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SIMULATION OF HYDROGEN THERMAL DESORPTION CHARACTERISTICS IN METALS CONTAINING LARGE VOIDS

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Hydrogen in Steels

- It is well known that a large number of hydrogen and helium atoms are formed in the structural materials of the spallation neutron sources. The formed gas causes damage to materials.
- The hydrogen trapped by defects such as vacancies, small vacancy clusters, dislocations, grain boundaries, precipitates, voids/bubbles, etc., can be released from each trap site by heating the material.
- The temperature range of desorption varies according to the kind of trap site, because the binding energy between hydrogen and each trap site is different.



Temperature



♦ Vacancy: 40~50 kJ/mol
♦ Vacancy cluster: 70 kJ/mol



Dislocation
 Dislocation core : 60 kJ/mol
 Elastic stress : 40~50 kJ/mol



& G.B. : 50~60 kJ/mol
& Carbides (Fe₃C, TiC) : 80~100 kJ/mol

Hydrogen in Steels



In the present study, the most stable structure of hydrogen in a void and vacancy cluster of the pure iron has been investigated by first principle calculations. In addition, the simulation technique for studying the effect of irradiation-induced defects on hydrogen desorption curves has been developed.



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♦ Vacancy cluster: 70 kJ/mol



Dislocation Dislocation core : 60 kJ/mol Elastic stress : 40~50 kJ/mol



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The most stable structure of hydrogen in a void and vacancy cluster

First principle calculations condition

The hydrogen was introduced into adsorption site such as 4F, 2F of the iron crystal surface (the void surface).

➢ Program cord Vienna Ab Initio Simulation Package (VASP) \succ Crystal structure BCC unit cell: $2 \times 3 \times 8$ Vacuum layer: 11.348 Å (About four times of lattice constant of BCC) Crystal surface : (100) crystal planes ➤Magnetism Fe: Ferromagnetics Sampling of k point Monkhorst-Pack $6 \times 4 \times 2$ \succ Cut of energy 348eV \triangleright Relaxation calculation Atomic position, Shape of unit cell, Volume ➤Convergence condition Force applied to atom is less than 0.005eV/Å



First principle calculations condition







Number of 2F site $\frac{1}{2} \times 10 + 1 \times 7 = 12$

First principle calculations condition

In this model, the structure may be different even if the adsorption hydrogen is the same number. So, when calculation result was written, kind of the structure was written.



Determination method of stable structure of hydrogen

In the case of 6 hydrogen atoms, total energy of 6 adsorption hydrogen was compared with sum of total energy of 5 adsorption hydrogen and a half of hydrogen molecules energy of vacuum. Low energy side was stable.



Result of first principle calculations

			Total energy	
		Total energy, ev	+Hydrogen molecules	
			energy of vacuum/2, ev	
4F(0)		-783.274	-786.641	
4F(1)		-787.016	-790.383	
	-а	-790.829	-794.196	
4F(2)	-b	-790.787	-794.154	
	-c	-790.807	-794.174	
	-a	-794.632	-797.999	
4F(3)	-b	-794.549	-797.916	
	-c	-794.647	-798.014	
	-а	-798.416	-801.783	
4F(4)	-b	-798.392	-801.759	
	-c	-798.363	-801.729	
4F(5)		-802.300	-805.667	
4F(6)		-805.932	-809.298	
4F(6)2F(1)		-809.489	-812.856	
45(6)05(0)	-а	-812.542	-815.909	
	-b	-812.740	-816.107	
46(0)26(2)	-c	-812.753	-816.120	
-	-d	-812.855	-816.222	

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4F(2)	-b	-790.787	-794.154
	-c	-790.807	-794.174

When all 4F sites was covered and 2F sites was adsorbed by 2 hydrogen, energy became higher than hydrogen molecules exist.

 \Rightarrow 100% of 4F sites and about 8% of 2F sites of the void surface (100) were covered, hydrogen gas was found to be precipitated in the void.

41 (4)	L D	130.332	001.703
	-c	-798.363	-801.729
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Stable structure of hydrogen in a vacancy cluster

The first principle calculations result that hydrogen molecule was placed in the center of the vacancy cluster.



Vacancy
Fe
H

Vacancy cluster consisting of 15 vacancies \Rightarrow Hydrogen molecule separated and adsorbed to surface.

Vacancy cluster consisting of 27 vacancies

 \Rightarrow Hydrogen molecule did not separate and existed in the center.

The hydrogen gas existed in a vacancy cluster consisting of more than 27 vacancies in the iron.

