



Plasticity

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Topics

Classification of Defects

Some Defects

- Vacancies
- Solutes & Complex Point Defects
- Line Defects
- Grain Boundaries
 - Tilt and Twist Boundaries
 - Low Angle and High Angle Grain Boundaries
 - Twin Boundaries
 - Coincidence Site Lattice and Displacement Shift Complete
- Stacking Faults



Structure-Microstructure-Property Relationship





Of course, most features discussed in this class are related to deviations (defects) from thermodynamic ground state! Nevertheless, the description of deviations needs a proper understanding of the ideal state. Hence, crystallography provides the basis for any defect classification.



Defect Classification



- Most of the important engineering properties of metals and intermetallics are determined by crystal defects. We usually classify them according to their dimensionality:
 - Point defects, 0D:
 - vacancies
 - interstitial and substitutional atoms
 - complex point defects
 - Line defects, 1D:
 - dislocations (Ch. 4)
 - disclinations
 - Planar defects, 2D:
 - grain boundaries
 - phase boundaries
 - stacking faults
 - surfaces
 - Bulk defects, 3D:
 - precipitates, dispersoids
 - cracks
 - pores
- In the following, only aspects are repeated which will become important during this class. In certain cases, more details are provided in the respective lectures on the defects.



Vacancies



Vacancies are vacant lattice sites. In contrast to voids, vacancies have to form under expense of energy. Voids are intrinsic part of the crystal structure.





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Vacancies

- Due to the entropy contribution and comparably low formation enthalpy, vacancies are present in thermodynamic equilibrium. The Gibb's free energy change due to N_V vacancies in an crystal of N atoms is: $\Delta G_V = \Delta H_V - T \cdot \Delta S_V = N_V \cdot \Delta H_V^F - T \cdot (N_V \cdot \Delta S_V^P + \Delta S_V^{mix})$
- ΔH_V^F denotes the enthalpy of formation of vacancies, ΔS_V^P is the change in vibration states due to the vacancies and ΔS_V^{mix} is the configurational entropy change:

$$\Delta S_{\mathrm{V}}^{\mathrm{mix}} = S_{\mathrm{faulted}} - S_{\mathrm{perfect}} = k_{\mathrm{B}} \cdot \ln \frac{N!}{N_{\mathrm{V}}! \cdot (N - N_{\mathrm{V}})!} - k_{\mathrm{B}} \cdot \ln 1$$
$$= k_{\mathrm{B}} \cdot (\ln N! - \ln N_{\mathrm{V}}! - \ln(N - N_{\mathrm{V}})!)$$

Using Stirling's approximation for factorials:

$$\Delta S_{\rm V}^{\rm mix} \approx k_{\rm B} \cdot \left(N \ln N - N - N_{\rm V} \ln N_{\rm V} + N_{\rm V} - (N - N_{\rm V}) \ln(N - N_{\rm V}) + (N - N_{\rm V}) \right) \\ = k_{\rm B} \cdot \left(N \ln N - N_{\rm V} \ln N_{\rm V} - (N - N_{\rm V}) \ln(N - N_{\rm V}) \right)$$



Vacancies



Thermodynamic equilibrium with the equilibrium concentration x_V^0 is then:

$$\frac{d \Delta G_{\rm V}}{dN_{\rm V}} \bigg|_{N_{\rm V}^0} = \Delta H_{\rm V}^{\rm F} - T \cdot \Delta S_{\rm V}^{\rm P} - T \cdot \frac{d \Delta S_{\rm V}^{\rm mix}}{dN_{\rm V}} = 0$$
$$\Delta H_{\rm V}^{\rm F} - T \cdot \Delta S_{\rm V}^{\rm P} - T \cdot \frac{d \Delta S_{\rm V}^{\rm mix}}{dN_{\rm V}} = 0$$
$$\Delta H_{\rm V}^{\rm F} - T \cdot \Delta S_{\rm V}^{\rm P} + T \cdot \left(k_{\rm B} \cdot \ln \frac{N_{\rm V}^0}{N - N_{\rm V}^0}\right) \approx \Delta H_{\rm V}^{\rm F} - T \cdot \Delta S_{\rm V}^{\rm P} + T \cdot k_{\rm B} \cdot \ln \frac{N_{\rm V}^0}{N} = 0$$
$$x_{\rm V}^0 = \frac{N_{\rm V}^0}{N} = \exp\left(\frac{T \cdot \Delta S_{\rm V}^{\rm P} - \Delta H_{\rm V}^{\rm F}}{T \cdot k_{\rm B}}\right) = \exp\left(\frac{\Delta S_{\rm V}^{\rm P}}{k_{\rm B}}\right) \cdot \exp\left(-\frac{\Delta H_{\rm V}^{\rm F}}{T \cdot k_{\rm B}}\right)$$

$$x_{\rm V}^0 \propto \exp\left(-\frac{\Delta H_{\rm V}^{\rm F}}{T \cdot k_{\rm B}}\right)$$

• Equ. vacancy density at about solidus temperature is in the order of 10^{-4} .



