



HEPiX Autumn 2023 summary

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GDB
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including many contributions from the board and track conveners



full in-person meeting

- after Umeå and Taipei were hybrid meetings, we really wanted to return to in-person mode
- due to some visa issues, some of us did not succeed in coming in person
 - last minute opening of online registrations enabled participation by these colleagues
- basic streaming service had already been planned in the preparation phase

local organisation



- Randy and his team have made us feel very welcome in Victoria
- lunches and coffee breaks at the venue
 - providing great opportunities to discuss in depth and exchange ideas
- co-location with LHCOPN/LHCONE enabled even more interactions
- helped a lot to recreate the HEPiX special atmosphere
- thanks for great social events and tour of the local computing center



participants

- before HEPiX started we counted about 70 registrants
- during the week steady increase of people joining us online
 - Now at 40+ registered participants attended online
- all in all, the meeting ran very smoothly
 - video conferencing etiquette was well observed
 - also by local participants (use of fixed microphones)
- some small problems with registrations in Zoom
 - but things all worked out

programme



- all regular tracks were present
 - Show us your Toolbox had to be dropped, because the timetable became very full – planning to reestablish in next meeting
- workshop running fully in local time zone from Monday through Friday
 - between 9:00 and 18:00h local time
- very interesting invited talks that gave us insight to local research highlights
- brief presentations by the vendors present
- and a fire alarm

group photo



group photo



brief overview of tracks and topics - I



- 15 site reports – sharing their developments, issues and solutions
 - many network bandwidth upgrades mentioned to prepare for activities ahead
- 6 basic IT services and end-user services talks
 - overview of services being deployed and use of infrastructure we talk about in the other tracks for development, testing and production
- 6 talks in the computing and batch services track
 - using ARM for more efficient computing, benchmarking efforts and a summary of HTCondor workshop as well as migration of batch systems and the use of 'our' infrastructures for science (AI, ML) and replacing parts of number crunching by QC

brief overview of tracks and topics - II

The logo for HEPiX, featuring the text "HEPiX" in white on a blue rectangular background, with an orange rectangular background behind the "iX" portion.

HEPiX

- 7 networking and security talks – combined with LHCOPN/LHCONE
 - international networking continuously being developed, monitored and IPv6-ed
 - new networking hardware, increasing security by various methods and continued work on trust and security policies
- 5 storage and filesystems talks
 - improving performance and efficiency in mass data storage systems, use of CEPH technology in storage infrastructure, data management in photon science
- 4 contributions in Grid, Cloud & Virtualisation and Operating Systems and one BoF
 - building complete Tiers on Kubernetes, kubernetes based compute infrastructure, views on Linux distro use future and a valuable discussion with a lot of consensus

brief overview of tracks and topics - III



- 9 talks in IT Facilities & Business Continuity
 - challenges in day to running of computing centers, computer room upgrades while maintaining operations, striving for more (energy) efficiency, creating and maintaining distributed and centralized facilities and even providing an afterlife for EoL experiments, keeping things under control with configuration management, monitoring and alerting.
And sharp scissors!
- three invited talks and one on a new experiment at our doorstep
 - The Digital Humanities - Open Social Scholarship; Ocean Networks Canada - Multidisciplinary Data from the Deep; The P-One ocean-based neutrino detector
 - Scaling Digital Research Infrastructure for SKA Astronomy in Canada

pending: full summary and user mailing



- due to some technical and timing constraints, the full summary of tracks is still being prepared
- will be published as my time allows in the coming weeks
- both a summary of the tracks as well as a summary of the Linux BoF (thanks to track conveners for the former and Helge for the latter)
- participant list: there will be an email to participants asking for their consent to (1) sharing their data with others participants and (2) with the sponsors
- please do answer these questions, as we can only use your data with your explicit consent



board meeting - I

- election of a third co-chair to the board
 - to share the load on the co-chairs
 - to more equally represent the 3 major global regions that HEPiX participants come from
- poll by electronic vote among all 26 organisations represented on the board
- Ofer Rind (BNL) was elected as North American co-chair



board meeting - II

- review of current meeting
- presentation on planning for Spring 2024 meeting in Paris
- review of working group activities
- discussion of change in CERN IT management policy on participation in HEPiX meetings
 - we are in contact and will discuss with them in November
- also discussion with FNAL on their involvement initiated by new board member Margaret Votava



board meeting - III

- discussion on format of meeting
- and the format of the participants
 - we need to make sure that junior colleagues also participate (again)
 - encourage or even advise strongly that they apply for travel
- and all of us need to make sure our managements understand
 - what HEPiX is about
 - what it offers to its participants
 - what the institutions stand to win from regular participation



on the value of HEPiX

- as one colleague put it:

“...there is always this *one* conversation
this *one* observation that really helps,
that makes attendance worth while...”

(thanks to Martin Bly for these wise words)

- I think it is the reason that most of us come back time after time
- and why we should share the experience with many colleagues more

drawing to a close

- thank you again for making HEPiX
the valuable resource it is!

- Share your thoughts and comments with us, via email

hepix-board (at) hepix.org



finally

HEPiX

Hope to see you (again) in Spring 2024



CEA – IRFU
Paris
15 – 19 April 2024