

Properties of Al-6Mg-xSc ($x = 0$ to 0.6 wt.%) Alloy Subjected to Thermal Treatment: A Review

Mohammad Salim Kaiser

Directorate of Advisory, Extension and Research Services, Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh

Received: March 01, 2021

Corresponding author: [Mohammad Salim Kaiser](#)

Abstract. Aluminum–magnesium alloys are regularly used to manufacture different types of sheets, automotive trims, and architectural components, which are very intricate in shape. Additionally they are important due to their excellent properties of high-strength to weight ratio, corrosion resistance and weldability. Magnesium increases the strength of the alloys but there is a tendency to form β -phase Al₈Mg₅ compound, usually denoted as Al₃Mg= precipitates along grain boundaries to facilitate intergranular fracture. Numerous studies have been conducted on these alloys to make their use potential as different places. The use of scandium in Al-Mg alloys is meant for taking the advantage of grain refinement along with the unique precipitation strengthening behavior through the formation of Al₃Sc precipitates with aluminum, a stable L₁₂ phase coherent with the matrix. The purpose of this paper is to review and discuss recent developments on Al-6Mg alloy through scandium addition at different levels under thermal treatment.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This research was supported and funded by [University Grants Commission, New Delhi, India](#). The author is truly grateful to them.

REFERENCES

- [1] I.J. Polmear, *Light Alloys, Metallurgy of the Light Metals*, Edward Arnold Ltd., 41 Bedford Square, London, UK, 1981.
- [2] [V. Gaur, M. Enoki, T. Okada and S. Yomogida, A study on fatigue behavior of MIG-welded Al-Mg alloy with different filler-wire materials under mean stress, International Journal of Fatigue, 2018, vol. 107, pp. 119-129.](#)

- [3] [M.S. Kaiser, K.M. Shorowordi and H.M.M. Al Rashed, *Effect of rolling on the fractional recrystallization behavior of Al-Mg and Al-Mg-Zr alloys*, Journal of Mechanical Engineering, The Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh, 2018, vol. 48, no. 1, pp. 24-29.](#)
- [4] [E. Romhanji, M. Popovic, D. Glisic and V. Milenkovic, *Formability of a high-strength Al-Mg6.8 type alloy sheet*, Journal of Materials Science, 1998, vol. 33, no. 4, pp. 1037-1042.](#)
- [5] [M. Krol, T. Tanski, P. Snopinski and B. Tomiczek, *Structure and properties of aluminium–magnesium casting alloys after heat treatment*, Journal of Thermal Analysis and Calorimetry, 2017, vol. 127, pp. 299-308.](#)
- [6] [S. Kaiser and M.S. Kaiser, *Investigation of Mg and Zr addition on the mechanical properties of commercially pure Al*, International Journal of Mechanical and Materials Engineering, 2019, vol. 13, no. 9, pp. 607-611.](#)
- [7] R. Dorward, *ASM Handbook, Aluminum Science and Technology*, Vol. 2A, ASM International, Materials park, OH, USA, 2018.
- [8] [M.S. Kaiser, *Precipitation and softening behaviour of cast, cold rolled and hot rolling prior to cold rolled Al-6Mg alloy annealed at high temperature*, Journal of Mechanical Engineering, The Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh, 2015, vol. 45, no. 1, pp. 32-36.](#)
