What is MPI?

- A message-passing library specification
  - extended message-passing model
  - not a language or compiler specification
  - not a specific implementation or product
- For parallel computers, clusters, and heterogeneous networks
- Full-featured
- Designed to provide access to advanced parallel hardware for end users, library writers, and tool developers
- Credits for Slides: Rusty Lusk, Mathematics and Computer Science Division, Argonne National Laboratory

Where Did MPI Come From?

- Early vendor systems (Intel’s NX, IBM’s EUI, TMC’s CMMD) were not portable (or very capable)
- Early portable systems (PVM, p4, TCGMSG, Chameleon) were mainly research efforts
  - Did not address the full spectrum of issues
  - Lacked vendor support
  - Were not implemented at the most efficient level
- The MPI Forum organized in 1992 with broad participation by:
  - vendors: IBM, Intel, TMC, SGI, Convex, Meiko
  - portability library writers: PVM, p4
  - users: application scientists and library writers
  - finished in 18 months
Novel Features of MPI

- **Communicators** encapsulate communication spaces for library safety
- **Datatypes** reduce copying costs and permit heterogeneity
- Multiple communication modes allow precise buffer management
- Extensive collective operations for scalable global communication
- **Process topologies** permit efficient process placement, user views of process layout
- **Profiling interface** encourages portable tools

MPI References

- The Standard itself:
  - at [http://www.mpi-forum.org](http://www.mpi-forum.org)
  - All MPI official releases, in both postscript and HTML
- Books:
  - *Designing and Building Parallel Programs*, by Ian Foster, Addison-Wesley, 1995.
- Other information on Web:
  - pointers to lots of stuff, including other talks and tutorials, a FAQ, other MPI pages
Compiling and Running MPI Programs

- To compile and run MPI programs one uses special commands
  - mpicc compiles and includes the MPI libraries
  - mpirun sets up environment variables for running
    - mpirun -np # prog
- One can also configure the set of nodes to be used
- For details on this and on user level configuration of the 2 MPI versions MPICH and LAM see the references in
  http://discov.cs.kent.edu/resources/doc/mpiref.htm
- For examples from Pachero see
  http://nexus.cs.usfca.edu/mpi/

Hello (C)

```c
#include "mpi.h"
#include <stdio.h>

int main( argc, argv )
int argc;
char *argv[];
{
    int rank, size;
    MPI_Init( &argc, &argv );
    MPI_Comm_rank( MPI_COMM_WORLD, &rank );
    MPI_Comm_size( MPI_COMM_WORLD, &size );
    printf( "I am %d of %d\n", rank, size );
    MPI_Finalize();
    return 0;
}
```
**MPI Basic Send/Receive**

- We need to fill in the details in

- Things that need specifying:
  - How will “data” be described?
  - How will processes be identified?
  - How will the receiver recognize/screen messages?
  - What will it mean for these operations to complete?

**Process 0**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Send(data)</th>
<th>Process 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Receive(data)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Some Basic Concepts**

- Processes can be collected into groups.
- Each message is sent in a context and must be received in the same context.
  - Provides necessary support for libraries.
- A group and context together form a communicator.
- A process is identified by its rank in the group associated with a communicator.
- There is a default communicator whose group contains all initial processes, called MPI_COMM_WORLD.
MPI Datatypes

- The data in a message to send or receive is described by a triple (address, count, datatype), where
- An MPI datatype is recursively defined as:
  - predefined, corresponding to a data type from the language (e.g., MPI_INT, MPI_DOUBLE)
  - a contiguous array of MPI datatypes
  - a strided block of datatypes
  - an indexed array of blocks of datatypes
  - an arbitrary structure of datatypes
- There are MPI functions to construct custom datatypes, in particular ones for subarrays

MPI Tags

- Messages are sent with an accompanying user-defined integer tag, to assist the receiving process in identifying the message
- Messages can be screened at the receiving end by specifying a specific tag, or not screened by specifying MPI_ANY_TAG as the tag in a receive
- Some non-MPI message-passing systems have called tags “message types”. MPI calls them tags to avoid confusion with datatypes
MPI Basic (Blocking) Send

MPI_SEND(start, count, datatype, dest, tag, comm)

- The message buffer is described by \((\text{start}, \text{count}, \text{datatype})\).
- The target process is specified by \(\text{dest}\), which is the rank of the target process in the communicator specified by \(\text{comm}\).
- When this function returns, the data has been delivered to the system and the buffer can be reused. The message may not have been received by the target process.

