# Introduction to Parallel Programming with MPI

By

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# Distributed memory computers

- Distributed memory computers cannot communicate through a shared memory.
- Therefore, messages are used to coordinate parallel tasks that eventually run on geographically distributed but interconnected processors.
- Processes as well as their management and communication are well defined by a platform-independent message passing interface (MPI) specification.
- MPI is introduced from the practical point of view, with a set of basic operations that enable implementation of parallel programs.

# Distributed memory computers

- Two main differences between the shared memory and distributed memory computer architectures
  - **Price of communication:** the time needed to exchange a certain amount of data between two or more processors is in favor of shared memory computers, as these can usually communicate much faster than the distributed memory computers.
  - **Number of processors:** Distributed memory computers can efficiently support a large number of processors. Useful where a high number of processors is required to reduce execution time.

- Enables **system independent** parallel programming. i.e., MPI is a standardized API that provide consistent set of functions for parallel programming. MPI code can be executed on different hardware platforms without modification.
- Parallel programming isn't just about dividing tasks among multiple processors. The processes must also cooperate, which means they need to exchange data.
  - The total execution time is consequently a sum of computation and communication time.
- The speed of communication becomes a crucial performance factor, especially when the number of processors is high.
- Algorithms with only local communication between neighboring processors are faster and more scalable than the algorithms with the global communication among all processors.

• Therefore, the programmer's view of a problem that will be parallelized has to incorporate a wide number of aspects, e.g., data independency, communication type and frequency, balancing the load among processors, balancing between communication and computation, overlapping communication and computation, synchronous or asynchronous program flow, stopping criteria, and others.

#### MPI includes several key features:

- Process Creation and Management: MPI provides functions to create and manage processes across different systems seamlessly.
- Language Bindings: It supports language bindings for popular programming languages like C and Fortran, making it versatile.

- Communication: MPI includes functions for both point-to-point and collective communications
  - ➤ **Point-to-point:** It involves direct communication between two processes. One process sends data, and another receives it. This type of communication is useful for scenarios where only specific pairs of processes need to exchange information.
  - ➤ **Collective:** This involves communication among a group of processes. All processes in a group participate in the communication, either by sending, receiving, or both.
- Groups and Communicators: These concepts help define how processes are grouped and how they communicate, providing a structured way to manage process interactions.
  - A group is an ordered set of processes. Every process within a group is identified by a unique rank. Groups allow you to manage collections of processes and determine how they interact within a program.
  - A communicator in MPI is an object that defines a group of processes that can communicate with each other. It provides the environment in which these processes operate, enabling them to send and receive messages.

- The MPI is not a language but rather a specification or a standard that defines how processes in a parallel computing environment can communicate with each other.
- All MPI "operations" are expressed as functions, subroutines, or methods that can be called from within a program written in a standard programming language like C, C++, or Fortran.
- The MPI standard defines the syntax and semantics of library operations that support the message passing model, independently of program language or compiler specification.
- An MPI program consists of autonomous processes that are able to execute their own code in the sense of multiple instruction multiple data (MIMD) paradigm.
- An MPI "process" can be interpreted in this sense as a program counter that addresses their program instructions in the system memory, which implies that the program codes executed by each process have not to be the same.
  - For example, one process might be reading data, another might be processing it, and yet another might be aggregating results—all within the same MPI program.

# Message Passing Interface: Prerequisites

- To run an MPI (Message Passing Interface) program written in C on a Unix-based system (such as Linux), you typically need to follow these steps:
- Install MPI Implementation: Ensure that an MPI implementation (e.g., Open MPI, MPICH) is installed on your Unix system. If it's not already installed, you can install it using your system's package manager. For example, on Debian-based systems (like Ubuntu), you can use apt-get:
- ➤ sudo apt-get update
- ➤ sudo apt-get install mpich # for MPICH
- sudo apt-get install openmpi-bin # for Open MPI
- ➤ sudo apt-get install libopenmpi-dev # On Debian/Ubuntu

# **Example MPI Program**

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <mpi.h>
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
   int rank, size;
   MPI_Init(&argc, &argv);
   MPI_Comm_rank(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &rank);
   MPI Comm size(MPI COMM WORLD, &size);
   printf("Hello world from rank %d of %d\n", rank, size);
   MPI_Finalize();
   return 0;
```

## Message Passing Interface: compiling and Running MPI Programs

- **1. Compile MPI Program**: Use the MPI compiler wrapper (mpicc for C programs) to compile your MPI program:
- mpicc -o mpi\_program mpi\_program.c
- ➤ Here, mpi\_program.c is your MPI C program file, and mpi\_program is the executable output file.
- **2. Run MPI Program**: Use the mpirun or mpiexec command to run your MPI program with the desired number of processes (or MPI ranks):
- mpirun -np 4 ./mpi\_program

Replace 4 with the number of MPI processes you want to run. -np specifies the number of MPI ranks (processes) to launch.

- #include <stdio.h> is needed because of printf, which is used later in the program, and
- #include "mpi.h" provides basic MPI definition of named constants, types, and function prototypes, and must be included in any MPI program.

# **Example MPI Program**

- > MPI\_Init: Initializes the MPI execution environment.
- MPI\_Comm\_rank: Retrieves the rank (ID) of the calling process within the communicator (MPI\_COMM\_WORLD).
- MPI\_Comm\_size: Retrieves the total number of processes in the communicator (MPI\_COMM\_WORLD).
- MPI\_Finalize: Finalizes the MPI environment before program exit.

# Running the Example:

- Assuming mpi\_program.c is your MPI program file, compile it using:
  - >mpicc -o mpi\_program mpi\_program.c
- Then, run it with:
  - ➤mpirun -np 4 ./mpi\_program
- This will run the MPI program mpi\_program with 4 MPI processes, each printing its rank and the total number of processes (size).

