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Application of the virtual material models to material microstructure optimization on the example of CFCs and MMCs

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Development of new materials with desired properties is one the main objectives of Material Science. The process can be facilitated by utilization of the methods of numerical mechanics: Numerical microstructure optimization [1] using virtual material models [2-5].

The procedure of the microstructure optimization consists of the following steps:

- Microstructure characterization and identification of the so-called design variables and their bounds. (The design variables are dependent on the manufacturing process, e.g., orientation distribution of the inclusions, their shape etc.) [6-8];
- Development and experimental validation of the virtual material model [6, 7];
- Microstructure optimization using virtual material model approach with geometrical and loading restrictions imposed on the design variables' bounds [8]. Feedback on the parameters of material manufacturing.

All these steps will be described in details for metal-ceramic and carbon/carbon composites.

References

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