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Corrosion Evaluation on Structural Materials for CLEAR in Oxygen Controlled Lead-Bismuth Eutectic at 500 °C

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Contributed by FDS Team

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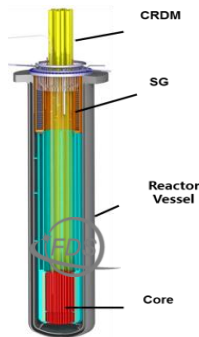
Outline

- ❖ **Background**
- ❖ **Experimental Procedures**
- ❖ **Experimental Results**
 - **Effect of Oxygen Concentrations**
 - **Long-Term Corrosion Behaviours**
 - **Anti-corrosion of Si-Contained Steels**
- ❖ **Summary**

China LEAd-based Reactor (CLEAR)

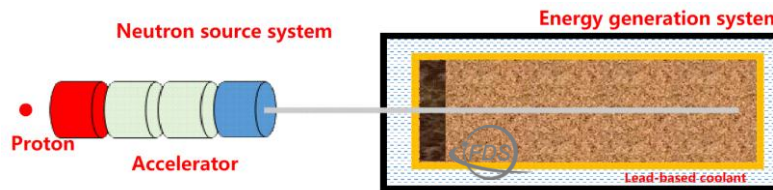
❖ CLEAR series was proposed by FDS Team

- **CLEAR-M** : China LEAd-based Mini-Reactor for independent power supply.
- **CLEAR-A** : Advanced external neutron source driven nuclear energy system for multi-purpose.
- **CLEAR-I**: China LEAd-based Research Reactor with subcritical and critical dual-mode operation capability for nuclear waste transmutation research.

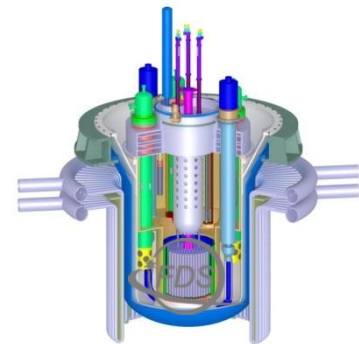


CLEAR-M10

Neutron source + Subcritical Operation+ Lead-based reactor



CLEAR-A



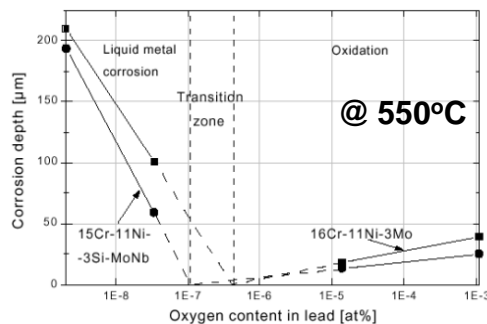
CLEAR-I

Lead-based reactor has many attractive features and may play an important role in the future energy supply

Key Issues of Material Compatibility in LBE

❖ Liquid metal corrosion (LMC)

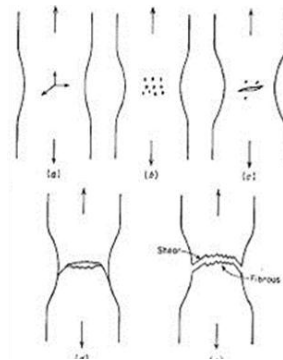
- Corrosion thinning: Dissolution or oxidation
- Blocking flow paths: Corrosion products deposition



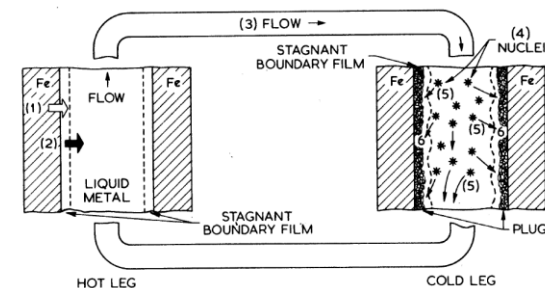
Corrosion of stainless steels

❖ Liquid metal embrittlement (LME)

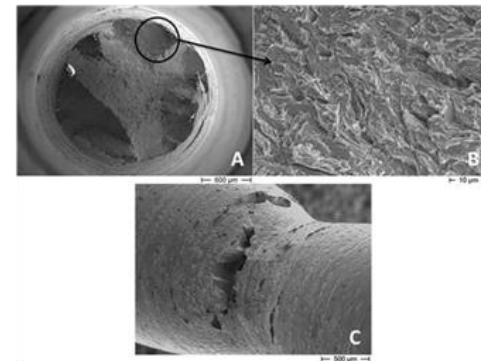
- Crack initiate both at the surface and interior of some materials :F/M steels are obvious
- Degradation of mechanical properties, such as tensile, creep, fatigue ...



