An overview of ExaConstit and its use in the ExaAM project

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Outline

- Motivation and overview of project
- Overview of ExaConstit
 - FEM formulation
- Overview of GPU Porting Efforts
 - Element assembly formulation
 - Exascale readiness of ExaConstit
- Overview of local property calculation workflow
- ExaConstit's use in other areas
- Conclusion/On-going work



Motivation

- AM produces as-built metals that are characteristically quite different from typical manufacturing processes in both the microstructure and mechanical response [2]
- Want to couple the microstructure development and the local macroscopic properties
 - Can be accomplished through crystal plasticity models that utilize finite elements







Microstructure of an AM part at 2 different locations (Left and Middle) [3] and a traditional manufacturing microstructure [4]



[2] C. Bronkhorst *et al* 2019 *Int. J. Plasticity.* **118** 70-86, [3] *NIST* AMB2018-01-625-CBM-B2-P1-L7-TRANS-MS-EBSD, [4] *J Alloys Compd* **volume 472**, **issue 1-2**, pages 127-132 (2009)



ExaAM focus (blue) fits within a larger modeling and design optimization context

A full ExaAM simulation consists of five stages



A full ExaAM simulation consists of five stages



Overview of ExaConstit

- A new nonlinear quasi-static, implicit FEM solid mechanics code built on the MFEM library
 - Development began in 2018 for ExaAM project
 - Updated Lagrangian formulation (velocity based)
 - Natively supports a wide range of element types
 - Supports complex parts and non-trivial/changing Dirichlet BCs
 - Available at https://github.com/LLNL/ExaConstit



Overview of ExaConstit

- Designed with exascale computers in mind but performant even on desktop machines
- New features, workflows, and post-processing tools are constantly being added
- Bread and butter is crystal plasticity type problems
 - Crystal plasticity models are provided through ExaCMech library
 - ExaCMech is available at https://github.com/LLNL/ExaCMech
 - Models can be upwards of 75-90x faster than Abaqus UMAT runs
 - Users can also run UMAT problems as well
 - UMAT framework enables us to run a wide range of industry and research models



Model Overview

- A large strain single crystal elasto-viscoplastic model is being used
 - Small deviatoric elastic strain assumption is made







Model Overview



$$\mathbf{L} = \dot{\mathbf{V}}^{e} \mathbf{V}^{e-1} + \mathbf{V}^{e} \hat{\mathbf{L}}^{p} \mathbf{V}^{e-1}$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{L}}^{p} = \dot{\mathbf{R}}^{*} \mathbf{R}^{*T} + \mathbf{R}^{*} \dot{\mathbf{F}}^{p} \mathbf{F}^{p-1} \mathbf{R}^{*T}$$
$$\bar{\mathbf{L}}^{p} = \dot{\mathbf{F}}^{p} \mathbf{F}^{p-1} \qquad \bar{\mathbf{L}}^{p} = \sum_{\alpha=1}^{\infty} \dot{\gamma}^{\alpha} \bar{\mathbf{s}}^{\alpha} \otimes \bar{\mathbf{m}}^{\alpha}$$
$$\dot{\gamma} = \dot{\gamma}_{0} \left(\frac{\tau^{\alpha}}{g^{\alpha}}\right)^{\frac{1}{m}} \operatorname{sgn}(\tau^{\alpha})$$



Model Overview





FEM Formulation

- We're solving for the conservation of linear momentum using a Newton Raphson scheme
 - Our finite element formulation takes on a form very similar to linear elasticity
 - We make use of an updated Lagrangian formulation here

 $[K_{tan}]\{-\Delta \mathbf{V}\} = \{f_{int}\}\$

$$[K_{tan}] = \int_{\Omega} [\mathbf{B}]^{\mathrm{T}} [\mathbf{C}^{\sigma\tau}] [\mathbf{B}] d\Omega \qquad [\mathbf{C}^{\sigma\tau}] = \frac{\mathrm{d}\sigma}{\mathrm{d}d}$$
$$\{\mathbf{V}\}^{i+1} = \{\mathbf{V}\}^{i} + \{\Delta\mathbf{V}\}$$
$$\{f_{int}\} = \int_{\Omega} [\mathbf{B}]^{\mathrm{T}} \{\sigma\} d\Omega \qquad \{\mathbf{x}\}^{t+\Delta t} = \{\mathbf{x}\}^{t} + \Delta t \{\mathbf{V}\}^{i+1}$$

