

IPA



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Accelerator Driven Systems —— A Solution to Multiple Problems of Society

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- Climate change: humanity's greatest challenge
- Problems of existing nuclear energy
- Why ADS is a solution to nuclear energy
- Challenges facing accelerator for ADS
- Project plan of CiADS
- Conclusion







Climate change: humanity's greatest challenge

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Threat of Climate Change



- Since the 1850s, human activities have caused climate change unprecedented in recorded history
- Last decade is the warmest in the last 100,000 years.
- Global temperature rise is speeding up.

Changes in global surface temperature relative to 1850-1900



 $https://report.ipcc.ch/ar6/wg1/IPCC_AR6_WGI_FullReport.pdf$

□ Main impacts of global warming

- Global retreat of glaciers, permafrost thaw, sea level rise (global mean sea level increased by 0.2 m between 1901 and 2018)
- More extreme weather events (heatwaves, heavy precipitation, droughts, and tropical cyclones)
- Ocean acidification and deoxygenation
- Desertification and land degradation, reduced food security and water security...



https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/syr/downloads/report/IPCC_AR6_SYR_LongerReport.pdf

Carbon Neutrality and Nuclear Energy



"Holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels."

— The Paris Agreement

Shares of nuclear and renewable energy in the electricity generation mix and corresponding climate warming across IPCC AR6 scenarios.

Greenhouse gas emissions from electricity generation technologies.



https://www.iaea.org/topics/nuclear-power-and-climate-change/climate-change-and-nuclear-power-2022

- To achieve carbon neutrality in the coming decades, a key to avoiding global warming of more than 1.5°C, investment in the energy sector must be scaled up and directed towards cleaner and more sustainable technologies that support climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- With one of the lowest carbon footprints, 24/7 availability and the ability to operate flexibly, nuclear power can make an important contribution to the stability and security of a fully decarbonized power system and act as a good complement to renewable energy sources.



Public Opinion Wary of Nuclear Energy



Public attention on nuclear safety and nuclear waste from Google Trends





 Public worries about nuclear safety and nuclear waste caused a wave of anti-nuclear attitudes

Nuclear energy policies of some countries:

- Germany: have abandoned completely
- Italy: have abandoned completely
- Switzerland: to withdraw on a step by step basis by 2050
 - Belgium: phasing out nuclear energy by 2035



Anti-nuclear movement supporters gather to celebrate the shuttering of Germany's last three nuclear power plants on April 15, 2023 in Munich, Germany. ——Johannes Simon | Getty Images News



Nuclear Power Making a Comeback



□ Nuclear power is gaining support after years of decline:

- 52 more reactors under construction, 2/3 in Asia.
- ~30 new countries are looking at nuclear energy to meet their power and climate needs.



□ Nuclear power is coming back in many countries:

- 1. Japan: Under the new policy, Japan will restart as many existing reactors as possible and prolong the operating life beyond a 60-year limit.
- 2. Belgium: On 18 March 2022, the federal government decided to extend the operational life of the two youngest nuclear power reactors by ten years until 2035.

3. ...







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Problems Facing Nuclear Energy Today



- 450 nuclear reactors operating in 30 countries
- >10% of global electricity, 1/3 of low-carbon electricity
- ~700 reactors (commercial, experimental, prototype or research reactors) have been retired from operation, only 25 of them have been fully dismantled.



Regional Distribution of Nuclear Power Plants

 The accidents at Three Mile Island, Chernobyl, and Fukushima have profound impacts on the development of nuclear power.



Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant is seen on March 17,2022. —— Shohei Miyano/Kyodo News

The aftermath of two Level 7 nuclear disasters: the public is deeply concerned about nuclear plant safety and radioactive contamination





- Current technology: 8 tons of natural uranium -> 1 ton of nuclear fuel -> only 50 kg is burnt up into fission products
 - Reusable fuel (950kg) + depleted uranium (7 tons) has huge untapped potential for energy production that cannot be extracted by a thermal nuclear reactor
- Reusable fuel contains a large amount of unused uranium and transuranium elements generated in the reactor via neutron capture, such as plutonium, neptunium, americium, and curium
- > Long-life, high-toxicity transuranium elements pose long-term harm to human environment



