



# Plasticity

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**Topics** 



#### **Dislocations in Metals and Alloys: A1**

- **Octahedral Slip Systems**
- Thompson Tetrahedron
- **Undissociated Dislocations**
- Shockley and Frank Partial Dislocations
- **Stacking Faults and Twin Boundaries**
- **Cross Slip**
- Locks



#### **Strukturbericht Designation A1**



Face centered cubic metals and alloys are closed packed. The closed packed planes are {111}. The shortest distance between atoms is <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> (110). (Remember: use of the conventional cell here.)





#### **Octahedral Slip System**



## • $\{111\}\frac{1}{2}\langle 1\overline{1}0\rangle$ slip systems are referred to as octahedral slip systems.

- In fcc metals and alloys, slip on non-octahedral systems is assumed to be not possible. Any reaction products with combinations of Burgers vectors and slip planes (given by the Burgers vector and the line sense) which do not belong to the octahedral slips systems are assumed to be sessile.
- There are various short notations in literature to describe octahedral systems and reactions on these systems available. The Thompson tetrahedron is by far the most common. Anyhow, the use of it is declining.



#### **Thompson Tetrahedron**



The edges of the Thompson tetrahedron are given by the connection of four nearest neighbors in the A1 crystal structure.

- Important to note here:
  - The Thompson tetrahedron is no unit cell! It is not possible to obtain a perfect crystal by translation symmetry or application of other symmetry operations on it!
  - The Thompson tetrahedron connects nearest neighbors and not corners of the conventional unit cell.
  - Often missed in literature: Similar to what was seen for the Burgers circuits, the Thompson tetrahedron treatment contains certain unambiguousness as long as the slip to crystal is not explicitly defined. It is important for the distinct atomic arrangement if slip occurs outside the Thompson tetrahedron (often implicitly assumed) or inside. Many reaction are possible by vector considerations but impossible due to the atomic arrangement resulting from that.
- The corners are denoted by Latin capital letters: A, B, C, D. The Burgers vectors of undissociated dislocations are duplets of Latin capital letters. The slip planes are triplets of Latin capital letters.



## Thompson Tetrahedron





A. Kauffmann: "Gefügeverfeinerung durch mechanische Zwillingsbildung in Kupfer und Kupfermischkristalllegierungen", Diss. TU Dresden (2014)



#### **Thompson Tetrahedron**



## The flat projection of the tetrahedron is useful.

- There are four slip planes with three slip directions each. Only two of them are linear independent.
- There are eight independent slip systems.





#### **Undissociated Dislocations**



- The undissociated edge dislocation is characterized by following vectors:
  - Slip plane normal:  $\mathbf{n} = (1\overline{1}1)$ , ABC
  - Burgers vector:  $\mathbf{b} = \frac{1}{2}[011]$ , AC

• Line vector: 
$$s = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} [21\overline{1}], \delta B$$

- Extra half-plane: (011)
- The extra half-planes of {110}-type exhibit following stacking sequence: ... ABABAB .... Hence, the undissociated edge dislocations is built up from two additional {110} planes to preserve the stacking sequence!













- As we have seen in Ch. 4c, the line energy (as the largest contribution to the dislocation energy) scales with  $\frac{W}{L} \propto G b^2$ .
- Since <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> (110) is the shortest distance between atoms in an A1 crystal structure, any further reduction in Burgers vector length leads to a further distortion of the crystal! The dissociation of dislocations is therefore restricted to special cases.
- One of these cases is the formation of Shockley partial dislocations:  $\frac{1}{2}[011] = \frac{1}{6}[121] + \frac{1}{6}[\overline{1}12]$
- When neglecting the character of the dislocation and the interaction energy between the partials, we can estimate  $\propto b^2$ :  $\frac{1}{2} > \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{6} = \frac{1}{3}$ .
- Shockley partial dislocations border an intrinsic stacking fault.













Undistorted stacking sequence in A1 metals and alloys:







No change for the undissociated dislocation:







In the region bordered by the partial dislocations, an intrinsic stacking fault is formed. The leading partial dislocation opens the stacking fault by shifting from B to C. The trailing partial closes the stacking fault by shifting from C to B:





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#### **Thompson Tetrahedron**

- Burgers vectors of Shockley partial dislocations are given by connection of the corners with the centers of the slip planes in the Thompson tetrahedron.
- The centers are denoted by Greek lower cases:

$$\frac{1}{2}[011] = \frac{1}{6}[121] + \frac{1}{6}[\overline{1}12]$$
$$AC = A\delta + \delta C$$







