



Multi-scale Modeling for Laser-based Nanotechnology

Tatiana Itina

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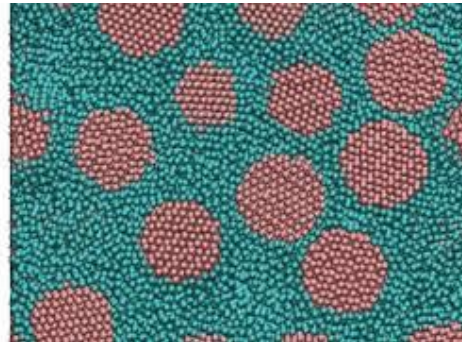
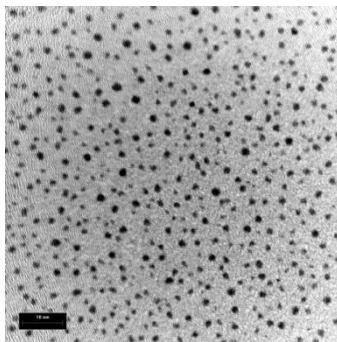
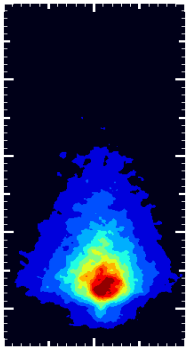
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Multi-scale Modeling for Laser-based Nanotechnology

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Ablation experiments,
LP3, France

https://www.photonics.com/Articles/Nanoparticles_Probing_the_Plasma_Threshold/a57306

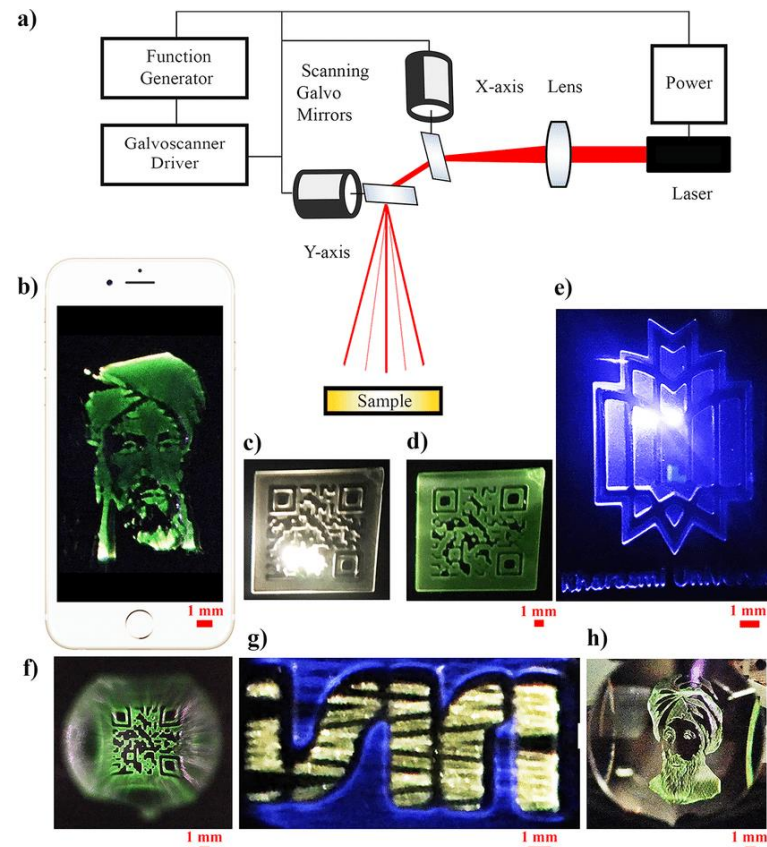
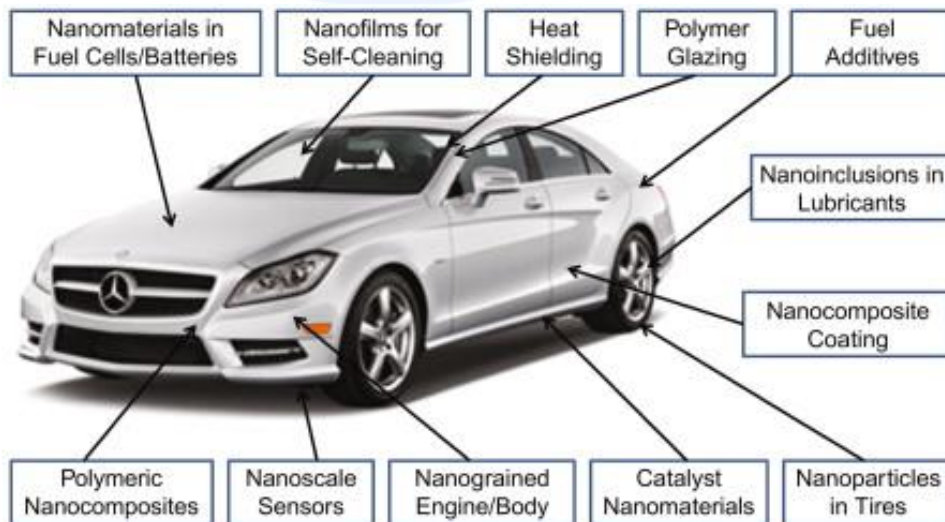
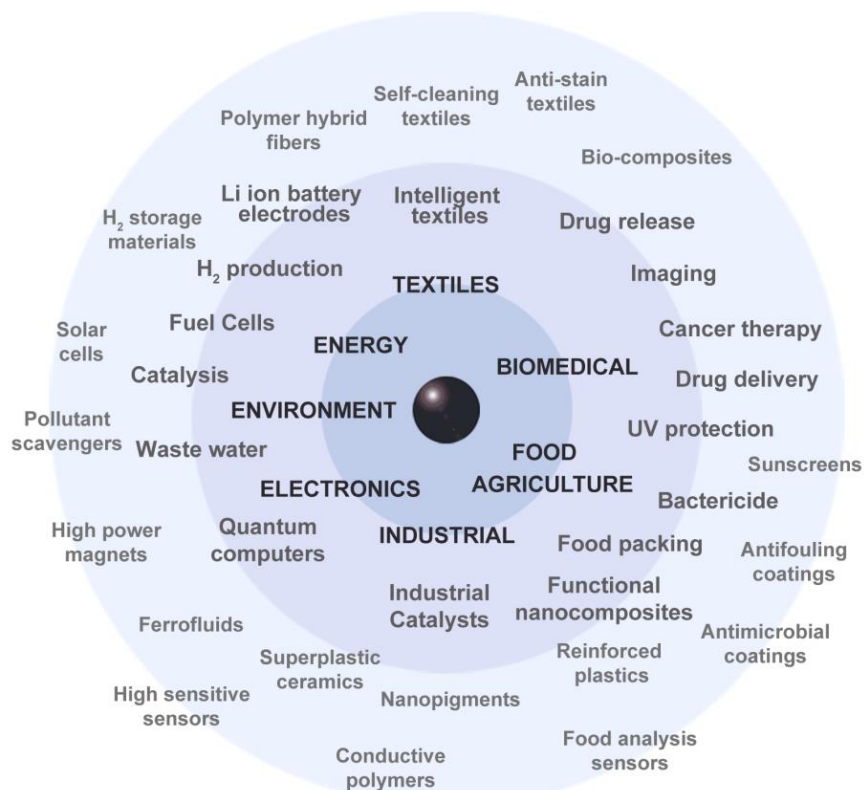
From laser plume to complex multi-material nanoparticles

Outline

1. Motivations and applications
2. Modeling ultra-short laser interactions and nanoparticle formation in vacuum, in gases and in liquids
3. Laser interaction with nanoparticles
 - Molecular dynamics simulation of nanoparticle collisions
 - Molecular dynamics simulation of alloy nanoparticles
 - Complex nano-objects
4. Modeling nanoparticle formation in porous matrices
5. Summary and conclusions

1. Motivations and applications

Nanoparticles and Nocomposites



Kaboli et al. ACS Appl.NanoMater

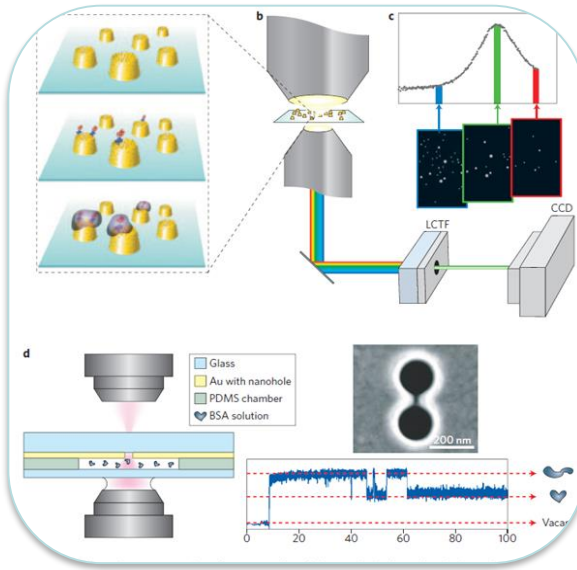


Optics
and
Security

Z. Liu, et al. JPC C 119.17 (2015): 9496-9505.

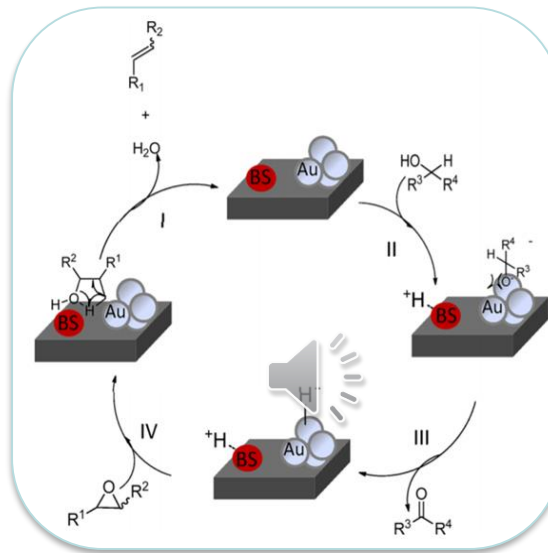
Random and periodic nanocomposite structures

Sensing



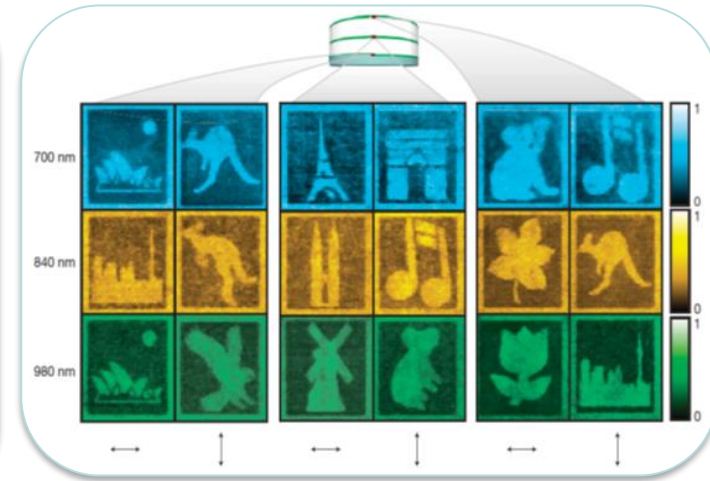
Nature Photonics 6, 709–713 (2012)

Catalysis



Chem., Int. Ed., 49, 5545 (2010)

Optical recording, security, etc.



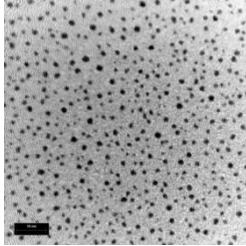
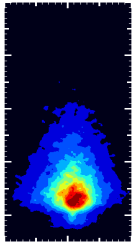
Nature, 459, 410 (2009)

multiplexing

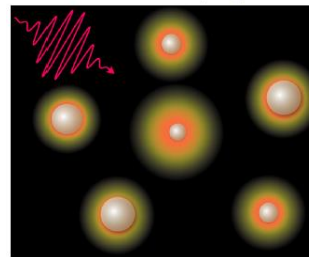
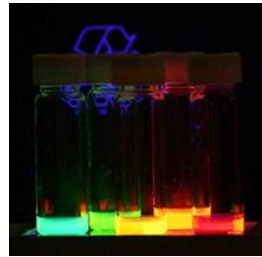
Periodic nanocomposite structures are particularly interesting for optical applications, however the understanding of their formation is still challenging.

Main research directions

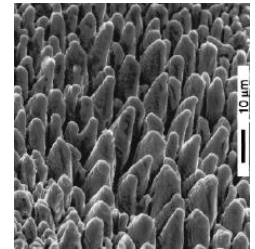
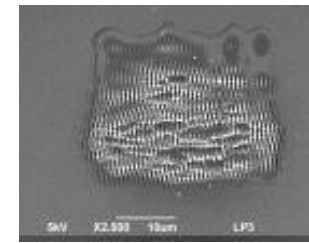
- Laser-induced formation and modification of nanoparticles, monohybrids and nanostructures: modeling vs experiments**



Pulsed laser interactions

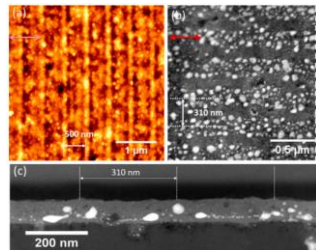


Laser ablation/fragmentation

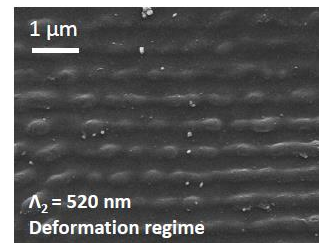


Laser-induced surface/volume structures

- Laser-assisted formation of nanocomposite materials and metasurfaces**



Nanoparticles inside

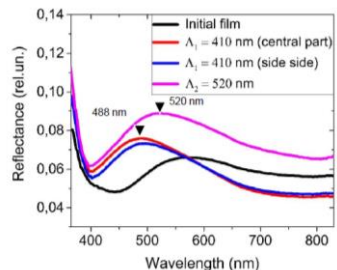


Nanoparticles on the surface



Hierarchical surface structures

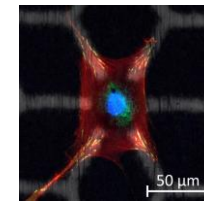
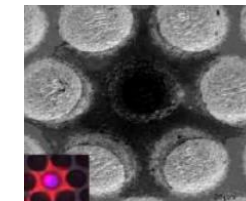
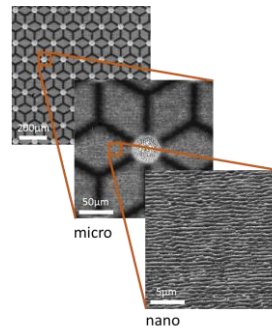
- Properties and applications of the obtained materials: optical properties, wettability, cells and bacterial adhesion/repulsion**



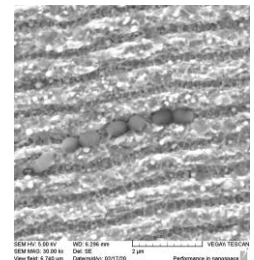
Optical spectra



Wettability

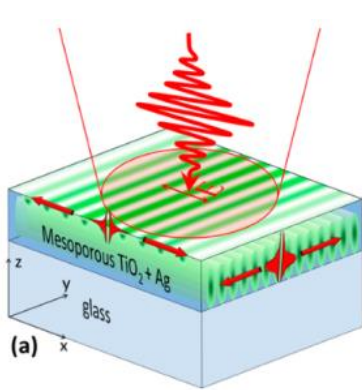


cell and bacteria adhesion on

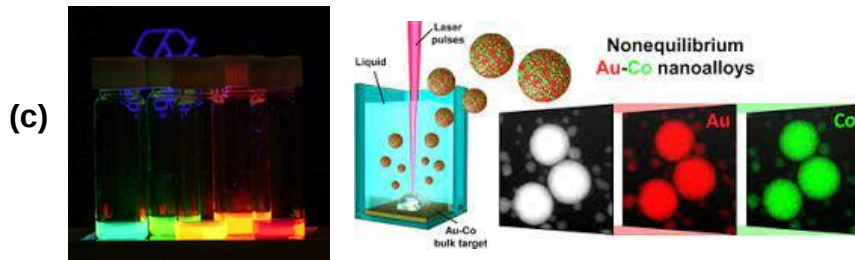
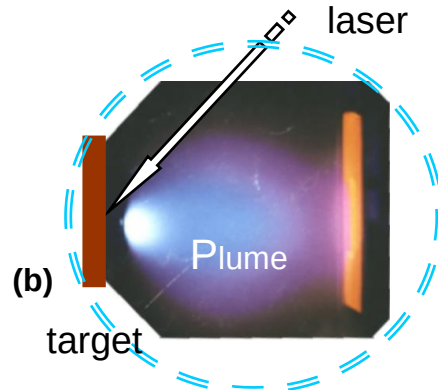


2. Modeling of laser interactions and nanoparticle formation in vacuum, in gases and in liquids

Laser Interactions



In gas or in vacuum with different geometry



In liquids or in the presence of a colloids

Laser interaction commonly involve:

- Energy propagation, electronic excitation, light scattering, reflection and absorption
- Electron-phonon relaxation, heat diffusion, pressure wave propagation, rarefaction and tensile stress, phase transitions, mechanical fragmentation
- Material removal (ablation), plasma plume expansion, reactions, clustering, etc...
- Often multi-pulse irradiation is used with various scanning and focusing conditions

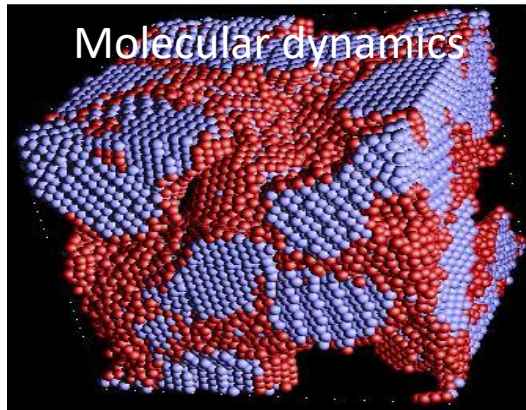
Laser-induced nanoparticle formation

- Green synthesis methods, bio-compatibility
- Control over NP properties
- Scaling-up possibilities
- Possibility to create stable ultra-structures, nanoalloys, hybrids, etc.
- **Additional laser-particle interactions involve many physical and chemical processes**



Modeling Approaches

Atomistic (MD) vs Hydrodynamics (CFD)

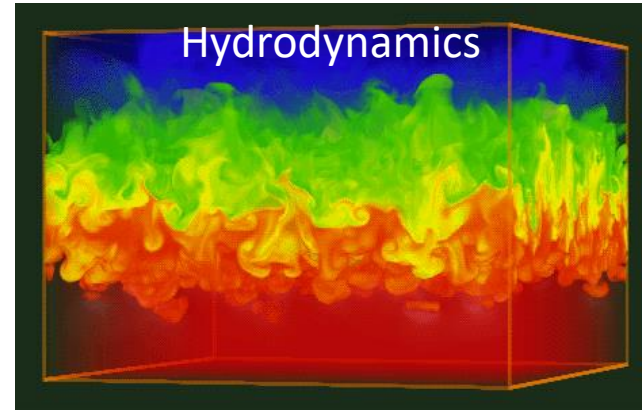


$V < 1 \mu\text{m}^3$; $t \sim 1 \text{ ns}$

Dynamics

Interaction potential

Ionization?



