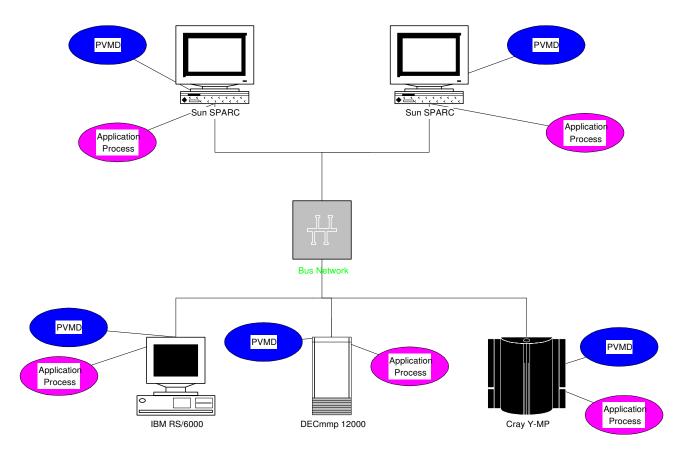
## Announcements

Programming Assignment #1 will be out later today

#### **PVM**

- Provide a simple, free, portable parallel environment
- Run on everything
  - Parallel Hardware: SMP, MPPs, Vector Machines
  - Network of Workstations: ATM, Ethernet,
    - UNIX machines and PCs running Win\*
  - Works on a heterogenous collection of machines
    - handles type conversion as needed
- Provides two things
  - message passing library
    - point-to-point messages
    - synchronization: barriers, reductions
  - OS support
    - process creation (pvm\_spawn)

# PVM Environment (UNIX)



- One PVMD per machine
  - all processes communicate through pvmd (by default)
- Any number of application processes per node

3

# **PVM Message Passing**

- All messages have tags
  - an integer to identify the message
  - defined by the user
- Messages are constructed, then sent
  - pvm\_pk{int,char,float}(\*var, count, stride)
  - pvm\_unpk{int,char,float} to unpack
- All proccess are named based on task ids (tids)
  - local/remote processes are the same
- Primary message passing functions
  - pvm\_send(tid, tag)
  - pvm\_recv(tid, tag)

#### **PVM Process Control**

#### Creating a process

- pvm\_spawn(task, argv, flag, where, ntask, tids)
- flag and where provide control of where tasks are started
- ntask controls how many copies are started
- program must be installed on target machine

#### Ending a task

- pvm\_exit
- does not exit the process, just the PVM machine

#### Info functions

– pvm\_mytid() - get the process task id

## **PVM Group Operations**

- Group is the unit of communication
  - a collection of one or more processes
  - processes join group with pvm\_joingroup("<group name>")
  - each process in the group has a unique id
    - pvm\_gettid("<group name>")
- Barrier
  - can involve a subset of the processes in the group
  - pvm\_barrier("<group name>", count)
- Reduction Operations
  - pvm\_reduce( void (\*func)(), void \*data, int count, int datatype, int msgtag, char \*group, int rootinst)
    - result is returned to rootinst node
    - does not block
  - pre-defined funcs: PvmMin, PvmMax,PvmSum,PvmProduct

#### **PVM Performance Issues**

- Messages have to go through PVMD
  - can use direct route option to prevent this problem
- Packing messages
  - semantics imply a copy
  - extra function call to pack messages
- Heterogenous Support
  - information is sent in machine independent format
  - has a short circuit option for known homogenous comm.
    - passes data in native format then

