CISC 372: Parallel Computing Exam 1 Review

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Ghost cells

- when do you need ghost cells?
 - an algorithm requires data on its nearest neighbors
- the typical scenario
 - block distributed array a
 - the update function for a[i] requires the left and/or right neighbor

▶ a[i] = ... a[i-1] ... a[i+1] ...

- > on each proc, the left neighbor of the left-most cell is on another proc
- ditto for the right
- solution: create ghost cells to mirror those neighbors
- just before updating, exchange ghost cells

Nearest neighbor communication and Pascal's triangle

Usual representation:

1 Computer representation: 0 0 0 0 6 0 4 0 4 0 0 1 ÷ ÷ : : • : ♦ Exam 1 Review 3

Pascal: sequential implementation

- see pascal.c
- two arrays are used
 - one always holds the current value
 - the other holds the previous value
- note use of pointer swapping
- note the update function has nearest neighbor dependency
 - ▶ for (int j=1; j<2*N; j++) q[j] = p[j-1]+p[j+1]</pre>

Pascal: ghost cell exchange



- ▶ the length of the array on proc r is $NUM_OWNED(r) + 2$
- indexes are shifted up by 1; see pascal_mpi.c
- diffusion1d.c: same issue: $u_new[i] = u[i] + k*(u[i+1] + u[i-1] 2*u[i])$ S.F. Siegel CISC 372: Parallel Computing \diamond Exam 1 Review 0

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2-d Diffusion

- a metal unit square
 - ▶ initially 100°
 - temperature on perimeter kept at 0°
- u = u(x, y, t) temperature function
- 2d diffusion equation

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \alpha \left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} \right)$$

discretization

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how to distribute the 2d spatial domain?

- how to distribute the 2d spatial domain?
- "striped" decompositions

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 - apply the Standard Block Distribution Scheme to the columns

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- "striped" decompositions
 - apply the Standard Block Distribution Scheme to the columns
 - "column distribution"
 - each process gets a certain number of x values
 - a ghost cell column on the left and on the right
 - exchange ghost columns after each time step
 - the entire column should be sent as one message
 - this is much more efficient than sending each cell in its own message

- how to distribute the 2d spatial domain?
- "striped" decompositions

▶ ...

- apply the Standard Block Distribution Scheme to the columns
 - "column distribution"
 - each process gets a certain number of x values
 - a ghost cell column on the left and on the right
 - exchange ghost columns after each time step
 - the entire column should be sent as one message
 - this is much more efficient than sending each cell in its own message
- apply the Standard Block Distribution Scheme to the rows
 - "row distribution"

2d Diffusion: column distribution





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2d Diffusion: row distribution





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2d Diffusion: checkerboard decomposition





- ▶ 4 ghost regions for each process
- ▶ 4 exchanges: up, down, left, right

Outline

- 1 introduction
 - Moore's law, N/UMA, clusters vs. multicore, power
 - message-passing vs. shared-memory models
- 2. UNIX basics
 - file system, ls, pwd, mkdir, make, ...

3. C

- preprocessor, compiler. linker
- types, declarations, function definitions, pointers, malloc/free, multi-dimensional arrays

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4 MPI

- startup, shutdown, communicators, rank, size
- point-to-point: send, receive, wildcards, semantics, deadlock
- collectives
- 5. distribution strategies: cyclic, block, manager-worker
- 6. applications: SAT, Pascal, diffusion1d/2d

C: Pointers

- a pointer is the address of a memory location
- pointers are first-class objects in C
- there are pointer types
- a pointer can be assigned using =
- a pointer can be passed as an argument in a function call
- a pointer can be returned by a function
- there are operations which consume pointers and return pointers

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a pointer is just like any other kind of data

Pointer types

- declaration
 - if T(x) declares x to have type T
 - then T(*p) declares p to have type pointer-to-T
- declaration examples
 - double *p
 - T(x) =double x
 - T(*p) = double *p
 - p has type pointer-to-double
 - unsigned long int *p
 - T(x) = unsigned long int x
 - T(*p) = unsigned long int *p
 - p has type pointer-to-unsigned-long-int

Pointer operations

There are two basic operations on pointers:

► address-of (&)

