

linaroforge

# Debugging and Optimizing parallel codes with Linaro Forge

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# Agenda

- 10 minute introduction
- 45 minute DDT lecture
- 45 minute DDT hands-on
- 20 minute break
- 45 minute MAP and Performance Reports lecture
- 45 minute MAP and Performance Reports hands-on

# Linaro Forge: Where Most of Top Supercomputers turn for Performance Excellence

Build reliable and optimized code on multiple Server and HPC architectures

## Linaro Forge combines



### Linaro DDT

Market leading, simple to use HPC debugger for C/C++, Fortran and Python applications.



### Linaro MAP

Effortless performance analysis for experts and novices alike.



### Linaro Performance Reports

At a glance, single-page, application performance summary.

**Performance Engineering for any architecture, at any scale**

# Linaro Forge

## An interoperable toolkit for debugging and profiling



### The de-facto standard for HPC development

- Most widely-used debugging and profiling suite in HPC
- Fully supported by Linaro on Intel, AMD, Arm, Nvidia, AMD GPUs, etc.



### State-of-the art debugging and profiling capabilities

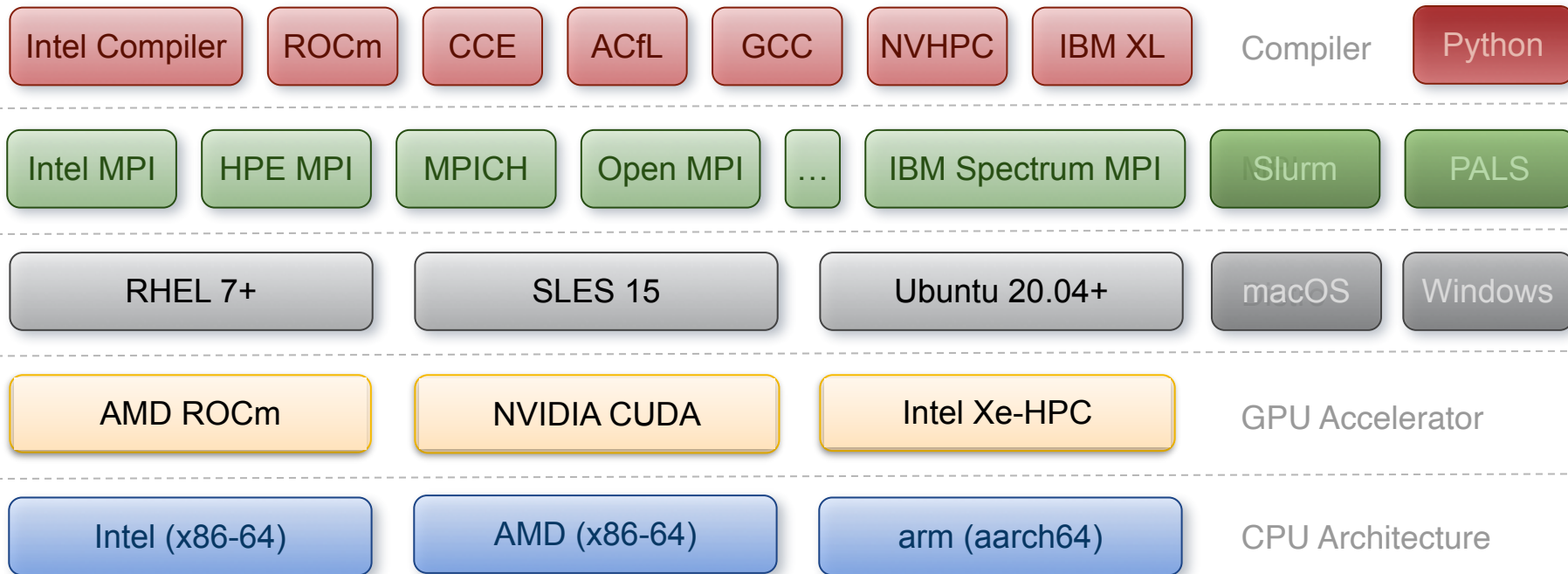
- Powerful and in-depth error detection mechanisms (including memory debugging)
- Sampling-based profiler to identify and understand bottlenecks
- Available at any scale (from serial to exascale applications)



### Easy to use by everyone

- Unique capabilities to simplify remote interactive sessions
- Innovative approach to present quintessential information to users

# Supported Platforms



# Bug classification

- Crashes
  - One or more processes in application terminates
  - Most common and generally easiest to solve
- Hangs
  - Deadlocks - Stuck waiting for something that never happens
  - Livelocks - Making local progress, but no global progress
- Race conditions
  - One or more threads accessing the same data at the same time in non deterministic way
  - Shows up as incorrect answer or sometimes crashes



## DDT UI

- 1 Process controls
- 2 Process groups
- 3 Source Code view
- 4 Variables
- 5 Evaluate window
- 6 Parallel Stack
- 7 Project files
- 8 Find a file or function

The screenshot displays the DDT interface with several key components highlighted by numbered circles:

- 1**: Process controls toolbar at the top.
- 2**: Process group summary table showing 'All' (512 processes), 'Group 1' (256 processes), and 'Group 2' (171 processes).
- 3**: Source code editor showing the 'hello.c' file with MPI-related code.
- 4**: Locals window displaying variable values such as 'argc' (1), 'my\_rank' (1), and 'x + y' (10012).
- 5**: Evaluate window showing the expression 'x + y' evaluated to 10012.
- 6**: Stacks (All) window showing the current stack frame for 'main (hello.c:148)'. The 'Processes' list shows process 511 at the selected function.
- 7**: Project Files tree on the left showing the 'Application Code' and 'Sources' directories.
- 8**: Search (Ctrl+K) field for finding files or functions.

# Linaro DDT Debugger Highlights

Tracepoint	Process	Value logged
show #0:05	976, main	12,14,17,22,23,12
show #0:01	960, main	12,14,17,22,23,12
show #0:05	942, main	12,14,17,22,23,12
show #0:01	926, main	12,14,17,22,23,12
show #0:05	910, main	12,14,17,22,23,12
show #0:01	894, main	12,14,17,22,23,12
show #0:05	878, main	12,14,17,22,23,12
show #0:01	862, main	12,14,17,22,23,12

The scalable print alternative

```

for (i = 0; i < SIZE_M; i++)
  for (j = 0; j < SIZE_N; j++)
    C[i][j] = 0;

for (i = 0; i < SIZE_M; i++)
  for (j = 0; j < SIZE_N; j++)
    for (k = 0; k < SIZE_O; k++)
      C[i][j] += A[i][k] * B[k][j];
  
```

Program Stopped

Process 0:  
Process stopped at watchpoint "rank" in main (watchmatrix.c:45).

