

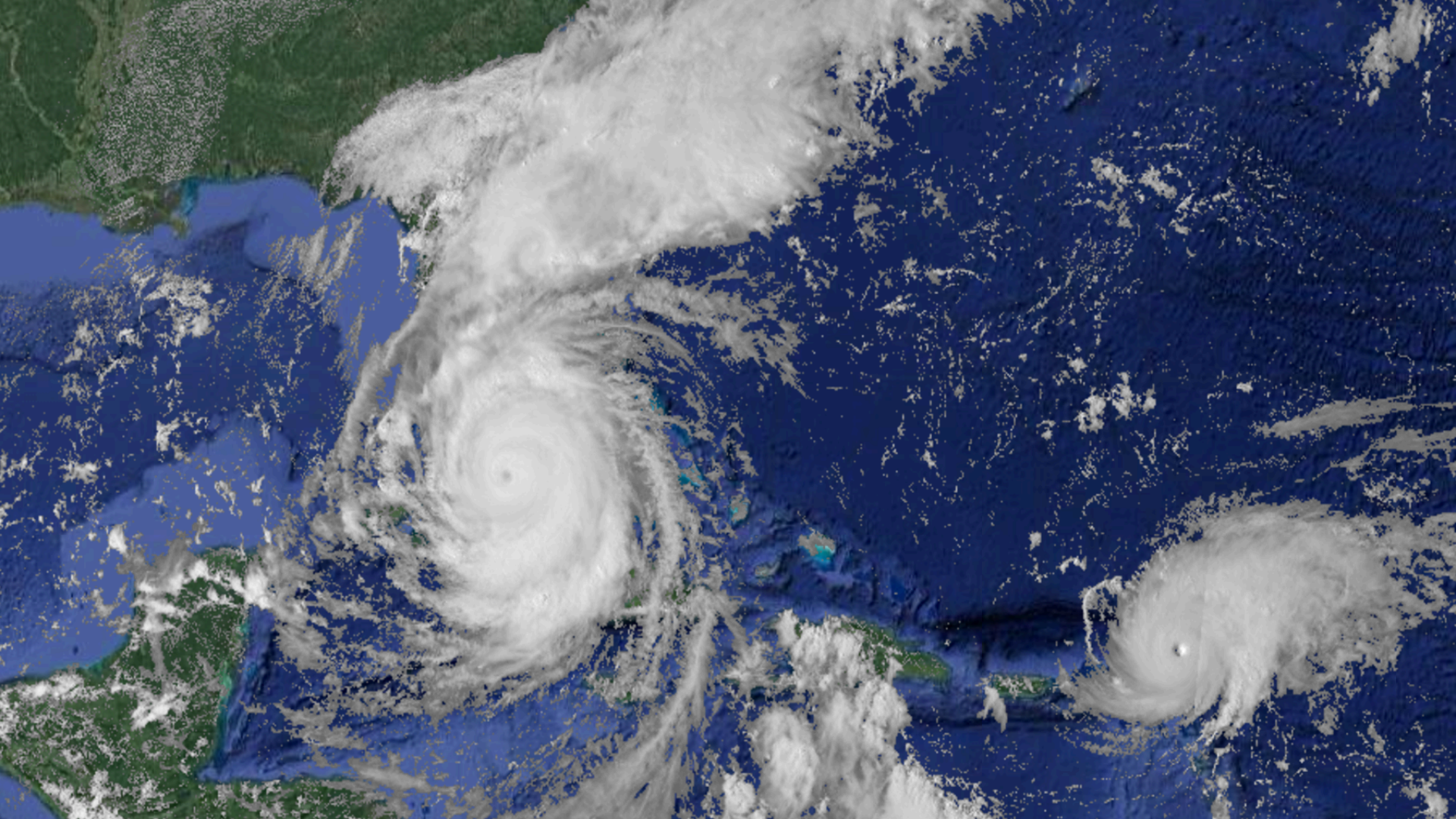


# Preparing the NERSC Community for Next- Generation HPC Architectures

Richard Gerber

NERSC Senior Science Advisor  
High Performance Computing Department Head





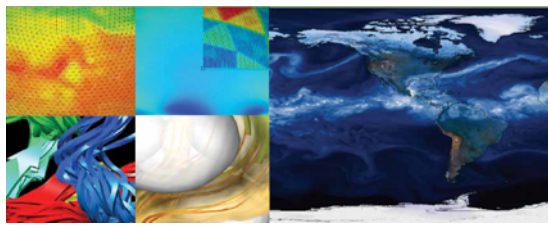
# NERSC: the Mission HPC Facility for DOE Office of Science Research



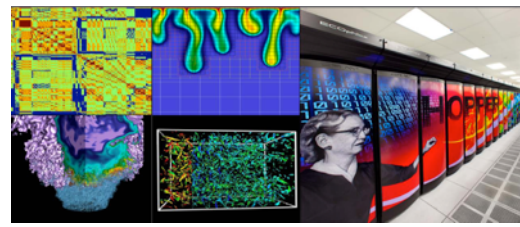
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

Office of  
Science

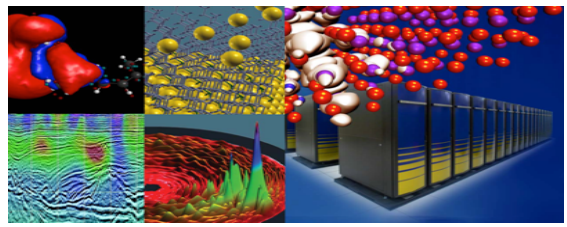
Largest funder of physical  
science research in the U.S.



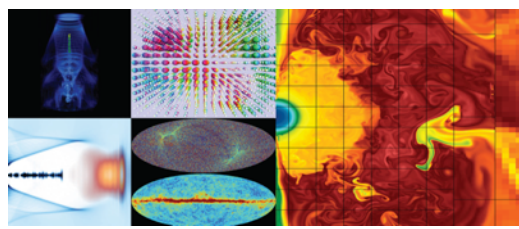
Bio Energy, Environment



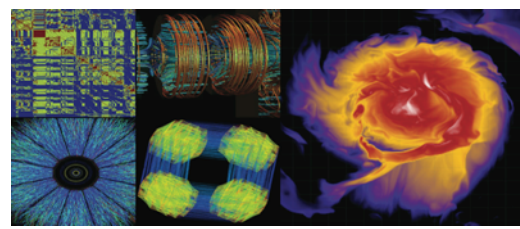
Computing



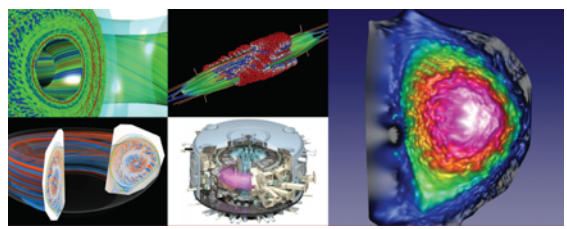
Materials, Chemistry, Geophysics



Particle Physics, Astrophysics



Nuclear Physics



Fusion Energy, Plasma Physics

7,000 users, 750 projects, 750 codes, 48 states, 40 countries, universities & national labs



