



# CINECA

## AI in Italy

### (AI on HPC)

Laura Morselli – CINECA

# CINECA: A GROWING CONSORTIUM

CINECA

SUPPORTING THE ITALIAN ACADEMIC SYSTEM SINCE 1969



## 117 MEMBERS

Ministry of University-Research and Ministry of Education, Universities, Public Research Organisations



## 5 LOCATIONS

Bologna, Milano, Roma, Napoli, Chieti

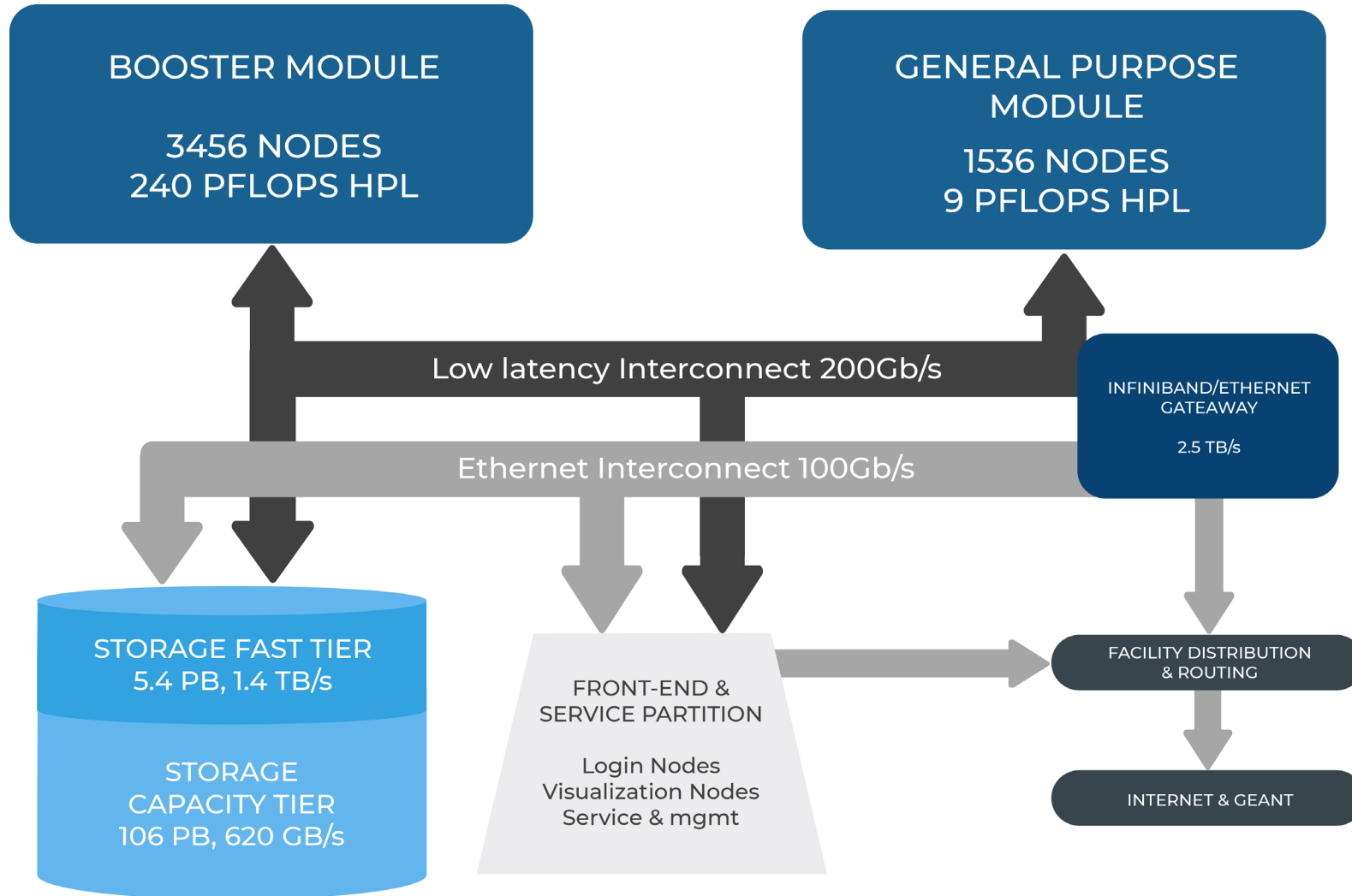


≈ 1100  
Employees



# Leonardo

## THE 7th MOST POWERFUL SUPERCOMPUTER IN THE WORLD



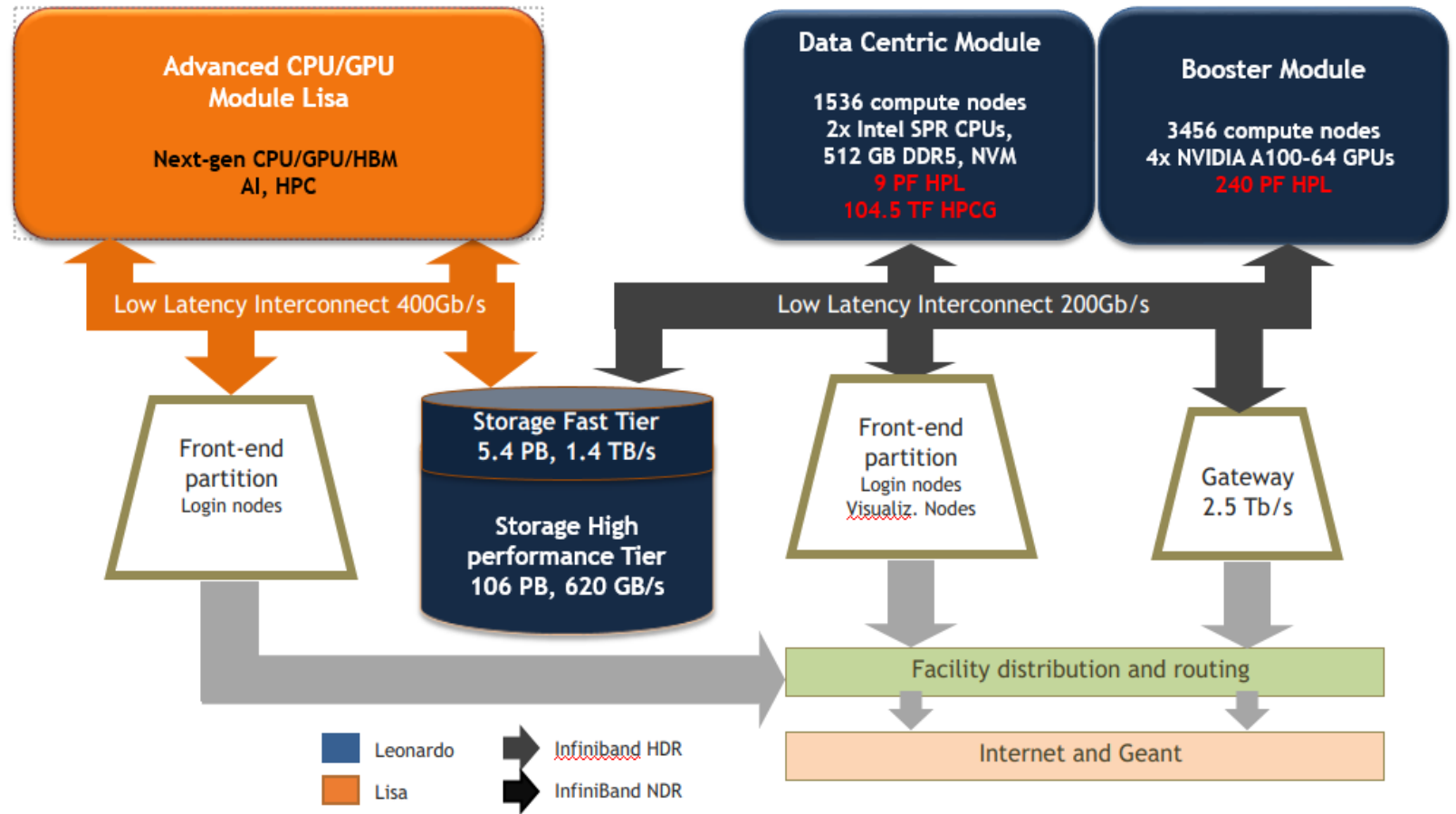
# LISA

## LEONARDO IMPROVED SUPERCOMPUTING ARCHITECTURE

An AI partition of Leonardo dedicated for Generative AI (technology under investigation)

3 years  
65% Italy  
35% EuroHPC JU

Timeframe  
Q4-2024



**Hundreds of GBs of shared GPU memory for Large AI Models!**

# ISCRA

## CALL FOR PROPOSALS OF THE ITALIAN SUPERCOMPUTING RESOURCE ALLOCATION ORGANIZATION

- **Class B (Max 250'000 GPU hours on Leonardo Booster – 12 months)**

Class B projects are received twice a year. They go under peer-review evaluation and a 5 months period is expected before access to HPC resources.

- **Class C (Max 10'000 GPU hours on Leonardo Booster – 9 months)**

Class C projects are received through continuous submission and reviewed once per month. An average period of about 30 days is required for activating the project.

Projects' PIs need to be affiliated to an Italian research institution, while no restriction is applied for the Co-PI and collaborators. It is expected that the research will be performed at Italian institutions.

