

# Geophysical applications of nuclear resonant inelastic x-ray scattering



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Workshop on Nuclear Resonant Inelastic X-ray Scattering  
Advanced Photon Source, Argonne National Laboratory  
3 November 2018

# Acknowledgements



**Greg Finkelstein**  
Now at Univ. Hawaii



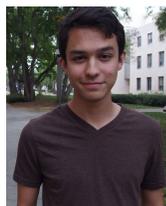
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Scholar, ENS Lyon

**Wolfgang  
Sturhahn**

*Visiting Associate  
Faculty, Caltech*



## PhD Students:



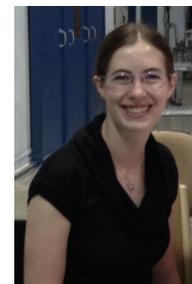
**Tyler Perez**  
Ugrad



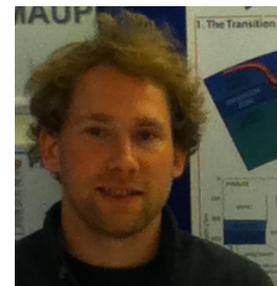
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**Olivia  
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**Rachel Morrison**  
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 Daoyuan Sun: Professor, Univ. Sci. Tech. China  
 June Wicks: Asst. Professor, Johns Hopkins University  
 Aaron Wolf: Asst. Research Scientist, Univ. of Michigan  
 Dongzhou Zhang: Beamline Scientist, GSECARS/Univ. Hawaii  
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## Advanced Light Source, Berkeley

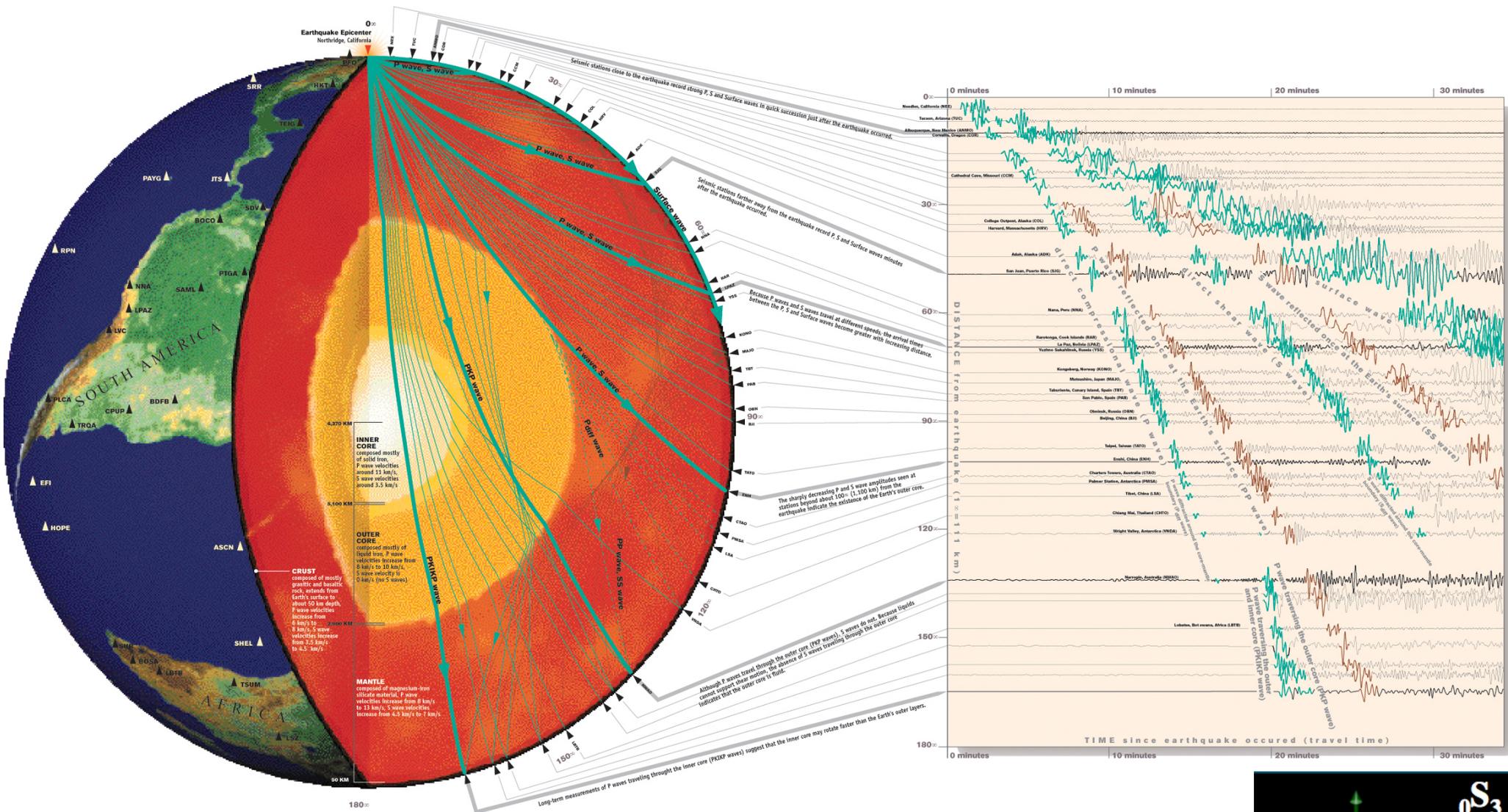
Martin Kunz, Christine Beavers (12.2.2)

## Advanced Photon Source, Chicago area

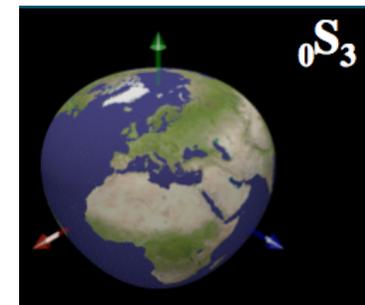
Jiyong Zhao, Tom Toellner, Ercan Alp (NRS)

Eran Greenberg, Mark Rivers, Vitali Prakapenka (GSECARS)



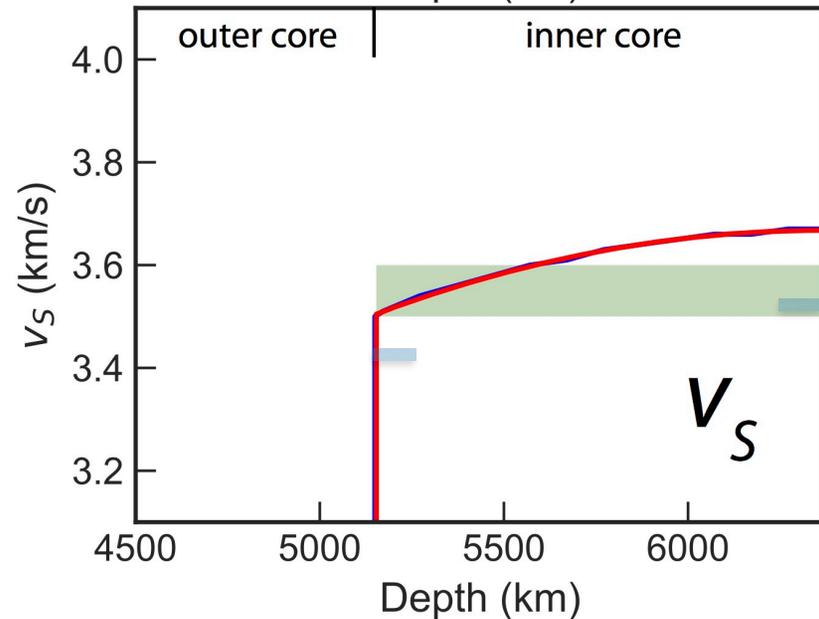
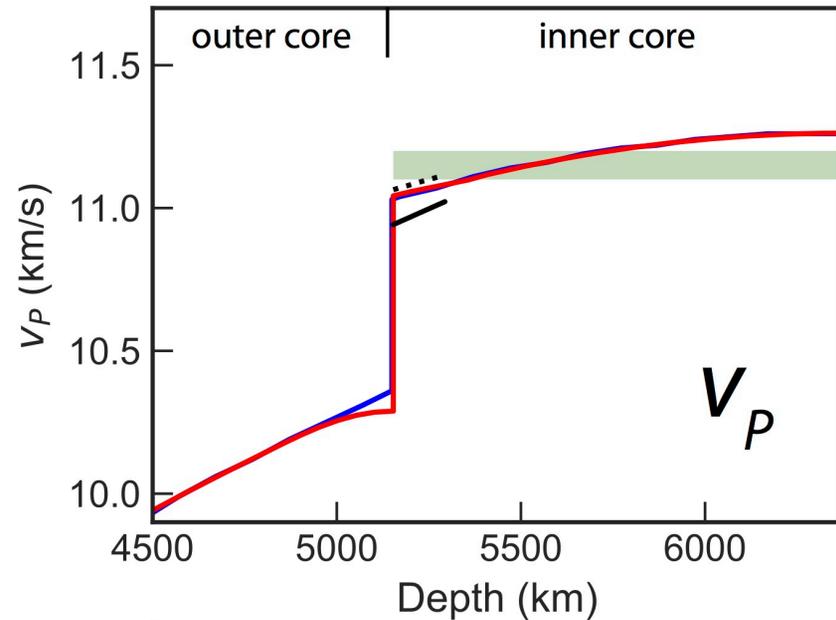
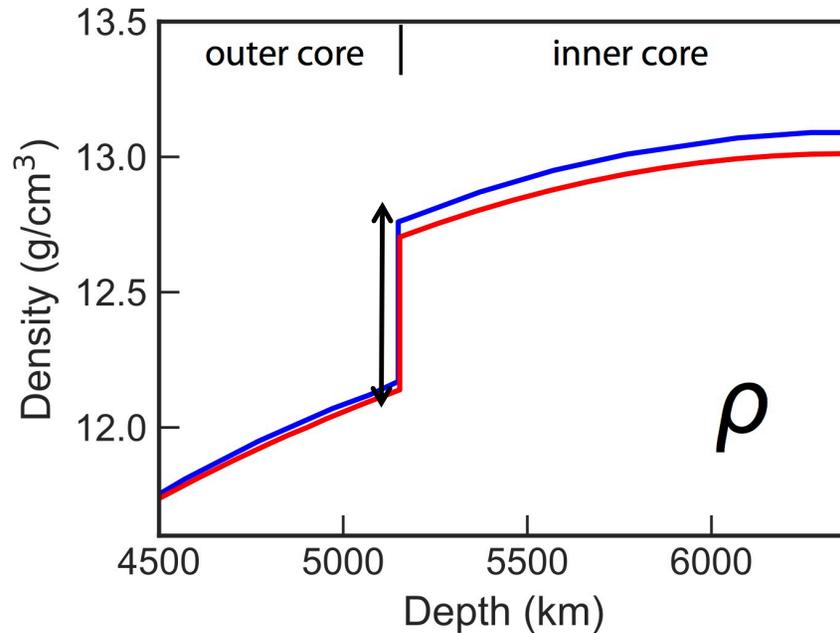


# Seismic wave propagation through Earth's interior



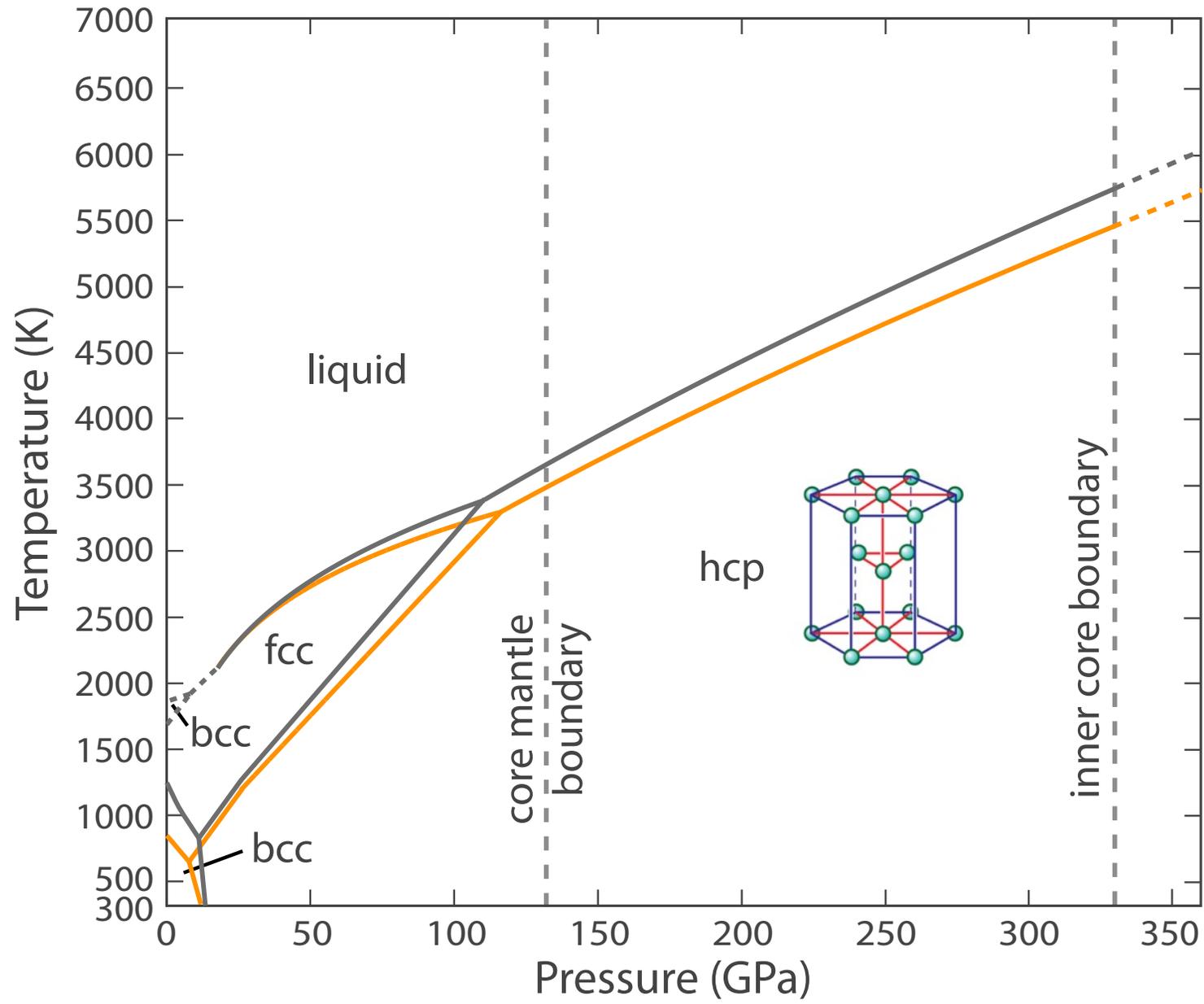
by Lucien Saviot

# Seismological Constraints



- PREM (Dziewonski et al. 1981)
- AK135-F (Montagner et al. 1996)
- ..... Attanayake et al. 2014 East (Bin 3)
- Attanayake et al. 2014 West (Bin 6)
- Deuss et al. 2008
- Tkalčić and Pham (2018)
- ↕ Masters and Gubbins (2003)

