



ExtremeMat: Progress update



L.Capolungo













eXtremeMAT Team



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extremeMat: Objectives



General scope: XMAT aims to develop, verify and validate research tools that help the US industry in (i) assessing the failure of steel components subjected to complex non-monotonic loading, (ii) adopting emerging/new steels.

Applications to: conventional austenitic (**347H**, 316H) and ferritic steels (**P91**), XMAT X351..

Conditions: Temperatures from ~500 to 750C, Maximum stresses 100MPa, oxidation in air

Impact: Reduce the time and cost for alloy qualification and certification.



Constitutive models are necessary to link microstructure to materials performance





Mechanistic models can be used to relate composition, microstructure and creep response

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Classical Norton-Bailey model, $\dot{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}}^{ss} = A \exp\left(-\frac{Q}{kT}\right) \sigma^n$ Modified BMD model: $\dot{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}}^{ss} = \frac{DEb}{kT} \left(\frac{\sigma - \sigma^{th}}{E}\right)^n \left(\frac{b}{d}\right)^p$

G. Potirniche et al., NEUP project 09-835, final report (2009)





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Minimum creep rate,

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G. Potimiche et al., NEUP project 09-835, final report (2009) Creep model accounts solutes and precipitates

$$\dot{\epsilon}^{ss} = \frac{\pi \Omega kT}{(\alpha GM)^2} \sigma^3 (A(\sigma - \sigma_P)^2 + B(\sigma - \sigma_P) + C) \times \left[\frac{D_{sol} D_L}{2\pi c_0 \ln\left(\frac{r_2}{r_1}\right) D_L + (bkT)^2 \ln\left(\frac{c^*}{c_0}\right) D_{sol}} \right]$$

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Fernandez et al., Advanced Engg Mater, 22 (2020) 1901355

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Scientific gaps in relating microstructure composition and performance





Effects of **microstructure** (grain size, texture, precipitates, dislocation content, solutes), **stress** (3D, time evolution), **temperature** (time evolution) on material performance













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Separating the effects of precipitates and solutes on the creep response and microstructure evolution of 347H



Processing, aging and testing different grades of 347H steels to separate solute vs strengthening and trace elements effects





A 347H plate delivered



As-received microstructure (OM)

	Allow name		Analyzed	chemis	try, wt.%	6 (B and I	N: wppn	n)		Pomarka	
i leat iD	Alloy hame	С	Cr	Mn	Nb	Ni	Si	В	Ν	Remarks	
19-A75	347H	0.0508	18.52	0.98	0.39	11.03	0.5	<5	22	High purity, creep tested at ORNL	
19-A92	347H	0.0561	18.23	0.91	0.52	10.92	0.44	<5	56	High purity, for tube creep tests	
20-A2	347H	0.0541	18.72	0.98	0.3	10.84	0.44	<10	8	High purity, tensile and creep at NETL	
20-A18	347H	0.0545	18.36	0.93	0.54	11.02	0.45	<5	11	Additional high purity 347H	
19-A93	347H-N	0.056	18.38	0.91	0.53	11.06	0.4	<5	184	N added, for tube creep tests	
20-A19	347H-N	0.0531	18.37	0.93	0.51	10.97	0.42	<5	163	N added, tensile and creep tests	
20-A20	347H-N+B	0.0553	18.38	0.92	0.57	10.97	0.46	11	168	B + N added, tensile and creep tests	
NIMS-CDS	Max.	0.07	18.05	1.82	0.82	12.55	0.88	27	284	Available at	
(28B)	Min.	0.05	17.26	1.66	0.49	12	0.72	3	160	https://smds.nims.go.jp/creep/en/	

3 similar alloys with varying N and B content are tested under creep and tensile loads, stress jump tests.

The material systems will be tested in an as received and after aging (750C 336h).

Tests are replicated in different laboratories to ensure consistency of the data.

Materials microstructure will be aged to assess thermodynamics and kinetic databases













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Aging increases the creep rates, N+B reduce the creep rate





The addition of N +B consistently reduces the creep rate by up to an order of magnitude. Materials aged for 336h at 750C prior to loading exhibit significantly higher creep rates (why? see presentation 1t).



