



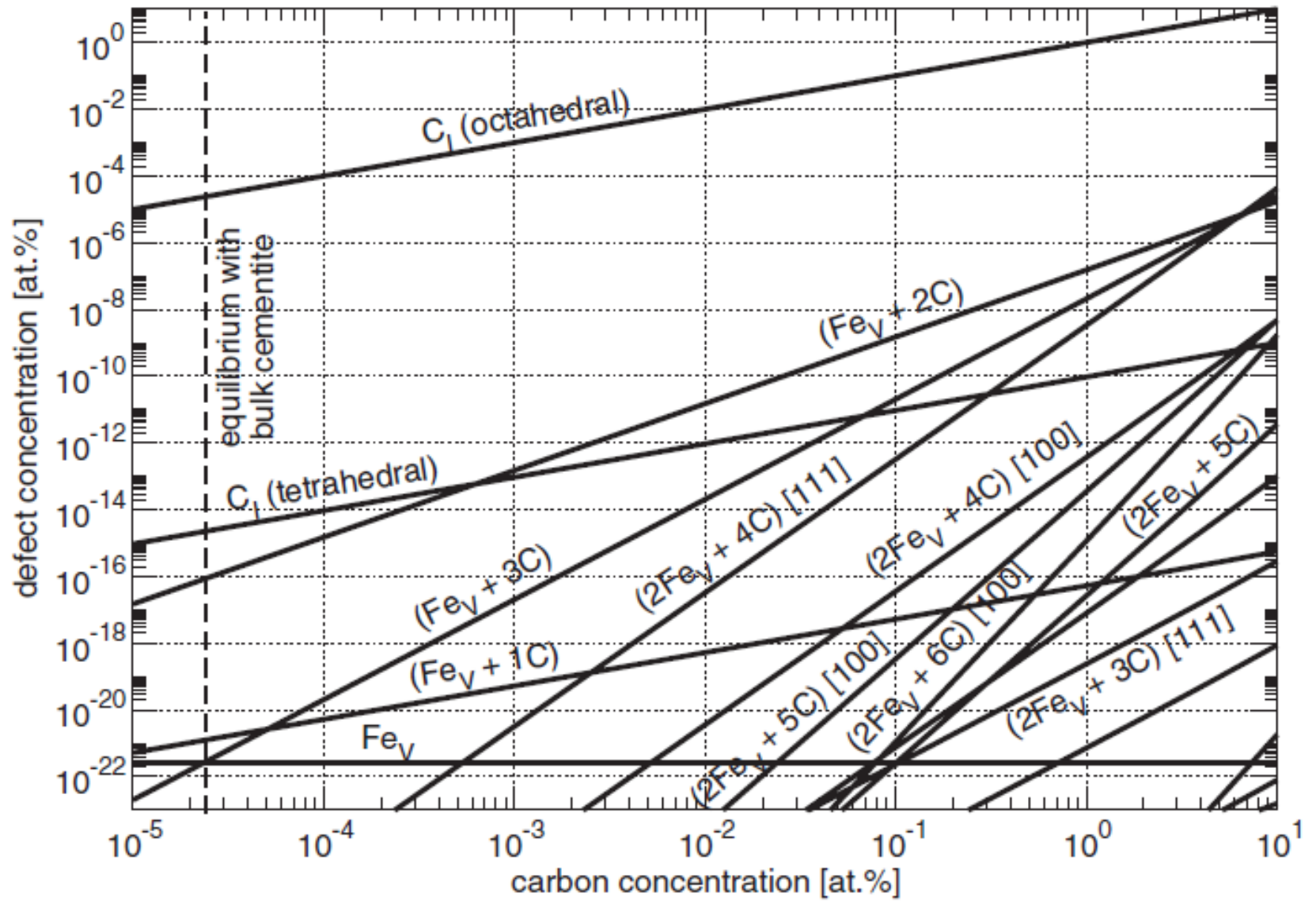
# Reliable *ab initio* methods

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# Outline

- Density functional theory and tight binding
- Pure iron
- Carbon in iron
- Hydrogen in iron



Foerst et al., Phys. Rev. Lett., 96, 175501 (2006)

