



Workshop A6
June 1st, 2023

Trends in supercomputing architectures in the exascale era: heterogeneity, modularity, disaggregation

A blurred photograph of a crowd of people walking in a modern, brightly lit building with glass walls and stairs. In the foreground, there is a large, stylized arc graphic composed of yellow and blue segments.

**Unlock
the future**



Architecture, management and administration of large supercomputing centres and of their software stack

CEA approach on the path to Exascale

Gilles Wiber

Jean-Philippe Nominé

CEA Département des Sciences de la Simulation et de l'Information



Outline



1. CEA supercomputing complex
2. Typical computing centre architecture
3. Data and storage considerations
4. Configuration management and software system stack deployment - OCEAN
5. User services evolution - virtualisation
6. Towards Exascale

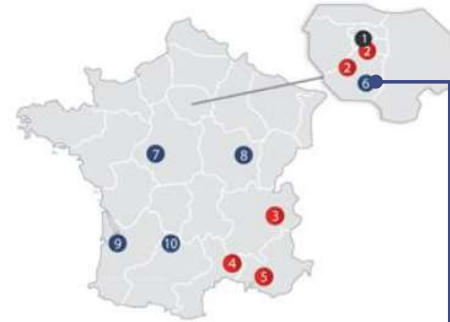
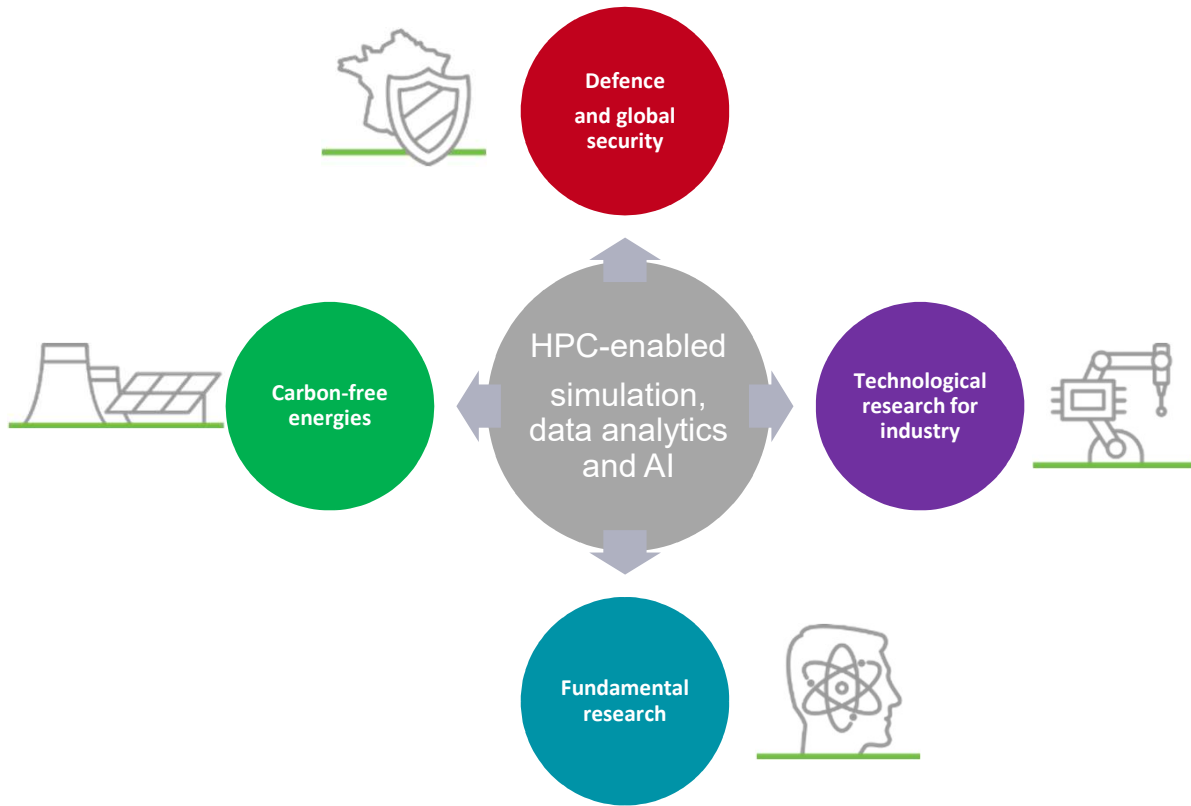
This talk is mostly about software => user services



1. **CEA supercomputing complex**
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1 ■ CEA supercomputing complex

CEA experience and expertise in large computer centre design and operations



CEA Supercomputing Complex
Bruyères-le-Châtel
Essonne
TERA/EXA, TGCC facilities



www.cea.fr

www-hpc.cea.fr/index-en.htm

World-class HPC centres - beyond CEA own needs

As of today: **1 site – 2 facilities – 4 multi-petascale supercomputing centres**
From research to industry, for research and industry

One site: CEAD/IF Bruyères-le-Châtel

One team = HPC division: designing facilities and their infrastructures, co-designing supercomputers, operating them and delivering related services

