Distinctive Features in Growth on Vicinal Cu(100): Understanding the Role of Impurities by Calculating Key Energies and Simulating Morphology

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Maroutian,...,Ernst, PRB 64 ('01) 165401

- Impurities (co-deposited) can account for unusual λ_m(*F*) behavior (not Bales-Zangwill) of meandering instability on vicinal Cu [Ernst group] and for distinctive pyramidal nanostructures.
- KMC predicts key energies of such impurities; with DFT we survey various possibilities and identify the likely species.
- ✤Survey of morphologies at 40 ML and submonolayer
- Description in terms of capture-zone distributions & their characteristic exponent *e*.

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3^{rd} nⁿ Max Born Symposium $4^4 = 256$

- Born 11 Dec. 1882 Breslau (Wrocław) to Margarete Kauffmann (<textile wealth) & Gustav Born (*med. prof. embryology*, son of Marcus Born né Buttermilch, also MD), [unobservant, assim.] *Jewish* (D's 3rd largest)
- Mother died at age 4; oldest child (sister & step-sister); frail, shy, retiring
- U. Breslau, Heidelberg U., U. Zürich, 1904 to U. Göttingen for Ph.D. & Hab.('09), contact with Klein, Hilbert, Minkowski, <u>Runge</u>, Schwarzschild, Voigt; also Larmor & Thomson (U. Cambridge); student with von Kármán, Ewald, Toeplitz, Hellinger
- 1913 married Hedwig Ehrenberg (Jewish father converted to Lutheran when married), Hedi baptized; mother-in-law hounded Born to convert); 3 children inc. Irene (mom of Olivia Newton-John)
- 1915 prof. at U. Berlin, spurn Haber (b. Wrocław) offer to work on gas warfare; friends with A. Einstein; stint in army

Notable students:

- M. Delbrück
- W. Elsasser
- F. Hund
- P. Jordan
- M. Goeppert-Mayer
- L. Nordheim
- J.R. Oppenheimer
- V. Weisskopf

Nobel laureates

- Notable assistants:E. FermiK. FuchsW. HeisenbergW. HeitlerG. HerzbergF. HundP. JordanW. PauliL. RosenfeldO. SternE. Teller
- E. Wigner (TLE great-grand-advisor)









- 1921 prof & Inst. Director U. Göttingen, also got chair for Franck
- Grew depressed: family lost wealth due to war & inflation, rising anti-Jewish, and Hedi had long-term affair with Göt. mathematician Gustav Herglotz (& Born knew)
- 1933 emigrated since avowed pacifist & stripped of Ph.D. & Prof. due to Jewish race Stokes Lecturer, U. Cambridge; Hedi back to Göt. for months
- 1936 Tait Prof. at U. Edinburgh, British citizen, FRS ('39)
- 1954 Nobel Prize w/ W. Bothe (Heisenberg: 1932); X P. Jordan: Nazi
- 1954 retired to Bad Pyrmont (Hedi's choice, where she had rested ere marriage & Quaker mtgs., 100 km NW of Göttingen
- 1955 signed Russell-Einstein manifesto
- 1970 died, buried in Göttingen cemetery with Nernst, Weber, von Laue, Planck, Hilbert



tombstone: pq-qp = $h/2\pi i$





The Born Family in Göttingen and Beyond _{Gustav} V. R. Born

Crater Born on moon, d = 15km, at 6.0°S 66.8°E

Motivations: What role of E-S barrier effect during growth ? Why does λ (*F*) of Cu meandering instability differ from B-Z ?



Linear theory, Bales & Zangwill

Meandering wavelength: $\lambda_{th} = (D_m / F \langle \ell \rangle^2)^{1/2}$, D_m: edge diffusion

γ_{BZ} = 1/2

Cu (1 1 17)



Maroutian et al., PRB 64 ('01) 165401

Why not Ehrlich-Schwoebel (BZ), KESE or USED?



but KESE predicts that zig-zag $\langle 100 \rangle$ steps are stable, contrary to exp't.

For unhindered step edge diffusion (USED) [F. Nita & AP, PRL 95 ('05) 106104]:
 γ = 0.14-0.20, small kink barrier gives good morphologies, but would need very small ES barrier, contrary to evidence (0.1–0.25 eV) and no pyramids.

