



# Corrosion Resistance and Protection Techniques for Magnesium Alloy in Automobile Sector

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## Abstract

Corrosion is one of the most disadvantages which control the broad usage of Magnesium alloys. Collective estate has been focused into the research of corrosion mechanisms and to the improvement of safety methods for Mg alloys. It is an anthology of pervasive summaries of latest research by well-known specialists in the field of Mg corrosion and conservancy research. In this paper, we have analysis existing works ongoing on corrosion nature of some elements having Magnesium alloys to identify the value of materiality and mechanism. Hence, a some past work was studied about on these criteria to understand the valuable impact of all corrosion rate of Magnesium and Magnesium alloys. The available data in the material and methods section and several mentions tables, a new idea was generated to calculation the corrosion performance, by means of grain size. Firstly we discussed in this paper to confer groundwork for understanding the corrosion execution of Mg alloys in service atmospheres. The corrosion is virtually an electrochemical reaction, the electrochemistry of Mg is key to considerate Magnesium alloy corrosion mechanisms.

*Keywords:* Magnesium alloys; Corrosion behaviour; Stacking fault; Long period stacking ordered, Corrosion rate, Grain size

## 1. Introduction

Magnesium is one of the lightest metal with a density of 1.738 g/cm<sup>3</sup> which is  $\sim 2/3$  of aluminum and  $\sim 1/4$  of steel [1,2]. Magnesium alloys have high specific potency and exclusive stiffness, in addition, they have the physical appearance of good damping, castability, machinability, thermal conductivity, and therefore show wide scenarios in automobile, transportation, electronics, and other fields [3]. Moreover, Magnesium ions are the fourth most copious cations in human body and can increase speed the growth of bone tissue by supporting biological activity. Although Magnesium alloys have such exclusive characteristics, their claim still has many limitations. Firstly, they have low complete potency and thus cannot be used as the main force modules. Secondly, the mechanical assets of Magnesium alloys at elevated temperature reduction quickly, so most of Magnesium alloys cannot be well becoming at high temperature [2,4,5]. Lastly and importantly, the corrosion obstruction of Magnesium alloys is comparatively poor due to low corrosion potential [6,7]. Therefore, it is needed to improve Magnesium alloys with suitable corrosion obstruction and mechanical potency. In sequence to reach this goal, rare earth (RE) elements have been added into Magnesium alloys, and the execution of them was significantly developed. Magnesium alloy could be broadly applied in aerospace, automotive, electronics and other fields because of their low density and high potency to weight ratio [8,9]. However, their poor corrosion obstruction limits their real-

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world applications and numerous endeavor have been made to increase it [10,11] . So far, Magnesium alloys have been prepared into some components, such as wheels and bumpers in automobiles and gearboxes and canopy covers in aircrafts, which are examined in atmospheric environments [12,13] . Therefore, the polluting particles in the atmosphere could cause sedate corrosion disservice to these Magnesium components. It is essential to learning the special effects of the elements of mist on the corrosion performance of Magnesium alloys. Today, it is mainly applied in the automotive, aerospace, and medical sector. On the other hand, magnesium has its individual flaws that the researchers/scholars are highly focused on it. Magnesium's intense corrosion is its major flaws, and it intensely obstructed their progress and development into further uses. The types of magnesium related corrosion can be characterized into wide-ranging and generalized. mainly, magnesium can be not safe to such types of corrosion are i.e. galvanic corrosion, pitting corrosion, filiform corrosion, intergranular corrosion (IGC) and hydrogen gas [15] The offered hydroxide layer instantly gets changes far into highly soluble magnesium chloride, and this strengthening procedure entrap the rate of magnesium's corrosion [16]. These paper assessments the uses for magnesium and its alloys.

