



Oxide phases induced by electron irradiation at model pwrs 316l /water interfaces at high temperature and pression

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Oxydes formés à haute température et pression par irradiation aux électrons d'interfaces 316L/Eau(REP)

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SCCME/Laboratoire d'Etudes de Corrosion Aqueuse

S. Perrin, D. Féron

Conditions Extrêmes et Matériaux : Haute Température et Irradiation, UPR3079 CNRS

D. Simon

Réacteur à Eau Pressurisée

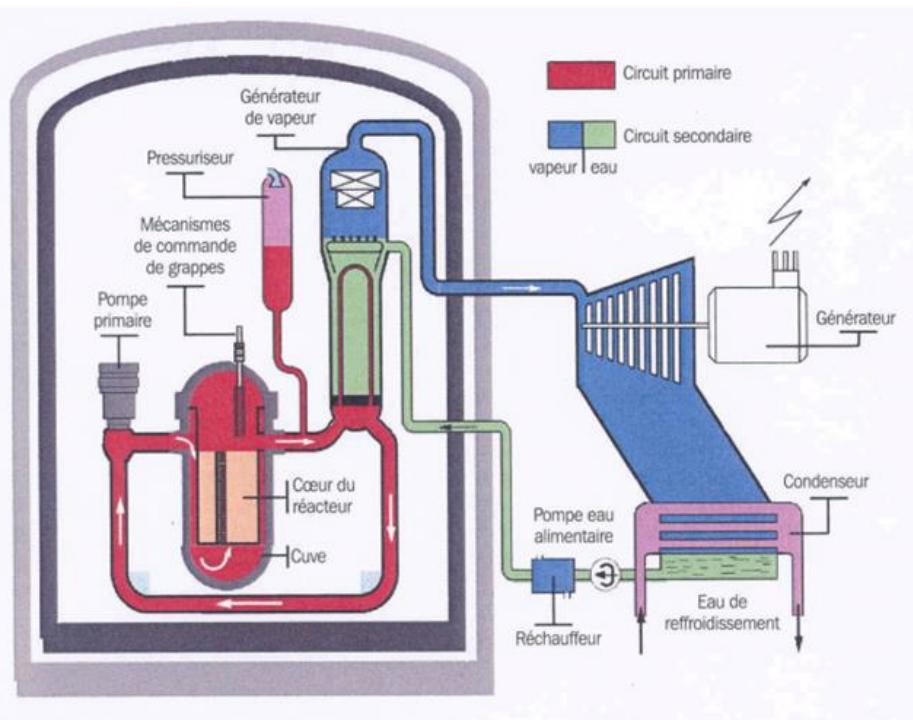
refroidissement du cœur

Circuit primaire sous flux neutrons, gammas

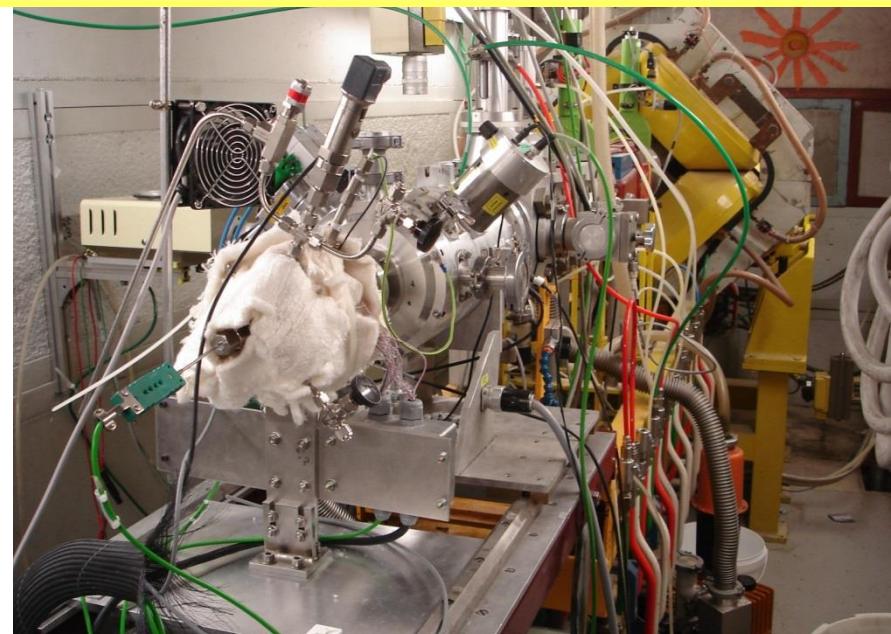
Matériau de Structure(irradiation)/Eau de Refroidissement(radiolyse)

Stabilité des composants

Corrosion sous irradiation



Croissance et Electrochimie
Oxyde hors ou sous Flux (H+ or e-)
[Temperature, Pressure](eau liq/vap)
[25°C, 0.1 MPa] - [300°C, 9 MPa]



Corrosion under Irradiation: 316L-Ox_{300°C} in PWR conditions

Primary coolant circuit

PWR Feed Water H₂O(Li,B,H₂)
[H₂aq](cc(STP)/kg): 25-50

Interface 316L-Ox_{300°C}/H₂O(Li,B,H₂)

HTHP: ~300°C, ~155 bars, Flow rate, Flux(neutrons,gammas)=>(ions, protons, electrons)

316L-Oxide_{300°C}

Stability in ~300°C,~155 bar, flux

Stress-Microstructure(irradiation)-Chemical environment(radiolysis)

Free potential passive range

Long time for crack initiation and incubation

Low growth rate (mm.s⁻¹)<~2x10⁻⁸

Reference 316L-Oxide_{300°C}

Stability in ~300°C, ~155 bars, no flux

Free potential E (V/SHE)<~-(-0.23)

P.L. Andresen et al. JOM 1996, TMS 2005, Corrosion 64, 2008

Failures in PWRs flux- Irradiation induced Stress Corrosion Cracking

In-pile Electrochemistry: 304L-Ox_{300°C} in PWR conditions

PWR Feed Water [H₂aq](cc(STP)/kg): 25-50
300°C, Thermal Neutron Flux(ncm⁻²s⁻¹)~1E14

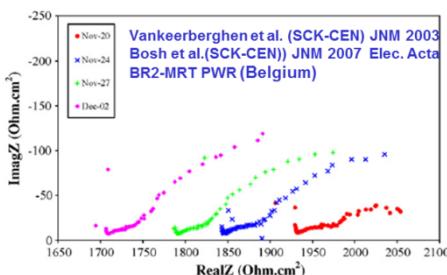
Molander et al. (Studvik) 1986, 1990 - Ringhals 4 PWR (Sweden)
Bosh et al. (SCK-CEN) JNM 2007- BR2-MRT PWR (Belgium)