Note: This formulation uses the velocity rather than the typical displacement



Transitioning over to the GPU: Separate Material Model and FEM code

- ExaConstit originally had the material model calculation tied in with the linearized RHS calculation and compute stiffness matrix
 - This strategy does not scale well as different assembly operations are added
- Refactored code into a set-up phase, pre-processing step before assembly, RHS calculations, and gradient calculation / operation



Set-up phase

- Calculate necessary parameters to use within our material model
 - Pre-processing stage for material kernel
- Material kernel stage
- Post-processing material kernel stage
 - Perform what-ever steps are necessary for material kernel's data to be used by the rest of the code
- MFEM_FORALL loops are used for pre & post processing steps
- Material model uses its own parallelization strategy



An Element Assembly Formulation

- We're making use of efficient formulations developed back in the 80s [5]
- $\{f_{int}\}$ is just calculated using partial assembly formulation
- This formulation allows us an efficient way to compute sub-blocks of $[K_{tan}]$
 - Could further specialize this for tensor-type elements for further performance gains

$$[K_{tan}] = \int_{\Omega} [\mathbf{B}]^{\mathrm{T}} [\mathbf{C}^{\boldsymbol{\sigma\tau}}] [\mathbf{B}] d\Omega$$
$$[K_{tan}] = \int_{\Omega} [\mathbf{b_1} \mathbf{b_2} \dots \mathbf{b_N}]^T [\mathbf{C}^{\boldsymbol{\sigma\tau}}] [\mathbf{b_1} \mathbf{b_2} \dots \mathbf{b_N}] d\Omega$$
$$[\mathbf{b_1} \mathbf{b_2} \dots \mathbf{b_N}] = [\mathbf{B}]$$

$$\{f_{int}\} = \int_{\Omega} [\mathbf{B}]^{\mathrm{T}} \{\boldsymbol{\sigma}\} d\Omega$$
$$\det(J) w_{apt} \nabla_{ij} \phi_{\varepsilon}^{\mathrm{T}} J_{ik}^{-T} \sigma_{k}$$



Incompressible Material Support within ExaConstit

- An initial integration formulation for incompressible has been implemented
 - Based on the work presented in [6]
 - New integrators are not as simple to port over to the element assembly formulation
- This formulation brings linear hexahedron response much more in line with response from higher order elements
 - Runtime is comparable to full integration approach





Contains a mean

Exascale Readiness Status: ExaConstit

Summit performance

- 15x speed-up with GPU implementation over CPU
- GPU strong and weak scaling for most performant assembly method (element assembly)
- Poor strong and weak scaling is due to start-up cost of reading in the mesh and partitioning it
 - Recent work-in-progress within MFEM is expected to drastically improve this area (Thanks Veselin!)
- Ported ExaCMech over to HIP this past year
 - ExaConstit port will follow this year





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Computational shifts between GPU and Host Runs

Summit performance

- How do computational costs shift when moving from CPU to GPU?
 - Looking at a 450k element mesh run with Caliper
- Krylov solver still dominates run time
- What's going on with the MPI calls?
 - MPI is taking up a larger % of our runtime now
 - Partially due to issues with MPI D2D calls not being as performant as possible
 - MPI times are 40% less on the GPU though
- Improvements could be made by looking at communication hiding Krylov solvers

CPU Kernel Name	Time % (total)
Krylov Solver	84.534
Material Model	7.091
MPI Calls	6.778
Element Assembly	0.577
Simulation Initialization	0.295
Material Model Setup	0.283
Integrator Setup	0.137
Total	99.69

GPU Kernel Name	Time % (total)
Krylov Solver	55.16
MPI Calls	18.83
Element Assembly	15.80
Material Model	6.28
Simulation Initialization	1.39
Integrator Setup	0.93
Main Driver	0.88
Assemble Diagonal	0.47
Post-processing step	0.14
Total	99.87



Stage 3: Micromechanical properties (ExaConstit)

- We now have a performant code but what do we need that for?
- ExaAM requires local property to be calculated from microstructures obtained through out an AM part
- Local properties are calculated by running tons of crystal plasticity simulations under varying loading conditions and temperatures
 - Simply running 1 simulation per microstructure is not adequate for AM parts
 - Complex macroscopic models are needed for part scale simulations (not computed by ExaConstit)

AMB2018-01 L8 microstructure generated by ExaCA 0.5³ mm domain, 3475 grains



Localization of plastic strain is non-trivial for these complex AM microstructures - What is an appropriate RVE?
Hydrostatic stress is commonly used to drive porosity models - How can we appropriately homogenize?



