

## Tutorial Importing Initial Microstructures



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## Outline

- Import of initial microstructures from
  - ASCII text files (2D only)
  - VTK (2D and 3D) files
- Adding properties
  - Explicit description
  - Concentration fields (2D)
- Using MICRESS Restart files





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- **Using MICRESS Restart files**

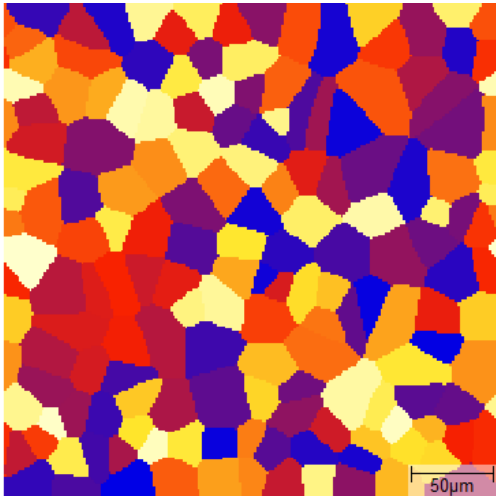




# MICRESS: 2D ASCII Text Format

## Format description

- ASCII text file with UTF-8 coding
- Raw data values
  - Each value as an ASCII string
  - Space separated
  - Row-wise data arrangement



T025\_GrainGrowth\_korn.mcr, X: 1 to 200, Y: 1 of 1, Z: 1 to 200,  
Time: 0s

Colored Grain IDs in DP\_MICRESS

1	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	1
2	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	1
3	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	1
4	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	1
5	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	1
6	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	1
7	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	1
8	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	1
9	83	63	63	17	17	17	17	17	17	1
10	63	63	63	63	63	17	17	17	17	1
11	63	63	63	63	63	63	17	17	17	1
12	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	17	1
13	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	6
14	83	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	6
15	83	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	6
16	83	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	6
17	83	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	6
18	83	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	6
19	83	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	6

ASCII representation exported with  
DP\_MICRESS ( # Geometry Header removed )



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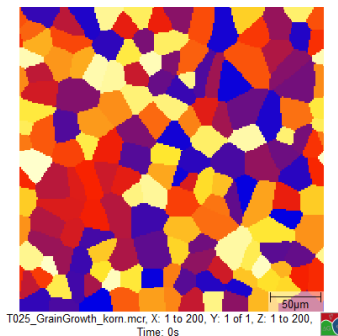
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# MICRESS: 2D and 3D VTK Format

## Format description

- VTK Header (ASCII UTF-8)
  - Options in line 3: ASCII or BINARY
  - Dimensions: Number of Nodes in each dimension
  - Origin : not used
  - Spacing in micrometers: cubic voxels !
  - Cell data: number of voxels
- Data Header (ASCII UTF-8)
  - Scalar values, field name, data type
  - Standard lookup table : not used
- Data
  - ASCII or binary
  - Order: loop over Z,Y,X
  - Multiple fields possible



*Header*

```
1 # vtk DataFile Version 3.0
2 t = 0 s
3 ASCII
4
5 DATASET STRUCTURED_POINTS
6 DIMENSIONS 201 2 201
7 ORIGIN 0 0 0
8 SPACING 1.5 1.5 1.5
9
10 CELL_DATA 40000
11
```

*Data Header*

```
12 SCALARS korn int
13 LOOKUP_TABLE default
14 17 17 17 17
15 17 17 17 17
16 17 17 17 17
17 17 17 17 17
18 17 17 17 25
19 25 25 25 25
20 25 25 25 25
21 25 25 25 25
22 25 25 25 25
23 25 25 25 1
24 1 1 1 1
```

*Data*

ASCII VTK representation exported with  
DP\_MICRESS ( # Geometry Header removed )