Kinetic Monte Carlo of model with 2 chemical species



vacancy transport (sliders)



Posited impurities reconcile experiment and theory

Impurities \rightarrow exp'tal morphology & variation with *F* Meandering: $\lambda_{sim} \propto F^{-\gamma}$, $\gamma = 1/2 - 1/5$

Embedded impurities can induce mounds, cf. Co on Cu(001). R. Pentcheva & M. Scheffler, PRB 65 ('02) 155418; O. Stepanyuk, N. N. Negulyaev, A. M. Saletsky, W. Hergert, PRB 78 ('08) 113406



Description of deposition and island growth



But small islands can break up



i+1 atoms: smallest stable island: *critical nucleus* So *i* is size of largest unstable cluster

Effect of impurities on island density (diffusion length)



Impurities (θ_i) decrease dependence of island density (diffusion length) on *F*

Effect of impurities on island density



Island density N depends on the binding energy between adatoms and impurities (ϵ^{si})

			Impurity Sets <i>E_{NN}^{imp-imp}</i> insignificant				
	ENN	2		Element	E _{NN} (eV)	E _d (eV)]
		Ì		Cu	0.350	0.564	
$\begin{array}{c} KMC \Rightarrow E_{NN} \gtrsim 1.2 \times 0.35 \text{ eV} \\ E_{d} \approx 1.6 \times 0.56 \text{ eV} \end{array} \text{ vapor-phase} \end{array}$			0 C S	-0.337 -0.251 -0.119	0.775 1.827 0.900	$E_{NN} < 0$	
	VASP-GGA	full or empty <i>d</i> -bane		Ag Sn Zn Al	0.277 0.307 0.312 0.422	0.390 0.432 0.314 0.493	$E_{NN} \stackrel{<}{{}_\sim} E_{NN}^{Cu}$ $E_d \stackrel{<}{{}_\sim} E_d^{Cu}$
	400eV cut-off	ent magnets?	Pd Ni Si	0.343 0.384 0.386	0.698 <i>E</i> 0.795 0.862 1.2 5	$E_{NN} \approx E_{NN}^{Cu}$ $E_{d} E_{d} E_{d}^{Cu} \lesssim 1.5$	
	4x4x14supercell 6 atomic layers (5x5x1) k mesh	mid-trans	ition elements	Co Fe Mn W	0.414 0.444 0.474 0.639	0.891 _{1.2} ≲1 0.909 0.879 <i>E</i> _d 0.913	$E_{NN}/E_{NN}^{Cu} \lesssim 1.8$ $\approx 1.6 \times E_d^{Cu}$

Which of these??

Graph of Impurity Sets





Estimates of γ ($\lambda_m \sim F^{-\gamma}$) and possibility of pyramid formation



2% codeposited impurities zoomed: 7% of previous images 40ML, *F*=0.05ML/s at *T*=425K



Why tungsten (W) from this set of impurities?

- •W has best energies
- •W has proper value of γ
- •Mn unlikely to be part of apparatus, so Fe or W
- •W heating element used in experiment (T. Maroutian)
- •In experiment, pyramids began to appear for $F > 10^{-2}$ ML/s
- •As raise T to raise F, more W from wire

Low W vapor pressure, not sure if direct sight to sample (B. Poelsema) But perhaps H coats W, hampering sticking. (T. Seyller)

Sadly, apparatus no longer intact and available to examine

NB: Not S, since experimenters carefully desulfurized Cu. (T. Maroutian)





2) Embedding (emb), 3) hopping (hop),and 4) exchange (exc) diffusion barrierson Cu (001) computed with VASP

Very low *E*_{exc}. Cf. H. Yildirim and T. S. Rahman, Phys. Rev. B 80 ('09) 235413, not BAPS (Mar'09) Q12.07

Exchange moves not in our minimal model nor our algorithm

Quandary: reconcile meandering & small ES (E_{exc})

	$1 E_d$	$2 E_{emb}$	3 E_{hop} (E_{ES})	4 E_{exc}
Cu	0.550/0.0	0.695/0.0	$0.695 \ (0.145)/0.408$	0.510/0.408
Fe	0.911/0.0	0.427/0.756	$1.316\ (0.405)/0.544$	0.295/0.980
Mn	0.865/0.0	0.397/0.863	$1.334\ (0.469)/0.613$	0.233/1.088
W	0.880/0.0	0.262/1.690	$1.845 \ (0.965) / 0.882$	0.094/1.767

Energies in eV After /: $E_{init} - E_{fin}$



0.15 ML



Evolution of Island Structures: Simulations of Circular Islands Mulheran & Blackman, PRB 53 ('96) 10261

Can be more fruitful to study distribution of areas of *capture zones* (CZ) [Voronoi cells] than of island sizes!