- [9] [R.H. Jones, D.R. Baer, M.J. Danielson and J.S. Vetrano, *Role of Mg in the stress corrosion cracking of an Al-Mg alloy*, Metallurgical and Materials Transactions A, 2001, vol. 32, no. 7, pp. 1699-1711.](#)
- [10] [M.S. Kaiser, *Effect of scandium on the softening behaviour of different degree of cold rolled Al-6Mg alloy annealed at different temperature*, International Journal of Advances in Materials Science and Engineering, 2014, vol. 1, no. 1, pp. 39-49.](#)
- [11] [M.J. Starink and A.M. Zahra, *Low-temperature decomposition of Al-Mg alloys: Guinier-Preston zones and \$LI_2\$ ordered precipitates*, Philosophical Magazine A, 1997, vol. 76, no. 3, pp. 701-714.](#)
- [12] [S.K. Shaha, F. Czerwinski, W. Kasprzak, J. Friedman and D.L. Chen, *Microstructure and mechanical properties of Al–Si cast alloy with additions of Zr–V–Ti*, Materials & Design, 2015, vol. 83, pp. 801-812.](#)
- [13] Z.B. Xing, Z.R. Nie, J.X. Zou and X.D. Gao, *Existing form and effect of erbium in Al-Er alloy*, J. Chin. Rare Earth Soc., 2007, vol. 25, pp. 234–238.
- [14] [M.S. Kaiser, *Solution treatment effect on tensile, impact and fracture behaviour of trace Zr added Al-12Si-1Mg-1Cu piston Alloy*, Journal of the Institution of Engineers, India, Series D, 2018, vol. 99, no. 1, pp. 109-114.](#)
- [15] [M. Zamani, L. Morini, L. Ceschini and S. Seifeddine, *The role of transition metal additions on the ambient and elevated temperature properties of Al-Si alloys*, Materials Science and Engineering: A, 2017, vol. 693, pp. 42-50.](#)
- [16] [A.H. Seikh, M. Baig, H.R. Ammar and M.A. Alam, *The influence of transition metals addition on the corrosion resistance of nanocrystalline Al alloys produced by mechanical alloying*, Metals, 2016, vol. 6, no. 6, pp. 1-14.](#)
- [17] [X. She, X. Jiang, B. Qi and K. Chen, *Effect of Er on Microstructure and mechanical properties of 5052 aluminum alloy with big width-to-thickness ratio*, Materials, 2020, vol. 13, no. 3, pp. 1-13.](#)
- [18] [M.S. Kaiser, *Precipitation hardening behaviour of directly cold rolled Al-6Mg alloy containing ternary Sc and quaternary Zr/Ti*, International Journal of Mechanical, Industrial Science and Engineering, 2013, vol. 7, no. 4, pp. 174-180.](#)
- [19] [X. Zhang, Z. Wang, Z. Zhou and J. Xu, *Effects of cerium and lanthanum on the corrosion behavior of Al-3.0 wt.%Mg alloy*, Journal of Materials Engineering and Performance, 2016, vol. 25, pp. 1122-1128.](#)
- [20] L.S. Toropova, D.G. Eskin, M.L. Kharakterova and T.V. Dobatkina, *Advanced aluminum alloys containing scandium, structure and properties*, 1st Edition: Baikov Institute of Metallurgy, Moscow, Russia, 1998.
- [21] [M.S. Kaiser, S. Datta, P.P. Bandyopadhyay, A. Guha, A. Roychowdhury and M.K. Banerjee, *Effect of grain refinement through minor additions of scandium and zirconium on the machinability of Al-Mg Alloys*, Journal of the Institution of Engineers, India, Series D, 2013, vol. 94, no. 1, pp. 17-24.](#)
- [22] [J.Y. Zhang, Y.H. Gao, C. Yang, P. Zhang, J. Kuang, G. Liu and J. Sun, *Micro alloying Al alloys with Sc: a review*, Rare Metals, 2020, vol. 39, no. 6, pp. 636-650.](#)

