

Development of a Time-Series Surrogate Model for Predicting System Dynamics in KAIST-MMR under Load-following Operation

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KAIST

The KAIST logo consists of the word "KAIST" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. Below the text is a horizontal blue line that tapers at both ends, resembling a stylized wave or a bridge.

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- Transfer learning using system analysis code
- Application to real world system



01

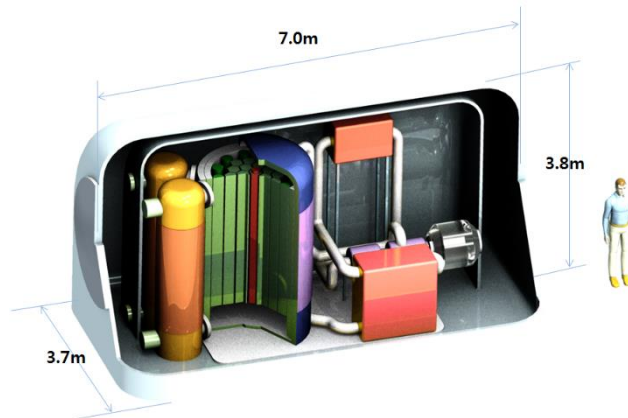
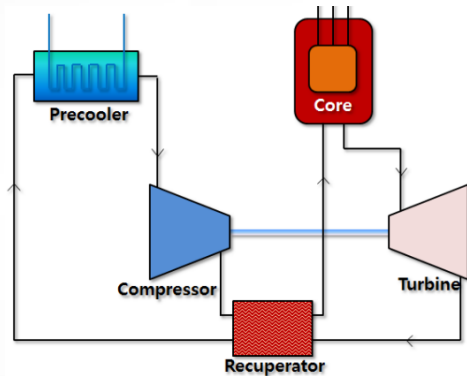
Introduction

Introduction

Background and motivation

KAIST-MMR (Micro Modular Reactor)

- 10 MW_e class S-CO₂ direct cycle in combination with a fast neutron nuclear reactor
- Long life core (20 yrs) and enhanced safety feature
- Full modularization (reactor core, power conversion system)
- Transportable and installed to generate electricity in extreme environments (remote site)



< Concept of KAIST-MMR >

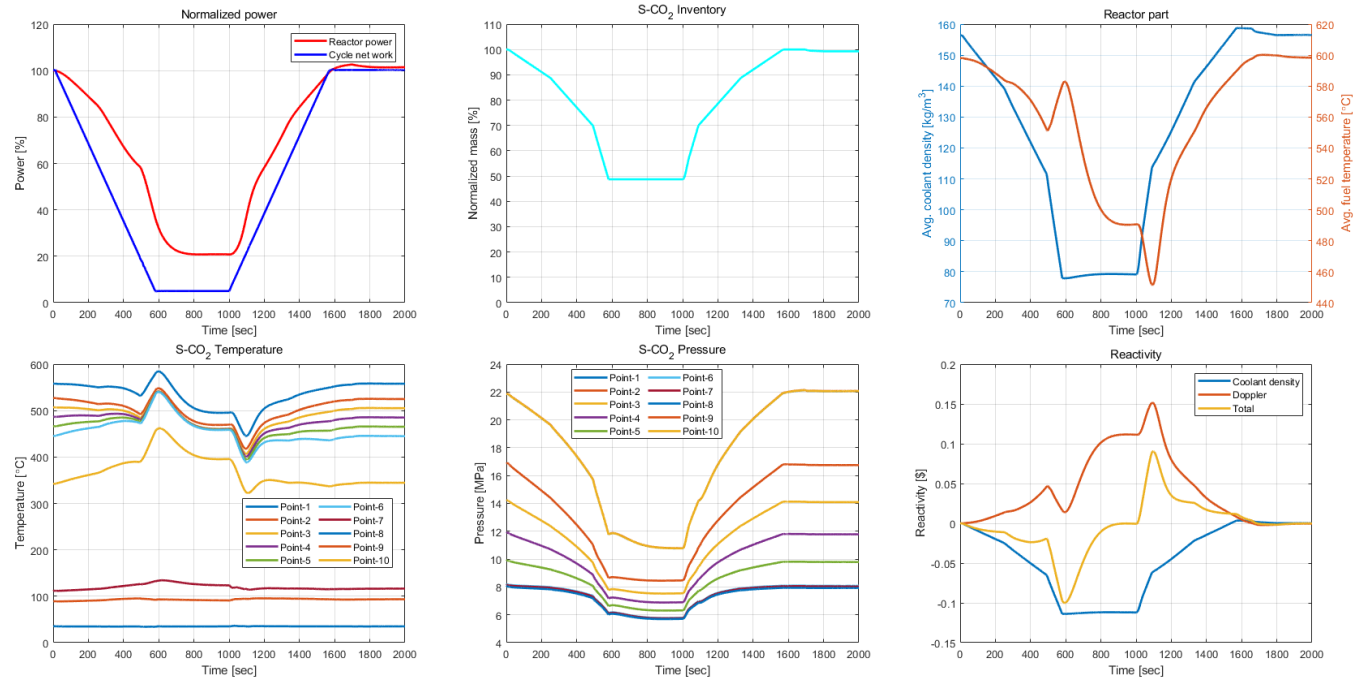


Introduction

Background and motivation

KAIST-MMR (Micro Modular Reactor): load following capability

- Reactor power control & power conversion system control
- S-CO₂ coolant: compressible fluid and large density variations with pressure changes
- **Passive load following operation** using coolant inventory control



Introduction

Background and motivation

PID-based control of KAIST-MMR for load following operation

➤ Scenario (ramp rate & operation range) based **automatic** controller design under **limited optimization**

➤ Control objective

- Regulation: Maintain a steady state value
- Tracking: Follow a prescribed trajectory

Stability,
Performance
optimization

➤ Control parameter

- **Compressor inlet temperature**

$$E_{CIT} = \frac{CIT(t) - CIT_{design}}{CIT_{design}}, \quad d\dot{m}_c = k_p E_{CIT} + k_i \int_0^t E_{CIT}(t) dt + k_d \frac{dE_{CIT}}{dt}$$

- **Turbine rotational speed**

$$\frac{d\omega}{dt} = \frac{(W_{turb} - W_{comp})\epsilon_{generator} - W_{generator}}{\sum_i I_i \omega}$$

$$E_{TBP} = \frac{\omega(t) - \omega_{design}}{\omega_{design}}, \quad f_{TBP} = k_p E_{TBP} + k_i \int_0^t E_{TBP}(t) dt + k_d \frac{dE_{TBP}}{dt}$$

➤ Optimization parameter

- **Inventory**

$$E_{IV} = \frac{M(t) - M_{target}}{M_{target}}$$

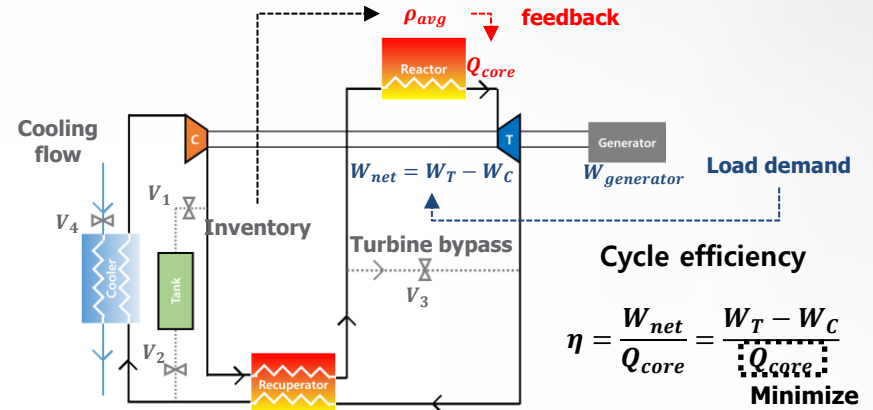
$$\dot{m}_{in} = k_p E_{IV} + k_i \int_0^t E_{IV}(t) dt + k_d \frac{dE_{IV}}{dt}$$

$$\dot{m}_{out} = k_p E_{IV} + k_i \int_0^t E_{IV}(t) dt + k_d \frac{dE_{IV}}{dt}$$

➤ Safety limit

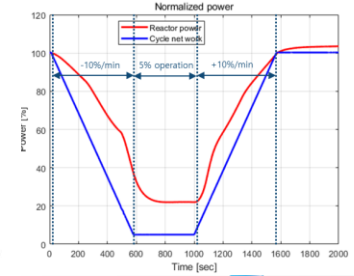
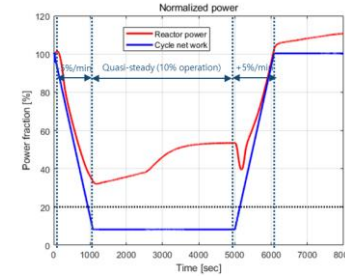
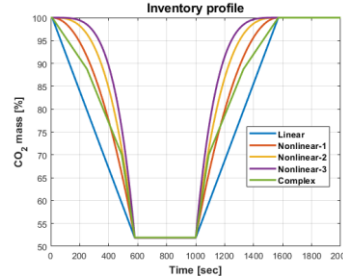
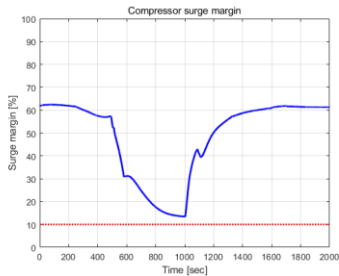
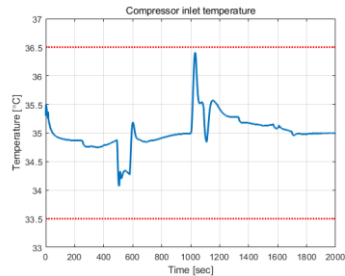
- Compressor surge margin

$$SM = \frac{\dot{m}_{comp} - \dot{m}_{surge}}{\dot{m}_{surge}}$$



❖ Optimum combination of $[V_1, V_2, V_3, V_4]$ with system stability
→ Minimize Q_{core}

