Effect of Oxidation on Wetting Behavior between Silicon and Silicon Carbide

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Abstract : Experimental oxidation tests at high temperature $(1300^{\circ}C-1500^{\circ}C)$ on α -SiC samples have been performed with different holding times and atmosphere (air, argon). Oxidized samples were then analyzed using X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy coupled to SEM and DAKTEK surface profiler verification. The oxidation rate and the mas gain were found to increase with temperature and holding times, corresponding to a passive oxidation regime which lead to the formation of SiO2 layer. The sessile drop method is employed in order to measure the wetting angles between Si/SiC system at high temperature (1430°C-1550°C). Contact angle can be varied between 44 °C to 85°C, by controlling the oxygen content in α -SiC. Increasing the temperature occurred the infiltration of liquid silicon and deoxidation of the coating.

Keywords : oxidation, wettability, silicon, SiC

Conference Title : ICEMA 2015 : International Conference on Engineering Materials and Applications

Conference Location : Boston, United States

Conference Dates : April 20-21, 2015