LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1:1:The symbolic representation of alloy design in conventional and in HEAs
Figure 1:2: The schematic representation of phase diagrams of ternary and quaternary systems with their less known central regions
Figure 1:3:The variation of configurational entropy (Δ Sconf) for an equimolar alloy with a number of elements
Figure 1:4: The display of XRD patterns of binary to septenary alloys on the addition of one extra element sequentially showed the formation of one or two major phase structure
Figure 1:5:The schematic representation of strained lattices in HEAs 10
Figure 1:6: Models of nearest neighbours around atoms in (a) Pure metal (b) Binary alloys (c) HEAs and (d) schematic representation of the diffusion path for an atom in HEAs 12
Figure 1:7: Schematic representation of the change in potential energy required for the movement of the Ni atom. For pure metals migration, the mean difference (MD) in potential energy is zero, whereas for HEA is the largest
Figure 1:8: Variation in hardness and lattice constants of a CuCoNiCrAlxFe alloy system with different x values for Al: (A) change in hardness (B) Variation in lattice constant of an FCC phase (C) lattice constant of a BCC phase
Figure 1:9:The superimposition of entropy of mixing (Δ Smix),enthalpy of mixing (Δ H _{mix}) and atomic size difference, delta (δ) on the solid solution formation in HEAs
Figure 1:10: Representation of phase maps for solid solution (SS), intermetallics (IM), solid solution + intermetallics (S+I) and BMGs (B) based on δ (%) and Ω parameters for multicomponent alloys
Figure 1:11: Representation of proposed VEC phase map for BCC, FCC and σ based phases in HEAs
Figure 1:12: Microstructure of as-cast and as-annealed Cu containing alloys showing the dendritic and interdendritic regions
Figure 1:13: XRD patterns of equiatomic AlFeTiCrZnCu HEA synthesized by MA 25
Figure 1:14: Variation of hardness (HV) and crack length around the indent by varying the Al concentration in the AlxCoCrCuNiFe alloy system
Figure 3:1: XRD patterns of AlCoCrFeNi HEA powders as a function of milling time. Evolution of a single-phase BCC structure was observed after 30 h of milling

Figure 3:8: High-resolution XRD plot of the 30 h milled AlCoCrFeNi high entropy alloy powder after annealing for 1 h at 800 °C (1073K)......62

Figure 4:10: Bright field image and corresponding SADP of AlCoCrFeNiMn powder sintered at 500°C (773 K) under control atmosphere. Fine-grained structure (shown with arrows) of the alloy and the presence of the BCC phase is observed after sintering.......90

Figure 4:11:(a) Bright-field image and (b) corresponding SADP of AlCoCrFeNiMn powder sintered at 800°C (1073 K) under control atmosphere. The grains are faceted (shown with arrows) however not extraordinarily grown due to sluggish diffusion kinetics.

Figure 5:5: The STEM-EDS mapping of equiatomic AlCoCrFeNiTi hexanary high entropy alloy after 40h of milling. No segregation of elemental composition was observed.

Figure 6:3: The SEM micrographs of $Fe_{40}Cr_{25}Ni_{15}Al_{15}Co_5$ high-entropy alloy in (a) as-cast and heat-treated conditions of (b) 873K (c) 1173K for 2h followed by water quenching. 123

Figure 6:10: X-ray diffraction pattern of (a) heat-treated sample 1173 K for 24h and then water quenched (b) corresponding optical micrograph of the same sample, (c) & (d) enlarge the view of the two intense peaks, deconvoluted to show the distinct peaks.... 131