Real temporal and spatial scales

LTE?

Nucleation, surface effects?

Equation of state (EOS)

Ultra-short Laser Interactions

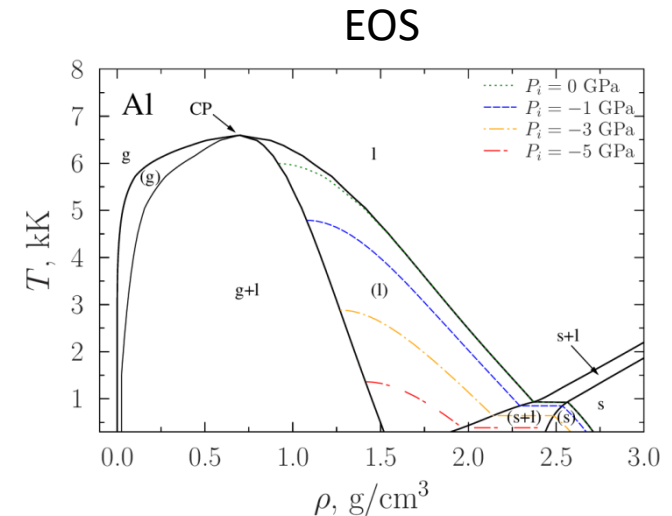
CFD vs MD, Equation of State vs Interaction Potential

$$\frac{\partial(1/\rho)}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial m} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial(P_{\text{ion}} + P_{\text{el}})}{\partial m} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial e_{\text{ion}}}{\partial t} + P_{\text{ion}} \frac{\partial u}{\partial m} = \gamma_{ei}(T_{\text{el}} - T_{\text{io}})/\rho$$

$$\frac{\partial e_{\text{el}}}{\partial t} + P_{\text{el}} \frac{\partial u}{\partial m} = \frac{\partial}{\partial m} \left(\rho \kappa_{\text{el}} \frac{\partial T_{\text{el}}}{\partial m} \right) - \gamma_{ei}(T_{\text{el}} - T_{\text{ion}})/\rho + Q_L/\rho$$



$$m_i \frac{d^2 \mathbf{r}_i}{dt^2} = \mathbf{F}_i + \xi_i m_i \mathbf{v}_i^T + \mathbf{F}_i^{\text{el}} \quad \text{LAMMPS}$$

$$\frac{\partial(\rho e_{\text{el}})}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial(\rho e_{\text{el}} u)}{\partial z} + P_{\text{el}} \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} = \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left(\kappa_{\text{el}} \frac{\partial T_{\text{el}}}{\partial z} \right) - \gamma_{ei}(T_{\text{el}} - T_{\text{ion}}) + Q_L(t, z)$$

Embedded atom “EAM”

$$E_i = F_{\alpha} \left(\sum_{j \neq i} \rho_{\beta}(r_{ij}) \right) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j \neq i} \phi_{\alpha\beta}(r_{ij})$$

Zhakhovskii *et al.* Appl. Surf. Sci. 255 (2009)

Ultra-short Laser Interactions

Laser energy propagation and absorption

In general: Maxwell equations combined with material ionisation

Numerically: Depending on the material and on the geometry

3D FDTD , NSE, Maxwell-Bloch, etc combined with electronic excitation-relaxation, currents, diffusion, etc.

1D metal ablation: Helmholtz equation

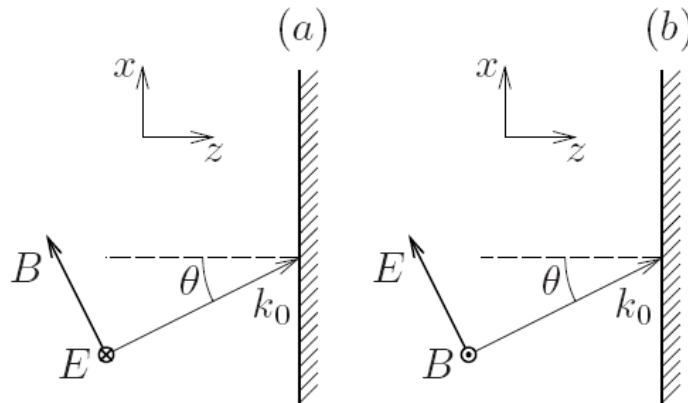


Figure 3. Polarization of laser light: (a)—s; (b)—p.

$$\frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial z^2} + k_0^2 [\varepsilon(z) - \sin^2 \theta] E = 0.$$

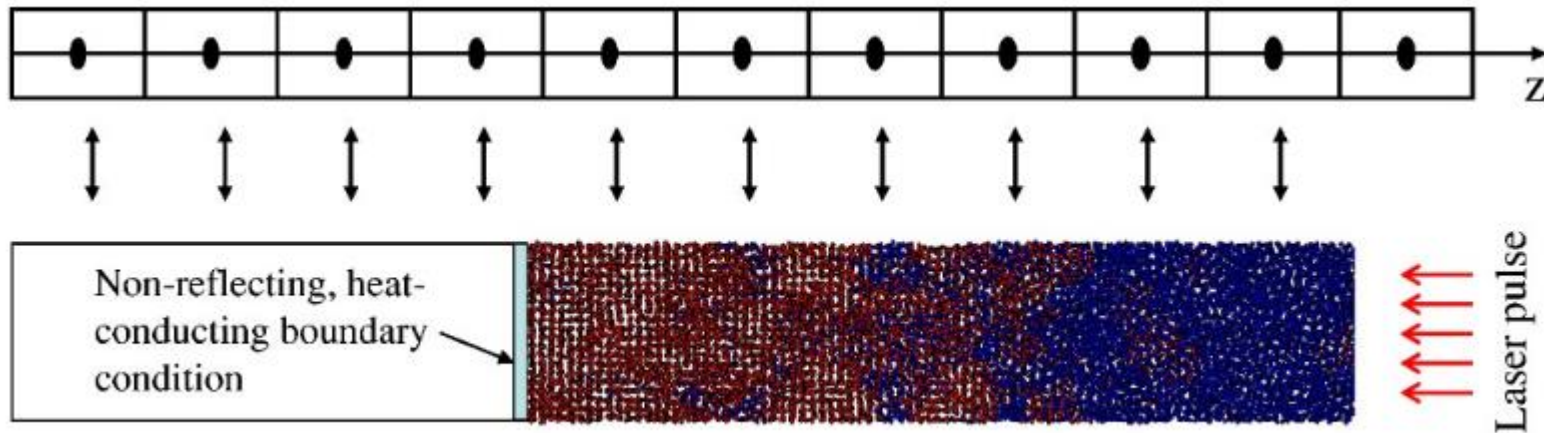
$$\frac{\partial^2 B}{\partial z^2} + k_0^2 [\varepsilon(z) - \sin^2 \theta] B - \frac{\partial \ln \varepsilon(z)}{\partial z} \frac{\partial B}{\partial z} = 0$$

$$Q_L(t, z) = I(t) \frac{\omega_L}{c} \text{Im}\{\varepsilon(t, z)\} |E(t, z)/E_L(t)|^2$$

Ultra-short Laser Interactions

Molecular Dynamics + TTM (TTM-MD)

Conduction electrons

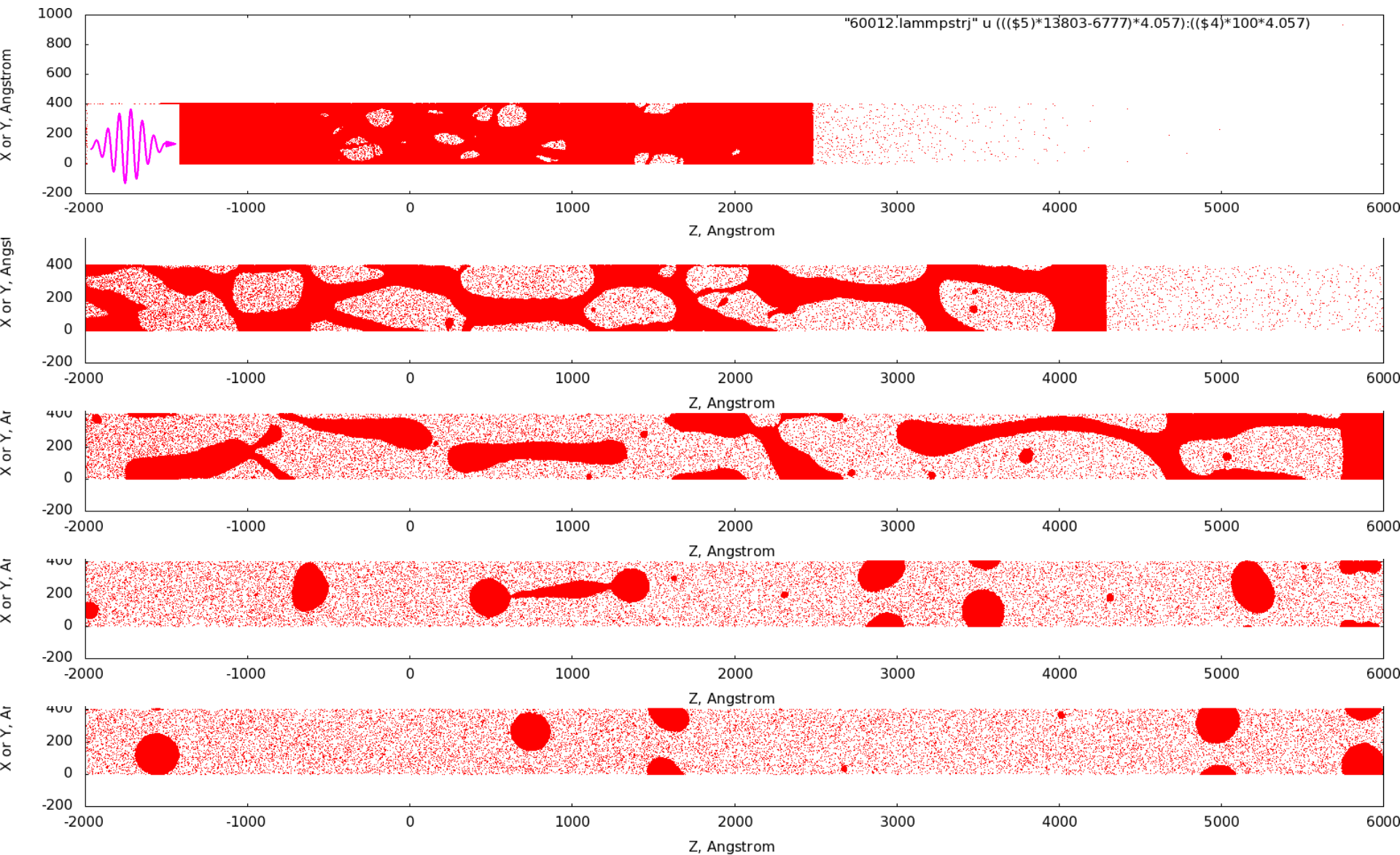


$$C_e(T_e) \frac{\partial T_e}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left(K_e(T_e) \frac{\partial T_e}{\partial z} \right) - G(T_e - T_l) + S(z, t), \quad \text{TTM}$$

$$m_i \frac{d^2 \mathbf{r}_i}{dt^2} = \mathbf{F}_i + \xi m_i \mathbf{v}_i^T, \quad \text{MD} \quad \xi = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n G V_N (T_e^k - T_l) \bigg/ \sum_i m_i (\mathbf{v}_i^T)^2$$

Ivanov & Zhigilei, Phys. Rev. B, 68, 064114 (2003)

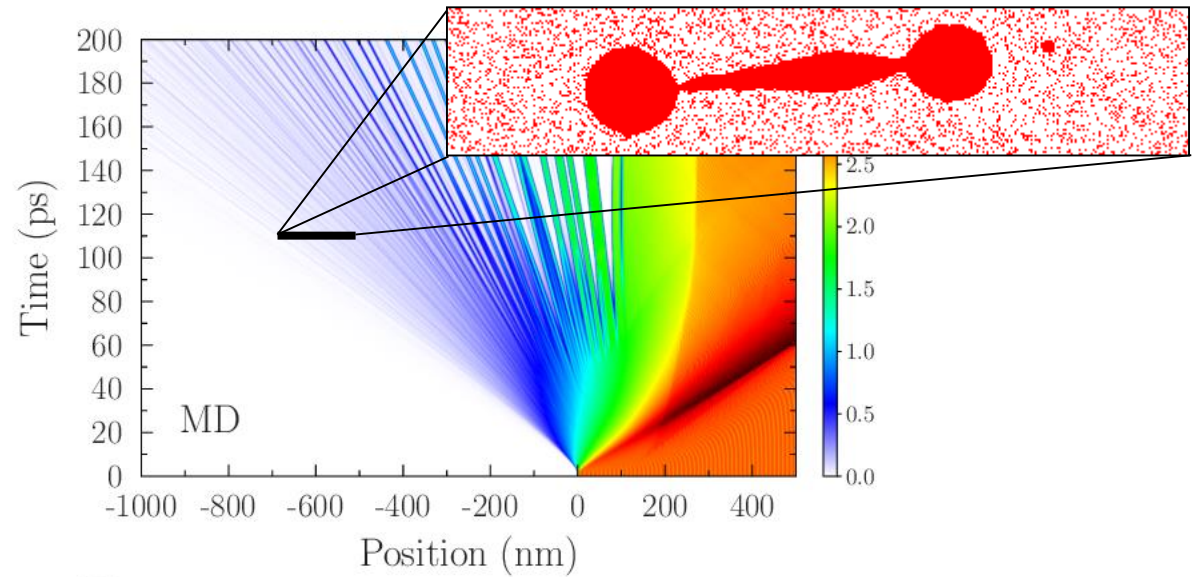
Ablation & Nanoparticles (10M atoms, $F=1 \text{ J/cm}^2$, Al)



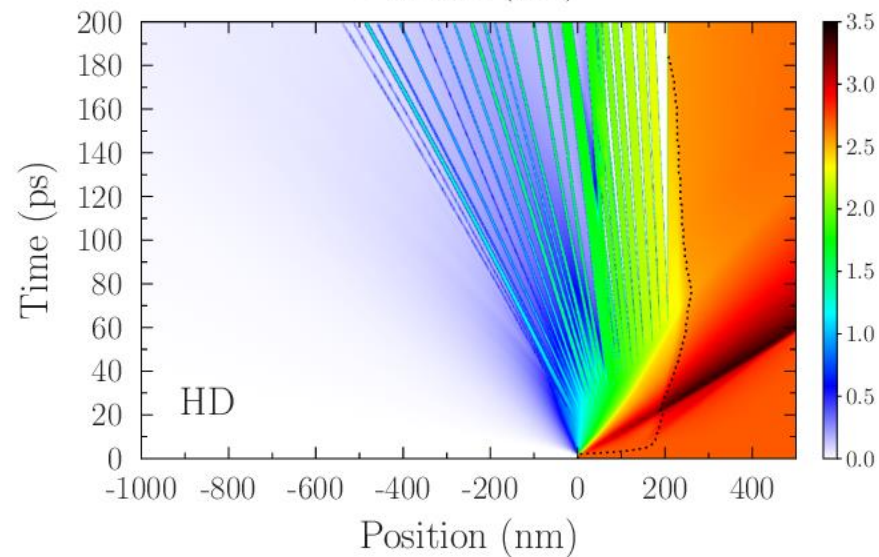
Density

$$\text{Al}, F = 2 \text{ J/cm}^2$$

TTM-MD

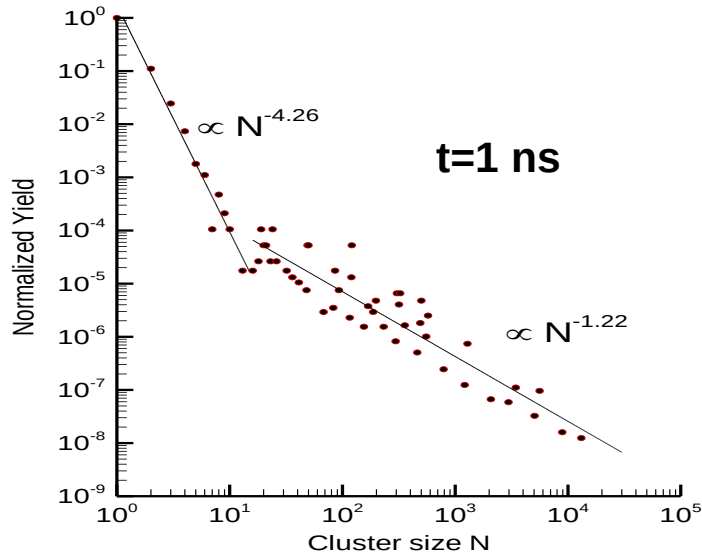


Hydrodynamics

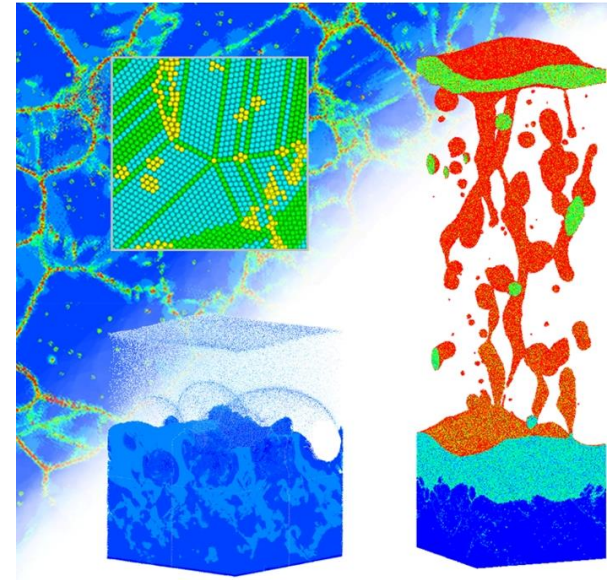
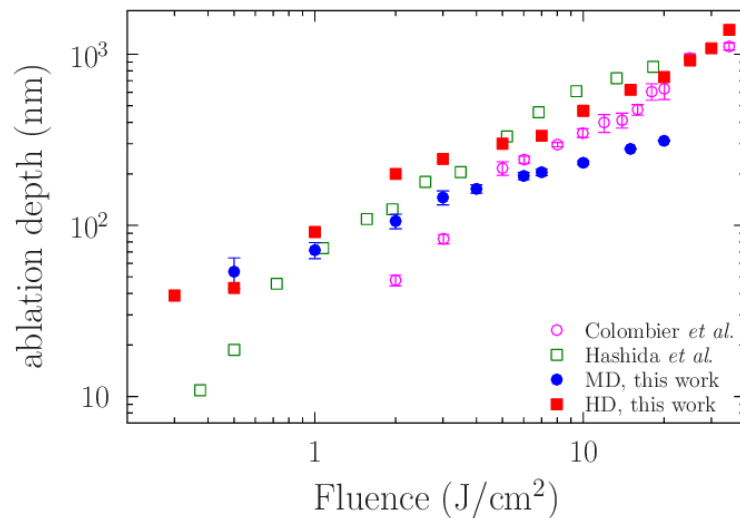


