



# HKU Grid Point Project

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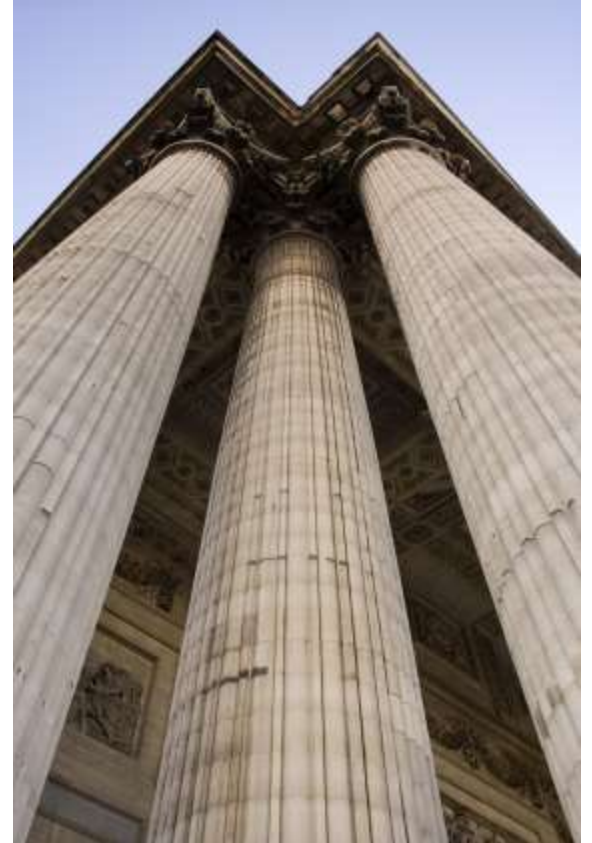
# Thank You!

- This project would not have been successful without the generous support of the HK University Grants Committee via a Special Equipment Grant
- The UGC SEG grant was matched by a special grant from HKU



# Computational Science

- The “third pillar” of 21<sup>st</sup> century science
- Alongside theory and physical experimentation



REPORT TO THE PRESIDENT

JUNE 2005

# COMPUTATIONAL SCIENCE: ENSURING AMERICA'S COMPETITIVENESS

PRESIDENT'S  
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE



## International Review of Research Using HPC in the UK

December 2005

This document represents the conclusions of an international Review Panel of experts in computational science and engineering. The views expressed are entirely those of the members of that Panel.

