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CHEMICAL AND ELECTROCHEMICAL DISSOLUTION OF CHROMIUM AT ROOM AND ELEVATED TEMPERATURES**

Abstract

The influence of temperature on electrochemical and chemical dissolution of chromium was studied in the acidic sulphuric solutions. The hydrogen evolution reaction, as well as the anodic dissolution and chemical dissolution of chromium from activated surfaces in sulphuric acid solutions pH 1 follow the Arrhenius law, with the apparent activation energies of 35 kJ mol^{-1} , 58 kJ mol^{-1} and 62 kJ mol^{-1} , respectively. The higher activation energy of the chemical dissolution of chromium leads to the significantly noticeable chemical corrosion on elevated temperatures in comparison with the electrochemical corrosion.

Keywords: chromium chemical corrosion, electrochemical dissolution, activation energy

INTRODUCTION

Simultaneously with the electrochemical dissolution of chromium occurs its chemical dissolution, which does not depend on potential and that, in certain circumstances, is dominant process of dissolution, especially at elevated temperatures [1-9]. Chemical dissolution is the cause of occurrence the hydrogen evolution, which is not subjected to the laws of electrochemical kinetics.

Determination the activation energy of chemical chromium dissolution, electrochemical chromium dissolution, cathodic hydrogen evolution and temperature dependence on electrochemical corrosion rate was determined and analyzed in this paper. Also, texture of chromium was determined using the OIM method (orientation imaging microscopy). Determination of chromium concentration in solution was carried out by the atomic absorption spectroscopy (AAS). The anodic and cathodic polarization curves

were recorded, and also, electrochemical corrosion rates were determined using the various electrochemical methods.

EXPERIMENTAL PART

Before testing, the surface of chromium samples was mechanically polished gradually with abrasive paper to the grade 1000. The solution for testing was $0.1 \text{ M Na}_2\text{SO}_4 + \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$, pH 1, which was purified conducting through testing solution of pure nitrogen.

A three-part glass electrochemical cell with water jackets for thermostating, with an auxiliary Pt electrode and a saturated calomel electrode (SCE) as the reference electrode were used for electrochemical tests.

The chromium electrode was cathodically activated at -0.900 V for 120 s to the aim of removal the surface oxide layer before each test. Oxide layer is spontaneously cre-

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ates on the chromium surface in contact with air. Electrochemical measurements were made using the potentiostat-galvanostat PAR 273.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Figure 1 shows the inverse polar image of chromium, obtained by the OIM method.

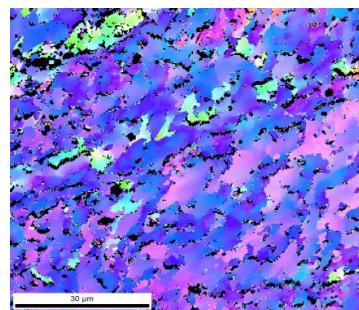
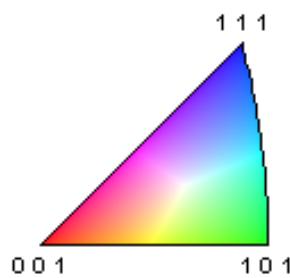


Figure 1 Texture (111) of the chromium electrode is obtained by the OIM method. The approximate grain size can be estimated on the basis of the scale given in Figure

The temperature influence on chemical and electrochemical chromium dissolution in temperature the range from 291 to 353 K in aqueous sulphuric acid, pH 1 was carried out.

Cathodic polarization curves, recorded at different temperatures at 291 to 343 K in sulphuric acid pH 1, are shown in Figure 2. Figure 2 shows that with an increase in temperature, the rate of hydrogen evolution in

The grains with the orientation (111) are marked with blue colour and it can be seen that a large number of grains on the chromium surface has exactly this orientation. The size of chromium crystal grains was also determined, which have been the small dimensions, with a high degree of in orientations. In fact, these are separate grains with their own orientation.



increases, while the Tafel slope variation with the temperature was at theoretically expected levels. An inset in Figure 2 shows the dependence of current density logarithm as a function of reciprocal temperature for determination the apparent activation energy for hydrogen evolution at -0.860 V. The apparent activation energy 35 kJ mol^{-1} is for cathodic reaction of hydrogen evolution.