Free Potential for S. Steels (304)
E(time,300°C)-SHE: cst for flux off or on

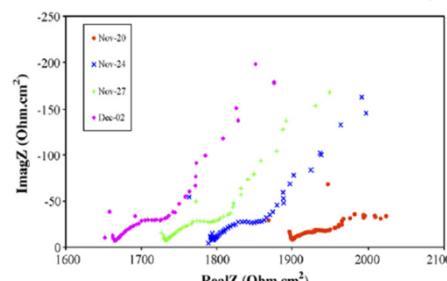
--0.780 V/SHE at 300°C for H₂: 28(8) cc(STP) /kg [Bosh JNM 2007]

Vankeerberghen et al. (SCK-CEN) JNM 2003, Bosh et al.(SCK-CEN)) JNM 2007; Elec. Acta BR2-MRT PWR (Belgium)

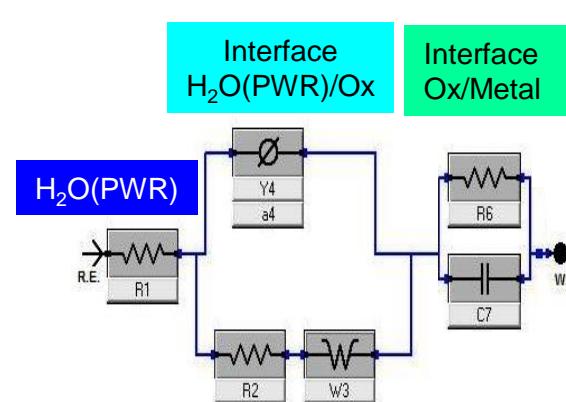
304-Ox300°C/PWR(H₂) in-pile
300°C Thermal Neutron Flux(ncm⁻²s⁻¹)~1E14



300°C Thermal Neutron Flux(ncm⁻²s⁻¹) ~0



Impedance for S. Steels (304)



Z(time,300°C)
In-flux≠Out-of-flux
Small Difference

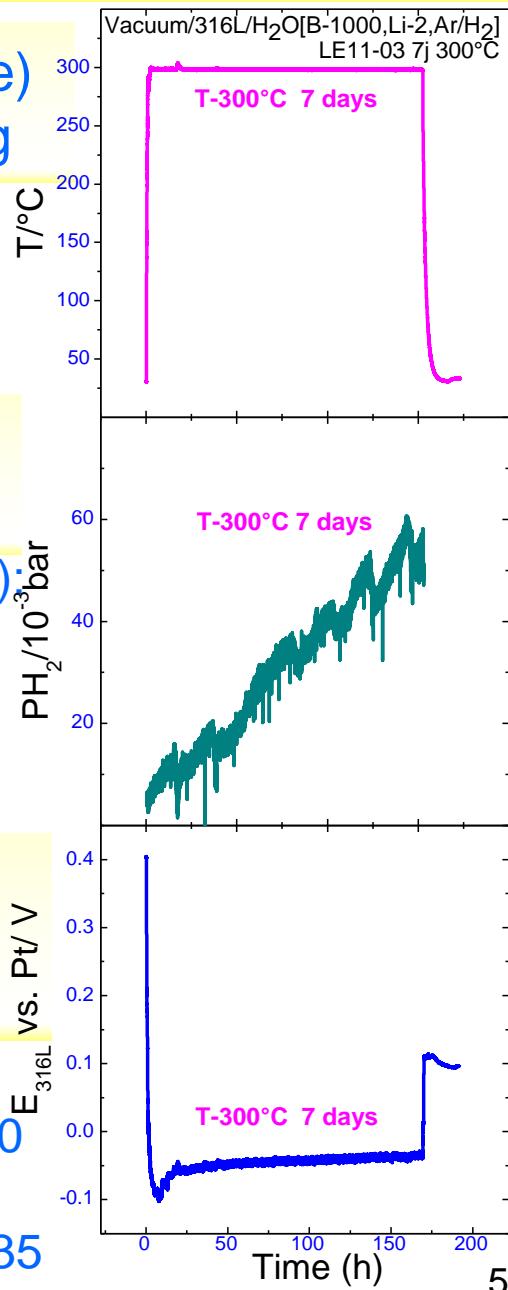
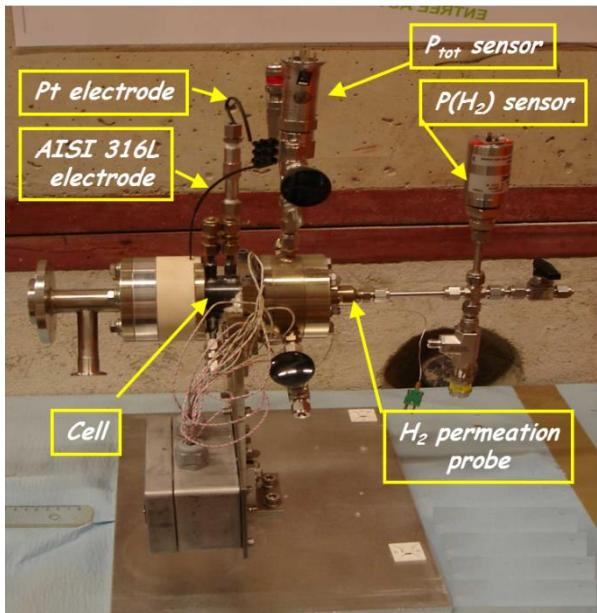
Ox thickness
Variability

In-flux: x10
Out-of-flux: x2

316L exposure to 300°C, 90bar PWR chemistry without irradiation

In Situ Temperature &(Pressure)
Heating-300°C(7days)-Cooling

Pd/Ag Permeation Probe



In Situ pH₂gas/cH₂aq*

* Permeation probe ≥200°C

pH₂gas/mbar (time,300°C):
6 to 60
x10

In Situ
Free Potential
316L vs Pt

E_{316L} vs Pt/V(time,300°C)
Tup ΔE_{316L} <0; Tdn ΔE_{316L} >0

300°C:-0.039;min-0.096;-0.035

Pseudo Reference Electrode

Pt wire ([H₂]/[O₂] >>8)

