

# Nanomaterials and Film Systems

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# Contents of Talk

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- **Materials**

- ✓ Ceramics: Definition & Evolution
- ✓ Functional Properties

- **Materials Synthesis**

- ✓ Processing
- ✓ Top Down *versus* Bottom Up Strategies
- ✓ Nanocrystalline Ceramics

- **Summary**

# Materials:

Chemistry

Physics

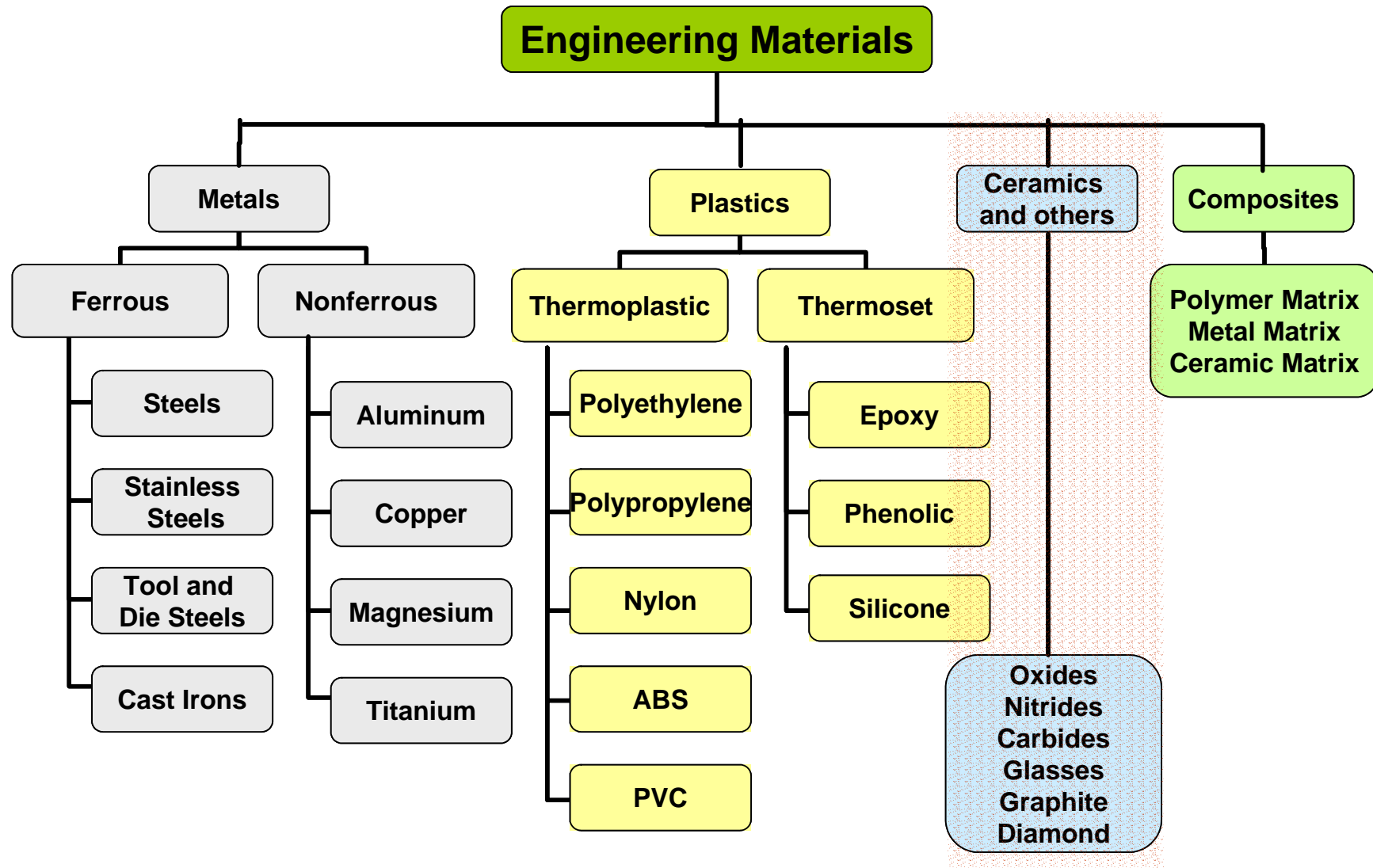
... substances with specific properties for an optimal use in modern industrial and consumer technology...

Materials Science

Engineering

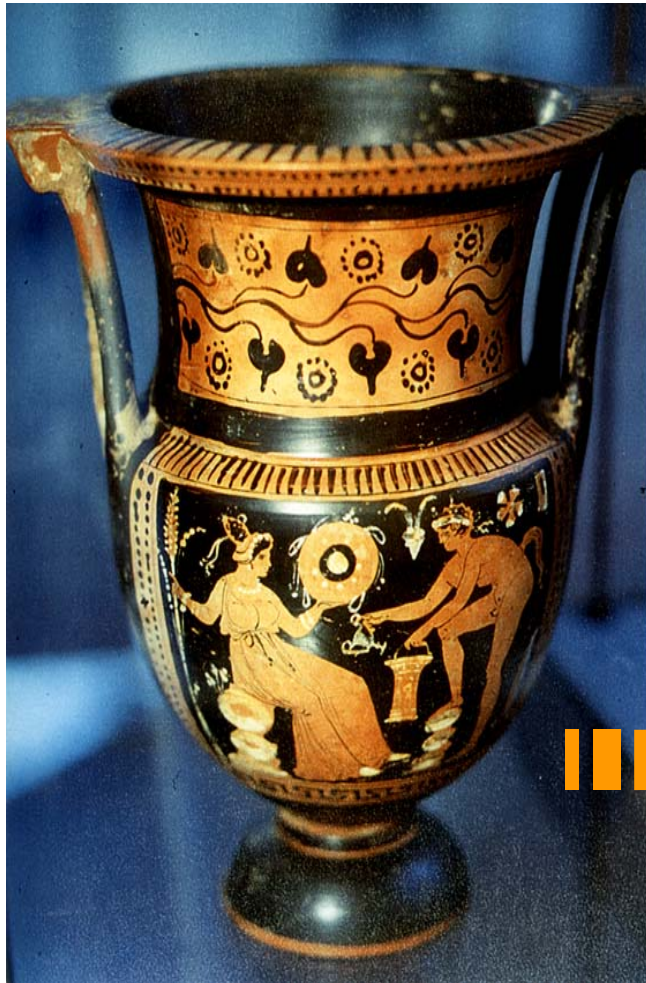
... not of much value without any societal benefit ...

# Materials: A Diverse World



# Ceramics: Knowledge-based (R)Evolution

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# Ceramics

## Origin of the word:

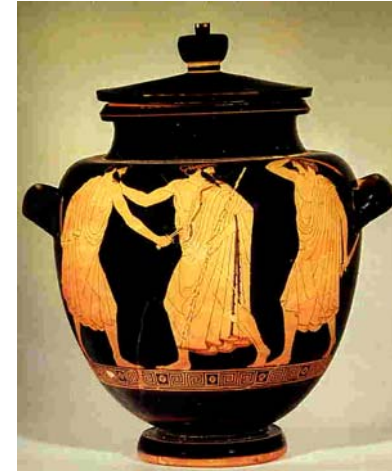
- Greek: *keramos*
- Significance: clay, brick  
.... "the one who went through the fire"...

## Definition:

- Primarily defined by the *texture and microstructure* of the material:  
heterogeneous → amorphous + crystalline phases
- Modern ceramics are **high performance, high purity, inorganic non-metallic** materials with well defined microstructure and mainly *covalent and ionic bonds*



**Ceramics** ↔ everything that is NOT polymer, metal, or grown

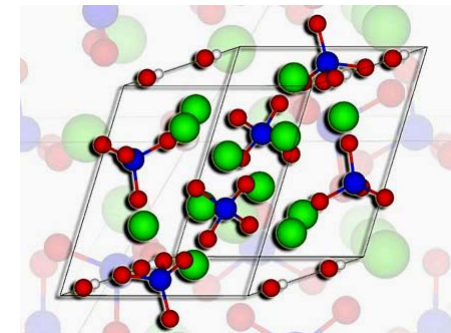




# Examples

- Silica,  $\text{SiO}_2$   
→ main ingredient in glass
- Alumina,  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$   
→ various applications (abrasives, ... , artificial bones)
- Aluminium silicate,  $\text{Al}_2\text{Si}_2\text{O}_5(\text{OH})_4$   
→ main ingredient in clay products
- Bio-ceramics

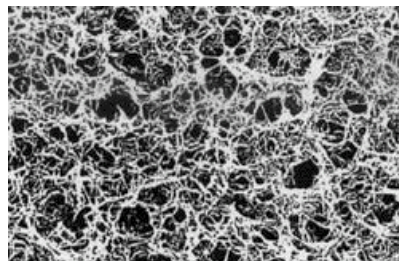
➔ Calcium hydroxyapatite,  $\text{Ca}_5(\text{PO}_4)_3\text{OH}$



Crystal structure of HAP

Implants

Artificial bones



Tooth implants

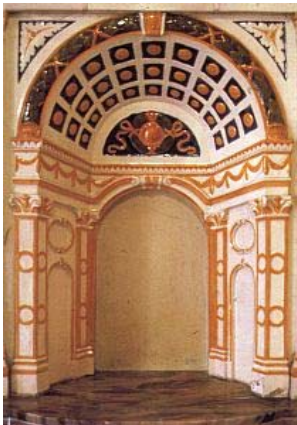


# Classification of Ceramics

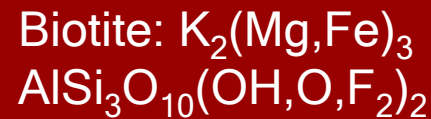
## Conventional Ceramics

Natural Raw Materials:

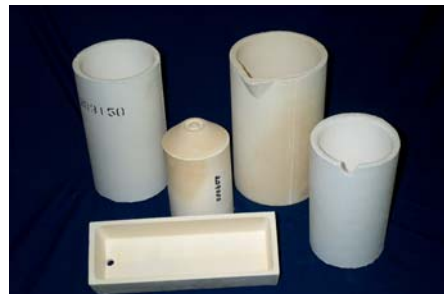
- Clay, Kaolin, Quartz, Feldspar, Mica



Silicate Ceramics



Refractory Materials



## Advanced Ceramics

- Natural Raw Materials, but: chemically prepared
- Synthetic Raw Materials

Oxides	Non-oxides
$Al_2O_3$	SiC
$ZrO_2$	$Si_3N_4$
$MgAl_2O_4$	Graphite
BeO	Borides
ZnO	Silicides

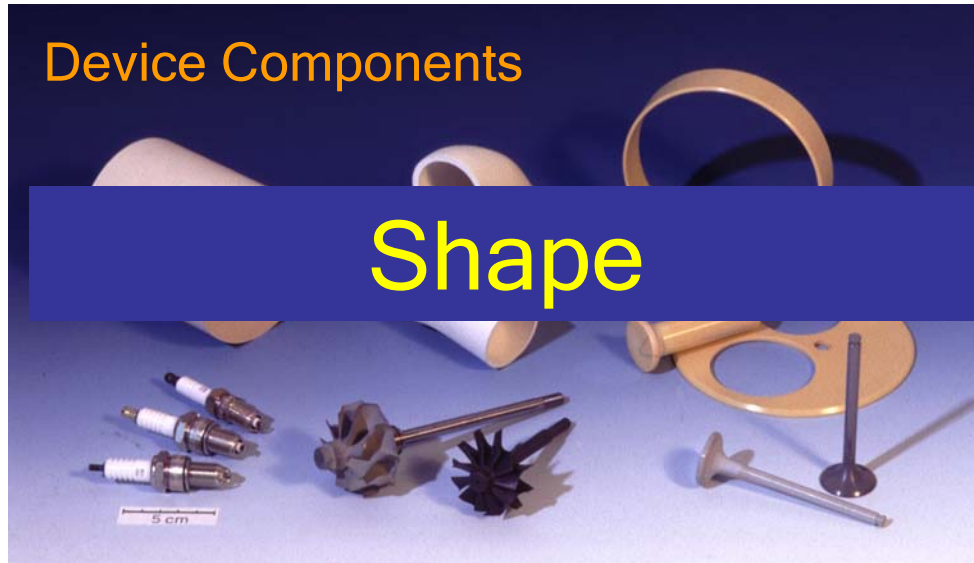


# Ceramics: Functional Materials

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Device Components

Shape



Cutting Tools

Hardness



Bio-Compatibility

Medical Implants



# Advanced Ceramics

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➔ Synthetically developed over the last several decades

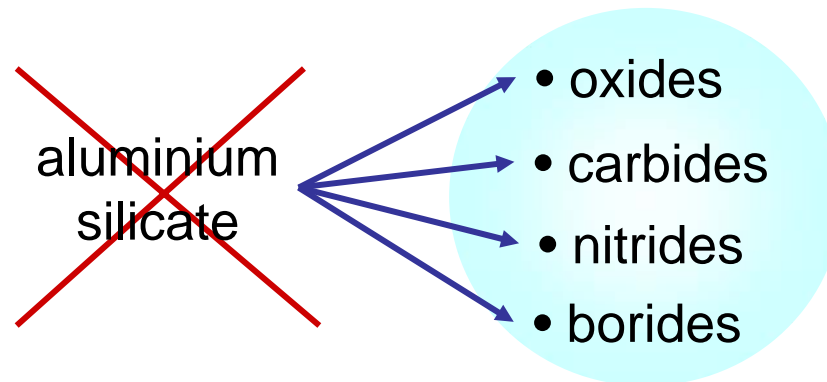


Through **improvements** in processing techniques



- Control of microstructure
- Tailored material properties

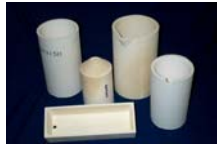
➔ Chemically simple when compared to natural materials



# Examples: Advanced Ceramics

## Oxides

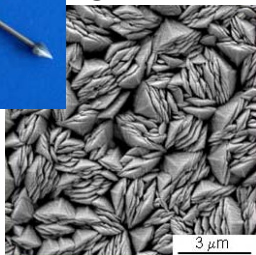
- high T resistant
- biocompatible



- alumina,  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$   
→ refractory materials
- zirconia,  $\text{ZrO}_2$   
→ bio-materials



$\text{ZrO}_2$  films on dental drills deposited by CVD



## Carbides

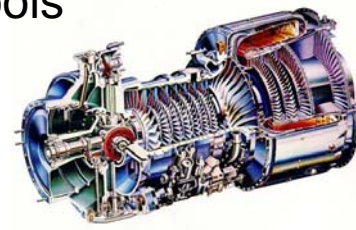
- hard
- wear resistant



→ cutting tools

- SiC
- WC
- TiC
- TaC
- $\text{Cr}_3\text{C}_2$

+ metallic binder (Co, Ni)



## Nitrides

- hard
- brittle
- high melting point
- semiconducting



Silicon Nitride

- gas turbines
- rocket engines
- melting crucibles

Boron Nitride / Titanium Nitride

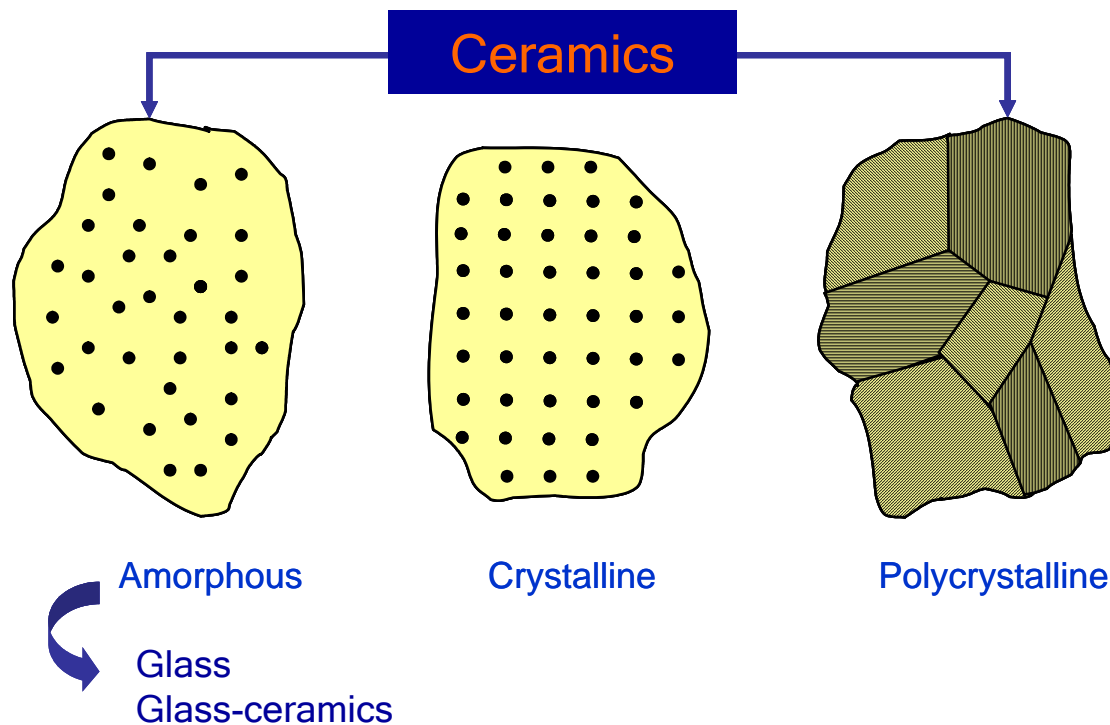
- cutting tools
- coatings

Indium Gallium Nitride

- LEDs, Displays
- Q-Dots

# Ceramics:

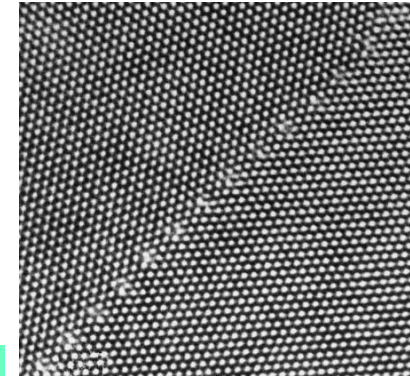
... poly(micro/nano)-crystalline materials whose properties are determined, besides chemical composition, by grain boundaries and microstructural defects ...



