


KIT
Karlsruher Institut für Technologie


ATHLET/COBRA-TF multi-scale thermal-hydraulics analysis of the O2 event within the NURESAFE project

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Institute for Neutron Physics and Reactor Technology (INR)
Reactor Physics and Dynamic Group (RPD)



KIT – Die Forschungsuniversität in der Helmholtz-Gemeinschaft




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- ATHLET/COBRA-TF multi-scale thermal-hydraulics analysis of the O2 event
- Sensitivity and uncertainty analysis of the Oskarshamn-2 stability event with COBRA-TF (*updated results since O2-3 meeting*)
- Summary

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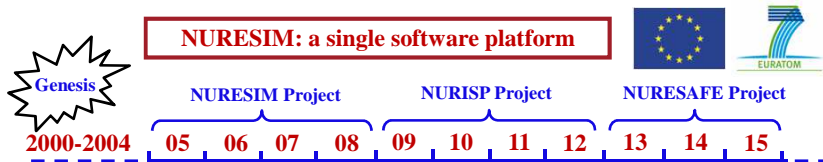
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The NURESIM Simulation Platform




- NURESIM project established the basic architecture of the NURESIM platform and resulted in **a first prototype of a truly integrated multi-physics simulation environment**.
- The NURISP project was conceived as a **consolidation** of the platform plus an **extension towards higher-resolution** both in space and time.
- The NURESAFE project will show the extended capabilities of the platform and **demonstrate the readiness of the tool for Industrial** safety applications.




NURESIM: a single software platform

Genesis (2000-2004) | NURESIM Project (05-08) | NURISP Project (09-12) | NURESAFE Project (13-15)

⁴ OECD/NEA Oskarshamn-2 5th Workshop, PSI, May 30-31, 2016


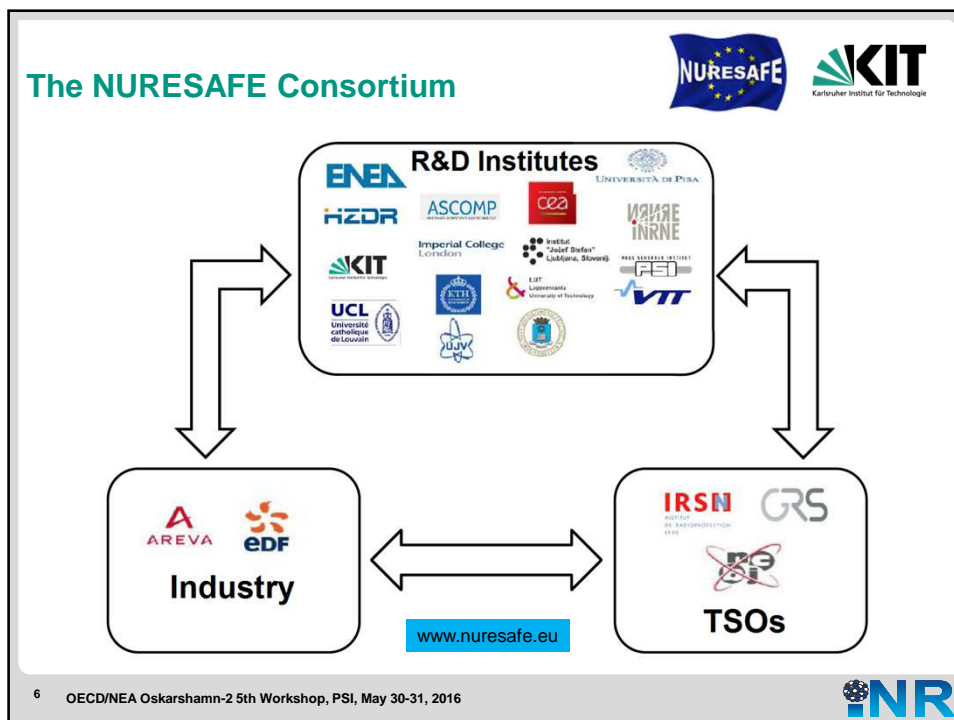


The NURESAFE Objectives





- Develop and apply for reactor applications a novel Simulation Environment: **the NURESIM Software Integrated Platform**
 - Includes **core-physics, thermal-hydraulics, fuel thermo-mechanics**
- In order to address safety and operational issues for LWRs (normal operation and design basis accidents)
 - PWR incl. VVER and BWR
- A reference platform
 - Includes state-of-the art codes, well validated
- Create a community that brings together the European key-players and engage them in advanced simulation for LWRs
 - 23 partners contributing (Research centers, Universities, industry)

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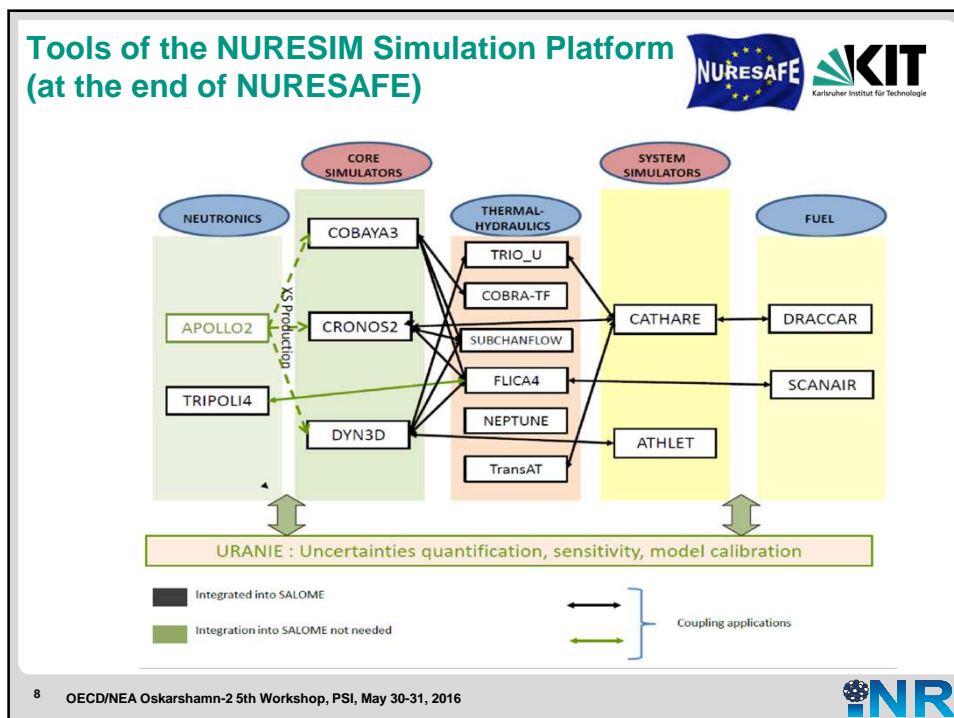
NURESAFE Project



- The project was organized in 5 big sub-projects**
- SP1: Multiphysics applications involving core physics (Coordinator: UPM)** KIT-CN
- SP2: Multiscale analysis of core thermo-hydraulics (Coordinator: ASCOMP)**
- SP3: Multiscale and multi-physics applications of Thermal-hydraulics (HZDR)** KIT-CN
- SP4: Software platform (Coordinator: CEA)**
- SP5: Dissemination and Training (coordinator: KIT)** KIT-CN

The final seminar took place in Brussels, November 2015.

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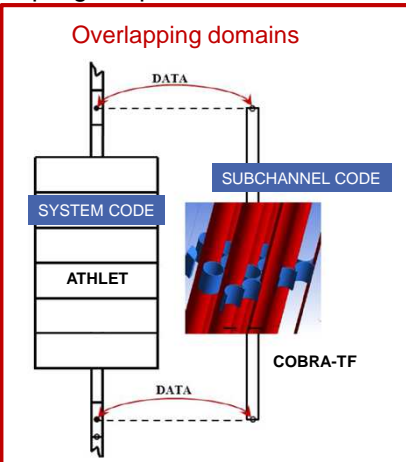


Description of ATHLET/COBRA-TF (1)

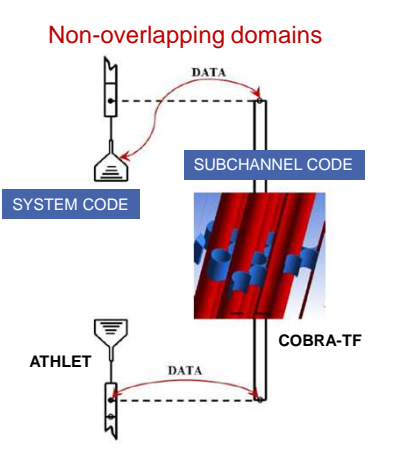
- Coupling of spatial domains

Overlapping domains




Domains are spatially superimposed to some extent

Non-overlapping domains





Domain is split into separate regions with well defined interfaces

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Description of ATHLET/COBRA-TF (2)

- Synchronization

Off-line Coupling

↓

Codes run separately and sequentially. Results from one code are used as boundary or initial conditions for the other.

 - **Simple** to implement and **no modifications** of the codes is requested;
 - The information transfer is only "**one-way coupling**", **no feedback** is possible.

Case of ATHLET/COBRA-TF using MEDCoupling


In-line Coupling

↓



Codes run **concurrently** with a **continuous exchange** of information in both ways ("**two-way coupling**")

Case of CATHARE/TRIO_U using ICOCO
- Code Integration
 - **Internal coupling**: Ad hoc solver to simultaneously solve the coupled system; Transfer internal memory
 - **External coupling**: Independent solvers are employed (coupling interface is needed).

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Description of ATHLET/COBRA-TF (3)

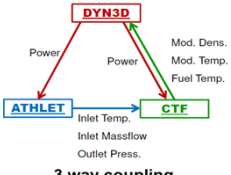
- Numerical schemes (in-line coupling)

Explicit coupling scheme

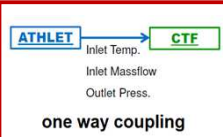
Time iteration is pure explicit, the codes take the minimum allowed time step for numerical stability and courant limit.

Implicit Coupling scheme

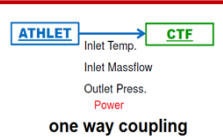
On each time step there is an inner iteration loop, convergence is achieved, allows for much bigger time step sizes.
- A one-way coupling with domain overlapping and explicit time scheme between ATHLET/COBRA-TF was developed.
- The coupling is implemented in a python script.



