

## **NIST 2010 Diffusion Workshop**

# **Atomic mobility and diffusivity in Al alloys**

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# **Atomic mobility and diffusivity in Al alloys**

## **1. Motivation**

## **2. Computational and experimental methods**

**2.1 Diffusion couple with EPMA technique**

**2.2 Empirical approaches**

**2.3 First-principles method**

**2.4 DICTRA approach**

## **3. Atomic mobility and diffusivity in binary Al alloys**

## **4. Atomic mobility and diffusivity in ternary Al alloys**

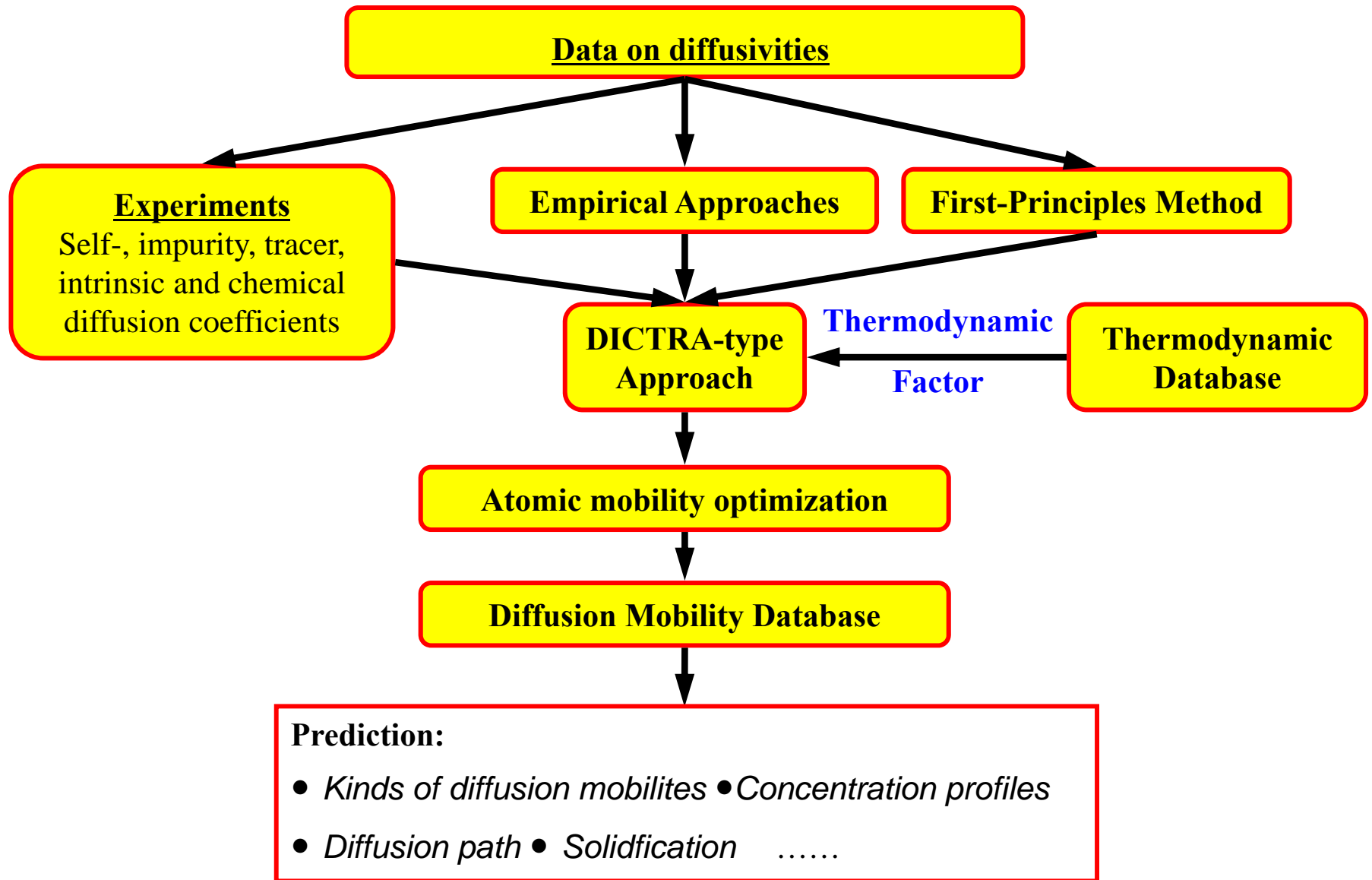
## **5. Summary**

# 1. Motivation

- Al-based alloys are widely used as aeronautic and civil materials



- (I) Al-based thermodynamic database is reasonably established.
- (II) Lack of reliable kinetic databases for Al alloys!
- Our work: To establish an atomic mobility database for Al alloys via a combination of experiments, empirical approach, first-principles method and DICTRA approach.



**Fig.1** Our strategy to establish an atomic mobility database in Al alloys

# **Atomic mobility and diffusivity in Al alloys**

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**2.4 DICTRA approach**

## **3. Atomic mobility and diffusivity in binary Al alloys**

## **4. Atomic mobility and diffusivity in ternary Al alloys**

## **5. Summary**

## **2. Computational and experimental methods**

### **2.1 Diffusion couple with EPMA technique**

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### **2.3 First-principles method**

### **2.4 DICTRA approach**

# 2.1 Diffusion couple with EPMA technique

Diffusion  
Couples

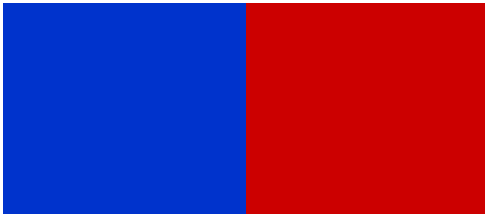


EPMA  
Technique

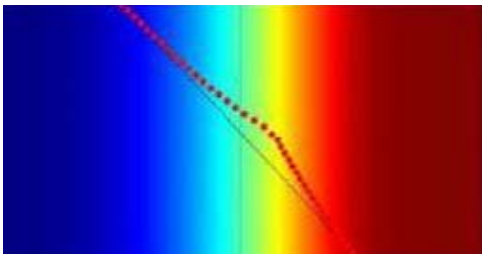


Diffusion  
Coefficient

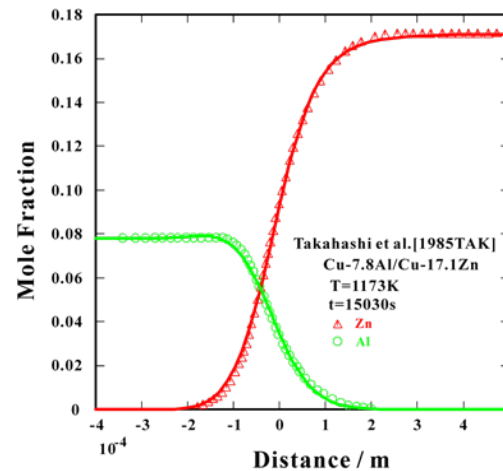
- ◆ Prepare diffusion couples



- ◆ annealed  
at certain temperature  
for certain time

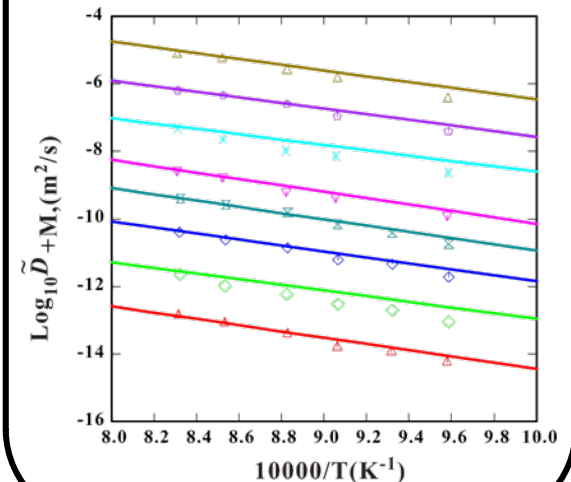


- ◆ Measurement of the concentration profiles via **Electron Probe Microanalysis (EPMA)**



- ◆ Calculate the diffusion coefficient

$$\tilde{D}(C^*) = -\frac{1}{2t} \frac{\int_{C_L}^{C^*} x dC}{(dC/dx)_{C^*}}$$



## 2.1 Diffusion couple with EPMA technique

### Experimental procedure

Al-Cu-Zn (fcc in Al-rich side)

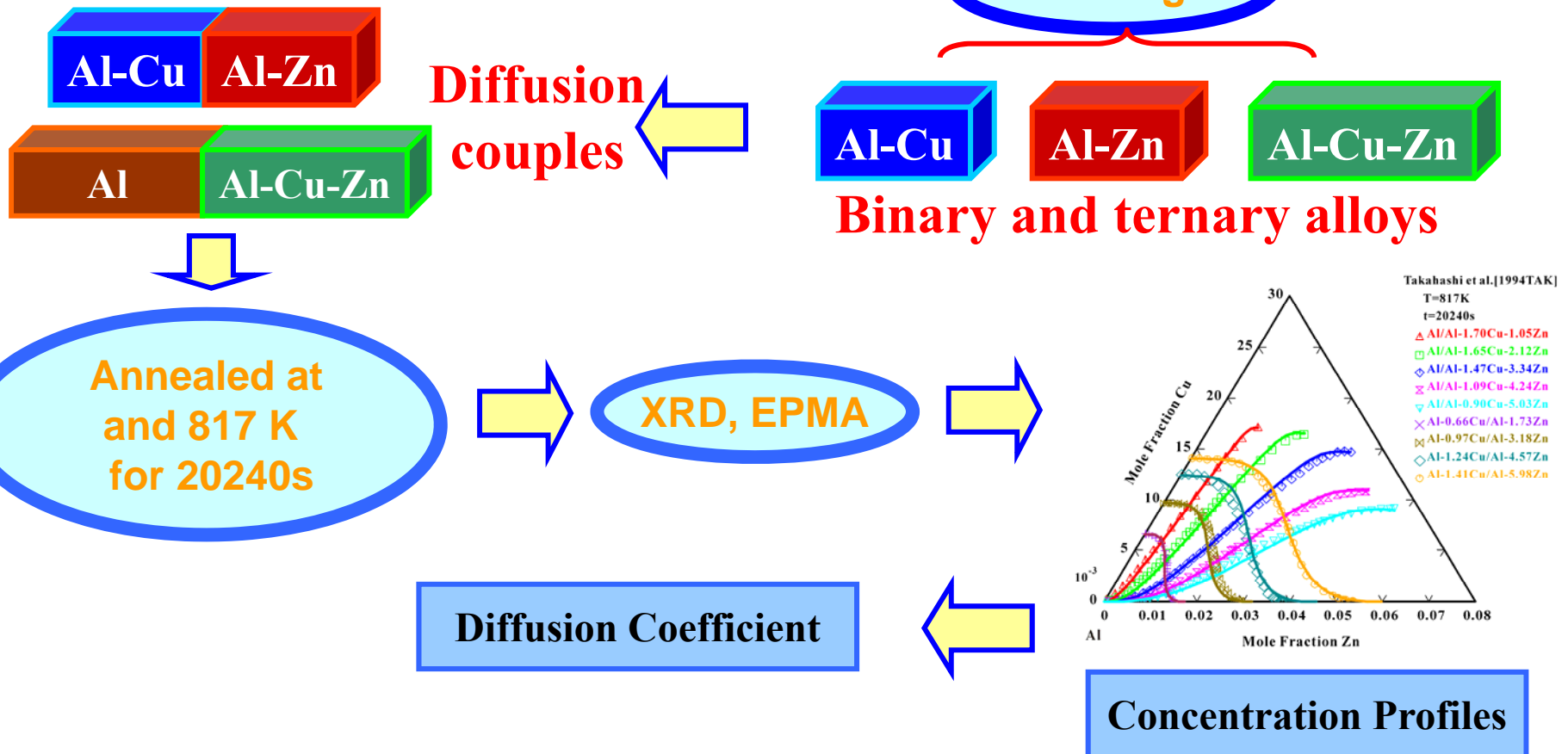


Fig. 2. Experimental procedure to Measure the Diffusion Coefficient of the Al-Cu-Zn system



