

UO₂

DUPIC

**A Study on the Fabrication Process and Process Parameters
for DUPIC Fuel Pellets using UO₂ Powder**

150

DUPIC

UO₂

(IMEF)

M6

DUPIC

. Roll-compacting

DUPIC

UO₂

DUPIC

UO₂

95%TD,

5.4 μ m

UO₂

DUPIC

Abstract

For the performance evaluation of the DUPIC fuel fabrication technology, large-scale in-cell experiments were conducted using kilogram quantities of natural UO₂ powder and the equipment installed in the M6 hot cell at IMEF (Irradiated Material Examination Facility). As part of the fabrication process development, granulation was attempted with the roll-compacting technique, which is found unsuitable for remote operation in hot cell due to the sensitivity of the process parameters to the granule properties. In each experiments, the powders and pellets produced were characterized to investigate the relationship between the process parameters and the properties of the products. The UO₂-based DUPIC pellets having a sintered density of 95%TD (Theoretical Density) and average grain size of 5.4 μ m, meeting CANDU specifications, were fabricated successfully. The process flow and process parameters to fabricate DUPIC pellets were established. Consequently the fabrication technology and the performance of the equipment developed for DUPIC fuel pellet were verified.

1.

(DUPIC : Direct Use of spent PWR fuel in CANDU reactors)
가 [1,2]. 1993

DUPIC

M6 (hot cell)

DUPIC

가

DUPIC

(manipulator)

DUPIC

M6

DUPIC

UO₂

UO₂

2.

2.1.

4.7 μ m, Cameco 5.3 m²/g, ADU O/U 가 2.11 UO₂

2.2.

Table 1

M6

DUPIC

1

roll-compacting

UO₂

Fig.

UO₂

Table 1

UO₂

2

DUPIC

DUPIC

Table 1

O/U

3.

3.1. Roll-compacting

roll-compacting UO₂
 Roll-compacting
 2 (roll)
 screening
 Fig. 3(a) roll-compacting
 210MPa, 235MPa, 260MPa 3 Ar-4%H₂
 1700 4 Fig.
 3(b) 가 crack Fig. 4
 roll-compacting 2
 가 2

DUPIC

roll-compacting
 3.2. UO₂
 UO₂ 70Mpa,
 210MPa, 235MPa, 260MPa 3 Ar-4%H₂ 1700
 4 Fig. 5
 Fig. 6 95%
 5-7
 μm DUPIC
 M6

3.3. DUPIC

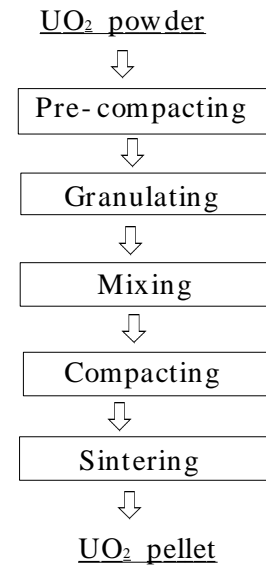
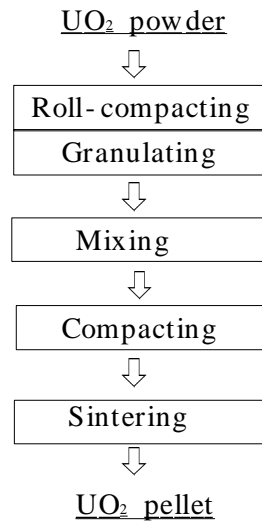
UO₂
 Fig. 2 DUPIC DUPIC

UO₂ 500g
 and REduction of OXide fuel) 3 cycle OREOX(Oxidation [3,4].
 14.6μm, 0.96m²/g UO₂
 2.0g/cc, 1.2g/cc, 2.0g/cc UO₂
 2.5g/cc O/U 2.03 OREOX /
 (ball mill) /
 O/U 2.06
 가 1.8μm, 2.1m²/g
 2.5g/cc, 4.5g/cc
 가 Fig. 2
 Fig. 7
 Fig. 8 가 Fig. 9
 95% 가 5.4μm
 DUPIC
 M6 DUPIC
 가
 4.
 DUPIC
 UO₂ DUPIC
 1. DUPIC M6
 2. roll-compacting
 3. DUPIC
 4. DUPIC
 가

