

---

---

# allinea

## SCALE TO NEW HEIGHTS

*Simplifying complex software  
development environments at  
scale*

*David Lecomber  
CTO Allinea*

- **Introduction**
  - Allinea and tools in HPC
- **DDT**
  - Brief overview, scalability focus and update
- **OPT**
  - Brief overview and update
- **Questions**

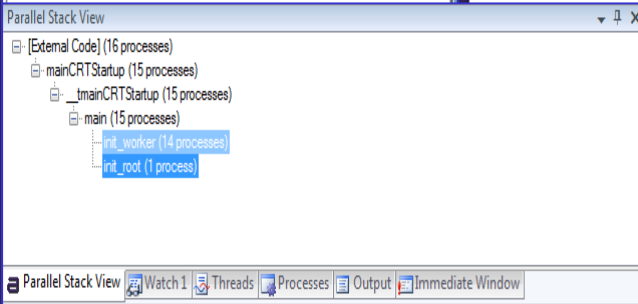
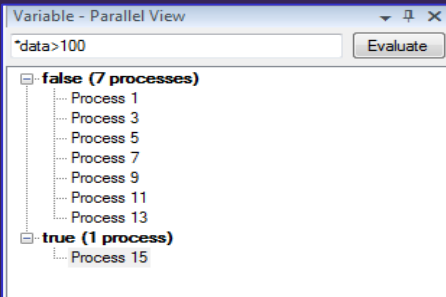
# Parallel Software is Complicated

- **Multithreaded, multiprocess code**
  - The usual issues: bugs, speed ...
  - ... now add communication, synchronization, race conditions, deadlock, scalability ....
  - ... unpredictability of behaviour between systems, and within same system
- **Now more complex.. several architectures**
  - Hybrid Cell and Opteron
- **Hybrid GPU and x86\_64**
  - Homogeneous heavyweight-kernel clusters
  - Homogeneous lightweight-kernel clusters
  - Large SMP machines
  - Desktop SMP via multicore
- **No clear winner yet**
  - Development nightmare!
  - Can you do it without tools?

# Three Challenges Today

- **Languages and compilers**
  - What do I use currently?
  - What will I use on my next system?
- **Making a code that works right**
  - How do I debug today?
  - How will I debug my next system?
- **Making a code that works fast**
  - How do I optimize today?
  - How will I optimize my next system?
- **Lots of choice for the language – but few for the rest**

- **HPC tools company since 2001**
- **Core products**
  - **DDT** - Debugger for MPI, threaded/OpenMP and scalar applications
  - **OPT** - Optimizing and profiling tool for MPI and non-MPI applications
- **New product**
  - **DDTLite** - Plugin for Microsoft Visual Studio 2008
    - Adds parallel and multi-threaded components to user interface
    - Real parallel debugging for Windows!
    - Released September 22<sup>nd</sup> 2008





- **Grids**

- SHARCNet, ICHEC, North West Grid

- **Universities**

- FZ Jülich, Karlsruhe, Dresden, HLRS Stuttgart, LRZ Munich
- Oxford, Cambridge, Warwick, Manchester
- Vanderbilt, TACC, Michigan, Oregon, Indiana, Penn State, Wisconsin, Alberta

- **Aerospace research**

- DLR, EADS CCR, CIRA, MBDA, CERFACS, Dassault, BAe Systems

- **Commercial research**

- Airbus, Fujitsu, CGG, CGG Veritas, Total, IFP, OHM, AVL, MTEM, Intel

- **Research centres**

- CEA, NERSC, IDRIS, BSC, ONERA, RAL, HLRS, CASPUR, CINECA, NERSC, LLNL

- **Weather/Climate**

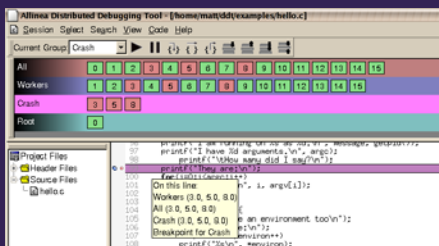
- Met Office, BGS, Proudman, Ifremer, Mercator

