

Structure and energy properties of $\text{Fe}_x\text{Cu}_{1-x}$ nanoparticles

Morphology and size effects

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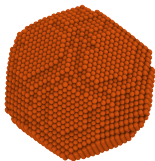


August 1, 2017

Bimetallic nanoparticles

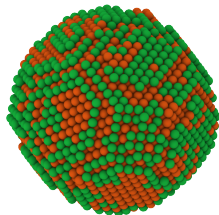
What are bimetallic nanoparticles?

Nanoparticles



Nanoparticle

Fe Cu



Bimetallic (Fe-Cu)
nanoparticle

What are the special features about these nanoparticles?

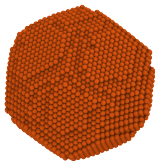
- More surface-volume ratio
- Different properties from their respective bulk materials



Bimetallic nanoparticles

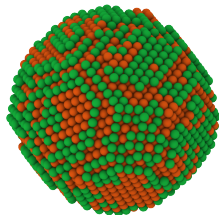
What are bimetallic nanoparticles?

Nanoparticles $1 \sim 100\text{nm}$



Nanoparticle

Fe Cu



Bimetallic (Fe-Cu)
nanoparticle

What are the special features about these nanoparticles?

- More surface-volume ratio
- Different properties from their respective bulk materials

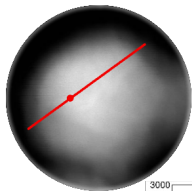


Bimetallic nanoparticles

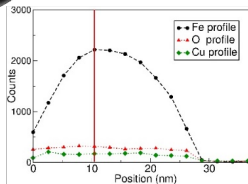
FeCu nanoparticles

FeCu NP's

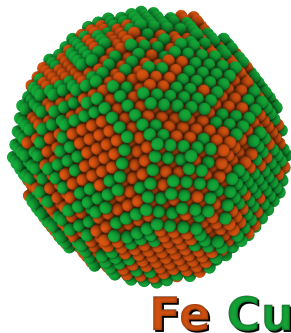
- Magnetic properties
- Arsenic adsorption



Linear mapping
of FeCu NP*



* P. Sepulveda et al., submitted to ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces (2017)

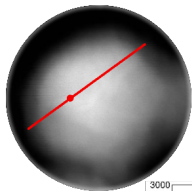


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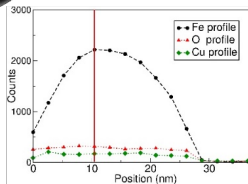
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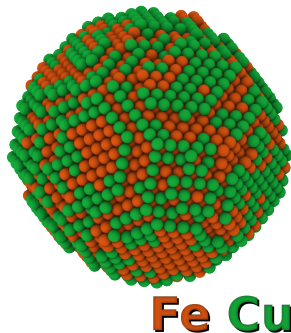
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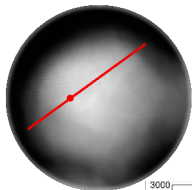


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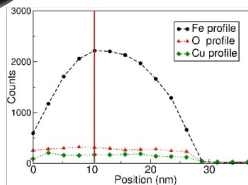
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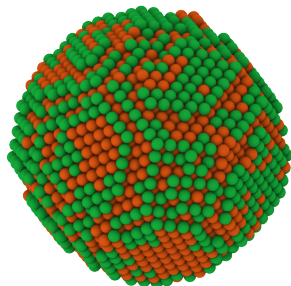
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Linear mapping
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Fe Cu

What happens at different concentrations?