- given a variable, returns the address of that variable
- if x has type T then &x has type pointer-to-T
- example

```
int x;
int *p = &x; // address of x
```

- dereference (*)
 - given a pointer, returns the value stored at that address

- if p has type pointer-to-T then *p has type T
- example

```
int x = 5;
int *p = &x;
int y = 2 * (*p); // 10
```

Pointer operations, cont

*p can also be used on the left-hand side of an assignment

```
double x = 3.1415;
double *p = &x;
*p = 2.71828;
printf("%lf", x); // 2.71828
```

Pointers into arrays

you can also take the address of array elements



Pointer into 2d-array



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Pointer arithmetic

if all of the following hold

- p is an expression of type pointer-to-T
- i is an expression of integer type
- T is a complete type (size of T is known!!)

then

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- p+i is an expression of type pointer-to-T
- it points to the address that is i T's past p
- if sizeof(T) is n bytes, then p+i is i * n bytes after p



Pointer arithmetic within a 2d-array



sizeof(int)

The real meaning of the index operator [..]

The meaning of x [y]:

- x [y] is syntactic sugar for *(x+y)
- ▶ if p is a pointer-to-T, then p[i] means *(p+i)
 - recall: this can be used to read or write to location p+i

Example: index operator and pointers

```
#include <stdio.h>
```

print(&a[0], 10);

```
/* assigns val to p[i], ..., p[i+n-1] */
void set_range(int *p, int n, int val) {
  for (int i=0; i<n; i++) p[i] = val;
}</pre>
```

```
/* prints p[0], ..., p[n-1] */
void print(int *p, int n) {
  for (int i=0; i<n; i++) printf("%d ", p[i]);
  printf("\n");
}
int main() {
  int a[10];
  set_range(&a[0], 10, 0); // a[0..9]=0
  print(&a[0], 10);</pre>
```

set_range(&a[3], 5, 8); // a[3..7]=8

```
basie:c siegel$ cc ptr1.c
basie:c siegel$ ./a.out
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 8 8 8 8 8 0 0
basie:c
```

C's array-pointer "pun"

In most contexts:

- any expression of type array-of-T is automatically converted to an expression of type pointer-to-T
- pointing to the first (i.e., 0-th) element of the array
- i.e. a and &a[0] denote the same thing
 - the pointer to element 0 of array a

```
#include <assert.h>
int main() {
    int a[10];
    int *p;
    p = a; // same as p=&a[0]
    assert(a[3] == *(p+3));
    assert(a[3] == *(a+3));
}
```

Exceptions: sizeof and a few other places

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C's array pointer pun, cont.

- any formal parameter in a function header of type array-of-T is converted to type pointer-to-T
- example: the following all mean exactly the same thing:
 - int f(double *a);
 - int f(double a[]);
 - int f(double a[1000]);
 - the 1000 is simply ignored
 - no reason to do this, unless it is as documentation
- one difference: an array can not occur on left side of =

```
int a[10];
int b[10];
int *p;
p = a; // yes
p = b; // yes
a = p; // no!
a = b; // no!
```

Allocating sequences of data

Multiple ways:

- 1. double a[10];
 - in the file scope
 - allocates an array that persists for the entire life of the program
 - can be accessed in any scope
 - length must be a constant expression
 - cannot be used if length is unknown at compile time
- 2. double a[n];
 - in a local scope
 - allocates an array that persists until the end of that scope is reached
 - can be accessed in that scope and sub-scopes, and through pointers
 - length can be any integer expression
- 3. malloc and free

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- dynamic memory allocation
- memory allocated in the heap
- programmer controls when allocation and deallocation occur

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Heap allocation: malloc and free

malloc and free are functions defined in stdlib

▶ malloc

- consumes argument of integer type
 - the number of bytes to allocate
- allocates that many bytes in the heap
- returns void*
 - address of first byte allocated
 - typically, this is converted immediately into a non-void pointer type
- example
 - int *p = (int*)malloc(10*sizeof(int));
 - allocates space for 10 ints and returns pointer to beginning of that region

▶ free

- consumes a void* pointer previously produced by malloc
- deallocates the object

