#### **Swelling**

• First discovered in 1986-UK

• Occurs when vacancies collect into clusters which grow and cause the material to expand

• Has been observed in many pure metals and alloys (Mg, Al, V, Fe, Co, Ni, Cu, Nb, Mo, Ta, W, Re, and Pt) and dozens of alloys.

• Generally occurs between 30 and 50% of the absolute melting point.

### (Figures)

• Usually try to keep swelling <<10% (i.e., 1-2%)

• Limits the operating life to 2-3 FPY's in austenitic steels and 5-7 FPY's in ferritic steels.



Figure 6-22. Chronological evolution of swelling predictions for AISI 316 in the U.S. LMR materials program, reflecting the tendency of predictions to increase as data became available at progressively higher swelling levels (Garner, previously unpublished). The swelling rate is in units of  $\%/10^{22}$  n cm<sup>-2</sup> (E > 0.1 MeV).



Figure 6-23. Temperature dependence of void swelling observed in FFTF first core heat CN-13 of 20% cold worked AISI 316 at  $\approx 1.4 \times 10^{23}$  n cm<sup>-2</sup> (E > 0.1 MeV) or  $\approx 70$  dpa (courtesy of W. J. S. Yang of Westinghouse Hanford Company).



Figure 6-24. Easily observed swelling ( $\approx 10\%$  linear,  $\approx 33\%$  volumetric) in unfueled 20% cold worked AISI 316 cladding tube at  $1.5 \times 10^{23}$  n cm<sup>-2</sup> (E > 0.1 MeV) or  $\approx 75$  dpa at 510°C in EBR-II (after Straalsund et al., 1982). Note that, in the absence of physical restraints, all relative proportions are preserved during swelling.



#### **Embrittlement**

# • Loss of ductility due to helium collecting at grain boundaries.

Try to keep the uniform elongation
1%

• In ferritic steels, the shift in the ductile to brittle transition temperature is the important thing.

(Figures)

### **Overall Conclusions**

• In DT devices , displacement and transmutation effects will limit useful lifetimes to a few full power years. Hence replacement of the FW, blanket, components will have to be done on a regularly scheduled basis.

• Use of advanced fuels will drop the neutron wall loading by a factor of  $\approx$  30 which means that the structural materials can last for the life of the reactor.



Figure 6-146. Hardening and ductility loss observed in two stainless steels irradiated in the HFIR, HFR, and R2 mixed spectrum reactors at 250 °C at helium/dpa ratios ranging from 10 to 35 appm/dpa (after Elen and Fenici, 1992).



Figure 6-163. Irradiation-induced evolution of  $J_c$  fracture toughness in various austenitic steels and weids (after Mills, 1982).



Figure 6-168. Dependence of DBTT on irradiation temperature for HT9 irradiated in FFTF (unpubed data courtesy of W. L. Hu, Westinghouse Han-Company).



Figure 6-170. Shift in ductile to brittle transition temperature in HT9 as a function of neutron fluence and irradiation temperature (after Powell et al., 1986).



Figure 6-92. Comparison of creep rates observed in 20% cold worked 316 stainless steel in uniaxial tests during thermal aging or neutron irradiation in EBR-II (after Gilbert et al., 1972).

#### Criteria for Selecting First Wall Materials in Fusion Reactors\*

<b>Criteria</b>	Favored Materials	Less Favored	
Radiation Damage and Lifetime			
<ol> <li>Swelling</li> <li>Embrittlement</li> </ol>	Ti, FS**, V, Mo, AS** AS, Ti	Al, C, SiC FS, V, Mo, C, SiC	
Chemical Compatibility			
<ol> <li>Lithium</li> <li>Helium (impurities)</li> <li>Pb-Li Alloys</li> <li>Water</li> </ol>	Mo, V, FS, AS, Ti Mo, FS, AS, C, SiC Mo, V, FS, AS, Ti, SiC, C AS, FS, Mo, Ti, Al	(SiC, Al, C) Ti, Al, (V) Al V, (SiC, C)	
Mechanical and Thermal			
1) Yield Strength 2) Embrittlement 3) Creep Strength 4) Thermal Stress $\equiv \frac{2\sigma_y k(1-\upsilon)}{\alpha E}$	Mo, Ti, V, FS, AS AS, Ti, Al, Mo, FS Mo, V, FS, AS, Ti Mo, Al, V	SiC, C, Al V, SiC, C C, SiC, Al Ti, FS, AS	
Fabricability and Joining	AS, Al, FS, Ti	V, Mo, C, SiC	
Database and Industrial Capability	AS, FS, Al, Ti, C	SiC, Mo, V	
Long-lived Radioactivity	V, C, SiC, Ti, Al	FS, AS, Mo	
Cost	Al, AS, FS, C	Ti, V, SiC, Mo	
Resource Availability (USA)	C, SiC, Al, Ti, Mo, AS, FS	V	

\* Note: Only Base Metal Listed (i.e., Ti for Ti alloys, V for V alloys, etc.) \*\* AS for austenitic stainless steel, FS for ferritic steel

() Materials in parentheses are generally unacceptable with coolant.

