



Article Quantification of Magnesia Dissolution in Silicate Melts and Diffusivity Determination Using Rotating Finger Test

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Abstract: Refractories exposed to corrosive melts at high temperatures experience wear due to dissolution. The presented work deals with the dynamic corrosion of magnesia fine ceramics in a $CaO-Al_2O_3-SiO_2-MgO$ silicate slag with a CaO/SiO_2 weight ratio of 0.65. Finger tests at 200 rpm at three different temperatures, 1450, 1500, and 1550 °C, were performed. A contemporary rotary finger test (RFT) device with in-situ wear profile measurement using a laser device was used. The precise dimension measurements with high-resolution facilitate the determination of total mass flux densities, which allow for determination of effective binary diffusivities. Thereby, two methods based on Sherwood relations were applied. The comparison shows the benefit to better consider deviations from pure cylinder shape. The use of contemporary RFT devices and magnesia fine ceramics allows reliable determination of the effective binary diffusivity.

Keywords: dissolution; rotary finger test; diffusivity; magnesia fine ceramics



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1. Introduction

Magnesia is an important refractory component in the ferrous, non-ferrous, and cement industries [1–8]. In many cases, these refractories are exposed to corrosive melts at high temperatures and experience wear due to dissolution during their service. Comprehensive dissolution studies and accurate quantification of the dissolution are required to reduce the wear rate of refractories, enhance their life, and improve the cost and resource efficiency [9–23]. In general, dissolution is controlled by diffusion in the liquid phase. Therefore, the diffusivity of the dissolving species is the key parameter of interest for the quantification of dissolution [5,15,18,24–35].

The following section addresses state of the art methods for quantification of dissolution: A major challenge for this quantification is the requirement for a correct representation of the effective diffusive boundary layer thickness. The rotary finger test (RFT) can be used to address this challenge because the technique allows for the control of effective diffusive boundary layer thickness via experimental parameters, such as the geometry of the sample and crucible assembly, Reynolds number, and Schmidt number [15,28]. RFT has been widely used to study the continuous wear of refractory materials in corrosive melts [2,3,8,11,29,30,36–52]. All these studies are based on post-mortem analysis. Some of them focus on microstructure evaluation [2,3,36,44,46,47] without quantifying the refractory wear; some other RFT studies [8,11,29,30,37–41,45,48,50,52] use the change in the dimension to quantify continuous refractory wear. High-temperature confocal laser scanning microscopy (HT-CLSM), which can be used for in-situ measurements, is also an important technique in the state-of-the-art for continuous wear studies. Recently, a contemporary continuous wear testing device (CWTD) featuring in-situ wear profile measurement with a high-resolution laser has been reported [53]. Compared to the manual dimension measurement during a post mortem analysis, the laser measurement is expected to be more accurate as a huge number of measurement points image the whole refractory surface while manual measurements are restricted to few locations on the rough sample surface [15]. In

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this study, CWTD was used to take advantage of its high-resolution in-situ measurement. Although dissolution has been studied using HT-CLSM, the impacting phenomena and parameters, such as the Stefan flow and the effect of bath movement, were not considered in the evaluation [18,24–27,31–35,54–57]. Accounting for the Stefan flow and the effect of bath movement necessitates the application of the diffusion-convection equation. The Stefan flow was considered in Ref. [58], but the effect of bath movement was not considered; however, both parameters were considered in Ref. [28].

The literature about magnesia dissolution reveals the following: The dissolution of magnesia in different slags using HT-CLSM and the corresponding diffusivity determination were reported previously [18,27,34,57]. In those studies, magnesia particles of irregular shape were used, and the diffusivity determination models were based on spherical particles; this could lead to incorrect results, especially at the beginning of the dissolution. Some researchers have used RFT to quantify continuous wear using cylindrical magnesia samples [8,21,38,48]. The results obtained from RFT are expected to be more accurate than CLSM studies because the effective diffusive boundary layer thickness could be defined in RFT by the experimental parameters [28]. However, the determination of the diffusivity of magnesia from RFT has not yet been studied. Um et al. [38] and Jansson et al. [8] calculated the mass transfer coefficients from RFT experiments with MgO-C refractories; however, the mass flux used in their calculation includes the erosive mass flux in addition to the corrosive flux due to the limited erosion resistance of a cylindrical ordinary ceramic MgO-C material. Ordinary ceramic materials with a maximum grain size of several millimeters are widely studied. However, to the best of our knowledge, dense magnesia fine ceramics, which are necessary for diffusivity determination from solely corrosive mass flux, have not yet been investigated. This may be the primary reason for the lack of magnesia diffusivity data from RFT studies. Therefore, to obtain reliable results solely from the corrosive mass flux, RFT studies with fine magnesia ceramics are necessary.

