



Parallel Programming Principle and Practice

Lecture 8 —Programming Using Message Passing Paradigm





Outline

- Principles of Message-Passing Programming
- The Building Blocks: Send and Receive Operations
- MPI: Message Passing Interface
- Topologies and Embedding
- Overlapping Communication with Computation
- Collective Communication and Computation Operations
- Groups and Communicators

Principles of Message Passing Programming



- □ The logical view of a machine supporting the messagepassing paradigm consists of p processes, each with its own exclusive address space
- Each data element must belong to one of the partitions of the space; hence, data must be explicitly partitioned and placed
- ☐ All interactions (read-only or read/write) require cooperation of two processes the process that has the data and the process that wants to access the data
- These two constraints make underlying costs very explicit to the programmer

Principles of Message Passing Programming



- Message-passing programs are often written using the asynchronous or loosely synchronous paradigms
- In the asynchronous paradigm, all concurrent tasks execute asynchronously
- In the loosely synchronous model, tasks or subsets of tasks synchronize to perform interactions. Between these interactions, tasks execute completely asynchronously
- Most message-passing programs are written using the single program multiple data (SPMD) model





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The Building Blocks: **Send and Receive Operations**





- The prototypes of these operations are as follows send(void *sendbuf, int nelems, int dest)
 - receive(void *recvbuf, int nelems, int source)
- Consider the following code segments

```
P0
                 P1
           receive(&a, 1, 0)
a = 100;
send(&a, 1, 1); printf("%d\n", a);
a = 0;
```

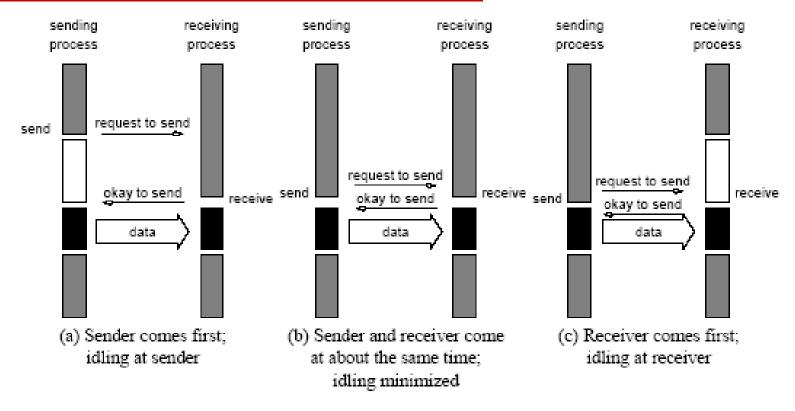
- The semantics of the send operation require that the value received by process P1 must be 100 as opposed to 0
- This motivates the design of the send and receive protocols



- ☐ A simple method for forcing send/receive semantics is for the send operation to return only when it is safe to do so
- In the non-buffered blocking send, the operation does not return until the matching receive has been encountered at the receiving process
- Idling and deadlocks are major issues with nonbuffered blocking sends







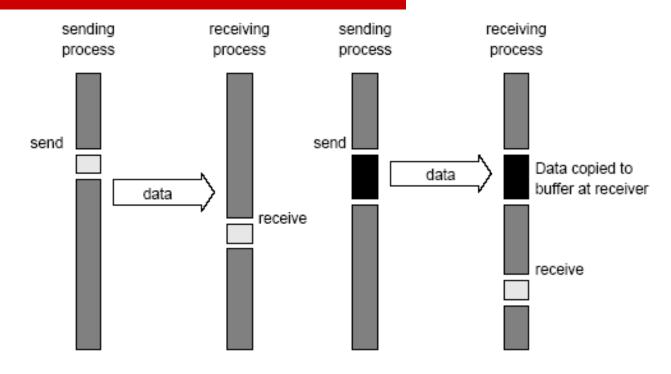
Handshake for a blocking non-buffered send/receive operation. It is easy to see that in cases where sender and receiver do not reach communication point at similar times, there can be considerable idling overheads. 華中科技大學 8



- A simple solution to the idling and deadlocking problem outlined above is to rely on buffers at the sending and receiving ends
- The sender simply copies the data into the designated buffer and returns after the copy operation has been completed
- The data must be buffered at the receiving end as well
- Buffering trades off idling overhead for buffer copying overhead







