MATERIALS

HYDROGEN

Science & Technology Facilities Council
ISIS

Helping make hydrogen cars a reality

THE PROBLEM TO SOLVE:

One of the key requirements of hydrogen storage materials is good cycling performance. Ti-V-Cr-Mo alloys have been suggested as potential hydrogen storage systems, as they have the highest reversible storage capacity of materials of their type. Unfortunately, this capacity decreases with cycling. The key to understanding capacity loss is to identify the exact location of hydrogen during cycling.

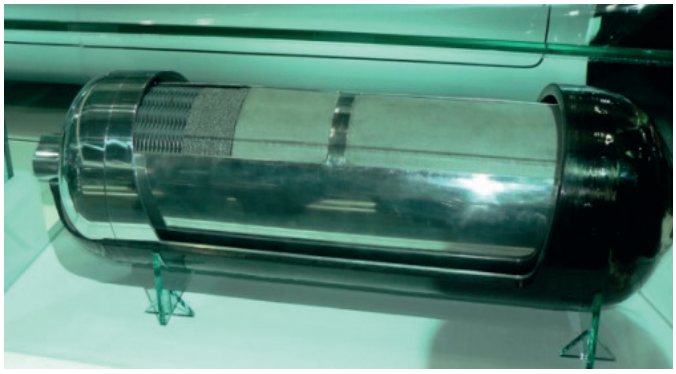

Fig. 1 An example of a hydrogen storage tank (Credit: Toyota, © Nikkei Technology)

A STEP TOWARDS THE SOLUTION

Neutrons scatter very strongly from hydrogen atoms, and almost not at all from the Ti-Cr-V-Mo alloy developed by Toyota. This means that neutron diffraction experiments can pinpoint the location of the hydrogen atoms within the solid.

THE RESULT

Dynamic experiments, performed under high pressure to fill the alloy with hydrogen, and then under vacuum to remove the hydrogen, have clearly identified the cause of capacity loss.

Neutron investigations provide new opportunities for improving the hydrogen storage materials to be used in hydrogen-fuelled vehicles.

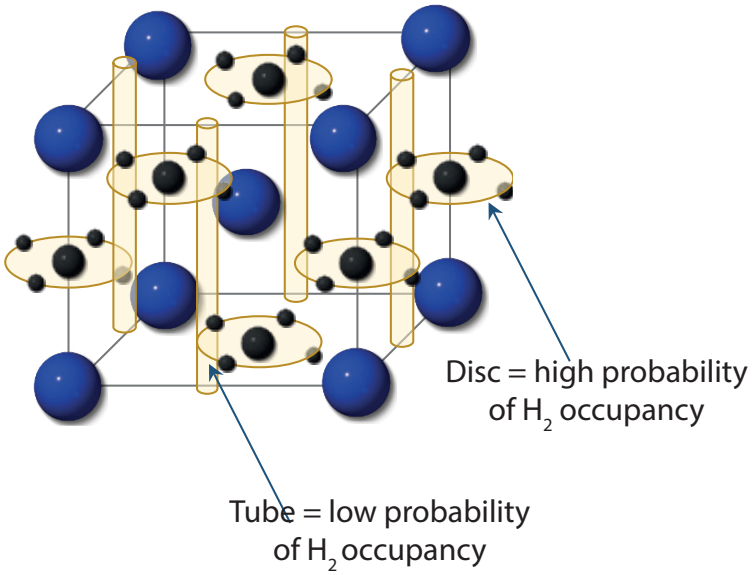

Fig. 2 A view of the atomic structure of the material under study. Neutron diffraction techniques pinpoint sites of hydrogen occupancy.

NEUTRONS FOR INDUSTRY
http://sine2020.eu/industry.html

Reference and Sources: Kamazawa et al., Advanced Energy Materials (2013) and ISIS website

NEUTRONS FOR INDUSTRY

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SINE2020 Industry Consultancy is now open for requests

Proof-of-concept experimental beam time is being offered to Industry!

RAPID ACCESS

Fast-stream processing for industrial applications, optimising result lead times.

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Activity covered by non-disclosure agreements. Only company name and measurement type to be published.

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EXPERT CONSULTANCY

Industrial R&D professionals in collaboration with experienced specialists from European neutron centres.

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SINE2020 receives funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement N° 654000.