❖ Many solutions satisfying a given scenario



Introduction

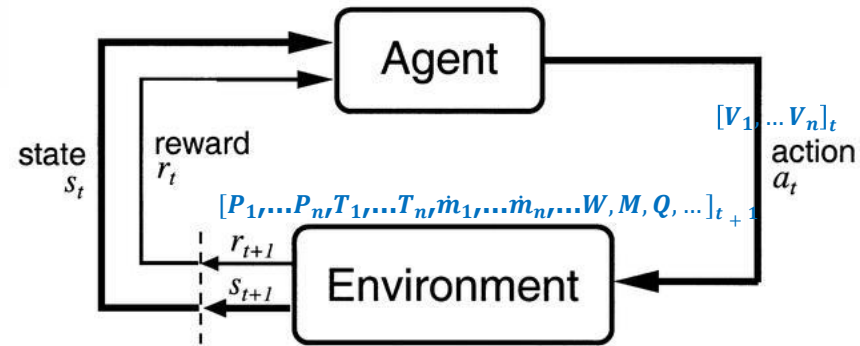
Research scope

Deep reinforcement learning (DRL) based control

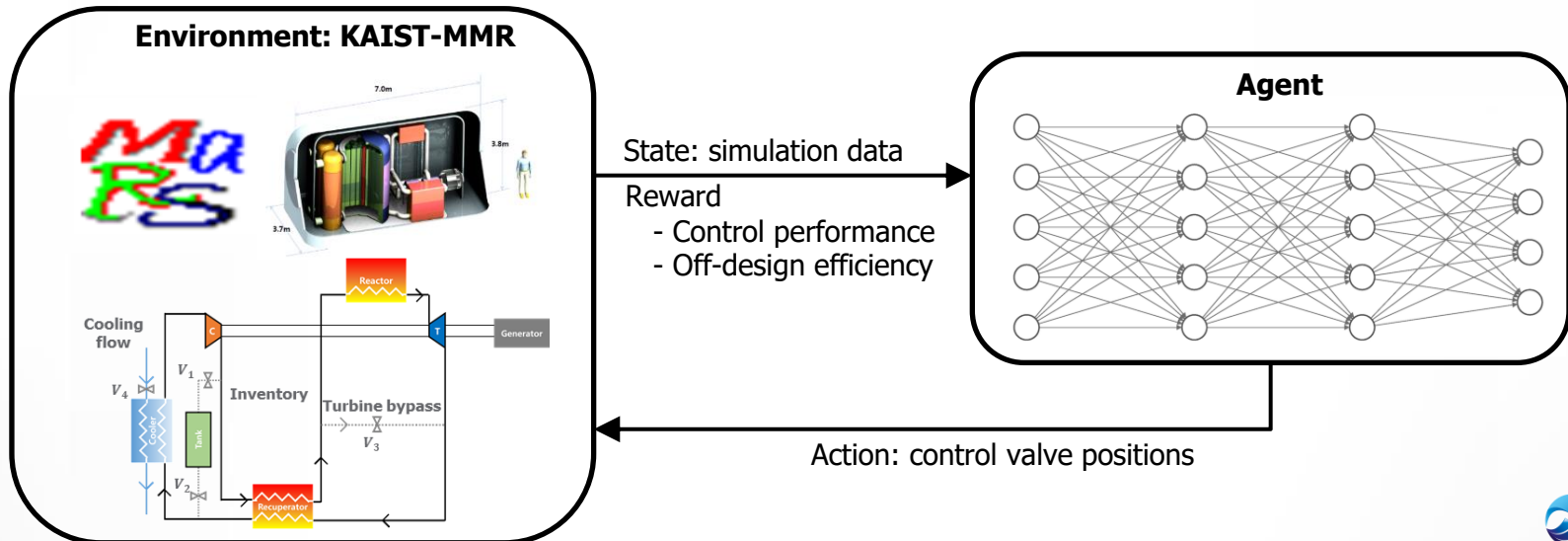
➤ RL: Sequential decision making setup which consists of an agent interacting with an environment in discrete steps.

➤ RL problems are described as Markov Decision Processes (MDP)

- State $s \in \mathcal{S}$
- Action $a \in \mathcal{A}$
- Reward $R_s^a = \mathbb{E}[R_{t+1} \mid S_t = s, A_t = a]$
- Policy $\pi(a|s) = \mathbb{P}[A_t = a \mid S_t = s]$
- Discounting factor γ

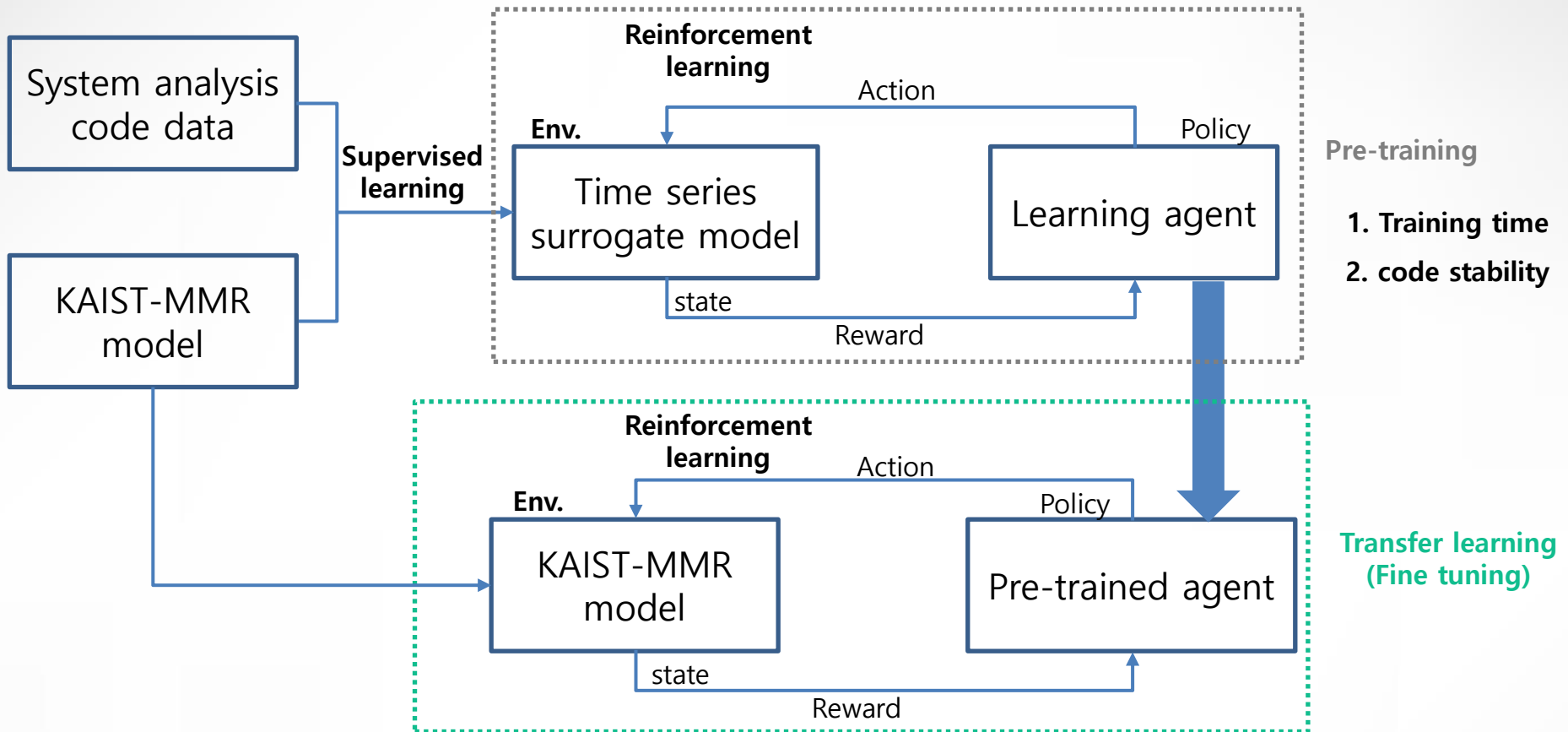


➤ It aims to increase the number of **independent state and control variables** as compared to the classic control environments



Introduction

Research scope





02

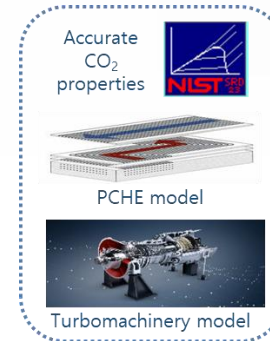
**Supervised
Learning**

Supervised-learning

Data production

System modeling

- System analysis code: modified MARS code (MARS-CO₂)
- Based on MARS-KS 1.4 ver.
 1. NIST database for accurate calculation near the critical point
 2. PCHE heat transfer model for calculation (recuperator)
 3. Pham(CEA) turbomachinery similitude model
- Steady-state modeling including main components and control system



