Modelling of radiation damage in tungsten including He production

C.S. Becquart¹, C. Domain² A. De Backer¹ M.F. Barthe³ M. Hou⁴, C. Ortiz⁵

¹Unité Matériaux Et Techniques, UMET, UMR 8207, Villeneuve d'Ascq, France

² EDF R&D, MMC Centre des Renardières, Moret sur Loing, France

³ CEMHTI, UPR 3079, Orléans, France

⁴ Physique des Solides Irradiés et des Nanostructures CP234, Université Libre de Bruxelles, Bd du Triomphe, B-1050 Brussels, Belgium

⁵ Laboratorio Nacional de Fusión por Confinamiento Magnético, CIEMAT, E-28040 Madrid, Spair

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Properties of He (and H), interactions with vacancy and vacancy clusters, with SIAs and impurities (binding and migration energies): ab initio calculations.

===> Use He desorption experiments to check.



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External events: He implantation, damage...

==> BCA code Marlowe adjusted on exp. results

•DFT

•PAW

- VASP (Vienna Ab initio Simulation Package)
- •Exchange and correlation: GGA (PW91)
- All atomic positions relaxed
- Constant volume calculations
- •Supercells with PBC.
- •Cut off W: 350 eV.

Formation, binding and migration energies

•54 atoms + 5x5x5 kpoints, 128 atoms + 3x3x3 kpoints, 250 atoms + 3x3x3 kpoints

Ab initio BO MD: NVT ensemble, time step 1 fs, cutoff 350 eV and 1 kpt

G. Kresse and J. Hafner, Phys. Rev. B 47, 558 (1993); ibid. 49, 14 251 (1994)

- G. Kresse and J. Furthmüller, Comput. Mat. Sci. 6, 15 (1996)
- G. Kresse and J. Furthmüller, Phys. Rev. B 55, 11 169 (1996)

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He desorption experiments



A.S. Soltan, R. Vassen and P. Jung, J. Appl. Phys. 70(2) (1991) 793

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E_{mig}(He) very low: discrepancy with exp. results. Consistent with tendency to form clusters [BECO6], agreement with Soltan [SOLT91]

J. Amano and D. Seidman, J. Appl. Phys. **56** (1984) 983 A. Wagner and D.N.Seidman, Phys. Rev. Lett. **42** (1979) 515 C.S. Becquart & C. Domain, Phys. Rev. Lett. **97** (2006) 196402. A.S. Soltan, R. Vassen and P. Jung, J. Appl. Phys. **70**(2) (1991) 793

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He clusters



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He clusters

Small clusters are mobile

Ab initio MD at 1000 K, center of mass (CM) trajectories



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600 K : 107 ps



2He

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External events: MARLOWE parameterized on exp. results



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Check parameterization: OKMC simulations of He desorption

Two steps:

-implantation in 399×400×1001 l.u. box

Exp. rate = $10^{15}s^{-1}m^{-2} = > 16$ He per s

PBC in two directions: thin foil 317.3 nm thick.

Surface perpendicular to $\langle 001 \rangle$ direction

-isochronal annealing

T increase of 2K every 60 s

Monitor the total number of defects (not objects) in the box

C.S. Becquart, C. Domain, U. Sarkar, A. DeBacker, M. Hou, accepted in J. Nucl. Mater. 403 (2010) 75.



OKMC simulations of He desorption implanted «under threshold»



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Mean spatial distribution of He at the end of implantation



Exp: 350 ppm 400 eV He

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Exp: 350 ppm 400 eV He



Role of impurities (ab initio)



Most impurities trap He and small He clusters

===> potential bubble nucleation centers

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Vacancy and voids

VASP: divacancy unstable; not predicted by empirical potentials; agreement (now) between DFT calculations

Exp: vacancy loops [BUSW70; HAUS72; RAU70] (TEM) and voids (FIM) [SEID78] formed under heavy particle irradiation.

BUT

-2v stabilised by C and O [VASP] or H [Kato, ICFRM-15]

-Cascade condition: all vacancies in narrow volume



(total number of vacancies in the resulting cluster)

J.T. Buswell, Phil. Mag. 22 (1970) 391 and 787; F. Häussermann, Phil. Mag. 25 (1972) 561 and 583 ; R.C. Rau, Phil. Mag. 18 (1970) 1079.

D. N. <u>Seidman, Surf. Science 70 (1978) 532.</u>

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 $He.2v + He \rightarrow 2He.2v$



SIA very mobile: 0.013 eV; 1D motion with Erot = 0.38 eV [DERL07]



SIA clusters very stable and also very mobile [DUDA08]

P.M. Derlet, D. Nguyen-Manh and S.L. Dudarev, Phys. Rev. B **76** (2007) 054107-1 S. L. Dudarev, C.R. Physique **9** (2008) 409.

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- Relevance of the choice of matrix structure on He and primary damage distribution and on longer term evolution.

Influence of He atoms in the void formation of 800 keV ³He implanted in tungsten

Exp. results of P.E. Lhuilier PhD thesis CEMHTI Orléans: the higher the fluence, the smaller the voids in the track region

1/ Implantation stage done at 300 K with experimental flux and fluences $(10^{14}, 10^{15}, 10^{16} \text{ and } 5 \times 10^{16} \text{ ions per cm}^2)$.

2/ Isochronal annealing stage : $\Delta T = 10$ K every 3600 s up to 900 K.





a 800 keV ³He atom produces on average 33 FP (Marlowe)

Box size: $195 \times 203 \times 2208$ a₀ = $64 \times 64 \times 700$ nm; track region: 3.75 % of the He atoms and 25.4 % of the point defects: 221 FP per He atom

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RT implantation ==> SIA and nHe clusters are mobile: annihilation, desorption ...



Defect population after implantation stage: v, mv, nHe.pSIA, He.v, nHe.v

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RT implantation ==> SIA and nHe clusters are mobile: annihilation, desorption ...



End of implantation sequence



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During the isochronal annealing, v start moving, small mv clusters emit



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Clustering T range depends on fluence. Amount of desorption, annihilation and clustering also





The higher the fluence, the smaller the v clusters as observed experimentally

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Cluster distribution at the end of the implantation



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Cluster distribution at the end of the implantation



Cluster distribution at the end of the implantation



At high fluence, it is easier to form clusters because the vacancies have less distance to cover. Furthermore, there are more germs and less desorption.



Conclusions

==> Ab initio calculations:

- He is very mobile
- small He clusters are mobile, 2He clusters perform 1D motion at low T.
- He and He clusters bind to almost everything
- di-vacancy is unstable
- vacancies stabilise He clusters
- ==> OKMC model parameterized on ab initio data and exp.:
- relevance of implantation model
- need more information on mobility of He clusters; trap mutation

OKMC model can help interpret experimental results and vice versa

