

# Micromechanical analyses on bending of polysynthetically twinned single crystal of titanium aluminide

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## Abstract

Micromechanical bending analyses *via* CPFEM of polysynthetically twinned (PST) single crystal of TiAl composing of one  $\alpha_2$ -phase lamella and six  $\gamma$ -phase lamellae have been performed. The results have demonstrated that a decrease in the domain size aspect ratio  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L$  or an increase in the volume fraction of  $\alpha_2$  phase  $f_{\alpha_2}$  have an effect of increasing the induced bending moment and consequently bending resistance under both bending modes of hogging and sagging. The similar variations in  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L$  and  $f_{\alpha_2}$  results in a decreasing trends of maximum tensile and compressive initial yield stresses (normal bending stresses), obtained through small strain beam theory. Results have also shown the effects of imposed constraints on the bending behavior; traction-free boundary conditions results in activation of prismatic slips instead of pyramidal slips in  $\alpha_2$ -phase, leading to a lower observed bending moment for the variables  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L$  and  $f_{\alpha_2}$  considered. A scaling law is proposed that relates bending moment to domain size aspect ratio and bending angle.

*Keywords:* Lamellar TiAl; Crystal plasticity; Micromechanical bending analyses; Domain size aspect ratio; Volume fraction

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## 1. Introduction

Titanium aluminide alloys comprising  $\gamma$ -TiAl and the  $\alpha_2$ -Ti<sub>3</sub>Al phases exhibit promising potential in high-temperature and lightweight applications such as in automotive, aero-engines, gas turbines (Cao et al., 2010; Gu and Greer, 2015; Chen et al., 2016; Schütze, 2016; Zeng and Li, 2021). The two-phase TiAl alloys contain a minor volume fraction of the  $\alpha_2$ -Ti<sub>3</sub>Al phase (e.g., Fujiwara et al., 1990; Inui et al., 1992a; Kabir et al., 2010; Appel et al., 2011), generally less than 20% (Grujicic and Batchu, 2001; Zhu et al., 2006; Mine et al., 2011; Cornec et al., 2015) and up to 32% (Dimiduk et al., 1998). The major constituent  $\gamma$ -TiAl typically accounts for 80 to 90% of the total volume fraction in TiAl alloys (Werwer et al., 2007) for a balanced property. Two-phase TiAl alloys can be manufactured with different microstructures, including near  $\gamma$ , duplex, nearly lamellar and fully lamellar (Kim, 1992). Of all the possible microstructures, lamellar TiAl alloys are considered the most promising candidate for many applications as they offer attractive physical and mechanical properties, such as low density, excellent high temperature creep resistance, excellent oxidation and fatigue resistance and high specific strength (Appel and Wagner, 1998; Kim, 1998; Yamaguchi et al., 2000; Schwaighofer et al., 2014; Chlupova et al., 2020).

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Despite its outstanding properties that are comparable to nickel-based superalloys, lamellar TiAl alloys suffers from poor ductility, largely due to the anisotropy of the constituent microstructure (Arata et al., 2001; Werwer and Cornec, 2006; Chen et al., 2019), thereby limiting their applications. As such, extensive and intense efforts have been dedicated to further our understanding of its microstructure–property relationship, on both experimental (e.g. Liu et al., 2010; Zong et al., 2015; Li et al., 2018; Yu et al., 2020; Song et al., 2020, among many others) and numerical fronts. In the latter, several numerical approaches spanning different length-scales have been utilized such as phase-field model (e.g Wang et al., 2019; Teng et al., 2012), molecular dynamics simulation (e.g Kanani et al., 2016; Li et al., 2019; Zeng and Li, 2021) and finite element method, specifically the Crystal Plasticity Finite Element Method (CPFEM). Guided by experimental inputs and observations, CPFEM has proven to be an effective and versatile tool for describing deformation mechanisms and mechanical responses of crystalline materials, and in this context lamellar TiAl crystals (e.g Kad et al., 1995; Schlögl and Fischer, 1997; Lebensohn et al., 1998; Werwer and Cornec, 2000; Grujicic and Batchu, 2001; Grujicic et al., 2003a,b; Werwer and Cornec, 2006; Zambaldi et al., 2011; Cornec et al., 2015; Su et al., 2016; Ma et al., 2018; Chen et al., 2019, among many others). Mechanical responses of lamellar TiAl crystals have almost always been investigated by subjecting a Representative Volume Element (RVE) or a unit cell to uniaxial tension–compression loads. These deformation modes are standard benchmark tests for material characterization, and have provided much insights to the microstructure–property relationships of TiAl crystals, as evident in the large body of literature available. However, there are other benchmark tests such as bending (3–point and 4–point) and torsion tests that need to be performed in order to better understand the microstructure–property relationships, so as to enhance the commercial and industrial applicabilities of TiAl alloys.

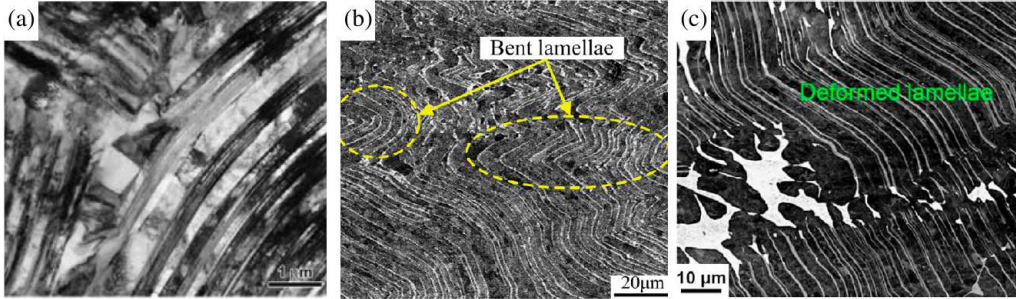


Fig. 1. Bent lamellae observed from (a) TEM micrographs of Ti-47Al-xH alloys compressed with the strain rate of  $0.01 s^{-1}$  above  $1000^{\circ}C$  (Liu et al., 2010); (b) SEM micrographs of Ti-46Al-2V-1Cr-0.3Ni compressed to  $\epsilon = 63\%$  with the strain rate of  $0.01 s^{-1}$  at  $1323K$  (Zong et al., 2015); and (c) SEM micrograph of Ti-45Al-8.5Nb-0.2W-0.2B-0.02Y compressed at  $800^{\circ}C$  to  $\epsilon = 30\%$  (Song et al., 2020).

Shear strain and heavy bending in lamellar TiAl alloys can be induced by large deformations during hot working processes (Huang, 2005). Fig. 1 displays the Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM) and Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM) micrographs that clearly show the bent lamellae in PST TiAl alloys composing of lamellar  $\alpha_2$  and  $\gamma$  that have been compressed/forged at various strain rates at elevated temperatures ( $> 1000^{\circ}C$ ). It is interesting to note from Fig. 1(b) the severe bending/kinking of the lamellae (Zong et al., 2015), as well as the observed buckling of the lamellae in Fig. 1(c), attributable to the deformation anisotropy of the lamellar structure (Song et al., 2020). Zhang et al. (1998) has reported misoriented, non-coherent  $\alpha_2/\gamma$  interfaces in severely bent lamellae in their analyses of hot deformation behavior of lamellar TiAl microstructure, wherein the TiAl has been hot forged to about 60%

reduction at a deformation condition of  $1050^{\circ}\text{C}/0.001\text{s}^{-1}$ . The analyses of grain orientations in hot-compressed Ti-46Al-8Nb alloys have indicated high local strain with high dislocation density and distortion energy are associated with bending of lamellae (Li et al., 2018). Bending of lamellae is not only observed under compression but under tension as well. Yu et al. (2020) have reported (see Fig. 8 therein) bent lamellae of Ti-45Al-9Nb at a temperature of  $1150^{\circ}\text{C}$  in the strain rate range of  $0.0004\text{-}0.0025\text{s}^{-1}$ . From the abovementioned, it is apparent that bending of lamellae in PST TiAl alloys can be induced by heavy deformation at elevated temperatures, and consequently influencing the mechanical performance of these alloys e.g. slip movements, strain localization etc. This provides the motivation for this work and that is to investigate the macroscopic bending responses or behavior of lamellar PST TiAl crystals *via* micromechanical analyses using crystal plasticity-based constitutive model. Here the following effects on the bending behavior will be investigated:

- effect of length scale i.e. aspect ratio between domain size and lamellar thickness,
- effect of volume fraction of  $\alpha_2$  phase, and
- effect of lateral constraints i.e. bending under conditions of plane strain and plane stress.

While there may be unanswered material science questions regarding lamellar PST TiAl crystals under different deformation modes, this paper focuses on the mechanics and the multi-scale methodology and implementation to model bending of the RVE. To the authors' knowledge, three-dimensional micromechanical CPFEM analyses of bending of lamellar PST TiAl crystals have not been attempted before, though Kouznetsova et al. (2002) has demonstrated a computational homogenization scheme to obtain the local higher-order stress response of a voided RVE subjected to macroscopic bending. It is worthwhile to note that multi-scale homogenization involving large spatial deformation gradients at macroscopic scale e.g. in bending (and torsion), can be classified as second-order homogenization, wherein the macroscopic deformation gradient tensor and its Lagrangian gradient are passed to the RVE, and importantly the microscopic length scale can be accounted for. This is in contrast to the first-order homogenization that is well-established and widely used in boundary value problem where periodic boundary conditions are enforced e.g. uniaxial tension and compression, and shear, such that only the macroscopic deformation gradient needs to be passed to the RVE (Geers et al., 2010). The present cell analysis on bending is formulated in-between the first- and second-order homogenization.

The outline of this paper is as follows. Section 2 describes the modeling aspects of the unit cell including the deformation systems in the PST crystal of TiAl, the crystal plasticity constitutive model adopted and the numerical implementation of the boundary and loading conditions to effect the bending of the unit cell. Section 3 presents the results and findings obtained from the micromechanical analyses. The paper concludes with some remarks in Section 4.

## 2. Modelling aspects

This section presents the formulation of the problem under study. Subsection 2.1 describes the construction of the three-dimensional unit cell representing a single PST TiAl colony. It is composed of one  $\alpha_2$  and  $6\gamma$  layer(s), where each  $\gamma$  layer is made up of hexagonal-shaped domains. The colony is characterized by two length scales namely lamellar thickness and domain size. The deformation systems of the  $\alpha_2$  and  $\gamma$  phases are detailed in Subsection 2.2, following which in Subsection 2.3 a brief introduction of the crystal plasticity model adopted

in this study. [Section 2](#) concludes with the description of the numerical implementation of the micromechanical model, including the boundary and loading conditions to be enforced and applied respectively in [Subsection 2.4](#). The computations are performed using the general-purpose finite element program [ABAQUS Version 6.14](#) within the finite strain setting.

## 2.1. Three-dimensional unit cell

Consider a cuboid representative volume element (RVE) of initial dimensions  $2L_1 \times 2L_2 \times 2L_3$  representing lamellar PST microstructures with the Cartesian coordinate system  $(X_1, X_2, X_3)$  with its origin located at the center of the RVE. The proposed RVE, as illustrated in [Fig. 2](#), consists of a bottommost  $\alpha_2$ -Ti<sub>3</sub>Al layer and six  $\gamma$ -TiAl layers stacked on top of the former. The lamellae of two phases are parallel, following Blackburn orientation relationship  $\{111\}_\gamma \parallel (0001)_{\alpha_2}$  and  $\langle 1\bar{1}0 \rangle_\gamma \parallel \langle 11\bar{2}0 \rangle_{\alpha_2}$  ([Blackburn, 1970](#)). The global coordinate system shown in the figure depicts the directional convention adopted.

