



**GE Nuclear Energy**

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***ESBWR Scaling Report –  
NEDC 33082P***

***Robert Gamble***

***NRC Staff - GE Meeting***

***Closed Session***

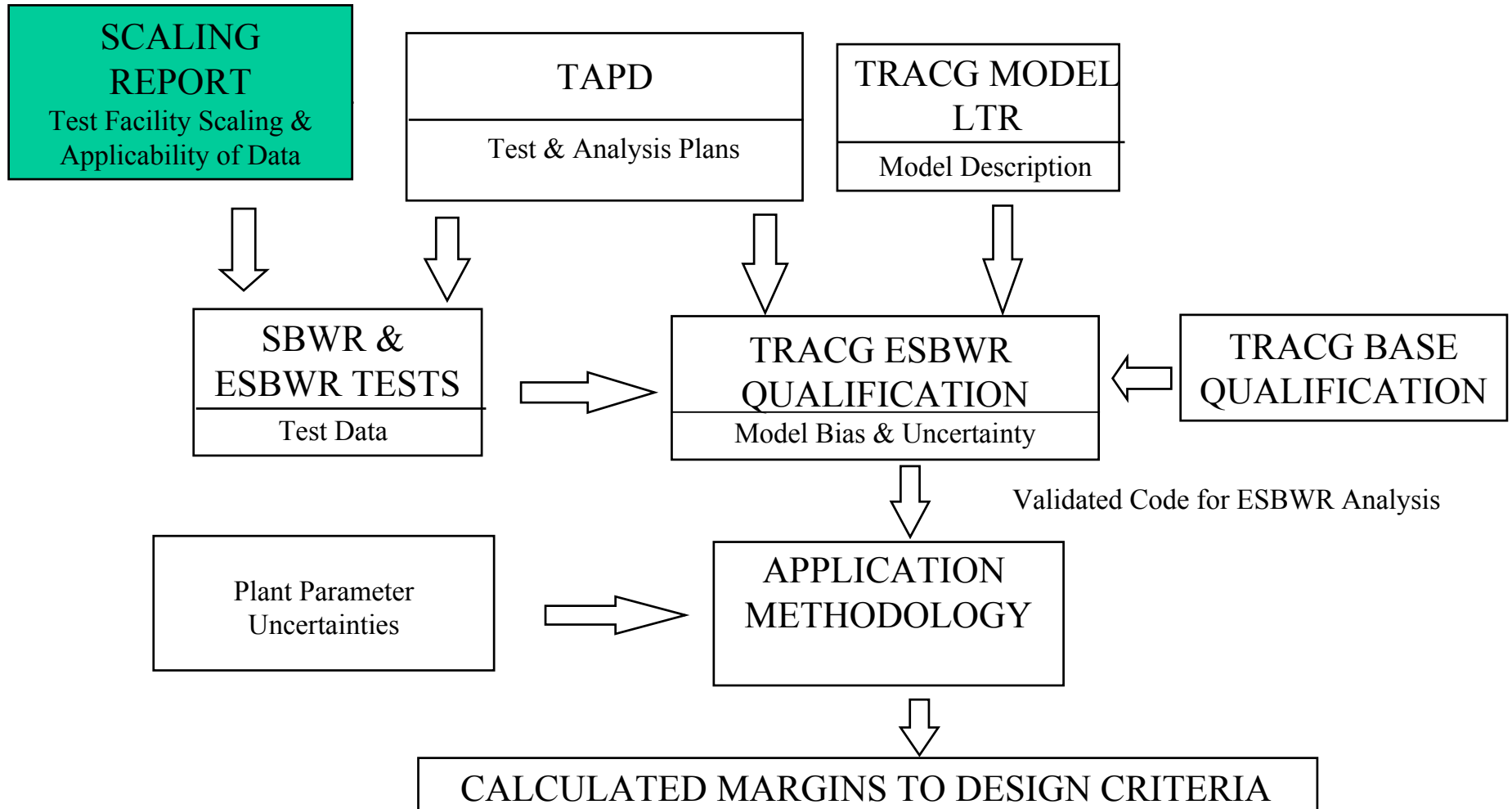
***December 12, 2002***

***Rockville, Maryland***



# ESBWR Technology Program Elements

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# Outline

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- **Objectives and Scope**
- **Methodology**
  - Hierarchical Two-tiered Scaling (H2TS)
    - Top-down
    - Bottom-up
  - Two-parallel applications
    - 1) obtain general scaling criteria  
(for ideal case of perfectly scaled facilities)
    - 2) detect the scaling distortions and evaluate their importance  
(for the actual test facilities)
      - What phenomena are important
      - How well are they scaled
- **ESBWR Results**
  - What phenomena are important
- **Comparison of ESBWR and Test Facility - Scaling Results**
  - How well are important phenomena scaled in tests
- **Observed Effects of Scale**
- **Conclusions**

# Scaling Objectives

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- ***Obtain criteria for test facility design***
- ***Show how well various experiments represent behavior of ESBWR systems***
- ***Determine if experimental data is sufficiently representative for validation of TRACG code phenomenological models***