```
sandhya@telnet:~/MPI$ mpicc -o mpi_program mpi_program.c
sandhya@telnet:~/MPI$ mpirun -np 4 ./mpi_program
Hello world from rank 1 of 4
Hello world from rank 2 of 4
Hello world from rank 3 of 4
Hello world from rank 0 of 4
sandhya@telnet:~/MPI$ __
```

# **MPI** Operation Syntax

- The MPI standard is independent of specific programming languages.
- Capitalized MPI operation names (MPI\_SEND, MPI\_RECV, and MPI\_BCAST) will be used in the definition of MPI operations.
- MPI operations take various arguments. They are categorized into three types based on their role in the operation.
  - IN—IN arguments are used as inputs to an MPI operation. These values are passed into the operation, but they are not modified by it.
    - IN arguments are in normal text, e.g., buf, sendbuf, MPI\_COMM\_WORLD, etc.
  - OUT—OUT arguments are used by an MPI operation to store the results. These are the values that
    the operation will update or modify, but not used as input value;
    - e.g., rank, recbuf, etc.
  - INOUT—INOUT arguments are used both as inputs and outputs. The function may use the initial
    value of the argument and then modify it during the operation.
    - e.g., inbuf, request, etc.

# MPI Data Types

**Table 4.1** Some MPI data types corresponding to C and Fortran data types

MPI data type	C data type	MPI data type	Fortran data type
MPI_INT	int	MPI_INTEGER	INTEGER
MPI_SHORT	short int	MPI_REAL	REAL
MPI_LONG	long int	MPI_DOUBLE_PRECISION	DOUBLE PRECISION
MPI_FLOAT	float	MPI_COMPLEX	COMPLEX
MPI_DOUBLE	double	MPI_LOGICAL	LOGICAL
MPI_CHAR	char	MPI_CHARACTER	CHARACTER
MPI_BYTE	1	MPI_BYTE	1
MPI_PACKED	1	MPI_PACKED	1

The type MPI\_PACKED is maintained by MPI\_PACK or MPI\_UNPACK operations, which enable to pack different types of data into a contiguous send buffer and to unpack it from a contiguous receive buffer.

MPI Init: Initializes the MPI execution environment. This function must be called in every MPI program, must be called before any other MPI functions and must be called only once in an MPI program.

MPI\_Init (&argc,&argv);

MPI Finalize: Terminates the MPI execution environment. This function should be the last MPI routine called in every MPI program. No other MPI routines may be called after it.

MPI\_Finalize ();

MPI Comm rank: Returns the rank of the calling MPI process within the specified communicator. Each process will be assigned a unique integer rank between 0 and size - 1 within the communicator MPI COMM WORLD. This rank is often referred to as a process ID.

MPI\_Comm\_rank Comm,&rank);

MPI Comm size: Returns the total number of MPI processes to the variable size in the specified communicator, such as MPI\_COMM\_WORLD.

MPI\_Comm\_size(Comm,&size);

#### **Solved Example:**

Write a program in MPI to print total number of process and rank of each process.