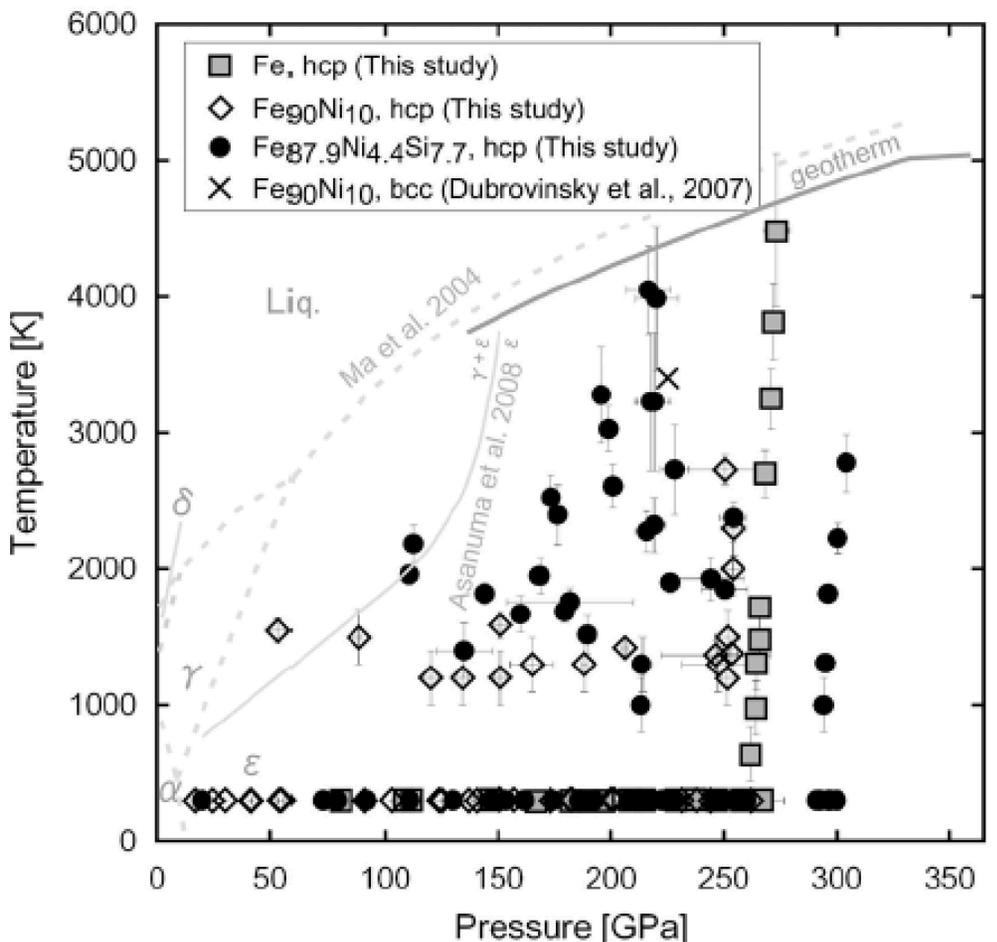
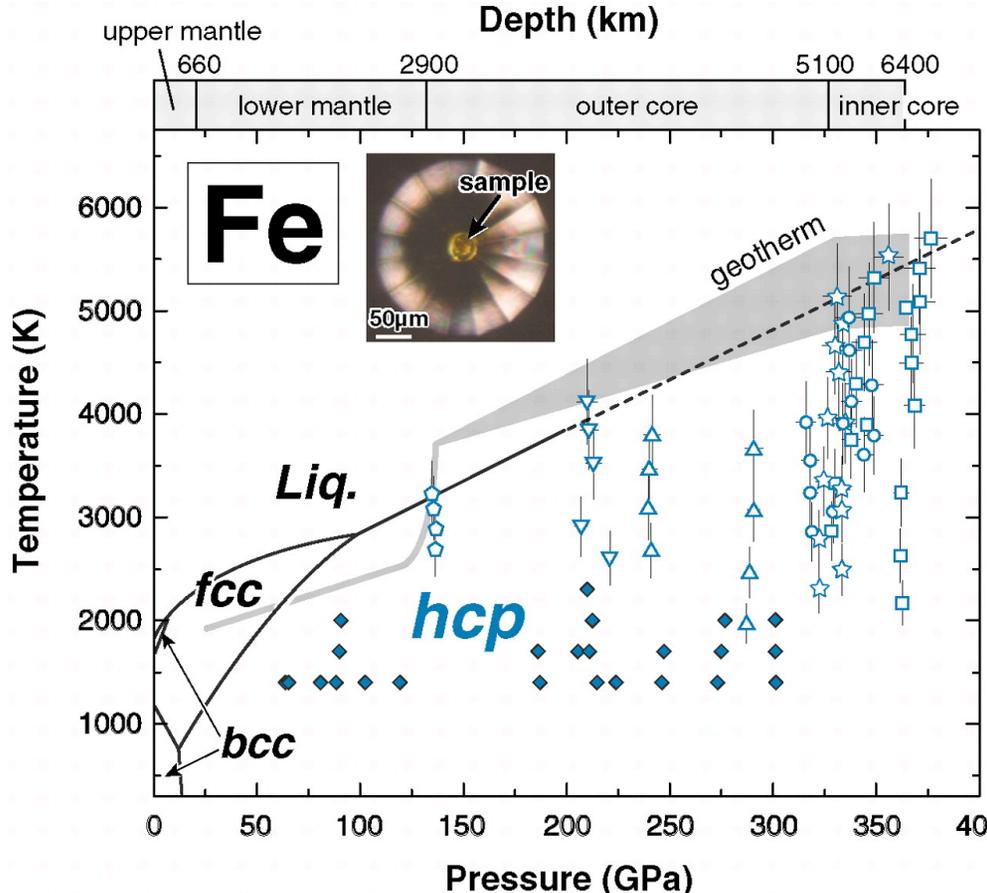
# Phase diagram of Fe and $\text{Fe}_{0.91}\text{Ni}_{0.09}$



*Earth's core is predominantly iron*



# Stability of *hcp*-structured Fe-Ni-Si

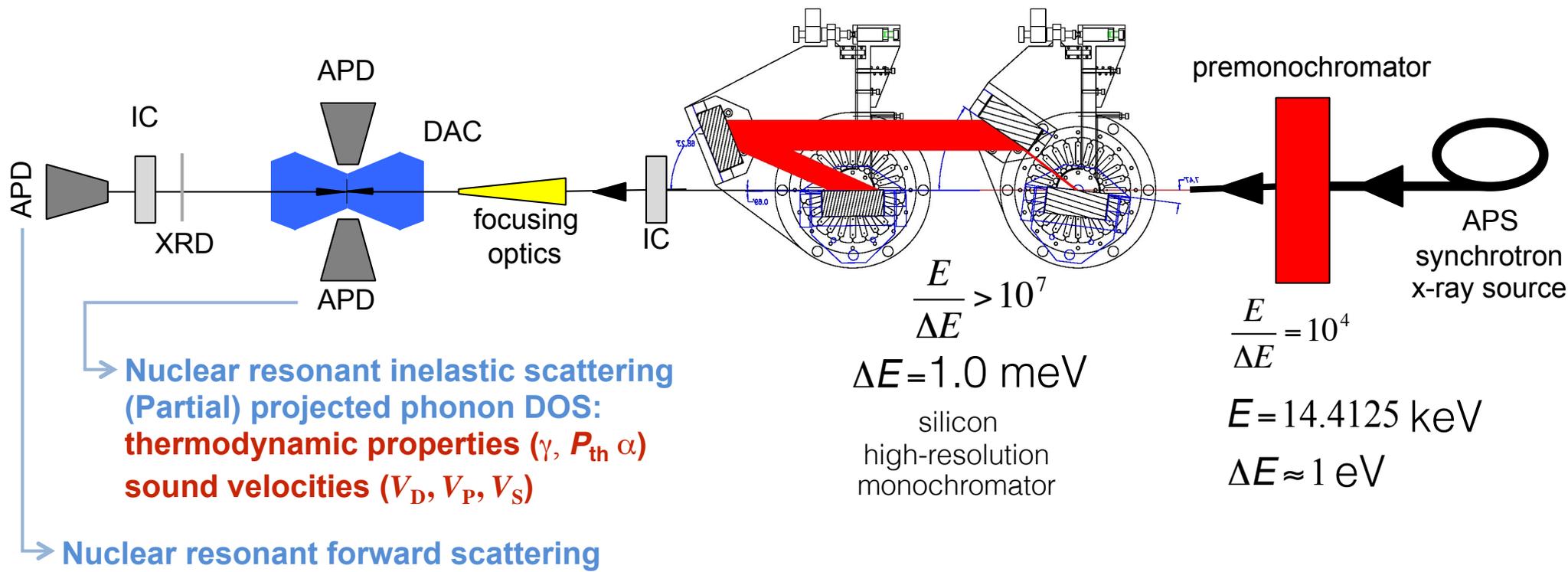


**TABLE 1. LIGHT ELEMENTS SUGGESTED BEING ALLOYED WITH NICKEL-IRON IN THE FLUID CORE OF THE EARTH**

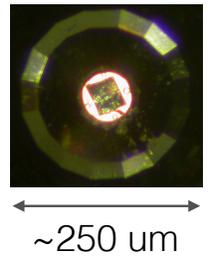
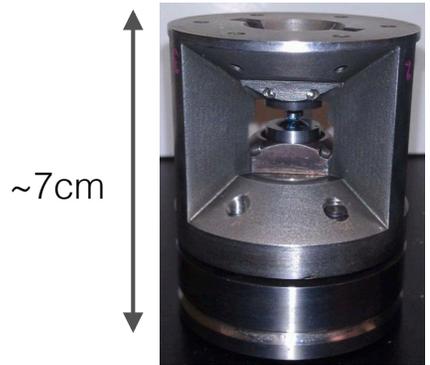
|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| C, Si, H (Birch 1952) | Si (MacDonald & Knopoff 1958; Ringwood 1958)   |
| C, S (Urey 1960)      | C, S, Si (Clark 1963)                          |
| Si, O, S (Birch 1964) | S (Mason 1966; Murthy & Hall 1970; Lewis 1973) |
| Mg, O (Adler 1966)    | O (Bullen 1973; Ringwood 1977)                 |

Herndon (1979), Fe Tateno et al. Science (2010); Fe-Ni-Si Sakai et al. GRL (2011); Fe-Ni: Tateno et al. GRL (2012), Sakai et al. PEPI (2014)

# Using nuclear resonant scattering to constrain vibrational thermoelastic properties of iron-alloys: Sector 3-ID-B, Advanced Photon Source (Argonne, IL USA)



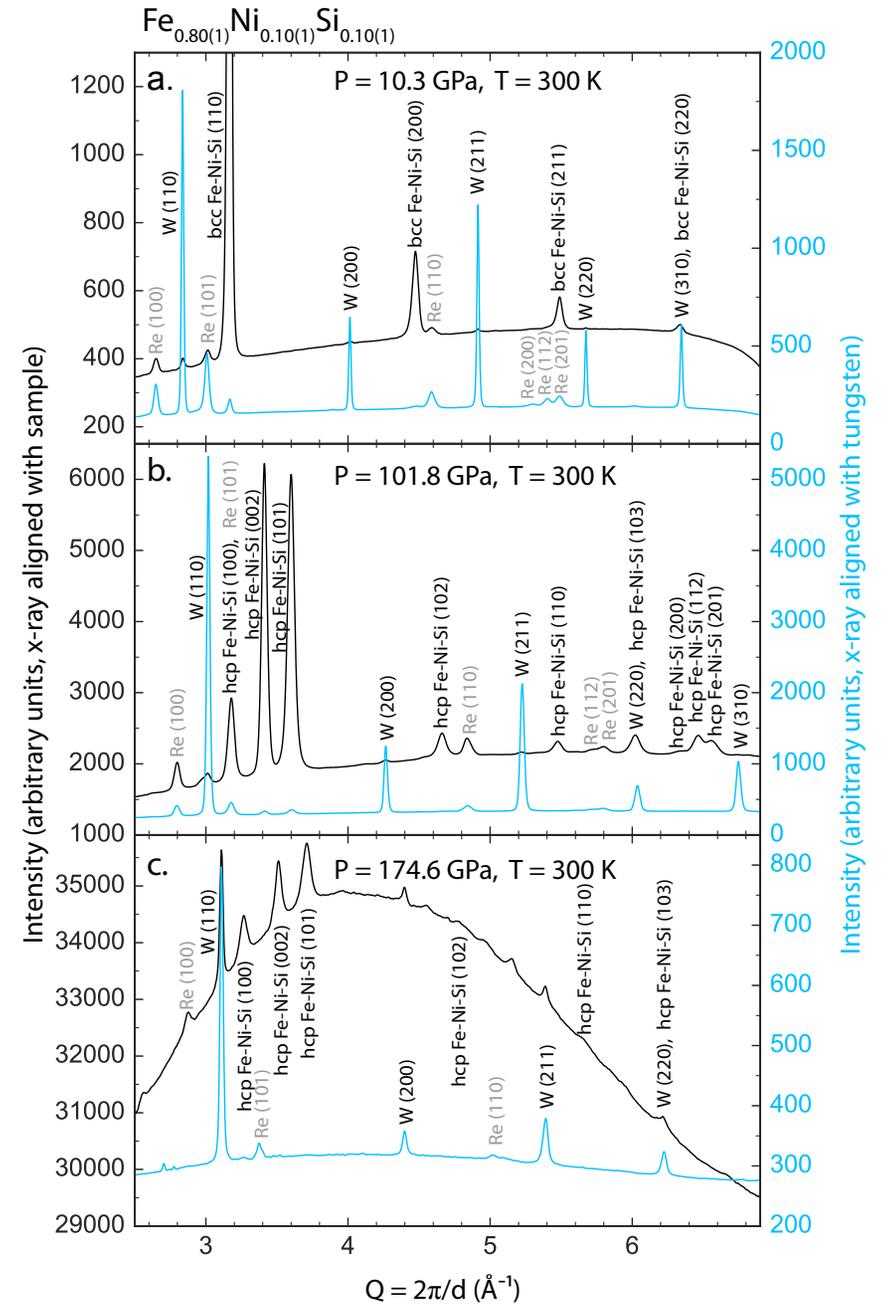
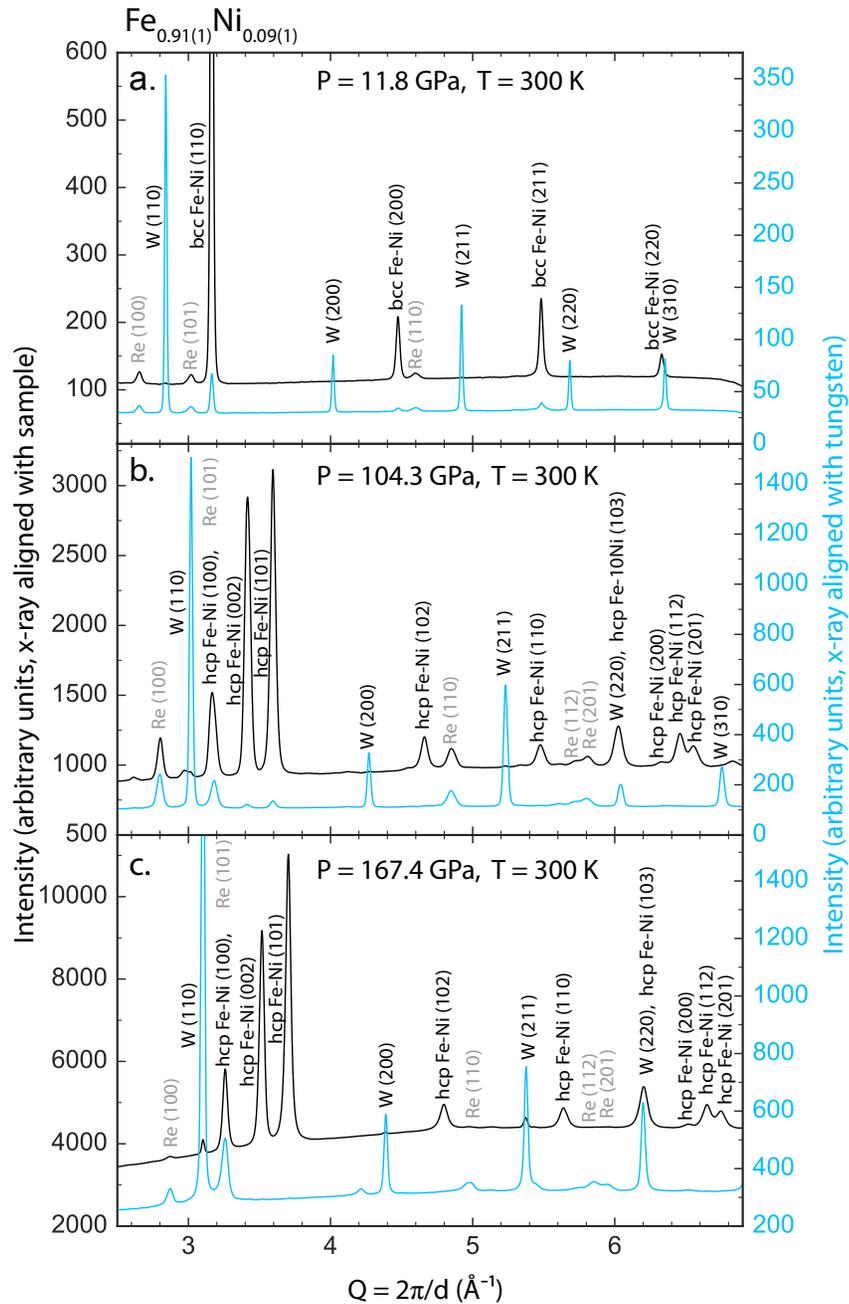
→ Nuclear resonant inelastic scattering (Partial) projected phonon DOS: thermodynamic properties ( $\gamma$ ,  $P_{th}$ ,  $\alpha$ ) sound velocities ( $V_D$ ,  $V_P$ ,  $V_S$ )  
 → Nuclear resonant forward scattering



