Collective Communications











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Collective Communication

- Communications involving a group of processes.
- Called by all processes in a communicator.
- Examples:
 - Barrier synchronisation.
 - Broadcast, scatter, gather.
 - Global sum, global maximum, etc.





Characteristics of Collective Comms

- Collective action over a communicator.
- All processes must communicate.
- Synchronisation may or may not occur.
- Standard collective operations are blocking.
 - non-blocking versions introduced into MPI 3.0
 - may be useful in some situations but not yet commonly employed
 - obvious extension of blocking version: extra request parameter
- No tags.
- Receive buffers must be exactly the right size.





Barrier Synchronisation

• C:
 int MPI_Barrier (MPI_Comm comm)

Fortran:

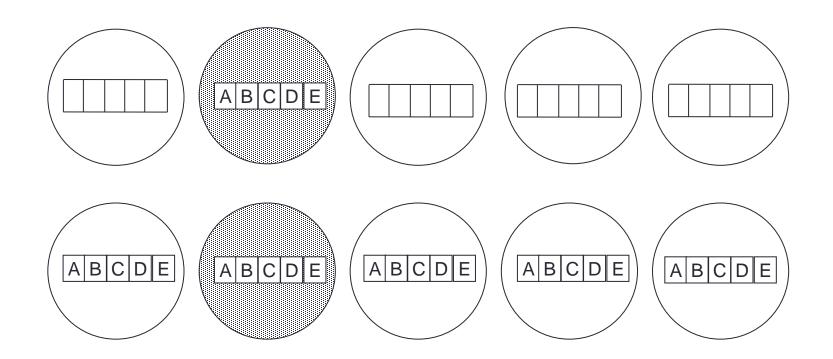
MPI BARRIER (COMM, IERROR)

INTEGER COMM, IERROR





Broadcast







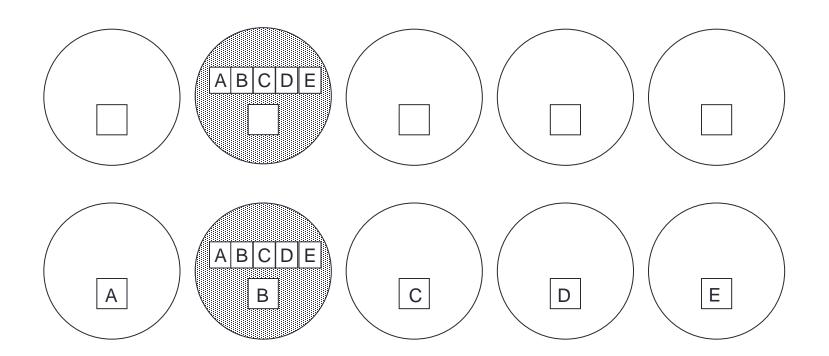
Broadcast

INTEGER COUNT, DATATYPE, ROOT, COMM, IERROR





Scatter







Scatter

• C:

```
int MPI_Scatter(void *sendbuf,
    int sendcount, MPI_Datatype sendtype,
    void *recvbuf, int recvcount,
    MPI_Datatype recvtype, int root,
    MPI_Comm comm)
```

Fortran:

```
MPI_SCATTER(SENDBUF, SENDCOUNT, SENDTYPE,

RECVBUF, RECVCOUNT, RECVTYPE,

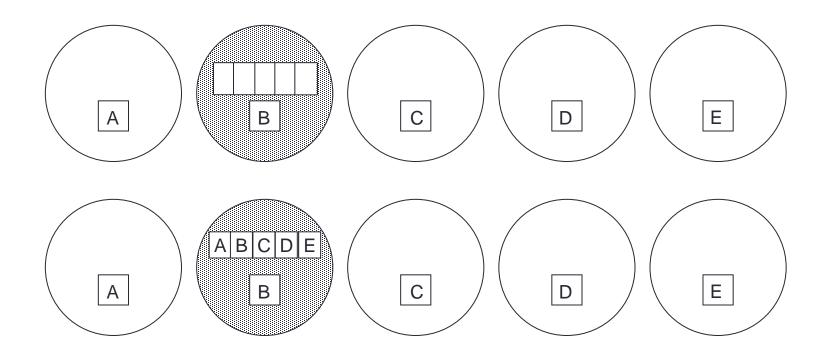
ROOT, COMM, IERROR)
```