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**EPSRC**

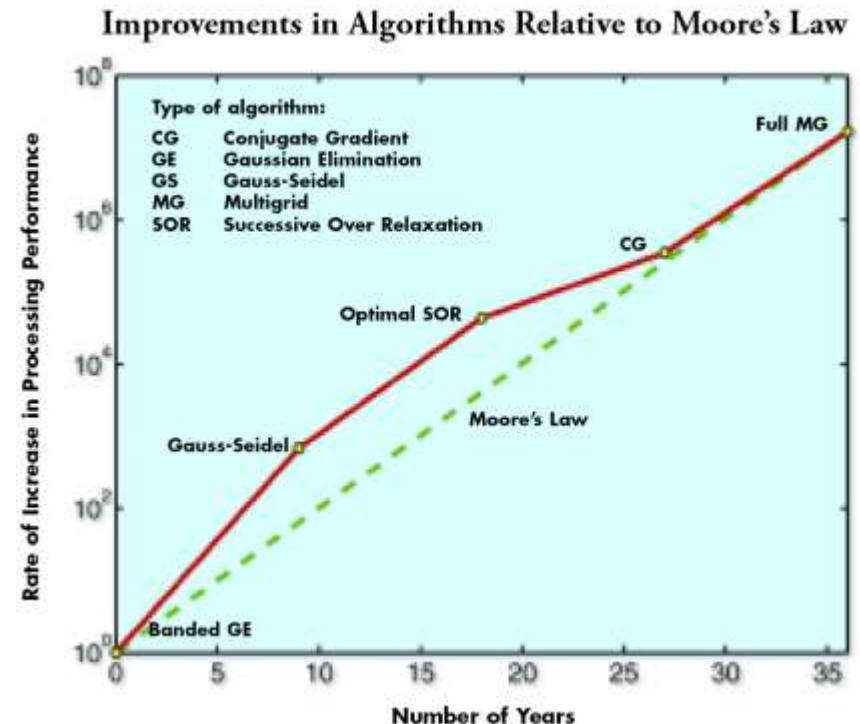
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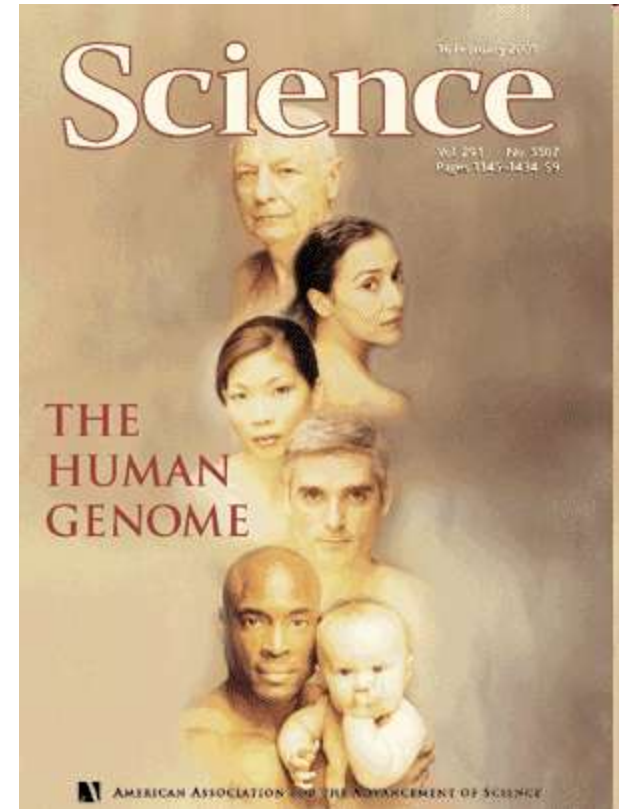
# What's Computational Science?

- Computational science is a rapidly growing multidisciplinary field that uses advanced computing capabilities to understand and solve complex problems



# Example 1

- **The first great scientific breakthrough of the new century – the decoding of the human genome (2001) was a triumph of large-scale computational science**



The sequencing of the human genome will impact all of us in diverse ways—from our views of ourselves as human beings to new paradigms in medicine.

# Example 2



- A Rubik's Cube can be solved in 20 moves or less from any position – Google computer
- Possible moves:  
**43,252,003,274,489,856,000**
  - It will take 35 years to compute on a modern PC
- In 30 years, mathematicians could only nail it to
  - **18 < max. moves (the God's number) ≤ 52**