Two facilities



TERA/EXA



TGCC

Four multi-petascale supercomputing systems

TERA+EXA



• TERA 1000-2 23 Pflops
2017, Intel KNL+BXI v1.2
Top500 #42

• EXA-HF 36 Pflops
2021, BullSequana XH2000,
AMD Milan, BXI V2
Top500 #14

Atos

TERA+EXA

Industry
(confidential applications)

Atos



• CCMD-A 2 Pflops
2022, BullSequana
XH2000, AMD
Milan, BXI V2

TGCC



• JOLIOT-CURIE Rome, 12 Pflops
2019, BullSequana XH2000, AMD Rome,
IB HDR
Top500 #69

• Joliot-Curie SKL, 6,6 PF
2017, Sequana X1000, Intel SKL, IB EDR
Top500 #113

TGCC



• Topaze-cpu, 4.3 Pflops
2021, BullSequana XH2000, AMD Milan, IB
HDR
Top500 #140

• Topaze-gpu, 3.7 Pflops
2021, BullSequana XH2000, NV A100, IB
HDR
Top500 #198

• Since 2018: a QLM 30

+ **Experimental centre** (incl. 'INTI')

CEA experience and expertise in large computer centre design and operations

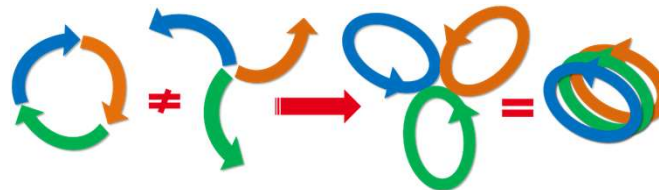
- ❑ Advance computing at CEA since 1955... (now called HPC/Supercomputing)
- ❑ ... more recently, 20+ years of experience (co)designing and operating 'massively parallel era' large HPC and big data oriented systems and facilities
- ❑ Dealing with, serving and supporting different user communities
 - ❑ Defence, Research (FR+EU), Industry (CCRT)



- ❑ Gives a 360° vision of a very wide range of needs, helps steer R&D that matches market needs
- ❑ ... but leads to managing several different, although somehow similar, computing centres



- ❑ A strong involvement in open source and community developments
- ❑ Pooling methods and efforts to operate different but somehow similar computing centres





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2. Typical computing centre architecture



Computing centres services

A computing center has different kinds of capabilities and provides different resources/services – major challenges = flexibility & adaptability

Resources

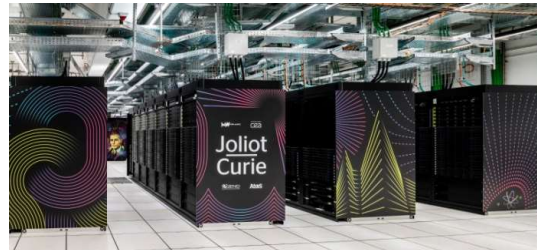
(hard skills)

Compute

I/O

Applications

Exploitation



Security

Capabilities

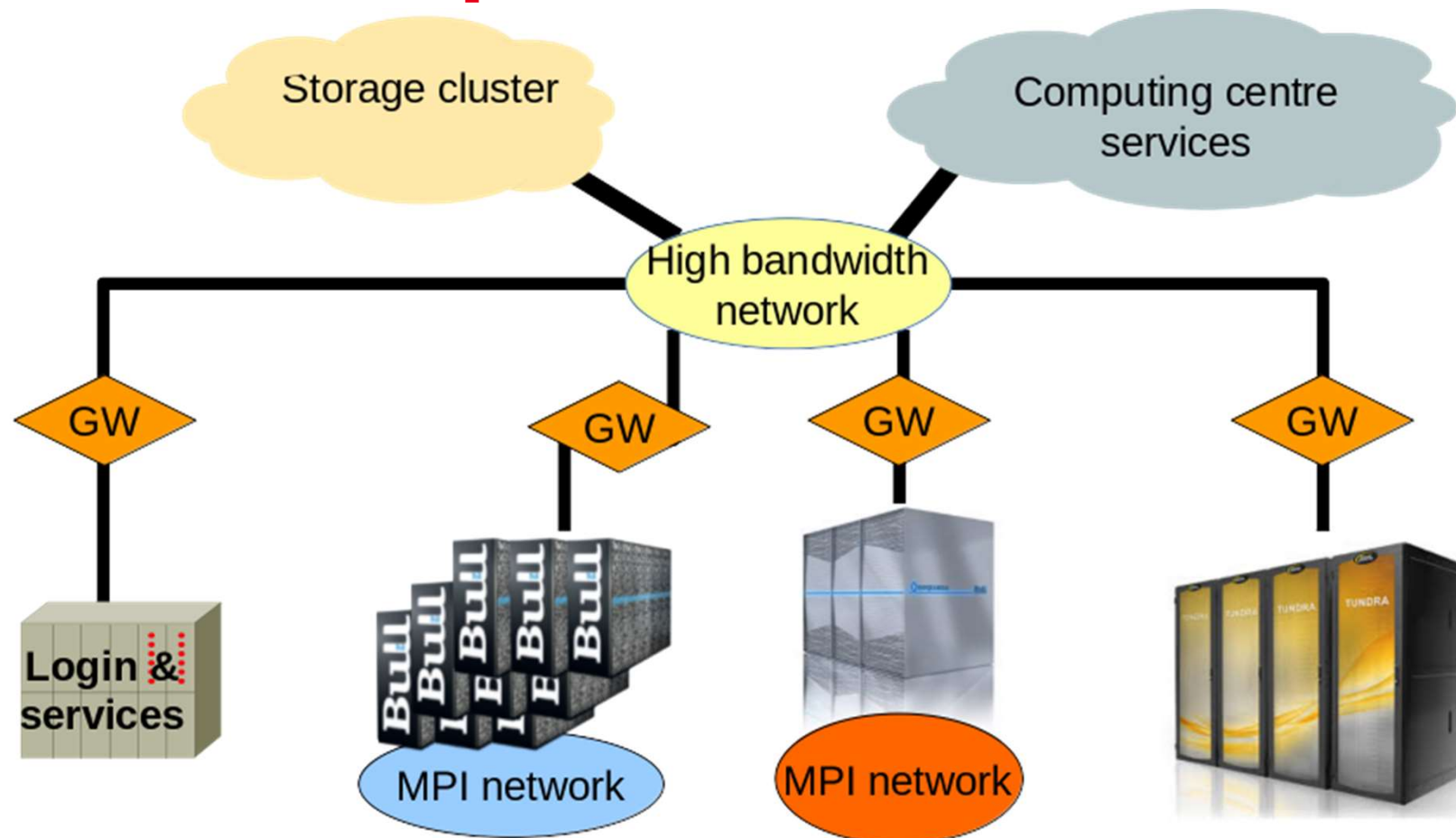
(soft skills)

