

ARM Forge DDT

Quick intro to Debugging with Forge
DDT

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Intro



- ARM Forge DDT (Distributed Debugging Tool)
- Commercial debugging tool originally developed by Allinea Software company, 2002
- Graphical interface to debug serial or highly parallelized codes within HPC
- As of 2016 DDT was used on 20 of the 25 fastest supercomputers in the world

Paradigms



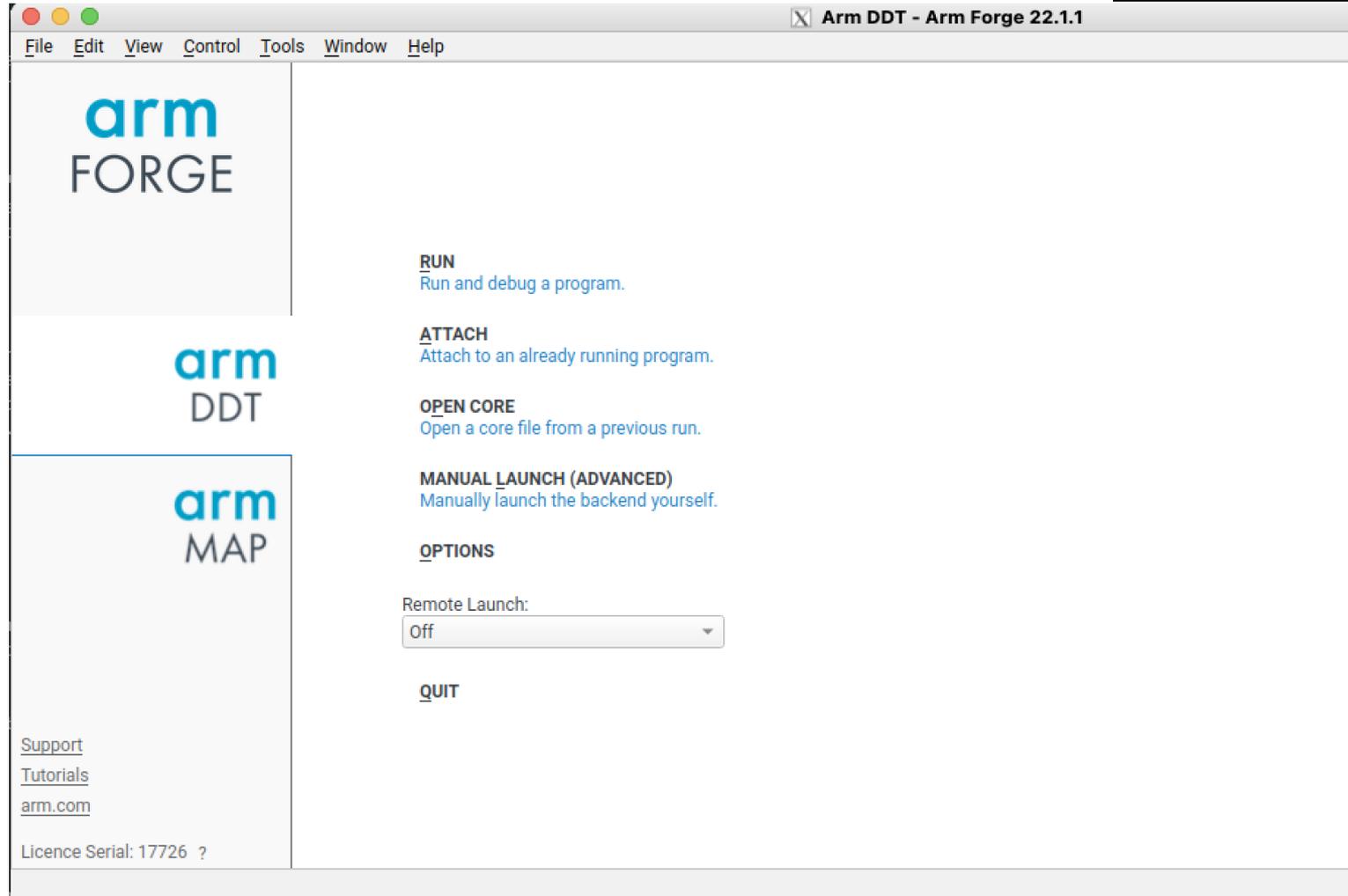
- Supports single and multithreaded processes
- OpenMP
- MPI
- Heterogenous software (GPU software)
- Hybrid codes e.g. MPI with OpenMP or MPI with CUDA

Language Support



- C
- C++
- All flavors of Fortran, including f90
- Python (limited)
- GPU languages (CUDA, hipcc)

A look into...