```
#include "mpi.h"
#include <stdio.h>
int main(int argc, char *argv[])
      int rank, size;
      MPI Init(&argc,&argv);
      MPI Comm rank(MPI COMM WORLD,&rank);
      MPI Comm size(MPI COMM WORLD, &size);
      printf("My rank is %d in total %d processes", rank, size);
      MPI Finalize();
      return 0;
```

#### Lab Exercises:

- 1. Write a simple MPI program to find out pow (x, rank) for all the processes where 'x' is the integer constant and 'rank' is the rank of the process.
- Write a program in MPI where even ranked process prints "Hello" and odd ranked process prints "World".
- Write a program in MPI to simulate simple calculator. Perform each operation using different process in parallel.
- 4. Write a program in MPI to toggle the character of a given string indexed by the rank of the process. Hint: Suppose the string is HeLLO and there are 5 processes, then process 0 toggle 'H' to 'h', process 1 toggle 'e' to 'E' and so on.

#### **Objectives:**

- 1. Understand the different APIs used for point to point communication in MPI
- 2. Learn the different modes available in case of blocking send operation
- The process-to-process communication has to implement two essential tasks:
  - data movement and
  - Synchronization of processes;

Therefore, it requires cooperation of sender and receiver processes.

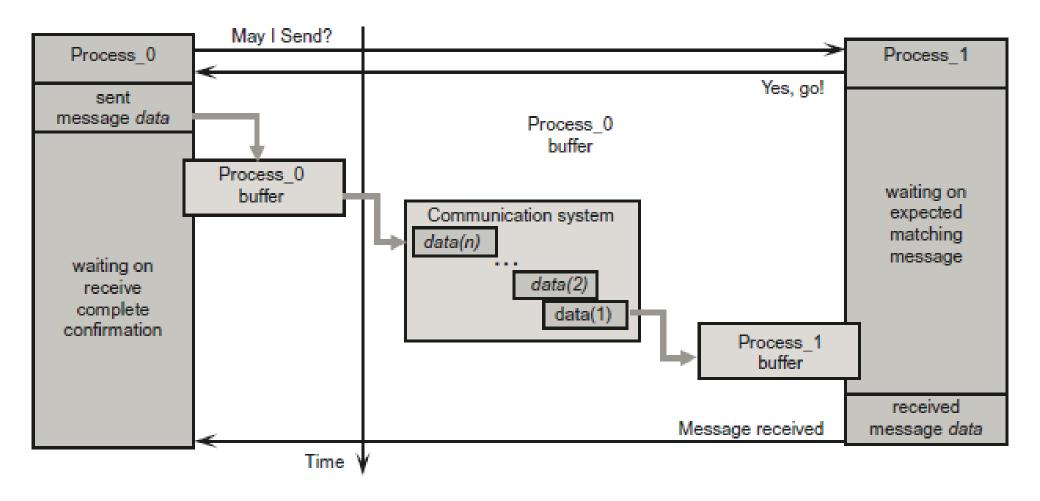


Fig. 4.1 Communication between two processes awakes both of them while transferring data from sender Process\_0 to receiver Process\_1, possibly with a set of shorter sub-messages

- MPI point-to-point operations typically involve message passing between two, and only two, different MPI tasks. One task is performing a send operation and the other task is performing a matching receive operation.
- MPI provides both blocking and non-blocking send and receive operations.
- A blocking send is one where the function call does not return until the send operation is completed.
- Completion means that the message has been successfully copied out of the user's send buffer.
   This could either mean:
  - > The message has been sent to the destination process.
  - The message has been buffered internally by the MPI system (if the message size is small and there's buffer space available).
- The blocking send ensures that the buffer used for sending the data can be safely reused or modified after the send call completes.
- A non-blocking send initiates the send operation but returns immediately, allowing the sender to proceed with other tasks, even while the message is still being sent.

- A critical issue with blocking communication is the possibility of deadlocks.
- If both Process\_0 and Process\_1 initiate their send calls simultaneously, they will be
  waiting for each other to receive, leading to a deadlock where neither process can
  proceed.
- For example, if Process\_0 and Process\_1 initiate their send calls in the same time,
   they will be blocked forever by waiting matching receive calls.

MPI\_SEND (buf, count, datatype, dest, tag, comm)

- The send buffer is specified by the following arguments
  - buf pointer to the send buffer,
  - count number of data items,
  - datatype type of data items.
- The receiver process is addressed by an envelope that consists of arguments
  - dest, which is the rank of receiver process within all processes in the communicator comm, and of a message tag.
  - tag provide a mechanism for distinguishing between different messages for the same receiver process identified by destination rank

MPI\_RECV (buf, count, datatype, source, tag, comm, status)

- This operation waits until the communication system delivers a message with matching datatype, source, tag, and comm.
- The entire set of arguments: count, datatype, source, tag and comm, must match between the sender process and the receiver process to initiate actual message passing.
- When a message, posted by a sender process, has been collected by a receiver process, the message is said to be completed, and the program flows of the receiver and the sender processes may continue.

#### Sending message in MPI

- Blocked Send sends a message to another processor and waits until the receiver has
  received it before continuing the process. Also called as Synchronous send.
- Send sends a message and continues without waiting. Also called as Asynchronous send.

There are multiple communication modes used in blocking send operation:

- > Standard mode
- > Synchronous mode
- ➤ Buffered mode

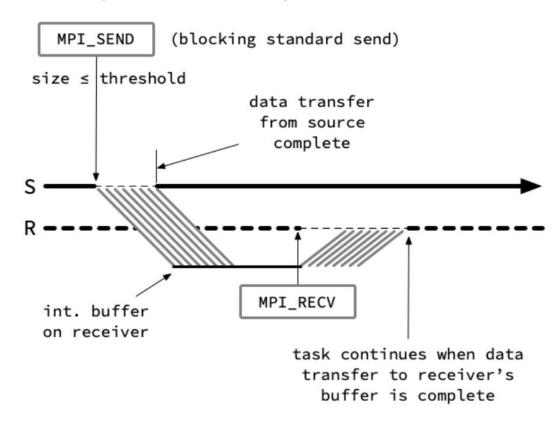
#### Standard mode

This mode blocks until the message is buffered.

#### MPI\_Send(&Msg, Count, Datatype, Destination, Tag, Comm);

- First 3 parameters together constitute message buffer. The Msg could be any address in sender's address space. The Count indicates the number of data elements of a particular type to be sent. The Datatype specifies the message type. Some Data types available in MPI are: MPI INT, MPI FLOAT, MPI CHAR, MPI DOUBLE, MPI LONG
- Next 3 parameters specify message envelope. The **Destination** specifies the rank of the process to which the message is to be sent.
- Tag: The tag is an integer used by the programmer to label different types of messages
  and to restrict message reception.

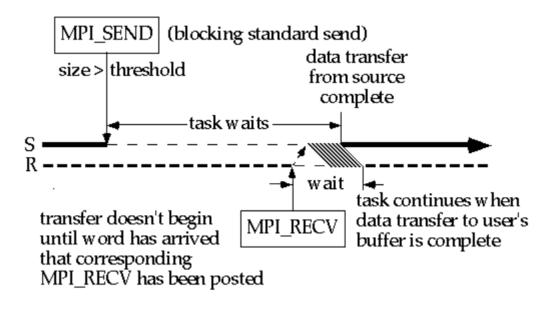
- Communicator: Major problem with tags is that they are specified by users who can make
  mistakes. Context are allocated at run time by the system in response to user request and
  are used for matching messages. The notions of context and group are combined in a
  single object called a communicator (Comm).
- The default process group is MPI\_COMM\_WORLD.
- In MPI's Standard Mode (MPI\_Send), the behavior of the send operation can vary depending on whether the size of the data being sent is less than or greater than a certain threshold.
- This threshold is implementation-dependent and determines whether the message is sent using buffering or synchronization .



- The heavy horizontal line marked S represents the execution time of the sending task (on one node)
- The heavy dashed line marked R represents the execution time of the receiving task (on a second node).
- Breaks in these lines represent interruptions due to the message-passing event.

#### Message size less than threshold:

- The blocking standard send MPI\_Send copies the message over the network into a system buffer on the receiving node.
- The standard send then returns, and the sending task can continue computation.
- The system buffer is attached when the program is started- the user does not need to manage it in any way.
- There is one system buffer per task that will hold multiple messages.
- The message will be copied from the system buffer to the receiving task when the receive call is executed.
- This protocol is like buffered mode, but the buffering is all done on the receiving side rather than the sending side.



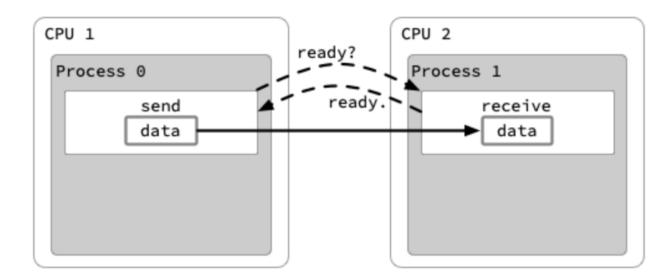
Message size greater than threshold: If messages are large, the penalty of putting extra copies in a buffer may be excessive and may even cause the program to crash. Buffering may turn out to be beneficial for small messages.

- When the size of the data being sent is larger than the threshold, MPI typically does not use internal buffering.
- Instead, the MPI\_Send operation may block until the receiver is ready to receive the data.
- This blocking behavior occurs because large messages cannot be buffered efficiently.
- Therefore, MPI waits for the receiver to post a matching MPI\_Recv before the data transfer can proceed.

#### Synchronous mode

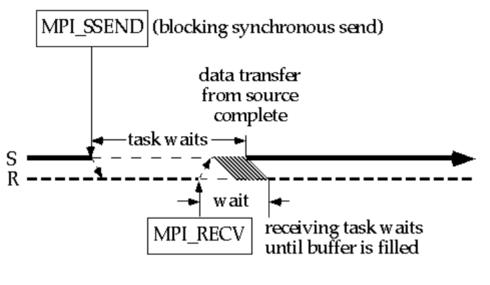
This mode requires a send to block until the corresponding receive has occurred.

MPI\_Ssend(&Msg, Count, Datatype, Destination, Tag, Comm);



In the synchronous send mode, both the sender and receiver signal their readiness to communicate before passing the message

#### Synchronous mode



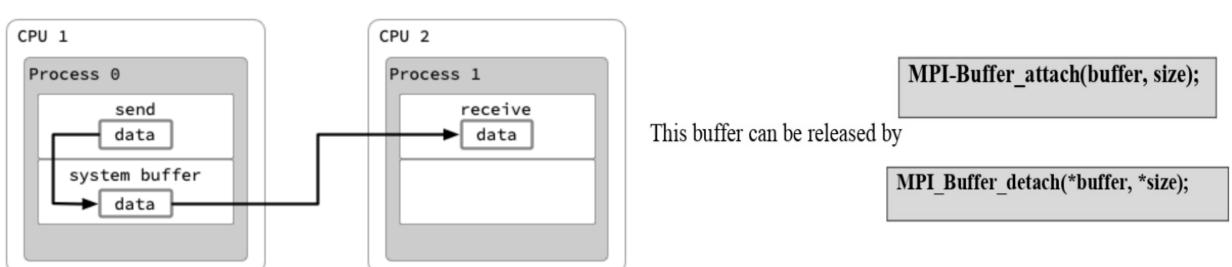
- When the blocking synchronous send MPI\_Ssend is executed, the sending task sends the receiving task a "ready to send" message. When the receiver executes the receive call, it sends a "ready to receive" message.
   The data are then transferred.
- There are two sources of overhead in message-passing. System
   overhead is incurred from copying the message data from the sender's
   message buffer onto the network, and from copying the message data
   from the network into the receiver's message buffer.
- Synchronization overhead is the time spent waiting for an event to occur
  on another task. In the figure, the sender must wait for the receive to be
  executed and for the handshake to arrive before the message can be
  transferred.
- The receiver also incurs some synchronization overhead in waiting for the handshake to complete. Synchronization overhead can be significant in synchronous mode.

#### **Buffered mode**

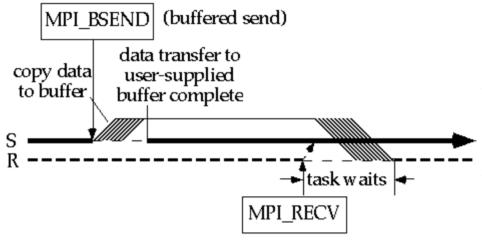
MPI\_Bsend(&Msg, Count, Datatype, Destination, Tag, Comm);

In this mode a send assumes availability of a certain amount of buffer space, which must be previously specified by the user program through a routine call that allocates a user buffer.

In Buffered mode, the user must provide a buffer space explicitly using MPI\_Buffer\_attach before calling MPI\_Bsend



#### **Buffered mode**



- The blocking buffered send MPI\_BSEND copies the data from the message buffer to a user-supplied buffer, and then returns.
- The sending task can then proceed with calculations that modify the original message buffer, knowing that these modifications will not be reflected in the data actually sent.
- The data will be copied from the user-supplied buffer over the network once the "ready to receive" notification has arrived.
- Buffered mode incurs extra system overhead, because of the additional copy from the message buffer to the user-supplied buffer.
- Synchronization overhead is eliminated on the sending task -- the timing of the receive is now irrelevant to the sender.
- Synchronization overhead can still be incurred by the receiving task. Whenever the receive is executed before the send, it must wait for the message to arrive before it can return.

Feature/Mode	Standard Mode (`MPI_Send`)	Synchronous Mode (`MPI_Ssend`)	Buffered Mode (`MPI_Bsend`)
Completion	May complete before the message is received	Completes only when the receiver is ready	Completes as soon as the message is buffered
Synchronization	No guarantee of synchronization	Strict synchronization	No synchronization, but requires user- provided buffer
Buffering	May or may not be buffered internally	Not buffered; waits for receiver	Explicitly buffered using user-provided space
Use Case	General-purpose, when no strict sync is needed	When sender must wait for receiver	When sender should continue immediately
Data Size	Small messages likely buffered, large may block	Data size independent	Requires sufficient user-provided buffer space

#### Receiving message in MPI

MPI\_Recv(&Msg, Count, Datatype, Source, Tag, Comm, &status);

- Receive a message and block until the requested data is available in the application buffer in the receiving task.
- The Msg could be any address in receiver's address space. The Count specifies number of
  data items. The Datatype specifies the message type. The Source specifies the rank of the
  process which has sent the message. The Tag and Comm should be same as that is used in
  corresponding send operation. The status is a structure of type status which contains
  following information: Sender's rank, Sender's tag and number of items received
- The status argument allows the receiver to examine the properties of the message once it has been received. If the user doesn't need this information, MPI\_STATUS\_IGNORE can be passed.

### **Point to Point Communication in MPI**

### Finding execution time in MPI

MPI Wtime: Returns an elapsed wall clock time in seconds (double precision) on the calling processor.

MPI\_Wtime ()

