

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABSTRACT	i
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	ii
CONTENTS	iii
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	v
1. INTRODUCTION	1
1.1. Engineering modeling methodology	2
1.2. Report outline	3
2. IRRADIATION HARDENING AND EMBRITTLMENT	5
2.1. Hardening versus embrittlement	5
2.2. On the correlation between hardening and embrittlement	8
2.2.1. Load diagram	8
2.2.2. Irradiation effect on the load diagram	13
2.2.3. Load diagram application	17
2.3. Conclusion	21
3. RADIATION EFFECTS ON 9%CR-STEELS	23
3.1. Introduction	23
3.2. Materials : 9%Cr-ferritic/martensitic steels	24
3.2.1. Effect of composition	28
3.2.2. Effect of heat treatment	29
3.2.3. Thermal aging	30
3.3. Effect of chemical composition/heat treatments on irradiation behavior	30
3.4. Microstructural changes under irradiation of 9%Cr-steels	32
3.5. Effect of Helium	36
3.5.1. Helium generation in fusion materials	36
3.5.2. Helium effects on the mechanical properties of fusion materials	38
3.6. Conclusion	38
4. EXPERIMENTAL DATABASE	41
4.1. Introduction	41
4.2. Analysis of the experimental data used in the database	42
4.2.1. Baseline properties of 9%Cr-steels	42
4.2.2. Irradiation effects on the mechanical properties of 9%Cr-steels	46
4.3. Test temperature effect on irradiation hardening	51

4.4. Conclusion	56
5. RADIATION DAMAGE MODELING	57
5.1. Description of the model	57
5.1.1. dpa-component	58
5.1.2. He-component modeling	63
5.1.3. Superposition law	64
5.2. Application	66
5.3. Conclusion	69
6. RESULTS AND ANALYSIS	71
6.1. Introduction	71
6.2. Application of the model to the database	73
6.3. Conclusion	79
7. DISCUSSION	81
7.1. Effect of chemical composition and heat treatment	81
7.2. Temperature effects	84
7.3. Effect of bombarding particles (neutron, proton, ion)	95
7.3.1. Effect of Helium content below 1000 appm He	95
7.3.2. On the 500 appm He threshold	97
7.4. Test temperature effect	97
7.5. On the appropriate parameter to monitor irradiation effects of 9%Cr-steels	98
7.6. Effect of specimen size and configuration	98
7.7. Effect of cold working	101
7.8. On the data inconsistency	102
7.9. On the data advantageous use of oxide dispersion strengthened (ODS) steels ...	103
7.10. Overall performance of the model and possible improvements	105
7.11. Closure	106
8. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS	107
9. RECOMMENDATIONS	109
REFERENCES	113
ANNEX	127
DISTRIBUTION LIST	139