

ATOMSK

A tool for manipulating atomic data files

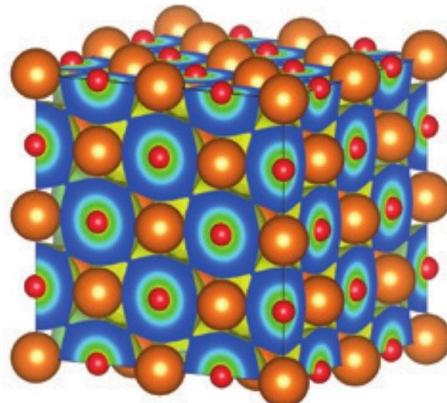
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Université de Lille, UMR 8207 UMET, F-59000 Lille

pierre.hirel@univ-lille1.fr

Supported file formats/softwares

Ab initio



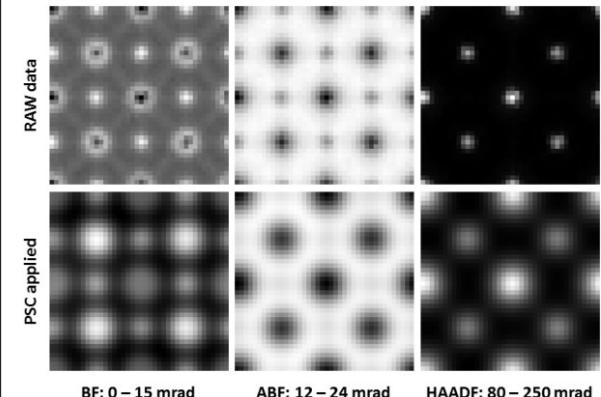
Quantum Espresso
SIESTA
VASP

Classical atomistics



DL_POLY LAMMPS
IMD MOLDY
GULP XMD

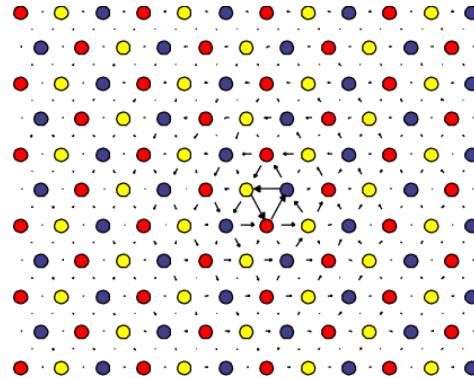
TEM image simulation



Dr Probe
JEMS
QSTEM

Visualization

Atomeye
ddplot
OVITO
XCrySDen
VESTA



Main features:

- Conversion from any to any other format
- Construction of unit cells, supercells
- Transformations: duplicate, cut, shear, rotate...
- Insertion of defects (dislocations, cracks...)
- Complex systems: polycrystals...
- Analysis: RDF, Nye tensor...

What can Atomsk do?

Atomsk can:

- Manipulate and transform **atom positions**
- Convert and prepare **text files** for simulations or visualization
- Duplicate a system, cut crystal planes, create dislocations...
- Construct bicrystals, polycrystals...
- Merge systems (e.g. system on top of a substrate)
- Run **in command-line** in Windows, Mac OS X, Linux
- Be integrated in scripts (bash, etc.)

Atomsk can not:

- Run simulations
- Visualize atoms, make images or illustrations
- Deal with electronic density
- Run through a nice interface (command-line only!)
- Guess what you want to do

VASP

1. Convert your atomic system for VASP

- Design a system from scratch with Atomsk
- Convert an existing system into VASP format

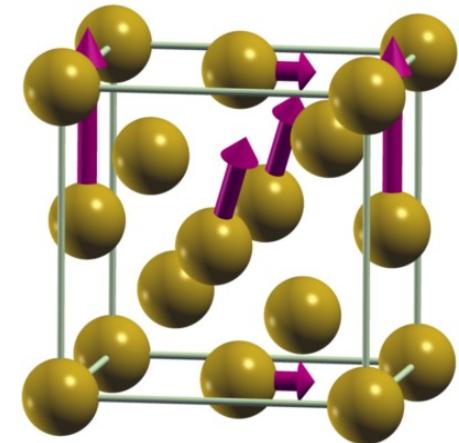
```
atomsk my_system.xsf POSCAR
```

2. Run VASP

3. Convert VASP output files for visualization

- Conservation of atomic forces, energies...

```
atomsk CONTCAR final.vesta
```



Quantum Espresso / pwscf

1. Convert your atomic system for PWscf

```
atomsk my_system.xsf -unit A Bohr pw
```

2. Run pwscf

3. Convert output file for visualization

- Convert all intermediate steps

```
atomsk --all-in-one pw.out -unit Bohr A xsf cfg
```

LAMMPS

1. Convert your atomic system for LAMMPS

- Create a system from scratch with Atomsk
- Convert from an *ab initio* file

```
atomsk CONTCAR lammps
```

2. Run LAMMPS

3. Convert LAMMPS output files for visualization

- Conservation of atomic forces, energies...

```
atomsk final.xyz xsf cfg
```



Example:

- Build a complex system, far from equilibrium (e.g. grain boundary, inclusion...)
- Perform quick-and-dirty relaxation with force-field (LAMMPS)
 - atoms are closer to their ideal positions
- Convert system for ab initio (VASP) → only a few steps are necessary

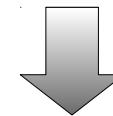
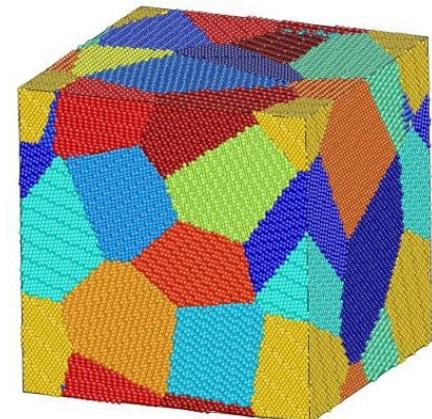
Working with TEM image simulation

JEMS

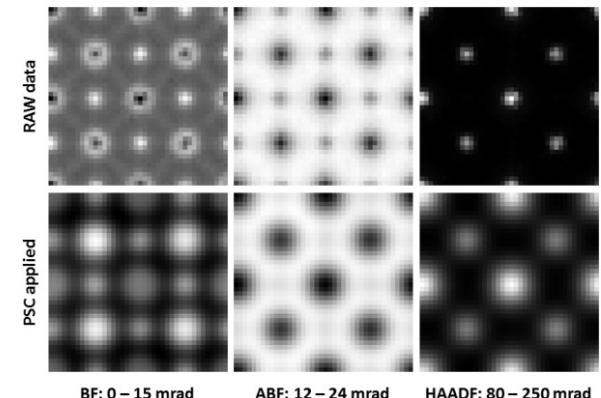
1. Generate atomic system for JEMS

- Design a system from scratch with Atomsk
- Convert atomic system from an *ab initio* or force-field simulation

```
atomsk relax.lmc jems
```

