Research *it*
Supporting your research
A newsletter from IT Services: Research IT

Welcome to issue #27, July 2015, in a [regular series](#) of updates on IT research support and facilities for postgraduates, researchers and academics of The University of Manchester.

Your main contact email addresses for research computing support are given on the last page; emailing your queries this way will automatically raise a job for you in the IT Services helpdesk system. Every day, routine work should continue to be submitted through the IT Service Desk on +44 (0) 161 306 5544 or via online submission at: www.manchester.ac.uk/servicedesk.

Web Page: Research IT

The web site for our support areas and all contact details is available here: www.its.manchester.ac.uk/research/

Research IT Governance Group announced

In order to ensure that Research IT is aligned with the University research strategy an effective governance model and structure is essential. A key component of this governance structure is a properly constituted governance group with diverse representation from a range of academic areas.

This has now been approved by the University Research Strategy Group and the first meeting of the group will take place in July. For an overview of the governance group including terms of reference and membership please click here.

Research Computing Facilities

IT Services supports University of Manchester researchers and staff on a wide range of facilities including your own desktop, University owned clusters and externally hosted facilities. Links to a range of facilities are provided below. If you would like to find out more about the best option for your particular research needs, please contact us.

- University of Manchester Computational Shared Facility
- University of Manchester Condor Service
- N8 Regional High Performance Computing Service
- PRACE EU High Performance Computing Service
- UK Hartree Centre Facilities
- PRACE EU High Performance Computing Service
- XSEDE USA High Performance Computing Service

Access to ARCHER

Researchers can request anything from pump-priming access to full projects on the UK High Performance Computing Service (ARCHER) for suitability for their work all year round via a lightweight application process. Click here for details.

Latest EPSRC calls for access to ARCHER

The next round of Resource Allocation Panel (RAP) calls has now been published on the EPSRC website. RAP access provides users with ARCHER resources for a maximum of 12 months for medium sized projects within EPSRC remit. If you'd like to discuss how Research IT can help you with your application please contact us.

RAP Access to ARCHER (Summer 2015)

This is a call for applications for direct access to ARCHER through the Resource Allocation Panel. Please note that this is a call for projects *outside* of the remit of the High End Computing Consortia. The total amount of resource for this call is limited to ~ 300,000 kAU (20,000,000 core-hours), subject to the quality of the proposals. For more information and to apply, please click here. **Deadline 21 September 2015.**

RAP Top-Up Applications for Existing Grant Holders

The aim of this call is to provide top-up resource on ARCHER for existing EPSRC grant-holders beyond the maximum 24 months of initial compute allocation. For more information and to apply, please click here. **Deadline 21 September 2015.**

ARCHER Leadership Projects

A Leadership call for large computationally intensive individual projects is also now open to applicants from academic and non-academic research groups. For more details and to apply, please visit the EPSRC website. **Deadline 21 September 2015.**

Research Computing Training

University of Manchester Courses

IT Services offer a portfolio of short courses in research computing. Click here for the latest schedule. We can also tailor courses for doctoral training programmes and arrange on-demand training with external tutors. Please contact us to discuss your requirements.

PRACE Advanced Training Courses

The Partnership for Advanced Computing in Europe (PRACE) offers free courses at different HPC centres in Europe. Courses offered in July 2015 include:

6-10 Jul	Programming and Tuning	Spain
13-14 Jul	Introduction to HPC	Edinburgh
15-17 Jul	Message Passing	Edinburgh

Upcoming Events

Manchester Methods Summer School 2015

The Methods @ Manchester summer school runs from 6th-10th July 2015 at The University of Manchester.

Participants are asked to select single course for the duration of the school. Each course will deliver content from Monday afternoon to Friday lunch-time, building on successful methods@manchester and CMIST short-courses given throughout the year.

Available Courses:

- Advanced methods for social network analysis
- Structural Equation Modelling using Mplus
- Integrated Mixed-Methods Research
- Introduction to social network analysis (SNA) using UCINET and Netdraw
- Content Analysis for Online Data
- Constructing and Validating Measures using the Rasch Model
- Researching public and voluntary sector organisations

Full details of the Summer School, courses and booking requirements may be found here.

