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Failure Analysis of Top Nozzle Holddown Spring Screw for Nuclear Fuel Assembly

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Key Words: Holddown Spring Screw(), Preload(), Primary Water Stress Corrosion Cracking(1), Failure Analysis()

Abstract

A failure analysis of holddown spring screw was performed using fracture mechanics approach. The spring screw was designed such that it was capable of sustaining the loads imposed by the initial tensile preload and operational loads. In order to investigate the cause of failure, a stress analysis of the top nozzle spring assembly was done using finite element analysis and a life prediction of the screw was made using a fracture mechanics approach. The elastic-plastic finite element analysis showed that the local stresses at the critical regions of head-shank fillet and thread root significantly exceeded than the yield strength of the screw material, resulting in local plastic deformation. Primary water stress corrosion cracking life of the Inconel 600 screw was predicted by using integration of the Scott model and resulted in 1.42 years, which was fairly close to the actual service life of the holddown spring screw.

1. 가 가 (shot peening)⁽¹⁾

Fig. 1 (Primary Water Stress Corrosion Cracking: PWSCC)

Inconel 600 가 Inconel 718

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17x17

Fig. 2

Table 1 Chemical compositions of Inconel alloys

Materials	Chemical compositions											
	Ni	Cr	Fe	Mo	Mn	Si	C	Nb	Ti	Al	Co	Cu
Inconel 600	72	15.8	7.2	-	1.3	0.5	0.04	-	-	-	0.5	0.5
Inconel 718	55	18.6	18.5	3.1	0.35	0.35	0.04	5.0	0.9	0.4	0.1	0.3

(2) 20
 6 (C3D20)가
 (analytical rigid surface)
 PWSCC 11,296 6,267
 17,563

2.

2.1

ABAQUS small-sliding penalty
 friction formulation 0.2 가

Fig. 3 ABAQUS 6.2 (thread)

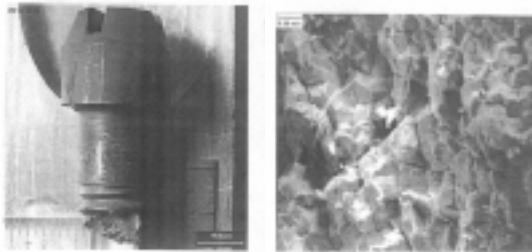


Fig. 1 Fracture of holddown spring screw.

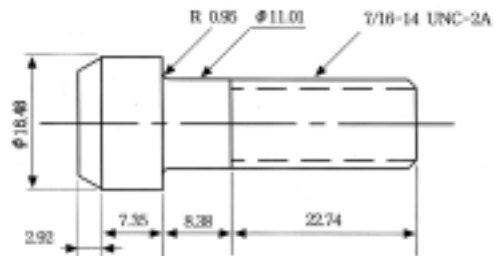


Fig. 2 Schematic drawing of 7/16-14 UNC spring screw.

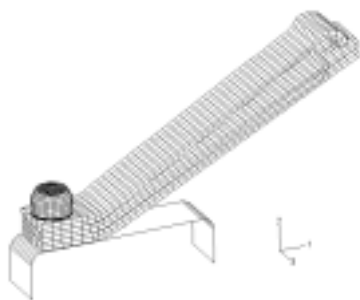


Fig. 3 Finite element models of a top nozzle spring assembly.