Samples:  
 $^{57}\text{Fe}_{0.91}\text{Ni}_{0.09}$   
 $^{57}\text{Fe}_{0.8}\text{Ni}_{0.1}\text{Si}_{0.1}$

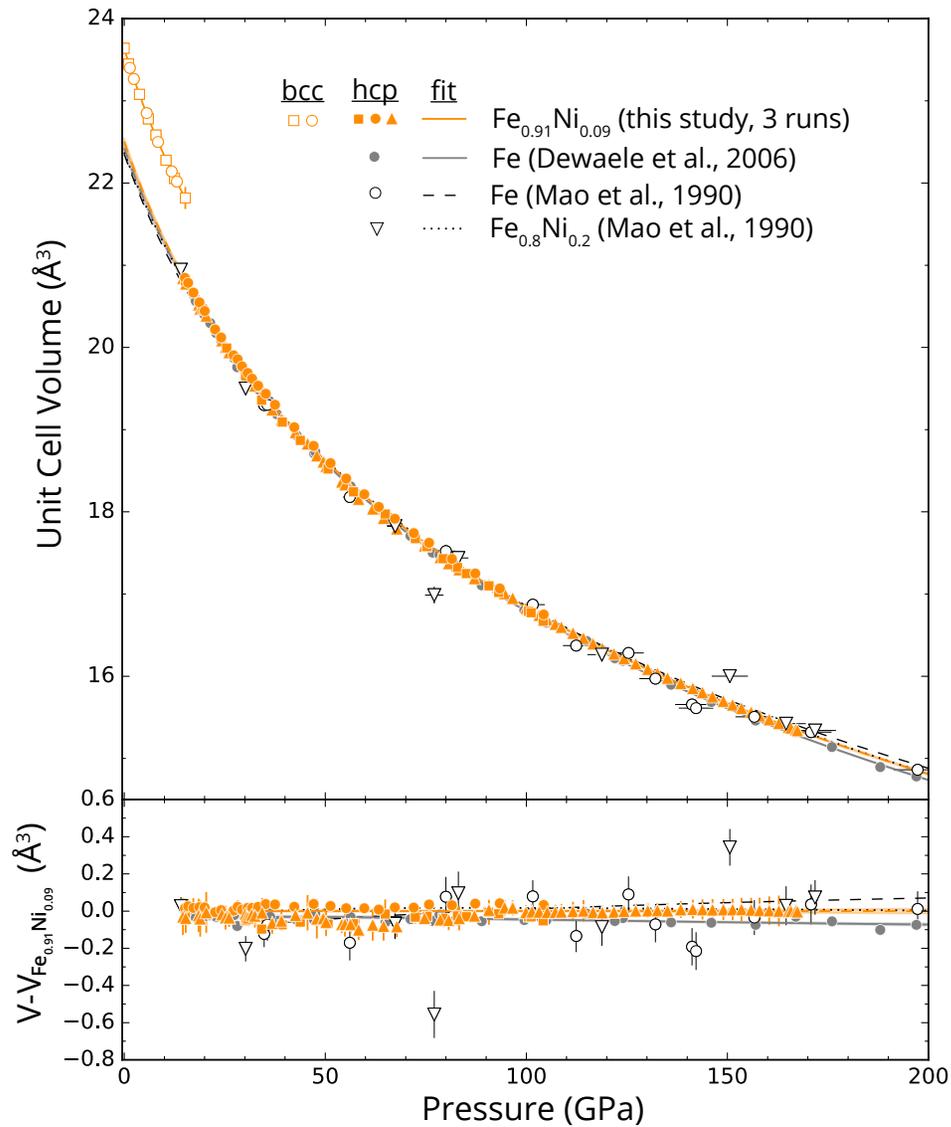
e.g., Toellner (*HI* 2000, *JSR* 2011); Sturhahn (*JCPM* 2004); Sturhahn & Jackson (*GSA* 2007); Jackson (*Springer* 2010)

