

RECORD OF REVISIONS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LIST OF TABLES

LIST OF FIGURES

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Objective

Determine the spent fuel isotopic composition for the eighteen VSC-24 MSBs currently loaded at the Palisades nuclear plant, making use of the known, as-loaded fuel data supplied by the customer (as described in Section 4.1). Include all nuclides to be used in the burnup credit criticality analyses to be performed for these [MSB](#page-14-1)s. The output, or results, of this calculation are in the form of SAS2H computer output files that contain axial location-dependent isotopic concentrations for each fuel assembly contained in the MSBs. Concentrations are to be determined in terms of grams of a given nuclide per metric ton of initial uranium.

1.2 Purpose

The purpose of this calculation package is to provide the spent fuel isotopic compositions for the burnup-credit criticality analyses to be performed on the eighteen existing VSC-24 MSBs located at the Palisades nuclear plant.

1.3 Scope

This calculation applies to the eighteen VSC-24 casks currently loaded and situated on the Palisades ISFSI.

2. REQUIREMENTS

2.1 Design Inputs

None

2.2 Regulatory Commitments

None

3. REFERENCES

3.1 BFS Calculation Packages

- 3.1.1. VSC-03.3601, Rev 1, "SAS2H Isotopic Benchmark Analysis and Adjustment Factor Calculation." (Discussion of fuel temperature methodology and applicability; modeling specifics of SAS2H cases; fraction of ²³⁵U concentration assumed for ²³⁴U and ²³⁶U concentrations.)
- 3.1.2. VSC-03.3602, Rev. 0, "MCNP Benchmark Evaluation and USL Function Calculation for Burned UO₂ Fuel Criticality Analyses." (Described selection and justification of Zircaloy-4 composition.)
- 3.1.3. CMPC.1701.001, Rev. 1, "Criticality Materials Property Calculations." (Used as source of 304-SS elemental composition.)

3.2 General References

- 3.2.1. Letter from S. Leblang to R. Quinn, "Palisades Fuel Data," November 29, 2004. (Source of fuel assembly type figures, fuel configuration details.)
- 3.2.2. Letter from S. Leblang to R. Quinn, "Additional Palisades Fuel Data," dfs-bfs-05-001, January 3, 2005. (Source of fuel configuration details, composition of fuel inserts, B_4C and A_2O_3 densities and concentrations, presence or absence of guide tubes around B4C rods, by assembly type.)
- 3.2.3. Letter from S. Leblang to R. Quinn, "Corrected Fuel Data," dfs-bfs-05-002, January 10, 2005. (Source of fuel configuration details, fuel dimensions, reactor cycle data, fuel insert information, information on fuel sub-types.)
- 3.2.4. Letter from S. Leblang to R. Quinn, "Clarification Fuel Data," dfs-bfs-05-004, February 28, 2005. (Source of fuel configuration details, guide bar effective radii, information on fuel subtypes.)
- 3.2.5. Letter from S. Leblang to R. Quinn, "Final Palisades Fuel Data Clarifications," dfs-bfs-05-006, June 13, 2005. (Source of fuel configuration details, information on fuel sub-types, correction to figure for assembly type H3, control blade compositions, information on control blade insertion; revised dimension for B4C pellet radius and clad dimensions.)
- 3.2.6. *SAS2H: A Coupled One-Dimensional Depletion and Shielding Analysis Module*, NUREG/CR-0200, Revision 6, Volume 1, Section S2, ORNL/NUREG/CSD-2/V2/R6, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, September 1998. (General information on the SAS2H control module; source for description of treatment of boron concentrations over cycle.)
- 3.2.7. *(Reference not used*.)
- 3.2.8. *Topical Report on Actinide-Only Burnup Credit for PWR Spent Nuclear Fuel Packages*, DOE/RW-0472, Revision 2, Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management, U.S. Department of Energy, September 1998. (Source of eighteen-region bounding axial power/burnup profiles; Figure 9—source of fuel temperature vs. rod axial thermal power.)
- 3.2.9. *MCNP5–A General Monte Carlo N-Particle Transport Code, Version 5*, RSICC Computer Code Collection CCC-660, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, April 2003. (General MCNP code reference.)
- 3.2.10. B00000000-01717-0210-00004, Rev. 0, *CRC Reactivity Calculations for McGuire Unit 1*, CRWMS (DOE Yucca Mtn. Project), June 1998. (NRC ADAMS Accession # MOL.19980728.0006 - Source for Zircaloy-4 material description, MCNP cross-sections. source for B_4C , Al_2O_3 material information.)
- 3.2.11. Handbook of Chemistry and Physics, 83rd Edition, page 4-39, CRC Press, 2002-2003. (Density for pure Al_2O_3)
- 3.2.12. Hermann, O.W., *et al*, *Validation of the SCALE System for PWR Spent Fuel Isotopic Composition Analyses*, ORNL/TM-12667, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, March 1995. (Presentation of general modeling assumptions and methodologies forming the basis of this calculation package. Source of fuel temperature and moderator correlations. Source of sample generic light elements and masses [methodology]. Source of expression for 234 U and 236 U concentrations as a function of 235 U concentration.)
- 3.2.13. Sanders, C.E., and Gauld, I.C., *Isotopic Analysis of High-Burnup PWR Spent Fuel Samples from the Takahama-3 Reactor,* NUREG/CR-ORNL/TM-2001/259, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, June 2002. (Presentation of general modeling assumptions and methodologies forming the basis of this calculation package.)
- 3.2.14. DeHart, M.D., and Hermann, O.W., *An Extension of the Validation of SCALE (SAS2H) Isotopic Predictions for PWR Spent Fuel,* ORNL/TM-13317, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, September 1996. (Presentation of general modeling assumptions and methodologies forming the basis of this calculation package.)
- 3.2.15. Rahimi, Meraj, *et al*, *Isotopic and Criticality Validation for PWR Actinide-Only Burnup Credit*, DOE/RW-0497, US DOE Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management, May 1997. (Presentation of general modeling assumptions and methodologies forming the basis of this calculation package.)
- 3.2.16. CAL-UDC-NU-000011, "Three Mile Island Unit 1 Radiochemical Assay Comparisons to SAS2H Calculations", US DOE Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management, April 2002. (Presentation of general modeling assumptions and methodologies forming the basis of this calculation package.)
- 3.2.17. User Manual for SASQUASH SAS2H Output Processor and MCNP Material Card Code, Version 1.02, SOFT.020.400, May 19, 2005. (Description of code inputs.)
- 3.2.18. Software Design and Implementation Report for SASIGEN Version 1.04, SOFT.019.200, Rev 2, March 17, 2005. (Description of SASIGEN code logic and functional requirements.)
- 3.2.19. Software Design and Implementation Report for SASQUASH Version 1.02, SOFT.020.100, Rev 2, May 25, 2005. (Description of SAQUASH code logic and functional requirements.)
- 3.2.20. User Manual for SASIGEN Automated SAS2H Input Preparation Code, Versions 1.03 and 1.04, SOFT.019.400, March 22, 2005. (Description of code inputs.)
- 3.2.21. NUREG/CR-0200, *Standard Composition Library*, Revision 6, Volume 3, Section M8, ORNL/NUREG/CSD-2/R6, Oak Ridge National Library, September 1998. (General SCALE 4.4 code reference and source of SS304 density.)
- 3.2.22. Letter from S. Leblang to R. Quinn, "Final Clarification Palisades Fuel Data," dfs-bfs-05-008, December 14, 2005. (Source of fuel configuration details and operating history for contributing rods from assemblies not loaded in the eighteen MSBs being analyzed.)

4. ASSUMPTIONS

4.1 Design Configuration

Although the work described in this calculation all pertains to loaded VSC-24 MSBs, there are no specific attributes of that design configuration that need be considered in this present calculation, since the MSB configuration does not itself affect the spent fuel isotopic compositions. The configuration details for the fuel assemblies themselves are provided in the customer-provided input data (References 3.2.1 through 3.2.5). Various aspects of the fuel configuration are discussed subsequently in this calcu[lation](#page-11-1) packag[e.](#page-11-2)

There are eighteen VSC-24 casks currently loaded and situated on the Palisades ISFSI. These casks are numbered 1-19, excluding 14, which was never placed into service. The casks are numbered as shown in [Table 4-1.](#page-14-2)

Table 4-1 MSB's Loaded at Palisades

To avoid confusion that might arise through the reference to both VSC and MSB numbers, only the MSB numbers are used in this calculation package. In some cases (as in the SASIGEN code input files) the reader may encounter the term "cask" used to refer to an MSB.

4.1.1 Data for Fuel Assembly and Insert Types

Fuel design data, in the form of configurations and dimensions was supplied in Reference [3.2.3.](#page-11-3) This data is presented in [Table 4-2,](#page-16-1) in terms and units consistent with the inputs to the SASIGEN (and

SAS2H) computer code. For example, since SASIGEN and SAS2H accept inputs for fuel dimensions on an inner and outer diameter basis and in units of cm, Table 4-2 also expresses these values in these terms. Items to be modeled in the SAS2H path-B model [are input i](#page-16-1)n terms of radial dimensions, so these are presented in the table. Dimensions are provided for the 10 fuel assembly types, generally corresponding to 10 differently-lettered batches. In several cases, such as with regions I, J, and K, a particular lettered batch is broken into multiple fuel types; this practice will be clear in referring to the table. Several characteristics do not change from type to type, and these have been omitted from the table. These include an array dimension of 15x15, a single, central, instrument tube, and a guide tube material (where present) of Zircaloy 4. Where guide tubes are present, there are eight per assembly, and the associated guide tube dimensions are provided; in all other cases, no guide tubes are present. Although in many cases the assemblies include multiple pin enrichments, a given assembly is modeled as having a single average enrichment due to the limitations of the SAS2H control module. None of the rods exhibit an axially-varying enrichment.

Table 4-2 Fuel Design Data

Descriptions of fuel inserts were also obtained from Reference [3.2.3;](#page-11-3) six different types of inserts are described. [Table 4-3](#page-17-1) presents the design data associated with the six fuel assembly insert types. This table presents the designation, number, clad and active absorber material, and dimensions for each

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¹ All linear dimensions in centimeters (cm).

insert type. The table also gives the axial span (within the assembly fuel zone) occupied by the active absorber material. Note that insert Type 1 (plugging) is not included in these fuel depletion analyses, as these do not extend into the active fuel zone.

Table 4-3 Fuel Insert Design Data

Inserts Type 2 through Type 4 are not part of the assembly structure, but are inserted into the eight assembly guide tubes during reactor operation. These inserts are described directly in the "Fuel Insert Design Data" table of Reference [3.2.3.](#page-11-3) The Type 2 insert is used in the G and H assembly types, whereas the Type 3 and Type 4 inserts are used in the I and I1h assembly types, respectively. Insert Type 5 and Type 6 are actually neutron absorber rods that are part of the Type A and Type E assembly structures, fixed into the assembly array in place of fuel rods at various locations (as discussed in

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 2^2 Measured from the bottom of the active fuel region.

Reference [3.2.4\)](#page-11-4). These rods do not lie inside guide tubes. The radial and axial insert rod dimensions shown in [Table 4-3](#page-17-1) are taken from Reference [3.2.4](#page-11-4) for the Type A assembly. For the Type E assembly, the dimensions of the neutron absorber rods are assumed to be the same as those of a standard fuel rod (the only difference being that B4C absorber material is present in place of fuel). All of the above inserts are present during the entire assembly irradiation period, except for the Type 4 (hafnium) inserts, which are only present during the last two cycles of (I1h) assembly irradiation.

Reactor cycle data was provided in Reference [3.2.3](#page-11-3) and is presented in [Table 4-4.](#page-19-1) This table is presented in terms of the cycle number for each identified plant operating cycle. In several cases, an historic cycle is broken into two sub-cycles. This is done to account for mid-cycle outages, or—in the case of cycle 2—a change in core rated thermal power. The table shows the start and end date of each cycle, the core rated thermal power in megawatts, the average boron concentration in parts per million, and the core inlet and core outlet temperature in degrees Fahrenheit.

Table 4-4 Reactor Cycle Data

All fuel assemblies loaded into the MSB's are 15x15 bundles with a central instrument tube, eight zircaloy guide bars replacing eight fuel rods in the lattice, and, potentially, eight guide tubes located symmetrically around the interior of the assembly. Control blades, when present, are cruciform and located outboard the assembly. Control blades are further discussed in Sections [4.1.1.5](#page-48-1) and [6.7.2.](#page-103-1)

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³ SAS2H represents the boron concentration as decreasing linearly throughout a modeled cycle from 1.9 to 0.1 times the input average concentration. This is described in Reference 3.2.6.

4.1.1.1 Fuel Assembly Guide Bars

Due to their somewhat irregular geometry, the guide tubes are characterized by an effective radius as shown in Table 4-5, taken from Reference 3.2.4. The use of these effective radius values preserves the quantity [of zircaloy](#page-20-1) material in an assembl[y.](#page-11-4)

Fuel Assembly Batch	Effective Radius, cm		
Types 1 and 2 (A and EF^4)	0.5953		
Types $3-10$ (E – L)	0.5776		

Table 4-5 Guide Bar Effective Radii

4.1.1.2 Description of Fuel Sub-Types and Inserts

All features other than the control blades are shown pictorially in [Figure 1](#page-27-1) through [Figure 21](#page-46-1) (Control blades are discussed in Section 4.1.1.5). These figures include not only all of the fuel types as described in Table 4-2, but also [a range](#page-48-1) of sub-types. Although all fuel of a particular type has the same genera[l dimensio](#page-16-1)ns shown in Table 4-2, these sub-types further distinguish between the various types of inserts used in a particular [assembly.](#page-16-1) The array layouts shown in Figure 1 through Figure 21 are taken from Reference 3.2.1. The configurations shown in Figure 1 thr[ough Figu](#page-27-1)re 21 ar[e combine](#page-46-1)d with the fuel assembly an[d inse](#page-11-1)rt data shown in Table 4-1 an[d Table 4-](#page-27-1)2 to pro[duce a com](#page-46-1)plete description of the 22 assembly configurations f[or which SA](#page-14-2)S2[H models](#page-16-1) are constructed. These configurations are described in [Table 4-6,](#page-22-1) and the sub-types are described at length in Section [6.3.](#page-84-1)

 Gd_2O_3 absorber rods are identical to fuel rods, other than the presence of Gd_2O_3 absorber material in the $UO₂$ fuel. The concentration of $Gd₂O₃$ absorber included in the fuel material for each sub-type are presented in Table 4-6. The geometries and material compositions of B_4C/AI_2O_3 absorber rods are given in [Tab](#page-17-1)[le 4-3 and](#page-22-1) in Section [4.1.1.3,](#page-20-2) respectively.

4.1.1.3 Non-Fuel Material Descriptions

The fuel rod cladding, guide tubes, guide bars, and poison rod cladding are all made of Zircaloy-4, as shown in References 3.2.2 and 3.2.3. As shown in Reference 3.2.2, the absorber material in the B4C poison rods consists of an $A₁Q₃$ inert material with three dif[ferent](#page-11-5) $B₄C$ poison material concentrations $(1.7\%, 4.7\%, \text{ and } 7.7\%)$, as shown in Table 4-6. Pure Al_2O_3 is loaded in sections of the poison rod that lie within the assembly active fuel zo[ne, but abo](#page-22-1)ve or below the axial bounds of the poison material;

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 4 EF is also referred to as D in some of the reference data.

this material is conservatively modeled as the poison material in each axial region. Finally, the "I1h" assemblies described in [Table 4-6](#page-22-1) contain poison rods with pure hafnium absorber material.

The elemental compositions of all the component materials above are listed in [Table 4-7.](#page-25-0) The composition for Zircaloy-4 is taken from Reference 3.2.10. This is the Zircaloy-4 cladding material composition that was modeled in the (Reference 3.1[.2\) burn](#page-12-0)ed-fuel benchmark analyses that the applied MCNP code bias factors are based upon. [Mode](#page-11-6)ling this same cladding material composition provides consistency between and these licensing-basis fuel depletion and criticality analyses and the associated code bias calculations.

The overall B₄C concentration for the three types of B₄C/Al₂O₃ poison rod are also shown in Table 4-6 (and taken from Reference 3.2.2). B₄C and Al_2O_3 are shown as compounds in Table 4-7, and are not broken down into compon[ent ele](#page-11-5)mental densities. This is because, unlike all t[he other mo](#page-25-0)del component materials, their elemental breakdown is not taken directly from any reference, but instead must be calculated. These elemental compositions for B_4C and A_2O_3 are presented in Table 6-1 and discussed in Section 6.2.2. The overall $B_4C/A1_2O_3$ material densities shown in Table 4[-7 are take](#page-80-0)n from Reference 3.2.2. The ["I1h"](#page-78-1) assembly hafnium absorber rods contain pure hafn[ium absorb](#page-25-0)er material, over the a[xial bo](#page-11-5)unds specified in [Table 4-6.](#page-22-1) The density of the hafnium material is taken from Reference [3.2.3.](#page-11-3)

Table 4-6 Contents of Palisades Fuel Assembly Sub-Types[1](#page-22-2)

(sheet 1 of 3)

 1 All data is taken from Reference 3.2.3, except for the B4C and Gd2O3 concentrations, which are taken from Reference 3.2.2, and the A1 assembly poison rod axial span data, which is taken from Reference 3.2.4. The E1 assembly poison rod absorber material is assumed to cover the entire active fuel height.

 2 Assembly type D is referred to as assembly type EF in some reference materials.

 3 Although the assembly contains 56 stainless steel rods and 152 actual fuel rods (as shown in Figure 9), the model is constructed based on a standard 208 rod assembly; this is an appropriate approach since the SAS2H model is based on a single MTU. Not modeling the steel is shown to be conservative, by the Section 6.2.5 calculations.

 4 B₄C absorber rods lie within the assembly guide tubes, if guide tubes are present; Gd₂O₃ absorber rods replace fuel rods and do not lie inside the guide tubes. The specific fuel types with guide tubes surrounding the B4C inserts–and those without guide tubes–are identified specifically in Section 4.1.1.3.1 and Table 4-8.

⁵ Although the actual assembly contains four Gd_2O_3 rods, six are conservatively modeled to preserve symmetry and to avoid a possible dilution effect of modeling only four. (See Figure 7.)

Table 4-6 Contents of [Palisades Fuel Assembly](#page-22-7) Sub-Types

(sheet 2 of 3)

 6 Although the assembly contains 14 stainless steel rods (and 202 actual fuel rods), the model is constructed based on a standard 216 rod assembly; this is an appropriate approach since the SAS2H model is based on a single MTU. Not modeling the steel is shown to be conservative, by the Section 6.2.5 calculations.

The "I1h" assembly inserts contain pure hafnium absorber material at a density of 13.31 g/cc, as shown in Table 4-3. The hafnium inserts are only present for the last two cycles of I1h assembly irradiation (Reactor Cycles 9 and 10).

 8 No Gd2O3 concentration data is given in Reference 3.2.2 for the J-L assemblies. For these assemblies, the concentrations are taken from the Reference 3.2.1 figures. These correspond to Figure 15 through Figure 21.

Type Designation	L2	L2S	L ₃	L3S
Number of Fuel Rods	216	216^9	216	216
Rod Pitch	1.3970	1.3970	1.3970	1.3970
Fuel Pellet OD	0.8903	0.8903	0.8903	0.8903
Clad OD	1.0592	1.0592	1.0592	1.0592
Clad ID	0.9093	0.9093	0.9093	0.9093
Active Fuel Height	334.77	334.77	334.77	334.77
No. of Guide Tubes	θ	θ	θ	θ
Guide Tube IR				
Guide Tube OR				
Instrument Tube IR	0.4547	0.4547	0.4547	0.4547
Instrument Tube OR	0.5296	0.5296	0.5296	0.5296
No. of Poison Rods	8	8	8	8
PR Absorber Material	Gd_2O_3	Gd_2O_3	Gd_2O_3	Gd_2O_3
PR B_4C or Gd_2O_3 Conc. (w/o)	$4.0\ \%^{10}$	4.0%	6.0%	6.0%
Bot. of Absorber (in)	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	θ
Top of Absorber (in)	131.8	131.8	131.8	131.8

[Table 4-6 Contents of Palisades Fuel Assembly Sub-Types](#page-22-7) (sheet 3 of 3)

 9 Although the assembly contains 14 stainless steel rods (and 202 actual fuel rods), the model is constructed based on a standard 216 rod assembly; this is an appropriate approach since the SAS2H model is based on a single MTU. Not modeling the steel is shown to be conservative, by the Section 6.2.5 calculations.

 10 No Gd2O3 concentration data is given in Reference 3.2.2 for the J-L assemblies. For these assemblies, the concentrations are taken from the Reference 3.2.1 figures. These correspond to Figure 15 through Figure 21.

Table 4-7 Elemental Compositions of Non-Fuel Component Materials

 $¹$ This composition is taken from Reference 3.2.10.</sup>

² This composition is taken from Reference 3.1.3.

 3 The overall density and the B₄C weight percentages for the three types of B₄C absorber material are given in Reference 3.2.2. This reference also specifies A_2O_3 and the inert "filler" material for these rods, but it does not give the density for pure A_2O_3 .

⁴ Taken from Reference 3.2.11.

⁵ Pure elemental hafnium at 13.31 g/cc. Taken from Reference 3.2.3.

