

Leçons Jacques-Louis Lions  
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# Transformations de phase, compatibilité et microstructure

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Notes at <http://people.maths.ox.ac.uk/ball/teaching.shtml>

Unlike more familiar phase transformations such as

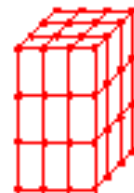
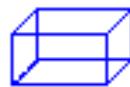
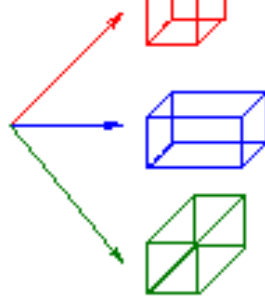
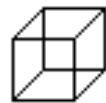
ice  $\longrightarrow$  water  $\longrightarrow$  steam

martensitic phase transformations in crystals (metals and alloys) involve a diffusionless *change of shape* of the underlying crystal lattice at some critical temperature.

e.g. cubic to tetragonal

austenite

$\theta > \theta_c$

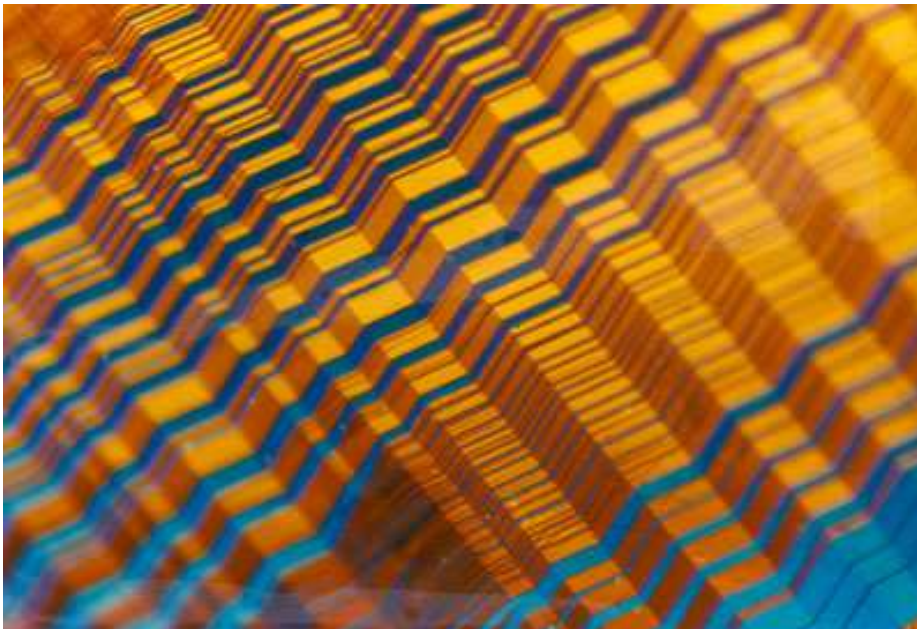


three *variants* of low temperature phase.

$\theta < \theta_c$

martensite

The requirement that the different variants fit together geometrically (compatibility) leads to characteristic patterns of *microstructure* that are important for determining the macroscopic properties of the material.



CuAlNi single crystal: Chu/James

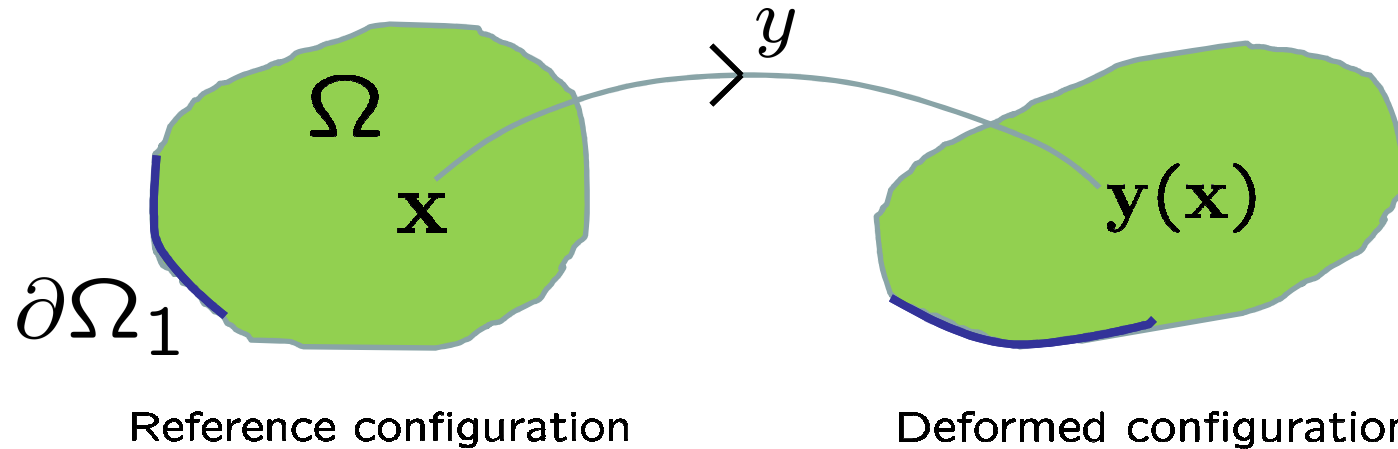


BaTiO<sub>3</sub> polycrystal: G. Arlt 1990

The aim of the course is to try to understand such microstructures, using the following ingredients:

- (i) A description of crystal lattices,
- (ii) A related nonlinear elasticity model,
- (iii) An analysis of possible interfaces and microstructures,
- (iv) Techniques of the multi-dimensional calculus of variations (quasiconvexity ...).

# Brief review of nonlinear elastostatics



Assume material is homogeneous and occupies a bounded (Lipschitz) domain  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^3$  in a reference configuration.

Elastic free energy at constant temperature  $\theta$

$$I_\theta(\mathbf{y}) = \int_{\Omega} \psi(D\mathbf{y}(\mathbf{x}), \theta) dx.$$

free-energy density

Properties of free-energy density:  $\psi(\mathbf{A}, \theta)$  defined for  $\mathbf{A} \in D(\psi), \theta \in I$ , where  $D(\psi)$  is an open subset of

$$GL^+(3, \mathbb{R}) = \{\mathbf{A} \in M^{3 \times 3} : \det \mathbf{A} > 0\}.$$

(i) (frame-indifference)

$$\psi(\mathbf{QA}, \theta) = \psi(\mathbf{A}, \theta) \text{ for all } \mathbf{Q} \in SO(3), \mathbf{A} \in D(\psi), \theta \in I$$

(ii) (material symmetry)

$$\psi(\mathbf{AM}, \theta) = \psi(\mathbf{A}, \theta) \text{ for all } \mathbf{M} \in \mathcal{S}, \mathbf{A} \in D(\psi), \theta \in I,$$

where  $\mathcal{S}$  is a subgroup of the set of unimodular matrices  $SL(3) = \{\mathbf{A} \in M^{3 \times 3} : \det \mathbf{A} = 1\}$ .

For consistency, we need  $SO(3) D(\psi) \mathcal{S} = D(\psi)$ .

# Energy minimization problem

Minimize

$$I_\theta(\mathbf{y}) = \int_{\Omega} \psi(D\mathbf{y}(\mathbf{x}), \theta) d\mathbf{x}$$

among (invertible)  $\mathbf{y} : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  subject to

$$\mathbf{y}|_{\partial\Omega_1} = \bar{\mathbf{y}}.$$

In order that we can be assured that a minimizer exists we typically need that in addition  $\psi(\cdot, \theta)$  is quasiconvex and coercive. However we will see that for elastic crystals neither condition is generally satisfied.

# Bravais lattices

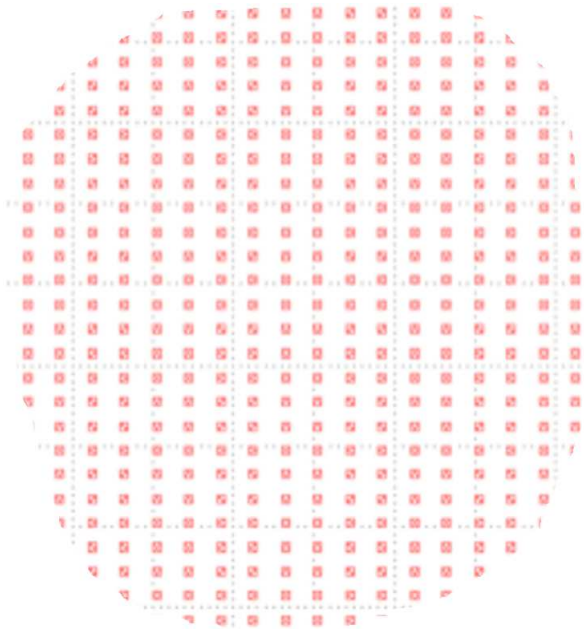
A Bravais lattice is an infinite lattice of points in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  generated by linear combinations with integer coefficients of three linearly independent basis vectors  $\mathbf{b}_1, \mathbf{b}_2, \mathbf{b}_3$ .

Setting  $\mathbf{B} = (\mathbf{b}_1, \mathbf{b}_2, \mathbf{b}_3) \in GL(3, \mathbb{R})$  we write the corresponding Bravais lattice as

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{B}) = \{m_1\mathbf{b}_1 + m_2\mathbf{b}_2 + m_3\mathbf{b}_3 : m_i \in \mathbb{Z}\}.$$

Notice that if  $\mathbf{B} = (B_{ij})$  then  $B_{ij} = \mathbf{b}_j \cdot \mathbf{e}_i$ , where  $\mathbf{e}_i$  is the unit vector in the  $i^{\text{th}}$  coordinate direction.





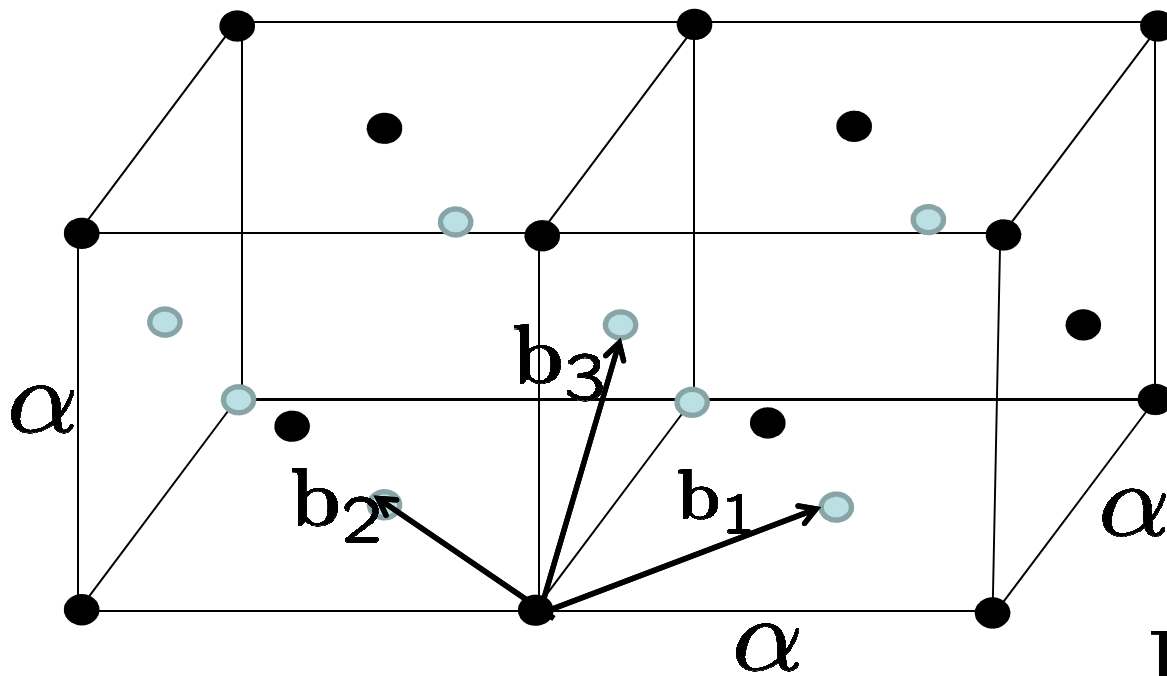
We think of a single crystal as consisting of a part of a Bravais lattice consisting of many points, each point representing an atomic position.

Typical alloys are *solid solutions* of different elements, so that each lattice site has a probability of being occupied by a particular element according to the overall composition.

Some crystals form *multilattices* which are finite unions of translates of a Bravais lattice. We will not consider these.

## Examples of Bravais lattices.

### 1. Face-centred cubic (fcc)



$$\mathbf{B} = \alpha \mathbf{Q} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix},$$

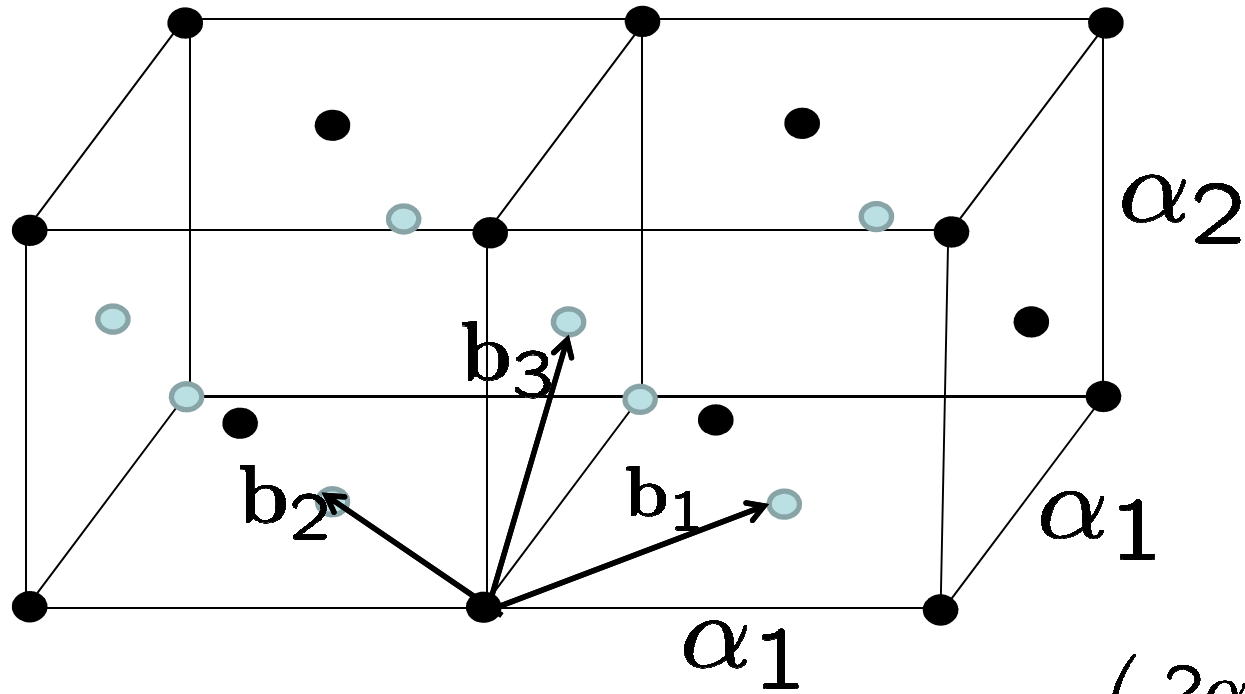
$$\mathbf{Q} \in O(3)$$

Equivalently

$$\mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{B} = \frac{\alpha^2}{4} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

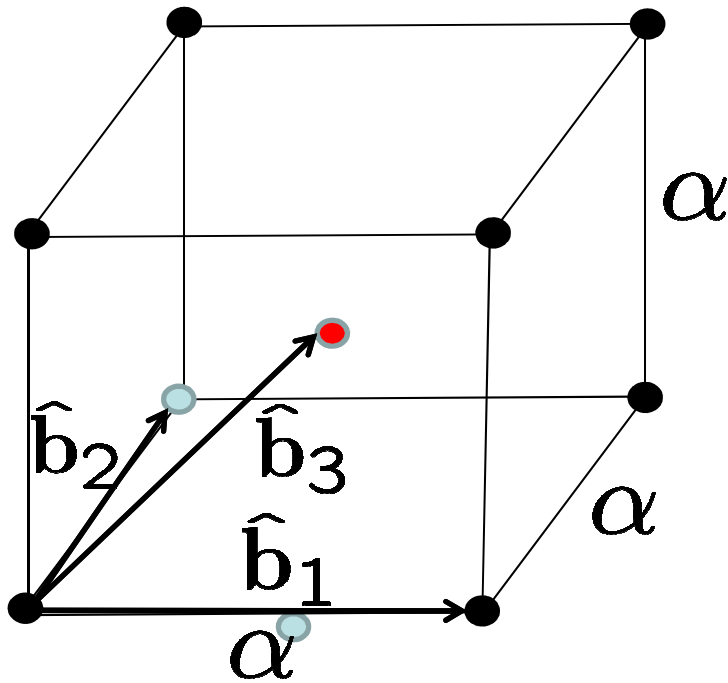
Note that any atom can be taken as the origin.

## 2. Face-centred tetragonal (fct)



$$\mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{B} = \frac{1}{4} \begin{pmatrix} 2\alpha_1^2 & 0 & \alpha_1^2 \\ 0 & 2\alpha_1^2 & \alpha_1^2 \\ \alpha_1^2 & \alpha_1^2 & \alpha_1^2 + \alpha_2^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

### 3. Body-centred cubic (bcc)



Could take the basis vectors as  $\hat{\mathbf{b}}_i$  shown, but the conventional and more symmetric choice is

$$\mathbf{B} = \frac{\alpha}{2} \mathbf{Q} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{Q} \in O(3)$$

for which

$$\mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{B} = \frac{\alpha^2}{4} \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -1 & -1 \\ -1 & 3 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Body-centered tetragonal (bct) treated similarly.

$$GL(3, \mathbb{Z}) = \{\mu = (\mu_{ij}) : \mu_{ij} \in \mathbb{Z}, \det \mu = \pm 1\}.$$

**Theorem**  $\mathcal{L}(B) = \mathcal{L}(C)$  iff

$$B = C\mu, \text{ for some } \mu \in GL(3, \mathbb{Z}).$$

*Proof.* Let  $B = (b_1, b_2, b_3)$ ,  $C = (c_1, c_2, c_3)$ .