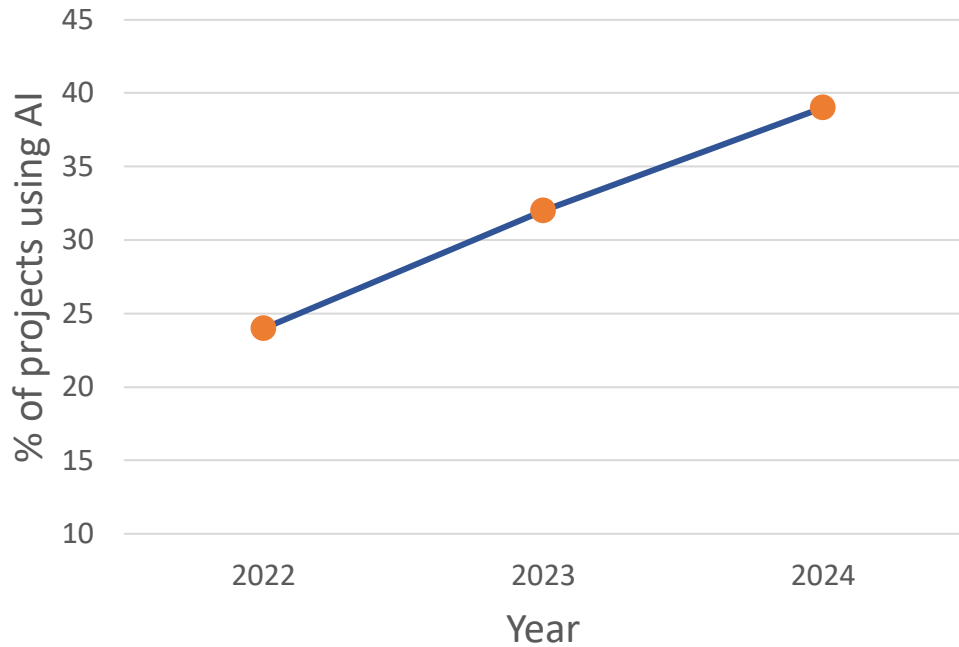
CINECA provides **high-level technical support** to each project through its User Support Group.

Dedicated specialist support can be requested for the enabling and optimization of the applications necessary for the project

