

# Resilient applications using MPI-level constructs

SC'19 Fault Tolerant MPI Tutorial



# Getting the hands-on material

- Slides, examples, instructions:

<http://fault-tolerance.org/sc19>

- Examples direct link:

<http://fault-tolerance.org/downloads/sc19-examples.tgz>

- Tag along and run with The ULFM Docker image

<http://fault-tolerance.org/ulfm2-docker/>

1. Install Docker
2. Docker pull abouteiller/mpi-ft-ulfm
3. source dockervars.sh
4. mpirun -np 10 example



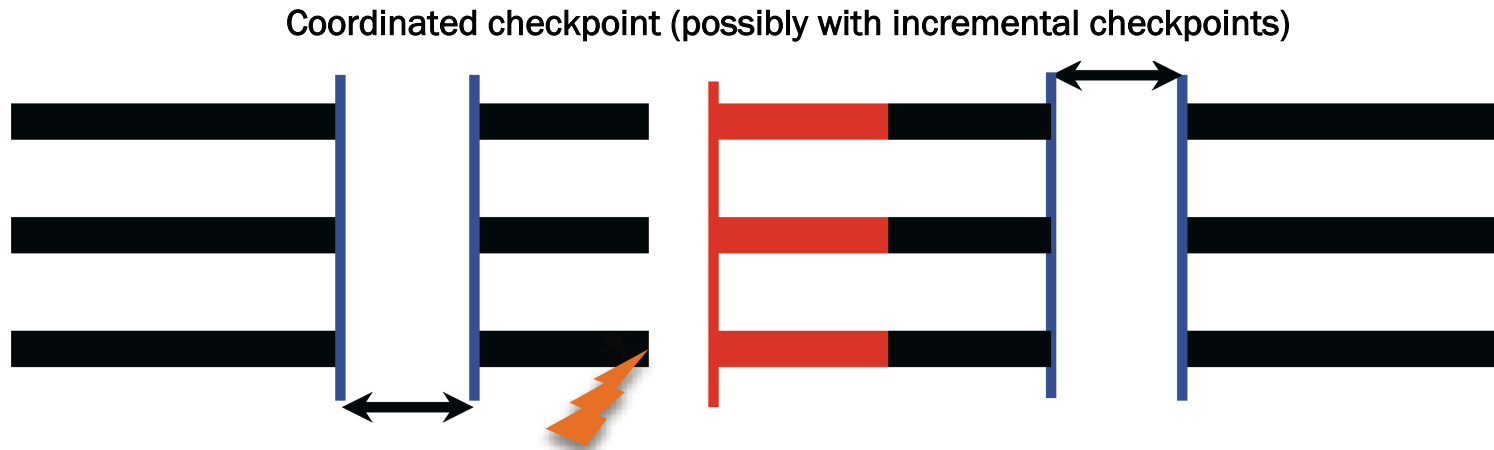
# Hands On: Fault Tolerant MPI with ULFM

Aurelien Bouteiller @SC19

*A failure, you say?*

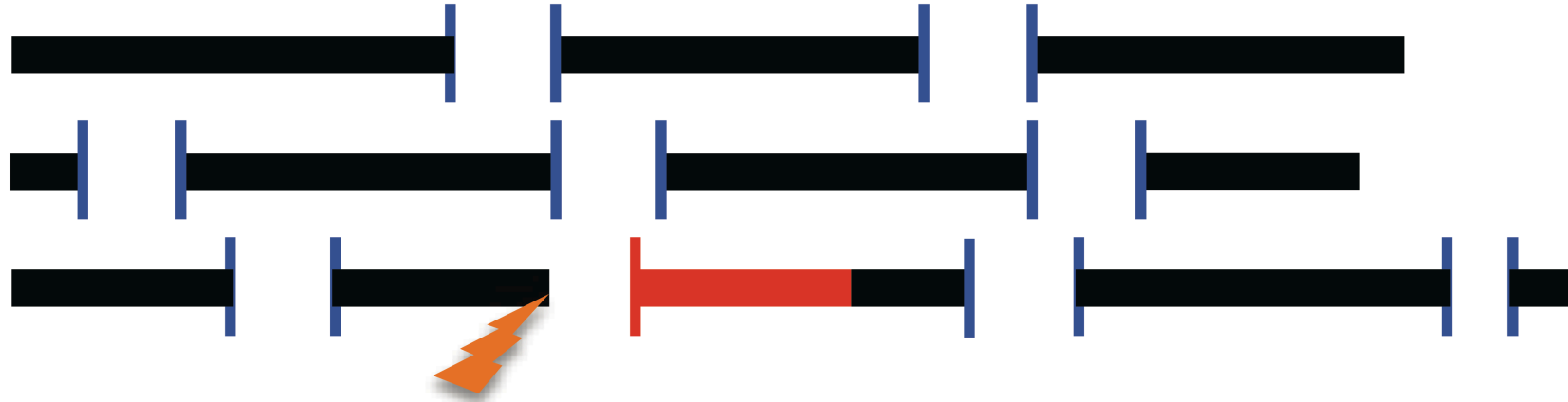


# Backward recovery: C/R



- Coordinated checkpoint is the workhorse of FT today
  - I/O intensive, significant failure free overhead ☹
  - Full rollback (1 fails, all rollback) ☹
  - Can be deployed w/o MPI support ☺
- ULFM enables **user-level** deployment of **in-memory, Buddy-checkpoints, Diskless checkpoint**
  - Checkpoints stored on other compute nodes
  - No I/O activity (or greatly reduced), full network bandwidth
  - Potential for a large reduction in failure free overhead, better restart speed