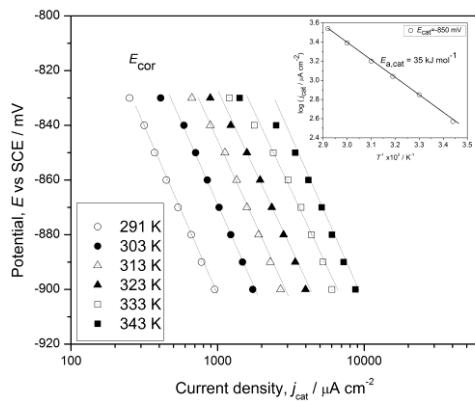


Figure 2 Chatodic polarization curves for chromium electrode in aqueous solution of $0.1 \text{ M } \text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4 + \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$, pH 1 at various temperatures

The anodic polarization curves of chromium in the solution of sodium sulphate and sulphuric acid pH 1, recorded at different temperatures, were shown Figure 3. The shape of polarization curves is similar, except that the curves at higher temperatures are shifted towards higher current densities, as it might be expected. The Arrhenius dependence at -0.750 V is shown

in inset in Figure 3. The apparent activation energy $E_{a,an} = 58 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ obtained for the reaction of the active anodic dissolution. This indicates that the anodic reaction is more dependent on temperature than the cathodic reaction. The corrosion potential change with temperature in a direction of more negative potentials also explains this.

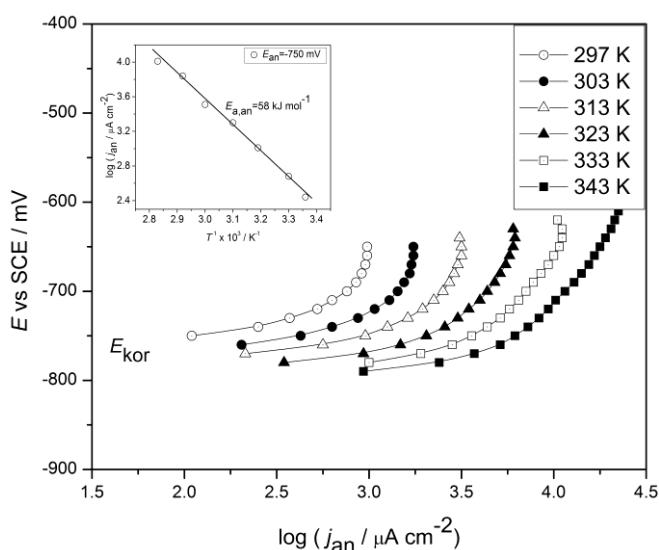


Figure 3 Anodic polarization curves of chromium electrode in sulphuric acid solution pH 1, at various temperatures

The electrochemical current density $j_{cor,el}$ is determined by extrapolation the Tafel slope on corrosion potential and by the Stern-Gerry linear polarization method, while the total chromium dissolution rate j_{tot} was determined analyzing the solution with atomic absorption spectrophotometry, and they are shown in Figure 4. It can be seen from Figure 4 that the overall rate of dissolution or equivalent current density with temperature is higher than the electro-

chemical corrosion current density. A significant part of electrochemical corrosion is the chemical corrosion of chromium at all temperatures. That difference increases with temperature as it can be seen in Figure 4. At 353 K, the total dissolution rate is about four times higher than the electrochemical corrosion rate. It means that the chemical dissolution rate at this temperature is for approximately three times higher than the electrochemical dissolution rate.

