CCP-AHC: A Collaborative Computational Project (CCP) serving Arts, Humanities, and Culture researchers

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4 June 2025

Durham University · University of Brighton · UKRI Science and Technology Facilities Council

Community Scope

This CCP focuses on research communities seeking to access Digital Research Infrastructures (DRI) for computationally intensive research in the arts, humanities, and culture. In these domains, **large, complex, and heterogeneous** datasets are often generated, analysed using standard approaches, and processed for wider access.
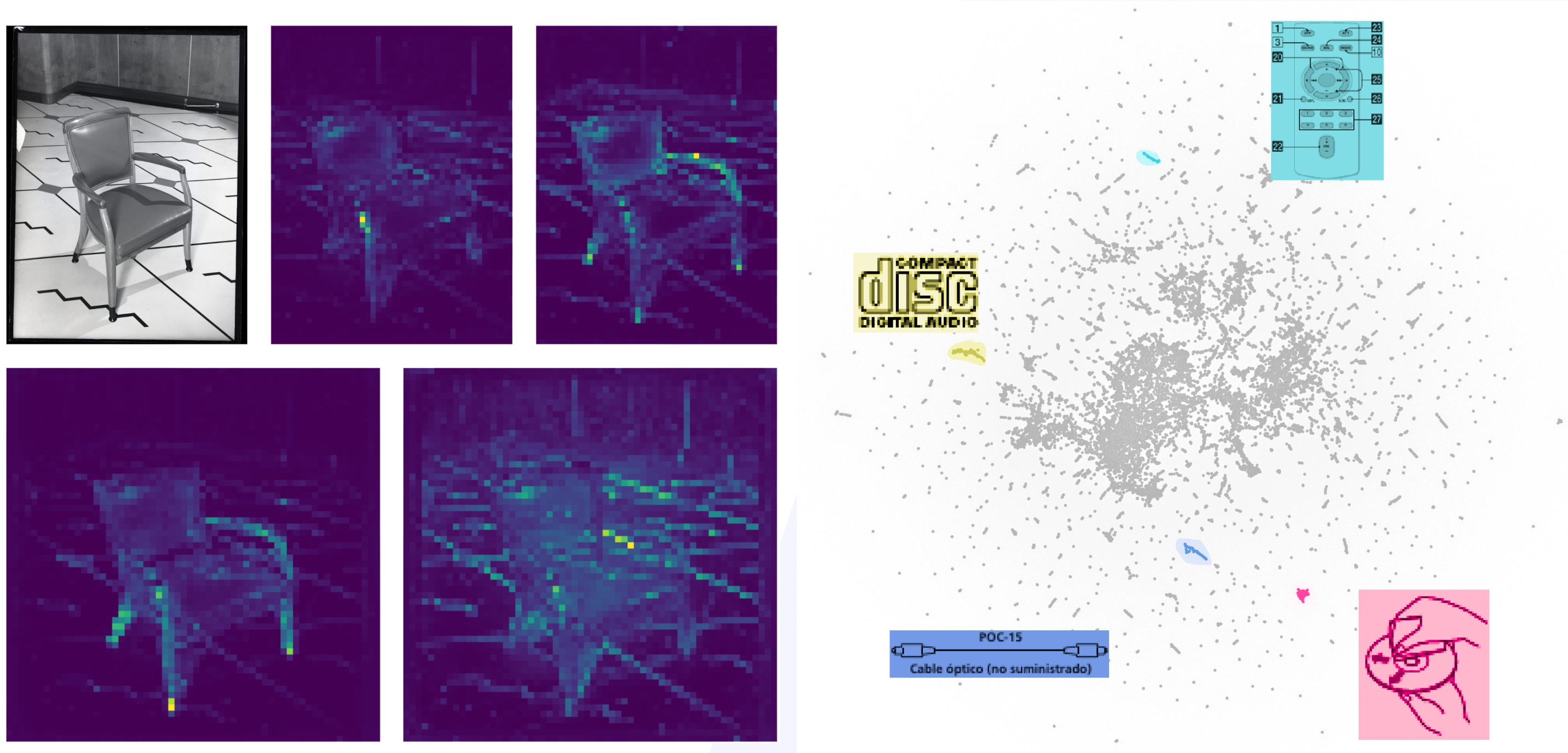
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c. 50k images from 1,000 Sony compact disc player user manuals (©Sony Corporation) projected in CLIP-like multimodal similarity space.

Context and Aims

Arts, humanities, and culture (AHC) researchers and innovators have historically limited engagement with large-scale compute infrastructures

The CCP aims to **increase the number of communities using HPC** and **address barriers for adoption** including:

- Acceptance of software and technical research outputs;
- Lack of skills specifying and deploying AI methods to DRI;
- Access to institutional support and research software engineering (RSE) expertise.

These barriers will **be addressed** by:

1. Identifying software projects for development;
2. Developing a portfolio of software, pipelines, and workflows, including pilot services supported by STFC;
3. Gaining visibility for high quality AHC use-cases within the UK DRI landscape;
4. Disseminating, seeking feedback on, and implementing the CCP model.