In this study, we investigate the dynamic corrosion of fine magnesia ceramics and determine the effective binary diffusivities of magnesia in silicate slags. Cylinders of magnesia fine ceramics were used for the RFT experiments in silicate slag with a CaO/SiO₂ weight ratio of 0.65 at 1450, 1500, and 1550 °C with 200 rotations per minute (rpm). The diffusivity calculation technique based on the Sherwood relation was adopted from Ref. [15]. The Arrhenius plot was used to test for plausibility of the diffusivities [15]. All the diffusivity values quoted in this study are effective binary diffusivities.

2. Materials and Methods

2.1. Materials

Decarburized calcium carbonate, alumina, quartz, and magnesia powder (S3 Handel und Dienstleistungen UG, Bad Oeynhausen, Germany) were used to produce synthetic silicate slag. At first, decarburization of calcium carbonate and dehydration of magnesium oxide (to eliminate hydration by atmospheric moisture) were carried out at 1050 °C for 3 h. To ensure complete decarburization, the weight loss was checked after each round of decarburization, and the slag components were immediately weighed to avoid prior hydration due to atmospheric moisture. Table 1 lists the slag properties including the density and liquidus temperature. The CaO/SiO₂ weight ratio of 0.65 was used, which is low enough to ensure higher dissolution rate of magnesia. The slag densities for three experimental temperatures were calculated according to the method described by Xin et al. [59]. The viscosities of the original slag and magnesia-saturated slag and the saturation limits of magnesia in this slag at different temperatures are shown in Figure 1. The thermochemical software, FactSage 7.3 (CRCT, Montreal, QC, Canada) was used to calculate the viscosities, liquidus temperature, and magnesia saturation limits in the slag [60]. Figure 1 shows that the viscosity is lower for the magnesia-saturated slag because of the increase in nonbridging oxygen due to the introduction of magnesia. Moreover, the decrease in viscosity at a lower temperature is larger than that at a higher temperature.

Slag	CaO (wt.%)	Al ₂ O ₃ (wt.%)	SiO ₂ (wt.%)	MgO (wt.%)	ρ _{1450 °C} (kg/m ³)	$ ho_{1500} {}^\circ\mathrm{C}$ (kg/m ³)	$ ho_{1550\ ^\circ \mathrm{C}}$ (kg/m ³)	<i>TL</i> (°C)
(Silicate slag), $C/S = 0.65$	32.42	11.16	49.56	6.86	2595	2587	2579	1265

Table 1. Slag properties. ρ and T_L denote the density and liquidus temperature, respectively.

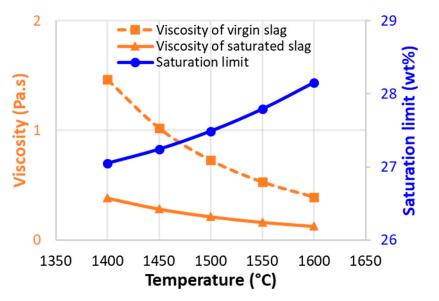


Figure 1. Viscosities of virgin slags, magnesia-saturated slags, and magnesia saturation limits against temperature.

The dissolution of magnesia fine ceramics (Surtec Research Europe GmbH, Düsseldorf, Germany) with 99.6 wt% MgO, 3.40 g/cm³ bulk density, and water absorption of 0% was investigated in the silicate slag. The diameters and lengths of the magnesia cylinders were 20 mm and 110 mm, respectively. To aid fixing the cylinder with the rotor shaft of the testing setup, all the samples had an axial drill with a diameter of 5 mm and depth of 32 mm, and a diameter of 3.5 mm horizontal drill.

