

1.021, 3.021, 10.333, 22.00 Introduction to Modeling and Simulation
Spring 2011

Part I – Continuum and particle methods

Reactive potentials and applications

(cont'd)

Lecture 9

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Content overview

I. Particle and continuum methods

Lectures 2-13

1. Atoms, molecules, chemistry
2. Continuum modeling approaches and solution approaches
3. Statistical mechanics
4. Molecular dynamics, Monte Carlo
5. Visualization and data analysis
6. Mechanical properties – application: how things fail (and how to prevent it)
7. Multi-scale modeling paradigm
8. Biological systems (simulation in biophysics) – how proteins work and how to model them

II. Quantum mechanical methods

Lectures 14-26

1. It's A Quantum World: The Theory of Quantum Mechanics
2. Quantum Mechanics: Practice Makes Perfect
3. The Many-Body Problem: From Many-Body to Single-Particle
4. Quantum modeling of materials
5. From Atoms to Solids
6. Basic properties of materials
7. Advanced properties of materials
8. What else can we do?

Overview: Material covered so far...

- **Lecture 1: Broad introduction to IM/S**
- **Lecture 2: Introduction to atomistic and continuum modeling** (multi-scale modeling paradigm, difference between continuum and atomistic approach, case study: diffusion)
- **Lecture 3: Basic statistical mechanics – property calculation I** (property calculation: microscopic states vs. macroscopic properties, ensembles, probability density and partition function)
- **Lecture 4: Property calculation II** (Monte Carlo, advanced property calculation, introduction to chemical interactions)
- **Lecture 5: How to model chemical interactions I** (example: movie of copper deformation/dislocations, etc.)
- **Lecture 6: How to model chemical interactions II** (EAM, a bit of ReaxFF—chemical reactions)
- **Lecture 7: Application – MD simulation of materials failure**
- **Lecture 8: Application – Reactive potentials and applications**
- **Lecture 9: Application – Reactive potentials and applications (cont'd)**

Lecture 9: Reactive potentials and applications (cont'd)

Outline:

1. Notes on fracture application
2. Closure: ReaxFF force field
3. Hybrid multi-paradigm fracture models

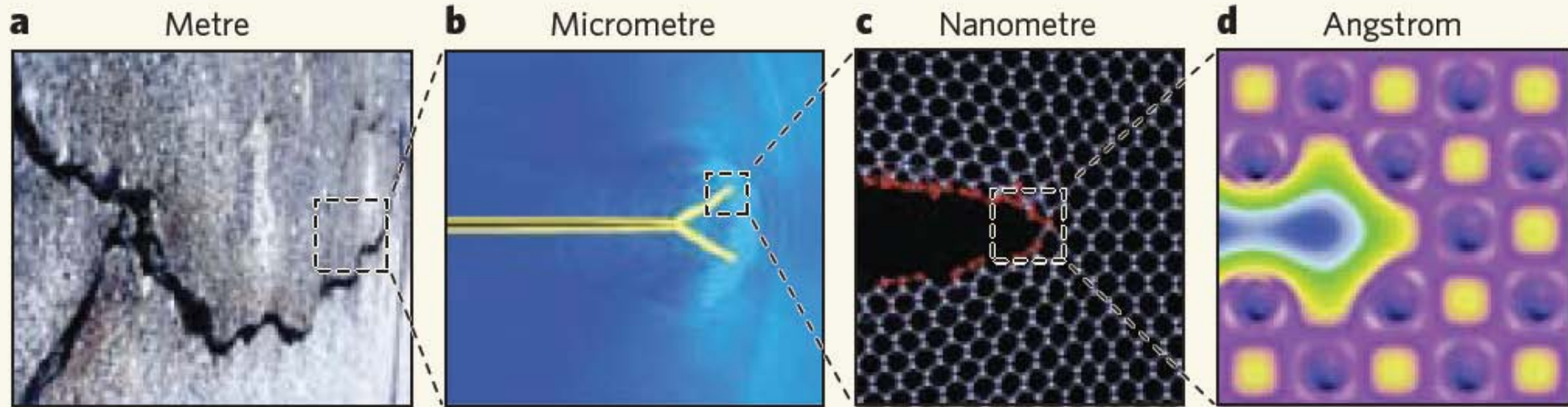
Goal of today's lecture:

- Remarks: Modeling of fracture and relation to diffusion problem
- New potential: ReaxFF, to describe complex chemistry (bond breaking and formation)
- Application in hybrid simulation approaches (combine different force fields)

1. Notes on fracture application

Consider for pset #2

Brittle fracture mechanisms: fracture is a multi-scale phenomenon, from nano to macro



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Source: Buehler, M., and Z. Xu. "Materials Science: Mind the Helical Crack." *Nature* 464, no. 7285 (2010): 42-3. © 2010.

Limiting speeds of cracks: linear elastic continuum theory

$$c_l = \sqrt{\frac{9 E}{8 \rho}} \sim \sqrt{E}$$

$$c_s = \sqrt{\frac{3 E}{8 \rho}} \sim \sqrt{E}$$

$$c_r = 0.92 c_s$$

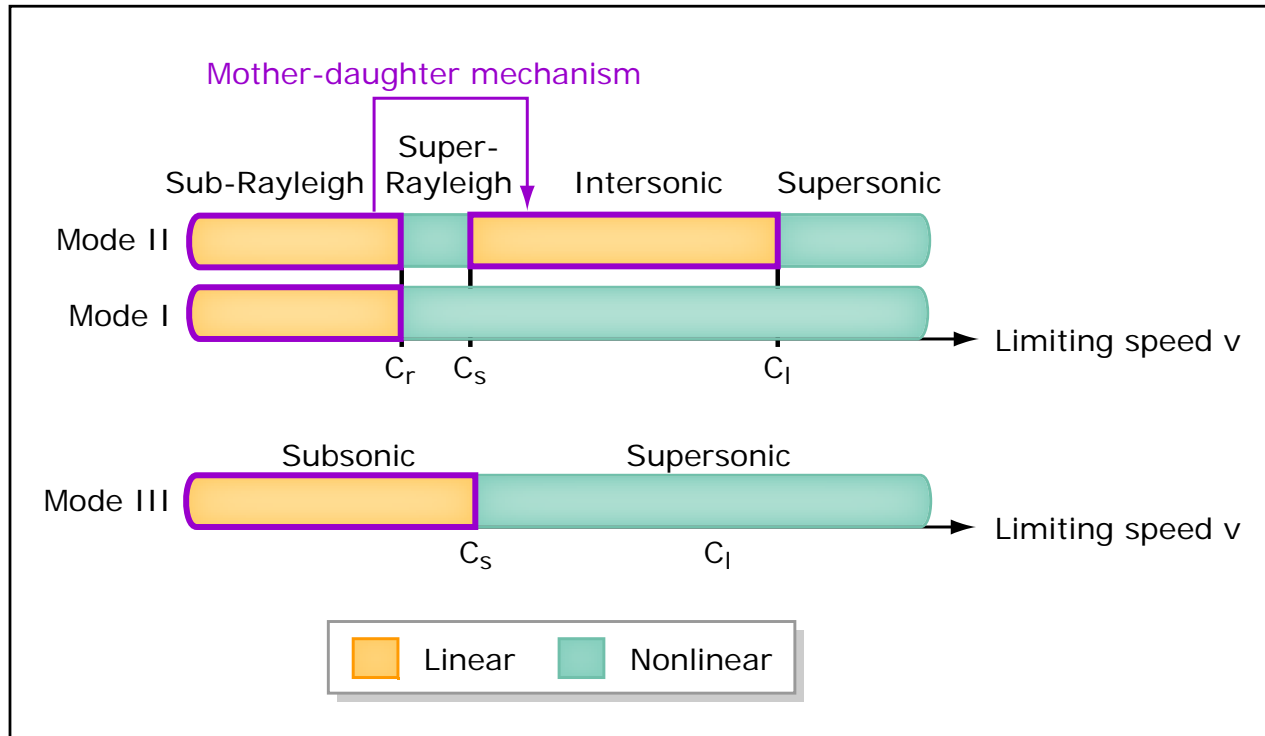


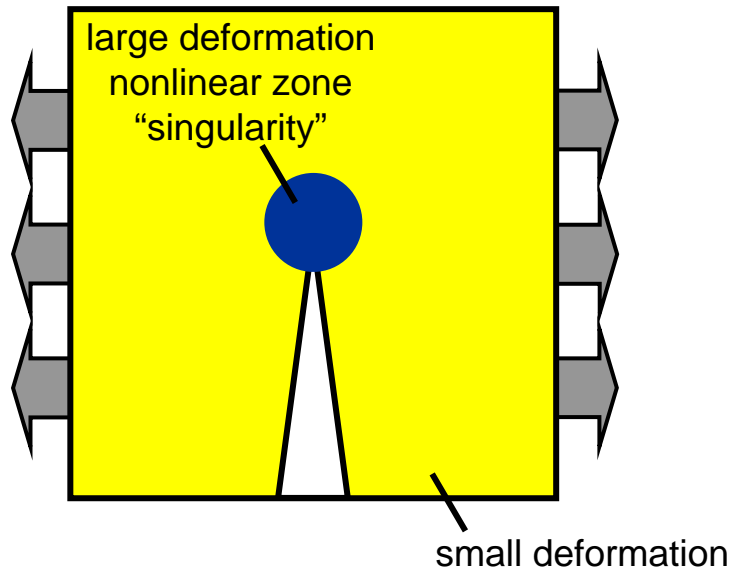
Image by MIT OpenCourseWare.

- Cracks **can not exceed** the limiting speed given by the corresponding wave speeds **unless material behavior is nonlinear**
- Cracks that exceed limiting speed would produce energy (physically impossible - **linear elastic continuum theory**)

Subsonic and supersonic fracture

- Under certain conditions, material nonlinearities (that is, the behavior of materials under large deformation = hyperelasticity) becomes important
- This can lead to different limiting speeds than described by the model introduced above

Deformation field near a crack $\sigma(r) \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{r}}$



$$c_l = \sqrt{\frac{9 E}{8 \rho}} \sim \sqrt{E}$$

$E_{\text{small (soft)}}$

$E_{\text{large (stiff)}}$

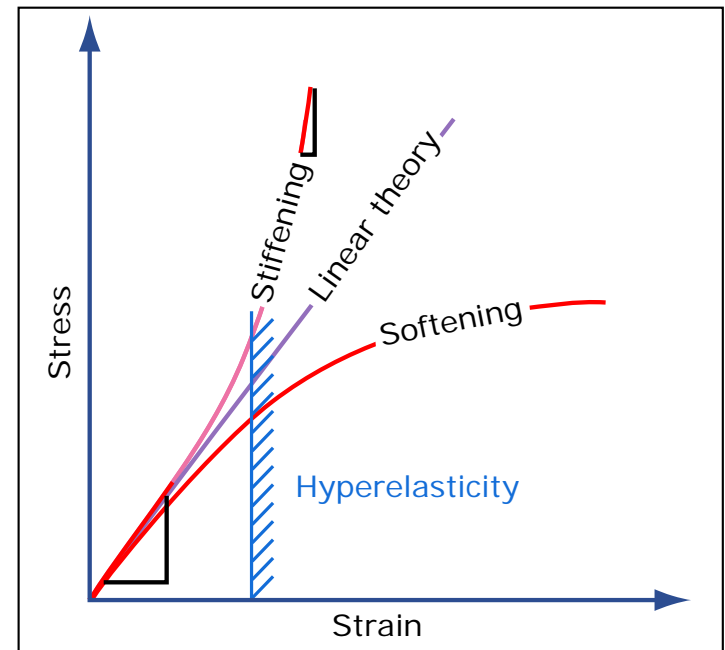


Image by MIT OpenCourseWare.

Energy flux concept

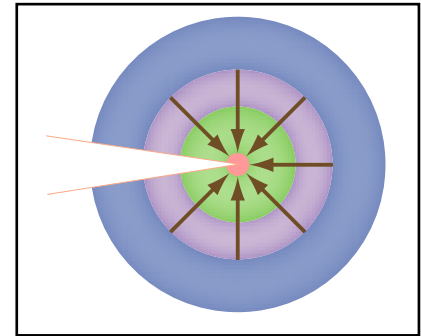
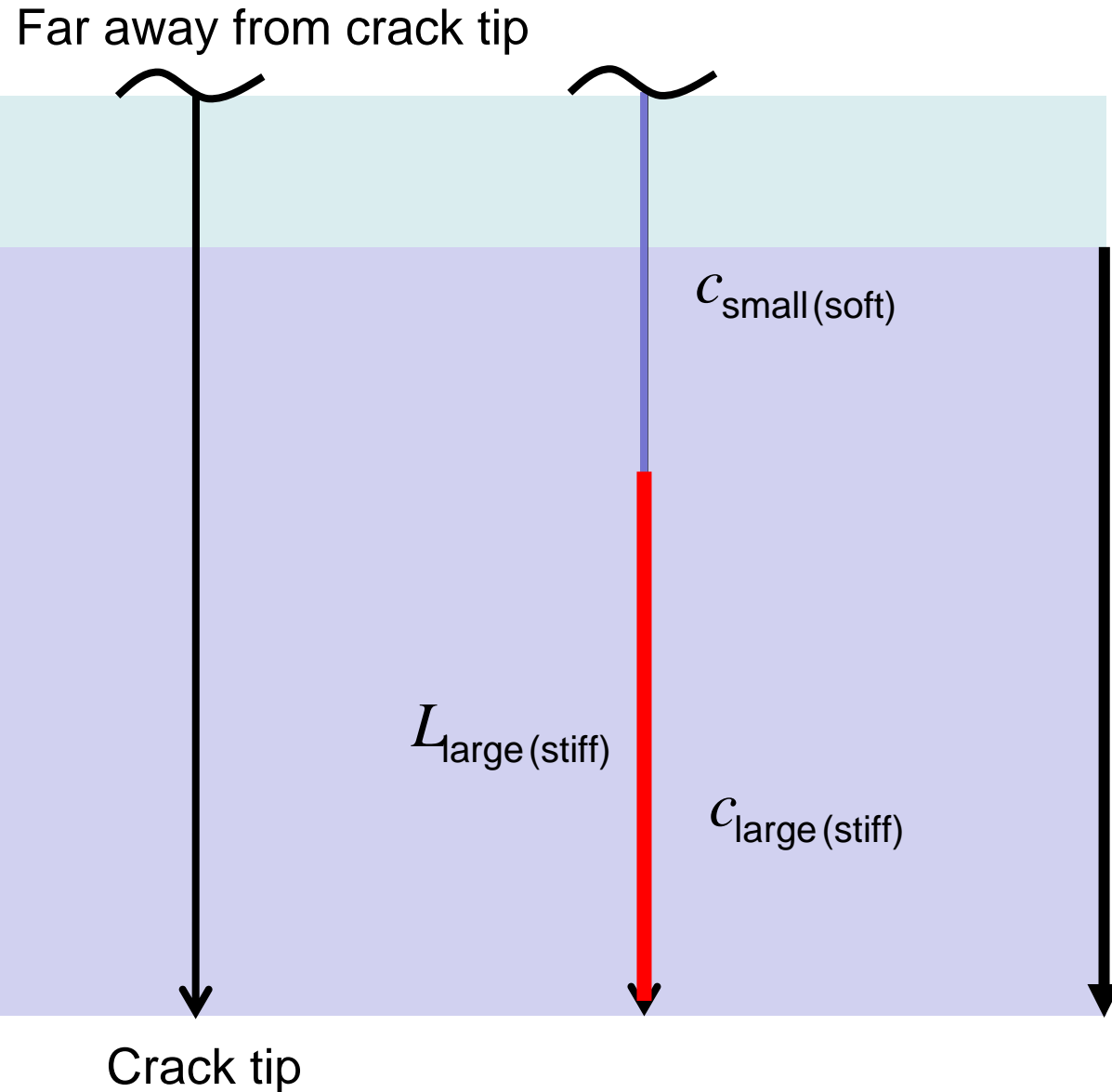


Image by MIT OpenCourseWare.