**➡ Careful control of synthesis and processing is important!**

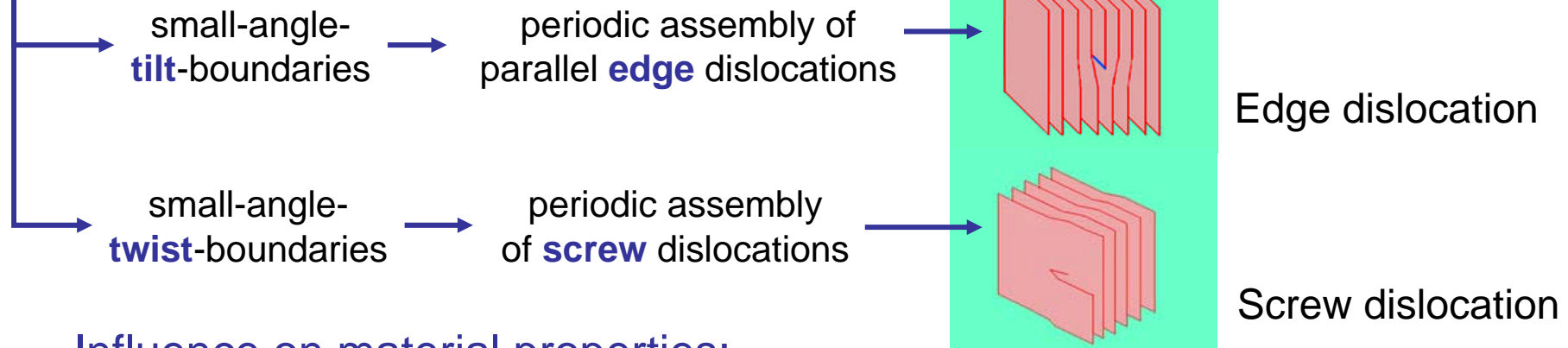
# Grain Boundaries

A *grain boundary* separates regions of the same crystal structure but of different crystal orientation.



## Structure / Formation

*Small-angle grain boundaries* are formed by the periodic assembly of dislocations.



Influence on material properties:

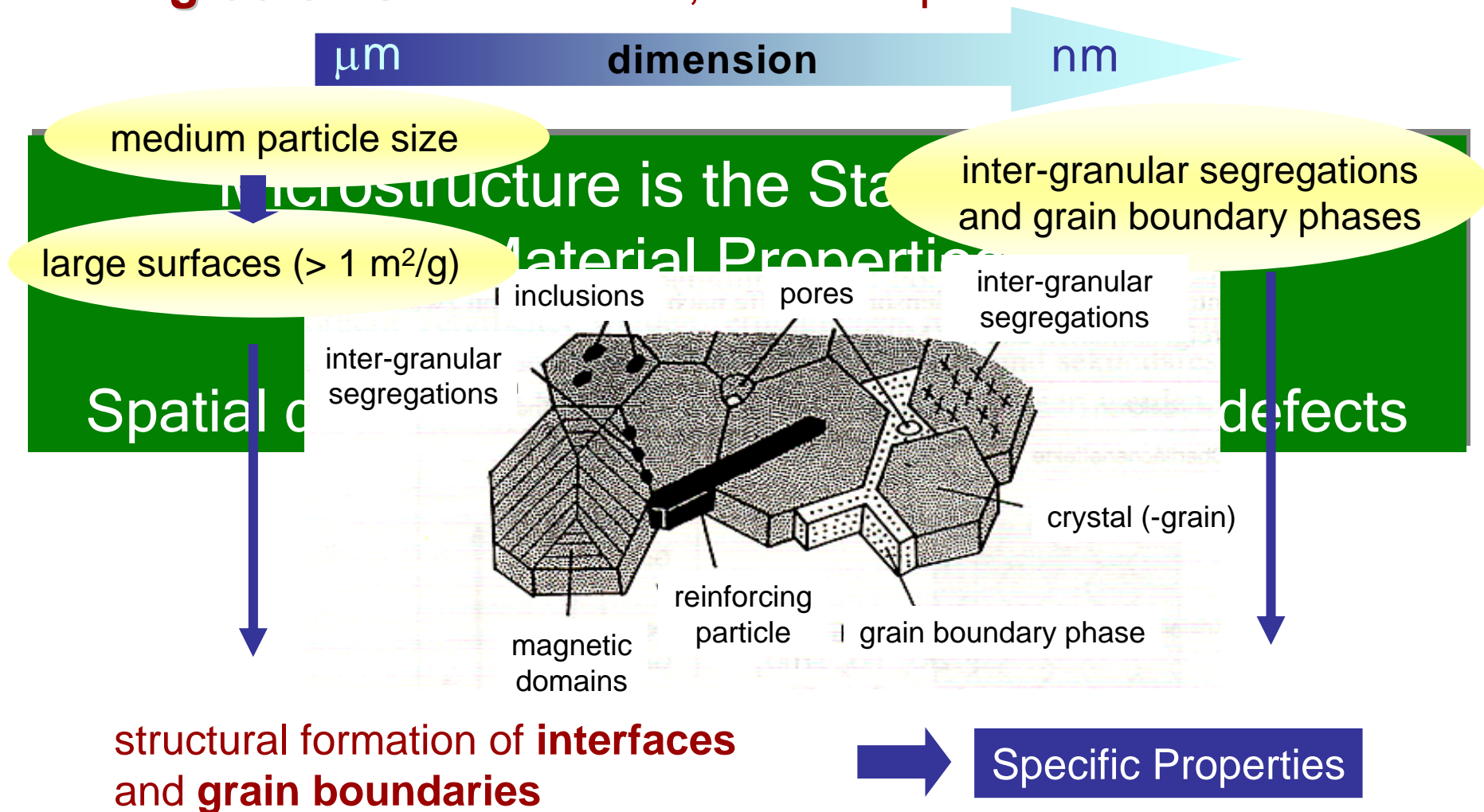
grain size ↓ → grain boundary surface ↑ → influence ↑

Effects observed in *polycrystalline* material are not obligatorily observed in *single crystals*!



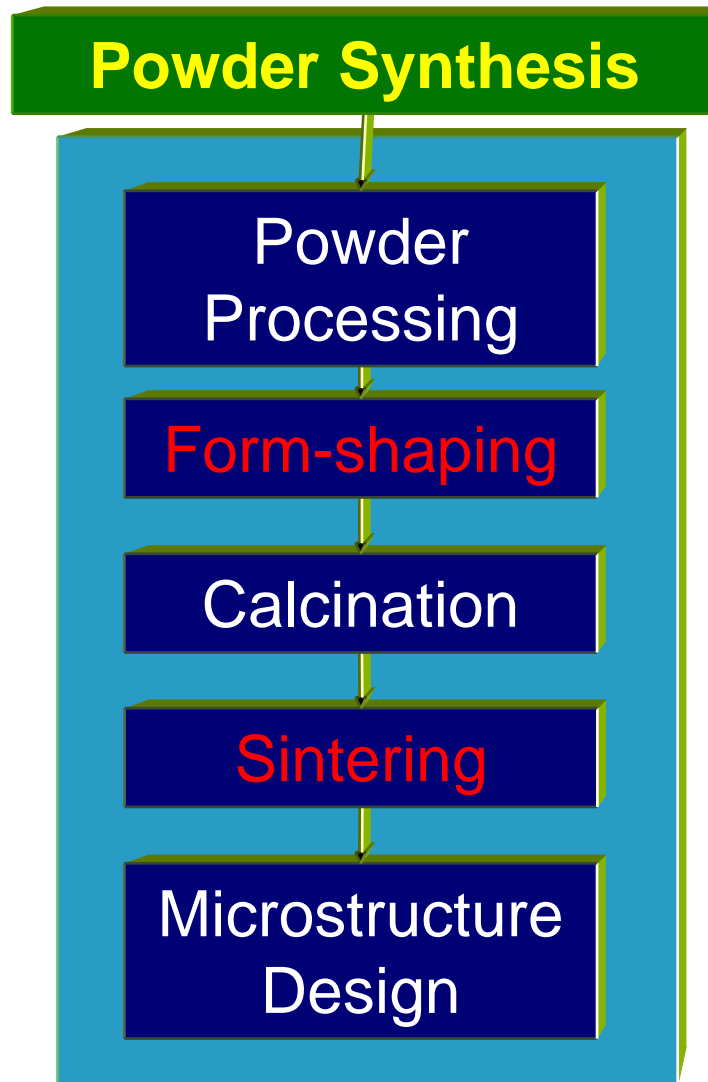
# Microstructure ↔ Property Relationship

**gradients** in elemental, size and phase distribution





# Ceramic Engineering: Synthesis & Processing



# Ceramics: Processing

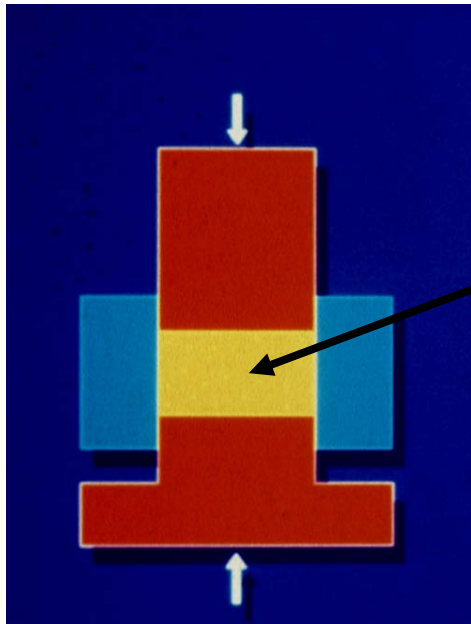
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# Ceramics: Powder Shape-Forming

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## Uni-axial Pressing

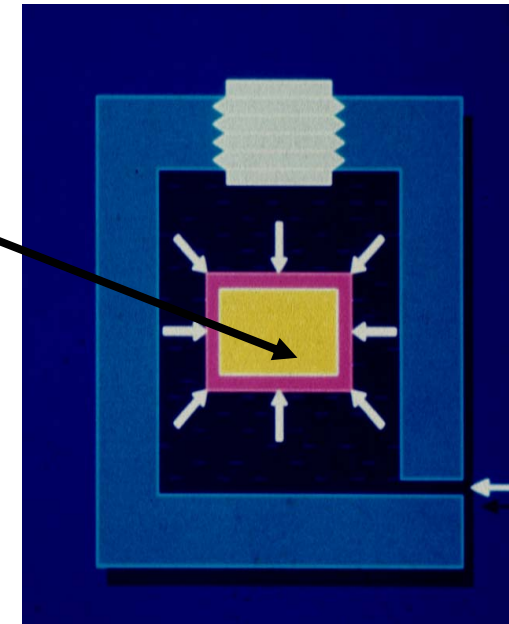


Green Body

### Limitations

Density variation  
Die wear/Contamination  
Cracking

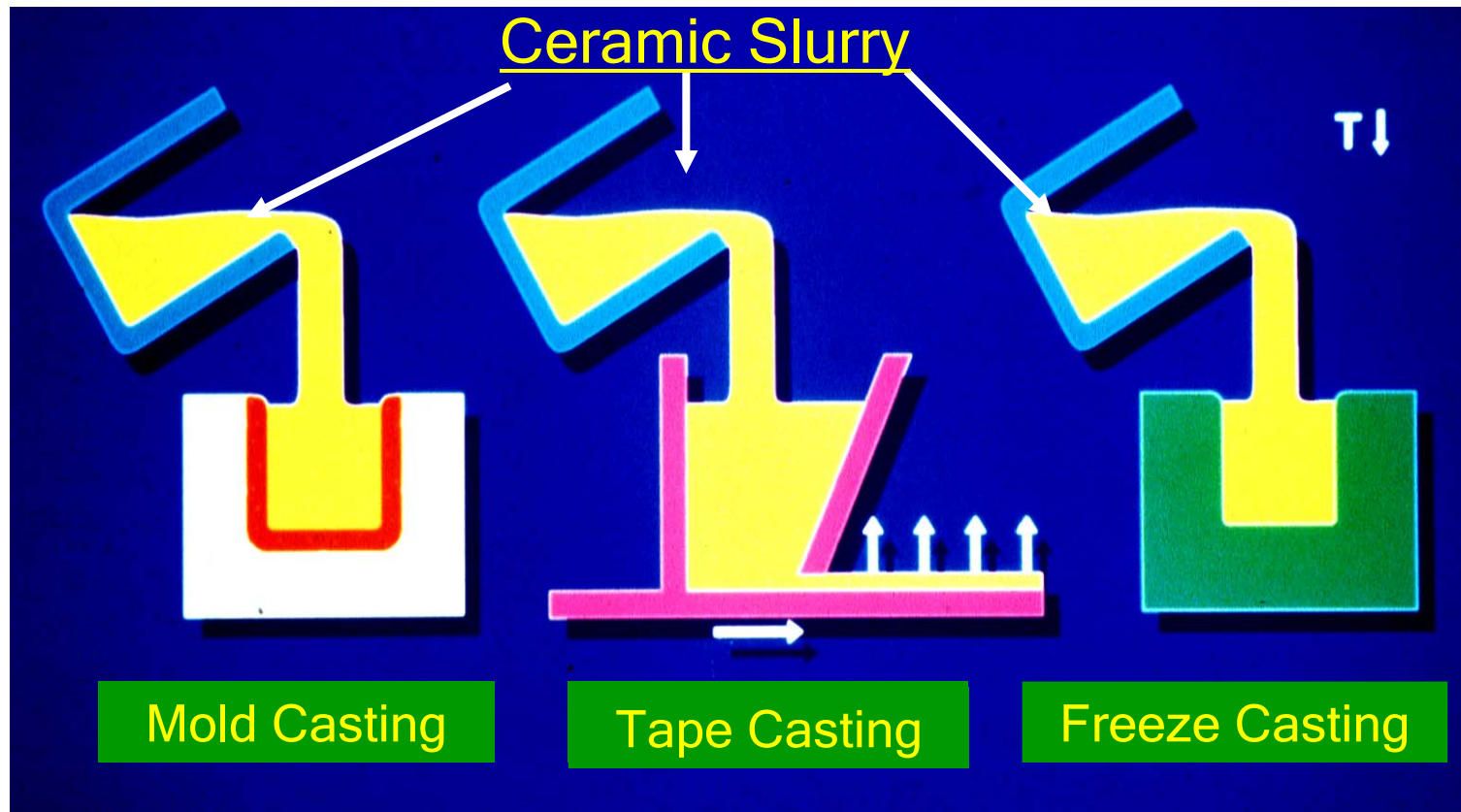
## Isostatic Pressing



### Advantages

Homogeneous pressure distribution  
Compaction uniformity  
Enhanced shape capability

# Ceramics: Liquid Shape-Forming



## Critical Factors

Slip (slurry) consistency, viscosity, entrapped air, chemical reactions, drain properties, shrinkage, release properties, strength of the cast-shape, etc.

