Contents

Preface xiii Acknowledgements xv

Chapter 1 Introduction 1

- 1-1 Objectives 1
- 1-2 A short history of nuclear safety technology 2 1-2-1 The early years 2
 - 1-2-1 The early years 2 1-2-2 From the late 1950s to the
 - Three Mile Island accident 2
 - 1-2-3 From the Three Mile Island accident to the Chernobyl accident 7
- 1-2-4 The Chernobyl accident and after 8 References 10
- Chapter notes 10

Chapter 2 Inventory and localization of radioactive products in the plant 13 References 15

Chapter 3 Safety systems and their functions 17

- 3-1 Plant systems 17
- 3-2 Safety systems and accidents 18

- 3-3 Future safety systems and plant concepts 23
 - 3-3-1 General remarks 23
 - 3-3-2 Some passive safety systems for nuclear plants 27
 - 3-3-3 Inherently safe systems in the process industries 30

References 32

Chapter notes 32

Chapter 4 The classification of accidents and a discussion of some examples 35

- 4-1 Classification 35
- 4-2 Design basis accidents 35
 - 4-2-1 Some important data for accident analysis 35
 - 4-2-2 Example of a category 2 accident: spurious opening of a pressurizer safety valve 40
 - 4-2-3 Example of a category 3 accident: instantaneous power loss to all the primary pumps 41
 - 4-2-4 Example of a category 4 accident: main steam line break 43
 - 4-2-5 Example of a category 4 accident: sudden expulsion of a control rod from the core 44
 - 4-2-6 Example of a category 4 accident: break of the largest pipe of the primary system (large LOCA) 46
 - 4-2-7 Example of a category 4 accident: fuel handling accident 47
 - 4-2-8 Area accidents 50

- 4-3 Beyond design basis accidents 51 4-3-1 Plant originated accidents 51
 - 4-3-2 Accidents due to human voluntary actions 51

4-4 External accidents of natural origin 51 References 51 Chapter notes 51

Chapter 5 Severe accidents 53

- 5-1 Existing plants 53
- 5-2 Future plants: extreme and practicable solutions 55
- 5-3 Severe accident management: the present state of studies and implementations 57
- 5-4 Data on severe accidents 58
- 5-5 Descriptions of some typical accident sequences 58
 - 5-5-1 Loss of station electric power supply (TE = transient + loss of electrical supply) 58
 - 5-5-2 Loss of electric power with LOCA from the pump seals (SE = small LOCA + loss of electric power) 61
 - 5-5-3 Interfacing systems LOCA (V) 61
 - 5-5-4 Large LOCA with failure of the recirculation (ALFC) 62
 - 5-5-5 Small LOCA with failure of the recirculation (SLFC) 62
- 5-6 'Source terms' for severe accidents 62 References 64

Chapter 6 The dispersion of radioactivity releases 65

- 6-1 The most interesting releases for safety evaluations 65
- 6-2 Dispersion of releases: phenomena 66
- 6-3 Release dispersion: simple evaluation techniques 70
- 6-4 Formulae and diagrams for the evaluation of atmospheric dispersion 71
 Reference 76
- Chapter notes 76

Chapter 7 Health consequences of releases 79

- 7-1 The principles of health protection and safety 79
- 7-2 Some quantities, terms and units of measure of health physics 79
- 7-3 Types of effects of radiation doses and limits 80
- 7-4 Evaluation of the health consequences of releases 81
 - 7-4-1 Evaluation of inhalation doses from radioactive iodine 81
 - 7-4-2 Evaluation of doses due to submersion in a radioactive cloud 81
 - 7-4-3 Evaluation of the doses of radiation from caesium-137 deposited on the ground ('ground-shine' dose) 81
 - 7-4-4 Evaluation of the dose due to deposition of plutonium on the ground 81
 - 7-4-5 Indicative evaluation of long distance doses for very serious accidents to nuclear reactors 82
 - 7-4-6 Direct radiation doses 82
- Reference 83
- Chapter notes 83

Chapter 8

The general approach to the safety of the plant-site complex 85

- 8-1 Introduction 85
- 8-2 The definition of the safety objectives of a plant on a site 85
 8-2-1 The objectives and limits of release/dose 85
- 8-3 Some plant characteristics for the prevention and mitigation of accidents 86
- 8-4 Radiation protection characteristics 86
- 8-5 Site characteristics 87

Chapter 9 Defence in depth 89

- 9-1 Definition, objectives, levels and barriers 89
- 9-2 Additional considerations on the levels of *Defence in Depth* 89

Chapter 10 Quality assurance 93

10-1 General remarks and requirements9310-2 Aspects to be underlined93Reference94

