

KNS 2026 Spring

PINN-Based Digital Twin and Safe Reinforcement Learning for Autonomous SMR Load-Following Control

Il Hoon Park

GNP System Co., Ltd., Daejeon, Republic of Korea

발표자 및 소속기관 소개

박일훈 (Il Hoon Park) | (주)지엔피시스템 기술연구소장(부사장)

학력

- '03~'05 USC MBA (Los Angeles)
- '93~'95 서울대 전기공학 석사(자동제어)
- '89~'93 서울대 전기공학 학사

업무분야

- 원자력/화력 발전소 시뮬레이터 SW 개발
- AI 모델 구축 및 솔루션 서비스 사업화
- 원전 I&C 시스템 프로젝트 영업/사업관리
- 화력발전소 조기경보 시스템 구축
- 사업 포트폴리오, M&A, R&D 전략 투자 관리
- 전사 중장기 비전, Roadmap 및 실행전략

경력 (30년)

- '25~현재 (주)지엔피시스템 기술연구소장(부사장)
- '23~'24 엑스알비(주) CSO, CDO
- '20 (주)티맥스AI 공동대표이사
- '18~'20 (주)두산 사업부문 DigitalTransformation팀장
- '08~'18 두산중공업(주) 전략기획팀장, 원자력I&C사업팀장
- '07~'08 한국수력원자력(주) 계측제어기술팀 터빈제어
- '98~'07 삼성SDS(주) 전략마케팅/응용시스템
- '95~'98 삼성전자(주) 산업전자사업부

자격

AWS ML Specialty · AWS Cloud Practioner · AI산업컨설턴트 · AIoT기획전문가

(주)지엔피시스템

인력 46명 | FSS 25년+ 30건+ | SRO 7명

특급기술자 41명 (SRO 7명, 원자력발전기술자 2명 포함)
 - 원자력(9), 전기전자(8), 전기설비(17), 정보관리(7)
 초급기술자 5명 · 정보관리(5)

✓ FSS 물리모델 ✓ MMI/HMI ✓ 성능검증 ✓ 훈련시나리오

APR1400: 새울 1&2, 신한울 1&2, BNPP #1-#2, KINS

Full Scope Simulator 개발 및 성능 개선 분야 최고 전문성 보유



Contents

1. Introduction
2. 24-State Digital Twin
3. PINN Surrogate Model
4. Safe RL Control Architecture
5. Ensemble Controller
6. Simulation Results
7. Conclusion

Introduction

Background

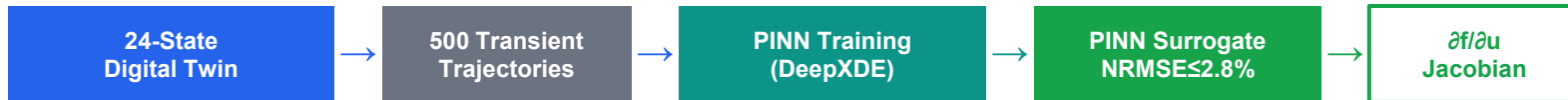
- SMR은 기존 대형 PWR의 base-load 운전과 달리 daily load-following, 산업용 열병합, 마이크로그리드 등 유연운전 요구
- Plant gain이 출력 범위에 따라 $\sim 10\times$ 변화, Xe-135 slow drift ($\tau \approx 9\text{h}$)로 고전 PID 한계

Goal

- 24-state digital twin \rightarrow RL 학습 환경 및 PINN 학습 데이터 생성
- PINN surrogate \rightarrow 해석적 미분 $\partial f / \partial u$, MBPG ($10\times$ 수렴 가속)
- SAC-CMDP + CBF \rightarrow 안전 제약의 통계적 + 결정론적 보장
- Ensemble \rightarrow PID + SAC + PINN feedforward + CBF 4-layer 계층 통합

