

## Supplementary Materials for

# A model for dose dependence of the void swelling in electron-irradiated alloys

Wei Ge, Shijun Zhao\*, Chenxu Wang\*, Haocheng Liu, Yue Su, Jia Huang, Zhiying Gao, Jianming Xue and Yugang Wang

\* Correspondence: cxwang@pku.edu.cn (Chenxu Wang); shijzhao@cityu.edu.hk (Shijun Zhao)

### 1. Detailed derivation of our model

The diffusion equations for interstitial and vacancy are

$$\frac{\partial c_i}{\partial \tau} = G_i - R_{iv}c_ic_v - S_ic_i, \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{\partial c_v}{\partial \tau} = G_v - R_{iv}c_ic_v - S_vc_v. \quad (2)$$

And the bias for the total sink absorption rate ( $S_{i,v}$ ) can be expressed as  $b = \frac{S_i}{S_v}$ .

If  $S_i \neq S_v$ , no analytical solution exists for the diffusion equations. But, when it comes to quasi-steady state ( $\tau$  is long enough), with the assumption  $G_i = G_v = G$ , there is a relation between interstitial concentration and vacancy concentration,

$$\frac{\partial c_i}{\partial \tau} = \frac{\partial c_v}{\partial \tau} = 0 \Rightarrow S_ic_i = S_vc_v \Rightarrow c_i = \frac{S_v}{S_i}c_v, \quad (3)$$

which can be used as an approximation for semi analytical solution,

$$c_v(\tau) = \frac{-S_v + \sqrt{-4GR_{iv}\frac{S_v}{S_i} - S_v^2} \tan\left(\frac{-\sqrt{-4GR_{iv}\frac{S_v}{S_i} - S_v^2}\tau + 2 \tan^{-1}\frac{S_v}{\sqrt{-4GR_{iv}\frac{S_v}{S_i} - S_v^2}}}{2}\right)}{2R_{iv}}, \quad (4)$$

$$c_i(\tau) = \frac{S_v}{S_i} \frac{-S_v + \sqrt{-4GR_{iv}\frac{S_v}{S_i} - S_v^2} \tan\left(\frac{-\sqrt{-4GR_{iv}\frac{S_v}{S_i} - S_v^2}\tau + 2 \tan^{-1}\frac{S_v}{\sqrt{-4GR_{iv}\frac{S_v}{S_i} - S_v^2}}}{2}\right)}{2R_{iv}}. \quad (5)$$

The quasi-steady state limitations for interstitial and vacancy concentration are

$$\lim_{\tau \rightarrow \infty} c_i(\tau) = c_i = \frac{S_v}{S_i} \frac{2G}{S_v + \sqrt{4GR_{iv}\frac{S_v}{S_i} + S_v^2}}, \quad (6)$$

$$\lim_{\tau \rightarrow \infty} c_v(\tau) = c_v = \frac{2G}{S_v + \sqrt{4GR_{iv} \frac{S_v}{S_i} + S_v^2}} \quad (7)$$

Insert  $c_i$  and  $c_v$  into void swelling model  $\frac{dr}{dt} = \frac{\Omega}{r} [D_v c_v - D_i c_i]$ , where  $r$  is the average void size, so the growth rate becomes

$$\frac{dr}{dt} = \frac{\Omega}{r} \left[ D_v - D_i \frac{S_v}{S_i} \right] c_v = \frac{\Omega}{r} \left[ D_v - D_i \frac{S_v}{S_i} \right] \frac{2G}{S_v + \sqrt{4GR_{iv} \frac{S_v}{S_i} + S_v^2}} = \frac{\Omega}{r} (D_v S_i - D_i S_v) \frac{\sqrt{\frac{4GR_{iv}}{S_v S_i} + 1} - 1}{2R_{iv}} \quad (8)$$

As mentioned above,  $\frac{S_i}{S_v} = b$ , the growth rate becomes

$$\frac{dr}{dt} = \frac{\Omega}{r} \left[ D_v S_i - \frac{D_i S_i}{b} \right] \frac{\sqrt{\frac{4GR_{iv}}{S_v S_i} + 1} - 1}{2R_{iv}} \quad (9)$$