Representative Volume Element for Macroscopic Calculations

- Microstructure was obtained from a cellular automata simulation based on scan paths of the NIST AM benchmark problem AMB2018-01. Thermal histories provided by either TruchasPBF or OpenFOAM simulations of the scan path
 - Inconel 625 material
 - Voce hardening model parameterized against AFRL MIDAS challenge 3 data [7]
 - Scan pattern mimics one of the larger legs of the AMB2018-01
 - Microstructure used is away from edge boundaries
 - 500³ microns sample with 300³ voxel size





Domain Size Microstructures

- Microstructures are all taken from the middle of the initial 500³ microns sample
- Microstructures have dimensions: 500³ microns, 333.3³ microns, and 166.7³ microns
 - 27, 8, and 1 million linear hexahedron elements respectively
- Uniaxial tension tests out to 5% were taken on these samples
 - Symmetry boundary conditions were applied to all samples
 - Large strains are not of great interest to our AM applications







Macroscopic Stress Strain Response

- The medium cube was below 5% error for the entire loading history
 - Error continues to grow as sample enters fully developed plastic flow
- The small cube started around 6% error and continued to grow as simulation progressed
- Differences in responses was largely driven by differences in crystallographic texture
 - Follows historical trends already observed





Orientation distribution plots of large, medium, and small cube



Macroscopic stress strain curves for different size microstructures

A Need for Mesh Coarsening

- Cellular Automata simulations produce microstructures with fine voxel sizes (1.667 microns)
 - Results in large number of elements for our simulations
 - 500³ micron sample had 27 million elements
 - Similar issues could come from either near-field high energy x-ray diffraction (nf-HEXD) or 3D-serial sectioned EBSD mapped microstructures
- Coarsening voxel data set reduces this issue
 - But what effects does this have on property calculations and intragrain heterogeneity responses?
- We're examining four levels of coarsening
 - Coarsen large microstructure 2, 3, 4, and 6 levels
 - Levels refer here to number of neighbor voxels averaged into 1 voxel in coarser mesh



Macroscopic Stress-Strain Response

- Uniaxial tension tests out to 5% were taken
 on these samples
 - Symmetry boundary conditions were applied to all samples
- Stress-strain responses differed by at most 3% from the original mesh for all cases
- Crystallographic texture driving similarities in response
 - Voce hardening model lacks size dependence which could affect the trends seen here



Macroscopic stress strain curves for different size microstructures



Why an anisotropic yield surface?

- If you're dealing with a strongly textured material a J2-type model probably isn't going to cut it
 - Rolling process to create sheet metal is well known for creating a textured materials that have orthotropic like behavior
- As-built AM materials can develop strong textures in the build direction
 - Post-build heat treatments and manufacturing processes such as HIP (high isostatic pressure) can reduce this issue
- Examine how varying the anisotropic properties of the material affects desired performance of a part



Yield surface comparison in the π -plane for 2090-T4 Al parameterization given in [9,10]



Barlat Yield Surface Model (Yld2004-18p)

- Barlat and his associates have created several yield surfaces over the year to improve modelling of manufacturing processes
 - Sheet metal processes was one of the largest drivers in this process
- The Yld2004-18p model is one of his more famous ones
 - 18 parameter model that's largely orthotropic with some out of plane behavior
 - Nice properties in that it can reduce to several famous models such as J2, Hill, and Tresca yield surface model
 - As of end of 2021, we have this implemented in one of LLNL's inhouse material library
 - An open-source version will be coming to ExaCMech within a year or so



Implementation into an AM workflow

- Barlat model has traditionally been parameterized using experimental data
 - Data is not always easy to obtain nor cheap but simulations are "cheap"
 - Crystal plasticity simulations to the rescue
- ExaConstit is going to drive our simulations along with some workflow tools and python
 - Workflow tools will eventually be released as part of ExaConstit repo (contact if interested in them)
- Microstructure provided by an outside code, ExaCA
- Simple SciPy optimization function used to reduce error between the yield function predicted by Barlat model and outputted simulation response
 - Certain load conditions also make use of r-factor



Microstructure of interest (L8 leg down below*)





We are collaborating with the ExaWorks team to enable execution of ExaAM workflow on Exascale platforms.