3 way coupling




one way coupling



one way coupling

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NURESAFE SP3 – KIT contribution WP3.3: BWR thermal-hydraulics ATWS



- ATHLET code validation using BFBT Data
 - Validation of ATHLET using the BWR NUPEC BFBT tests for void fraction and critical power (D33.11.5).
 - **“Validation of the Thermal-hydraulic System Code ATHLET based on Selected Pressure Drop and Void Fraction BFBT Tests”**, V. Di Marcello, J. Jiménez, V. Sanchez, NED-D-14-00862R1, 2015, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.nucengdes.2015.04.003>
- Modeling of the Oskarshamn-2 core with subchannel codes
 - Input decks for COBRA-TF, SUBCHANFLOW, FLICA4 developed and successfully tested.
- Multi-scale simulation of BWR transients with ATHLET-CTF (D33.12.5).
 - **“Application of the ATHLET/COBRA-TF multi-scale thermal-hydraulics coupled code to the analysis of BWR ATWS”**, J. Jimenez, V. Di Marcello, V. Sanchez, Y. Perin, submitted to NED, 2016

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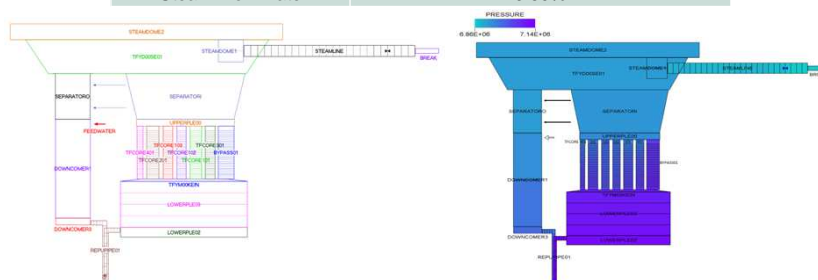


ATHLET Oskarshamn-2 model (GRS-KIT)



- ATHLET HFP steady state results



Parameter	Deviation of ATHLET Mod 3.0 cycle B versus the benchmark data
Steam dome pressure	-0.37%
Feedwater Temperature	-0.05%
Core Inlet Temperature	-0.76%
Total Core Flow Rate	1.23%
Steam Flow Rate	0.60%




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ATHLET/COBRA-TF multi-scale thermal-hydraulics analysis (1)



- Multi-scale simulation of the Oskarshamn-2 feedwater event (1999).
 - ATHLET with a coarse core model and COBRA-TF full core assembly-wise
 - ATHLET using 6 channel model of the O2 core
 - COBRA-TF using 444 channel model of the O2 core




ATHLET **COBRA-TF**


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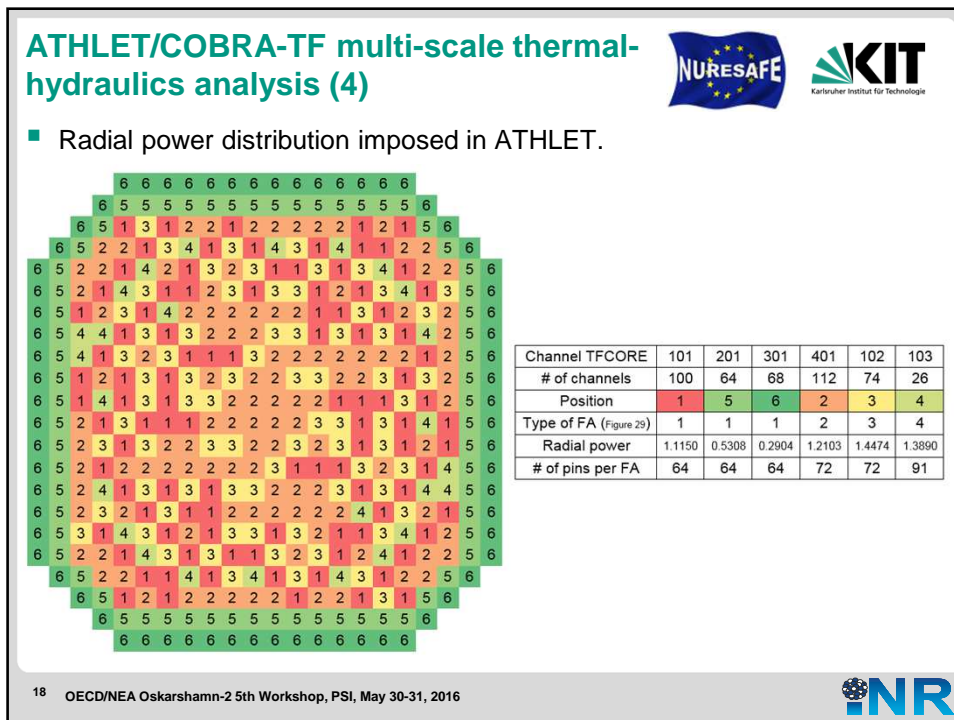
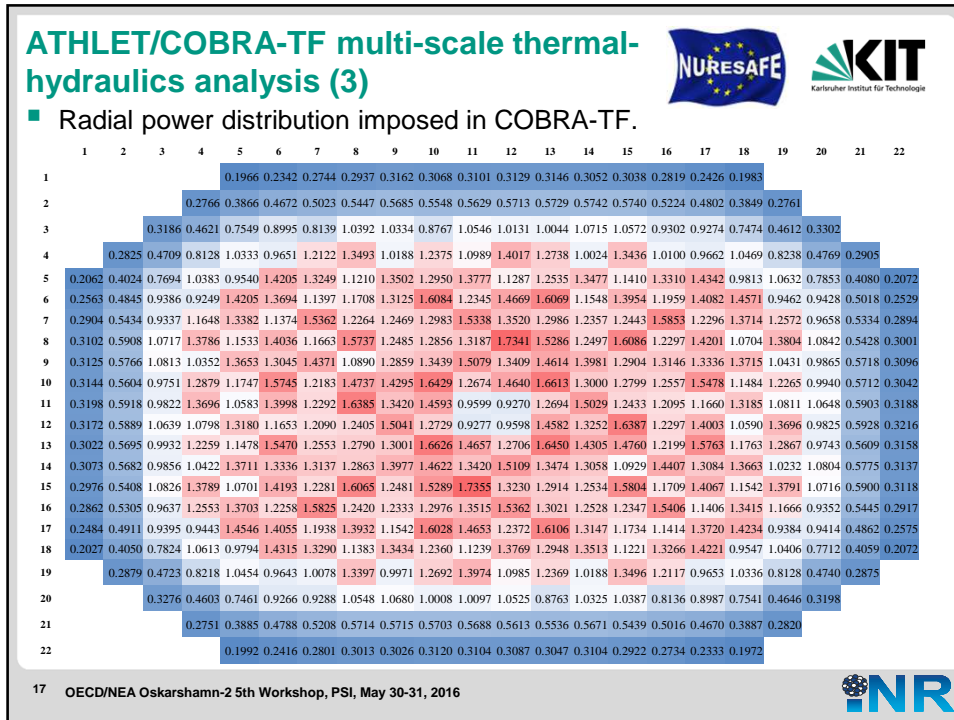
ATHLET/COBRA-TF multi-scale thermal-hydraulics analysis (2)

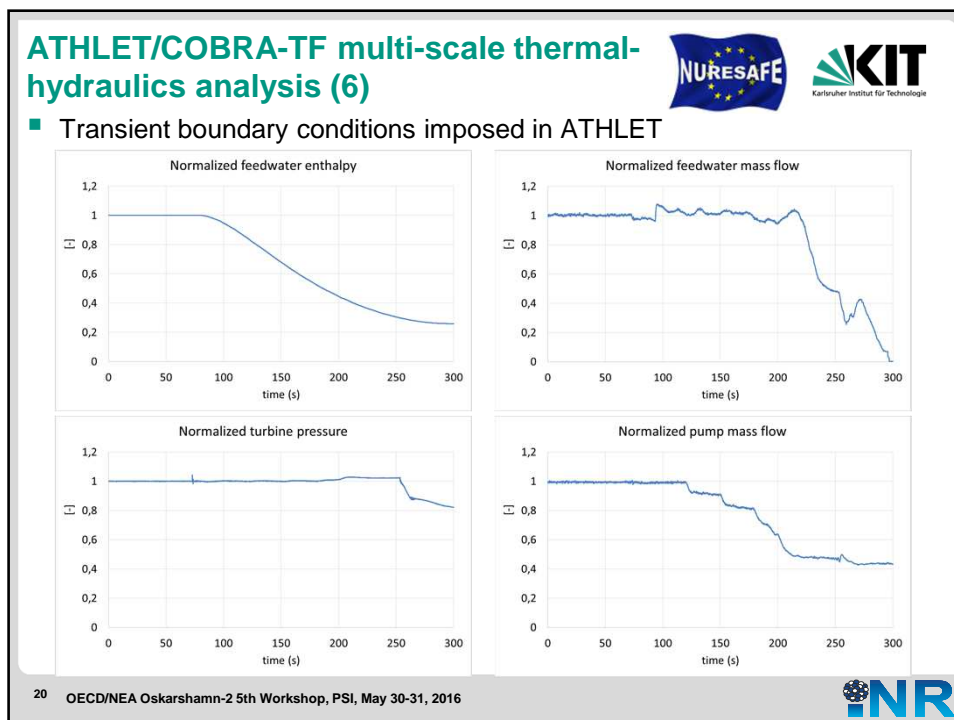
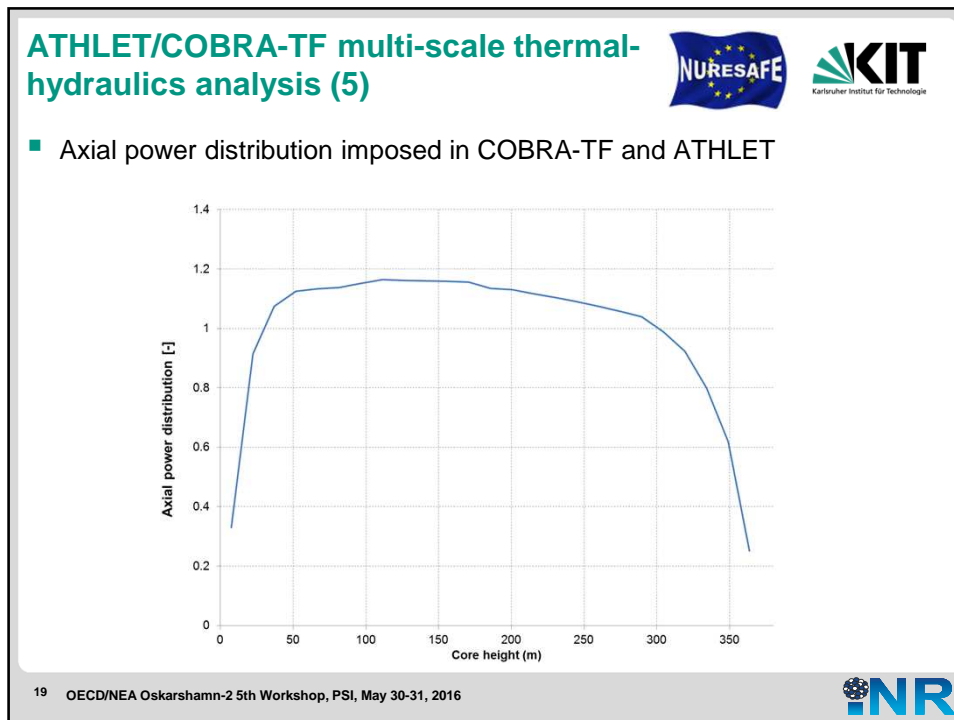