Blocking buffered transfer protocols:

- (a) in the presence of communication hardware with buffers at send and receive ends
- (b) in the absence of communication hardware, sender interrupts receiver and deposits data in buffer at receiver end



Bounded buffer sizes can have signicant impact on performance.

```
P<sub>0</sub>
                              P1
for (i = 0; i < 1000; i++) { for (i = 0; i < 1000; i++) {
    produce data(&a);
                                 receive(&a, 1, 0);
   send(&a, 1, 1);
                                  consume data(&a);
```

What if consumer was much slower than producer?



Deadlocks are still possible with buffering since receive operations block.

```
P<sub>0</sub>
                            P1
receive (&a, 1, 1);
                         receive(&a, 1, 0);
send(&b, 1, 1);
                           send(&b, 1, 0);
```

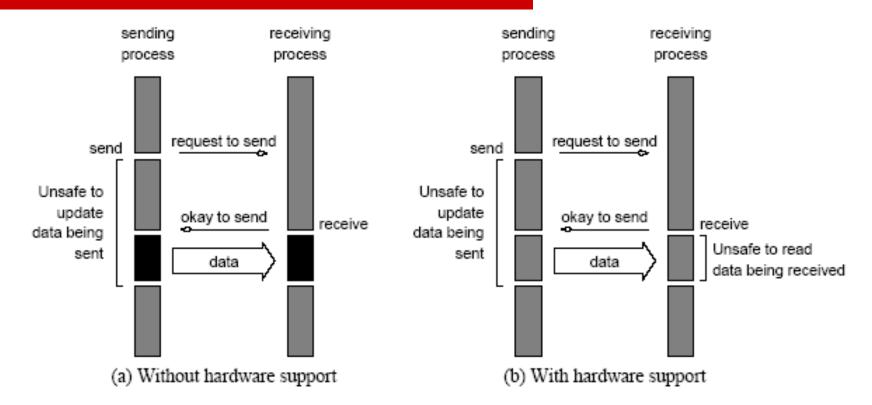
Non-Blocking **Message Passing Operations**



- The programmer must ensure semantics of the send and receive
- This class of non-blocking protocols returns from the send or receive operation before it is semantically safe to do so
- Non-blocking operations are generally accompanied by a check-status operation
- When used correctly, these primitives are capable of overlapping communication overheads with useful computations
- Message passing libraries typically provide both blocking and non-blocking primitives 单个科技大学 13

Non-Blocking **Message Passing Operations**





Non-blocking send and receive operations

- (a) in absence of communication hardware
- (b) in presence of communication hardware





Send and Receive Protocols

Blocking Operations

Non-Blocking Operations

Buffered

Sending process returns after data has been copied into communication buffer

Sending process returns after initiating DMA transfer to buffer. This operation may not be completed on return

Non-Buffered

Sending process blocks until matching receive operation has been encountered

Send and Receive semantics assured by corresponding operation

Programmer must explicitly ensure semantics by polling to verify completion

Space of possible protocols for send and receive operations





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MPI: Message Passing Interface

- MPI defines a standard library for message-passing that can be used to develop portable message-passing programs using either C or Fortran
- The MPI standard defines both the syntax as well as the semantics of a core set of library routines
- Vendor implementations of MPI are available on almost all commercial parallel computers
- It is possible to write fully-functional message-passing programs by using only the six routines





The Minimal Set of MPI Routines

MPI Init Initializes MPI

MPI Finalize Terminates MPI

MPI Comm size Determines the number of processes

MPI_Comm_rank Determines the label of calling process

MPI Send Sends a message

Receives a message MPI Recv



Starting and Terminating MPI Library

- MPI_Init is called prior to any calls to other MPI routines.
 Its purpose is to initialize the MPI environment
- MPI_Finalize is called at the end of the computation, and it performs various clean-up tasks to terminate the MPI environment
- ☐ The prototypes of these two functions are:

```
int MPI_Init(int *argc, char ***argv)
int MPI Finalize()
```

- MPI_Init also strips off any MPI related command-line arguments
- ☐ All MPI routines, data-types, and constants are prefixed by "MPI_". The return code for successful completion is MPI SUCCESS