## **2. Computational and experimental methods**

**2.1 Diffusion couple with EPMA technique**

**2.2 Empirical approaches**

**2.3 First-principles method**

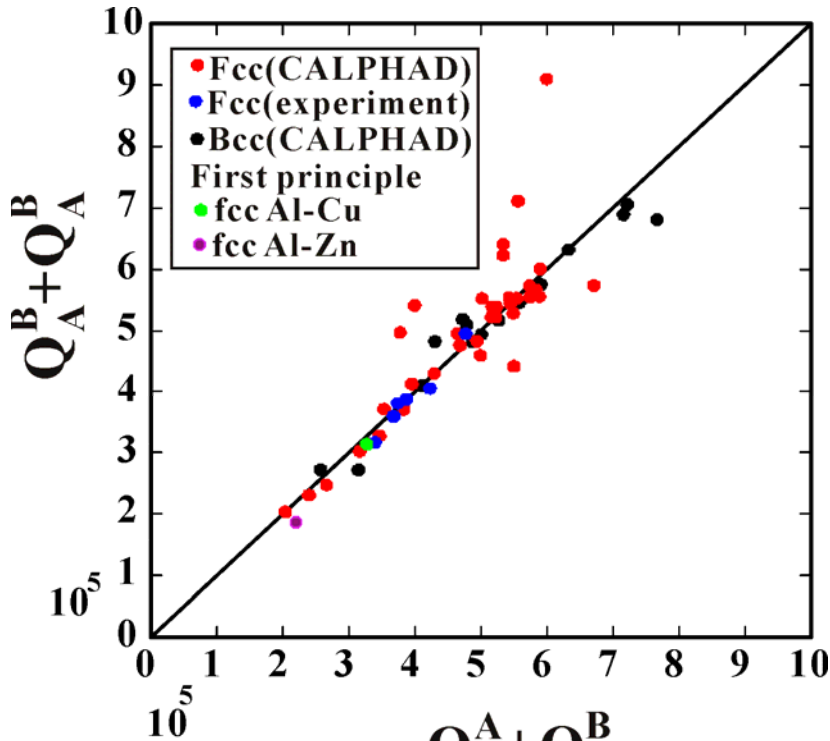
**2.4 DICTRA approach**

## 2.2 Empirical approaches

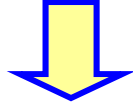
### Summary of empirical approaches to estimate self-diffusivity and impurity diffusivity

values	relation	reference
$Q_{self}$	$Q = ATm$ , ( $Tm$ is melting point; $A=38$ cal/mol for fcc; $A=32.5$ for bcc) $Q = 16.5 Lf$ , ( $Lf$ is latent heat of fusion, in kcal/mole) $Q = 0.65 Ls$ , ( $Ls$ is latent heat of sublimation, in kcal/mole)	J. Askill, IFI/Plenum, pp. 19-26 (1971)
	$Q=B/\chi$ , ( $\chi$ is compressibility)	G.B. Gibbs, C.E.G.B. Report RD/B/n/355, Nov.1964
	$Q = 700/\alpha$ , ( $\alpha$ is coefficient of linear expansion at RT, in ppm/ $^{\circ}C$ )	G. Askill, phys. Stat. Soli.,11:K49(1965)
	$Q=KE_0a^3$ , ( $K$ is a proportionality constant depending only on the crystal structure, $E_0$ is an appropriate constant, $a$ is the lattice parameter)	S. Dushman and I. Langmuir, Phys. Rev., 20:113(1922)
	$Q = (Ko+V)RTm$ , ( $Ko$ is a crystal structure factor: 14 for bcc; 17 for fcc and Hcp; 21 for diamond structure. $V$ = valence of the metal.)	O.D. Sherby and M.T. Simnad, Trans. ASM, 54, 227-40(1961)
	$Q=RTm(K+1.5V)$ , ( $K=13$ for bcc, 15.5 for fcc and cph, 20 for diamond)	A.D. Leclaire, Phil. Mag. , 7 (13) :141(1962)
	$D_0^{self}$	$D_0=a^2 \cdot v \cdot \exp(\lambda \cdot \beta \cdot Q/RTm)$ , ( $a$ = lattice parameter; $v$ = vibrational frequency; $\lambda$ = constant (0.6 for bcc, and 0.8 for fcc); $\beta = 0.5$ )
$D_0 = 1.04 \cdot 10^{-3} Q a^2$		J. Askill, IFI/Plenum, pp. 19-26 (1971)
$D_{self}$	$D=3.4 \times 10^{-5} Tm \cdot a^2 \exp(-17.0Tm/T) \text{cm}^2/\text{sec}$ , ( $T, Tm$ is temperature (K), $a$ is lattice parameter( $10^{-10}$ ).	J. Askill, IFI/Plenum, pp. 19-26 (1971)
$D_{AA}^B$	$D = (D_{A \text{ in } B})^{x_B} (D_{B \text{ in } A})^{x_A} \exp(-16 \Delta TS/(RT)F)$ , ( $\Delta TS$ is the difference between solidus temperature of the alloy and the temperature obtained by letting the solidus temperature vary linearly with the composition, $D_{A \text{ in } B}$ and $D_{B \text{ in } A}$ are impurity diffusivities.)	A. Vignes and G.E. Birchenall, Acta Metal.,16, 1117-25(1968)

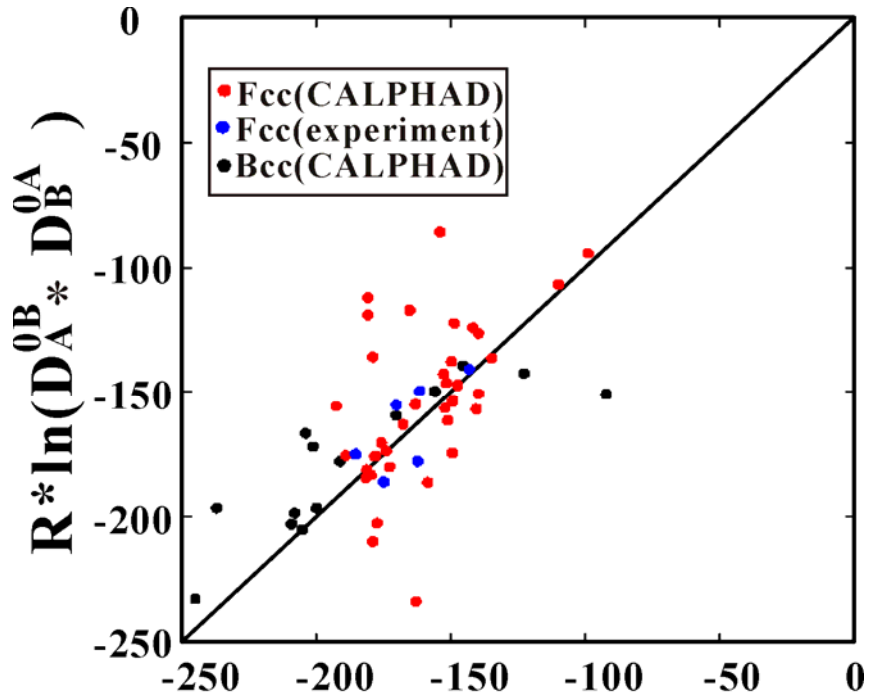
## 2.2 One new empirical approach (our work)



$$Q_A^A + Q_B^B$$



$$Q_A^A + Q_B^B = Q_A^B + Q_B^A$$



$$R * \ln(D_A^{0A} * D_B^{0B})$$



$$\ln(D_A^{0A} * D_B^{0B}) = \ln(D_B^{0A} * D_A^{0B})$$

**Our proposed equation could predict one of the four atomic mobilities .**  
**S.L. Cui, Y.Du et al., J.Phase Equilibria and Diffusion, in review, 2010**

## 2.2 One new empirical approach (our work)

$$\ln(D_A^{0A} * D_B^{0B}) = \ln(D_B^{0A} * D_A^{0B})$$

$$Q_A^A + Q_B^B = Q_A^B + Q_B^A$$



- (1) Partial molar volume of solute  $\cong$  molar volume of solvent**
- (2) Vegard rule holds for volume**

**Our proposed empirical approach could work for disordered substitution phase.**

## 2.2 Empirical approach (our work)

### Al-Zn (fcc phase)

The four end-members for Al-Zn system are

✓  $\Phi_{Al}^{Al}$   $\longrightarrow$  From Zhang and Du(2009)

$$\Phi_{Al}^{Al} = -123111.6 - 97.34 * T$$

✓  $\Phi_{Zn}^{Zn}$   $\longrightarrow$  Empirical approach by Askill

$$\Phi_{Zn}^{Zn} = -76569 - 86.21 * T$$

fcc Zn phase is metastable.

FP (-80.57)

$Q = RTm(K+1.5V)$   $\longrightarrow$  -76.6KJ/mol

$D_0 = 1.04 \times 10^{-3} Q a^2$   $\longrightarrow$  0.314cm<sup>2</sup>/s



✓  $\Phi_{Zn}^{Al}$   $\longrightarrow$  From Du et al. (2003)

$$\Phi_{Zn}^{Al} = -116100 - 94.28 * T$$

$\Phi_{Al}^{Zn}$   $\longrightarrow$  Our proposed approach

$$\Phi_{Al}^{Zn} = -83580.6 - 89.27 * T$$

## **2. Computational and experimental methods**

**2.1 Diffusion couple with EPMA technique**

**2.2 Empirical approaches**

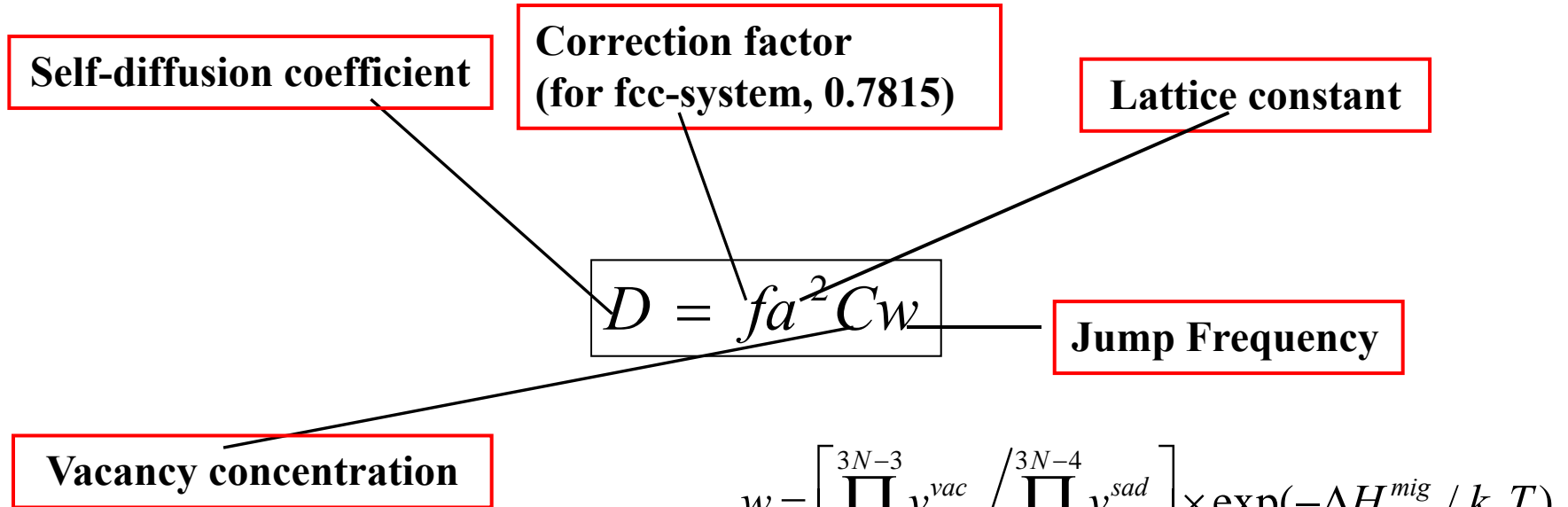
**2.3 First-principles method**

**2.4 DICTRA approach**

## 2.3 First-principles method

**Self-diffusion:** M.Mantina, Y.Wang, R.Arryave, L.Q.Chen, Z.K.Liu, PRL, 100,215901(2008)

Self-diffusion coefficient is calculated by the following equation:



$$C_{eq} = \exp\left(\frac{\Delta S_f^v}{k_B}\right) \exp\left(-\frac{\Delta H_f}{k_B T}\right)$$