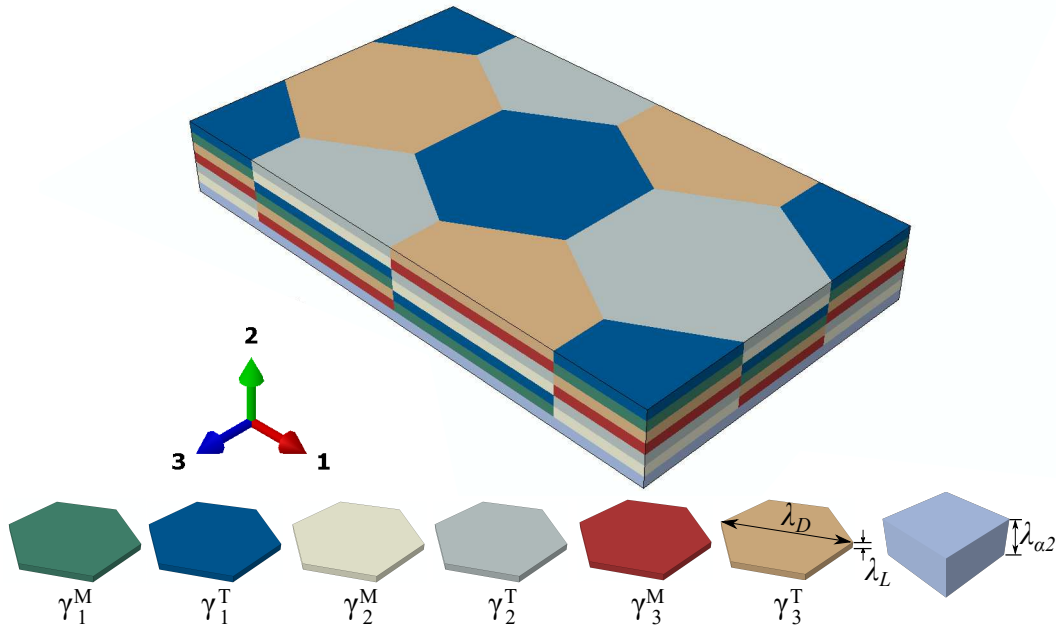


Fig. 2. Representative volume element (RVE) consisting of a  $\alpha_2$ -Ti<sub>3</sub>Al and six  $\gamma$ -TiAl layers. The lamellae of two phases are parallel, obeying the Blackburn orientation relationship. The periodic  $\alpha_2 + 6\gamma$ -substructures incorporate six variants of  $\gamma$  phase and a uniform  $\alpha_2$  phase.  $\lambda_D$  and  $\lambda_L$  are the domain size and the lamellar thickness of  $\gamma$  phase respectively. The  $\alpha_2$  layer is uniform without domain structures, and of thickness  $\lambda_{\alpha_2}$ . The domains are color-coded for ease of visualization.

Due to tetragonality, the  $\gamma$  phase can exist in six different orientation variants as shown in [Fig. 3](#). All the six  $\gamma$  variants fulfil the Blackburn orientation relationship as detailed in [Table 1](#). Since the probability for the formation of each  $\gamma$  variant is the same ([Grujicic and Batchu, 2001](#)), equal volume is assigned to each  $\gamma$  variant in the unit cell, consistent with observations by [Inui et al. \(1992a\)](#) and assumption of [Cornec et al. \(2015\)](#). Each  $\gamma$  lamella is composed of several ordered hexagonal-shaped  $\gamma$  domains while the  $\alpha_2$  lamella is uniform without domain structure due to the absence of orientation variants. The  $\gamma$  lamellae contains six distinct  $\gamma$  domains corresponding to the orientation variants. The hexagonal domains are connected with triple junctions, exhibiting the lattice misorientation. Along  $X_2$ -direction, all the six variants

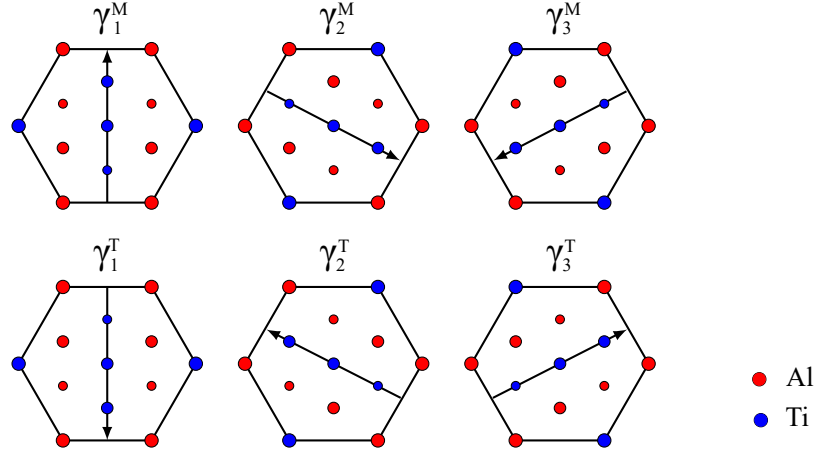


Fig. 3. Six  $\gamma$  orientation variants, where  $\gamma_{1-3}^M$  denotes matrix orientations and  $\gamma_{1-3}^T$  denotes the corresponding twin orientations. The reduced-size circles denote atoms in the plane below. This figure is inspired by [Werwer and Cornec \(2000\)](#).

Table 1. Blackburn orientation relations between  $\gamma$  and  $\alpha_2$  variants.

Variant	Slip direction	Plane normal
$\alpha_2$	$[11\bar{2}0]$	$(0001)$
$\gamma_1^M$	$[\bar{1}\bar{1}0]$	$(111)$
$\gamma_1^T$	$[\bar{1}10]$	$(111)$
$\gamma_2^M$	$[01\bar{1}]$	$(111)$
$\gamma_2^T$	$[0\bar{1}1]$	$(111)$
$\gamma_3^M$	$[\bar{1}01]$	$(111)$
$\gamma_3^T$	$[10\bar{1}]$	$(111)$

separated by lamellar interfaces are included in each column, for example, the second column at  $X_1$ – $X_2$  plane along  $X_1$ –direction, the bottom-up layout is  $\gamma_1^M$ ,  $\gamma_1^T$ ,  $\gamma_2^M$ ,  $\gamma_2^T$ ,  $\gamma_3^M$  and  $\gamma_3^T$ .

As shown in [Fig. 2](#),  $\lambda_D$  denotes the average size of  $\gamma$  domain; it is defined as the longest diagonal length in the domain.  $\lambda_L$  and  $\lambda_{\alpha_2}$  represent the average thicknesses of the  $\gamma$  lamellae and the  $\alpha_2$  lamella respectively. These three length scales determine the dimensions of the unit cell

$$L_1 = \frac{3\sqrt{3}}{4}\lambda_D, \quad L_2 = \frac{1}{2}(\lambda_{\alpha_2} + 6\lambda_L), \quad L_3 = \frac{3}{4}\lambda_D. \quad (1)$$

The three lengths,  $\lambda_D$ ,  $\lambda_L$  and  $\lambda_{\alpha_2}$  define two dimensionless geometric parameters: the domain aspect ratio  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L$ , and the initial volume fraction of the  $\alpha_2$  phase,  $f_{\alpha_2}$ . The two dimensionless parameters of  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L$  and  $f_{\alpha_2}$  facilitate the studies of scale and *compositional* effects respectively. The initial volume fraction  $f_{\alpha_2}$  is determined by the thickness of  $\alpha_2$  phase,  $\lambda_{\alpha_2}$ , as follows

$$f_{\alpha_2} = \frac{\lambda_{\alpha_2}}{\lambda_{\alpha_2} + 6\lambda_L} \quad (2)$$

where  $\lambda_L$  and  $\lambda_D$  are kept constant when  $f_{\alpha_2}$  varies. This operation ensures a constant  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L$  when investigating the effects of  $f_{\alpha_2}$ .

Because of various  $\gamma$  orientation variants, the boundaries between  $\gamma/\gamma$  can be categorized into three types, namely pseudo-twin (PT), ordered-variant (OV) and true-twin (TT) boundaries

(Zhang et al., 2020; Ding et al., 2020):

- PT boundary is that between  $\gamma_1^M$  and  $\gamma_2^T$ ,  $\gamma_1^M$  and  $\gamma_3^T$ ,  $\gamma_2^M$  and  $\gamma_1^T$ ,  $\gamma_2^M$  and  $\gamma_3^T$ ,  $\gamma_3^M$  and  $\gamma_1^T$ ,  $\gamma_3^M$  and  $\gamma_2^T$  with a rotation angle of  $60^\circ$ ,
- OV boundary is that between  $\gamma_1^M$  and  $\gamma_2^M$ ,  $\gamma_1^M$  and  $\gamma_3^M$ ,  $\gamma_2^M$  and  $\gamma_3^M$ ,  $\gamma_1^T$  and  $\gamma_3^T$ ,  $\gamma_1^T$  and  $\gamma_2^T$ ,  $\gamma_2^T$  and  $\gamma_3^T$  with a rotation angle of  $120^\circ$ ,
- TT boundary is that between  $\gamma_1^M$  and  $\gamma_1^T$ ,  $\gamma_2^M$  and  $\gamma_2^T$ ,  $\gamma_3^M$  and  $\gamma_3^T$  with a rotation angle of  $180^\circ$ .

Werwer and Cornec (2006) have employed two RVEs in their study of the role of superdislocations for modeling plastic deformation of lamellar TiAl, one that incorporates PT boundary while the other OV and TT boundaries/interfaces. Cornec et al. (2015) have proposed several types of Periodic Unit Cell (PUC) each containing different arrangements of RVE, with each RVE representing a lamellar phase ( $\alpha_2 + \gamma$ ), and have considered PT, PT and TT, OV and TT boundaries separately in the PUCs.

In this work, all of the  $\gamma/\gamma$  interfaces have been considered in the RVE under study. Three different variants of  $\gamma_1^M, \gamma_2^M, \gamma_3^M$  or  $\gamma_1^T, \gamma_2^T, \gamma_3^T$  are considered in the interfaces between neighboring  $\gamma$  lamellae ( $\gamma/\gamma$  lamella boundaries), while OV boundaries are considered in the interfaces between domains within each  $\gamma$  lamella ( $\gamma/\gamma$  domain boundaries)

## 2.2. Deformation systems

Deformation systems in single phases can be grouped either by their deformation mechanism (e.g. ordinary slip, super slip and twinning in  $\gamma$ -TiAl phase) or by crystallographically equivalent slip planes (e.g. basal, prismatic and pyramidal slips in  $\alpha_2$ -Ti<sub>3</sub>Al phase). Due to the fact that  $(111)_\gamma$  plane of all  $\gamma$  domains and the  $(0001)_{\alpha_2}$  plane of all  $\alpha_2$  lamellae are always co-planar to the lamella interfaces, the slip systems can also be classified as transversal, longitudinal and mixed based on morphological deformation modes (Lebensohn et al., 1998; Grujicic and Batchu, 2001; Schnabel, 2018). These morphological deformation modes can be distinguished according to the following features:

- Transversal: slip direction inclined to lamellae, plane normal inclined to lamellae.
- Longitudinal: slip direction parallel to lamellae, plane normal perpendicular to lamellae
- Mixed: slip direction parallel to lamellae, plane normal inclined to lamellae.

In general, two principal deformation modes can be identified in PST crystals based on activation of deformation systems on crystallographic planes; hard and soft modes (Fujiwara et al., 1990; Hazzledine and Kad, 1995; You et al., 2013). In hard mode, shear deformations occur across lamella interfaces (mixed and transversal systems) where lamellar thickness plays a dominant role, whereas in soft mode the shear deformations occur along lamella interfaces/domain boundaries (longitudinal systems) where domain size plays a dominant role (Inui et al., 1992a; Hazzledine and Kad, 1995; Kad et al., 1995; Umeda et al., 1997; You et al., 2013; Palomares-García et al., 2017) In view that twinning is a potential plastic deformation mechanism at low temperatures and high strain rates, it is pertinent to consider only slips for bending at high temperature and low strain rate. This strategy has been adopted by others (e.g., Grujicic and Batchu, 2001; Grujicic et al., 2003a).

Table 2. Slip systems in tetragonal  $\gamma$ -TiAl and hexagonal  $\alpha_2$ -Ti<sub>3</sub>Al phases with mechanism classification. Note that Miller index and Miller-Bravais index are used for  $\gamma$ -TiAl and  $\alpha_2$ -Ti<sub>3</sub>Al phases, respectively (Schnabel, 2018).