# Sample PVM Program

```
int main(int argc, char **argv) {
                                                               /* Main Loop Body */
    int myGroupNum;
                                                               if (myGroupNum==0) {
    int friendTid:
    int mytid;
                                                                    /* Initialize the message */
    int tids[2]:
                                                                    for (i=0; i<MESSAGESIZE; i++) {
    int message[MESSAGESIZE];
                                                                         message[i]='1';
    int c,i,okSpawn;
    /* Initialize process and spawn if necessary */
                                                                    /* Now start passing the message back and forth */
    myGroupNum=pvm joingroup("ping-pong");
                                                                    for (i=0; i<ITERATIONS; i++) {
    mytid=pvm mytid();
                                                                         pvm initsend(PvmDataDefault);
    if (myGroupNum==0) { /* I am the first process */
                                                                         pvm pkint(message,MESSAGESIZE,1);
         pvm catchout(stdout);
                                                                         pvm send(tid,msgid);
         okSpawn=pvm spawn(MYNAME,argv,0,"",1,&friendTid);
         if (okSpawn!=1) {
              printf("Can't spawn a copy of myself!\n");
                                                                        pvm recv(tid,msgid);
              pvm exit();
                                                                         pvm upkint(message,MESSAGESIZE,1);
              exit(1);
                                                               } else {
         tids[0]=mytid;
                                                                        pvm recv(tid,msgid);
         tids[1]=friendTid;
                                                                         pvm upkint(message,MESSAGESIZE,1);
    } else { /*I am the second process */
                                                                        pvm initsend(PvmDataDefault);
         friendTid=pvm parent();
                                                                         pvm pkint(message,MESSAGESIZE,1);
         tids[0]=friendTid;
                                                                         pvm send(tid,msgid);
         tids[1]=mytid;
                                                               pvm exit();
    pvm barrier("ping-pong",2);
                                                               exit(0);
```

# Defect Patterns in High Performance Computing

Based on Materials Developed by Taiga Nakamura

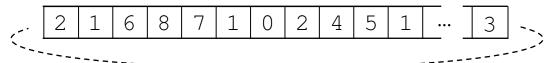
## What is This Lecture?

- Debugging and testing parallel code is hard
  - What kinds of software defects (bugs) are common?
  - How can they be prevented or found/fixed effectively?
- <u>Hypothesis:</u> Knowing common defects (bugs) will reduce the time spent debugging
  - ... during programming assignments, course projects
- Here: Common defect types in parallel programming
  - "Defect patterns" in HPC
  - Based on the empirical data we collected in past studies
  - Examples are in C/MPI (suspect similar defect types in Fortran/MPI, OpenMP, UPC, CAF, ...)

# Example Problem

• Consider the following problem:

#### A sequence of N cells



- 1. N cells, each of which holds an integer [0..9]
  - E.g., cell[0]=2, cell[1]=1, ..., cell[N-1]=3
- 2. In each step, cells are updated using the values of neighboring cells
  - $cell_{next}[x] = (cell[x-1] + cell[x+1]) \mod 10$
  - $cell_{next}[0] = (3+1)$ ,  $cell_{next}[1] = (2+6)$ , ...
  - (Assume the last cell is adjacent to the first cell)
- 3. Repeat 2 for *steps* times

What defects can appear when implementing a parallel solution in MPI?

# First, Sequential Solution

- Approach to implementation
  - Use an integer array buffer[] to represent the cell values
  - Use a second array nextbuffer[] to store the values in the next step, and swap the buffers

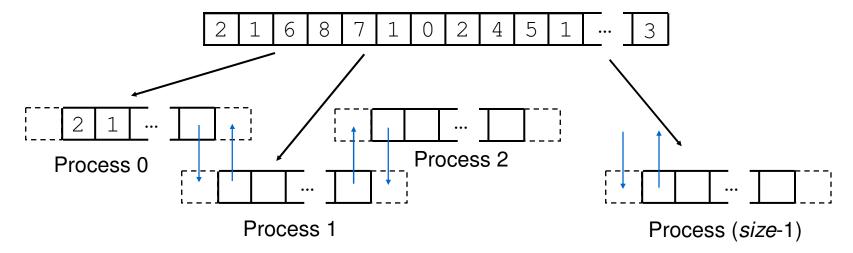
Straightforward implementation!

