

# Development of the world's strongest magnesium alloy

June 25 2014

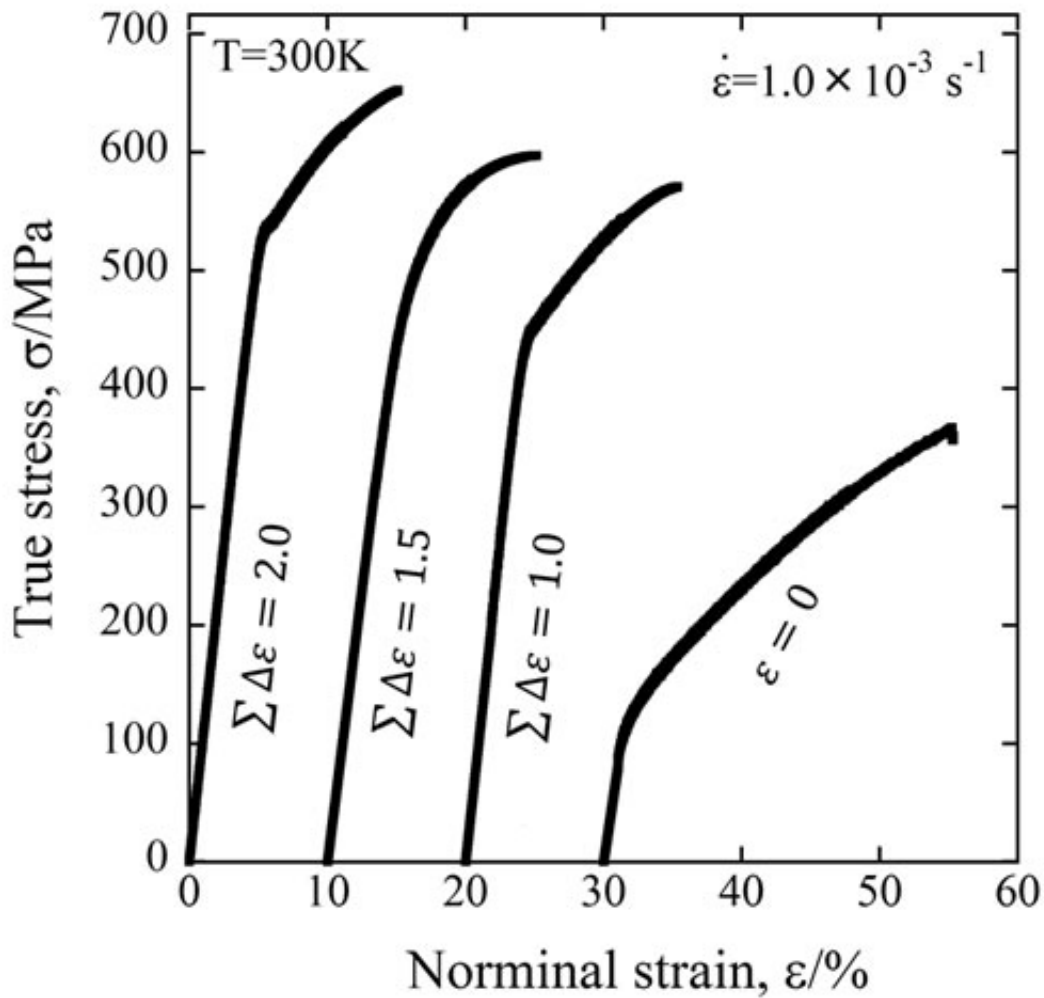


Fig.1: True stress vs. true strain curves obtained by tensile

There is strong demand for the improvement of the mechanical properties (particularly the strength) of magnesium (Mg) alloys to meet the growing industrial applications of structural materials.

Hiromi Miura and colleagues at the Toyohashi University of Technology applied severe plastic deformation, that is, multi-directional forging (MDF), to commercial brittle Mg alloys by controlling pass [strains](#) and severe plastic deformation was realized without any cracking up to cumulative strain of 2.0.

The coarse initial grains were gradually subdivided into ultrafine grains by mechanical twinning. The initial coarse twins were further subdivided by higher order mechanical twins. The average grain size achieved at a cumulative strain of 2.0 was as fine as 0.3  $\mu\text{m}$ .

The Mg alloy produced by MDF showed an excellent balance of [mechanical properties](#) of 530 MPa yield stress, 650 MPa ultimate tensile [strength](#), and 9% plastic strain to fracture (Fig. 1). This was the world strongest Mg alloy ever produced.

The ultrafine grain structure and suppression of texture resulted in the extraordinarily high strength without spoiling ductility.

The researchers are now conducting experiment to produce large sizes samples of the MDFed Mg alloys.

**More information:** Jonghun Yoon, Juseok Lee, Junghwan Lee, "Enhancement of the microstructure and mechanical properties in as-forged Mg–8Al–0.5Zn alloy using T5 heat treatment," *Materials Science and Engineering: A*, Volume 586, 1 December 2013, Pages 306-312, ISSN 0921-5093, [dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.msea.2013.08.031](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.msea.2013.08.031).

Provided by Toyohashi University of Technology

Citation: Development of the world's strongest magnesium alloy (2014, June 25) retrieved 24 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2014-06-world-strongest-magnesium-alloy.html>

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