# UK's Recommendations

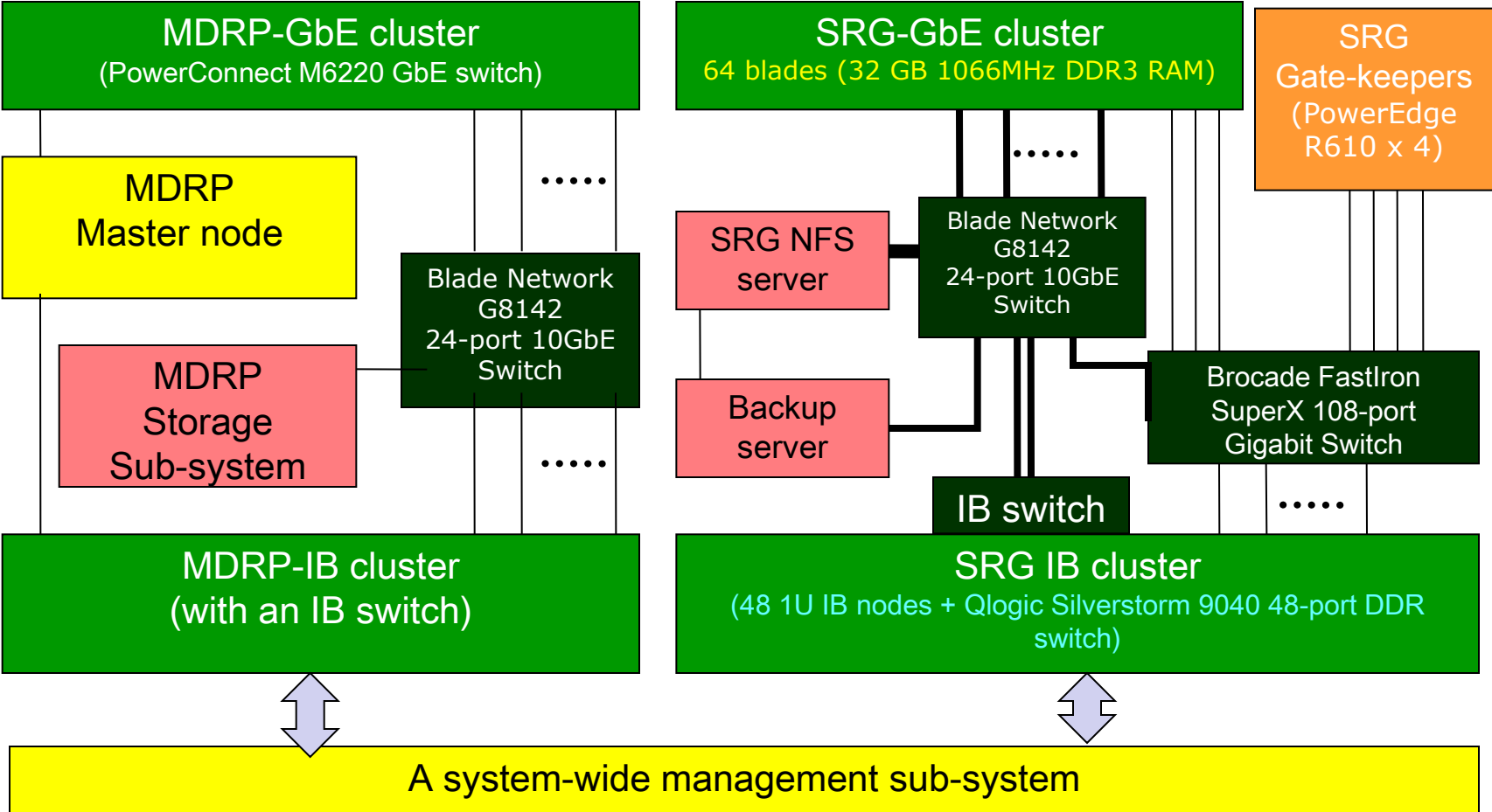
1. Strengthen the computational infrastructure by:
  - systematically deploying leading-edge capability systems, large-scale capacity computing, and resources deployed widely at universities
  - supporting and developing a state-of-the-art applications software infrastructure encompassing algorithms, data management and analysis, visualization, and best-practices software engineering.
2. Develop human resources in HPC.
3. Bridge disciplines and build a computational science community by increasing interactions and fostering collaborations between disciplinary groups nationally and internationally.



# HKU's New Infrastructure

## HKU Computer Center (MDRP Cluster) (128 blades in 8 chassis)

## HKU Computer Science (Gideon II Cluster)



# HKU Grid Point Cluster: 2009-10



# Performance Evaluation

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Gideon-II 64-node GbE cluster (via Foundry Switch)</b></li></ul>	<b>3.45Tflops / 5.181Tflops = 66%</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Gideon-II 64-node GbE cluster (via 10GbE switch)</b></li></ul>	<b>3.115Tflops / 5.181Tflop = 60%</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Gideon-II 48-node IB-cluster</b></li></ul>	<b>3.275Tflops / 3.886Tflops = 84%</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>MDRP 32-node IB cluster</b></li></ul>	<b>2.210Tflops / 2.590Tflops = 85%</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>MDRP 96-node Gigabit Ethernet cluster</b></li></ul>	<b>5.283Tflops / 7.772Tflops = 67%</b>

# Grid Computing – Development & Collaborations

Local HPC clusters



Campus Grid



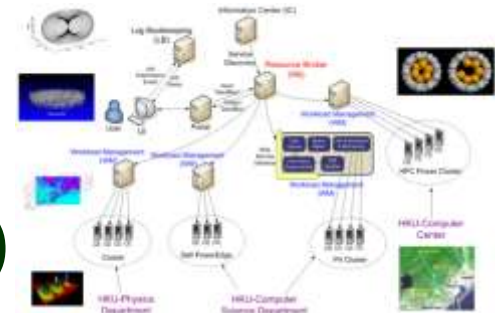
Regional Grid (HK Grid)