2.2. Experiment

In this study, rotary finger test experiments of magnesia dissolution were conducted using a contemporary continuous wear testing device (CWTD) at 1450, 1500, and 1550 °C with 200 rpm. A comprehensive description of the testing device and measurement techniques are available in Ref. [53]. The experimental procedure was similar to that used in alumina dissolution, as reported in Ref. [15]. For every experiment, 580 g of slag was melted in two steps in a platinum-10wt% rhodium (Pt-Rh10) crucible with an inner diameter of 65 mm and a height of 100 mm. Approximately 380 g of slag was pre-melted, and the rest of the slag was melted during the CWTD experiment. The target slag-bath-height was approximately 70 mm without the submerged sample and approximately 75 mm with the sample. Initially, the gap between the crucible bottom and the sample lower end was set to approximately 20 mm, and it increased continuously with the decrease of sample length. The heating and cooling rates of the CWTD furnace were set at 5 °C/min [15]. A temperature of 5 °C below the target temperature was maintained for 1 h to achieve temperature homogeneity and complete slag melting. During heating and holding below the target temperature, the magnesia sample was placed above the slag-filled crucible, dipped 3 °C below the target temperature, and was set to rotate at 200 rpm for the defined dissolution time. 30, 25, and 20 min of corrosion time steps were programmed at 1450 °C, 1500 °C, and 1550 °C, respectively. Corrosion time step was varied to cope up different dissolution rates at various temperatures, which facilitated to obtain higher number of corrosion steps. After each corrosion step, the corroded sample was placed at rest above

the crucible for 30 min for slag dropdown, and subsequently, a laser scan was performed to generate 3000 profiles [15].

2.3. Continuous Wear Curve Evaluation and Diffusivity Determination

Three thousand profiles were averaged in the circumferential direction after preprocessing to obtain a unique, axisymmetric, and representative mean corrosion profile (MCP) [15]. MCP facilitates the dimensional analysis of the sample. The details of profile processing can be found in Ref. [53]. The mass flux density was calculated using dissolution parameters obtained from the MCP and, subsequently, the diffusivity [15]. In conventional post-mortem analysis, the dimensions are measured manually at a small number of locations on the rough corroded samples. In contrast, laser measurements incorporate dimension information from the entire sample surface with a high resolution. Hence, the dissolution parameters from MCPs obtained using laser measurements are anticipated to be precise than those obtained using conventional methods. In the dissolution experiments at all three temperatures, Marangoni grooves were observed at the refractory-slag-atmosphere triple point of the magnesia cylinders. The diffusivity determination method is based on the total mass flux density solely due to forced convection. Therefore, separating the mass fluxes due to Marangoni convection and forced convection is necessary; this separation can be performed easily by identifying the groove length from the MCP. Dissolution from the groove was considered only when the bulk slag composition and the corresponding slag viscosity for different corrosion steps were calculated, as these two parameters are related to the total dissolution. Other dissolution parameters, such as the mean corroded radius, immersion length, and mass flux density were considered for determining the diffusivity; however, the dissolution from the groove was not considered. In this study, the diffusivities of magnesia were determined according to the method reported by Burhanuddin et al. [15] using Equation (1). This was derived from the total mass flux density using Sherwood relations for the mantle and bottom of the cylindrical sample [15]. The method reported in Ref. [15] uses the modified Sherwood relation proposed by Tachibana and Fukui [61] (Equation (3)) for the mantle of the cylindrical sample. Instead, herein, the Sherwood relation proposed by Guarco et al. [62] (Equation (2)), derived from the simulations for the same experimental setup, was adopted. Moreover, as in Ref. [15], the Sherwood relation reported by Levich [63] was also employed here for the bottom of the sample.

$$D = \left[\frac{j \cdot (1 + 0.566 \cdot B) \cdot (2l \cdot R_1 + R_t^2)}{\rho^s \cdot B \cdot \left\{0.2 \cdot l^{0.68} \cdot R_1^{0.81} \cdot \omega^{0.65} \cdot \nu^{(\frac{1}{3} - 0.65)} \cdot (R_2 - R_1)^{0.49} \cdot BC^{0.32} + 0.62 \cdot R_t^2 \cdot \omega^{\frac{1}{2}} \cdot \nu^{\frac{-1}{6}}\right\}}\right]^2 \tag{1}$$

$$Sh_G = 0.10 \cdot Re^{0.65} \cdot Sc^{1/3} \cdot \{(R_2 - R_1)/R_1\}^{0.84} \cdot (BC/l)^{0.32}$$
(2)

$$Sh_T = 0.21 \cdot Re^{1/2} \cdot Sc^{1/3} \cdot \{(R_2 - R_1)/R_1\}^{0.25}$$
(3)

3

where *D* is the effective binary diffusivity; *j*, the mass flux density; *B*, the dimensionless concentration difference: $B = (w_s - w_0)/(1 - w_s)$, where w_0 and w_s , respectively, denote the mass fraction of dissolving species in the bulk slag and saturated slag; R_1 , the mean cylinder radius; R_2 , the crucible radius; R_t , the tip radius; *l*, the immersion length; *v*, the kinematic viscosity of the slag; ω , the angular velocity; *BC*, the bottom clearance i.e., the gap between the sample tip and crucible bottom; and ρ^s , the density of the slag. *Sh*, is the Sherwood number; *Re*, the Reynolds number; and *Sc* the Schmidt number. The characteristic length for *Sh* and *Re* is the gap width $(R_2 - R_1)$ in both Sherwood relations (Equations (2) and (3)).