MPI Basic (Blocking) Receive

MPI_RECV(start, count, datatype, source, tag, comm, status)

- Waits until a matching (both \(\text{source}\) and \(\text{tag}\)) message is received from the system, and the buffer can be used.
- \(\text{source}\) is rank in communicator specified by \(\text{comm}\), or MPI\_ANY\_SOURCE.
- \(\text{tag}\) is a tag to be matched on or MPI\_ANY\_TAG.
- Receiving fewer than \(\text{count}\) occurrences of \(\text{datatype}\) is OK, but receiving more is an error.
- \(\text{status}\) contains further information (e.g., size of message).
MPI is Simple

- Many parallel programs can be written using just these six functions, only two of which are non-trivial:
  - MPI_INIT
  - MPI_FINALIZE
  - MPI_COMM_SIZE
  - MPI_COMM_RANK
  - MPI_SEND
  - MPI_RECV

Collective Operations in MPI

- Collective operations are called by all processes in a communicator
- **MPI_BCAST** distributes data from one process (the root) to all others in a communicator
  - MPI_Bcast(buffer, count, datatype, root, comm);
- **MPI_REDUCE** combines data from all processes in communicator and returns it to one process
  - MPI_Reduce(sendbuf, recvbuf, count, datatype, operation, root, comm);
- In many numerical algorithms, **SEND/RECEIVE** can be replaced by **BCAST/REDUCE**, improving both simplicity and efficiency
Example: PI in C - 1

```c
#include "mpi.h"
#include <math.h>
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
  int done = 0, n, myid, numprocs, i, rc;
  double PI25DT = 3.141592653589793238462643;
  double mypi, pi, h, sum, x, a;
  MPI_Init(&argc,&argv);
  MPI_Comm_size(MPI_COMM_WORLD,&numprocs);
  MPI_Comm_rank(MPI_COMM_WORLD,&myid);
  while (!done) {
    if (myid == 0) {
      printf("Enter the number of intervals: (0 quits) ");
      scanf("%d",&n);
    }
    MPI_Bcast(&n, 1, MPI_INT, 0, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
    if (n == 0) break;
    h   = 1.0 / (double) n;
    sum = 0.0;
    for (i = myid + 1; i <= n; i += numprocs) {
      x = h * ((double)i - 0.5);
      sum += 4.0 / (1.0 + x*x);
    }
    mypi = h * sum;
    MPI_Reduce(&mypi, &pi, 1, MPI_DOUBLE, MPI_SUM, 0,
                MPI_COMM_WORLD);
    if (myid == 0)
      printf("pi is approximately %.16f, Error is .16f\n", pi, fabs(pi - PI25DT));
  }
  MPI_Finalize();
  return 0;
}
```

Example: PI in C - 2

```c
h   = 1.0 / (double) n;
sum = 0.0;
for (i = myid + 1; i <= n; i += numprocs) {
  x = h * ((double)i - 0.5);
  sum += 4.0 / (1.0 + x*x);
}
mypi = h * sum;
MPI_Reduce(&mypi, &pi, 1, MPI_DOUBLE, MPI_SUM, 0,
           MPI_COMM_WORLD);
if (myid == 0)
  printf("pi is approximately %.16f, Error is .16f\n", pi, fabs(pi - PI25DT));
MPI_Finalize();
return 0;
```
Alternative Set of 6 Functions

- Using collectives:
  - MPI_INIT
  - MPI_FINALIZE
  - MPI_COMM_SIZE
  - MPI_COMM_RANK
  - MPI_BCAST
  - MPI_REDUCE