Other News

Big Data Symposium comes to University of Manchester

The University of Manchester hosted a Big Data Symposium on June 18th, 2015. Big Data Symposia have been held at other leading universities in the UK such as Oxford, UCL and Edinburgh. Manchester's event was hosted by the School of Computer Science, Manchester Informatics, Research IT and commercial partner OCF. Led by Professor Robert Stevens, director of Research in the School of Computer Science, with a keynote from Professor Magnus Rattray, Faculty of Life Sciences, the agenda had a broad range of topics on diverse subjects such as smart cities, internet of things, privacy, astronomy and biology. The day was attended by 90 people from across all faculties, the city and the region with lively discussion taking place over lunch and the reception that followed the talks. The agenda is available here; presentations from the day will be available on the same page very soon.

The Symposium was run in support of the University's Data Science Institute and was also used to provide a spring board for the new Data Science Club which will be starting in the autumn. More details will be revealed soon but if you'd like to get involved please contact Dr Robin Pinning at it-research@manchester.ac.uk.
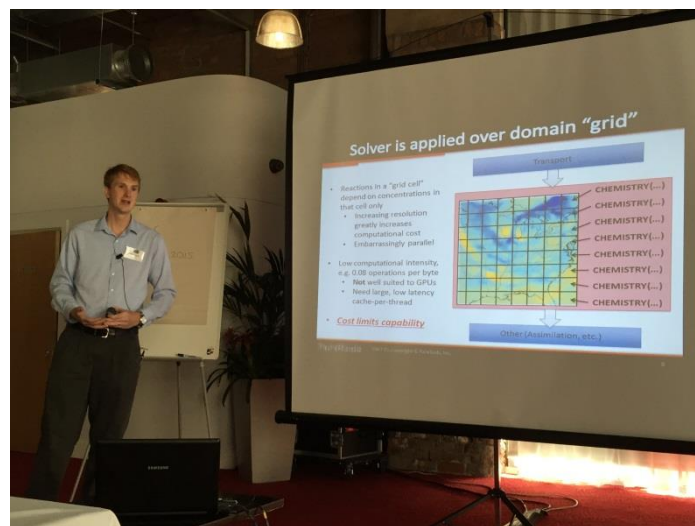
Emerging Tech Conference

At the end of June, the Emerging Tech Conference "EMiT2015" was hosted in Manchester. Members of Research IT have worked alongside local academics over the last 10 months to take the 2014 launch-pad 1-dayer and turn it in to a respected international academic conference series.

EMiT2015 comprised 4 keynote speakers from UK, Europe and the US, talking on hardware technologies and software techniques, 15 peer-reviewed papers presented from speakers from academia and industry, 85 attendees and 9 sponsors/stalls.

The full set of talks will appear shortly on the conference website. The keynotes covered:

SpiNNaker/Human Brain Project, Communications Avoiding Algorithms, HPC source code generation for chemical kinetics and building a supercomputer out of mobile phone parts.

Whilst we will formerly survey delegates for feedback and suggested improvements, we can say there was a lot of verbal praise given and a general call for more to follow in 2016.

Keynote speaker John Linford of ParaTools Inc.

Vacancies

Are you trying to recruit someone? Let us know and we will help you advertise here.

Team Leader or Software Architect in HPC and Big Data Analytics at NSCC-GZ: Guangzhou, China

Analyst/Programmer in HPC and Research Data Systems: Queen's University, Belfast

Online Copy

If you have received a printed copy of this newsletter and wish to follow the links, staff can download an electronic copy with clickable links at:

http://documents.manchester.ac.uk/DocuInfo.aspx?DocID= 24478

Please help us increase our readership by forwarding the link to colleagues.

Useful Links

[Faculty of Humanities Blog for Researchers](#)

[Faculty of Humanities Training Hub for Postgraduates](#)

Subject-specific Email Lists

Please note that these email lists are subject specific discussion forums, rather than a way of contacting IT Services.

[University HPC PhD Network](#)

finite-elements@listserv.manchester.ac.uk

fortran@listserv.manchester.ac.uk

sciprogramming@listserv.manchester.ac.uk

university-gpuclub@listserv.manchester.ac.uk

Contact Emails

Research IT:
its-research@manchester.ac.uk

Humanities:
Hum-ITResearch@manchester.ac.uk

Engineering and Physical Sciences:
EPS-ITResearch@manchester.ac.uk

Medical and Human Sciences:
MHS-ITResearch@manchester.ac.uk

Life Sciences:
FLS-ITResearch@manchester.ac.uk

Next edition

The next edition of this newsletter will be circulated at the beginning of August 2015.

If you have any news to contribute, please contact Gillian Sinclair gillian.sinclair@manchester.ac.uk and Dalinder Sall dalinder.sall@manchester.ac.uk at any time.

Items received before 24 July 2015 will be included in the next edition. News from