

**ABSTRACT
PARALLEL WORKING SESSION**

RESEARCH

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**Research innovation serving the financial industry:
The Ultimate Alpha System**

The Ultimate Alpha System uses tick-by-tick data from the Johannesburg Securities Exchange to determine transaction costs and trading performance of brokers and portfolio managers. The system has been developed from academic research and has been commercialised to serve the asset management industry in South Africa. The amount of trading data to be handled is truly massive and requires huge databases and extensive computing power.

This talk will describe the origin and development of the system from a research idea to a fully fledged commercial venture between the University and private enterprise.