1. H. Keil, P. Boczar, H. S. Park, "Options for the Direct Use of Spent PWR Fuel in CANDU(DUPIK)," Proceedings of the Third International Conference on CANDU Fuel, 1992 October 4-8, Chalk River, Canada
2. , “ . ” KAERI/RR- 1744/96 (1997)
3. K. K. Bae, B. G. Kim, Y. W. Lee, M. S. Yang and H. S. Park, *J. Nucl. Mater.*, 209 (1994) p274
4. B. G. Kim, K. W. Song, J. W. Lee, K. K. Bae, M. S. Yang and H. S. Park, *J. Kor. Cera. Soc.*, 32 (1995) p471

Table 1 Experimental apparatus and process parameters

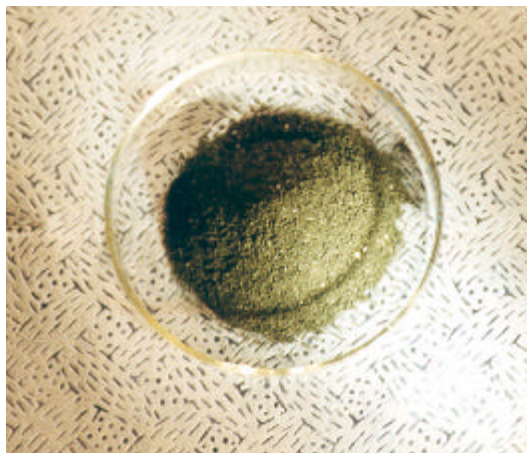
		(500g)
OREOX Furnace	1. Type : Box furnace 2. Temp. range : Room temp. to 1200 3. Environment : Air, Ar-4% H ₂ , Ar Gas	: 500 , Air : 700 , Ar-4% H ₂ 3 cycle
Mill	1. Type : Horizontal ball mill 2. Chamber capacity : 2 L 3. Rotational speed : 1200 rpm Max.	450rpm, 10min 600rpm, 10min
Roll Compactor	1. Type : 3 2. : 200W 3. : 220V/60Hz 4. : 1/30	30rpm roll
Mixer	1. Type : 3 2. : 400W 3. : 220V/60Hz 4. : 1/25	30rpm, 20min
Compaction Press	1. Type : Double acting hydraulic press 2. Capacity : 10 Tons	3500 - 5500 psig
Sintering Furnace	1. Type : Pot-type furnace 2. Temp. range : Room to 2000 3. Environment : Ar-4% H ₂ Gas	1700 , 4hr Ar-4% H ₂ atmosphere



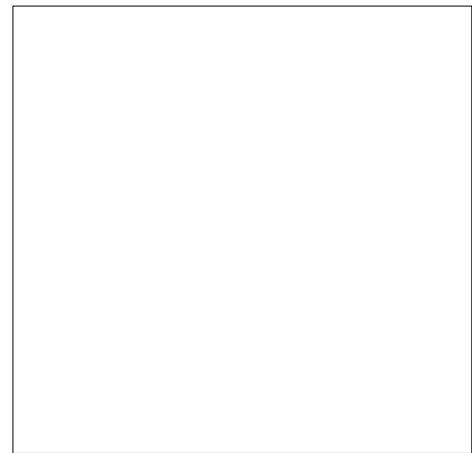
(a) Roll-compacting route

(b) Pre-compacting route

Fig. 1 The fabrication route of UO₂ pellet.



(a) Granulated powder



(b) Sintered pellet

Fig. 3 Granulated powder and sintered pellet prepared by roll-compacting route.

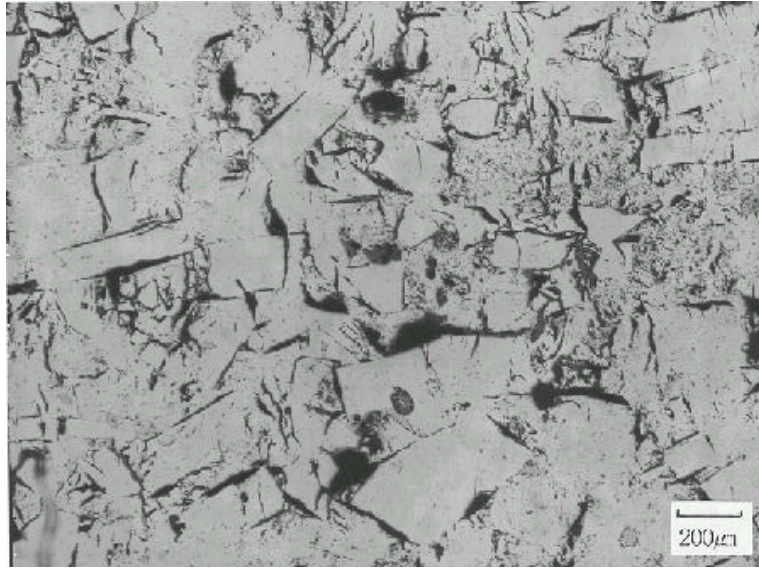


Fig. 4 Polished surface of the sintered pellet prepared by roll-compacting route.