- The dissociation leads to mostly parallel dislocation character of the two partial and, hence, the dominating interaction of the partials is repelling.
- Due to energy required to form the stacking fault inbetween the partials, an equilibrium dissociation width is achieved:  $\gamma_{iSF}$ ,  $[\gamma_{iSF}] = \frac{mJ}{m^2}$ .
- The stacking fault spans along the dislocation line with the length *L* and across the dissociation width *x*. The total energy of the intrsinsic stacking fault is  $W_{iSF} = L x \gamma_{iSF}$ . Specific to the dislocation length:

$$\frac{\gamma_{\rm iSF}}{L} = x \, \gamma_{\rm iSF}$$

The interaction force between the partials equilibrates this attracting contribution:

$$\frac{F_{\rm iSF}}{L} = \gamma_{\rm iSF}$$





Screw components interact with  $\frac{F_x}{L}(y=0) = \pm \frac{G \cdot b^2}{2\pi} \frac{1}{x}$ . Edge components with  $\frac{F_x}{L}(y=0) = \pm \frac{G \cdot b^2}{2\pi \cdot (1-\nu)} \frac{1}{x}$ .

For mixed character, the following equation for the interaction force within the slip plane can be obtained:

$$\frac{F_{\text{dis}}}{L} = \frac{G}{2\pi x} \left( (\boldsymbol{b_1} \cdot \boldsymbol{s}) (\boldsymbol{b_2} \cdot \boldsymbol{s}) + \frac{1}{1 - \nu} (\boldsymbol{b_1} \times \boldsymbol{s}) \cdot (\boldsymbol{b_2} \times \boldsymbol{s}) \right)$$

The equilibrium dissociation with is then:

$$x_0 = \frac{G}{2\pi \gamma_{\rm iSF}} \left( (\boldsymbol{b_1} \cdot \boldsymbol{s})(\boldsymbol{b_2} \cdot \boldsymbol{s}) + \frac{1}{1-\nu} (\boldsymbol{b_1} \times \boldsymbol{s}) \cdot (\boldsymbol{b_2} \times \boldsymbol{s}) \right)$$

- The measurement of equilibrium dissociation width provides direct evidence for the magnitude of the intrinsic stacking fault energy.
- At medium to low stacking fault energies, the dissociation widths are few nanometers only. Only "weak beam dark field" is possible for imaging.





N. Okamoto et al.: "Size effect, critical resolved shear stress, stacking fault energy, and solid solution strengthening in the CrMnFeCoNi high-entropy alloy" in Scientific Reports 6 (2016) 35863



#### **Dissociated Dislocations**



- Under external force, the pair of Shockley partials behaves like an undissociated dislocation!
- The planar dissociation within the slip plane leads to very low Peierls barriers since there are no major displacement components outside the slip plane.
- In contrast to reports in literature, the pair of Shockley partials does only change width under external but never dissociates or contracts completely. The latter case can only be achieved when considering relativistic corrections of the interaction force under certain circumstances.



## Intrinsic Stacking Fault Energy $\gamma_{iSF}$





The stacking fault energy is a key property not only affecting deformation behavior but also recovery and recrystallization.

Note the relation to the twin boundary energy given in Ch. 3d.

G. Gottstein: "Materialwissenschaft und Werkstofftechnik: Physikalische Grundlagen", Berlin, Heidelberg: Springer Vieweg, Springer-Verlag (2014) J. Freudenberger et al.: "Studies on recrystallization of single-phase copper alloys by resistivity measurements", Acta Materialia 58 (2010) 2324-2329



## Intrinsic Stacking Fault Energy $\gamma_{iSF}$



- The dissociation width controlled by is important when considering cross slip.
- Please see following results:
  - Cu ("medium" stacking fault energy):  $G \approx 50 \text{ GPa}, b \approx 2.5 \text{ Å}, \gamma_{iSF} \approx 50 \frac{\text{mJ}}{\text{m}^2}$ :  $x_0 \approx 10 \text{ nm}$
  - Al ("high" stacking fault energy):  $G \approx 25$  GPa,  $b \approx 2.9$  Å,  $\gamma_{iSF} \approx 190 \frac{\text{mJ}}{\text{m}^2}$ :  $x_0 \approx 1.8$  nm



## Attention!











## Attention!







## Attention!



ABCAABCA ... is not closed packed and, therefore, unstable at an tremendous energy! It will always dissociate into an extrinsic stacking fault by nucleation of an anti-parallel pair of Shockley partials:









#### The extrinsic stacking fault is smallest possible twin lath:





With the rise of computational methods, the concept of generalized stacking fault energy became available. From what we have seen in the previous slides, we know:

A full dislocation with a Burgers vector  $\boldsymbol{b} = \frac{1}{2}[011]$  (AC) does not change the stacking sequence of the  $\boldsymbol{n} = (1\overline{1}1)$  (ABC).

