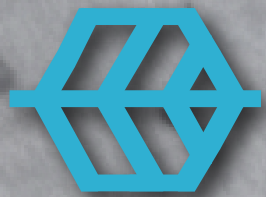


# Defect interactions in semiconductors

Hartmut S. Leipner



Interdisziplinäres Zentrum für Materialwissenschaften  
– Nanotechnikum Weinberg –  
Martin-Luther-Universität Halle–Wittenberg



# Nanotechnikum Weinberg

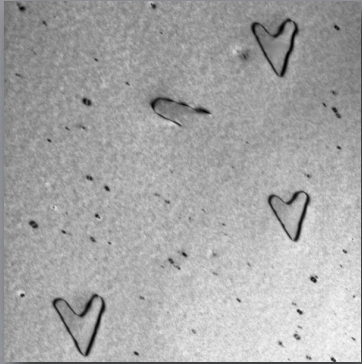
In operation since 2007, 1800 m<sup>2</sup> labs, 210 m<sup>2</sup> cleanroom class 100



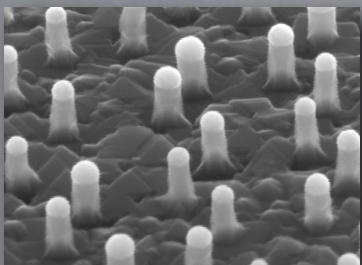
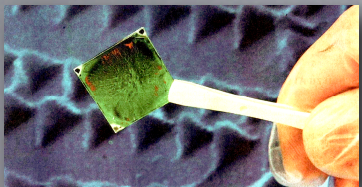
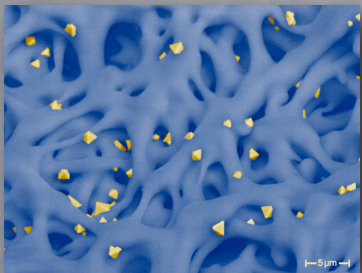
**Central labs (IZM@MLU):** Nanostructuring/-analytics, electron microscopy, lithography, positron annihilation, deposition

**Research disposal areas (*Bio-Nano-Zentrum*)** for physics, chemistry, material science, bioscience

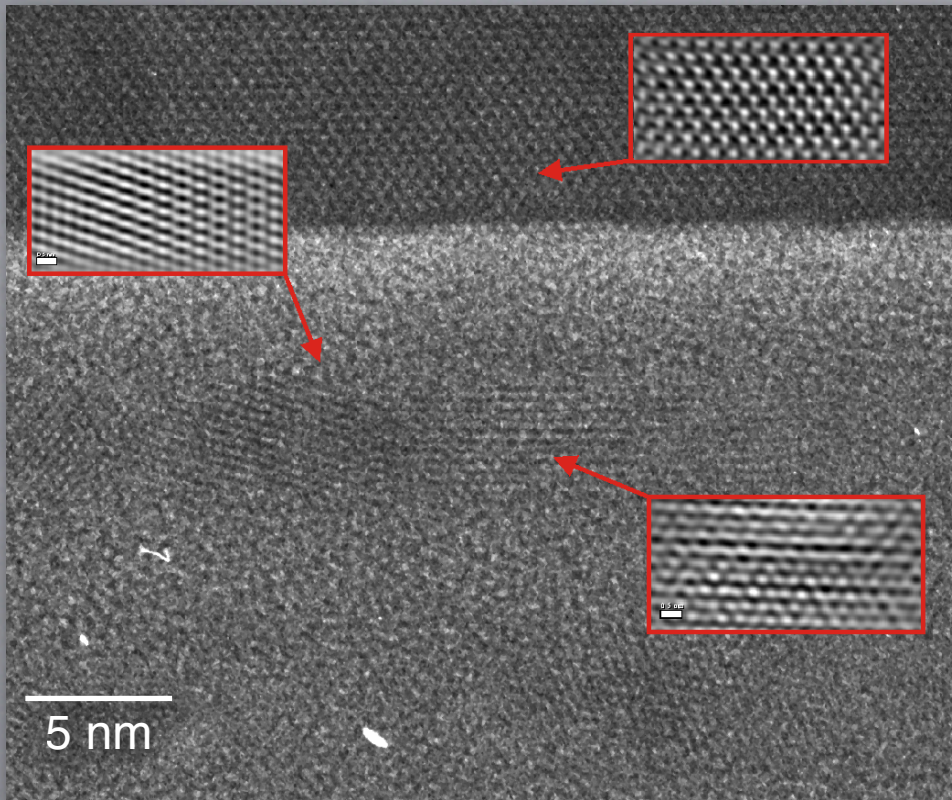
# Topics



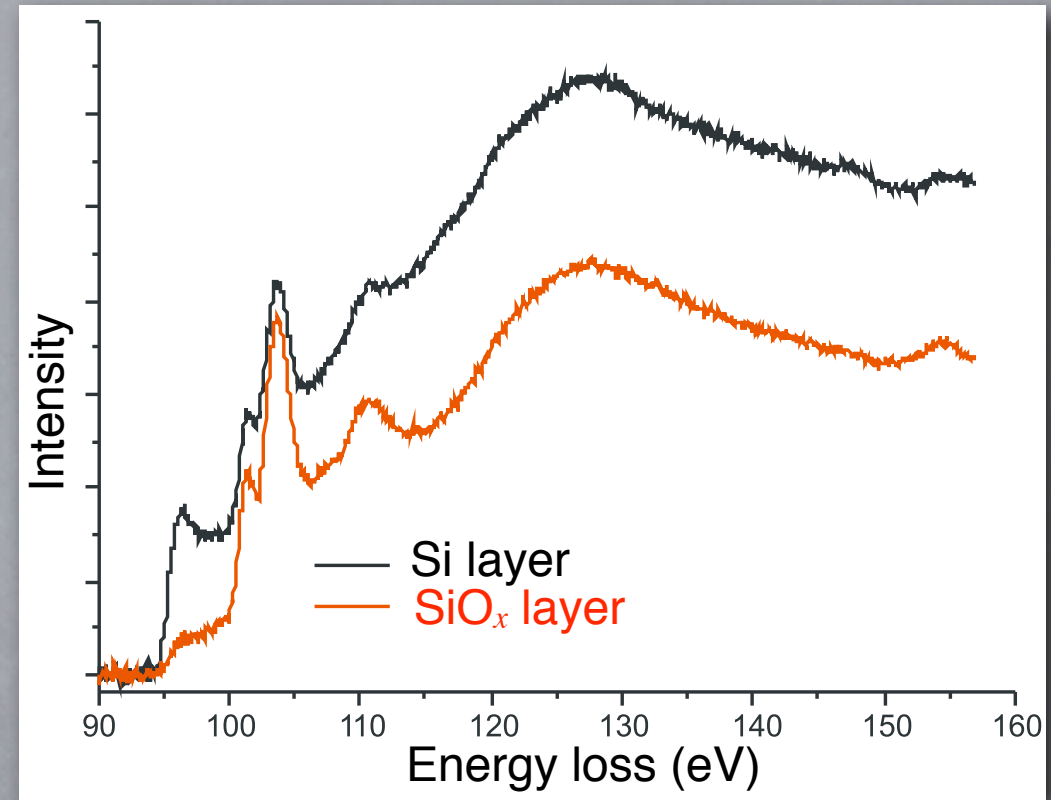
- Nanostructuring/-analysis  
(patterning, characterization of thermoelectric and photovoltaic materials, defect investigations in semiconductors)
- Nanolithography  
(nanosphere lithography, nanoimprint, EBL)
- Positron annihilation  
(crystal defects, porosimetry, EPOS project)
- High resolution materials characterization  
(FESEM, STEM, EFTEM, AFM, Raman microscopy, cathodoluminescence microscopy)