Communicators

- ☐ A communicator defines a *communication domain* a set of processes that are allowed to communicate with each other
- Information about communication domains is stored in variables of type MPI Comm
- Communicators are used as arguments to all message transfer MPI routines
- A process can belong to many different (possibly overlapping) communication domains
- MPI defines a default communicator called
 MPI COMM WORLD which includes all the processes





Querying Information

- ☐ The MPI_Comm_size and MPI_Comm_rank functions are used to determine the number of processes and the label of the calling process, respectively
- ☐ The calling sequences of these routines are as follows:

```
int MPI_Comm_size(MPI_Comm comm, int *size)
int MPI_Comm_rank(MPI_Comm comm, int *rank)
```

□ The rank of a process is an integer that ranges from zero up to the size of the communicator minus one





Our First MPI Program

```
#include <mpi.h>
main(int argc, char *argv[])
       int npes, myrank;
       MPI_Init(&argc, &argv);
       MPI_Comm_size(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &npes);
       MPI_Comm_rank(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &myrank);
       printf("From process %d out of %d, Hello World!\n",
               myrank, npes);
       MPI_Finalize();
```





Sending and Receiving Messages

- The basic functions for sending and receiving messages in MPI are the MPI Send and MPI Recv, respectively
- The calling sequences of these routines are as follows:

```
int MPI Send(void *buf, int count, MPI Datatype
datatype, int dest, int tag, MPI Comm comm)
int MPI Recv (void *buf, int count, MPI Datatype
datatype, int source, int tag,
MPI Comm comm, MPI Status *status)
```

- MPI provides equivalent datatypes for all C datatypes. This is done for portability reasons
- The datatype MPI BYTE corresponds to a byte (8 bits) and MPI PACKED corresponds to a collection of data items that has been created by packing non-contiguous data
- The message-tag can take values ranging from zero up to the MPI defined constant MPI TAG UB





MPI Datatypes

MPI Datatype	C Datatype
MPI_CHAR	signed char
MPI_SHORT	signed short int
MPI_INT	signed int
MPI_LONG	signed long int
MPI_UNSIGNED_CHAR	unsigned char
MPI_UNSIGNED_SHORT	unsigned short int
MPI_UNSIGNED	unsigned int
MPI_UNSIGNED_LONG	unsigned long int
MPI_FLOAT	float
MPI_DOUBLE	double
MPI_LONG_DOUBLE	long double
MPI_BYTE	
MPI_PACKED	





Sending and Receiving Messages

- MPI allows specification of wildcard arguments for both source and tag
- ☐ If source is set to MPI_ANY_SOURCE, then any process of the communication domain can be the source of the message
- ☐ If tag is set to MPI_ANY_TAG, then messages with any tag are accepted
- On the receive side, the message must be of length equal to or less than the length field specified





Sending and Receiving Messages

- On the receiving end, the status variable can be used to get information about the MPI Recv operation
- ☐ The corresponding data structure contains:

```
typedef struct MPI_Status {
int MPI_SOURCE;
int MPI_TAG;
int MPI_ERROR; };
```

□ The MPI_Get_count function returns the precise count of data items received





Avoiding Deadlocks

Consider:

```
int a[10], b[10], myrank;
MPI Status status;
MPI Comm rank (MPI COMM WORLD, &myrank);
if (myrank == 0) {
    MPI Send(a, 10, MPI INT, 1, 1, MPI COMM WORLD);
    MPI Send(b, 10, MPI INT, 1, 2, MPI COMM WORLD);
else if (myrank == 1) {
    MPI Recv(b, 10, MPI INT, 0, 2, MPI COMM WORLD);
    MPI Recv(a, 10, MPI INT, 0, 1, MPI COMM WORLD);
```

If MPI Send is blocking, there is a deadlock





Avoiding Deadlocks

Consider the following piece of code, in which process *i* sends a message to process i + 1 (modulo the number of processes) and receives a message from process i - 1 (module the number of processes)

```
int a[10], b[10], npes, myrank;
MPI Status status;
MPI Comm size (MPI COMM WORLD, &npes);
MPI Comm rank (MPI COMM WORLD, &myrank);
MPI Send(a, 10, MPI INT, (myrank+1)%npes, 1,
      MPI COMM WORLD);
MPI Recv(b, 10, MPI INT, (myrank-1+npes)%npes, 1,
      MPI COMM WORLD);
```

