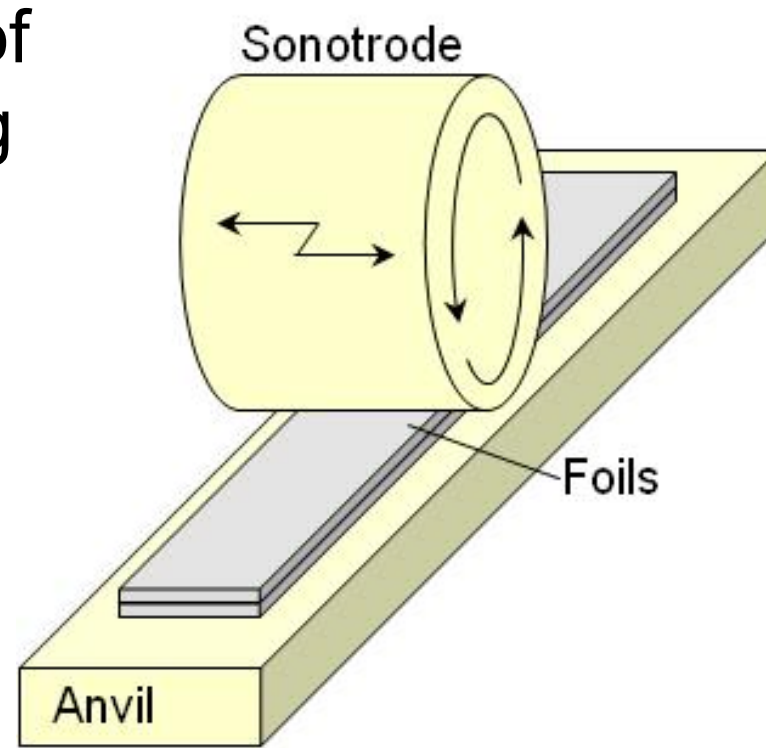


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WHAT IS ULTRASONIC CONSOLIDATION?

- ◆ Ultrasonic Consolidation (UC) is a solid-state processing technique that can be used to weld metal foils together.
- ◆ Using a foil-fiber-foil method or prepreg tapes, metal matrix composite (MMC) structures can be fabricated through a layered build-up process.
- ◆ Metal foils are placed on top of a stationary anvil and a rotating horn travels the length of the foils.



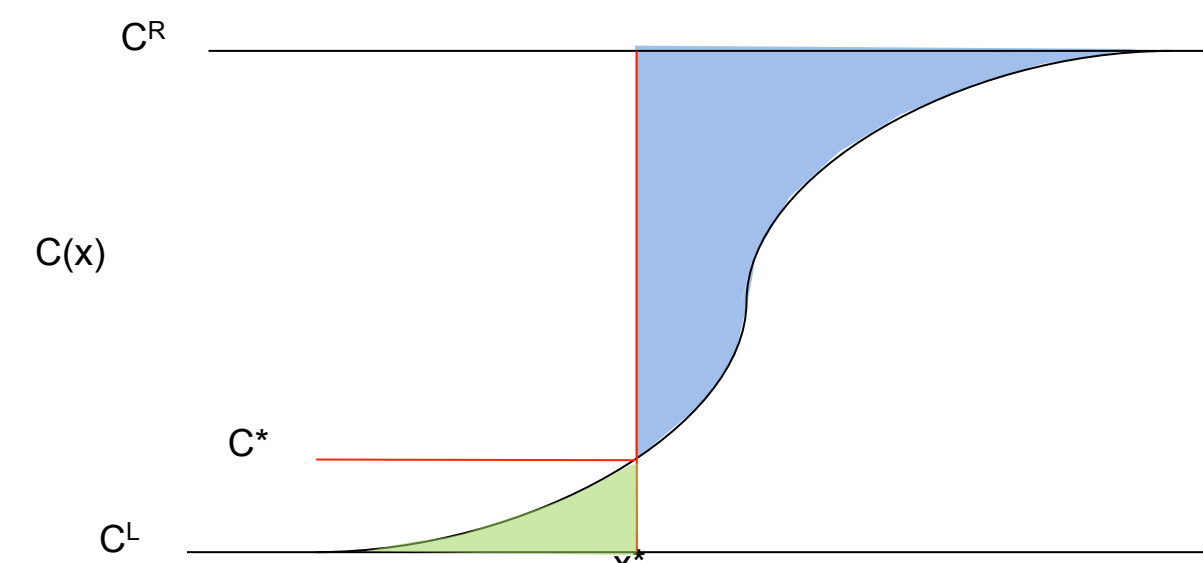
- ◆ Three machine variables:
 - ◇ Applied normal force or load
 - ◇ Oscillation amplitude
 - ◇ Welding speed