# Analytics on Si for 3rd generation photovoltaics



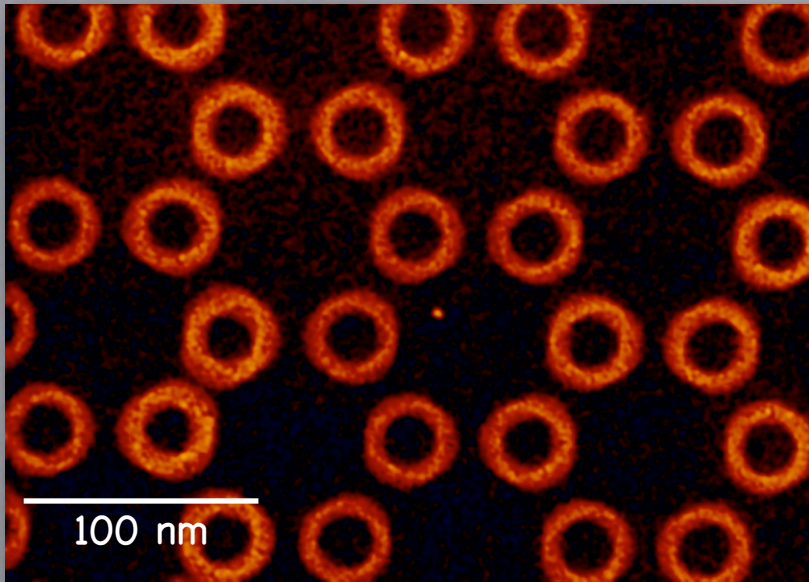
Superlattice with 2 nm Si/3 nm SiO<sub>x</sub>  
after RTA (1100 °C, 30 s)



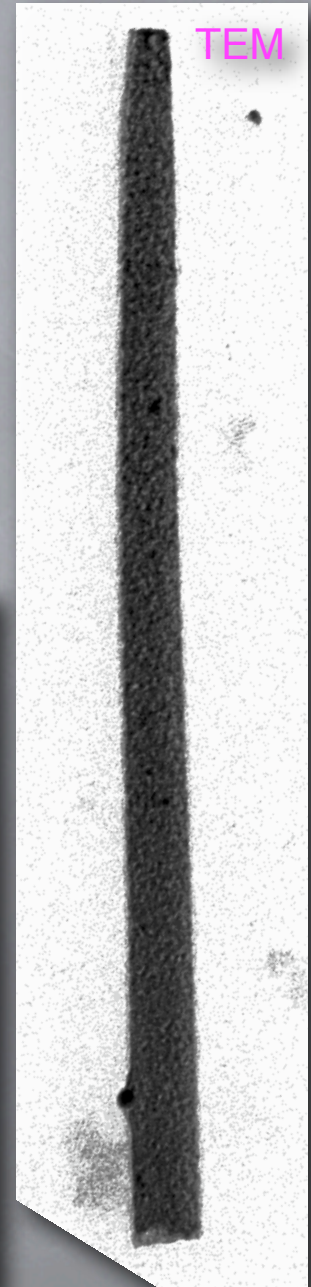
EELS in different layers

[Schade et al. 2008]

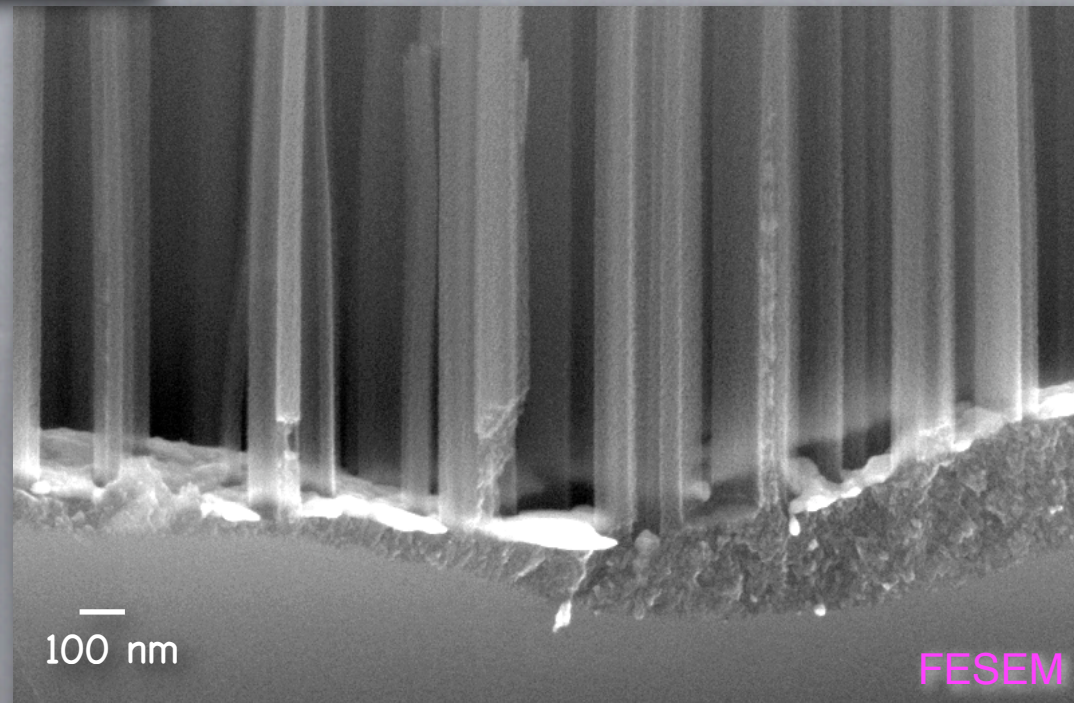
# Nanosphere lithography



Development of a "nano pinhole camera"

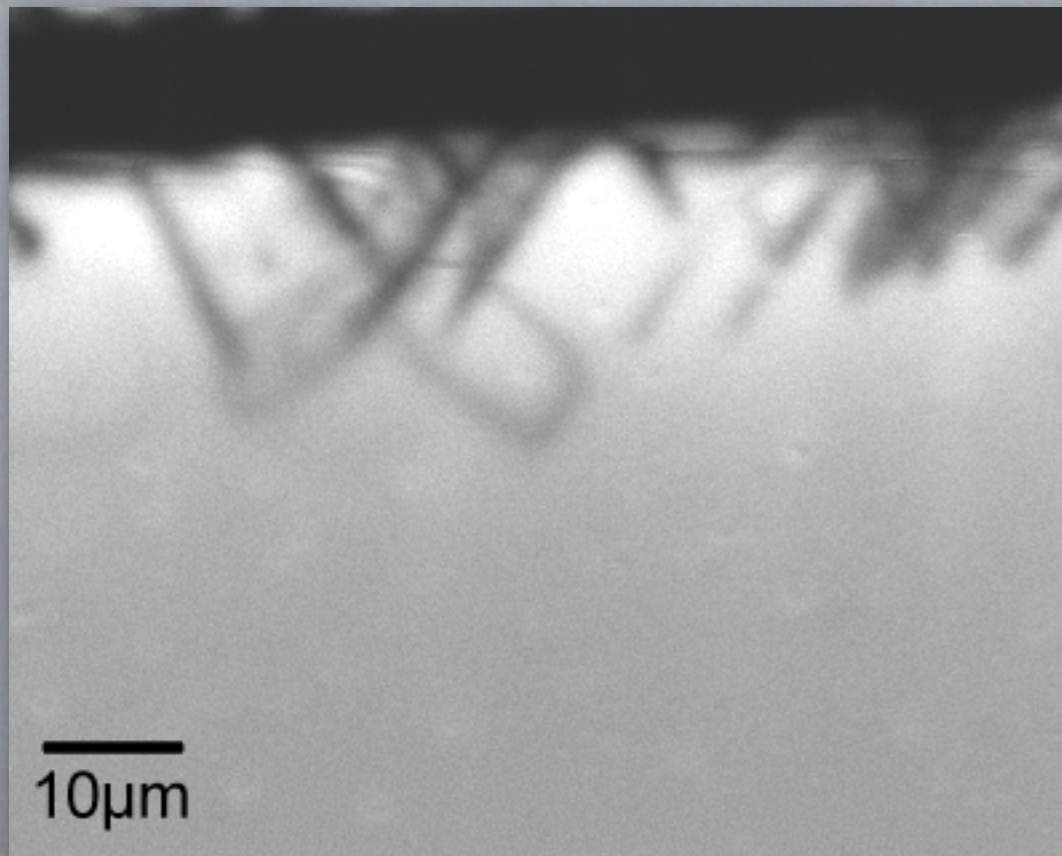


Silicon nanowires  
by catalytic etching  
[Geyer et al. 2008]