Phase	System	Mechanism	Morphology
$\gamma$ -TiAl	1/2[1 $\bar{1}$ 0](111)	Ordinary slip	Longitudinal
	[01 $\bar{1}$ ](111)	Super slip	Longitudinal
	[10 $\bar{1}$ ](111)	Super slip	Longitudinal
	1/2[1 $\bar{1}$ 0]( $\bar{1}\bar{1}$ 1)	Ordinary slip	Mixed
	[01 $\bar{1}$ ]( $\bar{1}\bar{1}$ 1)	Super slip	Mixed
	[10 $\bar{1}$ ]( $\bar{1}\bar{1}$ 1)	Super slip	Mixed
	1/2[110](1 $\bar{1}$ 1)	Ordinary slip	Transversal
	1/2[ $\bar{1}\bar{1}$ 0]( $\bar{1}\bar{1}$ 1)	Ordinary slip	Transversal
	[0 $\bar{1}\bar{1}$ ]( $\bar{1}\bar{1}$ 1)	Super slip	Transversal
	[ $\bar{1}$ 0 $\bar{1}$ ]( $\bar{1}\bar{1}$ 1)	Super slip	Transversal
	[0 $\bar{1}\bar{1}$ ](1 $\bar{1}$ 1)	Super slip	Transversal
	[ $\bar{1}$ 0 $\bar{1}$ ]( $\bar{1}\bar{1}$ 1)	Super slip	Transversal
$\alpha_2$ -Ti <sub>3</sub> Al	{0001}\langle 11 $\bar{2}$ 0 \rangle	Basal slip	Longitudinal
	{1 $\bar{1}$ 00}\langle 11 $\bar{2}$ 0 \rangle	Prismatic slip	Mixed
	{11 $\bar{2}$ 1}\langle 11 $\bar{2}$ 6 \rangle	Pyramidal slip	Transversal

### 2.3. Crystal plasticity model

The crystal plasticity constitutive model employed in this study is formulated based on the work of Hill and Rice (1972); Hutchinson (1976); Asaro and Rice (1977); Kothari (1997). For completeness of this paper, a brief introduction of the model is provided here.

The total deformation gradient can be multiplicatively decomposed as

$$\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{F}^e \mathbf{F}^p \quad (3)$$

where  $\mathbf{F}^e$  is the elastic deformation gradient denoting the elastic distortion and rotation of the lattice, where  $\mathbf{F}^e \equiv \mathbf{F} \mathbf{F}^{p-1}$ , and  $\mathbf{F}^p$  the plastic deformation gradient characterizing the shear strain on the active slip systems. Within the finite strain setting, the Hook's law is formulated in the rate form as

$$\overset{\nabla}{\boldsymbol{\tau}} = \mathcal{L} : \mathbf{D}^e \quad (4)$$

where  $\overset{\nabla}{\boldsymbol{\tau}} = \dot{\boldsymbol{\tau}} - \mathbf{W}^e \boldsymbol{\tau} + \boldsymbol{\tau} \mathbf{W}^e$  is the Jaumann rate of the Kirchhoff stress  $\boldsymbol{\tau}$ ,  $\mathcal{L}$  the rank-4 elasticity tensor,  $\mathbf{D}^e$  and  $\mathbf{W}^e$  are the elastic deformation rate and spin tensor

$$\mathbf{D}^e = \text{sym}(\dot{\mathbf{F}}^e \mathbf{F}^{e-1}), \quad \mathbf{W}^e = \text{skw}(\dot{\mathbf{F}}^e \mathbf{F}^{e-1}). \quad (5)$$

Using Voigt notation,  $\mathcal{L}$  has been defined in Appendix A, in terms of the elastic stiffness matrix for tetragonal crystal  $\gamma$ -TiAl and hexagonal crystal  $\alpha_2$ -Ti<sub>3</sub>Al, respectively.

The change of  $\mathbf{F}^p$ , describing the evolution of plastic deformation gradient, is represented by

$$\dot{\mathbf{F}}^p \mathbf{F}^{p-1} = \sum_{\alpha} \dot{\gamma}^{(\alpha)} \mathbf{s}^{(\alpha)} \otimes \mathbf{m}^{(\alpha)} \quad (6)$$

where  $\dot{\gamma}^{(\alpha)}$  is the plastic shearing rate,  $\mathbf{s}^{(\alpha)}$  a unit slip direction and  $\mathbf{m}^{(\alpha)}$  orthonormal to the slip plane in the reference plane.

The plastic shearing rate  $\dot{\gamma}^{(\alpha)}$  of the  $\alpha$ th slip system is determined by the simple power law as (Hutchinson, 1976)

$$\dot{\gamma}^{(\alpha)} = \dot{\gamma}_0 \left| \frac{\tau^{(\alpha)}}{\tau_c^{(\alpha)}} \right|^m \text{sgn}(\tau^{(\alpha)}) \quad (7)$$

where  $\tau^{(\alpha)} = \boldsymbol{\tau} : \mathbf{s}^{(\alpha)} \otimes \mathbf{m}^{(\alpha)}$  is the resolved shear stress,  $\tau_c^{(\alpha)}$  the critical resolved shear stress (representative of slip resistance) of the  $\alpha$ th slip system,  $\dot{\gamma}_0$  the reference strain rate, and  $m$  the power exponent of rate sensitivity. In this formulation,  $\dot{\gamma}_0$  and  $m$  are assumed to be identical for all slip systems in either of the crystals.

The evolution of the deformation resistance on the  $\alpha$ th slip system characterizes the strain hardening behavior via the incremental relation, given by (Kothari, 1997)

$$\dot{\tau}_c^{(\alpha)} = \sum_{\beta} h_{\alpha\beta} |\dot{\gamma}^{(\beta)}| \quad (8)$$

where  $h_{\alpha\beta}$  are the strain hardening moduli, accounting for the contributions from all the active slip systems.  $h_{\alpha\beta}$  encompasses the self-hardening moduli where  $\alpha = \beta$  and latent hardening moduli where  $\alpha \neq \beta$ . Given the quantity of the slip systems of the two phases, the complete matrix of the hardening moduli  $h_{\alpha\beta}$  manifests descriptive intractability. For instance, there are 12 slip systems for  $\gamma$ -TiAl phase such that  $h_{\alpha\beta}$  is  $12 \times 12$  matrix of 144 entries.  $h_{\alpha\beta}$  of  $\alpha_2$ -Ti<sub>3</sub>Al phase shares the same dimension as that of  $\gamma$ -TiAl phase. For the sake of brevity and clarity,  $h_{\alpha\beta}$  is simplified as

$$h_{\alpha\beta} = q_{\alpha\beta} h^{(\beta)}. \quad (9)$$

The parameter  $q_{\alpha\beta}$  is a measure for latent hardening

$$q_{\alpha\beta} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for coplanar slip systems } \alpha \text{ and } \beta \\ q_l & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (10)$$

where  $q_l$  takes the value 1.4, following Kad et al. (1995); Grujicic and Batchu (2001).

The self hardening is expressed following Kothari (1997) as

$$h^{(\beta)} = h_0^{(\beta)} \left| 1 - \frac{\tau_c^{(\beta)}}{\tau_s^{(\beta)}} \right|^{n^{(\beta)}} \text{sgn} \left( 1 - \frac{\tau_c^{(\beta)}}{\tau_s^{(\beta)}} \right) \quad (11)$$

where  $h_0^{(\beta)}$  is the initial hardening modulus,  $n^{(\beta)}$  the hardening exponent and  $\tau_s^{(\beta)}$  the saturation slip resistance.

The crystal plasticity model parameters utilized in this work for  $\gamma$ -TiAl and  $\alpha_2$ -Ti<sub>3</sub>Al phases are listed in Table 3 and Table 4 respectively. These parameters are widely adopted and are extracted from Fu and Yoo (1990); Yoo et al. (1995); Kad et al. (1995); Grujicic and Batchu (2001).

## 2.4. Numerical implementation

This subsection details the boundary and loading conditions to be imposed on the 3D unit cell. The cell is initially at rest, and rotation-controlled displacements are applied on  $X_2$ - $X_3$  planes at two ends of the cell,  $X_1 = \pm L_1$ , to trigger equal and opposite rotations. Roller constraints are imposed on  $X_1$ - $X_2$  planes at the two surfaces,  $X_3 = \pm L_3$ , along the  $X_3$  direction (i.e. the plane strain conditions for bending). Denoting  $u_i$  ( $i = 1, 2, 3$ ) as the three-dimensional displacements of a material point ( $X_1, X_2, X_3$ ), the displacement boundary conditions are given by

Table 3. Crystal plasticity model parameters for  $\gamma$ -TiAl phase

Parameter	Value	Reference	
Elastic matrix, $C_{11}$	190 GPa	Fu and Yoo (1990)	
Elastic matrix, $C_{12}$	105 GPa	Fu and Yoo (1990)	
Elastic matrix, $C_{13}$	90 GPa	Fu and Yoo (1990)	
Elastic matrix, $C_{33}$	185 GPa	Fu and Yoo (1990)	
Elastic matrix, $C_{44}$	120 GPa	Fu and Yoo (1990)	
Elastic matrix, $C_{66}$	50 GPa	Fu and Yoo (1990)	
Reference shearing rate, $\dot{\gamma}_0$	0.001 $s^{-1}$	Kad et al. (1995)	
Rate sensitivity exponent, $m$	40	This work	
Self-hardening exponent, $n$	{111} $\langle$ 1 $\bar{1}$ 0 $\rangle$	3.1	Grujicic and Batchu (2001)
	{111} $\langle$ $\bar{1}$ 01 $\rangle$	3.0	Grujicic and Batchu (2001)
Self-hardening modulus, $h_0$	{111} $\langle$ 1 $\bar{1}$ 0 $\rangle$	940.2 MPa	Grujicic and Batchu (2001)
	{111} $\langle$ $\bar{1}$ 01 $\rangle$	950.7 MPa	Grujicic and Batchu (2001)
Initial slip resistance, $\tau_0$	{111} $\langle$ 1 $\bar{1}$ 0 $\rangle$	14.3 MPa	Grujicic and Batchu (2001)
	{111} $\langle$ $\bar{1}$ 01 $\rangle$	22.7 MPa	Grujicic and Batchu (2001)
Saturation slip resistance, $\tau_s$	{111} $\langle$ 1 $\bar{1}$ 0 $\rangle$	212.2 MPa	Grujicic and Batchu (2001)
	{111} $\langle$ $\bar{1}$ 01 $\rangle$	291.1 MPa	Grujicic and Batchu (2001)

- At  $X_1 = \pm L_1$

$$\begin{pmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \phi & \pm \sin \phi \\ \mp \sin \phi & \cos \phi \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 + Y_0 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 + Y_0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (12)$$

- At  $X_3 = \pm L_3$

$$u_3 = 0 \quad (13)$$

In the above,  $\phi$  is the rotation or bending angle at both ends of unit cell at  $X_1 = \pm L_1$  with respect to  $X_3$  axis. It is taken to be positive counterclockwise and negative clockwise, and  $Y_0$  is the center of the curvature during the course of the bending deformation. The remaining degrees of freedom (DOFs) are kept free, implying zero (anti-periodic) tractions. It should be noted that the two-parameter bending mode (12) is similar to that employed by Du et al. (2020) for plane strain bending of an elastomeric rectangular block (see (17) therein).