s = capture zone area/ average cap. zone area



- Gaussian: $P_{\sigma}(s) = (2\pi\sigma^2)^{-1/2} \exp[-(s-1)^2/2\sigma^2]$ Mean-field-like; modest σ^2 , significant probability for $s < 0^{-0.6}$
- Generalized Wigner: $P_{\varrho}(s) = a_{\varrho} s^{\varrho} \exp(-b_{\varrho} s^2)$, var. = $[(\varrho+1)/2b_{\varrho}]$ -1, $b_{\varrho} = [\Gamma(1+\varrho/2)/\Gamma(1/2+\varrho/2)]^2$ Describes fluctuations of broad range of systems, inc. nuclear energy levels, chaotic orbits, based on symmetry for $\varrho = 1,2,4$ (orthogonal, unitary, or symplectic \mathcal{A} , via random matrix theory) generalizable to repelling fermions in 1D, terracewidth distributions on vicinal surfaces (with related to strength of dimensionless ℓ^{-2} elastic repulsion between steps, etc.

• Gamma:
$$P_o(s) = [\alpha^{\alpha}/\Gamma(\alpha)] s^{\alpha-1} \exp(-\alpha s)$$
, var. = α^{-1}

Exact for random point deposition in 1D [Kiang, Z. Astrophys. 64 ('66) 433], but does not generalize to larger islands or higher D; used for foams & froths by Weaire et al.

• Log-normal:
$$P_{\sigma}(s) = (2\pi\sigma^2)^{-1/2} s^{-1} \exp[-(\ln(s)+\sigma^2/2)^2/2\sigma^2]$$
,
var. = $\exp(\sigma^2)$ -1,
product of many indep. positive random variables



 $b \approx i + 2$ = i + 1 in mean field

Calogero-like Hamiltonian:

$$\mathcal{H} = -\sum_{j=1}^{N} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_j^2} + 2\frac{\beta}{2} \left(\frac{\beta}{2} - 1\right) \sum_{1 \le i < j \le N} (x_j - x_i)^{-2} + \omega^2 \sum_{j=1}^{N} x_j^2$$

$$\rightarrow \infty, \ \omega \to 0; \text{ in Calogero } \mathcal{H}, \ x_j^2 \to (x_j - x_i)^2.]$$

$$\Psi_0 = \prod_{1 \le i < j \le N} |x_j - x_i|^{-1} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\omega \sum_{k=1}^{N} x_k^2\right)$$

d-state density Ψ_0^2 is recognized as a joint probability distrin from the theory of random matrices for Dyson's Gaussian

Iamiltonian:

$$\begin{aligned} &= -\sum_{j=1}^{N} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_j^2} + 2\frac{\beta}{2} \left(\frac{\beta}{2} - 1\right) \frac{\pi^2}{L^2} \sum_{i < j} \left[\sin \frac{\pi (x_j - x_i)}{L} \right]^{-2} \\ &= \Psi_0 = \prod_{i < j} \left| \sin \frac{\pi (x_j - x_i)}{L} \right|^{\frac{Q}{2}}, \quad x_j > x_i \\ &= \frac{2\pi x_i}{L} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \Psi_0^2 = \prod_{i < j} \left| e^{i\theta_j} - e^{i\theta_i^{\frac{Q}{2}}} \right| \end{aligned}$$

es so herrice i-state density Ψ_0^2 is also a joint probability distribution funcheory of random matrices, now for Dyson's circular ensembles. he pair correlation functions and other properties of the ensemluated exactly only for the cases $\beta = 1, 2, \text{ or } 4$, corresponding to orthogonal, unitary, or symplectic symmetry of the ensemble.

Positions of fermions (steps) ↔ eigen*energies* of nuclei, for Hamiltonia with orthogonal, unitary, or symplectic symmetry! So step spacings (s) \leftrightarrow energy spacings. *Miraculously*, $|\Psi_0|^2$ of C-S models corresponds to exact P(s) of RMT for cases $\rho = 1, 2, \& 4$. But $\rho = 1 + (1+4\tilde{A})^{1/2}$ need not have these values. $P_{\rho}(s)$ is a good approx. of exact P for these 3 values so why not for all $\rho > 0$?!

