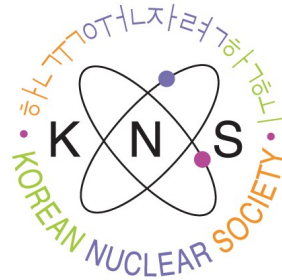


한국원자력학회 2022 추계학술대회 워크숍

창원컨벤션센터, 6층 600A호



# 서울대학교 고신뢰도 원자로 다물리 통합 전산해석 플랫폼 개발 현황

권성준  
서울대학교

2022년 10월 19일



**ENGINEERING**  
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING  
SEOUL NATIONAL UNIVERSITY  
서울대학교 공과대학

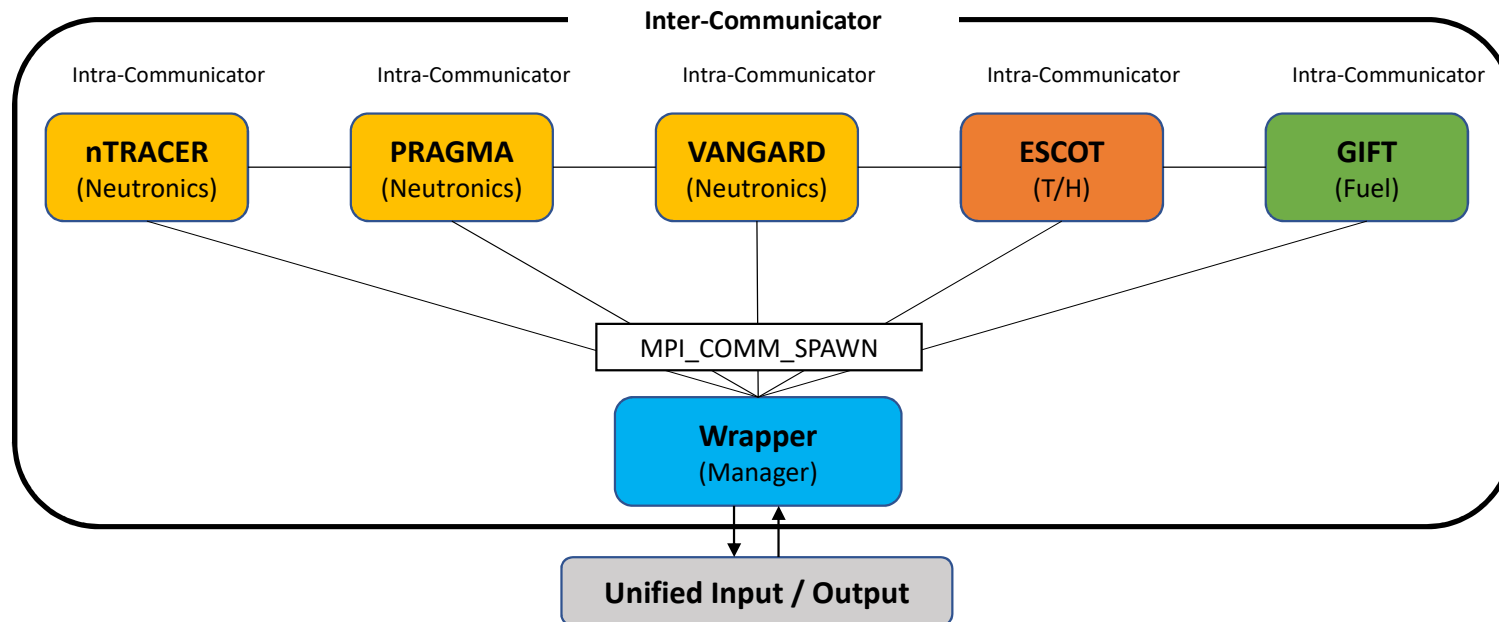


# High-Fidelity Multi-physics Reactor Analysis Platform Project

## ■ 고신뢰도 다물리 원자로 해석용 초고성능 통합 전산플랫폼 구축

Establishment of an Integrated High Performance Computing Platform for High-fidelity Multi-physics Reactor Analyses

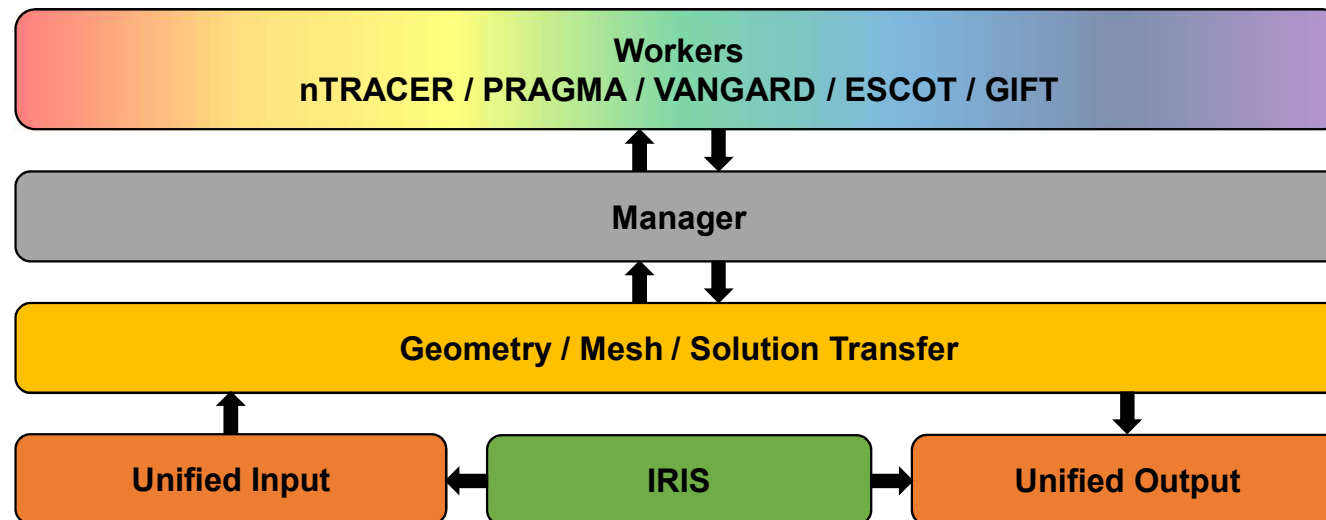
- Project Period : 2021.06 ~ 2023.12
- Development of an extensible multi-physics solution framework optimized for PWR analysis incorporating nTRACER, PRAGMA, VANGARD, ESCOT, and GIFT (with Prof. Youho Lee).
- Coupling of PRAGMA, OpenFOAM, and ANLHTP for heat pipe reactor analysis (with Prof. Hyoung Kyu Cho).





- **IRIS (Innovative Reactor Integrated Simulator)**
  - An **extensible, Python-based code integration framework** for multi-physics reactor simulation for PWR analysis.
    - Focus on steady state non-linear multiphysics calculations.
  - Aims to provide flexible **all-to-all coupling** with a **unified IO system**.
  - Employs the **MPI Dynamic Process Management (DPM)** for code coupling.

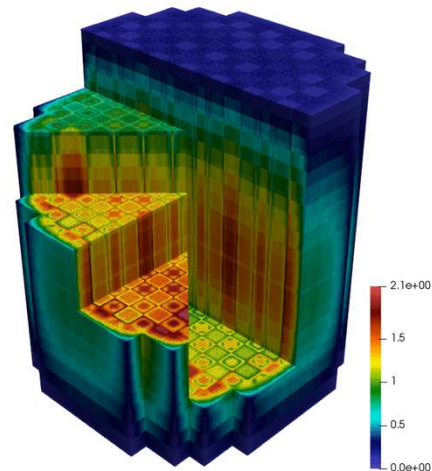
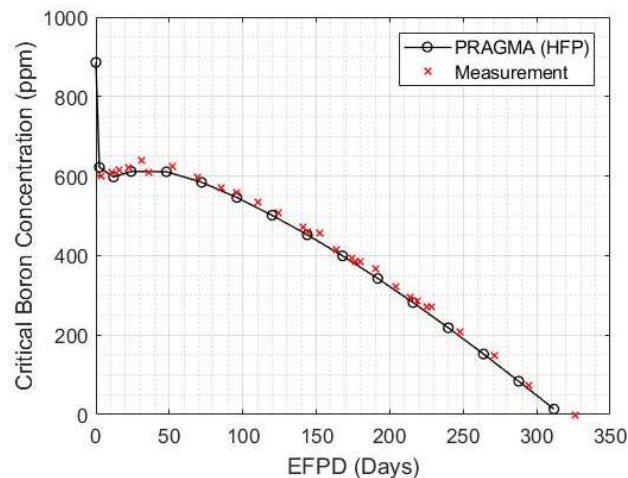
Structure of the IRIS Framework



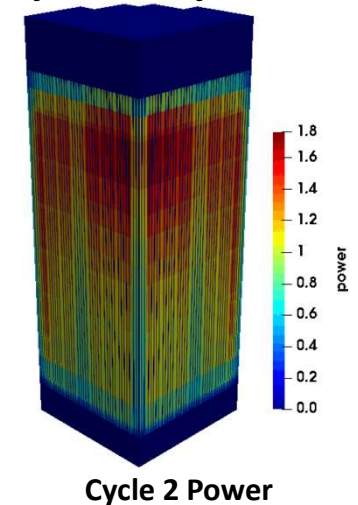
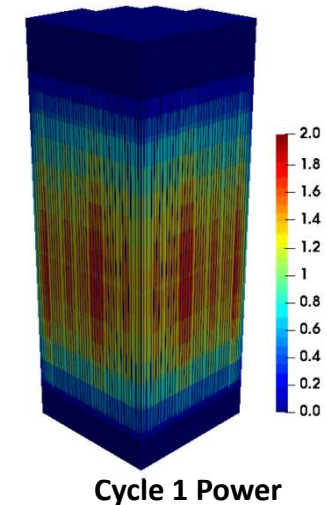


- **Neutronics Calculation Code : nTRACER, PRAGMA and VANGARD**
  - The three different neutronics calculation codes have been developed in SNURPL.
    - nTRACER is a 2D/1D MOC method based on the whole core calculation code.
    - PRAGMA is a GPU-based continuous-energy Monte-Carlo code funded by KHNP.
    - VANGARD is a pinwise nodal core analysis code characterized by GPU acceleration.
  - **Every neutronics calculation code adopts a GPU acceleration** for an efficient calculation.

Whole Core Depletion Calculation with Massive Particles by PRAGMA  
(MIT BEAVRS Benchmark Cycle 1)



Whole Core Depletion Calculation by VANGARD  
(MIT BEAVRS Benchmark Cycle 1 & Cycle 2)

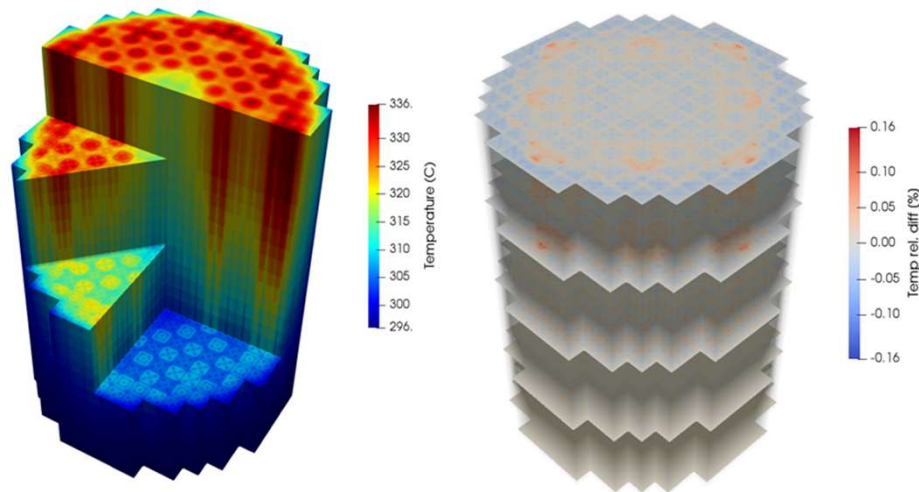




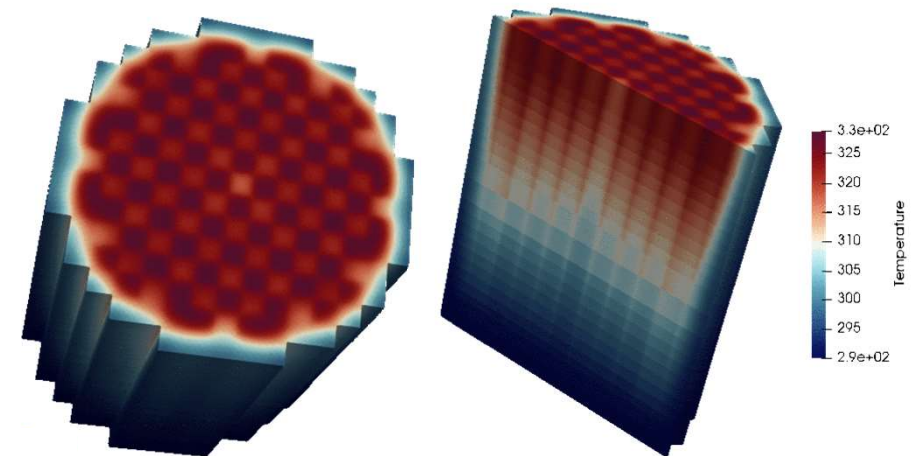
## Thermal-Hydraulics (T/H) Calculation Code : ESCOT