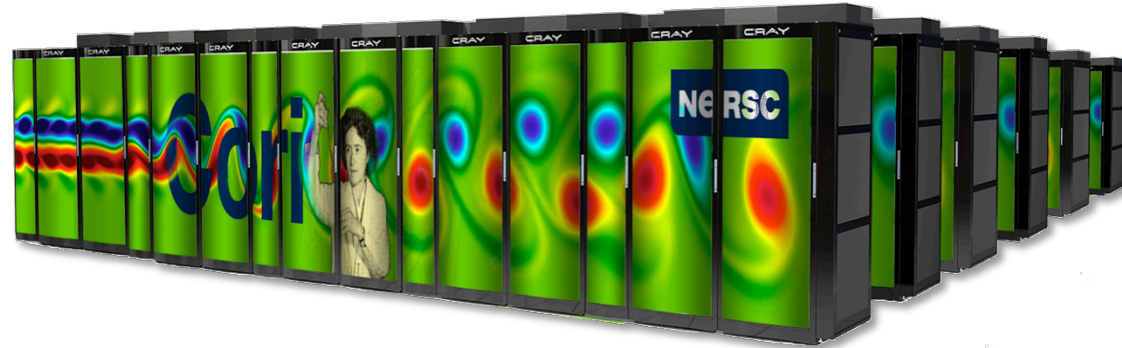
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Science



## Cori

9,600 Intel Xeon Phi "KNL" manycore nodes  
2,000 Intel Xeon "Haswell" nodes  
700,000 processor cores, 1.2 PB memory  
Cray XC40 / Aries Dragonfly interconnect  
30 PB Lustre Cray Sonexion scratch FS  
1.5 PB Burst Buffer



#6 on list of Top 500 supercomputers in the world



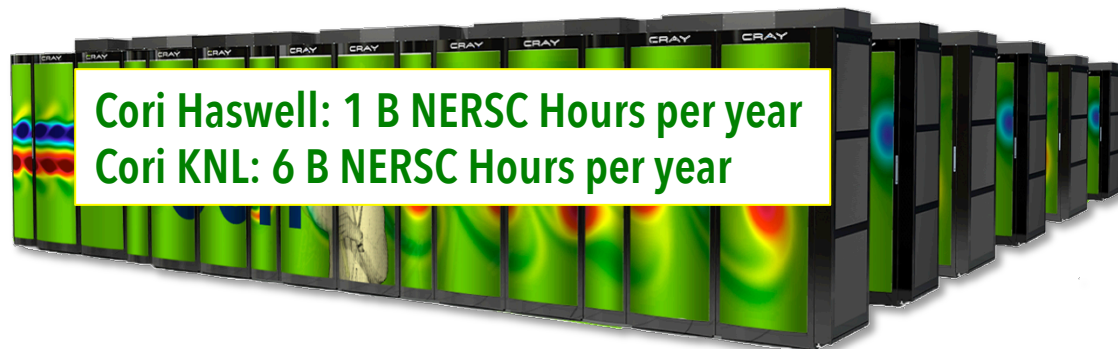
## Edison

5,560 Intel Xeon "Ivy Bridge" Nodes  
133 K cores, 357 TB memory  
Cray XC30 / Aries Dragonfly interconnect  
6 PB Lustre Cray Sonexion scratch FS



## Cori

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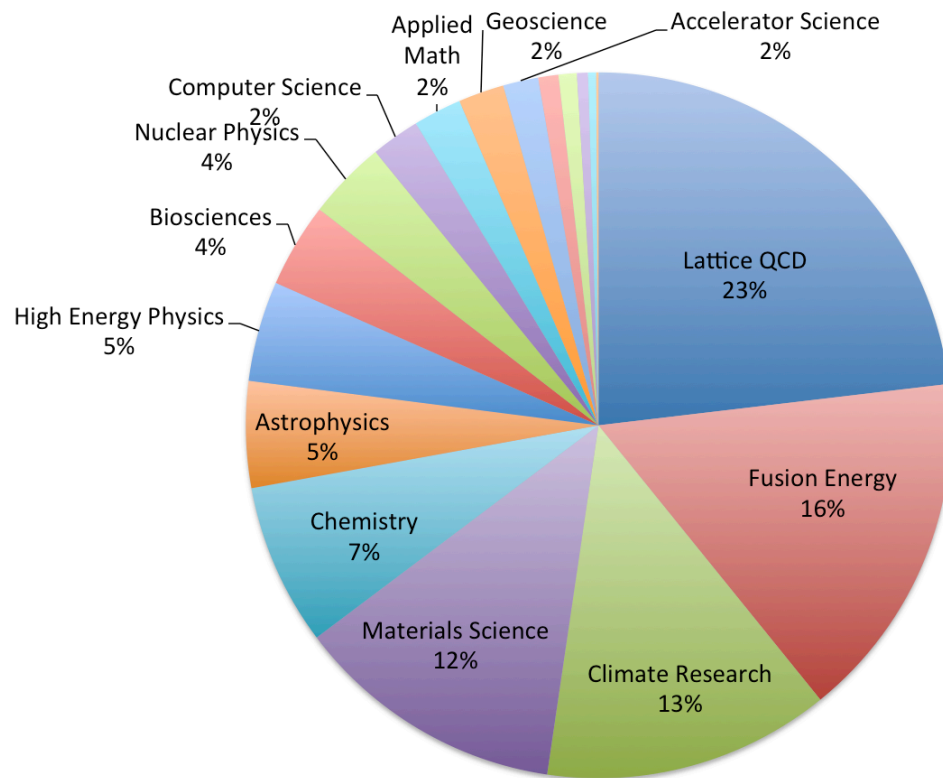