System Architecture Overview

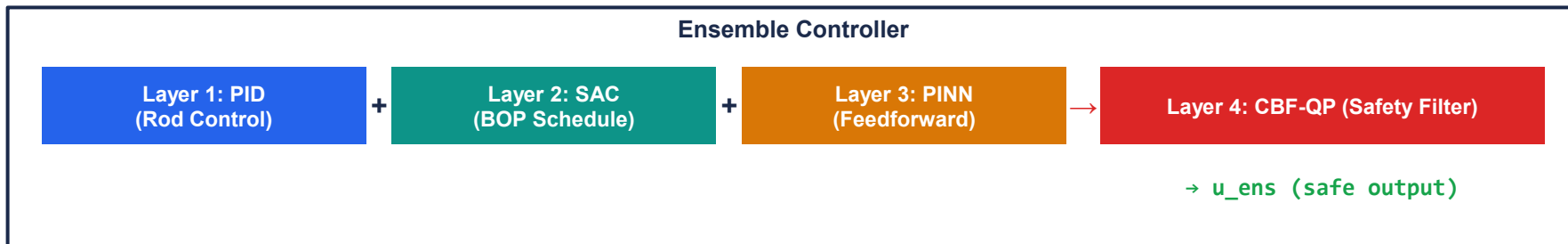
Data Generation



RL Training (Curriculum)



Deployment (Ensemble)



24-State Digital Twin

$$\dot{x} = f(x, u; \theta), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^{24}, \quad u = [\rho_{\text{rod}}, W_{\text{feed}}, T_{\text{feed}}]^T \quad - \quad \text{NuScale-class 160 MWT}$$

Neutronics

- Prompt-jump: $\lambda = \beta C / (\beta - \rho)$, delayed precursor ODE
- Feedback: $\alpha D = -2.5 \text{ pcm/K}$, $\alpha M = -20 \text{ pcm/K}$

Thermal-Hydraulics

- 3-node lumped model: $T_f, T_m, T_h/T_c$
- Natural circulation, Pressurizer P & level

BOP

- SG pressure/level, governor valve + turbine
- Condenser dynamics

Fission Products

- I-135 \rightarrow Xe-135 chain ($\tau_{\text{Xe}} \approx 9 \text{ h}$)
- Post-transient reactivity drift

RK4 @ 1 Hz | 500 trajectories (15 power \times 6 ramps \times 8 steps \times 10 Xe) | 400 train / 100 val

PINN Surrogate Model

$[t, x(t_0), u(t)] \rightarrow x(t)$ | 8-layer ResNet, 256/layer, tanh | DeepXDE (DD-PINN)

Composite Loss

$$\mathcal{L} = \lambda_1 \mathcal{L}_{\text{data}} + \lambda_2 \mathcal{L}_{\text{PDE}} + \lambda_3 \mathcal{L}_{\text{BC}} + \lambda_4 \mathcal{L}_{\text{IC}}$$

- $\mathcal{L}_{\text{data}}$: trajectory matching
- \mathcal{L}_{PDE} : ODE residuals via AD
- $\mathcal{L}_{\text{BC/IC}}$: boundary & initial cond.
- λ_1 – λ_4 : GradNorm balancing

State Variable	NRMSE(%)
Neutron power	1.2
Coolant T	0.9
Xe-135 (12h)	2.8
Pressurizer P	1.5
SG sec. T	1.8
Overall	2.1

핵심: Model-Based Policy Gradient

$$\nabla_{\theta} J(\theta) = E[\nabla_{\theta} \log \pi_{\theta}(a|s) \cdot \nabla_a Q(s,a) \cdot \partial f_{\text{PINN}}/\partial a]$$

- Exact gradients via AD \rightarrow ~50k episodes vs ~500k (10× improvement)

SAC-CMDP Formulation

$$\max_{\pi} E[\sum \gamma^t r(s_t, a_t)] \quad \text{s.t.} \quad E[\sum \gamma^t c_i(s_t)] \leq 0$$

State ($s \in \mathbb{R}^{30}$)

24 plant + P_ref, dP/dt, $\int e \, dt$, d[Xe]/dt, time, $u_{\{t-1\}}$

Action ($a \in \mathbb{R}^3$)

ρ_{rod} (± 0.5 pcm/s), W_{feed} (0.5–1.5 \times), T_{feed} (± 5 K)

Reward

$-0.6|e_P| - 0.25(\eta_{\text{max}} - \eta) - 0.10\|\Delta a\|^2 - 0.05 \cdot \text{DNBR pen.}$