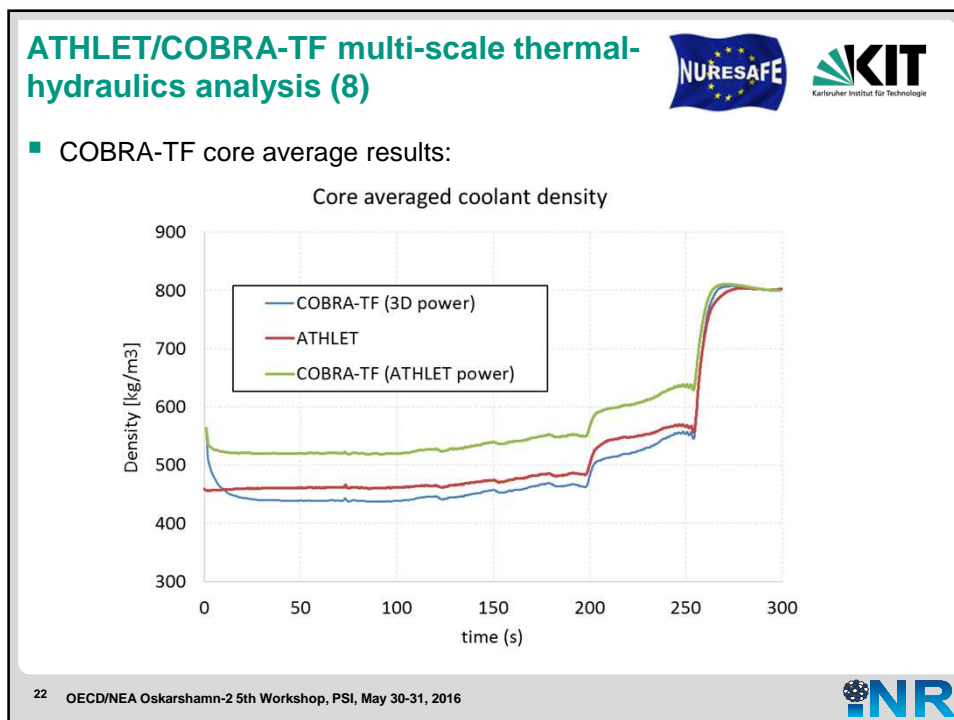
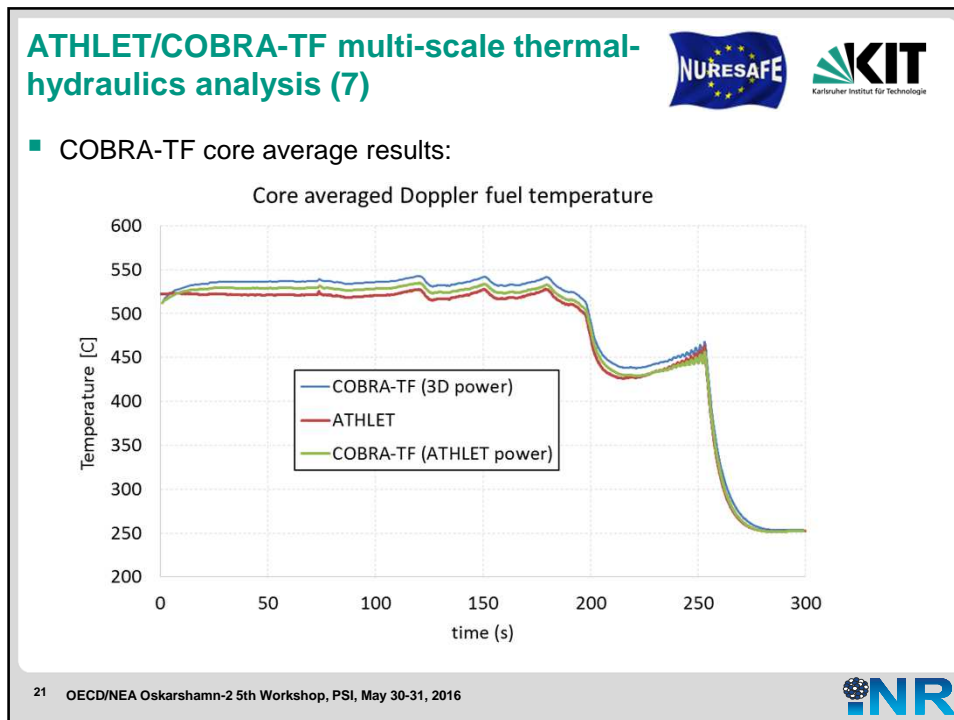
- The Oskarshamn-2 feedwater transient has been computed using the most accurate 3D power distribution available.
 - A 3D power distribution coming from a coupled TRACE/PARCS using 444 parallel channels (1 per FA).

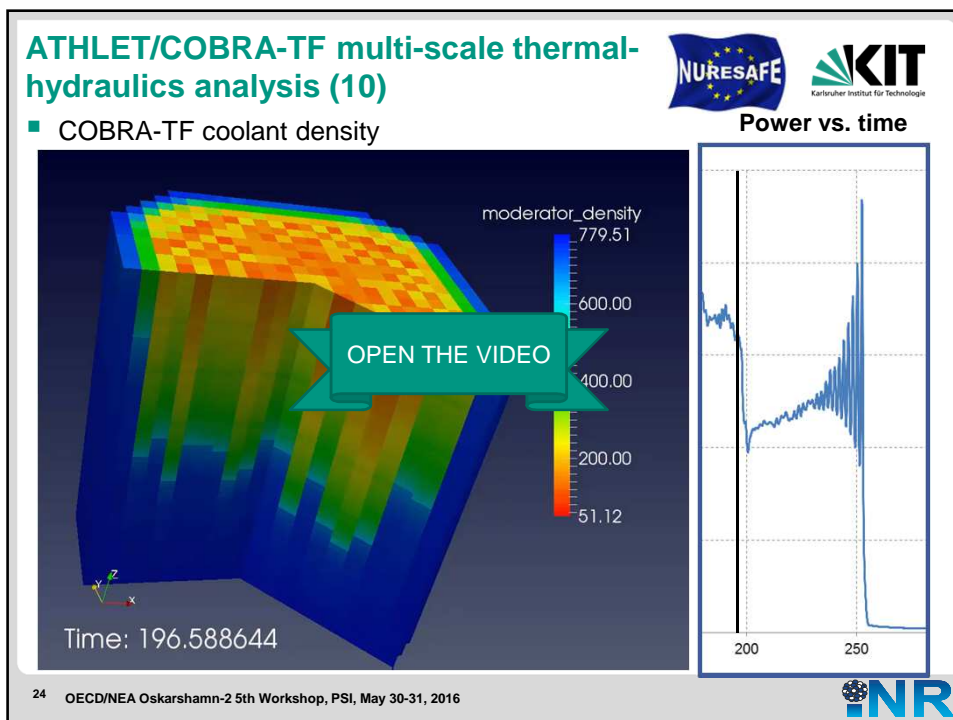
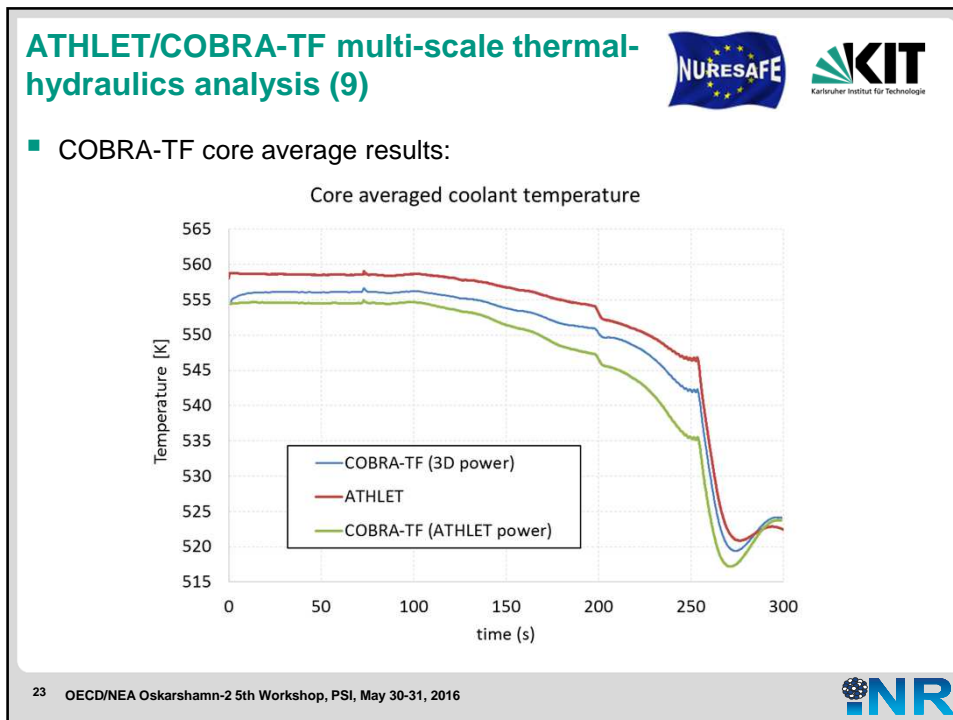