Old value: 0  
New value: 1074790400

Always show this window for watchpoints

Stop on variable change

```

if (hello.c)
  for (i = 0; i < SIZE_M; i++)
    for (j = 0; j < SIZE_N; j++)
      C[i][j] += A[i][k] * B[k][j];
  }
}
  
```

Static analysis warnings on code errors

```

if (argv[i] && !strcmp(argv[i], "crash")) {
  argv[i] = 0;
  printf("%s", "(char *)argv[i]");
}
/* we shall see */
}

func1();

func2();
fprintf(stderr, "i
beingMatched = 1;

test.anotherList.o
test.c = 'p';
beingMatched = 0;
  
```

Program Stopped

Processes 0-3:

Memory error detected in main (hello.c:118):

null pointer dereference or unaligned memory access

Note: the latter may sometimes occur spuriously if guard pages are enabled

Tip: Use the stack list and the local variables to explore your program's current state and identify the source of the error.

Detect read/write beyond array bounds

Memory Usage for "hello\_group (1048810)

Memory Usage:  by process

Stack Usage:  by process

Allocation Details

Detect stale memory allocations

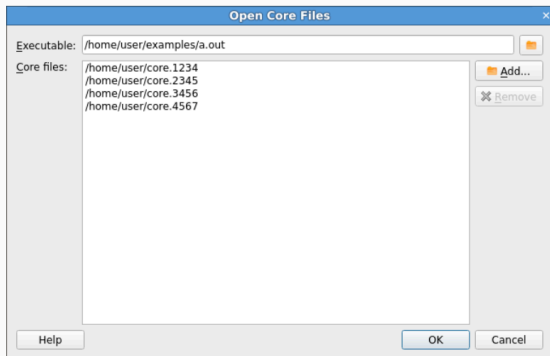


# Core files

You can open and debug one or more core files generated by your application.

## Procedure

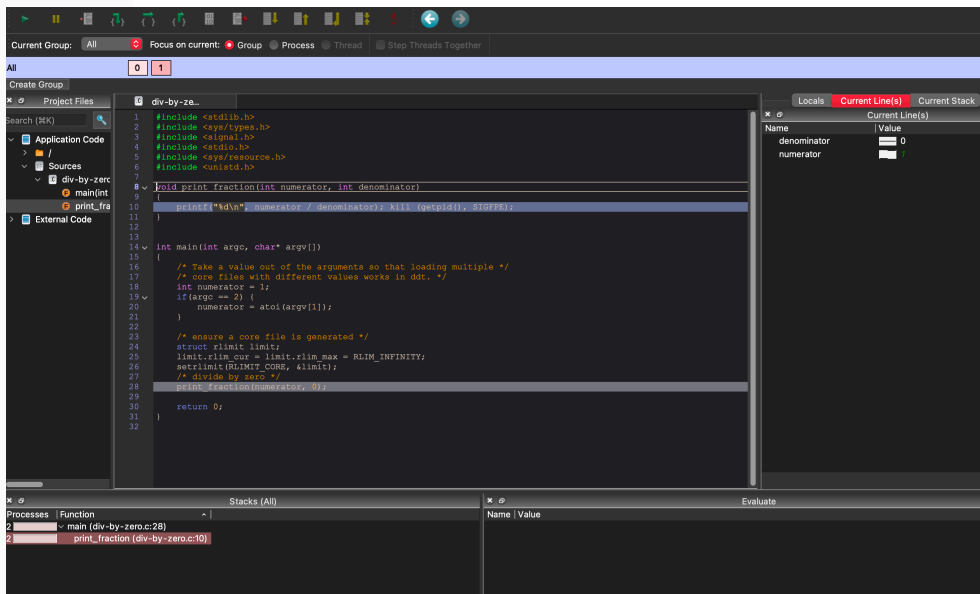
1. On the Welcome page click **Open Core Files**. The **Open Core Files** window opens.



2. Select an executable and a set of core files, then click **OK** to open the core files and start debugging them.

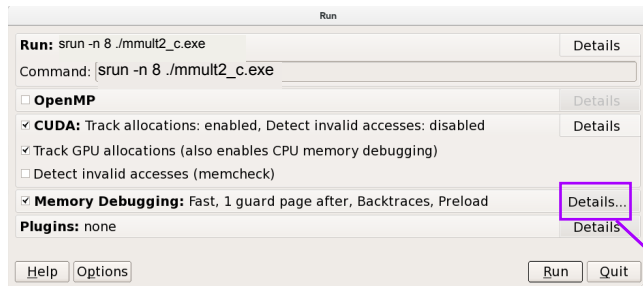
### Note

While Linaro DDT is in this mode, you cannot play, pause, or step, because there is no process active. You are, however, able to evaluate expressions and browse the variables and stack frames saved in the core files.

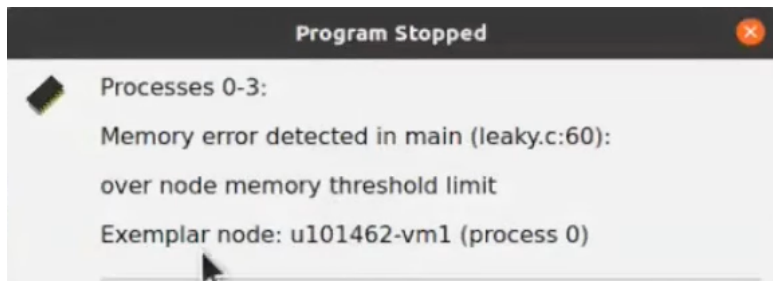
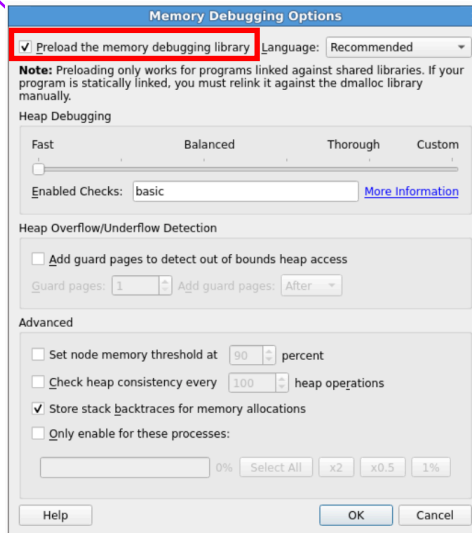