Exercises

- Modify hello program so that each process sends the name of the machine it is running on to process 0, which prints it.
  - See source of cpi or fpi in mpich/examples/basic for how to use MPI_Get_processor_name
- Do this in such a way that the hosts are printed in rank order
Trapezoid Rule

- Numerical Integration (Quadrature)
  - approximate the area under the curve by calculating the area of rectangles (the Rectangle Rule) or trapezoids (the Trapezoidal Rule) that fit close to the curve.

\[ \int_a^b f(x) \, dx \approx \frac{1}{2} h (f(x_0) + f(x_1)) + \frac{1}{2} h (f(x_1) + f(x_2)) + \frac{1}{2} h (f(x_2) + f(x_3)) \]

which simplifies to
\[ \text{Area} = h \left( \frac{1}{2} f(x_0) + f(x_1) + f(x_2) + \frac{1}{2} f(x_3) \right) \]
Parallelizing Trapezoid Rule

- Divide interval \([a, b]\) into \(np\) parts, one for each processor.
- Each processor performs the trapezoidal rule on its part.

Serial and Parallel Versions

- Serial
- Parallel
Adaptive Quadrature

- Adaptive quadrature allows the program to calculate the new value for the integral with a different number of trapezoids each time.
- The program terminates when the final result is "close enough".
- Pseudocode for a sequential program:
  - new = 1;
  - diff = 100000;
  - numtraps = 1;
  - limit = 0.001;
  - while ((diff > limit) && (numtraps < 2048) ) {
        old = new;
        numtraps = numtraps*2;
        calculate (new) ;
        diff = abs( (new-old) ) / new;
    }
  - print(new);

Dot products – Block Decomposition

\[
\begin{bmatrix}
  a_0 & a_1 & a_2 & a_3 & a_4 & a_5 & a_6 & a_7
\end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix}
  b_0 \\
  b_1 \\
  b_2 \\
  b_3 \\
  b_4 \\
  b_5 \\
  b_6 \\
  b_7 \\
\end{bmatrix} = a_0b_0 + a_1b_1 + \ldots + a_7b_7
\]

- Serial
- Parallel
- Parallel with Allreduce
Matrix- Vector Multiplication – version 1

- Block-row distribution of the matrix
- Copy of vector on every process
- Each process calculates its corresponding portion of the result vector

How to get the data to where needed

- If the matrix is located in a single process at the start, can use MPI_Scatter to send the rows to all processes.
- (Watch out for how the matrix is stored – in C it is row-major!)
  - MPI_Scatter(
    - void* send_data,
    - int send_count,
    - MPI_Datatype send_type,
    - void* recv_data,
    - int recv_count,
    - MPI_Datatype recv_type,
    - int root,
    - MPI_Comm comm);

Vector Example:
/* data starts at process 0 */
float vector[8], local_vector[2];

MPI_Scatter( vector, 2, MPI_FLOAT,
local_vector, 2, MPI_FLOAT,
0, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
would send 2 elements to each process and store them into local_vector;
• If the vector is initially distributed in block fashion among all processes, can use MPI_Gather to get a copy of the whole vector into the root process.
  - MPI_Gather(
    - void* send_data,
    - int send_count,
    - MPI_Datatype send_type,
    - void* recv_data,
    - int recv_count,
    - MPI_Datatype recv_type,
    - int root,
    - MPI_Comm comm);

• If the vector is initially distributed in block fashion among all processes, can use MPI_Allgather to get a copy of the whole vector into the every process.
  - MPI_Allgather(
    - void* send_data,
    - int send_count,
    - MPI_Datatype send_type,
    - void* recv_data,
    - int recv_count,
    - MPI_Datatype recv_type,
    - MPI_Comm comm);
C Versions of Matrix-Vector Multiply

- **Serial**
- **Parallel**

Buffers

- When you send data, where does it go? One possibility is:
Avoiding Buffering

- It is better to avoid copies:

  This requires that `MPI_Send` wait on delivery, or that `MPI_Send` return before transfer is complete, and we wait later.

