MPI Collective communication

CPS343

Parallel and High Performance Computing

Spring 2020

Outline

Outline

List of MPI collective communication routines

MPI provides the following routines for *collective communication*:

`MPI_Bcast()`	– Broadcast (one to all)
`MPI_Reduce()`	– Reduction (all to one)
`MPI_Allreduce()`	– Reduction (all to all)
`MPI_Scatter()`	– Distribute data (one to all)
`MPI_Gather()`	– Collect data (all to one)
`MPI_Alltoall()`	– Distribute data (all to all)
`MPI_Allgather()`	– Collect data (all to all)

We've already been introduced to the first three. Today we focus on the last four and on using all of these in programs.

Outline

Scattering data

A common parallel programming model involves

1. read in or generate data on single (root) process
2. distribute data to worker processes
3. perform work in parallel
4. collect data back on root process
5. output or save data to file

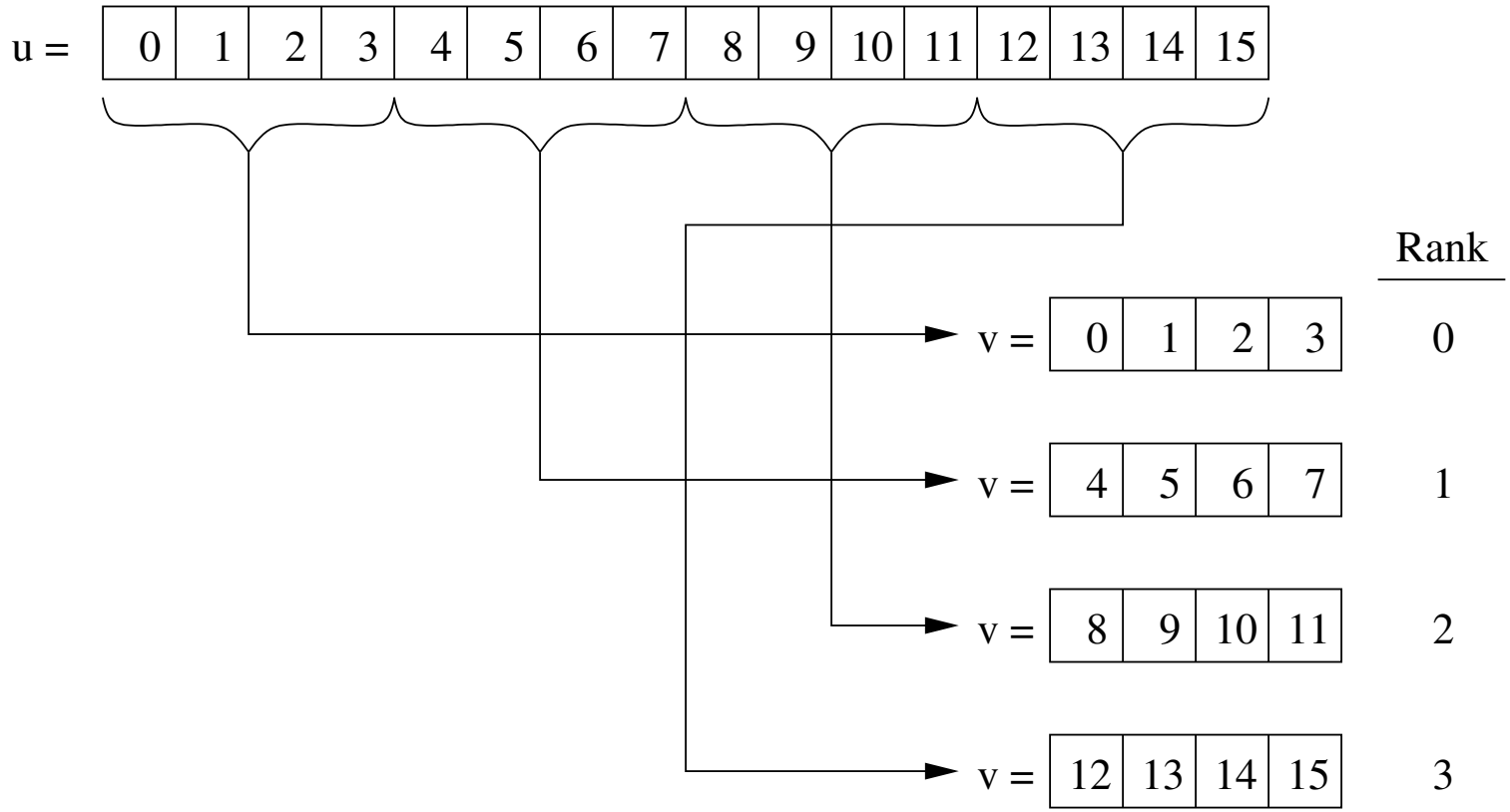
We've already seen how `MPI_Bcast()` can be used to send identical data to all processes. The model here, however, assumes that different data is sent to each process.