The boundary conditions are imposed through multi-point constraints *via* the user subroutine \*MPC. A dummy node with DOFs  $\phi$  and  $Y_0$  is introduced to establish master–slave relations in the boundary conditions (12) (Cheng and Guo, 2007; Wong and Guo, 2015; Liu et al., 2016; Guo and Wong, 2018). Clearly,  $\phi$  is work–conjugate with bending moment  $M$  while  $Y_0$  is a supplementary kinematic variable used to minimize the energy of the system with a zero nodal force. There exists a total virtual work equivalence between the dummy node and the 3D unit cell; namely, the total internal virtual work is equal to the external virtual work

$$\int_V \mathbf{P} : \delta \mathbf{F} dV = 2M\delta\phi = 2ML_1\delta\kappa \quad (14)$$

where  $\mathbf{P}$  is the first Piola-Kirchhoff stress,  $V$  the cell volume in the undeformed reference configuration,

$$M = \int_{X_1=L_1} (x_2 P_{11} - x_1 P_{21}) dS \quad (15)$$

Table 4. Crystal plasticity model parameters for  $\alpha_2$ -Ti<sub>3</sub>Al phase

Parameter	Value	Reference	
Elastic matrix, $C_{11}$	221 GPa	Yoo et al. (1995)	
Elastic matrix, $C_{12}$	71 GPa	Yoo et al. (1995)	
Elastic matrix, $C_{13}$	85 GPa	Yoo et al. (1995)	
Elastic matrix, $C_{33}$	238 GPa	Yoo et al. (1995)	
Elastic matrix, $C_{44}$	69 GPa	Yoo et al. (1995)	
Reference shearing rate, $\dot{\gamma}_0$	0.001 $s^{-1}$	Kad et al. (1995)	
Rate sensitivity exponent, $m$	40	This work	
Self-hardening exponent, $n$	{0001}<11 $\bar{2}$ 0>	3.0	Grujicic and Batchu (2001)
	{1 $\bar{1}$ 00}<11 $\bar{2}$ 0>	2.7	Grujicic and Batchu (2001)
	{11 $\bar{2}$ 1}<11 $\bar{2}$ 6>	2.9	Grujicic and Batchu (2001)
Self-hardening modulus, $h_0$	{0001}<11 $\bar{2}$ 0>	742.8 MPa	Grujicic and Batchu (2001)
	{1 $\bar{1}$ 00}<11 $\bar{2}$ 0>	861.7 MPa	Grujicic and Batchu (2001)
	{11 $\bar{2}$ 1}<11 $\bar{2}$ 6>	814.7 MPa	Grujicic and Batchu (2001)
Initial slip resistance, $\tau_0$	{0001}<11 $\bar{2}$ 0>	44.8 MPa	Grujicic and Batchu (2001)
	{1 $\bar{1}$ 00}<11 $\bar{2}$ 0>	19.2 MPa	Grujicic and Batchu (2001)
	{11 $\bar{2}$ 1}<11 $\bar{2}$ 6>	121.9 MPa	Grujicic and Batchu (2001)
Saturation slip resistance, $\tau_s$	{0001}<11 $\bar{2}$ 0>	417.7 MPa	Grujicic and Batchu (2001)
	{1 $\bar{1}$ 00}<11 $\bar{2}$ 0>	148.3 MPa	Grujicic and Batchu (2001)
	{11 $\bar{2}$ 1}<11 $\bar{2}$ 6>	1586.3 MPa	Grujicic and Batchu (2001)

$\tau_s^* = 1586.3$  MPa is used for the bending moment normalization.

the bending moment (see Appendix B for the calculation of bending moment), and  $\kappa = \phi/L_1$  the overall curvature. In (15),  $(x_1, x_2)$  is the *current* position from the center of curvature.

The second moment of the cross-sectional area at  $X_1 = L_1$  is

$$I = \frac{4}{3}L_2^3L_3. \quad (16)$$

With reference to small strain beam theory for isotropic materials with Young's modulus  $E$ , bending moment has a linear relationship with the curvature:  $M = EI\kappa$ . For the nonlinear bending problem under study, it is convenient to normalize the bending moment as  $ML_1/\tau_s^*I$ , where  $\tau_s^* = 1586.3$  MPa is the saturation slip resistance of pyramidal slip systems as presented in Table 4. In noting from (15) that the bending moment  $M$  is a function of cross-sectional area ( $L_2 \times L_3$ ), the rationale for the normalization of  $M$  with  $I$  is to essentially isolate the effects of cross-sectional area in the preceding analyses on scale and geometric effects, i.e. lamella's domain size aspect ratio and volume fraction, and configurational variation of lamellae. This will be apparent in the presentation of results in Section 3. Given the material properties in Table 3 and Table 4, the dimensionless bending moment is a nonlinear function of the bending angle  $\phi$  and the geometric parameters – the domain aspect ratio  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L$  and the initial volume fraction of the  $\alpha_2$  phase:

$$\frac{M}{\tau_s^*V} = \mathcal{F}\left(\phi; \frac{\lambda_D}{\lambda_L}, f_{\alpha_2}\right). \quad (17)$$

The foregoing crystal plasticity model is implemented into the general-purpose finite ele-

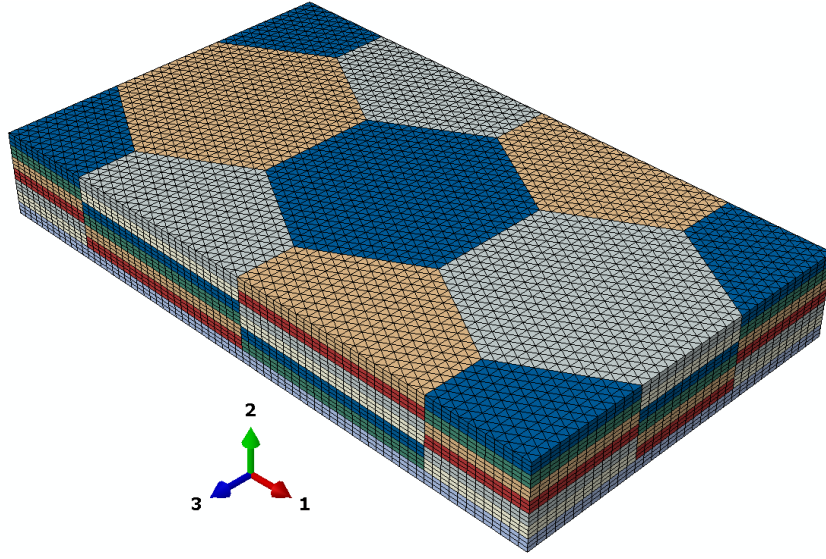


Fig. 4. An example finite element mesh for  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L = 20$  and  $f_{\alpha_2} = 15\%$ .

ment program ABAQUS *via* UMAT, the user-subroutine for defining the mechanical constitutive behavior of PST lamellar TiAl crystal. Fig. 4 shows an example of the finite element mesh for  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L = 20$  and  $f_{\alpha_2} = 15\%$ , where the RVE with  $\alpha_2 + 6\gamma$  substructures in Fig. 2 is discretized into three-dimensional 6-node linear triangular prisms, hybrid with constant pressure (C3D6H). The total number of elements is 110,376 with 60,215 nodes.

### 3. Results and discussion

This section presents the results of the micromechanical analyses on the bending of PST single crystal of TiAl. The results focus on its bending responses under the influences of domain size aspect ratio  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L$ , volume fraction of  $\alpha_2$  phase  $f_{\alpha_2}$  and the boundary constraints imposed on the RVE. The dependent variables that will be presented in the subsequent subsections, primarily bending moments and stresses, represent the overall response of the RVE and they take on dimensionless normalized forms. Henceforth, the terms "bending moment", "tensile stress" and "compressive stress" shall refer to their normalized forms, unless otherwise stated.

#### 3.1. Shear strain discontinuities

Sagging and hogging are terms used in solid mechanics and structural and civil engineering to describe the shape that a beam or similar long slender object will deform under loads; sagging describes a beam that curves downwards in its middle, while hogging describes a beam that curves upwards. The bending moments associated with sagging and hogging are known as sagging and hogging moments respectively. Sagging and hogging moments correspond to negative and positive bending angles  $\phi$  respectively. Fig. 5 displays the contour plots of discontinuities in cumulative shear strain, and exemplifying the sagging and hogging shapes in a lamellar PST TiAl of  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L = 20$  and  $f_{\alpha_2} = 15\%$  subjected to bending angles  $|\phi| = 0.002, 0.1$  and  $0.5$  rad.

The total cumulative shear strain  $\gamma_c$  on all active slip systems characterizes the activation of

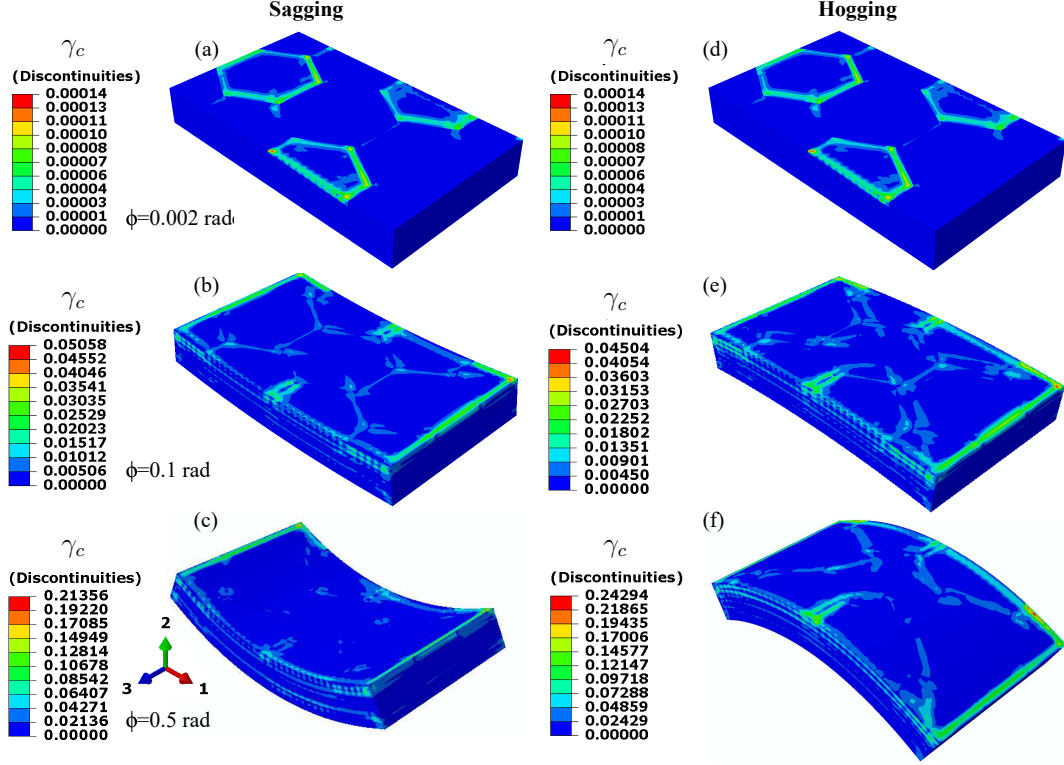


Fig. 5. Contour plots of discontinuities in cumulative shear strain  $\gamma_c$  in lamellar PST TiAl at various bending angles  $\phi$  where  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L = 20$  and  $f_{\alpha_2} = 15\%$ , exemplifying (a)-(c) sagging and (d)-(f) hogging shapes. Discontinuities occur in domain boundaries within the lamellae and lamella boundaries.

slip systems, and is expressed as

$$\gamma_c = \sum_{\alpha} \int |\dot{\gamma}^{(\alpha)}| dt \quad (18)$$

The discontinuities in  $\gamma_c$  represent the maximum differences in the computed  $\gamma_c$  between adjacent elements (ABAQUS Version 6.14); they highlight the local strain gradients that develop in the heterogeneous microstructure during the bending process. At first glance, it can be observed that the patterns of localized strain gradients are almost similar under sagging and hogging moments, though it is not as apparent for the case of  $\phi = \pm 0.5$  rad due to the the chosen limits of the contour plot for sagging. It can also be observed that the localized strain gradients are confined within the lamella at  $\gamma$  domain boundaries at low bending angle i.e.  $\gamma = 0.002$  rad. As bending angle increases, strain gradients develop across  $\gamma/\gamma$  lamellae boundaries and  $\alpha_2/\gamma$  lamellae boundary. The discontinuities or strain localizations appearing along the edges of the RVE are due to the effects of the imposed boundary conditions. The strain localization arises from the microstructural inhomogeneity such as phase incompatibility, orientation variants (Kad et al., 1995; Antolovich and Armstrong, 2014), and as a consequence of crystallographic slips (Harren and Asaro, 1989). The domains or lamellae accommodate each other to avert discontinuity through slip motion and storage at the boundaries, and the accommodation of slips among neighboring domains or lamellae causes the strain localization at the boundaries (Fleck et al., 1994; Qiu et al., 2020). The presence of strain localization across the boundaries infers the activation of hard mode slips (Kad et al., 1995); all the slip systems are transversal under both sagging and hogging moments. Indeed, numerical results of Fig. 5 for  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L = 20$  and  $f_{\alpha_2} = 15\%$  indicate that two ordinary, four super and two pyramidal slip systems are acti-

vated under sagging moments, while two ordinary, one super and two pyramidal are operative under hogging moments.

Remark: Incompatible deformations and stress concentrations between distinct  $\gamma$ -domains are significant due to elastic misorientation therein when the bending angle is small. With the increase of bending angle, however, the deformation becomes relatively compatible and the stress concentration at triple junctions is retrieved.