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## Edison

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## 84 Climate/Env Projects

With users from 127 organizations  
715 different users

NCAR 52

Berkeley Lab 93

Livermore Lab 42

Los Alamos Lab 32

PNNL 95

UC Berkeley 34

Code rank 2016

CESM #2

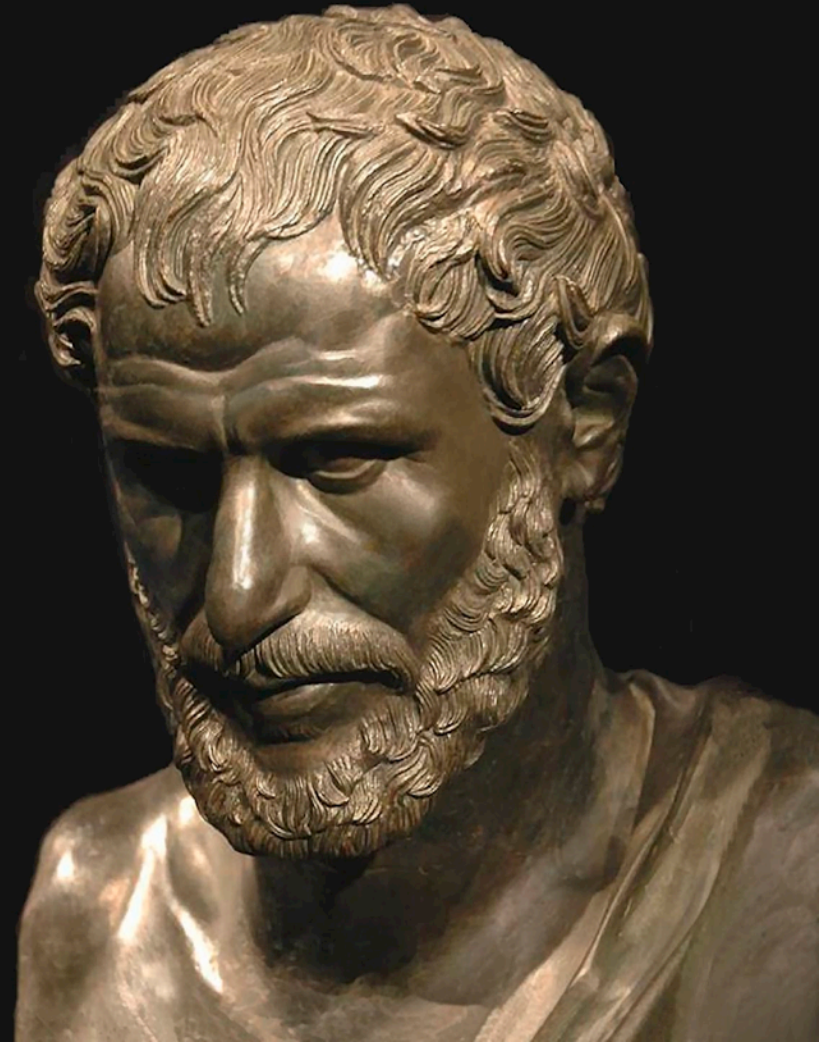
WRF #21

NERSC builds & installs CESM



*“The only thing constant is change”*

—Heraclitus of Ephesus

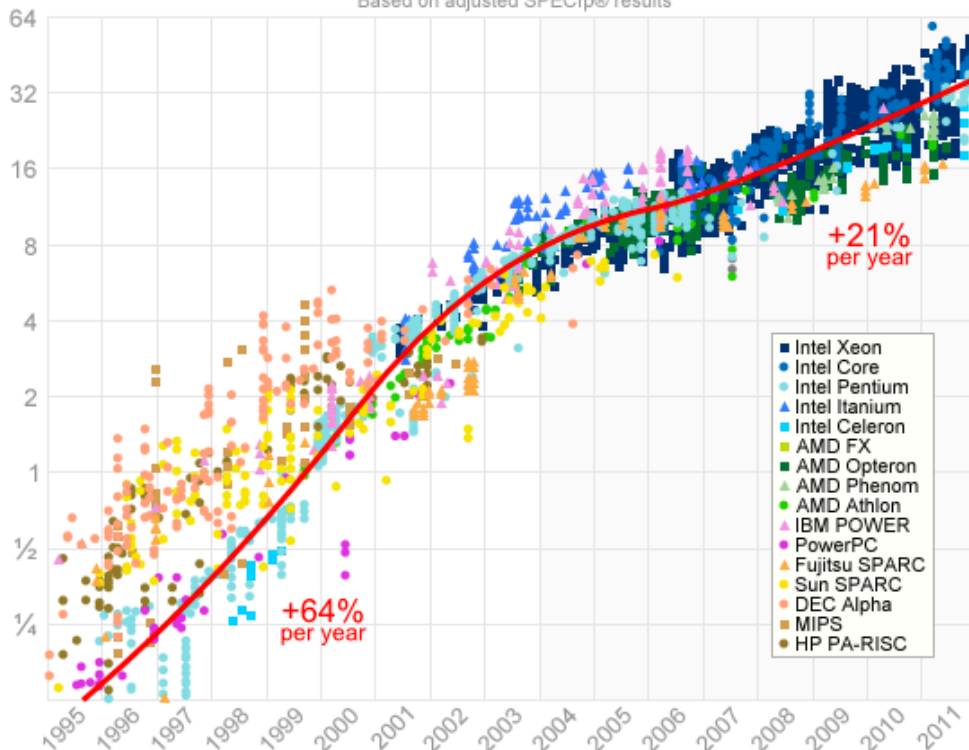


# Single Processor Performance



## Single-Threaded Floating-Point Performance

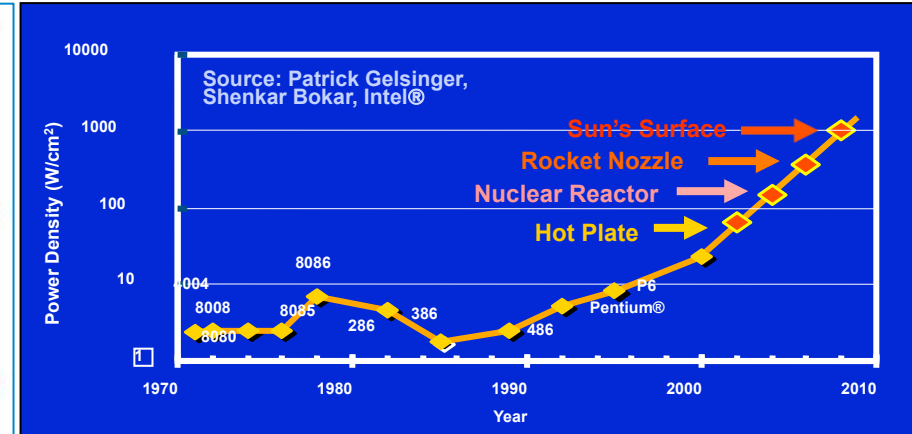
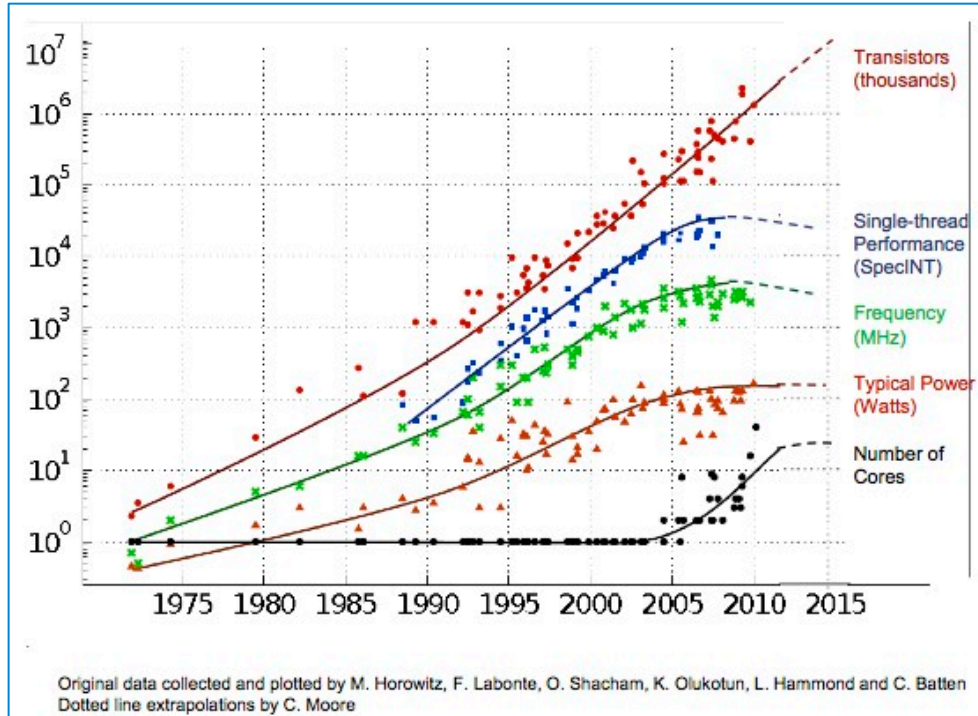
Based on adjusted SPECfp® results