```
double start, finish;
start = MPI_Wtime ();
... //MPI program segment to be clocked
finish = MPI_Wtime ();
printf ("Elapsed time is %f\n", finish - start);
```

#### **Solved Example:**

Write a MPI program using standard send. The sender process sends a number to the receiver. The

second process receives the number and prints it.

```
#include "mpi.h"
#include <stdio.h>
int main(int argc, char *argv[])
      int rank, size, x;
      MPI Init(&arge,&argv);
      MPI Comm rank(MPI COMM WORLD,&rank);
      MPI Comm size(MPI COMM WORLD, &size);
      MPI Status status;
      if(rank==0)
        Printf("Enter a value in master process:");
        scanf("%d",&x);
        MPI Send(&x,1,MPI INT,1,1,MPI COMM WORLD);
        fprintf(stdout,"I have sent %d from process 0\n",x);
        fflush(stdout);
      else
       MPI Recv(&x,1,MPI INT,0,1,MPI COMM WORLD,&status);
        fprintf(stdout,"I have received %d in process 1\n",x);
        fflush(stdout);
      MPI Finalize();
      return 0;
```

### **Point to Point Communication in MPI**

### Seven basic MPI operations

Many parallel programs can be written and evaluated just by using the following seven MPI operations that have been overviewed in the previous sections:

```
MPI_INIT,
MPI_FINALIZE,
MPI_COMM_SIZE,
MPI_COMM_RANK,
MPI_SEND,
MPI_RECV,
MPI_WTIME.
```

### Objectives:

- 1. Understand the usage of collective communication in MPI
- 2. Learn how to broadcast messages from root
- 3. Learn and use the APIs for distributing values from root and gathering the values in the root

- Collective Communication routines
  - When **all processes** in a group (communicator) participate in a global communication operation, the resulting communication is called a collective communication.
- Crucial for coordinating tasks across multiple processes, ensuring data consistency.
- Performs tasks like synchronization, broadcasting, gathering, and scattering data.
- The MPI collective communication routines:
  - MPI\_BARRIER (comm)
  - MPI\_BCAST (inbuf, incnt, intype, root, comm)
  - MPI\_GATHER (inbuf, incnt, intype, outbuf, outcnt, outtype, root, comm)
  - MPI\_SCATTER (inbuf, incnt, intype, outbuf, outcnt, outtype, root, comm)

- MPI\_Bcast (inbuf, incnt, intype, root, comm)
  - The operation implements a *one-to-all broadcast operation* whereby a single process named *root* sends its data to *all other processes* in the communicator, including to *itself*.
  - Each process receives this data from the root process, which can be of any rank.
  - The input data are located in *inbuf* of root process and consists of *incnt* data items of a specified *intype*.
  - Each process, including the root, receives the broadcasted data. After the broadcast, the **inbuf** in every process (including the root) contains the same data.
  - After the call, the data are replicated in *inbuf* as output data of all remaining processes. As inbuf is used as an *input argument at the root process, but as an output argument in all remaining processes*, it is of the INOUT type.

- MPI\_Bcast(inbuf, incnt, intype, root, comm)
  - inbuf: The buffer containing the data to be broadcasted.
    - > At the root process, it serves as an input buffer.
    - > In all other processes, it serves as an output buffer, where the received data will be stored.
  - incnt: The number of elements to be broadcasted from the root process.
  - intype: The data type of the elements in inbuf (e.g., MPI\_INT, MPI\_FLOAT).
  - root: The rank of the process within the communicator that serves as the source of the broadcast.
  - comm: The communicator that defines the group of processes participating in the broadcast.

MPI\_Bcast (inbuf, incnt, intype, root, comm)

```
int data = 100;
MPI_Bcast(&data, 1, MPI_INT, 0, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
```

- In this example, the process with rank 0 (the root) broadcasts the integer 100 to all processes in MPI\_COMM\_WORLD.
- After the broadcast, every process in MPI\_COMM\_WORLD will have data set to 100.

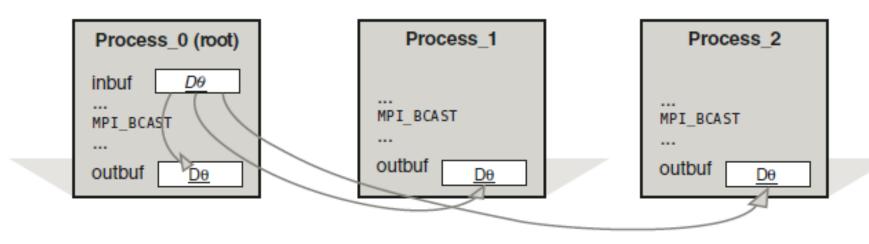


Fig. 4.4 Root process broadcasts the data from its input buffer in the output buffers of all processes

 Note that all processes have to call MPI\_BCAST to complete the requested data relocation.

- Note that the functionality of MPI\_BCAST could be implemented, in the above example, by three calls to MPI\_SEND in the root process and by a single corresponding MPI\_RECV call in any remaining process.
- Usually, such an implementation will be less efficient than the original MPI\_BCAST.
- All collective communications could be *time-consuming*. Their *efficiency* is strongly related with the *topology and performance of interconnection network*.
- The process ranked **Root** send the same message whose content is identified by the triple (Address, Count, Datatype) to **all** processes (including itself) in the communicator **Comm.**

```
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    int rank, size;
    int data = 0;
   MPI_Init(&argc, &argv);
   MPI_Comm_rank(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &rank);
   MPI_Comm_size(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &size);
   if (rank == 0) {
        data = 100; // Root process sets the data
    }
   MPI_Bcast(&data, 1, MPI_INT, 0, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
    printf("Process %d received data = %d\n", rank, data);
   MPI_Finalize();
   return 0;
```

```
manisha@MIT-DSCA-FL2158:~/HPC24/MPI$ vi broadcast.c
manisha@MIT-DSCA-FL2158:~/HPC24/MPI$ mpicc broadcast.c -o broadcast
manisha@MIT-DSCA-FL2158:~/HPC24/MPI$ mpirun -np 2 ./broadcast
Process 0 received data = 100
Process 1 received data = 100
manisha@MIT-DSCA-FL2158:~/HPC24/MPI$ mpirun -np 4 ./broadcast
Process 0 received data = 100
Process 1 received data = 100
Process 3 received data = 100
Process 2 received data = 100
```

- MPI\_Gather(inbuf, incnt, intype, outbuf, outcnt, outtype, root, comm)
  - All-to-one collective communication is implemented by MPI\_GATHER.
  - It is a collective communication operation used to collect data from all processes within a communicator and gather it to a single root process.
  - This operation is commonly used when multiple processes produce individual pieces of data that need to be aggregated.
  - This operation is also *called by all processes* in the communicator. Each process, including root process, sends its *input data located in inbuf that consists of incnt data items of a specified intype, to the root process*, which can be of any rank.

- MPI\_Gather (inbuf, incnt, intype, outbuf, outcnt, outtype, root, comm)
  - Note that the communication data can be different in count and type for each process.
  - However, the root process has to allocate enough space, through its output buffer, that suffices for all expected data.
  - After the return from MPI\_GATHER in all processes, the data are collected in *outbuf* of the root processes.
  - After the gather operation, the root process's outbuf will contain all the gathered data, ordered by process rank.

- MPI\_Gather (inbuf, incnt, intype, outbuf, outcnt, outtype, root, comm)
  - inbuf: The address of the buffer containing the data to be sent by each process.
  - incnt: The number of elements in the input buffer to be sent from each process.
  - intype: The data type of elements in the input buffer (e.g., MPI\_INT, MPI\_FLOAT).
  - outbuf: The address of the buffer where the root process will store the gathered data. This buffer is only significant at the root process.
  - outcnt: The number of elements per process in the output buffer.
  - outtype: The data type of elements in the output buffer.
  - root: The rank of the process within the communicator that will receive all the gathered data.
  - comm: The communicator that defines the group of processes participating in the gather operation.

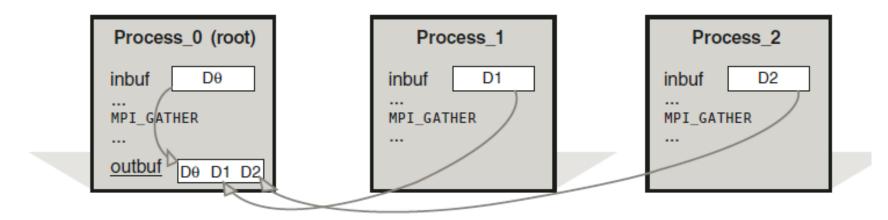


Fig. 4.5 Root process gathers the data from input buffers of all processes in its output buffer

- A schematic presentation of data relocation after the call to MPI\_GATHER is shown in Fig. 4.5 for the case of three processes, where process with rank = 0 is the root process.
- Note again that all processes have to call MPI\_GATHER to complete the requested data relocation.

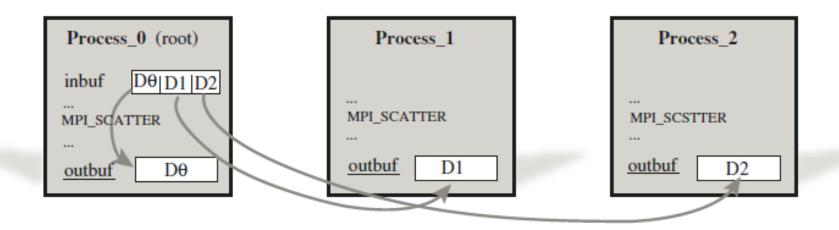
```
int data = rank + 10; // Example data in each process
int recv_data[3]; // Buffer at root to receive the gathered data