# DDT - Distributed Debugging Tool

- **A mature, powerful and highly intuitive tool**
  - Traditional focus has been HPC
- **Cross-platform support**
  - Linux, Solaris (Sparc, x86-64), CLE, AIX
  - GNU, Absoft, IBM, Intel, PGI, PathScale, Sun compilers
  - Blue Gene, Cell, x86-64, ia64, Power, UltraSparc, NEC
- **Across all MPI and OpenMP implementations**
  - From low end to high end
- **Support for all scheduling systems**
  - SGE, PBS, LSF, MOAB, ...
  - Flexible, powerful, easy to use queue submission

# DDT: Basic Principles

- Sophisticated GUI helps the user to control parallel execution and helps to find and focus on potential problems
- User controls actions by groups..
  - Set breakpoints, lock step, align stacks etc
  - But can focus in on individual threads / processes when necessary
- Create groups both
  - Manually: select processes via drag and drop
  - Automatically: by process stack, values etc





# Features for every model

- **Scalar features**

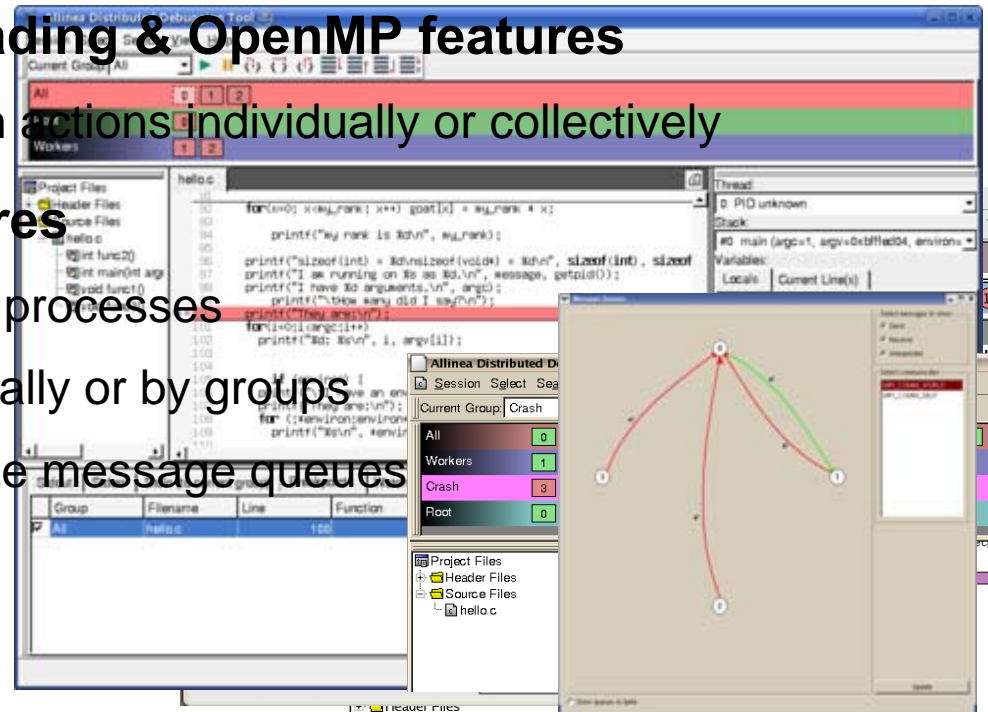
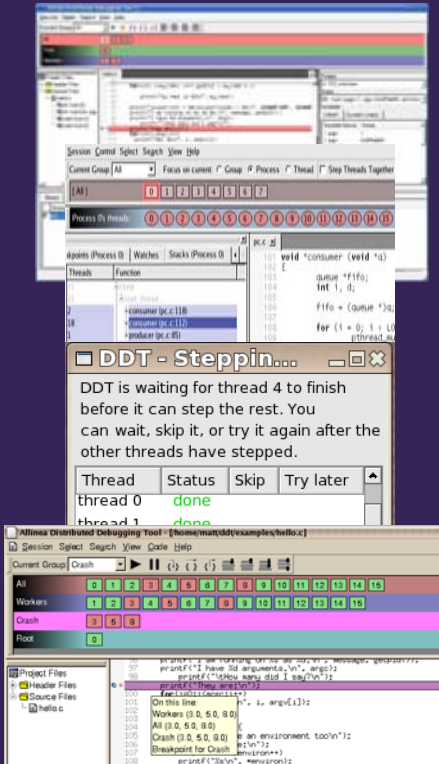
- Advanced C++ support including STL, namespaces, virtual functions and templates
- Advanced Fortran 90, 95 and 2003 support including modules, allocatable data, pointers and derived types

