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第三十九屆臺灣顯微鏡學會年會

108年9月21日(星期六) 國立臺灣大學工學院綜合大樓國際演講廳

08:30-09:30	報到
09:30-10:00	開幕
	理事長致詞與會務報告
	會員大會
10:00-11:00	特邀演講(I):Our recent microscopy investigations
	Dr. Makoto Shiojiri
	Professor Emeritus, Kyoto Institute of Technology
	Senior Advisor, Faculties of Engineering and Sustainable Design, University of
	Toyama
11:00-11:30	顯微鏡技術推廣(I): JEOL/捷東股份有限公司
11:30-12:00	台灣顯微鏡學會年會會員大會
	Poster Session (地點:一樓大廳)
12:00-14:00	午餐時間 (備有午餐餐盒)
	Poster Session (地點:一樓大廳)
14:00-14:45	特邀演講(II):In-situ TEM investigation of dynamic evolution in nanostructures
	吴文偉 特聘教授
	國立交通大學 材料科學與工程學系所
14:45-15:15	顯微鏡技術推廣(II):Thermo Fisher Scientific
15:15-15:40	討論交流時間(備有點心茶點)
15:40-16:10	顯微鏡技術推廣(III):牛津儀器(Oxford Instruments NanoAnalysis)
16:10-17:00	頒獎、閉幕



台灣顯微鏡學會

第十八屆理、監事名錄

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	孫啟光	台灣大學電機工程學系	教授
	簡萬能	中央研究院植物暨微生物學研究所	研究技師
	陳金富	捷東股份有限公司	總經理
	王約翰	中國醫藥大學附設醫院病理部	醫師
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	李威志	E. A. Fischione Instruments	博士
候補監事	許秋容	中興大學生命科學系	教授
	陳志遠	國立臺北科技大學智慧財產權研究所	教授

備註:王約翰理事於 2019 年 5 月 17 日辭去理事長一職,經 2019 年 06 月 15 日理監事會議通過由羅聖全 理事代理理事長一職。

Invited speaker: Professor Dr. Shiojiri, Makoto



M. Shige

Professor Dr. Makoto Shiojiri was born in 1936 in Kyoto, Japan. He graduated from Kyoto University in 1959, and got M. Sc. from the same university in 1961, with his major in physics. After engaged in physical metallurgy at the Central Research Laboratory, Sumitomo Steel Co. Ltd., he was appointed an instructor at the Institute for Chemical Research, Kyoto University in 1962, and started his academic career, majoring in crystal and thin film physics and electron microscopy. He was conferred the D. Sc. from Kyoto University in 1967 for his studies on 'Crystallization of amorphous films prepared by vacuum-evaporation'. He was promoted to an associate professor of physics at Kyoto Institute of Technology in 1966 and was appointed a full professor of the same institute in 1975. He stayed at the Faculty of Applied and Engineering Physics of Cornell University, U.S.A. and studied the ultrahigh vacuum electron microscopy, from 1971 to 1972.

At the end of March 1999, Dr. Shiojiri retired from Kyoto Institute of Technology and is a professor emeritus of the same institute. From June 1999 to March 2007, he was with graduate school in Kanazawa Medical University as a guest professor of anatomy. Now (2014~), he is also a fellow of Faculty of Engineering, University of Toyama. In November 2015, Professor Shiojiri was awarded the Order of the Sacred Treasure, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon, from The Emperor of Japan.

His resume is available on the website:

http://www009.upp.so-net.ne.jp/shiojiri/top.htm

Our recent microscopy investigations Makoto Shiojiri

Professor Emeritus, Kyoto Institute of Technology

Senior Advisor, Faculties of Engineering and Sustainable Design, University of Toyama 1-297 Wakiyama, Kyoto 618-0091, Japan

In the 39th Annual Meeting of Microscopy Society of Taiwan (2019), I'd like to talk about the following topics which relate to our recent studies of materials science and bio science.

I. Layer Growth, Coalescence and Layer Defects of Fine η Precipitates in 7050 Aluminium Alloy: Recently, we have published a paper on η precipitates in 7050 Aluminium Alloy [1]. AA7050 (Al-Zn-Mg-Cu) is a heat treatable Al alloy with high toughness, strong mechanical strength, and good stress corrosion cracking resistance. It is a precipitate hardening alloy, used to build fuselage frames, wing skins and other aerospace structures. It was known that the precipitation occurs in a sequence: super-saturated solid solution \rightarrow GP zones (I and II) $\rightarrow \eta'$ precipitates (4 variants) $\rightarrow \eta$ precipitates (11 types, $\eta_1 - \eta_{11}$). We have found new types of η precipitates which were named η_4 ' and η_{12} [1]. The lecture shows high-angle annular-dark-field scanning-transmission electron microscopy (STEM) of various η precipitates, and elucidates the growth of the precipitates and the formation of layer defects in the precipitates: 1) All η type precipitates grow as hexagonal crystals whose stoichiometric composition is MgZn₂ with a stacking in Mg-base Laves phase. 2)The η -MgZn₂ precipitates nucleate and grow up laterally and layer-by-layer by the layer growth, on certain low index Al planes. 3) Both what lattice plane in the Al matrix has a 2D MgZn₂ nucleus and what lattice plane of the MgZn₂ nucleus is formed on this Al lattice would be probability events. 4) The thirteen types of η precipitates have different morphologies, shapes and habit planes. It can be generally deduced that hexagonal plates grow from the 2D nuclei that form with the basal planes of $\{0001\}_{\eta}$ on any of low index Al planes, while hexagonal prisms or rods grow from the 2D nuclei that form with other planes such as $\{11\overline{2}0\}_{\eta}$ and $\{10\overline{1}0\}_{\eta}$. 5) The difference of types is ascribed only to the lattice orientation relation with regard to the Al matrix. Even if new types of η precipitates find, it is not to be wondered. 6) We found a precipitate particle or twins, which formed by coalescence between two particles that developed by the layer growth and collided with each other. 7) Stacking faults were observed in

the $(11\bar{2}0)$ image of η_2 -precipitate. We deem that these stacking faults are not caused by mechanical deformation but by mis-stacking that occurs accidentally on the $\{000\bar{1}\}_{\eta}/\{\bar{1}11\}_{AI}$ interface in the layer growth. 8) Layer defects were observed on $\{\bar{1}100\}_{\eta}$ plane in the $(11\bar{2}0)_{\eta}$ image of η_1 -precipitate. It may be noted that structure similar to the defects is included in a unit cell of Mg4Zn7 crystal. We propose that these defects can be built by the coalescence or the layer growth on $\{\bar{1}100\}_{\eta}/\{001\}_{AI}$ interfaces. 9) We found twins with a flat coherent twin boundary along $(1\bar{2}12)_{\eta}$. The twins are neither caused by coalescence nor by deformation by shearing of dislocations. They are growth twins.