## Sequential C Code

```
/* Initialize cells */
int x, n, *tmp;
int *buffer = (int*)malloc(N * sizeof(int));
int *nextbuffer = (int*)malloc(N * sizeof(int));
FILE *fp = fopen("input.dat", "r");
if (fp == NULL) \{ exit(-1); \}
for (x = 0; x < N; x++) \{ fscanf(fp, "%d", &buffer[x]); \}
fclose(fp);
/* Main loop */
for (n = 0; n < steps; n++) {
  for (x = 0; x < N; x++) {
    nextbuffer[x] = (buffer[(x-1+N)%N]+buffer[(x+1)%N]) % 10;
  tmp = buffer; buffer = nextbuffer; nextbuffer = tmp;
/* Final output */
free (nextbuffer); free (buffer);
```

# Approach to a Parallel Version

- Each process keeps (1/size) of the cells
  - size:number of processes



- Each process needs to:
  - update the locally-stored cells
  - exchange boundary cell values between neighboring processes (nearest-neighbor communication)

# Recurring HPC Defects

- Now, we will simulate the process of writing parallel code and discuss what kinds of defects can appear.
- Defect types are shown as:
  - Pattern descriptions
  - Concrete examples in MPI implementation

## Pattern: Erroneous use of language features

- · Simple mistakes in understanding that are common for novices
  - E.g., inconsistent parameter types between send and recv,
  - · E.g., forgotten mandatory function calls
  - E.g., inappropriate choice of functions

#### Symptoms:

- Compile-type error (easy to fix)
- Some defects may surface only under specific conditions
  - (number of processors, value of input, hardware/software environment...)

#### Causes:

 Lack of experience with the syntax and semantics of new language features

#### Cures & preventions:

· Check unfamiliar language features carefully

## Adding basic MPI functions

```
/* Initialize MPI */
MPI_Status status;
status = MPI Init(NULL, NULL);
if (status != MPI SUCCESS) { exit(-1); }
/* Initialize cells */
fp = fopen("input.dat", "r");
if (fp == NULL) { exit(-1); }
for (x = 0; x < N; x++) \{ fscanf(fp, "%d", &buffer[x]); \}
fclose(fp);
/* Main loop */
/* Final output */
/* Finalize MPI */
MPI Finalize();
```

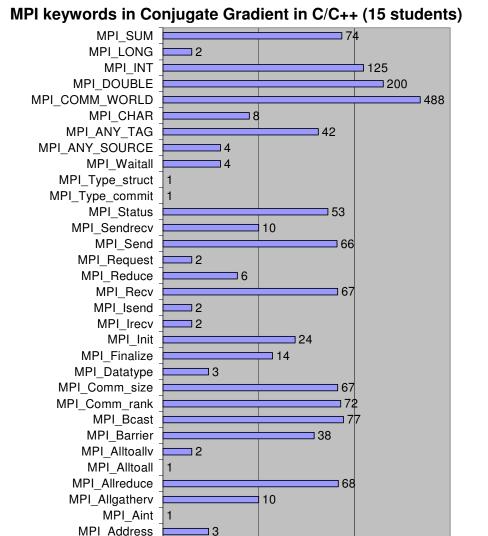
#### What are the bugs?

#### What are the defects?

- Passing NULL to MPI\_Init is invalid in MPI-1 (ok in MPI-2)
- MPI\_Finalize must be called by all processors in every execution path

#### Does MPI Have Too Many Functions To Remember?

- Yes (100+ functions), but...
- Advanced features are not necessarily used
- Try to understand a few, basic language features thoroughly



10

100

24 functions, 8 constants

19

1000

## Pattern: Space Decomposition

Incorrect mapping between the problem space and the program memory space

#### Symptoms:

- Segmentation fault (if array index is out of range)
- Incorrect or slightly incorrect output

#### Causes:

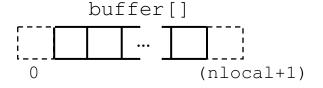
- Mapping in parallel version can be different from that in serial version
  - E.g., Array origin is different in every processor
  - E.g., Additional memory space for communication can complicate the mapping logic

#### Cures & preventions:

 Validate the memory allocation carefully when parallelizing the code

## Decompose the problem space

```
MPI Comm size (MPI COMM WORLD &size);
MPI Comm rank (MPI_COMM_WORLD &rank);
nlocal = N / size;
buffer = (int*)malloc((nlocal+2) * sizeof(int));
nextbuffer = (int*)malloc((nlocal+2) * sizeof(int));
/* Main loop */
for (n = 0; n < steps; n++) {
  for (x = 0; x < nlocal; x++) {
    nextbuffer[x] = (buffer[(x-1+N)%N]+buffer[(x+1)%N]) % 10;
  /* Exchange boundary cells with neighbors */
  tmp = buffer; buffer = nextbuffer; nextbuffer = tmp;
```



What are the bugs?