Simulation of hydrogen desorption

Simulation model of hydrogen desorption and adsorption

The simulation model of Davenport et al (1982)



Metal
$$\xrightarrow{f_3}$$
 Surface $\xrightarrow{f_1}$ H₂ gas

Flux of hydrogen of the metal surface

 f_1 :Adsorption to the surface

 f_2 :Desorption from the surface

 f_3 :Invasions from the adsorption site to the solution site

 f_4 :Invasions from the solution site to the adsorption site

Changing rate of hydrogen coverage of metal surface

$$\frac{d\theta}{dt} = f_1 - f_2 - f_3 + f_4$$

Changing rate of soluble hydrogen

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{f_3 - f_4}{N}$$

N:Thickness of metal (Atomicity of metal/Atomicity of surface)

Simulation model of hydrogen desorption

Developed simulation model



Flux of hydrogen of the void surface

 f_1 :Adsorption to the surface f_2 :Desorption from the surface f_3 :Invasions from the adsorption site to the solution site f_4 :Invasions from the solution site to the adsorption site

Flux of hydrogen of the metal surface

 f_5 :Invasions from the solution site to the adsorption site f_6 :Invasions from the adsorption site to the solution site f_7 :Desorption from the surface

Changing rate of hydrogen coverage of void surface

$$\frac{d\theta_1}{dt} = f_1 - f_2 - f_3 + f_4$$

Hydrogen desorption rate of void surface

$$\frac{dc_1}{dt} = -f_1 + f_2$$

Changing rate of hydrogen coverage of metal surface $\frac{d\theta_2}{dt} = f_5 - f_6 - f_7$

Hydrogen desorption rate of metal surface

$$\frac{dc_2}{dt} = f_7$$

Simulation model of hydrogen desorption

Developed simulation model



These equations are in consideration of trapping and dissociation of hydrogen in the void surface and the trap site in each cell. In addition, hydrogen diffusion of each cell are also calculated according to the diffusion equation.

Simulation model of hydrogen desorption

Developed simulation model



- S: surface area of metal
- N_1 : Thickness of metal
- N: Thickness of cell
- N_t: Trap site density (e. g. dislocation, vacancy)
- *j*: Capturing rate for the trap site
- p: Releasing rate for the trap site
- $\epsilon:$ Occupation rate of the trapping site by hydrogen

$$D = D_0 \exp(\frac{-E_B}{kT})$$

- D: Diffusion coefficient of hydrogen
- D_0 : Frequency factor of diffusion cofficient
- $E_{\rm B}$: Diffusion activation energy
- k : Boltzmann's constant
- T: Temperature

Equation of flux

Adsorption to the surface: f_1

$$\frac{2Ps_0}{N_S\sqrt{4\pi MkT}}\exp(\frac{-2E}{kT})(1-\theta)^2$$

- *P*: Hydrogen pressure in void = cRT/VN_A
 - *c* : Number of hydrogen molecules
 - R : Gas constant
 - T: Temperature
 - V: Void volume
 - $N_{\rm A}$: Avogadro constant
- s_0 : Capture coefficient ($\theta = 0$)
- N_S: Number of adsorption site
- *M*: Mass of the hydrogen atom
- k : Boltzmann's constant
- *E* : Energy of adsorption of hydrogen molecules
- θ : hydrogen coverage rate of surface

Desorption from the surface: f_2 , f_7 $\nu N_s \exp(\frac{-2E_D}{kT})\theta^2$

v: Frequency factor

 $E_{\rm D}$: Desorption energy from adsorption site

Invasions from the adsorption site to the solution site: f_3 , f_6 $v \exp(\frac{-E_A}{kT})\theta(1-x)$

 E_A : Activation energy Invasions from the adsorption site to the solution site *x* : Occupation ratio of the solution site by hydrogen

Invasions from the solution site to the adsorption site: f_4 , f_5 $v \exp(\frac{-E_B}{kT})x(1-\theta)$

 $E_{\rm B}$: Diffusion activation energy

Validity of model



For the validation test of the this study model, simulated hydrogen desorption curve was compared with the another simulated curve. ⇒Both curve are fitted. This study model is valid.

1) Oliver et al, Journal of Nuclear Materials, 356, 148(2006)

Material & Creep Specimen

The hydrogen desorption curve of creep ruptured specimen was simulated used our developed simulation model.

Pure Fe

Table Chemical composition of pure Fe (mass%)

Fe	С	Si	Mn	Cr	Ni	Cu	Ν	0
99.99	0.001	0.0005	0.0001	0.0001	0.0001	0.0004	0.0006	0.014

Creep specimen

Creep ruptured specimen (Creep damaged)

Stress, MPa	Temp., ℃	Time, h	Life Fraction, %
10	700	312	100

Rectangular specimen for Hydrogen Thermal Desorption Analysis



Hydrogen Thermal Desorption Analysis

Hydrogen Charging (cathodic electrolysis)

- ✓ Electrolyte: 0.1 mol/L NaOH
 + 0.5mass% NH₄SCN
- ✓ Current density: 5mA/cm²
- ✓ Charging time: 72 h
- Solution Temp.: 30°C

Thermal Desorption Analysis

- Gas chromatograph
- ✓ Carrier gas: Ar
- ✓ Heating rate: 100°C/h
- Temperature range: R.T. ~ 270°C
- ✓ Data sampling interval: 5 min.