- ESCOT is a pin-level nuclear reactor core T/H code that employs the drift-flux model.
- ESCOT adopted **GPU acceleration and MPI planar and assembly-wise domain decomposition.**

Profile of Temperature and Relative Difference with CTF  
(OPR 1000 Full Core Problem)



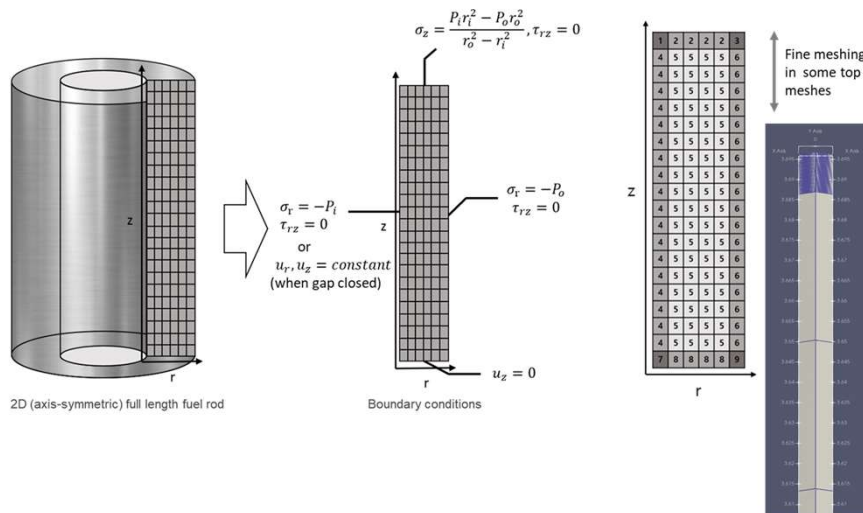
MSLB Analysis by ESCOT  
(OECD/NEA PWR MSLB Benchmark Phase II)



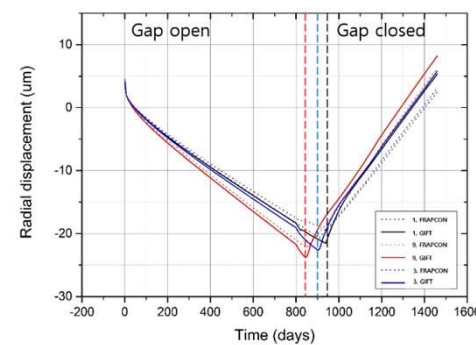
## Fuel Performance Calculation Code : GIFT

- Generalizable Integrated Fuel life Tracker (GIFT) is an integral fuel performance simulation code developed by the SNU fuel lab (Prof. Youho Lee).
  - It was confirmed that the results of GIFT and FRAPCON were consistent.
- An axial cladding interaction can be simulated by GIFT since its structural model is based on a 2D model.
- The mechanical model of GIFT can simulate a multi-layer cladding structure.

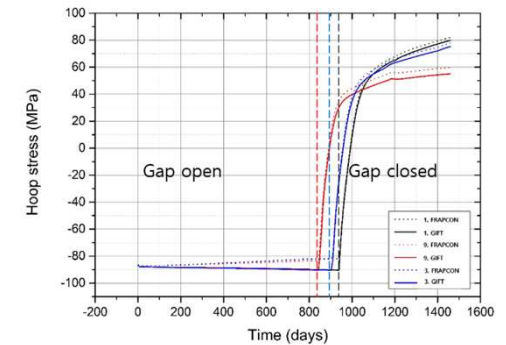
### 2D Axis-symmetric Full-length Cladding Mechanical Model



### Cladding Performance Comparison with FRAPCON



<Open Gap>



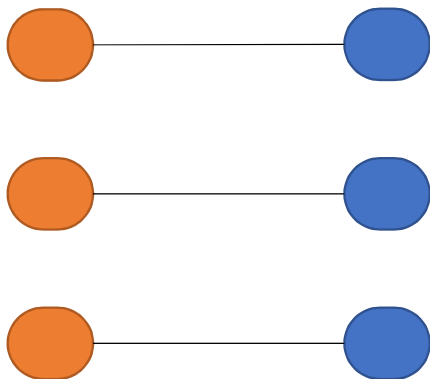
<Closed Gap>



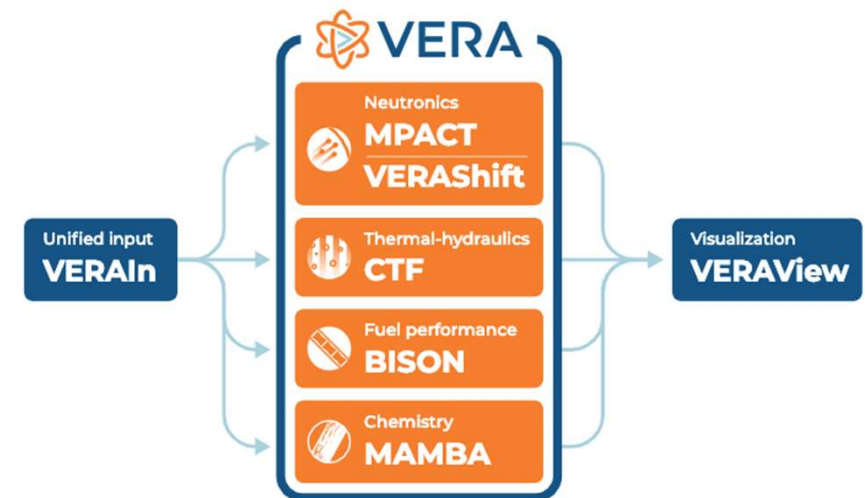
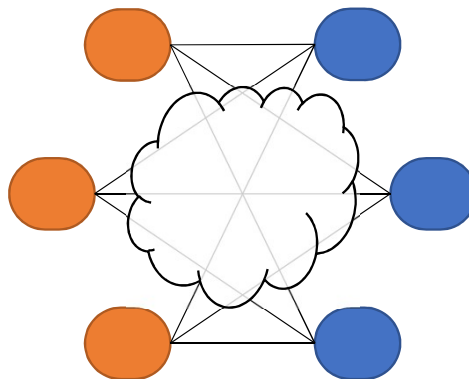
## ■ All-to-all Coupling Concept and Unified Input System

- So far, the coupling works for the multi-physics reactor simulation have been done by directly connecting two or more codes, which lacks extensibility (one-to-one coupling).
- **IRIS aims to provide a common environment (“universe”) and driver** through which multiple codes can be connected with one another (all-to-all coupling).
- To construct this “universe”, **a unified input system that can be interpreted by every code is necessary.**
  - VERA adopts a representative unified input system.

One-to-one Coupling  
(Conventional)



All-to-all Coupling  
(IRIS)





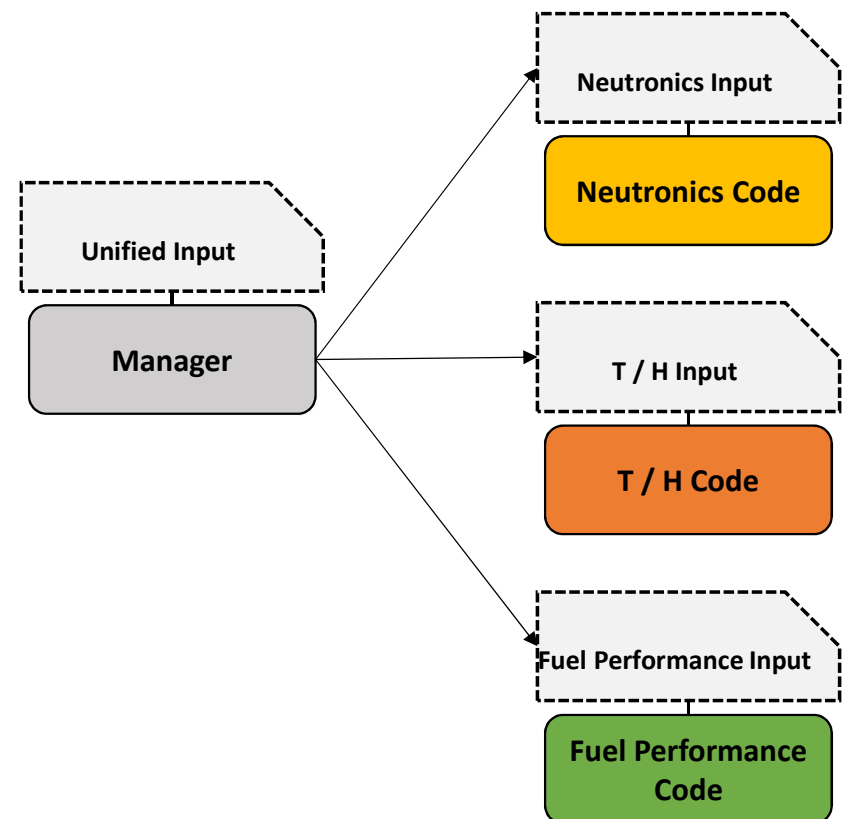


## Unified Input System of IRIS

### < Unified Input Structure >

CASEID			
STATE	TH_Conc	CORE_POWER	DEPLETE DAYS
MATERIAL / GC	MIXTURE	CLAD	FUEL
	REFL		
GEOM	NPINS	PITCH	PIN_DIM
	CELL	AXIAL	PIN
	ASSEMBLY	RAD_CONF	ALBEDO
	ASSEMBLY	RAD_CONF	ALBEDO
Neutronics Code	HOSTFILE	NUM_PROCS	Info
T/H Code	HOSTFILE	NUM_PROCS	Info
Fuel Calculation Code	HOSTFILE	NUM_PROCS	Info

