Introduction to Molecular Dynamics (MD) Simulations Part IIb: Advanced Applications

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Given all the approximations and limitations involved ...

Can we hope for quantitative agreement between classical MD and experiments when electronic effects are important?

## OR ...



Is classical MD just pretty movies and pictures?

## Materials for future fusion reactors: need to understand nanostructures

P. Piaggi (I. Sabato), R. Pasianot (CAC), R. Arrabal, N. Gordillo (UPM, Spain)



Need to find new materials for harsh environment



WD = 10 m

Nano-W displays better mechanical properties and radiation resistance than coarse-grained W.

energy!

Any phase transitions near GBs? WCH precipitates?







# Nanoindentation: mechanical properties and nanoscale surface modification

#### collisions against surface at 3-30 m/s





С

# Ta: simulations (UNCuyo) and experiments (UCSD)

Better than approximate hardness from elastic constants SiMAF



### **Coulomb explosion leads to heating of the lattice as in TS**





Is there a thermal spike (TS)? YES! Analyzing MD data, there is a clearly defined energetic track with:

1)  $(dE/dx)_{eff} = A (dJ/dx)^2$ 

2)  $r_{cyl}$ = Constant

**Y**<sub>MD-CE</sub>=**Y**<sub>MD-TS</sub>



Bringa and Johnson, PRL 88, 165501 (2002)

## Two Temperature model (TTM) + MD

Electron-atom energy transfer is based on a local, inhomogeneous Langevin thermostat.

D.M. Duffy and A.M. Rutherford, J. Phys. Cond. Matter, 19 (2007)



Several versions of TTM-MD (i.e. Tamm et al., PRL 120, 185501 (2018)).

## Tracks in oxides (mostly silica) Silica: A → A phase transition

Energy production: Fusion reactor lenses

Electro-optical devices: irradiation modifies optical properties (A. Prada-Valverde *et al.,* Scientific Rep (2017))

Nanoparticles (Au-Ag): Tuning of optical properties (O Pena *et al*.)

> Collaboration with UP Madrid Maherit, 100-1000 cores



#### Swift Heavy Ion irradiation: NP shape control

### Phase transitions in nanoparticles? (e-ph coupling)



E.A. Dawl et al. , J. Appl. Phys. 105 (2009) 074305

> A.A.Leino et al. Materials Research Letters (2013)



18 15 12 0 8 8 9 6 3 0 400 500 600 700 800 900 300  $\lambda$  (nm) Shape-induced peak shift

Ch Dufour et al. Journal of Physics D in Applied Physics 16 (2003) 434





# Final configuration after structural relaxation and single track NP melting is lower than bulk melting (as expected)

#### How to add energy? Test several options, with lower T for Ag

No elongation for single track, in agreement with experiments. ~4% elongation after 3 tracks (<u>A. Prada</u>, A. Rivera, O. Pena -UPM-)



Scientific Reports (2017) x 2

# Trazas ionicas en ta-C crean nano-alambres conductores $sp^3 \rightarrow sp^2$ phase transition



#### ta-C = tetrahedral amorphous C = diamond-like C = dlC



# Nanostructuring in dIC by ion irradiation: phase transition leads to hillocks





Schwen *et al.*, APL **101**, 113115 (2012): thermal spike can explain experiments +10 keV/nm to form hillocks. "Effective energy" dE/dx ~0.2 (dE/dx)<sub>exp</sub>

## Experiments: irradiation of graphene by 140 eV Ar ions



#### INDENTATION



Graphene stiffness DOUBLES at very low defect content (~0.2%). **Possible explanation**: phonon localization leads to roughness, which increases effective elastic modulus.



Lopez-Polin et al, Nature Phys. 11, 26 (2015)



Irradiation produces mostly single vacancies, in agreeent with experiments

# Simulated nanoindentation: is the elastic modulus increasing with dose at low dose?





No clear evidence for modulus increase...

Are there any simulation details which make comparison with the experiment impossible? Test sistem size, indentation rate, temperature, etc.

Newly published simulations using quasistatic indentation and small samples do observe modulus increase



Alternative explanation for modulus increase!

## Nanocrystalline diamond coatings

- Biocompatible
- Excellent tribological properties
- Also used in sensors, water treatment, etc.

What are we doing? Study mechanical properties as function of grain size (R. Perriot, LANL, USA)

- Study chemical and mechanical modifications by irradiation (M. Kiwi, R. Gonzalez, F. Valencia, U. Chile).
- Compare with experiments (A. Rivera, R. Gonzalez-Arrabal, UP Madrid).



Diamond for head of heart pump http://www.thindiamond.com/

**Published 1995:** Matter compilers (3D printers), smart paper, carbon-based materials, etc.





Valencia *et al*, Carbon (2015)

## Nanocrystalline diamond has several technological applications GBs in nc diamond change transport properties tremendously



[hermal conductivity [W/mK]

Pressure wave: elastic anisotropy and scattering by GBs, Bringa *et al.*, JOM (2005).



Kapitza resistance for grain size d:~a/(b+ c d) a,b,c constants

MD (2 grains,  $\Sigma$  GB), Watanabe *et al*. JAP (2007)

O.A. Williams, Diamond & Related Materials 20 (2011) 621



#### **Confinement effects in irradiation in nc diamond** Defects survive because of nanoscale grains



### Confinement effects in irradiation in nc diamond Deffect production due to nanoscale grains



In most materials, GBs are assumed to reduce radiation effects, but for nc diamond and SHI, GBs enhance radiation effects!