If  $\mathcal{L}(B) = \mathcal{L}(C)$  then  $b_i = \mu_{ji}c_j$  for some  $\mu = (\mu_{ij}) \in \mathbb{Z}^{3 \times 3}$ , so that  $B = C\mu$ . Similarly  $C = B\mu'$  for some  $\mu' \in \mathbb{Z}^{3 \times 3}$ . So  $\mu' = \mu^{-1}$  and  $\mu \in GL(3, \mathbb{Z})$ .

Conversely, if  $B = C\mu$  then  $b_i = \mu_{ji}c_j$  and so  $\mathcal{L}(B) \subset \mathcal{L}(C)$ . Similarly  $\mathcal{L}(C) \subset \mathcal{L}(B)$ .  $\square$

**Corollary.** If  $\mathbf{F} \in GL(3, \mathbb{R})$ , then  $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{F}\mathbf{B}) = \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{B})$  iff  
$$\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{B}\boldsymbol{\mu}\mathbf{B}^{-1} \text{ for some } \boldsymbol{\mu} \in GL(3, \mathbb{Z}).$$

*Definition.* The *point group*  $P(\mathbf{B})$  of  $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{B})$  is the set of  $\mathbf{Q} \in O(3)$  such that  $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{B}) = \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{B})$ .

By the Corollary,

$$P(\mathbf{B}) = \{\mathbf{Q} \in O(3) : \mathbf{B}^{-1}\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{B} \in GL(3, \mathbb{Z})\}.$$

If  $\mathbf{B}^{-1}\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{B} = \boldsymbol{\mu} \in GL(3, \mathbb{Z})$  then  $\boldsymbol{\mu}^T \boldsymbol{\mu} = \mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{B}^{-T}$ ,  
and so  $P(\mathbf{B})$  is a *finite* group.

If  $\mathbf{R} \in O(3)$  then

$$\begin{aligned} P(\mathbf{R}\mathbf{B}) &= \{\mathbf{Q} : \mathbf{R}^T \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{R} \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{B})\} \\ &= \{\mathbf{R} \tilde{\mathbf{Q}} \mathbf{R}^T : \tilde{\mathbf{Q}} \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{B})\} \\ &= \mathbf{R} P(\mathbf{B}) \mathbf{R}^T, \end{aligned}$$

so that  $P(\mathbf{R}\mathbf{B})$  is orthogonally conjugate to  $P(\mathbf{B})$ .

The point groups of the simple cubic ( $\mathbf{B} = \alpha \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{1}$ ), fcc and bcc lattices are the same, namely (taking  $\mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{1}$ ) the cubic group  $P^c$  consisting of the 48 orthogonal transformations mapping the unit cube  $(0, 1)^3$  into itself.

Thus the point group does not discriminate between the different possible cubic lattices, and to do this one needs to consider the *lattice group*

$$L(\mathbf{B}) = \{\mu \in GL(3, \mathbb{Z}) : \mathbf{B}\mu\mathbf{B}^{-1} \in O(3)\}$$

$L(\mathbf{QB}) = L(\mathbf{B})$  for all  $\mathbf{Q} \in O(3)$ . However  $L(\mathbf{B})$  depends on the lattice basis, so that

$$L(\mathbf{B}\mu) = \mu^{-1}L(\mathbf{B})\mu \text{ for all } \mu \in GL(3, \mathbb{Z}).$$

The corresponding conjugacy classes determine 14 distinct Bravais lattices (triclinic, monoclinic, orthorhombic, rhombohedral, tetragonal, hexagonal and cubic).



We now fix a reference lattice  $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{B})$  with  $\mathbf{B} \in GL^+(3, \mathbb{R})$ , and suppose that there is a free-energy function  $\varphi(\mathbf{C}, \theta)$  defined for  $\mathbf{C}$  in an open neighbourhood  $D$  of  $\mathbf{B}$  in  $GL^+(3, \mathbb{R})$  satisfying

$\mathbf{Q}D\boldsymbol{\mu} \subset D$  for all  $\mathbf{Q} \in SO(3)$ ,  $\boldsymbol{\mu} \in GL^+(3, \mathbb{Z})(= SL(3, \mathbb{Z}))$

and temperatures  $\theta$  in some interval  $I$ , such that for all  $\mathbf{C} \in D, \theta \in I$

- (i)  $\varphi(\mathbf{QC}, \theta) = \varphi(\mathbf{C}, \theta)$  for all  $\mathbf{Q} \in SO(3)$ ,
- (ii)  $\varphi(\mathbf{C}\boldsymbol{\mu}, \theta) = \varphi(\mathbf{C}, \theta)$  for all  $\boldsymbol{\mu} \in GL^+(3, \mathbb{Z})$ .

That is, the free-energy is rotationally invariant and depends only on the lattice  $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{C})$ .

We now use the Cauchy-Born rule (an implicit coarse-graining) to relate the macroscopic free-energy density  $\psi$  to  $\varphi$ . Choosing a reference configuration in which the crystal lattice is  $\mathbf{B}$ , we assume that

$$\psi(\mathbf{A}, \theta) = \varphi(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{B}, \theta), \text{ for } \mathbf{A} \in D(\psi), \theta \in I,$$

where  $D(\psi) = D\mathbf{B}^{-1}$ .

Thus  $\psi$  inherits the invariances for all  $\mathbf{A} \in D(\psi), \theta \in I$ ,

(i)  $\psi(\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{A}, \theta) = \psi(\mathbf{A}, \theta)$  for all  $\mathbf{Q} \in SO(3)$ ,

(ii)  $\psi(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{B}\boldsymbol{\mu}\mathbf{B}^{-1}, \theta) = \psi(\mathbf{A}, \theta)$  for all  $\boldsymbol{\mu} \in GL^+(3, \mathbb{Z})$ .

Hence  $\psi$  has symmetry group  $\mathcal{S} = \mathbf{B}GL^+(3, \mathbb{Z})\mathbf{B}^{-1}$ , which is a subgroup of  $SL(3, \mathbb{R})$ .

## Martensitic phase transformations

We now assume that  $\varphi(\cdot, \theta)$  is bounded below for each  $\theta \in I$  and attains a minimum. We can suppose that the minimum value is zero. Hence also the minimum value of  $\psi(\cdot, \theta)$  is zero.

Let  $K(\theta) = \{\mathbf{A} \in D(\psi) : \psi(\mathbf{A}, \theta) = 0\}$ .

Then  $SO(3)K(\theta)\mathcal{S} = K(\theta)$ .

We consider a martensitic phase transformation that takes place at the temperature  $\theta_c$ , with the lattice being cubic (fcc or bcc) for  $\theta \geq \theta_c$ .

This is described by a change of shape of the lattice with respect to the lattice  $\mathbf{B}$  at  $\theta_c$  given by  $\mathbf{U}(\theta) = \mathbf{U}(\theta)^T > 0$ .

(Note that by the polar decomposition theorem we can write any  $\mathbf{A} \in GL^+(3, \mathbb{R})$  in the form  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{R}\mathbf{U}$  with  $\mathbf{R} \in SO(3)$ ,  $\mathbf{U} = \mathbf{U}^T > 0$ , so that we can always describe the change of shape by such a  $\mathbf{U}$ .)

Thus we assume that

$$K(\theta) = \begin{cases} \alpha(\theta)SO(3)\mathcal{S} & \theta > \theta_c \\ SO(3)\mathcal{S} \cup SO(3)\mathbf{U}(\theta_c)\mathcal{S} & \theta = \theta_c \\ SO(3)\mathbf{U}(\theta)\mathcal{S} & \theta < \theta_c \end{cases} ,$$

where  $\alpha(\theta) > 0$  gives the thermal expansion of the cubic lattice, with  $\alpha(\theta_c) = 1$ .

# Reduction of the symmetry group

It is convenient to consider a simplified theory in which we only consider those  $\mu$  that generate elements of the point group, thus ignoring large lattice invariant shears that are typically associated with plasticity.

**Theorem.** (Ericksen-Pitteri neighbourhood) Given a Bravais lattice  $\mathbf{B} \in GL^+(3, \mathbb{R})$  there is an open neighbourhood  $\mathcal{N}$  of  $SO(3)$  in  $GL^+(3, \mathbb{R})$  such that

- (i)  $SO(3)\mathcal{N} = \mathcal{N}$
- (ii) if  $\mu \in GL^+(3, \mathbb{Z})$  then either  $\mathcal{N}\mathbf{B}\mu\mathbf{B}^{-1} = \mathcal{N}$  (in which case  $\mathbf{B}\mu\mathbf{B}^{-1} \in P(\mathbf{B})$ ), or  $\mathcal{N}\mathbf{B}\mu\mathbf{B}^{-1} \cap \mathcal{N} = \emptyset$ .

Thus, if we restrict  $\psi(\mathbf{A}, \theta)$  to  $\mathcal{N}$  then the symmetry group of  $\psi$  is reduced to

$$P^\dagger(\mathbf{B}) = P(\mathbf{B}) \cap SO(3) = \mathcal{S} \cap SO(3).$$

*Proof.* We claim that a suitable neighbourhood is given by

$$\mathcal{N}_\varepsilon = \{\mathbf{A} : |\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{1}| < \varepsilon\}$$

for  $\varepsilon > 0$  sufficiently small.

Note that  $SO(3)\mathcal{N}_\varepsilon = \mathcal{N}_\varepsilon SO(3) = \mathcal{N}_\varepsilon$ , since if  $\mathbf{Q} \in SO(3)$

$$|(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{Q})^T \mathbf{A}\mathbf{Q} - \mathbf{1}| = |\mathbf{Q}^T (\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{1}) \mathbf{Q}| = |\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{1}|.$$

Suppose for contradiction that the result is false for  $\varepsilon = j^{-1}$ ,  $j = 1, 2, \dots$ . Then for each  $j$  there exists  $\mu^{(j)}$  with  $\mathbf{B}\mu^{(j)}\mathbf{B}^{-1} \notin P(\mathbf{B})$  and  $\mathbf{C}^{(j)} = \mathbf{D}^{(j)}\mathbf{B}\mu^{(j)}\mathbf{B}^{-1} \in \mathcal{N}_{1/j}$ .

We can assume that  $\mathbf{C}^{(j)} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ ,  $\mathbf{D}^{(j)} \rightarrow \tilde{\mathbf{R}}$ ,  $\mu^{(j)} \rightarrow \mu$ , where  $\mathbf{R}, \tilde{\mathbf{R}} \in SO(3)$ , and hence  $\mathbf{B}\mu\mathbf{B}^{-1} \in P(\mathbf{B})$ . But  $\mu^{(j)} \rightarrow \mu$  implies  $\mu^{(j)} = \mu$  for  $j$  sufficiently large. Contradiction.  $\square$

If we apply this result to the phase transformation case then we can restrict the symmetry group to  $P^+(\mathbf{B})$  provided  $\mathbf{U}(\theta)$  is sufficiently close to 1 and  $\theta$  sufficiently close to  $\theta_c$ .

Thus, restricting  $\psi$  to  $\mathcal{N}$ , and defining as before

$$K(\theta) = \{\mathbf{A} \in \mathcal{N} : \psi(\mathbf{A}, \theta) = 0\},$$

we assume that

$$K(\theta) = \begin{cases} \alpha(\theta)SO(3) & \theta > \theta_c \\ SO(3) \cup \bigcup_{i=1}^M SO(3)U_i(\theta_c) & \theta = \theta_c \\ \bigcup_{i=1}^M SO(3)U_i(\theta) & \theta < \theta_c \end{cases},$$

where  $U_i(\theta)$  are the distinct matrices  $\mathbf{Q}^T \mathbf{U}(\theta) \mathbf{Q}$  for  $\mathbf{Q} \in P^c \cap SO(3) = P^{24}$ .

$M$  is the number of *martensitic variants*. If we let

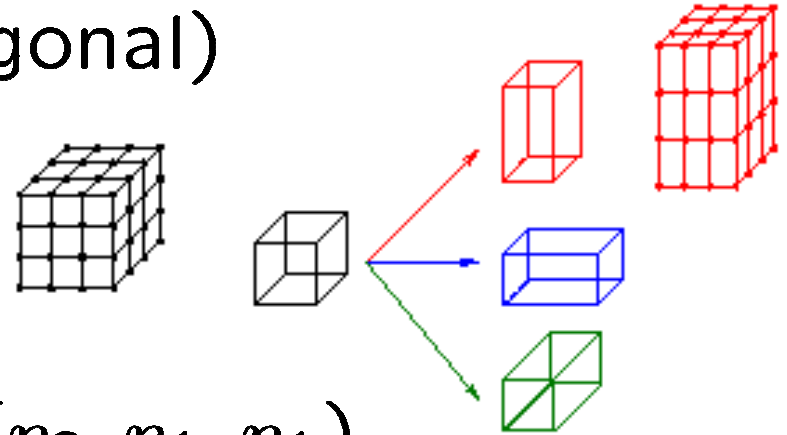
$$G_i = \{\mathbf{Q} \in P^c : \mathbf{Q}^T \mathbf{U}(\theta) \mathbf{Q} = U_i(\theta)\}$$

then  $|G_i|$  is independent of  $i$  and so  $M$  divides 24.



# Example 1. (cubic-to-tetragonal)

(e.g. InTi, NiAl, NiMn, BaTiO<sub>3</sub>)



$$U(\theta) = \text{diag}(\eta_2, \eta_1, \eta_1),$$

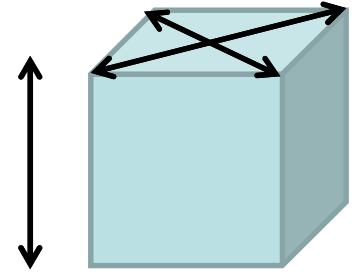
where  $\eta_1 = \eta_1(\theta) > 0$ ,  $\eta_2 = \eta_2(\theta) > 0$ ,  $\eta_1 \neq \eta_2$ .

Then  $M = 3$  and

$$U_1(\theta) = \text{diag}(\eta_2, \eta_1, \eta_1), U_2(\theta) = \text{diag}(\eta_1, \eta_2, \eta_1),$$

$$U_3(\theta) = \text{diag}(\eta_1, \eta_1, \eta_2).$$

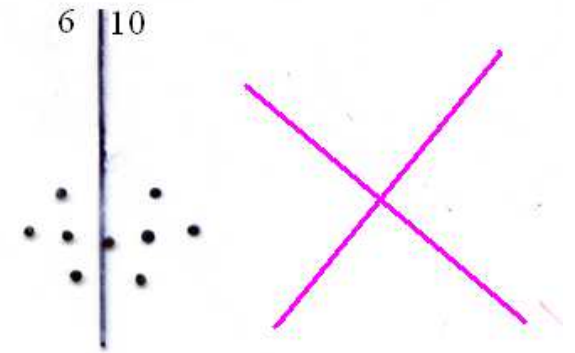
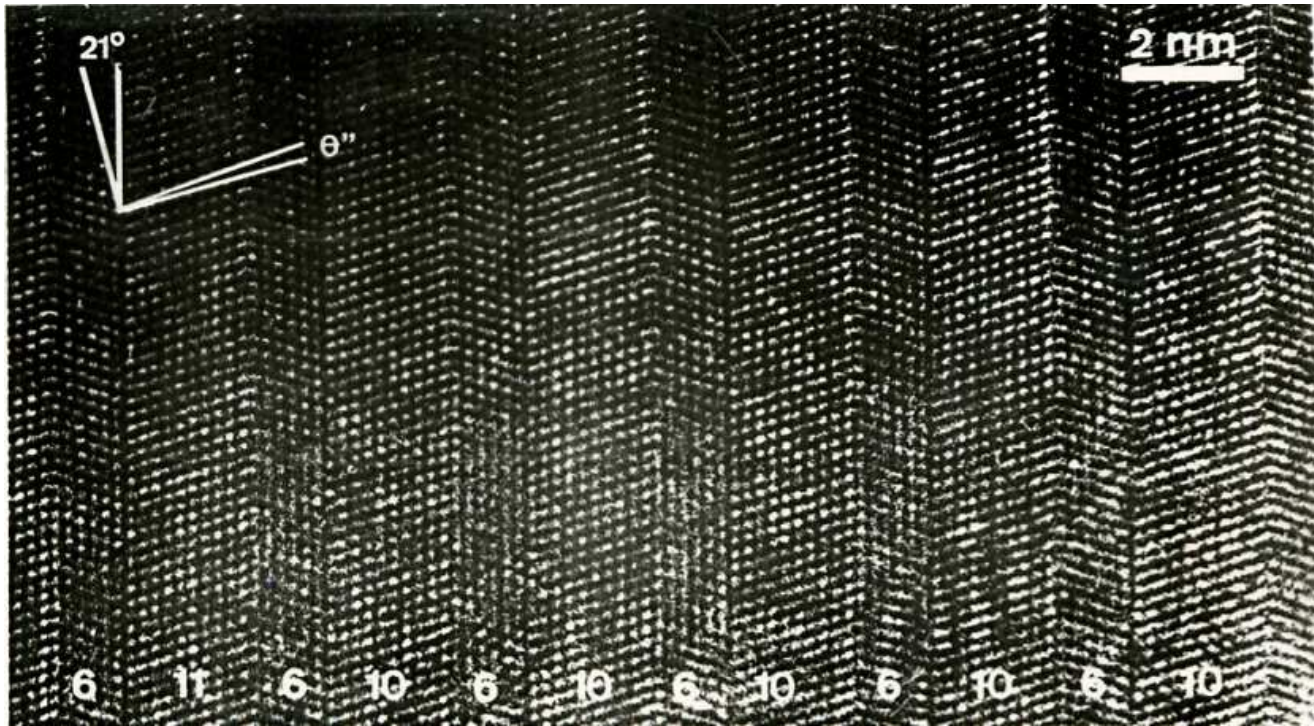
*Example 2. (cubic-to-orthorhombic)*  
 (e.g. CuAlNi)



$$\mathbf{U}(\theta) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\alpha+\gamma}{2} & \frac{\alpha-\gamma}{2} & 0 \\ \frac{\alpha-\gamma}{2} & \frac{\alpha+\gamma}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \beta \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{aligned} \alpha &= \alpha(\theta) > 0, \beta = \beta(\theta) > 0, \\ \gamma &= \gamma(\theta) > 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$M = 6$$