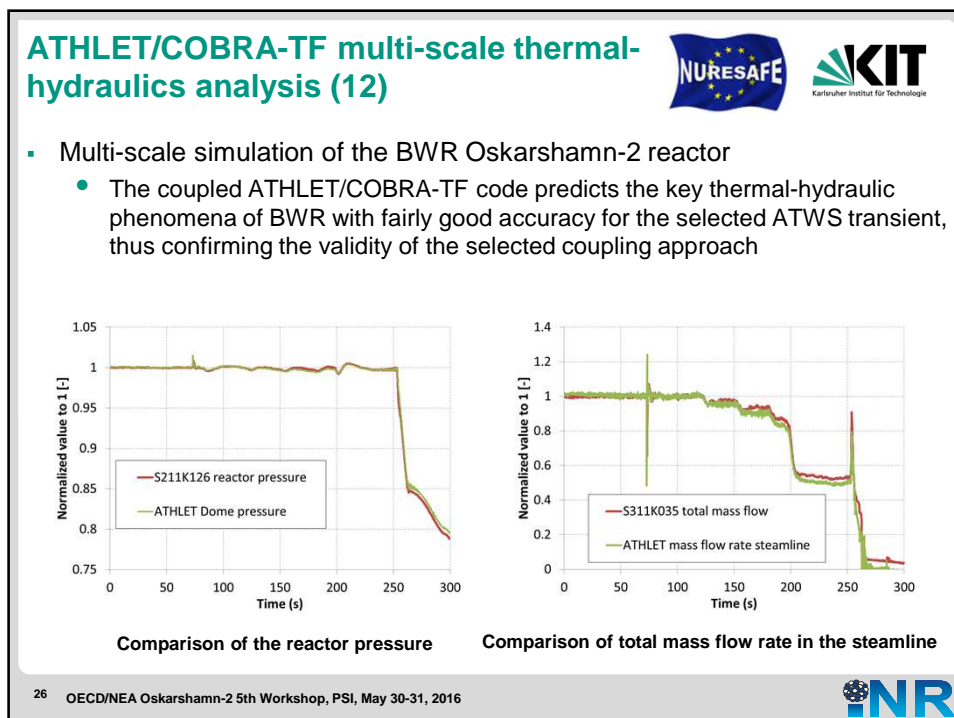
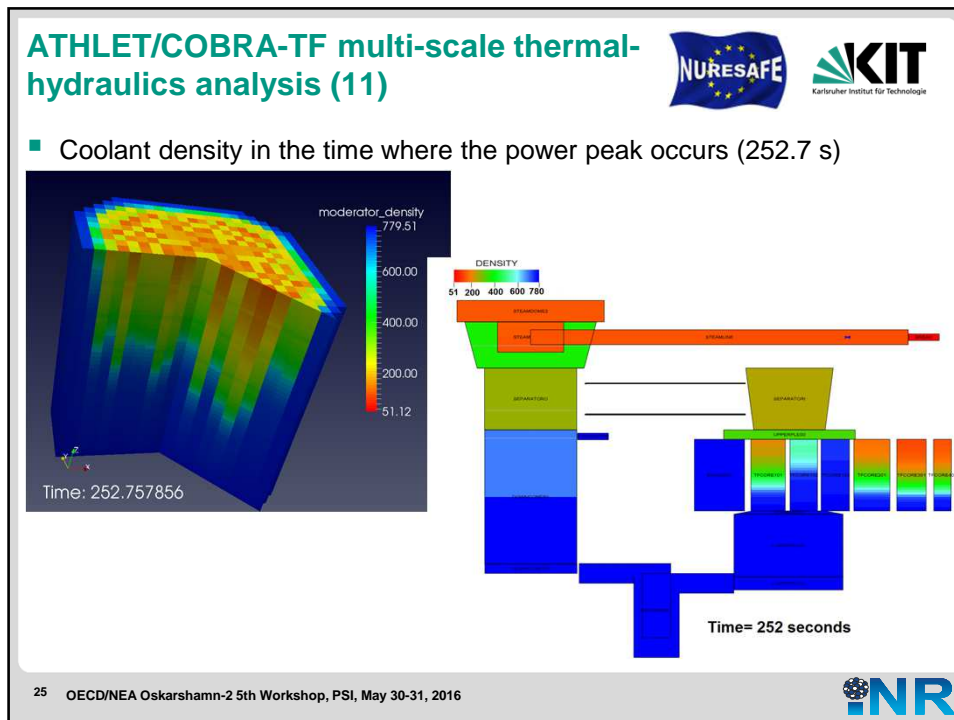
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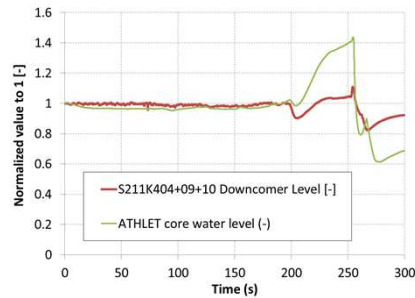




ATHLET/COBRA-TF multi-scale thermal-hydraulics analysis (13)



- Multi-scale simulation of the BWR Oskarshamn-2 reactor
 - The coupled ATHLET/COBRA-TF code predicts the key thermal-hydraulic phenomena of BWR with fairly good accuracy for the selected ATWS transient, thus confirming the validity of the selected coupling approach



Comparison of the core water level

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Conclusions from the multi-scale TH simulations



- Multiscale TH simulations could be performed using the system ATHLET/COBRA-TF developed by GRS.
- Application to the Oskarshamn-2 feedwater transient event has been successfully conducted
- During the coupling only the inlet and outlet boundary conditions are exchange from ATHLET to COBRA-TF, one-way coupling.
- The effect on COBRA-TF of using a 3D power distribution coming from a 444 channel model or from a 6 lumped channel model is relevant.
 - This points out the need of having a coupled neutronic code.
 - ATHLET/COBRA-TF/DYN3D could not be used due to the lack of a XS library in nemtab format.

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Sensitivity and uncertainty analysis of the Oskarshamn-2 stability event with COBRA-TF



- KIT contribution within NURESAFE WP1.1
- Using URANIE and SUSAN
 - **“Sensitivity Analysis of the Oskarshamn-2 Stability Event Using the URANIE Software”**, J. Jiménez, N. Trost, W. Jaeger, V. Sanchez; NUTHOS10-1319. Okinawa, Japan, December 14-18, 2014

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URANIE



- URANIE is a software dedicated to uncertainty and optimization.
- It allows to perform studies on uncertainty propagation, sensitivity analysis or model calibration in an integrated environment.
- It is based on ROOT, a software developed at CERN for particle physics data analysis. Hence, URANIE benefits from the numerous features of ROOT, among which:
 - a C++ interpreter (CINT)
 - a Python interface (PyROOT)
 - access to SQL databases
 - many advanced data visualization features
- Open source project: <http://sourceforge.net/projects/uranie/>

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URANIE Software (1)




- At KIT, URANIE software has been applied to perform sensitivity analysis based on stochastic sampling (MC).
- **Advantages of a Statistical Methodology:**
 - Sound mathematical basis.
 - Reduction of Expert Opinion to the minimum needed.
 - There is no limit in the number of variables and models that can be used (No need for a previous PIRT).
 - The actual BE Code is used for the calculations (No need for regression based surfaces to replace the code).
 - The uncertainty can be quantified in transient analysis.
- The methodology is concerned mainly with the uncertainty in:
 - Code's input variables.
 - Code's correlations and physical models.
- Confidence level determined by **Wilk's formula** (95% of probability with 95% confidence level with 93 runs).

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URANIE Software (2)

- **The stochastic nature (PDF) of the uncertainty in the input variables and in the physical models induces a statistical nature in the results of the code.**
- The idea behind the statistical Methodology is quite simple
 - Uncertainties in code inputs are treated as Stochastic Variables.




Input Sample of Size NOutput Sample of Size N

$$\begin{pmatrix} (X)_1 \\ (X)_2 \\ \vdots \\ (X)_N \end{pmatrix} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} (X_1, \dots, X_k)_1 \\ (X_1, \dots, X_k)_2 \\ \vdots \\ (X_1, \dots, X_k)_N \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow[\text{Assign Values to Input}]{\text{Random Sampling}} \begin{pmatrix} (x_1, \dots, x_k)_1 \\ (x_1, \dots, x_k)_2 \\ \vdots \\ (x_1, \dots, x_k)_N \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \text{Code}[(x_1, \dots, x_k)_1] \\ \text{Code}[(x_1, \dots, x_k)_2] \\ \vdots \\ \text{Code}[(x_1, \dots, x_k)_N] \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} (y_1, \dots, y_m)_1 \\ (y_1, \dots, y_m)_2 \\ \vdots \\ (y_1, \dots, y_m)_N \end{pmatrix} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} \text{Code}[(X)_1] \\ \text{Code}[(X)_2] \\ \vdots \\ \text{Code}[(X)_N] \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} (Y)_1 \\ (Y)_2 \\ \vdots \\ (Y)_N \end{pmatrix}$$

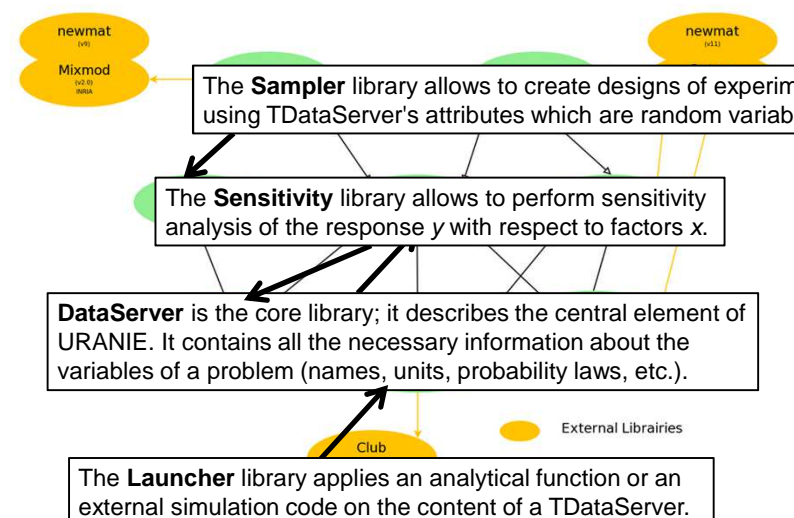
Input Multivariate
k stochastic input variables
Input Variables for N
Code Executions
N Code Executions
Output Multivariate
m stochastic output variables

- Deterministic Code transforms Stochastic INPUT in Stochastic OUTPUT.
- Uncertainty in INPUT is PROPAGATED to OUTPUT.
- Statistical Methods extract uncertainty information from OUTPUT.