The situations before and after displacement have **no excess energy** (ground state: closed packed with perfect stacking sequence).



displacement













- With the rise of computational methods, the concept of generalized stacking fault energy became available. From what we have seen in the previous slides, we know:
  - $\gamma$  By the dissociation of the full dislocation, an intrinsic stacking fault is formed. The intrinsic fault has an higher higher energy  $\gamma_{iSF}$  than the ground state. Nevertheless, it's still closed packed with maximum coordination (local hcp structure). Therefore, the energy is rather low in comparison to any other, arbitrary situation.









With the rise of computational methods, the concept of generalized stacking fault energy became available. From what we have seen in the previous slides, we know:





































#### **Frank Partial Dislocations**

Another important type of dissociation is achieved by the formation Frank partials:

$$AC = A\alpha + \alpha C$$
  
$$\frac{1}{2}[011] = \frac{1}{3}[111] + \frac{1}{6}[\overline{2}11]$$

- Note that the Burgers vector of Frank partial dislocations exactly bridges the distance between the slip planes of the octahedral slip system (capital Latin letter with matching Greek lowercase on the opposite tetrahedron face). Therefore, they play an important role in condensation of vacancies and deformation twinning by source mechanisms.
- Frank partial dislocations are considered sessile!
- Pure Frank dislocations are formed by condensation of vacancies to negative prismatic loops.





Condensation of vacancies leads to a prismatic Frank loop with enclosed intrinsic stacking fault.



С

В

Α

#### **Frank Partial Dislocations**





Typical fringe contrast by the stacking fault in a prismatic loop in quenched AlMg3. After recovery, the stacking fault is gone and a full dislocation loop has formed. The segments are parallel to  $\langle 1\overline{1}0 \rangle$  within  $\{111\}$ .

Further analysis actually shows that Frank loops are not composed of single Frank partial dislocations but from typically two or three partials very close to each other (either coplanar or metastable stacked).

D. Hull, D. J. Bacon: "Introduction to Dislocations", Amsterdam, etc.: Elsevier (2011)





**Friedel-Escaig:** the partials first have to constrict in the intersection of the slip planes to a full screw dislocation in order to change the slip plane. This is considered as the major cross slip mechanism in A1 metals and alloys. The constriction can be assisted by thermal fluctuations and the process is hence thermally activated.







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**Fleischer:** the stacking fault changes the slip plane at once! Due to the different Burgers vector of the leading partial in the secondary slip plane, there must be a new segment in the intersection of the slip planes mediating the difference. The segment has  $\frac{1}{6}[01\overline{1}]$  on (100) and is sessile! The process is maybe active at high stresses and high temperatures.



adopted from W. Püschl: "Models for dislocation cross-slip

in close-packed crystal structures: a critical review" in Progress in Materials Science 47 (2002) 415-461





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- Cross slip is a vital contribution to static and dynamic recovery. It allows dislocations to leave the slip plane and annihilate with dislocations of same sign or form a metastable pattern with dislocations of same sign.
- Both fundamental processes are assisted by thermal fluctuation. In order suppress cross slip, temperature of deformation can be decreased. Hence, (dynamic) recovery can be reduced by this as well and higher stress levels are achieved by dislocation strengthening.
- Increasing dissociation width significantly decreases probability for cross slip. This can be achieved by lowering stacking fault energy.





- In Ch. 4d, we introduced dislocation bypass and dislocation intersection as important contributions to dislocation strengthening and work-hardening.
- In real crystal structures, there are additional interaction possibilities due to the discrete nature of the crystal (finite number of slip system and slip planes with various slip directions), namely the reaction of parallel dislocations on inclined slip planes.
- The probability for such reactions is again assessed on the basis of the introduced concepts:
  - Line energy: in case the Burgers vector of the reaction is significantly shorter than the Burgers vector of the original dislocations, the reaction becomes energetically feasible.
  - Interaction stress: in case the interaction stress of the initial dislocations is not to high for the applied stress, the reaction of the dislocation segments is possible.





Dislocation reactions on the same slip plane:

#### Annihilation:

- Slip planes of the two dislocations:  $n_1 = n_2 = (111)$
- Burgers vectors of the initial dislocations:  $b_1 = -b_2 = \frac{1}{2}[\overline{1}10]$
- Burgers vector of the reaction product: no net Burgers vector
- **Recombination** to the third Burgers vector within the slip plane:
  - Slip planes of the two dislocations:  $n_1 = n_2 = (111)$
  - Burgers vectors of the initial dislocations:  $b_1 = \frac{1}{2}[\bar{1}10]$  und  $b_2 = \frac{1}{2}[10\bar{1}]$
  - Burgers vector of the reaction product: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>[110] + <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>[101] = <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>[011] There are two initial full dislocations which recombine to a single full dislocation!
- Any other reaction leads to a much longer Burgers vector of the reaction product and is, therefore, not feasible.