- View core files for CPU's
- View core files for GPU's

# Memory debugging menu in Linaro DDT



When manual linking is used,  
untick "Preload" box





# DDT: Production-scale debugging

## Isolate and investigate faults at scale

### Who misbehaved?

- Merge stacks from processes and threads
- Sparklines comparing data across processes
- Which MPI rank

### Where is the problem?

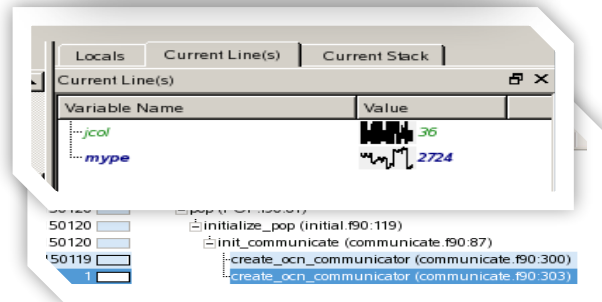
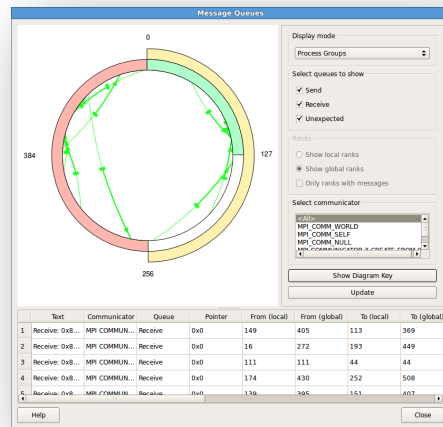
- Integrated source code editor
- Dynamic data structure visualization

### How did it happen?

- Parse diagnostic messages
- Trace variables through execution

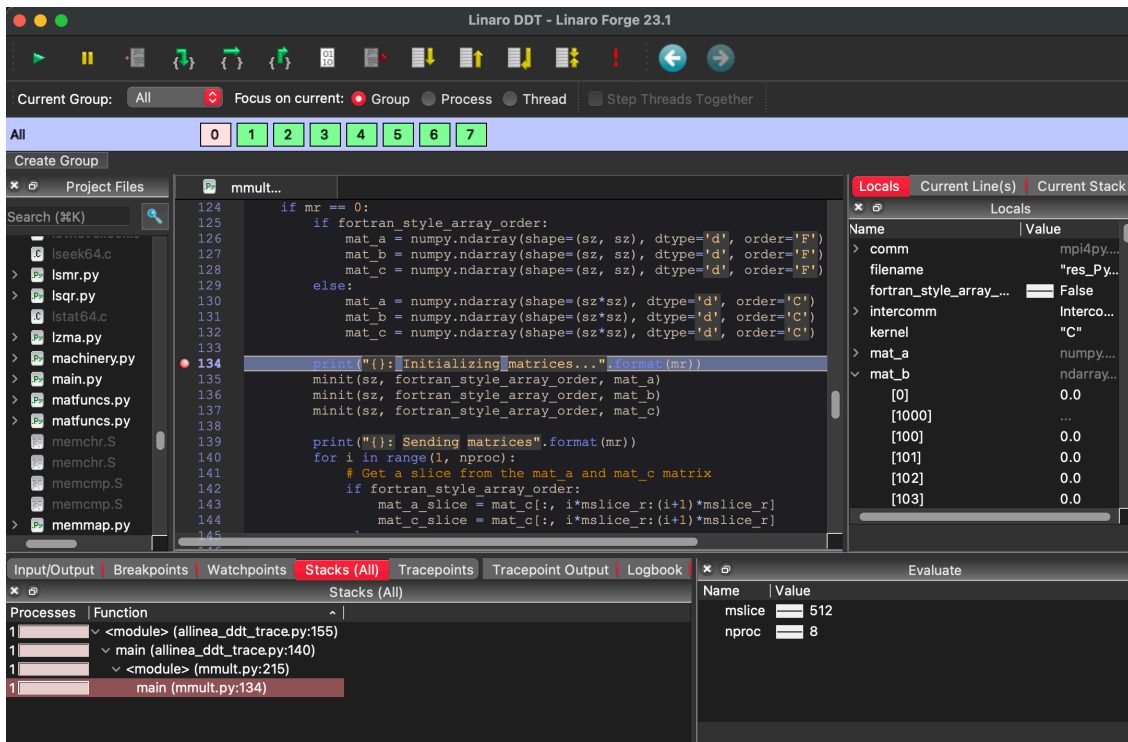
### Why did it happen?

- Unique “Smart Highlighting”
- Experiment with variable values



# Python Debugging

- Debug Features
  - Sparklines for Python variables
  - Tracepoints
  - MDA viewer
  - Mixed language support
- Improved Evaluations:
  - Matrix objects
  - Array objects
  - Pandas DataFrame
  - Series objects
- Python Specific:
  - Stop on uncaught Python exception
  - Show F-string variables
  - Mpi4py, NumPy, SciPy



```

ddt --connect srun -n 8 python3
%allinea_python_debug% ./mmult.py
  
```

# Debugging Nvidia GPUs

## Using Linaro DDT

Debug code simultaneously on Nvidia Ampere GPUs

Controlling the GPU execution:

- All active threads in a warp will execute in lockstep. Therefore, DDT will step 32 threads at a time.
- Play/Continue runs all GPU threads
- Pause will pause a running kernel

Key (additional) GPU features:

- Kernel Progress View
- GPU thread in parallel stack view
- GPU Thread Selector
- GPU Device Pane

For NVIDIA's nvcc compiler, kernels must be compiled with the -g and -G flags

The screenshot displays the Linaro DDT interface for debugging a GPU kernel. The main window shows the source code for a matrix multiplication kernel. The code includes headers for `<iostream>`, `<vector>`, `<omp.h>`, and `<mpi.h>`. It defines a template function `saxpy_op` and a global function `saxpy`. The kernel is launched with `saxpy_op`. The interface shows the current group as 'All', the current block as 167, and the current thread as 966. The grid size is 792x1x1 and the block size is 1024x1x1. The bottom panel shows the Kernel Progress View with a progress bar for the kernel 'saxpy<int>'. The right panel shows the GPU Devices pane with details for the GPU device.

Name	Value
a	2
x	0xffff6a7f18
y	0xffff6ea7f18
xv	<unavailable>
yy	<unavailable>

GPU Devices	Evaluate
GPU Devices	
Attribute Name	Value
~ Ranks 0-31	
~ GRT100GL-B	4 Devices
IDs	0-3
Compute Capability	sm_90
Number of SAs	132
Warpes per SM	64
Lanes per Warp	32
Registers per Lane	255

# Run DDT in offline mode

Run the application under DDT and halt or report when a failure occurs

You can run the debugger in non-interactive mode



- For long-running jobs / debugging at very high scale
- For automated testing, continuous integration...