A number of corrosion steps *i* were evaluated, and the quantity D_i was calculated for each step according to Equation (1). For all the time-dependent parameters on the right-hand side of Equation (1), the mean value of steps i - 1 and *i* was substituted to better fit the time interval $(t_i - 1, t_i)$ of corrosion step *i*. Moreover, D_i , the mean of all corrosion steps with $t \le t_i$ was calculated and is denoted as $D_{0,i}$.

3. Results and Discussion

3.1. Mean Corrosion Profiles

Laser measurements were captured before dipping into the slag (i.e., after a holding time at 5 °C below the target temperature) and the MCP generated thereby was used as the reference curve to quantify all the dissolution parameters. Moreover, the laser measurements were also performed after each corrosion step and a corresponding MCP was generated. The MCP has two key benefits [15]: First, the nonconcentric rotation of the sample during laser measurements leads to a slight inclination of the individual profiles from the axis of rotation, and this inclination can be eliminated by averaging all the individual profiles. Second, the dimension analysis is ambiguous for all profiles because of non-axisymmetric corroded sample; the MCP provides an equivalent axially symmetric shape, which is the representative sample geometry, and the dissolution parameters can be easily extracted. Figure 2 shows the MCPs for the magnesia dissolution at 200 rpm and 1450, 1500, and 1550 °C. The Marangoni groove was present in all the cases. The experiment with all the planned corrosion steps could be completed at 1450 °C. At temperatures 1500 °C and 1550 °C, the experiments were aborted after seven and four corrosion steps, respectively, due to the higher corrosion depth at the Marangoni groove. The groove depth after a particular corrosion time was larger at higher temperatures. The Marangoni groove length increased with an increase in the corrosion time. The dissolution from the middle of the corroded part was lower than that of the other parts. The uncorroded portions of all the MCPs overlap with one another and with the MCP of the virgin sample. The radius and length of the corroded sample decreased with an increase in the corrosion time. For a given corrosion time, the corresponding reduction was higher with rising temperature. Figure 3 shows the virgin and corroded samples at the end of the experiment. The MCPs for the last corrosion steps accurately portray the corroded sample geometry. A slag droplet, which should be liquid and transparent at the target temperature, was present at the bottom tip of the corroded samples.

3.2. Dissolution Parameters

The corroded volume, surface area, mean radius, tip radius, and immersion length, were calculated from the MCPs of all individual steps [15]. Figure 4 shows the changes in the sample length, mean corroded radius, volume, and mass as a function of the dissolution time for the magnesia dissolution at 200 rpm and 1450, 1500, and 1550 °C. All the parameters herein were determined by excluding the grooves. However, the concentration of magnesia in the bulk slag and the corresponding slag viscosity depend on the total amount of dissolved magnesia; hence, the mass flux from the groove was included in calculating these parameters. The absolute value of all the parameters increased with an increase in the experimental temperature due to the lower slag viscosity and larger solubility limit at higher temperatures. The absolute values of the average rate of volume loss from the grooves alone were 4.4, 10.8, and 23.0 mm³/min at 1450, 1500, and 1550 °C, respectively, thereby contributing 16, 19, and 23% to the total volume loss rate. With an increase in the temperature from 1450 °C to 1500 °C, the mean rates of change in the mean corroded radius, volume, and mass rise 2.0–2.2 times; moreover, with a temperature increase from 1500 °C to 1550 °C, the mean rates of change in the quantities rise 1.7–2.0 times. The mean rate of change in the sample length amplified 2.27 times when the temperature increased from 1450 °C to 1500 °C, and it increased 1.16 times when the temperature increased from 1500 °C to 1550 °C. A marginally declining slope or an nearly linear trend in the dissolution parameters designates quasi-steady dissolution [15].