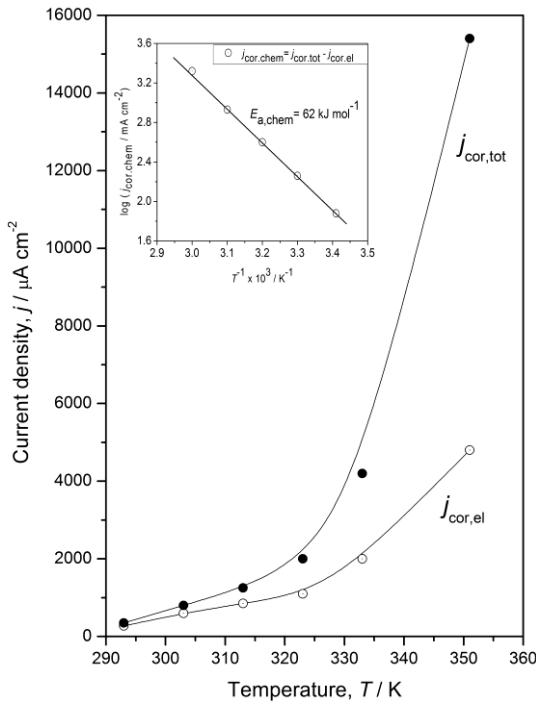


Figure 4 Total current density obtained analytically (●) and corrosion current density obtained electrochemically at different temperatures (○) for the chromium electrode

As it is shown in Figure 4, the overall corrosion rate j_{tot} at all temperatures that are used in this experiment are higher than the electrochemical corrosion rates $j_{cor,el}$. This is the result of chemical dissolution of chromium, which takes place directly by reaction of water molecules and atoms of chromium from the electrode surface and not dependent on potentials. Differences between the total chromium dissolution rate determined analytically $j_{tot,anal}$ and electrochemical dissolution rate $j_{cor,el}$ vs. the reciprocal temperature is plotted on the inset in Figure 4. The apparent activation energy was determined from the slope of this linear dependence and it is 62 kJ mol^{-1} . The high value of activation energy indicate that the influence of temperature on reaction of chemical dissolution is large and that contribution of chemical corrosion to the overall corrosion rate is

higher at the elevated than the lower temperatures. This should be kept in mind if using data for corrosion rate, obtained at room temperature, for predicting the corrosion behaviour at elevated temperatures. The similar differences in terms of temperature influence likely existing in case of corrosion of other metals that corrode electrochemically and chemically (i.e., Fe, Ni, Mn and other metals).

After immersion into testing solution, the chromium electrode is in a passive state with the characteristic corrosion potential $E_{cor,1}$. During the cathodic polarization at -0.900 V, for several tens of seconds, the passive films are dissolved, whereby the electrodes activated and the corrosion potential $E_{cor,2}$ is then formed.

The chatodic curves recorded on passive chromium in form of the Tafel dia

grams for different temperatures are presented in Figure 5. It can be noted that cathodic Tafel slope is approximately -0.060 V dec $^{-1}$ and that the current density increases with temperature. The inset in Figure 5 shows the Arrhenius dependence,

obtained at -0.520 V. The apparent activation energy was determined, that is 29 kJ mol $^{-1}$. Slightly lower value of activation energy is than obtained in the process of hydrogen evaluation on the activated chromium surface (35 kJ mol $^{-1}$).

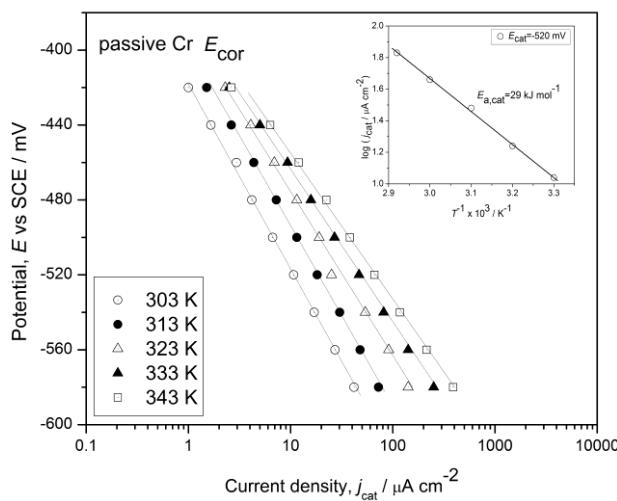


Figure 5 The cathodic Tafel plots for passivated chromium electrode at different temperature

Accordingly, the corrosion of active metallic chromium in an aqueous solution of sulphuric acid pH 1 consists of two simultaneous processes corrosion, the electrochemical corrosion and chemical dissolution. With increase of temperate, significantly increases the anodic dissolution, chemical dissolution, and cathodic hydrogen evolution on the bare chromium surface, as well as on the surface coated with chromium oxide in 0.1 M $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4 + \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ solution, pH 1.

