

Risk Analysis of a Liquefied Natural Gas Storage Tank



Yu-Chih Ko

Department of Engineering
& System Science
National Tsing Hua University,
Hsinchu, Taiwan



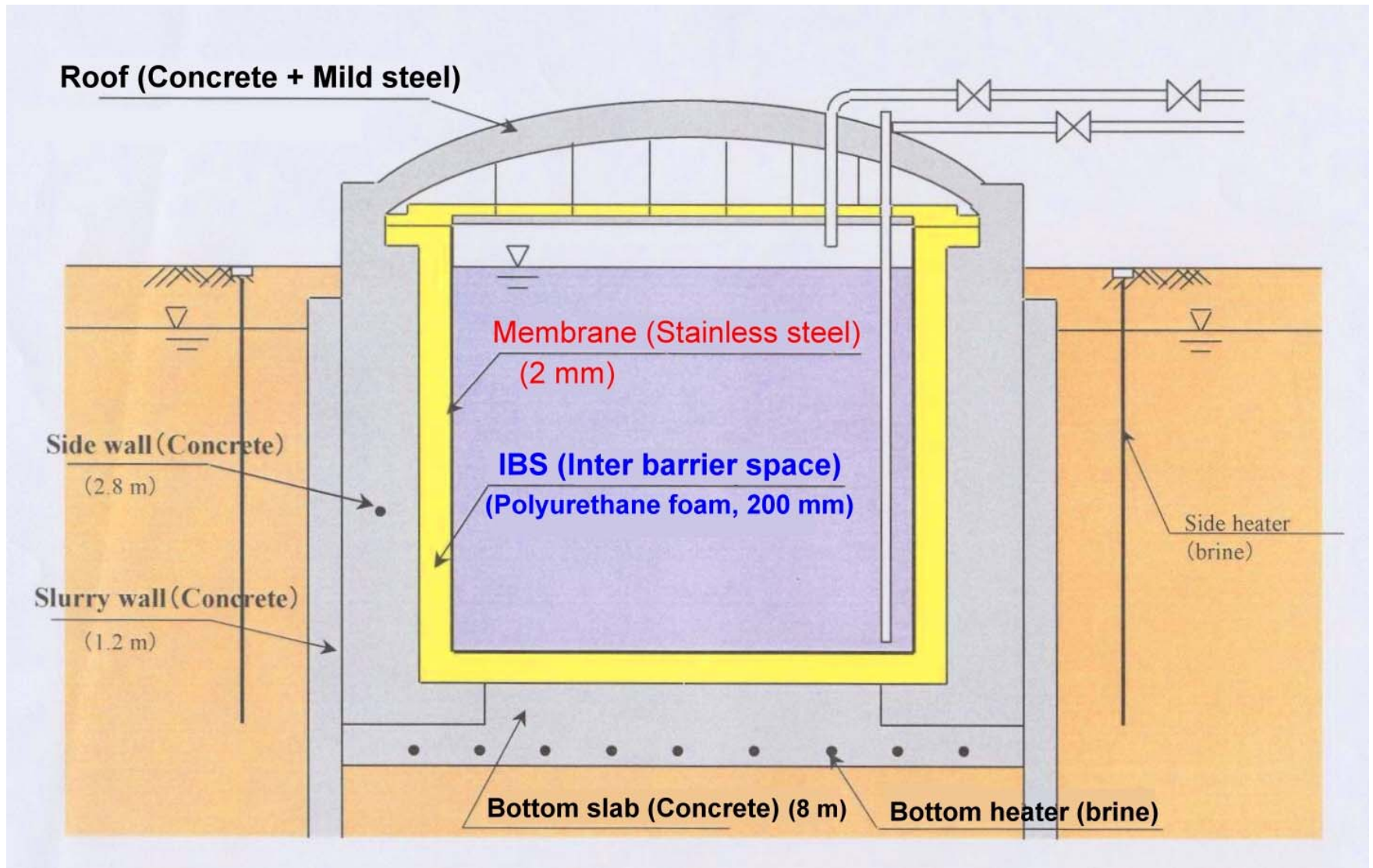
Outline

- 1. Introduction
- 2. Brief Description of INERFT
- 3. Results of Fault Tree Analysis
- 4. Conclusion

