

# Ab-initio Cu alloy design for high-gradient accelerating structures

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05/18/2022



Managed by Triad National Security, LLC for the U.S. Department of Energy's NNSA

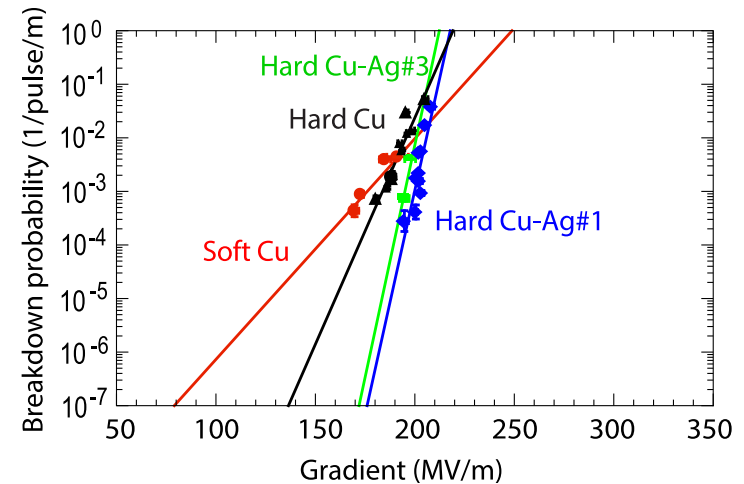
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# Outline

- Introduction
  - Figure of merit (FOM)
- Computational details
  - Compare calculated Cu alloy properties with existing experiments
- FOM of dilute Cu alloys
  - What alloy is good? At what solute concentration?
- Summary and plan

# RF breakdown

- Breakdown probability is dependent on the material of the cavity.
- CuAg alloys can improve breakdown resistance
- Can we scan the whole periodic table in search of the optimal solute and concentration?



Simakov, Dolgashev, Tantawi, 2018

# FOM overview

- Tradeoffs:
  - **Good:** Adding solute atoms can improve strength: limit plastic deformation under thermal loading
  - **Bad:** Adding solute atoms can increase RF dissipation and thermal stresses: increase driving force for plastic deformation
- **Figure of merit (FOM):**
  - Critical stress to move dislocations / Thermal stress created by RF dissipation

# FOM #1: Critical stress to move dislocations

**Labusch–Nabarro (LN) model:** Critical resolved shear stress required for dislocation motion:

$$\tau_{L-N} = \frac{(2\omega f_m^4 c^2)^{1/3}}{2b^{7/3}(Gb^2)^{1/3}}$$

$$\text{With: } f_m = \frac{Gb^2}{120} \varepsilon_L \quad \varepsilon_L = \sqrt{\varepsilon_G'^2 + (\alpha \varepsilon_b)^2} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \alpha = 9 - 16 \\ \varepsilon_G' = \frac{\varepsilon_G}{1 + 0.5|\varepsilon_G|} \end{array} \right\}$$

**Two key parameters:**

- Size misfit  $\varepsilon_b = \frac{db}{bdc}$
- Modulus misfit  $\varepsilon_G = \frac{dG}{Gdc}$

*Johan Zander et al., Computational Materials Science 41 (2007) 86–95*  
*M. Z. Butt, Journal of Materials Science 28 (1993) 2557-2576*

# FOM #2: Thermal stress created by RF dissipation

- Heating due to RF losses can be estimated from the solution of the heat equation:

Accelerator parameters  $\Delta T = \frac{G^2 \sqrt{T_p}}{Z_H^2} \frac{R_s}{\sqrt{\pi \rho c_\epsilon k}}$  Material properties

- Assuming that the surface is free to relax in z only, the corresponding in-plane thermal stress is

