

# Understanding Temporal Dynamics of Parallel Codes

**John Mellor-Crummey**  
Department of Computer Science  
Rice University  
[johnmc@cs.rice.edu](mailto:johnmc@cs.rice.edu)



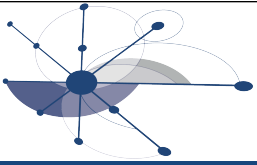
<http://hpctoolkit.org>



# Acknowledgments

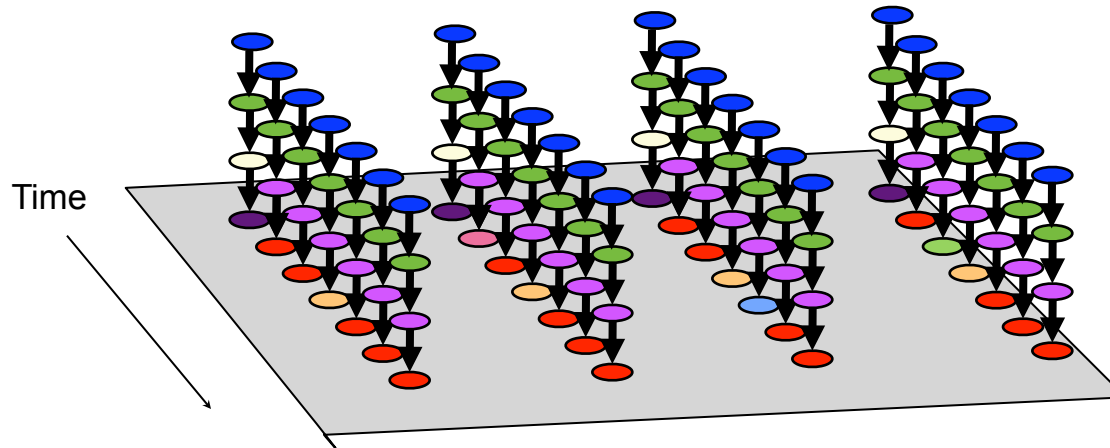
---

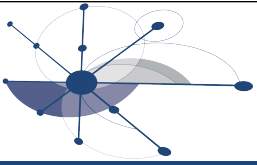
- **Staff**
  - Laksono Adhianto, Nathan Tallent
- **High School Summer Interns**
  - Sinchan Banerjee, Michael Franco, Chas Jhin, Reed Landrum
- **SciDAC project support**
  - Center for Scalable Application Development Software
    - Cooperative agreement number DE-FC02-07ER25800



# Understanding Temporal Behavior

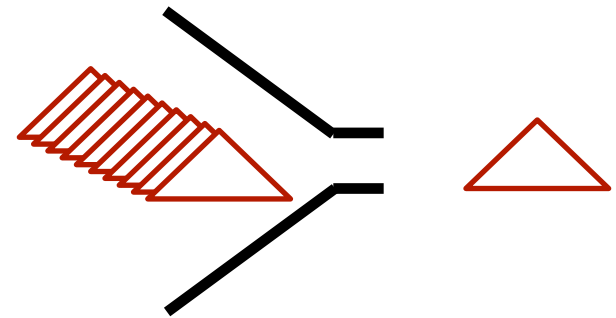
- Profiling compresses out the temporal dimension
  - result: transient behavior, e.g. serialization, is invisible in profiles
- What can we do? Trace call path samples