With the  $r(0) = 0$  constraint, the solution is

$$r = \left\{ t \frac{\Omega}{R_{iv}} \left( \sqrt{1 + \frac{4GR_{iv}}{S_v S_i}} - 1 \right) (D_v S_i - \frac{D_i S_i}{b}) \right\}^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad (10)$$

For sink dominant regime,  $\frac{4GR_{iv}}{S_i S_v} \ll 1$ , then

$$\sqrt{1 + \frac{4GR_{iv}}{S_v S_i}} - 1 \approx 1 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{4GR_{iv}}{S_v S_i} - 1 = \frac{2GR_{iv}}{S_v S_i} \quad (11)$$

$$r = \left\{ t \frac{2G\Omega}{S_v S_i} (D_v S_i - \frac{D_i S_i}{b}) \right\}^{\frac{1}{2}} = \left\{ t \frac{2G\Omega}{S_v} (D_v - \frac{D_i}{b}) \right\}^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad (12)$$

For dose rate in dpa/s unit,  $G_{dpa}$  is proportional to defect generation rate  $G_{dpa} = \eta G$ , dose in dpa unit is  $\Delta_{dpa} = G_{dpa} t$ , so

$$r = \left\{ 2\Omega \left( \frac{D_v b - D_i}{b S_v} \right) \frac{\Delta_{dpa}}{\eta} \right\}^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad (13)$$

The swelling's relation with irradiation dose is

$$swelling = \frac{\Delta V}{V_0} = \frac{\frac{4}{3}\pi r^3 - \frac{4}{3}\pi r_0^3}{V_0} = \frac{4\pi}{3V_0} \left\{ 2\Omega \left( \frac{D_v b - D_i}{b S_v} \right) \frac{\Delta_{dpa}}{\eta} \right\}^{\frac{3}{2}} - \frac{4\pi r_0^3}{3V_0} \quad (14)$$

The swelling relation with dose becomes,

$$\begin{aligned} swelling &= \frac{4\pi}{3V_0} \left\{ 2\Omega \left( \frac{D_v S_i - D_i S_v}{\eta S_v S_i} \right) \Delta_{dpa} \right\}^{\frac{3}{2}} - \frac{4\pi r_0^3}{3V_0} \\ &= \alpha [\Delta_{dpa}]^{\frac{3}{2}} - c \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

where  $r_0$  is nucleation radius,  $\alpha = \frac{4\pi}{3V_0} \left[ 2\Omega \frac{D_v S_i - D_i S_v}{\eta S_i S_v} \right]^{\frac{3}{2}}$ ,  $c = \frac{4\pi r_0^3}{3V_0}$ .

By letting swelling equals zero,

$$swelling = \frac{4\pi}{3V_0} \left\{ 2\Omega \left( \frac{D_v S_i - D_i S_v}{\eta S_v S_i} \right) \Delta_{dpa} \right\}^{\frac{3}{2}} - \frac{4\pi r_0^3}{3V_0} = 0 \quad (16)$$

the incubation dose  $\Delta_0$  can be derived as,

$$\Delta_0 = \frac{r_0^2}{2\Omega} \frac{\eta S_i S_v}{D_v S_i - D_i S_v} \quad (17)$$

## 2. The relation between parameter $\alpha$ and temperature.

For parameter  $\alpha$ ,  $\frac{4\pi\rho_N}{3} \left[ 2\Omega \frac{D_v S_i - D_i S_v}{\eta S_i S_v} \right]^{\frac{3}{2}}$ , temperature affects parameter  $\alpha$  by diffusion coefficients  $D_i$  and  $D_v$ , where diffusion coefficients are in the form of

