

U-Zr

Effects of Mixing Time and Load-holding Time on the Density of Sintered U-Zr Alloy

150

U Zr ,
 δ -UZr₂ U-Zr , 가 U Zr α -Zr
 V-mixer 1 2
 load-holding time 20 180 가 가
 1500 2
 8.4 to 8.6 g/cm³ 가
 α -Zr, δ -UZr₂ pore , 가 pore
 α δ , 가 pore
 가

Abstract

The effects of mixing time and load-holding time on the density of Sintered U-Zr alloy were evaluated. It was observed that the U-Zr sintered fuel was composed of two phases; α -Zr and δ -UZr₂ phases. In the mixing procedure of U and Zr powders by using the V-mixer, the effects of mixing time on the density of sintered alloys was performed, and showed that there was little effects of mixing time on its density. However, the load-holding time in the pressing procedure of mixed powders affected on the density of sintered alloys; the increase in load-holding time from 20 to 180 sec provided to increase the average density of U-Zr alloy sintered at 1500 for 2 hrs. The sintered alloy appeared to be a relatively homogeneous distribution of density in the range from about 8.4 to 8.6 g/cm³. The results on the observation of the area fractions of α -Zr, δ -UZr₂ and pore in the sectioned pieces of a sintered fuel indicated that the area fractions of α -Zr and δ -UZr₂ appeared to be independent of the density, but the area fraction of pore revealed to increase as decreasing the density. It would be mainly attributed to the stress distribution during pressing of the mixed U-Zr powders.

1.

가 (PWR) (PHWR) U UO₂

가 U-Zr U-Pu-Zr

가 LOCA

가 IFR (Integral

Fast Reactor) UO₂ pellet [1-4].

U-Zr U Zr U-Zr

가 가

U Zr

porosity가 U Zr

U segregation

creep

porosity pore가 fission product swelling

pore / U Zr

green density U

[5-6].

[7] U-Zr [8] U-Zr [9] U-Zr δ 가

U-Zr U Zr

[10] U-Zr [11]

U-Zr

U Zr U-Zr 가

2.

U-Zr U Zr , 가
 1 U-Zr U-derby U 48 μm
 U 125 μm Zr hydriding-dehydriding 45 μm Zr
 125 μm 2 U Zr
 U Zr (40 wt.% U + 60 wt.% Zr) 100 g
 weighting V-shaped mixer 75 rpm
 가 1 2
 double-action press cylindrical
 (3). Pressing 5,096 kgf/cm² 가
 , load-holding time 20 180
 1500 2
 Zr ZrH₂가 Zr H₂
 600-900 [12] 20
 U-Zr XRD (X-ray diffraction)
 SEM (scanning electron microscope)
 , Image Analyzer

3.

3.1. U-Zr

4 U-Zr [13]. 60
 wt% Zr 40wt%U α-Zr δ-UZr₂ , α-Zr
 10% δ-UZr₂ 90%
 1500 γ-U β-Zr 606 γ-U δ-UZr₂ , β-Zr α-Zr
 가
 5 1500 2 U-Zr XRD
 pattern hexagonal 가 α-Zr δ-UZr₂
 U U 가 U 가
 가

3.2.

6

U-Zr

1

2

가

double-action pressing

3

3.3.

load-holding time

7

U

Zr

2

load-holding time

5,096 kgf/cm²

load-holding time

20

180

가

가 8.5213 g/cm³

8.5355 g/cm³

2.7%

가

U-Zr

compaction

(1) rearrangement, (2) elastic

deformation, (3) plastic deformation, (4) strain hardening, and (5) bulk deformation

[14].