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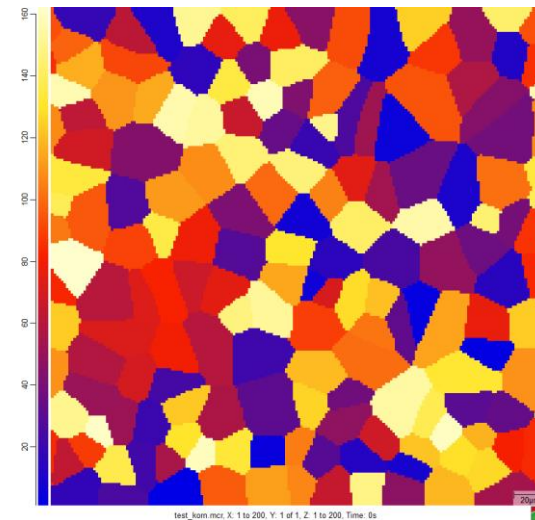
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## Read ASCII 2D text file

```
# Initial Microstructure
# =====
# Type of grain positioning?
# Options: deterministic random [deterministic_infile] from_file
from_file
# Filename of initial grain/phase structure [VTK_identifier (default=korn)] ?
T025_korn_ASCII_1.txt
# Treatment of data?
# (n: none, 1: 1D, f: flip (bottom<->top), t: transpose,
# or p: 'phase to grains transformation')
n
# CellsX for initial microstructure?
200
# CellsZ for initial microstructure?
200
# Number of grains at the beginning?
# (Set to less than 1 for the number of grain to be read from the input data,
# with optionally a minimal size, in cells)
-1
```

- **Data treatment**  
none: Grain IDs are read
- **Geometry** like in the ASCII file  
to read correct number of values  
in X and Z direction
- **Number of grains at the beginning:**  
automatic recognition (-1)





## Read ASCII 2D text file: options

### Data treatment

- 1D : read 1D data for a pure 1D simulation
- Flip : make bottom to top (Z dimension)
- Transpose
  - transposes x- and z- columns/rows of the picture.  
This operation is meaningful only for square-pictures or if columns and rows are switched by other operations before
- Phase to grain (see next slide)
  - assigns an individual grain number to each closed region
  - Grain interfaces are marked with a minimal value (typically -1)  
See example T020\_Grain\_Growth\_initialFromFile\_dri and input file T020\_Microstructure.txt

### Number of grains at the beginning

- Only possible value: automatic (-1)
  - Deprecated option: if not -1, number of grains have to match highest grain number
- Minimal grain size (in cells)
  - Only if data treatment is not none
  - Smaller grains will be added to neighbours

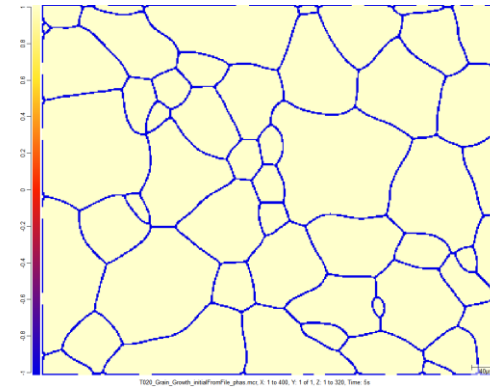






## Phase to grain transformation (Example: T020)

```
# Initial Microstructure
# =====
# Type of grain positioning?
# Options: deterministic random [deterministic_infile] from_file
from_file
# Filename of initial grain/phase structure [VTK_identifier
# (default=korn)] ?
T020_Grain_Growth_Microstructure.txt
# Treatment of data?
# (n: none, 1: 1D, f: flip (bottom<->top), t: transpose,
# or p: 'phase to grains transformation')
fp
# CellsX for initial microstructure?
500
# CellsZ for initial microstructure?
400
# Number of grains at the beginning?
# (Set to less than 1 for the number of grain to be read ...
# with optionally a minimal size, in cells)
-1
...
```



### Automatic grain recognition

- By closed areas
- Lowest value denotes interface (here: 0)
- All grains 1 ... 53 with same bulk value 765
  - This information can be used for block assignment of properties later (useful for multiple phases)

```
# Number of grains at the beginning?
# (Set to less than 1 for the number of grain to
# with optionally a minimal size, in cells)
-1
# value 765: grains 1 ... 53
# Number of grains found in input data: 53
```

