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Thomas Sterling

Indiana University, USA

Alignment and convergence of knowledge discovery and HPC

Data analytics in its many forms has rapidly expanded to engage scientific, industrial, and societal application domains. But as more problem spaces yield to this expanding genre of computing, the demand for capabilities is expanding. Simultaneously, high performance computing (HPC) systems and methods is experiencing significant change in form and function with the asymptotic convergence with nano-scale semiconductor feature size and the end of Moore's law even with exascale performance anticipated in the early years of the next decade. Historically these two processing domains have been largely independent but now a growing consensus is driving them together, aligning their respective modalities and catalyzing a synergistic convergence. A major premise of US Presidential Executive Order leading to the National Strategic Computing Initiative stipulates that the merger of big data and numeric intensive computing be a constituent of national exascale charter. This presentation will describe the significant shift in system architecture and operational methodologies that will be required to simultaneously respond to the challenges of the end of Moore's law and the graph processing approaches, potentially dynamic that will augment the more conventional matrix-vector oriented computation. It will discuss the likely importance of dynamic adaptive resource management and task scheduling essential to dramatic improvements in scalability and efficiency for exascale computing and how these changes will be applied to knowledge discovery.

Biography

Thomas Sterling is a Professor of Intelligent Systems Engineering at the Indiana University School of Informatics and Computing. He serves as the Chief Scientist and Associate Director of the Center for Research in Extreme Scale Technologies (CREST). After receiving his PhD from MIT in 1984 as a Hertz Fellow, he has been engaged in research fields associated with Parallel Computing System Structures and Semantics. He is the co-author of 6 books and holds 6 patents. He was the Recipient of the 2013 Vanguard Award.

tron@iu.edu