가

compaction

가

가

bulk deformation

, porosity가

가

가

3.4. U-Zr

8

2

20

가

8.4-8.6 g/cm³

가

가

가

가
 α -Zr

δ -UZr₂

pore가

9

pore

α -Zr

α -Zr

δ -UZr₂
Zr

dehydriding

Zr

가

Zr
pore

가
가

10

가

α -Zr δ -UZr₂
 α -Zr δ -UZr₂
pore
가

pore

가

pore

11
punch die 가
punch 가
compaction porosity가

12
pore 50 μm^2 가 pore가
pore 가 가 pore
pore 가 , pore 가 pore

13
가 가 pore 50 μm^2 가 pore 가
compaction

4.
U Zr ,
 $\delta\text{-UZr}_2$ U-Zr 가 U-Zr $\alpha\text{-Zr}$
V-mixer U Zr
1 2 가

load-holding time 가 bulk deformation compaction
porosity가 가 가
1500 2 8.4 to 8.6
 g/cm^3
가 Image analyzer α δ $\alpha\text{-Zr}$, $\delta\text{-}$
 UZr_2 pore 가 porosity가 가
compaction

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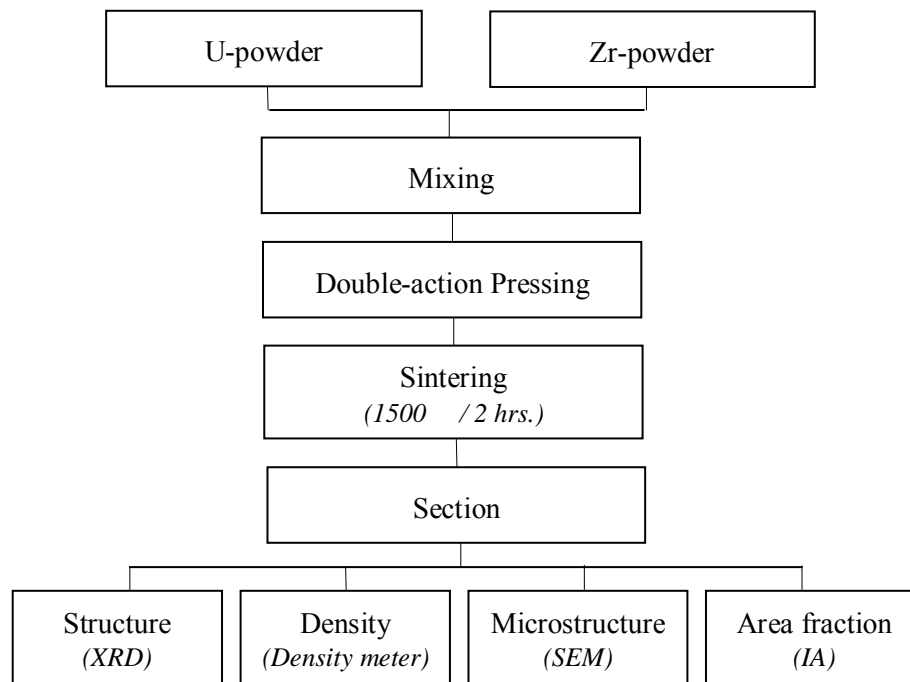
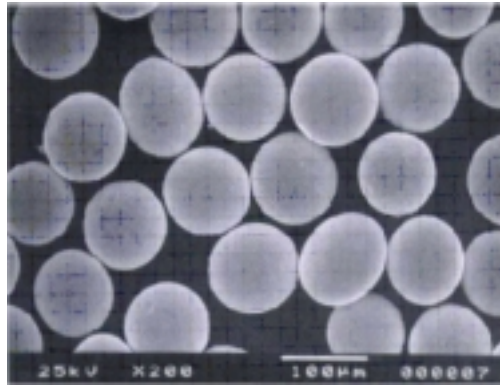
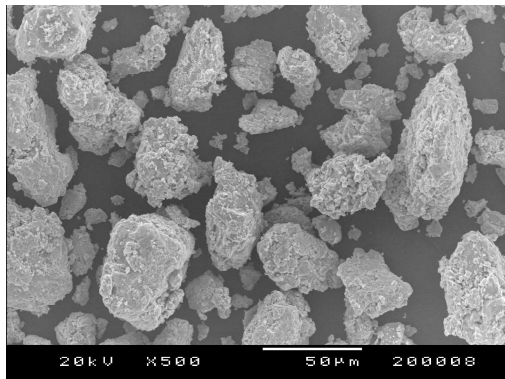


Fig. 1. Experimental procedures for the preparation and observation of the U-Zr sintered fuels.