Hard Safety Constraints

c_1 : DNBR ≥ 1.3

Thermal margin

c_2 : $T_{\text{clad}} \leq 344^\circ\text{C}$

Cladding

c_3 : $|dP/dt| \leq 5\%/min$

Ramp rate

CBF Safety Filter & Curriculum Learning

Control Barrier Function

$$h(x) = \min\{ \text{DNBR}-1.3, 344-T_{\text{clad}}, 0.05-|dP/dt| \}$$

$$u^* = \operatorname{argmin} \|u-u_{\text{nom}}\|^2 \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \dot{h}(x,u)+\alpha \cdot h(x) \geq 0$$

- ✓ Convex QP <1 ms (OSQP)
- ✓ <2% intervention steady / ~15% transients
- ✓ PINN Jacobian for \dot{h}

Curriculum Learning

Stage 1: BC Warm-Start

PID demos, Violation: 45%→3%

Stage 2: Relaxed CMDP

$d_i > 0 \rightarrow 0$ annealing, α : 0.2→0.05

Stage 3: Zero-Viol.+CBF

Hard constraints, deterministic

3-Layer Safety: ① Reward shaping → ② CMDP Lagrangian → ③ CBF-QP (deterministic)

Ensemble Controller Architecture

$$u_{ens} = \text{CBF-QP}(u_{\text{PID}}^{\text{rod}} + u_{\text{SAC}}^{\text{BOP}} + u_{\text{PINN}}^{\text{ff}})$$

Layer 1

Rod Control (PID)

$K_p = -5 \times 10^{-3}$, $K_i = -1 \times 10^{-3}$
2.5× gains (CBF bounded)

Fast tracking

Layer 2

BOP Schedule (SAC)

SAC-CMDP learned policy
Neural gain-schedule

Adaptive scheduling

Layer 3

PINN Feedforward

30-step horizon predict
Xe drift, SG lag comp.

Anticipatory comp.

Layer 4

CBF Safety (QP)

Certifies composite cmd
Math safety guarantee

Certified safety

Experimental Setup

Controllers

- PID (Baseline): $K_p = -2 \times 10^{-3}$, $K_i = -3.5 \times 10^{-4}$
- SAC-CMDP: 18-param CMA-ES policy
- Ensemble: Aggressive PID + SAC-BOP + PINN-ff + CBF

Test Scenarios

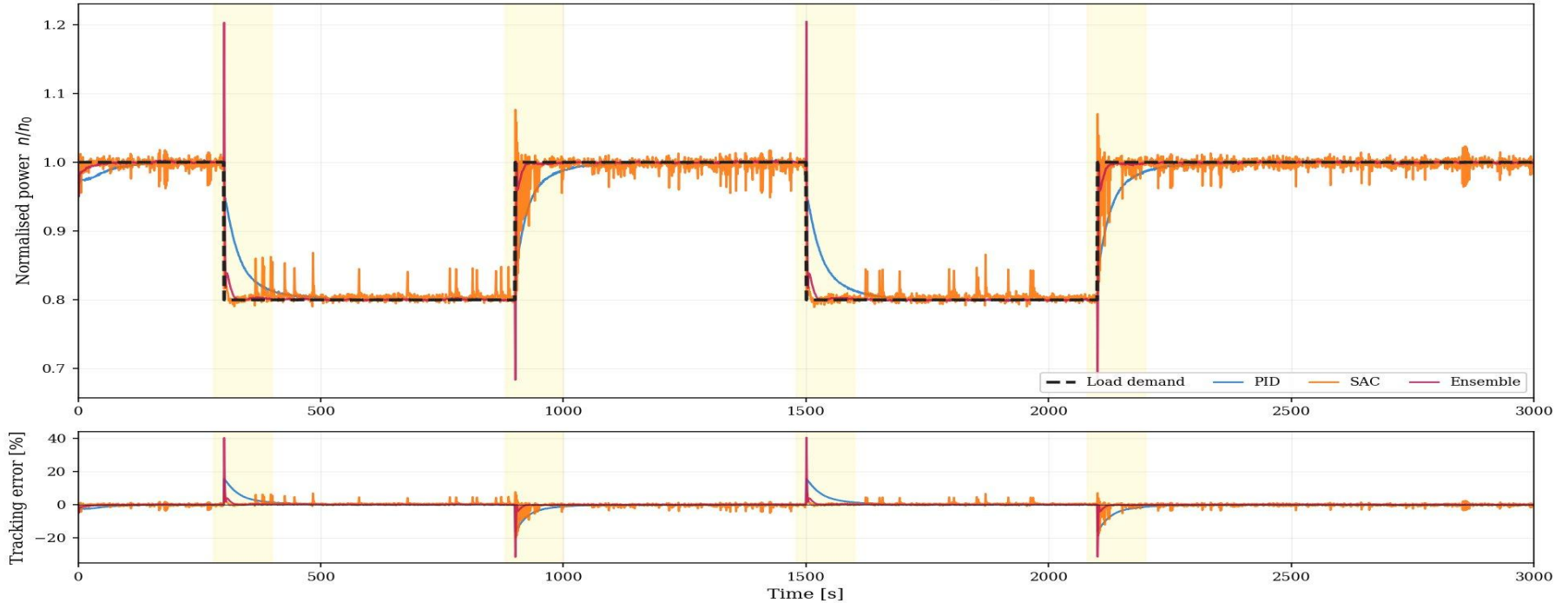
- Scenario 1: $\pm 20\%$ step (100% \rightarrow 80% \rightarrow 100%, 700 s)
- Scenario 2: 5%/min ramp (100% \rightarrow 50% \rightarrow 100%)
- 3000 s, noise $\sigma_n = 0.1\%$, $\sigma_T = 0.5$ K