Conventional crack pattern



Mass transfer in Non-Isothermal system



T91 in LBE

Material compatibility evaluation is important for supporting engineering design and safety analysis report

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Corrosion Tests in Static LBE

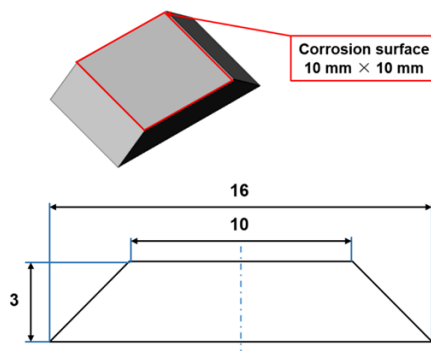
❖ Objectives

- Effect of oxygen concentrations on corrosion behaviours for F/M (T91) and austenitic steels (15-15Ti).
- Screening the new anti-corrosion materials.

❖ Test conditions



Corrosion Device with Oxygen Control



Corrosion sample

Parameters	
Temperature (°C)	500 or 550
Flow rate (m/s)	static
Time (h)	2000
Oxygen content (wt%)	$\sim 10^{-6} / \sim 10^{-7} / \sim 10^{-8}$

Long-term Corrosion Tests in Flowing LBE

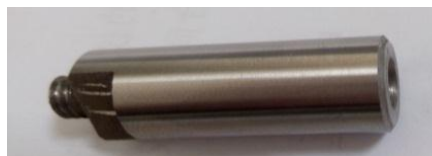
❖ Objectives

- Obtaining corrosion data of candidate structural materials for CLEAR-I.
- Assessment of corrosion properties for CLAM and other materials.

❖ Test conditions



KYLII-II-M loop



Rod



Tube

Corrosion sample

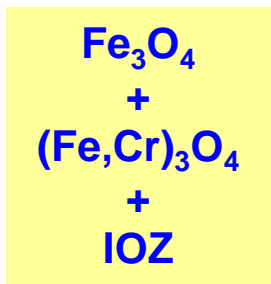
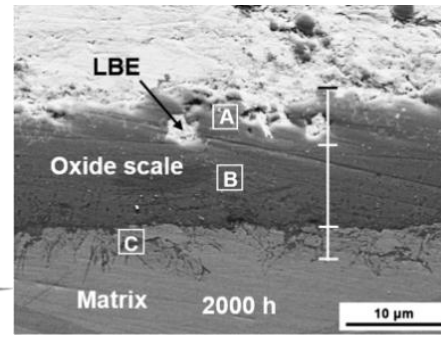
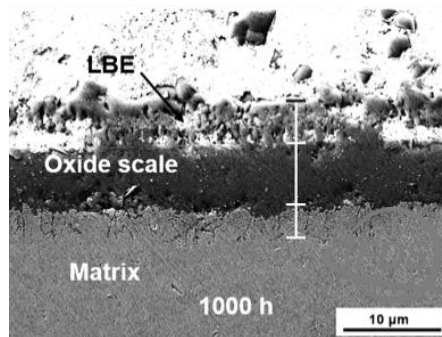
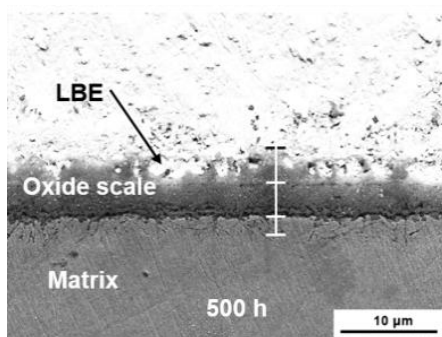
Parameters	
Temperature (°C)	500
Flow rate (m/s)	1
Time (h)	8000
Oxygen content (wt%)	$\sim 10^{-6}$

Outline

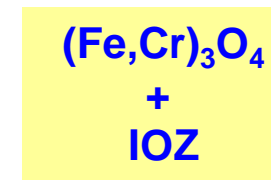
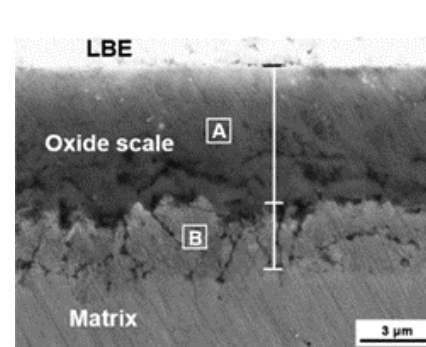
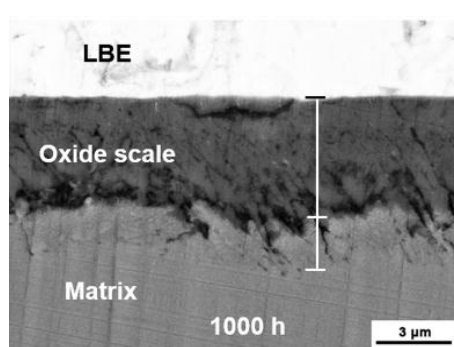
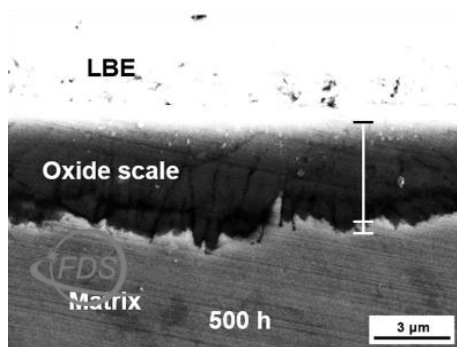
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Corrosion Products of F/M Steels (T91)