# Defects at IZM@MLU

- Defects in semiconductors  
(interaction of point defects with dislocations, dislocation dynamics – TEM, SEM, positron annihilation)



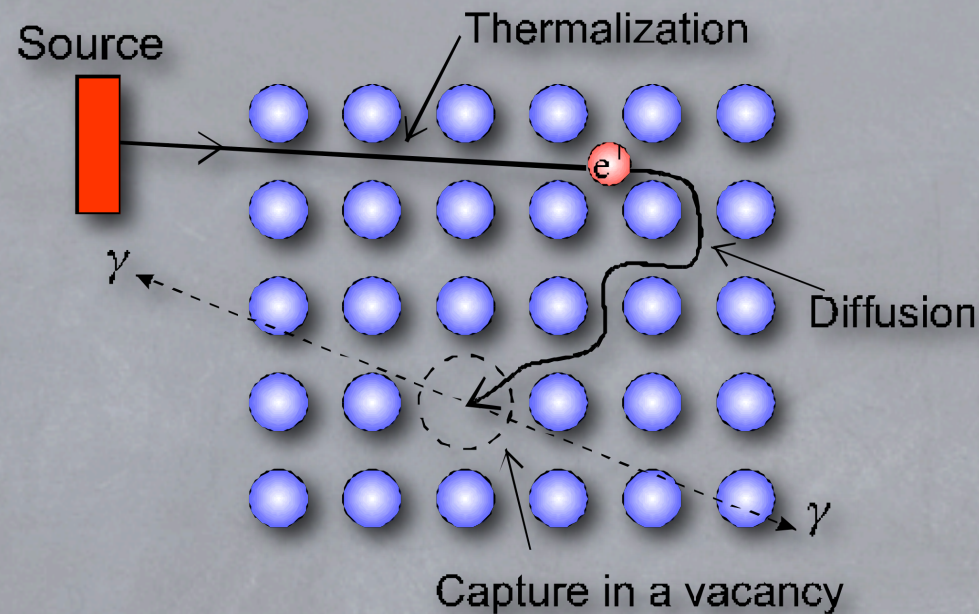
Gliding dislocations in GaAs,  
cathodoluminescence microscopy  
[Schreiber et al.]

# Defect interaction: Key issues

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- Dislocations and point defects are not independent from each other.
  - > The motion of dislocations leads to the generation of intrinsic defects.
  - > The existing point defect population is altered by the presence of dislocations.
- Formation of intrinsic defects during plastic deformation of elemental and compound semiconductors

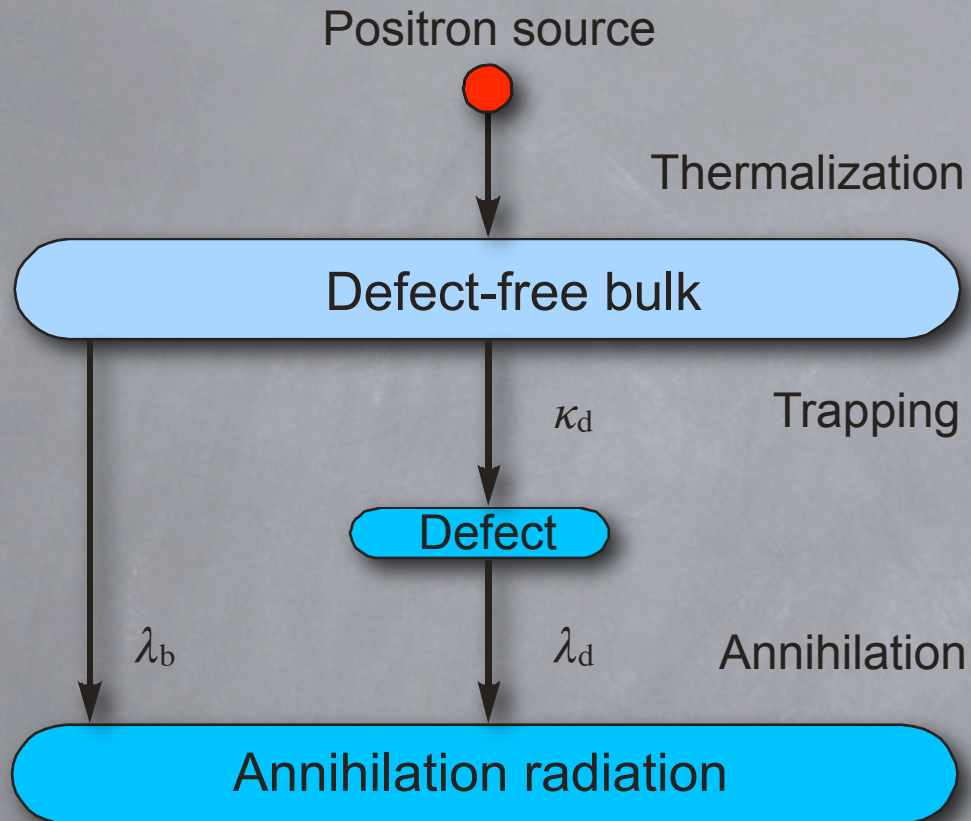
# Positron annihilation



- Positrons may be captured during diffusion in lattice defects.
- Annihilation rate (reciprocal lifetime) depends on the local electron concentration at the annihilation site.
- Positron lifetime: kind of defect, trapping rate: defect density



# Trapping model



- Quantitative analysis of positron trapping by a set of rate equations
- Solution (lifetime spectrum):

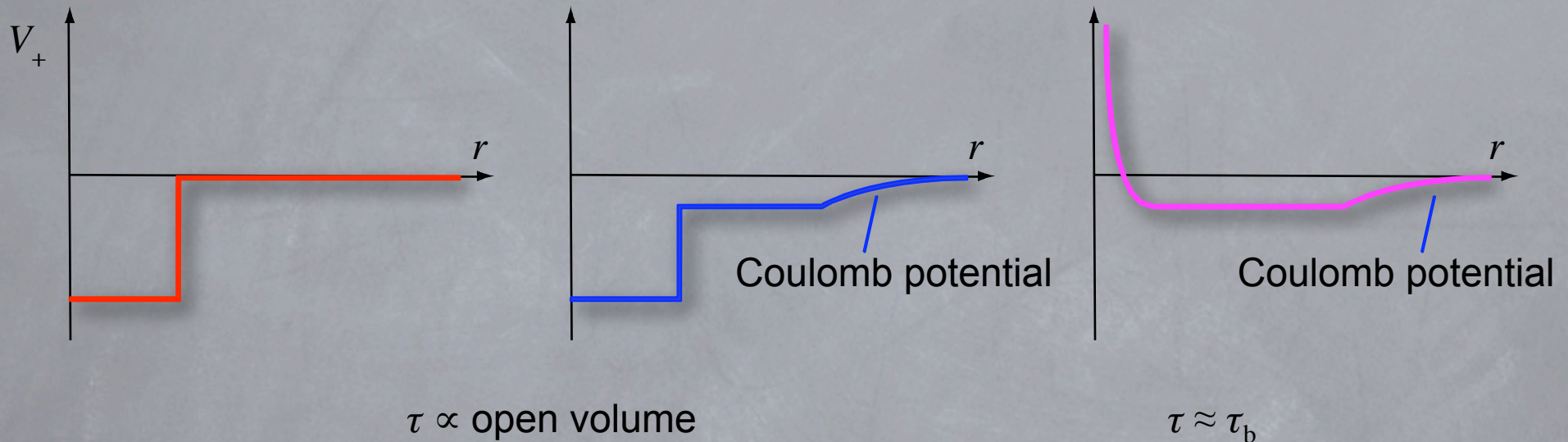
$$\sum_i \frac{I_i}{\tau_i} \exp\left(-\frac{t}{\tau_i}\right)$$