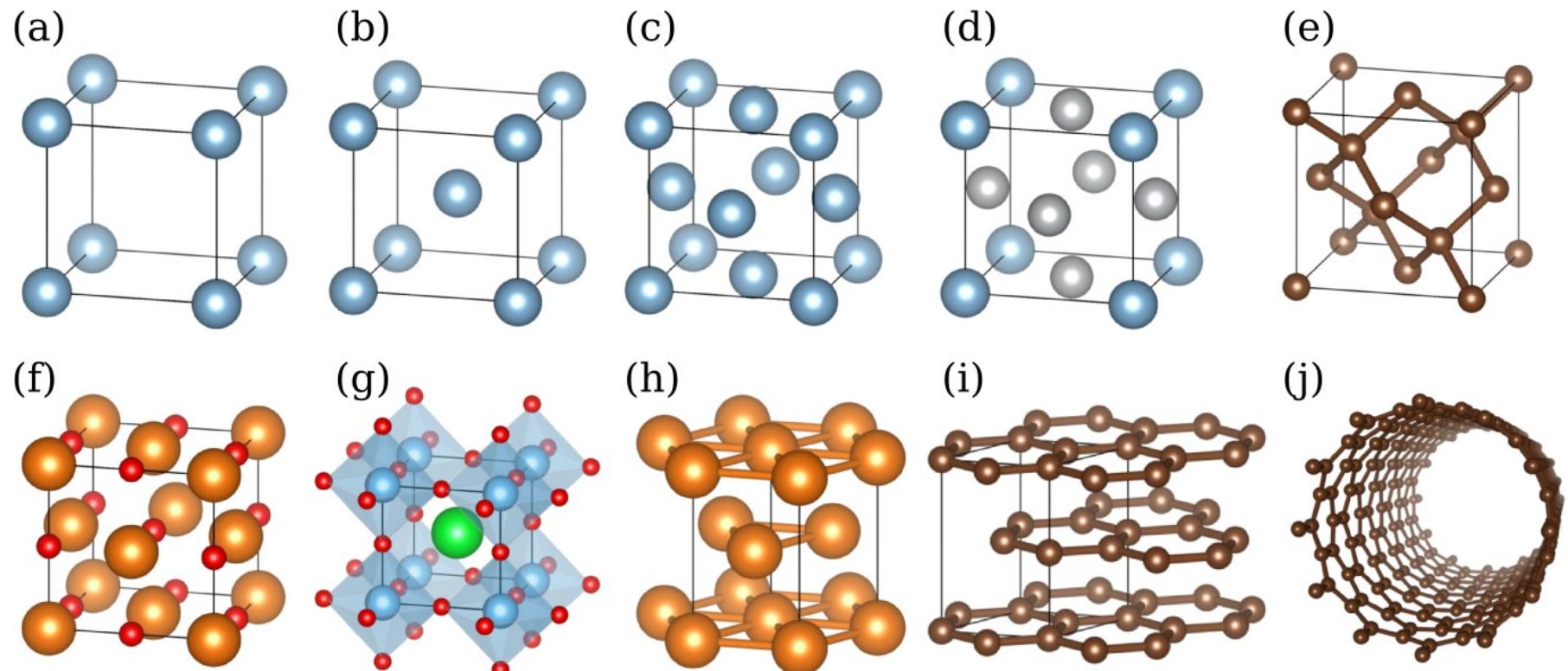


2. Open file in JEMS and work on it



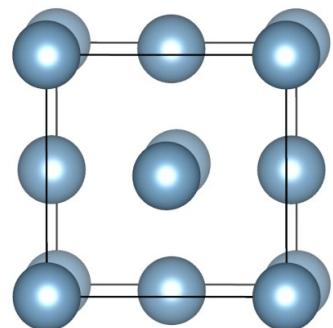
Create unitcells

Lattice type ↓	Lattice constant ↓	Atom species ↓	
atomsk --create fcc	4.02	Al	aluminium.xsf
atomsk --create bcc	3.86	Fe	iron.cfg
atomsk --create rocksalt	3.86	Mg O	periclase.xsf

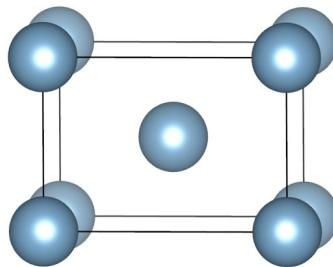


Orient unitcells

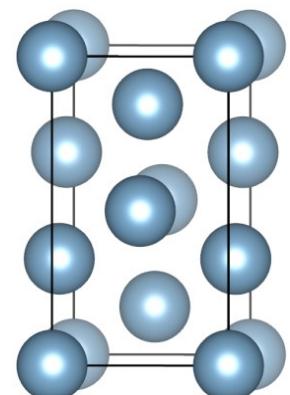
```
atomsk --create fcc 4.02 Al orient [100] [010] [001] aluminium.xsf
```



```
atomsk --create fcc 4.02 Al orient [001] [110] [1-10] aluminium.xsf
```



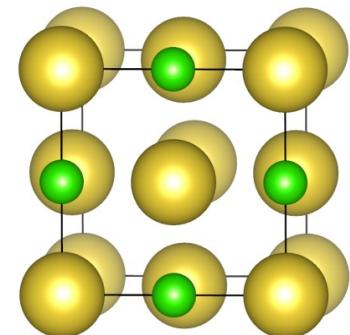
```
atomsk --create fcc 4.02 Al orient [0-11] [211] [1-1-1] aluminium.xsf
```



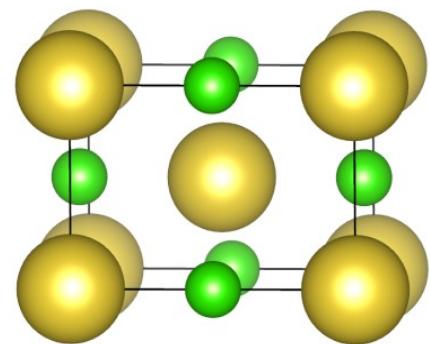
Orient unitcells

All cubic lattices can be oriented:
bcc, fcc, diamond, rocksalt, perovskite...

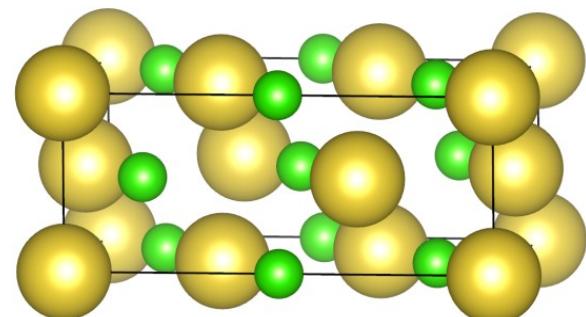
```
atomsk --create rocksalt 4.02 NaCl orient [100] [010] [001] NaCl.xsf
```



```
atomsk --create rocksalt 4.02 NaCl orient [001] [110] [1-10] NaCl.xsf
```

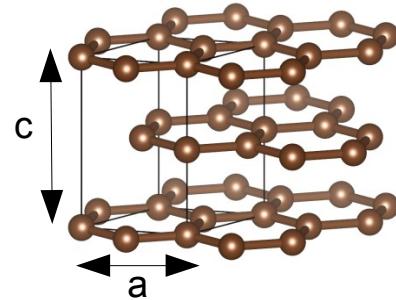


```
atomsk --create rocksalt 4.02 Na Cl orient [1-1-1] [0-11] [211] NaCl.xsf
```



Generate nanotubes

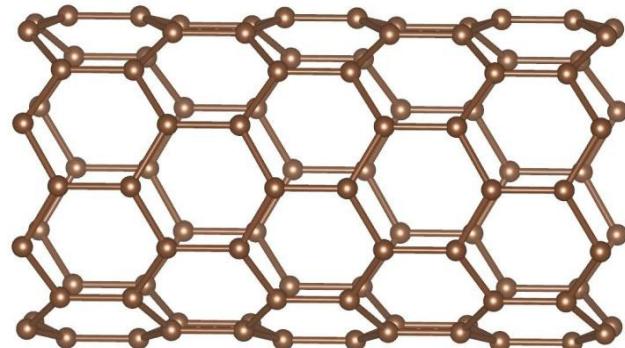
Mode: create



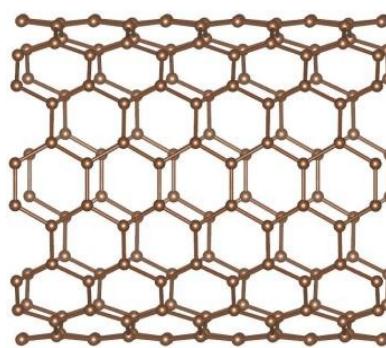
```
atomsk --create nanotube 3.6 6 0 C carbon_NT.xsf
```

a m n Chemical
symbol(s)

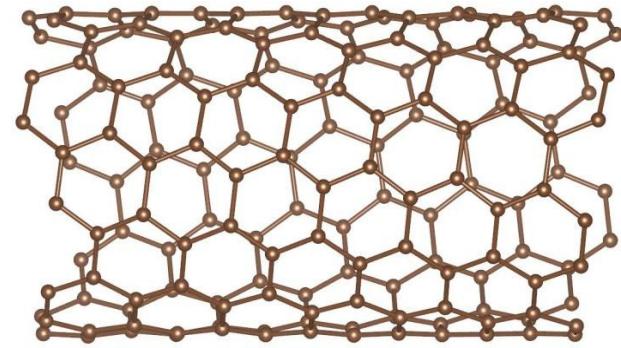
Carbon



(8,0) zigzag nanotube

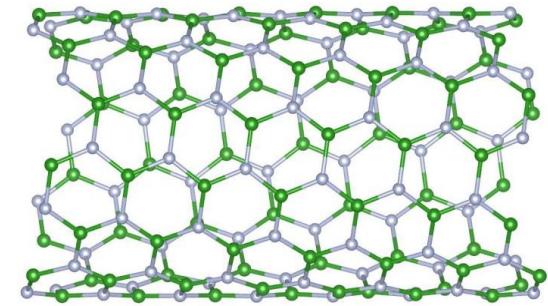
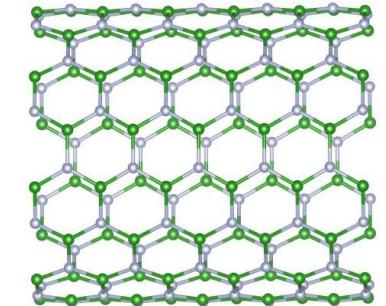
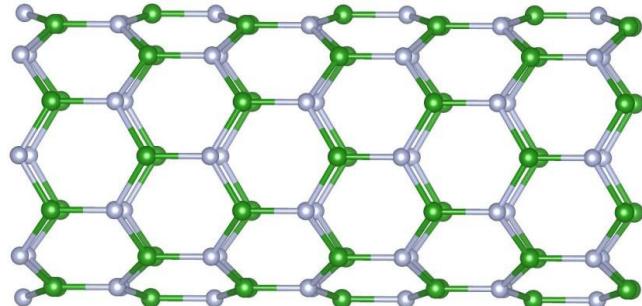