Simulation method

Ensemble & interaction potential

Molecular dynamic simulations are performed using LAMMPS

Configurations

- **Timestep: 1fs**
- NVT ensemble
 - Noose-Hover thermostat
 - Apply temperature
- EAM interaction
 - Parameters from Bonny et al. 2009

$$E_i = F_i \left(\sum_{j \neq i} \rho_j(r_{ij}) \right) + \sum_{j \neq i} \phi_{ij}(r_{ij})$$



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Embedding function

↓

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Pair interaction



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Pair interaction

No angular terms



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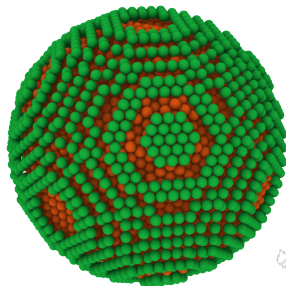
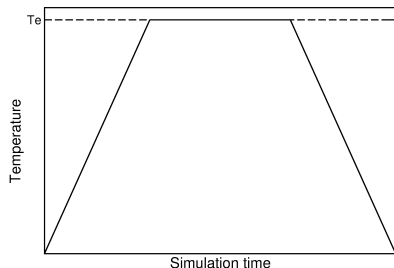


Simulation method

The annealing cycles

Searching process (The cycles)

Heating $\rightarrow$ Thermal equilibrium (Te) $\rightarrow$ Cooling $\rightarrow$ Minimization



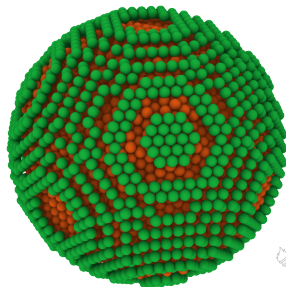
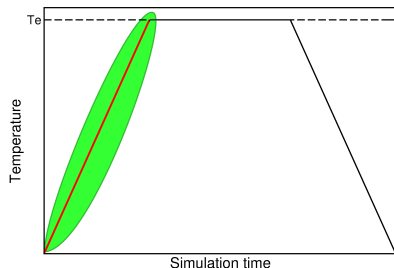
Simulation method

The annealing cycles

Searching process (The cycles)

Heating → Thermal equilibrium (T_e) → Cooling → Minimization

Time: 5 ps



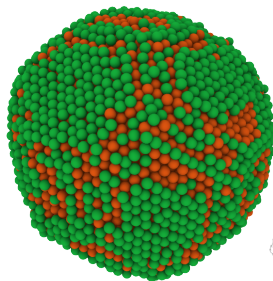
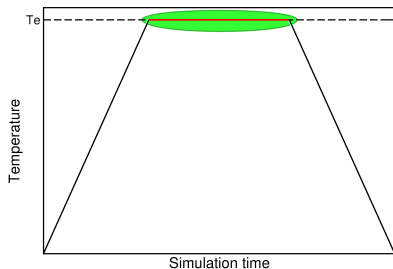
Simulation method

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Heating → Thermal equilibrium (T_e) → Cooling → Minimization

Time: 3 ns (Hot-state is reached)



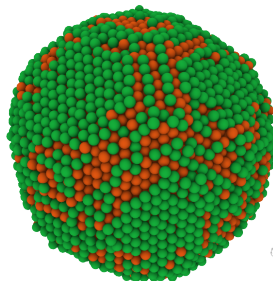
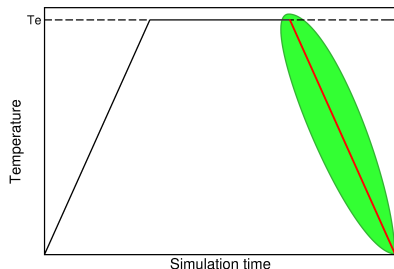
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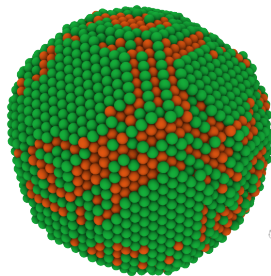
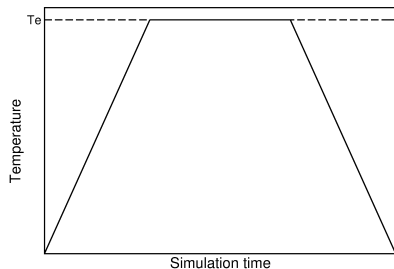