# Sintering

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Green Body

Densification

Component

$\Delta T$

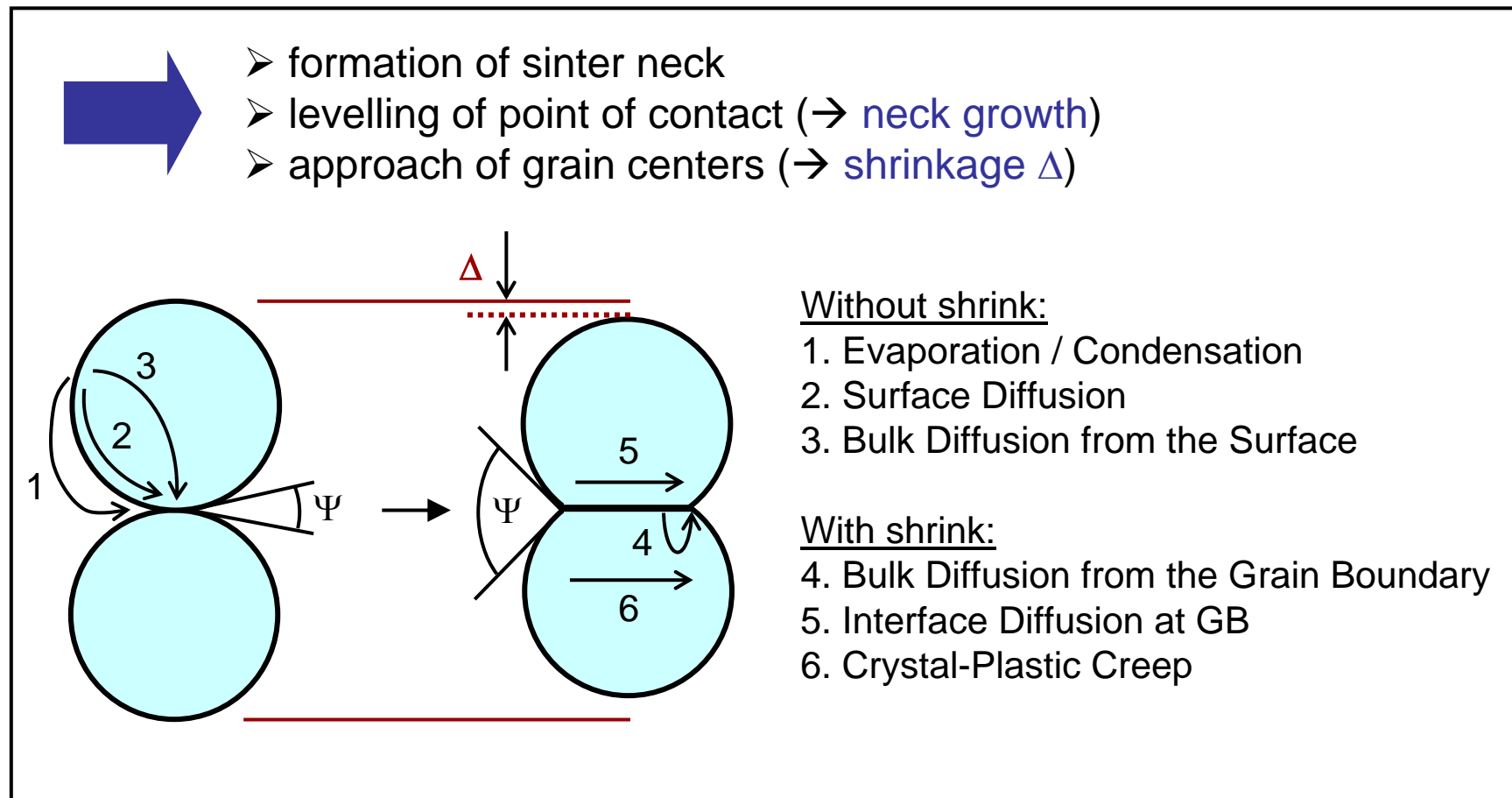
- Rearrangement of the powder particles
- Densification of the green body (decrease of porosity)
- Coarsening of the grains (grain growth)

**Driving force = Reduction of the free surface energy**  
surface-E (powder system) > grain boundary-E (dense body)

# I. Sintering Process

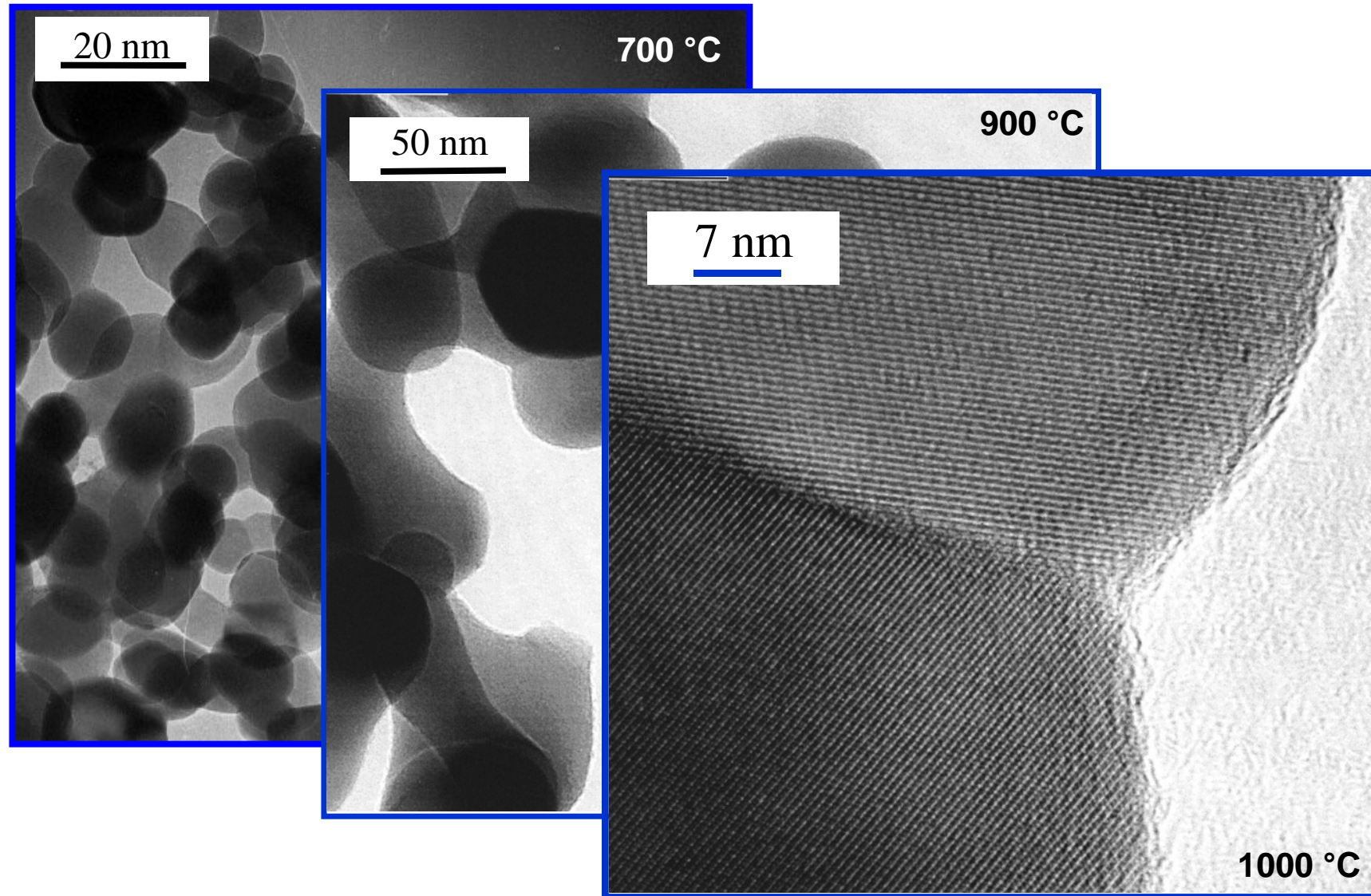
Sinter Temperature < Melting Temperature (Eutectic T for composites)

**Initial stage:** → 40 – 75 % of theoretical density (TD)

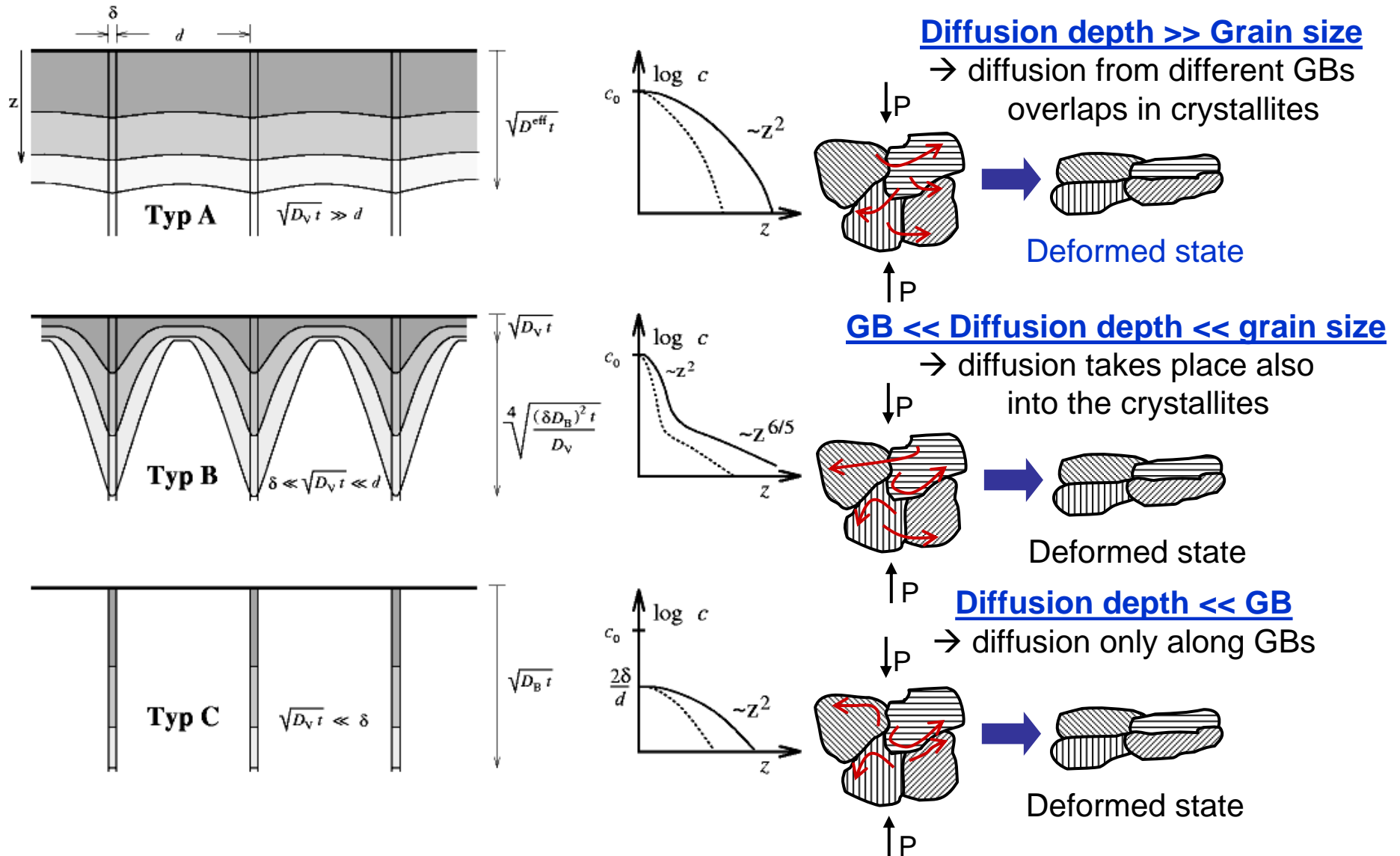




# Sintering Process

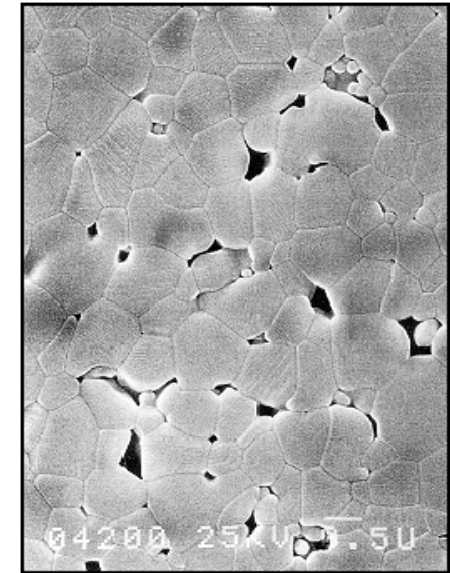
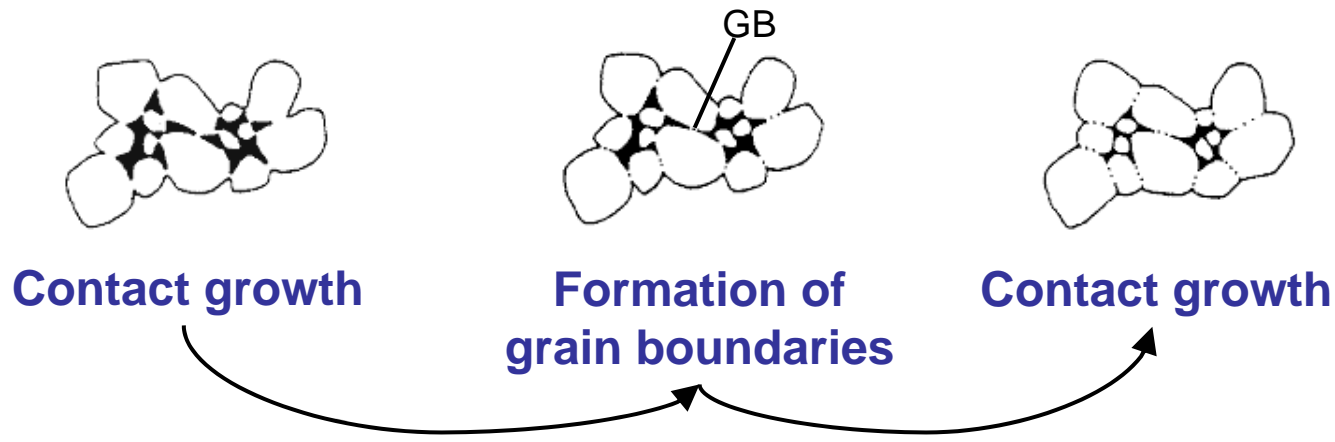


# Grain Boundary Diffusion



## II. Sintering Process

**Intermediate stage:** → 90 – 95 % of TD



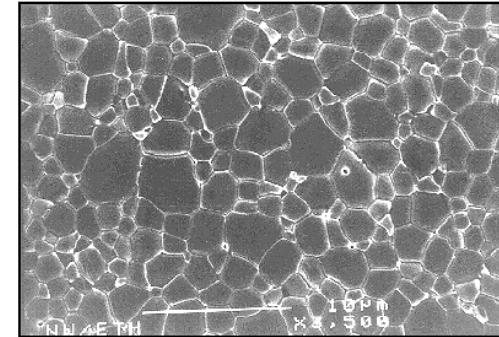
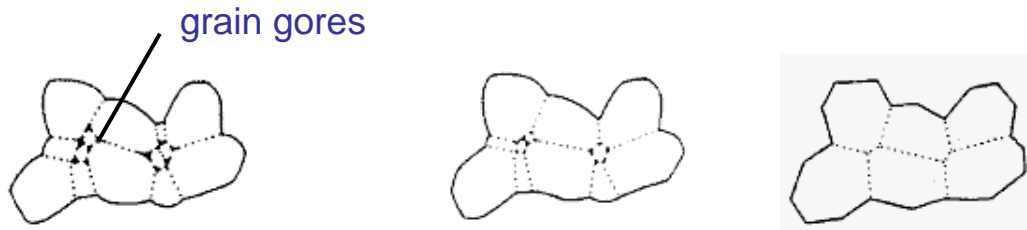
$\alpha$ -Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> at the end of the intermediate stage

- Particles don't move any longer
  - High coordination of the particles
  - Mass transport by *volume- and GB-diffusion*
  - 3-D *network of pores*
- ⇒ *Particle growth* begins
- ⇒ Pore volume decreases
- ⇒ Particle shape changes