Heap allocation: example

```
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <assert.h>
#include <stdio.h>
void print(int *p, int n) {
  for (int i=0; i<n; i++) printf("%d ", p[i]);</pre>
 printf("\n");
3
int main(int argc, char * argv[]) {
  int n = atoi(argv[1]); // converts first command-line arg to int
  int * p = (int*)malloc(n*sizeof(int));
  assert(p); // check that malloc succeeded
 for (int i=0; i<n; i++) p[i] = i;</pre>
  print(p, n);
 free(p);
3
```

basie:c siegel\$ cc malloc1.c basie:c siegel\$./a.out 10 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 basie:c siegel\$

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Structures

The following defines a new type named struct Show:

```
struct Show {
    int channel; // this is an int field
    char * name; // this is a string field
    double cost; // this is a double field
};
```

```
struct Show show;
show.channel = 10;
show.name = "The 372 Show";
show.cost = 100000.00;
```

- struct Show is a type just like any other type
- can be used to declare variables, as function parameter type, can be returned by a function, ...

Structures, cont.

It may be convenient to give the new type a shorter name:

```
typedef struct _show {
    int channel; // this is an int field
    char * name; // this is a string field
    double cost; // this is a double field
} Show;
```

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now you can just use Show instead of struct _show

note: you can use the same name for the struct and the new type

```
typedef struct X { ...} X;
```

Structures and pointers

- structures are often manipulated using pointers
- functions consuming a structure typically consume a pointer to the structure

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functions returning structures typically return a pointer to a structure

```
int getChannel(Show * show) {
  return (*show).channel;
}
void setChannel(Show * show, int c) {
  (*show).channel = c;
}
```

this pattern is so popular that C provides a shortcut

```
s->x is syntactic sugar for (*s).x
```

Structures and pointers, cont.

OK:

```
int getChannel(Show * show) {
 return (*show).channel;
}
void setChannel(Show * show, int c) {
  (*show).channel = c;
3
```

Better[.]

```
int getChannel(Show * show) {
 return show->channel;
}
void setChannel(Show * show, int c) {
  show->channel = c;
}
```

Arrays of structures

- one can create an array of structures, or
- one can create an array of pointers to structures.

Each has advantages (and disadvantages).

```
Show *shows[n]; // array of pointer to Show
for (int i=0; i<n; i++) {
  Show * s = (Show*)malloc(sizeof(Show));
  s->channel = i;
  shows[i] = s;
}
```

MPI Program Model

- an MPI program consists of multiple processes
- each process has its own memory (no shared memory)
- think of each process as a program running on its own computer
- the computers can have different architectures
- the programs do not even have to be written in the same language
 - MPI officially supports C and Fortran
- however, in most cases:
 - programmer writes one generic program
 - compiles this
 - at run-time, specifies number of processes
 - run-time system
 - instantiates that number of processes
 - distributes them where they need to go
 - a process can obtain its unique ID ("rank")
 - by branching on rank, each process can execute different code
Cyclic Distribution

Generalize

Given any number of tasks.

Given p processes.

Distribute the tasks cyclically:

- ▶ proc 0: 0, *p*, 2*p*, ...
- ▶ proc 1: 1, p + 1, 2p + 1, ...
- ▶ proc 2: 2, p + 2, 2p + 2, ...
- etc.

I.e., proc *i* gets tasks *t*, where t%p = i. See sat1.c, Makefile.

- good for most embarrassingly parallel problems
- generally effective when longer tasks tend to occur next to each other
- for problems that require nearest-neighbor communicaton: don't use this

MPI_Send

MPI_Send(buf, count, datatype, dest, tag, comm)

```
buf address of send buffer (void*)
count number of elements in buffer (int)
datatype data type of elements in buffer (MPI_Datatype)
dest rank of destination process (int)
tag integer to attach to message envelope (int)
comm communicator (MPI_Comm)
```

- message envelope
 - source rank
 - destination rank
 - tag
 - communicator
- ▶ tag can be used by receiver to select which message to receive

MPI_Recv

MPI_Recv(buf, count, datatype, source, tag, comm, status)

```
buf address of send buffer (void*)
count number of elements in buffer (int)
datatype data type of elements in buffer (MPI_Datatype)
source rank of source process (int)
tag tag of message to receive (int)
comm communicator (MPI_Comm)
status pointer to status object (MPI_Status*)
```

- count must be at least as large as count of incoming message
- status: object to store envelope information on received message
 - source, tag, count
- why would you need to know source and tag?