(a)



(b)

Fig. 2. SEM images of (a) U- and (b) Zr-powders.

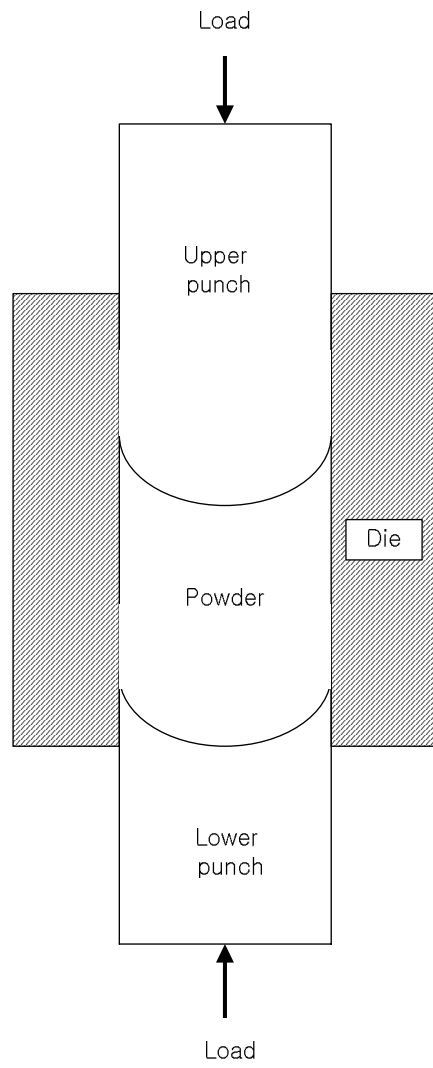


Fig. 3. Schematic drawing showing the double-action pressing of U-Zr powders.

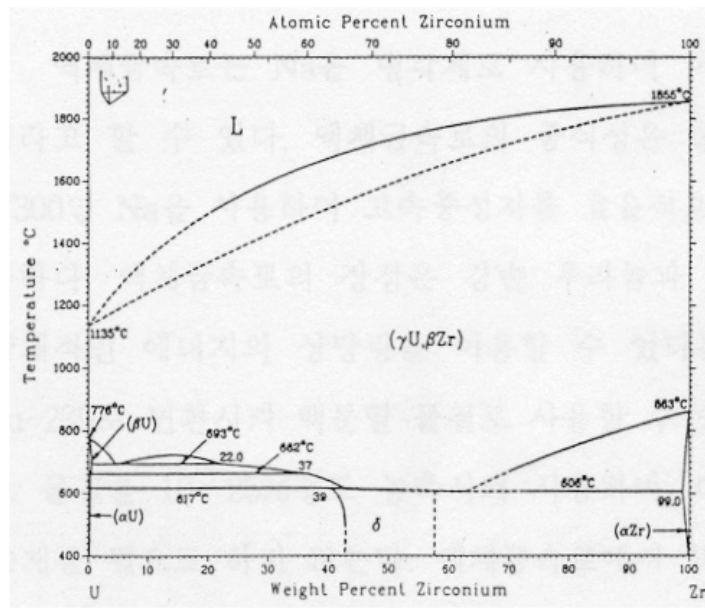


Fig. 4. Equilibrium phase diagram of U-Zr binary system [13].