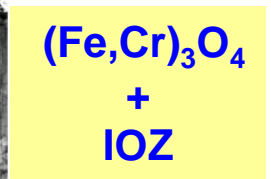
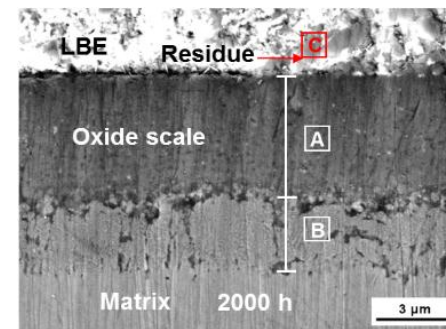
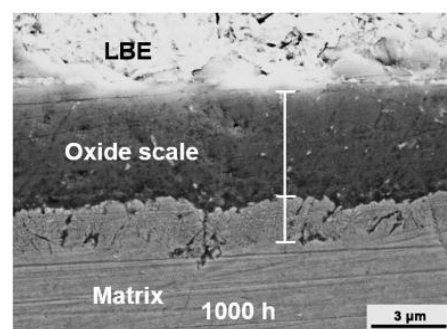
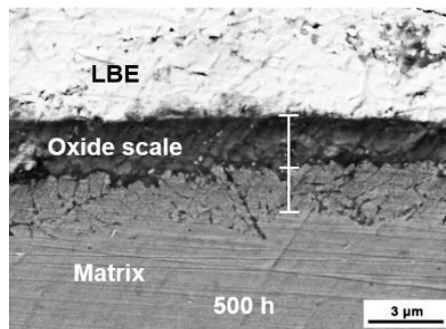
10^{-6} wt%



10^{-7} wt%

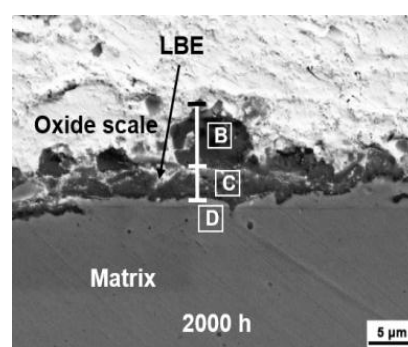
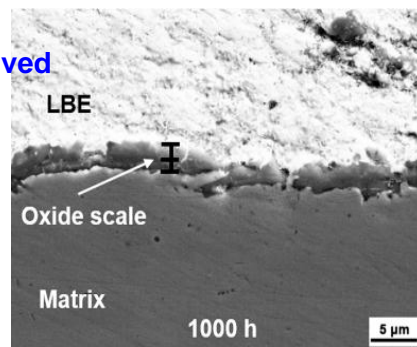
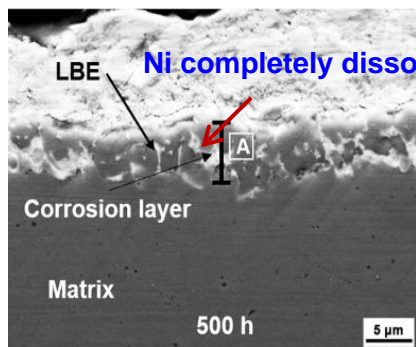