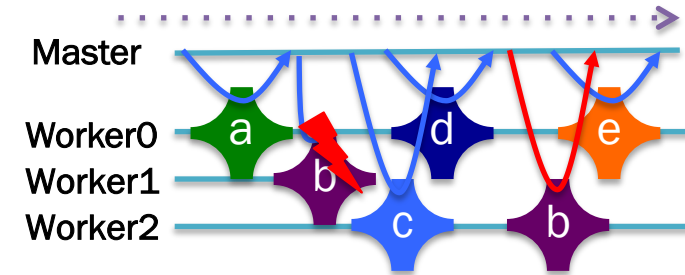
# Uncoordinated C/R



- Checkpoints taken independently
- Based on variants of Message Logging
- 1 fails, 1 rollback
- Can be implemented w/o a standardized user API
- Benefit from ULFM: **implementation becomes portable across multiple MPI libraries**
- 8:45am - 9:10am [Workshop on Fault-Tolerance for HPC at Extreme Scale \(FTXS\)](#) Location 301-302-303; **Asynchronous Receiver-Driven Replay for Local Rollback of MPI Applications**; *Nuria Losada, Aurelien Bouteiller, George Bosilca*

# Forward Recovery

- Forward Recovery: Any technique that permit the application to continue without rollback
  - Master-Worker with simple resubmission
  - Iterative methods, Naturally fault tolerant algorithms
  - Algorithm Based Fault Tolerance
  - Replication (the only system level Forward Recovery)
- No checkpoint I/O overhead
- No rollback, no loss of completed work
- May require (sometime expensive, like replicates) protection/recovery operations, but still generally more scalable than checkpoint 😊
- Often requires in-depths algorithm rewrite (in contrast to automatic system based C/R) 😞



**Applications**

**HemeLB**

Lattice Boltzmann Flow Solver  
University College London

Processor fails  
➤ Re-initialize substitute processor with average mass flow, velocity from neighbors  
passable error in domain size and magnitude if real solution sufficiently smooth

CRAY

CREST

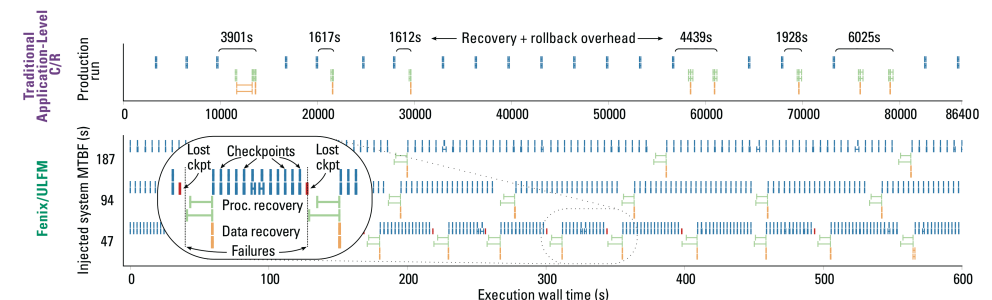
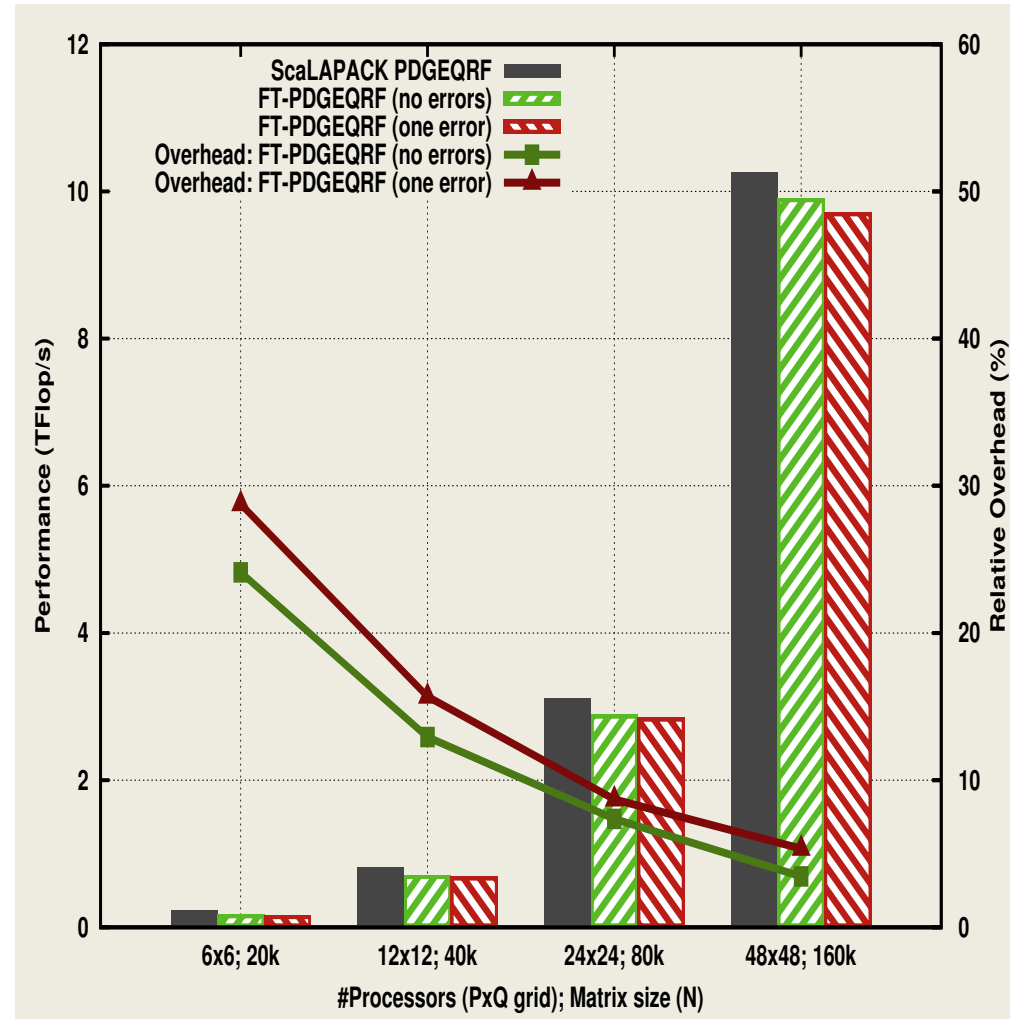
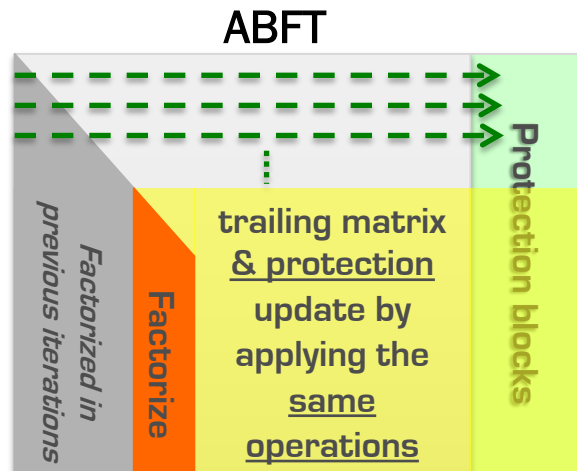