$\Delta S_f^v$  = entropy of vacancy formation

$\Delta H_f$  = enthalpy of vacancy formation

$$w = \left[ \prod_{i=1}^{3N-3} \nu_i^{vac} / \prod_{i=1}^{3N-4} \nu_i^{sad} \right] \times \exp(-\Delta H_v^{mig} / k_B T)$$

$\Delta H_v^{mig}$  = vacancy migration enthalpy  
(energy barrier to be overcome for an atom to jump into the vacancy)

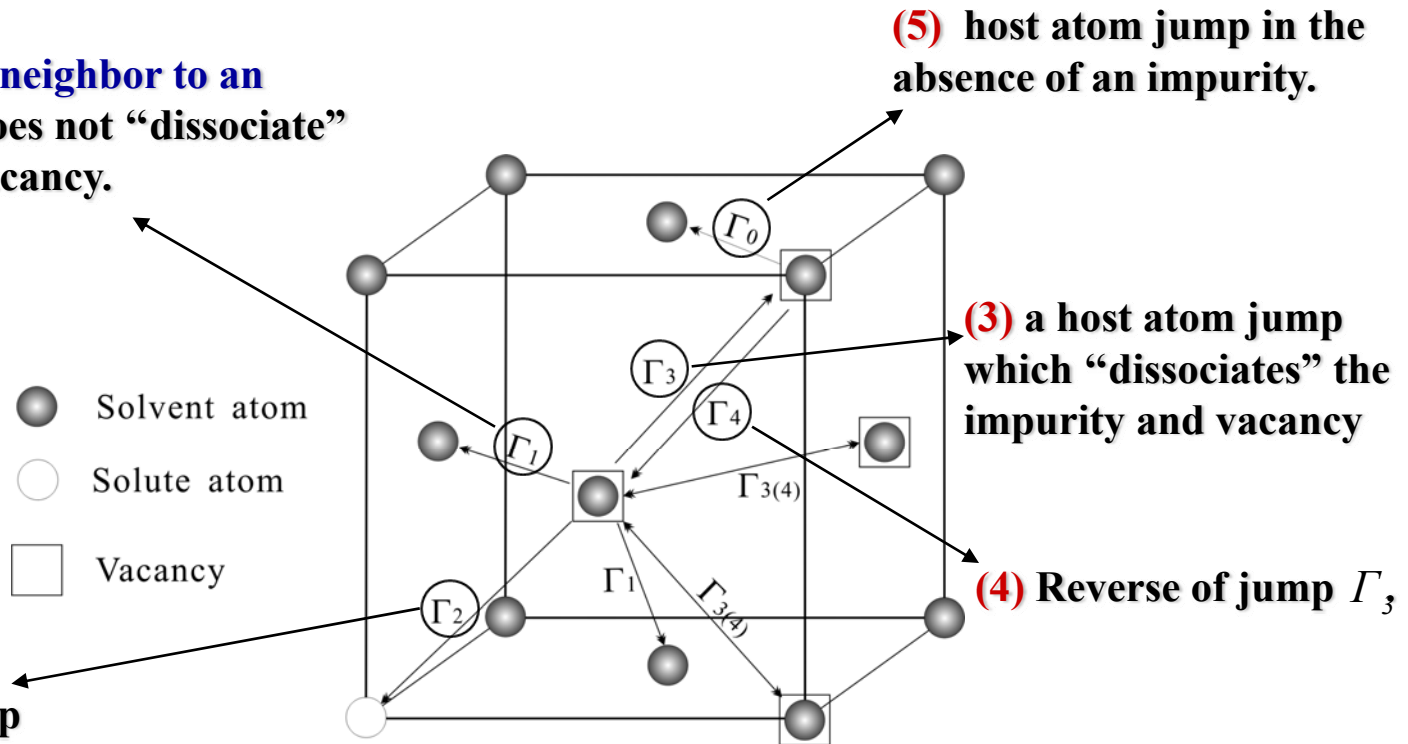
$\nu_i^{vac}$  and  $\nu_i^{sad}$  = Phonon frequencies in normal and saddle-point configurations

## 2.3 First-principles method

### *Impurity-diffusion:*

**(1)** a host atom (nearest neighbor to an impurity) jump which does not “dissociate” the impurity from the vacancy.

**(2)** impurity atom jump



**Fig .3.** Five frequency model illustration for the case of an fcc system with a dilute impurity concentration. The arrows indicate the direction of the vacancy jump.

**A.D. LeClaire and A.B. Lidiard, Phil. Mag., 47, 518 (1970)**



## 2.3 First-principles method

### *Impurity-diffusion:*

$f_2$  = correction factor for impurity diffusion

$f_0$  = self-diffusion correction factor

According to the five jump frequency model, we have:

we can obtain:

$$\frac{D_2}{D_0} = \frac{f_2}{f_0} \frac{w_4}{w_0} \frac{w_1}{w_3} \frac{w_2}{w_1} \quad \Longrightarrow \quad D_2 = f_2 w_2 a^2 \exp\left(-\frac{\Delta G_f^0 - \Delta G_b}{k_B T}\right)$$

Since jump frequency of the solute atom is:

$$w_2 = v^* \exp\left(-\frac{\Delta H_m}{k_B T}\right)$$

Substitute

So we can get the expression for impurity diffusion coefficient:

$$D_2 = f_2 v^* a^2 \exp\left(\frac{\Delta S_f}{k_B}\right) \exp\left(-\frac{\Delta H_m + \Delta H_f - \Delta G_B}{k_B T}\right)$$

Enthalpy of vacancy formation

Solute-vacancy binding energy

Energy barrier for the exchange of the solute impurity with a nearest-neighbor vacancy.

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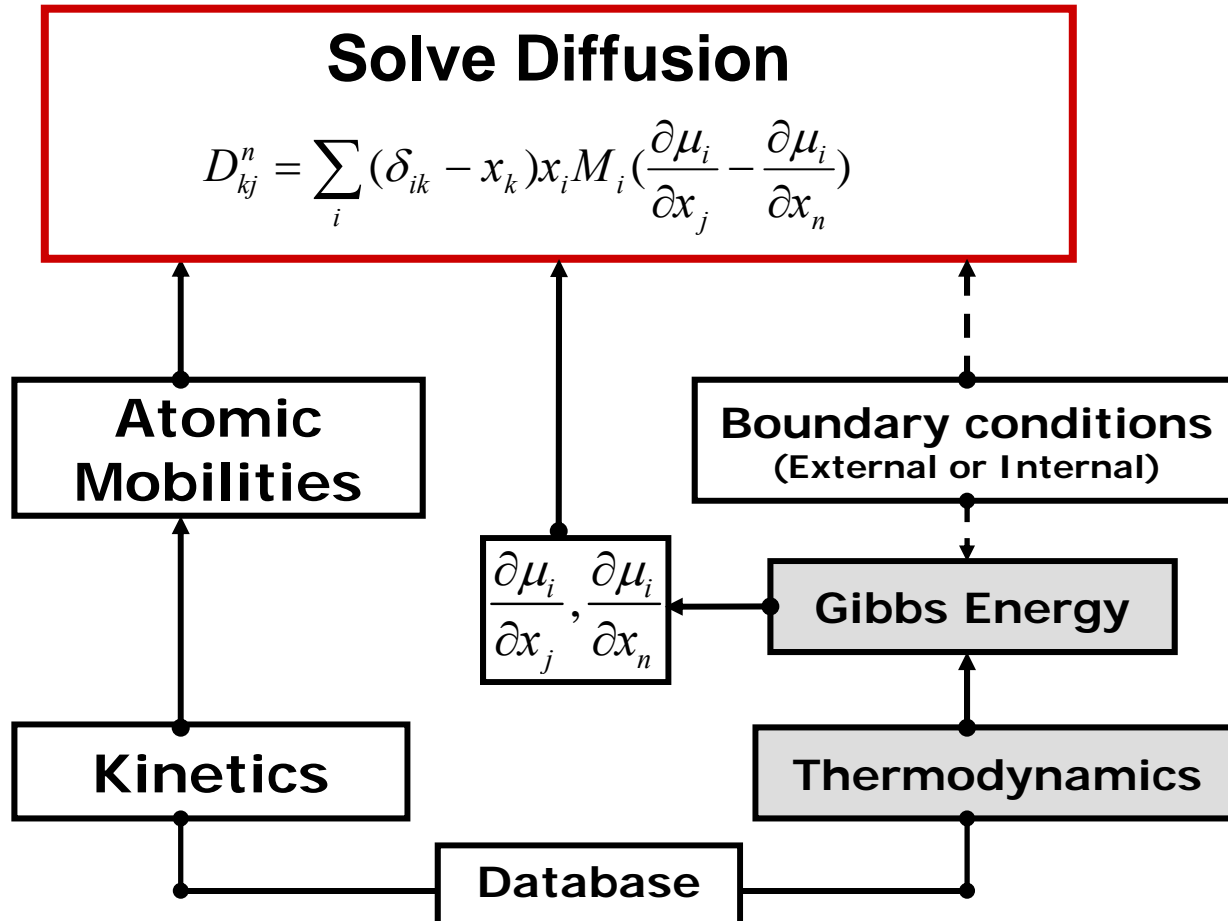
**2.3 First-principles method**

**2.4 DICTRA approach**

## 2.4 DICTRA approach

**DICTRA** (**D**iffusion **C**ontrolled **T**RAnsfOrmations):

a full coupling of thermodynamics and kinetics



## 2.4 DICTRA approach

According to Andersson and Ågren, the atomic mobility for an element B can be expressed by an equation of the form:

$$M_B = \exp\left(\frac{RT \ln M_B^0}{RT}\right) \exp\left(\frac{-Q_B}{RT}\right) \frac{1}{RT} {}^{mg} \Omega$$

$M_B$  Mobility for element B  
 $M_B^0$  frequency factor  
 $Q_B$  activation energy  
 ${}^{mg} \Omega$  Ferromagnetic contribution

Composition dependency of **atomic mobility** is represented with a linear combination of the values at each endpoint of the composition space:

$$\Phi_B = \sum_i x_i \Phi_B^i + \sum_i \sum_{j>i} x_i x_j \left[ \sum_{r=0}^m r \Phi_B^{i,j} (x_i - x_j)^r \right]$$

$$+ \sum_i \sum_{j>i} \sum_{k>j} x_i x_j x_k \left[ \sum_s v_{ijk}^s \Phi_B^{i,j,k} \right]; \quad (s = i, j, k)$$

$v_{ijk}^s = x_s + (1 - x_i - x_j - x_k) / 3$

where  $\Phi_B$  represents  $RT \ln M_B^0 - Q_B$ .