L_{energy}

Characteristic energy length (energy from this distance needs to flow to the crack tip)

$$\frac{L_{\text{large (stiff)}}}{L_{\text{energy}}} \approx 1 \rightarrow \text{Supersonic cracking}$$

Energy flux reduction/enhancement

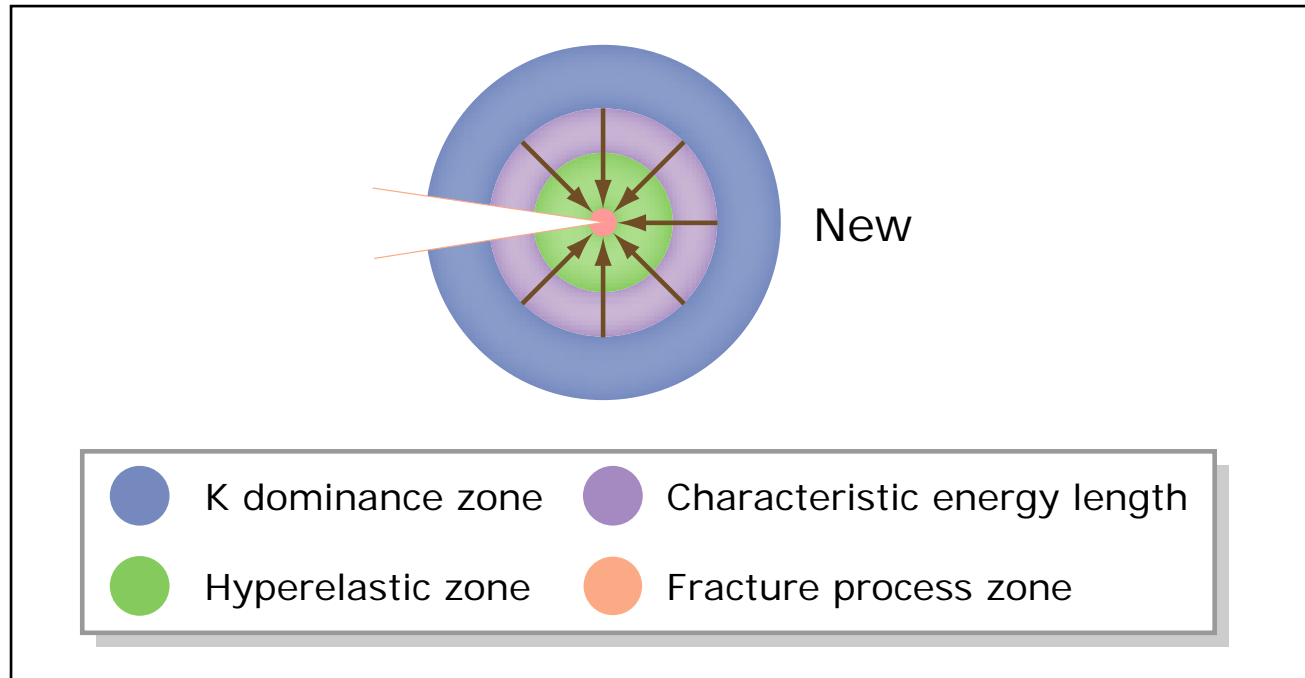


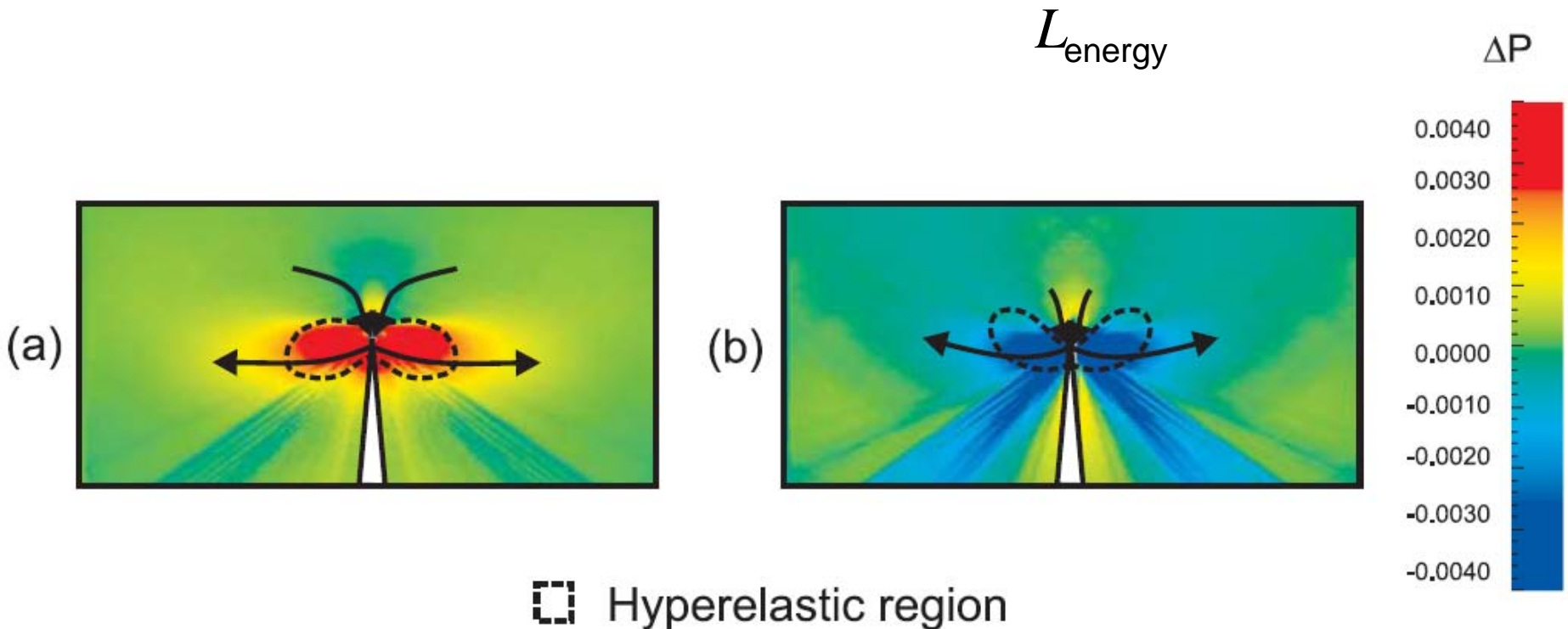
Image by MIT OpenCourseWare.

$$L_{\text{energy}}$$

Energy flux related to wave speed: high local wave speed, high energy flux, crack can move faster (and reverse for low local wave speed)

Physical basis for subsonic/supersonic fracture

- Changes in energy flow at the crack tip due to changes in local wave speed (energy flux higher in materials with higher wave speed)
- Controlled by a characteristic length scale



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Source: Buehler, M., F. Abraham, and H. Gao. "Hyperelasticity Governs Dynamic Fracture at a Critical Length Scale." *Nature* 426 (2003): 141-6. © 2003.

Diffusion problem

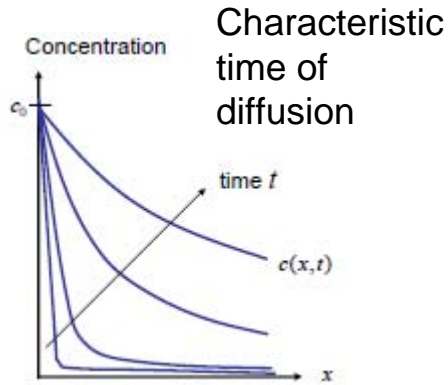
Fracture problem

Continuum approach (distinct PDE)

$$\frac{\partial c}{\partial t} = D \frac{d^2 c}{dx^2}$$

PDE
(Fick's law)

Integration
(BCs, ICs)



$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \sigma_{11}}{\partial x_1} + \frac{\partial \sigma_{12}}{\partial x_2} + \frac{\partial \sigma_{13}}{\partial x_3} + \rho(g_1 - a_1) &= 0 \\ \frac{\partial \sigma_{21}}{\partial x_1} + \frac{\partial \sigma_{22}}{\partial x_2} + \frac{\partial \sigma_{23}}{\partial x_3} + \rho(g_2 - a_2) &= 0 \\ \frac{\partial \sigma_{31}}{\partial x_1} + \frac{\partial \sigma_{32}}{\partial x_2} + \frac{\partial \sigma_{33}}{\partial x_3} + \rho(g_3 - a_3) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

PDE (continuum equilibrium)

Integration
(BCs, ICs)

$$c_l = \sqrt{\frac{3\mu}{\rho}}$$

$$c_s = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{\rho}}$$

$$c_R \approx \beta c_s$$

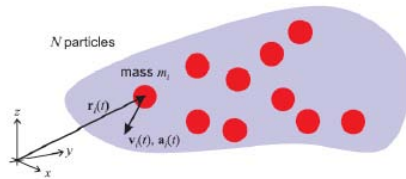
$$\beta \approx 0.923$$

Crack limiting speed

Atomistic approach (same PDE)

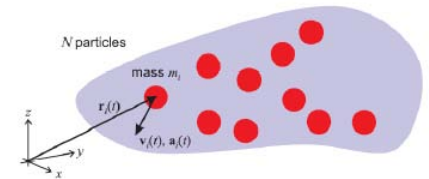
$$f = m \frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} = ma$$

Integration
(BCs, ICs)

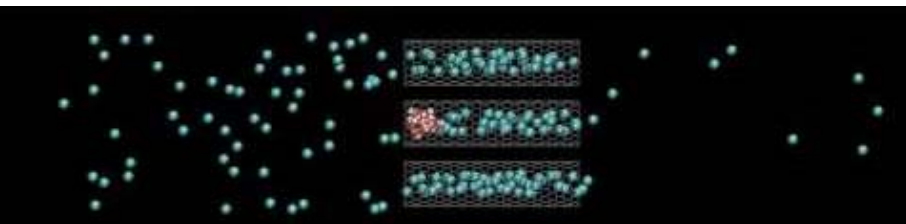


$$f = m \frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} = ma$$

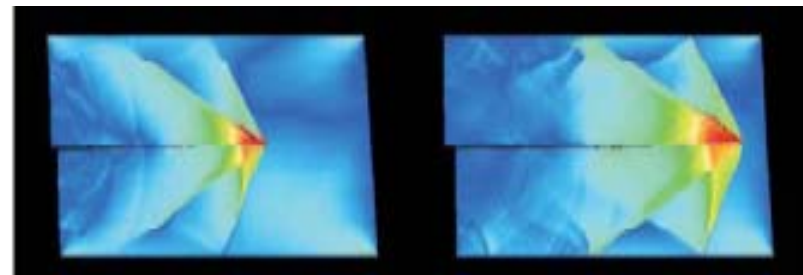
Integration
(BCs, ICs)



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Characteristic time of diffusion



Crack limiting speed

2. Closure: ReaxFF force field

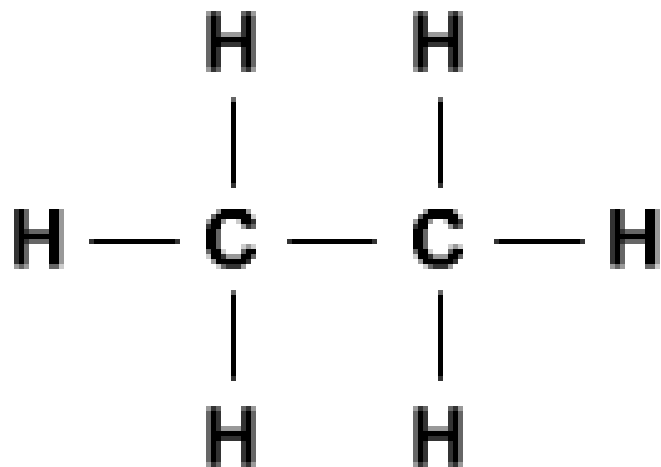
Potential energy expressions for more complex materials/chemistry, including bond formation and breaking

Review: atomic interactions – different types of chemical bonds

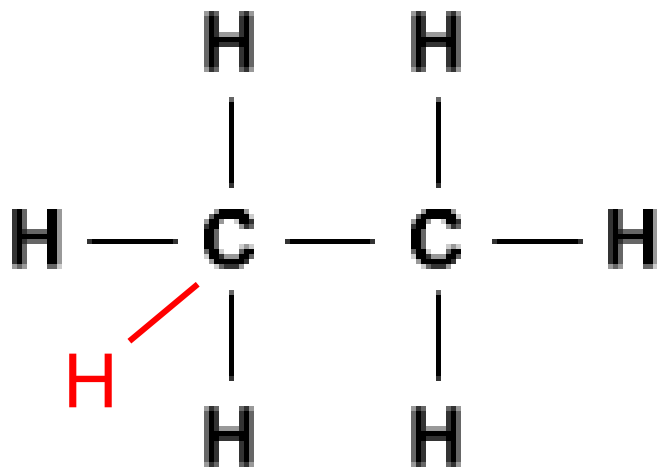
- **Primary bonds (“strong”)**
 - Ionic (ceramics, quartz, feldspar - **rocks**)
 - Covalent (**silicon**)
 - Metallic (copper, nickel, **gold**, silver)
(high melting point, 1000-5,000K)
- **Secondary bonds (“weak”)**
 - Van der Waals (**wax**, low melting point)
 - Hydrogen bonds (proteins, **spider silk**)
(melting point 100-500K)
- Ionic: Non-directional (point charges interacting)
- Covalent: Directional (bond angles, torsions matter)
- Metallic: Non-directional (electron gas concept)

Difference of material properties originates from different atomic interactions

But...are all bonds the same? - valency in hydrocarbons



Ethane C₂H₆
(stable configuration)