Image courtesy of the authors, M.Gamell, D.Katz, H.Kolla, J.Chen, S.Klasky, and M.Parashar.  
Exploring automatic, online failure recovery for scientific applications at extreme scales.  
In Proceedings of SC '14

# Application specific forward recovery

- Algorithm specific FT methods

- Not General, but...
- Very scalable, low overhead 😊
- *Can't be deployed w/o a fault tolerant MPI*



# An API for diverse FT approaches

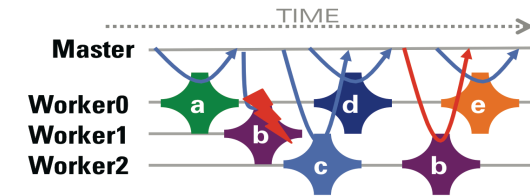
## Coordinated Checkpoint/Restart, Automatic, Compiler Assisted, User-driven Checkpointing, etc.

In-place restart (i.e., without disposing of non-failed processes) accelerates recovery, permits in-memory checkpoint



## Naturally Fault Tolerant Applications, Master-Worker, Domain Decomposition, etc.

Application continues a simple communication pattern, ignoring failures



## ULFM MPI Specification

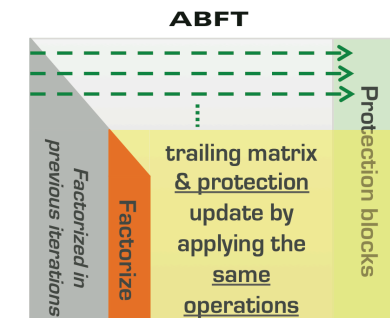
## Uncoordinated Checkpoint/Restart, Transactional FT, Migration, Replication, etc.

ULFM makes these approaches portable across MPI implementations



## Algorithm Fault Tolerance

ULFM allows for the deployment of ultra-scalable, algorithm specific FT techniques.



*User Level Failure Mitigation: a set of MPI interface extensions to enable MPI programs to restore MPI communication capabilities disabled by failures*

# What is the status of FT in MPI 3.0?

- Total denial
  - “After an error is detected, the state of MPI is undefined. An MPI implementation is free to allow MPI to continue after an error but is not required to do so.”
- Two forms of management
  - Return codes: all MPI functions return either MPI\_SUCCESS or a specific error code related to the error class encountered (eg MPI\_ERR\_ARG)
  - Error handlers: a callback automatically triggered by the MPI implementation before returning from an MPI function.



# Error Handlers

- Can be attached to all objects allowing data transfers: communicators, windows and files
- Allow for minimalistic error recovery: the standard suggests only non-MPI related actions
- All newly created MPI objects inherit the error handler from their parent
  - A global error handler can be specified by associating an error handler to MPI\_COMM\_WORLD right after MPI\_Init

```
typedef void MPI_Comm_errhandler_function  
(MPI_Comm *, int *, ...);
```



# Summary of existing functions

- **MPI\_Comm\_create\_errhandler**(errh, errhandler\_fct)
  - Declare an error handler with the MPI library
- **MPI\_Comm\_set\_errhandler**(comm, errh)
  - Attach a declared error handler to a communicator
  - Newly created communicators inherits the error handler that is associated with their parent
  - Predefined error handlers:
    - MPI\_ERRORS\_ARE\_FATAL (default)
    - MPI\_ERRORS\_RETURN

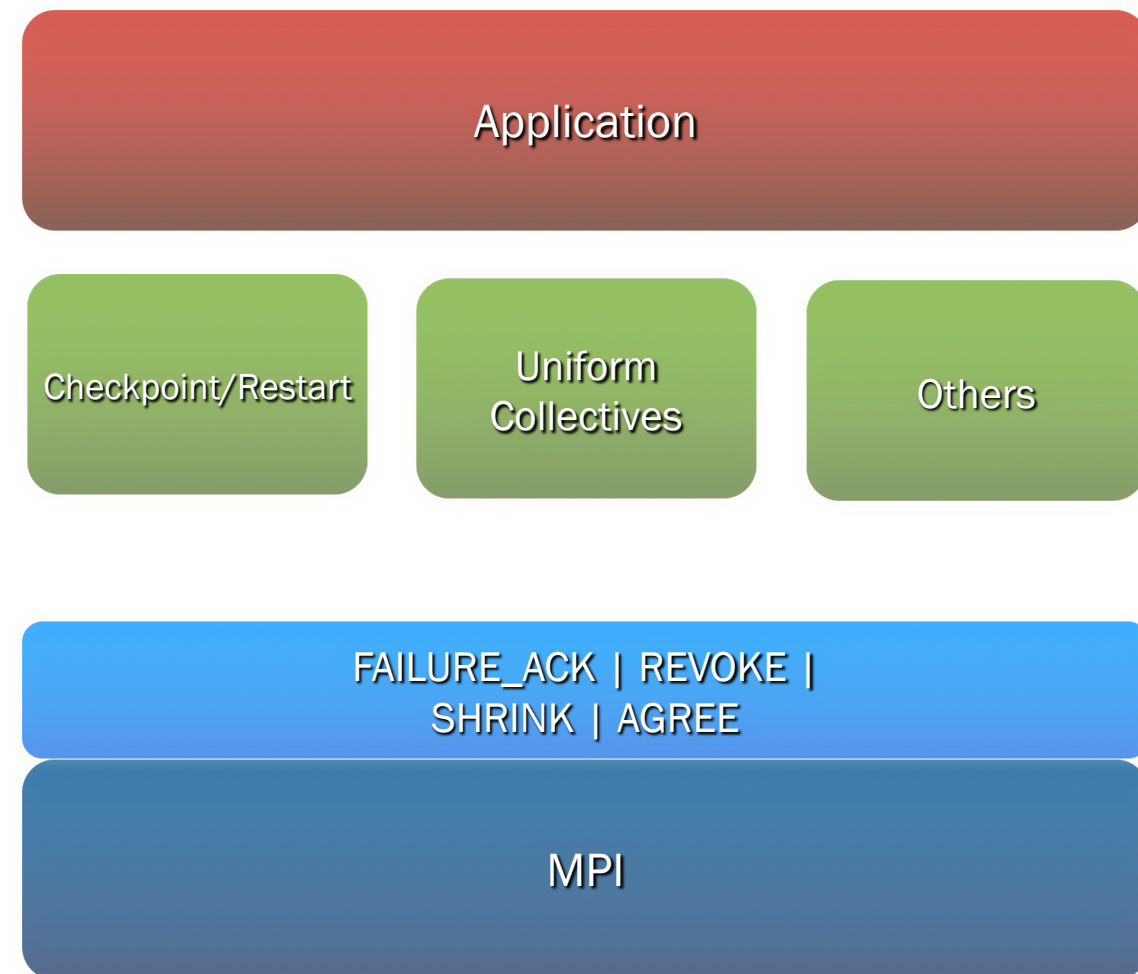
# What about MPI 4.0?