Molecular Dynamics Simulations

Allow to get nanoparticle size distributions and describe non-equilibrium processes



$\tau = 15$ ps, $F \sim 2$ Fth, 40×10 nm, $t = 1$ ns

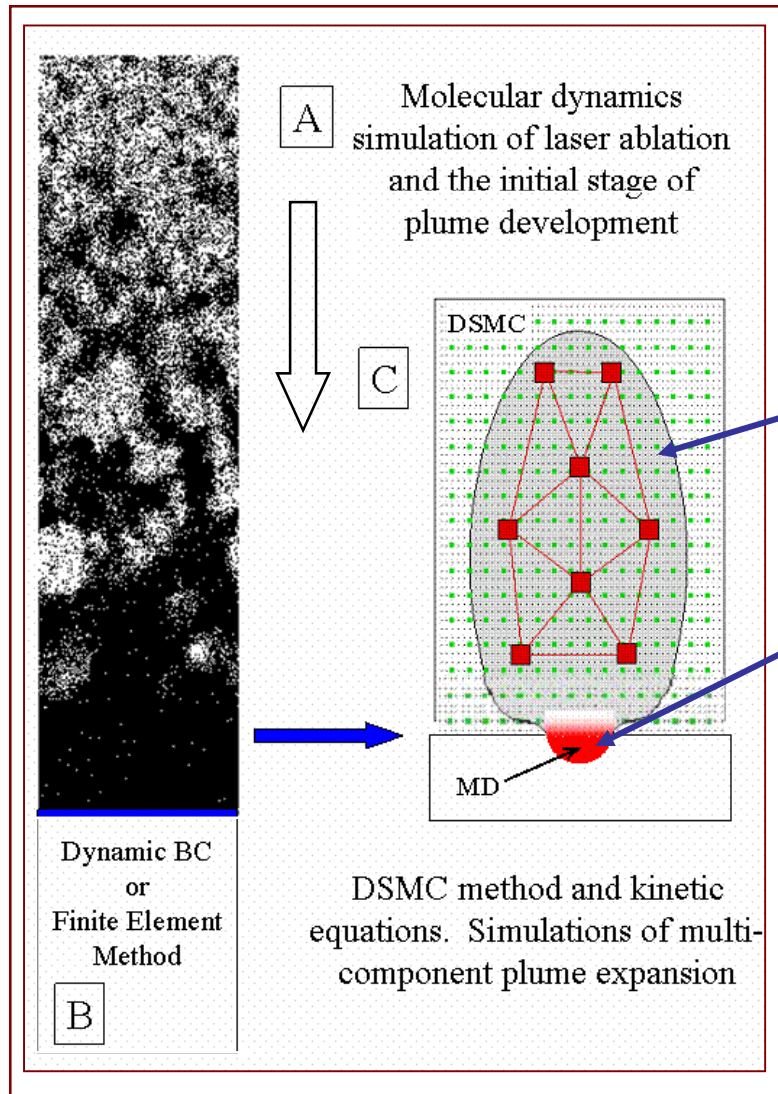


Collaboration with L.V. Zhigilei et al. (Virginia State University, USA)

Practically all the molten material is ablated

$$Labl \sim L_0 \ln(F_{abs}/F_0), \quad E > E_b$$

Longer Plume expansion: Combined Models



Combinaton

- Direct Simulation Monte Carlo

- Molecular Dynamics

Detailed information

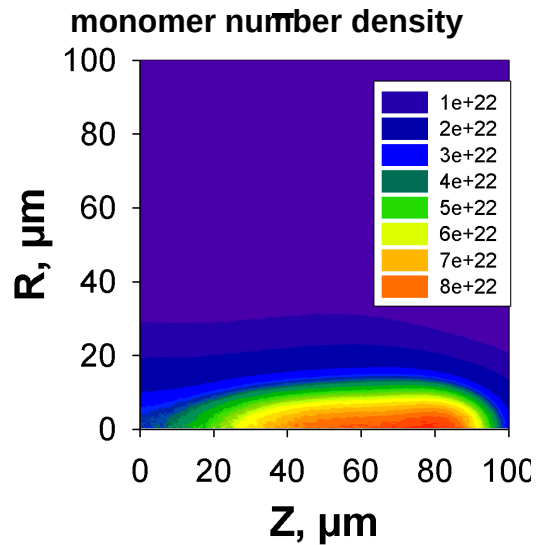
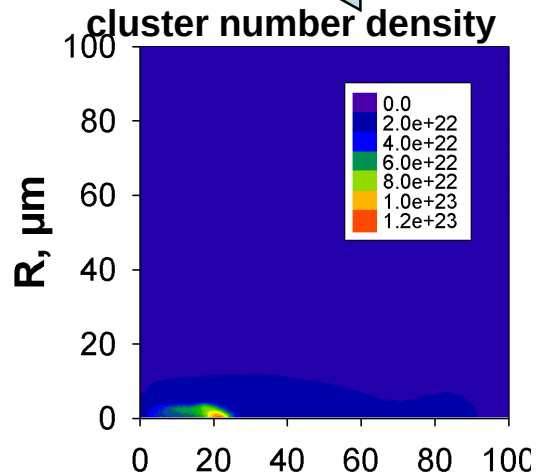
Continuous plume

Size distribution of aggregates

K. Gouriet, thèse (2008)

Combined Models vs Experiments

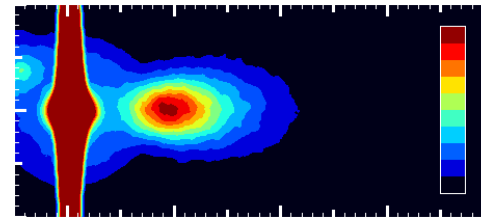
MD-DSMC



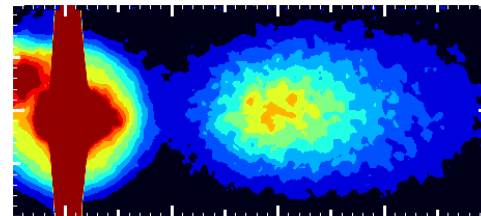
Numerical results

$t = 50 \text{ ns}, 15 \text{ ps}, F = 61 \text{ J/m}^2, R = 10 \text{ μm}$

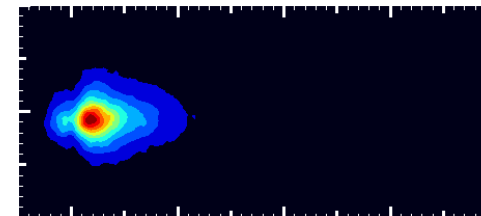
$$F_{las} = 4 \text{ Jcm}^{-2}$$



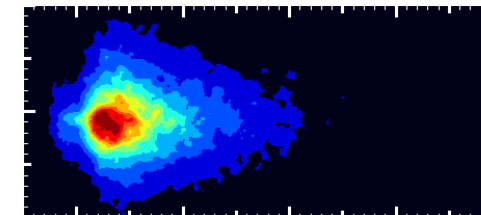
200 ns



400 ns



5 μs



10 μs

0 1 2 3 4 (mm)

Experimental results (J. Hermann, S. Noël)

100 fs $F = 4 \text{ J/cm}^2$

17

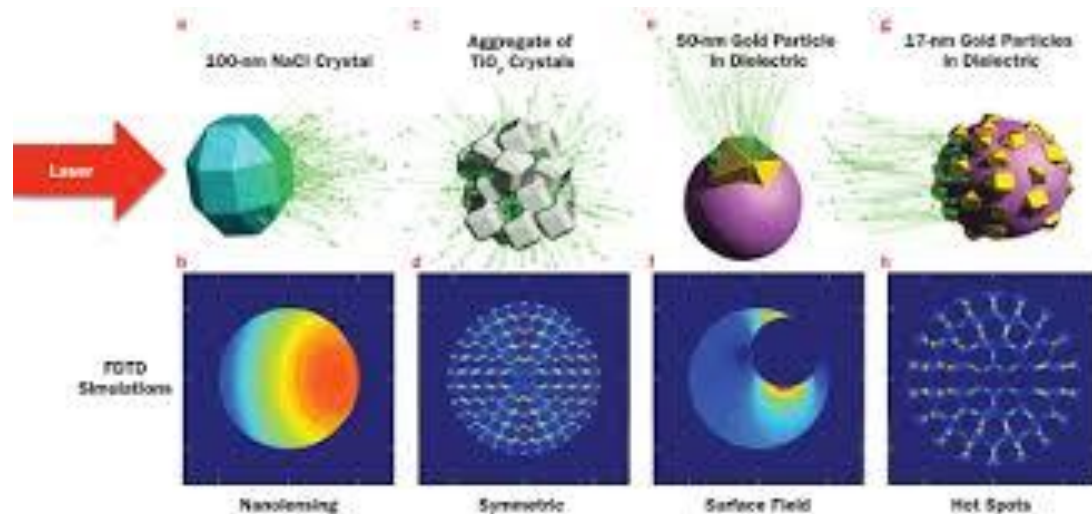
Outline

3. Laser interactions with nanoparticles.

Molecular dynamics simulation of nanoparticle collisions

Molecular dynamics simulation of alloy nanoparticles

Complex nano-objects



Laser Interaction with NPs in Ambient Medium

« Classical » Multi-Physics

Maxwell equations

$$\frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} = \frac{\nabla \times \vec{H} - \vec{J}}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$\frac{\partial \vec{H}}{\partial t} = -\frac{\nabla \times \vec{E}}{\mu_0}$$

Polarization current

$$\frac{\partial \vec{J}}{\partial t} = -\vec{J}\gamma + \frac{ne^2}{m}\vec{E}$$

Charge conservation, incompressible Fermi flow

$$\frac{\partial n}{\partial t} = -\frac{1}{e}\nabla[\vec{J} + \vec{J}_{em}] + \overset{\text{Photo-ionization}}{w_{PI}(I)} + \overset{\text{Avalanche}}{w_{AI}(I)}$$

Heat energy transfer

Electrons $C_e \frac{\partial T_e}{\partial t} = \nabla \cdot (k_e \nabla T_e) - \gamma_{ei}(T_e - T_i) + \vec{J} \cdot \vec{E}$

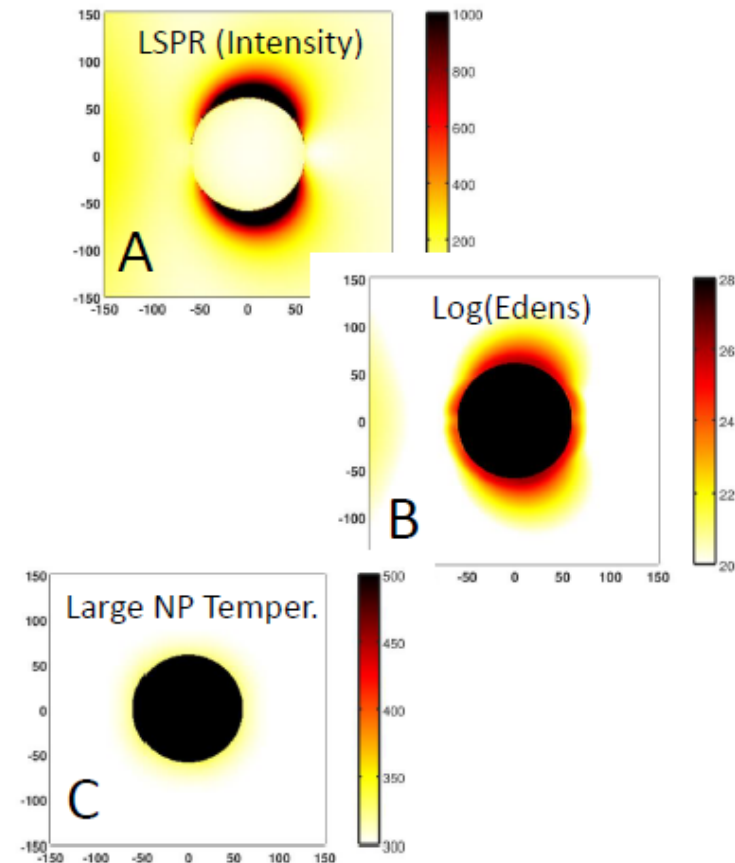
Nanoparticle

$$\rho_{NP} C_{NP} \frac{\partial T_{NP}}{\partial t} = \nabla \cdot (k_{NP} \nabla T_{NP}) + \gamma_{ei}(T_e - T_{NP}) + \frac{3h(T_m - T_{NP})}{R_{NP}}$$

Medium

$$\rho_m C_m \frac{\partial T_m}{\partial t} = \nabla \cdot (k_m \nabla T_m) + \gamma_{ei}(T_e - T_m) + 3h(T_{NP} - T_m)/R_{NP}$$

C_e, C_{NP}, C_m - heat capacities; k_e, k_{NP}, k_m - thermal conductivities;
 T_e, T_{NP}, T_m - temperatures; $\vec{J} \cdot \vec{E}$ - Joule heating source (absorption);
 γ_{ei}, h - energy transfer rates; ρ_{NP}, ρ_m - ion densities.



Advantages: rather easy equations, estimations of temperatures

Limitations: hard to correctly account for electron excitation, ejection/injection

Ultra-Short Laser Interaction with Au NPs in Water

fs laser
 $\lambda = 515 \text{ nm}$

What changes when nanoparticle size increases ?

$R = 10 \text{ nm}$

Comparable

to optical penetration depth
Weak field enhancement
Fast energy transfer to water

$R = 30 \text{ nm}$

Intermediate

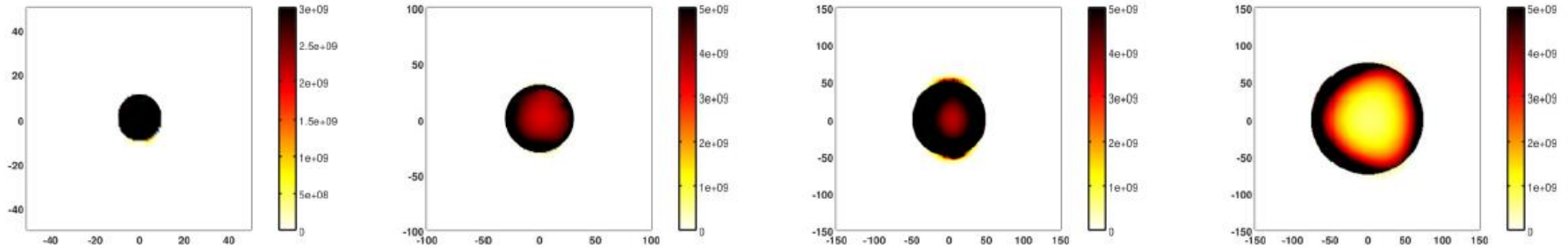
$R = 50 \text{ nm}$

Nearly resonant excitation
Strong field enhancement

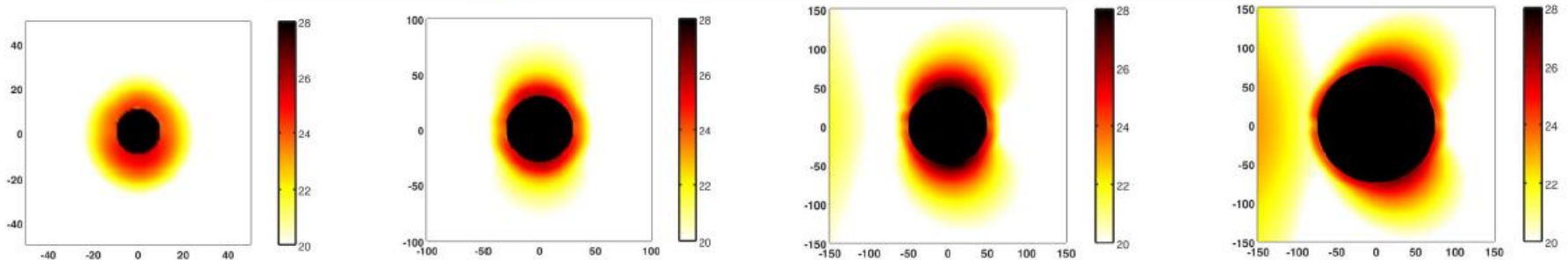
$R = 75 \text{ nm}$

Particle $\gg$ skin depth
Slow energy transfer to water

How the energy is absorbed ? (J/m^3)



