

# 激光熔化沉积 AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub> 高熵合金的组织与力学性能研究

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**摘要** 采用激光熔化沉积法制备 AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub> 高熵合金, 通过 X 射线衍射仪、扫描电子显微镜、能谱仪、电子背散射衍射技术和力学拉伸测试研究合金的凝固组织、元素分布和力学性能。研究结果表明, 通过激光熔化沉积法制备的 AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub> 高熵合金的微观组织为外延生长的柱状枝晶, 其由一次和二次枝晶干处的面心立方(FCC)相与枝晶间隙处的体心立方(BCC)相组成。拉伸结果表明, 在激光沉积方向, 合金的抗拉强度达到 1428 MPa, 延伸率为 25.8%。断口形貌显示出在 FCC 相区域观察到了大量的滑移轨迹, 而位于枝晶间隙处的硬质 BCC 相能够有效阻碍滑移的扩展, 使得 FCC 相中的位错密度进一步提高。拉伸变形过程中, 合金内部组织中的 FCC 相与 BCC 相的耦合协同作用, 可以促使 AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub> 高熵合金表现出优异的综合力学性能。

**关键词** 材料; 激光熔化沉积; 高熵合金; 微观组织; 拉伸性能

中图分类号 TG135+.1 文献标志码 A

doi: 10.3788/CJL202148.0602107

## 1 引言

高熵合金由 5 种及 5 种以上等原子比或近等原子比的主要元素组成且具有简单的晶体结构<sup>[1-3]</sup>。基于以上结构特点, 高熵合金具有独特的高熵效应、晶格畸变效应、迟滞扩散效应和“鸡尾酒”效应<sup>[1]</sup>, 为此表现出很多优异的物理化学特性<sup>[4-9]</sup>。

开发出兼顾高强高韧的高熵合金成为目前的研究热点之一<sup>[4-6]</sup>。Lü 等<sup>[4]</sup>将 Al 元素引入到具有单面心立方(FCC)相结构的 CoCrFeNi 高熵合金中, 制备出了具有 FCC 相和体心立方(BCC)相的 Al<sub>0.75</sub>CoCrFeNi 高熵合金, 合金的压缩屈服强度从 200 MPa 提升到 1400 MPa, 压缩变形量近 30%。Gao 等<sup>[5]</sup>研究了 AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.1</sub> 共晶双相高熵合金的组织结构及拉伸性能, 其组织结构由层片状 FCC 相(软相)与 BCC 相(硬相)组成, 具有 1351 MPa 的

抗拉强度与 15.4% 的延伸率。

“熔-铸”法是制备高熵合金的常用方法之一<sup>[4-12]</sup>, 然而高熵合金中含有多种主要元素且元素间的熔点及物化属性差异较大, 因此在铸造高熵合金的过程中往往引入成分偏析、残余应力和空隙等缺陷。激光增材制造(LAM)技术是一种基于离散与堆积成型相结合的新型制造技术, 具有自动化程度高、可定制化生产和复杂构件近净成型等诸多优点, 通过该技术可实现多种金属构件的控形控性制备<sup>[13-18]</sup>。Joseph 等<sup>[18]</sup>通过直接激光沉积的方法制备了 Al<sub>x</sub>CoCrFeNi 系高熵合金, 其中具有 FCC+BCC 双相结构的 Al<sub>0.85</sub> 合金的压缩屈服强度达到了 1400 MPa, 压缩变形量为 25%。Luo 等<sup>[19]</sup>通过选区激光熔化方法制备了 AlCrCuFeNi<sub>3</sub> 双相高熵合金, 其抗拉强度达到了 957 MPa, 延伸率为 14.3%。迄今, LAM 技术已成为制备高性能高熵合金的重要手段之一。

收稿日期: 2020-07-23; 修回日期: 2020-08-04; 录用日期: 2020-08-24

基金项目: 中国工程物理研究院院长基金(YZJJLX2019010)、中国工程物理研究院创新基金(CX2019020)、新疆维吾尔自治区高校科研计划(XJEDU2019I005)

