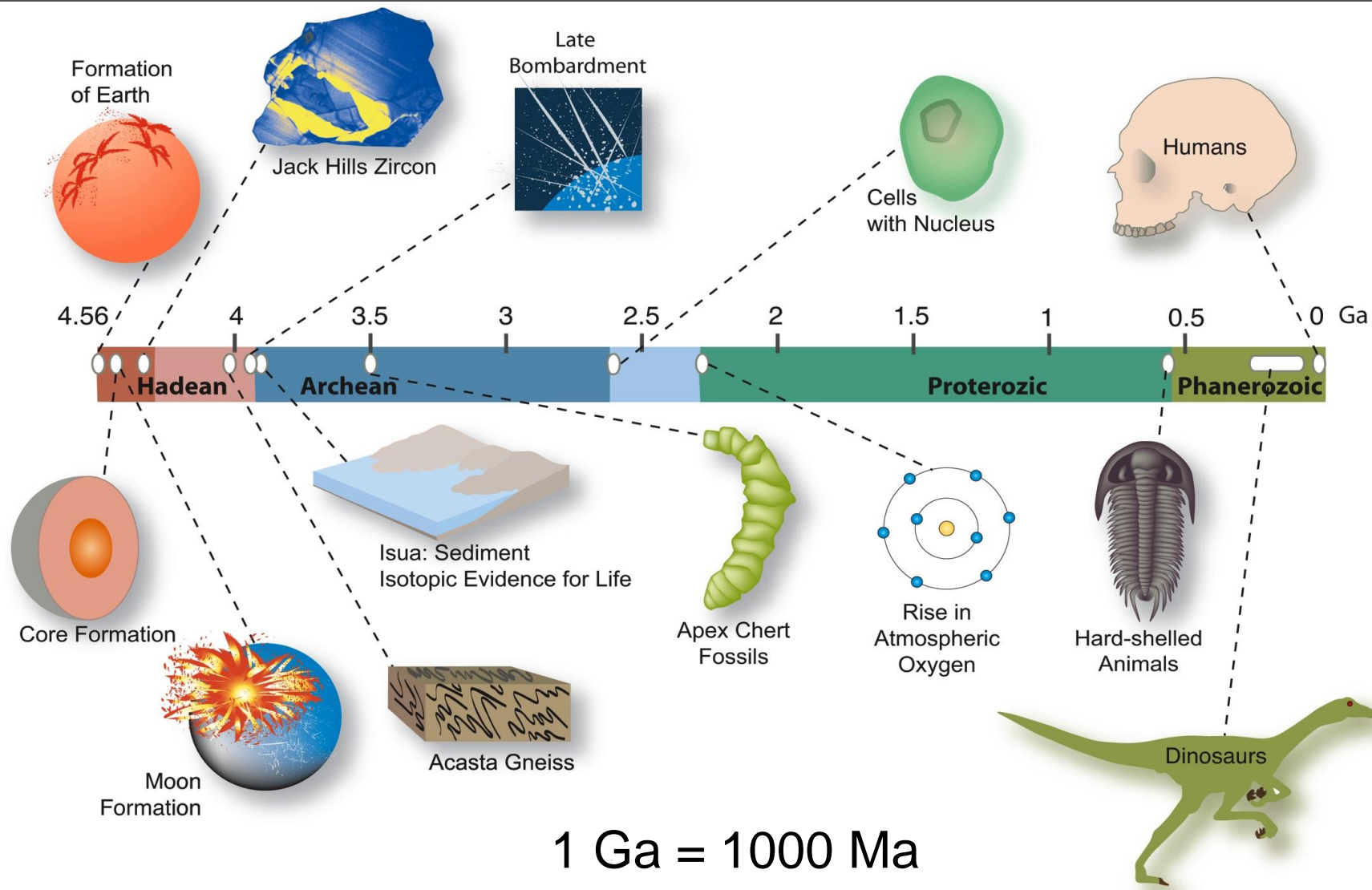
LETTERS

PUBLISHED ONLINE: 23 FEBRUARY 2014 | DOI: 10.1038/NCEO2075

## Hadean age for a post-magma-ocean zircon confirmed by atom-probe tomography

John W. Valley<sup>1\*</sup>, Aaron J. Cavosie<sup>1,2</sup>, Takayuki Ushikubo<sup>1</sup>, David A. Reinhard<sup>3</sup>, Daniel F. Lawrence<sup>3</sup>, David J. Larson<sup>3</sup>, Peter H. Clifton<sup>3</sup>, Thomas F. Kelly<sup>3</sup>, Simon A. Wilde<sup>4</sup>, Desmond E. Moser<sup>5</sup> and Michael J. Spicuzza<sup>1</sup>

# Life on Earth

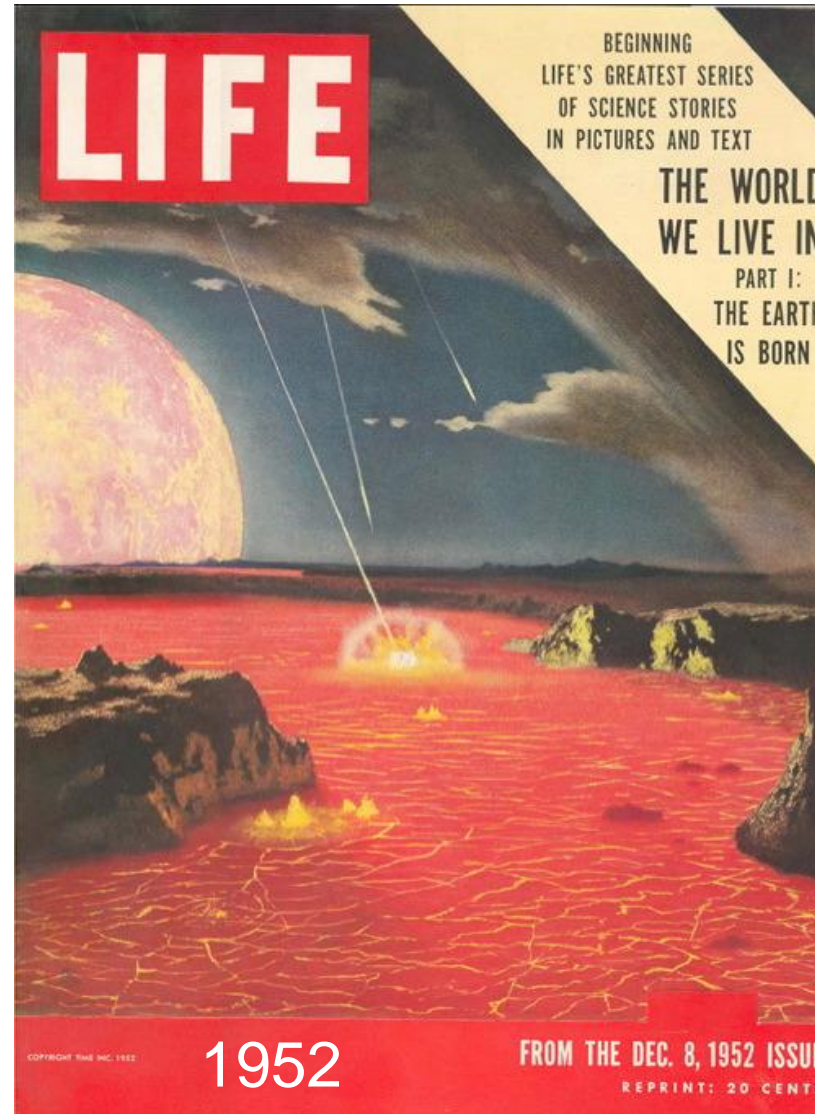


Andrée Valley

# Which View is Correct?

Solar System condensed about 4.56 Ga

4.0-4.4 Ga:  
**Hadean Earth** vs.  
**Cool Early Earth?**



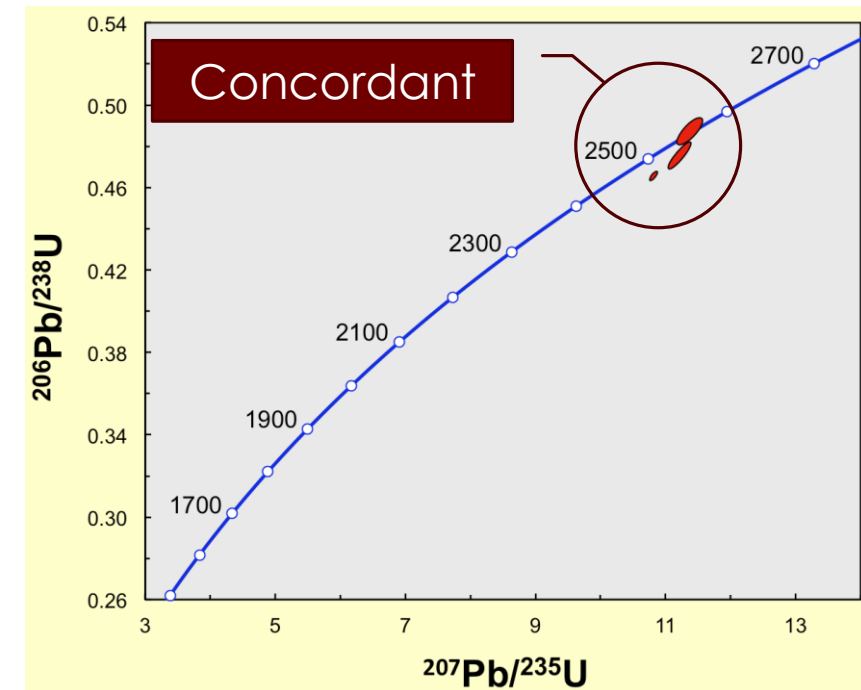
Wilde, S.A., Valley, J.W., Peck, W.H. & Graham, C.M., Evidence from detrital zircons for the existence of continental crust and oceans on the Earth 4.4 Gyr ago, *Nature* 409,175-178 (2001).