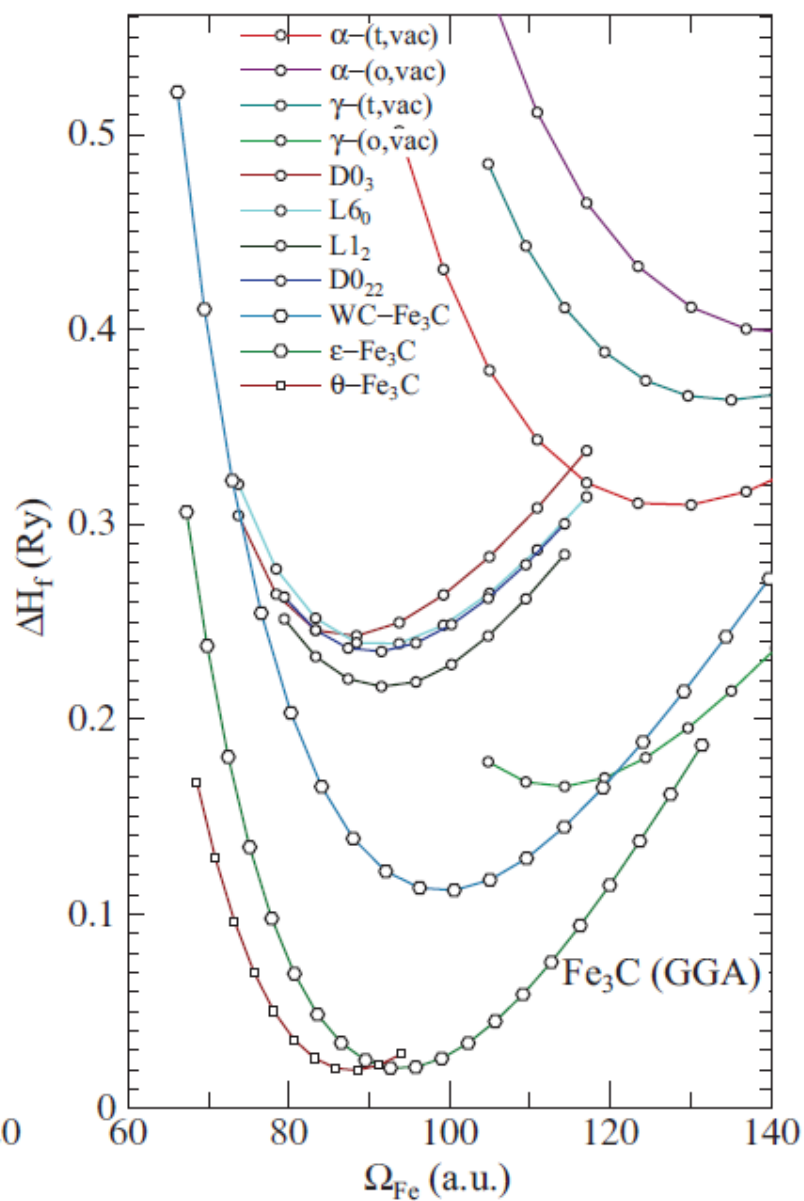
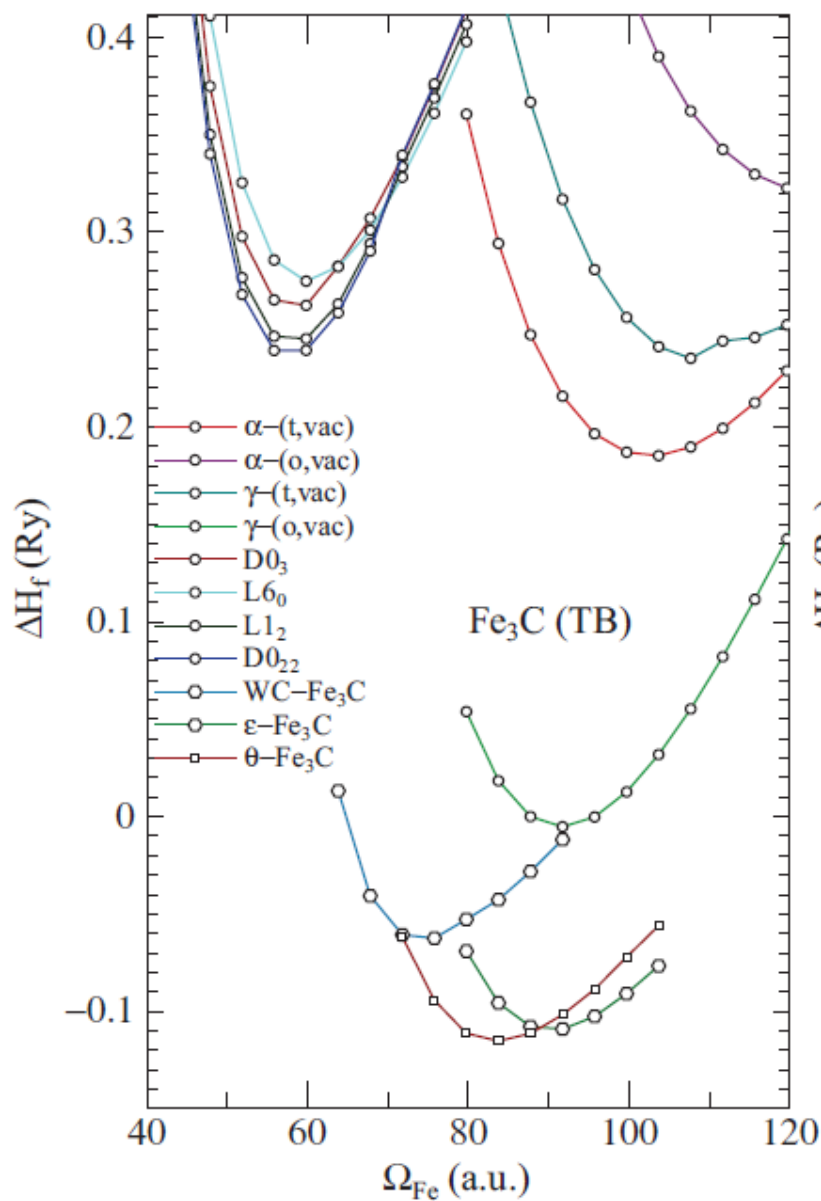
# Tight binding models