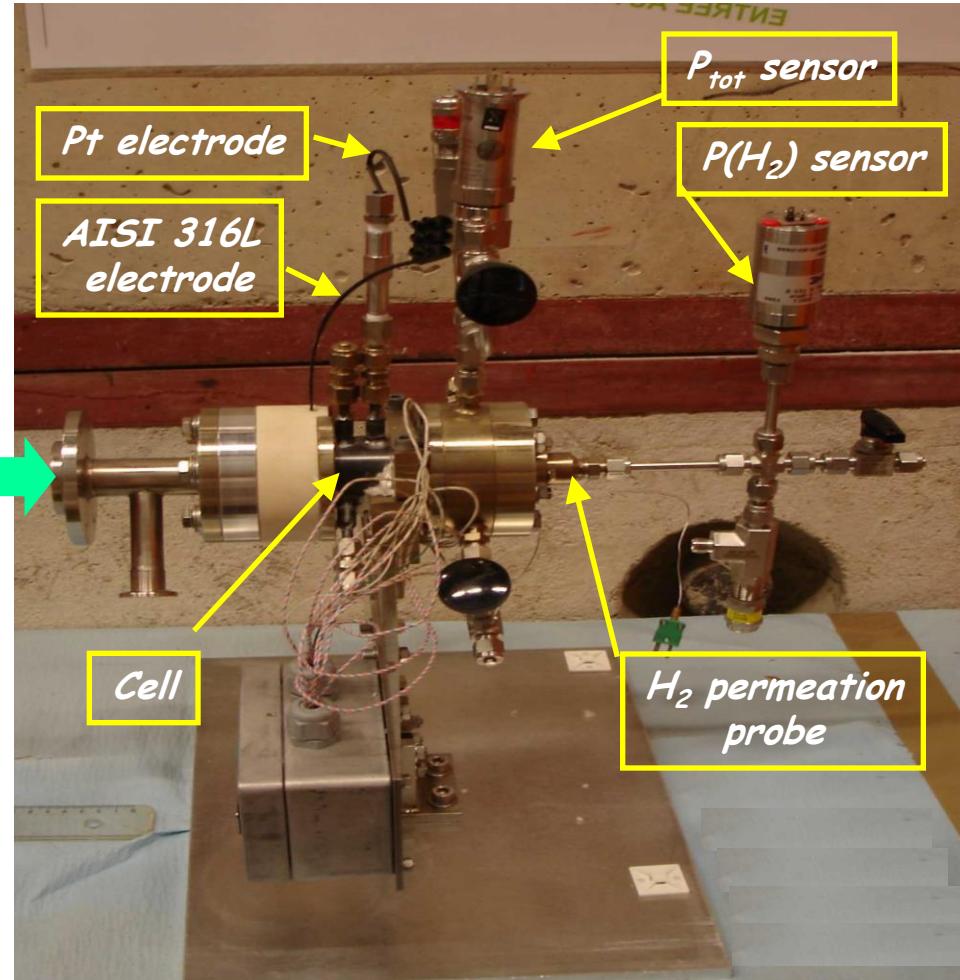
Working Electrode

AISI 316L Disc

No flow rate

Disc(316L)/Water(PWR, Ar/x%H₂) Interface Irradiation [~300°C,~90bar]

