# Type and extent of deformation achieved in experimental samples ... and what that could possibly tell us about real rocks ...

# ... or the strength of the lithosphere ... ... or life in general ...

= 2016 EGU Stephan Mueller medal lecture 2.0

#### not the born geologist ...



... but the trained photographer

# the fascinating nature of images





René Magritte

... image analysis is object analysis

### the worlds of 2 and 3 dimensions





Maurits Escher

... and how to get from one to the other

# symmetry and the space between



black or white - plus or minus - grains or boundaries ...

# chance and probability ...



Newton

Isaac Newton (1643-1727) chance of hitting one of two unequal areas of a circle by a ball





Comte de Buffon

Georges-Louis Leclerc Comte de Buffon (1707–1788) solutions of franc-carreau and needle problems





Sarkis Andreevich Saltykov (1905-1983) ... stereological theorems

Saltykov

... the statistics of spatial processes

#### thin sections are random draws...



Achille Ernest Oscar Joseph Delesse (1817-1881)  $V_V = A_A$ 

August Karl Rosiwal (1860-1923)  $V_V = A_A = L_L$ 

Nil Alexandrovich Glagolev (1888-1945)  $V_V = A_A = L_L = P_P$ 

Ervin E. Underwood (1918-1995) 'Quantitative Stereology' (1970)

... and Renée Panozzo (1982)

Underwood

... taking chances with Monte Carlo



# go West ! and do experiments !



... and publish on fabric analysis (?) ...

# from workshops ...



... to the textbook

#### let's take a look at three suites of samples ...



Carrara marble



Black Hills quartzite

synthetic mantle

Stefan Schmid Steve Bauer

Triaxial gas appartus Center for Tectonophysics Jan Tullis

Solid medium apparatus Brown University Miki Tasaka David Kohlstedt Mark Zimmerman

Torsion apparatus University of Minnesota

... to see how rheology and microstrcuture are connected

# a journey from the upper crust into the mantle ...



... and across the deformation mechanism map

# Q: how to recognize deformation mechanisms ...



... when looking at a deformed samples ?

lst stop:



#### motivation: do the Glarus thrust in the lab



Glarus Thrust, drawing by Hans Conrad Escher (1812)



Friedman, M. and Higgs, N. G.(1981) Calcite fabrics in experimental shear zones: AGU Monograph 24, p. 11–28

Experied Pathia 1) Buy of design apparts () selection of proble 2) Buy of design apparts () selection of proble 2) questions are primet 3) Octorin a primet 3) Octorin a primet work where ornions condition according to specific questions Renée's notes from 615 course by John Logan

#### ... and remember 615

# celebrating 30 years of simple shear ...



... 50 years of Center for Tectonophysics

# deforming grains of Carrara marble ...

regime

transition I-2

2



... now you see them - now you don't ...

#### how to measure strain

#### step I: use $R_f$ - $\phi$ technique



John G. Ramsay

Edwin A. Abbott



A ROMANCE

OF MANY DIMENSIONS

By A Square

SPACELAND

#### step 2: write own software



#### ... from polyhedra in flatland ...

No Dimensions

Two Dimension

# Ramsay's Rf-φ technique works well ...



... if grain boundaries do not begin to migrate ...

#### but the world is not an ellipse ...



... and 'strain fact or fiction' is a paper that never made it

### how to describe the shape change



... use the famous PARIS factor

# ... so what does that tell you about real rocks ?

- grain boundaries lead there own life not every outline of a grain is a strain marker
- one mineral can act like two rheological phases strain partitionning is possible even probable
- locally high strain rates are possible
- symmetry is the eye of the needle ...





Schmid et al., JSG 1987

# 2nd stop:



# motivation: the grain size of recrystallized quartz



the piezometer - does it hold for shear deformation ?



texture dependence of grain size: does it really exist ?