National Grid (CN Grid)



International Grid (EGEE, APGrid, PRAGMA)



# Central HPC/Grid Computing Facility Advancement

Year	Top500	System	Rmax(TF)	Rpeak(TF)
<b>2011</b>	---	<b>HKU Grid Point System (Total)</b>	---	<b>27050.4</b>
<b>2010</b>	---	<b>HKU Grid Point System (1<sup>st</sup> phase)</b>	<b>14218</b>	<b>19430.4</b>
<b>2008</b>	---	<b>192-Cores + 356-CPU IBM Linux Cluster</b>	<b>2376.3</b>	<b>4337.6</b>
<b>2005</b>	---	<b>356-CPU IBM Linux Cluster</b>	<b>1086.19</b>	<b>2033.6</b>
<b>2003</b>	<b>240<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>256-CPU IBM Linux Cluster</b>	<b>637.8</b>	<b>1433.6</b>
<b>2001</b>	---	<b>64-CPU HP Linux Cluster</b>	---	<b>64.0</b>
<b>2000</b>	---	<b>8-CPU Linux Cluster</b>	---	<b>12.8</b>
<b>1998</b>	<b>345<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>48-CPU IBM SP2</b>	<b>22.2</b>	<b>30.7</b>
<b>1995</b>	<b>186<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>32-CPU IBM SP2</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>8.5</b>
<b>1993</b>	---	<b>8-CPU IBM SP1</b>	---	<b>1.0</b>