- [23] [M.S. Kaiser, Grain refinement and precipitation hardening of cast Al-6Mg alloy through ternary scandium and quaternary zirconium and titanium addition, International Journal of Research in Mechanical Engineering & Technology, 2011, vol. 1, no. 1, pp. 57-62.](#)
- [24] [Z. Ahmad, The properties and application of scandium-reinforced aluminum, The Journal of the Minerals, Metals & Materials Society, 2003, vol. 55, no. 2, pp. 35-39.](#)
- [25] [M.S. Kaiser, S. Datta, A. Roychowdhury and M.K. Banerjee, Effect of scandium additions on the tensile properties of cast Al-6Mg alloys, Journal of Materials Engineering and Performance, 2008, vol. 17, no. 6, pp. 902-907.](#)
- [26] [L. Lu, F. Jiang, J. Liu, J. Zhang, G. Wang, B. Feng, M. Tong and Z. Tang, The Influence of annealing temperature on microstructure, mechanical properties, and corrosion resistance of Al-6Mg-0.4Mn-0.14Sc-0.12Zr alloy cold rolling plate, Frontiers in Materials, 2020, vol. 7, no. 132, pp. 1-9.](#)
- [27] [E.V. Avtokratova, R.O. Kaibyshev and O.S. Sitdikov, Fatigue of a fine-grained high-strength Al-6Mg-Sc alloy produced by equal-channel angular pressing, The Physics of Metals and Metallography, 2008, vol. 105, pp. 500-508.](#)
- [28] [B.N. Mordyuk, G.I. Prokopenko, Y.V. Milman, M.O. Iefimov, K.E. Grinkevych, A.V. Sameljuk and I.V. Tkachenko, Wear assessment of composite surface layers in Al-6Mg alloy reinforced with AlCuFe quasicrystalline particles: Effects of particle size, microstructure and hardness, Wear, 2014, vol. 319, no. 1-2, pp. 84-95.](#)
- [29] M.S. Kaiser, *Study on mechanical properties of 5XXX series aluminium alloys with minor additions*, Doctoral thesis, Dept. of Applied Mechanics and Drawing, Bengal Engineering and Science University, Shibpur, Howrah, India, 2005.
- [30] [M. S. Kaiser, S. Datta, A. Roychowdhury and M. K. Banerjee, Effect of scandium on the microstructure and ageing behaviour of cast Al-6Mg alloy, Materials Characterization, 2008, vol. 59, no. 11, pp. 1661-1666.](#)
- [31] S. Nagasaki and A. Maesono, *High temp. high press*, Metals Physics, 1965, vol. 11, p.182, In Japanese.
- [32] R.K. Roy, *Recrystallization behavior of commercial purity aluminium alloys*, Intech Open, Light Metal Alloys Applications, EU, 2014.
- [33] [Y. Buranova, V. Kulitskiy, M. Peterlechnera, A. Mogucheva, R. Kaibyshev, S.V. Divinski and G. Wilde, Al₃\(Sc,Zr\)-based precipitates in Al-Mg alloy: Effect of severe deformation, Acta Materialia, 2017, vol. 124, pp. 210-224.](#)
- [34] [M.S. Kaiser and A.S.W. Kurny, Effect of scandium on the grain refining and ageing behaviour of cast Al-Si-Mg alloy, Iranian Journal of Materials Sciences and Engineering , 2011, vol. 8, no. 4, pp. 1-8.](#)
- [35] D.G. Eskin, *Sc Applications in Aluminum Alloys: Overview of Russian Research in the 20th Century*. In: *Light Metals*, ed. by O. Martin, Springer, Cham. USA, 2018.
- [36] [M.S. Kaiser, S. Datta, A. Roychowdhury and M.K. Banerjee, Age hardening behaviour of wrought Al-Mg-Sc alloy, Journal of Materials and Manufacturing Processes, 2008, vol. 23, no. 1, pp. 74-81.](#)
- [37] G.E. Totten, *ASM Handbook, Heat Treating of Nonferrous Alloys*, vol. 4E, ASM International, Materials park, OH, USA, 2016.
- [38] [M. Vlach, I. Stulikova, B. Smola, J. Piesova, H. Cisarova, S. Danis, J. Plasek, R. Gemma, D. Tanprayoon and V. Neubert, Effect of cold rolling on precipitation processes in Al-Mn-Sc-Zr alloy, Materials Science and Engineering A, 2012, vol. 548, pp. 27-32.](#)
- [39] [H. Gao, W. Feng, J. Gu, J. Wang and B. Sun, Aging and recrystallization behavior of precipitation strengthened Al-0.25Zr-0.03Y alloy, Journal of Alloys and Compounds, 2017, vol. 696, pp. 1039-1045.](#)
- [40] [A.R. Eivani, H. Ahmed, J. Zhou and J. Duszczyk, Correlation between electrical Resistivity, particle dissolution, precipitation of dispersoids, and recrystallization behavior of AA7020 aluminum alloy, Metallurgical and Materials Transactions A, 2009, vol. 40, pp. 2435-2446.](#)
- [41] [L. Liu, J.T Jiang, B. Zhang, W.Z. Shao and L. Zhen, Enhancement of strength and electrical conductivity for a dilute Al-Sc-Zr alloy via heat treatments and cold drawing, Journal of Materials Science & Technology, 2019, vol. 35, no. 6, pp. 962-971.](#)

