# **Pb-Assisted Stress Corrosion Cracking Susceptibility of Alloy 22**

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Yi-Ming Pan, Lietai Yang, Darrell Dunn, Gustavo Cragnolino Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analyses Southwest Research Institute  $\sim$ San Antonio, TX

d engineering,

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# Presentation Outline

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PbSCC Background:

PWR  $\boldsymbol{\mathcal{X}}$ Yucca Mountain Experiences



# PbSCC Background: PWR's



- • The presence of Pb as low as 0.1 ppm has been shown to cause SCC in Alloys 600/690 at elevated temps (~300°C).
- Copson & Dean first reported PbSCC for Alloy 600 in  $\rm H_2O$  with 2.5-6 ppm Pb at pH 10 & 316ºC.
- Rocher *et al.* reported deposits of Pb on Alloy 600/690 steam generator (SG) tubing in French PWRs to be  $\sim$ 100-1,000 ppm.
- •PbSCC of Alloys 600/690 occurs over the entire range of alkaline, neutral, & acidic pHs.
- Effects of potential and temperature on PbSCC for Alloys 600/690 have not been well developed.

#### PbSCC Background: Yucca Mountain

- PbSCC of MA Alloy 22 was observed by Pulvirenti et al. for single U-bend tests in 1000x J13 water with Pb-acetate additions ([Pb]  $\approx$  5,000 ppm) at pH 0.5 and 250 °C.
- • PbSCC of Alloy 22 was not observed:
	- $-$  Estill et al. used a slow strain rate test in a concentrated  $\mathrm{PbCl}_2$ solution with [Pb]  $\approx$  7,500 ppm at pH  $\sim$ 4 and 95°C
	- Andresen et al. used compact tension specimens in Basic Saturated Water with  $\mathrm{PbNO}_{3}$  additions for [Pb]  $\approx 1{,}000$  ppm at  $100^{\circ}\mathrm{C}$
	- NRC/CNWRA experiments using single and double U-bend tests in acidified, saturated and super-saturated  $\mathrm{PbCl}_2$  and  $\mathrm{PbNO}_3$  solutions at pH 0.5, 95  $\degree$ C, and  $-100 \text{mV}_{\text{SCE}}$ .

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•DOE reported Pb concentrations in J-13 well water to be 6.1 ppb which is 5-8 orders of magnitude lower than found in PWRs.

Research Objectives



# Research Objectives

- Overall research project objective:
	- As a result of PbSCC instances in PWRs and one State of Nevada test, an investigation of Alloy 22's PbSCC susceptibility in realistic Yucca Mountain environments was conducted.
- Specific objectives for the overall examination:
	- $\sim$  Evaluate PbSCC susceptibility of Alloy 22 as a function of:
		- » Lead concentration *(Pan et al. MRS Sym. Proc. Vol. 757, 2003)*
		- » Lead species *(This Presentation/Paper)*
		- » Applied potential *(Csontos et al., Met. Trans. 2004/JOM 2005)*
		- » Fabrication processes *(Csontos et al., Met. Trans. 2004/JOM 2005):*

- Gas Tungsten Arc Welded (GTAW) Alloy 22
- Solution annealed & Thermally aged MA & GTAW Alloy 22
- $\sim$  Examine the chemical speciation of J-13 groundwater & NRG A pore water under realistic repository conditions containing Pb.

# Anodic Polarization Behavior of MA and GTAW Alloy 22 Specimens



#### Effect of Pb on MA Alloy 22



#### Deaerated  $\rm H_2O/HCl/PbCl_2$  solution at 95°C |

- • Pb Additions promote a strong anodic peak with many current spikes in the passive region
- The anodic peak was also observed using a Pt electrode
- Hence, the observed anodic peak may be coupled with  $Pb^{2+}$  oxidation
- Anodic peak potential increases with decreased solution pH
- The anodic peak & passive current density increased substantially for the supersaturated  $PbCl<sub>2</sub>$  solution (16,300 ppm Pb)

### Effect of Pb on MA & GTAW Alloy 22

#### Deaerated  $\text{H}_{2}\text{O}/\text{HCl}/\text{PbCl}_{2}$  solution at 95°C



- $\bullet$  Pb promoted a strong anodic peak & passive current density increased by an order of magnitude for MA & GTAW
- Many large current spikes were observed, suggesting periodic events of passivity breakdown & repassivation
- The anodic peak of GTAW Alloy 22 is smaller than for the MA case
- A discontinuity appears above the anodic peak for GTAW
- Hence, applied potential may be important for PbSCC