MARS 1.4
Multi-D System TH Analysis

CODE RESTRUCTURING & MODERNIZATION
Modular Database-Type Structure & Dynamic Memory Management

Easy-to-Maintain

Readable

CODE UNIFICATION

FORTRAN 90 Conversion
Integrated Pressure Matrix & Solver
I/O System
Water Properties
Heat Structures Coupling
Point Kinetics
Single CPU Platform
RELAPS New Features
Boron Transport

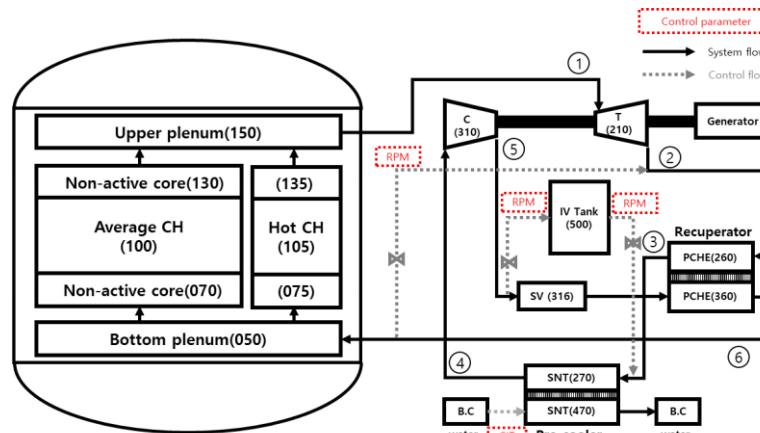
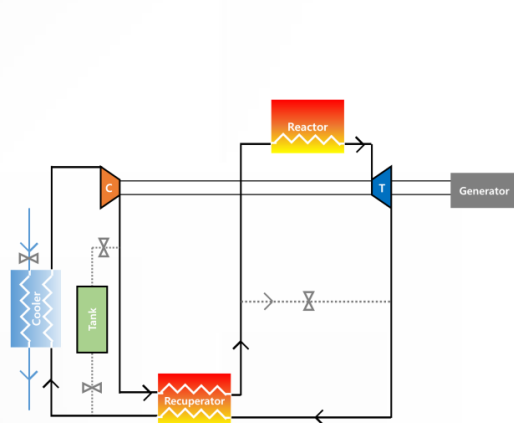
3D MODULE (COBRA-TF)

Flexible

Portable

Maintenance and Improvement of Existing Codes Capability

User Friendly GUI & Nuclear Plant Analyzer

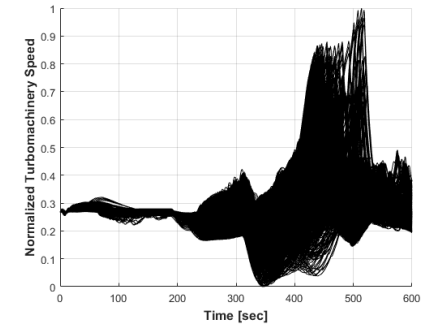
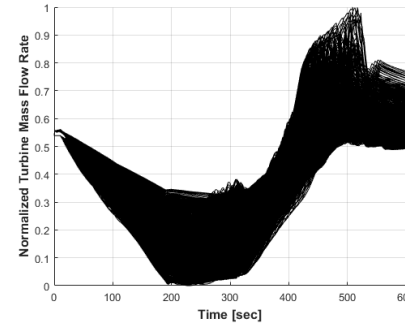
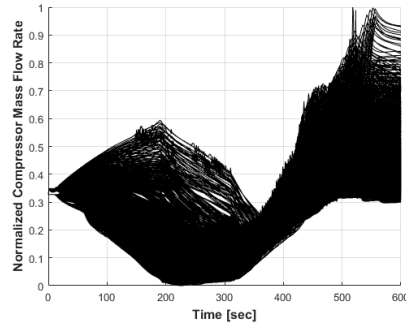
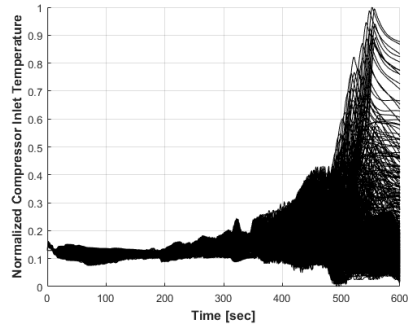
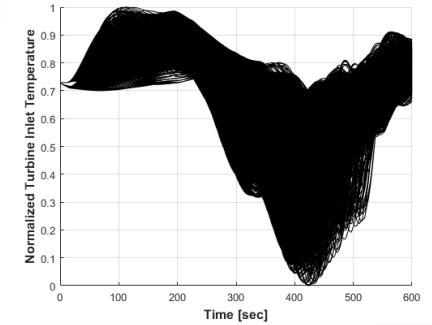
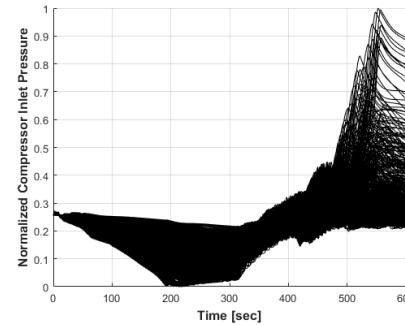
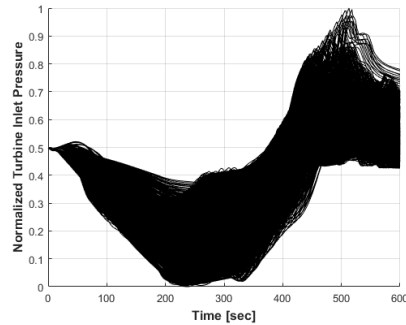
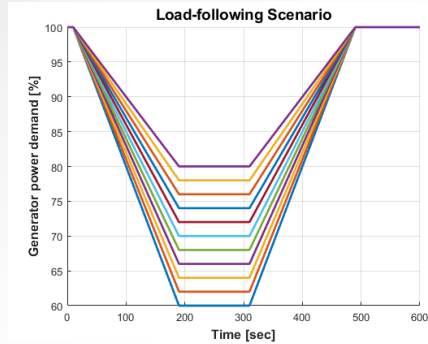


	P [MPa]	T [K]	\dot{m} [kg/s]
1	22.35	823.15	115.35
2	8.35	710.74	115.35
3	8.10	376.73	115.35
4	8.00	308.15	115.35
5	22.70	361.88	115.35
6	22.60	613.63	115.35

Supervised-learning

Data production

Load following simulation

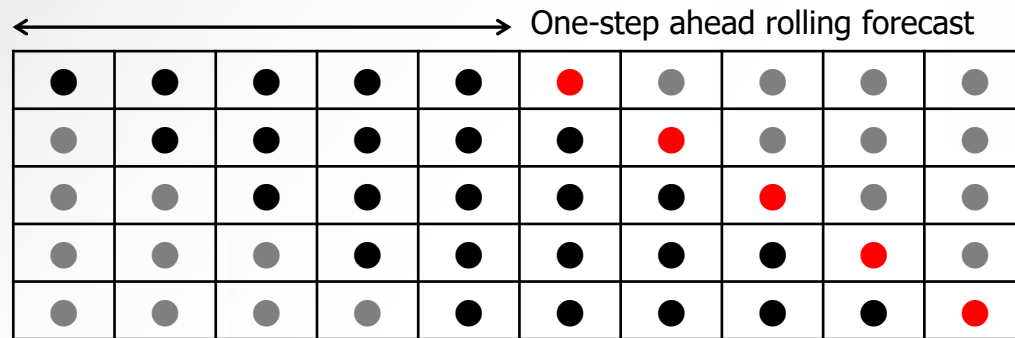


- Various PI gain values of control valves
- 9,900 simulation data with 5,949,900 data points

Supervised-learning

Time-series surrogate model

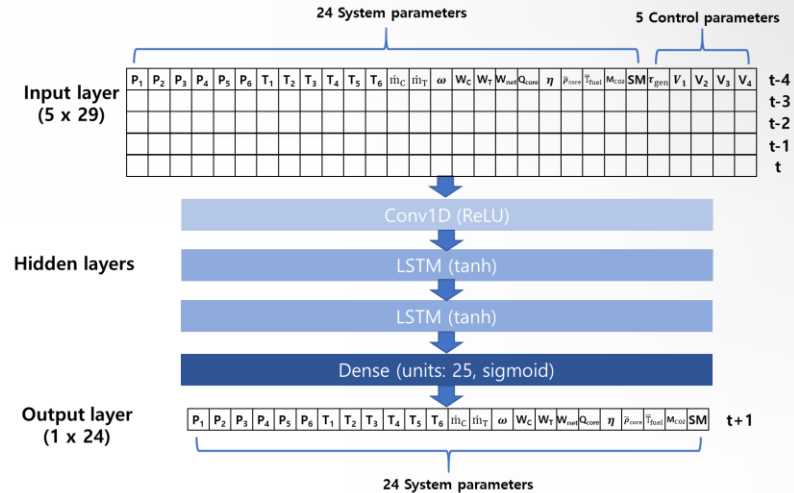
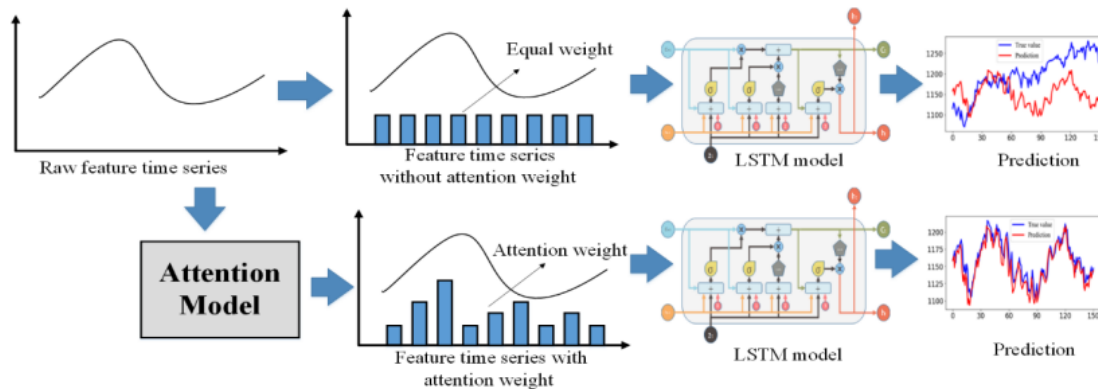
Rolling window forecast