Connecting



- Backend connects to all ranks

The screenshot shows the Arm DDT - Arm Forge 22.1.2 IDE. The main window displays the source code for `vAdd_mpi.cpp`. The code includes headers for `<stdio.h>`, `<math.h>`, `<stdint.h>`, `<sched.h>`, and `<mpi.h>`. The `main` function performs MPI initialization, sets up a communicator, and defines variables for rank, processor name, and a large array `N`.

Overlaid on the bottom of the IDE is a process tree diagram. The diagram shows a hierarchy of processes:

- `slurmstepd` (4 processes) branches into:
 - `vAdd_mpi` (2 processes) which branches into `16* [vAdd_mpi]` (16 processes)
 - `forge-backend` (15 processes) which branches into `15* [forge-backend-gdb]` (15 processes)
- `forge-backend` (15 processes) branches into `forge-treeserve` and `gdb`.
- `forge-treeserve` branches into `gdb`.

The diagram also shows `4* [slurmstepd]` at the bottom, indicating the total number of processes in the tree.

Functionality



- Control many processes of a program

The screenshot shows the Arm DDT - Arm Forge 22.1.2 debugger interface. At the top, a toolbar contains various execution controls. Below it, a 'Current Group' section shows 'All' selected, with a row of 16 numbered buttons (0-15) representing MPI ranks, all of which are highlighted with a red rectangular box. The main window displays the source code for 'vAdd_mpi.cpp', with line 14, 'MPI_Comm_size(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &size);', selected. To the right, a 'Locals' panel shows the variable 'size' with a value of 0. At the bottom, a 'Stacks (All)' panel shows a list of processes and threads, with the top entry being 'main (vAdd_mpi.cpp:14)'. The status bar at the bottom right indicates 'Ready Connected to: (via tunnel) login:4201 -> login'.

These are all the MPI ranks that were requested for the job step. You can actually move through your program updating all of your ranks or select a single rank to move through

Functionality



- Allows the user to step through a program

The screenshot shows the Arm DDT - Arm Forge 22.1.2 IDE. The toolbar at the top contains several icons, with a red box highlighting the 'Step Into' icon (a green arrow pointing into a block). Below the toolbar, the 'Current Group' is set to 'All', and a line number bar shows lines 0 through 15. The source code editor displays the following code:

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 #include <math.h>
3 #include <stdint.h>
4 #include <sched.h>
5 #include <mpi.h>
6
7 int main(int argc, char *argv[]){
8
9     /* MPI initialization ----- */
10
11     MPI_Init(&argc, &argv);
12
13     int size;
14     MPI_Comm_size(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &size);
15
16     int rank;
17     MPI_Comm_rank(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &rank);
18
19     char name[MPI_MAX_PROCESSOR_NAME];
20     int result_length;
21     MPI_Get_processor_name(name, &result_length)
22
23     int hwtthread = sched_getcpu();
24
25     long long int N = 32*1024*1024;
26     size_t buffer_size = N * sizeof(double);
27
28     double *A = NULL;
29     double *B = NULL;
30     double *C = NULL;
31
32     if (rank == 0){
33
34
```

The 'Locals' panel on the right shows the current line(s) and the value of the variable 'size', which is 0. The 'Stacks (All)' panel at the bottom shows the current stack frame: main (vAdd_mpi.cpp:14).

Step Into – Allows for stepping into the next line or first line of a function

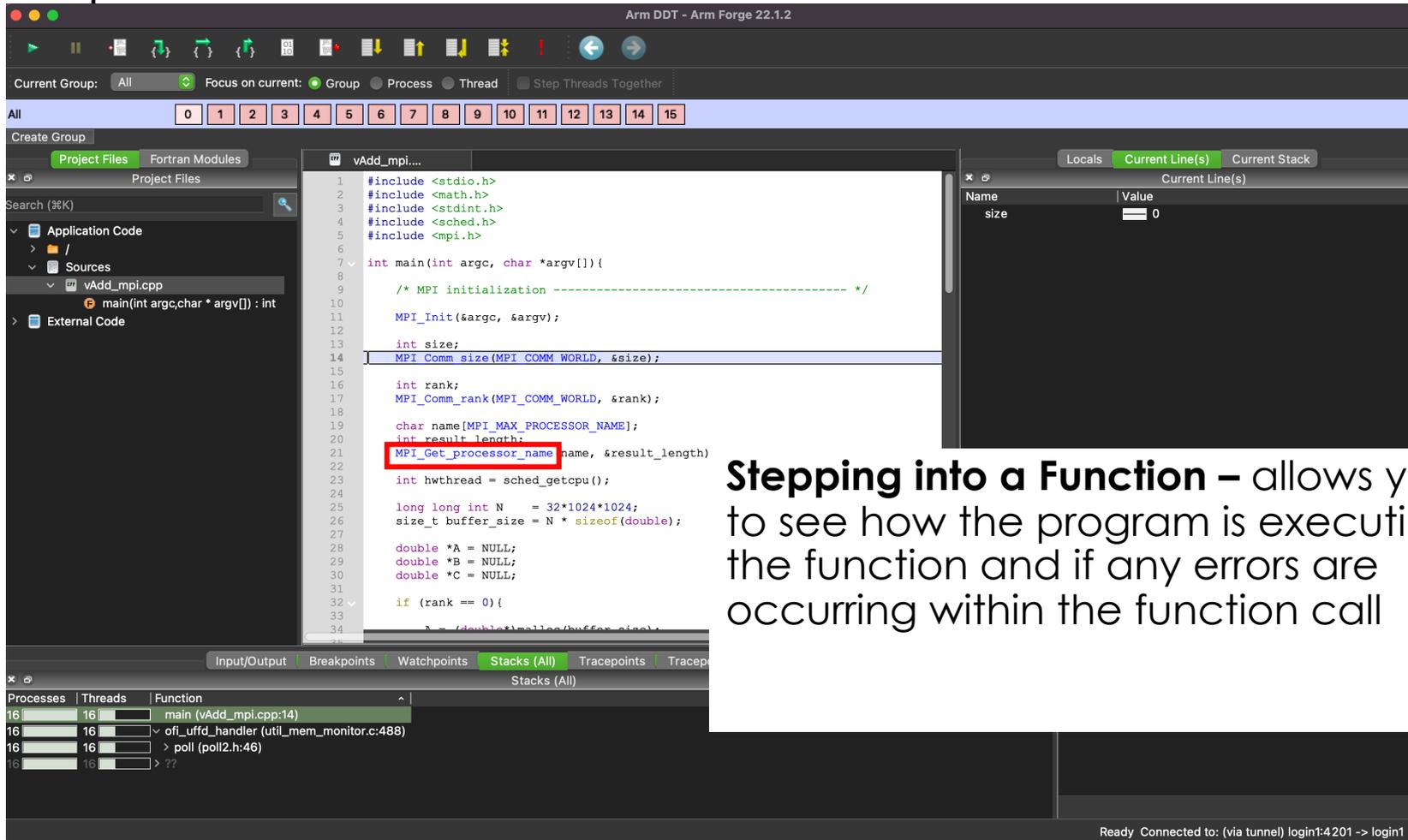
Step Over – Moves to next line in source code, stepping over function calls

Step Out - step out of a function call

Functionality



- Step into Functions



Stepping into a Function – allows you to see how the program is executing the function and if any errors are occurring within the function call

Functionality



- Setting watchpoints

The screenshot shows the Arm DDT - Arm Forge 22.1.2 interface. The main window displays a C++ source file with the following code:

```
22
23 int hwthread = sched_getcpu();
24
25 long long int N = 32*1024*1024;
26 size_t buffer_size = N * sizeof(double);
27
28 double *A = NULL;
29 double *B = NULL;
30 double *C = NULL;
31
32 if (rank == 0) {
33
34     A
35     B
36     C
37
38     f
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48     doubl
49
50     long
51
52     if (
53     p
54     M
55     e
56
```

An "Add Watchpoint" dialog box is open, showing the following configuration:

- Applies To: Process Group: All, Process: All
- Expression: (empty text box)
- Language: Auto
- Trigger On: Write only
- Buttons: Help, Please enter an expression.

The Watchpoints panel at the bottom shows a table with the following data:

Processes	Scope	Expression	Trigger On	Implemented in	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	All	#0 main	A = 25	write only	software

Watchpoints – anytime a variable or expression you supply changes, DDT will stop for you to analyze your code and stack trace

Functionality



- Breakpoints

The screenshot displays the Arm DDT - Arm Forge 22.1.2 interface. The main window shows the source code for `vAdd_mpi.cpp`. A red circle indicates a breakpoint is set at line 52, which is the `if` statement: `if((N % size) != 0){`. The code includes variable declarations for `A`, `B`, and `C`, and a `for` loop that generates random values for these arrays. The `Breakpoints` panel at the bottom shows a table with the following data:

Processes	Threads	File	Line	Function	Condition	Start After	Trigger Every	Stop
✓ All	all	vAdd_mpi.cpp	52	main(int, char**)		0	1	

Setting a breakpoint – allows you to run your code up until a specified point and then DDT will stop your program from executing so you can examine the stack trace and variables at that point

Functionality



- Tracepoints

The screenshot shows the Arm DDT - Arm Forge 22.1.2 interface. The main window displays the source code for `vAdd_mpi.c`. A tracepoint is set on line 25, which is `long long int N = 32*1024*1024;`. The tracepoint output window shows the following information:

Tracepoint	Processes	Values logged
line 25	16,ranks 0-15	size: 16 MPI_COMM_WORLD: <No symbol "MPI_COMM_WORLD" in current context.>

At the bottom of the interface, it says "Ready Connected to: (via tunnel) login1:4201 -> login1".

Setting a Tracepoint – allows you to run your code without stopping and record a variable, function or line within source code every time that point in execution is reached or specified condition is met

Conclusion

- Powerful debugger with graphical interface
- Multiple ways of connecting your program to DDT
- Start/stop features are critical when debugging codes at scale
- A competing tool is called TotalView

Demo

Initial connect

Arm DDT - Arm Forge 22.1.2

Current Group: All Focus on current: Group Process Thread Step Threads Together

All 0 1

Create Group

Project Files Fortran Modules

Project Files

Search (#%K)

Application Code

/

Sources

mpi_bug1.c

main(int argc,char * argv[]) : int

External Code

mpi_bu...

Warning: mpi_bug1.Please recompile then restart your debugging session.

```
1 > /*****  
2 #include "mpi.h"  
3 #include <stdio.h>  
4 #include <stdlib.h>  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12 int main (int argc, char *argv[])  
13 {  
14     int numtasks, rank, dest, tag, source, rc ,count;  
15     char inmsg, outmsg='x';  
16     MPI_Status Stat;  
17  
18     MPI_Init (&argc,&argv);  
19     MPI_Comm_size(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &numtasks);  
20     MPI_Comm_rank(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &rank);  
21     printf("Task %d starting...\n",rank);  
22  
23     if (rank == 0) {  
24         dest = rank + 1;  
25         source = dest;  
26         tag = rank;  
27         MPI_Send(&outmsg, 1, MPI_CHAR, dest, tag, MPI_COMM_WORLD);  
28         printf("Sent to task %d...\n",dest);  
29     }  
30  
31     else if (rank == 1) {  
32         dest = rank - 1;  
33         source = dest;  
34         tag = rank;  
35         MPI_Recv(&inmsg, 1, MPI_CHAR, source, tag, MPI_COMM_WORLD, &Stat);  
36         printf("Received from task %d...\n",source);  
37     }  
38  
39 }
```

Locals Current Line(s) Current Stack

Name	Value
rank	2104240

Input/... Break... Watch... Stac... Trace... Tracepoint ... Logb...

Stacks (All)

Processes	Threads	Function
2	2	main (mpi_bug1.c:20)
2	2	of_iuffd_handler (util_mem_monitor.c:48)
2	2	> poll (poll2.h:46)

Name | Value

Evaluate

Step into – local variables Updated

Arm DDT - Arm Forge 22.1.2

Current Group: All Focus on current: Group Process Thread Step Threads Together

All 0 1

Create Group

Project Files Fortran Modules

Project Files

Search (#K)

Application Code

Sources

mpi_bug1.c

main(int argc, char * argv[]) : int

External Code

mpi_bu...

mpi_bug1. Please recompile then restart your debugging session. Dismiss

