MPI
MESSAGE PASSING INTERFACE

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Outline

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• MPI functions I
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  ▸ Point-to-Point Communication
• Exercice
• MPI functions II
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  ▸ Global Reduction Operations
  ▸ Communication Modes
• References
Slides & Examples

- On the NIC4 cluster:

  ~dcoligno/INFO-0939_2016/MPI/
Introduction: Target

Distributed Memory

Each server/node has its own memory
From one cpu per node to 2 or 4 multicore cpus...
→ Each core has its separate address space
Introduction: Goal

- What is parallel programming?
- What are the (your) goals?
Introduction: Goal

• What is parallel programming?

• What are the (your) goals?
  - Decrease the total execution time
  - Solve bigger problems

• Solution: Partition the work so that all nodes/cpus work together at the same time

• Partitioning a problem into workable subproblems: OK
Introduction: the MPI solution

• How to partition efficiently my problem to solve it in // ?

• How can we get nodes/cpus to work in // ?

• Solution: by **exchanging messages**

• To achieve a common parallel task, data are shared by sending/receiving "messages"

• **Message Passing Interface**: most widely used standard for parallel programming
Introduction: the MPI solution

- It's not a new programming language: it's a library of normalized functions for inter-process communication (can be called from Fortran, C, C++, ...)
  - Every cpu runs the same executable
  - Processes communicates with each other through the "infrastructure" provided by MPI.

- At first, no need to know the details of the implementation. You just need to know how to take advantage of it
Introduction: the MPI solution

- Carefully designed to permit maximum performance on a wide variety of systems
- Emphasis on **Portability** and **Efficiency**
- Hide many details but expose many others to the programmer
- Sometimes called the "assembly language" of parallel computing
Introduction: the MPI solution

- each core (pure MPI, one process per core) runs the **same executable** and works on its **local data**
- Data are shared by sending/receiving "messages"
- MPI functions
  - Global management of the communications
  - Point-to-Point communication
  - Global communication
## From serial source code to parallel execution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Serial Code</th>
<th>Parallel Code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><code>// serial</code></td>
<td><code>// parallel</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>#include &lt;stdio.h&gt;</code></td>
<td><code>#include &lt;stdio.h&gt;</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>int main(int argc,</code></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>    char **argv) {</code></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>    printf(&quot;Hello, World !&quot;);</code></td>
<td><code>    MPI_Init(&amp;argc,&amp;argv);</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>}</code></td>
<td><code>    printf(&quot;Hello, World !&quot;);</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>// gcc hello_1.c</code></td>
<td><code>// mpicc hello_mpi_1.c</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>// ./a.out</code></td>
<td><code>// mpirun -np 3 ./a.out</code></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Tips & Tricks

• Questions: Which compilers are available? Where?
  Is MPI installed? Where?
  Which version should I use?

• Answers: RTFM!
  
  echo $PATH
  
  mpi "+ TAB"
  
  module available ; module add...
  mpicc -show
  gcc -v ; icc -V
  which mpirun ; type mpirun
MPI: Overview

• All MPI function begins with `MPI_`

• All MPI function returns an error code
  \(( = MPI_{\text{SUCCES}} \text{ if OK } )\)

  ```
  int err;
  err = MPI_{\ast}( \ast );
  ```

• Each node/core runs exactly the same executable:

  ```
  mpirun -np 4 prog.exe < input.txt
  ```

  ```
  mpirun -np 4 /path_to/prog.exe < /path_to/input.txt
  ```
A minimal MPI program (like hello_mpi.c) contains:

- `#include <mpi.h>`
- `MPI_Init(&argc, &argv);` before any call to a MPI function, in order to initialize the environment
- `MPI_Finalize();` after the last call to a MPI function
MPI: Global Environment

• A **Communicator** is a pool of processes that can communicate together.

• **MPI_COMM_WORLD** is the default communicator which contains all the active processes.
  
  ```
  (mpirun -np 8 [-machinefile mach.txt] ./a.out)
  ```

• In a communicator, each process get identified by his **rank** , from 0 to ( np - 1)
MPI: Global Environment

• A process can get back the total number of processes in a communicator with:

```c
int nbproc;
MPI_Comm_size( MPI_COMM_WORLD, &nbproc )
```

• A process can know his rank inside the communicator with:

```c
int myrank;
MPI_Comm_rank( MPI_COMM_WORLD, &myrank )
```
Hello, World! 2.0

#include <stdio.h>
#include <mpi.h>

int main(int argc, char **argv) {
    int nbproc, myrank;
    MPI_Init(&argc, &argv);
    MPI_Comm_rank(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &myrank);
    MPI_Comm_size(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &nbproc);
    printf("Hello, World! from proc %d of %d",
            myrank, nbproc);
    MPI_Finalize();
}
Point-to-Point Communication

