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Mechanical/Structural Performance Analysis and Test on the KAERI Designed Spacer Grids for the PWR

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Key Words: Fuel Assembly(), Spacer Grid Spring(), Fuel Rod(), Spacer Grid(), Characteristic Curve()

Abstract

KAERI has contrived 15 kinds of spacer grid shapes of its own since 1997 and applied for domestic and foreign patents. To date, KAERI has obtained US and ROK patents for 6 kinds of spacer grid shapes among them and the others are under review in USA, EC, China, and ROK. In this study, mechanical/structural performance analysis and test on two spacer grid shapes that are assumed to be the most effective candidates for the spacer grid of the next generation nuclear fuel in Korea was carried out. The result has shown that the performances of the candidates are better or not worse than those of the current spacer grid.

1. 80 % 가 (PWR) 가

40 %

Fig. 1 가 , 가
200 mm 가 4000 mm
Fig. 1
가 1 , 8 , 24
1
(UO₂) (8 mm, 10 mm
0.6 mm
)가

3 ~ 5
(cell)
(3mm)

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1
2 2 가
2 가

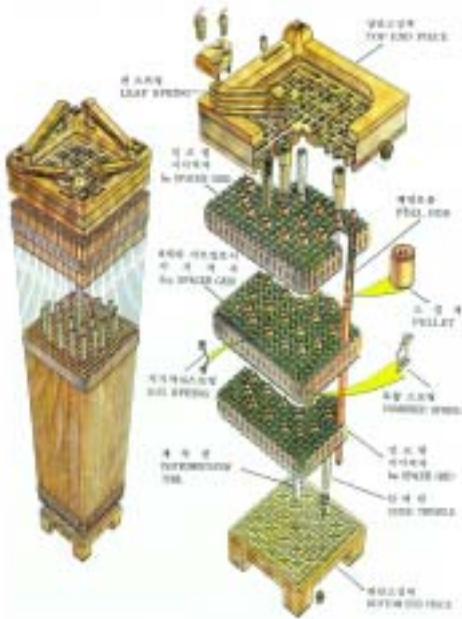


Fig. 1 Fuel Assembly for Westinghouse-type Plant.

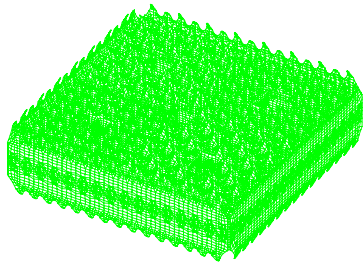


Fig. 2 Spacer Grid Assembly.

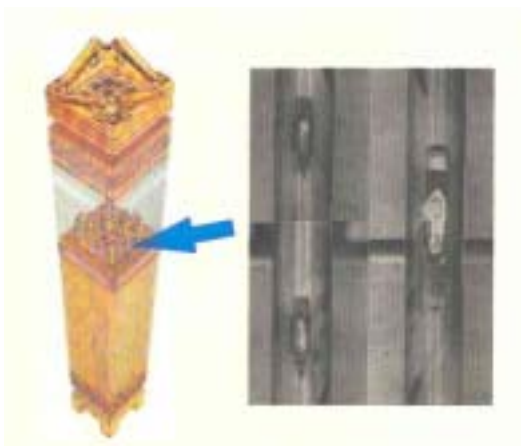


Fig. 3 Fretting Wear Scar at Fuel Rod.

Fig. 2

가 ,
 (egg-crate)
 stamping
 ,
 ,
 stress relaxation() 가
 () 가
 1
 90 % (1)
 -
 zero가
 -
 1 (5 ~ 8m/s)
 ((Fig. 3))
 1
 1997
 15
 2003 9 6 가
 8 , ,
 .
 2000/
 2001 가
 가
 2가
 , H (Opt. H) /
 (Doublet) ,
 () ,
) 가
 가

2.



Fig. 4 Mixing Vane.



Fig. 5 Test Specimen of KAERI Designed Springs(left: Opt. H; right: Doublet).

1
가

가
(2000/2001
) Fig. 5

Doublet
(2000
)

UO₂ 가

1

Fig. 5

(self-recovery)
()

(mixing vane)

가

가

2가

3.

Fig. 5

2

(Ref. B)

(Ref. A)

Fig. 6

Fig. 5

(conformal contact shape)
(Opt. H)

150 ±50 N가

Fig.

6

Opt. H

Doublet

1.0 mm
Opt. H
Doublet Ref. A Ref. B
Fig. 7 8
2
Fig. 9 10
가
2)

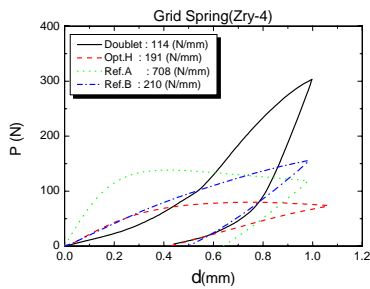


Fig. 6 Spring Characteristic Test Result.

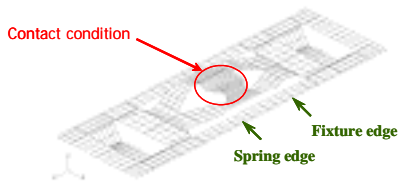


Fig. 7 FE Model of Opt. H-type Spring.

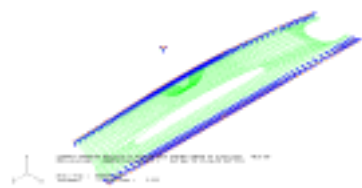


Fig. 8 FE Model of Doublet Spring.