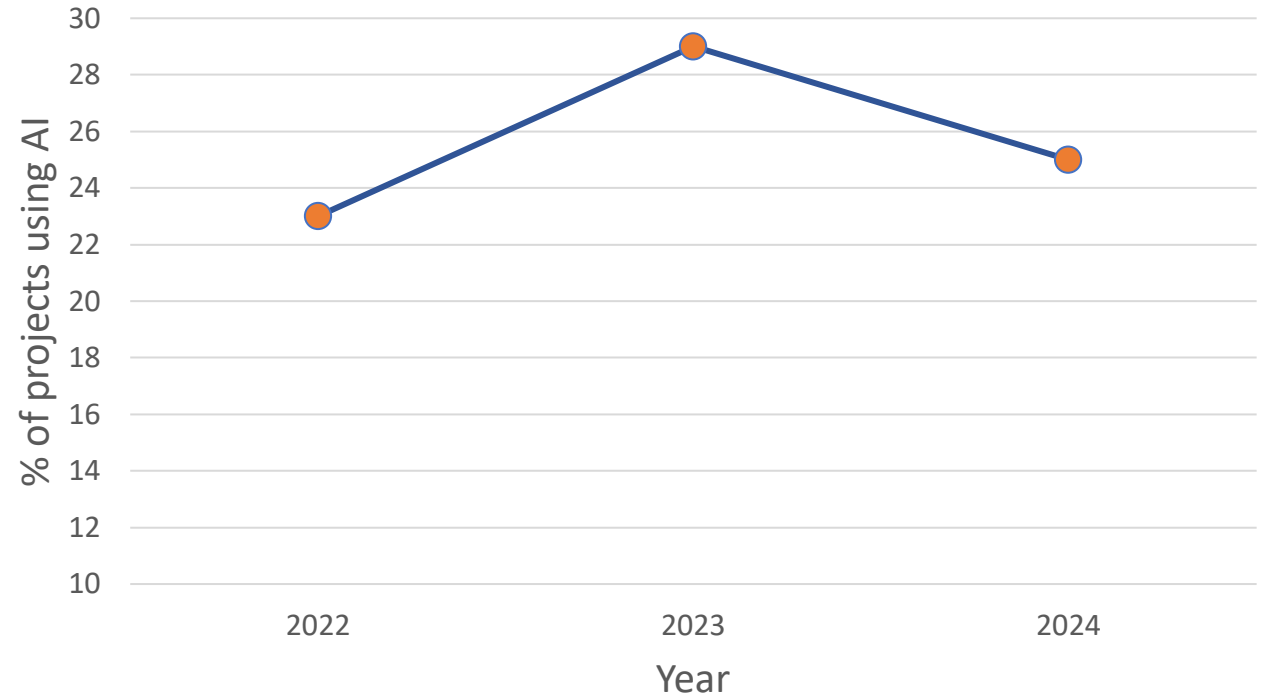
# ISCRA

## CALL FOR PROPOSALS OF THE ITALIAN SUPERCOMPUTING RESOURCE ALLOCATION ORGANIZATION

### Class C



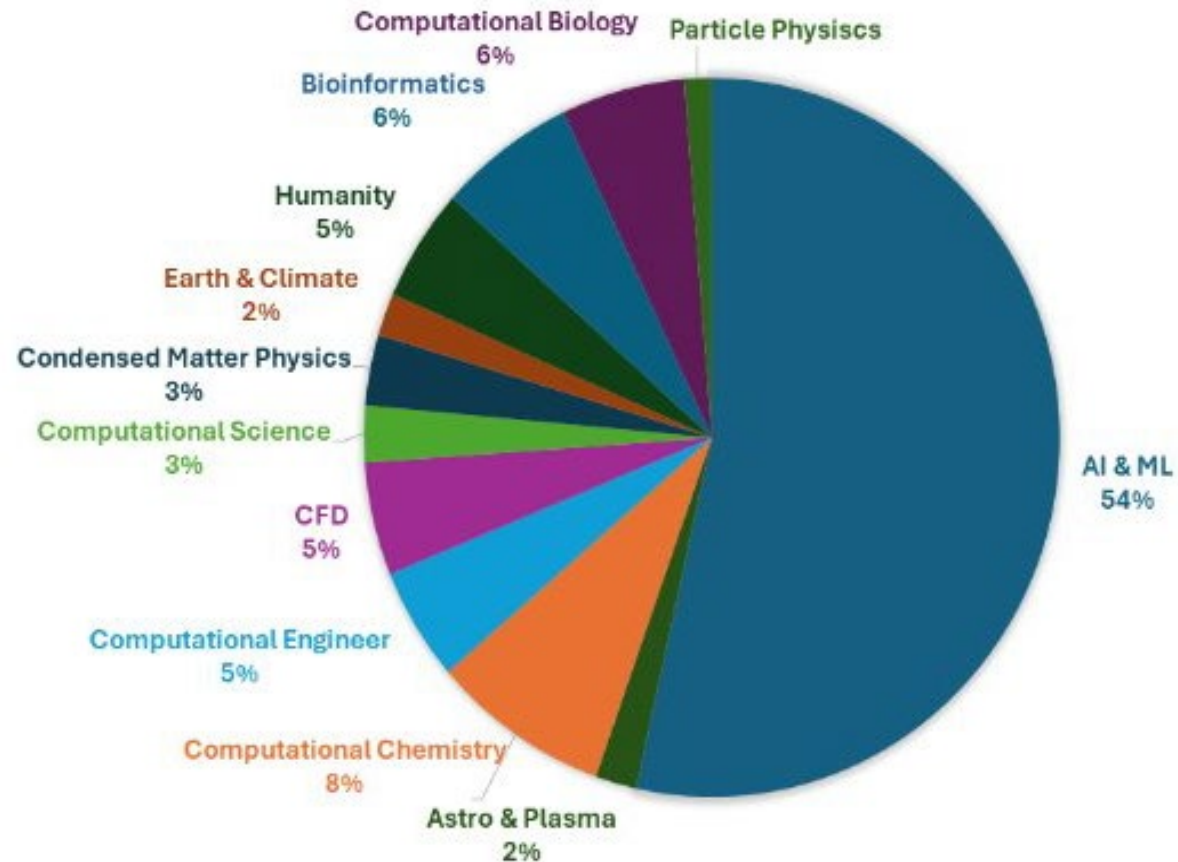
### Class B



# ISCRA

## CALL FOR PROPOSALS OF THE ITALIAN SUPERCOMPUTING RESOURCE ALLOCATION ORGANIZATION

### ISCRA – C 2024



# LLMs – LMMs related projects



SAPIENZA  
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA

STUDENTS GRADUATES ACADEMICS STAFF CONTACTS

search on site 🔍



EN

Home / Ricerca / AI made in Italy: here is Minerva, the first family of large language models trained "from scratch" for Italian



Future  
Artificial  
Intelligence  
Research

## Minerva LLMs

The first family of Large Language Models pretrained from scratch on Italian!