● Input data point ● Labelled (or test) data point

➤ LSTM based multivariate time-series forecasting model

- Conv1D-LSTM
- Attention based LSTM



Training (80%) Validation (10%) Test (10%)

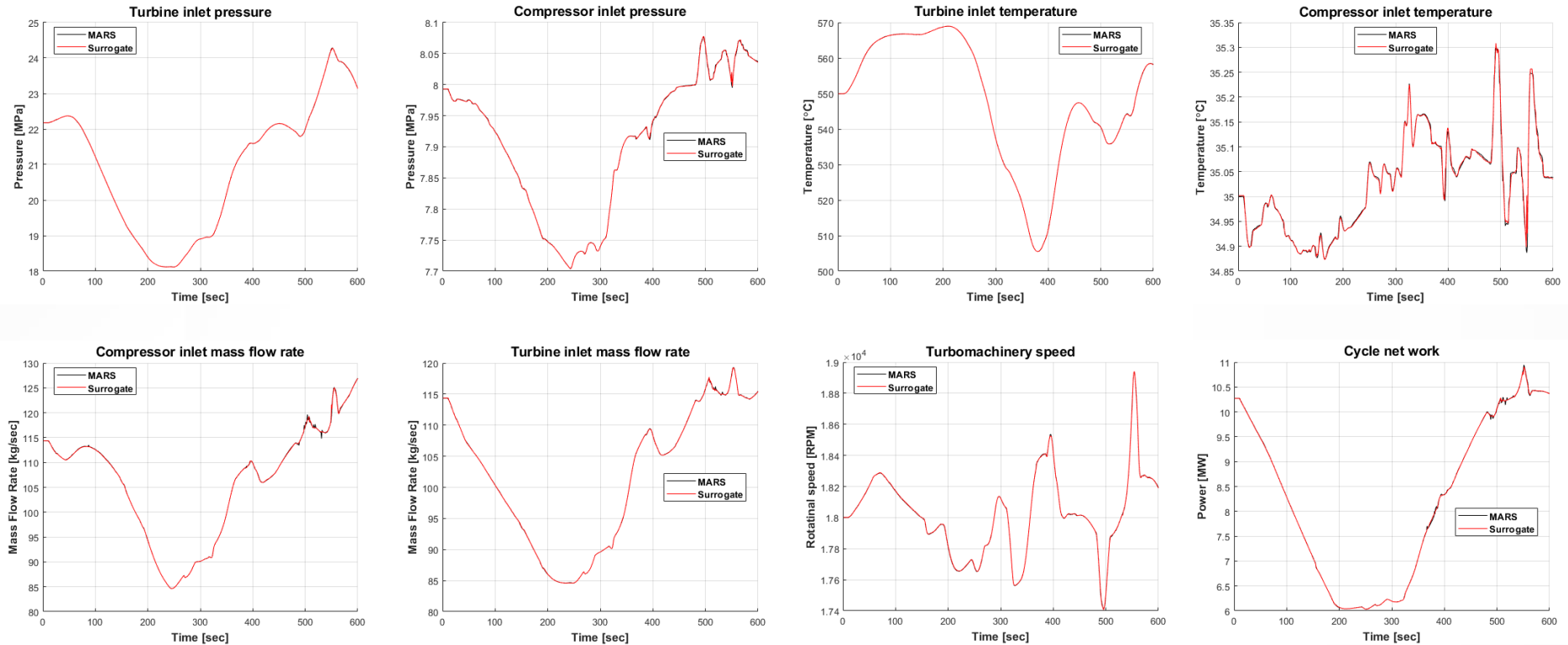
Number of nodes	MAE	
	Conv1D-LSTM	Attention based LSTM
32	3.0e-3	6.37e-4
64	1.9e-3	5.17e-4
128	1.8e-3	4.58e-4
256	1.7e-3	4.41e-4
512	1.6e-3	4.36e-4
1024	1.5e-3	4.17e-4

$$MAE = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N |y_{pred,i} - y_{MARS,i}|$$

Supervised-learning

Time-series surrogate model

Surrogate model test results



< Comparison of MARS code data and predicted values from the surrogate model >

➤ Test results show very good agreement with MARS simulation data



03

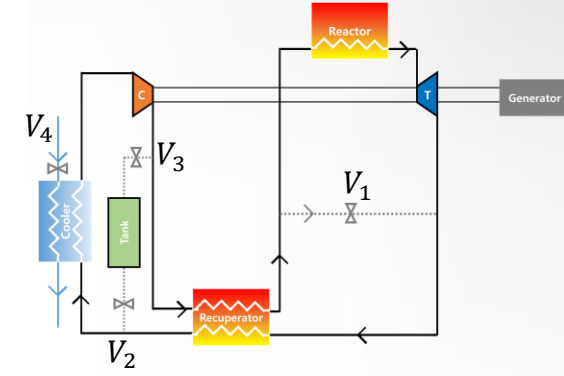
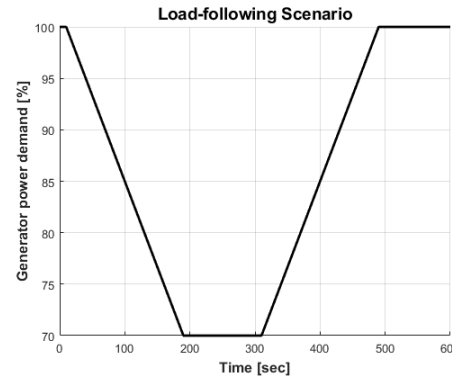
**Reinforcement
Learning**

Reinforcement-learning

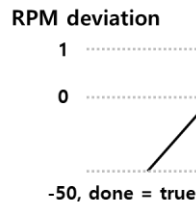
Pre-training using surrogate model

RL environment and training conditions

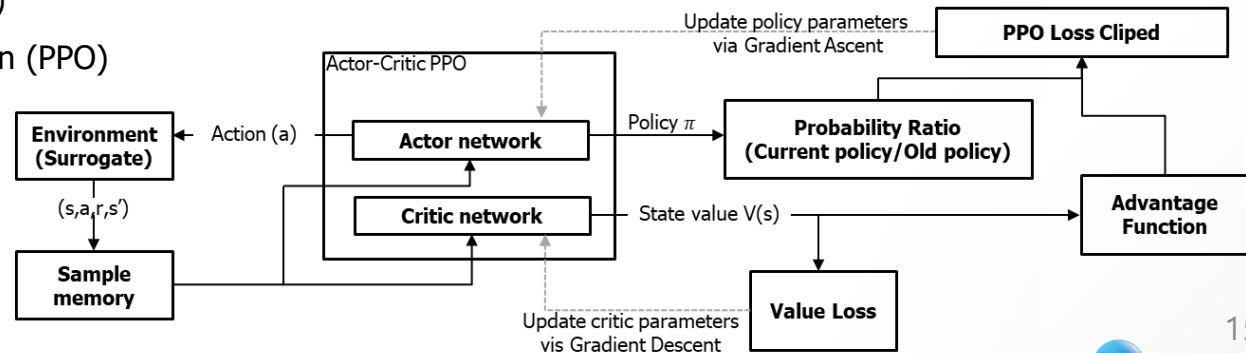
- Scenario: 100% - 70% - 100% operation (10%/min)
- Action space: Box(-1, 1, (3,)) control valves
 1. TBP (-1: V_1 fully closed, 1: V_1 fully opened)
 2. Inventory (0: V_2 & V_3 closed, -1: V_2 fully opened, 1: V_3 fully opened)
 3. CIT (-1: V_4 fully closed, 1: V_4 fully opened)
- Observation: Box(0, 1, (24,)) system parameters
- Rewards



1. RPM
2. Efficiency
3. CIT
4. Alive: +1
5. Abnormal termination (penalty)



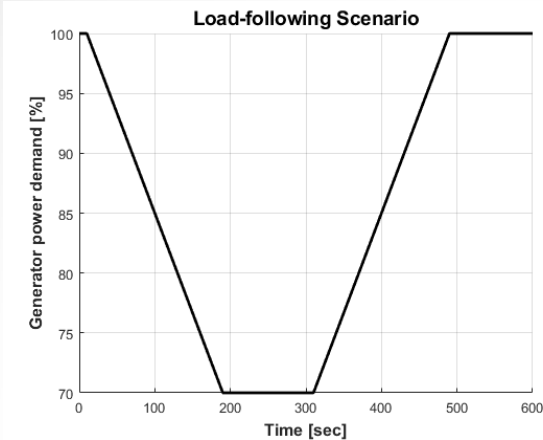
- Algorithm: Proximal policy optimization (PPO)
- Max episode length: 600
- Max training length: $3e7$



