### Zr-Nb-Sn-Fe-X

## Evaluation of Corrosion and Mechanical Properties of Zr-Nb-Sn-Fe-X Alloys for Fuel Claddings

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#### Abstract

The corrosion resistance of Zr-Nb-Sn-Fe-X alloys were evaluated by the autoclave tests under the environments of 360 water, 360 LiOH 70 ppm solution and 400 steam. The mechanical properties of those alloys were also investigated by tensile tests and creep tests. The corrosion resistance of the alloys in the water and the LiOH solution showed similar behavior, while they are superior to that of Zircaloy-4 in LiOH solution. The alloys, which have much in alloying content, showed better properties in tensile strength and creep resistance due to alloying effect. The final heat treatment of the alloys at 470 and 520 has little differences in corrosion behavior but much in mechanical strength and creep strength because the heat treatment at 470 has more dislocation barrier than that at 520 .

Key words : Corrosion resistance, Zirconium alloy, Zircaloy-4, Dislocation

**1.** 18 , 60GWd/MtU , 7ŀ pH 7.4 pH

Zircaloy-4 . Zircaloy-4 Zilro creep [1-2] M5 [3] NDA[4] MDA[5] K-Series Zr . . Zr-Nb-Sn-Fe 가 Zircaloy-4 Zirlo 470 가 520 . 2. VAR(Vacuum Arc Remelting) 1 Zr-Nb-10<sup>-7</sup>torr Sn-Fe 200g button Ar가 4 2 2 가 . 0.9mmフト 3 470 520 가 • 220 1200 SiC  $H_2O 50\% + HNO_3 45\% + HF 5\%$ 360 LiOH 70ppm 360 autoclave 400 autoclave 가 가 . mounting , 220 HF 10% + HNO3 45% 1200 SiC + H2O 45% etching 200 Knoop HMV-2 가 100g 10 Knoop . 60 80 µ m, 3mm . TEM Twin Jet-Polisher •  $C_2H5OH \ 900 \text{Me} \ + \ HClO_4 \ 100 \text{Me}$ -45 -40 12 17V , TEM 200kV 0.01mA . JOEL TEM TEM EDS 가 ASTM E8 . INSTRON-4505 400 .

0.9mm,	0.9mm, (gauge length) 25mm				400
150MPa	240	가		•	
	3.				
3.1.					
1 2 470	2.5	(5	SR )	520	2.5
(RX )	360	, LiOH	70ppm	360	400
	210		Zircaloy-4	(Zry4	) Zirlo
(ZLO)			•	1 Nb 0.4%	Nb
A1 A2		,	2 Nb 0.8	%	Nb
B1, B2, B3		Α, Β	30	60	360 LiOH
				400	
Zry4		Zirlo			. PWR
	LiOH	Α, Β		Zirlo	Zry4
		0.2%-1%	Nb	Zr	Nb 가
	[6] , 1-5%	Nb	Zr-Nb	Nb	가
	가	[′	7-8] N	۸b	
, A, I	B	Nb Nb	)		
,			•	LiOH	Zry4
60	가		А, В		•
A, 1	В .	가		•	А, В
	フト				3 210
A, B		SR	RX		. 360
360 LiOH	I	B2		RX	
SR			400		A1
R	X	SR			
•	가		SR	RX	
가	Α, Β			가	
	가		•		
3.2.					

4 A, B 1, 2 3 SR RX 200 . 1 570 2 . 2 7 t 1 . 2

가 가 1, 2 . 3 가 가 3 1, 2 470 SR 520 RX 가 . TEM 5 SR 가 가 RX 6 A, B 1,2 3 SR . RX 2 . 1 Knoop 가 . 2 1 3 SR 가 RX SR 가 가 RX 5 SR . 7 9 . SR RX 가 . SR 가 가 5 SR, RX B2, B3 . 가 . 5 RX B2, B3 A, B SR RX TEM EDX , Sn Zr-Sn . Α, Β Sn Sn . 4. Zr-Nb-Sn-Fe 360 LiOH 400 , . 1. 360 LiOH LiOH Zry4 . , 360 Zirlo • Zry4 2. 400 Zirlo Zry4 . 360 Zirlo Nb A1, A2 Zirlo .

470

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## B2, B3

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# Table 1. Chemical composition of the Zr-Nb-Sn-Fe-X alloys

Group	ID	Composition		
Low Nb	A1 A2	Zr-0.4Nb-0.8Sn-xFe-xMn Zr-0.4Nb-0.8Sn-xFe-xMo		
High Nb	B1 B2 B3	Zr-0.8Nb-0.6Sn-xFe-xMo Zr-1.0Nb-1.0Sn-xFe-xCu Zr-1.5Nb-0.4Sn-xFe-xCr		
Reference Tube	ZLO ZRY	ZIRLO Zircaloy-4		

Table 2. Manufacturing processes of the the Zr-Nb-Sn-Fe-X alloys

Manufacturing Steps		Heat treatment condition						
Beta treatment		1020°C, 30min						
Hot ro	olling		590°C, 30min					
Annealing		590°C, 3hr						
		(A1,	A2)	(B1, B2, B3)				
1 <sup>st</sup> cold rolling & Annealing		570°C, 2h		570°C, 3h				
2 <sup>nd</sup> cold rolling & Annealing		570°C, 2h		570°C, 3h				
3 <sup>rd</sup> cold rolling & Final annealing		SR: 470°C, 2.5h	RX: 520°C, 2.5h	SR: 470°C, 2.5h	RX: 520°C, 2.5h			

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Fig. 1. Corrosion behavior of low Nb alloys



Fig. 2. Corrosion behavior of high Nb alloys



Fig. 3. Effect of final heat treatment on the corrosion behavior of A, B alloys



Fig. 4. Optical micrographs (X200) of the A, B alloys



Fig. 5. TEM micrographs of A, B alloys after final SR and RX heat







Fig. 7. Tensile strength of A,B Alloys



Fig. 8. Creep properties of A and B Alloys