Available on Hugging Face 🤗

LLMs pretrained from scratch on Italian developed by Sapienza NLP in collaboration with Future Artificial Intelligence Research (FAIR) and CINECA. Models are truly-open (data and model) Italian-English LLMs, with approximately half of the pretraining data composed of Italian text.

Stay tuned for the [technical report](#) on Minerva!

AI made in Italy: here is Minerva, the first family of large language models trained "from scratch" for Italian

### Our Minerva Models



Minerva-350M-base-v1.0

This compact model is **fast and agile**, making it ideal for applications requiring quick responses and lower computational resources. With dual-language training in Italian and English, it's perfectly suited



Minerva-1B-base-v1.0

Featuring a **balanced blend of depth and speed**, this 1 billion-parameter model provides a robust framework for a variety of applications. It strikes an effective balance between performance and



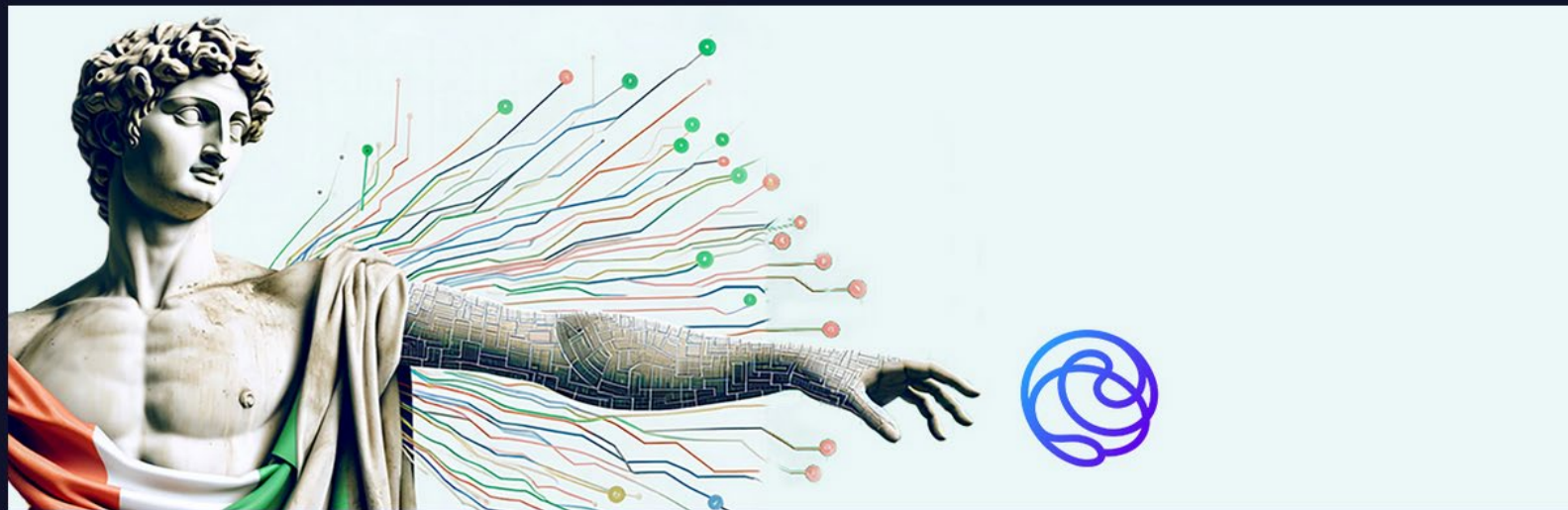
Minerva-3B-base-v1.0

This **powerful and comprehensive model** is trained on an extensive corpus of Italian and English text, enabling sophisticated understanding and generation of language. With its vast knowledge