# Powder XRD: **He** pressure medium, **W** pressure calibrant

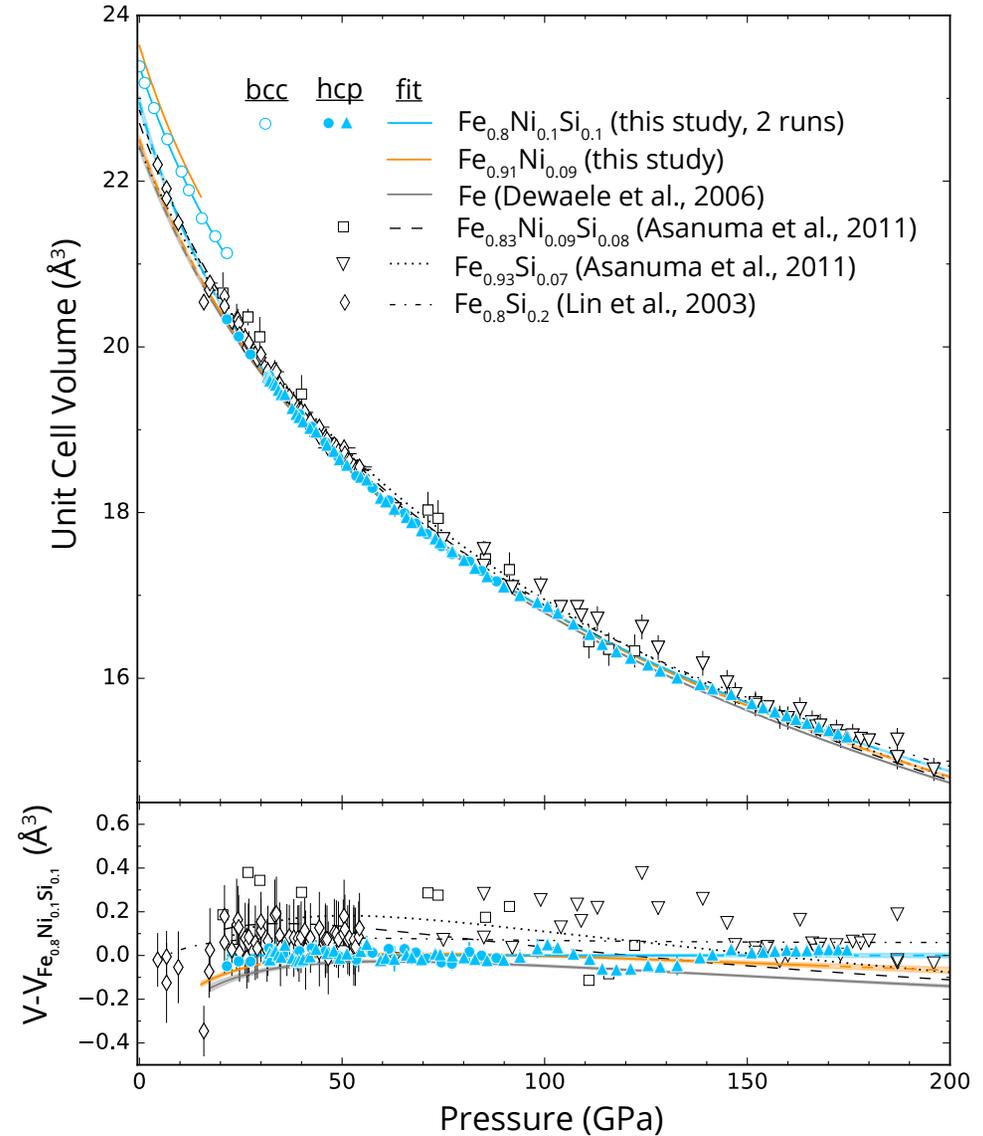


# Pressure-volume measurements

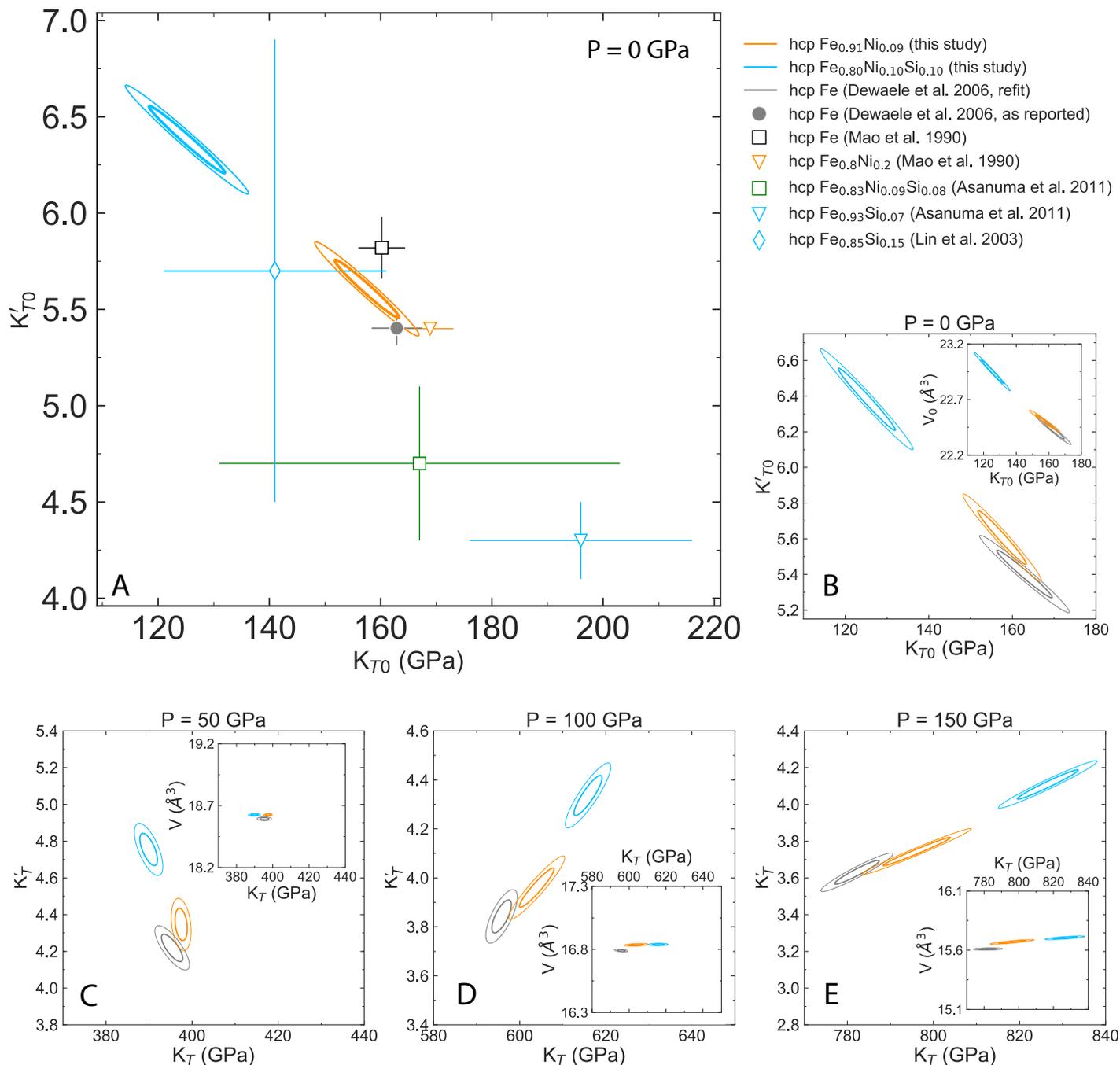
## $\text{Fe}_{0.91}\text{Ni}_{0.09}$



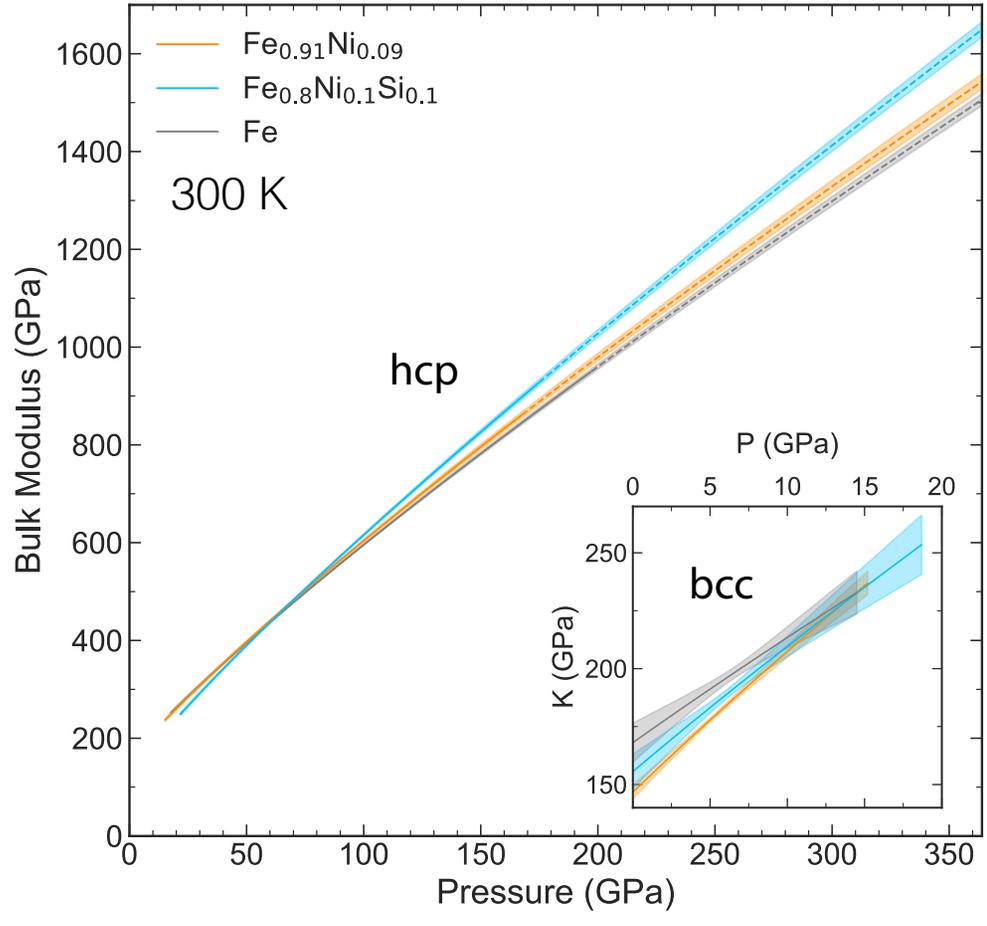
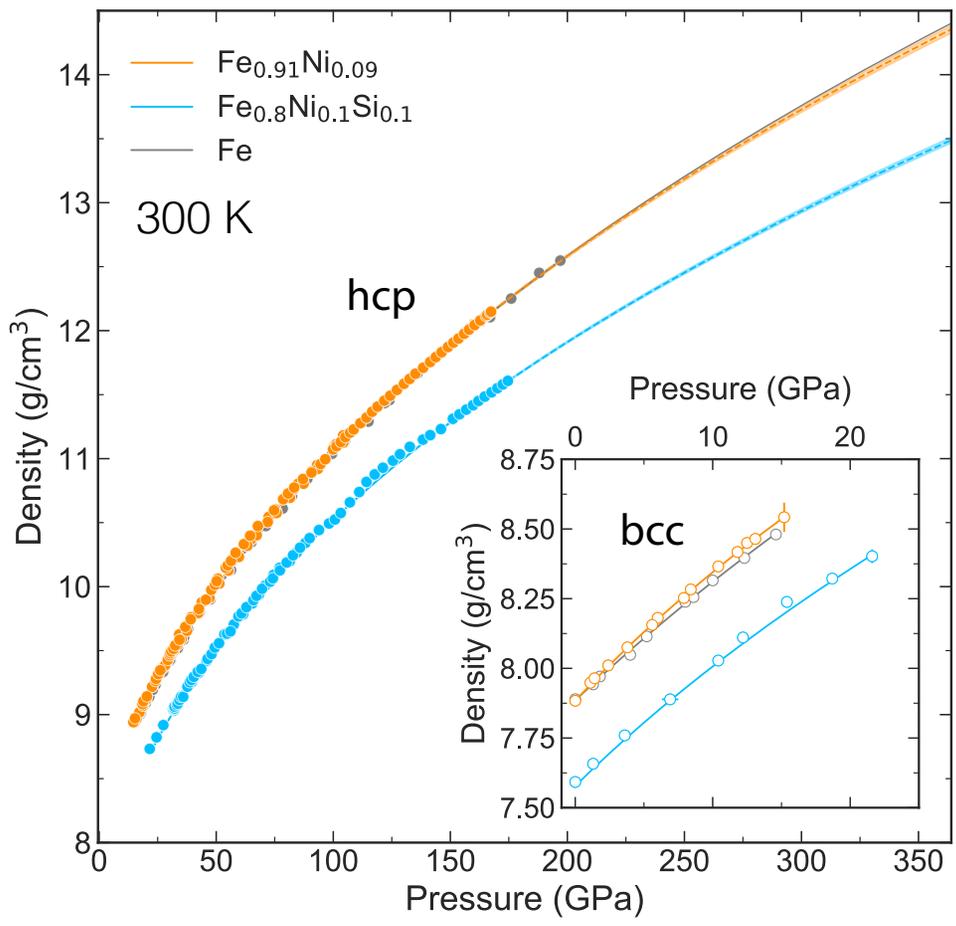
## $\text{Fe}_{0.8}\text{Ni}_{0.1}\text{Si}_{0.1}$



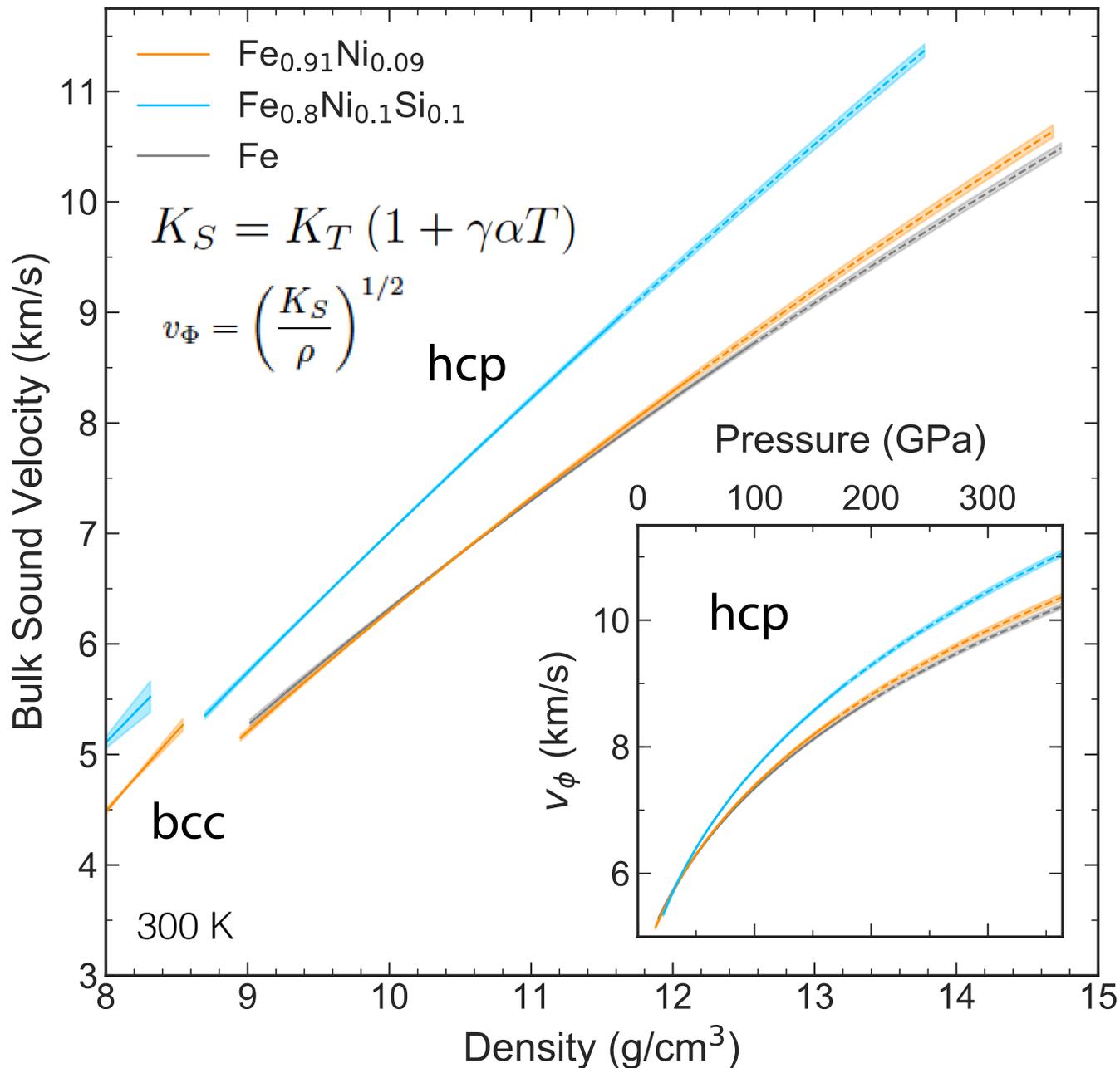
# Parameter correlations, at a range of pressures



# Density and bulk modulus ( $K_T$ ) of these Fe-Ni-Si alloys

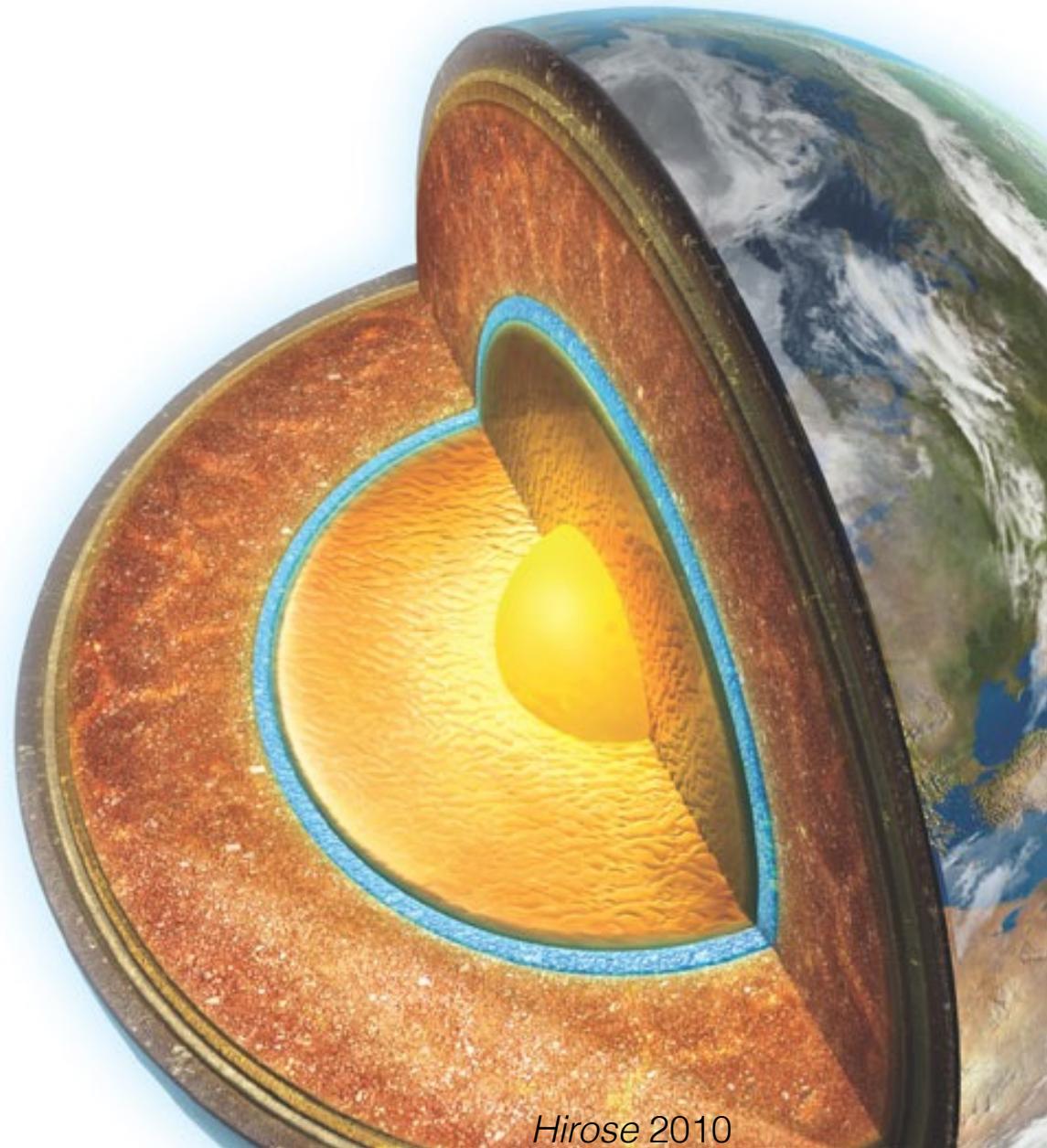


# Bulk sound speed of Fe-Ni-Si alloys



# Discussions related to the Earth's core

## Thermal properties



*Hirose 2010*

# Thermal equation of state

$$P(V, T) = P_{elastic}(V) + P_{th}(V, T) - P_{th}(V, T_{ref})$$



e.g., Vinet, 3rd order Birch Murnaghan

$$P_{th}(V, T) = \frac{\gamma(V)}{V} \left[ 9k_B T \left( \frac{T}{\Theta(V)} \right)^3 \int_0^{\Theta(V)/T} \frac{x^3 dx}{e^x - 1} + \frac{9}{8} k_B \Theta(V) \right]$$

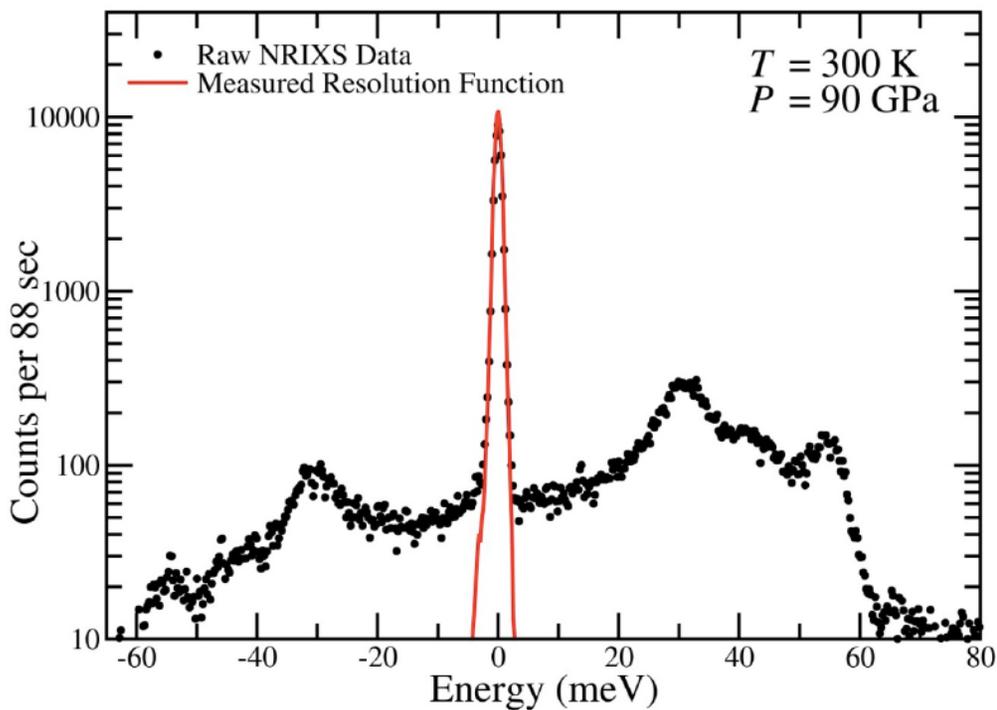
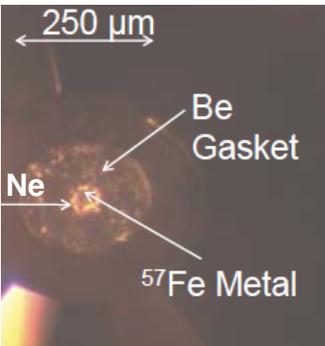
Mie-Grüneisen Debye  
with Grüneisen parameter:

$$\gamma(V) = \gamma_0 \left( \frac{V}{V_0} \right)^q$$

+  $P_{electronic}$  +  $P_{anharmonic}$

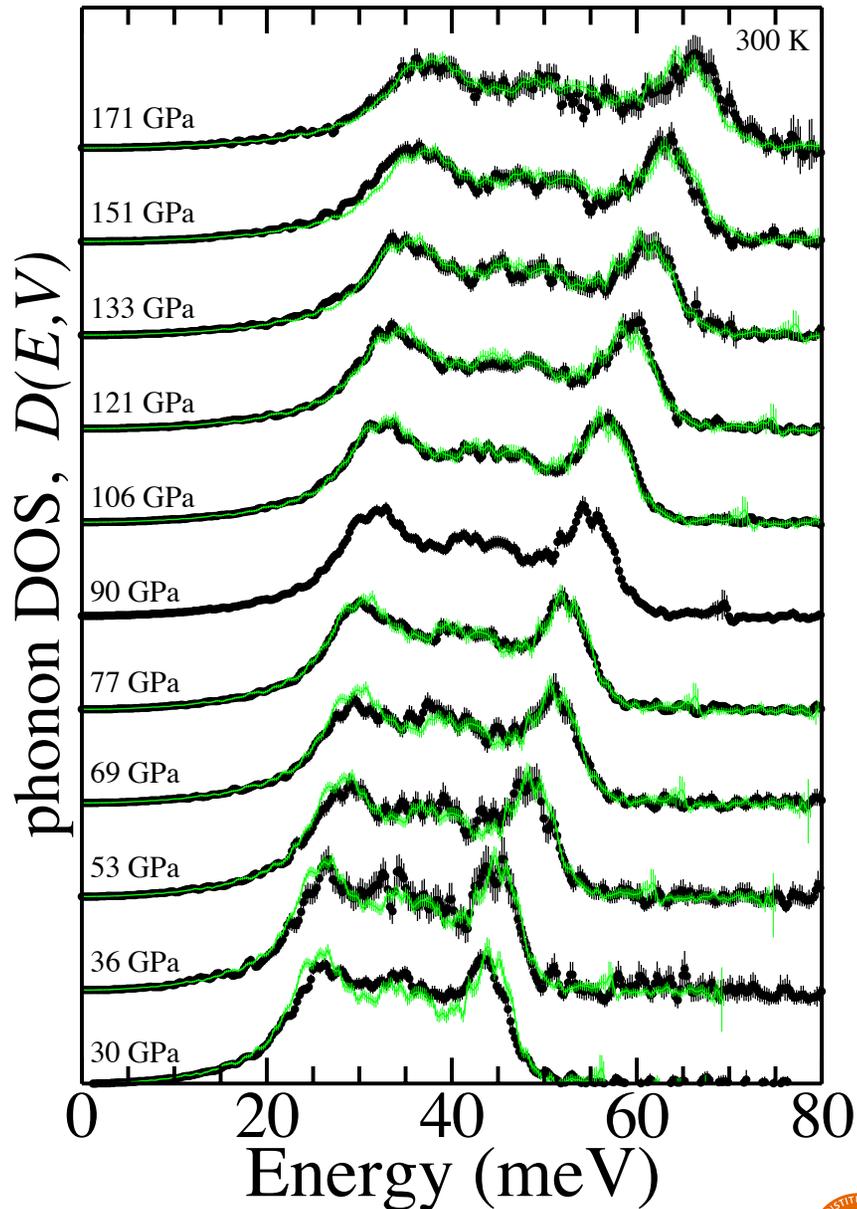
For example:  $P_{TH}(V, T) = \frac{9R\gamma}{V} \left( \frac{\theta}{8} + T \left( \frac{T}{\theta} \right)^3 \int_0^{\theta/T} \frac{z^3 dz}{e^z - 1} \right)$   
 $+ \frac{3R}{2V} m a_0 x^m T^2 + \frac{3R}{2V} g e_0 x^g T^2,$

Thermal pressure terms directly determined from the volume dependence of the phonon DOS for **hcp-iron** to outer core pressures

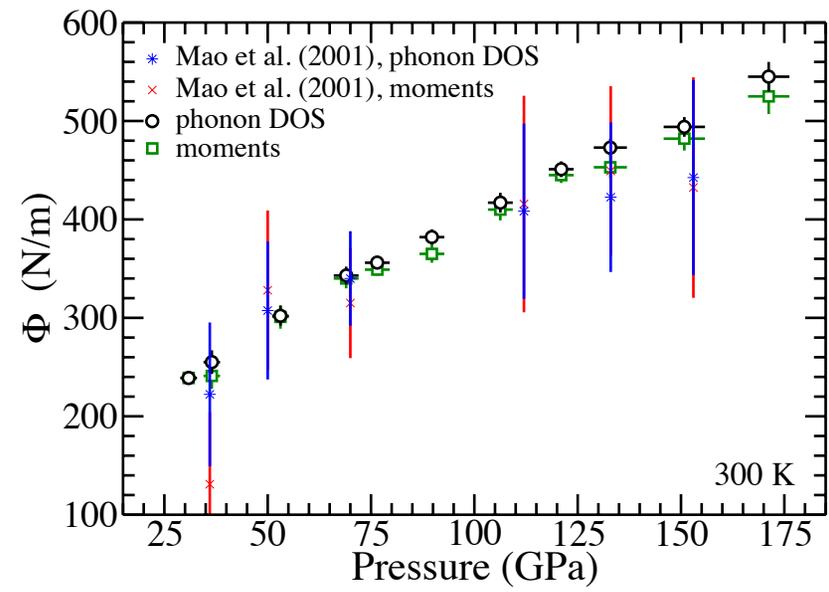
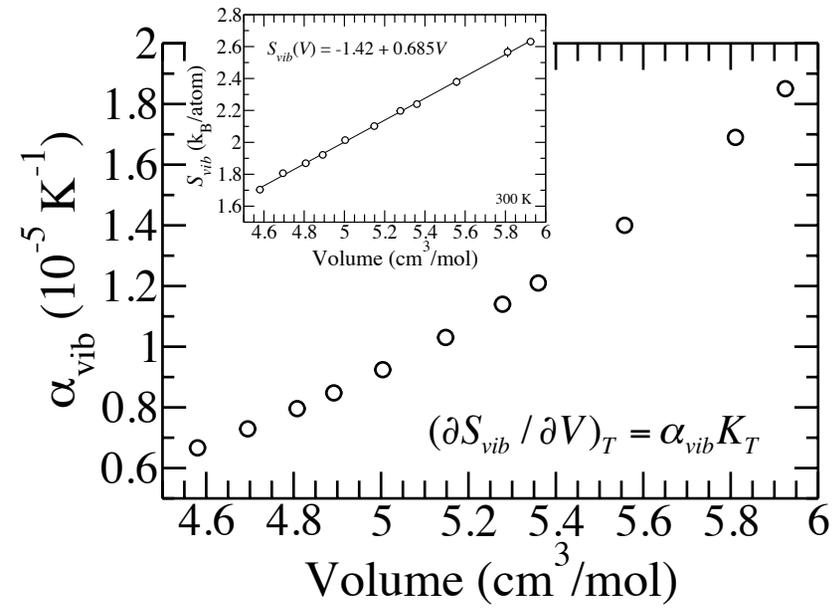
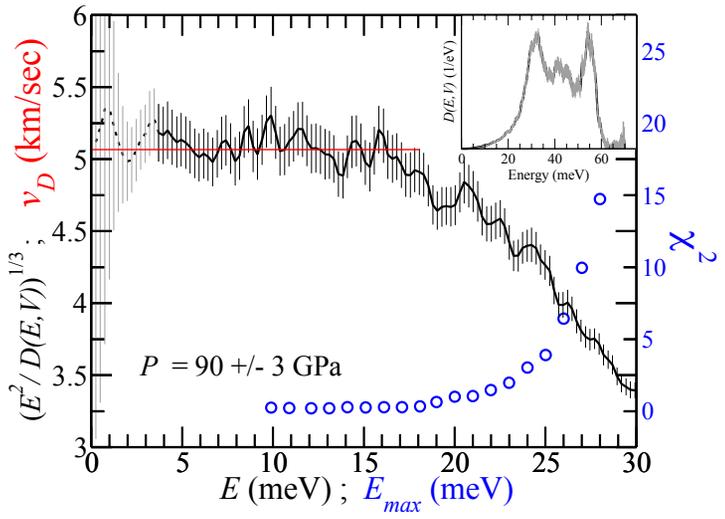
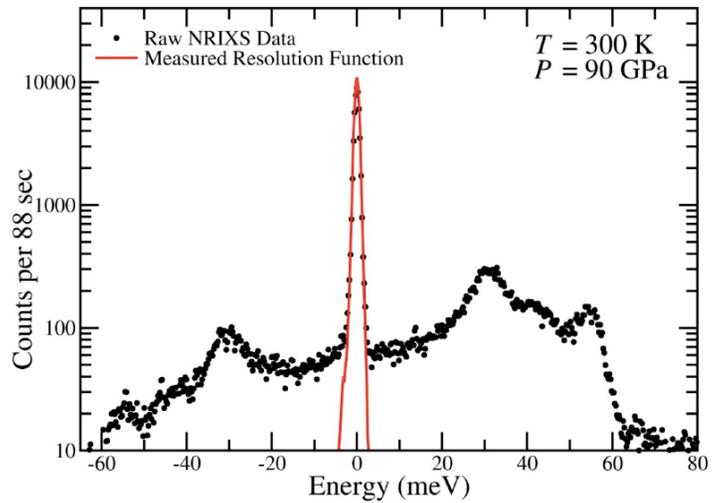
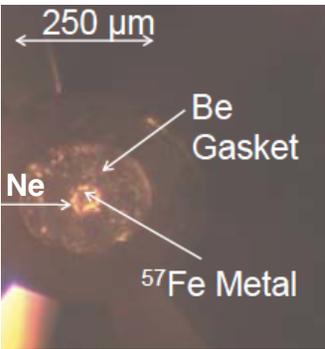


<sup>57</sup>Fe sample loaded with neon  
 Pressure scale: Dewaele *et al.* PRL (2006)

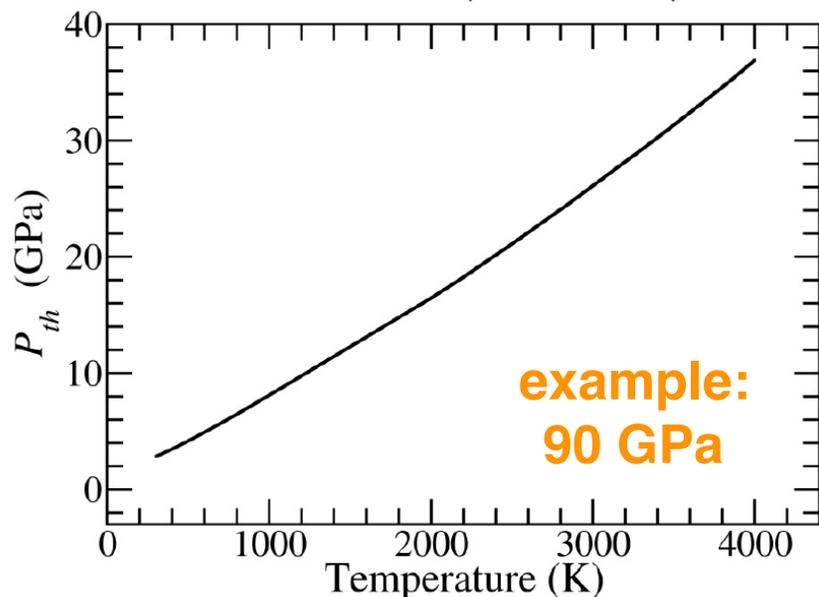
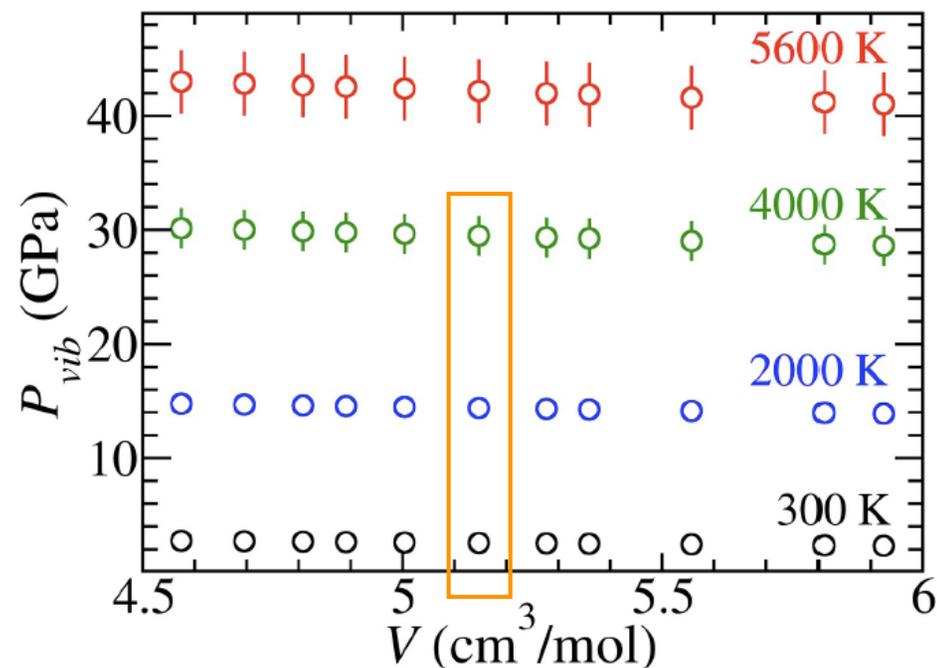
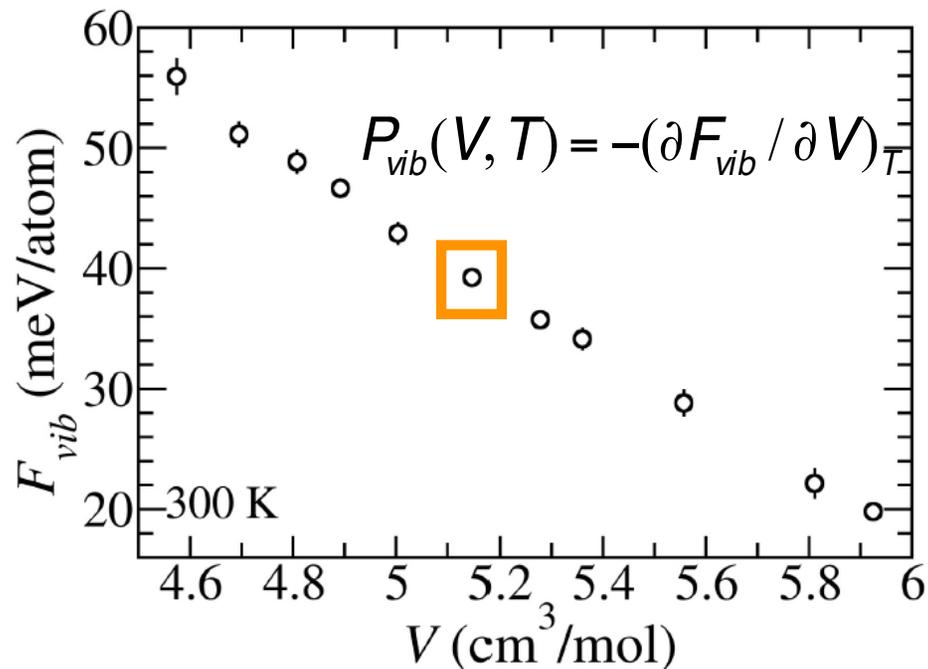
Murphy *et al.* GRL (2011), Murphy *et al.* PEPI (2011),  
 Murphy *et al.* JGR (2013)



