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Representing Material Structure

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Hierarchical Material Structure



Kalidindi and DeGraef, ARMS, 2015

Well-Separated Length Scales and RVEs



Key Assumptions

- Homogenization length scales *L* and *l* exist (allows definition of material constitutive laws at these length scales)
- No major gradients occur at these length scales (fluctuations even large ones are allowed)
- ω_l : length scale of a representative (structure) volume element (RVE)
- Well-separated length scales: $l < \omega_l \ll L$

Challenges: Interfaces, Atomistics

Local States and Local State Spaces

- <u>Local State</u>: a set of material structure attributes needed to completely specify all of the relevant material properties of interest at the selected length scale.
- Local State Space: the complete set of all theoretically possible local states one might expect to encounter in a given material system (including all the local states that may not even be present in a given sample of the selected material system)

Example: Multiphase Composites

$$h = (\rho, c_i)$$

$$H = \{(\rho, c_i) | \rho \in \{\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \dots\}, c_i \in C_i^{\rho}\}$$

Polycrystalline Microstructures



$$h = (\rho, c_i, g)$$

$$H = \{(\rho, c_i, g) | \rho = (\alpha, \beta, \gamma, ...), c_i \in C_i^{\rho}, g \in FZ_{\rho}\}$$

Microstructure Function

 $h(\boldsymbol{x},t)$

- Deterministic
- Impractical to implement in practice due to the resolution limits and uncertainty inherent to the characterization techniques used
- Does not allow for the presence of mixed local states (e.g., grain/phase boundary region)

 $m(h, \mathbf{x}, t)$ or $m(h, \mathbf{x})$

- Defined as the probability density associated with finding local state *h* at the spatial location *x* at time *t*
- Captures the probability of finding one of the local states that lie within a small interval *dh* centered around *h* at a selected *x*; *m*(*h*,*x*)*dhdx* would represent the probability and *m*(*h*,*x*) the corresponding probability density
- Experiments typically produce only discretized information suitable to evaluating m(h, x)

Adams, Kalidindi & Fullwood, Butterworth-Heinemann, 2012

- Information is stored in discrete units
- Many examples in images, music, and videos; has completely transformed these domains
- Involves discretization (sampling) and quantization (rounding)
- Most experimental materials datasets are already digitized
- Much less in materials simulation datasets but there are good reasons to pursue digital representations
- Digital representations allow us to exploit the tools of digital signal processing (DSP)

Discretized Microstructure Function

 $m(h, \boldsymbol{x})$

$$\{m_s^n | s = 0, 1, 2, ..., S - 1; n = 1, 2, ..., N\}$$

 m_s^n represents the total volume fraction of all local states from bin *n* in the spatial bin *s*

$$\sum_{n=1}^{N} m_s^n = 1, \qquad 0 \le m_s^n \le 1$$

Discretized Microstructure Function

(0,3)	(1,3)	(2,3)	(3,3)
(0,2)	(1,2)	(2,2)	(3,2)
(0,1)	(1,1)	(2,1)	(3,1)
(0,0)	(1,0)	(2,0)	(3,0)

$$\boldsymbol{s} = (s_1, s_2)$$

$$m_{(1,2)}^1 = 1, m_{(1,2)}^2 = 0$$

 $m_{(2,1)}^1 = 0, m_{(2,1)}^2 = 1$

Eigen microstructures

Discretized Microstructure Function

$$m(h, \boldsymbol{x}) \approx \sum_{\tilde{n}=1}^{N} \sum_{s=0}^{S-I} m_{s}^{n} \chi_{n}(h) \chi_{s}(\boldsymbol{x})$$

$$m(h, \mathbf{x}) = \sum_{n=1}^{N} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} M_k^n e^{\frac{i2\pi k \cdot \mathbf{x}}{L}} \chi_n(h)$$



$$m(c, \mathbf{x}) = \sum_{s=0}^{s-1} \sum_{n} M_s^n P^n(c) \chi_s(\mathbf{x})$$

Microstructure Ensemble



 $\{^{(j)}m_s^n; j = 1, 2, ..., J\}$

a microstructure versus the microstructure (SVE) (RVE)

Microstructure Statistics

$$m(h, \boldsymbol{x}) \approx \sum_{\tilde{n}=1}^{N} \sum_{s=0}^{S-I} m_{s}^{n} \chi_{n}(h) \chi_{s}(\boldsymbol{x})$$

$$f_s^n = \frac{1}{J} \sum_{j=1}^{J} {}^{(j)} m_s^n \qquad j = 1, 2, ..., J$$

$$f^n = \frac{1}{S} \frac{1}{J} \sum_{\boldsymbol{s}} \sum_{j=1}^{J} {}^{(j)} m^n_{\boldsymbol{s}}$$

1-point spatial correlations or 1-point statistics

2-point spatial correlations or 2-point statistics



$$f_{rs}^{np} = \frac{1}{J} \sum_{j=1}^{J} {}^{(j)} m_{s}^{n} {}^{(j)} m_{s+r}^{p}$$

$$f_{r}^{np} = \frac{1}{S_{r}} \frac{1}{J} \sum_{s} \sum_{j=1}^{J} {}^{(j)} m_{s}^{n} {}^{(j)} m_{s+r}^{p}$$