- Voted-in tickets in MPI-4 allow some crude error management
  - Localize error impact of MPI operations.
    - Non-communicator operations (i.e., MPI\_ALLOC\_MEM) will now raise an error on MPI\_COMM\_SELF, not MPI\_COMM\_WORLD
  - New MPI Error Handler - MPI\_ERRORS\_ABORT
  - Add MPI\_ERR\_PROC\_ABORTED.
  - Specify that MPI should avoid fatal errors
- when the user doesn't use MPI\_ERRORS\_ARE\_FATAL. *By default, an error does not mean that MPI is 'broken'*, and users may interpret the error code and try again (or something else).
- Allow the user to specify the default error handler at mpiexec time (i.e., select ERROR\_RETURNS or ERRORS\_ARE\_FATAL before/during MPI\_INIT)
  - Use some of MPI facilities (with error handling) before MPI\_INIT (i.e., MPI\_INFO)

*Good foundation for full fault management, but not quite complete yet*

# Requirements for MPI standardization of FT

- **Expressive**, simple to use
  - Support legacy code, **backward compatible**
  - Enable users to port their code simply
  - **Support a variety of FT models and approaches**
- Minimal (ideally **zero**) impact on failure free **performance**
  - No global knowledge of failures
  - No supplementary communications to maintain global state
  - Realistic memory requirements
- **Simple to implement**
  - Minimal (or **zero**) changes to existing functions
  - Limited number of new functions
  - Consider thread safety when designing the API

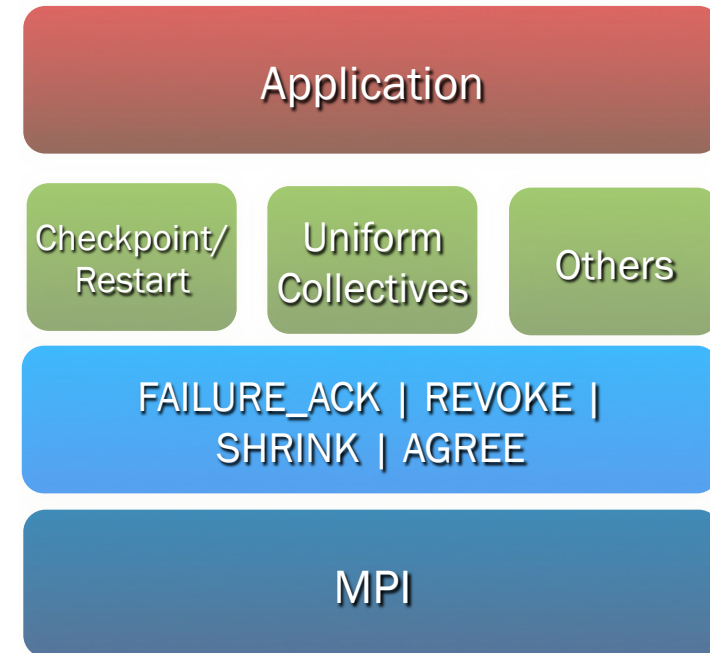


# Minimal Feature Set for a Resilient MPI

- Failure Notification
- Error Propagation
- Error Recovery

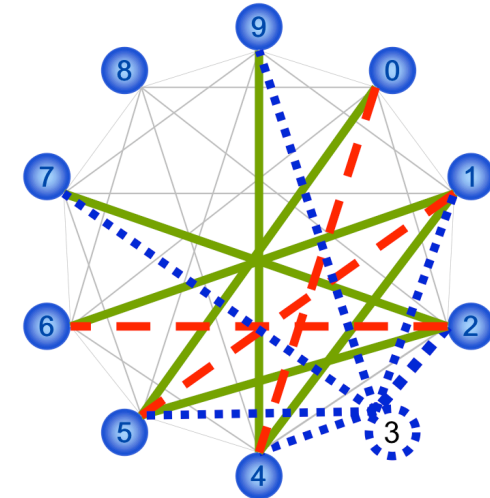
*Not all recovery strategies require all of these features, that's why the interface splits notification, propagation and recovery.*

*ULFM is not a recovery strategy, but a minimalistic set of building blocks for implementing complex recovery strategies.*



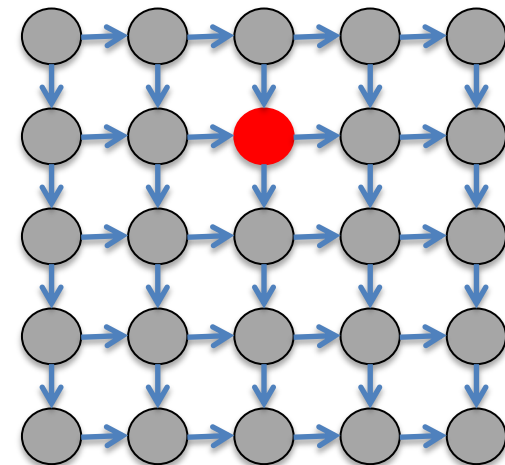
# Failure Notification

- MPI stands for scalable parallel applications it would be unreasonable to expect full connectivity between all peers
- The failure detection and notification should have a neighboring scope: only processes **involved** in a communication with the failed process might detect the failure
- But at least one neighbor should be informed about a failure
- MPI\_Comm\_free must free “broken” communicators and MPI\_Finalize must complete despite failures.