- Bilateral communication between two processes (emitter and receiver), identified by their rank in their common communicator.
- **SEND** and **RECEIVE** are mandatory.
- **Message** = **Envelope** + **Body**
- **Envelope:**
  - rank of the source process
  - rank of the destination process
  - tag (integer) to classify the messages
  - communicator
Point-to-Point Communication

• Message = Envelope + Body
• Body:
  ▶ buffer (start of the memory area where the data are located)
  ▶ count (number of elements)
  ▶ datatype

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MPI Type</th>
<th>C Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MPI_INT</td>
<td>int</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MPI_FLOAT</td>
<td>float</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MPI_DOUBLE</td>
<td>double</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MPI_CHAR</td>
<td>signed char</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MPI_PACKED</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MPI_Send & MPI_Recv

- **MPI_Send( BUF, COUNT, DTYPE, DEST, TAG, COMM )**
- **MPI_Recv( BUF, COUNT, DTYPE, SOURCE, TAG, COMM, STATUS )**

- envelope (SOURCE, TAG, COMM) determines which message can be received
- “wild cards” MPI_ANY_SOURCE & MPI_ANY_TAG can be used
- STATUS contains SOURCE & TAG (if wild cards were used), and number of received data
MPI_Send & MPI_Recv

• MPI_Recv( BUF, COUNT, DTYPE, SOURCE, TAG, COMM, STATUS )

• STATUS is a structure (MPI_Status mystatus) that contains three fields named MPI_SOURCE, MPI_TAG, and MPI_ERROR (The structure may contain additional fields.) mystatus.MPI_SOURCE, mystatus.MPI_TAG and mystatus.MPI_ERROR contain the source, tag, and error code of the received message.

• The count argument specified to the receive routine is the number of elements for which there is space in the receive buffer. This will not always be the same as the number of elements actually received.

• MPI_Get_count( STATUS, DTYPE, COUNT )
MPI_Send & MPI_Recv

- MPI_Send( BUF, COUNT, DTYPE, DEST, TAG, COMM )
- MPI_Recv( BUF, COUNT, DTYPE, SOURCE, TAG, COMM, STATUS )

⚠️ error if received message longer than expected (by COUNT and DTYPE)

⚠️ DTYPE of MPI_SEND and MPI_RECV must match
MPI_Send & MPI_Recv

- MPI_Send and MPI_Recv are **blocking**! Operation must be completed (...) before jump to next instruction.

- **Asynchronous** communication: possible delay between Send and Receive, sent data could be buffered. Even if Send is completed, it doesn’t always mean that message has already been received.

- Be cautious with **Deadlocks**: two processes waiting for a message that never come.
MPI_Send & MPI_Recv: Deadlocks

// this code hangs!
if( myrank == 0 ) {
    MPI_Recv( &b, 100, MPI_DOUBLE,
              1, 39, MPI_COMM_WORLD, status );
    MPI_Send( &a, 100, MPI_DOUBLE,
              1, 17, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
}
else if ( myrank == 1 ) {
    MPI_Recv( &b, 100, MPI_DOUBLE,
              0, 17, MPI_COMM_WORLD, status );
    MPI_Send( &a, 100, MPI_DOUBLE,
              0, 39, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
}
// this code hangs!
if ( myrank == 0 ) {
    MPI_Recv( &b, 100, MPI_DOUBLE, &
                1, 39, MPI_COMM_WORLD, &status );
    MPI_Send( &a, 100, MPI_DOUBLE, &
              1, 17, MPI_COMM_WORLD );}
else if ( myrank == 1 ) {
    MPI_Send( &a, 100, MPI_DOUBLE, &
              0, 39, MPI_COMM_WORLD );
    MPI_Recv( &b, 100, MPI_DOUBLE, &
              0, 17, MPI_COMM_WORLD, &status );}
Exercice: Sum of the first N Integers

// serial solution

int main() {
    int N = 1000, sum = 0, i ;
    for( i = 1 ; i<= N ; i++)
        sum = sum + i ;
    printf(" The sum from 1 to %d is: %d", N, sum);
}
Sum of the first $N$ Integers: Parallel

- How to Partition?
- Magic Formula:

\[
\text{startval} = \frac{N \times \text{myrank}}{\text{nbproc}} + 1
\]
\[
\text{endval} = \frac{N \times (\text{myrank} + 1)}{\text{nbproc}}
\]
- ! Caution! Integer division

- Process of rank 0 receive partial sums and add
Exercice: Sum of the first N Integers

// SOME HINTS
#include <stdio.h>
#include <mpi.h>
int myrank, nbproc ;
MPI_Status  mystatus ;
MPI_Init(&argc, &argv) ;
MPI_Comm_rank( MPI_COMM_WORLD , &myrank ) ;
MPI_Comm_size( MPI_COMM_WORLD , &nbproc ) ;
MPI_Send( &aaaa, 1, MPI_INT, &
dest, tag, MPI_COMM_WORLD ) ;
MPI_Recv( &bbbb, 1, MPI_INT, &
from, tag, MPI_COMM_WORLD, mystatus ) ;
MPI_Finalize();