MECANISMES ACTIFS DANS LE SEL GEMME : QUANTIFICATIONS EXPERIMENTALES POUR UNE MODELISATION PERTINENTE

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Why do we want to study the plastic behavior of rock salt ?

Importance of NaCl From Geology and in-situ problems

Creep of salt Glacier



Landsat image of two salt glaciers that formed when salt domes erupted from the flanks of mountains in the Zagros fold belt of Iran. The salt glacier on the left is flowing south. The one on the right is flowing north. Each glacier is about four miles long from head to toe.

Stability of salt cavities



Sinkhole linked to solution related subsidence in salt

То

Fundamental studies

Salt as an ionic crystal

- Plasticity of Polycrystalline Ionic Solids (Skrotzki et al., 1981, phys. stat. sol.)
- Dislocations in Ionic Crystals (Castaing, 1980, j. phys.)
- Dissociation of Dislocations and Plasticity of Ionic Crystals (Haasen, 1974, j. phys.)

Salt as laboratory analog material

- Temperature dependent grain boundary migration in deformed-then-annealed material: Observations from experimentally deformed synthetic rocksalt (Piazolo et al., 2006, tectonophys.)
- Influence of crystal plastic deformation on dilatancy and permeability development in synthetic salt rock (Peach & Spiers, 1995, tectonophys.)

Salt as a multipurpose storage medium

• Cyclic loading, small loads, temperature effects, creep, plasticity, damage

Motivation – Introduction to the material and its observation

New importance of Salt for storage in natural or man-made cavities

Energy storage (compressed air)



From www.reuk.co.uk/Storing-Wind-Power-with-Compressed-Air.htm

Nuclear Waste (in salt mine)



Size example of manmade cavity



What new developments have taken place since the plasticity studies of the 1980's ?

- Multiscale mechanical testing with continuous observations
 - Optical or Scanning Electron Microscopy
- 3D imaging techniques
 - absorption or diffraction,
 - synchrotron or lab tomograph
- Finite element computations accounting for 3D structures
 - Crystal plasticity (CPFEM) and more

Is salt a "good material" ?

Yes

- Available, and cheap;
- Relatively easy to synthetize and prepare;
- Control of microstructures (grain sizes, texture);
- Crystalline material (cubic symmetry) : electron and Xray diffraction;
- Mechanical properties : ultimate strain, ultimate strength, strain rates, temperatures; *But nothing is perfect ...*

Digital Image Correlation Techniques

The material

Synthetized by HIP + Annealing, starting with a pure and fine NaCl powder





Equilibrated structure, almost straight GBs **Surface marking by paint droplets** *mm scale*



For 3D studies :

same HIP technique + mixing of 2% fine copper powder

SEM 2D images



μCT 3D images





For small grained material (50 to 80 μ M), copper particles maybe inside the grains or at GBs Annealing to grow large gains => Cu particles tend to migrate to GBs

Synthetic halite (50-300µm) + <u>copper particles (5 to 20µm) at grain</u> boundaries

NaCl Single Crystal

NaCl is a lonic Crystal made of the two Cubic Lattices of Na⁺ and Cl⁻
Instead of a single family of glide systems like fcc metals {111} <110>
3 families have been identified

- \$ {110} <110> 6 systems but only 3 independent ones (dodecahedric)
- [111] <110> 12 systems (octahedric)
- •{001} <110> 6 systems (cubic)

Total: 6 directions 13 planes





NaCl Single Crystal

Test of 4 orientations in uniaxial compression



NaCl Single Crystal



Initial Critical Shears are such that: At 20°C not enough "easy" systems available

What consequence for the polycrystal?



Uniaxial compression of NaCl polycrystalline sample at 20°C and 300°C in a SEM





« In-situ » SEM - FFM - DIC



Large grains (200 - 500 μ m) Strain rate = ~ 10⁻⁴s⁻¹



10 % strain locallizes at interfaces.



Illustration of CSP and GBS









Using masks, one may evaluatet

$$\underline{\Delta F} = \frac{1}{|\Omega|} \int_{W} (\underline{u}^{\text{extra}} - \underline{u}^{\text{intra}}) \otimes \underline{n} dl$$



Intragranular Inter+Intragranulat Component of displacement gradient



compression

Average compressive strain is 2%. Local gauge length is 8μm.

local strain map from SEM observations: Second invariant of in-plane strain tensor

Dominant crystal slip plasticity (CSP) and Minor grain boundary sliding (GBS)



Room temperature

Almost linear hardening Not enough "easy glide" systems $(\tau^{\{100\}} \gg \tau^{\{110\}})$ Constant ratio GBS/CSP

0.012 0.014 0.016

0.018

0.02

GBS11 is 2.5 % of macroscopic deformation 11



GBS22 is 6% of macroscopic deformation 22



Two-stage hardening Two regimes with different ratios Hardening effects may favor activation of more slip systems



=> Importance of the identification of the active slip planes

What information do we have ?



DIC Strain field: lines // to slip plane traces





Slip plane traces in the deformed state



Sometimes the identification can be made ...