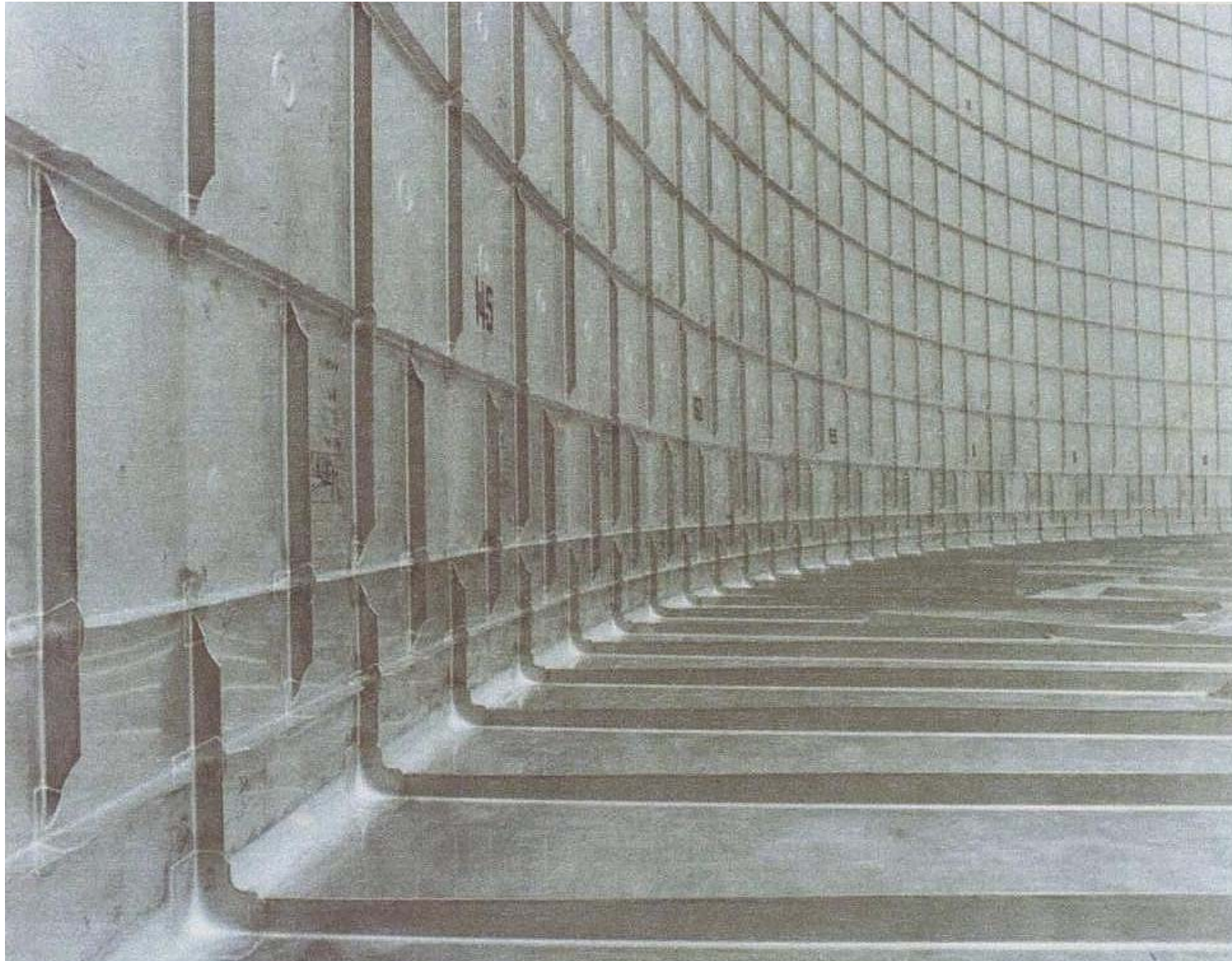
What's the LNG tank?



How does the LNG tank operate?