4.1.1.3.1 B4C Rods – Presence and Absence of Guide Tubes

Several of the B4C rods exist in assemblies with no guide tubes. In other cases, the B4C rods are themselves loaded into guide tubes in the assembly. The types in each situation are taken from Reference 3.2.2. This reference clarifies the two different categories; these are described in [Table 4-8.](#page-26-1)

Table 4-8 B4C Insert Configurations

Figure 1 – Fuel Assembly Type A1

1.65 w/o U235 4 B4C Rods - 1.7% $212 \&$

Instrument Tube Guide Bar Guide Bar with Orientation Mark

Figure 3 – Fuel Assembly Type E1

Instrument Tube

Guide Bar

Guide Bar with Orientation Mark

Figure 4 – Fuel Assembly Type F1

Figure 5 – Fuel Assembly Type G1

Figure 6 – Fuel Assembly Type G2

 $\overline{\overline{\mathbb{D}}}$

Guide Bar with Orientation Mark

Figure 7 – Fuel Assembly Type G3

O $\sqrt{D}/$

8 Guide Tubes

Instrument Tube

Guide Bar

Guide Bar with Orientation Mark

Figure 8 – Fuel Assembly Type H1

Figure 9 – Fuel Assembly Type H1S

Figure 10 – Fuel Assembly Type H2

Figure 11 – Fuel Assembly Type H3

Figure 13 – Fuel Assembly Type I2

Figure 14 – Fuel Assembly Type I3

 $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$

Guide Bar

Guide Bar

Figure 16 – Fuel Assembly Type L1

Figure 17 – Fuel Assembly Type L1S

Guide Bar

Figure 18 – Fuel Assembly Type L2

8 $@$ 2.47 w/o U235 with 4% Gd $_2\mathrm{O}_3$

Instrument Tube

Guide Bar

Figure 19 – Fuel Assembly Type L2S

8 \circledR 2.47 w/o U235 with 4% Gd₂O₃ 14 Stainless Steel Rods $\mathbf O$ Instrument Tube

Guide Bar

Figure 20 – Fuel Assembly Type L3

Instrument Tube

Guide Bar

Figure 21 – Fuel Assembly Type L3S

Instrument Tube

Guide Bar

4.1.1.4 Palisades Plant Notes on Specific Nomenclature and Fuel Types

In several assemblies, certain fuel rods are ultimately replaced with stainless steel dummy rods. The naming system for these assembly types is as follows:

- 1. H1 becomes H1S, following reconstitution.
- 2. L1 becomes L1S
- 3. L2 becomes L2S, etc.

The fuel type designations on the "Palisades Fuel Design Data Sheet" (References [3.2.1](#page-11-0) and [3.2.3\)](#page-11-1) are not used consistently, for example, in the fuel assembly detail figures. There are two key types for which multiple names are used.

- 1. The fuel referred to on the Data Sheet as type F is referred to in the figures as type XF. These are equivalent.
- 2. The fuel referred to on the Data Sheet as type EF is referred to in the figures as type D1. These are also equivalent.

4.1.1.5 Information on Control Blades

As stated in Reference [3.2.5,](#page-11-2) the Palisades control blades are composed of Silver/Indium/Cadmium in the following weight percentages—80% Ag, 15% In, and 5% Cd. The blades have a cruciform crosssection, 12.250 inches across. The Poison material is 0.176 inches wide, clad with 0.020" 304 SS, i.e., the total thickness is 0.216^{220} . The bottom 0.984" length is 304L SS, with the bottom 0.5" tapering to a 0.03" radius tip.

Based on References [3.2.2](#page-11-3) and [3.2.5,](#page-11-2) these control blades are inserted to a significant degree only during Cycles 1A, 1B, and 2A, and then only those included in Group 4 are inserted—with the other groups remaining fully withdrawn. When partially inserted, these control blades range from 120" to 130" withdrawn. Table 4-9 presents the assemblies that were located adjacent to Group 4 control blades during Cy[cles 1A, 1B](#page-49-0), and 2A; this information was taken from Reference [3.2.5.](#page-11-2)

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²⁰ Reference 3.2.5 describes the poison material as being "0.176 inches wide, clad with 0.020 " 304 SS (0.180" total). The parenthetical comment is assumed to be a typo, since the numbers are inconsistent. Furthermore, a clad thickness of 0.002", which would square with the math, is not a plausible mechanical design. The parenthetical comment appears to have been included simply to clarify that the clad thickness needed to be doubled to represent the material across the full blade thickness.

Cycle	Assemblies Adjacent to Group 4 Control Blades		
1 A	A07, A11, A12, C05, A10, A15, A16, C06, A53, A54, A59, C15, A57, A58, A62, C16		
1 B	A07, A11, A12, C05, A10, A15, A16, C06, A53, A54, A59, C15, A57, A58, A62, B69		
2A	EFOU, F08, F25, E61, EFOV, F56, F30, E11, EF1J, F51, F21, E43, EF1K, F11, F17, E50		

Table 4-9 Assemblies Adjacent to Group 4 Control Blades

4.1.2 Data for Individual Assemblies

In a ddition to the fuel assembly type and fuel insert type data presented above, data was also supplied in References 3.2.3 for each individual assembly loaded in the Palisades MSB's. Due to its voluminous nature, this da[ta is p](#page-11-1)resented in Attachment B. Two sets of data are presented to describe the assemblies. The first spreadsheet table, "Assembly Parameters – Palisades Plant," presents for each assembly seven categories of data. First, the MSB ID and slot location within that MSB are given for the assembly; both Attachment B tables are in fact listed in order of MSB and MSB location. Second, and are simply used as a form of tracking and identification.) the Assembly ID is given in the next column. Assembly ID's are given in the form *Znn*, where Z is an alpha character (or, in several cases, two characters) describing the fuel assembly batch or region, and nn is a 2-digit numeric identifier uniquely describing a particular assembly. (Note that the MSB number and slot location of an assembly have no impact on the fuel depletion calculations themselves

categories of information are the assembly-average initial ²³⁵U [enrichment](#page-16-0) and the initial fuel mass, in number associated with each assembly cycle. As an example, the assembly loaded into location 01 of MSB 1 (assembly G01) has been irradiated for three cycles; these cycles are Reactor Cycle 3, Reactor Cycle 4, and Reactor Cycle 5. The seventh and final type of information presented in the table is the fuel sub-type. These sub-types are presented in [Figure 1](#page-27-0) through [Figure 21](#page-46-0) and are described at length in Section [6.3.](#page-84-0) The third category of information in the Attachment B table is the Fuel Assembly Type. This is a numerical type, consistent with the Type Numbers presented in Table 4-2. The fourth and fifth metric tons of initial uranium. The sixth category of information in the table is the reactor cycle

The second table in Attachment B, "Burnup History by Specific Assembly – Palisades Plant," presents the initial and final burnup in each assembly-cycle for each assembly. These values are presented in units of GW-days per initial metric ton of uranium (GWD/MTU).

4.2 Design Criteria

No specific design criteria apply to this fuel depletion analysis.

4.3 Calculation Assumptions

- 1. The Palisades data does not include any information on fuel or clad temperature. As discussed in Section 5.3 and in Reference 3.1.1, the fuel temperature is calculated based on the fuel temperature [vs](#page-65-0). rod axial therm[al pow](#page-11-4)er data shown in Figure 9 of Reference 3.2.8. After the fuel temperature is determined, [the](#page-12-0) clad temperature is assumed to fall 25% of the way from the local moderator temperature and the local fuel temperature. This is accomplished through the specification of a *cladfrac* variable in the input to the SASIGEN code. Although the fuel and clad temperatures can be modeled with the distribution built into SASIGEN, there is no clear reference for the *cladfrac* value input to SASIGEN. This value, the ∆T of the clad as a ratio of the fuel ΔT is assumed to be 25%. This is considered to be conservative and is supported by the following observations.
	- a. Since the clad-to-moderator ∆T is known to be a small but non-negligible component of the total fuel-to-moderator ∆T, it is reasonable to assume that the actual value will fall in a range of $10\% - 25\%$.
	- b. The values in the SCALE validation reports (ORNL/TM-12667, etc.) imply a cladfrac value of ~16.5%, at least in the case of the Calvert Cliffs models.
	- c. The clad is geometrically small (as a fraction of total fuel material) and is constructed of a material specifically selected for its small nuclear cross-sections. As a result, the selection of the *cladfrac* parameter over this range is unlikely to have a significant effect on the final spent fuel isotopic compositions.
- discussions with the Owners Group, a date of $1/1/2015$ has been agreed on as the earliest licensing date for shipping. This date has been assumed for all Palisades MSBs. 2. All assembly cooling times are determined based on a single MSB shipment date. Based on
- l 3. Palisades uses cruciform control blades. Based on References [3.2.2](#page-11-3) and [3.2.5,](#page-11-2) these contro blades are inserted to a significant degree only during cycles 1A, 2A, and 1B, and then only When partially inserted, these control blades range from 120" to 130" withdrawn. Even when those included in Group 4 are inserted—with the other groups remaining fully withdrawn. inserted, the control blades fall fully within the upper two axial zones, which represent the upper 1/9 (11.1%) of a given assembly. The SAS2H models conservatively model the control blade over the full length of the top two assembly zones.
- values. That is, all assembly enrichments are obtained from pin-weighted averages. The assembly average enrichment is also modeled for any Gd_2O_3 rods. This assumption must be 4. When there are multiple enrichments in a single assembly, the approach is to average over the made since the SAS2H code does not model individual fuel pins.
- inside the outer ring of the SAS2H model. (The outer radius of this ring is referred to in the SASIGEN user manual as R_{extra} , and its material as M_{extra} .) This ring is filled with zircaloy (the material of the bars' construction) and the thickness of this ring is chosen to preserve the total quantity of zircaloy. The model, along with a description and figure of the rings, is discussed in Section [6.2.1.](#page-78-0) 5. Each palisades assembly has eight guide bars. These are treated by placing an additional ring
- 6. These analyses are based on the calculated (i.e., nominal) burnup values reported in Reference [3.2.3.](#page-11-1) A subsequent calculation will address uncertainties in the reported burnup value.
- 7. The stainless steel plugging rods that replace fuel rods in the latter cycles for certain assemblies are treated as fuel material. This assumption is discussed and validated in Section [6.2.5.](#page-82-0)
- 8. The Palisades G3 fuel assemblies include two features to be studied: 8 guide tubes; and 4 fuel rods doped with 1% Gd₂O₃. As an additional complexity, the Gd rods are positioned asymmetrically, with the 4 rods shifted upward as if 6 rods were effectively being positioned in tubes, 1 instrument tube (treated as a guide tube), and $6 \text{ Gd}_2\text{O}_3$ rods. This is discussed further in the assembly (this is portrayed in [Figure 7\)](#page-32-0). These are modeled by modeling 15 features. Each feature is intended to represent the weighted combination of the following features: 8 guide Section [6.2.4.](#page-80-0)
- 9. The Palisades data indicates one type of insert referred to as "Plugging" (Insert Type 1). As these are stainless steel and extend only a small distance below the top of the assembly $(\sim]$ inch), they are not modeled. The small effect these inserts would have had on a portion of the uppermost axial zone of the assemblies will have a still-smaller effect on the overall criticality of the system.
- 10. As the SCALE SAS2H module does not analyze individual rod effects, pin-by-pin variations in are instead used for all input parameters, and all isotopic concentration results thus represent array-a verage values. burnup and other parameters like temperature, etc., are not modeled. Assembly-average values
- 11. All parameters such as assembly thermal powers, component temperatures, water densities, etc., are calculated on a cycle-average basis. Variations in such parameters within a given reac tor cycle are not modeled. This assumption is appropriate as it is consistent with the SA S2H modeling performed in the SAS2H benchmark evaluation (Reference [3.1.1\)](#page-11-4); the models are thus consistent with the SAS2H code bias included in the criticality evaluation.
- 12. The analyses make use of the bounding 18-zone axial burnup profiles from Reference [3.2.8](#page-12-0). It reactive) for any given whole MSB. In the rare event of a single outlying assembly profile, it is recognized that the conservative treatment of the remaining twenty-three assemblies will more is assumed that the resulting axially-varying isotopic compositions are bounding (i.e., more than account for the single outlier.
- 13. The initial (fresh fuel) concentrations of 234 U and 236 U are assumed to be 0.0089 and 0.0046% of the 235 U concentration, respectively. This is consistent with the approach taken in the Reference [3.1.1](#page-11-4) SAS2H benchmark analyses.
- 14. For Gd₂O₃ rods, where it is necessary to enter fuel temperatures manually (as opposed to being calculated by the SASIGEN code), a representative temperature of 750 K is assumed.
- 15. For the determination of moderator densities for a given local moderator temperature, a reactor pressure of 2250 psi is assumed.
- 16. The axial moderator temperature profile is calculated based on a cosine power shape, as discussed in Section [5.3.5.](#page-68-0)
- 17. For cases where the Gd_2O_3 rod UO_2 density is not provided in [3.2.2,](#page-11-3) the density of the UO_2 in the Gd_2O_3 rods is assumed to equal that calculated for the standard, non Gd_2O_3 fuel rods of the given assembly.
- 18. The linear, SAS2H-default boron letdown function is assumed in all cases. During each reactor cycle, the soluble boron concentration in the reactor coolant decreases linearly from 1.9 times the cycle-average value (shown in [Table 4-4\)](#page-19-0) to 0.1 times the cycle-average value.

19. As discussed in Section [5.1.1,](#page-53-0) cross-section updates are performed every 5 GWd/MTU (or less) of exposure, consistent with the SAS2H benchmark (Reference [3.1.1\)](#page-11-4) analysis. This library update frequency is assumed to be sufficient for these analyses.

5. CALCULATION METHODOLOGY

The fuel depletion calculations are performed using the SAS2H control module (Reference [3.2.6\)](#page-11-5) of the SCALE 4.4 code package (Reference 3.2.12). All input files are constructed by means of the SASIGEN Code (Reference 3.2.18), alth[ough in](#page-12-1) several cases the SAS2H input files are subsequently edited. These subsequent ed[iting op](#page-13-0)erations are described in Section [6.7.](#page-101-0)

This section includes three main subsections. The first section discusses the general SAS2H methodology. The second section presents the general philosophies for path-B model treatments used in modeling the various types of fuel assemblies. Finally, the third section discusses the use of the SASIGEN code for the generation of the large number of SAS2H cases needed for modeling the contents of the 18 MSB's.

5.1 General SAS2H Methodology

The isotopic concentrations for each axial zone of each loaded assembly are calculated using the SAS2H module of the SCALE-4.4 code package (Reference 3.2.6), using the same methodologies and modeling assumptions that are used in the SAS2H analyses [presen](#page-11-5)ted in the benchmark reference documents (References 3.2.12 through 3.2.16). Many of these modeling assumptions are discussed in Section 4. The calculat[ions are](#page-12-1) perfor[med usi](#page-12-2)ng the 44GROUPNDF5 cross-section library. Various details [of](#page-14-0) the SAS2H analysis methodology are discussed in the sub-sections below.

5.1.1 Cross-Section Updates

In the SAS2H input, the user defines one or more irradiation periods, or cycles. The average thermal power (in MW/MTU) for the period, along with the length of the period, and the lengths of any downtime (zero power) periods between the defined irradiation periods are listed in a single line of input that defines each cycle.

When SAS2H models fuel irradiation, it determines a neutron spectrum at the beginning of the cycle, which is calculated based upon the fuel composition present at the beginning of the cycle. SAS2H then applies a neutron flux, with the initial calculated spectrum, "irradiates" the fuel with that neutron flux, and determines the number of fissions and the creation of various isotopes. All of these calculations, during the irradiation period, are performed based on the initial neutron spectrum. Since the isotopic concentration itself affects the neutron spectrum, "irradiating" fuel for too long a period (or more specifically, for too much incremental burnup) leads to inaccuracy in the calculated isotopic concentrations, because the neutron spectrum is no longer valid for the latter parts of the irradiation period (as changes in the isotopic concentrations, and their effects on the neutron spectrum, are not accounted for).

For the above reason, SAS2H needs to periodically update its weighted cross-section set (and neutron energy spectrum) during the irradiation period, based on the changing fuel composition. SAS2H automatically updates the cross-section library at the end of each defined irradiation period, which is usually defined as one full reactor cycle. However, a full reactor cycle may be too long an irradiation period to yield accurate isotopic concentration results, without performing additional, mid-cycle crosssection library updates. There is a SAS2H input command "nlib/cyc", which instructs the SAS2H code on how many cross-section updates it should perform within each defined cycle. If this value is set to 1, no mid-cycle updates are performed. If it is set to 2, a single update is performed halfway through break the cycle in question up into multiple defined irradiation periods. A down period must be defined between these irradiation periods, with a negligible duration. the exposure period, etc… Note that the same number of mid-cycle updates are performed for each defined cycle, even if the length (or burnup increment) of the defined cycles varies widely. If one wishes to perform multiple cross-section updates in one cycle, but not in others, the only option is to

opposed to irradiation period duration. Clearly, if the thermal power (or burnup rate) is very low, one can go for a longer period before a cross-section update is required. Conversely, if the thermal power (burnup rate) is extremely high, cross-section updates will be required sooner. After performing scoping evaluations, a maximum allowable burnup increment of \sim 5 GWd/MTU (to the nearest GWd) was selected. Scoping studies showed that calculated isotopic concentrations did not change significantly as the cross-section update frequency was increased beyond this point (i.e., were required for burnup increments smaller than \sim 5 GWd/MTU). Thus, in all of the SAS2H analyses performed in As isotope concentrations primarily vary with burnup, as opposed to the length of irradiation, BFS decided to establish a maximum burnup increment criterion for cross-section update frequency, as support of this benchmark evaluation, the cross-section libraries are always updated after burnup increments ~5 GWd/MTU or less. This is consistent with the approach taken in Reference [3.1.1.](#page-11-4)

5.1.2 "Tracked" Nuclides

As discussed above in Section 5.1, the isotope concentrations themselves can affect the neutronics of the system, which in turn affects the isotope concentration calculation. The neutron spectrum calculations model a finite set of nuclides within the spent fuel material. All other nuclides are simply "tracked" (i.e., included in the neutron flux/spectrum calculations). Otherwise, it is not. While the "tobuilt up (or destroyed) based on the resulting neutron flux and spectrum. The finite set of "tracked" nuclides basically includes all nuclides that measurably affect the neutron spectrum. All of the significant actinide (e.g., uranium and plutonium) nuclides are automatically "tracked" by the code. For fission products, if a given nuclide appears as part of the initial fuel material description, it is be-tracked" isotopes are included in the initial fuel material description card, their densities are set to 1.0×10^{-20} (to reflect the fact that their actual density is, in fact, zero at the start of fuel irradiation).

SAS2H inputs shown in all of the benchmark reports (References 3.2.12 through 3.2.16) a very similar BFS includes all isotopes "tracked" by one or more of the SAS2H analyses presented in the benchmark A set of 40 fission product isotopes are selected for "tracking" in these evaluations. In the (example) set of fission product nuclides are listed in the fuel material card. [The set](#page-12-1) of 40 is[otopes](#page-12-2) selected by reports. The set of isotopes selected for "tracking" in these evaluations are presented in [Table 5-1.](#page-55-0)

Table 5-1 Isotopes "Tracked" by SAS2H Analyses[1](#page-55-1)

5.1.3 Axial Burnup Profile Effects

These fuel depletion analyses explicitly treat the effects of axial variation in assembly burnup using the conservative (bounding) methods recommended in Reference 3.2.8. As is done in Reference 3.2.8, the assembly fuel zone is divided into 18 equal-height zones, eac[h havin](#page-12-0)g its own (average) loca[l burn](#page-12-0)up , (i.e., most reactive) axial burnup profiles, recommended for use in burnup-credit criticality evaluations assemblies in a large canister (such as the 24[-assem](#page-12-0)bly MSB) will be bounding for any actual canister, level. Reference 3.2.8 surveyed 3169 individual assembly burnup profiles, based on five different PWR assembly t[ypes a](#page-12-0)nd 105 different operating cycles. On the basis of this survey, three bounding were determined. As discussed in Reference 3.2.8, modeling these very conservative profiles for all despite the very rare possibility of a loaded assembly with a non-bounding (outlying) profile, due to the conservatism in the profiles modeled for all the remaining (23) assemblies in the canister.

The profiles vary with assembly-average burnup level, with three profiles defined for three burnup ranges (as described in Section 5.3.5). These three bounding profiles are presented in Table 5-2. The profile presented in Table 5-2 a[re nor](#page-68-0)malized axial burnup profiles. The local burnup [level for e](#page-57-0)ach axial zone is deter[mined by mu](#page-57-0)ltiplying the assembly-average burnup level by the factor shown for that axial assembly zone in [Table 5-2.](#page-57-0)

For every individual assembly loaded into the 18 Palisades MSBs, the average burnup level is determined (from the individual assembly data given in Reference [3.2.3,](#page-11-1) and in Attachment B of this

¹ "Tracking" refers to placing the selected fission isotopes into the SAS2H initial $UO₂$ fuel description, at negligible density. SAS2H accounts for the effects of such isotopes when determining the spatially dependent neutron energy spectrum and flux, while performing its weighted cross-section calculations. SAS2H also performs cross-section updates for these isotopes. This is automatically done for all significant actinide isotopes. The selected fission product isotopes are the all the ones that have a significant effect on LWR assembly neutronics.

calculation), and the corresponding bounding axial burnup profile (from Table 5-2) is selected. For each loaded assembly, 18 individual SAS2H fuel depletion calculations [are perform](#page-57-0)ed, one for each of the 18 axial assembly zones. After the cycle-average thermal power level of the entire assembly is determined (as discussed below in Section 5.1.5) it is multiplied by the axial profile factors shown (for each axial zone) in Table 5-2, to yield loca[l therm](#page-58-0)al power levels for each of the 18 axial zones. These 18 thermal power l[evels](#page-57-0) are then applied in the 18 individual SAS2H analyses performed for each assemb ly.

