# TRANSPORT THROUGH CARBON STEEL OF HYDROGEN PRODUCED BY FLOW-ACCELERATED CORROSION

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#### ABSTRACT

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Atomic hydrogen is produced as a by-product when a ferrous metal surface is exposed to water at a high temperature at a rate corresponding to the rate of corrosion. In de-aerated conditions, the hydrogen atoms permeate through the steel and combine into pairs to form molecular hydrogen at the opposite surface. Because of rapid diffusion of hydrogen through ferrite steels at the temperature of interest, the total rate of hydrogen emission from the steel is a measurement of the instantaneous corrosion rate. The Hydrogen Effusion Probe (HEP) has been developed for an online monitor of Flow Accelerated Corrosion (FAC) by measuring the generated through-wall hydrogen. This study was carried out to investigate the transport of hydrogen through steel to obtain a fundamental understanding of the through-wall hydrogen behaviour. HEPs have been installed on a feeder pipe in the Point Lepreau Generating Station (PLGS), on a boiler wall in the Coleson Cove Generating Station (CC), and in a test loop at the Centre Nuclear Energy Research (CNER) laboratory. Data from PLGS, CC and the experiments indicate that the HEP is sensitive and responsive to changes in FAC rate, and can provide an on-line monitor of FAC.

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## บทคัดย่อ

ปริศนา หอมหวลดี : ชื่อหัวข้อวิทยานิพนธ์ การแพร่ของไฮโดรเจนที่เกิดจากการกัด กร่อนแบบเร่งด้วยความเร็วของของไหลผ่านเหล็กคาร์บอน (Transport Through Carbon Steel of Hydrogen Produced by Flow-Accelerated Corrosion) อ. ที่ปรึกษา : รศ.คร. ธีรศักดิ์ ฤกษ์สมบูรณ์, ศ.คร. แฟร้งค์ อาร์ สจ๊วต และ แอนดี้ จัสเตซัน, 105 หน้า

ไฮโครเจนอะตอมเป็นผลิตภัณฑ์ข้างเคียงที่เกิดขึ้นเมื่อพื้นผิวของเหล็กสัมผัสกับน้ำที่ อุณหภูมิสูงซึ่งอัตราการเกิดของไฮโครเจนอะตอมจะสัมพันธ์กับอัตราการกัคกร่อนของเหล็ก ใน สภาวะที่ปราศจากออกซิเจน ไฮโครเจนอะตอมที่เกิดขึ้นจะแพร่ผ่านเหล็กแล้วจึงรวมตัวกันเป็น ้ไฮโครเจนโมเลกุลที่บริเวณพื้นผิวอีกค้านหนึ่ง เนื่องจากไฮโครเจนอะตอมสามารถแพร่ผ่านเหล็ก ้ได้อย่างรวดเร็วในช่วงอุณหภูมิที่พิจารณา ดังนั้นการวัดอัตราการแพร่รวมของไฮโครเจน เปรียบเสมือนการวัดอัตราการกัดกร่อนในขณะนั้น เครื่องมือวัดการแพร่ผ่านของไฮโดรเจน (Hydrogen Effusion Probe, HEP) ได้รับการพัฒนาขึ้นเพื่อใช้สำหรับตรวจวัดการกัดกร่อน แบบเร่งด้วยความเร็วของของไหล (Flow Accelerated Corrosion, FAC) โดยตรง โดยการวัด ปริมาณไฮโครเจนที่เกิดขึ้นภายในและแพร่ผ่านออกมาจากผนังของโลหะ งานวิจัยนี้ได้ ทำการศึกษาหลักการพื้นฐานของพฤติกรรมการแพร่ของไฮโครเงนผ่านโลหะ โคยได้นำเครื่องมือ ้วัดการแพร่ผ่านของไฮโดรเจนไปติดตั้งที่ท่อแลกเปลี่ยนความร้อนในโรงผลิตไฟฟ้า พอยท์ ลาโพร (Point Lepreau Generating Station) ตรงผนังท่อน้ำร้อนในโรงผลิตไฟฟ้า โคลสัน โคว์ฟ (Coleson Cove Generating Station) และกับท่อในระบบจำลองของศูนย์วิจัยพลังงานปรมาณู (Centre for Nuclear Energy Research) ประเทศแคนาดา ข้อมูลที่ได้จากโรงผลิตไฟฟ้าทั้งสอง และจากการทุคลองพบว่าเครื่องมือวัคการแพร่ผ่านของไฮโครเจนมีความไวและตอบสนองต่อการ เปลี่ยนแปลงของอัตราการกัดกร่อนแบบความเร่งด้วยความเร็วของของไหล และใช้เป็นเครื่อง ตรวจวัดการกัดกร่อนแบบดังกล่าวได้โดยตรง

