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Unraveling the Origin of Twin Related Domains and Grain Boundary Evolution During Grain Boundary Engineering

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12 Abstract: Grain boundary engineering of Fe-based austenitic stainless steels and other materials

13 has been successful in producing a large increase in twin and twin related grain boundaries from

14 a wide range of thermomechanical treatments. However, the exact mechanisms and effective

15 grain boundary network descriptors to create the heavily twinned microstructures are yet to be

16 fully understood. In this study, we provide insight into the grain boundary engineering process

17 by examining sequential progression of the same spatial location of a twin related microstructure

18 through thermomechanical processing. The results show that clusters of twin related grain

19 boundaries called twin related domains form during primary recrystallization. The size of the

20 twin related domains increases as the level of strain falls toward the critical strain for

21 recrystallization. Growth of twin related domains during recrystallization results in the

22 formation of twin boundaries behind the migrating grain boundary front. Formation of higher

23 order twin boundaries occurs when two separate grain boundary fronts of the same twin related

24 domain impinge upon each other. We also present relevant microstructural descriptors with

25 emphasis on twin related domain statistics to recrystallization phenomena in grain boundary

26 engineering materials.

27 Keywords: Recrystallization; Twin boundary; Grain boundaries; EBSD; Grain growth

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