To do so, use following arguments:

- `$ ddt --offline --output=report.html srun ./jacobi_omp_mpi_gnu.exe`
  - `--offline` enable non-interactive debugging
  - `--output` specifies the name and output of the non-interactive debugging session
    - Html
    - Txt
  - Add `--mem-debug` to enable memory debugging **and memory leak detection**

```
ddt --offline -o jacobi_omp_mpi_gnu_debug.txt \  
--trace-at _jacobi.F90:83,residual \  
srun ./jacobi_omp_mpi_gnu.exe
```

# Report output

12		0:08.188	0-3	Process stopped at breakpoint in update (wave.c:216).																																																																								
13				<p>Additional Information</p> <p>▼ Stacks</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Processes</th> <th>Threads</th> <th>Function</th> <th>Source</th> <th>Variables</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>0-3</td> <td>4</td> <td>main (wave.c:334)</td> <td>► iterations = update(left, right);</td> <td>► Rank 0, thread 1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>0-3</td> <td>4</td> <td>update (wave.c:216)</td> <td>► values[j] = newval[j];</td> <td>▼ Rank 0, thread 1</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4"></td> <td> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Name</th> <th>Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>i</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>iterations</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>j</td> <td>101</td> </tr> <tr> <td>left</td> <td>-2 (from -2 to 2)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>now</td> <td>&lt;aggregate value&gt;</td> </tr> <tr> <td>right</td> <td>1 (from -2 to 3)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>stop</td> <td>0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> </td> </tr> <tr> <td>0-3</td> <td>8</td> <td>progress_engine</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>0-3</td> <td>8</td> <td>opal_libevent2022_event_base_loop (event.c:1630)</td> <td></td> <td>► Rank 0, thread 2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>0-3</td> <td>4</td> <td>poll_dispatch (poll.c:165)</td> <td></td> <td>► Rank 0, thread 2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>0-3</td> <td>4</td> <td>poll</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>0-3</td> <td>4</td> <td>epoll_dispatch (epoll.c:407)</td> <td></td> <td>► Rank 0, thread 3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>0-3</td> <td>4</td> <td>epoll_wait</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>▶ Current Stack</p> <p>▼ Evaluate</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Name</th> <th>Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>3*j*j</td> <td>30603</td> </tr> <tr> <td>j</td> <td>101</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Processes	Threads	Function	Source	Variables	0-3	4	main (wave.c:334)	► iterations = update(left, right);	► Rank 0, thread 1	0-3	4	update (wave.c:216)	► values[j] = newval[j];	▼ Rank 0, thread 1					<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Name</th> <th>Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>i</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>iterations</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>j</td> <td>101</td> </tr> <tr> <td>left</td> <td>-2 (from -2 to 2)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>now</td> <td>&lt;aggregate value&gt;</td> </tr> <tr> <td>right</td> <td>1 (from -2 to 3)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>stop</td> <td>0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Name	Value	i	0	iterations	1	j	101	left	-2 (from -2 to 2)	now	<aggregate value>	right	1 (from -2 to 3)	stop	0	0-3	8	progress_engine			0-3	8	opal_libevent2022_event_base_loop (event.c:1630)		► Rank 0, thread 2	0-3	4	poll_dispatch (poll.c:165)		► Rank 0, thread 2	0-3	4	poll			0-3	4	epoll_dispatch (epoll.c:407)		► Rank 0, thread 3	0-3	4	epoll_wait			Name	Value	3*j*j	30603	j	101
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# 9 Step Guide

## Optimizing high performance applications

Improving the efficiency of your parallel software holds the key to solving more complex research problems faster.

This pragmatic, 9 Step best practice guide, will help you identify and focus on application readiness, bottlenecks and optimizations one step at a time.

### Bugs

- Correct application

### Analyze before you optimize

- Measure all performance aspects. You can't fix what you can't see.
- Prefer real workloads over artificial tests.

### I/O

- Discover lines of code spending a long time in I/O.
- Trace and debug slow access patterns.

### Workloads

- Detect issues with balance.
- Slow communication calls and processes. Dive into partitioning code.

### Communication

- Track communication performance.
- Discover which communication calls are slow and why.

### Memory

- Reveal lines of code bottlenecked by memory access times.
- Trace allocation and use of hot data structure

### Vectorization

- Understand numerical intensity and vectorization level.
- Hot loops, unvectorized code and GPU performance revealed

### Cores

- Discover synchronization overhead and core utilization
- Synchronization-heavy code and implicit barriers are revealed

### Verification

- Validate corrections and optimal performance

# Linaro Performance Reports

Characterize and understand the performance of HPC application runs



Commercially supported  
by Linaro

## Gather a rich set of data

- Analyses metric around CPU, memory, IO, hardware counters, etc.
- Possibility for users to add their own metrics



Accurate and  
Astute insight

## Build a culture of application performance & efficiency awareness

- Analyses data and reports the information that matters to users
- Provides simple guidance to help improve workloads' efficiency



Relevant advice  
to avoid pitfalls

## Adds value to typical users' workflows

- Define application behaviour and performance expectations
- Integrate outputs to various systems for validation (eg. continuous integration)
- Can be automated completely (no user intervention)

# Linaro Performance Reports

A high-level view of application performance with “plain English” insights

Command: `srun -host node-1, node-2 -map-by socket -n 16 -ppn 8 ./Bin/low_freq/../../Src//hydro -i ./Bin/low_freq/../../Input/input_250x125_corner.nml`

Resources: 2 nodes (8 physical, 8 logical cores per node)

Memory: 15 GiB per node

Tasks: 16 processes, OMP\_NUM\_THREADS was 1

Machine: node-1

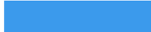
Start time: Thu Jul 9 2015 10:32:13

Total time: 165 seconds (about 3 minutes)

Full path: Bin/../../Src

Summary: hydro is **MPI-bound** in this configuration

Compute 20.6% 

MPI 63.2% 

I/O 16.2% 

Time spent running application code. High values are usually good. This is **very low**; focus on improving MPI or I/O performance first

Time spent in MPI calls. High values are usually bad. This is **high**; check the MPI breakdown for advice on reducing it

Time spent in filesystem I/O. High values are usually bad. This is **average**; check the I/O breakdown section for optimization advice

## I/O

A breakdown of the 16.2% I/O time:

Time in reads 0.0% |

Time in writes 100.0% 

Effective process read rate 0.00 bytes/s |

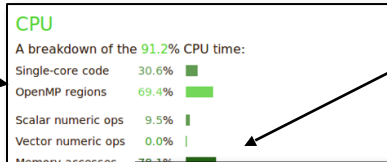
Effective process write rate 1.38 MB/s 

Most of the time is spent in **write operations** with a very low effective transfer rate. This may be caused by contention for the filesystem or inefficient access patterns. Use an I/O profiler to investigate which write calls are affected.