Simulation method

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Heating $\rightarrow$ Thermal equilibrium (Te) $\rightarrow$ Cooling $\rightarrow$ Minimization

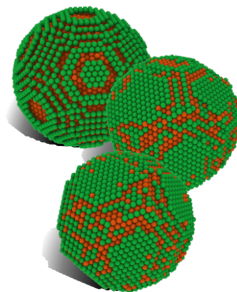
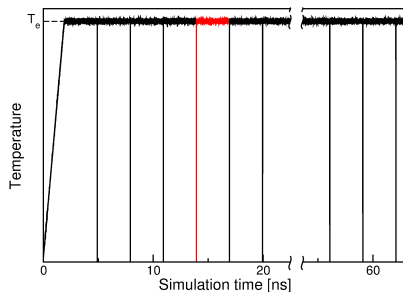


Simulation method

The annealing cycles

Searching process (The cycles)

Heating $\rightarrow$ Thermal equilibrium (Te) $\rightarrow$ Cooling $\rightarrow$ Minimization

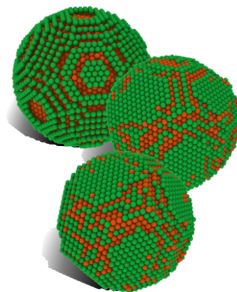
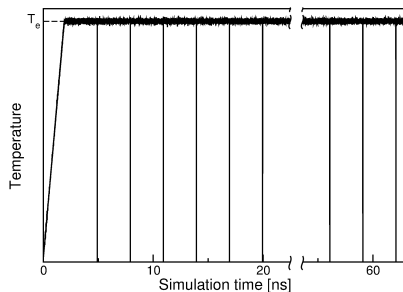


Simulation method

The annealing cycles

Searching process (The cycles)

Heating → Thermal equilibrium (Te) → Cooling → Minimization



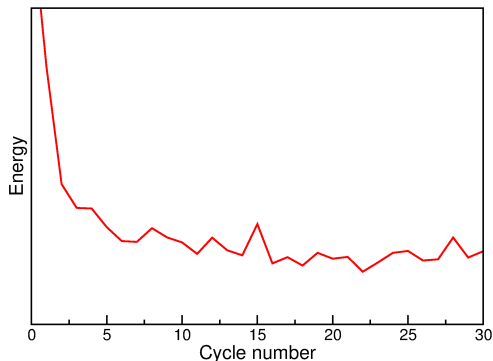
Repeat until a convergence criteria is reached

Simulation method

Final cooldown

Final cooldown steps

Reached criteria → Cooling → Thermal equilibrium → Minimization



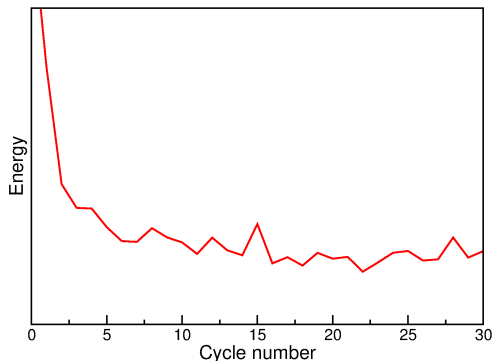
Simulation method

Final cooldown

Final cooldown steps

Reached criteria → Cooling → Thermal equilibrium → Minimization

Deviation < Threshold



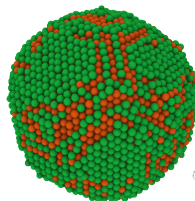
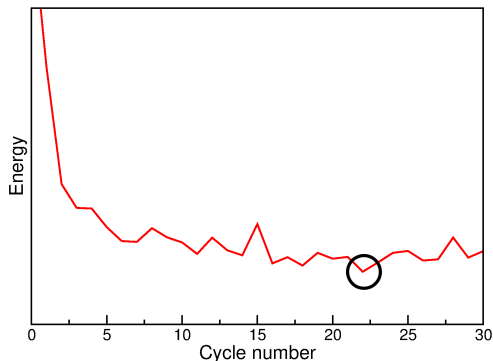
Simulation method

