

BMM1523/BHA1113 ENGINEERING MATERIALS

STRENGTHENING MECHANISM OF METALLIC MATERIALS

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Chapter Description

- **Aims**

Student are expected to have basic understanding of strengthening mechanism for metallic materials

- **Expected Outcomes**

Ability to explain the following strengthening mechanisms ;

- 1) Grain boundary reduction
- 2) Solid Solution Formation
- 3) Precipitation Strengthening
- 4) Cold Work

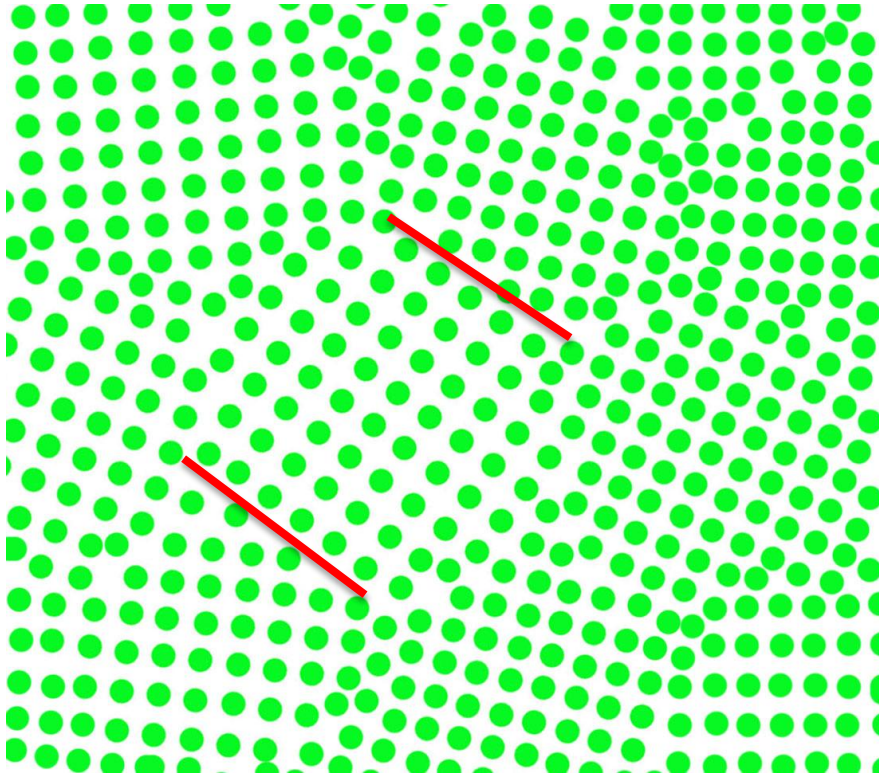
- **References**

1. William D. Callister and David G. Rethwisch. Materials science and engineering: An Introduction, 9th Ed. Wiley, 2014.

STRENGTHENING MECHANISMS

- ☐ Grain Size Reduction
- ☐ Solid Solution Formation
- ☐ Precipitation Strengthening
- ☐ Cold Work

(1) GRAIN SIZE REDUCTION



- Grain boundary acts as barriers to slips
- \uparrow Grain boundary = \downarrow Grain size
- This increase the total stress required for slip to occur
- Thus increasing the strength of respective material

