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Formation and characteristic corrosion behavior of alternately lamellar

arranged α and β in as-cast AZ91 Mg alloy

Ying-Chao Zhao a,b, Ming-Chun Zhao b,*, Rong Xub, Long Liuc, Jun-Xi Taob, Chengde Gao c, Cijun Shuaic, Andrej Atrens d,*

^a, Light Alloy Research Institute, Central South University, Changsha 410083, P.R. China

^b, School of Materials Science and Engineering, Central South University, Changsha 410083, P.R. China

^c, College of Mechanical and Electrical Engineering, Central South University, Changsha 410083, P.R. China

^d, Division of Materials, The University of Queensland, Brisbane, Qld 4072, Australia

*Corresponding authors: Prof. Ming-Chun Zhao, Email: mczhao@csu.edu.cn;

Prof. Andrej Atrens, Email: andrejs.atrens@uq.edu.au;

Abstract: Formation and characteristic corrosion resistance of alternately lamellar arranged α and β in as-cast AZ91

Mg alloy were investigated as an independent micro-constituent identity. As-cast AZ91 presented three

microstructural entities, i.e. α -Mg grain, $(\alpha+\beta)$ lamellae and coarse β particle, and each had its own Al content and

microstructural morphology. The lamellae occurrence was due to the precipitation of β particle from the divorced

eutectic Al-rich-α phase during solidification, because the Al composition can not exceed its maximum solubility. The

evidences that were obtained from electrochemical tests, micro-corrosion morphology and hydrogen evolution rate

certified that the $(\alpha+\beta)$ lamellae was beneficial to corrosion resistance, which was different from the reported

deleterious influence for its original eutectic Al-rich- α phase. This different corrosion behavior was explained to be

ascribed to the changes in fine structure and local composition that resulted in combined electrochemical effects of the

changes in α and β phases on the corrosion.

Keywords: AZ91 Mg alloy; micro-constituent identity; formation; corrosion; eutectic phase.

1

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