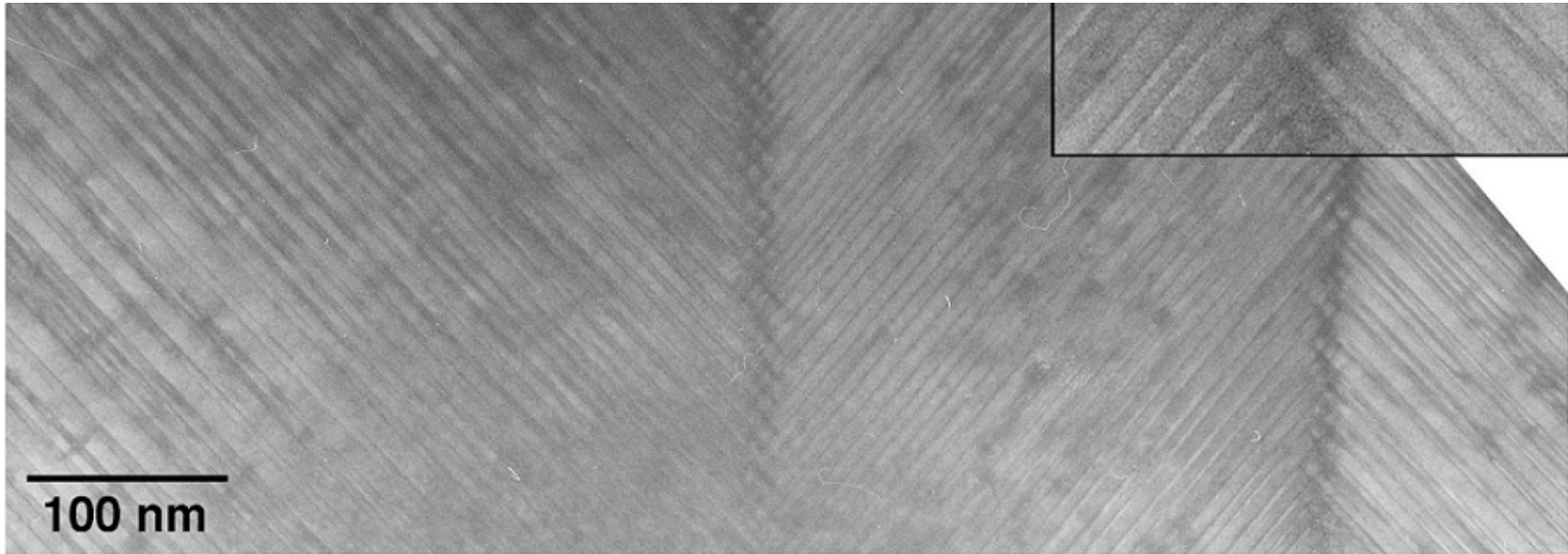
$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{U}_1 &= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\alpha+\gamma}{2} & \frac{\alpha-\gamma}{2} & 0 \\ \frac{\alpha-\gamma}{2} & \frac{\alpha+\gamma}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \beta \end{pmatrix}, & \mathbf{U}_2 &= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\alpha+\gamma}{2} & \frac{\gamma-\alpha}{2} & 0 \\ \frac{\gamma-\alpha}{2} & \frac{\alpha+\gamma}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \beta \end{pmatrix}, & \mathbf{U}_3 &= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\alpha+\gamma}{2} & 0 & \frac{\alpha-\gamma}{2} \\ 0 & \beta & 0 \\ \frac{\alpha-\gamma}{2} & 0 & \frac{\alpha+\gamma}{2} \end{pmatrix}, \\ \mathbf{U}_4 &= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\alpha+\gamma}{2} & 0 & \frac{\gamma-\alpha}{2} \\ 0 & \beta & 0 \\ \frac{\gamma-\alpha}{2} & 0 & \frac{\alpha+\gamma}{2} \end{pmatrix}, & \mathbf{U}_5 &= \begin{pmatrix} \beta & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{\alpha+\gamma}{2} & \frac{\alpha-\gamma}{2} \\ 0 & \frac{\alpha-\gamma}{2} & \frac{\alpha+\gamma}{2} \end{pmatrix}, & \mathbf{U}_6 &= \begin{pmatrix} \beta & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{\alpha+\gamma}{2} & \frac{\gamma-\alpha}{2} \\ 0 & \frac{\gamma-\alpha}{2} & \frac{\alpha+\gamma}{2} \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$



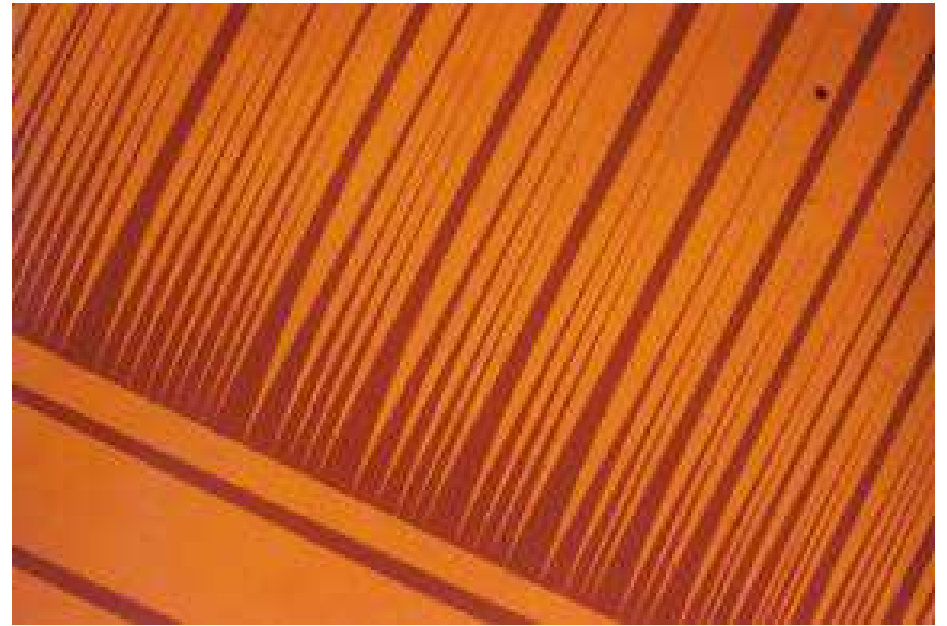
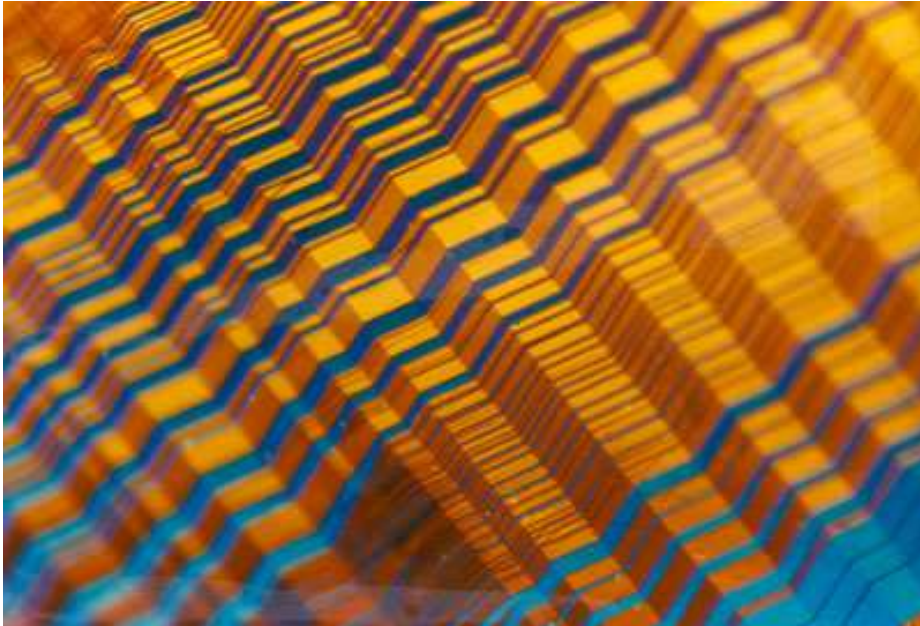
Atomistically sharp interfaces for cubic to tetragonal transformation in NiMn

Baele, van Tenderloo, Amelinckx

Macrotwins in  $\text{Ni}_{65}\text{Al}_{35}$  involving two tetragonal variants (Boullay/Schryvers)

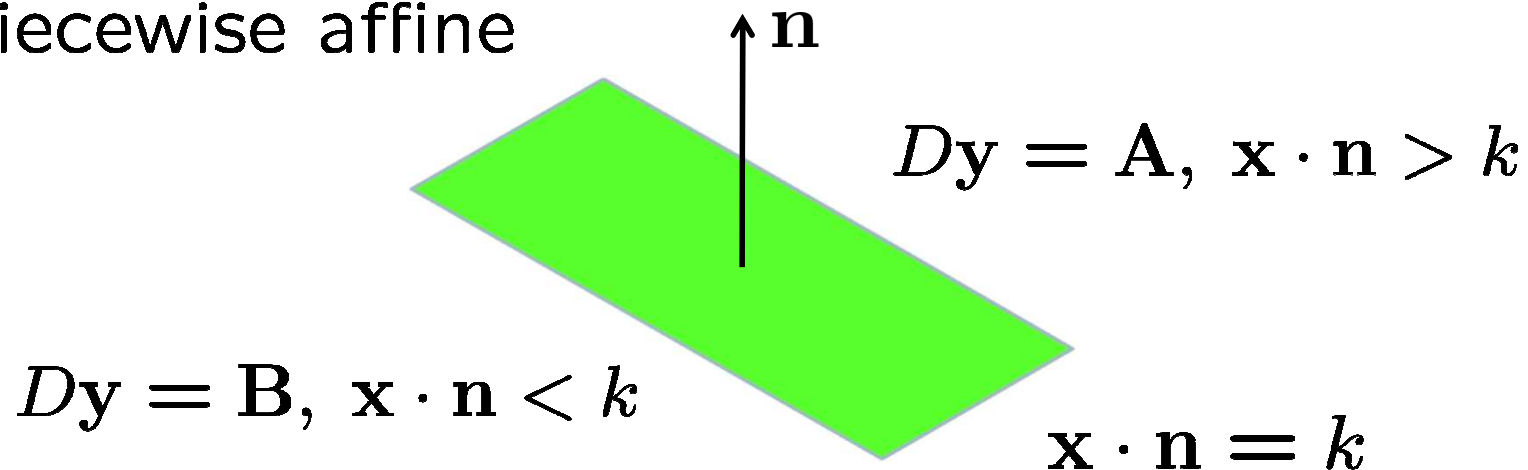


# Martensitic microstructures in CuAlNi (Chu/James)



## The Hadamard jump condition

$y$  piecewise affine



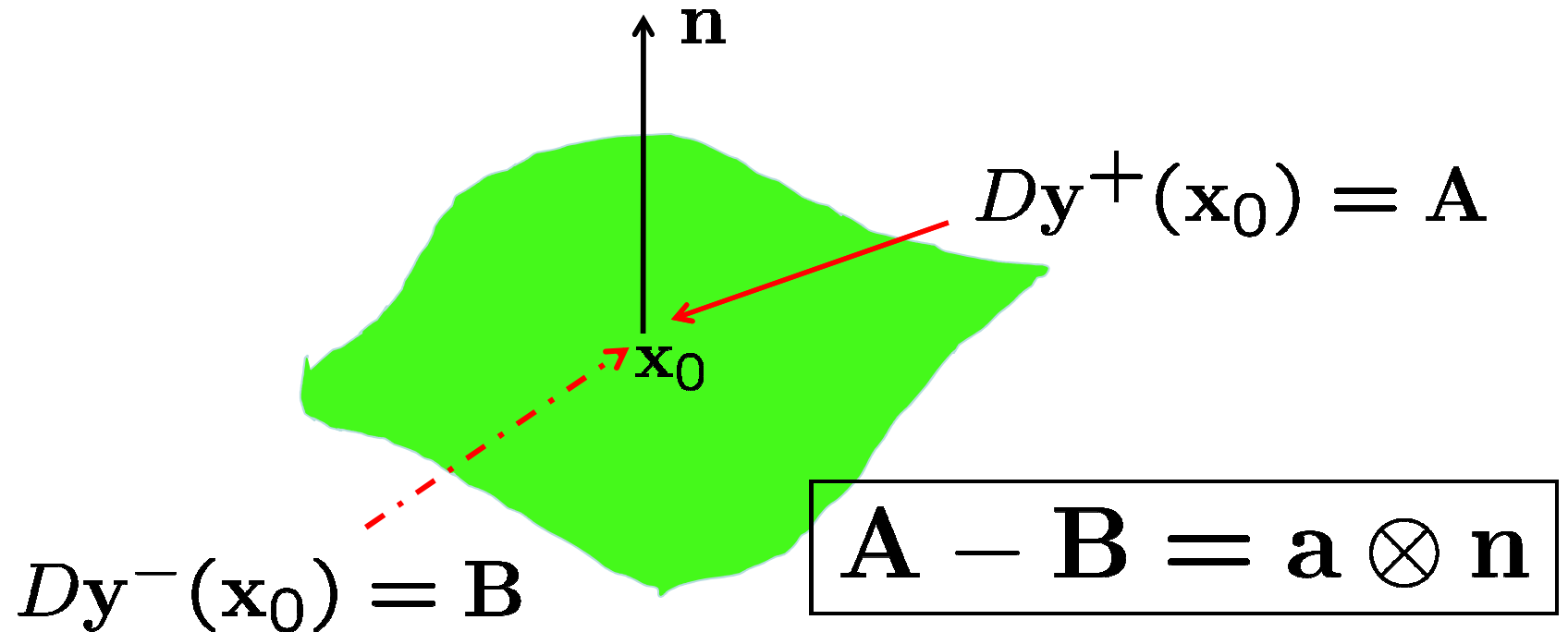
Let  $\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}$ . Then  $\mathbf{C}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$  if  $\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0$ . Thus  $\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{z} - (\mathbf{z} \cdot \mathbf{n})\mathbf{n}) = \mathbf{0}$  for all  $\mathbf{z}$ , and so  $\mathbf{C}\mathbf{z} = (\mathbf{C}\mathbf{n} \otimes \mathbf{n})\mathbf{z}$ .

Hence

$$\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{a} \otimes \mathbf{n}$$

Hadamard  
jump condition

More generally this holds for  $y$  piecewise  $C^1$ , with  $Dy$  jumping across a  $C^1$  surface.



(See later for generalizations when  $y$  not piecewise  $C^1$ .)

## Theorem

Let  $\mathbf{U} = \mathbf{U}^T > 0$ ,  $\mathbf{V} = \mathbf{V}^T > 0$ . Then  $\text{SO}(3)\mathbf{U}$ ,  $\text{SO}(3)\mathbf{V}$  are rank-one connected iff

$$\mathbf{U}^2 - \mathbf{V}^2 = c(\mathbf{n} \otimes \tilde{\mathbf{n}} + \tilde{\mathbf{n}} \otimes \mathbf{n}) \quad (*)$$

for unit vectors  $\mathbf{n}$ ,  $\tilde{\mathbf{n}}$  and some  $c \neq 0$ .

If  $\tilde{\mathbf{n}} \neq \pm\mathbf{n}$  there are exactly two rank-one connections between  $\mathbf{V}$  and  $\text{SO}(3)\mathbf{U}$  given by

$$\mathbf{R}\mathbf{U} = \mathbf{V} + \mathbf{a} \otimes \mathbf{n}, \quad \tilde{\mathbf{R}}\mathbf{U} = \mathbf{V} + \tilde{\mathbf{a}} \otimes \tilde{\mathbf{n}},$$

for suitable  $\mathbf{R}, \tilde{\mathbf{R}} \in \text{SO}(3)$ ,  $\mathbf{a}, \tilde{\mathbf{a}} \in \mathbb{R}^3$ .

(JB/Carstensen version of standard result cf. Ericksen, Gurtin, JB/James ...)



*Proof.* Note first that

$$\begin{aligned}\det(\mathbf{V} + \mathbf{a} \otimes \mathbf{n}) &= \det \mathbf{V} \cdot \det(1 + \mathbf{V}^{-1} \mathbf{a} \otimes \mathbf{n}) \\ &= \det \mathbf{V} \cdot (1 + \mathbf{V}^{-1} \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{n}).\end{aligned}$$

Hence if  $1 + \mathbf{V}^{-1} \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{n} > 0$ , then by the polar decomposition theorem  $\mathbf{R}\mathbf{U} = \mathbf{V} + \mathbf{a} \otimes \mathbf{n}$  for some  $\mathbf{R} \in \text{SO}(3)$  if and only if

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{U}^2 &= (\mathbf{V} + \mathbf{n} \otimes \mathbf{a})(\mathbf{V} + \mathbf{a} \otimes \mathbf{n}) \\ &= \mathbf{V}^2 + \mathbf{V}\mathbf{a} \otimes \mathbf{n} + \mathbf{n} \otimes \mathbf{V}\mathbf{a} + |\mathbf{a}|^2 \mathbf{n} \otimes \mathbf{n} \\ &= \mathbf{V}^2 + \left( \mathbf{V}\mathbf{a} + \frac{1}{2} |\mathbf{a}|^2 \mathbf{n} \right) \otimes \mathbf{n} + \mathbf{n} \otimes \left( \mathbf{V}\mathbf{a} + \frac{1}{2} |\mathbf{a}|^2 \mathbf{n} \right).\end{aligned}$$

If  $\mathbf{a} \neq \mathbf{0}$  then  $\mathbf{V}\mathbf{a} + \frac{1}{2}|\mathbf{a}|^2\mathbf{n} \neq \mathbf{0}$ , since otherwise

$$\mathbf{V}\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{V}^{-1}\mathbf{a} + \frac{1}{2}|\mathbf{a}|^2\mathbf{V}^{-1}\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0,$$

i.e.  $2 + \mathbf{V}^{-1}\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0$ . This proves the necessity of (\*).

Conversely, suppose (\*) holds. We need to find  $\mathbf{a} \neq \mathbf{0}$  such that  $\mathbf{V}\mathbf{a} + \frac{1}{2}|\mathbf{a}|^2\mathbf{n} = c\tilde{\mathbf{n}}$  and  $1 + \mathbf{V}^{-1}\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{n} > 0$ . So we need to find  $t$  such that

$$\mathbf{a} = c\mathbf{r} + t\mathbf{s}$$

where  $|c\mathbf{r} + t\mathbf{s}|^2 + 2t = 0$  and  $1 + (c\mathbf{r} + t\mathbf{s}) \cdot \mathbf{s} > 0$ , where we have written  $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{V}^{-1}\tilde{\mathbf{n}}$ ,  $\mathbf{s} = \mathbf{V}^{-1}\mathbf{n}$ .