- Intensity  $I_i$  relates to the trapping rate:

$$\kappa_d = \mu \rho_d$$

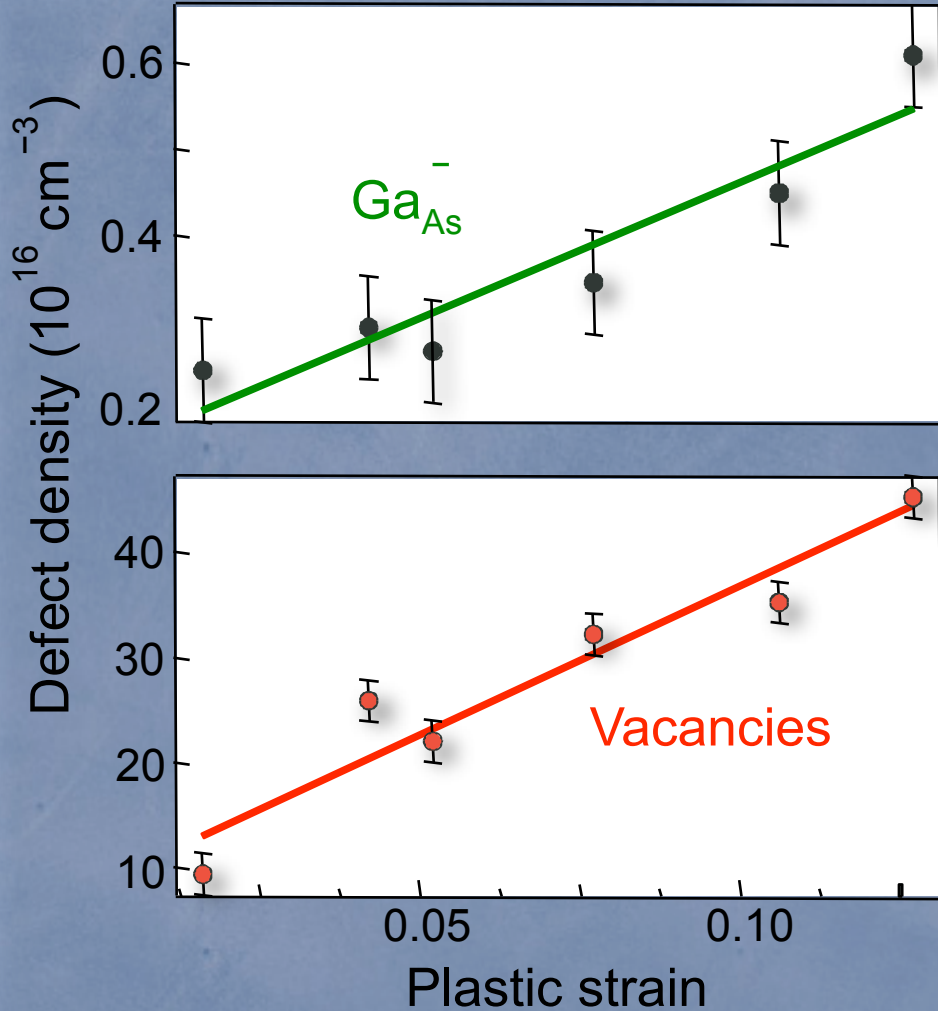
$$\tau_1 = 1/(\lambda_d + \kappa_d) \quad \tau_2 = 1/\lambda_d$$

# Positron capture in defects



Positron potential  $V_+(r)$  of a **neutral** and a **negatively charged** vacancy. The potential of a negatively charged acceptor acting as a **shallow positron trap** is shown on the right. The trapping rate  $\kappa = \kappa(T)$  is constant for neutral defects and a function of temperature  $T$  for charged defects.

# Point defect densities after plastic deformation

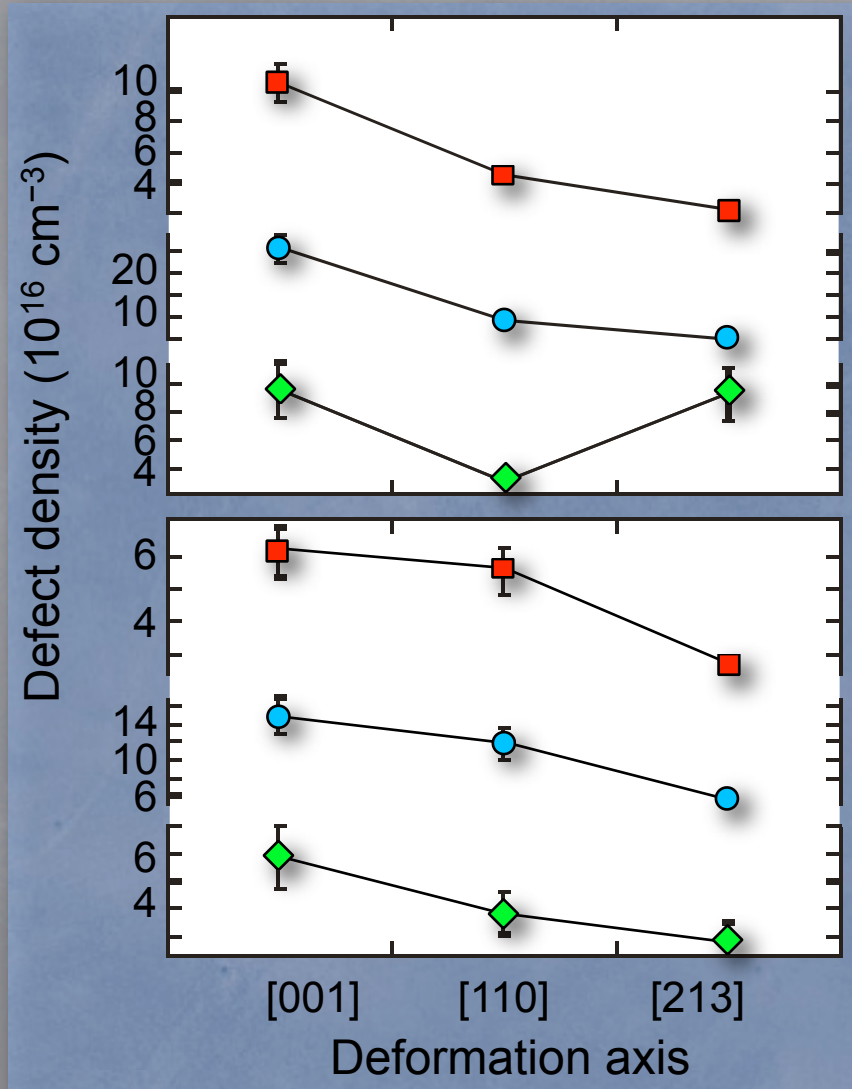


Total density of **vacancies** and **antisite defects** as a function of the strain. Result of measurements by positron annihilation in plastically deformed GaAs. Uniaxial compression in [110] direction at 773 K, strain rate  $1 \times 10^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$ .