Usability

Reliability

Adaptability

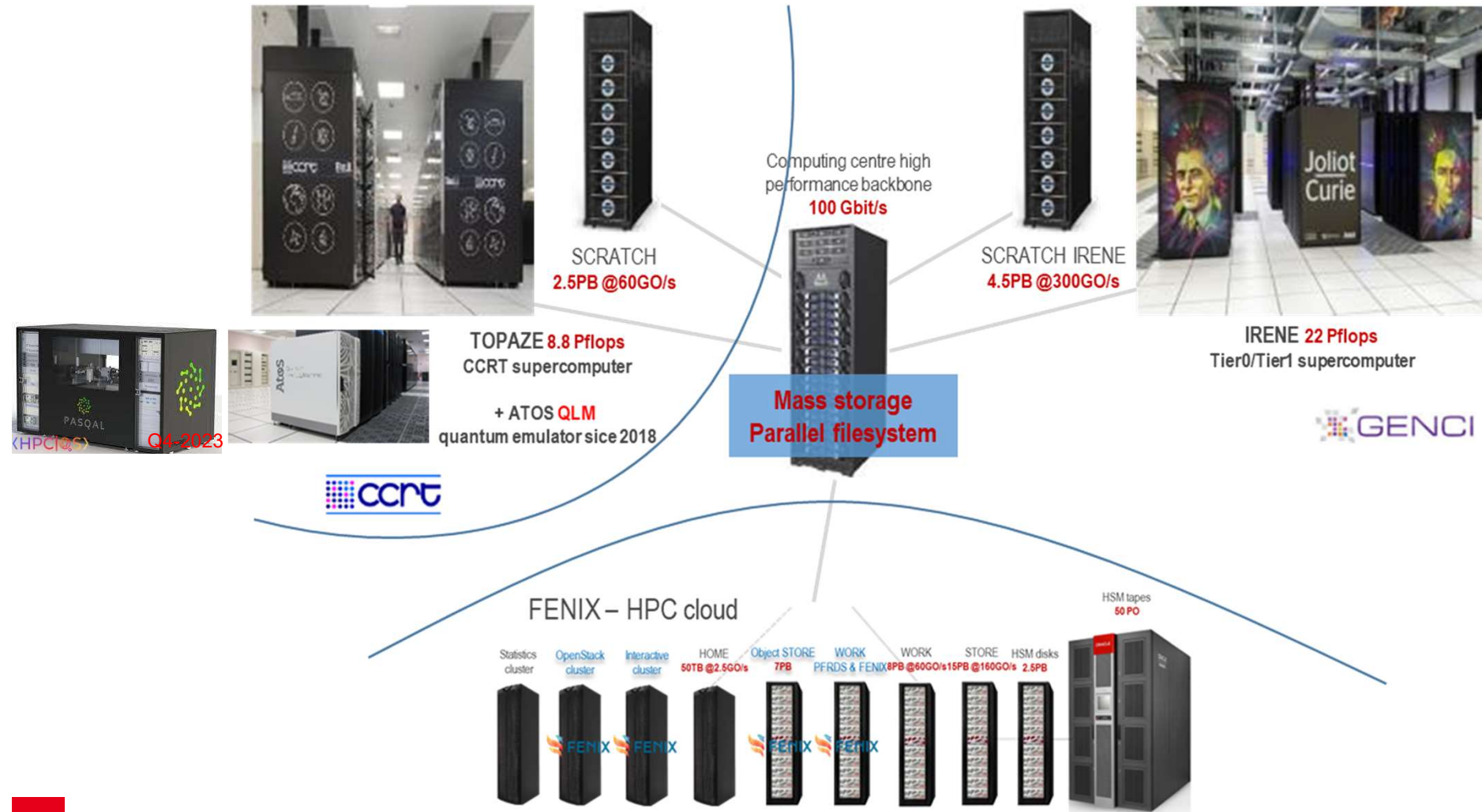
Modular concept at CEA



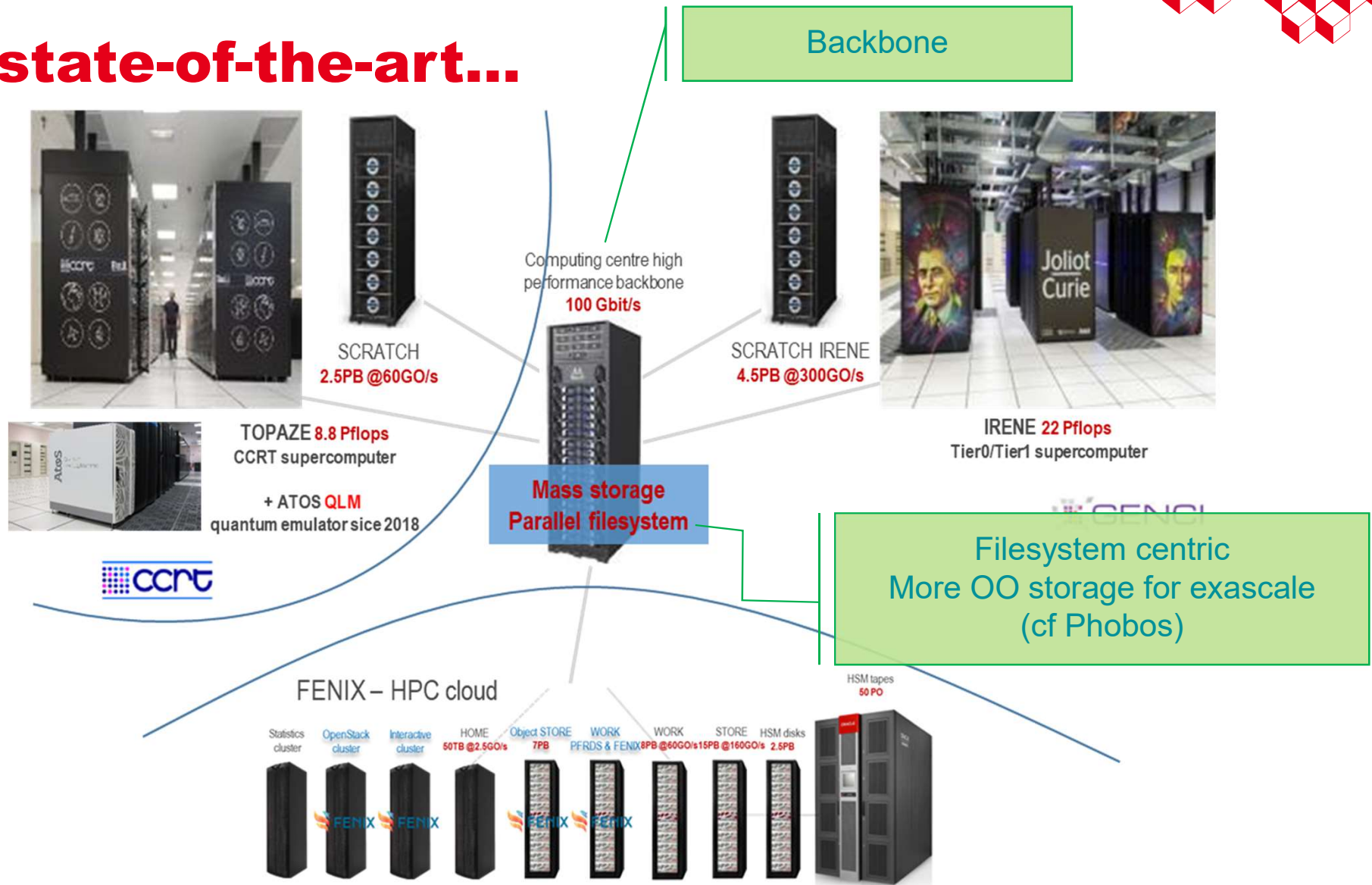
Administration cluster



Our state-of-the-art (example of TGCC...)