# Scope

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- **LOCA ACCIDENTS**
  - MAIN STEAM LINE
  - GRAVITY DRIVEN COOLING SYSTEM LINE
  - BOTTOM DRAIN
- **SBWR SAFETY SYSTEMS**
  - GRAVITY DRIVEN COOLING SYSTEM (GDCCS)
  - ISOLATION CONDENSER SYSTEM (ICS)
  - PASSIVE CONTAINMENT COOLING SYSTEM (PCCS)
- **IMPORTANT PHENOMENA**
  - SYSTEM PRESSURE RATES
    - REACTOR PRESSURE VESSEL
    - DRYWELL
    - WETWELL
  - MASS
    - REACTOR VESSEL
- **TEST FACILITIES**
  - GIST
  - GIRAFFE
  - PANDA
  - PANTHERS

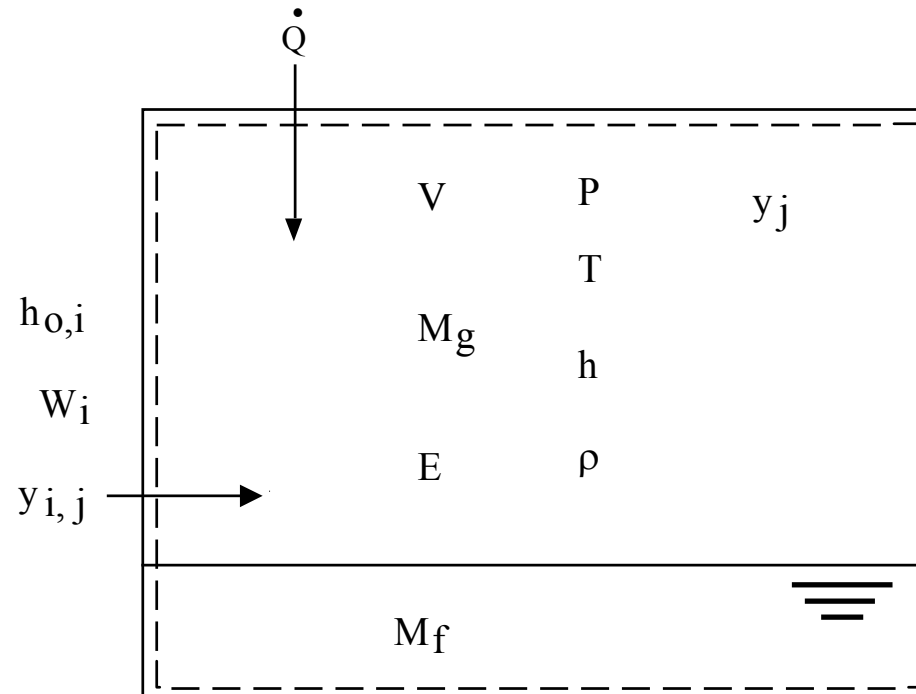
# ***H2TS Methodology***

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- ***Top-down scaling analysis is performed at the system level (e.g., RPV, DW, WW)***
- ***Top-down scaling identifies important processes for bottom-up scaling analysis***
- ***Bottom-up scaling is performed at the local level for important phenomena***
  
- ***Two main applications of top-down scaling***
  - thermodynamic evolution in volumes → mass, energy and pressure
  - Transfer of mass between volumes → momentum

# Thermodynamic Evolution of Containment Volumes with Mass and Energy Additions

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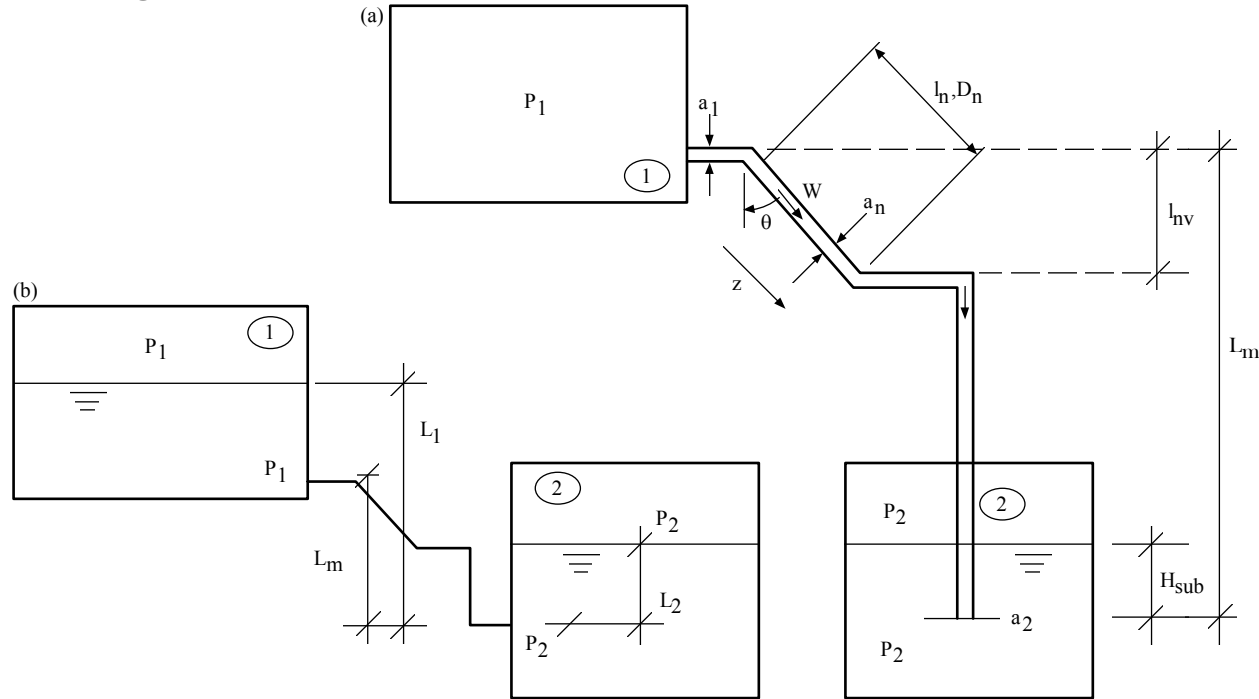