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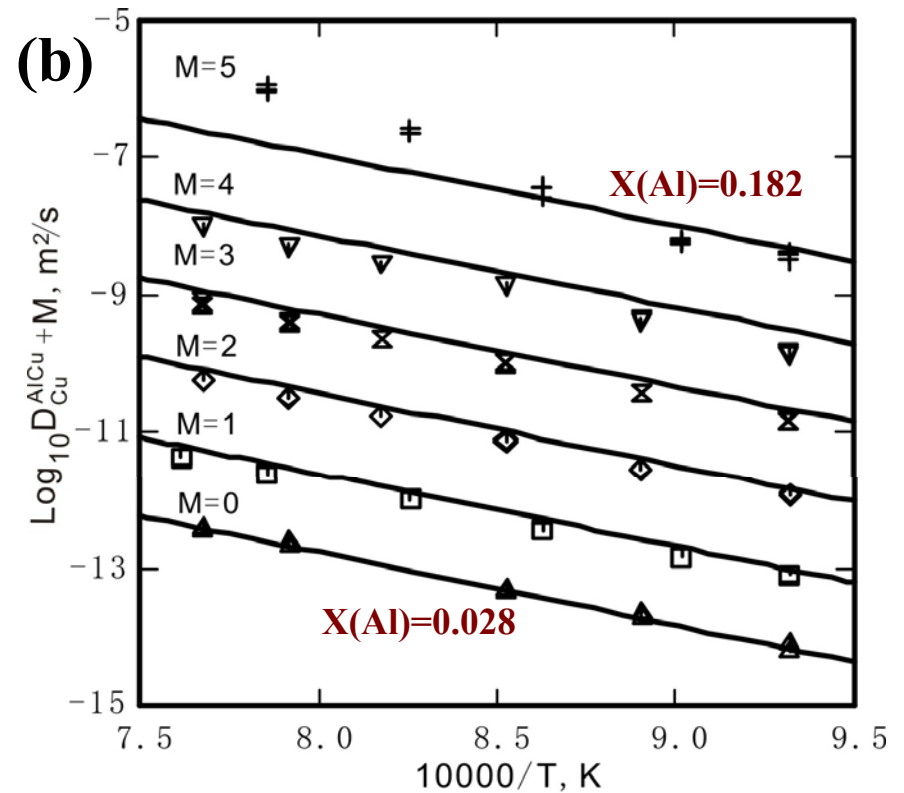
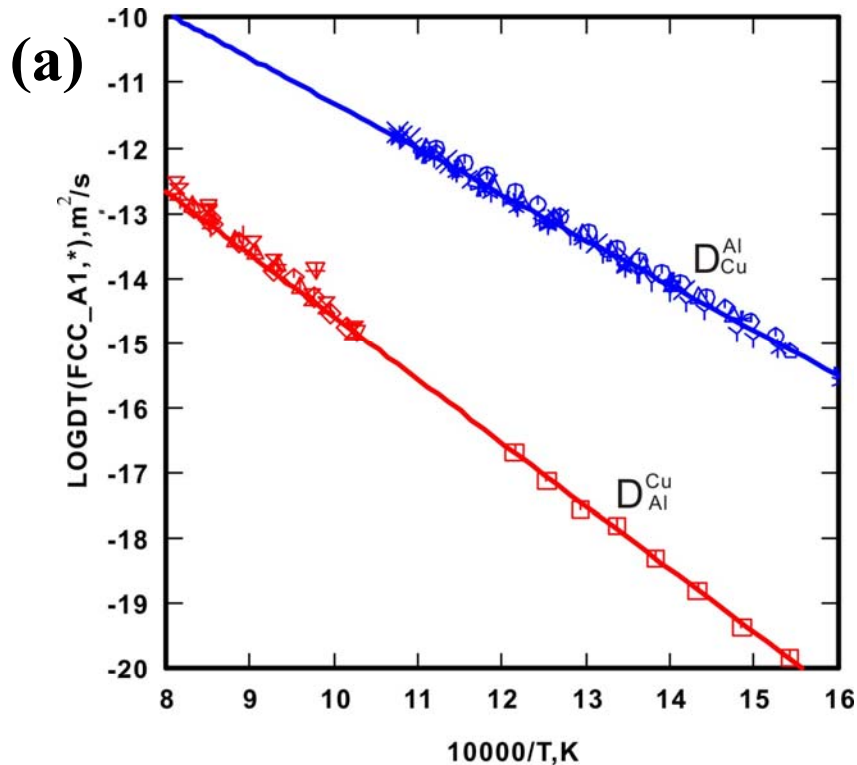
**2.4 DICTRA approach**

## **3. Atomic mobility and diffusivity in binary Al alloys**

## **4. Atomic mobility and diffusivity in ternary Al alloys**

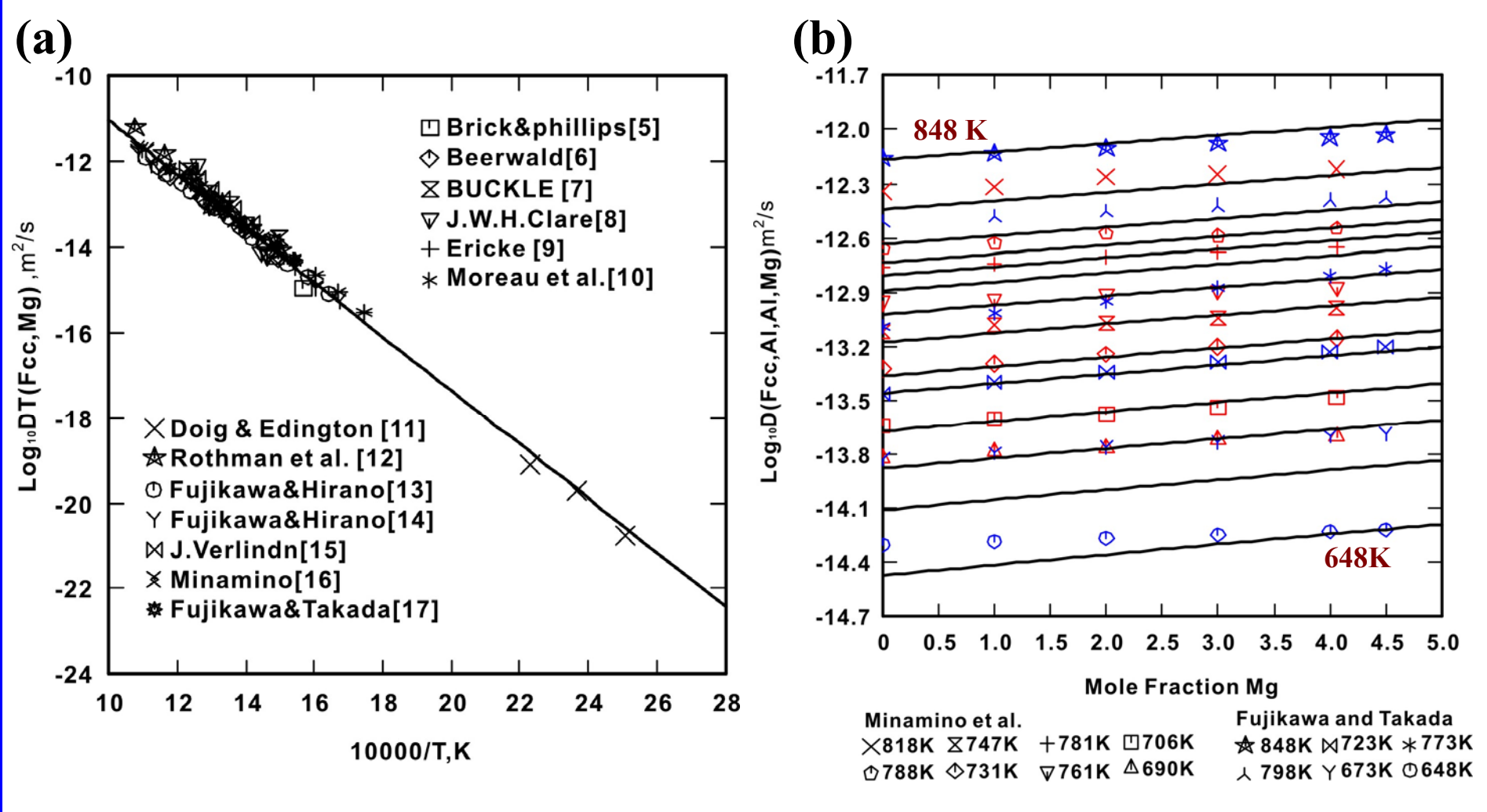
## **5. Summary**

# The Al-Cu binary system (fcc phase)



**Fig. 4.** Comparison between the calculated and measured coefficients of  
**(a)** impurity diffusion Al in pure Cu and Cu in pure Al  
**(b)** tracer diffusion of Cu in different fcc Al-Cu alloys

# The Al-Mg binary system (fcc phase)



**Fig. 5.** Comparison between calculated and measured coefficients of  
**(a)** impurity diffusion Mg in pure Al  
**(b)** interdiffusion on Al-rich side of Al-Mg alloys .