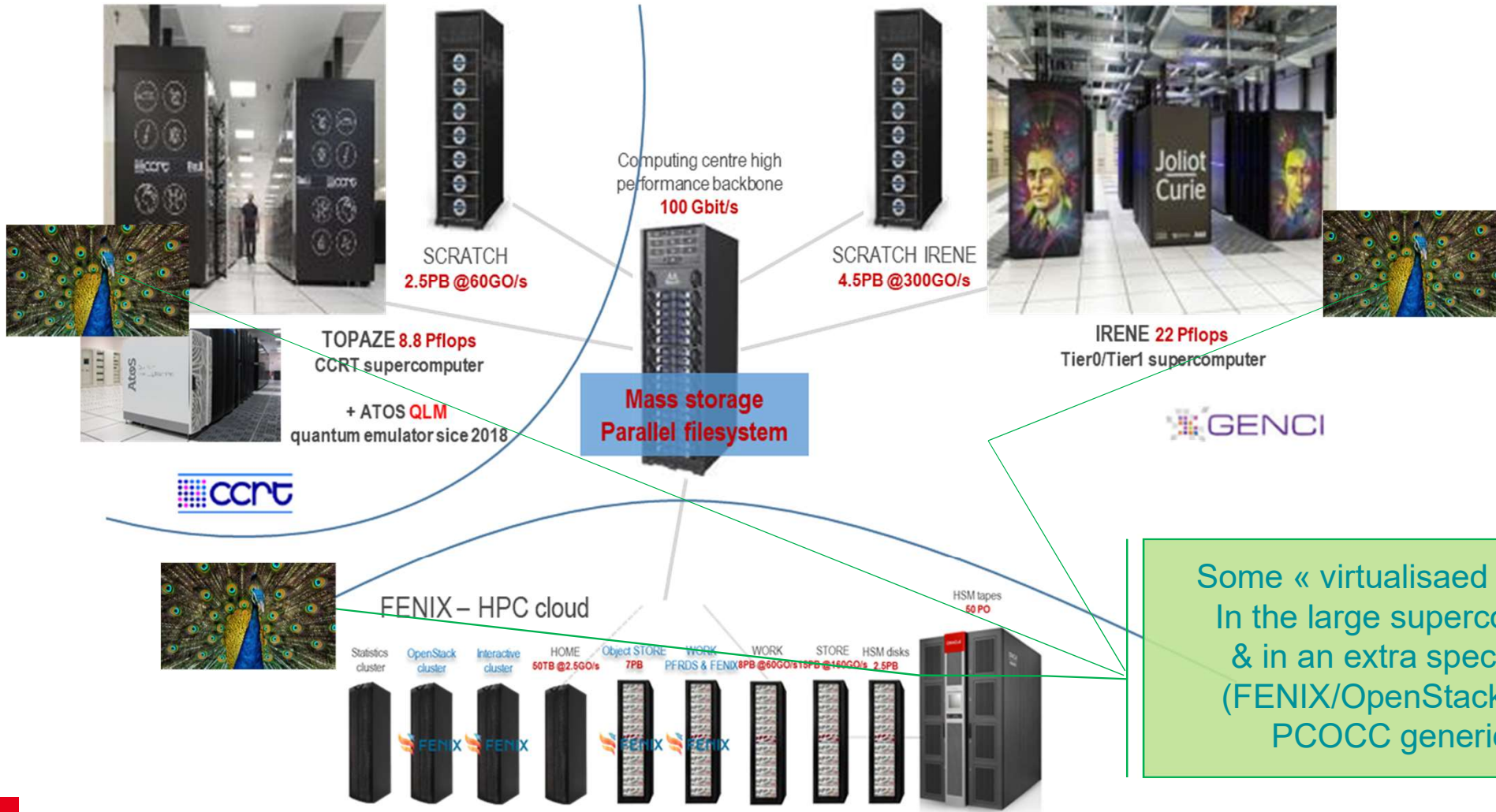


Our state-of-the-art...