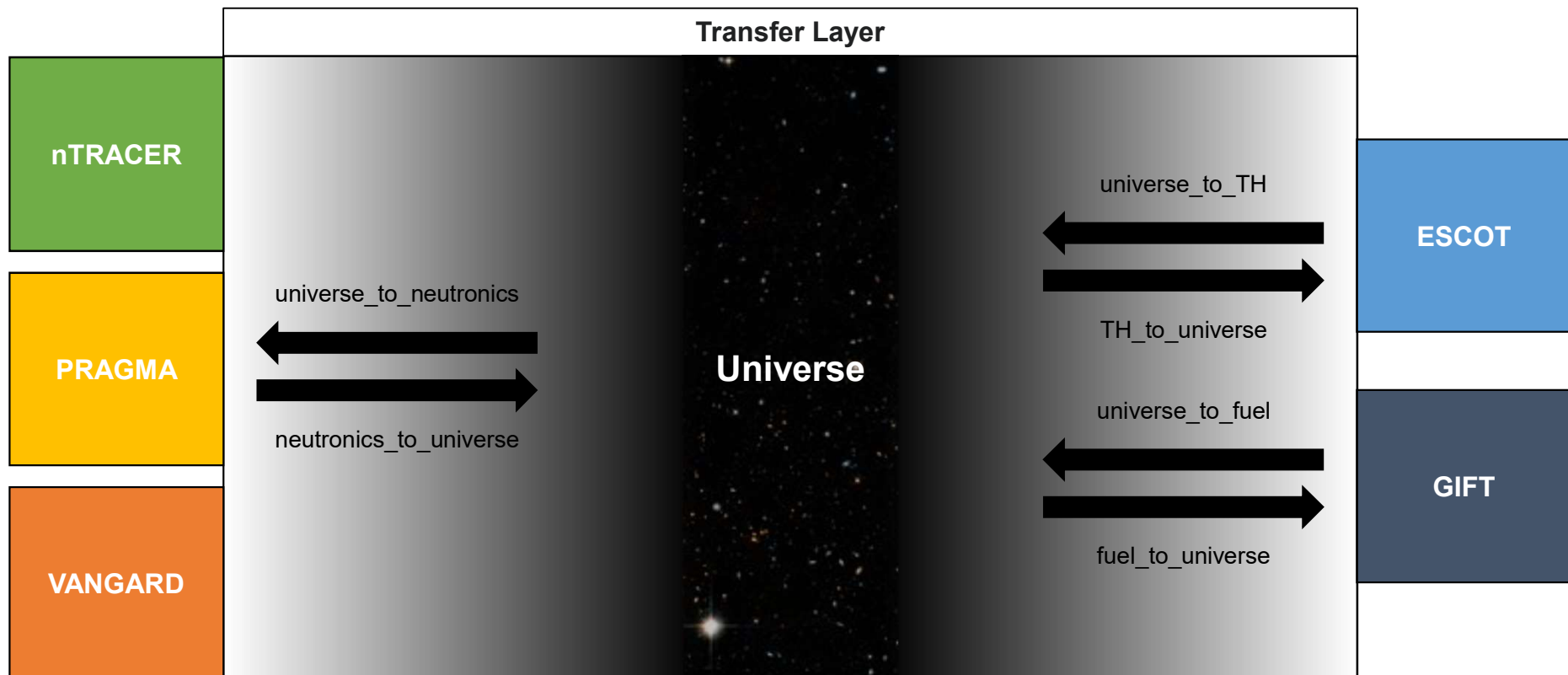
### < Program Execution Process by Unified Input >







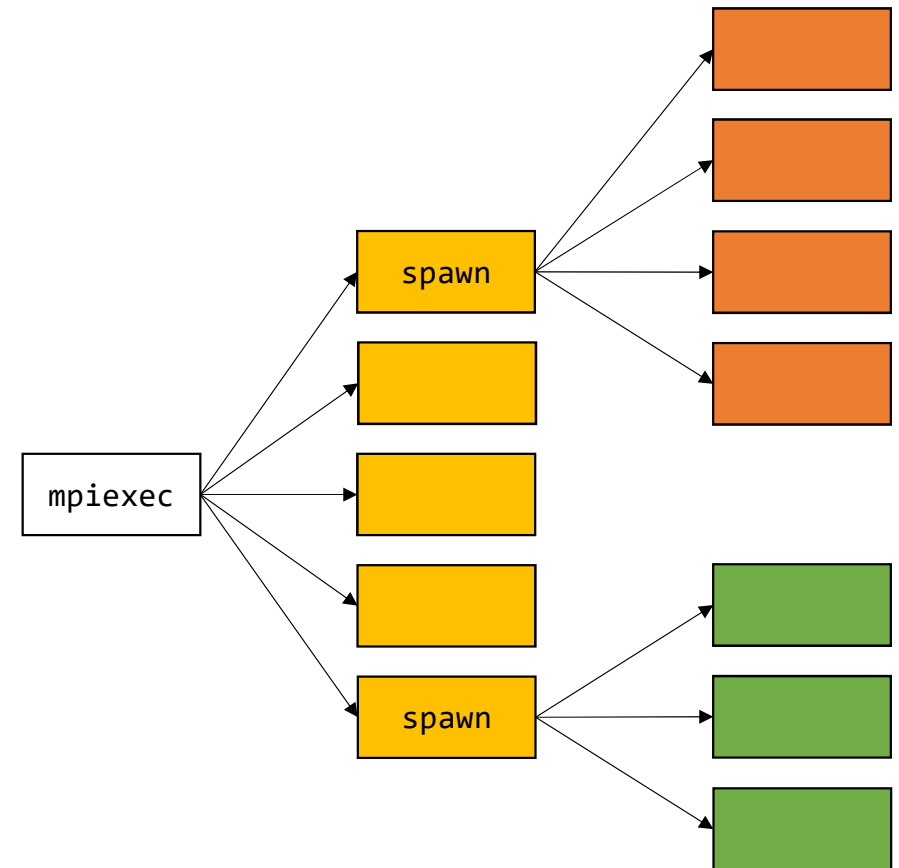
## ▪ Coupling Through the “Universe”





## ■ MPI Dynamic Process Management (DPM) Model

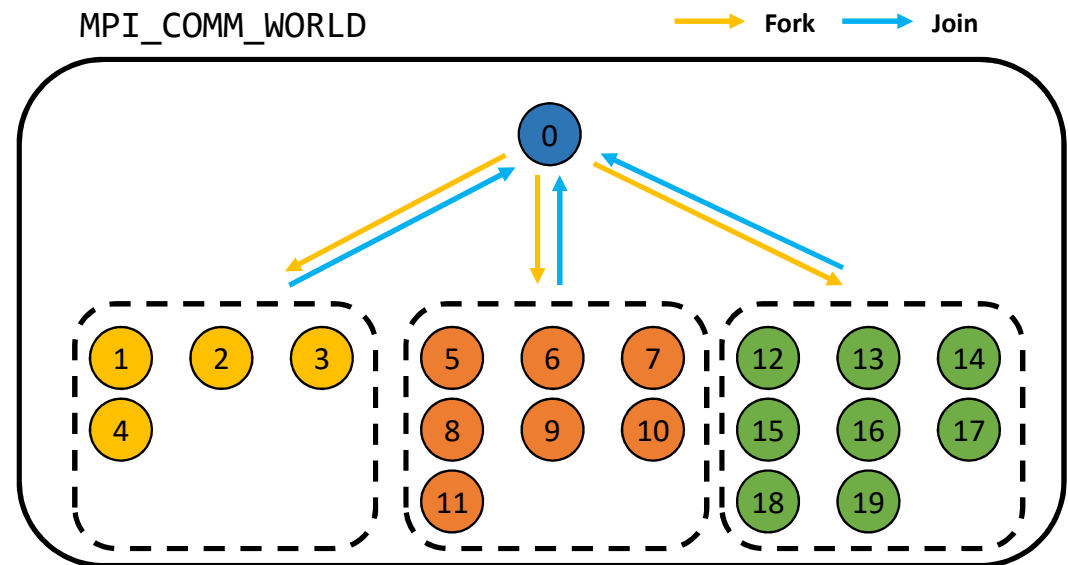
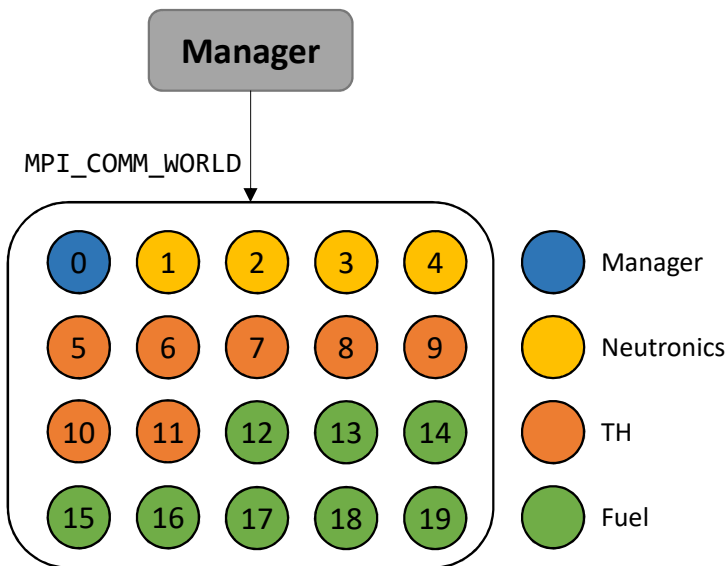
- With mpiexec, only a single program can be launched at a time, and the number of processes is fixed at launch.
- The DPM model in MPI-2 addresses this limitation by allowing for the **spawning of new processes via a running program** and **connecting to existing processes**.
  - A communication model between the parent and children is provided.
  - Child processes can use MPI launch parameters that are different from the parent; e.g., program, number of processes, binding policies, etc.
- Namely, multiple MPI-based programs employing different parallelization schemes can establish an interconnection using the MPI DPM model.
- **Coupling with Manager – Worker Parallelism**
  - Worker programs (children) become the actual physics codes, and an independent manager program (parent) controls iteration and data transfer of the workers.





## ■ MPI Dynamic Parallelization Management in IRIS

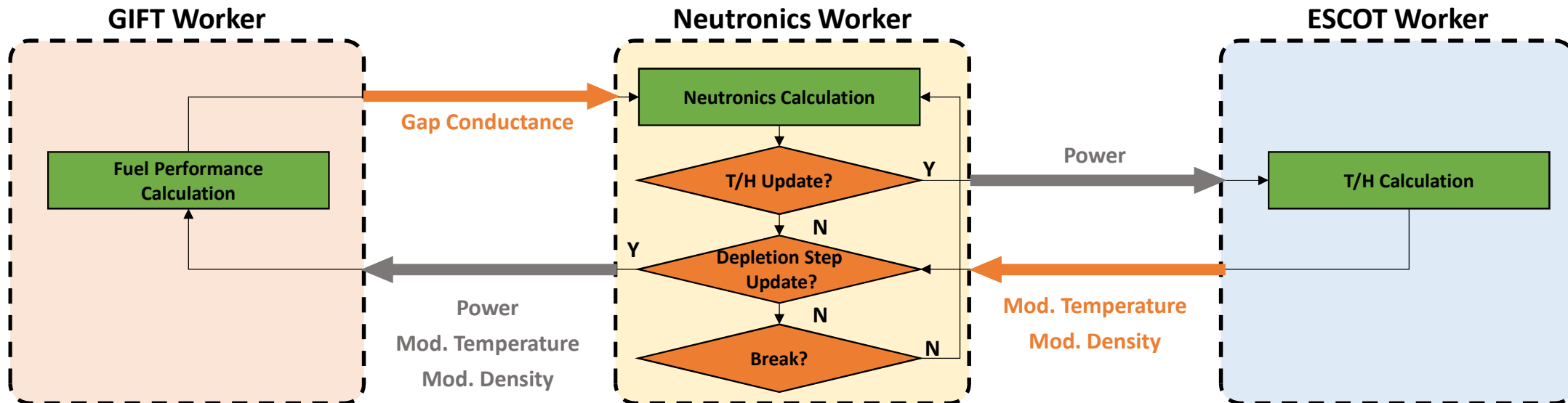
- The manager program implements a neutronics code, a T/H code and a fuel performance code at once with a **single inter-communicator encompassing the manager program and all the worker programs.**
- The manager process communicates with a master process among multiple processes of each code.
  - Each code is implemented with a different parallelization scheme.