Model-Plant Mismatch (10%)

Param	Mismatch
UA_fm	$\times 0.90$
α_D	$\times 1.15$
\dot{m}_{nom}	$\times 0.95$
UA_sg	$\times 0.92$

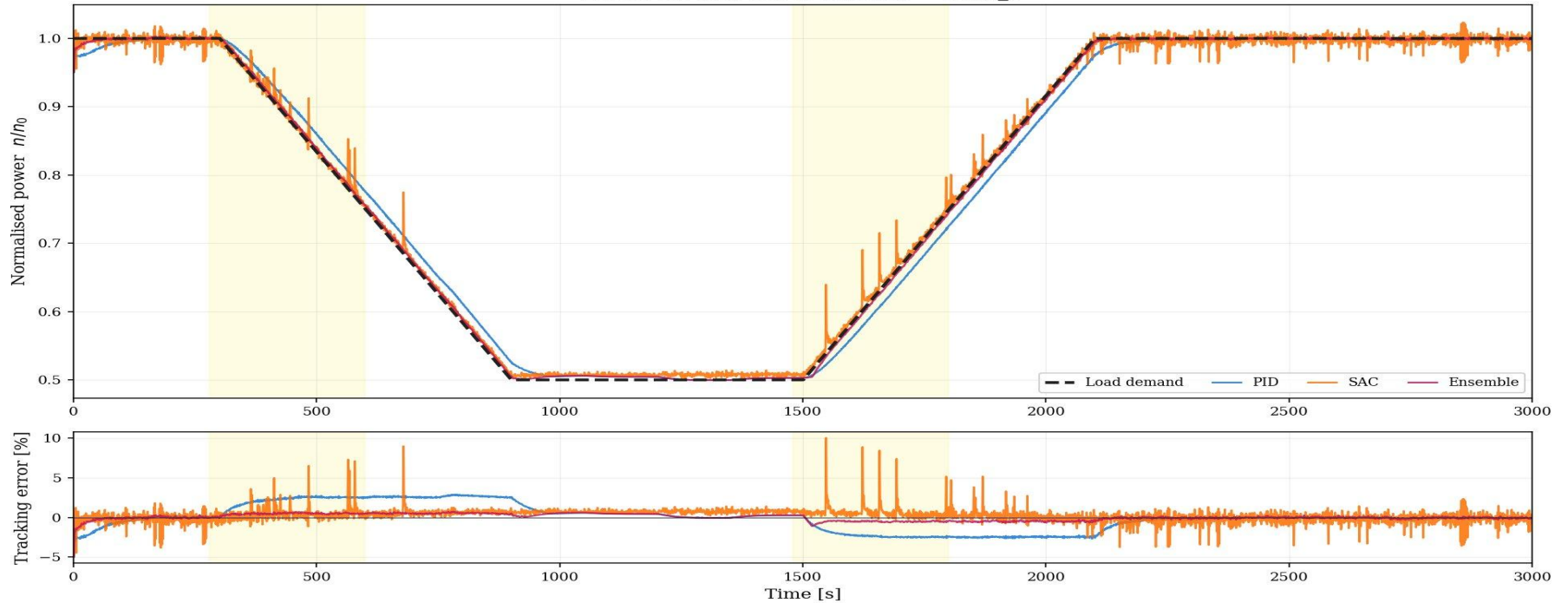
Results — Power Tracking ($\pm 20\%$ Step)