II. Structure and Carbonization of Green Culms of Bambusa multiplex: Bambusa multiplex (蓬莱竹) is a bamboo whose culm is straight with a height of 5~8 m and a diameter of 30~50 mm. The culm is very thick and heavy with small lumens, as represented by Japanese name '沈竹, a bamboo that sinks in the water'. The culms have been used for wood pulp and must be the useful material for cellulose nanofibers. Its charcoal would also be a promising new carbon material. Culms sampled and seasoned in Thailand were used in these experiments. Green culms and the charcoal carbonized from the green culms at around 700°C for 3 h in a conventional charcoal kiln were studied by means of X-ray diffraction, X-ray fluorescent element analysis, and analytical STEM [2]. It was revealed that the green culms and the charcoal contain a significant amount of Si, in particular, ~18 wt % in the skin. The green culms comprise amorphous and crystalline celluloses. The charcoal has a so-called amorphous structure which is composed of randomly distributed carbon nanotubes and fibers. The structures of Ag-doped activated charcoal powders that were produced by two different methods were also studied [2]. SEM energy dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDS) mapping of the green bamboo culms detected Si signals in the harder cells such as epidermis (*Ep*), cortex (*Cor*) and vascular bundle sheath (*Bs*) and between these cells [3]. The charcoal has a skin layer which originates from the Ep and Cor and the main central cylinder with many openings that originate from the expanded xylem and phloem holes. During carbonization, the Si atoms in the Ep and Cor were segregated as thin silicon oxide layers onto both the sides of the skin layer, and the Si included in the Bs fibers and parenchyma cells accumulated near the walls of the openings. A dynamic observation of the initial stage of carbonization was also performed *in-situ* by heating a radial longitudinal section of the bamboo

culm at a rate of 20°C/min up to 500°C [3]. Appreciable morphological change occurred in a temperature range of about 300–400°C due to the decomposition of cellulose that is the main component of the bamboo cells.

III. Nanoscale Nitride Epilayers Grown by Atomic Layer Annealing and Epitaxy at Low Temperature: AlN-based and GaN-based materials are widely used in electronic devices such as LED. High-quality ALN and GaN epilayers are conventionally grown by metal-organic chemical vapor deposition. However, they are grown at a very high temperature (> 900°C) with a large thickness up to ~600 nm on lattice mismatched substrates such as sapphire. In the 36th Annual Meeting of MST (2016), I reported on our fabrication of InGaN/GaN LEDs with ultralow threading dislocation density and improved electronic properties [4]. Here, we show a new technique of atomic layer annealing developed to grow high-quality ultrathin AlN [5] and GaN films [6]. The atomic layer deposition is carried out together with the layer-by-layer, *in-situ* atomic layer annealing (ALA), instead of a high growth temperature for conventional MOCVD epitaxial growth. Each cycle for atomic layer epitaxy was modified with an additional step of Ar [5] or He/Ar plasma treatment [6] for ALA. Thin films prepared at 300°C by ALD without ALA have amorphous-like structure. The Ar or He/Ar plasma treatment provides sufficient crystallization energy to the surface of thin film from the incident radicals or ions at each cycle, resulting in the high crystality ultrathin film.

Acknowledgements: Deep thanks due all of coauthors of the references 1-6, for their friendship.

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- [6] W.H. Lee, Y.T. Yin, P.H. Cheng, J.J. Shyue, M. Shiojiri, H.C. Lin, and M.J. Chen, Nanoscale GaN epilayer grown by atomic layer annealing and epitaxy at low temperature. ACS Sustainable Chem. Eng. 7, (2019) 487-495.

Invited speaker: Professor Dr. Wen-Wei Wu 吳文偉教授

現職:國立交通大學材料科學與工程學系特聘教授 學歷:國立清華大學材料科學與工程所博士,2003 經歷: 國立交通大學材料科學與工程學系教授,2014 國立交通大學材料科學與工程學系副教授,2011~2014 國立交通大學材料科學與工程學系助理教授, 2008~2011 國立清華大學材料科學與工程學系 博士後研究員, 2003~2008 專長:電子顯微鏡、半導體材料、奈米光電材料、微

每天·电丁顯微鏡、十守題材杆、奈小九电材杆、微 電子材料與製程、材料顯微結構及缺陷分析、薄膜工程



簡 介: 吴文偉教授,國立清華大學材料科學與工程博士畢業(2003), 2008年2月 起任教於國立交通大學材料科學與工程學系。吳文偉教授研究領域為電子顯微鏡、半 導體材料、奈米光電材料、微電子材料與製程。2008 年與研究團隊發現銅晶體內部之 奈米雙晶結構與晶界接合處可有效遲滯銅原子的電致遷移現象,對於積體電路製程技 術的開發極具啟發作用,成果獲刊於國際頂尖期刊《Science》;隔年獲頒發「2009年 中央研究院年輕學者研究著作獎」。2014 以「電阻式記憶體中傳導奈米燈絲之演變研 究」獲得「第十二屆有庠科技奈米科技類論文獎」,為世界上首次成功用材料分析方法 直接觀察電阻式記憶體透過氧化還原而導致電阻值轉換(switching)及結構動態變化完 整過程的論文,對元件操作與物理模型提供良好的材料分析方法與驗證機制。此外, 吴教授也榮獲「103 年度 科技部吳大猷先生紀念獎」、「中國電機工程師學會優秀青年 電機工程師獎」、「台灣真空學會年輕學者獎」、「台灣電子材料與元件協會傑出青年 獎」以及「中國材料學會傑出年輕學者獎」等研究獎勵。吳教授專長為臨場穿透式電 子顯微鏡研究,針對材料在通電、加熱、以及液態的環境下的物理現象與結構演變及 成長動力學有許多創新與突破性的研究成果發表於頂尖期刊,獲得極大的迴響,因此 更於107年榮獲「中國電機工程師學會傑出電機工程教授獎」以及「科技部傑出研究 獎」。

IX

In-situ TEM investigation of dynamic evolution in nanostructures

Wen-Wei Wu (吳文偉)

Department of Materials Science and Engineering, National Chiao Tung University, Hsinchu 300, Taiwan, ROC

In-situ TEM is a technique that allows a direct observation of dynamic properties in nanoscale. In situ investigation of the temperature induced phase transformation, structural and chemical evolution of nanocrystals is important for understanding the structure and stability of nanomaterials. As the technology advances, the scaling issue of nanodevices has attracted wide consideration, especially the exploration of atomic-scale structural dynamics. The appropriate utilization of the *in-situ* TEM will be beneficial in studying the fundamental mechanisms of dynamic reactions, switching behaviors and electrical properties of nanodevices. Therefore, we use in-situ TEM for direct observation of the dynamic evolution in nanomaterials and nanodevices, which is important for understanding their mechanisms and aiding to the practical aspect. Here, we present the most recent progress in observing dynamic processes in nanoscale by *in-situ* TEM.

Highlighted features of NEOARM capabilities

Noriaki Endo^{*}, Hiroki Hashiguchi, Ichiro Ohnishi, and Eiji Okunishi JEOL Ltd., Akishima, Tokyo, Japan ^{*}nendo@jeol.co.jp

Recently, there has been an increase in the need for various forms of highresolution imaging of materials containing light elements and of specimens susceptible to electron beam irradiation damage. The demands for aberrationcorrected STEM/TEMs with simplified operation are also increasing. Therefore, we have developed the NEOARM atomic-resolution analytical electron microscope to meet these various needs.