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URANIE Software Functional Diagram




The **Sampler** library allows to create designs of experiments using TDataServer's attributes which are random variables.

The **Sensitivity** library allows to perform sensitivity analysis of the response y with respect to factors x.


DataServer is the core library; it describes the central element of URANIE. It contains all the necessary information about the variables of a problem (names, units, probability laws, etc.).

The **Launcher** library applies an analytical function or an external simulation code on the content of a TDataServer.

External Libraries



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SUSA Software system for Uncertainty and Sensitivity Analysis



- Under development at GRS (Germany).
- Probabilistic approach with input error propagation to the output.
- Minimal number of code runs defined by Wilk's formula.
- Monte Carlo simple random and Latin Hypercube sampling (LHS).
- Widely used in nuclear community. Well validated.
- Used in this work as an independent tool for comparison purposes.

B. Krzykacs, E. Hofer and M. Kloos, "A software system for probabilistic uncertainty and sensitivity analysis of results from computer models", Proceedings of the International Conference on Probabilistic Safety Assessment and Management, San Diego, California, USA, 1994.

R. Macian-Juan, "Uncertainty and sensitivity evaluation for Best Estimate coupled calculations," FJOT Summer School 2011, Karlsruhe, Germany.

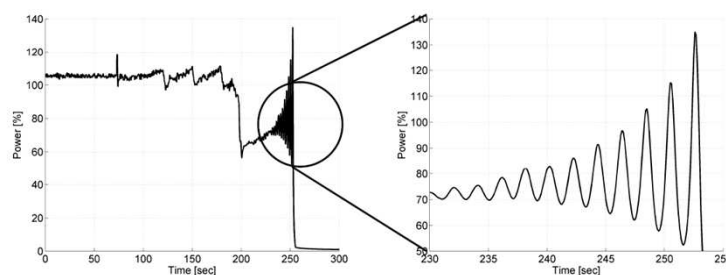
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Application to the O2 -1999 FW transient



- Power oscillation during the event (feedwater transient)



Oskarshamn-2 February 25, 1999 feedwater transient

- Boundary conditions taken from TRACE/PARCS calculation (KIT model with 444 channels)
- Modeling the O2 core with COBRA-TF using 444 channels

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Characteristic and current limitations of the COBRA-TF O2 core model



The main features of this model are:

- The flow area, wetted perimeter and pressure loss coefficients are taken from the specifications (which are based on **real data from the NPP**).
- The 444 fuel assemblies are modelled in parallel (no flow between channels).
- The current model has the following limitations:
 - The bypass channel and the internal bundle water channel are not explicitly modelled.
 - Only the active part of the core is modelled.
 - Core averaged axial and radial power profiles are taken from a converged TRACE/PARCS simulation.

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O2 Modeling with subchannel codes



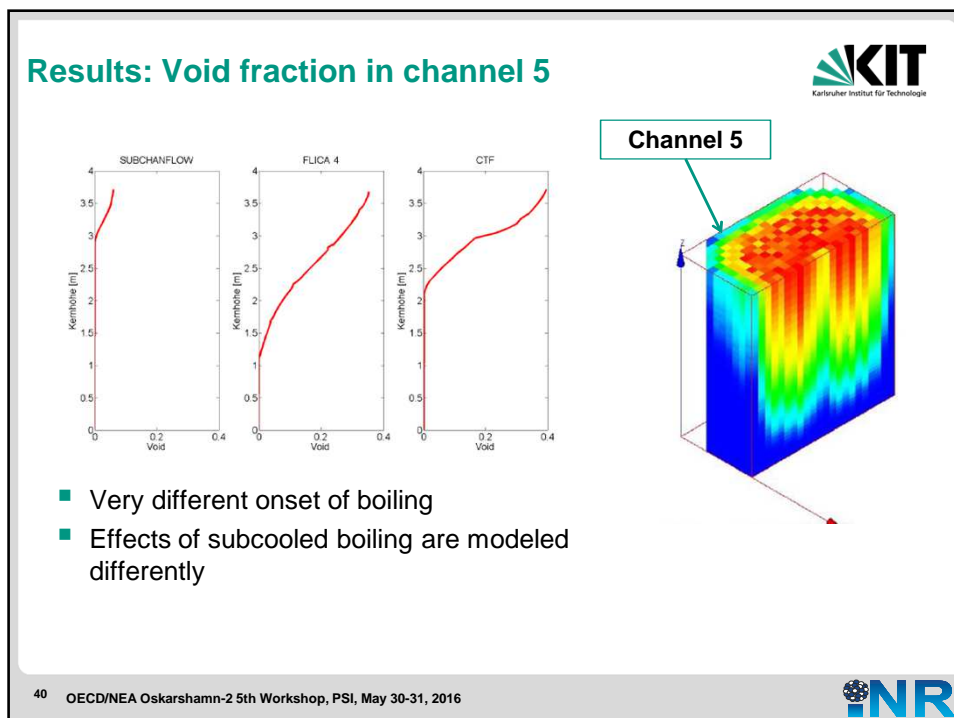
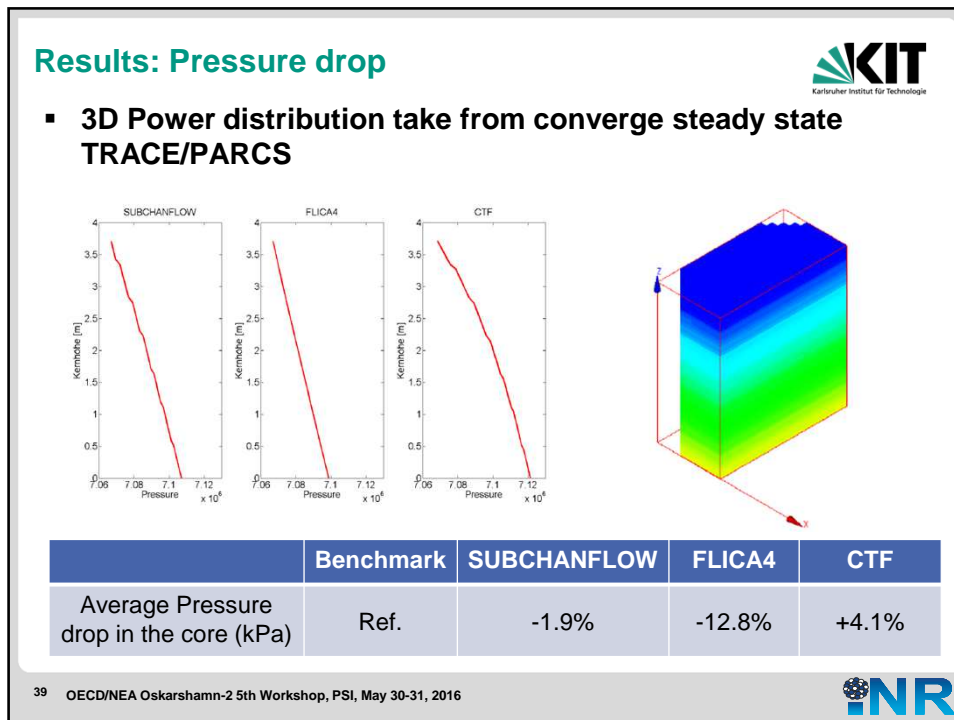
- Oskarshamn-2 Core has being modeled with COBRA-TF, SUBCHANFLOW and FLICA4
- Code versus measured data comparison

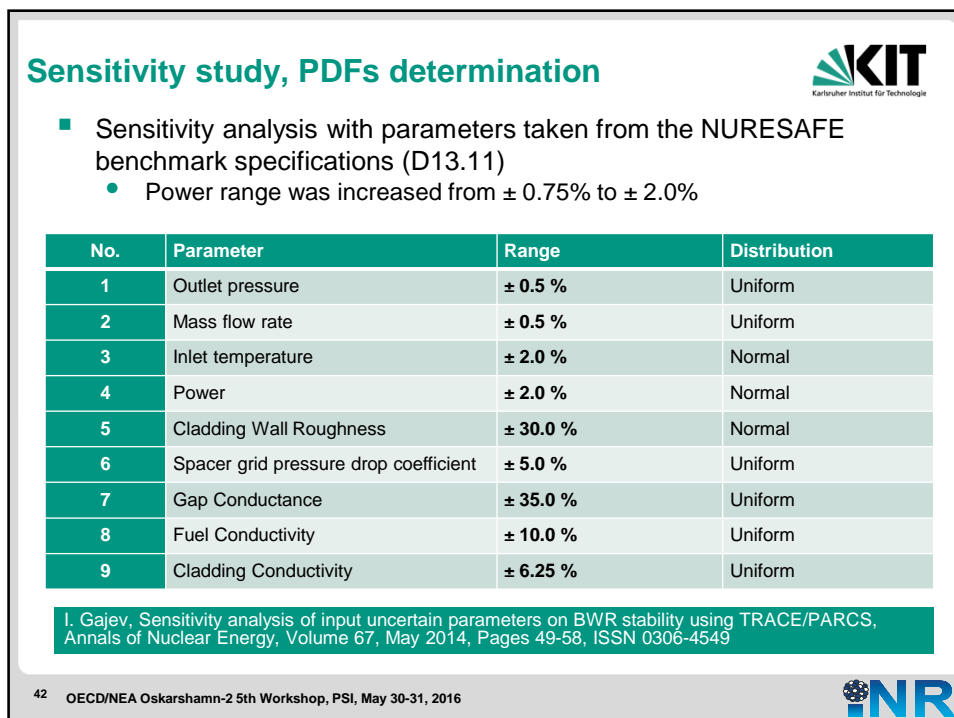
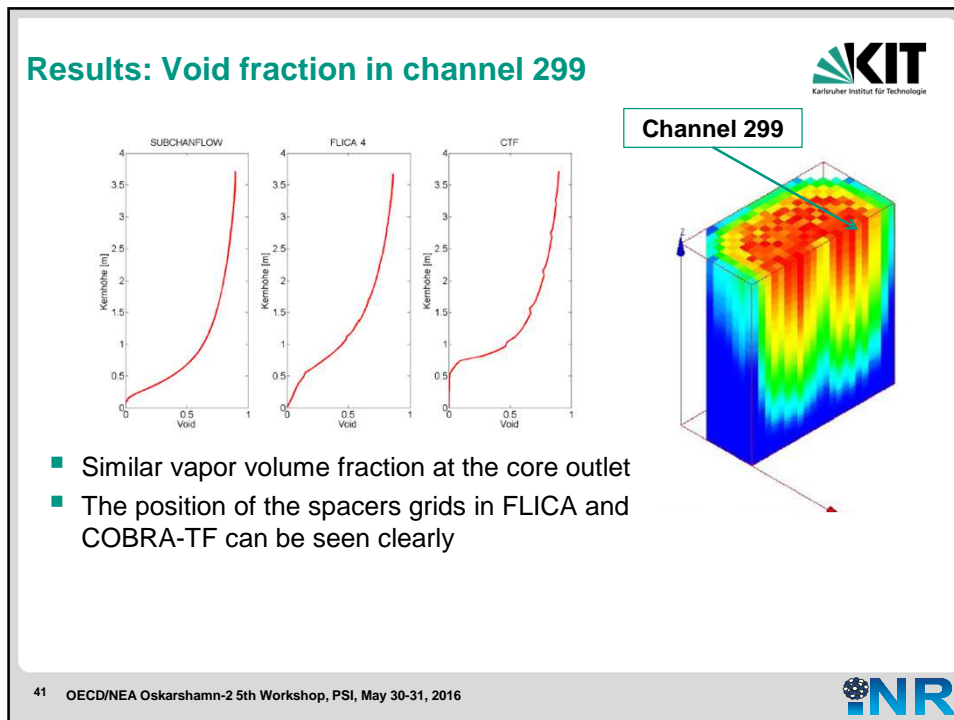
Parameter at HFP	Benchmark	SCF	FLICA4	CTF
Thermal Power (MW)	1798.6	1798.6	1798.6	1798.6
Core inlet Temperature (K)	547.30	547.30	547.30	547.30
Core Inlet Mass Flow (kg/s)	4793.50	4793.50	4793.50	4793.50
Core outlet Temperature (K)	558.48	559.63	558.2	558.43
Average void fraction (-)	0.42	0.41	0.39	0.37
Void fraction at core outlet (-)	-	0.7124	0.6698	0.687
Pressure drop in the core (kPa)	46.0	45.1	40.1	47.91
Average flow velocity in the core (m/s)		2.99	4.59 (Vap.) 2.77 (Liq.)	3.21