• *Closed Porosity*

# III. Sintering Process

**Final stage:** → 95 – 99.9 % of TD



**Grain growth**      **Healing of the pores and grain growth**

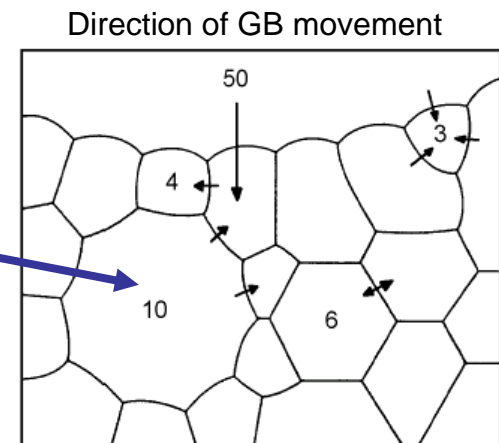
$\alpha\text{-Al}_2\text{O}_3$  after final densification

- Grain growth and elimination of the pores

## Problems:

- Enclosed, entrapped, insoluble gas
- Coarsening of the grains / growth of giant grains

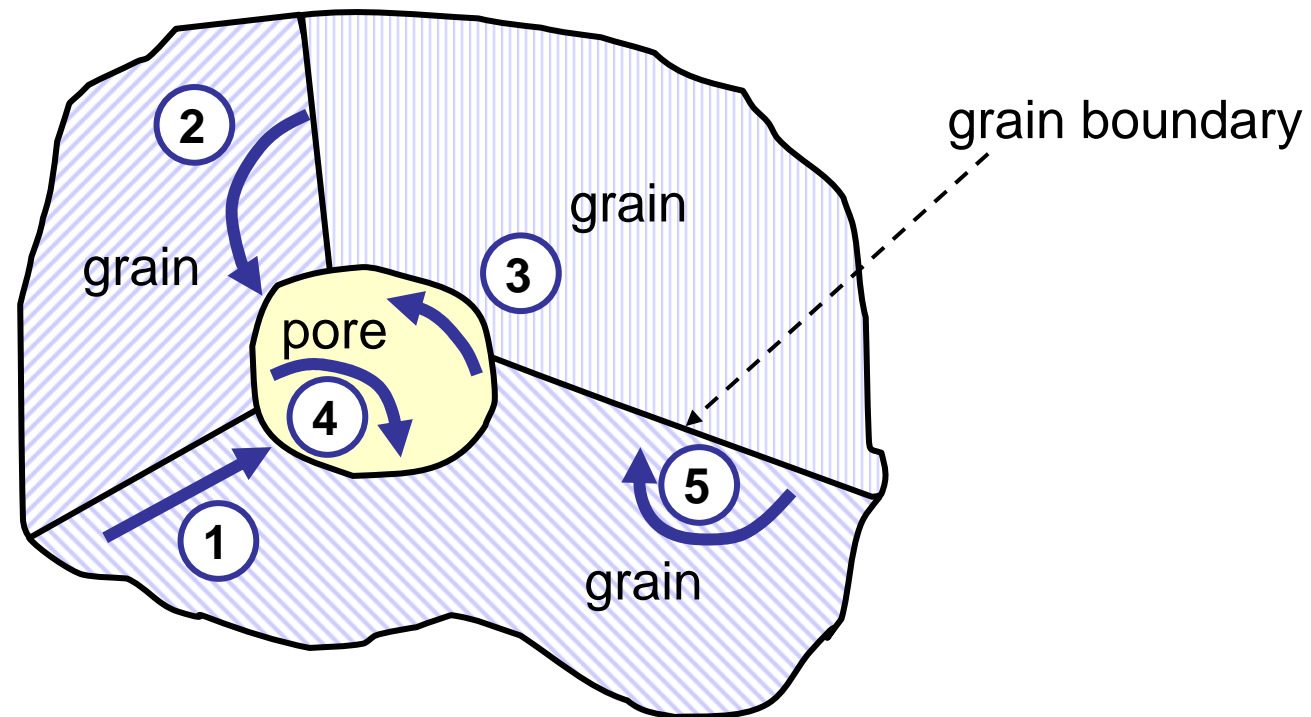
Driving force: reduction of the total surface area of all grain boundaries



➔ Addition of *additives* to control microstructure

# Sintering: Diffusion Mechanism

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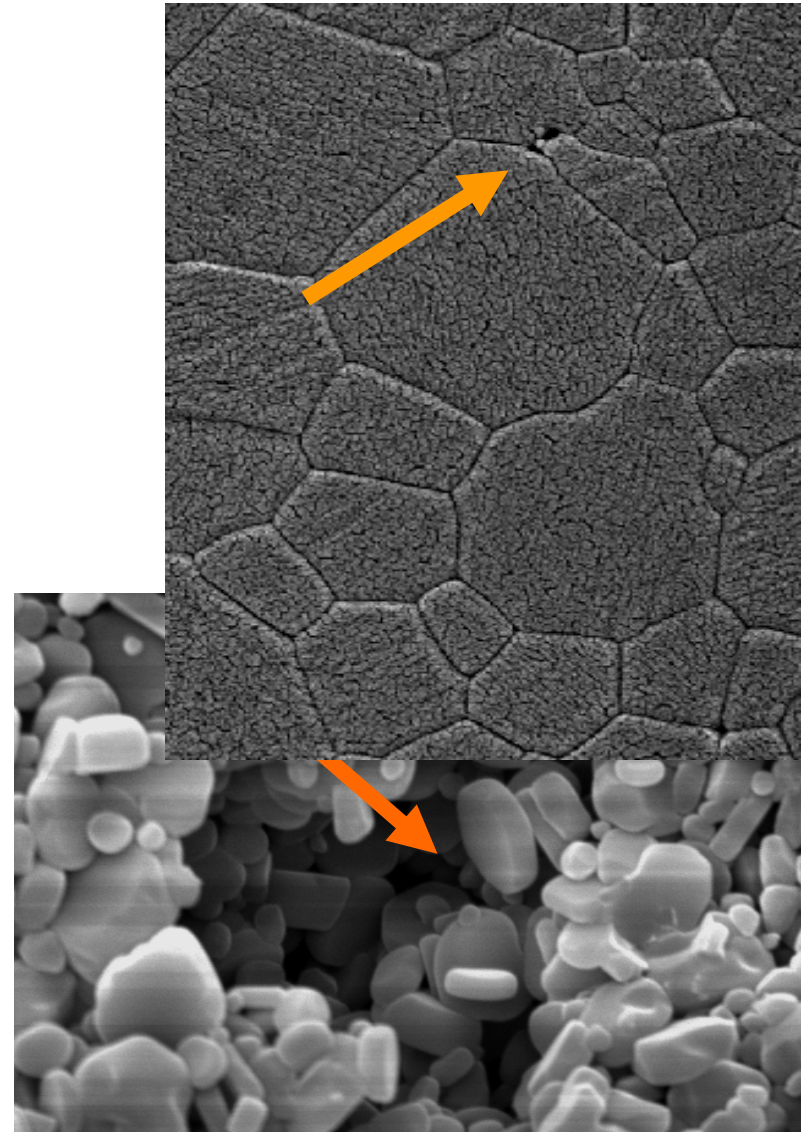
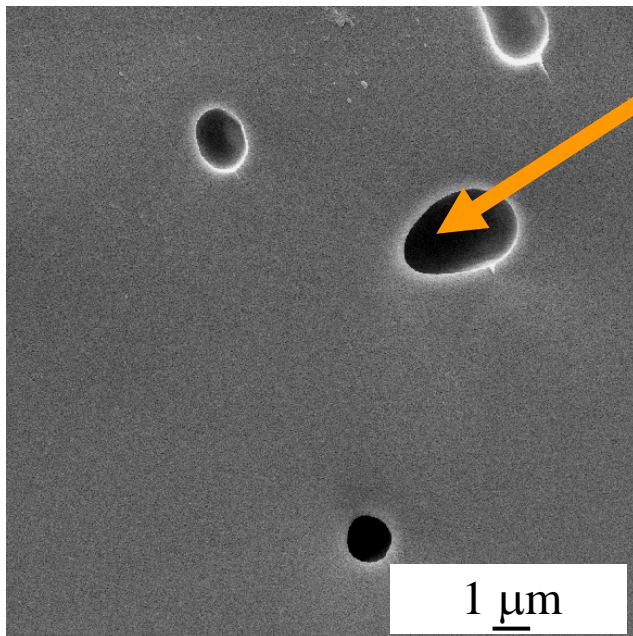
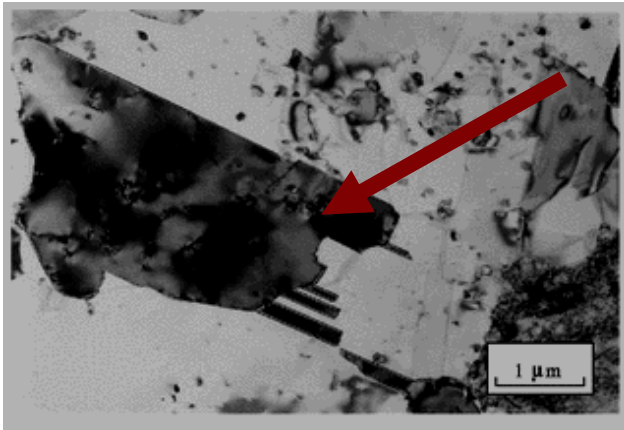


- *Grain boundary and bulk diffusion (1, 2 and 5) to the neck contribute to densification.*
- *Evaporation – condensation (4) and surface diffusion (3) do not contribute to densification.*

(Adapted from: Principles for Ceramic Science and Engineering: Y. M. Chang, D. Birnie and W. D. Kingery)



# Micro-structural Defects



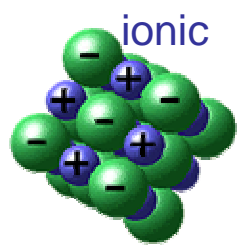


# Properties

# Strength

Ceramics

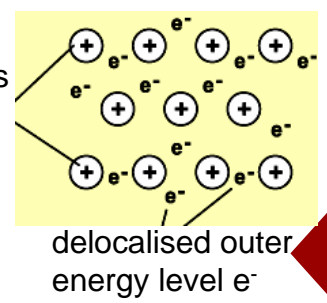
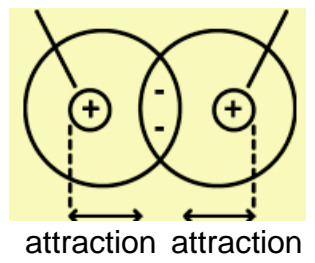
Metals



metallic

bonding

covalent  
positive nucleus    positive nucleus



Rigid Bonding  
+  
Inability to Slip

Stress Absorption ↓

Plastically Deformed  
by Slipping

stress

S

Materials

Mechanically Resistant

Problem: brittleness

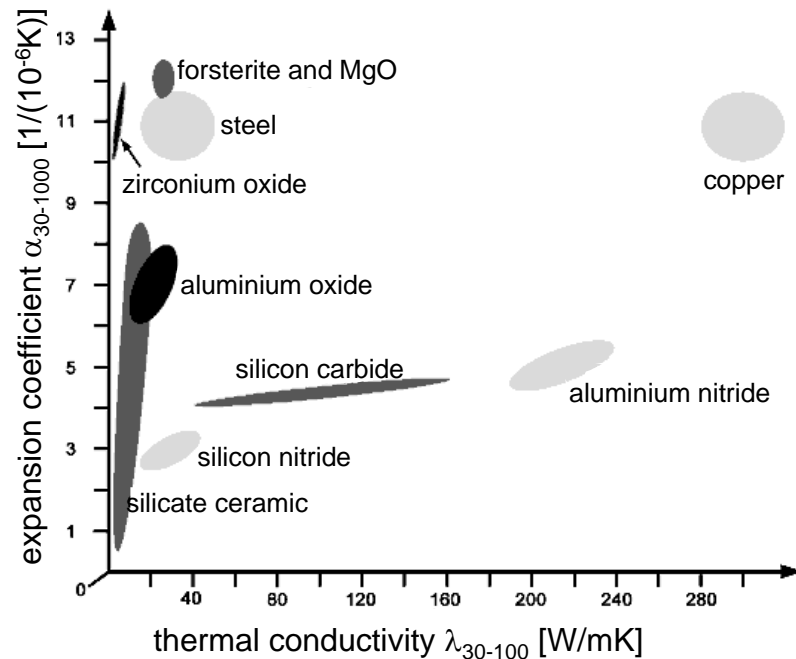
➤ High Purity

- Conducting

thermal

# Thermal Properties

- Coefficient of thermal expansion:  
 $\alpha$  (ceramics)  $\lesssim$   $\alpha$  (metals) \*
  - Good heat conductivity
- use as **Refractory materials**



- Problem: Thermal shock resistance  
(internal stresses / brittleness)  
exceptions: quartz, cordierite

\* glass-ceramics:  $\alpha \sim 0 \text{ K}^{-1}$

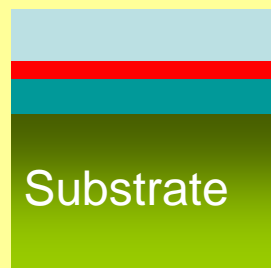
**expansion coefficient and thermal conductivity**  
of some materials

# Thermal Properties

## Thermal Barrier Coatings

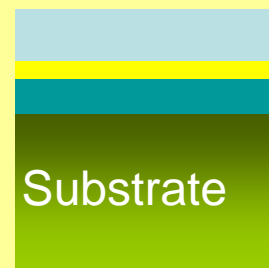
- YSZ
- $3 \text{ Al}_2\text{O}_3 \cdot 2 \text{ SiO}_2$  (Mullit)
- $\text{TiO}_2$
- $\text{MgAl}_2\text{O}_4 \rightarrow$  bond coats  $\rightarrow$  CVD

TGO

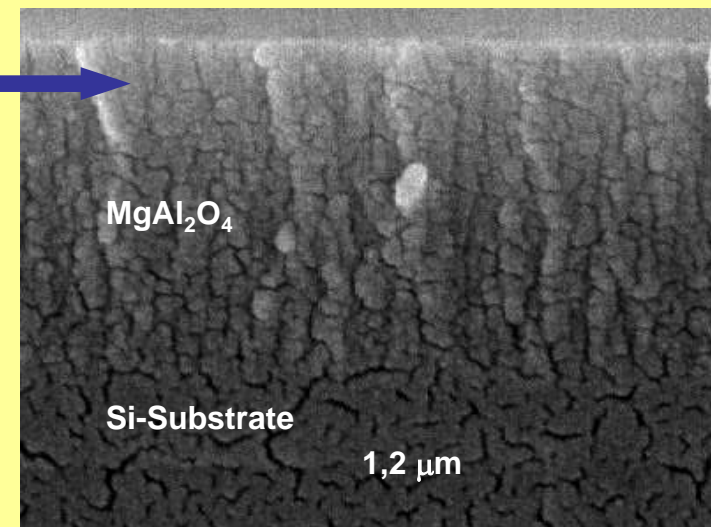
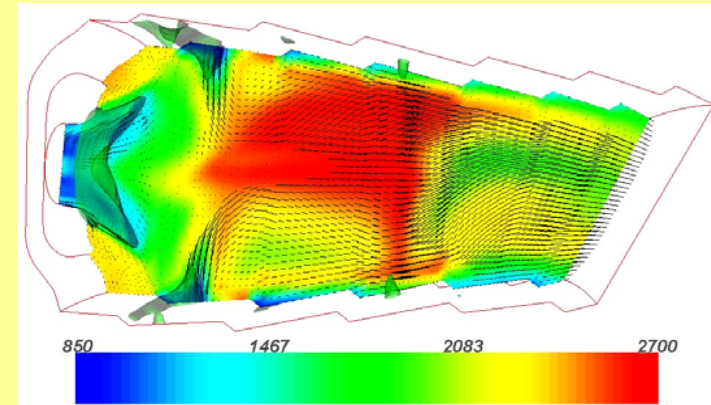