Chapter 11 Safety analysis 95

11-1 Introduction 95
11-2 Deterministic safety analysis 95
11-3 Probabilistic safety analysis 97
11-3-1 Event trees 98
11-3-2 Fault trees 99
11-3-3 Failure rates 105
References 105
Chapter notes 105

Chapter 12 Safety analysis review 107

- 12-1 Introduction 107
- 12-2 The reference points 107
- 12-3 Foreseeing possible issues for discussion 107
- 12-4 Control is not disrespectful 108
- 12-5 Clarification is not disrespectful 109
- 12-6 Designer report 110
 - 12-6-1 Introduction 110
 - 12-6-2 Conclusions 110
 - 12-6-3 Hydrodynamic aspects 110
- 12-6-4 Effective mass of oscillating system 111 12-6-5 Evaluation of fluid damping 111 12-6-6 Vibration analysis 111 12-7 Discussion 114
- References 115
- Chapter notes
- Chapter notes 115

Chapter 13 Classification of plant components 117

Reference 118

Chapter 14 Notes on some plant components 11

- 14-1 Reactor pressure vessel 119 14-1-1 Problems highlighted by operating experience 119
 - 14-1-2 Rupture probability of non-nuclear vessels 120
 - 14-1-3 Failure probability of nuclear vessels 122
 - 14-1-4 Vessel material embrittlement due to neutron irradiation 124
 - 14-1-5 Pressurized thermal shock 126
 - 14-1-6 The reactor pressure vessel of Three Mile Island 2 126
 - 14-1-7 General perspective on the effect of severe accidents on the pressure vessel 127
 - 14-1-8 Recommendations for the prevention of hypothetical accidents generated by the pressure vessel 128
- 14-2 Piping 130
 - 14-2-1 Evolution of the regulatory positions 130
 - 14-2-2 Problems indicated by experience 130
 - 14-2-3 Leak detection in water reactors 132
 - 14-2-4 Research programmes on piping 133
- 14-3 Valves 134
 - 14-3-1 General remarks 134
 - 14-3-2 Some data from operating experience 134
 - 14-3-3 The most commonly used types of valve 135
 - 14-3-4 Types of valve: critical areas, design and operation 136
 - 14-3-5 Valve standards 140
- 14-4 Containment systems 141
- References 142

Chapter 15 Earthquake resistance 145

- 15-1 General aspects, criteria and starting data 145
- 15-2 Reference ground motion 148
- 15-3 Structural verifications 158
 - 15-3-1 Foundation soil resistance 158
 - 15-3-2 Resistance of structures 162
- References 182

Chapter 16 Tornado resistance 185

16-1 The physical phenomenon 18516-2 Scale of severity of the phenomenon 18616-3 Design input data 186Reference 187

Chapter 17 Resistance to external impact 189

- 17-1 Introduction 189
- 17-2 Aircraft crash impact 189 17-2-1 Effects of an aircraft impact 189 17-2-2 Overall load on a structure 189 17-2-3 Vibration of structures and components 191 17-2-4 Local perforation of structures 191 17-2-5 The effect of a fire 192 17-2-6 Temporary incapacity of the operating personnel 192 17-3 Pressure wave 192 17-5 Other impacts 193 References 194

Chapter 18 Nuclear safety criteria 195

18-1 General characteristics 195
18-2 The US general design criteria 195
18-3 IAEA criteria 196
18-4 EUR criteria 196
18-5 Other general criteria compilations 197
References 198
Chapter notes 198

Chapter 19 Nuclear safety research 199 Reference 199

Chapter 20 Operating experience 201

20-1 Introduction20120-2 Principal sources201

20-3 Some significant events 201
20-3-1 Mechanical events 201
20-3-2 Electrical events 202
20-3-3 System events 202
20-3-4 Area events 203
20-3-5 Reactivity accidents 204
20-3-6 Possible future accidents 204
20-4 The International Nuclear Event Scale 205
References 207

Chapter 21 Underground location of nuclear power plants 209

References 212

Chapter 22 The effects of nuclear explosions 215

- 22-1 Introduction 215
- 22-2 Types of nuclear bomb 215
- 22-3 The consequences of a nuclear explosion 215
- 22-4 Initial nuclear radiation 217
- 22-5 Shock wave 217
- 22-6 Initial thermal radiation 218
- 22-7 Initial radioactive contamination ('fallout') 218
- 22-8 Underground nuclear tests 218 22-8-1 Historical data on
 - nuclear weapons tests 218 22-8-2 The possible effects of an
 - underground nuclear explosion 219
 - 22-8-3 The possible radiological effects of the underground tests 220
- References 220

Chapter 23 Radioactive waste 221

- 23-1 Types and indicative amounts of radioactive waste 221
 23-2 Principles 222
 Poferance 222
- Reference 223

