

Computational and network challenges for large scale high resolution weather modelling in the WISER (Weather Impact Study at Extreme Resolution) project.

Alan Gadian, Ralph Burton, James Groves, Alan Blyth, Chris Collier and Stephen Mobbs NCAS, University of Leeds, UK

> Greg Holland, Cindy Bruyere, James Done NESL , NCAR, USA

And contributions from many others including the Met Office and BADC



Networkshop42 I-3 April 2014

#### Summary

#### **Abstract:-**

Weather and Climate Modelling world-wide is a significant user of computational resources. Not only do Numerical Weather Prediction Models (NWP) require vast numbers of FLOPS as scientist try to increase the number of grid points (i.e. resolution and hence accuracy of the modelling) but they also require large amounts of internal data transfer and storage. FLOPS are free is the current mantra in the NWP world.

This talk will illustrate the challenges for one such project, WISER (Weather climate change Impact Study at Extreme Resolution) and how important data transfer and manipulation has become.

The issues facing the Next Generation Weather and Climate codes will be illustrated by reference to current developments in the UK (Gungho project) and other codes (e.g. US MPAS project )which take advantage of massively parallel computers.



#### **ECMWF – computing strategy**



HPCF capacity at ECMWF. The blue line illustrates the computing capacity required to implement the strategy, expressed in sustained teraflops. The coloured bars show the resulting requirements for the replacement HPCF from mid-2014 and the historical evolution of HPCF performance.

European Centre fro Medium Range Weather Forecasting Centre (ECMWF) has traditionally one of the biggest computational facilities in the UK.

It has recently taken delivery of two CRAY XC6 machines, each machine slightly larger than ARCHER.

Some would argue that ECMWF produces the "best" and highest resolution forecasts in the world. It is definitely one of the top five in the world, and is used for this talk.

#### Skill (??) - Forecasting Ability

Comparison of precipitation Forecast Skill for different models. The skill of the high resolution and ensemble forecasts for 2012 for extratropical regions is shown

Bars indicate 95% confidence intervals.

N.B. different models come out better with different metrics





#### Improvements in Forecasting Skill – ECMWF NWP model



Improvement in the skill of the ensemble forecast. ECMWF ensemble forecasts are much more reliable and skilful than they were when they were first produced, two decades ago. These results for the 500 hPa geopotential height indicate that for the northern hemisphere extratropics there have been gains in predictability of between one and a half and two days per decade (e.g. the five-day forecast is now as skilful as the three-day forecast in the mid-1990s).



#### **WISER** project

#### Background.

The earth's weather system, especially in the Northern Hemisphere is now exhibiting serious evidence of severe climate change; changes in "high pressure blocking systems", is resulting in significant warming of the Arctic Ice caps. These will arguably disappear (less than 15% broken ice) by September 2016



PIOMAS ice volume for September from 1979 to 2012, exhibiting significant Arctic Ice Loss.

www.ncas.ac.uk

Source: http://psc.apl.washington.edu/wordpress/research/projects/arctic-sea-ice-volume-anomaly/

#### Summary.

#### **WISER** project

**WISER** (Weather climate change Impact Study at Extreme Resolution) is a project designed to use a numerical weather model (WRF), in a channel formulation (Figure1). It is a regional climate model which will complete a global study (driven by ERA-Interim data from 1979-2011) and then for three selected decades in this century. This is a significant computational activity, using the European PRACE computational facility. Relative high resolution is required to resolve meso-scale weather patterns to reducing the errors / upscaling limitations. We will be making this an open dataset. Climate models have insufficient resolution to simulate well "blocking" and regional meso-scale precipitation events which are critical in understanding climate change The basic assumption is that "*Climate is now a weather scale process problem, and simulation of meso-scale processes is required to understand and predict future changes*"

Figure 1. Domain structure for the WISER simulation. Outer domain resolution is 20km at +/-30° N/S and ~ 8km at 68°N; the inner domain resolution defined as a factor of 5:1 smaller