$$e = \frac{E}{M} = e(P, v, y_j)$$

**A containment volume receiving mass flow rates  $W_i$  with corresponding total enthalpies  $h_{o,i}$ , and heat at rate  $\dot{Q}$**

# Transfers of Mass Between Volumes Driven by Pressure Differences

## Piping Configurations of Interest



(b) Pipe Connecting Two Pools;  
 $L_m = L_1 - L_2$ ,  $H_m = 0$

(a) Pipe Connecting Two Volumes and Submerged in  
 Volume 2:  $H_m = H_{sub}$ ,  $\rho_m g L_m = 0$

## Momentum Equation for path 1-2:

$$\sum_n \frac{\ell_n}{a_n} \frac{dW}{dt} = \Delta P_{1,2} + \rho g \sum_n \ell_{nv} - \rho_L g H - \sum_n \frac{F_n}{a_n^2} \frac{W^2}{2\rho}$$

$$F_n = \frac{f_n \ell_n}{D_n} + k_n$$

$$L_m = \sum_n \ell_{nv} \Delta P_{1,2} = P_1 - P_2$$



# Summary of System Equations

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- **For Volumes**

- **total mass** 
$$\frac{dM}{dt} - \sum_i W_i = 0$$

- **conservation of constituent  $j$**  
$$\frac{dM_j}{dt} - \sum_i W_{ij} = 0$$

- **energy** 
$$V\rho \frac{de}{dt} = -P \frac{dV}{dt} + \dot{Q} + \sum_i (h_i - h)W_i + \frac{P}{\rho} \sum_i W_i$$

- **rate of  $P$  change** 
$$\frac{dP}{dt} = \frac{1}{Vf_2} \left\{ \sum_i [W_i (h_i - h)] + \sum_i W_i \frac{P^*}{\rho} + \dot{Q} - P^* \frac{dV}{dt} - V \sum_j \left[ f_{1j} \frac{dy_j}{dt} \right] \right\}$$

- **vapor volume fraction** 
$$\rho_g \frac{d\alpha}{dt} = \frac{1}{V} \sum_i W_{g,i} + \frac{\sum_i (h_{\ell,i} - h_f)W_{\ell,i}}{Vh_{fg}} + \frac{\dot{Q}}{V} + \frac{\psi}{h_{fg}} \frac{dP}{dt}$$

- **For Flow Paths**

- **momentum** 
$$\left( \frac{L}{a} \right) \frac{dW}{dt} = \Delta P - \frac{1}{\rho} \left( \frac{F}{a^2} \right) \frac{W^2}{2} - \rho g H$$

# Two Parallel Scaling Procedures

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- **(1) General scaling rules for facility design**

- For ideal case of perfectly scaled facilities
- A minimal set of unique (global) reference scales is used:

$$\{z_r\} = t_r, v_r, W_r, \dot{Q}_r, \rho_r, \Delta P_r, \Delta h_r$$

- non-dimensional variables are formed as:  $z^+ = \frac{Z}{Z_r}$

- **(2) Detect the scaling distortions and evaluate their importance**

- For the actual plant design and test facilities
- the minimal set  $\{z_r\}$  is supplemented by additional specific reference scales

# Derivation of General Scaling Criteria – Test Facility Design Rules

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- **Definition of the minimal set of reference scales  $\{z_r\}$** 
  - **For time,  $t_r$**
  - **For volume:  $V_r$**
  - **For mass flow rates:  $W_r$**
  - **For heat addition:  $Q_r$**
  - **For densities:  $\rho_r$**
  - **For pressure, a reference pressure difference:  $\Delta P_r$**
  - **For constituent  $j$  fraction:  $y_{j,r}$**
  - **For properties involving vapor mass fraction:  $\psi_r$**
  - **For enthalpies and internal energies, a reference specific enthalpy difference:  $\Delta h_r \rightarrow h_{fg,r}$**