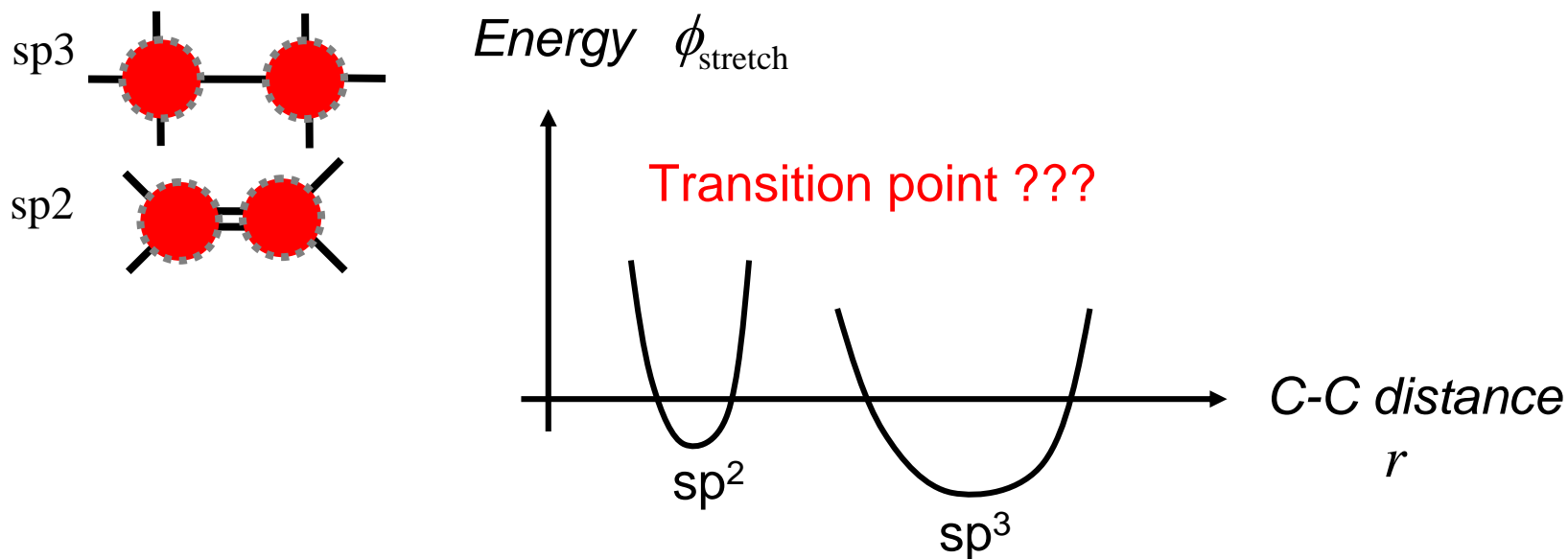


All bonds are not the same!

Adding another H is not favored

Bonds depend on the environment!

Another challenge: chemical reactions



Simple pair potentials can not describe chemical reactions

Why can not model chemical reactions with spring-like potentials?

$$\phi_{\text{stretch}} = \frac{1}{2} k_{\text{stretch}} (r - r_0)^2$$

Set of parameters only valid for particular molecule type / type of chemical bond

$$k_{\text{stretch},sp^2} \neq k_{\text{stretch},sp^3}$$

Reactive potentials or reactive force fields overcome these limitations

Theoretical basis: bond order potential

Concept: Use pair potential that depends on atomic environment (similar to EAM, here applied to covalent bonds)

$$\phi(r_{ij}) = \phi_R(r_{ij}) - M_{ij}\phi_A(r_{ij})$$

$$\downarrow$$
$$M_{ij} \sim Z^{-\delta}$$

Modulate strength of attractive part (e.g. by coordination, or “bond order”)

Abell, Tersoff

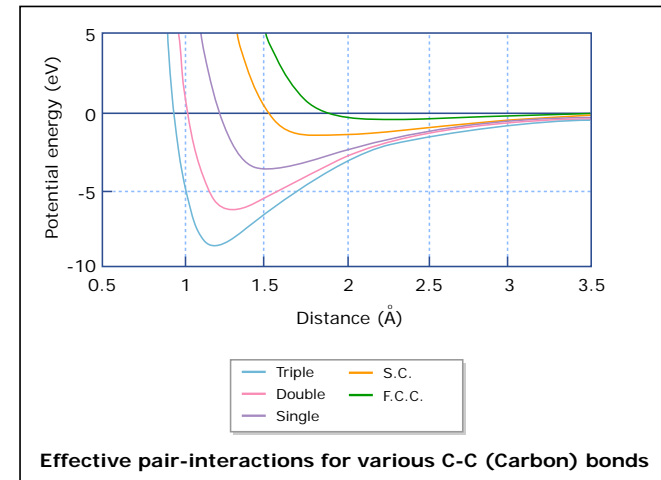


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$$k(r) \sim k_0 M_{ij}(Z, \delta)$$

Changes in spring constant as function of bond order
Continuous change possible

= **continuous energy landscape during chemical reactions**

Theoretical basis: bond order potential

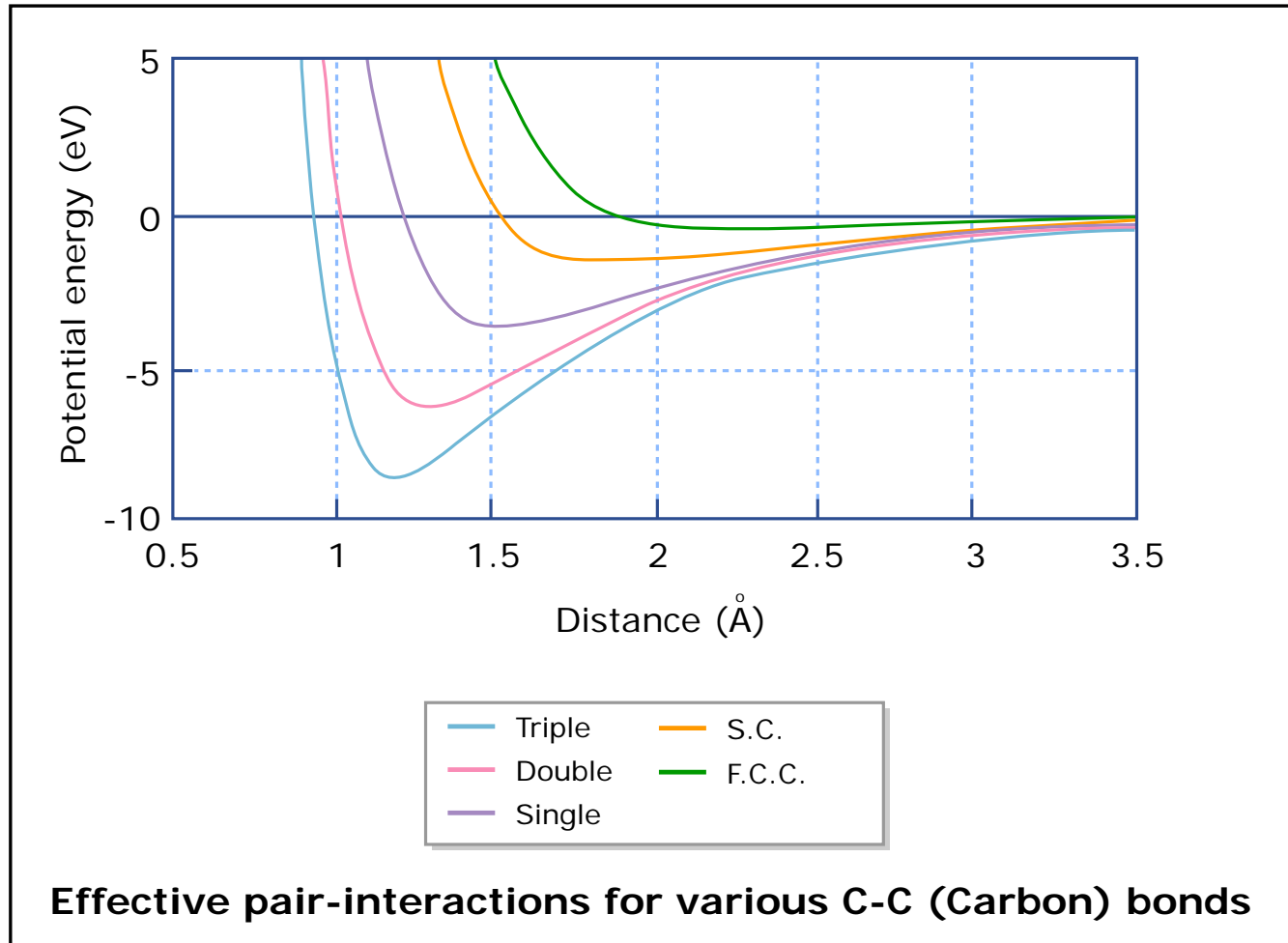
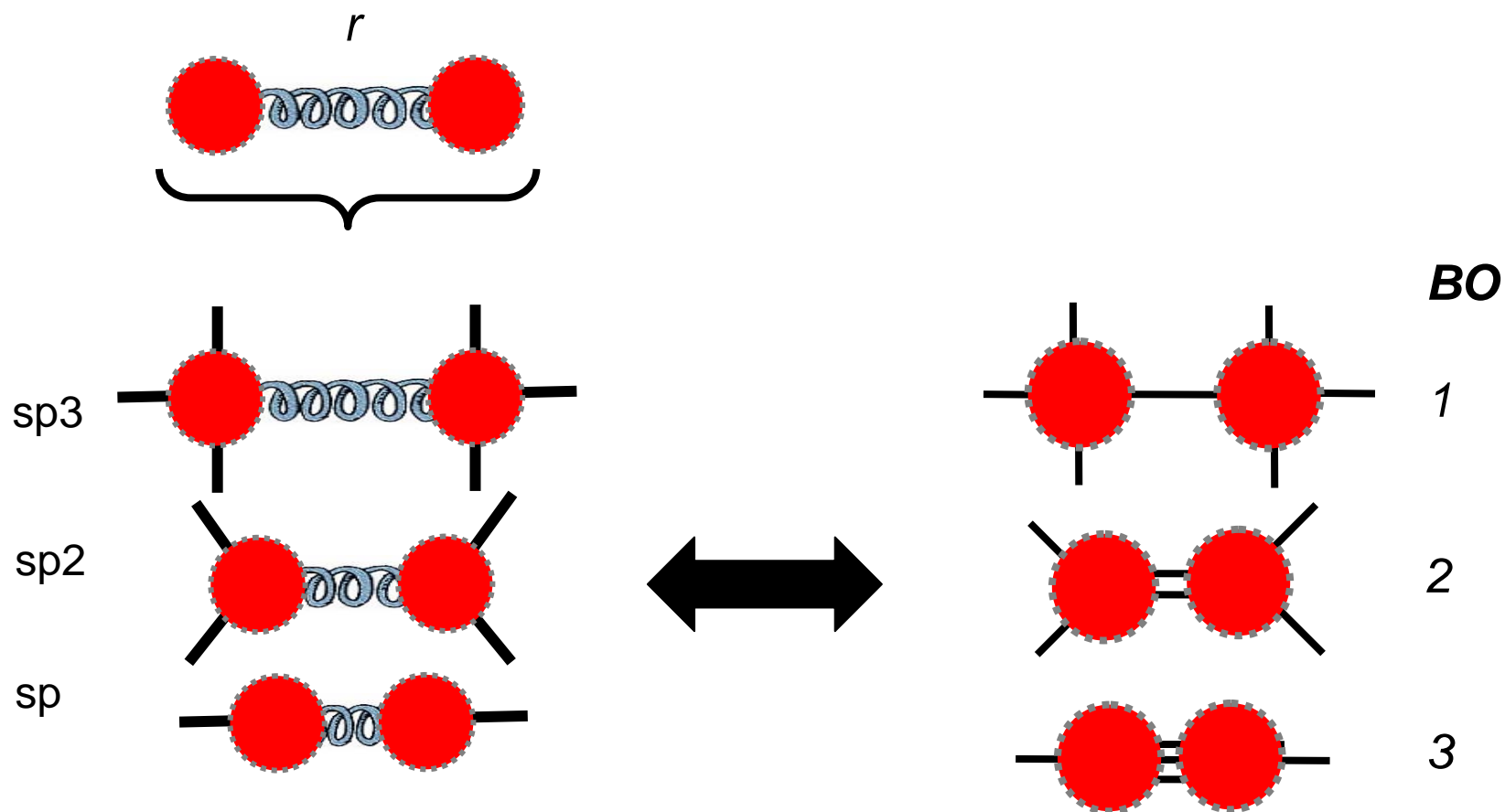
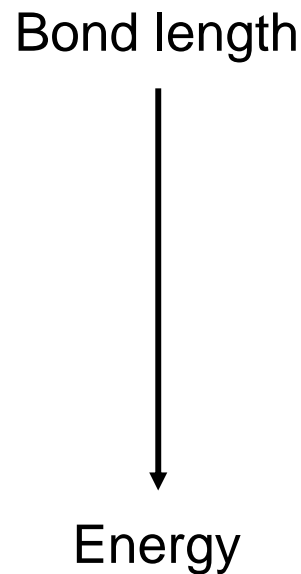
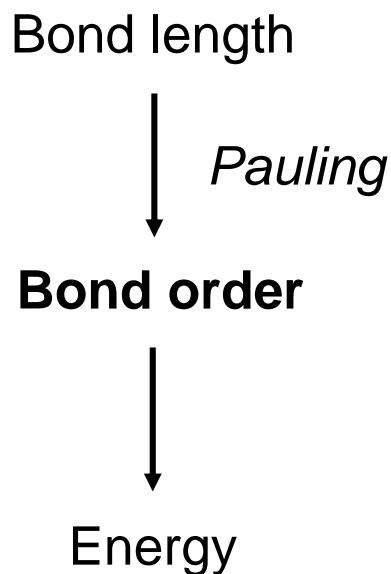


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Concept of bond order (BO)



Bond order based energy landscape



Bond order potential
Allows for a more general
description of chemistry
All energy terms dependent
on bond order

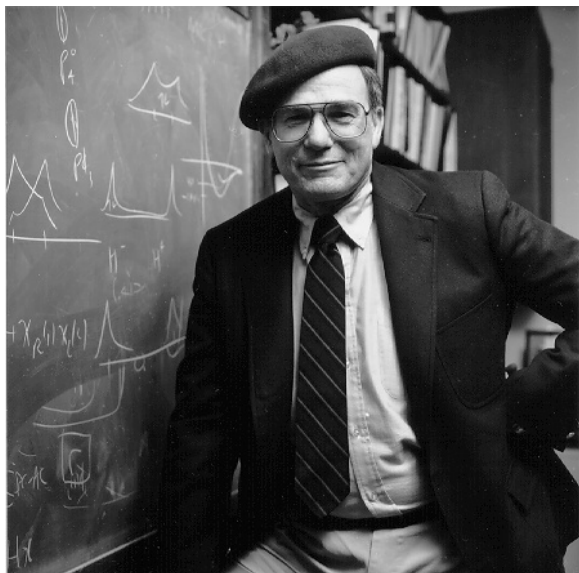
Conventional potential
(e.g. LJ, Morse)

Historical perspective of reactive bond order potentials

- **1985: Abell:** General expression for binding energy as a sum of near neighbor pair interactions moderated by local atomic environment
- **1990s: Tersoff, Brenner:** Use Abell formalism applied to silicon (successful for various solid state structures)
- **2000: Stuart et al.:** Reactive potential for hydrocarbons
- **2001: Duin, Goddard et al.:** Reactive potential for hydrocarbons “ReaxFF”
- **2002: Brenner et al.:** Second generation “REBO” potential for hydrocarbons
- **2003-2005:** Extension of ReaxFF to various materials including metals, ceramics, silicon, polymers and more in Goddard’s group

Example: ReaxFF reactive force field

William A. Goddard III
California Institute of Technology



Courtesy of Bill Goddard. Used with permission.