Final cooldown

Final cooldown steps

Reached criteria → Cooling → Thermal equilibrium → Minimization

Take most stable configuration's hot-state



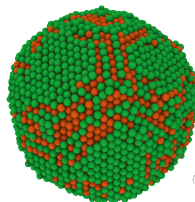
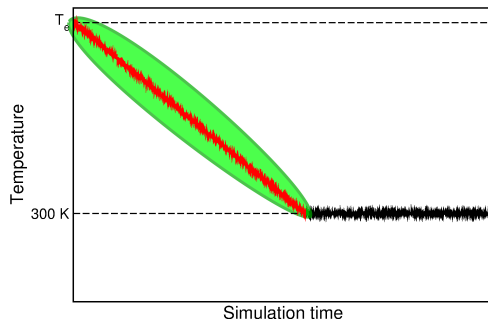
Simulation method

Final cooldown

Final cooldown steps

Reached criteria → **Cooling** → Thermal equilibrium → Minimization

Ramp: 0.25 K/ps



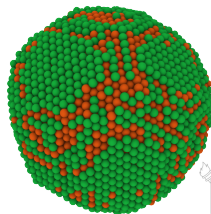
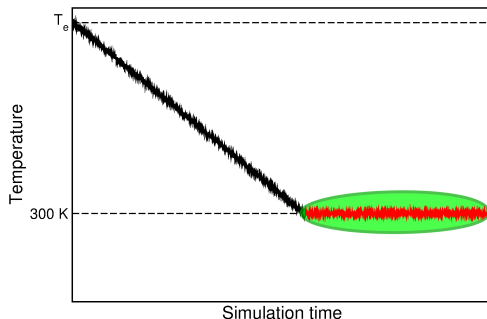
Simulation method

Final cooldown

Final cooldown steps

Reached criteria → Cooling → **Thermal equilibrium** → Minimization

Time: 3.1 ns

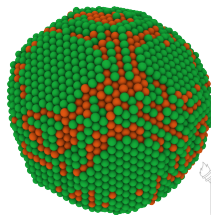
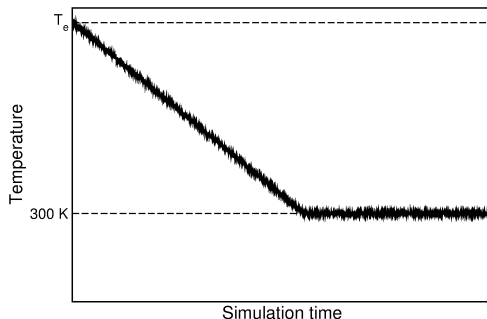


Simulation method

Final cooldown

Final cooldown steps

Reached criteria → Cooling → Thermal equilibrium → **Minimization**



Simulation method

Initial configurations

Applying the search process to bimetallic clusters.

Mobilities are different between elements → separated treatment.

Cooking initial structures

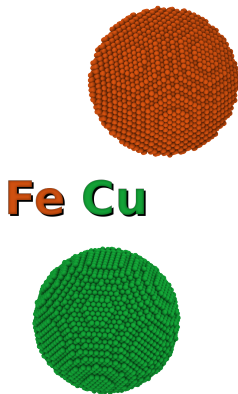
- Apply the search routine to the monoatomic clusters

Core-Shell

- Wrap the Fe core with a spherical Cu shell

Janus

- Locate the Cu cluster next to the Fe one



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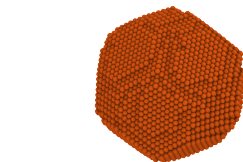
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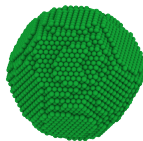
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Fe Cu