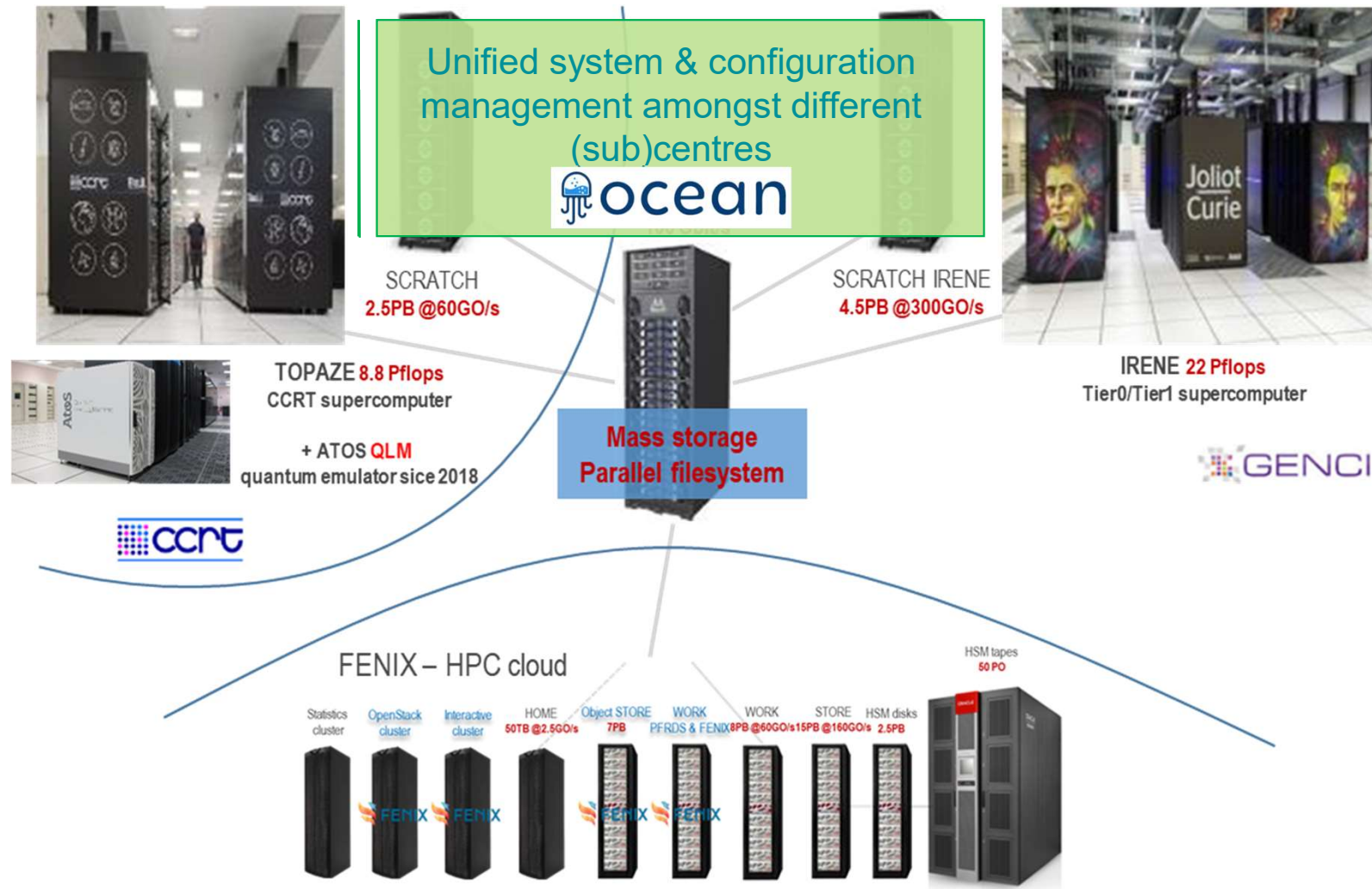
Our state-of-the-art...