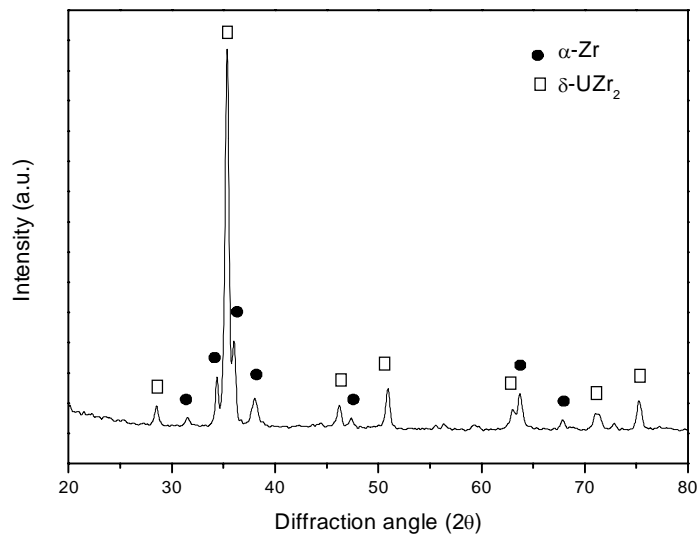


Fig. 5. X-ray diffraction pattern on the sintered U-Zr alloy.

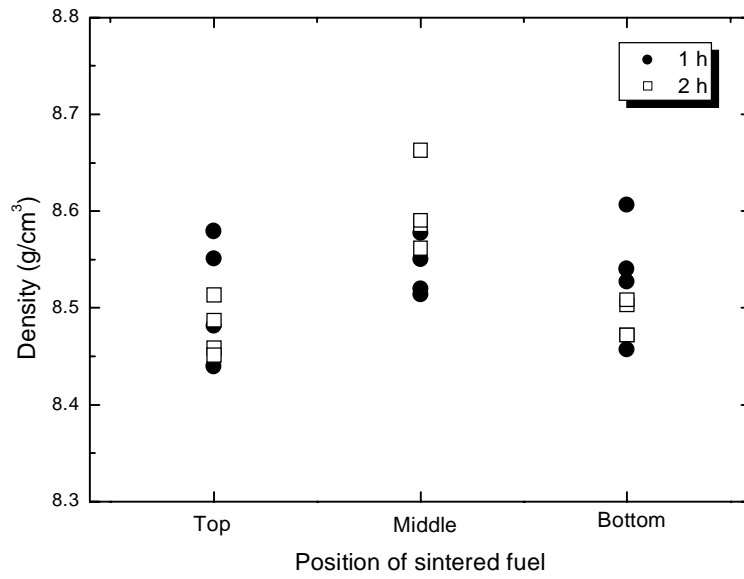


Fig. 6. Effects of mixing duration in mixing procedure on the density distribution of Sintered U-Zr alloy.

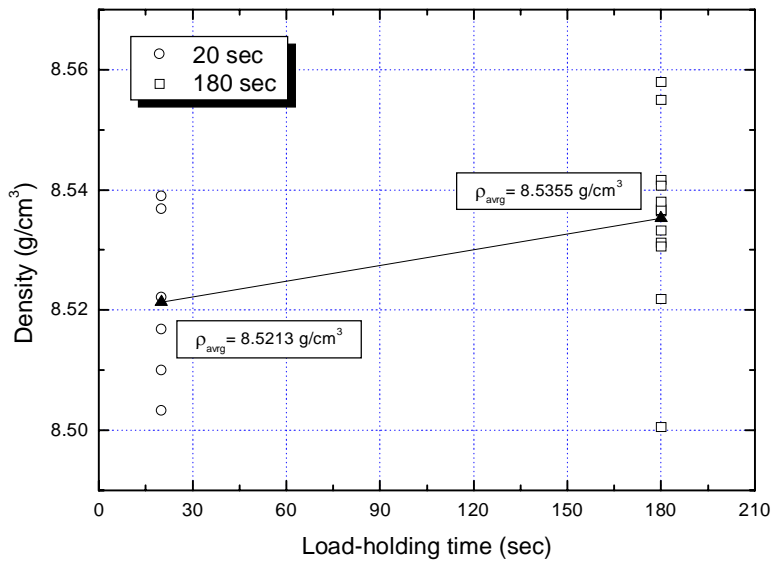


Fig. 7. Effects of load-holding time in pressing procedure of mixed powders on the density of sintered U-Zr alloy.