- **Multithreading & OpenMP features**

- Perform actions individually or collectively

- **MPI features**

- Control processes
- individually or by groups
- Visualize message queues

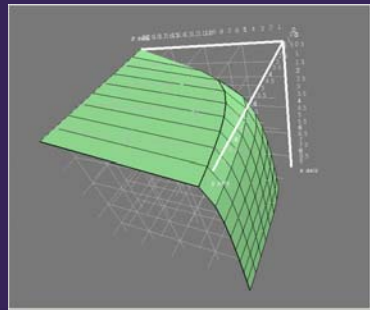
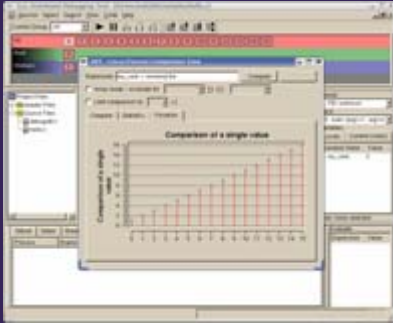


# Memory Debugging

The screenshot displays the Allinea Distributed Debugging Tool interface. The main window shows 'Current Memory Usage' with two charts: 'Total Across Processes (in Bytes)' (a pie chart) and 'Current Usage Across Processes (in Bytes)' (a bar chart). A 'DOT - Pointer Details' dialog is open, showing a pointer at 0x41215000 with a size of 199360 bytes. A 'Distributed Debugging Tool' error dialog is also present, indicating a SIGSEGV signal: 'Processes 0-7: Program stopped in vfprintf from /lib/libc.so.6 with signal SIGSEGV. Reason/Origin: address not mapped to object. Your program will probably be terminated if you continue. You can use the stack controls to see what the process was doing at the time.' The error dialog includes 'Continue' and 'Pause' buttons. The background interface includes a 'Project Files' tree on the left and a 'Stdout' window at the bottom.

# ... and more

- Cross process/thread comparison
- Visualize multidimensional data



A screenshot of a data table window. The table has multiple columns and rows of numerical data. The columns are labeled with letters (A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z) and the rows are labeled with numbers (1 through 26). The data appears to be a sequence of values for each cell.

- 3D
- Fr

- Adv
- Pr
- Singl
- eg
- an
- Co
- DD
- mo

A large screenshot of the 'S/C Distributed Debugging Tool' interface. The main window shows a 3D visualization of a curved surface with a green grid, similar to the one in the previous figure. The surface is rendered in a perspective view, with a white line indicating a specific path or axis. The axes are labeled 'x axis', 'y axis', and 'z axis'. The 'z axis' has values from 0 to 10. The 'y axis' has values from 0 to 10. The 'x axis' has values from 0 to 10. The surface is rendered in a perspective view, with a white line indicating a specific path or axis. The axes are labeled 'x axis', 'y axis', and 'z axis'. The 'z axis' has values from 0 to 10. The 'y axis' has values from 0 to 10. The 'x axis' has values from 0 to 10.

Below the 3D visualization is a data table with the following content:

	19	20
!0	380	400
!0	400	420
!0	420	440
!0	440	460
!0	460	480
!0	480	500
!0	500	520
!0	520	540
!0	540	560
!0	560	580
!0	580	600
!0	600	620
!0	620	640
!0	640	660
!0	660	680
!0	680	700

At the bottom of the screenshot, there is a status bar with the text: 'Expression "iarray[Si][\$]i[k][S1]" evaluated for process 0 at 11:49.' Below this are three buttons: 'Visualize in 3D', 'Export to Spreadsheet...', and 'Close'.