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前期的报到中,AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.1</sub>共晶高熵合金中BCC硬质相的含量较高,导致该合金在拥有优异的抗拉强度的情况下,无法同时获得较高的延展性<sup>[5, 20]</sup>。因此,本文采用激光熔化沉积的方法制备AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub>双相高熵合金,分析LAM高Ni含量高熵合金的微观组织与拉伸力学性能,并对其变形机理进行深入的探讨。

## 2 实验

图1为采用激光熔化沉积法制备的AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub>高熵合金,其中SD(Scanning Direction)为激光扫描方向,DD(Deposition Direction)为激光沉积方向,TD(Transverse Direction)为截面方向。激光熔化沉积所用的材料为AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub>高熵预合金粉体(球形度≥90%),通过激光粒度仪来测试合金的粒径范围

为45~105 μm。将合金粉体放入真空干燥箱中,加热至120 °C保温2 h后在真空环境中冷却到室温,随后将合金粉体倒入送粉器进料筒中备用。选用尺寸为100 mm×60 mm×10 mm(长×宽×高)的316L不锈钢板作为基体板材,并使用砂轮机去除其表面氧化层后待用。激光熔化沉积系统包括波长为1070 nm的掺钕固体激光发射器、同轴送粉激光头、送粉器系统、高纯氩气供给设备、闭合5轴数控工作台以及CCD(Charge Coupled Device)检测系统。制备合金的激光工艺参数:激光功率为700 W,扫描速度为400 mm/min,送粉速度为8 g/min,保护气流量为5 L/min,光斑直径为2 mm,离焦量为11 mm,抬升量为0.25 mm。在氩气保护的密闭腔室中,采用同轴送粉工艺在316L不锈钢基板上沉积出尺寸为70 mm×3 mm×40 mm的AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub>高熵合金板状样品。