```
12 int main (int argc, char *argv[])
13 {
14 int numtasks, rank, dest, tag, source, rc ,count;
15 char inmsg, outmsg='x';
16 MPI_Status Stat;
17
18 MPI_Init(&argc,&argv);
19 MPI_Comm_size(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &numtasks);
20 MPI_Comm_rank(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &rank);
21 printf("Task %d starting...\n",rank);
22
23 if (rank == 0) {
24 dest = rank + 1;
25 source = dest;
26 tag = rank;
27 MPI_Send(&outmsg, 1, MPI_CHAR, dest, tag, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
28 printf("Sent to task %d...\n",dest);
29 }
30
31 else if (rank == 1) {
32 dest = rank - 1;
33 source = dest;
34 tag = rank;
35 MPI_Recv(&inmsg, 1, MPI_CHAR, source, tag, MPI_COMM_WORLD, &Stat);
36 printf("Received from task %d...\n",source);
37 }
38
39
40
41 MPI_Finalize();
42 }
43
```

Locals

Name	Value
argc	1
argv	0x7fffffff6d58
numtasks	2
rank	0
dest	1
tag	0
source	1
rc	0
count	0
inmsg	0 '\000'
outmsg	120 'x'
Stat	

Input/... Break... Watch... Stac... Trace... Tracepoint ... Logb... Evaluate

Stacks (All)

Processes	Threads	Function
1	1	main (mpi_bug1.c:29)
1	1	main (mpi_bug1.c:39)
2	2	of_i_uffd_handler (util_mem_monitor.c:48)
2	2	> poll (poll2.h:46)

Step into – Program is Hanging

The screenshot shows the Arm DDT - Arm Forge 22.1.2 IDE. The main window displays the source code for `mpi_bug1.c`. The code is as follows:

```
12 int main (int argc, char *argv[])
13 {
14 int numtasks, rank, dest, tag, source, rc ,count;
15 char inmsg, outmsg='x';
16 MPI_Status Stat;
17
18 MPI_Init(&argc,&argv);
19 MPI_Comm_size(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &numtasks);
20 MPI_Comm_rank(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &rank);
21 printf("Task %d starting...\n",rank);
22
23 if (rank == 0) {
24 dest = rank + 1;
25 source = dest;
26 tag = rank;
27 MPI_Send(&outmsg, 1, MPI_CHAR, dest, tag, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
28 printf("Sent to task %d...\n",dest);
29 }
30
31 else if (rank == 1) {
32 dest = rank - 1;
33 source = dest;
34 tag = rank;
35 MPI_Recv(&inmsg, 1, MPI_CHAR, source, tag, MPI_COMM_WORLD, &Stat);
36 printf("Received from task %d...\n",source);
37 }
38
39
40
41 MPI_Finalize();
42 }
43
```

The IDE interface includes a top toolbar with navigation icons, a 'Current Group' dropdown set to 'All', and a 'Focus on current' section with radio buttons for 'Group', 'Process', and 'Thread'. The left sidebar shows a 'Project Files' view with a tree structure including 'Application Code', 'Sources', and 'External Code'. The right sidebar has tabs for 'Locals', 'Current Line(s)', and 'Current Stack', with 'Locals' currently selected. The bottom toolbar contains 'Input...', 'Break...', 'Watch...', 'Stac...', 'Trace...', 'Tracepoint ...', and 'Logb...'. The bottom status bar shows 'Evaluate' and a table with columns 'Name' and 'Value'.

Step into – MPI_WAIT on Rank 1

Arm DDT - Arm Forge 22.1.2

Current Group: All Focus on current: Group Process Thread Step Threads Together

All 0 1

Create Group

Project Files Fortran Modules

Project Files

Search (#K)

Application Code

Sources

mpi_bug1.c

main(int argc, char * argv[]) : int

External Code