#### WISER

Collaborations

1. National Center for Atmospherice Reasearch (NESL .. Greg Holland, James Done, Cindy Bryere)



45S - 45N 36 km resolution 51 levels 10 mb TOA

2000 - 2005 Reynolds SST data Periodic EW boundary





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#### NRCM



#### 36km

### 18 storms

12 km nest28 storms( 27 storms observed)Asuka Suzuki-Parker





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#### Preliminary results for 10m surface winds

#### Results from NCAR simulation, for domains of 12km and 36km

#### A typical weather system pdf

The Problem: Typical regional climate models do not capture the most extreme events observed.

The pdfs are truncated at high end due to:

- resolution cannot resolve the relevant processes;
- capacity do not include the relevant processes;
- rarity cannot be run long enough to sample the tail.





#### WISER

The proposal is based on 50 year climate simulations. In terms of computational resources, running the global model will require less resources compared to the very high resolution nested regional simulations. Greater than 70% of the CPU time will be used by the high resolution (~4 km inner domain) simulations.

CPU requirements from our present work on the HECToR / ARCHER system suggest about 1.4 MAus for a 24hour wall clock / model month. Each decadal simulation is about ~ 4,096 cores for 120 days. We wish to simulate whole years of the climate at several intervals over the 50 year study.

The total computational requirement is ~  $9 \times 10^8 \text{ AU}$ .

A single year's simulation at high resolution will require 25 Tbyte storage. Therefore for the whole project with 20 years of (future) simulation the total requirement is 600 Tbytes.



#### **WISER**

#### **Expected Outcomes:**

The aim is to establish how storm track behaviour, occurrence of blocking anticyclones and severe precipitation in Western Europe, and in particular the UK, will change over decadal timescales in the modified climate system caused by global warming (A2).

#### Provisional objectives and specific outcomes:

1.Predicted changes in general precipitation over Western Europe and the UK over decadal times scales.

2.Predicted changes in patterns of frontal tracks on decadal time scales and to examine the strength, the frequency and the location of Western Atlantic storm tracks for historical and future simulations.

- 3.Past and predicted occurrence of blocking in the North Atlantic
- 4.Predicted changes in quantity and frequency of severe and hazardous convective rainfall events as above. The frequency of flash flooding due to heavy convective precipitation. Links to be examined to connections with JRC for flooding.
- 5.PDF of (C.E.T.) temperatures and any other regions of specific examination.
- 6.Predicted changes in surface wind field distributions at current and planned wind farm sites. As the UK and Europe need to dramatically increase their dependence upon renewable energy sources, such wind speed distributions are crucial for determining the potential yield of wind farms in future climate scenarios for decadal predictions.



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### Infrastructure



Edinburgh - Hector

Leeds - Jasmin North

Rutherford Appleton Laboratory - Jasmin South

Exeter - UK Met Office

Jasmin Lightpath links

National Centre for Atmospheric Science JASMIN structure (including UK Met Office, JASMIN North and HECToR /ARCHER)

Structure of Network we are using for the project.

### JASMIN North at Leeds

The JASMIN facility is a multi-Petabyte "super-data-cluster" funded by NERC and UKSA in 2012 based at the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory. The School of Earth and Environment currently hosts the north satellite of the JASMIN system and is served by a 10Gbps Gnodal private network linking a Panasas parallel storage system to local compute. The supporting network infrastructure includes a Janet point-to-point Lightpath connection from Leeds to the core JASMIN system located at RAL.