*Relation between density of excess vacancies and strain*

$$\rho_V = \frac{l_g \zeta c_j}{l b^2 m} \varepsilon$$

# Deformation conditions



Total number of **vacancies in the bulk**  $\blacksquare$ , **vacancies bound to dislocations**  $\bullet$ , as well as number of GaAs **antisites**  $\blacklozenge$  in plastically deformed GaAs.

Deformation temperature 773 K, strain 3 %, strain rate  $7.5 \times 10^{-5} \text{ s}^{-1}$  (above),  $3 \times 10^{-4} \text{ s}^{-1}$  (below).

→ Defect densities higher for multislip orientation

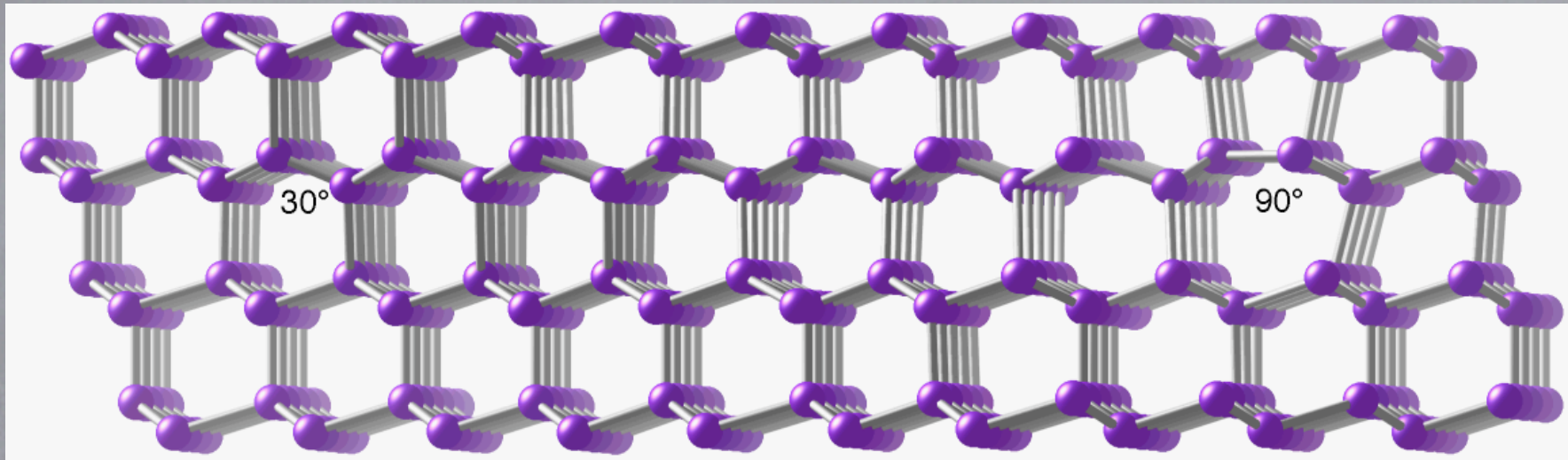
# Positron lifetimes in GaAs

## *Lifetime components:*

- $\tau_2 = \tau_{d3} = (260 \pm 5) \text{ ps}$   
corresponds to a defect with the open volume of a monovacancy
- $\tau_3 = \tau_{d2} = (477 \pm 20) \text{ ps}$   
corresponds to a defect with a large open volume  
(vacancy cluster)
- At low sample temperatures, another positron trap without open volume becomes active (antisite defects).

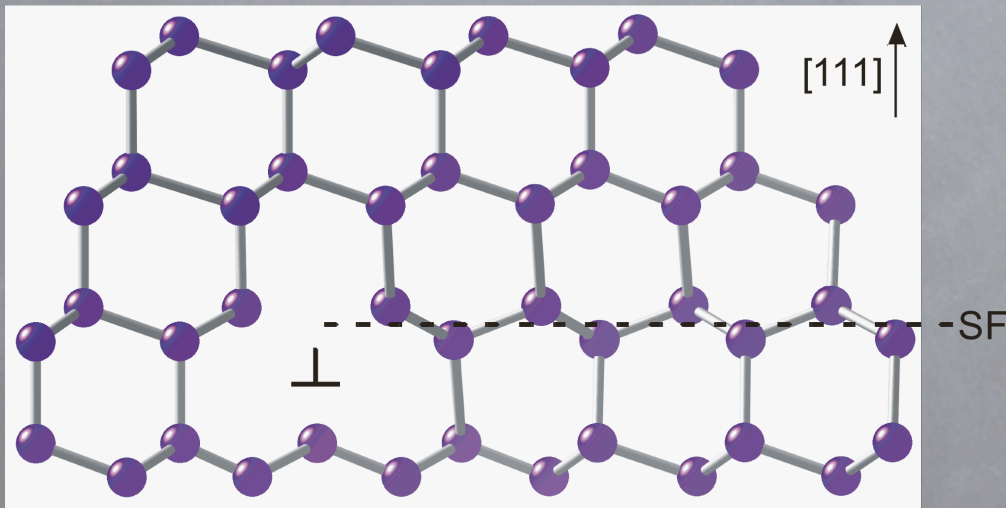
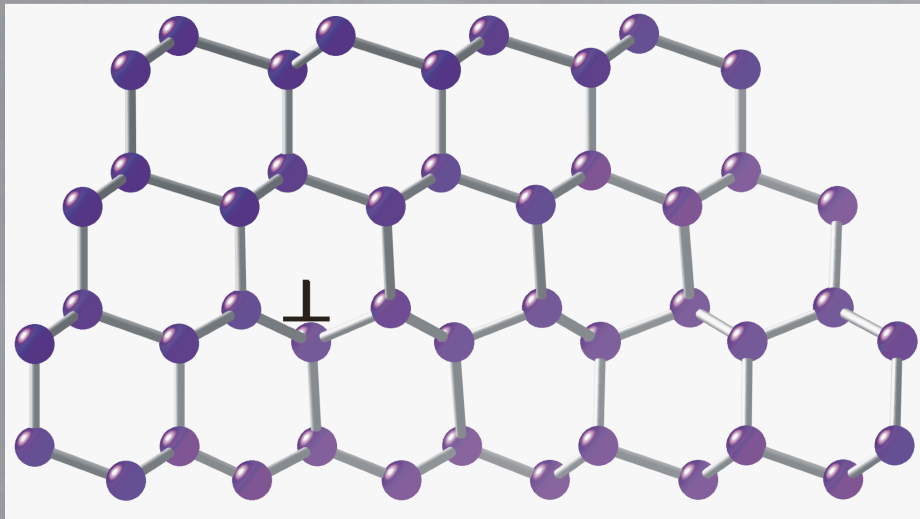
$$\tau_{d1} \approx \tau_b$$