NEW CTF RESULTS

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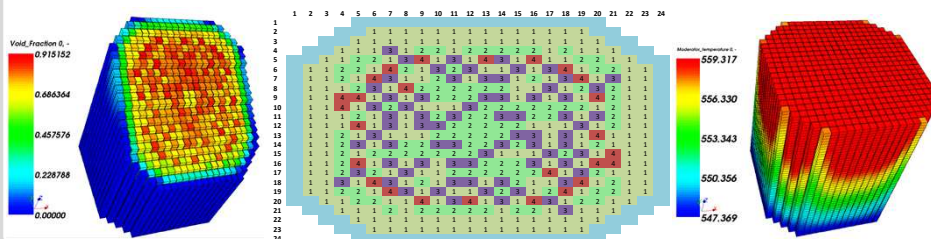




COBRA-TF O2 nominal steady state results

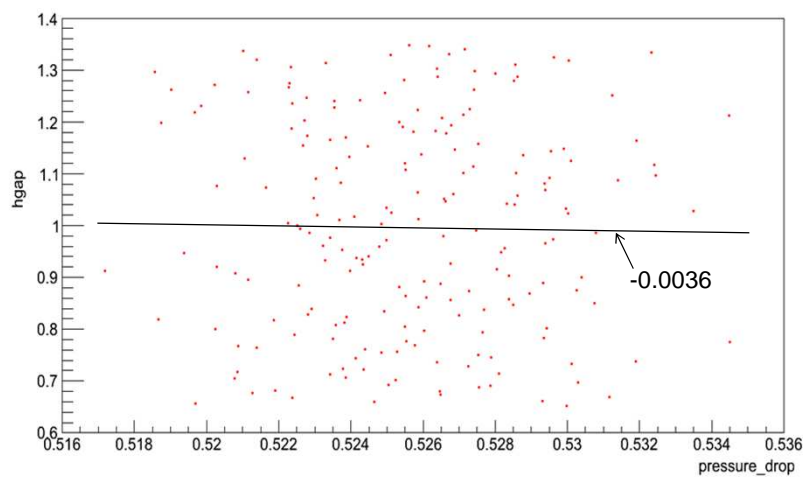
- Axial pressure drop and Outlet void fraction are the output parameters studied (200 runs were used - 97.3% confidence level).
- The computed sensitivity coefficients by URANIE corresponding to a steady state at nominal operating conditions using COBRA-TF.

	Mass flow rate	Inlet enthalpy	Pressure	Heat flux	Spacer	Gap conductivity
Axial pressure loss	0.259488	0.384382	-0.52228	0.410298	0.597949	-0.0036
Void Fraction	-0.198526	0.673415	-0.660979	0.275753	-0.0077247	0.02582



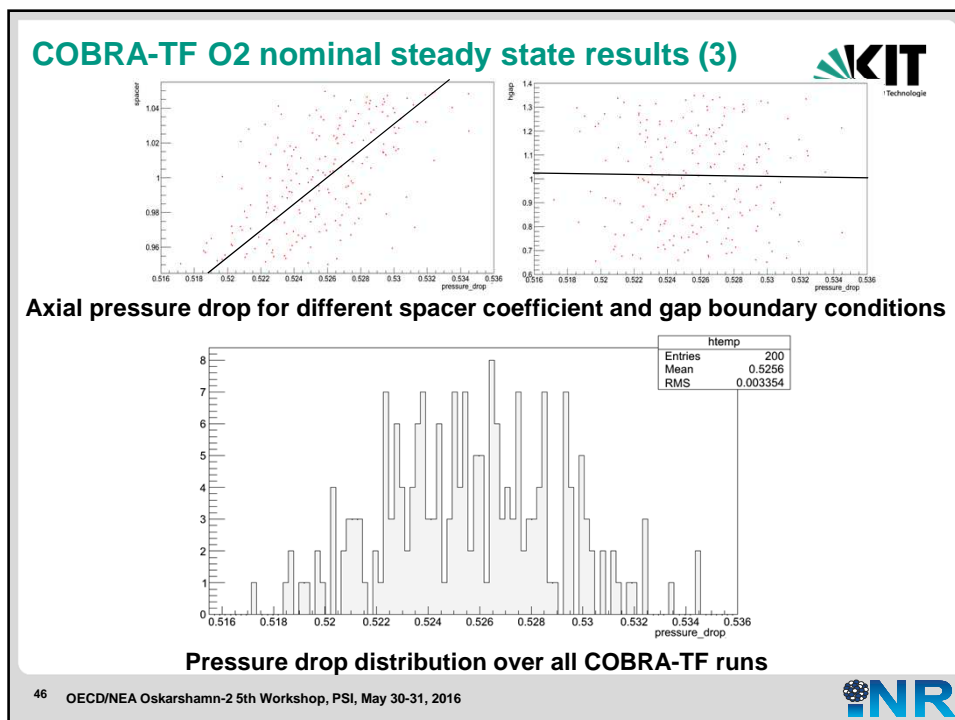
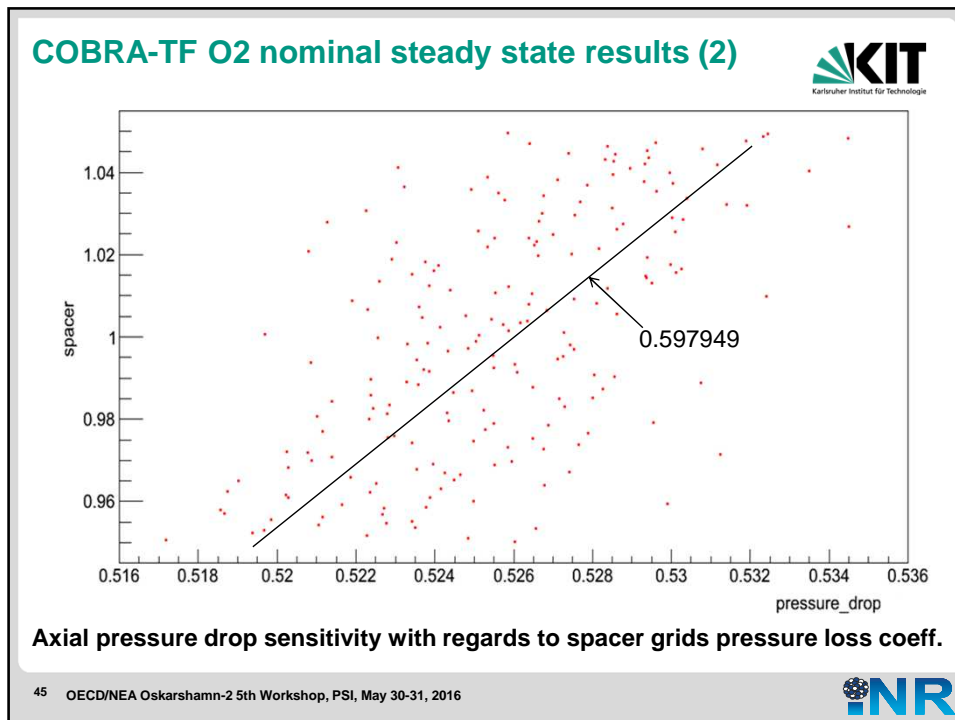
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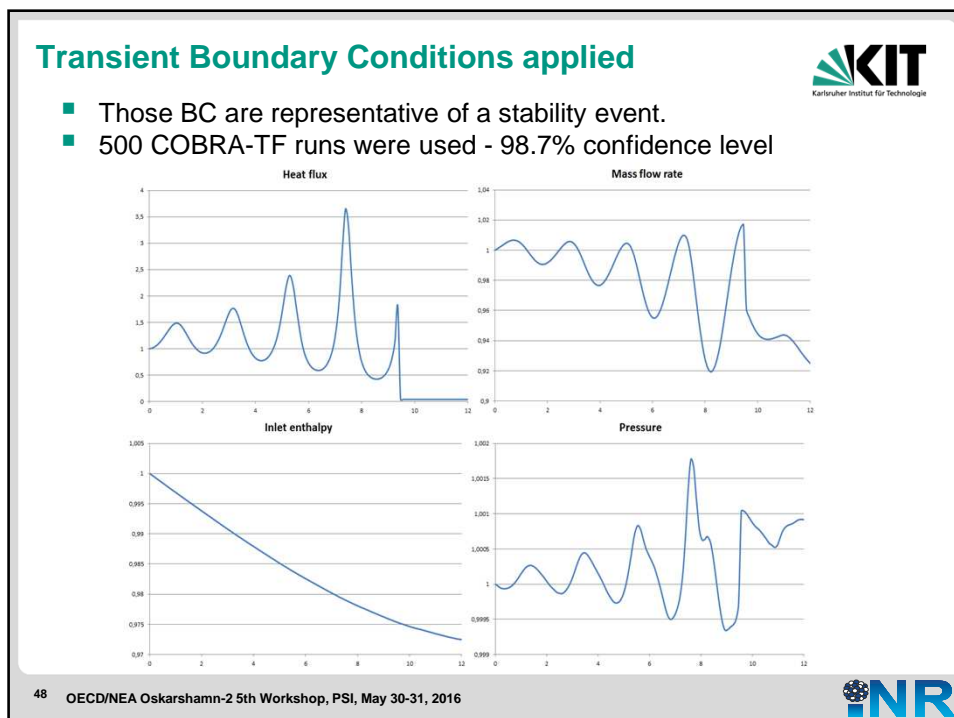
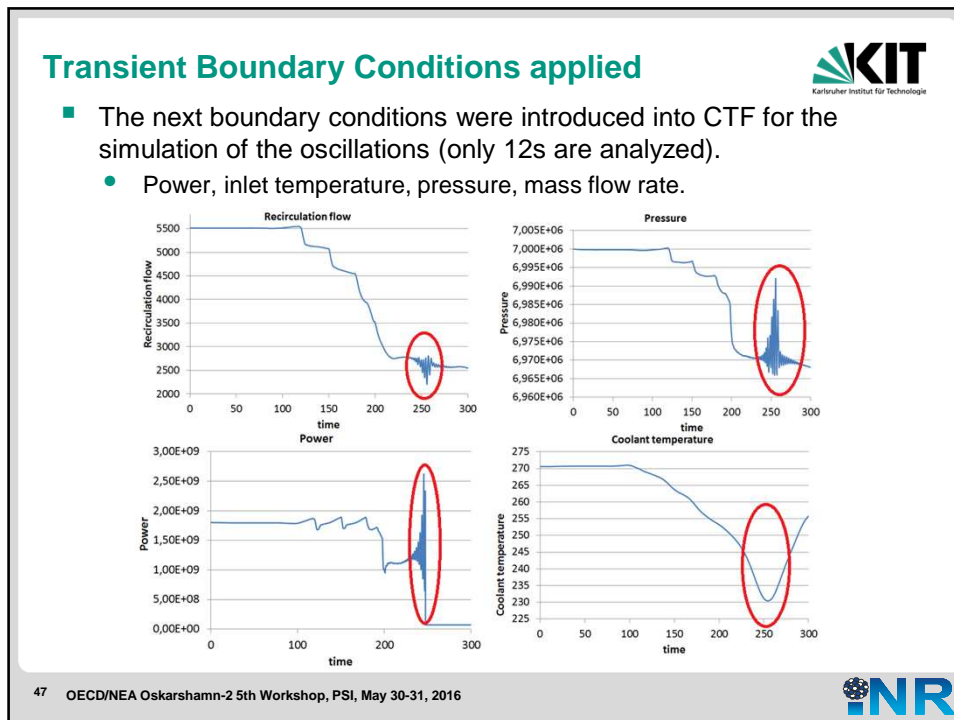
COBRA-TF O2 nominal steady state results (1)