# The Al-Zn binary system (fcc phase)

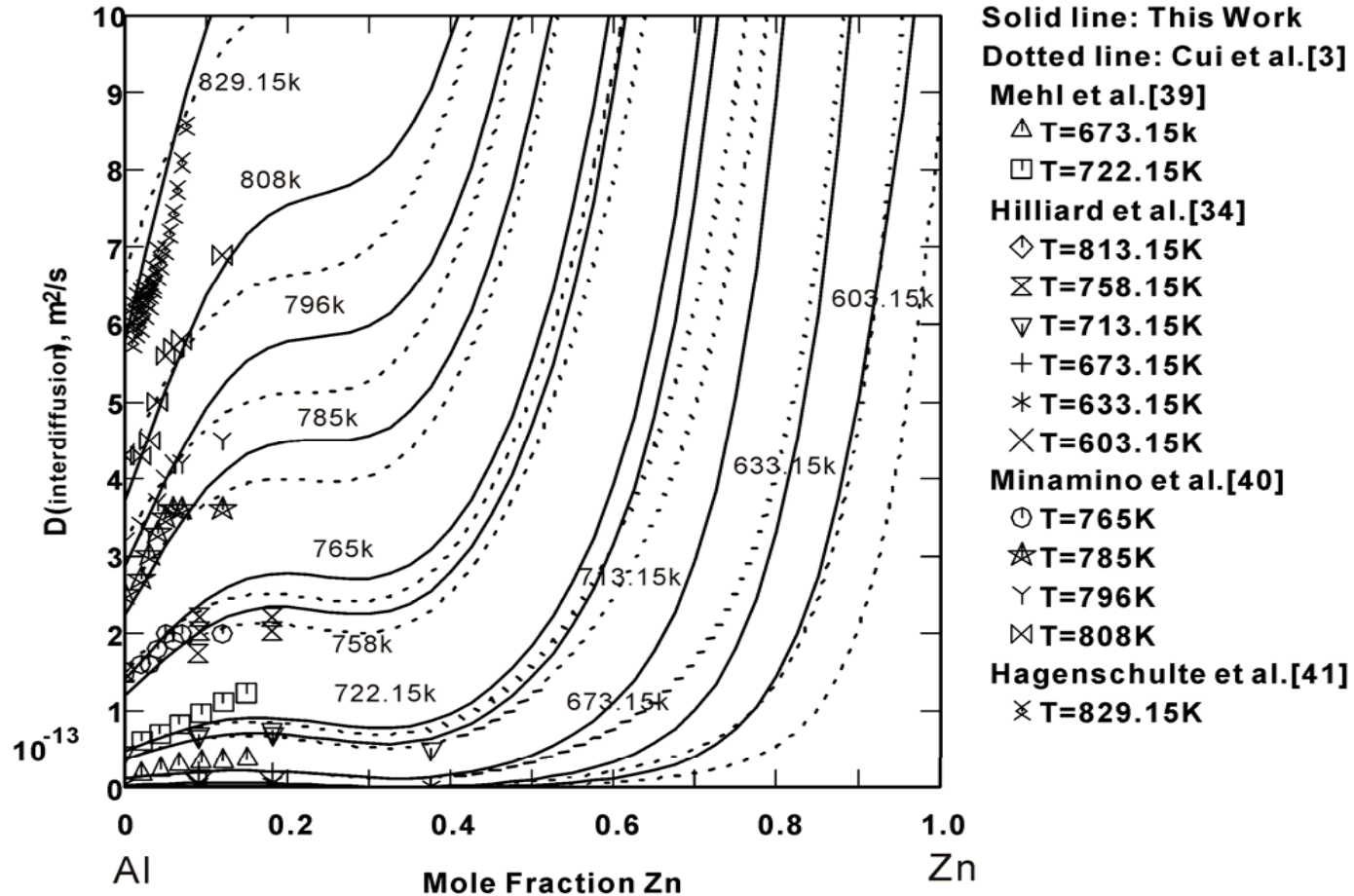
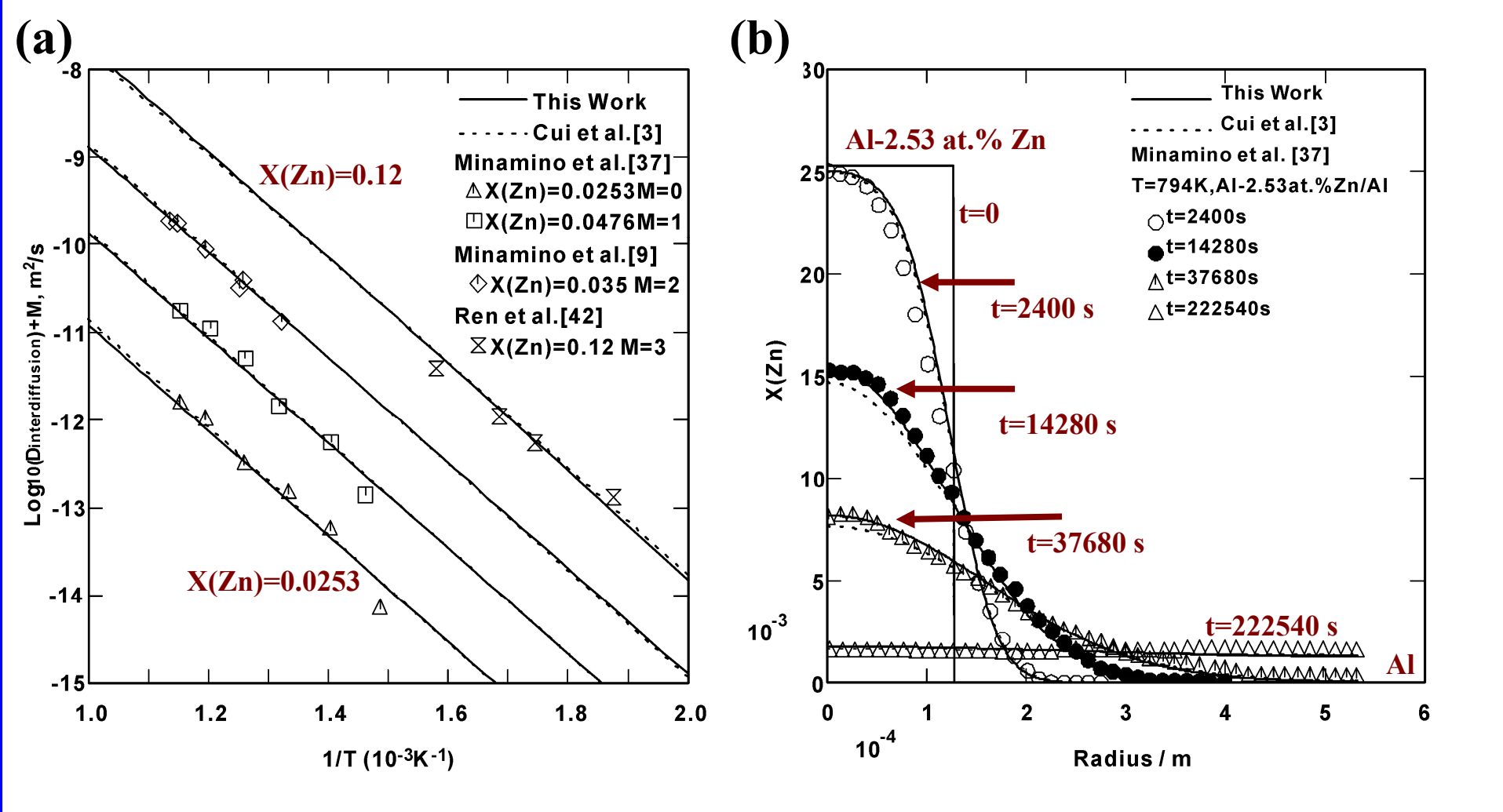


Fig. 6. Comparison between calculated and measured interdiffusion coefficients of Al-Zn alloys.



# The Al-Zn binary system (fcc phase)



**Fig. 7.** Comparison between calculated and measured coefficients of  
**(a)** Interdiffusion on Al-Zn alloys  
**(b)** Predicted concentration profiles of Al-2.53at.%Zn/Al diffusion couple

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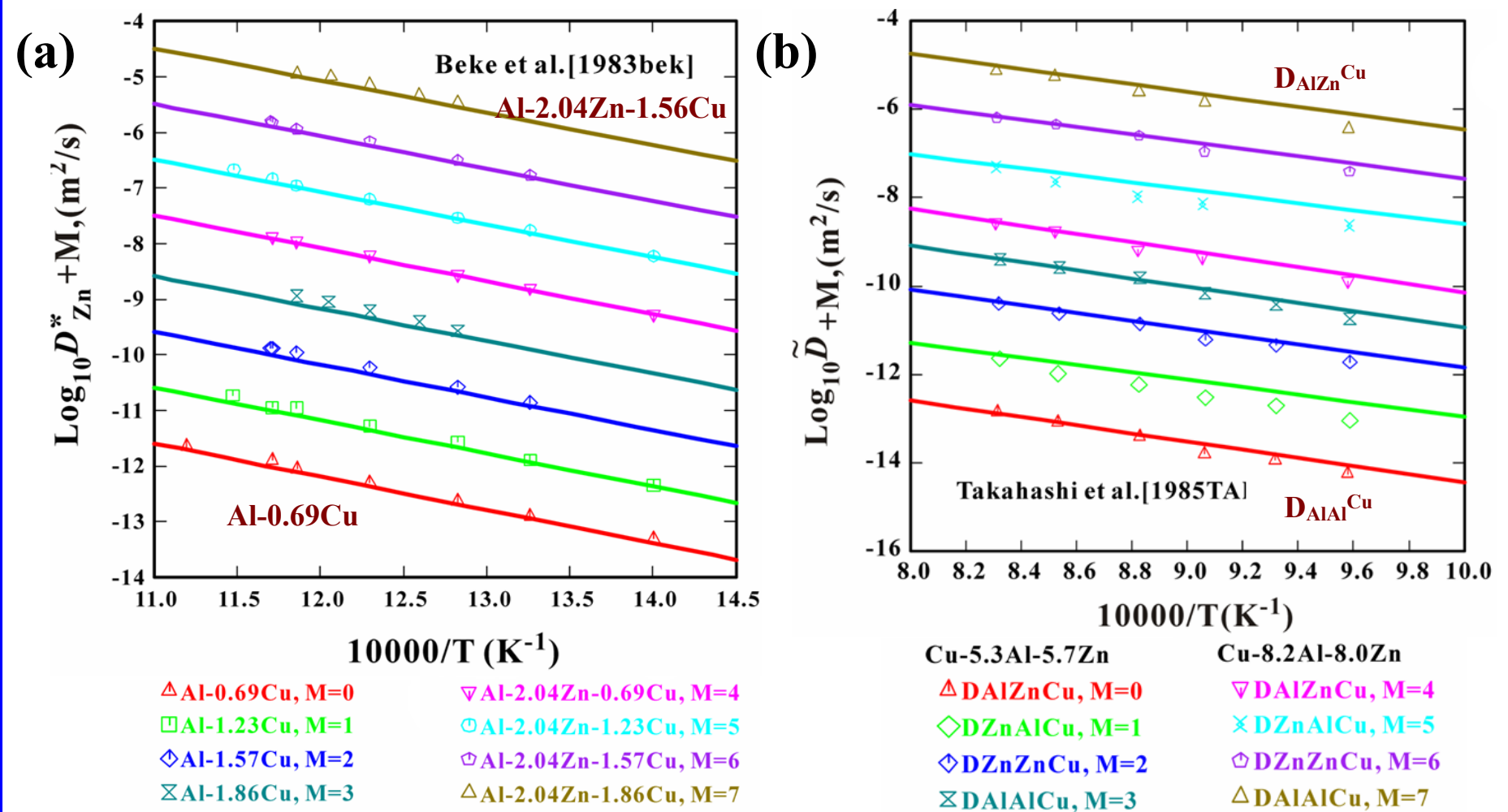
**2.4 DICTRA approach**