	Isotopes	Half-life (Years)	DOSE (Sv)	Isotopes	Half-life (Years)	DOSE (Sv)
	²³⁵ U	7.03×10 ⁸	5.2×10 ¹	^{242m} Am	152	5.4×10 ⁵
	²³⁸ U	4.46×10 ⁹	1.2×10 ³	²⁴³ Am	7380	1.3×10 ⁶
Ī	²³⁸ Pu	87.7	1.5×10 ⁸	²⁴² Cm	0.446	2.8×10 ⁴
	²³⁹ Pu	24110	7.1×10 ⁶	²⁴³ Cm	28.5	5.8×10⁵
	²⁴⁰ Pu	550	1.1×10 ⁷	²⁴⁴ Cm	18.1	6.3×10 ⁷
	²⁴¹ Pu	14.4	3.0×10 ⁷	²⁴⁵ Cm	8500	2.7×10 ⁴
	²⁴² Pu	3.7×10⁵	8.9×10 ⁴	⁹⁹ Tc	2.1×10⁵	1.1×10 ³
	²³⁷ Np	2.14×10 ⁶	7.3×10 ³	129	1.57×10 ⁷	5.9×10 ²
	²⁴¹ Am	432.6	7.9×10 ⁷	¹³⁵ Cs	2.3×10 ⁶	3.9×10 ²



Where is the Spent Fuel?



- Spent fuel: reusable fuel + fission products (waste), extremely difficult to partition
- > By the end of 2019, there were ~433,000 tons of spent fuel unloaded globally, with an average
 - of ~11,300 tons of spent fuel unloaded annually from nuclear power plants worldwide.
- > About 80 % of the world's storage is located in the United States and Western Europe.
- By 2035, UxC estimates that spent fuel emissions will be close to 618,000 tons and stockpiles will be close to 450,000 tons.









Dry storage

Carlyn Greene, 《Global Spent Fuel Overview》 https://www.powermag.com/dry-cask-storage-booming-for-spent-nuclear-fuel/



Where will the Spent Fuel go?



"Until now, all spent fuels are stored on-site or off-site in engineered storage facilities, pending final decisions on its disposition. No country has a geological repository for spent fuel storage or disposal. Neither have most countries decided on a final decision for spent fuel."

https://www.iaea.org/newscenter/focus/radwaste-management/managing-spent-nuclear-fuel-global-overview



- POSIVIA disposal facility in Finland. 6,500 tons uranium, 450 m underground.
- Expected to begin operation in 2024 and close in 2120.

Pauliina Aalto, IAEA Radioactive Waste Management Conference, 2021

- Forsmark disposal facility in Sweden. 500 m underground.
- Construction started in 2022.

SKB company website

- Yucca Mountain in Nevada state of USA, 500~800 m underground, planned to dump 70 000 t HLW.
- 2500 scientists and 10.5 Billion dollars in 1983~2009.

DOE website

- North Mountain in Gansu province of China, 560 m underground, planned to dump HLW.
- Lab construction started in 2021.

Ju Wang, Liang Chen, IAEA RWM Conf, 2021



Geological Disposal Not Fail-Safe Solution



- □ Site requires: geological stability for millions of years, low underground water content, small flow,
- Disposal warehouses of disposal systems must stay safe over hundreds of thousands of years or even longer time scales.
- The high radiation waste container must remain intact for a hundred thousand years and maintain stability at high temperatures (decay heat).



Hundreds of thousands of years





Source: Presentation "National strategy and roadmap for geological disposal in Finland" for Stimson site visit, STUK, 2018.





Uranium resource utilization efficiency as a function of consumed natural uranium "mass-in"

Current nuclear energy technology is still primitive: only a small proportion of fuel is utilized ~ 1% Large emerged for the properties of potentially upoful pupeleer

- large amounts of potentially useful nuclear resources left behind
- spent fuel (unused resources and FP wastes) pose environmental hazards
- direct geological disposal of spent fuel carry unknown risks for hundreds of thousands of years



Samuel Bays Steven Piet, The Effect of Burnup and Separation Efficiency on Uranium Utilization and Radiotoxicity







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Neutron capture (n, γ)

Fission (n, f)

Decay (α, β)



Fuel burning

Under irradiation by high-flux neutrons in the reactor, fuel nuclides are converted into various transuranic nuclides through neutron reaction and decay. After long-term irradiation, the final spent fuel will contain hundreds of radioactive nuclides.