Adri C.T. v. Duin
California Institute of Technology

Example: Calculation of bond energy

$$E_{system} = E_{bond} + E_{vdWaals} + E_{Coulomb} + E_{val,angle} + E_{tors} + E_{over} + E_{under}$$

$$E_{bond} = -D_e \cdot BO_{ij} \cdot \exp\left[p_{be,1} \left(1 - BO_{ij}^{p_{be,1}}\right)\right]$$

Bond energy between atoms i and j does not depend on bond distance

Instead, it depends on bond order

Bond order functions

BO goes smoothly from 3-2-1-0

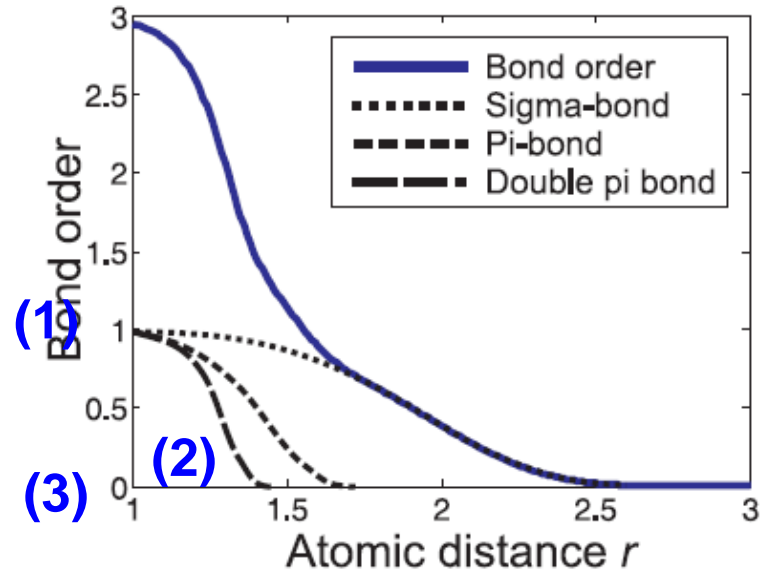
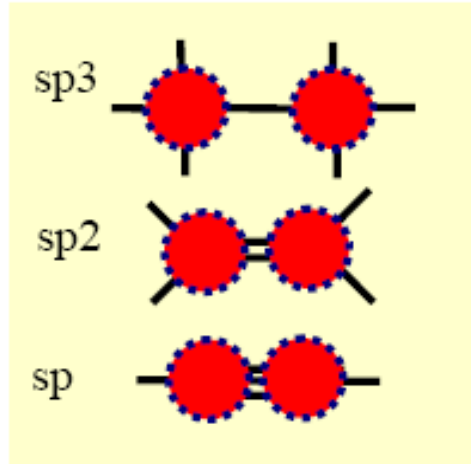


Fig. 2.21c in Buehler, Markus J. *Atomistic Modeling of Materials Failure*. Springer, 2008. © Springer. All rights reserved. This content is excluded from our Creative Commons license. For more information, see <http://ocw.mit.edu/fairuse>.

$$\text{BO}_{ij} = \exp \left[\alpha_{\sigma} \cdot \left(\frac{r_{ij}}{r_0} \right)^{\beta_{\sigma}} \right] + \exp \left[\alpha_{\pi} \cdot \left(\frac{r_{ij}^{\pi}}{r_0} \right)^{\beta_{\pi}} \right] + \exp \left[\alpha_{\pi\pi} \cdot \left(\frac{r_{ij}^{\pi\pi}}{r_0} \right)^{\beta_{\pi\pi}} \right]$$

(1)
(2)
(3)

Characteristic bond distance

All energy terms are expressed as a function of bond orders

Illustration: Bond energy

$$E_{bond} = -D_e^\sigma \cdot BO_{ij}^\sigma \cdot f(BO_{ij}^\sigma) - D_e^\pi \cdot BO_{ij}^\pi - D_e^{\pi\pi} \cdot BO_{ij}^{\pi\pi}$$

Image removed due to copyright restrictions.
Please see slide 10 in van Duin, Adri. "Dishing Out the Dirt on ReaxFF."
<http://www.wag.caltech.edu/home/duin/FFgroup/Dirt.ppt>.

vdW interactions

$$E_{system} = E_{bond} + E_{vdWaal} + E_{Coulomb} + E_{val,angle} + E_{tors} + E_{over} + E_{under}$$

- Accounts for short distance repulsion (Pauli principle orthogonalization) and attraction energies at large distances (dispersion)
- Included for all atoms with shielding at small distances

$$E_{vdWaal} = D_{ij} \cdot \left\{ \exp \left[\alpha_{ij} \cdot \left(1 - \frac{f_{13}(r_{ij})}{r_{vdW}} \right) \right] - 2 \cdot \exp \left[\frac{1}{2} \cdot \alpha_{ij} \cdot \left(1 - \frac{f_{13}(r_{ij})}{r_{vdW}} \right) \right] \right\}$$

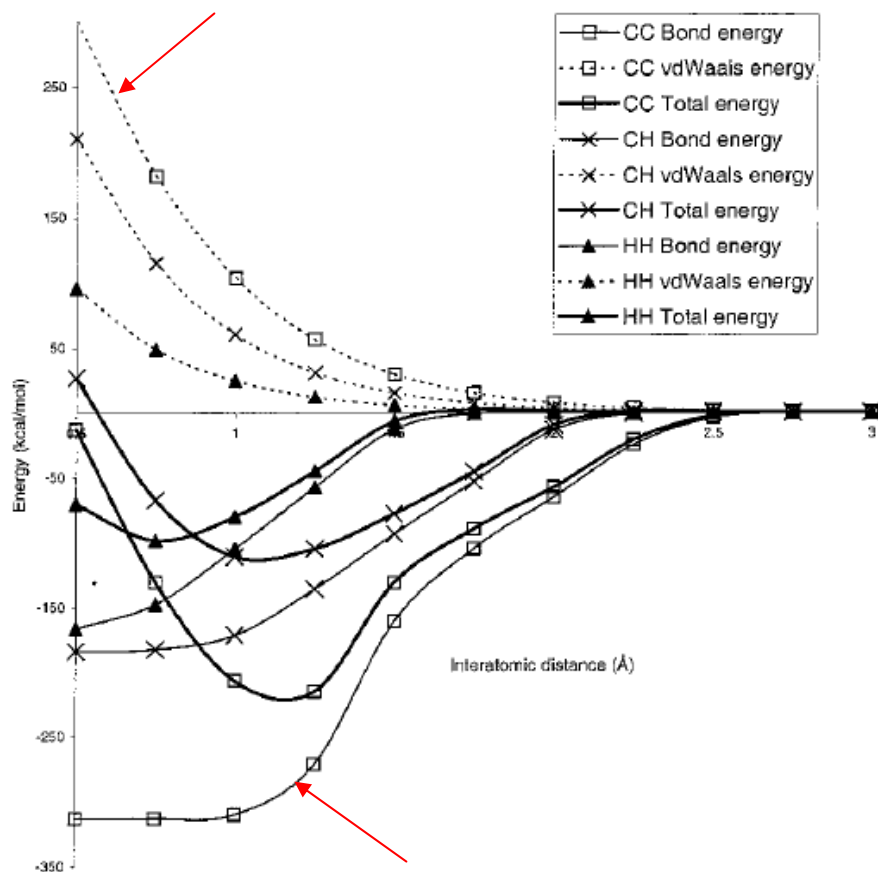
$$f_{13}(r_{ij}) = \left[r_{ij}^{\lambda_{29}} + \left(\frac{1}{\lambda_w} \right)^{\lambda_{28}} \right]^{1/\lambda_{28}}$$

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Please see slide 11 in van Duin, Adri. "Dishing Out the Dirt on ReaxFF."

<http://www.wag.caltech.edu/home/duin/FFgroup/Dirt.ppt>.

Resulting energy landscape



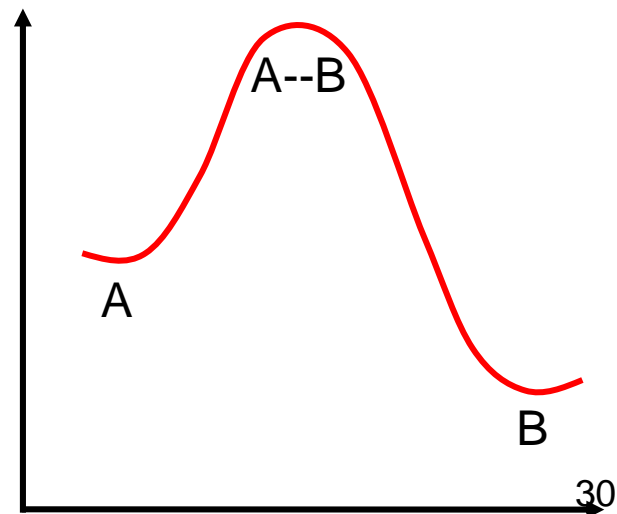
Contribution of E_{bond} and vdW energy

Current development status of ReaxFF

period	group 1* 1a	2 IIa	3 IIIa** IIIb***	4 IVa IVb	5 Va Vb	6 VIa VIb	7 VIIa VIIb	8 VIIIa VIIIb	9 IXa IXb	10 Xa Xb	11 Ib	12 IIb	13 IIIb IIIa	14 IVb IVa	15 Vb Va	16 VIb VIa	17 VIIb VIIa	18 VIIIb 0
1	H																	He
2	Li	Be											B	C	N	O	F	Ne
3	Na	Mg	Sc	Ti	V	Cr	Mn	Fe	Co	Ni	Cu	Zn	Al	Si	P	S	Cl	Ar
4	K	Ca	Sc	Ti	V	Cr	Mn	Fe	Co	Ni	Cu	Zn	Ga	Ge	As	Se	Br	Kr
5	Rb	Sr	Y	Zr	Nb	Mo	Tc	Ru	Rh	Pd	Ag	Cd	In	Sn	Sb	Te	I	Xe
6	Cs	Ba	La	Hf	Ta	W	Re	Os	Ir	Pt	Au	Hg	Tl	Pb	Bi	Po	At	Rn
7	Fr	Ra	Ac	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	****

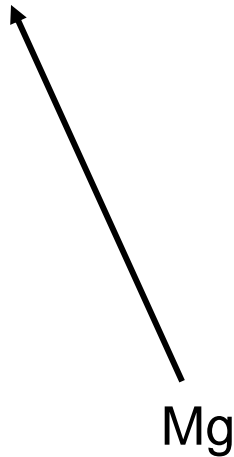
 : not currently described by ReaxFF

Allows to interface metals, ceramics with organic chemistry: Key for complex materials, specifically biological materials

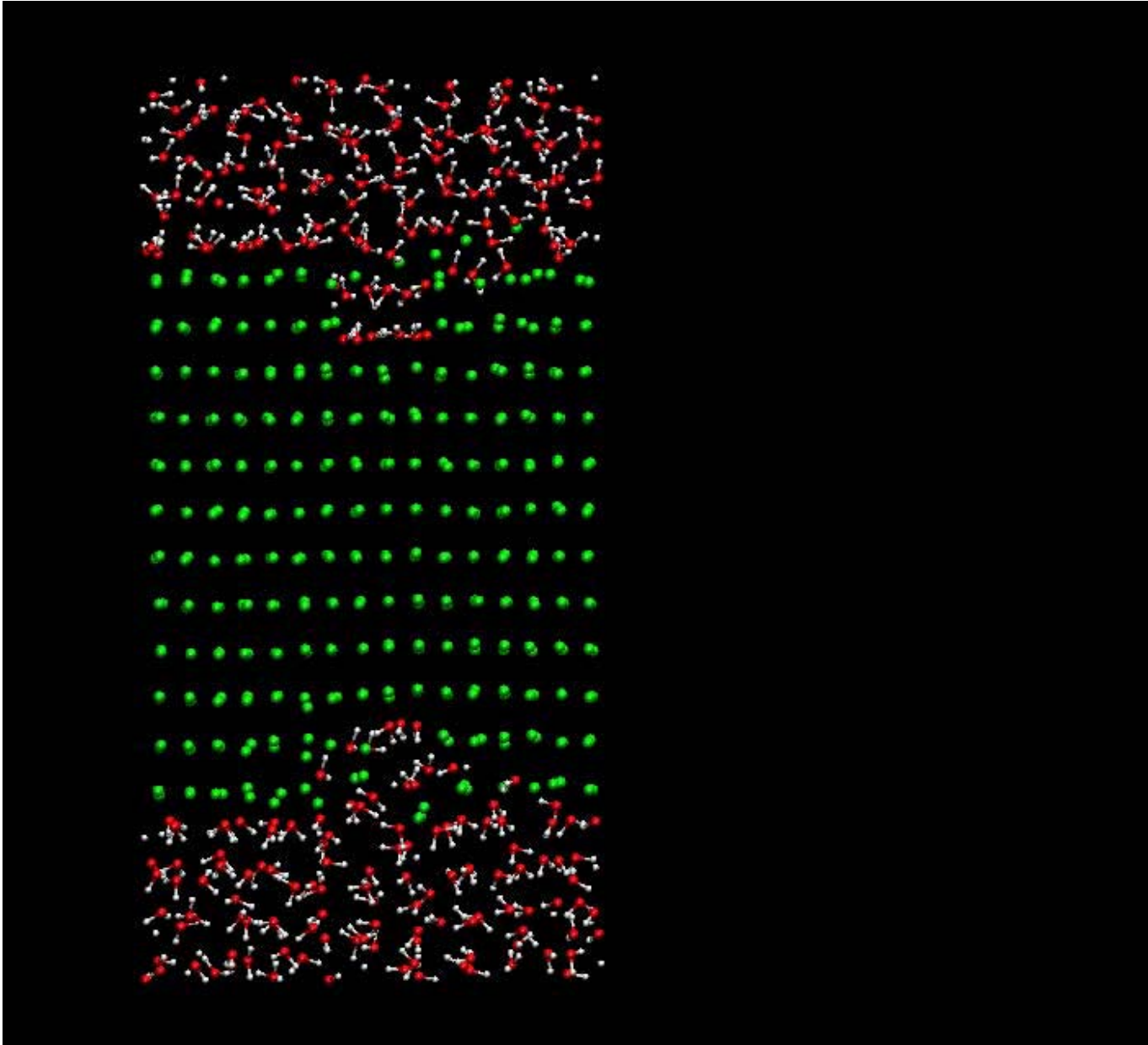


Mg-water interaction: How to make fire with water

Video stills removed due to copyright restrictions; watch the video now:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QTKivMVUcqE>.



