

Computational Resource Allocation Group (CRAG)

Monthly Meeting

Tuesday 8th July 2014 at 13.00

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

Chair:

1. Nik Kaltsoyannis (NK) – *Molecular Quantum Dynamics and Electronic Structure*

Present:

2. Dario Alfe (DA) – *Thomas Young Centre (Materials Science)*
3. Tom Couch (TC) - *Research Comp & Facilitating Services, ISD*
4. Clare Gryce (CG) – *Head of Research Computing and Facilitation Services, ISD*
5. Owain Kenway (OK) – *Research Computing Analyst, ISD*
6. Andrew Martin (AM) - *Structural & Molecular Biology*
7. Vincent Plagnol (VP) – *Next Generation Sequencing*
8. Michail Stamatakis (MS) - *Chemical Engineering (replacing Simon Kuhn henceforth)*
9. Sergey Yurchenko (SY) – *Atomic, Molecular, Optical and Positron Physics*

Apologies:

10. Nicholas Achilleos (NA) – *Astrophysics and Remote Sensing*
11. William Hay (WH) – *Datacentre Services, ISD*
12. Thomas Jones (TJ) – *Research Platforms Team Leader (Infrastructure Lead), ISD*
13. Ian Kirker (IK) - *Research Comp & Facilitating Services, ISD*
14. Jo Lampard (JL) - *Senior Research IT Services Facilitator, ISD*

In attendance:

15. Corrinne Frazzoni (CF) – *Administrative Services, ISD (Minutes and meeting support)*

MINUTES

1. Approval of Minutes of last meeting held on 10th June 2014

The Group approved the Minutes of the last meeting.

There were no matters arising.

2. Update on status of current Actions

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

3. Review of any requests for additional resources on local HPC facilities

There was one new request for additional resources, from Yuntao Tian (see table at end), which was approved.

4. Review of Legion usage statistics <http://gouf.rcdev.ucl.ac.uk:8888/>

The group reviewed the Legion usage statistics for June 2014. The current level of slowdown and under-utilisation were not considered cause for concern.

CG reported that she had attended the FAIR meeting and invited them to nominate a member for the CRAG.

5. Review of IRIDIS and EMERALD usage statistics

Usage statistics for June 2014 were unavailable due to a planned outage of IRIDIS and Emerald staff being on leave.

6. Account application form progress update

Form is in place and ready to go, pending testing. Must be up and running by 29 July 2014. Members to be notified of two month deadline in which to reapply for accounts.

Action: CG to email leaders of current consortia on behalf of CRAG and summarise changes to approval process.

7. Review of Legion/RC Terms and Conditions

The Group reviewed the draft Legion/RC Terms and Conditions which were approved subject to amendments (highlighted in **bold**) to the following clauses:

4) The Research Computing Platform Services Team reserve the right to **suspend or ban** without prior warning any use of the system which impairs its operation.

8) Users are required to acknowledge their use of Legion and associated Research Computing services in any publications describing research that has been conducted, in any part, on Legion. The following words should be used:

"The authors acknowledge the use of the UCL Legion High Performance Computing facility, and associated **research computing** services, in the completion of this work".

Action: OK to amend Legion/RC Terms and Conditions as above.

8. AOB

It was agreed to cancel the August CRAG meeting as membership would be low due to holiday absence.

Action: CF to send cancellation message to members.

9. Next meeting date and agenda

Tuesday 9th September 2014 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

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		
Piasini	10/06/2014	Scratch quota extended for the requested period	10/06/2014	31/12/2014		
Wright	10/06/2014	Extension of maximum wall clock time to 10 days on Legion	10/06/2014	31/10/2014		
Tian	08/07/2014	360 hours wall time requested to December 2014	08/07/2014	31/12/2014		

LIST OF CURRENT ACTIONS

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

	Actions	Status	Owner
151	KPI for legion wait times	<p>(17/01/2014): After correcting for job arrays, mean slowdown will be calculated for each job type (single core, single node, multi-node etc.) on a monthly basis. The use of this measure will be evaluated at a subsequent CRAG meeting.</p> <p>(14/2/14): This is now being done for senior management reports – will be introduced in coming Legion statistics reports. ONGOING</p> <p>(12/03/14): ONGOING</p> <p>(13/05/14): Create graph to cover 2-year timeframe on slowdown trend/users/ and normalised/active users overlaid NEW ACTION</p> <p>(10/06/14) ONGOING</p> <p>(08/07/14) ONGOING</p>	OK
159	Cfl usage statistics	<p>(13/05/14): Request explanation of high utilisation and slowdown figures from Timothy Metcalf (TM)</p> <p>(10/06/14) ONGOING. TM provided a partial reply which was not felt to fully explain the figures. OK to meet with Derek Ross to discuss metrics further.</p> <p>(10/06/14) ONGOING. OK met with Derek Ross to discuss metrics. Derek conceded that the figures were confusing and would look into them.</p>	OK
160	Account application	(08/07/14) NEW ACTION. CG to email leaders of current consortia on behalf of CRAG and summarise changes to approval process, noting two month deadline to reapply for accounts.	CG
161	Amend Legion/RC Terms & Conditions	<p>(08/07/14) NEW ACTION. OK to amend Legion/RC Terms and Conditions as follows (in bold):</p> <p>4) The Research Computing Platform Services Team reserve the right to suspend or ban without prior warning any use of the system which impairs its operation.</p> <p>8) Users are required to acknowledge their use of Legion and associated Research Computing services in any publications describing research that has been conducted, in any part, on Legion. The following words should be used:</p> <p>"The authors acknowledge the use of the UCL Legion High Performance Computing facility, and associated research computing services, in the completion of this work".</p>	OK
162	Cancel August CRAG	(08/07/14) NEW ACTION. CF to send cancellation message to CRAG members.	CF