

CompF4: Storage and processing resource access (Facility and Infrastructure R&D)

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- Our report highlights the challenges and research directions driven by the complexity and diversification of the future computational infrastructure.
- Divided into six topic areas
 - Processing
 - Al Hardware
 - Storage
 - Analysis Facilities
 - Edge Services
 - Networking
- CompF4 Draft Report v0
- Google Docs for CompF4



Recommendation I - Efficiently exploit specialized compute architectures and systems.

- Allocate dedicated facilities to specific processing steps in the HEP workflows
- Design effective benchmarks to exploit novel hardware
- Improved network visibility and interaction
- Enhance I/O libraries such as lossy compression and custom delivery of data



Recommendation II - Invest in portable and reproducible software and computing solutions to allow exploitation of diverse facilities

- The need for portable software libraries, abstractions and programming models is recognized across all the topics discussed here, and is especially called out in Processing, Al Hardware, and Storage.
- Software frameworks to enable reproducible HEP workflows are also greatly needed to ensure a variety of resources can be utilized.



Recommendation III - Embrace disaggregation of systems and facilities

- The HEP community will need to embrace heterogeneous resources on different nodes, systems and facilities and effectively balance these accelerated resources to match workflows.
- To do so will require software abstraction to integrate accelerators, such as those for AI; orchestration of network resources; exploiting computational storage; as well as exploiting system rack-level disaggregation technology if adopted at computing centers



Recommendation IV - Extend common interfaces to diverse facilities

- Encourage edge-service platforms on dedicated facilities as well as Cloud and HPC.
- Develop portable edge-services that are re-usable by other HEP projects and exploit commonality within HEP and other sciences.
- Extend these common interfaces into all aspects of HEP workflows including data management and data movement; as well as the deployment of compute resources for HPC, Cloud, Grid and dedicated analysis facilities.