



Effect of H-charging on dislocation multiplication in pre-strained super duplex stainless steel

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Background



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Physical feature of hydrogen atom



Hydrogen in metals

Hydrogen may be introduced during:

- Casting
- Processing
- Welding
- Cathodic protection Servicing

Continuously introducing hydrogen into materials



casting



cathodic protection





Effect of hydrogen charging on ductility



Materials: Zeron 100; sample gauge volume: 35×5×1.2 mm³; hydrogen charge parameter: two weeks charging in 3.5 wt. % NaCl at 1.2 V with 50°C heating; strain rate during tensioning: 10⁻⁴ s⁻¹



Background



Defects in metals

- Point defect (e.g. vacancy)
- Linear defect dislocations
- Interfacial defect boundaries or stacking faults



Dislocation movement facilitated by lattice stress



Background

H-dislocation interaction



2. Hydrogen activates dislocation movement - TEM







Ref:

- 1. Deutges et al. 2015, Acta Mater.
- 2. Ferreira et al. 1998, Acta Meter.
- 3. Barnoush et al. 2010, Scr. Mater.



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Advantages of Neutron Diffraction

Challenges

- Limited to (near) surface observation
 - e.g. X-ray diffraction, atomic force microscopy, TEM
- Long scanning time is required due to low beam flux, which may lead to measurement errors from surface hydrogen escape
- Require high standard for sample preparation

Neutron diffraction

- Bulk information can be obtained as neutron has high penetration capability
- Reduced scanning time owning to high beam flux in Engin-X, which minimises the hydrogen escape during scanning
- Relatively simple routine for sample preparation



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Methodology



Methodology



Neutron diffraction setup



ENGINE-X, ISIS, UK



Sample preparation





Step size: 0.3 µm; Acc. voltage: 20 kV



Austenite

Ferrite

Methodology

Preparation of pre-strain samples



Tensile curve of sample engineering strain (%) against force (kN); the pre-strain of 5%, 10% and 15% can be achieved with 5.2275, 5.5500 and 5.7525 kN loads; uncertainty of pre-strain is measured as 0.3%.



Hydrogen charging cell



H-charging parameter:

- 3.5 wt. % NaCl solution
- 50° C heating environment
- 10 days H-charging
- 25 ± 5 mA/cm² current density.





Measurement of dislocation density

Williamson-Hall equation

$$\frac{\Delta d}{d} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{d}{t} + \varepsilon \\ t \end{pmatrix} + \epsilon$$
 This term can be ignored due to its small contribution (1)

Faulkner equation (total elastic energy)

$$U = \frac{15}{4} \frac{E}{(1+\nu)} \varepsilon^2 = \frac{15}{4} \frac{E}{(1+\nu)} \left(\frac{\Delta d}{d}\right)^2 \tag{2}$$

The elastic energy per unit length of dislocation (u)

$$u = \frac{Gb^2}{4\pi} \ln \frac{r_1}{b} \tag{3}$$

Together (1-3), increased dislocation density can be derived

$$\rho_b = \frac{U}{u} = \frac{15E}{2Gb^2(1+\nu)} \left(\frac{\Delta d}{d}\right)^2 \tag{4}$$

where d is interplanar spacing; t is grain size; ε is elastic strain; E is the Young's modulus; v is Poisson's ratio; G is shear modulus; r_1 is the effective elastic field radius at a dislocation core; and b is the burger's vector. Assumptions are made that r_1 =100 nm, b=0.248 nm for ferrite and b=0.254 nm for austenite; The value $ln \frac{r_1}{h} \approx 2\pi$.



Methodology

Measurement of dislocation density









Results and discussion



Results & discussion

Spectrums of neutron diffraction-Longitudinal





Spectrums of neutron diffraction-Transverse





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Measured dislocation density





Stored dislocation density

The stored dislocation density is a **balance** of **athermal storage of dislocation** and static **recovery**

Dislocation multiplication

Dislocation annihilation



Where the term $d_{\rho^+}/d\varepsilon$ is dislocation generation and term $d_{\rho^-}/d\varepsilon$ is dislocation annihilation.



Dislocation multiplication

In SDSS, Frank-read-type source is suggested to account for dislocation density multiplication. The critical shear stress required to activate the source is:



Unit of dislocation line energy is reduced with hydrogen solutes presentation



Where G is the shear modulus, l_d is the segment length and u is the unit of dislocation line energy.





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Animation adopted from: <u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frank-Read_source</u>

Dislocation annihilation

Kocks and Mecking proposed a systematic model to evaluate dislocation density within conditions of varying temperature and strain. If we only consider the strain effect, the net storage rate of dislocation can be written as:

 $\frac{d_{\rho}}{d_{\varepsilon}} = M(k_1\sqrt{\rho} - k_2\rho)$

where *M* is Taylor's factor; k_1 is storage constant; k_2 is dynamic recovery constant which is proportional to the critical dislocation annihilation distance. Both k_1 and k_2 are positive values.

As $k_2\rho$ possess higher order of term ρ than $k_1\sqrt{\rho}$, with increasing strain, the increasing of dislocation density tend to slow down and finally achieve a **dislocation saturated status**. In present study, hydrogen gave a raise of dislocation density in unstrained and 5% pre-strained samples while fail to increase dislocation density in 10% and 15% pre-strained samples which may owning to dislocation saturation.









Conclusions



Conclusion

- Neutron diffraction is an effective probing method to study the dislocation density in bulk materials.
- Hydrogen induced dislocation multiplication is a function of prestrain, where dislocation density increase manifestly in samples with less than 5% pre-strain. Such dislocation multiplication is impeded when pre-strain reaches 10%.



References

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Thank you

