# Shearing of a two-phase laminate according to strain gradient and micromorphic plasticity

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#### Laminate microstructure under shear



Aifantis material in the white (soft) phase, purely elastic gray (hard) phase

• Form of the solution for imposed mean shear  $\bar{\gamma}$ 

$$u_1 = \bar{\gamma} x_2, \quad u_2(x_1) = u(x_1), \quad u_3 = 0$$

unknown periodic functions  $u(x_1), p(x_1)$ 

• Deformation gradient and strain

$$[\mathbf{\nabla}\underline{\mathbf{u}}] = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \bar{\gamma} & 0 \\ u_{,1} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \begin{bmatrix}\varepsilon\\ \varepsilon\end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{2}(\bar{\gamma} + u_{,1}) & 0 \\ \frac{1}{2}(\bar{\gamma} + u_{,1}) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Shearing of a laminate for a strain gradient plasticity material

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Shearing of a laminate for a strain gradient plasticity material

Let us consider homogeneous isotropic elasticity and no hardening in the plastic phase for simplicity

- Equilibrium: homogeneous shear stress  $\sigma_{12}$  throughout the laminate
- Displacement in the hard phase

$$\sigma_{12} = \mu(\bar{\gamma} + u_{,1}^h) \implies u_{,1}^h = C, \quad u^h = Cx_1 + D$$

• Plastic strain in the soft phase

$$\dot{\varepsilon}^{p} = \frac{3}{2}\dot{p}\frac{\mathbf{s}}{J_{2}(\boldsymbol{\sigma})}, \quad \dot{\varepsilon}^{p} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\dot{p}(\mathbf{e}_{1}\otimes\mathbf{e}_{2} + \mathbf{e}_{2}\otimes\mathbf{e}_{1})$$

from the yield condition we get

$$\sqrt{3}\sigma_{12} = R_0 - cp_{,11} \Longrightarrow p_{,111} = 0$$

so that the plastic strain is parabolic

$$\rho = \alpha (x_1^2 - \frac{s^2}{4})$$

Shearing of a laminate for a strain gradient plasticity material  $P(\pm s/2)$  7/21

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$$p = \frac{\alpha}{x_1^2 - \frac{s^2}{4}}$$

• Continuity of plastic strain at the interface

 $p(\pm s/2) = 0$ 

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• Displacement in the soft phase

$$\sigma_{12} = \mu(\bar{\gamma} + u_{,1}^s - \sqrt{3}p) \implies u_{,1}^s = C + \sqrt{3}p$$
$$u^s = (C - \alpha\sqrt{3}\frac{s^2}{4})x_1 + \alpha\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}x_1^3$$

#### **Interface conditions**

• Displacement continuity at  $x_1 = \pm s/2$ 

$$u^{s}(\frac{s}{2}) = u^{h}(\frac{s}{2}) \implies -\sqrt{3\alpha}\frac{s^{3}}{12} = D$$

• Displacement periodicity at  $x_1 = -s/2$  and  $x_1 = s/2 + h$ 

$$u^{s}(-\frac{s}{2}) = u^{h}(\frac{s}{2}+h) \implies \sqrt{3}\alpha \frac{s^{3}}{12} = \mathcal{C}\ell + \mathcal{D}$$

• Continuity of the stress vector at  $x_1 = \pm s/2$ 

$$R_0 - 2c\alpha = \mu\sqrt{3}(\bar{\gamma} + \mathbf{C})$$

• The wanted constants are deduced from the previous equations

$$C = \frac{R_0 - \sqrt{3}\mu\bar{\gamma}}{\sqrt{3}\mu + \frac{12cl}{\sqrt{3}s^3}}, \quad D = -C\frac{\ell}{2}, \quad \alpha = -\frac{12}{\sqrt{3}}\frac{D}{s^3}$$

Shearing of a laminate for a strain gradient plasticity material

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Shearing of a laminate for a strain gradient plasticity material

