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## **Grids in Asia Pacific: Challenges and Opportunities**

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As the Internet has already become a global phenomenon, the next step towards a global collaborating e-Science infrastructure would benefit the world, especially, in the scientific discoveries, biomedical applications, disaster mitigation, bridging digital divide, etc. Global e-Science infrastructure could potentially benefit the world and Asia Pacific in both directions. However, countries in Asia Pacific have been largely playing catch-up mode in the last half century with limited success. The reasons may be rooted in the particular challenges of the region such as the lack of driving e-Science applications that specifically concern countries in that region. This presentation will begin with overall background of Grids in Asia Pacific. Challenges and opportunities for the region will be the main theme of this presentation. Due to the time constraint, only the analysis of some representative countries in the region will be discussed. One hopes, by better understanding the challenges and opportunities in Asia Pacific, it will help to contribute the process of democratisation of science in the future.

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