

1.) a.) oxide thickness?

Given

$$T = 625 \text{ K}$$

$$t = 400 \text{ days}$$

$$x = 500 \text{ } \mu\text{m}$$

$$PBR = 1.56$$

$$\rho_{ZrO_2} = 5.68 \text{ g/cc}$$

$$\rho_{Zr} = 6.59 \text{ g/cc}$$

$$t^*(d) = G \cdot C \cdot \gamma \cdot \exp\left(\frac{11949}{625}\right)$$

$$t^* = 133.15 \text{ days}$$

$$\approx 133 \text{ days}$$

$$t > t^*$$

$$\Rightarrow \delta^*(\text{Nm}) = 5.1 \exp\left(\frac{-550}{625}\right)$$

$$\delta^* = 2.12$$

$$\Rightarrow \delta(\text{Nm}) = \delta^* + K_L (t - t^*)$$

$$K_L = 7.48 \cdot 10^{-6} \exp\left(\frac{-12500}{625}\right)$$

$$K_L = 1.54 \cdot 10^{-14}$$

$$\delta = 2.12 + 1.54 \cdot 10^{-14} (400 - 133)$$

$$\delta = 2.12$$

- underestimate
due to no linear growth

b.) H PPM after 1 year?

$$C_H = 2 \cdot \delta \cdot \rho_{ZrO_2} \left(\frac{M_H}{M_O}\right) \cdot \frac{1}{\left(x - \frac{\delta}{PBR}\right) \rho_{Zr}}$$

$$C_H = \frac{2 (6.18) (2.12) (5.68) \left(\frac{1}{16}\right)}{\left(500 - \frac{2.12}{1.56}\right) (6.5)} \times 10^6$$

$$C_H = 83.6 \text{ wt. PPM}$$

$$14/16$$

100

2.) Total fuel vol change?

Given

$$\alpha_{th} = 11e-6$$

$$\dot{f} = 3.5e13 \frac{\text{fission}}{\text{cm}^2 \text{s}}$$

$$T = 1200 \text{ K}$$

$$T_{ref} = 300 \text{ K}$$

$$D_R = 0.01$$

$$\beta_D = 5 \frac{\text{MW}}{\text{kgU}}$$

$$\rho_{02} = 10.97 \text{ g/cc}$$

$$t = 85 \text{ days}$$

$$\Rightarrow \beta = \frac{\dot{f} t}{N_U}$$

$$N_U = 2.45e22 \text{ g/cc}$$

$$\beta = \frac{(3.5e13)(7.34e6)}{2.45e22}$$

$$\beta = 0.0105 \text{ FIMA}$$

$$\Rightarrow \epsilon_{th} = \alpha_{th} \Delta T$$

$$\epsilon_{th} = 11e-6 (1200 - 300)$$

$$\epsilon_{th} = 0.0099$$

$$\Rightarrow \epsilon_D = \Delta \rho_D \left[\exp \left(\frac{\rho_{02} \beta_D}{\rho_D \beta_0} \right) - 1 \right]$$

$$\beta_0 = 5 \frac{\text{MW}}{\text{kgU}} = 0.0053 \text{ FIMA}$$

$$\epsilon_D = 0.01 \left[\exp \left(\frac{0.0105 \rho_{02} (0.01)}{1 (0.0053)} \right) - 1 \right]$$

$$\epsilon_D = -0.0099$$

$$\Rightarrow \epsilon_{SFP} = 5.577e-2 \rho \beta$$

$$= (5.577e-2)(10.97)(0.0105)$$

$$\epsilon_{SFP} = 0.0064$$

$$\Rightarrow \epsilon_{GFP} = 1.96e-28 \rho \beta (2800 - T)^{11.3} \exp(-0.0162(2800 - T)) \exp(-178 \rho \beta)$$

$$= (1.96e-28)(10.97)(0.0105)(2800 - 1200)^{11.3} \exp(-0.0162(2800 - 1200)) \exp(-178 \cdot \frac{1}{10.97})$$

$$\epsilon_{GFP} = 6.107e-13$$

- missed the math somewhere, but doesn't affect result

$$\Rightarrow \epsilon_{tot} = \epsilon_{th} + \epsilon_D + \epsilon_{SFP} + \epsilon_{GFP}$$

$$\epsilon_{tot} = 0.0099 - 0.0099 + 0.0064 + 6.107e-13$$

$$\epsilon_{tot} = 0.0064$$

3.) Σ_r Creep?