Top Coat  
Bond Coat

CVD-film



columnar microstructure



# Optical Properties

## Transparency of Ceramics

Opaque

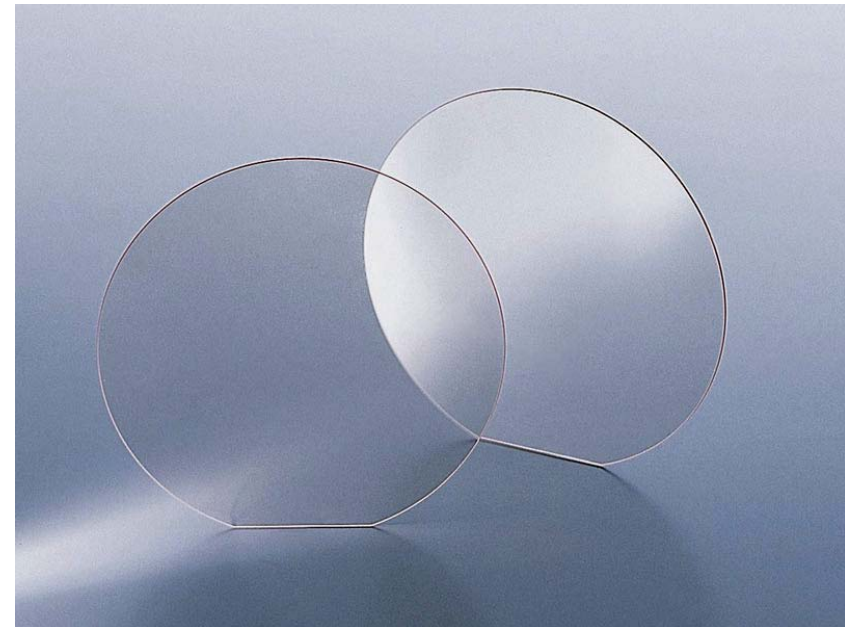
Transparent

### Requisites for Transparency:

- Transparency and isotropy of the single grains
- Little contribution of the GBs to diffraction and diffusion
- No pores and voids (→ sinter techniques)



Improved Synthesis



LUMICERA by CASIO: Ceramic lenses for digital cameras

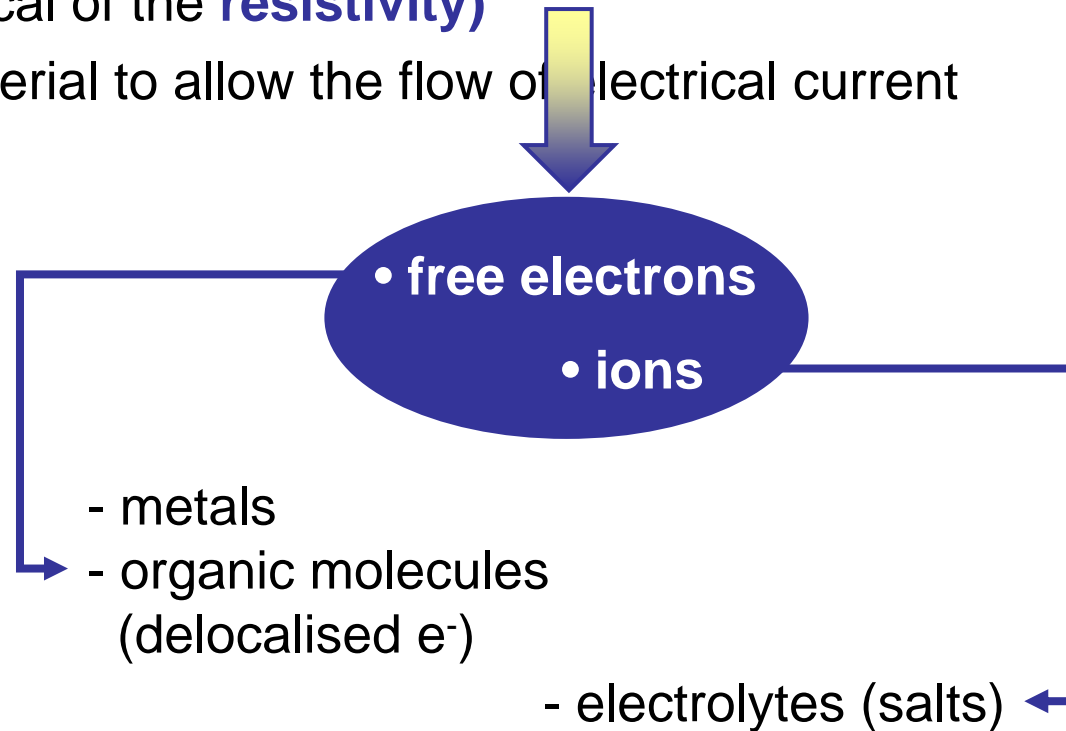
- transparency ~ optical glass
- refractive index:  $n_d = 2,08 > \text{optical glass } (n_d = 1,5-1,85)$
- excellent stability

# Electrical Properties

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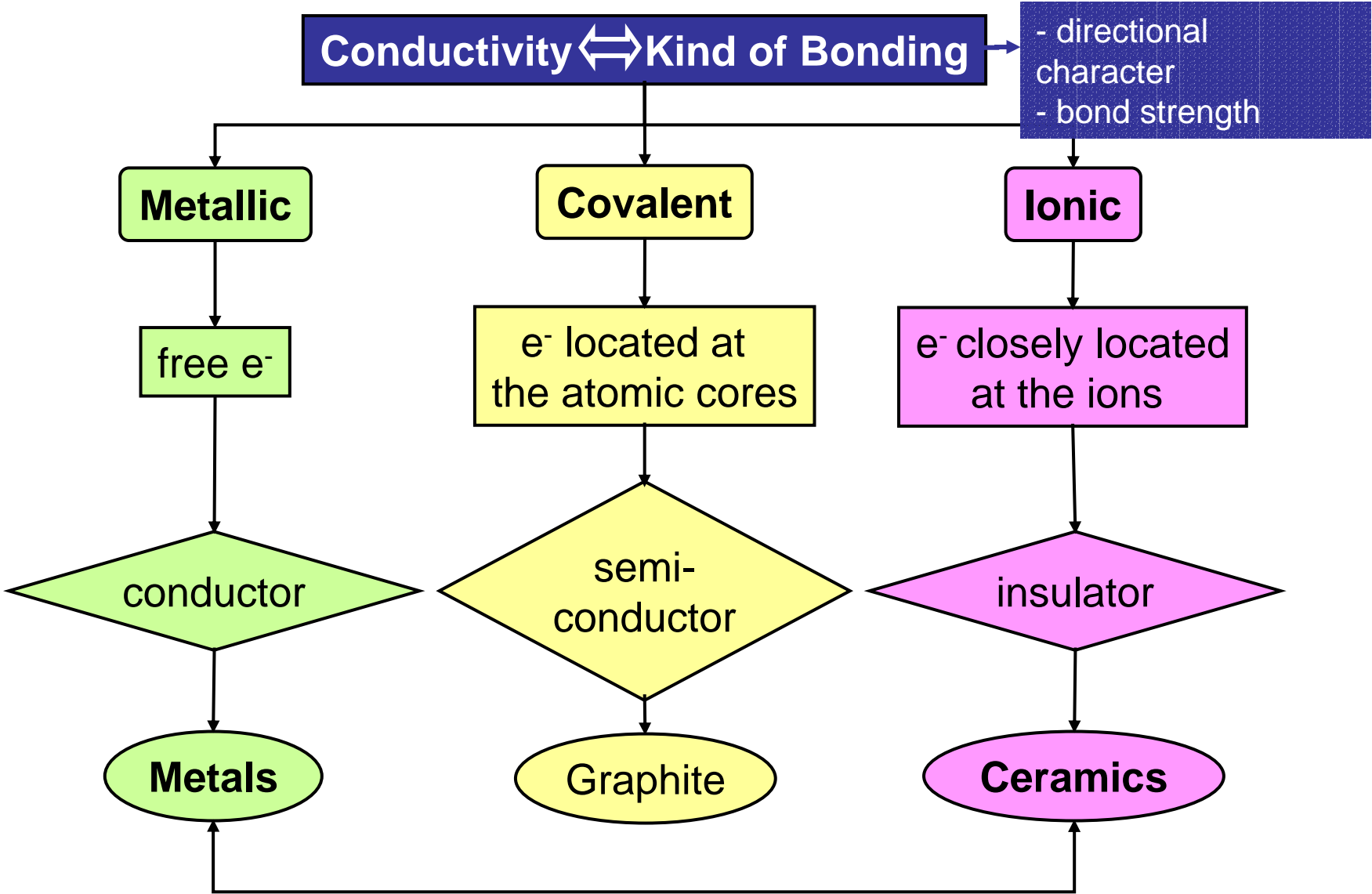
electrical conductivity  $\kappa$  [S/m]

- a measure of the ease with which electrical carriers flow in a material (reciprocal of the **resistivity**)
- the ability of a material to allow the flow of electrical current





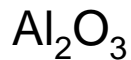
# Conductive Behaviour



# Advanced Ceramics: Tuneable Conductivity



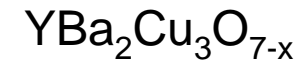
**Insulator**



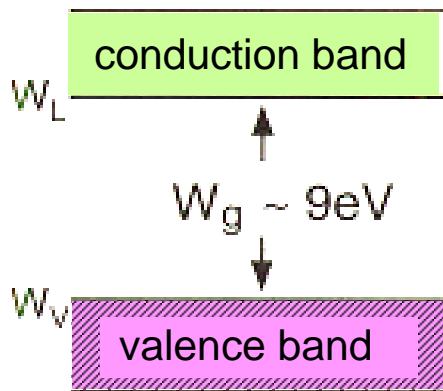
**Semi-conductor**



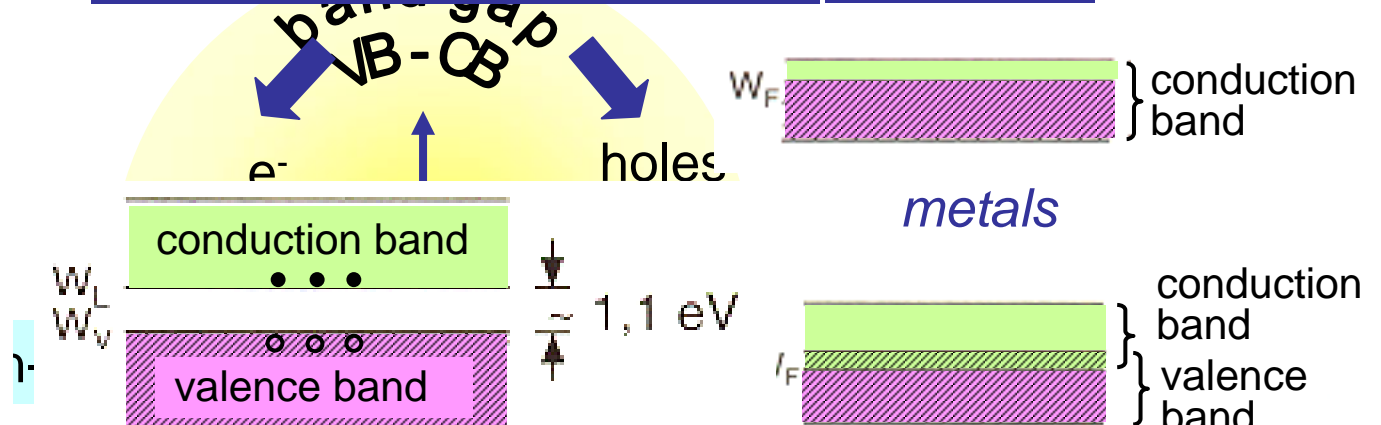
**(Super) conductor**



Insulator



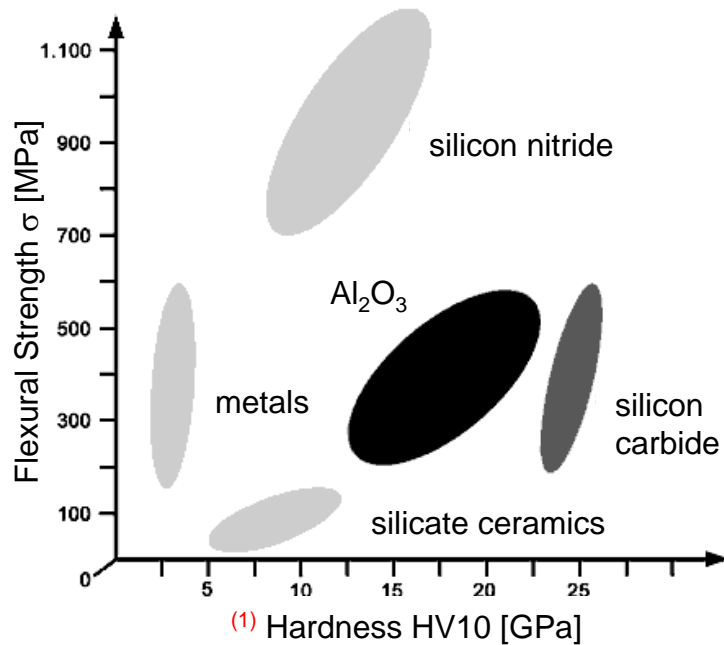
Electrical Charge Transport Conductor



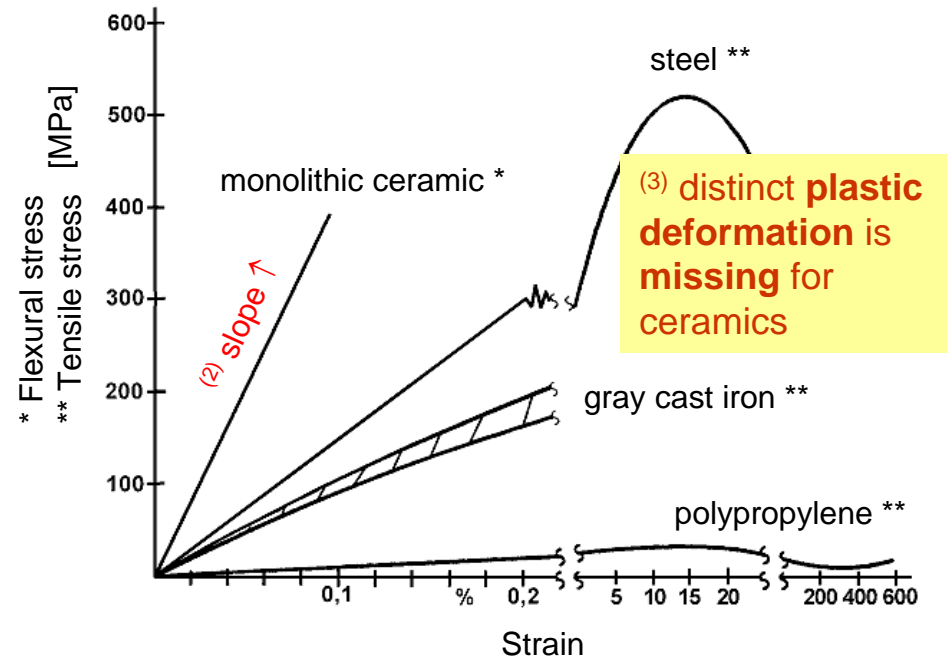
Types of  $\text{SiC}$   
 $\text{TiO}_2, \text{Nb}_2\text{O}_5, \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3, \text{SiC}, \text{SnO}_2, \text{BaTiO}_3, \text{Co}_3\text{O}_4, \text{Mn}_3\text{O}_4, \text{SiC}$

# Mechanical Properties

- ☺ • Hardness <sup>(1)</sup>
- ☺ • Young's modulus <sup>(2)</sup>
- ☺ • Stiffness
- ☹ • Poor plastic deformation <sup>(3)</sup> via GB diffusion + diffusion creep
- ☹ • Brittle / low fracture toughness