National and international partnerships ensure sustainability and knowledge exchange beyond the community.
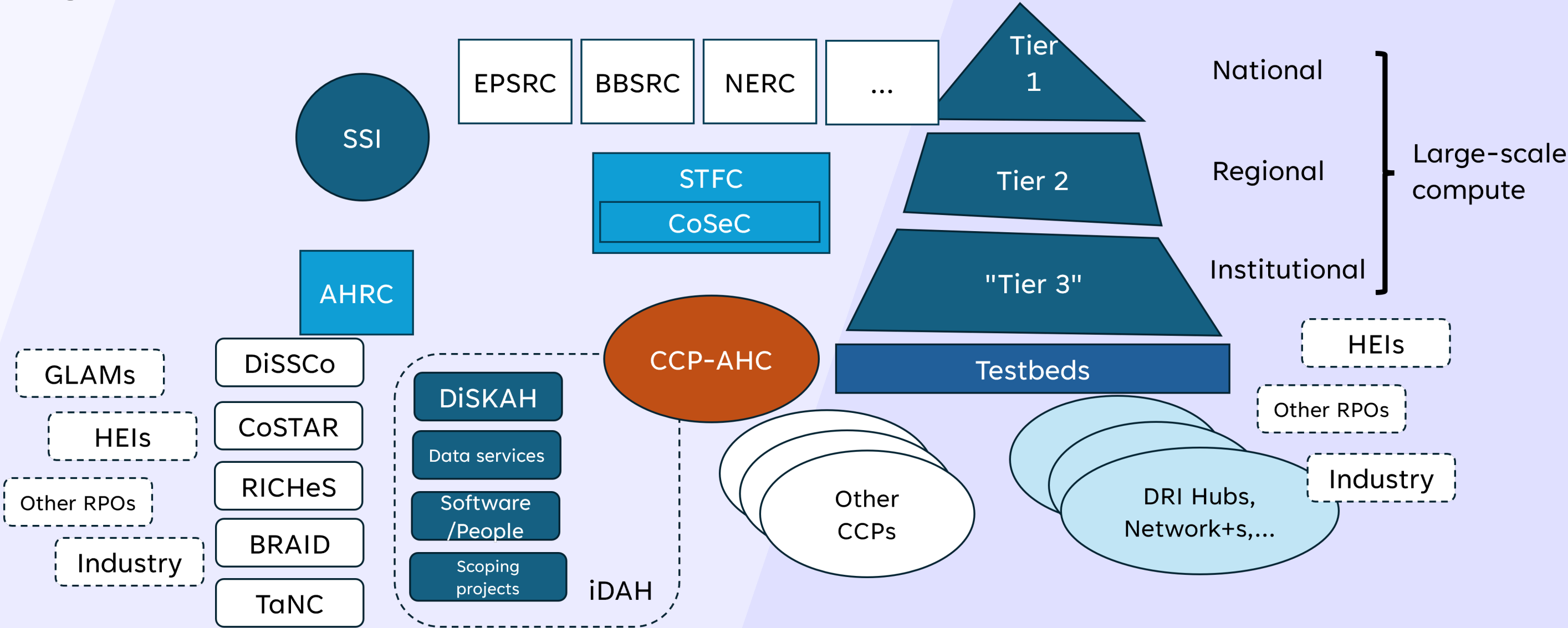
Engage with us

Project website

CCP-AHC-ANNOUNCE (Subscribe)

Ecosystem

We collaborate with AHRC-funded programmes, including DiSSCo, CoSTAR, RICHeS, and DISKAH (in iDAH).

Consortium members link to regional and national DRI, including N8 CIR (Bede), DiRAC (COSMA) and part of the ExCALIBUR testbed service; as well as AHRC-funded research in the arts and humanities. dRTPs and computational scientists **working outside of AHC** but interested in empowering this research can engage now with the field through CCP-AHC.

Overview of Main Activities

Phase 1: Discover (Jan–Dec 2025)		Phase 2: Develop (Jan–Dec 2026)		
1 Engage	**2** Discover	**3** Evaluate	**4** Develop	**5** Report and bid
Disseminate and assess the suitability of the CCP concept, identify stakeholders, and involve them in the community	What computationally intensive codes, pipelines, and workflows are out there?	Of these, which are ready to use on HPC/AI systems and which need further development?	Use technical resource at STFC to build and evaluate prototypes/pilots in collaboration with codes owners	Produce a 5-year plan for the community, and bid for UKRI funding to support this

Achievements

- Project website launched, with blog and resources page, c. **200 30-day active users**.
- Mailing lists (CCP-AHC-ANNOUNCE, CCP-AHC-DISCUSS) created with 70 and 40 subscribers.
- CCP-AHC Town Hall 2025 held in Durham on 22 May 2025, **EoIs received from 30 institutions**.
- Open call for codes, workflows, and pipelines online.
- Dissemination at HPC-SIG, Durham HPC Days 2025, PASC'25, RSECon25, and CIUK 2025.
- 25+ one-to-one meetings with key national stakeholders.