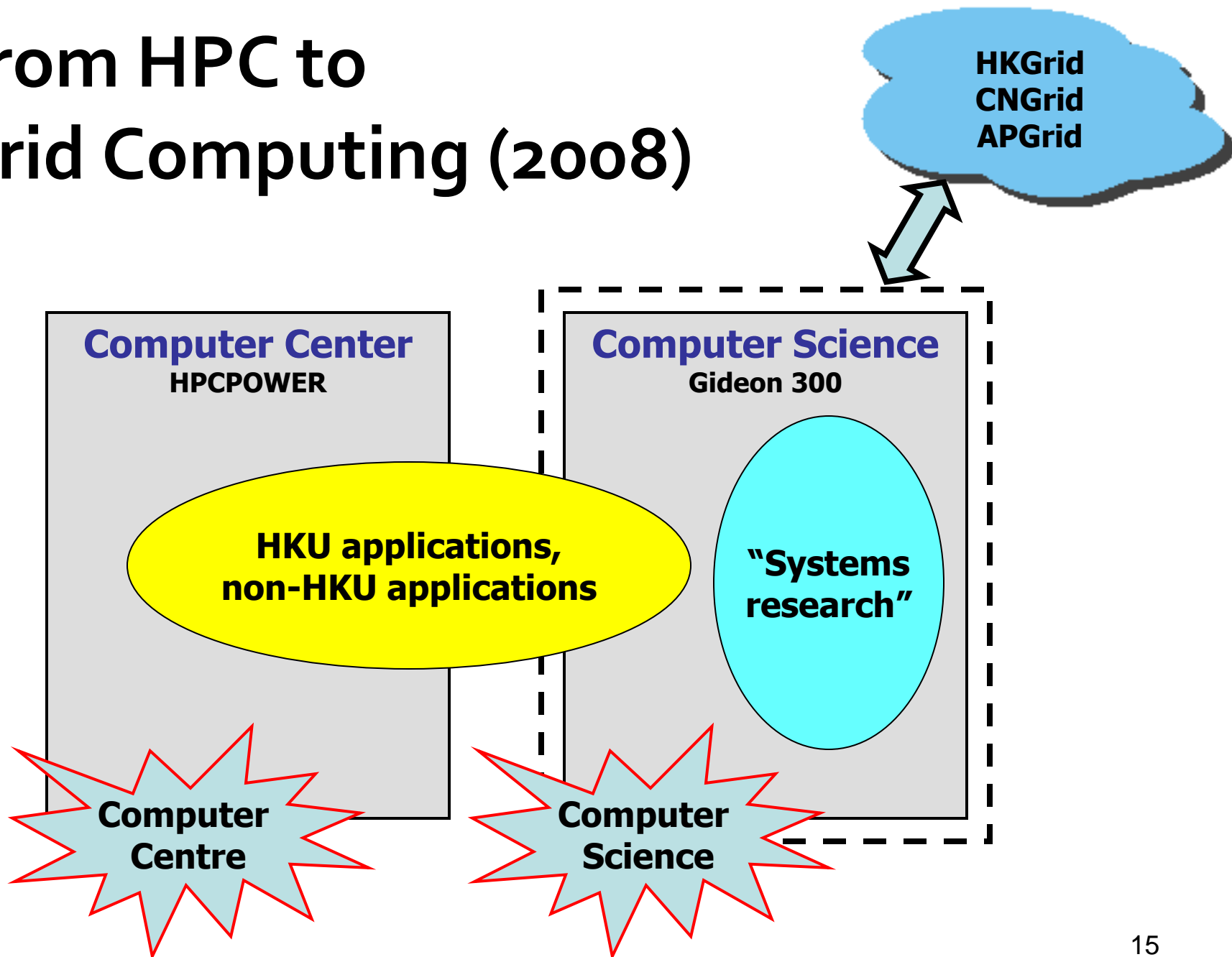
\* →

\* Department of CS's Gideon cluster – 175<sup>th</sup> in Top500 (11/2002)

# Research Projects using Central HPC/Grid Computing Service

<i>Departments Hosting Research Project</i>	No. of Major Projects		
	<i>2010/09</i>	<i>2009/08</i>	<i>2008/07</i>
<b>Department of Chemistry</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Department of Physics</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Department of Mechanical Engineering</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Department of Civil Engineering</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Other departments in the facilities of Engineering, Medicine, Sciences, Social Sciences and Dentistry</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>99</b>

