

Quo Vadis Nuclear Reactor Physics in Korea

KAIST

The logo for KAIST (Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology) features the word "KAIST" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. Below the text is a horizontal blue oval shape that tapers at both ends, serving as a decorative underline.

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Recalling Reactor Physicists



溫故知新



Nuclear Policy in Korea

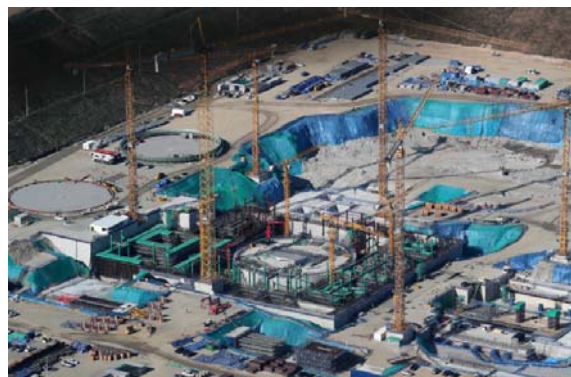
脫核



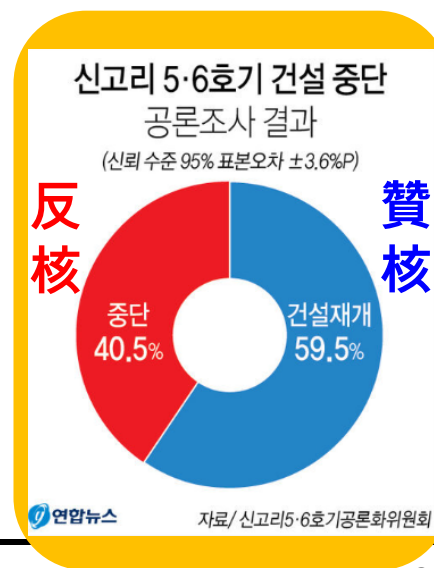
反核



脫脫核 = 贊核



公論調查
Deliberative
Public Poll



Nuclear Policy in Korea



原電輸出
NUCLEAR
EXPORT
?
By AntiNuC



Signature Collection Campaign
Pro-Nuclear from > 60% Public

Reactor Physics Departments

Hanyang University

Seoul National University

Kyunghee University

Chosun University

KAIST

Jeju University

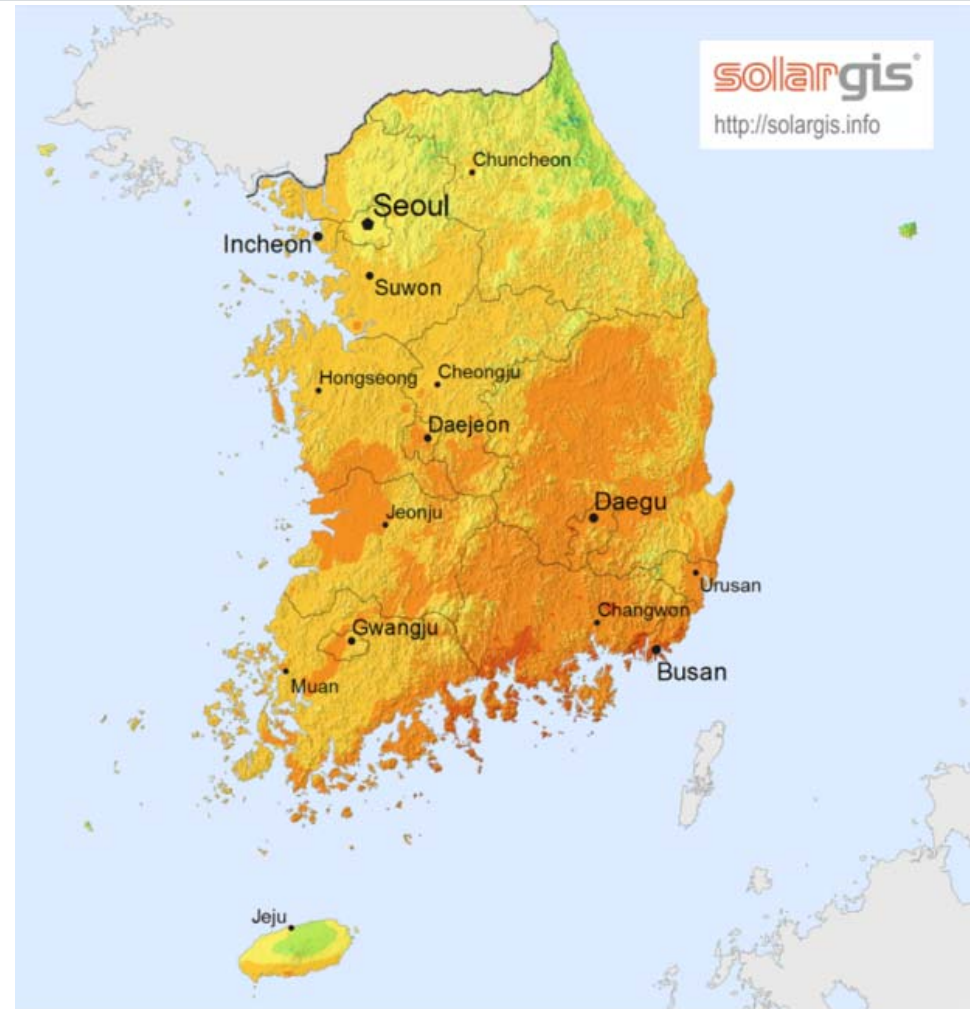
Joongang University

Ulsan National Institute of S&T

Sejong University

Pusan University

A few more 'small' programs



No. of Members = ~386, as of May 2019

Major National R&D Activities