# Volume dependence of the phonon DOS for *hcp-iron* to outer core pressures



# Thermal pressure from the measured volume dependence of *hcp-iron's* vibrational free energy



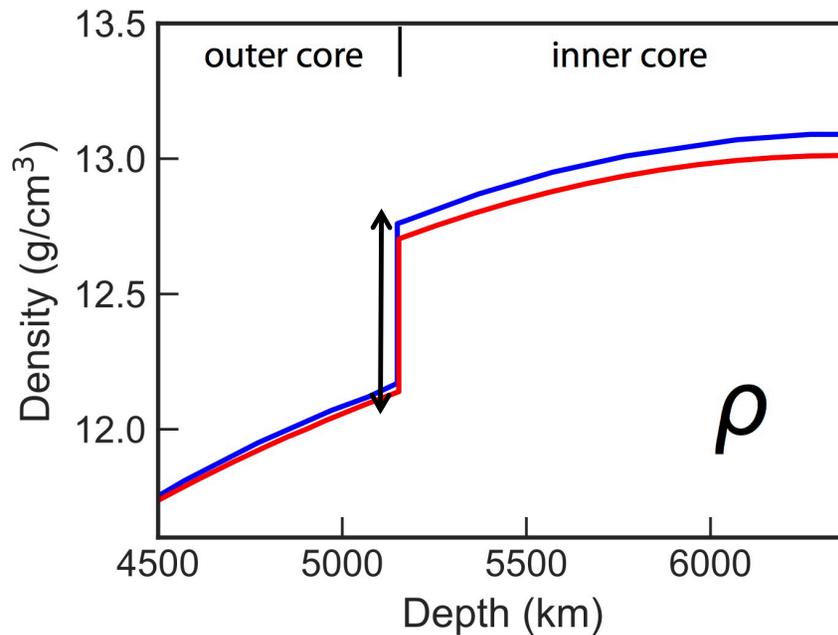
$$P_{th} = \underbrace{P_{vib}^h}_{\downarrow} + \underbrace{P_{vib}^{anh} + P_{el}}_{\text{Dewaele et al. PRL (2006)}}$$

NRIXS: Murphy *et al.* PEPI (2011)

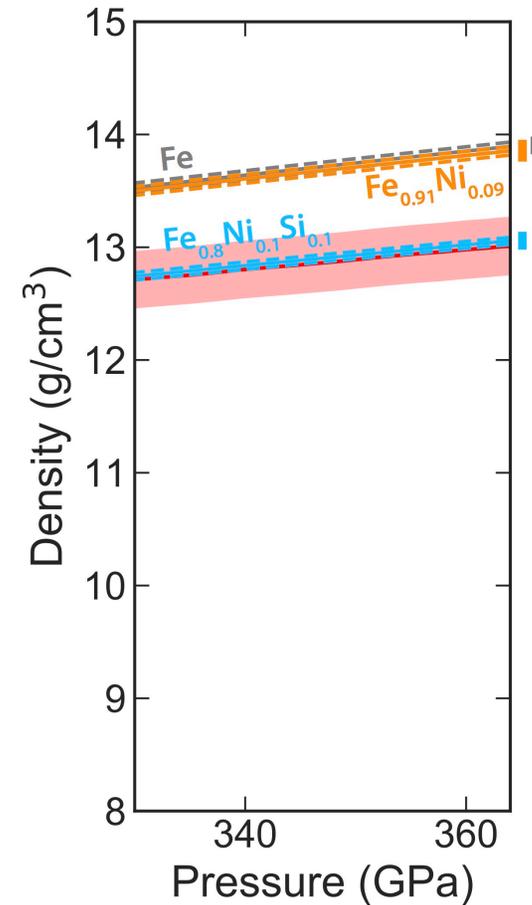
$$\gamma = 2.0 \pm 0.1$$

$$q = 1.0 \pm 0.2$$

# Density of Fe-Ni-Si at inner core conditions

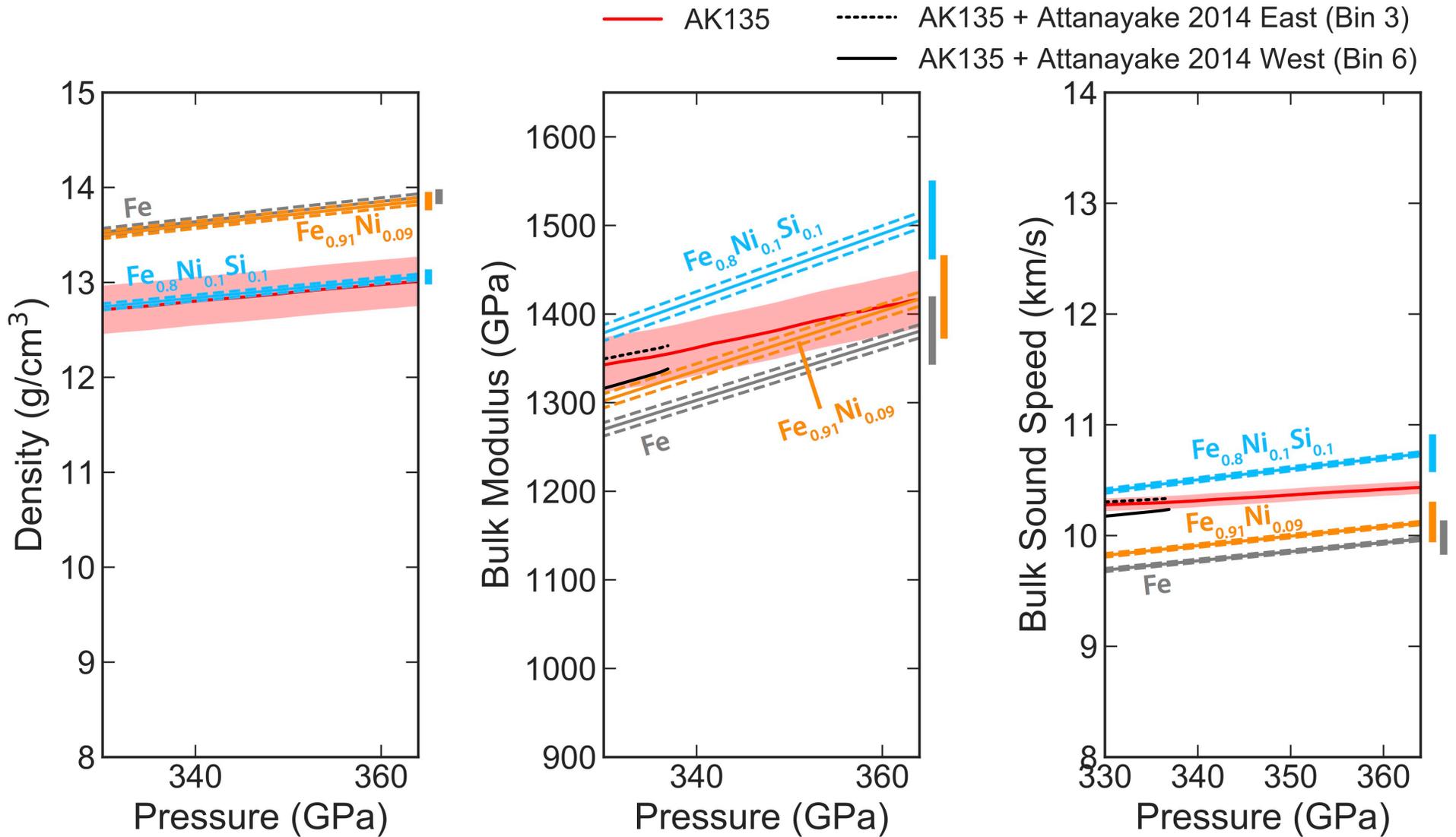


- PREM (Dziewonski et al. 1981)
- AK135-F (Montagner et al. 1996)
- ⋯ Attanayake et al. 2014 East (Bin 3)
- Attanayake et al. 2014 West (Bin 6)
- Deuss et al. 2008
- ↕ Masters and Gubbins (2003)

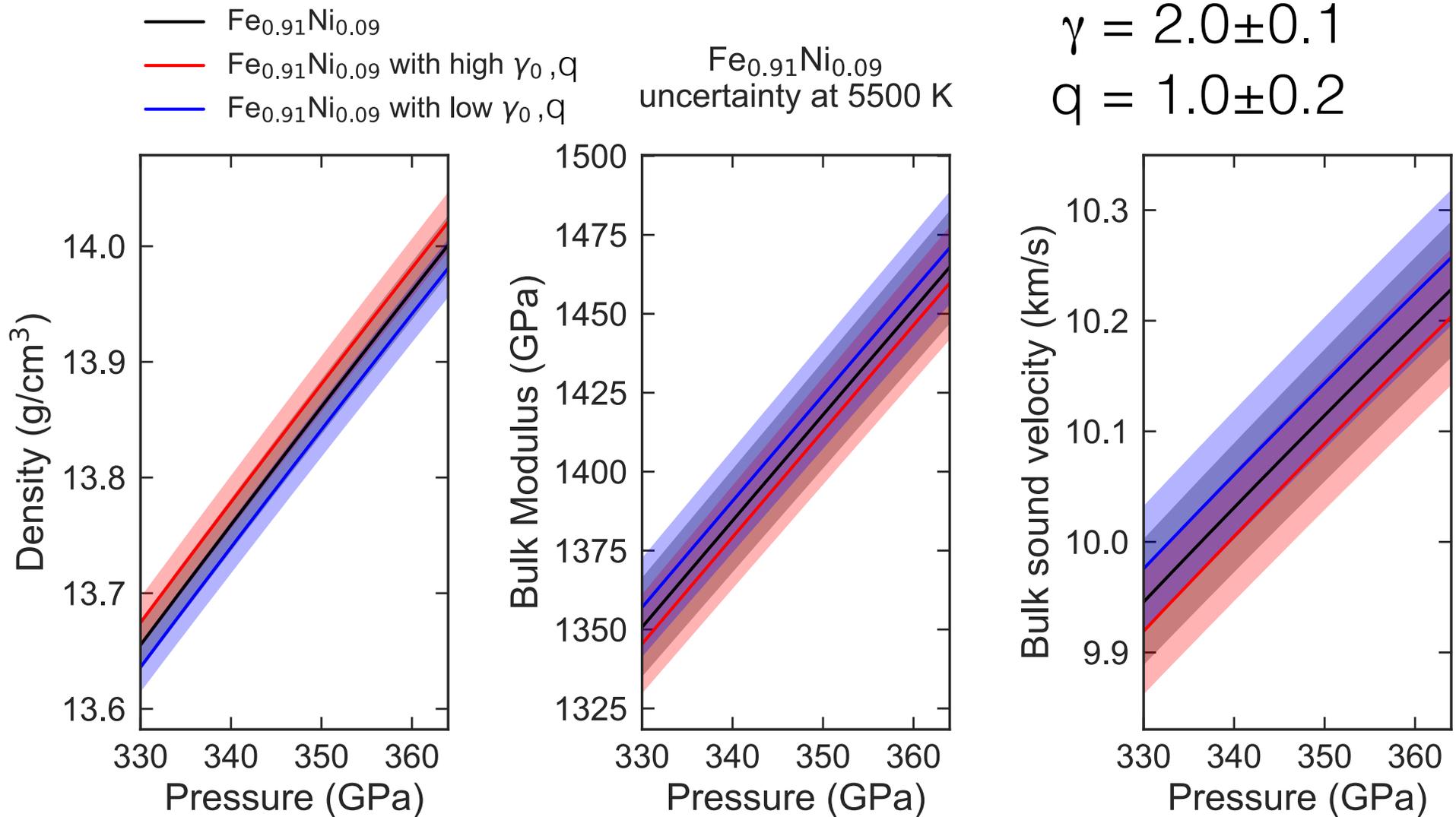


Assume a uniform temperature:  
 $5500 \pm 500$  K

# Is there a composition in Fe-Ni-Si space that matches Earth's density, bulk modulus, and bulk sound velocity?



# Error propagation of the quasi-harmonic thermal pressure terms to the elastic properties



# Is there a composition in Fe-Ni-Si space that matches Earth's density, bulk modulus, and bulk sound velocity?

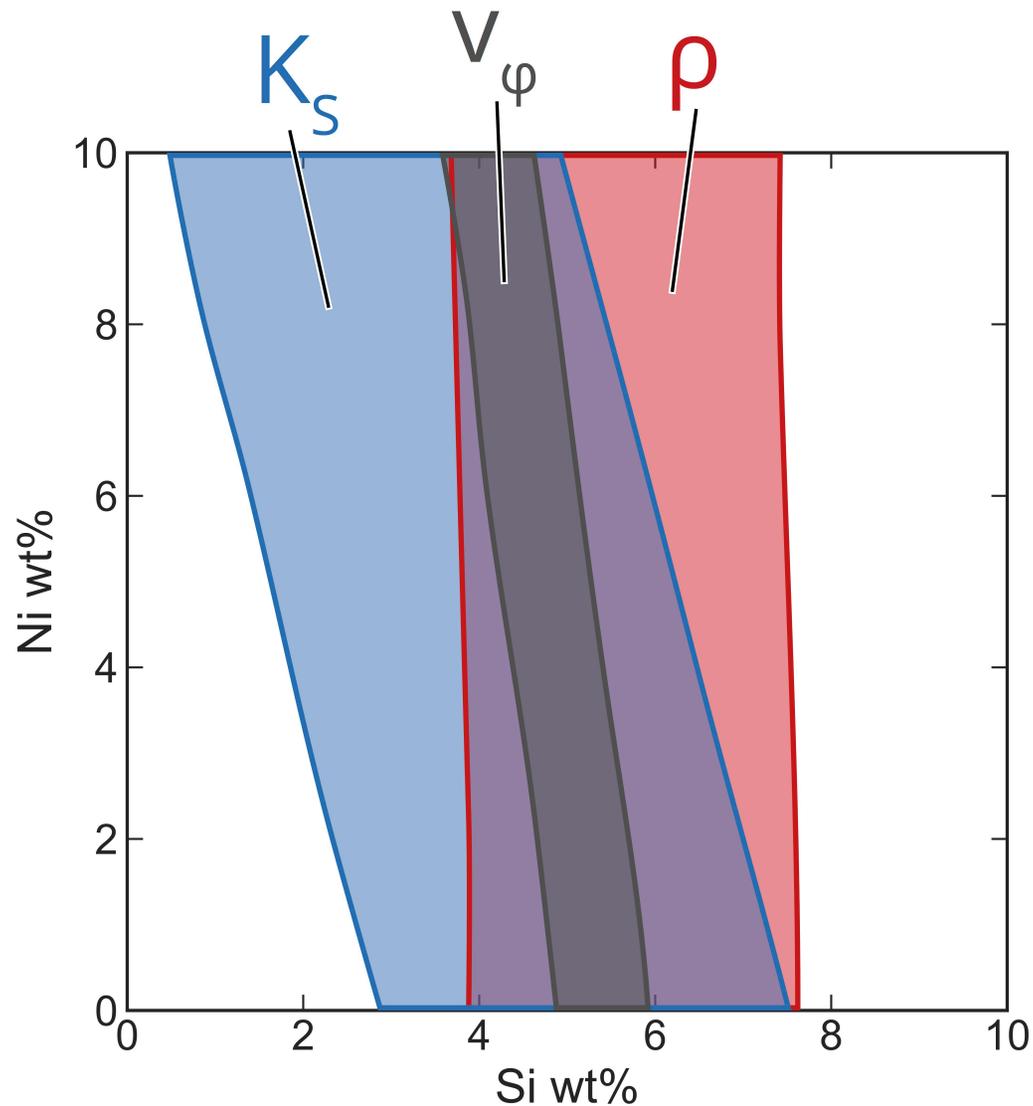
Linear mixing model of  
hcp-Fe,  $\text{Fe}_{0.91}\text{Ni}_{0.09}$ ,  
 $\text{Fe}_{0.9}\text{Ni}_{0.1}\text{Si}_{0.1}$