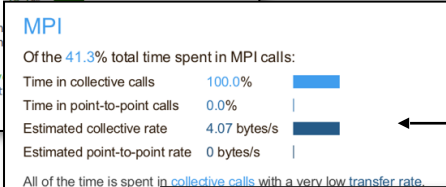
# Linaro Performance Reports Metrics

Lowers expertise requirements by explaining everything in detail right in the report

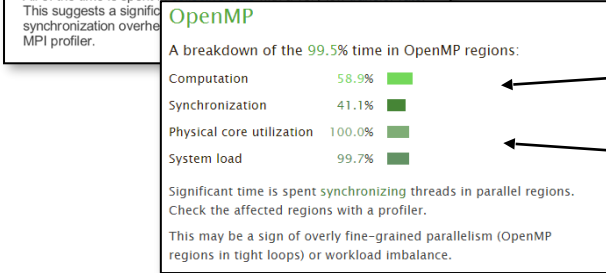
Multi-threaded parallelism



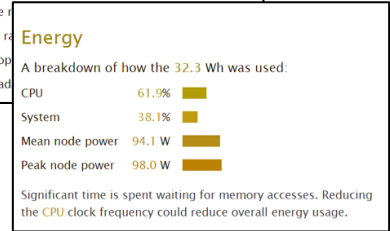
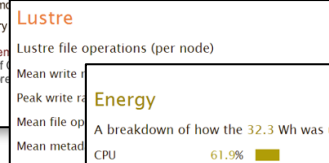
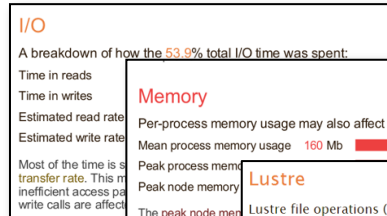
SIMD parallelism



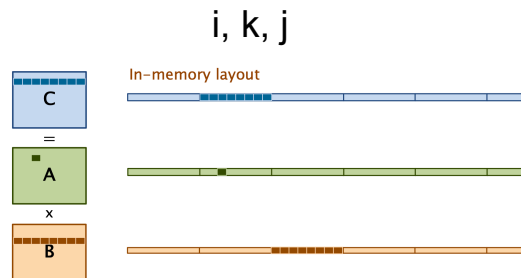
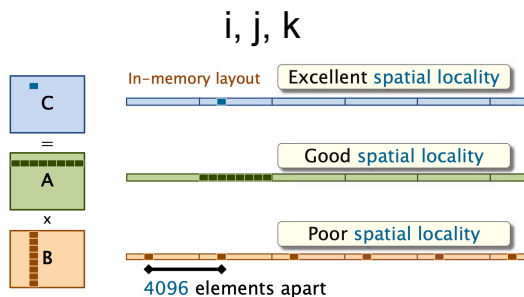
Load imbalance



OMP efficiency  
System usage



# Performance Improvement



Think,



code,

```

i, j, k
for (int i = 0; i < n; ++i) {
  for (int j = 0; j < n; ++j) {
    for (int k = 0; k < n; ++k) {
      C[i][j] += A[i][k] * B[k][j];
    }
  }
}
    
```



run, run, run...



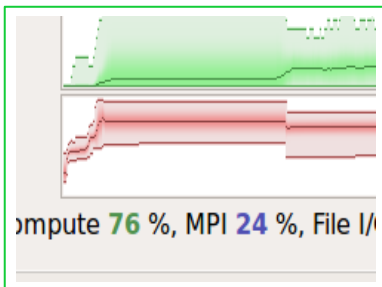
...to test and measure many different implementations

Loop order (outer to inner)	Running time (s)
i, j, k	1155.77
i, k, j	177.68
j, i, k	1080.61
j, k, i	3056.63
k, i, j	179.21
k, j, i	3032.82

```

i, k, j
for (int i = 0; i < n; ++i) {
  for (int k = 0; k < n; ++k) {
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      C[i][j] += A[i][k] * B[k][j];
    }
  }
}
    
```

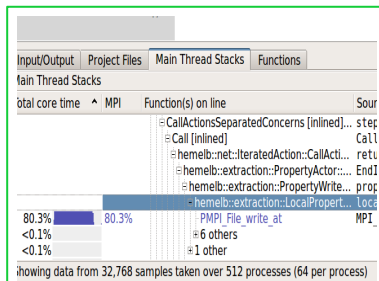
# Linaro MAP Source Code Profiler Highlights