### 3.2. Domain aspect ratio, $\lambda_D/\lambda_L$

The effects of domain aspect ratio  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L$  on bending are presented in this section, where the length scales  $\lambda_D$  and  $\lambda_L$  are the domain size and lamella thickness respectively, as defined previously. Domain sizes have been observed to vary from 100 nm to 500  $\mu\text{m}$  (Inui et al., 1992b; Nakano et al., 1992; Dimiduk et al., 1998; Maziasz and Liu, 1998), while the lamellar thicknesses may range from tens of nanometre to a few hundreds of micrometre (Kim, 1998; Maziasz and Liu, 1998; Zhu et al., 2006; Werwer et al., 2007). In this work,  $\lambda_D$  is held constant while  $\lambda_L$  is varied accordingly for the domain aspect ratios under consideration, namely  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L = 10, 20$  and  $40$ . Indeed, many well-documented studies on dominant size effects in relation to PST TiAl have reported that  $\lambda_L$  plays a dominant role when hard mode operates (e.g., Inui et al., 1992a; Hazzledine and Kad, 1995; Kad et al., 1995; Umeda et al., 1997). Hard mode is expected to be the dominant during bending where the active slip systems are mixed and transversal. The volume fraction of  $\alpha_2$  phase,  $f_{\alpha_2}$ , is maintained at 15%, unless otherwise stated.

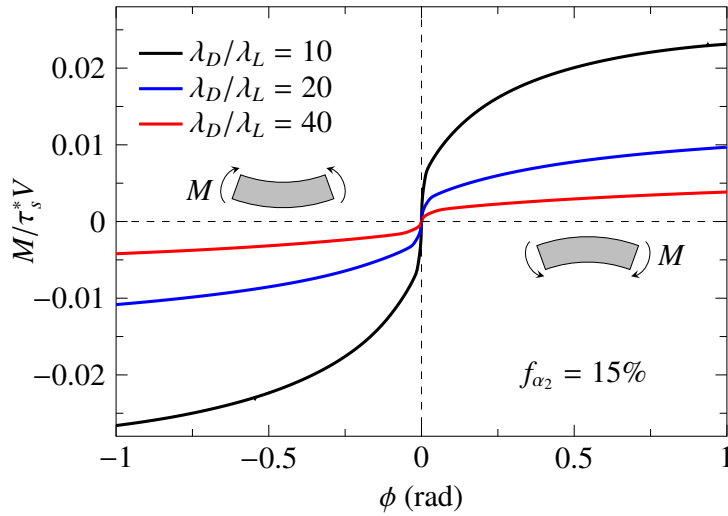


Fig. 6. Variation of bending moment  $M/\tau_s^*V$  with bending angle  $\phi$  for three levels of domain size aspect ratio  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L = 10, 20$  and  $40$ , with  $f_{\alpha_2} = 15\%$ . Hogging and sagging moments are represented by positive and negative  $\phi$  respectively.

Fig. 6 depicts the overall bending response of the PST TiAl lamellae for three levels of domain size aspect ratio  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L$  considered. Positive  $\phi$  corresponds to the case of the lamellae subjected to hogging moments ( $+M$ ) while negative  $\phi$  to sagging moments ( $-M$ ). It can be observed that bending moment decreases as domain aspect ratio  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L$  increases. With  $\lambda_D$  being held constant, a decrease in  $\gamma$  lamella thickness  $\lambda_L$  implies an increase in  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L$ . In other words, a thinner lamella induces a lower bending moment, an observation that can be elucidated

from geometrical and kinematics considerations. Recall from (1) the relations between the three lengths describing the sizes of  $\gamma$  and  $\alpha_2$  lamellae ( $\lambda_D$ ,  $\lambda_L$  and  $\lambda_{\alpha_2}$ ) and the dimensions of the unit cell ( $L_1$ ,  $L_2$  and  $L_3$ ), the overall thickness of the unit cell  $L_2$  increases as  $\lambda_L$  increases and vice versa, with  $L_1$  and  $L_3$  remaining constant for prescribed  $\lambda_D$  and  $\lambda_{\alpha_2}$ . With that, it can be seen from (16) that the second moment of cross-sectional area  $I$  scales with  $L_2$  raised to its third power. As a consequence and from beam theory, bending moment  $M$  therefore increases with  $\lambda_L$  since  $M \propto I$ . It is also observed from the figure that the non-linear relationship between the induced bending moment and bending angle becomes more pronounced at large  $\phi$  as  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L$  decreases. A closer inspection of the figure reveals presence of linear response of  $M/\tau_s^*V$  at low bending angles  $\phi$ . This is exemplified in Fig. 7, where the overall bending response of the cell is plotted in the domain  $-0.015 \leq \phi \leq 0.015$ , for the same levels of domain aspect ratio  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L$  considered. As in Fig. 6, positive  $M/\tau_s^*V$  corresponds to the case of hogging while negative sagging. From Fig. 7, linear relationships between bending moment and bending

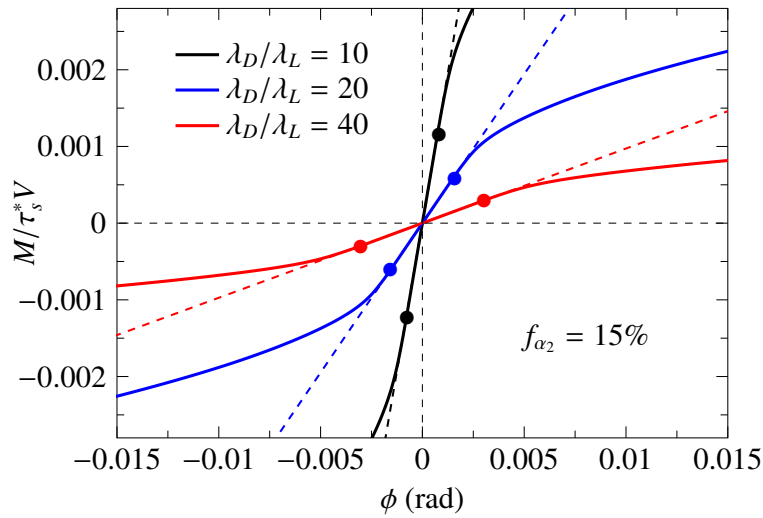


Fig. 7. Linear relationship between  $M/\tau_s^*V$  and  $\phi$  at low bending angles, for the three levels of  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L$ . Solid circles mark the moment at initial yield of the overall cell response. Dashed lines represent the respective elastic slopes.

angle are clearly evident for both hogging and sagging at low  $\phi$ , with the respective elastic slopes denoted by dashed lines. As  $\phi$  is further increased, the curves of  $M/\tau_s^*V$  versus  $\phi$  begin to deviate from the linear elastic slopes.

It is known from classical beam theory that bending moment–rotation relation is related to tensile stress–strain relation, though this relationship is not straightforward in the context of discrete dislocation due to the various dislocation structures that evolve (Cleveringa et al., 1999). Assuming the linear regime corresponds to the elastic response, we can then define the point at which deviation from the linear slope occurs as the initial yield. This is the elastic limit and are shown as marked by the solid circles in Fig. 7, and it indicates the first occurrence of dislocation activities, and in the context of CPFEM slip activities. In this work, the point defining the elastic limit is such that its gradient with respect to the origin deviates from the elastic slope by 0.02%. The bending moment at which initial yield occurs is herein denoted by  $(M_Y/\tau_s^*V)$  and the bending angle at which it occurs as  $\phi_Y$ . It is observed that the magnitude  $(M_Y/\tau_s^*V)$  increases and the corresponding  $\phi_Y$  decreases, as  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L$  decreases. In other words, the initial yield and the corresponding  $(M_Y/\tau_s^*V)$  increases as thickness of  $\gamma$  lamellae increases i.e. as  $\lambda_L$  increases. At the same time, the increase in  $\lambda_L$  also has an effect of “hastening” the onset of initial yield; its occurrence at a lower bending angle. From the perspectives of disloca-

tions and slips, we can rationalize this observation by realizing that there is a maximum number of dislocations that can be accommodated on any slip plane due to the spacings of dislocations in the pile up. It can be envisioned that the maximum number of dislocations per slip plane increases with the size of the unit cell or in general the specimen; in this case thicknesses of the  $\gamma$  lamellae and consequently the cell's thickness  $L_2$ . According to Fleck et al. (1994), the total density of dislocations determines material hardening, and their origins due to strain gradient which, in this context, is a result of loading geometry i.e. bending.

From small strain beam theory, we can approximate the bending stress in the linear elastic regime via  $\sigma_b = My/I$ , where  $\sigma_b$  is the bending stress,  $y$  the distance from the neutral axis or neutral plane, with  $M$ ,  $V$  and  $I$  as defined previously. In the elastic limit and from the bending stress relation, we can write

$$\frac{\sigma_Y}{\tau_s^*} = \left( \frac{M_Y}{\tau_s^* V} \right) \left( \frac{yV}{I} \right), \quad (19)$$

where  $\sigma_Y/\tau_s^*$  is the overall initial yield stress,  $(M_Y/\tau_s^* V)$  the overall moment at initial yield that can be obtained from Fig. 7. The neutral axis needs to be computed for the evaluation of  $y$ . In considering the  $\alpha + 6\gamma$  TiAl to be a composite beam and using the method of transformed section, the location of the equivalent neutral axis  $\bar{y}$  relative to the bottommost surface of  $\alpha$  lamellae (see Fig. 2) i.e. at  $X_2 = -L_2$  can be evaluated using

$$\bar{y} = \frac{\sum A_i^\gamma \bar{y}_i^\gamma + n_m A^\alpha \bar{y}^\alpha}{\sum A_i^\gamma + n_m A^\alpha}, \quad (20)$$

where  $A_i^\gamma$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, 6$ ) refers to the cross-sectional area of  $i^{\text{th}}$   $\gamma$  lamella in the  $X_2 - X_3$  plane,  $A^\alpha$  the cross-sectional area of  $\alpha$  lamellae,  $\bar{y}_i^\gamma$  and  $\bar{y}^\alpha$  the locations of neutral axes of the respective lamellae and  $n_m$  the modular ratio, defined as  $n_m = C_{11}^\alpha / C_{11}^\gamma$  with  $C_{11}$  the elastic constants from Table 3 and Table 4. Here, we have taken  $y$  to be positive in the positive  $X_2$ -direction (above the neutral axis  $\bar{y}$ ) and vice versa. Thus it is trivial to note from (19) that maximum normal tensile stress  $(\sigma_Y/\tau_s^*)_t$  will occur at  $y = +L_2$  while minimum normal compressive stress  $(\sigma_Y/\tau_s^*)_c$  at  $y = -L_2$  under hogging moments respectively). Similarly,  $(\sigma_Y/\tau_s^*)_c$  will occur at  $y = +L_2$  while  $(\sigma_Y/\tau_s^*)_t$  at  $y = -L_2$  under sagging moments respectively). Table 5 lists the computed values at initial yield for the bending moment  $(M_Y/\tau_s^* V)$ , tensile stress  $(\sigma_Y/\tau_s^*)_t$  and compressive stress  $(\sigma_Y/\tau_s^*)_c$  under hogging and sagging moments for three levels of  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L$  and  $f_{\alpha_2} = 15\%$ . It can be noticed from the table that both maximum tensile and compressive yield

Table 5. List of values for bending angle, bending moment, tensile and compressive stresses at initial yield under both hogging and sagging moments for  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L = 10, 20, 40$  and  $f_{\alpha_2} = 15\%$ .

Moment	$\lambda_D/\lambda_L$	$\phi_Y$	$\left( \frac{M_Y}{\tau_s^* V} \right)$	$\left( \frac{\sigma_Y}{\tau_s^*} \right)_t$	$\left( \frac{\sigma_Y}{\tau_s^*} \right)_c$
Hogging	10	$8.23 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.28 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0144	-0.0140
	20	$1.61 \times 10^{-3}$	$6.25 \times 10^{-4}$	0.0140	-0.0136
	40	$3.21 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.04 \times 10^{-4}$	0.0136	-0.0132
Sagging	10	$-8.29 \times 10^{-4}$	$-1.29 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0141	-0.0145
	20	$-1.61 \times 10^{-3}$	$-6.28 \times 10^{-4}$	0.0137	-0.0141
	40	$-3.20 \times 10^{-3}$	$-3.13 \times 10^{-4}$	0.0136	-0.0140

stress,  $(\sigma_Y/\tau_s^*)_t$  and  $(\sigma_Y/\tau_s^*)_c$  respectively, display decreasing trends as  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L$  increases i.e. as  $\lambda_L$  decreases, though the increments are somewhat marginal. Nevertheless, the observed trend may be attributed to the lower total dislocation density associated with lower  $\lambda_L$ , or thinner  $\gamma$  lamellae. It is interesting to note from Table 5 and Fig. 7 that the onset of slip activities occurs is delayed with larger  $\phi_Y$  as  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L$  is increased i.e. as  $\lambda_L$  is decreased, as a result of increased compliance of the lamellae to bending.