The quadratic for  $t$  has the form

$$t^2|s|^2 + 2t(1 + cr \cdot s) + c^2|r|^2 = 0 \quad \text{with roots}$$

$$t = \frac{-(1 + cr \cdot s) \pm \sqrt{(1 + cr \cdot s)^2 - c^2|r|^2|s|^2}}{|s|^2}.$$

Since  $\det U^2 = \det V^2 \det(1 + c(r \otimes s + s \otimes r))$ ,

$$\det(1 + c(r \otimes s + s \otimes r)) = (1 + cr \cdot s)^2 - c^2|r|^2|s|^2$$

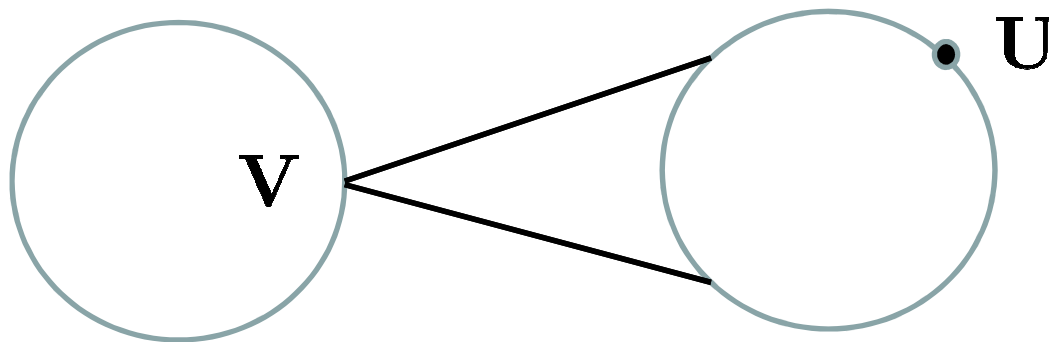
is positive and the roots are real. In order to satisfy  $1 + cr \cdot s + t|s|^2 > 0$  we must take the  $+$  sign, giving a unique  $a$ , and thus unique  $R$  such that  $RU = V + a \otimes n$ .

Similarly we get a unique  $\tilde{\mathbf{a}}$  and  $\tilde{\mathbf{R}}$  such that  $\tilde{\mathbf{R}}\mathbf{U} = \mathbf{V} + \tilde{\mathbf{a}} \otimes \tilde{\mathbf{n}}$ .

To complete the proof it suffices to check the following **Lemma**

If  $c(\mathbf{n} \otimes \tilde{\mathbf{n}} + \tilde{\mathbf{n}} \otimes \mathbf{n}) = c'(\tilde{\mathbf{p}} \otimes \mathbf{p} + \mathbf{p} \otimes \tilde{\mathbf{p}})$  for unit vectors  $\mathbf{p}, \tilde{\mathbf{p}}$  and some constant  $c'$ , then either  $\mathbf{p} \otimes \tilde{\mathbf{p}} = \pm \mathbf{n} \otimes \tilde{\mathbf{n}}$  or  $\mathbf{p} \otimes \tilde{\mathbf{p}} = \pm \tilde{\mathbf{n}} \otimes \mathbf{n}$ .

□



## Corollaries:

1. There are no rank-one connections between matrices  $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}$  belonging to the *same* energy well.

*Proof.* In this case  $\mathbf{U} = \mathbf{V}$ , contradicting  $c \neq 0$ .  $\square$

2. There is a rank-one connection between pairs of matrices  $\mathbf{A} \in SO(3)$  and  $\mathbf{B} \in SO(3)\mathbf{U}$  *if and only if*  $\mathbf{U}$  *has middle eigenvalue 1.*

(Thus it is in generically impossible to have an interface between constant gradients in the austenite and martensite energy wells.)

*Proof.* If there is a rank-one connection then 1 is an eigenvalue since  $\det(\mathbf{U}^2 - \mathbf{1}) = 0$ .

Choosing  $\mathbf{e}$  with  $\tilde{\mathbf{n}} \cdot \mathbf{e} > 0$ ,  $\mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{e} > 0$  and  $\tilde{\mathbf{n}} \cdot \mathbf{e} > 0$ ,  $\mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{e} < 0$ , we see that 1 is the middle eigenvalue. Conversely, if

$$\mathbf{U} = \lambda_1 \mathbf{e}_1 \otimes \mathbf{e}_1 + \mathbf{e}_2 \otimes \mathbf{e}_2 + \lambda_3 \mathbf{e}_3 \otimes \mathbf{e}_3$$

with eigenvectors  $\mathbf{e}_i$  and eigenvalues  $\lambda_1 \leq 1 \leq \lambda_3$  then

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{U}^2 - \mathbf{1} = & \frac{\lambda_3^2 - \lambda_1^2}{2} \left( (\alpha \mathbf{e}_1 + \beta \mathbf{e}_3) \otimes (-\alpha \mathbf{e}_1 + \beta \mathbf{e}_3) \right. \\ & \left. + (-\alpha \mathbf{e}_1 + \beta \mathbf{e}_3) \otimes (\alpha \mathbf{e}_1 + \beta \mathbf{e}_3) \right), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\alpha = \sqrt{\frac{1 - \lambda_1^2}{\lambda_3^2 - \lambda_1^2}}$ ,  $\beta = \sqrt{\frac{\lambda_3^2 - 1}{\lambda_3^2 - \lambda_1^2}}$ . □

3. If  $U_i, U_j$  are distinct martensitic variants then  $SO(3)U_i$  and  $SO(3)U_j$  are rank-one connected if and only if  $\det(U_i^2 - U_j^2) = 0$ , and the possible interface normals are orthogonal. Variants separated by such interfaces are called *twins*.

*Proof.* Clearly  $\det(U_i^2 - U_j^2) = 0$  is necessary, since the matrix on the RHS of (\*) is of rank at most 2.

Conversely suppose that  $\det(U_i^2 - U_j^2) = 0$ . Then  $U_i^2 - U_j^2$  has the spectral decomposition

$$U_i^2 - U_j^2 = \lambda e \otimes e + \mu \hat{e} \otimes \hat{e}.$$

Since  $U_j = \mathbf{R}U_i\mathbf{R}^T$  for some  $\mathbf{R} \in P^{24}$  it follows that  $\text{tr}(U_i^2 - U_j^2) = 0$ . Hence  $\mu = -\lambda$  and

$$\begin{aligned} U_i^2 - U_j^2 &= \lambda(\mathbf{e} \otimes \mathbf{e} - \hat{\mathbf{e}} \otimes \hat{\mathbf{e}}) \\ &= \lambda \left( \frac{\mathbf{e} + \hat{\mathbf{e}}}{\sqrt{2}} \otimes \frac{\mathbf{e} - \hat{\mathbf{e}}}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{\mathbf{e} - \hat{\mathbf{e}}}{\sqrt{2}} \otimes \frac{\mathbf{e} + \hat{\mathbf{e}}}{\sqrt{2}} \right), \end{aligned}$$

as required. □

Remark: Another equivalent condition due to Forclaz is that  $\det(U_i - U_j) = 0$ . This is because of the surprising identity (not valid in higher dimensions)

$$\det(U_i^2 - U_j^2) = (\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)(\lambda_2 + \lambda_3)(\lambda_3 + \lambda_1) \det(U_i - U_j).$$



# Mallard's law

Let  $U = U^T > 0$ ,  $V = V^T > 0$  be such that

$$V = (-1 + 2e \otimes e)U(-1 + 2e \otimes e), \quad (\dagger)$$

where  $|e| = 1$ . Then  $SO(3)U$  and  $SO(3)V$  are rank-one connected with rank-one connections given by

$$QV = U + a \otimes n,$$

$$a \otimes n = \begin{cases} 2 \left( \frac{U^{-1}e}{|U^{-1}e|^2} - Ue \right) \otimes e & \text{(Type I),} \\ 2Ue \otimes \left( e - \frac{U^2e}{|Ue|^2} \right) & \text{(Type II).} \end{cases}$$

(In fact Chen et al (2013) show that if  $V = RUR^T$  for some  $R \in SO(3)$  then  $SO(3)U$  and  $SO(3)V$  are rank-one connected iff  $(\dagger)$  holds for some  $e$ .)

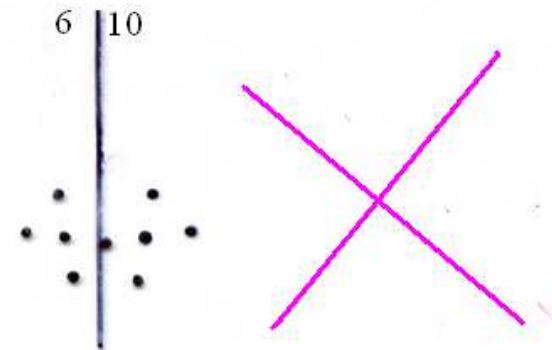
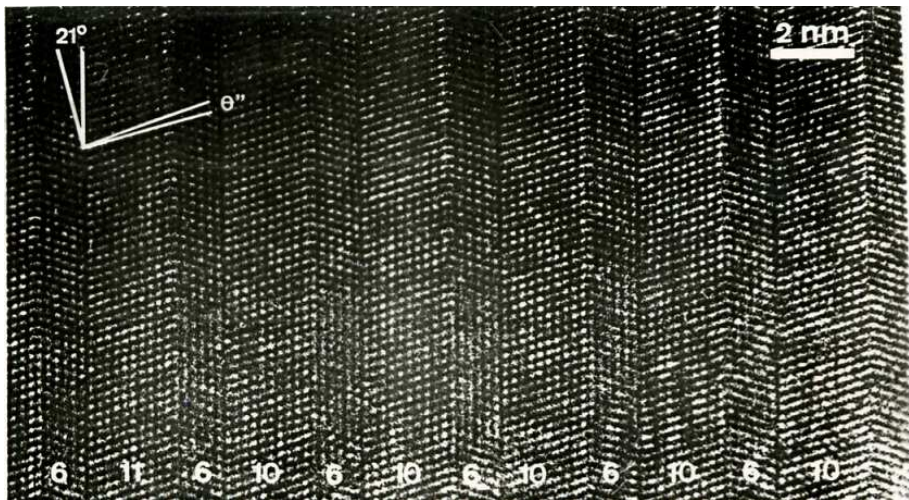
For example, for cubic-to-tetragonal we can take

$$U_1 = \text{diag}(\eta_2, \eta_1, \eta_1), \quad U_2 = \text{diag}(\eta_1, \eta_2, \eta_1),$$

and then

$$U_1^2 - U_2^2 = \frac{1}{2}(\eta_2^2 - \eta_1^2) \left( (e_2 - e_1) \otimes (e_2 + e_1) + (e_2 + e_1) \otimes (e_2 - e_1) \right),$$

so that twinning is on  $[110]$  planes.



# Convexity conditions

Let  $\psi : M^{3 \times 3} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be continuous. We say that

$\psi$  is *rank-one convex* if  $t \mapsto \psi(\mathbf{A} + ta \otimes \mathbf{n})$  is convex for all  $\mathbf{A} \in M^{3 \times 3}$ , and  $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{R}^3$ ,

Null Lagrangians

$\psi$  is *polyconvex* if  $\psi(\mathbf{A}) = g(\mathbf{A}, \text{cof } \mathbf{A}, \det \mathbf{A})$  for all  $\mathbf{A} \in M^{3 \times 3}$  for some convex  $g$ ,

$\psi$  is *quasiconvex* if

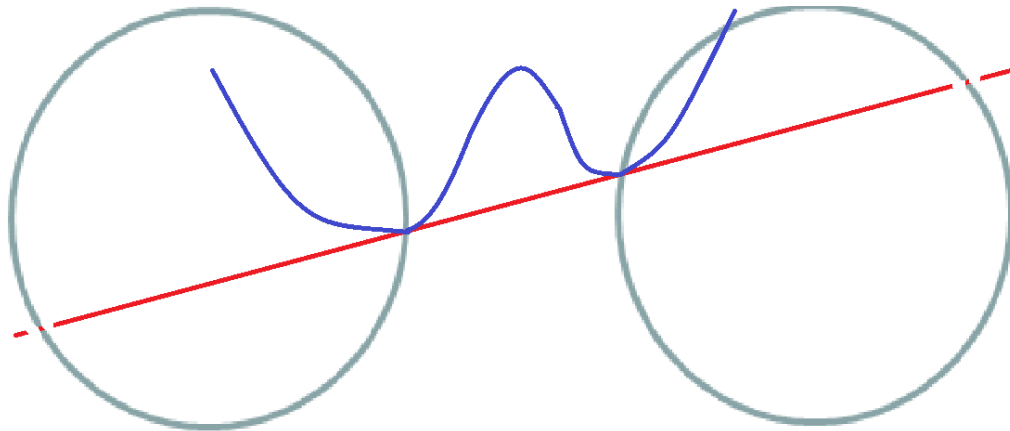
$$\int_{\Omega} \psi(D\mathbf{z}(\mathbf{x})) \, d\mathbf{x} \geq \int_{\Omega} \psi(\mathbf{A}) \, d\mathbf{x}$$

whenever  $\mathbf{z} \in \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + W_0^{1,\infty}(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^3)$ .

definition  
independent  
of  $\Omega$

or  $C_0^\infty(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^3)$

$\psi$  polyconvex  $\Rightarrow$   $\psi$  quasiconvex  $\Rightarrow$   $\psi$  rank-one convex  
 ~~$\Leftarrow$~~  Roughly N&S  ~~$\Leftarrow$~~   
 for existence  
 of minimizers



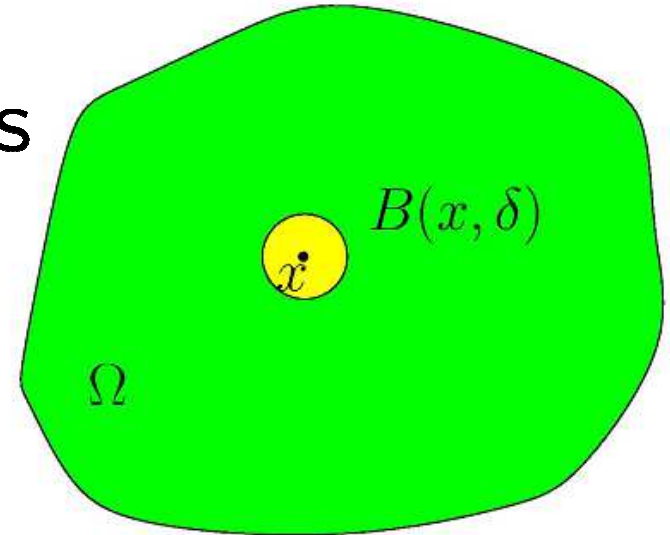
The free-energy function  $\psi(\cdot, \theta)$  is **not** quasiconvex because the existence of rank-one connections between energy wells implies that  $\psi(\cdot, \theta)$  is not rank-one convex.

So we expect the minimum of the energy in general not to be attained, with the gradients  $D\mathbf{y}^{(j)}$  of minimizing sequences generating *infinitely fine* microstructures.

# Gradient Young measures

Given a sequence of gradients  $Dy^{(j)}$ , fix  $j, \mathbf{x}, \delta$ .

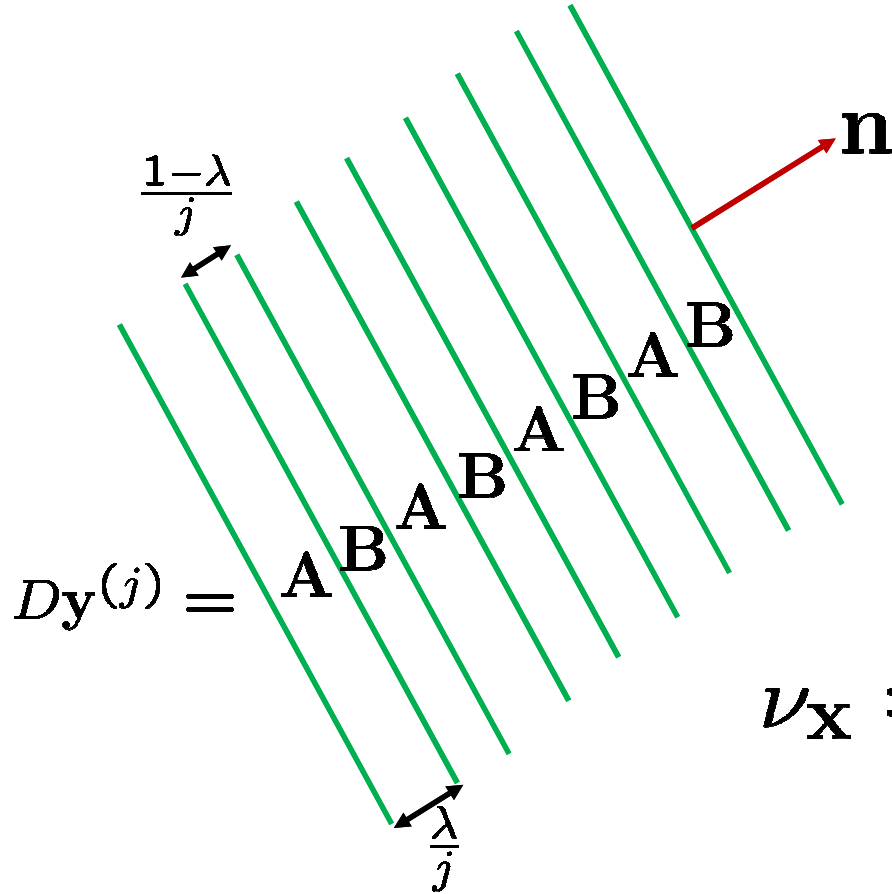
Let  $E \subset M^{3 \times 3}$ .



$$\nu_{\mathbf{x}, j, \delta}(E) = \frac{\text{vol} \{ \mathbf{z} \in B(\mathbf{x}, \delta) : Dy^{(j)}(\mathbf{z}) \in E \}}{\text{vol} B(\mathbf{x}, \delta)}$$

$$\nu_{\mathbf{x}}(E) = \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} \nu_{\mathbf{x}, j, \delta}(E) \quad \text{Gradient Young measure}$$

# Gradient Young measure of a simple laminate



$$\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{a} \otimes \mathbf{n}$$

$$0 < \lambda < 1$$

$$\nu_{\mathbf{x}} = \lambda \delta_{\mathbf{A}} + (1 - \lambda) \delta_{\mathbf{B}}$$

$$D\mathbf{y}^{(j)} \rightharpoonup \lambda \mathbf{A} + (1 - \lambda) \mathbf{B} = \bar{\nu}_{\mathbf{x}} = \int_{M^{3 \times 3}} \mathbf{C} \, d\nu_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{C})$$

## **Theorem** (Kinderlehrer/Pedregal)

*A family of probability measures  $(\nu_{\mathbf{x}})_{\mathbf{x} \in \Omega}$  is the Young measure of a sequence of gradients  $D\mathbf{y}^{(j)}$  bounded in  $L^\infty$  if and only if*

*(i)  $\bar{\nu}_{\mathbf{x}}$  is a gradient ( $D\mathbf{y}$ , the weak limit of  $D\mathbf{y}^{(j)}$ )*

*(ii)  $\langle \nu_{\mathbf{x}}, f \rangle := \int_{M^{3 \times 3}} f(\mathbf{C}) d\nu_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{C}) \geq f(\bar{\nu}_{\mathbf{x}})$*

*for all quasiconvex  $f$ .*

# Convexifications with respect to a cone

Let  $G$  be a convex cone of continuous functions  $f : M^{3 \times 3} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . Examples are the cones of convex, polyconvex, quasiconvex and rank-one convex functions.