## 2. Material and Methods

### 2.1. Corrosion behavior of Mg–Li alloys

Several techniques have been applied to observe the corrosion of Magnesium alloys, together with microscopy, spectroscopy [17]. On the other hand, there have not been made normally known corrosion mechanisms for Magnesium–Li alloys. The purpose of this work was to examined the corrosion and electrochemical effects of Mg–9Li–4Zn–Al alloy. The corrosion rate of Mg–9Li–4Zn–Al alloy in 3.5% NaCl solution was high at the primarily and then reduced. The main approach of corrosion is pitting corrosion which affects the main loss of material. The core corrosion products are Mg(OH)<sub>2</sub> [18] . Throughout the corrosion, a huge quantity of Li was decomposed. The corrosion potential  $E_{corr}$  of Mg–9Li–4Zn–Al alloy absorbed in 3.5%NaCl solution moved negatively around 100 mV matched with that absorbed in concentrated water. And the corrosion present density  $i_{corr}$  improved one order of magnitude [19]. This specified that Mg–9Li–4Zn–Al alloy in 3.5% NaCl solution showed poorer corrosion obstruction.

### 2.2. Corrosion behavior of Mge5Al based magnesium alloy

The aim of this study was to improve the corrosion resistance of Mge5Al alloys by adding a small amount of M (M are tin (Sn) or manganese (Mn) or zinc (Zn)), which can improve the

corrosion resistance of Mge5Al alloys. The calculated amounts of 1.0 wt.% Sn, Mn, and Zn were added to Mg melt. After solidification, the ingots were subjected to homogenizing treatment at 400 °C for 12 h. Four different magnesium alloys, Mge5Al, Mge5Ale1Sn, Mge5Ale1Mn, and Mge5Ale1Zn, were evaluated [20] . The electrochemical study suggests that the addition of Zn resulted in the lowest corrosion rate in a corrosive environment [21]. The corrosion resistance mechanism of the Mge5Al alloys can be related to the interaction of alloying element oxides with Mg and Al oxides which acted as a corrosion barrier to hinder corrosion process. In summary, the best corrosion resistant alloy gives the best corrosion product with high quality and better characteristics.

### 2.3. Corrosion effect of magnesium-graphene composites

Coating of graphene and graphene/polymer composites on metals increases the corrosion obstruction of metal substrates. However, graphene fixed inside metal mainly Magnesium mediums rises or drops corrosion, is a essential cause and must be detect. In existing research, electrochemical actions of magnesium alloys (AZ31 and AZ61) and their composites strengthened with graphene nanoplatelets (GNPs) were carried out in 3.5% NaCl solution by polarization process [22]. Graphene owns unique electrical, mechanical, thermal, and ideal corrosion inhibiting features. This may be recognized to existence of graphene nanoplatelets which make active the corrosion of magnesium/alloys because of the phenomena of galvanic corrosion and this influence rises through growing graphene nanoplatelets content [23]. Newly, some magnesium-graphene composites have been developed for their mechanical strength [24]. Graphene nanoplatelets with thickness and diameter of 15–20 nm and 5–10 μm respectively, Raman spectroscopy is resourceful procedure to describe the graphene, carbon nanotubes and fullerene. The flaws in crystal structures and thickness of carbonaceous materials can be acknowledged by using this technique.

### 2.4. Corrosion characterization of an as-cast Mg–3Zn–0.4Ca alloy

Alloying constitutes a technique to develop the mechanical strength and the corrosion performance of Mg and several researchers have analyses the influence of few alloying elements on magnesium potency [25]. The corrosion advancement of the as-cast Mg–3Zn–0.4Ca alloy can be divided into two different ways according to the hydrogen evolution investigation [26]. The primary section, which lasts 130 h, is associated to the first phase of corrosion suffered by the Magnesium based alloy when it is engrossed in Hank's solution. Over and above this time, the development of small pits on the open surface rises the corrosion rate. [27]The review

of the corrosion products after 336 h of engrossed in Hank's solution shows that they are generally set up of Mg(OH)<sub>2</sub> with lesser quantities of HA[28].

### 2.5. High efficiency corrosion inhibitors

A high corrosion disallowance efficiency for saleable purity Mg with the addition of sodium 2,5-pyridinedicarboxylate, 3-methylsalicylate and fumarate into 0.5 wt% neutral NaCl solution. Its corrosion competence improves with enhancing concentration of protector [29]. They concluded that strong iron complexing particles are real corrosion protector to prevent the micro-galvanic corrosion of Magnesium with a high amount of iron impurities.