The `MPI_Scatter()` function does exactly this. Typically data is in an array on the root process and we want to send a different portion of of the array to each worker process (often including the root).

MPI_Scatter() example

Suppose there are four processes including the root (process 0). A 16 element array *u* on the root should be distributed among the processes and stored locally in *v*. Every process should include the following line:

```
MPI_Scatter(u, 4, MPI_INT, v, 4, MPI_INT, 0, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
```



MPI_Scatter()

The calling sequence for `MPI_Scatter()` is

```
int MPI_Scatter(
  void *sendbuf,           // pointer to send buffer
  int sendcount,           // items to send per process
  MPI_Datatype sendtype,   // type of send buffer data
  void *recvbuf,           // pointer to receive buffer
  int recvcount,           // number of items to receive
  MPI_Datatype recvtype,   // type of receive buffer data
  int root,                // rank of sending process
  MPI_Comm comm)           // MPI communicator to use
```

- The contents of `sendbuf` on process with rank `root` are distributed in groups of `sendcount` elements of type `sendtype` to all processes.
- `sendbuf` should contain at least (`sendcount`)$\times$(`number_of_processes`) data items of type `sendtype` where `number_of_processes` is the number of processes returned by `MPI_Comm_size()` for the communicator `comm`.
- Each process, including the root, receives `recvcount` elements of type `recvtype` into `recvbuf`.

MPI_Scatter()

Note:

- All arguments are significant on root process
- All but first three arguments are significant on all other processes, but first three arguments must be supplied and so must be declared. In particular `sendbuf` must be declared but may be a `NULL` pointer.
- Usually `sendtype` and `recvtype` are the same and `sendcount` and `recvcount` are the same, but this is not required; type conversion is possible.
- Like `MPI_Bcast()`, all processes that belong to the specified communicator must participate in the scatter operation.

Another data distribution function

The `MPI_Scatter()` function is a "one-to-all" operation; one process distributes data to all the processes, including itself.

In some cases data from all processes must be redistributed as if each process called `MPI_Scatter()`. The MPI function `MPI_Alltoall()` can be used to do this.

MPI_Alltoall() example

Suppose there are four processes including the root, each with arrays as shown below on the left. After the all-to-all operation

```
MPI_Alltoall(u, 2, MPI_INT, v, 2, MPI_INT, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
```

the data will be distributed as shown below on the right:

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

MPI_Alltoall()

The calling sequence for `MPI_Alltoall()` is

```
int MPI_Alltoall(
  void *sendbuf,           // pointer to send buffer
  int sendcount,           // items to send per process
  MPI_Datatype sendtype,   // type of send buffer data
  void *recvbuf,           // pointer to receive buffer
  int recvcount,           // number of items to receive
  MPI_Datatype recvtype,   // type of receive buffer data
  MPI_Comm comm)           // MPI communicator to use
```

- The contents of `sendbuf` on each process are distributed in groups of `sendcount` elements of type `sendtype` to all processes.
- `sendbuf` should contain at least (`sendcount`)×(`number_of_processes`) data items of type `sendtype`.
- Each process receives `recvcount` elements of type `recvtype` into `recvbuf`.
- All arguments are significant on all processes.