Reaction of the hydrogen evolution, anodic dissolution and chemical dissolution on the activated chromium surface in sulphuric acid solution, pH 1 in temperature range of 293 to 353 K followed the Arrhenius dependence with an apparent activation energy of 35 kJ mol $^{-1}$, 58 kJ mol $^{-1}$ and 62 kJ mol $^{-1}$, respectively. The apparent activation energy of the hydrogen evolution reaction on chro-

mium oxide covered surface has value of 29 kJ mol $^{-1}$.

CONCLUSION

Corrosion of the active metallic chromium in aqueous sulphuric acid pH 1 simultaneously flowed by electrochemical and chemical mechanism. The rate of chemical corrosion is obtained as difference of the total and electrochemical corrosion rate.

Reaction of the hydrogen evolution, anodic dissolution and chemical dissolution of Cr from chromium-activated surface in sulphuric acid solution, pH 1 at temperature from 291 to 353 K followed the Arrhenius law from the apparent activation energy of 35 kJ mol $^{-1}$, 58 kJ mol $^{-1}$ and 62 kJ mol $^{-1}$, respectively. A high activation energy of chemical dissolution of chromium, at ele

vated temperatures causes to significantly higher chemical corrosion, compared to electrochemical corrosion. The apparent activation energy of hydrogen evolution on the chromium-covered oxide layer has a value of 29 kJ mol^{-1} .

As the result of simultaneous occurrence of reaction of hydrogen evolution on the oxide-covered chromium surface and reaction of anodic dissolution of chromium through the passive film, the stable corrosion potential $E_{\text{cor},1}$ was formed. The other corrosion potential was formed as the results of cathodic hydrogen evolution and anodic dissolution on the bare chromium surfaces, when the chromium surface is depasivated (by cathodic activation, or mechanical action, etc.). In this case, the stable corrosion potential $E_{\text{cor},2}$ establishes.

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HEMIJSKO I ELEKTROHEMIJSKO RASTVARANJE HROMA NA SOBNOJ I NA POVIŠENIM TEMPERATURAMA **

Izvod

Ispitivan je uticaj temperature na elektrohemijsko i hemijsko rastvaranje hroma u kiselim rastvorima sulfata. Reakcije izdvajanja vodonika, anodnog rastvaranja i hemijskog rastvaranja hroma sa aktivirane površine hroma u rastvoru sumporne kiseline pH 1 slede Arenijusovu zavisnost sa prividnom energijom aktivacije 35 kJ mol⁻¹, 58 kJ mol⁻¹ i 62 kJ mol⁻¹, respektivno. Velika energija aktivacije hemijskog rastvaranja hroma dovodi na povišenim temperaturama do znatno izraženije hemijske korozije u odnosu na elektrohemiju koroziju.

Ključne reči: hemijska korozija hroma, elektrohemijsko rastvaranje, prividna energija aktivacije

UVOD

Paralelno sa elektrohemijskim rastvaranjem hroma odvija i njegovo hemijsko rastvaranje, koje ne zavisi od potencijala i koje je u nekim uslovima dominantan proces rastvaranja, naročito na povišenim temperaturama [1-9]. Hemijsko rastvaranje hroma je uzrok pojavi izdvajanja vodonika, koje ne podleže zakonitostima elektrohemijske kinetike.

U ovom radu vršeno je određivanje energije aktivacije procesa hemijskog rastvaranja hroma, elektrohemijskog rastvaranja hroma, katodnog izdvajanja vodonika i temperaturne zavisnosti brzine elektrohemijske korozije. Takođe, određena je teksture hroma primenom OIM metode (orientation imaging microscopy). Određivanje koncentracije hroma u rastvoru je vršeno primenom atomske apsorpcione spektroskopije (AAS). Vršeno je snimanje anodnih i katodnih polarizacionih krivih i određi-

vanje brzine elektrohemijske korozije primenom različitih elektrohemijskih metoda.