$$\epsilon_{xx} \equiv \epsilon_{yy} \equiv -\frac{E\alpha T}{1-\nu}$$

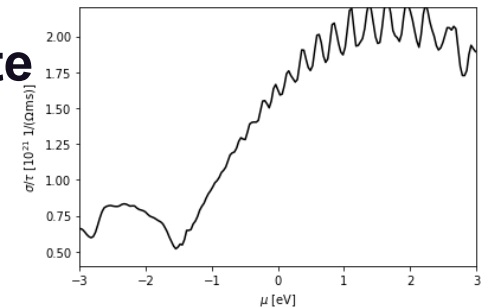
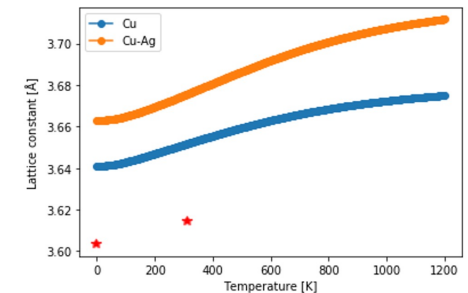
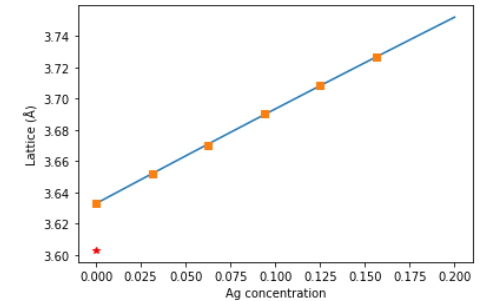
*Perry B. Wilson. In ITP Conference on Future High Energy Colliders.  
University of California, Santa Barbara, October 1996.*

# Calculating the FOM requires:

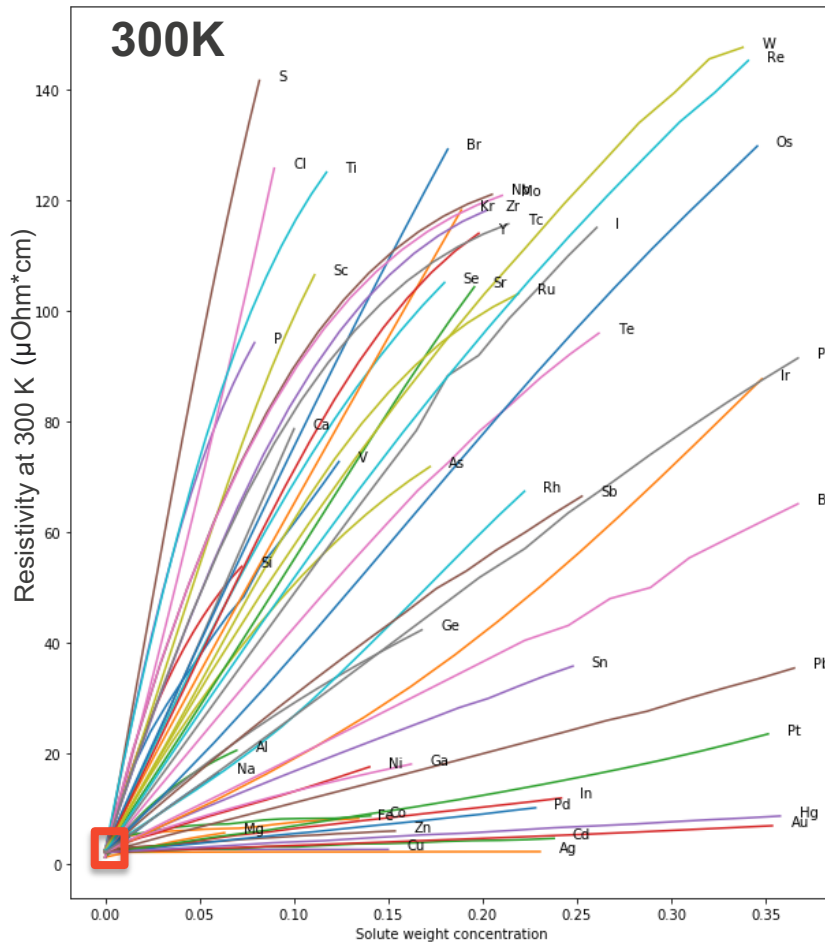
- Lattice constant: direct structure relaxation (DFT)
- Mechanical properties: finite distortion (DFT)
- Thermal expansion coefficient: quasi-harmonic approximation (DFT)
- Electrical and thermal conductivity:
  - SPRKKR

These quantities need to be computed vs solute concentration.