# Dissociated dislocation



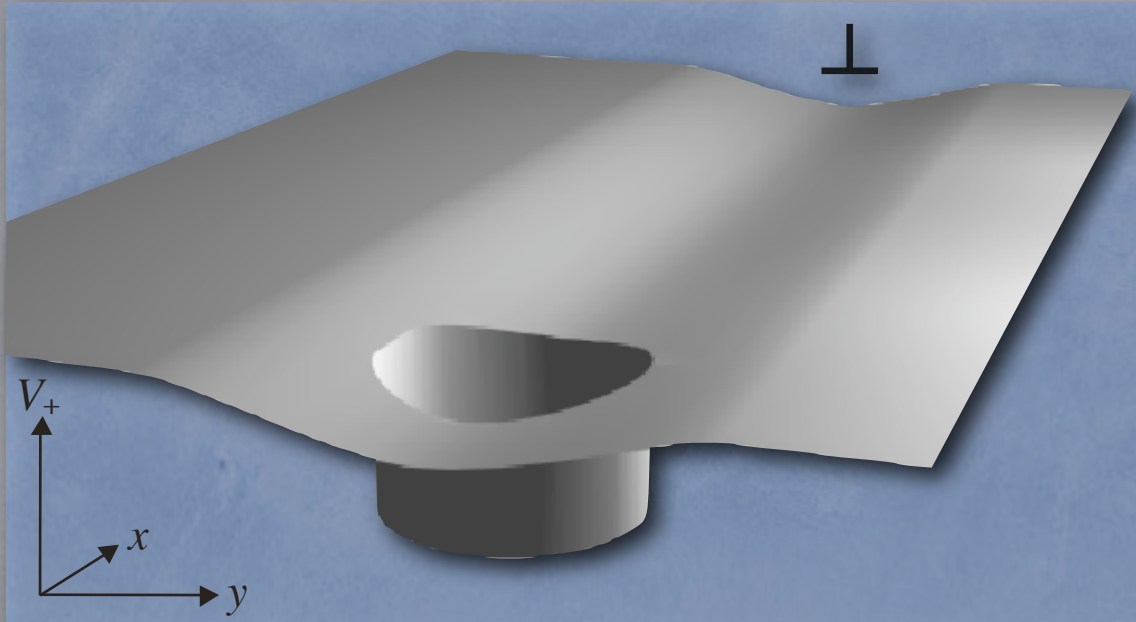
Dissociation of a perfect  $60^\circ$  dislocation in the glide set in a  $30^\circ$  and a  $90^\circ$  partial dislocation. There is an intrinsic stacking fault between the two partials. The drawing is along the (110) plane.

# Vacancy incorporation



Incorporation of a vacancy in the core of a  $30^\circ$  partial dislocation as a local transition from glide to shuffle set.

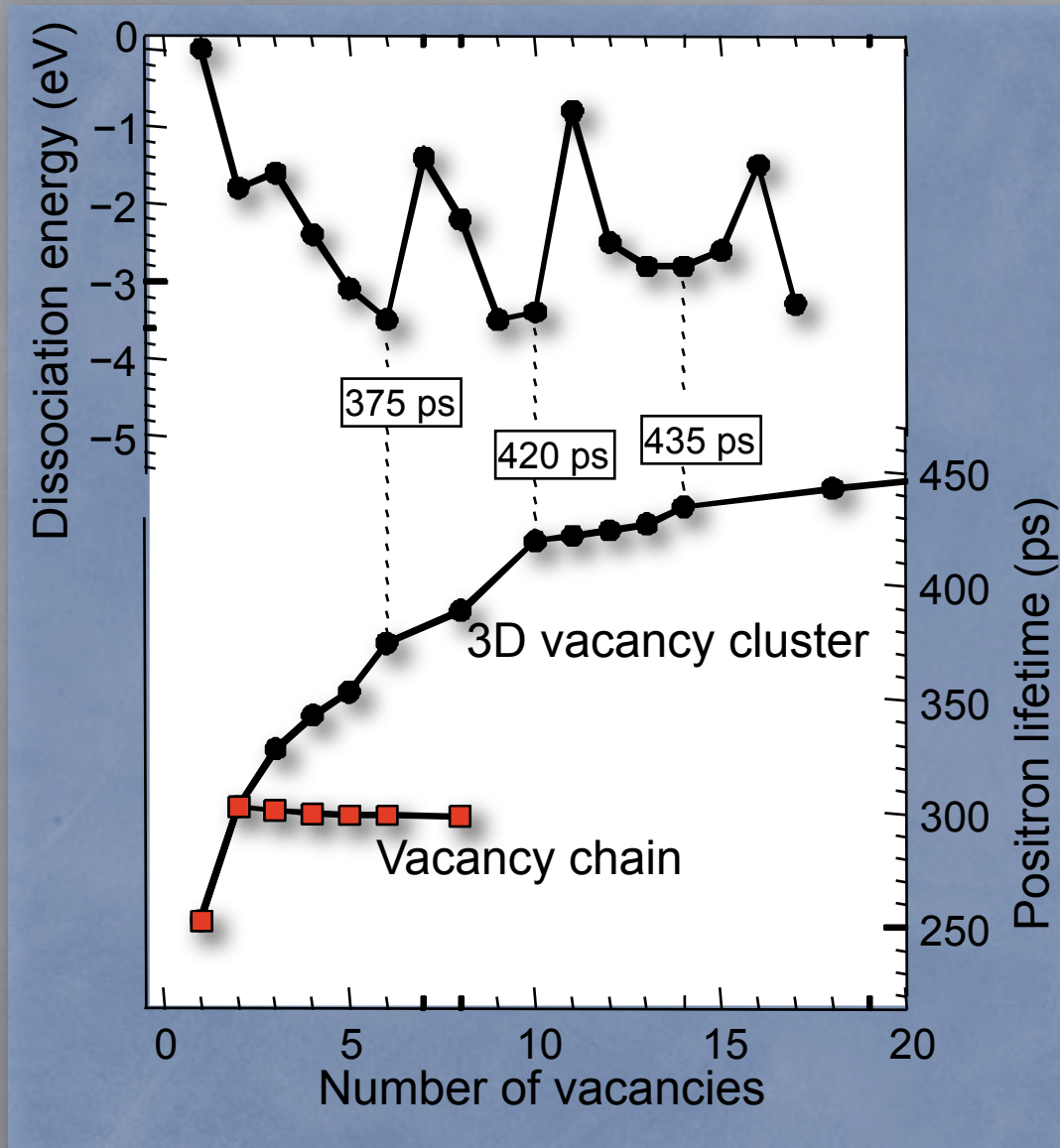
# Dislocation as a positron trap



Positron potential  $V_+(x,y)$  of a dislocation. The regular dislocation line is a shallow positron trap, while a bound vacancy acts as a deep trap.



# Calculation of vacancy clusters



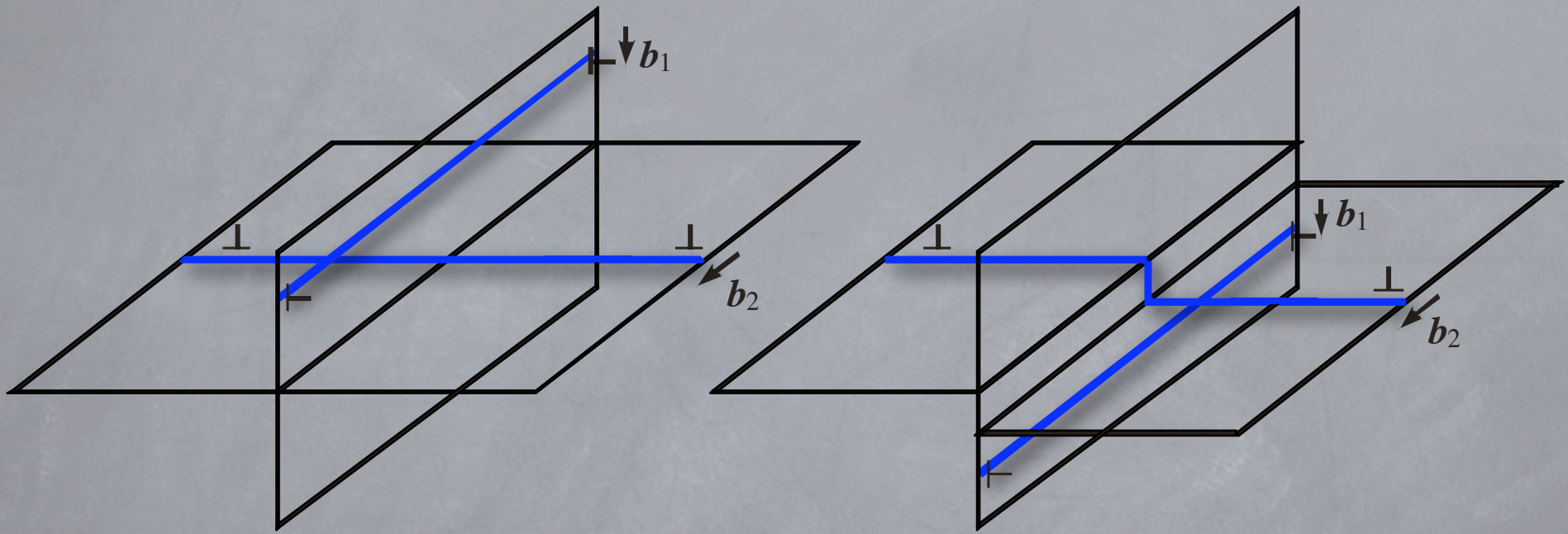
Energy gained by adding a monovacancy to an aggregate of  $n - 1$  vacancies in Si (upper part) and the corresponding positron lifetime (lower part).