Pd/Ag Permeation Probe



e- Pelletron SIRIUS-LSI

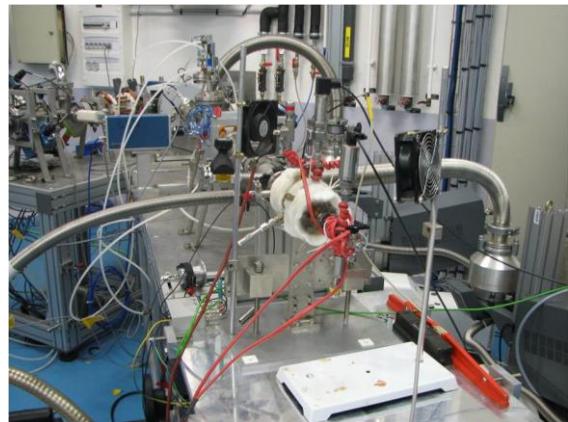
In-Line Beam Mounting



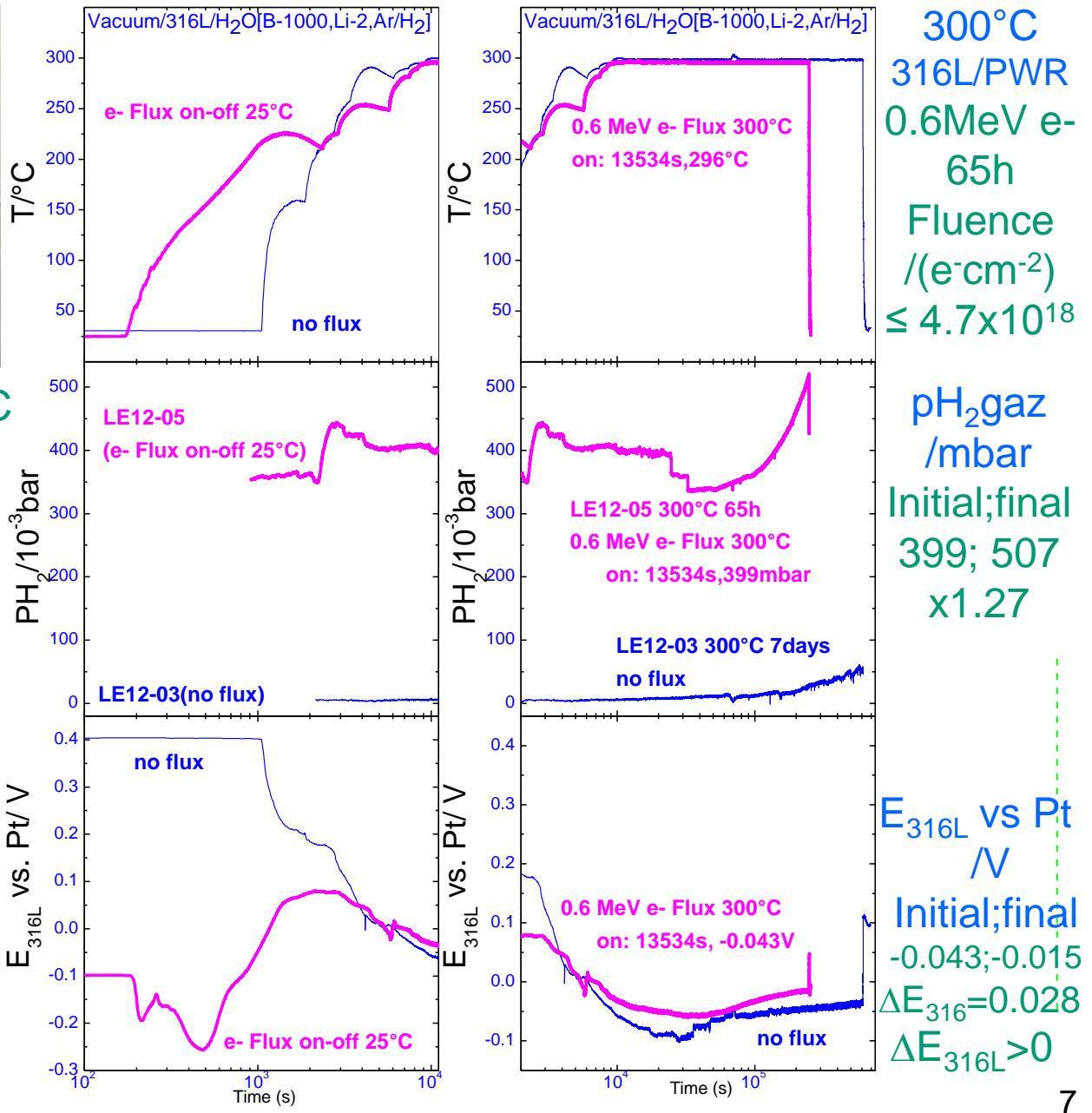
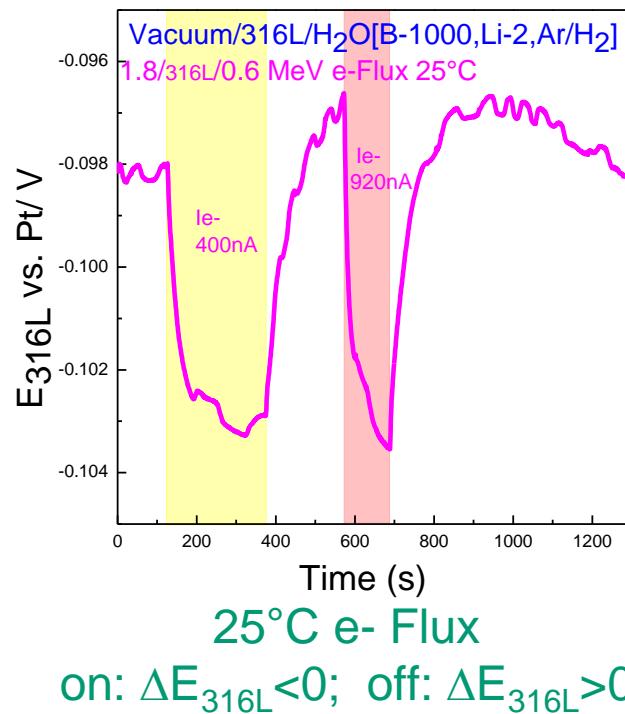
H+ cyclotron CEMHTI

Vacuum[flux]/Disc(316L)/Water(PWR, Ar/x%H₂)[flux;no flux]/Pt

316L exposure to 300°C, 90bar PWR chemistry during e- irradiation



Pre-Irradiation Test 5 min, 25°C
Flux($e^- \text{cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$) $\leq 2.02 \times 10^{13}$



316L after 300°C, 90bar exposure to PWR chemistry

Structural & Chemical Analysis (TEM M. Sennour Mines Paris Tech)

Microstructure

Surface: SEM (Scanning Electron Microscope)

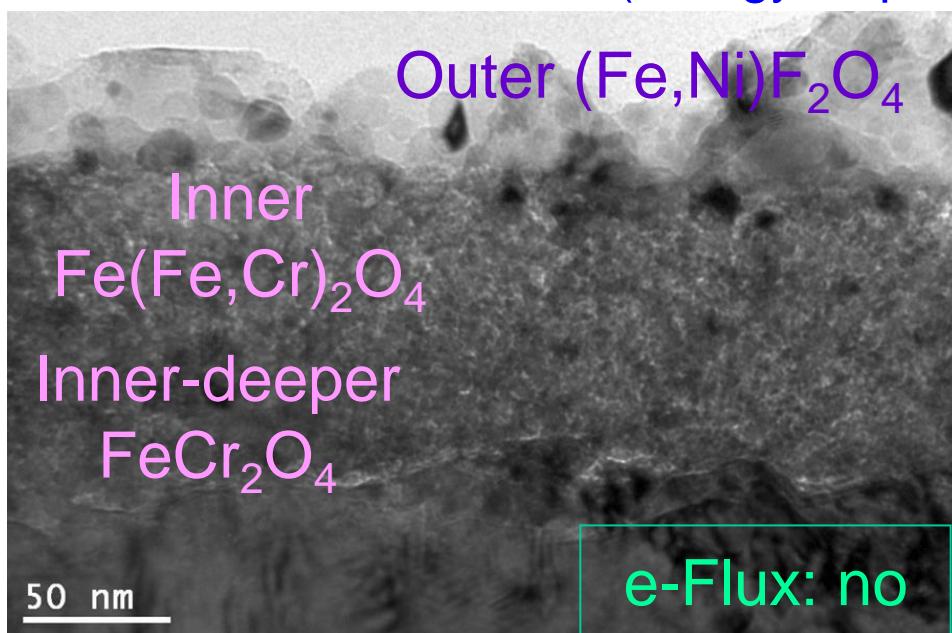
Depth Profiling: TEM (Transmission Electron Microscope) cross section

Crystalline structure

Depth Profiling: SAD (selected area diffraction) -TEM

Phase composition

Depth Profiling: HAADF (high angle annular dark field) -STEM &
EDX (energy dispersive X-ray spectroscopy)



LE11-02 no flux

300°C, 72 hrs, pH₂/mbar: 133-166

Bi-layer oxide

heterogeneous thickness

Inner: chromite, Fe(III)-rich chromite

Outer: crystallites Fe(II)-rich trevorite

Consistent with literature

e.g. Takumi TERACHI et al. 2008 J.Nuclear
Science and Technology, 45:10, 975-984

316L bulk & bi-layered surface oxide after e-Irradiation at HTHP, ($\sim(300^{\circ}\text{C}, 90 \text{ bar})$)

Synthesis of Structural & Chemical Analysis

Depth~(>0.1-04 μm) – Bulk

Strong texture
high defect density
(dislocations lines or loops, stacking faults, black dots, no cavity)

Depth~(0.1-0.4 μm) – Bulk/ Inner oxide boundary

Oxide Growth: effect of the texture Boundary (saw tooth directions) in relation with texture