EKSPERIMENTALNI DEO

Pre ispitivanja, površina uzorka hroma je mehanički polirana stupnjevito brusnim papirom do finoće 1000. Rastvor za ispitivanje je bio 0,1 M Na₂SO₄ + H₂SO₄, pH 1, koji je deaerisan provođenjem prečićenog azota. Za izvođenje elektrohemijskih ispitivanja korišćena je trodelna staklena elektrohemijska celija sa vodenim plastirom za termostatiranje, sa Pt pomoćnom elektrodom i zasićenom kalomelovom elektrodom (ZKE) kao referentnom elektrodom.

Pre merenja, elektroda hroma je aktivirana katodnom polarizacijom na -0,900 V tokom 120 s radi uklanjanja površinskog oksida, koji se na hromu uvek spontano stvara u dodiru sa vazduhom. Elektro-

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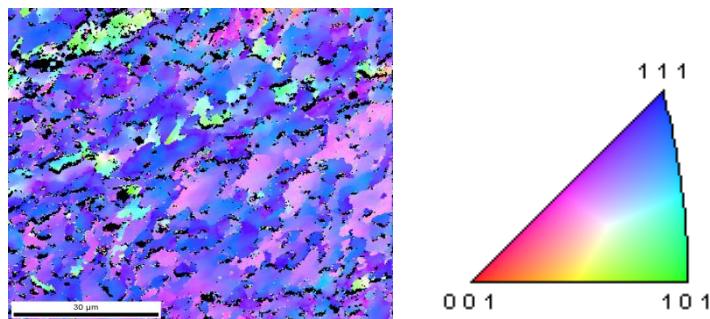
** Ovaj rad je finansiran od strane Ministarstva prosvete, nauke i tehnološkog razvoja Republike Srbije, Projekat No. 34028.

hemijksa merenja su izvedena primenom potencijostata-galvanostata PAR 273.

REZULTATI I DISKUSIJA

Na slici 1 je prikazana inverzna polarna slika uzorka hroma dobijena OIM metodom.

Plavom bojom je označena orijentacija zrna (111) i vidi se da veliki broj zrna na površini elektrode ima upravo tu orijentaciju. Takođe određena je veličina kristalnih zrna, koja su bila malih dimenzija sa velikim stepenom razorijentisanosti. Zapravo, to su zasebna zrna sa sopstvenom orijentacijom.

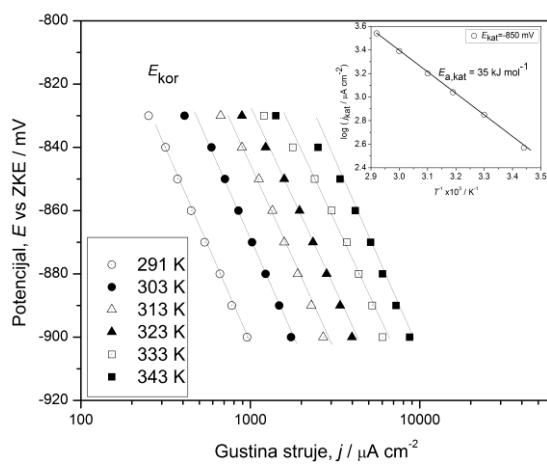


Sl. 1. Inverzna polarna slika, tekstura (111) elektrode hroma dobijena OIM metodom.
Orijentaciona veličina zrna se može proceniti na osnovu razmere date na slici

Ispitivan je uticaj temperature na hemijsko i elektrohemski rastvaranje elektrode Cr u temperaturnom intervalu od 291 do 353 K u vodenom rastvoru sumporne kiseline, pH 1.