Every year there was a new CPU technology that enabled single-thread performance to increase



# Change was coming and we kept telling our 7,000 users it was so ...



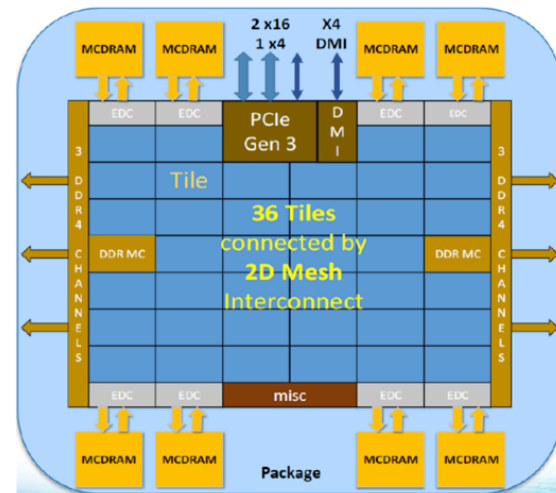
Driven by power consumption and dissipation toward lightweight cores

# NERSC to Procure "Cori" a Knights Landing Based Cray XC Supercomputer

May 2, 2014 by Rob Farber — Leave a Comment

30 PFlop System will be a boon to science because of new capabilities, but the Intel Xeon Phi many-core architecture will require a code modernization effort to use efficiently.

For the first time, NERSC's users will have lower single-thread performance in their next system.



KNL: 215-230 W  
2-socket Haswell: 270 W

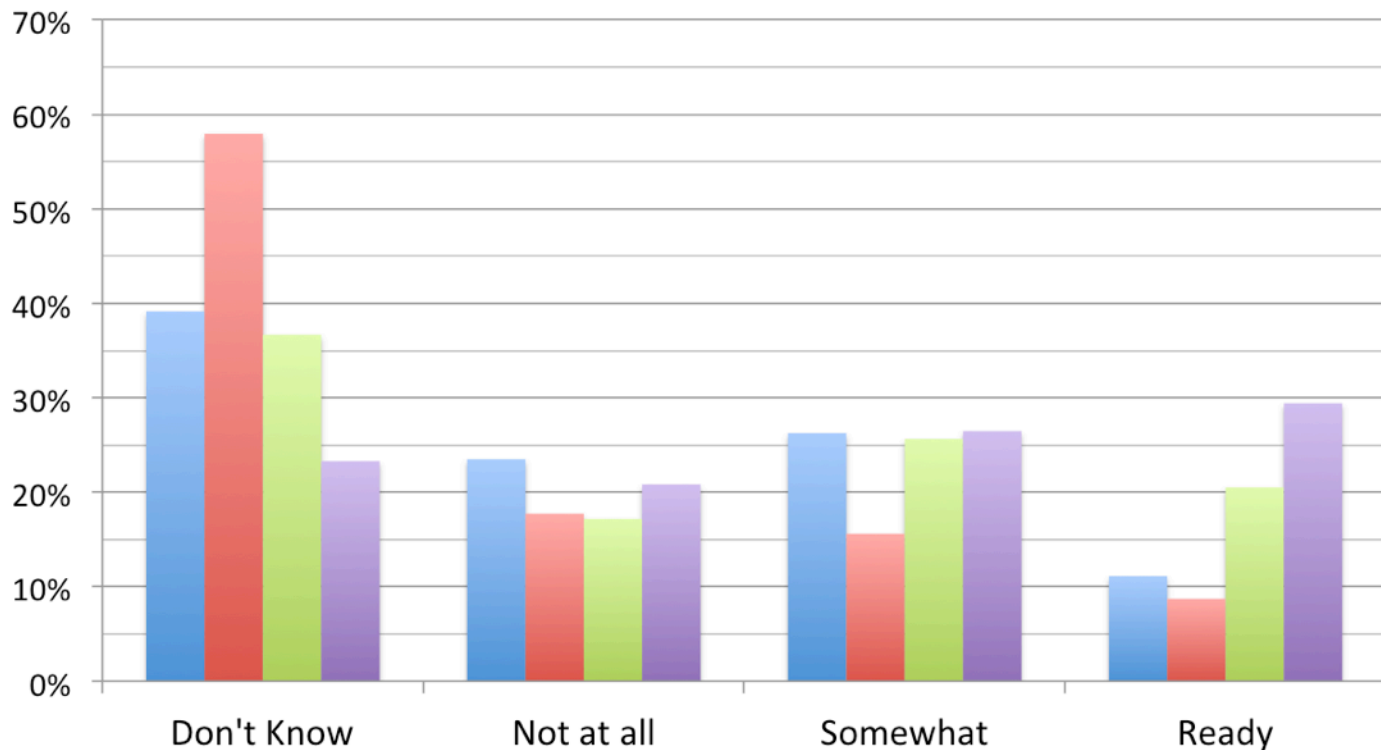
68-272 threads  
16 GB MCDRAM  
2 x 512b vectors  
2 x FMA / core



# User Survey: Is Your Code Ready for Manycore?



Overall    Complex memory hierarchy    Vectorization    Threading



We don't choose our users or codes. We support all DOE mission science.