Depth~(< 0.1-0.4 μm) – Oxide layer

Inner-layer (dense) : Fe(III)-enriched nickel chromite, $\text{Ni}(\text{Fe},\text{Cr})_2\text{O}_4$

outer-layer (dispersed crystallites (<50nm)): Fe(III) hematite
 $\alpha\text{-Fe}_2\text{O}_3$

Inner-layer destruction: low density distribution of cavity
($\sim(0.2\text{-}5) \mu\text{m}^2$, depth (1-1.5 μm), $\sim(1\text{-}5)\times 10^{-9} \text{ cm}^{-2}$)

Microstructure after e- Irradiation at ~300°C, 90bar

316L Disc Surface (PWR Face)–SEM ~80x60 μm^2 (left) & ~8x6 μm^2 (right)

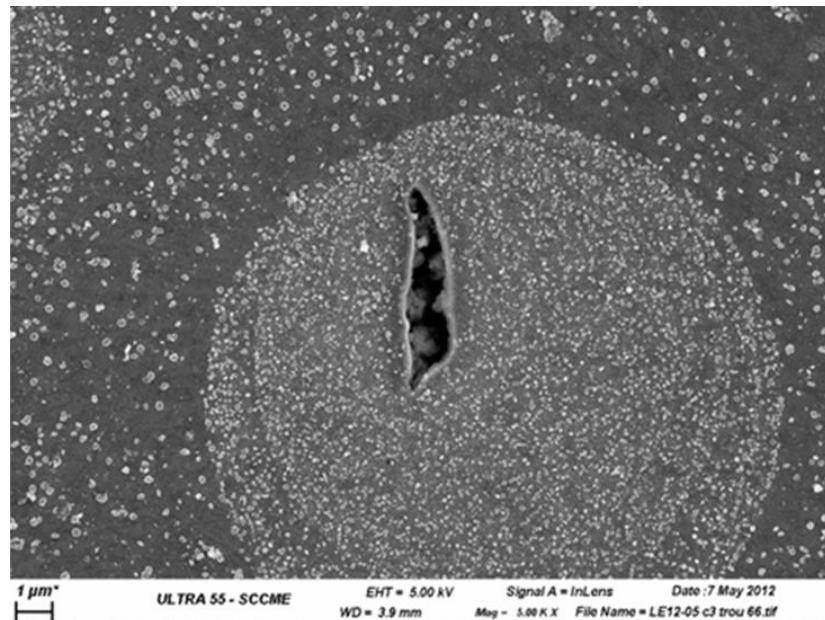
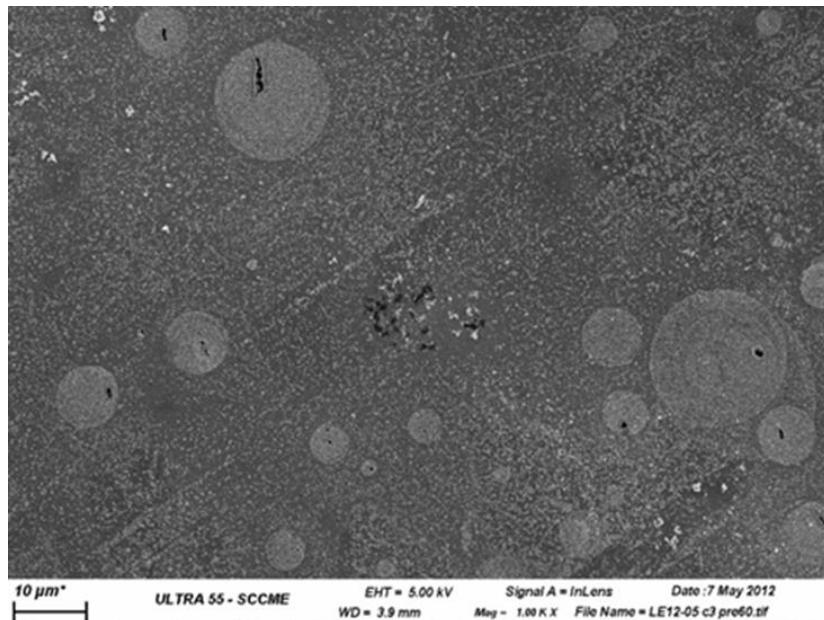


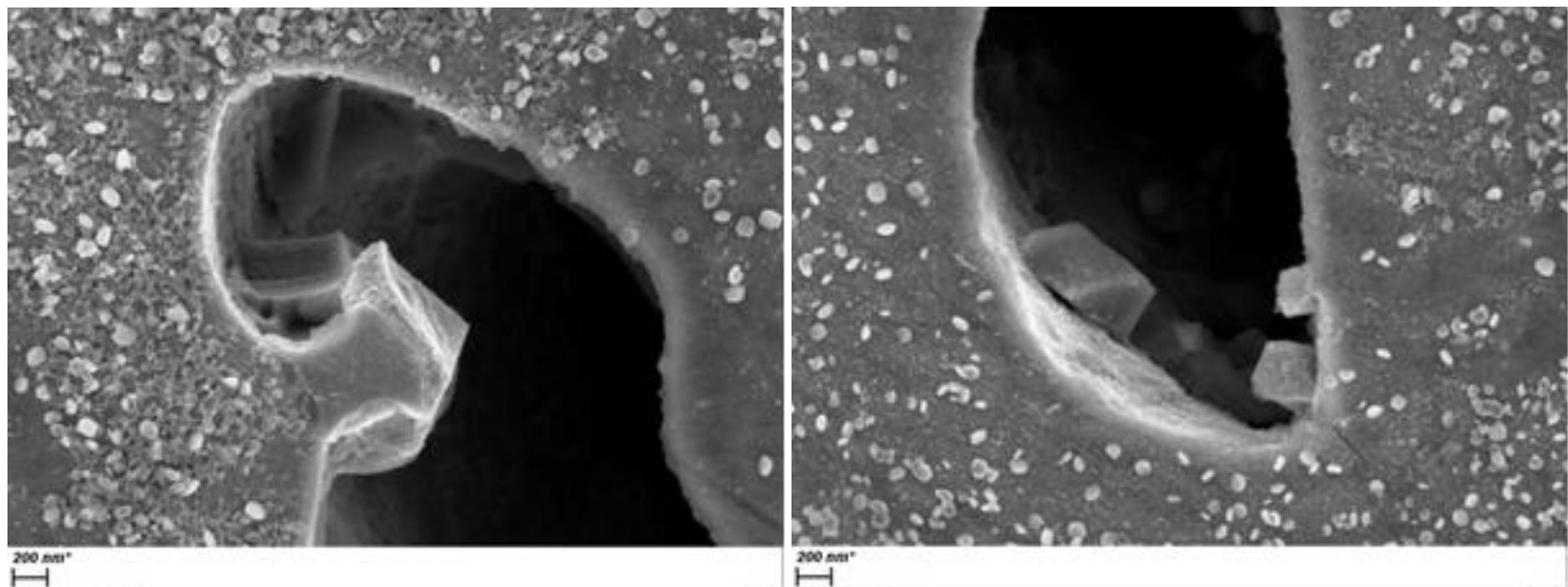
Image: strong contrast variation
Inhomogeneous surface
Random distribution:

White parallel lines
White discs $2r(1-20\mu\text{m})$
Black spots $L(<6\mu\text{m})$
White tiny dots($<<0.1\mu\text{m}$)

Microstructure after e- Irradiation at ~300°C, 90bar

316L Disc Surface (PWR Face)–SEM

SEM images (~5x3 μm^2)



Cavities (black spots):

Cross-section at surface ~(0.2-5 μm^2)

Depth penetration (interferometry profile) ~(1-1.5 μm)

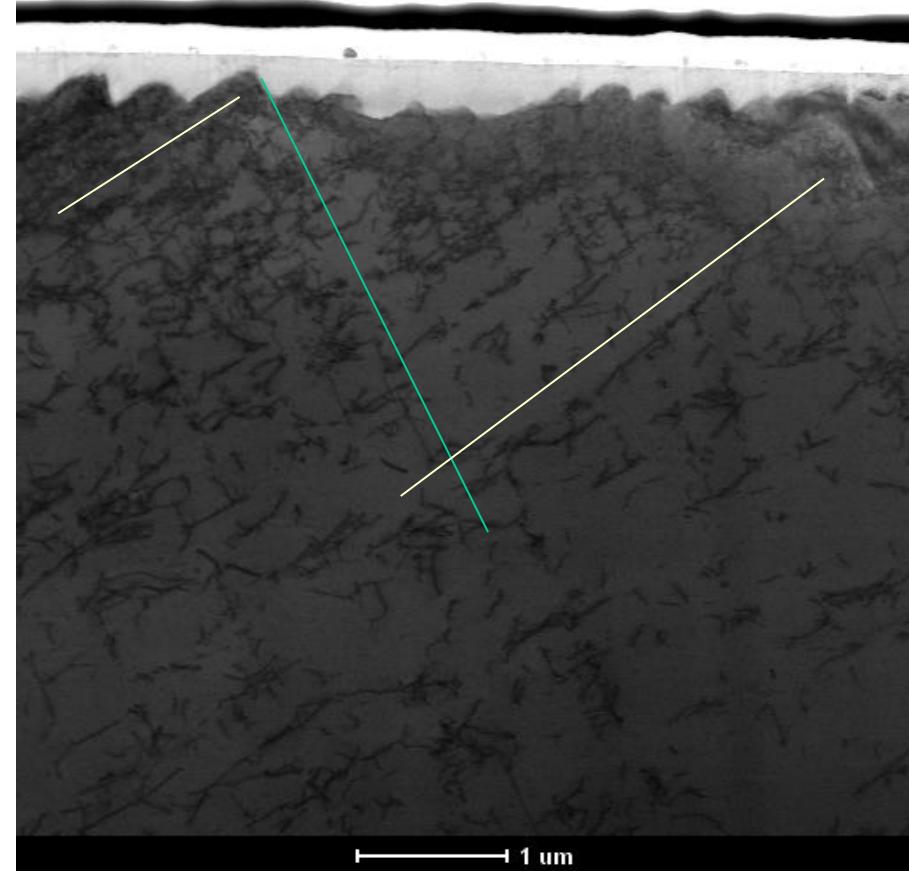
Wall decoration with tiny fragments

Edge with fracture

Depth Profile of Microstructure after e- Irradiation at ~300°C, 90 bar

316L Disc Depth profiling (PWR Face)–TEM

TEM cross-section image (~6x6 μm^2)



Depth~(<0.4 μm) – Bulk

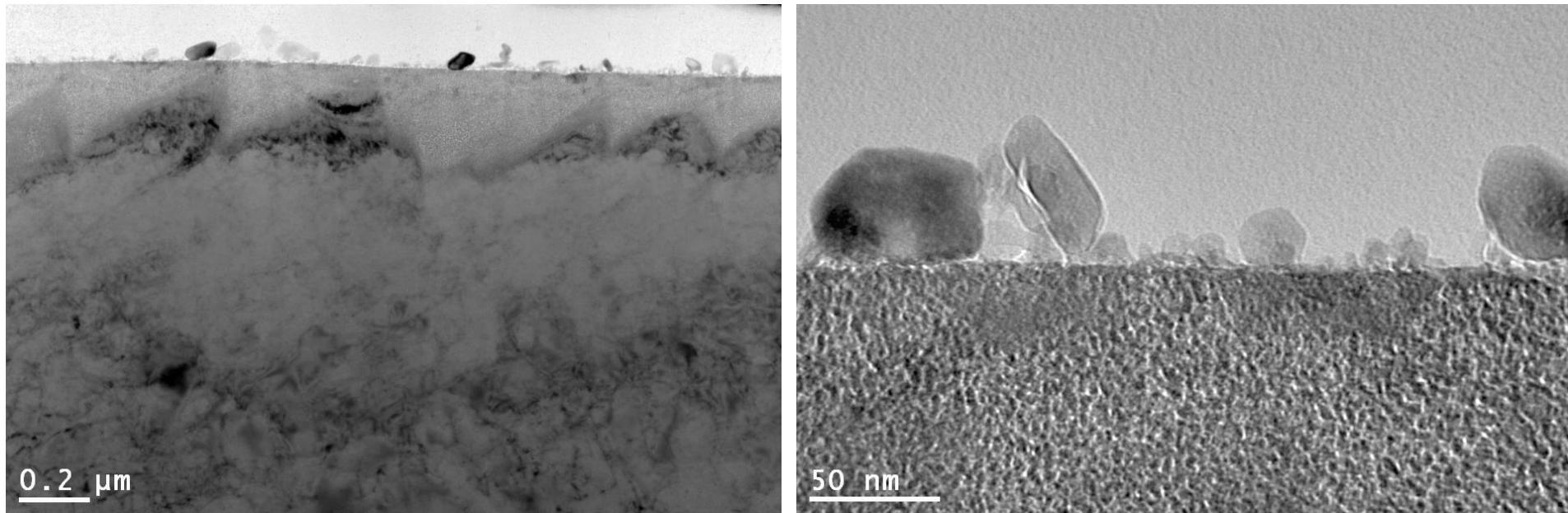
Alignment of black segments: two preferential directions

