Chapter 3: The Structure of Crystalline Solids

ISSUES TO ADDRESS...

- How do atoms assemble into solid structures?
- How does the density of a material depend on its structure?
- When do material properties vary with the sample (i.e., part) orientation?



Energy and Packing



Materials and Packing

Crystalline materials...

- atoms pack in periodic, 3D arrays
- typical of: -metals

-many ceramics -some polymers

Noncrystalline materials...

- atoms have no periodic packing
- occurs for: -complex structures
 -rapid cooling

"Amorphous" = Noncrystalline



crystalline SiO₂ Adapted from Fig. 3.23(a), *Callister & Rethwisch 8e.*

•Si • Oxygen



noncrystalline SiO₂ Adapted from Fig. 3.23(b),

Callister & Rethwisch 8e.

Metallic Crystal Structures

 How can we stack metal atoms to minimize empty space?

2-dimensions



Now stack these 2-D layers to make 3-D structures



Metallic Crystal Structures

- Tend to be densely packed.
- Reasons for dense packing:
 - Typically, only one element is present, so all atomic radii are the same.
 - Metallic bonding is not directional.
 - Nearest neighbor distances tend to be small in order to lower bond energy.
 - Electron cloud shields cores from each other
- Have the simplest crystal structures.

We will examine three such structures...



Crystal Systems

Unit cell: smallest repetitive volume which contains the complete lattice pattern of a crystal.





Fig. 3.4, Callister & Rethwisch 8e.

Simple Cubic Structure (SC)

- Rare due to low packing density (only Po has this structure)
- Close-packed directions are cube edges.



Click once on image to start animation (Courtesy P.M. Anderson) Coordination # = 6 (# nearest neighbors)







• APF for a simple cubic structure = 0.52



Body Centered Cubic Structure (BCC)

- Atoms touch each other along cube diagonals.
 - --Note: All atoms are identical; the center atom is shaded differently only for ease of viewing.

ex: Cr, W, Fe (α), Tantalum, Molybdenum

• Coordination # = 8





Atomic Packing Factor: BCC

• APF for a body-centered cubic structure = 0.68



Face Centered Cubic Structure (FCC)

• Atoms touch each other along face diagonals.

--Note: All atoms are identical; the face-centered atoms are shaded differently only for ease of viewing.

• Coordination # = 12



Adapted from Fig. 3.1, Callister & Rethwisch 8e.

Click once on image to start animation (Courtesy P.M. Anderson)

4 atoms/unit cell: 6 face x 1/2 + 8 corners x 1/8



Atomic Packing Factor: FCC

• APF for a face-centered cubic structure = 0.74

 $\int 2 a$ Adapted from Fig. 3.1(a), atoms Callister & Rethwisch 8e.

maximum achievable APF

Close-packed directions: length = $4R = \sqrt{2} a$

Unit cell contains: 6 x 1/2 + 8 x 1/8 = 4 atoms/unit cell



FCC Stacking Sequence

- ABCABC... Stacking Sequence
- 2D Projection

A sites B sites C sites



FCC Unit Cell





Hexagonal Close-Packed Structure (HCP)

- ABAB... Stacking Sequence
- 3D Projection



- Coordination # = 12
- APF = 0.74
- *c*/*a* = 1.633

2D Projection
 Top layer
 Middle layer
 Bottom layer

6 atoms/unit cell

ex: Cd, Mg, Ti, Zn



Theoretical Density, p

Density =
$$\rho$$
 = $\frac{\text{Mass of Atoms in Unit Cell}}{\text{Total Volume of Unit Cell}}$

$$\rho = \frac{nA}{V_C N_A}$$



n = number of atoms/unit cell A = atomic weight $V_C =$ Volume of unit cell = a^3 for cubic $N_A =$ Avogadro's number = 6.022 x 10²³ atoms/mol



Theoretical Density, ρ



Densities of Material Classes



Crystals as Building Blocks

- Some engineering applications require single crystals:
 - -- diamond single crystals for abrasives



(Courtesy Martin Deakins, GE Superabrasives, Worthington, OH. Used with permission.) Fig. 8.33(c), *Callister* & *Rethwisch* 8*e*. (Fig. 8.33(c) courtesy of Pratt and Whitney).

-- turbine blades

- Properties of crystalline materials often related to crystal structure.
 - -- Ex: Quartz fractures more easily along some crystal planes than others.



(Courtesy P.M. Anderson)



Polycrystals

Anisotropic

• Most engineering materials are polycrystals.