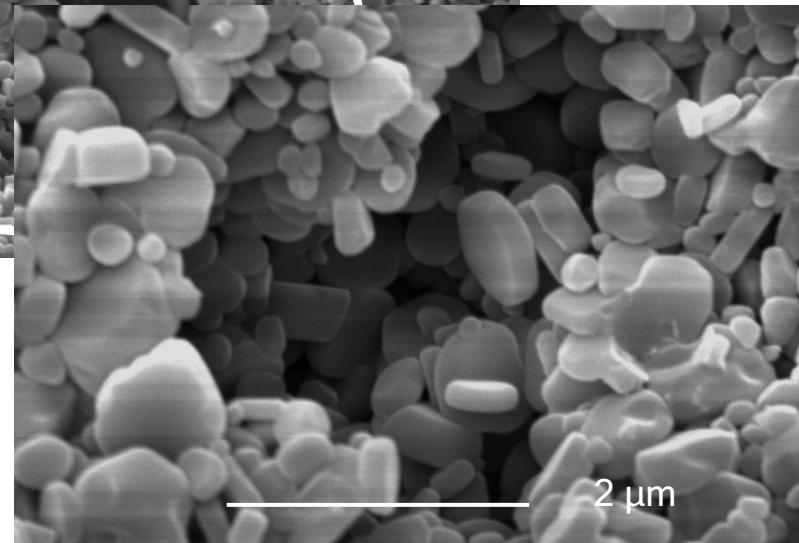
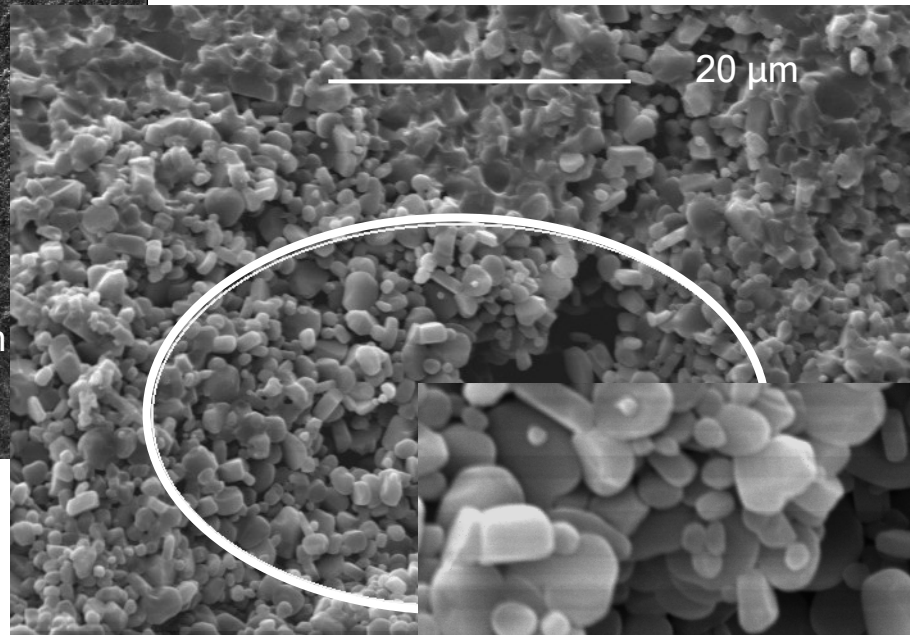
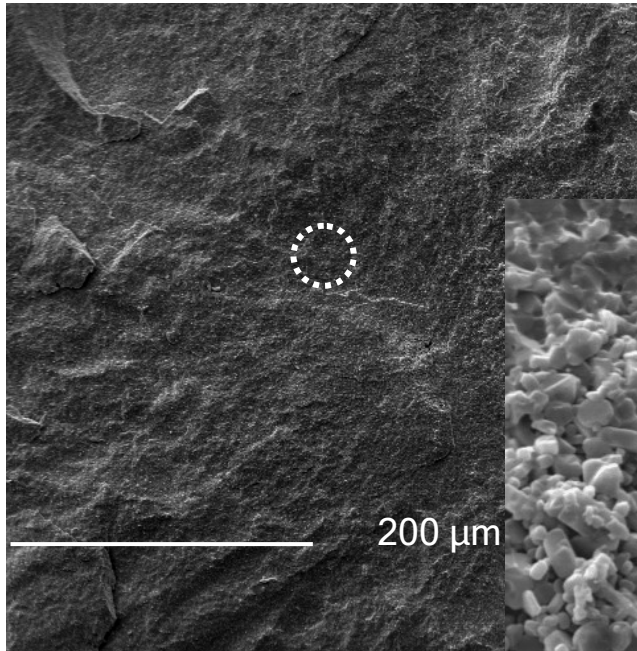
flexural strength and hardness of some materials



stress-strain-behaviour of ceramics in comparison with metals and polymers

# Microstructural Defects

Strength and hardness is limited by defects

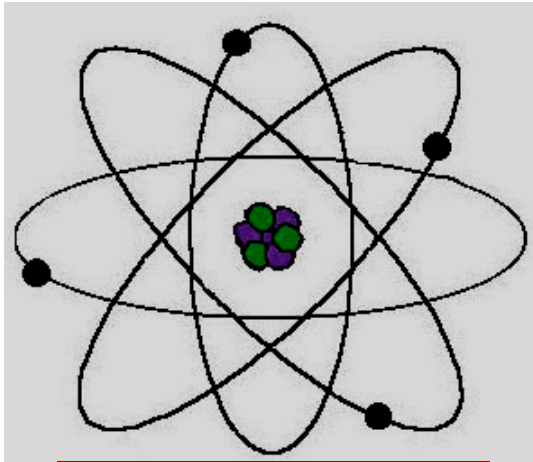


Control of chemical composition,  
particle size, and particle size distribution is  
required to achieve the optimum properties ...

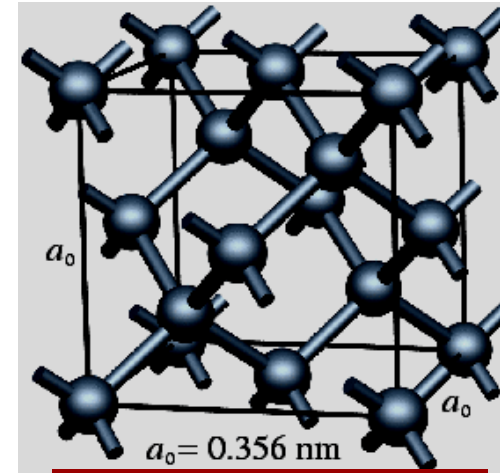
... (Better) Optimized Synthesis of Matter

# Control over ?

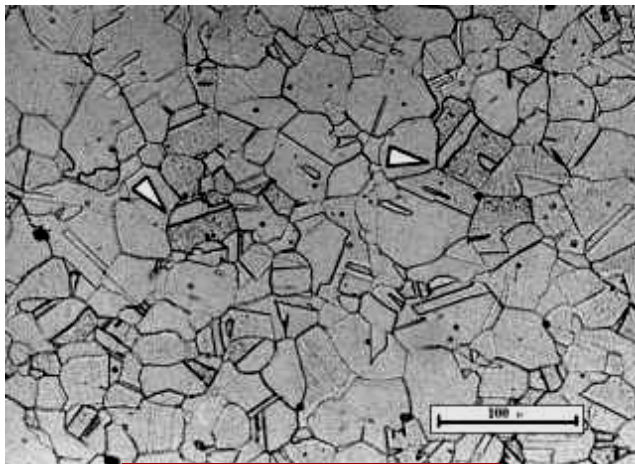
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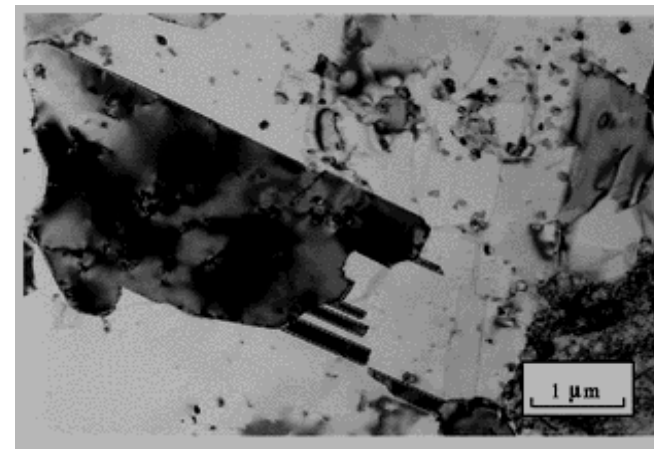
Atomic Structure



Crystal Structure



Microstructure



Phase Composition

# Synthesis of Ceramics

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## Key Issues:

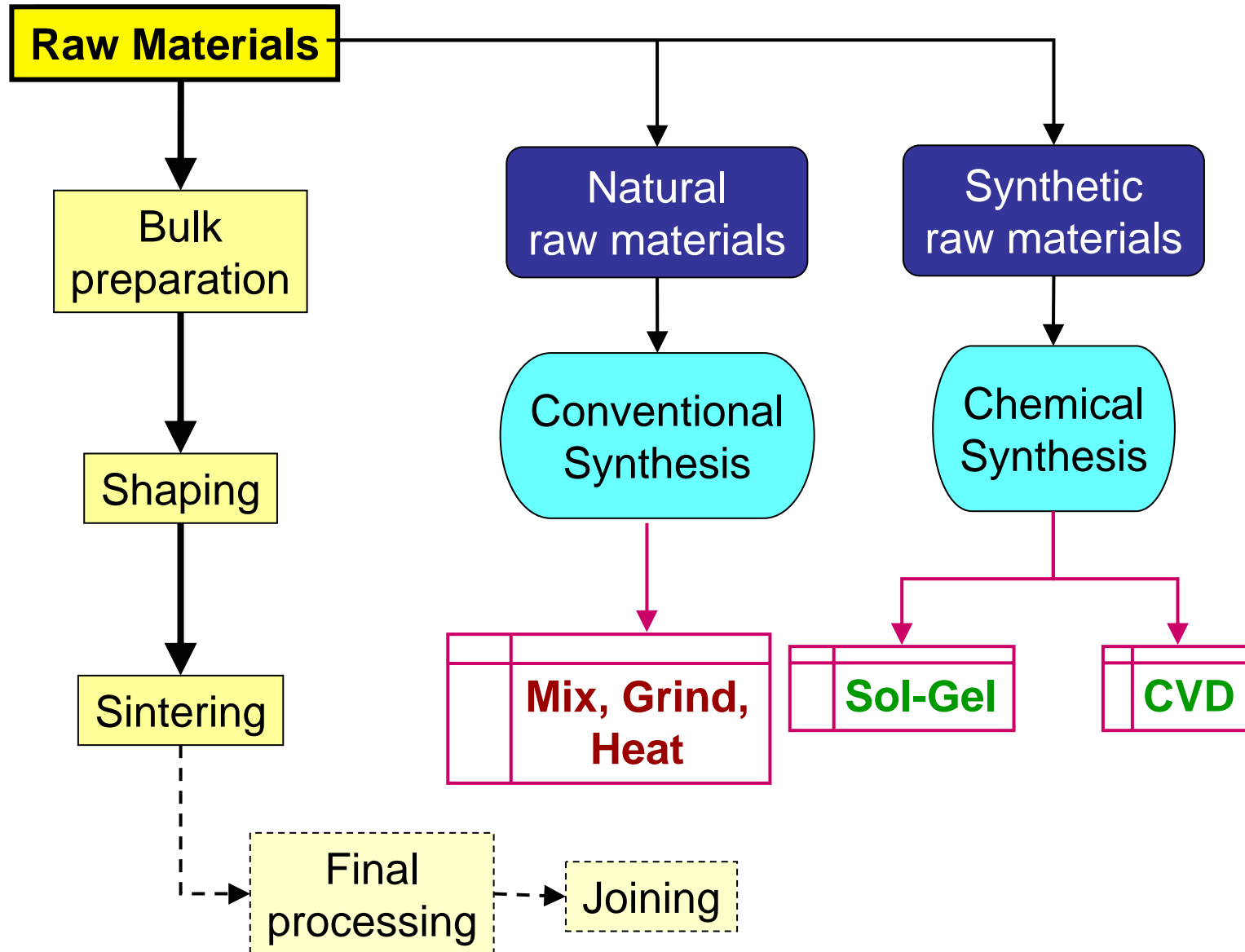
- Compositional homogeneity
- Phase purity
- Morphology
- Particle size and distribution
- Synthesis temperatures → Grain growth

## Limitations:

- Elemental Segregation
- Co-existence of metastable or intermediate phases
- Abnormal grain growth
- Marginal control over particle size/ morphology

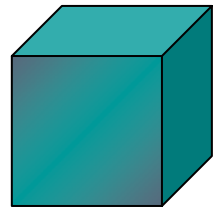


# Ceramics: Synthesis and Processing

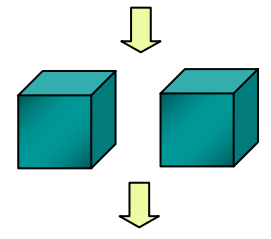


## Top-Down: Breaking down bulk

Bulk

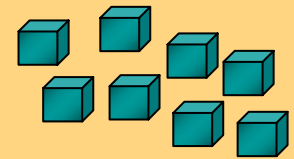


Down Sizing



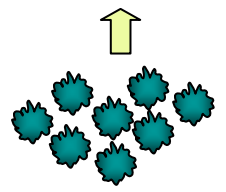
- Mechanical attrition
- Lithography
- Etching
- Micro-machining/MEMS

Fine particles

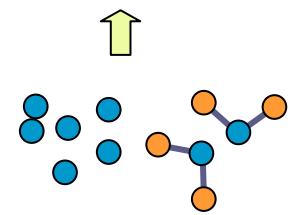


Fine grained microstructure

Clusters



Atoms & Molecules



- Chemical vapour synthesis
- Combustion synthesis
- Liquid phase methods
- Hydrothermal treatment
- Self-assembly

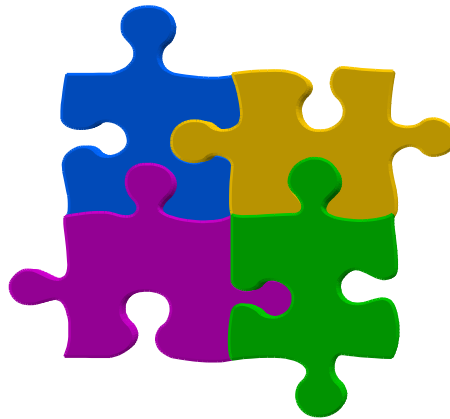
## Bottom-Up: Atoms und Molecules as building blocks

# Chemical Synthesis of Ceramics

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Atomic scale mixing

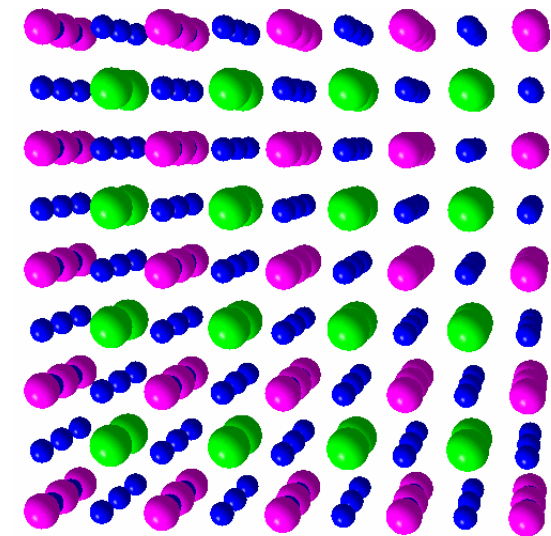
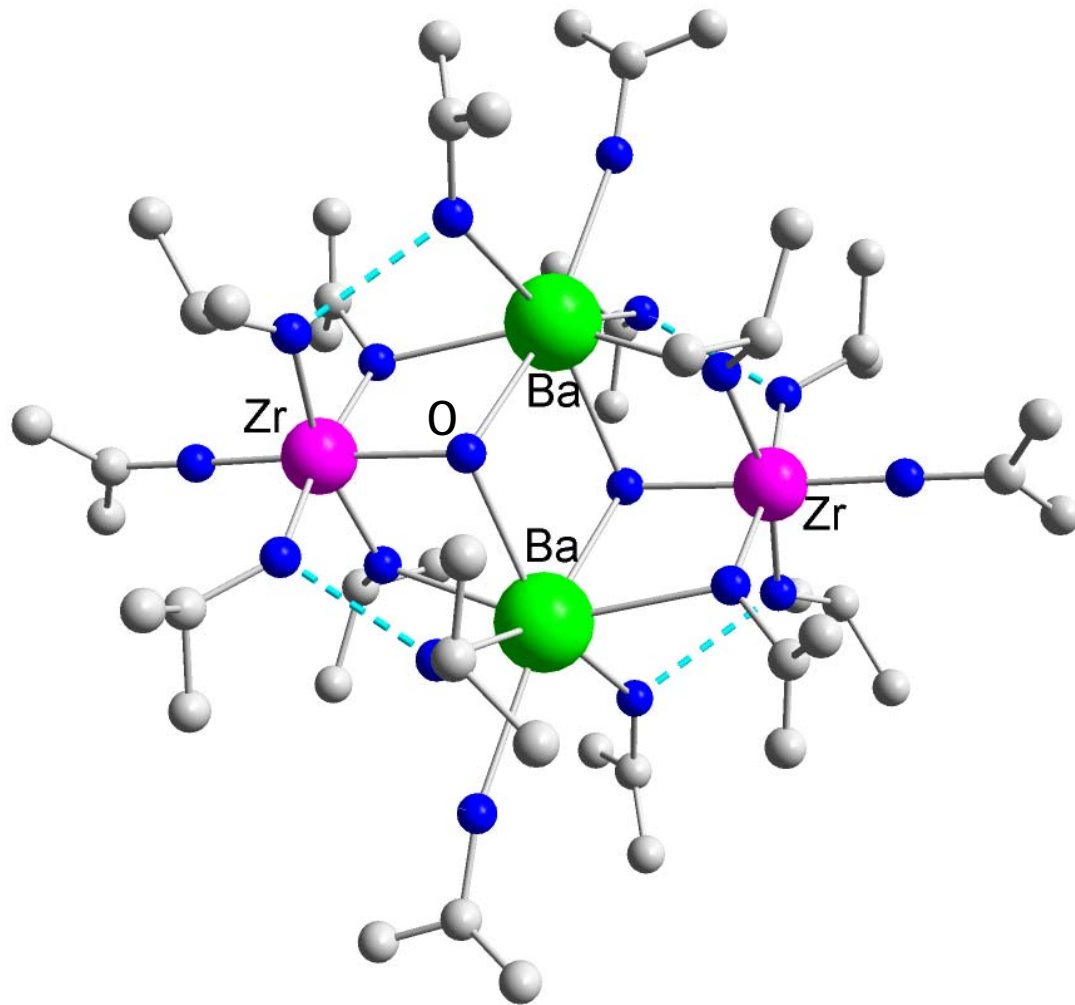
(Nano)Crystalline material  
at low temperature