All	1000 processes (0-999)	Paused: 999	Running: 1	Finished: 0
Root	1 process (0)	Paused: 0	Running: 1	Finished: 0
Workers	999 processes (1-999)	Paused: 999	Running: 0	Finished: 0
User Defined	411 processes (67-131, 224-509, 940-999)	Paused: 411	Running: 0	Finished: 0
Show processes	Currently selected:	67		

## • Control Processes by Groups

- Set breakpoints, step, play, stop etc. using user-defined groups of processes
- Scalable process groups view

## • Parallel Stack View

- Finds rogue processes faster
- Identifies classes of process behaviour easily
- Allows rapid grouping of processes

## • Parallel Variable View

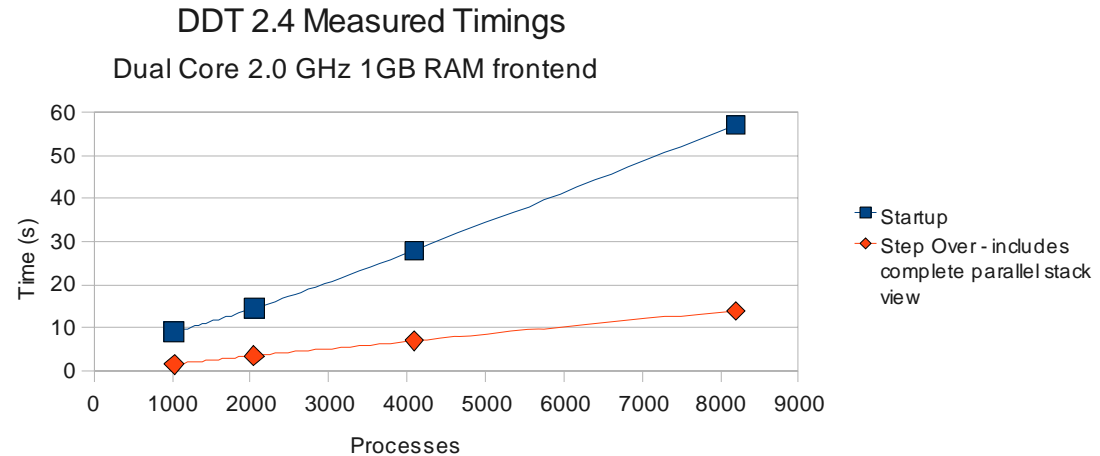
- Find rogue data faster
- Integrated with process groups

The screenshot displays the Alinea debugger interface. The top pane shows source code from `QMCJastrowParameters.cpp` with a red highlight on line 672: `QMCnode::randomlyInitializeWalkers();`. The bottom pane shows the 'Parallel Stack View' with a tree structure of processes and functions. The root process is `main (QMcBeaver.cpp:35)`, which calls `QMCManager::initialize (QMCManager.cpp:58)`. This function then calls `QMCManager::initializeCalculationState (QMCManager.cpp:673)`, which in turn calls `QMCRun::randomlyInitializeWalkers (QMCRun.cpp:86)`. This function calls `QMCWalker::initializeWalkerPosition (QMCWalker.cpp:1071)`, which calls `QMCRun::randomlyInitializeWalkers (QMCRun.cpp:83)`. This function calls `QMCWalker::initialize (QMCWalker.cpp:980)`, which calls `QMCFunctions::initialize (QMCFunctions.cpp:50)`. This function calls `QMC Slater::allocate (Array2D.h:119)`, which calls `operator ()`, which calls `operator ()`, which calls `malloc (malloc.c:1092)`, which calls `dmalloc_malloc (malloc.c:825)`, which calls `QMC Slater::allocate (Array2D.h:116)`. The stack view also shows `QMCRun::randomlyInitializeWalkers (QMCRun.cpp:80)` calling `QMCFunctions::initialize (Array3D.h:152)`, which calls `operator ()`, which calls `QMCManager::initialize (QMCManager.cpp:31)`.

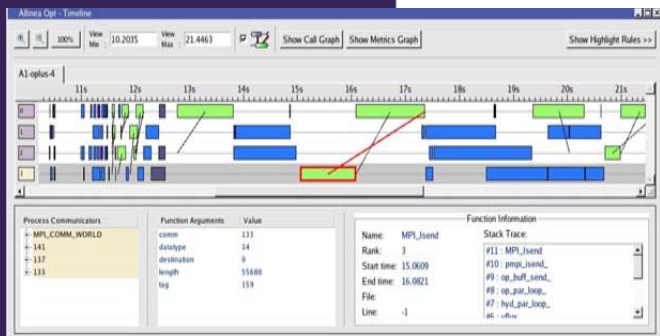
# Current Scalability

- **What has been achieved in last 12 months?**
- **Scalable GUI**
  - For the first time debug 5,000 with same ease as 100
  - At a glance full stack and status of all processes
- **10x improvement in scale limits**
  - Iterative improvement has brought benefit
  - Debugging 5,000 processes is comfortable
  - Regular users at 4096 cores
  - Test rig emulating 16,000 cores at native speed
- **High end platforms**
  - BlueGene/P support added to list Q3/08
  - Cray XT4, XT5 users at scale
  - Ranger at TACC – Infiniband Sun Constellation cluster