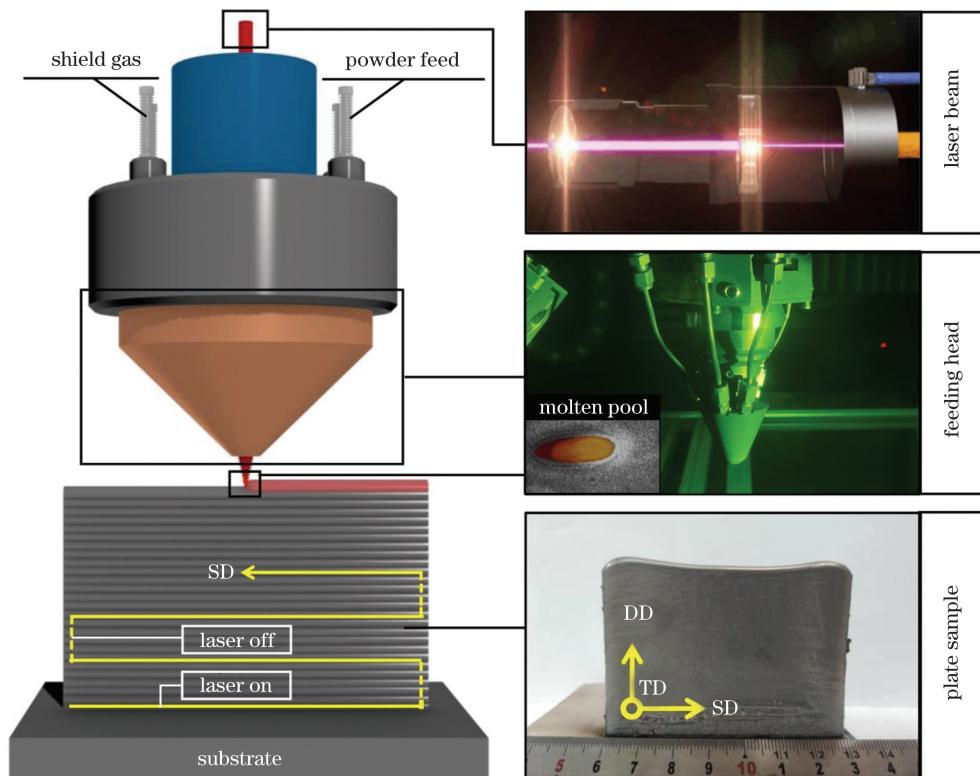


图1 AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub>高熵合金的激光熔化沉积示意图

Fig. 1 Schematic of laser melting deposition of AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub> high-entropy alloy

使用电火花切割机对AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub>高熵合金样品按照测试要求切割成不同尺寸的样品;使用加热镶嵌机对需要磨抛加工的样品进行镶嵌;使用240#、400#、800#、1200#、2500#和4000#的金相砂纸,以及粒径为0.05 μm和0.02 μm的SiC抛光液对样品进行磨抛处理;配置适量的王水对抛光好的样品进行腐

蚀。使用X射线衍射仪(XRD)对样品进行物相分析;使用金相显微镜(OM)以及扫描电子显微镜(SEM)观察样品的组织及断口形貌;使用能谱仪(EDS)对合金样品进行面扫描以获得元素的分布情况;使用电子背散射衍射装置(EBSD)对合金样品进行晶体学分析;使用拉伸试验机对板状拉伸样品进行力学性能测试。

### 3 分析与讨论

#### 3.1 微观组织形貌与物相分析

图2(a)为AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub>高熵合金的XRD图谱,通过标对PDF卡片,表明合金由FCC和BCC两种晶体结构组成。从图2(a)可以看到,FCC相中的(200)峰高于(111)和(220)等峰,表明FCC相在[200]方向存在择优取向。图2(b)为垂直于样品TD方向的背散射电子形貌。从图2(b)可以看到,该合金由外延生长的柱状枝晶组成。图2(c)为图2(b)的局部放大图,图2(d)为EBSD相图。从图2(c)和图2(d)可以看到,柱状枝晶的一次和二次枝晶干由FCC相构成,而BCC相则均匀分布在一次和二次枝晶壁的间隙,FCC相的体积分数约为BCC相的10倍。通过EDS对两相成分进行进一步的表征,结果如图2(e)所示。从图2(e)可以看到,BCC相中(暗区)主要富集了Al元素和Ni元素,而FCC相中(亮区)的元素分布较为均匀,未出现明显的元素富集现象。有研究结果表明,富Al-Ni的BCC相中包含B2型有序金属间化合物,由于Al原

子与Ni原子更容易键合且Al-Ni系统具有最大负混合焓,因此会形成极为稳定且长程有序的B2结构,较大的Al原子占据体心立方结构的中心位置,Ni原子则分布在顶角位置<sup>[5,20]</sup>。

据报道,在具有单相BCC结构的高熵合金中添加Ni元素有利于促进BCC相到FCC相的转变。文献[19]在AlCrCuFrNi高熵合金基(单相BCC结构)中添加Ni元素,制备出了新型双相(FCC+BCC)高熵合金。文献[5]在AlCoCrFeNi高熵合金基(单相BCC结构)中添加Ni元素,制备出了兼具高强高塑性能的AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.1</sub>双相(FCC+BCC)共晶高熵合金,组织结构表现为FCC相与BCC相呈层片状交替分布,FCC相的体积分数约为BCC相的2倍。根据价电子浓度(VCE)的判据,当高熵合金体系中总的VCE值大于等于8时,合金趋向于形成单相FCC固溶体结构<sup>[21]</sup>,因此在合金体系中添加VCE值为10的Ni元素,有利于FCC相的生成。AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub>高熵合金相对于AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.1</sub>合金来说,具有更高的Ni含量,因此合金中的FCC相含量得到了提升。

