Communicating NumPy arrays Xin Li Viktor Rehnberg

Overview

Numpy and buffer-like object

Blocking communication

Nonblocking communication

Collective communication

Numpy and buffer-like object

Powerful N-dimensional arrays

Optimized for performance

Easy to use

• Open source

```
>>> import numpy as np

>>> a = np.arange(16.).reshape(4,4)

>>> a
array([[ 0.,  1.,  2.,  3.],
       [ 4.,  5.,  6.,  7.],
       [ 8.,  9.,  10.,  11.],
       [ 12.,  13.,  14.,  15.]])
```

```
>>> import numpy as np
>>> a = np.arange(16.).reshape(4,4)
>>> a
array([[ 0., 1., 2., 3.],
    [4., 5., 6., 7.],
    [8., 9., 10., 11.],
    [12., 13., 14., 15.]])
>>> b = a.T
>>> b
array([[ 0., 4., 8., 12.],
    [1., 5., 9., 13.],
    [2., 6., 10., 14.],
    [3., 7., 11., 15.]])
```

```
>>> import numpy as np
>>> a = np.arange(16.).reshape(4,4)
>>> a
array([[0., 1., 2., 3.],
   [4., 5., 6., 7.],
   [8., 9., 10., 11.],
   [12., 13., 14., 15.]])
>>> c = a[0:2, 0:2]
>>> C
array([[0., 1.],
    [4., 5.]])
```

```
>>> import numpy as np
>>> a = np.arange(16.).reshape(4,4)
>>> a
array([[0., 1., 2., 3.],
   [4., 5., 6., 7.],
   [8., 9., 10., 11.],
   [12., 13., 14., 15.]])
>> d = a[:,1].reshape(2,2)
>>> d
array([[ 1., 5.],
    [9., 13.]])
```

```
>>> import numpy as np
>>> a = np.arange(16.).reshape(4,4)
>>> a
array([[ 0., 1., 2., 3.],
   [4., 5., 6., 7.],
   [8., 9., 10., 11.],
    [12., 13., 14., 15.]])
>>> np.matmul(a, a.T)
array([[ 14., 38., 62., 86.],
    [ 38., 126., 214., 302.],
    [62., 214., 366., 518.],
    [86., 302., 518., 734.]])
```

NumPy with mpi4py

• Numpy arrays can be communicated by the all-lowercase methods like send, recv, bcast, etc.

- For best efficiency Numpy arrays can be communicated as buffer-like objects, using method with a leading uppercase letter.
 - Send, Recv
 - Isend, Irecv
 - Bcast, Reduce
 - Scattery, Gathery (more useful than Scatter/Gather)