# Latest results with DDT



- **Good for all of most of today's systems**
  - Highly parallel architecture has served us well
    - All process debugging done on parallel nodes
    - GUI interprets and displays results
    - Some system architectures better than others..
  - GUI already scales for presentation
    - Permits new tools – eg. plugin MPI checkers
- **Tomorrow: Need to beat linear performance**
  - “Infinitely scalable” performance via multi-level network



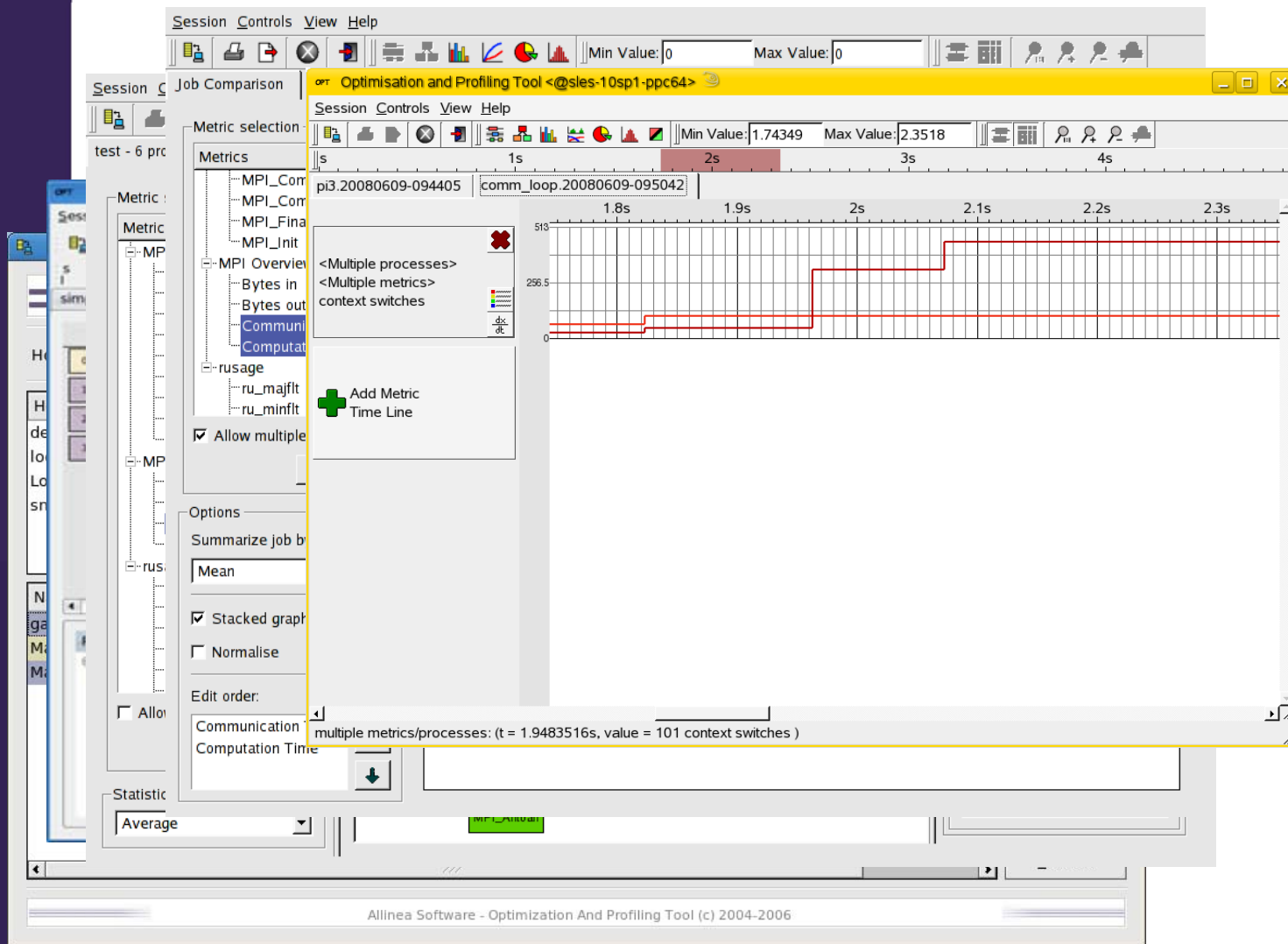
- **Traditional tracers**
  - Timelines:
    - Good for watching messages and memory accesses to pick out problems visually
  - But not easily scalable!
- **Can log everything but...**
  - Vast quantities of data are generated
  - Is it really necessary?
  - Analysis becomes an expert task
- **Is MPI the only game in parallel computing?**
  - Of course not...
  - Cell, GPU, desktop multi-core
  - New programming models, new challenges

