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To cite this version:

Benjamin Scholtes, Dmitrii Nikolaevich Ilin, Amico Settefrati, Nathalie Bozzolo, Andrea Agnoli, et al.. Full field modeling in a level set framework of Zener pinning phenomenon - discussion of classical limit mean grain size equation.. Superalloys 2016, Sep 2016, Seven Springs, Pennsylvania, United States. hal-01430741

HAL Id: hal-01430741

https://hal-mines-paristech.archives-ouvertes.fr/hal-01430741

Submitted on 10 Jan 2017

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Full-field Modeling of the Zener Pinning Phenomenon in a Level Set Framework - Discussion of Classical Limiting Mean Grain Size Equation

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Context

Pinning of grain boundaries by second phase particles is widely used to control the grain size during forming process of superalloys.

Classical Zener pinning law predicting the limiting mean grain size [1]:

\[
\langle R_f \rangle = K \left( \frac{r_p}{f_{gb}} \right)
\]

- Adaptive metric based meshing remeshing tool [4] was used.
- New direct and parallel reinitialization algorithm [5] was incorporated.
- Recoloring scheme [6] was used to reduce the number of LS functions needed to represent the polycrystal.

Numerical model

Level Set Framework:

LS function \( \psi \) is defined over a domain \( \Omega \) as the signed distance to the interface \( \Gamma \) [3]:

\[
\psi(x,t) = \pm \delta(x,\Gamma(t)), \quad x \in \Omega,
\]

\[
\Gamma(t) = \{ x \in \Omega : \psi(x,t) = 0 \},
\]

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- New direct and parallel reinitialization algorithm [5] was incorporated.
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Parameter \( \alpha = 0^\circ \) (incoherent precipitates)

Particle radii \( r_p \): 0.2, 0.4, 0.6, 0.8 \( \mu \text{m} \)

Area fraction \( f \): 1-8 %

Domain size: 0.3 \( \times \) 0.3 mm\(^2\)

Number of grains: 2600

Initial mean grain size: \( <R_0> = 3.35 \mu \text{m} \)

Time step: 0.1 s

16 CPUs (Xeon 1.2 GHz)

(computation time: 1-2 days)

Simulation parameters:

Material: Inconel 718

\( M = 2.3 \times 10^{-23} \text{ J/(m\(^2\))} \)

\( \gamma = 0.6 \text{ J/m}^2 \)

2D simulation results for grain growth:

New mean field model for the limiting mean grain size

\( f_{gb} \) and \( <R_f> \) are measured at the steady state (when \( <R_f> \) becomes stable)

1) The radius of precipitates (for a given \( f \)) affects drastically the grain growth kinetics

2) \( K \) and \( m \) were found to depend on \( r_p, <R_0> \) (see figures for \( K \) and \( m \))

Dependence of \( <R_f> \) on \( f_{gb} \)

Parameter \( K \) as a function of normalized particle size

Parameter \( m \) as a function of normalized particle size

Expression obtained for the limiting grain size:

\[
\langle R_f \rangle = 0.362 \langle R_0 \rangle f_{gb}^{0.853(r_p/<R_0>)^{0.428}}
\]

References


Current work

△ Initial microstructures with non-equlaxed grains

△ 3D simulations

△ Evolutive second phase particles