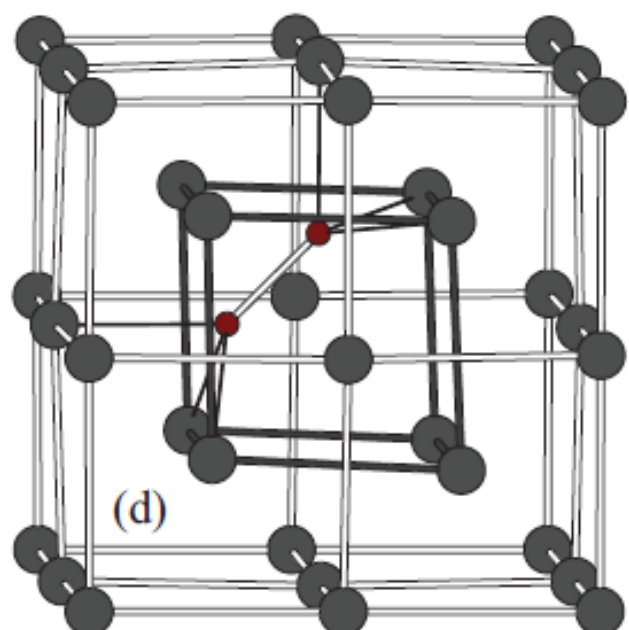
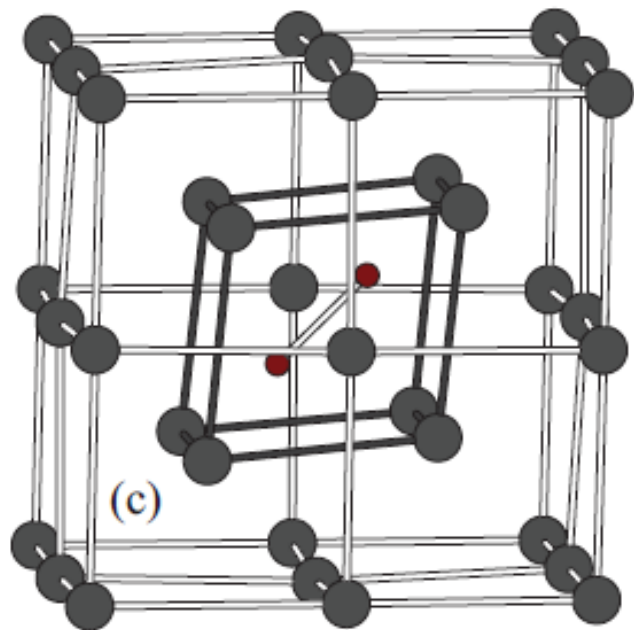
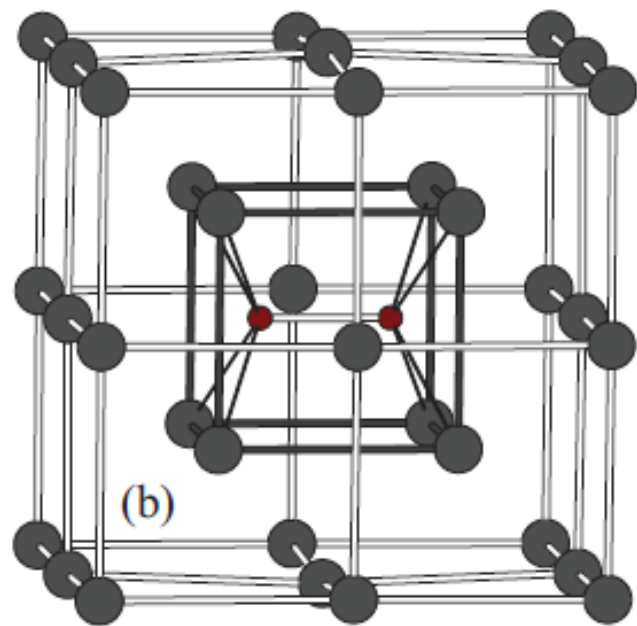
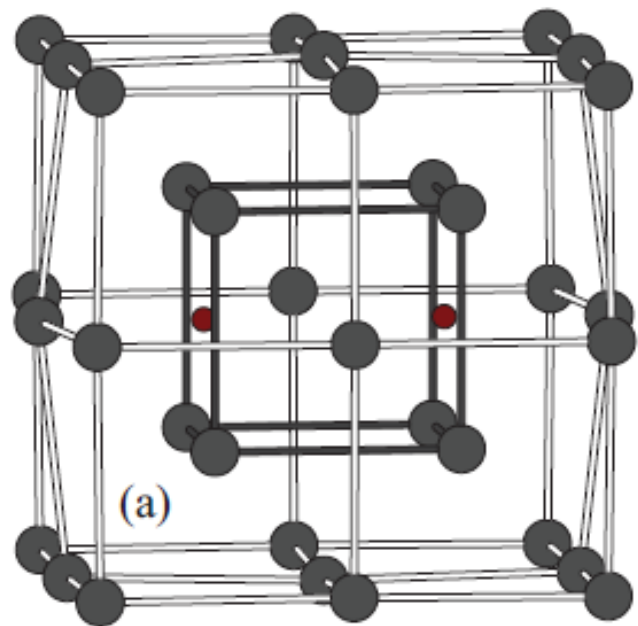
	<i>d-sc</i>	<i>d-fx</i>	<i>sd-sc</i>	<i>sd-fx</i>	Target	
<i>K</i> (Gpa)	161	174	185	192	168	(Expt.)
<i>C'</i> (GPa)	50	50	55	45	53	(Expt.)
<i>c</i> <sub>44</sub> (Gpa)	118	117	106	100	122	(Expt.)
$\Delta E_{\text{hcp-bcc}}$ (mRy)	8	6	6	6	15	(LSDA-GGA)
$H_{\text{Vac.}}^{\text{F}}$ (eV)	2.0		1.6		1.61–1.75	(Expt.)
					2.0	(LSDA-GGA)
$H_{\text{Vac.}}^{\text{M}}$ (eV)	1.16		0.81		1.12–1.34	(Expt.)
					0.65–0.75	(LSDA-GGA)

