



Swedish National Infrastructure for Computing (SNIC)

Sverker Holmgren SNIC Director

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SNIC

- The Swedish Computing Meta-Center, organized within the Swedish Research Council (Vetenskapsrådet)
- Mission:
 - Provide funding for computing resources in Sweden
 - Coordinate investments and competence
 - Allocate resources to users (SNAC committee)
 - Fund and coordinate development projects
 - Host the Swedish National Graduate School in Scientific Computing (NGSSC)
- Means:
 - Work by SNIC centers
 - A board and a very small executive organization
 - Strategic plan: The SNIC Landscape Document

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- HPC2N (Umeå)
- UPPMAX (Uppsala)
- PDC (Stockholm)
- NSC (Linköping)
- C3SE (Göteborg)
- LUNARC (Lund)

+ OptoSUNET, 10 Gbit

- About 300 user groups (1-50 researchers each)
- SNIC funding: 68 MSEK (KFI) + 15 MSEK (KAW)
 - Coordinates additional funding (LHCK 6 MSEK, Foundations, ...)
 - SNIC funds investments and staff. Facilities funded by universities.
- Hardware resources:
 - A few large-scale computing systems
 - Foundation-level computer systems and storage at all centers
 - SweGrid initiated 2003
 - SweStore initiated 2009
- Development projects
- The Swedish entry point to major international collaborations

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SNIC 2009

- Significant capacity increase for SNIC users
 - Now more than 35000 cores and 1,5 PB disk
 - (C.f. SNAC Allocation round spring 2007: 1730 cores available)
- New resources coming in:
 - Four new foundation-level computing systems
 - Computing system for demanding applications (24 MSEK)
 - SweStore effort on local and national storage (15 MSEK)
 - PRACE prototype system
 - Two group-specific KAW/SNIC systems
- Participation in EU-level initiatives
 - PRACE
 - EGI
 - PARADE
- Building relations to DISC, ESFRI-projects etc



Proposed budget:

168 MSEK/year (for investments and staff)

Based on analysis of user needs (SNIC Scientfic Case)

Swedish Landscape for Computing

European-level resources

• Grand-scale resources provided by e.g. PRACE and EGI.

Special resources

- A few large-scale computational resources
- A few other special-purpose computational resources
- The national data storage system (SweStore)
- Collaborative efforts with other partners, e.g. KAW.

Foundation-level resources

 Computing and data storage at all SNIC centers

Roadmap for 2010

- Computing resources
 - Ensure sufficient foundation-level capacity at all sites
 - Collaborative process and joint procurements
 - Install a 160-200 Tflop system for demanding applications
 - Install a pilot system with hardware accelerators
 - Participate in procurement of a pilot system at Nordic level
 - Continuation of KAW/SNIC collaboration?
- Data storage
 - Ensure unified center storage at all sites
 - Build first version of distributed, national storage
 - Cross-site backup
- User support
 - Application experts coordinated with Strategic Area eScience efforts
 - Application experts for massive-scale parallelization

Also in the roadmaps

- Computing resources
 - Regular updates of foundation-level systems in 2011-2013
 - Two systems at each site, each system renewed every 4th year
 - Possibly one large-scale system in 2011
 - Depending on user needs
 - A Pflop system for demanding applications in 2012
 - After further evaluation of user need
- Data storage
 - Continued build-up according to plan produced by the SNIC Data Storage Task Force
- User support
 - Extended effort!! Program development coordinated with Strategic Area efforts in eScience
- Access modes
 - Harmonization with EGI and PRACE
 - Simplified/unified sign-on to SNIC resources

Also in the roadmaps

- Allocation process
 - New SNAC Policy Document
 - Performance evaluation of applications for special resources
 - Allocation procedures for storage and user support
 - Improved user/project management and reporting procedures/tools
- Collaborative projects
 - PRACE and EGI
 - Future Nordic collaboration on grid, HPC and data storage
 - DISC/SND and SUNET
 - ESFRI projects etc
- Possible external facilities and service providers
 - Investigate housing options for SNIC systems
 - A possible large-scale joint Nordic resource
 - Investigate feasibility of commercial cloud services

Challenges

- Increased needs and new structures
 - Strategic Research Area efforts (eScience and others)
 - New, large-scale national projects
 - New, very large projects funded and coordinated at EU-level (ESFRI etc)
- Cost for facilities and electricity is growing
 - Association agreement: The Research Council and the hosting universities should agree on partitioning of total costs for SNIC resources!





Opportunities

SNIC is well-positioned to cater for the rapidly increasing needs of computing resources and data storage for Swedish research!

- Foundation-level and special resources
- National coordination
- Participation in international initiatives
- Collaborative efforts