and INTEGER (KIND=MPI_ADDRESS_KIND) in Fortran. These types must have the same width and encode address values in the same manner such that address values in one language may be passed directly to another language without conversion. There is the MPI constant MPI_BOTTOM to indicate the start of the address range. ticket141.

2.5.7 File Offsets

For I/O there is a need to give the size, displacement, and offset into a file. These quantities can easily be larger than 32 bits which can be the default size of a Fortran integer. To overcome this, these quantities are declared to be INTEGER (KIND=MPI_OFFSET_KIND) in Fortran. ticket141. In C one uses MPI_Offset whereas in C++ one uses MPI::Offset. These types must have the same width and encode address values in the same manner such that offset values in one language may be passed directly to another language without conversion.

2.6 Language Binding

This section defines the rules for MPI language binding in general and for Fortran, ISO C, and C++, in particular. (Note that ANSI C has been replaced by ISO C.) ticket150. The C++ language bindings have been deprecated. Defined here are various object representations, as well as the naming conventions used for expressing this standard. The actual calling sequences are defined elsewhere.

MPI bindings are for Fortran 90, though they are designed to be usable in Fortran 77 environments.

Since the word PARAMETER is a keyword in the Fortran language, we use the word “argument” to denote the arguments to a subroutine. These are normally referred to as parameters in C and C++, however, we expect that C and C++ programmers will understand the word “argument” (which has no specific meaning in C/C++), thus allowing us to avoid unnecessary confusion for Fortran programmers.

Since Fortran is case insensitive, linkers may use either lower case or upper case when resolving Fortran names. Users of case sensitive languages should avoid the “mpi_” and “pmpi_” prefixes.

2.6.1 Deprecated Names and Functions

A number of chapters refer to deprecated or replaced MPI-1 constructs. These are constructs that continue to be part of the MPI standard, as documented in Chapter 15, but that users are recommended not to continue using, since better solutions were provided with MPI-2. For example, the Fortran binding for MPI-1 functions that have address arguments uses INTEGER. This is not consistent with the C binding, and causes problems on machines with 32 bit INTEGERs and 64 bit addresses. In MPI-2, these functions were given new names with new bindings for the address arguments. The use of the old functions is deprecated. For consistency, here and in a few other cases, new C functions are also provided, even though the new functions are equivalent to the old functions. The old names are deprecated. Another example is provided by the MPI-1 predefined datatypes MPI_UB and MPI_LB. They are deprecated, since their use is awkward and error-prone. The MPI-2 function MPI_TYPE_CREATE_RESIZED provides a more convenient mechanism to achieve the same effect.