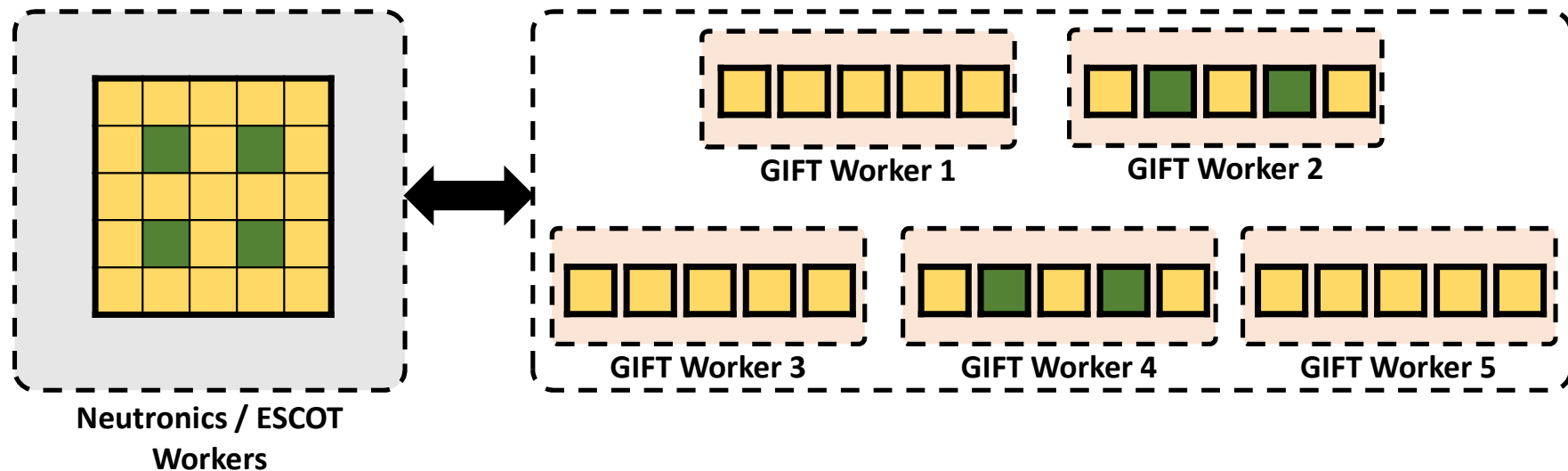
## Code Coupling System of IRIS

- IRIS implements each coupled code with each input file generated from a unified input file.
- At every T/H update, ESCOT calculates the **temperature and density of moderator** based on the **power** calculated by the neutronics calculation codes.
- At every depletion step, GIFT calculates a **gap conductance** for each fuel rod based on the **power, moderator temperature and density** that is calculated by PRAGMA and ESCOT.



## ■ Treatment for Different Geometry Scale

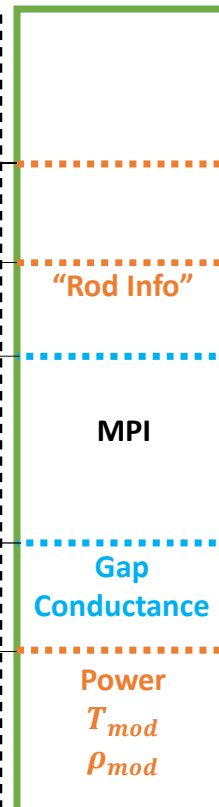
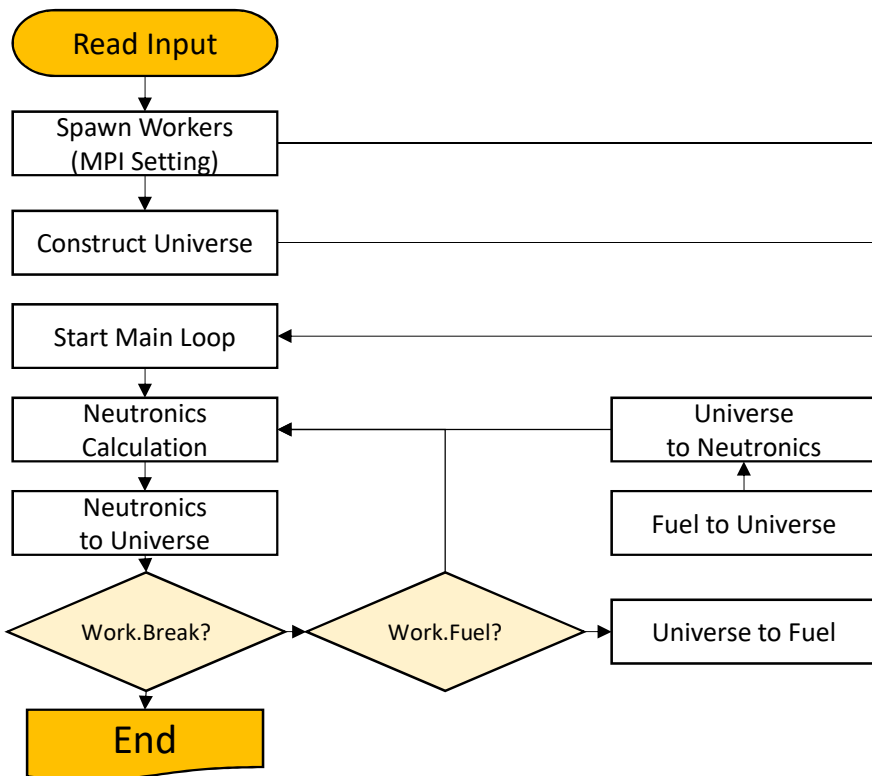
- There is a **target geometry inconsistency between GIFT and the other codes.**
  - GIFT can only calculate a single fuel rod while the other codes can calculate a core or assembly with multiple rods.
- **Each GIFT worker should manage multiple fuel rod simulations.**
  - Multiple fuel rods are allocated separately to several GIFT workers for parallelization of GIFT simulations.
  - Each GIFT worker implements the allocated fuel rod simulations sequentially.





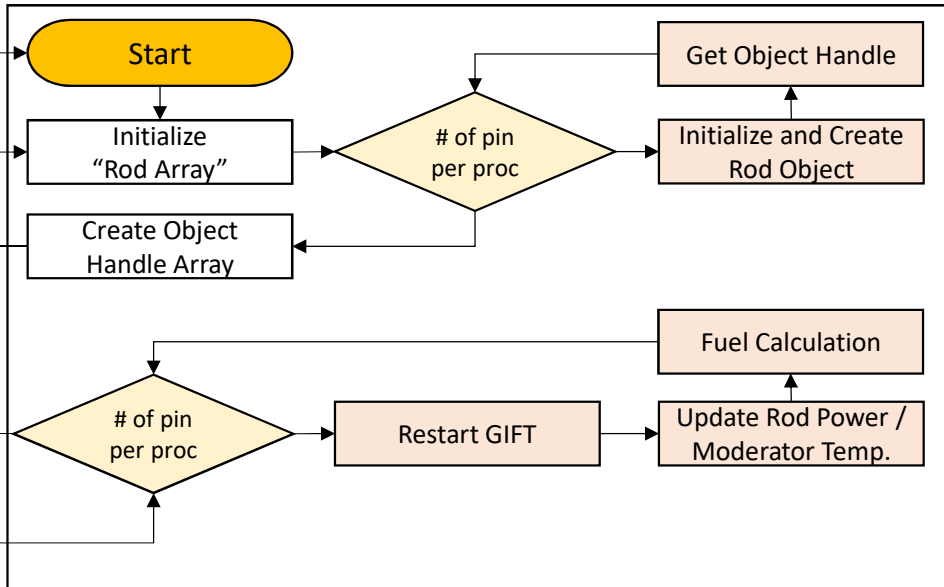
## IRIS / GIFT Coupling Algorithm

### IRIS Manager Module



### GIFT Worker Module

#### Process 0

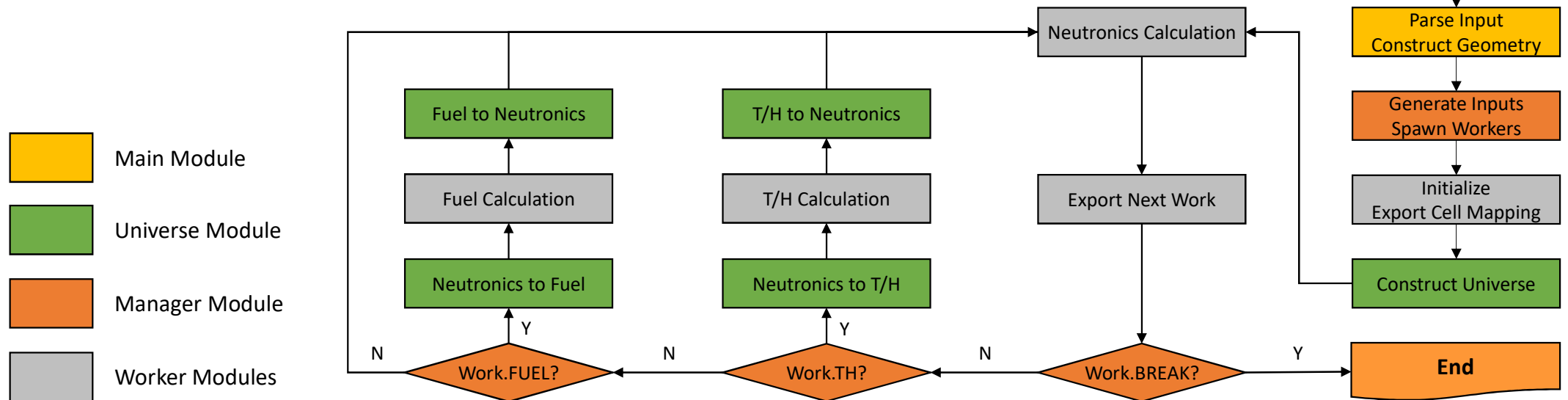


⋮ Process 0, 1, 2, ...



## IRIS Simplified Algorithm

- Multiple workers are spawned at once by `MPI_Comm_spawn_multiple`.
- The overall iteration sequence and convergence check is led by the neutronics worker.
  - The neutronics worker sends out work flags based on its iteration status.
  - The manager synchronizes until a work flag is passed by the neutronics worker and determines its next behavior based on the work flag.







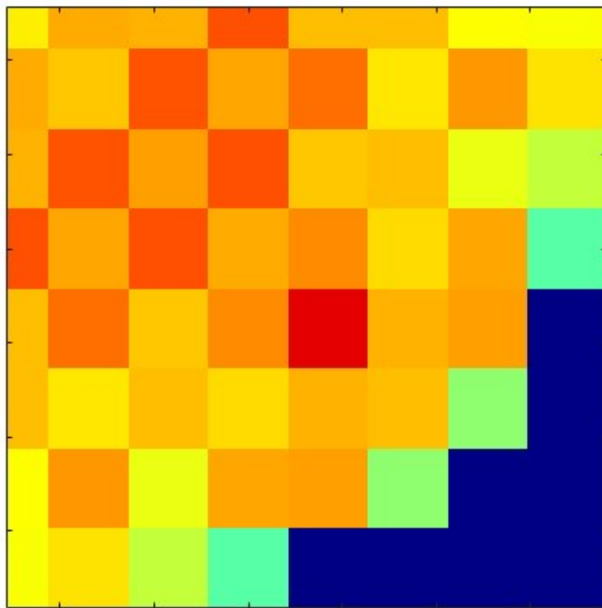
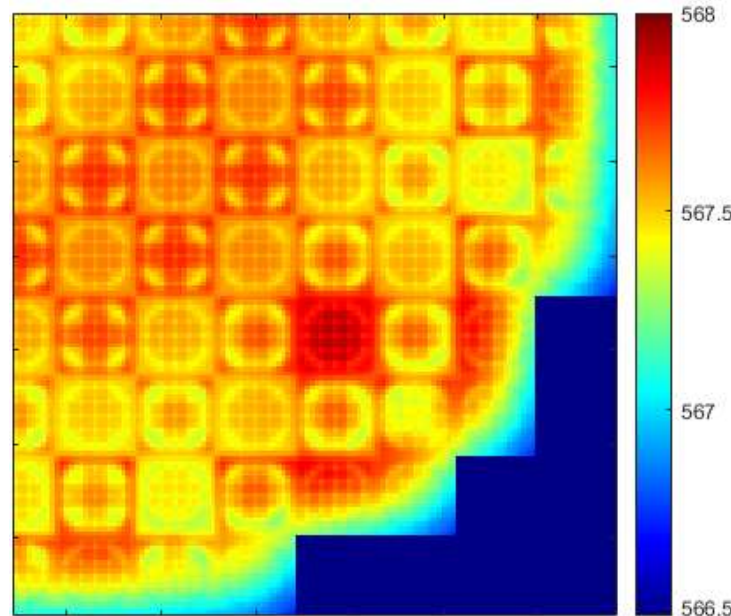
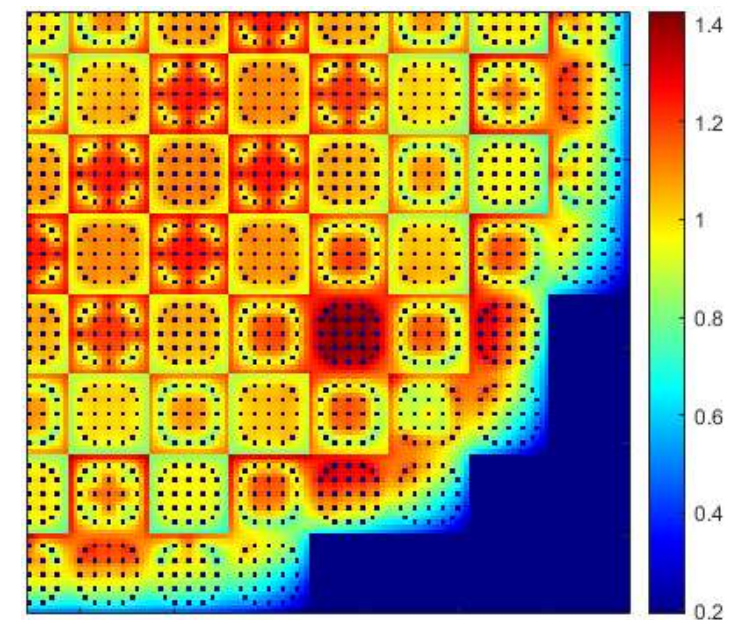
- **BEAVERS** Benchmark for Evaluation And Validation of Reactor Simulations
  - ESCOT coupling was verified for the 2D core at BOC.
  - GIFT coupling was verified for depletion calculation of a 3D single assembly.