Manycore is the  
future of HPC

Time to transition  
community

On the path to  
exascale

Homogeneous, x86-  
compatible CPU as a  
first step – not an  
accelerator

High bandwidth  
memory big win for  
many NERSC codes



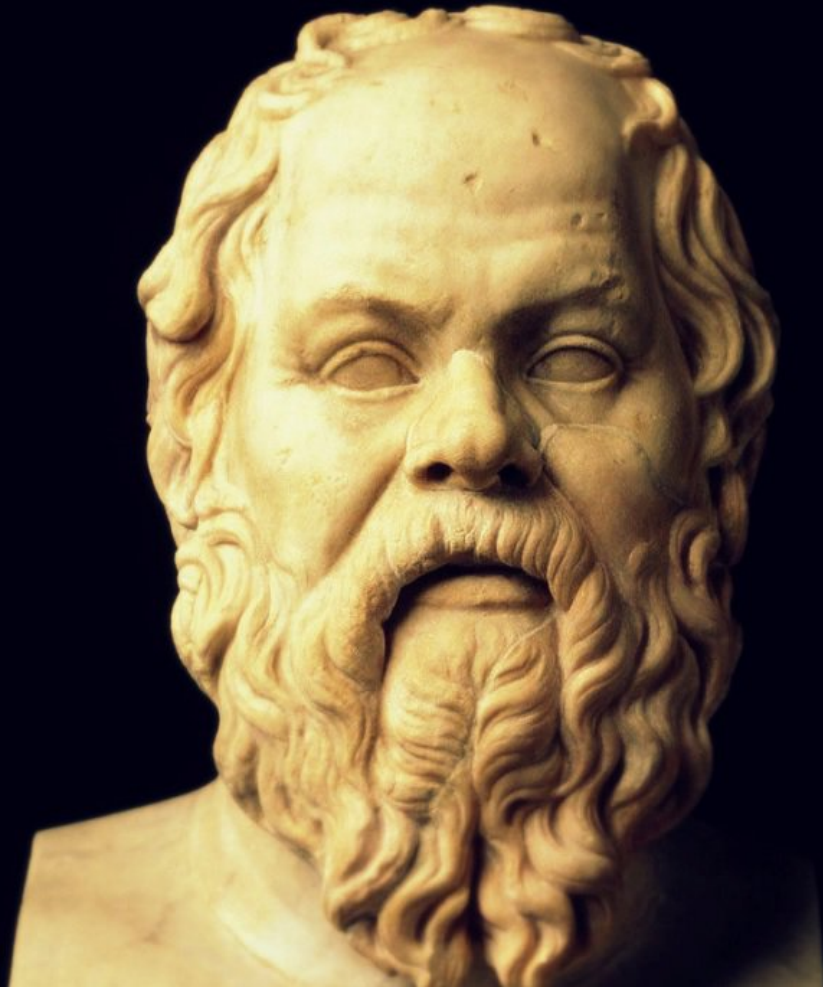


## NERSC's Challenge

How can NERSC's diverse community of 7,000 users, 750 projects, and 700 codes use Cori's Intel Xeon Phi Knights Landing processors at high performance

Business as usual was over





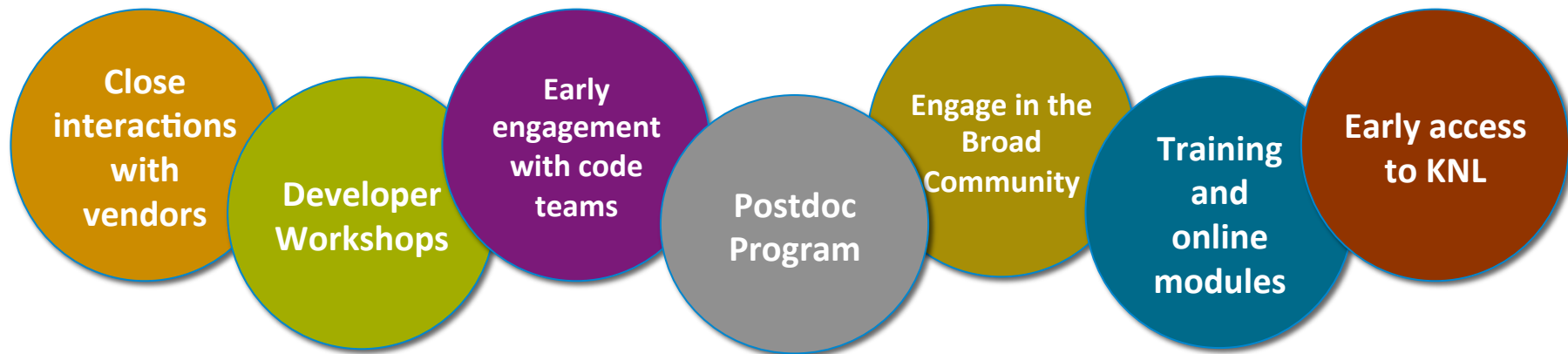
*“The secret of change is to focus all of your energy, not on fighting the old, but on building the new.”*

– Socrates

# NERSC Exascale Scientific Application Program (NESAP)

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Goal: Prepare Office of Science users for Cori's manycore CPUs  
Partner with ~20 application teams and apply lessons learned to broad user community – accounts for ~ 50% of hours used



## Selected projects must

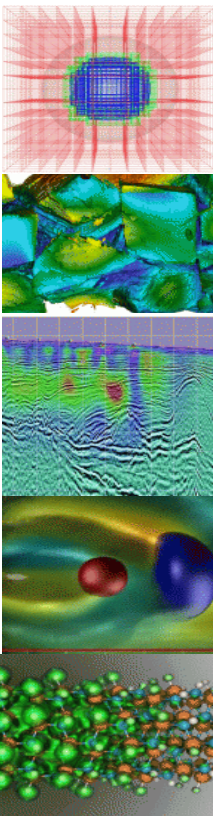
- Work with NESAP liaison to produce profiling and scaling plots and vectorization and memory BW analyses.
- **Commit 0.5-1.0 FTE to work on optimizing, refactoring, testing, and further profiling.**
- Intermediate and final reports detailing the application's science and performance improvement as a result of the collaboration.

## Evaluation criteria

- Importance to Office of Science research
- Representation all 6 OS programs
- Science potential
- Ability for code development and optimizations to be transferred to the broader community through libraries, algorithms, kernels or community codes
- Match NERSC/Vendor resources and expertise



# NESAP Codes



**Advanced Scientific Computing Research**

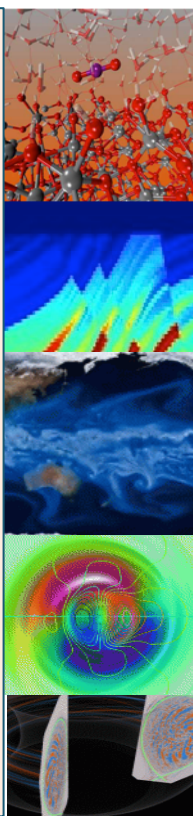
Almgren (LBNL) **BoxLib** **AMR**  
 Trebotich (LBNL) **Chombo-crunch**

**High Energy Physics**

Vay (LBNL) **WARP & IMPACT**  
 Toussaint(Arizona) **MILC**  
 Habib (ANL) **HACC**

**Nuclear Physics**

Maris (Iowa St.) **MFDn**  
 Joo (JLAB) **Chroma**  
 Christ/Karsch  
 (Columbia/BNL) **DWF/HISQ**



**Basic Energy Sciences**

Kent (ORNL) **Quantum Espresso**  
 Deslippe (NERSC) **BerkeleyGW**  
 Chelikowsky (UT) **PARSEC**  
 Bylaska (PNNL) **NWChem**  
 Newman (LBNL) **EMGeo**

**Biological and Env Research**

Smith (ORNL) **Gromacs**  
 Yelick (LBNL) **Meraculous**  
 Ringler (LANL) **MPAS-O**  
 Johansen (LBNL) **ACME**  
 Dennis (NCAR) **CESM**

**Fusion Energy Sciences**

Jardin (PPPL) **M3D**  
 Chang (PPPL) **XGC1**

# New Postdoc Program



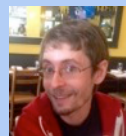
Taylor Barnes  
Quantum **ESPRESSO**



Zahra Ronaghi  
**Tomopy**



Andrey Ovsyannikov  
**Chombo-Crunch**



Bill Arndt  
**HIPMER/  
HMMER/MPAS**



Rahul Gayatri  
**SW4**



Tuomas Koskela  
**XGC1**



Kevin Gott  
**PARSEC**

One  
Open  
Spot

NERSC  
Application  
Performance  
Group formed

New hire:  
Charlene  
Yang  
(Pawsey)