Depth~(0.1-0.4 μm) – Bulk/ Surface layer limit

Saw Tooth pattern of boundary (edge // black segments)

Depth Profile of Microstructure after e- Irradiation at ~300°C, 90 bar

316L Disc Depth profiling (PWR Face)–TEM



Depth~(<0.1-0.4 μm) – Near Surface
Double layer structure
Inner layer structure (below surface)

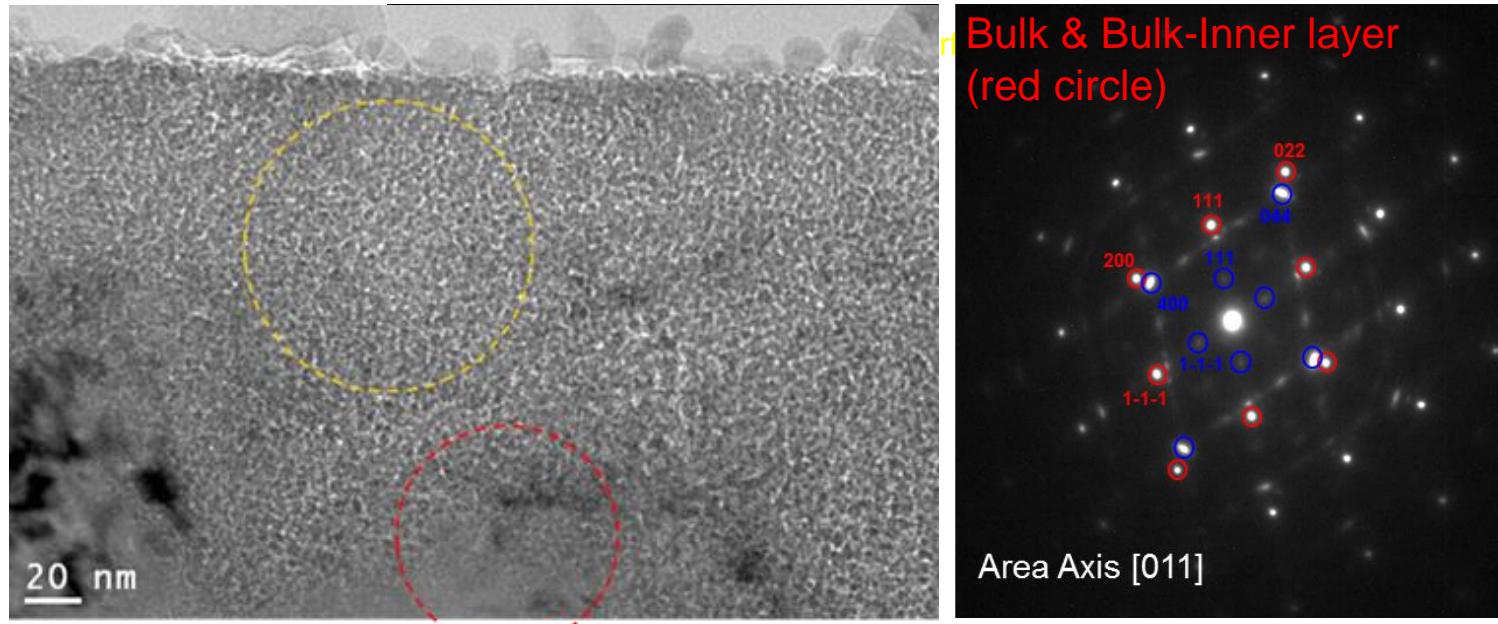
Disc-like nano-grains $2r \sim (3\text{nm})$
Saw Tooth boundary (variable thickness)

Outer layer structure (top flat surface)

Distribution of tiny fragments ~ $L(5-50\text{ nm})$

Crystalline Structure after ~300°C, 90bar e- Irradiation

Cross view: Selected Area Diffraction TEM
Bulk & Bulk/Surface layer limit (red circle)



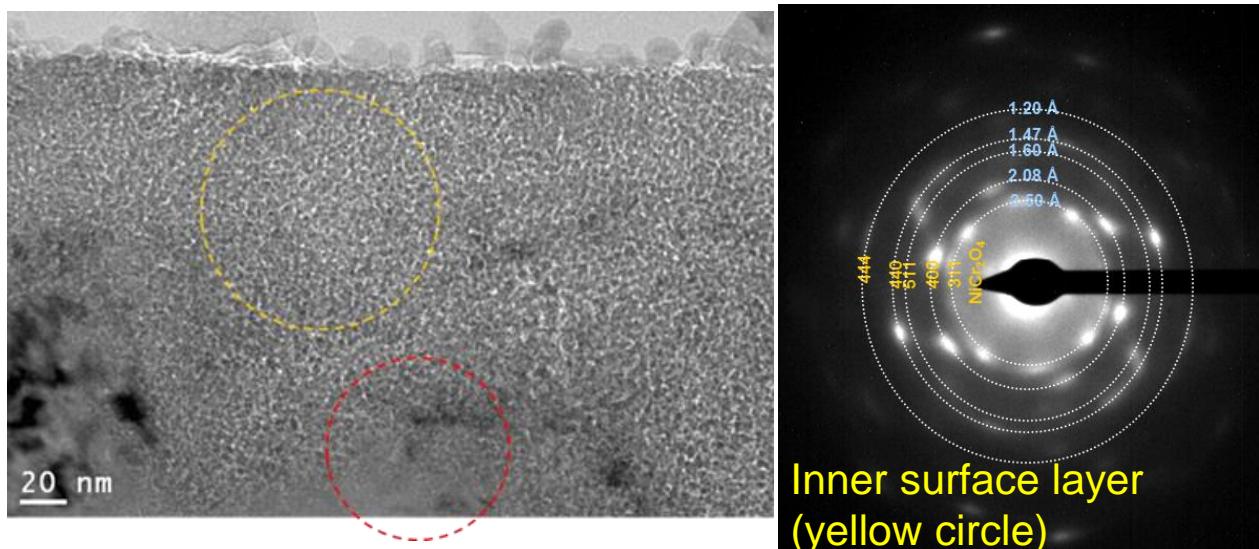
Depth~(<0.4 μ m) – Bulk
Polycrystalline; Cubic; Face Centered lattice; 316L austenitic steel

