# **Engineering Diffraction 102 : Understanding Polycrystalline Deformation**

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#### Why Perform Measurements of Internal Stress and Texture During Deformation



• Macroscopic flowcurve tells us about mechanical properties.

- Yield strength, hardening...
- Nothing about what is happening microscopically.

• The evolution of internal stresses and texture are signatures of the micromechanical deformation modes.



### **SMARTS is a 5 Million Dollar Bathroom Scale**



• We measure the spacing between atoms very precisely: ~1 part in 10<sup>5</sup>.

Calculate lattice strains (elastic) from change in atomic spacing.

$$\varepsilon = \frac{d_{hkl} - d_0}{d}$$

• This is the elastic strain only !!! We cannot directly measure plastic strain.

• It is important to note that the lattice strain is necessarily proportional to the stress on the grain, not the macroscopic stress.

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#### • Two types of measurement:

- You know the stiffness tensor and want to determine unknown stress
- You control the stresses and you want to learn about the springs (bonds)

#### **Reminder of the SMARTS Geometry**





# **Diffraction Separates Response of Grain Orientations**



• Grains with plane normals parallel to the diffraction vector defined by the instrument geometry diffract into a detector.

• Each grain orientation (hkl), or phase, contributes to a distinct peak, given by the interplanar spacing.

• We explicitly make the assumption that a family of grains can be used to represent the macroscopic stress field.

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### **Consider the case of a bi-metallic sample : Elastic loading in series**



\*(rubber band demo)

- Stress on each is the same, but strain varies.
- Lattice and macroscopic strain are equivalent.



#### **Consider the case of a bi-metallic sample : Elastic loading in parallel**



• We can only measure Applied Stress macroscopically.



#### **Consider the case of a bi-metallic sample : plastic loading in parallel.**



- Characteristic Y shape associated with plastic deformation.

- Deviatiation of lattice strain from linear is the "Intergranular Strain".



#### Lets Consider How a Composite Responds to Deformation



• Microstructure represents loading 2 constituents in parallel, total strains must be equal.

 $\mathcal{E}_T = \mathcal{E}_e + \mathcal{E}_p$ 

• In elastic regime, lattice strains are equivalent.

Once plasticity begins in one phase, the elastic lattice strains are no longer constrained to each other.
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### **Understand Anisotropy in Terms of a Composite**



- This is how a composite is designed to work.
- With release of the macroscopic stress, there is a residual stress in each constituent.
  - The phases stresses are not representative of the macroscopic stress state.

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• However, a weighted average would be representative.

# **Polycrystalline Samples : "The Mother of All Composites".**





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• Above yield point, elastic strains in (103) orientation saturate.

- Grains with (103) parallel to the load direction are yielding.
- Load is redistributed to the (110) orientations.
- With release of the macroscopic stress, there is a residual intergranular stress in each grain set.
  - The (hkl) stresses are not representative of the macroscopic stress state.
  - Moreover, the size of the intergranular stress changes with plastic strain

#### Lets Look at the Data in a Different Way.



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- There is an heterogeneous distribution of stresses.
- Grains with (110) parallel to applied stress support more of the load once plasticity begins.

#### What Can We Infer About Deformation Modes ?



slip

slip

slip



### **Plastic Deformation Mechanisms Have Distinct Diffraction Signatures**



• Slip : little if any change in peak intensity, broadening proportional to dislocation density.



### **Plastic Deformation of Uranium**



 Deviation of lattice strains from linearity indicates that plastic deformation has initiated.

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• Lack of change of peak intensity suggests it is slip dominated.

**Plastic Deformation Mechanisms Have Distinct Diffraction Signatures** 



- Slip : little if any change in peak intensity, broadening proportional to dislocation density.
- Deformation twinning : large changes in single peak diffraction intensity.



#### **Neutron Diffraction Indicates Twinning Reorientation During Deformation of U6Nb**



![](_page_17_Figure_1.jpeg)

•Deviation of lattice strains from linearity indicates that plastic deformation has initiated.

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• Significant change of peak intensity suggests it is twinning dominated,

### **TEM Provides Details of Deformation of U6Nb.**

![](_page_18_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Picture_2.jpeg)

- As-Quenched
  - U6Nb Heavily Twinned.
  - (-130) Twin Boundaries
  - (021) Lath Boundaries.
  - Post 4% Tensile Strain.
    - Large Single Orientation Areas.
    - (-172) Fat Lenticular Twins.
    - (-130) Fine Lamellar Twins.
  - Growth and Assimilation of Preferred Variant.
- Nucleation of Deformation Twins.

![](_page_18_Picture_13.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Picture_14.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Picture_15.jpeg)

**Texture Development During Deformation of U6Nb Indicates Deformation Twinning** 

![](_page_19_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_19_Figure_2.jpeg)

Compression

![](_page_19_Figure_4.jpeg)

Tension

![](_page_19_Picture_6.jpeg)

**Plastic Deformation Mechanisms Have Distinct Diffraction Signatures** 

![](_page_20_Figure_1.jpeg)

- Slip : little if any change in peak intensity, broadening proportional to dislocation density.
- Deformation twinning : large changes in single peak diffraction intensity.
- Phase transformation : appearance of new crystal symmetry.