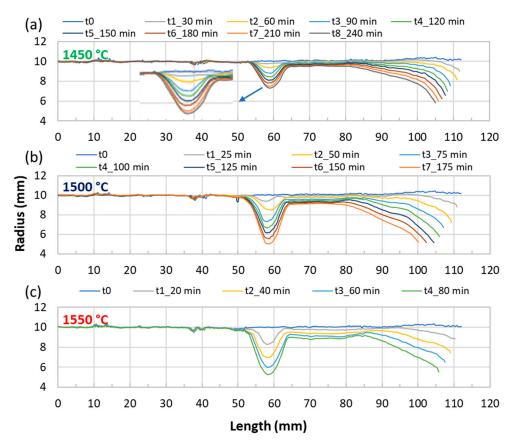


Figure 2. MCPs for magnesia dissolution at 200 rpm at (a) 1450 °C, (b) 1500 °C, and (c) 1550 °C.

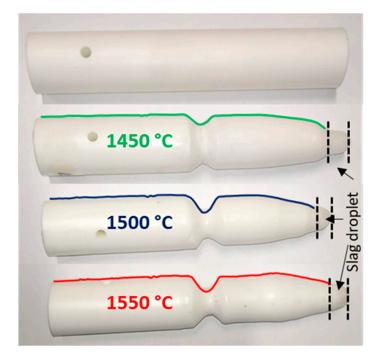


Figure 3. Virgin and corroded samples with MCPs of the last steps of magnesia dissolution superimposed.

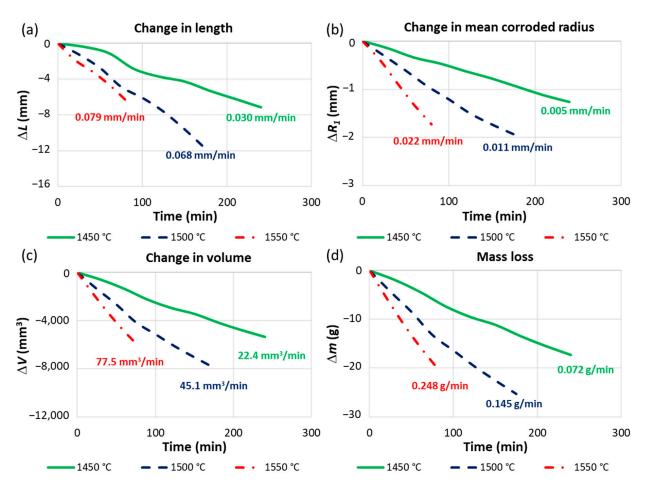


Figure 4. Change in (**a**) length, (**b**) the mean corroded radius, (**c**) volume, and (**d**) mass for the magnesia dissolution at 200 rpm and 1450, 1500, and 1550 °C. The numbers within the graphs indicate the average rate over the total dissolution time.

3.3. Diffusivity

The dissolution quantities calculated from the MCPs are tabulated in Table 2. Using these quantities, the diffusivities for all the individual corrosion steps at the three experimental temperatures were determined according to Equation (1) [15,62]. Figure 5a shows the diffusivities (D_i and $D_{0,i}$) of magnesia for all the corrosion steps. The diffusivity amplified with a rise in the temperature. At a given temperature, the slag viscosity decreased with magnesia dissolution, which possibly led to moderate rise of diffusivity. The Arrhenius plot was obtained using the diffusivities $(D_{0,i})$ at the corresponding corrosion steps i_T (the corrosion step *i* at temperature *T*): the specimen mass loss with respect to the original mass at different temperatures was similar. The obtained diffusivities are functions of the temperature and slag composition, which change during the experiment [15]. For the Arrhenius plot, the diffusivities were transformed to those of the virgin slag composition, assuming that the product of the diffusivity and viscosity was constant, which is in agreement with the Stokes–Einstein relation [15]. This conversion eliminated the composition dependency: otherwise, the amount of magnesia in the slag would have been an additional influencing factor [15]. Figure 5b depicts the Arrhenius plot. The plausibility of the diffusivities was confirmed by the linear propensity of the Arrhenius plot [15]. The test intervals used for the Arrhenius plots, together with the associated mass loss, bulk concentrations of magnesia, and the corresponding activation energies, are listed in Table 3. The activation energy of diffusion decreases with a rise in the mass loss and bulk concentration.