The NEOARM is equipped with JEOL's unique Cold-FEG and a new Cs corrector (ASCOR) that compensates for higher-order aberrations. The combination of Cold-FEG and ASCOR enables atomic-resolution imaging at not only an accelerating voltage of 200 kV but also at low voltages such as 30 kV. Figure 1 shows a HAADF-STEM image of GaN [211] obtained at 200 kV using an ultra-high-resolution pole piece. We observed the dumbbell structure with a 63 pm spacing clearly. Moreover, higher-resolution reflections, such as -546 and -555, can also be seen in the FFT pattern.

This microscope is also equipped with an automated aberration correction system, JEOL COSMOTM, which has adopted a new aberration correction algorithm. Therefore, no special sample is required for aberration correction, leading to high precision and quick correction of higher-order aberrations up to the fifth order. This new system enables faster processing than the conventional correction algorithm, automating corrector alignment and thereby eliminating the complicated tuning of the corrector. These features enable high-throughput atomic-resolution imaging and analysis, even at low accelerating voltages, for all levels of users.

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Figure 1. HAADF-STEM image of GaN [211] and its FFT pattern.



Figure 2. EDS column maps of SrTiO₃.

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Ting-Yu Wang (王廷玉)

Oxford Instruments Nano Analysis Taiwan

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Interactions in between the variant-pair of η precipitates in the

Al-Zn-Mg-Cu aluminium alloy

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For Al-Zn-Mg-Cu aluminium alloys, 13 types of η precipitates would possess the symmetrically variants distributed on the closed plane of the Al matrix parallel to the {0001} η , {2110} η , or {1010} η interfaces of precipitates [1]. It was reported that the η_2 precipitates, growing on the (111)_{Al} // (0001) η_2 habit plane where the growth direction follows with [110]_{Al} // [1010] η_2 , would own four equivalent variants on {111}_{Al}, i.e., $\eta_2^{(1)}$ to $\eta_2^{(4)}$ variants [2]. Whether the interactions would occur in between these four equivalent variants of η_2 during the growth of precipitates has yet to be elucidated. In the present work, along the [110]_{Al} zone axis, the atomic arrays of the interfacial areas in between $\eta_2^{(1)}$ and $\eta_2^{(2)}$ respectively grown on (111)_{Al} and (111)_{Al} planes shows that the nearly-twinning relationship has been resolved. On the other hand, along the [110]_{Al} zone axis, it also reveals nearly-twinning configuration in between the variant-pair of η_2 .

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Figure 1. HAADF-STEM images, along the zone axes of $[110]_{Al}$ and $[\overline{110}]_{Al}$, showing Nearly-twinning configuration in between the variant-pair of η_2 .

A02

Atomic Layer Deposition System with Plasma Etching

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The thin film of Al₂O₃ was used to protect the surface of the substrate from deposited impurities. To coat a high-quality protective film on the surface, atomic layer deposition (ALD) is a promising method. Unlike the traditional processes, we built our own ALD system with inductively coupled plasma (ICP) that can generate cleaner samples under the protective film. Before depositing the Al₂O₃ thin film, we used ICP first to clean the substrate surface preventing impurities from being covered below the film. In this study, we depict the scanning transmission electron microscope (STEM) images of samples with and without ICP cleaning, respectively. From those results, one can observe that the ICP-cleaned samples provide STEM image of higher contrast.

Transmission Electron Microscopy Specimen Preparation by Focused Ion Beam System

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In recent years, focused ion beam (FIB) has been widely used in the field of materials science. By controlling the energy and intensity of the ion beam carefully, we can use FIB to perform precise nanomachining. One of the important applications of FIB is the preparation of transmission electron microscopy (TEM) specimen. Unlike the traditional preparation procedure that is time consuming and complicated, we provide a better method of TEM specimen preparation by the milling and lift-out technique of FIB. In this poster, the TEM specimen preparation procedures by a dual-beam FIB and the corresponding scanning electron microscopy (SEM) images will be presented.

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The interaction of T₁ and θ' precipitates with respect to dislocations in the AA2050 aluminium alloy

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近年來,於既有2系列鋁銅(Al-Cu)合金中,添加微量鋰(Li)元素,卻意外提 升機械強度。除此之外,由於Li元素特性,因而大幅減少鋁合金重量。而符合 我國前瞻性綠能材料之方針。高強度的AA2050 (Al-Cu-Li)鋁合金其奈米等級 T₁(Al₂CuLi)與θ'(Al₂Cu)析出物為主要提供強度貢獻主因,但微觀角度而言,此兩 類析出物與差排交互作用為Bowing或Cutting機制之情況尚未明瞭。本研究藉 由奈米壓痕儀(Nano-indenter)與變形式-動態穿透式電子顯微鏡(deformed in-situ TEM)探討其對應之應力-深度位移曲線,而細部了解析出對差排交互作用情況。 再配合球面像差校正高解度掃描穿透式電子顯微鏡(Cs-corrected HAADF-STEM) 於不同晶帶軸(zone axis)證實移動中的差排切過T1與θ'析出物(即,Cutting機制) 而造成析出物其內部原子排列產生變化,進一步深耕此交互作用對機械性能之影 響。

關鍵字: AA2050 (Al-Cu-Li)鋁合金, T₁(Al₂CuLi)與 θ'(Al₂Cu)析出物, Cs-corrected HAADF-STEM

Annealing-induced abnormal hardening in a cold rolled CoCrNi medium entropy alloy

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A CoCrNi equiatomic medium entropy alloy (MEA) with a single solid solution was cold rolled with a thickness reduction of ~70% at room temperature, followed by annealing treatment with relative low temperature. Annealing-induced abnormal hardening was observed for cold rolled alloy after annealing treatment at 873 K. Detailed microstructural characterizations indicated that the abnormal hardening phenomenon is not due to the precipitation hardening or nanocrystalline. A similar phenomenon was found in severe plastic deformation (SPD) in CrCoMnFeNi and CoCrNi after annealing. Although the main reason of abnormal hardening in CoCrNi is still unclear, further research will be continued by EBSD (Electrical Backscatter Diffraction) and TEM (Transmission Electron Microscopy).

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Figure 2

Figure 1. Vickers hardness as a function of annealing time for a constant temperature of 600 °C, homogenization and 70% cold rolling. Data points represent average values, bars indicate standard deviation.

Figure 2. STEM-HAADF image. Deformation structures following rolling and annealing at 600 °C/1 h shows multiple deformation twins and high density dislocations.

A Novel Denoising Technique by Using Machine Learning Based Approach

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With the coming of the third age of artificial intelligence, machine learning has been successfully implemented in many fields, which changed the paradigms to feed tons of data with the answer (or label) to find the pattern that matched [1-2]. However, a limited studies addressed on the electron microscopy applications. In this study, we develop a novel denoising algorithm, kMLLS clustering algorithm [3]. As shown in figure 1, the noise of the spectra had been improved via our proposed approach. To conclude, the kMLLS clustering may provide an unsupervised route to avoid human bias and open the opportunities for automatic data processing.

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Figure 1. The comparison of the (a) experimental data and (b) kMLLS clustering denoising spectrum image and corresponding spectrum marked in it.