Numpy array as buffer-like objects

- communication is fast
 - close to the speed of MPI communication in C

- less flexible
 - memory of the receiving buffer needs to be allocated
 - size of the sending buffer should not exceed that of the receiving buffer
 - mpi4py expects the buffer-like objects to have contiguous memory

```
>>> import numpy as np
>>> a = np.arange(16.).reshape(4,4)
>>> a
array([[0., 1., 2., 3.],
      [4., 5., 6., 7.],
      [8., 9., 10., 11.],
      [12., 13., 14., 15.]])
```

```
>>> import numpy as np
>>> a = np.arange(16.).reshape(4,4)
>>> a
array([[ 0., 1., 2., 3.],
   [4., 5., 6., 7.],
   [8., 9., 10., 11.],
   [12., 13., 14., 15.]])
>>> a.flags
 C_CONTIGUOUS: True
 F CONTIGUOUS : False
 OWNDATA: False
```

```
>>> b = a.T
>>> b.flags
C_CONTIGUOUS : False
F_CONTIGUOUS : True
OWNDATA : False
...
```

```
>>> b = a.T
>>> b.flags
 C_CONTIGUOUS : False
 F_CONTIGUOUS: True
 OWNDATA: False
>>> b[0,0] = 99.0
>>> b
array([[99., 4., 8., 12.],
   [1., 5., 9., 13.],
   [2., 6., 10., 14.],
    [3., 7., 11., 15.]])
```

```
>>> b = a.T
>>> b.flags
 C_CONTIGUOUS : False
 F_CONTIGUOUS: True
 OWNDATA: False
>>> b[0,0] = 99.0
>>> b
array([[99., 4., 8., 12.],
    [1., 5., 9., 13.],
    [2., 6., 10., 14.],
    [3., 7., 11., 15.]])
>>> a
array([[99., 1., 2., 3.],
    [4., 5., 6., 7.],
    [8., 9., 10., 11.],
    [12., 13., 14., 15.]])
```

```
>>> a
array([[99., 1., 2., 3.],
      [4., 5., 6., 7.],
      [8., 9., 10., 11.],
      [12., 13., 14., 15.]])
```

```
>>> a
array([[99., 1., 2., 3.],
    [4., 5., 6., 7.],
   [8., 9., 10., 11.],
   [12., 13., 14., 15.]])
>>> c = a[0:2, 0:2]
>>> C
array([[99., 1.],
    [4., 5.]])
>>> c.flags
 C_CONTIGUOUS : False
 F CONTIGUOUS : False
 OWNDATA: False
```

```
>>> a
array([[99., 1., 2., 3.],
    [4., 5., 6., 7.],
   [8., 9., 10., 11.],
   [12., 13., 14., 15.]])
>>> c = a[0:2, 0:2]
>>> C
array([[99., 1.],
    [4., 5.]])
>>> c.flags
 C_CONTIGUOUS : False
 F CONTIGUOUS : False
 OWNDATA: False
```

```
>>> d = c.copy()
>>> d.flags
  C_CONTIGUOUS : True
F_CONTIGUOUS : False
  OWNDATA : True
...
```

```
>>> d = c.copy()
>>> d.flags
 C_CONTIGUOUS: True
 F_CONTIGUOUS: False
 OWNDATA: True
>>> a.strides
(32, 8)
>>> c.strides
(32, 8)
>>> d.strides
(16, 8)
```

Use NumPy array as buffer-like object

- The array itself, or a list or tuple with
 - 2 or 3 elements
 - 4 elements for the vector variants (Scattery, Gathery)
 - data
 - [data, MPI.DOUBLE]
 - [data, n, MPI.DOUBLE]
 - [data, count, displ, MPI.DOUBLE]

Blocking send/recv

- Syntax
 - comm.Send(obj, dest=dest, tag=tag)
 - comm.Recv(obj, source=source, tag=rag)

- Note
 - obj needs to be created prior to the communication
 - size of obj needs to be known before hand

example import numpy as np from mpi4py import MPI comm = MPI.COMM WORLD if comm.rank == 0: data = np.arange(4.)**for** i **in** range(1, comm.size): comm.Send(data, dest=i, tag=i) print(f"Process {comm.rank} sent data:", data) else: data = np.zeros(4)comm.Recv(data, source=0, tag=comm.rank) print(f"Process {comm.rank} received data:", data)

output

```
Process 0 sent data: [0. 1. 2. 3.]
Process 0 sent data: [0. 1. 2. 3.]
Process 0 sent data: [0. 1. 2. 3.]
Process 1 received data: [0. 1. 2. 3.]
Process 2 received data: [0. 1. 2. 3.]
Process 3 received data: [0. 1. 2. 3.]
```

- question
 - If the size of the numpy array is only known on the master process (rank 0), how do we send it to other processes (rank > 0)?

question

• If the size of the numpy array is only known on the master process (rank 0), how do we send it to other processes (rank > 0)?

solution

need to send the size of the array first

exercise

- rewrite the above example assuming that the size of array is not known on the non-master nodes (rank > 0).
- for sending an integer you may use the all-lowercase send

- exercise
 - what will happen if send and recv buffers are of different dtypes?

- exercise
 - what will happen if you try to send an array with non-contiguous memory?
 - hint: this is how to create a simple array with non-contiguous memory data = np.arange(12.)[::2]

- exercise
 - what will happen if the receiving buffer is *larger* than the sent array?

```
if comm.rank == 0:
    data = np.arange(4.)
    for i in range(1, comm.size):
        comm.Send(data, dest=i, tag=i)
        print(f"Process {comm.rank} sent data:", data)
else:
    data = np.zeros(6)
    comm.Recv(data, source=0, tag=comm.rank)
    print(f"Process {comm.rank} received data:", data)
```

