

PVM Provide a simple, free, portable parallel environment Run on everything - Parallel Hardware: SMP, MPPs, Vector Machines Network of Workstations: ATM, Ethernet, UNIX machines and PCs running Win* Works on a heterogenous collection of machines handles type conversion as needed Provides two things

- message passing library
 - point-to-point messages
 - synchronization: barriers, reductions
- OS support
 - process creation (pvm_spawn)



PVM Message Passing

• All messages have tags

- an integer to identify the message
- defined by the user
- Messages are constructed, then sent
 - pvm_pk{int,char,float}(*var, count, stride)
 - pvm_unpk{int,char,float} to unpack
- All proccess are named based on task ids (tids)
 - local/remote processes are the same
- Primary message passing functions
 - pvm_send(tid, tag)
 - pvm_recv(tid, tag)

PVM Process Control

Creating a process

- pvm_spawn(task, argv, flag, where, ntask, tids)
- flag and where provide control of where tasks are started
- ntask controls how many copies are started
- program must be installed on target machine

• Ending a task

- pvm_exit
- does not exit the process, just the PVM machine

Info functions

– pvm_mytid() - get the process task id

PVM Group Operations

- Group is the unit of communication
 - a collection of one or more processes
 - processes join group with pvm_joingroup("<group name>")
 - each process in the group has a unique id
 - pvm_gettid("<group name>")
- Barrier
 - can involve a subset of the processes in the group
 - pvm_barrier("<group name>", count)
- Reduction Operations
 - pvm_reduce(void (*func)(), void *data, int count, int datatype, int msgtag, char *group, int rootinst)
 - result is returned to rootinst node
 - does not block
 - pre-defined funcs: PvmMin, PvmMax, PvmSum, PvmProduct

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PVM Performance Issues

- Messages have to go through PVMD
 - can use direct route option to prevent this problem
- Packing messages
 - semantics imply a copy
 - extra function call to pack messages
- Heterogenous Support
 - information is sent in machine independent format
 - has a short circuit option for known homogenous comm.
 - passes data in native format then

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Sample PVM Program
  int main(int argc, char **argv) {
                                                                 /* Main Loop Body */
       int myGroupNum;
                                                                 if (myGroupNum==0) {
       int friendTid;
                                                                     /* Initialize the message */
       int mytid;
                                                                      for (i=0 ; i<MESSAGESIZE ; i++) {</pre>
       int tids[2];
                                                                          message[i]='1';
       int message[MESSAGESIZE];
       int c,i,okSpawn;
                                                                     /* Now start passing the message back and forth */
       /* Initialize process and spawn if necessary */
                                                                     for (i=0 ; i<ITERATIONS ; i++) {
       myGroupNum=pvm_joingroup("ping-pong");
                                                                          pvm_initsend(PvmDataDefault);
       mytid=pvm_mytid();
                                                                          pvm_pkint(message,MESSAGESIZE,1);
       if (myGroupNum==0) { /* I am the first process */
                                                                          pvm_send(tid,msgid);
            pvm_catchout(stdout);
            okSpawn=pvm_spawn(MYNAME,argv,0,"",1,&friendTid);
                                                                          pvm_recv(tid,msgid);
            if (okSpawn!=1) {
                                                                          pvm_upkint(message,MESSAGESIZE,1);
                 printf("Can't spawn a copy of myself!\n");
                 pvm_exit();
                                                                 } else {
                 exit(1);
                                                                          pvm_recv(tid,msgid);
                                                                          pvm_upkint(message,MESSAGESIZE,1);
            tids[0]=mytid;
                                                                          pvm_initsend(PvmDataDefault);
            tids[1]=friendTid;
                                                                          pvm_pkint(message,MESSAGESIZE,1);
       } else { /*I am the second process */
                                                                          pvm_send(tid,msgid);
            friendTid=pvm_parent();
            tids[0]=friendTid;
                                                                 pvm_exit();
            tids[1]=mytid;
                                                                 exit(0);
       pvm_barrier("ping-pong",2);
                                                                                                                       8
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MPI

• Goals:

- Standardize previous message passing:
 - PVM, P4, NX
- Support copy free message passing
- Portable to many platforms

• Features:

- point-to-point messaging
- group communications
- profiling interface: every function has a name shifted version

• Buffering

- no guarantee that there are buffers
- possible that send will block until receive is called
- Delivery Order
 - two sends from same process to same dest. will arrive in order
 - no guarantee of fairness between processes on recv.

MPI Communicators

- Provide a named set of processes for communication
- All processes within a communicator can be named
 - numbered from 0...n-1
- Allows libraries to be constructed
 - application creates communicators
 - library uses it
 - prevents problems with posting wildcard receives
 - adds a communicator scope to each receive
- All programs start will MPI_COMM_WORLD

Non-Blocking Functions

Two Parts

- post the operation
- wait for results
- Also includes a poll option
 - checks if the operation has finished

Semantics

- must not alter buffer while operation is pending

MPI Misc.

MPI Types

- All messages are typed
 - base types are pre-defined:
 - int, double, real, {,unsigned}{short, char, long}
 - can construct user defined types
 - includes non-contiguous data types

Processor Topologies

- Allows construction of Cartesian & arbitrary graphs
- May allow some systems to run faster
- What's not in MPI-1
 - process creation
 - I/O
 - one sided communication