

**Evaluation of Load Rejection to House Load Test at 50% Power  
for UCN 3**

Chang Gyun Lee, Suk Whun Sohn, Jong Joo Sohn, Jong Tae Seo, and  
Sang Keun Lee  
Korea Power Engineering Company, Inc.  
Yongsung Kim, Kyu Won Nam, Yang Mook Jung, Kyeong Sik Chae,  
Bum Jae Koh, Chul Sung Oh, and Hee Chool Park  
Korea Electric Power Corporation

**ABSTRACT**

The Load Rejection to House Load test at 50% power was successfully performed during the UCN 3 PAT period. In this test, all plant control systems automatically controlled the plant from 50% power to house load operation mode. The KISPAC code, which was used in the performance analysis during the design process of UCN 3&4, predictions of the test agreed with the measured data demonstrating the validity of the code as well as the completeness of the plant design.

**1. INTRODUCTION**

The Load Rejection to House Load test at 50% power, which was successfully performed on February 10, 1998, is one of the major tests which characterize the capability of Ulchin Nuclear Power Plant Unit 3 (UCN 3). During this event, both 345kV switchyard breakers, SY-HS-7500 and SY-HS-7572, were opened to generate a full load rejection. Unless the Nuclear Steam Supply System (NSSS) and Turbine/ Generator (T/G) control systems actuate properly, the reactor will be tripped due to a high pressurizer pressure.

In order to prevent reactor trip and to continue power operation during the load rejection to house load test at 50% power, UCN3 is designed with the Steam Bypass Control System(SBCS) which can accommodate a load rejection of this size without Reactor Power Cutback System(RPCS)[1] actuation. The RPCS is designed to actuate during the loss of main feedwater pump (LOMFP) event or a large load rejection at above 75% power. Along with the SBCS, other control systems such as the Feedwater Control System(FWCS), Reactor Regulating System (RRS), and the Pressurizer Pressure and Level Control Systems (PPCS and PLCS) are designed to automatically stabilize the plant conditions at a new steady state.

This paper presents the results of the load rejection to house load test at 50% power performed during the UCN 3 PAT period by evaluating the performances of the NSSS and T/G control systems as compared to the design capabilities. Also, the measured data are compared against the results predicted by the KISPAC code [2], which is the plant performance analysis computer code, in order to verify the plant

design as well as to validate the computer code.

## 2. TEST DESCRIPTIONS

### 2.1 Objectives and Acceptance Criteria

The main objectives of the load rejection test at 50% power[3] are as follows:

- (1) To demonstrate that the NSSS can accommodate the load rejection at 50% power without initiating a Reactor Protection System (RPS) signal or an Engineered Safety Features Actuation System (ESFAS) signal as well as without opening any primary or secondary safety valves and tripping the turbine.
- (2) To assess the performances of the NSSS control systems (SBCS, FWCS, RRS, PPCS, PLCS, RPCS) and Turbine Control System (TCS) following full load rejection to house load from 50% power.
- (3) To verify that the turbine Power Load Unbalance(PLU) circuit can automatically runback the turbine to match the generator and stabilize at house loads without any external runback signal.

The major acceptance criteria for the test[3] are:

- (1) The RPS does not initiate a reactor trip.
- (2) The ESFAS is not actuated.
- (3) The primary and/or secondary safety valves do not open.
- (4) The need to open the Atmospheric Dump Valves does not arise.
- (5) The RPCS does not drop the any CEA Groups into the core.
- (6) The RPCS does not initiate a turbine runback signal.
- (7) The PLU can accommodate the load rejection without the main turbine tripping on overspeed and then running back the turbine-generator to house loads without any external runback signal.

### 2.2 Initial Conditions

The test initial conditions are defined as the 55% power steady state conditions [3], and the major measured plant parameters at the time of test initiation are presented in Table 1 as compared to the nominal design values at 55% power. As shown in this table, all major initial conditions were within the acceptable range for performing the test, and all the NSSS and T/G control systems were in automatic mode of operation.

### 2.3 Expected Plant Performance

Upon opening of the 345kV switchyard breaker SY-HS-7572, the turbine power decreases immediately to house loads in response to the TCS control action. The decrease in turbine power causes a dramatic decrease in the steam flowrate to the turbine, and, hence, a sharp increase in the steam generator pressure. In response to the decrease in the steam flowrate and the increases in the steam generator pressure and the pressurizer pressure, the SBCS generates the steam bypass demand. The SBCS Quick Open signal opens Turbine Bypass Valves (TBV) 1001 through 1004.