Chapter 24 Fusion safety 225 References 228

Chapter 25 Safety of specific plants and of other activities 229

- 25-1 Boiling water reactors 229
- 25-2 Pressure tube reactors 231
- 25-3 Gas reactors 231
- 25-4 Research reactors 232
- 25-5 Sodium-cooled fast reactors 232
- 25-6 Fuel plants 233
- 25-7 Nuclear seawater desalination plants 233
- 25-8 VVER plants 234
- 25-9 Ship propulsion reactors 234
- 25-10 Safe transport of radioactive substances 234
- 25-11 Safety of radioactive sources and of radiation generating machines 234
- References 235

Chapter 26 Nuclear facilities on satellites 237

26-1 Types of plant 237
26-2 Possible accidents and their consequences 238
Reference 238

Chapter 27 Erroneous beliefs about nuclear safety 239

References 241

Chapter 28 When can we say that a particular plant is safe? 243

Chapter 29 The limits of nuclear safety: the residual risk 245

29-1 Risk in general 245

- 29-2 Risk concepts and evaluations in nuclear installation safety 245 29-2-1 Tolerable risk 245
 - 29-2-2 Risk-informed decisions 246
- 29-3 Residual risk: the concept of loss-of-life expectancy 247
- 29-4 Risk from various energy sources 247
- 29-5 Risk to various human activities 248 29-6 Are the risk analyses of nuclear
- power plants credible? 248
- 29-7 Proliferation and terrorism 250
- References 250

Additional references 251

Appendices

Appendix 1 The Chernobyl accident 279

A1-1 Introduction 279 A1-2 The reactor 279 A1-3 The event 281 References 284

Appendix 2 Calculation of the accident pressure in a containment 285

- A2-1 Introduction 285
- A2-2 Initial overpressure 285
- A2-3 Containment pressure versus time 286
 - A2-3-1 Introductory remarks 287
 - A2-3-2 Calculation method 287
 - A2-3-3 Heat exchanged with the outside through the metal container 288
 - A2-3-4 Heat released by hot metals 288
 - A2-3-5 Heat exchanged with concrete

289

- A2-3-6 Heat exchanged with concrete layers 289
- A2-3-7 Decay heat 290
- A2-3-8 Heat removed by the spray system internal to the containment 291
- A2-3-9 Solar heat 291
- A2-3-10 Thermal balance in the interval $\Delta \tau$ 292
- A2-3-11 Considerations on the performance of the calculation and on the
- choice of the input data 292 A2-3-12 Example calculation 293
- References 296

Appendix 3 Table of safety criteria 297

Appendix 4 Dose calculations 315

- A4-1 Introduction 315
- A4-2 Virtual population dose in a severe accident 315
 - A4-2-1 The reactor and the released isotopes 315
 - A4-2-2 Source term at three days (I, Cs, Xe) 315
 - A4-2-3 Dose at the fence after three days of exposure 316
 - A4-2-4 Ground shine long-term dose 316
- A4-3 Explorative evaluation of the radiological consequences of a mechanical impact on a surface storage facility for category 2 waste 316
 - A4-3-1 Type of repository 316
 - A4-3-2 Reference impact 316
 - A4-3-3 Fragmentation and dispersion of material 317
 - A4-3-4 Doses 318
 - A4-3-5 Conclusions 319
- A4-4 Explorative evaluation of the radiological consequences of a mechanical impact on a transport/storage cask containing spent fuel 319
 - A4-4-1 Characteristics of the cask 319
 - A4-4-2 Reference impact 319
 - A4-4-3 Amount of significant fission products in the internal atmosphere of the cask and external release in one day 319
 - A4-4-4 Effective committed doses 320 A4-4-5 Conclusions 321

References 321

Appendix 5 Simplified thermal analysis of an insufficiently refrigerated core 323

- A5-1 Analysis of the core without refrigeration 323
- A5-2 Other formulae and useful data for the indicative study of the cooling of a core after an accident 325