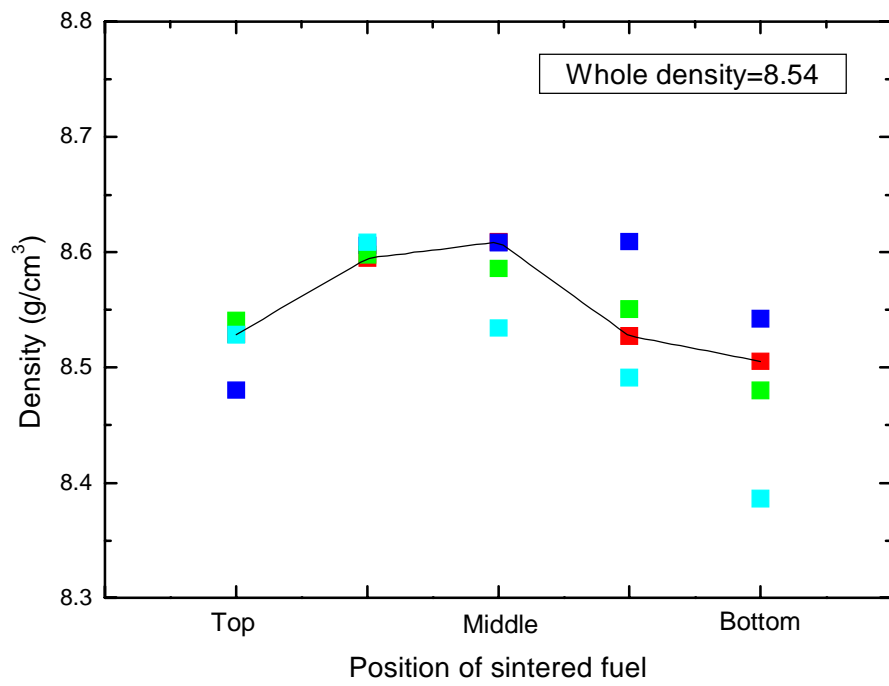
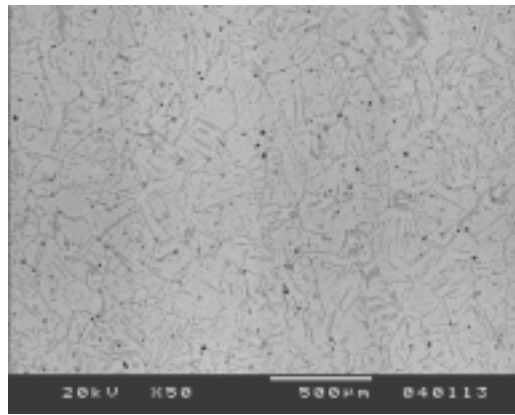
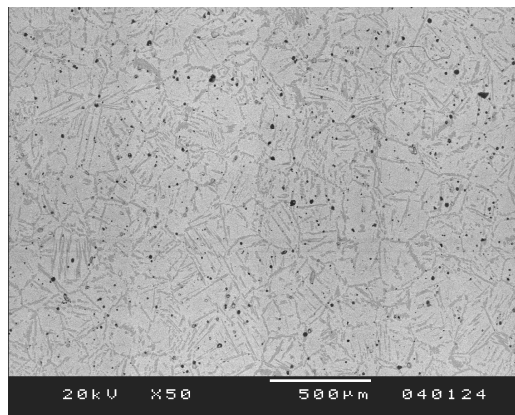