#### Dislocation reactions on different slip planes:

- **Recombination** to another dislocation of the octahedral slip systems:
  - Slip planes of the two dislocations:  $n_1 = (111)$  and  $n_2 = (1\overline{1}1)$
  - Burgers vectors of the initial dislocations:  $b_1 = \frac{1}{2}[\overline{1}10]$  and  $b_2 = \frac{1}{2}[10\overline{1}]$
  - Burgers vector of the reaction product:  $\boldsymbol{b} = \frac{1}{2}[\bar{1}10] + \frac{1}{2}[10\bar{1}] = \frac{1}{2}[01\bar{1}]$ There are two initial full dislocations which recombine to a single full dislocation!
  - Dislocation line of the reaction product:  $s = (111) \times (1\overline{1}1) = [10\overline{1}]$
  - Slip plane of the reaction product:  $\mathbf{n} = \mathbf{s} \times \mathbf{b} = [10\overline{1}] \times \frac{1}{2} [01\overline{1}] = (111)$ The new dislocation is glissile since it is a dislocation on an octahedral slip system  $(111)\frac{1}{2}[01\overline{1}]$ .







and are the initial dislocations
is the reaction product





Dislocation reactions on different slip planes:

#### Lomer-Lock:

- Slip planes of the two dislocations:  $n_1 = (111)$  and  $n_2 = (\overline{1}11)$
- Burgers vectors of the initial dislocations:  $b_1 = \frac{1}{2}[\bar{1}10]$  and  $b_2 = \frac{1}{2}[101]$
- Burgers vector of the reaction product:  $\boldsymbol{b} = \frac{1}{2}[\bar{1}10] + \frac{1}{2}[101] = \frac{1}{2}[011]$ There are two initial full dislocations which recombine to a single full dislocation!

Dislocation line of the reaction product:  $s = (111) \times (\overline{1}11) = [0\overline{1}1]$ 

- Slip plane of the reaction product: *n* = *s* × *b* = [011] × <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>[011] = (100)
   The {100} do not belong to the octahedral slip systems. The reaction product is sessile: lock. In literature, it's usually referred to as "stair rod".
- Any other reaction leads to a much longer Burgers vector of the reaction product and is, therefore, not feasible.







and are the initial dislocations

is the reaction product (the slip plane is not shown)







and are the initial dislocations
is the reaction product

The sessile segment acts as obstacle for the dislocation motion on the two slip planes. In case of an operating dislocation source on either of the slip planes, pile-ups are created. The glissile segments can form glide sources.





Dislocation reactions on different slip planes, but considering the dissociation of the dislocations:

#### Lomer-Cottrell-Lock:

- Slip planes of the two dislocations:  $n_1 = (111)$  und  $n_2 = (\overline{1}11)$
- Burgers vectors of the initial dislocations:  $b_1 = \frac{1}{6}[\bar{1}2\bar{1}] + \frac{1}{6}[\bar{2}11]$  and  $b_2 = \frac{1}{6}[1\bar{1}2] + \frac{1}{6}[211]$
- Burgers vector of the reaction product  $\mathbf{b} = \frac{1}{6}[\bar{1}2\bar{1}] + \frac{1}{6}[1\bar{1}2] = \frac{1}{6}[011]$

Two Shockley partial dislocations react to a single Lomer-Cottrell lock with much shorter Burgers vector!

Dislocation line of the reaction product:  $s = (111) \times (\overline{1}11) = [0\overline{1}1]$ 

- Slip plane of the reaction product: n = s × b = [011] × 1/2 [011] = (100)
   The {100} do not belong to the octahedral slip systems. The reaction product is sessile: lock. In literature, it's usually referred to as "stair rod".
- Any other reaction leads to a much longer Burgers vector of the reaction product and is, therefore, not feasible.







and are the initial dislocations

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The sessile segment acts as obstacle for the dislocation motion on the two slip planes. In case of an operating dislocation source on either of the slip planes, pile-ups are created. The glissile segments can form glide sources.





- In A1 metals and alloys, closed packed planes and closed packed directions act as slip systems: octahedral slip systems.
- Depending on the intrinsic stacking fault energy, dislocations are dissociated. The dissociation restricts the cross slip probability of screw dislocations and, therefore, the ability to dynamically recover.
- The reaction of dislocations on different slip planes can lead to the formation of locks. Locks cause pile-up of dislocations and formation of glide sources. Hence, locks play a vital role in workhardening of A1 metals and alloys.

