Promotion of Computational Fundamental Science

In order to accelerate the research and development of computational fundamental science, we promote user support, exploratory research support, and human network construction. To learn fundamental physics, we have developed “Quark Card Dealer” the Quantum Chromodynamics collectible card game.

Monthly JICFuS

This is a collection of online articles in which we interview researchers involved in JICFuS-supported projects and describe the nature of their research. These articles feature researchers of all ages, from young researchers to senior personnel, and provide insights into their research, which is conducted from various angles.

Monthly JICFuS Movie

JICFuS official channel

These are videos that introduce the work of researchers participating in JICFuS-supported projects. The idea is to give a brief summary—around 5 minutes long—of the problems each individual scientist is tackling, with the results made available on YouTube.

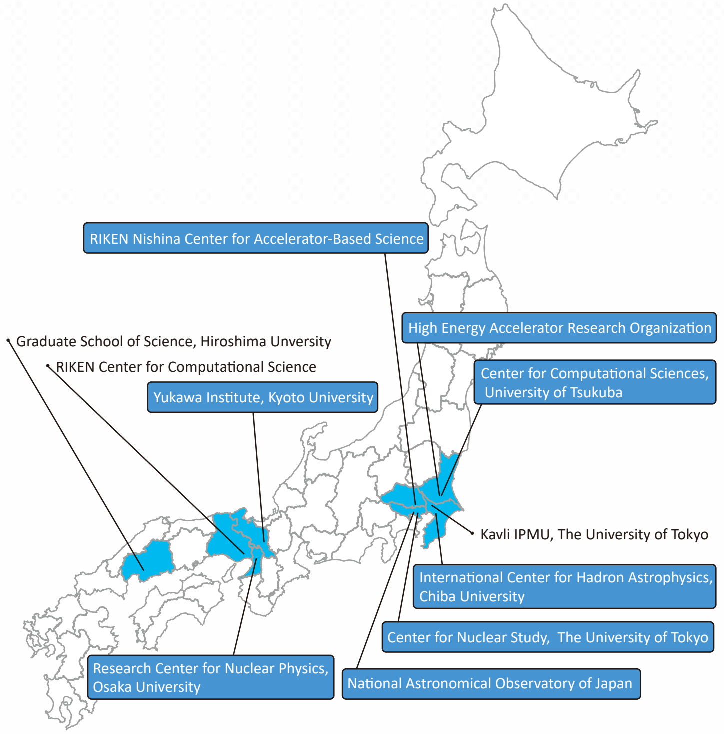
Quark Card Dealer

This is a game inspired by the notion of “colored” particles in quantum chromodynamics (QCD). Players collect *quark cards* of various colors and try to accumulate special combinations of cards that correspond to the particles in nature known as *baryons* and *mesons*. JICFuS has organized quark-card-dealer tournaments, which have been held in the open house events by some JICFuS-participating institutions.

Joint Institute for Computational Fundamental Science

Joint Institute for Computational Fundamental Science (JICFuS) is a collaborative effort eight institutions. We had conducted nuclear calculations using quantum chromodynamics, simulations of neutron star mergers, and research on the generation of density fluctuations in dark matter, under MEXT SPIRE Field 5 “The origin of matter and the universe” implemented in fiscal 2015. JICFuS had gained some noteworthy research results, winning the ACM Gordon Bell Prize.

MEXT as “Priority Issue on Post-K computer” (Elucidation of the Fundamental Laws and Evolution of the Universe) starts from fiscal 2016, we aim to create further research results. JICFuS dedicated to enhancement of the computational science research and development through (1) strong, fine-grained support of fundamental computational scientists, (2) provision of a venue for cooperation between fundamental computational scientists and computer scientists, and (3) creation of new fields of research.



Joint Institute for Computational Fundamental Science | https://www.jicfus.jp/

Joint Institute for Computational Fundamental Sciences

JICFuS
Joint Institute for Computational Fundamental Science

Computational science

- the third scientific method

Science is the branch of study engaged in uncovering laws hidden in nature and in understanding, predicting, and reproducing phenomena. Over time, humankind has learned to express these laws in the form of equations through the use of two basic scientific methods - theory and experiment (observation). But the nature of elementary particles and the phenomena involved in the evolution of the universe involve complexities that cannot be resolved through an analytical approach starting from the basic equations. The supercomputers have emerged as essential tools for their investigation and resolution, and computational science using the supercomputers has now joined theory and experiment as the third scientific method.

Elucidation of the Fundamental Laws and Evolution of the Universe

The ultimate purpose of computational science in the fields of particle physics, nuclear physics, and astrophysics is to elucidate the history of the creation of matter, in a manner that bridges the three fields. Our aim is to conduct precise large-scale calculations using a supercomputer in order to investigate phenomena on scales ranging from that of elementary particles to the universe itself. We will combine the results obtained with those of large-scale experiments and observational data, in an effort to elucidate the history of the creation of matter.

