



**Computational Resource Allocation Group (CRAG)
Monthly Meeting**

Friday 22nd May 2015 at 13.00

Room 103, Podium Building, 1 Eversholt Street, London NW1 2DN

Chair:

Dario Alfe [DA] (*Deputy for NK*)

Present:

Javier Herrero [JH]; Owain Kenway [OK]; Michail Stamatakis [MS]; Sergey Yurchenko [SY]

Apologies:

Nicholas Achilleos [NA]; Clare Gryce [CG]; Thomas Jones [TJ]; Nik Kaltsoyannis [NK]; Andrew Martin [AM];

In attendance:

Corrinne Frazzoni [CF] (*Minutes*); **William Hay [WH]** (*Item 8*); **James Hetherington [JH]; Helen Sherwood-Taylor [HST]** (*Item 9*)

MINUTES

1. Approval of Minutes of last meeting held on Friday 17th April 2015 [DA]

DA acted as Deputy Chair for this meeting, in the absence of NK.

The Group approved the Minutes of the last meeting. There were no matters arising.

2. Update on status of current Actions [DA/AII]

The list of current Actions (see table at end) was updated.

3. Review of any requests for additional resources on local HPC facilities [DA/AII]

There were two new request for additional resources:

- Melissa Terras/James Hetherington
- 40+ nodes to be reserved for high priority JISC Data Spring project events on Tuesday 16th June and Tuesday 23rd June 2015 only, both dates between the hours of 09:00-18:00

Request approved

- Vicencio Oostra
- To increase Legion scratch space to 3TB from 15/05/2015 to 14/04/2017

Request approved subject to shorter end date (31/05/2016). Advise user to reapply upon expiry.

4. Review of Legion usage statistics [OK]

<http://gouf.rcdev.ucl.ac.uk:8888/>

The group reviewed the Legion usage statistics for April 2015.

OK reported that, following discussion at the previous CRAG meeting as to whether or not UCL should set a target for utilisation on its (fully owned) HPC services, NK had presented the CRAG's recommendations to the RCGG meeting held on 14th May.

The RCGG had approved the CRAG's recommendations that at present a specific target for utilisation should not be set, but that utilisation and slowdown should continue to be monitored.

5. Review of IRIDIS and EMERALD usage statistics [OK]

IRIDIS and EMERALD usage statistics for April 2015 were reviewed.

6. Cfl/New HPC update [OK]

- Liaison with colleagues at Southampton and STFC was ongoing regarding operation of IRIDIS and EMERALD services, focusing on the needs of UCL users in terms of the coming migration away from the service later this year.
- IRIDIS termination still on schedule for 31st July 2015
- CG had presented a compelling business case for continued investment in the Cfl EMERALD service at a modest level to the RCGG meeting held on 14th May. The RCGG had approved the expenditure, at a level of approximately £39k, which was not capital funding but coming out of a specific recurrent budget.
- Vendor still to be confirmed for new HPC. Four tenders were received; two of the vendors had provided two options. These were currently being evaluated by the project team according to the published criteria. All met the minimum requirement of the equivalent of 90TF capability for the budget of £1.2m.

7. Data repatriation plans update [OK]

Data repatriation plans for IRIDIS were currently in progress.

8. Review of queueing policy for Legion post-IRIDIS shutdown [WH]

The CRAG agreed to monitor queueing as it happened rather than set a specific policy.

9. Research Software Dashboard [HST]

HST presented an overview of the Research Software Dashboard.

- An integrated portal for management of UCL software assets to:
 - Allow researchers to organise and promote their software impact
 - Allow UCL to promote and measure the quantity and quality of UCL computational research
 - Increase recognition of software outputs e.g. for REF2020
 - Useful for large software-focused grants such as EU Horizon 2020 projects
 - Permit integration with other UCL systems including e-Lucid and IRIS
- Working beta-test planned for late July 2015
- Launch event planned for December 2015

10. Offsite HPC and RC OS [OK]

OK presented a brief update.