---

Blocking and Non-blocking Communication

- So far we have been using blocking communication:
  - `MPI_Recv` does not complete until the buffer is full (available for use).
  - `MPI_Send` does not complete until the buffer is empty (available for use).
- Completion depends on size of message and amount of system buffering.
Sources of Deadlocks

- Send a large message from process 0 to process 1
  - If there is insufficient storage at the destination, the send must wait for the user to provide the memory space (through a receive)
- What happens with this code?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Process 0</th>
<th>Process 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Send(1)</td>
<td>Send(0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recv(1)</td>
<td>Recv(0)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- This is called “unsafe” because it depends on the availability of system buffers

Some Solutions to the “unsafe” Problem

- Order the operations more carefully:

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Send(1)</td>
<td>Recv(0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recv(1)</td>
<td>Send(0)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Supply receive buffer at same time as send:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Process 0</th>
<th>Process 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sendrecv(1)</td>
<td>Sendrecv(0)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
More Solutions to the “unsafe” Problem

• Supply own space as buffer for send

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Process 0</th>
<th>Process 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bsend(1)</td>
<td>Bsend(0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recv(1)</td>
<td>Recv(0)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Use non-blocking operations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Process 0</th>
<th>Process 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Isend(1)</td>
<td>Isend(0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irecv(1)</td>
<td>Irecv(0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waitall</td>
<td>Waitall</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MPI’s Non-blocking Operations

• Non-blocking operations return (immediately) “request handles” that can be tested and waited on.

- `MPI_Isend(start, count, datatype, dest, tag, comm, request)`
- `MPI_Irecv(start, count, datatype, dest, tag, comm, request)`
- `MPI_Wait(&request, &status)`

• One can also test without waiting:

- `MPI_Test(&request, &flag, status)`
Multiple Completions

- It is sometimes desirable to wait on multiple requests:
  
  \[
  \text{MPI\_Waitall(count, array\_of\_requests, array\_of\_statuses)}
  \]
  
  \[
  \text{MPI\_Waitany(count, array\_of\_requests, index, &status)}
  \]
  
  \[
  \text{MPI\_Waitsome(count, array\_of\_requests, array\_of\_indices, array\_of\_statuses)}
  \]
  
- There are corresponding versions of test for each of these.

Communication Modes

- MPI provides multiple modes for sending messages:
  
  - Synchronous mode (\text{MPI\_Ssend}): the send does not complete until a matching receive has begun. (Unsafe programs deadlock.)
  
  - Buffered mode (\text{MPI\_Bsend}): the user supplies a buffer to the system for its use. (User allocates enough memory to make an unsafe program safe.
  
  - Ready mode (\text{MPI\_Rsend}): user guarantees that a matching receive has been posted.
    
    - Allows access to fast protocols
    
    - undefined behavior if matching receive not posted
  
  - Non-blocking versions (\text{MPI\_Issend}, etc.)
  
  - \text{MPI\_Recv} receives messages sent in any mode.
Other Point-to Point Features

- MPI_Sendrecv
- MPI_Sendrecv_replace
- MPI_Cancel
  - Useful for multibuffering
- Persistent requests
  - Useful for repeated communication patterns
  - Some systems can exploit to reduce latency and increase performance

MPI_Sendrecv

- Allows simultaneous send and receive
- Everything else is general.
  - Send and receive datatypes (even type signatures) may be different
  - Can use Sendrecv with plain Send or Recv (or Irecv or Ssend_init, ...)
  - More general than “send left”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Process 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SendRecv(1)</td>
<td>SendRecv(0)</td>
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</table>
Collective Operations in MPI

- Collective operations must be called by all processes in a communicator.
- `MPI_BCAST` distributes data from one process (the root) to all others in a communicator.
- `MPI_REDUCE` combines data from all processes in communicator and returns it to one process.
- In many numerical algorithms, `SEND/RECEIVE` can be replaced by `BCAST/REDUCE`, improving both simplicity and efficiency.

MPI Collective Communication

- Communication and computation is coordinated among a group of processes in a communicator.
- Groups and communicators can be constructed “by hand” or using topology routines.
- Tags are not used; different communicators deliver similar functionality.
- No non-blocking collective operations.
- Three classes of operations: synchronization, data movement, collective computation.
Synchronization

- MPI_Barrier( comm )
- Blocks until all processes in the group of the communicator \texttt{comm} call it.