10^{-8} wt%



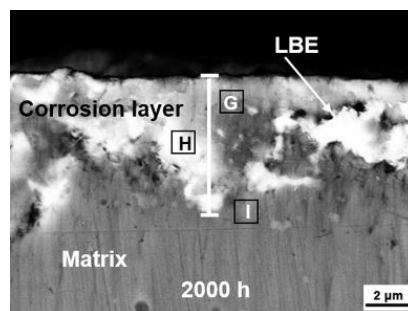
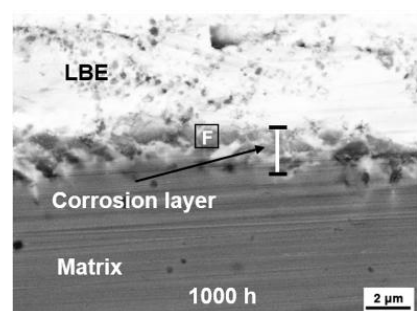
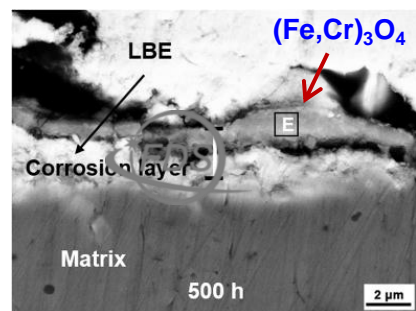
Corrosion Products of Austenitic Steels (15-15Ti)

10⁻⁶ wt%



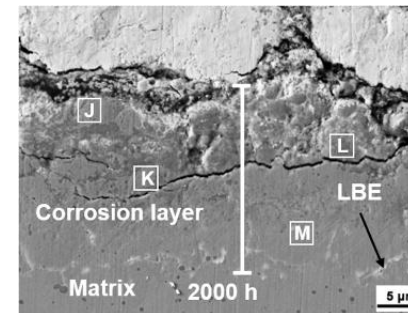
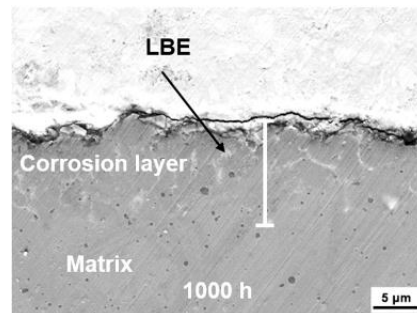
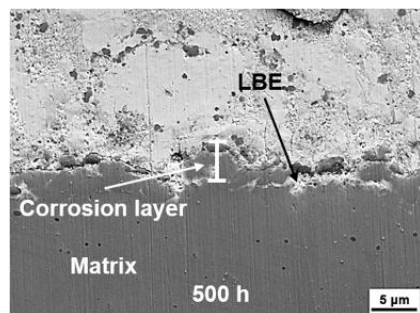
Fe_3O_4
+
 $(Fe,Cr)_3O_4$

10⁻⁷ wt%



Little $(Fe,Cr)_3O_4$
+
Little ferrite

10⁻⁸ wt%



Little $(Fe,Cr)_3O_4$
+
Much ferrite/

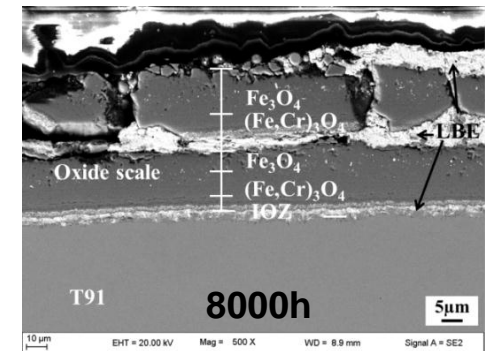
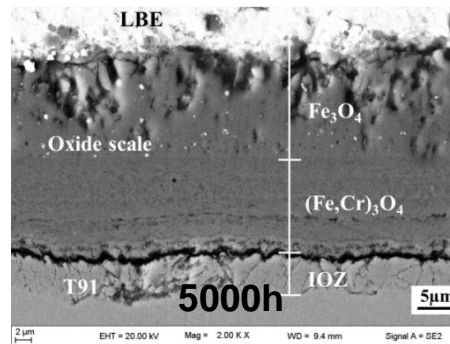
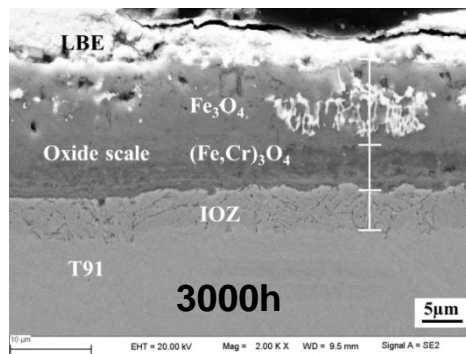
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Cross-sectional Morphologies