Some « virtualised » services
In the large supercomputers
& in an extra specific area
(FENIX/OpenStack cluster)
PCOCC generic tool



Our state-of-the-art...





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3 ■ Data and storage considerations



Beyond Lustre and POSIX

- ❑ Growing diversity and size of DATA and METADATA
- ❑ Growing complexity of parallel jobs (data clients...) and workflows comprised of different jobs (e.g. data processing jobs part of workflows)
- ❑ Hierarchies of memories and media, up to disks and tapes

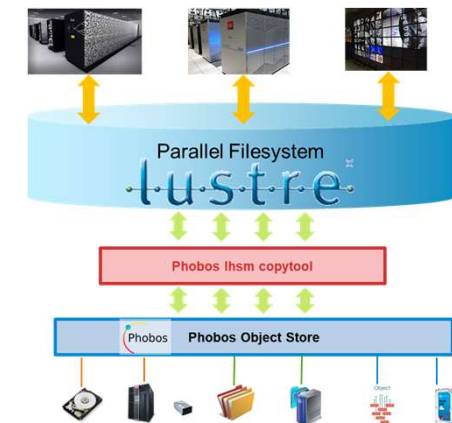
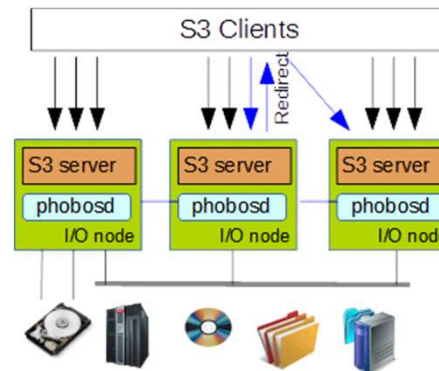
- ☞ Object storage a more flexible and agile paradigm

- ❑ Simple associative addressing (file, key)
 - ❑ Heavily used for streaming in the web
- ❑ Simpler, lighter
 - ❑ Sw/Hw association: ephemeral services related to data nodes (less clients, custom processing)

Phobos by CEA DSSI

- ❑ [CEA DAM - HPC – Opensources](#)
- ❑ PHOBOS=Parallel Heterogeneous Object Store
- ❑ **LGPL v2.1**
- ❑ **~50 k source lines, C+Python**

- ❑ Developed since 2016, deployment being generalised at CEA supercomputing complex
- ❑ Manages all kinds of devices HDD, flash, down to TAPES
 - ❑ Currently Lustre for SSD and flash, Phobos for tapes
- ❑ C API + command line interface
- ❑ Scheduling policies