#### What are the defects?

```
MPI Comm size (MPI COMM WORLD &size);
MPI Comm rank(MPI COMM WORLD &rank);
nlocal = N / size; N may not be divisible by size
buffer = (int*)malloc((nlocal+2) * sizeof(int));
nextbuffer = (int*)malloc((nlocal+2) * sizeof(int));
/* Main loop */
for (n = 0; n < steps; n++) {
  for (x = 1; x < n|oca|+1; x++)
    nextbuffer[x] = (buffer[(x-1+N)%N]+buffer[(x+1)%N]) % 10;
  /* Exchange boundary cells with neighbors */
  tmp = buffer; buffer = nextbuffer; nextbuffer = tmp;
```

- N may not by divisible by size
- Off by one error in inner loop

#### Pattern: Side-effect of Parallelization

 Ordinary serial constructs can cause defects when they are accessed in parallel contexts

#### Symptoms:

Various correctness/performance problems

#### Causes:

- "Sequential part" tends to be overlooked
  - Typical parallel programs contain only a few parallel primitives, and the rest of the code is made of a sequential program running in parallel

## Cures & preventions:

- Don't just focus on the parallel code
- Check that the serial code is working on one processor, but remember that the defect may surface only in a parallel context

## Data I/O

```
/* Initialize cells with input file */
fp = fopen("input.dat", "r");
if (fp == NULL) { exit(-1); }
nskip = ...
for (x = 0; x < nskip; x++) { fscanf(fp, "%d", &dummy);}
for (x = 0; x < nlocal; x++) { fscanf(fp, "%d", &buffer[x+1]);}
fclose(fp);

/* Main loop */
...</pre>
```

What are the defects?

#### Data I/O

```
/* Initialize cells with input file */
if (rank == 0) {
  fp = fopen("input.dat", "r");
  if (fp == NULL) { exit(-1); }
  for (x = 0; x < nlocal; x++) { fscanf(fp, "%d", &buffer[x+1]);}
  for (p = 1; p < size; p++) {
    /* Read initial data for process p and send it */
}

fclose(fp);
}
else {
    /* Receive initial data*/
}</pre>
```

- Filesystem may cause performance bottleneck if all processors access the same file simultaneously
  - (Schedule I/O carefully, or let "master" processor do all I/O)

## Generating Initial Data

```
/* What if we initialize cells with random values... */
srand(time(NULL));
for (x = 0; x < nlocal; x++) {
   buffer[x+1] = rand() % 10;
}
/* Main loop */
...</pre>
```

What are the defects?

 (Other than the fact that rand() is not a good pseudorandom number generator in the first place...)

#### What are the Defects?

```
/* What if we initialize cells with random values... */
srand(time(NULL)); srand(time(NULL) + rank);
for (x = 0; x < nlocal; x++) {
  buffer[x+1] = rand() % 10;
}
/* Main loop */
...</pre>
```

- All procs might use the same pseudo-random sequence, spoiling independence
- Hidden serialization in rand() causes performance bottleneck

## Pattern: Synchronization

- Improper coordination between processes
  - Well-known defect type in parallel programming
  - Deadlocks, race conditions

#### Symptoms:

- Program hangs
- Incorrect/non-deterministic output

#### Causes:

- Some defects can be very subtle
- Use of asynchronous (non-blocking) communication can lead to more synchronization defects