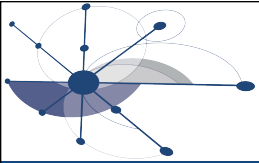




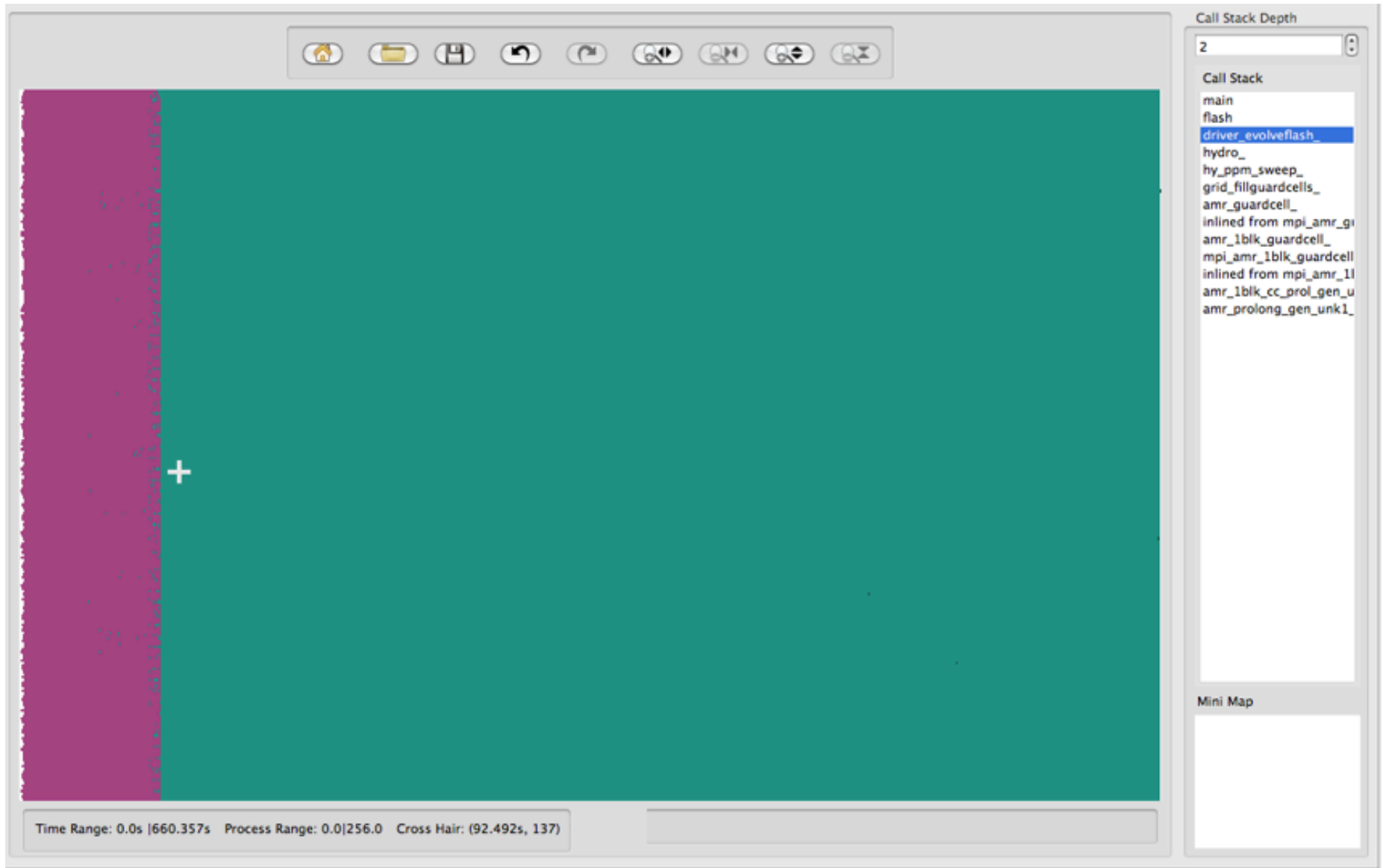
# Key Steps

- Measurement
  - collect a CCT per process and/or thread using sampling
  - collect a trace of <node id, timestamp> pairs
    - note: arrange for one node-id per procedure
- Post processing
  - combine the CCTs into a canonical CCT
  - renumber all traces for consistency using canonical CCT
- Visualization
  - assign colors to procedures based on labeled nodes in CCT
  - only read in trace records you need to color the display's pixels
  - views
    - space-time view: call stack trace for all threads at depth d
    - depth view: call stack trace for an individual thread at all levels