F/M steels

❖ T91



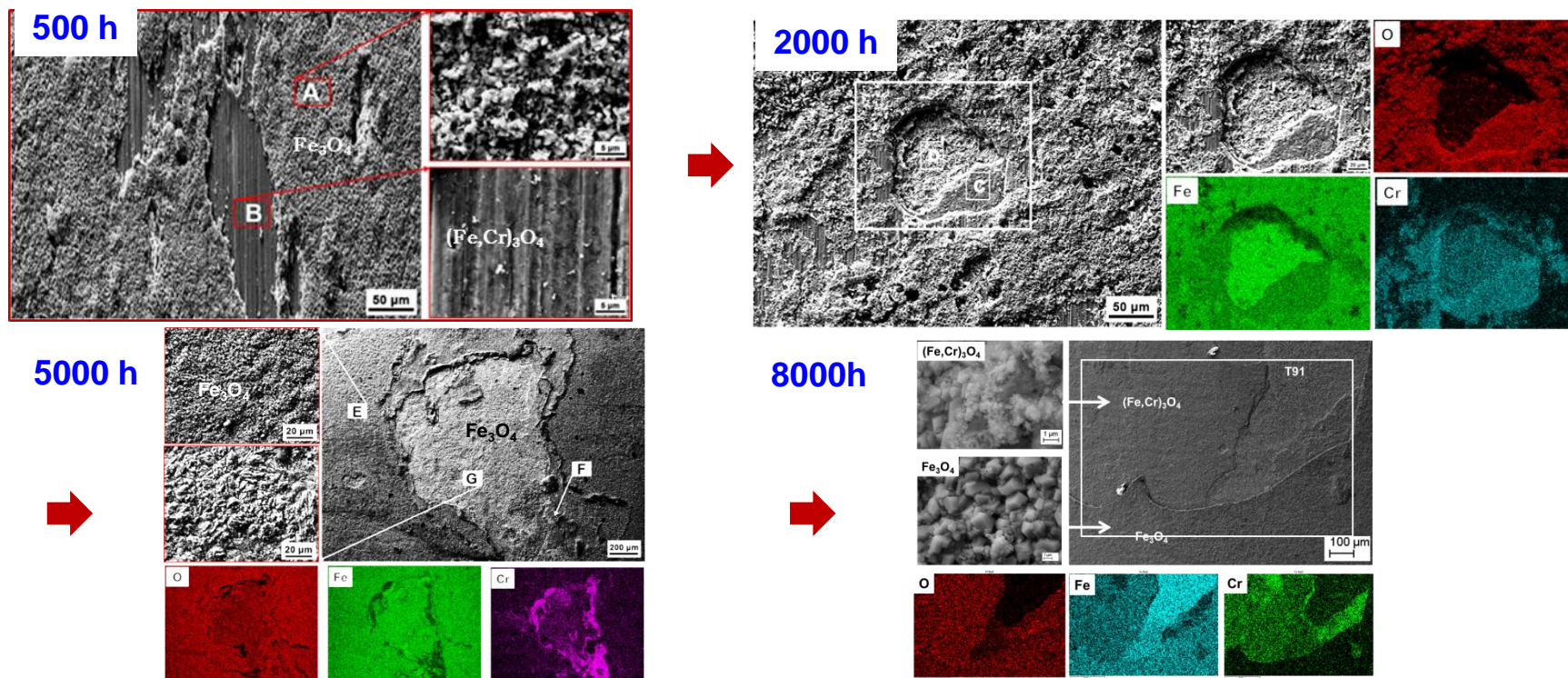
■ 3000h, 5000h:

- Oxide Scale: **three sub-layer structure**, i.e., $(Fe_3O_4/(Fe,Cr)_3O_4/IOZ)$.
- A few LBE has penetration into Fe_3O_4 sub-layer.

■ 8000h:

- Oxide Scale: **five sub-layer** structure, i.e., $Fe_3O_4/(Fe,Cr)_3O_4/ Fe_3O_4/(Fe,Cr)_3O_4/IOZ$, **may be associated with severe LBE penetration.**
- LBE has infiltrated the T91 substrate near IOZ layer.