Load-Following Power Tracking — step_20



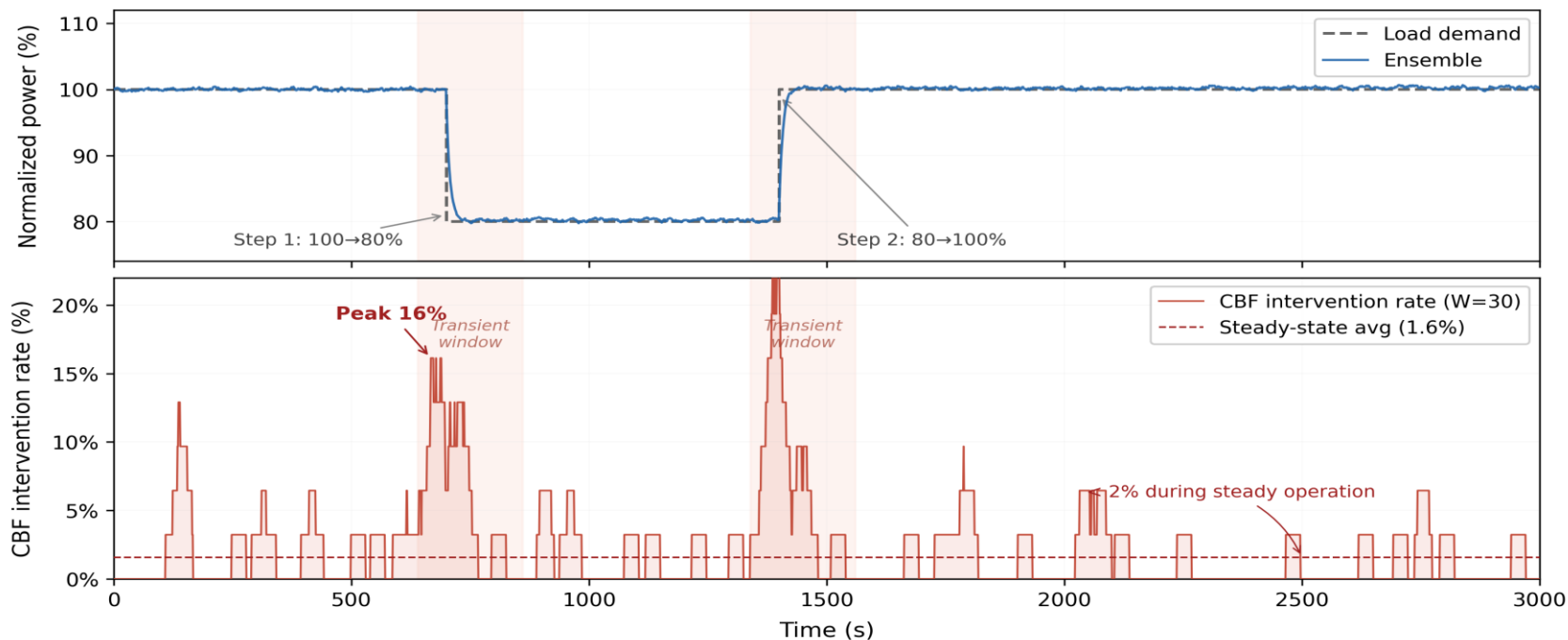
Results — Power Tracking (5%/min Ramp)

