Atomic Scale Defects: Probing Structure and Function

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Atomic Scale Crystal Defects



Hardie et al., JNM (2014)

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Measuring Defect Strain Fields



Edge dislocation in silicon, looking down [1-10] direction.

Hytch et al., Nature 423 (2003)

X-ray Imaging of Dislocations



Silicon single crystal. 1st X-ray images of dislocations. Newkirk, Phys. Rev. (1958)

- 3D imaging of dislocations in the bulk
- Dislocation positions
- Low dislocation densities







Ludwig et al. J. Appl. Crystallography (2001)

Probing Strains due to an Individual Dislocation



- GaAs-InGaAs multilayer. Misfit dislocations at GaAs-InGaAs interface.
- Easy to see dislocations in TEM.
- Can clearly identify both dislocations in TEM and Laue image

Hofmann et al. Nat. Commun. (2013)

Probing Strains due to an Individual Dislocation

Calculations



Measurements vs. Predictions



- Anisotropic elasticity modelling.
- "Virtual" diffraction experiment to predict strain and rotation profiles
- Good agreement between prediction and measurement

Hofmann et al. Nat. Commun. (2013)

Outline

Introduction

• Point Defects

Irradiation-Induced Defects, Lattice Swelling, Modulus Change, Thermal Transport, DFT, MD, Defect Evolution, Interaction with Dislocations

• Ion-Machining Damage

Coherent X-ray Diffraction Imaging, Nano-scale Lattice Strains and Crystal Defects

Conclusions

Tungsten for Plasma-Facing Fusion Armour



- High fusion neutron flux¹ (up to ~10¹⁵ n cm⁻² s⁻¹ per lethargy interval at 14.1 MeV)
 -> collision cascade damage and transmutation alloying
- High operating temperatures (up to ~1500K)
- Intense flux of helium and hydrogen ions and neutrals (up to ~15 MW m⁻¹)
 -> high heat loading and implantation-modified structure and properties
 -> Gas-Defect interaction

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The "Helium Effect" -> Nano-Indentation



- Ion-implantation of annealed UHP tungsten at 300°C:
 - 3000 appm Helium implantation, multiple energies max. 2 MeV
 - 2 MeV W⁺ at 300°C
 - sequential implantation
 W⁺ then He⁺
- Small change in hardness due to self ion damage
- Large apparent change in hardness due to helium implantation

Helium-Implanted Tungsten: TEM



Armstrong et al., APL 102 (2013)

- Pure W + 3000 appm He, 1μm under-focus
- No bubbles or other defects visible
- Storage in vacancies -> Positron annihilation can probe vacancies and vacancy complexes [Debelle JNM 362 (2007) 181-188; Lhuillier JNM 416 2011 13-17].

Quantifying defect numbers is challenging. Lack of spatial resolution.

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Samples and Ion-Implantation

Samples

- W and W + Re alloys, plasma arc melted from elemental powders or fully recrystallized rolled material
- No significant texture
- Large 100 to 1000 µm grainsize

Implantation @ NIBC, Surrey

- ~3110 appm He at 300°C
- Fluence 5.26x10¹⁶ ions/cm²
- Multiple energies 0.05-1.8 MeV
- 0.25 dpa displacement damage
- Recoils are predominantly low energy
 - Frenkel pair generation dominant damage mechanism



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Defect-Induced Lattice Swelling



- Differential Aperture X-ray Microscopy (DAXM) \rightarrow ~1 µm 3D strain resolution
- In-plane strains ($\varepsilon_{xx} \& \varepsilon_{yy}$) ~ 0 -> No bubbles upon implantation

ε_{zz} large in implanted layer -> Lattice swelling $\varepsilon_{v} = \frac{3(1-v)}{(1+v)} \varepsilon_{zz} = (2620 \pm 200) \times 10^{-6}$

How can this lattice swelling be related to internal defects?

