## Corrosion and Microstructure of the Advanced Fuel Cladding Tubes with the Final Annealing Temperature



## Abstract

In order to evaluate the effects of final annealing temperatures on characteristics of corrosion, recrystallization and microstructure in an advanced cladding tube (Zr-0.2Nb-1.0Nb-FeCrCu), the final treatments were carried out at the temperature range of 450 to 580°C for 2.5 hours. In addition, the microstructures and hardness with the phase change were investigated after the final-anneal at the  $\alpha$ ,  $\alpha$ + $\beta$ , and  $\beta$  phase regime. While the corrosion resistance of the alloy did not have a difference with the variation of final annealing temperatures in the conditions of PWR simulated corrosion Loop and 30 ppm lithiated solution at 360°C, the weight gains after the 260-day-corrosion test in 400°C steam showed the increasing trends with the increase of final annealing temperatures. Recrystallization of this alloy started at the targe of 505~600 °C. The specimen annealed in stress relief condition revealed the disappearance of dislocations, which were introduced in the cold-working stage, but recrystallized locally in several regions. Most of precipitates were found to be hcp ZrCr<sub>2</sub> (C14 Lavers type) and some different precipitates (tetragonal Zr<sub>2</sub>Fe, fcc Zr<sub>3</sub>Fe) were occasionally observed. The phase transformations of the alloy were occurred at 752°C and 883°C for  $\alpha$  to  $\alpha$ + $\beta$  and  $\alpha$ + $\beta$  to  $\beta$  phase transformation, respectively.



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9.5mm tube • 가 20 mm  $450 \sim 600^{\circ}C$ 360°C Loop , 360 °C . LiOH (70 ppm) 400°C . ,  $H_2O$  150 ASTM G2 . vol.%,  $H_2SO_4$  150 vol.%,  $HNO_3$  200 vol.%, HF 40 vol% , 3 가 . 가 1 가 가 TEM . , , , , , 450~600°C . 3.

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	1 Zr-0.2Nb-10.Sn-FeCrCu		PWR		Loop
180		가		. 18	30
	Zr-0.2Nb-10.Sn-FeCrCu		가	32~35 mg/c	dm²
					가
			PWR	Loop	
300					

가 2 400°C 260 , Loop 가 가 가 505°C 가 가 가 , 505°C 가 가 . Zr-0.2Nb-10.Sn-FeCrCu 가  $400^{\circ}\text{C}$ 

·	3	360°C 70 p∣  7	om LiOH		130 . Loc	op	
가	360°C	70 ppm LiOł	4				
3.2	2						
	4	Zr-0.2Nb-1	0.Sn-FeCrC	Cu			
		450°C	600°C				
		가		(c/w	, cold-worke	d)	2
$H_k$		450°C	2.5				
	208	H <sub>k</sub>			가 가		
	505	5°C	180 H <sub>k</sub>			505°C	
7r	0.2Nb	10 Sp E20r0			450 470°C		
- اے 505°C	0.2ND-		u 505~600 °C	)	450~470 C		
						, 490°C	
			50	5°C			
	. 5	20°C			가	(520°C)	
					5		
			,	6	TEM		
470°C							
						470°C	
	2						
3.3	ა ი <sup>ი</sup> ი				590°C		
47	0-0				580-0		
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C14 Lavers type hcp ZrCr<sub>2</sub> tetragonal Zr<sub>2</sub>Fe fcc Zr<sub>3</sub>Fe . .

가 Nb, Fe, Cr, Cu

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가

600°C 1

		Zr-0.2Nb-10.Sn-FeCrCu	hcp ZrCr <sub>2</sub>
		. 가	
	가	(69 → 80 nm).	number
density		가 가	. 7
470°C		Zr-0.2Nb-10.Sn-FeCrCu	

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3.4

DSC (differential Zr-0.2Nb-10.Sn-FeCrCu scanning calorimetry) 8 . 752°C α β 883°C β . (α, α+β, β) 690°C, 870°C, 1100°C , α . , α+β β 2 α . , β Martensite . 가 가 β 가 , Martensite β . Zr-0.2Nb-10.Sn-FeCrCu LOCA . .

- 4.
- 1) Zr-0.2Nb-10.Sn-FeCrCu 360°C Loop 70 ppm LiOH 7 , 400°C 7 7 7
- 2) Zr-0.2Nb-10.Sn-FeCrCu 450~470°C 505°C 505~600 °C

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3)

C14 Lavers

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type hcp ZrCr <sub>2</sub> , tetragor	nal Zr <sub>2</sub> Fe fcc Zr	₃Fe
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4) Zr - 0.2Nb - 10.Sn - FeCrCu 752°C  $\alpha$   $\beta$ 883°C  $\beta$  .

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2)	3	3	2002
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4)	J. M. Kim, et al., " Correlation of heat	treatment and corrosion be	havior of Zr-Nb
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6)	, K1, K2		
	2002	, (2002).	

## Table 1. Corrosion conditions of the 1<sup>st</sup> sample cladding tubes

Items	Temperature	Pressure	Corrosion solution
	360°C	2750 psi	pH = 6.8 at 25⁰C
260°C   000			DO < 5 ppb
360 C L00p			DH : < 1 ppb
			Conductivity : ~30 S/cm
360°C LiOH	360°C	2750 psi	[Li <sup>+</sup> ] = 70 ppm
400°C Steam	400°C	1500 psi	Pure steam

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(b)

Fig. 1 Corrosion properties of Zr-0.2Nb-1.0Sn-FeCrCu cladding tubes in PWR simulated loop condition







(b)

Fig. 2 Corrosion properties of Zr-0.2Nb-1.0Sn-FeCrCu cladding tubes in 400°C steam condition







(b)

Fig. 3 Corrosion properties of Zr-0.2Nb-1.0Sn-FeCrCu cladding tubes in 360°C 70 ppm LiOH condition



Fig. 4 Recrystallization of Zr-0.2Nb-1.0Sn-FeCrCu claddings



Fig. 5 Optical microstructures of Zr-0.2Nb-1.0Sn-FeCrCu claddings with final annealing temperature; (a) C/W, (b) 470°C, (c) 520°C



Fig. 6 TEM microstructures of Zr-0.2Nb-1.0Sn-FeCrCu claddings with final annealing temperature; (a) 470°C, (b) 520°C



Fig. 7 Precipitate distribution of Zr-0.2Nb-1.0Sn-FeCrCu claddings with 470°C final annealing temperature



Fig. 8 Phase transformation of Zr-0.2Nb-1.0Sn-FeCrCu claddings