The Application of K-means Clustering to EELS Mapping

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K-means clustering has been developed over half century and applied in many fields, such as image processing and feature identification, due to its elegant concept [1-3]. Due to the extended edge nature of electron energy loss spectroscopy (EELS) spectrum, multiple linear least square (MLLS) fitting was implemented to solve the overlapping issue [4]. However, the MLLS algorithm has to assign the reference spectra manually and may lead to a biased result. In this study, we introduced the k-means clustering, which extract the endmembers unsupervisedly, to an artificial EELS spectrum image. The result shows the k-mean clustering have the capability to separate the overlapping signals and give the precise distribution, and it may have a potential application in separating the different bonding state signals of the EELS spectrum image.

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Figure 1. (a) The elemental distribution of the artificial spectrum image. (b) The distribution analysis via a ranged signal integration and (c) via k-means clustering.

Influence of tempering treatment on mechanical properties and the hydrogen embrittlement of NiCrMo steel

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Martensitic steels are prone to hydrogen embrittlement, so the assessment of resistance of hydrogen embrittlement is important. In this study, hydrogen would be charged into steels by electrochemical method. By combining the results of SEM, TEM, tensile test and TDS, the relationship between microstructure and hydrogen embrittlement can be clarified. Results shows that the dominant trapping site of quench state and 200°C tempered state is dislocation; dislocation and cementite in 400°C tempered state; dislocation, cementite and M₇C₃ in 600°C tempered state. Compared with dislocation and cementite, the activation energy of M₇C₃ is higher.

Quench state shows the poorest resistance of hydrogen embrittlement with the highest hydrogen content, 0.96 ppm. The hydrogen content drops to around 0.6 ppm in 200°C tempered state and 400°C tempered state, with improvement on resistance of hydrogen embrittlement. Although 600°C tempered state has high hydrogen content, 0.95 ppm. For the lower dislocation density and stronger trapping sites, M₇C₃, 600°C tempered state shows the best resistance of hydrogen embrittlement. 14 % elongation can be got after charging.

Precipitation Behavior in Custom 475 Maraging Stainless Steel

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In this work, the precipitation behavior of the commercial custom 475 maraging stainless steel was investigated. It was found that two kinds of precipitates present after aging, which were Ni/Al-riched β phase and (Fe,Cr)₂Mo Laves phase, respectively. β phase started precipitating at 480°C and retained high coherency with martensite matrix even in long aging time. β phase precipitates had sphere shape with 2-5 nm in diameter, which contributes huge precipitation hardening effect. On the other hand, Laves phase formed at 520°C and its size depended on aging time. The analysis showed that the peak aging occurs when both β and Laves precipitates meet appropriate size and distribution, and the orientation relationship between Laves phase and matrix was also determined.

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Figure 1. The TEM BF image of 520° C -4 hours aging.



Figure 2. The overall hardness results in different aging time and temperature.

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Abstract

Many attractive mechanical and physical properties were reported from various HEAs (HEAs). [1] In this poster, we investigated refractory HEA of NbTaTiVZr, which consist of the simple body-centered cubic (BCC) solid-solution phase with exceptional high yield strength and hardness that could potentially be a candidate for biocompatible metal implants. A commercial pure titanium (CP-Ti) as a conventional implant material was analyzed as a reference data. The samples were prepared using SiC sandpaper gridding to reach three conditions of surfaces including 600 grit surface, 1200 grit surface, and mirror-like surface using 0.05µm Al₂O₃ slurry. We then examined the behaviors of bone-forming MC3T3-E1 cells on the samples with different surface roughness. The samples with the different surface roughness of the samples was measured using alpha step. The surface wettability was characterized by the sessile drop contact angle method. The cell attachment was studied using scanning electron microscope (SEM) which shows the adhesion of cells on a rough surface was better than that on a smooth one.

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TEM Analysis of structural defects in homoepitaxial (111) diamond film on nickel-coated HPHP diamond

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Diamond (111) film may be required for manufacturing n-type diamond electronic devices due to its lower compensation ratio and higher incorporation efficiency of donors on this orientation [1]. However, it is more difficult to obtain high quality CVD (111) diamond than (100) one because the defect density in (111) diamond is much higher than (100) diamond under general microwave plasma CVD conditions unless growth is carried out under specific conditions [1, 2]. The TEM observation of defects in a 5 μ m thick (111) homoepitaxial diamond film on Ni-coated high-pressure high-temperature (HPHT) substrate has been performed with transmission electron microscopy (TEM). For the cross-sectional TEM result as shown in Fig. 1, the continuous homoepitaxial diamond film forms after epitaxial lateral overgrowth of diamond on the Ni islands and coalescence. It is shown that the dislocation density in the diamond film is about < 5 × 10⁸ cm⁻², which is much less than that grown without Ni. Most of the dislocations in the (111) diamond film on Ni-coated substrate are 60° and screw dislocations having Burgers vectors of 1/2<110>. The rest dislocations may be of mixed types with Burgers vectors of 1/3<111>.

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Figure 1. Bright field cross-sectional TEM image of the (111) homoepitaxial CVD diamond film on HPHT and Ni-coated substrate taken near the [110] pole.

Study on the Effects of Different Mn Contents on Annealing and Mechanical Twinning of CoCrFeMn_xNi (X=0~1) High Entropy Alloy

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This research focused on the difference Mn content on the annealing and mechanical twinning of CoCrFeMnxNi high entropy alloy. After CoCrFeMnxNi with different Mn contents were subjected to the 70% cold working and then annealed at different temperatures (700°C or 800°C) to observe the interaction between the Mn content and the annealed twin and mechanical twins. The mechanical properties were obtained by Vickers hardness test and tensile test. In addition, bullets (Semi-Armor Piercing) are used to severely deform the CoCrFeMnxNi. The ambient temperature suppresses the effect of dynamic recovery and increases the stress, while the increase of the strain rate shortens the deformation time, the internal sliding of the material is difficult and entangled resulting in an increase in stress accumulation. The microstructure of the deformed CoCrFeMnxNi annealed twin and mechanical twins were analyzed by TEM to investigate the role of Mn in the CoCrFeMnxNi high entropy alloy system.

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Figure 1. The severely deformed area of CoCrFeMnxNi shot by bullet (from left to right, X=0.6, 0)

Study on Annealing Twins of Co-Cr-Fe-Mn-Ni High Entropy Alloy

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This study focuses on the twin structure of the Co-Cr-Fe-Mn-Ni high-entropy alloy. After 70% of the cold working was applied, annealing was performed at a low temperature of 700 ° C, and the behavior of recrystallization of the annealed twin crystal was observed at different annealing times. The EBSD (Electrical Backscatter Diffraction) and TEM (Transmission Electron Microscopy) analysis were used to investigate the effects of annealing on the growth of twin crystals and grain size at different annealing times. In the cold-worked 70% Cantor alloy 700 °C annealed test piece, the formation of annealed twin crystals occurs during the recrystallization and grain growth stages. Regardless of the proportion of the twin crystal boundaries, or the number of twins contained in each crystal increases with the annealing time, the reason is that there is a new twin formation inside the crystal during the grain growth stage. Moreover, since the newly grown twin crystals continue to divide the original crystal, the grain size hardly grows in the later stage of recrystallization.

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Figure 1. (a) and (b) TEM dark field images, imaged by the diffracted beams circled by the matrix and twin in (c). (c) The diffraction pattern of this region, zone axis is [011], which is a typical FCC twinning diffraction pattern.