Due to the very large number of analyses involved, (18 zones times 24 assemblies times 18 MSBs), BFS developed the SASIGEN code to automate the SAS2H input file creation process. The SASIGEN code's treatment of axial profile effects is discussed in Section [5.3.5.](#page-68-0)

	Relative Burnup Level ²³		
Axial Zone ²⁴	< 18 (GWd/MTU)	18-30 (GWd/MTU)	≥ 30 (GWd/MTU)
$\mathbf{1}$	0.649	0.668	0.652
$\overline{2}$	1.044	1.034	0.967
3	1.208	1.150	1.074
$\overline{4}$	1.215	1.094	1.103
5	1.214	1.053	1.108
6	1.208	1.048	1.106
$\overline{7}$	1.197	1.064	1.102
8	1.189	1.095	1.097
9	1.188	1.121	1.094
10	1.192	1.135	1.094
11	1.195	1.140	1.095
12	1.190	1.138	1.096
13	1.156	1.130	1.095
14	1.022	1.106	1.086
15	0.756	1.049	1.059
16	0.614	0.933	0.971
17	0.481	0.669	0.738
18	0.284	0.373	0.462

Table 5-2 Bounding Axial Burnup Profiles[22](#page-57-1)

1

²² These bounding (most reactive credible) axial burnup profiles are taken from Table 4-3 of Reference 3.2.8.

 23 Defined as the local burnup level (for the axial zone in question) relative to (or divided by) the assembly-average burnup level.

²⁴ The assembly fuel zone is divided into 18 equal-height axial zones, where Zone #1 lies at the bottom of the active fuel zone.

5.1.4 General Individ ual Assembly Parameter Determination

In addition to the assembly-type-specific physical parameters shown in T[able](#page-22-0) 4-6, and the non-fuel material compositions shown in Table 4-7 (and in Section 6.1), various individual-assembly-specific parameters and calculated para[meters m](#page-25-0)ust be entered into [the](#page-77-0) SAS2H input files. Individual assembly parameters include the initial ^{235}U enrichment, the initial $UO₂$ fuel density, and the power history (i.e., the durations of the irradiation periods and the associated down period between and after the irradiation periods).

The initial enrichment and overall uranium mass for each individual assembly is given in Reference 3.2.3 and in the tables in Attachment B to this calculation. The Attachment B tables also lists the [reacto](#page-11-1)r cycles during which each individual assembly was present. The start and end dates of each cycle are given in Table 4-4. The initial enrichment values are used directly in the SAS2H input files, in the $UO₂$ fuel m[aterial desc](#page-19-0)ription card. The initial $UO₂$ fuel density for each individual assembly is calculated based on its overall uranium mass, given in Attachment B, and the physical fuel pellet stack dimensions shown for its associated assem bly type in [Table 4-6.](#page-22-0)

SAS2H requires that an axial fuel length be entered. Instead of entering the actual assembly fuel zone length given (for each assembly type) in Table 4-2, an artificial fuel length which results in a model mass basis of exactly one MTU (of initia[l uranium\)](#page-16-0) is calculated and entered. This is done so that the isotopic concentrations output by SAS2H, which are in units of grams per model basis, correspond to isotopic densities in units of grams per initial MTU of uranium. This expresses the SAS2H output in a more useful form for the subsequent criticality analyses. Based on the initial $UO₂$ fuel density discussed above (which is calculated based upon the actual assembly fuel length), the number of fuel rods (from Table 4-6), and the fuel pellet radius (also from Table 4-6), the length required to yield an overall ass[embly](#page-22-0) uranium mass is determined. As most Pal[isades asse](#page-22-0)mblies have an overall uranium mass on the order of 0.4 MTU, this calculated, artificial fuel length is generally \sim 2.5 times the actual assembly fuel length.

The start and end dates of each Palisades reactor cycle are given in [Table 4-4,](#page-19-0) and the table in Attachment B of this calculation (which was taken from Reference 3.2.3) specifies which reactor cycle orresponds to each irradiation cycle for each individual assembly. [Based](#page-11-1) on this data, the irradiation c period lengths and down period lengths can be determined for each individual loaded assembly. This includes the final down period length, or "cooling time" for the assembly. These period lengths are entered into each corresponding SAS2H input file. This final cooling time parameter is determined based on an assumed MSB shipping date of January 1, 2015, as discussed in Section [4.3.](#page-50-0)

As discussed in Section [5.3,](#page-65-0) the calculations discussed above are performed automatically using the SASIGEN code for each individual loaded assembly, using the individual-assembly data given in Attachment B, and the general data presented in [Table 4-4](#page-19-0) and [Table 4-6.](#page-22-0)

5.1.5 Cycle-Specific Parameter Determination

The SAS2H code requires as input a thermal power for each defined irradiation period (or "cycle"), as well as the temperatures and densities of all materials (which may themselves be fixed or be cycledependent). As discussed in Section [4.3,](#page-50-0) cycle-average values are determined for parameters like

material temperatures, water densities, and thermal power levels, consistent with the Reference [3.1.1](#page-11-4) SAS2H benchmark (i.e., code bias determination) analyses.

with the start and end dates for those cycles, are provided for each loaded assembly in Reference 3.2.3 and in Attachment B of this calculation. From this data, the duration and burnup increment (or increase) for each cycle is readily determined. After the cycle-specific, assembly-average thermal above in Section 5.1.3. The resulting local, cycle-average thermal power level is used in the individual The (average) fuel material thermal power levels, in MW/MTU, are determined for each cycle by dividing the increase in burnup that occurs over that cycle (in MWd/MTU) by the duration of the cycle (in days). The beginning and end burnup levels for each cycle (i.e., assembly irradiation period), along power levels are determined for each assembly, they are multiplied by the Table 5-2 axial profile factors to yield local fuel thermal power levels for each axial zone of each [assembly,](#page-57-0) as discussed SAS2H analysis [that ap](#page-55-2)plies for the corresponding axial zone of corresponding assembly. This process is repeated for every cycle (or assembly irradiation period) that applies for the given assembly.

After the thermal power levels are determined for each assembly axial zone and each irradiation cycle, the corresponding material temperatures and moderator (water) density must be determined. The first and thus the increase in water temperature with [axial ele](#page-12-1)vation—is assumed to be proportional to the the fuel and approaches zero at both ends. Using this approach, an axially-dependent water temperature step in this process is to determine the water temperature for each axial zone. The water temperatures at the bottom and top of the assembly fuel zone are simply equal to the reactor inlet and outlet temperatures shown for each reactor cycle in Table 4-4. The temperatures for the intermediate elevations are determined by assuming a cosi[ne distribu](#page-19-0)tion for the axial distribution of assembly thermal power, as is recommended in Reference 3.2.12. Thus, the energy deposited into the water average power level times a cosine function, where the power input is maximum at the axial center of profile is determined, along with the resulting average water temperature for each of the 18 defined axial zones (for the cycle in question). This axial water temperature profile is discussed in more detail in Section [5.3.5.](#page-68-0)

After the water temperature is determined for each axial zone and each cycle, the water density is determined based upon an assumed reactor pressure of 2250 psi, interpolating from the density-versustemperature data given in Table S2.5.2 of Reference [3.2.6.](#page-11-5)

temperature as a function of linear thermal power of t[he fuel](#page-12-1) rod (in W/cm). The figure shows a
temperature of $200\degree C$ et gare never, which is essumed to correspond to the associated weter. temperature of 300 \degree C at zero power, which is assumed to correspond to the associated water temperature plus 375 \degree C times the local rod axial thermal power in W/cm. The axial thermal power for one rod is determined from the local assembly thermal power level (in MW/MTU), the axial uranium loading (in MTU/cm) for the assembly in question, and the number of fuel rods in the assembly. After the water temperature is determined for each assembly zone and each cycle, the corresponding fuel temperature is determined. Figure 9 of Reference 3.2.12 presents the effective (average) fuel temperature. The plot shows a temperature of ~675 \degree C at a rod axial thermal power of 250 W/cm. Thus, it is assumed that the local fuel temperature (for each axial zone) is equal to the local water

cladding temperature is calculated by assuming that the local cladding temperature increment is given by 25% (i.e., 1/4) of the temperature difference between the local water and the local fuel temperature, as discussed in Section [4.3.](#page-50-0) After the fuel temperature is determined, for each axial zone and each cycle, the corresponding

After the cycle-average material temperatures (and water density) are determined, they are entered int o the SAS2H input files through the initial material description s—or through the use of the "tmpfuel", "tmpclad", "tmpmod", and "h2ofrac" commands for subsequent cycles. The cycle-average soluble boron concentrations (for all 18 zones of each given assembly) are taken directly from reactor cycle data in Table 4-4. The boron concentration for the first assembly irradiation cycle is defined by the (borate[d\) water m](#page-19-0)aterial composition description. A "bfrac" command is used to adjust the boron concentration for subsequent irradiation cycles.

cycle start) to 0.1 times the cycle-average value (at cycle end). If the number of cross-section updates As discussed in Section [4.3,](#page-50-0) the analyses assume the SAS2H-default boron concentration "letdown function", where the boron concentration drops linearly from 1.9 times the cycle-average value (at per cycle exceeds one (i.e., if the "nlib/cyc" parameter is greater than 1), then SAS2H will automatically calculate an average boron concentration for each resulting sub-cycle, based upon this assumed letdown function.

The second table in Attachment B of this calculation shows which reactor cycles correspond to each irradiation cycle for each individual assembly. This information is necessary to use the Table 4-4 data correctly in determining the cycle-average temperature, density, and boron concentrati[on values fo](#page-19-0)r each individual assembly.

Performing the calculations discussed above for every cycle and for every axial zone of every loaded assembly in each MSB would be very cumbersome due to the very large number of cases involved. For this reason, the SASIGEN code was developed to create SAS2H input files using an automated process (which requires a much smaller quantity of user input data). The details of how the SASIGEN code performs the calculations and functions above is given in Section [5.3.](#page-65-0)

5.1.6 Modeled Light Elements

In general, various light element masses (for materials within the assembly but outside the spent fuel material) are specified in SAS2H fuel depletion analyses, despite the fact that these light elements have Table 5-3. This is the same "typical" set of light element masses that are shown (and modeled) for the same light element masses were m[ode](#page-12-1)led in the corresponding SAS2H benchmark (code bias) analyses presented in Reference 3.1.1. Although these light elements are not expected to have any measurable impact on the SAS2H [spent f](#page-11-4)uel composition results, they are modeled to maximize consistency with little or no effect on the calculated spent fuel isotopic concentrations. A generic set of light element masses are assumed for all of these SAS2H fuel depletion analyses. These masses are presented in [Calvert Cl](#page-61-0)iffs and H.B. Robinson SAS2H benchmark cases in Table 17 of Reference 3.2.12. These the benchmark analyses upon which the determined SAS2H code bias is based.

Table 5-3 Light Element Masses Modeled in SAS2H Analyses

5.2 SAS2H Path-B Model Methodology

second calculation is performed to account for significant features in the fuel rod array (such as water three main constituent materials (calculated with the initial infinite fuel rod array model) are applied. In the SAS2H input files, this special fuel rod array mixture is always referred to as Material "500". SAS2H performs two sets of neutronics calculations to determine neutron spectrum and weighted average cross-sections. The first calculation is based on an infinite array of fuel rods, based on the fuel pellet O.D., cladding I.D., cladding O.D., and rod pitch that apply for the assembly in question. Then a filled guide tubes or neutron absorber rods) that significantly perturb (or affect) the overall assembly neutronics. SAS2H is a 1-D code, which performs its neutronic calculations using an infinite-height concentric cylinder model geometry. Thus, the available mechanism for modeling these assembly array features is to place them at the center of this second (path-B) model and smear the fuel rods around the feature into an effective, homogenous material containing water, cladding, and fuel. This mixture, however, is more than just a mixture of water, clad, and fuel, in that weighted cross-sections for the

There are often multiple occurrences of these array features within the entire assembly (such as the eight guide tubes and one instrument tube present in the Fuel Type G1 assembly array, as shown in

1

 25 Taken from Table 17 of Reference 3.2.12. The values shown above are entered directly into the SAS2H input file, as the uranium mass basis for each SAS2H model is exactly one MTU.

Figure 5). The path-B model does not consist of the analyzed array feature surrounded by all of the a[ssembly](#page-30-0)'s fuel rods, as this would be the equivalent of having only one such feature (e.g., guide tube) in the entire array. Instead a number of fuel rods equal to the total number of assembly fuel rods divided by the number of features (of the type that is modeled) is modeled around the feature at the center of the path-B model. For example, for a G1 assembly with 208 fuel rods and 9 (water-filled) guide/inst rument tubes, a guide tube would be placed at the center of the path-B model, and a homogenous mixture (material "500") representing 23.11 (208/9) fuel rods would be placed around it. This more accurately represents the collective proximity of the fuel rods to the nearest guide tube (or other features) in the assembly array, and thus more accurately estimates the neutronic characteristics within the array.

The path-B model consists of a set of concentric cyclinders, each with a given inner and outer radius, and completely filled with a given material (i.e., water, guide tube material such as Zircaloy, neutron absorber material, or material "500"). Note that material "500" only occurs in one of the annular zones. At the center of the model is the analyzed assembly feature itself, such as a water-filled guide tube, or a neutron absorber rod. For the inner path-B model zones that describe the array feature itself, the zone radii are simple to determine, as they simply reflect the radial dimensions of the array feature itself (such as the inner and outer radius of a guide tube). These radii can be directly obtained from the user's physical description of the array feature (e.g., the physical description of an annular neutron absorber rod, etc…). This simplicity is due to the fact that exactly one array feature is modeled, and the fact that these features are already cylindrical in shape (generally). Outside the inner part of the path-B model that reflects the analyzed array feature itself, things are more complex since square geometry features must be made cylindrical (through the use of "effective" radii) and multiple/fractional numbers of external features (such as fuel rods) are being modeled.

The first path-B model zone outside the zones that describe the analyzed array feature itself is the water annulus that represents the remaining water in the (square) array unit cell that surrounds the feature. The area of the array unit cell is the square of the rod pitch. The outer radius of the water unit cell zone is set so that the resulting cylinder has an area that is equal to that of the square unit cell, i.e., equal to the square of the fuel rod pitch. The inner radius of this annular zone has already been determined, as it is simply the outer radius of the modeled array feature (e.g., guide tube, etc…). Also note that the area of the annulus will equal the (square) unit-cell area outside the (cylindrical) array feature, because if the area of the cylinder (inside this O.R.) is equal to the full unit cell area, then the area of the annulus (i.e., the area of the cylinder minus the area of the array feature) is clearly equal to the area of the unit-cell water outside the feature (i.e., the area of the unit cell square minus the area of the feature).

assembly, divided by the number of array features (of the type being analyzed) in the assembly. In the Type G1 assembly example, the area of the annulus would be 23.11 times the square of the rod pitch. To determine the outer radius of the material "500" zone, a cylinder with an area equal to that of one array unit cell plus the number of fuel rod unit cells in the material "500" annulus is considered. This is because the cylinder in question would include the central unit cell (containing the analyzed feature) For all path-B models, the next annular zone (outside the unit cell water zone) is the material "500" zone that represents the sub-set of fuel rods that are associated with each array feature (e.g., the 23.11 fuel rods discussed in the example above). The area of the annular material "500" zone is set to equal the collective area of all of the unit cells of the associated fuel rods. Thus, the area of the material "500" annulus is equal to the square of the fuel rod pitch, times the number of fuel rods in the

along with the material "500" annulus. Thus, in the Type G1 assembly example, the cylinder would have an area equal to 24.11 times the square of the rod pitch. Thus, the outer radius of the material "500" zone is given by:

$$
R_{500} = \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{N_{Rod}}{N_{Pert}}\right)} * \left(\frac{P^2}{\pi}\right)
$$

where " R_{500} " is the outer radius of the material "500" zone, " N_{Rod} " is the number of fuel rods in the assembly, "N_{Pert}" is the number of features (perturbations) of the type being analyzed in the path-B model that are present in the actual assembly, and "P" is the fuel rod pitch.

Generally, a water layer is modeled around the outside of the material "500" zone. This layer represents the water that lies between fuel assemblies when they are in the reactor. The outer radius of this layer is such that the area of the resulting cylinder is exactly equal to the square of the reactor assembly effective pitch divided by the number of analyzed features present in the assembly. In some cases, where multiple perturbation features are present, and only one is being modeled, an outer layer like this will represent the collective area of the features that are not being modeled. For example, in a case where neutron absorber rods and water-filled guide tubes are both present, and the absorber rod is being modeled in the center of the path-B model, an external water layer, calculated on the basis of the assembly pitch, will represent not only the water between the assemblies (in the reactor), but it will represent all of the water in the guide tube unit cells. This is because the presence of the guide tubes will reduce the number of fuel rods in the assembly (for each absorber rod) and will thus reduce the outer radius of the material "500" zone. The outer radius of the external water layer, however, will remain the same, as it is purely a function of the assembly pitch. The result is that the thickness of the external water layer will increase, due to the presence of the guide tubes (as opposed to additional fuel rods). The extra water in the outer water layer represents the water in the guide tubes (and their external unit cells). This extra water models the effect of a guide tube near the edge of the assembly section that is associated with each absorber rod.

these analyses, these eight guide bars are modeled as a solid, equal area ring around the material "500" The Palisades assembly path-B models differ somewhat from those of typical PWR assemblies, however, due to the presence of eight solid Zicaloy guide bars around the perimeter of the assembly. In zone. The area of this ring is equal to that of the eight guide bars, divided by the number of modeled features. A ring of water, whose area corresponds to that of the water between assemblies, plus any guide/instrument tube array cells not modeled as the central feature, lies outside this solid Zircaloy ring. This is described further in Sections [5.3.5](#page-68-0) and [6.2.1.](#page-78-0)

The path-B model zones described above (and the methods for determining their radii), cover all of the zones generally present in most path-B models. In the relatively rare case of the partially-inserted control blades, a somewhat more involved path-B model is constructed. The development of this model is described in Section [5.4.1.](#page-74-0)

Some cases involve complications that can not be rigorously treated by the SAS2H path-B model. In these cases, approximations must be made. In the case of Assembly Type G3 (Figure 7), for exampl e, there are 8 guide tubes, in strument tube, and 6 burnable poison rods to be mo[deled—for](#page-32-0) a total of 15 potential features. As discussed in Section 6.2.4, the SAS2H analyses treat this by modeling 15 features containing neutron absorber rods [with](#page-80-0) the area of the rod zones (absorber and cladding) reduced to 6/15 of their nominal value. The radii of the inner zones of the path-B model are reduced accordingly. The guide tube zone radii are not adjusted, and the remaining zones of the path-B model are calculated normally, using the methods discussed above. With this approach, a sort of "average" feature (6/15 absorber rod, 9/15 pure water) is modeled at the center of the path-B model. This general treatment is consistent with the approach employed in References [3.2.12](#page-12-1) and [3.1.1.](#page-11-4)

Also, as discussed in Section 4.1, sometimes significant array perturbation features are only present for part of the assembly's irradiation history. SAS2H does allow for the path-B model to be changed for different defined irradiation periods, but it is cumbersome. There are two options. If the "mxrepeats" card is left out, or set to a value other than zero, then a single line of input describing the path-B model is entered, and this description is assumed to apply for all cycles. The other option is setting "mxrepeats" to zero, and entering a separate path-B model card (or line), not only for every defined reactor cycle, but for every cross-section update period. Thus, the total number of lines equals the number of cycles times the value of the "nlib/cyc" parameter. Thus, the number of lines can get quite large, but this is necessary if any changes in the path-B model are to be analyzed. Generally, all of the zones (and radii) necessary to describe the array feature (such as an absorber rod) are entered in a path-B model line, and this line is copied as many times as necessary. For the sub-cycles when the absorber rods are absent, the absorber rod materials (absorber, clad, etc…) are simply all changed to water.

Additional details of the construction of the Palisades assembly path-B models are discussed in [5.3.](#page-65-0)

5.2.1 SAS2H Path-B Model Selection

As discussed above, in several cases there are multiple features that could be modeled. Several different approaches to modeling these features were considered:

- 1. Model both types of features
- 2. Model each feature and take the worst result
- 3. Move one of the features to the outside of the path-B model.

The approach taken was decided on a case-by-case basis, considering the significance, number, and placement of the feature. One such example is the G3 assembly, discussed in Section [6.2.4.](#page-80-0)

5.3 Use of the SASIGEN Computer Code

All runs are prepared by means of the SASIGEN Code (Reference [3.2.18\)](#page-13-0), a BFS Category 2, internally developed computer program. This is done for two reasons. First, the present characterization of the spent fuel in the loaded Palisades MSBs requires the use of 7776 SAS2H runs characterize the extra fuel rods described in Section 6.6. The construction of this number of input files would be extremely time-consuming and potentiall[y erro](#page-99-0)r-prone. Second, in order to allow for the checking of this number of input files, it is beneficial to make use of the BFS software process—doing a substantial portion of the methodology-checking during the software validation phase rather than at the end of the performance of a large number of analyses. (18 MSBs x 24 assemblies/MSB x 18 axial zones/assembly) in addition to the runs needed to

In several cases involving limitations of the SASIGEN code, the SAS2H input files are subsequently edited. This is discussed in Section [5.4.](#page-74-1)

5.3.1 Description of the SASIGEN Code

SASIGEN (**SAS I**nput **Gen**erator) is a computer code used to automate the preparation of SCALE SAS2H input files to enable the performance of isotopic buildup and depletion calculations. The user supplies an input file with various fuel parameters (physical and operational) and the code produces the corresponding SAS2H input file. SASIGEN is a BFS Category 2, internally developed computer program. The code runs in a DOS shell on Personal Computers running under various versions of the Windows operating system. Each execution of SASIGEN is intended to model a single loaded MSB, although it is also possible to model a smaller number of assemblies than a fully-loaded MSB.