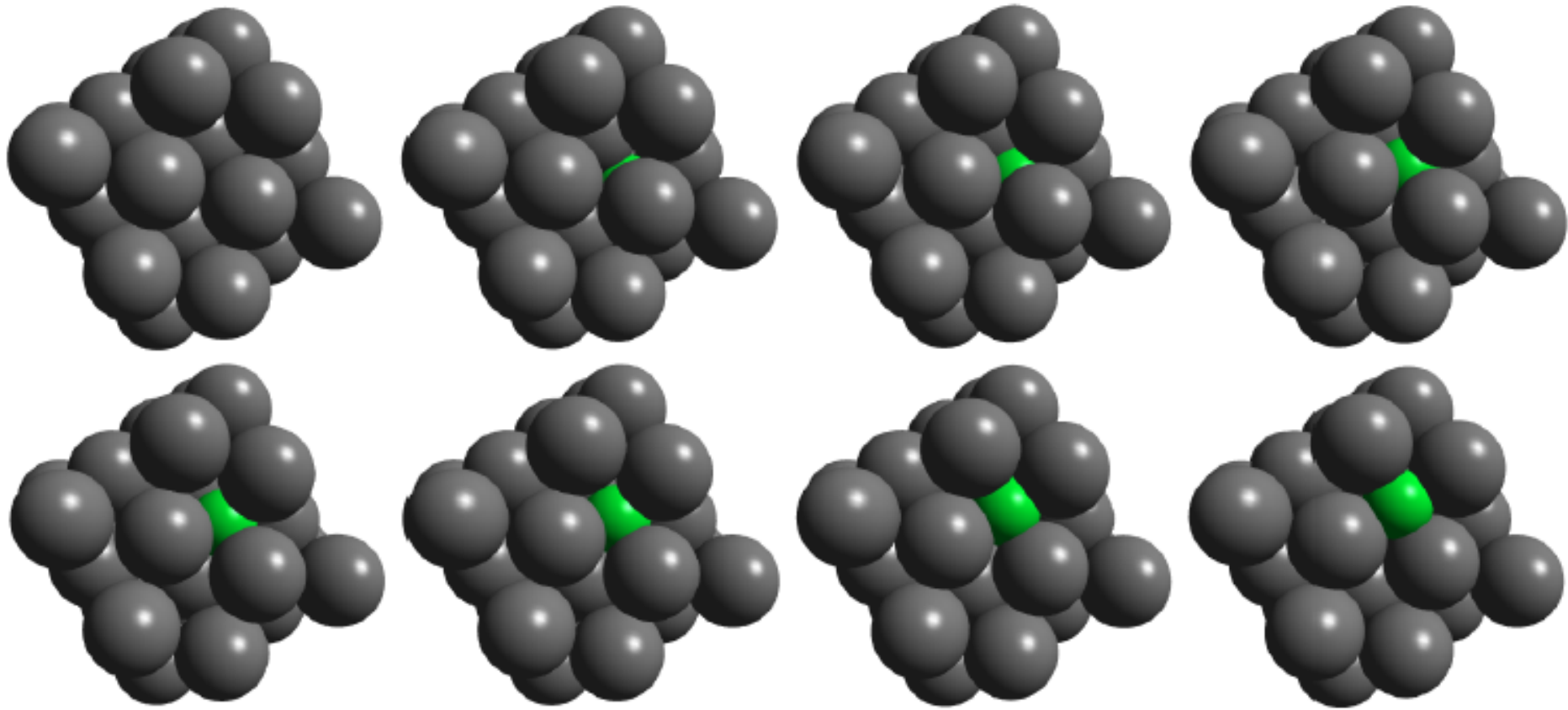
		<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>b/a</i>	<i>c/a</i>	<i>V/V</i> <sub>exp</sub>
$\theta$ -Fe <sub>3</sub> C	TB	4.95	6.79	4.42	1.37	0.89	0.96
	LSDA-GGA	5.13	6.65	4.46	1.30	0.86	0.98
	Expt.	5.09	6.74	4.52	1.32	0.89	
$\epsilon$ -Fe <sub>3</sub> C	TB	4.63		8.64		1.87	0.93
	LSDA-GGA	4.74		8.63		1.82	0.98
	Expt.	4.77		8.71		1.83	

	$H_{\text{C}}^{\text{M}\alpha}$	$E_{\text{B}}(1)$	$E_{\text{B}}(2\text{k})$	$H_{\text{C}}^{\text{M}\gamma}(\text{tet})$	$H_{\text{C}}^{\text{M}\gamma}(\text{d})$
LSDA-GGA	0.87	0.47	1.50	1.48	1.00
TB	0.81	0.35	1.55	2.11	0.63