11. AOB

12. Next meeting date and agenda

Friday 19th June 2015 from 13.00-15.00

Venue: Room 103, 1st floor, Podium Building, 1 Eversholt Street, London, NW1 2DN.

Agenda (Items) for the next meeting:

Standing items:

1. Approval of Minutes of last meeting
2. Update on status of current Actions
3. Review of any requests for additional resources on local HPC facilities
4. Review of Legion usage statistics
5. Review of IRIDIS and Emerald usage statistics
6. Update report on Cfl and new HPC (from CG)
7. Data repatriation plans

LIST OF CURRENTLY APPROVED EXCEPTIONAL REQUESTS

Requesting user	CRAG approval date	details of exception	start date agreed	end date agreed	date removed	Implementation Notes
Jenner	13/05/2014	Scratch quota extended for the requested period	13/05/2014	01/05/2015		To be removed?
Meng	09/09/2014	Scratch quota increased to 3TB and extended	09/09/2014	30/09/2015		User to discuss suitability of platform with RC
Herrero	09/09/2014	Scratch quota increased to 6TB and extended	09/09/2014	30/09/2015		
Ferreira	07/10/2014	Scratch quota increased to 2TB and extended	07/10/2014	31/10/2015		OK to discuss suitability of platform with user
Wang	20/02/2015	Scratch quota increased to 2TB and extended	08/01/2015	31/01/2016		
Wellington	23/02/2015	Scratch quota increased to 1TB for the period	23/02/2015	01/08/2015		
Bloch	20/03/2015	Scratch quota increased to 1TB and extended	20/03/2015	31/03/2016		Advise user to reapply upon expiry as had requested longer timeframe
Ladak	20/03/2015	Scratch quota increased to 5TB and extended	20/03/2015	31/03/2016		Advise user to reapply upon expiry as had requested longer timeframe
Oostra	22/05/2015	Scratch quota increased to 3TB and extended	22/05/2015	31/05/2016		Advise user to reapply upon expiry as had requested longer timeframe
Terras/ Hetherington	22/05/2015	40+ nodes to be reserved for JISC Data Spring project events	16/06/2015	23/06/2015		Between the hours of 09:00-18:00 on both dates only

LIST OF CURRENT ACTIONS

Shaded (closed/completed) items will be deleted in the next version.

	Actions	Status	Owner
163	Retirement of IRIDIS	(09/09/14) NEW ACTION. OK and CG to consider resultant loss of capacity in light of Legion 4k rollout and OS upgrade. OK to speak about new Desktop at October CRAG (07/10/14) ONGOING – OK to meet with Desktop team. Carry into November (13/01/15) ONGOING (22/05/15) ON HOLD To revisit at next meeting post RIISG in May 2015.	OK/CG
166	Re-application process, stats for re-application and project account/ publication data	(09/12/14) NEW ACTION. Check with RAGG to add to backlog and confirm usage Report back to CRAG with plan on how to implement (20/02/15) ONGOING. Contractor has been hired (20/03/15) ONGOING. OK to check on progress (22/05/15) ONGOING.	OK CG/OK
169	Legion usage statistics	(20/2/15) NEW ACTION. Add targets and REF category to service availability graph. Follow up on stats for Climate Science and Archaeology (20/03/15) Follow up on stats for Climate Science and Archaeology - Completed. Add targets and REF category to service availability graph. ONGOING. (17/04/15) NEW ACTION OK to talk to Systems team re metrics/file system performance. (22/05/15) ONGOING.	OK
170	Data repatriation after IRIDIS shutdown	(20/03/15) NEW ACTION. OK to Inform users of repatriation plans for data. (20/03/15) ONGOING. (17/04/15) ONGOING. Initial email sent. OK to keep users updated on plans (22/05/15) ONGOING. OK discussing with Southampton. Users have been advised.	OK
171	Utilisation target for Legion	(17/04/15) NEW ACTION. NK to report to next RCGG meeting on 14th May 2015. OK to look at utilisation (22/05/15) CLOSED. No specific target agreed but continue to monitor utilisation and slowdown	NK/OK