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CURRENT HPC ARCHITECTURES AND A LITTLE BIT BEYOND

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For a long time there has been a struggle with regard to HPC systems : whether to use commodity parts to make the systems affordable or in some way to specialise to achieve a performance advantage over run-of-the-mill computers. Until recently the commodity trend seemed to have the upper hand but in the last few years there have been interesting developments that in some way reverse or evade this trend. We will give a brief overview of current HPC architectures and discuss some of the new developments that may help to speed up the applications of the Tflop-hungry HPC community.

Aad van der Steen heads the *High Performance Computing Group* at the Utrecht University, The Netherlands, and maintains since many years the EuroBen Benchmark (<http://www.euroben.nl/>) and the well known annual report *Overview of recent supercomputers* (<http://www.euroben.nl/reports/web07/overview.html>).

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