

NCSA Systems

The National Center for Supercomputing Applications (NCSA) is one of the premier high performance computing centers in the world, and hosts many applications that use HDF4, HDF5, or both. Although The HDF Group separated from NCSA in 2006, The HDF Group continues to maintain a close and vital relationship with NCSA, supporting HDF4 and HDF5 on all of NCSA's high end systems, and working closely with NCSA staff and users to make the most effective use of HDF technologies.

This project not only benefits NCSA and its users, but the it also benefits the entire community of high end HDF users, as it provides leading edge computing systems on which to test and tune HDF software.

The current list of NCSA platforms on which HDF is supported by The HDF Group includes:

- Copper - 2 Teraflop IBM pSeries 690
- Cobalt - 6.55 Teraflop SGI Altix
- Tungsten - 16.38 Teraflop Dell Xeon Cluster
- Mercury - 10.23 Teraflop IBM IA-64 Cluster

The HDF Group carries out the following activities for this project:

- Maintain and test HDF4 and HDF5 on the high end NCSA systems. Regular releases are ported to these systems. Both the serial and parallel versions of HDF5 are maintained and tested.
- Work with the NCSA consulting office to make sure that HDF4 and HDF5 are tuned to work effectively with other components in the software stack, including compilers, file systems, and parallel middleware such as MPI-IO.
- Assign high priority to fixing software defects and maintaining solid performance on the systems.
- Provide E-mail and telephone support by technical staff to all NCSA system support staff and referred users, Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. CST, with a maximum response time of one business day.
- Provide the above services to new machines/platforms as NCSA brings them on-line and into HDF support scope.