# Error Propagation

- What is the scope of a failure? Who should be notified about?
- ULFM approach: offer flexibility to allow the library/application to design the scope of a failure, and to limit the scope of a failure to only the needed participants
  - eg. What is the difference between a Master/Worker and a tightly coupled application ?
  - In a 2d mesh application how many nodes should be informed about a failure?

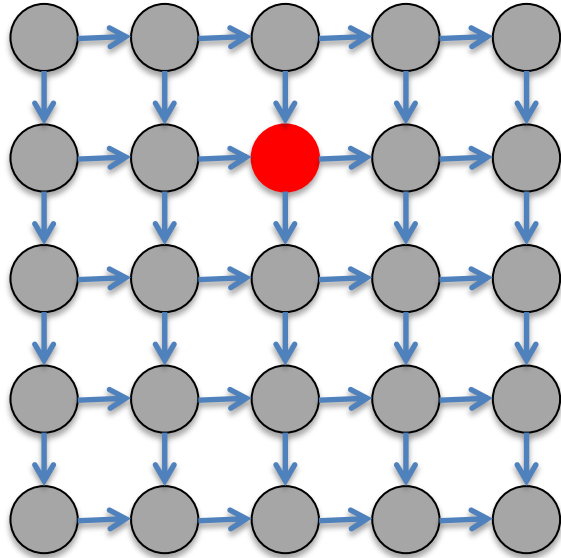


# Error Recovery

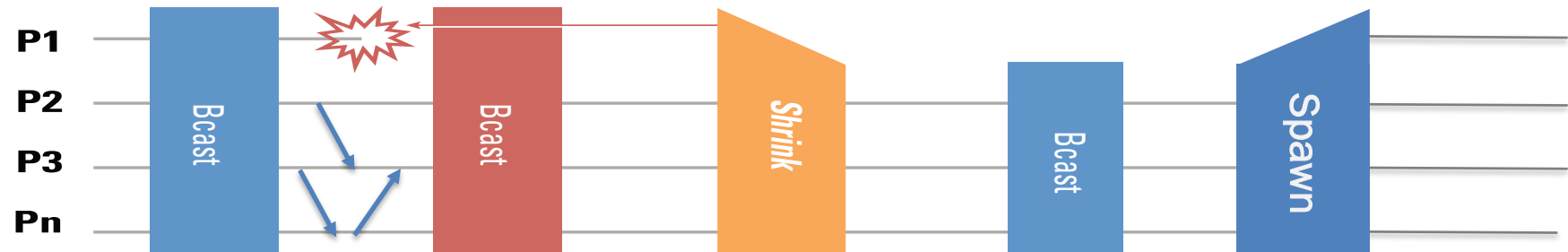
- What is the right recovery strategy?
- Keep going with the remaining processes?
- Shrink the living processes to form a new consistent communicator?
- Spawn new processes to take the place of the failed ones?
- Who should be in charge of defining this survival strategy? What would be the application feedback?

# Problem statement

What is the scope of a failure?  
Who should be notified about?  
What actions should be taken?



- Some applications can continue w/o recovery
- Some applications are maleable
  - Shrink creates a new, smaller communicator on which collectives work
- Some applications are *not* maleable
  - Spawn can recreate a “same size” communicator
  - It is easy to reorder the ranks according to the original ordering
  - Pre-made code snippets available



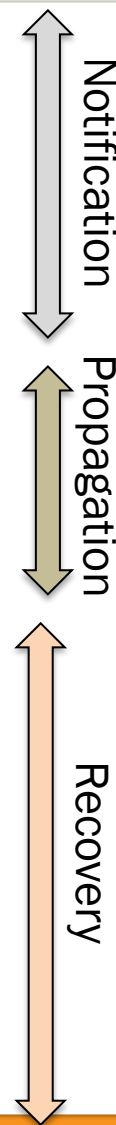
- Failure Notification
- Error Propagation
- Error Recovery
- Respawn of nodes
- Dataset restoration

*Not all recovery strategies require all of these features, that's why the interface should split notification, propagation and recovery.*



# Summary of new functions

- **MPI\_Comm\_failure\_ack(comm)**
    - Resumes matching for MPI\_ANY\_SOURCE
  - **MPI\_Comm\_failure\_get\_acked(comm, &group)**
    - Returns to the user the group of processes acknowledged to have failed
- **MPI\_Comm\_revoke(comm)**
    - **Non-collective** collective, interrupts all operations on comm (future or active, at all ranks) by raising MPI\_ERR\_REVOKED
- **MPI\_Comm\_shrink(comm, &newcomm)**
    - Collective, creates a new communicator without failed processes (identical at all ranks)
  - **MPI\_Comm\_agree(comm, &mask)**
    - Collective, agrees on the AND value on binary mask, ignoring failed processes (reliable AllReduce), and the return core