- **Normalize equation variables as**

$$z^+ \equiv \frac{z}{z_r}$$

# Derivation of General Scaling Criteria - 2

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## Non dimensionalized equations

- **Mass Conservation**

$$\frac{d}{dt^+} (V^+ \rho^+) - \Pi_t \sum_i W_i^+ = 0$$

$$\frac{d}{dt^+} (V^+ \rho_j^+) - \Pi_{t,j} \sum_i W_i^+ y_{i,j}^+ = 0$$

- **Energy**

$$V^+ \rho^+ \frac{de^+}{dt^+} = -\frac{1}{\Pi_{hp}} \rho^+ \frac{dV^+}{dt^+} + \Pi_t \Pi_{pch} \dot{Q}^+ + \Pi_t \sum_i W_i^+ h_i^+ + \frac{\Pi_t}{\Pi_{hp}} \frac{P^+}{\rho^+} \sum_i W_i^+$$

- **Pressure Rate**

$$\frac{dP^+}{dt^+} = \frac{1}{V^+ f_2^+} \left\{ \Pi_t \sum_i W_i^+ h_i^+ + \frac{\Pi_t}{\Pi_{hp}} \frac{P^{*+}}{\rho^+} \sum_i W_i^+ + \Pi_t \Pi_{pch} \dot{Q}^+ - \frac{1}{\Pi_{hp}} P^{*+} \frac{dV^+}{dt^+} - V^+ \sum_j f_{1,j}^+ \frac{dy_j^+}{dt^+} \right\}$$

- **Vapor Fraction**

$$\rho_g^+ \frac{d\alpha}{dt^+} = \Pi_t \sum_i W_{g,i}^+ + \Pi_t \frac{\sum_i h_{sub,i}^+ W_{\ell,i}^+}{h_{fg}^+} + \Pi_t \Pi_{pch} \frac{\dot{Q}^+}{h_{fg}^+} + \frac{\Pi_\psi}{\Pi_{hp}} \psi^+ \frac{dP^+}{dt^+}$$

- **Momentum**

$$\Pi_{in} \frac{dW^+}{dt^+} = \Pi_{pd} \Delta P^+ - \Pi_{loss} \frac{W^{+2}}{\rho^+} + \Pi_{hyd} \rho^+ L^+ - \Pi_{sub} \rho^+ H^+$$

# Resulting Scaling Criteria

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- **8 Pi Groups:**  $\Pi_t, \Pi_{in}, \Pi_{pd}, \Pi_{loss}, \Pi_{sub}, \Pi_{hp}, \Pi_{pch}$  and  $\Pi_\psi$
- **Define a system scale R:** 
$$R \equiv \frac{\dot{Q}_{prot}}{\dot{Q}_{mod}} = \dot{Q}_R$$
- **Choose  $H_R = 1$  (full height to preserve pressure differences) then:**
- **The following scaling rules result**
  - Volumes
    - $(h_{fg})_R = \rho_R = 1$
    - $H_R = (y_j)_R = \alpha_R = \Delta P_R = 1$
    - $Q_R = (A_{lg})_R = W_R = R$
  - Piping
    - $L_R = F_R = 1$
    - $a_R = R$

## ***Global Momentum Scaling***

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- ***Two primary objectives***
  - Identify any additional nondimensional numbers that may result
  - Identify any interactions between different flow paths that may occur
- ***Results of SBWR global momentum scaling work***
  - No new nondimensional groups resulted
  - No significant interaction terms identified
  - Most interaction terms scaled relatively well
  - Confirmed result from separate line analyses:
    - flow controlled by balance of resistance and pressure difference ( $\Delta P$ , hydrostatic head)
    - Inertia not important
- ***Global momentum scaling for SBWR yielded no new results***
- ***ESBWR configuration basically the same as the SBWR***

Global momentum scaling not repeated for ESBWR

# ***Summary of General Scaling Criteria and System Design Rules***

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- ***Minimum set of criteria for system design***
- ***All facilities nominally scaled according to “General Scaling Criteria”***
  - Full-vertical-scale
  - Flow area/Heat transfer area/Mass/Power/Flow scaled to system scale
  - Prototypical fluids
  - Prototypical initial conditions
- ***Various unique modifications within these criteria to meet facility constraints or improve some aspect of facility such as:***
  - Removal of unimportant volumes in PANDA (bottom of vessel and SP)
  - Pancaking of LDW in GIRAFFE
  - Use of 2 DW and WW in PANDA to study larger horizontal length scale and hideout