# NESAP Staff Contributors



Katie Antypas



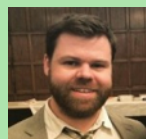
Jack Deslippe



Richard Gerber



Nick Wright



Brandon Cook



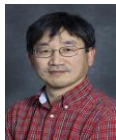
Thorsten Kurth



Helen He



Stephen Leak



Woo-Sun Yang



Rebecca Hartman-  
Baker



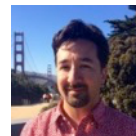
Doug Doerfler



Zhengji Zhao



Brian Austin



Rollin Thomas



Brian Friesen  
Former NESAP  
Postdoc

# What is different about Cori for NERSC Users?



## Edison (Cray XC w/ Intel Xeon Ivy-Bridge):

- 5000+ Nodes
- 12 Cores Per CPU
- 24 HW Threads Per CPU
  
- 2.4 GHz
  
- 8 DP Operations per Cycle
  
- 64 GB DDR Memory (2.6 GB/core)
- ~100 GB/s Memory BW
- 256b vector units
  
- 30 MB L3 cache per socket (12 cores)

## Cori (Cray XC w/ Intel Xeon Phi KNL):

- 9600+ Nodes
- 68 Physical Cores Per CPU
- 272 HW Threads Per CPU
  
- 1.4 GHz
  
- 32 DP Operations per Cycle
  
- 16 GB of Fast Memory (0.24 GB/core)  
96GB of DDR Memory (1.4 GB/core)  
MCDRAM Has ~450 GB/s Memory BW
- No L3 cache
- 2 x 512b vector units

Optimization targets: OpenMP Threading, Vectors, Data management for MCDRAM



We're primarily working with existing codes to get them ready for Cori

## Goals

- Standard constructs for portability and maintainability
- Incorporate optimizations into code base by working directly with developers
- Collaborate closely with community to leverage expertise and expand NERSC influence and relevance

**Strategy:** Focus first on single-node optimization

- Enable fine-grained parallelism on light-weight cores via OpenMP
- Exploit dual 512b vector units
- Exploit 5X memory bandwidth due to MCDRAM by managing data access