Phenomenological mean-field theory

CZ does "random walk" with 2 competing effects on *ds/dt*:

1] Neighboring CZs hinder growth \Rightarrow external pressure leads to force opposing large *s* Also noise since atom can go to "wrong" island

2] Non-symmetric confining potential, newly nucleated island has non-tiny CZ, comparable to neighbors so force stops fluctuations of CZ to tiny values

3] Nucleation rate

- ∞ adatom density x density of critical nuclei ∞ (adatom density)^(*i*+1) [Walton relation]
- 4] New CZ in region of very small CZs will have size comparable to those nearby, so very small also
- 5] Combine to Langevin eq. $ds/dt = K[(i + 1)/s Bs] + \eta$ Leads to Fokker-Planck eq. with stationary sol'n $P_{\varrho}(s)$ *cf.* AP, HG, & TLE, Phys. Rev. Lett. **95** ('05) 246101





Applications to actual (not MC) experiments

- The second se
- Pentacene/SiO₂

Pentacene-PentaceneQuinone

Alq₃ on passivated Si(100)

InAs quantum dots on GaAs(001)





IGrowth-morphology differences are already visible at submonolayer coverage-1



- Pure Cu: nr. islands (N_i) does not change with coverage
- Cu with C: single impurity atoms + large islands
- Cu with AI: very similar to pure Cu

Cu + AI(2)

Growth-morphology differences are already visible at submonolayer coverage-2



Cu + Ni(3)

- Cu with Ni: small islands, nr. of islands (N_i) increases with coverage (θ)
- Cu with W: similar to Ni but more small islands



How do impurities affect island nucleation?



- Number of islands (N_i): rapid increase \rightarrow slow increase \rightarrow decrease (coalescence)
- Average island size (AIS) increases with θ throughout the regime for all impurities

Codeposition of impurities from different (same) sets leads to significantly different (similar) island nucleation and growth behavior in the sub-monolayer regime.

Impurity sets				
Set 1	O, C, S			
Set 2	Ag, Sn, Zn, Al			
Set 3	Pd, Ni, Si			
Set 4	Co, Fe, Mn, W			

Distribution of Capture-zone Areas

- GWD gives good fits to CZ-area distribution in the presence of different impurities (NB: extension from standard single-species)
- ρ increases with θ for all cases except Cu with set-1 impurities – due to repulsive E_{NN} , single impurity atom islands?
- In general, higher E_d and higher E_{NN} values lead to smaller ϱ , due to reduction in the critical cluster size (*i*)









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CZD & *Wigner*, AP & TLE, Phys. Rev. Lett. 99 ('07) 226102 ; 104 ('10) 149602 (& 149601)





0.3 ML

Conclusions - 1

kMC study of the effect of impurities on vicinal-surface step-flow growth \rightarrow Agreement with Cu exp't: morphology & $\lambda(F)$.

- **Comparison** with exp't on vicinal Cu supports the hypothesis that many previously unexplained features of the meandering instability are <u>due to impurities</u>.
- **Impurities:** responsible for *qualitative* & *quantitative* modification of the surface morphology:
 - **<u>nucleation centers</u>** \rightarrow pyramids
 - diffusion less dependent on $F \rightarrow$ wavelength
- **DFT (VASP) study** : *impurity* & *concentration* Mid-transition (Fe, Mn, W) rather than gases
- Experimental apparatus info strongly suggests that W is the culprit

Conclusions - 2

- Based on their E_{NN} and E_d values (relative to the values for Cu), impurity atoms can be classified into sets
- Our simulations show that codeposition of impurities from different sets with Cu result in significantly different surface morphologies for growth:
 - in the step-flow mode (θ = 40 ML) and
 - in the submonolayer regime ($\theta \le 0.7$ ML)
- Generalized Wigner distribution fits well the distribution of capture-zone areas for pure Cu and Cu codeposited with impurities. However, the exact connection between the fit parameter *Q* and *i* is not clearly known.
- Growth morphologies can be controlled through the codeposition of appropriate impurity atoms.
- Dramatic effect of impurities on growth → *self-nanostructuring / stabilizing*

(Let's Get) Physical *Olivia Newton-John*

I'm saying all the things that I know you'll like, Makin' good conversation I gotta handle you just right, You know what I mean I took you to an intimate restaurant, Then to a suggestive movie There's nothin' left to talk about, Unless it's horizontally

Let's get physical, physical, I wanna get physical, let's get into physical Let me hear your body talk, Your body talk, let me hear your body talk I've been patient, I've been good, Tried to keep my hands on the table It's gettin' hard this holdin' back, You know what I mean I'm sure you'll understand my point of view, We know each other mentally You gotta know that you're bringin' out The animal in me

Let's get animal, animal, I wanna get animal, let's get into animal Let me hear your body talk, Your body talk, let me hear your body talk.