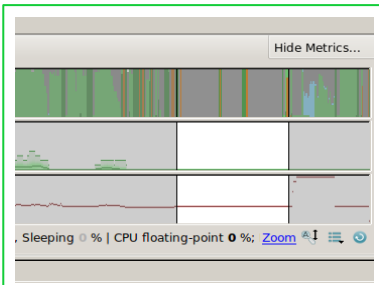
Find the peak memory use



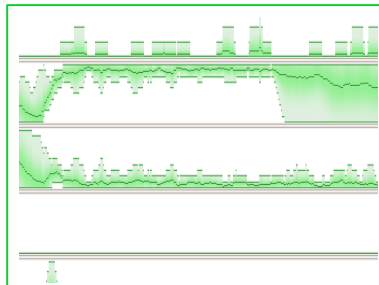
Fix an MPI imbalance



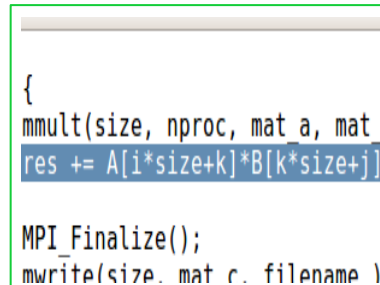
Remove I/O bottleneck



Make sure OpenMP regions make sense



Improve memory access



Restructure for vectorization

# MAP Capabilities

MAP is a sampling based scalable profiler

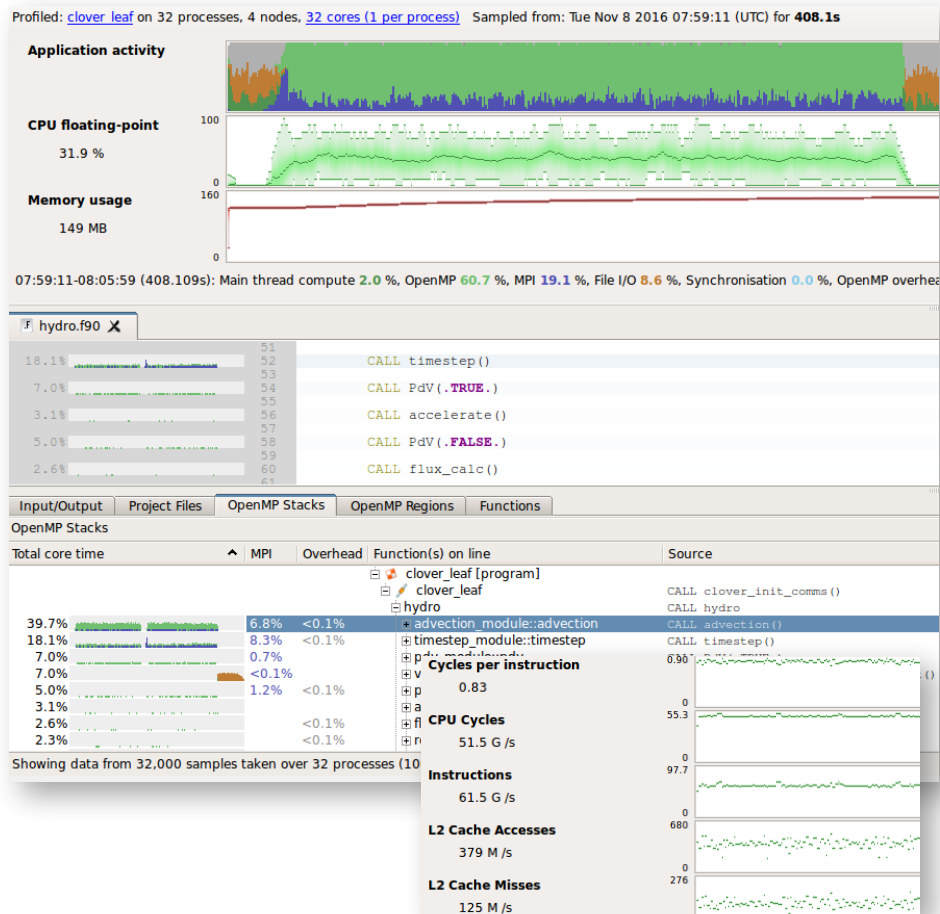
- Built on same framework as DDT
- Parallel support for MPI, OpenMP, CUDA
- Designed for C/C++/Fortran

Designed for 'hot-spot' analysis

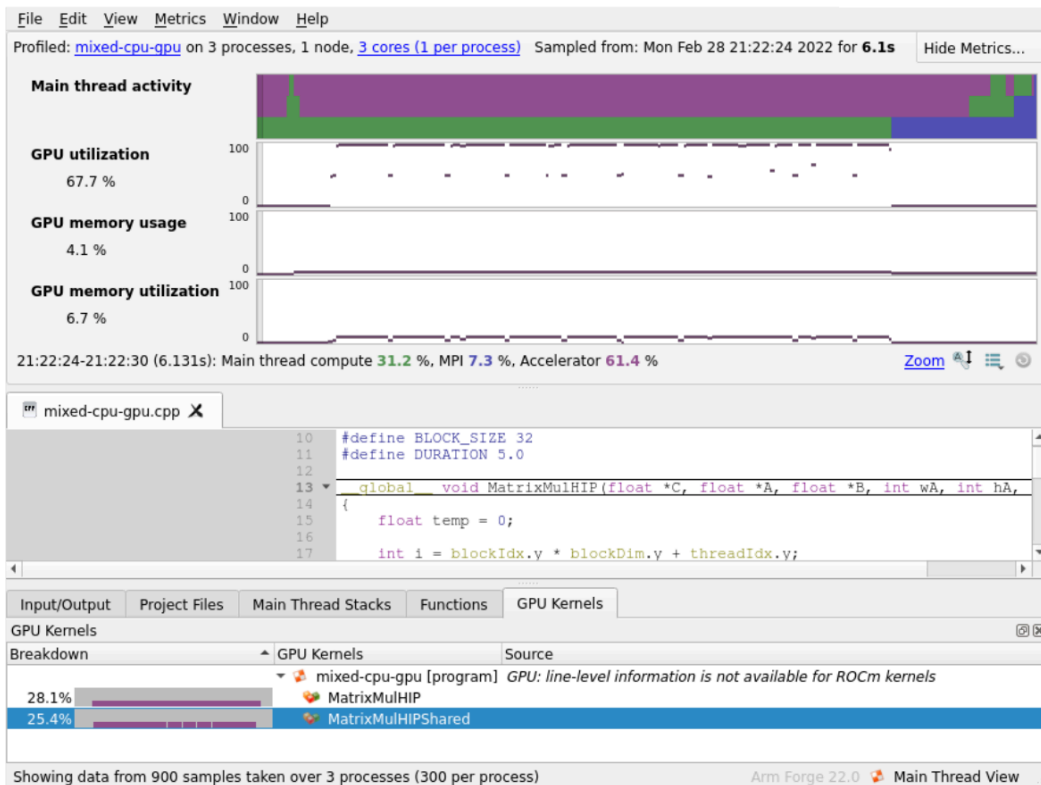
- Stack traces
- Augmented with performance metrics

Adaptive sampling rate

- Throws data away - 1,000 samples per process
- Low overhead, scalable and small file size



# GPU Profiling



## Profile

- Supports both AMD and Nvidia GPUs
- Able to bring up metadata of the profile
- Mixed CPU [green] / GPU [purple] application
- CPU time waiting for GPU Kernels [purple]
- GPU Kernels graph indicating Kernel activity

## GUI information

- GUI is consistent across platforms
- Zoom into main thread activity
- Ranked by highest contributors to app time