Katodne polarizacione krive snimljene na različitim temperaturama iz oblasti od 291 do 343 K u sumpornoj kiselini pH 1 su prikazane na slici 2. Sa slike se vidi da se sa povećanjem temperature povećava brzina

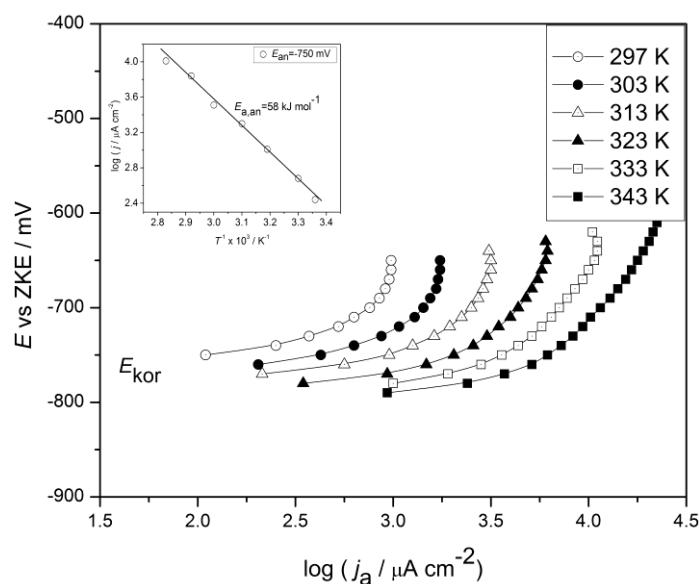
izdvajanja vodonika, pri čemu je varijacija Tafelovih nagiba sa temperaturom bila u teoretski očekivanim okvirima. Isečak na slici 2 prikazuje zavisnost logaritma gustine struje kao funkcije recipročne temperature, za određivanje prividne energije aktivacije, za reakciju izdvajanja vodonika na -0,860 V. Prividna energija aktivacije za reakciju katodnog izdvajanja vodonika je 35 kJ mol^{-1} .



Sl. 2. Katodne polarizacione krive za elektrodu hroma u vodenom rastvoru $0,1 \text{ M } \text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4 + \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$, pH 1 na različitim temperaturama

Na slici 3 su prikazane krive anodne polarizacije hroma u rastvoru natrijum-sulfata i sumporne kiseline pH 1 snimljene na različitim temperaturama. Oblik polarizacionih krivih je sličan izuzev što su krive na većim temperaturama pomerene prema većim gustinama struje, kao što se moglo i očekivati. Arenijusova zavisnost za -0,750 V

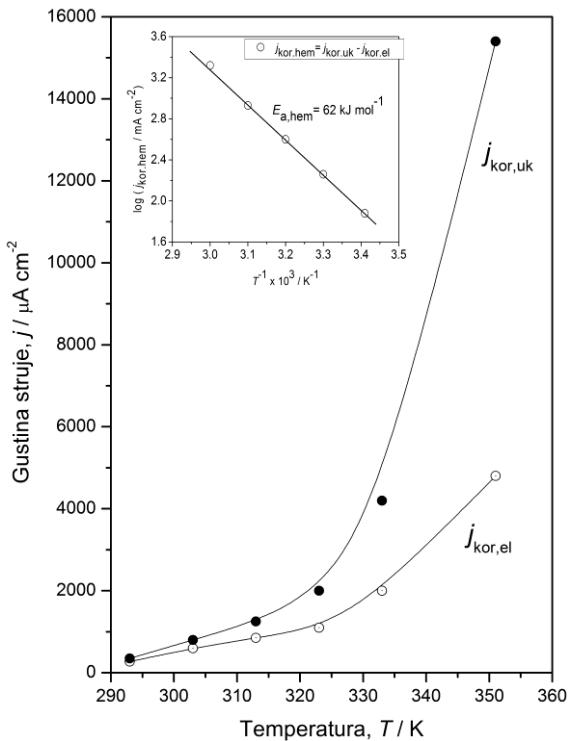
prikazana na isečku na slici 3 daje prividnu energiju aktivacije za reakciju aktivnog anodnog rastvaranja od $E_{a,an} = 58 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$. To ukazuje da anodna reakcija više zavisi od temperature nego katodna reakcija, što takođe objašnjava promenu korozionog potencijala sa temperaturom u smeru negativnijih potencijala.



