Fundamentals of Metal Forming

Chapter 15

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15.1 Introduction

- Deformation processes have been designed to exploit the plasticity of engineering materials
- Plasticity is the ability of a material to flow as a solid without deterioration of properties
- Deformation processes require a large amount of force
- Processes include bulk flow, simple shearing, or compound bending

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States of Stress



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15.2 Forming Processes: Independent Variables

- Forming processes consist of independent and dependent variables
- Independent variables are the aspects of the processes that the engineer or operator has direct control
 - Starting material
 - Starting geometry of the workpiece
 - Tool or die geometry
 - Lubrication
 - Starting temperature
 - Speed of operation
 - Amount of deformation

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Forming Operations

Process	Schematic Diagram	State of Stress in Main Part During Forming ^a
Rolling		7
Forging		9
Extrusion		9
Shear spinning		12

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Forming Operations



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Forming Operations



*Numbers correspond to those in parentheses in Table 15-1.

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15.3 Dependent Variables

- Dependent variables are those that are determined by the independent variable selection
 - Force or power requirements
 - Material properties of the product
 - Exit or final temperature
 - Surface finish and precision
 - Nature of the material flow

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15.4 Independent-Dependent Relationships

- Independent variables- control is direct and immediate
- Dependent variables- control is entirely indirect
 - Determined by the process
 - If a dependent variable needs to be controlled, the designer must select the proper independent variable that changes the dependent variable

Independent-Dependent Relationships

- Information on the interdependence of independent and dependent variables can be learned in three ways
 - Experience
 - Experiment
 - Process modeling

Independent variables	Links	Dependent variables
Starting material	-Experience-	Force or power requirements
Tool geometry	-Experience-	Product properties
Lubrication	-Experiment-	Exit temperature
Starting temperature		Surface finish
Speed of deformation	-Modeling-	Dimensional precision
Amount of deformation		Material flow details

Figure 15-1 Schematic representation of a metalforming system showing independent variables, dependent variables, and the various means of linking the two.

15.5 Process Modeling

- Simulations are created using finite element modeling
- Models can predict how a material will respond to a rolling process, fill a forging die, flow through an extrusion die, or solidify in a casting
- Heat treatments can be simulation
- Costly trial and error development cycles can be eliminated

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15.6 General Parameters

- Material being deformed must be characterized
 - Strength or resistance for deformation
 - Conditions at different temperatures
 - Formability limits
 - Reaction to lubricants
- Speed of deformation and its effects
- Speed-sensitive materials- more energy is required to produce the same results

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15.7 Friction and Lubrication Under Metalworking Conditions

- High forces and pressures are required to deform a material
- For some processes, 50% of the energy is spent in overcoming friction
- Changes in lubrication can alter material flow, create or eliminate defects, alter surface finish and dimensional precision, and modify product properties
- Production rates, tool design, tool wear, and process optimization depend on the ability to determine and control friction

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Friction Conditions

- Metalforming friction differs from the friction encountered in mechanical devices
- For light, elastic loads, friction is proportional to the applied pressure
 - μ is the coefficient of friction
- At high pressures, friction is related to the strength of the weaker material



Figure 15-2 The effect of contact pressure on the frictional resistance between two surfaces.

Friction

- Friction is resistance to sliding along an interface
- Resistance can be attributed to:
 - Abrasion
 - Adhesion
- Resistance is proportional to the strength of the weaker material and the contact area

Surface Deterioration

- Surface wear is related to friction
- Wear on the workpiece is not objectionable, but wear on the tooling is
- Tooling wear is economically costly and can impact dimensional precision
- Tolerance control can be lost
- Tool wear can impact the surface finish

Lubrication

- Key to success in many metalforming operations
- Primarily selected to reduce friction and tool wear, but may be used as a thermal barrier, coolant, or corrosion retardant
- Other factors
 - Ease of removal, lack of toxicity, odor, flammability, reactivity, temperature, velocity, wetting characteristics

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15.8 Temperature Concerns

- Workpiece temperature can be one of the most important process variables
- In general, an increase in temperature is related to a decrease in strength, increase in ductility, and decrease in the rate of strain hardening
- Hot working
- Cold working
- Warm working