Outline

MPI_Gather()

MPI provides the `MPI_Gather()` function to collect distinct data elements from multiple processes and combine them in a single buffer on one process.

The gather operation is the inverse of the scatter operation and the calling sequence is similar.

```
int MPI_Gather(
  void *sendbuf,           // pointer to send buffer
  int sendcount,           // number of items to send
  MPI_Datatype sendtype,   // type of send buffer data
  void *recvbuf,           // pointer to receive buffer
  int recvcount,           // items to receive per process
  MPI_Datatype recvtype,   // type of receive buffer data
  int root,                // rank of receiving process
  MPI_Comm comm)           // MPI communicator to use
```

MPI_Gather() notes

Note:

- The contents from each process' `sendbuf` are sent to the root process and placed in consecutive groups in rank order in the root process' `recvbuf`.
- `recvbuf` must be declared on all processes, but may be `NULL` on non-root processes. The root process must have enough space to hold at least (`recvcount`)$\times$(`number_of_processes`) elements of type `recvtype`.
- As in the case of `MPI_Scatter()`, all processes associated with the communicator must participate in the gather operation.
- All arguments are significant on the root process. All but `recvbuf`, `recvcount`, and `recvtype` are significant on all other processes.

MPI_Gather() example

Assume the variable `rank` contains the process rank and `root` is 3. What will be stored in array `b[]` on each of four processes if each executes the following code fragment?

```
int b[4] = {0, 0, 0, 0};
MPI_Gather( &rank, 1, MPI_INT, b, 1, MPI_INT, root,
            MPI_COMM_WORLD );
```

MPI_Gather() example

Assume the variable `rank` contains the process rank and `root` is 3. What will be stored in array `b[]` on each of four processes if each executes the following code fragment?

```
int b[4] = {0, 0, 0, 0};
MPI_Gather( &rank, 1, MPI_INT, b, 1, MPI_INT, root,
            MPI_COMM_WORLD );
```

Answer:

- rank 0: `b[] = {0, 0, 0, 0}`
- rank 1: `b[] = {0, 0, 0, 0}`
- rank 2: `b[] = {0, 0, 0, 0}`
- rank 3: `b[] = {0, 1, 2, 3}`

MPI_Allgather()

`MPI_Gather()` collects data from all processes on a single process. In some instances each process needs to gather the same data from all processes. To do this, MPI provides `MPI_Allgather()`.

This function works just like `MPI_Gather()` except the `recvbuf` is filled on all processes.

The calling sequence for `MPI_Allgather()` is:

```
int MPI_Allgather(
  void *sendbuf,           // pointer to send buffer
  int sendcount,           // number of items to send
  MPI_Datatype sendtype,   // type of send buffer data
  void *recvbuf,           // pointer to receive buffer
  int recvcount,           // items to receive per process
  MPI_Datatype recvtype,   // type of receive buffer data
  MPI_Comm comm)           // MPI communicator to use
```

MPI_Allgather() example

What will be stored in array `b[]` on each of four processes if each executes the following code fragment?

```
int b[4] = {0, 0, 0, 0};
MPI_Allgather( &rank, 1, MPI_INT, b, 1, MPI_INT,
               MPI_COMM_WORLD );
```

MPI_Allgather() example

What will be stored in array `b[]` on each of four processes if each executes the following code fragment?

```
int b[4] = {0, 0, 0, 0};
MPI_Allgather( &rank, 1, MPI_INT, b, 1, MPI_INT,
               MPI_COMM_WORLD );
```

Answer:

- rank 0: `b[] = {0, 1, 2, 3}`
- rank 1: `b[] = {0, 1, 2, 3}`
- rank 2: `b[] = {0, 1, 2, 3}`
- rank 3: `b[] = {0, 1, 2, 3}`

