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Influences of high strain rate, low temperature, and deformation direction on microstructural evolution and mechanical properties of copper

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Abstract

Step-wise deformations are applied to pure copper along uniaxial direction or multiaxial directions in three conditions of speed and temperature: static and room temperature, dynamic and room temperature, or dynamic and low temperature. Through examinations of total 36 deformation stages, the influences of strain rate, temperature, and deformation direction on microstructural evolution and mechanical properties are investigated. According to the results, the deformation mechanism at extreme conditions (high strain rate and low temperature) changes from only dislocation slip to dislocation slip and deformation twinning. Although deformation-direction change has no significant effect on the final mechanical properties and total dislocation densities measured from X-ray diffraction results, the evolutions of grain-boundary misorientation and geometrically necessary dislocations (GNDs) are clearly influenced. The trend of microstructural evolution, i.e. larger grain size and lower GND densities by multi-axial deformation than the uniaxial case, is reversed when twinning occurred. Based on the results, we suggest four evolution models: uniaxial or multi axial cases with dislocation slip, or with dislocation slip and deformation twinning. Even if the homogenous and almost fully twinned microstructure producing improved mechanical strength was obtained by applying the extreme deformations, poor ductility of the processed specimen were observed.

Keywords: low-temperature deformation, dynamic plastic deformation, deformation twinning,

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