Also, the pressurizer pressure increases due to the reduction in the primary to secondary heat removal, and PPCS actuates the main pressurizer spray to reduce the pressure increase. Initially, the SG water level decreases mainly due to the shrink caused by SG pressure increase and, then, recovers to the normal water level as the SG pressure stabilizes and the FWCS controls the feedwater flow.

The immediate actuations of the control systems described above are followed by slower control system actions such as the modulation steam bypass demand by SBCS to control the steam pressure and the CEA insertion demand by the RRS to match the reactor power to the turbine power. As the reactor power decreases, the SBCS starts to close turbine bypass valves. Based on the decrease in the RCS average temperature ( $T_{avg}$ ), the PLCS controls the letdown flow to match the pressurizer water level to the programmed level, and the PPCS controls the pressurizer pressure to its nominal pressure of 2250 psia by controlling the pressurizer heaters or spray.

### 3. TEST RESULTS AND COMPARISON TO EXPECTED RESULTS

The test data and the KISPAC code predictions for the major plant parameters are plotted in Figures 1 through 8. As shown in Figure 1, the turbine runback to house loads (60MWe) was successful by the appropriate TCS control action right after the 345 kV switchyard breaker SY-HS-7572 was opened from the initial load of 508MWe.

As shown in Figure 2, when the RRS starts to insert CEA (bank 5) into the core to match the reactor power to the turbine power, the reactor power decreases to 35% within 150 seconds after the initiation of this test. Since the Automatic Motion Inhibit (AMI) setpoint is set at 35% power, the SBCS generates AMI signal to block the automatic CEA insertion demand signal, and the reactor power stops decreasing further. A slight decrease in the reactor power below the AMI setpoint of 35% is mainly due to the reactivity feedback caused by Xenon build-up. As shown in Figure 3, the maximum  $T_{avg}$ -Tref deviation was about 20 °F which exceeds the RRS high rate CEA insertion setpoint of 3.53 °F. As compared in Figures 2 and 3, the KISPAC code predictions reasonably follow the trends of measured data.

As shown in Figure 4, the steam generator water level decreases sharply right after the initiation of the test mainly caused by the rapid increase in the steam generator pressure (Figure 5). After this initial level shrink, the steam generator level is restored as the steam generator pressure is maintained by SBCS (Figure 5). The FWCS responded to the steam generator level transient and controls the main feedwater flowrate to the steam generator (Figure 6). As presented in Figures 4, 5, and 6, the KISPAC code predicted similar trends of the test data.

Based on the decrease in the  $T_{avg}$ , the PLCS controlled the pressurizer water level to the programmed level by controlling letdown flow (Figure 7), and the PPCS restored the pressurizer pressure to its nominal pressure of 2250 psia (Figure 8). In general, reasonable agreement was observed between the code predictions and the measured data.

### 4. CONCLUSIONS

The Load Rejection test at 50% Power for UCN 3 unit was performed successfully, and the test acceptance criteria described in Section 2 were virtually met. The trends of

all major plant parameters were as expected by the design of the plant. Also, all NSSS and T/G control systems responded automatically to prevent reactor trip. The KISPAC computer code used in the performance analysis during the design process of UCN 3&4 predicted the test results successfully. However, further tuning on the input data as well as code modeling are deemed to be necessary for better predictions.

## 5. REFERENCES

- (1) KEPCO, UCN 3&4 FSAR, Chapter 7.
- (2) KOPEC, "KISPAC User's Manual," (Published Later).
- (3) KEPCO, "Test Procedure for PAT Load Rejection (with RPCS)," 3S-I-000-26, Rev.0

TABLE 1 : Initial Conditions of Major Plant Parameters

<b>Parameters</b>	<b>Measured Values</b>	<b>Nominal Design Values</b>
Neutron Flux power	55 %	55 %
Turbine/Generator Power	508 MWe	1553.75 MWt
Pressurizer Pressure	2241 psia	2250 psia
Pressurizer Level	41.9 %	42.2 %
RCS Average Temp.	577.2 °F	579.9 °F
RCS Reference Temp.	577.4 °F	579.9 °F
SG Pressure	1111 psia	1110 psia
SG Level	43.62 % of NR	44 % of NR