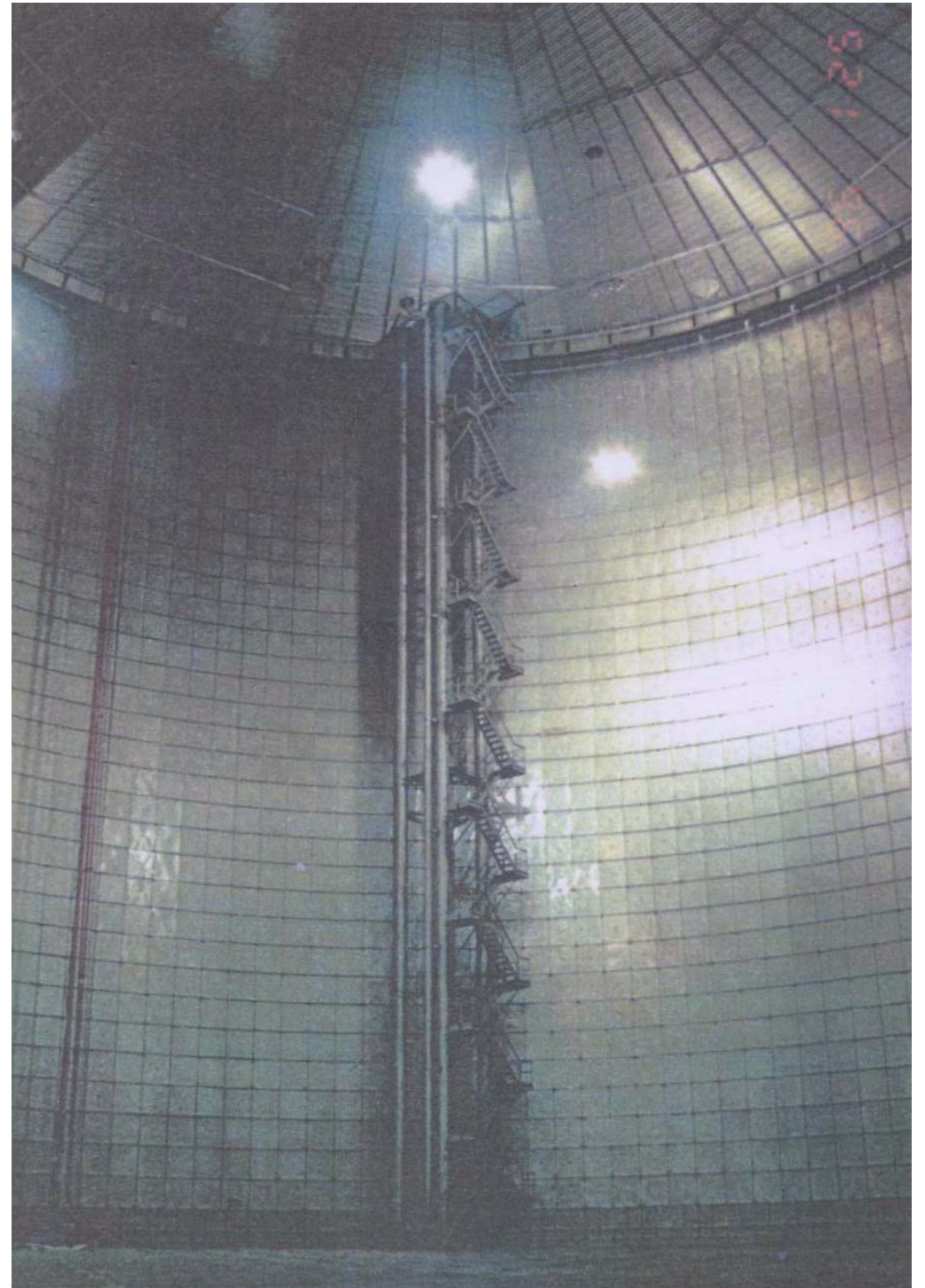


Inside view of LNG storage tank

