

NCI eNewsletter June 2023

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Dear NCI users,

Welcome to the June edition of the NCI newsletter, where we bring you the latest updates and highlights from the National Computational Infrastructure (NCI). Here's a summary of the key news and events from the past month.



The [Australasian Leadership Computing Symposium](#) (ALCS) 2023 was successfully held in Canberra on 14-16 June. It attracted 200 HPC and AI researchers from 40+ organisations across 6 countries. The plenary talks are now available on NCI's YouTube channel, please see [the playlist](#) here. Stream presentation slides are also available, please check our conference [website](#) to find out more.

We signed the [Digital Research Skills Australasia Memorandum of Understanding](#) (DReSA MoU) with ARDC and Pawsey during the second day of ALCS 2023. The main aim of the DReSA MoU is to enable collaboration among Australian supercomputing and research data leaders to expand access to skills training.

At ALCS, we also announced the three new [Science and Technology Flagships](#) which will be a focus of NCI's continued support and community development efforts. These three Flagships represent major areas of growth for Australian research, and HPC and AI technologies in coming years.

In June, we also announced the [recipients of the Q3 2023 Adapter Allocation Scheme](#). Congratulations to all successful applicants! The Adapter Allocation Scheme provides researchers with access to NCI's supercomputing resources to facilitate their

Finally, our [research highlight](#) this month features work on the drivers of rainfall from the ARC Centre of Excellence for Climate Extremes. Many of Australia's leading climate scientists are drawing on NCI's computing power and data infrastructure to analyse how the various drivers of rainfall interact, going from local factors to global climate processes.

King regards,  
Sean – NCI Director

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## ALCS 2023 Recap

We were thrilled to be able to bring ALCS back in Canberra this month for a unique gathering of the HPC, AI and Data Science community. Hundreds of researchers came together to share their experiences and knowledge in computational and data science. [Read more](#) about the great experience that was ALCS2023!



## ARDC, NCI and Pawsey sign MoU to expand access to skills training

The Australian Research Data Commons, National Computational Infrastructure and the Pawsey Supercomputing Research Centre have signed a [Memorandum of Understanding](#) to cooperatively manage, continue to develop and maintain the Digital Research Skills Australasia (DReSA) national training registry.

[Learn More](#)



## ALCS 2023 Plenary Talks

Did you miss the presentations at ALCS 2023? We have made recordings of all the Plenary and Lightning Talks available online! You can now enjoy the presentations on NCI's YouTube channel.

[Watch the talks](#)



## NCI Science and Technology Flagships

NCI has announced 3 new Flagships, representing core areas of focus for us in terms of software development, community support and public messaging:

- Climate, Weather and Geosciences
- Biomedical and Genomics Data
- AI Growth Enabler at NCI (AIGENCI).

[Watch the videos](#)

## NCI Adapter Scheme supports novel AI/ML studies

The 53 successful recipients include researchers investigating the flow dynamics of airborne droplets in indoor settings, using deep learning for cancer prediction and studying methods for solar panel recycling.

[Find out more](#)



## Understanding why it rains: From the local to the global

Australian regions have experienced devastating floods in recent years, forcing difficult discussions around how best to manage ongoing risks. Researchers are drawing on NCI's computing power and data infrastructure to analyse how the various drivers of rainfall interact, from local factors to global climate and weather processes.

[Learn More](#)

## Integrated Earth Symposium

Integrated Earth 2023 will be a two-day symposium in Canberra on 12-13 September that aims to integrate Earth systems expertise and data to address complex Earth systems challenges that Australia faces. This event will be run in a face-to-face hybrid format and free for all to attend. It is being produced by members of the National Earth and Environmental Sciences Facilities Forum (NEESFF), including TERN, AuScope, NCI, ARDC, IMOS and ACCESS-NRI. Put in your Expression of Interest here!

## Upcoming Training

Skills Sharpening training sessions for NCI users are now available through to the end of July. These fill up fast, so get in quick to reserve your spot in an upcoming session! **Registration is essential.**

Registration details and all upcoming NCI training sessions are listed on our [NCI Training and Educational Events](#) page.

Upcoming sessions include:

- 11-12 July, [Data Manipulation and Visualisation in Python](#)
- 18-19 July, [Getting started with HPC using PBS Pro](#)

## Service Updates

Every month, NCI's User Services Team updates the software available on Gadi with new versions and new packages.

In June, 11 new applications were installed, including:

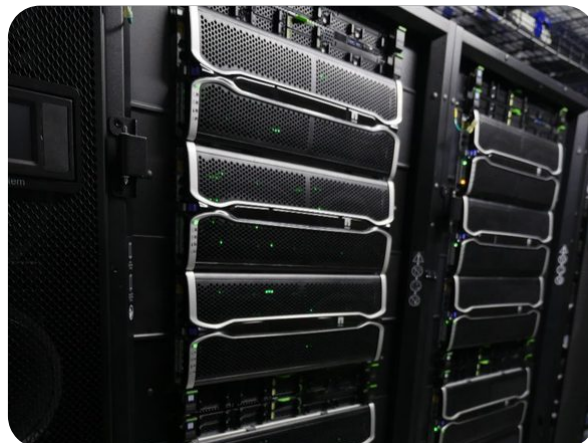
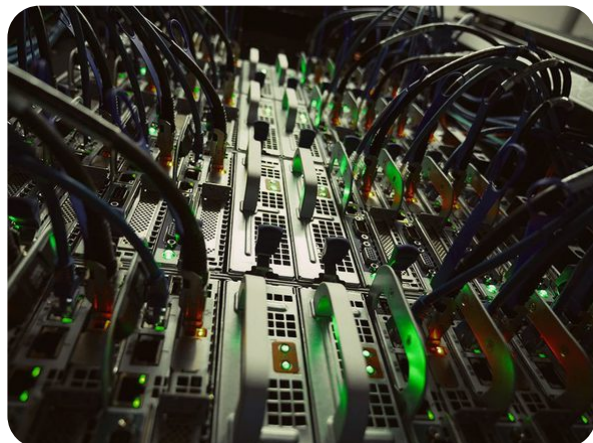
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- dftb+/22.2
- openfoam/10-64
- gatk/4.4.0.0
- lammmps/28Mar2023
- openjdk/17.0.2
- ansys-lumerical/2023r1
- julia/1.9.1
- visrtx/0.5.0
- paraview/5.11.1
- ospray/2.11.0

NCI's Data Collections Team manages and updates the datasets stored for use by Australian researchers.

Recently released datasets include:

- [Australian Gridded Climate Data \(AGCD\)](#) (new datasets added)
- [APS3 ACCESS Numerical Weather Prediction \(NWP\) Models](#) (new datasets added)
- [SkyMapper Southern Survey \(SMSS\) Data Release 4 \(DR4\)](#) (new datasets added)
- [AuScope Magnetotellurics \(MT\) Collection](#) (new datasets added)
- [ESGF CMIP6](#) (new datasets added)

See the full NCI data catalogue [here](#),  
and see all the monthly releases [here](#).



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