# Integration with existing mechanisms

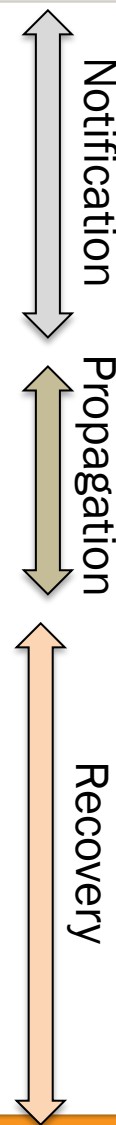
- New error codes to deal with failures
  - **MPI\_ERROR\_PROC\_FAILED**: report that the operation discovered a newly dead process. Returned from all blocking function, and all completion functions.
  - **MPI\_ERROR\_PROC\_FAILED\_PENDING**: report that a non-blocking MPI\_ANY\_SOURCE potential sender has been discovered dead.
  - **MPI\_ERROR\_REVOKED**: a communicator has been declared improper for further communications. All future communications on this communicator will raise the same error code, with the exception of a handful of recovery functions
- Is that all?
  - Matching order (MPI\_ANY\_SOURCE), collective communications

Part rationale, **part examples**

# **ULFM MPI API, CONTINUING THROUGH ERRORS**

# Summary of new functions

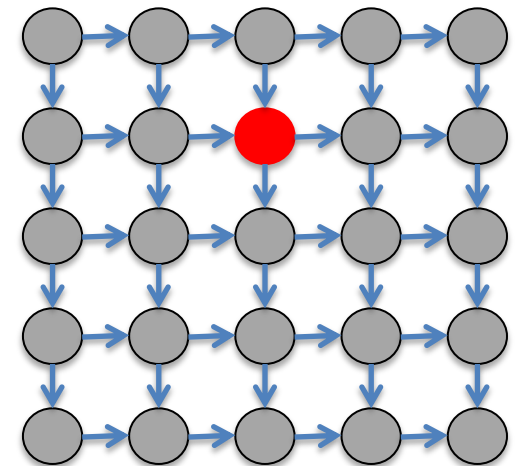
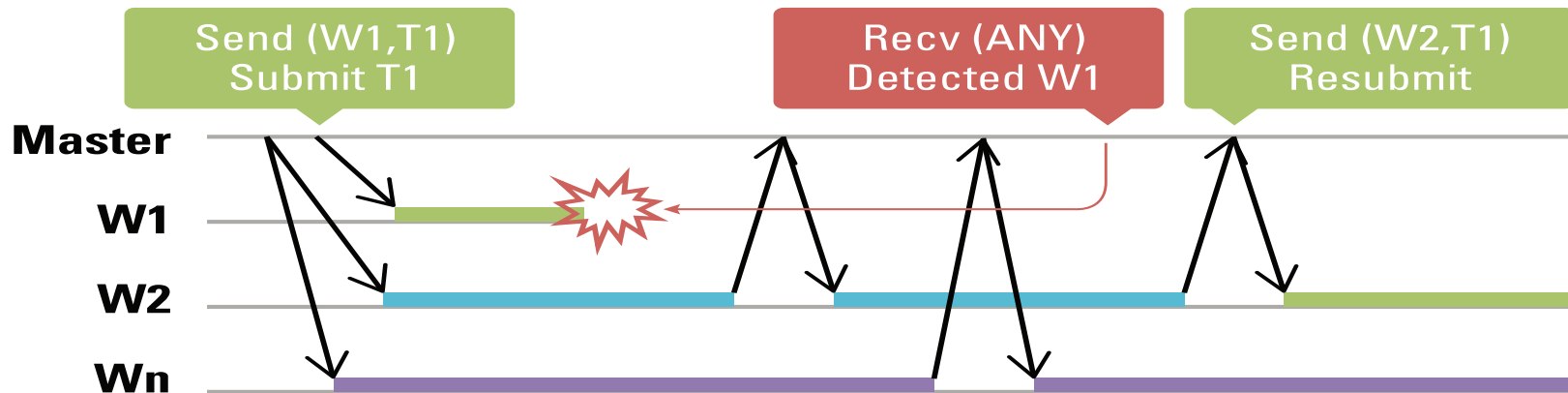
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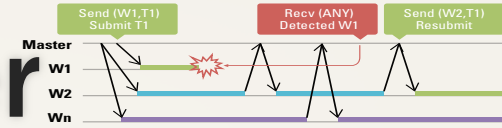
# Continuing through errors

- Error notifications do not break MPI
  - App can continue to communicate on the communicator
  - More errors may be raised if the op cannot complete (typically, most collective ops are expected to fail), but p2p between non-failed processes works
- In this Master-Worker example, we can continue w/o recovery!
  - Master sees a worker failed

- Resubmit the lost work unit onto another worker
- Quietly continues
- Same story with *mendable* Stencil pattern!
  - Exchange with next neighbor in the same direction instead



# Full application: Master Worker



- “bagoftasks-noft” application computes the value of Pi
- main.f: basic program structure
- master\_gen.f: master code
  - Master will submit “slicestodo” pieces of work to the workers total
  - First send 1 piece of work to each workers (line 57)
  - Receive results from workers (line 74)
  - If work remains to do, submit another round of work to the workers (line 94)
- slave\_gen.f: worker code
  - Receive work from the master (line 44)
  - Compute part of the Pi formula (line 53)
  - Inject a failure (line 70)
  - Return the result to the master (line 83)
  - Verify if the master sent the “finish” token (line 120)
- errh\_blank.f: error management
  - Only a skeleton, not compiled or invoked in the provided version

**We are going to make this code fault tolerant!**

# Bye bye, world

```
19 int main(int argc, char *argv[])
20 {
21     int rank, size;
22
23     MPI_Init(NULL, NULL);
24     MPI_Comm_rank(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &rank);
25     MPI_Comm_size(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &size);
26
27     if( rank == (size-1) ) raise(SIGKILL);
28     MPI_Barrier(MPI_COMM_WORLD);
29     printf("Rank %d / %d\n", rank, size);
30
31     MPI_Finalize();
32 }
```

See 00.noft.c

Injecting a failure  
at the highest  
rank processor

- I run this program with a FT MPI, and .....
- What do we need to do to make it fault tolerant?