Axial pressure drop sensitivity with regards to fuel gap conductivity.

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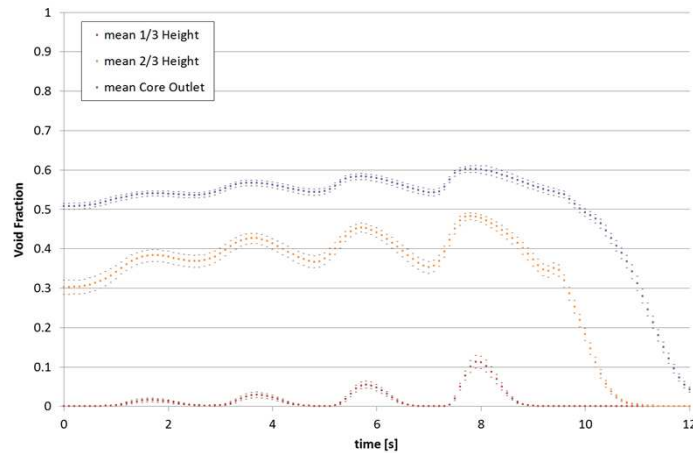




URANIE Results in the zooming area



- Mean, min and max value of the void fraction at three different elevations: 1/3, 2/3 and exit



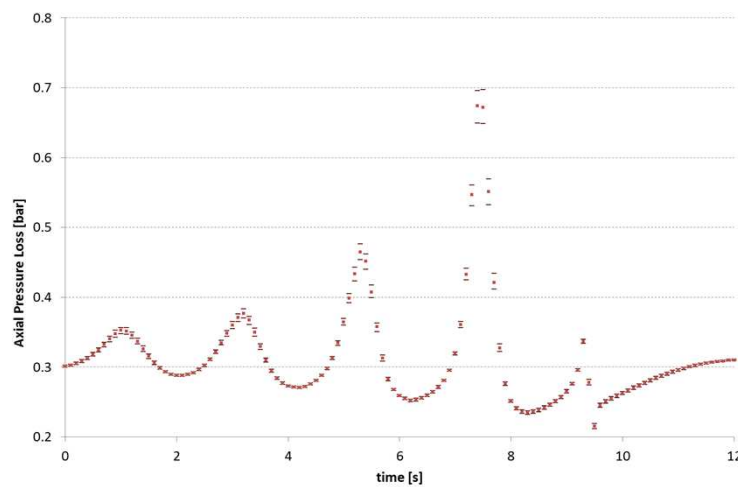
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URANIE Results in the zooming area

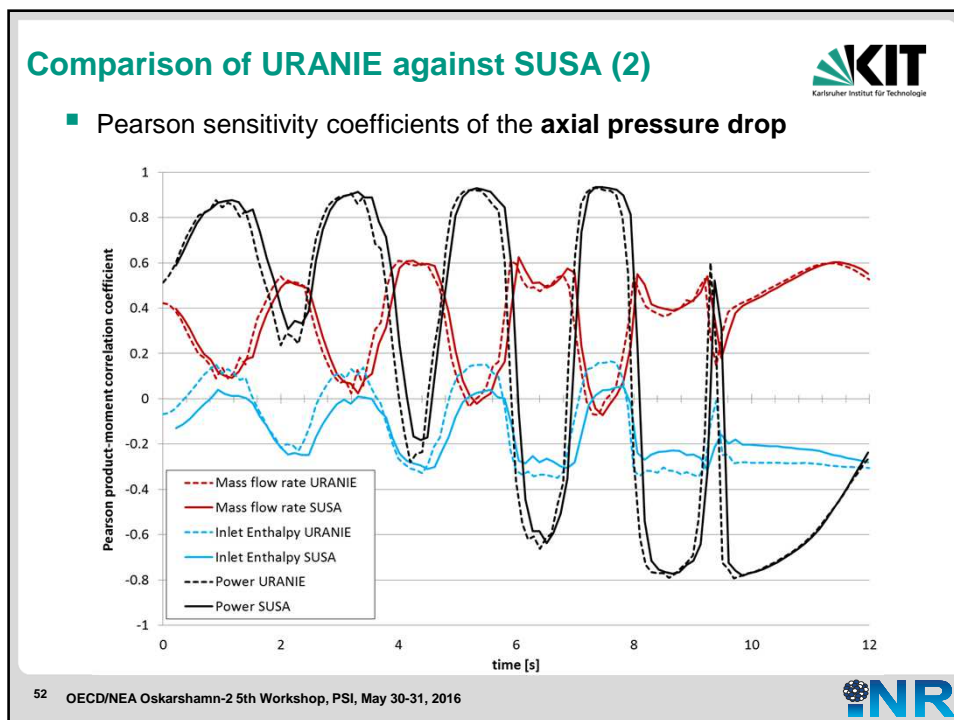
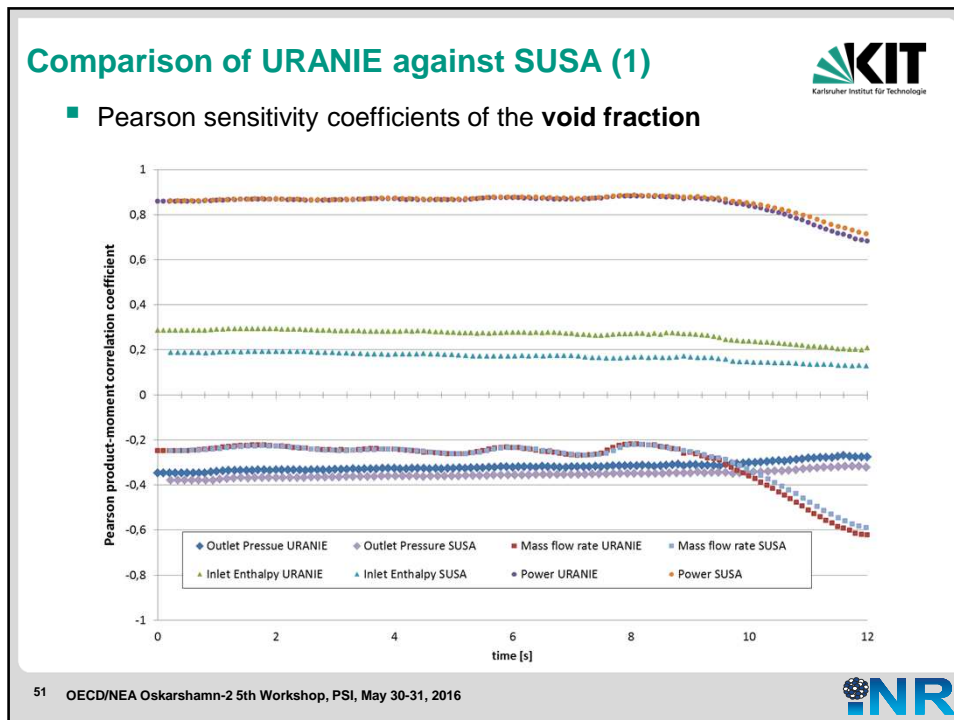