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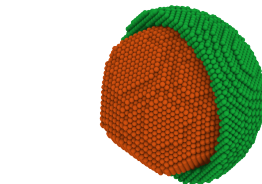
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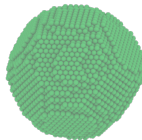
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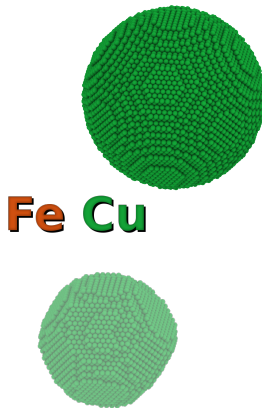
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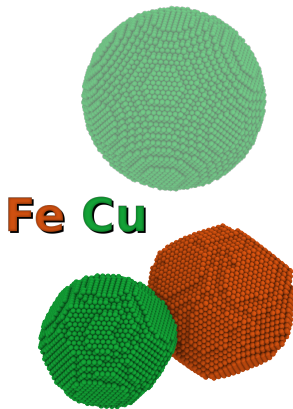
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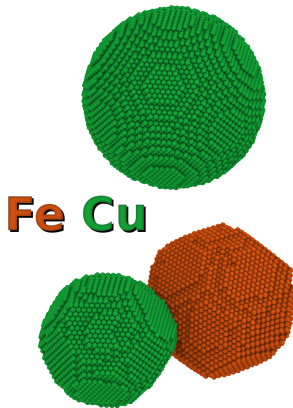
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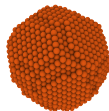


We're ready to go!

Results

Energy and configuration at different sizes and cooper concentrations

Three different “sizes” of Fe were used.



Sizes

- Small ($\sim 5nm$)
- Medium ($\sim 7nm$)
- Big ($\sim 9nm$)

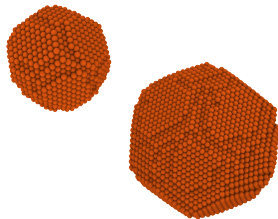
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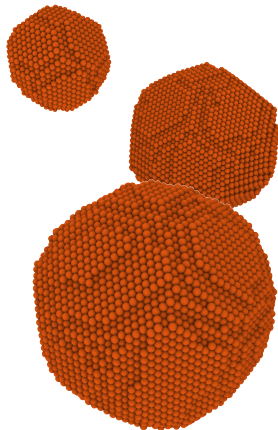
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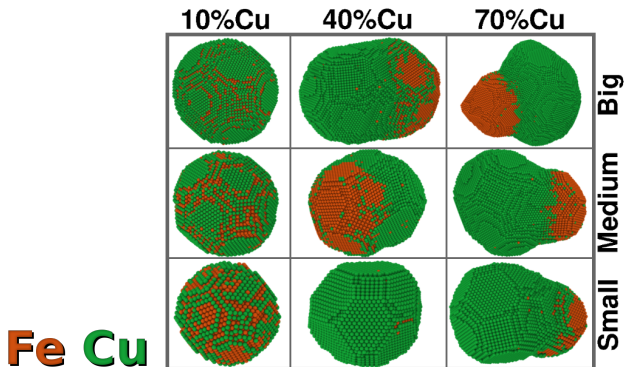
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Results

Energy and configuration at different sizes and cooper concentrations

Final configurations were found for different sizes and concentrations
(Full)

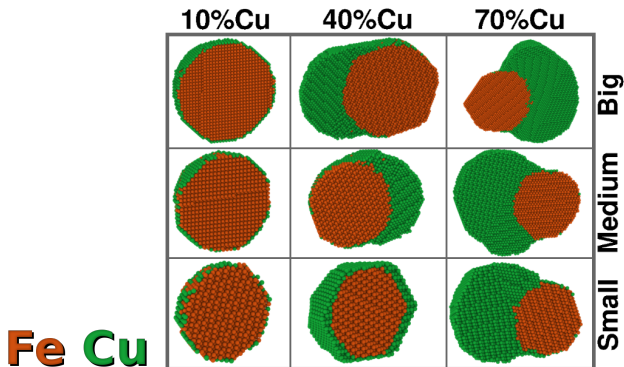


J. Rojas-Nunez et al., to be submitted

Results

Energy and configuration at different sizes and cooper concentrations

Final configurations were found for different sizes and concentrations
(Cross-section)