Re-directing attention back to Fig. 6, it is of interest to note that bending responses is asymmetric under sagging and hogging moments; the magnitudes of  $M/\tau_s^*V$  under sagging are larger than those under hogging e.g. comparing  $M/\tau_s^*V$  at  $\phi = \pm 1$  for  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L = 10$ . Numerical results reveal two ordinary, four super and two pyramidal slip systems are active under sagging moments, while two ordinary, one super and two pyramidal are active under hogging moments. As slip systems can render resistance to deformations (Chen et al., 2019; Cornec et al., 2015), the presence of three additional super slip systems under sagging is likely to result in higher resistance and hence, larger bending moment.

In view of the overall bending moment responses in Fig. 6, it is possible to establish a scaling law relating  $M/\tau_s^*V$ ,  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L$  and  $\phi$ . To this end, the parameter space in Fig. 6 is expanded to include  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L = 30$  and 50 and five levels of  $\phi = 0.1, 0.3, 0.5, 0.7, 0.9$  rad are selected to characterize the initial, intermediate and late stages of bending. Fig. 8 depicts the relationship between bending moment  $M/\tau_s^*V$  and domain aspect ratio  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L$  at the five discrete bending angles of  $\phi$ . Solid circles represent the numerical results while the dashed lines denote fitted scaling laws, obtained *via* least-square fit. It can be readily deduced that proposed scaling law takes the form

$$\frac{|M|}{\tau_s^*V} = a \cdot \left(\frac{\lambda_D}{\lambda_L}\right)^b, \quad (21)$$

where the values of coefficient  $a$  and exponent  $b$  are listed in Table 6. Here,  $b$  is expressed as a function of  $\phi$  ( $\phi \neq 0$ ) and is obtained by least-square fitting in the plot of  $b$  versus  $\phi$ . One may

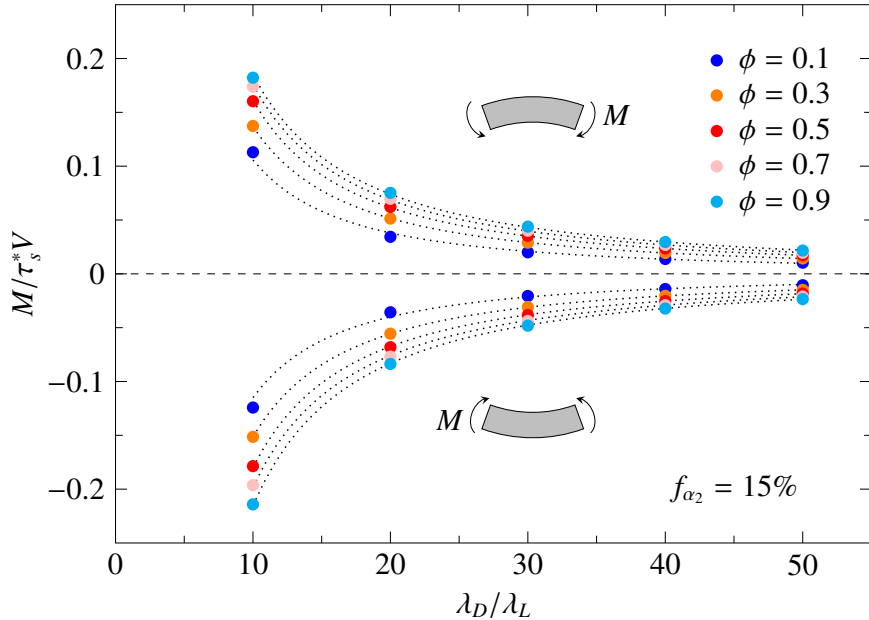


Fig. 8. Relationships between the bending moment  $M/\tau_s^*V$  and domain aspect ratio  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L$  for five levels of bending angles  $\phi = 0.1, 0.3, 0.5, 0.7, 0.9$  rad under both sagging and hogging moments, with  $f_{a_2} = 15\%$ . The dotted lines represent the fitted scaling relations.

Table 6. Fitted values of coefficient  $a$  and exponent  $b$  in the  $\phi$ -dependent scaling law.

Moment	$\phi$ (rad)	$a$	$b$
Hogging	0.1	3.171	$0.181\phi - 1.481$
	0.3	3.498	
	0.5	3.937	
	0.7	3.990	
	0.9	4.054	
Sagging	0.1	-3.840	$0.181\phi - 1.517$
	0.3	-4.176	
	0.5	-4.677	
	0.7	-4.797	
	0.9	-5.070	

make use of (21) to estimate the induced bending moment for a prescribed  $\phi$  ( $0.1 \leq \phi \leq 0.9$ ) and  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L$ . For example when  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L = 1$ , one can see that  $(M/\tau_s^*V) = a$ , and  $a$  is a constant which depends on  $\phi$  as well as the bending mode i.e. sagging or hogging moments.

### 3.3. Volume fraction of $\alpha_2$ phase, $f_{\alpha_2}$

The effect of volume fraction of the  $\alpha_2$  phase  $f_{\alpha_2}$  on the bending behavior of PST TiAl is explored in this subsection. Here, the volume fraction is varied from 5% to 25%, for a fixed domain aspect ratio  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L = 20$ . Fig. 9 illustrates the variation of the cell's overall bending

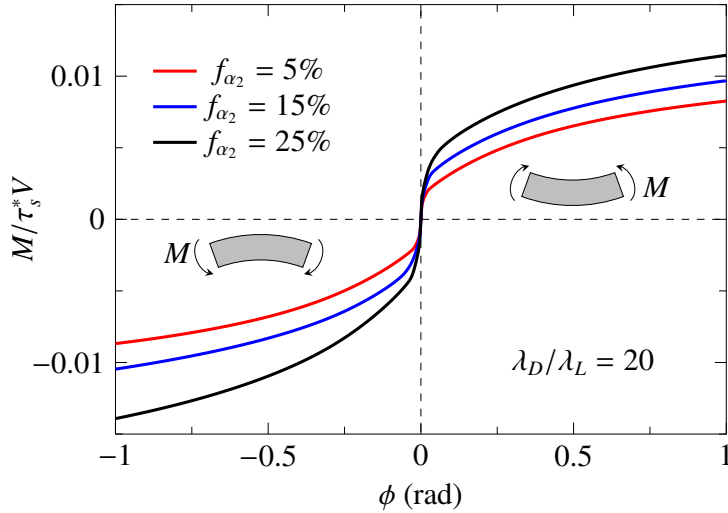


Fig. 9. Variation of bending moment  $ML_1/\tau_s^*V$  with bending angle  $\phi$  for three levels of volume fraction of  $\alpha_2$  phase  $f_{\alpha_2}$  at 5%, 15% and 25%, with  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L = 20$ . Hogging and sagging moments are represented by positive and negative  $\phi$  respectively.

moment  $M/\tau_s^*V$  with bending angle  $\phi$  for three levels of volume fraction of  $\alpha_2$  phase  $f_{\alpha_2}$ , with  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L = 20$ . The trend of increasing  $M/\tau_s^*V$  with  $f_{\alpha_2}$  can be observed under both hogging and sagging moments. From (1) and (16), increasing  $f_{\alpha_2}$  essentially increases the cell's dimension  $L_2$ , its second moment of area  $I$  as well as increased accommodation of dislocations per slip plane, thereby leading to the observed trend. With  $\alpha_2$  phase being considerably harder than the

$\gamma$  phase and with the enforcement of displacement compatibility in the  $\alpha_2 - \gamma$  interface (and hence kinematic constraints), an increase in  $f_{\alpha_2}$  contributes to the increase in induced bending moment, for a prescribed domain aspect ratio  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L$ . It is noteworthy that Lee et al. (1993) have reported that predominant pyramidal slips in  $\alpha_2$  phase (Umakoshi et al., 1993) tend to impose kinematic constraints to  $\gamma$  phase due to their high slip resistances when hard mode operates, refraining slip transmission from softer  $\gamma$  through to harder  $\alpha_2$  (Kad et al., 1995). The active slip systems here are similar to those in the previous subsection, in that they are transversal where two ordinary, four super and two pyramidal slip systems are operative during sagging while two ordinary, a super and two pyramidal slip systems are operative during hogging. The additional three super slips potentially results in the observed larger magnitude of  $M/\tau_s^*V$  under sagging moments as compared with hogging moments.

Attention is now directed to overall bending moments at low bending angles to examine the onset of initial yield. Fig. 10 depicts the bending responses for  $-0.015 \leq \phi \leq 0.015$  for the three levels of  $f_{\alpha_2}$  and  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L = 20$ . Linear elastic relationships between  $M/\tau_s^*V$  and  $\phi$  are evident from the plot, wherein the elastic slopes are represented by the dashed lines and the initial yields are marked by solid circles. The overall bending moment at initial yield ( $M_Y/\tau_s^*V$ )

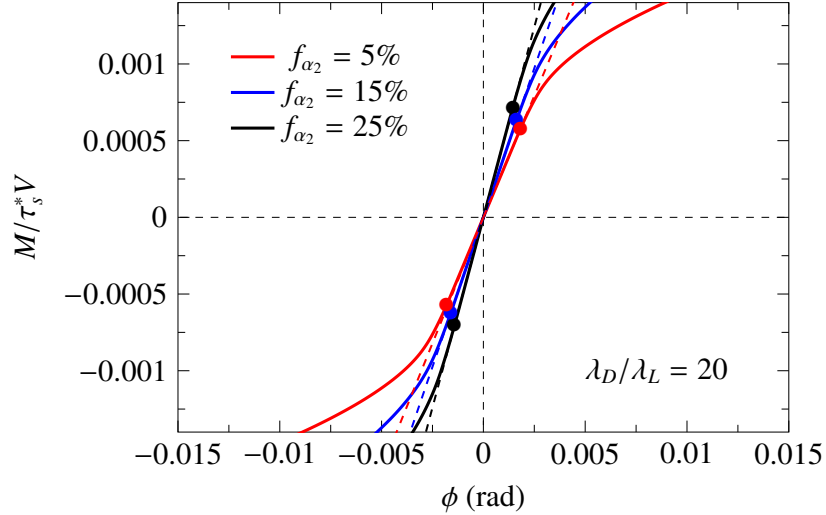


Fig. 10. Close-up view of Fig. 9 illustrating the linear relationship between  $M/\tau_s^*V$  and  $\phi$  at low bending angles, for the three levels of  $f_{\alpha_2}$  and  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L = 20$ . Solid circles denote the initial yield in the overall response. Dashed lines represent the respective elastic slopes.

displays an increasing trend with increasing  $f_{\alpha_2}$  for both hogging and sagging moments, and that the bending angle at initial yield  $\phi_Y$  exhibit a decreasing trend with increasing  $f_{\alpha_2}$ , though the deviation appears relatively small between the respective  $\phi_Y$  at each of the  $f_{\alpha_2}$ . Computed values are tabulated in Table 7 for reference and comparison. An inspection of the bending normal stresses at initial yield reveals that  $(\sigma_Y/\tau_s^*)_t$  and  $(\sigma_Y/\tau_s^*)_c$  generally decrease as  $f_{\alpha_2}$  increases, though the decrease is somewhat insignificant for  $(\sigma_Y/\tau_s^*)_t$  under hogging and  $(\sigma_Y/\tau_s^*)_c$  under sagging. In noting that during hogging, the topmost  $\gamma$  lamella and bottommost  $\alpha_2$  lamella are under states of tension and compression respectively and vice versa during sagging i.e.  $\gamma$  lamella and  $\alpha_2$  lamella in states of compression and tension respectively, the data suggests that the  $f_{\alpha_2}$  has insignificant effects on the overall bending normal stresses in the topmost  $\gamma$  lamella. On the other hand, it is reported here that  $(\sigma_Y/\tau_s^*)_t$  and  $(\sigma_Y/\tau_s^*)_c$  in the  $\alpha_2$  lamella display a decreasing trend with increasing  $f_{\alpha_2}$  under sagging and hogging moments respectively.

Table 7. List of values for bending moment, bending angle, tensile and compressive stresses at initial yield under both hogging and sagging moments for  $f_{\alpha_2} = 5\%, 15\%, 25\%$  and  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L = 20$ .

