Quantifying microscale drivers for fatigue failure via coupled synchrotron X-ray characterization and simulations

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# Motivation and Goals

- Fatigue Loading and Crack Initiation
  - Fatigue crack initiation occurs at
    - grain boundaries twin boundaries
- Goals of the multi-scale characterization



HEDM Reconstruction showing a crack initiated from an inclusion and the complex stress state around it [Naragani et. al. Acta Materialia, 2017]

- Link the physical behavior of materials from the specimen scale to the underlying physics at the micro/nanometer scale
- Identify stress concentrations at grain boundaries to help understand crack initiation
- Achieve goals with a multi-scale characterization and a crystal plasticity model
  - HEDM Determine grain averaged strains and orientations
  - DFXM Probe the intragranular orientation/strain of zoomed in feature of interest
  - CP-FFT Provide comparison to evaluate the validity of large stress gradients





Strains measured via DIC showing high strains in the vicinity of grain boundaries [Abuzaid et. al. JMPS, 2012]



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# Overview

- Material
  - LSHR (Low Solvus, High Refractory)
    - Nickel based super alloy
    - High temperatures applications jet engine disk alloy
- Near-Field High Energy X-Ray Diffraction Microscopy
  - Reconstruct 3D microstructure morphology
- Fatigue Loading and Far-Field High Energy X-Ray Diffraction Microscopy

3D Microstructure

- Measure grain averaged strain (therefore stress) at critical load steps
- 1000 cycles to 1% macroscopic strain at R = 0 in displacement control
- Choosing a Grain of Interest and Extraction
- Dark Field X-Ray Microscopy
  - Zoom in on a feature of interest and measure intragranular misorientation and strain
- Elasto-Viscoplastic, Fast Fourier transform Crystal Plasticity Model
  - Compare to DFXM to evaluate the observed stress gradients





DCT Reconstruction with DFXRM Layer

[111]

[011]

[001]





May 6, 2021; DFXM

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### Near-Field High Energy X-Ray Diffraction Microscopy



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Far-field Detector

Azimuthal Peak Motion (Lattice Reorientation

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### Far-Field High Energy X-Ray Diffraction Microscopy

#### **Unloaded State**









Stress In Loading Direction (MPa)

150

100

50

-50

-100

-150

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[Pagan et. al. Scripta Materialia, 2018]

- Far-Field
  - Detector distance on the order of m
  - Information derived
    - Grain centroid position
    - Grain orientation
    - Grain average elastic strain
      - Therefore stress

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Data collected at Cornell High Energy Synchrotron Source – Beamline F2

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Near-field microstructure

colored with far-field

stress data



## Grain of Interest Requirements

- Choose a grain with lattice planes that:
  - Has a set of lattice planes that align with the extraction axis
    - Necessary due to a limited range of the tilting motors
  - Contains a large spread of plastic deformation
  - Is close to the surface to allow 'easy' extraction



# **Ensuring Lattice Plane Deformation**



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## **Determining Extraction Location**

### Near-Field High Energy X-Ray Diffraction Microscopy Reconstruction



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Electron Backscatter Diffraction



### **The Extraction Process**

### Plasma FIB

### Final Grain Extraction and Mounting



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### Diffraction Contrast Tomography Reconstruction of Extracted Sample

Data collected at European Synchrotron Radiation Facility – Beamline ID06

### Diffraction Contrast Tomography Reconstruction





# Dark Field X-Ray Microscopy (DFXM)

Data collected at European Synchrotron Radiation Facility – Beamline ID06





## Tilting through $\alpha$ and $\beta$

Data collected at European Synchrotron Radiation Facility – Beamline ID06



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# Lattice Orientation of (220) Planes

Note - This is one 1 micron tall slice of the grain of interest



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### Orientation and Elastic Strain of (220) Planes

Note – This is one 1 micron tall slice of the grain of interest

Elastic Strain



#### **Misorientation**



#### Mosaicity





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*Voxel size* [*hor, vert, out of page*] =  $[95nm \ x \ 300nm \ x \ 1\mu m]$ 