#### Plastic strain profile in the channel



• Characteristic length:  $\ell_c = \sqrt{c/\mu} = 0.4 \ \mu$ m, leading to strong size effects in the micron range and below

#### Plastic strain profile in the channel



The higher order stress b<sub>1</sub> = 2cα experiences a jump at the interface s = ±s/2:

$$b_1(\frac{s^+}{2}) - b_1(\frac{s^-}{2}) = 0 - c\alpha s, \quad [\![b_1]\!](\frac{s}{2}) = -c\alpha s$$

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#### **Overall size effect**

• Macroscopic stress strain relation

$$\frac{\sigma_{12}}{\mu} = \frac{1}{\mu f s^2 + 4c} \left( \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3} f s^2 R_0 + 4c\bar{\gamma} \right)$$

bilinear response depending explicitly on channel size s

Macroscopic stress vs mean plastic strain;

$$\bar{p} = \frac{1}{\ell} \int_{-s/2}^{s/2} p(x_1) \, dx_1 \quad \Longrightarrow \quad \sqrt{3}\bar{p} = f\bar{\gamma} - C(1-f) - f\frac{\sigma_{12}}{\mu}$$

$$\sigma_{12} = \frac{R_0}{\sqrt{3}} + \frac{4\sqrt{3}c}{f^3\ell^2}\bar{p}$$

microstructure—induced linear hardening depending on unit cell size  $\ell$ 

- Limit cases
  - \* thick channels: size independent threshold  $\sigma_{12} = R_0/\sqrt{3}$
  - $\star$  thin films: scaling law  $\sigma_{12}/\bar{p} \sim 1/\ell^2$

#### Shearing of a laminate for a strain gradient plasticity material

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$$R_2 = \frac{4\sqrt{3}c}{4}$$

$$\sigma_{12} = \frac{R_0}{\sqrt{3}} + \frac{4\sqrt{3}c}{f^3\ell^2}\bar{p}$$

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#### Laminate microstructure under shear

Unit cell of a periodic two-phase laminate  $\ell = s + h$   $0 \rightarrow 1$  $s \rightarrow h$ 

Micromorphic material in the white (soft) phase, purely elastic micromorphic gray (hard) phase

• Form of the solution for impose mean shear  $\bar{\gamma}$ 

$$u_1 = \bar{\gamma} x_2, \ u_2(x_1) = u(x_1), \ u_3 = 0$$

unknown periodic functions  $u(x_1), p(x_1), p_{\chi}(x_1)$ 

• Deformation gradient and strain

$$[\mathbf{\nabla}\underline{\mathbf{u}}] = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \bar{\gamma} & 0\\ u_{,1} & 0 & 0\\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad [\varepsilon] = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{2}(\bar{\gamma} + u_{,1}) & 0\\ \frac{1}{2}(\bar{\gamma} + u_{,1}) & 0 & 0\\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Shearing of a laminate for a micromorphic material

Let us consider homogeneous isotropic elasticity, homogeneous  $H_{\!\chi}$  and no hardening in the plastic phase for simplicity

• The shear stress is uniform throughout the laminate and takes the value

$$\sqrt{3}\sigma_{12} = R_0 + R = R_0 + H_{\chi}(p - p_{\chi}) = R_0 - Ap_{\chi,11}$$

 Derivation of the previous equations with respect to x<sub>1</sub> shows that p<sub>χ,111</sub> = 0 which leads to the parabolic profile of the micro-plastic deformation in the soft phase

$$p_{\chi}(x) = \frac{\alpha x^2 + \beta}{2}, \quad \forall |x| \leq \frac{s}{2}$$