For a continuous  $\psi : M^{3 \times 3} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  define the  $G$ -convexification  $\psi^G$  of  $\psi$  by

$$\psi^G = \sup\{f \in G : f \leq \psi\}.$$

Then  $\psi^c \leq \psi^{pc} \leq \psi^{qc} \leq \psi^{rc}$ .

$\psi^{qc}(\mathbf{A}, \theta)$  is the **macroscopic** free-energy function corresponding to  $\psi$ .



Similarly, for  $K \subset M^{3 \times 3}$  compact define (Šverák)

$$K^G = \{A : f(A) \leq \max_K f \text{ for all } f \in G\}.$$

Then  $K^{rc} \subset K^{qc} \subset K^{pc} \subset K^c$ .

**Theorem** (JB/Carstensen (to appear) following Krucik 2000)

$$K^G = \{A \in M^{3 \times 3} : \exists \mu \in \mathcal{P}(K) \text{ with } f(A) \leq \langle \mu, f \rangle \forall f \in G\}$$

In particular

$$K^{qc} = \{\bar{\nu} : \nu \text{ homogeneous gradient YM, } \text{supp } \nu \subset K\}.$$

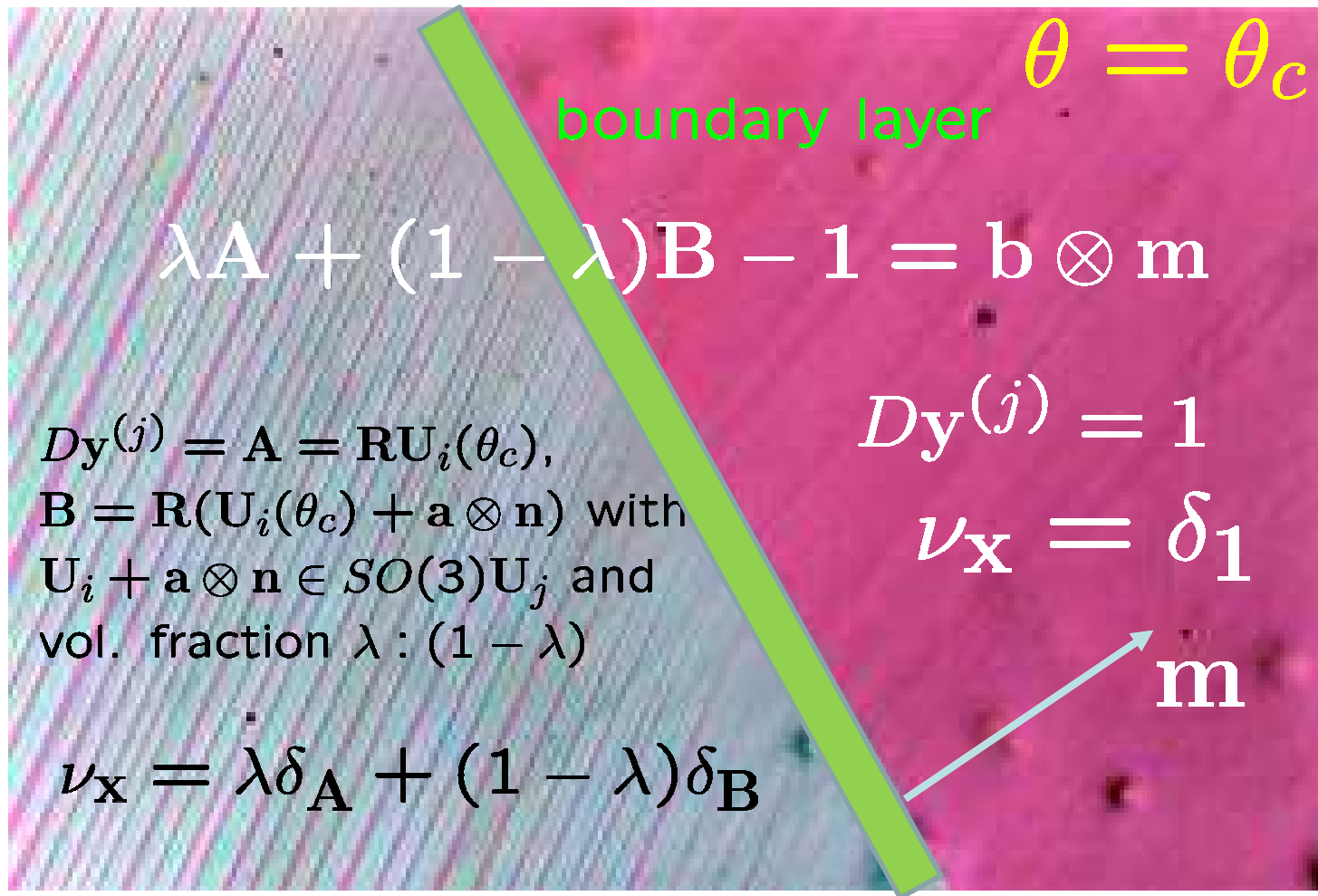
$K(\theta)^{qc}$  is the set of **macroscopic deformation gradients** corresponding to zero-energy microstructures.

# Phase nucleation

How does austenite transform to martensite as  $\theta$  passes through  $\theta_c$ ?

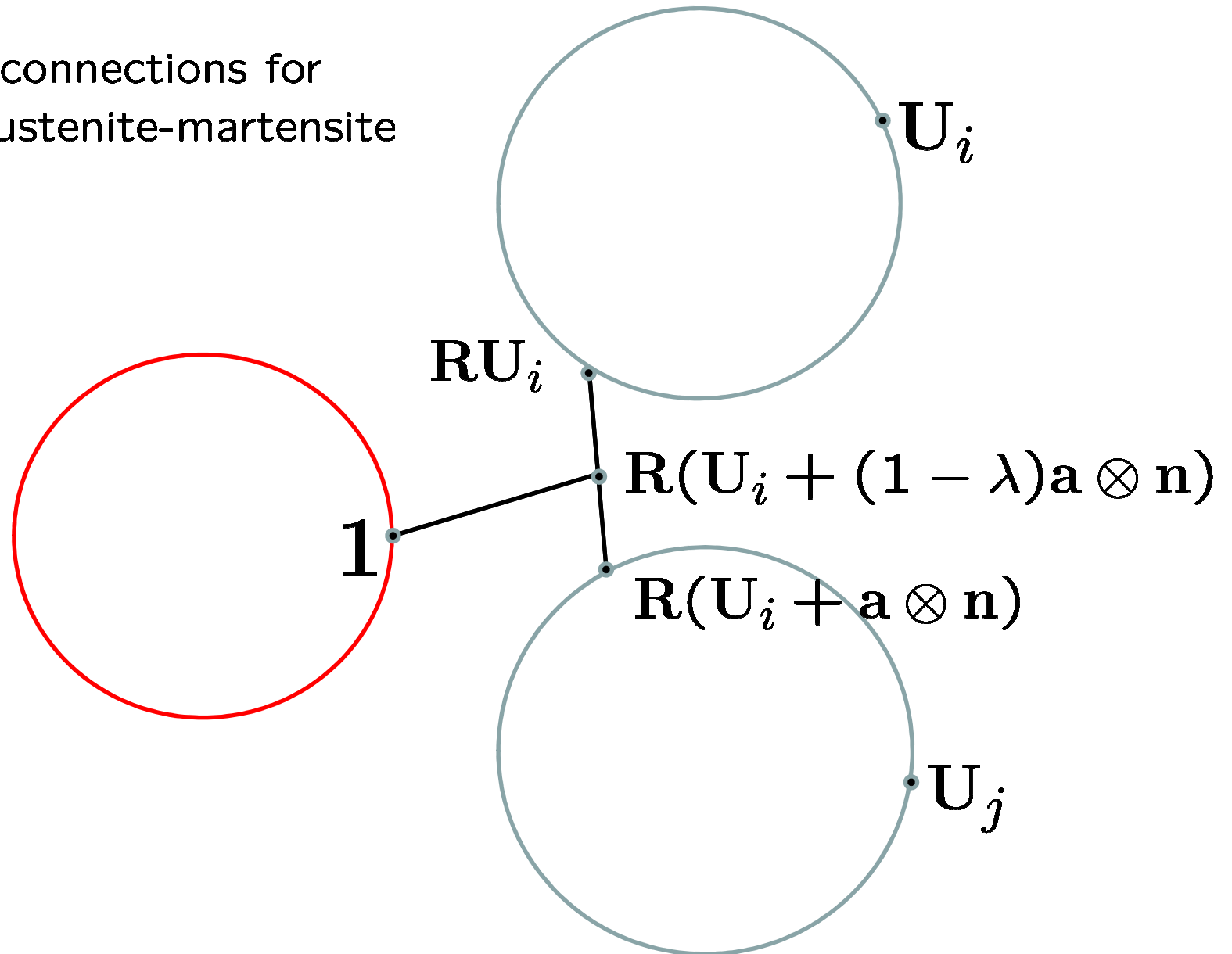
It cannot do this by means of an exact interface between austenite and martensite, because this requires the middle eigenvalue of  $\mathbf{U}_i(\theta)$  to be one, which in general is not the case (but see later).

So what does it do?



(Classical) austenite-martensite interface in CuAlNi  
 (courtesy C-H Chu and R. D. James)

Rank-one connections for  
classical austenite-martensite  
interface



We have to solve

$$\mathbf{R}(\mathbf{U}_i + (1 - \lambda)\mathbf{a} \otimes \mathbf{n}) - \mathbf{1} = \mathbf{b} \otimes \mathbf{m}$$

for  $\mathbf{R} \in SO(3)$ ,  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$  and  $\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{m} \in \mathbb{R}^3$ .

The solutions (JB/James 1987) give the formulae of the *crystallographic theory of martensite* (Wechsler, Lieberman & Read 1953)

Let  $\delta^* = \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{U}_i (\mathbf{U}_i^2 - \mathbf{1})^{-1} \mathbf{n}$ .

Case 1. If  $\mathbf{U}_i$  does not have an eigenvalue 1 then there is a solution iff  $\delta^* \leq -2$  and

$$\text{tr } \mathbf{U}_i^2 - \det \mathbf{U}_i^2 - 2 + \frac{1}{2\delta^*} |\mathbf{a}|^2 \geq 0,$$

and if  $\delta^* < -2$  there are exactly four solutions

$$\begin{aligned} & (\mathbf{R}_1, \lambda^*, \mathbf{b}_1^+ \otimes \mathbf{m}_1^+), & (\mathbf{R}_2, \lambda^*, \mathbf{b}_1^- \otimes \mathbf{m}_1^-), \\ & (\mathbf{R}_3, 1 - \lambda^*, \mathbf{b}_2^+ \otimes \mathbf{m}_2^+), & (\mathbf{R}_4, 1 - \lambda^*, \mathbf{b}_2^- \otimes \mathbf{m}_2^-), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\lambda^* = \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 - \sqrt{1 + \frac{2}{\delta^*}} \right)$ .

Case 2. There are solutions for every  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$

iff the following *cofactor conditions*

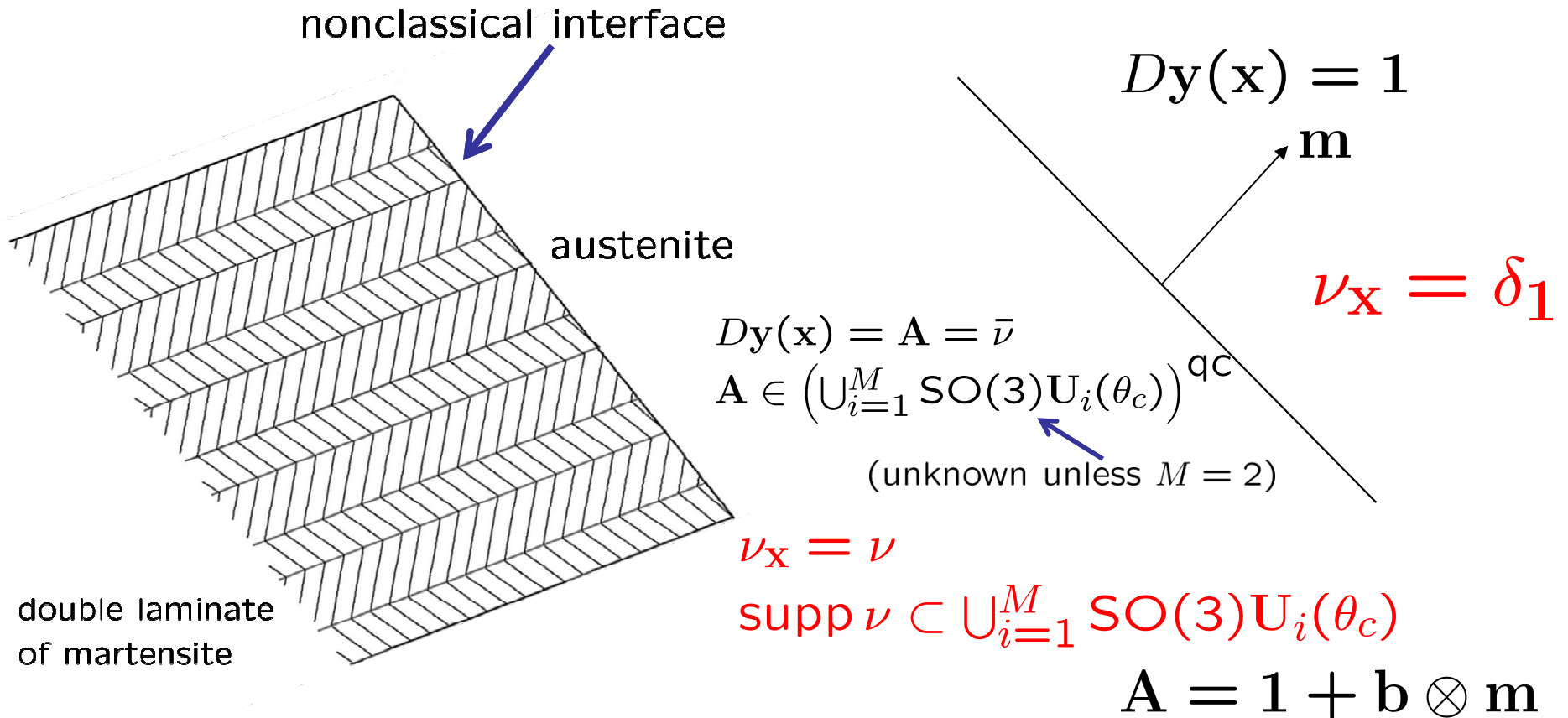
$U_i$  has middle eigenvalue 1

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \text{cof}(U_i^2 - \mathbf{1})\mathbf{n} = 0,$$

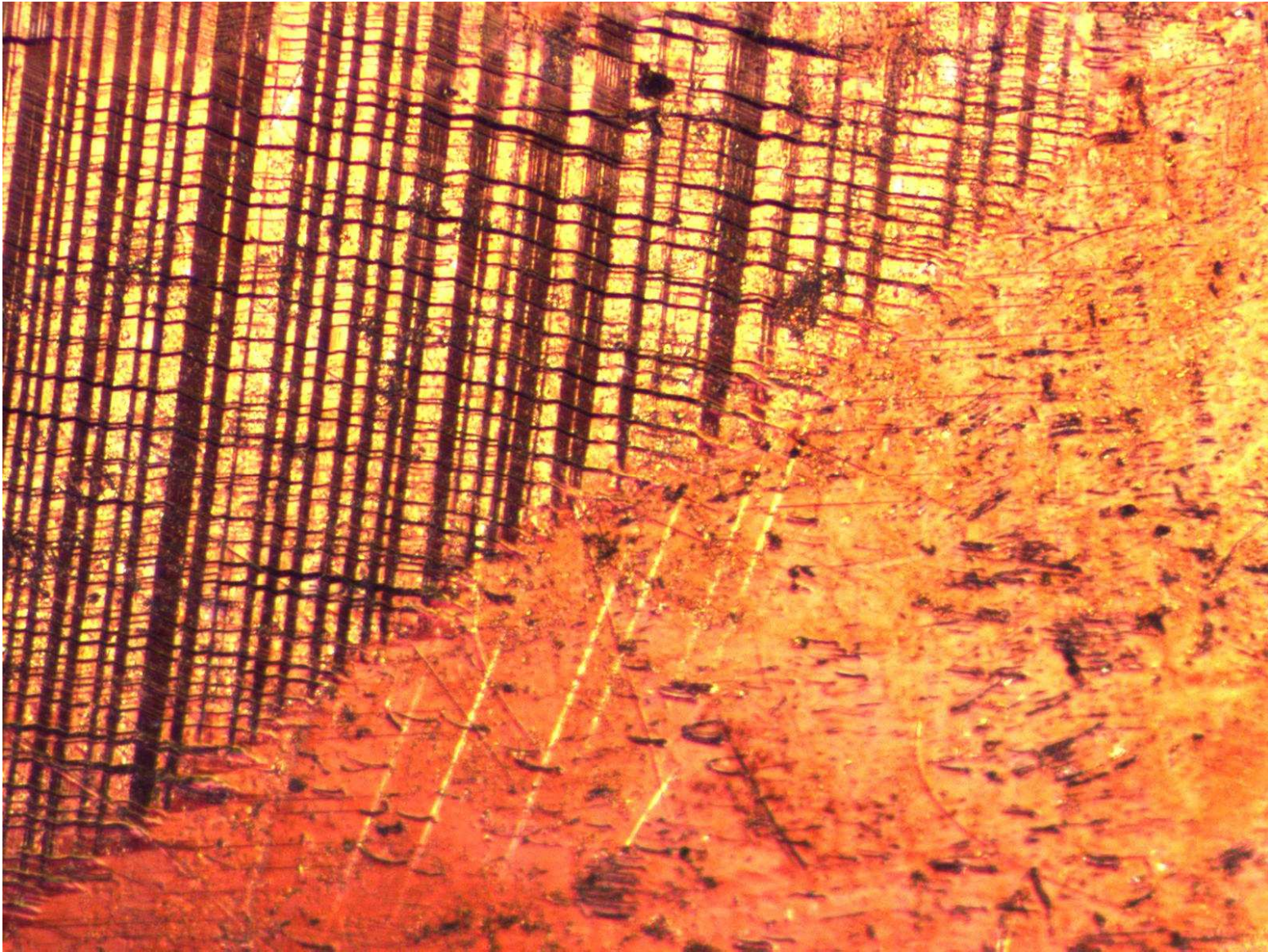
$$\text{tr } U_i^2 - \det U_i^2 - \frac{|\mathbf{a}|^2}{4} - 2 \geq 0$$

hold.