## axial and shear experiments ...





Jan Tullis and ... h

her Grigg's apparatus





Heilbronner & Tullis (2006)

regimes 1, 2, 3 1200 axial 1000 Δơ(MPa) 800 600 400 20 3 ε<sub>m</sub> ε(%) 1.50 2.00 2.50 71 80 87 3.00 91 0 00 1.00 56 0.50 33 0 600 shear τ(MPa) 500 400 300 3.00 Em 1.50 2.00 2.50 0.00 0.50 1.00 V 0 0.7 1.5 2.5 3.9 5.7 8.2

dislocation creep

Heilbronner & Tullis (2002)



estimated r		nated mode of 3-D	O diameter (µm)
		axial	shear
	I	I2 μm	6 µm
	2	I2 μm	6 µm
	3	I4 μm	I4 μm



... of Black Hills Quartzite ...

#### we used CIP-derived orientation images



... to derive the c-axis pole figures

# and performed segmentation in texture space ...



... to derive the grain size

#### ten years later: BHQ revisited





... remeasured with increased EBSD resolution ...

### from CIP to EBSD



#### from CIP to EBSD

regime I (w1092)



from IPF to CIP look-up tables

#### compare EBSD to coptical microscopy

regime I (w1092)



#### texture and grain size of BHQ ... revisited



... using SEM / EBSD full resolution !

## grain size maps



# checking the Y domain





... and the subdomains (...)

# ... what do 2D means tell us about 3D means ?



#### so what is an average diameter really ?



... 2D or 3D diameters ? means? or modes ?

# we need the full (3D) picture



... mastering the art of Image Analysis in Earth Sciences

### mode of the volume weighted distribution ...



... of diameters  $(D_{equ})$  of volume equivalent spheres ...

### check against the piezometer !



... 'good old' Stipp & Tullis, remapped by Prior ...

#### plot the shear experiments on it



... 3D modes are not the same as 2D RMS !

# get the EBSD maps of the axial experiments



... and calculate the 3D modes for the piezometer

# apples and ... different apples



... you ask a silly question you get a silly answer ...

# different piezometer for shear vs. axial



and different for Y-texture domian ?

# ... so what about the strength of the lithosphere ?

- texture domains  $\rightarrow$  composite material
- bulk textures don't exist
  ⇒ bulk properties don't exist locally
- piezometer for axial versus shear
- different grain sizes coexist
  ⇒ different flow stresses may co-exist
  - $\Rightarrow$  viscosity contrasts among domains





Luca Menegon, Padova

NATURE





- different piezometer for different domains
- ... or does the recrystallized piezometers have a problem ?

# 3rd stop:



# motivation: weakening of lower lithosphere



# how to mix olivine and orthopyroxene ...



Gas medium High pressure Torsion apparatus (UMN)



0⊾ 0

5

Miki Tasaka Mark Zimmerman David Kohlstedt

70% iron-rich olivine 30% orthopyroxene hotpressed @1200°C d ~15 μm



10 15 20 25



in olivine: MeO dissolves at maximum  $\sigma$ I. Reaction ol  $\rightarrow$  opx

in orthopyroxene: MeO diffuses to tension  $\sigma$ 3. Reaction opx  $\rightarrow$  ol



... by mechanical mixing and heterogeneous nucleation

T = 1200°C

# the geometry of dislocation and diffusion creep



... models for mixing and deformation

# describing spatial distributions ...



... in terms of phase and grain boundary probability ...

# describing spatial distributions ...



... in terms of phase and grain boundary probability ...

# describing spatial distributions ...



... in terms of phase and grain boundary probability ...

### so which spatial distributions do we expect ...



... from mixing to dislocation creep to diffusion creep ?

### and which spatial distributions do we get ?



... not what we expect !

#### even the starting material is ordered !!





Tasaka et al. (JGR, 2017)



and 'perfect mixing' ≠ random process !

# ... and what about life in general ?

- thing sare often not what you think they are ! random processes create clustering perfect mixing is not random strain often does not leave any trace
- take nothing for granted ! ... not even the recrystallized quartz piezometer !
- learn to live without steady state
  life as any process of deformation may be transitional ...
- enjoy research while it lasts
  - ... small samples require big statistics
  - ... diffuse data require precise measurements



# Betti Richter Rüdiger Kilian Sina Marti Renée Heilbronner

no animals were hurt during any of the experiments ... except maybe some cock roaches ...

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BA