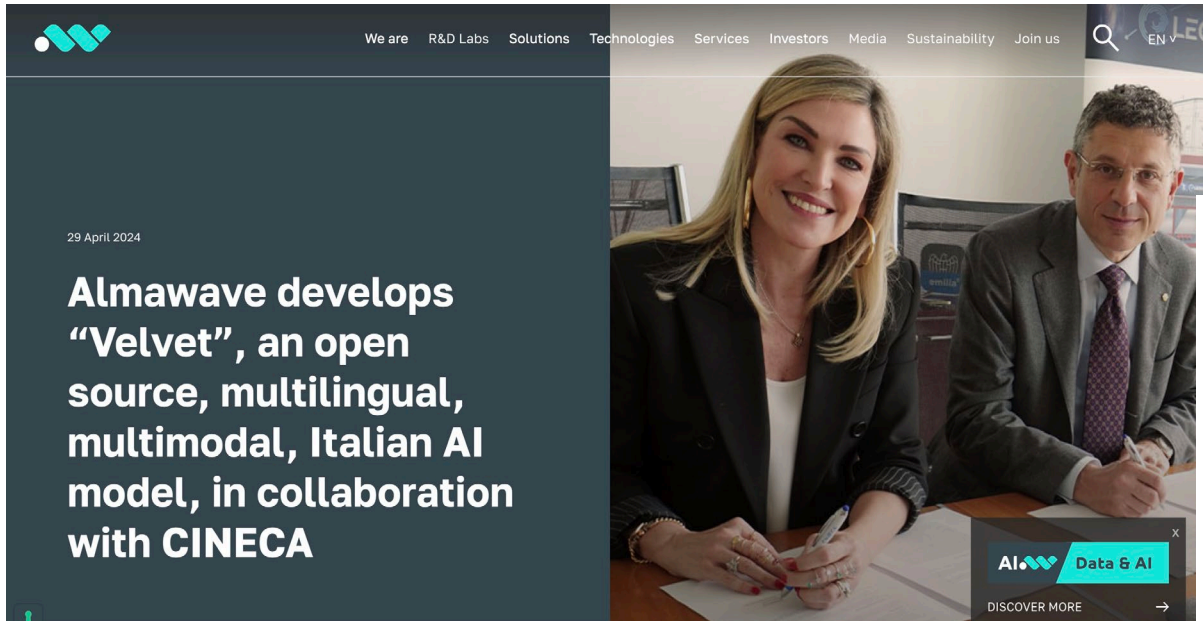


## LLMs – LMMs related projects

**iGenius and Cineca partner for  
Modello Italia, the first Italian  
Foundational Large Language  
Model**



# LLMs – LMMs related projects



## LLAMANTINO: LLaMA 2 Models for Effective Text Generation in Italian Language

**PIERPAOLO BASILE\***, University of Bari Aldo Moro, Italy

**ELIO MUSACCHIO**, University of Bari Aldo Moro, Italy

**MARCO POLIGNANO**, University of Bari Aldo Moro, Italy

**LUCIA SICILIANI**, University of Bari Aldo Moro, Italy

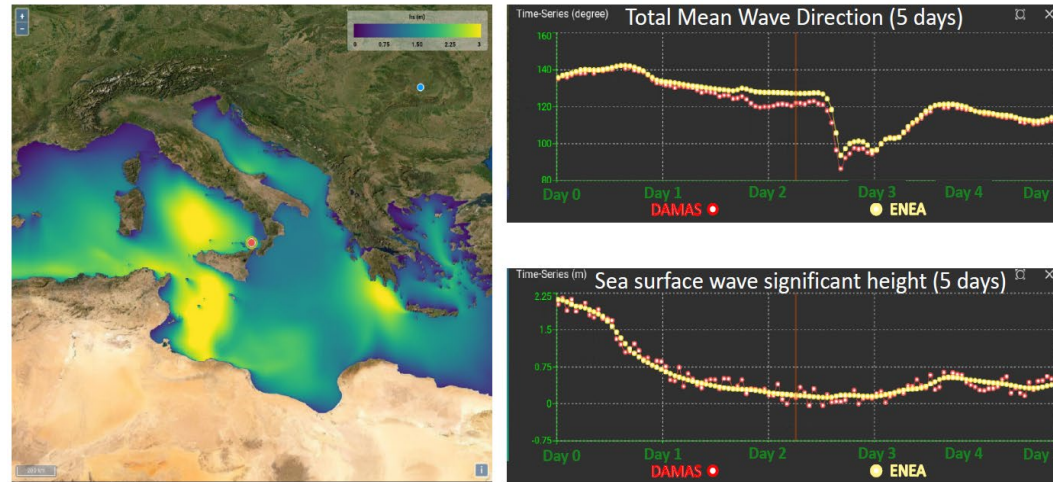
**GIUSEPPE FIAMENI**, NVIDIA AI Technology Center, Italy

**GIOVANNI SEMERARO**, University of Bari Aldo Moro, Italy

Large Language Models represent state-of-the-art linguistic models designed to equip computers with the ability to comprehend natural language. With its exceptional capacity to capture complex contextual relationships, the LLaMA (Large Language Model Meta AI) family represents a novel advancement in the field of natural language processing by releasing foundational models designed to improve the natural language understanding abilities of the transformer architecture thanks to their large amount of trainable parameters (7, 13, and 70 billion parameters). In many natural language understanding tasks, these models obtain the same performances as private company models such as OpenAI Chat-GPT with the advantage to make publicly available weights and code for research and commercial uses. In this work, we investigate the possibility of Language Adaptation for LLaMA models, explicitly focusing on addressing the challenge of Italian Language coverage. Adopting an open science approach, we explore various tuning approaches to ensure a high-quality text generated in Italian suitable for common tasks in this underrepresented language in the original models' datasets. We aim to release effective text generation models with strong linguistic properties for many tasks that seem challenging using multilingual or general-purpose LLMs. By leveraging an open science philosophy, this study contributes to Language Adaptation strategies for the Italian language by introducing the novel **LLAMANTINO** family of **Italian LLMs**.