![](_page_20_Picture_5.jpeg)

#### New Peaks In U7Nb Indicate Stress Induced Phase Transformation.

![](_page_21_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_21_Picture_2.jpeg)

#### **Deformation Twinning is a Relaxation Mechanism for Parent Grains**

![](_page_22_Figure_1.jpeg)

• Deviation of lattice strains from linearity indicates that plastic deformation has initiated.

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Addition of new peaks suggests stress induced phase transformation.

![](_page_23_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_23_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_23_Picture_3.jpeg)

# **Example 2 : Deformation of Hexagonal Metals**

![](_page_24_Figure_1.jpeg)

- Atypical deformation in hexagonal metals drives our interest
  - Example : Tension / compression asymmetry in magnesium
  - Qualitatively different mechanical response

![](_page_24_Picture_5.jpeg)

# **Deformation of Low Symmetry Materials**

- Face Center Cubic materials : Deform on {111}<110> slip system
  - 12 equivalent modes.
  - Can manipulate mechanical properties with texture.
    - e.g. strength, ductility, hardening...

![](_page_25_Figure_5.jpeg)

• Hexagonal and lower symmetry materials often lack the necessary slip systems for arbitrary deformation by slip.

• Can manipulate deformation mechanisms by choice of crystallographic texture.

• e.g. slip, twinning, fracture...

![](_page_25_Figure_9.jpeg)

![](_page_25_Picture_10.jpeg)

# **Deformation Twinning in Magnesium**

![](_page_26_Figure_1.jpeg)

- Twin extends grain along the original (parent) c-axis.
  - Twinning is polar!!!
  - Called extension or tension twin.
- Active when crystal pull along c-axis, or compresses transverse to c-axis.

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• Source of the strength difference in tension vs. compression.

### **SMARTS Geometry Ideal For Study of Twinning in Mg**

![](_page_27_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_27_Picture_2.jpeg)

### **Evolution of Texture With Deformation**

![](_page_28_Figure_1.jpeg)

### **Extrusion Direction**

![](_page_28_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_29_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_29_Picture_2.jpeg)

# **Neutrons Measure Internal Stress Development in Twins**

![](_page_30_Figure_1.jpeg)

- Early non-linearity of the 10.1 reflection
  - Reflects basal slip in grains with (10.1) poles parallel to straining direction.
- Twins appear under tensile intergranular stress relative to aggregate.
- After arrival they rapidly accumulate strain.
  - Hard orientation.
- Parent grains relax when twinning.

![](_page_30_Picture_8.jpeg)

# **Compression Completely Reorients Microstructure**

Starting texture : optimized for twinning in compression, will not twin in tension

![](_page_31_Figure_2.jpeg)

Texture after 5% deformation, almost exhausted ability to twin in compression, but now aligned optimally for twinning in tension.

![](_page_31_Picture_4.jpeg)

#### **Development of Diffraction Pattern With Reverse Loading : Tension First**

![](_page_32_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### **Development of Diffraction Pattern With Reverse Loading : Comp First**

![](_page_33_Figure_1.jpeg)

# **Development of Flow Curve With Cycling**

![](_page_34_Figure_1.jpeg)

- Broke at ~470 cycles.
- Last recorded cycle has significantly more hardening.
- Hysteresis loop has closed some.

![](_page_34_Picture_5.jpeg)

### **Flow Stress Increases With Cycling**

![](_page_35_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_35_Picture_2.jpeg)

# **Twinning is Reversible During Cyclic Deformation of Extruded Mg**

![](_page_36_Figure_1.jpeg)

- (100) grains fully recover throughout measurement.
- (110) and (210) grains do not recover fully on cycling.
- Max resolved shear stress on the (100) grains.

![](_page_36_Picture_5.jpeg)

### **Development of Texture With Cycling**

![](_page_37_Figure_1.jpeg)

### **Strain Broadening Increases With Cycling**

![](_page_38_Figure_1.jpeg)

• Peak broadening may be due to defects or dislocations which hinder motion of twin boundaries at higher cycles.

•Peak broadening is not unique to any one grain orientation.

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- Diffraction is an effective technique to monitor texture and internal stresses in structural material
- White beam neutron diffraction may be used to monitor evolution of microstructure *in-situ* during deformation or processing.
- Especially sensitive to twinning (or detwinning) and phase transformation.
- Monitor internal stresses in multiple grain orientations
  - Determine residual stress in anisotropic metals
- Monitor texture in-situ during deformation.
- Watch deformation twinning in magnesium
  - May be reversed by subsequent tension : detwinning.
  - May be cycled several hundred times.

![](_page_39_Picture_10.jpeg)