Necessary simulation parameter

	Calculated value	Literature data
D ₀ : Frequency factor of diffusion cofficient		1.5 × 10 ⁻⁹ ∼ 1.6 × 10 ⁻⁷ m²/s
E _B : Diffusion activation energy		8 kJ/mol
E _D : Desorption energy from adsorption site	32 kJ/mol	50 kJ/mol
P : Hydrogen pressure in void	556KPa	
s ₀ : Capture coefficient ($θ = 0$)		0.03
N _S : Number of adsorption site		1.72 × 10 ¹⁹ /m ²
N _A : Avogadro constant		6.02 × 10 ²³ /mol
M : Mass of the hydrogen atom		1.674 × 10 ⁻²⁷ kg
v: Frequency factor		10 ¹³ /s
R : Gas constant		8.314 J/Kmol
k : Boltzmann's constant		1.38 × 10 ⁻²³ J/K

 D_0 and E_D have a range. So, these value were determined by simulated hydrogen desorption curve of normalized pure iron.

Initial value θ : hydrogen coverage rate of surface 100% x: Occupation ratio of the solution site by hydrogen 2.42×10^{-7}

Determined parameter



Simulation parameter

	Calculated value	Literature data	Determined value
D ₀ : Frequency factor of diffusion cofficient		1.5 × 10 ⁻⁹ ∼ 1.6 × 10 ⁻⁷ m²/s	2.0 × 10 ⁻⁸ m ² /s
E _B : Diffusion activation energy		8 kJ/mol	8 kJ/mol
E _D : Desorption energy from adsorption site	32 kJ/mol	50 kJ/mol	36 kJ/mol
P : Hydrogen pressure in void	556KPa		556KPa
s_0 : Capture coefficient (θ = 0)		0.03	0.03
N _S : Number of adsorption site		$1.72 \times 10^{19} /m^2$	$1.72 \times 10^{19} /m^2$
N _A : Avogadro constant		6.02 × 10 ²³ /mol	6.02 × 10 ²³ /mol
M : Mass of the hydrogen atom		1.674 × 10 ⁻²⁷ kg	1.674 × 10 ⁻²⁷ kg
v : Frequency factor		10 ¹³ /s	10 ¹³ /s
R : Gas constant		8.314 J/Kmol	8.314 J/Kmol
k : Boltzmann's constant		1.38 × 10 ⁻²³ J/K	1.38 × 10 ⁻²³ J/K
Average void radius		1.5 μm 💦	These were obtained
Void number density		233.7 /mm ²	scanning electron
			microscopy.

Initial value θ : hydrogen coverage rate of surface 100%

x : Occupation ratio of the solution site by hydrogen 2.42×10^{-7}



The simulational curve did not correspond with the experimental one. \Rightarrow The experimental curve was influenced by the defects which cannot be observed by SEM.





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Simulation result



- The metal surface coverage rate is very low from RT. The hydrogen of metal surface is released immediately.
- ➤ The occupation rate of the dislocation by hydrogen not be seen from about 130°C. The dislocation affects hydrogen evolution curve until about 130°C.
- \succ Above 130°C, Only the influence of the void is seen.

Simulation result



The hydrogen pressure in void disappears about 160 °C and the void coverage rate begins to decrease.

Simulation result



The hydrogen pressure in void disappears about 170 °C and the void coverage rate begins to decrease.

Pure iron Creep ruptured(10MPa/700°C)

- Simulation result of
hydrogen evolution curve 2.0×10^9 - Void coverage rate 1.8×10^9 - Occupation rate of the
dislocation by hydrogen 1.6×10^9 - Metal surface coverage rate $9 \times 1.4 \times 10^9$





Pure iron Creep ruptured(10MPa/700°C)

Simulation result of
 hydrogen evolution curve
 Void coverage rate
 Occupation rate of the
 dislocation by hydrogen
 Metal surface coverage rate
 5.0 ×
 4.5 ×
 4.0 ×
 90 3.5 ×





Pure iron Creep ruptured(10MPa/700°C)

Simulation result of
 hydrogen evolution curve
 Void coverage rate
 Occupation rate of the
 dislocation by hydrogen
 Metal surface coverage rate
 5.0 ×
 4.5 ×
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 90 3.5 ×





Pure iron

Creep ruptured(10MPa/700°C)



Pure iron Creep ruptured(10MPa/700°C)



水素の移動の活性化エネルギーを変化さ せた時のフィッティング結果



Summary

- 1. In the iron, 100% of 4F sites and about 8% of 2F sites of the void surface (100) were covered, hydrogen gas was found to be precipitated in the void.
- The hydrogen gas existed in a vacancy cluster consisting of more than 27 vacancies in the iron.
- 3. The simulation model was developed to consider the void.
- 4. In creep ruptured pure iron, the simulational curve did not correspond with the experimental one. The experimental curve was influenced by the defects which cannot be observed by SEM.
- 5. The hydrogen of metal surface was released immediately.
- 6. The dislocation affected hydrogen evolution curve until about 130°C.
- 7. Above 130℃, Only the influence of the void was seen.
- 8. The hydrogen pressure in void disappeared about 160°C and the void coverage rate began to decrease.

水素放出シミュレーションモデル