Once again, we have a deadlock if MPI Send is blocking





Avoiding Deadlocks

We can break the circular wait to avoid deadlocks as follows:

```
int a[10], b[10], npes, myrank;
MPI Status status;
MPI Comm size (MPI COMM WORLD, &npes);
MPI Comm rank (MPI COMM WORLD, &myrank);
if (myrank%2 == 1) {
      MPI Send(a, 10, MPI INT, (myrank+1)%npes, 1,
      MPI COMM WORLD);
      MPI Recv(b, 10, MPI INT, (myrank-1+npes)%npes, 1,
             MPI COMM WORLD);
else {
      MPI Recv(b, 10, MPI INT, (myrank-1+npes)%npes, 1,
             MPI COMM WORLD);
      MPI Send(a, 10, MPI INT, (myrank+1)%npes, 1,
      MPI COMM WORLD);
```

Sending and Receiving **Messages Simultaneously**



To exchange messages, MPI provides the following function:

```
int MPI Sendrecv (void *sendbuf, int sendcount,
 MPI Datatype senddatatype, int dest, int
 sendtag, void *recvbuf, int recvcount,
 MPI Datatype recvdatatype, int source, int recvtag,
 MPI Comm comm, MPI Status *status)
```

The arguments include arguments to the send and receive functions. If we wish to use the same buffer for both send and receive, we can use:

```
int MPI Sendrecv replace (void *buf, int count,
 MPI Datatype datatype, int dest, int sendtag,
 int source, int recvtag, MPI Comm comm,
 MPI Status *status)
```





Outline

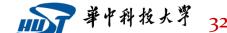
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Topologies and Embeddings

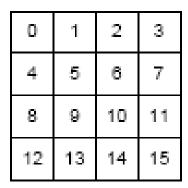
- MPI allows a programmer to organize processors into logical k-d meshes
- The processor ids in MPI COMM WORLD can be mapped to other communicators (corresponding to higher-dimensional meshes) in many ways
- The goodness of any such mapping is determined by the interaction pattern of the underlying program and the topology of the machine
- MPI does not provide the programmer any control over these mappings

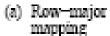


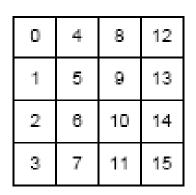




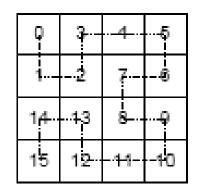
Topologies and Embeddings



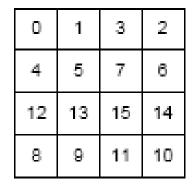




(b) Column-major



(c) Space-filling curve mapoine



(d) Hypercube mapping

- Different ways to map a set of processes to a two-dimensional grid
 - (a) and (b) show a row- and column-wise mapping of these processes
 - (c) shows a mapping that follows a space-filling curve (dotted line)
 - (d) shows a mapping in which neighboring processes are directly connected in a hypercube

Creating and Using Cartesian Topologies





We can create cartesian topologies using the function:

This function takes the processes in the old communicator and creates a new communicator with dims dimensions

Each processor can now be identified in this new cartesian topology by a vector of dimension dims

Creating and Using **Cartesian Topologies**



Since sending and receiving messages still require (onedimensional) ranks, MPI provides routines to convert ranks to cartesian coordinates and vice-versa

```
int MPI Cart coord (MPI Comm comm cart, int rank, int maxdims,
   int *coords)
int MPI Cart rank(MPI Comm comm cart, int *coords, int *rank)
```

The most common operation on cartesian topologies is a shift. To determine the rank of source and destination of such shifts, MPI provides the following function:

```
int MPI Cart shift (MPI Comm comm cart, int dir, int s step,
                 int *rank source, int *rank dest)
```





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Overlapping Communication with Computation



In order to overlap communication with computation, MPI provides a pair of functions for performing non-blocking send and receive operations

```
int MPI Isend(void *buf, int count, MPI Datatype datatype,
          int dest, int tag, MPI Comm comm,
          MPI Request *request)
int MPI Irecv(void *buf, int count, MPI Datatype datatype,
          int source, int tag, MPI Comm comm,
          MPI Request *request)
```