5.3.2 SASIGEN Code Inputs

The input file consists of a title card, a desired decay (or shipping) date, a ΔT_{clad} fraction (described below). The input file also contains one set of data for each assembly to be modeled. The data for each assembly is in turn broken into one row of assembly-specific input and two rows of cycle-specific data for each cycle through which the assembly has been irradiated.

SASIGEN accepts the following inputs.

- General Problem/Case Information
	- o Date to which fuel is to be decayed (Shipment Date)
	- o ΔT_{clad} fraction, fraction of ΔT_{fuel} used to approximate ΔT_{clad} . (Both are linear functions of local power.)
	- Cask number o
	- o Assembly number, corresponds to location in cask
- General Assembly Information (up to 74 sets allowed)
	- o Fuel assembly type integer format
	- \circ Initial ²³⁵U enrichment percentage
	- o Number of cycles for assembly (from 1 through 10)
	- o Beginning of cycle (BOC) burnup for each cycle
	- o End of cycle (EOC) burnup for each cycle
	- o BOC and EOC date for each cycle
- Fuel and Reactor Operating History Details
	- o Fuel physical geometry details:
		- Assembly initial uranium mass, MTU
		- Rod pitch, cm
		- Fuel pellet OD, cm
		- Clad OD, cm
		- Clad ID, cm
		- Number of pins per assembly (used to determine fuel volume $\&$ density, rod power, and included in SAS2H input file)
		- Number of pins to be assumed in constructing the SAS2H path-B model
		- Active fuel rod length, cm
		- Number of additional material composition lines entered
		- A flag to indicate whether the additional material composition lines are to be appended by the moderator temperature and the word 'END'. This feature allows for the direct inclusion of a temperature or for the entering of material lines that go beyond a single physical 80-character line.
		- **Assembly pitch, cm**
		- Guide tube parameters
- Number per assembly
- ID, cm
- OD, cm
- SAS2H material number for guide tube
- M₁, mixture number of ring 1 (if used)^{[26](#page-67-0)}
- R_1 , radius of ring 1 (if used)
- M_2 , mixture number of ring 2 (if used)
- R_2 , radius of ring 2 (if used)
- Mouter, mixture number of outer ring
- Mextra, mixture number of extra ring immediately inside extra ring (Enter 0 if an extra ring is not desired.)
- Rextra, cm, radius of extra ring immediately inside extra ring (Value is not used if Mextra is 0, but must be entered nonetheless.)
- o Moderator temperature, each cycle, °F
	- Tin
	- Tout
- o Average Boron Concentration, each cycle, ppm
- o Additional material composition lines, if any

A thorough description of the inputs is provided in References [3.2.18](#page-13-0) and [3.2.20.](#page-13-1)

5.3.3 Description of S ASIGEN Output

The code output is provided in two different fashions. First, the input data and intermediate calculated results are displayed in the output file corresponding to the SASIGEN input file name. Second, the code outputs a SAS2H input file for each axial zone of each assembly in the canister being modeled. These input files are formatted to be suitable for execution by the SAS2H code. Examples of each are provided in the Sasigen User's Manual, Reference [3.2.20.](#page-13-1)

In addition, SASIGEN produces a batch file to facilitate the DOS execution and organization of all of the cases for which input files are prepared.

²⁶ Optional ring 1 and ring 2 fall inside the "Guide Tube" inner radius. These rings are included to allow an analyst additional flexibility for modeling more complex features and need not be utilized.

5.3.4 SASIGEN Code Requirements and Design Structure

The formal SASIGEN functional requirements are presented in Reference [3.2.18.](#page-13-0) Reference [3.2.18](#page-13-0) also presents a SASIGEN flow chart, variable and subroutine descriptions, run instructions, and ranges and limitations on code inputs and outputs. These items are summarized below, and discussions are provided when applicable to this current calculation package.

The SASIGEN code consists of three modules. Sasigen, the main code, controls the high-level looping operations and calls the other two modules; the main code also reads and regurgitates the user input file. Scaling_prep is the routine used to calculate the values of the various intermediate and final parameters to be used in generating the final output; Scaling_prep also prints these intermediate parameters for troubleshooting and debugging purposes. Sasdeck print is the routine that produces each of the SAS2H input files.

Sasigen

The looping and calling logic can be seen in [Figure 22.](#page-72-0)

5.3.5 SASIGEN Modeling Methodologies and Approaches

axial burnup pr[ofiles f](#page-12-0)rom five different PWR fuel types. The reference work considered twenty the normalized axial burnup profile data presented in [Table](#page-57-0) 5-2. SASIGEN makes use of three built-in axial power profiles—the limiting axial burnup profiles taken from Reference 3.2.8. As described in that reference, these profiles were taken from a database of 3169 different PWRs and 105 operating cycles and is intended to account conservatively for changes in end effect reactivity with burnup. Based on an assembly's average final burnup, SASIGEN makes use of

Making use of the appropriate axial power profile, local burnup values are then determined for each of the 18 axial regions. This is taken from the following:

 $BU_{local} = cycleBU_{ii}$ x profile_k,

where

 $cycleBU_{i,j} = BU_EOC_{i,j} - BU_BOC_{i,j}$

Local powers are then found from these burnup values and from the cycle startup and shutdown date s. The analyses model the bounding 18-zone axial burnup profiles from Table 5-2. It is assumed that the resulting axially-varying isotopic compositions are bounding (i.e., more [reactive](#page-57-0)) for any given whol e MSB. In the rare event of a single outlying assembly profile, it is recognized that the conservative treatment of the remaining twenty-three assemblies will more than account for the single outlier.

The average moderator temperature is determined, based on the integration of a cosine power shape. The following expression is taken from Reference [3.2.12.](#page-12-1)

$$
T(z) := T_{in} + \frac{\left(T_{out} - T_{in}\right)}{2} \cdot \left(1 - \cos\left(\frac{\pi \cdot z}{H}\right)\right)
$$

Next, the fuel temperature at each of the axial locations in the core is determined from the axial power and the moderator temperature. As discussed in Reference 3.2.12 (page 28), the temperature can be taken f rom a conservative linear fit of the Obrigheim data [present](#page-12-1)ed; this is also discussed in Section [5.1.5.](#page-58-0)

The clad temperature is then determined at the midpoint of each of the 18 axial zone locations. The clad ΔT is determined from a user-input fraction of the fuel ΔT . The clad temperature is then given by $T_{mod} + \Delta T_{clad}$. As discussed in Section [4.3](#page-50-0) (assumption [1\)](#page-50-1), this fraction is conservatively taken to be $25%$.

SASIGEN then constructs a SAS2H input file based on the user-specified inputs and the abovee calculated values. The materials and nuclides are based on the descriptions in Section [5.1;](#page-53-1) these ar generally consistent with the approaches taken in References [3.2.12](#page-12-1) through [3.2.16.](#page-12-2)

A fuel composition is determined and set up as material 1. The $UO₂$ density is obtained from the ratio of mass and volume.

$$
V_{fuel} = Npins \cdot (\pi \cdot R_{pin}^{2}) \cdot H_{fuel}
$$

$$
\rho_{fuel} = \frac{M_{assembly}}{V_{fuel}} \cdot \frac{270}{238}
$$

where H_{fuel} is the actual height of the fuel, R_{pin} is the pellet diameter, and Npins is the input number of fuel pins present in the fuel assembly. Volume fractions are found for ^{234}U , ^{235}U , ^{236}U , and ^{238}U making use of the user-supplied enrichment value. As in Reference [3.2.12,](#page-12-1) the ²³⁴U and ²³⁶U percentages are approximated from the following expressions.

234U wt % = 0.0089 x 235U wt % 236U wt % = 0.0046 x 235U wt %

Calculated fuel, moderator, and clad temperatures are included in the material and nuclide specifications. As discussed in Section [5.1.5,](#page-58-0) cycle average values are utilized. Water densities are

interpolated from the values provided in Reference 3.2.6 based on an assumed reactor pressure of 2250 psi. A fuel length is found so as to yield a total asse[mbly i](#page-11-5)nitial loading of one metric ton. As discussed in Section 5.1.1, the library update frequency is set to the minimum value required to ensure that there is at least [one co](#page-53-0)de subcycle (and hence one library update) for every 5000 MWD/MTU of burnup. Final decay times are determined based on the end date of the final cycle and the user-specified shipment date.

A path-B model is included in each SAS2H input file and is based on the general model shown in [describing](#page-72-1) a feature surrounded, by water, fuel, and other optional materials. The two innermost rings can be viewed as optional and can be filled with water to effectively remove them from the model. The rings immediately inside and immediately outside the "guide tube" ring must be water but are of arbitrary size. The "guide tube" shown in the figure need not be an actual guide tube and can be composed of any of the materials defined in the given case. Outside the "Material 500" fuel ring is an Figure 23. The one-dimensional (R-Z geometry) model consists of seven or eight concentric rings optional, outer ring that can be composed of any defined material. Finally, there is an outermost ring of arbitrary size that can also be composed of any of the defined materials.

In the Palisades models, several approaches are applied consistently throughout the fuel assembly types. Others are modified from one assembly type to another. The chief examples of modeling techniques used for all assemblies include the treatment of assembly guide bars and the modeling of a bars are characterized by an "effective radius" as presented in Table 4-5. The total area of guide bars in a single assembly is therefore equal to eight times the area of [a single gu](#page-20-0)ide bar, given by: water gap at the outside of the path-B model. Each Palisades fuel assembly includes, in the outermost fuel rod row, a total of eight guide bars. Each guide bar takes the place of one fuel pin, and the guide

$$
A_{\text{guide}_\text{bar}} = \pi \cdot r_{\text{effective}}^2
$$

is then given by this guide bar area per modeled feature: and the area associated with a path-B model is equal to eight times the guide bar area divided by the number of features being represented by a particular path-B model. The outer radius of the "extra ring"

$$
r_{extra} = \sqrt{\left((A_{500} + A_{guide_bar} / N_{pert}) / \pi\right)},
$$

where N_{pert} is again the number of features, and A_{500} is the total area per modeled feature falling within the fuel (material 500) outer radius (consistent with the formula and discussion presented in [5.2\)](#page-61-2).

rod pitch squared times the total number of pin lattice locations (whether occupied by fuel rods, poison rods, guide tubes, or instrument tubes) and the square of the assembly pitch. Due to the use at Palisades of cruciform control blades, it is necessary to develop an effective assembly pitch, which accounts for the narrow gap on two sides of the assembly and the wide gap that falls on the other two sides. From Reference 3.2.2 the wide water gap (i.e., the control blade channel) is 2×0.464 cm = 0.928 cm. The same refer[ence a](#page-11-3)lso provides the narrow gap, $2 \times 0.133 = 0.266$ cm. The effective assembly pitch is then given by $N_{\text{rod}s}$ per row x pitch plus the average of the narrow and wide gap thicknesses: Finally, with regard to the water gap at the outside of the path-B model, the area of this outer ring effectively accounts for two things. First, this outer ring accounts for the areal difference between the

$$
P'_{\text{assy}} = n_{\text{rod}s/\text{row}} \cdot P_{\text{assy}} + \frac{gap_{\text{narrow}}}{2} + \frac{gap_{\text{wide}}}{2}
$$

For a rod pitch of 1.397 cm, the effective assembly pitch is 21.552 cm.

Second, the outer ring accounts for any additional water inside the fuel assembly that is not associated with a particular modeled object occupying a rod pitch location. For example, when the modeled feature is a poison rod and there exist additional guide tubes that are not explicitly modeled, SASIGEN automatically places the water associated with these guide tubes in the outermost ring of the path-B model.
Figure 22 – SASIGEN Flow Chart

Figure 23 – SASIGEN Path-B Model Geometry (General)

5.4 Subsequ ent Hand-Editing of SAS2H Input Files

In several cases the SAS2H input files are subsequently edited. In general, this is done when the items being modeled could not be fully automated through SASIGEN. Although the SASIGEN code offers a significant degree of flexibility for modeling various fuel types, insert configurations, and plant operating details, situations remain where it is necessary to make changes to individual SAS2H input files. Details requiring additional hand treatment include situations where inserts vary with axial position or with operating time as well as cases where fuel has been reconfigured during its operating history.

There are three categories of details where such hand edits were required. First, in the case of the hafnium absorbers loaded into I1H assemblies following a number of cycles of operation, the SAS2H input files are subsequently hand-edited in order to produce the required cycle-dependent and library update-dependent path-B lines. Second, in treating the effects of partially-inserted control blades, it is necessary to make use of cycle-varying changes to the input files; again, this requires the use of handediting. Third, the G2, H2, I3, and I1H fuel types, as described in Sections 6.3.6, 6.3.9, and 6.3.12 require a hand edit to allow for the modeling of the reduced-density zircal[oy use](#page-85-0)[d to re](#page-86-0)pres[ent the](#page-86-1) materials in the combined clad/gap space. The specific effects being treated and the changes made are described in Section [6.7.](#page-101-0)

5.4.1 Modeling of Partially-Inserted Control Blades

The path-B model zones described above (and the methods for determining their radii), cover all of the zones generally present in most path-B models. In a small number of cases—the Palisades assemblies adjacent to partially-inserted control blades—an external feature (the control blade) is present. In this case, the control blade is modeled through the addition of two additional annular zones which are placed just outside the zircaloy ring representing the guide bars. The first of these additional rings has a thickness equivalent to the water channel between the fuel assembly and the control blade. The second ring represents the control blade itself, and is composed homogenously of Ag-In-Cd and 304 SS in the quantity and volume fraction required to conserve the amounts of these control blade materials. Thus, the additional zone has an overall area equal to that of the contributing area of the control blade divided by the number of array features. The contributing area of the control blade is determined by dividing the full cruciform control blade area by the number of assemblies sharing that object. Since four assemblies surround a control blade, one fourth of the full cruciform blade's area is considered in constructing a path-B model. Finally, an outer water ring is included with a thickness equivalent to the water channel falling outboard of the control blade. The setup of this path-B model is presented in [Figure 24.](#page-76-0)

The above modeling approach effectively models a half-thickness control blade on all four sides of the assembly, as compared to the physical configuration where the full-thickness blade lies on two sides of the assembly. Such an approach is necessary because SAS2H (and its associated path-B model) requires radial symmetry. The above approach is conservative, however, for the following reasons. The presence of neutron absorber materials generally increases reactivity due to neutron spectral hardening and the associated increase in plutonium production in the fuel. Moving neutron absorber material from the back half of the blades present on two sides of the assembly, and moving it over to the two other (unoccupied) sides of the assembly will increase the overall "effectiveness" of the neutron close contact with the other two sides of the assembly. It should also be noted that, although additional absorber material. This is especially true given the fact that the control blade is already quite "black" to neutrons, and the absorber material on the back side of the blade would have had relatively little effect. The effectiveness, or "worth" of the absorber material is thus substantially increased by placing it in water is modeled on the far side of the control blade material ring, its presence (or thickness) will have little effect on the neutronics, or on the fuel depletion analysis in general.

Figure 24 – SAS2H Control Blade Path-B Model Geometry

6. CALCULATIONS

6.1 SASIGEN Code Generation of SAS2H Path-B Models

As discussed in Section [5,](#page-53-0) a path-B model is defined for each assembly type in the SAS2H analyses. Row 5 of the SASIGEN input file (as well as the equivalent lines for subsequent assemblies) provides the information to be used in the construction of the path-B model to be included in the SAS2H cases for the first assembly in the MSB. The user-supplied data in this row is shown below; the "(1)" denotes the first assembly. Path-B inputs for subsequent assemblies are provided in the same format.

 $$

 $Ngt(1)$ – Number of guide tubes per assembly 1

GTir(1) – Inner radius of guide tube in first assembly, cm

GTor(1) – Outer radius of guide tube in first assembly, cm

Mgt(1) – SAS2H guide tube material number (first assembly)

Mring1(1) – Mixture number of ring 1 in first assembly.

 $Rring1(I)$ – Radius of ring 1 for first assembly, if used, cm.

 $Mring2(1)$ – Mixture number of ring 2 in first assembly

Rring2(1) – Radius of ring 2 in first assembly, cm

- *Mouter(1)* Mixture number of outer ring in first assembly
- *Writemodtemp(1)* Flag indicating whether the moderator temperature is to be included at the end of the material compositions in the SAS2H input files for assembly 1
- *Mextra(1)* Mixture number of extra ring immediately inside the outer ring in first assembly (Enter 0 if an extra ring is not desired.)
- *Rextra(1)* Radius of extra ring immediately inside the outer ring in first assembly, cm (Value is not used if Mextra is 0, but must be entered nonetheless.)

All path-B models prepared by the SASIGEN code consist of 8 concentric rings. The positions of the various rings that can be modeled in the Path-B model are shown in Figure 23. If a particular ring is not needed to model a given fuel type, the same mixture number is s[imply ente](#page-72-0)red for multiple adjacent rings. For example, if there are no features housed inside a guide tube, a "3" is simply entered as the material number for Ring1 and Ring2.

Entering a guide tube radius greater than or equal to GTir(1) will cause the code to override this with a value slightly smaller than G tir(1). This allows a user simply to maintain a large value (e.g., 100.0) to make use of the code's override capability.

6.2 Construction of SAS Path-B Models

The following subsections in this section describe the treatment and modeling of various features present in the Palisades MSBs.

6.2.1 Treatment of Guide Bars

All of the Palisades fuel assemblies loaded into the MSB's include eight zircaloy guide bars, which replace eight fuel rods in the lattice. As discussed in Section 5.3.5, these are modeled as an additional ring falling just inside the outer ring of the SAS2H model. T[his](#page-68-0) ring is filled with zircaloy (the material of the bars' construction) and the thickness of this ring is chosen to preserve the total quantity of zircaloy. This ring is modeled immediately outside the Material 500 fuel region – the ring identified in Figure 23 as the "extra" ring. Table 6-4 presents the calculation of the inner and outer radius used in [the path-B](#page-72-0) model to represen[t this guide](#page-90-0) bar ring.

$6.2.2$ B₄C and Gd₂O₃ Rod Material Compositions

Several of the fuel assembly types include a number of B_4C rods. These exist only in assemblies with no empty guide tubes. Thus, the B_4C rods can be modeled as the feature in the path-B model without guide tubes needing to be modeled as well.

As described in Reference [3.2.2,](#page-11-0) the poison rod filler is Al_2O_3 inert material. When modeling a feature like B₄C rods with Al_2O_3 inert material, the following extra material setup is used (for 4.7% B₄C in this example):

al 4 den=3.3634 0.50 4 o 4 den=3.3634 0.44 9 b4c 4 den=3.3634 0.047

The numerical inputs for each consist of the given B_4C rod material density of 3.3634 g/cc and the individual density multipliers, based on the atomic weight of aluminum (26.9815 per Chart of Nuclides, 15th ed.), oxygen (15.9994), the stoichiometric ratio of $2/3$, and the wt-% of B₄C (4.7%). So, for example, the mass fraction for Al is given by:

$$
VF_{Al} = \frac{26.9815}{26.9815 \cdot 2 + 15.9994 \cdot 3} \cdot 2 \cdot (1 - 0.047)
$$

Although the three-line version results in a SAS2H input file with a temperature and the word 'end' after each of these lines, a check of the SAS processing makes it clear that the densities are being properly read and interpreted.

As stated in Section [4.1,](#page-14-0) some of the B4C rods exist in assemblies with no guide tubes. In this case, the B_4C rods themselves are modeled as the feature in the path-B model. In other cases, the B_4C rods are themselves loaded into guide tubes in the assembly. In this case, both the rod and the guide tube are modeled (concentrically) as the path-B feature. The specific B4C rod configuration for the various assembly types are detailed in [Table 4-6](#page-22-0) and discussed in Section [4.1.1.3.](#page-20-0)

All in all, there are three different concentrations of B_4C in burnable absorber rods: 1.7, 4.7, and 7.7 wt-%. Table 6-1 presents the fuel type, concentration, and poison pellet density for each type of B_4C rod—t[hese items](#page-80-0) are taken from Reference 3.2.2. The table also presents the aluminum and oxygen density multiplier for each type; these are o[btaine](#page-11-0)d as in the example shown above.

