A Study on the Corrosion Behavior and Oxide Characteristics of OFHC Copper in Borate Buffered Solution.

Borate 완충 용액에서 무산소동의 부식 거동과 산화막 특성에 관한 연구

Jeong Youn Lim*, Byung Gi Park, and Il Soon Hwang,

Department of Nuclear Engineering, Seoul Nation University

I. Introduction

The anodic oxidation behavior and corrosion of copper have attracted the attention of several investigators because of their widespread use in different industries. A study on the corrosion and passivation behavior of copper has been conducted using electrochemical methods including potentiodynamic polarization and AC impedance spectroscopy.

II. Experimental Procedure

The working electrode was OFHC (Oxygen-free High Conductivity) Copper (99.99%). Borate buffered (0.025M $Na_2B_4O_7$ -0.1 M H_3BO_3) solutions with pH 7 and 9 were used as the supporting electrolyte. Polarization curves and impedance spectrum were measured at 20 °C and 60 °C using a single compartment glass cell. A Solatron 1286 potentiostat interfaced with a PC was used for the polarization studies. And the impedance spectroscopy was conducted using Solatron 1260 frequency response analyzer.

III. Results and Discussions

The corrosion potentials of Cu in borate solutions exist in the region where the Cu_2O is thermodynamically stable. Table 1 summarizes the corrosion potential values. The charge transport

resistance of oxide layer increased with applied potentials. Impedance results obtained at low frequency range were used to calculate the oxygen vacancy diffusion coefficient(Table 2). The diffusion coefficient was influenced by neither pH nor potential, but positively by temperature.

Table 1. Corrosion potential data summary

Temperature (°C) Corrosion potential (V	
20	0.213
60	0.187
20	0.039
60	-0.021
	20 60 20

Table 2. Oxygen vacancy diffusion coefficient in Cu oxide

PH	Temperature (°C)	Applied E(V _{SCE})	D(cm ² /s)
7	20	0.4	1.3×10 ⁻¹⁷
		0.6	1.3×10 ⁻¹⁷
	20	0.4	2.5×10 ⁻¹⁷
		0.6	4.5×10 ⁻¹⁷
9	60	0.0	1.6×10 ⁻¹⁷
		0.2	1.0×10 ⁻¹⁷
	60	0.2	4.6×10 ⁻¹⁷
		0.4	7.2×10 ⁻¹⁶

References

- [1] S. B. Adeloju and Y. Y. Duan, Corrosion Resistance of Cu₂O and CuO on Copper Surfaces in Aqueous Media, *British Corrosion Journal*, Vol. 29, pp.309-314 (1994).
- [2] L. D. Burke, M. J. G. Ahern, and T. G. Ryan, An Investigation of the Anodic Behavior of Copper and Its Anodically Produced Oxides in Aqueous Solutions of High pH, *Journal of Electrochemical Society*, Vol. 137, pp. 553-561 (1990).
- [3] Y. Feng, K. S. Siow, W. K. Teo, K. L. Tan, and A. K. Hsieh, Corrosion Mechanisms and Products of Copper in Aqueous Solutions at Various pH Values, Corrosion, Vol. 53, pp. 389-398 (1997).
- [4] D. D. Macdonald and M. U. Macdonald, Theory of Steady-state Passive Films, *Journal of Electrochemical Society*, Vol. 137, pp.2395-2402 (1990).