Moment	$f_{\alpha_2}$	$\phi_Y$	$\left(\frac{M_Y}{\tau_s^* V}\right)$	$\left(\frac{\sigma_Y}{\tau_s^*}\right)_t$	$\left(\frac{\sigma_Y}{\tau_s^*}\right)_c$
Hogging	5%	$1.82 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.74 \times 10^{-4}$	0.0142	-0.0141
	15%	$1.61 \times 10^{-3}$	$6.29 \times 10^{-4}$	0.0141	-0.0137
	25%	$1.45 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.09 \times 10^{-4}$	0.0141	-0.0136
Sagging	5%	$-1.82 \times 10^{-3}$	$-5.74 \times 10^{-4}$	0.0141	-0.0142
	15%	$-1.61 \times 10^{-3}$	$-6.29 \times 10^{-4}$	0.0137	-0.0141
	25%	$-1.45 \times 10^{-3}$	$-7.20 \times 10^{-4}$	0.0136	-0.0141

### 3.4. Effect of constraints

The foregoing results have been obtained from a unit cell that has roller constraints imposed on  $X_1$ - $X_2$  planes at the two surfaces at  $X_3 = \pm L_3$  along the  $X_3$  direction, akin plane strain analyses. Note that it is strictly not plane strain analysis. It is, therefore, of interest to examine the effect of traction-free conditions on the overall bending responses of the PST TiAl. For tractability and brevity, we shall term the case of traction-free boundary conditions as "relaxed condition", and that with traction i.e. with imposed roller constraints as "constrained condition". The relaxed condition is accomplished by simply releasing the imposed roller conditions on the unit cell such that  $u_3 \neq 0$ . Specifically, we replace (13) by the traction-free condition  $\sigma_{3j}n_j = 0$  where  $n_j$  is the orthonormal vector to the surfaces at  $X_3 = \pm L_3$ . Analyses are performed with parameters identical to those in Subsection 3.2 and Subsection 3.3. Fig. 11 and Fig. 12 depict the overall bending responses under relaxed conditions for varying  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L$  and  $f_{\alpha_2}$  respectively. Bending responses under constrained conditions (see Subsection 3.2 and Subsection 3.3) are plotted together as dotted lines for comparison purposes.

It is immediately clear from the figures that relaxed conditions result in lower induced bending moments, and consequently bending resistance across all  $\phi$  considered. This can be attributed to the active slip systems under relaxed and constrained conditions. In the relaxed conditions, the active slips under hogging are two ordinary slips, one superslip and two prismatic slips while under sagging, two ordinary slips, two superslips and two prismatic slips. In contrast under constrained conditions, two ordinary slips, one superslip and two pyramidal slips are active during hogging while two ordinary slips, four superslips and two pyramidal slips are active during sagging. As the slip resistance of prismatic slip is lower than that of pyramidal slip, the resulting induced bending moment under relaxed conditions at a prescribed bending angle is thus lower than under constrained conditions (see Table 4). Case in point if we consider the case of hogging wherein the only difference in the active slips under relaxed and constrained conditions are the activation of prismatic and pyramidal slips respectively.

It can be noted from Fig. 11 that the deviation of the bending moment responses at each level of  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L$  between the two constraints becomes greater as  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L$  decreases from 40 to 10. It is almost negligible at  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L = 40$  as compared to that at  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L = 10$ . It is also observed that the profiles of the responses under relaxed condition are similar to those under constrained conditions. On the other hand from Fig. 12, the deviation in the bending moment responses between the two lateral constraints does not appear to vary with  $f_{\alpha_2}$  i.e. deviations are near-constant (at any prescribed  $\phi$ ) at each level of  $f_{\alpha_2}$  considered. The profiles of the responses under

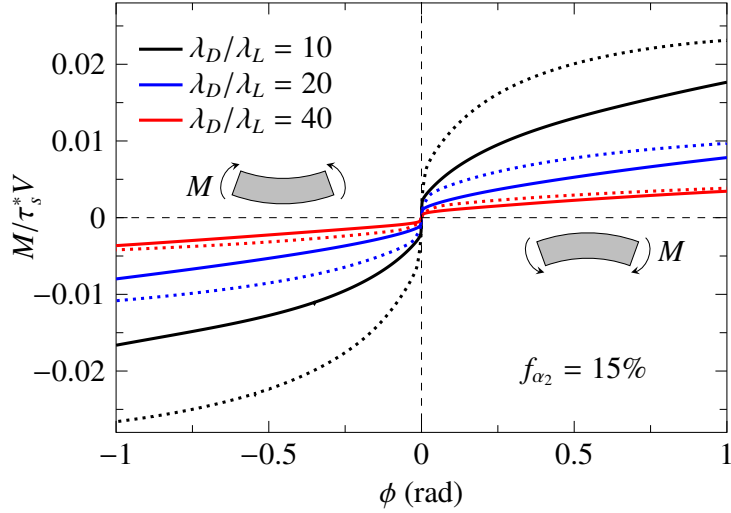


Fig. 11. Comparison of overall bending moment  $M/\tau_s^*V$  with bending angle  $\phi$  under constrained and relaxed conditions, for three levels of domain size aspect ratio  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L = 10, 20$  and  $40$  with  $\alpha_2$  phase volume fraction,  $f_{\alpha_2} = 15\%$ . Dotted and solid lines represent cell's bending response under constrained and relaxed conditions respectively.

relaxed conditions are notably different from those under constrained conditions where in the former, the displayed responses appear almost linear for  $\phi$  approximately greater than  $0.25$  rad. The stark differences in the bending responses under the two constraints, and under varying  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L$  and  $f_{\alpha_2}$  are noteworthy due to the fact that the active slips are identical, considering the case of hogging in both Fig. 11 and Fig. 12. It can therefore be inferred that the bending behavior is affected predominantly by geometrical variations, in addition to the type of constraints imposed.

We now turn our attention to the various quantities at initial yield under relaxed conditions. Table 8 lists the bending angle, bending moment, tensile and compressive stresses at initial yield under both hogging and sagging moments for  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L = 10, 20, 40$  and  $f_{\alpha_2} = 15\%$ , while Table 9 lists the same quantities for  $f_{\alpha_2} = 5\%, 15\%, 25\%$  and  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L = 20$ . Similar quantities under constrained conditions are also listed for ease of reference and comparison. An examination of the data presented in the tables reveal the lower bending moment  $(M/\tau_s^*V)_Y$  and bending angle  $\phi_Y$  at initial yield associated with relaxed conditions, in comparison with those with constrained conditions. The values of the maximum normal tensile and compressive stresses  $(\sigma_Y/\tau_s^*)_t$  and  $(\sigma_Y/\tau_s^*)_c$  respectively, are also observed to be comparatively lower under relaxed conditions.

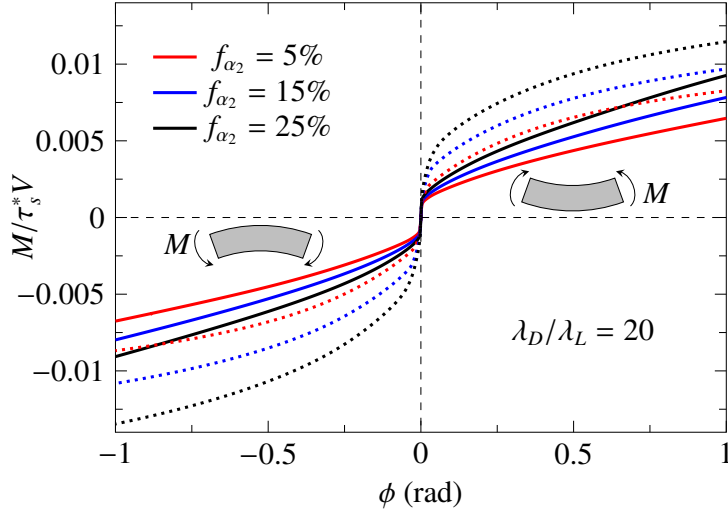


Fig. 12. Comparison of overall bending moment  $M/\tau_s^*V$  with bending angle  $\phi$  under constrained and relaxed conditions, for three levels of  $\alpha_2$  phase volume fraction  $f_{\alpha_2} = 5\%$ ,  $15\%$  and  $25\%$ , with  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L = 20$ . Dotted and solid lines represent cell's bending response under constrained and relaxed conditions respectively.

Table 8. List of values for bending angle, bending moment, tensile and compressive stresses at initial yield under both hogging and sagging moments for  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L = 10, 20, 40$  and  $f_{\alpha_2} = 15\%$ , under relaxed and constrained conditions.

		Relaxed conditions			
Moment	$\lambda_D/\lambda_L$	$\phi_Y$	$\left(\frac{M}{\tau_s^*V}\right)_Y$	$\left(\frac{\sigma_Y}{\tau_s^*}\right)_t$	$\left(\frac{\sigma_Y}{\tau_s^*}\right)_c$
Hogging	10	$8.13 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.15 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0128	-0.0125
	20	$1.58 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.63 \times 10^{-4}$	0.0126	-0.0123
	40	$3.02 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.75 \times 10^{-4}$	0.0123	-0.0120
Sagging	10	$-8.16 \times 10^{-4}$	$-1.15 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0125	-0.0129
	20	$-1.58 \times 10^{-3}$	$-5.64 \times 10^{-4}$	0.0123	-0.0126
	40	$-3.03 \times 10^{-3}$	$-2.76 \times 10^{-4}$	0.0120	-0.0123
		Constrained conditions			
Moment	$\lambda_D/\lambda_L$	$\phi_Y$	$\left(\frac{M}{\tau_s^*V}\right)_Y$	$\left(\frac{\sigma_Y}{\tau_s^*}\right)_t$	$\left(\frac{\sigma_Y}{\tau_s^*}\right)_c$
Hogging	10	$8.23 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.28 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0144	-0.0140
	20	$1.61 \times 10^{-3}$	$6.25 \times 10^{-4}$	0.0140	-0.0136
	40	$3.21 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.04 \times 10^{-4}$	0.0136	-0.0132
Sagging	10	$-8.29 \times 10^{-4}$	$-1.29 \times 10^{-3}$	0.0141	-0.0145
	20	$-1.61 \times 10^{-3}$	$-6.28 \times 10^{-4}$	0.0137	-0.0141
	40	$-3.20 \times 10^{-3}$	$-3.13 \times 10^{-4}$	0.0136	-0.0140

#### 4. Concluding remarks

Micromechanical analyses *via* CPFEM on the bending behavior of a single polysynthetically twinned (PST) titanium aluminide (TiAl) colony comprising one  $\alpha_2$ -Ti<sub>3</sub>Al layer and six  $\gamma$ -TiAl layers have been performed. Each  $\gamma$  layer is made up of hexagonal-shaped domains, such that

Table 9. List of values for bending moment, bending angle, tensile and compressive stresses at initial yield under both hogging and sagging moments for  $f_{\alpha_2} = 5\%, 15\%, 25\%$  and  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L = 20$ , under relaxed and constrained conditions.

		Relaxed conditions			
Moment	$f_{\alpha_2}$	$\phi_Y$	$\left(\frac{M}{\tau_s^* V}\right)_Y$	$\left(\frac{\sigma_Y}{\tau_s^*}\right)_t$	$\left(\frac{\sigma_Y}{\tau_s^*}\right)_c$
Hogging	5%	$1.70 \times 10^{-3}$	$4.90 \times 10^{-4}$	0.0122	-0.0120
	15%	$1.58 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.44 \times 10^{-4}$	0.0122	-0.0119
	25%	$1.31 \times 10^{-3}$	$6.12 \times 10^{-4}$	0.0122	-0.0117
Sagging	5%	$-1.70 \times 10^{-3}$	$-4.91 \times 10^{-4}$	0.0121	-0.0122
	15%	$-1.58 \times 10^{-3}$	$-5.44 \times 10^{-4}$	0.0119	-0.0122
	25%	$-1.31 \times 10^{-3}$	$-5.98 \times 10^{-4}$	0.0114	-0.0119
		Constrained conditions			
Moment	$f_{\alpha_2}$	$\phi_Y$	$\left(\frac{M}{\tau_s^* V}\right)_Y$	$\left(\frac{\sigma_Y}{\tau_s^*}\right)_t$	$\left(\frac{\sigma_Y}{\tau_s^*}\right)_c$
Hogging	5%	$1.82 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.74 \times 10^{-4}$	0.0142	-0.0141
	15%	$1.61 \times 10^{-3}$	$6.29 \times 10^{-4}$	0.0141	-0.0137
	25%	$1.45 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.09 \times 10^{-4}$	0.0141	-0.0136
Sagging	5%	$-1.82 \times 10^{-3}$	$-5.74 \times 10^{-4}$	0.0141	-0.0142
	15%	$-1.61 \times 10^{-3}$	$-6.29 \times 10^{-4}$	0.0137	-0.0141
	25%	$-1.45 \times 10^{-3}$	$-7.20 \times 10^{-4}$	0.0136	-0.0141

the colony is characterized by two length scales namely the lamella thickness  $\lambda_L$  and domain size  $\lambda_D$ . The analyses examine on the effects of domain size aspect ratio  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L$ , volume fraction of  $\alpha_2$  phase  $f_{\alpha_2}$  and lateral constraints on the bending behavior of PST crystal of TiAl, wherein the former refers the imposition of generalized plane strain and plane stress conditions on the longitudinal faces of the unit cell.