# ***Scaling for Important Phenomena and Facility Distortions***

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- ***Different focus from general scaling criteria***
  - What are important phenomena
  - How well are important phenomena scaled for use in code qualification
- ***More detailed reference values are used***
- ***Special care is taken to assure nondimensional variables are close to 1 so that PI group comparisons are meaningful***
- ***Selection of Reference Values***
  - Pressures, temperatures and mass fractions taken from test initial conditions
  - Flows calculated using choked or unchoked flow formulations
  - Reference flow, pressure and time changes selected to maintain variables and their derivatives of order one
  - No code calculations used for tests other than for test initial conditions
    - Tests cover range of initial conditions



# Summary of System Equations...again

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- **Start with same set of equations**

- **For Volumes**

- **total mass**  $\frac{dM}{dt} - \sum_i W_i = 0$

- **conservation of constituent  $j$**   $\frac{dM_j}{dt} - \sum_i W_{ij} = 0$

- **energy**  $V\rho \frac{de}{dt} = -P \frac{dV}{dt} + \dot{Q} + \sum_i (h_i - h)W_i + \frac{P}{\rho} \sum_i W_i$

- **rate of  $P$  change**  $\frac{dP}{dt} = \frac{1}{Vf_2} \left\{ \sum_i [W_i (h_i - h)] + \sum_i W_i \frac{P^*}{\rho} + \dot{Q} - P^* \frac{dV}{dt} - V \sum_j \left[ f_{1j} \frac{dy_j}{dt} \right] \right\}$

- **vapor volume fraction**  $\rho_g \frac{d\alpha}{dt} = \frac{1}{V} \sum_i W_{g,i} + \frac{\sum_i (h_{\ell,i} - h_f)W_{\ell,i}}{Vh_{fg}} + \frac{\dot{Q}}{V} + \frac{\psi}{h_{fg}} \frac{dP}{dt}$

- **For Flow Paths**

- **momentum**  $\left(\frac{L}{a}\right) \frac{dW}{dt} = \Delta P - \frac{1}{\rho} \left(\frac{F}{a^2}\right) \frac{W^2}{2} - \rho g H$

# Non Dimensionalized Equations for Facility Comparison

## ***New nondimensionalized equations***

- **Mass Conservation**  $\frac{d}{dt^+} (V^+ \rho^+) - \Pi_t \sum_i W_i^+ = 0$   $\frac{d}{dt^+} (V^+ \rho_j^+) - \Pi_{t,j} \sum_i W_i^+ y_{i,j}^+ = 0$

- **Energy**  $M^+ \frac{de^+}{dt^+} = -\Pi_{e,\dot{V}} P^+ \frac{dV^+}{dt^+} + \sum_i \Pi_{e,\dot{Q}} \Pi_{\dot{Q}}' \dot{Q}_i^+ + \sum_i \Pi_{e,wh,i} W_i^+ h_i^+ + \frac{P^+}{\rho^+} \sum_i \Pi_{e,mech,i} W_i^+$

- **Pressure Rate**  $f_2^+ V^+ \frac{dP^+}{dt^+} = \sum_i \Pi_{P,\dot{Q},i} \dot{Q}_i^+ - \Pi_{P,\dot{V}} P^{*+} \frac{dV^+}{dt^+} + \sum_i \Pi_{P,Whj} W_i^+ h_i^+ + \frac{P^{*+}}{\rho^+} \sum_i \Pi_{P,mechj} W_i^+ - V^+ \sum_j \Pi_{P,y,j} \left( f_{1,j}^+ \frac{dy_j^+}{dt^+} \right)$

- **Liquid Mass\***  $h_{fg}^+ \frac{dM_\ell^+}{dt^+} = -\sum_i \Pi_{M,\dot{Q},i} \dot{Q}_i^+ + h_{fg}^+ \sum_i \Pi_{M,W,i} W_{\ell,i}^+ + \sum_i \Pi_{M,sub,i} h_{sub,i}^+ W_{\ell,i}^+ - \left[ \Pi_{M,\dot{P}1} V_{RPV}^+ f_3^+ + \Pi_{M,\dot{P}2} f_4^+ M_\ell^+ \right] \frac{dP^+}{dt^+}$

- **Momentum**  $\Pi_{in} \frac{dW^+}{dt^+} = \Pi_{pd} \Delta P^+ - \Pi_{loss} \frac{W^{+2}}{\rho^+} + \Pi_{hyd} \rho^+ L^+ - \Pi_{sub} \rho^+ H^+$