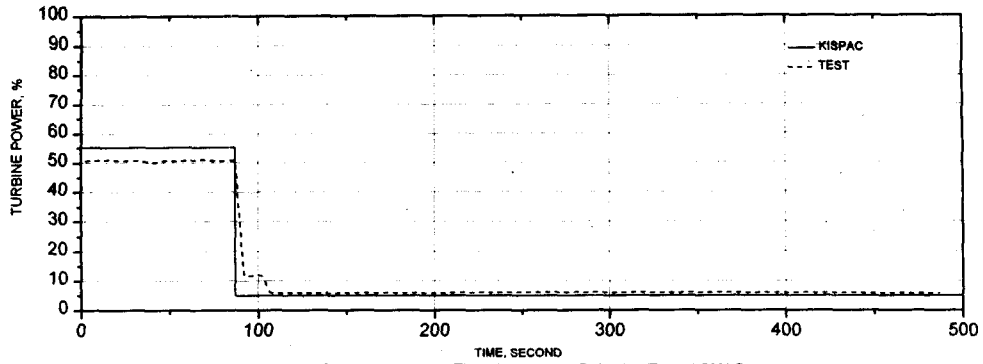


Figure 1. Turbine Power vs. Time during Load Rejection Test at 50% Power

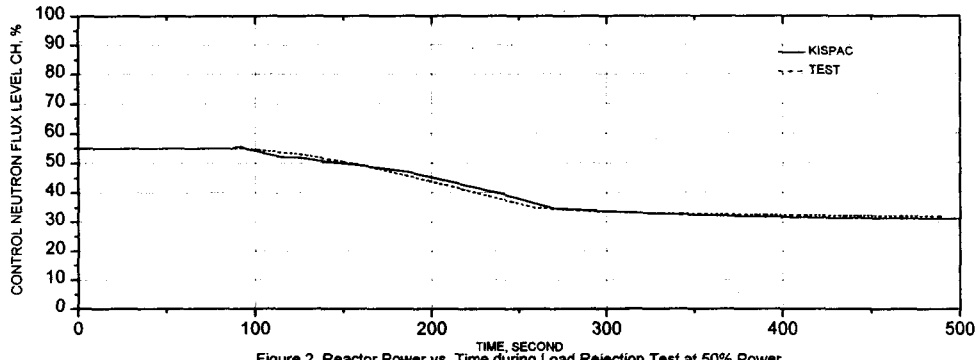


Figure 2. Reactor Power vs. Time during Load Rejection Test at 50% Power

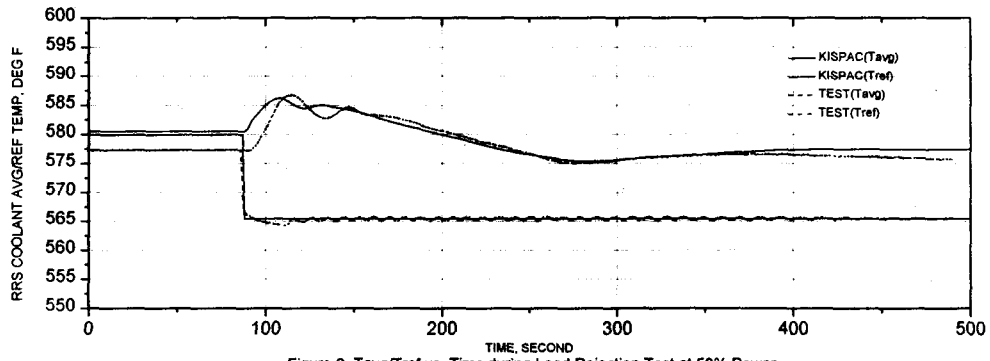


Figure 3. Tavg/Tref vs. Time during Load Rejection Test at 50% Power

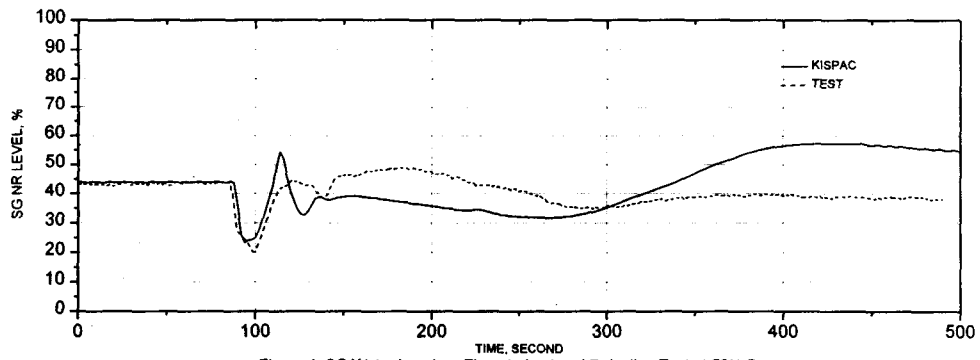


Figure 4. SG Water Level vs. Time during Load Rejection Test at 50% Power