Hofmann et al. Acta Mater. 89 (2015)

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DFT Calculations of Relaxation Volume

- Lattice swelling due to implantation-induced defects: $\mathcal{E}_v = \sum n_A \Omega_r^{(A)}$
- Introduce defects within a 4 x 4 x 4 tungsten bcc supercell -> 128 atoms
 Vacancies (V_n), self interstitial atom (SIA), interstitial helium clusters (He_n), helium vacancy clusters (He_nV)
- Boundaries are free to expand -> calculate defect relaxation volumes:

 $\Omega_r(defect) = \Omega(defect) - \Omega(perfect)$

111 SIA



Hofmann et al. Acta Mater. 89 (2015)



Calculation details:

Perdew-Burke-Ernzerhof electron exchange-correlation functional within generalized gradient approximation. Projector augmented wave (PAW) pseudopotentials implemented in the Vienna Ab-initio Simulation Package (VASP). 400 eV plane wave cutoff energy and 4 x 4 x 4 k-point mesh with 0.15 Å⁻¹ spacing. Periodic boundary conditions with expansion in all directions allowed.

DFT Calculations of Relaxation Volume

Relaxation volumes	for vacancies and	self-interstitial
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V	V ₂ (1NN)	V ₂ (2NN)	$V_2(3NN)$	$V_3(1NN(2)+$	<111> SIA	Frenkel
				2NN)		
-0.37	-0.72	-0.79	-0.76	-1.08	1.68	1.31
-0.34 [1]	-0.65 [1]	-0.74 [1]	-0.69 [1]			
-0.38 [2]						

Relaxation volumes for interstitial helium clusters

He (tetra)	He (octa)	He ₂ (tetra)	He_3 (tetra)	He ₄ (tetra)	He₅ (tetra)
0.36	0.37	0.80	1.16	1.65	2.03

Relaxation volumes for helium - vacancy clusters

HeV (tetra)	HeV	He ₂ V	He₃V	He ₄ V	He₅V	He ₆ V
	(octa)	(tetra)	(tetra)	(tetra)	(tetra)	(tetra)
-0.24	-0.23	-0.06	0.14	0.38	0.71	1.09

[1] Kato D, Iwakiri H, Morishita K. Journal of Nuclear Materials 2011;417:1115.

[2] Heinola K, Ahlgren T, Nordlund K, Keinonen J. Physical Review B 2010;82:094102.

[3] Zhou HB, Jin S, Shu XL, Zhang Y, Lu GH, Liu F. EPL (Europhysics Letters) 2011;96:66001.

Vacancy relaxation volume: small and negative

SIA relaxation volume: large and positive

> Helium-filled vacancy relaxation volume: negative for small n, positive for large n

Swelling Analysis

- Energetically storage of helium in vacancy clusters is always favourable

 > assume all helium is stored in the form of He_nV complexes, preventing
 recombination of Frenkel pairs.
- Swelling modes:
 - Shottky -> accumulation of vacancies in bulk, migration of SIAs to the surface -> would cause some swelling, but little lattice strain
 - Frenkel -> accumulations of helium-filled Frenkel pairs in the bulk -> would cause much more lattice strain -> likely to be the active mechanism here.
- Consider He storage in 3110 appm HeV complexes with 3110 appm SIAs:
 - ϵ_{77} (HeV + SIA) = 2654 x 10⁻⁶
 - > Predict almost twice experimental ε_{zz} strain (1550 x 10⁻⁶)
- Consider clustering¹, i.e. 1555 appm He₂V complexes & 1555 appm SIAs: ϵ_{zz} (He₂V + SIA) = 1493 x 10⁻⁶

> Good agreement with experimental ε_{zz} strain!

Why are SIAs retained?

- SIAs delocalise to form <111> crowdions that are highly mobile (0.05 eV migration energy)¹
- He-filled vacancies may act as traps for SIAs as shown by recent MD calculations^{2, 3}



1000 K, atoms participating in vacancy (blue), SIA (yellow), surface adatoms (green)²



Helium in blue, W atoms coloured by energy. SIA marked by red circle, vacancy by red arrow³

¹ Nguyen-Manh et al., Phys. Rev. B 73 (2006) 020101.

- ² Sandoval et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 114 (2015) 105502.
- ³ J. Boisse et al., J. Mater. Res. 29, 20 (2014).

