

Comparative Study of Elastic Modulus of Bismuth-Cadmium (Bi-Cd) and Bismuth-Lead (Bi-Pb) Alloys Grown By Zone-Refining Technique

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Abstract—Bismuth-Cadmium (Bi-Cd) and Bismuth-Lead (Bi-Pb) are alloys of high purity (99.99%) metals were grown in a vacuum atmosphere ($\sim 4 \times 10^{-2}$ mbar) by Zone - Refining Technique. The Micro-hardness of these alloys obtained using indentation load of 5-20 gm for loading time of 10-30 sec at room temperature. The Young's Modulus of these alloys studied with the help of micro hardness. The comparison study of Young's Modulus reported in the present work.

Keywords: Zone-Refining Technique, Young's Modulus, Micro Hardness.

1. INTRODUCTION

The Vicker's hardness test has been widely used to evaluate mechanical properties of metals and alloys because of its simple testing technique. In this test, there is very little damage done to specimen because the impression is very small. The importance of Hardness testing has to do with the relationship between Hardness and other mechanical properties like Young's Modulus, yield strength, ultimate tensile strength and stiffness. Young's Modulus is an indication of the Stiffness of a material.

2. EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURE

Eutectic alloy Bismuth-Cadmium (Bi-Cd) and Bismuth-Lead (Bi-Pb) were grown from an appropriate amount of each metal of 3N purity. Alloys were prepared on the basis of percentage of molecular weight 9:1, 5:5 and 1:9 ratio. These samples were carefully melted in the oxidation furnace and shaken well in zone tube. These samples are successfully grown by Zone Refining Technique under a vacuum atmosphere ($\sim 4 \times 10^{-2}$ mbar). The Vicker's hardness test method consists of indenting the test material with a diamond indenter, in the form of a pyramid with a square base and an angle of 136 degrees between opposite faces subjected to a test force of between 5 gm and 20 gm. The full indentation load is normally applied

for 10 to 15 seconds. The micro hardness values are the average of number of measurement on transverse and longitudinal section. The area of the sloping surfaces of the indentation is calculated. The hardness measured with pyramidal indenters depends on load, especially for small load. The Vickers hardness [1,4] is the quotient obtained by dividing the load by the square mm area of indentation.

$$H_v = \frac{(1.854)P}{d^2}$$

Where, P = Load in kg,

d = Arithmetic mean of the two diagonals,

Hv = Vickers hardness.

We calculated Elastic modulus [2- 4] by the following formula,

$$\text{Elastic modulus, } E = (81.9635) \times H_v$$

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Young's modulus is a measure of the stiffness of a material, depends upon strength of interatomic bonds and composition, and is not strongly depends upon microstructure. The value of elastic modulus decreases with increasing the indentation load but it changes with increasing the loading time at room temperature. Its value decreases with increasing indentation load and temperature at constant loading time $t = 10$ sec. The results of elastic modulus of Bi-Cd and Bi-Pb at room temperature are shown in the table 1.

Table 1: Elastic modulus (E) (At Room Temperature)

Composition wt. %	Load in kg	Elastic modulus (E) Pa					
		Bi-Cd			Bi-Pb		
		10 sec	20 sec	30 sec	10 sec	20 sec	30 sec
9:1	0.005	1.6393	1.5737	1.4262	1.2213	1.2049	1.0327
	0.010	1.2540	1.1967	1.1393	1.7294	1.3934	1.3442

	0.015	1.1147	1.0819	1.0491	1.2540	1.2376	1.1967
	0.020	1.0327	1.0082	0.9590	1.0409	1.0082	0.9836
5:5	0.005	1.6966	1.3688	1.2295	2.1147	2.0901	1.8770
	0.010	1.8606	1.6147	1.4835	2.1638	1.9917	1.8032
	0.015	1.4180	1.2704	1.1229	1.4671	1.4426	1.4098
	0.020	1.0901	1.0573	1.0163	1.3606	1.2295	1.2213
1:9	0.005	1.5901	1.4753	1.3688	--	--	--
	0.010	2.3442	2.2786	2.1966	1.3196	1.1147	1.0819
	0.015	1.6147	1.4671	1.2786	1.0819	1.0000	1.0082
	0.020	1.2458	1.1393	1.0082	0.9918	0.9918	0.9590

When the indenter is subjected to very small loads, only elastic deformation is observed, although the unit load greatly exceeds the hardness values usually measured. At a certain load, there is sudden break and ordinary plastic flow of the material under the indenter begins. This effect was attributed to the lack of dislocations under indenter at very small load. With increase in load, metal and alloys that already contains dislocations is drawn into the process, and plastic deformation begins [5]. The alloying of bismuth deposits by lead despite the reduction of the grains, somewhat lowers their micro hardness, because lead is less hard than bismuth. Young's modulus is directly proportional to hardness, so it lowers their young's modulus [6]. The presence of cadmium quantities in alloys can enhance their hardness, wear resistance and mechanical properties [7].

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