#### **JASMIN** North setup



What we currently have setup and running on Jasmin North

- All machines installed with Centos 6
- NIS, dnsmasq, is setup on the one of the R610s this is to act as a gateway.
- NFS and Panfs is setup on all the client machines





Each server rooms consists of:

Multiple fileservers providing a total of 1.3Pb of storage. Typical server features: Non-proprietary hardware Standard Linux OS – no additional proprietary software RAID 6 array consisting of 32 x 4Tb SATA disks Fast SSD cache 10 Gbps network interface xfs filesystem Data exported via NFS and CIFS Thin provisioning Compute servers with around 700 cores Cisco Nexus 5596 distribution switch with 48 x 10Gbps ports 2 x 10gbps backbone uplinks

This supports:

Processing of local storage on local compute across the 2 server rooms Mirror and backup of storage to the second server room Data transfer to Arc1, N8, Hector, and other national and international sites. Local archive of data



#### Work Flow Example for WRF



Network traffic between Jasmin North and Jasmin South over the lightpath. Tests have shown speeds of around 90Mb/sec transfer rates are achievable.



#### Challenges

#### **Issues:-**

- 1. Transfer of ( CCSM ) data files from the US
- 2. Transfer of data files from Archer and RAL
- 3. Poor client performance on the R815
- 4. Network speed Issues in and around campus

In the background, there is the continual challenge to do the basic data cpu processing (FLOPS).

### Also WATER!



#### **Next Generation Weather and Climate Programme**

#### What is NGWCP?

• There is a huge need for higher resolution modelling capability for climate and weather to help improve both our understanding of the multi-scale processes in the atmosphere and oceans, and further increase the accuracy of forecasts. (e.g. MPAS & DWD)

• It a collaboration between the Met Office, STFC (Science & Technology Facilities Council) and a team of UK academics to explore the methods appropriate to building a unified weather and climate forecasting model for the future. NERC funded. 2+3 year project. See the web page:http://www.nerc.ac.uk/research/programme/ngwcp/

• Arguably one of the biggest challenges facing the future of UK MO NWP and Climate Prediction, one which could have the most significant effect on the Physics within the NWP model, and possibly one of the biggest challenges for UK MO / University / STFC partnerships.



## GungHo! (working together harmoniously)



NERC, MO and STFC working together



#### **NWP -- CHALLENGES**

The challenges are for future models with higher resolution grids.

The current use of grids based on lines of latitude and longitude causes problems for efficient communication in massively parallel computers

- grid-points converge at the poles, acting as a barrier to moving to massively parallel computers.
- how to approach the need for higher resolution models and, in particular, whether global models with more coarse resolution can accurately support embedded regions of higher resolution
- how to improve parameterisation schemes to reflect the higher resolution of the underlying dynamics.

Grid points converging at the poles require polar filters, limit time steps with associated CFL and semi-lagrangrian time step issues. These can be avoided by constructing a grid that covers the globe with approximately uniform grid-boxes, but what about the equations / process and physics' processes? What about the baby as we throw out the bath water?



#### Grid point convergence at the poles



For a global 7km model, which is the resolution ECMWF are working towards, this means 10 m resolution near the poles. In a finite difference grid point model there will be a consequential small time stepping limit in the polar regions.



#### Parallelisation Challenge (WISER as an example)



Graph of number of cores (abscissa) vs Speedup (ordinate). The speed up was defined as 1.0 at 256 cores. For 1024 cores the speed up was 3.98 and for 4096 cores, the desired configuration, the speed up was 11.6 ( an efficiency of 73%) . The inner domain speed up was ~ 94%. These results were calculated without i/o. These calculations were computed on ARCHER, and an average model day took 0.71 +/-0.02 hours ( 1 SD).



#### **US (National Center for Atmospheric Science) MPAS model**

#### **Model for Prediction Across Scales**

The atmospheric component of MPAS, as with all MPAS components, uses an unstructured centroidal Voronoi mesh (grid, or tessellation) and C-grid staggering of the state variables as the basis for the horizontal discretization in the fluidflow solver.

The unstructured variable resolution meshes can be generated having smoothly-varying mesh transitions (see the figure to the right).

The MPAS atmosphere consists of an atmospheric fluid-flow solver (the *dynamical core*) and a subset of the WRF model.