- Fission of nuclear fuel is the main reaction process that maintains reactor operation \geq
- Neutron capture and decay are important ways of transition between nuclides \geq
- In fact, there are hundreds of reaction channels between neutrons and fuel nuclide \geq





Transuranium elements in geologically buried spent fuel can only be converted into stable nuclides such as lead or bismuth through a long decay chain

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- Actinide elements have a half-life of several hundred to ten thousand years and a natural degradation cycle of over a million years
- The decay of actinide elements continues to release alpha particles and gamma rays, causing long-term harm to the ecological environment





Incinerator: Spent Fuel Undergoes Fission

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Actinides in spent fuel can be efficiently and effectively utilized through fission, ultimately being converted into fission fragments.

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- Fission fragments, whose half-life and toxicity are much smaller than those of transuranium elements, can be rapidly degraded.
- The concentrated combustion of transuranium elements in the reactor can fully utilize the fission production capacity, and the reusable fuel will be to completely incinerated on the scale of ten years



Accelerator Driven Systems - A Solution to Multiple Problems of Society, Yuan He, IPAC2023, Venice

10⁷ 10⁶ 10⁵

10⁵ 10⁴ 10³

 10^{2}



Merits of Fast Neutron Reactors



- □ Fast neutrons ideal for burning transuranium elements
 - Larger fission cross section
 - Produces more neutrons per reaction
- Capture to fission ratio of MAs
 - High in thermal neutron reactors, impossible to realize net reduction of MAs
 - Much lower for fast neutrons, net reduction of MAs easily









How to maintain a reactor under critical neutron balance:

$$W_R = W_0 \exp\left(\frac{K_{\text{eff}} - 1}{l}t\right) \qquad l = l_p + \sum_{i=1}^6 \beta_i t_i$$

Two types of neutrons: prompt and delayed Too many prompt neutrons: reactor can go supercritical very quickly Delayed neutrons keep reactors safe by maintaining stability

As proportion of MAs increases

- Sodium void effect intensifies, leading to large increase in reactivity
- Reduction in delayed neutrons, making the reactor less stable
- Decrease in magnitude of negative temperature coefficient, smaller
 negative feedback to keep the reactor stable

MAs incineration rate should be at least less than 2.5% in fast reactors (even 2.5% is considered very risky)

Fast reactor is still not a solution to complete utilization of nuclear fuel or the minimization of radioactive waste *Relative* *l*: mean neutron lifetime l_p : prompt neutron lifetime β_i : i-group delayed neutron proportion t_i : i-group delayed neutron lifetime



Relative variations of core parameters as a function of the MAs' fraction in the fuel

Van den Eynde, G. ARCAS, ADS and Fast Reactor comparison Study in Support of Strategic Research Agenda of SNETP



ADS consists of accelerators, spallation targets, subcritical reactors, and energy production systems.

The subcritical reactor is driven by a high energy proton accelerator, works like an energy amplifier.

How does ADS work safely







Great flexibility with respect to fuel composition

For a subcritical reactor $K_{eff} < 0.98$, prompt neutrons have no influence on the safety control of the reactor. This means that the reactor can accommodate arbitrary fuel with large minor actinide concentrations, natural uranium, thorium and even fission fragments.

Potentially enhanced safety

The enhanced safety of ADS is due to the fact that once the accelerator is turned off, the system will shut down. The high tolerance level of ADS with respect to the fuel's neutronic properties should make them excellent tools to study new reactor concepts by relaxing many safety conditions.

For example, an accelerator can feed different subcritical systems like molten salt, gas or lead cooled reactors. Such prototypes could allow studies of corrosion, radiation defects and fuel evolution in realistic conditions with less stringent criticality control-related constraints.