# U-Pb Geochronology in Zircon

- When zircons solidify, all Pb segregates to the liquid: (zero Pb in crystal)
- U is typically found at about 500 appm in crystal
- Pb is the final daughter product of both  $^{235}\text{U}$  and  $^{238}\text{U}$ 
  - Any Pb in zircon is radiogenic from U decay
  - Thus, there are two “clocks”
- If both clocks give same date, it is concordant which imbues confidence

$$\frac{^{206}\text{Pb}^*}{^{238}\text{U}} = e^{\lambda_{238}t} - 1$$

$$\frac{^{207}\text{Pb}^*}{^{235}\text{U}} = e^{\lambda_{235}t} - 1$$



A. Strickland et al. (2011) *AJS*

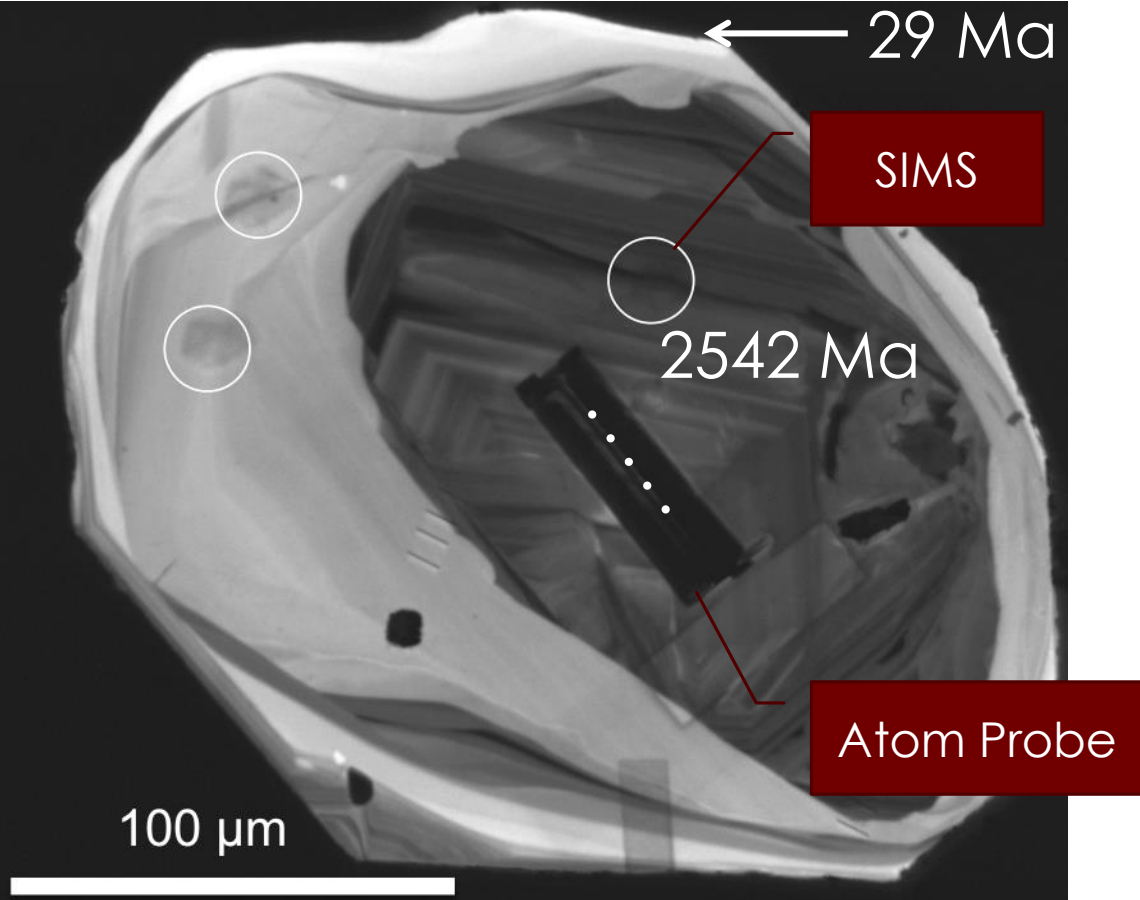
# Geo Chronometry: APT vs. SIMS



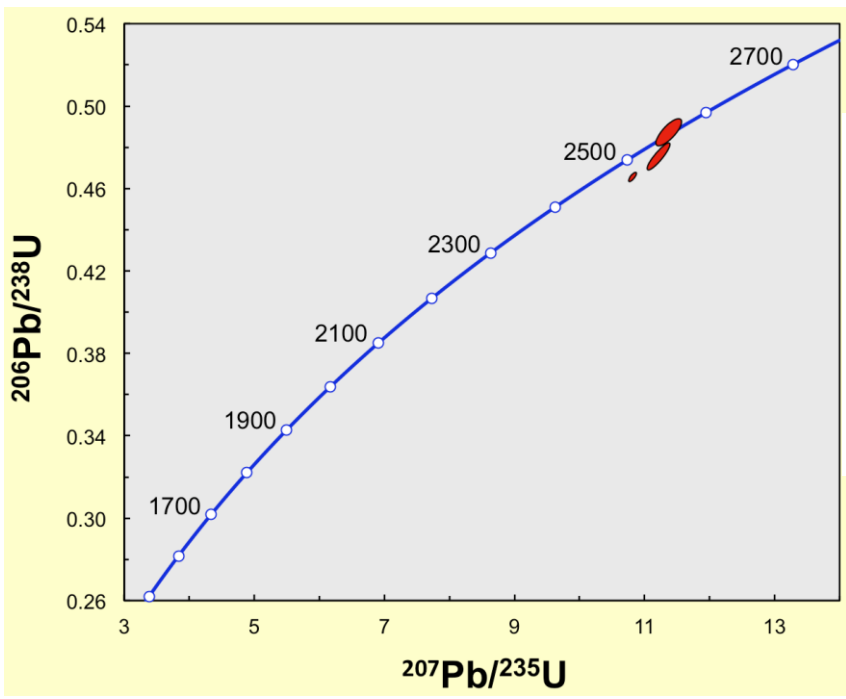
Core = 2542 Ma  
 97% concordant  
 U 672 ppm Th 224 ppm

Rim = 29 Ma

Vipont granodiorite, Grouse Creek Mts, UT  
 Albion, Raft River, Grouse Creek Mts



## Atom Probe gets same dates as SIMS



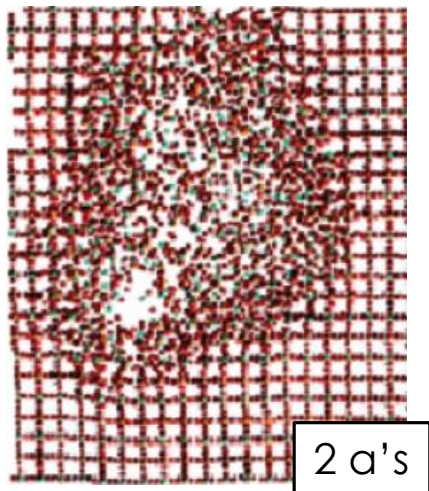
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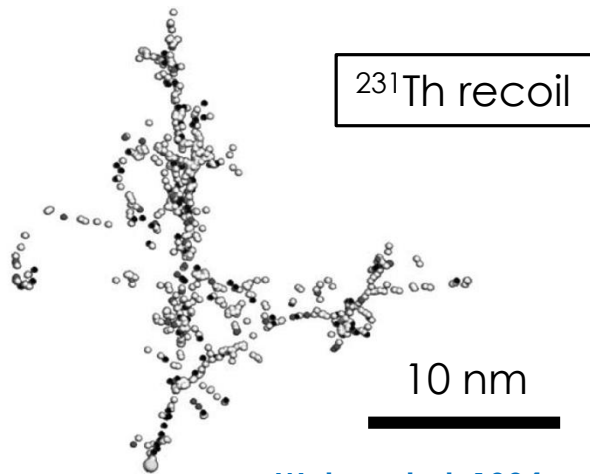
A. Strickland et al. (2011) *AJS*