Synchronization

- MPI_Barrier( comm, ierr )
- Blocks until all processes in the group of the communicator \texttt{comm} call it.
Collective Data Movement

Broadcast

P0 A
P1 B
P2 C
P3 D

Scatter

Gather

P0 A
P1 B
P2 C
P3 D

More Collective Data Movement

Allgather

Alltoall

P0 A0
P1 B0
P2 C0
P3 D0

P0 A1
P1 B1
P2 C1
P3 D1

P0 A2
P1 B2
P2 C2
P3 D2

P0 A3
P1 B3
P2 C3
P3 D3

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Paul A. Farrell
Cluster Computing
**Collective Computation**

- **Reduce**
  - P0: A
  - P1: B
  - P2: C
  - P3: D
  - Output: ABCD

- **Scan**
  - P0: A
  - P1: B
  - P2: C
  - P3: D
  - Output: A, AB, ABC, ABCD

**MPI Collective Routines**

- Many Routines: `Allgather`, `Allgatherv`, `Allreduce`, `Alltoall`, `Alltoallv`, `Bcast`, `Gather`, `Gatherv`, `Reduce`, `Reduce_scatter`, `Scan`, `Scatter`, `Scatterv`
- **All** versions deliver results to all participating processes.
- **V** versions allow the hunks to have different sizes.
- `Allreduce`, `Reduce`, `Reduce_scatter`, and `Scan` take both built-in and user-defined combiner functions.
MPI Built-in Collective Computation Operations

- MPI_Max: Maximum
- MPI_Min: Minimum
- MPI_Prod: Product
- MPI_Sum: Sum
- MPI_Land: Logical and
- MPI_Lor: Logical or
- MPI_Lxor: Logical exclusive or
- MPI_Band: Binary and
- MPI_Bor: Binary or
- MPI_Bxor: Binary exclusive or
- MPI_Maxloc: Maximum and location
- MPI_Minloc: Minimum and location

How Deterministic are Collective Computations?

- In exact arithmetic, you always get the same results
  - but roundoff error, truncation can happen
- MPI does not require that the same input give the same output
  - Implementations are encouraged but not required to provide exactly the same output given the same input
  - Round-off error may cause slight differences
- Allreduce does guarantee that the same value is received by all processes for each call
- Why didn’t MPI mandate determinism?
  - Not all applications need it
  - Implementations can use “deferred synchronization” ideas to provide better performance
Defining your own Collective Operations

- Create your own collective computations with:
  
  ```c
  MPI_Op_create( user_fcn, commutes, &op );
  MPI_Op_free( &op );
  
  user_fcn( invec, inoutvec, len, datatype );
  ```

- The user function should perform:
  
  ```c
  inoutvec[i] = invec[i] op inoutvec[i];
  ```

  for i from 0 to len-1.

- The user function can be non-commutative.

---

Blocking and Non-blocking

- **Blocking**
  - `MPI_Recv` does not complete until the buffer is full (available for use).
  - `MPI_Send` does not complete until the buffer is empty (available for use).

- **Non-blocking operations** return (immediately) “request handles” that can be tested and waited on.
  
  ```c
  MPI_Isend(start, count, datatype, dest, tag, comm, request)
  
  MPI_Irecv(start, count, datatype, dest, tag, comm, request)
  
  MPI_Wait(&request, &status)
  ```

- One can also test without waiting:
  
  ```c
  MPI_Test(&request, &flag, status)
  ```
Persistent Requests

- Persistent requests
  - Useful for repeated communication patterns
  - Some systems can exploit to reduce latency and increase performance

Communication Modes

- MPI provides multiple modes for sending messages:
  - Synchronous mode (**MPI_Ssend**): the send does not complete until a matching receive has begun. (Unsafe programs deadlock.)
  - Buffered mode (**MPI_Bsend**): the user supplies a buffer to the system for its use. (User allocates enough memory to make an unsafe program safe.)
  - Ready mode (**MPI_Rsend**): user guarantees that a matching receive has been posted.
    - Allows access to fast protocols
    - Undefined behavior if matching receive not posted
- Non-blocking versions (**MPI_Isend**, etc.)
- **MPI_Recv** receives messages sent in any mode.
Ring Based Allgather

