

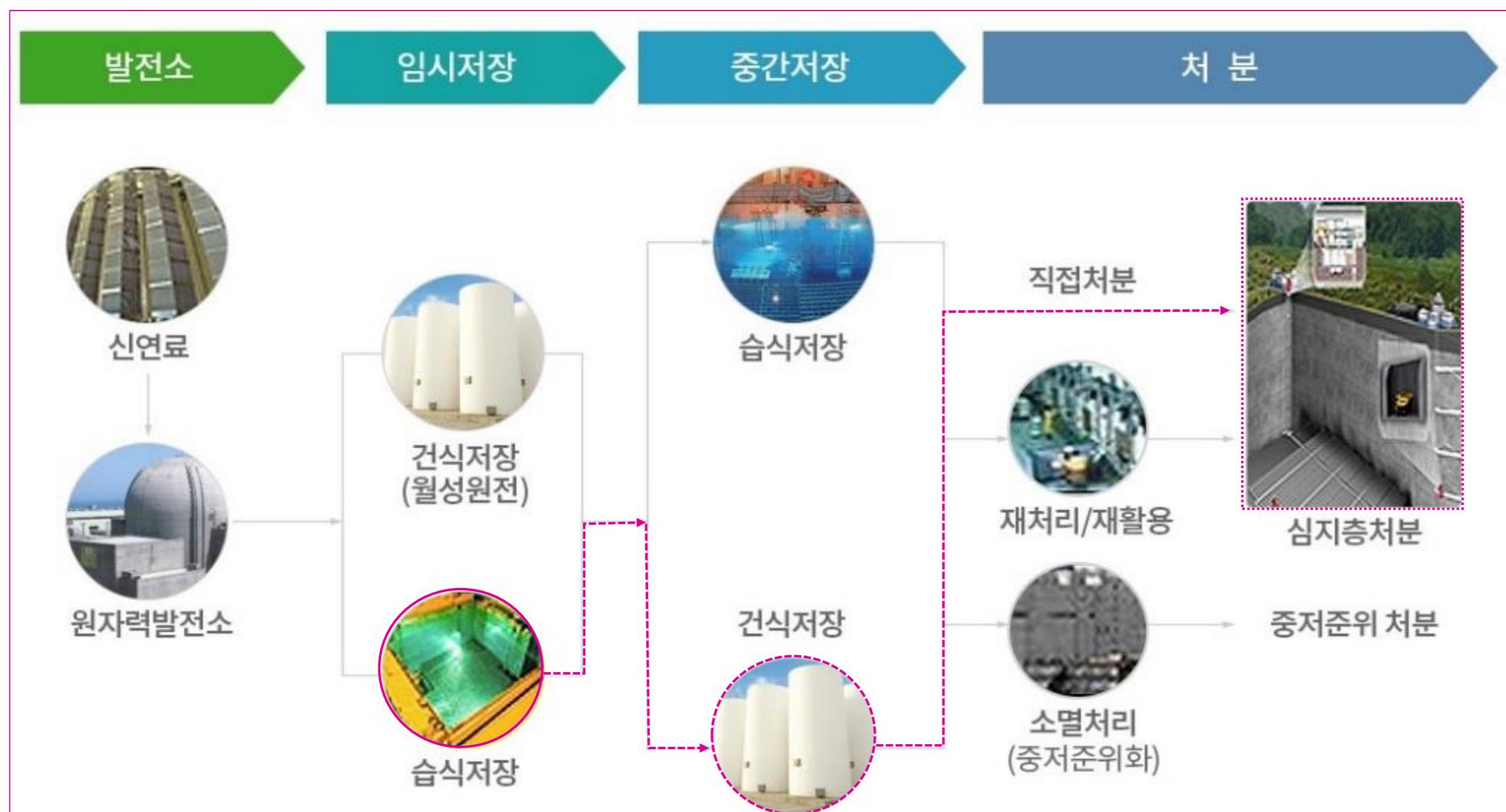
Comparison of Absorption Cross Sections for Neutron Absorbing Materials