Outline

Four more collective communication routines

- The four routines we've just considered all communicate the same amount of data to or from processes.
- MPI provides four more routines that work identically to these four except the amount of data transferred can vary from process to process.
- These routines have the same names as their uniform data counterparts but with a "v" (for *vector*) appended:

`MPI_Scatterv()`	– Distribute data (one to all)
`MPI_Gatherv()`	– Collect data (all to one)
`MPI_Alltoallv()`	– Distribute data (all to all)
`MPI_Allgatherv()`	– Collect data (all to all)

MPI_Scatterv()

As an example of how these functions are used, we examine the calling sequence for `MPI_Scatter()`

```
int MPI_Scatterv(
  void *sendbuf,           // pointer to send buffer
  int *sendcounts,         // array of send counts
  int *displs,             // array of displacements
  MPI_Datatype sendtype,   // type of send buffer data
  void *recvbuf,           // pointer to receive buffer
  int recvcount,           // number of items to receive
  MPI_Datatype recvtype,   // type of receive buffer data
  int root,                // rank of sending process
  MPI_Comm comm)           // MPI communicator to use
```

- Here `sendcounts` is an array of counts corresponding to the number of data items to be sent to each process.
- Likewise, `displs` is an array of offsets from the start of `sendbuf` to the start of the data to be sent to each process.

Other collective routines

- MPI provides even more collective routines. Other communication routines include
  - `MPI_Reduce_scatter()`: a reduction followed by a scatter.
  - `MPI_Scan()`: performs a prefix reduction on distributed data.
- Another important collective operation is a *barrier*; a synchronation point for all cooperating processes. The calling sequence is simple:

```
MPI_Barrier(MPI_Comm comm)
```

- Read the MPI documentation for information on these and other functions.

Outline

Scatter/Gather example prolog

```
// In this program a scatter operation distributes the
// individual elements of an array of integers among the
// processes.  Each process modifies the value it receives
// and then participates in a gather operation that
// collects the modified data in the master process where
// they are once again assembled into the original array.

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

const int MASTER = 0; // Rank of of the master process

// Set the number of elements that should be
// sent to each process.  The number of elements
// in the entire array will be a multiple of
// this value.
const int num_to_send = 2;
```

Scatter/Gather example main (1)

```
int main( int argc, char* argv[] )
{
    // Initialize the MPI system and determine the
    // number of collaborating processes and the rank
    // of the current process.
    int num_proc, my_rank;
    MPI_Init( &argc, &argv );
    MPI_Comm_size( MPI_COMM_WORLD, &num_proc );
    MPI_Comm_rank( MPI_COMM_WORLD, &my_rank );

    // The master process allocates and initializes
    // the u array of integers.  Other processes will
    // need a valid pointer in their scatter/gather
    // calls, but it will be ignored and so can be
    // NULL.  Each process needs array v to receive
    // data into.
    int* u = NULL;
    int* v = new int [num_to_send];
```

Scatter/Gather example main (2)

```
if ( my_rank == MASTER )
{
    // Master process allocates array and fills
    // it with data.  The values in the array are
    // 100 * (my_rank+1) plus the an offset from
    // 0..num_to_send.
    u = new int [num_proc * num_to_send];
    printf( "Master: Scattering =" );
    for ( int i = 0; i < num_proc; i++ )
    {
        for ( int j = 0; j < num_to_send; j++ )
        {
            int k = i * num_to_send + j;
            u[k] = 100 * ( i + 1 ) + j;
            printf( "%5d", u[k] );
        }
    }
    printf( "\n" );
}
```

Scatter/Gather example main (3)

```
// Each process participates in the scatter;
// the first three parameters ("the source")
// are used if the process' rank matches the
// next-to-last parameter.  All processes use
// the next three parameters ("the destination").
MPI_Scatter( u, num_to_send, MPI_INT,
             v, num_to_send, MPI_INT,
             MASTER, MPI_COMM_WORLD );

// Each process, including the master, adds a
// distinguishable value to received data.
printf( "Process %2d: ", my_rank );
for ( int i = 0; i < num_to_send; i++ )
{
    printf( " (%4d", v[i] );
    v[i] += 1000 * ( my_rank + 1 );
    printf( " -> %4d)", v[i] );
}
printf( "\n" );
```