The Effect of Defect Clustering

Large scale atomistic calculations of SIA clusters

- 32 x 32 x 32 atom simulation cell
- Marinica potential for tungsten¹
- Randomly insert SIAs then relax
- Lateral expansion is constrained

Vacancies

 Immobile at 300°C implantation temperature²

<u>SIAs</u>

- <111> crowdions highly mobile at RT³
- TEM: clusters < ~60 SIAs
- Relaxation volume scales linearly with number of SIAs in cluster

Clustering not expected to affect our analysis





¹Marinica et al., J. Phys. Cond. Matter 25 (2013) ² Rasch et al. Philos. Mag. A 41 (1980) ³ Nguyen-Manh et al., Phys. Rev. B 73 (2006)

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Elastic Property Changes



- Rayleigh wave velocities:
 - Unimplanted: 2680 ± 2 ms⁻¹
 - He-implanted: $2621 \pm 7 \text{ ms}^{-1}$
 - \blacktriangleright Decrease of c_r by 2.2 %

 $\approx c$ $c^* = (0.874 + 0.196v - 0.043v^2 - 0.055v^3)$

Hofmann et al. Acta Mater. 89 (2015)

Elastic Property Changes

• Implanted material elastic constants (using Voigt approach)

$C_{ij}^{iinplanted} = (1 - 128(n_{SIA} + n_{He_2V}))C_{ij}^{W} + 128n_{SIA}C_{ij}^{SIA} + 128n_{He_2V}C_{ij}^{He_2V}$											
		C ₁₁ (G	Pa) C_{12} (GPa)	C ₄₄ (G	Pa)	А	K (GPa)	G (GPa)	E (GPa)	nu
Pure W		522.8	203.5	5	160.7		1.01	309.9	160.3	410.1	0.279
W + 1555 1555 app	appm He ₂ V + m SIAs	514.4	208.7	7	155.5		1.02	310.6	154.5	397.5	0.287
• Close to isotropic Modulus Poisson ratio • Calculate Rayleigh wave velocity from elastic constants $c_r \approx (0.874 + 0.196v - 0.043v^2 - 0.055v^3) \sqrt{\frac{E}{2(1+v)\rho}}$											
in m/s			calc	calculated		exp	eriments				
			Voigt	Re	euss						
	Perfect V	N	2667	26	567		2679				
	$W + He_2V +$	SIAs	2622	26	518		2621				
	Change		-1.7%	-1	.9%		-2.2%		_		
								Hofma	nn et al. Acta	a Mater. 89 (2015)

Elastic Property Changes

- <110> W single crystal, implanted with ~3000 appm He at 296 K
- SAW velocity measured as function of angle from <110> direction
- Fit experimental data with calculated SAW velocity for elastically anisotropic material¹

Measured increase in elastic anisotropy in very good agreement with prediction



Duncan et al. Applied Physics Letters 109 (15), 151906

¹Every et al., Ultrasonics (2016)

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Hofmann et al. Scientific Reports 16042 (2015)

- Transient grating background signal related to decay of thermal grating
- Can fit this to extract thermal diffusivity of ion-implanted layer:

$$I = A \operatorname{erfc}(q \sqrt{\alpha t}) \qquad \operatorname{grating decay} \\ + C \sin(2\pi f t + E) \exp\left(-\frac{t}{F}\right) \\ + G.$$

• Probed depth ~ λ/π

Can measure the thermal diffusivity of ion-implanted layer! (without modifying sample surface)

Thermal Transport Changes -> Re Effect



Hofmann et al. Scientific Reports 16042 (2015)

- Good agreement of pure W with literature data
- Reliable extraction of thermal transport parameters by TG
- Clearly see a saturation effect with increasing Re content

Degradation of thermal transport due to transmutation alloying will be important (in DEMO armour 3% of Re will appear within 5 years)²

> ¹Fujitsuka, M., Journal of Nuclear Materials 283–287 (2000) ²Gilbert et al., Nucl. Fusion 52 (2012)



- W + 0.03 at.% helium and W + 0.3 at% helium.
- 0.3 at.% helium reduces RT thermal diffusivity by 50%.

Helium implantation defects have a dramatic effect on thermal diffusivity

How can we predict these changes?