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INTRODUCTION

• 국내 사용후핵연료 (SNF) 처리 방안



- 습식저장 SNF 이송용기 (transport), 중간저장 SNF 건식저장용기 (storage), 심지층처분시설 처분용기 (disposal) 제작시 중성자 criticality 고려
- 원안위 고시 요구사항: SNF 포함 핵분열물질 ($^{235}\text{U}/^{233}\text{U}$, ^{239}Pu) 미임계 유지를 위하여 중성자흡수재 사용 권고
- SNF 저장, 이송, 처분과 관련하여 중성자흡수재 수요는 증가

• 방사성물질 (핵분열성 물질 포함) 관리 국내외 규정

- 1) IAEA Safety Standards – Storage of Spent Nuclear Fuel (2012) [Specific Safety Guide No. SSG-15]
 - Where subcriticality cannot be maintained by geometrical configurations alone, additional means can be applied; fixed neutron absorbers and/or burnup credit
 - To maintain enough subcriticality margin in k_{eff} for all conditions including water flooding of the dry spent fuel storage facility

- 2) IAEA Safety Standards – Regulations for the Safe Transport of Radioactive Material (2009) [Safety Requirements TS-R-1]
 - '핵분열물질 포함 운반용기' 안전성 평가 기술기준 – 임계 안전성 평가
 - When n' absorbing materials are used, to ensure the continued presence and effectiveness of absorbing materials
 - Continued presence of absorbing materials is important, which considers the effect of package impact and fire tests

3) 원자력안전위원회고시 제2013-27호 (2013) – 방사성물질등의 포장 및 운반에 관한 규정

- 핵분열성물질 운반용기 기술기준 가운데 임계 상태 평가 요구
- 핵분열물질(사용후핵연료 포함)의 운반·저장과 관련하여 국내외 기준을 살펴보면 극한 환경조건에서도 시설/용기의 미임계상태를 유지하도록 규정하고 있음

→ 중성자흡수재 개발에 필요한 후보 핵종의 핵적 특성자료를 수집 분석하여 소재설계에 정보 제공

METHODS

• Neutron Absorption Elements

Materials	Elements (w/o)						
	Al (60.7)		B (30.8)		C (8.5)		
Boral®	Fe (66.8)	Cr (18)	Ni (12)	Mn (1)	Si (0.2)	C (0.02)	B (1.7)
B-SS	Ti (80)	Mo (12.5)	Nb (3.1)	Gd* (4.39)			
Model alloy							