<type> SENDBUF, RECVBUF
INTEGER SENDCOUNT, SENDTYPE, RECVCOUNT
INTEGER RECVTYPE, ROOT, COMM, IERROR





Gather







Gather

• C:

Fortran:

```
MPI_GATHER (SENDBUF, SENDCOUNT, SENDTYPE, RECVBUF, RECVCOUNT, RECVTYPE, ROOT, COMM, IERROR)
```

<type> SENDBUF, RECVBUF
INTEGER SENDCOUNT, SENDTYPE, RECVCOUNT
INTEGER RECVTYPE, ROOT, COMM, IERROR





More general routines

- Basic scatter and gather routines are quite restrictive
 - fixed amount of data transferred between every pair pf processes
 - all data assumed to be contiguous in the larger array
- More general "vector" versions exist
 - MPI_Scatterv() and MPI_Gatherv()
 - additional integer arrays (i.e. "vectors") with size entries specifying
 - different counts for each process
 - different locations of data for each process (i.e. index into the buffer)
- Even more complicated patterns can be achieved
 - using derived datatypes for sendtype and/or recvtype
 - beyond the scope of this course





Global Reduction Operations

- Used to compute a result involving data distributed over a group of processes.
- Examples:
 - global sum or product
 - global maximum or minimum
 - global user-defined operation





Predefined Reduction Operations

MPI Name	Function
MPI_MAX	Maximum
MPI_MIN	Minimum
MPI_SUM	Sum
MPI_PROD	Product
MPI_LAND	Logical AND
MPI_BAND	Bitwise AND
MPI_LOR	Logical OR
MPI_BOR	Bitwise OR
MPI_LXOR	Logical Exclusive OR
MPI_BXOR	Bitwise Exclusive OR
MPI_MAXLOC	Maximum and location
MPI_MINLOC	Minimum and location





MPI_Reduce

• C:

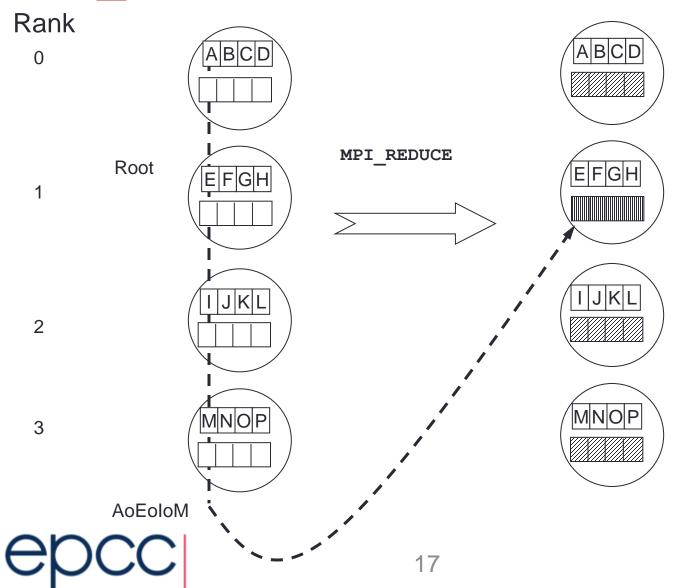
```
MPI_REDUCE (SENDBUF, RECVBUF, COUNT,
DATATYPE, OP, ROOT, COMM, IERROR)
```

```
<type> SENDBUF, RECVBUF
INTEGER SENDCOUNT, SENDTYPE, RECVCOUNT
INTEGER RECVTYPE, ROOT, COMM, IERROR
```





MPI_REDUCE





Example of Global Reduction

Integer global sum

• C:

```
CALL MPI_REDUCE(x, result, 1, MPI_INTEGER, MPI_SUM, 0, MPI_COMM_WORLD, IERROR)
```

- Sum of all the x values is placed in result.
- The result is only placed there on process 0.