SFR-Pyro: largely reduced budget and possibly earlier termination in 2020

SMART development with Saudi Arabia: in sha Allah

D&D (Decommissioning and Decontamination): new focus

MMR (Micro Modular Reactor) for special purposes: new focus

iPOWER: very slow progress

Accident Tolerant Fuel (ATF): current focus

Safety and Severe Accident Managements: current focus

Autonomous SMR

Nuclear-Renewable hybrid or synergy

High-fidelity reactor analysis methods

LFR (Lead-cooled Fast Reactor) & MSR

:

Methodology Developments

- **Monte Carlo codes**
 - McCARD, MCS, iMC (McBOX)
 - Time-dependent MC methods
- **Deterministic methods**
 - Whole-core transport methods
 - Corrected diffusion **nodal** or **pinwise** approaches
- **Hybrid Method**
 - MC-deterministic two-step methods
- **Multi-physics Methods**
 - Neutronics-TH-Fuel coupling
- **Uncertainty Analysis**
- **Nuclear Data Library**
 - :
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Nowadays
Sufficiently high-fidelity method
for the conceptual innovations

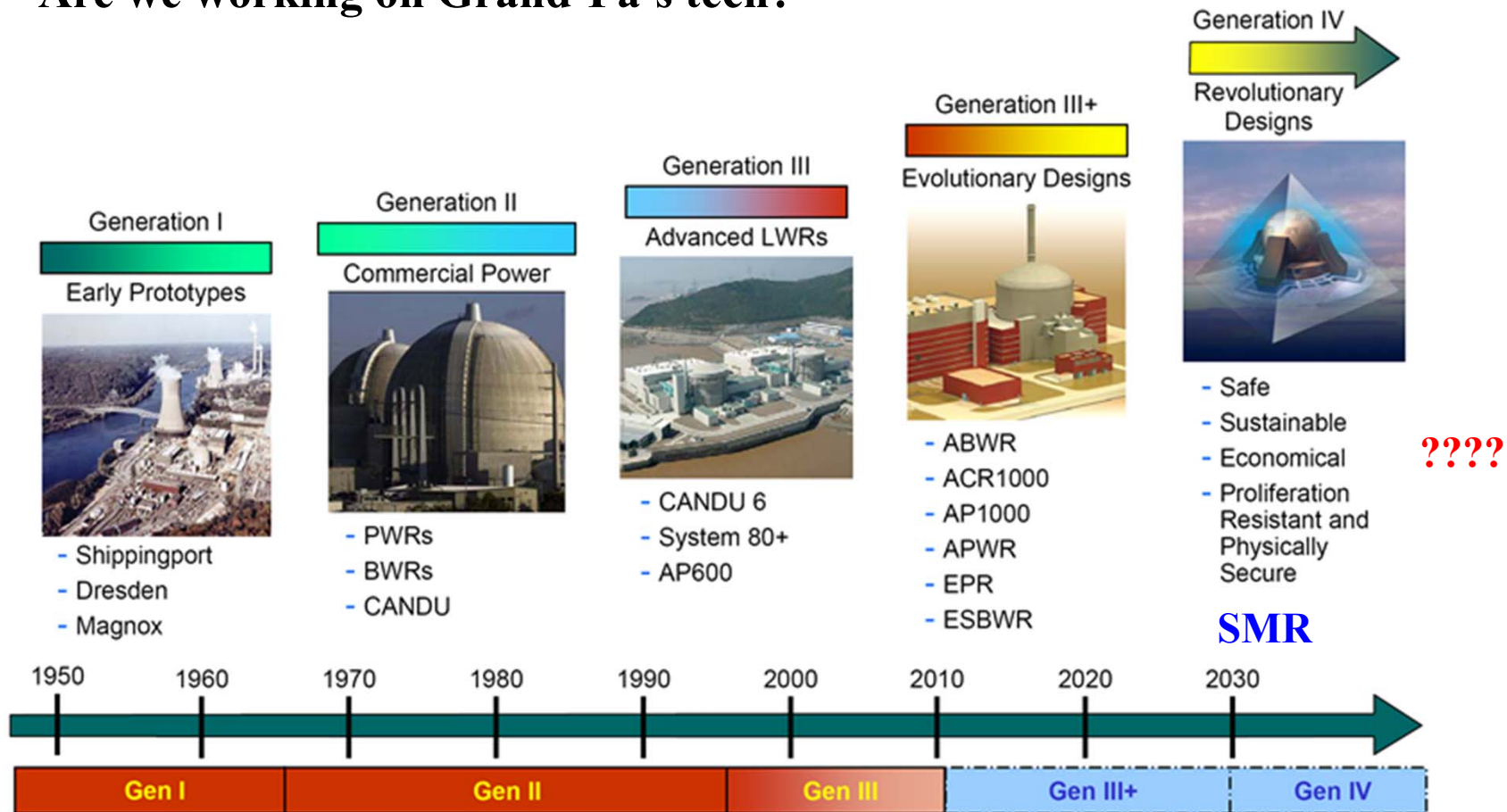
50's-60's
Creative minds
Genius brains with rulers

