

Substitutional Effect of Cr and Ti on Hydrogen Desorption from Mg₂Ni Based Alloy

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Abstract Mg₂Ni alloys have been synthesized through the solid state diffusion method. The effect of substitutions of Cr for Ni and Ti for Mg on hydrogen storage properties was studied. In the case of Mg₂Ni_{0.8}Cr_{0.2}, Mg_{1.8}Ti_{0.2}Ni_{0.8}Cr_{0.2}, the desorption pressure increased after the substitutions of Cr for Ni and Ti for Mg. The hydrogenation properties of Mg₂Ni can be improved by tailoring the effect of cell volume using Cr and Ti elements.

Key words solid state diffusion; hydriding/dehydriding; Mg-based hydrides

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1 Introduction

Mg and Mg-based alloys as hydrogen storage materials have been carried out intensively worldwide because of the high storage capacity. However, the high dissociation temperature and slow reaction kinetics limit its practical application^[1-2]. Mg₂Ni alloy has relatively high hydrogen storage capacity (3.6% H₂ as Mg₂NH₄) and lower desorption temperature than MgH₂^[3]. Here we developed the solid state diffusion method^[4-6] and investigated the effect of substitutions of Cr for Ni and Ti for Mg in Mg₂Ni on hydrogen desorption properties.

2 Experimental Procedures

The magnesium, nickel, titanium and chromium powder (>99% purity, 200 mesh), corresponding to a composition of Mg₂Ni, Mg₂Ni_{0.8}Cr_{0.2} and Mg_{1.8}Ti_{0.2}Ni_{0.8}Cr_{0.2}, were ground in a crucible by hand for 1 h. The mixture was cold pressed into pellets under a pressure of 30 MPa. The pellets were sintered at 873 K under argon atmosphere in a stainless steel furnace for 5 h, then were crushed to powders below 200 mesh in air.

3 Results

3.1 Microstructure change

The X-ray spectrum of Mg₂Ni based alloys before and after the solid state diffusion was shown in Fig 1.

Solid state diffusion produces a single Mg₂Ni phase. All the peaks of raw materials disappear, which indicates that the element chromium and titanium solution in Mg₂Ni. The stable hexagonal structure after substitution implied that Ti probably held the atom position of Mg and Cr took up the Ni atom position. Substitution of Cr for Ni resulted in an increase of the unit cell constant and volume for Mg₂Ni_{0.8}Cr_{0.2} because the atom radius of Cr is bigger than that of Ni. The unit cell constant and volume of Mg_{1.8}Ti_{0.2}Ni_{0.8}Cr_{0.2} slightly decreased comparing with that of Mg₂Ni_{0.8}Cr_{0.2} because the atom radius of Ti was less than that of Mg, but still was bigger than that of Mg₂Ni.

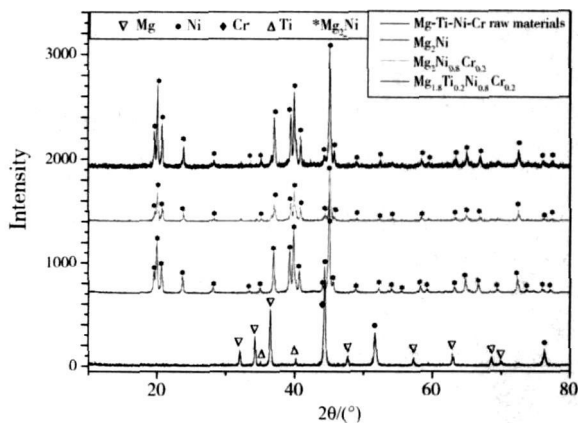


Fig 1 The X-Ray diffraction pattern of Mg₂Ni-based alloys

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3. 2 Hydrogen storage properties

The powder sample weighed 0.5 g was put in the reactor pumped for 30 min then heated to 573 K for activation. The first hydriding rate was slow taking more than 1 h fully hydrided under a hydrogen pressure of 5.0 MPa. The second and third absorptions were faster. After five absorption-desorption cycles the hydriding/dehydriding capacity and rate remained almost same. The dehydriding Pressure-Composition-Temperature curves at 529 K were shown in Fig. 2. The desorption plateau pressure of Mg₂Ni, Mg₂Ni_{0.8}Cr_{0.2} and Mg_{1.8}Ti_{0.2}Ni_{0.8}Cr_{0.2} was respectively 1.08, 1.136 and 1.321 am at 529 K. Substitution of Ti for Mg and Cr for Ni increased the desorption equilibrium pressure, slightly decreased the hydrogen storage capacity and inclined the plateau zone at the same time.

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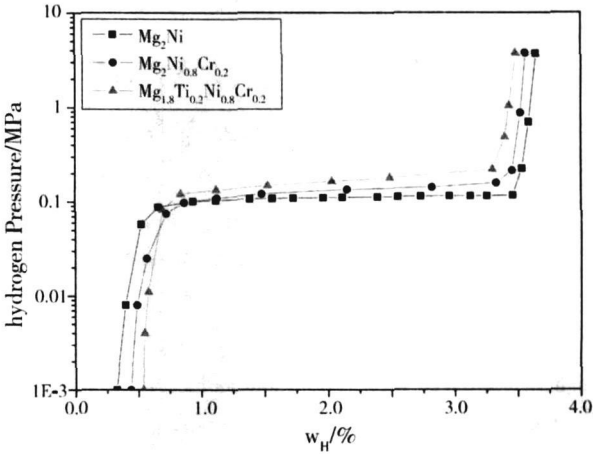


Fig. 2 Dehydriding PCT curves of alloys prepared by the solid solid diffusion method Mg₂Ni-based alloys at 529 K

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C和 T的元素替代对 Mg₂N基合金放氢性能的影响

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摘 要: 应用扩散烧结工艺合成出 Mg₂Ni_{0.8}Cr_{0.2}和 Mg_{1.8}Ti_{0.2}Ni_{0.8}Cr_{0.2}合金, C和 T对 Mg₂N合金 A侧和 B侧的替代均导致放氢平衡压力升高。Mg₂N基合金的储氢性能可以通过元素替代改变晶胞体积来加以改善。
关键词: 固态扩散; 吸氢/放氢; 镁基氢化物
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