North Korea’s nuclear-weapons program poses an unprecedented challenge for nonproliferation efforts. Three decades of steady progress has given the nation an ability to produce thermonuclear weapons and deliver them via intercontinental ballistic missile. Despite visible outward achievements, experts in the West barely understand the extent of North Korea’s capabilities, where key facilities are located, or how to verify disarmament even if the full extent of the program were disclosed. This seminar describes the diplomatic challenge the lies ahead and introduces research now underway in a range of engineering sub-disciplines aimed at overcoming the technical barriers to engaging North Korea.

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