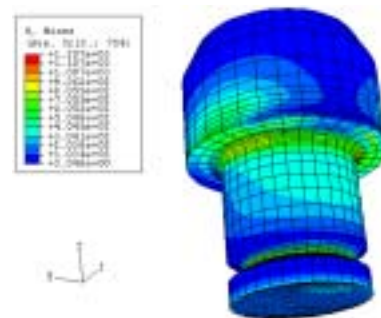


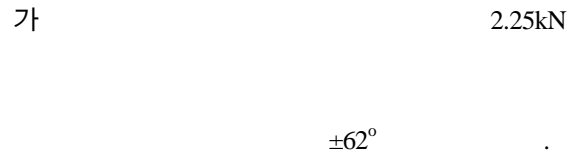
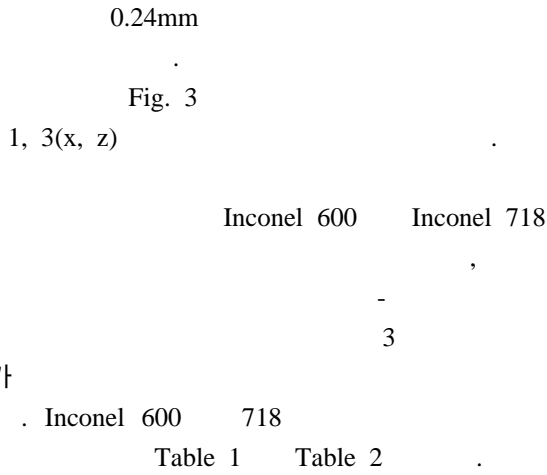
Fig. 4 Stress distributions of preloaded screw subjected to a holddown force of 2.25kN.

Table 2 Mechanical properties of Inconel 600 and 718 alloys

Mechanical properties	Alloy 600	Alloy 718
Elastic modulus, E (GPa)	210	225
0.2% offset yield strength, $\sigma_{0.2}$ (MPa)	706	1,188
Ultimate tensile strength, σ_u (MPa)	792	1,492
Elongation, EL (%)	45	20
Reduction in area, RA (%)	68.2	34.7
True fracture strain, ϵ_f (%)	114.6	42.6
True fracture stress, σ_f (MPa)	1,625	2,007
Hardness, HRC	21.0	40.4

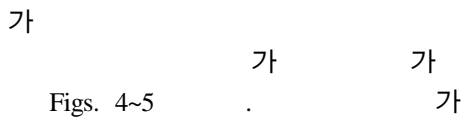
Table 3 Reaction forces and moments in screw

Loading type	P_1 (kN)	P_2 (kN)	M (kN · mm)
Holddown force	2.56	24.0	41.1
Preload + holddown force	2.22	20.0	34.5



2.2

20kN



가 Fig. 6

Table 3

Fig. 5 Equivalent strain distributions of preloaded screw subjected to a holddown force of 2.25kN.

Fig. 6 Reaction forces and moments in the screw.

3.

3.1

PWSCC , stress intensity, water chemistry 10^{-12} 10^{-8} m/sec (3,4) Scott⁽³⁾ Smialowska⁽⁴⁾ kinetics PWSCC Smialowska

가 가 가 가 가 가 가 가 가 Alloy 600 PWSCC Scott

$$\frac{da}{dt} = 2.8 \times 10^{-12} (K-9)^{1.16} \text{ m/sec} \quad (1)$$

PWSCC (,), (Li, B) (가) 가 Fig. 7 Scott model

Forman Shivakumar

(5)

Oster Mills⁽⁶⁾

Toribio⁽⁷⁾,

James & Mills⁽⁸⁾

James Mills

$$\frac{K_I}{\sigma_m \sqrt{\pi a}} = Ae^{Bx} + C + Dx + Ex^2 + Fx^3 + Gx^4 \quad (2)$$

$x=a/D$, A=2.043, B=-31.332, C=0.6507, D=0.5367, E=3.0469, F=-19.504, G=45.647 , M $\sigma = \sigma_m = 32M/\pi D^3$

$$\frac{K_I}{\sigma_m \sqrt{\pi a}} = Ae^{Bx} + C + Dx + Ex^2 + Fx^3 + Gx^4 \quad (3)$$

A=2.043, B=-31.332, C=0.6301, D=0.03488, E=-3.3365, F=13.406, G=-6.0021

3.2

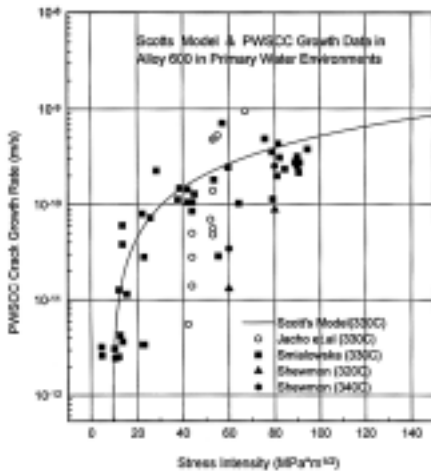


Fig. 7 PWSCC crack growth rate model.