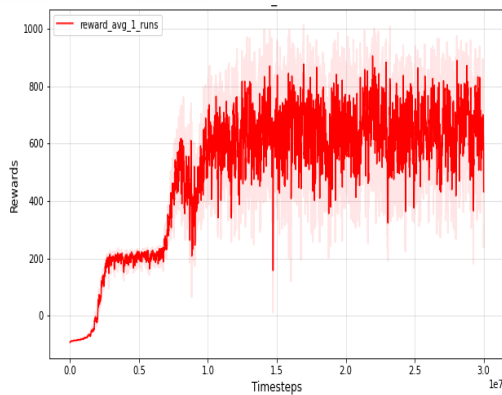
Reinforcement-learning

Pre-training using surrogate model

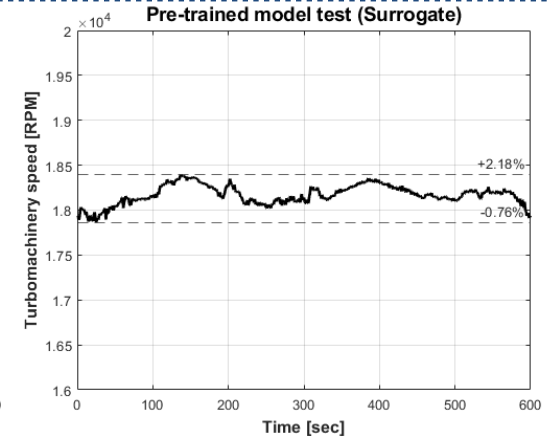
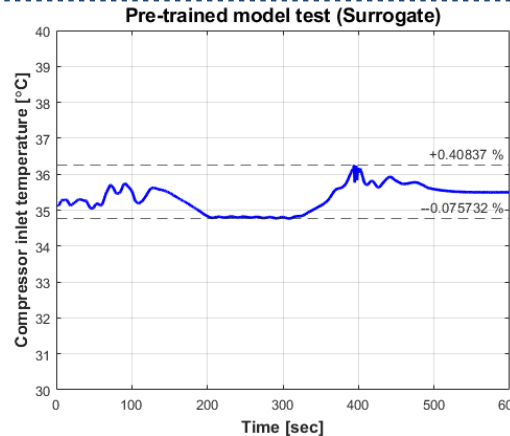
Pre-training results and control test



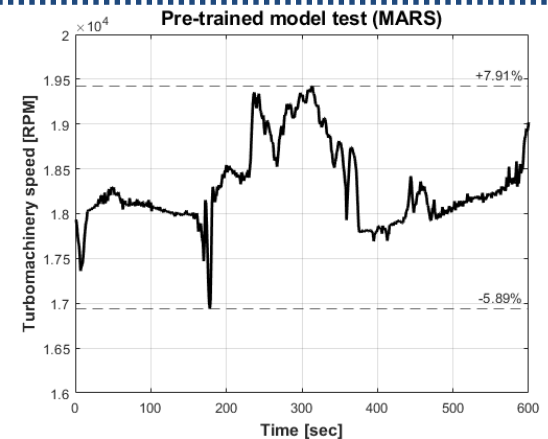
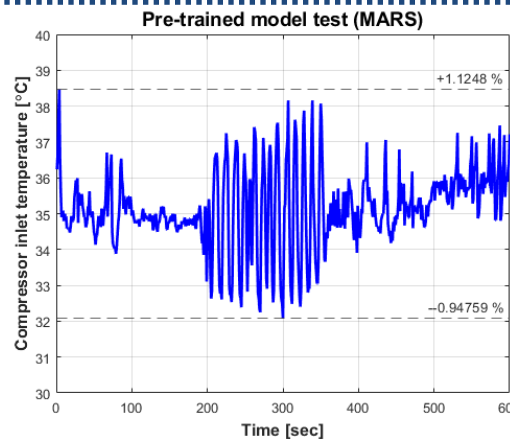
< Training & test scenario >



< Pre-training result >



< Control test results in surrogate environment (CIT & RPM) >



< Control test results in MARS environment (CIT & RPM) >

- Pre-trained agent shows reasonably good control performance under the trained scenario.
- It also performs control in the correct direction in MARS environment, but needs to be improved further with post-learning.



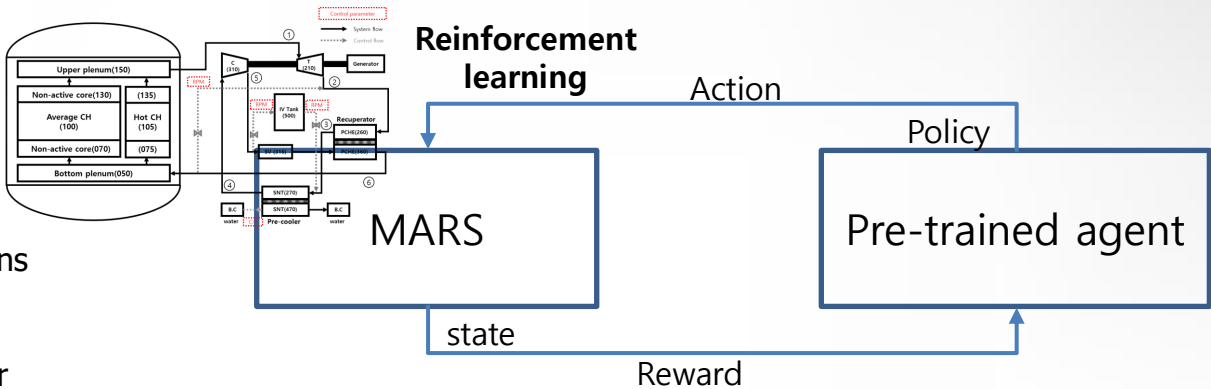
04

Further Works

Further Works

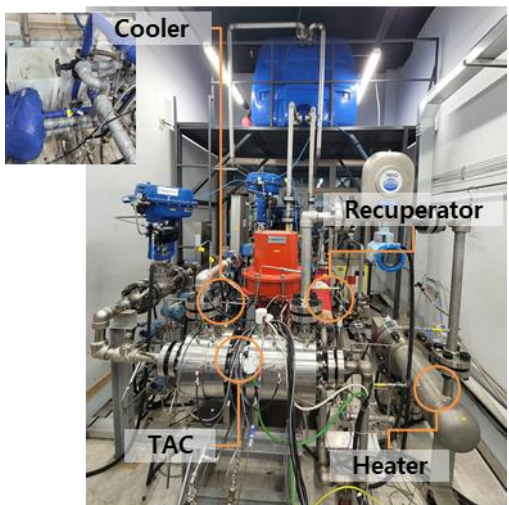
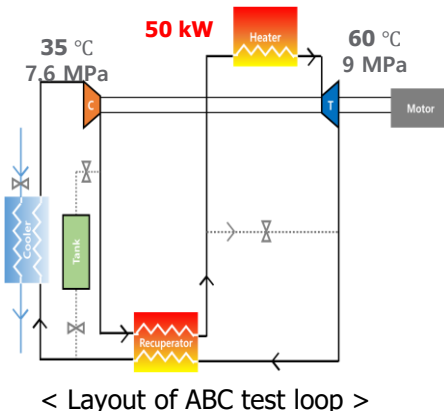
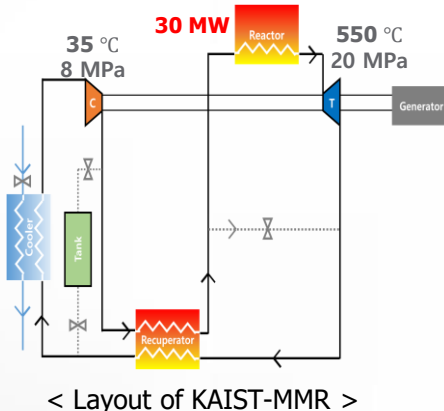
Transfer learning using system analysis code

- Fine tuning (lower training time steps)
- Optimizer: Adam → SGD
- Learning rate ↓
- Training time comparison
 - Surrogate model: 3e7 steps ~570 mins
 - MARS: 1e5 steps ~2280 mins
- Surrogate model → ~1200 times faster



Application to real world system

- Hardware validation of DRL-based control methodology



< ABC test loop >



< Inventory tank >

Thank you for your attention

Q & A



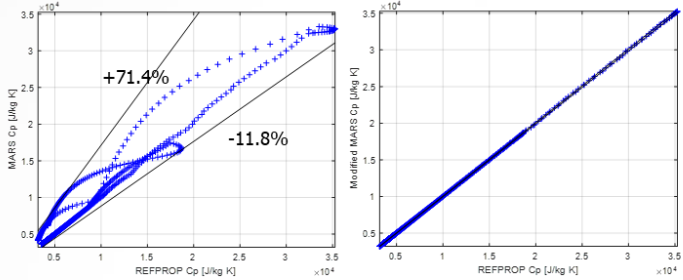
A square graphic with a dark blue background, overlaid with a pattern of lighter blue diagonal stripes forming a grid of triangles. The word "Appendix" is centered in white text.