Depth~(0.1-0.4 μ m) – Bulk/ Surface layer limit

Correspondence between the Indexing of diffraction peaks: growth of surface layer in epitaxy with bulk

Crystalline Structure after ~300°C, 90bar e- Irradiation

Cross view: Selected Area Diffraction TEM



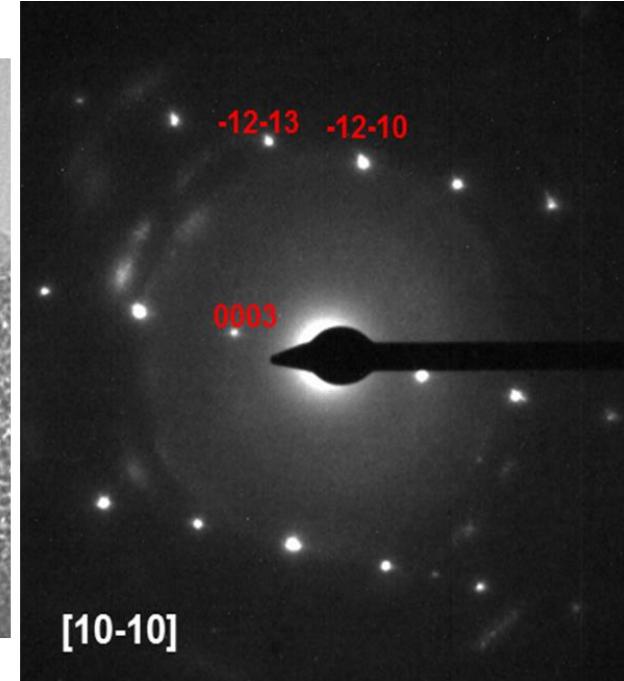
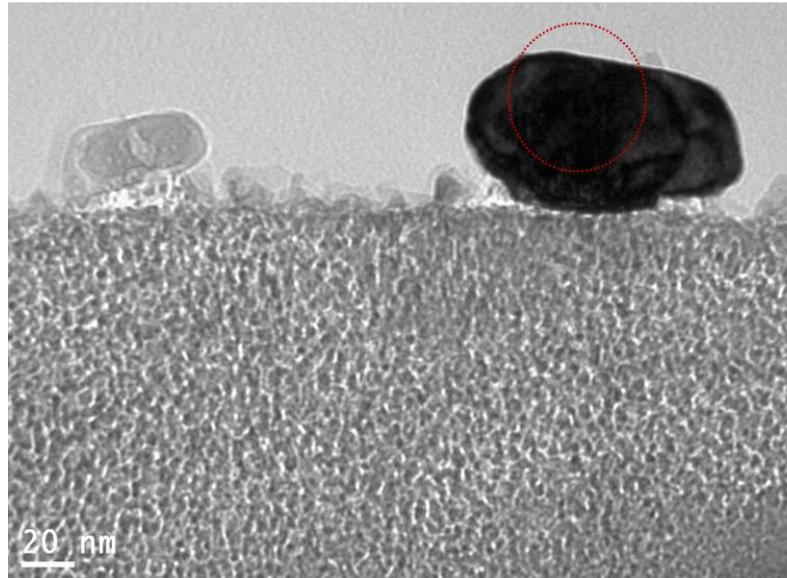
Depth~(<0.-0.4 μm) – Near Surface
Double layer structure

Inner layer structure (below surface)

Polycrystalline; Cubic; spinel-type lattice; NiCr_2O_4 nickel chromite

Crystalline Structure after ~300°C, 90bar e- Irradiation

Cross view: Selected Area Diffraction TEM
Outer Surface Layer (red circle)



Depth~(<0.-0.4 μ m) – Near Surface
Double layer structure

Outer layer structure (top flat surface)
Distribution of tiny crystallites ~L(5-50 nm)

Single crystal; Trigonal; corundum-type lattice; α -Fe₂O₃ hematite

High-resolution transmission electron microscopy (HRTEM) images (cross –sectional view) and their corresponding Fourier Transform (FT) diffractograms were also recorded inside and at the periphery of some surface crystallites: analysis consistent with single crystal hematite.

Oxide Growth on 316L at ~(300°C, 90 bar): e- flux effect Synthesis of Structural & Chemical Analysis

[CH_2] (Initial & Final) at ~(300°C, 90 bar)

x1 & x1.27

x1 & x1.27

Outer $(\text{Fe}, \text{Ni})\text{F}_2\text{O}_4$

Outer e- $\alpha\text{-Fe}_2\text{O}_3$

Inner

$\text{Fe}(\text{Fe}, \text{Cr})_2\text{O}_4$

Inner e-

$\text{Ni}(\text{Fe}, \text{Cr})_2\text{O}_4$

Inner-deeper

FeCr_2O_4

50 nm

e-Flux: no; 72h

50 nm

e-Flux: on; 65h

Depth~(< 0.1-0.4 μm)—Oxide layer after e- flux

Inner-layer (dense) : Fe(III)-enriched nickel chromite, $\text{Ni}(\text{Fe}, \text{Cr})_2\text{O}_4$

outer-layer (dispersed crystallites (<50nm)): Fe(III) hematite
 $\alpha\text{-Fe}_2\text{O}_3$

Inner-layer destruction: low density distribution of cavity
(~(0.2-5) μm^2 , depth (1-1.5 μm), $\sim(1-5)\times 10^{-9} \text{ cm}^{-2}$)

[CH_2] (Initial) (Flux on/no flux): 3

Effect of e- flux on Oxide Growth at ~(300°C, 90 bar) 316L(e-)/water(PWR,e-) interface (no flow rate)

Irradiation defects & Radiolysis Species Summary

e- Flux on: cavities (low density)

inner oxide destruction and dissolution

e- Flux on: composition change

Inner oxide: $\text{Ni}(\text{Fe},\text{Cr})_2\text{O}_4$

Ni(II) gain; Fe(II) loss

Outer oxide (crystallites): $\alpha\text{-Fe}_2\text{O}_3$

Fe(III) gain; Ni(II) & Fe(II) loss

e- Flux on: release rate increase

$r\text{Fe} \gg r\text{Ni} > r\text{Cr}$ (r: ratio of release rate: flux on vs flux no)
M.Wang 2013 Ph-D

Why Fe(III) enrichment and loss of Fe (II) ?

It seems to be consistent with the statement * that Fenton reactions Fe^{n+} with radiolytic H_2O_2 : peroxide favoring high ion valence state (*Barbusinski 2009)

Merci pour votre attention



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