

Curious rise in peak profile asymmetry during unloading in cyclic deformation

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Plastic deformation causes internal stresses within deformation structures. The development of such internal stresses even in single crystals of pure metals were discovered by X-ray diffraction through asymmetric peak broadening [1]. A monotonous relation between asymmetry and internal stresses is commonly taken for granted. During cyclic deformation in tension and compression, the sign of both, asymmetry and internal stresses, reverses repeatedly as confirmed by investigations after unloading [2]. Following cyclic deformation in tension and compression in-situ in aluminium without intermediate unloading by X-ray diffraction using high resolution reciprocal space mapping reveals a more complicated behavior: the absolute amount of asymmetry increases during unloading as well as elastic reloading and decreases first when plastic yielding occurs in the opposite direction. Such an increasing asymmetry, indicating an apparent increase in internal stresses, opposes the general assumption of frozen-in internal stresses during elastic deformation. The counter-intuitive finding sheds new light on the relation between asymmetry and internal stresses; its consequences for the interpretation of asymmetries are discussed.

Keywords: Cyclic deformation, deformation structure, internal stresses, X-ray diffraction, asymmetric profiles.

References:

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