Exfoliation and Regeneration of Oxide Scale F/M steel

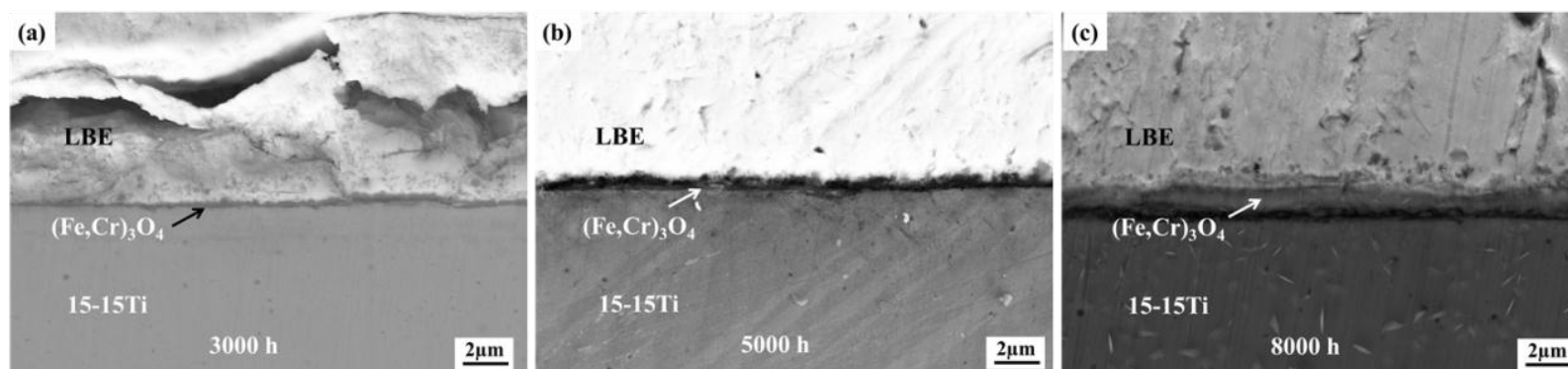


- ❖ At the initial stage of corrosion, Fe_3O_4 began to peel; Then, local exfoliation of Fe-Cr spinel and IOZ occurred.
- ❖ The exfoliation area of oxide increased with exposure time; The exfoliation area was oxidized again, and new oxide formed.

Cross-sectional Morphologies

Austenitic steels

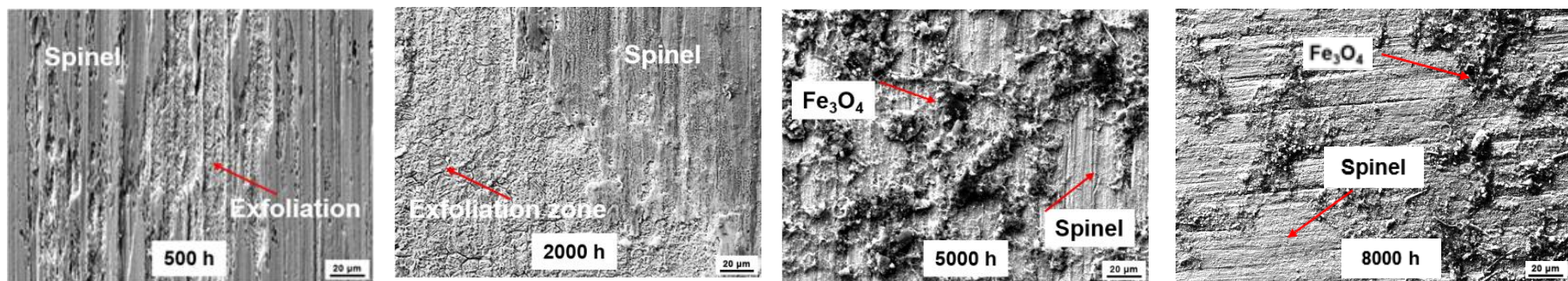
❖ 15-15Ti



- **The morphologies are different from those of T91 steel:**
 - A thin and dense $(\text{Fe,Cr})_3\text{O}_4$ is formed.
 - the corrosion morphologies for 3000 h, 5000 h and 8000 h are similar.
- **Single-layer oxide scale, which is different from that of static corrosion.**

Exfoliation and Regeneration of Oxide Scale

Austenitic steel



- ❖ At the initial stage of corrosion, local exfoliation of oxide occurred as a result of LBE erosion. However, the corrosion pits could not be seen.
- ❖ The exfoliation area of oxide increase with exposure time.
- ❖ The exfoliation area was oxidized again, and new oxide Fe_3O_4 formed.

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Anti-corrosion of Si-Contained Steels

- **Si-contained Austenitic Steel: CLED**
- **Si-contained ODS-CLAM Steel**

China LEad-based reactor fuel claDding: CLED

- ❖ High mechanical properties by **increasing the Ti/C ratio**.
- ❖ Good compatibility with LBE by **increasing Si content**.