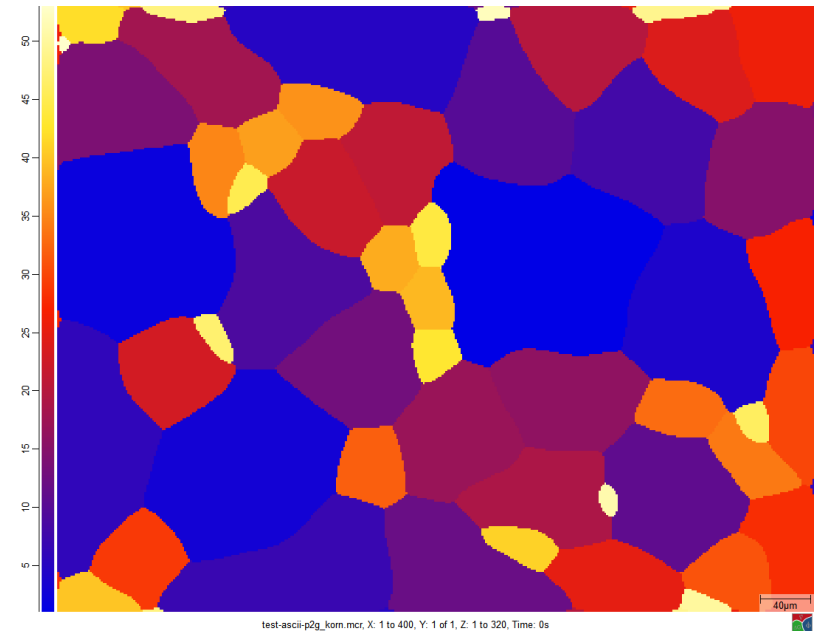






## Read from VTK file

```
# Initial Microstructure
# =====
# Type of grain positioning?
# Options: deterministic random [deterministic_infile] from_file
from_file
# Filename of initial grain/phase structure [VTK_identifier (default=korn)] ?
test-vtk-ascii-grainids.vtk myGrainIds
# Treatment of data?
# (n: none, 1: 1D, x: rotate Clockwise along x-axis, y, z,
# or p: 'phase to grains transformation')
n
# Number of grains at the beginning?
# (Set to less than 1 for the number of grain to be read from the input
  data,
# with optionally a minimal size, in cells)
-1
...
```



Differences to text file input:

- New option for data treatment
  - Rotate clockwise along x-,y-, or z-axis
- Geometry is read from VTK header



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## Adding properties: Explicit description

### Property block

- Like explicit grain description
  - Phase ID
  - Orientation
  - ...

### Input type options

- input
  - A property block for each grain
- from\_file
  - As input but deterministic description is read from a file
- identical
  - Same properties for all grains
- blocks
  - A property block for each defined grain ID range

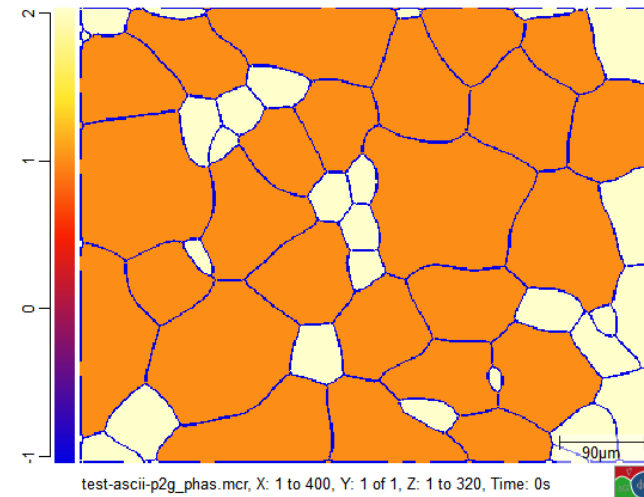
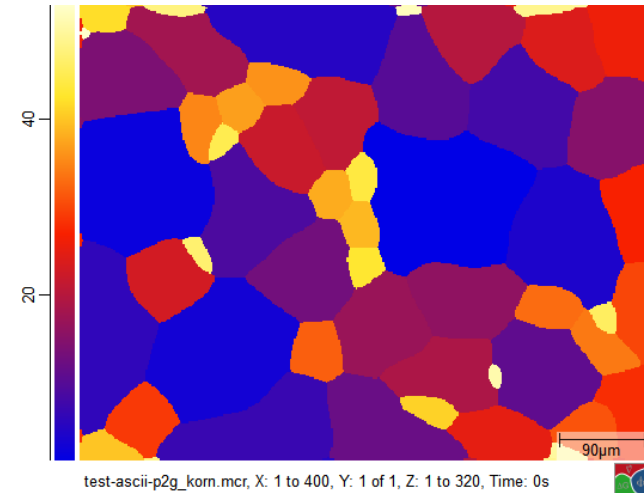
```
# Initial Microstructure
# =====
...
# Read grain properties from a file?
# Options: input from_file identical blocks
identical
# Phase number? (integer)
1
# 'Non-geometric' data for grains -1 to 53 identical
...
```





## Add properties blockwise

```
# Number of grains found in input data: 53
# Read grain properties from a file?
# Options: input from_file identical blocks
blocks
# Last grain of this 'block'?
25
# Grain number 1
# Phase number? (integer)
1
# 'Non-geometric' data for grains 1 to 25 identical
# Last grain of this 'block'?
53
# Grain number 26
# Phase number? (integer)
2
# 'Non-geometric' data for grains 26 to 53 identical
```





## Initial Concentration: Reading 2D concentration files

### Format

- Same as 2D ASCII files
- Local concentration values for one component of one phase in a file
- Concentration fields must exactly match to the corresponding grain structure, otherwise problems are very probable!