# $\alpha$ -Recoil Damage in Zircon

$\alpha$ -recoil damage produces defects

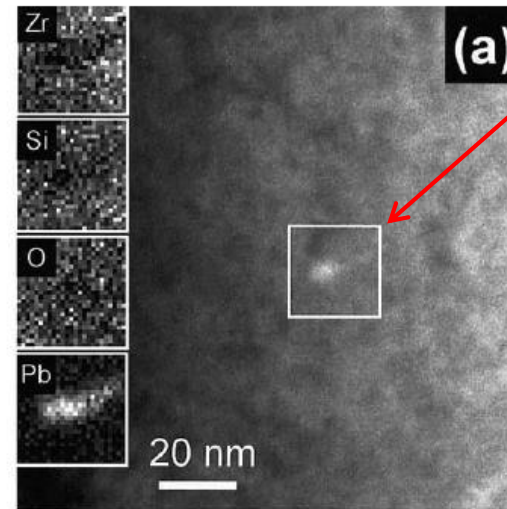


Geisler et al. 2007



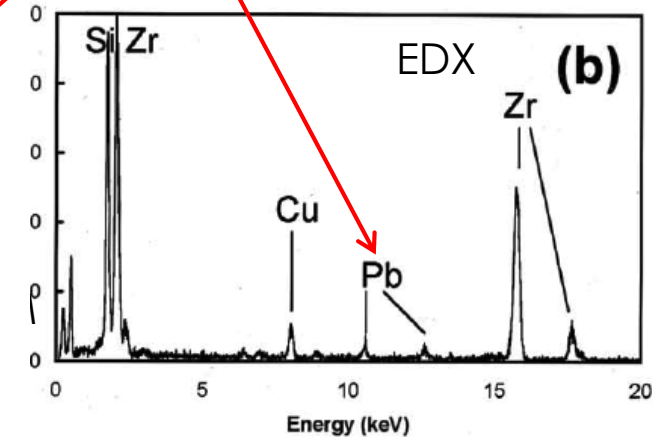
Weber et al. 1994  
Ewing et al. 2003

Pb segregation to defects

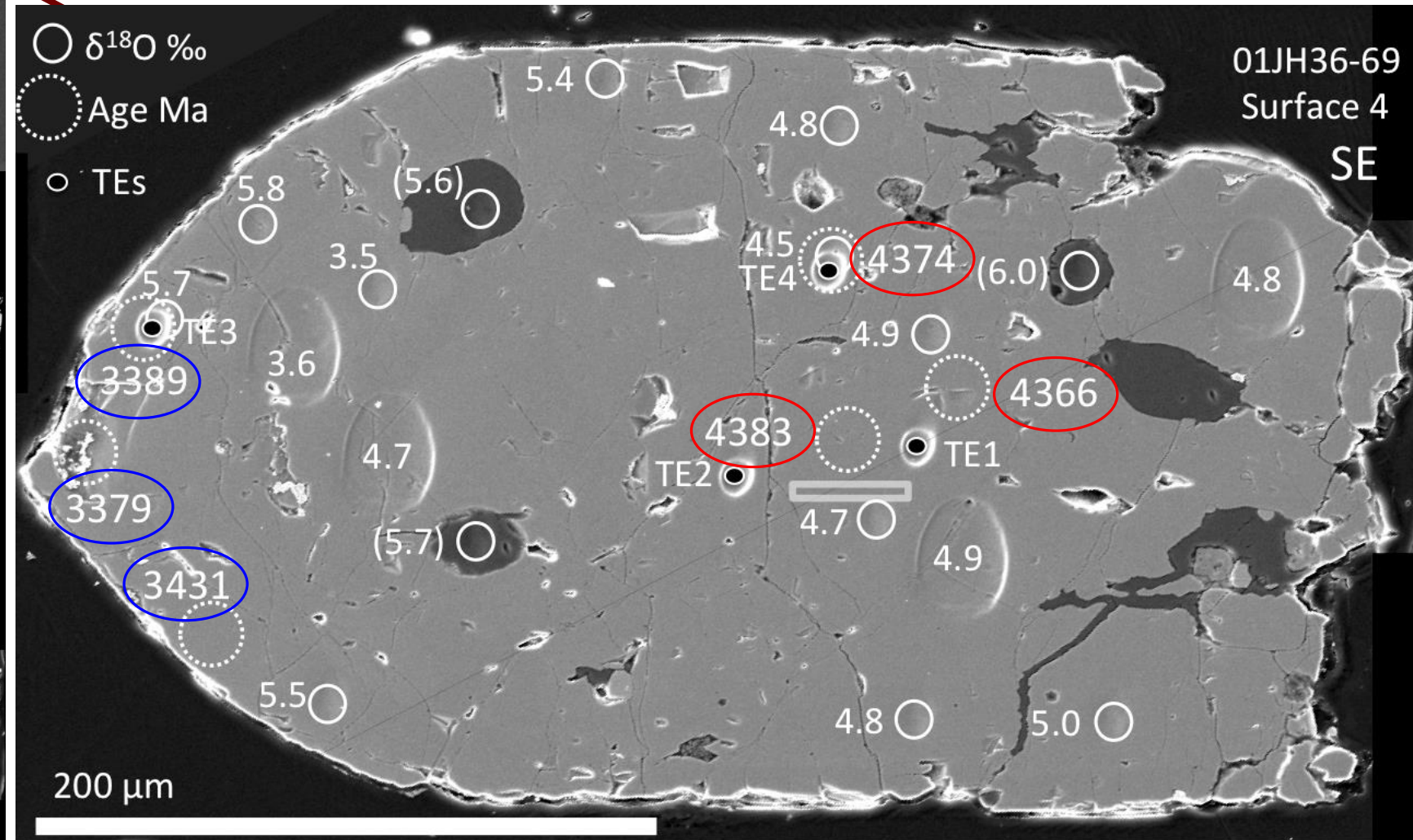
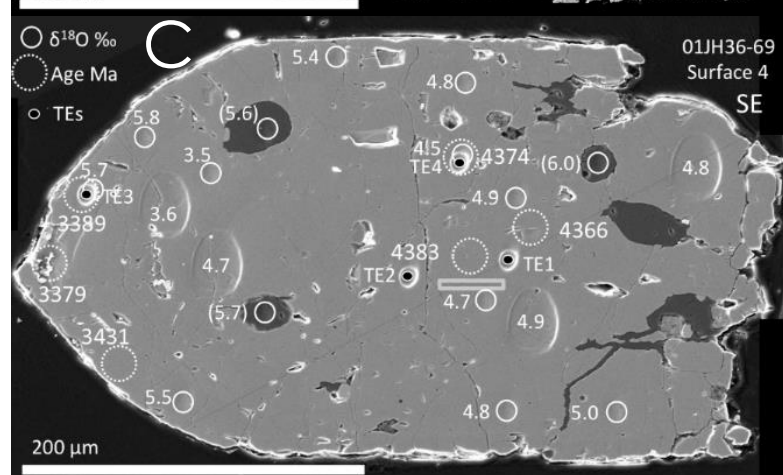
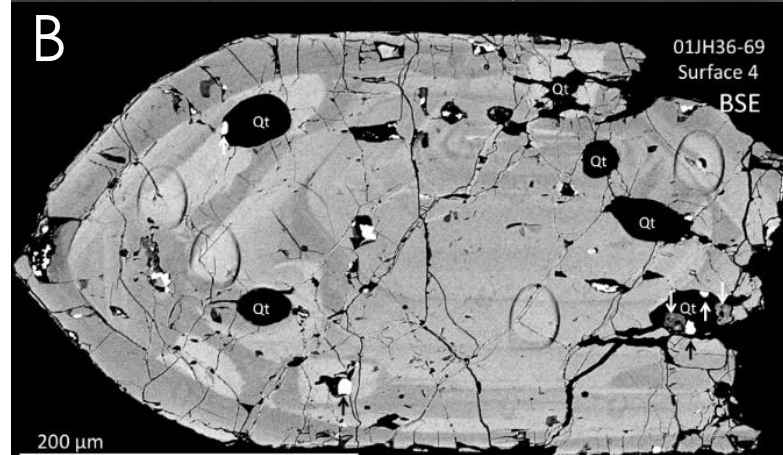
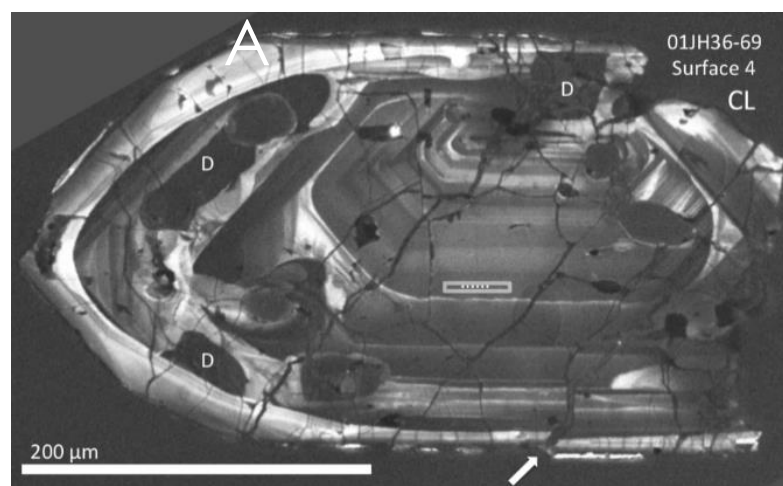