See  
q01.err\_returns.c

# Bye bye, world, but orderly

```
19 int main(int argc, char *argv[])
20 {
21     int rank, size, rc, len;
22     char errstr[MPI_MAX_ERROR_STRING];
23
24     MPI_Init(NULL, NULL);
25     MPI_Comm_rank(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &rank);
26     MPI_Comm_size(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &size);
27
28     MPI_Comm_set_errhandler(MPI_COMM_WORLD,
29                             MPI_ERRORS_RETURN);
30
31     if( rank == (size-1) ) raise(SIGKILL);
32     rc = MPI_Barrier(MPI_COMM_WORLD);
33     MPI_Error_string(rc, errstr, &len);
34     printf("Rank %d / %d: Notified of error %s. Stayin' alive!\n",
35           rank, size, errstr);
36
37     MPI_Finalize();
38 }
```

See 01.err\_returns.c

We can get a nice error string

Errors are not fatal anymore: return an error code instead

collect the error code in rc

All non-faulty processes survive and print the success or error, as reported from MPI\_Barrier

- Using only MPI-2 at the moment ☺



# Handling errors separately

See q02.err\_handler.c

```
19 static void verbose_errhandler(MPI_Comm* comm, int* err, ...) {  
...  
21     char errstr[MPI_MAX_ERROR_STRING];  
...  
26     MPI_Error_string( *err, errstr, &len );  
27     printf("Rank %d / %d: Notified of error %s\n",  
28           rank, size, errstr);  
29 }  
30  
31 int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {  
...  
33     MPI_Errhandler errh;  
...  
39     MPI_Comm_create_errhandler(verbose_errhandler,  
40                               &errh);  
41     MPI_Comm_set_errhandler(MPI_COMM_WORLD,  
42                             errh);  
...  
45     MPI_Barrier(MPI_COMM_WORLD);  
46     printf("Rank %d / %d: Stayin' alive!\n", rank, size);
```

We can pack all error management in an "error handler"

Create an "errhandler" object from the C function, and attach it to the communicator

- Still using only MPI-2 😊

# Handling errors separately

See q02.err\_handler.c

```
19 static void verbose_errhandler(MPI_Comm* comm, int* err, ...) {  
...  
21     char errstr[MPI_MAX_ERROR_STRING];  
...  
26     MPI_Error_string( *err, errstr, &len );  
27     printf("Rank %d / %d: Notified of error %s\n",  
28           rank, size, errstr);  
29 }  
30  
31 int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {  
...  
33     MPI_Errhandler errh;  
...  
39     MPI_Comm_create_errhandler(verbose_errhandler,  
40                               &errh);  
41     MPI_Comm_set_errhandler(MPI_COMM_WORLD,  
42                             errh);  
...  
45     MPI_Barrier(MPI_COMM_WORLD);  
46     printf("Rank %d / %d: Stayin' alive!\n", rank, size);
```

No need to collect rc anymore 😊

- Still using only MPI-2 😊

# What caused the error?

See 02.err\_handler.c

```
13 #include <mpi.h>
14 #include <mpi-ext.h>
...
19 static void verbose_errhandler(MPI_Comm* pcomm, int* perr, ...) {
20     MPI_Comm comm = *pcomm;
21     int err = *perr;
...
23     int ..., eclass;
...
27     MPI_Error_class(err, &eclass);
28     if( MPIX_ERR_PROC_FAILED != eclass ) {
29         MPI_Abort(comm, err);
30     }
...
```

ULFM is an extension to the MPI standard

This is an “MPI error code”

Convert the “error code” to an “MPI error class”

MPIX\_ERR\_PROC\_FAILED: a process failed, we can deal with it.  
Something else: ULFM MPI return the error but it still may be impossible to recover; in this app, we abort when that happens

- ULFM defines 3 new error classes:

- MPI\_ERR\_PROC\_FAILED
- MPI\_ERR\_PROC\_FAILED\_PENDING
- MPI\_ERR\_REVOKED

- After these errors, MPI can be repaired

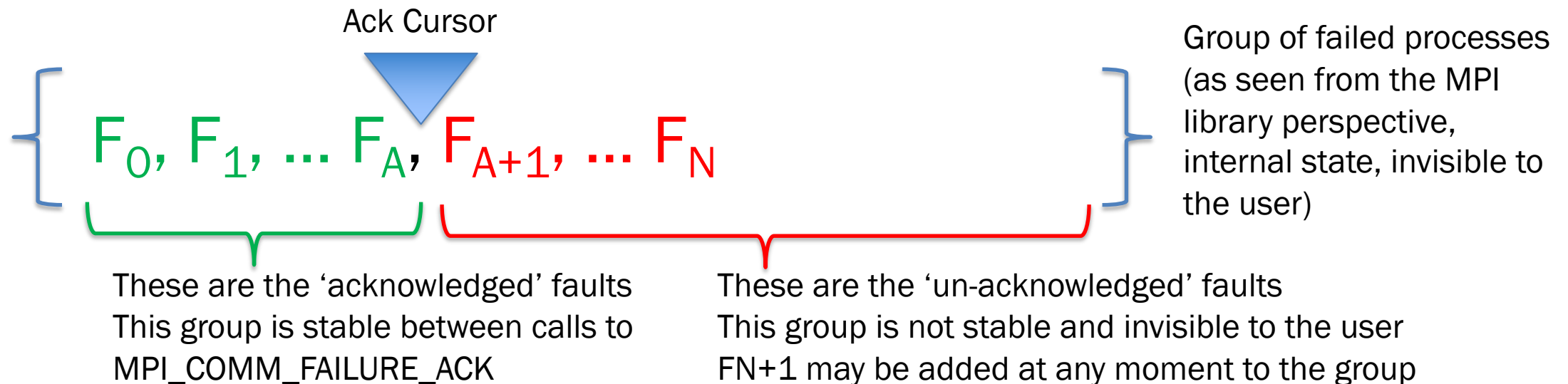
- All other errors still have MPI-2 semantic
  - May or may not be able to continue after it has been reported

