Safety Issues of the Subassembly Accident in the Liquid Metal Fast Reactor

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Abstract

Subassembly Accidents (S-A) in the Liquid Metal Reactor (LMR) may cause extensive clad and fuel melting and are thus regarded as a potential whole core accident initiator. The possibility of S-A occurrence must be very low frequency by the design features, and reactor must have specific instrumentation to interrupt the S-A sequences by causing a reactor shutdown. The evaluation of the relevant initiators, the event sequences which follow them, and their detection are the essence of the safety issue. The credibility of this argument strongly depends on the experimental observation, and on analytical tools to interpret data and to extrapolate experimental results to the reactor case. The expectations are that melting should be precluded in the Design Basis Events and considered as a Beyond Design Basis Events. In general, a qualified cleaning procedure after construction, a quality controlled

fuel element production, and a sensitive detection system for monitoring reactor condition rules out S-A as safety risk. Since there is no research effort regarding the S-A of LMFBR in Korea, the foreign strategies for dealing with the S-A and the associated safety issues with experimental and theoretical R&D results are reviewed. The result will be reflected for the KALIMER design later.

				1.			
(LMR)				(Design Bases Event, DBE)			
					. LM	IR	
(Su	bassembly Acci	dent: S-A)					
가							
S-A	A 가 LMR						가
						(foreign material)	
	가		가		. 1966	Fermi	
					blockage 가		
		가		. LMR		가	
							S-
A					LMR	가	
						S-A	
		,	S-A				
						S-A	
	가						
				가			
			S-A			R&D	
				KALIMER	(Park et a	al., 1997)	
	가						
			2.	S-A			
	LMR			S-A			
	가	가					
	가						
		(pin-to-pin failure	propag	gation)			
		가			,		
				가.			

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(assembly-to-assembly failure propagation)

가

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가

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가 가 S-A . (i) S-A 가 . 가 blockage • 가 blockage . (ii) (sensor) 가 가 S-A 가 가 가 S-A S-A 가 . S-A 가 . (iii) S-A S-A 가 1/yr (adventurous pin failure) 가 . 3. S-A Blockage 3.1 S-A S-A 가 가 가 5 가 blockage • 가 가 S-A blockage -가 가

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1. S-A

blockage















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Infrequent Event (IE): $(> 10^{-2}$ /year):blockageUnlikely Event (UE): $(> 10^{-4}$ /year):blockageExtremely Unlikely Event (XE): $(> 10^{-7}$ /year):blockage



S-A . . S-A 가 가 S-A • S-A . 가 6 . blockage S-A KALIMER (Extremely . BE Unlikely Event; XE) (Bounding Event; BE) DBE DBE . BE : (1) 가 (2) (3) (4) S-A 가 . XE 가 10-7/ 가 . BE S-A DBE . KALIMER 가 6 BE (Total Instantaneous Subassembly Inlet Blockage: TISIB) 가 . 가 가 TISIB S-A • 가 KALIMER . Kwon (1999a) DB BDBE KALIMER (Kwon, 1999b) • 5. S-A R&D Blockage 가 . Blockage 가 (porosity), blockage , 가 . blockage . Blockage 가 가 blockage . Blockage blockage 가 .

blockage • R&D 가 LMR 가 KALIMER R&D . , 가 가 cliff edge 가 (threshold in risk) 가 R&D 가 . • (1) 가 S-A (swelling) 가 PHENIX (), PFR (KNK II (),) 가 . 가 가 S-A . • KfK (in-pile) grid spacer blockage Screen model blockage 가 (Schultheiss, 1977) grid . blockage blockage . , blockage blockage 가 blockage blockage , DND 가 blockage . blockage : (i)

. (ii) pin bowing

(2) Blockage (foreign particles) . 3000 (inert) blockage 가 wire-wrap 가 . (breeder assembly) (active) blockage (Begin of Life) 가 DND 가 . blockage , blockage DND blockage 가 . 3 blockage COMMIX-1AR/P (Garner, 1992), SABRE (Mcdougall and Lillington, 1984), , 1998) MATRA-LMR (blockage SABRE . BACCHUS (Basque et al., 1985) 가 . (3) Blockage blockage . DBE 가 가 60% 90% blockage • 20~30K (sensor) . EFR (Schleisiek et al., 1990) 5 XE . (4) Bounding Event S-A S-A TISIB 가 CEA SCARABEE(Papin et al., 1990) . SCARABEE DND . : (1) .

(energetic event) (2) blockage 가 / . (3) DND 가 가 . (4) (thermal erosion) . (5) (heat . (6) flux) . (7) (stepwise) . (8) DB 가 가 TISIB BDB S-A BDBE . 가 가 가 • (5) . 가 S-A . 가 가 . 가 가 BDBE . DND DBE S-A • DND . 가 가 가 DND 가 가 . . CEA 가 SUPER PHENIX DND 가 (target unavailability) 10-7 가 . DND , , 가 (common mode failure) . S-A 가 (Acoustic Boiling Noise Detection; ABND) (Ultrasonic Temperature Measurement; UTM) . UTM 가 가 . UKAEA ± 7 °C 가 가 . ,

6. KALIMER S-A S-A : (1) (), (3)), (2) (• S-A (1) KALIMER blockage 가 : (i) , (ii) 가 receptacle (iii) , (iv) (orifice stack plate) , (v) , (vi) Wire wrapped rod bundle KALIMER . LMR blockage • . (2) 가 . PRISM 가 3 1 . 가 (3) 가 (Cover Gas Monitoring System; 가 가 . 가 가 가 가 CGMS) , CGMS 가 가 . CGMS . (Delayed Neutron Monitoring System: DNMS) (precursors)

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(4) blockage 가 . blockage 가 가 가 가 blockage 가 가 . 가 가 LMR 90% . 가 . , 가 Clinch River Breeder Reactor (CRBR) S-A 가 가 . CRBR PSAR 가 가 가 NRC . PSAR (RBCB) 가 . KALIMER 가 CRBR KALIMER PRISM NRC 가 가 (NRC, 1994) . PRISM 가 S-A (bounding) flow blockage TISIB . NRC 가 가 (slot)가 가 가 TISIB , , • TISIB . 가 가 TISIB • 7. KALIMER blockage . 가

blockage 가 가 가 가 가 cover gas 가 blockage 가 .



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