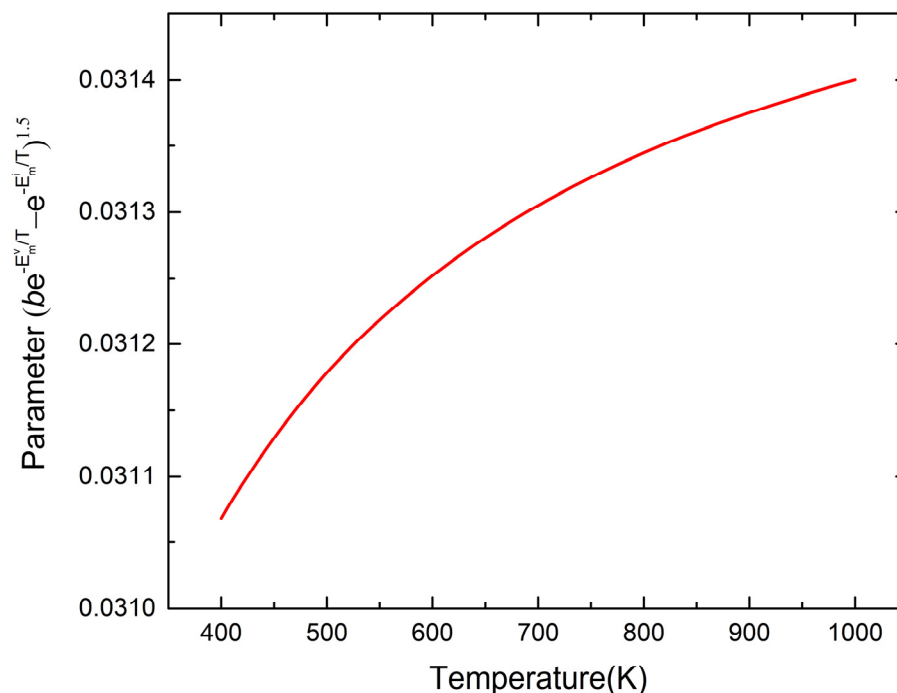
$$D_v \sim e^{-E_m^v/kT} \quad (18)$$

$$D_i \sim e^{-E_m^i/kT} \quad (19)$$

where  $E_m^v$  and  $E_m^i$  are migration energy for vacancies and interstitials. Therefore parameter  $\alpha$  becomes

$$\alpha = \frac{4\pi\rho_N}{3} \left[ 2\Omega \frac{D_v S_i - D_i S_v}{\eta S_i S_v} \right]^{\frac{3}{2}} \sim \frac{4\pi\rho_N}{3} \left[ 2\Omega \frac{be^{-E_m^v/kT} - e^{-E_m^i/kT}}{\eta S_i} \right]^{\frac{3}{2}}. \quad (20)$$

The relation between  $(be^{-E_m^v/T} - e^{-E_m^i/T})^{1.5}$  and temperature  $T$  can be plotted in Figure S1, where biased parameter  $b$  equals 1.1 as mentioned in the manuscript, migration energy for interstitial and vacancy of iron are obtain from published paper [1,2],  $E_m^i = 0.3$  eV,  $E_m^v = 0.7$  eV. Accordingly, parameter  $\alpha$  also increases with temperature.



**Figure S1.** The relation between parameter  $(be^{-E_m^v/T} - e^{-E_m^i/T})^{1.5}$  and temperature.

### 3. Model application to high-dose irradiation

As shown in Figure S2, S3 and S4, Equation (9) is applied to high irradiation dose data in neutron irradiation experiments [3] and ion irradiation experiments [4], the swelling is also proportional to 1.5 power of the irradiation dose, which, to some extent, can be a validation of our model.

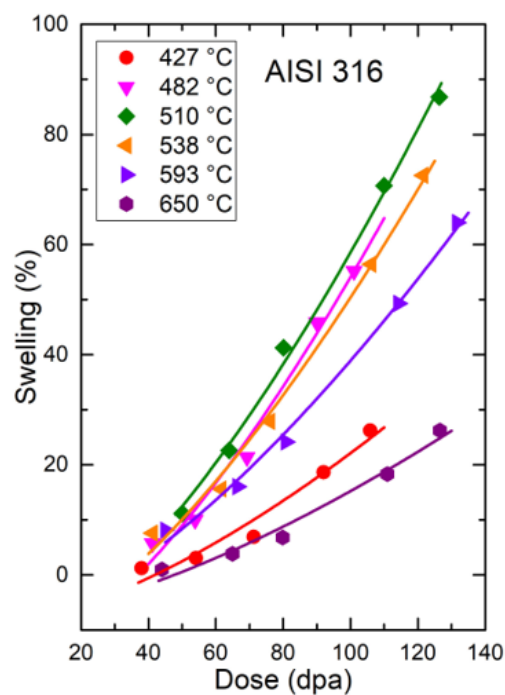


Figure S2. AISI316 irradiated by neutrons at different temperatures [3].