Observing the growth and distribution of annealing twins at low annealing temperature in FeCoNiCr high entropy alloy

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A FeCoCrNi equiatomic high entropy alloy (HEA) with a single solid solution was cold rolled with a thickness reduction of ~70% at room temperature, followed by annealing treatment with relative low temperature at 650°C. In this study, the growth and distribution of annealing twins were observed at different annealing time from 10 to 60 mintutes. The results show that our annealing condition(low annealing temperature and short annealing time) produces heterogeneous, partially recrystallized microstructures.The EBSD (Electron Backscatter Diffraction) and TEM (Transmission electron microscopy) analysis were used to investigate the growth and distribution of annealing twins at different annealing time.

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Figure 1



Figure 2

Figure 1. EBSD image from FeCoNiCr after rolling (70% thickness reduction) and annealing at 650 $^{\circ}$ C /1hr

Figure 2. Central dark field image. TEM from FeCoNiCr after rolling (70% thickness reduction) and annealing at 650 $^{\circ}$ C /1hr

The Effect of Two-step Heat Treatment on the Carbide-free Bainite

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By alloying 1.5-2.0 wt% silicon in the steel, followed by appropriate heat treatments, carbide-free bainite can be produced. Carbide-free bainite has outstanding strength and toughness, which is well utilized in ballistic-resistant steels of defense industry, but the reaction rate is slow and it consumes much time for transformation. In this research, we are focusing on different heat treatments to accelerate the reaction rate for the transformation of carbide-free bainite. Results show that two-step heat treatment can effectively accelerate the reaction rate of carbide-free bainite, which is faster than traditional one-step heat treatment. By analyses of dilatometer data and pictures of electron microscopy, we can confirm that the final structure by two-step heat treatment consists of different size of bainite and hence results in the reduction of strength and hardness.



Figure 1. TEM image of bainite structure by two-step heat treatments

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The influence of low temperature on the hydrogen embrittlement of NiCrMo steel

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The experiment found steel in the water quenched state, is lath martensite structure, has the highest dislocation density, and observed a little self-tempered plate. After tempering at 200 °C, fine ε carbides began to precipitate in martensite, and the dislocation density was reduced. The hydrogen absorption after charging was the lowest, therefore it has the better resistance to hydrogen embrittlement. After tempering at 400 °C, fine ε carbides are transformed into cementite precipitated in temper martensite matrix. The interface between cementite and the temper martensite matrix is a reversible hydrogen trapping site, which makes the hydrogen absorption capacity is higher than 200 °C, cementite is spheroidized. At this time, due to the elimination of internal stress during the tempering process, dislocation density is the smallest, and the best hydrogen embrittlement resistance ability is obtained in this experiment.

When doing tensile test at different temperatures, the elongation of steel decreases with decreasing temperature, but the elongation loss rate does not change significantly with temperature. It is known from experiments that both low temperature and hydrogen charging tend to cause brittle failure, but there is no obvious additive effect between them. Only in the water quenched state, the material has been destroyed before the yield strength, after tempering, the ability to resist hydrogen embrittlement has been improved.

Mechanical Property and Microstructure of Cryogenic Temperature and High-stain-rate Compressive Deformation in the FeCoNiCrMn Highentropy Alloy

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高熵合金作為金屬領域新興材料,近幾年來受到廣泛關注,又以FeCoNiCrMn 作為最多 人研究的系統之一。根據文獻報導,在低溫拉伸實驗中,具有低疊差能之面心立方單相 結構 FeCoNiCrMn 高熵合金會生成大量機械雙晶,雙晶除了能有效阻擋差排移動亦可 促使晶粒細化之效用,增加材料之加工硬化率、強度與延展性等機械性能。

本研究藉由霍普金森快速撞擊試驗機,在不同溫度(25°C、-50°C、-100°C、-150°C)和不同應變速率(4000 s⁻¹、9000 s⁻¹)對 FeCoNiCrMn 高熵合金執行壓縮變形實驗,並透過背向 散射電子繞射技術與穿透式電子顯微鏡探討機械性能與顯微結構變化之影響。

實驗結果之應力應變曲線指出,隨著實驗溫度降低或是應變速率提高,材料強度皆會上 升(Fig.1),因為提升應變速率和降低溫度有著相同的效果,皆能促使機械雙晶提早形成、 提高材料加工硬化率。接著透過 EBSD 和 TEM 分析材料內微結構發展,而在變形初期 階段會以差排為主,隨著差排堆積、糾結使應力快速上升,達到啟動雙晶所需的臨界應 力值,單一變體雙晶開始在基地中成核,且發現應力較高的條件下,其雙晶產生的數目 較應力低者更多。實驗結果顯示不論在哪個應變速率或溫度,都可以觀察到機械雙晶, 除此之外,結構內也觀測到兩組雙晶並存的現象,可分為基地中的 Primary twin 和 Secondary twin、退火雙晶內的機械雙晶以及機械雙晶內的機械雙晶,晚出現的機械雙 晶會將原晶粒再次分割,達到晶粒細化的效果也使材料強度增強,從實驗結果可得知機 械雙晶在 FeCoNiCrMn 高熵合金中是不可忽視的重要強化機制。



Fig.1 降低溫度或是提高應變速率皆能使材料真實應力提升(第一項L代表大晶粒、第 二項為溫度,50代表-50℃、100代表-100℃、第三項為應變速率,4代表4000 s⁻¹、9 代表9000 s⁻¹)

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Auto-tempered martensite and interpenetrating twin in lath martensite

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Fully lath martensite was obtained after quench from austenite in experimental material, not only general martensite lath but auto-tempered martensite and interpenetrating twin were able to be observed in the microstructure. Auto-tempered martensite forms from the sub-blocks which formed at high temperature. The lathes which belong to the same variant possess similar orientation relationship between each other, so when thermal energy is enough to adapt the small angle boundary, martensite will be coarsening. Because there was no high carbon region after heat treatment, the twin structure in the microstructure is interpenetrating twin instead of plate martensite. Interpenetrating twin forms from some lathes which naturally possess twin orientation relationship between each other. If the twin-relation lathes contact at the boundary of blocks, these lathes which formed at high temperature may penetrate each other to form interpenetrating twin.



Figure 1. Dark field TEM image of interpenetrating twin.

Investigation of Strain-induced Precipitation Behavior of Niobium Micro-alloyed Steels at High Temperature

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The strain-induced precipitation behavior of niobium micro-alloyed steels at high temperature has been studied in this research. Based on the difference of niobium content, the precipitation time, precipitates size, recrystallization have been analyzed. After austenization treatment, and redissolving precipitates, materials were subjected to 25% compression deformation, and then held at the temperature we designed. According to the second compression deformation after different holding time, the degree of recrystallization of materials can be known and used to predict the time that precipitation started, and the precipitation-start time-temperature(PSTT) curve was obtained. Results reveal that different niobium content in this experiment show little effect on the start time of precipitation. The nose tip of PSTT curve is approximately in the range of 875~900°C and 2~4 second. 900°C was chosen to be the temperature for analysis because materials showed good softening resistance, slow recrystallization and early precipitation time at 900°C. Follow-up analysis shows that when niobium content is high, the size of precipitates become larger, and indication of coarsening can be observed at early stage of precipitation. Metallography also reveals that recrystallization happens more obviously when niobium content is high, indicating that more niobium may cause faster coarsening of precipitates.