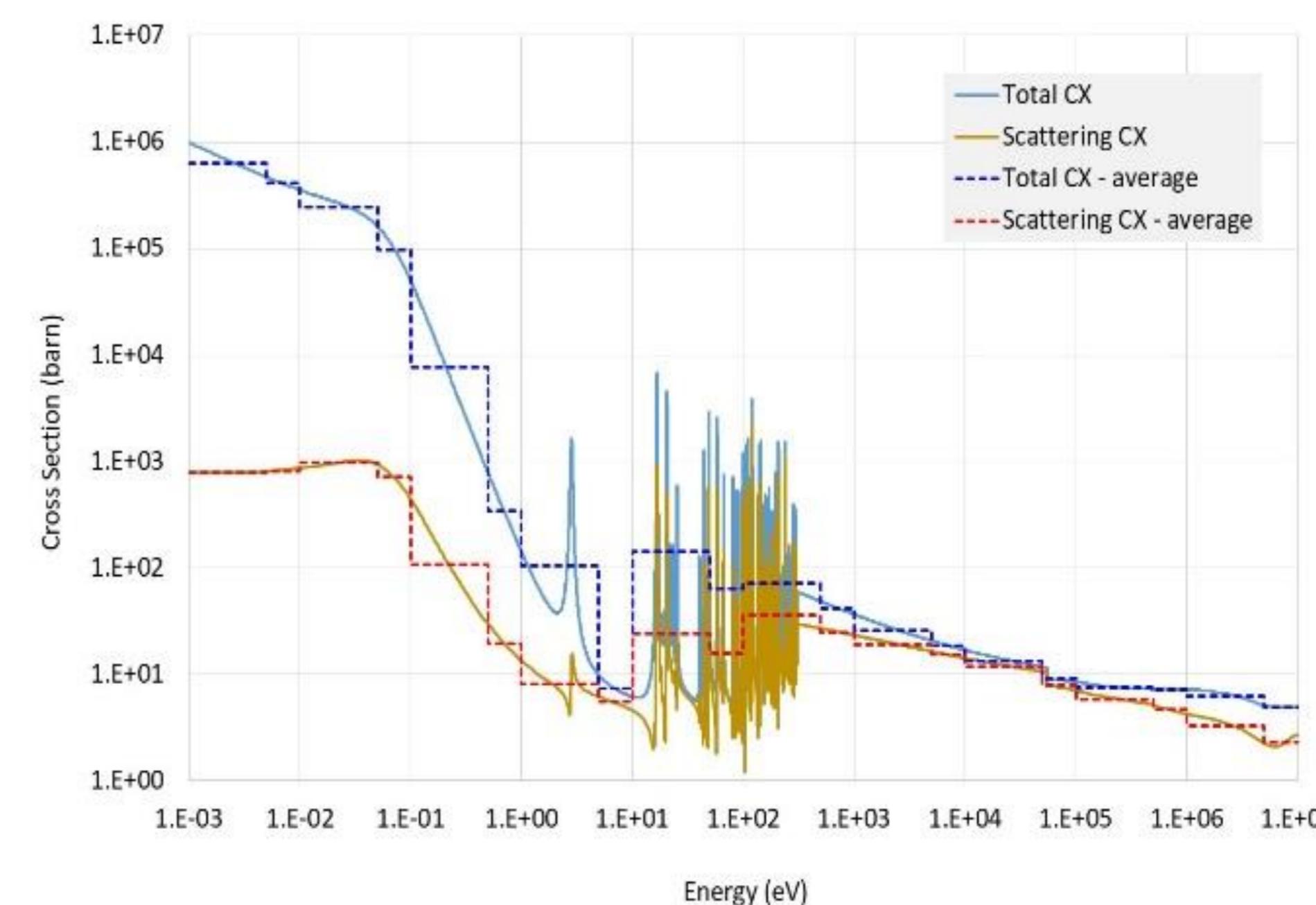
*other absorbing elements considered : Cd, Dy, Hf, Sm, In

- 현재 상용 및 기술기준에 부합한 중성자흡수재 중성자 흡수 단면적을 계산 (Boral, Borated stainless steels ↑)
- 본 연구에서 고려하고 있는 Gadolinium-containing Titanium-based 합금의 중성자 흡수단면적과 비교 (↑ table)

METHODS (Cont.)

• Calculation of Group-Averaged Cross Sections

- Obtain total (σ_{tot}) and elastic scattering cross section (σ_{el}) data from ENDF/B-VIII library (National Nuclear Data Center, Brookhaven National Laboratory, US)
- Energy range of interest (0.001 eV to 10 MeV) was divided into 20 energy groups at random
- House-made FORTRAN code to generate group-averaged cross sections