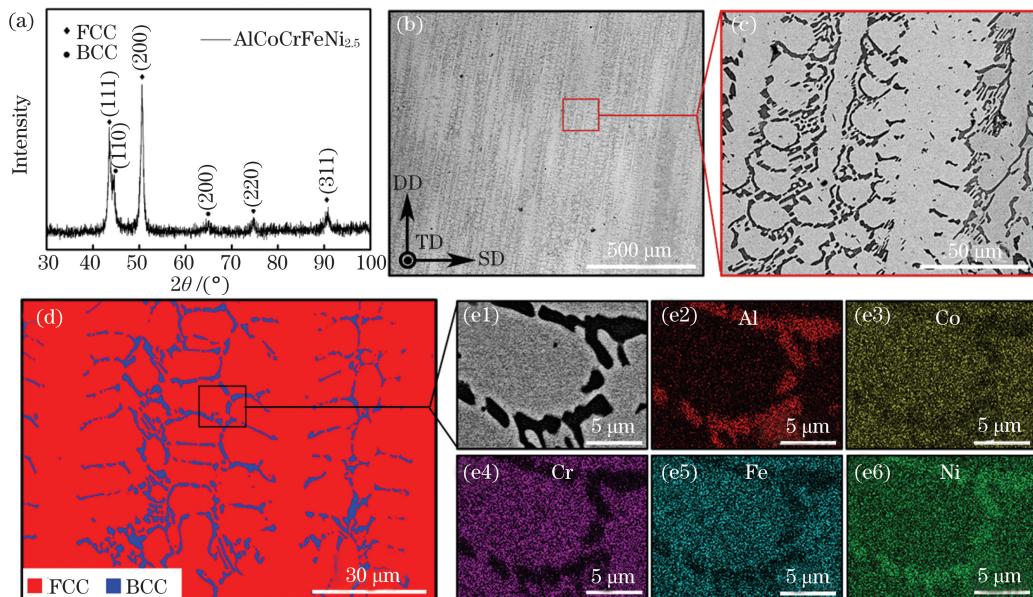


图2 AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub>高熵合金的组织形貌及物相分析。(a) XRD衍射图;(b) SEM背散射电子形貌;(c)图(b)的局部放大图;(d)相分布图;(e1)~(e6)图(d)的放大图及其元素分布

Fig. 2 Microscopic morphology and phase analysis of AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub> high-entropy alloy. (a) XRD diffraction pattern; (b) SEM backscattered electron morphology; (c) partial enlargement of Fig. (b); (d) phase distribution diagram; (e1)–(e6)partial enlargement of Fig. (d) and its element distribution

#### 3.2 激光熔化沉积高熵合金的结晶学取向分析

AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub>高熵合金的EBSD分析结果如图3所示,其中图3(a)为使用EBSD数据所绘制的反极图,图3(b)为极图。从图3可以看到,FCC相

具有显著的{001}⟨100⟩织构,而在枝晶间隙析出的BCC相未显示出明显的织构。据文献[22]的报道,激光熔化沉积的过程中,具有高导热系数的基板主导着熔池中液态金属的热流方向,使热流方向垂直

于激光扫描方向并热流向基板内部传递。基于这种传热特性,凝固从熔池底部向顶部进行。当单层沉积时,由于熔池底部与顶部的温度梯度较大,则凝固组织表现为等轴晶到柱状晶再到等轴晶(对应熔池底部、中部和顶部)的分布。当多层沉积时,前一层金属顶部的等轴晶会被新一层的熔池熔融,这样凝固就会沿着前一层的柱状晶继续进行,从而导致晶粒在定向凝固过程中表现出典型的外延生长特征。图2(b)的凝固组织正是基于激光定向凝固外延生长所形成的柱状枝晶。在定向凝固的条件下,温度梯度最大的方向基本平行于激光熔化沉积方向(DD),而柱状枝晶则以接近于温度梯度的方向择优生长<sup>[23]</sup>,图2(b)的柱状枝晶生长方向基本平行于DD方向。枝晶生长方向相对于DD方向之所以会