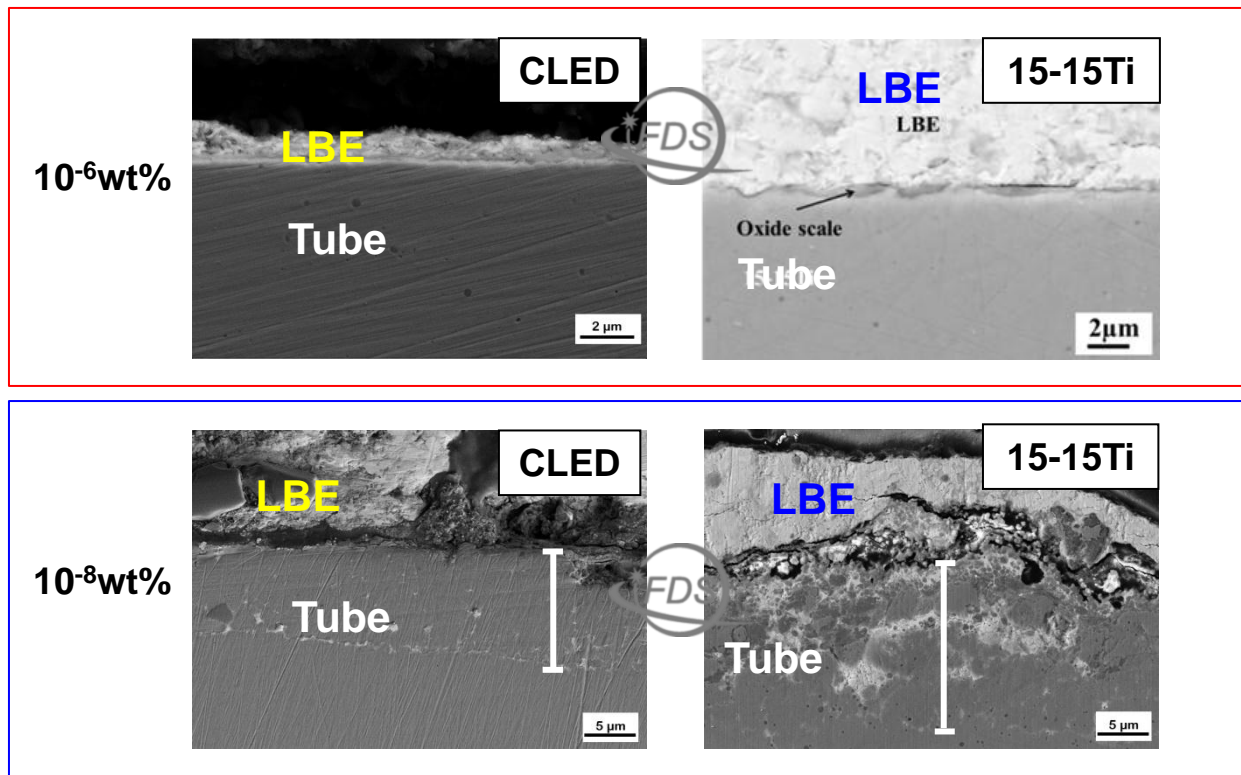
Forging Bar



Cladding tube

Compatibility with LBE

❖ CLED (Si: 0.75wt%) compared with commercial 15-15Ti (Si: 0.40 wt%)



CLED shows better corrosion resistance than that of 15-15Ti steel.

Anti-corrosion of Si-Contained Steels

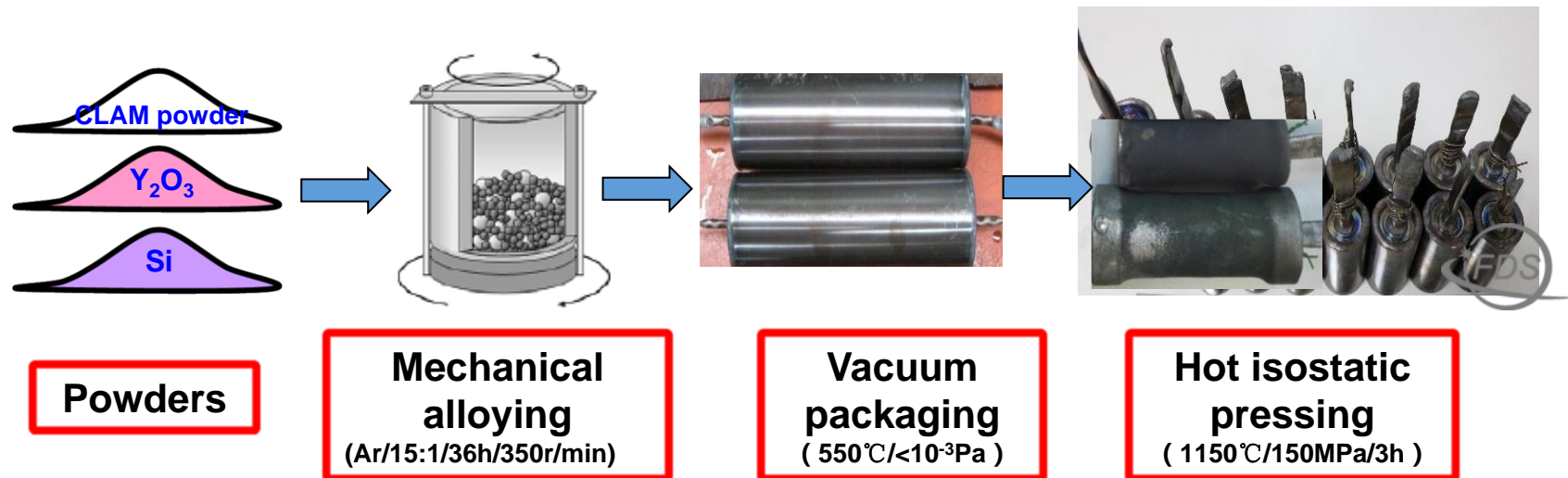
- Si-contained Austenitic Steel: CLED
- Si-contained ODS-CLAM Steel