MPI_Gather(&data, 1, MPI_INT, recv_data, 1, MPI_INT, 0, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
```

- Process 0 has data = 10
- Process 1 has data = 11
- Process 2 has data = 12
- Each process sends its data (data) to the root process (rank 0). After the gather operation, **recv\_data** in the root process will contain the values [10, 11, 12], assuming the ranks are 0, 1, and 2.

```
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
                                                  manisha@MIT-DSCA-FL2158:~/HPC24/MPI$ vi gather.c
   int rank, size;
   int send_data;
                                                  manisha@MIT-DSCA-FL2158:~/HPC24/MPI$ mpicc gather.c -o gather
   int recv_data[4]; // Assume we have 4 process
                                                  manisha@MIT-DSCA-FL2158:~/HPC24/MPI$ mpirun -np 4 ./gather
                                                  Gathered data at root process:
   MPI_Init(&argc, &argv);
                                                  recv_data[0] = 0
                                                  recv_data[1] = 1
   MPI_Comm_rank(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &rank);
                                                  recv_data[2] = 2
                                                  recv_data[3] = 3
   MPI_Comm_size(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &size);
   send_data = rank;
   MPI_Gather(&send_data, 1, MPI_INT, recv_data, 1, MPI_INT, 0, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
   if (rank == 0) {
       printf("Gathered data at root process:\n");
       for (int i = 0; i < size; i++) {</pre>
           printf("recv_data[%d] = %d\n", i, recv_data[i]);
   MPI_Finalize();
   return 0;
```

- MPI\_Scatter (inbuf, incnt, intype, outbuf, outcnt, outtype, root, comm)
  - Used to distribute (scatter) data from a single root process to all processes in the communicator, including the root itself.
  - This operation works *inverse to MPI\_GATHER*, i.e., it scatters data from *inbuf of process* root to outbuf of all remaining processes, including itself.
  - Used when a large data set needs to be divided among multiple processes for parallel processing.
  - Note that the count outcnt and type outtype of the data in each of the receiver processes are the same, so, data is scattered into equal segments.



**Fig. 4.6** Root process scatters the data from its input buffer to output buffers of all processes in its output buffer

A schematic presentation of data relocation after the call to MPI\_SCATTER is shown in Fig. 4.6 for the case of three processes, where process with rank = 0 is the root process.

- The root process, specified by **root**, holds the data to be scattered in its **inbuf**. The data is divided into equal segments, and each segment is sent to a different process in the communicator.
- Each process, including the root, receives one segment of the data in its outbuf.

- MPI\_SCATTER (inbuf, incnt, intype, outbuf, outcnt, outtype, root, comm)
  - inbuf: The address of the buffer in the root process containing the data to be scattered. Only significant at the root process.
  - incnt: The number of elements to be sent to each process from the inbuf.
  - intype: The data type of elements in the inbuf (e.g., MPI\_INT, MPI\_FLOAT).
  - outbuf: The address of the buffer where the scattered data will be stored in each process, including the root.
  - outcnt: The number of elements received by each process, which is equal to incnt.
  - outtype: The data type of elements in the outbuf.
  - root: The rank of the process within the communicator that holds the original data and scatters it to the others.
  - comm: The communicator that defines the group of processes participating in the scatter operation.

```
int send_data[3] = {10, 20, 30}; // Data at the root process
int recv_data; // Buffer to receive the scattered data

MPI_Scatter(send_data, 1, MPI_INT, &recv_data, 1, MPI_INT, 0, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
```

**Example**: The root process has an array of integers [10, 20, 30] that it wants to distribute among the three processes. After the scatter operation:

- Process 0 (root) receives 10
- Process 1 receives 20
- Process 2 receives 30
- The root process (rank 0) scatters its array **send\_data** so that each process receives one element. After the scatter, **recv\_data** will contain 10, 20, or 30 depending on the rank of the process.

- All processes have to call MPI\_SCATTER to complete the requested data relocation.
- MPI\_GATHERV and MPI\_SCATTERV are more flexible variants of MPI\_GATHER and MPI\_SCATTER.
- These allow each process to send/receive varying amounts of data.
- incnt and outcnt become arrays of integers, specifying the number of elements for each process.
- Such extensions are possible by changing the incnt and outcnt arguments from a single integer to an array of integers, and by providing a new array argument displs for specifying the displacement relative to root buffers at which to place the processes' data.