 Grain boundary

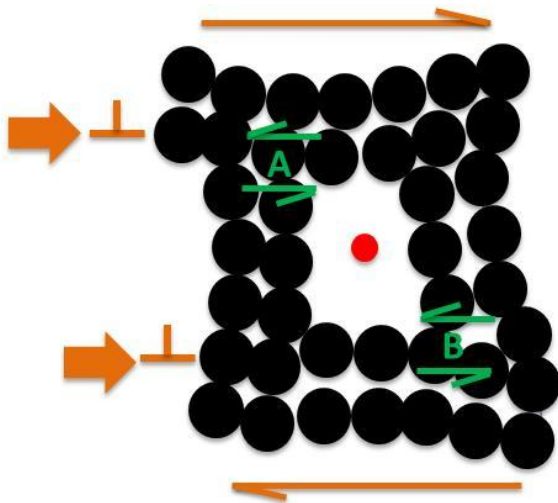
Hall-Petch Equation

$$\sigma_{yield} = \sigma_0 + k_y d^{-1/2}$$

<https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Crystallite.jpg>

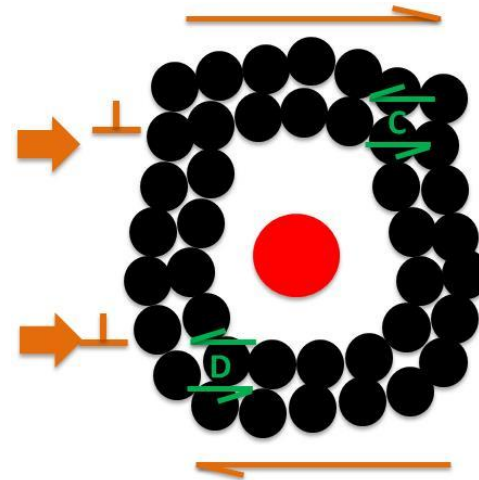
(2) SOLID SOLUTION FORMATION

- Impurity atom induce lattice distortion
- This leads to generation of lattice strains
- These strains act as barrier to dislocation motion
- \uparrow Lattice strains = \uparrow strength



(a) Smaller substitutional impurity atom

- Impurity induce local stress at A and B that oppose dislocation motion

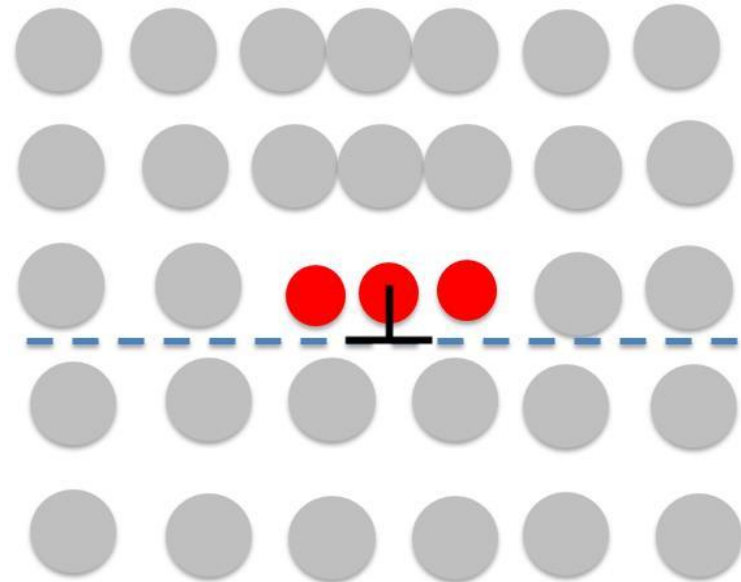
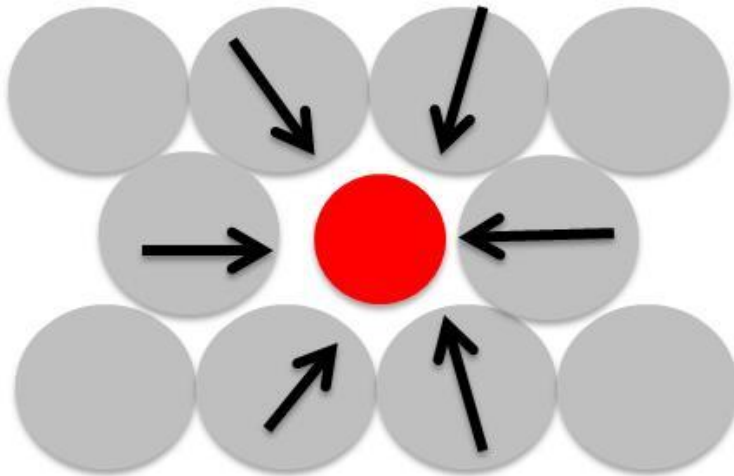