Core Lattice		Fuel Assemblies		Control	
# of Fuel Assemblies	193	Pin Lattice Configuration	17 x 17	Burnable Poison Material	Borosilicate Glass 12.5 w/o B <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>
Loading Pattern	w/o <sup>235</sup> U	Active Fuel Length	365.76 cm	# of Burnable Poison Rods	1266
Region 1 (Cycle 1)	1.60	# of Fuel Rods	264		
Region 2 (Cycle 1)	2.40	# of Grid Spacers	8		
Region 3 (Cycle 1)	3.10	Performance			
Region 4A (Cycle 2)	3.20	Core Power	3411 MWth		
Region 4B (Cycle 2)	3.40	Operating Pressure	2250 psia		
		Core Flow Rate	61.5 x 10 <sup>6</sup> kg/hr (5% bypass)		

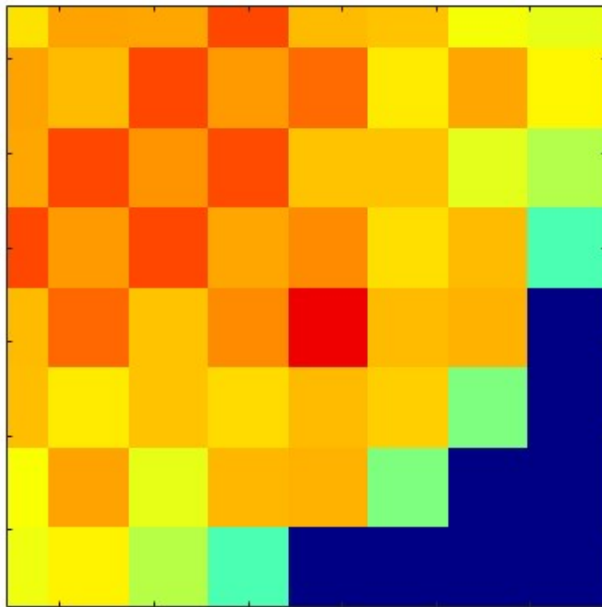
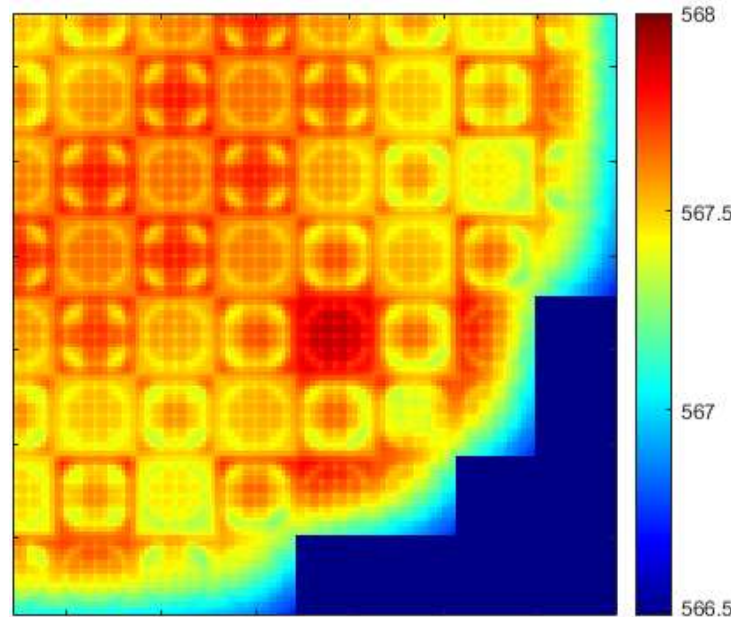
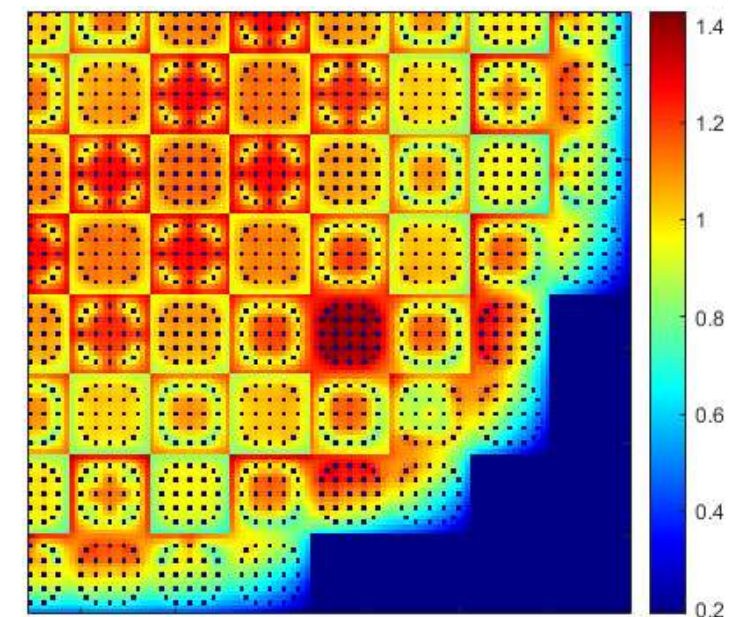


- **nTRACER – ESCOT Coupled Simulation on IRIS**
  - BEAVRS 2D Core (20cm Height, Nominal Flow Rate)
  - nTRACER – 1 MPI Process / ESCOT – 56 MPI Processes

**Internal T/H****ESCOT T/H****Pin Power**



- **PRAGMA – ESCOT Coupled Simulation on IRIS**
  - BEAVRS 2D Core (20cm Height, Nominal Flow Rate)
  - PRAGMA – 4 MPI Processes / ESCOT – 56 MPI Processes

**Internal T/H****ESCOT T/H****Pin Power**

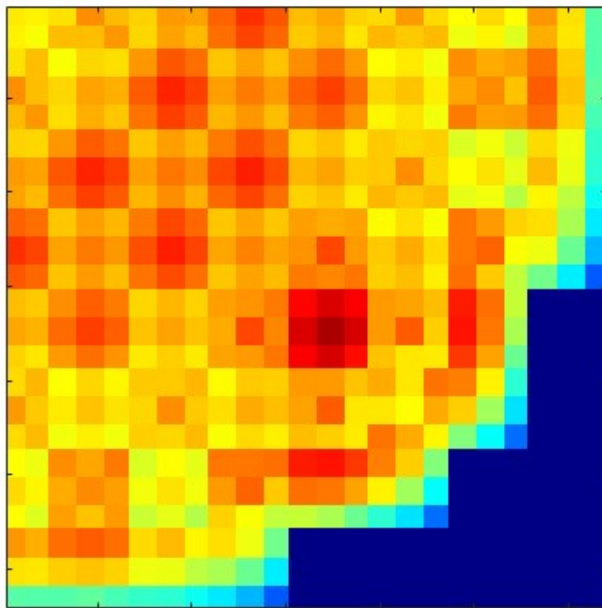




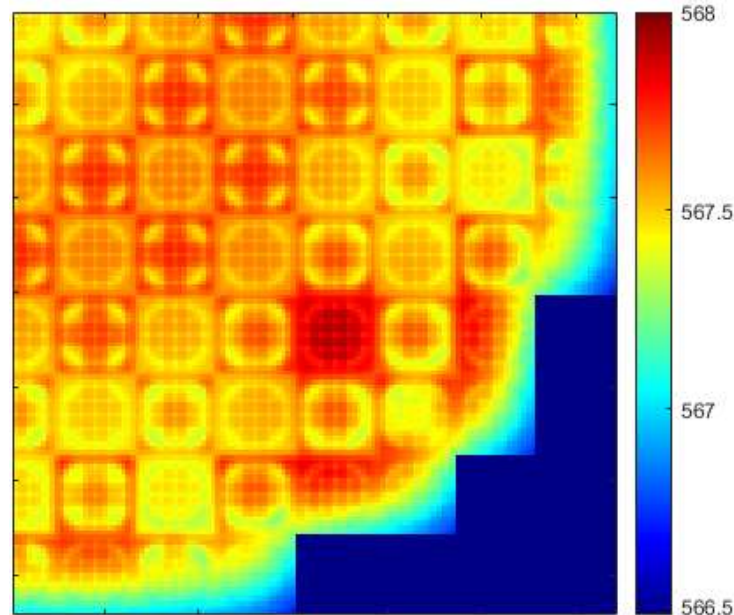
## ■ VANGARD – ESCOT Coupled Simulation on IRIS

- BEAVRS 2D Core (20cm Height, Nominal Flow Rate)
- VANGARD – 1 MPI Process / ESCOT – 56 MPI Processes

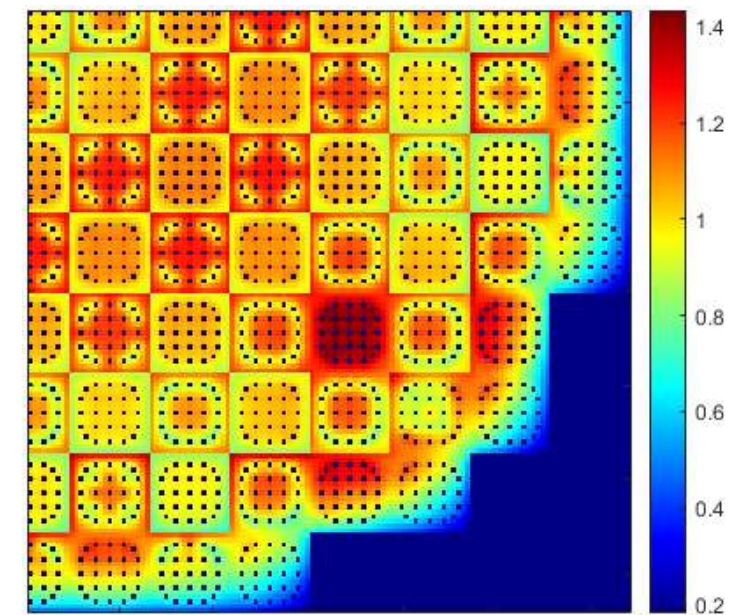
Internal T/H (3 x 3 Macro Channel)



