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Dr. Yong-gyun Yu is the Operational Director of the National AI for Science Center (NAIS) of Korea and a Principal Researcher at the Korea Atomic Energy Research Institute (KAERI). In his current capacity at NAIS, he leads national-level AI-for-Science initiatives, shaping the strategic framework to integrate artificial intelligence across diverse scientific disciplines and accelerating data-driven discovery on a global scale.

Prior to his appointment at NAIS, Dr. Yu served as the Head of the AI Applications Research Department at KAERI(2020~2026), where he spearheaded the development of AI technologies specifically designed to enhance the safety, reliability, and efficiency of nuclear energy systems. Beyond his institutional roles, he is a prominent figure in the broader technology ecosystem as the founder of "AI Friends," a major private AI community dedicated to knowledge sharing and cross-sector collaboration between industry, academia, and research institutes.

Dr. Yu earned his B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. (2010) Mechanical Engineering from the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST). He is widely recognized as a key architect of South Korea’s AI transformation (AX) in the scientific sector, bridging the gap between traditional domain engineering and cutting-edge machine learning.