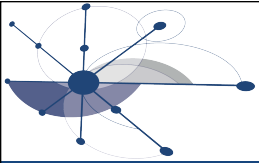




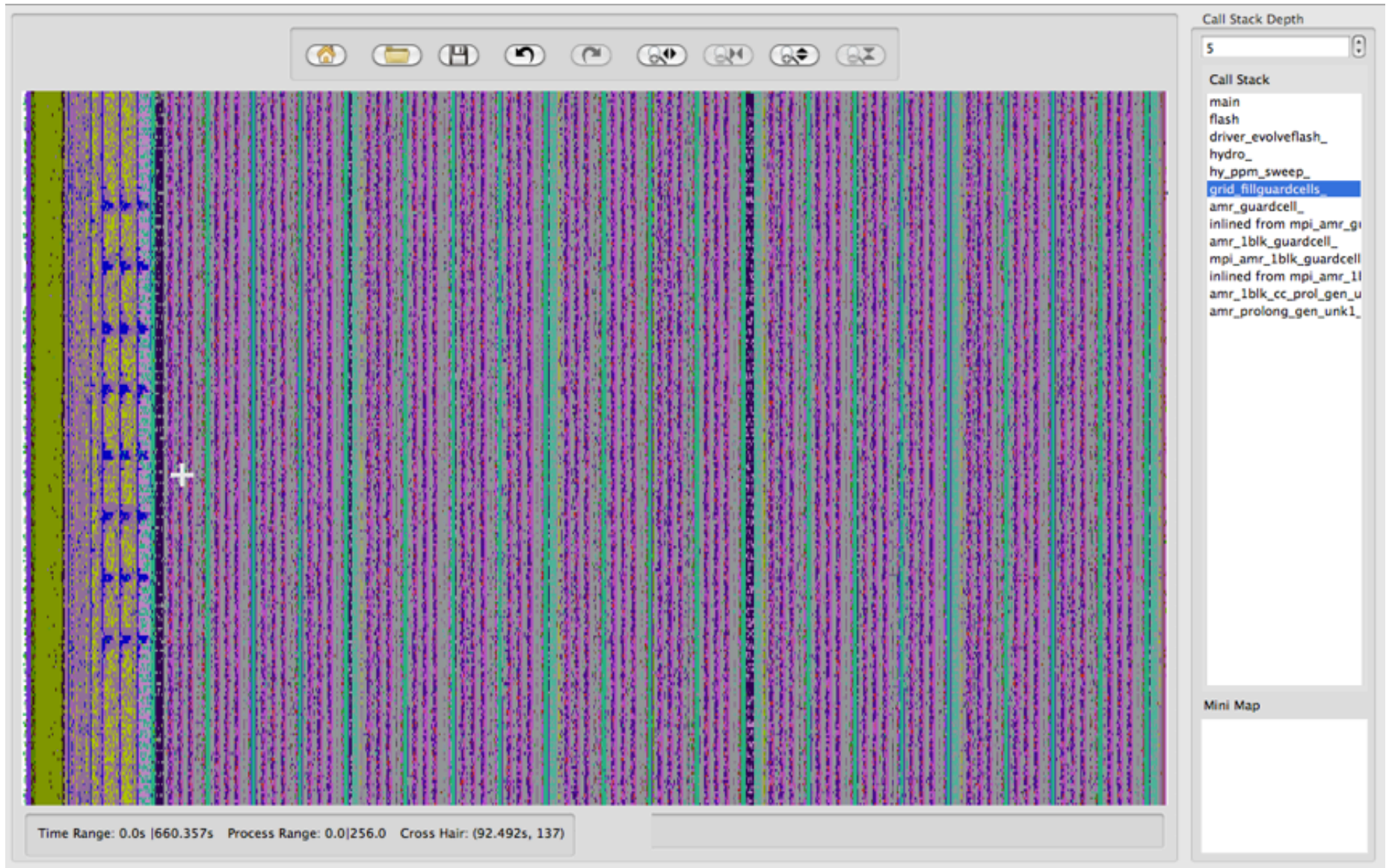
# Flash White Dwarf Collapse on 256 Cores