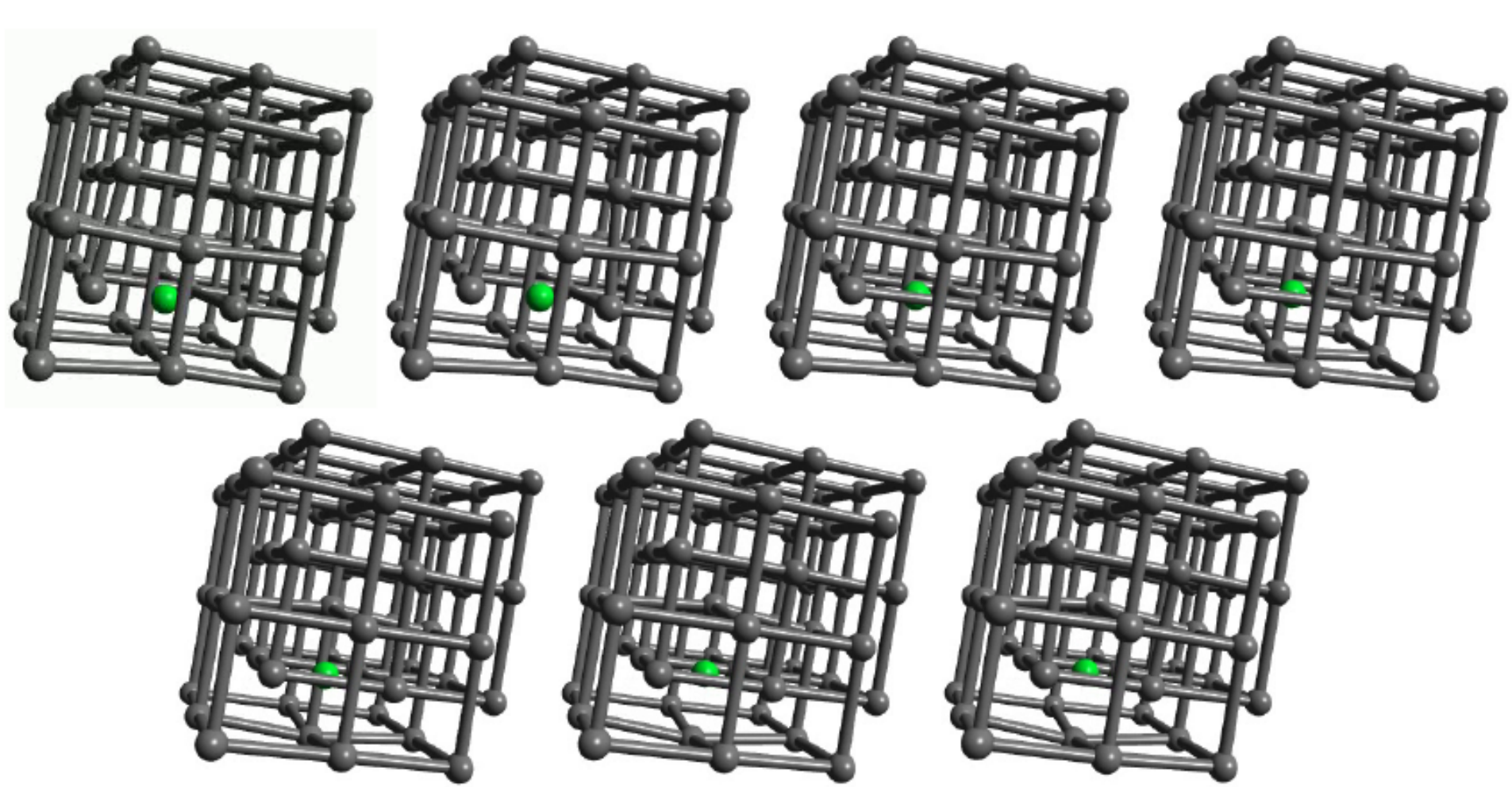
# Iron carbides





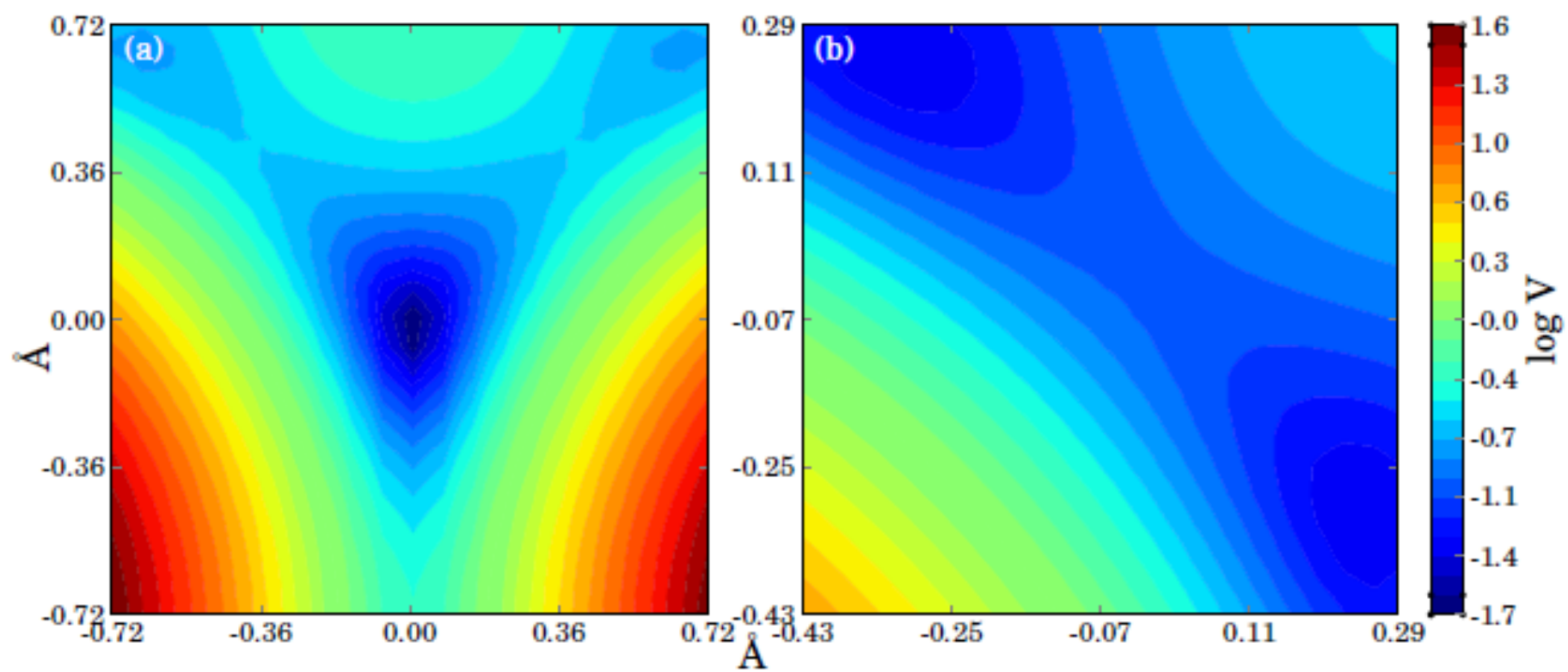


Carbon diffusion in austenite



Carbon diffusion in ferrite





$$\text{P.P.D.} = \rho(x, x, T)/Z$$

$$F = -kT \log Z$$

$$Z = \sum_i e^{-E_i/kT} = \int dx \rho(x, x, T)$$

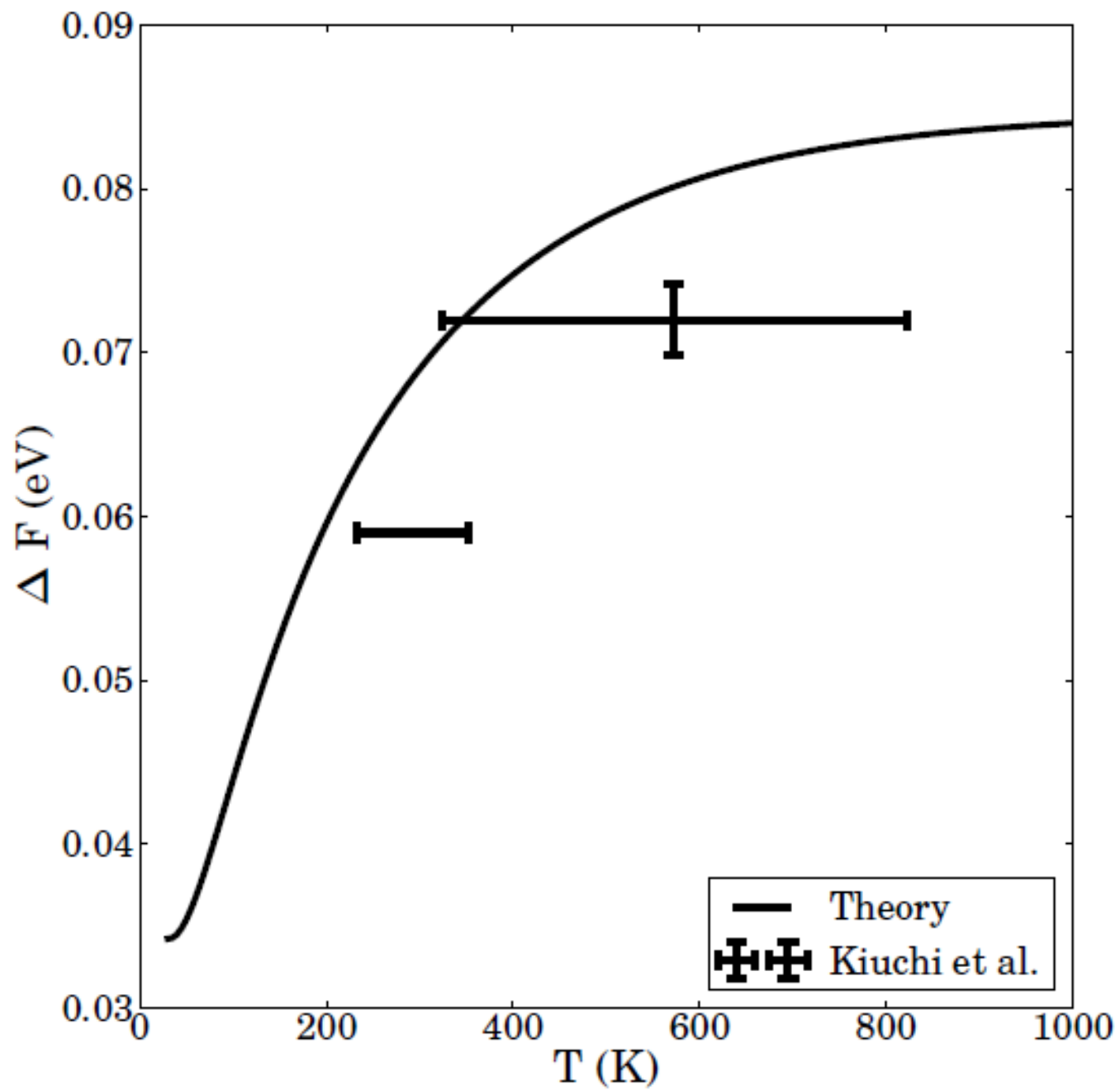
$$\approx \left( \frac{mNkT}{2\pi\hbar^2} \right)^{N/2} \int dx_1 \dots dx_N$$

$$\times \exp \left( - \sum_{s=1}^N \left[ N kT \frac{m}{2\hbar^2} (x_{s+1} - x_s)^2 + \frac{1}{kT} \frac{V(x_s)}{N} \right] \right)$$

Exact in the limit  $N \rightarrow \infty$

$$Z = \int \mathcal{D}x(u) e^{-S/\hbar}$$

$$S[x(u)] = \int_0^{\beta\hbar} du \left[ \frac{1}{2} m \dot{x}^2(u) + V(x(u)) \right]$$