ESCOT T/H



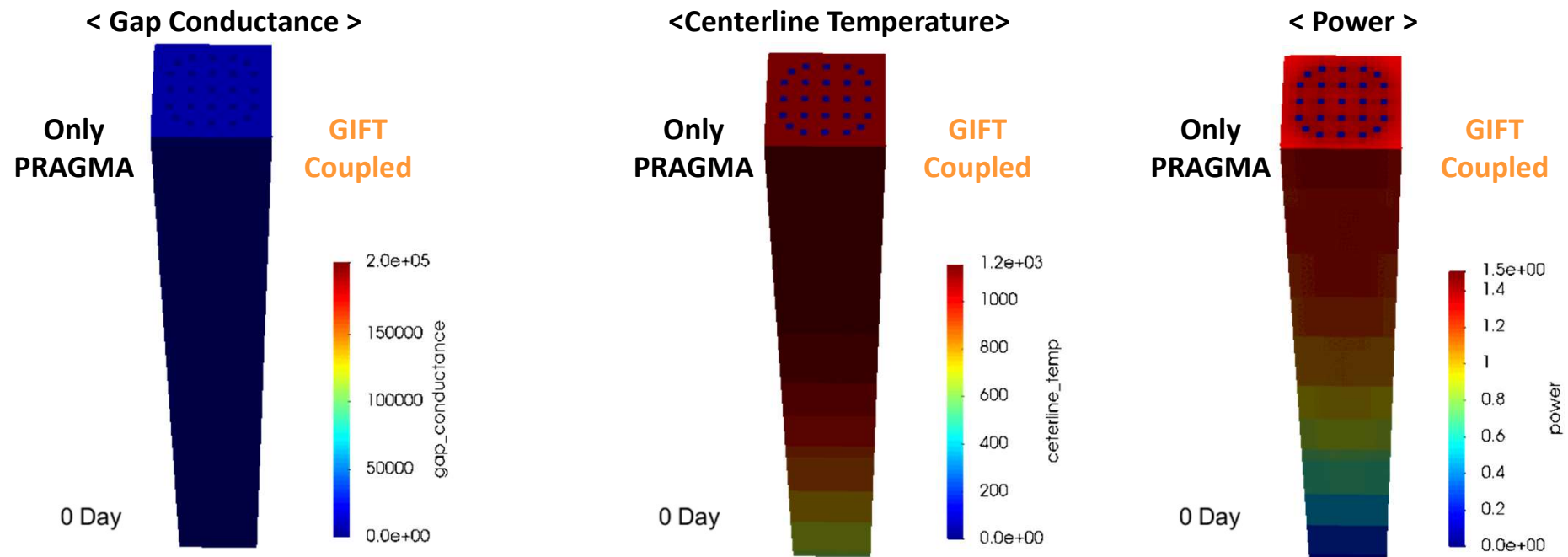
Pin Power





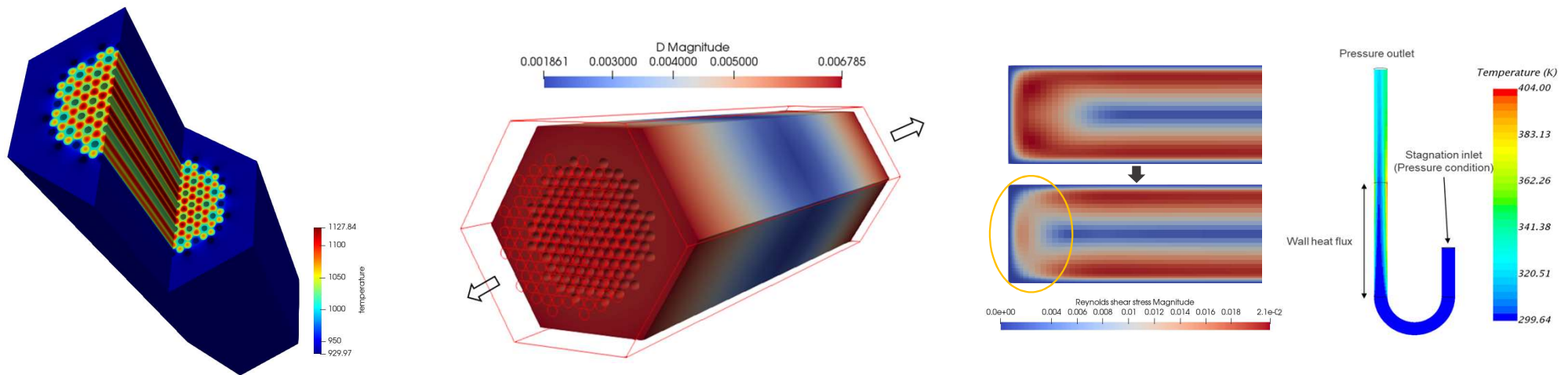
## ■ GIFT Coupled Single Assembly Calculation Results

- GIFT can only be coupled to PRAGMA among neutronics codes due to specific data necessary for GIFT calculation.
- PRAGMA – 4 MPI Processes / ESCOT – 1 MPI Process / GIFT – 20 MPI Processes



## PRAGMA-OpenFOAM-ANLHTP Coupling System

- The system aims to analyze **a heat pipe cooled micro reactor with high-fidelity multiphysics simulation**.
  - There are no MC solutions with fine-grain thermo-mechanical feedback analysis of Heat-Pipe Cooled Micro Reactors.
- An independent multiphysics system is needed to simulate the **unstructured geometry** of heat pipe reactors since IRIS is optimized for a lattice-based geometry treatment.
  - An unstructured geometry treatment is necessary for the heat pipe reactor analysis.
- It employs the **MPI Dynamic Process Management (DPM) and File I/O system** for code coupling.





# Unstructured Geometry Treatment in PRAGMA

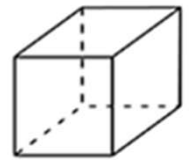
## ■ Unstructured Geometry Treatment in PRAGMA

- PRAGMA supports general unstructured mesh geometry treatment powered by graphics ray tracing technology.
- PRAGMA uses a CAD design model for treating an unstructured geometry.
- PRAGMA reconstructs an unstructured geometry based on a mesh file generated by ANSYS or CUBIT.
  - A mesh generator generates meshes of a geometric design model using four basic cells.
  - A mesh file includes information about nodes, edges and volumes.
- PRAGMA adopts OptiX for neutron tracking in an unstructured geometry.
  - OptiX is a CUDA-based ray tracing API optimized for NVIDIA GPUs.
  - Neutron tracking is substituted by ray tracing that treats a neutron as a camera.

### Basic Cells in the ANSYS FLUENT



Tetrahedron



Hexahedron

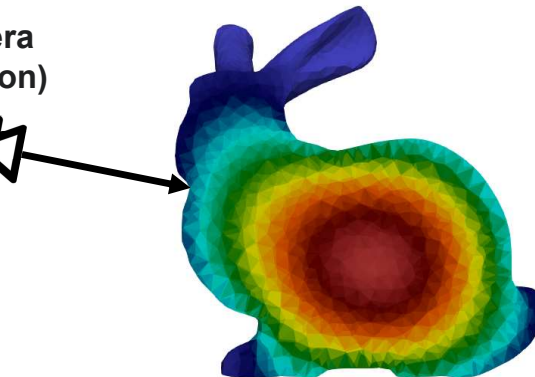


Wedge



Pyramid

Camera  
(Neutron)







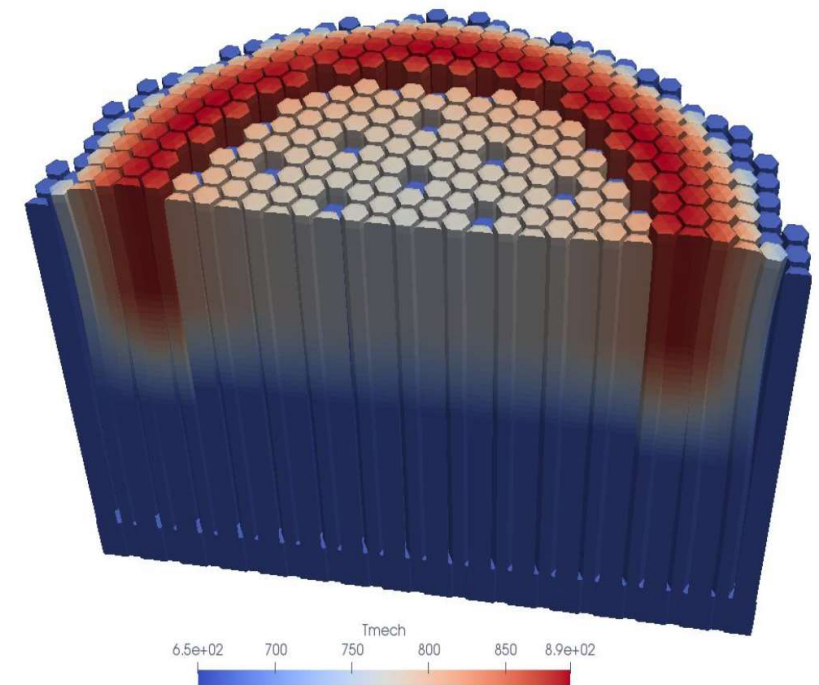
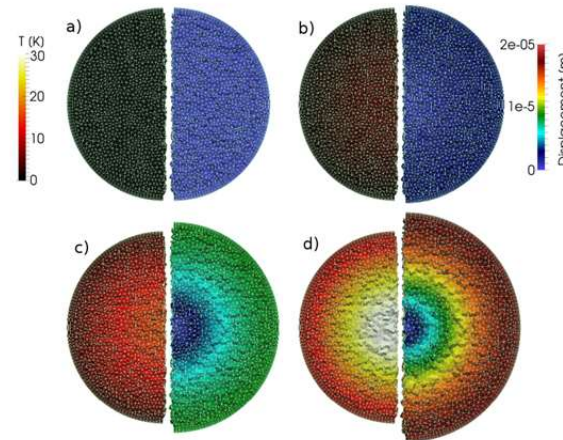
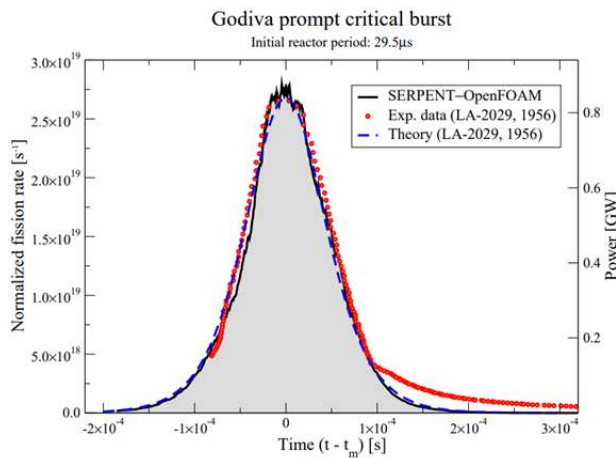
## OpenFOAM

- OpenFOAM is a free, open-source CFD software developed by OpenCFD.
- It has an extensive range of features to solve all problems associated with complex fluid flows involving chemical reactions, turbulence, and heat transfer.
- Based on the momentum equation, displacement results could be fed back to neutronics application, thereby deforming the mesh.

# OpenFOAM®

## Gen-FOAM Multi-Physics Analysis

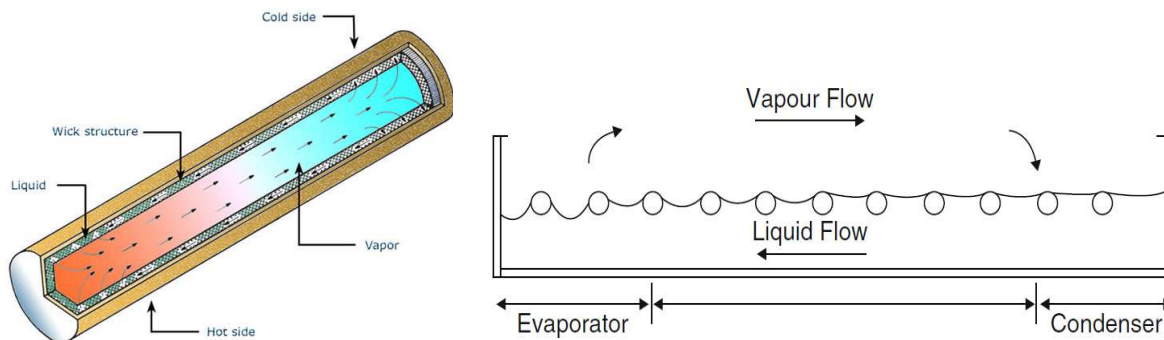
### Serpent-OpenFOAM Coupling Transient Analysis



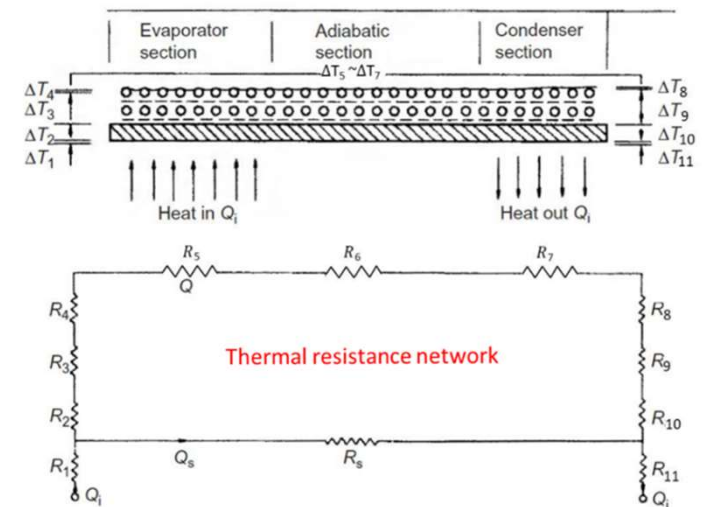
## ■ ANLHTP

- ANLHTP is a **one-dimensional heat pipe analysis code** developed at ANL in the 1980s.
- It simulates a sodium heat pipe based on theory, analysis, and experimental data.
  - It assumes that the evaporator and condenser are nearly isothermal.
- It predicts **heat pipe temperature distributions** for steady-state and slow transient conditions.

