Sina is a Ph.D. student in the Department of Chemistry at Western University. He is working under the supervision of Dr. Jamie Noël and his research has focused on the pitting probability of Cu under Deep Geological Repository (DGR) conditions. Cu has sufficient corrosion resistance in different environments such as deaerated conditions; however, localized corrosion might occur resulting from the presence of aggressive anions, oxygen, or an increase of the pH. As a result, the susceptibility of Cu to localized corrosion, specifically pitting, must be considered carefully to avoid any unpredictable failures. Sina has conducted electrochemical techniques and statistical analysis to investigate the pitting probability of Cu in unary and binary solutions containing chloride, sulfate, and carbonate. Moreover, he has employed surface-sensitive techniques including scanning electron microscopy (SEM), X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS), Auger electron spectroscopy (AES), and X-ray diffraction (XRD) to evaluate the stochastic nature of passive film formation, morphology, and composition on the Cu.



Scanning electron microscopy (SEM) images of Cu after pitting experiments in 1 M NaCl solution. a,b) Passive film morphology of Cu at lowest E_b, c,d) Passive film morphology of Cu at highest E_b.

a)

SSW 3.0kV 4.8mm x10.0k SE(U)

SSW 5.0kV 6.5mm x20.0k SE(UL

SSW 5.0kV 5.1mm x20.0k SE(UL)

c)

e)

b)



passive film morphology of Cu in buffer solution with different [Cl⁻] a,b) 0.01 M [Cl⁻] c,d) 0. 1 M [Cl⁻] c,d) 1 M [Cl

SSW 5.0kV 5.1mm x50.0k SE(UL)

1.00µm

2.00µm



surface morphology of Cu in buffer solution with 0.01 M [Cl⁻] a,b) E_{corr} c-e) E_B before film removal f) FIB image of passive film g,h) E_B after film removal



composition of passive films in buffer solutions with 0.1 M [Cl⁻] a) E_{corr} b) E_b c) Bar chart of E_{corr} and E_b .



composition of passive films in a buffer solution containing 0.1 M [SO₄²⁻] at pH 9







SEM



10 µm



01



Cu1





Ca1



l 10 μm



AES of Cu in solution with 0.1 M NaCl at pH 11