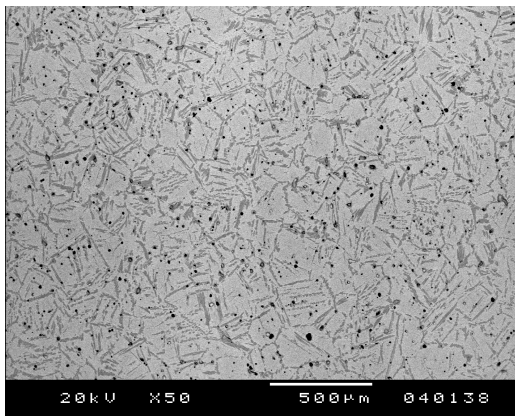
Fig. 8. Density distribution of U-Zr alloy sintered at 1500 for 2 hrs.



(a)



(b)



(c)

Fig. 9. SEM images on the transverse planes of sintered U-Zr alloy having density of (a) 8.61, (b) 8.53 and (c) 8.39 g/cm³.

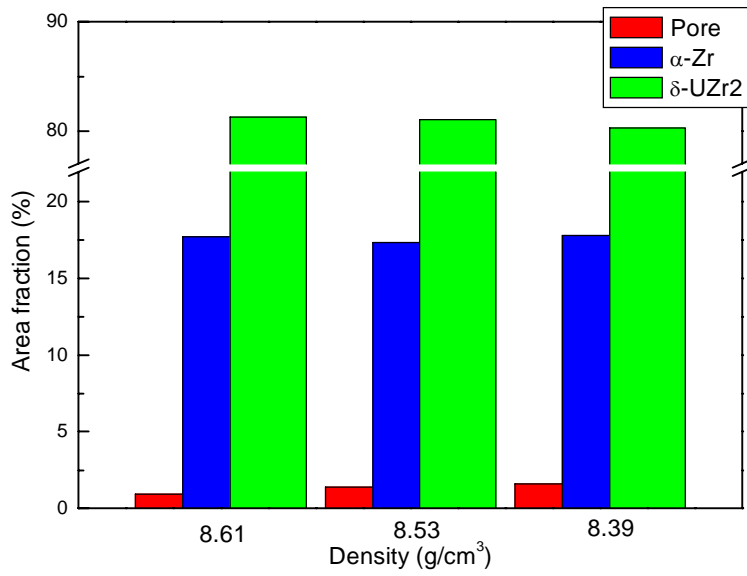


Fig. 10. Effects of density on the area fractions of α -Zr, δ -UZr₂ and pore in the sintered U-Zr alloy.