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# Multiple Dark Field X-Ray Microscopy Layers Stacked in 3D

**DCT Reconstruction** 



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# Observation of a Coherent Annealing Twin in Grain of Interest



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# Introduction of a Crystal Plasticity Model to Assess the Role of the Twin

- Elasto-Viscoplastic, Fast Fourier transform, Crystal Plasticity Model (CP-FFT)\*
  - Input:
    - Voxelated crystal orientation data from NF-HEDM
    - Material properties
  - Model
    - Macroscopically strain volume and determine voxel's stress/strain response from constitutive relations and homogenized description of dislocation motion along crystal slip systems
  - Output
    - · Voxelated stress and strain tensors

Plastic Flow Rule:  $\dot{\epsilon}^{pl}(x) = \sum_{\alpha=1}^{N} M^{\alpha}(x) \dot{\gamma}^{\alpha}(x) = \dot{\gamma}_{0} \sum_{\alpha=1}^{N} M^{\alpha}(x) \left(\frac{|M^{\alpha}(x):\sigma(x)|}{\tau_{CRSS}(x)}\right)^{n} sgn(M^{\alpha}(x):\sigma(x))$ Voce Hardening Law<sup>\*\*</sup>:  $\tau(\Gamma) = \tau_{0} + (\tau_{1} + \theta_{1}\Gamma) \left[1 - e^{-\frac{\Gamma\theta_{0}}{\tau_{1}}}\right]$ \*Moulinec & Suquet, CMAME, 1998; Lebensohn, IJP, 2012; Rovinelli et al., IJSS, 2019. \*Tome et al. Acta Metall., 1984 Sven Gustafson, Purdue University 17 of 24 May 6, 2021; DFXM



# Ensuring Spatial Match Between Model and DFXM

Grain of Interest

Twin 🔨

- Must provide spatial match
  NF-HEDM→DCT→DFXM
- Model NF-HEDM volume to include the entire grain of interest as well as the surrounding grains





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## **Comparative CP-FFT Model**

#### Near-Field HEDM Data

### **Effective Plastic Strain**



- · Grain morphology and orientation provided by NF-HEDM
- Loaded for 1 cycle to 1% macroscopic strain





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## **Elastic Strain Comparison**





## Plastic Strain/Misorientation Comparison





# Single Voxel Orientation Separation



- Within a single voxel we see:
  - 0.2° and 0.0015 separation in tilt angle and elastic strain, respectively
  - This elastic strain corresponds to 300 MPa
- Possible explanations:
  - Decoherent  $\gamma'$  precipitate phase
  - Very high dislocation content creating cell structure



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# **Closing Remarks**

- Provided a framework for a multi-scale characterization of fatigue and the ability to 'zoom-in' on a feature of interest to identify spatial misorientation and strain within the grain
- Observed a coherent twin (DCT) with large elastic strain and misorientation gradients about this twin boundary (DFXM)
  - Via a CP-FFT crystal plasticity model determined the gradients are caused by existence of the coherent twin
  - Identified large residual stress gradients (400MPa over  $30\mu m$ ) in a region known to be prone to fatigue crack initiation
  - Displayed the importance of considering strain/stress gradients simultaneously in models





## Acknowledgements

- Collaborators
  - Plasma FIB
    - Dr. Jake Hochhalter (NASA/The University of Utah)
    - Dr. Andy Newman (NASA)
  - Specimen Pedestal Manufacture
    - Basil Blank
  - EBSD Analysis
    - John Rotella (Purdue University)
- Synchrotron Sources
  - Cornell High Energy Synchrotron Source (CHESS) Beamline F2
    - Beamline assistance Dr. Peter Ko
    - CHESS is supported by the National Science Foundation
      - Under DMR 1332208 and under DMR 0936384
  - European Synchrotron Radiation Facility (ESRF) Beamline ID06
    - Beamline assistance Mustafacan Kutsal

- Funding Sources
  - National Science Foundation
    - CMMI 16-51956
  - DARPA
    - N66001-14-1-4041
    - HR0011-12-C-0037



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