# The Payoff: Performance



Original  
Xeon Phi



Original  
Haswell



Optimized  
Haswell



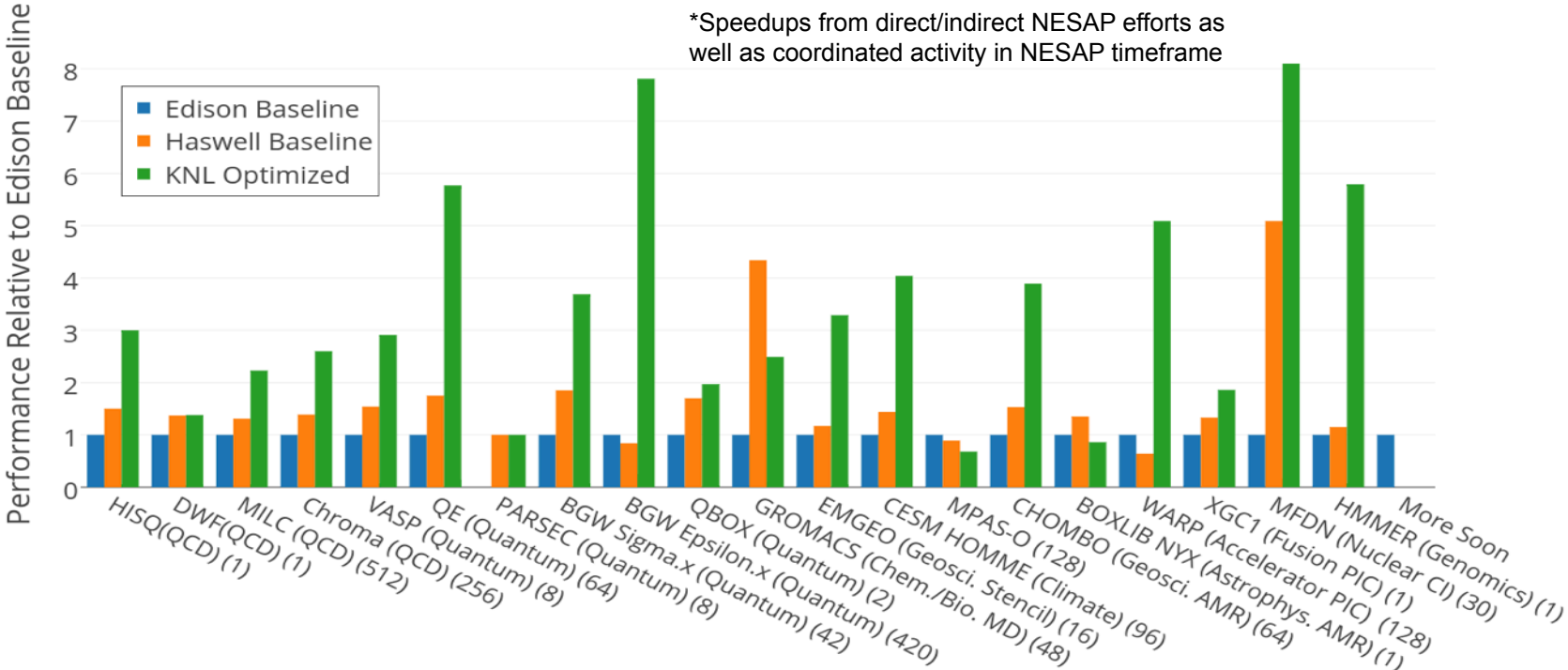
NERSC  
Xeon Phi Target



Optimized  
Xeon Phi

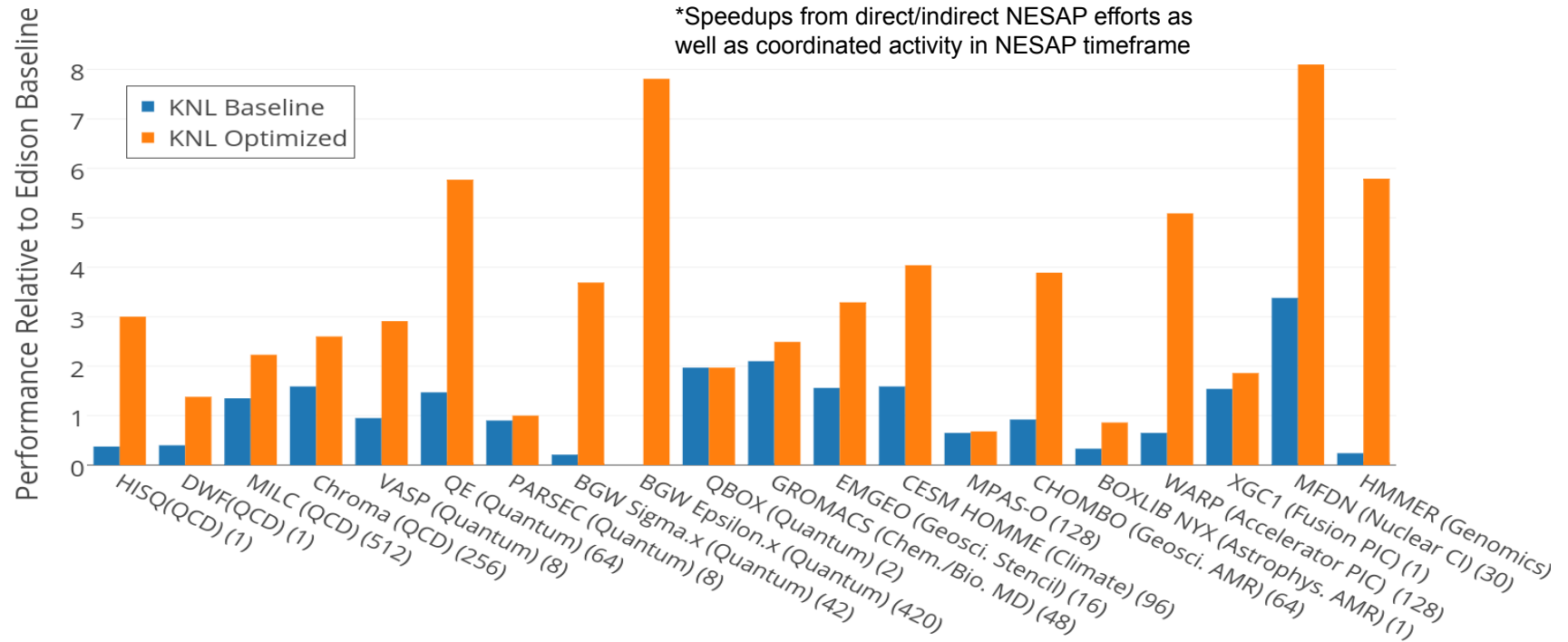


# NESAP Code Performance on KNL





# NESAP Code Performance on KNL



B: Baseline, original code  
O: Optimized after NESAP work

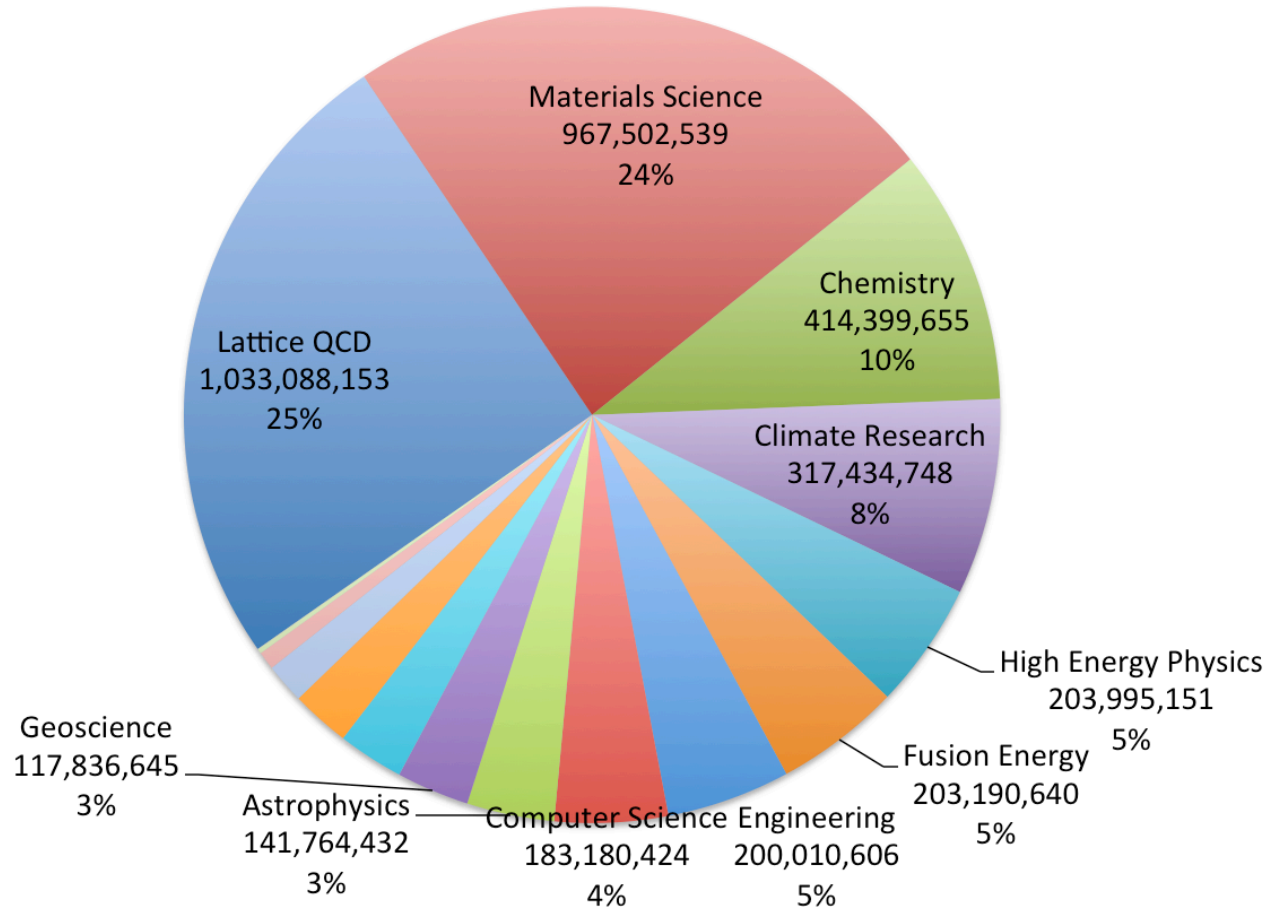
H: Haswell dual core  
I: Ivy Bridge dual core  
K: Xeon Phi KNL

Ratio	Performance per node	Comment
HB/IB	1.6 X	Business as usual; not on path to exascale
KO/HB	2.5 X	NESAP + KNL benefit over Haswell no opt
KO/IB	4.0 X	Cori KNL optimized benefit over Edison
HO/HB	2.3 X	NESAP code efforts only
KO/HO	1.2 X	Optimized KNL vs. optimized Haswell; on path to exascale
KB/HB	0.7 X	KNL vs. Haswell with no NESAP

# KNL Usage by Science Category

## Code Usage

CESM #7  
ACME #20  
WRF #29



Cori with light-weight Intel Xeon Phi processors provides unprecedented capability for DOE Office of Science research

NESAP has enabled large percentage of NERSC workload to run efficiently on new class of manycore system

Lessons learned and knowledge gained are being communicated to and applied by NERSC community

Postdoc program has been extremely valuable to NESAP and is helping to prepare next-generation workforce for HPC

Collaborations with application teams, vendors, and HPC community are necessary for success