Phase purity and selectivity

Pre-defined reaction chemistry  
and single-step synthesis

# Molecule Derived Materials



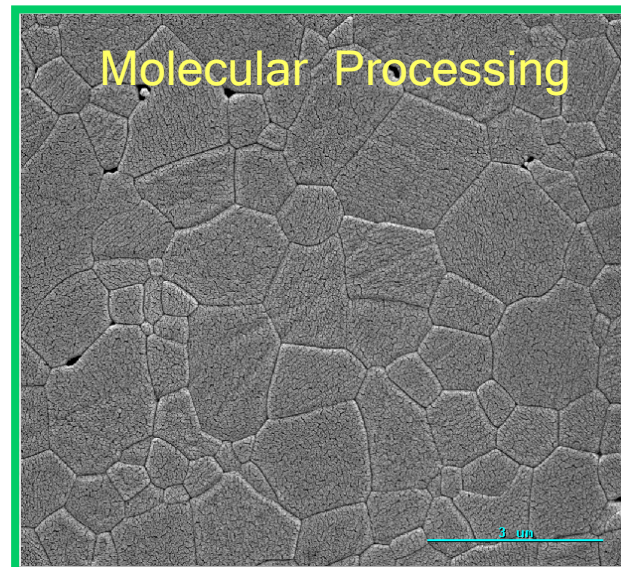
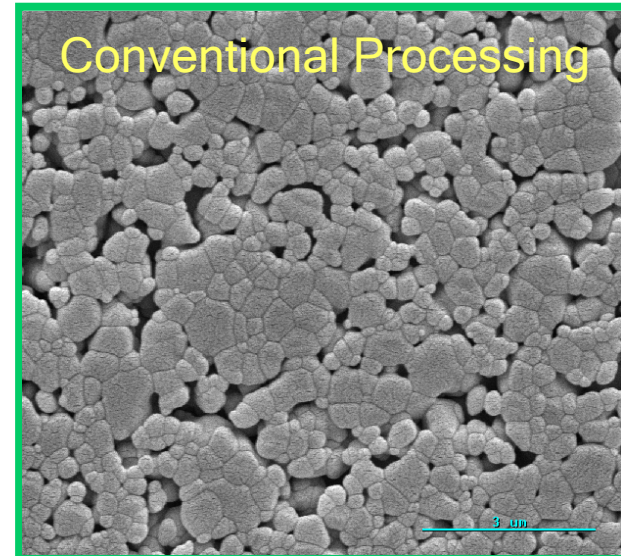
# BaZrO<sub>3</sub> Ceramics

Powders Treated Identically

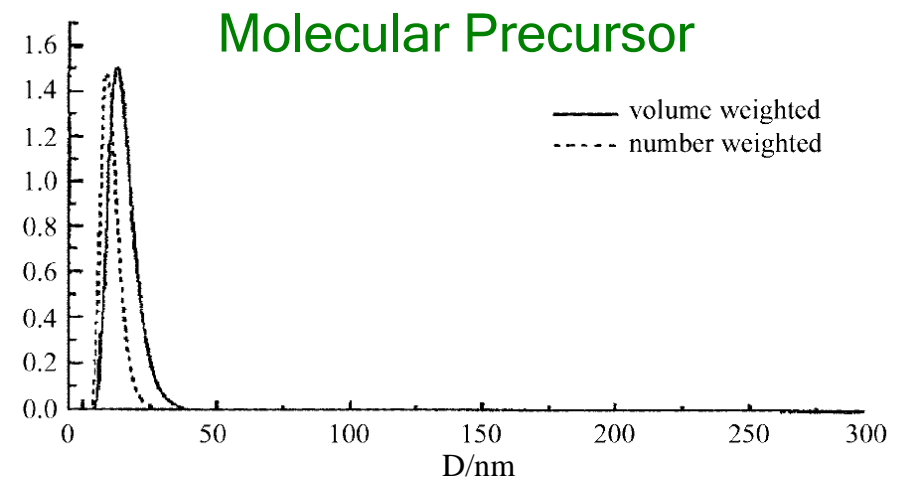
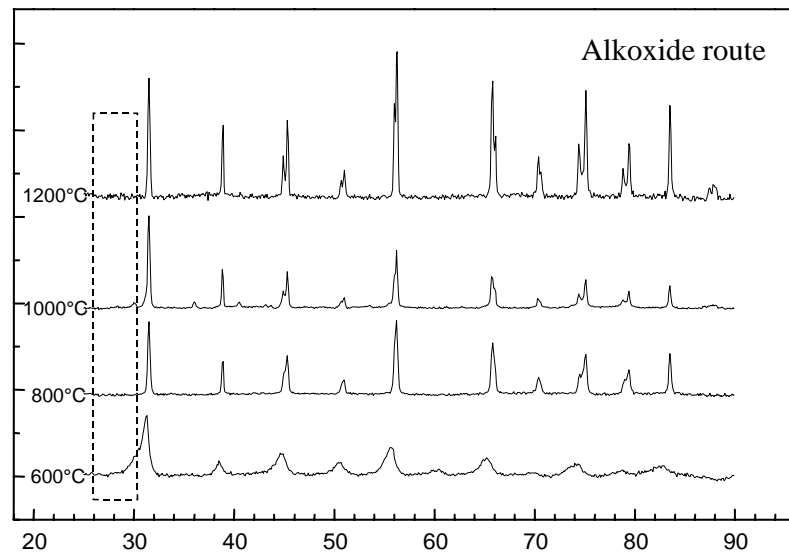
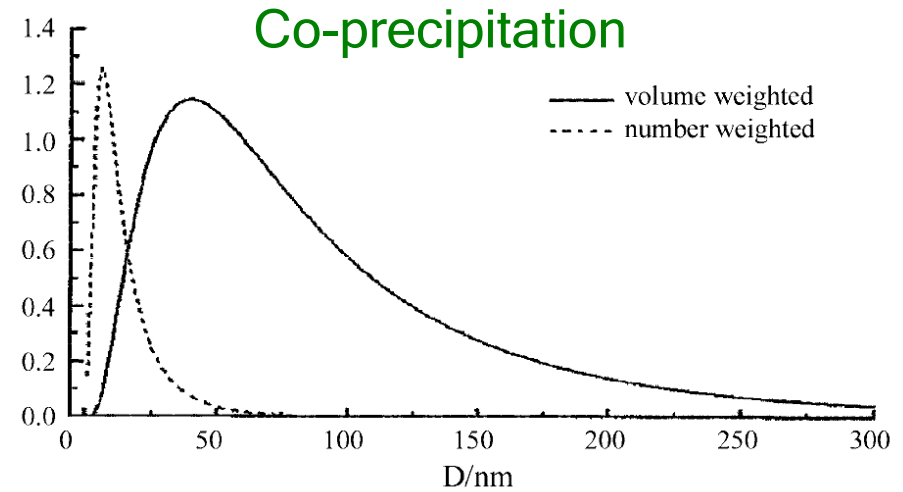
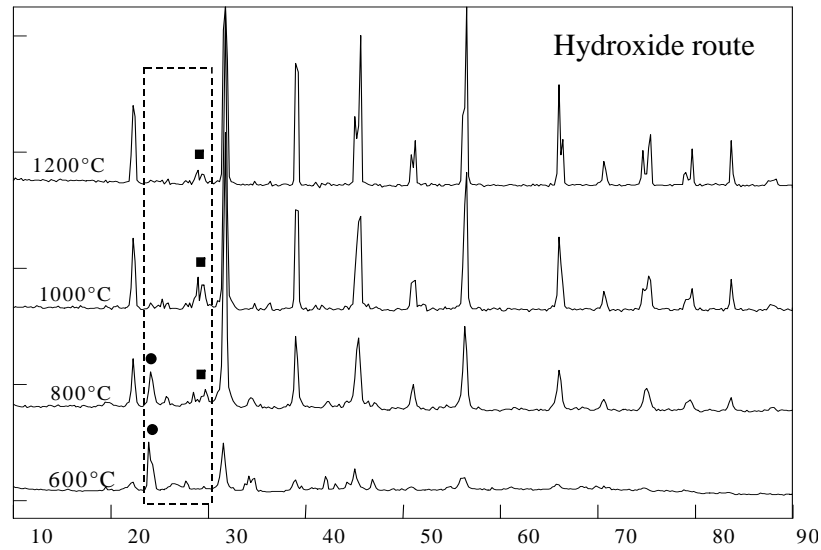
Cold Isostatic Pressing (14 kN)  
Sintered: 1400 °C

Density of Pellets

Alkoxide: 93-95 %  
Non-alkoxide: 65-70 %



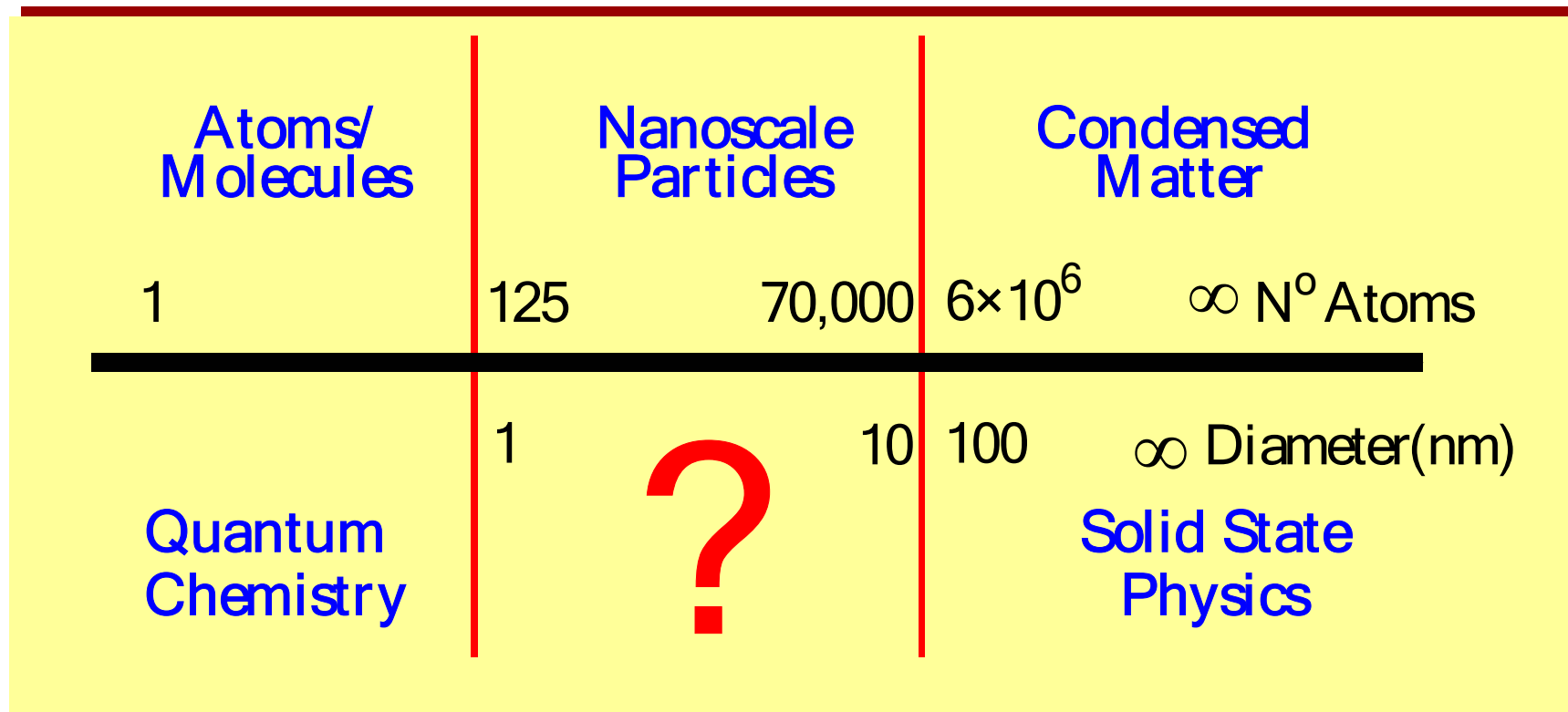
# Phase Purity and Particle Size Distribution



# Nanocrystalline Materials

# Nanometer

“A magical point on the length scale, for this is the point where the smallest man-made devices meet the atoms and molecules of the natural world”





# Room at the Bottom

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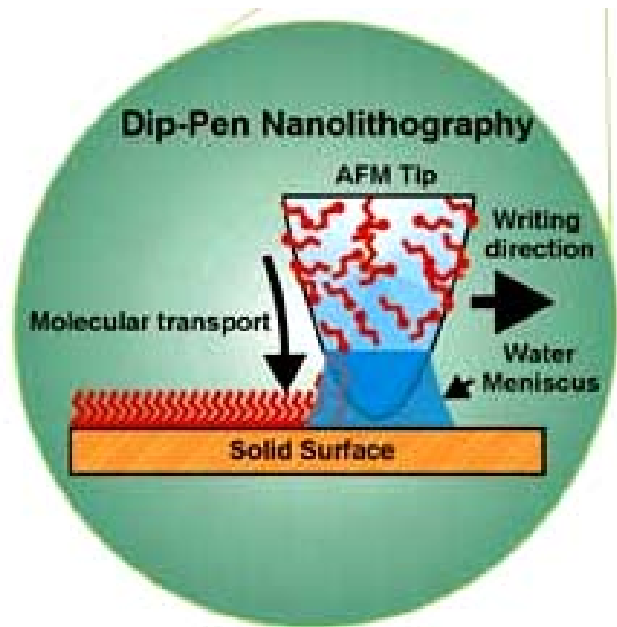
What I want to talk about is the problem of **manipulating and controlling things on a small scale ...**

As soon as I mention this, people tell me about miniaturization, and how far it has progressed today. They tell me about electric motors that are the size of the nail on your small finger. And there is a device on the market, they tell me, by which you can write the Lord's Prayer on the head of a pin. But that's nothing; that's the most primitive, halting step in the direction I intend to discuss. It's a staggeringly small world that is below. In the year 2000, when they look back at this age, they will wonder why it was not until the year 1960 that anybody began seriously to move in this direction.....



Prof. Richard Feynman in “There’s plenty of room at the bottom”, lecture delivered at the annual meeting of the APS, Caltech, 29 December, 1959.

# Nanoscale Writing



Nanoscale writing with an AFM (Mirkin et al.)

As soon as I mention this, people tell me about miniaturization, and how far it has progressed today. They tell me about electric motors that are the size of the nail on your small finger. And there is a device on the market, they tell me, by which you can write the Lord's Prayer on the head of a pin. But that's nothing; that's the most primitive, halting step in the direction I intend to discuss. It is a staggeringly small world that is below. In the year 2000, when they look back at this age, they will wonder why it was not until the year 1960 that anybody began seriously to move in this direction.