## MPAS-Atmosphere

Unstructured spherical centroidal Voronoi meshes Mostly hexagons, some pentagons and 7-sided cells. Cell centers are at cell center-of-mass. Lines connecting cell centers intersect cell edges at right angles. Lines connecting cell centers are bisected by cell edge. Mesh generation uses a density function. Uniform resolution - traditional icosahedral mesh.

#### C-grid

Solve for normal velocities on cell edges.

#### Solvers



#### **MPAS – examples**



These are examples of different domain structures. The importance is that these structures can produce models that can efficiently use massively parallel computer architectures; new algorithms give an order of magnitude Increase in efficient core usage)

The computer science challenge, is how to deal with the order of magnitude increase in data i/o and how the networks will cope.







#### Summary

In this talk I have tried to provide

- an illustration of an example of a weather scale simulation
- a way in which the weather / climate community have now, albeit slowly, adapted their algorithms and code for efficient use with massively parallel computers
- the example of the JASMIN system which is being used to cope with the increase networking and data storage demands
- a quick glimpse of two models which will be major players in the world of weather and climate modelling, next deacde
- why increased (order of magnitude plus) networking and data access will be required by the scientists in the next decade

#### **Questions please**









# janet

## Janet Update 2014

Tim Kidd, Operations Director Jeremy Sharp, Head of Strategic Technologies



## janet

## Agenda

- Infrastructure
- Service Update
- 30 years of Janet
- Video Collaboration
- Access and Identity Management
- E-infrastructure Support

## janet

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## Global transit usage/cost









#### External traffic 200Gbit/s sustained peak!



**10 March 2014** Apple IOS 7.1 released.



anet

## It shouldn't happen at Christmas...

## Christmas 2013... (remember the weather?)













24<sup>th</sup>: 00:20 Loss of connectivity.



## janet

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02:07 Fibre break between Andover & Southampton.



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  - 12:05 Break at Poulton Park.







## Peppa Pig World



#### **Poulton Park?**





Peppa Pig World



#### **Poulton Park?**







Peppa Pig World











- Overhead Power Ground Wire (OPGW).
  - Bonds pylons to earth.
  - Protects against lightning.





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- Optical OPGW (OOPGW)
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I made the mistake of asking John Seymour (Head of Network Operations)



anet

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#### The Pylon Appreciation Society.... (really!)



ianet





anet





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#### Pylon of the Month

All about electricity pylons and electricity supply

January 04, 2014

→ Pylon of the Month - January 2014



#### Regular readers of this blog are probably looking at this month's pylon and wondering what is going on, but for the first pylon of 2014 I thought that it would be appropriate to feature the first artist to recognise the significance of the

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#### Pylon Books





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## The problem...



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## The problem in detail...


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  - 17:30 H&S wait until 26<sup>th</sup>.



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  - 12:30 ...ground too soggy! Eqpt needed to drop fibre ...all in use elsewhere.
  - 15:40 Tree removed!



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  - 12:30 ...ground too soggy! Eqpt needed to drop fibre ...all in use elsewhere.
  - 15:40 Tree removed!
  - 15:45 Two more fibre breaks found.





janet



# janet

27<sup>th</sup>: 09:30 *Special* mobile platform arrived. 10:30 ...and it has a mechanical fault.



# janet

- 10:30 ...and it has a mechanical fault.
- 12:23 Third platform now on site.



# janet

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- 14:55 Taller platform on site.



# janet

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16:22 First joint complete.



# janet

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- 16:22 First joint complete.

30th: 09:18 Second joint complete.



# janet

Froxfield

Andover

Southampton

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...third break needs a temporary road for the equipment.

Bradley Stoke

# janet

Froxfield

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13:03 Temporary road installed.

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- 13:03 Temporary road installed. ...too much wind
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Bradley Stoke

- 13:03 Temporary road installed. ...too much wind
- 18:00 Wind dropped.
- 19:42 Final joint completed. Service restored!