[Staab et al. 1999]

# Magic numbers

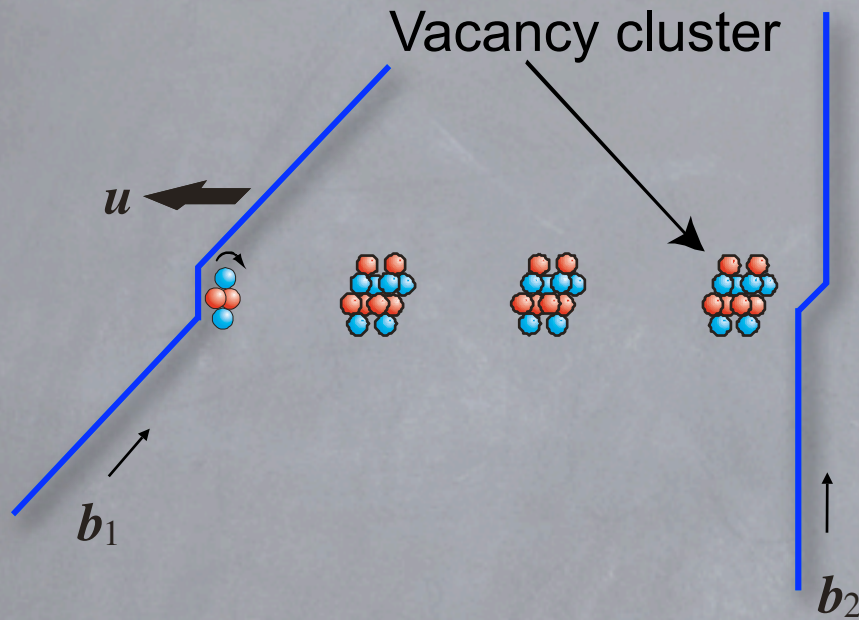
- Especially stable structures ( $n < 18$ ):  $V_{12}$  in GaAs  
 $V_6, V_{10}, V_{14}$  in Si
- Vacancy chains are not energetically favored structures
- The experimentally observed long-lived positron lifetime component may be attributed to  $V_{12}$  in GaAs and to  $V_{14}$  or  $V_{18}$  in Si.
- Magic numbers in silicon  $n = 4i + 2, i = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

# Cutting of dislocations



Cutting of edge dislocations

# Formation of vacancy clusters

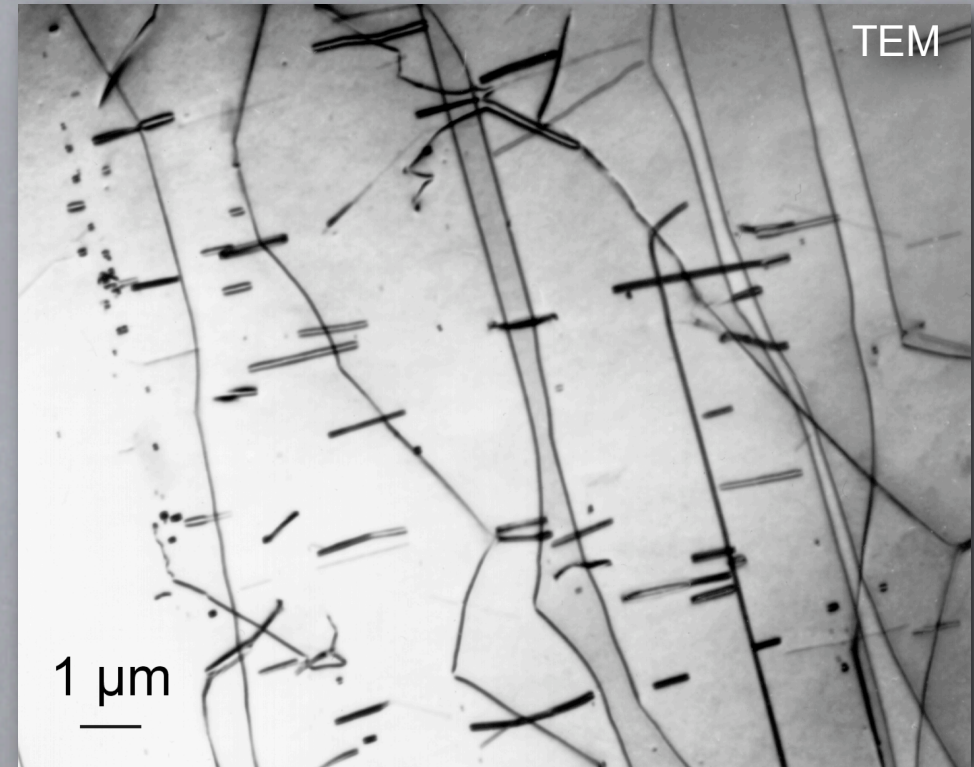
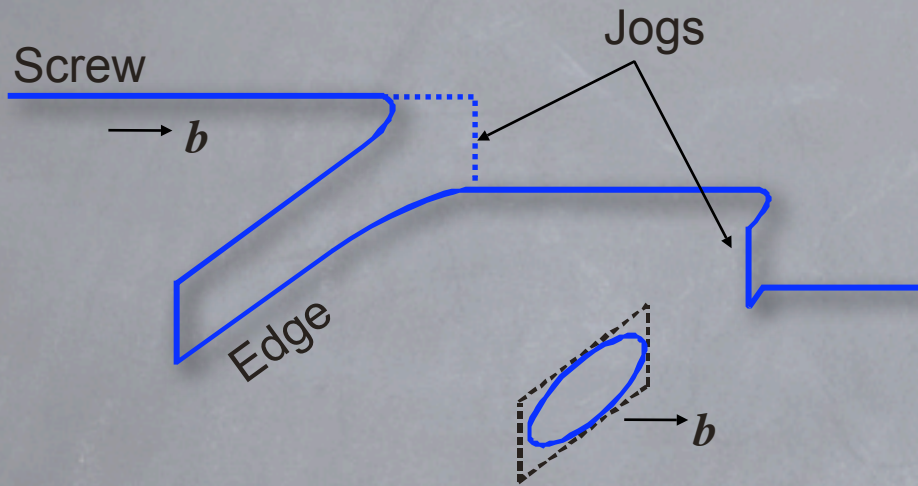


*Number of vacancies*

$$C = \frac{1}{V} \frac{\xi_1 \cdot u \times \xi_2}{|\xi_1 \cdot u \times \xi_2|} b_1 \cdot u \times b_2$$

