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ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

Effect of low levels of sulphate on the current density and film morphology

during anodizing of aluminium in chromic acid

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Highlights

- Anodic films are formed on aluminium in chromic acid with ppm levels of sulphate.
- Sulphate incorporated into films reduces the anodizing current density and cell size.
- Diffusion limited transport of sulphate leads to a duplex film morphology.
- Sequential anodizing indicates a key role for sulphate at the pore bases.
- Tracer experiments are employed to investigate the pore formation mechanism.

Abstract

Previous work has shown that a low level of sulphate impurity in chromic acid can significantly change the growth rate and the morphology of porous anodic films formed on aluminium at a constant voltage. The changes were associated with incorporation of sulphate into the films. The present study employs electron microscopy to reveal the growth of larger pores and cells at longer times of anodizing than previously used, leading to a duplex film Download English Version:

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