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### Agenda

- Infrastructure
- Service Update
- 30 years of Janet
- Video Collaboration
- Access and Identity Management
- E-infrastructure Support

#### Security Update





#### Janet ESISS...

Automated Accredited Penetration Testing Manual Penetration Testing Consultancy Services

For more information and charges contact service@ja.net



#### Security Update





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Automated Accredited Penetration Testing Manual Penetration Testing Consultancy Services

For more information and charges contact service@ja.net

BOF: Wednesday 16:15 Lee Harrigan Janet CSIRT



#### Service Update





Microsoft Office 365 (May 13) Google Apps for Education (Oct 13) Arkivum Tape Storage (Jan 14)



#### Service Update





Microsoft Office 365 (May 13) Google Apps for Education (Oct 13) Arkivum Tape Storage (Jan 14)

Trans National Education pilot launched in January 2014 with Educity in Malaysia



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Microsoft Office 365 (May 13) Google Apps for Education (Oct 13) Arkivum Tape Storage (Jan 14)

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Parallel: Tuesday 16:15 Josh Howlett, Janet Jason Bain, Newcastle



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#### The Dawn of Janet





#### Janet Comes of Age





#### Reliability – 1986 style...

# janet

Switch Statistics - Jan.86

Switch	IPLs		Lost	de de	MTBF
	Total	Unsched	Time (mins)	Avail %	Unsched (hrs)
RAL	11	8	109	99.76	93
ULCC	3	2	84	99.81	372
UMRCC	9	8	62	99.86	93
BATH	3	٦	137	99.69	720
BIDSTON	0	0	0	100.00	-
CAMBRIDGE	1	١	65	99.85	744
DARESBURY	12	12	53	99.88	62
EDINBURGH	6	5	208	99.53	148
SWINDON	3	2	512	98.85	372

# Numbers are traffic volume.



Numbers are traffic volume.

Guess the unit...



Numbers are traffic volume.

Guess the unit...

Mbytes/day.



ALLOCATED

CURRENT

#### Addressing Schemes... Janet

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141 KXXXX

1432+++

1443xx XX

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Aben.

Winde

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2502-

000021000000,14

16AK AKAK

'Old' Region

Address Prefix 00000

Reserved for compatibility with previous schemes .. not to be reallocated.

Northern Region

Address prefix 00001

UMRCC 0000100xxxxx 0000100xxxxx Manchester 0000101xxxxx 000001020xxx UMIST 0000102xxxxx Keele 0000103xxxxx 000001102000 Lancaster 0000104xxxxx 000001101100 Liverpool 0000105xxxxx 000001030xxx Salford 0000106xxxxx 000010600000 Daresbury -0000107xxxx. 00000100xxxx,00000101xxxx Queens Belfast 0000112xxxxx 0000112xxxxx MUU Coleraine 0000113xxxxx 0000113xxxxx UP Jordanstown 0000114xxxxx 0000114xxxxx Leeds 0000120xxxxx 000001080500 - 000001080999Bradford 0000121xxxxx 000001080000 - 0000010804990000122xxxxx Sheffield 000001070xxx Hull 0000123xxxxx York 000006xxxxxx Aberystwyth 0000130xxxxx 000013000000 Bangor 0000131xxxxx 000001050xxx · 0000132xxxx ITE Bangor 000003008xxx 133xxxxx -> NERC Bidston stof 0000133\*\*\*\* 000003xxxxxx Newcastle 0000015@xxx Durham 000001501000 00001502xxx 0000140xxxxx Lancashive 2704 Sty COCOL45XXXXX Tecsside Bh Hudderspield Central Region Bly 0000146KXXXX NRS Edenbugh ( Address prefix 00002 Birmingham 0000200xxxxx Aston 0000201xxxxx Nottingham 0000210xxxxx Loughborough 0000211xxxxx Leicester 0000212xxxxx GS Keyworth 0000213xxxxx Leicester Poly Cambridge E Anglia

LMB

2307-000008xxxxxx 000008006xxx

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ALLOCATED

CURRENT

#### Addressing Schemes... Janet

'Old' Region

Address Prefix 00000

Reserved for compatibility with previous schemes.. not to be reallocated.

