DiRAC 3 Phase 2

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On behalf of the DiRAC Technical Directorate

DiRAC High Performance Computing Facility

The system upgrade process





The Technical Directorate

- Established in 2020
- Membership: Co-chairs; Director of Innovation & Technology; 1-3 additional DiRAC community experts
- Current members: Alastair Basden, Antonin Portelli, Jeremy Yates, Kieran Leach, Biagio Lucini
- Relevant duties
 - Develop the technical case for DiRAC
 - Approve procurement plans
 - Oversee the smooth running of the facilities
 - Discuss future directions in software and hardware (including strategic partnerships)



DiRAC 3 Phase 1 (and before) systems

Timeline



Extending access to DiRAC services (Credits: M. Wilkinson)

- Recently deployed additional hardware at two sites:
 - Edinburgh Extreme Scaling Service 256 additional A100-80GB GPUs
 - Durham Memory Intensive Service 168 nodes (21.5k cores) of AMD Milan CPUs
- Between Oct 2023 and Mar 2024:
 - 50% of new hardware allocated via Director's Discretionary Call for DiRAC projects
 - 400k GPU hours and 40M CPU core hours were allocated
 - Call was 2x over-subscribed
 - 50% being made available to non-STFC groups:
 - CompBioMed consortium
 - HECBioSim and CCPBioSim consortia
 - PAX ExCALIBUR project (materials modelling)
 - MRC-University of Glasgow centre for virus research
 - UCL Centre for AI
 - UKAEA
- **Goal of non-STFC allocations:** Offer sufficient resource allocation to allow production-scale calculations which would otherwise not be possible on a UK service
 - Explicit effort on the DiRAC side and within consortia, to inform a future cost model

COSMA 8

current status

COSMA8 COMPRISES

528 COMPUPTE NODES. (360 WITH 2x AMD ROME PROCESSORS AND 168 WITH AMD MILAN 7763 PROCESSORS), 1TB RAM AND NON-BLOOCKING HDR200 INFINIBAND NETWORK

2x 2TB LOGIN NODES WITH 64 CORES (DUAL AMD 7h12 ROME 7542 PROCESSORS) TWO FAT NODES WITH 4TB RAM AND 128 CORES

GPU NODES WITH NVIDIA A100, V100 AND AMD MI200 AND MI100 GPUs – 7 NODES WITH 18 GPUs13PB BULK LUSTRE STORAGE

1.2 FAST SCRATCH STORAGE (~350GBytes/s) HIGH-CACHE NODE (768MB CACHE MILAN-X) WITH 127 CORES AND 1TB RAM

26PB TAPE ARCHIVAL FACILITY

Additional capabilities include

- 168 nodes and 6 PB of Lustre storage
- Ability to run 512 node jobs on 64k cores

TURSA current status

TURSA COMPRISES

4272 AMD CPU CORES RUNNING AT 2.6/3.3GHz 178TB OF SYSTEM MEMORY 712 * A100 NVIDIA GPUs 200GB/s HDR IB NON-BLOCKING INTERCONNECT 8PB TAPE BACKUP

Additional capabilities include

- 64 nodes with a total of 256 A100-80 GPUs
- 1.5 PB of Lustre storage



Key takeaway messages



The hardware follows the science goals



The strategy is always proactive, never reactive



Performance is always measured by user codes



The user community plays a central role in defining the strategy



The approach is anticipated to stay in place for future opportunities



The approach is open and cooperative