Scatter/Gather example main (4)

```
// Each process participates in the gather.  Source
// parameters are used by each process but only the
// master process makes use of destination parameters.
MPI_Gather( v, num_to_send, MPI_INT,
            u, num_to_send, MPI_INT,
            MASTER, MPI_COMM_WORLD );

if ( my_rank == MASTER ) {
    // Master process displays assembled data
    printf( "Master: Received   =" );
    for ( int i = 0; i < num_proc; i++ ) {
        for ( int j = 0; j < num_to_send; j++ )
        {
            int k = i * num_to_send + j;
            printf( "%5d", u[k] );
        }
    }
    printf( "\n" );
}
```

Scatter/Gather example main (5)

```
    // clean up
    delete [] u;
    delete [] v;
    MPI_Finalize();

    return 0;
}
```

Outline

Alltoall example prolog

```
// Demonstration of MPI_Alltoall()
//
// In this program an all-to-all operation distributes
// the individual elements of an array from each process
// to all the processes.

#include <cstdio>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <mpi.h>

// Set the number of elements that should be sent to
// each process.  The number of elements in the entire
// array will be a multiple of this value.
const int num_to_send = 2;
```

Alltoall example main (1)

```
int main( int argc, char* argv[] )
{
    // Initialize the MPI system and determine the number
    // of collaborating processes and the rank of the
    // current process.
    int num_proc, my_rank;
    MPI_Init( &argc, &argv );
    MPI_Comm_size( MPI_COMM_WORLD, &num_proc );
    MPI_Comm_rank( MPI_COMM_WORLD, &my_rank );
```

Alltoall example main (2)

```
// Construct array of data for this process.
// The values in the array have the form RXYY where
//  "R"  is rank of this process,
//  "X"  is the group number (1..number_of_processes);
//       this is also the destination rank, and
//  "YY" is a counter value that starts at 00 and
//       works up to num_to_send-1.
int* u = new int [num_proc * num_to_send];
int* v = new int [num_proc * num_to_send];
for ( int i = 0; i < num_proc; i++ ) {
    for ( int j = 0; j < num_to_send; j++ ) {
        int k = i * num_to_send + j;
        u[k] = 1000 * my_rank + 100 * i + j;
        v[k] = 0;
    }
}
```

Alltoall example main (3)

```
    // Display constructed data
    dumpData( my_rank, num_proc, num_to_send, u, "Before" );

    // Each process participates in the all-to-all operation
    MPI_Alltoall( u, num_to_send, MPI_INT,
                  v, num_to_send, MPI_INT,
                  MPI_COMM_WORLD );

    // Display received data
    dumpData( my_rank, num_proc, num_to_send, v, "After" );

    // Clean up
    delete [] u;
    delete [] v;
    MPI_Finalize();

    return 0;
}
```

Alltoall example dumpData (1)

```
void dumpData( int my_rank, int num_proc, int dataPerProcess,
               int* v, const char* label, bool sync = true )
//
// Displays data stored in each process.  Optionally uses
// MPI_Barrier() and usleep() to synchronize output in
// process rank order.
//
// Input:
//    int my_rank          - process rank
//    int num_proc         - number of processes
//    int* v               - array of data to display
//    const char* label    - label for data (8 character max)
//    bool sync            - Synchronize with barrier if true
//                           (default = true)
//
// Display:
//    Integer data in array v.  Displays 4 place values with
//    leading zeros.
//
```