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## ABBREVIATIONS

AECL	Atomic Energy of Canada Limited
ASME	American Standard of Material Engineering
BCC	Body-Centered Cubic
CANDU	Canada Deuterium Uranium
CC	Coleson Cove Generating Station
CNER	Centre for Nuclear Energy Research
COG	CANDU <sup>®</sup> Owners Group Inc.
FAC	Flow-Accelerated (Assisted) Corrosion
FCC	Fac-Centered Cubic
FOLTM	Feeder On-Line Thickness Monitor
HE :	Hydrogen Embrittlement
HEP ·	Hydrogen Effusion Probe
HIC .	Hydrogen-Induced Cracking
HMT ·	Hydrogen Microprint Technique
NTP	Normal Temperature and Pressure
PLGS	Point Lepreau Generating Station
SEM	Scanning Electron Microscope
STP	Standard Temperature and Pressure

## LIST OF SYMBOLS

	ф	Permeability
	<b>\$</b> 0	Maximum permeability
	Δ	Delta operator or difference operator
	$\nabla$	Del operator or vector differential operator
	ρ <sub>Fe</sub>	Density of iron
	$\nu_i$	Stoichiometric coefficient
	α	Thermal expansion coefficient
	П	Total pressure of the system
	а	Conversion of days to year
	А	Diffusion area
	c	Concentration of the diffusing substance
	С	Corrosion rate
÷	C <sub>0</sub>	Concentration in the membrane
	C <sub>1</sub>	Concentration on the membrane surface at $x=0$
·	C <sub>2</sub>	Concentration on the membrane surface at $x=l$
	C <sub>gas</sub>	Concentration of gas in the solvent
	C <sub>p</sub>	Constant-pressure specific heat capacity on a mass basis
	D	Diffusion coefficient or Diffusivity
	D <sub>0</sub>	Maximum diffusion coefficient (at infinite temperature)
	Ea	Activation energy
	E∳	Activation energy of permeability
	E <sub>D</sub>	Activation energy of diffusivity
	Es	Activation energy of solubility
	$\Delta G^0$	Standard Gibb free energy
	$\Delta G^{f}$	Standard Gibb free energy of formation
	$\Delta H^0$	Standard heat of reaction
	$\Delta H^{f}$	Standard enthalpy of formation
	$H_{O_2}$	Henry's constant for oxygen in water

J	Diffusion flux or the quantity of substance per area per time
k	Rate constant of chemical reactions
$\mathbf{k}_{0}$	Pre-exponential factor
Κ	Equilibrium constant
1	Thickness of substance
L	Length of substance
Mı	Molar mass of the first gas
M <sub>2</sub>	Molar mass of the second gas
$M_{\text{Fe}}$	Molar mass of iron
n	Mole
dn dt	Daily accumulation of hydrogen molecules
р	Partial pressure.
Р	Pressure
P <sub>∞</sub> ·	Steady-state rates of hydrogen permeation
$p_1^{\bullet}$ .	Vapor pressure of the solvent
$\frac{\partial P}{\partial T}$	Rate of pressure increase
pmol	Picomole or one trillionth $(10^{-12})$ of a mole.
q	Total amount of the gas permeated the membrane
Q	Amount of the gas permeated the membrane per unit area
R	Gas constant
ratel	Rate of effusion of the first gas
rate2	Rate of effusion for the second gas
S	Solubility
S	Solubility constant or concentration per unit of pressure
S <sub>0</sub>	Maximum solubility
t	Time
Т	Temperature
T <sub>C1</sub>	Critical temperature of the solvent
T <sub>eff</sub>	Effective temperature
tL	Time lag

T <sub>R</sub>	Reduced temperature
V	Volume of an HEP
x	Coordinate chosen perpendicular to the reference surface
x <sub>O2</sub>	Mole fraction of oxygen in oxygen-saturated water
Y02	Mole fraction of oxygen in gas phase