These operations return before the operations have been completed. Function MPI Test tests whether or not the nonblocking send or receive operation identified by its request has finished

```
int MPI_Test(MPI Request *request, int *flag,
   MPI Status *status)
```

MPI Wait waits for the operation to complete int MPI_Wait(MPI_Request *request, MPI Status *status)





Avoiding Deadlocks

Using non-blocking operations remove most deadlocks Consider:

```
int a[10], b[10], myrank;
MPI Status status;
MPI_Comm_rank(MPI COMM WORLD, &myrank);
if (myrank == 0) {
   MPI Send(a, 10, MPI INT, 1, 1, MPI COMM WORLD);
   MPI Send(b, 10, MPI INT, 1, 2, MPI COMM WORLD);
else if (myrank == 1) {
   MPI Recv(b, 10, MPI INT, 0, 2, &status, MPI COMM WORLD);
   MPI Recv(a, 10, MPI INT, 0, 1, &status, MPI COMM WORLD);
```

Replacing either the send or the receive operations with nonblocking counterparts fixes this deadlock 🕝 華中科技大学 38





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Collective Communication and **Computation Operations**



- MPI provides an extensive set of functions for performing common collective communication operations
- Each of these operations is defined over a group corresponding to the communicator
- All processors in a communicator must call these operations



The barrier synchronization operation is performed in MPI using:

```
int MPI Barrier(MPI Comm comm)
```

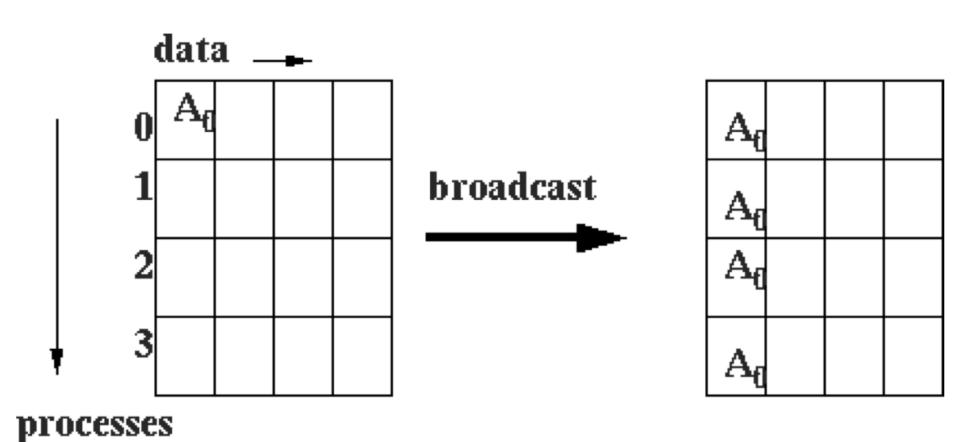
The one-to-all broadcast operation is

☐ The all-to-one reduction operation is:





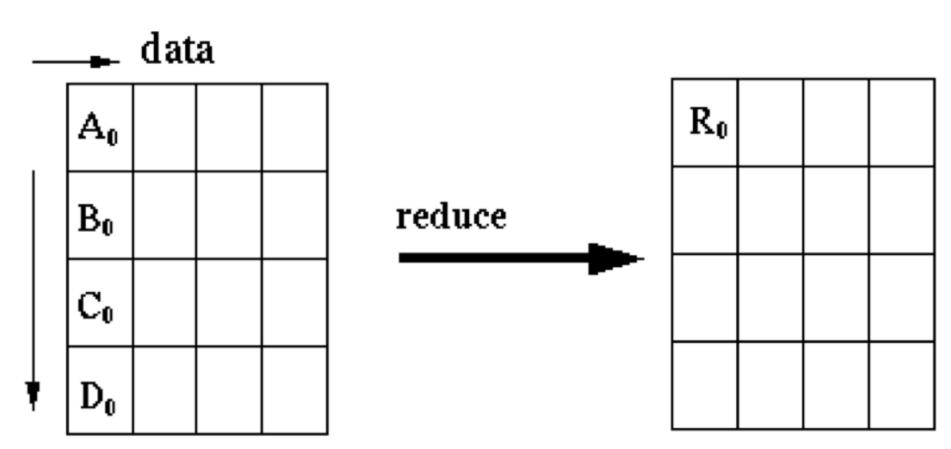
Broadcast







MPI Reduce



processes





Predefined Reduction Operations

Operation	Meaning	Datatypes
MPI_MAX	Maximum	C integers and floating point
MPI_MIN	Minimum	C integers and floating point
MPI_SUM	Sum	C integers and floating point
MPI_PROD	Product	C integers and floating point
MPI_LAND	Logical AND	C integers
MPI_BAND	Bit-wise AND	C integers and byte
MPI_LOR	Logical OR	C integers
MPI_BOR	Bit-wise OR	C integers and byte
MPI_LXOR	Logical XOR	C integers
MPI_BXOR	Bit-wise XOR	C integers and byte
MPI_MAXLOC	max-min value-location	Data-pairs
MPI_MINLOC	min-min value-location	Data-pairs



- The operation MPI_MAXLOC combines pairs of values (v_i, l_i) and returns the pair (v, l) such that v is the maximum among all v_i 's and l is the corresponding l_i (if there are more than one, it is the smallest among all these l_i 's)
- ☐ MPI_MINLOC does the same, except for minimum value of

```
Value \begin{bmatrix} 15 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 17 \\ 11 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 12 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 17 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 11 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}
```

```
MinLoc(Value, Process) = (11, 2)
MaxLoc(Value, Process) = (17, 1)
```

An example use of the MPI_MINLOC and MPI_MAXLOC operators



MPI datatypes for data-pairs used with the MPI MAXLOC and MPI MINLOC reduction operations

MPI Datatype	C Datatype	
MPI_2INT	pair of ints	
MPI_SHORT_INT	short and int	
MPI_LONG_INT	long and int	
MPI_LONG_DOUBLE_INT	long double and int	
MPI_FLOAT_INT	float and int	
MPI_DOUBLE_INT	double and int	



If the result of the reduction operation is needed by all processes, MPI provides:

- MPI_Allreduce is the equivalent of doing MPI_Reduce followed by an MPI Bcast
- □ To compute prefix-reduction, MPI provides:

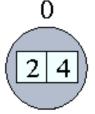


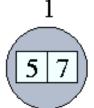


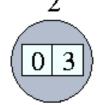
MPI Allreduce

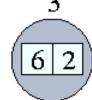
Processes . . .

Initial Data:









MPI_REDUCE with MPI_MIN, root = 0:









MPI_ALLREDUCE with MPI_MIN:







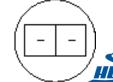


MPI_REDUCE with MPI_SUM, root = 1:













MPI Scan

Computes the scan (partial reductions) of data on a collection of processes



□ The gather operation is performed in MPI using

```
int MPI Gather (void *sendbuf, int sendcount,
      MPI Datatype senddatatype, void *recvbuf,
      int recvcount, MPI Datatype recvdatatype,
      int target, MPI Comm comm)
```

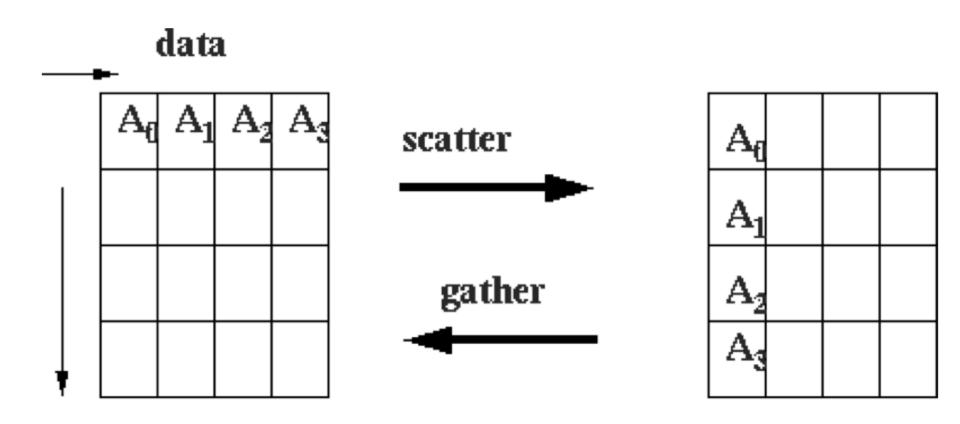
The corresponding scatter operation

```
int MPI Scatter (void *sendbuf, int sendcount,
      MPI Datatype senddatatype, void *recvbuf,
      int recvcount, MPI Datatype recvdatatype,
      int source, MPI Comm comm)
```