Appendix

System analysis code: MARS code modification

1. Physical properties of CO₂

- NIST database for accurate calculation near the critical point



2. PCHE heat transfer model

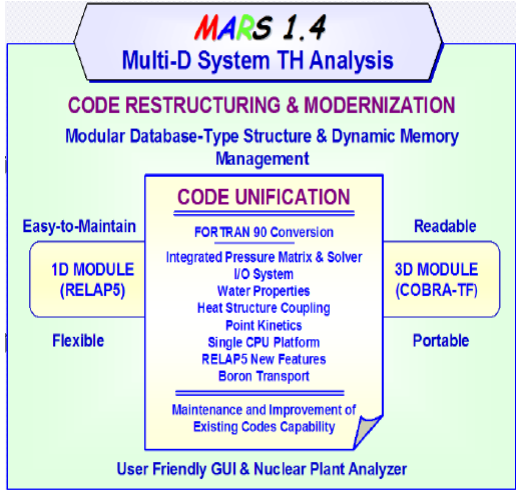
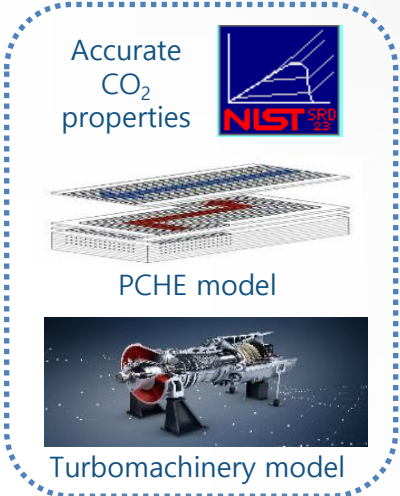
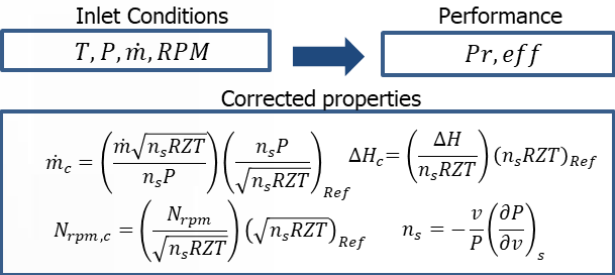
- For design and off-design calculation of recuperator

$$Nu = 0.0292Re^{0.8137}$$

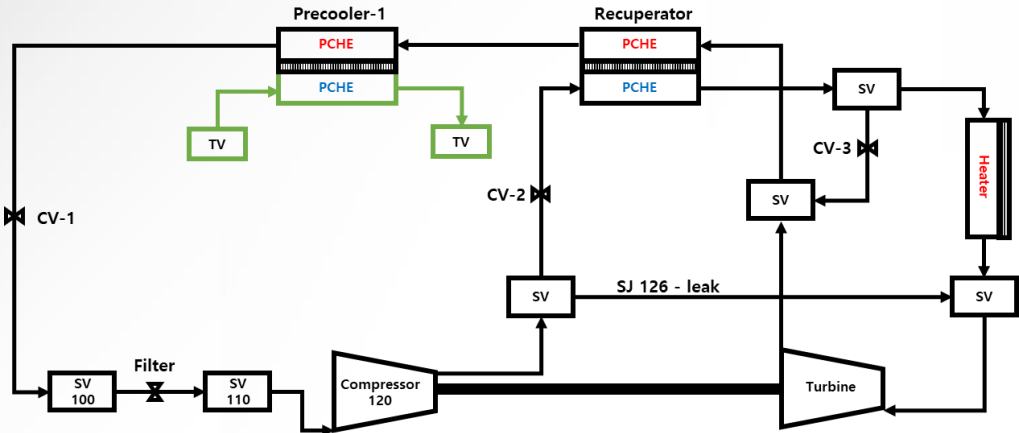
3. Turbomachinery model

- CEA similitude model & performance maps

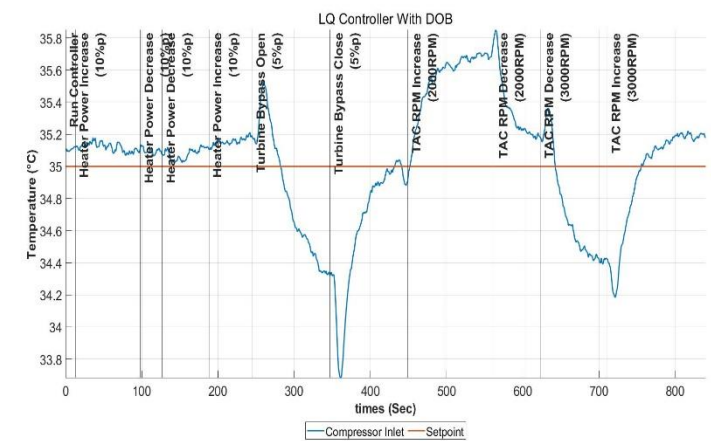
CEA Similitude Model



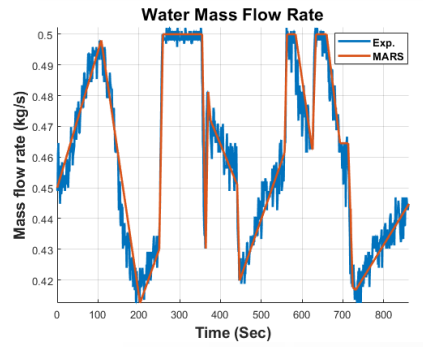
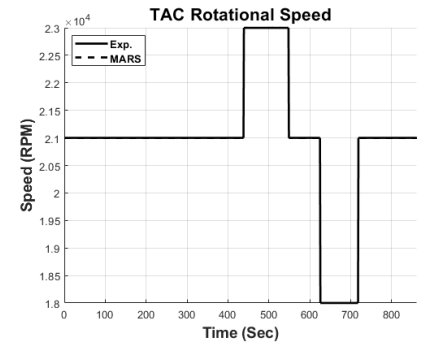
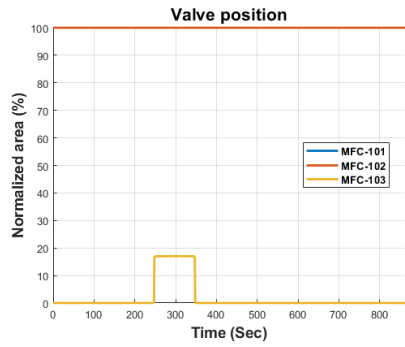
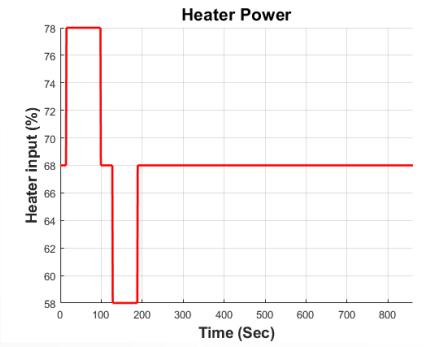
System analysis code: loop modeling & code validation



< Schematic of ABC loop modeling in MARS code >

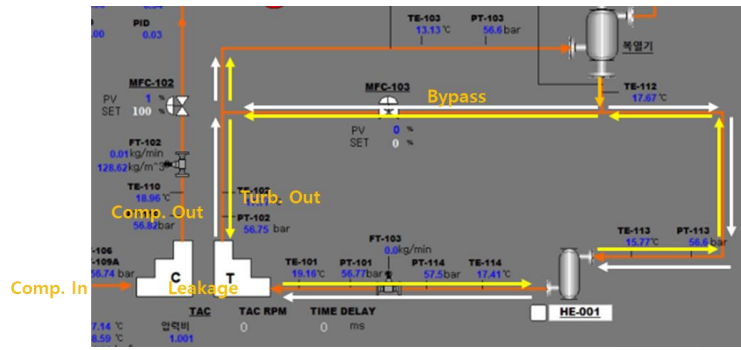
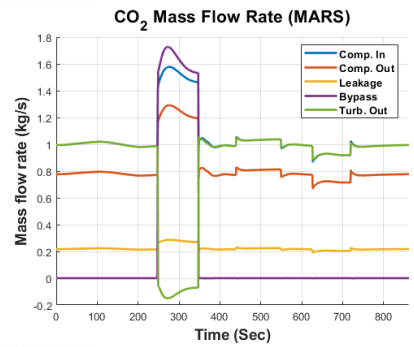
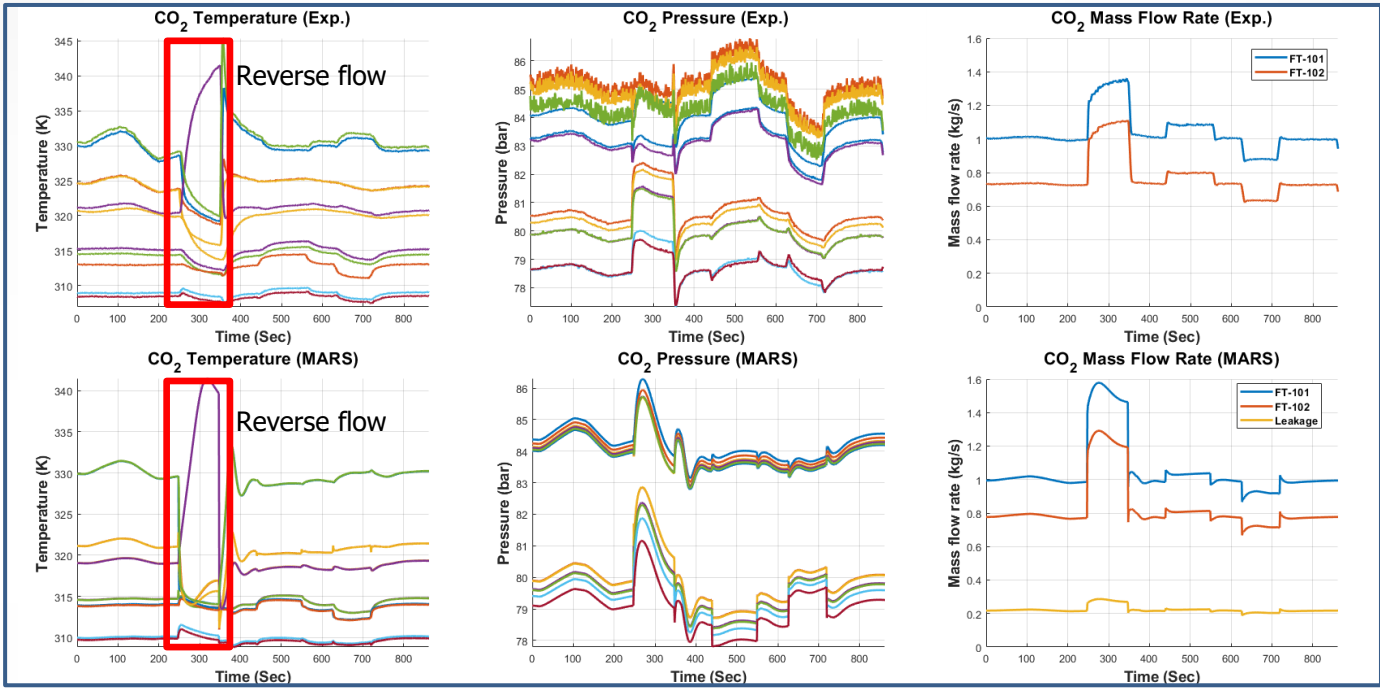


