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Environmental Inquiries

A set of attributes that describe the execution environment are attached to the communicator MPI_COMM_WORLD when MPI is initialized. The value of these attributes can be inquired by using the function [MPI_ATTR_GET]MPI_COMM_GET_ATTR described in Chapter 6. It is erroneous to delete these attributes, free their keys, or change their values.

MPI_GET_VERSION is one of the few functions that can be called before MPI_INIT and

after MPI_FINALIZE. Valid (MPI_VERSION, MPI_SUBVERSION) pairs in this and previous

The list of predefined attribute keys include

versions of the MPI standard are (2,2), (2,1), (2,0), and (1,2).

Section 15.2)

MPI_TAG_UB Upper bound for tag value.

MPI_HOST Host process rank, if such exists, MPI_PROC_NULL, otherwise.

MPI_IO rank of a node that has regular I/O facilities (possibly myrank). Nodes in the same communicator may return different values for this parameter.

MPI_WTIME_IS_GLOBAL Boolean variable that indicates whether clocks are synchronized.

Vendors may add implementation specific parameters (such as node number, real memory size, virtual memory size, etc.)

These predefined attributes do not change value between MPI initialization (MPI_INIT and MPI completion (MPI_FINALIZE), and cannot be updated or deleted by users.

Advice to users. Note that in the C binding, the value returned by these attributes is a pointer to an int containing the requested value. (End of advice to users.)

The required parameter values are discussed in more detail below:

Tag Values

Tag values range from 0 to the value returned for MPI_TAG_UB inclusive. These values are guaranteed to be unchanging during the execution of an MPI program. In addition, the tag upper bound value must be at least 32767. An MPI implementation is free to make the value of MPI_TAG_UB larger than this; for example, the value $2^{30}-1$ is also a legal value for MPI_TAG_UB.

The attribute MPI_TAG_UB has the same value on all processes of MPI_COMM_WORLD.

Host Rank

The value returned for MPI_HOST gets the rank of the HOST process in the group associated with communicator MPI_COMM_WORLD, if there is such. MPI_PROC_NULL is returned if there is no host. MPI does not specify what it means for a process to be a HOST, nor does it requires that a HOST exists.

The attribute MPI_HOST has the same value on all processes of MPI_COMM_WORLD.