Start

Process 0

Process 1

Process 2

Process 3

After first pass

x0, x3

x0, x3

x1, x5

x2, x3

x1, x5

x2, x3
Advanced Communication Examples

- All_gather Ring
  - Blocking
  - Nonblocking
  - Persistent
  - Synchronous
  - Ready
  - Buffered

- Examples

```c
void Allgather_ring_blk All (Part 1)
{
  float x[] /* in */;
  int blocksize /* in */;
  float y[] /* out */;
  MPI_Comm ring_comm /* in */;

  int i, p, my_rank;
  int successor, predecessor;
  int send_offset, recv_offset;
  MPI_Status status;

  MPI_Comm_size(ring_comm, &p);
  MPI_Comm_rank(ring_comm, &my_rank);

  /* Copy x into correct location in y */
  for (i = 0; i < blocksize; i++)
    y[i + my_rank*blocksize] = x[i];

  successor = (my_rank + 1) % p;
  predecessor = (my_rank - 1 + p) % p;
```

Allgather\_ring\_blk  Blocking

for (i = 0; i < p - 1; i++) {
    send\_offset = ((my\_rank - i + p) \% p)*blocksize;
    recv\_offset = ((my\_rank - i - 1 + p) \% p)*blocksize;
    MPI\_Send(y + send\_offset, blocksize, MPI\_FLOAT, successor, 0, ring\_comm);
    MPI\_Recv(y + recv\_offset, blocksize, MPI\_FLOAT, predecessor, 0, ring\_comm, &status);
} /* Allgather\_ring */

Allgather\_ring\_nblk  Non Blocking

send\_offset = my\_rank*blocksize;
recv\_offset = ((my\_rank - 1 + p) \% p)*blocksize;
for (i = 0; i < p - 1; i++) {
    MPI\_Isend(y + send\_offset, blocksize, MPI\_FLOAT, successor, 0, ring\_comm, &send\_request);
    MPI\_Irecv(y + recv\_offset, blocksize, MPI\_FLOAT, predecessor, 0, ring\_comm, &recv\_request);
    send\_offset = ((my\_rank - i - 1 + p) \% p)*blocksize;
    recv\_offset = ((my\_rank - i - 2 + p) \% p)*blocksize;
    MPI\_Wait(&send\_request, &status);
    MPI\_Wait(&recv\_request, &status);
} /* Allgather\_ring */
Persistent

- Persistent requests
  - Useful for repeated communication patterns
  - Some systems can exploit to reduce latency and increase performance
  - In this case only send_offset and recv_offset change
  - Can pack contents into a buffer and send buffer
  - Then all calls to send and receive are identical
  - Persistent mode lets you create the envelope etc.
    (information required to send message) only once
  - Normal requests are set to MPI_REQUEST_NULL after a Wait, however persistent ones only become inactive and may be reactivated by MPI_Start

Allgather_ring_pers Persistent

```c
MPI_Send_init(send_buf, blocksize*sizeof(float),
              MPI_PACKED, successor, 0, ring_comm,
              &send_request);
MPI_Recv_init(recv_buf, blocksize*sizeof(float),
              MPI_PACKED, predecessor, 0, ring_comm,
              &recv_request);

send_offset = my_rank*blocksize;
for (i = 0; i < p - 1; i++) {
    position = 0;
    MPI_Pack(y+send_offset, blocksize, MPI_FLOAT,
              send_buf, MAX_BYTES, &position, ring_comm);
    MPI_Start(&send_request);
    MPI_Start(&recv_request);
```
Allgather_ring_pers Persistent

recv_offset = send_offset =
((my_rank - i - 1 + p) % p)*blocksize;
position = 0;
MPI_Wait(&send_request, &status);
MPI_Wait(&recv_request, &status);
MPI_Unpack(recv_buf, MAX_BYTES, &position,
y+recv_offset, blocksize, MPI_FLOAT,
ring_comm);
}
MPI_Request_free(&send_request);
MPI_Request_free(&recv_request);
} /* Allgather_ring */