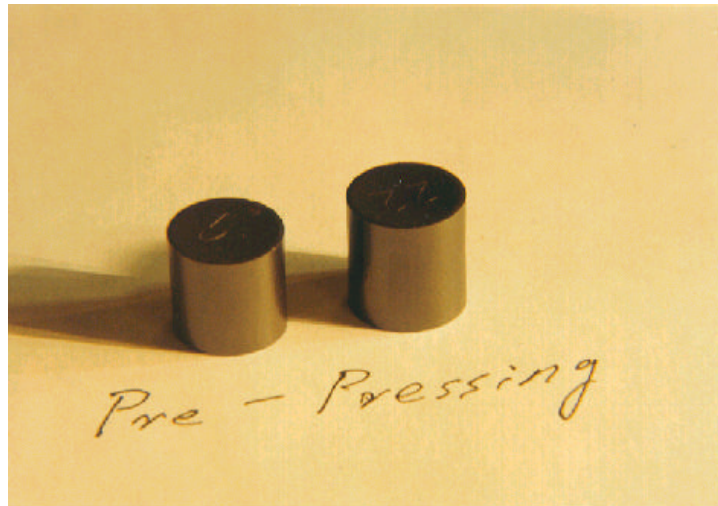


Fig. 5 The sintered UO_2 pellets made by pre-compacting route.

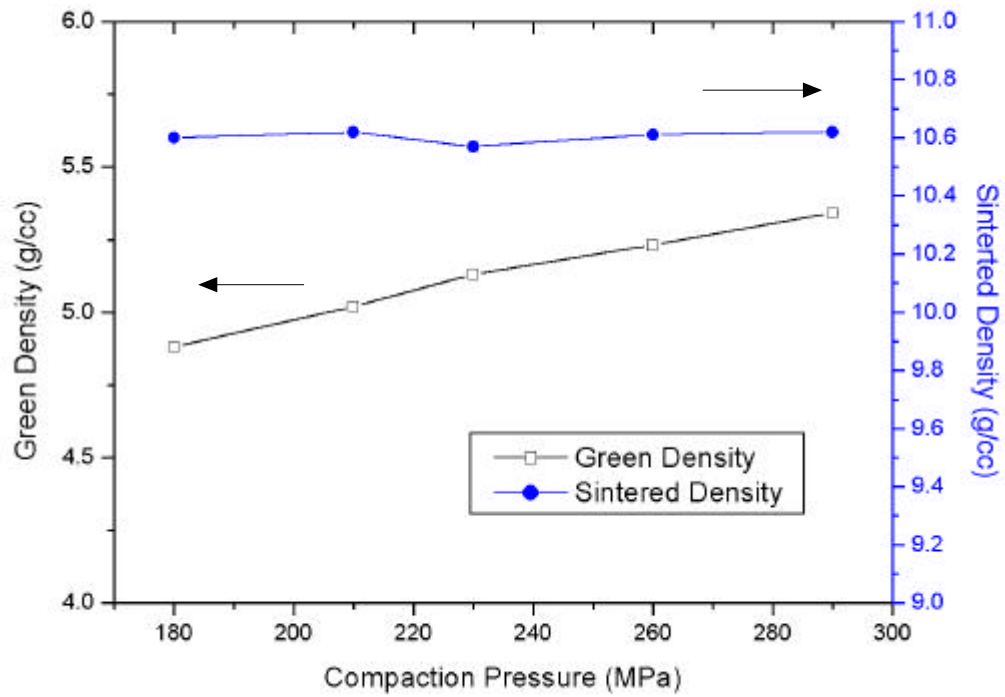


Fig. 6 The density variations with the compaction pressure.

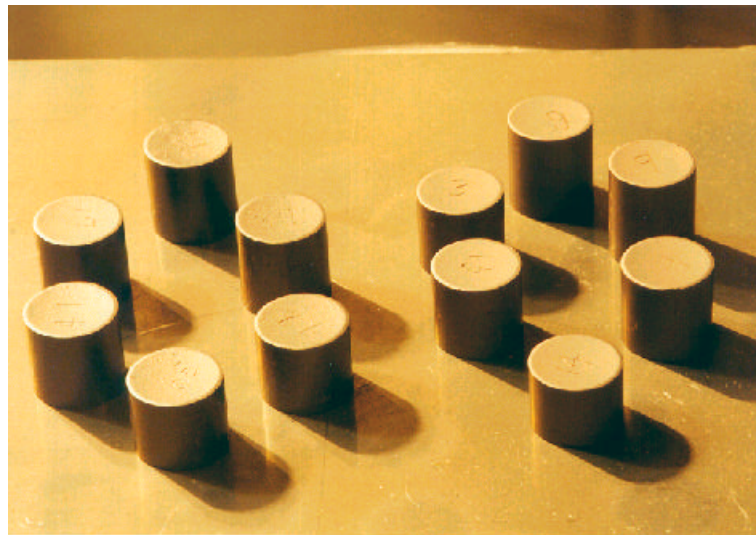


Fig. 7 UO-based DUPIC pellets fabricated by DUPIC process flow.