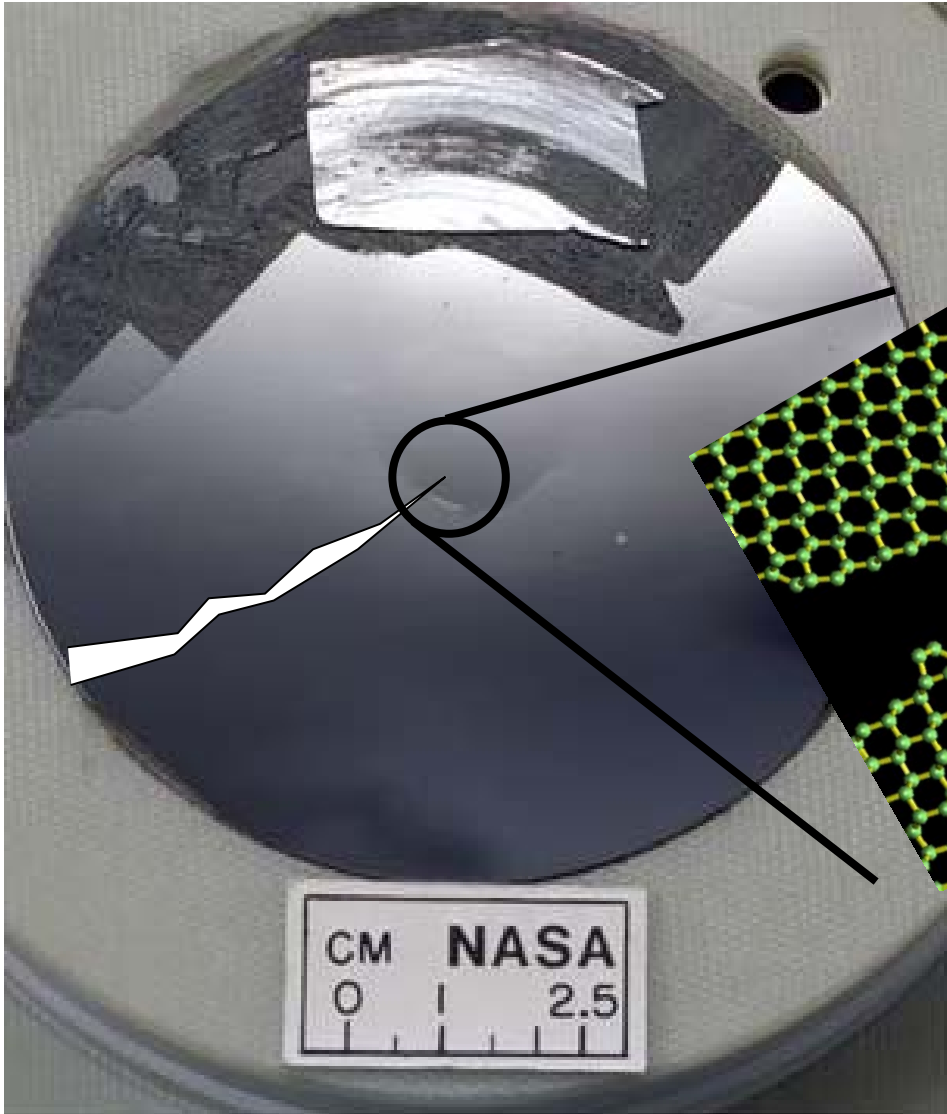
Mg – water interaction – ReaxFF MD simulation



3. Hybrid multi-paradigm fracture models

Focus: model particular fracture properties of silicon (chemically complex material)

Fracture of silicon: problem statement

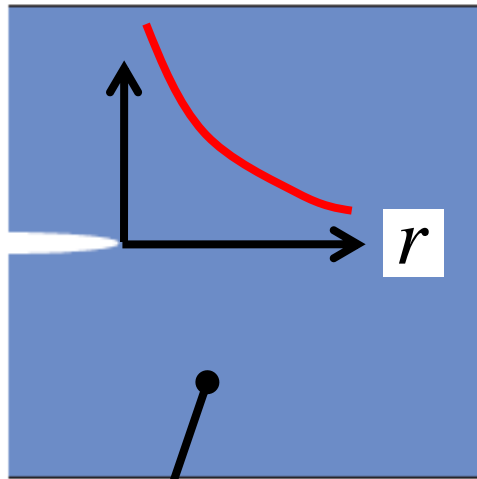


Pair potential insufficient to describe bond breaking (chemical complexity)

Image courtesy of NASA.

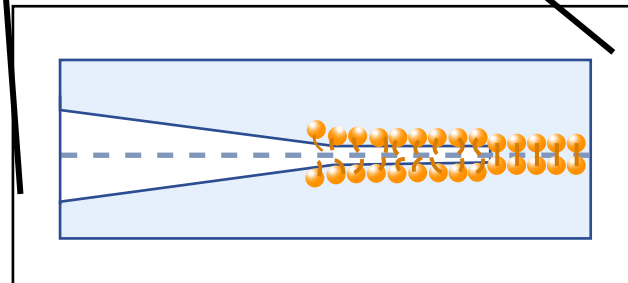
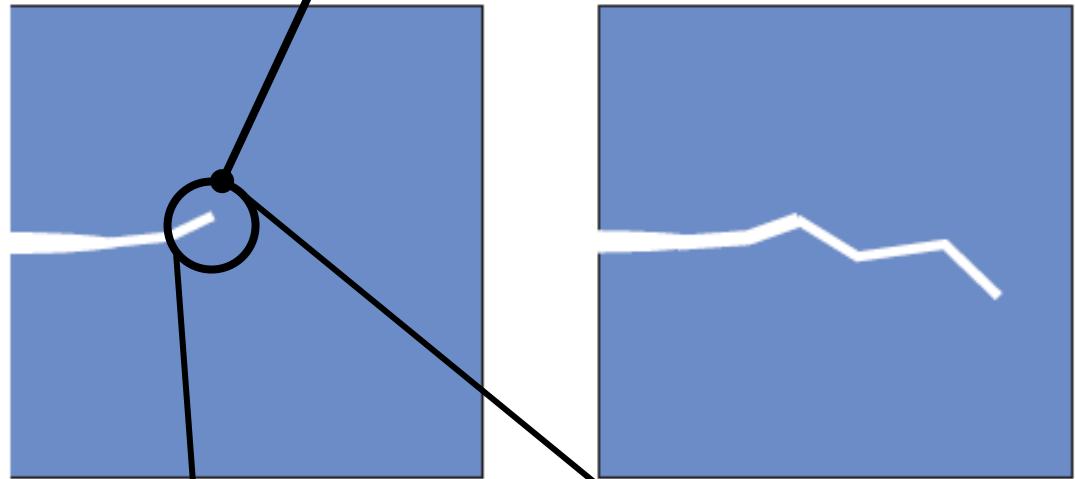
Multi-paradigm concept for fracture

$$\sigma(r) \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{r}}$$

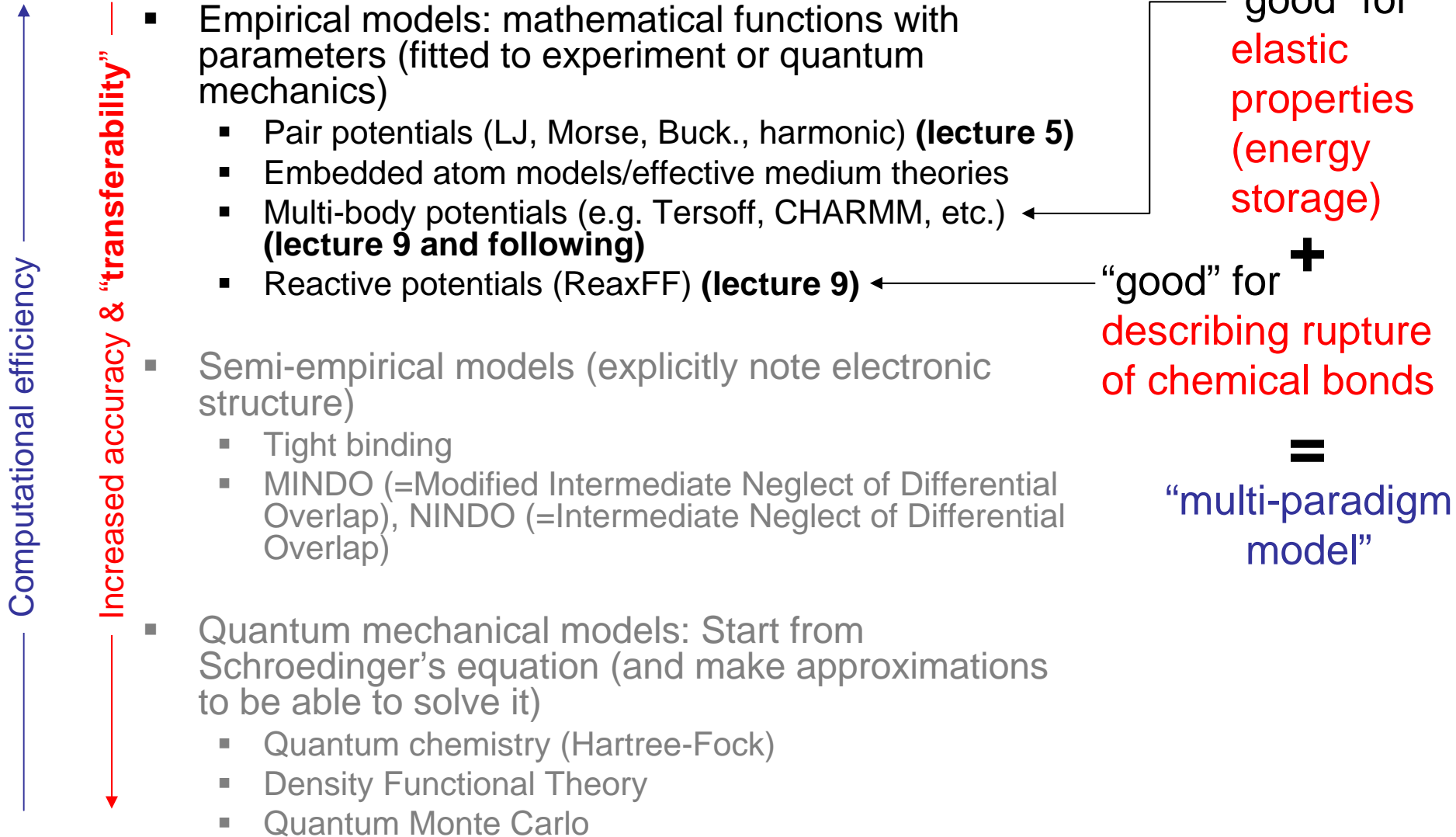


Need method
“good” for **elastic**
properties (energy
storage)

Need method
“good” for **describing**
rupture of chemical bonds

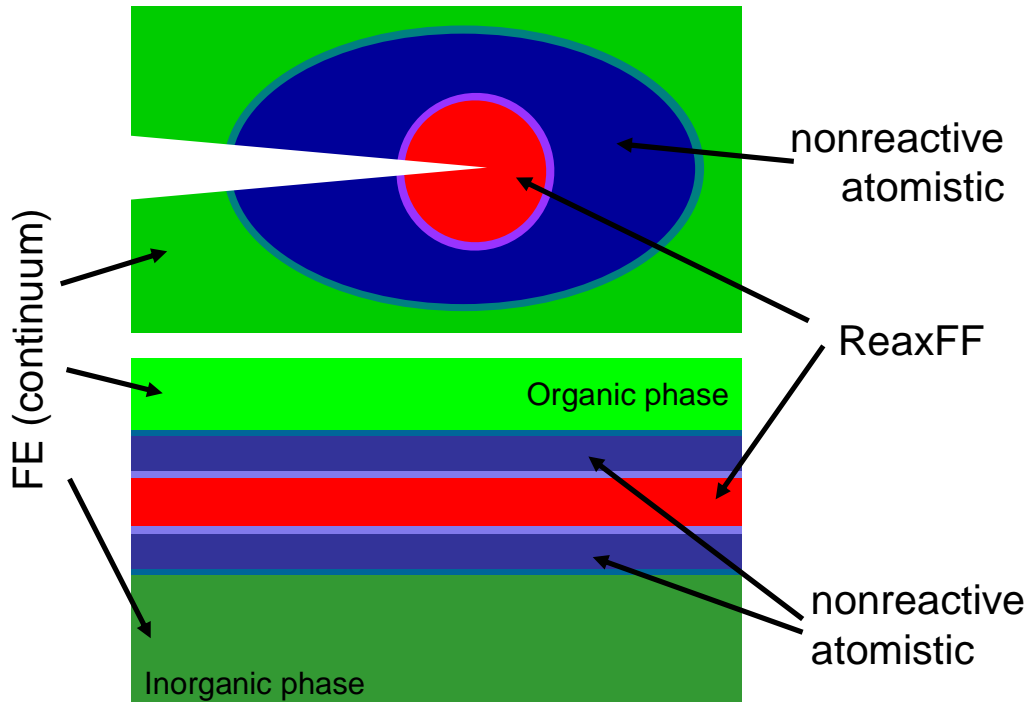


What about combining different potentials?