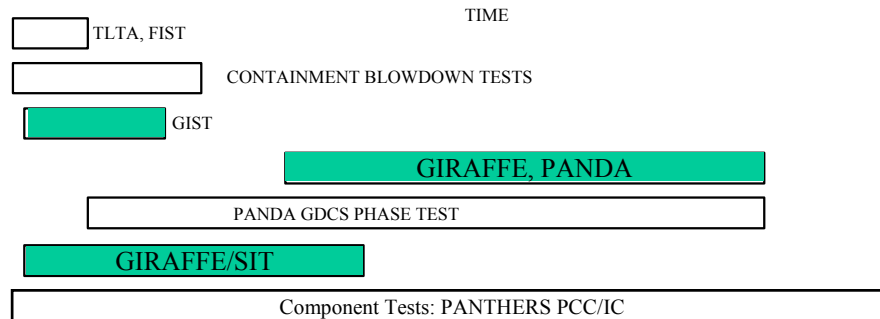
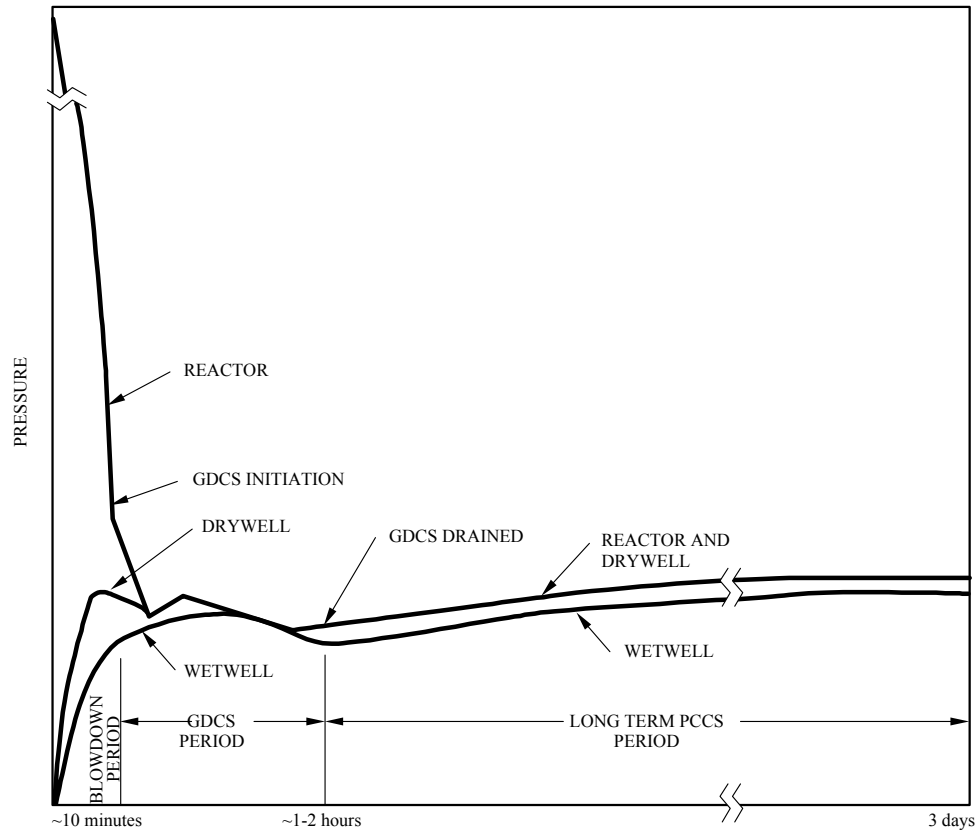
***\*Switched to liquid mass from void fraction - result is the same***

# ***Application - Important Parameters in ESBWR***

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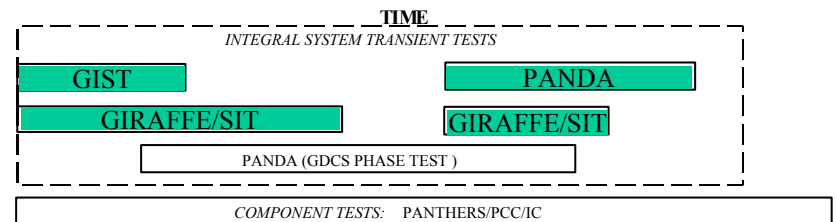
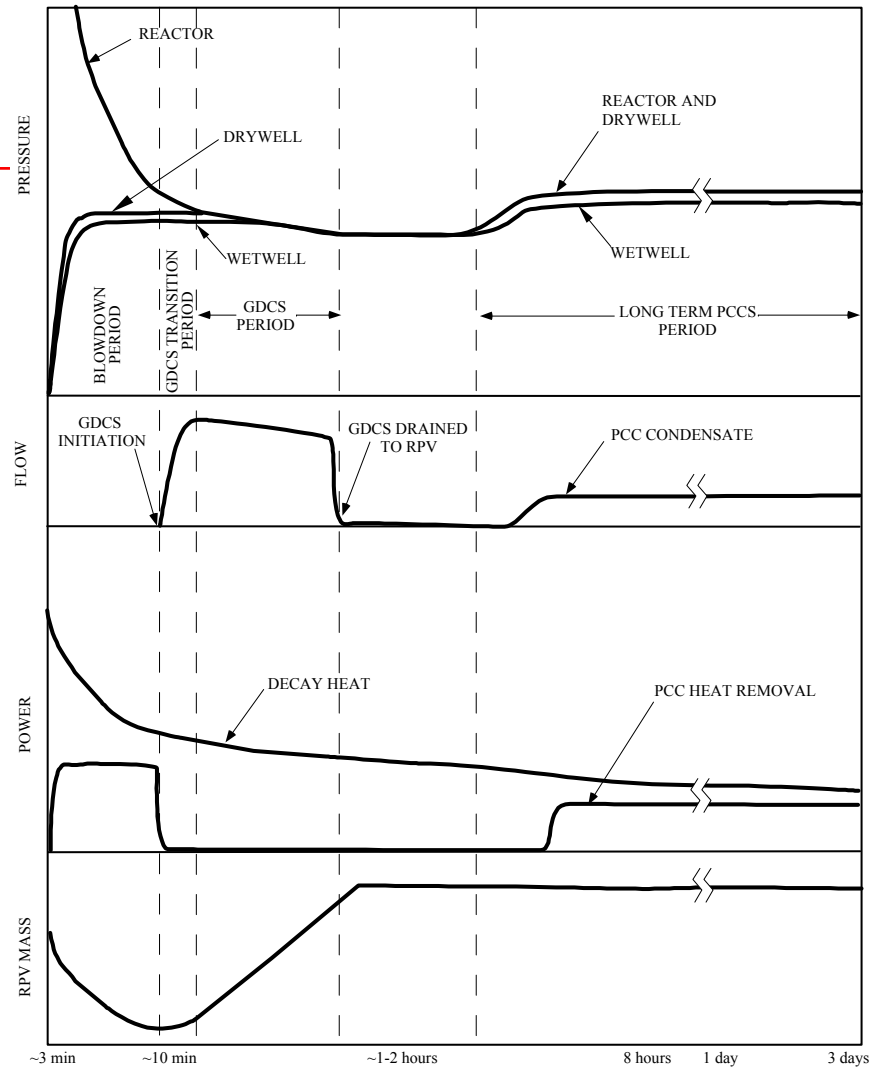
- ***RPV***
  - Primary parameter: Water level
    - Keep the core covered
  - Secondary parameter: Pressure
    - Controls initiation of GDSCS
- ***Containment***
  - Primary parameter: Pressure
    - Maintain pressure below design limit