Sl. 3. Anodne polarizacione krive za elektrodu hroma u rastvoru sumporne kiseline pH 1 na različitim temperaturama

Gustina struje elektrohemiske korozije $j_{kor,el}$ je određivana ekstrapolacijom Tafelovih nagiba na korozioni potencijal i Stern-Gerievom metodom linearne polarizacije, dok je ukupna brzina rastvaranja određivana analizom rastvora primenom atomske apsorpcione spektrofotometrije $j_{uk,an}$, i prikazane su na slici 4. Sa slike 4 se može videti da je ukupna brzina rastvaranja, odnosno ekvivalentna gustina struje za sve temperature veća nego gustina struje elektrohemiskog rastvara-

nja tj. elektrohemiske korozije. To pokazuje da postoji pored elektrohemiskog značajno hemijsko rastvaranje hroma na svim temperaturama. Ta razlika se povećava sa povećanjem temperature kao što se može videti sa slike 4. Na 353 K ukupna brzina rastvaranja je približno četiri puta veća nego elektrohemiska brzina korozije. U isto vreme to znači da je brzina hemijskog rastvaranja na toj temperaturi približno tri puta veća nego brzina elektrohemiskog rastvaranja.



Sl. 4. Ukupna gustina struje dobijena analitički (●) i gustina korozione struje dobijena elektrohemiski na različitim temperaturama (○) za elektrodu hroma

Kao što je prikazano na slici 4, ukupne brzine korozije j_{uk} na svim temperaturama koje su korišćene pri ovim eksperimentima su veće nego elektrohemiske brzine korozije $j_{\text{kor},\text{el}}$. Ta razlika je posledica hemijskog rastvaranja hroma, koji se odvija direktnom reakcijom molekula vode i atoma hroma sa površine elektrode i koji ne zavisi od potencijala. Razlike između ukupne brzine rastvaranja određene analitički $j_{\text{uk,anal}}$ i elektrohemiskih brzina korozije $j_{\text{kor},\text{el}}$ su nacrtane u zavisnosti od recipročne vrednosti temperature na isečku na slici 4. Iz nagiba te pravolinijske zavisnosti se može odrediti prividna energija aktivacije i ona iznosi 62 kJ mol^{-1} . Visoka vrednost energije aktivacije ukazuje da je uticaj temperature na reakciju hemijskog rastvaranja prilično velik i da je doprinos ukupnoj brzini korozije veći u oblasti povišenih nego nižih

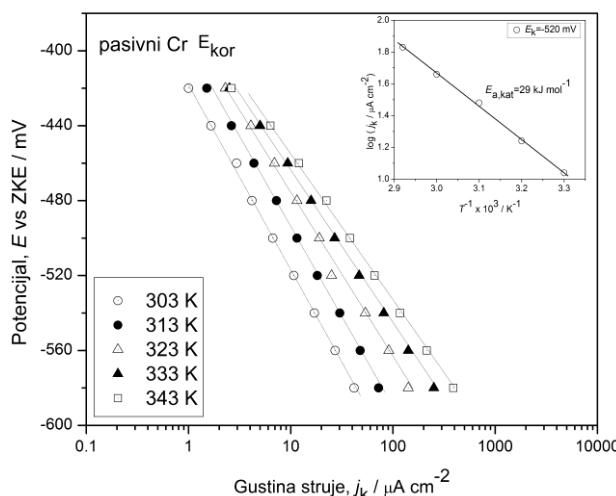
temperatura. To treba imati u vidu kada se koriste podaci o brzini korozije dobijeni na sobnoj temperaturi za predviđanje korozionog ponašanja na povišenim temperaturama. Vrlo je moguće da slične razlike u pogledu uticaja temperature postoje u slučaju korozije ostalih metala koji korodiraju i elektrohemiski i hemijski (tj. Fe, Ni, Mn i drugi).