Synchronous mode

- Synchronous mode (MPI_Ssend): the send does not complete until a matching receive has begun. (Unsafe programs deadlock.)
- The standard version of Allgather_ring would hang
- Must alternate order of send and receive on successive nodes
Allgather_ring_syn Synchronous

for (i = 0; i < p - 1; i++) {
    send_offset = ((my_rank - i + p) % p)*blocksize;
    recv_offset = (((my_rank - i - 1 + p) % p)*blocksize;
    if ((my_rank % 2) == 0) {/* Even ranks send first */
        MPI_Ssend(y + send_offset, blocksize, MPI_FLOAT,
                   successor, 0, ring_comm);
        MPI_Recv(y + recv_offset, blocksize, MPI_FLOAT,
                  predecessor, 0, ring_comm, &status);
    } else { /* Odd ranks receive first */
        MPI_Recv(y + recv_offset, blocksize, MPI_FLOAT,
                  predecessor, 0, ring_comm, &status);
        MPI_Ssend(y + send_offset, blocksize, MPI_FLOAT,
                   successor, 0, ring_comm);
    }
}

Ready Mode

- Ready mode (MPI_Rsend):
  - user guarantees that a matching receive has been posted.
    - Allows access to fast protocols
    - undefined behavior if matching receive not posted
  - User must post receive before matching send
MPI_Comm_size(ring_comm, &p);
MPI_Comm_rank(ring_comm, &my_rank);

request = (MPI_Request*) malloc(p*sizeof(MPI_Request));

/* Copy x into correct location in y */
for (i = 0; i < blocksize; i++)
    y[i + my_rank*blocksize] = x[i];

successor = (my_rank + 1) % p;
predecessor = (my_rank - 1 + p) % p;

for (i = 0; i < p - 1; i++) {
    recv_offset = ((my_rank - i - 1 + p) % p)*blocksize;
    MPI_Irecv(y + recv_offset, blocksize, MPI_FLOAT,
    predecessor, i, ring_comm, &(request[i]));
}

MPI_Barrier(ring_comm);

for (i = 0; i < p - 1; i++) {
    send_offset = ((my_rank - i + p) % p)*blocksize;
    MPI_Rsend(y + send_offset, blocksize, MPI_FLOAT,
    successor, i, ring_comm);
    MPI_Wait(&(request[i]), &status);
}
Buffered Mode

- Buffered mode (MPI_Bsend):
  - the user supplies a buffer to the system for its use.
  - User allocates enough memory to make an unsafe program safe
  - All send operations are local into this user supplied buffer
  - Send can then return and user program can continue
  - As long as the buffer does not fill, a program which would be unsafe in the absence of buffering will run correctly

```c
char buffer[MAX_BUF];
int buffer_size = MAX_BUF;

/* Copy x into correct location in y */
for (i = 0; i < blocksize; i++)
  y[(i + my_rank*blocksize) % blocksize] = x[i];

successor = (my_rank + 1) % p;
predecessor = (my_rank - 1 + p) % p;
MPI_Buffer_attach(buffer, buffer_size);
for (i = 0; i < p - 1; i++) {
  send_offset = ((my_rank - i + p) % p)*blocksize;
  recv_offset = ((my_rank - i - 1 + p) % p)*blocksize;
  MPI_Bsend(y + send_offset, blocksize, MPI_FLOAT, successor, 0, ring_comm);
  MPI_Recv(y + recv_offset, blocksize, MPI_FLOAT, predecessor, 0, ring_comm, &status);
}
MPI_Buffer_detach(&buffer, &buffer_size);
```
MPICH Goals

- Complete MPI implementation
- Portable to all platforms supporting the message-passing model
- High performance on high-performance hardware
- As a research project:
  - exploring tradeoff between portability and performance
  - removal of performance gap between user level (MPI) and hardware capabilities
- As a software project:
  - a useful free implementation for most machines
  - a starting point for vendor proprietary implementations