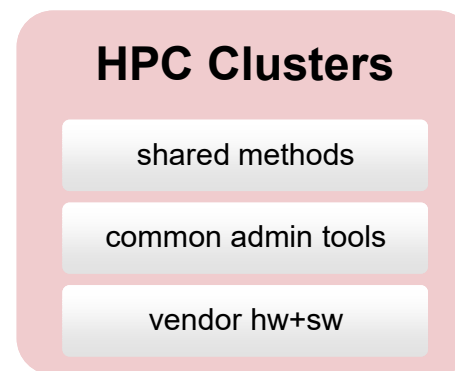
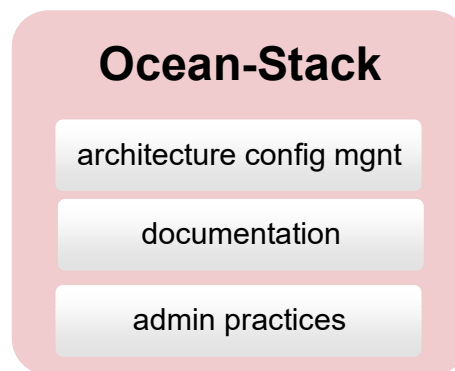
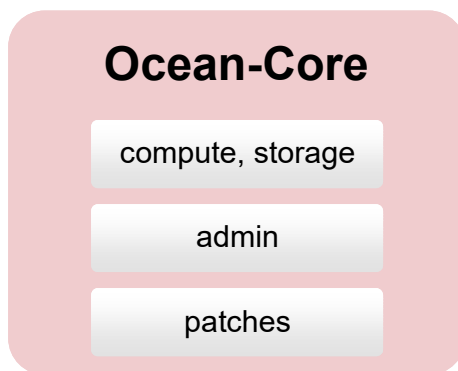
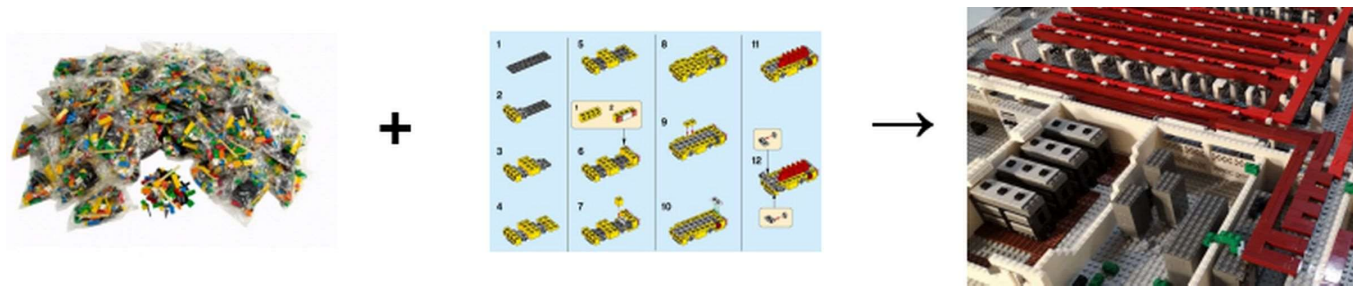
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4. Configuration management and software system stack deployment - ocean



OCEAN

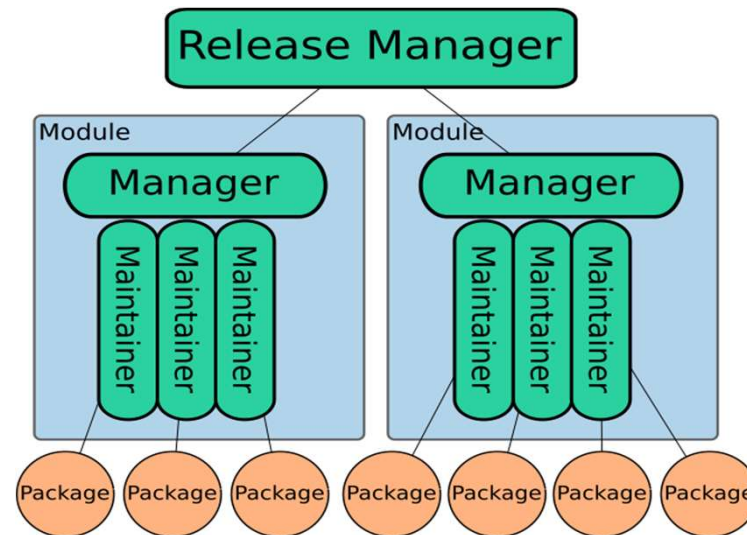
- ❑ Since 2005, going open source/Linux based, then growing number of computing centres to manage
- ❑ Develop common practices, pool efforts:
 - ❑ Open source basis BUT also a diversity of vendor software to be integrated
 - ❑ 2019: decision to deploy OCEAN in all our computing centres



OCEAN



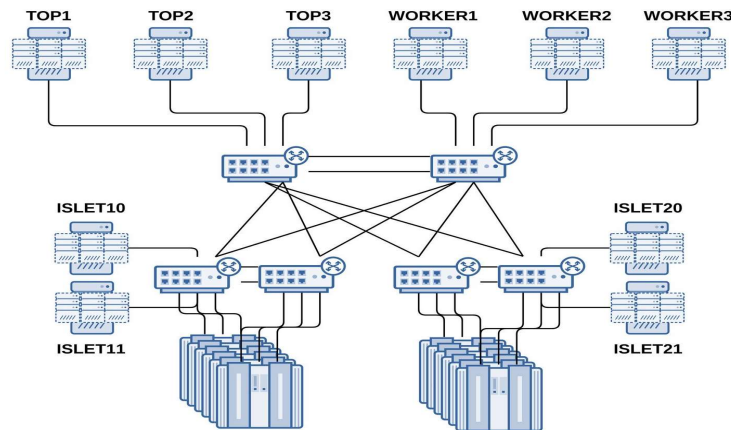
- ❑ OCEAN-core
 - ❑ HPC Linux distribution for compute and storage clusters
- ❑ Ocean encompasses 150+ packages
 - ❑ Incl. key core packages Slurm, Lustre, Puppet, OpenSSH, Qemu (VMs)
- ❑ Continuous integration Git+Jenkins





❑ OCEAN-stack

- ❑ A cluster = admin islet or versatile islet (compute, storage, login node...)
 - ❑ A global admin cluster for each computing centre
- ❑ Configuration management = a database of hw elements and connections
IP addresses, core services, nodes images...