# Python Profiling

## 19.0 adds support for Python

- Call stacks
- Time in interpreter

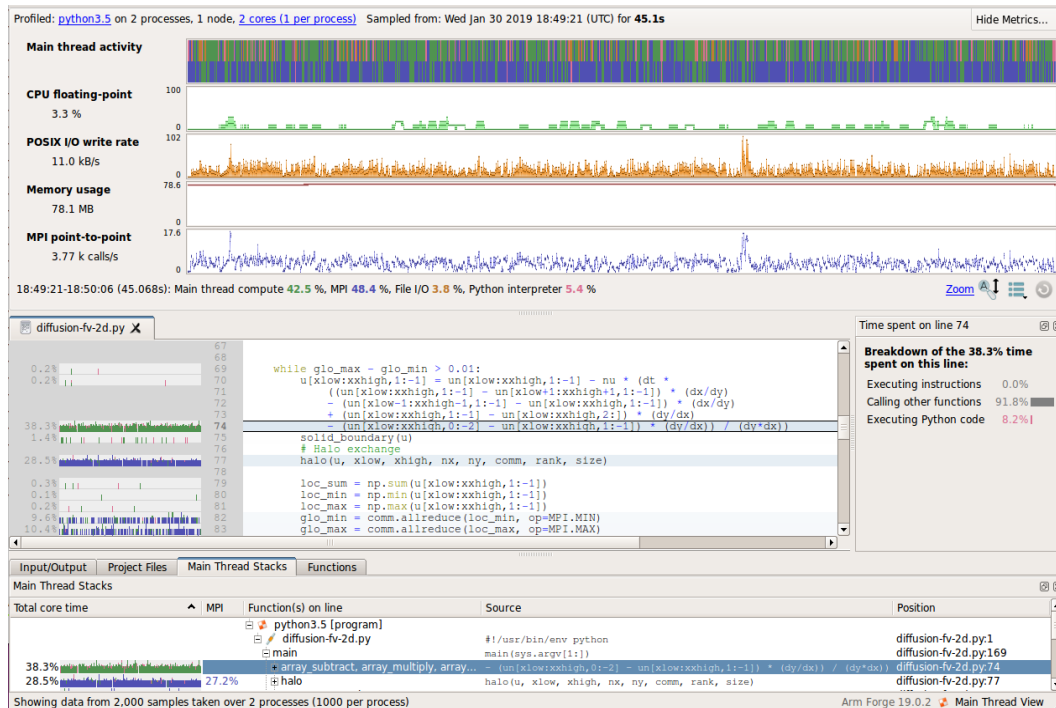
## Works with MPI4PY

- Usual MAP metrics

## Source code view

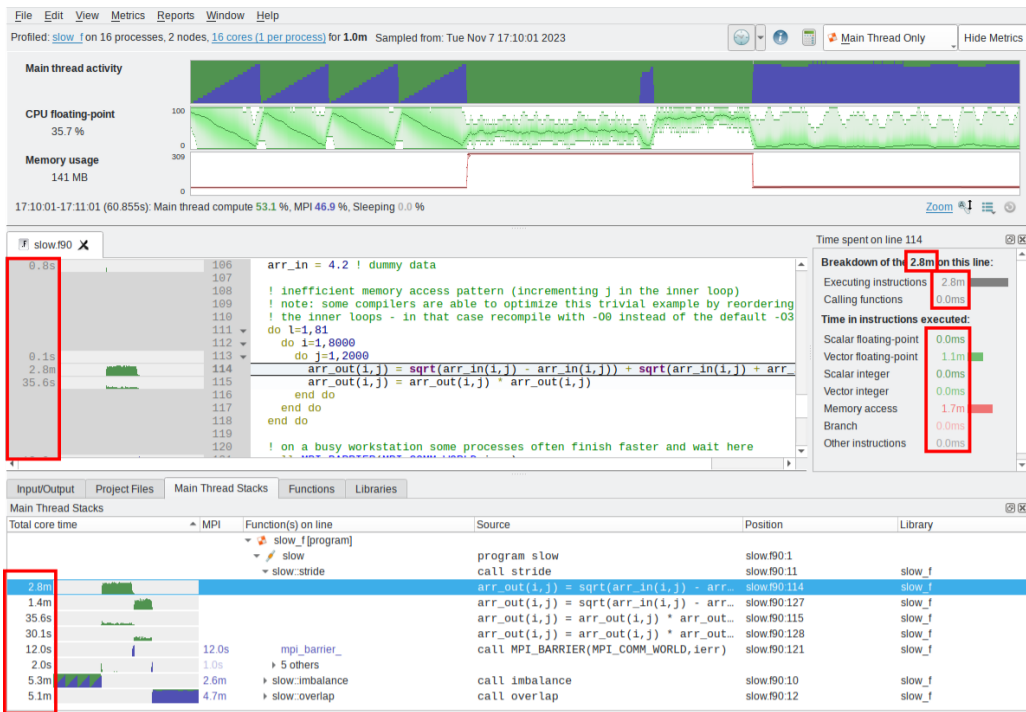
- Mixed language support

Note: Green as operation is on numpy array, so backed by C routine, not Python (which would be pink)



```
map --profile srun -n 2 python ./diffusion-fv-2d.py
```

# Toggle percentage-time and core-time in MAP

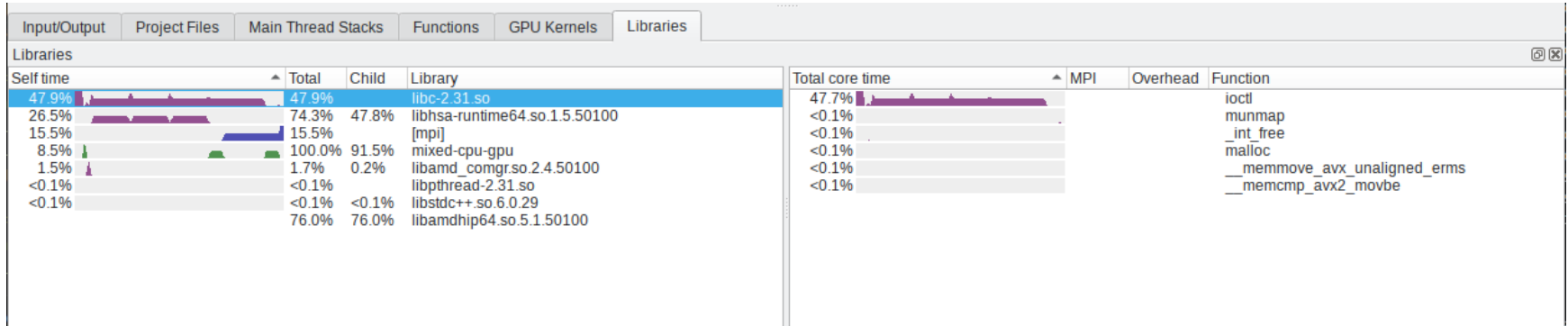


Use for direct comparisons between runs at the same scale (process/core counts).

- Easily determine if a change has made a portion of code faster, slower, or largely unchanged.
- Performance report automatically includes both percentage-time and core time
- Core-time is an estimation, but should be very close to the application run time

# Libraries tab in MAP

- List time spent in shared libraries (left)
- List entry point functions into the selected library (right)



Use to identify the libraries that would benefit the most from optimisation or replacement (e.g. alternative maths library or memory management implementation).