出现小角度的偏移,原因在于激光沉积的过程中,激光束始终沿着扫描方向移动,导致熔池呈现出泪滴型或类椭圆型的非对称结构,这样熔池底部的热流会朝着激光扫描方向发生小角度的偏斜。对于具有FCC晶体结构的合金而言,凝固过程中的柱状枝晶将沿着<100>晶体学方向择优生长<sup>[23-24]</sup>。凝固过程中,晶体结构的非密排面生长速度相比于密排面更快<sup>[23]</sup>,这是由于非密排面具有较高的接纳因子,其原子排列松散,原子间隙较大,所以液相中的原子更容易进入。因此,FCC结构的<100>方向会优先形核生长,初生的小枝干突出于液相中,随着核进一步的长大,逐步长成一次枝晶干,一次枝干生长过程中散发的熔化潜热使得相邻枝干保持一定间距,且每条枝干近乎平行,如图2(b)所示。

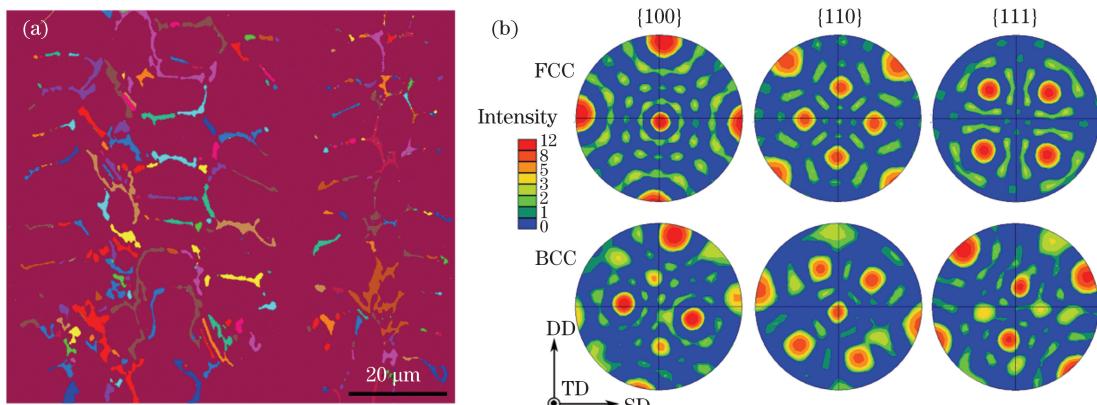


图3 AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub>高熵合金的EBSD结果。(a) EBSD反极图;(b) EBSD极图

Fig. 3 EBSD results of AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub> high-entropy alloy. (a) EBSD inverse pole figure;(b) EBSD pole figures

### 3.3 拉伸性能与断口形貌分析

AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub>高熵合金的真实拉伸应力应变

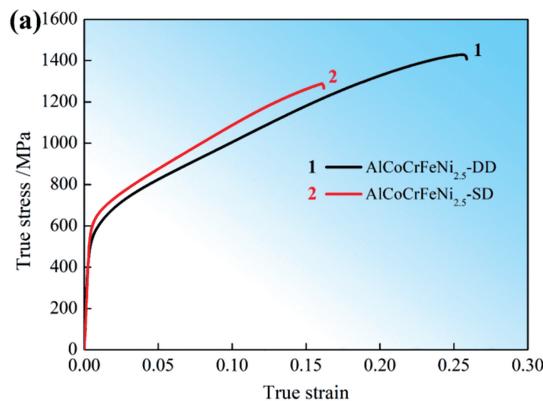


图4 AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub>高熵合金的拉伸力学性能。(a)样品激光沉积方向与扫描方向的真实应力应变曲线;

(b) AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub>高熵合金与常规合金拉伸力学性能对比<sup>[25]</sup>

