



The Isambards

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University of
BRISTOL



BriCS

Bristol Centre for Supercomputing

Overview

- There are two separate supercomputers:

Isambard 3

Isambard-AI

- Hosted in Northeast Bristol and run by the Bristol Centre for Supercomputing (BriCS), part of the University of Bristol.
- They are all physically hosted in Modular Data Centres
- They have different hardware, purposes and allocation models.



Isambard-AI

Rank	System	Cores	Rmax (PFlop/s)	Rpeak (PFlop/s)	Power (kW)
11	Isambard-AI phase 2 - HPE Cray EX254n, NVIDIA Grace 72C 3.1GHz, NVIDIA GH200 Superchip, Slingshot-11, HPE Cray OS, HPE University of Bristol United Kingdom	1,028,160	216.50	278.58	

- Intended for AI/ML workloads
- 5,280 Grace Hopper superchips
- Split into two parts: phase 1 and phase 2
 - Phase 1 is running for the last 10 months
 - Phase 2 is significantly larger and is coming online imminently
- Mostly allocated by the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology
 - University of Bristol has a 5% allocation
- Access at docs.isambard.ac.uk/access/

Isambard 3

- A more traditional HPC system
- 55,000 NVIDIA Grace-Grace ARM cores
- Mostly allocated by UKRI
 - Each GW4 university has an allocation
- Has some funded RSE positions to provide support for GW4 researchers.
- Access at docs.isambard.ac.uk/access/