But why (cf JB/Carstensen 1997) should the martensitic microstructure be a simple laminate, rather than something more complicated, such as a double laminate?



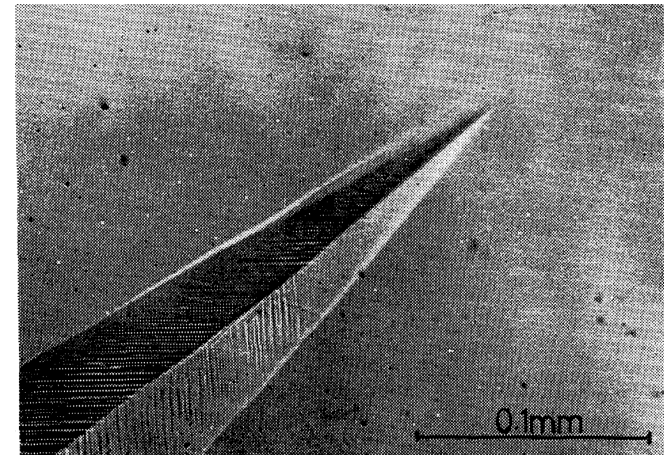
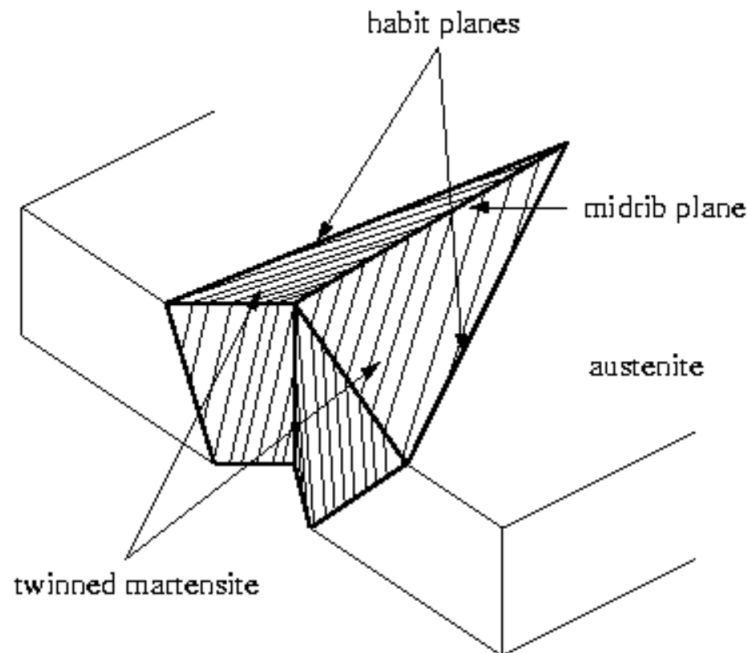




Nonclassical austenite-martensite interface in CuAlNi (H. Seiner)

Special compositions and the discovery of low hysteresis alloys.

## 1. The wedge microstructure (Bhattacharya 1991)



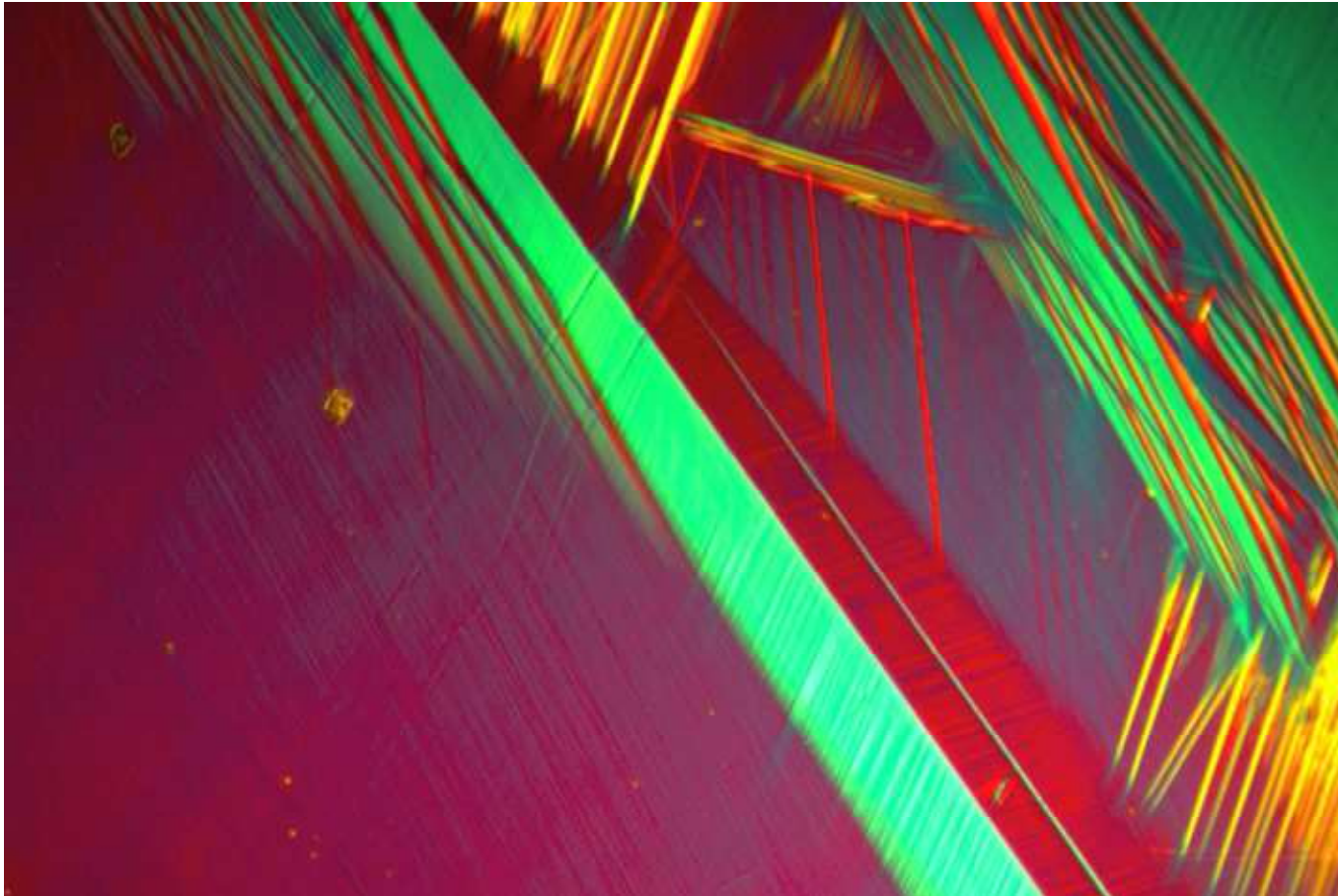
Wedge microstructure in CuAlNi  
Otsuka & Shimizu (1969)

Microstructure supported on energy wells impossible for cubic-to-tetragonal, possible for cubic to orthorhombic iff the eigenvalues  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  of the transformation strain  $U_i(\theta_c)$  satisfy a special relation  $f(\alpha, \beta, \gamma) = 0$ , which holds to high accuracy for the actual compositions close to Cu-14.2wt.%Al-4.3wt.%Ni used in shape-memory alloys.

## 2. Ultra-low hysteresis alloys

James *et.al.* (2013) tuned the composition of a ZnAuCu alloy so that the cofactor conditions were very nearly satisfied, with dramatic results.

- (i) the thermal hysteresis was reduced from typical values of  $50^{\circ} - 70^{\circ}\text{C}$  to about  $2^{\circ}\text{C}$ .
- (ii) Material undamaged after thousands of thermal cycles (millions for a material discovered later by Quandt, Wuttig et al 2014).
- (iii) During thermal cycling remarkable martensitic microstructures are observed that are completely different in each cycle.



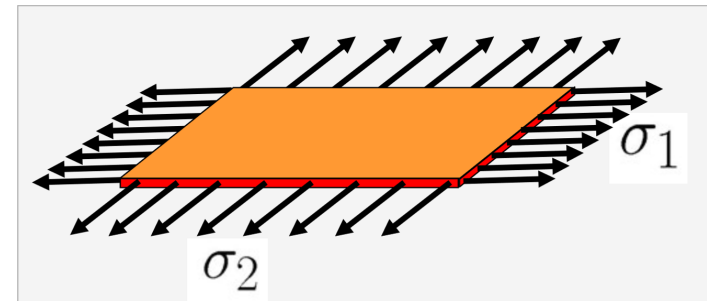
Zn<sub>45</sub>Au<sub>30</sub>Cu<sub>2</sub> ultra-low hysteresis alloy Song, Chen, Dabade, Shield, James, 2013

'Moving mask' approximation analyzed by Della Porta (2018), who has also identified further conditions on the  $U_i$  allowing new microstructures, closely satisfied in this alloy.

# Incompatibility-induced metastability

## Example 1

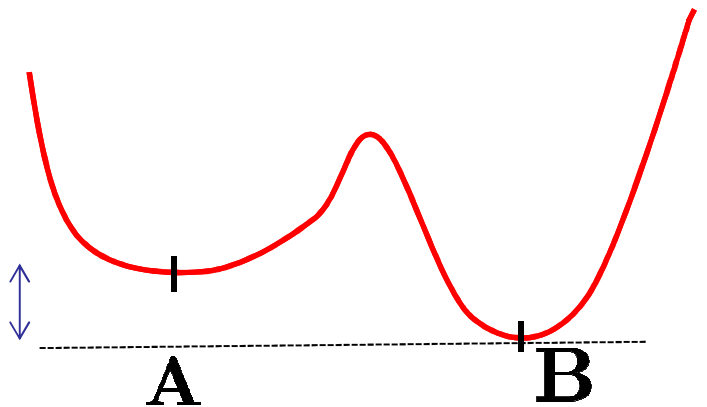
Special case of JB/James 2014 designed to explain hysteresis in the bi-axial experiments of Chu & James on CuAlNi single crystals, in which a transformation occurs under load between two martensitic variants.



Consider the integral  $W(\mathbf{A}) - W(\mathbf{B})$

$$I(\mathbf{y}) = \int_{\Omega} W(D\mathbf{y}) \, d\mathbf{x},$$

where  $W : GL^+(3, \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and  $W$  has two local minimizers at  $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}$  with  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}) > 1$  and  $W(\mathbf{A}) - W(\mathbf{B}) > 0$  sufficiently small.

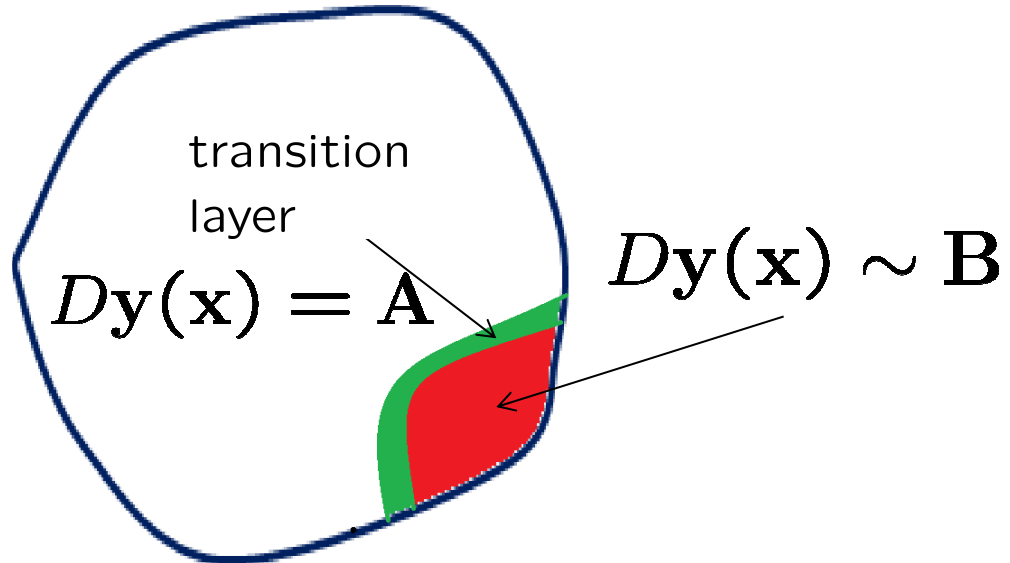


$$W(\mathbf{A}) = \psi(\mathbf{A}, \theta) - \mathbf{T} \cdot \mathbf{A}$$

Claim. Under suitable growth hypotheses on  $W$ ,  $\bar{y}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{c}$  is a local minimizer of  $I$  in  $L^1(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^3)$ , i.e. there exists  $\varepsilon > 0$  such that  $I(\mathbf{y}) \geq I(\bar{\mathbf{y}})$  if  $\int_{\Omega} |\mathbf{y} - \bar{\mathbf{y}}| d\mathbf{x} < \varepsilon$ .

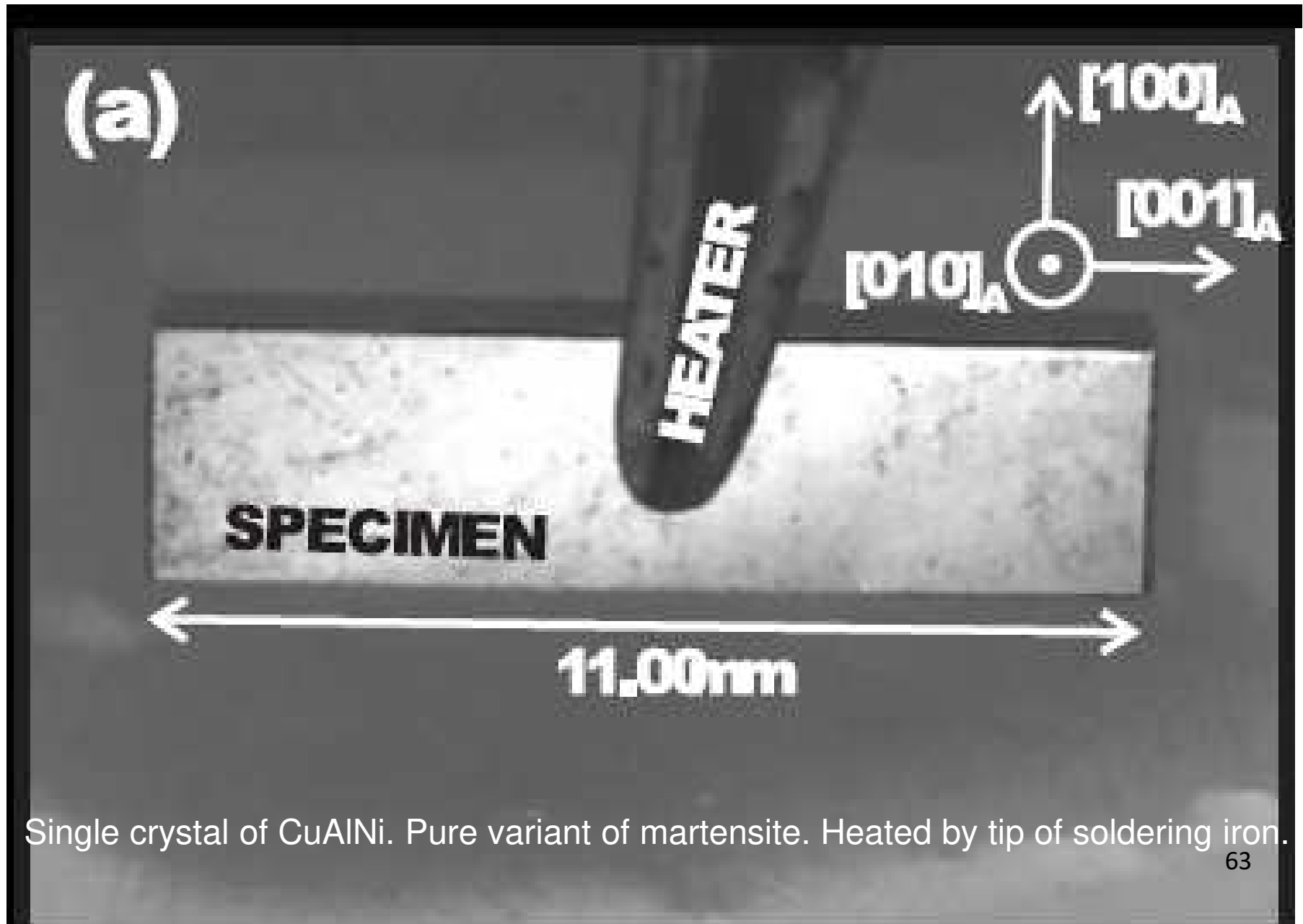
Idea: since  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$  are incompatible, if we nucleate a region in which  $D\mathbf{y}(\mathbf{x}) \sim \mathbf{B}$  there must be a transition layer in which the increase of energy is greater than the decrease of energy in the nucleus.

Related work:  
 Kohn & Sternberg 1989,  
 Grabovsky & Mengesha 2009



## Example 2. Nucleation of austenite in martensite

(JB/K. Koumatos/H. Seiner 2013,2014)



**(b)**



**NUCLEUS**



**(c)**

**HABIT PLANE**



**TWINNED-TO-DETWINNED  
INTERFACE**



# Twinning and slip in Bravais lattices

Consider a Bravais lattice  $\mathbf{B}$ . What are the rank-one connections between  $SO(3)$  and  $SO(3)\mathbf{M}$ , where  $\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{B}\boldsymbol{\mu}\mathbf{B}^{-1} \notin P(\mathbf{B})$ ?