< Previous CIT control test data >

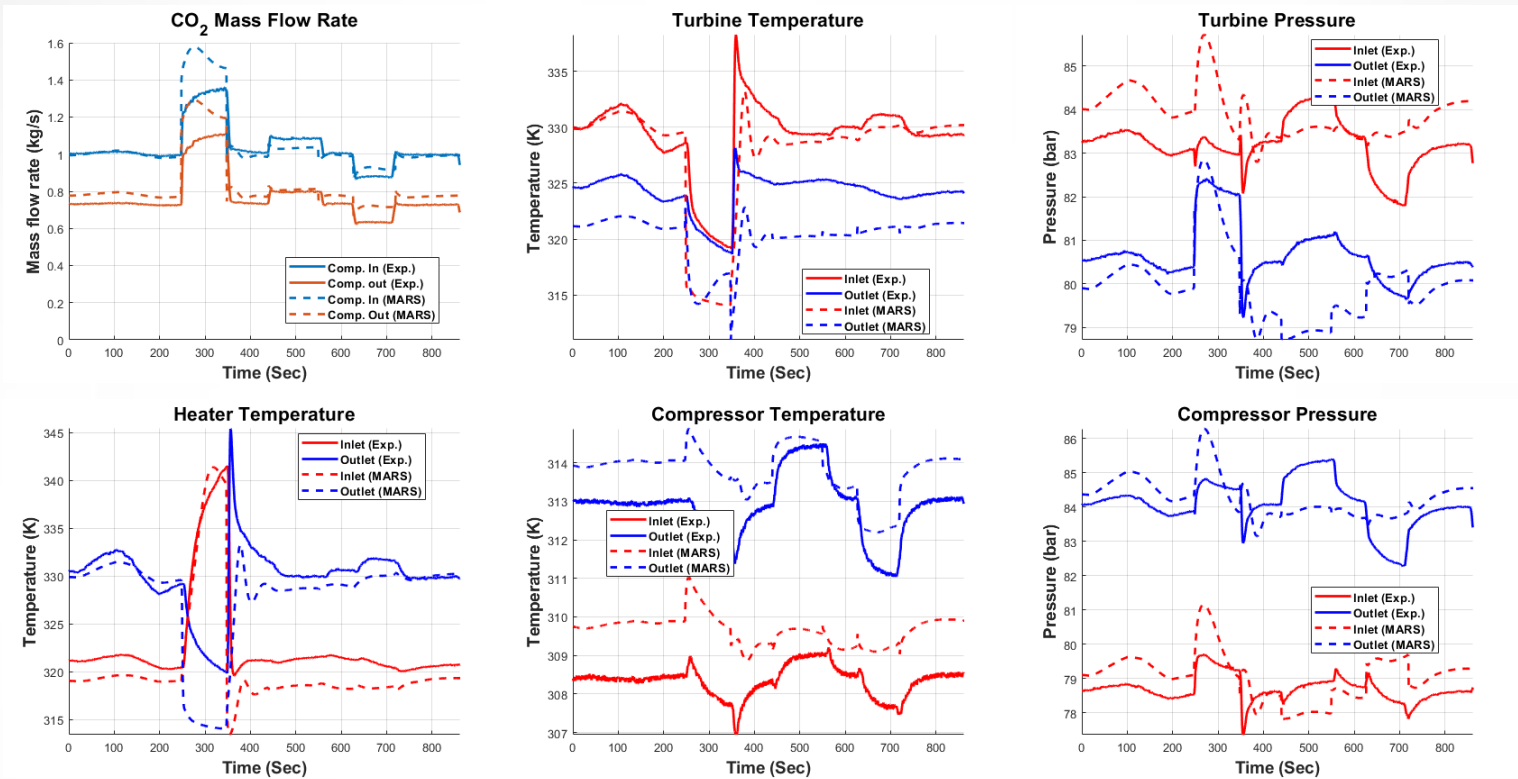


< Transient scenario in MARS code simulation >

System analysis code: loop modeling & code validation

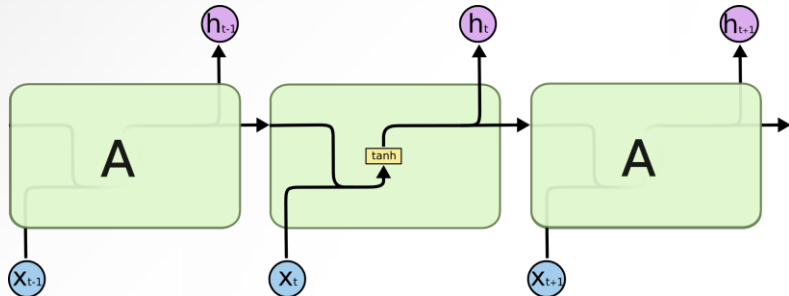


System analysis code: loop modeling & code validation

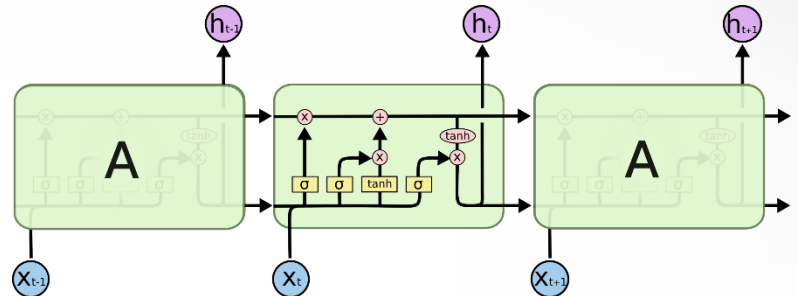


- MARS code can well simulate the dynamic characteristics of the ABC test loop
- It is possible to predict not only the **normal** state but also the **abnormal** state of the system.

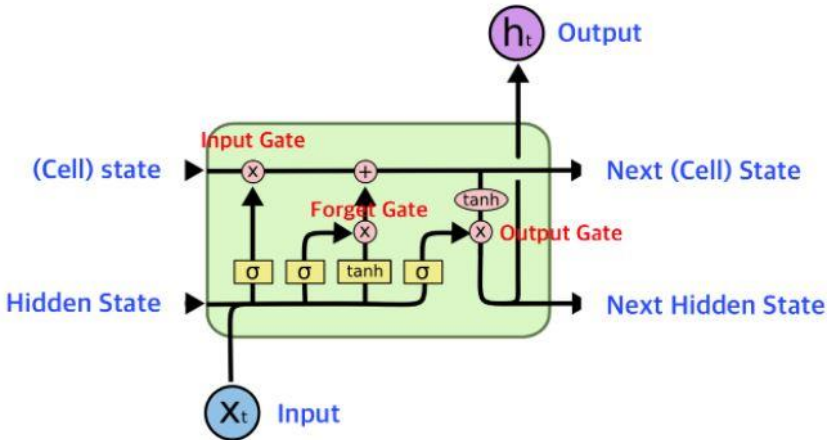
Long Short Term Memory (LSTM) model



< Recurrent neural network (RNN) >



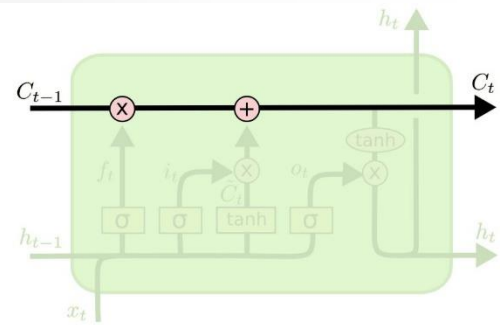
< LSTM >



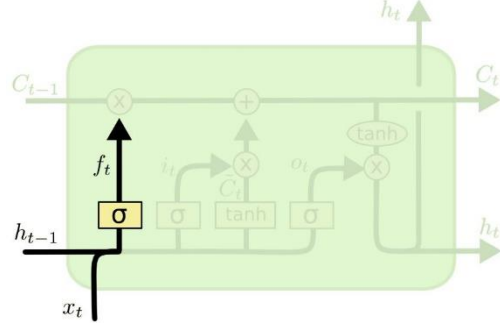
- Model to solve the long-term dependencies in traditional RNNs.
- To predict future data by considering not only the previous data, but also the past data more macroscopically
- 6 parameters & 4 gates

