Status of the Next-Generation Supercomputer Project

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Six Goals of the Japan's "Third Science and Technology Basic Plan" in FY2006 – FY2010



Key Technologies for National Importance



Outline of the Next-Generation Supercomputer Project

- Objectives are
 - to develop the world's most advanced and high-performance supercomputer
 - to develop and deploy its usage technologies including application software.
 - as one of Japan's Key Technologies of National Importance.
- Period of the project: FY2006-FY2012
- RIKEN (The Institute of Physical and Chemical Research) plays the central role of the project in developing the supercomputer under the law on sharing large scale experimental facilities which are unique in Japan, or so-called "common-facilities law."

RIKEN is ...

An institute of comprehensive research in a wide range of fields, including physics, chemistry, medical science, biology, and engineering, covering the entire range from basic research to practical application.

- established in 1917 as a private research foundation,
- reorganized in 2003 as an independent administrative institution under the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT).
- 3000 full-time researchers and 2000 guest researchers.
- 7 sites in Japan, 3 sites outside of Japan
- Funding mainly comes from MEXT(Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology)





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Goals of the project

- Development and installation of the most advanced high performance supercomputer system with LINPACK performance of 10 petaflops.
- Development and deployment of application software, which should be made to attain the system maximum capability, in various science and engineering fields.
- Provision of flexible computing environment by Grid technology with supercomputers located at universities and research institutes in Japan.
- Establishment of an "Advanced Computational Science and Technology Center (tentative)" as one of the Center of Excellences around the supercomputing facilities.

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Grand Challenges



Base site: Institute for Molecular Science

To create next-generation nano-materials such as new semiconductor materials by integrating fundamental theories and simulation techniques in the fields of new-generation information functions/materials, nano-biomaterials, and energy.



To provide new tools for breakthroughs against various problems in life science by means of petaflops-class simulation technology

Project organization



What architecture is suitable for the project?



Configuration of the system

 The Next-Generation Supercomputer will be a hybrid general-purpose supercomputer that provides the optimum computing environment for a wide range of simulations.

Front-end unit					
Scalar unit	Vector unit				
Processing unit consist- ing of interconnected scalar processors	Processing unit consist- ing of interconnected vector processors				
Local file Shared file system					

- Calculations will be performed in processing units that are suitable for the particular simulation.
- Parallel processing in a hybrid configuration of scalar and vector units will make larger and more complex simulations possible.

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Schedule of the project

We are here.

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		FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012
System	Processing unit	Concep desig	ptual / Detai	led design	Prototype and Production evaluation and adj		n, installation, ljustment	
	Front-end unit (total system software)		Basic design	Detailed desigr	Production	and evaluation	Tuning and	improvement
	Shared file system		Basic design	Detailed desig	n Production	n, installation, ar	nd adjustment	
Applic	Next-Generation Integrated Nanoscience Simulation		Development	t, production, a	nd evaluation		Verification	
ations	Next-Generation Integrated Life Simulation		Developm	ent, productio	n, and evaluatio	n	Verifi	cation
Buildings	Computer building		Design		struction			
	Research building		Desig	gn (Construction			

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Location of the supercomputer site, Kobe-City



2009/3/25

Artists' image of a building





Promotion program of supercomputing to Industries

- Industrial Forum for supercomputing promotion was established in 2005.
- More than 160 companies from various industries are participated in.
- Activities
 - Discussion on how to use the next-generation supercomputer
 - Seminars for promotion and training
 - Simulations of car engines and bodies, material and polymer, weather, etc. on current supercomputers



Concluding Remarks

- Science and technology of the 21st century must tackle difficult and complicated problems for human survival and for the future of the Earth.
- Integration of sciences that transcends the boundaries of different fields, development of new sciences, and innovation are required.
- Therefore, it is indispensable to promote supercomputing technologies capable of over peta-scale computing by working in cooperation with computational science and computer science areas.