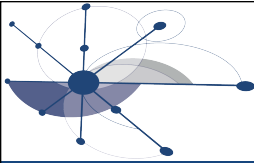
Full execution at call stack depth 2



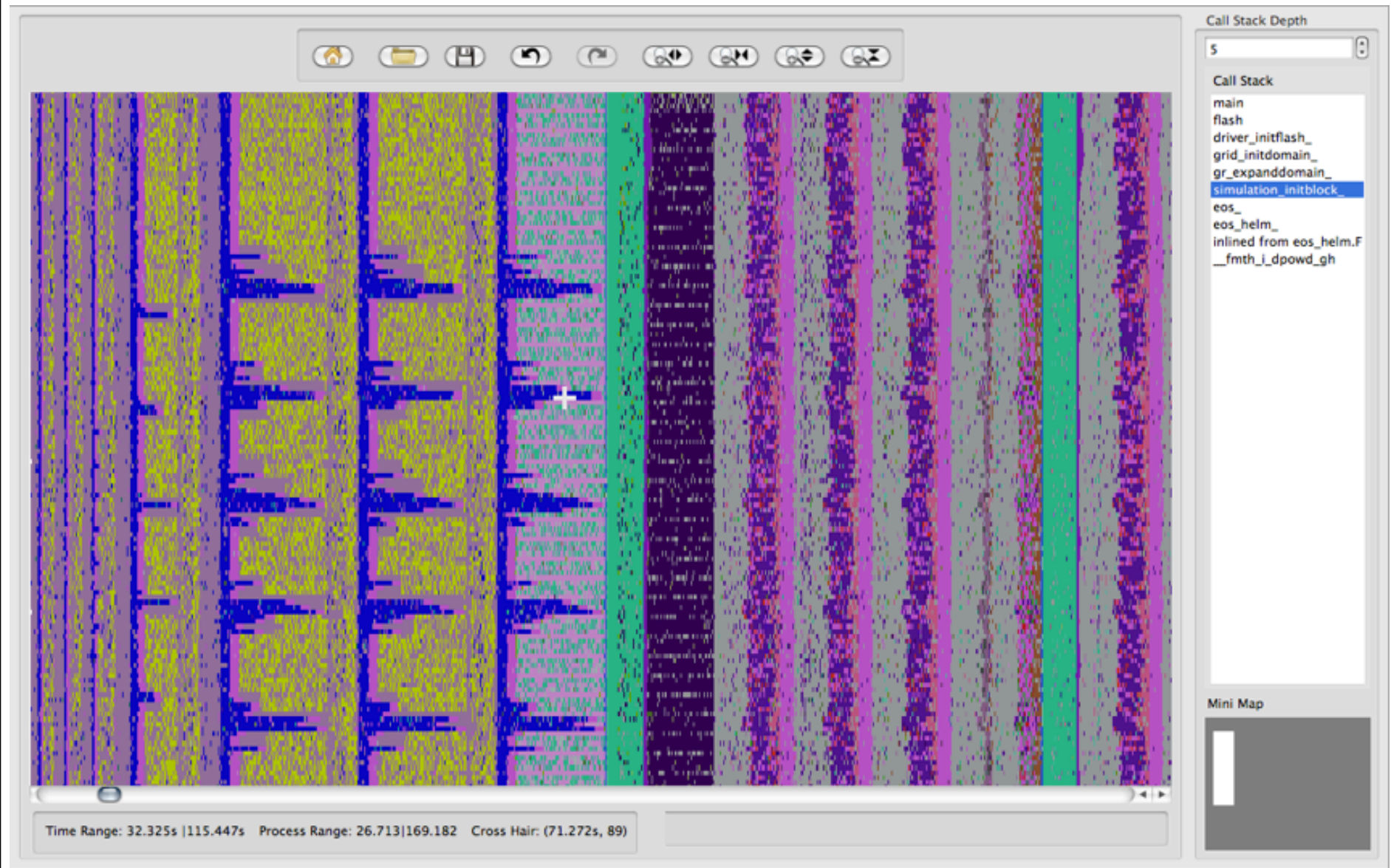
# Flash White Dwarf Collapse on 256 Cores



Full execution at call stack depth 5



# Flash White Dwarf Collapse on 256 Cores



Execution detail at call stack depth 5