Evolution of ADS







Evolution of ADS









Nuclear System with an Ideal Fuel-Cycle



Accelerator Driven Advanced Nuclear Energy System

- Renewable fuel ——Partially removes fission fragments
 from spent fuel
- Robust fuel (PUMA=Pu+U+MA): fine separation of uranium, plutonium, and minor actinides not required
- Advanced burner—External neutron driven subcritical reactor
- Breeding, transmutation and energy production integrated using PUMA



Energy production



Environment-friendly innovative closed fuel cycle

- Natural resources preservation
- Burn the spent fuel storage from current reactors
- Fully utilize nuclear energy resources > 95%
- Waste minimization < 400 years







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Challenges of ADS





- > High power (tens of MW) accelerator
 - CW beam 10-30mA, Energy: 0.8-2GeV
 - High availability
- > High power (tens of MW) target
 - ≽ ≥40 dpa target window
 - ≽ ≥10-20MW heat removal
- Subcritical reactor
 - Fast neutron reactor
 - ➤ Lifetime ≥ 40 y
- > Accelerator-reactor coupling
 - Spent fuel partitioning
 - Radiation-hard and corrosion-resistant materials





For an industrial scale ADS, CW beam current should be \geq 10 mA.



I_{ave}=1.4 mA

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Spallation Neutron Source Ramping power to 1.4 MW from 2008 to 2021

A. Aleksandrov, Warm and cold SNS LINAC commissioning, ARIES workshop, Jan 25 - 29, 2021

10 mA CW proton beam was realized at CAFe in 2021

Zhijun Wang' talk, This Conf, WEOGB2

10 mA CW proton beam has been achieved in sc-linac firstly in the world

For an industrial scale ADS, beam trip requirements are strict and time related.

Beam trip requirements compared to existing high power proton accelerators high depend on the type of reactor

Industrial Scale Beam Trip Remarks Transmutation duration (s) (num/vear) Target window T<1sec <25000 lifetime Fatigue failure of 1sec<T<10sec <2500 fuel cladding Fatigue failure of 10sec<T<5min inner barrel and <2500 reactor vessel T>5 min <50 System availability **Availability** >80%

Beam trip requirements of industrial scale ADS

H. Aït Abderrahim et al, Accelerator and Target Technology for Accelerator Driven Transmutation and Energy Production. 2010. https://doi.org/10.2172/1847382

What features should an ADS-oriented SC linac have?

- Overall system design ----- disturbance isolation : shut down the machine less than two times per year
 - Each cavity or solenoid quench is isolated from any other, the cooling system or structure will not propagate the disturbance. This means individual independence – no body is VIP.
- Beam line elements failure ----- fault compensation : beam recovery in seconds
 - When any one cavity or solenoid fails, the lattice can be compensated by other elements, beam status will recover in 3 seconds
- Subsystem hardware failure ------ fast recovery : beam recovery in milli-seconds
 - Arc, phase jitter, field fluctuation, and so on, will be overcome by fast recovery scheme in less than tens of milli-seconds

Philosophy of hardware design for an ADS-oriented linac

- Modularization
 - Topology of high power components: multi-module in parallel, easy to plug and pull
- Redundancy
 - A redundancy of at least one module or pellet supports hot-swap without loss of function
 - Spare capacity for compensation
- High power efficiency
 - Balance the power efficiency and redundancy
- Edge intelligence
 - Components' functionality are efficiently monitored, recorded and repaired
- Cloud brain
 - AI strategy based on the feedback from all diagnostics (positions, profiles, losses, ...)
 - Automated commissioning and beam tuning

High Reliability Design of SSAMP

Design goal: 24*365 non-stop, maintenance-free operation

- Reliability: simplified structure, segregation between electrical and cooling elements, fixed connections
- Availability: modular hot swap, redundancy via spares
- Maintainability: parts can be replaced online
- Inspectability: smart front end, edge computing
- Expandability: flexible composite, readily upgradable

Standardized solid state power system

- Standardized structures : diagnostics, RF, composite, power supply, electrical equipment, cooling, monitoring
- RF module: 81.25MHz, 162.5MHz, 325MHz, 650MHz series unified
- Power supply module: fixed voltage versions
- Diagnostics module: standardized digital control units

Hot-swap Test

-for hot-swap, we measured a 6-ways combiner with a RT-cavity.
-for fluctuations of 0.63dB and 4.2°, LLRF can recovery in 100ms.
-more technologies for hot-swap are under development.

High Power GaN AMP in Series

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Propose hybrid fault-compensation for low energy and high energy section

Auto recovery scenario and technique for CW beam are developed

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CW beam recovered by MPS and Timing system

- If Fault is a "Fast Recovered", only the trigger signals of chopper and FF are stopped. Accelerator is auto-recovered.
- If Fault is a "Failure", both the trigger signals and chopper are stopped. Accelerator waits for 5 second for next beam shot.
- If Fault is an "Emergency", the trigger signals, LEBT FC, chopper are stopped.