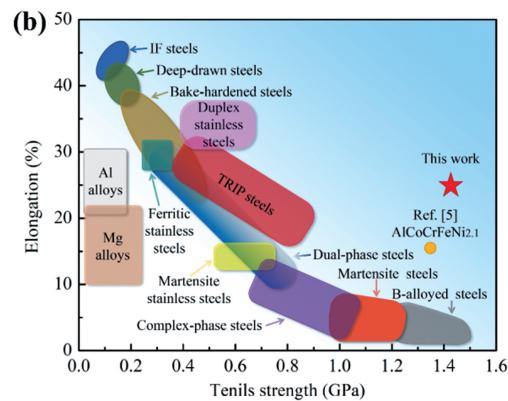


Fig. 4 Tensile mechanical properties of AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub> high-entropy alloy. (a) Real stress-strain curves of laser deposition direction and scanning direction of sample; (b) comparison of tensile mechanical properties between AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub> high-entropy alloy and conventional alloys<sup>[25]</sup>

光熔化沉积方向(DD)和激光扫描方向(SD)分别进行拉伸性能测试。在 DD 方向上,该合金的屈服强度为 502 MPa,抗拉强度高达 1428 MPa,值得注意的是其断裂延伸率到了 25.8%。在 SD 方向上,合金的屈服强度达到了 586 MPa,抗拉强度为 1288 MPa,断裂延伸率为 16.1%。由于柱状枝晶沿着 DD 方向外延生长,因此 DD 方向相比于 SD 方向存在更少的枝晶壁与相界,在拉伸过程中位错滑移所遇到的“阻碍”更少,并且可以储存更多的位错来提高塑性与加工硬化能力,因而合金在 DD 方向上表现出更为优异的力学性能。图 4(b)为 AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub> 高熵合金与常规合金的拉伸力学性能统计对比图。从图 4(b)可以看到,相比于常规合金来说,AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub> 高熵合金可以更好地兼顾强度与塑性,具有优异的综合力学性能以及更为广阔的工程应用潜力。

为了进一步分析 AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub> 高熵合金的变形机制,对拉伸试验后(DD 方向)样品的断口截面及侧面形貌进行分析,如图 5 所示。图 5(a)为拉伸样品的原始状态与断裂状态,其中断裂状态的拉伸样品的变形较为均匀,结合图 5(b)的 SEM 断口全貌,表明样品在拉伸过程中未发生明显的颈缩现象。进一步对拉伸样品的断口截面(实线矩形区域)和断口侧面(虚线矩形区域)进行更高倍数下的表征,结果如图 5(c)和图 5(d)所示。从图 5(c)和图 5(d)可以看到,在断口截面处观察到塑性变形所形成的韧窝与脆性变形所形成的河流状花样(圆圈处);在断口侧面处观察到在 FCC 相域中产生了丰富的滑移带,当滑移扩展到相界时受到了明显的阻碍,从而位错在 FCC 相中进一步累积,使得拉伸样品在变形中后期出现持续的加工硬化现象。因此,激光熔化沉积的 AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub> 高熵合金在拉伸过程中表现出了高强度和高延展性。