MPICH Architecture

- Most code is completely portable
- An “Abstract Device” defines the communication layer
- The abstract device can have widely varying instantiations, using:
  - sockets
  - shared memory
  - other special interfaces
  - e.g. Myrinet, Quadrics, InfiniBand, Grid protocols
Getting MPICH for your cluster

- http://www.mcs.anl.gov/mpi/mpich
- Either MPICH-1 or
- MPICH-2

Performance Visualization with Jumpshot

- For detailed analysis of parallel program behavior, timestamped events are collected into a log file during the run.
- A separate display program (Jumpshot) aids the user in conducting a post mortem analysis of program behavior.
Using Jumpshot to look at FLASH at multiple Scales

Each line represents 1000's of messages

Detailed view shows opportunities for optimization

What’s in MPI-2

• Extensions to the message-passing model
  – Dynamic process management
  – One-sided operations (remote memory access)
  – Parallel I/O
  – Thread support
• Making MPI more robust and convenient
  – C++ and Fortran 90 bindings
  – External interfaces, handlers
  – Extended collective operations
  – Language interoperability
• Many vendors have partial implementations, especially I/O
MPI as a Setting for Parallel I/O

- Writing is like sending and reading is like receiving
- Any parallel I/O system will need:
  - collective operations
  - user-defined datatypes to describe both memory and file layout
  - communicators to separate application-level message passing from I/O-related message passing
  - non-blocking operations
- I.e., lots of MPI-like machinery

MPI-2 Status of MPICH

MPICH2 designed
- To support research into high-performance implementations of MPI-1 and MPI-2 functionality
- to provide an MPI implementation for important platforms, including clusters, SMPs, and massively parallel processors
- a vehicle for MPI implementation research
- was at release 1.0.3 as of November 23, 2005

- High Performance versions
  - MVAPICH2 (OSU) - for InfiniBand
  - MPICH2-CH3 Device for InfiniBand (Chemnitz) - based on the Verbs interface, currently using the Mellanox Verbs implementation VAPI
  - ATOLL is a high-performance interconnect based on MPICH2
Some Research Areas

- MPI-2 RMA interface
  - Can we get high performance?
- Fault Tolerance and MPI
  - Are intercommunicators enough?
- MPI on 64K processors
  - Umm...how do we make this work :)?
  - Reinterpreting the MPI "process"
- MPI as system software infrastructure
  - With dynamic processes and fault tolerance, can we build services on MPI?

High-Level Programming With MPI

- MPI was designed from the beginning to support libraries
- Many libraries exist, both open source and commercial
- Sophisticated numerical programs can be built using libraries
  - Solve a PDE (e.g., PETSc)
  - Scalable I/O of data to a community standard file format
Higher Level I/O Libraries

- Scientific applications work with structured data and desire more self-describing file formats
- netCDF and HDF5 are two popular “higher level” I/O libraries
  - Abstract away details of file layout
  - Provide standard, portable file formats
  - Include metadata describing contents
- For parallel machines, these should be built on top of MPI-IO

Exercise

- Jacobi problem in 2 dimensions with 1-D decomposition
  - Explained in class
  - Simple version – fixed number of iterations
  - Fancy version – test for convergence
The PETSc Library

- PETSc provides routines for the parallel solution of systems of equations that arise from the discretization of PDEs
  - Linear systems
  - Nonlinear systems
  - Time evolution
- PETSc also provides routines for
  - Sparse matrix assembly
  - Distributed arrays
  - General scatter/gather (e.g., for unstructured grids)

Structure of PETSc
Poisson Solver in PETSc

- The following 7 slides show a complete 2-d Poisson solver in PETSc. Features of this solver:
  - Fully parallel
  - 2-d decomposition of the 2-d mesh
  - Linear system described as a sparse matrix; user can select many different sparse data structures
  - Linear system solved with any user-selected Krylov iterative method and preconditioner provided by PETSc, including GMRES with ILU, BiCGstab with Additive Schwarz, etc.
  - Complete performance analysis built-in
- Only 7 slides of code!