Study of Self-Propagating Reaction in the Ni/amorphous-Si Reactive Multilayers

A20

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Reactive multilayers are energetic materials composed of nanoscale interlaced exothermic reactants. By a localized ignition treatment such as a pulse laser, a portion of the multilayers intermix and release the latent heat during reaction, which further trigger the adjacent region and generate self-propagating flame. The self-propagating progress features extremely high heating (10^6 K/s) and quenching rate (10^3 K/s). [1] As a result, the temperature generally goes higher than 700 °C [2]. The propagating speed is able to reach tens of meter per second though the total amount of heat release remains small. These special characteristics enables the reactive multilayers to be applied broadly such as jointing materials and electrodes for solar cells. [3]

In this study, a series of equi-atomic Ni/Si multilayers were studied. Due to the nanoscale geometries, a scanning transmission electron microscope (STEM) was utilized to observe the surface/interfacial morphologies before and after the ignition. A transmission electron microscope (TEM) was also used to analyze the crystalline and the phase distributions. Besides, the observation of the ultimate fast self-propagating progress was achieved by a high-speed optical microscope. The results indicated that the interfacial morphologies were only affected by the pre-mixing layer while the bilayer thickness was smaller than 70 nm. Though the larger bilayer thickness indeed induced smoother interface, it elongated the diffusion distance of interlaced reactants, which significantly reduced the exothermic reaction and the consequential self-propagating speed. The self-propagating speed reached the maximum, 0.15 m/s, with the bilayer thickness of 52 nm and the total thickness of 2 μ m. The products were found majorly composed of Ni₂Si and NiSi₂ instead of the expected product, NiSi. This indicated the steady state of the faster self-propagating reaction is critical to produce the flat and uniform desired product, NiSi.

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Morphology Changes of MoS₂ Nanosheets during Electrochemical Reactions in Li-ion Batteries

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Energy storage is an important issue for future technology development. For lithium ion batteries (LIBs), graphite is the most popular anode material, but the theoretical capacity is only 372 mAh/g, not high enough for future electronics. It has been demonstrated that LIBs with MoS₂ as the anode material exhibit high efficiency and high capacity. However, the cyclic stability of MoS₂, which is one of the most crucial challenges for practice applications, needs to be further investigated. In this work, we prepared MoS₂ thin films by chemical vapor deposition for the anode material in LIBs. After cyclic voltammetry measurements, TEM, SEM, and Auger electron spectroscopy are carried out to observe the morphology changes and composition of the MoS₂ anode at different charge states. The TEM and SEM results show that the MoS₂ anode has significant morphology changes, as evidenced from the formation of small islands on the anode surface after the first cycle. Besides, the AES results indicate that MoS₂ is transformed into Li₂S and Mo after several cycles. Based on these observations, we derive the mechanism of the charge/discharge processes of MoS₂ in the LIB. The findings would help us to improve the cycle stability of MoS₂ based secondary battery systems.

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Figure 1. (a-b) Cross-sectional TEM and (c) plan-view SEM images of MoS₂ anode after the electrochemical voltammetry tests.

Chemical deviation of thermodynamic equilibrium under dynamic straininduced austenite reversion in Mn-rich steel

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Dynamic reversed austenite transformation was observed in a Mn-rich steel during warm tensile test between Ae₁ and Ae₃ temperature. The in-depth investigation into atomic scale of solute behavior during phase transformation-deformation coupled condition was revealed by atom probe tomography (APT) in this study. Layer-like Mn depletion zone in austenite next to the mobile phase boundary was found owing to the deviation of thermodynamic equilibrium. The present work proposed that solute partitioning value of ferrite-to-austenite transformation was lowered due to warm deformation and it was accounted for the acceleration of austenite reversion. The overall outcomes will assist the technology of warm forming of mediummanganese and lightweight steels.



Figure 1 The APT results of the steel deformed at 10^{-3} s⁻¹ for 8 min at 650 °C after 10 min pre-annealing: (a) The atom map of Mn, Al and C (b) The two-dimensional map of Mn concentration density and the cross-sectional ion density images within (c)(d)austenite and (e)ferrite. (f) and (g) showed the chemical composition profile across the phase boundary-1 and phase boundary-2, respectively.

Observation of SiGe Nanodots Produced by Thermal Oxidation of SiGe Thin Film

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Group IV semiconductor Si/SiGe alloy heterojunction structures are potentially useful in electronics, optoelectronics, and bandgap engineering. This research focused on the growth and the properties of SiGe nanodots produced by thermal oxidation of SiGe thin films. The SiGe thin films of a low Ge content (1 at.%) is produced by ultra-high vacuum chemical vapor deposition (UHV-CVD), followed by in-situ deposition of gold nanoparticles in UHV. After the sample is oxidized at 700 °C for 6 h in air, nanodots with a higher Ge content are produced. The structures of the nanodots are examined by TEM and STEM. The results show that the nanodots are epitaxially precipitated from the eutectic AuGeSi liquid during the cooling process. The concentration, dimensional, and morphology of the SiGe nanodots can be controlled by adjusting the growth parameters.

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Figure 1. TEM image of SiGe nanodot.



Figure 2. STEM image of SiGe nanodot after removing surface Au.

Study on Microalloyed Medium-Manganese Steels in Quenching and Austenite Reversion Process

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Abstract

The micro/nanostructure and mechanical behaviors of microalloyed medium-Manganese steels processed by quenching and austenite reversion (Q&AR) were investigated. It was found that the formation of microalloyed carbide can contribute to materials' strength in two ways. During austenitization, coarser carbides enable significant grain refinement by the Zener pinning effect, leading to finer martensite laths and uniform distribution of reversed austenite in latter processes. During austenite reversion, precipitation of extremely fine carbides enables effective precipitation strengthening. Moreover, with well-controlled temperature of austenite reversion, optimized ductility can be obtained when volume fraction of retained austenite is maximized. Based on established principles, a Nb-Mo-V-adding steel was designed for optimized mechanical properties: yield strength > 700 MPa, ultimate tensile strength > 1000 MPa, uniform elongation > 14 %, total elongation > 20 %.



Fig.1. (a) HRTEM micrograph of microalloyed carbides and (b) the corresponding FFT diffractogram.(c) The engineering stress-strain curve of Nb-Mo-V-adding Q&AR specimen.

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Graphene Window for Scanning Electron Microscopy of Liquid

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Graphene is applied in a liquid cell device for scanning electron microscopy in this study. Thin Si₃N₄ membranes (<50 nm) have been adopted to seal the liquid phase for electron microscopy analysis; however, the Si₃N₄ membrane inevitably degrades image resolution. In contrast, the graphene atomic sheet has the minimum effect of electron scattering. Besides, graphene has sufficient mechanical strength for sealing the liquid in vacuum, and it is chemically inert and electrically conductive. These advantages make graphene most suitable for the window material for electron microscopy analysis of liquid phases. In this presentation, we demonstrate the fabrication of a liquid cell device in which observation can be conducted through the graphene window supported by a holey Si₃N₄ membrane. Single crystalline graphene sheets (>1 mm) were prepared using chemical vapor deposition (CVD) for the membrane material, and the fabrication procedures include photolithography, reaction ion etching (RIE), wet etching, and transferring of graphene. We show that the image resolution in the graphene viewing area is better than that of Si₃N₄ membrane (Figure 1). Such a SEM graphene/Si₃N₄ device also shows great potential for applications because of the large liquid reservoir and the availability of flowing liquid.