Load-Following Power Tracking — ramp_5

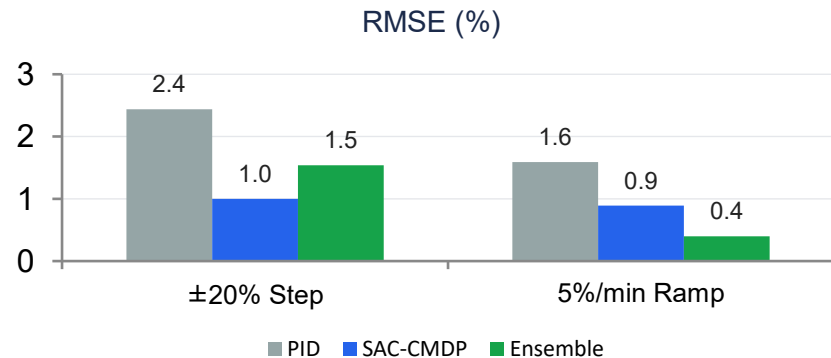
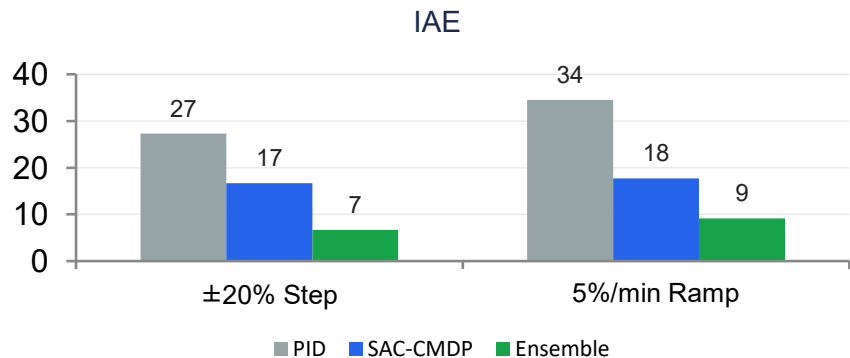


CBF Safety Filter Intervention Frequency

Fig. 4. CBF safety filter intervention frequency — $\pm 20\%$ step scenario (Ensemble controller, 10% model-plant mismatch, 30-step sliding window)