(8,8) armchair nanotube

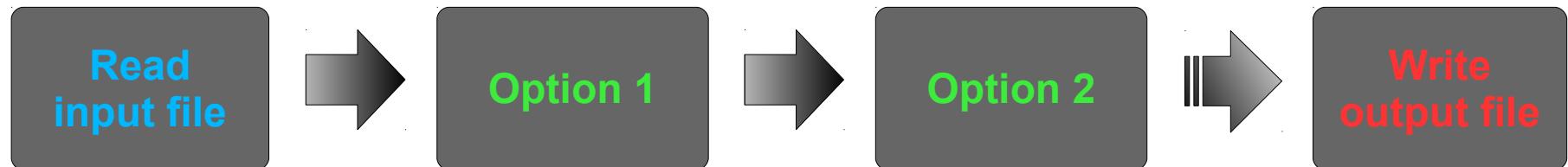


(8,5) chiral nanotube

Boron
nitride



- Options allow to transform a system
- Each option is an **elementary transformation**
- Several options can be applied sequentially to design a system

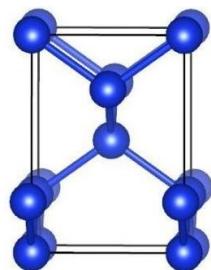


Create supercells

Option: -duplicate Nx Ny Nz

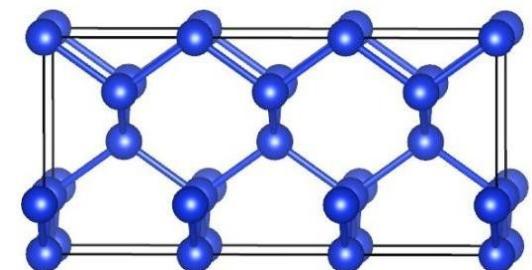
```
atomsk unitcell.xsf -duplicate 3 1 1 supercell.xsf
```

unitcell.xsf



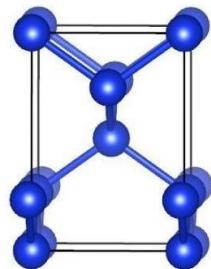
duplicate

supercell.xsf



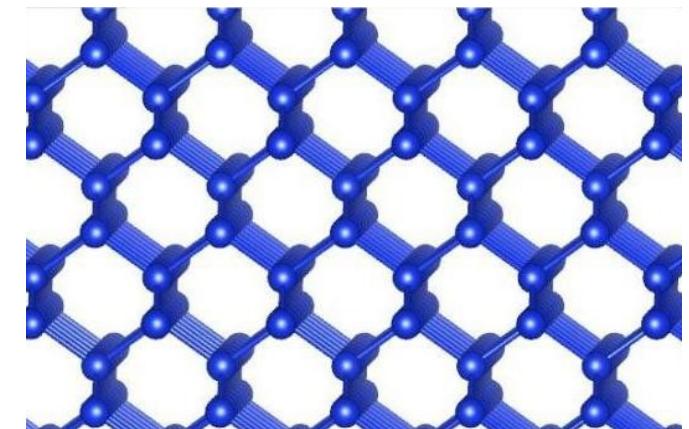
```
atomsk unitcell.xsf -duplicate 10 10 6 supercell.xsf
```

unitcell.xsf



duplicate

supercell.xsf

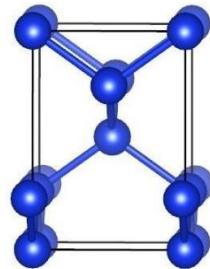


Cut atomic planes

Option: -cut

```
atomsk unitcell.xsf -duplicate 30 20 10 -cut above 30 x final.xsf
```

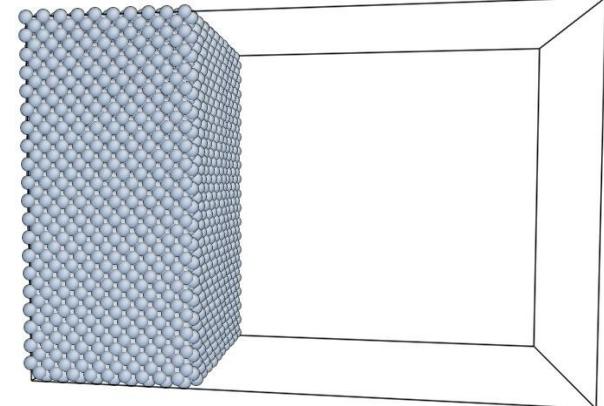
unitcell.xsf



duplicate

cut

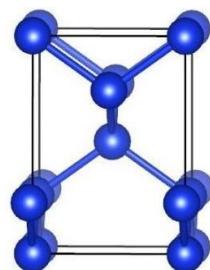
final.xsf



Possibility to use Miller notation:

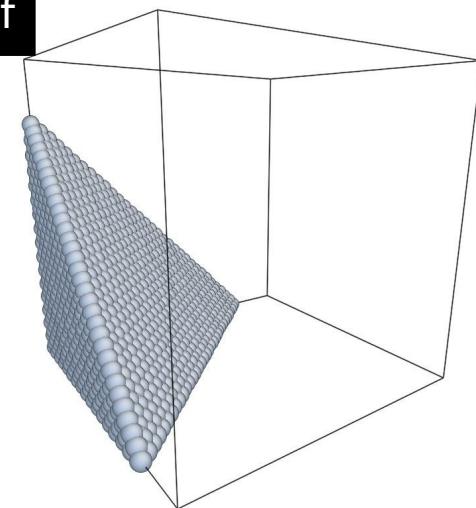
```
atomsk unitcell.xsf -duplicate 20 20 20 -cut above 40 [111] final.xsf
```

unitcell.xsf



duplicate

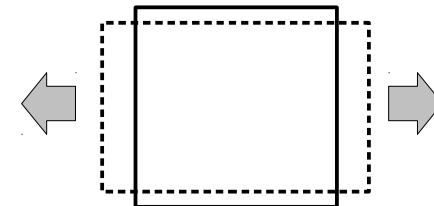
cut



Deform a system

Option: -deform <X|Y|Z> ϵ ν

```
atomsk initial.xsf -deform X 0.02 0.3 final.xsf
```



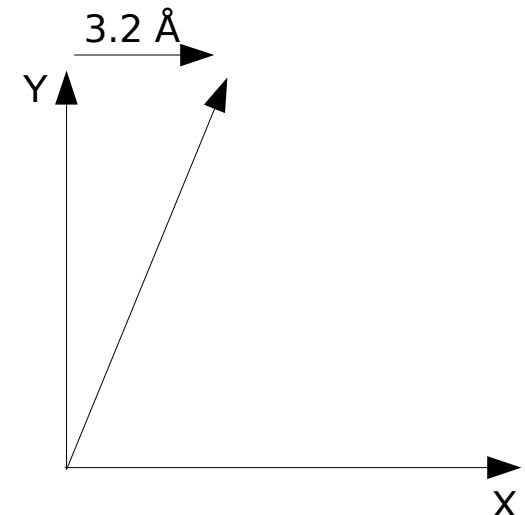
```
atomsk initial.xsf -deform Y 1.5% 0.3 final.xsf
```

```
atomsk initial.xsf -deform Z -2.1% 0.3 final.xsf
```

Option: -shear <X|Y|Z> ϵ <X|Y|Z>

```
atomsk initial.xsf -shear Y 3.2 X final.xsf
```

```
atomsk initial.xsf -shear Y 1.5% Z final.xsf
```



Option: -add-atom

- Add new atoms at random positions
 - Positions adjusted into tetrahedral sites to avoid overlap

```
atomsk initial.cfg -add-atom C random 40 final.cfg
```