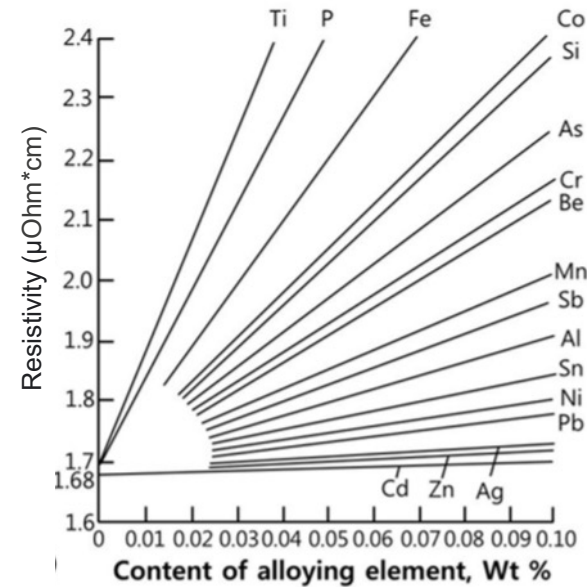
**This requires tens of DFT calculations per solute per concentration (!)**



# Resistivity



## Experiments

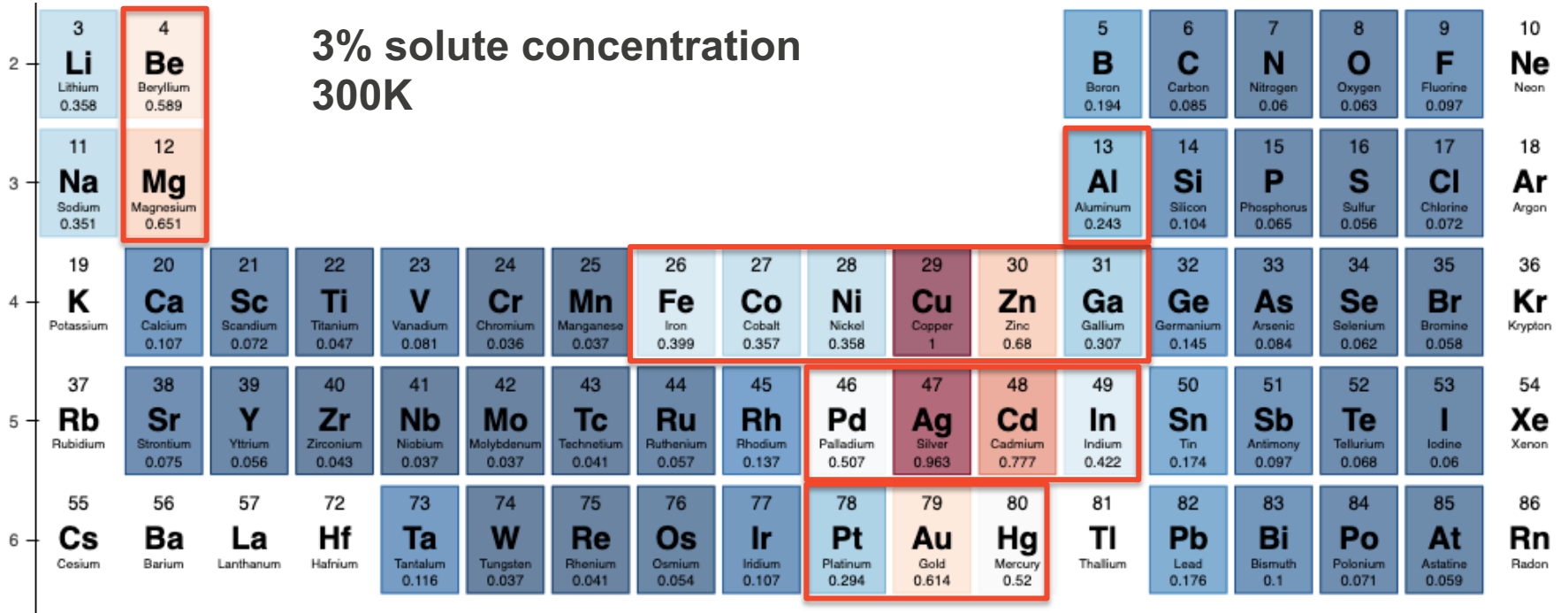


Experiments from: Han, Seung Zeon, Eun-Ae Choi, Sung Hwan Lim, Sangshik Kim, and Jehyun Lee. "Alloy design strategies to increase strength and its trade-offs together." *Progress in Materials Science* 117 (2021): 100720.