T

 S_r is the number of spatial bins that allow the placement of both sand s+r with the microstructure volume being studied

r indexes bins in vector space

Periodic Boundaries: $S_r = S$

Microstructure Statistics





$$r = r_1 i + r_2 j + r_3 k, \qquad S = S_1 S_2 S_3$$
$$S_r = (S_1 - |r_1|)(S_2 - |r_2|)(S_3 - |r_3|)$$
$$f_r^{np} = \frac{\sum_s \sum_{j=1}^{J} {}^{(j)} m_s^{n} {}^{(j)} m_{s+r}^{p}}{S_r J} = \frac{\# Successes}{\# Trials}$$

$$f_r^{np} = \begin{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} f_r^{11} & \cdots & f_r^{1N} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ f_r^{N1} & \cdots & f_r^{NN} \end{pmatrix} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$f_{r}^{np} = f_{-r}^{pn}$$
 $\sum_{p=1}^{N} f_{r}^{np} = f^{n}$

For a two-phase material, if f_r^{11} is known then f_r^{12} , f_r^{21} and f_r^{22} can be calculated.

Niezgoda et al., Acta Materialia, 2008. **56**(18), p. 5285-5292: Only (N-1) independent correlations (using DFTs)

2-pt. Statistics Using DFTs



Autocorrelations: $F_{k}^{nn} = F_{k}^{nn*}$

Plotting 2-pt. Statistics Using DFTs

$$M_{k}^{n} = \Im(m_{s}^{n}) = \sum_{s=0}^{s-1} m_{s}^{n} e^{2\pi i s \cdot k/S} \qquad s = 0, 1, ..., S - 1$$

$$F_{k}^{np} = \Im(f_{r}^{np}) = \frac{1}{S} M_{k}^{n*} M_{k}^{p} \qquad r = 0, 1, ..., S - 1$$

$$\underline{Plotting:} \quad r = -(S-1)/2, ... - 1, 0, 1, ..., (S-1)/2$$

$$(r = -S/2, ... - 1, 0, 1, ..., S/2 \text{ when } S \text{ is even})$$

$$f_{\boldsymbol{r}}^{np} = f_{\boldsymbol{r}+\boldsymbol{S}}^{np}$$

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Plotting 2-Point Correlations

Microstructure 250 200 0.15 150 100 0.1 50 -50 0.05 -100 -150 -200 -**2**50 -200 n. 100 -100200

2-point auto correlation

- Image is converted into a smooth continuous pdf
- pdf allows easy statistical operations: mean, variance, ... ${\color{black}\bullet}$
- Dominant features of the pdf can be connected to ${\color{black}\bullet}$ properties and tracked in manufacturing processes

Reconstruction from 2-pt Statistics







Original microstructure of 130x130x130 volume elements with orientation space binned into 512 distinct orientations. The far right shows bin 35 as blue and bin 5 as red in the original microstructure.

Bottom: Bins 35 and 5 are reconstructed exactly up to a linear shift!



Coherence Length

Coherence length (C) provides guidance on scan sizes



$$\lim_{|\mathbf{r}|\to C} \frac{f_2(h,h'|\mathbf{r})}{f(h)f(h')} = 1$$

Example Digitally Created <u>Microstructure:</u> Average Feature Size ~ 15 pixels Coherence Length for Autocorrelation ~ 125 pixels

Features of Interest

Many local features of interest can be identified based on concepts of n-point statistics





RVE



Elastic Modulus

RVE: 111 GPa Sample: 111 GPa

Critically Stressed Volume Fraction

RVE: 0.0866 Sample: 0.0897

3% Error

Weighted SVE Sets



Microstructure Representation









Bamboo X-Ray Tomography

Fuel Cell Micro Porous Layer FIB SEM

Beta Titanium Mechanically Polished SEM+EBSD

- Thinking of microstructure as a digital signal allows a generalized treatment at multiple hierarchical length/structure scales: m^h_s
- Intuitive measures of microstructure: average grain size, average spacing, ODF, MODF, ...
- Naturally organized extensible measures of microstructure: n-point statistics
- Data Analytics: seek objective low-dimensional representations for process-structure-property relationships

Surface Curvature data



Strain Distribution Simulation Data

Polymer Chains Simulation Data

Dimensionality Reduction

Intuition and/or Known Physics and/or Data Driven



- Axes prioritized based on variance in the data
- Unsupervised (i.e., uninformed) and Independent

PC Scores as Microstructure Measures

Hypothesis: PCA weights of *n*-point statistics provide objective measures of microstructure

$$f_{r}^{(j)} = \sum_{k=1}^{\min((J-1),R)} \alpha_{k}^{(j)} \varphi_{kr} + \bar{f}_{r}$$

Microstructure Databases



Microstructure Databases



- Each point corresponds to a microstructure dataset.
- Datasets from the same heat treatment are shown as a hull.
- Volume of the hull can be related directly to the variance in structure between datasets.
- Euclidean distance is a metric of similarity or difference between samples
- Quality control applications

Microstructure Databases



Unsupervised Classification of Different Potentials Based on Atomic Structure



-40 PC 1

10-1

A 4 = > 4

4 🔻

-60

-80

PC 3-5

and Trautt (NIST)

Visualization of 4-D Microstructure Datasets

Datasets from phase-field simulations of microstructure evolution (3-D space + time)



Overall Framework



Code Repositories

• Spatial Statistics

http://tonyfast.com/SpatialStatisticsFFT/

• PyMKS

http://openmaterials.github.io/pymks/index.html