### Remarks

- Getting experimental information on concentration distribution is not easy!
- Measured concentration distributions typically have a lot of noise and do not comply to the nominal alloy composition!

Anyway, we can read them!

```
# Initial Concentrations
# =====
# How shall initial concentrations be set?
# Options: input equilibrium from_file [phase number]
from_file
# Concentration of component 1 (CU) in phase 0 (LIQUID) ? [at%]
  (for initialisation of TQ)
3.0000
# Filename of initial concentration profile of component 1?
  [VTK_identifier (default=conc)]
initial_copper_fcc.txt
# Treatment of data?
# (n: none, 1: 1D, f: flip (bottom<->top), or t: transpose)?
n
# CellsX for initial concentration field of component 1 ?
500
# CellsZ for initial concentration field of component 1 ?
500
# Temperature at which the initial equilibrium
# will be calculated? [K]
915.00
```

Components: AL, CU - Phases: Liquid, FCC





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## Using restart files

### Normal usage of restart files (.rest)

- **restart**
  - restarts simulation in the status where it was stopped
  - only a limited number of parameters can be changed
- **restart reset\_time**
  - restarts simulation, but from time 0
  - all timers are reset
  - as a consequence, more parameters can be changed!
- **restart with\_flow**
  - If flow coupling is planned and the restart was made without flow  
(may be obsolete in future by automatic recognition)

```
# Restart
# =====
# Restart using old results?
# Options: new restart [reset_time | with_flow]
restart
# Name of restart file (without extension)?
restart_file_name
#
```







## Restart file: Reading the initial structure

### Using the restart file for setting the initial structure

- only takes microstructure without any numerical conditions
- allows combination of several microstructures
- allows furthermore shifts, rotations and (simple) zoom

```
# Restart
# =====
# Restart using old results?
# Options: new restart [reset_time | with_flow]
new
```

### Setting up container grains

- Define initial grain structure as usual  
(explicit description is recommended)

```
# Initial Microstructure
# =====
# Type of grain positioning?
# Options: deterministic random [deterministic_infile] from_file
deterministic
# NB: the origin of coordinate system is the bottom left-hand corner,
# all points within the simulation domain having positive coordinates.
# Number of grains at the beginning?
3
...
```





## Initial structure from restart file: Container Grains

...

- Shape, position and size define the targeted region
- Target region will be completely replaced !
- Properties dummies
  - Necessary for syntactical reason, same input routines in MICRESS
  - do not have a meaning here

```
# Grain number 1
# -----
# Geometry?
# Options: round rectangular elliptic round_inverse
round
# Center x,z coordinates [micrometers], grain number 1?
30.000
30.000
# Grain radius? [micrometers]
1500.0
# Shall grain 1 be stabilized or shall
# an analytical curvature description be applied?
# Options: stabilisation analytical_curvature
stabilisation
# Should the Voronoi criterion be applied?
# Options: voronoi no_voronoi
no_voronoi
# Phase number? (integer)
1
...
```





## Initial structure from restart file: Import

### Filling the container grains

- Activate restart from file
- How many containers should be filled
- For each container
  - 1<sup>st</sup> input line
    - Container / grain ID
    - Position shift relative to RVE origin
    - Optional zoom factors (integer)
    - Optional rotation
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> input line
    - The restart file name  
(without extension)

```
# Structure from restart file
# -----
# Shall grain(s) be replaced by initial structure(s) from a restart file(s) ?
# Options: restart_file | no_restart_file
restart_file
# How many restart files shall be read?
3
# For each restart file a grain number and (optionally)
# shift (in grid cells) and zoom factor for all 3 dimensions
# as well as a character for rotation options must be specified:
# grain number [shift X (int) shift Y (int) shift Z (int)
# zoom X (int) zoom Y (int) zoom Z (int) rot(string)] ?
# Rotation options: "xz+90" "xz-90" "xz180" "xy+90" ... "yz180"
3 10 0 65
# Name of restart file?
Results/Restart_1
...
```

Example with nice pictures in an advanced training course!





**Thank you for your attention!**

**Short break for questions  
before continuing with the next ...**

**Challenge**

- Import a Microstructure