Damage threshold: Single crystal ~ 50 keV/nm Nc (10 nm) ~ 15 keV/nm

No experiments yet :(



#### Time evolution of the thermal spike at nc diamond surface

Valencia et al., Carbon (2017)

Sputtering quadratic with Se. Surface defects  $\rightarrow$  Hillok  $\rightarrow$  Crater



Irradiation changes mechanical properties (in progress)

5nm grains 15keV/nm

## **Complex initial defect structure:** "Reaction-diffusion equation" to obtain initial foam

**D. Schwen**, A. Caro (LANL), D. Farkas (Va Tech)

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spinodal decomposition





Plasma exposed W-C surface Takamura et al., Plasma and **Fusion Research 1, 51 (2006)** 

Uses Cahn-Hilliard Equation, to generate 3D foam. OpenCL code by Schwen needs modifications for future research

Bringa et al, NanoLetters (2012)





## "Model" Nano-foams



1e6 atoms x 1 ns ~12 hours in 10 cores



Farkas et al. *Acta Materialia* **2013** Bringa et al. *Nano letters* **2012** 

## **Realistic Nanofoams**

## ~1500 hours in 100 cores, ~50 TB

## Polycrystal nanofoam with defects



Caro et al. *Appl. Phys. Lett.* **2014** Zepeda-Ruiz et al. *Appl. Phys. Lett.* **2013** Fu et al. *Appl. Phys. Lett.* **2012** 



Interesting science with possible technological applications. Where is the cross-over with models for macrofoams?

## Loading of high porosity ncAu foams (2-15 nm filaments) C. Ruestes *et al*, Comp. Mat. Sci. (2018)



70% porosity foam Elastic and plastic behavior



Caro et al. Appl. Phys. Lett. 2014





**Loading:** "realistic" foam includes full dislocations in addition to SFs and twins. New porosity evolution model.

**Recovery:** survival of SF intersections. Huge residual strain. Analysis in progress.

## Deformation of NW with radiation-induced defects, including SFT

Uniaxial tension along [001], another case



Nucleation of SFs at SFT surface leads to "small" relaxation and limited twin formation. Shear localization clearly observed. Unlike what happens under compression [Zepeda-Ruiz et al., APL (2013)], SFT disappears! Dozens of papers showing SFT+dislocations: Wirth, Bacon, Osetsky, Martinez,  $etc \rightarrow SFT$  removal

Figueroa *et al*, JNM **467**, 677 (2015)

## **Gold Nanowire Irradiation** Joás Grossi

Thermal spike to mimic an ion through a nanowire (20nm length, and 10nm diameter)

The track (5nm diameter) was set to 10000, 20000 and 30000K

Different mechanisms of defects formation were observed depending on track temperature.

# Irradiation - Results

## Joás Grossi



# **Irradiation - Results**

## Joás Grossi



### Deformation of NW with radiation-induced defects (electronic)

Uniaxial tension along [001], Au nanowire, 3nm diameter



Low electronic stopping power leads to initial stacking fault. Under tension, there is necking but no failure up to 20% strain.

Araguna, Ruestes, and Bringa, in preparation



Load a lot of Sfs and twins due the plasticity.

## TTM improvements for thin wires Joás Grossi, E. Atacho

Ce(Te) is not linear for Te > 3000K

Ge(Te) is not a constant for Te > 3000K and can increase by an order of magnitude close to 10000K

•Ke depends on the diameter of the wire and Te and can decrease by an order of magnitude (compared to bulk) for Au at 300K

## **Irradiation and loading of high porosity ncAu foams** (2 nm filaments) C. Anders (TUK) and C Ruestes, UNCuyo



Loading: "realistic" foam includes full dislocations in addition to SFs and twins. New porosity evolution model. Irradiation: 10 keV self-bombardment

#### **Motivation:**

experimental work by Caro et al., *Appl. Phys. Lett.* (2014) reports foam hardenning under irradiation.

## **Irradiation and loading of high porosity ncAu foams** (2 nm filaments) C. Anders (TUK) and C Ruestes, UNCuyo



Both filament network topology and defect content (SFs and twins) are changed by irradiation.



What happens? Caro et al. [*Appl. Phys. Lett.* (2014)] present higher modulus, but only for 1dpa or larger.

## **Gold Nanofoam (laser ablation)** Joás Grossi



Au foam of average porosity 79% and average filament diameter of 2.5nm

- •Ge=0.1, 1 and 10
- Ke=0.1 and 1 for Ge=1

Numbers for Ge and Ke are scaling factors respect to bulk Au values for these parameters.

# **Gold Nanofoam - Results**

#### Joás Grossi



Magnitude of electron-phonon coupling is decisive for the time scale with which energy is transferred to the atomic system, and hence the speed of melting and evaporation processes.

# **Gold Nanofoam - Results**

### Joás Grossi



Thermal conductivity determines the homogeneity of the energy profile in the specimen. While a low heat diffusivity may localize the irradiated energy near the front surface and increase ablation there, a high value may transport energy quickly to the back side and enhance the processes there.

# **Gold Nanofoam - Results**

### Joás Grossi



The final porosity is nearly independent of the value of electronphonon coupling; it depends, however, on the thermal conductivity in that low heat conductivities lead to smaller changes of the porosity.

# Wish list

- Need more experiments on ice, silica, carbon, metals, oxides, etc., including porous materials and nanostructured materials): sputtering; compaction; defect production and evolution, chemistry, mechanical properties, etc.
  Use similarities in SHI/HCI/laser excitations.
- What is the long time evolution of defects/chemistry? Use accelerated dynamics or kMC methods?
- How much is the effective stopping in nanostructured and nanoporous materials? Possible changes in excitation spectra, electron-phonon coupling, confinement effects, etc.
- How can we connect QM-based calculations (10-100 atoms) to large-scale (1e6-1e9 atoms) classical calculations?