# From HPC to Grid Computing (2008)



# HKU Grid Point UGC Project

## Phases 1 & 2 (27.05 TF)

High-speed Network  
to Campus & Grid partners



Master node &  
Gatekeepers

10Gb Ethernet



Infiniband &  
10Gb-Ethernet  
switches

10Gb Ethernet

10Gb Ethernet

4X DDR (20Gbps)  
InfiniBand

4X QDR (40Gbps)  
InfiniBand



**Phase-2 Storage  
(30TB)**



**Phase-1 equipments  
(19.43TF & 21TB)**

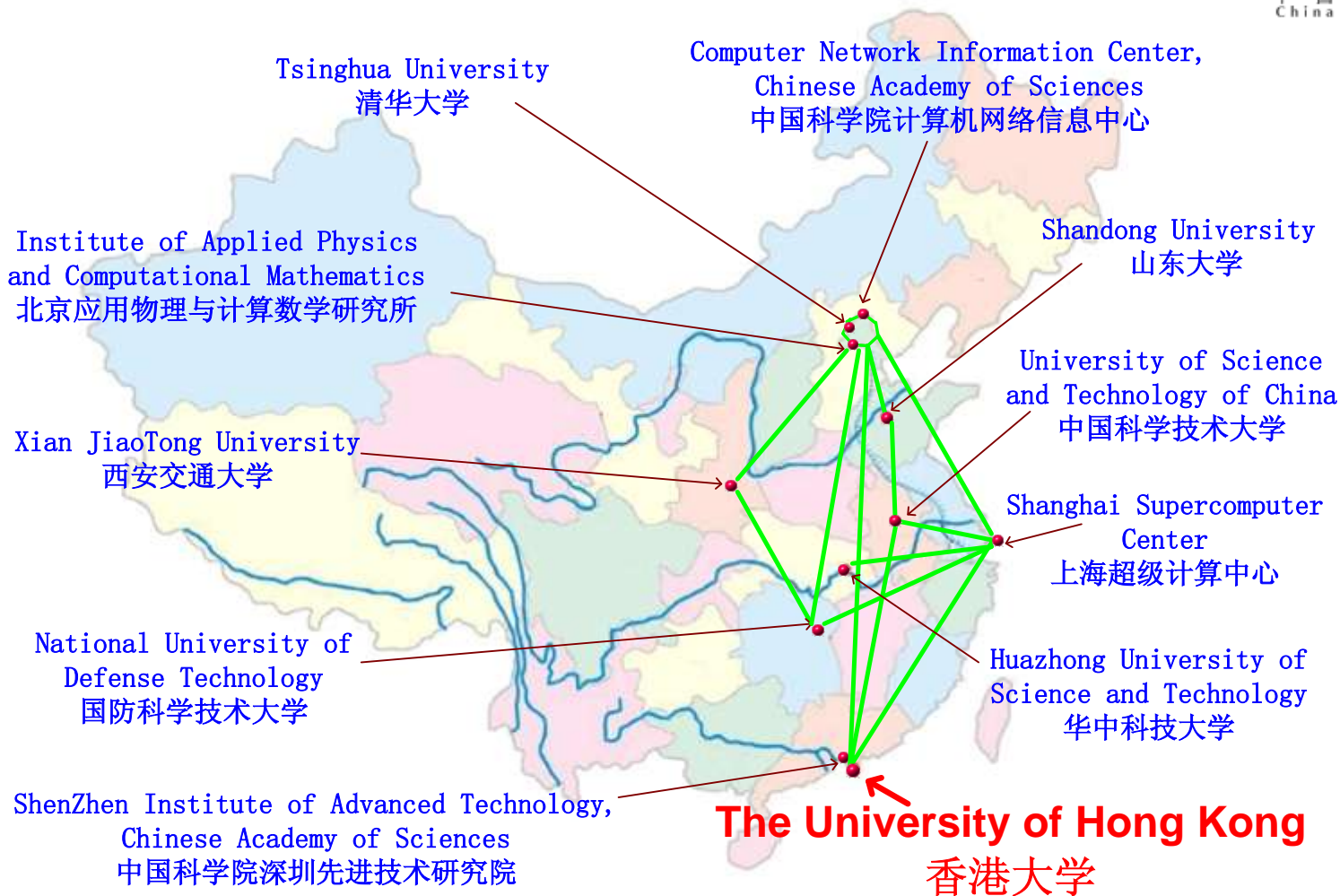


**Phase-2 Infiniband-Based  
Compute Nodes (7.62TF)**



# China National Grid : Phase II

*The China National Grid II (CNGrid II) (2006-2010)*



*The only institution outside Mainland China*

# High speed Network Connections supporting HKU Grid Point



- **Research & Education Networks**

- Internet2, TEIN3 (Trans-Eurasia Information Network), CERNET, APAN , etc. through HARNET



- **Grid Research connections established:**

- CNGrid over China Science and Technology Network (CSTnet)
- KISTI (Korea Institution of Technology and Science Information)
- ASGCC of Taiwan



# HKU e-Research Community Website

- For enhancing e-Research collaboration  
<http://community.grid.hku.hk/>



The screenshot displays the HKU e-Research Community website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'Users', 'Departments', and 'Research Interests'. Below this is a banner image of the HKU skyline with the text 'HKU e-Research Community' and the university crest. The main content area is divided into a left sidebar and a main panel. The sidebar contains 'NAVIGATION' with links for 'Publication', 'My publications', 'Authors', and 'Keywords', and 'RECENT PUBLICATIONS' with a list of articles. The main panel shows a search results page for 'Publication' with a 'Home' link, a search filter for 'Year' set to '2010', and a list of results including 'A Comprehensive Study for the Plasmonic Thin-Film Solar Cell with Periodic Structure' and 'Electric field modulation of topological order in thin film semiconductors'.

Users Departments Research Interests

HKU e-Research Community

NAVIGATION

- Publication
  - My publications
  - Authors
  - Keywords

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

- Waveguide simulation using the high-order symplectic finite-difference time-domain scheme
- High Frequency Scattering by An Impenetrable Sphere

Home

Publication

Found 48 results

Author Title Type Year

**2010**

[A Comprehensive Study for the Plasmonic Thin-Film Solar Cell with Periodic Structure](#), Sha, Wei E. I., Choy Wallace C. H., and Chew Weng Cho , Optics Express, Mar/2010, Volume 18, (2010) Abstract

[Electric field modulation of topological order in thin film semiconductors](#), Jiang, Zhan-Feng, Chu Rui-Lin, and Shen Shun-Qing , Physical Review B, 18 March 2010, Volume 81, Issue 11, (2010) Abstract

[Modelling the microclimate and environmental impacts of vegetation canopies with different lengths and leaf area densities in urban scale](#), Poon, Cynthia H. C., Liu C.H., and Lim C.Y., The 13th