Northern Region

Address prefix 00001

UMRCC 0000100xxxxx Manchester 0000101xxxxx 0000102xxxxx UMIST Keele 0000103xxxxx Lancaster 0000104xxxxx Liverpool 0000105xxxxx Salford 0000106xxxxx -0000107xxxx. Daresbury 0000112xxxxx **Oueens Belfast** MUU Coleraine 0000113xxxxx UP Jordanstown 0000114xxxxx Leeds 0000120xxxxx Bradford 0000121xxxxx Sheffield 0000122xxxxx 0000123xxxxx Hull York Aberystwyth 0000130xxxxx Bangor 0000131xxxxx · 0000132xxxx ITE Bangor 133xxxxx -> NERC Bidston stor 0000133\*\*\*\* Newcastle Durham 0000140xxxxx Lancashive Sty COCO145XXXXX Tecsside Bly Hudderfield Central Region Poly 0000146KXXXX Address prefix 00002 0000200xxxxx Birmingham Aston 0000201xxxxx Nottingham 0000210xxxxx Loughborough 0000211xxxxx Leicester 0000212xxxxx IGS Keyworth 0000213xxxxx Leicester Poly Cambridge E Anglia

LMB

17EB 1410×××× Abeng: 1411×××× Winder 1432×××× Merle 1443××××

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000006xxxxx 00001300000 000001050xxx 00003008xxx 000001500xxx 000001500xxx 000001500xxx 000001500xxx 000001501000 144 ×××× Liverport Pory, 143×××× NRS 000014901000

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00002100000,14 2502

000003007xxx <del>2307-</del> 000008xxxxxx 000008006xxx

00000 80080 x x

ten Cambridge they ca't have 220 xxxxx any nore. Instead. 219 xxxxx if want it






Join us for birthday cake straight after this plenary session.

## janet



Join us for birthday cake straight after this plenary session.



Look back to the past on the web! Dedicated area to celebrate 30 years of Janet.

## janet



Join us for birthday cake straight after this plenary session.



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## Agenda

- Infrastructure
- Service Update
- 30 years of Janet
- Video Collaboration
- Access and Identity Management
- E-infrastructure Support

#### Reinventing Janet videoconferencing – v-scene

- Organise and schedule
- Interoperability
- Intuitive interface
- Automated testing
- Launching in July 2014







anet



• Low latency video





janet

- Low latency video
- High definition video









- Low latency video
- High definition video
- Streamed video











- Low latency video
- High definition video
- Streamed video
- Contribution video









## Agenda

- Infrastructure
- Service Update
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- Access and Identity Management
- E-infrastructure Support

Strategy











Plan







• Managed service



- Reprocured CA
- Richer variety of certificates



- Service launch 1H2015
- Azure Moonshot

## Agenda

- Infrastructure
- Service Update
- 30 years of Janet
- Video Collaboration
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- E-infrastructure Support

## Connectivity to key national research facilities

janet



#### **Connectivity to Janet6**

- Hinxton Campus
- Met office
- Norwich research park
- Francis Crick institute



## Janet Reach

janet

- Industry connectivity to Janet
- To support collaboration in use of e-infrastructure resources
  - Access to knowledge & experience
  - Access to resources (e.g. HPC)
  - Janet connectivity when at scale
- Compliant with state aid





## Shared Datacentre



- Requirements driven by
  - Francis crick Institute
  - Kings College London
  - LSE
  - Sanger
  - UCL
- Framework to be established
- Janet the procurement authority and network provider
- 60% research systems, 40% enterprise system hosting
- Up and running in July







# Very busy lastVery busy yearyear...ahead...

# We continue to do our best to serve the community.

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