Given

$$\sigma_m = 200 \text{ MPa}$$

$$T = 600 \text{ K}$$

$$\text{LHR} = 150 \text{ W/cm}$$

$$t = 1.5 \text{ yrs}$$

$$n = 5$$

$$A_0 = 4 \times 10^{-24} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$$Q = 2.7 \times 10^5 \text{ J/mol}$$

$$A_0 = 4 \times 10^{-24} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

not negative
exponent

$$\Rightarrow G = (4.1 \times 10) - (2.3 \times 7) T \text{ (Pa)}$$

$$G = 2.72 \times 10^4$$

$$\Rightarrow \dot{\epsilon}_{ss} = A_0 \left(\frac{\sigma_m}{G} \right)^n \exp \left(\frac{-Q}{RT} \right)$$

$$\dot{\epsilon}_{ss} = (4 \times 10^{-24}) \left(\frac{200}{2.72 \times 10^4} \right)^5 \exp \left(\frac{-2.7 \times 10^5}{8.314 \times 600} \right)$$

$$\dot{\epsilon}_{ss} = 2.68 \times 10^{-58} \text{ s}^{-1} \Rightarrow \text{math wrong here}$$

$$\Rightarrow \dot{\epsilon}_{ir} = C_0 \Phi^c \sigma_m^{c_2}$$

$$\Phi = 3 \text{ e11 LHR} = 4.5 \text{ e13}$$

$$\dot{\epsilon}_{ir} = (2.7 \times 10^{-24}) (4.5 \text{ e13})^{0.85} (200)^1$$

$$\dot{\epsilon}_{ir} = 2.19 \times 10^{-10} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$$\dot{\epsilon}_{ss} \approx 1.5 \times 10^{-10}$$

$$\Rightarrow \dot{\epsilon}_{tot} = \dot{\epsilon}_{ss} + \dot{\epsilon}_{ir}$$

$$\dot{\epsilon}_{tot} = 2.68 \times 10^{-58} + 2.19 \times 10^{-10}$$

$$\dot{\epsilon}_{tot} = 2.19 \times 10^{-10}$$

$$\epsilon_{tot} = \dot{\epsilon}_{tot} t$$

$$\epsilon_{tot} = (2.19 \times 10^{-10}) (4.73 \times 10^7)$$

$$\epsilon_{tot} = 0.0104$$

$$= 1.04\%$$

- got a lower strain due
to wrong A_0

- 4.) 1. Soluble Oxides ✓
 2. Insoluble Oxides ✓ 5/5
 3. Metals ✓
 4. Volatiles ✓
 5. Noble Gases ✓

5.) Microstructure modeling: 4/6
 Utilizes material microstructure relationships that are functions of state variables and fuel conditions to determine material properties of fuel and cladding
 Has the potential to provide a more predictive fuel performance capability

- 6.) 1. Low neutron x-section ✓
 2. Good thermal conductivity ✓
 3. Affordable Cost ✓ 6/6

7.) Zr diffuses via Soret diffusion up the temperature gradient, and Zr also has different solubilities in U phases, leading to distinct zones of Zr content in radial rings 5/5

8.) MOX has different neutronics, fission gas release, thermal conductivity, etc. 7/8
 Designed to operate at much higher LHR - higher T
 - reconstruction

- 9.) 1. Corrosive environment ✓
 2. Susceptible material ✓
 3. Sufficient stress ✓
 4. Sufficient time ✓ 7/8

Process of PCI involves combination of high internal mechanical stress in the cladding and a corrosive environment resulting from volatile fission products accumulating in fuel-clad gap
 - would have liked a bit more

10.) Can occur during LOCA transients

5/6 Phase-field modeling being used to account for effects of surface tension and gas bubble pressure
 → increase bubble A due to T/T

11.) RIA - dependent upon control rod insertion/ejection

4/8 LOCA - coolant flow reduced or lost altogether

RIA example - Chernobyl
 → performance differences?

- 12.) 1. Improved Fuel properties ✓
 2. Improved Cladding Properties ✓
 Cladding coating/liner 6/6

- 13.) 1. PCMI ✓
 2. Cladding Oxidation and Hydrogen Pickup 4/4