

## Analysis by Patrick Hunt 15MAR26

### 1. **Size and Endurance**

KSS-III is larger and designed for extended blue-water operations with a higher crew complement (3-Watch System) and missile payload.

Type 212CD is more compact, optimized for stealth and Arctic patrol (2-Watch System)

### 2. **Propulsion**

Both use diesel-electric with AIP, but KSS-III integrates fuel cells with lithium-ion batteries (Batch II) for extended endurance and faster charge cycles;

Type 212CD emphasizes prolonged stealth using hydrogen fuel cells.

### 3. **Armament and Strike Capability**

KSS-III uniquely offers vertical launch of submarine-launched ballistic missiles and land-attack cruise missiles, extending strategic reach.

Type 218CD focuses on conventional torpedoes and cruise missiles.

### 4. **Operational Focus**

KSS-III emphasizes countering North Korea in local waters, regional blue-water reach and strike power for Indo-Pacific operations.

Type 212CD is suited for Northern/Arctic covert operations and integration with NATO forces. Claims superior stealth capabilities.

### 5. **Export and Industrial Cooperation**

Both systems include potential international collaborations.

South Korea claims rapid domestic production and strategic missile capabilities.

## Conclusion:

South Korea's KSS-III is larger and strategically versatile with ballistic missile capability suited for global power projection in littoral and open oceans.

Germany's Type 212CD prioritizes stealth, Arctic proficiency, and intelligence/anti-submarine missions under extreme conditions.

The choice between them reflects trade-offs between size, strike capability, stealth, and operational environment.

## My Personal (only) Preference: **KSSIII**

1. Bigger Size = fuel, range, stores, Vertical Launch Missiles, more buoyancy to break through ice, ocean going, especially important in Pacific and Arctic Oceans (submarines typically don't fight under ice but transit under ice to guard the entrances and exits from the ice).
2. First boat 2032 vs 2035 and faster delivery of remainder of boats
3. Cost less per boat and, secondary, may offer more Canadian content
4. Neither boat fires the Nation 'standard' Mark 48 torpedo, so not an issue. Both have excellent torpedoes and fire-control systems.

## CPSP Comparison of Key Components

### Advantage = Green Shading

Feature	South Korea KSS-III Batch II	Germany/Norway Type 212CD
Displacement	3,600 Tonnes surfaced 4,000 Tonnes submerged	2,500 Tonnes surfaced 2,800 Tonnes submerged
Crew	50 (3 Watch Crew)	Likely 27–30 (2 Watch Crew)
Range	~10,000 NM	Estimated at 7,0000 NM
Vertical Launch System	Yes; 10 cells	No
Canada Content	Yes, including other industry offsets	Yes
In Service	Yes	No
Stealth	Excellent, but larger sonar signature	Probably the quietest sub on Earth (On Paper)
Cost and Delivery	Cost TBD, but other considerations, Delivery 2032 then 1 per year	Cost TBD, but other considerations, First delivery likely 2034, none delivered yet

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