Solutes

Solutes can substitute atoms on lattice sites or can be dissolved in voids depending on their properties. Depending on the symmetry of the position, strain fields can be hydrostatic or with deviatoric contributions.





Complex Point Defects



In intermetallic compounds, more complex forms of point defects or combinations of point defects are possible due to the presence of order.





Line Defects

In general, multiple types of line defects are possible. Dislocations of mixed character between edge and screw dislocation are of course the most important for plasticity. Therefore, Ch. 4 will intensively deal with them:

Dislocation

(The crystal is cut along a line, displaced by a certain magnitude in a certain direction, and finally rejoined.)

Disclination

(The crystal is cut along a line, rotated of a certain magnitude about a certain direction, and finally rejoined.)









- Grain boundaries are 2D defects that separate crystal of the same phase but different orientation. We will distinguish low angle grain boundaries (LAGB), high angle grain boundaries (HAGB) and twin boundaries.
- Eight independent parameters are needed to describe grain boundaries:
 - three angles for the rotation of the systems
 - three components for the translation vector of the systems
 - two components for the description of the plane between the crystals
- Tilt and twist boundaries are easy cases which reduce the number of parameters by assuming rotation axes perpendicular or within the grain boundary.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grain_boundary#/media/File:TiltAndTwistBoundaries_remade.svg

Coorioht material





- There are two possible ways to distinguish LAGB and HAGB, namely by misorientation or by mobility:
 - LAGB can be described by metastable arrangements of dislocations. The upper limit of that description is about 10 ... 15°. The cut-off corresponds to a geometrical interpretation of the defect. We will discuss this model in Ch. 4.
 - The movement of LAGB needs a cooperative movement of all dislocation mentioned above. Hence, LAGB considered as immobile in comparison to HAGB. The transition in mobility is at about 12° in misorientation.







M.A. Tschopp, D.E. Spearot, D.L. McDowell: "Influence of Grain Boundary Structure on Dislocation Nucleation in FCC Metals" in "Dislocations in Solids", J.P. Hirth (ed.), Vol. 14, Elsevier, Amsterdam (2008) pp. 43-140









































- Twin boundaries are special boundaries when the orientation relationship of the two crystals can be described by a distinct symmetry operation; the symmetry operation must not be an elements of the crystal structure in order to obtain an orientation difference.
- Depending on the symmetry operation different types of twin boundaries can be distinguished:
 - translation (in metals these are essentially stacking faults; in intermetallic compounds these can be stacking faults, antiphase boundaries or complex faults)
 - inversion
 - rotation
 - mirroring
- The latter two will be of importance when discussing deformation twinning later in the class because they come along with a shear deformation of the crystal.





- As indicated by the energy vs. misorientation plot, there are special boundaries at intermediate angles, the energy of which is low.
- In these cases, periodic structures across the boundaries are obtained and that lead to a reduction in energy.
- There are different approaches to describe these periodic structures:
 - There is a lattice, each lattice point of which is occupied by an atom (coincidence site lattice, CSL).
 - There is the coarsest lattice, that describes all atoms on both sides of the boundary (displacement shift complete, DSC).
- Hence, the unit cell of the CSL is greater than the unit cell of the crystals whereas the DSC unit cell is smaller.



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Stacking Faults



- All crystal structures are formed by specific stacking sequences of lattice planes (in general and valid for all kinds of planes, but mostly with complex sequences).
- In some crystal structures, metastable faults of the stacking sequences exist, e.g. fcc and hcp metals.
- In intermetallic compounds, the site occupation within the planes results in more complex versions of faults, e.g. antiphase boundary and complex faults.





Stacking Faults

- In Cu structure type, the nearest neighbor (NN) interaction dominates.
- Hence, for any close packed plane ABC, CBA and ACB are ground state.
- There is an excess energy needed to form ABA, CBC, CAC, BAB, BCB and ACA.







Summary

- Crystal defects can be classified according to their dimensionality.
- Complexity of crystals leads to various forms of each defect type.
- There are several interrelations between the different types of crystal defects.

