# simple cubic (SC) structure



#### BCC crystal structure

•unit cell has cubic geometry

•atoms are located at the corners of the cube.

•Some of the materials that have a bcc structure include lithium, sodium, potassium, chromium, barium, vanadium, alpha-iron and tungsten.

•Metals which have a BCC structure are usually harder and less malleable than closepacked metals such as copper and gold.

•When the metal is deformed, the planes of atoms must slip over each other, and this is more difficult in the bcc structure.



#### FCC crystal structure

- •unit cell has cubic geometry
- atoms are located at the corners and the centers of all the cube faces.
- familiar metals with FCC crystal structure copper aluminium silver gold

# FCC crystal structure

each of 8 corner atoms is shared by eight unit cells; each of 6 face-centered atoms belongs to only two.  $8 \times (1/8) + 6 \times (1/2) = 1 + 3 = 4$  atoms/unit cell



#### Hexagonal close packed (HCP) crystal structure

•The HCP metals: Cd, Mg, Ti, and Zn.

- •top and bottom faces consist of six atoms that form regular hexagons and surround a single atom in the center.
- •Another plane that provides three additional atoms to the unit cell is situated between the top and bottom planes. The atoms in this mid-plane have as nearest neighbors atoms in both of the adjacent two planes.
- •The equivalent of **six atoms** is contained in each unit cell
- •one-sixth of each of the 12 top and bottom face corner atoms, one-half of each of the 2 center face atoms, and all 3 midplane interior atoms.:

 $12 \times 1/6 + 2 \times 1/2 + 3 = 2 + 1 + 3 = 6$ 

corner face midplane



# simple cubic (SC) structure

- Atoms touch each other along cube edges.
- each of 8 corner atoms is shared by eight unit cells:



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•When the metal is deformed, the planes of atoms must slip over each other, and this

√3.a = 4R

 $\sqrt{3}a = 4R$ 

is more difficult in the bcc structure.

### body centred cubic (BCC) structure

- Atoms touch each other along cube diagonals.
- each of 8 corner atoms is shared by eight unit cells; single center atom is wholly owned:

8 x (1/8) + 1 = 1 + 1 = 2 atoms/unit cell

each center atom touches eight corner atoms:
8 nearest neighbors





#### FCC crystal structure

- •unit cell has cubic geometry
- atoms are located at the corners and the centers of all the cube faces.
- familiar metals with FCC crystal structure copper aluminium silver gold

# FCC crystal structure

each of 8 corner atoms is shared by eight unit cells; each of 6 face-centered atoms belongs to only two.  $8 \times (1/8) + 6 \times (1/2) = 1 + 3 = 4$  atoms/unit cell



#### Hexagonal close packed (HCP) crystal structure

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 $12 \times 1/6 + 2 \times \frac{1}{2} + 3 = 2 + 1 + 3 = 6$ corner face midplane