Auto Recovery Validated at CAFe

10 s beam automatic recovery logistics

Beam current record for 108 hours operation

Beam Energy	17.27±0.03 MeV	
Beam Current	7.30±0.02 mA	
Beam Power	126.0 kW	
Planed Operation Time	108 hours	
Beam Availability	93.6%	
SRF Availability	98.0%	
MTBF	135 min	
MTTF	9.3 min	

• 78% of trips are auto-recovered

• 3 long trips:

- Mechanical pump before DUMP failed and replaced
- Timing system failed
- LLRF chassis failed

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CiADS Project

The world's first MW-level ADS prototype

- Beam Energy: 500 MeV (upgrade to 2.0 GeV)
- Beam Current: 5 mA (upgrade to 10 mA)
- Total Power: <10 MW</p>
- Operation Mode: Pulse & CW (gaps for reactor monitor)

1st stage; accelerator bldg; 2022~2023

2nd stage; reactor and exp[®] bldg; 2023-2024

- T1: ADS Terminal, 10MW reactor, K_{eff} 0.75~0.96;
- T2: High power Target experimental Facility;
- T3: µ experimental Facility;
- T4: Multifunctional Irradiation Research Station;
- T5: Nuclear Data Experimental Terminal
- T6: ISOL for upgrade

Subcritical Fast Reactor

	Top level spec.
type	LBE sub- FR
Power	10MWt (incl. beam)
fuel	UO ₂ (19.75%)
K _{eff}	0.75~0.96
Main coolant Configuration	Pool-loop
Main coolant driven mode	Forced circulation
Coolant	LBE
Main coolant pressure	Normal
Main coolant temp	280-380°C
Main heat exchanger	Main exchanger × 4
Main pump	Mechanical pump × 2
Secondary Loop coolant	LBE
Secondary Loop pressure	Normal
Secondary Loop Temp	220-230℃

Roadmap for High Power Spallation Target

Realizing the world's first high-power spallation target coupled with the reactor, achieving acceptance indicators.

- > System equipment reliability and target thermal hydraulic testing.
- Accelerator-target coupling technologies (beam scanning, collimating...)
- ➤ Validation of target window

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The challenges of CiADS spallation target:

- Reactor embedded installation, no beam window, liquid metal cooling, length > 6m, diameter < 0.5m, beam power ~2.5MW
- A 2.5 MW liquid lead-bismuth target operating in real reactor

environment carries high technical risks

Reference prototype: MEGAPIE, beam power~0.8MW (575MeV, 1.4mA), 4 months' operation, continuous operation for 4 hours

Civil Construction of CiADS

CiADS Research Plan (2025 ~ 2030)

Transmutation and Upgrade Plan

- > Upgrade of reactor to 100 MW with all fuel bars inserted
- The feasibility study of ²⁴¹Am and ²³⁷Np transmutation experiment will be carried out.

k	Neutron flux	Total power	²³⁷ Np	²⁴¹ Am
∧ eff	(n/cm²/s)	(MW)	90 d	
0.96	1.15E+15	100	1.57%	2.73%

品品

- The proton linac will upgrade to 1.5 ~ 2
 GeV and 10 mA
- A second reactor of
 600 MW is planned
 to be constructed

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- ADS is a solution to multiple problems of the nuclear energy system. It will also help to resolve climate change by reducing carbon emission.
- ADS is full of challenges. Fortunately, China (CiADS), EU (MYRRHA), India and Japan are firmly taking the first steps.
- CiADS will be constructed within 10 years. It will make the first demonstration of MW ADS to pave the way towards commercial ADS.
- The accelerator community has a duty to advance sustainable energy and sustainable society. ADS gives us an ideal opportunity to engage in this worthwhile pursuit.

 Huan Jia, Xunchao Zhang, Hanjie Cai, Neng Pu, Xiaoqiang Wei, Xiaochong Zhu, Jian Song, Fengfeng Wang, Zhijun Wang, Weiping Dou, Shuhui Liu, Weilong Chen, Youxin Chen, Liepeng Sun, Wenqi Lv, Feng Yang, Yongzhi Jia

Thank you for your attention !