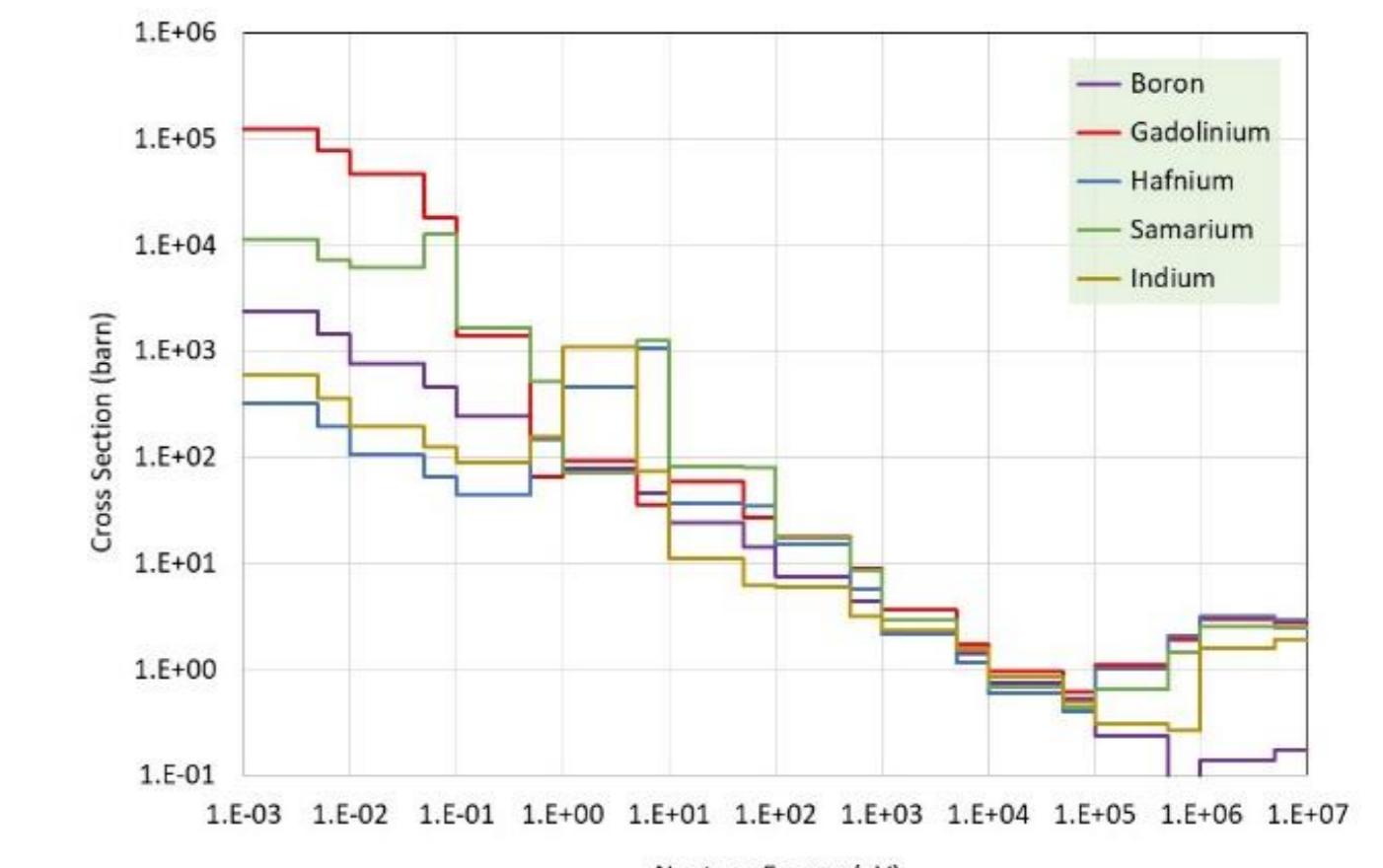
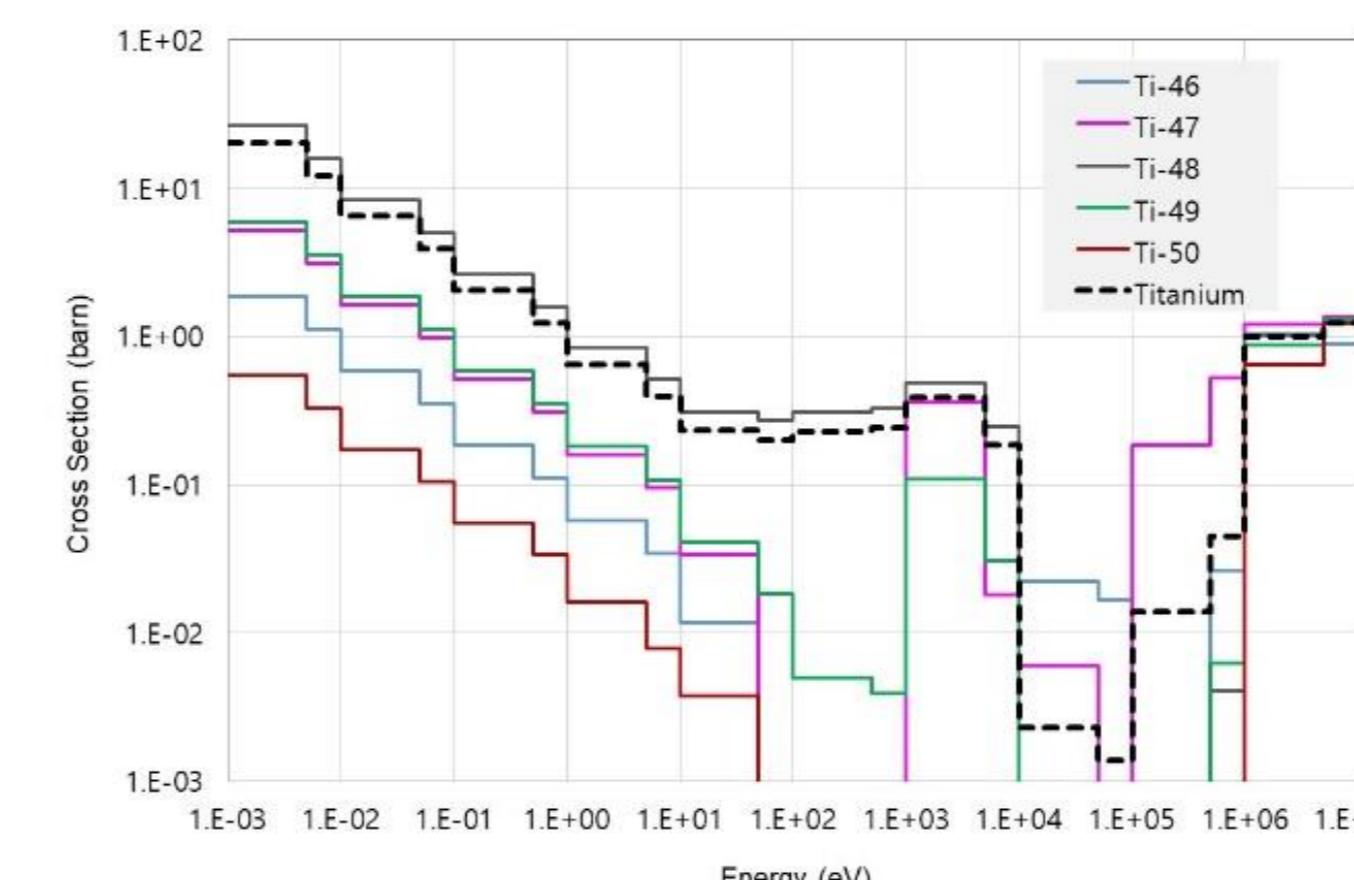
Total & elastic scattering cross sections for Gd-157
(solid: ENDF/B-VIII, dotted: group-average)