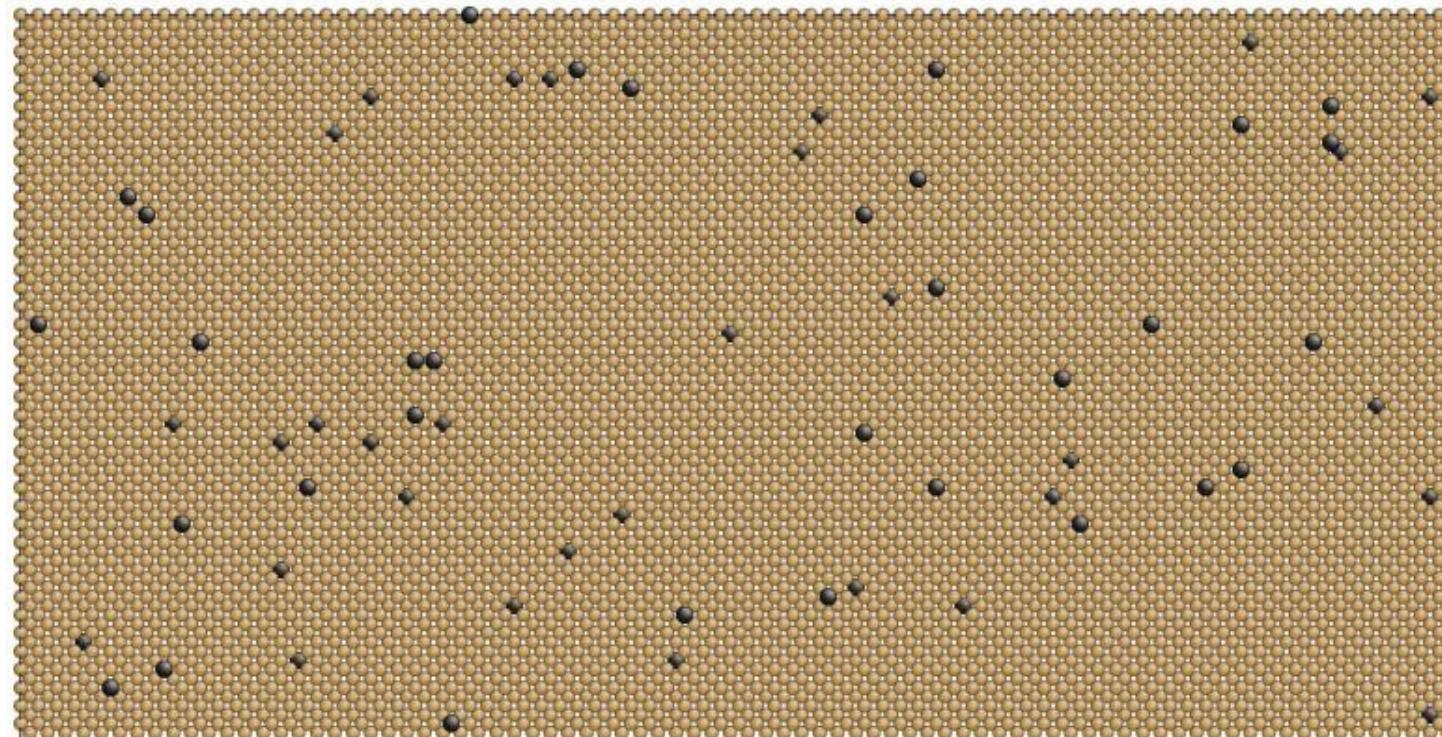


Option: -select

- Select a random set of atoms
 - Following options apply only to selected atoms: remove, substitute, displace, etc.

```
atomsk initial.cfg -select random 300 Fe -substitute Fe C final.cfg
```

```
atomsk initial.cfg -select random 1% Fe -substitute Fe C final.cfg
```

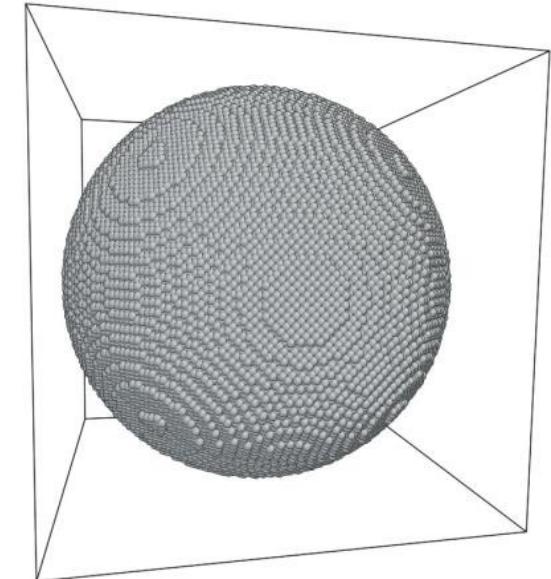


Option: -select

- Select simple geometric shapes:
atoms in a box, sphere, cylinder,
atoms above or below a crystal plane...
- Following options apply only to selected atoms:
remove, substitute, shift, rotate, give velocity...

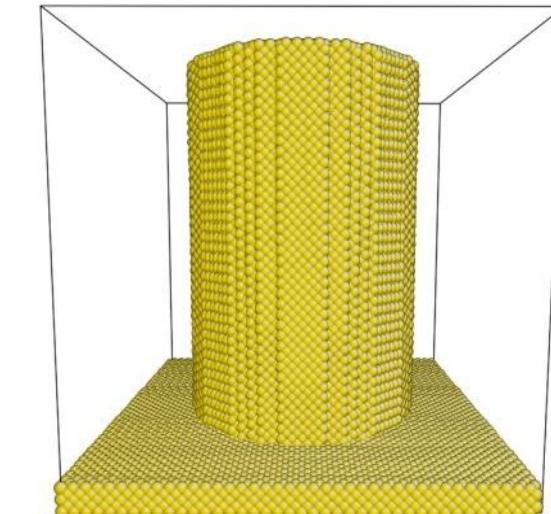
```
atomsk unitcell.xsf
```

```
-duplicate 40 40 40
-select out sphere 0.5*box 0.5*box 0.5*box 50
-remove-atoms select
final.xsf
```



```
atomsk unitcell.xsf
```

```
-duplicate 40 40 40
-select out cylinder Z 0.5*box 0.5*box 45
-remove-atoms select
final.xsf
```



Select atoms

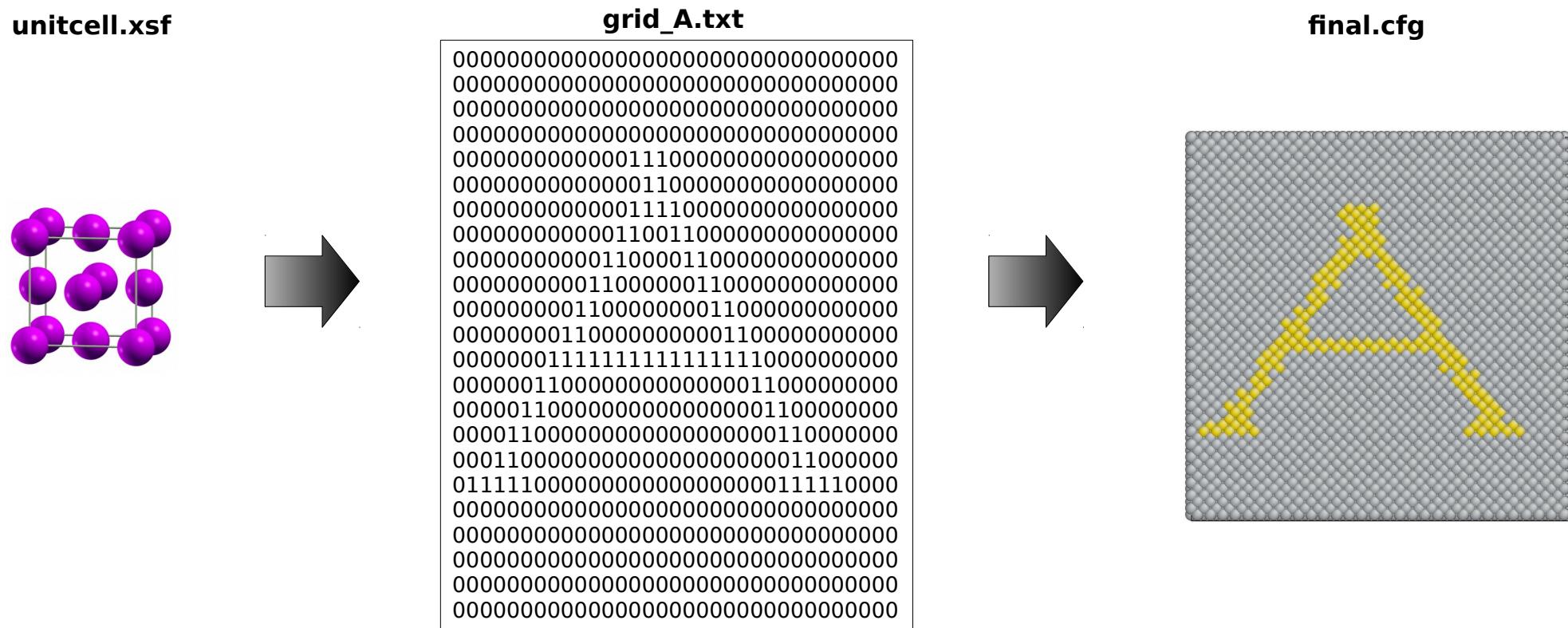
Option: -select

Select atoms according to a finite-element grid:

The grid is automatically mapped to fit the size of the atomic system

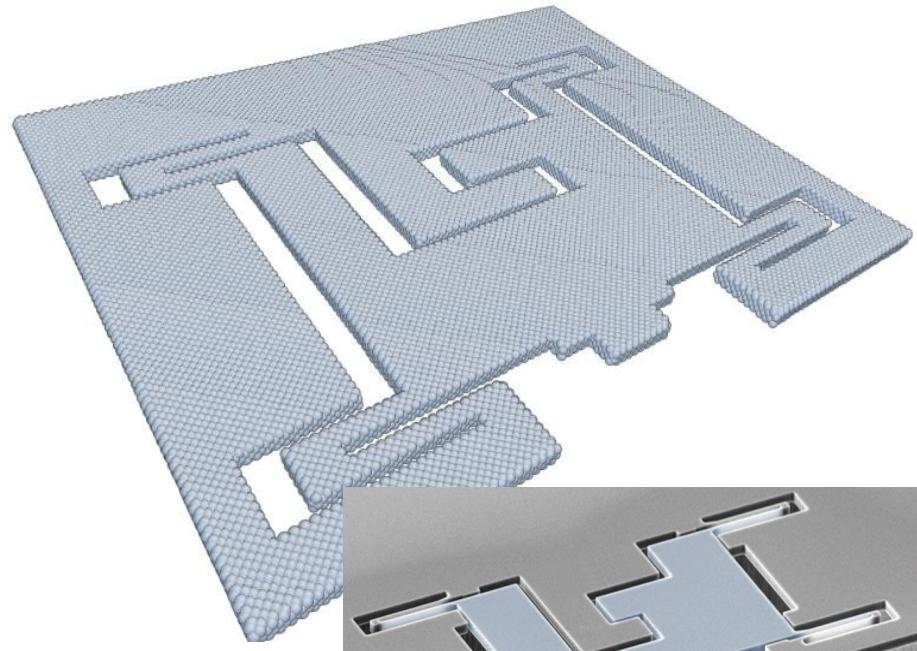
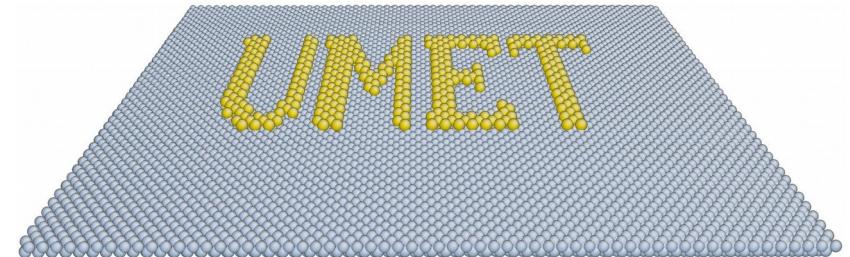
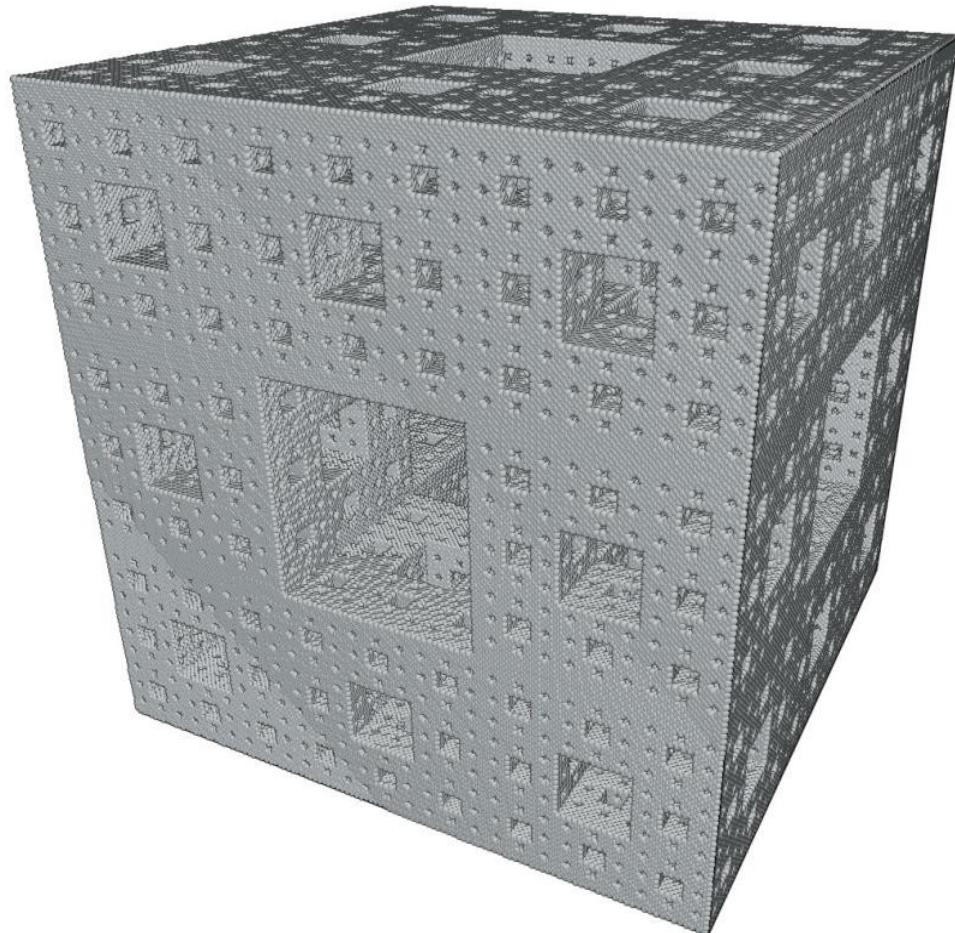
Atoms inside "1" elements are selected, and can be transformed (removed, substitute...)

```
atomsk unitcell.xsf -duplicate 30 30 1 -select grid grid_A.txt -substitute Al Au final.cfg
```



Option: -select

Grid selection allows to build complex shapes



Push-to-pull (Hysitron®)

Insert dislocations

Option: -dislocation

I. Isotropic elasticity

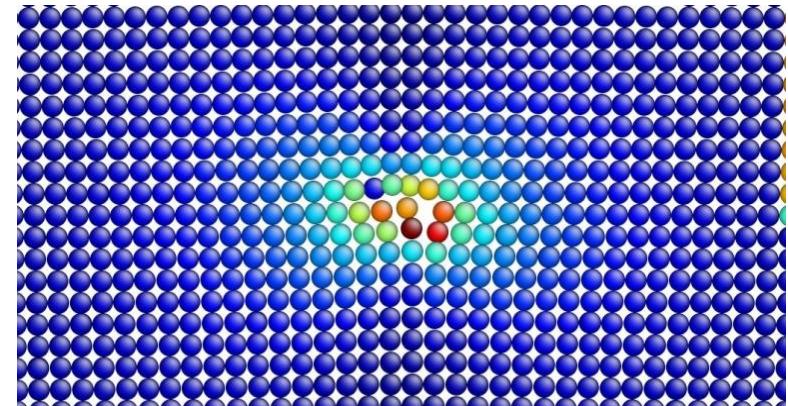
Edge

$$\begin{cases} u_x = \frac{b}{2\pi} \left[\arctan\left(\frac{y}{x}\right) + \frac{xy}{2(1-\nu)[x^2+y^2]} \right] \\ u_y = \frac{-b}{2\pi} \left[(1-2\nu) \ln \frac{x^2+y^2}{4(1-\nu)} + \frac{x^2-y^2}{4(1-\nu)(x^2+y^2)} \right] \end{cases}$$

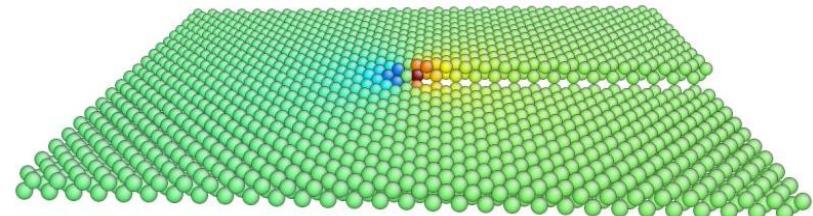
Screw

$$u_z = \frac{b}{2\pi} \arctan\left(\frac{y}{x}\right)$$

```
atomsk unitcell.xsf
-duplicate 40 40 1
-dislocation 30 30 edge Z Y 2.8 0.0
final.xsf
```



```
atomsk unitcell.xsf
-duplicate 40 40 1
-dislocation 30 30 screw Z Y 2.8 0.0
final.xsf
```



Option: -dislocation

II. Anisotropic elasticity

1) Write elastic tensor in a text file

tensor.txt

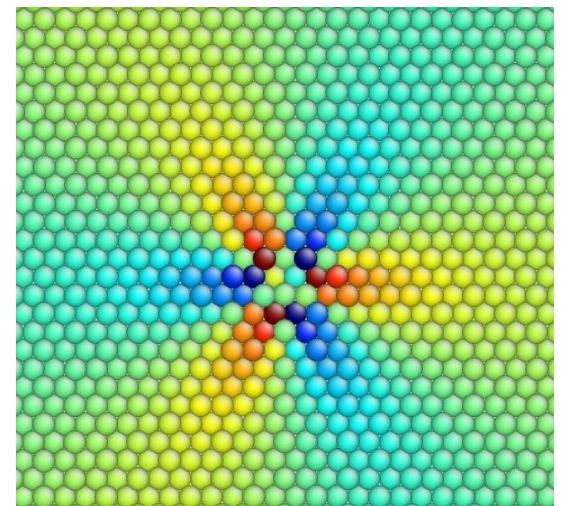
```
elastic Voigt
243.30 243.30 243.30
145.00 145.00 145.00
116.10 116.10 116.10
```

2) Run Atomsk!