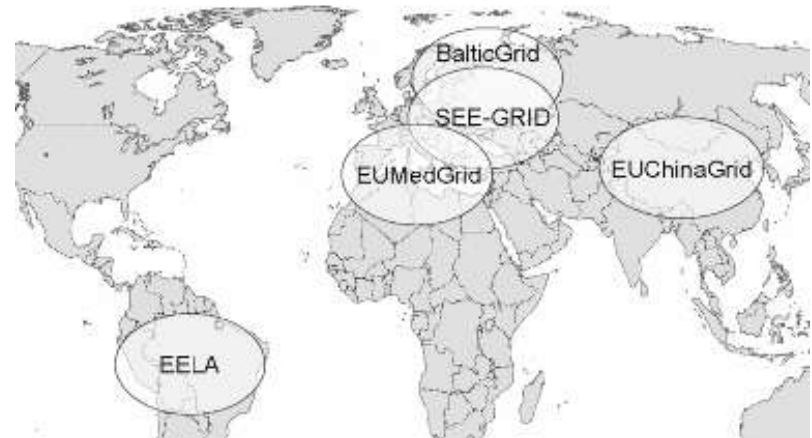
# International Collaboration – with EGEE development

- **Pilot Set-up of EGEE (Enabling Grids for E-scienceE) in HKU in 2007**
  - CE (Computing Element)
  - SE (Storage Element)
  - MON (Information System)
  - UI (User interface)
- **Some HKU researchers already started deploying EGEE computational resources for their needs**



# EGEE - Enabling Grids for E-science

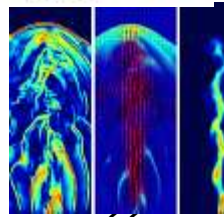
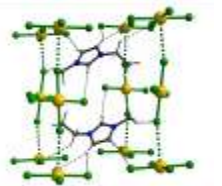
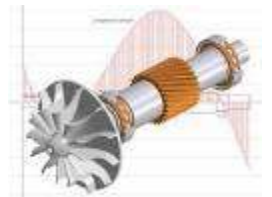
- More than 90 partners
- 32 countries
- 12 federations
- 27 countries through related projects:
  - BalticGrid
  - SEE-GRID
  - EUMedGrid
  - EUChinaGrid
  - EELA



# EGEE & Interoperation



- Expanded consortium
- Emphasis on providing an infrastructure
  - → increased support for applications
  - → interoperate with other infrastructures
  - more involvement from Industry
- Relies on APGrid PMA, EUGrid PMA,
  - & Americas Grid PMA for CA Service
- HKU Joined APGrid PMA in 2008



# International Collaboration – with PRAGMA and APGrid PMA

- HKU Joined Asia Pacific Grid Policy Management Authority (APGrid PMA) in 2008
- Joined as full member of PRAGMA (Pacific Rim Application and Grid Middleware Assembly) that connects NCSA, SDSC, CNIC, AIST, etc. through PRAMGA Grid



# PRAGMA 20

- **Everyone is welcome to join the PRAGMA 20 workshop cum HKU Centennial IT Conference on 2-4 March 2011 at the University of Hong Kong**
- **<http://www.hku.hk/cc/HKU100/pragma20/>**





# HKU Grid Certificate Authority

- HKU Grid Certificate Authority is accredited to be APGrid PMA (IGTF compliant) Certificate Authority in April 2009
- The HKU Grid CA system becomes the foundation for HKU to build trust and collaborations with other universities and research institutes on Grid Computing areas