MPI Gather and MPI Scatter



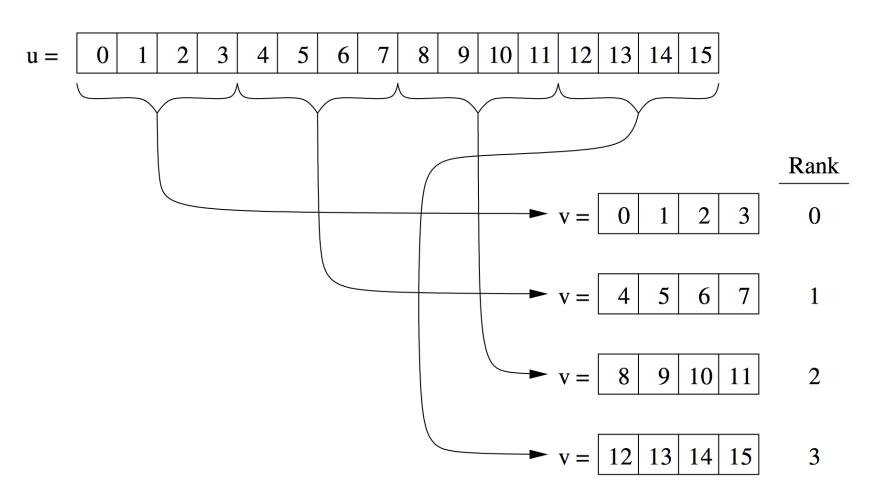
processes





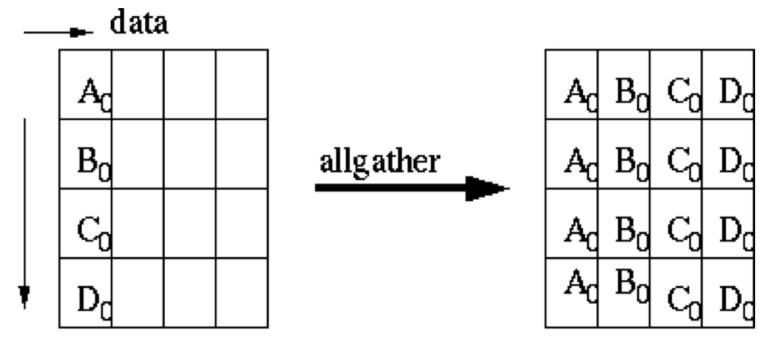
MPI Scatter()

MPI_Scatter(u, 4, MPI_INT, v, 4, MPI_INT, 0, MPI_WORLD_COMM);





☐ MPI also provides the MPI Allgather function in which the data are gathered at all the processes





□ The all-to-all personalized communication operation is performed by:

Using this core set of collective operations, a number of programs can be greatly simplified





MPI Alltoall

Send Buffer

Th - 4 -	
Data	٠٠

O

A ₀	В	\mathbf{C}_{0}	\mathbf{D}_0	E e	F _o
A ₁	\mathbf{B}_{1}	$\mathbf{c}_{\scriptscriptstyle 1}$	$\mathbf{D_1}$	E ₁	F ₁
A ₂	В	C ₂	\mathbf{D}_2	E 2	\mathbf{F}_2
A 3	Вз	C ₃	\mathbf{D}_3	E3	F ₃
A ₄	B ₄	C ₄	$\mathbf{D_4}$	E.	F ₄
A 5	B 5	C 5	D ₃	E5	F ₅