Concept: concurrent **multi-paradigm** simulations

Crack tips, defects (dislocations)



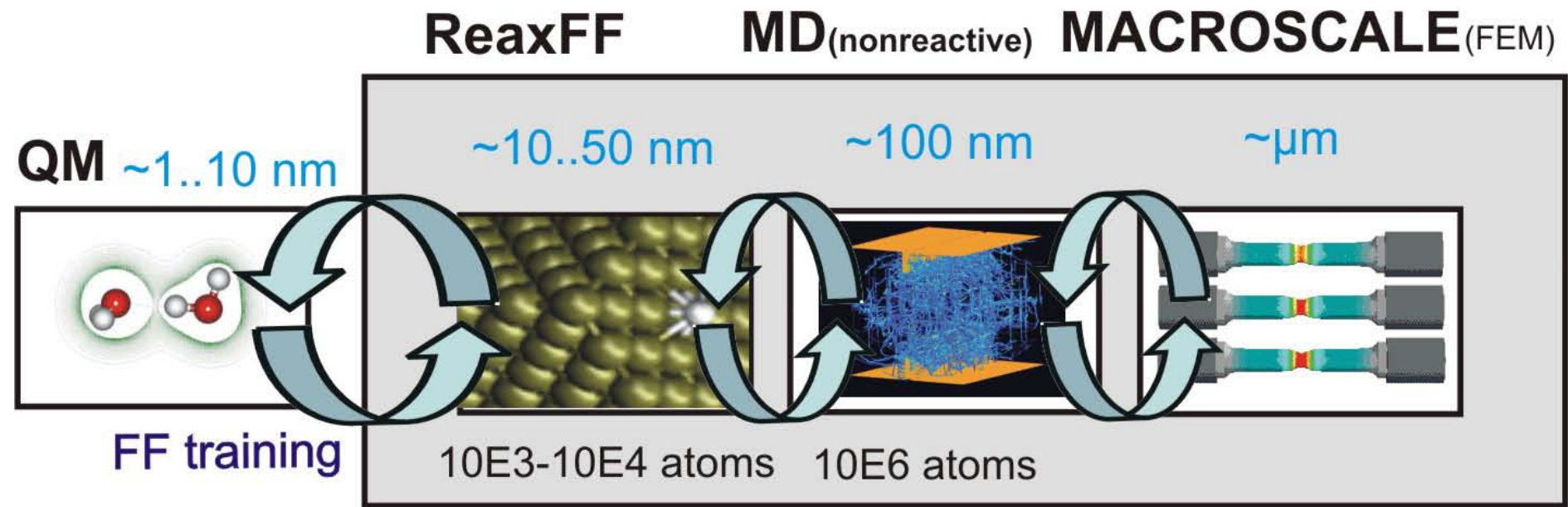
Interfaces (oxidation, grain boundaries,..)

- **Multi-paradigm approach:** combine different computational methods (different resolution, accuracy..) in a single computational domain

- **Decomposition of domain** based on suitability of different approaches

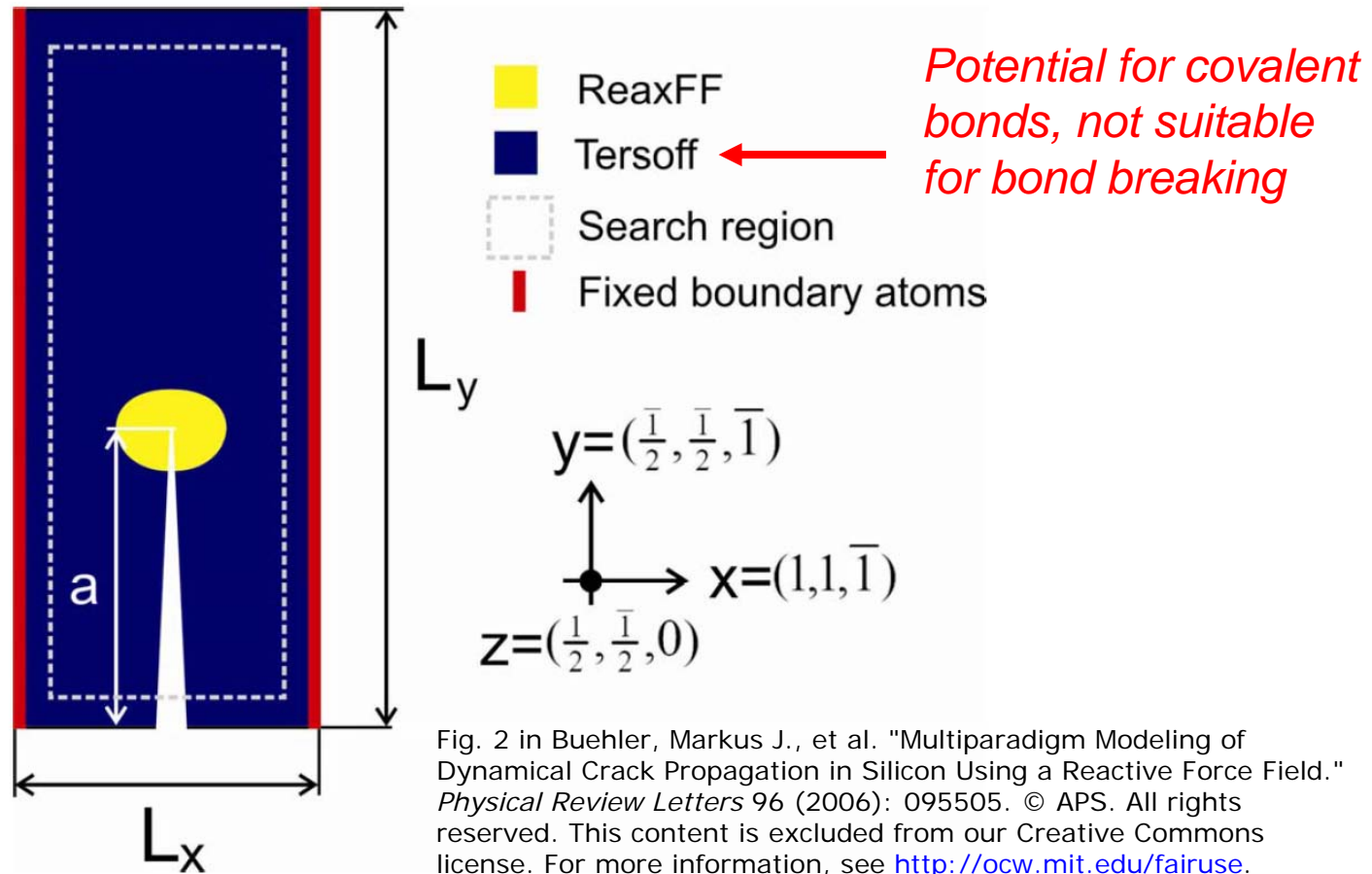
- **Example:** concurrent FE-atomistic-ReaxFF scheme in a crack problem (crack tip treated by ReaxFF) and an interface problem (interface treated by ReaxFF).

Concurrent multi-paradigm simulations: link nanoscale to macroscale



Concurrent coupling: use of multiple force fields within one simulation domain

Simulation Geometry: Cracking in Silicon



- Consider a crack in a silicon crystal under mode I loading.
- Periodic boundary conditions in the z-direction (corresponding to a plane strain case).

Cracking in Silicon: Hybrid model versus Tersoff based model

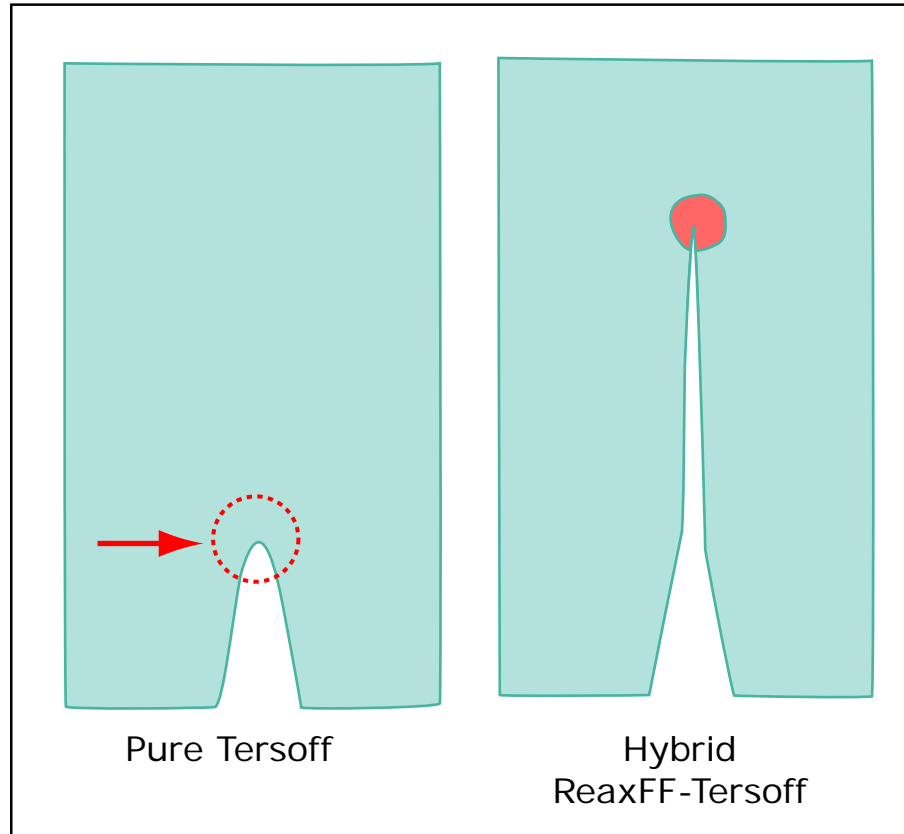


Image by MIT OpenCourseWare.

Conclusion: Pure Tersoff can not describe correct crack dynamics

How is the handshaking achieved?

Hybrid potential energy model (Hamiltonian)

Weights = describe how much a particular FF counts (assigned to each atom)

To obtain forces:

$$F = -\frac{\partial U_{tot}(x)}{\partial x}$$

need potential energy

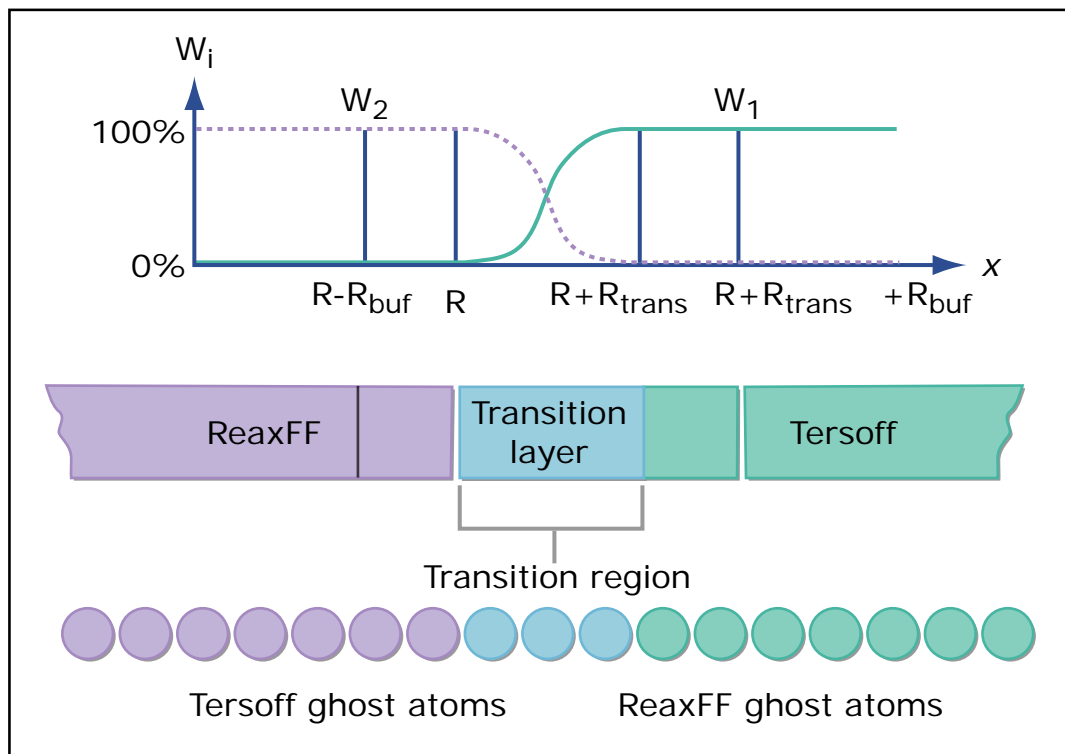


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Approach: handshaking via mixed Hamiltonians

$$U_{tot} = U_{\text{ReaxFF}} + U_{\text{Tersoff}} + \overbrace{U_{\text{ReaxFF-Tersoff}}}^{\text{transition region}}$$

Assigning weights to atoms

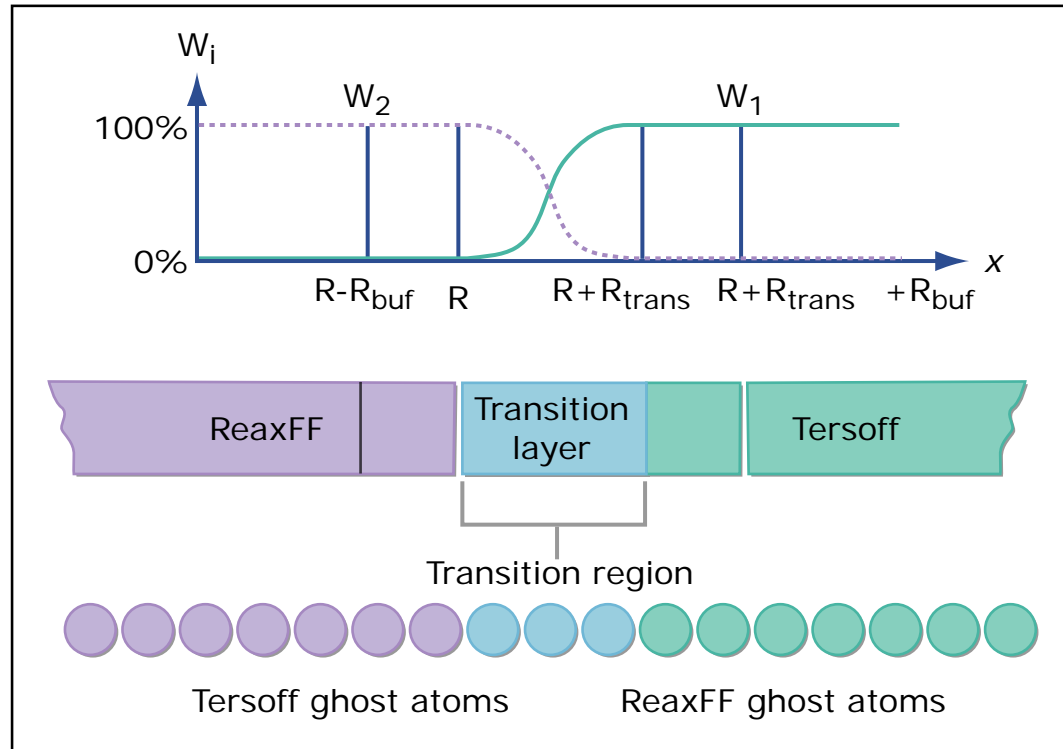


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Percentage ReaxFF	100%	...	100%	70%	30%	0%	...	0%
Percentage Tersoff	0%	...	0%	30%	70%	100%	...	100%

(relative contribution to total energy)

Force calculation

Potential energy

$$U_{tot} = U_{\text{ReaxFF}} + U_{\text{Tersoff}} + U_{\text{ReaxFF-Tersoff}}$$

$$U_{\text{ReaxFF-Tersoff}} = w_{\text{ReaxFF}}(x)U_{\text{ReaxFF}} + (1 - w_{\text{ReaxFF}})U_{\text{Tersoff}}$$

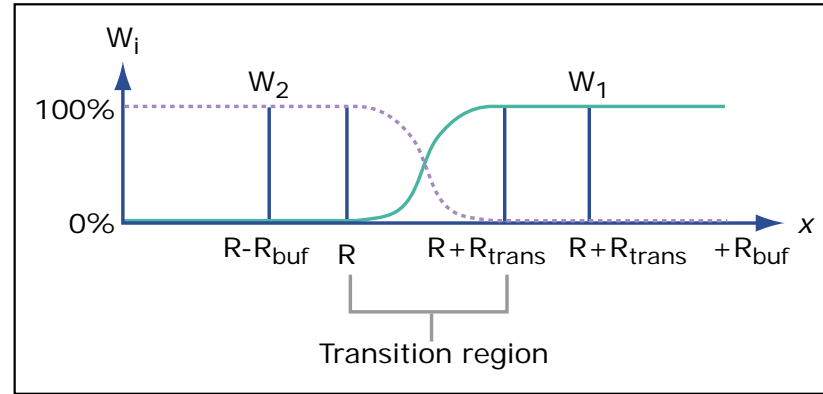


Image by MIT OpenCourseWare.