Single & Double U-Bend Test Results for MA & GTAW Alloy 22 Plates



# PbSCC Tests: MA Alloy 22



*No localized corrosion was observed in 1,500-5,400 ppm PbCl<sub>2</sub> solutions at 95 EC* 

 $^{\wedge}{\rm MA}$  – Mill-annealed; All U-bend tests in deaerated, super-saturated PbCl<sub>2</sub> solutions at 95EC

# PbSCC Tests: Effect of GTAW & Potential



*No localized corrosion was observed in 1,500-5,400 ppm PbCl<sub>2</sub> solutions at 95 EC* 

 $^{\wedge}$ MA – Mill-anneal; SA – Solution-anneal 1,125EC 10min; TA – Thermal-age 870EC 30min; CAR REG All U-bend tests conducted in deaerated, super-saturated PbCl<sub>2</sub> solutions at 95EC

# PbSCC Tests: Effect of Solution Anneal &Short Term Aging of MA & GTAW Alloy 22



*No localized corrosion was observed in 1,500-5,400 ppm PbCl<sub>2</sub> solutions at 95 EC* 

 $^{\wedge}$ MA – Mill-anneal; SA – Solution-anneal 1,125EC 10min; TA – Thermal-age 870EC 30min; All U-bend tests conducted in deaerated, super-saturated PbCl<sub>2</sub> solutions at 95EC

Speciation Calculations of J-13 Groundwater  $\&$ NRG A Pore Water with Pb Additions

# Speciation Calculation Methodology



- The chemical speciation of J-13 water with Pb was examined using:
	- Environmental Simulation Program Version 6.5 by OLI Systems.
- The chemical evolution of stable and ionic Pb containing compounds in the remaining concentrated evaporative liquids was examined.

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• Simulated realistic repository environments with a two-stage evaporator system that allows for evaporation and condensation.

# OLI Speciation Calculations: J-13 Groundwater

- 6.08 ppb and 6.08 ppm of Pb was added to J-13 water at 25 °C, evaporated at 105 °C, condensed at 25 °C, while under a P(CO<sub>2</sub>) =  $1.1$ x $10^{-3}$  and 3.3x $10^{-5}$  atm
- 6.08 ppm of Pb‡ is 1000x that found in J-13 water
- •The pH of the evaporative liquids rose from  $\sim$ 5 to  $\sim$ 11, while the pH of the condensate dropped to  $\sim$ 4
- As in PWRs, the majority of Pb is immobilized as  $PbCO<sub>3</sub>$





# OLI Speciation Calculations: J-13 Groundwater



• Pb complex concentrations in evaporative liquid-1 • Majority of Pb was immobilized as  $PbCO<sub>3</sub>$  after this 1st evaporative stage •Pb complex concentrations after the 2nd evaporative step in liquid-2 did not vary much from liquid-1 • $HPbO<sub>2</sub><sup>-1</sup>$  is the only species present in appreciable quantities, i.e. >10 ppm



‡ ANL J-13/EJ-13 Compositional Analyses table

# OLI Speciation Calculations: NRG A Pore Water



- 6.08 ppb and 6.08 ppm of Pb was added to NRG A water at 25 °C, evaporated at 105 °C, condensed at 25 °C, while under a P(CO<sub>2</sub>)=1.1x10<sup>-3</sup> & 3.3x10<sup>-5</sup> atm
- 6.08 ppm of Pb‡ is 1000x that found in J-13 water
- The pH of the evaporative liquids rose from 4.5 to  $\sim$ 6, while the pH of the condensate dropped to  $\sim$ 4
- Unlike J-13, the majority of Pb is not immobilized, but, in the form of Pb chlorides  $\mathrm{PbCl}_{3}^{-1}$  &  $\mathrm{PbCl}_{4}$ -2



Effect of Pb Species on the PbSCC Susceptibility of MA & GTAWAlloy 22:

Pb(NO 3) 2 Solutions

### OLI Speciation Calculations:

 $Pb(\text{NO}_3)_2$  Solution #1: pH = 10.7 at T = 95°C  $Pb(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>$  Solution #2: pH = 3.9 at T = 95°C



- 16,000 ppm Pb was added to deionized water as  $Pb(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>$  and allowed to evolve at temp. and pH.
- The vast majority of Pb (97.6%) in Solution #1 is immobilized as PbO.
- Solution #1 was used to evaluate the effect of  $HPbO<sub>2</sub><sup>-1</sup>$  species (J-13 data).
- The evolution of Solution #2 differs significantly from Solution #1.
- Solution #2 was used to evaluate  $Pb^{+2}$ (like the PbCl<sub>2</sub> solution),  $PbNO<sub>3</sub><sup>+1</sup>$ ,  $Pb(NO_3)_{2}$ , &  $Pb(OH)^{+1}$  species.