Monte Carlo in 50's

Evolution of NPPs

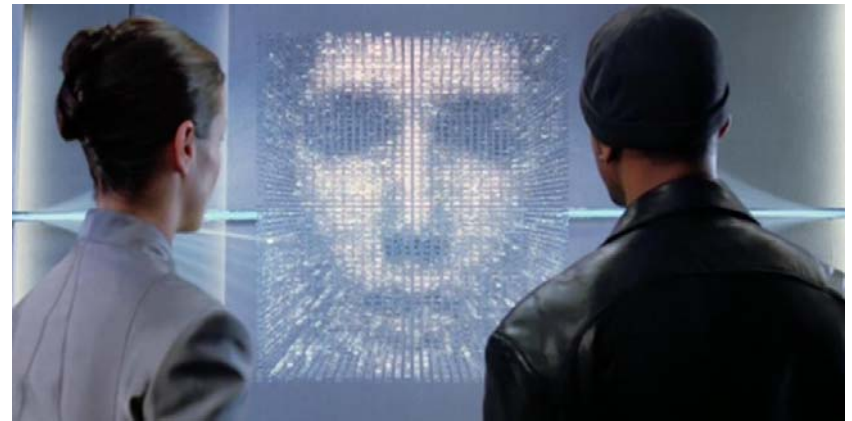
- We are mostly rekindling the old ‘good’ ideas of 50’s-60’s!
- Innovation is impossible without ‘innovative’ reactor physicists!

Are we working on Grand-Fa’s tech?



Future Artificial Intelligence

- Super AI with Super Computer?
- Transport and Diffusion Solutions by AI?
- Reactor Design & Analysis by AIs?
- Loading Pattern by AI?
- NPP Operation by AI?



VIKI in "I-Robot"

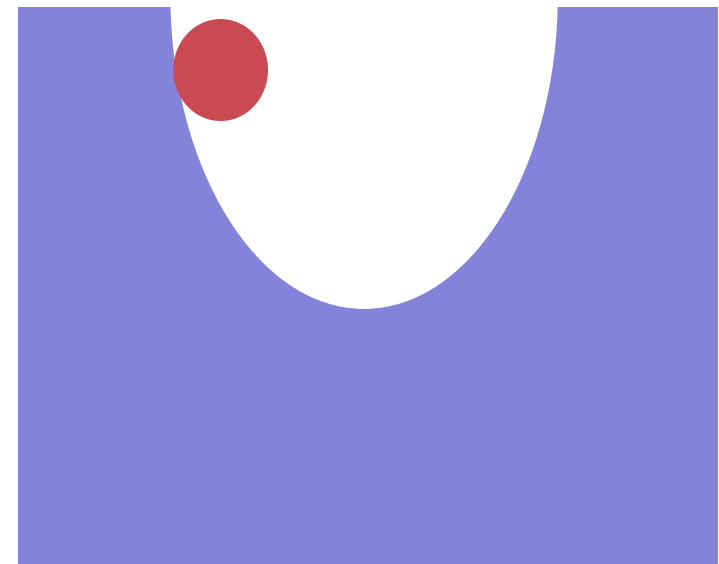
JARVIS in "Iron man"



Naturally Uncertain Reactor Design

- **Stochastic natures of the cross sections** → **Naturally uncertain neutronics**
- In addition, bigger uncertainties in the thermo-mechanical modellings of the nuclear reactors results in more uncertain coupled neutronics results.
- Nevertheless, **a lot of uncertainties are allowable due to the self-controllable nuclear reactor via the negative feedbacks.**
- One **big contributions** of the reactor physics to the ‘viable’ nuclear engineering

→ **FOM (Figure Of Merit) of method**



Happy & Wonderful New Year!

Thank you !