

1. (a) Assume that the potential energy between atoms can be represented by the following relation

$$U(r) = -\frac{A}{r^n} + \frac{B}{r^m}$$

where  $A$ ,  $B$ ,  $n$ , and  $m$  are constants. Write expressions for the force, the elastic modulus, and the heat of vaporization (or sublimation) in terms of  $n$ ,  $m$ ,  $A$ , and  $r_0$  (the equilibrium distance) between two atoms. (10%)

- (b) Please illustrate the relation of physical properties (the melting temperature, the elastic modulus, and the thermal expansion coefficient) to potential energy well and explain in brief. (10%)

2. Consider a circular dislocation loop of radius  $R$  in a crystal. The loading mechanism produces a constant resolved shear stress  $\tau_A$  which tends to expand the loop.

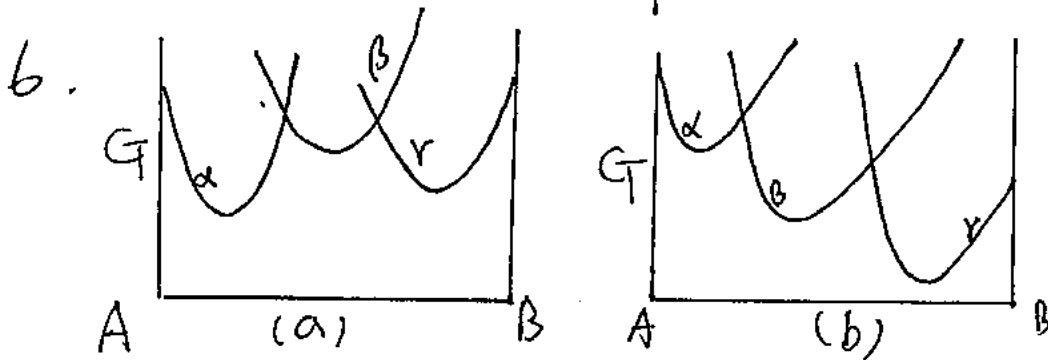
(a) Write an expression for the total energy  $E$  (strain energy + loading mechanism energy) as a function of  $R$ . (5%)

(b) With the aid of a suitable sketch, show that there is an equilibrium radius  $R$  for the loop, and also that the equilibrium is unstable. (5%)

3. Please use the dislocation model of yielding to explain the yield point phenomenon that is commonly observed in BCC metals and alloys and that is particularly important in low-carbon steels. (10%)

4. Please design an experiment to obtain the activation energy of the recovery of a metal single crystal and explain the physical meaning of the activation energy. (10%)

5. Explain why a Shockley partial dislocation with  $\vec{b} = \frac{a}{6} \langle 112 \rangle$  changes the stacking sequence from FCC to HCP. (10%)



Illustrate the stable phases through the composition range for Figs. (a) and (b). (10%)

7. Explain the up-hill and down-hill diffusion. (10%)

8. Show the characteristics of (a) the superconductor and (b) the second order transformation. (10%)

9. Explain why in pure metals solidification the supercooled liquid is required for the appearance of the protrusion. (10%)