Context and goals of the PhD

New 3D Finite-Element Level-Set framework for the modeling of solid-solid phase transformations and grain interfaces for large-scale polycrystals

DIGIMU is an ANR industrial Chair handled by ARMINES MINES ParisTech and co-funded by ANR and an industrial consortium formed by ArcelorMittal, FRAMATOME, AS-COMETAL, AUBERT & DUVAL, CEA and SAFRAN. This Chair deals with the Development of an Innovative and Global framework for the Modeling of Microstructural evolutions involved in metal forming processes. DIGIMU is also the name of the resulting software developed by the company TRANSVALOR as a project partner and an industrial consortium involving TIMET, CONSTELLIUM and the chair partners.

Countless products involved in our every-day life rely on vital metal parts. Optimizing these parts requires a knowledge of how material properties change during forming operations. Although the understanding of the underlying metallurgical phenomena has improved thanks to the continuous progress of experimental facilities, the interest for increasingly fine and predictive simulations has been recently growing. In this emerging context of “digital metallurgy”, the DIGIMU Chair and consortium have two main objectives. The first one is to develop an efficient multiscale numerical framework specifically designed to tackle such problems. The second one is to bring the corresponding numerical methods to an industrial level of maturity, by decreasing significantly their computational cost and by validating them against the industrial expertise existing in the DIGIMU consortium.

In order to accurately describe the 3D evolution of polycrystals (recrystallization, phase transformations...), full-field methods such as the phase-field (PF) or the level-set (LS) methods have to be employed. In this context, a new FE numerical framework to model grain growth (GG) and recrystallization (ReX) based on a LS description of the interfaces and meshing/remeshing capabilities has been recently developed\(^a\).

Interestingly, if the LS approach was extended to other self-diffusion mechanisms such as spheroidization in titanium alloys or sintering in powder metallurgy, solid-solid phase transformations (SSPT) was only newly addressed\(^b\) despite the obvious interest to couple phases and grains evolutions in the same LS numerical framework. In the proposed PhD project, the existing LS framework will be extended in order to model SSPT. The new proposed formalism will be investigated in context of austenite-ferrite transformations. The proposed numerical framework will be compared to pre-existing PF strategy dedicated to this topic.

Finally, the resulting developments will be prepared for integration in the DIGIMU® software package.

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bM. Bernacki et al. A new full field framework to model grain and phase boundaries migration during diffusive solid/solid phase transformations and recrystallization, ReX&GG 2019 proceedings.

Partners

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Keywords


Candidate profile and skills

Degree: MSc or MTech in Applied Mathematics, Metallurgy or Materials Science, with excellent academic record. Skills: Finite Element Method, Metallurgy, proficiency in English, ability to work within a multi-disciplinary team.

Offer

The 3-year PhD will take place in CEMEF, an internationally-recognised research laboratory of MINES ParisTech located in Sophia-Antipolis, on the French Riviera. It offers a dynamic research environment, exhaustive training opportunities and a strong link with the industry. Annual gross salary: around 26k€. She/He will join the Metallurgy Structure Rheology (MSR) research teams under the supervision of M. Bernacki.

Example of level set modeling of an austenite-to-ferrite transformation, 2D simulation - (red) Ferrite grains - (blue) Austenite grains