#### Cures & preventions:

Make sure that all communications are correctly coordinated

#### Communication

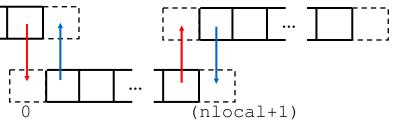
```
/* Main loop */
for (n = 0; n < steps; n++) {
  for (x = 1; x < nlocal+1; x++) {
    nextbuffer[x] = (buffer[(x-1+N)%N]+buffer[(x+1)%N]) % 10;
  /* Exchange boundary cells with neighbors */
 MPI Recv (&nextbuffer[0], 1, MPI INT, (rank+size-1)%size,
   tag, MPI COMM WORLD, &status);
 MPI Send (&nextbuffer[nlocal],1,MPI INT, (rank+1)%size,
   tag, MPI COMM WORLD);
 MPI Recv (&nextbuffer[nlocal+1],1,MPI INT, (rank+1)%size,
    tag, MPI COMM WORLD, &status);
 MPI Send (&nextbuffer[1], 1, MPI INT, (rank+size-1)%size,
   tag, MPI COMM WORLD);
 tmp = buffer; buffer = nextbuffer; nextbuffer = tmp;
```

What are the defects?

#### What are the Defects?

```
/* Main loop */
for (n = 0; n < steps; n++) {
  for (x = 1; x < nlocal+1; x++) {
    nextbuffer[x] = (buffer[(x-1+N)%N]+buffer[(x+1)%N]) % 10;
  /* Exchange boundary cells with neighbors */
 MPI Recv (&nextbuffer[0], 1, MPI INT, (rank+size-1)%size,
   tag, MPI COMM WORLD, &status);
 MPI Send (&nextbuffer[nlocal],1,MPI INT, (rank+1)%size,
   tag, MPI COMM WORLD);
 MPI Recv (&nextbuffer[nlocal+1],1,MPI INT, (rank+1)%size,
    tag, MPI COMM WORLD, &status);
 MPI Send (&nextbuffer[1], 1, MPI INT, (rank+size-1)%size,
   tag, MPI COMM WORLD);
 tmp = buffer; buffer = nextbuffer; nextbuffer = tmp;
```

 Obvious example of deadlock (can't avoid noticing this)



30

## Another Example

```
/* Main loop */
for (n = 0; n < steps; n++) {
  for (x = 1; x < nlocal+1; x++) {
    nextbuffer[x] = (buffer[(x-1+N)%N]+buffer[(x+1)%N]) % 10;
  /* Exchange boundary cells with neighbors */
 MPI Ssend (&nextbuffer[nlocal], 1, MPI INT, (rank+1)%size,
   tag, MPI COMM WORLD);
 MPI Recv (&nextbuffer[0], 1, MPI INT, (rank+size-1)%size,
    tag, MPI COMM WORLD, &status);
 MPI Ssend (&nextbuffer[1], 1, MPI INT, (rank+size-1)%size,
    tag, MPI COMM WORLD);
 MPI Recv (&nextbuffer[nlocal+1],1,MPI INT, (rank+1)%size,
    tag, MPI COMM WORLD, &status);
 tmp = buffer; buffer = nextbuffer; nextbuffer = tmp;
```

What are the defects?

#### What are the Defects?

```
/* Main loop */
for (n = 0; n < steps; n++) {
  for (x = 1; x < nlocal+1; x++) {
    nextbuffer[x] = (buffer[(x-1+N)%N]+buffer[(x+1)%N]) % 10;
  /* Exchange boundary cells with neighbors */
 MPI Ssend (&nextbuffer[nlocal], 1, MPI INT, (rank+1) %size,
   tag, MPI COMM WORLD);
 MPI Recv (&nextbuffer[0], 1, MPI INT, (rank+size-1)%size,
   tag, MPI COMM WORLD, &status);
 MPI Ssend (&nextbuffer[1], 1, MPI INT, (rank+size-1)%size,
    tag, MPI COMM WORLD);
 MPI Recv (&nextbuffer[nlocal+1],1,MPI INT, (rank+1)%size,
   tag, MPI COMM WORLD, &status);
 tmp = buffer; buffer = nextbuffer; nextbuffer = tmp;
```

- This causes deadlock too
- MPI\_Ssend is a synchronous send (see the next slides.)