(b) Larger substitutional impurity atom

- Impurity induce local stress at C and D that oppose dislocation motion

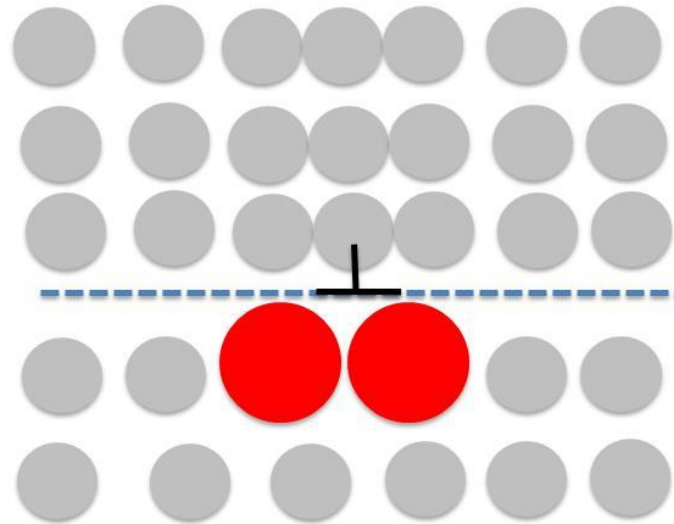
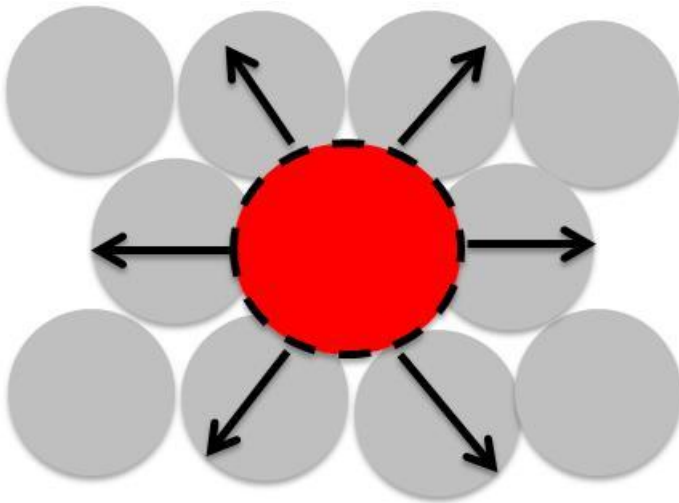
(2) SOLID SOLUTION FORMATION

- **Smaller impurity atoms** tend to focus at dislocations regions
- This result in partial cancellation of strains (in this case **compressive strains**)
- More stress is needed to cause dislocation movement → increase strength



(2) SOLID SOLUTION FORMATION

- **Larger impurity atoms** tend to focus at dislocations regions
- This result in partial cancellation of strains (in this case **tensile strains**)
- More stress is needed to cause dislocation movement ➡ increase strength