- exercise
 - what will happen if the receiving buffer is smaller than the sent array?

```
if comm.rank == 0:
    data = np.arange(4.)
    for i in range(1, comm.size):
        comm.Send(data, dest=i, tag=i)
        print(f"Process {comm.rank} sent data:", data)
else:
    data = np.zeros(3)
    comm.Recv(data, source=0, tag=comm.rank)
    print(f"Process {comm.rank} received data:", data)
```

• best practice: check status

```
if comm.rank == 0:
    data = np.arange(4.)
    for i in range(1, comm.size):
        comm.Send(data, dest=i, tag=i)
        print(f"Process {comm.rank} sent data:", data)

else:
    data = np.zeros(3)
    status = MPI.Status()
    comm.Recv(data, source=0, tag=comm.rank, status=status)
    if status.error:
        MPI.COMM_WORLD.Abort(status.error)
    print(f"Process {comm.rank} received data:", data)
```

Send / Recv with buffer size

• use [data, n, MPI.DOUBLE] to specify the buffer

```
if comm.rank == 0:
    data = np.arange(4.)
    for i in range(1, comm.size):
        comm.Send([data, 2, MPI.DOUBLE], dest=i, tag=i)
        print(f"Process {comm.rank} sent data:", data[:2])
else:
    data = np.zeros(4)
    status = MPI.Status()
    comm.Recv([data, 2, MPI.DOUBLE], source=0, tag=comm.rank, status=status)
    if status.error:
        MPI.COMM_WORLD.Abort(status.error)
    print(f"Process {comm.rank} received data:", data[:2])
```

Send / Recv with buffer size

• use [data, n, MPI.DOUBLE] to specify the buffer

```
if comm.rank == 0:
    data = np.arange(4.)
    for i in range(1, comm.size):
        comm.Send([data, 2, MPI.DOUBLE], dest=i, tag=i)
        print(f"Process {comm.rank} sent data:", data[:2])
else:
    data = np.zeros(4)
    status = MPI.Status()
    comm.Recv([data, 2, MPI.DOUBLE], source=0, tag=comm.rank, status=status)
    if status.error:
        MPI.COMM_WORLD.Abort(status.error)
    print(f"Process {comm.rank} received data:", data[:2])
```

 NOTE: The size of buffer should never be larger than the size of the Numpy array.

Send / Recv with buffer size

use array slicing

```
if comm.rank == 0:
    data = np.arange(10)
    for i in range(1, comm.size):
        comm.Send(data[2:6], dest=i, tag=i)
        print(f"Process {comm.rank} sent data:", data)

else:
    data = np.zeros(10)
    status = MPI.Status()
    comm.Recv(data[2:6], source=0, tag=comm.rank), status=status)
    if status.error:
        MPI.COMM_WORLD.Abort(status.error)
    print(f"Process {comm.rank} received data:", data[:2])
```

Send / Recv with 2D array

- exercise
 - Send / Recv 2D array

```
if comm.rank == 0:
    data = np.arange(16).reshape(4, 4)
    for i in range(1, comm.size):
        comm.Send(data[2:6], dest=i, tag=i)
        print(f"Process {comm.rank} sent data:", data)
else:
    data = np.zeros(16).reshape(4, 4)
    status = MPI.Status()
    comm.Recv(data[2:6], source=0, tag=comm.rank, status=status)
    if status.error:
        MPI.COMM_WORLD.Abort(status.error)
    print(f"Process {comm.rank} received data:", data[:2])
```

Will it work if the receiving buffer is a 1D array?

Send / Recv with 2D array

- exercise
 - What will happen if we send a 2D array with .T (transpose)?

```
if comm.rank == 0:
    data = np.arange(16).reshape(4, 4).T
    for i in range(1, comm.size):
        comm.Send(data[2:6], dest=i, tag=i)
        print(f"Process {comm.rank} sent data:", data)

else:
    data = np.zeros(16).reshape(4, 4)
    status = MPI.Status()
    comm.Recv(data[2:6], source=0, tag=comm.rank, status=status)
    if status.error:
        MPI.COMM_WORLD.Abort(status.error)
    print(f"Process {comm.rank} received data:", data[:2])
```