## **3. Atomic mobility and diffusivity in binary Al alloys**

## **4. Atomic mobility and diffusivity in ternary Al alloys**

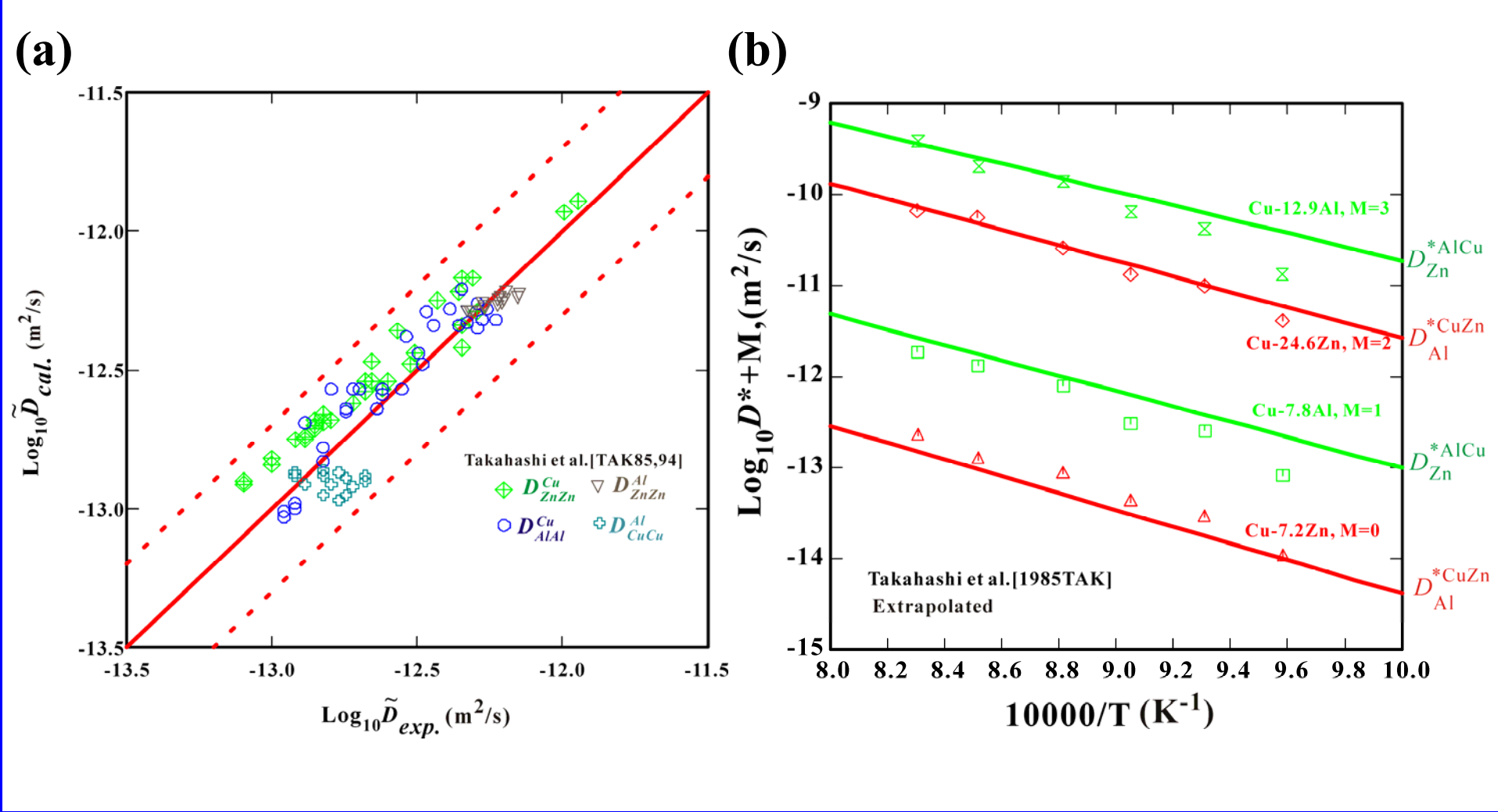
## **5. Summary**

# The Al-Cu-Zn ternary system (fcc phase)



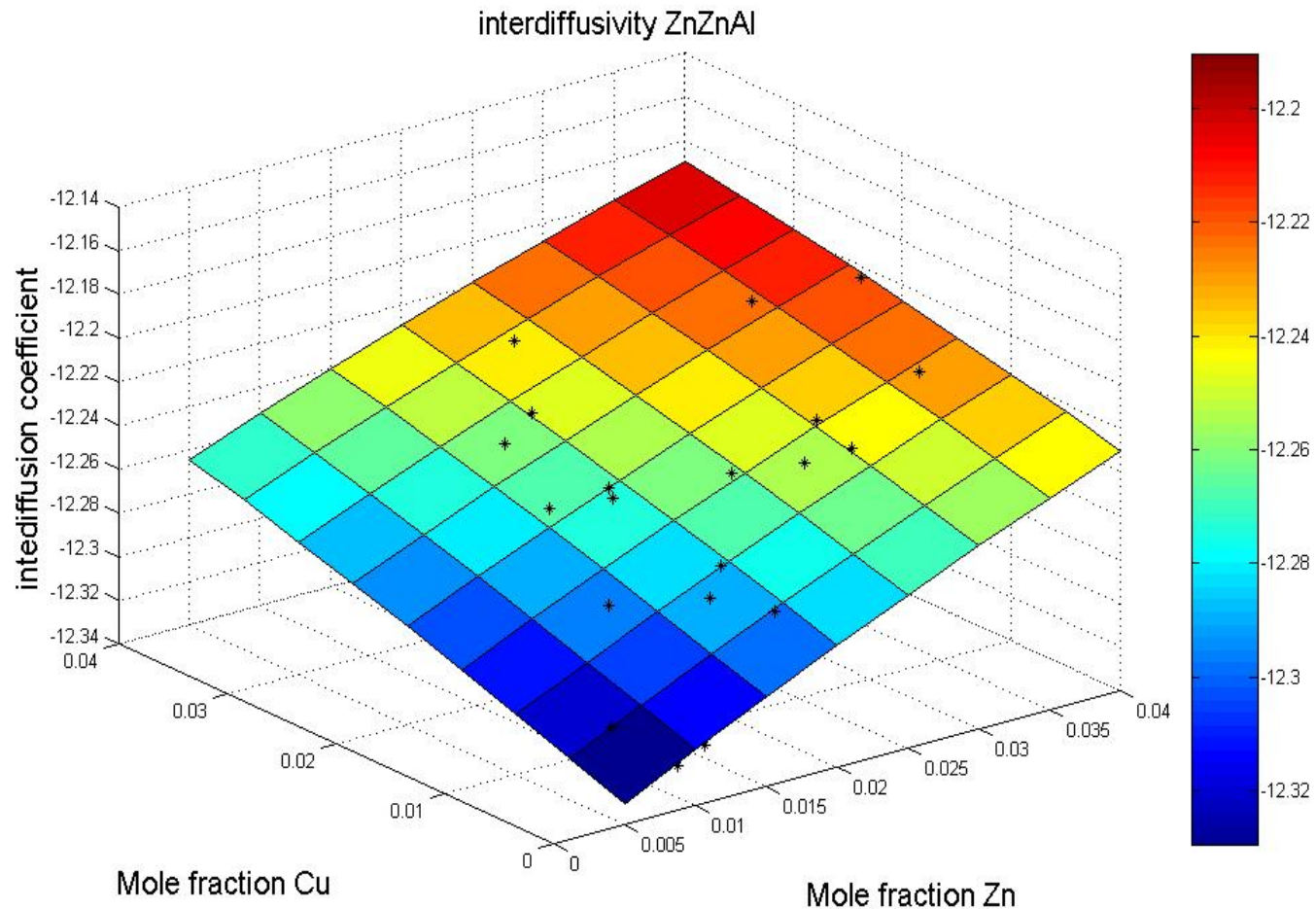
**Fig. 8.** Comparison between calculated and measured coefficients of  
 (a) tracer diffusion coefficients of Zn in Al-Cu and Al-Cu-Zn alloys  
 (b) interdiffusion coefficients in the Al-Cu-Zn alloy

# The Al-Cu-Zn ternary system (fcc phase)



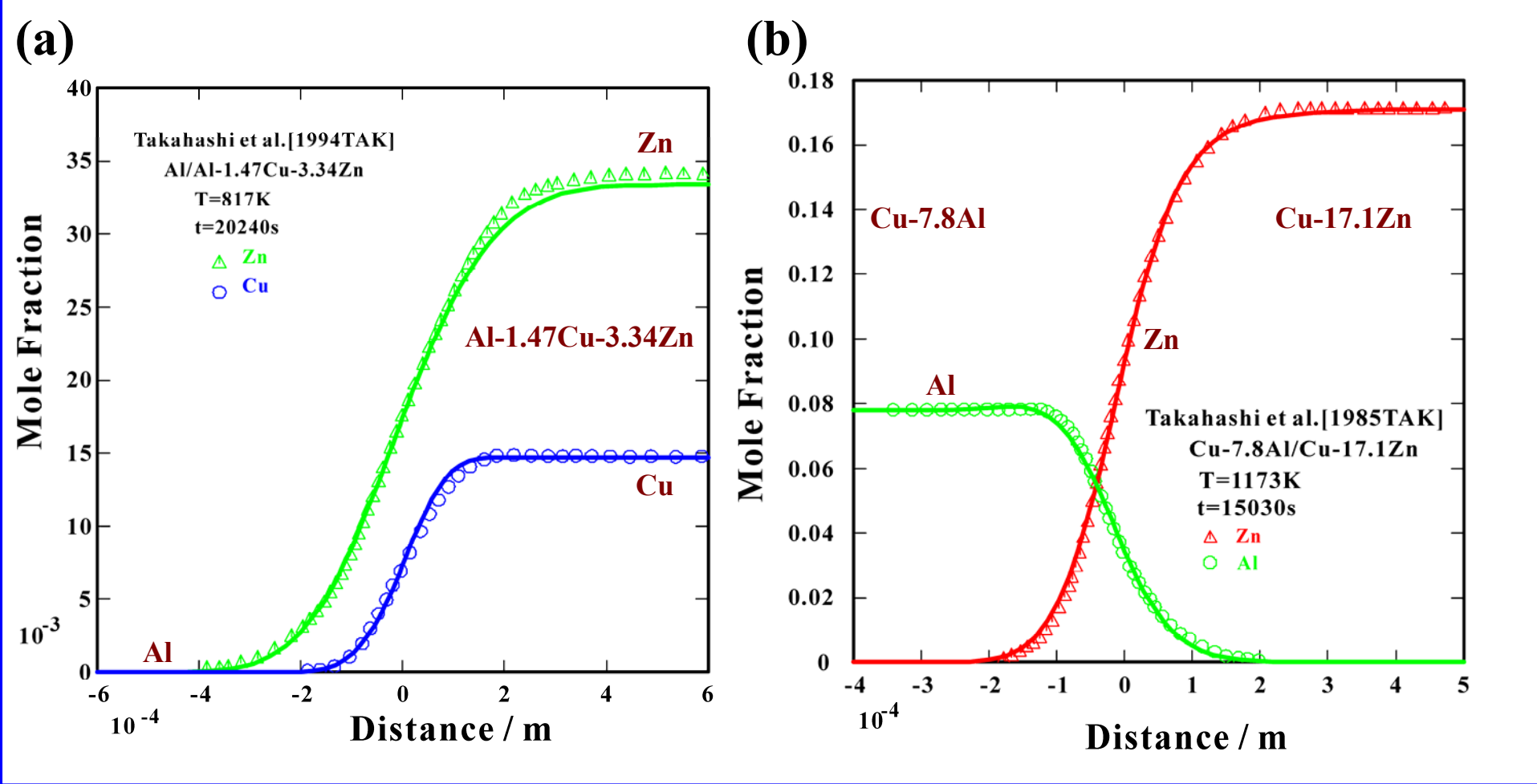
**Fig. 9.** Comparison between calculated and measured coefficients of  
 (a) main diffusion coefficients in Al-Cu-Zn alloys  
 (b) tracer diffusion coefficients: Zn in Al-Cu alloy, Al in Cu-Zn alloy.

# The Al-Cu-Zn ternary system (fcc phase)



**Close up on Fig. 9 (a). Comparison between calculated and measured main diffusion coefficients in Al-Cu-Zn alloys**

# The Al-Cu-Zn ternary system (fcc phase)



**Fig. 10.** Comparison between calculated and measured coefficients of  
(a) Predicted concentration profiles of Al/Al-1.47 at.% Cu-3.34 at.% Zn diffusion couple  
(b) Predicted concentration profiles of Cu-7.8 at.% Al / Cu-17.1 at.% Zn diffusion couple