Aging of 347H leads to the formation of secondary NbC, and Sigma phase. N and B stabilize the metastable M23C6 phase

















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Enhancing thermodynamics databases with DFT simulations to consider elastic energy and trace elements

- Boron decreases interfacial energy of fcc-Fe/ $M_{23}C_6$ interface by ~ 0.0938 J/m², a very significant value *Boron* prefers to substitute **Carbon** in A-type $Cr_{23}C_6$
- B prefers to bond with both Fe and Cr, increasing ordering of interface and its stability. This makes diffusion of C and Cr along/across interface more complicated, preventing coarsening of M₂₃C₆ particles
- The interfacial energy without B doping for A-type is 0.3799 J/m² (8 C atoms are at the interface neighboring with both Fe and Cr)
- It is lower than B-type (zero C atoms are at the interface), 0.5385 J/m².
- With B, the lowest interfacial energy is (A1) 0.2861 J



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 σ^2

With one C replaced with B

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Cr23C6-fcc Fe interface

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The corrected thermodynamic database allows to predict concurrent precipitation with TC Prisma





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Quantifying the effects of microstructure on performance variability during creep







Mechanistic models can be used to relate composition, microstructure and creep response



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Precipitates are overwhelmingly seen as strengtheners.

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Then, how does one rationalize the observed creep response of aged vs non aged systems? Is it due to the loss of solute? How is this compensated by dislocation motion



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Note; $M_{23}C_6$ was observed only between 4h and 168h

Elasto-Visco-Plastic fast Fourier Transform (XMAT-EVPFFT) modeling framework



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Climb can mediate the bypass of precipitates



As dislocations wait at

precipitates, sufficient time

maybe given for them to

climb over part of

precipitates (aging

mechanisms for precipitate)

Dislocation glide velocity,
$$v^s = \frac{\lambda^s}{t_w^s + t}$$

Mean interspacing: $\left(\frac{1}{\lambda}\right)$

$$\frac{1}{\lambda^s}\Big)^{\alpha} = \left(\frac{1}{\lambda^s_{\rho}}\right)^{\alpha} + \left(\frac{1}{\lambda^s_{sg}}\right)^{\alpha} + \sum \left(\frac{1}{\lambda^s_{P_i}}\right)^{\alpha}$$

Dislocation mean free path for precipitates:

 $\frac{1}{\lambda_{p}^{s}} = \alpha_{P} \sqrt{N_{P} \bar{d}_{P}} \longrightarrow \text{Effective precipitate size}$ $v_c^s = \frac{\Omega}{b} \left(z_v^s D_v C_v^{th} \left| exp\left(\frac{\Omega \bar{\tau}_{climb}^s}{kT} - 1 \right) \right| \right)$ Number density After climb $\bar{d}_P = d_0 \left(1 - \frac{t_W^S v_c^S}{d_0} \right)$ ATIONAL LOAK RIDGE

Solutes have multiple effects on dislocation glide





Waiting time for thermally activated dislocation glide







Strengthening is driven by the interplay between solute strengthening, dynamics strain aging, precipitate strengthening, climb mediated











The model captures the experimentally measured stress-strain and creep responses.

The model is tested both as an interpolator or extrapolator.



The same framework can be applied to a ferritic steel (Gr91)





The variability in creep response induced microstructure depends on loading conditions



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Parameter	Values
Dislocation density within the cells, ρ_{ci} (m^{-2})	[1,2,4,6,8]. 10 ¹²
Dislocation density at the cell walls: ρ_{cw} (m^{-2})	$[1, 2.5, 5, 10]$. $ ho_{ci}$
Precipitate number density, $N_P(m^{-3})$	[1,2,3,4,6]
Precipitate size, D_P (10 ⁻⁹ m)	[25,37,50]

As precipitate content is changed, the solute content in the matrix is updated

While the model was calibrated against limited number of tests, it can rationalize the wide spread in reported secondary creep rates.

Microstructure descriptors affects the response dominantly in the dislocation creep regime

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Gr91 subjected to creep at 600C under 100MPa stress

Increasing the size of precipitates which reduces the solute content in the matrix can lead to an increase in the creep rate













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Increasing the size of promotes dislocation recovery thus benefiting the activation of diffusive processes (e.g. Nabarro Herring)

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Increasing the size of precipitates which reduces the solute content in the matrix can lead to an increase in the creep rate.

Increasing the size of promotes dislocation recovery thus benefiting the activation of diffusive processes (e.g. Nabarro Herring).

Overall the density and size of precipitates can either increase of decrease the steady state creep rate.

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Effect of thermal aging on creep behavior: model vs experiments of Extreme Environment Materials

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LaMap: Synthetic deformation mechanisms map



Effect of initial microstructure : Heat treatment

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Conclusion

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