Utsunomiya et al. 2004

5.6 wt.% Pb

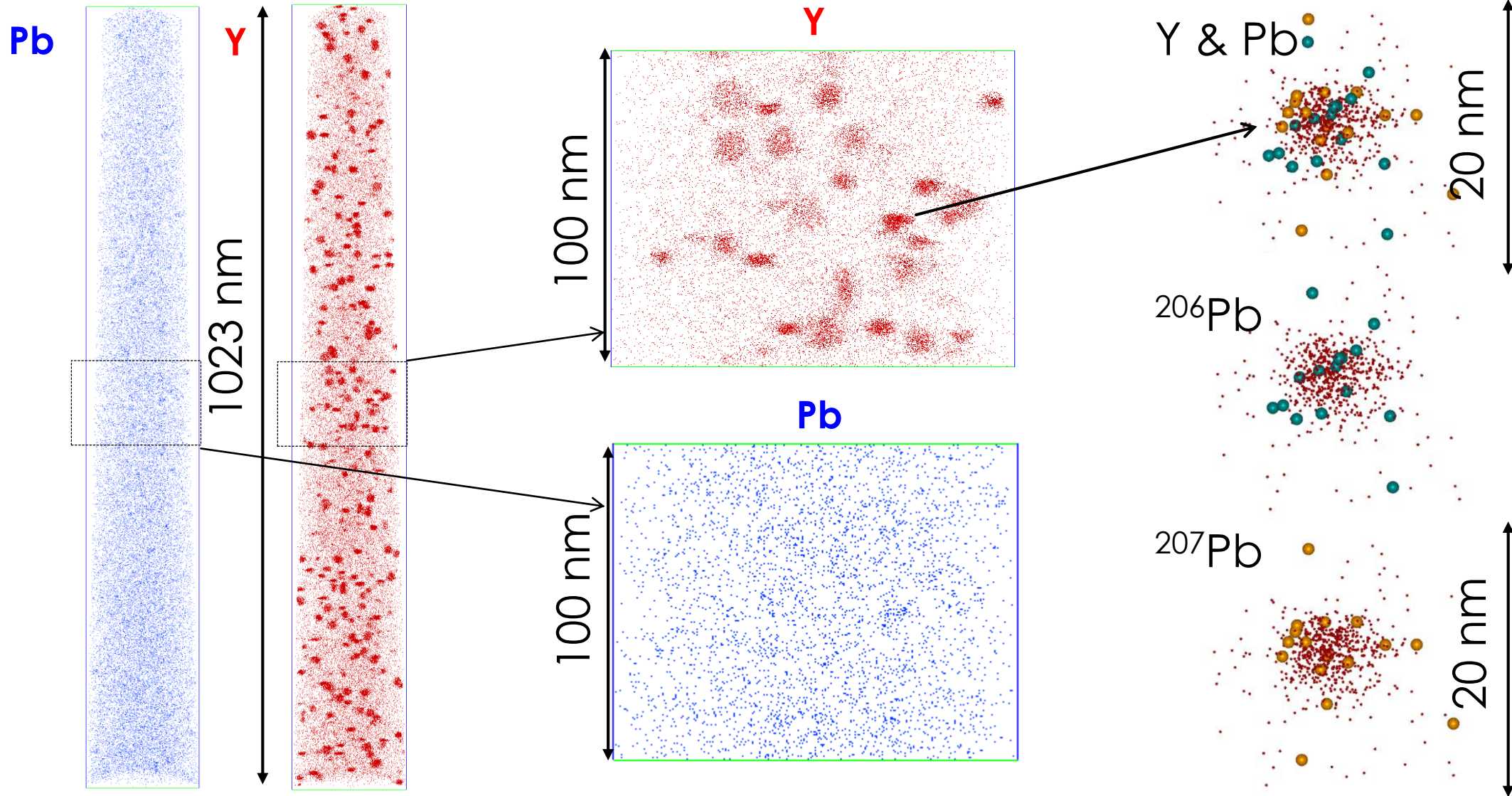


# Jack Hills 4.4 Ga: Oldest Mineral Known?

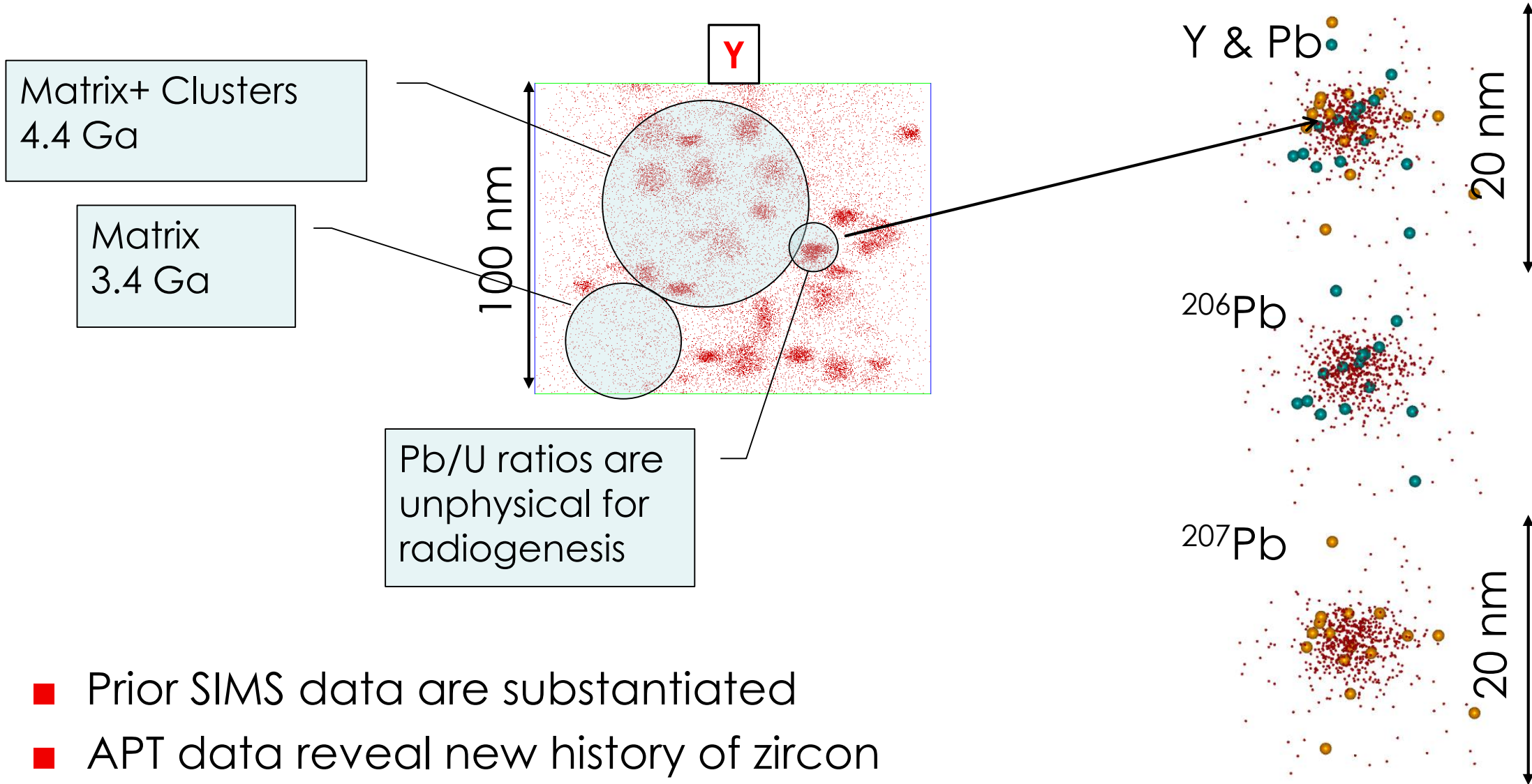




# Pb and Y Segregate to Defects



# APT Data Tell a New Story



- Prior SIMS data are substantiated
- APT data reveal new history of zircon

# Cool Early Earth



Previous SIMS-based conjecture of cool early earth is affirmed

Did life have a chance to start during Hadean Age?

nature  
geoscience

LETTERS

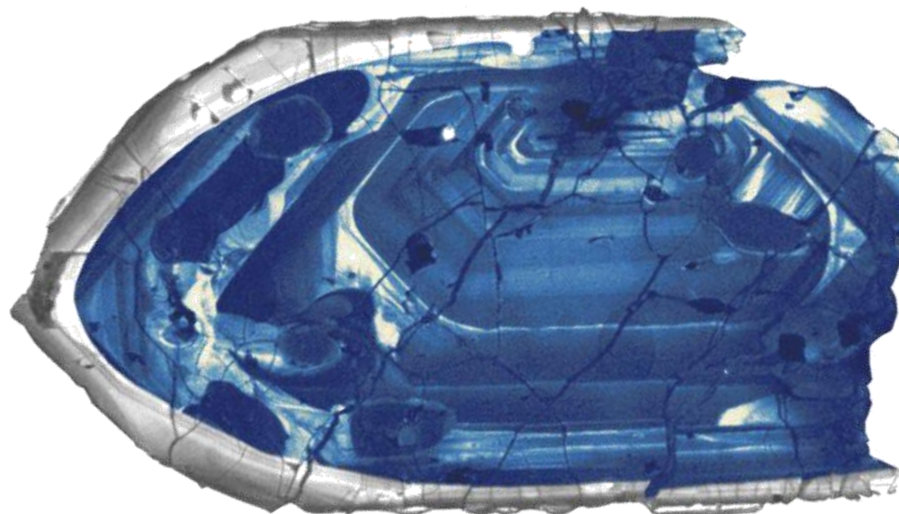
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## Hadean age for a post-magma-ocean zircon confirmed by atom-probe tomography

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# Beyoncé Tweet on Blue Zircon