### 2.6. Anti-corrosive coating

A unique spin-assisted Layer by Layer collecting technology to manufacture the polyvinylpyrrolidone (PVP)/polyacrylic acid (PAA) multilayer film with outstanding corrosion obstruction and adhesion potency, which might be a authentic technique to arrange a unvarying and smooth coating due to the fact that the air shear force and centrifugal force caused by a high-speed spinning process. In addition to polyelectrolytes, nanoparticles can also be applied as the assembly units of LbL [30].

### 2.7. Corrosion behavior of Mg-7Y-x Nd ternary alloys

In this work, Mg-7Y-x Nd ( $x = 0.5, 1.0, 1.5$  wt%) alloys were studied to exhibit precipitations with the addition of Nd-particles on corrosion performance. The impact mechanism was showed that the condition of the precipitations different from Mg<sub>24</sub>(Y,Nd)<sub>5</sub> to continuous Mg<sub>12</sub>(Y,Nd) with the growing Nd-content. The precipitation potency and interrupt influence of Mg-7Y-1.5Nd alloys play important role to enhanced corrosion obstruction. The corrosion of magnesium alloy in an aqueous solution excludes both the Mg anodic dissolution and the cathodic hydrogen development. Thus, hydrogen growth reaction lead role in the environment-aided cracking of magnesium alloys [41]. For the duration of the corrosion reaction, hydrogen protude into the magnesium matrix through the passage of the corrosion pits, this led to the hydrogen embrittlement and reduced the mechanical strength.

### 2.8. Corrosion resistance enhancement of die-cast Mg-Al-Re alloy

The addition of strontium presented a Sr-containing intermetallic phase (Mg<sub>8</sub>Al<sub>4</sub>Sr) into the AE42 alloy, which expanded and improved the volume fraction of the intermetallic

system, and also increase the continuity of the intermetallic system [4,27]. The corrosion rate of the Sr-containing alloy was slightly lower than that of the Sr free alloy as per to the weight loss, hydrogen progress rate and EIS measurements, recognized to the superior continuity of the second phase network. The corrosion rates of both alloys were matched to that of Great-Purity Mg, showing that the defensive nature of the essentially sustained second phase network was more significant than that of the effect of corrosion quickening by micro-galvanic interface between the matrix and the second phase particles [26,28]. The corrosion rate of the surface was the similar as that of the peripheral, showing that there was no skin effect for these die castings, with a much less corrosion rate.

### 2.9. Corrosion protection of AZ91D magnesium alloy

To develop the corrosion obstruction of magnesium alloys some surface treatments have been suggested, for example chemical conversion, anodization, laser and ion beams, PVD (Physical Vapor Deposition) coatings and CVD (Chemical Vapor Deposition), electro less plating and deposition of organic coatings [31]. All these surface treatments objective to transform the surface of the alloys without affecting their bulk performance. Some of these approaches have been appealed to be able to offer better corrosion resistance. Treatments that change the oxide surfaces are known for their low cost and ease of action. [32] Anodization is one of the maximum significant and real surface pretreatments for Mg and its alloys. In resist to other surface treatments for these materials. The use of molybdate in altered treatments to defend Magnesium alloys in contrast to corrosion has been the subject of several works [33]. Molybdate anion has many advantages, such as low toxicity and high stagnation in aqueous media. The enhancement in the corrosion protection is related with the existence of insoluble sediment of cerium and molybdenum oxides and the constraining properties of both molybdate and citric acid.

### 2.10. Corrosion behavior of ALD Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> film on AZ31 magnesium alloy

It is generally that the corrosion obstruction would be enhanced by transforming obstacle micrometer coatings. On the other hand, it is a mighty defiance to improve the nanometer resistance films for the corrosion protection enhancement, which would play an important role to upper dimensional accurateness and lower amendment cost for Magnesium components [34,35]. The substantial aluminum oxide film are achieved by ALD with a thickness of 18.44 nm (SF1) and 18.46 nm (SF2), respectively, and the film displays uniform exposure and makes the element dispensation of surface more

standardized. It is certified by the salt spray test that aluminum oxide film encouraged a uniform corroded way to Magnesium alloy.