Several fuel types exist for which no density is supplied in Reference [3.2.2](#page-11-0) (nor in [Table 6-1\)](#page-80-0). In such cases, the calculated UO2 density is taken from the SAS2H inputs files generated by SASIGEN – that density is calculated by the code as described in [5.3.5.](#page-68-0)

mater[ial den](#page-11-0)sity of 10.0602 g/cc for G3 assemblies, and a Gd_2O_3/UO_2 material density of 10.1355 g/cc for H3 and I4 assemblies. No density information is given for the other assemblies that contain Gd_2O_3 rods (i.e., the J2, K2, L2, and L3 assemblies). For these assemblies, the density of the Gd_2O_3/UO_2 for the individual assembly in question, using the method described in Section [5.3.5\)](#page-68-0). Several Palisades assembly types contain UO_2 fuel rods that include Gd_2O_3 absorber material, at the weight percentages shown (for each assembly type) in Table 4-6. Reference 3.2.2 gives a Gd_2O_3/UO_2 material is assumed to equal the density of the $UO₂$ in the standard fuel rods (calculated by SASIGEN

is defined by two individual material lines in the SAS2H input file, one corresponding to $UO₂$, and one corresponding to an arbitrary material that describes Gd_2O_3 . For both materials, the overall density [the presen](#page-22-0)ce of Gd_2O_3 . The Gd_2O_3 density is then added on top of that, resulting in an actual overall density that is somewhat higher. The arbitrary Gd_2O_3 material specifies "natural" gadolinium (which assumes the SAS2H-default isotopic breakdown) and ^{16}O , and specifies a 2-to-3 atomic density ratio between the two (based on the chemical formula of Gd_2O_3). The resulting material cards are shown below. This material description is treated in SASIGEN by literally entering the lines below into the SASIGEN input file. As SASIGEN does not calculate assembly-specific input to such material lines, a The Gd_2O_3/UO_2 material is modeled in SAS2H by defining a second fuel material This new material discussed above is specified. For the (arbitrary) Gd_2O_3 material, the volume fraction (as shown in Table 4-6) is also specified. Thus, the $UO₂$ material is conservatively modeled at full density, despite generic, representative temperature of 750 K is entered (and modeled) for all Gd_2O_3 material.

end arbm-gd2o3 10.1355 2 0 1 1 64000 2 8016 3 9 0.04 750 end uo2 9 den=10.1355 1 750 end 92234 0.029 92235 3.240 92236 0.015 92238 96.716

Table 6-1 B4C and Filler Density by Fuel Type

6.2.3 Treatment of Guide Tubes and Instrument Tubes

In fuel assemblies where the key path-B features to be modeled are guide tubes (8 tubes) in addition to an instrument tube, the path-B model is constructed to treat the instrument tube, in essence, as a ninth path-B model. Assembly types where this approach has been used include G1, H1, H1S, I1, I2, and J1. In addition, assembly types G3 and H3 model the instrument tube in conjunction with more than one guide tube. Although the dimensions are slightly different, this treatment is more accurate than simply neglecting the instrument tube, which would result in its being modeled at the outer radius of the feature, as in the Gd_2O_3/Gu de Tube treatment discussed in Section [6.2.4 below.](#page-80-2)

6.2.4 Treatment of Assemblies Containing both Gd_2O_3 and Guide Tubes

Each feature is intended to represent the weighted combination of the following features: eight guide tubes, one instrument tube (treated as a guide tube), and six Gd_2O_3 rods. More detail is provided on The Palisades G3 fuel assemblies include two features to be studied: eight guide tubes; and four fuel rods doped with 1% Gd₂O₃. As an additional complexity, the Gd rods are positioned asymmetrically, with the four rods shifted upward, as shown in [Figure 7.](#page-32-0) An equivalent, symmetrical array would contain six rods, which are conservatively modeled. These are modeled as a total of fifteen features. this modeling in the section discussing the G3 assembly below—Section [6.3.7.](#page-85-1)

<u>.</u>

 27 Taken from Table 4-3.

Since it is not feasible to develop an exact model for this assembly type in SAS2H, a range of approaches were considered, and the most conservative treatment was selected (i.e., the treatment that yields the most reactive results, when a cask full of the given assemblies is modeled). In determining the most conservative way to model Assembly type G3, the following five model cases were onsidered. c

- 1. Perform a run without modeling the Gd material at all. Again, model the GT's as the path-B feature.
- 2. Model the Gd fuel rod as the central path-B feature. Push the extra water and GT material to the outside of the model. This will be modeled as in the Takahama-3 example shown in NUREG/CR-ORNL/TM-2001/259 (page 51).
- 3. Model an empty guide tube as the central path -B feature and model Gd as an outer ring of material, preserving the area of the rods.
- 4. Model 6/15 of a Gd fuel rod and 9/15 of a guide tube as the central path-B feature. Model 15 of these "features" (to preserve the 8 GT, 1 instrument tube, and 6 Gd rod number).
- 5. Smear the Gd throughout all fuel. Model all fuel rods, including those that include the Gd material. Model the empty guide tubes as the path-B feature.

SAS2H models are prepared based on each of these approaches. In each case, the resulting spent fuel isotopic concentrations are then extracted with SASQUASH Version 1.0 and input to a corresponding MCNP run, otherwise unchanged except for titles and the k_{eff} starting guess. The SCALE and SASQUASH runs are shown in the computer run table in Section [8.1.](#page-111-0) These models are evaluated in MCNP runs assg31, assg32, assg33, assg34, and assg35 respectively. The results for these cases are presented in [Table](#page-81-0) 6-2.

Table 6-2 Gd₂O₃ Scoping Cases

The hybrid approach, case [4](#page-81-1) [above,](#page-2-0) is found to be the most conservative. This approach is used for G 3 and H3 assemblies in the production work. The approach is further described in the G3 and H3 sections, Section [6.3.7](#page-85-1) and Section [6.3.10](#page-86-2) [below.](#page-85-1)

6.2.5 Evaluation and Treatment of Effects of Stainless Steel Dummy Rods

Three of the fuel types include dummy rods made of stainless steel. These are types L2S and L3S (each containing fourteen SS rods) and H1S (containing 56 SS rods). A fourth assembly type, L1S, is described in the Reference [3.2.1](#page-11-1) figures, but no assemblies of this type are included in the eighteen MSBs being evaluated.

The effects of stainless steel material around the outside of a SAS2H model are evaluated. This approach is particularly appropriate since, in all cases, the stainless steel rods are located at the outside of the fuel assembly—or along a single, extreme side in the case of the H1S assembly. All three cases model five cycles of operation; in the cases explicitly modeling stainless steel, the SS material is included only in the final two cycles (i.e., the cycles where the inserted SS rods were present). Three differen t cases were considered.

- 1. Case with no stainless steel modeled. Stainless steel rods are simply treated as fuel rods.
- 2. Case modeling the equivalent of 14 stainless steel rods. The number of fuel rods is decreased, and the outermost ring of the path-B model is modified to include both the stainless steel material and the zircaloy material (corresponding to the guide bars and the stainless steel rods).
- 3. Case modeling the equivalent of 56 stainless steel rods. Modeled in the same way as Case 2, but adjusted for the higher number of SS rods.

concentrations are then input to a corresponding MCNP run, otherwise unchanged except for titles and the k_{eff} starting guess. The SCALE runs are shown in the computer run table in Section [8.1.](#page-111-0) L01a0101 is the case name for the model treating the SS rods as UO_2 . $L01a0201$ is the name for the 14-SS rod case. And L01a0301 is the case name for the model with 56 SS rods. These are evaluated in MCNP runs assyLS1, assyLS2, and assyLS3, respectively. The results for these cases are presented in [Table](#page-82-0) [6-3.](#page-82-0) Each of these cases is based on assembly type L3S. In each case, the resulting spent fuel isotopic

Table 6-3 Stainless Steel Rod Scoping Case s

The runs demonstrate that the effect of modeling stainless steel rods (in various numbers) as an outer ring around the path-B model is to reduce k_{eff} (this holds for 14 rods as well as for a smaller number). herefore it is justifiable and appropriate to ignore the stainless steel rods in constructing our T SASIGEN and SAS2H models.

In most or all cases, these dummy rods were installed after a number of initial cycles (typically 3) of operation for the given assembly. However, it is unnecessary to make use of the *mxrepeats=0*

command in SAS2H, since the conservative approach of continuing to model the rods as $UO₂$ fuel is used.

6.2.6 Path-B Model Results

Using the methodologies described in Sections 5.2 , 5.3 , 6.1 , and 6.2 , the SAS2H path-B models are determined for each of the Palisades assembly types described in Table 4-6 and in [Figure](#page-27-0) 1 through [Figure 21.](#page-46-0) The resulting path-B models are described in [Table 6-](#page-92-0)[5.](#page-22-0)

each assembly type in Table 6-5), and the r[od p](#page-61-0)itch and number of fuel rods data given in Table 4-6. The outer radii of the [solid Zirca](#page-92-0)loy-4 guide bar zone (present in all assembly types) are c[alculate](#page-22-0)d as disc ussed in Section 6.2.1 and are taken directly from Table 6-4. Finally, the radius of the outer water regi on is determined [\(base](#page-78-1)d on the generic assembly [pitch of 21.](#page-90-0)552 cm and the number of modeled feature s) such that the overall area of the assembly, per modeled feature (including the water between ass emblies), is preserved. The radial dimensions of the central features (e.g., absorber rods, guide tubes, etc..) are generally taken directly from Table 4-6. The outer radii of the central feature's unit cell water and the material "500" zone are calc[ulated as de](#page-22-0)scribed in Section 5.2, based upon the number of modeled features (shown for

As discussed in Section [6.1](#page-77-0) and illustrated in [Figure](#page-72-0) 23, the SASIGEN code creates eight path-B model zones in all cases. In cases where all eight zones are not needed, multiple adjacent zones of the same inside the guide tubes. In such cases, many of the radial dimensions are not relevant, and are therefore material are defined. In many cases, zones of infinitesimal (0.001 cm) thickness are also employed. Examination of Table 6-5 shows that this is done for many assembly types, such as assemblies that do not have poison [rods insert](#page-92-0)ed into guide tubes, for example, where multiple water zones are defined chosen arbitrarily. As discussed in Section 6.1, the SASIGEN code automatically sets such radii to be 0.001 cm less than the meaningful radius t[hat l](#page-77-0)ies just outboard.

As discussed in Section [5.4.1,](#page-74-0) the top two axial segments of a small number of assemblies have seen xposure to inserted control blades. Modeling these assembly zones involves an expanded, 10-zone e path-B model. These analyses are discussed in detail in Section 6.7. For these assemblies, the inner zone) remain the same. The outer water zon[e is replace](#page-92-0)d by three zones containing water, homogenized control blade material, and water, as is discussed in Section 6.7. Note that this change in the path-B model is only made for the top two axial zones of the affect[ed a](#page-101-0)ssemblies. The path-B models for the bottom 16 axial zones remain as described in [Table](#page-92-0) 6-5. seven zones of the path-B models shown in Table 6-5 (out to th[e ou](#page-101-0)ter edge of the guide bar Zircaloy-4

6.3 Model Descriptions of Specific Assemblies

The following notes are arranged in terms of the individual fuel assembly types. The physical assembly types are described and presented in Section [4.1.](#page-14-0) Figures are provided for all fuel types in Section 4 ([Figure 1](#page-27-0) through [Figure 21\)](#page-46-0).

customizing these types for use in modeling specific assemblies in a given cask are detailed in Section The SASIGEN input model for each fuel types is presented in Section [6.4.](#page-93-0) The steps taken in [6.5.](#page-99-0) The detailed numerical inputs for use in each of the fuel types are derived and presented in [Table](#page-80-0) [6-1](#page-80-0) and [Table 6-4](#page-90-0) (themselves taken from Excel spreadsheet Palisades_fuelinputs.xls, included on the archival media for this calculation) in addition to the main assembly sub-type numerical and dimensional descriptions provided in [Table 4-6.](#page-22-0)

6.3.1 Fuel Type A1

(as opposed to Exxon) are used for the guide bar effective radius. Instrument tube water is Four features are modeled—the four B4C rods with a boron concentration of 1.7 wt-%. CE dimensions automatically treated in SASIGEN by inclusion in the outermost path-B ring. This fuel type includes no guide tubes.

6.3.2 Fuel Type D1 (also called "EF")

These assemblies have no difficult features other than a single instrument tube. But note that the guide bars are sized as the larger CE type (0.5953 cm).

6.3.3 Fuel Type E1

Includes 8 B₄C Rods. These rods are not surrounded by guide tubes. This fuel type has a B₄C fraction of 7.7%.

6.3.4 Fuel Type F1 (also called "XF")

There are no complexities associated with this fuel assembly type. The assembly's only feature is a single instrument tube. This tube is treated as the path-B model.

6.3.5 Fuel Type G1

These assemblies have guide tubes and mixed enrichments but can be easily modeled with SASIGEN. The plugging inserts are neglected in these assemblies, since they are situated only at the very top of an assembly.

6.3.6 Fuel Type G2

These assemblies have guide tubes in which B_4C rods are loaded. Since there are not enough rings in equation to be 0.7407 . This value applies to both the G2 and the H2 assembly types. SASIGEN to permit the modeling of a gap between the B4C rod and the clad, a reduced-density zircaloy is modeled in the combined clad/gap space. The VF to be used is found from the following

$$
VF = \frac{R_{clad}^2 - R_{gap}^2}{R_{clad}^2 - R_{peller}^2}
$$

6.3.7 Fuel Type G3

These assemblies have guide tubes and also include four fuel rods with Gd_2O_3 . These features are combined into a total of 15 composite "features," as discussed and justified in Section [6.2.4.](#page-80-2) Each has the equivalent of 6/15 of the fuel/Gd₂O₃ mixture of a single rod. An inner radius (R_1) of 0.282 cm is (reduced area) absorber material, since this feature is more prevalent than the absorber rod cladding. representing either a guide tube or the clad of a rod. determined to represent this. The guide tube dimensions are used to model the clad around this hybrid The guide tubes surrounding the rods are kept at their actual thickness and can be regarded as

6.3.8 Fuel Type H1 / H1S

Assembly Type H1 is based on Assembly Type G1.

The assembly numbers that have the type H1S are H01, H03, H31, H38, H39, H59, and H65.

- 1. MSB 15 includes only H65. This assembly was reconstituted, with the addition of 56 fresh stainless steel rods.
- 2. Following reconstitution, the assembly saw a very small additional burnup, to bring it from 34,143 MWD/MTU to 37,625 MWD/MTU.
- 3. Two separate calculations will be done for these assemblies:
	- a. One of the first three cycles of operation: this will be used to model the fuel removed from the assembly.
	- b. A second calculation of all four cycles of operation.
	- c. The two calculations will be based on the following:
		- i. $3 \text{ cycles} 208 \text{ rods} 0.388907 \text{ MTU initial loading}$
		- ii. 4 cycles -208 rods -0.388907 MTU initial loading
	- d. The second set will be used as the main data, and stored along with the rest of the MSB 15 data. The first set will be saved in a separate directory from the rest of the MSB 15 *xtra15*. data, *e*

6.3.9 Fuel Type H2

Nearly identical to I3 assemblies. Only guide tube dimensions are different. Since there are not enough rings in SASIGEN to permit the modeling of a gap between the B 4C rod and the clad, a reducedfollowing equation to be 0.7407 . This value applies to both the G2 and the H2 assembly type. density zircaloy is modeled in the combined clad/gap space. The VF to be used is found from the

$$
VF = \frac{R_{clad}^2 - R_{gap}^2}{R_{clad}^2 - R_{peller}^2}
$$

.3.10 Fuel Type H3 6

Similar to G3 assemblies. The guide tube dimensions and Gd concentration are different. There are 8 Gd_2O_3 rods present in each of these assemblies.

The treatment of the H3 assemblies is based on the method described for G3 assemblies, above. These have eight guide tubes and also include eight fuel rods with Gd_2O_3 .

a. These features are combined into a total of 17 composite "features"—including the instrument tube. Each has the equivalent of $8/17$ of the fuel/Gd₂O₃ mixture of a single rod. An inner radius $(R₁)$ is determined to represent this from the following, taken from the expressions for the actual and effective fuel pellet radius.

$$
R_{\text{eff}} = \sqrt{R_{\text{peller}}^2 \cdot 8 / 17}
$$

b. The fuel pellet diameter for type H fuel is 0.8890 cm, and the numerical value for the effective thickness (to represent a guide tube or the clad of a rod). pin radius is thus 0.305 cm. The guide tubes surround this rod and are kept at their actual

6.3.11 Fue l Type I1 / I2 / J1

From a modeling standpoint, I1 and I2 are identical in form to G1. J1 is comparable to the I1 model; only the guide tub e thickness (and thus IR) is different.

6.3.12 Fuel T ype I3

Based on G2 assembly model. Note that fuel pellet, clad, and guide tube dimensions are different. Since there are not enough rings in SASIGEN to permit the modeling of a gap between the B4C rod and the clad, a reduced-density zircaloy is modeled in the combined clad/gap space. The VF to be used is found from the following equation to be 0.7496.

$$
VF = \frac{R_{clad}^2 - R_{gap}^2}{R_{clad}^2 - R_{peller}^2}
$$

6.3.13 Fuel Type I4 / J2 / K2

Based on G3 model. New concentrations and dimensions. Note that in this case, guide tubes are not present. The path-B model "guide tube" is taken to be the fuel rod cladding. The IR and OR are thus taken to be, respectively, $0.9093/2 = 4546$ cm and $1.0592/2 = 5296$ cm. For the fuel, the pellet OR is taken from 0.8890/2=0.444 cm. The model is constructed with an extremely low-density He fill in the fuel-to-clad gap. It should also be noted that, due to its being hardwired to placing water (material 3) immediately inside the fuel rod. This is judged to be insignificant. immediately inside the "guide tube", the SCALE input file includes a 0.001 cm layer of water

J2 and K2 are comparable to the I4 model. No physical dimensions are different. J2 and K2 are themselves physically identical.

6.3.14 Fuel Type I1H

Fuel with changing inserts: Assembly Type I1 becomes Assembly Type I1H

- 1. Following the first 4 cycles of operation, hafnium rods are inserted into the formerly empty guide tubes.
- 2. The final two cycles of operation include these absorbers.

There are 15 total assemblies of this type: three in MSB 15, two in MSB 16, three in MSB 17, four in MSB 18, and three in MSB 19. The I1 models were modified to add hafnium material. Although these fuel types are constructed, they are not run directly; rather they are used as the basis for the additional lines to be included in the multiple path-B models described below.

1. Since there are not enough rings in SASIGEN to permit the modeling of a gap between the Hf VF to be used is found from the following equation to be 0.835 . rod and the clad, a reduced-density zircaloy is modeled in the combined clad/gap space. The

$$
VF = \frac{R_{clad}^2 - R_{gap}^2}{R_{clad}^2 - R_{peller}^2}
$$

3 is used for water in the I1 cycles and 4 and 5 are used for the Hf and reduced-density zirc material, respectively. 2. The change that is required between the Hf model and the base case model is simply a change of Mring1 and Mring2, the materials in ring1 and ring2 of the SASIGEN model. A material of

modeling the I1H assemblies, it is necessary to make use of multiple path-B model descriptions in In the 15x18=270 SAS models for these assemblies. Since this is a cycle-specific geometry change, it is necessary to use the command "MXREPEATS=0" in the SAS2H input file, at the top of the path-B model section. Path-B composition data is then entered for each library set of each cycle's data. These changes can be made fairly automatically, and a process for doing this is described in Section [6.7.1.](#page-101-1)

6.3.15 Fuel Type L1 / L1S

L1 is configured like the F1 and D1 (EF) assemblies, with no features save a single instrument tube. F1 is used as the basis, since both $F1$ and $L1$ make use of similarly-dimensioned Exxon fuel.

6.3.16 Fuel Type L2 / L2S

- a. Type L2 becomes type L2S
	- i. This happens upon the replacement of a number of fuel rods with stainless steel rods.
	- ii. For L2S fuel, 14 rods are replaced in this way.
- b. As discussed in Section [6.2.5](#page-82-1) [above,](#page-2-0) it is justifiable and appropriate to ignore the replaced rods continue to be modeled in the path-B model as fuel rods. This represents a conservative treatment. stainless steel rods in constructing the SASIGEN and SAS2H models. That is, the
- c. The L2S assemblies will thus be modeled in two sets of runs. The first set will model the burnup associated with the entire assembly. This set of data represents the removed rods (on a per MTU basis) and will be saved in a separate directory from the rest of the MSB 15 data. e.g., *extra15*.
- d. Next, the fuel rods that remain in the L2S assembly (i.e., N 14 rods) are modeled.
	- iii. The model continues to model the replaced pins as fuel.
	- iv. This is saved as the main L2S data for the MSB.
	- that only lower-enrichment edge and corner rods are replaced with the stainless v. Note that this second portion has a slightly higher enrichment, due to the fact steel rods.
		- 3. The reported enrichment for assembly 16 in MSB 15 is 3.20%. The values that would be calculated from the assembly figures are:

$$
\frac{2.85\% \cdot 46 + 3.38\% \cdot 148 + 2.47\% \cdot 8}{202} = 3.22\%
$$

$$
\frac{4 \cdot 2.47\% + 2.85\% \cdot 56 + 3.38\% \cdot 148 + 2.47\% \cdot 8}{216} = 3.19\%
$$

- 4. This difference is so slight that it will be ignored. Both versions (remaining rods and removed rods) will be modeled at the enrichment reported on the Fuel Data Sheets.
- e. Thus, the only things that change between the two cases (main directory and cask_15_extra-rods directory) are the time and burnup; there are additional cycles modeled in the final set of files.
- f. The model for this assembly is based on the L3S model below; only the Gd_2O_3 concentration need be changed.

6.3.17 Fue l Type L3 / L3S

- a. These assemblies are treated in the same fashion as the L2S assembly discussed above.
- b. Again, the removal of the 14 rods has a small enough change on the assemblies' enrichments that it will be ignored; the Fuel Assembly Data sheet enrichment is used for bot h sets of calculations.
- c. The identical assemblies I4, J2, and K2 are used as the basis for constructing this model. Only the pellet ID changes from these models to the L2 model.
- d. Reference [3.2.2](#page-11-0) describes the burnup at the point where fuel rods are replaced with stainless stee l rods. In the case of assembly L15, for example, this takes place after the third cycle of ope ration.

Table 6-4 Determination of Modeled Guide Bar Thicknesses (sheet 1 of 2)

¹ These values also pertain to assembly types I1, I2, and J1.

1

 11 Calculated as discussed in Section 5.2, based on the rod pitch, number of fuel rods, and number of modeled features.

¹² Rbar is found from $((Rodpitch^{2*}N_{features+rods} + A_{guide-bar}/N_{modeled_ffeatures})/π)^{1/2}$.

