

Scientific Computing Forum

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Grid Deployment Board
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Context (1)

- WLCG very successful
 - Hierarchy very useful, but data traffic increasingly using non-hierarchical links
 - Operational costs are an increasing concern
- Further evolution needed for HL-LHC
- Must take advantage of technology developments
- Move towards fewer and larger federated centres
 - Including HPC and commercial clouds
- More use-cases in the wider scientific community

Context (2)

- Strategy required to ensure that
 - Costs of future scientific computing are contained
 - Maximum advantage is being taken from technology developments
 - Constraints by national funding and usage structures are accommodated in an optimal way
- Scientific Computing Forum (SCF) established in 2017 by Eckhard Elsen, CERN Director of Research and Scientific Computing
 - Aim is to develop technical basis for this strategy
 - Part of the CERN Directorate's strategy established in 2016 to strengthen links with Member States and beyond

Role

- High-level technical advisory role to Funding Agencies, initially foremost CERN
 - Advise, raise awareness, convince
 - Feedback channel to Funding Agencies: RRB
- Informal, no executive role
 - Different from formal, executive WLCG Overview Board foreseen in WLCG MoU
 - Scope goes beyond computing for LHC and HEP

Membership

- By invitation, to ensure discussions are possible at the right level
- Current membership, bound to evolve as discussions require additional technical expertise:
 - Eckhard Elsen, chair
 - Representatives of LHC experiments (spokespersons, computing coordinators)
 - Representatives of funding agencies and major WLCG sites
 - Representatives of WLCG project
 - Representatives of CERN-IT and other CERN units
 - Experts as adequate for the topics to be covered
 - Scientific secretary: Sue Foffano (2017), HM (2018 on)
 - (47 addresses on mailing list)

Information

- Publicly available from SCF Indico page:

<https://indico.cern.ch/category/9249/>

1st Meeting – 15 February 2017

- 25 participants
- Welcome, aim of SCF
- Scientific Computing Forum strategy paper
- Round table, discussion

2nd Meeting – 12 May 2017

- 26 participants
- CERN scientific collaboration with SKA
- LHC computing in Helmholtz Association
- IN2P3 computing outlook
- The Bologna initiative

3rd Meeting – 27 October 2017

- 44 participants
- EC interactions
- Brief WLCG status report
- US perspective on scientific computing over next decade
- UK perspective on scientific computing over next decade
- Spanish perspective on scientific computing over next decade
- HEP software foundation community white paper

4th Meeting – 23 February 2018

- 28 participants
- Brief WLCG status report
- Lessons from HSF CWP
- INFRAEOSC-04
- Licensing of commercial software

Details of Presentations/Discussions

- Interested?
 - See slides and minutes in Indico
 - Ask me for private communication or for a dedicated GDB presentation

Next Meeting

- Scheduled for 20 September 2018

Summary (from Indico)

The Scientific Computing Forum brings together experts in the field of data-intensive, computing applications of publicly funded research to outline solutions for the requirements over the next decade.

Evolving from the success of the world-wide LHC computing grid (WLCG) and encompassing the latest developments of the Scientific Clouds, science will continue to drive and lead the development of demanding computing installation.

The forum takes stocks of the developments in advanced computing with the goal of identifying options and synergies for adequate and affordable solutions.