How many free carriers are generated ? $\log(\text{m}^{-3})$

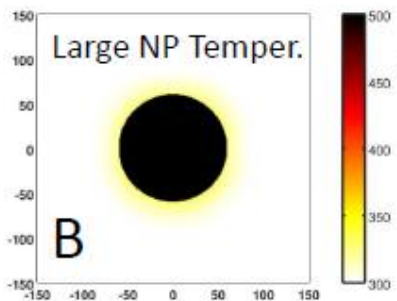
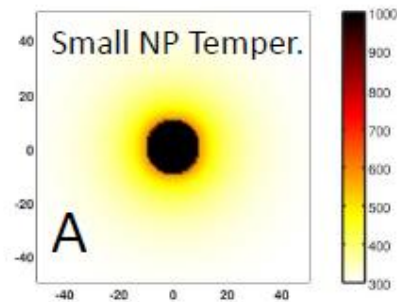


Laser Interaction with Au NPs in Water

Three interaction regimes and the mechanisms involved

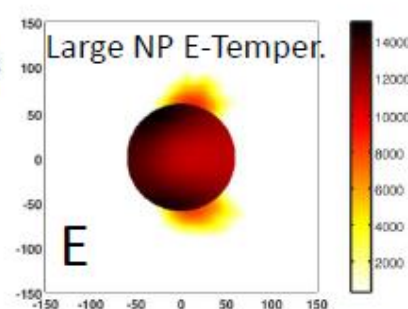
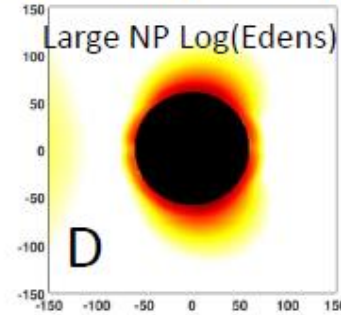
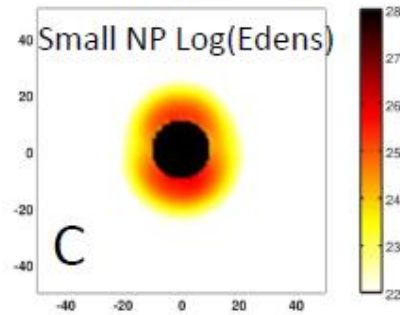
Regime I

Laser heats Au NP;
Au NP transfers heat to water



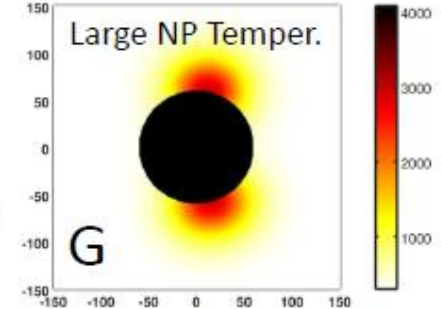
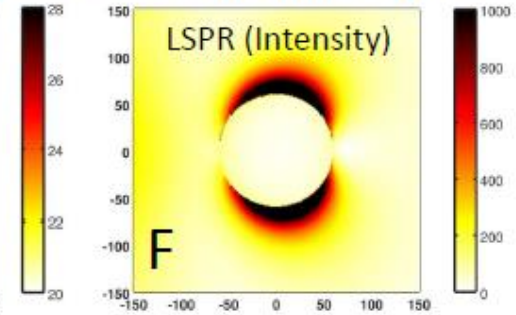
Regime II

E-ph emission from Au NP
to water interface;
Emitted Carriers heat water



Regime III

LSPR triggers water
photo-ionization;
Induced Carriers heat water



Due to inhomogeneous
distribution
of absorbed energy



Ultra-Short Laser Interaction with Au NPs in Water

Three regimes are distinguished as a function of nanoparticle sizes

Regime I

Laser heats Au NP;
Au NP transfers heat to water

Regime II

E-ph emission from Au NP
to water interface;
Emitted Carriers heat water

Regime III

LSPR triggers water
photo-ionization;
Induced Carriers heat water

Maxwell equations

$$\frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} = \frac{\nabla \times \vec{H} - \vec{J}}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$\frac{\partial \vec{H}}{\partial t} = -\frac{\nabla \times \vec{E}}{\mu_0}$$

Polarization current with quantum corrections

$$\frac{\partial \vec{J}}{\partial t} = -\vec{J}\gamma + \frac{ne}{m}[e\vec{E} + \nabla \frac{\delta G}{\delta n}]$$

Quantum pressure

$$\frac{\delta G}{\delta n} = \frac{\hbar^2}{2m}(3\pi^2 n)^{2/3} + \dots$$

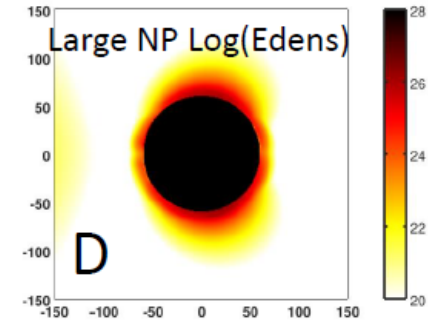
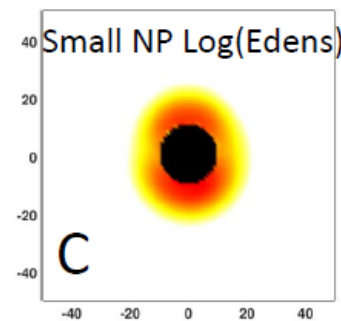
Thomas-Fermi

Quantum kinetic energy
for uniform gas

$$\frac{\partial n}{\partial t} = -\frac{1}{e}\nabla \vec{J} + w_{PI}(I) + w_{AI}(I)$$

Photo-ionization

Avalanche
ionization



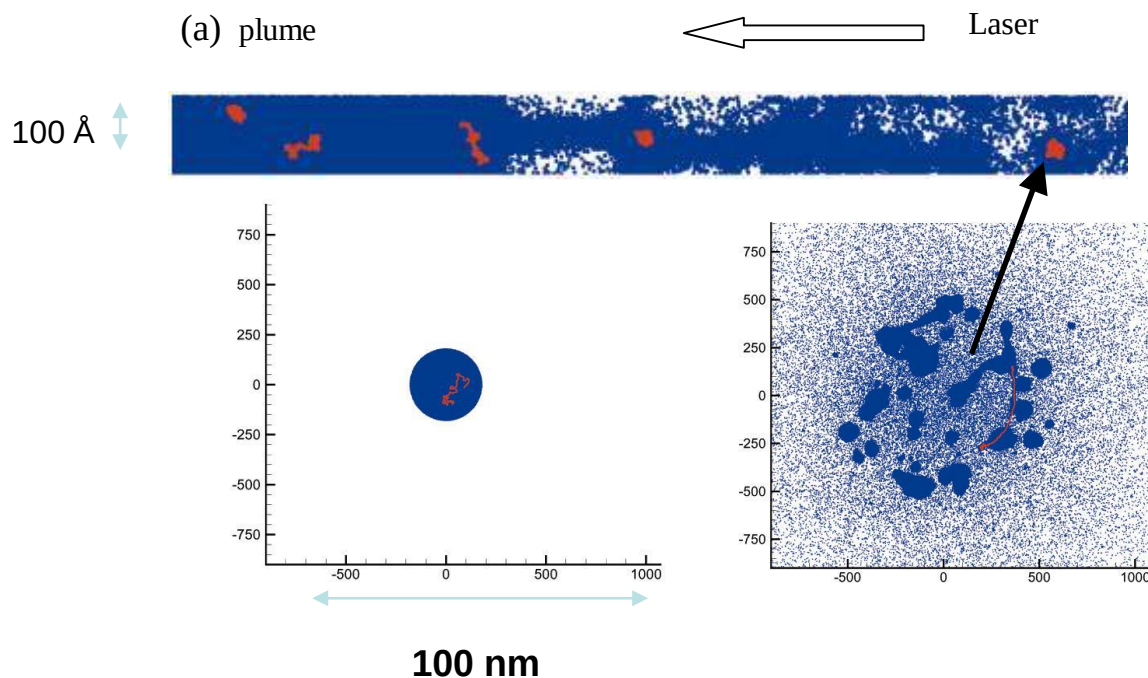
Molecular Dynamics Simulations

Decomposition of the ablated material after the absorption of laser radiation

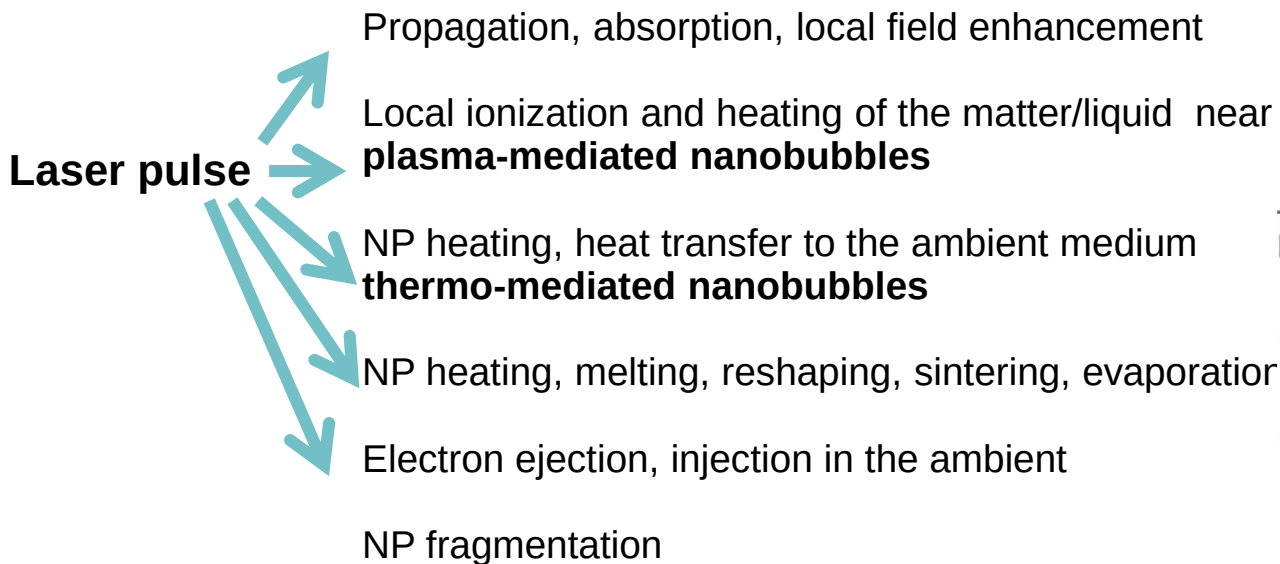
$t = 300$ ps after the beginning of the laser pulse

$\tau = 15$ ps

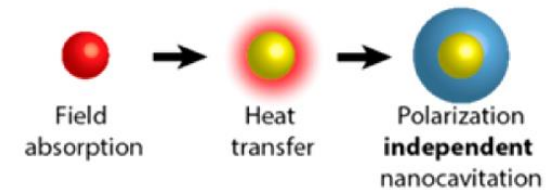
$e = 0.6$ eV per molecule



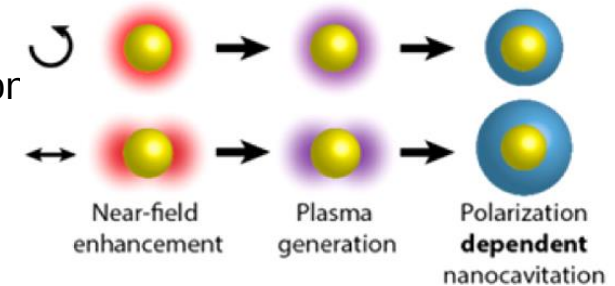
Ultra-short Laser Interactions with NPs



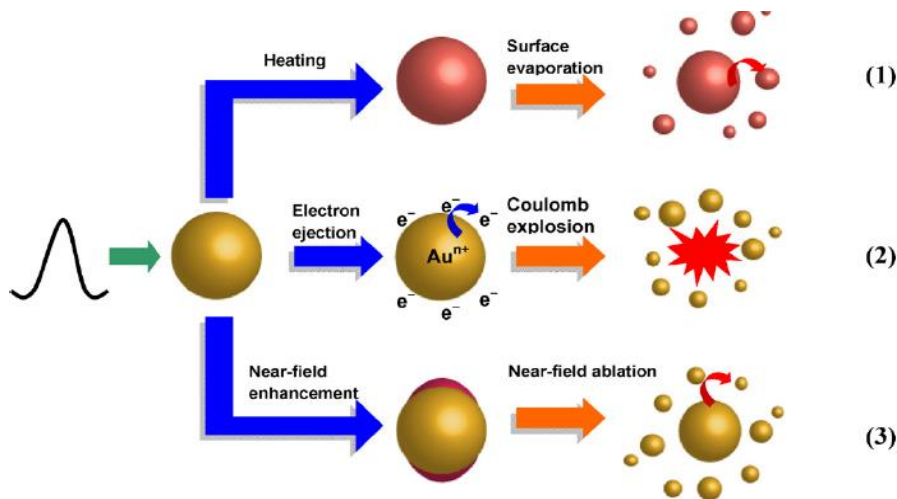
Thermo-mediated nanobubbles



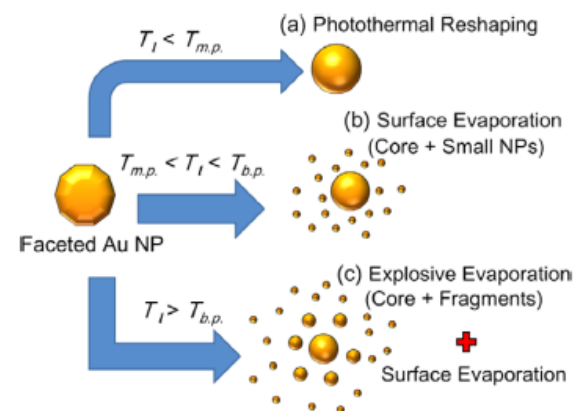
Plasma-mediated nanobubbles



Lachaine et al. Photonics (2013)



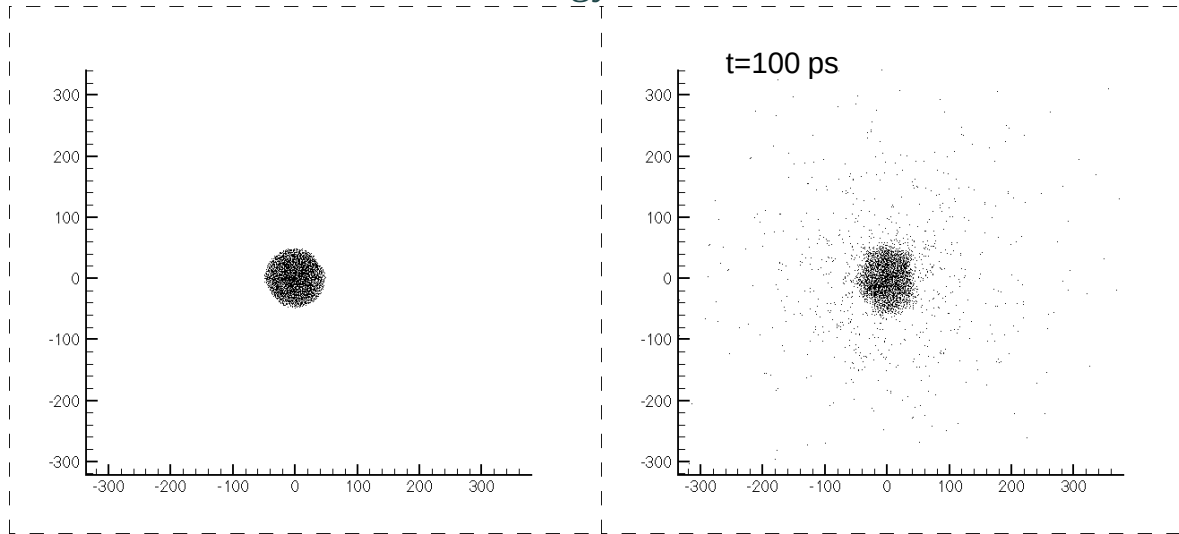
Hashimoto et al. J. PhotChem&PhotBiology (2012)



Strasser et al., J. Phys.Chem. C 118, 25748 (2014)

Laser Fragmentation of NPs: MD simulations

$R=50 \text{ \AA}$, absorbed energy $e=0.6 \text{ eV/mol}$

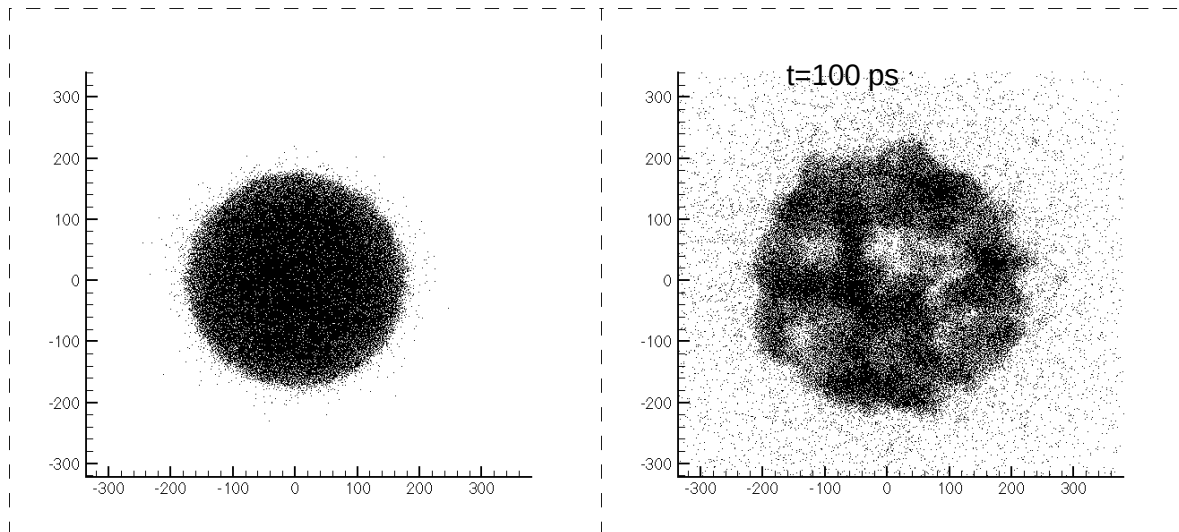


Smaller NPs

Evaporation

(can be also due to
Coulomb Explosion for
small clusters and fs
laser)

$R=150 \text{ \AA}$, absorbed energy $e=0.6 \text{ eV/mol}$.