... When in doubt or need of confirmation : a kinematic approach is not enough and additional assumptions have to be made to estimate the local stress state and then identify the systems with highest Schmid factors

• "Soft approach" :

test Taylor, Sachs or relaxed Taylor hypotheses on a grain or a small group of grains to get their reorientation and Schmid factors (use simplified version of codes developed by P. van Houtte , L. Delanney)

Input : orientation Plastic strain tensor shape (imposed or relaxed terms) Strain increments

Output: Final orientation Schmid factors Activated slip systems Slip plane traces

Planes and systems are identified by an approach based on taylor or sachs assumtions



Red : planes observed on the SEM image (and also on DIC strain maps) Black: planes observed only on DIC strain maps Yellow: local slip lines mostly near Grain Boundaries Note:

- Activation of {110} and {111} planes
- GBS at triple junction between 3 « non compatible » grains

• "Hard approach" : use CPFEM code

But many hypotheses as well : choice of RVE, choice of 3D extension (extrusion?), choice of BC, hardening rules

(ABAQUS + crystal plasticity UMAT)

For instance : Let us apply CP FEM near the triple point

- Extrusion as 3D extension
- Uniaxial compression (horizontal axis)
- Initial critical shears $\frac{\tau_{\{111\}}}{\tau_{\{110\}}} = 3$ and $\frac{\tau_{\{100\}}}{\tau_{\{110\}}} = 4.5$
- Simple hardening rule
- 27 noded quadratic elements







Axial strain

More axial strain in grain 1 Strain concentration near grain boundary 1-3



Axial stress

Stress lower in grain 1 Grain boundary effect near bottom (stress concentration) Grain 3 sustains higher axial stress



Shear strain

How does this relate to crystal plasticity ?

Let us look at grain orientations and Schmid factors



CMV computed equivalent strain

Assuming uniaxial compression for the evaluation of the Schmid factors (SF)

In grain 1 (-110)[110] and (110)[-110] SF=0.25 (-111)[110] SF=0.45 (100)[0-11] SF= 0.47

$$\frac{SF_{\{111\}}}{SF_{\{110\}}} = 1.8 < 3 \text{ and } \frac{SF_{\{100\}}}{SF_{\{110\}}} = 1.9 < 4.5$$



Glide is found as expected on (110)[-110] and (-110)[110]

(2 conjugate dodecahedral systems)

Slip γ on dodecahedral system



CMV computed equivalent strain

In grain 2 {110}<110> SF <0.02 (-111)[0-11] and (1-11)[-101] SF = 0.28 (001)[110] SF = 0.48 and (010)[-101] SF= 0.47

$$\frac{SF_{\{111\}}}{SF_{\{110\}}} = 14 > 3 \text{ and } \frac{SF_{\{100\}}}{SF_{\{110\}}} = 24 > 4.5$$

Even at room temperature the cubic glide may be expected



Here we find glide on (010)[-101] (SF=0.47) which may correspond to the observed trace



CMV computed equivalent strain

Or grain 3 (011)[0-11] and (0-11)[011] SF=0.15 (-111)[0-11] SF = 0.36 (010)[101] SF=0.5 (100)[0-11] SF=0.43

$$\frac{SF_{\{111\}}}{SF_{\{110\}}} = 2.4 < 3 \text{ and } \frac{SF_{(010)}}{SF_{\{110\}}} = 3.3 < 4.5$$

The grain is poorly oriented for easy glide, but shows some local activations



cubic glide (100)[0-11]



Can we make the link between surface and volume observations ?

-> Test and observe same sample by XCRT and SEM

Complex procedure involving transfer of sample between synchrotron line and SEM !

Technical difficulties : sample has to have volume markers (Cu particles), precision for the 3D reconstruction has to be good, alteration by Xray irradiation should be addressed, still too many grains for identifying the orientations in the volume (DCT)

Sample preparation





3D investigations



Mechanical loading device for uniaxial compression test



Room temperature





Cross section through CT volume of polycristalline halite with additional copper markers



Irradiation point defects





Pur synthetic halite

CFMR 2015

Synthetic halite + copper particle

Synchrotron radiation damages the material: appearance of point defects (Farbe Zentrum) Experimental sequence: Initial XRCT scan, Heat treatment, Mechanical loadingunloading cycle step1, Scan, Heat treatment, ...



3D investigations

cycle 1 -1,0525% cycle 2 -2,7307% cycle 3 -5,0205 cycle 4 -9,0831

Strain computed by 2D DIC over ROI

29x30x48 points step 40 voxels, correlation 40x40x40 with subvoxel optimization 1voxel=3,5µm

Cycle 1 -1,0525%





Next step : DIC between end of step 1 and end of step 2 : Final strain Cycle1 -1,0525% and Cycle2 -2,7307% (2D DIC)

Volume= 2.65620E+09 ****** Average strain ******		
EPXX= 7.92053E-03	EPXY=-1.57482E-04	EPXZ= 1.24274E-03
EPXY=-1.57482E-04	EPYY= 7.56926E-03	EPYZ= 4.54490E-05
EPXZ= 1.24274E-03	EPYZ= 4.54490E-05	EPZZ=-1.62257E-02





3D investigations

Strain field comparison 2D-3D end of step 1





Deviatoric component



Volumic strain

3D investigations

Strain field comparison 2D-3D: step 2 wrt step1



Volume= 2.65620E+09 ****** Deformation moyenne ****** EPXX= 7.92053E-03 EPXY=-1.57482E-04 EPXZ= 1.24274E-03 EPXY=-1.57482E-04 EPYY= 7.56926E-03 EPYZ= 4.54490E-05 EPXZ= 1.24274E-03 EPYZ= 4.54490E-05 EPZZ=-1.62257E-02



Cycle1 -1,0525% VS cycle2 -2,7307%



GBO observed from the beginning of the test

Vertical cross section through the sample

Horizontal cross section through the sample

Main Results

- Evidence of two deformation mechanisms at both 20°C and 300°C
- Quantification of GBS and CSP
- Identification by observation and simple mechanical assumption of active slip systems
- Correlation between 2d and 3D observations
- Development of many techniques that may be used for other materials

Perspectives

- Complete 3D analysis (and comparison with 2D)
 - Including orientations in volume (DCT)
- Modelling real multicrystals, not only with classical CP-FEM but
- Include a grain boundary mechanism :

Damage, cohesive zone ... or at low strain rates solution transfer.