# Integral Test Coverage for ESBWR LOCA



# Time periods for scaling evaluation

- **Break transient into periods where:**
  - Dominant phenomenon remains the same
  - Magnitudes of phenomenon are *relatively* constant
  - Or, there is a special interest



# ***Parameters and Regions Selected for Scaling***

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# ***Evaluation Points***

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## ***ESBWR Results***

***→ What phenomena are important to plant behavior***



# Momentum Scaling

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- **Momentum Equation**

$$\Pi_{in} \frac{dW^+}{dt^+} = \Pi_{pd} \Delta P^+ - \Pi_{loss} \frac{W^{+2}}{\rho^+} + \Pi_{hyd} \rho^+ L^+ - \Pi_{sub} \rho^+ H^+$$

- **Terms for:**

- Inertia, pressure drop, flow losses, hydrostatic head and submergence

- **SBWR Results:**

- **Nothing has changed in the ESBWR with the exception of the GDCS being in the WW**

# GDCS Initiation Timing

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- Momentum Equation for GDCS Line**

$$\Pi_{in} \frac{dW^+}{dt^+} = \Pi_{pd} \Delta P^+ - \Pi_{loss} \frac{W^{+2}}{\rho^+} + \Pi_{hyd} \rho^+ L^+ - \Pi_{sub} \rho^+ H^+$$

Hydrostatic driving head
Hydrostatic head above nozzle in RPV

Difference in cover gas pressures

SBWR:  $\Delta P_{PD} = P_{RPV} - P_{DW}$  in

ESBWR:  $\Delta P_{PD} = P_{RPV} - P_{WW} = P_{RPV} - P_{DW} - \text{PCC vent submergence head}$

**RPV Late Blowdown: Time Rate of Pressure Change ( $\dot{P}$ )**

# ***RPV Pressure – Late Blowdown***

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**RPV Late Blowdown:** Time Rate of Liquid Mass Change ( $\dot{M}$ )

# ***RPV Liquid Mass – Late Blowdown***

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## ***RPV Pressure – GDCS Transition***

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- ***Pressure change during transition phase small compared to late blowdown and VERY small compared to entire blowdown***
- ***Depressurization driven by ADS flow***
- ***Stored energy release and GDCS subcooling make measurable contribution***
- ***IC and break flow contribution negligible***
  - No IC interactions expected
- ***No volume change***

Transition phase of limited interest. Timing of phase initiation of most interest.