 2 Also referred to as "EF."

³ These values also pertain to assembly type E1.

⁴ Also referred to as "XF."

 $⁵$ These values also pertain to assembly type L1.</sup>

⁶ Taken from Table 4-6.

⁷ This number is used for the *pathB_npins* SASIGEN input variable. This feature must be used when the features modeled are themselves fuel.

 8 The choice of number of modeled features is discussed for each assembly type in Section 6.3.

⁹ Taken from Table 4-5.

¹⁰ The instrument tube is not modeled as a specific feature in the path-B model. SASIGEN models the "extra" water in the outermost ring.

[Table 6-4 Determination of Modeled Guide Bar Thicknesses](#page-90-0) (sheet 2 of 2)

1

²⁰ Calculated as discussed in Section 5.2, based on the rod pitch, number of fuel rods, and number of modeled features.

²¹ Rbar is found from $((Rodpitch^{2*}N_{features+rods} + A_{guide-bar}/N_{modeled_ffeatures})/π)^{1/2}$.

¹³ These values also pertain to assembly type H2.

¹⁴ These values also pertain to assembly types I1h, J2, K2, L2, and L3.

¹⁵ Taken from Table 4-6.

¹⁶ This number is used for the *pathB_npins* SASIGEN input variable. This feature must be used when the features modeled are themselves fuel.

 17 The choice of number of modeled features is discussed for each assembly type in Section 6.3.

¹⁸ Taken from Table 4-7.

¹⁹ The instrument tube is not modeled as a specific feature in the path-B model. SASIGEN models the "extra" water in the outermost ring.

Table 6-5 SAS2H Path-B Model Descriptions (by assembly type)

¹ The B₄C lies within an Al₂O₃ inert material, at the wt% given in Table 4-6. The Gd₂O₃ absorber lies within UO₂ fuel material, at the Table 4-6 wt%.

1

² Actually modeled as helium at an infinitesimal density $(1.0 \times 10^{-20} \text{ g/cc})$.

³ Ring outer radii are given in cm.

⁴ Reduced density Zircaloy-4 (see Section 6.3 discussions).

 5 This feature radius is based on the "hybrid" path-B modeling approach discussed in Section 6.2.4. The calculation of the effective absorber radius and the treatment of the cladding for the hybrid features are discussed in Section 6.2.4, and in Sections 6.3.7 and 6.3.10 for the G3 and H3 assemblies.

⁶ These zones are modeled as water for the first three cycles of I1h assembly irradiation (as the hafnium insert is absent).

 7 This path-B model also applies for J2 and K2 assemblies.

⁸ The "S versions" of these assemblies (which contain inserted steel rods) employ the same SAS2H path-B models as their standard assembly equivalents, as discussed in Section 6.2.5.

6.4 Fu el Type SASIGEN Models

The SASIGEN model for each of the fuel types is provided in the following list. Once developed, a model is typically used for each occurrence of a given fuel assembly type. These are customized for the individual MSB and location through the steps outlined in the following section. Further details on the SASIGEN code and its input description can be found in References 3.2[.18](#page-13-0) and 3.2[.20.](#page-13-1)

 1 1 1.650 1 0.4120 1.3970 0.9119 1.0503 0.9284 2 212 0 335.28 3 Type 1 21.552 4 .4642 .5251 2 4 0.4521 8 0.4632 3 1 2 5.853 12/31/1971 08/12/1973 Cycle 1A 11111 8815 820.0 522. 566. 09/30/1974 12/20/1975 Cycle 1B 11111 9181 450.0 522. 566. b4c 4 den=4.0100 0.017 al 4 den=4.0100 0.520 o 4 den=4.0100 0.463 he 8 den=1.0e-20 1 $====$ A1 Assembly $====$ 1 1 2.740 2 0.4152 1.3970 0.9093 1.0605 0.9284 4 216 0 333.76 0 Type 2 21.552 1 .4642 .5302 2 3 100.0 3 100.0 3 1 2 11.732 Type 2-D1 05/09/1976 11/07/1977 Cycle 2A 0 8815 500.0 522. 566. 11/07/1977 01/06/1978 Cycle 2B 8815 9181 50.0 536. 583. 04/20/1978 09/08/1979 Cycle 3 9181 21245 400.0 536. 583.
Cycle 4 05/27/1980 08/29/1981 21245 30261 400.0 536. 583. ===== D1 Assembly ===== 1 1 3.050 3 0.3858 1.3970 0.8903 1.0541 0.9093 4 208 0 334.77 3 Type 3 21.552 8 .4547 .5271 2 4 0.4451 8 0.4537 3 1 2 4.136 Type 3-E1
05/09/1976 11/07/1977 Cycle 2A 05/09/1976 11/07/1977 0 14897 500.0 522. 566. 11/07/1977 01/06/1978 Cycle 2B 14897 15535 50.0 536. 583. 04/20/1978 09/08/1979 Cycle 3 15535 26360 400.0 536. 583. 05/27/1980 08/29/1981 Cycle 4 26360 35333 400.0 536. 583. b4c 4 den=3.3074 0.077
al 4 den=3.3074 0.488 al 4 den=3.3074 0.488 o 4 den=3.3074 0.435 he 8 den=1.0e-20 1 ===== E1 Assembly ===== 1 1 1.510 4 0.4001 1.3970 0.8903 1.0541 0.9093 2 216 0 334.77 0 Type 4 21.552 1 .4572 .5271 2 3 100.0 3 100.0 3 1 2 11.7249 Type 4-F1 05/09/1976 11/07/1977 Cycle 2A 0 11651 500.0 522. 566. 11/07/1977 01/06/1978 Cycle 2B 11651 12990 50.0 536. 583. $====$ F1 Assembly $====$ 1 1 3.000 5 0.3869 1.3970 0.8903 1.0541 0.9093 3 208 0 334.77 0 Type 5 21.552 9 .4966 .5283 2 3 0.410 3 0.420 3 0 2 3.908 04/20/1978 09/08/1979 Cycle 3 0 8176 400.0 536. 583.
Cycle 4 05/27/1980 08/29/1981 8176 19468 400.0 536. 583. 12/31/1981 08/12/1983 19468 31414 430.0 536. 583. $====$ G1 Assembly $====$ 1 1 3.000 5 0.3869 1.3970 0.8903 1.0541 0.9093 3 208 0 334.77 3 Type 5 21.552 8 .4966 .5283 2 4 0.3404 5 0.4216 3 1 2 4.136 Type 5-G2 04/20/1978 09/08/1979 0 13092 400.0 536. 583.
Cycle 4 05/27/1980 08/29/1981 13092 23754 400.0 536. 583.
Cycle 5 12/31/1981 08/12/1983 23754 34930 430.0 536. 583. b4c 4 den=3.3634 0.047 al 4 den=3.3634 0.504 o 4 den=3.3634 0.449 arbmzirc 6.56 5 0 0 0 8016 0.12 24000 0.10 26000 0.20 50000 1.40 40000 98.18 5 .7407 ===== G2 Assembly =====

Fuel_Types.txt Palisades Fuel Information-Revised 16-Aug-2005

 1 1 3.000 5 0.387 1.3970 0.8903 1.0541 0.9093 3 208 202 334.77 3 Type 5 21.552 15 .4966 .5283 2 9 0.282 3 0.496 3 0 2 3.0274 Type 5-G3 Cycle 3 0 10464 400.0 536. 583. ==== G3 Assembly ===== = 1 1 3.260 6 0.3885 1.3970 0.8890 1.0592 0.9093 3 208 0 334.77 0 Type 6 21.552 9 .4966 .5296 2 3 0.410 3 0.420 3 0 2 3.908 Type 6-H1 05/27/1980 08/29/1981 0 10824 400.0 536. 583. 12/31/1981 08/12/1983 Cycle 5 10824 25247 430.0 536. 583. 07/31/1984 11/30/1985 Cycle 6 25247 34932 450.0 537. 587. ===== H1 Assembly ===== 1 1 3.260 6 0.3885 1.3970 0.8890 1.0592 0.9093 4 208 0 334.77 0 Type 6 21.552 9 .4966 .5296 2 3 0.410 3 0.420 3 0 2 3.908 Type 6-H1S 05/27/1980 08/29/1981 0 10824 400.0 536. 583.
Cycle 5 12/31/1981 08/12/1983 10824 25247 430.0 536. 583. 07/31/1984 11/30/1985 Cycle 6 25247 34932 450.0 537. 587. 11/28/1988 09/15/1990 Cycle 8 21803 32723 420.0 539. 589. ===== H1S Assembly ===== 1 1 3.260 6 0.3890 1.3970 0.8890 1.0592 0.9093 3 208 0 334.77 3 Type 6 21.552 8 .4966 .5296 2 4 0.3404 5 0.4216 3 1 2 4.136 Type 6-H2 05/27/1980 08/29/1981 Cycle 4 0 13275 400.0 536. 583. 12/31/1981 08/12/1983 Cycle 5 13275 26294 430.0 536. 583. 07/31/1984 11/30/1985 26294 35215 450.0 537. 587. b4c 4 den=3.3634 0.047 al 4 den=3.3634 0.504 o 4 den=3.3634 0.449 arbmzirc 6.56 5 0 0 0 8016 0.12 24000 0.10 26000 0.20 50000 1.40 40000 98.18 5 .7407 ===== H2 Assembly ===== 1 1 3.230 6 0.3883 1.3970 0.8890 1.0592 0.9093 3 208 200 334.77 3 Type 6 21.552 17 .4966 .5296 2 9 0.305 3 0.496 3 0 2 2.8437 Type 6-H3 05/27/1980 08/29/1981 Cycle 4 0 12927 400.0 536. 583. 12/31/1981 08/12/1983 Cycle 5 12927 26164 430.0 536. 583. 07/31/1984 11/30/1985 Cycle 6 26164 35078 450.0 537. 587. uo2 9 den=10.1355 1 750 92234 0.029 92235 3.230 92236 0.015 92238 96.726 end arbm-gd2o3 10.1355 2 0 1 1 64000 2 8016 3 9 0.04 750 end ===== H3 Assembly ===== 1 1 3.260 7 0.3898 1.3970 0.8890 1.0592 0.9093 4 208 0 334.77 0 Type 7 21.552 9 .4940 .5296 2 3 0.410 3 0.420 3 0 2 3.908 Type 7-I1
12/31/1981 08/12/1983 Cycle 5 12/31/1981 08/12/1983 0 11714 430.0 536. 583.
Cycle 6 07/31/1984 11/30/1985 11714 23236 450.0 537. 587. 03/03/1986 05/19/1986 Cycle 7A 23236 24624 930.0 537. 587. 04/03/1987 08/08/1988 Cycle 7B 24624 34678 440.0 537. 587. ===== I1 Assembly (or I2) ===== 1 1 3.260 7 0.3898 1.3970 0.8890 1.0592 0.9093 4 208 0 334.77 0 Type 7 21.552 9 .4940 .5296 2 3 0.410 3 0.420 3 0 2 3.908 04/20/1978 09/08/1979 05/27/1980 08/29/1981 Cycle 4 10464 22791 400.0 536. 583. 12/31/1981 08/12/1983 Cycle 5 22791 33997 430.0 536. 583. uo2 9 den=10.0602 1 750 92234 0.027 92235 3.000 92236 0.014 92238 96.960 end arbm-gd2o3 10.0602 2 0 1 1 64000 2 8016 3 9 0.01 750 end

12/31/1981 08/12/1983 Cycle 5 0 11714 430.0 536. 583 . 07/31/1984 11/30/1985 Cycle 6 0 334.77 3 Type 7
Type 7-13 21.552 8 .4940 .5296 2 4 0.3404 5 0.4242 3 1 2 4.136 Type 7-I3 Cycle 5 23754 34930 430.0 536. 583. Cycle 6 92234 0.029 92235 3.240 92236 0.015 92238 96.716 end arbm-gd2o3 10.1355 2 0 1 1 64000 2 8016 3 9 0.04 750 end . 21803 32723 370.0 536. 581 ype 8-J1 Cycle 8 589. 21803 32723 420.0 539. 4 Type 9 1 1 3.240 9 0.4006 1.3970 0.8890 1.0592 0.9093 4 216 208 334.77 21.552 8 .4546 .5296 2 9 0.444 8 0.454 3 0 2 4.136 Type 9-J2 11714 23236 450.0 537. 587. 03/03/1986 05/19/1986 Cycle 7A 23236 24624 930.0 537. 587. 04/03/1987 08/08/1988 Cycle 7B 24624 34678 440.0 537. 587. $==== 12$ Assembly (or I1) $====$ 1 1 3.250 7 0.3893 1.3970 0.8890 1.0592 0.9093 4 208 12/31/1981 08/12/1983 07/31/1984 11/30/1985 21803 32723 450.0 537. 587. 03/03/1986 05/19/1986 Cycle 7A 21803 32723 930.0 537. 587.
Cycle 7B $04/03/1987 08/08/1988$ 21803 32723 440.0 537. 587. b4c 4 den=3.3634 0.047 al 4 den=3.3634 0.504 o 4 den=3.3634 0.449 arbmzirc 6.56 5 0 0 0 8016 0.12 24000 0.10 26000 0.20 50000 1.40 40000 98.18 5 .7496 $==== 13$ Assembly $====$ 1 1 3.240 9 0.404 1.3970 0.8890 1.0592 0.9093 4 216 208 334.77 4 Type 9 21.552 8 .4546 .5296 2 9 0.444 8 0.454 3 0 2 4.136 12/31/1981 08/12/1983 Cycle 5 0 14629 430.0 536. 583. 07/31/1984 11/30/1985 Cycle 6 14629 25056 450.0 537. 587. 03/03/1986 05/19/1986 Cycle 7A 25056 26277 930.0 537. 587. 04/03/1987 08/08/1988 Cycle 7B 26277 34751 440.0 537. 587. he 8 den=1.0e-20 1 750 end uo2 9 den=10.1355 1 750 ===== I4 Assembly ===== $1 \quad 1 \quad 3.260 \quad 7 \quad 0.3893 \quad 1.3970 \quad 0.8890 \quad 1.0592 \quad 0.9093 \quad 6 \quad 208 \qquad 0 \quad 334.77 \quad 3 \qquad Type \quad 7$
 $21.552 \quad 8 \quad .4940 \quad .5296 \quad 2 \quad 4 \quad 0.3505 \quad 5 \quad 0.4216 \quad 3 \quad 1 \quad 2 \quad 4.136$ 21.552 8 .4940 .5296 2 4 0.3505 5 0.4216 3 1 2 4.136 12/31/1981 08/12/1983 Cycle 5 23754 34930 430.0 536. 583. 07/31/1984 11/30/1985 Cycle 6 21803 32723 450.0 537. 587. 03/03/1986 05/19/1986 Cycle 7A 21803 32723 930.0 537. 587. 04/03/1987 08/08/1988 Cycle 7B 21803 32723 440.0 537. 587.
Cycle 9 $03/15/1991 02/06/1992$ 04/18/1992 06/04/1993 Cycle 10 21803 32723 420.0 536. 581. hf 4 den=13.31 1 arbmzirc 6.56 5 0 0 0 8016 0.12 24000 0.10 26000 0.20 50000 1.40 40000 98.18 5 .835 ===== I1H Assembly (with Hafnium) ===== 1 1 3.260 8 0.3879 1.3970 0.8890 1.0592 0.9093 4 208 0 334.77 0 Type 8 21.552 9 .4966 .5296 2 3 0.410 3 0.420 3 0 2 3.908
07/31/1984 11/30/1985 Cycle 6 07/31/1984 11/30/1985 21803 32723 450.0 537. 587. 03/03/1986 05/19/1986 Cycle 7A 21803 32723 930.0 537. 587. 04/03/1987 08/08/1988 Cycle 7B 21803 32723 440.0 537. 587. 11/28/1988 09/15/1990 ===== J1 Assembly =====

07/31/1984 11/30/1985 Cycle 6 14629 25056 450.0 537. 587.
Cycle 7A 03/03/1986 05/19/1986 25056 26277 930.0 537. 587. 04/03/1987 08/08/1988 Cycle 7B 26277 34751 440.0 537. 587. 11/28/1988 09/15/1990 Cycle 8 21803 32723 420.0 539. 589. he 8 den=1.0e-20 1 750 end uo2 9 den=10.125 1 750 92234 0.029 92235 3.240 92236 0.015 92238 96.716 end 1 1 3.220 10 0.4015 1.3970 0.8903 1.0592 0.9093 3 216 0 334.77 0 Type 10 Type 10-L1 e 10 1 1 3.200 10 0.4006 1.3970 0.8903 1.0592 0.9093 3 216 208 334.77 4 Typ Type $10-L2$ 21803 32723 420.0 539. 589. Cycle 9 581. 21803 32723 370.0 536. 581. 21803 32723 420.0 536. 1 1 3.200 10 0.4006 1.3970 0.8903 1.0592 0.9093 5 216 208 334.77 4 Type 10 Type 10-L2S 21803 32723 370.0 536. 581. e 10 1 1 3.140 10 0.4014 1.3970 0.8903 1.0592 0.9093 3 216 208 334.77 4 Typ Type $10-L3$ arbm-gd2o3 10.125 2 0 1 1 64000 2 8016 3 9 0.06 750 end ===== J2 Assembly ===== 1 1 3.250 9 0.4037 1.3970 0.8890 1.0592 0.9093 4 216 208 334.77 4 Type 9 21.552 8 .4546 .5296 2 9 0.444 8 0.454 3 0 2 4.136
03/03/1986 05/19/1986 Cycle 7A 03/03/1986 05/19/1986 25056 26277 930.0 537. 587. 04/03/1987 08/08/1988 Cycle 7B 26277 34751 440.0 537. 587. 11/28/1988 09/15/1990 Cycle 8 21803 32723 420.0 539. 589. 03/15/1991 02/06/1992 Cycle 9 21803 32723 370.0 536. 581. he 8 den=1.0e-20 1 750 end uo2 9 den=10.204 1 750 92234 0.029 92235 3.250 92236 0.015 92238 96.706 end arbm-gd2o3 10.204 2 0 1 1 64000 2 8016 3 9 0.06 750 end ===== K2 Assembly ===== 21.552 1 .4547 .5296 2 3 100.0 3 100.0 3 1 2 11.7249 Ty 11/28/1988 09/15/1990 Cycle 8 21803 32723 420.0 539. 589. 03/15/1991 02/06/1992 Cycle 9 21803 32723 370.0 536. 581. 04/18/1992 06/04/1993 Cycle 10 21803 32723 420.0 536. 581. ===== L1 Assembly ===== 21.552 8 .4546 .5296 2 9 0.445 8 0.454 3 0 2 4.136
11/28/1988 09/15/1990 Cycle 8 11/28/1988 09/15/1990 03/15/1991 02/06/1992 04/18/1992 06/04/1993 Cycle 10 he 8 den=1.0e-20 1 750 end uo2 9 den=10.178 1 750 92234 0.028 92235 3.200 92236 0.015 92238 96.757 end arbm-gd2o3 10.178 2 0 1 1 64000 2 8016 3 9 0.04 750 end $====$ L2 Assembly $====$ 21.552 8 .4546 .5296 2 9 0.445 8 0.454 3 0 2 4.136 11/28/1988 09/15/1990 Cycle 8 21803 32723 420.0 539. 589. 03/15/1991 02/06/1992 Cycle 9 04/18/1992 06/04/1993 Cycle 10 21803 32723 420.0 536. 581. 11/08/1993 02/17/1994 Cycle 11A 21803 32723 880.0 536. 581.
Cycle 11B 06/18/1994 05/22/1995 21803 32723 406.0 536. 581. he 8 den=1.0e-20 1 750 end uo2 9 den=10.096 1 750 92234 0.028 92235 3.200 92236 0.015 92238 96.757 end arbm-gd2o3 10.096 2 0 1 1 64000 2 8016 3 9 0.04 750 end ===== L2S Assembly ===== 21.552 8 .4546 .5296 2 9 0.445 8 0.454 3 0 2 4.136 Ty 11/28/1988 09/15/1990 Cycle 8 21803 32723 420.0 539. 589.

03/15/1991 02/06/1992 Cycle 9 21803 32723 370.0 536. 581.
Cycle 10 04/18/1992 06/04/1993 21803 32723 420.0 536. 581. he 8 den=1.0e-20 1 750 end uo2 9 den=10.178 1 750 92234 0.028 92235 3.140 92236 0.014 92238 96.818 end 21803 32723 406.0 536. 581. he 8 den=1.0e-20 1 750 end arbm-gd2o3 10.178 2 0 1 1 64000 2 8016 3 9 0.06 750 end ===== L3 Assembly ===== 1 1 3.140 10 0.4014 1.3970 0.8903 1.0592 0.9093 5 216 208 334.77 4 Type 10 21.552 8 .4546 .5296 2 9 0.445 8 0.454 3 0 2 4.136 11/28/1988 09/15/1990 Cycle 8 21803 32723 420.0 539. 589.
Cycle 9 03/15/1991 02/06/1992 21803 32723 370.0 536. 581.
Cycle 10 $04/18/1992$ $06/04/1993$ 21803 32723 420.0 536. 581.
Cycle 11A 11/08/1993 02/17/1994 21803 32723 880.0 536. 581.
Cycle 11B 06/18/1994 05/22/1995 uo2 9 den=10.116 1 750 92234 0.028 92235 3.140 92236 0.014 92238 96.818 end arbm-gd2o3 10.116 2 0 1 1 64000 2 8016 3 9 0.06 750 end ===== L3S Assembly =====

6.5 Steps Taken in Preparing Runs

Once the fuel type models are obtained, as described above, a SASIGEN model is constructed for each of the MSBs.