# DAMAS

## DATA-DRIVEN MODEL FOR THE ANALYSIS OF THE SEA STATE

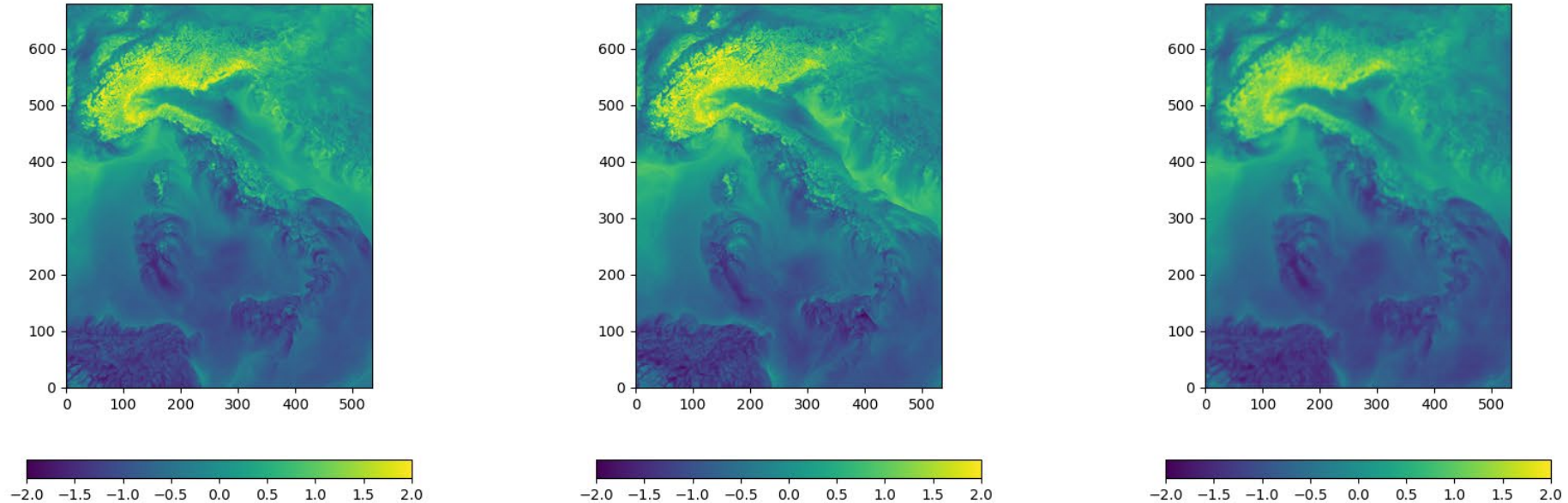


Gmatics AI models engineered on CINECA HPC infrastructure reduced the execution time and increased the resolution and the accuracy of sea circulation models and height of waves prediction, providing as a result:

- AI models that replicate the ENEA MITO and WAVE physical forecast models and produce **forecasts** over the next 5 days with hourly temporal resolution,
- The **nowcast** chains for wave and circulation for the next 12 hours,
- **Hindcast** pipelines for the historical analysis of wave and circulation sea parameters and
- a graphical user environment