Alltoall example dumpData (2)

```
{
    for ( int p = 0; p < num_proc; p++ ) {
        if ( my_rank == p ) {
            // It's my turn to display data...
            printf( "Process %2d: %-8s =", my_rank, label );
            for ( int i = 0; i < num_proc; i++ ) {
                for ( int j = 0; j < dataPerProcess; j++ ) {
                    int k = i * dataPerProcess + j;
                    printf( " %04d", v[k] );
                }
            }
            printf( "\n" );
            fflush( stdout );
        }
        if ( sync ) {
            MPI_Barrier( MPI_COMM_WORLD );
            usleep( 10000 ); // pause 0.01 seconds for I/O
        }
    }
}
```

Outline

Vector Scatter example prolog

```
// Demonstration of MPI_Scatterv() and MPI_Gather()
//
// Demonstrate a vector scatter operation to distribute
// elements in an array of integers among the processes.
// Each process receives one more integer than its rank.
// For example, in the case of N processes:
//      Rank 0:   receives 1 integer,
//      Rank 1:   receives 2 integers,
//        ...                ...
//      Rank N-1: receives N integers.
// Since 1 + 2 + 3 + ... + N = N(N+1)/2, the array containing
// the integers to distribute will hold N(N+1)/2 integers.
//
// Each process sums the values it receives.  A gather
// operation is used to collect these back on the master.

#include <cstdio>
#include <mpi.h>

const int MASTER = 0;   // Rank of of the master process
```

Vector Scatter example main (1)

```
int main( int argc, char* argv[] )
{
    // Initialize the MPI system
    int num_proc, my_rank;
    MPI_Init( &argc, &argv );
    MPI_Comm_size( MPI_COMM_WORLD, &num_proc );
    MPI_Comm_rank( MPI_COMM_WORLD, &my_rank );

    // The master process allocates and initializes the u[]
    // array of integers as well as arrays that hold the
    // number of items to send to each process and the
    // offsets to the start of each process' data in the
    // send buffer.
    int* u = NULL; // send buffer--only needed on MASTER
    int* v = new int [my_rank + 1];    // receive buffer
    int* sendcounts = NULL;
    int* displs = NULL;
```

Vector Scatter example main (2)

```
if ( my_rank == MASTER )
{
    // Master process allocates and fills the arrays
    u = new int [num_proc * ( num_proc + 1 ) / 2];
    sendcounts = new int [num_proc];
    displs = new int [num_proc];
    int k = 0;
    printf( "Master: Scattering:\n" );
    for ( int i = 0; i < num_proc; i++ ) {
        for ( int j = 0; j <= i; j++ ) {
            u[k] = 100 + k;
            printf( " %4d", u[k++] );
        }
        printf( "\n" );
        sendcounts[i] = i + 1; // destination rank plus 1
        displs[i] = i * ( i + 1 ) / 2; // offset to start
    }
    printf( "\n" );
}
```

Vector Scatter example main (3)

```
// Each process (including the master) participates
// in the vector scatter.  Each process will receive
// one more integer than their rank.
int recvcount = my_rank + 1;
MPI_Scatterv( u, sendcounts, displs, MPI_INT,
              v, recvcount, MPI_INT,
              MASTER, MPI_COMM_WORLD );

// Each process sums the values they received
int sum = 0;
for ( int i = 0; i <= my_rank; i++ ) sum += v[i];

// Each process participates in the gather.
MPI_Gather( &sum, 1, MPI_INT,
            u, 1, MPI_INT,
            MASTER, MPI_COMM_WORLD );
```

Vector Scatter example main (4)

```
    if ( my_rank == MASTER )
    {
        // Master process displays assembled data
        printf( "Master: Received:\n" );
        for ( int i = 0; i < num_proc; i++ )
        {
            printf( "u[%d] = %d\n", i, u[i] );
        }
    }

    // clean up
    delete [] u;
    delete [] v;
    delete [] sendcounts;
    delete [] displs;
    MPI_Finalize();

    return 0;
}
```

Example Output

```
$ mpiexec -n 4 scatterv
Master: Scattering:
 100 101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109
Master: Received:
u[0] = 100
u[1] = 203
u[2] = 312
u[3] = 430
```