```
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
   int rank, size;
   int send_data[4]; // Assume we have 4 processes for this example
   int recv_data;
                                         manisha@MIT-DSCA-FL2158:~/HPC24/MPI$ mpicc scatter.c -o scatter
                                         manisha@MIT-DSCA-FL2158:~/HPC24/MPI$ mpirun -np 4 ./scatter
   MPI_Init(&argc, &argv);
                                         Process 1 received data = 10
                                         Process 2 received data = 20
   MPI_Comm_rank(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &rank);
                                          Process 3 received data = 30
                                         Process 0 received data = 0
   MPI_Comm_size(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &size);
   if (rank == 0) {
       for (int i = 0; i < size; i++) {</pre>
           send_data[i] = i * 10; // For example: [0, 10, 20, 30]
   MPI_Scatter(send_data, 1, MPI_INT, &recv_data, 1, MPI_INT, 0, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
   printf("Process %d received data = %d\n", rank, recv_data);
   MPI_Finalize();
   return 0;
```

### MPI\_Barrier(comm)

```
MPI_Barrier(MPI_Comm comm);
```

- Used to *synchronize the execution of a group of processes* specified within the communicator *comm*. When a process reaches this operation, *it has to wait until all other processes have reached the MPI\_BARRIER*.
- In other words, no process returns from MPI\_BARRIER until all processes have called it.
- This mechanism ensures that all processes are aligned and can be crucial in scenarios where certain operations must be completed across all processes before moving forward.
- Used to ensure that messages generated in different phases do not interfere. Prevents messages generated in one phase from interfering with messages generated in a different phase by ensuring that all processes are synchronized.
- MPI\_BARRIER is a global operation that invokes all processes; therefore, it could be **time-consuming**. In many cases, the call to MPI\_BARRIER should be avoided by *an appropriate use of explicit addressing options*, e.g., tag, source, or comm, which can provide more fine-grained control and reduce the need for global synchronization

```
#include <mpi.h>
#include <stdio.h>
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    int rank, size;
    int sum_before = 0,sum_after=0;
   MPI_Init(&argc, &argv);
   MPI_Comm_rank(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &rank);
   MPI_Comm_size(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &size);
    sum_before+= rank;
    printf("Process %d added its rank. Current sum = %d\n", rank, sum_before);
    MPI_Barrier(MPI_COMM_WORLD);
    sum_after = sum_before+rank;
    printf("Process %d added its rank. Current sum = %d\n", rank, sum_after);
   MPI_Finalize();
    return 0;
```

```
manisha@MIT-DSCA-FL2158:~/HPC24/MPI$ mpirun -np 4 ./barrier
Process 2 added its rank. Current sum = 2
Process 3 added its rank. Current sum = 3
Process 0 added its rank. Current sum = 0
                                               With
Process 1 added its rank. Current sum = 1
                                            MPI Barrier
Process 2 added its rank. Current sum = 4
Process 1 added its rank. Current sum = 2
Process 0 added its rank. Current sum = 0
Process 3 added its rank. Current sum = 6
manisha@MIT-DSCA-FL2158:~/HPC24/MPI$ mpirun -np 4 ./barrier
Process 0 added its rank. Current sum = 0
Process 1 added its rank. Current sum = 1
Process 2 added its rank. Current sum = 2
Process 3 added its rank. Current sum = 3
Process 0 added its rank. Current sum = 0
Process 1 added its rank. Current sum = 2
Process 3 added its rank. Current sum = 6
Process 2 added its rank. Current sum = 4
manisha@MIT-DSCA-FL2158:~/HPC24/MPI$ mpirun -np 4 ./barrier
Process 1 added its rank. Current sum = 1
Process 2 added its rank. Current sum = 2
Process 3 added its rank. Current sum = 3
Process 0 added its rank. Current sum = 0
Process 0 added its rank. Current sum = 0
Process 1 added its rank. Current sum = 2
Process 2 added its rank. Current sum = 4
Process 3 added its rank. Current sum = 6
```

```
manisha@MIT-DSCA-FL2158:~/HPC24/MPI$ mpirun -np 4 ./barrier
Process 0 added its rank. Current sum = 0
Process 2 added its rank. Current sum = 2
Process 2 added its rank. Current sum = 4
Process 3 added its rank. Current sum = 3
Process 3 added its rank. Current sum = 6
Process 1 added its rank. Current sum = 1
Process 1 added its rank. Current sum = 2
```

# Collective MPI Data Manipulations

- MPI provides a set of operations that perform several simple manipulations on the transferred data.
- These operations represent a combination of *collective communication* and *computational manipulation* in a single call and therefore simplify MPI programs.
- Collective MPI operations for data manipulation are based on data *reduction* paradigm that involves reducing a set of numbers into a smaller set of numbers via a data manipulation.
- For example, three pairs of numbers: {5, 1}, {3, 2}, {7, 6}, each representing the local data of a process
- Can be reduced in a pair of maximum numbers, i.e., {7, 6}
- Or in a sum of all pair numbers, i.e., {15, 9}

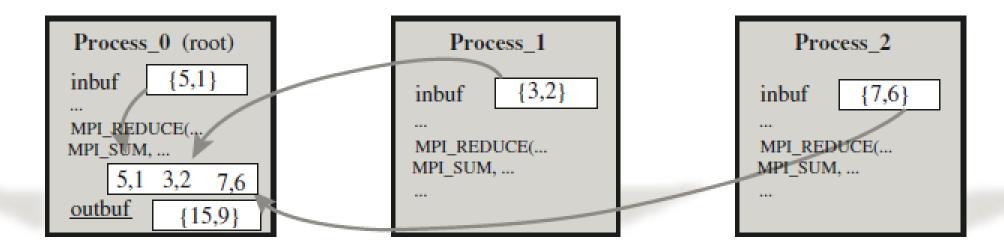
# Collective MPI Data Manipulations

- Reduction operations defined by MPI:
  - MPI\_MAX, MPI\_MIN; return either maximum or minimum data item;
  - MPI\_SUM, MPI\_PROD; return either sum or product of aligned data items;
  - MPI\_LAND, MPI\_LOR, MPI\_BAND, MPI\_BOR; return logical or bitwise AND or OR operation across the data items;
  - MPI\_MAXLOC, MPI\_MINLOC; return the maximum or minimum value and the rank of the process that owns it;

# CollectiveMPI Data Manipulations

- The MPI operation that implements all kind of data reductions is
  - MPI\_REDUCE (inbuf, outbuf, count, type, op, root, comm).
  - The MPI\_REDUCE operation implements manipulation op on matching data items in input buffer inbuf from all processes in the communicator comm.
  - The results of the manipulation are stored in the output buffer outbuf of process root.
  - The functionality of MPI\_REDUCE is in fact an MPI\_GATHER followed by manipulation op in process root.
  - Reduce operations are implemented on a per-element basis, i.e., *i*th elements from each process' inbuf are combined into the *i*th element in outbuf of process root.

# CollectiveMPI Data Manipulations



**Fig. 4.7** Root process collects the data from input buffers of all processes, performs per-element MPI\_SUM manipulation, and saves the result in its output buffer

MPI\_REDUCE (inbuf,outbuf,2,MPI\_INT, MPI\_SUM,0,MPI\_COMM\_ WORLD)

Before the call, inbuf of three processes with ranks 0, 1, and 2 were: {5, 1}, {3, 2}, and {7, 6}, respectively. After the call to the MPI\_REDUCE the value in outbuf of root process is {15, 9}

# CollectiveMPI Data Manipulations

- MPI provides a specialized operation for this task, i.e.:
- MPI\_ALLREDUCE (inbuf, outbuf, count, type, op, comm), which *improves* simplicity and efficiency of MPI programs.
- It works as MPI\_REDUCE followed by MPI\_BCAST.
- Note that the argument root is not needed anymore because the final result has to be available to all processes in the communicator.
- For the same inbuf data as in Fig. 4.7 and with MPI\_SUM manipulation, a call to MPI\_ALLREDUCE will produce the result {15, 9}, in output buffers of all processes in the communicator.

### Basic MPI operations:

```
MPI_INIT, MPI_FINALIZE,
MPI_COMM_SIZE, MPI_COMM_RANK,
MPI_SEND, MPI_RECV,
```

### MPI operations for collective communication:

```
MPI_BARRIER,
MPI_BCAST, MPI_GATHER, MPI_SCATTER,
MPI_REDUCE, MPI_ALLREDUCE,
```

### Control MPI operations:

```
MPI_WTIME, MPI_STATUS, MPI_INITIALIZED.
```

- Contemporary computers have separate communication and calculation resources;
- Therefore, they are able to execute both tasks in parallel, which is a significant potential for improving an MPI program efficiency.
- For example, instead of just waiting for a data transmission to be completed, a certain part of calculation could be done that could be eventually required in the next computing step.
- If a process can perform useful work while some long communication is in progress, the overall execution time might be reduced. This approach is often termed as a **hiding latency**.

### Communication Modes

- MPI processes can communicate in four different communication modes:
  - Standard,
  - Buffered, Synchronous and
  - Ready
- Each of these modes can be performed in blocking or in non-blocking type, first being less eager to the amount of required memory for message buffering, and second being often more efficient, because of an ability to overlap the communication and computation tasks.

### Communication Modes

- Blocking Communication
- A standard mode send call, with operation MPI\_SEND, should be assumed as a blocking send, which will not return until the message data and envelope have been safely stored away. The sender process can access and overwrite the send buffer with a newmessage.
- However, depending on the MPI implementation, short messages might still be buffered while longer messages might be split and sent in shorter fragments, or they might be copied into a temporary communication buffer

- Communication Modes
  - Blocking Communication
- Because the message buffering requires extra memory space and memory-to memory copying, implementations of MPI libraries do not guarantee the amount of buffering; therefore, one has always to count on the possibility that send call will not complete until a matching receive has been posted, and the data has been moved to the receiver.
- In other words, the standard send call is **nonlocal**, i.e., may require execution of an MPI operation in another process.

- Communication Modes
  - Blocking Communication
- There are three blocking send call modes, indicated by a single-letter prefix: MPI\_BSEND, MPI\_SSEND, MPI\_RSEND, with B for buffered, S for synchronous, and R for ready, respectively.
- The send operation syntax is the same as in the standard send, e.g.,
   MPI\_BSEND (buf, count, datatype, dest, tag, comm).

- Communication Modes
- The **buffered mode** send is a standard send with a user-supplied message buffering.
- It will start independent of a matching receive and can complete before a matching receive is posted.
- However, unlike the standard send, this operation is **local**, i.e., its completion is independent on the matching receive. Thus, if a buffered send is executed and no matching receive is posted, then the MPI will buffer the outgoing message, to allow the send call to complete.
- It is a responsibility of the programmer to allocate enough buffer space for all subsequent MPI\_BSEND by calling MPI\_BUFFER\_ATTACH (bbuf, bsize).
- The buffer space bbuf cannot be reused by subsequent MPI\_BSENDs if they have not been completed by matching MPI\_RECVs; therefore, it must be large enough to store all subsequent messages.

### Communication Modes

- The synchronous mode send can start independently of a matching receive. However, the send will complete successfully only if a matching receive operation has started to receive the message sent by the synchronous send.
- Thus, the completion of a synchronous send not only indicates that the send buffer can be reused but also indicates that the receiver has reached a certain point in its execution, i.e., it has started executing the matching receive.
- If both sends and receives are blocking operations then the use of the synchronous mode provides synchronous communication
- As end executed in this mode is **nonlocal**, because its competition requires a cooperation of sender and receiver processes

#### Communication Modes

- The ready mode send may be started only if the matching receive has been already called.
- Otherwise, the operation is erroneous and its outcome is undefined.
- On some systems, this allows the removal of a handshake operation that is otherwise required, which could result in improved performance.
- In a correct program, a ready send can be replaced by a standard send with no effect on the program results, but with eventually improved performances.
- The receive call MPI\_RECV is always blocking, because it returns only after the receive buffer contains the expected received message.

#### Non-blocking Communication

- Non-blocking send start calls are denoted by a leading letter I in the name of MPI
- operation. They can use the same four modes as blocking sends: standard, buffered,
- synchronous, and ready, i.e., MPI\_ISEND, MPI\_IBSEND, MPI\_ISSEND, MPI\_
- IRSEND. Sends of all modes, except ready, can be started whether amatching receive
- has been posted or not; a non-blocking ready send can be started only if a matching
- receive is posted. In all cases, the non-blocking send start call is **local**, i.e., it returns
- immediately, irrespective of the status of other processes. Non-blocking communications
- return immediately request handles that can be waited on, or gueried, by
- specialized MPI operations that enables to wait or to test for their completion.
- · The syntax of the non-blocking MPI operations are the same as in the standard
- communication mode, e.g.:
- MPI\_ISEND (buf, count, datatype, dest, tag, comm,
- request), or
- MPI\_IRECV (buf, count,datatype, dest, tag, comm,
- request),
- · except with an additional request handle that is used for later querying by sendcomplete.