## 2.11. Role of Grain Size for determine corrosion behavior

Grain sizes have main role which identify energy/potency and corrosion performance of metals. In the matter of energy/potency of metal, yield strength and hardness are concerned the grain size by the Hall-Petch equation. On the other hand, the impact of grain size on the corrosion performance is more sophisticated and there are a number of contentious information where some information received that growth in grain size increases the corrosion performance and in some cases it different to each other. In terms of collecting information about the influences of grain size on the corrosion rate, according to some research paper it was completed for various pure metals as well as alloys which are discussed in Table 1. It can be summarized that dissimilar developments between grain size and corrosion fraction for both pure materials and alloys can be observed. On the basis of some research papers, the connection between grain size and corrosion fraction can be categorized as it enhanced in grain size reduced the corrosion rate. The bases could be reducing lattice strain and disarticulations density and falling the surface.

Table 1 A literature review on the effect of grain size on corrosion rate.

Grain size, D (µm)	Process	Material	Solution	D decreases → CR ?	How to change D	The mechanism	Ref.
6000–30	Extrusion	Pure Mg	Hank's	Decreases	Extrusion of cast alloy(250 °C)	Preferred crystallographic pitting (PCP) was investigated by Fe sediment in pure Magnesium and was spread along with a (0 0 0 1) plane in a grain.	[36]
30–20	Extrusion	Pure Mg	3.5 wt.% NaCl	Decreases	Temp. (180, 220, 250 °C)	The film protection of the core magnesium sample show out at 250 °C was the lowest, and the outcome shows that magnesium hydroxide film generate on the surface of the sample drag out at rise in temperature is thinner or less stable, so that the electrolyte can simply infiltrate and encourage the uninterrupted liquidation of the pure magnesium	[37]
1000–200	Directional Solidification	Pure Mg	SBF	Decreases	Solidification Rate	Reducing the corrosion rate at greater solidification rate was credited to refined grains that can create more even and dense films on the surface of pure magnesium	[38]
1000–11.5	FSP	Pure Mg	SBF	Decreases	Number of passes	Enhancing the intensity of basal planes by enhancing the number of	[39]

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1500–200	ECAP from Cast	Pure Mg	3.5 wt.% NaCl	Increases	Number of passes	passes increasing the corrosion. Grain purification outcomes in larger lattice strain and flaws more corrosion resistance.	[40]
1500–9	ECAP	Pure Mg	SBF	Increases (with decreasing processing temperature from 360 to 250 °C) and increases (with decreasing processing temperature from 250 °C to 200 °C)	ECAP Temp.	It introduces few displacements and lattice flaws. A MgO/Mg(OH) <sub>2</sub> passive layer is almost certainly focused on these flaws.	[41]
70–0.65	FSP	Mg-Y- RE	3.5 wt.% NaCl	Decreases	HT for grain enlargement, and FSP for refinement	In these the high elements of grain limitations maybe decreases corrosion rate in two ways: (1) enhancing the passivation phenomena and (2) decreasing the intensity of galvanic couple among grain peripheral.	[42]
11–1.4	Hot extrusion	AZ31B	0.1 M NaCl	Decreases	Process time	Grain rectification may patronize the stress on the surface film; as a result of dissimilarity amid corrosion products (MgO) and original Magnesium metal, by turn out gap by means of grain margins, thus enhance the passivity of the surface film.	[43,44]
80 (Cast) –4.6–7.1 (Extrusion)	Extrusion	AZ80	3.5 wt.% NaCl Saturated with Mg(OH) <sub>2</sub>	Decrease and increase	Extrusion at Different Temps. (250, 300 and 350 °C)	The corrosion performance of the drag out alloy was too much as compare to cast alloy, due to the downfall of the net-like β-phase. A rising in the temperature from 250 to 300 °C the corrosion rate was enhanced, due to the enhance of disarmament density.	[45,46]

Therefore it can be determined that in the case of single crystals, corrosion rate enhance with enhancing the grain size, while in very fine grains corrosion rate reduce by reducing the grain size.

