MPI Programs

What is MPI?

MPI Forum

- First message-passing interface standard.
- Sixty people from forty different organisations.
- Users and vendors represented, from the US and Europe.
- Two-year process of proposals, meetings and review.
- *Message Passing Interface* document produced.

Goals and Scope of MPI

- MPI's prime goals are:
  - To provide source-code portability.
  - To allow efficient implementation.
- It also offers:
  - A great deal of functionality.
  - Support for heterogeneous parallel architectures.

Header files

- C:

```
#include <mpi.h>
```

- Fortran:

```
include 'mpif.h'
```

- Fortran 90:

```
use mpi
```

MPI Function Format

- C:

```
error = MPI_Xxxxx(parameter, ...);

MPI_Xxxxx(parameter, ...);
```

- Fortran:

```
CALL MPI_XXXXX(parameter, ..., IERROR)
```

Handles

- MPI controls its own internal data structures.
- MPI releases `handles' to allow programmers to refer to these.
- C handles are of defined `typedefs`.
- Fortran handles are `INTEGERs`.

Initialising MPI

- C:

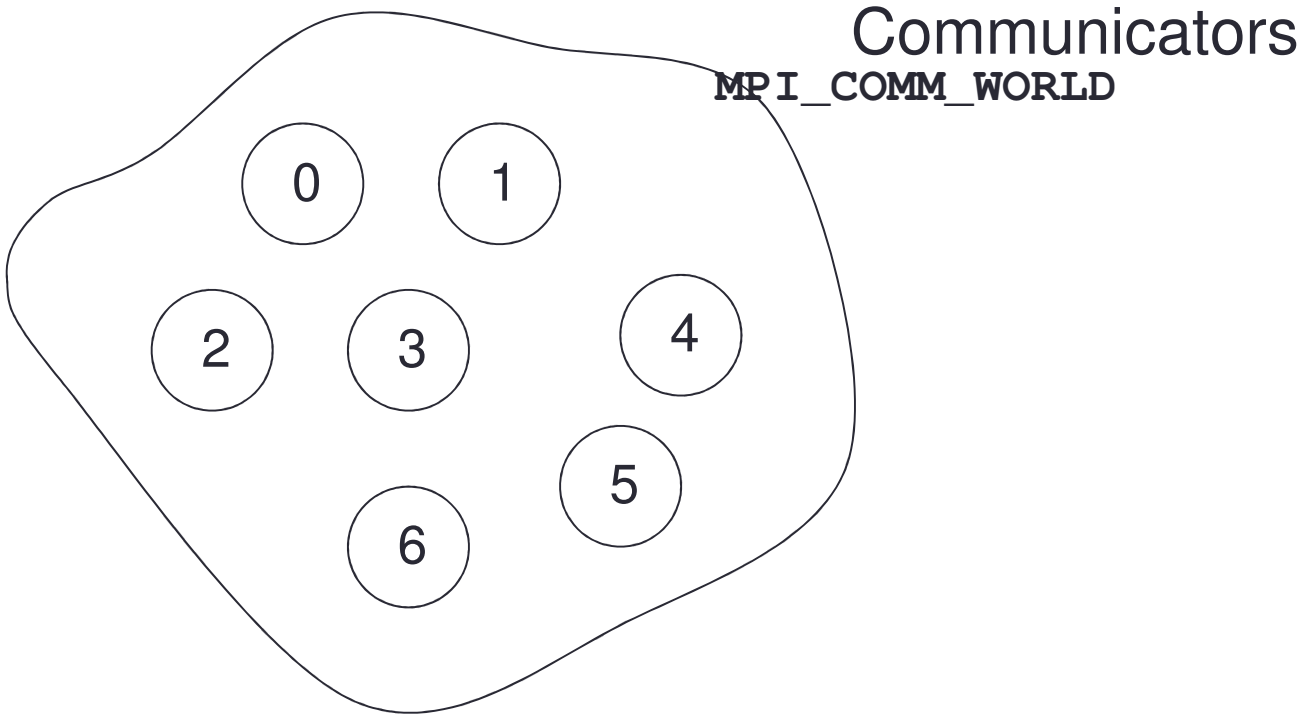
```
int MPI_Init(int *argc, char ***argv)
```

- Fortran:

```
MPI_INIT(IERROR)
        INTEGER IERROR
```

- Must be the first MPI procedure called.
  - but multiple processes are already running before MPI_Init

MPI_COMM_WORLD



Rank

- How do you identify different processes in a communicator?

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

MPI_COMM_RANK(COMM, RANK, IERROR)
        INTEGER COMM, RANK, IERROR
```

- The rank is not the physical processor number.
  - numbering is 0, 1, 2, ...

Size

- How many processes are contained within a communicator?

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

MPI_COMM_SIZE(COMM, SIZE, IERROR)
      INTEGER COMM, SIZE, IERROR
```

Exiting MPI

- C:

```
int MPI_Finalize()
```

- Fortran:

```
MPI_FINALIZE(IERROR)
        INTEGER IERROR
```

- Must be the last MPI procedure called.

Aborting MPI

- Aborting the execution from any processor (e.g. error condition)
- C:

```
int MPI_Abort(MPI_Comm comm,int errorcode)
```

- Fortran:

```
MPI_ABORT(COMM, ERRORCODE, IERROR)
        INTEGER COMM, ERRORCODE, IERROR
```

- Behaviour
  - will abort all processes even if only called by one process
  - this is the ONLY MPI routine that can have this effect!

Summary

- Have covered basic calls
  - but no explicit message-passing yet
- Can still write useful programs
  - eg a task farm of independent jobs
- Need to compile and launch parallel jobs
  - procedure is not specified by MPI
  - next lecture gives machine-specific details