# The Al-Cu-Zn ternary system (fcc phase)

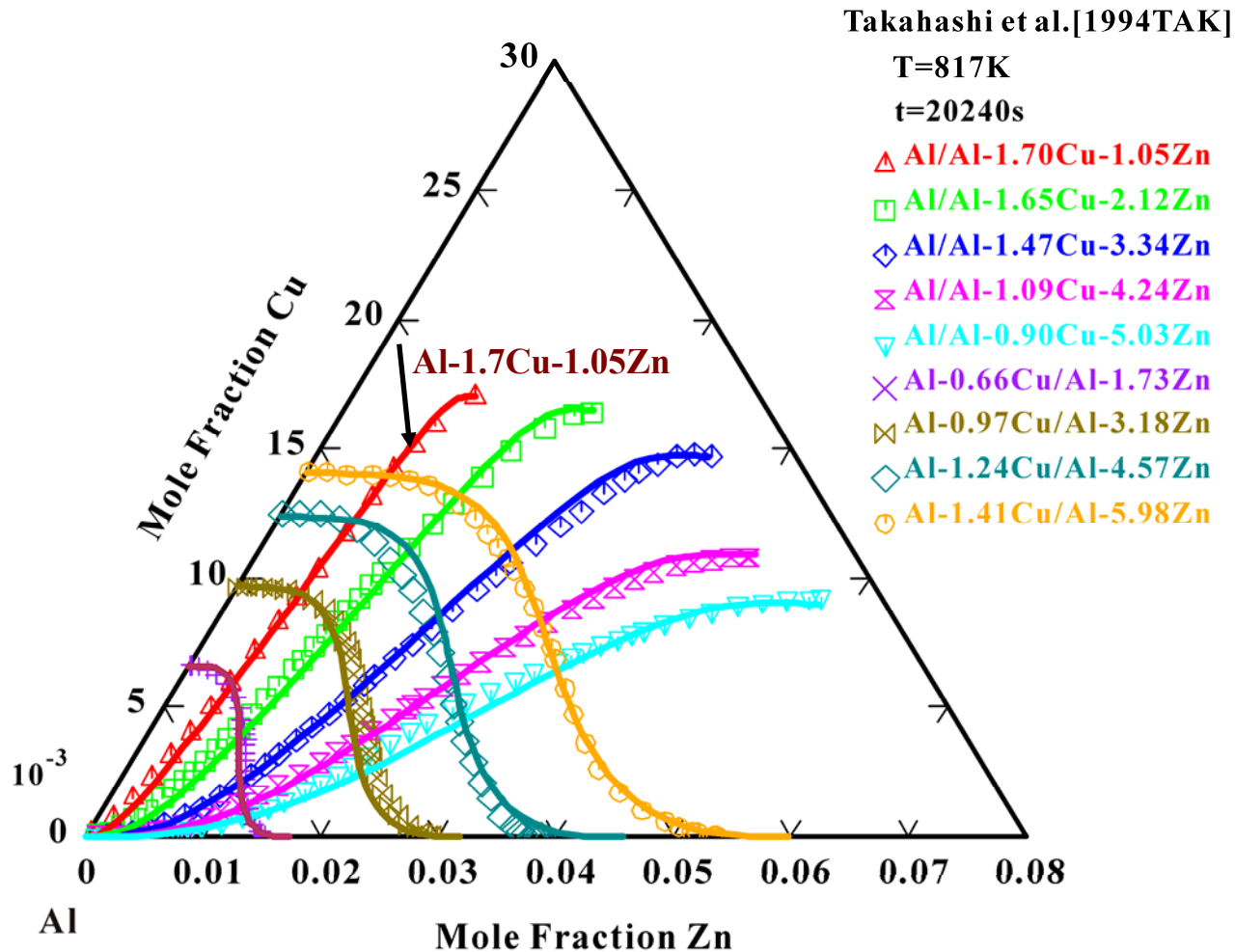
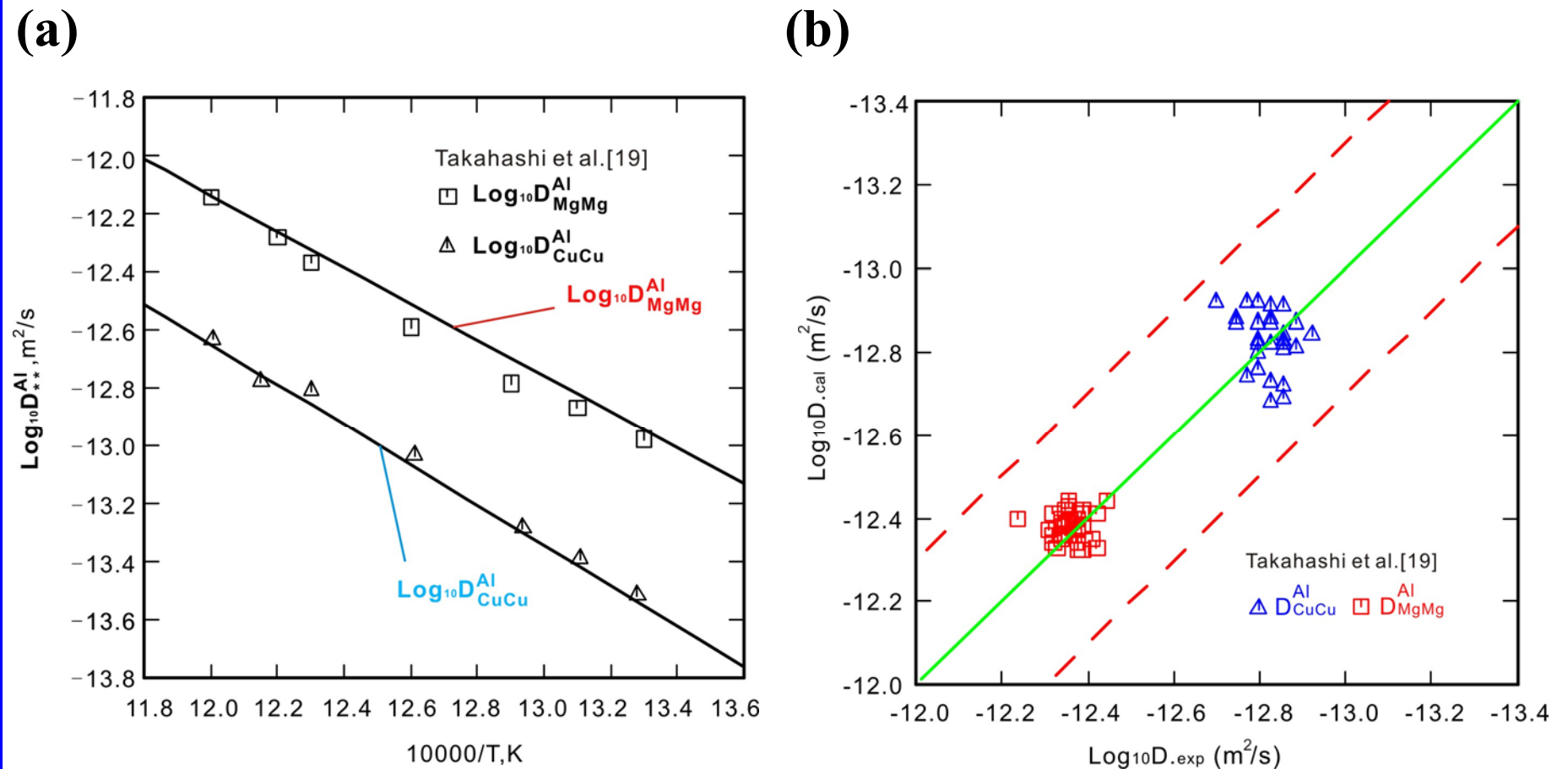


Fig. 11. Calculated diffusion path for ternary diffusion couples annealed at 817K for 20240s

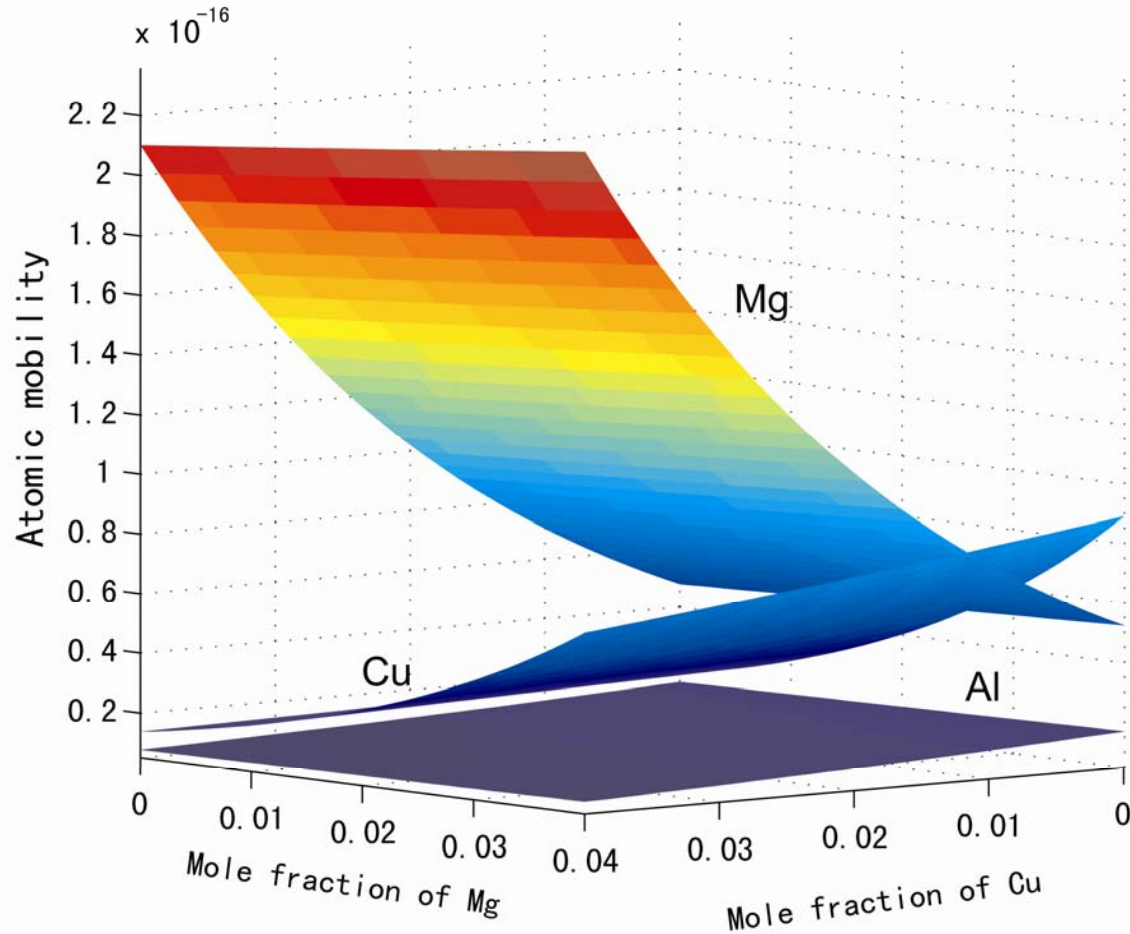
# The Al-Cu-Mg ternary system (fcc phase)



**Fig. 12.** Comparison between calculated and measured coefficients of  
(a) main diffusion coefficients in Al-1at.%Cu-1at.%Mg  
(b) main diffusion coefficients in Al-Cu-Mg alloy at 813K