$ \begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $	Temperature	Corrosion Step <i>i</i>	Mean Sample Radius R _{1,i-1/2} (×10 ⁻³ m)	Tip Radius $R_{t,i-1/2}~(imes 10^{-3}~{ m m})$	Concentration (×10 ⁻³ wt%/100)	Viscosity $\eta_{i-1/2}~(imes 10^{-2}~{ m Pas})$	Immersion Length $l_{i-1/2}~(imes 10^{-3}~{ m m})$	Mass Flux Density $j_{i-1/2}~(imes 10^{-5}~{ m kg/m^2s})$	Bottom Clearance $BC_{i-1/2}~(imes 10^{-2}~{ m m})$	Diffusivity $D_i (imes 10^{-11} \mathrm{m^2/s})$
Open 2 9.91 8.58 74.59 96.24 47.16 42.85 2.38 10 3 9.75 7.83 79.52 91.73 46.62 53.30 2.50 14 4 9.61 7.26 84.12 87.75 45.70 42.14 2.63 10 5 9.46 6.79 87.83 84.77 44.33 32.16 2.70 6 6 9.29 6.42 91.58 81.86 42.97 48.72 2.78 12 7 9.12 6.10 95.49 79.07 41.84 45.08 2.88 10 8 8.96 5.90 98.89 76.75 40.75 42.28 2.97 9 1 10.03 9.50 72.52 70.14 50.22 84.42 2.37 23 2 9.73 8.02 80.59 65.05 47.76 87.83 2.50 25 3 9.42 6.99	Te	Сол	Mean S $R_{1,i-1}$	$\mathrm{T}_{t,i-1}$	Bulk (W _{0,i-1/2} ($\eta_{i-1/2}$	$\lim_{l_{i-1l'}}$	Mass $j_{i-1/2}$ (Botto BC _{i-1}	$D_i (\times D_i)$
Open 3 9.75 7.83 79.52 91.73 46.62 53.30 2.50 14 4 9.61 7.26 84.12 87.75 45.70 42.14 2.63 10 5 9.46 6.79 87.83 84.77 44.33 32.16 2.70 6 6 9.29 6.42 91.58 81.86 42.97 48.72 2.78 12 7 9.12 6.10 95.49 79.07 41.84 45.08 2.88 10 8 8.96 5.90 98.89 76.75 40.75 42.28 2.97 9 1 10.03 9.50 72.52 70.14 50.22 84.42 2.37 23 2 9.73 8.02 80.59 65.05 47.76 87.83 2.50 25 3 9.42 6.99 89.25 60.23 45.01 112.75 2.68 37 4 9.12 6.25		1	10.08	9.59	70.42	100.32	47.58	32.05	2.32	6.24
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8 8.96 5.90 98.89 76.75 40.75 42.28 2.97 9 1 10.03 9.50 72.52 70.14 50.22 84.42 2.37 23 2 9.73 8.02 80.59 65.05 47.76 87.83 2.50 25 3 9.42 6.99 89.25 60.23 45.01 112.75 2.68 37 4 9.12 6.25 96.69 56.48 43.47 81.12 2.85 22 5 8.84 5.49 102.69 53.75 41.88 90.22 2.99 26 6 8.57 5.17 108.48 51.30 39.60 87.84 3.17 24 7 8.36 5.18 113.71 49.29 37.10 91.59 3.38 24	—	6	9.29	6.42	91.58	81.86	42.97	48.72	2.78	12.28
1 10.03 9.50 72.52 70.14 50.22 84.42 2.37 23 2 9.73 8.02 80.59 65.05 47.76 87.83 2.50 25 3 9.42 6.99 89.25 60.23 45.01 112.75 2.68 37 4 9.12 6.25 96.69 56.48 43.47 81.12 2.85 22 5 8.84 5.49 102.69 53.75 41.88 90.22 2.99 26 6 8.57 5.17 108.48 51.30 39.60 87.84 3.17 24 7 8.36 5.18 113.71 49.29 37.10 91.59 3.38 24		7	9.12	6.10	95.49	79.07	41.84	45.08	2.88	10.80
2 9.73 8.02 80.59 65.05 47.76 87.83 2.50 25 3 9.42 6.99 89.25 60.23 45.01 112.75 2.68 37 4 9.12 6.25 96.69 56.48 43.47 81.12 2.85 22 5 8.84 5.49 102.69 53.75 41.88 90.22 2.99 26 6 8.57 5.17 108.48 51.30 39.60 87.84 3.17 24 7 8.36 5.18 113.71 49.29 37.10 91.59 3.38 24		8	8.96	5.90	98.89	76.75	40.75	42.28	2.97	9.65
3 9.42 6.99 89.25 60.23 45.01 112.75 2.68 37 4 9.12 6.25 96.69 56.48 43.47 81.12 2.85 22 5 8.84 5.49 102.69 53.75 41.88 90.22 2.99 26 6 8.57 5.17 108.48 51.30 39.60 87.84 3.17 24 7 8.36 5.18 113.71 49.29 37.10 91.59 3.38 24		1	10.03	9.50	72.52	70.14	50.22	84.42	2.37	23.69
4 9.12 6.25 96.69 56.48 43.47 81.12 2.85 22 5 8.84 5.49 102.69 53.75 41.88 90.22 2.99 26 6 8.57 5.17 108.48 51.30 39.60 87.84 3.17 24 7 8.36 5.18 113.71 49.29 37.10 91.59 3.38 24		2	9.73	8.02	80.59	65.05	47.76	87.83	2.50	25.86
6 8.57 5.17 108.48 51.30 39.60 87.84 3.17 24 7 8.36 5.18 113.71 49.29 37.10 91.59 3.38 24	U	3	9.42	6.99	89.25	60.23	45.01	112.75	2.68	37.38
6 8.57 5.17 108.48 51.30 39.60 87.84 3.17 24 7 8.36 5.18 113.71 49.29 37.10 91.59 3.38 24	° 00	4	9.12	6.25	96.69	56.48	43.47	81.12	2.85	22.68
7 8.36 5.18 113.71 49.29 37.10 91.59 3.38 24	15	5	8.84	5.49	102.69	53.75	41.88	90.22	2.99	26.49
		6	8.57	5.17	108.48	51.30	39.60	87.84	3.17	24.56
1 9 92 9 44 74 35 50 26 48 45 141 21 2 39 42		7	8.36	5.18	113.71	49.29	37.10	91.59	3.38	24.81
	D _o	1	9.92	9.44	74.35	50.26	48.45	141.21	2.39	42.94
2 9.49 8.13 85.48 45.60 46.46 147.66 2.54 46		2	9.49	8.13	85.48	45.60	46.46	147.66	2.54	46.87
2 9.49 8.13 85.48 45.60 46.46 147.66 2.54 46 3 9.02 6.97 95.62 41.94 44.34 149.17 2.68 48	1550	3	9.02	6.97	95.62	41.94	44.34	149.17	2.68	48.04
		4	8.58	5.99	104.19	39.20	42.37	148.05	2.84	47.33