RESULTS

• Absorption Cross Sections of Elements

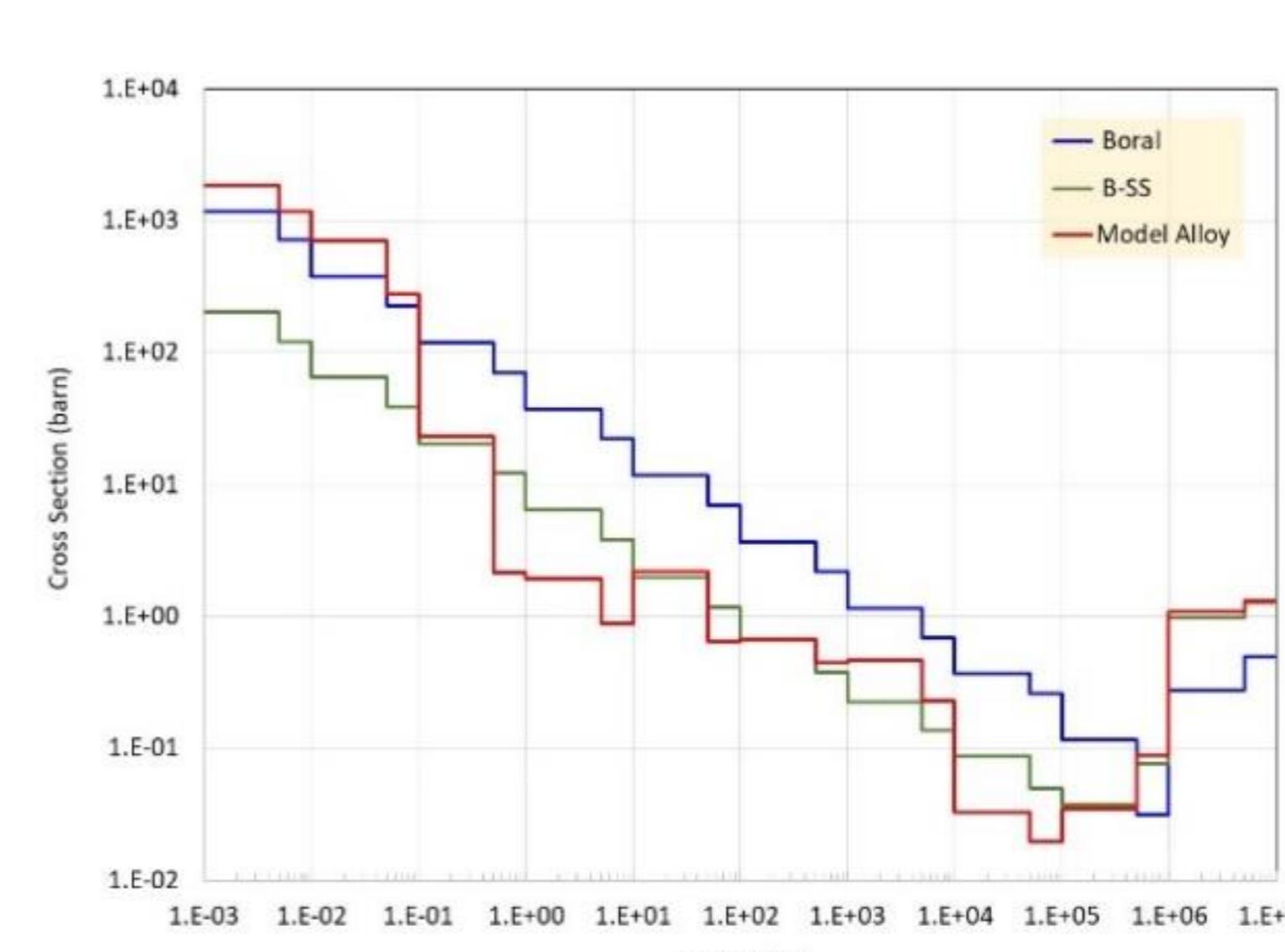
- By considering the natural abundance, calculate the absorption cross sections such as;

$$\sigma_{\text{abs}} = \sigma_{\text{tot}} - \sigma_{\text{el}}$$



(L) Absorption cross sections for Ti (dotted) and its isotopes (solid)
(R) Absorption cross sections for five neutron absorbing elements including B, Gd, Hf, Sm and In

• Neutron Absorption of Three Neutron Absorbing Materials



Absorption cross sections for neutron absorbing materials of Boral, B-SS and Ti-based model alloy

DISCUSSION

- 열중성자 영역($E_n < 0.5$ eV)에서 개발중인 Gd-Ti 합금의 중성자 흡수능이 다소 높은 것으로 분석됨. Gd 동위원소 가운데 Gd-157의 열중성자 흡수단면적이 매우 높음.
- epi-thermal 영역($E_n > 0.5$ eV)에서는 Boral 복합체의 중성자 흡수단면적이 상대적으로 높고, Ti-합금의 흡수능이 다소 낮음.
- SNF criticality 계산으로 종합적인 중성자 흡수능 평가 필요

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