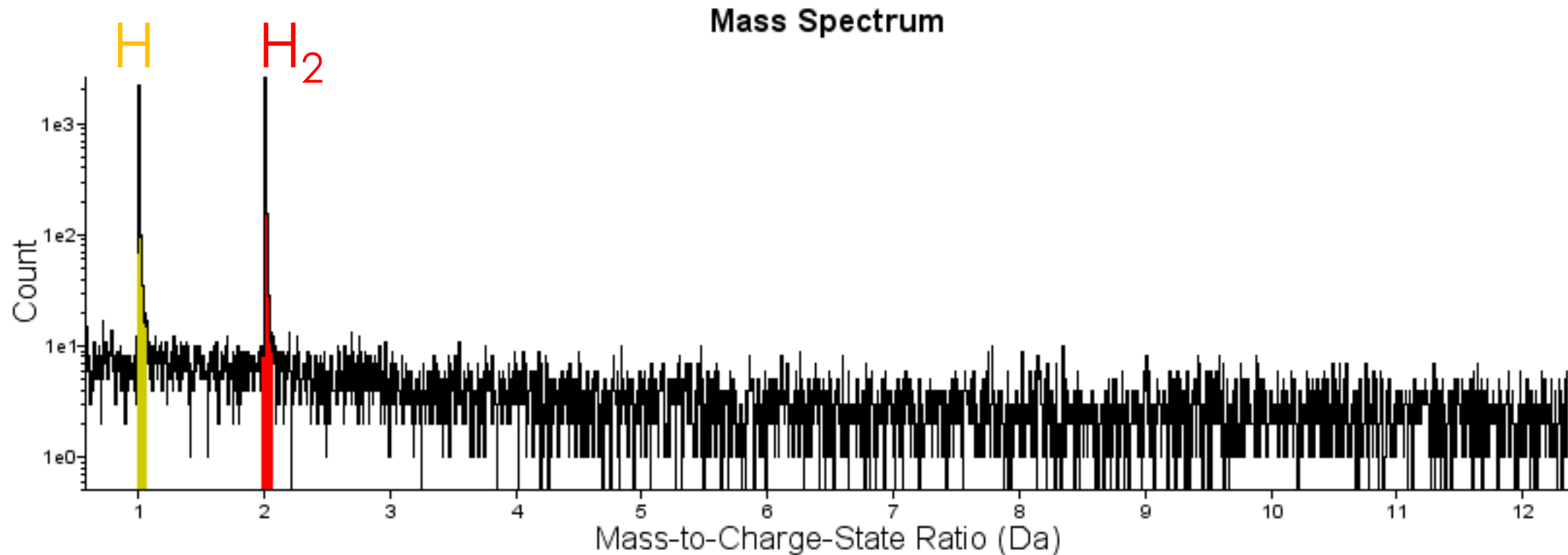


# Progress toward Hydrogen Mapping in APT

# Hydrogen in APT Mass Spectra

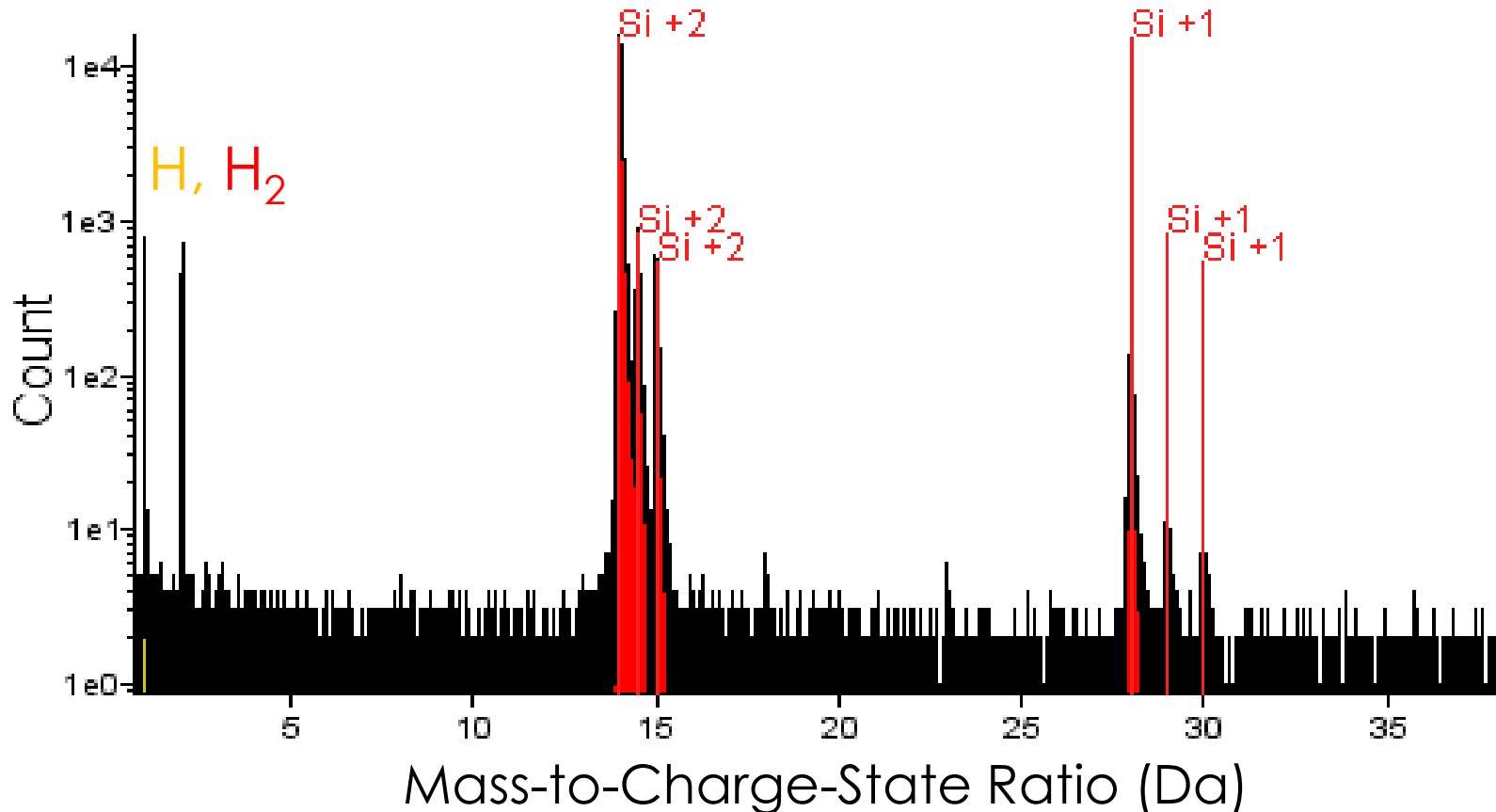
What is the material?

Almost all APT spectra contain hydrogen  
– it is a residual gas in the vacuum system.



# Hydrogen in APT Mass Spectra – Pure Si

Silicon wafers are VERY pure, they DON'T contain Hydrogen  
 Hydrogen comes from the vacuum system  
 This diminishes the quality of quantification for any true hydrogen



H ~ 0.5%

# The Hydrogen Challenge for APT

- Residual gas in a vacuum system is 90% H<sub>2</sub>
  - H<sub>2</sub> is a difficult gas to pump
  - H<sub>2</sub> outgasses from the steel chamber
  
- Hydrogen in the analysis chamber leads to:
  - H composition measurement: not quantitative
  - Formation of hydrides which leads to mass interferences
    - AlH<sup>+</sup>/Si<sup>+</sup> @28Da
    - SiH<sup>+</sup>/P<sup>+</sup> @31Da ....
    - Biological Samples: C<sub>n</sub>H<sub>m</sub><sup>x+</sup>