Hot Working

- Plastic deformation of metals at a temperature above the recrystallization temperature
- Temperature varies greatly with material
- Recrystallization removes the effects of strain hardening
- Hot working may produce undesirable reactions from the metal and its surroundings

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Structure and Property Modification by Hot Working

- The size of grains upon cooling is not typically uniform
- Undesirable grain shapes can be common (such as columnar grains)
- Recrystallization is followed by:
 - grain growth
 - additional deformation and recrystallization
 - drop in temperature that will terminate
 diffusion and freeze the recrystallized structure

Hot Working

- Engineering properties can be improved through reorienting inclusion or impurities
- During plastic deformation, impurities tend to flow along with the base metal or fraction into rows of fragments

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Figure 15-3 Cross section of a 4-in.-diameter case copper bar polished and etched to show the as-cast grain structure.



Figure 15-4 Flow structure of a hot-forged gear blank. Note how flow is parallel to all critical surfaces. (*Courtesy of Bethlehem Steel Corporation, Bethlehem, PA.*)

Temperature Variations in Hot Working

- Success or failure of a hot deformation process often depends on the ability to control temperatures
- Over 90% of the energy imparted to a deforming workpiece is converted to heat
- Nonuniform temperatures may be produced and may result in cracking
- Thin sections cool faster than thick sections



Figure 15-5 Schematic comparison of the grain flow in a machined thread (a) and a rolled thread (b). The rolling operation further deforms the axial structure produced by the previous wire- or rod-forming operations, while machining simply cuts through it.

Cold Working

- Plastic deformation below the recrystallization temperature
- Advantages as compared to hot working
 - No heating required
 - Better surface finish
 - Superior dimensional control
 - Better reproducibility
 - Strength, fatigue, and wear are improved
 - Directional properties can be imparted
 - Contamination is minimized

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Disadvantages of Cold Working

- Higher forces are required to initiate and complete the deformation
- Heavier and more powerful equipment and stronger tooling are required
- Less ductility is available
- Metal surfaces must be clean and scale-free
- Intermediate anneals may be required
- Imparted directional properties can be detrimental
- Undesirable residual stresses may be produced

Metal Properties and Cold Working

- Two features that are significant in selecting a material for cold working are
 - Magnitude of the yield-point stress
 - Extent of the strain region from yield stress to fracture
- Springback should also be considered when selecting a material



Initial and Final Properties in a Cold-Working Process

- Quality of the starting material is important to the success or failure of the coldworking process
- The starting material should be clean and free of oxide or scale that might cause abrasion to the dies or rolls

Figure 15-7 (Below) Stress-strain curve for a low-carbon steel showing the commonly observed yield-point runout; (Right) Luders bands or stretcher strains that form when this material is stretched to an amount less than the yield-point runout.



Additional Effects of Cold Working

- Annealing heat treatments may be performed prior or at intermediate intervals to cold working
- Heat treatments allows additional cold working and deformation processes
- Cold working produces a structure where properties vary with direction, anisotropy



Figure 15-8 Mechanical properties of pure copper as a function of the amount of cold work (expressed in percent).

Warm Forming

- Deformations produced at temperatures intermediate to cold and hot working
- Advantages
 - Reduced loads on the tooling and equipment
 - Increased material ductility
 - Possible reduction in the number of anneals
 - Less scaling and decarburization
 - Better dimensional precision and smoother surfaces than hot working
 - Used for processes such as forging and extrusion

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Isothermal Forming

- Deformation that occurs under constant temperature
- Dies and tooling are heated to the same temperature as the workpiece
- Eliminates cracking from nonuniform surface temperatures
- Inert atmospheres may be used



Figure 15-9 Yield strength of various materials (as indicated by pressure required to forge a standard specimen) as a function of temperature. Materials with steep curves may require isothermal forming. (*From "A Study of Forging Variables," ML-TDR-64-95, March 1964; courtesy of Battelle Columbus Laboratories, Columbus, OH.*)

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