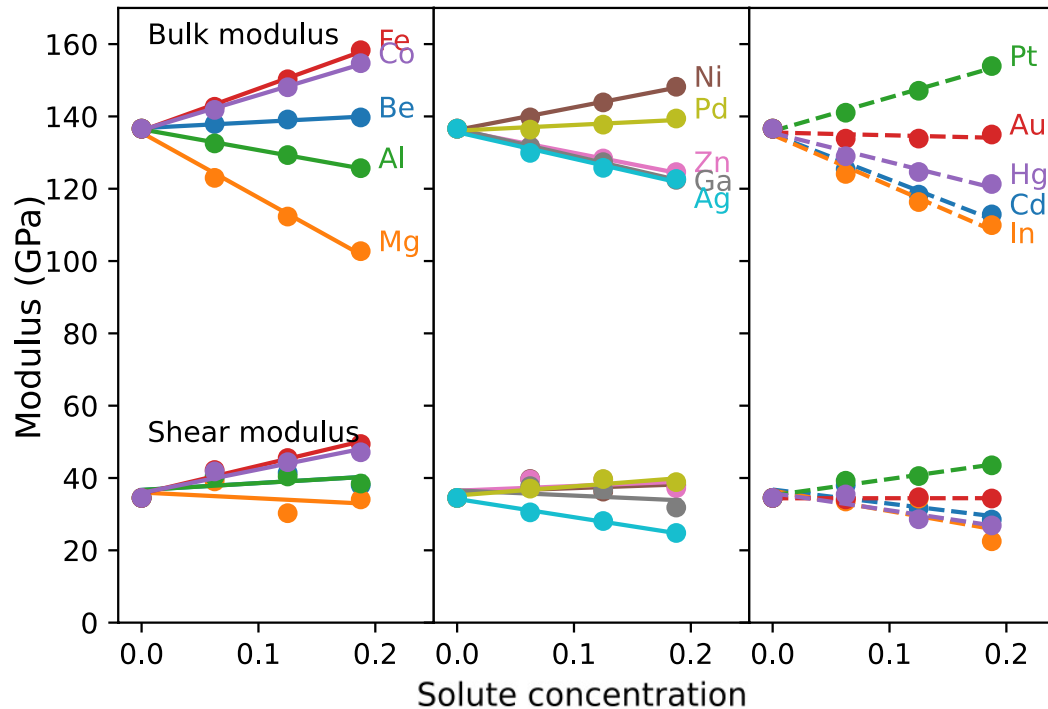
# Electrical conductivity

3% solute concentration  
300K

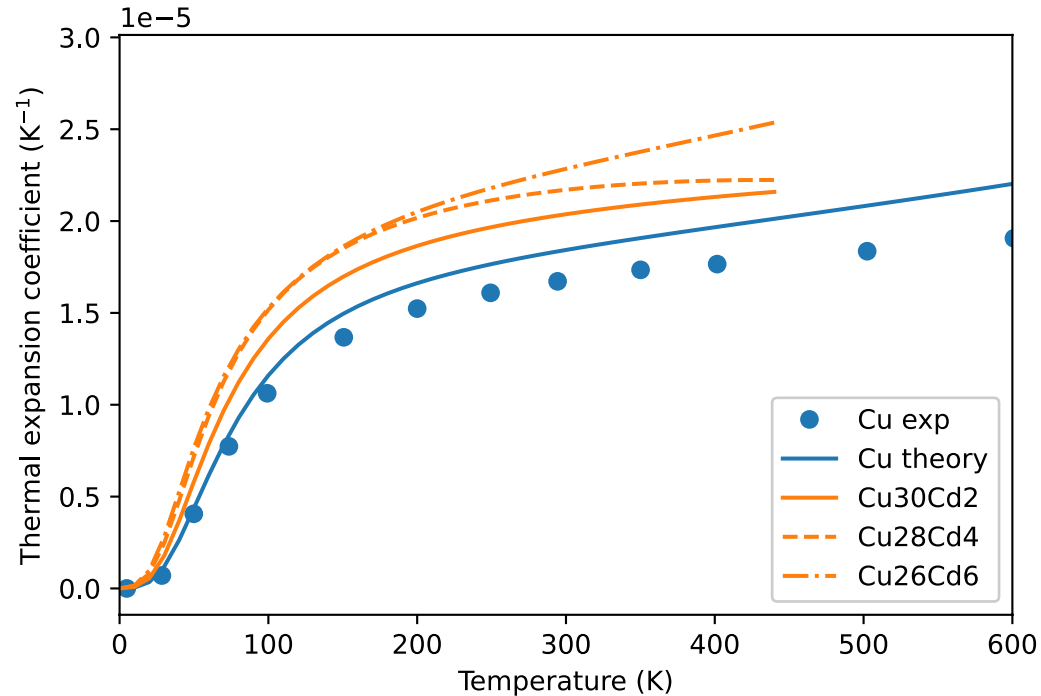


(\*Normalized by conductivity of pure Cu)

# Bulk and shear modulus



# Thermal expansion coefficient

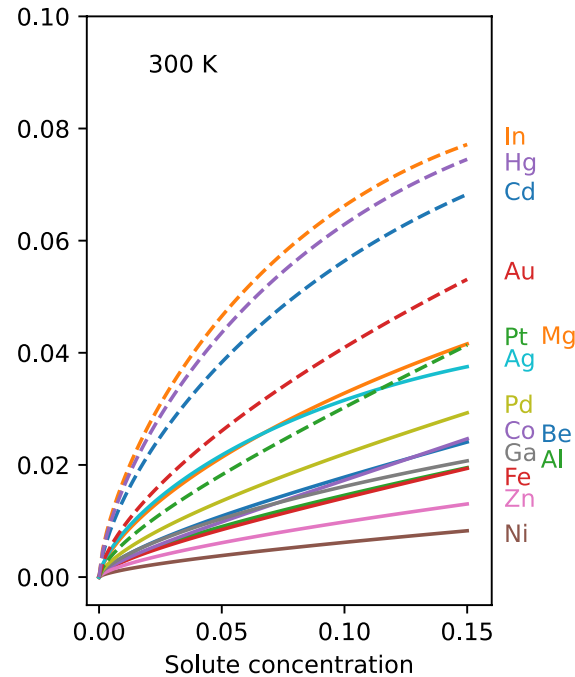
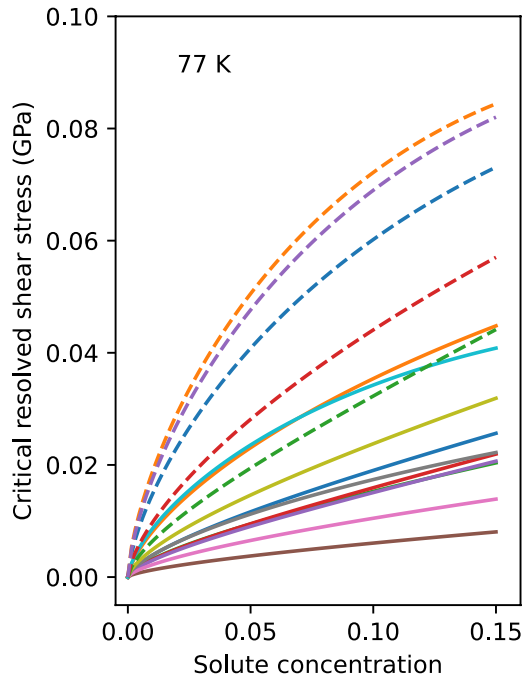


Experimental data from:

S. I. Novikova, Thermal expansion of solids (in Russian) (Nauka, Moscow, 1974).

D. V. Minakov et al., PHYSICAL REVIEW B 92, 224102 (2015)

# FOM #1: Critical stress to move dislocations



In  
Hg  
Cd  
  
Au  
  
Pt Mg  
Ag  
  
Pd  
Co Be  
Ga Al  
Fe  
Zn  
Ni

$$\tau_{L-N} = \frac{(2\omega f_m^4 c^2)^{1/3}}{2b^{7/3}(Gb^2)^{1/3}}$$

$$\varepsilon_L = \sqrt{\varepsilon_G'^2 + (\alpha\varepsilon_b)^2} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \alpha = 9 - 16 \\ \varepsilon_G' = \frac{\varepsilon_G}{1 + 0.5|\varepsilon_G|} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\varepsilon_b = \frac{db}{bdc}$$

