



H Diffusion and Segregation at the W/Cu Interface

Based on DFT calculations

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WP PWIE 2022 Reporting Meeting



(1) Aix-Marseille University, France



- 1 The basic tools
- 2 Past activities in WP PWIE (for understanding)
- 3 This year activity: H at the W/Cu interface
- 4 Conclusion and Perspectives



1. Basic Tools

Density Functional Theory

Atomic Scale



Accurate

Energies: binding, solution, formation of (point) defects ...

Statistic Thermodynamics

Potential of the macroscopic system

$$G(T, p, n_1, n_2, \dots, n_N) = \sum_j n_j g_j(T) - T S^{conf}(T)$$

Macroscopic system

Determine the behavior of

Kinetic model : Rate-Equations

MHIMS E. A. Hodille CEA Cadarache

> J. Denis Aix-Marseille Univ. EUROfusion Researcher Grant

> > DWE

Out of Equilibrium ...

Bulk, surface, interface ...

Various solute, defects, adsorbants, etc ...

At Thermal Equilibrium

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2 – Modeling Surface Properties

Experimental modelling of H material interaction in Labs

Thermal Desorption Spectroscopy (TDS)
Understanding requires Rate-Equation modellings
What's the effect of the surface?
Surface models based on DFT results are being included in Rate Equations Model



Atomic scale modelling of surfaces with DFT

H on W

H + O on W

W(110) surface top view

Full energetics of H adsorption determined by DFT



H atom



W atom (top surface)

W atom (sub-surface)

Energy profile of hydrogen dissociation and absorption

M. Ajmalghan, Z. A. Piazza, E. Hodille, Y. Ferro* - Nuclear Fusion 59 (2019) 106022



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Saturation corresponds to $\theta_H + \theta_0 = 1.00$

Hydrogen adsorption on W(110) - The energetics



O weakens adsorption energy for H on W(110) O limits the amount of H adsorption on W(110)

Consistent with experimental observations indicating that no H adsorbs above $\theta_0 = 0.35$

What about H migration across the oxide layer ?





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Exp. Obs. Dunand et al. NF 62 (2022) 054002



Under revision – submitted to Nuclear Fusion



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Absorption and Desorption Strongly dependent on the surface coverage

2 – H and O on W(110) surface - Kinetic model

TDS spectra modelling with / without surface mechanisms



Courtesy from E.A. Hodille (CEA)



Sievert law: $c_{\rm m}(x=0) = S(T) \sqrt{p_{H_2}}$

with S(T) the solubility of H in the material (m⁻³Pa^{-1/2})

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Yosvany Silva-Solis PhD's work

4 – Conclusion and Perspectives



Different crystallin networks for W and Cu

	Table 1 . Cu unit cells created for E_{cut} and k convergence study.					
	Structure	UC (unit cell)				
W and Cu	<i>bcc</i> (body cubic center)					
Cu	<i>fcc</i> (face cubic center)					





Figure 1. Convergence of E_{int} and W_{sep} changing number of layers in zdirection.



Convergence criterion





Figure 1. Convergence of E_{int} and W_{sep} changing number of layers in zdirection.



Convergence criterion





Figure 1. Convergence of E_{int} and W_{sep} changing number of layers in zdirection.





Figure 1. Convergence of E_{int} and W_{sep} changing number of layers in zdirection.



Converged model



Solution of H in W and Cu

	Table 1 . Cu unit cells created for E_{cut} and k convergence study.					
	Structure	UC (unit cell)	OH (octahedral)	TH (tetrahedral)		
W and Cu	<i>bcc</i> (body cubic center)					
Cu	<i>fcc</i> (face cubic center)					



Electronic and phonon calculations for all these points



Solution energy of H at the W/Cu interface



Higher solubility

in Cu than in W

Solution energy of H at the W/Cu interface



Solution energy of H at the W/Cu interface



At the interface

Very High Solubility.

The interface behaves like a sink for HIs

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4 – Conclusion and Perspectives

Conclusion on W/Cu

- A DFT model of the W/Cu interface was built
- Solution energy and vibrational frequencies are being computed close and at the W/Cu interface
- The interstitial sites and their energetics are determined across the interface



The interface acts as a sink for Hydrogen's Isotopes

Perspectives

- Computing the full energy paths joining each interstitial sites
- Providing activation barriers for Rate-Equations modelling of H diffusion at the W/Cu interface
- Effect of H accumulation at the interface





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