Using "wildcards" in MPI_Recv

MPI_Recv(buf, count, datatype, source, tag, comm, status)

source argument can be MPI_ANY_SOURCE

- special constant defined by MPI
- means "receive message from any source"
- use with care
- introduce nondeterminism into the parallel program
- program can produce different results on different executions
- sometimes this is necessary (dynamic load-balancing)
- do not use unless necessary for algorithm
- tag argument can be MPI_ANY_TAG
 - "receive message with any tag"
 - this one does not introduce nondeterminism
- > can use neither, either, or both in one receive operation

status is a C struct

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- getting the rank of the source
 - status.MPI_SOURCE

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- getting the rank of the source
 - status.MPI_SOURCE
- getting the tag of the message
 - status.MPI_TAG

status is a C struct

- getting the rank of the source
 - status.MPI_SOURCE
- getting the tag of the message
 - status.MPI_TAG
- getting the error code
 - status.MPI_ERROR

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status is a C struct

- getting the rank of the source
 - status.MPI_SOURCE
- getting the tag of the message
 - status.MPI_TAG
- getting the error code
 - status.MPI_ERROR
- getting the size ("count") of the message
 - not simply a field in the struct
 - need to use function MPI_Get_count

Example: status.c

```
#include<string.h>
#include<stdio h>
#include<mpi.h>
int main() {
  char message[100];
  int rank:
  MPI_Status status:
  MPI_Init(NULL, NULL);
  MPI_Comm_rank(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &rank);
  if (rank == 0) {
    strcpv(message,"Hello, from proc 0!");
    MPI_Send(message, strlen(message)+1, MPI_CHAR, 1, 99, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
  } else if (rank == 1) {
    MPI_Recv(message. 100, MPI_CHAR, 0, MPI_ANY_TAG, MPI_COMM_WORLD, &status);
    printf("Proc 1 received: \"%s\"\n", message);
    printf("source=%d tag=%d \n", status.MPI_SOURCE, status.MPI_TAG);
  MPI Finalize():
3
```

status.c output

Note that in C, a string is a sequence of char ending with the "null terminating char" '\0'. The number of characters in the string is therefore strlen(message) + 1 = 19 + 1 = 20.

```
> mpiexec status.exec
Proc 1 received: "Hello, from proc 0!"
source=0 tag=99
```

MPI_Get_count(status, datatype, count)

status pointer to status object (MPI_Status*)

datatype data type of elements received (MPI_Datatype)

count pointer to variable in which to return result (int*)

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 count pointer to variable in which to return result (int*)

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- datatype should be same as used in receive

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MPI_Get_count(status, datatype, count)

status pointer to status object (MPI_Status*)

datatype data type of elements received (MPI_Datatype)
 count pointer to variable in which to return result (int*)

- should only be called after status has been filled in by receive
- datatype should be same as used in receive
- sets count to the number of elements received
- note
 - count specified in receive statement and message count can differ
 - receive buffer must be big enough to hold incoming message
 - memory in receive buffer after message count will not be altered

Example: getting the count: count.c

The following lines are added to proc 1:

Example: getting the count: count.c

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This sets count to the actual number of characters (MPI_CHAR) received.

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The following lines are added to proc 1:

This sets count to the actual number of characters (MPI_CHAR) received.

> mpiexec -n 4 ./count.exec Proc 1 received: "Hello, from proc 0!" source=0 tag=99 count=20

Note the null terminating character is counted.