Hofmann et al. Scientific Reports 16042 (2015)



Atomic sites coloured by scattering rate

 Use Ackland-Thetford EAM potential for tungsten¹, generate defect structure, relax

- Correlate atomic energy in excess of thermal average with scattering rate²
 - Calibrated based on vacancy and selfinterstitial electrical resistivity
- Vacancies now appear as "cages" of 8 scattering atoms
- Self interstitials appear as a "string" of atoms with different scattering strength
- Compute electronic scattering rate by summing over all atomic sites

In principle conductivity for any kind of damage structure could be calculated...

¹Ackland, Thetford, Philos. Mag. A 56 (1987). ²Mason, D. R. Journal of Physics: Condensed Matter 27, (2015).

Hofmann et al. Scientific Reports 16042 (2015)

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- Predict lower thermal diffusivities for He-implanted samples:
 - 300 appm He -> 900 appm Frenkel defects
 - 3000 appm He -> 3000 appm Frenkel defects
- Decrease of Frenkel:He ratio with increasing dose consistent with OKMC calculations¹
- At low doses impurities dominate Frenkel defect retention
- At high doses helium dominates Frenkel defect retention

Hofmann et al. Scientific Reports 16042 (2015) ¹ Becquart, C. S. & Domain, C. Journal of Nuclear Materials 385, (2009).

Defect Migration at Higher Temperatures





- High purity W, 1673 K anneal, 3000 appm He @ 298K
- Heat treatments:
 - ➤ as implanted
 - 1273 K for 12 h
 - ➤ 1473 K for 12 h
- Measure deviatoric strain maps in vicinity of grain boundaries

de Broglie et al. Scripta Mater. 107 (2015)

Defect Migration at Higher Temperatures



Post-implantation heat treated, 1273 K for 12 hrs, e^{*}₇₇ strain:



de Broglie et al. Scripta Mater. 107 (2015)

• As-implanted

- High strain in implanted layer
- Uniform strain distribution perpendicular to boundary
- After heat treatment:
 - Reduction in out-of plane strain.
 - Inhomogeneous strains appear at grain boundaries

How can these strains be interpreted in terms of lattice swelling? -> Eigenstrain modelling

Defect Migration at Higher Temperatures



de Broglie et al. Scripta Mater. 107 (2015)

- Swelling confined to implanted layer in as-implanted samples
- Increased heterogeneity after heat treatment
- Reduction in swelling appears grain-orientation dependent
- Some grain boundaries show increased lattice swelling
- Some implantation-induced defects migrate beyond implanted layer!

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Helium-Damage Effect on Deformation



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- Ion-Machining Damage Coherent X-ray Diffraction Imaging, Nano-scale Lattice Strains and Crystal Defects
- Conclusions

FIB: A Transformational Tool for Nano-Science



M.J. Lopez-Martinez and E.M. Campo in Biomedical Gallium Engineering - From Theory to Applications (2011) the subs

Gallium ion implanted in the substrate



Oregon State University, EM facilities (2011) Warwick Nov 2017



Gibson, DPhil thesis, Oxford (2015)

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Ocola et al. J. Vac. Sci. Technol. B 31 (2013)

20 nm Au & 2 nm Ti thermally evaporated onto Si substrate Anneal 10 h at 1273 K in air

SEM Mag = 94.95 K X 1 µm Auriga-39-24

Scan Rot = Off WD = 5.1 mm

EHT = 20.00 kV Signal A = SE2 FIB Mode = Imaging Noise Reduction = Pixel Avg.

Width = 8.558 µm FIB Lock Mags = Yes FIB Probe = 30KV:50pA Tilt Corrn. = Off 54.0 ° Stage at T = 54.0 ° 19 Jun 2015 17:45:01 System Vacuum = 1.21e-006 mbar

Using FIB clear a 40 μ m diameter area around crystal. Then expose crystals to different FIB milling conditions

SEM Mag = 14.02 K X 2 µm Auriga-39-24 ⊣→

Scan Rot = OffEHT = 20.00 kVWD = 5.1 mmSignal A = SE2FIB Mode = ImagingNoise Reduction = Pixel Avg.

Width = 58.00 µm FIB Lock Mags = No FIB Probe = 30KV:1nA Tilt Corrn. = Off 54.0 * Stage at T = 54.0 * 19 Jun 2015 18:17:16 System Vacuum = 9.85e-007 mbar

Bragg Coherent Diffraction Imaging



Frauenhofer far field diffraction approximation

BCDI Imaging of Crystal Shape and Strain



Each reflection provides crystal morphology and a projection of the lattice displacement vector along the q vector of that reflection.