Table 2. Dissolution parameters used for the diffusivity calculation of magnesia at 1450, 1500, and 1550 °C.

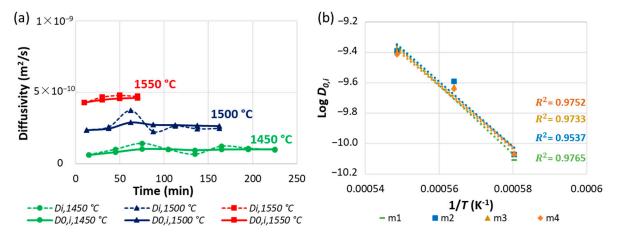


Figure 5. (a) Magnesia diffusivity and (b) Arrhenius plot of the magnesia diffusivity at 1450, 1500, and 1550 $^{\circ}$ C.

Ma	ss Loss (g)	Bulk Concentration (wt%/100)	Corresponding Corrosion Steps i_T	Activation Energy (kJ/mol)	
m1	4.8 ± 0.71	0.074 ± 0.0011	$2_{1450 \circ C}$; $1_{1500 \circ C}$; $1_{1550 \circ C}$	432	
m2	11.7 ± 1.31	0.088 ± 0.0019	$5_{1450 \circ C}$; $3_{1500 \circ C}$; $2_{1550 \circ C}$	409	
m3	15.8 ± 0.51	0.096 ± 0.0007	$7_{1450 \circ C}; 4_{1500 \circ C}; 3_{1550 \circ C}$	398	
m4	18.9 ± 1.45	0.102 ± 0.0027	$8_{1450 \ ^{\circ}C}; 5_{1500 \ ^{\circ}C}; 4_{1550 \ ^{\circ}C}$	396	

Table 3. Test intervals applied for the Arrhenius plot with the associated mass loss, bulk concentrations of magnesia, and the corresponding activation energies for magnesia.