### Passive Heat Transfer Mechanism of Heat Pipe



### Thermal Resistance Network of ANLHTP

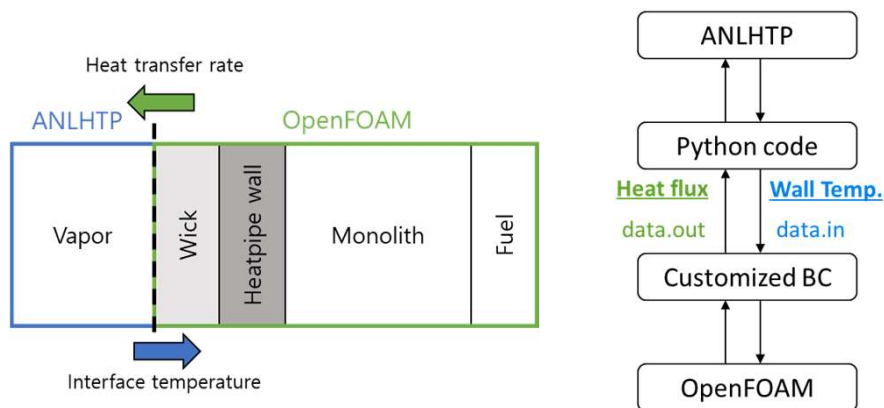




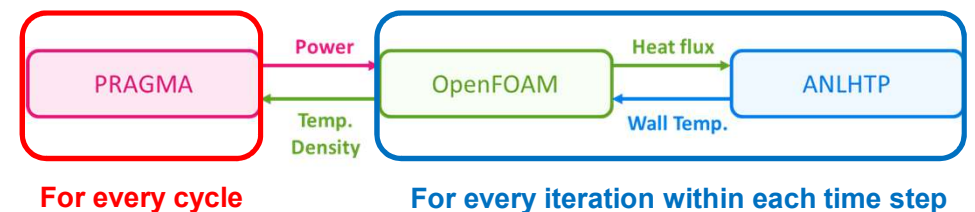
## ■ Coupling System of PRAGMA-OpenFOAM-ANLHTP

- OpenFOAM and ANLHTP transfer **heat flux and wall temperature** data based on file I/O communication.
- OpenFOAM-ANLHTP calculates the **temperature and density of moderator** based on the **power** calculated by PRAGMA.
- Since the OpenFOAM-ANLHTP coupling system is based on a transient system, the calculation scheme should be modified to be coupled with a MC code for steady-state analysis.
  - The time step of OpenFOAM is treated in the same way as the cycle of the Monte Carlo algorithm.
  - For a new state, OpenFOAM-ANLHTP must converge through Picard iteration within each time step.

### OpenFOAM-ANLHTP Coupling System



### Modified OpenFOAM-ANLHTP Calculation Scheme

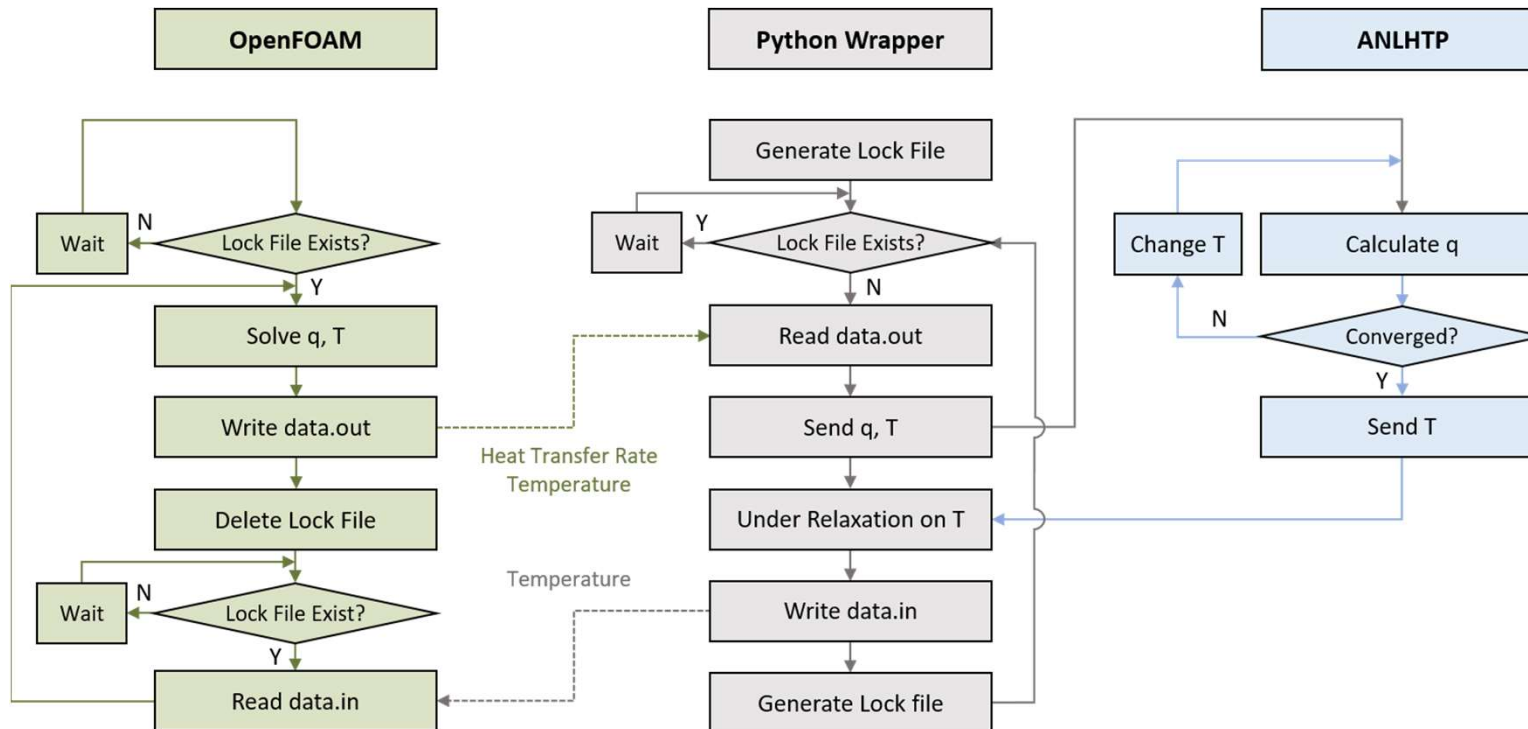




# Algorithm of OpenFOAM-ANLHTP Coupling System

## ▪ Simplified Flowchart of OpenFOAM-ANLHTP Coupling System

- The OpenFOAM-ANLHTP coupling flowchart is included in the 'T/M Calculation' block.
- Except for the OpenFOAM-ANLHTP coupling system, all data transfer is controlled by MPI routines.

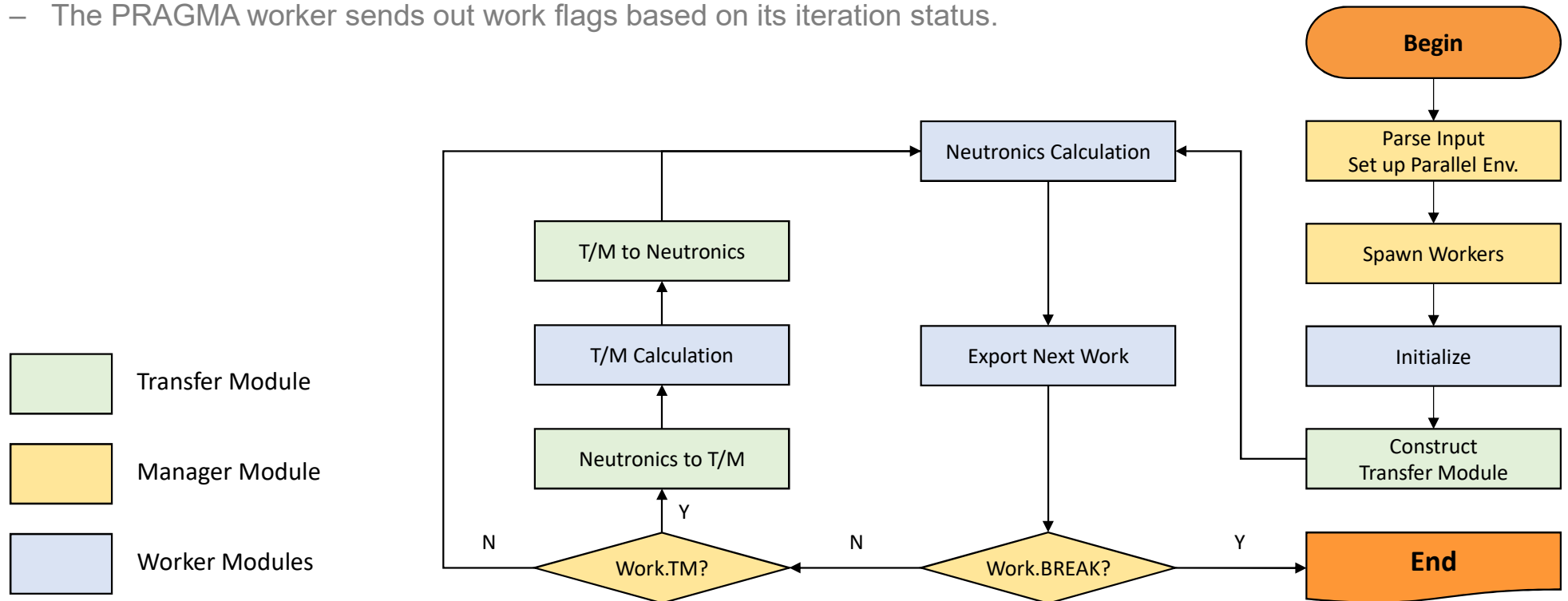




# Algorithm of PRAGMA–OpenFOAM–ANLHTP Coupling

## Algorithm of PRAGMA–OpenFOAM–ANLHTP Coupling System

- The overall procedure for multiphysics coupling is controlled using the Picard iterative method and the iteration sequence is led by the PRAGMA worker.
  - The PRAGMA worker sends out work flags based on its iteration status.