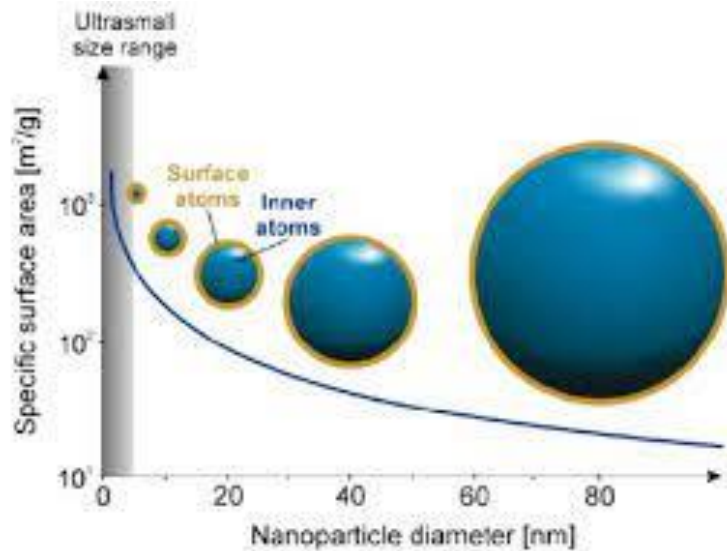


Larger NPs

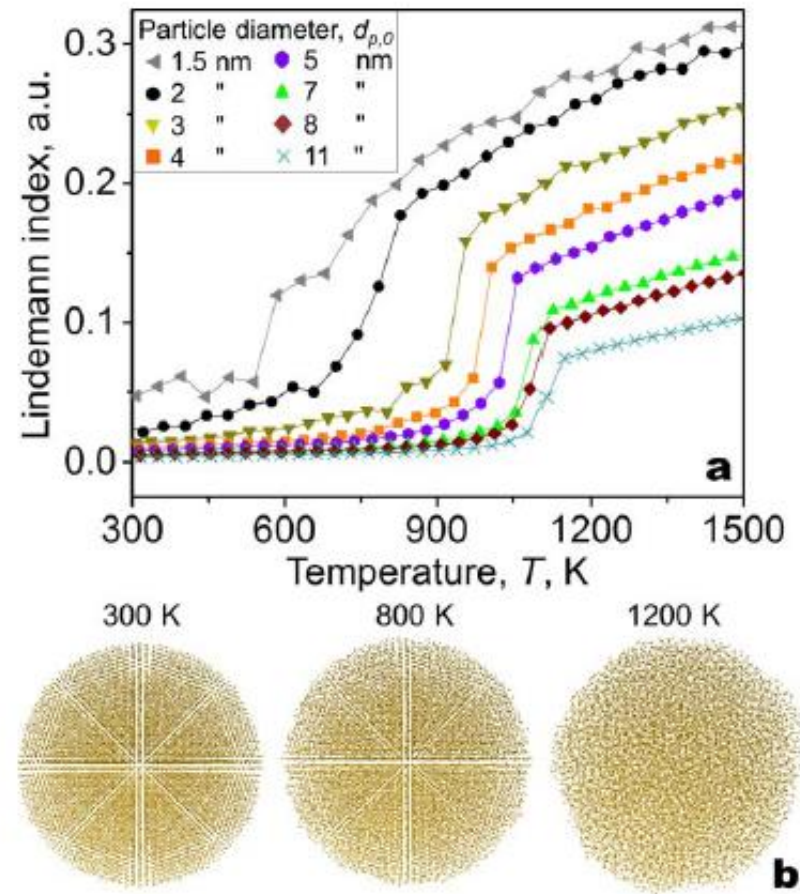
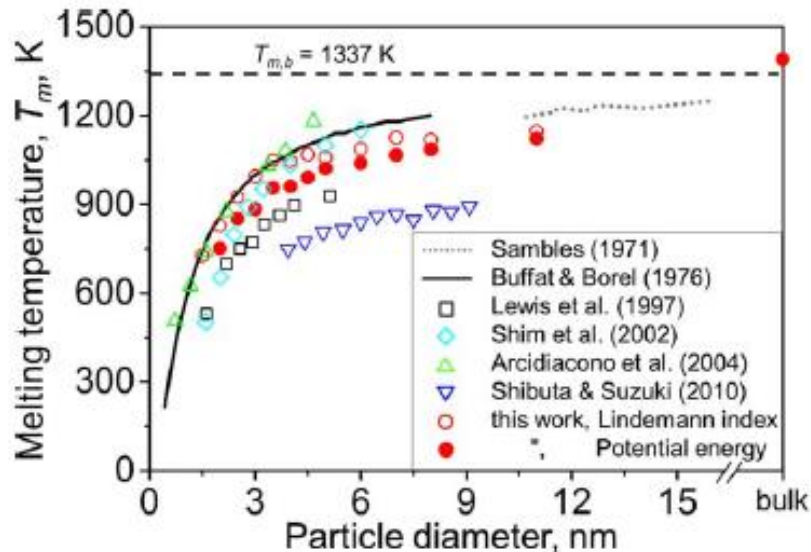
**Fragmentation due to
thermo-mechanical
effects**

NP's Heating and Melting : Size Effects

Melting and structural transformations: role of NP's sizes



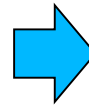
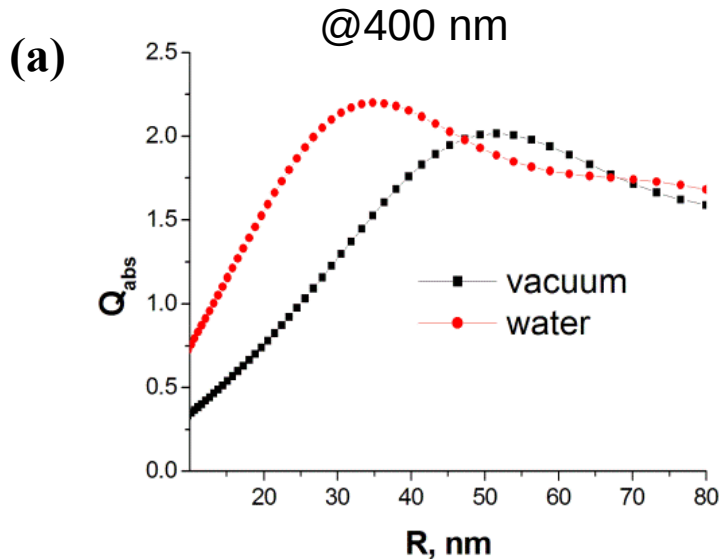
K. Zarschler et al. [Nanomed-Nanotechnol](#) 12, 1663-1701 (2016).



E. Goudeli et al., *AIChE* 2015

Laser Energy Absorption vs NP's size

Absorption coefficient / efficiency
(beyond SPR for gold)

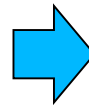
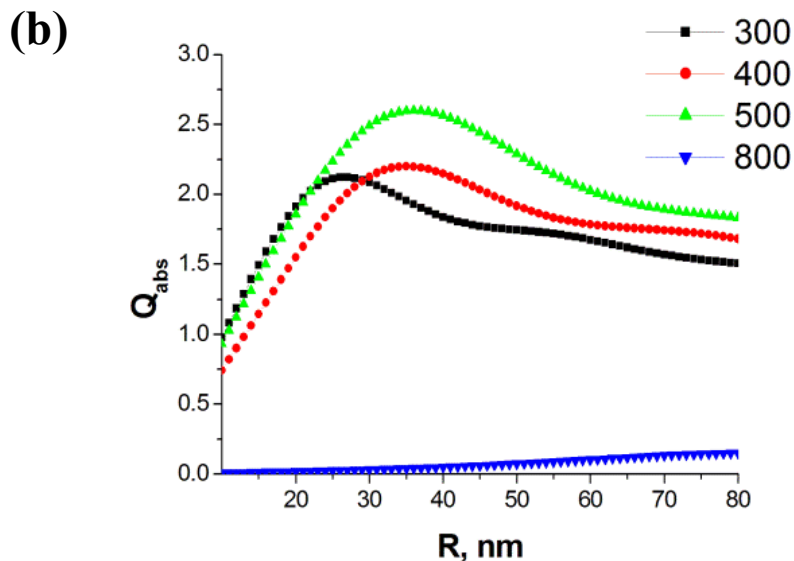


Generalized Mie theory=>

Red – Gold NPs in for water

Black – Gold NPs in vacuum

- **peak in absorption at $R=R^* \sim 30$ nm for Au NP in water**

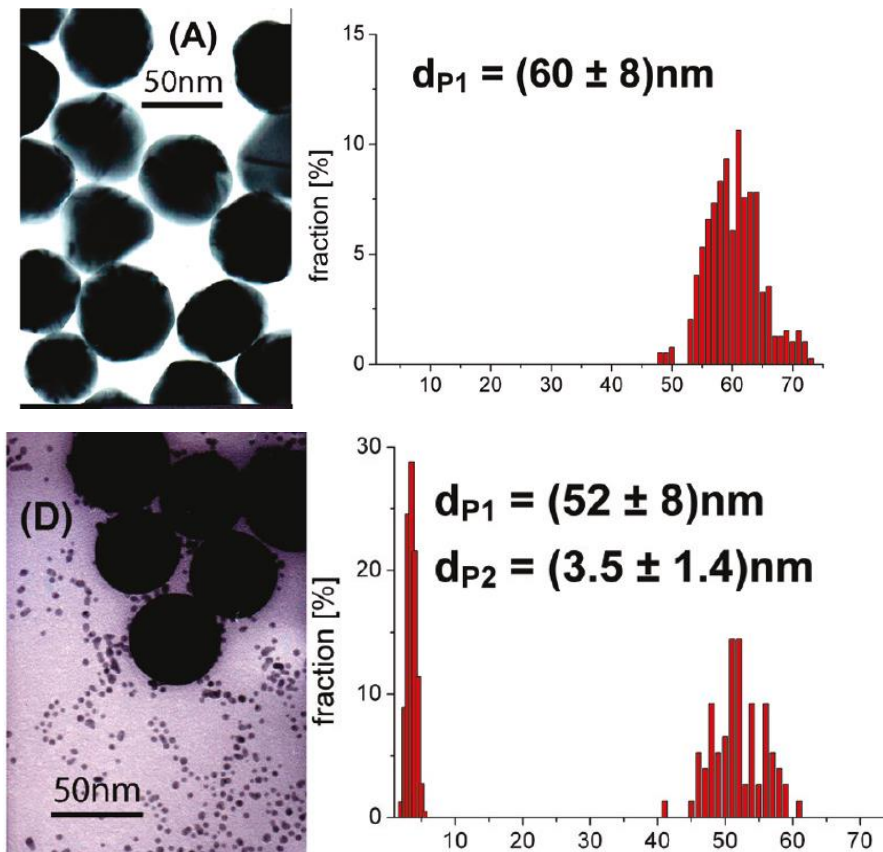


Gold NPs in water for different wavelength @300-800nm

- **peak position is shifted to larger $R=R^*$ if wavelength rises**

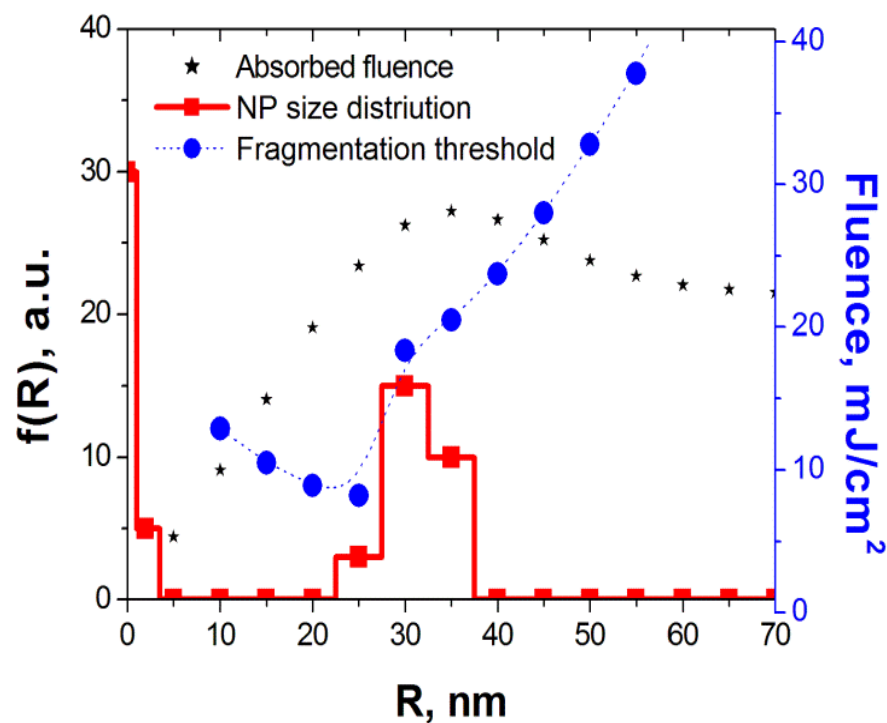
Ultra-short Laser Interaction with Au NPs in Water

Experiments



Werner et al. *J. Phys. Chem. C*, 2011, 115, 8503

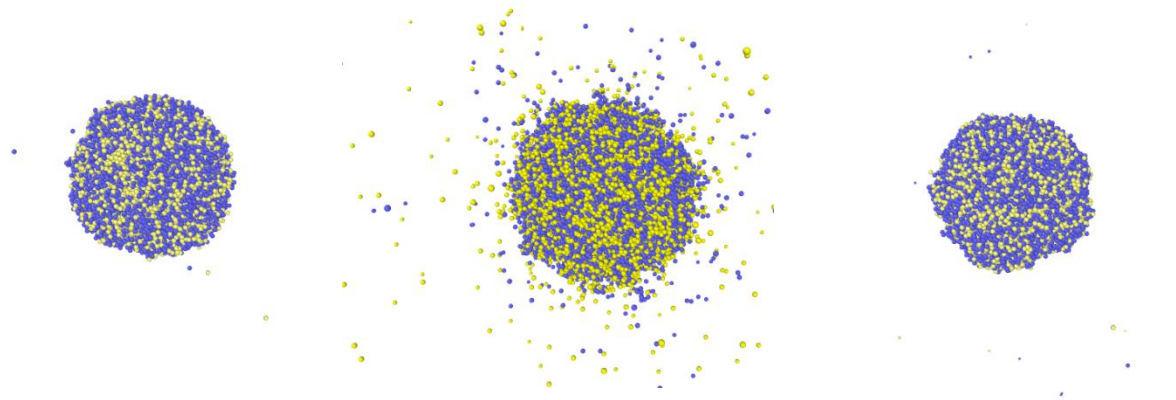
Modeling



Good correlation with evaporation threshold vs R

Metal NPs: Evaporation vs Fragmentation

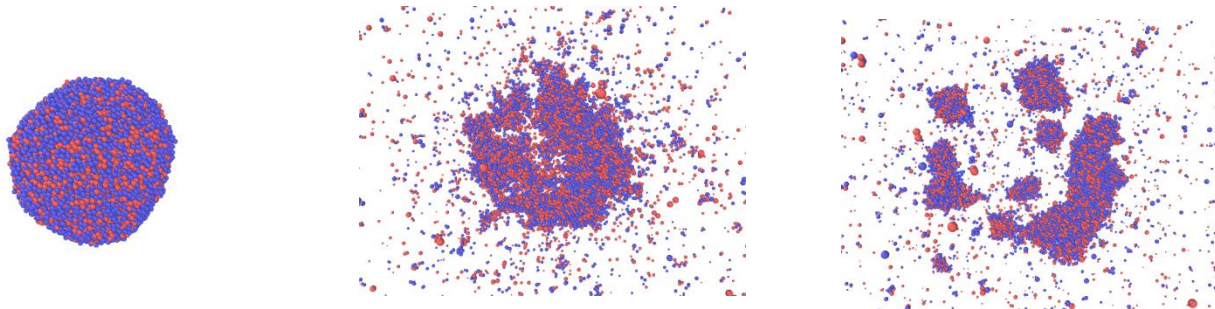
Au-Co , R= 40 50%,
absorbed energy below threshold