Assume core temperature  
of 5500 K

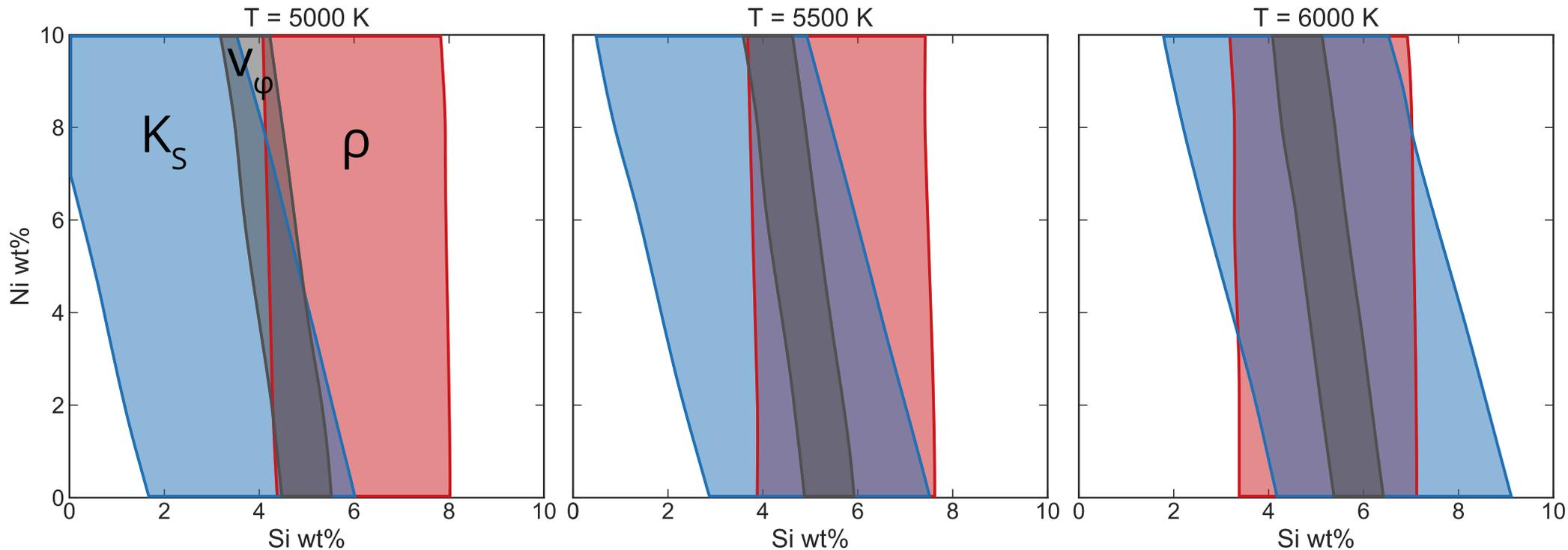
Pressure near ICB: 330 GPa

Result:

**4.3 to 5.3 wt% silicon**  
alone can explain the  
density, adiabatic bulk  
modulus, and bulk sound  
speed of the inner core



# Effect of nickel, silicon, and temperature at Earth's inner-core boundary

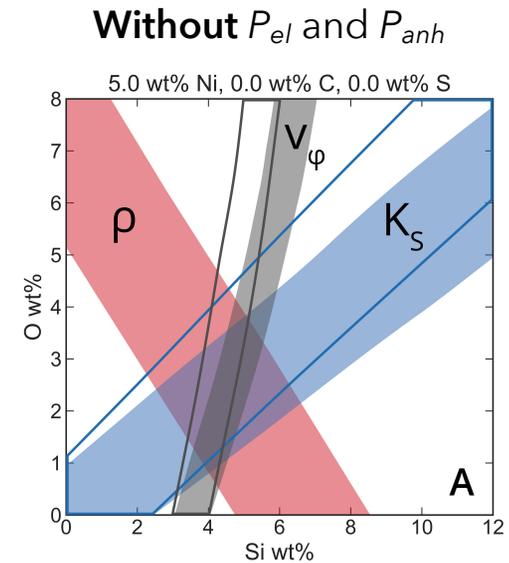
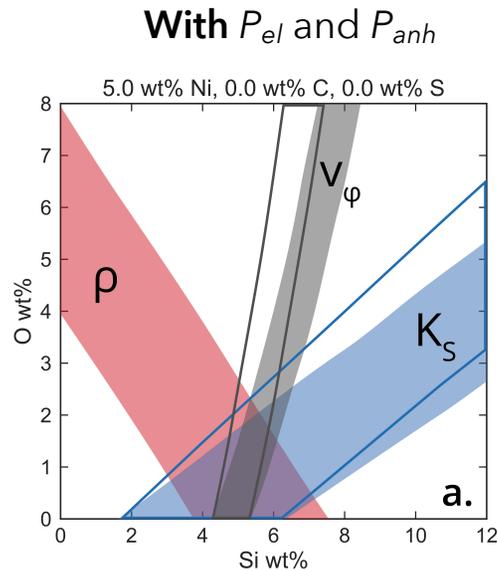


Lower temperatures: <8 wt% Ni and ~5 wt% Si required

Higher temperatures: 0 (to 10) wt% Ni, ~6 (to 5) wt% Si required

Bottom line: can match seismic quantities with an Fe-Ni-Si alloy

# Compositional mixing model: Electronic and anharmonic contributions to thermal pressure



Neglecting  $P_{el}$  and  $P_{anh}$  yields results with **more** O, C, S in the inner core

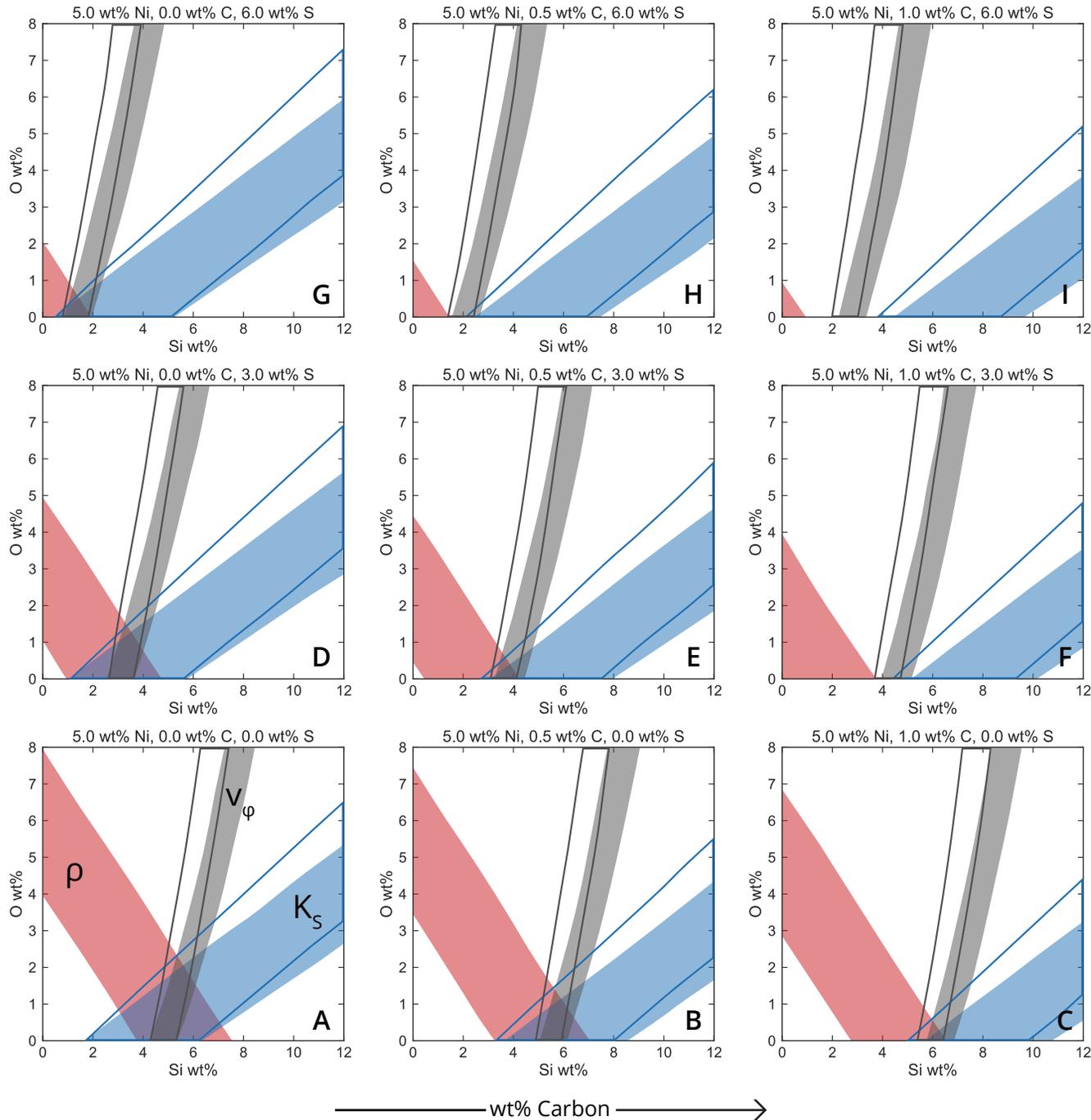
Upper limits (linear mixing):

6.4 wt% Si  
2.3 wt% O  
7.5 wt% S  
1.0 wt% C

6.2 wt% Si  
↑ 4.2 wt% O  
↑ 8.0 wt% S  
↑ 2.0 wt% C

# Intersection of iron-nickel-alloy properties with AK135-F at the inner-core boundary

$T = 5500 \text{ K}$

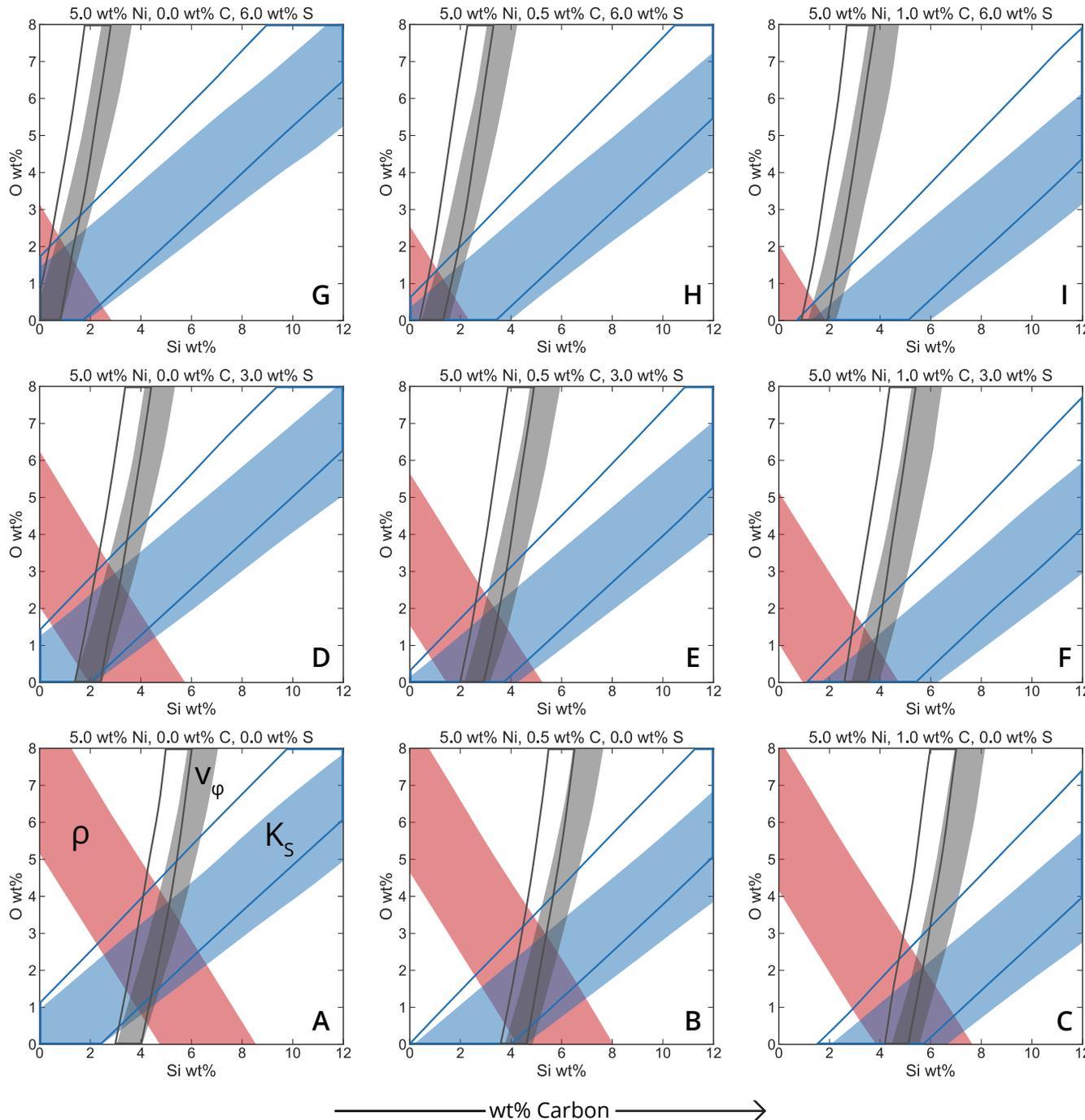


Morrison *et al.* *JGR* (2018)

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# Intersection of iron-nickel-alloy properties with AK135-F at the inner-core boundary



