

## 0.1 `mpi_recv`

- Can use `mpi_any_source` and `mpi_any_tag` for the source and tag arguments (respectively); should use them when possible, but only when needed
- `status(mpi_source)` = source of the message just received
- `status(mpi_tag)` = tag of the message just received
- `status(mpi_error)` = not useful
- `status(mpi_status_ignore)`; reduces overhead related to status tracking

# 1 Sending routines

## 1.1 Blocking sends

- `mpi_ssend`: synchronous send; hand-shake between sending and receiving processes, must complete before the processes proceed with execution;
- `mpi_rsend`: send results immediately, requires a receive to be waiting; if receive is not waiting, then behavior is undefined; shouldn't use
- `mpi_bsend`: buffered send; copies message to a buffer and execution continues; can help with load balancing; caveat is that the user must manage the buffer space; (see `mpi_buffer_attach` and `mpi_buffer_detach`)
- `mpi_send`: IBM made their implementation public a few years ago (if message was small enough and the number of MPI processes was not too large, message would be sent to a buffer on the receiving process; otherwise, used `mpi_ssend`); notice that issues may not appear until large problems are run; debugging with `mpi_ssend` is critical to avoiding such mistakes

## 1.2 Non-blocking routines

The intent of non-blocking routines is to enable communication and computation to overlap and to avoid deadlocking

### 1.2.1 Deadlocks (deadly embrace)

Basically, you're waiting for something to happen that is never going to happen. You can avoid them by

- be careful how sends and receives are ordered
- use `mpi_sendrecv` or `mpi_sendrecv_replace`
- use nonblocking routines (if you can)
- use buffered sends