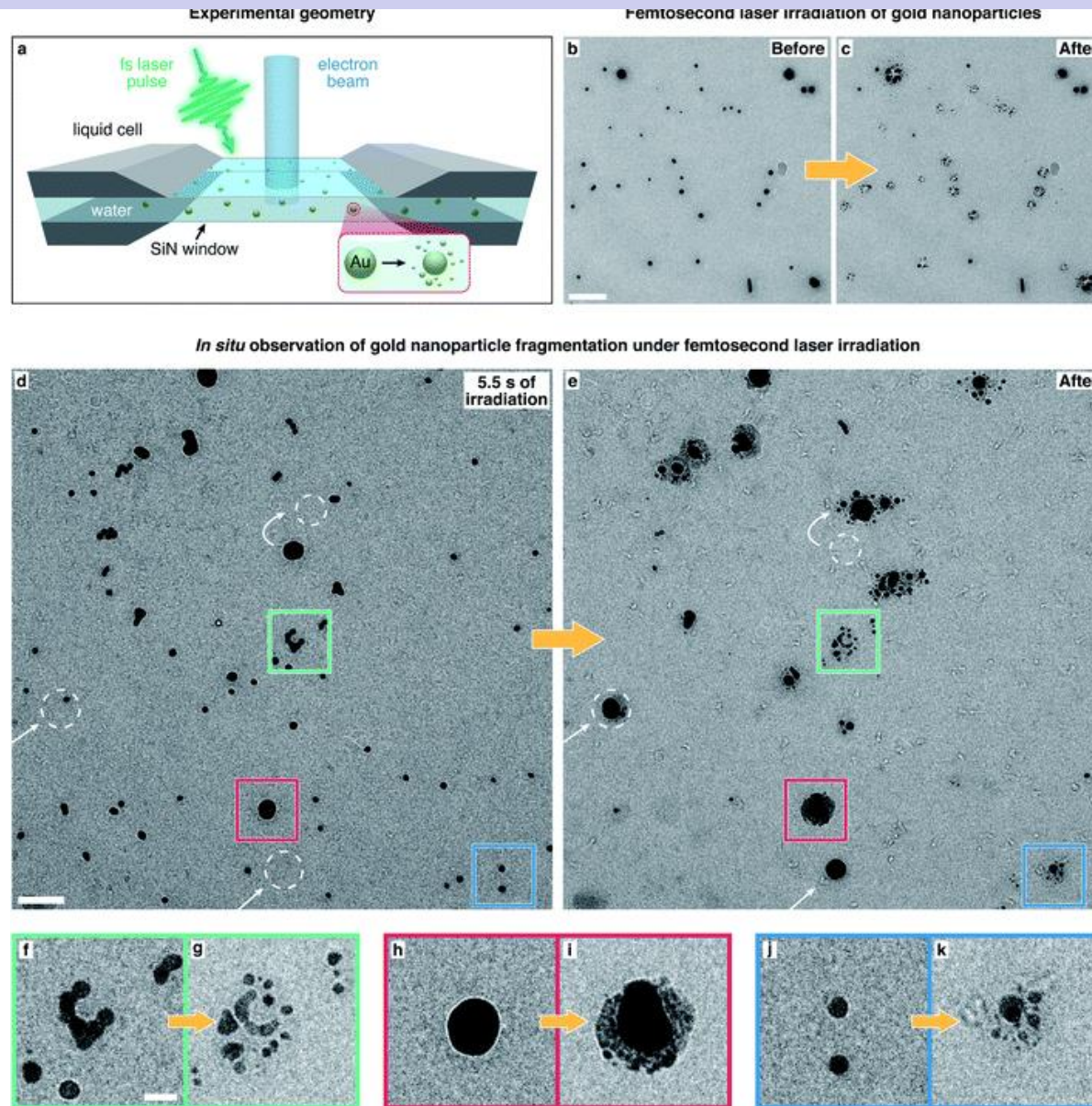
We number
(drag force/coherence
force)

$W_{ed} = (E_d/E_k) W_e$
(deformation energy)/
kinetic energies

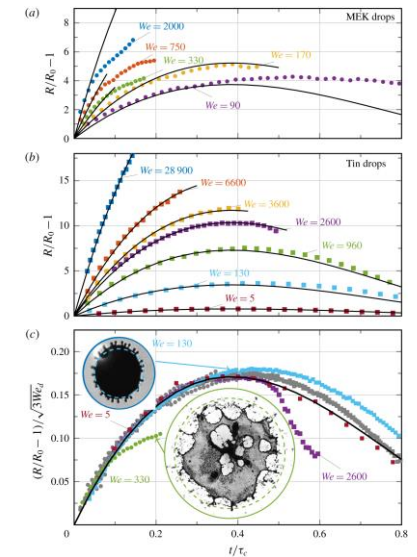
Au-Co , 50% R40 time: 0, 150, 400,
absorbed energy above threshold



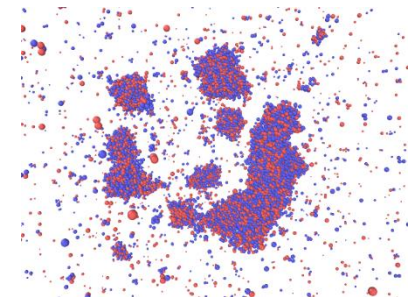
Metal NPs Fragmentation: Experiments



AL Klein · 2020 drop model



Look similar to MD results for NP

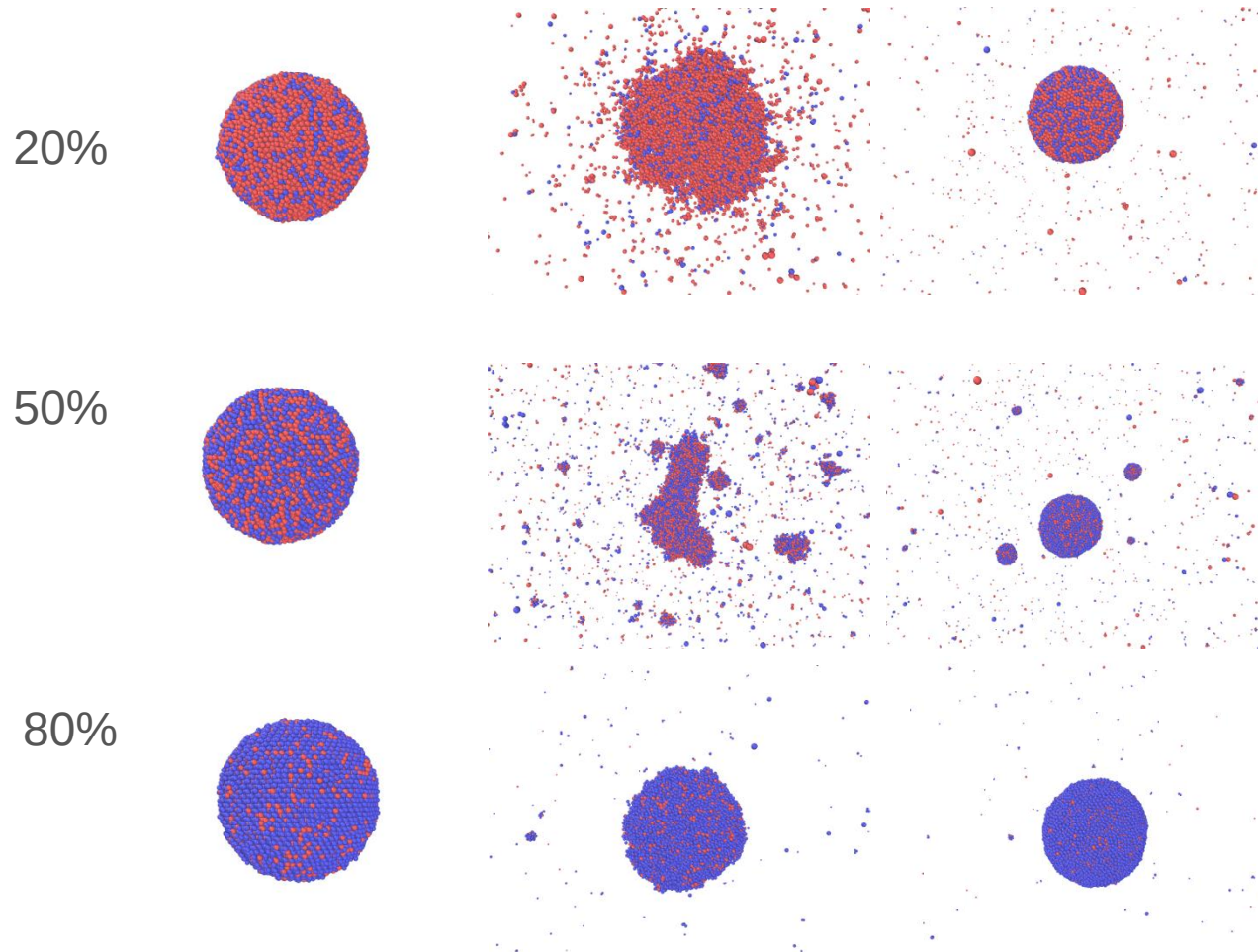


Gold nanoparticles in water

G. Bongiovanni et al.
Nanoscale Adv., 2021, **3**, 5277-5283

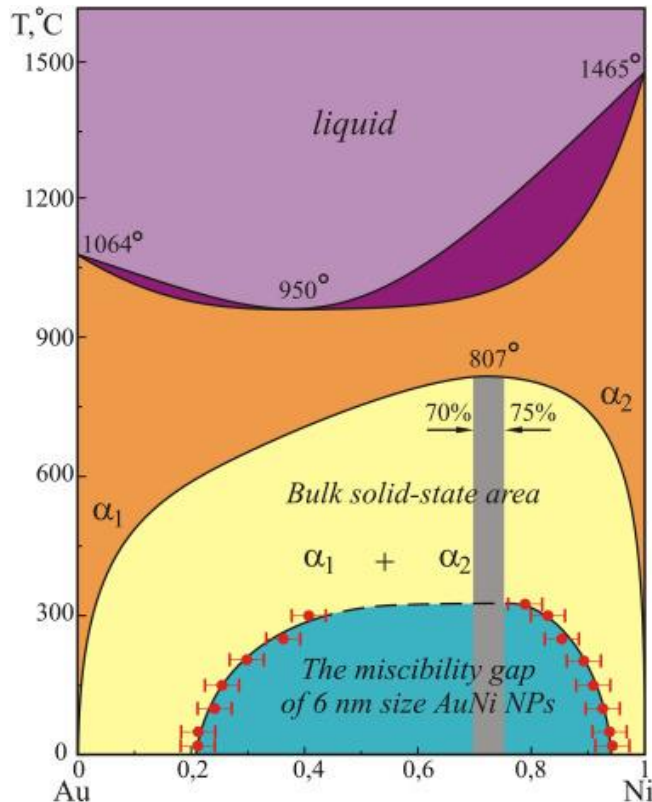
Alloy NPs: Composition affects fragmentation

Au-Ni 0, 500, 1600, NP's fragmentation depends non-linearly on Ni fraction



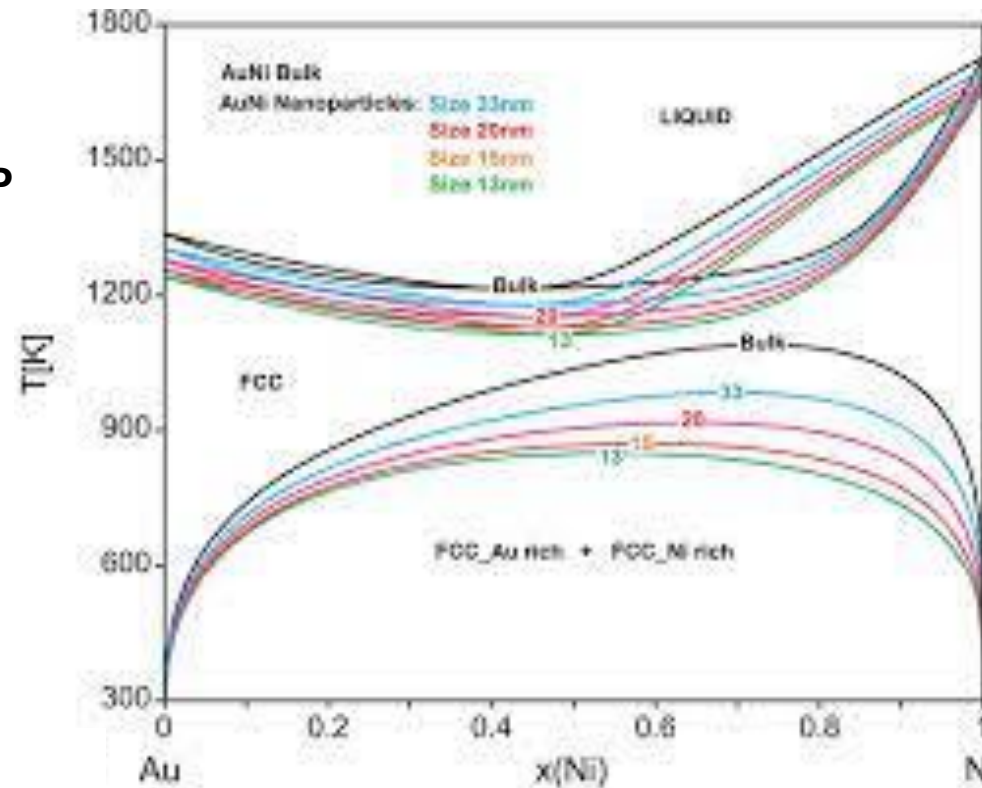
Phase diagrams: NP vs Bulk Material

The Au Ni system [phase diagram](#) [*] and the experimentally constructed miscibility gap.



Au-Ni NP

NB: Under equilibrium conditions



J. Sopoušek et al CALPHAD: Computer Coupling of Phase Diagrams and Thermochemistry 58 (2017) 25–33

*H.Okamoto. ASM International. (2000), 828.

S. Bogatyrenko et al, Scripta Materialia, 170 September

Pages 57-61

$$G^{XS} = X_{Ni}X_{Au}(24,140X_{Au} + 38,280X_{Ni} - 14,230X_{Au}X_{Ni})\left(1 - \frac{T}{2660}\right)J \quad 32$$

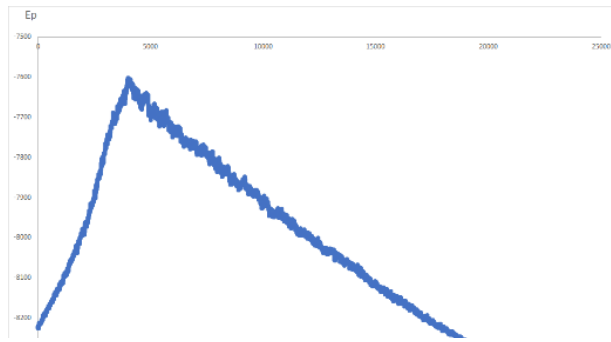
NP Sintering or Alloying

FeNP R=10 uc AuNP R = 20 uc FeNP 1700+AuNP 1700

time

Different sizes and species,
but the same temperatures

Time-evolution of energy

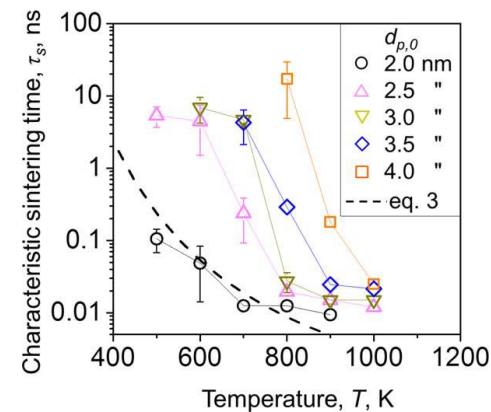


100ps



- Simulation starts from a Janus configuration
- Then both particles are heated to the same temperature
- Then, the system is cooled down back to room temperature

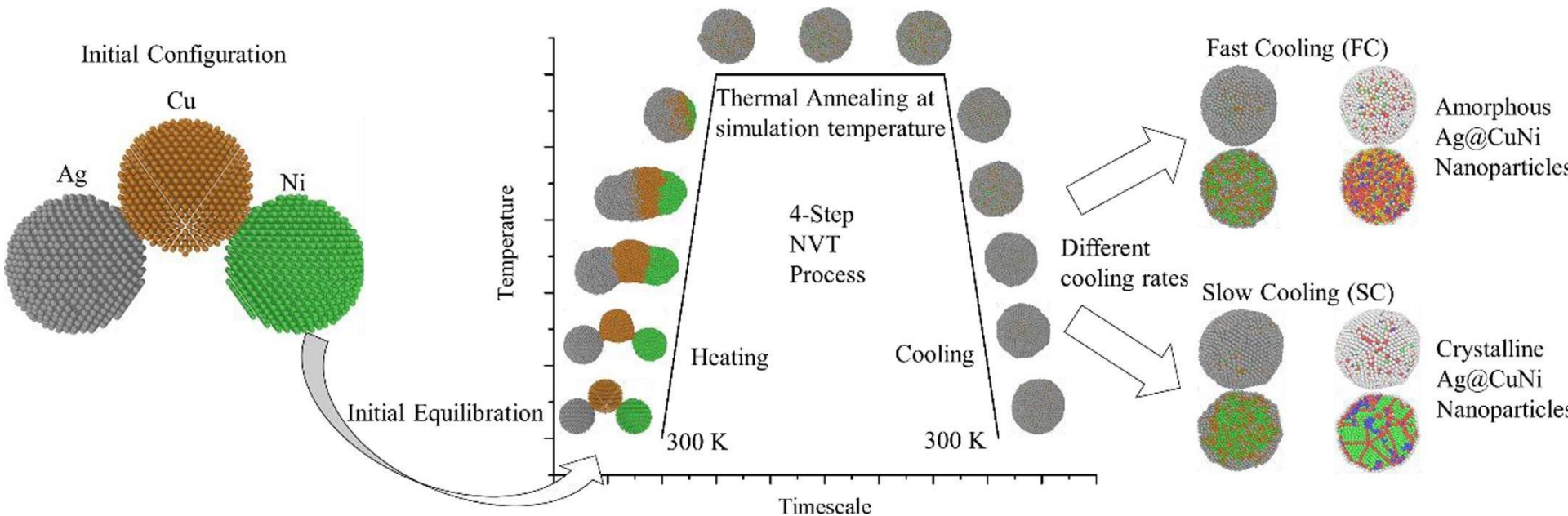
Core-shells can be formed when one particle is much larger and is composed of a material with different cohesive energy



E. Goudeli et al.,
AIChE 2015

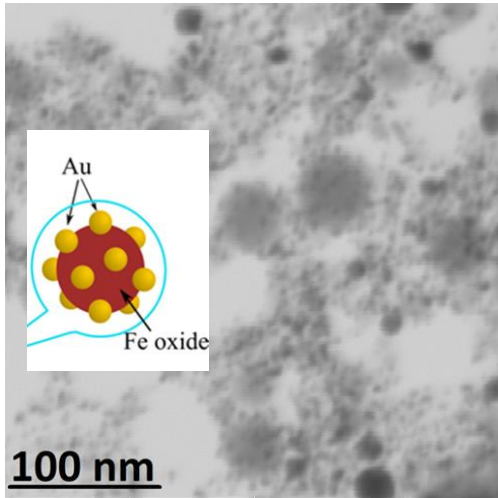
Sintering vs Alloying, High-Entropy Alloys