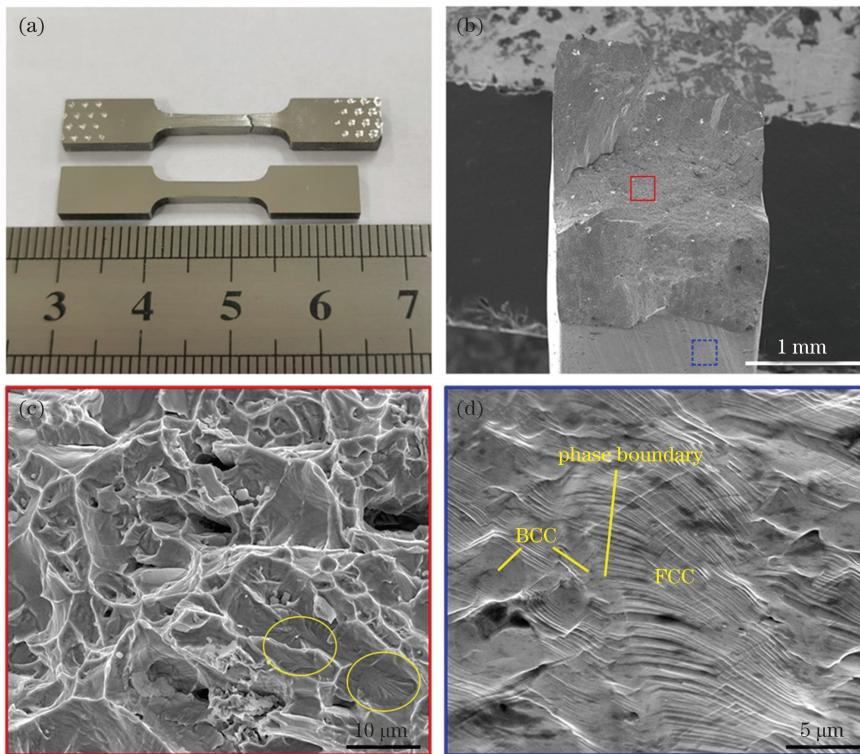


图 5 AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub> 高熵合金的拉伸断口形貌。(a)拉伸样品;(b)断口全貌;(c)断口截面形貌;(d)断口侧面形貌

Fig. 5 Tensile fracture morphology of AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub> high-entropy alloy. (a) Stretch sample;(b) full view of fracture; (c) fracture section morphology;(d) flank morphology of fracture

## 4 结 论

通过激光熔化沉积法制备出综合力学性能优异的 AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub> 高熵合金板状样品,合金的抗拉强度达到 1428 MPa,延伸率为 25.8%。激光熔化沉积法所制备的 AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub> 高熵合金板状样品

的凝固组织为外延生长的柱状枝晶。柱状枝晶沿着熔池中温度梯度最大的方向生长,基本平行于激光的沉积方向,位于枝晶干处的 FCC 相沿着<100>结晶学方向择优生长。AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub> 高熵合金由 FCC 和 BCC 两种物相组成。在拉伸的过程中,通过枝晶间隙处的 BCC 相与枝晶干处的 FCC 相的耦

合协同作用,促使该合金表现出优异的综合力学性能。

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## Investigation of Microstructures and Mechanical Properties of Laser-Melting-Deposited AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub> High Entropy Alloy

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### Abstract

**Objective** Recently, with the development of laser technology, increasingly complex components of high entropy alloy (HEA) can be prepared using laser three-dimensional (3D) printing technology. However, HEA prepared using this method exhibit low strength and plasticity. Therefore, AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub> HEA with high plasticity is introduced in laser melting deposition (LMD) technology, which is a laser 3D printing technology. Herein, the microstructure and mechanical properties of AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub> HEA prepared using LMD are studied. We aim to fabricate HEA with excellent mechanical properties using the laser 3D forming method.