OCEAN



At the core of EUPEX EuroHPC project => demonstrator SiPearl/RHEA+GPU at TGCC

[Eupex - Home](#)

EUPEX
European Pilot for Exascale

About the project | Hardware Platform | Software Environment | Applications

Home | About the project

About the EUPEX pilot

An overview of our objectives and ambitions

Our 4 objectives

- Co-design**
a modular Exascale-pilot system
- Build and deploy**
a pilot hardware and software platform integrating European technology.
- Demonstrate**
the readiness and the scalability of the pilot technology in general and the MSA in particular, towards Exascale.
- Prepare**
applications and European users to efficiently exploit the future Exascale machines.



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5. **User services evolution - Virtualisation**

Virtualisation, PCOCC...



- ❑ User needs are more and more diverse + jobs/workflows have more and more dependencies/components + expected flexibility
- ❑ Give users a more customized and direct control => virtualisation
- ❑ PCOCC = Private Cloud On a Compute Cluster
 - ❑ Started in 2013 at CEA DSSI: same interface to manage VIRTUAL MACHINES and CONTAINERS
 - ❑ Simple, lightweight (low overhead): a virtual cluster launched with a single command
 - ❑ Same stable API for launching a VM or a container
 - ❑ Slurm-based
 - ❑ Since 2018: support containers (OCI standard format)
- ❑ ~30000 lines of Python + Rust; open source licence GPLv3
 - ❑ Already a few uses outside CEA

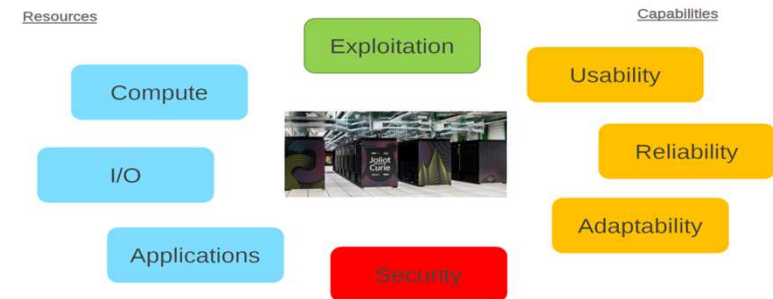
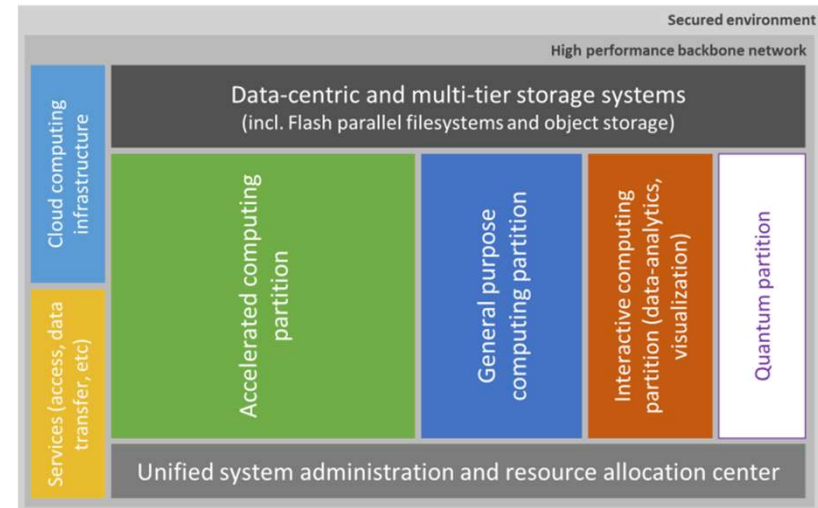
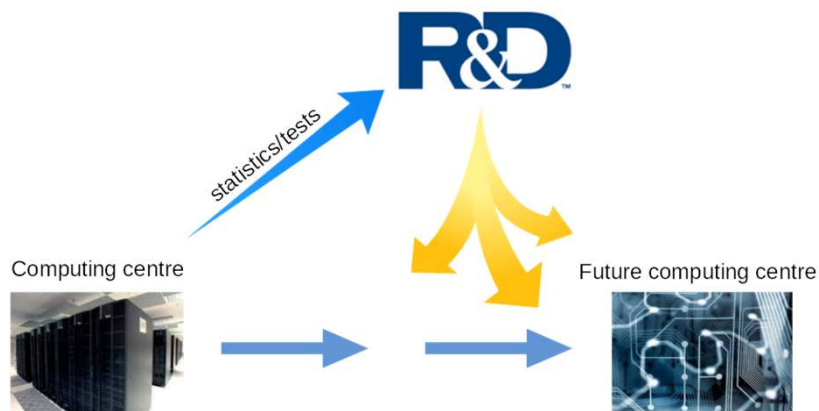


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6 ■ Towards Exascale

Application in 2025 to French Exascale Project

Go on applying and consolidating the aforementioned methods & tools to all our computing centres, and in particular to Jules Verne project with EuroHPC (and GENCI) in 2025



**This talk was mostly about software
=> 3 key ingredients => user services**