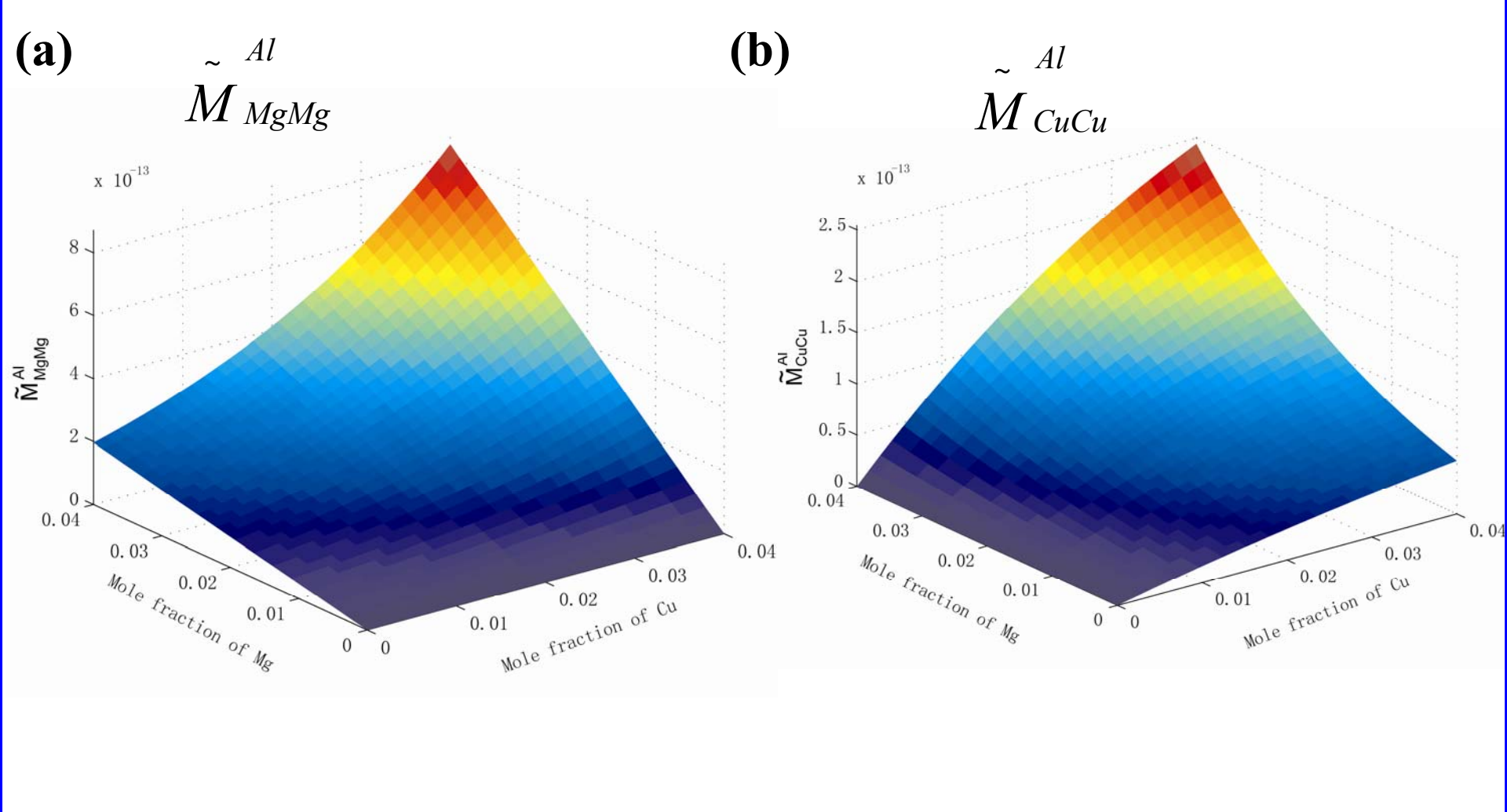


# The Al-Cu-Mg ternary system (fcc phase)



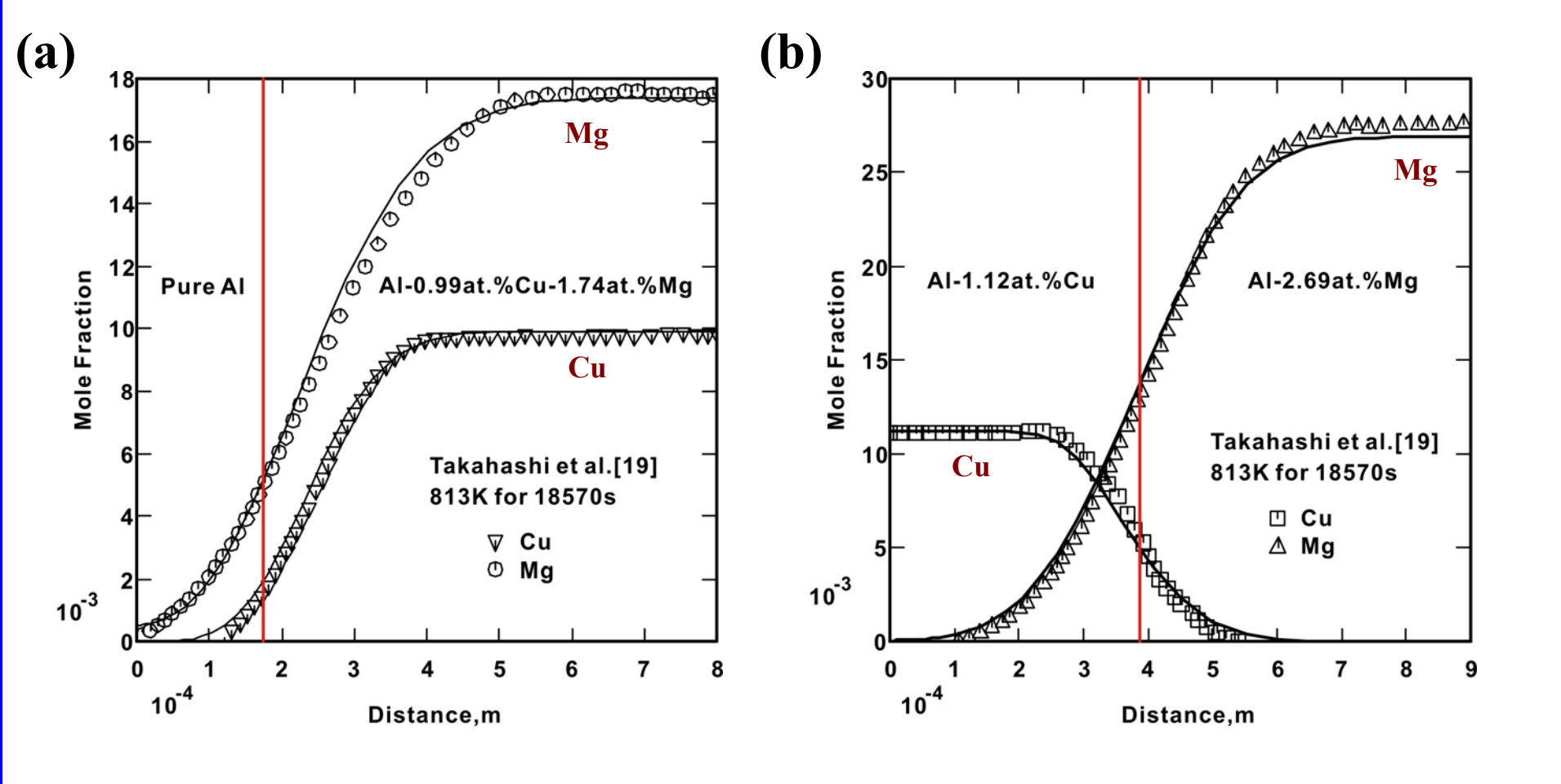
**Fig. 13.** 3D view of atomic mobility surfaces for Al,Cu and Mg at the Al-rich side at 813K

# The Al-Cu-Mg ternary system (fcc phase)



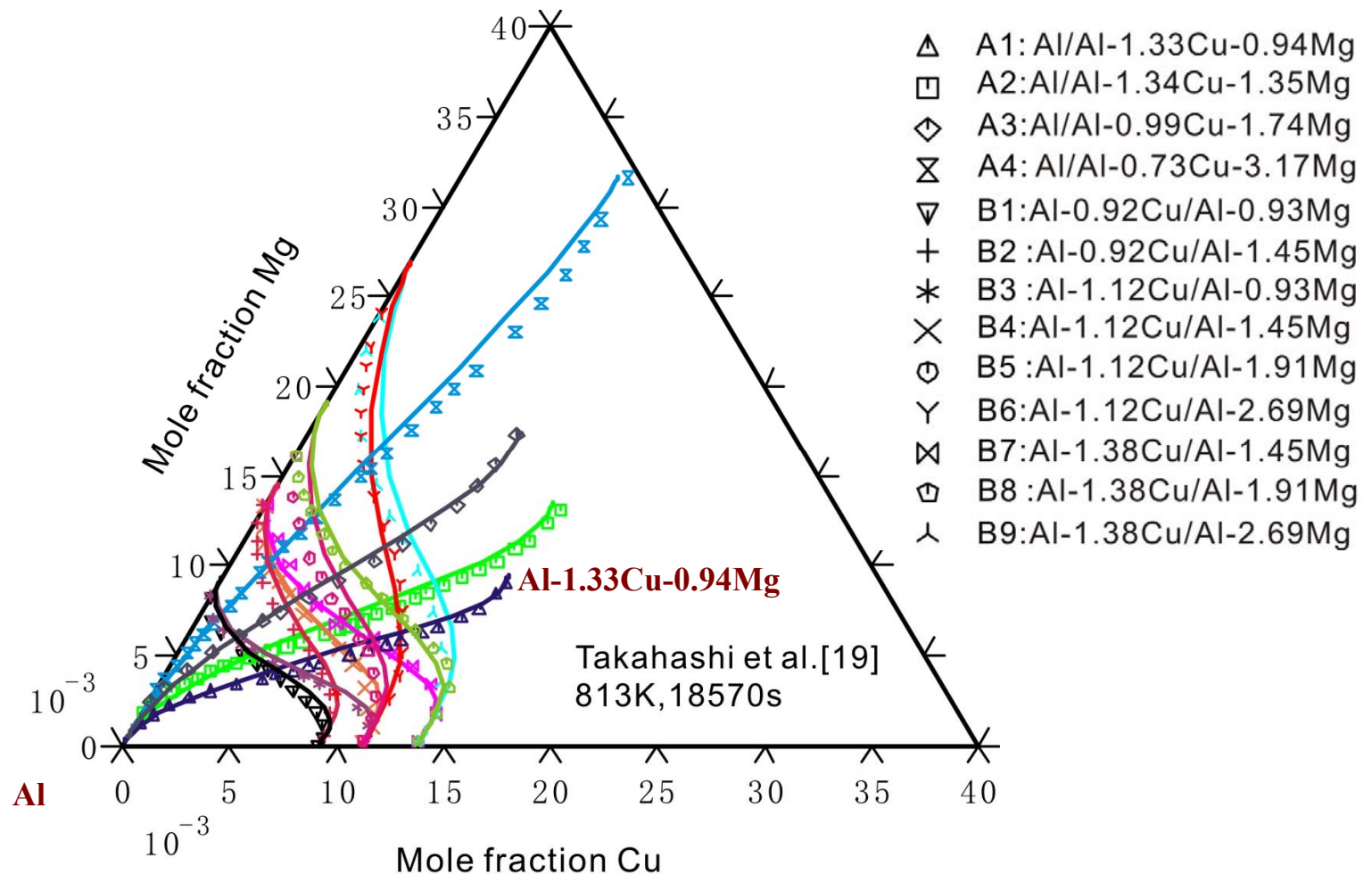
**Fig.14.** Chemical mobilities of ternary Al-Cu-Mg alloys at 813K, (a)  $\tilde{M}_{MgMg}$  (b)  $\tilde{M}_{CuCu}$

# The Al-Cu-Mg ternary system (fcc phase)



**Fig. 15.** Comparison between calculated and measured coefficients of  
**(a)** Predicted concentration profile of Al/Al-0.99 at.% Cu-1.74 at.% Mg diffusion couple  
**(b)** Predicted concentration profile of Al-1.12at.% Cu /Al-2.69 at.% Mg diffusion couple

# The Al-Cu-Mg ternary system (fcc phase)



**Fig. 16.** Calculated diffusion path for ternary diffusion couples annealed at 813K for 18570s

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## **3. Atomic mobility and diffusivity in binary Al alloys**

## **4. Atomic mobility and diffusivity in ternary Al alloys**

## **5. Summary**

## 5. Summary

- A hybrid approach combining key experiments, empirical methods, first-principles calculations and DICTRA method is used to establish the atomic mobility database in Al alloys.
- The current progress in the binary and ternary systems were reported, and some typical results were presented.
- The established atomic mobility can be used to predict various kinds of diffusion coefficients, concentration profiles, diffusion path and even solidification in Al alloys.

Two representative papers:

- 1, Lijun Zhang, Yong Du, *et al.*, “Atomic mobilities, diffusivities, and simulation of diffusion growths in the Co-Si system”, *Acta Mater.*, 56, 3940-3950 (2008).
- 2, Lijun Zhang, Yong Du, *et al.*, “Diffusivities of the Al-Fe-Ni melt and their effects on the microstructure during solidification”, *Acta Mater.*, in press (2010).

*Thank you for your attention!*

**Changsha**      **Welcome to**      **Zhangjiajie**



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