

The eScience Center: multi-disciplinary and data-intensive research in the Netherlands

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Abstract

The Netherlands eScience Center (NLeSC) supports and reinforces multidisciplinary and data-intensive research through creative and innovative use of ICT in all its manifestations. The NLeSC will ensure that scientific ICT – in all its forms – is deployed sustainably in support of the modern research process. Therefore, the Center works with ICT infrastructure partners, academic institutes, and commercial technology providers. The research projects that the NLeSC undertakes in collaboration with these institutions serve to develop relevant techniques, algorithms, models, and concepts that can be generalised and shared. The starting point for the projects is in all cases the relevant research question. The purpose is to make research breakthroughs possible and to generate value for society.

In this talk I will introduce the NLeSC and describe its objectives and organisation. I will also give an overview of the current projects. In the second part, I will present the “Summer in the City” project in more detail. For “Summer in the City” we develop a novel weather forecasting system to predict human thermal comfort and health in urban areas. This involves large, high resolution, (geographic) data sets and poses computational challenges.