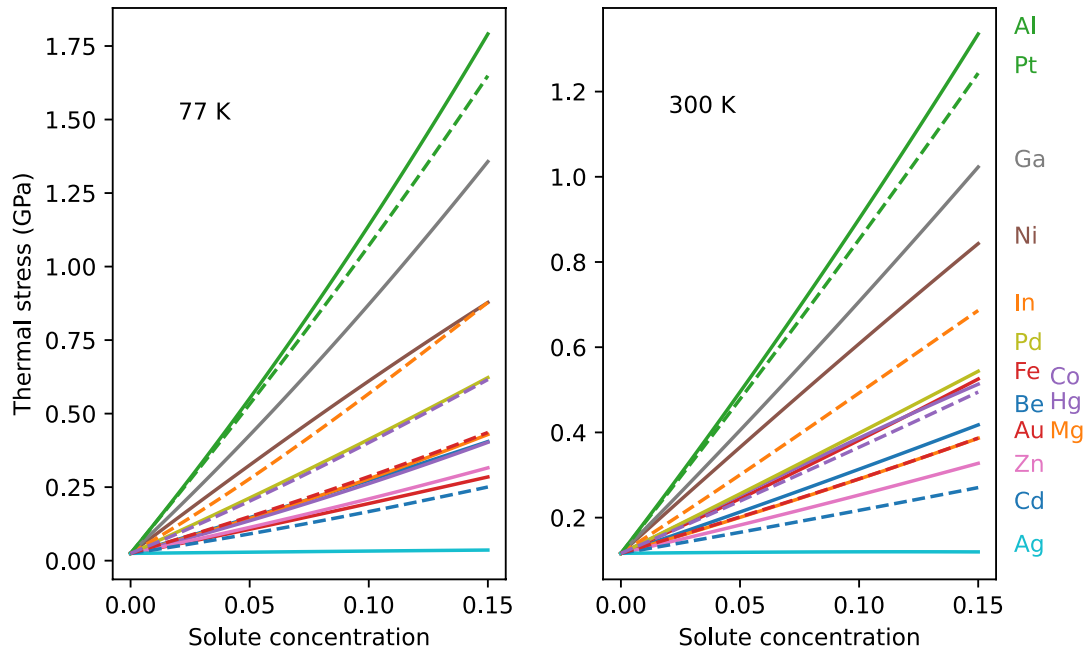
$$\varepsilon_G = \frac{dG}{Gdc}$$

$G$

$b$

Estimated  
from DFT  
calculations

# FOM #2: Thermal stress created by RF dissipation



$$\varepsilon_{xx} \equiv \varepsilon_{yy} \equiv -\frac{E\alpha T}{1-\nu}$$

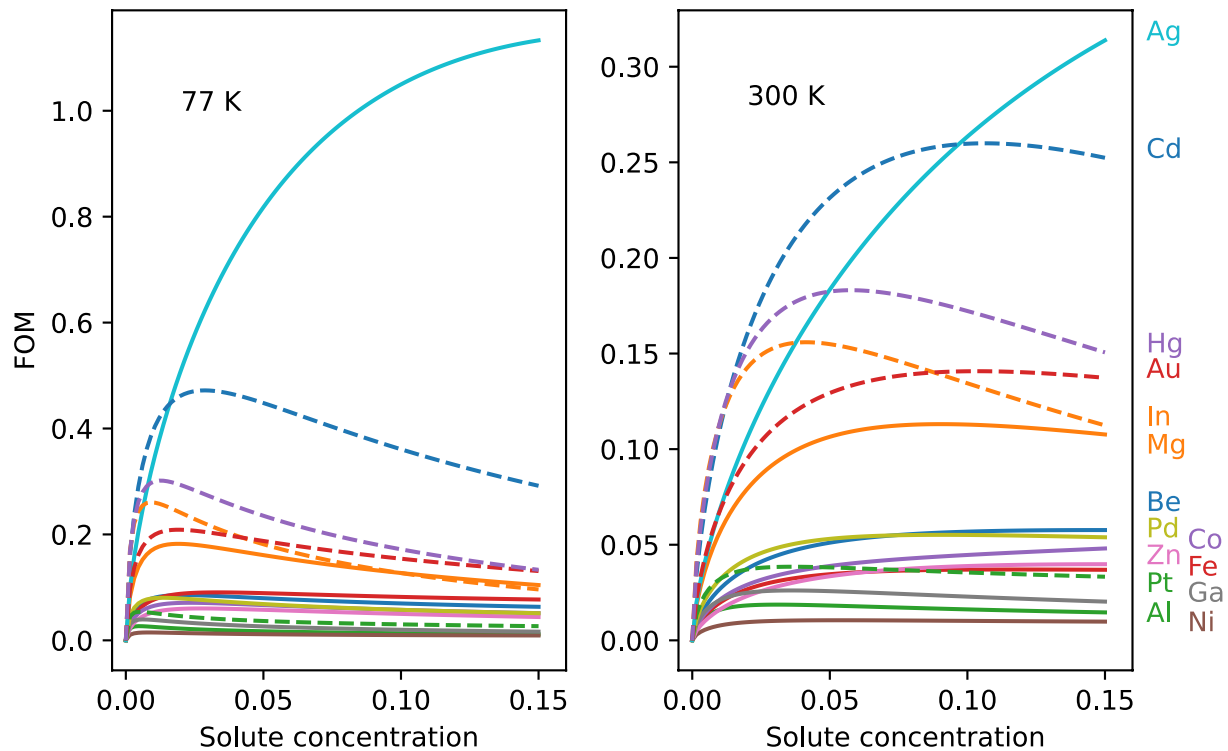
$$\Delta T = \frac{G^2 \sqrt{T_p}}{Z_H^2} \frac{R_s}{\sqrt{\pi \rho c_\varepsilon \kappa}}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} E \\ \nu \\ \rho \\ \alpha \\ c_\varepsilon \end{array} \right\} \text{Estimated from DFT calculations}$$

$$R_s = \frac{\sqrt{\frac{\pi \mu_0 c_{light}}{\lambda \sigma_c}}}{k} \left\} \text{SPRKKR}$$