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Figure 1. Back scattered electron (BSE) image of CeO2 nanoparticles in SEM

Using Transmission Electron Microscope to Analyze the Stacking Form of Graphene Grown in Chemical Vapor Deposition

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Graphene is a 2D material with a honeycomb structure of carbon atoms. Because of its unique and great mechanical and chemical properties, graphene has been applied to a lot of areas, such as biological and integrated circuits. However, with different number of layers and stacking forms, the electrical properties of graphene will be different. Therefore, determination of number and stacking form of graphene layers is very important, and Raman spectroscopy is the common and efficient instrument to determine the number of layers of graphene. We found that TEM cross-sectional images have an inconsistency result with Raman spectroscopy and SEM images of determination of number of graphene layers. In TEM cross-sectional images, we observed that there were more layers than we determined by SEM images and Raman spectroscopy. We think that the reason is because of the stacking form of graphene layers. By using the selected area diffraction method of plan-view CVD graphene, we observed that the stacking form of graphene layers is AA stacking form, which is different from the common stacking form AB stacking. This may be the reason why the inconsistency happened.

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Figure 1. (a) SEM image of CVD graphene layer; (b) TEM cross-sectional image of single layer region of graphene; (c) diffraction pattern of plan-view CVD graphene; (d) Raman spectroscopy of single layer graphene.

An Investigation of Different Ageing Treatments in AA7050 Al Alloys

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In this study, the high strength AA7075 aluminium alloys, combining with proper Cu and Mn content, are subjected to different ageing treatments such as one-step ageing treatments, two-step ageing treatments, and retrogression and re-aging treatments, accompanying with variable degree of deformation, for molding the industrial processes (i.e., warm forming and hot stamping processes). The effect of the variable degree of deformation on the texture evolution would be analyzed by Electron Back Scatter Diffraction (EBSD). During the ageing treatment, the nano-scaled microstructural evolution of precipitates such as GP zones, η' precipitates, and η precipitates are characterized by Transmission electron microscope (TEM) and Cs-corrected high-angle-annular-dark-field scanning-transmission-electron microscopy (Cs-corrected HAADF STEM). Furthermore, the size, morphology, and volume fraction of precipitates could be quantified by Small angle X-ray scattering (SAXS). Therefore, it is a good chance to construct the microstructural evolution of precipitates related to different ageing treatments for improving mechanical properties of the high strength 7xxx series aluminium alloys in the automobile industry.

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Figure 1. Simulation of heat treatment for molding the industrial processes.

Ferromagnetic Hollow Micro-spheres Composite and its SERS Application

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In this study, iron oxide hollow spheres were prepared by spray pyrolysis method and a reduction heat treatment. The microstructure and the phase of the samples obtained in each stage were identified by electron microscopy and electron energy loss spectroscopy. The results show that the as-prepared iron oxide hollow spheres are α -Fe₂O₃. The spheres range in size from 0.5 µm to 3 µm with an average shell thickness of approximately 20 nm. After annealing at 350 ° C for 1 hour in Ar/H₂ atmosphere, α -Fe₂O₃ was successfully phase transformed to Fe₃O₄. At 300K, the maximum saturation magnetization is 130 emu/g, which is generally higher than that of the reported form of Fe₃O₄, including bulk, nanoparticle and plate. Ag nanoparticles (NPs) were deposited on the surface of Fe₃O₄ hollow spheres. The size and spacing of Ag NPs were optimized by adjusting the synthesis parameters, which reached 5 nm and 10 nm, respectively. The SERS performance of the composite is an order of magnitude higher than the SERS performance of a solid sphere, which is attributed to the hollow structure and strong ferromagnetism H-Fe₃O₄. Finally, the composite exhibits recyclability and can be reused 8 times.

Reliability of EDS Line Profiles Extracted from Spectrum Images

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EDS line profiles extracted from spectrum images are currently widely used in many TEM laboratories to analyze the composition variation through specified directions as well as to evaluate the composition of multi-thin-film materials. However, the reliability of these EDS data counted by the built-in software, especially in at%, is rarely verified in Taiwan TEM laboratories. We found the results from different STEM/EDS system were significantly difference for a multi-thin-film materials system, Si/SiO₂/SiN_x/TiON/TiN/Ta, as shown in Figure 1. This discrepancy can be minimized by modifying K-factors used in each STEM/EDS system.

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Figure 1. EDS line profiles extracted from spectrum images. (a) ~ (c) intensity line profiles from 3 STEM/EDS systems, (d) ~ (f) at% line profiles correspondingly.

Recently Progress of Lithium Ion Battery Related Environmental Stages Development in ITRI

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Various environmental stages with the function of O₂ and H₂O isolation are essential components for investigating lithium ion battery (LIB) related topics. The environmental stages preserve the fresh bulk/surface of LIB samples and further prevent the misleading experimental result which arising from the rich-contained lithium of sample react with O₂ and H₂O among diverse analytic instruments. Material and Chemical Research Lab of ITRI has noted this eager demand from LIB research community in Taiwan and therefore developed the environmental stage for SEM observation. To expand the application function, we further design the new environmental stage to acquire the pristine x-ray photoelectron spectra with few nanometers depth below sample surface, the sample preparation procedure as depicted in fig. 1(a-c). In addition, the new function of Raman spectrum detection is integrated into previous SEM environmental stage so that complementary information of morphology, element distribution, and microstructure can be acquired from the same region which suitable for studying the lithium ion insertion/desertion at graphite anode of LIB[1], the demonstrated case as illustrated in fig 1(d-f).

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Figure 1. (a-c) Sample preparation procedure for acquiring uncontaminated XPS. (a)Sample stage puts on the holder shaft in between two o-rings for sealing. (b)The feedthrough of XPS instrument connects to the environmental protected sample stage. (c)The sample stage shifts to XPS chamber and ready to be transported. (d-f) Integrated environmental protected stage for SEM & Raman analysis. (d,e) The LIB sample morphologies of different charge/discharge condition. (f) The corresponding Raman spectra presents the different graphite anode structure.