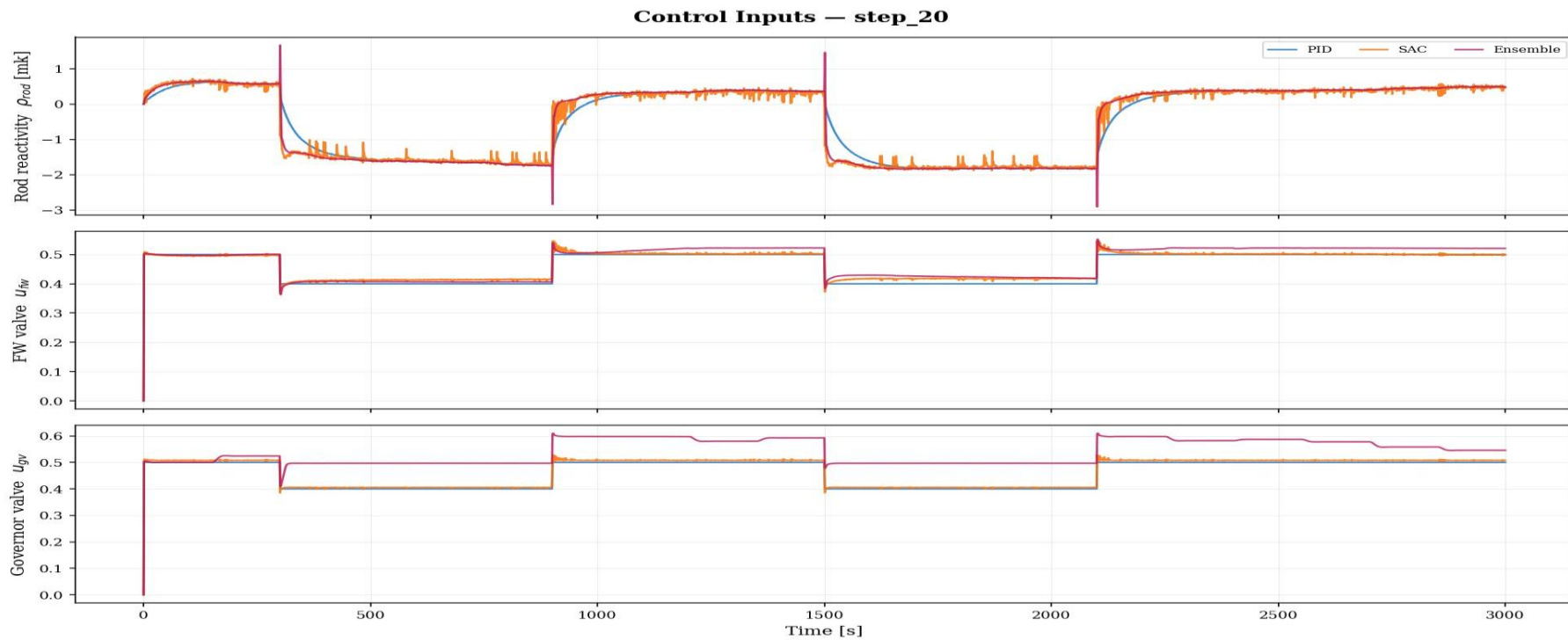


Results — Quantitative Comparison



Scenario	Controller	IAE	RMSE(%)	e_max(%)	DNBR_min
±20% Step	PID	27.27	2.44	16.2	2.577
	SAC-CMDP	16.66	1.00	15.4	2.430
	Ensemble	6.65	1.54	40.4	2.153
5%/min	PID	34.47	1.59	5.0	2.577
	SAC-CMDP	17.68	0.89	10.7	2.560
	Ensemble	9.14	0.40	5.0	2.579

Results — Control Inputs Comparison



Results — Control-Theoretic Analysis

PID 한계

- ~200 s settling, persistent offset
- GM 6→3.5 dB at 80% power
- Single tuning for full range X

SAC-CMDP 특성

- Rod gains 2× at high power
- FW band $\pm 15\%$ → $\pm 5\%$ adaptive
- Implicit integral via $\int e dt$

Ensemble 시너지

- 2.5× PID gains (CBF bounded)
- PINN FF: Xe pre-comp, RMSE 0.40%
- DNBR_min=2.153 \gg 1.3

Sample Efficiency: MBPG → ~50k ep. (10×) | BC warm-start: violation 45%→3%

Three-Layer Safety Guarantee

1

Reward Shaping

Training-time soft penalty: $-w_4 \cdot \max(0, 5\% - \text{DNBR margin})$

2

CMDP Lagrangian

Statistical: dual multipliers λ_i enforce $E[\sum \gamma^t c_i] \leq 0$

3

CBF-QP Filter

Deterministic: mathematical certification at every timestep

✓ All controllers: $\text{DNBR} \geq 2.15\text{--}2.58$ — Zero safety violations

Conclusion

주요 기여

- 24-state digital twin → RL 학습 환경 및 PINN 데이터 생성
- PINN surrogate → 10× sample-efficient MBPG
- Ensemble: PID 대비 75.6% / 73.5% IAE 감소 (step/ramp)
- 3-layer safety: zero violations, DNBR ≥ 2.15 under 10% mismatch
- RL + classical control = 상호보완적 시너지

향후 연구

- Turbine trip & LOFW 시나리오 확장
- PINN epistemic uncertainty (MC-Dropout)
- Multi-module SMR coordination
- Sim-to-real transfer learning

References

- [1] IAEA, Advances in SMR Technology Developments, 2024.
- [2] Raissi et al., Physics-informed neural networks, *J. Comput. Phys.*, 378:686–707, 2019.
- [3] Lu et al., DeepXDE, *SIAM Review*, 63(1):208–228, 2021.
- [4] Haarnoja et al., Soft Actor-Critic, *ICML*, 2018.
- [5] Altman, *Constrained MDPs*, CRC Press, 1999.
- [6] Ames et al., CBF-QPs, *IEEE TAC*, 62(8):3861–3876, 2017.
- [7] Chen et al., GradNorm, *ICML*, 2018.
- [8] Hansen, CMA-ES Tutorial, *arXiv:1604.00772*, 2016.

감사합니다.

PINN-Based Digital Twin and Safe Reinforcement Learning for Autonomous SMR Load-Following Control

Il Hoon Park

GNP System Co., Ltd.

ihpark16@gnpsys.com