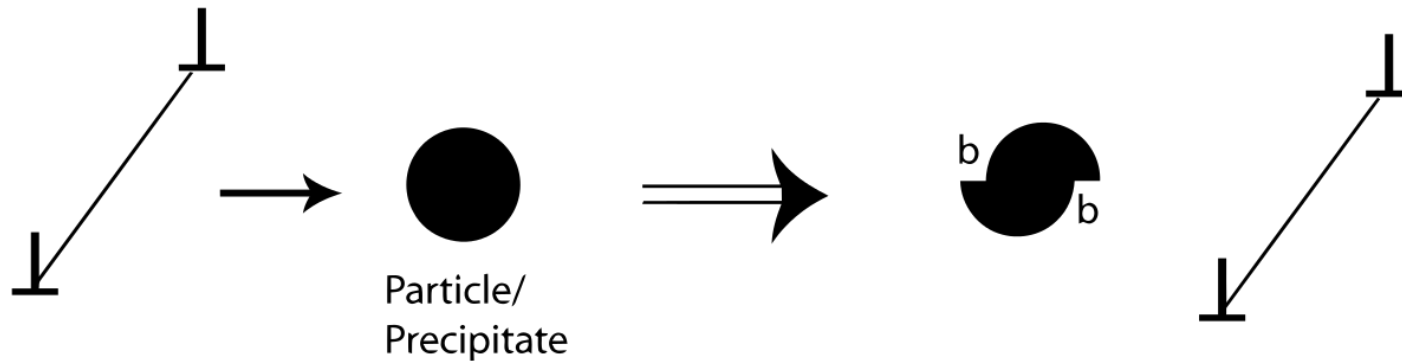


Relation between alloy strength and concentration of alloying element

$$\sigma_y \sim C^{1/2}$$

(3) PRECIPITATION STRENGTHENING

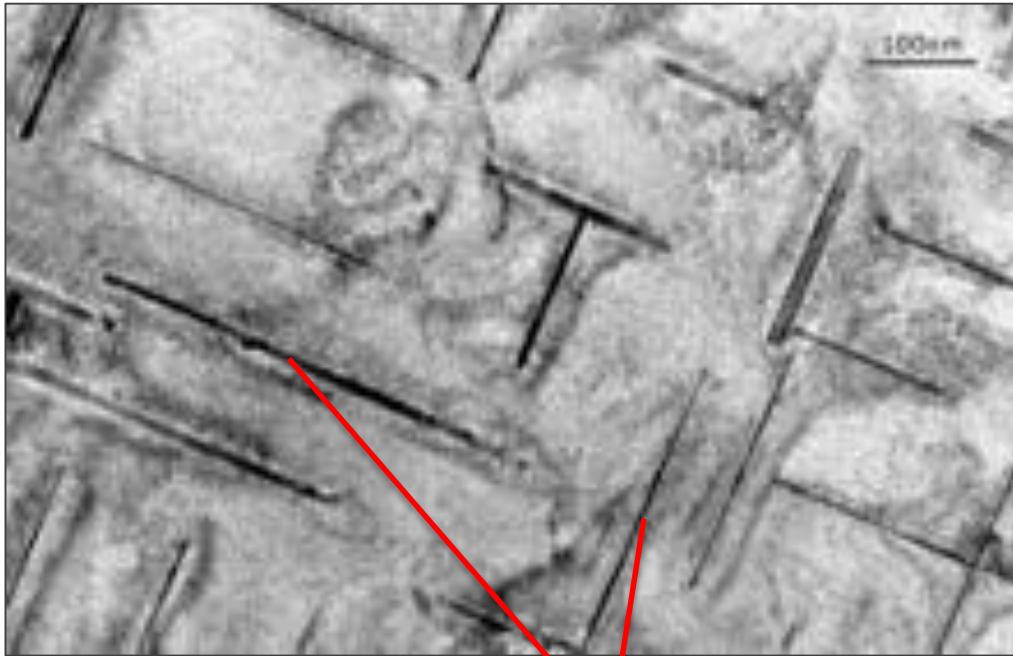
- Precipitates act as barrier to dislocation movement
- Greater stress is needed to move dislocation towards precipitate
- Strength of material increases



Larger shear stress is needed to move dislocation through precipitate and shear it.

(3) PRECIPITATION STRENGTHENING

Aluminum-copper alloy



- Aluminium copper alloy (4 at% Cu)
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- Copper precipitation exist within the aluminium matrix.

Plate-like copper precipitates

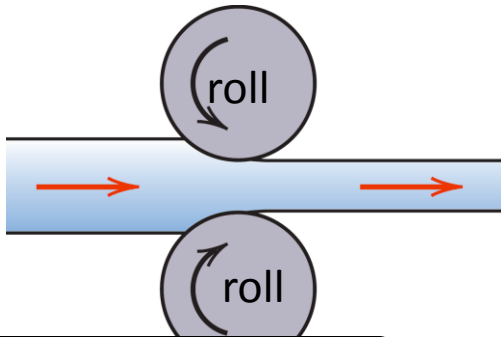
(4) COLD WORK

- Cold Work involves deforming workpiece at room temperature
- Usually results in decreasing the cross sectional area of workpiece
- Cold Work induce dislocations pile up → dislocation entanglement → dislocation movement barrier → higher strength

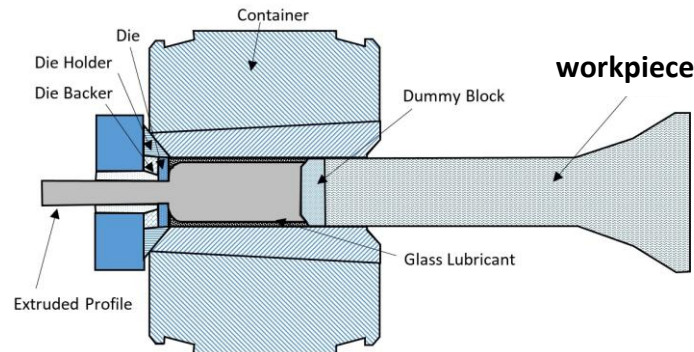
Percentage of Cold Work

$$\%CW = \frac{A_o - A_d}{A_o} \times 100$$

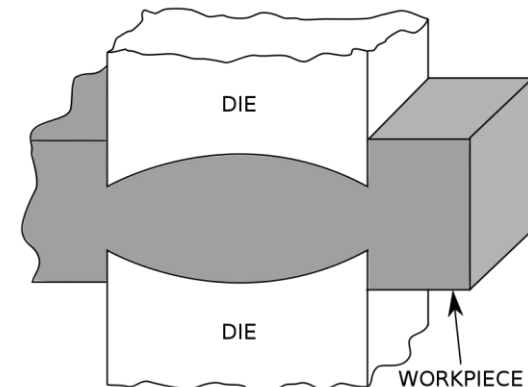
Cold Rolling



Extrusion



Forging



SUMMARY

- The main concept of strengthening metallic material is to hinder dislocation movement
- The main mechanism of metallic materials ;
 - 1) Grain Size Reduction
 - 2) Solid Solution Formation
 - 3) Precipitation Strengthening
 - 4) Cold Working

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Research Interest:

- ☐ High Temperature Physical Chemistry
- ☐ Thin Films Technology
- ☐ Metals and Alloys.

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