AgCuNi, 10,843 atoms

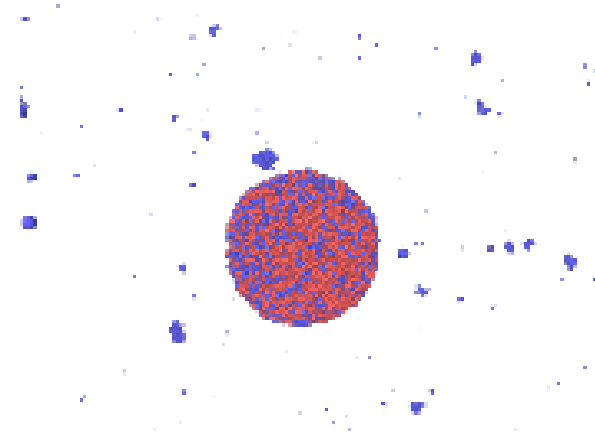
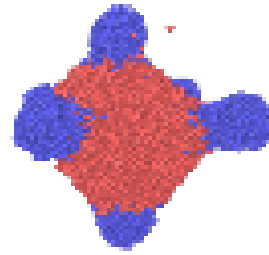
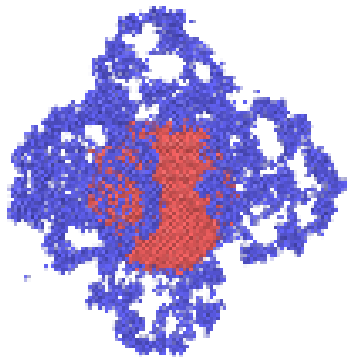


For heating simulations, we studied only the heating part. For cooling simulations, we studied full timescale. Right, cooling part investigated with 2 cooling rates, fast cooling (FC), $1 \times 10^{13} \text{ K s}^{-1}$ and slow cooling (SC), $1 \times 10^{11} \text{ K s}^{-1}$

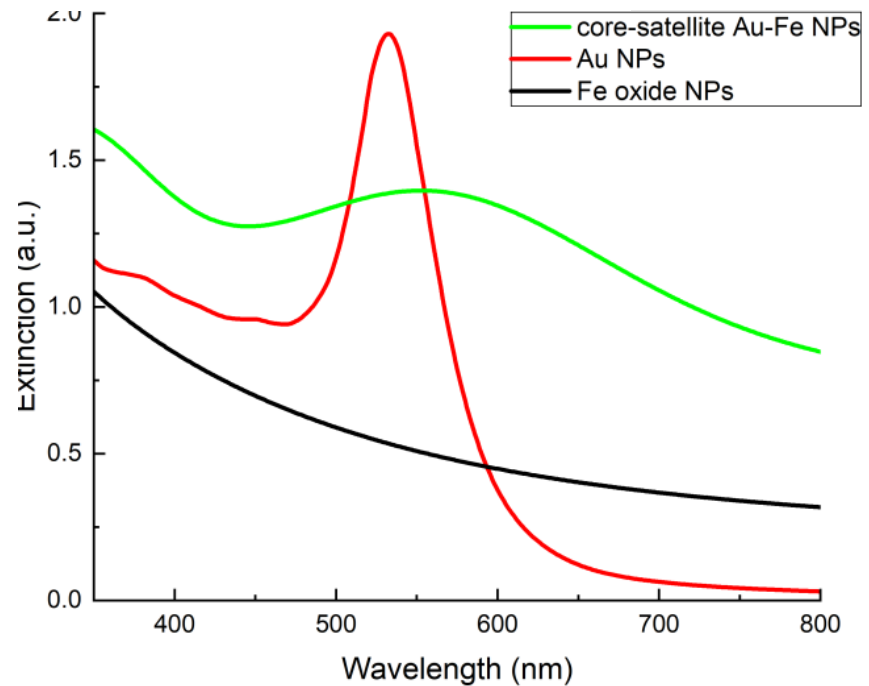
Complex Nano-Objects Formation by Laser Co-Ablation



:STEM image of nanostructures, obtained by mixing of negatively charged laser-ablated Au NPs and positively charged laser-ablated Fe oxide NPs. Right: Calculated extinction spectra of bare Au NPs (red line), Fe oxide NPs (black line) and core-satellite Au-Fe NPs (green line).



Raspberry –like, core-shells or alloys



4. Modeling nanoparticle formation in porous matrices

Ion-impregnated porous thin films

- sol-gel mesoporous films are prepared and impregnated by salts
- these samples are then irradiated by laser

Porous films:

SiO_2 , TiO_2

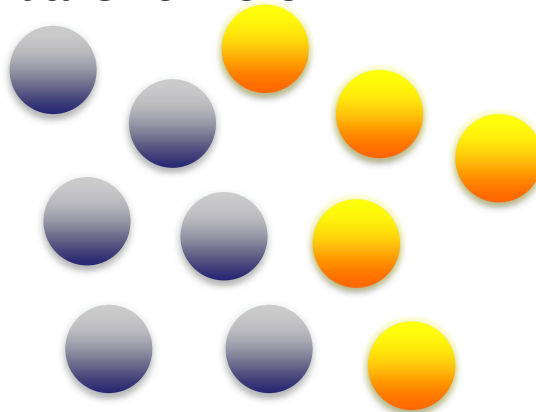
Sol-gel synthesized
Porosity ~ 10%
Porous size 5-7 nm



Metallic NPs:

Ag, Au

Produced by soaking in metallic
salts solutions with consequent
reduction
Initial size < 3-5 nm



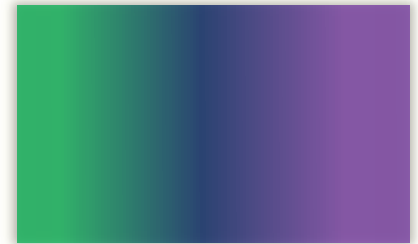
Laser irradiation:

CW

Nanosecond

Picosecond

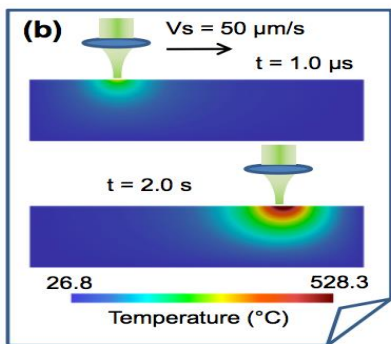
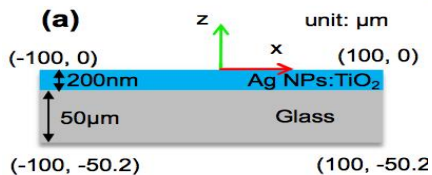
Femtosecond



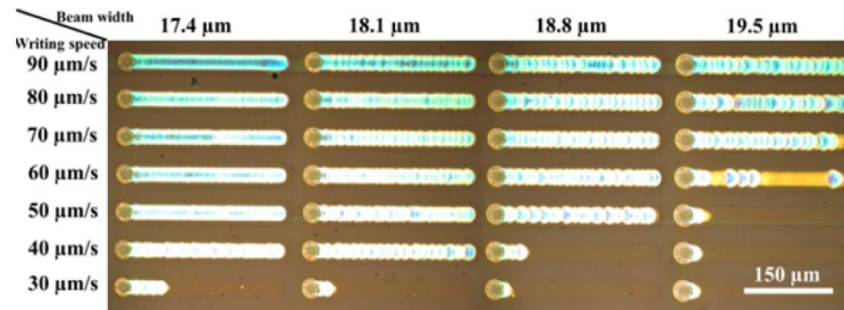
Ion-impregnated porous glasses and semiconductors
can be used as samples for following laser-induced nano-structuring

Scanning laser irradiation of Ag-TiO₂

2 different regimes



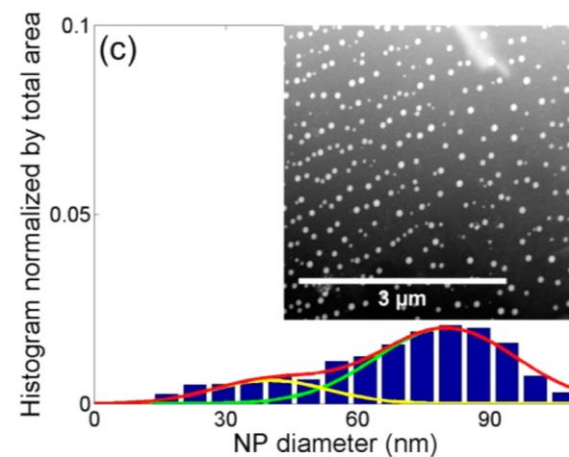
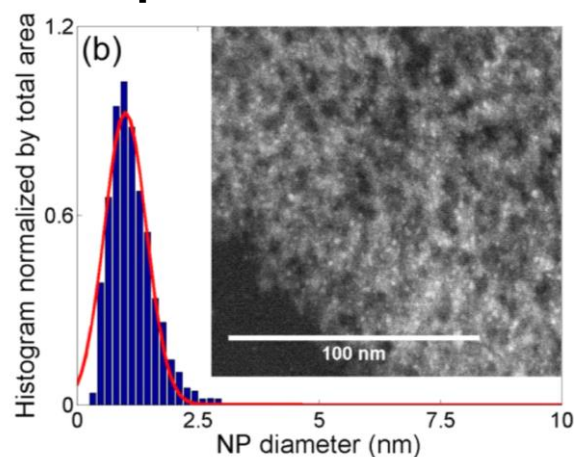
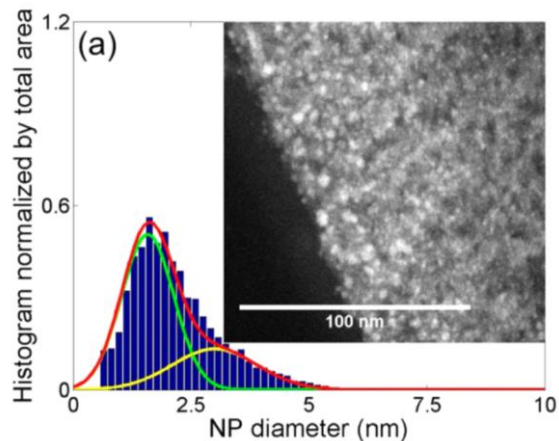
Initial state



Random NPs

Periodic NPs self-organization

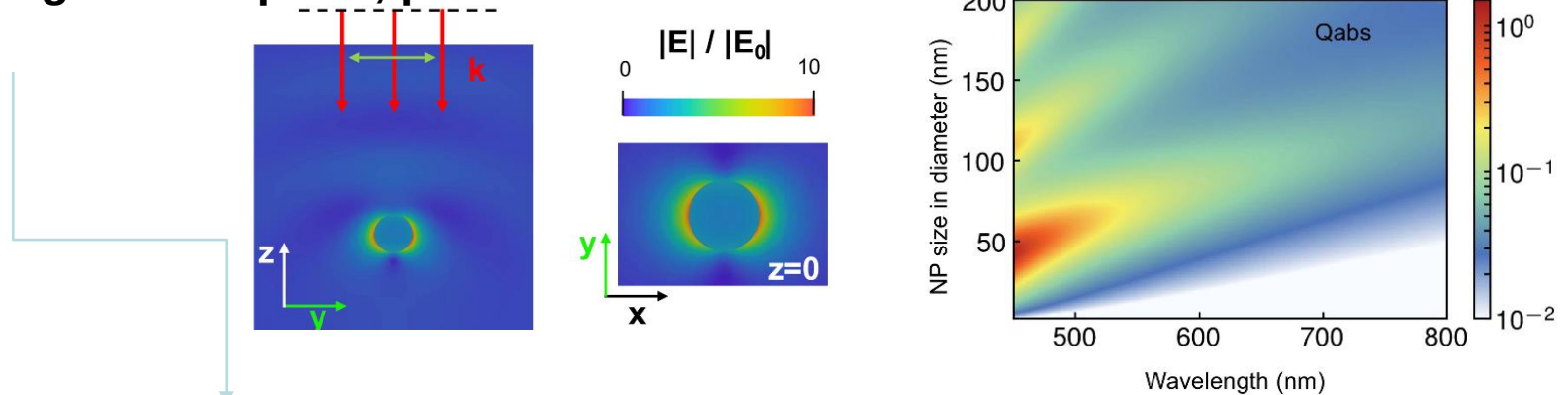
Scan speed below threshold Scan speed above threshold



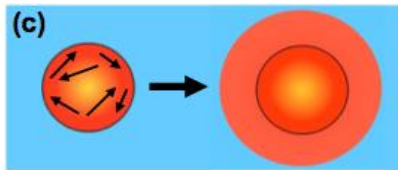
$$P_{av} = 150 \text{ mW}, d_0 = 22.9 \mu\text{m}.$$

Nanoparticle formation and growth

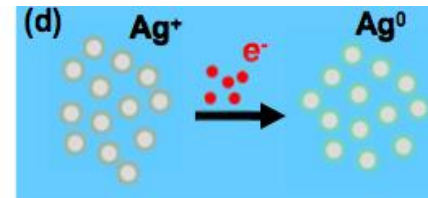
1. Laser light absorption, plasmon resonances



2. Heating and thermal diffusion

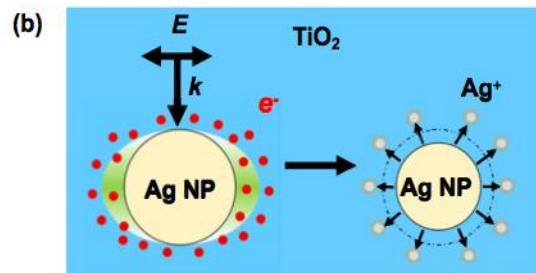
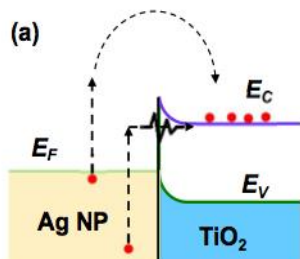


3. Photoemission and reduction

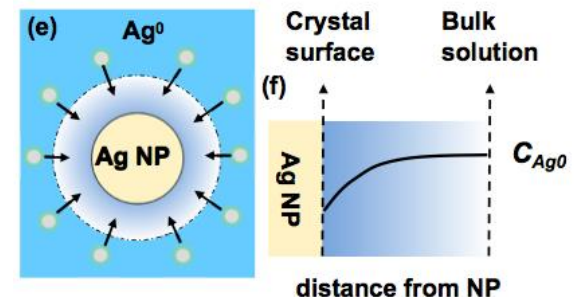


H. Ma et al. *J. Phys. Chem. C* 123.42 (2019): 25898-25907

5. Photo-oxydation



6. NPs growth



Multi-scale and multi-physical mechanisms are involved.

Self-consistent absorption, kinetics and heat transfer

$$\frac{dC_{Ag^+}}{dt} = n_{oxi}(t)[C_{NP}(t) + \frac{R(t)}{3} \frac{dC_{NP}}{dR}] - \frac{dC_{Ag^+}}{dt}|_{red}$$

Ag^+ variations

$$\frac{dC_{Ag^0}^{BS}}{dt} = -n_{abs}(t)[C_{NP}(t) + \frac{R(t)}{3} \frac{dC_{NP}}{dR}] + \frac{dC_{Ag^+}}{dt}|_{red}$$

Ag^0 variations

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = [n_{abs}(t) - n_{oxi}(t)] \cdot \frac{\omega}{4\pi R^2}$$

NPs radius

$$C_m \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \nabla \cdot (k_m \nabla T) + \alpha_{abs} \cdot I(x, y, z, t)$$

heat diffusion

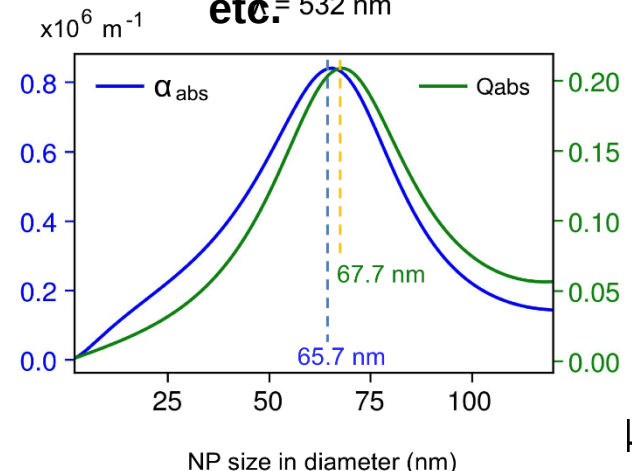
reflection

$$I(x, y, z, t) = [1 - \Lambda(x, y)] I_0(x, y, t) \exp(-z\alpha_{abs})$$

Absorption

Mie theory and/or effective medium models: Maxwell-Garnett, C-M, Bergman, etc. = 532 nm

$$I_0(x, y, t) = \frac{P_0}{\pi w_0^2/2} \cdot \exp\left\{-\frac{2[(x-V_s t)^2 + y^2]}{w_0^2}\right\}$$