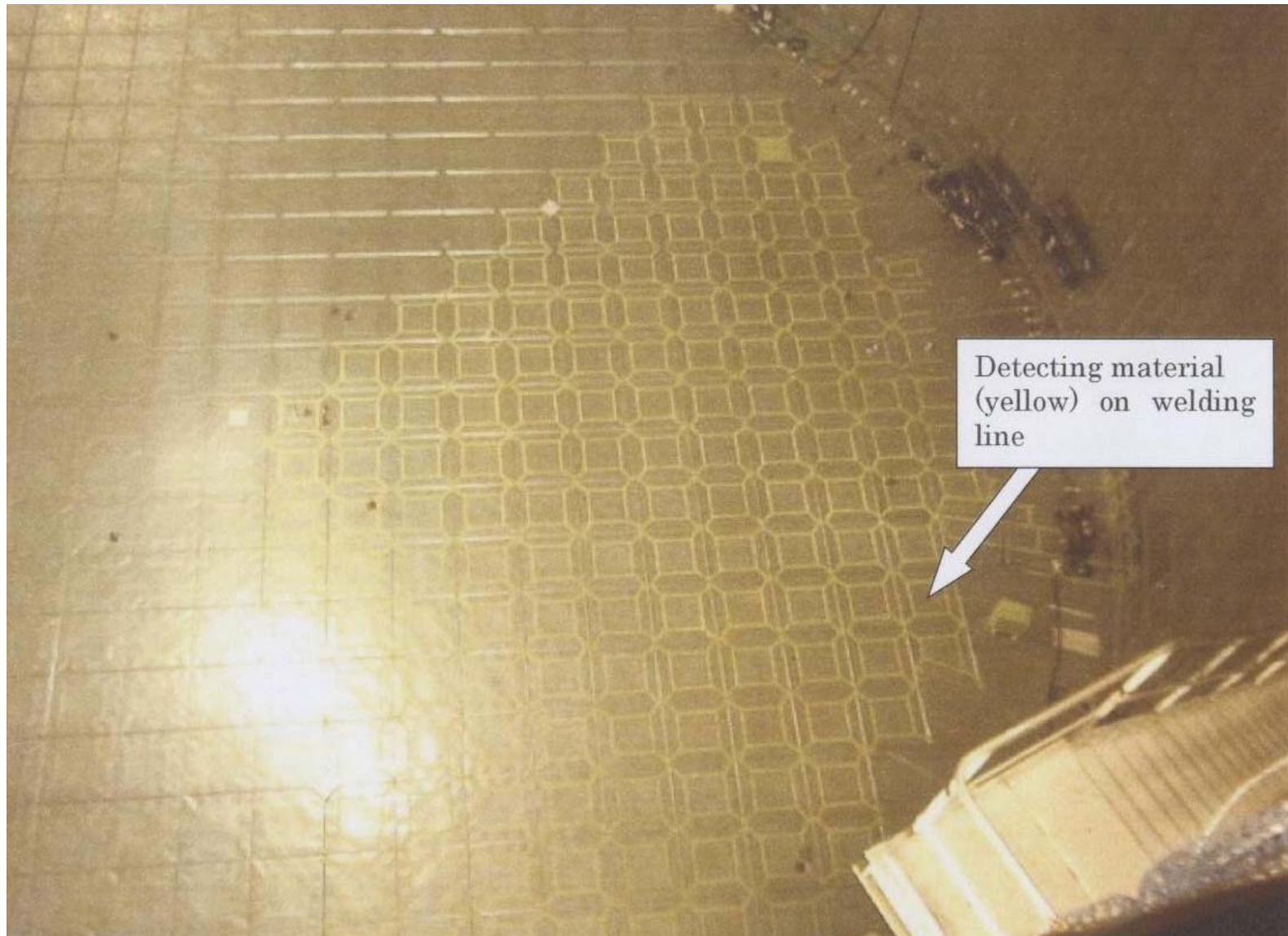




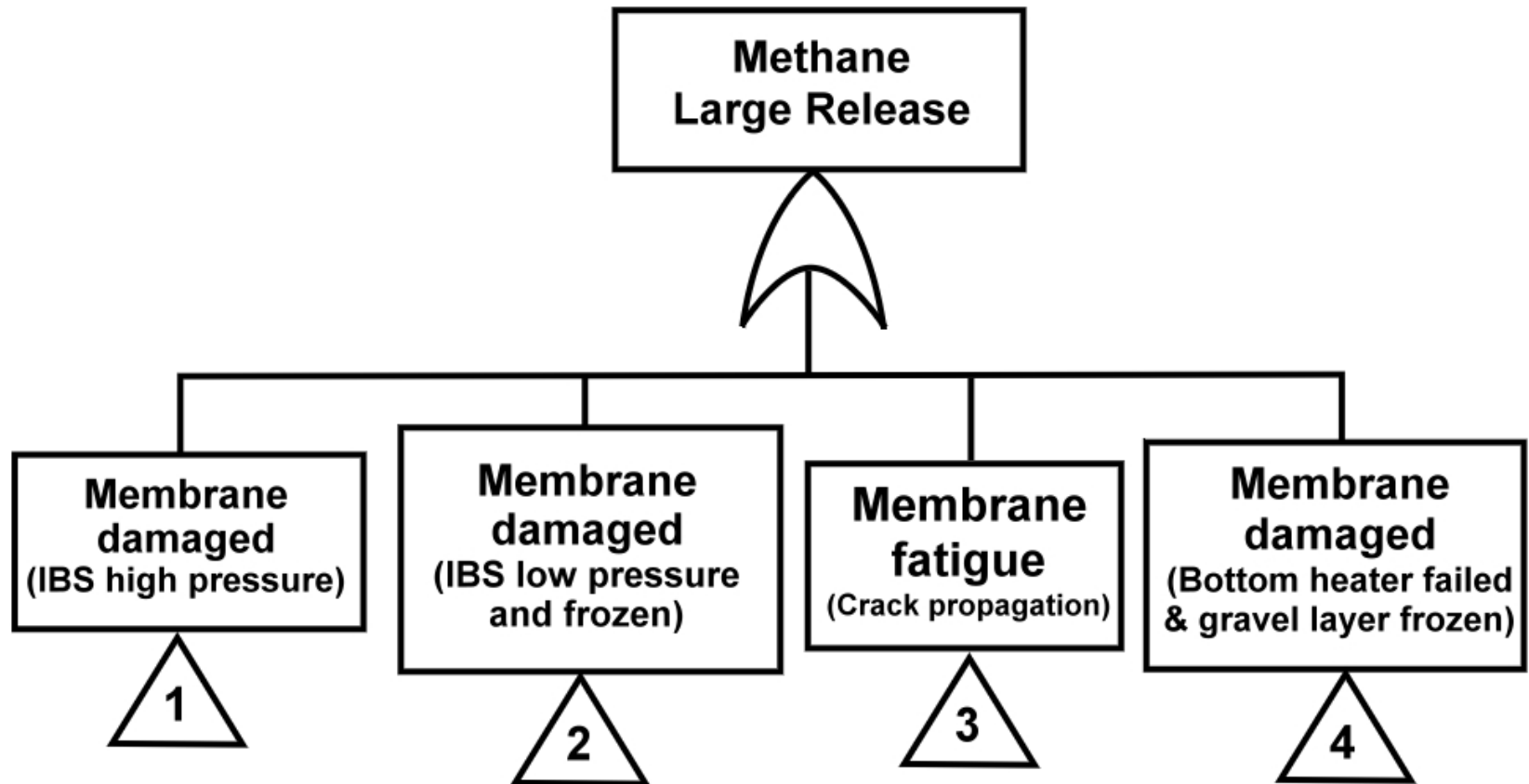
The In-ground LNG Tank



Ammonium test



Where is the risk from?





