



Heterogeneous Architectures Testbed

March 5th, 2025
openlab Technical Workshop

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Motivation

openlab initiative for novel architectures evaluation

- Rapid diversifying hardware landscape
- Comprehensive mandate: resources management + support
- Cross-architecture performance benchmarking
- Access to diverse, cutting-edge computing systems
- Serving a broad research community at CERN

Keep the "*you make it – we break it*" spirit of the early openlab days...
...but well integrating production-like quality and capabilities.

Portfolio: On Premises HW

With in-kind donations from:



CPU Systems

Accelerators

x86

PowerPC



6th Gen AP / SP

Power 8/9



NVIDIA T4, L4



NVIDIA A100

Intel
Omni-Path

Fabric

NVIDIA
Infiniband

Fabric

x86

RISC-V

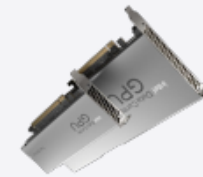


1st - 5th Gen

SG2042



NVIDIA Bluefield



Intel Flex GPU



Intel Max GPU



Xilinx U200

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Portfolio: Remote HW

Access provided via:

SIM NS
FOUNDATION

E4
COMPUTER
ENGINEERING

CPU Systems

x86



Genoa, Milan

ARM

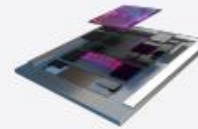
arm

Ampere, Fujitsu

Accelerators



NVIDIA H100



AMD MI210



AI Acceleration

GRAPHCORE

AI Acceleration

- Also, opportunistic access to: NVIDIA Grace, Intel Gaudi, Altera FPGAs, and more.
- On-going work to have a CERN-like environment.
- Check also our HAT poster during the breaks!

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Portfolio: HPC Development Access

Access to remote facilities hosting, for example, AI-specialized hardware.

Through Euro HPC JU, access to a number of Supercomputer systems with development access such as

- LUMI
- Leonardo
- Deucalion
- Vega
- MareNostrum 5
- Discoverer
- Meluxina
- Karolina



More info: <https://openlab-systems.web.cern.ch/hpc/> (requires CERN account).

What do we do?

Reception, installation, configuration and benchmarking of new hardware

Hardware and software maintenance

Project and user support: access grant and system administration

Support for tools on CVMFS

Organisation and support for workshops, training courses

System Administration

100+ different users and 200+ accounts

~75 on-prem systems
mostly bare-metal nodes + some VMs

SNOW FE support (requests and incidents)

100+ tickets handled every year

- **Puppet, Ansible**
- **Containerization**
- **Production-like (CERN IT) approach, e.g.:**
 - RHEL (Alma) based (...but there are exceptions)
 - Foreman
 - Gitlab
 - 10/25/40/100G network

Very small team, some tasks in best-effort capacity, but good feedback from users! 😊

Community

Supported Projects and Activities

openlab projects:

- Intel
- E4/NVIDIA
- PureStorage
 - See Luca's talk from yesterday
- multi-science projects (e.g. BioDynamo, interTwin)
 - See Stavros and Matteo's talks from today
- and any other project needing computing resources or assistance...

Supporting as well users from:

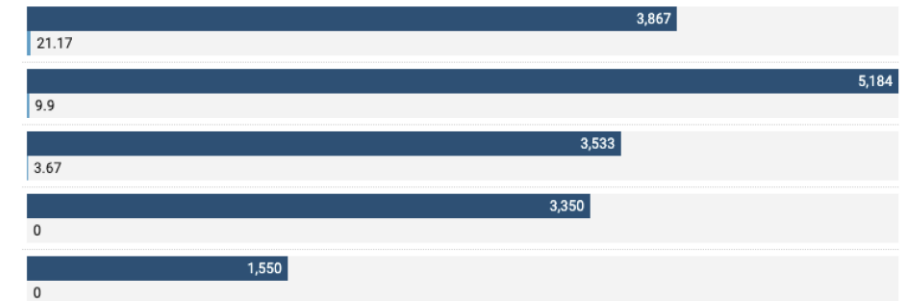


Much more than just user support



- Benchmarking
 - Strong collaboration with the HEPiX BMK WG
 - HS23 and other benchmark studies
 - See David's talk later
 - Energy and sustainability studies
 - Repercussions on CERN IT R&D and HW planning
- Co-development with industry
 - Intel AMX
 - LLM RAG tests
 - See Florian and Manuel's talk this afternoon
- Workshops, trainings, hands-on, hackathons
 - Accelerated Computing with Modern CUDA C++
 - oneAPI and code optimization
 - And many more...

HS23 Results



Get in touch!

- ServiceNow [ticket](#)
 - Preferential channel for access request or technical matters
- Check our website
<https://openlab-systems.web.cern.ch>
- ...or write directly to us!
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Thank you!