- Atomsk will solve equations of elasticity and apply displacements:

$$u_k = \Re \left\{ \frac{-1}{2\pi i} \sum_{n=1}^3 A_k(n) D(n) \ln(x + py) \right\}, \quad k = 1, 3$$

```
atomsk unitcell.xsf
-duplicate 40 40 1
-properties tensor.txt
-dislocation 30 30 screw Z Y 2.8 0.0
final.xsf
```



1/2[111] screw dislocation in Fe

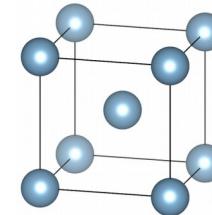
Generate polycrystals

Mode: polycrystal

I. Polycrystal with N random grains

1) Prepare a seed

- unit cell (or any arbitrary system)



unitcell.xsf

2) Write a text file

- box dimensions Lx, Ly, Lz
- keyword "random", followed by N

file.txt

```
box 200 200 200
random 12
```

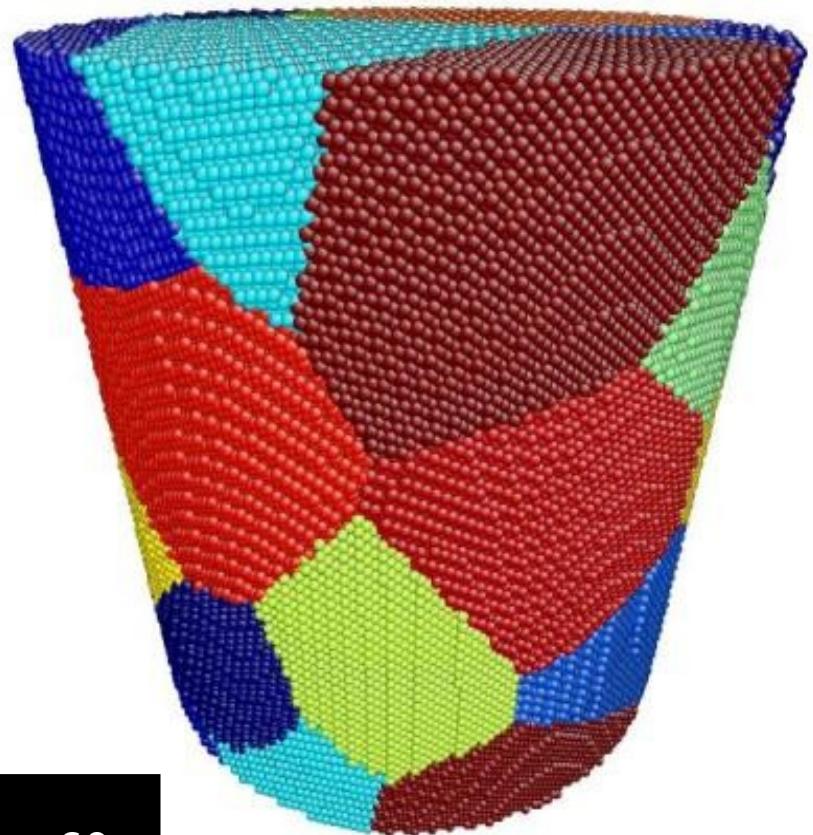
3) Run Atomsk!

```
atomsk --polycrystal unitcell.xsf file.txt poly.cfg
```



Generate polycrystals

Possibility to cut / shape polycrystal afterwards



```
atomsk --polycrystal unitcell.xsf file.txt  
-select out cylinder Z 0.5*box 0.5*box 0.5*box 60  
-remove-atom select  
poly.cfg
```

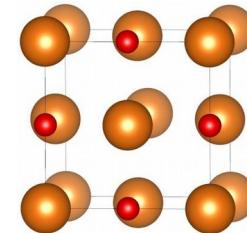
Generate polycrystals

Mode: polycrystal

II. Bicrystals and Grain Boundaries

1) Prepare a seed

- unit cell (or any arbitrary system)



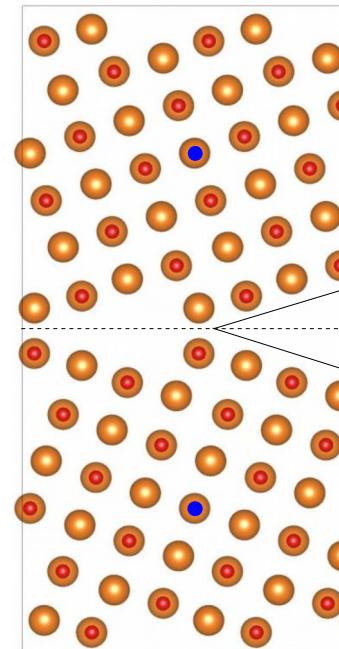
unitcell.xsf

2) Write a text file

- box dimensions Lx, Ly, Lz
- two **nodes** at Y=0.25 and Y=0.75

file.txt

```
box 20 20 0
node 0.5*box 0.25*box 0 0° 0° -13.3°
node 0.5*box 0.75*box 0 0° 0° 13.3°
```



13.3°
-13.3°

GB.xsf

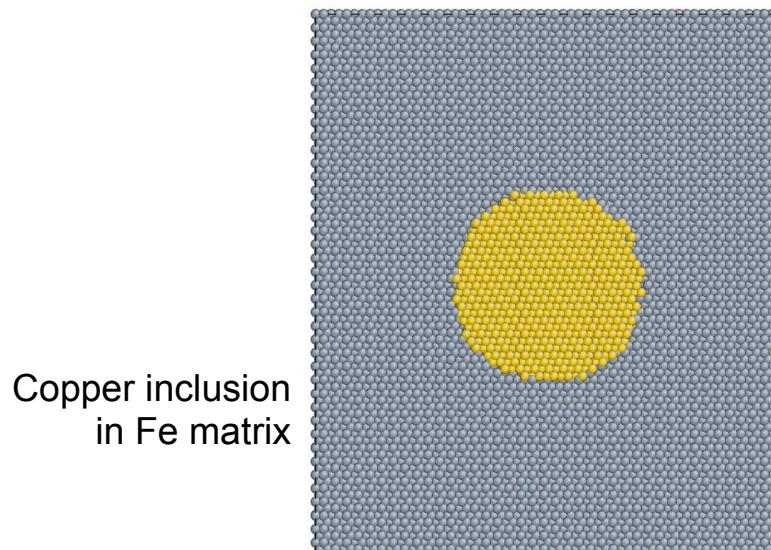
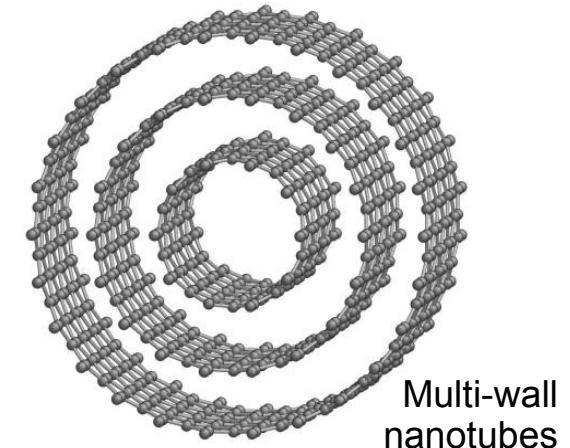
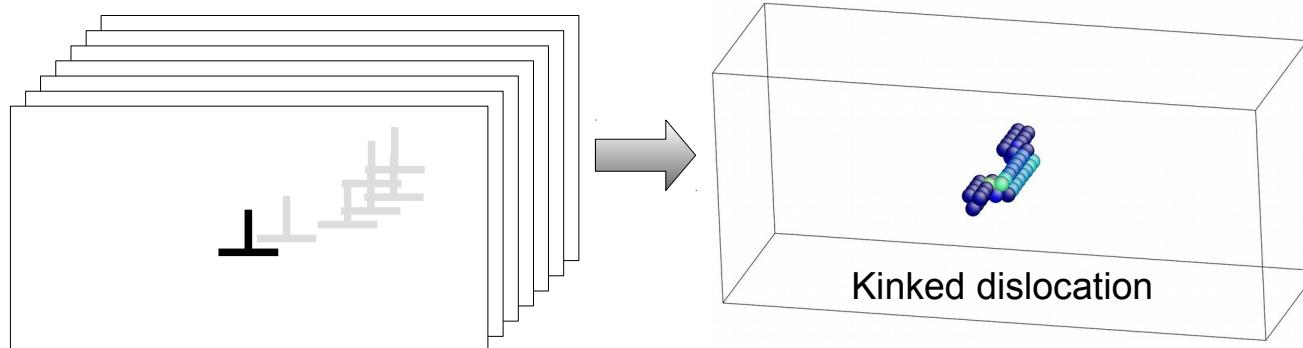
3) Run Atomsk!

```
atomsk --polycrystal unitcell.xsf file.txt GB.xsf
```