Send / Recv with 2D array

- exercise
 - What will happen if we send a 2D array with .T.copy() (copy of transpose)?

```
if comm.rank == 0:
    data = np.arange(16).reshape(4, 4).T.copy()
    for i in range(1, comm.size):
        comm.Send(data[2:6], dest=i, tag=i)
        print(f"Process {comm.rank} sent data:", data)

else:
    data = np.zeros(16).reshape(4, 4)
    status = MPI.Status()
    comm.Recv(data[2:6], source=0, tag=comm.rank, status=status)
    if status.error:
        MPI.COMM_WORLD.Abort(status.error)
    print(f"Process {comm.rank} received data:", data[:2])
```

Non-blocking send/recv

Syntax

- comm.lsend(obj, dest=dest, tag=tag)
- comm.lrecv(obj, source=source, tag=rag)

Note

- obj needs to be created prior to the communication
- size of obj needs to be known before hand
- A Request object is returned by Isend / Irecv
- Use Wait method of the Request object
- No Status involved

example

```
from mpi4py import MPI
import numpy as np
comm = MPI.COMM_WORLD
if comm.rank == 0:
  data = np.arange(4.)
  reqs = []
  for i in range(1, comm.size):
    reqs.append(comm.lsend(data, dest=i, tag=i))
  for reg in regs:
    req.wait()
    print(f'Process {comm.rank} sent data:', data)
else:
  data = np.zeros(4)
  req = comm.lrecv(data, source=0, tag=comm.rank)
  req.wait()
  print(f'Process {comm.rank} received data:', data)
```

example

```
from mpi4py import MPI
import numpy as np
comm = MPI.COMM_WORLD
if comm.rank == 0:
  data = np.arange(4.)
  reqs = []
  for i in range(1, comm.size):
    reqs.append(comm.lsend(data, dest=i, tag=i))
  for reg in regs:
    req.wait()
    print(f'Process {comm.rank} sent data:', data)
else:
  data = np.zeros(4)
  req = comm.lrecv(data, source=0, tag=comm.rank)
  req.wait()
  print(f'Process {comm.rank} received data:', data)
```

example

```
from mpi4py import MPI
import numpy as np
comm = MPI.COMM_WORLD
if comm.rank == 0:
  data = np.arange(4.)
  reqs = [comm.lsend(data, dest=i, tag=i) for i in range(1, comm.size)]
  for req in reqs:
    req.wait()
    print(f'Process {comm.rank} sent data:', data)
else:
  data = np.zeros(4)
  req = comm.lrecv(data, source=0, tag=comm.rank)
  req.wait()
  print(f'Process {comm.rank} received data:', data)
```

- exercise:
 - what if the size of the receiving buffer is larger than the sent array?
 - what if the size of the receiving buffer is smaller than the sent array?
 - send a 2D array
 - without transpose
 - with .T
 - with .T.copy()

Collectives

Bcast

- Syntax
 - comm.Bcast(obj, root=root)

- Note
 - obj needs to be created prior to the communication
 - size of obj needs to be known before hand
 - root can be non-zero (source of communication)

Bcast

```
from mpi4py import MPI
import numpy as np

comm = MPI.COMM_WORLD

if comm.rank == 0:
    data = np.arange(4.0)
else:
    data = np.zeros(4)

comm.Bcast(data, root=0)

print(f'Process {comm.rank} has data:', data)
```

Bcast

- exercise
 - what will happen if the size of the receiving buffer is *larger*?
 - what will happen if the size of the receiving buffer is *smaller*?

vector variant of Scatter

- Syntax
 - comm.Scatterv([sendbuf, count, displ, mpi_dtype], recvbuf, root=root)

- Note
 - count is count per rank
 - displ by default calculated from count
 - recvbuf needs to be created prior to the communication
 - size of recybuf needs to be known beforehand

Scatterv

determine count

```
base, rem = divmod(sendbuf.size, comm.size)

# count: the size of each sub-task
count = np.full(shape=comm.size, fill_value=base))
count[:rem] += 1
```

determine count

```
base, rem = divmod(sendbuf.size, comm.size)

# count: the size of each sub-task
count = np.full(shape=comm.size, fill_value=base))
count[:rem] += 1
```

- sendbuf.size = 15; comm.size = 4
 - base = 3; rem = 3
 - count = np.array([4, 4, 4, 3])

determine count

```
base, rem = divmod(sendbuf.size, comm.size)

# count: the size of each sub-task
count = np.full(shape=comm.size, fill_value=base))
displ[:rem] += 1
```