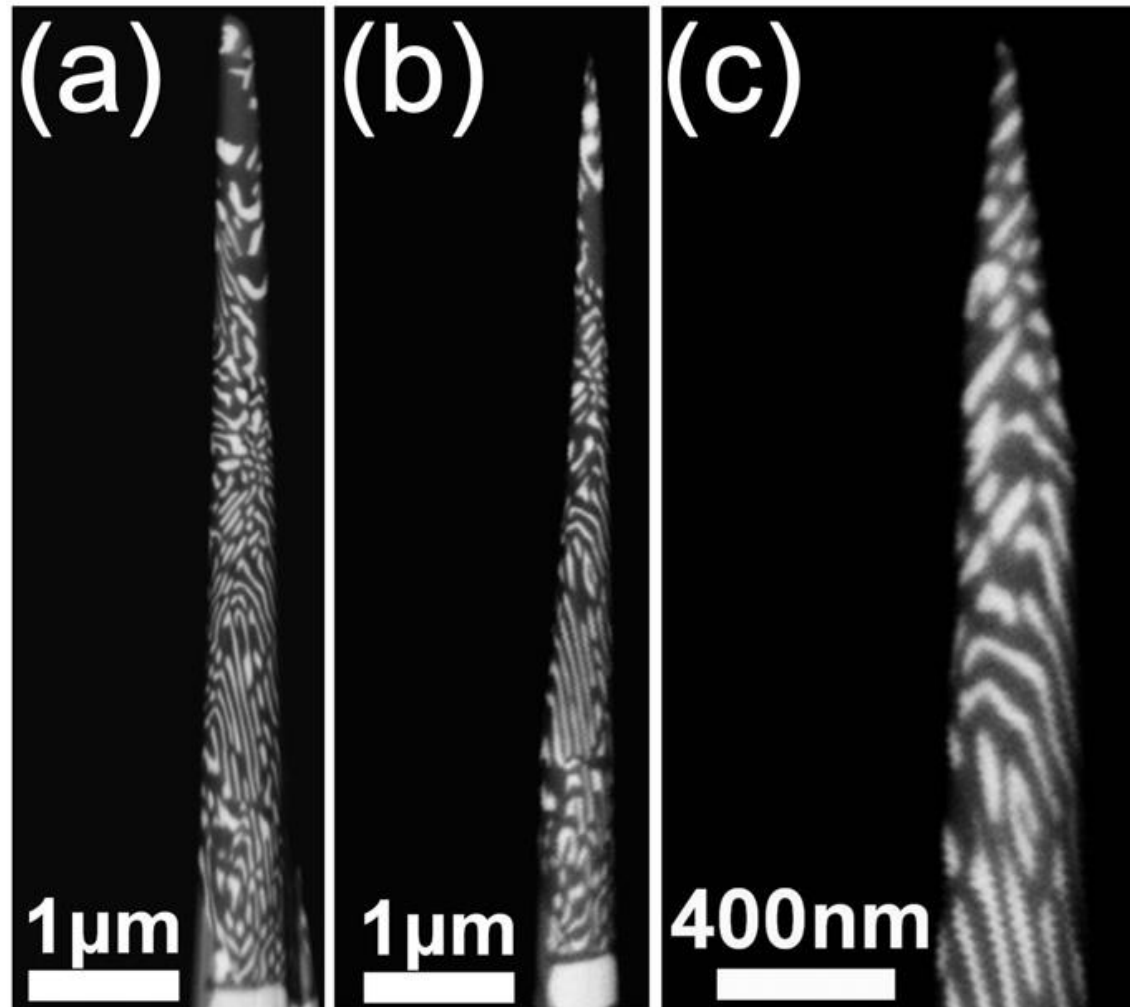




# Materials Applications

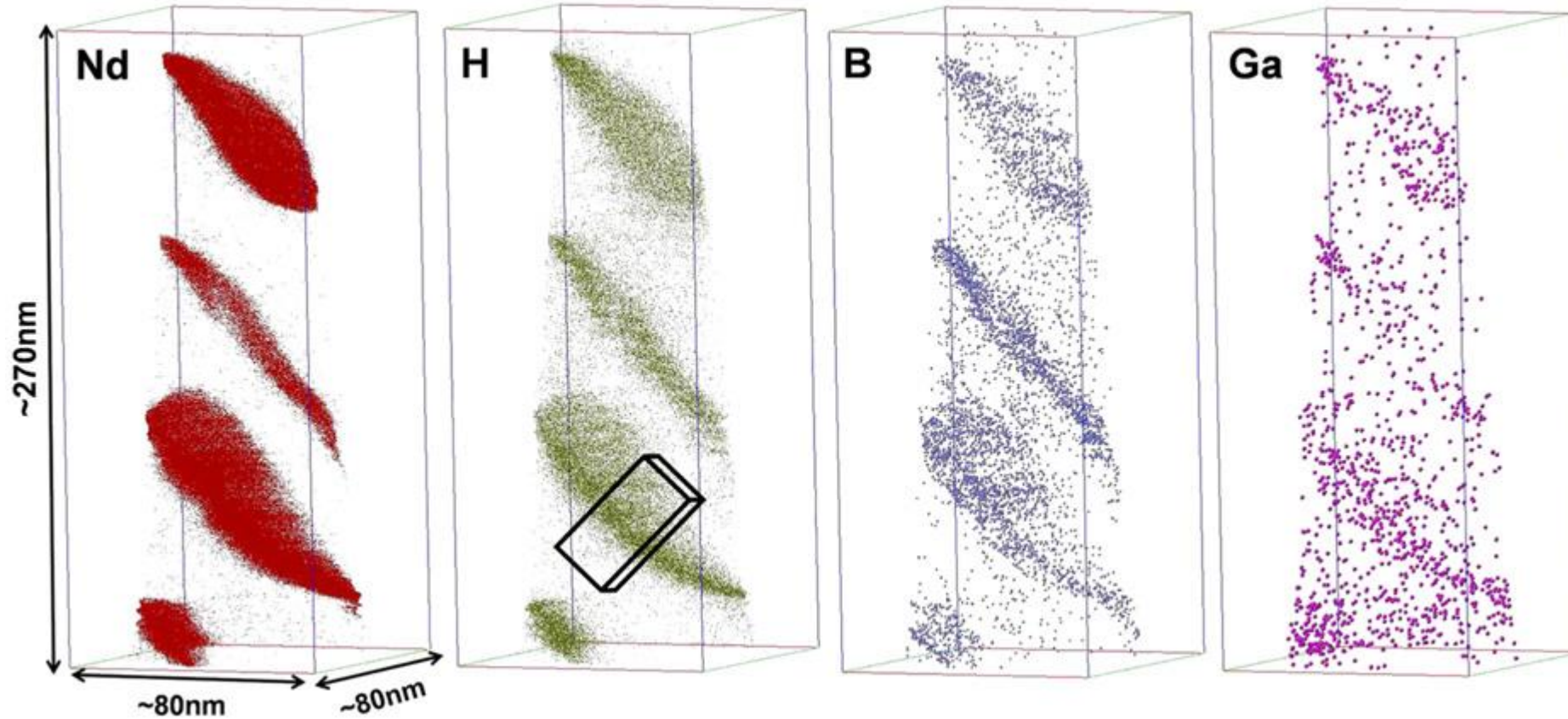
## Hydrogen Mapping

# Analysis of Hydrides in Hydrogen-Disproportionated Fe-Nd-B Powder



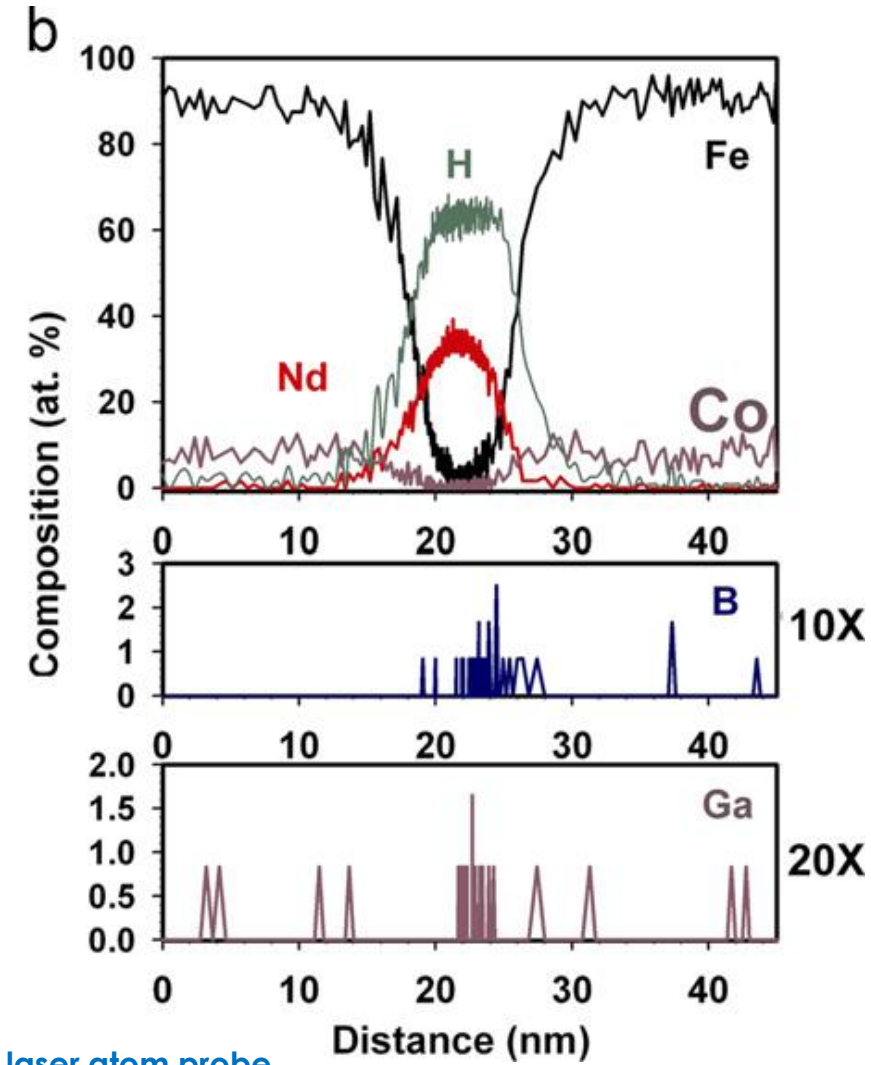
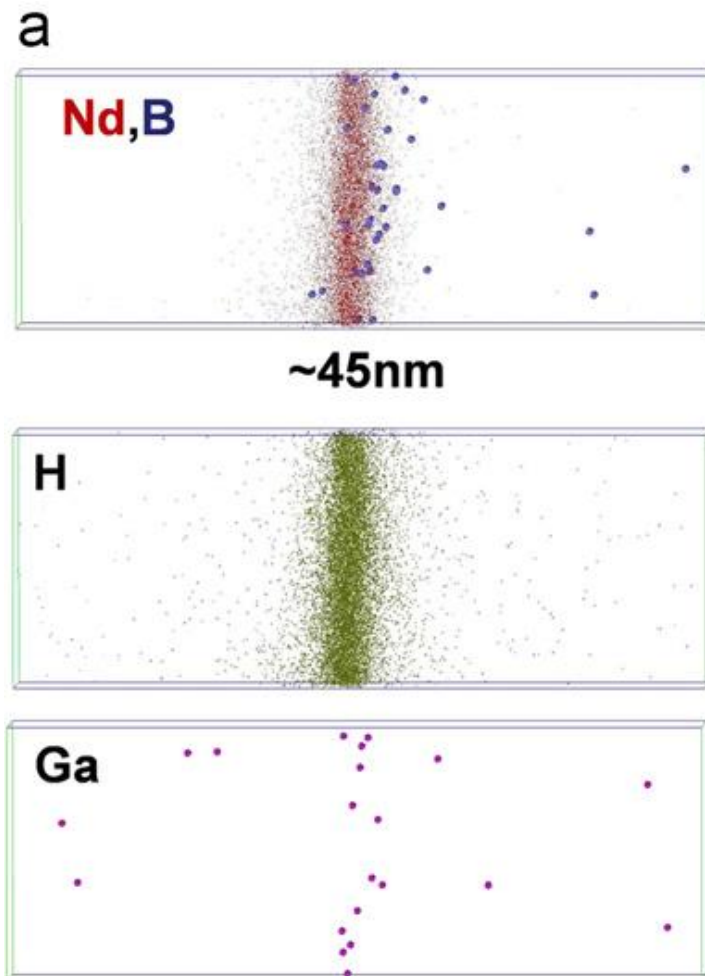
Sepehri-Amin H, Ohkubo T, Nishiuchi T, Hirose S, Hono K. 2011. Quantitative laser atom probe analyses of hydrogenation-disproportionated Nd-Fe-B powders. *Ultramicroscopy* 111:615-618.

# APT Atom Maps of Fe-Nd-B Powder



Sepehri-Amin H, Ohkubo T, Nishiuchi T, Hirosawa S, Hono K. 2011. Quantitative laser atom probe analyses of hydrogenation-disproportionated Nd-Fe-B powders. *Ultramicroscopy* 111:615-618.

# Composition Profile through NdH<sub>2</sub> Precipitate



Sepehri-Amin H, Ohkubo T, Nishiuchi T, Hirosawa S, Hono K. 2011. Quantitative laser atom probe analyses of hydrogenation-disproportionated Nd-Fe-B powders. *Ultramicroscopy* 111:615-618.