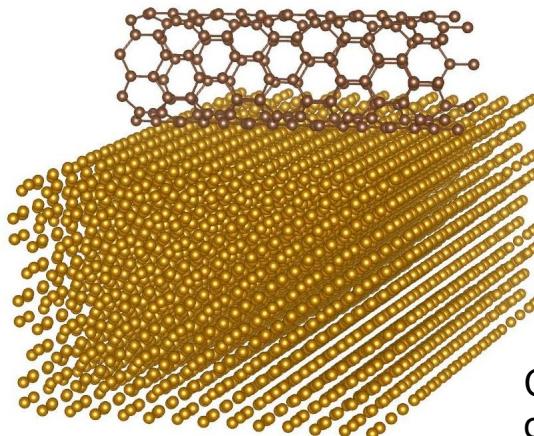
Merge systems together

Mode: merge

```
atomsk --merge 3 system1.xsf system2.cfg system3.xyz final.xsf
```



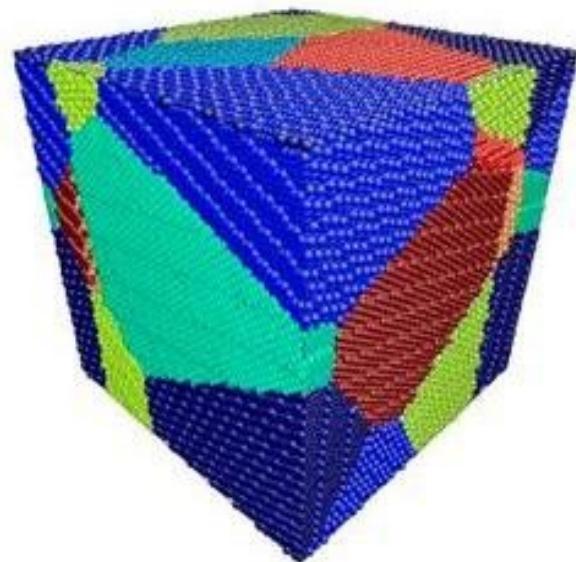
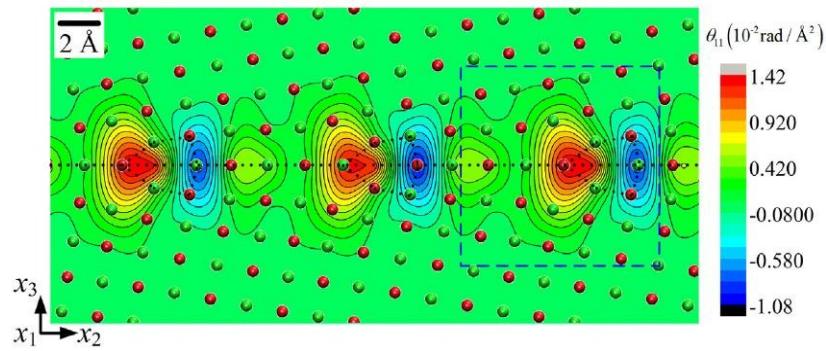
Copper inclusion
in Fe matrix



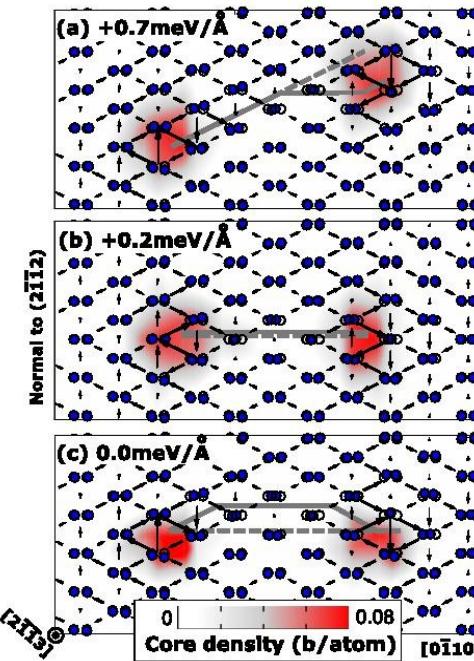
Carbon nanotube
on Si substrate

Who uses Atomsk?

Construction of grain boundaries in Cu
X.-Y. Sun et al., *Int. J. Plast.* **77** (2015) 75-89



Construction of Li polycrystals
M. Chen et al.,
J. Chem. Theory Comput. **12** (2016) 2950-2963



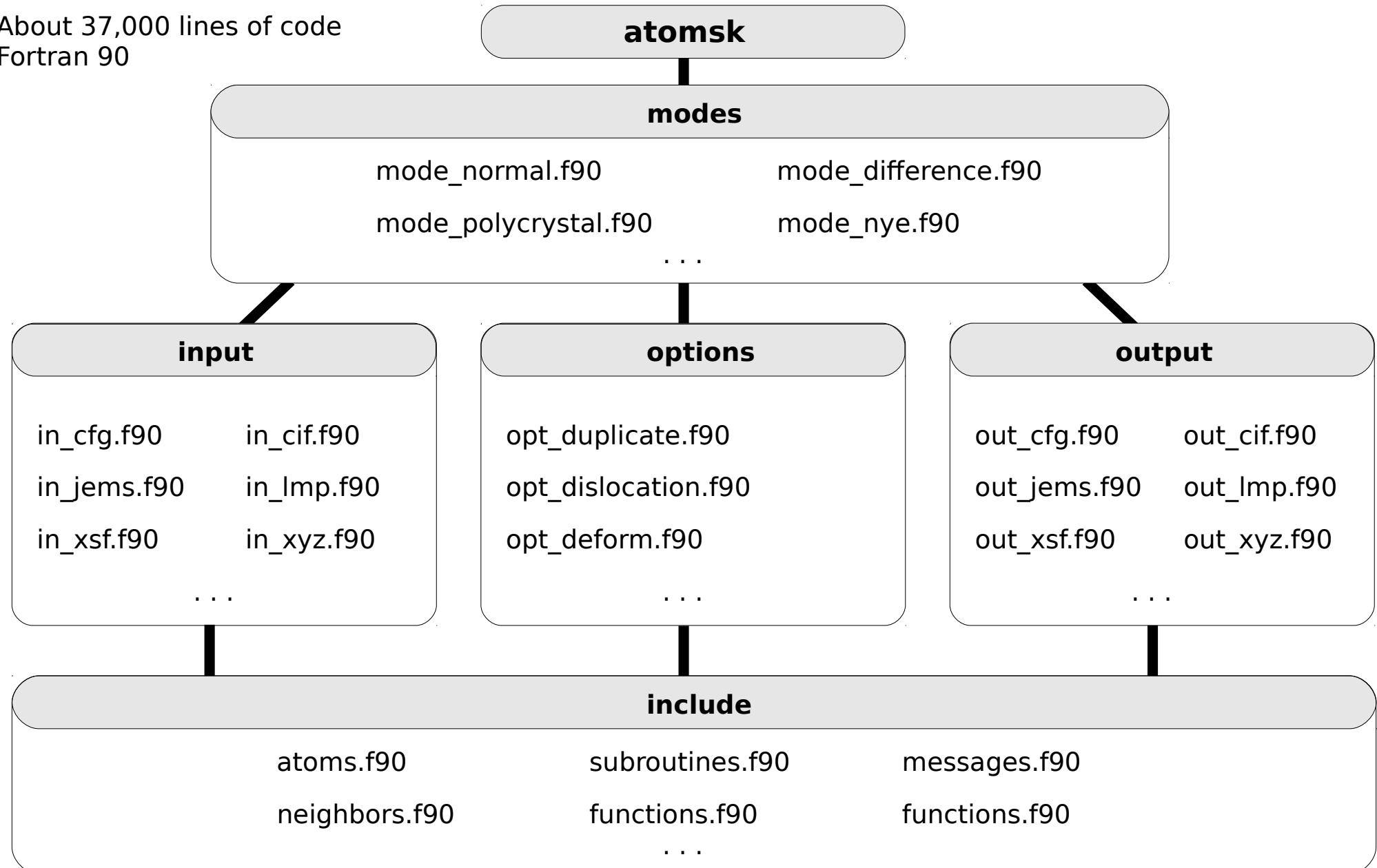
Computation of the Nye tensor
Pyramidal screw dislocations in Mg
Itakura et al.,
Phys. Rev. Lett. **116** (2016) 225501