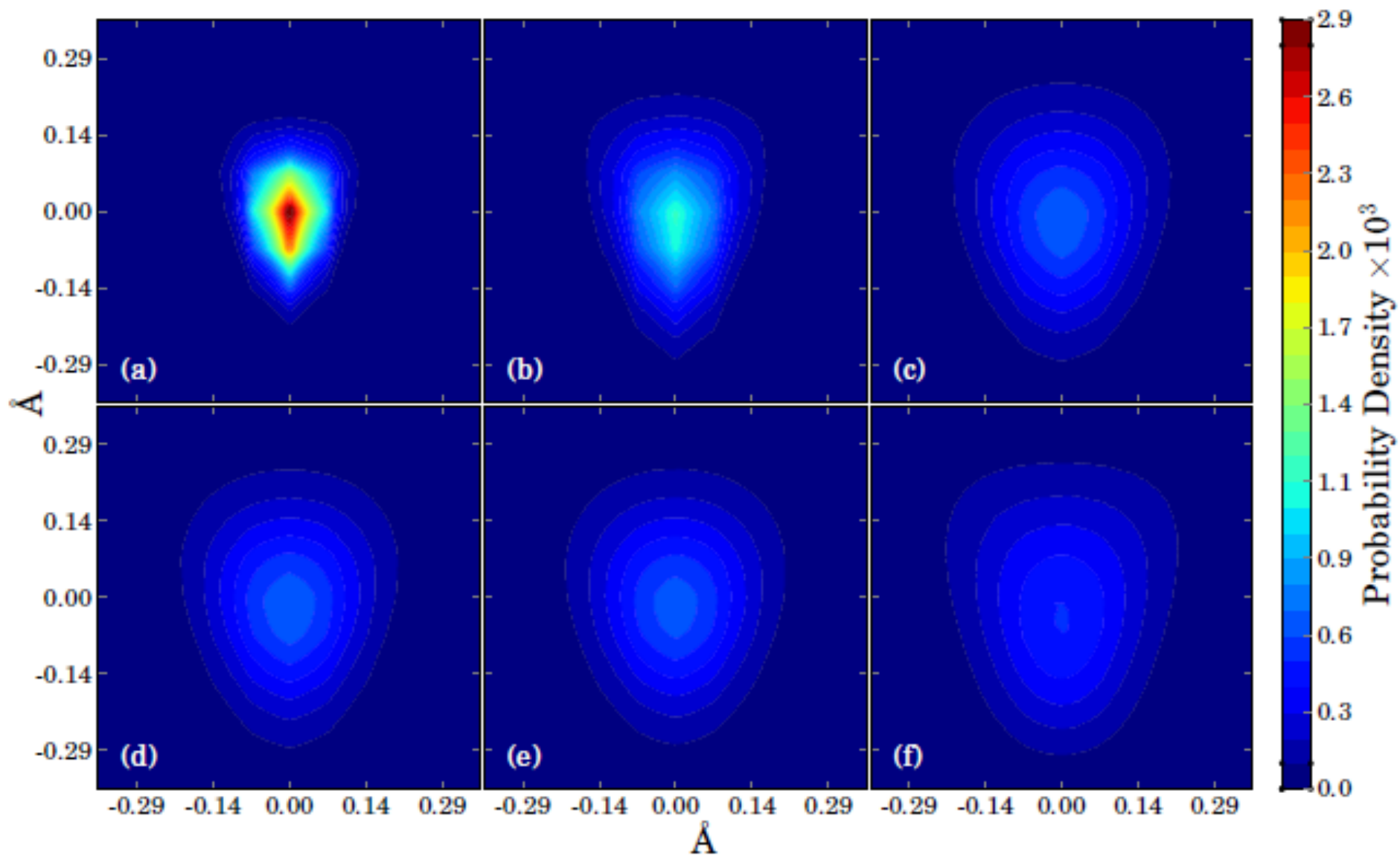


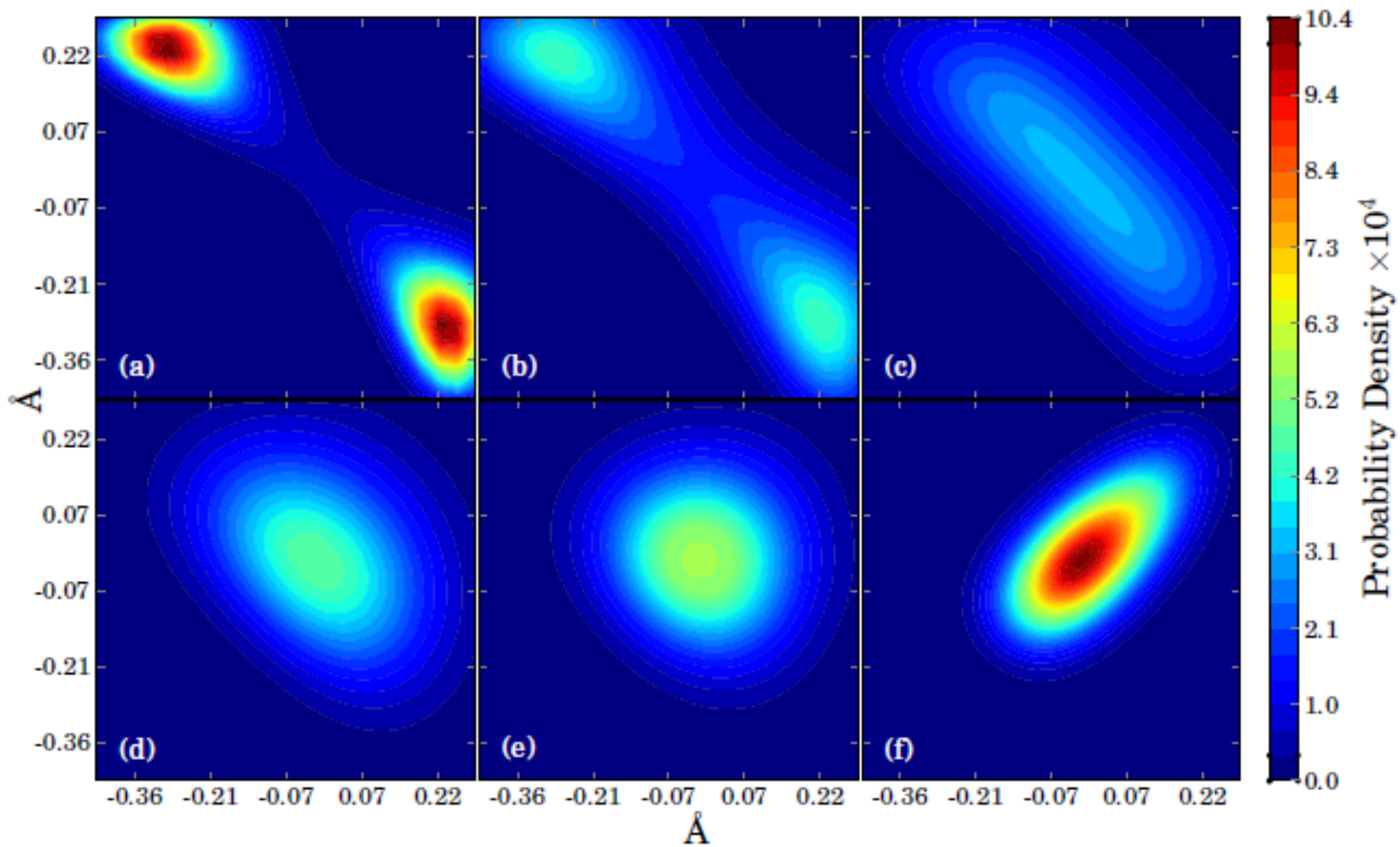
$$\rho_c(q_c, \mathbf{r}_c) = \int \mathcal{D}q(u) \mathcal{D}\mathbf{r}(u) \delta(q_c - q_0) \delta(\mathbf{r}_c - \mathbf{r}_0) \exp\{-S[q(u), \mathbf{r}(u)]/\hbar\}$$