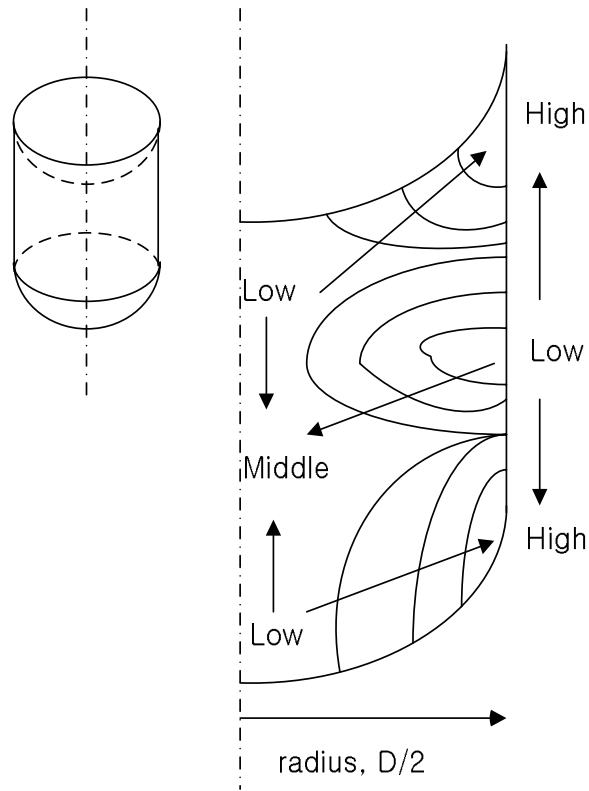
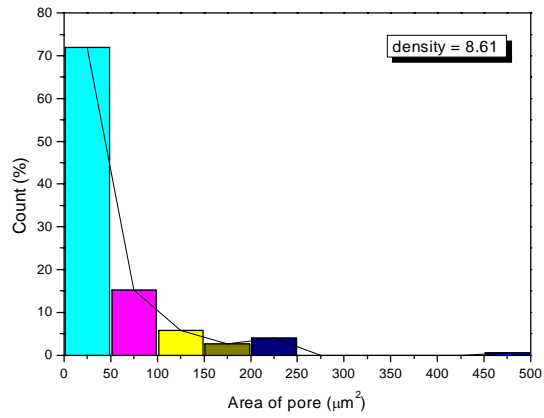
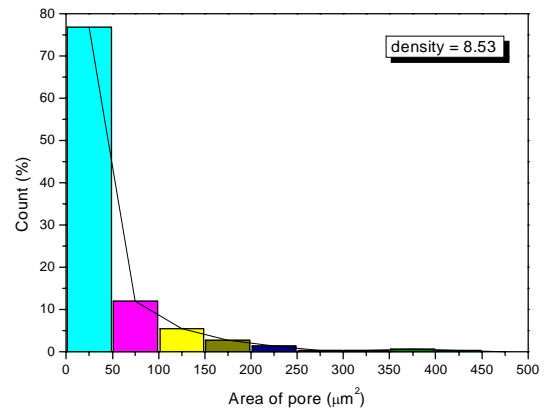


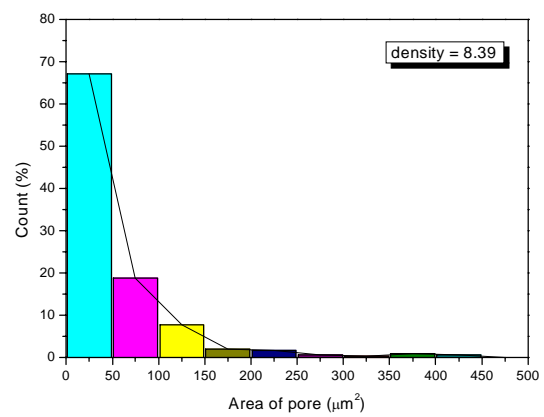
Fig. 11. Stress distribution during pressing of U and Zr powders by double-action pressing.



(a)



(b)



(c)

Fig. 12. Effects of density on the size distribution of pore in the sintered alloy.

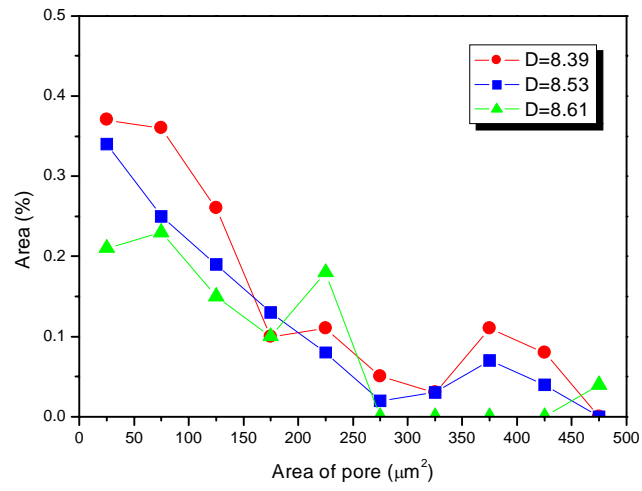


Fig. 13. Effects of density on the area distribution of pore in the sintered alloy.