

NCI eNewsletter May 2023

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May 2023

nci.org.au

Dear NCI users,

Welcome to the May edition of the NCI newsletter. We are excited to share some recent news updates, upcoming events, training opportunities, research highlights and more.



First of all, we are pleased to announce that NCI's [Advisory Board Chair](#), Dr Greg Ayers, has had his term extended through to the end of 2025. I'm looking forward to our continued work together as we develop further opportunities for NCI in the coming years.

The [Australian Research Environment](#) (ARE) service providing a graphical interface into the Gadi supercomputer is now fully operational. Jobs running in ARE are now able to communicate directly with the Internet, facilitating more interactive usage. This provides another tool for researchers to easily and efficiently conduct their computational science.

The [Australasian Leadership Computing Symposium](#) is coming up in Canberra next week. We can't wait for this gathering of our community and all the great discussions that will be taking place. If you can't make it, be sure to register for the livestreamed plenary sessions on the [14th](#) and [15th](#) of June.

We've released the results of this year's [User Survey](#), with great feedback in there about the role NCI plays in supporting Australian research. In particular, it's wonderful to see users recognising the staff behind the scenes helping to make NCI's services a reality.

Users might have noticed the [redesign of the MyNCI platform](#) which went live last week. This portal is the place to go to update your NCI user account, career profile and to request access to new projects. The visual upgrade consolidates the design across from our primary NCI website – we hope you like it!

Additionally, we're excited to be participating once again to bring you the [3rd NCI and Intersect Showcase](#), focusing on artificial intelligence and machine learning in cancer research. Hear from some of the world's leading experts during this event.

Finally, in our research highlights this month we are featuring Dr. Judy Hart from UNSW Sydney and her work looking at [understanding atomic interactions to inform the development of cancer therapies](#).



NCI Board Chair Extends Term

NCI is pleased to announce that Dr Greg Ayers FTSE, Chair of NCI's Advisory Board, has had his tenure extended until the end of 2025. Dr Ayers is the former CEO of the Bureau of Meteorology and the former Chief of Marine & Atmospheric Research at CSIRO. He has been Chair of NCI's Board since 2021. In that time, he has guided NCI through a recent growth phase, welcomed a new Major Collaborator in UNSW Sydney to the Board and laid the groundwork for NCI's business development in the coming years. Find out more on the [NCI website](#).



ARE service fully operational

The [Australian Research Environment](#) (ARE) is a web-based graphical interface for performing your computational research on NCI's Gadi supercomputer and data collections. With ARE now supporting external internet access, NCI will be closing down the Open On Demand (OOD) service at the end of June. Find out more about the *OOD to ARE migration* in this [Zoom session](#).

Find out
more



ALCS2023 Next

Tickets for ALCS2023 in Canberra next week are sold out. If you missed out, you can still register to watch the plenary session livestreams on [Day 1 – 14th of June](#) and [Day 2 – 15th of June](#).

Find out more



User Survey results published

Results from the NCI User Survey from earlier this year are in! 97% of respondents said that NCI makes a difference to their research and half would be unable to do their work without NCI.

Read more



AeRO National Forum

The [National eResearch Forum](#), hosted by the Australian eResearch Organisations (AeRO), will be colocated with ALCS on the 13th of June, and feature two panel sessions about AI/ML and Research Data Culture.

Register

Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning in Cancer Research

3rd NCI and Intersect Showcase

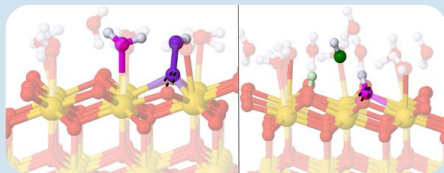
AI and ML in Cancer Research Showcase

Presentations from global experts will showcase state-of-the-art cancer research integrating artificial intelligence and machine learning techniques.

- 23 June 2023, 10am-2pm AEST
- Online Zoom webinar
- Co-organised by NCI and

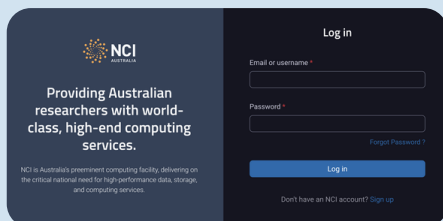
[Register](#)

Recent Highlights



Understanding atomic interactions to inform cancer therapy development

Many promising nanomaterials appear to have qualities that could make them well-suited for use in anti-cancer therapies. Dr Judy Hart from UNSW Sydney used computing time on NCI's Gadi supercomputer to simulate surface interactions and better understand the action of cerium oxide in these therapies.

[Learn More](#)

MyNCI redesign

The MyNCI platform has gotten a visual refresh and some under the hood improvements. MyNCI now supports stronger passwords when creating accounts, and provides a responsive layout, dark mode and an updated appearance. The underlying functionality is unchanged. You can explore the new look on

<https://my.nci.org.au/>

[Learn More](#)

Upcoming Training

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

Upcoming sessions include:

- 6 June, [Introduction to ML using Python: Linear Regression](#)
- 13 June, [AI/ML Applications on Gadi – Astronomy](#)
- 13 June, [AI/ML Applications on](#)

[NCI Training and Educational Events](#)
page.

[Learning using Python:
Classification](#)

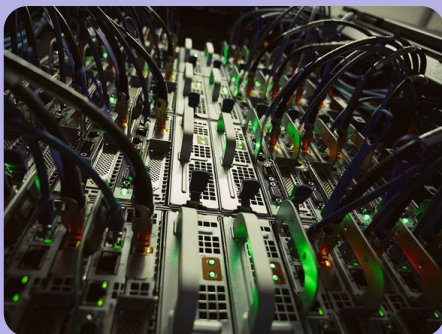
Service Updates

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

In May, 5 new applications were installed, including:

- gromacs/2023 and 2023-gpuvolta
- molpro/2022.3
- nextflow/23.04.1

See the full list [here](#).

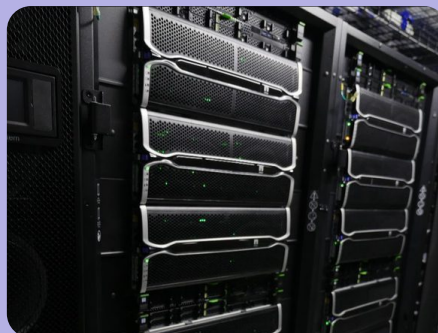


NCI's Data Collections Team manages and updates the datasets stored for use by Australian researchers.

Recently released datasets include:

- [Distributed Acoustic Sounding \(DAS\) collection](#)
- [AuScope Magnetotellurics \(MT\) Collection](#) (new datasets added)
- [AI/DL reference data collections](#) (new datasets added)
- [ESGF CMIP6](#) (new datasets added)
- [ERA5 Replicated Datasets](#) (new products added)

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



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