Recall: $F = -\frac{\partial U}{\partial x}$

$$w_{\text{ReaxFF}}(x) + w_{\text{Tersoff}}(x) = 1 \quad \forall x$$

w_{ReaxFF} is the weight of the reactive force field in the handshaking region.

$$F_{\text{ReaxFF-Tersoff}} = -\left[\left(w_{\text{ReaxFF}}(x)F_{\text{ReaxFF}} + (1 - w_{\text{ReaxFF}})F_{\text{Tersoff}} \right) - \frac{\partial w_{\text{ReaxFF}}}{\partial x} (U_{\text{ReaxFF}} - U_{\text{Tersoff}}) \right]$$

Hybrid Hamiltonians – force calculation

$$F_{\text{ReaxFF-Tersoff}} = - \left[\left(w_{\text{ReaxFF}}(x) F_{\text{ReaxFF}} + (1 - w_{\text{ReaxFF}}) F_{\text{Tersoff}} \right) - \frac{\partial w_{\text{ReaxFF}}}{\partial x} (U_{\text{ReaxFF}} - U_{\text{Tersoff}}) \right] \approx 0$$

Slowly varying weights (wide transition region): $\partial w_{\text{ReaxFF}} / \partial x \approx 0$

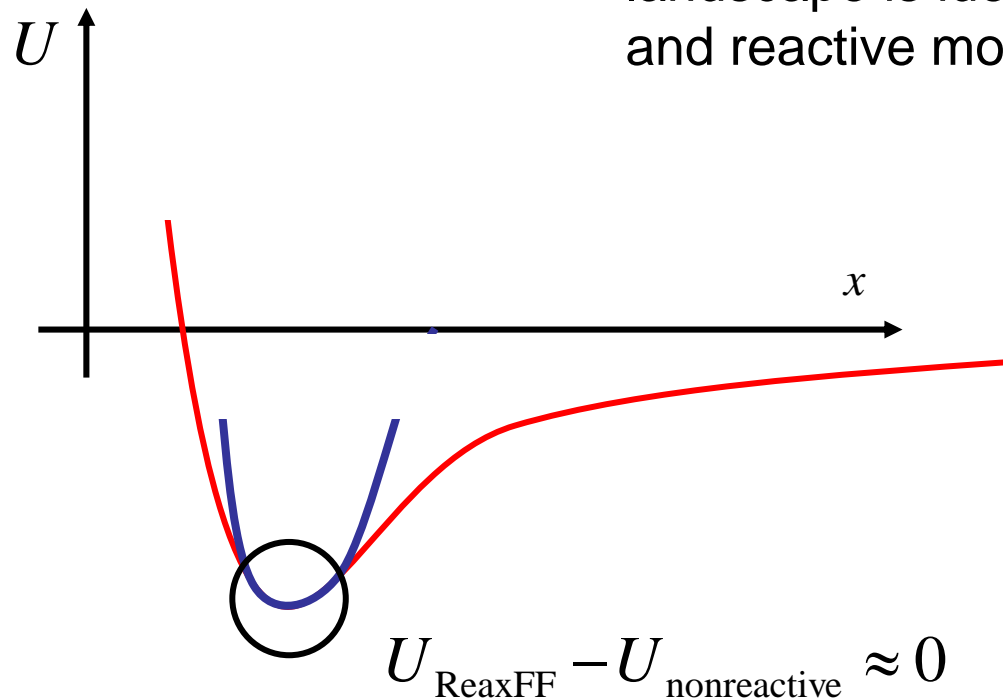
If $U_{\text{ReaxFF}} - U_{\text{Tersoff}} \approx 0$ (i.e., both force fields have similar energy landscape)

Simplified result: can interpolate forces from one end to the other

$$F_{\text{ReaxFF-Tersoff}} = \left(w_{\text{ReaxFF}}(x) F_{\text{ReaxFF}} + (1 - w_{\text{ReaxFF}}) F_{\text{Tersoff}} \right) \quad \left| \quad w_{\text{ReaxFF}}(x) + w_{\text{Tersoff}}(x) = 1 \quad \forall x$$

Energy landscape of two force fields

- Schematic showing the coupling of reactive and nonreactive potentials
- At small deviations, energy landscape is identical in nonreactive and reactive models



Summary: hybrid potential energy model

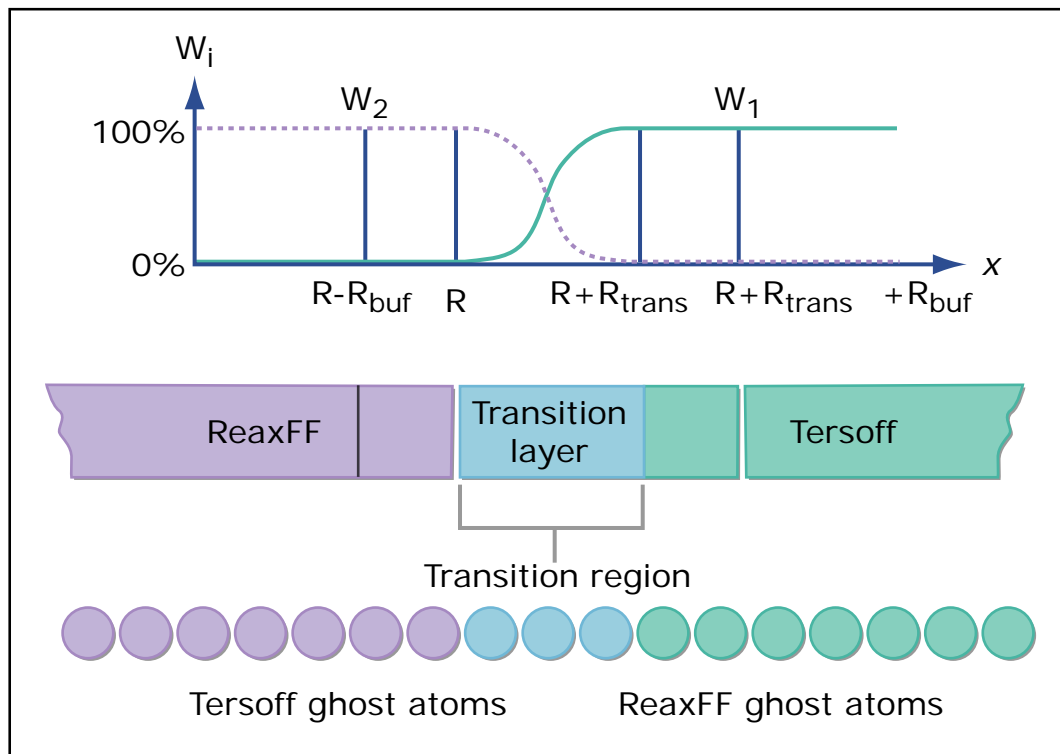


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$$F_{\text{ReaxFF-Tersoff}} = \left(w_{\text{ReaxFF}}(x) F_{\text{ReaxFF}} + (1 - w_{\text{ReaxFF}}) F_{\text{Tersoff}} \right)$$

$$w_{\text{ReaxFF}}(x) + w_{\text{Tersoff}}(x) = 1 \quad \forall x$$

Fracture of silicon single crystals

Use multi-paradigm scheme that combines the Tersoff potential and ReaxFF

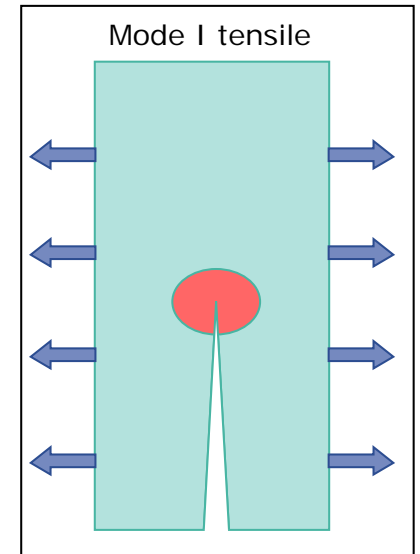
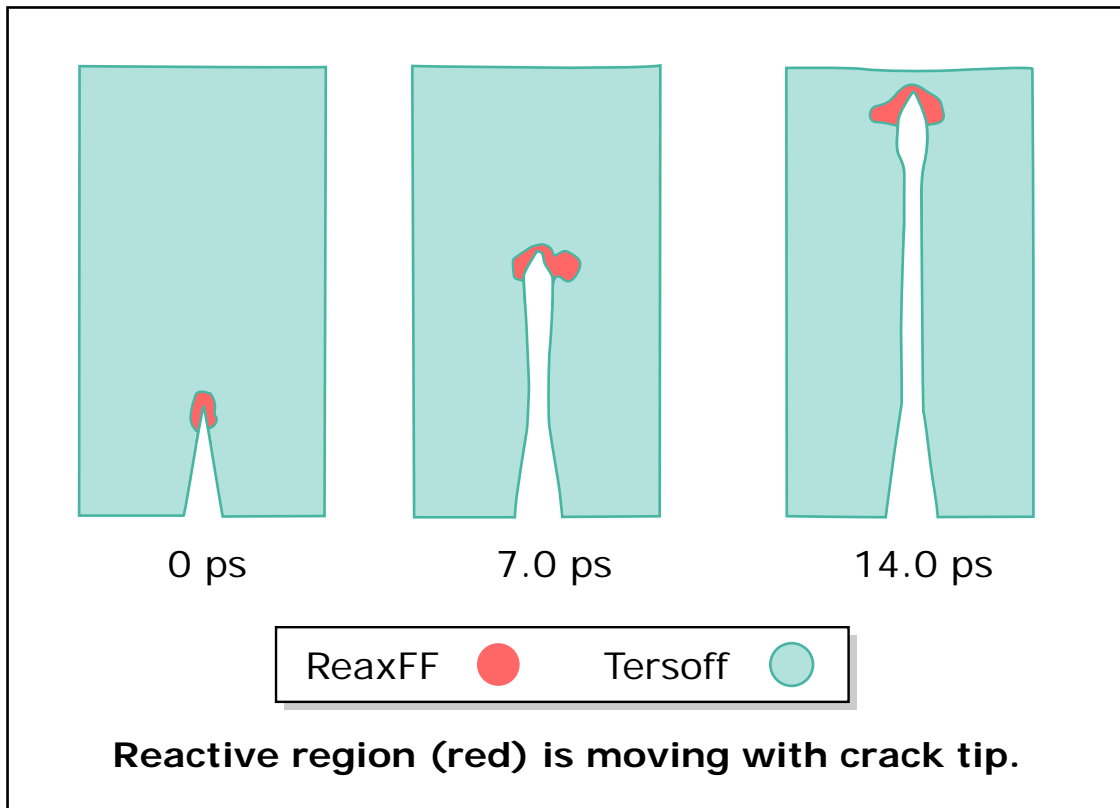


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Quantitative comparison w/ experiment

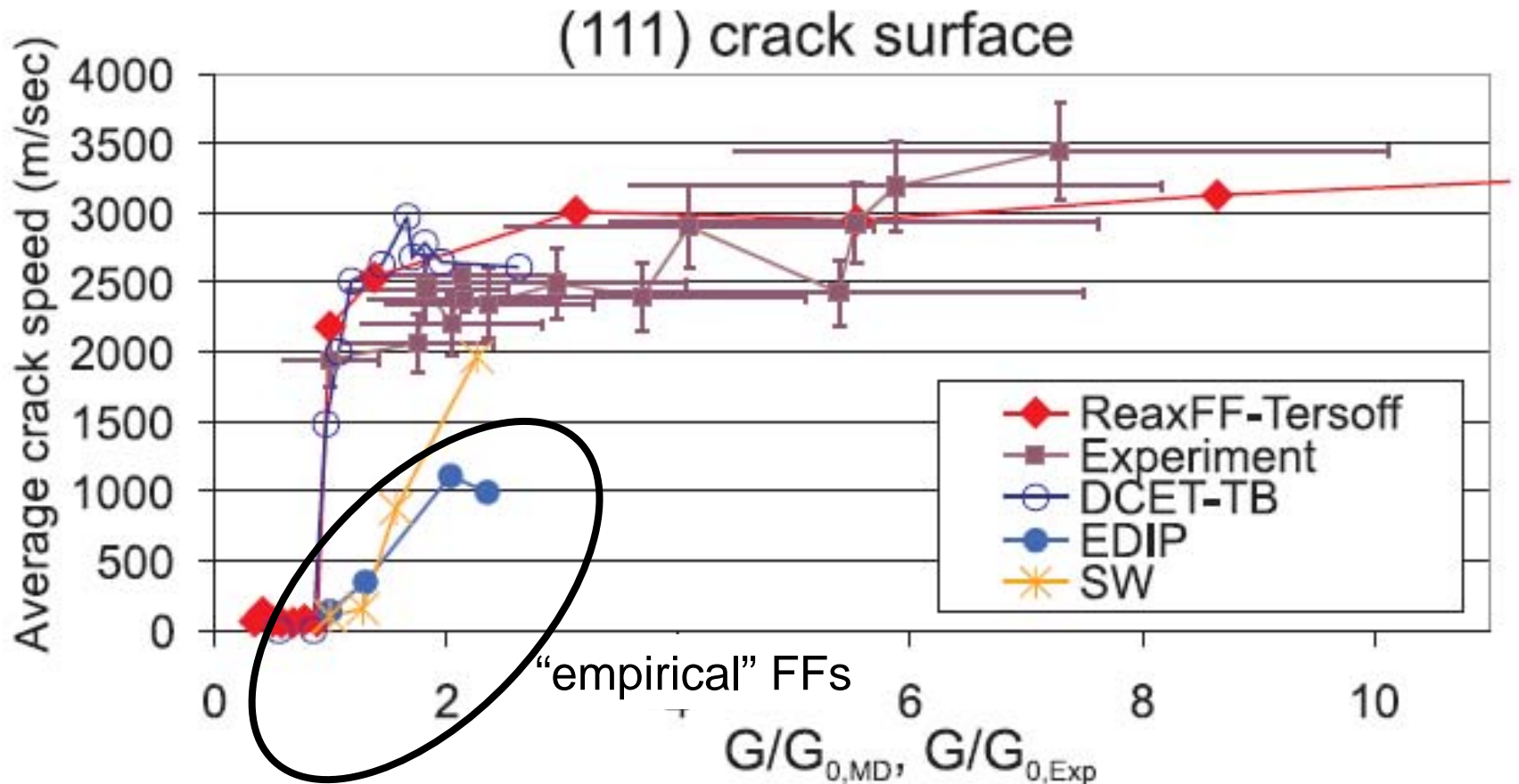


Fig. 1c in Buehler, M., et al. "Threshold Crack Speed Controls Dynamical Fracture of Silicon Single Crystals." *Physical Review Letters* 99 (2007). © APS. All rights reserved. This content is excluded from our Creative Commons license. For more information, see <http://ocw.mit.edu/fairuse>.