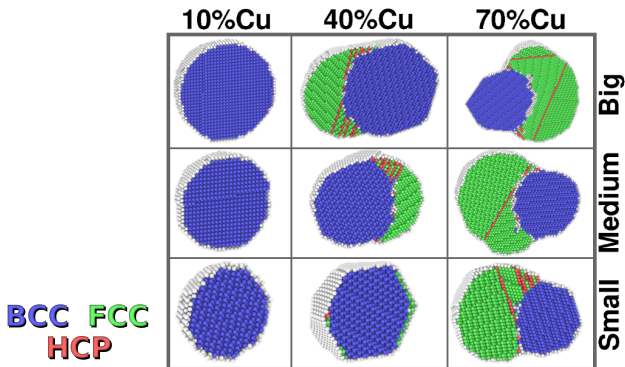
J. Rojas-Nunez et al., to be submitted



Results

Energy and configuration at different sizes and copper concentrations

Structural analysis has been performed (Common neighbor analysis)



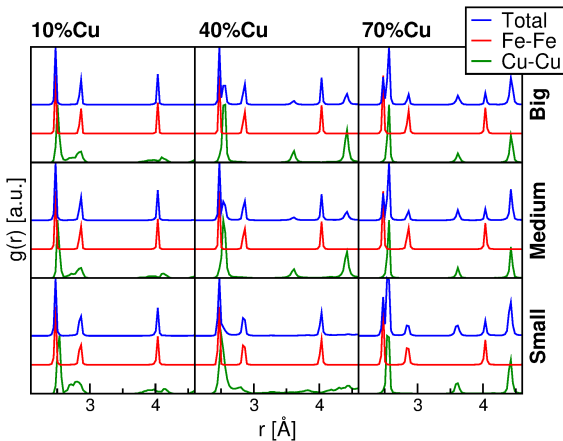
J. Rojas-Nunez et al., to be submitted



Results

Energy and configuration at different sizes and copper concentrations

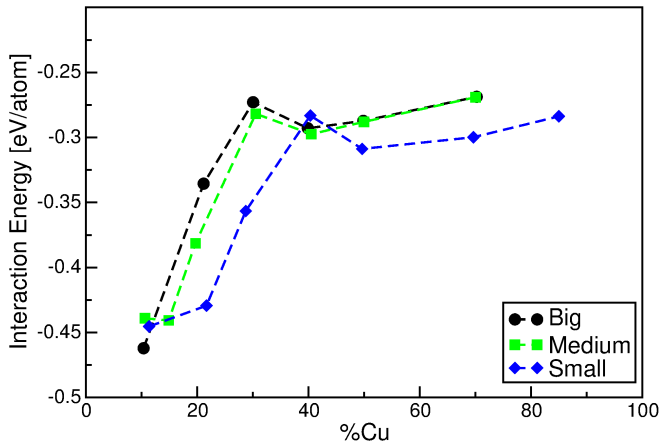
Structural analysis has been performed (**Pair correlation function**)



Results

Energy and configuration at different sizes and copper concentrations

Interaction energies (Fe-Cu) show variations through the different concentrations



Summary & Perspectives

- Annealing and minimizations were applied to FeCu nanoparticles using classical molecular dynamics
- Different atomic structures have been found at different sizes and Cu concentrations
- Defects for Cu had been found at higher Cu concentrations
- Further work: Study oxidation effects over these structures



Acknowledgements



CEDENNA



Thank You