0



A e	A 1	A 2	A 3	Λ_4	A 5
B	Bi	B 2	Вз	B 4	B 5
C o	C ₁	C 2	C 3	C 4	C ₅
D ₀				D ₄	D ₅
E	E ₁	E 2	Е3	E ₄	\mathbb{E}_5
\mathbf{F}_0	F ₁	F ₂	F ₃	F ₄	F ₅

Data





MPI Alltoall

MPI_Alltoall(u, 2, MPI_INT, v, 2, MPI_INT, MPI_WORLD_COMM);

array u	Rank	array v
10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	0	10 11 20 21 30 31 40 41
20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27	1	12 13 22 23 32 33 42 43
30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37	2	14 15 24 25 34 35 44 45
40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47	3	16 17 26 27 36 37 46 47





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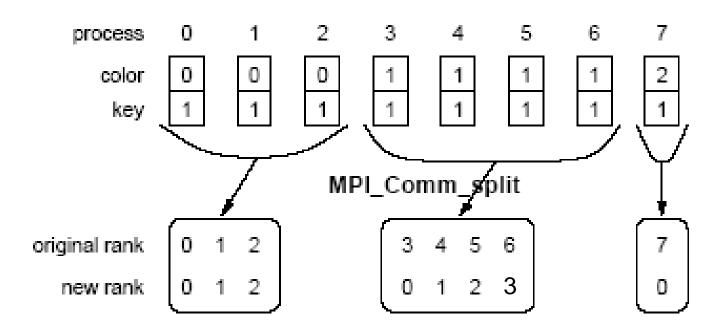
- In many parallel algorithms, communication operations need to be restricted to certain subsets of processes
- MPI provides mechanisms for partitioning the group of processes that belong to a communicator into subgroups each corresponding to a different communicator
- The simplest such mechanism is:

```
int MPI Comm split (MPI Comm comm, int color, int
                      MPI Comm *newcomm)
key,
```

This operation groups processors by color and sorts resulting groups on the key







Using MPI_Comm_split to split a group of processes in a communicator into subgroups



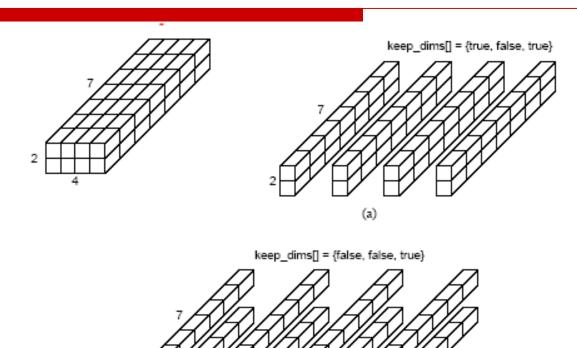


- In many parallel algorithms, processes are arranged in a virtual grid, and in different steps of the algorithm, communication needs to be restricted to a different subset of the grid
- MPI provides a convenient way to partition a Cartesian topology to form lower-dimensional grids:

- If keep_dims[i] is true (non-zero value in C) then the ith dimension is retained in the new sub-topology
- □ The coordinate of a process in a sub-topology created by MPI_Cart_sub can be obtained from its coordinate in the original topology by disregarding the coordinates that correspond to the dimensions that were not retained

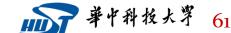






Splitting a Cartesian topology of size 2 x 4 x 7 into

- (a) Four subgroups of size 2 x 1 x 7
- (b) eight subgroups of size 1 x 1 x 7







European MPI Users' Group Meeting



The EuroMPI 2018 Conference

EuroMPI is the preeminent meeting for users, developers and researchers to interact and discuss new developments and applications of message-passing parallel computing, in particular in and related to the Message Passing Interface (MPI). The annual meeting has a long, rich tradition, and has been held in European countries. The EuroMPI 2018 edition will continue to focus on not just MPI, but also extensions or alternative interfaces for high-performance homogeneous/heterogeneous/hybrid systems, benchmarks, tools, parallel I/O, fault tolerance, and parallel applications using MPI and other interfaces. Through the presentation of contributed papers, poster presentations and invited talks, attendees will have the opportunity to share ideas and experiences to contribute to the improvement and furthering of message-passing and related parallel programming paradigms.

We are glad to announce EuroMPI 2018 will be co-located with the following events.

Date	Event	Where
Sep. 19th - 21st	MPI Forum Meeting	TBD