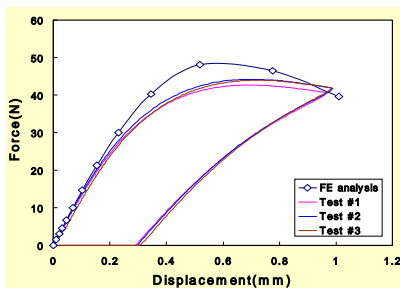


Fig. 9 Spring Characteristic Analysis Result (Opt. H-type Spring).

4.

Fig. 11 5 5x5

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Fig. 11

shaker

Table 1

Fig. 12 5x5

5

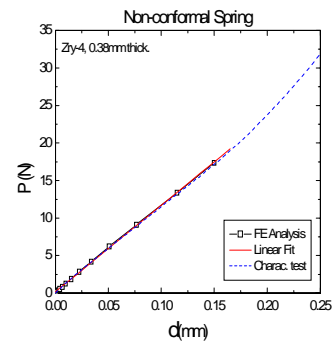


Fig. 10 Spring Characteristic Analysis Result (Doublet Spring).

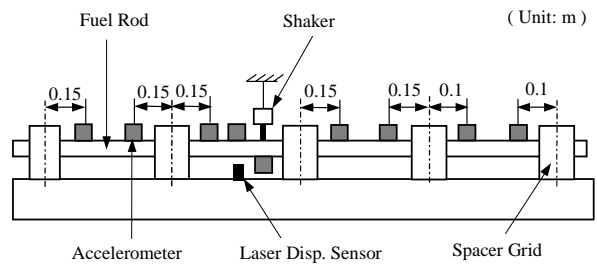


Fig. 11 Fuel Rod Vibration Test Set-up.

Table 1 Natural Frequency of Fuel Rod

Spacer Grid	Mode #	Test	Analysis	(%) *	MAC
Opt. H	1	31.02	38.21	23.2	0.910
	2	44.57	44.63	0.1	0.934
	3	48.65	53.07	9.1	0.917
	4	97.95	81.64	-23.5	0.603
	5	103.56	121.0	16.8	0.803
Doublet	1	44.58	30.73	-31.1	0.911
	2	46.81	37.99	-2.5	0.719
	3	49.66	47.98	-3.4	0.927
	4	-	-	-	-
	5	110.9	109.5	-1.34	0.740

* (%): (Analysis-Test)/Test * 100

5.
 5x5 Doublet
 Fig. 15

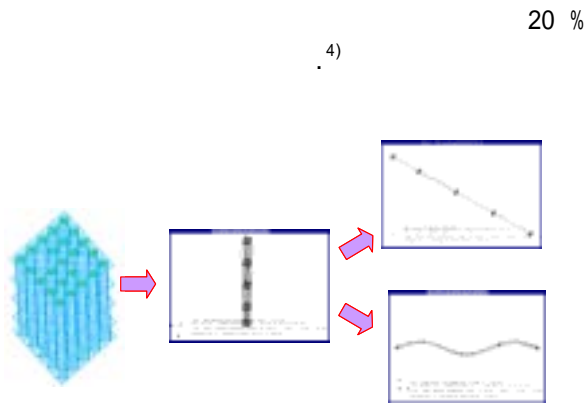


Fig. 12 Fuel Assembly Vibration Analysis.

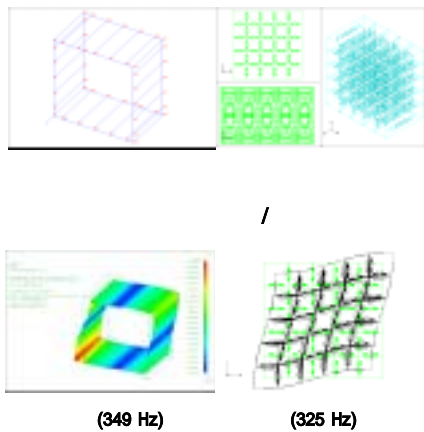


Fig. 13 Spacer Grid Free Vibration Result.

Fig. 13

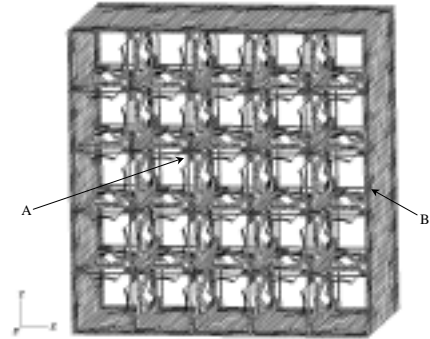


Fig. 14 FE Model of 5x5-type Spacer Grid.

Fig. 14

Table 2

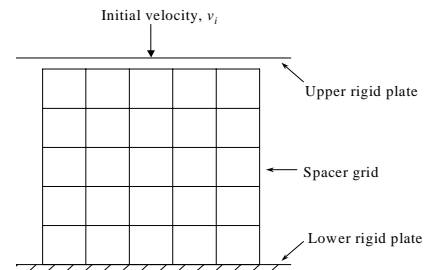


Fig. 15 Loading/Boundary Condition for Impact Analysis.

Table 2 Impact Result between Test & Analysis

Parameters	Test	Analysis	(%) [*]
Critical acceleration (m/s^2)	402.0	361.8	-10.0
Critical velocity (m/s)	0.64	0.50	-21.8
Critical force (N)	9445	9008	-4.6
Duration time (msec)	9	6	N/A

* (%): (Analysis-Test)/Test * 100

() () .

(1) Kreyns P. H. and Burkart M. W., 1968, "Radiation-enhanced Relaxation in Zircaloy-4 and Zr/2.5 wt % Nb/0.5 wt % Cu Alloys," *J. of Nuclear Materials*, Vol.26, pp. 87 ~ 104.

(2) , , , , , 2003, " , "

(3) , , , , , 2003, " H (5x5) , "

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KSME 02MF069.