$$\frac{G^2 \sqrt{T_p}}{Z_H^2} \text{ (unloaded gradient, RF pulse length, impedance)}$$

# FOM = FOM #1 / FOM #2



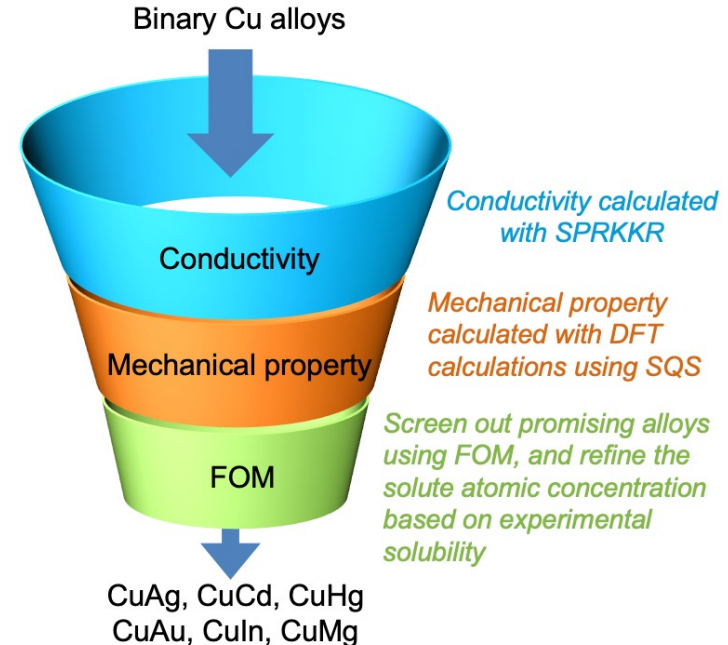
# Summary and plan

## Summary:

- FOM: tradeoff between solute strengthening and thermal stress
- Identify binary Cu alloys that are promising for high gradient accelerator design

## Future work:

- Extend to ternary alloys
- Engage with experimental efforts to assess potential candidate alloys



- Wang, Gaoxue, Evgenya I. Simakov, and Danny Perez. *Applied Physics Letters* 120, no. 13 (2022): 134101.

# Acknowledgements

- C-band team at LANL
- LDRD-DR: 20200057DR, 20190079DR