## 2.12. Volta-potential difference for magnesium alloy

Table 2. One of the major significant elements impacts of the corrosion rate of alloys is the galvanic corrosion which can be generated in the intermetallic phases. The probable change in the intermetallic phase is the energetic force for the electrons to

move from anode to cathode and form the galvanic cells. The corrosion rate associated to the micro-galvanic cells can be clear by in view of the Volta potential consistency. Since

Magnesium is one of the major components in the sequence of standard electrode potential and its work function is less than the majority of alloying elements, most of the intermetallic phases act as cathode for the Magnesium abundant matrix.

Table 2 Volta-potential dissimilarity of changed intermetallic phase with matrix for magnesium alloys.

Phase	Pot. Diff.	Alloy	Ref.
Al-Ca (Sn,Sr)	62	Mg-Al-Ca	[47]
Al-Gd	90	AM50Gd	[48]
Al-Mn-Nd	115	AM50Nd	[49]
Mg-Al-Ce	11	AMCe	[50]
Mg-Al-La	8	AMLa	[50]
Mg-Ce	-85	Mg-2Ce	[49]
Mg-La	111	Mg-1La	[51]
Mg-Nd	150	Mg-2.6Nd	[51]
Mg-Nd-Y	15	WE43-T6	[52]
Mg-Si	97	AZ80	[53]
Mg-Si-Ca	408	ZSM651 + 0.8Ca [	[49]
Mg-Zn	551	ZSM651 + 0.8Ca	[49,54]
Mg-Zn-RE (La,Ce,Gd)	100	ZE41	[49]
Mg-Zn-RE (La,Ce)	100	ZE41	[52]
Mg-Si	428	ZSM651 + 0.8Ca	[54]
Zr-Mg-Fe- Si	180	WE43-T6	[52]

Numerous researches on alloys and examined the consequence of alloying elements on the corrosion rate and their performance of Magnesium alloys. On the other hand, a probable dealing study besides their alloys will perhaps open a new gap in the direction of the corrosion rate forecast of Magnesium alloys.

### 2.13. Corrosion prevention/protection techniques

#### 2.13.1. Reasonable design

An theoretical design can confirm that a Magnesium alloy has the lowermost thermodynamic possibility for, and the uppermost kinetic protection to, corrosion. A effective corrosion obstruction design is one of the most cost operative corrosion quenching methodologies [55] . A normal change in design may consider as to enormous reserves in yielding corrosion resistance. There are several influences to reflect in design granting, for the reason that there are a large number of limitations in real-world service, a spanking design is unlikely to be succeeded [56]

#### 2.13.2. Cathodic protection

Cathodic resistance of a metal usually needs to applied cathodic resistance potential to be goes down in minus than the equilibrium potential of the metal to be protected. [57]

Moreover, the cathodic resistance may load hydrogen into a Magnesium alloy which could lead to a serious problem.

Therefore, cathodic resistance is not a useful method for Magnesium alloys. [4] As per analysis the study material a probability that an actual cathodic resistance of Magnesium alloys can be realized at a goes down in minus potential than that hypothetically essential.

#### 2.13.3. Development of corrosion resistant alloys

Enhancing the protection of corrosion for Magnesium alloys over a conversion in their chemical process, segment essential and microstructural features is the most authentic and anxiety free corrosion quenching approach. [58] . The acute part of a Magnesium alloy is its matrix, which is a down side region which comes under the corrosion attack. On the other hand, due to the high chemical reaction of Magnesium, the addition of alloying essentials requirements to be in huge quantity, which will pointedly modification the physical stuffs of Magnesium. To date, it is known that the constituents lighter than Magnesium are more active than Magnesium; however, there is still a chance that certain highly passive alloying components form a super damp solid solution with Magnesium in the matrix phase, in this manner making the matrix passive [59].

