

Contents

<i>Acknowledgements</i>	<i>i</i>
<i>Summary</i>	<i>vii</i>
<i>Zusammenfassung</i>	<i>xi</i>
1 Introduction: Characteristics of metallic glasses	1
1.1 Glasses – their relevance, history and definition	2
1.2 The discovery of metallic glasses and the advent of bulk metallic glasses	3
1.3 Factors determining the glass-forming ability (GFA) of metallic glasses	5
1.4 The structure of BMGs	9
1.5 Characteristic properties of metallic glasses	12
1.6 Applications and application potential of BMGs	15
1.7 Outline of the thesis	18
1.8 References	19
2 Design of bulk metallic glasses	21
2.1 Current state-of-the-art and challenges of alloy development	22
2.2 Current trends and progress in alloy design principles	24
2.3 Fluxing of BMGs	29
2.4 Microalloying and compositional effects in BMGs	31
2.5 References	36
3 Aims of the Thesis	39
3.1 Specific objectives and respective background	40
3.1.1. <i>Fluxing of BMGs</i>	40
3.1.2 <i>Transferring the insights gained from fluxing to Zr-based BMGs</i>	40
3.1.3 <i>Improving long-term malleability of biocompatible Mg-based BMGs</i>	41

4 Fluxing of bulk metallic glasses	43
4.1 The effects of cooling rate and purification	44
4.1.1 <i>Introduction</i>	44
4.1.2 <i>Experimental procedure</i>	46
4.1.3 <i>Results and discussion</i>	47
4.1.4 <i>Conclusions</i>	57
4.1.5 <i>References</i>	58
4.2 Flux-induced boron alloying	61
4.2.1 <i>Introduction</i>	61
4.2.2 <i>Experimental procedure</i>	62
4.2.3 <i>Results and discussion</i>	62
4.2.4 <i>Conclusions</i>	67
4.2.5 <i>References</i>	69
4.3 Summary and outlook	71
4.3.1 <i>Conclusions and future directions</i>	71
4.3.2 <i>References</i>	72
 5 Hydrogen microalloying	 73
5.1 The effects on glass-forming ability	75
5.1.1 <i>Introduction</i>	75
5.1.2 <i>Experimental procedure</i>	77
5.1.3 <i>Results</i>	79
5.1.4 <i>Discussion</i>	83
5.1.5 <i>Conclusions</i>	88
5.1.6 <i>References</i>	89

5.2	The effectiveness in bulk metallic glass design	91
5.2.1	<i>Introduction</i>	91
5.2.2	<i>Experimental procedure</i>	92
5.2.3	<i>Results and discussion</i>	93
5.2.4	<i>Summary and conclusions</i>	103
5.2.5	<i>References</i>	104
5.3	Summary and outlook	107
5.3.1	<i>Conclusions and future directions</i>	107
5.3.2	<i>References</i>	108
6	Design of Mg-based metallic glasses for structural applications	109
6.1	Alloy design strategies for sustained ductility in Mg-based alloys	110
6.1.1	<i>Introduction</i>	110
6.1.2	<i>Experimental procedure</i>	111
6.1.3	<i>Results</i>	113
6.1.4	<i>Discussion</i>	124
6.1.5	<i>Conclusions</i>	129
6.1.6	<i>References</i>	130
6.2	Summary and outlook	133
6.2.1	<i>Conclusions and future directions</i>	133
6.2.2	<i>References</i>	133
7	Summary and outlook	135
Appendix		139