Note that

$$\sqrt{3}\sigma_{12} = R_0 - 2A\alpha$$

• The parabolic plastic strain profile follows

$$p = \frac{\alpha x^2 + \beta}{H_{\chi}} - \frac{2A}{H_{\chi}} \alpha$$

A new feature of the model is that the microplastic strain  $p_{\chi}$  does not vanish in general in the hard phase, whereas p does:

$$p_{\chi} - \frac{A^h}{H_{\chi}} \Delta p_{\chi} = 0$$

$$p_{\chi}^{h} = \frac{\alpha_{h}}{\cosh \omega_{h}} (x - \frac{l}{2}), \quad \frac{s}{2} \le x \le \frac{s}{2} + h, \quad \text{with} \quad \omega_{h}^{2} = \frac{H_{\chi}}{A_{h}}$$

the  $p_{\chi}^{h}$  profile is of hyperbolic nature

#### **Interface conditions**

• Continuity of micro-plastic deformation at x = s/2:

$$\alpha \frac{s^2}{4} + \beta = \alpha_h \cosh \omega_h \frac{h}{2}$$

• Continuity of the generalized stress component *b*<sub>1</sub>:

$$A\alpha s = -A_h \alpha_h \omega_h \sinh \omega_h \frac{h}{2}$$

#### **Interface conditions**

The displacement in the plastic and elastic phases can be expressed as

$$u^{s} = \alpha \frac{x^{3}}{\sqrt{3}} + \left(\sqrt{3}\beta - \bar{\gamma} + \frac{R_{0}}{\sqrt{3}\mu} - 2A\alpha(\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}\mu} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{H_{\chi}})\right) \times u^{h} = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}\mu}(R_{0} - 2A\alpha) - \bar{\gamma}\right) \times + C$$

They are used to exploit two additional interface conditions

 Continuity of the displacement at x = s/2: u<sup>s</sup>(s/2) = u<sup>h</sup>(s/2)

$$lpha rac{s^3}{8\sqrt{3}\mu} + \sqrt{3}(eta - rac{2Alpha}{H_\chi})rac{s}{2} = C$$

• Periodicity of the displacement component  $u^{s}(-s/2) = u^{h}(s/2 + h)$ 

$$-(\frac{\sigma_{12}}{\mu}-\bar{\gamma})\ell+\sqrt{3}(\frac{\beta}{\mu}+\frac{2A\alpha}{H_{\chi}})\frac{s}{2}-\alpha\frac{s^{3}}{8\sqrt{3}}=C$$

#### Plastic strain profiles in the channel



$\mu$ (MPa)	$R_0~({ m MPa})$	$H_\chi$ (MPa)	A (MPa.mm <sup>2</sup> )	f	$\ell$ ( $\mu$ m)	$ar{\gamma}$
30000	20	50000	0.005	0.7	10	0.01

#### **Overall size effect**

The scaling law results from the expression of the overall stress  $\sigma_{12}$  as a function of the mean plastic strain over the unit cell:

$$\bar{p} = \frac{1}{\ell} \int_{-\frac{s}{2}}^{\frac{s}{2}} (\alpha x^2 + \beta - \frac{2A\alpha}{H_{\chi}}) dx = \beta f \left( 1 - \frac{1}{L^2} \left( \frac{s^2}{12} - \frac{2A}{H_{\chi}} \right) \right)$$

with  $L^2 = \frac{s^2}{4} + \frac{A}{A_h} \frac{s}{\omega_h} \operatorname{cotanh}(\omega_h \frac{h}{2}) = -\frac{\beta}{\alpha}$ . The uniform stress component can now be expressed as a function of the volume fraction f of the soft phase and of the unit cell size I:

$$\sqrt{3}\sigma_{12} = R_0 + \frac{2A}{f} \frac{\bar{p}}{\frac{f^2\ell^2}{6} + \frac{2A}{H_{\chi}} + \frac{A}{A_h} \frac{f\ell}{\omega_h} \operatorname{cotanh}\left(\omega_h \frac{h}{2}\right)}$$

displaying a size-dependent overall linear hardening

#### **Scaling laws**

Two limit cases naturally arise

- Internal constraint  $H_{\chi} \to \infty$  for which the strain gradient plasticity model is retrieved
- Unit cell size  $\ell \to 0$  leads to saturation stress

$$\sqrt{3}\sigma_{12} - R_0 \sim H_\chi \frac{1-f}{f}\bar{p}$$



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