*There is no record in human  
history of a happy philosopher.*

*– H.L. Mencken*



# Climate Science at NERSC



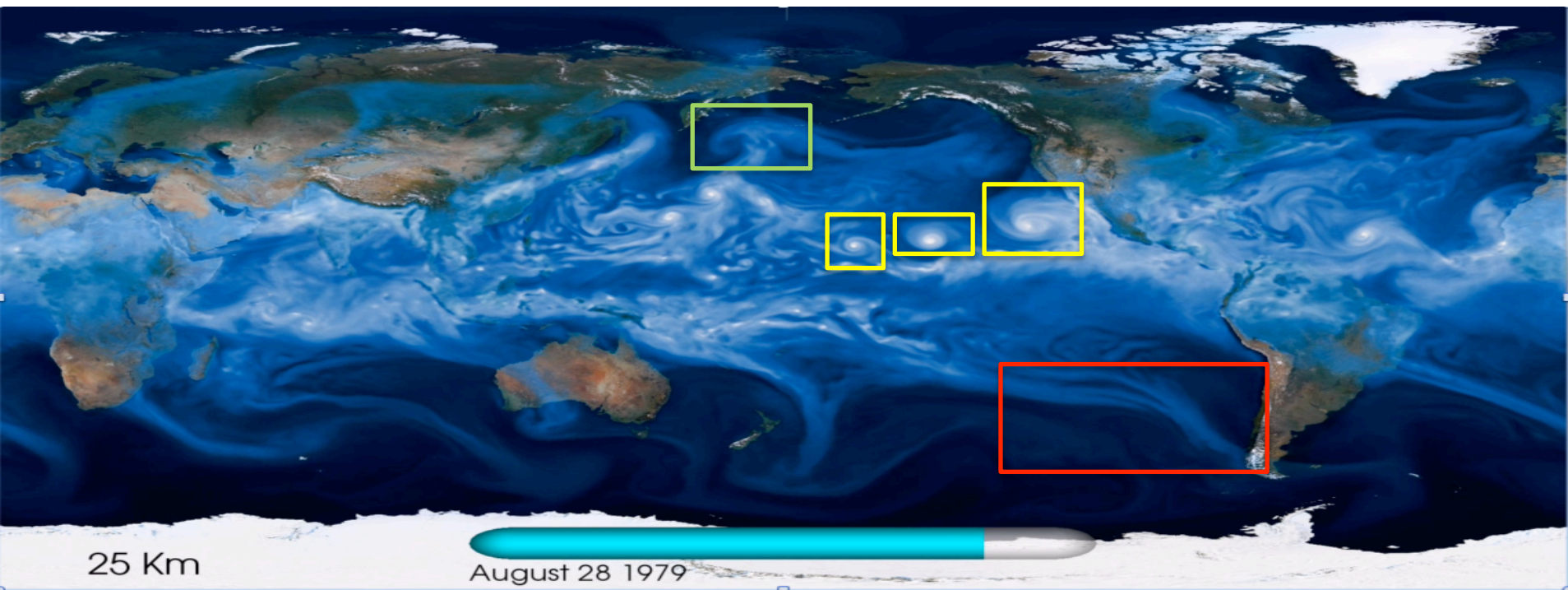
- HOMME-based atmosphere codes are running well on KNL
  - Performance is very good at small and medium scale
  - Scaling issues remain that are not understood completely
- Work is ongoing on large-scale coupled runs
  - OK at small scale, but not where would like to be
  - E.g. MPAS ice and ocean components
  - Postdoc is working on the issues
- Climate codes seem to be more sensitive to variability than most
  - Not understood, but seems to be system-related

How will extreme weather change in the future?

Need an objective tool for detecting extremes

- Pattern detection task
- Can Deep Learning come to the rescue?

# Task: Find Extreme Weather Events





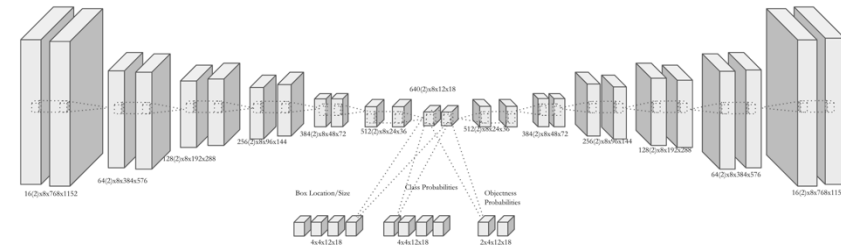
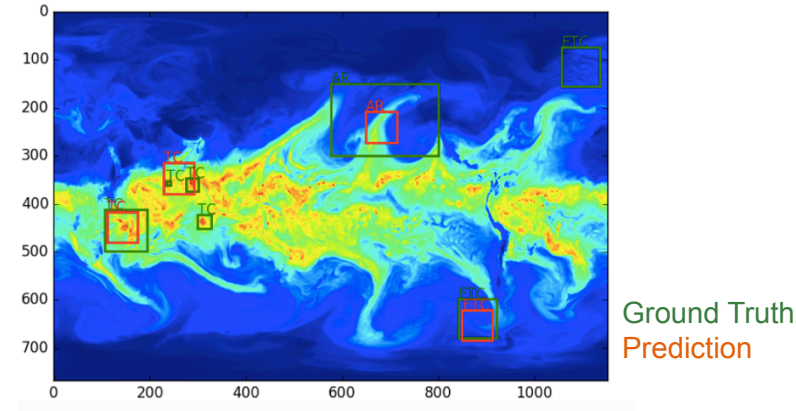
# Deep Learning for Extreme Weather Detection



First application of supervised and semi-supervised architectures for finding patterns in CAM5 data

DL methods are capable of extracting weather patterns with 85-99% accuracy (NIPS'17 paper)

Implementation scaled to 15PF on Cori Phase II (SC'17 paper)



Source and Contact: Prabhat (Prabhat@lbl.gov)



## NESAP for Data

Help experimental efforts transition to KNL and towards exascale

NESAP for NERSC 9 (2020) system when announced

Application portability recommendations (w/ ANL, ORNL)

- <http://performanceportability.org>

Explore 'exascale' programming models and languages

Influence standards committees (OpenMP, MPI)

Collaborate with CS researchers (algorithms & methods)

Transition broad community to manycore



# 84 Climate Projects at NERSC

PI Name	Org	Hrs (M)	Project Title
Leung, Ruby	PNNL	185.0	Accelerated Climate Modeling for Energy
O'Brien, Travis	LBNL	131.0	Calibrated and Systematic Characterization Attribution and Detection of Extremes
Meehl, Gerald	NCAR	40.6	Climate Change Simulations with CESM: Moderate and High Resolution Studies
Lin, Wuyin	BNL	32.0	Evaluation and improvement of Convective Parameterizations in ACME model
Collins, William D.	Berkeley Lab	23.6	Multiscale Methods for Accurate, Efficient, and Scale-Aware Models of the Earth System
Um, Junshik	U. Illinois U-C	22.2	Linear depolarization ratios of hexagonal ice crystals using an exact method: Applications to remote sensing and scattering database
Leung, Ruby	PNNL	10.6	Water Cycle and Climate Extremes Modeling (WACCEM)
Maxwell, Reed	Col Sch of Mines	9.3	High-resolution, integrated terrestrial and lower atmosphere simulation of the contiguous United States

# ACME v1 Coupled System

- Cori-KNL is fast and the most **efficient** system capable of running ACME v1 high-resolution (25 km atm) on much fewer nodes:
  - 1.1 SYPD, 825 nodes
  - 1.8M NERSC core-hours per simulated year
  - Atmosphere and atmosphere dycore run faster on KNL nodes vs conventional Xeon node, but the overall model is slower as of today
- ALCF MIRA:
  - 0.5 SYPD on 8192 nodes
  - 7.1M core-hours per simulated year
- OLCF Titan
  - 1.4 SYPD on 7448 nodes
  - 3.9M Titan core-hours per simulated year

We are embarking on exciting set of runs using the highest possible fully-coupled resolution with the CESM, and this project is beginning on Cori with the start of a control simulation. We hope to create a full set of simulations with a control and 20th-21st century simulations. – Susan Bates, NCAR