- sendbuf.size = 15; comm.size = 4
 - base = 3; rem = 3
 - count = np.array([4, 4, 4, 3])

0	1	2	3
4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11
12	13	14	

rank 0 rank 1 rank 2 rank 3

Scatterv

from mpi4py import MPI import numpy as np

comm = MPI.COMM_WORLD

```
if comm.rank == 0:
  sendbuf = np.arange(15.0)
  # count: the size of each sub-task
  base, rem = divmod(sendbuf.size, comm.size)
  count = np.full(shape=comm.size, base=rem)
  count[:rem] += 1
else:
  sendbuf = None
 # initialize count on worker processes
  count = np.zeros(comm.size, dtype=int)
```

```
# broadcast count
comm.Bcast(count, root=0)

# initialize recvbuf on all processes
recvbuf = np.zeros(count[comm.rank])

comm.Scatterv([sendbuf, count], recvbuf, root=0)

print(f'After Scatterv, process {comm.rank} has data:', recvbuf)
```

output

```
After Scattery, process 0 has data: [0. 1. 2. 3.]
After Scattery, process 2 has data: [8. 9. 10. 11.]
After Scattery, process 1 has data: [4. 5. 6. 7.]
After Scattery, process 3 has data: [12. 13. 14.]
```

Gatherv

vector variant of Gather

- Syntax
 - comm.Gatherv(sendbuf, [recvbuf, count, displ, mpi_dtype], root=root)

- Note
 - count is count per rank
 - displ by default calculated from count
 - recvbuf needs to be created prior to the communication
 - size of recybuf needs to be known before hand

Gatherv

continue with the Scattery code

```
sendbuf2 = recvbuf
recvbuf2 = np.zeros(count.sum())

comm.Gatherv(sendbuf2, [recvbuf2, count], root=0)

if comm.rank == 0:
    print('After Gatherv, process 0 has data:', recvbuf2)
```

Gatherv

output

```
After Gathery, process 0 has data: [0. 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14.]
```

- Syntax
 - comm.Reduce(sendbuf, recvbuf, op=op, root=root)

- Note
 - default op is MPI.SUM
 - root can be non-zero (target of Reduce)

continue with the Scattery code

```
partial_sum = np.zeros(1)
partial_sum[0] = sum(recvbuf)
print(f'Partial sum on process {comm.rank} is:', partial_sum[0])

total_sum = np.zeros(1)
comm.Reduce(partial_sum, total_sum, op=MPI.SUM, root=0)

if comm.rank == 0:
    print('After Reduce, total sum on process 0 is:', total_sum[0])
```

output

Partial sum on process 3 is: 39.0

Partial sum on process 1 is: 22.0

Partial sum on process 2 is: 38.0

Partial sum on process 0 is: 6.0

After Reduce, total sum on process 0 is: 105.0

- exercise
 - Use Reduce to compute the sum of numpy arrays

```
from mpi4py import MPI
import numpy as np

comm = MPI.COMM_WORLD

partial = np.arange(10.) * comm.rank
print(f'Before Reduce, partial on process {comm.rank} is:', partial)

total = np.zeros(10)
comm.Reduce(partial, total, op=MPI.SUM, root=0)
if comm.rank == 0:
    print(f'After Reduce, total on process {comm.rank} is:', total)
```

```
Before Reduce, partial on process 0 is: [0. 0. 0. 0. 0. 0. 0. 0. 0. 0. 0.]

Before Reduce, partial on process 2 is: [0. 2. 4. 6. 8. 10. 12. 14. 16. 18.]

Before Reduce, partial on process 1 is: [0. 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9.]

Before Reduce, partial on process 3 is: [0. 3. 6. 9. 12. 15. 18. 21. 24. 27.]

After Reduce, total on process 0 is: [0. 6. 12. 18. 24. 30. 36. 42. 48. 54.]
```

Summary

Numpy array as buffer-like object in mpi4py

fast communication

less flexible code (need to deal with memory)

- blocking and nonblocking communication
 - Send, Recv, Isend, Irecv

- collective communication
 - Bcast, Scatterv, Gatherv, Reduce