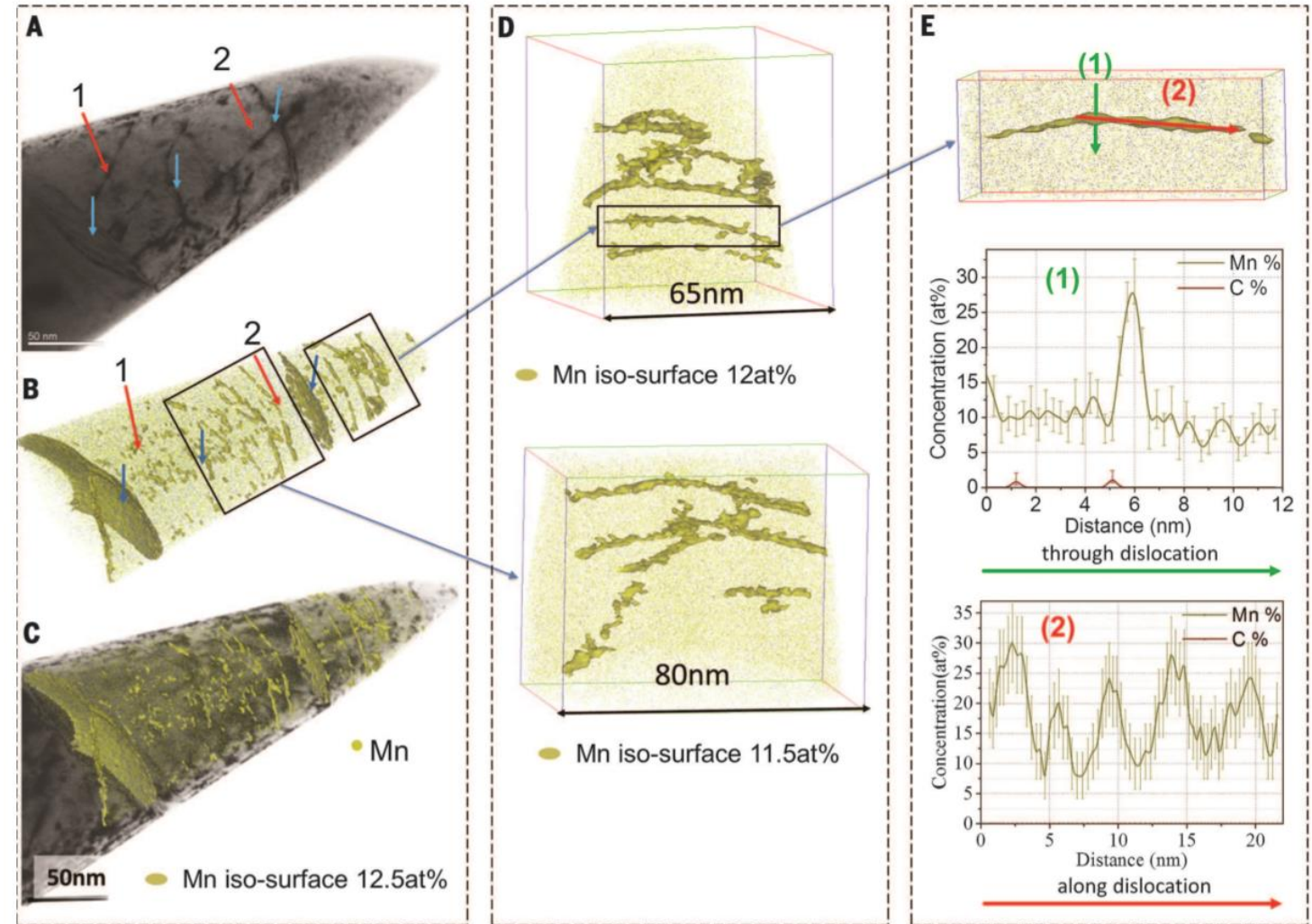
# Cooperative APT and (S)TEM

## Linear complexions: Confined chemical and structural states at dislocations

M. Kuzmina, M. Herbig, D. Ponge, S. Sandlöbes, D. Raabe\*

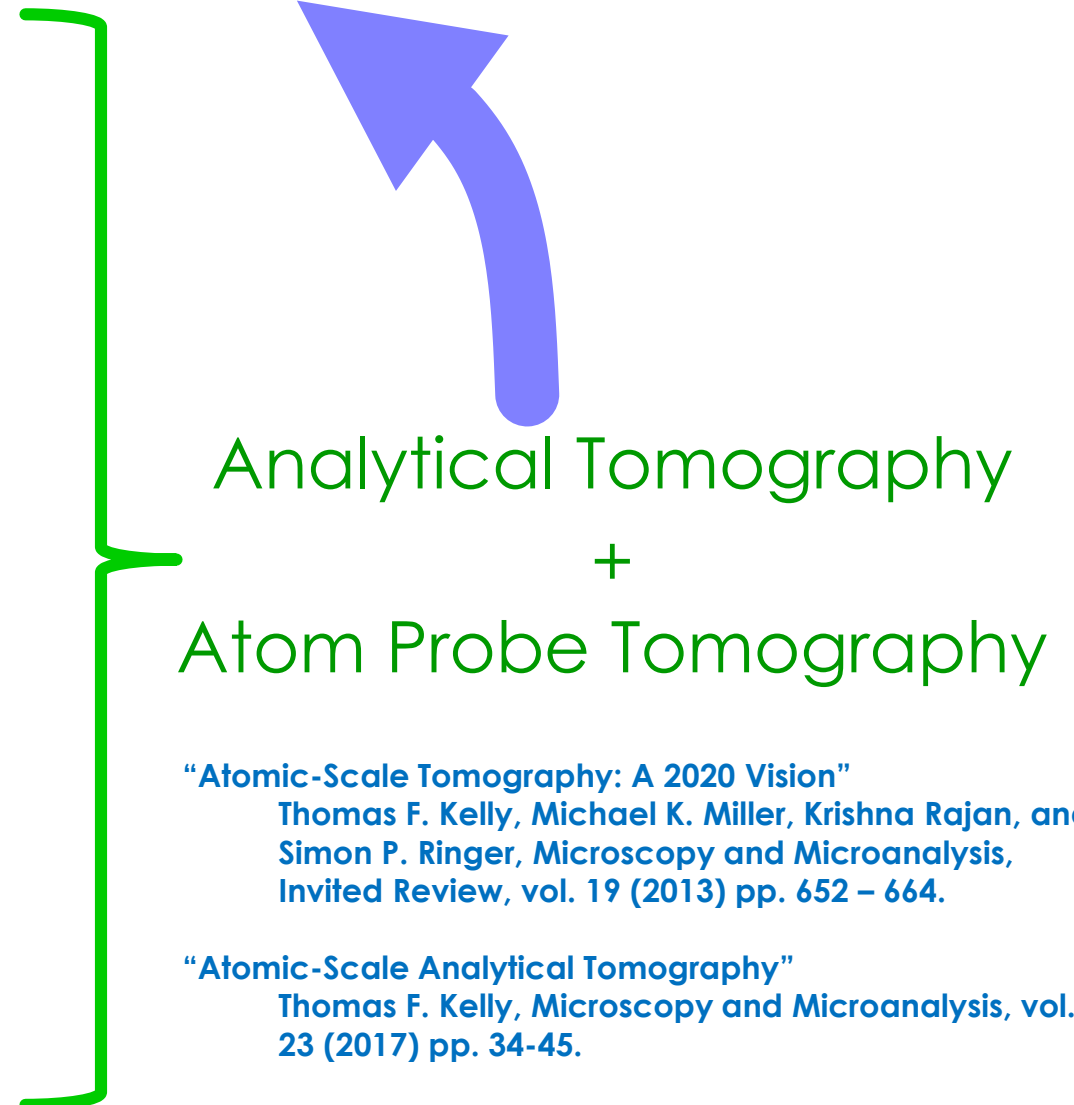
sciencemag.org **SCIENCE**

**1080** 4 SEPTEMBER 2015 • VOL 349 ISSUE 6252

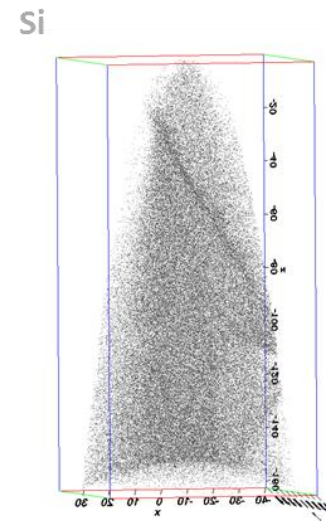
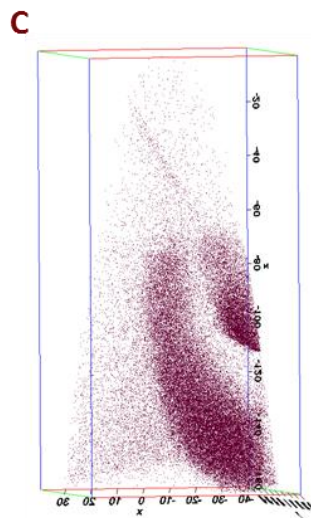
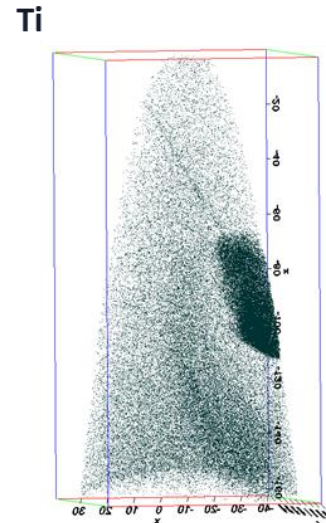
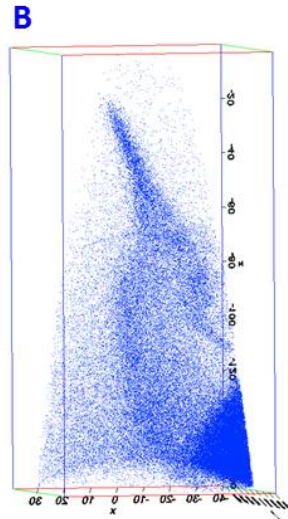
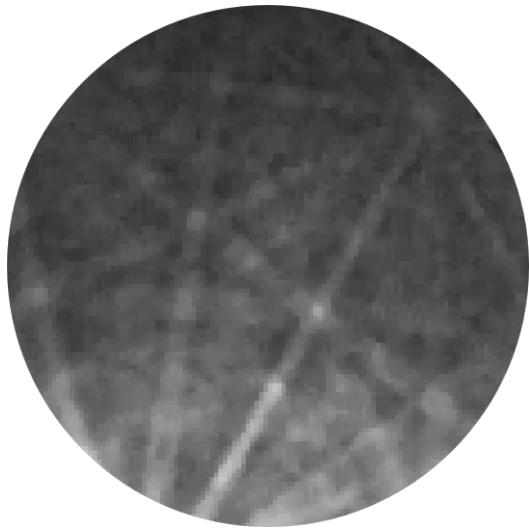
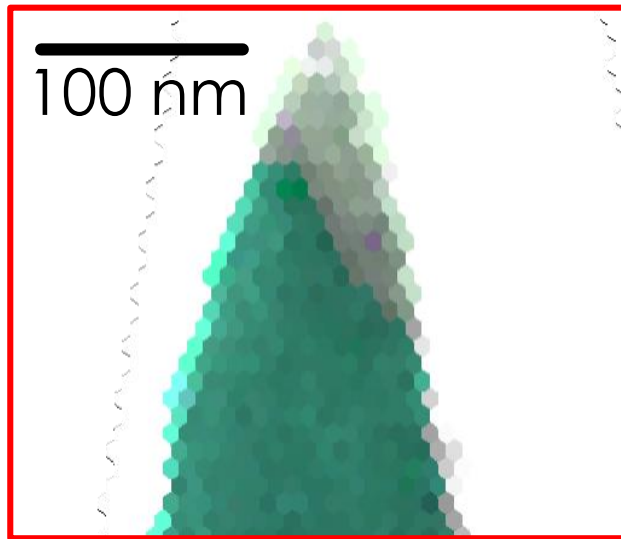


# Atomic-Scale Analytical Tomography

- (S)TEM tomography
    - Full (S)TEM imaging modes
    - Needle-shaped specimens
    - No missing wedge
  - EDS adds compositional information
  - EELS adds chemical sensitivity
  - Diffraction adds atomic structure
- +
- Atom probe tomography provides 3D atom positions
    - Single atom analytical sensitivity
    - 0.2 nm spatial resolution in 3D
    - Cryo specimen stage (20K)