Si-contained ODS-CLAM Steel

❖ Composition : 9Cr-1.5W-0.2V-0.15Ta-0.3Y₂O₃-xSi

- Add Si into the CLAM matrix to improve corrosion resistance to LBE
- Add nano-sized oxide particles to Improve mechanical properties

❖ Preparation Process



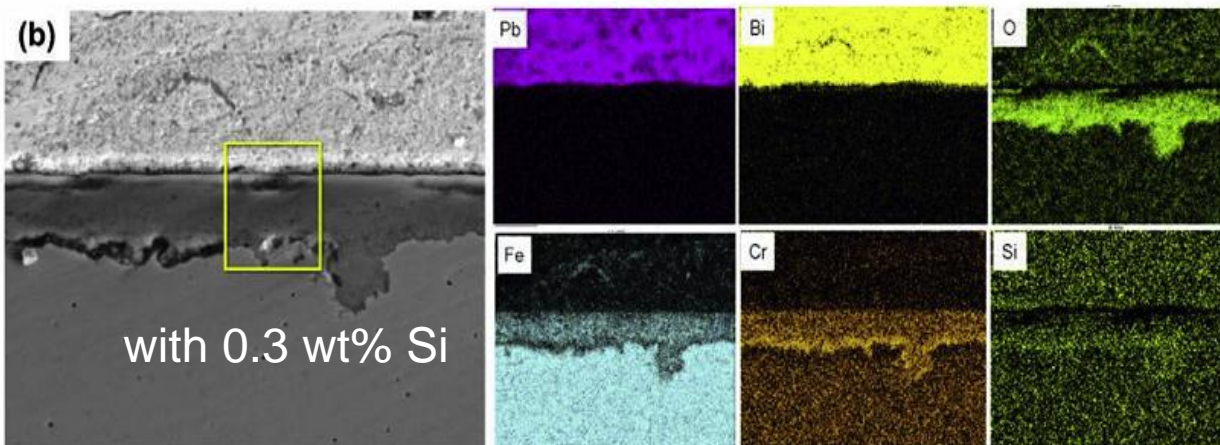
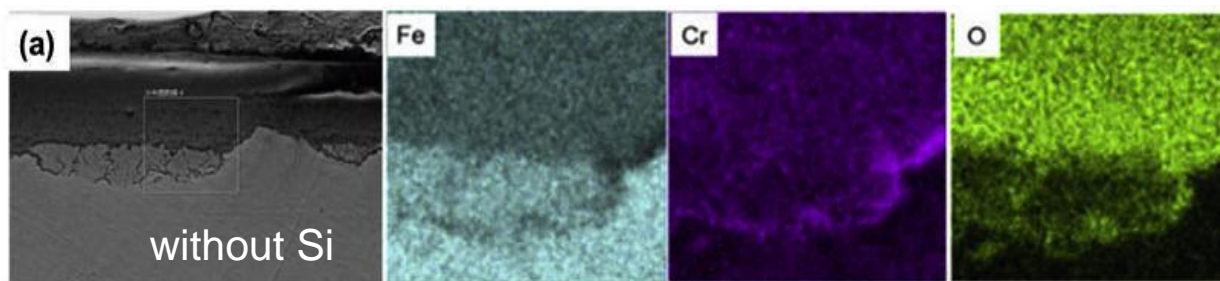
Elemental Distributions of Corrosion Interface

❖ ODS-CLAM without Si:

- A **less continuous** Cr-enriched oxide ribbon formed between interface of IOZ-matrix.

❖ ODS-CLAM with 0.3wt% Si:

- A **continuous** Cr-enriched oxide ribbon formed at the interface of $(Fe,Cr)_3O_4$ layer-matrix.



The addition of Si had great influence on the continuity of Cr-enriched oxide ribbon.

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Summary

- ❖ A series of compatibility evaluations on structural materials for CLEAR has been carried out in oxygen controlled LBE.
 - The oxygen content in LBE is a key factor in determining the corrosion behaviors of ferritic/martensitic steel and austenitic steel, and also the dominant factor affecting the types and properties of corrosion interface products.
 - The growth kinetics curves of oxide layers for T91, 15-15Ti, CLAM and 316L steels follow a parabolic rule ($\Delta x^2 = K_p t$), and the rate constant for 15-15Ti steel is lowest.
 - Corrosion resistances of Si-containing stainless steel and ODS-CLAM steel has been developed. Compatibility evaluation revealed that the corrosion resistances of the above steels have attained considerable improvement.

Thanks for Your Attention!



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