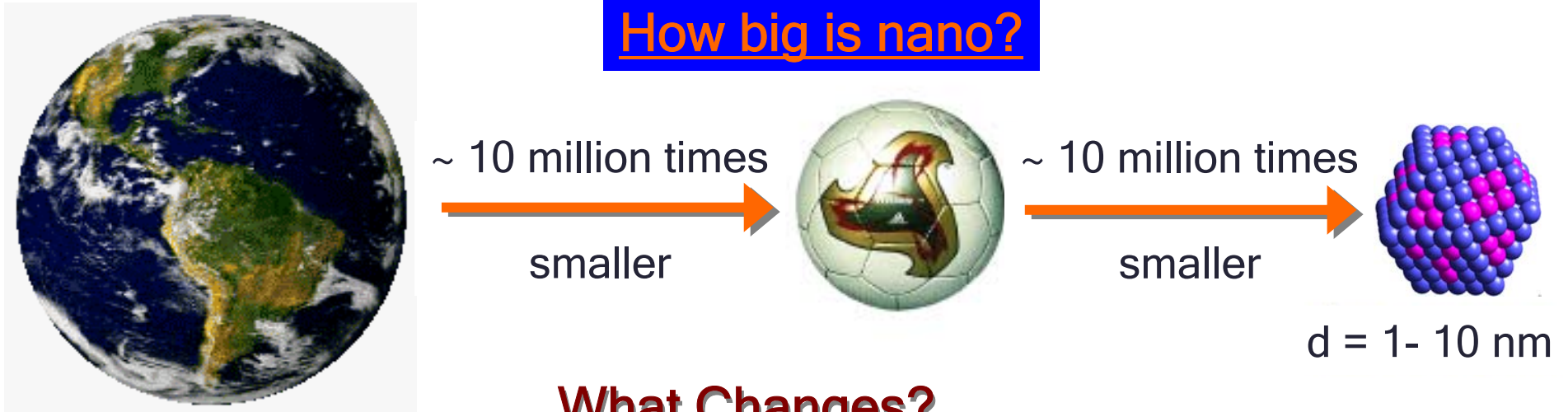
60 nm

400 nm

Richard P. Feynman, 1960

# Size as Innovation Motor

How big is nano?

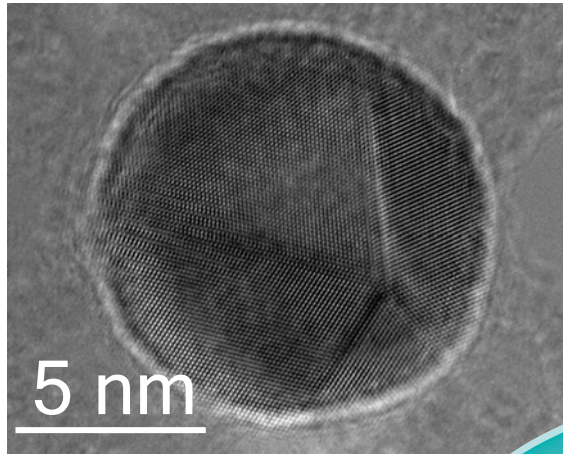


**What Changes?**

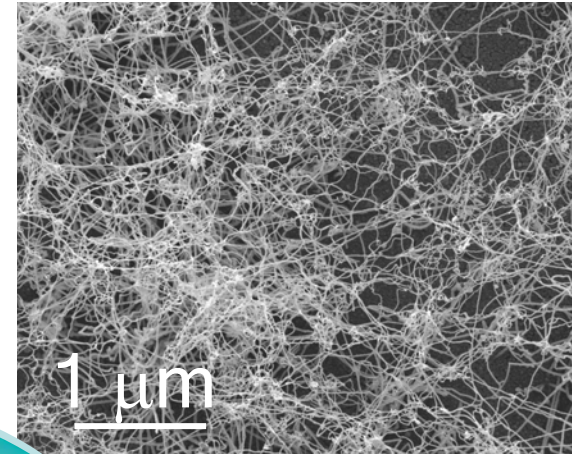
- √ Small → Negligible light scattering → New optics
- √ Quantum size effects → Information technology, Storage media
  - √ High surface area → Catalysts, Adsorbents
  - √ Large Interfacial area → New composites
  - √ Surface modifications → Targeted Drug Delivery

# The Nano-family

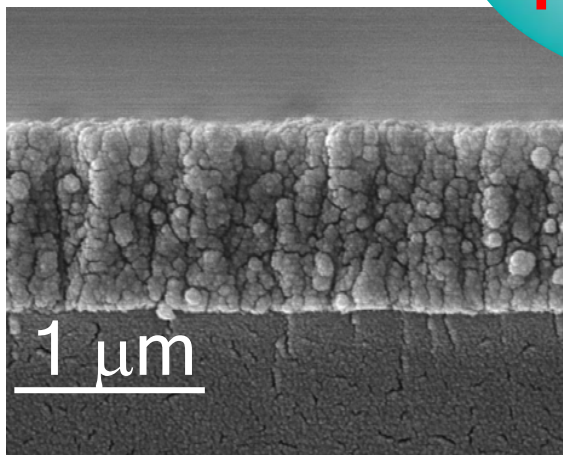
Nanoparticles



Nanowires

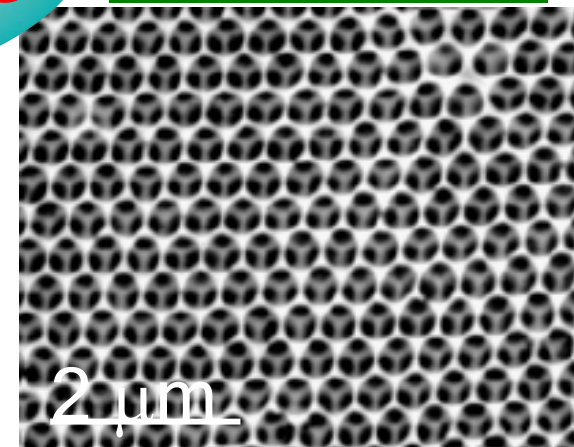


Thin Films



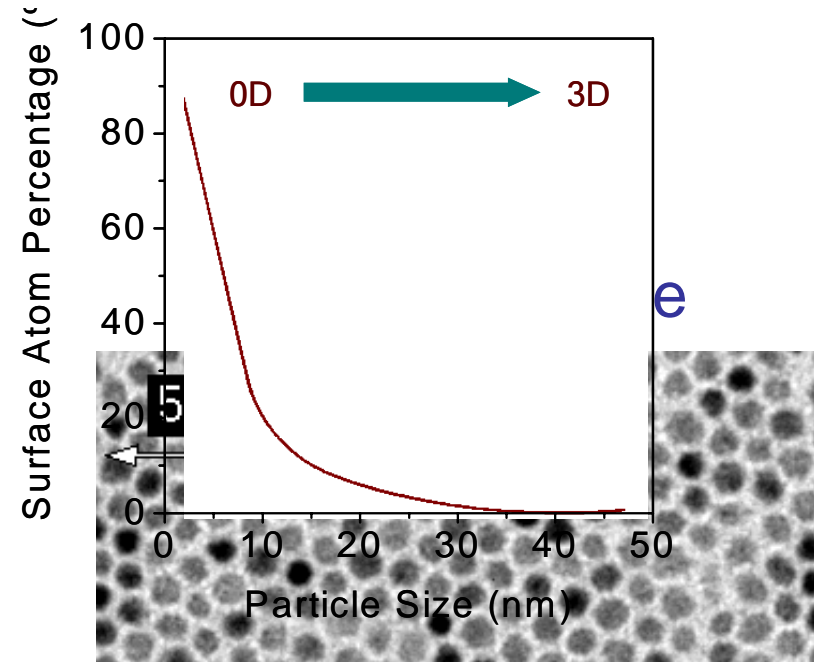
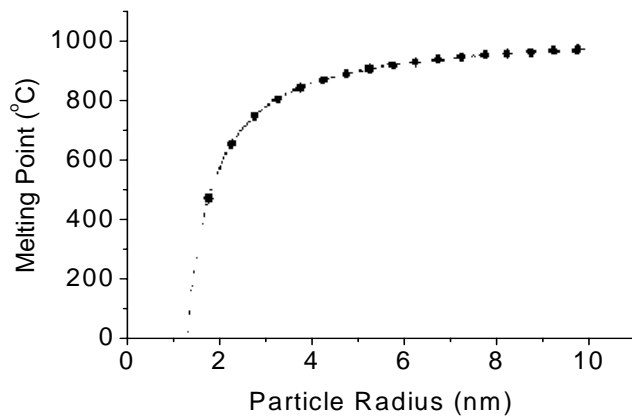
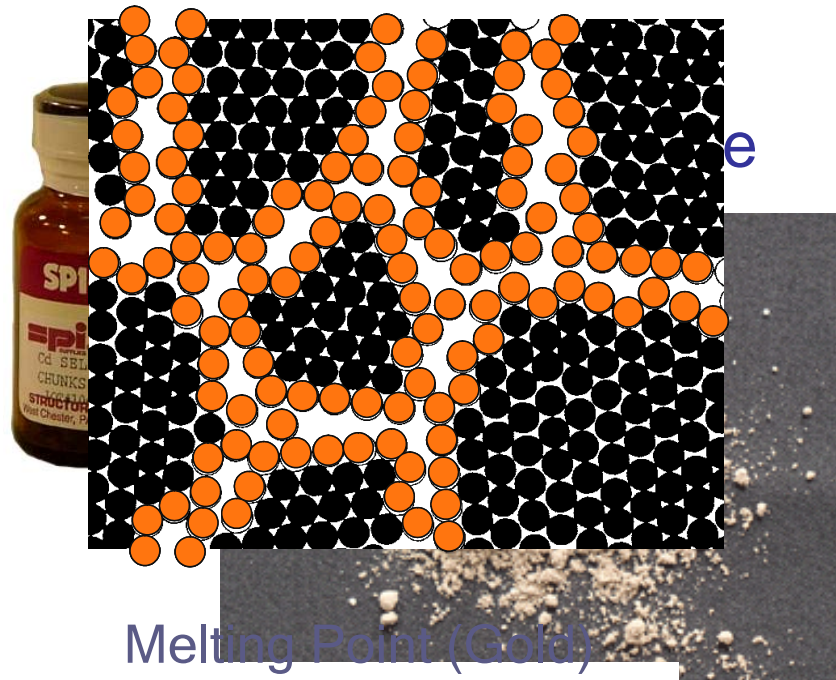
*Form of*  
**Nanomaterials**

Porous Materials





# Macro vs. Nano: The Size Effect



# Nanomaterials - no buzz word!

Soot and silicon carbide nanoparticles in tyres reduce abrasion (ca. 50%)



[www.nanoproducts.com](http://www.nanoproducts.com)



[www.nucelle.com](http://www.nucelle.com)

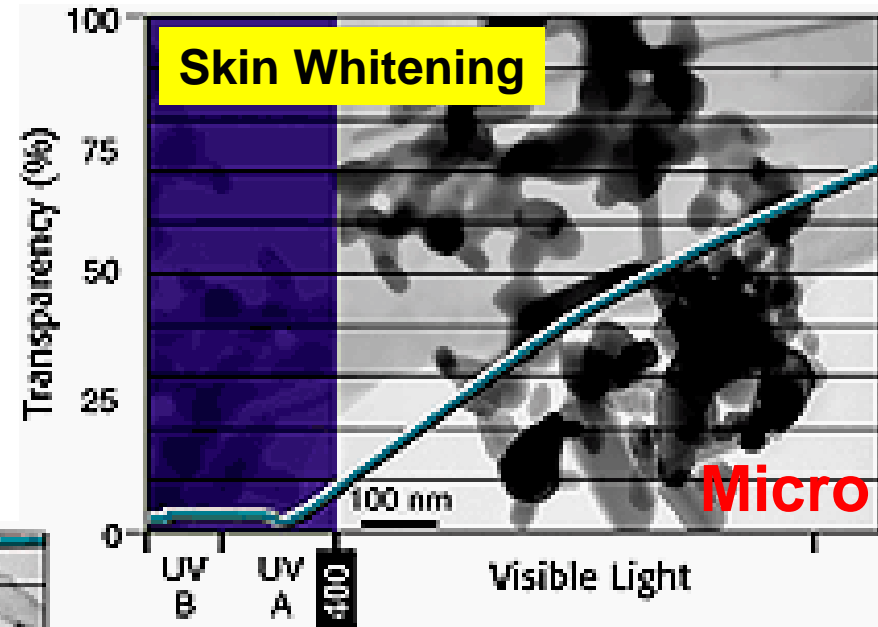
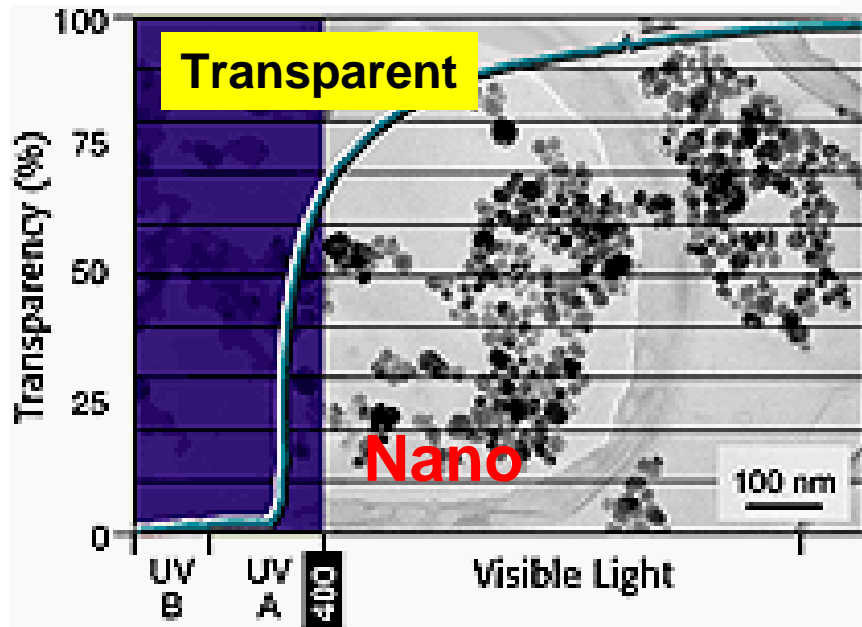
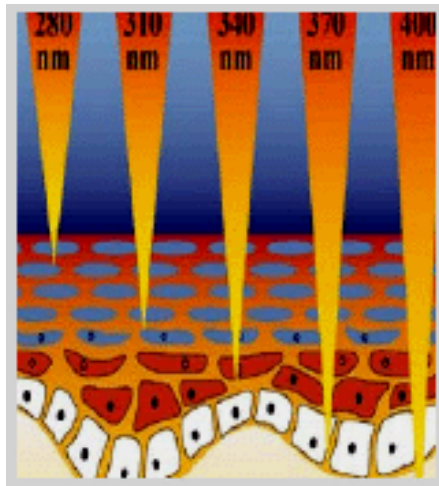
TiO<sub>2</sub> and ZnO in sunscreen lotions  
Enhanced prevention from of UV radiation

Nanometric polymer capsules with incorporated vitamin A - Better absorbance in the skin



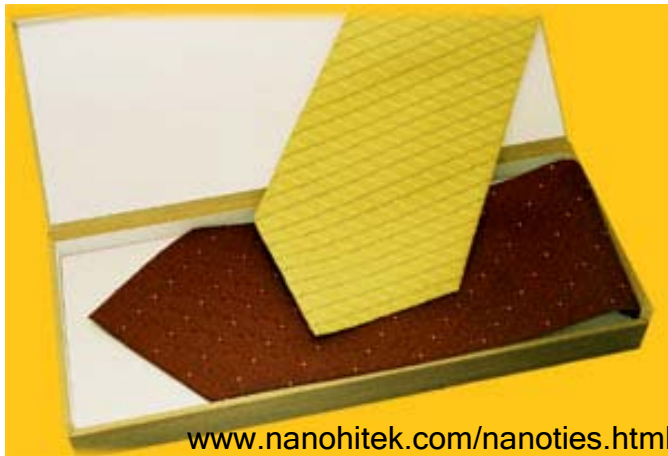
[www.lorealparis.co.uk](http://www.lorealparis.co.uk)

# Nano ZnO: UV-Blocker





# Nanotechnology on the Market



Ties with nano-coatings repel water and greasy food and fluids

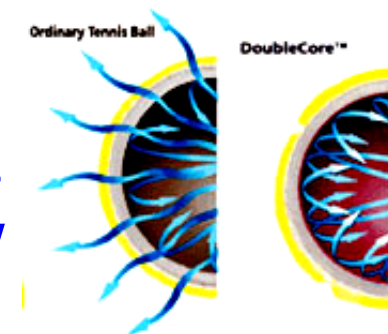
3-5% Carbon nanotubes in the front bumper increases shape stability and strength



[www.ahwahneetech.com/technology/carbon\\_nanotube.htm](http://www.ahwahneetech.com/technology/carbon_nanotube.htm)



Wilson: nanocomposite coatings of tennis balls doubles life time and restricts airflow from escaping the core



[www.wilson.com](http://www.wilson.com)