Load: normalized by critical energy release rate to initiate fracture

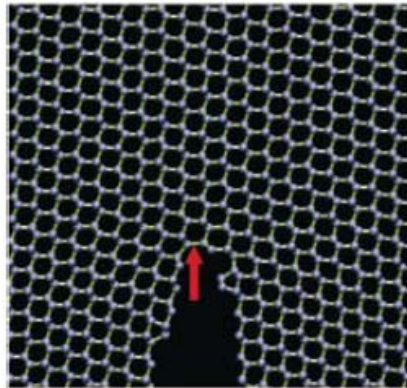
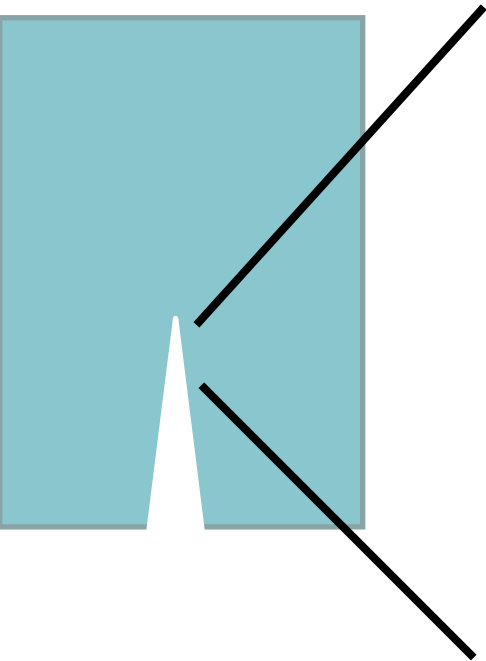
Crack dynamics

Image removed due to copyright restrictions. Please see: Fig. 2 in Buehler, M., et al. "[Threshold Crack Speed Controls Dynamical Fracture of Silicon Single Crystals.](#)" *Physical Review Letters* 99 (2007).

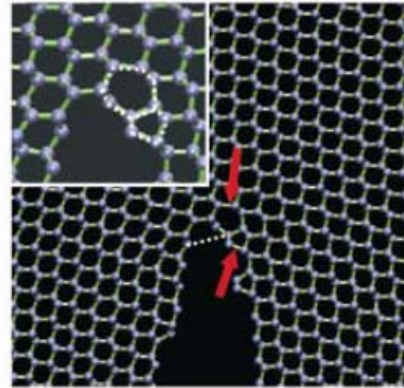
Crack speed: O(km/sec)

=O(nm/ps) (well in reach with MD)

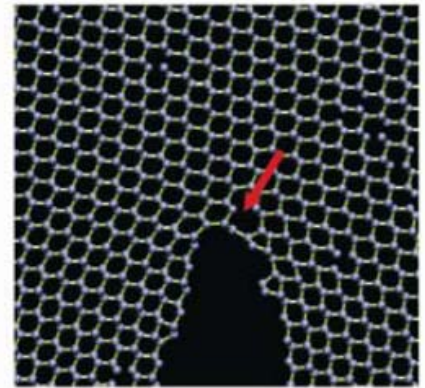
Atomistic fracture mechanism



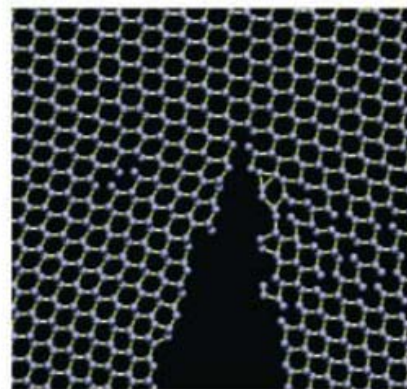
Initial crack



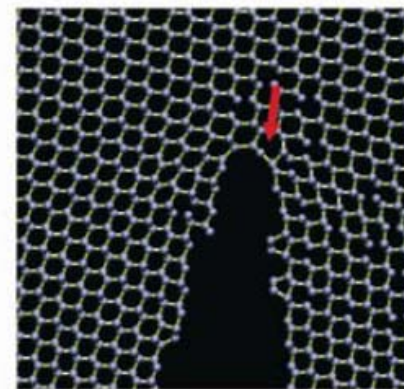
Formation of 7-5 ring defect



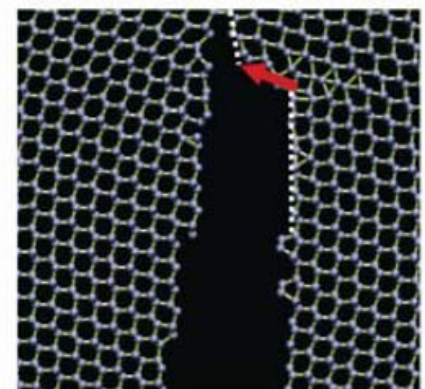
Rupture ahead of 7 membered ring



Crack propagation (smooth surface)

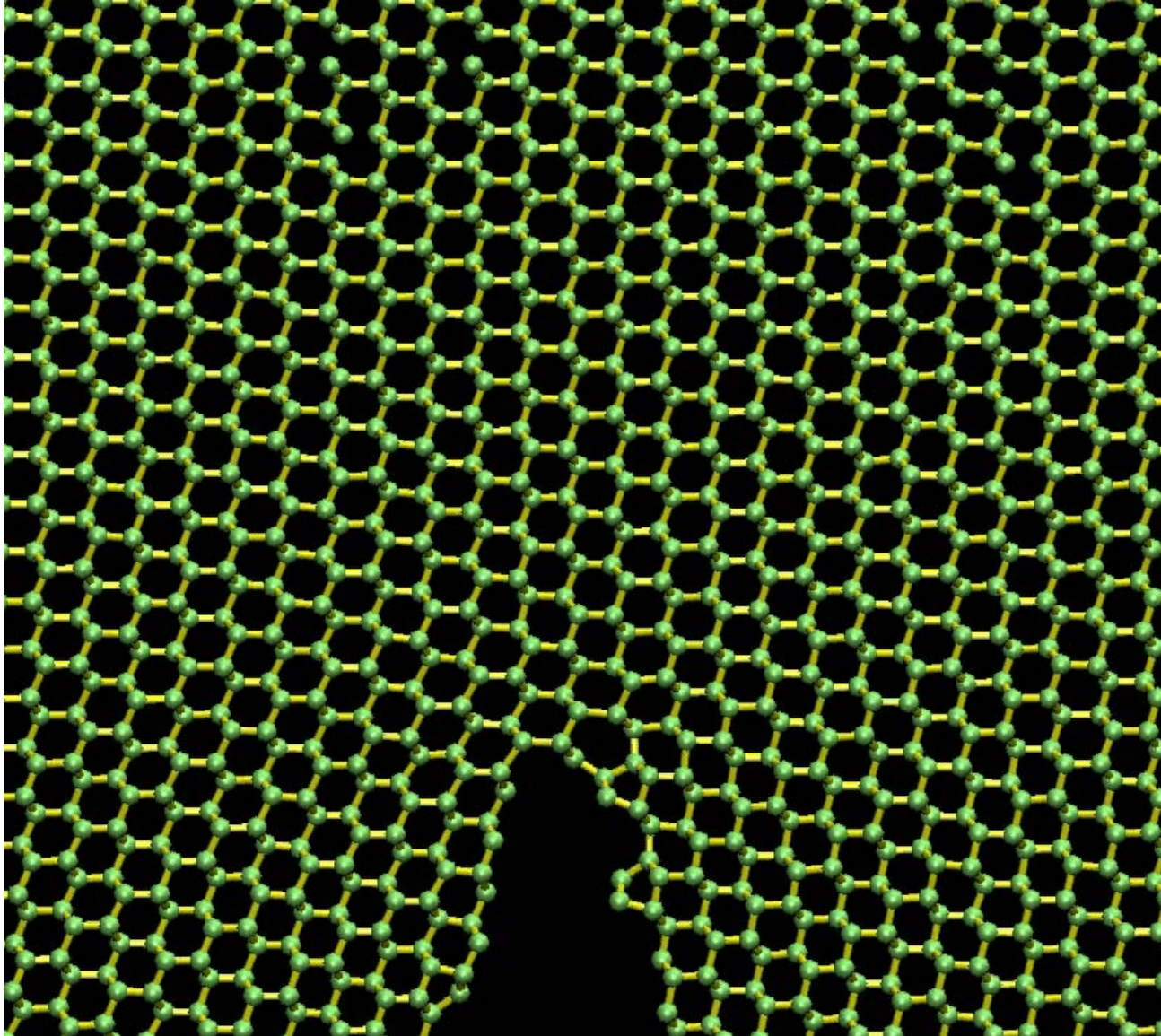


Formation of another 7-5 ring defect



7-5 ring leads to change in crack direction
Creates surface step

Fracture initiation and instabilities



Fracture mechanism: tensile vs. shear loading

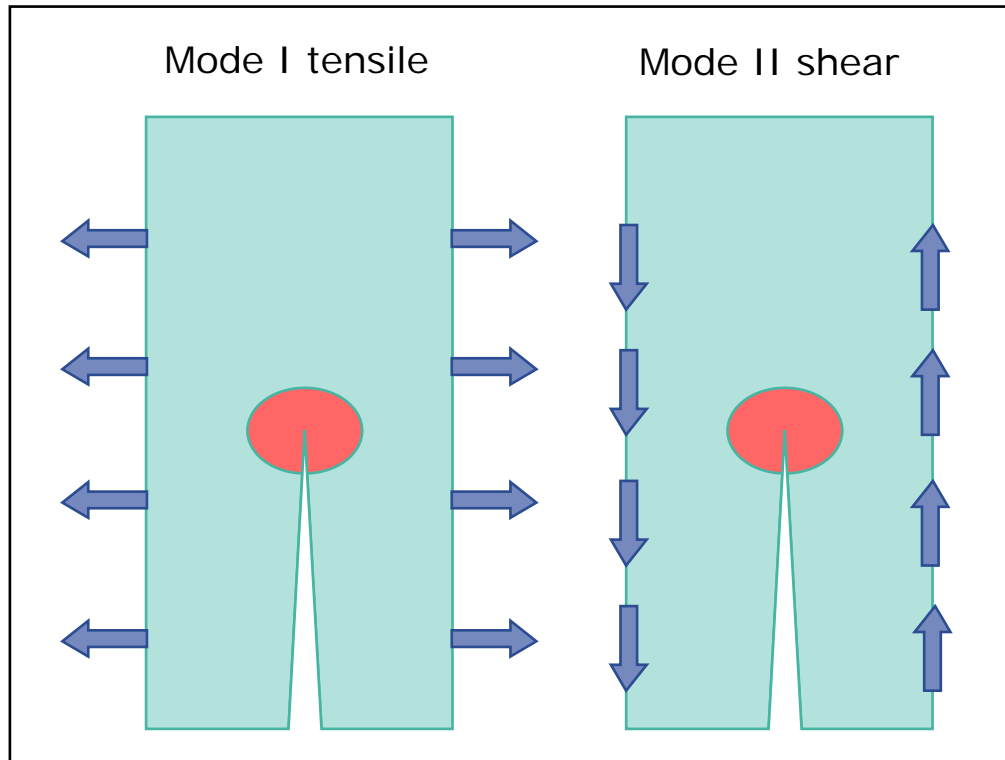


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Shear (mode II) loading:
Crack branching

Tensile (mode I) loading:
Straight cracking

Fracture mechanism: tensile vs. shear loading

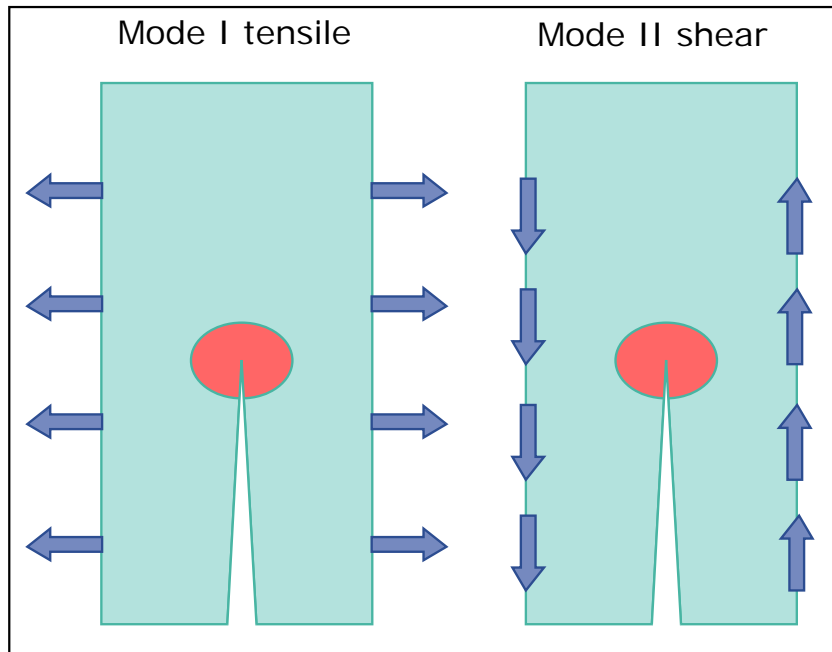


Image by MIT OpenCourseWare.

Shear (mode II) loading: Crack branching
Tensile (mode I) loading: Straight cracking

Images removed due to copyright restrictions.

Please see figures in Buehler, M. J., A. Cohen, and D. Sen. "[Multi-paradigm Modeling of Fracture of a Silicon Single Crystal Under Mode II Shear Loading](#)." *Journal of Algorithms and Computational Technology* 2 (2008): 203-21.

Summary: main concept of this section

- Can **combine different force fields** in a single computational domain = **multi-paradigm modeling**
- Enables one to **combine the strengths of different force fields**
- Simple approach by **interpolating force contributions** from individual force fields, use of weights (sum of weights = 1 at all points)
- **ReaxFF based models quite successful**, e.g. for describing fracture in silicon, quantitative agreement with experimental results

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Spring 2012

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