The following steps are taken to prepare each SASIGEN run:

- 1. A workable SASIGEN input file is copied into a new cask's directory.
- 2. The correct assembly type data block (as shown in Section [6.4\)](#page-93-0) is copied into the appropriate section of the SASIGEN input file. This file includes 24 such data blocks, corresponding to assemblies 1-24 in each MSB, as shown in the Attachment B tables^{[57](#page-99-2)}.
- 3. The cask and assembly numbers are corrected 58 .
- 4. The actual enrichment and initial heavy metal loading is entered for each assembl[y.](#page-99-1) (This is generally a small change, since the data for the correct assembly type is already close.)
- 5. The number of cycles and cycle dates and parameters are verified for each assembly and, if necessary, updated. (Note that for Palisades, the irradiation histories are virtually always the same for each assembly type, equating to those shown for each assembly type in Section [6.4.](#page-93-0)
- 6. The burnup ranges are copied over the existing burnup ranges. For burnups beyond a third operating cycle, the additional cycles of data are manually entered^{[59](#page-99-4)}.
- 7. Run SASIGEN case. If desired, go back into the SASIGEN input file and revise the lines for the Gd₂O₃ assemblies; this can make the ²³⁴U, ²³⁶U values more accurate (be careful not to replace the material number inadvertently). Rerun SASIGEN.
- 8. For the assembly types that require cycle-specific modification (e.g., I1H), make the changes to the individual SAS2H input files in order to model the cycle-specific changes to the path-B model.

6.6 Modeling of Extra Fuel Rods

6.6.1 Fuel Rods Removed from Assemblies Loaded in Palisades MSBs

Following their final cycle of operation, the rods from several assemblies loaded into the Palisades MSBs were replaced with fuel rods taken from other assemblies. These assemblies were not subsequently placed back into the reactor and do not therefore have their operating histories affected by these switches. However, a full characterization of the fuel loaded in the MSBs does require the isotopic characterization of the spent fuel of these "extra" fuel rods.

⁵⁷ The Windows Wordpad editor is recommended for this step.

⁵⁸ The Unix "vi" editor or equivalent is recommended for this step.

⁵⁹ The Windows "ed" editor is recommended for column mode editing.

For donor assemblies which are themselves loaded into the MSB's, the extra rod SASIGEN input files are identical to their full-assembly models with only three exceptions:

- Only the donor assemblies from each MSB are mode led.
- Any cycles after the date where the donor rods were removed from the assembly being modeled are removed. In all cases the extra rods were removed after exactly three cycles of reactor operation—thus any additional cycles are removed from the SASIGEN input.
- The title card is changed to clarify that the run pertains to the removed extra rods only, for example, run P15ext03 is titled "Palisades Cask 15 – Extra Rods (fuel, pre-replacement)."

All runs for the extra donor fuel rods are listed in the table of computer runs in Section [8.1.](#page-111-0) [Table](#page-100-0) 6-6 identifies the modeled fuel assemblies that become "donor" assemblies. The assembly numbers are provided for each cask containing donor assemblies.

Donor Assemblies in MSBs Containing Donors Table 6-6

6.6.2 Fuel Rods Removed from Assemblies Not Loaded in Palisades MSBs

In addition to the rods associated with the assemblies listed in [Table 6-6,](#page-100-0) it is also necessary to determine a fuel inventory for fuel rods taken five additional assemblies, as described in Reference [3.2.22.](#page-13-2) Unlike the other rods described in this section, these additional rods were not removed from assemblies that are loaded into the eighteen MSBs being analyzed in this calculation package. It is therefore necessary to construct an additional SASIGEN run to produce SAS2H files to analyze the inventory of these rods. Since the runs are again based on a single metric ton of initial uranium, it is immaterial whether the cases model the entire assemblies or merely rods from these assemblies.

The assemblies containing the additional rods are presented in [Table 6-7.](#page-101-2) One of the assemblies, Assembly L02, is of Fuel Type L2 [\(Figure 18\)](#page-43-0), while the remaining four are of Fuel Type L1 [\(Figure](#page-41-0) [16\)](#page-41-0). All five assemblies were loaded in the Palisades reactor during plant cycles 8, 9, and 10. [Table 6-7](#page-101-2) provides the enrichment, fuel mass, and burnup data for each of the five assemblies. Initial enrichment values are provided in terms of initial ²³⁵U wt-% (w/o). Initial UO₂ mass is provided in metric tons, and burnup data is presented as the burnup (in MWD/MTU) at the end of each of the three operating cycles. All information is taken from Reference [3.2.22.](#page-13-2)

assemblies do not include hafnium inserts, as do the I1H assemblies. They have not operated during the cycles with significant control blade insertion (Cycles 1A, 1B, or 2A). Finally, they do not include the reduced-density zircaloy material, as do the $G2$, $H2$, $I3$, and $I1H$ assembly types. Thus the SASIGEN-produced SAS2H input files are appropriate for direct execution by the SAS2H code. None of these assemblies require hand editing subsequent to the execution of the SASIGEN code. The

Table 6-7 Donor Assemblies in MSBs Containing Donors

6.7 Modification of Automatically-Generated SAS2H Input Files

In several cases, it is necessary to make modifications to the SAS2H input files generated by SASIGEN. When this is necessary, lengths are taken to ensure two things. First, it is intended that the steps taken in making these changes are clearly described and reproducible. Second, inasmuch as it is possible, these steps are performed in a machine-assisted fashion, to lend the highest degree of confidence that the changes are made consistently and to save a significant amount of time particularly in the event that these changes are made multiple times.

The specific cases are described below.

6.7.1 Treatment of I1H Assemblies

For the I1H assemblies, following the first 4 cycles of operation, hafnium rods were inserted into the formerly empty guide tubes. The assemblies were then loaded back into the reactor for two additional cycles of operation. Thus, the final two cycles of operation include these absorbers.

There are 15 total assemblies of this type: three in MSB 15, two in MSB 16, three in MSB 17, four in MSB 18, and three in MSB 19. The I1 models are used as the basis for the additional lines to be included in the multiple path-B models. These modifications to add hafnium material are described below.

1. Since there are not enough rings in SASIGEN to permit the modeling of a gap between the Hf rod and the clad, a reduced-density zircaloy is modeled in the combined clad/gap space. The VF to be used is found from the following equation to be 0.835.

$$
VF = \frac{R_{clad}^2 - R_{gap}^2}{R_{clad}^2 - R_{peller}^2}
$$

2. The change that is required between the Hf model and the base case model is simply a change of Mring1 and Mring2, the materials in ring1 and ring2 of the SASIGEN model. A material of 3 is used for water in the I1 cycles and 4 and 5 are used for the Hf and reduced-density zirc material, res pectively.

In modeling the I1H assemblies, it is necessary to make use of multiple path-B model descriptions in the $15x18=270$ SAS models for these assemblies. This is accomplished by setting MXREPEATS=0 at the top of the path-B model section. Path-B composition data is then entered for each library set of each cycle's data. (Fortunately, these lines are all very similar.) These changes can be made fairly automatically in a text editor like the Unix 'vi' command, as in the following example.

```
:1,$ s/numztotal=8/numztotal=8, mxrepeats=0 
/4 0.350 5 0.422 3 0.494 2 0.530 3 0.788 500 4.095 2 4.136 3 4.299 
yy 
:-2 
17p 
:-1 
:.,+11:s/4 0.350 5/3 0.350 3/ 
:wq 
:n
```
In this example, entered with the trailing hard return, the following steps are performed for an individual file:

- Through the entire file, occurrences of "numztotal=8" are replaced with "numztotal=8, mxrepeats=0" – that is, the mxrepeats=0 specification is inserted.
- The path-B specification line is found and copied
- Seventeen copies of this line are made.
- The first 12 versions of this line are modified so that the materials 4 and 5 are both replaced with material 3.
- The file is saved, and the next one is called up.

It should be noted that, in general form, the above steps are not editor-specific and could be used in nearly all modern editors.

6.7.2 Control Blade Models

As described in Reference [3.2.5,](#page-11-2) only a small number of fuel assemblies were adjacent to control blades during the first two full cycles of core operation—Cycles 1A, 1B, and 2A. [Table 6-8](#page-103-0) lists the affected cas ks and assemblies.

Table 6-8 Assemblies with Control Blade Models

<u>.</u>

 60 Data in this column are shown as n/m (n of m), where n identifies the assembly cycle number(s) where the control blade is present and m identifies the total number of assembly cycle numbers. In all cases shown, the insert is present for the first cycle; in some (the identified A1 assemblies), the insert is present both for cycles 1 and 2, of a total of two cycles: this situation is denoted by the entry "2/2."

According to Reference [3.2.2,](#page-11-0) only group 4 has a history of control rods with significant insertion; the were typically 120 to 130" withdrawn. This corresponds to the upper 1.8 to 11.8" of active fuel height 11.4" for Type EF fuel with an active height of 131.4"). From Reference [3.2.8](#page-12-0) or [3.2.18,](#page-13-0) the eighteen axial segments being modeled are of equal size. This corresponds to the upper 8.95% of the assembly (9.0 9% or 8.68% for Type A or Type EF fuel). Thus, the control blades fall fully within the upper two axial zo nes, which represent the upper 1/9 (11.1%) of a given assembly. The control blades are therefore modeled in the upper two axial zones of the assemblies listed in [Table](#page-103-0) 6-8. The control blades are modeled only during the cycle(s) for which a given assembly is located adjacent to a control blade: Cycle 1A, 1B, or 2A as appropriate. The affected cycles are also listed in [Table 6-8.](#page-103-0) other blades were typically fully withdrawn. Over cycles 1A, 1B, and 2A, the group 4 control blades for the most common length of 131.8" (2 to 12" for Type A fuel with an height of 132" and 1.4 to

The SAS2H input files for the axial zones containing control blade material are modified to the format sho wn in [Figure](#page-76-0) 24; the model setup is described in Section [5.4.1.](#page-74-0) The new dimensions needed to make th ese modifications are developed in [Table 6-9.](#page-106-0) The new dimensions needed are:

- the inner radius of the control blade ring (which is also the outer radius of the inner control blade channel)
- the outer radius of the control blade, including the stainless steel clad
- the outer radius of the water channel lying outside the control blade.

The water channel ring on each side of the control blade ring preserves the actual water thickness on each side of the control blade. This is obtained from the difference between the thickness of the wide hannel dimension of .928 cm and the thickness of the control blade, including the 304 SS clad. Since c the full thickness of the control blade is 0.5486 cm (the metric equivalent of .176" + 2 x .02" = 0.216 "), this gives a total water thickness of 0.3794 cm. The thickness of the water channel inside and outside the control blade is thus 0.1897 cm.

The inner radius of the control blade ring is of course given by the outer radius of the inner water channel. The outer radius of the control blade ring is then sized to preserve the material associated with the "contributing area" of the control blade. The contributing area of the control blade is determined by dividing the full cruciform control blade area by the number of assemblies sharing that object. Since four assemblies surround a control blade, one fourth of the full cruciform blade's area is considered in constructing a path-B model.

As mentioned above, the new dimensions needed to make these modifications are developed in [Table](#page-106-0) [6-9,](#page-106-0) which is taken from spreadsheet Palisades_fuelinputs.xls (shown in the appendix). The table presents the new radial dimensions for each of the three fuel types listed in [Table 6-8.](#page-103-0)

The control blade ring for each of the fuel types contains a homogenous mixture of the clad and active control blade materials. The volume fraction of each of the two materials is found from the following.

$$
VF_i = \frac{t_i}{t_i + t_j}
$$

For clad and active control blade total thicknesses of .04" and .176", this gives volume fractions of .1852 and 0.8148, respectively. The total density for the ring is given by the weighted average of the two materials (themselves having densities of 7.94^{[61](#page-105-0)} and 10.5 $g/cm²$). The weighted average is found to 0 be 10.026 g/cm^2 .

<u>.</u>

 $⁶¹$ The density for SS304 is taken from Reference 3.2.21.</sup>

Table 6-9 Additional Radial Dimensions for Control Blade Models

⁶² Taken from Table 6-4.

 63 Calculated based on the control blade physical data given in Section 4.1.1.5.

 64 Equal to R_{bar} plus the inner assembly-to-blade water space of 0.1897 cm.

 65 Corresponds to a cylinder area equal to the inner water channel cylinder area (shown above) plus the control blade area per feature (also shown above).

⁶⁶ Equal to the control blade and SS clad OR plus the outer water gap thickness of 0.1897 cm.

6.7.3 Hand Edits of Reduced-Density Zircaloy Models

As discussed in Section [6.3,](#page-84-0) several assembly types involve the use of a reduced-density zircaloy material, which is necessitated by the fact that there are not enough rings in SASIGEN to permit the modeling of a gap between the Hf rod and the clad. As an alternative modeling method, the reduceddensity zircaloy is modeled in the combined clad/gap space. The development of the Zirc relative density (or volume fraction) is described in Sections [6.3.6,](#page-85-0) [6.3.9,](#page-86-0) and [6.3.12](#page-86-1) for the affected fuel assembly types: G2, H2, I3, and I1H.

Due to its having a sufficiently complex material definition, the SASIGEN-generated zircaloy material line for material 5 extends onto a second line. Without further editing, the formatting of this line leads to SAS2H run failures (specifically, when the code's *writemodtemp* feature is invoked, as is the case in these runs). To overcome this difficulty, a hand-edit is performed. The material definition is changed from this format:

```
arbmzirc 6.56 5 0 0 0 8016 0.12 24000 0.10 26000 0.20 50000 1.40 569.6 end 
       40000 98.18 5 .7407 569.6 end 
to this: 
arbmzirc 6.56 5 0 0 0 8016 0.12 24000 0.10 26000 0.20 50000 1.40 
       40000 98.18 5 .7407 569.6 end
```
Although this is obviously a simple editing operation, it is facilitated through the use of a standardized set of editing operations. The following "vi" edit command sequence was used to delete the extraneous temperature and "end" label in the SAS2H input files for affected assembly types.

/50000 1.40 / **WWD** :w :n

These editor commands simply find the character string '50000 1.40', move ahead two "words", delete the remainder of the line, write the file, and step to the next file in the editor sequence. The SAS2H input files are otherwise unchanged, with the exception of the I1H assemblies, whose additional edits are discussed elsewhere in this document.
7. CONCLUSIONS

7.1 Results

Isotopic results have been generated for each of the axial regions of each fuel assembly stored in a Palisades MSB. The results of these 7776 SAS2H runs are saved on individual CDs. Due to the large size of the files, there is at least one CD per cask, and in several cases, multiple CDs. The files are preserved in a standard compressed archive (zip) format, and an executable is included on each disk to facilitate the decompression .

As these files are in the native output format of the executed SCALE 4.4 modules, all nuclides produced by ORIGEN-S code are included. Final concentrations are expressed in terms of grams of a given nuclide per metr ic ton of initial uranium.

The envisaged method of making use of these results is to run the SASQASH code (Reference [3.2.19\)](#page-13-0) for each of the MSBs. This would allow for the selection of the specific fission product and actinide nuclides of interest in performing a criticality analysis, properly accounting for burnup credit. The results of these SASQUASH runs would then be suitable for direct importing to the MCNP model for each MSB.

The contents of the folder for each MSB are consistent. In each case, 432 SAS2H input and 432 SAS2H output files are to be found, corresponding to the 18 axial locations in the 24 individual assemblies loaded in the MSB of interest. So for example, for the ninth axial region of the twelfth assembly in the first MSB, the input and output files are named s01a1209.inp and s01a1209.out, respectively.

As the file names are consistent within a single MSB's folder, the "auto-fill" feature of the SASQUASH code can be invoked. A user is thus required to enter only the first four characters (the "prefix") by way of SAS2H output file specification. In the above example, this prefix would be "s01a." This enables the automatic construction of all 432 files names. The specification and use of the auto-fill option of the SASQUASH code is discussed in detail in Reference [3.2.1](#page-13-0)9.

The files in the directory for each MSB are themselves the result of multiple sets of SAS2H and multiple SASIGEN runs. The computer run table in Section [8.1](#page-111-0) traces and clarifies the specific input file and run date for each ultimate SAS2H output file.

In addition to the SAS2H output files for each MSB, the CDs also include the extra fuel material associated with reconstituted fuel assemblies as discussed in Section 6.6. The specific assemblies and MSBs for which these extra SAS2H output files exist are detailed in [Tab](#page-99-0)le 6-6. These runs are stored on a disc identified as "Additional Runs." Each extra assembly is loc[ated in a d](#page-100-0)irectory such as the following:

\VSC_Runs\Pal\Final\ExtraAA,

where AA is the two-digit MSB number. Within these directories, SAS2H output files are named as in the main results file example provided above, with an MSB, assembly number, and axial region identified—just as the s01a1209.inp example above.

In the case of these extra assemblies, a full set of 432 output files is not provided for any of the MSBs—since only the specific assemblies listed in Table 6-6 are modeled. Thus a user cannot make use of the auto-fill feature in the SASQUASH code[. Nonethele](#page-100-0)ss, the SASQUASH code can still be used to process the codes and will properly extract the results. These results (again expressed in terms that have been placed in the reconstructed assemblies. Since the values are expressed per metric ton of reconstructed assembly. The reconstructed assemblies—and the assemblies from which the donor rods were taken—are described in Reference 3.2.4. The treatment of these reconstituted assemblies is to be of grams of the nuclide of interest per metric ton of initial uranium) can then be used in subsequent MCNP models to describe the fission product and actinide composition associated with the extra rods initial uranium, they can be applied without difficulty to the number of rods placed into the described in detail in the criticality calc[ulation](#page-11-0) package which is to be based on this current fuel depletion analysis.

the eighteen MSBs. The contents of these assemblies were modeled as described in Section [6.6.2;](#page-100-1) these results are also included in the CD collection. In the case of several reconstituted assemblies, donor rods were taken from assemblies not loaded into

The results of these calculations (which are in the form of SAS2H output files) are far too voluminous to present. The extraction of the spent fuel isotopic concentration results using the SASQUASH code (discussed earlier) will be performed as part of the subsequent Palisades criticality analyses. The resulting SASQUASH output, which will also form a section of the criticality code input files, will give the isotopic concentration results in a compact form. In addition to presenting the isotopic corresponds to. Thus, if one wishes to view the isotopic concentration results, for spot checking or omparison to independent calculations, one should reference the subsequent Palisades criticality c analysis document. concentration results in this compact form, the SASQUASH code automatically gives detailed information for each block of concentration data, including the MSB, assembly, and axial zone number, along with the initial ²³⁵U enrichment and final burnup level that the concentration data

.2 Compliance With Requirements 7

No requirements were identified in Section [2.2.](#page-10-0) Section [2.1](#page-10-1) described the consideration of a maximum reactivity system. The work in this calculation package supports this requirement.

.3 Range of Validity 7

The results of these calculations pertain specifically to the assemblies currently loaded in the eighteen MSBs at the Palisades plant.

7.4 Summary of Conservatism

- In two cases, multiple ways of modeling a particular assembly or insert type have been considered. In such cases, the most conservative modeling approach has been used. The two cases where this was done are:
	- hybrid modeling approach described in Section 6.2.4. As described in Section [6.2.4,](#page-80-0) this \circ Assemblies containing both Gd_2O_3 rods and guide tubes are modeled by means of the approach is found to be the most conservative t[reatme](#page-80-0)nt.
	- o The stainless steel rods installed in place of fuel rods for certain fuel assemblies are neglected (i.e., modeled as fuel). As shown in Section [6.2.5,](#page-82-0) this represents a conservative treatment.
- The axial profiles built into the SASIGEN code are conservatively based on the axial profiles listed in Reference [3.2.8.](#page-12-0)
- Pure Al_2O_3 is loaded in sections of the poison rod that lie within the assembly active fuel zone, modeled as the poison material in each axial region. but above or below the axial bounds of the poison material; this material is conservatively
- For control blades that were present in the active fuel region of an assembly, the control blades actually ranged from 120" to 130" withdrawn, thus falling fully within the upper two axial zones, which represent the upper 1/9 (11.1%) of a given assembly. For control blades that were present in the active fuel region of an assembly, the SAS2H models conservatively model the control blade over the full length of the top two assembly zones.

7.5 Limitations or Special Instructions

use of the SASQUASH computer code (References 3.2.17 and 3.2.19). The runs have been formatted, named, and configured with this approach in mind. [Althoug](#page-12-1)h a [more m](#page-13-0)anual process would not be It is recommended that the results of these assembly isotopic determinations be evaluated through the incorrect, the efficiency gained through the use of SASQUASH will be extreme.