• Flux-based implementation of ExaCA-ExaConstit workflow resulted in a 2x improvement



Repeat for each new RVE

Preprocessing Step

- Python CLI script takes in a microstructure, generates a mesh, and creates a test matrix
 - Provided multiple temperatures and their corresponding property files
 - Can coarsen microstructure if needed
 - Test matrix generated will be later slurped up by job generation script

```
python3 ./exaconstit_cli_preprocessing.py -ifdir ./ -ifile exaca.csv -ofdir ./output_dir/ -runame
super_cool_microstructure -c 1 -mg -mgdir ./ -t 298.0 -fprops ./props_cp_voce_in625.txt -nprops 17 -fstate
./state_cp_voce.txt -nstates 24
```

```
if (args.mesh generator):
                                                                                          data = {"rve_unique_name" : rve_name, "ori_file_name" : ori_file_name, "ngrains" : grain_num, "tempk" : temperature,
                                                                                                  "prop_file_loc" : lprop_file, "nprops" : nprop, "state_file_loc" : lstate_file, "nstates" : nstate,
                                                                                                  "ess_id_array" : lessential_ids, "ess_comp_array" : lessential_comps, "ess_vals_array" : lessential_vals,
    with cd(fdiro):
                                                                                                  "loading_name" : lloading_name, "mesh_file_loc" : mesh_file}
        result = subprocess.run('pwd', stdout=subprocess.PIPE)
        pwd = result.stdout.decode('utf-8')
                                                                                          df = pd.DataFrame(data)
    with cd(args.mesh_generator_dir):
                                                                                          df.to csv(fdiro+'/'+fout+'_test_matrix.csv')
        cmd = './mesh_generator'
        args = '-nx' + str(dnx) + '-ny' + str(dny) + '-nz' + str(dnx)
                                                                                                                 Test matrix creation
        args = args + ' - lx ' + str(lx) + ' - ly ' + str(ly) + ' - lz ' + str(lz)
        args = args + ' -grain ' + pwd.strip() + '/' +gr out
        args = args + ' -o ' + pwd.strip() +'/' + fout + '.mesh'
        args = args + ' -ord 1 -auto_mesh'
        cmd = cmd + ' ' + args
        print(cmd)
        result = subprocess.run(cmd, stdout=subprocess.PIPE, shell=True)
```

```
mesh_file_loc = pwd.strip() + '/' + fout + '.mesh'
```

Mesh generation code

Job Generation Step

- Python CLI script takes in a test matrix, master option file, and a job submission file
 - Each simulation gets a unique job directory that has symlinks to original shared data
 - Master option file has regex searchable expressions in it that are replaced with test matrix values
 - Supports LSF or Flux job submission systems
 - Flux only required an additional 5 lines of code...
 - Generates a master job script that will submit all jobs for you
- Job generation could easily be extended to parametric studies

python3 ./job_cli.py -sdir ./ -odir ./../workflow_runs/ imtfile options_master.toml -iotfile options.toml -ijfile
hip_mechanics.flux -ijfd ./ -iofile options.csv

```
for iDir in range(nruns):
    rve_name = df["rve_unique_name"][iDir]
   load_dir_name = df["loading_name"][iDir]
   temp_k = str(int(df["tempk"][iDir]))
   fdiron = os.path.join(fdiro, rve_name, "")
   fdironl = os.path.join(fdiron, load_dir_name+"_"+temp_k, "")
   if not os.path.exists(fdironl):
        os.makedirs(fdironl)
   # Create symlink
   for src in glob.glob(os.path.join(fdirs,"*")):
        fh = os.path.join(fdironl, os.path.basename(src))
       if not os.path.exists(fh):
            os.symlink(src, fh)
   toml = mtoml
   for iheader in headers:
        search = "%%" + iheader + "%%"
        repl val = str(df[iheader][iDir])
       # This line is needed as toml parsers might get mad with just the
       # 0. and not 0.0
        repl val = fixEssVals(repl val)
        toml = re.sub(search, repl_val, toml)
   # Now do the avg_stress, avg_pl_work, avg_dp_tensor replacements
   # We always want these to be unique names so if they're moved somewhere
   # else we can always associate them with the correct run
   # therefore, the name contains the rve name, temperature, and loading dir name
   # frve_name+"_"+str(temp)+"_"+loading_dir_names[0]
   ext_name = rve_name +"_" + temp_k + "_" + load_dir_name
   for iheader in avg_headers:
        search = "%%" + iheader + "%%"
        replace = ext_name
        toml = re.sub(search, replace, toml)
   # Output toml file
   fh = os.path.join(fdironl, os.path.basename(fotoml))
   # Check to see if it is a symlink and if so remove the link
   if os.path.islink(fh):
        os.unlink(fh)
   # We can now safely write out the file
   with open(fh, "w") as f:
        f.write(toml)
   # Output job script file
   fh = os.path.join(fdironl, os.path.basename(fin))
   # Check to see if it is a symlink and if so remove the link
   if os.path.islink(fh):
        os.unlink(fh)
   # We can now safely write out the file
   with open(fh, "w") as f:
        f.writelines(job_script)
   os.chmod(fh, 00775)
```

