

28th January 2015 BDEC European Workshop 1



# THE CRESTA PROJECT




Professor Mark Parsons  
 EPCC Executive Director  
 Associate Dean for e-Research  
 Alison Kennedy  
 EPCC Executive Director




28th January 2015 BDEC European Workshop 2

## Collaborative Research into Exascale Systemware, Tools and Applications

- Exascale Systemware
- 3.5 years - €100M
- Leading European partners
- EPCC - UK
- HLRS - Germany
- CSC - Sweden
- KTH - Sweden
- A world leader
- Cray UK
- World leader
- Technische Universität München (TUM) - Germany
- Allinea Ltd - UK







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### A hardware *and* software challenge

- Based on current technology roadmaps Exascale systems will be impossible to build below 50MW
  - GPUs and Xeon Phi plus traditional multi-core microprocessors, memory hierarchies and even with embedded DRAM can't get to 20MW
- The Exascale exponential data flow hierarchies inside the chip, well balanced components
- The solution will require processors with communications
- But these solutions **INC** of parallelism
  - Today's leader scales to 92 million cores and 526MW at the Exascale
- Slower better balanced cores means parallelism at the 500 million – 1 billion thread scale

Hardware is leaving software behind – many codes scale badly today






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### At the Exascale software leaves algorithms behind

- Few mathematical algorithms are designed with parallelism in mind
  - ... parallelism is "just a matter of implementation" is the mind-set
- This approach generates much software components are custom-built for each application
  - ... but the years of development and users are reluctant to change
- Strongly believe that software model and simulate are the key Exascale challenges
  - Without funding many areas will be limited ... and no systems
  - But it's not just a case of ... it's much more difficult
- This doesn't just apply to Exascale
  - It's apparent at the Petascale if you look
- And we have a huge skills and tools gap ...

Software and how we model and simulate are the key Exascale challenges

28th January 2015 BDEC European Workshop 5

### Key principles behind CRESTA

- Two strand project
  - Building and exploring appropriate systems
  - Enabling a set of key *co-design* applications
- Co-design is at the heart of the project
  - provide guidance and feedback to the user
  - integrate and benefit from this development into the physical process
- Employing both incremental and disruptive solutions
  - Exascale requires both approaches
  - Particularly true for applications at the limit of cooling today
  - Solutions will be incremental
- Committed to co-design
  - Through optimisations, performance modelling and co-design application feedback
  - Look to achieve maximum performance at exascale and understand limitations e.g. through sub-domains, overlap of compute and comms

**Disruptive approach**

- Work with co-design applications to consider alternative algorithms
- Crucial we understand maximum performance before very major application redesigns undertaken

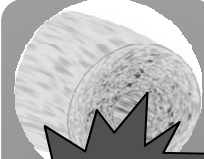
**Incremental approach**

- Through optimisations, performance modelling and co-design application feedback
- Look to achieve maximum performance at exascale and understand limitations e.g. through sub-domains, overlap of compute and comms

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### Co-design applications



**Exascale 3D decomposition and visualisation**

Simulation of plasma behavior in large scale fusion reactors


An almost complete code restructuring  
Radical reduction of memory consumption per core



**Code reorg for Exascale + ensemble engine + FMM electrostatics**

- Computational material and drug design
- 10M atom simulation

Coupling strong scaling techniques with ensemble scaling



**Physics for Exascale + performance/scaling of LB**

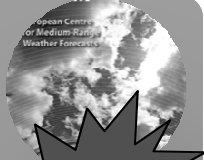
Medical simulations to help surgeries  
Brain aneurysm simulation

Pre- and post-processing and load balancing  
Hybridisation, restructuring scaling

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28th January 2015 BDEC European Workshop 7

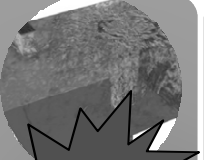
### Co-design applications



**Parallel radiation co-model + cubic grid + ompSs experiments**

Simulation of the trajectory of hurricane Sandy

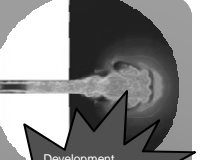
Acceleration  
Task-graph based parallelization  
New communication models



**GPGPU engine + AMR + Exascale mesh partitioner**

Simulation of plant cooling

Adaptive mesh refinement acceleration



**Development stopped - OpenFOAM is NOT an Exascale code**

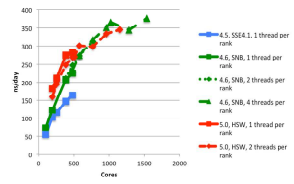
Wind turbines, hydroelectric power plants  
Francis pump turbine simulation

Linear solver optimization

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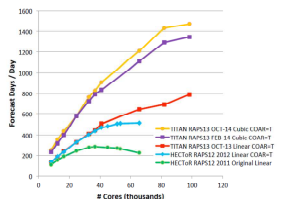
28th January 2015 BDEC European Workshop 8

### What has CRESTA achieved?



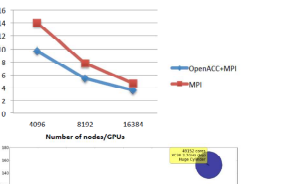
Time/s/range vs Number of nodes/CPUs

Legend: 4.5, S0E4.1, 1 thread per rank; 4.6, S0N, 1 thread per rank; 4.6, S0N, 2 threads per rank; 4.6, S0N, 4 threads per rank; 5.0, HSW, 1 thread per rank; 5.0, HSW, 2 threads per rank



Forecast days / Day vs # Cores (thousands)

Legend: Titan RAP4.5 Oct-13 Cube CSMP-I; Titan RAP4.5 Oct-13 Cube CSMP-II; Titan RAP4.5 Oct-13 Linear CSMP-I; Titan RAP4.5 Oct-13 Linear CSMP-II; HECTAR RAP4.5 2013 Original Linear



Time/s/range vs Number of nodes/CPUs

Legend: 4.5, S0E4.1, 1 thread per rank; 4.6, S0N, 1 thread per rank; 4.6, S0N, 2 threads per rank; 4.6, S0N, 4 threads per rank; 5.0, HSW, 1 thread per rank; 5.0, HSW, 2 threads per rank


- Lots of scaling results ...
- But that wasn't really the point of CRESTA

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## Achievements


- Shown how software co-design can work
  - Driven by a general understanding of the scale of parallelism that Exascale hardware will deliver
- Identified many challenges – not just with parallelism but also I/O performance, tools, libraries – software and systemware
- Made tools advances which also benefit Petascale
- Shown that some codes e.g. OpenFoam will never run at the Exascale in their present form
- Key result has been with regard to software development planning
  - Partners now understand the true scale of the Exascale challenge
  - One partner has created an in-house scaling team – direct result of CRESTA

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## Conclusions

- CRESTA has shown the scale of the Exascale application challenge
- It has moved some codes towards this challenge and published the results for others to learn from
- Far too few projects like CRESTA exist
- It is clear that many DISRUPTIVE INNOVATIONS will be needed to model and simulate on Exascale systems
- We still need to re-think many algorithms – and continue to build engagement with mathematics community
- There is a clear need for many more CRESTA-like projects ... but who will be brave enough to fund them?

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## Thank you

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