MOTIVATION

- ◆ In order to optimize the bond strength, it is important to identify and quantify the primary bonding mechanisms.
- ◆ There has been evidence supporting diffusion as a bonding mechanism for UC, but it has not been quantified.
 - ◇ Increased dislocation densities and subgrain formation at the interface provide fast paths for diffusion.
- ◆ It is important to obtain accurate and consistent concentration profiles to minimize the variation in the interdiffusion coefficient calculations.

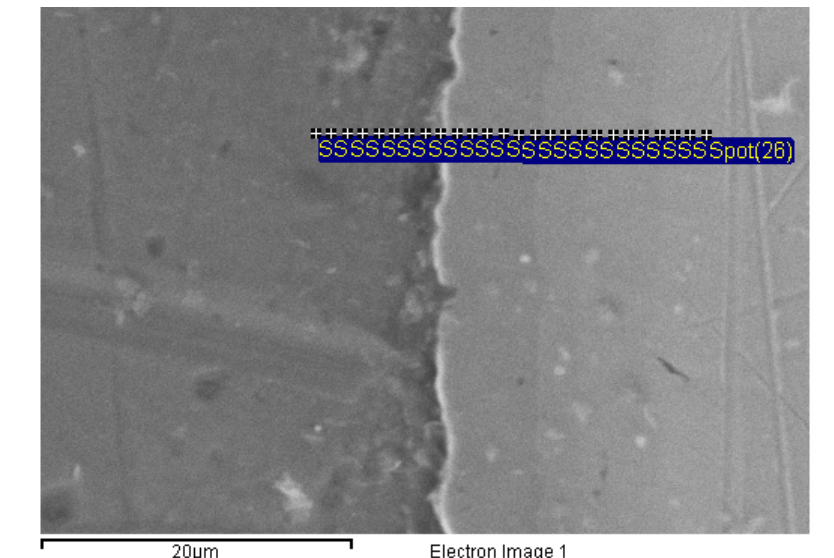
$$\tilde{D} = \frac{1}{2t \frac{\partial C}{\partial X}|_{C^*}} \left[(1-\varphi) \int_{-\infty}^{x^*} (C(x) - C^L) dx + \varphi \int_{x^*}^{\infty} (C^R - C(x)) dx \right]$$

where $\varphi = \frac{C^* - C^L}{C^R - C^L}$



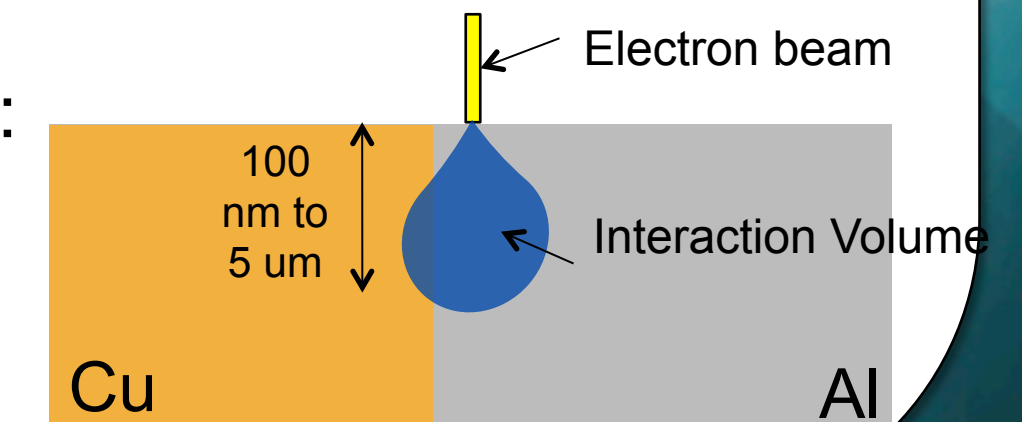
EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURE

- ◆ X-ray energy dispersive spectroscopy (XEDS) in the scanning electron microscope can be used to measure concentrations across the interface.



INTERACTION VOLUME INTERFERENCE

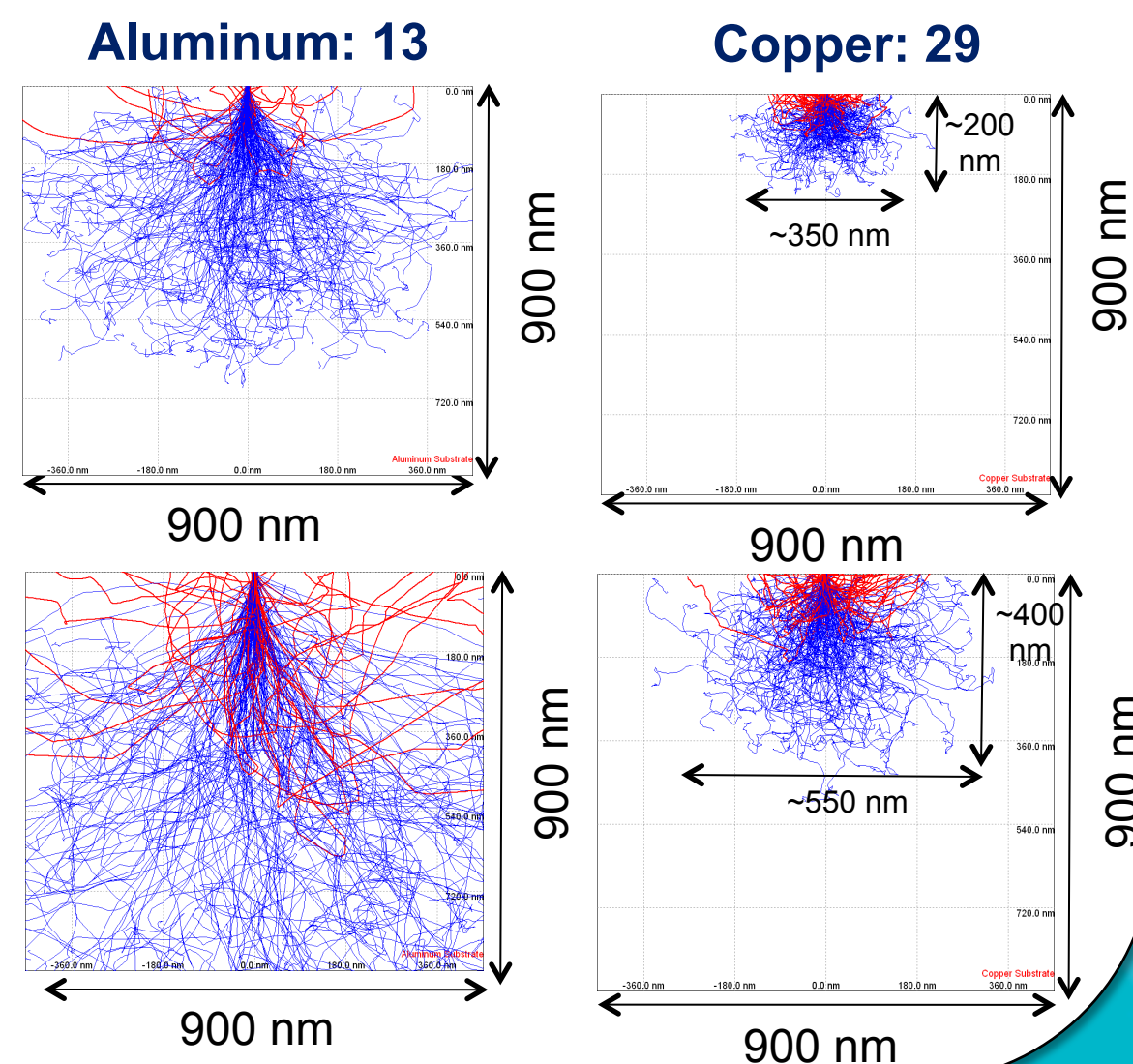
- ◆ The interaction volume is the space within the specimen through which reactions occur when struck by energetic electrons.
- ◆ Size and shape depend on:
 - ◇ Atomic number
 - ◇ Accelerating voltage