Main code logic



(Aside) AM microstructures have some crazy heterogeneous deformation



(Aside) AM microstructures have some crazy heterogeneous deformation



Simple shear xy

Simple shear xz

Simple shear yz



Optimization Procedure

- For each temperature load up all volume average stress-strain responses and total volume plastic work values
 - Loading in the build direction (z-axis) is considered ground-truth for optimization purposes
 - Calculate 0.2% off-set yield and the plastic work associated with that
 - For all simulations find strain step closest to plastic work produce above and use associated stress value to calculate von Mises stress to be used in optimization procedure
 - Let optimization function do its thing (go grab some coffee/do other work)
 - Later temperatures use previous temperature parameters as initial guess to get within ball park



ExaConstit in other areas

- ExaConstit can be used in areas outside of just the AM field
 - Quantifying variability in microstructure effects on material response
 - Fatigue applications and understanding deformation mechanisms at micro-scale is a large research area
 - Creating better material models to capture single crystal behavior
 - Modelling geological materials to understand how Earth's lower mantle deforms
 - Coupling experiments and simulations by using forward diffraction techniques
 - Modelling texture evolution of materials over large deformations



Variability in processing conditions and effects on mechanical response

- Varying processing conditions mechanical response of a mat
 - Wide parameter space so usu

1.17 mm

 ExaAM team conducted a stud generation code, and effects c

1.32

mm

X 🦊

1.17 mm





Variation of AM substrate diameter and nucleation rate effects on microstructure

Variability in processing conditions and effects on mechanical response

- Varying the substrate diameter and nucleation rate does affect the macroscopic response of the material
 - In cases examined, a difference of ~6% was noted between the min and max stress-strain responses
- Variation within the intragrain response was also noted and a larger variability was noted here as well



Variation of AM substrate diameter and nucleation rate effects on macroscopic response



Simulating single crystal responses

- Capturing single crystal response of metals is often challenging as traditional crystal plasticity models were designed to capture response of polycrystalline materials
- We have an LDRD set-up to better examine this area and our working on some promising new model formulations
 - Capture buckling behavior as seen in experimental results as well as stress-strain response







Crystallographic Texture Evolution

- Crystallographic texture informs of us the orientation dependence of a part in a given direction
- Texture plays a large role in determining how a part will deforms
- Manufacturers use texture to their advantage
 - Gas turbine blades are oriented in the <100> direction to improve fatigue life [11]
 - Accounting for texture allows deep forming operations to reduce waste [12]
- Large texture development occurs over large applied strains
 - ExaAM is not concerned with strains typically needed for texture development



Crystallographic Texture Evolution of AM parts

 A CA microstructure sample was monotonically compressed to 30% strain in order to develop a strong texture in the <110> direction



Example of strongly textured material with various fibers labelled [13]



Initial (Left) and final (Right) crystallographic texture of the CA sample



Simulating High Energy X-ray Diffraction Experiments



The peak data includes information about strain and lattice orientation of a grain



Simulating High Energy X-ray Diffraction Experiments

- Peak data is integrated in ω direction and either θ or η direction
 - Provides us with info about relative amounts of intragrain heterogeneity in either orientation, η spread, or strain, θ spread.
 - Provides direct comparison to experiments





Spread in peak data tells us relative amounts of intragrain heterogeneity in the elastic deformation



Summary

- ExaConstit is an open-source crystal-plasticity FEM code built on MFEM
 - Highly performant on systems ranging from desktops all the way to systems such as Summit
 - Implemented several different integrators for GPU support and different materials models
- Created a workflow in-collaboration with ExaWorks team to efficiently run large number of simulations needed to calculate local properties used in ExaAM's part scale simulations
 - Led to anisotropic yield surface model being added to one of LLNL's material modelling libraries
- ExaConstit is well poised to tackle a wide range of research topics within the crystal plasticity community



Questions?



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