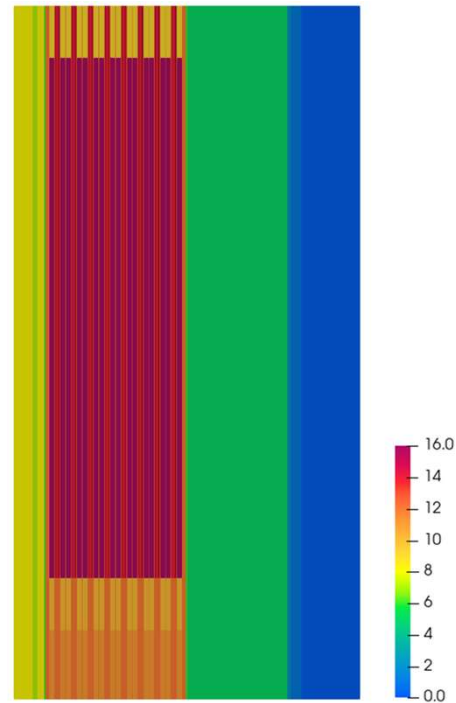
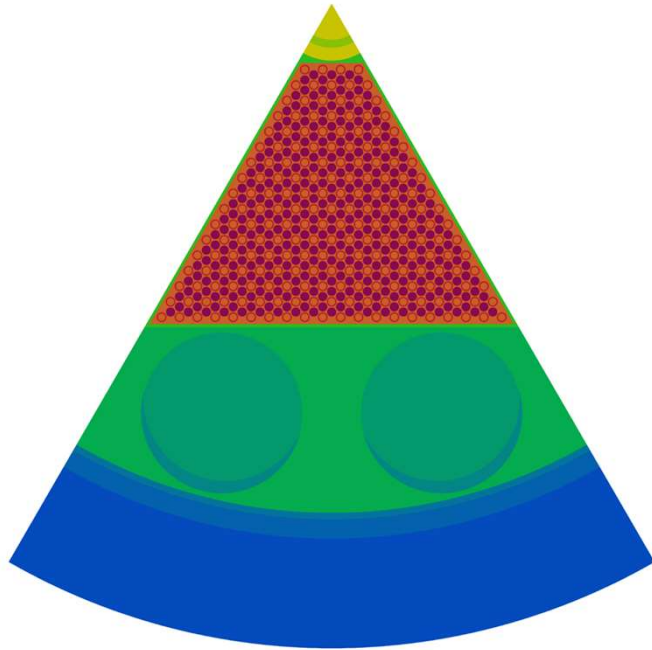




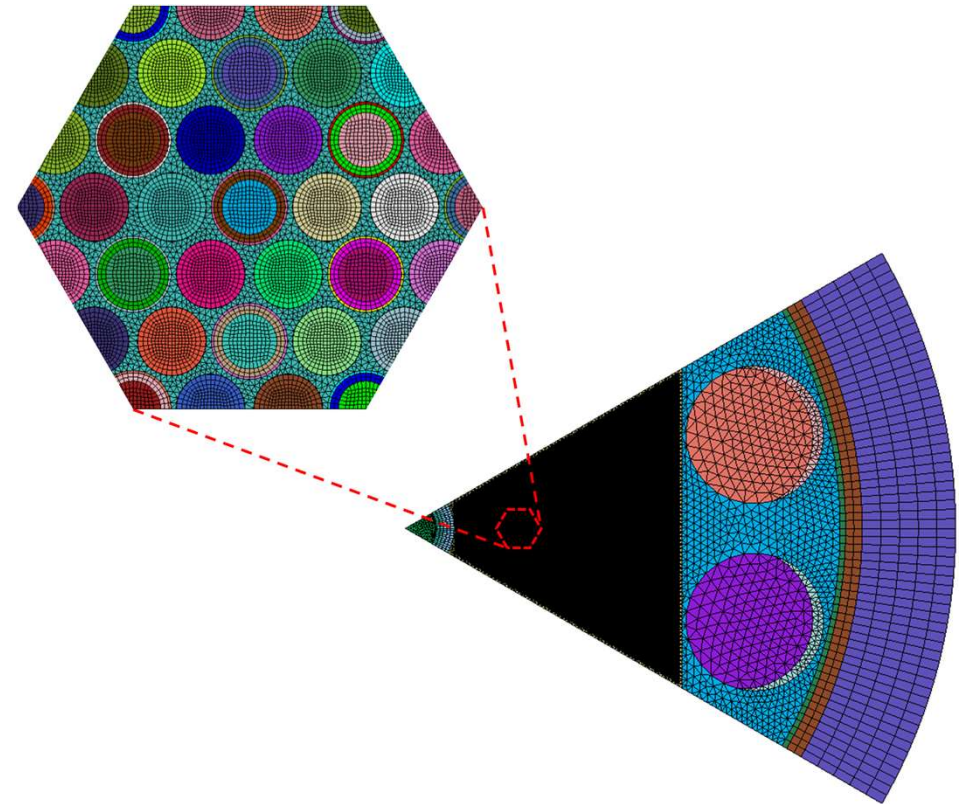


- LANL MegaPower 3D Sector

- Configuration



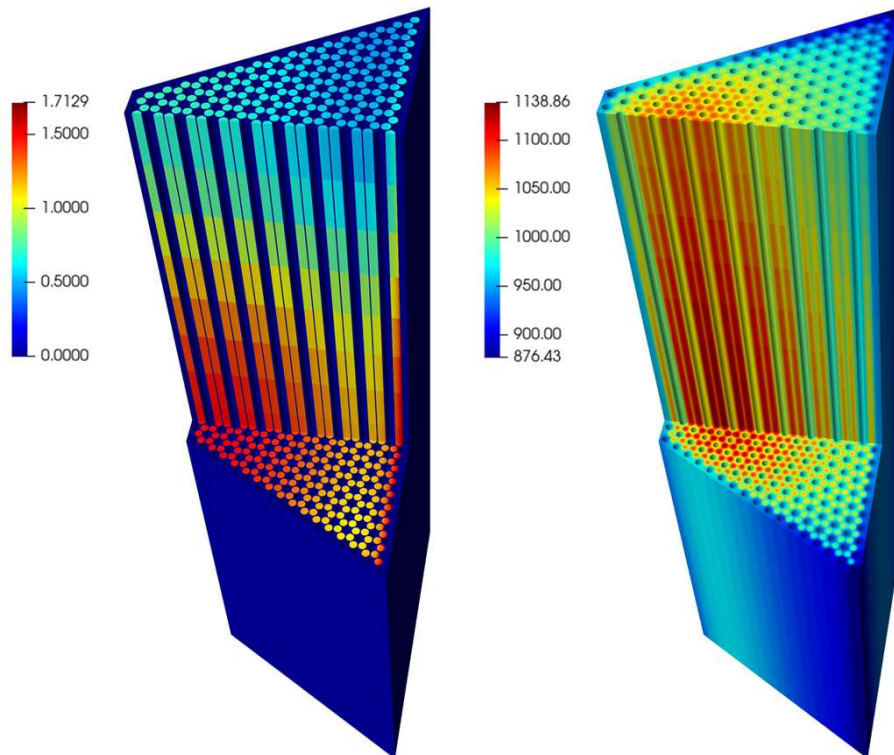
- Mesh Granularity



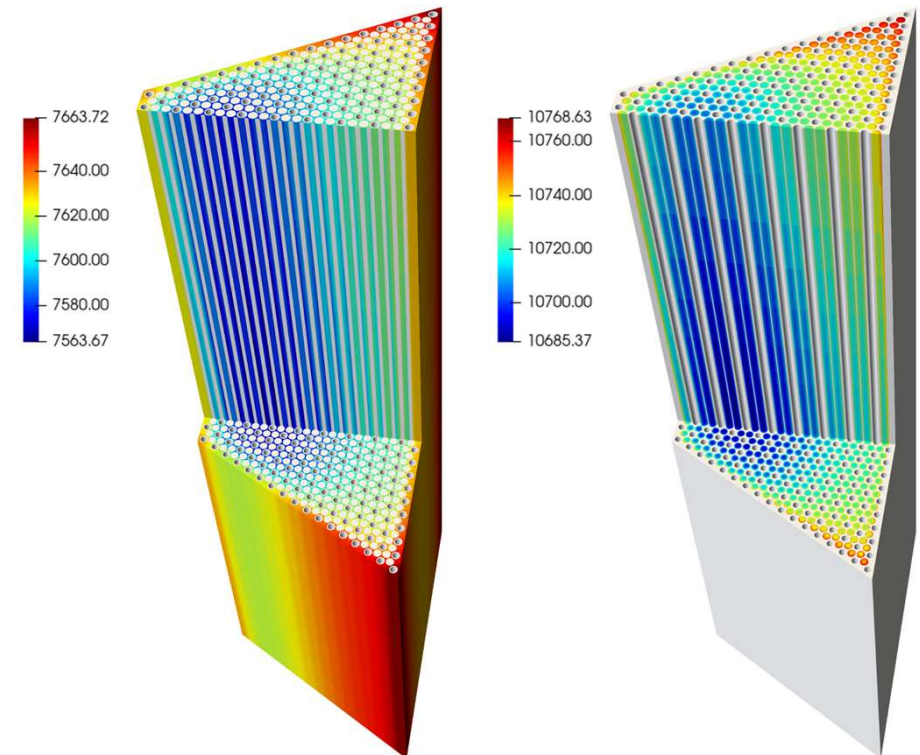


## Coupled Calculation Results

### Normalized Power and Temperature [K]



### Monolith and Fuel Density [kg/m<sup>3</sup>]

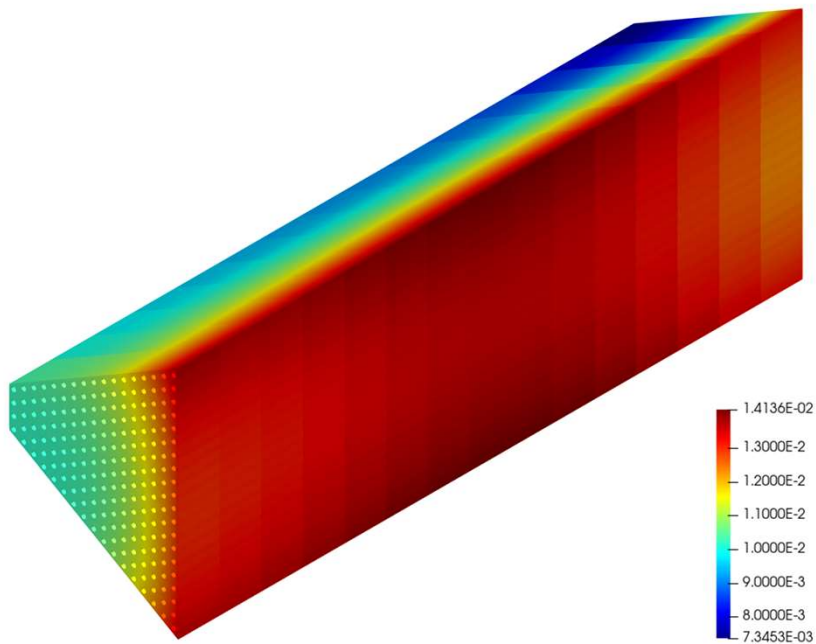




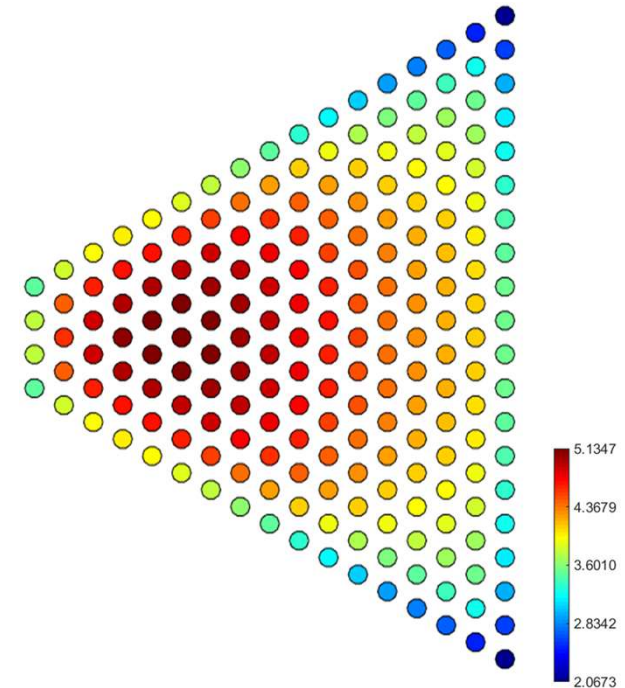


## ■ Coupled Calculation Results

Total Thermal Expansion [m]



Heat Removal Rate [kW] of Heat Pipes





## ■ Conclusion

- **Preliminary Development of an extensible code coupling system IRIS optimized for PWR analysis**
  - Demonstration of multiphysics simulation on the BEAVRS 2D core and a single assembly
- **Preliminary development of a unique and efficient multiphysics coupling system for HPRs**
  - Demonstration of multiphysics simulation on LANL MegaPower 3D single sector (HPR)
  - Confirmed the soundness of multiphysics analysis capability through the fine-grain results

## ■ Ongoing and Future Works

- **Stabilization and optimization of IRIS code coupling system**
  - Demonstration of multiphysics simulation on BEAVRS 3D full core
- **Performance optimization of thermo-mechanical and heat pipe coupled analysis**
- **Development of mesh deformation capability to perform realistic thermo-mechanical feedback**
- **Multi physics multi scale coupling involving VANGARD, ESCOT and MARS**
- **SOPHIA coupling with PRAGMA for multi-physics analysis of pebble bed reactors**
- ...