Quantification Tool

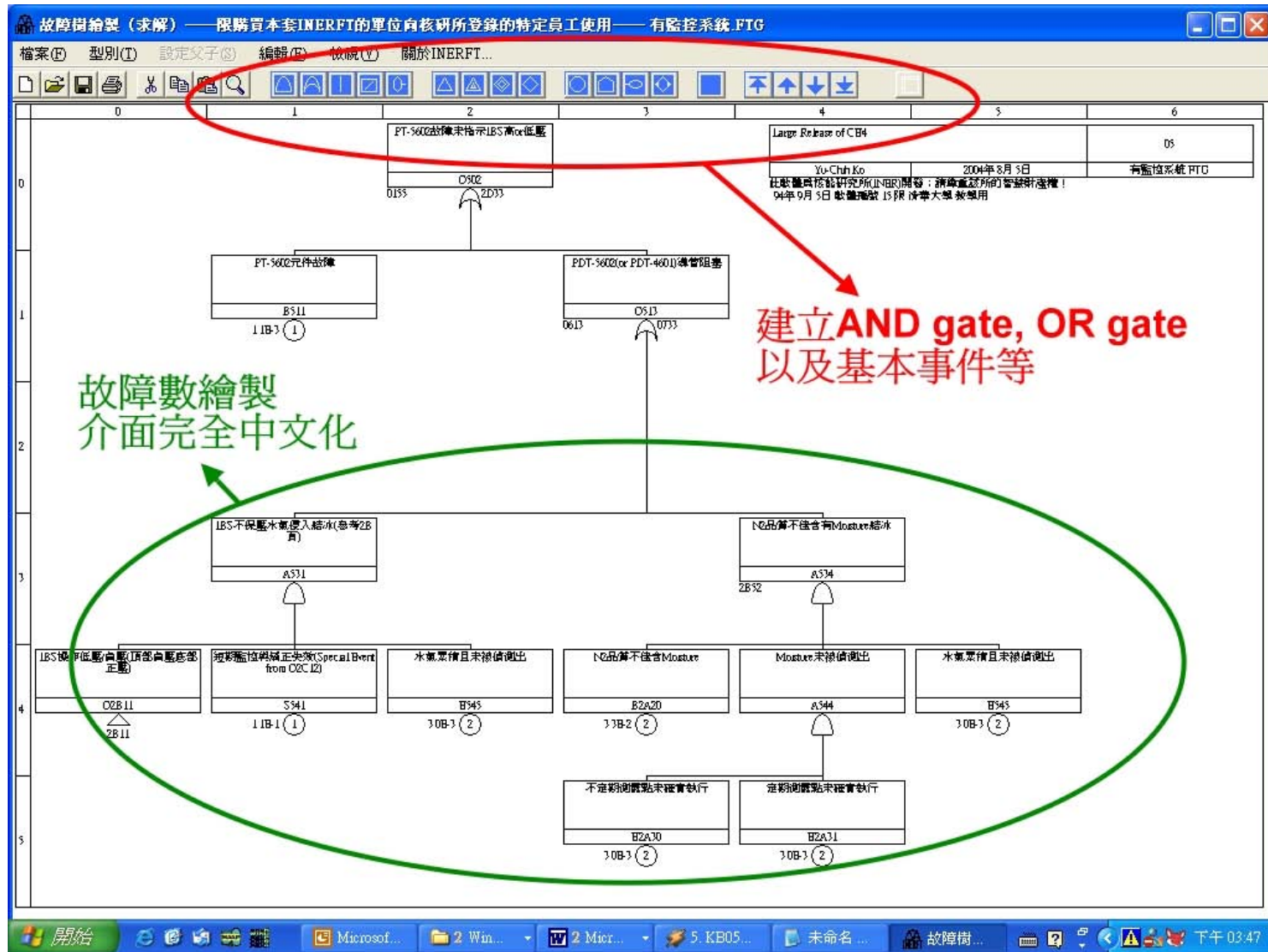
- **INERFT** (by INER, 2003)

=>A useful tool to solve FT and perform importance analysis

=>**Handy**, **Friendly** and **High efficiency**

=>Two versions, **Chinese** & **English**

The INERFT Interface





Minimum Cut Set

- Over 80% of the MCS comes from the second membrane failure mode.
 - Major MCS are related to “Frozen line has not yet been established” .
- ⇒ Membrane Damaged (IBS low pressure with water ingress) is the dominant failure mode.



Importance Ranking

- The most important **human** action

=> Operators fail to notice the accumulation of water vapor in the IBS over a long period of time.

- The most important **non-human** action

=> Frozen line has not yet been established.



Strategy

- “Frozen line has not yet been established” is a special event and has a given conservative probability of 1.0.
=>It is a **physical phenomenon** during the operation of in-ground storage tank.
- =>Try to improve the human action by **additional training** and **adding parallel devices**



Sensitivity Studies

- Method 1. Adding a parallel pressure transmitter to reduce the signal error
=>reduce the probability of random signal error
- Method 2. Implementing an additional training for operators
=>improve the human action error when IBS low pressure occurs. (reduced by an order)

Results

	Top Event Probability	Decrease ratio
Base Case	3.04E-06	-----
Method 1	2.25E-06	-25.0 %
Method 2	8.08E-07	-73.1 %
Both 1 & 2	6.63E-07	-77.9 %



Conclusion

- It can be expected that the risk of the in-ground tank will be lower after the frozen line is established.
 - **Decision making** – an **economic** and **effective** way to reduce the risk
- => "Implementing an additional training for operators" maybe a good choice



Thank you for your attention!