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Many Reflections from the Same Crystal...



Can reconstruct the full, 3D-resolved lattice strain tensor!

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Low Dose FIB Imaging

BCDI reconstructed morphology



Scanning electron micrograph



Typical low dose FIB image of gold crystals vs SEM



FIB imaging conditions:

- 30 keV Ga⁺
- 50 pA
- 4.2 x 10⁴ ions/ μm² (scan speed 1)

This causes (SRIM calculation):

- ~20 nm thick damaged layer
- max. ~0.025 dpa
- max. ~45 appm Ga
- Negligible Au removal by sputtering

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Low Dose FIB Imaging -> Experimental Strains





- Large negative strain near implanted surface -> Lattice contraction?
- How can this be modelled?

Low Dose FIB Imaging -> Modelling



Apply a volumetric Eigenstrain to the top, implanted layer.

Solve for strains inside the crystal using anisotropic elasticity.

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Low Dose FIB Imaging





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- Excellent agreement of FE model and experiment
- Spurious experimental strains on lower crystal surface
- FIB imaging causes volumetric lattice strain $\varepsilon_v = -3.15 \times 10^{-3}$ -> Lattice contraction

How can this be explained?

Crystal A: Lattice Contraction Analysis

• Lattice swelling:
$$\mathcal{E}_v = \sum_A n_A \Omega_r^{(A)}$$

- Relaxation volumes for Vacancies and SIAs in gold: Literature: $\Omega_r(V) = -0.27 \ \Omega_0^{-1}; \ \Omega_r(SIA) = 1.5 \ \Omega_0^{-2};$ Our DFT: $\Omega_r(V) = -0.38 \ \Omega_0; \ \Omega_r(SIA) = 2.0 \ \Omega_0;$
- Lattice contraction -> Vacancy dominated -> SIAs escape to surface and form adatoms
 Free surface plays central role in determining damage retained
- Lower bound vacancy concentration estimate:
 -> 7.5 x 10-3 at. fraction, i.e. ~200 V per Ga ion are retained
- SRIM upper bound estimate: ~400 Frenkel defects per Ga ion are generated (excluding replacement collision)

Even a single FIB image causes large lattice strains. Our new method allows quantitative analysis of these strains.

¹ Korzhavyi et al. PRB 59 (1999) ² Daw et al. Mater. Sci. Rep. 9 (1993)

Higher Fluence FIB Milling

BCDI reconstructed morphology



Scanning electron micrograph



SRIM-predicted damage and Ga concentration



FIB milling conditions:

- 30 keV Ga⁺
- 50 pA
- 1.5 x 10⁸ ions/ μm²

This causes (SRIM calculation):

- ~20 nm thick damaged layer
- max. ~24 dpa
- max. ~0.054 at. fr. Ga
- ~40 nm Au removed by sputtering

Higher Fluence FIB Milling





- Non-uniform ε_{yy} strain in implanted layer.
- Large positive and negative strains also in <u>all</u> other strain components.

Very different from crystal A

Higher Fluence FIB Milling -> Larger Defects



- Phase jump in Burgers circuit: $\Delta \psi_{hkl} = b.q_{hkl}$
- Defects are stair-rod dislocations with b = a/3<110>
 - -> Formed by interaction of 2 Shockley partials e.g. a/6[21-1]+a/6[-21-1] -> a/3[01-1]
 - -> Sessile hence retained?

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Higher Fluence FIB Milling -> Dislocation Structure



Crystal D: Lattice Strains



Conclusions

- Combining multi-technique characterisation can shed light on the complex changes in mechanical and physical material properties crystal lattice defects cause.
- Using multi-scale calculations we can start to form a joined up understanding of these changes.
- Using Coherent X-ray diffraction allows non-destructive 3D nanoscale probing of lattice strains & defects in complex objects.
- FIB-milling provides a fantastic tool for nano-scale machining, but every use introduces damage that must be accounted for.

Converging time and length-scales accessible to experiments and modelling make for a very exciting future!

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