```
12 int main (int argc, char *argv[])
13 {
14 int numtasks, rank, dest, tag, source, rc ,count;
15 char inmsg, outmsg='x';
16 MPI_Status Stat;
17
18 MPI_Init(&argc,&argv);
19 MPI_Comm_size(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &numtasks);
20 MPI_Comm_rank(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &rank);
21 printf("Task %d starting...\n",rank);
22
23 if (rank == 0) {
24 dest = rank + 1;
25 source = dest;
26 tag = rank;
27 MPI_Send(&outmsg, 1, MPI_CHAR, dest, tag, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
28 printf("Sent to task %d...\n",dest);
29 }
30
31 else if (rank == 1) {
32 dest = rank - 1;
33 source = dest;
34 tag = rank;
35 MPI_Recv(&inmsg, 1, MPI_CHAR, source, tag, MPI_COMM_WORLD, &Stat);
36 printf("Received from task %d...\n",source);
37 }
38
39
40
41 MPI_Finalize();
42 }
43
```

Stack Arguments

```
#2 main (argc=1,argv=0x7fffffff6d58) at /gpfs/alpine/stf007/world
#1 PMPI_Recv () from /opt/cray/pe/lib64/libmpi_cray.so.12 (at 0x0
#0 MPIR_Wait_impl.part.0 () from /opt/cray/pe/lib64/libmpi_cray.so
```

Input... Brea... Watc... Stac... Trac... Trac... Logb...

Stacks (All)

Processes	Threads	Function
1	1	> main (mpi_bug1.c:31)
1	1	> main (mpi_bug1.c:39)
2	2	o ofi_uffd_handler (util_mem_
2	2	> poll (poll2.h:46)

Name | Value

Evaluate

Step into – ‘tag’ variable = 1

The screenshot shows the Arm DDT - Arm Forge 22.1.2 IDE. The main window displays a C program named `mpi_bug1.c` with the following code:

```
12 int main (int argc, char *argv[])
13 {
14     int numtasks, rank, dest, tag, source, rc ,count;
15     char inmsg, outmsg='x';
16     MPI_Status Stat;
17
18     MPI_Init(&argc,&argv);
19     MPI_Comm_size(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &numtasks);
20     MPI_Comm_rank(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &rank);
21     printf("Task %d starting...\n",rank);
22
23     if (rank == 0) {
24         dest = rank + 1;
25         source = dest;
26         tag = rank;
27         MPI_Send(&outmsg, 1, MPI_CHAR, dest, tag, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
28         printf("Sent to task %d...\n",dest);
29     }
30
31     else if (rank == 1) {
32         dest = rank - 1;
33         source = dest;
34         tag = rank;
35         MPI_Recv(&inmsg, 1, MPI_CHAR, source, tag, MPI_COMM_WORLD, &Stat);
36         printf("Received from task %d...\n",source);
37     }
38
39
40
41     MPI_Finalize();
42 }
43
```

The `tag` variable is highlighted in the Locals window on the right. The Locals window shows the following variables and their values:

Name	Value
argc	1
argv	0x7ffffff6d58
numtasks	
rank	
dest	
tag	1
source	
rc	0
count	0
inmsg	0 '\000'
outmsg	120 'x'
Stat	

The `tag` variable is circled in red in the Locals window. The `Current Line(s)` window at the top shows line 1 is selected. The `Stacks (All)` window at the bottom shows the current stack frame is `main (mpi_bug1.c:31)`.

Correcting the 'tag' = 0 for both ranks, program completes

```
[wcastil@crusher:MPI_bugs]$ srun -n2 ./mpi_bug1_fix
Task 1 starting...
Received from task 0...
Task 0 starting...
Sent to task 1...
```