## Yet Another Example

```
/* Main loop */
for (n = 0; n < steps; n++) {
  for (x = 1; x < nlocal+1; x++) {
    nextbuffer[x] = (buffer[(x-1+N)%N]+buffer[(x+1)%N]) % 10;
  /* Exchange boundary cells with neighbors */
 MPI Send (&nextbuffer[nlocal],1,MPI INT, (rank+1)%size,
   tag, MPI COMM WORLD);
 MPI Recv (&nextbuffer[0], 1, MPI INT, (rank+size-1)%size,
    tag, MPI COMM WORLD, &status);
 MPI Send (&nextbuffer[1], 1, MPI INT, (rank+size-1)%size,
    tag, MPI COMM WORLD);
 MPI Recv (&nextbuffer[nlocal+1],1,MPI INT, (rank+1)%size,
    tag, MPI COMM WORLD, &status);
 tmp = buffer; buffer = nextbuffer; nextbuffer = tmp;
```

What are the defects?

#### Potential deadlock

```
/* Main loop */
for (n = 0; n < steps; n++) {
  for (x = 1; x < nlocal+1; x++) {
   nextbuffer[x] = (buffer[(x-1+N)%N]+buffer[(x+1)%N]) % 10;
  /* Exchange boundary cells with neighbors */
 MPI Send (&nextbuffer[nlocal],1,MPI INT, (rank+1)%size,
   tag, MPI COMM WORLD);
 MPI Recv (&nextbuffer[0], 1, MPI INT, (rank+size-1)%size,
   tag, MPI COMM WORLD, &status);
 MPI_Send (&nextbuffer[1], 1, MPI_INT, (rank+size-1)%size,
   tag, MPI COMM WORLD);
 MPI Recv (&nextbuffer[nlocal+1],1,MPI INT, (rank+1)%size,
   tag, MPI_COMM_WORLD, &status);
 tmp = buffer; buffer = nextbuffer; nextbuffer = tmp;
```

- This may work (many novice programmers write this code)
- but it can cause deadlock with some implementation or parameters

# Modes of MPI blocking communication

- http://www.mpi-forum.org/docs/mpi-11-html/node40.html
  - Standard (MPI\_Send): may either return immediately when the outgoing message is buffered in the MPI buffers, or block until a matching receive has been posted.
  - Buffered (MPI\_Bsend): a send operation is completed when the MPI buffers the outgoing message. An error is returned when there is insufficient buffer space
  - Synchronous (MPI\_Ssend): a send operation is complete only when the matching receive operation has started to receive the message.
  - Ready (MPI\_Rsend): a send can be started only after the matching receive has been posted.
- In our code MPI\_Send won't probably be blocked in most implementations (each message's just one integer), but it should still be avoided.
- A "correct" solution could be:
  - (1) alternate the order of send and recv
  - (2) use MPI Bsend with sufficient buffer size
  - (3) MPI\_Sendrecv, or
  - (4) MPI Isend/recv

## Non-Blocking Communication

```
/* Main loop */
for (n = 0; n < steps; n++) {
  for (x = 1; x < nlocal+1; x++) {
   nextbuffer[x] = (buffer[(x-1+N)%N]+buffer[(x+1)%N]) % 10;
  /* Exchange boundary cells with neighbors */
 MPI Isend (&nextbuffer[nlocal], 1, MPI INT, (rank+1) %size,
   tag, MPI COMM WORLD, &request1);
 MPI_Irecv (&nextbuffer[0], 1, MPI_INT, (rank+size-1)%size,
   tag, MPI COMM WORLD, &request2);
 MPI_Ssend (&nextbuffer[1], 1, MPI_INT, (rank+size-1)%size,
   tag, MPI COMM WORLD, &request3);
 MPI_Irecv (&nextbuffer[nlocal+1],1,MPI_INT, (rank+1)%size,
   tag, MPI_COMM_WORLD, &request4);
 tmp = buffer; buffer = nextbuffer; nextbuffer = tmp;
```

What are the defects?