# Illustration of Correlative Imaging Potential

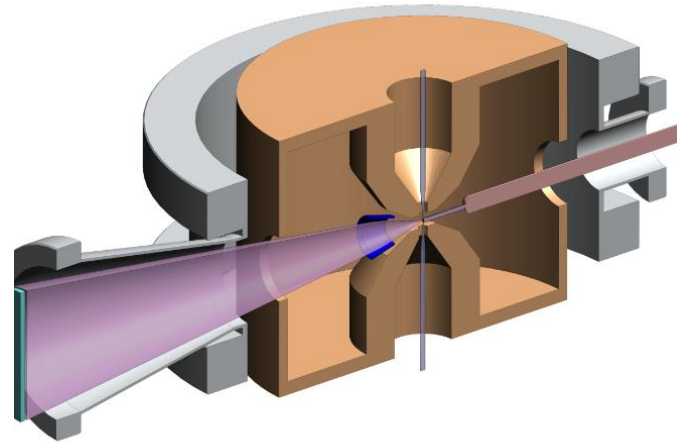


- Ni-base Superalloy
- TKD mapping of atom probe specimen
  - Grain Boundary character
- EELS spectra from grain boundary?
  - What effect does B have on grain boundary chemistry?



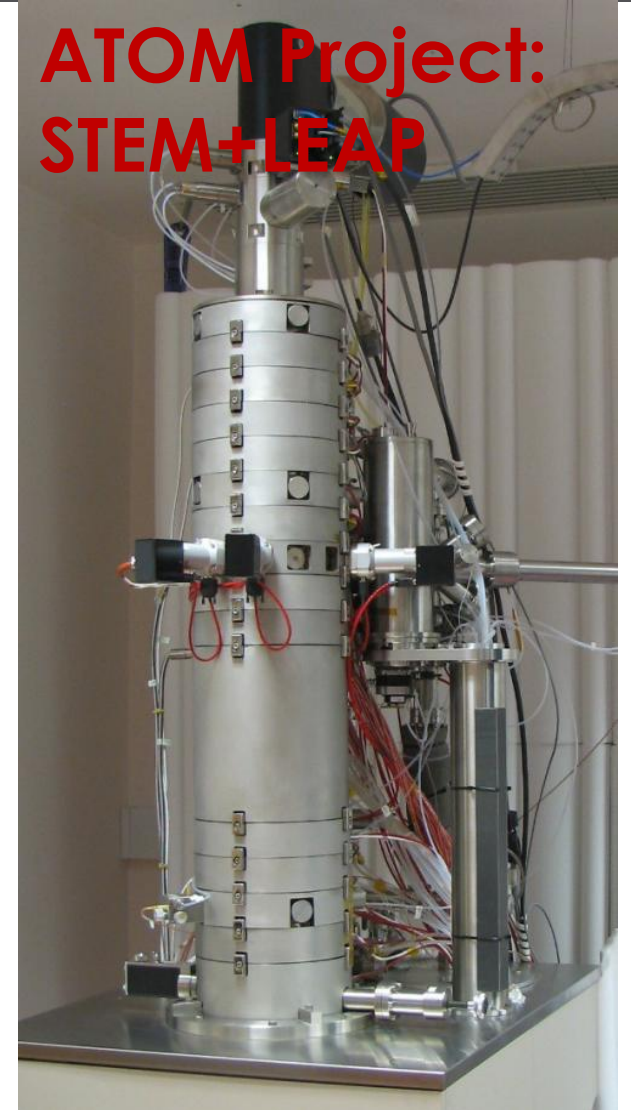


## Project Tomo: TEM+LEAP



Build objective lens assembly with  
atom probe inside

## ATOM Project: STEM+LEAP

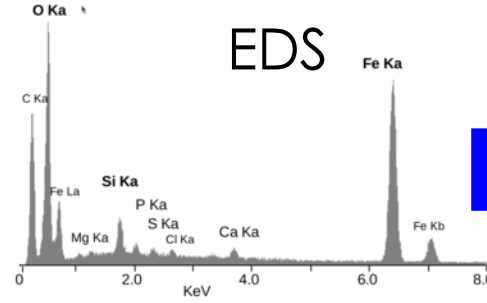
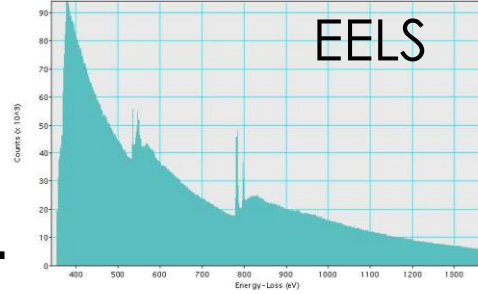
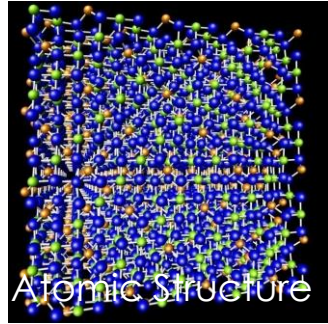


### Collaborators

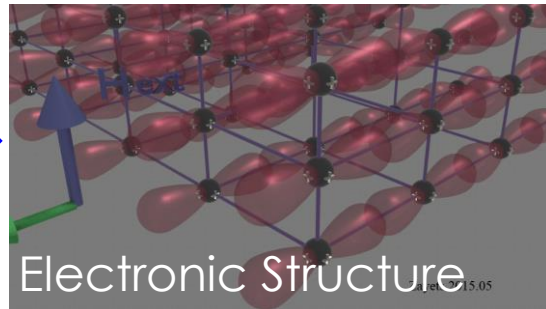
ATOM Project: Michael Miller, Krishna Rajan, Simon Ringer, Brian Gorman, Ondrej Krivanek and Niklas Dellby

Project Tomo: Rafal Dunin-Borkowski, Joachim Mayer, Dierk Raabe, Max Haider

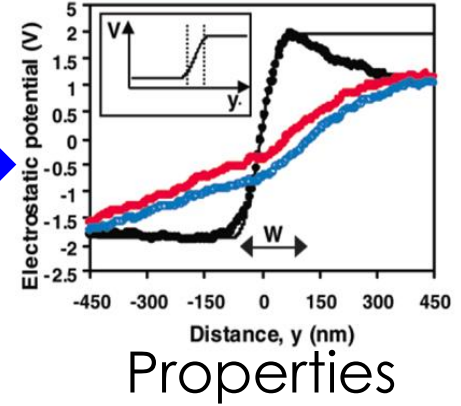
# ASAT



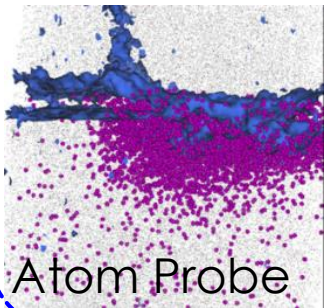
CMSE



# Structure-Properties Microscopy



# AST



## AST Objectives:

- 100% of atoms detected
- High precision for atom positions
  - Use TEM to correct trajectory aberrations of atom probe