# Hardware Performance Metrics

MAP uses perf or PAPI to gather data

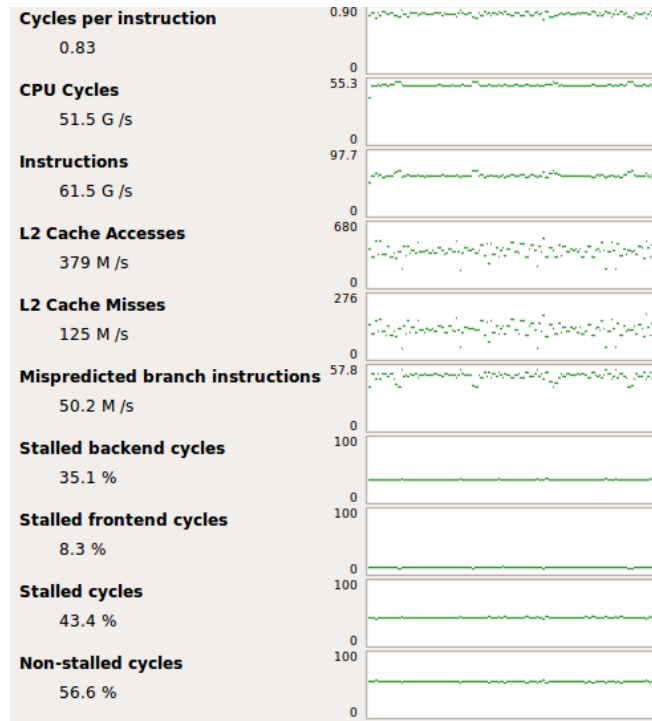
On x86 MAP reports on instruction mix

- CPU, vectorization, memory, etc
- Linaro are researching ways to provide the same

Instruction activity via perf

- Harder to read / action
- Raw rates presented - not interpolated

Welcome your feedback to improve this



# MAP Thread Affinity Advisor

**Snapshot Selector**  
Change at which point of a run the Affinity data is shown (*Library Load, Initialisation, Finalization*).

**Exemplar Nodes**  
Selectable list of exemplars, allowing ability to switch data between nodes of a run. Nodes with similar affinity/structures are merged.

**Processes List**  
List of processes (by MPI rank) of the selected exemplar. Shows the key for the node topology diagram and selecting one shows all threads for the process.

**Threads List**  
List of all threads for the selected process. Selecting threads highlights which cores they are bound to in the topology view.

Launch Command: `srun -n 16 python3 /global/homes/r/rshand/linaro-forge-training/performance/mnmt.py --s 3072`  
 Process Command: Select an individual process

Global (launcher) environment variables:

```

SLURM_CPUS_PER_TASK 16
SLURM_NPROCS 16
SLURM_NTASKS 16
SLURM_NTASKS_PER_NODE 16
cpu:16
    
```

Exemplar node's topology (shading shows process affinity bindings):

Machine: NUMANode #0

Package:

L3Cache								L3Cache								
L2Cache	L2Cache	L2Cache	L2Cache	L2Cache	L2Cache	L2Cache	L2Cache	L2Cache	L2Cache	L2Cache	L2Cache	L2Cache	L2Cache	L2Cache	L2Cache	L2Cache
L1Cache	L1Cache	L1Cache	L1Cache	L1Cache	L1Cache	L1Cache	L1Cache	L1Cache	L1Cache	L1Cache	L1Cache	L1Cache	L1Cache	L1Cache	L1Cache	L1Cache
Core	Core	Core	Core	Core	Core	Core	Core	Core	Core	Core	Core	Core	Core	Core	Core	Core
000	001	002	003	004	005	006	007	008	009	010	011	012	013	014	015	016
020	021	022	023	024	025	026	027	028	029	030	031	032	033	034	035	036

NUMANode #1

L3Cache								L3Cache								
L2Cache	L2Cache	L2Cache	L2Cache	L2Cache	L2Cache	L2Cache	L2Cache	L2Cache	L2Cache	L2Cache	L2Cache	L2Cache	L2Cache	L2Cache	L2Cache	L2Cache
L1Cache	L1Cache	L1Cache	L1Cache	L1Cache	L1Cache	L1Cache	L1Cache	L1Cache	L1Cache	L1Cache	L1Cache	L1Cache	L1Cache	L1Cache	L1Cache	L1Cache
Core	Core	Core	Core	Core	Core	Core	Core	Core	Core	Core	Core	Core	Core	Core	Core	Core
040	041	042	043	044	045	046	047	048	049	050	051	052	053	054	055	056
060	061	062	063	064	065	066	067	068	069	070	071	072	073	074	075	076

NUMANode #2

(multiple items selected)

Process-specific env vars (ranks 0,4):

```

SLURM_DEBUG 2 (r)
quik SLURM_CPU_BIND
quik SLURM_CPU_BIND_LIST
quik SLURM_CPU_BIND_LIST
quik D_TYPE
quik D_VERBOSE
quik TION
quik 0,1,
quik _NODE_IPADDR 128
quik SLURM_LOCALID 4 (r)
quik SLURM_MPLTYPE cray
    
```

Data taken at: Finalization

Available exemplar nodes:  
nid004343 (0 similar nodes)

Processes on exemplar node:

Rank 0 (PID 1166384)	Blue
Rank 1 (PID 1166385)	Green
Rank 2 (PID 1166387)	Red
Rank 3 (PID 1166389)	Orange
Rank 4 (PID 1166391)	Yellow
Rank 5 (PID 1166393)	Grey

Threads in selected processes:

- pthread (LWP 1167177) 000-0
- pthread (LWP 1166919) 000-0
- Main thread (LWP 1166384) 000-0
- pthread (LWP 1167181) 032-0
- pthread (LWP 1166929) 032-0
- Main thread (LWP 1166391) 032-0

Commentary:

```

[ERROR] nid004343, ranks 0-16 (processes 1166384-1166385,1166387,1166389,1166391,1166393-1166394,1166397,1166399,1166401,1166403,1166405,1166407,1166409,1166411,1166413) contain at least one compute thread which has an overlapping thread affinity mask with another compute thread, e.g. threads 1166391 and 1166929.
[INFORMATION] nid004343, number of threads allocated to node may be less than ideal. 48 are currently allocated, but consider using 128 (1 per core) for improved utilization.
    
```

**Global (launcher) environment variables**  
List of Environment Variables which were set at launch which might be relevant to how threads are distributed.

**Process-specific env vars**  
List of Environment Variables which might affect the affinity of a given rank.

**Commentary**  
A list of commentary, providing information and advice on Memory Imbalance, Core Utilization etc.



# Thank you

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