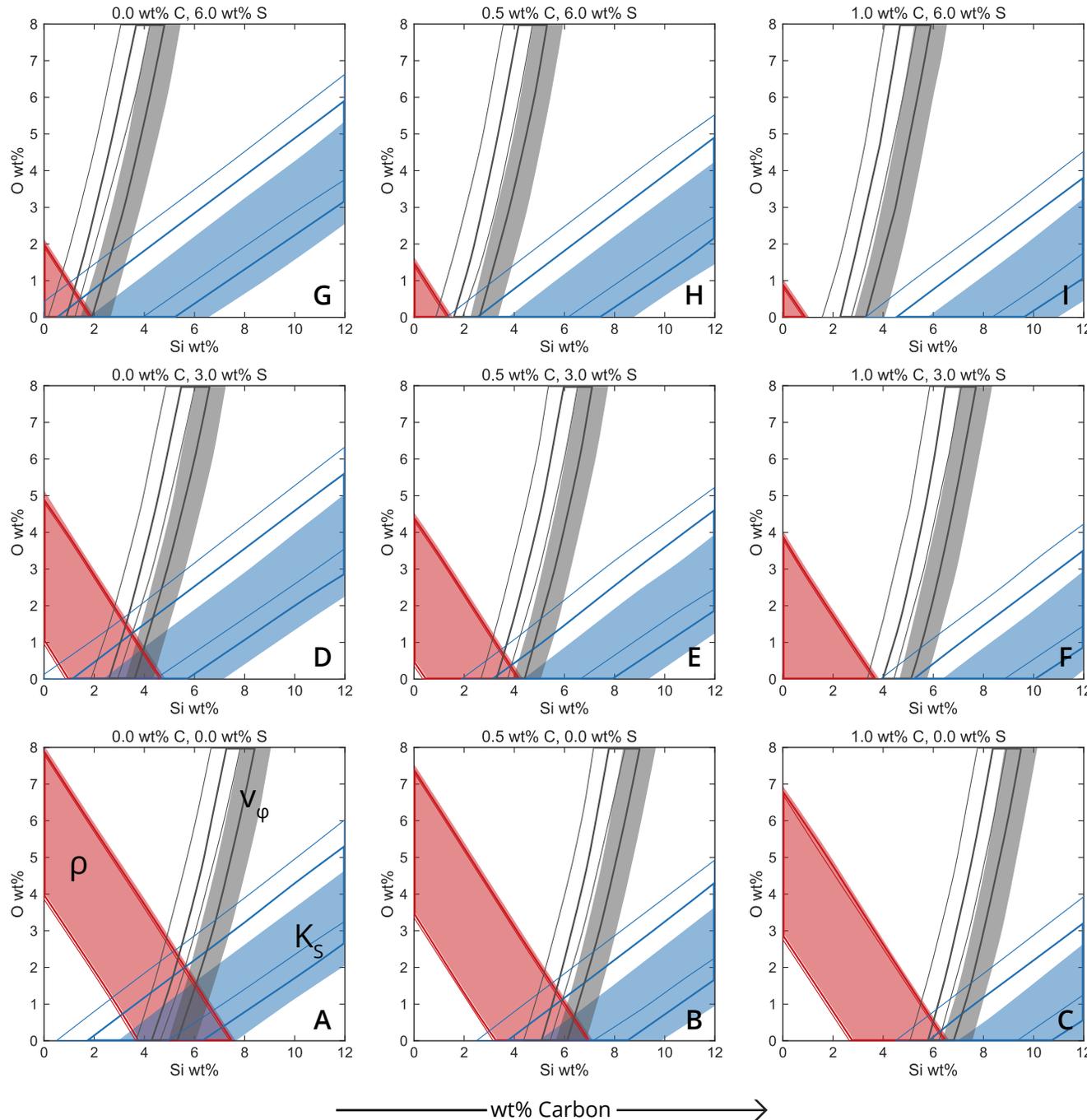
$T = 5500 \text{ K}$   
without  
electronic  $P_{el}$  and  
anharmonic  $P_{anh}$   
terms

Morrison *et al.* *JGR* (2018)

Jennifer M. Jackson



# Intersection of iron-**X%**nickel-alloy properties with AK135-F at the inner-core boundary



$T = 5500 \text{ K}$   
**0% Ni** (shaded)  
**5% Ni** (thick lines)  
**10% Ni** (thin lines)

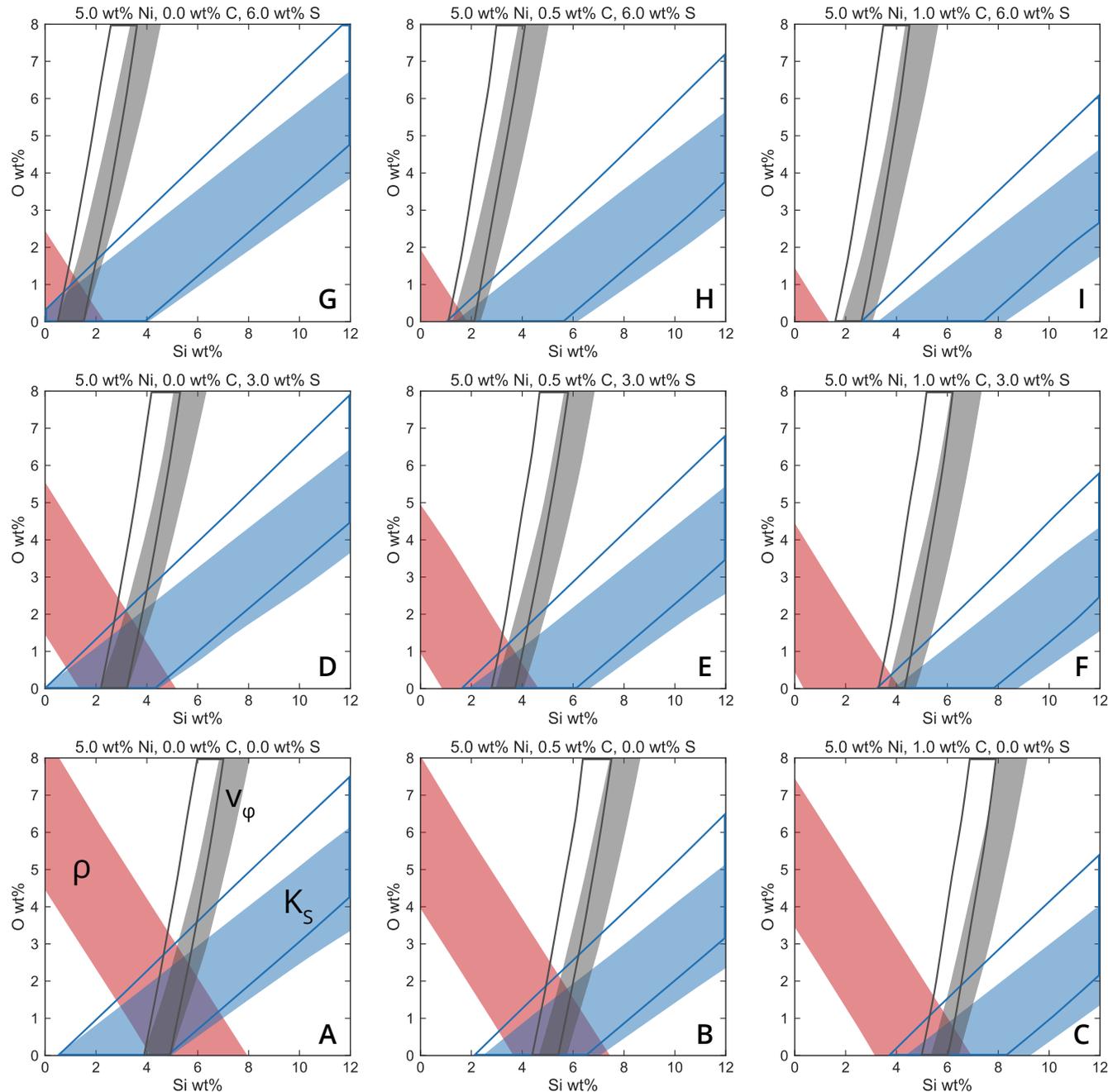
Morrison *et al.* *JGR* (2018)

Jennifer M. Jackson



# Intersection of iron-nickel-alloy properties with AK135-F at the inner-core boundary

$T = 5000 \text{ K}$



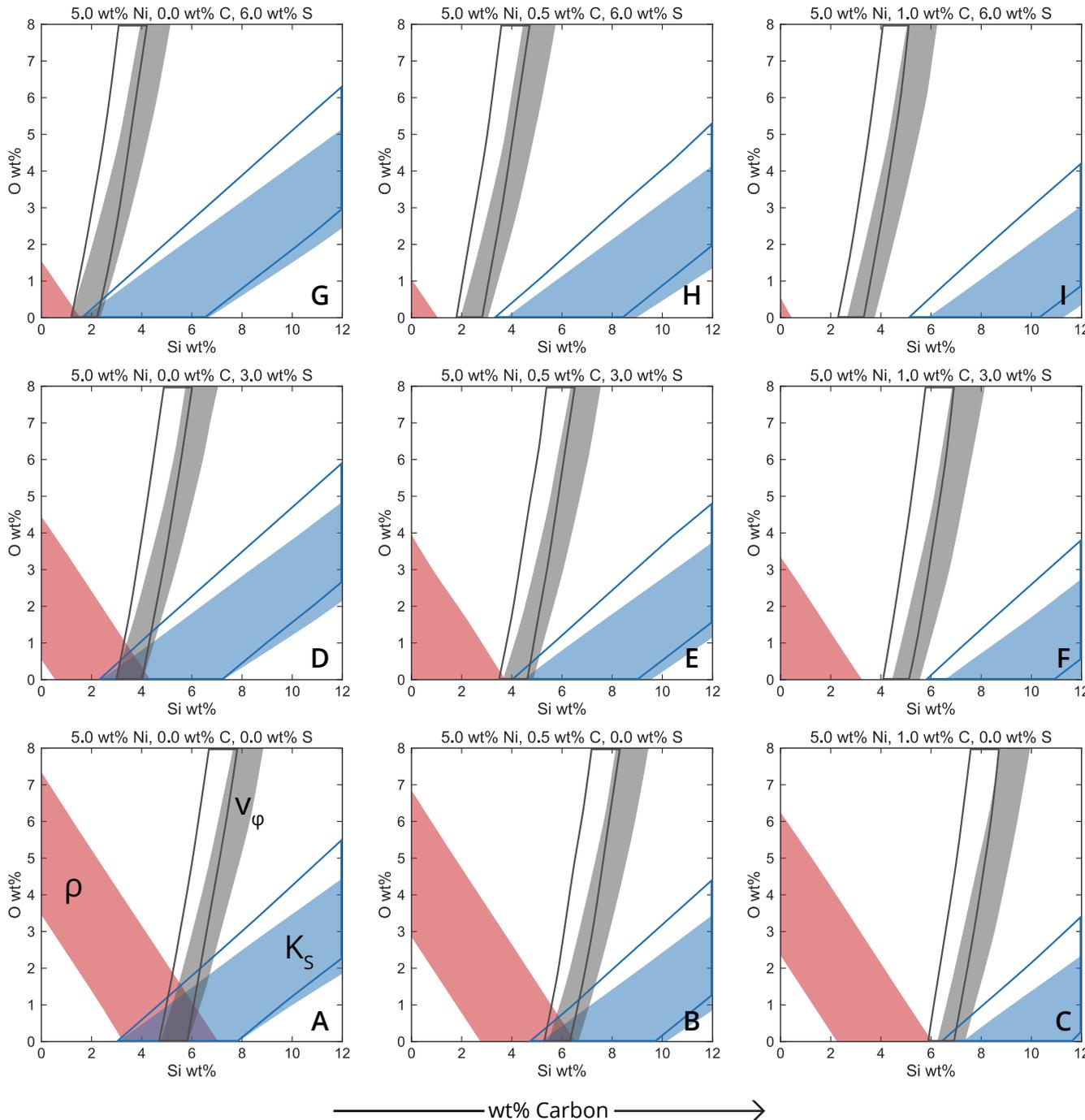
Morrison *et al.* JGR (2018)

Jennifer M. Jackson



# Intersection of iron-nickel-alloy properties with AK135-F at the inner-core boundary

$T = 6000 \text{ K}$

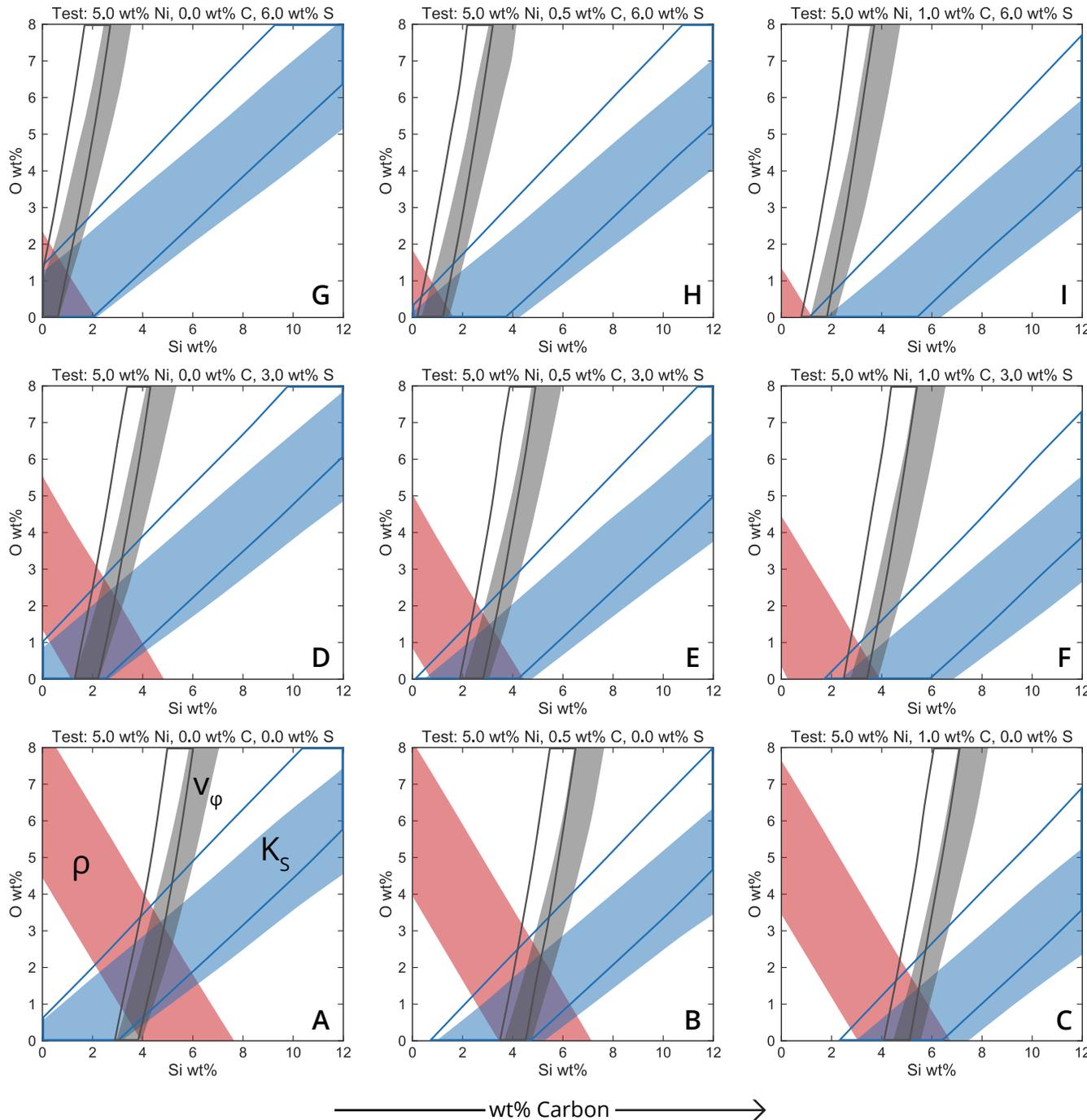


Morrison *et al.* JGR (2018)

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# Intersection of iron-nickel-alloy properties with AK135-F



$T = 5500 \text{ K}$   
 $P = 364 \text{ GPa}$

Morrison *et al.* *JGR* (2018)

Jennifer M. Jackson



# Conclusions

Using nuclear resonant inelastic x-ray scattering and x-ray diffraction, we determined the sound velocities and thermal properties of Fe-Ni-Si alloys

- New method to constrain Debye velocity using probability distributions and information criteria:  $V_D$ ,  $V_P$ ,  $V_S$
- thermal properties:  $\gamma$ ,  $P_{vib}$ ,  $\alpha$ , *kinetic energy*, *specific heat*, *Lamb-Mössbauer factor*
- *Morrison et al. (2018, under review)*

## Composition at Earth's inner-core boundary

Overlap of seismic observations for density, bulk modulus, and bulk sound speed, within reasonable propagated uncertainties:

- Constraints on the S,Si,C,O contents
- Incorporating electronic pressure is essential to narrow down the permissible composition of the core
- *Morrison et al. JGR (2018)*