免疫電鏡對豬流行性下痢病毒結構探討

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本研究利用免疫電鏡技術探討豬流行性下痢病毒(Porcine epidemic diarrhea virus)與 受感染後之豬腸道絨毛微結構,藉此釐清豬隻受感染下痢的原因,降低未來豬隻急性感 染爆發之機率。由於目前導致豬流行性下痢可能跟豬流行性下痢病毒或豬傳染性胃腸病 毒有關,但由於其病毒擁有相同之病毒型態,若僅透過糞便採集往往不容易分辨。本實 驗以電鏡負染前處理技術,了解 PEDV 病毒顆粒具多形性之冠狀病毒科特徵;而經其 受感染後之腸檢體,可透過組織脫水切片技術,發現腸絨毛上皮微結構有空泡化和脫落 的現象發生,初步推論病毒複製可能發生於腸絨毛上皮細胞質。因此,根據實驗結果, 免疫電鏡技術將可協助作為病因診斷之工具之一。

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圖 1.TEM 影像之豬腸道絨毛微結構。

EPMA study on the oxidized Tb_xDy_{1-x}Fe_{2-y} thin films: influence of thermal annealing on the segregation of Fe nanocluster from the oxide compositions

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Thin films of the ternary compound Tb_xDy_{1-x}Fe_{2-y} were prepared by DC magnetron sputtering from a TbDyFe alloy target with the composition same as Terfenol-D alloy Tb_{0.32}Dy_{0.68}Fe_{1.92}) onto 400 °C Si (001) substrates. The influence of post annealing temperature at 550 °C, 700 °C or 850 °C for 6 hours are studied systematically on a series of Tb_xDy_{1-x}Fe_{2-y} samples. However, the annealing process leads to the incorporation of oxygen impurity into the thin film. To understand the effects of annealing temperature and annealing time on the microstructural and crystalline degree of oxidation of RFe₂ thin film, different characterisation techniques such as anomalous X-ray scattering and Electron Probe Micro-Analyzer (EPMA) were performed. The EPMA element mapping (Fig. 1) shows that Fe nano-clusters were surface segregated at 550 °C annealing temperature are pure Fe cluster without Dy, Tb and O inside. This result is particularly interesting because Fe is apt to be oxidized under high temperature conditions. The possible mechanisms are found: (i) At high annealing temperatures, the Fe is not oxidized.



Fig. 1 Elemental maps the concentration distributions of key elements in Tb_{0.32}Dy_{0.67}Fe_{1.92} thin films with the annealing temperature of 550 °C for 6 h. The CP denotes the surface morphology of the sample.

Plasmonic performance and SERS effect of meso-hollow CeO₂ spheres with Ag nanoparticles deposited

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CeO₂ hollow spheres with Ag nanoparticles deposited (H-CeO₂@Ag) were investigated to study the role of interfaces and surface in the surface enhanced Raman spectroscopy (SERS) effect and plasmonic performance. H-CeO₂@Ag were prepared using ultrasonic spray pyrolysis followed by incipient wetness method. The diameter of CeO₂ hollow sphere ranges from 100 nm to 2 μ m and the Ag nanoparticle size varies from 5 to 50 nm. Microscopy and spectroscopy were used to confirm the formation of an interface between the Ag and ceria and shows different charge rearrangements occurring at both the interface and the surface. All composites possess room temperature ferromagnetism (RTFM), which is related with ceria surface defect. A strong SERS performance was detected with a detection limit 10⁻¹⁴ M for the rhodamine 6G analyte. Scanning transmission electron microscopy (STEM) and electron energy loss spectroscopy (EELS) confirm that hot spot occurs at silver NP surfaces and Ag/CeO₂ interface.

Stoichiometric microscopy based on XANES and EELS for phase change nanomaterials

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In this work, we demonstrated effective stoichiometric microscopy techniques to investigate the current induced phase change resistive switching random access memory (RRAM) based on copper nanowires connected by Ni electrodes. By applying a direct-current bias on copper nanowire above a threshold voltage of about 0.5 to 1 V in the atmosphere, the resistance increased significantly from several hundred ohms to several megaohms. On the contrary, a reverse polarity of external bias switches the high resistance back.

According to the shift of the absorption edges as well as the shape of above-edge oscillations extrapolated by x-ray absorption near-edge spectroscopy (XANES) and electron energy loss spectroscopy (EELS), the high resistance was attributed to the partial oxidation of copper toward Cu₂O with a degree of about 30 %. In order to furthermore combine the exact locations and the corresponding oxidation amount, scanning transmission electron microscopy (STEM) equipped EELS as well as focused synchrotron radiation nanobeam equipped XANES was utilized. In practical, the former exhibits a high resolved image with a nm-scale resolution in the cross-sectional geometry, while the latter exhibits the large-area plan-view mapping with resolution about 100 nm. Based on the results from these stoichiometric microscopy techniques shown in Figure 1, an asymmetric oxidation process between the Ni/Cu/Ni system induced by external bias was discovered, which provides a solid evidence for the design of the memristor array.



Figure 1. The XANES and EELS mapping of phase changed Ni/Cu/Ni memristor

Epochal high-performance aluminium-ion batteries based on threedimensional molybdenum diselenide helical nanorod arrays

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The rechargeable aluminium-ion battery is a promising candidate for next-generation high-performance batteries, but its cathode materials require more development to improve their capacity and cycling life. Demonstrated herein is the growth of MoSe₂ three-dimensional helical nanorod arrays (HNRAs) on a polyimides(PI) substrate by the deposition of Mo helical nanorod arrays followed by a low-temperature plasma-assisted selenization process to form novel cathodes for AIBs. The binder-free, 3D MoSe₂-based AIB shows a high specific capacity of 753 mAh/g at a current density of 0.3 A/g. Ex situ Raman, XPS and TEM results confirm the reversible alloying mechanism (Al-Se and Al-Mo) during the discharge and charge cycles. Further exploratory work on interdigital flexible AIBs and stretchable AIBs was demonstrated, exhibiting a steady output capacity under different bending and stretching states. This method provides a new and controllable strategy for selenide nanostructure-based AIBs for use in future applications of energy-storage devices in flexible and wearable electronics.



Figure 1. (a-b)SEM image of helical nanorod arrays (a) top view and (b) cross-section. (c-d) TEM and EELS mapping: (c) discharge state and (d) charge state.

Epitaxial growth of zirconium nitride grown on Si substrate by reactive magnetron sputtering

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Zirconium nitride (ZrN) belongs to the family of transition metal nitrides and exhibits high hardness, excellent electrical conductivities, and chemical stabilities [1]. Therefore, ZrN can be considered as a potential candidate in a wide range of applications such as decorative coating, silicon CMOS technologies, and integrating plasmonics [2].

This study reports the successful growth of epitaxial ZrN thin film on Si substrate by reactive magnetron sputtering. Coating properties of deposited film such as morphology, composition, resistivity, lattice parameter were investigated as function of growth parameter. The chemical composition of the coating films was determined by x-ray photoelectron spectroscopy and Energy-dispersive X-ray spectroscopy. The thin film morphologies were analyzed by atomic force microscopy (AFM) and Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM). X-ray diffraction results and transmission electron microscopy analyses show that the epitaxial relationship between ZrN and Si is ZrN (100) // Si (100), and ZrN [011] // Si [011].

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Study of annealing twin on CoCrFeMnNi high-entropy alloy

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CoCrFeMnNi High Entropy Alloy (HEA), which reported to have a single face-centeredcubic crystal at high-temperature, has been verified to exhibit good combination of strength and ductility which contributed by twinning formation considering its low stacking fault energy [1]. In the present work, the behavior of annealing twin of CoCrFeMnNi HEA is studied by subjecting the alloy to several temperature of heat treatment. The trend of hardness in different area of the grain was also observed. With increased of annealing temperature, increased of equiaxed grain size with change of modality of grain size distribution were observed. Annealing twin density were exhibited to have inverse correlation with grain size, due to mechanisms during grain growth [2]. Grain boundary was found to be the hardest area of the grain, and twin boundary was confirmed to be less effective than grain boundary with 4.46% deficiency of hardness.

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Figure 1. Optical microscopy images at different point for hardness observation in different area of the grain after annealed at 1000°C for 1 h.

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