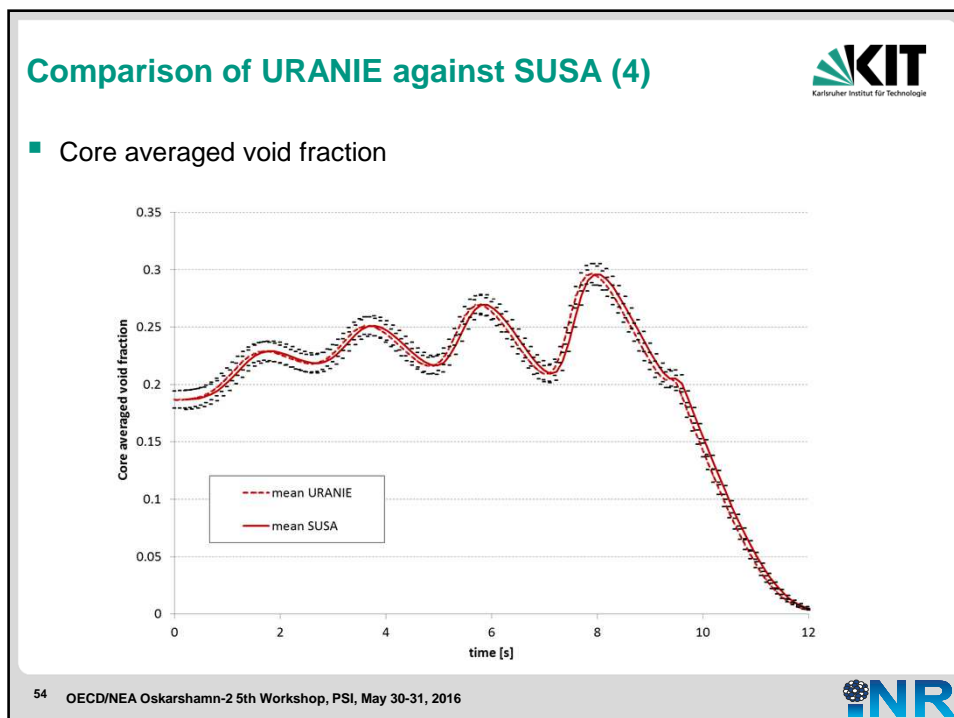
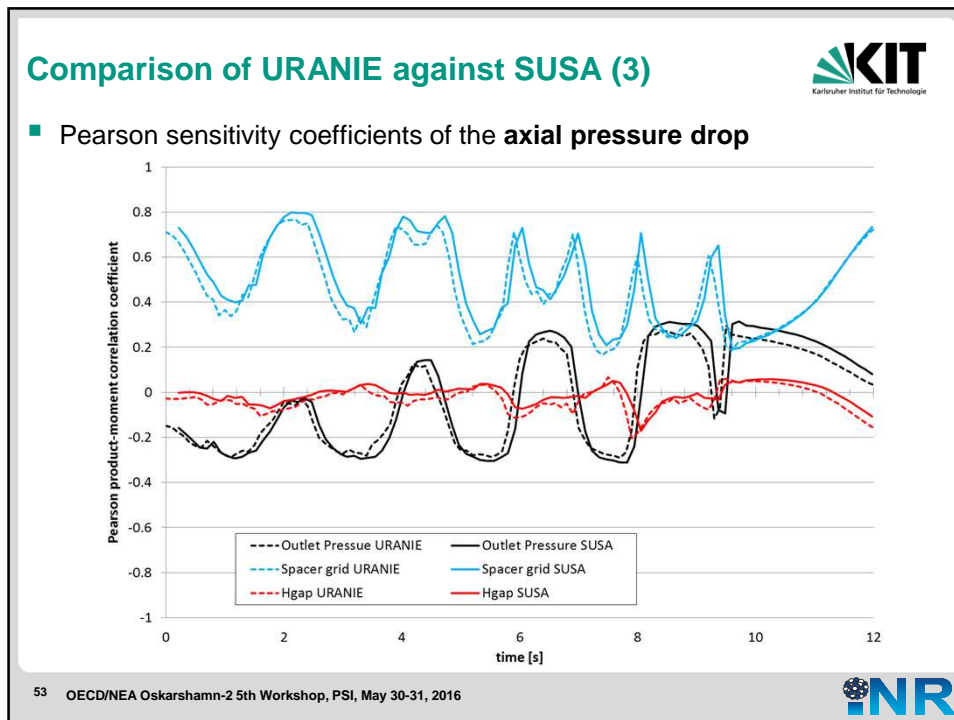
- Mean, min and max value of the axial pressure loss of the bundle average

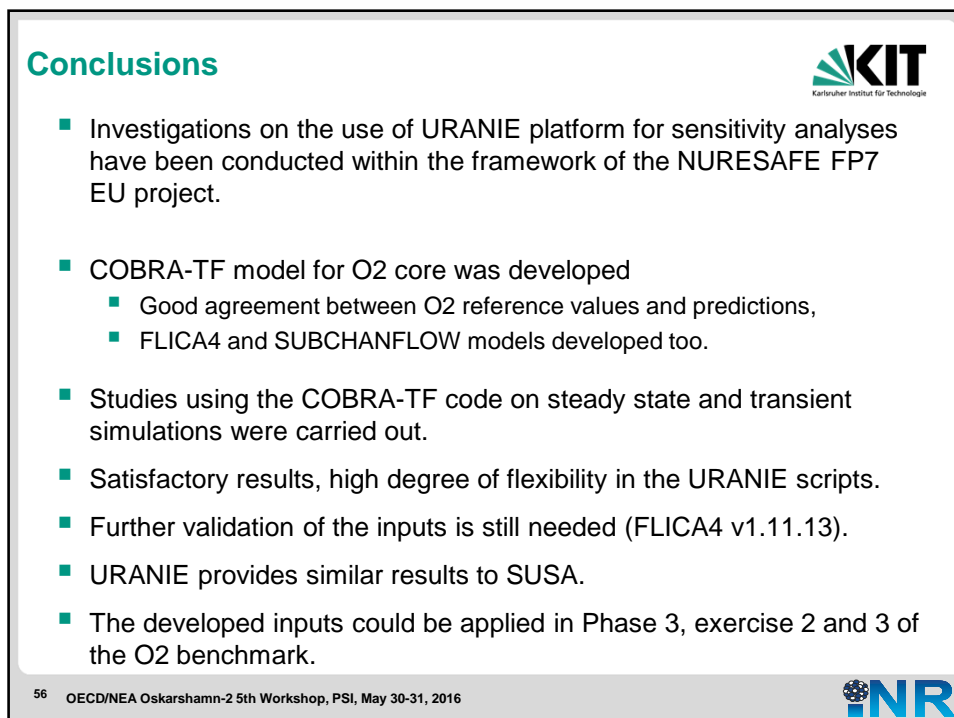
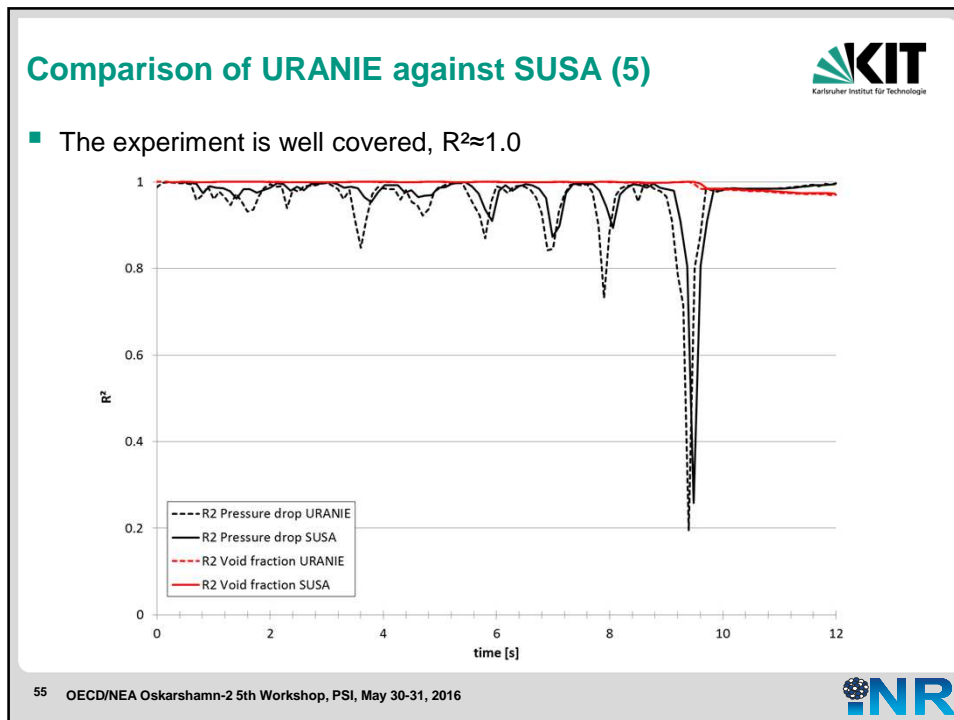


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- The NURESAFE project
- ATHLET/COBRA-TF multi-scale thermal-hydraulics analysis of the O2 event
- Sensitivity and uncertainty analysis of the Oskarshamn-2 stability event with COBRA-TF (*updated results since O2-3 meeting*)
- Summary

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Summary and Outlook



- KIT has computed the transient event corresponding to phase 1 with TRACEV5P3 and TRACEV5P2 using a one-to-one coupling (444 channels in TRACE/ 444 FA in PARCS).
 - Results reported in O2-3 meeting at GRS (2014).
 - Missing the steady state simulations for the Event Points 1, 4, 6, 8 and 11
 - The lack of a nemtab XS library didn't allow to prepare a solution set using TRADYN code (PhD work at KIT).
- Within NURESAFE project, multi-scale coupling using ATHLET/COBRA-TF has been applied successfully to the stability event.
- Submit the results using the official benchmark templates.
- Now getting ready:
 - for Phase 2, the extreme scenarios need to be analysed.
 - for Phase 3, some models have been developed at channel level with COBRA-TF and SUBCHANFLOW. A sensitivity study has been conducted and presented in NUTHOS-10 conference. URANIE vs. SUSANA.

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Thanks for your attention

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