It is of interest to compare the effective binary diffusivities of magnesia obtained using two different Sherwood relations (according to the modified Tachibana and Fukui equations [15,61] and Guarco et al. [62]) for the mantle of a cylindrical sample. The Sherwood relation, according to Levich [63], was applied to the bottom of the cylinder in both cases. Table 4 shows a comparison between the diffusivities at individual corrosion steps at the three experimental temperatures. At 1450 °C, the error percentage was lower than that of the other temperatures. The errors were considerably larger for the final corrosion steps. This may be due to the deviation in the shape of the corroded sample from that of the cylinder. Results using the Sherwood relation proposed by Guarco et al. [62] are anticipated to be more correct here, because the Sherwood relation therein was derived from a simulation where the actual sample geometry was considered; the modified Tachibana and Fukui relations, in contrast, considered a cylindrical sample shape. When the average diffusivities of all the corrosion steps at a particular temperature were compared, the error percentages were 1.74, 19.02, and 16.92 at 1450, 1500, and 1550 °C, respectively, indicating that both the Sherwood relations work reasonably well. Equality of the means was tested statistically with help of an independent two-sample *t*-test that is two-tailed. At a 5% significance level, the means for all three cases were proven to be equal.

Table 4. Comparison of the diffusivities of magnesia using different Sherwood relations.

Temperature	Corrosion Step, i	Diffusivity Using Sherwood Relations According to Modified Tachibana and Fukui. [15,61] and Levich [63], $D_{i,T}$ $(\times 10^{-11} \text{ m}^2/\text{s})$	Diffusivity Using Sherwood Relations According to Guarco et al. [62] and Levich [63], $D_{i,G}$ (×10 ⁻¹¹ m ² /s)	$\frac{\text{Error (%),}}{\frac{(D_{i,T}-D_{i,G})}{D_{i,G}}} \times 100$
	1	5.45072	6.24493	-12.72
	2	9.04414	10.08591	-10.33
	3	13.33486	14.24404	-6.38
1450 °C	4	9.84786	10.02625	-1.78
	5	6.83412	6.65800	2.65
	6	13.21858	12.28140	7.63
	7	12.22045	10.80049	13.15
	8	11.43392	9.64851	18.50

Temperature	Corrosion Step, i	Diffusivity Using Sherwood Relations According to Modified Tachibana and Fukui. [15,61] and Levich [63], $D_{i,T}$ $(\times 10^{-11} \text{ m}^2/\text{s})$	Diffusivity Using Sherwood Relations According to Guarco et al. [62] and Levich [63], $D_{i,G}$ $(\times 10^{-11} \text{ m}^2/\text{s})$	$\frac{\textbf{Error (\%),}}{\frac{(D_{i,T}-D_{i,G})}{D_{i,G}}} \times 100$
	1	21.68869	23.69462	-8.47
	2	25.55256	25.86278	-1.20
	3	40.66419	37.37829	8.79
1500 °C	4	26.83829	22.68239	18.32
	5	33.96658	26.49371	28.21
	6	34.35245	24.55846	39.88
-	7	37.68810	24.80654	51.93
- 1550 °C -	1	42.68372	42.94205	-0.60
	2	51.28981	46.86623	9.44
	3	58.40322	48.03614	21.58
	4	64.12555	47.33054	35.48

Table 4. Cont.

4. Conclusions

Dynamic corrosion investigations of fine magnesia ceramics in silicate slag were conducted at 1450, 1500, and 1550 °C using CWTD with sample profile measurements at experimental temperatures. The dissolution quantities were calculated from the MCPs obtained using high-resolution laser measurements including the dimensions of the entire corroded sample surface. This enhanced the accurateness and trustworthiness of the results. The marginally declining slope or a nearly linear fashion of the dissolution quantities indicated quasi-steady dissolution. The Marangoni groove was present at all three experimental temperatures. The diffusivity of magnesia excluding the groove was successfully determined using the method based on Sherwood relations. The diffusivity of magnesia increased with the increasing temperature. At a given temperature, the increase in the diffusivity with the dissolution time was moderate, probably because of the decrease in the viscosity due to magnesia dissolution. The linear tendency in the Arrhenius plot confirmed the plausibility of the diffusivities, due to which, an accurate estimation of diffusivity at other temperatures can be obtained without performing the experiments. To evaluate the results for calculating effective binary diffusivities, the method that considers the deviations from the cylinder shape is recommended. Although these investigations were performed at 200 rpm, forced convection is expected to overrule the Marangoni convection at sufficiently high rotational speeds. This is the case when the critical Reynolds number (Re_c) is exceeded. The identification of a quantitative relation defining such Re_c is a potential future research direction.

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