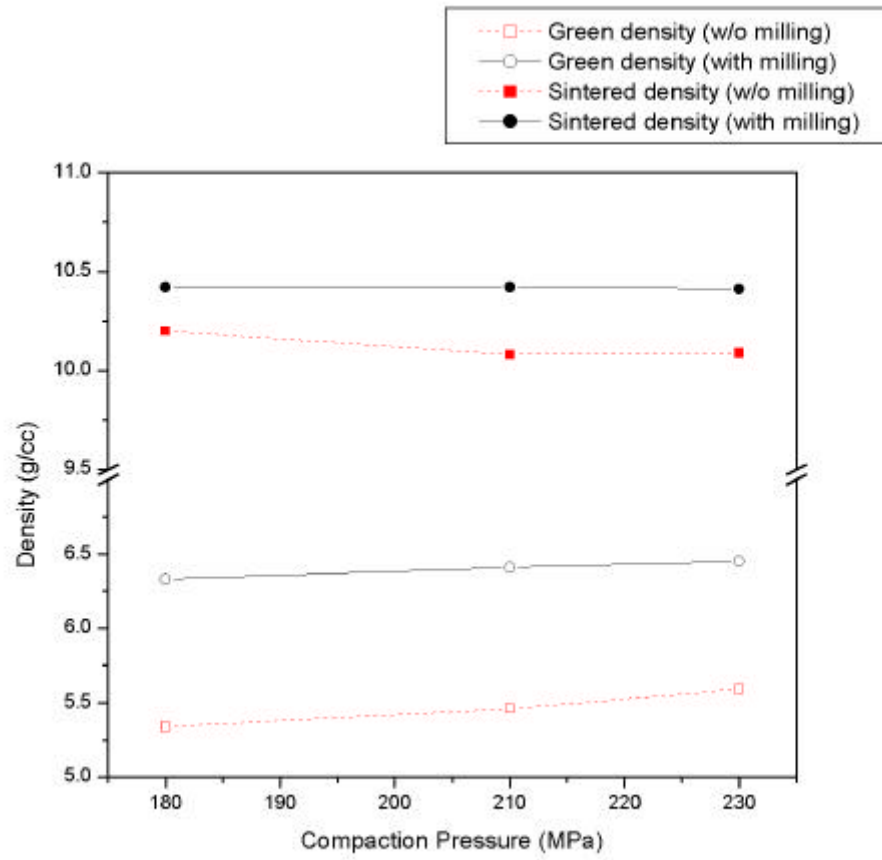


Fig. 8 The density variations with the compaction pressure and powder treatment.

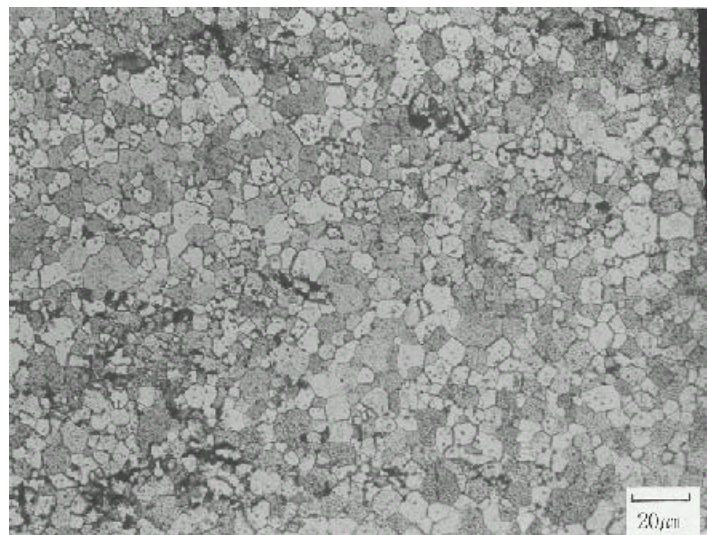


Fig. 9 Grain structures of the UO_2 -based DUPIC pellet.