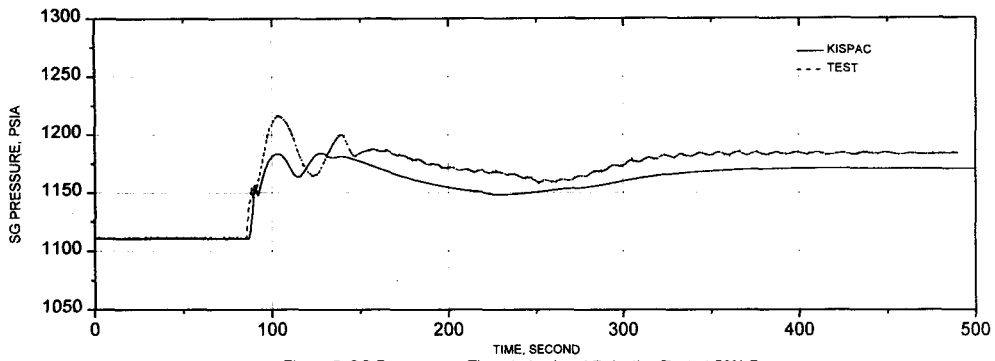


Figure 5. SG Pressure vs. Time during Load Rejection Test at 50% Power

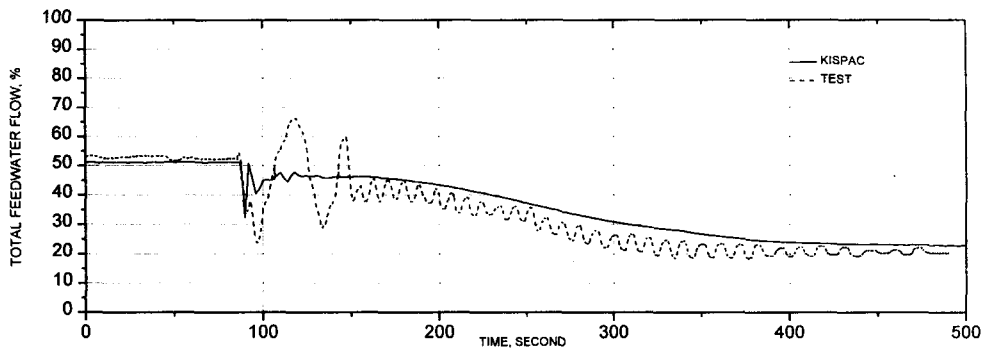


Figure 6. Feedwater Flow vs. Time during Load Rejection Test at 50% Power

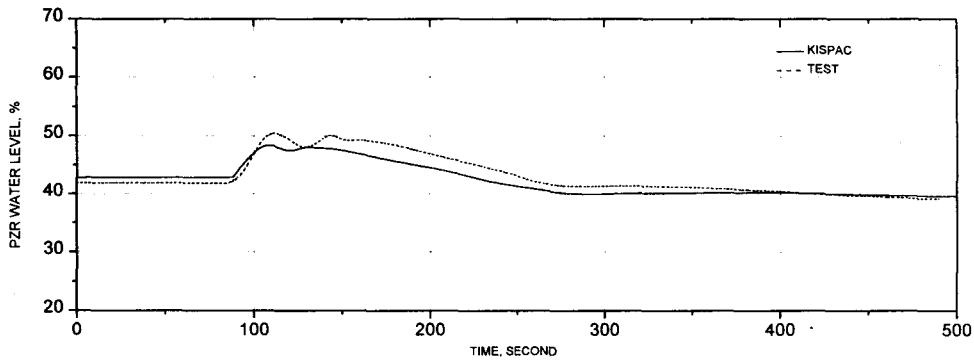


Figure 7. Pressurizer Water Level vs. Time during Load Rejection Test at 50% Power

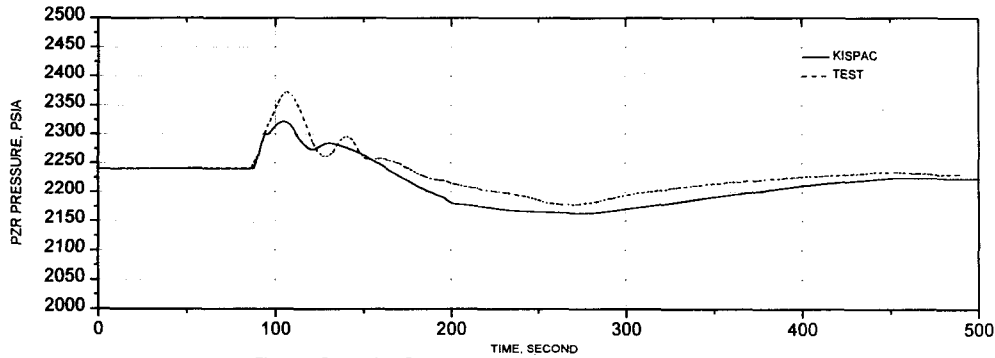


Figure 8. Pressurizer Pressure vs. Time during Load Rejection Test at 50% Power