Adapted from Fig. K, color inset pages of *Callister 5e*. (Fig. K is courtesy of Paul E. Danielson, Teledyne Wah Chang Albany)

- Nb-Hf-W plate with an electron beam weld.
- Each "grain" is a single crystal.
- If grains are randomly oriented, overall component properties are not directional.
- Grain sizes typically range from 1 nm to 2 cm (i.e., from a few to millions of atomic layers).

Isotropic



Single vs Polycrystals

- Single Crystals

 Properties vary with
 direction: anisotropic.
 - -Example: the modulus of elasticity (E) in BCC iron:
- Polycrystals
 - Properties may/may not vary with direction.
 If grains are randomly oriented: isotropic.
 (E_{poly iron} = 210 GPa)
 If grains are textured, anisotropic.

E (diagonal) = 273 GPa E (edge) = 125 GPa 200 µm

Data from Table 3.3, *Callister & Rethwisch* 8e. (Source of data is R.W. Hertzberg, *Deformation and Fracture Mechanics of Engineering Materials*, 3rd ed., John Wiley and Sons, 1989.)

Adapted from Fig. 4.14(b), *Callister* & *Rethwisch 8e*. (Fig. 4.14(b) is courtesy of L.C. Smith and C. Brady, the National Bureau of Standards, Washington, DC [now the National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, MD].)



Polymorphism

• Two or more distinct crystal structures for the same material (allotropy/polymorphism)

titanium α, β-Ti

carbon diamond, graphite





Point Coordinates



Point coordinates for unit cell center are

a/2, b/2, c/2 $\frac{1}{2}\frac{1}{2}\frac{1}{2}$

Point coordinates for unit cell corner are 111

Translation: integer multiple of lattice constants → identical position in another unit cell



Crystallographic Directions



Algorithm

- 1. Vector repositioned (if necessary) to pass through origin.
- 2. Read off projections in terms of unit cell dimensions *a*, *b*, and *c*
- 3. Adjust to smallest integer values
- 4. Enclose in square brackets, no commas [*uvw*]

ex: 1, 0, $\frac{1}{2} \implies 2, 0, 1 \implies [201]$

-1, 1, 1 => [111] where overbar represents a negative index

families of directions <uvv>



Linear Density

Number of atoms

• Linear Density of Atoms \equiv LD = Unit length of direction vector



Adapted from Fig. 3.1(a), *Callister & Rethwisch 8e.*









Crystallographic Planes





Crystallographic Planes

- Miller Indices: Reciprocals of the (three) axial intercepts for a plane, cleared of fractions & common multiples. All parallel planes have same Miller indices.
- Algorithm
 - 1. Read off intercepts of plane with axes in terms of *a*, *b*, *c*
 - 2. Take reciprocals of intercepts
 - 3. Reduce to smallest integer values
 - 4. Enclose in parentheses, no commas i.e., (*hkl*)





Family of Planes {*hkl*} Ex: {100} = (100), (010), (001), ($\overline{100}$), ($\overline{010}$), ($\overline{001}$) Planar Density of Atoms = PD = $\frac{\text{Number of atoms}}{\text{Unit area of plane}}$



Crystallographic Planes

- We want to examine the atomic packing of crystallographic planes
- Iron foil can be used as a catalyst. The atomic packing of the exposed planes is important.
 - a) Draw (100) and (111) crystallographic planes for Fe.
 - b) Calculate the planar density for each of these planes.



Planar Density of (100) Iron

Solution: At T < 912°C iron has the BCC structure.



Planar Density of (111) Iron



X-Rays to Determine Crystal Structure

Incoming X-rays diffract from crystal planes.



Measurement of critical angle, θ_c , allows computation of planar spacing, *d*.

X-ray intensity (from detector)





X-Ray Diffraction Pattern



Adapted from Fig. 3.22, Callister 8e.



SUMMARY

- Atoms may assemble into crystalline or amorphous structures.
- Common metallic crystal structures are FCC, BCC, and HCP. Coordination number and atomic packing factor are the same for both FCC and HCP crystal structures.
- We can predict the density of a material, provided we know the atomic weight, atomic radius, and crystal geometry (e.g., FCC, BCC, HCP).
- Crystallographic points, directions and planes are specified in terms of indexing schemes. Crystallographic directions and planes are related to atomic linear densities and planar densities.



SUMMARY

- Materials can be single crystals or polycrystalline. Material properties generally vary with single crystal orientation (i.e., they are anisotropic), but are generally non-directional (i.e., they are isotropic) in polycrystals with randomly oriented grains.
- Some materials can have more than one crystal structure. This is referred to as polymorphism (or allotropy).
- X-ray diffraction is used for crystal structure and interplanar spacing determinations.