# AI-GCM

## AI GENERAL CIRCULATION MODEL



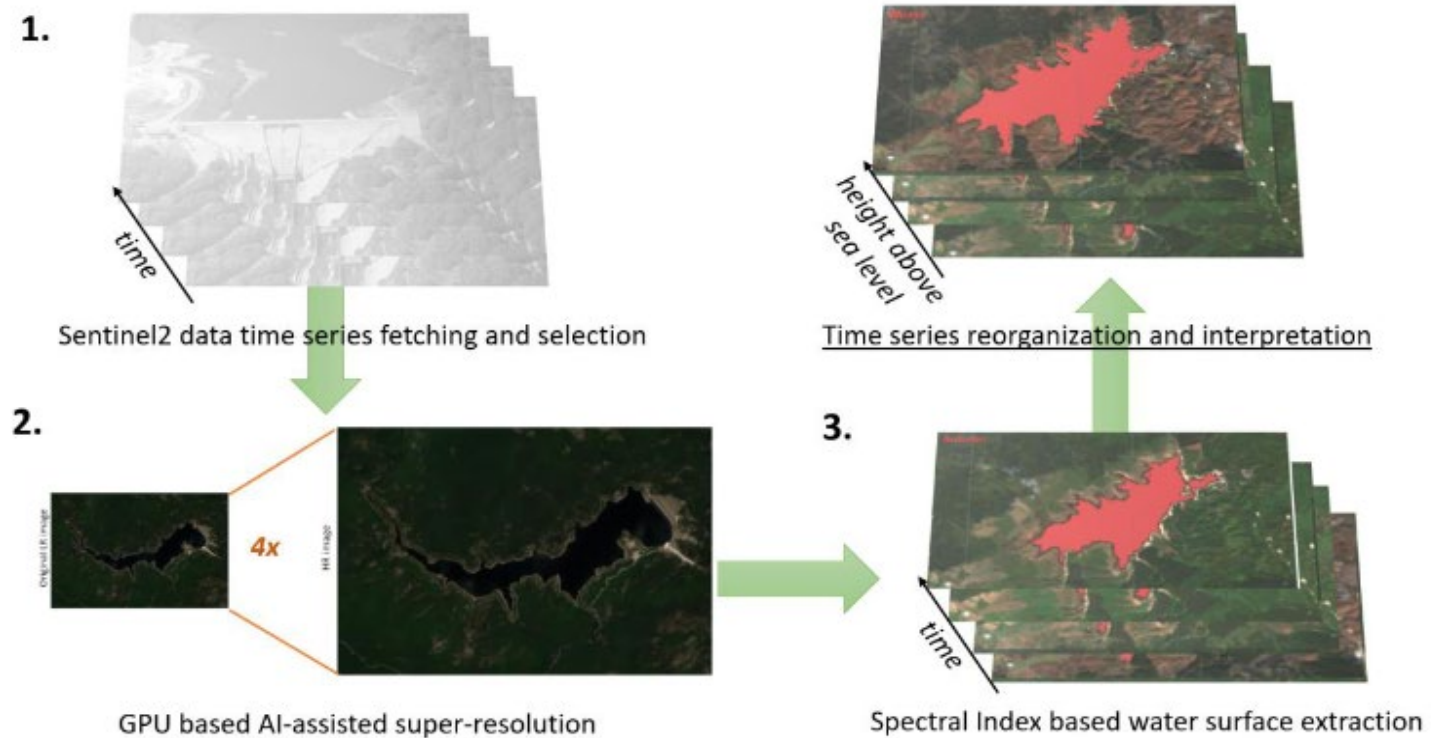
The project aims to construct a **novel GCM approach** using recent developments in ML and supported by intra-seasonal atmospheric signals. The aim is twofold. On the one hand, the potential to **significantly reduce the run time of short-term forecasts**. On the other hand, the possibility to **increase the forecast skill for the medium term**. The final objective is to produce a prototype model that could be further developed with future funding.

# HPC4RM

## HPC FOR RESERVOIR MONITORING



- **Continuous monitoring of water reservoirs is gaining importance** due to water shortages, periods of drought, and extreme weather events in all European countries.
- The amount of data and the required processing sequence calls for **on-demand HPC resources** in order to deliver necessary added value to customers.





# HPC4RM

HPC FOR RESERVOIR MONITORING



## THE SOLUTION

- Aresys designed a **new service**: S2 optical images are used to identify **reservoir water surface variation over time**, without the need for in-situ measurements.
- The water surface is estimated based on proper geometric and radiometric processing using the latest Deep Learning results to cope with the Sentinel-2 data resolution.
- HPC resources are necessary for the AI-assisted processing steps and to provide the starting 3D reservoir model based on historical data sets.

# WEATHER AI

## WEATHER NOWCASTING



"AI technologies to maximize cameras potential to derive **actionable weather and environmental insights** in support of your decision making"

floodcam



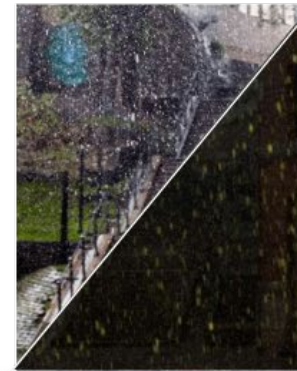
snowcam



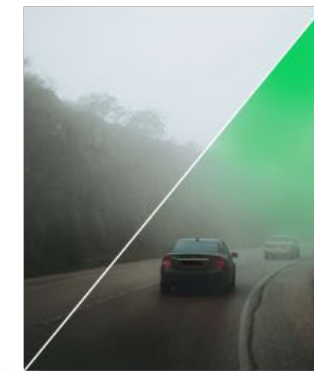
smocam



weathercam



viscam



Smart  
Roads



Smart  
Towers



Smart  
Cities



# WEATHER AI

## WEATHER NOWCASTING



### THE SOLUTION

- Distributed training of NN --> increased accuracy thanks to larger datasets
- Parallel Image Augmentation on CPUs
- Embarassingly parallel hyperparameter optimization







# CINECA

**Thank you!**

**Laura Morselli – CINECA**