Table 4 Predicted PWSCC crack growth life of screw at 330°C subjected to holddown force

Loading type	a_i (m) at $K_I=K_{ISCC}$	a_c (m) at $K_I=K_{IC}$	Life(year)
Tension	0.000046	0.007099	5.27
Bending	0.000022	0.009756	3.78
Combined load	0.000007	0.006479	1.04

Table 5 Predicted PWSCC crack growth life of screw at 330°C subjected to preload and holddown force

Loading type	a_i (m) at $K_I=K_{ISCC}$	a_c (m) at $K_I=K_{IC}$	Life(year)
Tension	0.000076	0.007388	9.09
Bending	0.000033	0.009934	5.14
Combined load	0.000010	0.006791	1.42

Oster and Mills

(6)

$$\frac{K}{\sigma \sqrt{\pi a}} = f(a/D) \quad (4)$$

$$f(a/D) = 3.0149 + 2.04902e^{166.26x} - 51.624x + 722.92x^2 - 5342.9x^3 + 21757x^4 - 45123.3x^5 + 37900.2x^6$$

(4)~(6)

Fig. 8

$P_2=24\text{kN}$, $M=41.4\text{kN}\cdot\text{mm}$

가

, K , a Fig. 9

. Fig. 9

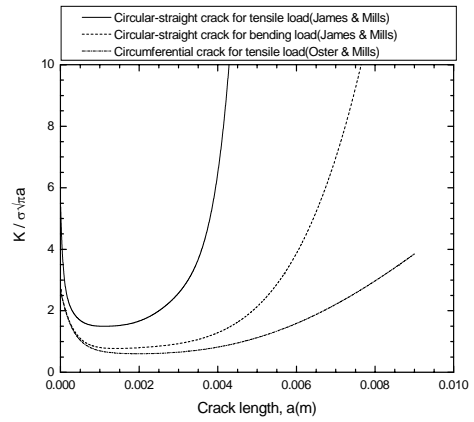


Fig. 8 Normalized stress intensity factors of cracks in screw thread.

3.3

PWSCC

Inconel 600 (grain

size)가 20μm

30~50μm

가

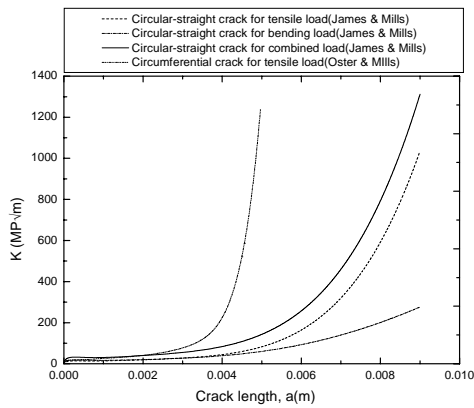


Fig. 9 Stress intensity factors versus crack length for cracked screw thread subjected to a holddown force of 2.25kN.

PWSCC

Inconel 600

PWSCC (1)

Scott

. PWSCC

Scott

가

$$T(sec) = \int_0^{t_f} dt = \int_{a_i}^{a_f} \frac{1}{2.8 \times 10^{-12} (K-9)^{1.16}} da \quad (5)$$

, a_i , a_f

$K_I=K_{ISCC}$

$K_I=K_{IC}$

가 Inconel

600

(K_{ISCC})

10MPa·m^{1/2},

(K_{IC}) Westing-

house

341MPa·m^{1/2}

K_{ISCC} 가 10MPa·m^{1/2}

9MPa·m^{1/2}

$K_{ISCC}=9\text{MPa}\cdot\text{m}^{1/2}$

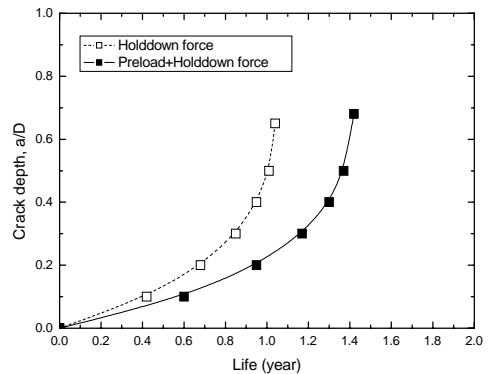


Fig. 10 Consumed PWSCC life of screw at 330°C.

PWSCC

Table 4

Fig. 10
kN
가
Table 4
PWSCC
가
가
1.42
4.
1.
가
가
0°~ ±90°
가
2.
가
4~9%, 21~37%
3. 1
Inconel 600
)
가
PWSCC
PWSCC
가

20

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