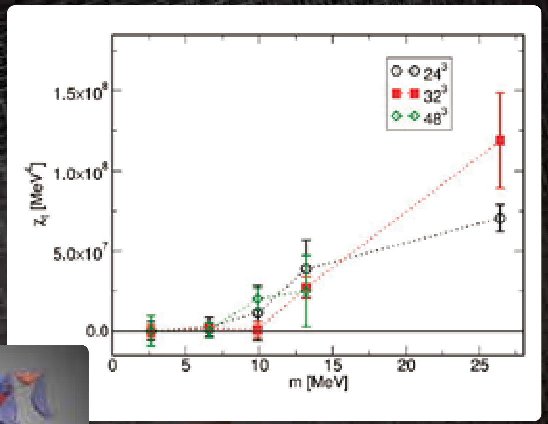
To realize these aims, MEXT as "Priority Issue on Post-K computer" (Elucidation of the Fundamental Laws and Evolution of the Universe), which will begin operation in fiscal about 2020, will develop simulation code to verify the Standard Model of particle physics, and investigate superstring theory, particle interactions, the structure of heavy nuclei, and stellar explosions, and so unlock the mysteries of the evolution of the universe.

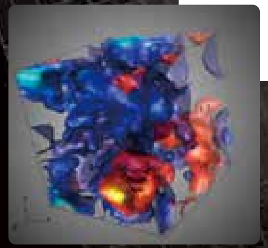
Quest for the Ultimate Laws and the Birth of the Universe

We plan to perform large-scale simulations of lattice quantum chromodynamics (QCD) in order to calculate the physical quantities needed to interpret the experimental results obtained at large particle accelerators such as SuperKEKB and J-PARC.

Primary accomplishment

In the cooling process immediately following the birth of our hot universe, there may have been a dramatic phase transition similar to the transformation of water into ice. Now, we have used large-scale simulations involving lattice QCD—a model closely related to the actual world in which we live—to shed light onto this possibility. This figure plots the results of simulations conducted at a temperature of 20 trillion Kelvin, with the masses of the u and d quarks on the horizontal axis and topological fluctuations of the gluon field shown on the vertical axis. There is no question that these simulations reveal new features that were previously unknown, and we are working to push the techniques even further.





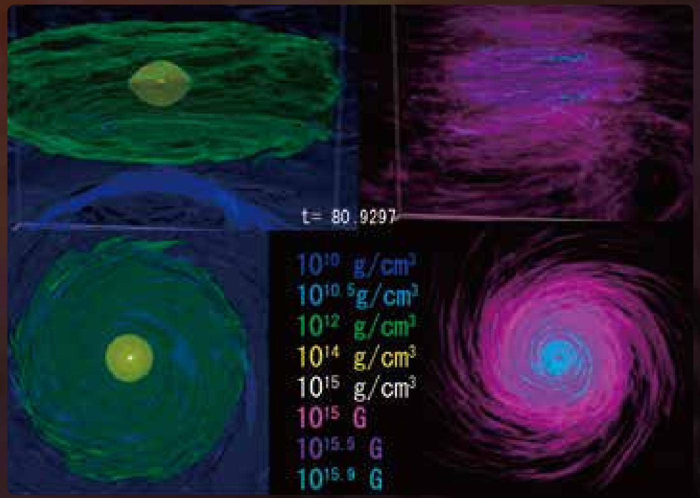
◀ Depiction of a quark field in vacuum as obtained from a QCD simulation (©Guido Cossu)

Exploring the Origin and Evolution of Matter

The purpose of this project is to explore the unsolved issues in microscopic physics by larger-scale numerical computation. Specifically, the issues are to accurately determine the baryon-baryon interactions, nuclear structure and many-body reactions between nuclei, and the equation of state for high-density nuclear matter.

Primary accomplishment

This is a simulation of the internal state of a massive and rapidly rotating neutron star formed by the merger of a neutron-star binary. The figure one the left plots the density, while the figure on the right shows surfaces of constant magnetic-field strength. We see that the shape of the star is distorted due to centrifugal forces; we also see that ultra-strong magnetic fields are produced in the interior, inducing a state of turbulent flow. This turbulent flow gives rise to viscosity, which results in angular-momentum transport that determines the star's ultimate fate.



Large-Scale Simulations and Astronomical Big Data

In the next ten years, a variety of large observational programs will be conducted. We will push the frontier of big data cosmology that combines observational data and large-scale simulations to elucidate the evolution of the universe and the formation of galaxies.

Primary accomplishment

Using the **K** computer, we computed the gravitational evolution of approximately 550 billion dark-matter particles to reproduce the present dark-matter distribution of our universe confined within a box of side length 5.4 billion light years (background image). The inset at the lower right shows the most massive dark-matter halo formed in this simulation, which is the size of a galaxy cluster. We see that many such halos are formed, and it is predicted that galaxies are formed at their centers and black holes exist in the centers of the galaxies.