#### 2.13.4. Alloy modification

Alloy amendment is adopted different methodology of developing corrosion protection magnesium alloys. It only few changes are considered in current alloy, without considerably fluctuating its basic composition and phase essential [1,34]. This can be categorized by some processes, like: (i) purification, (ii) passivation of impurity. Generally, the enhancement of corrosion protection by this methodology is not theatrical, but the methodology is different for its Magnesium alloy fabrication and technology.

#### 2.13.5. Coating

A resistance coating for a Magnesium alloy mentions to an independent layer useful on the Magnesium alloy. It is something unique from the surface reform, as Magnesium alloy surfaces normally does not contribute in a reaction or involvement an important amendment under the coating [62]. [63]The most smart feature of a covered coating for an Magnesium alloy is its metallic physical appearance, which are significant in some useful claims. CVD and PVD techniques can also deposit metallic coatings on Magnesium alloys. In currently, hot-spray, cold spray and magnetic sputtering techniques have been used to form a corrosion obstruction coating for Magnesium alloys. They are all accomplished of creating a metallic coating on Magnesium alloys, but at a comparatively high cost [57,61].

### 3. Result

The outcomes of electrochemical measurements showed that aluminium oxide film could increase the corrosion protection of Magnesium alloy substrate significantly and the reduction of surface roughness could auxiliary improve the corrosion effectively. It can be testified that the hydrogen activity at the surface was reduced by the presence of M addition, and the change in performance of the hydrogen activity is mainly from the electrochemical response of hydrogen advancement. As per the existing results, the better anticorrosive results is obtained by the formation of Ce-Mo/H<sub>3</sub> Cit- coat. On the other hand, with improved of Nd-particles the Magnesium 12 (Y,Nd) phases of Mg-7Y-1.5Nd alloys were sideways the grain margin, and an quantity of the rapidity formed a continuous dispensation in several regions on the grain limitations, which aided as the corrosion interrupt Therefore, the rapidity played an essential part in corrosion protection.

### 4. Discussion

At the present time, magnesium is consumed for applications where the benefit of decreasing the weight is more essential than the comparatively high cost. With 1.75 g/cm<sup>3</sup>, magnesium's density is approximately 35% lower than that of the competing material aluminum. At current, the core

applications of magnesium are as cast parts for the automotive industry. Elemental discreet of corrosion mechanisms to duly approximation or forecast the corrosion of Magnesium alloys, their corrosion mechanisms should be well known. By means of a corrosion mechanism to forecast the corrosion act of a Magnesium alloy that is actually governed by a changed mechanism can produce a illusive result. Furthermore, only after the corrosion mechanism of a Magnesium alloy in its service situation is identified, can the most real quenching approach be evolved. Moreover, with both new Magnesium alloys and applications being evolved, the corrosion mechanisms and performances of the novel alloys and uses should also be considered. Consequently, a important research of the corrosion mechanism and performance will be a region of great importance in the corrosion and obstruction of Magnesium alloys.

### 5. Conclusion

Magnesium alloys are satisfying the needs for lightweight materials with outstanding machining abilities and better recovering potential; they are stagnant not used to the similar range as the competing materials aluminum and plastics. One of the causes is the honestly high priced base material, joined with the fractional lack of recycling potentials. On the other hand, the multiplicity of magnesium offered to the consumer is stagnant limited to a few practical alloys. Unfortunately, there is a absence of know-how in the consumption of magnesium, not slightest within the concerns allocating with the machining and claim of manufacture materials. As a outcome, the industry stagnant be likely to usage "conventional" materials in its place of magnesium alloys. The decrease of the critical contents of Ni, Fe, and Cu affects the uses of the alloys in a positive approach. With deference to suitable organic or inorganic coatings, defense methods have been selected instead of those used for aluminum. The minimizations of corrosion by surface adapt or coating has known tolerable outcomes in certain applications.

#### Author statement

Amit Tiwari: Methodology, Formal Analysis, Investigation, Data Curation, Writing-Original Draft, Writing-Review and Editing, Visualization

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#### Declaration of Competing Interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper

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