References 326

Appendix 6 Extracts from EUR criteria (December 2004) 327

2-1-8-3 List of design basis conditions 327

- 2-1-8 Tables 328
 - 2-1-8-1 Table 1: Radiological criteria for radioactive releases in normal operation and incident conditions 328
 - 2-1-8-2 Table 2: Frequencies and acceptance criteria for normal operation, incident and accident conditions 328
 - 2-1-B-1 Criteria for limited impact for DEC 329
 - 2-1-B1-1 Table B1: Criteria for limited impact for no emergency action beyond 800 m from the reactor 329
 - 2-1B 1-2 Table B2: Criteria for limited impact for no delayed action beyond 3 km from the reactor 330
 - 2-1B 1-3 Table B3: Criteria for limited impact for no long-term actions beyond 800 m from the reactor 330
 - 2-1B 1-4 Table B4: Criteria for limited impact for economic impact 330
 - 2-1 B2 Release targets for design basis category 3 and 4 conditions 330
 - 2-1-B-2-1 Table B5: DBA release targets for no action beyond 800 m from the reactor 331
 - 2-1-B-2-2 Table B6: DBA release targets for economic impact 331
 - 2-1-2-3 Operational staff doses during normal operation and incidents 331
 - 2-1-2-6 Probabilistic safety targets 332
 - 2-1-3-4 Single failure criterion 332
 - 2-1-4-3-2 Complex sequences that may be considered in DEC 333
 - 2-1-6-8 Classification of the safety functions and categorisation of the equipment 333
 - 2-1-6-6-3 Requirements according to level of safety functions 334
 - 2-1-6-8-4 Assignment of equipment and structures to a safety category 334

- 2-1-6-8-5 Requirements on equipment and structures according to safety category 335
- 2-1-6-8-6 Classification of structures and equipment according to the design and construction codes 335
- 2-1-6-8-7 The relation of seismic categorisation to safety level of functions 335
- 2-1-6-13 Accident management 335
- 2-1-6-14 Radiation protection 336

Appendix 7

Notes on fracture mechanics 337

A7-1 Introduction 337 A7-2 Current practice 338 References 341

Appendix 8 US general design criteria 343

A8-1 Introduction 344

- A8-2 Definitions and explanations 345
- A8-3 Criteria 345
 - A8-3-1 Overall requirements 345
 - A8-3-2 Protection by Multiple Fission Product Barriers 346
 - A8-3-3 Protection and Reactivity Control Systems 348
 - A8-3-4 Fluid Systems 349
 - A8-3-5 Reactor Containment 351
- A8-3-6 Fuel and Radioactivity Control 352 Notes 353

Appendix 9 IAEA criteria 355

Appendix 10 Primary depressurization systems 357

- A10-1 Initial studies 357
- A10-2 Depressurization systems for modern design reactors 359 References 363

Appendix 11 Thermal-hydraulic transients of the primary system 365

A11-1 General remarks 365 A11-2 General program characteristics 366 A11-3 Program description 366 A11-3-1 Macro Stampa dati 366 A11-3-2 Macro Copia dati 368 A11-3-3 Macro HF 368 A11-3-4 Macro HFG 369 A11-3-5 Macro VF 369 A11-3-6 Macro VFG 370 A11-3-7 Macro QS 370 A11-3-8 Macro GU 370 A11-3-9 Macro GE 372 A11-3-10 Macro DT 373 A11-3-11 Macro PS 373 A11-4 Using the program 377 A11-5 Other formulae for the expanded use of the program 377 A11-5-1 ATWS 377 A11-5-2 Pressure in a depressurization water discharge tank 378

References 378

Appendix 12 The atmospheric dispersion

of releases 379

Appendix 13 Regulatory framework and safety documents 385

A13-1 Regulatory framework 385

- A13-2 Safety documents 385
 - A13-2-1 The safety report 386
 - A13-2-2 The probabilistic safety assessment 388
 - A13-2-3 The environmental impact assessment 388
 - A13-2-4 The external emergency plan 388
 - A13-2-5 The operation manual, including the emergency procedures 388
 - A13-2-6 Operation organization document 390
 - A13-2-7 The pre-operational test programme 390

xii Contents

A13-2-8 The technical specifications for operation 390 A13-2-9 The periodic safety reviews 391 References 391

Appendix 14 USNRC Regulatory Guides and Standard Review Plan 393

- A14-1 Extracts from a regulatory guide 393
- A14-2 List of contents and extracts from a sample chapter of the Standard Review Plan 395
- A14-3 Sample chapter 400

Appendix 15 Safety cage 405

- A15-1 General remarks 405
- A15-2 Available energy 405
- A15-3 Mechanical energy which can be released 405
- A15-4 Overall sizing of a structural cage around the pressure vessel 406
- A15-5 Experimental tests on steel cages for the containment of vessel explosions 408 Reference 408

Appendix 16 Criteria for the site chart (Italy) 409

- A16-1 Population and land use 409
- A16-2 Geology, seismology and soil mechanics 409
- A16-3 Engineering requirements 410
- A16-4 Extreme events from human activities 410
- A16-5 Extreme natural events 410

Appendix 17 The Three Mile Island accident 411

- A17-1 Summary description of the Three Mile Island no. 2 Plant 411
- A17-2 The accident 413
- A17-3 The consequences of the accident on the outside environment 419

A17-4 The actions initiated after the accident 421 References 422

Glossary 423

Web sites 425

Index 427