# Anodic Polarization Behavior of GTAW Alloy 22

 $Pb(NO_3)_2$  Solution #1: pH = 10.7 at T = 95°C  $Pb(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>$  Solution #2: pH = 3.9 at T = 95°C



- Deaerated  $\rm H_2O/HCl/PbCl_2$  and  $\mathrm{H}_2\mathrm{O/HNO}_3/\mathrm{NaOH/PbNO}_3$ solutions at 25°C and 95°C.
- Passive current densities in the  $PbNO<sub>3</sub>$  solutions generally increased with applied potential suggesting some solution effects.
- No SCC was observed through 30 days of testing constant deformation double U-bend samples in both solutions.
- No current spikes found for  $\mathrm{PbNO}_{3}$  solutions.

# **Conclusions**

- Additions of 16,000ppm Pb as  $PbCl<sub>2</sub>$  were used to evaluate  $Pb^{2+}$ ,  $PbCl<sup>+</sup>$ ,  $PbCl<sub>2</sub>$ ,  $PbCl<sub>3</sub><sup>-1</sup>$ , and  $PbCl<sub>4</sub><sup>-2</sup>$  species.
- Additions of 16,000ppm Pb as  $Pb(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>$  produced two different solutions to evaluate the effect of  $HPbO<sub>2</sub><sup>-1</sup>, Pb<sup>+2</sup>,$  $PbNO<sub>3</sub><sup>+1</sup>, Pb(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, and Pb(OH)<sup>+1</sup> species.$
- $\bullet$  $PbCl<sub>2</sub>$  produced a strong anodic peak and the passive current density increased by an order of magnitude.
- Current spikes were observed in the anodic polarization plots suggesting periodic events of passivity breakdown & repassivation in  $\mathrm{PbCl}_2$  which are absent at faster scan rates.
- $\bullet$  $PbNO<sub>3</sub>$  produced passive current densities that increased with applied potential, suggesting some solution effects.

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• No current spikes were found with  $PbNO<sub>3</sub>$  solutions.

# Conclusions (continued)

- $\bullet$  PbSCC of MA and GTAW Alloy 22 was not found in supersaturated  $PbCl<sub>2</sub>$  solutions at 95°C, pH 0.5, and applied potentials in the range of -100 to 50 mV<sub>SCE</sub>.
- PbSCC was not observed in  $16,000$  ppm  $PbCl<sub>2</sub>$  solutions at  $95^{\circ}$ C, pH 0.5, with an applied potential of -100 m $\rm V_{SCE}$  for the following fabrication processes:

- MA
- MA + Solution Anneal
- MA + Solution Anneal + Thermal Age
- GTAW
- GTAW + Solution Anneal
- GTAW + Solution Anneal + Thermal Age

# Conclusions (continued)

- PbSCC of MA and GTAW Alloy 22 was not found in supersaturated Pb $\rm{(NO_3)_2}$  solutions at 95°C, pH 10.7 & 3.9,  $\&$  applied potentials of 50  $\&$  140mV<sub>SCE</sub>, respectively.
- Speciation calculations indicate that Pb is strongly immobilized as  $\mathrm{PbCO}_{3}$  in J-13 water, but,  $\mathrm{HPbO}_{2}$  $^{-1}$  was present, which was evaluated with  $Pb(\mathrm{NO}_3)_2$  Solution #1.
- Speciation calculations indicate that Pb formed PbCl<sub>3</sub> -1 and  $\mathrm{PbCl}_4$ <sup>-2</sup> for concentrated NRG A pore water, which were evaluated with the  $PbCl<sub>2</sub>$  solutions.
- In summary, MA and GTAW Alloy 22 does not appear to be susceptible to Pb-assisted stress corrosion cracking in realistic Yucca Mountain chemical environments.

# Disclaimer:

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