2002

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Vibration Characteristics of a PWR Fuel Rod Supported by Optimized H Type Spacer Grids

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Abstract

The spacer grids are one of the main structural components in the fuel assembly, which supports and protects the fuel rods from the external loads by seismic and coolant flow. In this study, a modal test and a FE vibration analysis using ABAQUS are performed on a PWR dummy fuel rod of 3.847 m which is continuously supported by eight Optimized H type spacer grids. The experimental results agree with previous works that the natural frequencies decrease, while the amplitudes increase, with the increase of the excitation force. The force levels showing the maximum displacement of 0.2 mm are in the range from 0.2 N to 0.3 N, and at the same force range the fundamental frequencies are measured around 42.0 Hz, at which the relatively big displacements are observed at the 7th span. The results from the modal tests and the FE analyses are compared by both modal assurance criteria (MAC) values and mode shapes. The MAC values at 2nd, 4th, and 7th mode are below 50%. It is believed that the reason of the low MACs at those modes is that the vibration amplitudes of the modes are more distorted by the excitation force than those of the other modes.





 10.4 g/cm^3 UO_2 11.4 g/cm^3

 .
 ,
 plenum



Fig. 1 Fuel rod supported by spacer grid

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(a) Unit cell (b) 5x5 OHT spacer grid

Fig. 2 Shape of Optimized H type spacer grid



Fig. 3 Dimensions of the dummy fuel rod (unit: mm)

							Agilent VXI
Front End	d system, 가	, 가 ,		, I-DEA	S TD	AS	
	3.84	47 m ,	Fig	g. 4			0.522 m,
	0.62 m		8	가			
가	가			3/4		가	, 가
		1 ()	2 (1/4	3/4)	,
가							
	가		가			20~125 Hz	sine
sweep	, 11 가			I-DEAS	TD	AS	,
	,				Fig.	5	
				, ,	ABAQ	US	
		ABAQUS	2	(B	21)		3



Fuel Rod Gap Sensor Spacer Grid

Fig. 4 Installation position of sensors



Fig. 5 Schematic diagram of an experimental modal testing

		0.2 mm			
,	71	٦L		가	
	×r	>r			
Table 1	Н		가フ	+ (0.1]	N, 0.2 N,
0.3 N, 0.4 N)	RMS	가 0.3	, Fig. N	6	
, 					620
mm 가	7	1			,
	, 가	가		•	
가		. 가 0.1	Ν	5	
58.28 Hz 0.114	mm	,	가		가
, 0.2 N	2 , 가		가		
(7 a)	가				
(7,8)		0.2 mm		7	ŀ
0.191 mm 0.2 ~ 0.3 N	0.2 N	,	ノト	가	

Table 1. Displacement of the fuel rod with force levels

Disp. Force	Max. disp.(mm) / Freq.(Hz)	Disp.(mm) / Fund. freq.(Hz)
0.1 N	0.114 / 58.28	0.020 / 42.05
0.2 N	0.191 / 48.60	0.036 / 41.72
0.3 N	0.216 / 47.42	0.056 / 41.98
0.4 N	0.253 / 46.93	0.082 / 41.99



Fig. 6 Measured displacement of the fuel rod for the force level, 0.3 N



Fig. 7 Frequency response function for the force level, 0.3N at node #10

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Fig. 8 Real and imaginary part for the force level, 0.3 N at node #10

Table 2 8 . Table Error , Н (fundamental frequency) 42.0 Hz , 가 가 가 2 5 (8) 2.19 m • 가 (MAC) . MAC (1 100%) , (0 0%) 80% , 5% 가 ⁽¹²⁾. Fig. 9 0.3 N MAC . MAC Fig. 10 , Fig. 10 1 8 . 가 , , , 가 가 .

Excitation	Mada	Natural Freq	uencies (Hz)	$\Gamma_{max}(0/)$ *	MAC	
Forces(N)	Mode	Test	FE Analysis	Error(%)*	Value(%)	
	1	42.05	36.42	13.4	0.928	
	2	49.55	41.58	16.2	0.382	
	3	52.48	44.03	16.1	0.753	
0.1	4	55.96	48.13	14.0	0.458	
0.1	5	58.28	53.28	8.5	0.522	
	6	61.41	58.35	4.9	0.531	
	7	63.51	62.49	1.6	0.416	
	8	118.4	108.4	8.4	0.990	
	1	41.72	36.42	12.7	0.929	
	2	48.60	41.58	14.4	0.370	
	3	51.90	44.03	15.2	0.777	
0.2	4	55.79	48.13	13.7	0.464	
0.2	5	58.06	53.28	8.2	0.520	
	6	61.23	58.35	4.7	0.549	
	7	62.86	62.49	0.6	0.396	
	8	118.3	108.4	0.8	0.990	
	1	41.98	36.42	13.2	0.936	
	2	47.42	41.58	12.3	0.234	
	3	52.16	44.03	15.6	0.742	
0.3	4	54.81	48.13	12.2	0.402	
0.5	5	57.55	53.28	7.4	0.526	
	6	60.20	58.35	3.1	0.457	
	7	62.68	62.49	0.3	0.445	
	8	118.8	108.4	8.7	0.991	
	1	41.99	36.42	13.1	0.931	
	2	46.93	41.58	11.4	0.210	
	3	51.88	44.03	15.1	0.759	
	4	53.60	48.13	10.2	0.280	
0.4	5	57.79	53.28	7.8	0.470	
	6	59.27	58.35	10.1	0.363	
	7	62.27	62.49	-0.4	0.430	
	8	118.9	108.4	8.8	0.991	

Table 2. Comparison of natural frequencies and MAC values with force levels

* : $Error = \frac{(Test - FEA)}{Test} \times 100(\%)$

Modal Assurance Criteria Matrix



Fig. 9 MAC values between test and FE analysis results for the force level, 0.3 N



Fig. 10 Comparison of mode shapes between test and FEA results for the force level, 0.3 N

	Н	8			I-DEAS
TDAS			/	, ABAQUS	
			,		

(1)	8	Н			3.847m				가
	가	0.1 N			5		58.28 Hz	0.114 mm	
	, 가	가	2			가		, 0.3 N	0.216
r	nm								
(2)						42.0	Hz	, 가	가
				가					
	3								
(3)					,				10%
		,	1	8					
		. 7	F		7	'F	가		,
			1		, -	1	- 1		
(4)									

가

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