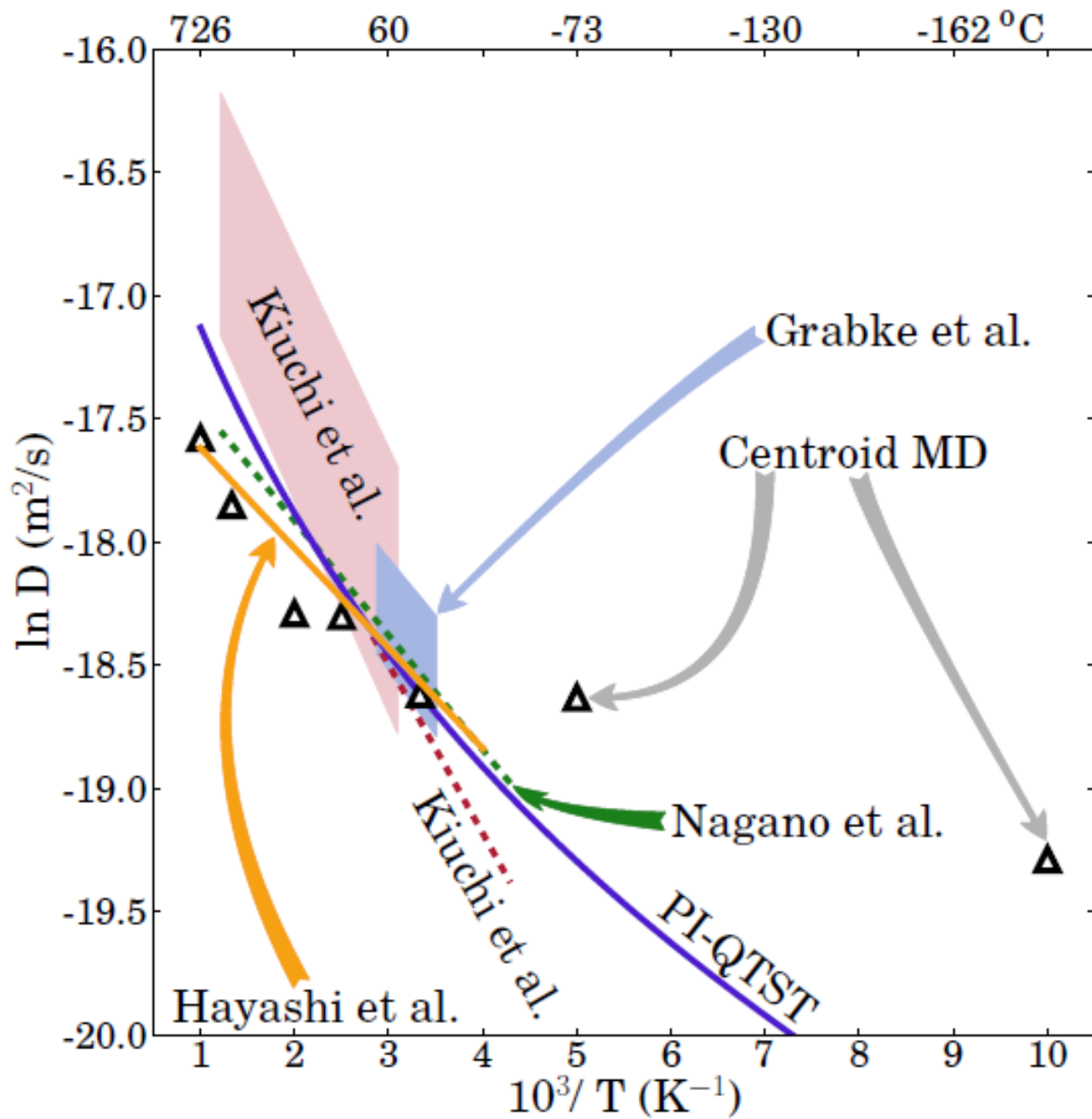
$$Z_c(q_c) = \int d\mathbf{r}_c \rho(q_c, \mathbf{r}_c)$$

$$\kappa^{\text{QTST}} = \frac{\bar{v} Z_c(q^*)}{2 Z_c(q_R)}$$

$$\bar{v}_{FP} = \left( \frac{2}{\pi m \beta} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$







# Conclusions

- Tight binding can be nearly as reliable as density functional theory
- We now have models for C and H in Fe  
Paxton and Elsässer, *Phys. Rev. B*, **82**, 235125 (2010); *ibid*, **87**, 224110 (2013)
- We have a fully quantum mechanical prediction of the diffusivity of H in ferrite