HKU Grid CA

Grid Certificate Authority  
Computer Centre  
The University of Hong Kong



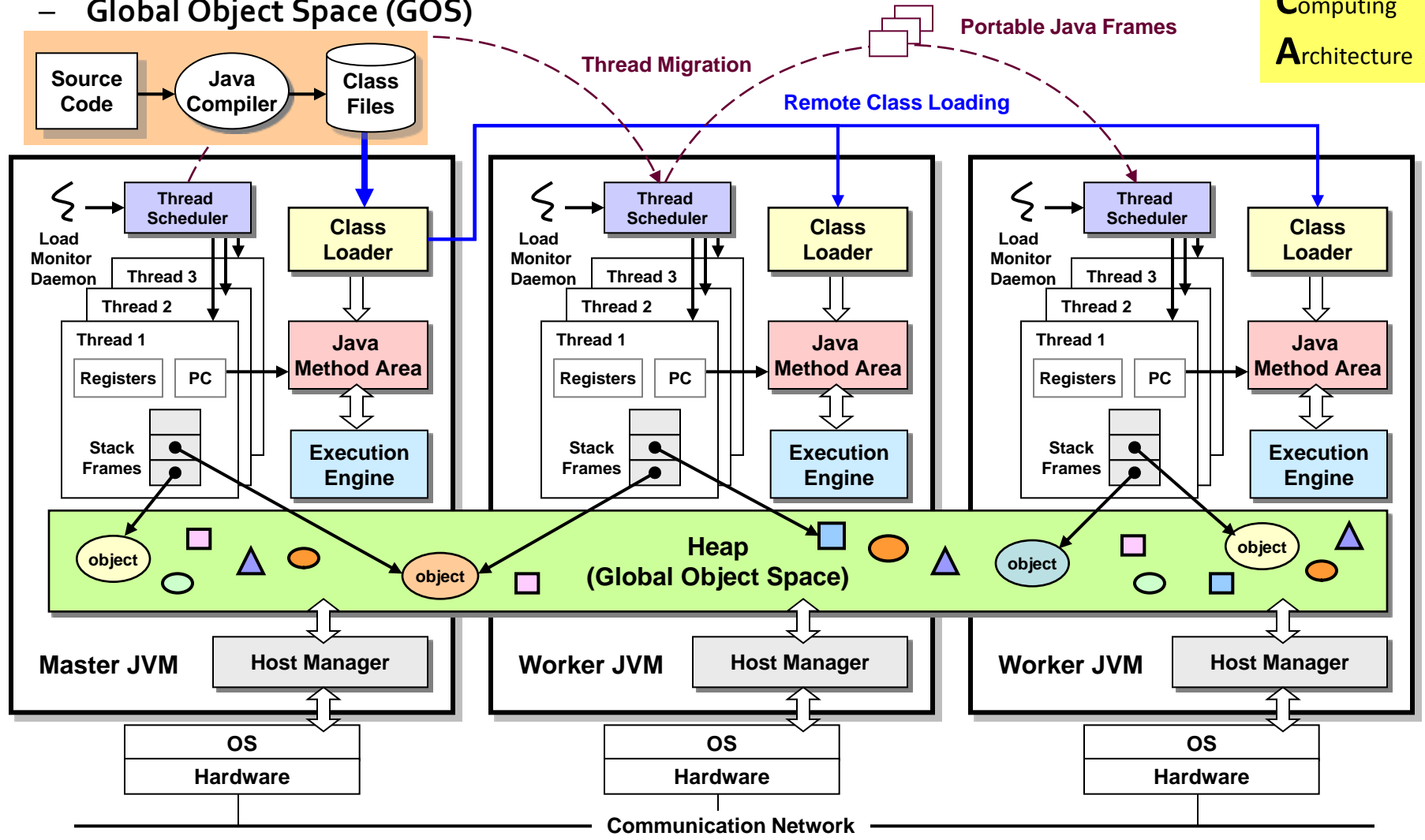
# Software for HPC/Grid Computing

- **Biology:** Simwalk, MrBayes, HYPHY, PhyML
- **Chemistry:** Gaussian 03, NWChem
- **Geosciences:** WRF, MM5, NCL
- **Modeling/Simulation:** Abaqus
- **Physics:** Siesta, VASP, CASINO
- **Mathematics:** VNI IMSL, Intel MKL, BLAS, LAPACK, Matlab Compiler
- **Language compiler:** Portland Group C & Fortran, Intel C & Fortran, Perl, Java, etc
- **Parallel Computing:** MPICH, MPI-LAM
- **Grid Middleware:** Globus, GOS, gLite



# JESSICA Distributed Java VM

- A cluster-wide JVM with
  - Dynamic thread mobility in JIT mode
  - Global Object Space (GOS)



# Conclusions

- **Leading-edge computational science is possible only when supported by long-term, balanced R&D investments in software, hardware, data, networking, and human resources.**
- **Universities must significantly change their organizational structures to promote and reward collaborative research that invigorates and advances multidisciplinary science.**
- **The computational science community must confront the discipline's most intractable R&D challenges in a sustained and serious manner.**