Hrom se nalazi u pasivnom stanju posle uranjanja u rastvor za ispitivanje, sa karakterističnim korozionim potencijalom $E_{\text{kor},1}$ koji odgovara pasivnom stanju hroma. Tek katodnom polarizacijom na -0,900 V u toku nekoliko desetina sekundi, pasivni films se rastvara, pri čemu se elektroda aktivira. Tada se formira korozioni potencijal $E_{\text{kor},2}$ koji odgovara aktivnom hromu.

Katodne krive snimljene na pasiviranom hromu, prikazane u obliku Tafelovog dijagrama za različite temperature predstavljene

su na slici 5. Uočava se da je katodni Tafelov nagib približno jednak $-0,060$ V dek $^{-1}$ i da se gustina struje povećava sa temperaturom. Isečak na slici 5 predstavlja Arenijusov dijagram dobijen na $-0,520$ V sa koga

se može odrediti prividna energija aktivacije koja iznosi 29 kJ mol $^{-1}$. To je nešto manja vrednost nego energija aktivacije za izdvajanje vodonika na aktiviranoj površini hroma (35 kJ mol $^{-1}$)



Sl. 5. Katodne Tafelove zavisnosti za pasiviranu elektrodu B sa slike 4.29. na različitim temperaturama

Prema tome korozija aktivnog metalnog hroma u vodenom rastvoru sumporne kiseline pH 1 se sastoje od dva simultana koroziona procesa, elektrohemiske korozije i hemijskog rastvaranja. Pokazano je da se na Cr elektrodi u rastvoru $0,1$ M $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4 + \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$, pH 1 sa povišenjem temperature značajno ubrzavaju reakcije anodnog rastvaranja hroma, hemijskog rastvaranja hroma, katodnog izdvajanja vodonika na čistoj metalnoj površini, kao i na površini hroma prevučenoj oksidom.

Reakcija izdvajanja vodonika, reakcija anodnog rastvaranja i reakcija hemijskog rastvaranja hroma sa aktivirane površine u rastvoru sumporne kiseline pH 1 u temperaturskom intervalu od 293 do 353 K slede Arenijusovu zavisnost sa prividnom energijom aktivacije 35 kJ mol $^{-1}$, 58 kJ mol $^{-1}$ i 62 kJ mol $^{-1}$, respektivno. Prividna energija aktivi-vacije reakcije izdvajanja vodonika na

hromu prekrivenom oksidom ima vrednost 29 kJ mol $^{-1}$.

ZAKLJUČAK

Korozija aktivnog metalnog hroma u vodenom rastvoru sumporne kiseline pH 1 se odvija paralelno elektrohemiskim i hemijskim mehanizmom. Brzina hemijske korozije se dobija iz razlika ukupne i elektrohemiske brzine korozije.

Reakcija izdvajanja vodonika, reakcija anodnog rastvaranja i reakcija hemijskog rastvaranja Cr sa aktivirane površine u rastvoru sumporne kiseline pH 1 u temperaturnom intervalu od 291 do 353 K slede Arenijusovu zavisnost sa prividnom energijom aktivacije 35 kJ mol $^{-1}$, 58 kJ mol $^{-1}$ i 62 kJ mol $^{-1}$, respektivno. Velika energija aktivacije hemijskog rastvaranja hroma dovodi na povišenim temperaturama do znatno izra-

ženje hemijske korozije u odnosu na elektrohemiju koroziju. Prividna energija aktivacije reakcije izdvajanja vodonika na hromu prekrivenom oksidnim filmom ima vrednost 29 kJ mol^{-1} .

Korozioni potencijal je posledica simultanog odvijanja reakcije izdvajanja vodonika bilo na oksidom prekrivenoj površini hroma sa reakcijom anodnog rastvaranja hroma kroz pasivni film obrazujući stabilni potencijal $E_{\text{kor},1}$ ili katodnim izdvajanjem vodonika i anodnim rastvaranjem ogoljene površine kada se površina hroma depasivira na neki način (katodnom aktivacijom, mehaničkim delovanjem itd.). U tom slučaju uspostavlja se stabilni korozioni potencijal $E_{\text{kor},2}$.

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