- [42] M.E. Drits, S G Pavlenko, L.S. Toropova, Y.G. Bykov and L.B. Ber, *Mechanism of scandium influence on strength and heat resistance increase in Al-Mg alloys*, Dokl. Akad. Nauk SSSR, 1981, vol. 257, no. 2, pp. 353-356.
- [43] [R.R. Sawtell and C.L. Jensen, *Mechanical properties and microstructures of Al-Mg-Sc alloys*, Metallurgical Transactions A, 1990, vol. 21, pp. 421-430.](#)
- [44] [T. Aiura, N. Sugawara and Y. Miura, *The effect of scandium on the as-homogenized microstructure of 5083 alloy for extrusion*, Materials Science and Engineering: A, 2000, vol. 280, no. 1, pp. 139-145.](#)
- [45] [M.S. Kaiser, M.R. Basher and A.S.W. Kurny, *Effect of scandium on microstructure and mechanical properties of cast Al-Si-Mg alloy*, Journal of Materials Engineering and Performance, 2012, vol. 21, no. 7, pp. 1504-1508.](#)
- [46] [J. Royset and N. Ryum, *Scandium in aluminium alloys*, International Materials Reviews, 2005, vol. 50, no. 1, pp. 19-44.](#)
- [47] [I.J. Polmear, *Role of trace elements in aged aluminum alloys*, Materials Science Forum, 1987, vol. 13/14, pp. 195-214.](#)
- [48] J. Royset and N. Ryum, In: *Proc. 4th Int. Conf. on 'Aluminium alloys'*, vol. I, pp. 194-201, Atlanta, GA, USA, September 1994.
- [49] [M.S. Kaiser, S. Datta, A. Roychowdhury and M.K. Banerjee, *Effect of prior cold work on tensile properties of Al-6Mg alloy with minor scandium additions*, Canadian Metallurgical Quarterly, 2014, vol. 53, no. 4, pp. 486-493.](#)
- [50] [S.R. Mallipudi and R. Nallu, *Effect of scandium and zirconium additions on mechanical properties of Al-Mg-Mn alloy*, Transactions of the Indian Institute of Metals, 2019, vol. 72, no. 1, pp. 227-238.](#)
- [51] [T.G. Neih, R. Kaibyshev, L.M. Hsiung, N. Nguyen and J. Wadsworth, *Subgrain formation and evolution during the deformation of an Al-Mg-Sc alloy at elevated temperatures*, Scripta Materialia, 1997, vol. 36, no. 9, pp. 1011-1016.](#)
- [52] [T. Torma, E.K. Csetenyi, L. Vitalis, J. Stepanov and M. Butova, *The effect of properties of pure aluminium and of an AlMg6 alloy*, Materials Science Forum, 1987, vol. 13/14, pp. 497-504.](#)
- [53] [Z. Zhu and M.J. Starink, *Age hardening and softening in cold-rolled Al-Mg-Mn alloys with up to 0.4 wt% Cu*, Materials Science and Engineering: A, 2008, vol. 489, no. 1-2, pp. 138-149.](#)
- [54] [A. Vairis, *Superplasticity effects and strain rate dependency in a material joining process*, Journal of Engineering Science and Technology Review, 2008, vol. 1, no. 1, pp. 28-32.](#)
- [55] [F. Musin, R. Kaibyshev, Y. Motohashi and G. Itoh, *High strain rate superplasticity in a commercial Al-Mg-Sc alloy*, Scripta Materialia, 2004, vol. 50, pp. 511-516.](#)
- [56] [S. Lee, A. Utsunomiya, H. Akamatsu, K. Neishi, M. Furukawa, Z. Horita and T.G. Langdon, *Influence of scandium and zirconium on grain stability and superplastic ductilities in ultrafine-grained Al-Mg alloys*, Acta Materialia, 2002, vol. 50, no. 3, pp. 553-564.](#)
- [57] [L. Ren, H. Gu, W. Wang, S. Wang, C. Li, Z. Wang, Y. Zhai and P. Ma, *The microstructure and properties of an Al-Mg-0.3Sc alloy deposited by wire arc additive manufacturing*, Metals, 2020, vol. 10, no. 3, art. 320.](#)
- [58] [M.S. Kaiser, *Thermal analysis and kinetics of the precipitation in wrought Al-Mg, Al-Mg-Sc and Al-Mg-Sc-Me \(Me=Zr, Ti\) alloys*, Iranian Journal of Materials Sciences and Engineering, 2013, vol. 10, no. 3, pp. 19-29.](#)
- [59] [A. Gaber, N. Afify, A. Gadalla and A. Mossad, *Decomposition and precipitation mechanisms in supersaturated Al - Mg alloys*, High Temp. High Press, 1999, vol. 31, no. 6, pp. 613-625.](#)
- [60] [U.G. Gang, S.H. Lee and W.J. Nam, *The Evolution of Microstructure and Mechanical Properties of a 5052 Aluminium Alloy by the Application of Cryogenic Rolling and Warm Rolling*, Materials Transactions, 2009, vol. 50, no. 1, pp. 82-86.](#)
- [61] [E.A. Marquis and D.N. Seidman, *Nanoscale structural evolution of Al₃Sc precipitates in Al\(Sc\) alloys*, Acta Materialia, 2001, vol. 49, no. 11, pp. 1909-1919.](#)
- [62] [M.S. Kaiser, *The texture behaviour of Al-Mg-Sc alloys*, Journal of Mechanical Engineering, The Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh, 2007, vol. 37, pp. 10-17.](#)
- [63] [H.Y. Ocak, R. Unal, G. Sarioglu S. Ugur and G. Ugur, *Analytical investigation of maximum stresses according to the \(hkl\) layers at stable condition for Al-Sc alloys*, El-Cezeri Journal of Science and Engineering, 2019, vol. 6, no. 1, pp. 200-207.](#)

[64] [E. Badawi, M.A.A. Rahman and S.A. Mahmoud, *Positron annihilation and XRD studies on deformed Al-alloys with low concentration of Mg*, Materials Science Forum, 2001, vol. 363-365, pp. 192-194. T Al-Alloys with Low Concentration of Mg., 363-365, 192-194.](#)

(c) 2021 ITMO