#### What are the Defects?

```
/* Main loop */
for (n = 0; n < steps; n++) {
  for (x = 1; x < nlocal+1; x++) {
   nextbuffer[x] = (buffer[(x-1+N)%N]+buffer[(x+1)%N]) % 10;
  /* Exchange boundary cells with neighbors */
 MPI Isend (&nextbuffer[nlocal], 1, MPI INT, (rank+1) %size,
   tag, MPI COMM WORLD, &request1);
 MPI_Irecv (&nextbuffer[0], 1, MPI_INT, (rank+size-1)%size,
   tag, MPI COMM WORLD, &request2);
 MPI_Ssend (&nextbuffer[1], 1, MPI_INT, (rank+size-1)%size,
   tag, MPI COMM WORLD, &request3);
 MPI_Irecv (&nextbuffer[nlocal+1],1,MPI_INT, (rank+1)%size,
   tag, MPI_COMM_WORLD, &request4);
 tmp = buffer; buffer = nextbuffer; nextbuffer = tmp;
```

 Synchronization (e.g. MPI\_Wait, MPI\_Barrier) is needed at each iteration (but too many barriers can cause a performance problem)

## Pattern: Performance defect

- Scalability problem because processors are not working in parallel
  - The program output itself is correct
  - Perfect parallelization is often difficult: need to evaluate if the execution speed is unacceptable

#### Symptoms:

- Sub-linear scalability
- Performance much less than expected (e.g, most time spent waiting),

#### <u>Causes:</u>

- Unbalanced amount of computation
- Load balancing may depend on input data

## Cures & preventions:

- · Make sure all processors are "working" in parallel
- Profiling tool might help

# Scheduling communication

```
if (rank != 0) {
   MPI_Ssend (&nextbuffer[nlocal],1,MPI_INT, (rank+1)%size,
        tag, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
   MPI_Recv (&nextbuffer[0], 1, MPI_INT, (rank+size-1)%size,
        tag, MPI_COMM_WORLD, &status);
}
if (rank != size-1) {
   MPI_Recv (&nextbuffer[nlocal+1],1,MPI_INT, (rank+1)%size,
        tag, MPI_COMM_WORLD, &status);
   MPI_Ssend (&nextbuffer[1], 1, MPI_INT, (rank+size-1)%size,
        tag, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
}
```

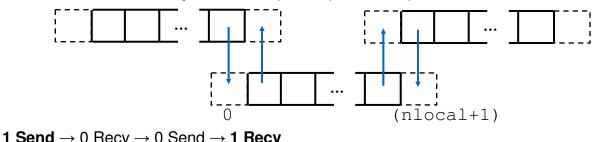
Complicated communication pattern- does not cause deadlock

What are the defects?

## What are the bugs?

```
if (rank != 0) {
   MPI_Ssend (&nextbuffer[nlocal],1,MPI_INT, (rank+1)%size,
        tag, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
   MPI_Recv (&nextbuffer[0], 1, MPI_INT, (rank+size-1)%size,
        tag, MPI_COMM_WORLD, &status);
}
if (rank != size-1) {
   MPI_Recv (&nextbuffer[nlocal+1],1,MPI_INT, (rank+1)%size,
        tag, MPI_COMM_WORLD, &status);
   MPI_Ssend (&nextbuffer[1], 1, MPI_INT, (rank+size-1)%size,
        tag, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
}
```

Communication requires O(size) time (a "correct" solution takes O(1))



```
2 Send \rightarrow 1 Recv \rightarrow 1 Send \rightarrow 2 Recv \rightarrow 2 Recv \rightarrow 2 Recv \rightarrow 2 Send \rightarrow 3 Recv
```

40

## Summary

- This is an attempt to share knowledge about common defects in parallel programming
  - Erroneous use of language features
  - Space Decomposition
  - Side-effect of Parallelization
  - Synchronization
  - Performance defect
- The slides will be available at
  - http://www.cs.umd.edu/~hollings/cs714/f06/lect04/index.shtml
- Homework (due Sep 19)
  - <a href="http://www.cs.umd.edu/~hollings/cs714/f06/homework1.pdf">http://www.cs.umd.edu/~hollings/cs714/f06/homework1.pdf</a>
  - Find defects in a given MPI program
- Programming assignments (later)
  - Try to avoid these defect patterns in your code