**Methods** LMD has been developed to synthesize AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub> HEA. The laser process parameters are as follows: laser power, scanning speed, powder feeding speed, shielding gas flow rate, spot diameter, defocusing amount, and lifting amount are 700 W, 400 mm/min, 8 g/min, 5 L/min, 2 mm, 11 mm, and 0.25 mm, respectively. The material used for LMD is AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub> high entropy prealloyed powder (sphericity  $\geq 90\%$ ), and the range of the alloy particle size measured using the laser particle size analyzer is 45–105  $\mu\text{m}$ . The alloy powder is placed in a vacuum drying oven, heated to 120 °C, and retained for 2 h. Then, it is cooled to room temperature in a vacuum environment, poured into a powder feeder, and placed in a feeding barrel for standby. Further, a 316L stainless steel plate with dimensions of 100 mm  $\times$  60 mm  $\times$  10 mm is selected as the base plate, and the oxide layer on the surface is removed using a grinder. Additionally, an electric spark cutting machine is used to cut the AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub> HEA samples into different sizes based on the test requirements. A heat setting machine is used to inlay the samples that required grinding and polishing. The samples are polished with 240#, 400#, 800#, 1200#, 2500#, 4000# metallographic sandpaper and SiC polishing solution with particle size of 0.05  $\mu\text{m}$  and 0.02  $\mu\text{m}$ , respectively. The appropriate amount of aqua regia is prepared to corrode the polished samples. The X-ray diffractometer (XRD) is used to perform phase analysis of the sample, and the metallographic microscope (OM) and scanning electron microscope (SEM) are used to observe the structure and fracture morphology of the sample. Moreover, an energy spectrometer (EDS) is used to perform surface analysis of the alloy samples scan to obtain the element distribution, and the electron backscatter diffraction device (EBSD) is employed to conduct crystallographic analysis of the alloy sample. The mechanical properties of the plate-shaped tensile sample are investigated using a tensile testing machine.

**Results and Discussions** The surface of the AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub> HEA sample prepared using the LMD technology shows metallic luster without macro or microcracks. Compositional analysis revealed that AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub> HEA prepared using

LMD exhibit epitaxy columnar dendrite textures, which are primarily composed of the face-centered cubic structure (FCC) at the primary and secondary dendrites and body-centered cubic structure (BCC) at the dendrite gap, respectively. The columnar dendrites grow along the maximum temperature gradient direction in the molten pool, which is parallel to the direction of the laser deposition (DD). The FCC phase located at the trunk of the dendrite grows preferentially along the  $\langle 100 \rangle$  crystallographic direction. Stretching results show that the tensile strength and elongation of the alloy are 1428 MPa and 25.8%, respectively, along DD. In the laser scanning direction (SD), the yield strength, tensile strength, and elongation at break of the alloy are 586 MPa, 1288 MPa, and 16.1%, respectively. Because columnar dendrites grow epitaxially along DD, DD shows fewer dendrite walls and phase boundaries than SD. Further, fewer “obstacles” are encountered by the dislocation slip during the stretching process, and it can store more dislocations to provide more plasticity and work-hardening ability; thus, the alloy shows more excellent mechanical properties in DD than in SD. The fracture morphology analysis revealed abundant dislocation slippages in the FCC phase region. The BCC phase located in the dendrite clearance effectively hinders the propagation of slippage during the deformation process, thereby further increasing the dislocation density in the FCC phase. Thus, the tensile sample undergoes continuous work hardening in the middle and late stages of deformation. Therefore, the high strength and ductility of AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub> HEA are primarily ascribed to the coupling synergy between the FCC and BCC phases.

**Conclusions** Plate-like AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub> HEA samples with excellent comprehensive mechanical properties are prepared using the LMD technology. The alloy prepared using this method exhibits a uniformly distributed structure, no component segregation, and excellent comprehensive mechanical properties. The addition of the Ni element to the AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.1</sub> eutectic HEA (EHEA) leads to the uniform precipitation of the BCC hard phase only in the dendrite gap, thus ensuring high strength and good plasticity of the alloy. The tensile strength and elongation of the alloy reach 1428 MPa and 25.8%, respectively. The solidification structure of the plate-like AlCoCrFeNi<sub>2.5</sub> HEA sample prepared using LMD shows columnar dendrite with epitaxial growth. The columnar dendrites grow along the maximum temperature gradient direction in the molten pool, which is parallel to DD. The FCC phase at the dendrite stem grows preferentially along the  $\langle 100 \rangle$  crystallographic direction. This study provides a new strategy for controlling the microstructure of dual phase HEAs and preparing HEA with high strength and plasticity.

**Key words** laser technology; materials; laser melting deposition; high entropy alloy; microstructure; tensile test

**OCIS codes** 160.3900; 140.3390; 350.3390