# ...Keep It Simple

- **Focus is the key!**
  - Too much visual information can be confusing
  - Good parallel tools should simplify things
  - Tools should target the areas which cause problems
  - Directing the user towards the problem points...
- **Allinea OPT**
  - A 'top-down' focused approach:
    - See the “big picture” first – call graph
    - Drill down successively for more information..
  - Don't drown users (or system!) in too much data
    - Mixture of sampling and selective tracing
  - Supports most cluster flavours, and IBM/Sony Cell
    - New: IBM BlueGene/P support

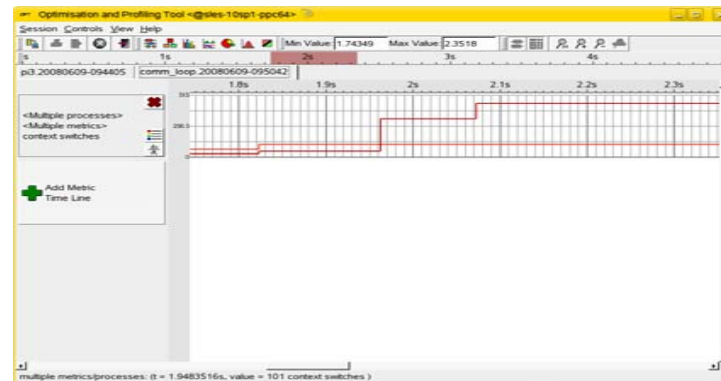


# OPT – Making Optimization Easier



# Optimizing Hybrids

- **How do we optimize hybrids?**
  - Can traditional products extend to GPU, or Cell?
- **Need to show core behaviour**
  - It's where the most computation happens..
  - No simple “gprof” support yet for most hybrids
- **Need to measure data transfer costs and offloaded op times**
- **OPT now available for Cell**
  - Shows SPU and PPU actual processor usage per function



Flat Profile

Name	Self seconds	Cumulative seconds
ray_soa:IterateInt...	299.339	672.106
ray_soa:main	292.903	1405.150
_IO_vfprintf	239.388	239.388
ray_soa:quatMult4	142.791	142.791
ray_soa:_sqrtf4	112.213	112.213
ray_soa:quatSq4	107.799	107.799
ray_soa:_dot_produ...	101.498	101.498
ray_soa:intersect0...	80.538	1014.580

Filter...

- **Architectural complexity is already here**
- **Scale is coming**
  - Top 500 June 2008 – 30 systems with > 10,000 cores
- **Debugging and optimizing at scale**
  - Some problems appear only at scale
  - Need scalable debugging performance
  - Need a scalable GUI: the brain is the bottleneck
- **Yet, we must continue to innovate at a lower scale**
  - Most problems are solved at lower scale – even on the larger systems
  - How many systems are < 10,000 cores?
  - Persistent and reverse debugging MPI and scalar codes in DDT 2.4
- **Our goal**
  - Make picking up a tool easier, more instinctive, than printf
  - Bugs get fixed faster with debuggers

# allinea

SCALE TO NEW HEIGHTS

*Thank you*

**allinea ddt**  
the distributed debugging tool



[sales@allinea.com](mailto:sales@allinea.com)  
[support@allinea.com](mailto:support@allinea.com)



**allinea opt**  
the optimization and profiling tool



[sales@allinea.com](mailto:sales@allinea.com)  
[support@allinea.com](mailto:support@allinea.com)

