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Domain Coarsening and Aging in Dislocation Glasses

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Dislocation systems were analyzed numerically with 1 and 3 glide axes, at $T=0$ and $T>0$, with and without climb. [1] Dislocation free domains formed even without shear, defined by dislocation rich domain walls. The domain formation was most pronounced in the presence of climb, somewhat counter-intuitively. The stability of domains was analyzed. The microscopic processes suppressing the climb-induced decay of domain walls were identified. The dislocation dynamics at low temperatures was markedly glassy. Aging: Dislocations with glide only support minimal domain formation. The autocorrelation function showed aging, scaling with the waiting time as: $C(t, t_w) = C_{eq}(t) C(t/t_w^\mu)$ and $C_{eq}(t) \sim t^{-\beta}$, with $\mu=0.65$ and $\beta=0.54$. Freezing: The effective diffusion constant decayed to zero as: $D(t)_{eff} \sim t^{-\gamma}$, with $\gamma=0.8$. Coarsening: Dislocations with glide and climb exhibited profound domain formation, the domains coarsening as $L(t)$: $L(t) \sim t^{1/z}$, with $1/z=0.17$. The formation of domains without shear has been recently observed in GaAs by Rudolph and in dusty plasmas by Quinn and Joree. The domain coarsening was quantitatively captured in di-block copolymers [2], with $1/z=0.19$, in good agreement with our results.

[1] B. Bako, G. Groma, G. Gyorgyi and G.T. Zimanyi, Phys. Rev. Lett. **98**, 075701 (2007).

[2] P. Chaikin's talk, same session.