8. ELECTRONIC FILES

8.1 Computer Runs

8.2 Other Electronic Files

9. ATTACHMENT A - SAMPLE COMPUTER INPUT/OUTPUT

Run p19ssf02.inp, Example SASIGEN Run

(p19ssf02.inp) Palisades Cask 19 01/01/2015 0.25 19 1 3.250 8 0.3872 1.3970 0.8890 1.0592 0.9093 4 208 0 334.77 0 Type 8 21.552 9 .4966 .5296 2 3 0.410 3 0.420 3 0 2 3.908 Type 8-J1 07/31/1984 11/30/1985 Cycle 6 0 10116 450.0 537. 587.
Cycle 7A 03/03/1986 05/19/1986 10116 11914 930.0 537. 587. 04/03/1987 08/08/1988 Cycle 7B 11914 24017 440.0 537. 587. 11/28/1988 09/15/1990 Cycle 8 24017 36133 420.0 539. 589. == === J1 Assembly ===== 19 2 2.740 2 0.4152 1.3970 0.9093 1.0605 0.9284 4 216 0 333.76 0 Type 2 21.552 1 .4642 .5302 2 3 100.0 3 100.0 3 1 2 11.732 Type 2-D1 05/09/1976 11/07/1977 Cycle 2A 0 7201 500.0 522. 566. 11/07/1977 01/06/1978 Cycle 2B 7201 7518 50.0 536. 583. 04/20/1978 09/08/1979 Cycle 3 7518 19637 400.0 536. 583. 05/27/1980 08/29/1981 Cycle 4 19637 28825 400.0 536. 583. === == D1 Assembly ===== 19 3 3.260 6 0.3879 1.3970 0.8890 1.0592 0.9093 3 208 0 334.77 0 Type 6 21.552 9 .4966 .5296 2 3 0.410 3 0.420 3 0 2 3.908 05/27/1980 08/29/1981 Cycle 4 0 11212 400.0 536. 583. 12/31/1981 08/12/1983 Cycle 5 11212 25794 430.0 536. 583. 07/31/1984 11/30/1985 Cycle 6 25794 35205 450.0 537. 587. == === H1 Assembly ===== 19 4 3.240 9 0.4031 1.3970 0.8890 1.0592 0.9093 4 216 208 334.77 4 Type 9 21.552 8 .4546 .5296 2 9 0.444 8 0.454 3 0 2 4.136 03/03/1986 05/19/1986 Cycle 7A 0 1641 930.0 537. 587. 04/03/1987 08/08/1988 Cycle 7B 1641 14209 440.0 537. 587. 11/28/1988 09/15/1990 Cycle 8 14209 27754 420.0 539. 589. 03/15/1991 02/06/1992 Cycle 9 27754 37607 370.0 536. 581. he 8 den=1.0e-20 1 750 end uo 2 9 den=10.188 1 750 92234 0.029 92235 3.240 92236 0.015 92238 96.716 end arbm-gd2o3 10.188 2 0 1 1 64000 2 8016 3 9 0.06 750 end == === K2 Assembly ===== 19 5 3.140 10 0.4011 1.3970 0.8903 1.0592 0.9093 5 216 208 334.77 4 Type 10 21.552 8 .4546 .5296 2 9 0.445 8 0.454 3 0 2 4.136 Type 10-L3S 11/28/1988 09/15/1990 Cycle 8 0 14966 420.0 539. 589. 03/15/1991 02/06/1992 Cycle 9 14966 26525 370.0 536. 581. 04/18/1992 06/04/1993 Cycle 10 26525 30446 420.0 536. 581. 11/08/1993 02/17/1994 Cycle 11A 30446 31063 880.0 536. 581. 06/18/1994 05/22/1995 Cycle 11B 31063 33411 406.0 536. 581. he 8 den=1.0e-20 1 750 end

uo2 9 den=10.108 1 750 92234 0.028 92235 3.140 92236 0.014 92238 96.818 end arbm-gd2o3 10.108 2 0 1 1 64000 2 8016 3 9 0.06 750 end $====$ L3S Assembly $====$ 19 6 1.500 4 0.4032 1.3970 0.8903 1.0541 0.9093 2 216 0 334.77 0 Type 4 21.552 1 .4572 .5271 2 3 100.0 3 100.0 3 1 2 11.7249 Type 4-F1 05/09/1976 11/07/1977 Cycle 2A 0 11651 500.0 522. 566. 11/07/1977 01/06/1978 Cycle 2B 11651 12990 50.0 536. 583. ==== = F1 Assembly ===== 19 7 3.240 9 0.4007 1.3970 0.8890 1.0592 0.9093 4 216 208 334.77 4 Type 9 21.552 8 .4546 .5296 2 9 0.444 8 0.454 3 0 2 4.136 Type 9-J2 07/31/1984 11/30/1985 Cycle 6 0 12278 450.0 537. 587.
Cycle 7A 03/03/1986 05/19/1986 12278 13732 930.0 537. 587.
Cycle 7B 04/03/1987 08/08/1988 13732 24273 440.0 537. 587. 11/28/1988 09/15/1990 Cycle 8 24273 34943 420.0 539. 589. he 8 den=1.0e-20 1 750 end uo2 9 den=10.125 1 750 92234 0.029 92235 3.240 92236 0.015 92238 96.716 end arbm-gd2o3 10.125 2 0 1 1 64000 2 8016 3 9 0.06 750 end ===== J2 Assembly ===== 19 8 3.220 10 0.4012 1.3970 0.8903 1.0592 0.9093 3 216 0 334.77 0 Type 10 1/28/1988 09/15/1990 Cycle 8 1 0 8915 420.0 539. 589. 8915 21501 370.0 536. 581. 21501 34109 420.0 536. 581. ==== L1 Assembly ===== = 21.552 8 .4940 .5296 2 4 0.3505 5 0.4216 3 1 2 4.136 Type 7-IlH Cycle 5 0 13218 430.0 536. 583.
Cycle 6 07/31/1984 11/30/1985 Cycle 6 13218 24715 450.0 537. 587. 03/03/1986 05/19/1986 Cycle 7A 24715 26011 930.0 5 37. 587. 04/03/1987 08/08/1988 Cycle 7B 26011 35116 440.0 537. 587. 03/15/1991 02/06/1992 Cycle 9 3 5116 36690 370.0 536. 581. 04/18/1992 06/04/1993 Cycle 10 hf 4 den=13.31 1 arbmzirc 6.56 5 0 0 0 8016 0.12 24000 0.10 26000 0.20 50000 1.40 40000 98.18 5 .835 ===== I1H Assembly (with Hafnium) ===== 19 10 3.250 7 0.3902 1.3970 0.8890 1.0592 0.9093 6 208 0 334.77 3 Type 7 2/31/1981 08/12/1983 Cycle 5 1 0 11278 430.0 536. 583. 07/31/1984 11/30/1985 Cycle 6 11278 23630 450.0 537. 587. 03/03/1986 05/19/1986 Cycle 7A 23630 24895 930.0 537. 587.
Cycle 7B $04/03/1987 08/08/1988$ 24895 34342 440.0 537. 587.
Cycle 9 03/15/1991 02/06/1992 34342 37561 370.0 536. 581.
Cycle 10 04/18/1992 06/04/1993 37561 39364 420.0 536. 581. hf 4 den=13.31 1 arbmzirc 6.56 5 0 0 0 8016 0.12 24000 0.10 26000 0.20 50000 1.40 40000 98.18 5 .835 ===== I1H Assembly (with Hafnium) ===== 21.552 1 .4547 .5296 2 3 100.0 3 100.0 3 1 2 11.7249 Type 10-L1 03/15/1991 02/06/1992 Cycle 9 04/18/1992 06/04/1993 Cycle 10 19 9 3.260 7 0.3893 1.3970 0.8890 1.0592 0.9093 6 208 0 334.77 3 Type 7 12/31/1981 08/12/1983 36690 39556 420.0 536. 581. 21.552 8 .4940 .5296 2 4 0.3505 5 0.4216 3 1 2 4.136 Type 7-I1H 19 11 3.220 10 0.4017 1.3970 0.8903 1.0592 0.9093 3 216 0 334.77 0 Type 10 Type $10-L1$ 0 8915 420.0 539. 589. 8915 21501 370.0 536. 581. 21501 33662 420.0 536. 581. 19 12 3.250 8 0.3868 1.3970 0.8890 1.0592 0.9093 4 208 0 334.77 0 Type 8 21.552 9 .4966 .5296 2 3 0.410 3 0.420 3 0 2 3.908 Type 8-J1 Type 8 Type 8-J1 e 10 19 14 3.220 10 0.4015 1.3970 0.8903 1.0592 0.9093 3 216 0 334.77 0 Typ Type 10-L1 Type 7 Type 7-I1H 36690 39273 420.0 536. 581. .40 arbmzirc 6.56 5 0 0 0 8016 0.12 24000 0.10 26000 0.20 50000 1 e 10 19 17 3.220 10 0.4016 1.3970 0.8903 1.0592 0.9093 3 216 0 334.77 0 Typ 21.552 1 .4547 .5296 2 3 100.0 3 100.0 3 1 2 11.7249 Type 10-L1 21.552 1 .4547 .5296 2 3 100.0 3 100.0 3 1 2 11.7249
11/28/1988 09/15/1990 Cycle 8 11/28/1988 09/15/1990 03/15/1991 02/06/1992 Cycle 9 04/18/1992 06/04/1993 Cycle 10 ===== L1 Assembly ===== 07/31/1984 11/30/1985 Cycle 6 0 10483 450.0 537. 587. 03/03/1986 05/19/1986 Cycle 7A 10483 12231 930.0 537. 587.
Cycle 7B 04/03/1987 08/08/1988 12231 23998 440.0 537. 587. 11/28/1988 09/15/1990 Cycle 8 23998 35932 420.0 539. 589. $==== J1$ Assembly $====$ 19 13 3.260 8 0.3873 1.3970 0.8890 1.0592 0.9093 4 208 0 334.77 0 21.552 9 .4966 .5296 2 3 0.410 3 0.420 3 0 2 3.908 07/31/1984 11/30/1985 Cycle 6 0 11053 450.0 537. 587. 03/03/1986 05/19/1986 Cycle 7A 11053 12615 930.0 537. 587.
Cycle 7B 04/03/1987 08/08/1988 12615 23920 440.0 537. 587. 11/28/1988 09/15/1990 Cycle 8 23920 35984 420.0 539. 589. ===== J1 Assembly ===== 21.552 1 .4547 .5296 2 3 100.0 3 100.0 3 1 2 11.7249 11/28/1988 09/15/1990 Cycle 8 0 14197 420.0 539. 589. 03/15/1991 02/06/1992 Cycle 9 14197 25893 370.0 536. 581.
Cycle 10 $04/18/1992$ $06/04/1993$ 25893 37312 420.0 536. 581. ===== L1 Assembly ===== 19 15 3.250 7 0.3898 1.3970 0.8890 1.0592 0.9093 6 208 0 334.77 3 21.552 8 .4940 .5296 2 4 0.3505 5 0.4216 3 1 2 4.136 12/31/1981 08/12/1983 Cycle 5 0 13218 430.0 536. 583. 07/31/1984 11/30/1985 Cycle 6 13218 24715 450.0 537. 587.
Cycle 7A 03/03/1986 05/19/1986 24715 26011 930.0 537. 587. 04/03/1987 08/08/1988 Cycle 7B 26011 35116 440.0 537. 587. 03/15/1991 02/06/1992 Cycle 9 35116 36690 370.0 536. 581.
Cycle 10 $04/18/1992$ $06/04/1993$ hf 4 den=13.31 1 40000 98.18 5 .835 ===== I1H Assembly (with Hafnium) ===== 19 16 3.260 6 0.3896 1.3970 0.8890 1.0592 0.9093 4 208 0 334.77 0 Type 6 21.552 9 .4966 .5296 2 3 0.410 3 0.420 3 0 2 3.908 Type 6-H1S
05/27/1980 08/29/1981 Cycle 4 05/27/1980 08/29/1981 0 8126 400.0 536. 583. 12/31/1981 08/12/1983 Cycle 5 8126 22652 430.0 536. 583. 07/31/1984 11/30/1985 Cycle 6 22652 32974 450.0 537. 587. 11/28/1988 09/15/1990 Cycle 8 32974 38584 420.0 539. 589. ===== H1S Assembly =====

11/28/1988 09/15/1990 Cycle 8 0 10897 420.0 539. 589. 03/15/1991 02/06/1992 Cycle 9 0 334.77 0 Type 8 Type 8-J1 Type 5 Type $5-G2$ Cycle 4 40000 98.18 5 .7407 ===== G2 Assembly ===== 19 20 3.240 9 0.4038 1.3970 0.8890 1.0592 0.9093 4 216 208 334.77 4 Type 9 21.552 8 .4546 .5296 2 9 0.444 8 0.454 3 0 2 4.136 Type 9-K2 03/03/1986 05/19/1986 Cycle 7A 0 1641 930.0 537. 587. 04/03/1987 08/08/1988 Cycle 7B 1641 14209 440.0 537. 587.
Cycle 8 $11/28/1988$ 09/15/1990 14209 27754 420.0 539. 589. 03/15/1991 02/06/1992 Cycle 9 27754 37607 370.0 536. 581. he 8 den=1.0e-20 1 750 end uo2 9 den=10.206 1 750 92234 0.029 92235 3.240 92236 0.015 92238 96.716 end arbm-gd2o3 10.206 2 0 1 1 64000 2 8016 3 9 0.06 750 end ===== K2 Assembly ===== 19 21 3.230 10 0.4017 1.3970 0.8903 1.0592 0.9093 3 216 0 334.77 0 Type 10 21.552 1 .4547 .5296 2 3 100.0 3 100.0 3 1 2 11.7249 Type 10-L1
11/28/1988 09/15/1990 Cycle 8 11/28/1988 09/15/1990 0 10897 420.0 539. 589.
Cycle 9 $03/15/1991 02/06/1992$ 10897 22468 370.0 536. 581. 04/18/1992 06/04/1993 Cycle 10 22468 33959 420.0 536. 581. ===== L1 Assembly ===== 19 22 3.230 7 0.3896 1.3970 0.8890 1.0592 0.9093 4 208 0 334.77 0 Type 7 21.552 9 .4940 .5296 2 3 0.410 3 0.420 3 0 2 3.908 Type 7-I2 12/31/1981 08/12/1983 Cycle 5 0 12768 430.0 536. 583.
Cycle 6 07/31/1984 11/30/1985 12768 24199 450.0 537. 587.
Cycle 7A 03/03/1986 05/19/1986 24199 25526 930.0 537. 587. 04/03/1987 08/08/1988 Cycle 7B 25526 35141 440.0 537. 587. ===== I2 Assembly (or I1) ===== 19 23 3.240 9 0.3989 1.3970 0.8890 1.0592 0.9093 4 216 208 334.77 4 Type 9 21.552 8 .4546 .5296 2 9 0.444 8 0.454 3 0 2 4.136 07/31/1984 11/30/1985 Cycle 6 0 12278 450.0 537. 587. 10897 22468 370.0 536. 581. 04/18/1992 06/04/1993 Cycle 10 22468 34370 420.0 536. 581. ===== L1 Assembly ===== 19 18 3.260 8 0.3879 1.3970 0.8890 1.0592 0.9093 4 208 21.552 9 .4966 .5296 2 3 0.410 3 0.420 3 0 2 3.908
07/31/1984 11/30/1985 Cycle 6 07/31/1984 11/30/1985 0 10116 450.0 537. 587. 03/03/1986 05/19/1986 Cycle 7A 10116 11914 930.0 537. 587. 04/03/1987 08/08/1988 Cycle 7B 11914 24017 440.0 537. 587.
Cycle 8 $11/28/1988$ 09/15/1990 24017 36133 420.0 539. 589. ===== J1 Assembly ===== 19 19 3.000 5 0.3863 1.3970 0.8903 1.0541 0.9093 3 208 0 334.77 5 21.552 8 .4966 .5283 2 4 0.3404 5 0.4216 3 1 2 4.136 04/20/1978 09/08/1979 Cycle 3 0 13976 400.0 536. 583. 05/27/1980 08/29/1981 13976 24709 400.0 536. 583. 12/31/1981 08/12/1983 Cycle 5 24709 35117 430.0 536. 583. b4c 4 den=3.3634 0.047 al 4 den=3.3634 0.504 o 4 den=3.3634 0.449 arbmzirc 6.56 5 0 0 0 8016 0.12 24000 0.10 26000 0.20 50000 1.40

03/03/1986 05/19/1986 Cycle 7A 12278 13732 930.0 537. 587.
Cycle 7B 04/03/1987 08/08/1988 13732 24273 440.0 537. 587. 11/28/1988 09/15/1990 Cycle 8 24273 34943 420.0 539. 589. he 8 den=1.0e-20 1 750 end uo2 9 den=10.125 1 750 19 24 3.250 8 0.3874 1.3970 0.8890 1.0592 0.9093 4 208 0 334.77 0 Type 8 21.552 9 .4966 .5296 2 3 0.410 3 0.420 3 0 2 3.908 Type 8-J1 07/31/1984 11/30/1985 Cycle 6 Cycle 7A 0 10483 450.0 537. 587. 03/03/1986 05/19/1986 10483 12231 930.0 537. 587.
Cycle 7B $04/03/1987 08/08/1988$ 12231 23998 440.0 537. 587.
Cycle 8 11/28/1988 09/15/1990 23998 35932 420.0 539. 589. ===== J1 Assembly ===== Ω 92234 0.029 92235 3.240 92236 0.015 92238 96.716 end arbm-gd2o3 10.125 2 0 1 1 64000 2 8016 3 9 0.06 750 end $==== J2$ Assembly $====$

Run s19a0410.inp, Example SAS2H Run

```
=sas2 parm='halt12,skipshipdata' 
1 MTU, Cask 19, Assy 4, 3.24%, 41.142 GWd/MTU, Ax Sec 10, 37.607 GWD/MTU Avg 
 ==== K2 Assembly ====Generated by sasigen version 1.04
     ' ------------------------------------------------------------ 
 ' 
  ' mixtures of fuel-pin-unit-cell: 
 ' 
44groupndf5 latticecell 
uo2 1 den=10.188 1 763.8 
    92234 0.029 92235 3.240 92236 0.015 92238 96.716 end 
zr-94 1 0 1-20 763.8 end 
mo-94 1 0 1-20 763.8 end 
nb-95 1 0 1-20 763.8 end 
mo-95 1 0 1-20 763.8 end 
tc-99 1 0 1-20 763.8 end 
rh-103 1 0 1-20 763.8 end 
rh-105 1 0 1-20 763.8 end 
ru-106 1 0 1-20 763.8 end 
sn-126 1 0 1-20 763.8 end 
xe-131 1 0 1-20 763.8 end 
cs-134 1 0 1-20 763.8 end 
cs-135 1 0 1-20 763.8 end 
cs-137 1 0 1-20 763.8 end 
pr-143 1 0 1-20 763.8 end<br>nd-143 1 0 1-20 763.8 end
nd-143 1 0 1-20
ce-144 1 0 1-20 763.8 end 
nd-144 1 0 1-20 763.8 end 
nd-145 1 0 1-20 763.8 end 
nd-146 1 0 1-20 763.8 end 
nd-147 1 0 1-20 763.8 end 
pm-147 1 0 1-20 763.8 end 
sm-147 1 0 1-20 763.8 end 
nd-148 1 0 1-20 763.8 end 
pm-148 1 0 1-20 763.8 end 
sm-148 1 0 1-20 763.8 end 
pm-149 1 0 1-20 763.8 end
```

```
sm-149 1 0 1-20 763.8 end 
nd-150 1 0 1-20 763.8 end 
sm-150 1 0 1-20 763.8 end 
sm-151 1 0 1-20 763.8 end 
eu-151 1 0 1-20 763.8 end<br>sm-152 1 0 1-20 763.8 end
sm-152 1 0 1-20
eu-153 1 0 1-20 763.8 end 
eu-154 1 0 1-20 763.8 end 
gd-154 1 0 1-20 763.8 end 
eu-155 1 0 1-20 763.8 end 
gd-155 1 0 1-20 763.8 end 
gd-157 1 0 1-20 763.8 end 
gd-158 1 0 1-20 763.8 end 
gd-160 1 0 1-20 763.8 end 
' need the following to use the endf/b5 library 
arbmzirc 6.56 5 0 0 0 8016 0.12 24000 0.10 26000 0.20 50000 1.40 
          40000 98.18 2 1.0 617.5 end 
h2o 3 den=0.7358 1 568.8 end 
arbm-bormod 0.7358 1 1 0 0 5000 100 3 930.0E-6 568.8 end 
he 8 den=1.0e-20 1 750 end 
uo2 9 den=10.188 1 750 
   92234 0.029 92235 3.240 92236 0.015 92238 96.716 end 
arbm-gd2o3 10.188 2 0 1 1 64000 2 8016 3 9 0.06 750 end 
' 
' 930. ppm boron (wt) in moderator 
' ---------------------------------------------------------- 
end comp 
' 
 ' ---------------------------------------------------------- 
' 
      ' fuel-pin-cell geometry: 
' 
squarepitch 1.3970 0.8890 1 3 1.0592 2 0.9093 0 end 
' 
' 
    assembly and cycle parameters
' 
npin/assm=216 fuelngth=830.49 ncycles= 4 nlib/cyc= 3 
printlevel=5 lightel=9 inplevel=2 numztotal=8 end 
 9 0.444 8 0.454 3 0.455 2 0.530 3 0.788 500 4.095 2 4.136 3 4.299 
power=23.315 burn= 77 down= 319 end 
power=27.889 burn=493 down= 112 bfrac=0.473 h2ofrac=1.000 
tmpfuel= 802.0 tmpclad= 627.1 tmpmod= 568.8 end 
power=22.589 burn=656 down= 181 bfrac=0.452 h2ofrac=0.997 
tmpfuel= 758.8 tmpclad= 617.1 tmpmod= 569.9 end 
power=32.863 burn=328 down= 8365 bfrac=0.398 h2ofrac=1.006 
tmpfuel= 841.5 tmpclad= 635.4 tmpmod= 566.7 end 
  o 119 cr 5.2 mn 0.29 
  fe 11. co 0.066 ni 8.7 
  zr 195 nb 0.63 sn 3.2 
\bar{t}=\pm 1' ------------------------------------------------------------- 
'
```
end

10. ATTACHMENT B – EXCEL SPREADSHEETS

Attachments:

1. Assembly Parameters (Enrichment, Fuel Mass, Cycle IDs) 18 pages

2. Assembly Parameters (Cyclewise Burnups) 11 pages

(29 pages total)