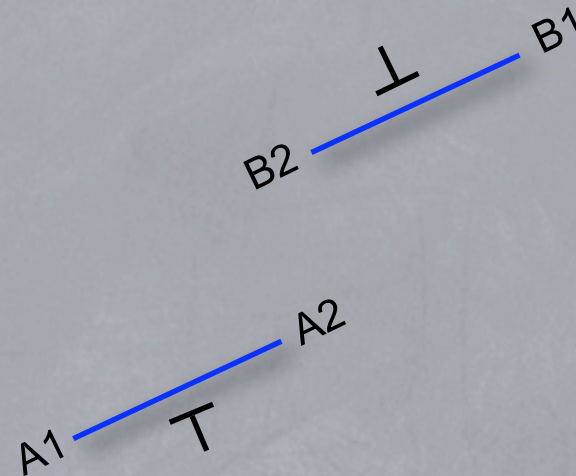
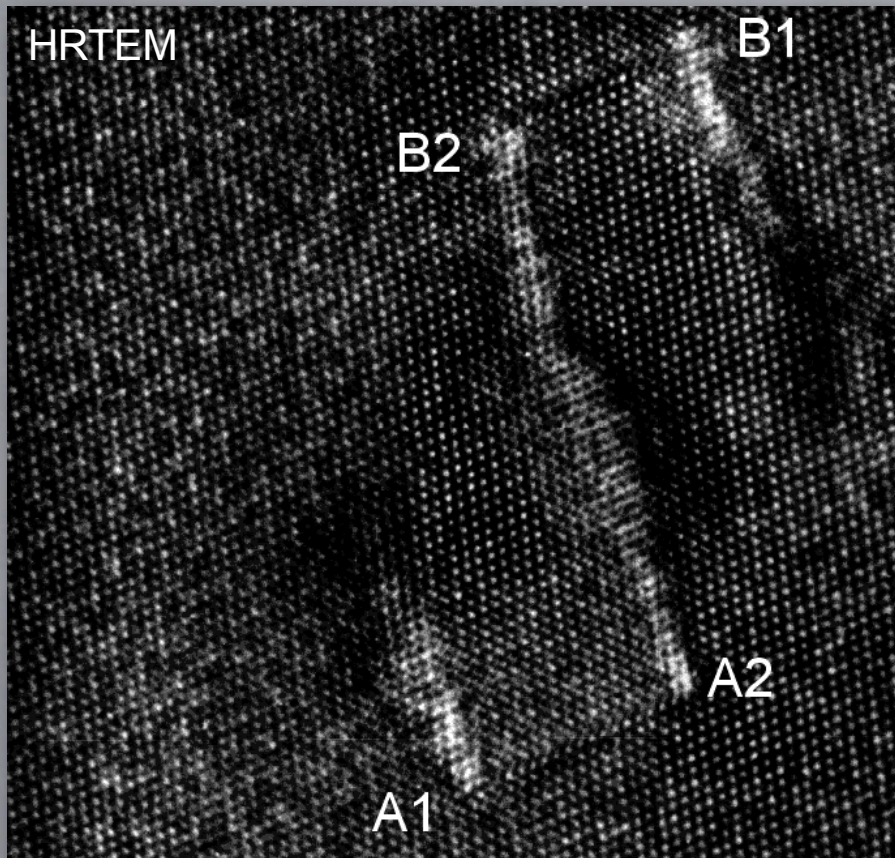
Agglomeration of vacancies as a result of jog dragging at screw dislocations

# Superjogs



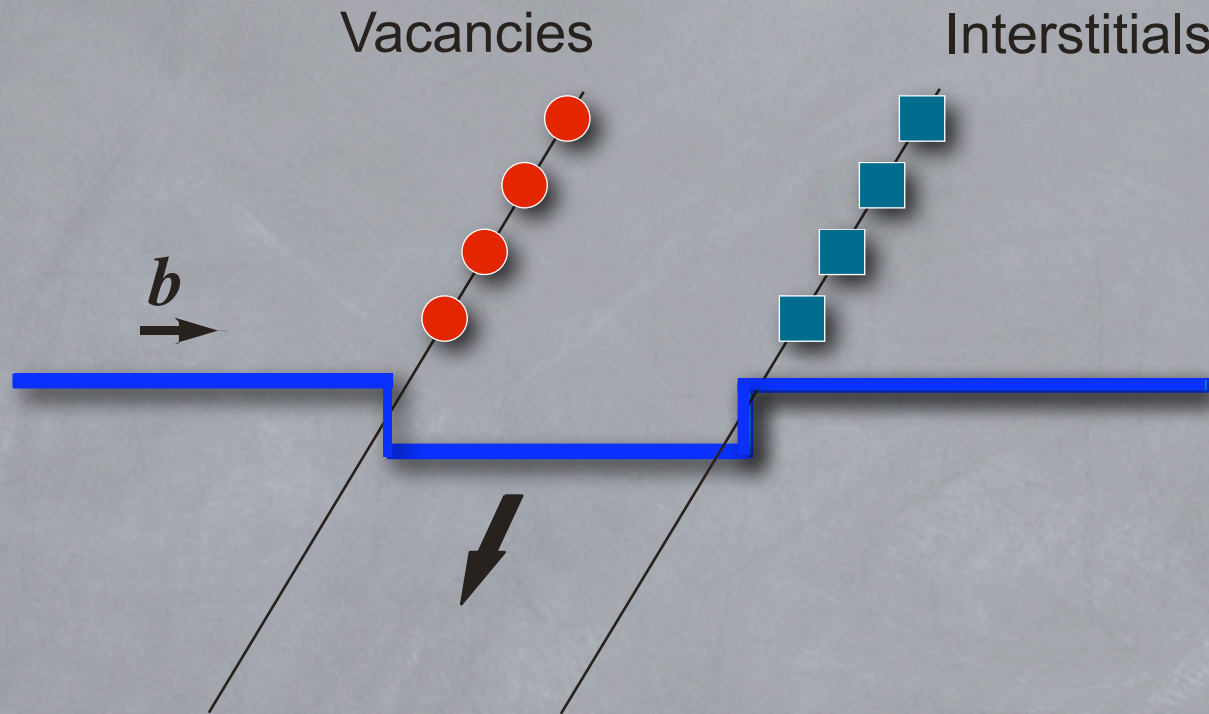
Formation of edge dipoles and prismatic dislocation loops

# Dipole structure

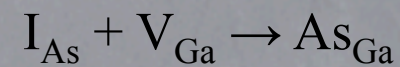
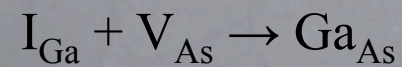


Dislocation dipole in deformed Si. A1-A2 and B1-B2 are the two dissociated edge dislocations with their Shockley partial dislocations. The dissociation width amounts to 6 nm. HRTEM image of a (110) foil.

# Vacancies and interstitials



Secondary reactions lead to the formation of antisites:



# Summary

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- ☑ The formation of point defects during plastic deformation of semiconductors can be related to dislocation motion.
- ☑ The basic mechanism is the emission of vacancies and interstitials by screw dislocations containing jogs.
- ☑ The formation of long rows of vacancies is energetically unfavorable.
- ☑ Stable three-dimensional vacancy agglomerates are formed in a primary process by atomic re-arrangement directly at the climbing jog.



# Acknowledgments

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- ★ R. Krause-Rehberg (Halle)
- ★ T. E. M. Staab (Bonn)
- ★ P. Werner (Halle)
- ★ C. Hübner (Kiel)
- ★ V. V. Mikhnovich (Moskva)
- ★ J. Rabier (Poitiers)
- ★ M. Haugk (Paderborn)

感谢您的关注

**Hartmut S. Leipner**



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