User-Defined Reduction Operators

Reducing using an arbitrary operator, o





Reduction Operator Functions

Operator function for o must act as

```
for (i = 1 to len)
  inoutvec(i) = inoutvec(i) o invec(i)
```

Operator o need not commute, but must be associative





Registering User-Defined Operator

Operator handles have type MPI_Op or INTEGER

```
MPI OP CREATE (MY OP, COMMUTE, OP, IERROR)
```

```
EXTERNAL MY_OP
LOGICAL COMMUTE
INTEGER OP, IERROR
```





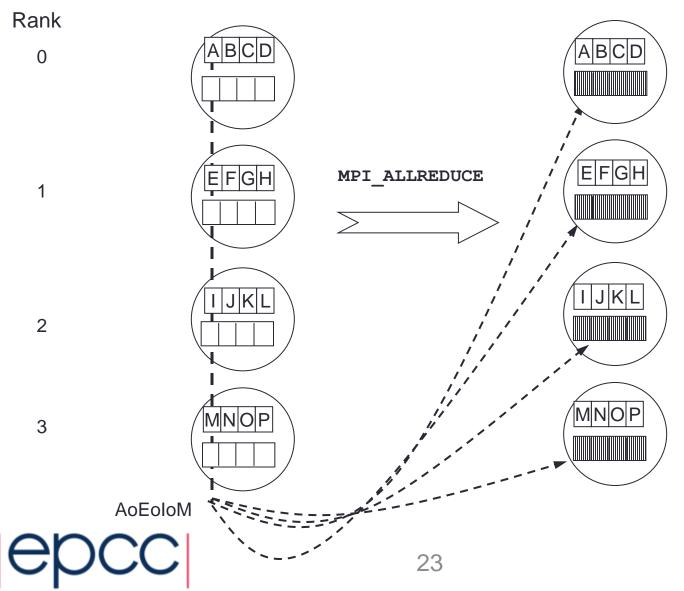
Variants of MPI_REDUCE

- MPI_Allreduce no root process
- MPI Reduce scatter result is scattered
- MPI_Scan "parallel prefix"





MPI_ALLREDUCE





MPI_ALLREDUCE

Integer global sum

```
MPI_ALLREDUCE (SENDBUF, RECVBUF, COUNT,
DATATYPE, OP, COMM, IERROR)
```





Allreduce example

Integer global sum

• C:

```
CALL MPI_ALLREDUCE(x, result, 1, MPI_INTEGER, MPI_SUM, MPI_COMM_WORLD, IERROR)
```

- Sum of all the x values is placed in result.
- The result is stored on every process





Vector reductions (Fortran)





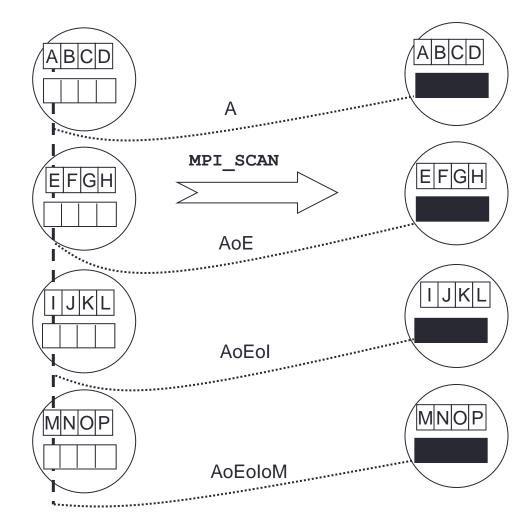
Vector reductions (C)





MPI_SCAN

Rank







MPI_SCAN

Integer partial sum

• C:

- Scan is inclusive
 - *includes* the result on calling process
 - for exclusive scan use MPI Exscan()





Exercise

- See Exercise 5 on the sheet
- Rewrite the pass-around-the-ring program to use MPI global reduction to perform its global sums.
- Then rewrite it so that each process computes a partial sum