We try  $\boldsymbol{\mu} = -1 + \mathbf{p} \otimes \mathbf{q}$  with  $\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q} \in \mathbb{Z}^3$  and  $\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{q} = 2$ , when

$$\mathbf{B}\boldsymbol{\mu}\mathbf{B}^{-1} = -1 + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{p} \otimes \mathbf{B}^{-T}\mathbf{q},$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{M}^T\mathbf{M} - \mathbf{1} &= (-1 + \mathbf{B}^{-T}\mathbf{q} \otimes \mathbf{B}\mathbf{p})(-1 + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{p} \otimes \mathbf{B}^{-T}\mathbf{q}) - \mathbf{1} \\ &= -\mathbf{B}^{-T}\mathbf{q} \otimes \mathbf{B}\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{B}\mathbf{p} \otimes \mathbf{B}^{-T}\mathbf{q} + |\mathbf{B}\mathbf{p}|^2 \mathbf{B}^{-T}\mathbf{q} \otimes \mathbf{B}^{-T}\mathbf{q} \\ &= (-\mathbf{B}\mathbf{p} + \frac{1}{2}|\mathbf{B}\mathbf{p}|^2 \mathbf{B}^{-T}\mathbf{q}) \otimes \mathbf{B}^{-T}\mathbf{q} \\ &\quad + \mathbf{B}^{-T}\mathbf{q} \otimes (-\mathbf{B}\mathbf{p} + \frac{1}{2}|\mathbf{B}\mathbf{p}|^2 \mathbf{B}^{-T}\mathbf{q}). \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $SO(3)$  and  $SO(3)\mathbf{M}$  are rank-one connected, with normals parallel to  $\mathbf{B}^{-T}\mathbf{q}$  and  $-\mathbf{B}\mathbf{p} + \frac{1}{2}|\mathbf{B}\mathbf{p}|^2\mathbf{B}^{-T}\mathbf{q}$ .

Note also that if  $\mathbf{1} + \mathbf{a} \otimes \mathbf{n} = \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{M}$  then

$$\begin{aligned} \text{tr } \mathbf{M}^T \mathbf{M} - 3 &= \text{tr} (\mathbf{1} + \mathbf{n} \otimes \mathbf{a})(\mathbf{1} + \mathbf{a} \otimes \mathbf{n}) - 3 \\ &= |\mathbf{B}\mathbf{p}|^2 |\mathbf{B}^{-T}\mathbf{q}|^2 - 4, \end{aligned}$$

so that  $|\mathbf{a}|^2 = |\mathbf{B}\mathbf{p}|^2 |\mathbf{B}^{-T}\mathbf{q}|^2 - 4$ .

For a bcc lattice we can take

$$\mathbf{B} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{B}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then the first case with  $\mathbf{p} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{q} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$  gives

the normals  $\begin{pmatrix} \pm 1 \\ \pm 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $|\mathbf{a}|^2 = \frac{1}{2}$ .

These are the most commonly observed normals for bcc metals and alloys, and work of Bevis & Crocker (1968,1969), Jaswon & Dove (1956,1957,1960) probably shows that they minimize  $|\mathbf{a}|$ .

For fcc we can take

$$\mathbf{B} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{B}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then with  $\mathbf{p} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{q} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  we get the commonly  
observed normals  $\begin{pmatrix} \pm 1 \\ \pm 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $|\mathbf{a}|^2 = \frac{1}{2}$ .

Another possibility is to take  $\mu = 1 + \hat{\mathbf{p}} \otimes \hat{\mathbf{q}}$  with  $\hat{\mathbf{p}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{q}} = 0$ , when we have  $\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{1} + \mathbf{B}\hat{\mathbf{p}} \otimes \mathbf{B}^{-T}\hat{\mathbf{q}}$  and

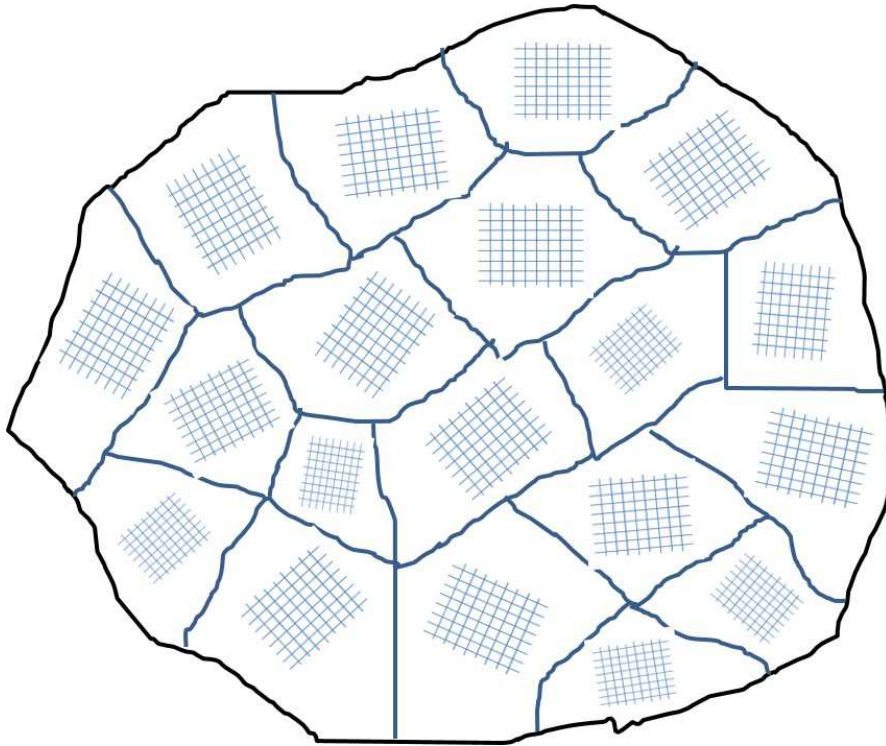
$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{M}^T \mathbf{M} - \mathbf{1} &= \mathbf{B}^{-T}\hat{\mathbf{q}} \otimes \mathbf{B}\hat{\mathbf{p}} + \mathbf{B}\hat{\mathbf{p}} \otimes \mathbf{B}^{-T}\hat{\mathbf{q}} + |\mathbf{B}\hat{\mathbf{p}}|^2 \mathbf{B}^{-T}\hat{\mathbf{q}} \otimes \mathbf{B}^{-T}\hat{\mathbf{q}} \\ &= (\mathbf{B}\hat{\mathbf{p}} + \frac{1}{2}|\mathbf{B}\hat{\mathbf{p}}|^2 \mathbf{B}^{-T}\hat{\mathbf{q}}) \otimes \mathbf{B}^{-T}\hat{\mathbf{q}} \\ &\quad + \mathbf{B}^{-T}\hat{\mathbf{q}} \otimes (\mathbf{B}\hat{\mathbf{p}} + \frac{1}{2}|\mathbf{B}\hat{\mathbf{p}}|^2 \mathbf{B}^{-T}\hat{\mathbf{q}}), \end{aligned}$$

so that again  $SO(3)$  and  $SO(3)\mathbf{M}$  are rank-one connected with normals  $\mathbf{B}^{-T}\hat{\mathbf{q}}$  and  $\mathbf{B}\hat{\mathbf{p}} + \frac{1}{2}|\mathbf{B}\hat{\mathbf{p}}|^2 \mathbf{B}^{-T}\hat{\mathbf{q}}$  and  $|\mathbf{a}|^2 = |\mathbf{B}\hat{\mathbf{p}}|^2 |\mathbf{B}^{-T}\hat{\mathbf{q}}|^2$ .

For bcc with  $\hat{\mathbf{p}} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\hat{\mathbf{q}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ , we get the normals  $\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$   
 (twinning),  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  (slip) with  $|\mathbf{a}|^2 = 2$ .

# Polycrystals

Different orientations of the crystal lattice in each grain.



No diffusion, within the grains, or of the grain boundaries.



## Description of grain geometry

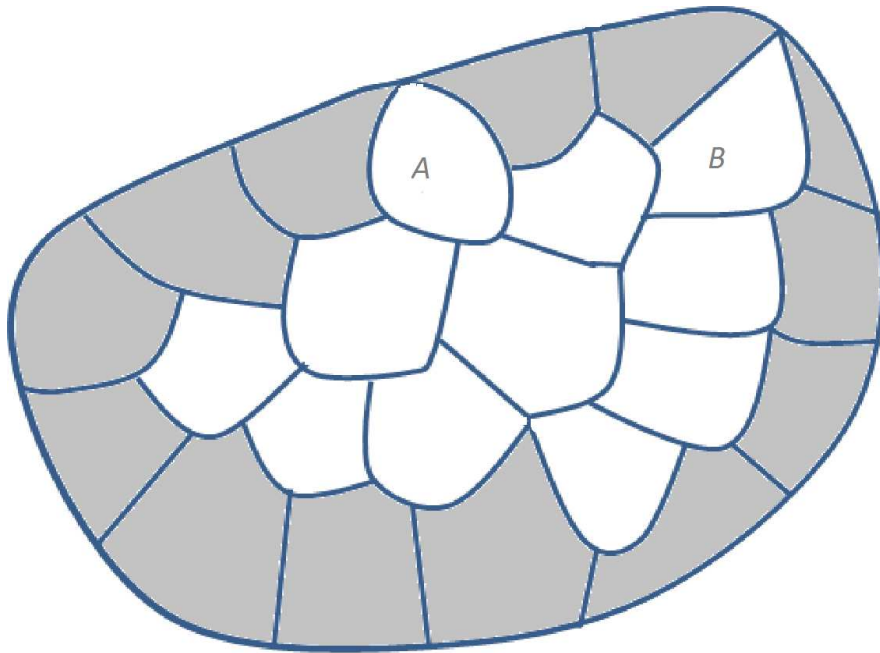
Consider a polycrystal that occupies in a reference configuration a bounded domain (open, connected set)  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^3$  composed of a finite number of disjoint grains  $\Omega_j$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, N$ , where each  $\Omega_j$  is a bounded domain with Lipschitz boundary  $\partial\Omega_j$ , so that

$$\Omega = \text{int} \bigcup_{i=1}^N \overline{\Omega}_j.$$

# Topology and graphs

Some topological information is encoded in the graph whose vertices are the grains (labelled  $1, \dots, N$ ) and with edges  $(i, j)$  corresponding to grains  $\Omega_i, \Omega_j$  with  $\mathcal{H}^2(\partial\Omega_i \cap \partial\Omega_j) > 0$  (in 2D this is used in the proof of the four colour theorem).

For each grain  $i$  let  $M(i)$  be the number of  $j \neq i$  for which  $(i, j)$  is an edge.



A and B are interior grains but touch  $\partial\Omega$ .

*Interior* grains are ones for which  $\partial\Omega_j \subset \bigcup_{k \neq j} \partial\Omega_k$ , and the others are *boundary* grains.

The set of *triple points* is

$$T = \bigcup_{1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < i_3 \leq N} \partial\Omega_{i_1} \cap \partial\Omega_{i_2} \cap \partial\Omega_{i_3}.$$

**Theorem** Suppose each grain  $\Omega_j$  is convex. Then every interior grain  $\Omega_i$  is a convex polyhedron (i.e. an intersection of a finite number of open half-spaces) with at most  $M(i)$  faces.

**Theorem** If each  $\overline{\Omega}_j$  is a topological manifold with boundary then  $T$  is nowhere dense in  $\bigcup_{j=1}^N \partial\Omega_j$ .

# Zero-energy microstructures for a polycrystal

For a polycrystal the total free energy is given by

$$I(\mathbf{y}) = \int_{\Omega} W(D\mathbf{y}(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x},$$

where  $W(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{x}) = \psi(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{R}_i^T)$  for  $\mathbf{x} \in \Omega_i$  and  $\mathbf{R}_i \in SO(3)$ .

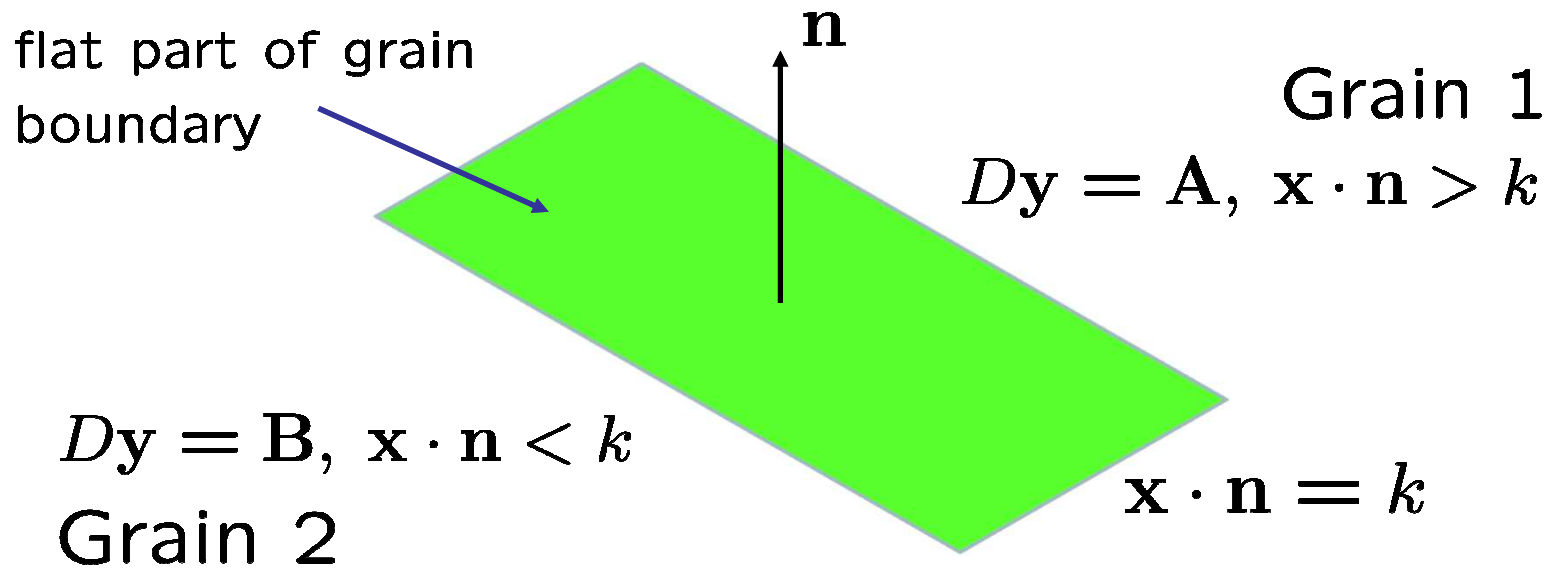
We fix  $\theta < \theta_c$  and write  $K = K(\theta)$ ,  $\mathbf{U} = \mathbf{U}(\theta)$  etc.

Then a zero-energy microstructure corresponds to a gradient YM  $(\nu_{\mathbf{x}})_{\mathbf{x} \in \Omega}$  with  $\text{supp } \nu_{\mathbf{x}} \subset K\mathbf{R}_i$  for a.e.  $\mathbf{x} \in \Omega_i$ , or equivalently to a macroscopic deformation gradient with

$$D\mathbf{y}(\mathbf{x}) \in (K\mathbf{R}_i)^{\text{qc}} = K^{\text{qc}}\mathbf{R}_i$$

for a.e.  $\mathbf{x} \in \Omega_i$ .

# Constant deformation gradient in adjacent grains



We can assume that grain 1 has unrotated crystal axes. Hence for this to be a zero-energy deformation  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{Q}_1 \mathbf{U}_i$ ,  $\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{Q}_2 \mathbf{U}_j \tilde{\mathbf{R}}$ , where  $\mathbf{Q}_1, \mathbf{Q}_2 \in SO(3)$  and  $\tilde{\mathbf{R}} \in SO(3)$  is the rotation of grain 2.

Note that  $U_j = \bar{\mathbf{R}}^T U_i \bar{\mathbf{R}}$  for some  $\bar{\mathbf{R}} \in P^{24}$ .

Thus for a rank-one connection we must have

$$\det(U_i^2 - (\bar{\mathbf{R}}\tilde{\mathbf{R}})^T U_i^2 \bar{\mathbf{R}}\tilde{\mathbf{R}}) = 0.$$

The function

$$\mathbf{R} \mapsto \det(U_i^2 - \mathbf{R}^T U_i^2 \mathbf{R})$$

is real analytic on  $SO(3)$  and for  $U_i$  not a multiple of 1 is not identically zero. Hence (c.f. Mityagin 2015) its zero set is of measure zero. Thus for generic grain rotations such a zero-energy deformation is impossible.

## Zero-energy microstructures possible for any grain geometry and rotations

These correspond to gradient YMs  $(\nu_{\mathbf{x}})_{\mathbf{x} \in \Omega}$  such that  $\text{supp } \nu_{\mathbf{x}} \subset \bigcap_{\mathbf{R} \in SO(3)} K\mathbf{R}$  a.e., or equivalently to macroscopic deformation gradients satisfying

$$D\mathbf{y}(\mathbf{x}) \in \mathcal{E} := \bigcap_{\mathbf{R} \in SO(3)} K^{\text{qc}}\mathbf{R} \text{ for a.e. } \mathbf{x} \in \Omega.$$

The set  $\mathcal{E}$  was essentially defined in Bhattacharya & Kohn (1996,1997) in connection with the ‘Taylor bound’.

Note that  $\mathcal{E}$  is *isotropic*, i.e.

$$Q\mathcal{E}R = \mathcal{E} \text{ for all } Q, R \in SO(3).$$



# The case of two wells

We take

$$K = SO(3)U_1 \cup SO(3)U_2,$$

$$U_1 = \text{diag}(\eta_1, \eta_2, \eta_3), \quad U_2 = \text{diag}(\eta_2, \eta_1, \eta_3),$$

and  $\eta_2 > \eta_1 > 0$ ,  $\eta_3 > 0$  (e.g. tetragonal to orthorhombic, or special orthorhombic to monoclinic transformations).

The advantage of this case is that it is the only one for which  $K^{qc}$  is known.

**Theorem** (B/James 92)  $K^{qc}$  consists of the matrices  $\mathbf{A} \in GL^+(3, \mathbb{R})$  such that

$$\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} a & c & 0 \\ c & b & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \eta_3^2 \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $a > 0, b > 0, a + b + |2c| \leq \eta_1^2 + \eta_2^2, ab - c^2 = \eta_1^2 \eta_2^2$ .

In addition (B/James 91), if  $D\mathbf{y}(\mathbf{x}) \in K^{qc}$  a.e. then  $\mathbf{y}$  is a **plane strain**, i.e.

$$\mathbf{y}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{Q}(y_1(\mathbf{x}), y_2(\mathbf{x}), \eta_3 x_3 + a),$$

where  $y_{1,3} = y_{2,3} = 0, \mathbf{Q} \in SO(3)$  and  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ .

# Theorem

$$\mathcal{E} = \begin{cases} \emptyset & \text{if } \eta_3 \neq \sqrt{\eta_1\eta_2} \\ SO(3)\eta_3 & \text{if } \eta_3 = \sqrt{\eta_1\eta_2} \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* Suppose  $\mathbf{D} = \text{diag}(d_1, d_2, d_3) \in \mathcal{E}$ . Then for any  $\mathbf{R} \in SO(3)$  we have  $\mathbf{DR} \in \mathcal{E}$ , and so there exist  $a, b, c$  with  $a > 0, b > 0, ab - c^2 = \eta_1^2\eta_2^2, a + b + |2c| \leq \eta_1^2 + \eta_2^2$  and

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & c & 0 \\ c & b & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \eta_3^2 \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{R} \begin{pmatrix} d_1^2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & d_2^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & d_3^2 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{R}^T.$$

Hence  $d_1 = d_2 = d_3 = \eta_3$  and both sides equal  $\eta_3^2 \mathbf{1}$ , so that we must have  $a = b = \eta_3^2, c = 0$ . Thus  $\eta_3 = \sqrt{\eta_1 \eta_2}$ , when indeed  $2\eta_3^2 + 0 \leq \eta_1^2 + \eta_2^2$ .

(For particular grain geometries and rotations there could be additional zero-energy microstructures.)

Now consider the set

$$\mathcal{E}_{2D} = \bigcap_{\mathbf{R} \in SO(3), \mathbf{R}\mathbf{e}_3 = \pm\mathbf{e}_3} K^{qc}\mathbf{R}.$$

### Theorem

$\mathbf{A} \in \mathcal{E}_{2D}$  iff  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{R}\mathbf{D}\tilde{\mathbf{R}}$ , where  $\mathbf{R}, \tilde{\mathbf{R}} \in SO(3)$ ,  $\tilde{\mathbf{R}}\mathbf{e}_3 = \pm\mathbf{e}_3$ ,

$$\mathbf{D} = \begin{pmatrix} v_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & v_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \eta_3 \end{pmatrix},$$

and  $v_1 > 0, v_2 > 0, v_1v_2 = \eta_1\eta_2, |v_i| \leq \sqrt{\frac{\eta_1^2 + \eta_2^2}{2}}$ .

(See Kohn & Niethammer (2000) and the book of Dolzmann (2003).)

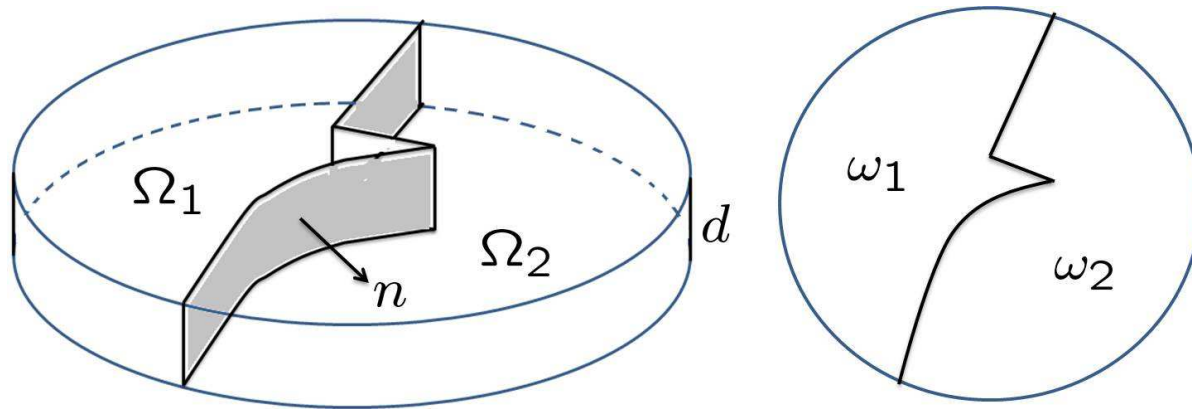
There are nontrivial deformations  $y$  with  $Dy(\mathbf{x}) \in \mathcal{E}_{2D}$  a.e.  $\mathbf{x} \in \Omega$ , such as

$$y(\mathbf{x}) = (\sqrt{\eta_1\eta_2} x_1, \sqrt{\eta_1\eta_2} x_2, \eta_3 x_3) + \varepsilon g(\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{e}^\perp) \mathbf{e},$$

where  $|\mathbf{e}| = |\mathbf{e}^\perp| = 1$ ,  $\mathbf{e}^\perp \cdot \mathbf{e} = \mathbf{e} \cdot \mathbf{e}_3 = 0$ ,  $|g'| \leq M < \infty$  and  $|\varepsilon|$  sufficiently small.

Such deformations nontrivially deform the grain boundaries (it would be interesting to have experimental results on grain boundary deformation resulting from martensitic transformations).

# Zero-energy microstructures for a bicrystal



Energy wells  $K = \text{SO}(3)U_1 \cup \text{SO}(3)U_2$

$U_1 = \text{diag}(\eta_2, \eta_1, \eta_3)$ ,  $U_2 = \text{diag}(\eta_1, \eta_2, \eta_3)$ ,

$\eta_2 > \eta_1 > 0, \eta_3 > 0$

Grain 1

$\Omega_1 = \omega_1 \times (0, d)$

$\text{supp } \nu_x \subset K$  a.e.  $x \in \Omega_1$

Grain 2

$\Omega_2 = \omega_2 \times (0, d)$

$\text{supp } \nu_x \subset K\mathbf{R}(\alpha)$  a.e.  $x \in \Omega_2$

$\mathbf{R}(\alpha)\mathbf{e}_3 = \mathbf{e}_3$

Question: Is it true that every zero-energy microstructure is nontrivial (i.e. not a pure phase  $\nu_{\mathbf{x}} = \delta_{\mathbf{A}}$ ) in each of the grains?

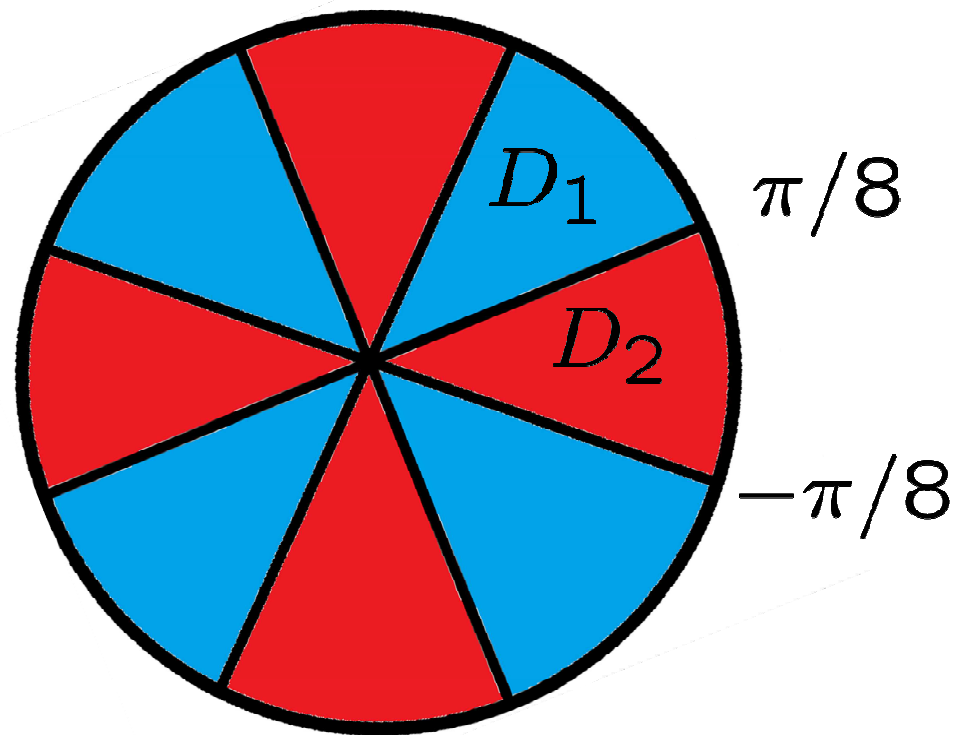
(If the interface between the grains were not vertical, so that it had the form  $x_3 = g(x_1, x_2)$  for some open set of  $(x_1, x_2)$ , we cannot have a pure phase in one of the grains because a short calculation shows that it violates the microstructure being a plane strain in the other grain.)

Result 1. If the interface is *planar* then whatever its normal  $\mathbf{n}$  there always exists a zero-energy microstructure which has a pure phase (i.e.  $\nu_{\mathbf{x}} = \delta_{\mathbf{A}}$ ) in one of the grains.

Therefore the interface needs to be curved in order to show that the microstructure has to be nontrivial. Write the normal to the interface as  $\mathbf{n} = (\cos \theta, \sin \theta, 0)$ .



Result 2. Suppose that  $\alpha = \pi/4$ . Then it is impossible to have a zero-energy microstructure with a pure phase in one of the grains if the boundary between the grains contains a normal with  $\theta \in D_1$  and another normal with  $\theta' \in D_2$ .

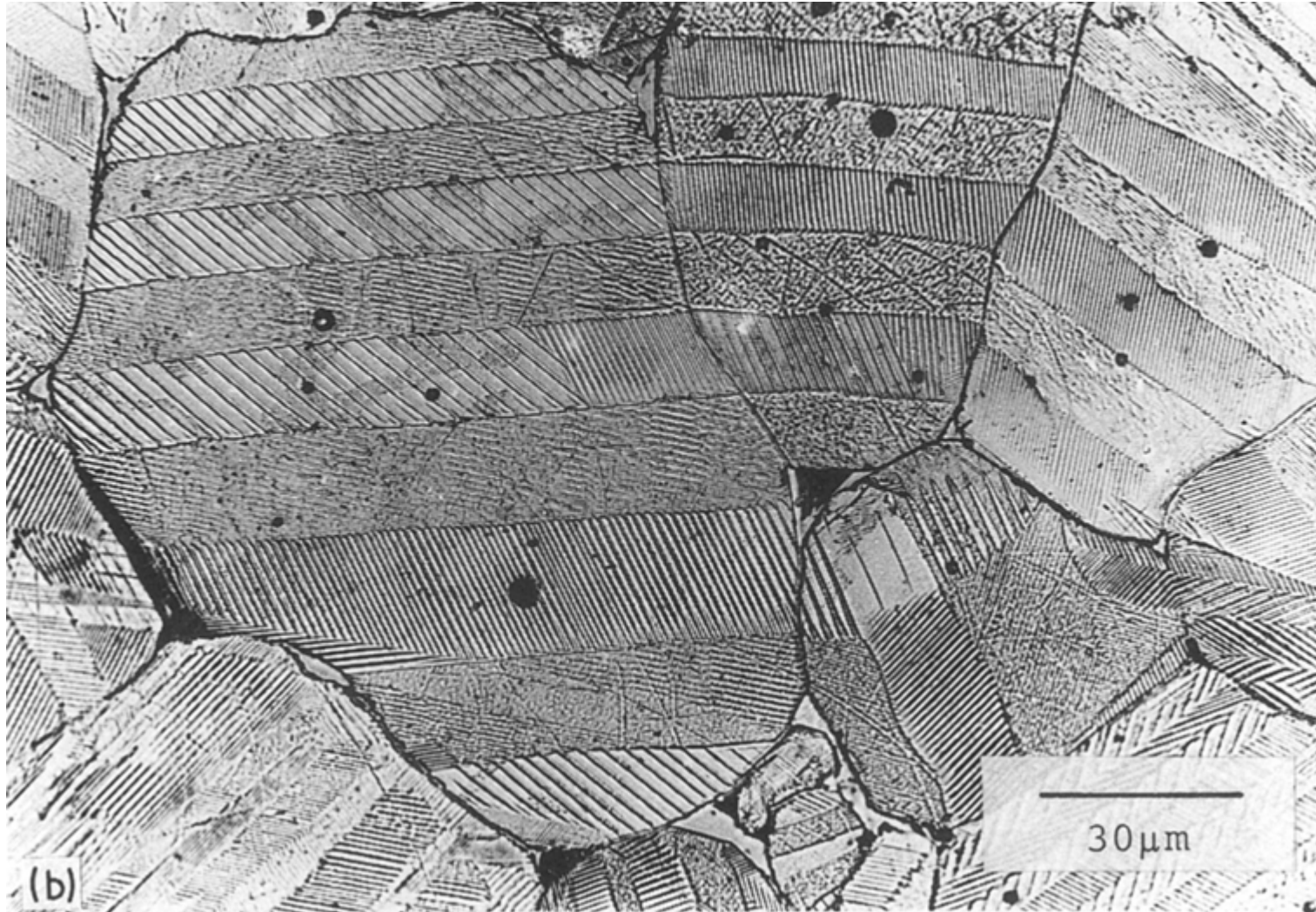


Proofs use:

1. A reduction to 2D using the plane strain result for the two-well problem.
2. The characterization of the quasiconvex hull of two wells.
3. Use of a *generalized Hadamard jump condition* in 2D to show that there has to be a rank-one connection  $\mathbf{b} \otimes \mathbf{N}$  between the polyconvex hulls for each grain.
4. Long and detailed calculations.

For the details see, JB & C. Carstensen, *Interaction of martensitic microstructures in adjacent grains*, ICOMAT 2017 Proceedings.

## Polycrystal microstructures for more than two wells



BaTiO<sub>3</sub> ceramic: G. Arlt, J. Materials Science, 25 (1990) 2655-2666<sub>91</sub>

Consider a cubic-to-tetragonal transformation with

$$K = \bigcup_{i=1}^3 SO(3)U_i,$$

$$U_1 = \text{diag}(\eta_2, \eta_1, \eta_1), \quad U_2 = \text{diag}(\eta_1, \eta_2, \eta_1), \\ U_3 = \text{diag}(\eta_1, \eta_1, \eta_2).$$

## Theorem

$\mathcal{E}$  contains a relatively open neighbourhood of  $(\eta_1^2 \eta_2)^{\frac{1}{3}} SO(3)$  in  $\mathcal{D} := \{A \in GL^+(3, \mathbb{R}) : \det A = \eta_1^2 \eta_2\}$ .

*Proof.*  $\mathcal{E}$  is isotropic and by Dolzmann & Kirchheim (2013)  $K^{\text{qc}}$  contains a relatively open neighbourhood of  $(\eta_1^2 \eta_2)^{\frac{1}{3}} \mathbf{1}$  in  $\mathcal{D}$ .

In fact, if the austenite is cubic and the transformation strain  $\mathbf{U}$  is not a dilatation then  $K^{\text{qc}}$  always contains a nontrivial set of tetragonal wells (c.f. Bhattacharya (1992), B/Koumoulos (2014)) and so  $\mathcal{E}$  contains a relatively open neighbourhood of  $(\det \mathbf{U})^{\frac{1}{3}}SO(3)$  in  $\mathcal{D} := \{\mathbf{A} \in GL^+(3, \mathbb{R}) : \det \mathbf{A} = \det \mathbf{U}\}$ . Hence, for example, we have a nontrivial  $\mathcal{E}$  for cubic to orthorhombic transformations.

A related remark is:

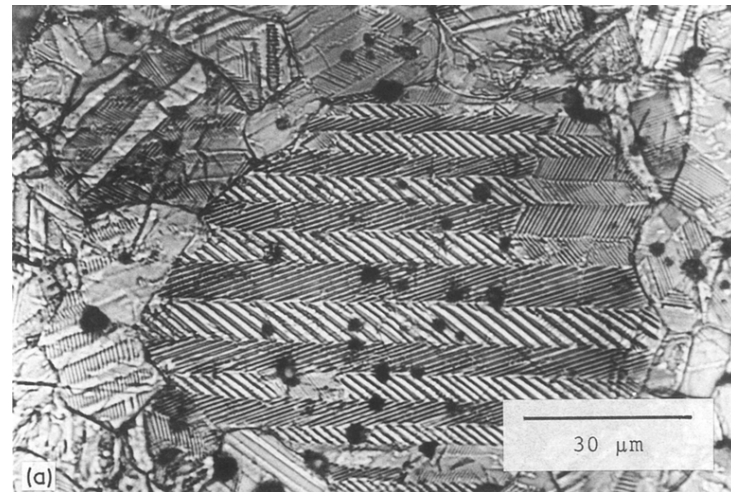
**Theorem** There is no homogeneous gradient Young measure

$$\nu = \sum_{i=1}^4 \lambda_i \delta_{\mathbf{A}_i}, \quad \lambda_i \geq 0, \quad \sum_{i=1}^4 \lambda_i = 1,$$

with  $\mathbf{A}_i \in K$  and  $\bar{\nu} = (\eta_1^2 \eta_2)^{1/3} \mathbf{1}$ .

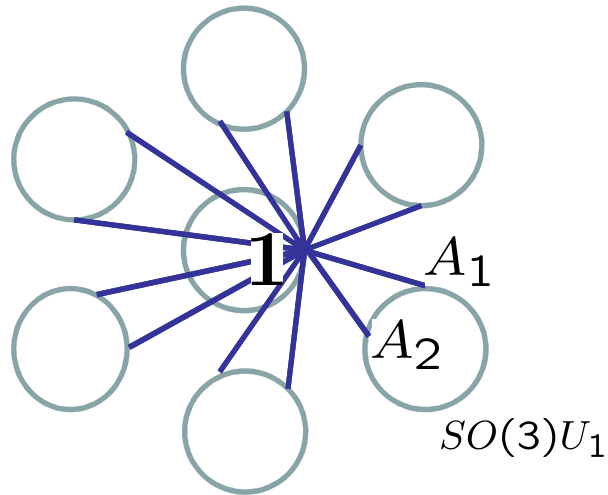
Arlt (1990).

Microstructure with  
approximately four  
gradients in  $\text{BaTiO}_3$ .



Is the apparent conflict with experiment due to ignoring interfacial energy, or because the deformation is not a dilatation on the boundary?

Another issue (c.f. recent work of F. Della Porta) is whether all microstructures with  $\text{supp } \nu_x \subset K^{\text{qc}} \mathbf{R}_i$  for a.e.  $x \in \Omega_i$  are obtainable by a suitable path starting from the austenite.



$\text{Ti}_{76}\text{Nb}_{22}\text{Al}_2$   
(T. Inamura)  
cubic to  
orthorhombic,  
 $\lambda_2 = 1$

$$\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}_i - \mathbf{1}) = 1,$$

$$i = 1, \dots, 12$$

$$\text{rank}(\mathbf{A}_i - \mathbf{A}_j) > 1,$$

$$i \neq j$$

What is  $\{\mathbf{A}_1, \dots, \mathbf{A}_{12}\}^{\text{qc}}$ ?

