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A THEORETICAL CALCULATION OF THERMAL CONDUCTIVITY OF SILICA AEOGEL

**Abstract**

Abstract One regular model which is a cubic array of intersecting square rods similar to actual microstructure of silica aerogel is presented to evaluate the effects of nanostructure of the SiO<sub>2</sub> aerogel on the thermal properties. Steady gas-solid coupling thermal conduction of one dimension in micro-model cell is analyzed. The calculated value of the effective thermal conductivity is 0.011 W/ m•K close to the experimental value which is 0.012W/(m•K). At the same time, the result shows that pore diameter distribution of material, especially macropore and micropore, has an important influence on its thermal conductivity.

Key words SiO<sub>2</sub> aerogel effective thermal conductivity theoretical model