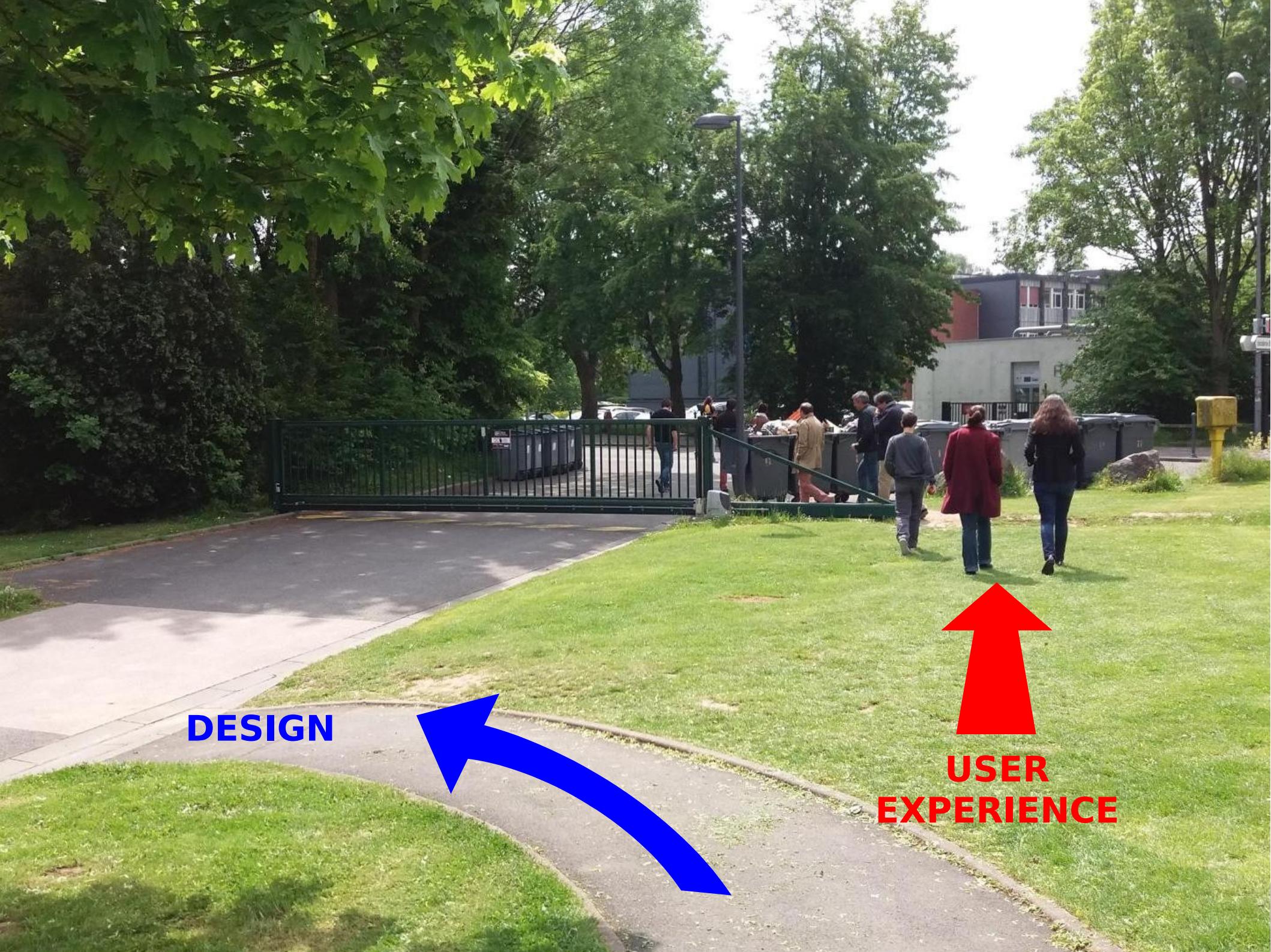


Construction of black phosphorous polycrystals
P. Cao et al.,
Nanotechnology **28** (2017) 045702

Source code

About 37,000 lines of code
Fortran 90

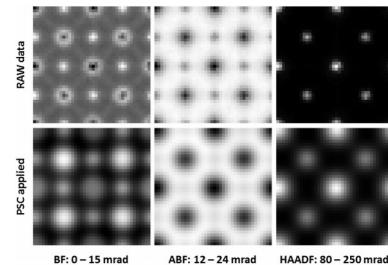




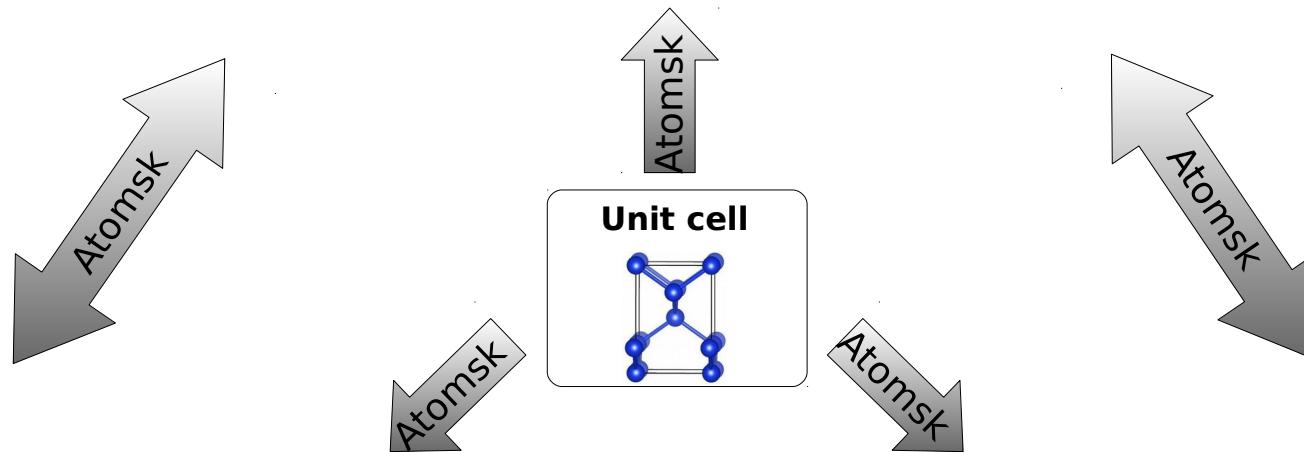
DESIGN

**USER
EXPERIENCE**

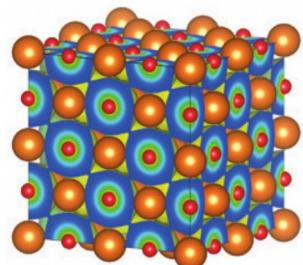
TEM image simulation



Dr Probe
JEMS
QSTEM

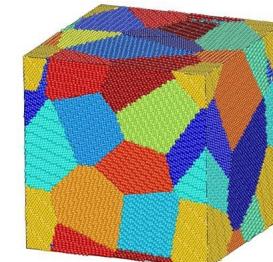


Ab initio



Quantum Espresso
SIESTA
VASP

Classical atomistics



DL_POLY
IMD
GULP

LAMMPS
MOLDY
XMD

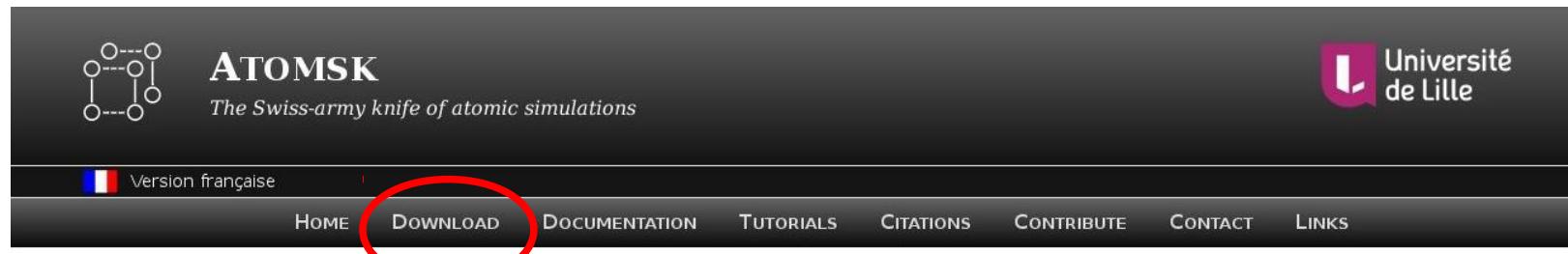
Summary

Free, Open Source!

- You are free to download it, use it, distribute it!
- Contributions are welcome

Check out the Web site!

<http://atomsk.univ-lille1.fr>



Atomsk is available under the conditions of the GNU General Public Licence version 3 or any later version. Click a link below to obtain the source code or a binary for your platform.

[Atomsk - Version Beta 0.8.7](#)



Source code
(Fortran 90)



Linux i686
(32 bits)



Linux amd64
(64 bits)



Microsoft®
Windows®

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