## ***RPV Liquid Mass – GDCS Transition***

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- ***Mass loss affected by all parameters except IC***
- ***GDCS and Flashing contributions are very transient during phase***
  - GDCS contribution given at  $\frac{1}{4}$  of rated GDCS flow
  - GDCS ranges from 0 to 4 times height shown
  - Flashing ranges from bar shown to 0



## ***RPV Liquid Mass – GDCS Transition***

---

- ***Mass change during transition phase small compared to blowdown***
- ***Mass loss affected by all parameters except IC***
- ***GDCS and Flashing contributions are very transient during phase***
  - GDCS contribution given at 1/4 rated GDCS flow
  - GDCS ranges from 0 to 4 times height shown
  - Flashing ranges from bar shown to 0

**Mass controlled by timing of transition phase start**

## ***RPV Liquid Mass – Reflood***

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- ***GDCS flow dominates all other phenomena after transition period***
- ***GDCS subcooling (blue) will offset boiling due to decay heat collapsing voids***

**Reflood is a straightforward single phase calculation**

**Drywell Long Term/PCCS: Time Rate of Pressure Change ( $\dot{P}$ )**

## ***DW Pressure – Long Term***

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- ***The DW volume is purged many times over (indicated by large bars)***
  - Pressure will quickly adjust to boundary condition controlling outlet flow (i.e. WW pressure)
- ***Energy inputs are unimportant to behavior***
- ***PCC heat removal has no direct effect on DW***
  - PCC flow would be the same with no heat removal

Details of DW are unimportant except as they affect timing of release of noncondensable gas to WW

**Wetwell Long Term/PCCS: Time Rate of Pressure Change ( $\dot{P}$ )**

## ***WW Pressure – Long Term***

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- ***WW is a balance of very small terms in the long term***
- ***Pressure increase is dominated by short term noncondensable gas addition***
- ***Heat capacity of wall is sufficient to absorb VB leakage for many days***
  - Wall heat absorption adjusts to heat sources from VB leakage or pool evaporation

Important parameter for WW is addition of noncondensibles - as long as heat inputs are weaker than wall energy storage capability

# Summary for ESBWR

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- **RPV**

- Blowdown dominated by ADS flow and flashing
- Short transition period where several phenomena are of similar magnitude but mass change is unimportant
- GDCS flow dominates RPV mass behavior during reflood

RPV Mass controlled by blowdown period. Minimum mass determined by timing of GDCS initiation.

- **Containment**

- Pressure change dominated by movement of noncondensibles from DW to WW
- DW pressure just follows WW pressure
  - Hide out of noncondensibles can change timing of pressure change
- PCC only important in controlling amount of energy into SP
- Long-term changes in containment pressure small compared to initial pressurization due to noncondensibles

Containment pressure change dominated by movement of noncondensibles from DW to WW

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## ***Comparison of ESBWR and Test Facilities***

***→ How well are facilities scaled***



# What Constitutes “Well Scaled” Facility

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- **Goal of tests is to:**
  - Represent phenomena important to system behavior at scaled magnitudes similar to the prototype so that models can be qualified for predicting important phenomena over a range of conditions similar to those expected in prototype
    - Important phenomena should be represented in test at similar magnitude to prototype
    - Unimportant phenomena need not be modeled
    - Phenomena not important in prototype should not be important in test
- **No specific criteria exists to define well scaled**
  - An acceptable criteria is to maintain important phenomena within factor of ~3 of prototype
    - Same order of magnitude in test and prototype
    - Differentiates from factor of 15 used to identify unimportant phenomena

## ***RPV Pressure – Late Blowdown***

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- ***Parameters are well matched***

## ***RPV Liquid Mass – Late Blowdown***

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- ***Parameters are well matched***

## ***RPV Pressure – GDCS Transition***

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- ***Parameters well matched***
- ***Parameters not very important to overall system behavior***

## ***RPV Liquid Mass – GDCS Transition***

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- ***Although transition period is not important to minimum mass, parameters are still matched well***

## ***RPV Liquid Mass – Reflood***

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- ***Parameters are well matched***

## ***DW Pressure – Long Term***

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- ***Important Parameters are well matched***

## ***WW Pressure – Long Term***

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- ***Pressure change in long term is small compared to early pressure increase due to noncondensable movement***
- ***Parameters are matched reasonably well***



# ***PCC Scaling***

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# ***Bottom-up Scaling***

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***Bottom up scaling not extended beyond what was done  
in SBWR report***

# ***Summary for Test Facility Comparison***

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- ***Only a small number of phenomena important to system behavior***
- ***Dominant phenomena are well scaled in test facilities***
- ***Less important phenomena scaled well also, although not necessary to do so***
- ***No new phenomena in tests***

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## ***Observed effects of scale from tests***

# ***Effect of N/C Gas Transport on Wetwell Pressure***

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***Containment Pressure Varies with Non-condensable Gas Quantity in Wetwell***

# ***PCC/IC Performance - Data at Different Pressure and Scale***

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***No Scale Effects in IC/PCC for Pure Steam***

# ***PCC Performance - Effect of Non-condensables at Different Scales***

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***No Scale Effects on PCC Performance with  
Non-condensable Gas***

# Scaling Summary

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- ***Only a small number of phenomena important to system behavior***
- ***Important phenomena well scaled in tests***
- ***No surprises – no unexpected phenomena present in tests\****
- ***No additional bottom-up scaling needed as part of ESBWR work***
- ***Comparison of test results at different scales confirm these results***

***\*some non prototypic heat leakage for portions of tests resulted in non representative phenomena for short periods***