H. Ma, et al. *J. Phys. Chem. C* 123.42 (2019): 25898-25907.

H. Ma, PhD thesis, UJM 2020

Modeling details

$$n_{oxi}(t) = \eta_0 \frac{\sigma_{abs}(R, \lambda) I(x, y, z, t)}{h\nu}$$

NP photo-oxidation

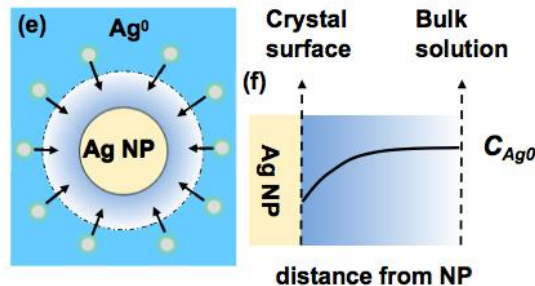
$$\frac{dC_{Ag^+}}{dt}|_{red} = \exp\left(-\frac{E_p}{N_A k_B T}\right) \cdot D_0^{red} \exp\left(-\frac{E_D}{N_A k_B T}\right) \cdot C_{red} C_{Ag^+}^{2/3}$$

reduction

$$n_{abs}(t) = 4\pi R^2 D_{Ag^0}(T) \frac{dC_{Ag^0}}{dr} \Big|_{r=R}$$

NP growth

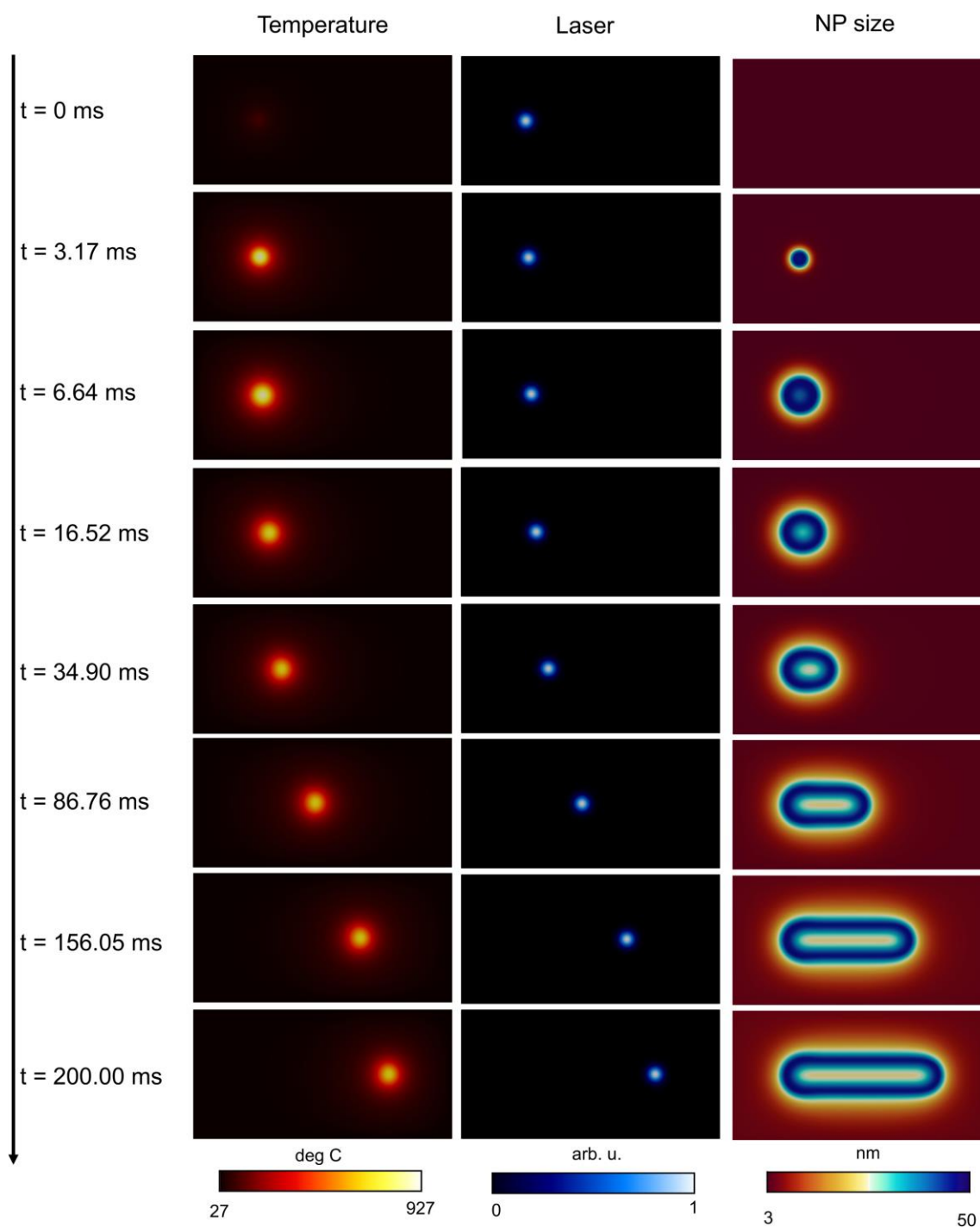
$$\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r^2} r C_{Ag^0}(r) = 0$$



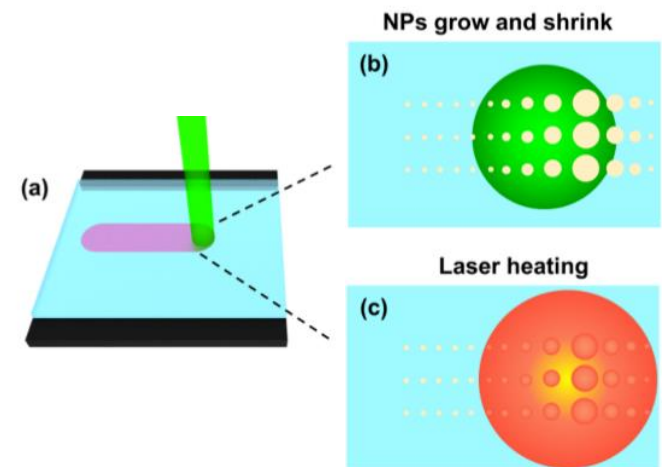
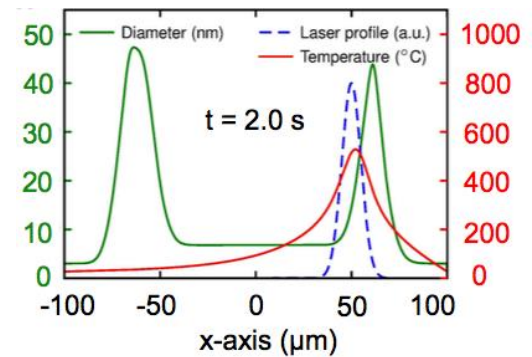
$$C_{Ag^0}(r) = C_{Ag^0}(\infty) - [C_{Ag^0}(\infty) - C_{Ag^0}(R)] \frac{R}{r}$$

$$n_{abs}(t) = 4\pi R D_{Ag^0}(T) [C_{Ag^0}^{BS} - S_{Ag^0} (1 + \frac{2\gamma\omega}{Rk_B T})]$$

H. Ma, et al.
J. Phys. Chem. C **123.42**
 (2019): 25898-25907.



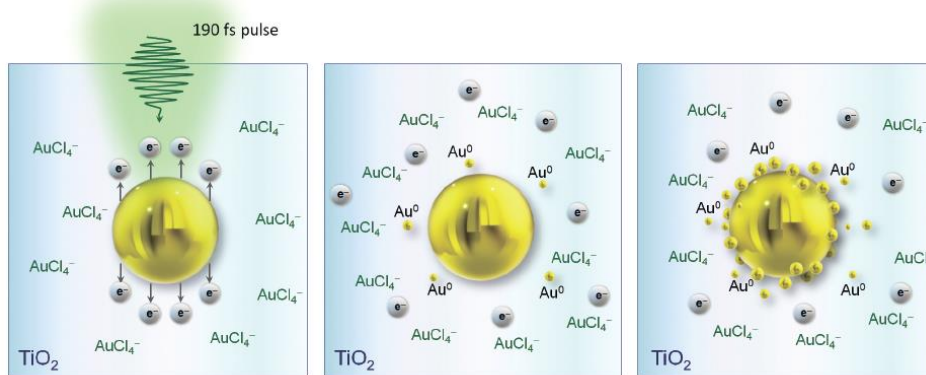
2D Simulation



Absorption and scattering
by a set of NPs within the
laser spot:

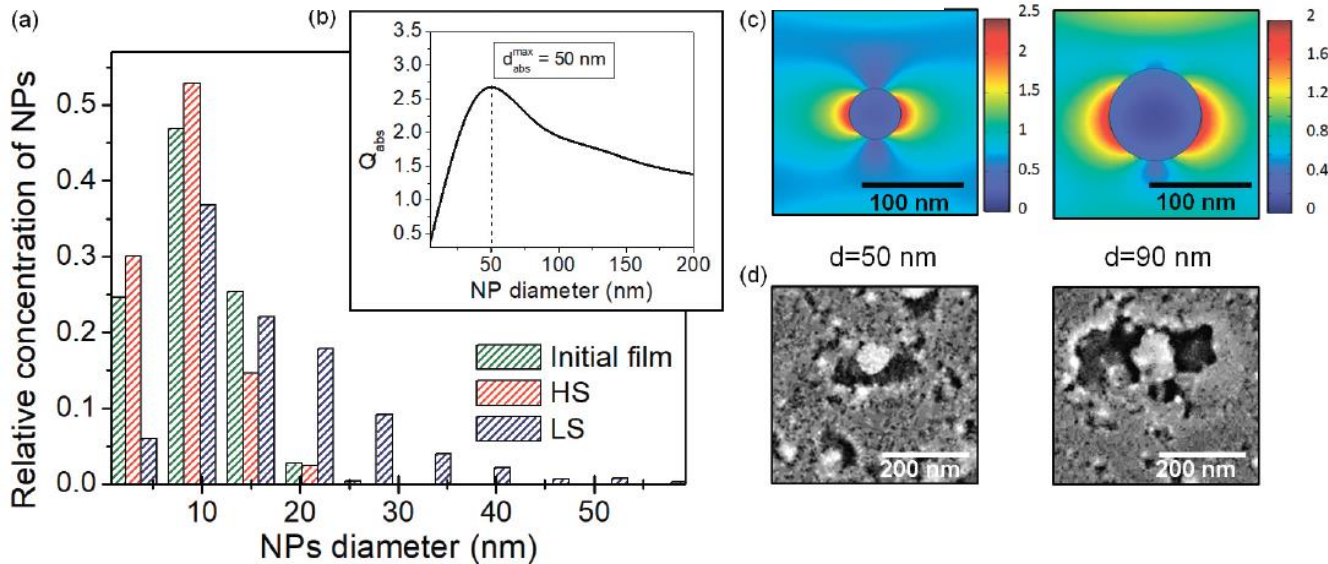
-effective medium

Au NPs in TiO₂ under Ultra-Short Laser Irradiation



At the beginning, the matrix is solid

*Y Andreeva et al.
The Journal of Physical Chemistry C
124 (18), 10209-10219, 2020*



fs laser
 $\lambda = 515$ nm

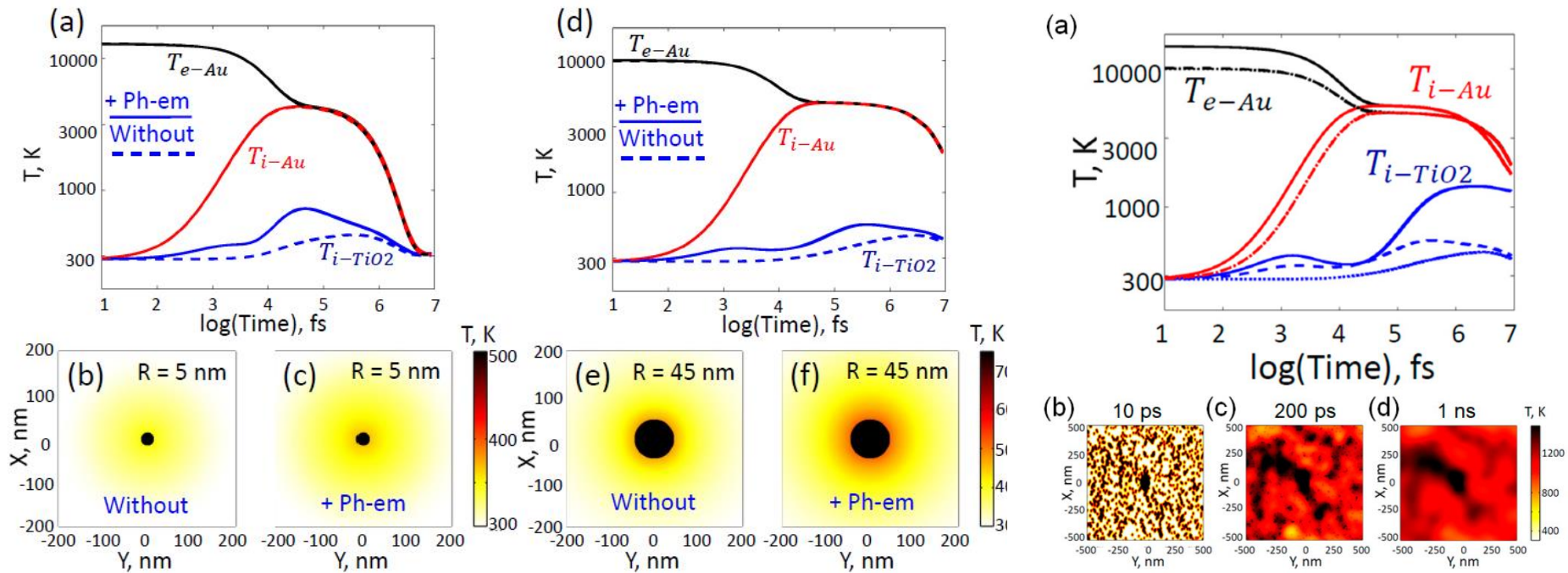
(a) Size distribution of gold NPs in before and after laser treatment. Laser $F = 57$ mJ/cm², scan speed for LS structures is 0.16 mm/s, for HS structures is 1.6 mm/s.

(b) Calculated absorption efficiency of the nanocomposite based on TiO₂ as a function of the diameter of gold NPs (refractive index of surrounding media $n = 1.6$).

(c) Calculated field distribution of gold nanoparticles in TiO₂ ($n=1.6$) for spheres with the diameters of 50 and 90 nm.

(d) SEM images of the NPs produced in LS mode ($F = 57$ mJ/cm², $V_{sc} = 0.16$ mm/s).

Au NPs in TiO₂ under Ultra-Short Laser Irradiation



Electron (black solid) and ion temperature (red solid) of R=45 nm gold NP and titanium dioxide temperature (blue solid) dynamics in the vicinity of contact upon $F = 50 \text{ J/cm}^2$ irradiation. Blue dotted line indicates temperatures attained if only heating from single nanoparticle is considered and blue dashed line additionally includes electron photo-emission.

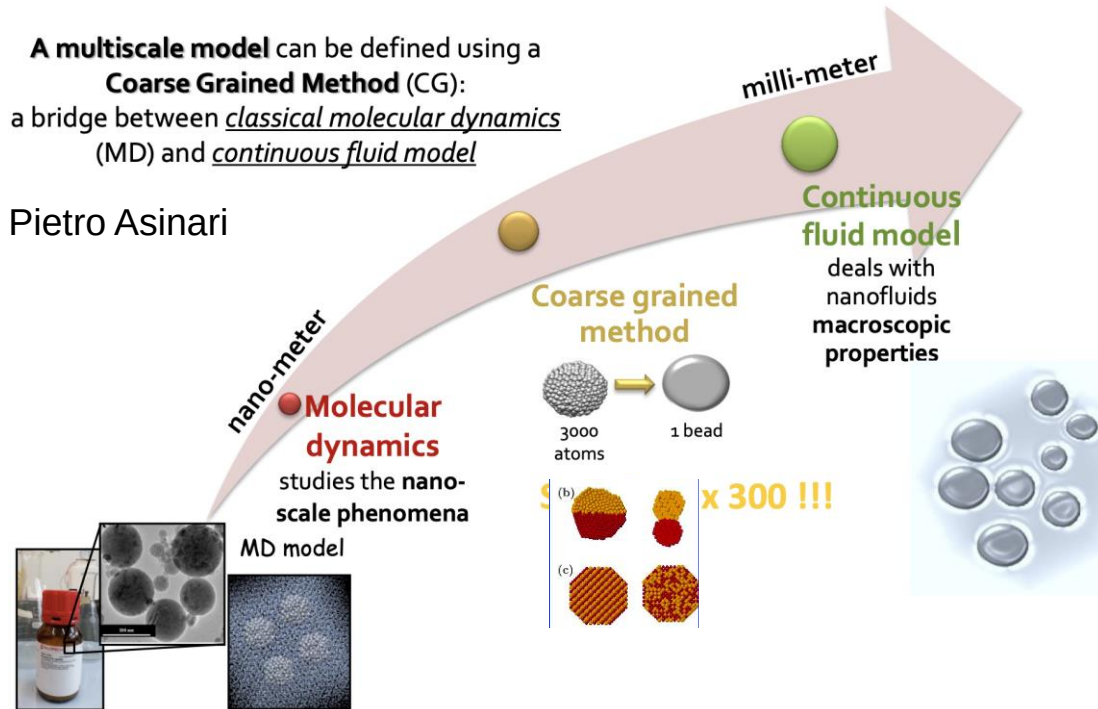
Only when the collective heating by smaller $R = 5 \text{ nm}$ nanoparticles, electron photo-emission from nanoparticles and free carrier generation by ionization processes in titanium dioxide are included, the ambient damage conditions are reached:

$$\frac{P^2}{2\rho_m c_0^2} + \frac{\rho_m \epsilon^2 s^2}{120} \geq \frac{3K^2}{\rho_m c_0^2 s}$$

Summary and Conclusions

- Laser is a very powerful and versatile tool suitable not only for laser ablation but also for nanoparticle synthesis.
- Particle size, composition, geometry, atomic masses, binding energies, excess energy, environment, heating/cooling protocol affect the results of laser interactions.
 - NP's of smaller sizes easily melt and evaporate, while larger NPs behave more like bulk material, so that thermo-mechanical fragmentation of over-heated material plays a role in their fragmentation. Phase diagrams of NPs smaller than ~30-100 nm should account for NP's size.
 - Fragmentation threshold of alloy nanoparticle strongly depends on their composition (excess energy).
 - When different nanoparticles interact they may either sinter or mix depending on their sizes and heating/cooling rate. To reach alloying without fragmentation NP should not be over-heated.
- Optical properties are strongly related to size and distribution of NPs after laser treatment, are controlled by laser processing parameters.

Laser-Scale Mesoscopic Modeling Based on MD



- MD (fully atomistic and coarse-grained)
 - Distribution of Sizes
 - Morphology(alloy, etc)
 - Transition to coarse-grained case
- DLVO theory (force field from MD)
 - Aggregation
 - Disaggregation
- CFD or DNS (two phase hydrodynamics)
 - Rules of theory:
 - Conservation of Mass
 - Conservation of Energy
 - DNS:[10.1016/j.ijmultiphaseflow.2021.103762](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijmultiphaseflow.2021.103762))
 - Fluid Dynamics:
 - Friction, Thermal Conduction & Mass diffusion
 - Navier–Stokes relationships
 - velocity, pressure, temperature, and density of a moving fluid

Thanks to:

*My collaborators (PICS, PHC and ARQUS projects)
CNRS and UJM*

Thank you for your attention!

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