MONTE CARLO SIMULATIONS: INTERACTION VOLUME EFFECTS

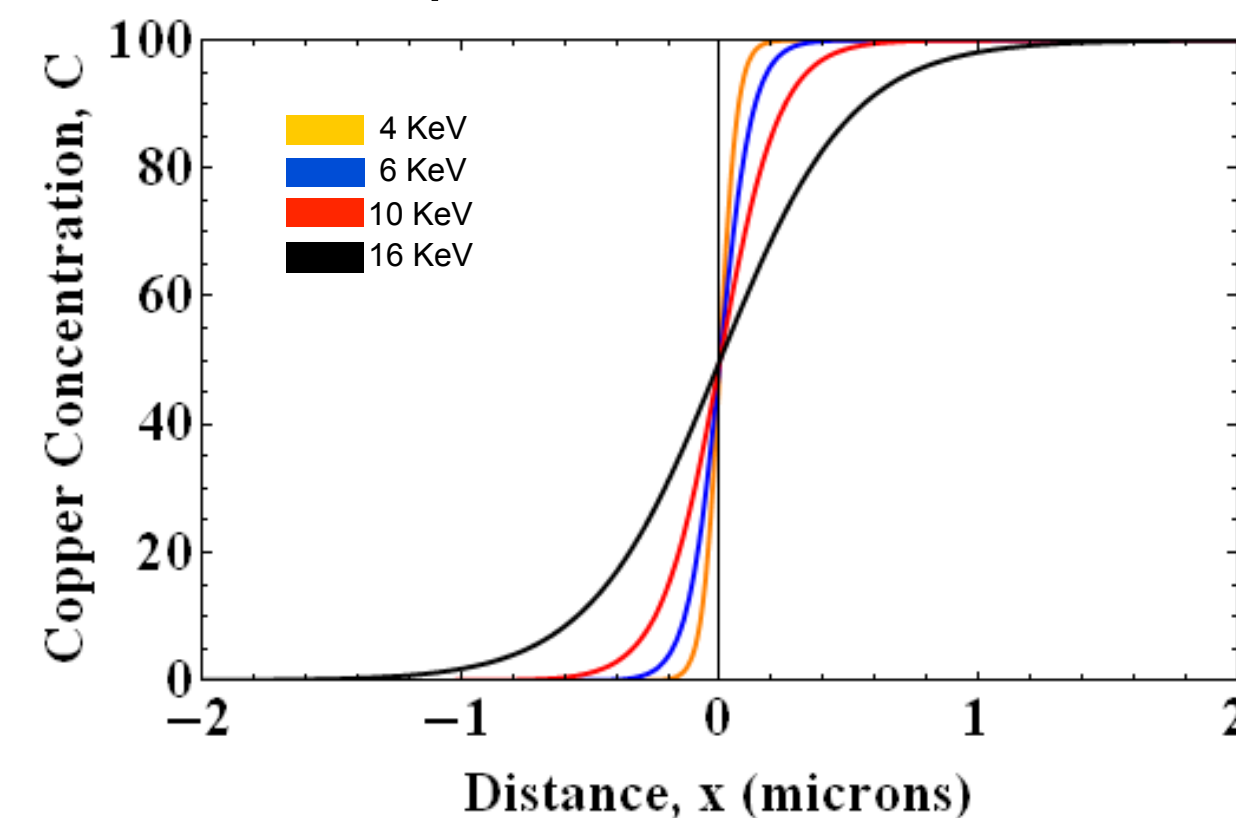
Atomic Number

Accelerating Voltage



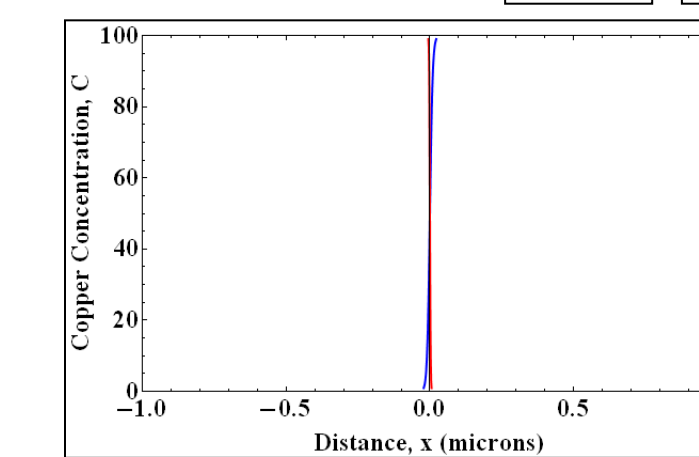
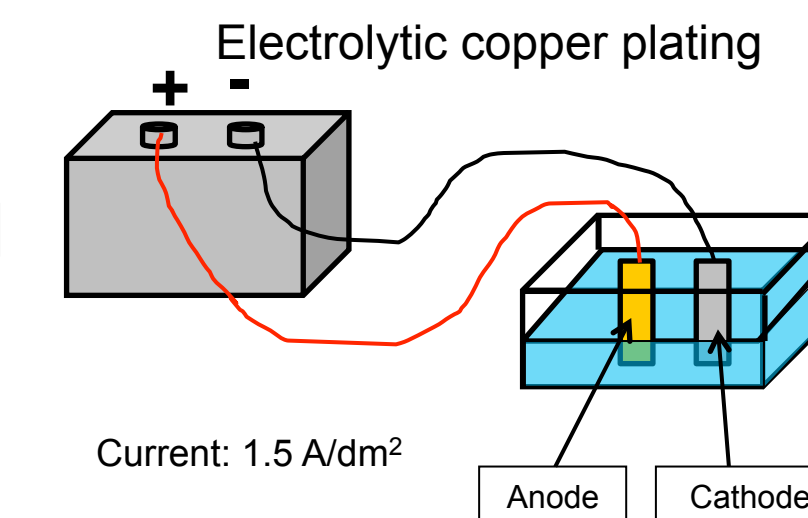
EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

- ◆ XEDS analysis of an ultrasonically consolidated sample at different accelerating voltages shows the effects of the interaction volume on the concentration profiles.



SUBTRACTING INTERACTION VOLUME EFFECTS

- ◆ Copper plated concentration profiles established a baseline for interaction volume effects.
- ◆ Subtracting the baseline profiles from UC profiles resulted in a vertical line at x=0.



Diffusion during UC is on the nanometer scale!

CONCLUSIONS

- ◆ The atomic number and accelerating voltage significantly impact the size of the interaction volume.
- ◆ Diffusion during UC is occurring over a much smaller distance (nanometer range) than initially expected.
- ◆ It is important to consider the interaction volume effects when measuring concentrations over small distances (~a few microns).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This work is supported by the Army Research Laboratory through the Composite Materials Research program.