Long Short Term Memory (LSTM) model

Cell state

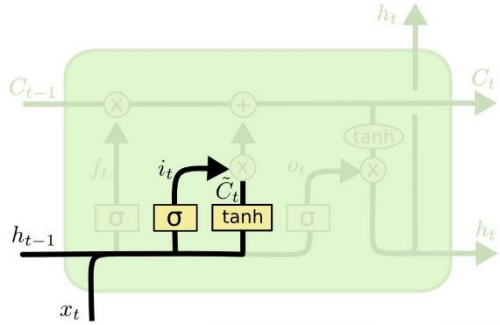


Forget gate



$$f_t = \sigma(W_f \cdot [h_{t-1}, x_t] + b_f)$$

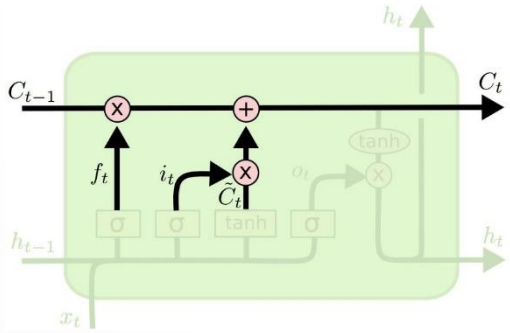
Input gate



$$i_t = \sigma(W_i \cdot [h_{t-1}, x_t] + b_i)$$

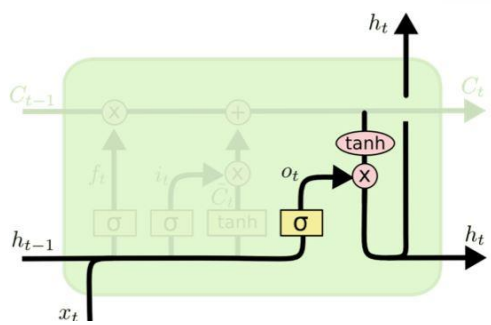
$$\tilde{C}_t = \tanh(W_C \cdot [h_{t-1}, x_t] + b_C)$$

Update



$$C_t = f_t * C_{t-1} + i_t * \tilde{C}_t$$

Output gate



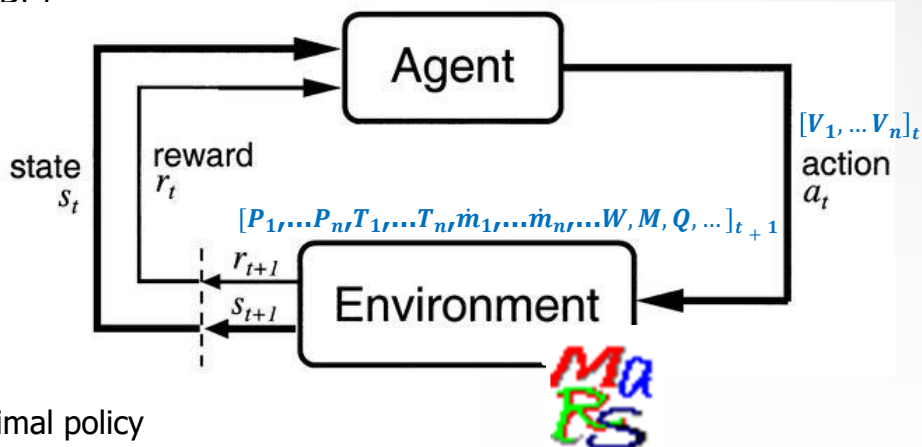
$$o_t = \sigma(W_o [h_{t-1}, x_t] + b_o)$$

$$h_t = o_t * \tanh(C_t)$$

Deep Reinforcement learning

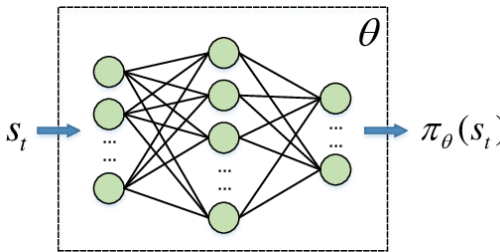
- RL: Sequential decision making setup which consists of an agent interacting with an environment in discrete steps.
- RL problems are described as Markov Decision Processes (MDP)

- State $s \in \mathcal{S}$
- Action $a \in \mathcal{A}$
- Reward $R_s^a = \mathbb{E}[R_{t+1} \mid S_t = s, A_t = a]$
- Policy $\pi(a|s) = \mathbb{P}[A_t = a \mid S_t = s]$
- Discounting factor γ



- Objective: maximize the expected return by choosing an optimal policy

- Return $G_t = \sum_0^\infty \gamma^k R_{t+k+1}$
- State-value function $V_\pi(s) = \mathbb{E}_\pi[G_t \mid S_t = s], V_\pi^*(s) = \max_\pi V_\pi(s)$
- Action-value function $Q_\pi(s, a) = \mathbb{E}_\pi[G_t \mid S_t = s, A_t = a], Q_\pi^*(s, a) = \max_\pi Q_\pi(s, a)$



- Value based RL (DQN)
 - Minimize loss function $L(\theta)$
 - $\theta_{k+1} \leftarrow \theta_k - \alpha \cdot \nabla_\theta L(\theta)$ (gradient descent)
 - $\pi^*(a|s) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } a = \operatorname{argmax}_a Q_\pi^*(s, a) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

- Policy based RL
 - Maximize objective function $J(\theta) = V_{\pi_\theta}(S_0)$
 - $\theta_{k+1} \leftarrow \theta_k + \alpha \cdot \nabla_\theta J(\theta)$ (gradient ascent)
 - Action choice: *softmax*

RL algorithm: Proximal Policy Optimization (PPO)

➤ Policy gradient (PG): $\nabla_{\theta} J(\theta) = \mathbb{E}_{\pi_{\theta}} [\nabla_{\theta} \log \pi_{\theta}(s, a) \cdot Q_{\pi_{\theta}}(s, a)]$

$\mathbb{E}_{\pi_{\theta}} [\nabla_{\theta} \log \pi_{\theta}(s, a) \cdot G_t]$

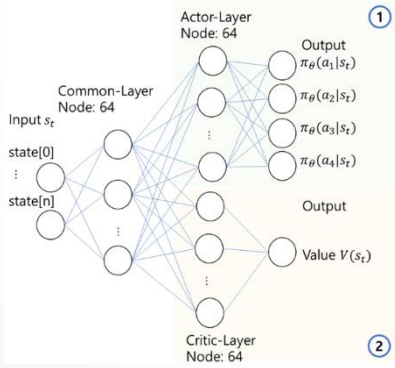
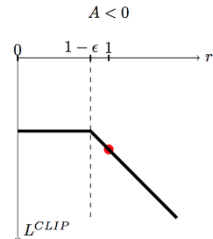
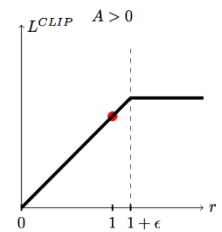
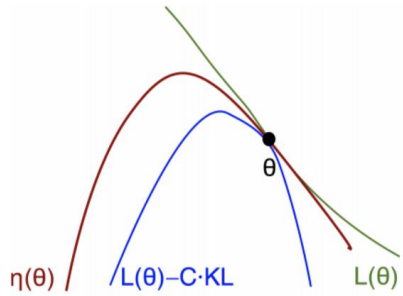
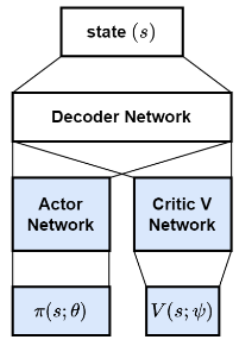
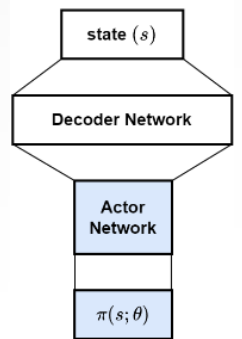
PG/REINFORCE

$\mathbb{E}_{\pi_{\theta}} [\nabla_{\theta} \log \pi_{\theta}(s, a) \cdot A_W(s, a)]$

Actor Critic (A2C)

Trust Region Policy Optimization (TRPO), 2015

Proximal Policy Optimization (PPO), 2017



Advantage function
 $A_{\pi_{\theta}} = Q_{\pi_{\theta}}(s, a) - V_{\pi_{\theta}}(s)$

$$J(\theta) - J(\theta_{old}) = L(\theta) > 0$$

Kullback-Leibler (KL) divergence

$$D_{KL}(\pi_{\theta_{old}}(\cdot | s) \parallel \pi_{\theta}(\cdot | s)) \leq \delta$$

$$r(\theta) = \frac{\pi_{\theta}(a|s)}{\pi_{\theta_{old}}(a|s)}$$

Clip parameter

$$1 - \epsilon \leq r(\theta) \leq 1 + \epsilon$$