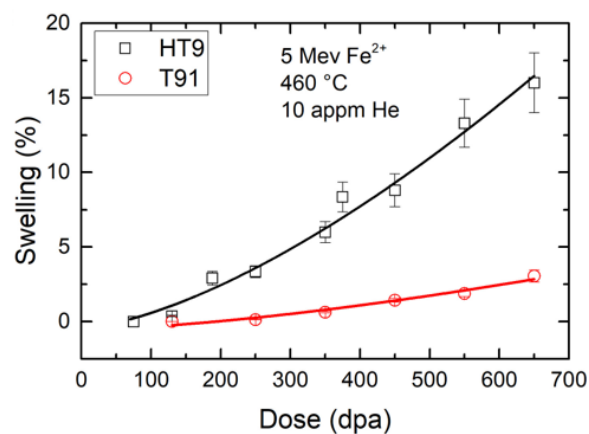
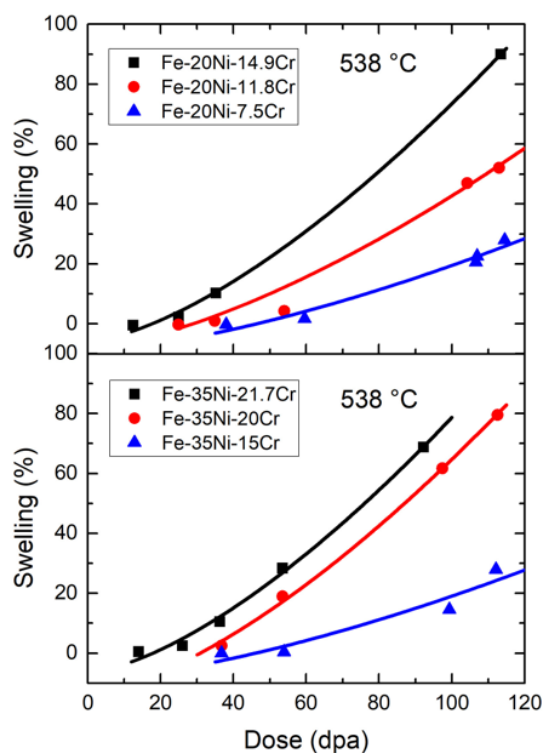


Figure S3. HT9 and T91 irradiated by 5 MeV Fe<sup>2+</sup> at 460 °C [4].



**Figure S4.** Fe-20Ni-xCr and Fe-35Ni-xCr irradiated by neutrons at 538 °C [3].

## References

1. Fu, C.-C.; Willaime, F.; Ordejón, P. Stability and mobility of mono- and Di-interstitials in  $\alpha$ -Fe, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **2004**, *92*, 175503. <https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevLett.92.175503>.
2. Hashimoto, N.; Sakuraya, S.; Tanimoto, J.; Ohnuki, S. Effect of impurities on vacancy migration energy in Fe-based alloys. *J. Nucl. Mater.* **2013**, *445*, 224–226. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jnucmat.2013.11.021>.
3. Garner, F.A.; Toloczko, M.B.; Sencer, B.H. Comparison of swelling and irradiation creep behavior of fcc-austenitic and bcc-ferritic/martensitic alloys at high neutron exposure. *J. Nucl. Mater.* **2000**, *276*, 123–142. [https://doi.org/10.1016/s0022-3115\(99\)00225-1](https://doi.org/10.1016/s0022-3115(99)00225-1).
4. Getto, E.; Sun, K.; Monterrosa, A.; Jiao, Z.; Hackett, M.; Was, G. Void swelling and microstructure evolution at very high damage level in self-ion irradiated ferritic-martensitic steels. *J. Nucl. Mater.* **2016**, *480*, 159–176. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jnucmat.2016.08.015>.