The bending analyses show that a lower  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L$  and higher  $f_{\alpha_2}$  increase the induced bending moment or bending resistance for the range of prescribed bending angles  $\phi$ , regardless of the constraints imposed. Varying  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L$  and  $f_{\alpha_2}$  essentially alter the second moment of cross-sectional area  $I$ , where it is known from classical beam theory that  $I$  is proportional to bending moment. Here, a lower  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L$  (implying a higher  $\lambda_L$  for a fixed  $\lambda_D$ ) or higher  $f_{\alpha_2}$  (a higher  $\lambda_{\alpha_2}$ ) results in a larger value of  $I$ , all other dimensions remaining unchanged. In addition to the contribution of  $I$ , a thicker lamella results in an increase in the maximum number of dislocations per slip plane, leading to observed higher induced bending moment and material hardening responses. At this juncture, the numerical results reveal that the type and number of slip systems activated during bending appear to be independent of  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L$  and  $f_{\alpha_2}$ , but dependent on the bending mode i.e. hogging or sagging moments as well as the constraints imposed. Under constrained conditions, the active slip systems are

- 2 ordinary slips, 1 superslip and 2 pyramidal slips (hogging)
- 2 ordinary slips, 4 superslips and 2 pyramidal slips (sagging)

whereas under relaxed conditions,

- 2 ordinary slips, 1 superslip and 2 prismatic slips (hogging)

- 2 ordinary slips, 2 superslips and 2 prismatic slips (sagging)

The additional superslip systems during sagging bring about the comparatively higher bending moments in comparison to those under hogging, resulting in the asymmetrical bending moment responses. Imposing traction–free boundary conditions (relaxed condition) activate prismatic slips in the  $\alpha_2$  phase, in contrast to pyramidal slips that are activated when plane strain boundary conditions are imposed (constrained condition). As the slip resistance of prismatic slip is lower than pyramidal slip, the induced bending moments in all the cases of  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L$  and  $f_{\alpha_2}$  considered under relaxed conditions are thus lower than the bending moments under constrained condition (see Fig. 11 and Fig. 12).

The bending moment–bending angle diagrams exhibit response profiles similar to the familiar uniaxial stress–strain and/or force–displacement curves, where linear and non–linear regimes can be identified from which the initial yield in the elastic limit corresponding to the onset of initial slip activities can be established. The corresponding overall bending moment at initial yield ( $M_Y/\tau_s^*V$ ) is used to obtain the initial overall maximum tensile and compressive yield stresses  $(\sigma_Y/\tau_s^*)_t$  and  $(\sigma_Y/\tau_s^*)_c$  respectively. The analyses have shown that  $(M_Y/\tau_s^*V)$  increases as  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L$  decreases and as  $f_{\alpha_2}$  increases. At the same time, the bending angle  $\phi_Y$  at which the initial yield occurs displays a decreasing trend with the same variations of  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L$  and  $f_{\alpha_2}$ . As alluded to previously, it can be inferred that the trends of  $(M_Y/\tau_s^*V)$  and  $\phi_Y$  are due solely to geometrical variations and consequently the second moment of area, given that the slips systems being activated are not influenced by the domain size aspect ratio and volume fraction of  $\alpha_2$  phase.

The effects of  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L$  and  $f_{\alpha_2}$  on  $(\sigma_Y/\tau_s^*)_t$  and  $(\sigma_Y/\tau_s^*)_c$  are shown to be significant, regardless of the imposed constraints. While  $(\sigma_Y/\tau_s^*)_t$  and  $(\sigma_Y/\tau_s^*)_c$  exhibit decreasing trends as  $\lambda_D/\lambda_L$  increases for both of the two bending modes of hogging and sagging, their trends are different when  $f_{\alpha_2}$  is varied.  $(\sigma_Y/\tau_s^*)_t$  and  $(\sigma_Y/\tau_s^*)_c$  display increasing trends only under sagging and hogging moments respectively as  $f_{\alpha_2}$  decreases, while  $(\sigma_Y/\tau_s^*)_t$  under hogging and  $(\sigma_Y/\tau_s^*)_c$  under sagging remains relatively constant. In noting that during sagging, maximum normal tensile stresses develop in the  $\alpha_2$  lamella and maximum normal compressive stresses in the  $\gamma$  lamella (and vice–versa during hogging, following the stacking configuration in Fig. 2), the results signify that  $f_{\alpha_2}$  has insignificant effect on the overall maximum tensile and compressive yield stresses in the topmost  $\gamma$  lamella.

In summary, the results presented here indicate that bending moment of PST TiAl can be tuned by geometrical variations i.e. varying the domain size aspect ratio and/or volume fraction of  $\alpha_2$  which essentially tune the second moment of area, or by constraints where pyramidal or prismatic slip systems can be selectively activated. Indeed, Umakoshi et al. (1993) have reported that the deformation mode of  $\alpha_2$  phase is significant and that the pyramidal slip in the said phase is effective in strengthening due to its role as a barrier for increasing dislocation pile–ups in the  $\gamma$  phase. This paper seeks to provide insights to the microstructure–property relationship of PST TiAl subjected to bending, which the authors consider to be in an infancy stage of research. This is in comparison with large body of work and research on PST TiAl subjected to uniaxial tension/compression. As such, there are opportunities and much to be explored in the quest to seek deeper understanding of the microstructure–property relationship of PST TiAl under bending. Some areas of research may include the various configurations or stacking sequences of  $\gamma$  and  $\alpha_2$  lamellae e.g.  $(3\alpha_2 + 6\gamma)$  or any other permutations and combinations of the phases, or the effects of misorientations and non–coherent  $\alpha_2/\gamma$  interfaces.

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## Appendix A. Elastic stiffness matrix for TiAl single crystals

Voigt notation in ABAQUS is used to express the linear elastic stress-strain relations for TiAl single crystals:

- For tetragonal crystal  $\gamma$ -TiAl ( $\mathbf{e}_1||\mathbf{a}$ )

$$\begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{11} \\ \sigma_{22} \\ \sigma_{33} \\ \sigma_{12} \\ \sigma_{13} \\ \sigma_{23} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} C_{11} & C_{12} & C_{13} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ C_{12} & C_{11} & C_{13} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ C_{13} & C_{13} & C_{33} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & C_{44} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & C_{44} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & C_{66} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \varepsilon_{11} \\ \varepsilon_{22} \\ \varepsilon_{33} \\ 2\varepsilon_{12} \\ 2\varepsilon_{13} \\ 2\varepsilon_{23} \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{A.1})$$

The stiffness matrix has 6 independent elastic constants; refer to their values in Table 2.

- For hexagonal crystal  $\alpha_2$ -Ti<sub>3</sub>Al ( $\mathbf{e}_3||\mathbf{c}$ )

$$\begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{11} \\ \sigma_{22} \\ \sigma_{33} \\ \sigma_{12} \\ \sigma_{13} \\ \sigma_{23} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} C_{11} & C_{12} & C_{13} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ C_{12} & C_{11} & C_{13} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ C_{13} & C_{13} & C_{33} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & C_{44} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & C_{44} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{C_{11}-C_{12}}{2} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \varepsilon_{11} \\ \varepsilon_{22} \\ \varepsilon_{33} \\ 2\varepsilon_{12} \\ 2\varepsilon_{13} \\ 2\varepsilon_{23} \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{A.2})$$

The stiffness matrix has 5 independent elastic constants; refer to their values in Table 3.

## Appendix B. Bending moment calculation

In the undeformed reference configuration, balance of linear and angular momentum has the local forms

$$P_{i,j,j} = 0, \quad (\epsilon_{imn}x_m P_{nj})_{,j} = 0 \quad (\text{B.1})$$

respectively, in the absence of body forces, where  $P_{ij}$  is the first Piola-Kirchhoff stress in Cartesian coordinate system,  $x_m$  the position vector in the current deformed configuration, and  $\epsilon_{imn}$  the alternating tensor. Using the divergence theorem, the above balance has the integral forms

$$\oint \mathbf{P} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = 0, \quad \oint \mathbf{x} \times \mathbf{P} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = 0 \quad (\text{B.2})$$

over a closed surface with oriented differential element  $d\mathbf{S}$  in the undeformed reference configuration.

(B.2)<sub>2</sub> helps in identifying the moment (around a point) for bending or torsion. To see this, we begin with the virtual work equation

$$\int_V \mathbf{P} : \delta \mathbf{F} dV = \int_{\partial V} \delta \mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{P} \cdot d\mathbf{S}. \quad (\text{B.3})$$

on certain portion of outer surface  $\partial V$ . Imposing orthogonal rotations on outer cross-sections of the body

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{R} \cdot \mathbf{X} \quad \text{on } S_m \subset \partial V \quad (\text{B.4})$$

gives

$$\begin{aligned}\delta \mathbf{x} &= \delta \mathbf{R} \cdot \mathbf{X} = \underbrace{\delta \mathbf{R} \cdot \mathbf{R}^{-1}}_{\delta \boldsymbol{\Omega}} \cdot \mathbf{x} \quad (\delta \boldsymbol{\Omega} = -\boldsymbol{\epsilon} \cdot \delta \boldsymbol{\theta}) \\ &= \delta \boldsymbol{\theta} \times \mathbf{x}\end{aligned}\tag{B.5}$$

where  $\mathbf{R}$  is the orthogonal tensor, and  $\delta \boldsymbol{\Omega}$  is skew-symmetric and can be expressed in terms of the axial vector  $\delta \boldsymbol{\theta}$  (infinitesimal rotation).

Assume that on  $\partial V \cap S_m$  there is either no surface traction ( $\mathbf{P} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = 0$ ) or no surface displacement ( $\delta \mathbf{x} = 0$ ). Then inserting (B.5) into (B.3) leads to

$$\int_V \mathbf{P} : \delta \mathbf{F} dV = \mathbf{M} \cdot \delta \boldsymbol{\theta}\tag{B.6}$$

where

$$\mathbf{M} = \int_{S_m} \mathbf{x} \times \mathbf{P} \cdot d\mathbf{S}.\tag{B.7}$$

When equal and opposite rotations are imposed on the cross-sections of the cuboid RVE at  $X_1 = \pm L_1$ , we have  $\delta \boldsymbol{\theta} = \mp \delta \phi \mathbf{e}_3$  ( $\mathbf{e}_3$  is the basis vector), from which we can easily obtain (14) and (15), where the bending moment is calculated around the moving point  $(X_1, X_2 + Y_0, X_3)$ .

Using Nanson's formula

$$d\mathbf{s} = J \mathbf{F}^{-T} \cdot d\mathbf{S}\tag{B.8}$$

and the relationship

$$\mathbf{P} = J \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{F}^{-T}\tag{B.9}$$

between  $\mathbf{P}$  and the Cauchy stress  $\boldsymbol{\sigma}$  (which is related to the Kirchhoff stress by  $\boldsymbol{\tau} = J \boldsymbol{\sigma}$  with  $J = \det \mathbf{F}$ ), we have

$$\mathbf{P} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot d\mathbf{s}\tag{B.10}$$

such that the moment  $\mathbf{M}$  (B.7) can also be calculated in the current deformed configuration

$$\mathbf{M} = \int_{S_m} \mathbf{x} \times \mathbf{P} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = \int_{s_m} \mathbf{x} \times \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot d\mathbf{s}.\tag{B.11}$$

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