Point-to-point

MPI_STATUS_IGNORE is

- A. a type
- B. a function

C. a constant

- D. a variable
- E. a type qualifier

Each of the following program fragments attempts to have two processes exchange data. In each case, state which of the following is true:

- A. the fragment will definitely deadlock
- B. the fragment will definitely not deadlock
- C. the fragment may or may not deadlock

```
if (rank == 0) {
    MPI_Send(&myNumber, 1, MPI_INT, 1, 9, comm);
    MPI_Recv(&otherNumber, 1, MPI_INT, 1, 9, comm, &status);
} else if (rank == 1) {
    MPI_Send(&myNumber, 1, MPI_INT, 0, 9, comm);
    MPI_Recv(&otherNumber, 1, MPI_INT, 0, 9, comm, &status);
}
```

```
if (rank == 0) {
    MPI_Recv(&otherNumber, 1, MPI_INT, 1, 9, comm, &status);
    MPI_Send(&myNumber, 1, MPI_INT, 1, 9, comm);
} else if (rank == 1) {
    MPI_Recv(&otherNumber, 1, MPI_INT, 0, 9, comm, &status);
    MPI_Send(&myNumber, 1, MPI_INT, 0, 9, comm);
}
```

- A. the fragment will definitely deadlock
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```
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} else if (rank == 1) {
    MPI_Recv(&otherNumber, 1, MPI_INT, 0, 9, comm, &status);
    MPI_Send(&myNumber, 1, MPI_INT, 0, 9, comm);
}
```

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- B. the fragment will definitely not deadlock
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```
if (rank == 0) {
  MPI_Send(&myNumber, 1, MPI_INT, 1, 3, comm);
  MPI_Recv(&otherNumber, 1, MPI_INT, 1, 4, comm, &status);
} else if (rank == 1) {
  MPI_Send(&myNumber, 1, MPI_INT, 0, 4, comm);
  MPI_Recv(&otherNumber, 1, MPI_INT, 0, 3, comm, &status);
}
```

- A. the fragment will definitely deadlock
- B. the fragment will definitely not deadlock
- C. the fragment may or may not deadlock

In a correct MPI program, the length of the receive buffer used in an MPI_Recv...

- A. must be exactly equal to the length of the incoming message
- B. must be greater than or equal to the length of the incoming message
- C. may be any number; if the length of the buffer is less than the length of the incoming message, the message will be truncated

- D. must be at least one greater than the length of the incoming message
- E. must be less than or equal to the length of the incoming message

```
int main(int argc, char **argv) {
 int rank, x, y; MPI_Init( & argc, & argv ); MPI_Comm_rank(MPI_COMM_WORLD, & rank);
 if (rank == 0) {
   x = 10; v = 11;
   MPI_Send(&x, 1, MPI_INT, 1, 9, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
   MPI_Send(&y, 1, MPI_INT, 2, 9, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
 } else if (rank == 1) {
   MPI Recv(&x, 1, MPI INT, MPI ANY SOURCE, 9, MPI COMM WORLD, MPI STATUS IGNORE):
   MPI_Recv(&y, 1, MPI_INT, MPI_ANY_SOURCE, 9, MPI_COMM_WORLD, MPI_STATUS_IGNORE);
   printf("%d %d\n", x, y); fflush(stdout);
 } else if (rank == 2) {
   x=20:
   MPI_Recv(&v, 1, MPI_INT, 0, 9, MPI_COMM_WORLD, MPI_STATUS_IGNORE);
   MPI_Send(&x, 1, MPI_INT, 1, 9, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
 }
 MPI_Finalize():
}
```

- A. the program will never deadlock and the output will always be 10 20
- B. the program will never deadlock and the output may be 10 $\,$ 20 or 20 $\,$ 10
- C. it is possible for the program to deadlock; when it does not deadlock it will output 10 20
- D. the program will always deadlock
- E. it is possible for the program to deadlock, it is possible for it to output 10 20, and it is possible for it to output 20 10

Collective operations

- example: want to print the total number of solutions found
- each process can count its solutions
- then we need to add up these numbers across all processes
- this obviously requires communication
- an example of a collective operation
 - a communication operation involving all processes in a communicator
- to carry out a collective operation in MPI:
 - each process calls the same function
 - some arguments will be the same for all processes
 - some will differ
- non-interference: collective communication and p2p communication in two separate universes
- synchronization: no synchronization implied by collectives except what is logically necessary

Collectives

A program contains a call to MPI_Bcast with data type MPI_DOUBLE used on every process. Which of the following must be true if the program is correct:

- A. the count argument used on a non-root process must be exactly equal to the count on the root
- B. the count arguments used on non-root processes can differ, as long as they are all greater than or equal to the count on the root
- C. the count on all the non-root processes must be the same number, but that number may be larger than the count used on the root
- D. the count on all the non-root processes must be the same number, but that number may be at least one larger than the count used on the root
- E. the count values on the non-root processes can be any numbers; if they are smaller than the count on the root, the message will just be truncated.

```
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   MPI_Send(&x, 1, MPI_INT, 1, 10, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
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   printf("%d %d\n", x, y); fflush(stdout);
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   x = 20:
   MPI_Recv(&v, 1, MPI_INT, 0, 9, MPI_COMM_WORLD, MPI_STATUS_IGNORE);
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 MPI_Finalize():
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- A. the program will never deadlock and the output will always be 20 10
- B. the program will never deadlock and the output may be 10 20 or 20 10
- C. it is possible for the program to deadlock, but when it does not, it will output 20 10
- D. the program will always deadlock
- E. it is possible for the program to deadlock, it is possible for it to output 10 20, and it is possible for it to output 20 10

Applications

Consider a diffusion1d program. Suppose that the length of the global temperature array is 100 (including boundary values), and the program is executed with 10 processes. What is the *maximum* number of ghost cells stored on any one process?

- **A**. 0
- B. 1
- **C**. 2
- D. 10
- **E**. 100

Applications

Consider a row-distributed diffusion2d program. Suppose that the dimensions of the global temperature matrix is 100×100 (including boundaries), and the program is executed with 10 processes. What is the *maximum* number of ghost cells stored on any one process?

A. 1

B. 2

C. 10

D. 100

E. 200

Collectives

Suppose every process in a communicator calls MPI_Allreduce (correctly) with MPI_SUM as the reduction operation. Does this necessarily induce a barrier? (Y/N)

- A. Yes
- B. No

Collectives

Suppose every process in a communicator calls $\tt MPI_Bcast$ (correctly). Does this necessarily induce a barrier? (Y/N)

- A. Yes
- B. No

```
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Distribution

For the following, suppose an array of length n (indexed from 0 to n-1) is block-distributed over p processes (with ranks $0, \ldots, p-1$) using the standard block-distribution scheme.
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What is the formula first(i) for the global index of the first element on process *i*?

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first(i) = floor(in/p)

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What is the formula for the rank i of the process controlling the element with global index j?

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 $\operatorname{owner}(j) = \operatorname{floor}((p(j+1)-1)/n)$

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What is the formula for the rank i of the process controlling the element with global index j?

$$\operatorname{owner}(j) = \operatorname{floor}((p(j+1)-1)/n)$$

What is the formula for the local index k of the element with global index j?

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For the following, suppose an array of length n (indexed from 0 to n-1) is block-distributed over p processes (with ranks $0, \ldots, p-1$) using the standard block-distribution scheme.

What is the formula first(i) for the global index of the first element on process *i*?

first(i) = floor(in/p)

What is the formula for the rank i of the process controlling the element with global index j?

$$\operatorname{owner}(j) = \operatorname{floor}((p(j+1)-1)/n)$$

What is the formula for the local index k of the element with global index j?

$$j - first(owner(j))$$

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```
#include<stdio.h>
#include<mpi.h>
int main(int argc, char **argv) {
  int rank. x=1:
  MPI_Comm_rank(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &rank);
  if (rank == 0) {
   MPI_Send(&x, 1, MPI_INT, 1, 9, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
 } else if (rank == 1) {
   MPI_Recv(&x, 1, MPI_INT, MPI_ANY_SOURCE, 9, MPI_COMM_WORLD, MPI_STATUS_IGNORE);
   printf("Message received.\n");
  }
```

- A. When run with 2 or more processes, the program will never deadlock and will output "Message received.".
- B. When run with more than 2 processes, the program may or may not deadlock; if it does not deadlock it will output "Message received.".
- C. When run with more than 2 processes, the program will deadlock.
- D. When run with 1 process, the program will always terminate normally without printing anything.
- E. The program is incorrect.

S.F. Siegel \diamond CISC 372: Parallel Computing \diamond Exam 1 Review

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