## **Radioactivity Concerns From Fusion**



#### <u>Neutron Induced Activity in Fusion Structural</u> <u>Materials</u>

- Associated with DT, DD, and even D<sup>3</sup>He
- Very material dependent
- Design dependent (% structure, etc.)

Example

- DT
- 316 SS
- 2024 Al
- TZM
- V-20Ti
- Fixed Blanket Structure (see figure)

#### Use Calculational Procedure Developed by Sung-Vogelsang

#### "DKR-A Radioactivity Calculational Code for Fusion Reactors", UWFDM-170

#### "Decay Chain Data Library for Radioactivity Calculations", UWFDM-171

Tak Sung, PhD Thesis-Oct. 1976 "Radioactivity Calculations in Fusion Reactors"



# University of Wisconsin CTR Blanket Structure





## <u>Time to Decay to Specific Levels of Radioactivity in</u> <u>Various CTR Designs</u>

Level- Ci/kW	316 SS	TZM	Nb-1Zr	V-20 Ti	2024 Al
Initial	1,060	4,120	5,150	1,260	880
1,000	100 s	3 d	1 h	1 min	-
100	<b>3</b> y	2 wks	1 mon	30 min	1 d
10	15 y	40 d	6 mon	2 wks	3 d
1	30 y	6 mon	<b>1</b> y	3 y	<b>4</b> y
0.1	60 y	3,000 y	<b>1.5 y</b>	10 y	<b>20 y</b>
0.01	2,000 y	40,000 y	<b>2</b> y	15 y	30 y
0.001	5,000 y	1,000,000 y	5 y	<b>20 y</b>	<b>40 y</b>

#### **Radioactivity in Fission** and Fusion Reactors Total for 30 yr Reactor Lifetime



#### F, W. Wiffen

IEA Low Activation Materials Workshop Culham, England April 8-12, 1991

#### Inventory of Radioactivity in a Fusion Reactor STARFIRE, Total for 30 yr Reactor Lifetime



F. W. Wiffen IEA Low Activation Materials Workshop

Culbarn, England April 8-12, 1991

Elemental Composition of Normal and Reduced Activation Steels					
	Concentration in Wt. %				
Element	PCA	Tenelon	HT-9	MHT-9	
B	0.005	0.001	0.01	0.001	
С	0.005	0.15	0.2	0.15	
Ν	0.01	0.005	0.05	0.001	
0		0.007	0.01	0.007	
Al	0.03	0.008	0.01	0.008	
Si	0.5	0.2	0.35	0.2	
P	0.01	0.13	0.02	0.013	
S	0.005	0.004	0.02	0.004	
Ti	0.3	0.003	0.09	0.1	
V	0.1	0.002	0.3	0.3	
Cr	14.0	15.0	12.0	11.0	
Mn	2.0	15.0	0.55	0.53	
Fe	64.88	69.4	85.0	85.2	
Со	0.03	0.005	0.02	0.005	
Ni	16.0	0.006	0.5	0.006	
Cu	0.02	0.003	0.09	0.003	
Zr	0.005	0.001	0.001	0.001	
Nb	0.03	0.00011	0.0011	0.00011	
Мо	2.0	0.00027	1.0	0.00027	
Ag	0.0001	0.00009	0.0001	0.00009	
Sn	0.005	0.003	0.003	0.003	
Та	0.01	0.0004	0.001	0.0004	
W	0.05	0.01	0.5	2.50	
Pb	0.001	0.0005	0.001	0.0005	
Bi	0.001	0.0002	0.001	0.0002	



## Why Develop Low Activation Stainless Steels?

For	Against
Reduce Long Term Radiation Level to Allow Near Surface Burial	Usually Aggrevates the Short Term Afterheat Problem
Reduce Long Term Waste Disposal Costs	Cost of Developing and Qualifying New Low Activation Alloy Can Be Substantual
Reduce Exposure to Workers if Alloy is Recycled	May Increase Short Term Radiation Levels and Increase Radiation Levels During Maintenance
Makes Fusion More Attractive to Environmentalists and Politicians	Time Involved in Developing and Qualifying Low Activation Materials May Delay the Implementation of Fusion

Radwaste Class	Period from Decay to Acceptable Level	Meets Minimum Waste Form Requirements	Meets Stability Requirements	Provide an Intruder Barrier	Depth of Burial
Α	<<100 years	Yes	No	No	<<5 m
В	< 100 years	Yes	Yes	No	< 5 m
C	< 500 years	Yes	Yes	Yes	> 5 m
Deep	> 500 years	Yes	Yes	Yes	Deep
Burial	-				Geological
					Burial

## **The "Everything Goes Deep" Philosophy**

#### One School of Thought at the IEA Workshop on Low Activation Material, Culham, UK, 8-12 April 1991

"Shallow land burial is impractical and politically unsound. This is true in many European countries at present and will probably be true in the US soon. It should be dropped from consideration in definition of criteria for low activation materials."

## The "Everything Goes Deep" Philosophy

Implication

"If deep geological disposal replaces shallow land burial, then there is a greatly reduced benefit of low activation over conventional materials."

"The emphasis may shift from long lived radioactivity to short term afterheat (safety) problems. Manganese, because of the high vapor pressure is not favored in this scenario."