# Who caused the error?

- Discovery of failures is *local* (different processes may know of different failures)
- **MPI\_COMM\_FAILURE\_ACK(comm)**
  - This local operation gives the users a way to acknowledge all locally notified failures on comm. After the call, unmatched MPI\_ANY\_SOURCE receive operations proceed without further raising MPI\_ERR\_PROC\_FAILED\_PENDING due to those acknowledged failures.
- **MPI\_COMM\_FAILURE\_GET\_ACKED(comm, &grp)**
  - This local operation returns the group *grp* of processes, from the communicator comm, that have been locally acknowledged as failed by preceding calls to MPI\_COMM\_FAILURE\_ACK.
- Employing the combination ack/get\_acked, a process can obtain the list of all failed ranks (as seen from its local perspective)

# MPI\_Comm\_failure\_get\_acked

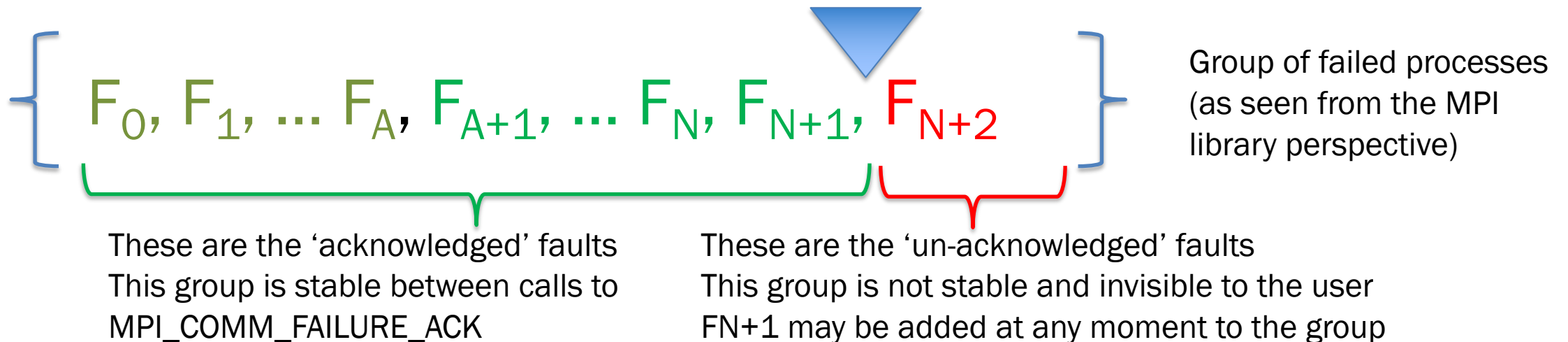
- Local operation returning the group of failed processes in the associated communicator that have been locally acknowledged
- Hint: All calls to `MPI_Comm_failure_get_acked` between a set of `MPI_Comm_failure_ack` return the same set of failed processes



# MPI\_Comm\_failure\_get\_acked

- Local operation returning the group of failed processes in the associated communicator that have been locally acknowledged
- Hint: All calls to `MPI_Comm_failure_get_acked` between a set of `MPI_Comm_failure_ack` return the same set of failed processes

A call to `MPI_COMM_FAILURE_ACK` moves the cursor



# Who caused the error

Still in 02.err\_handler.c

```
...
19 static void verbose_errhandler(MPI_Comm* pcomm, int* perr,
... ) {
20     MPI_Comm comm = *pcomm;
...
35     MPIX_Comm_failure_ack(comm);
36     MPIX_Comm_failure_get_acked(comm, &group_f);
37     MPI_Group_size(group_f, &nf);
38     MPI_Error_string(err, errstr, &len);
39     printf("Rank %d / %d: Notified of error %s. %d found
dead: { ",
40         rank, size, errstr, nf);
41
52 }
```

Move the "mark" in the known failures list

Get the group of marked failed processes

# Who caused the error

Still in 02.err\_handler.c

```
...
19 static void verbose_errhandler(MPI_Comm* pcomm, int* perr,
... ) {
20     MPI_Comm comm = *pcomm;
...
35     MPIX_Comm_failure_ack(comm);
36     MPIX_Comm_failure_get_acked(comm, &group_f);
37     MPI_Group_size(group_f, &nf);
38     MPI_Error_string(err, errstr, &len);
39     printf("Rank %d / %d: Notified of error %s. %d found
dead: { ",
40           rank, size, errstr, nf);
41
42     ranks_gf = (int*)malloc(nf * sizeof(int));
43     ranks_gc = (int*)malloc(nf * sizeof(int));
44     MPI_Comm_group(comm, &group_c);
45     for(i = 0; i < nf; i++)
46         ranks_gf[i] = i;
47     MPI_Group_translate_ranks(group_f, nf, ranks_gf,
48                               group_c, ranks_gc);
49     for(i = 0; i < nf; i++)
50         printf("%d ", ranks_gc[i]);
51     printf("}\n");
52 }
```

Move the "mark" in the known failures list

Get the group of marked failed processes

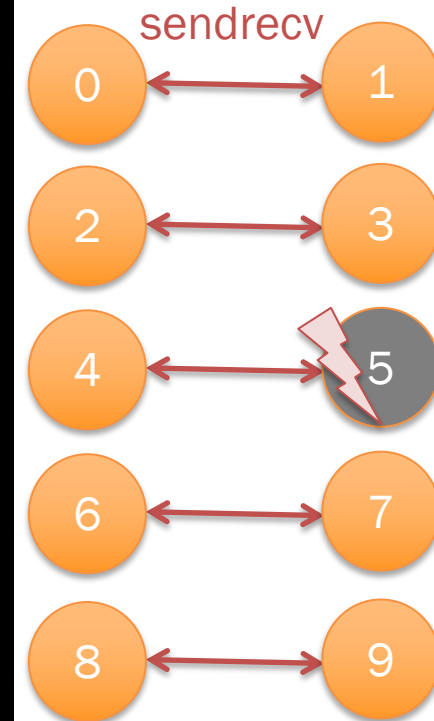
Translate the failed group member's ranks, in comm



# Insulation from irrelevant failures

See 03.undisturbed.c

```
25     double myvalue, hisvalue=NAN;
...
36     myvalue = rank/(double)size;
37     if( 0 == rank%2 )
38         peer = ((rank+1)<size)? rank+1: MPI_PROC_NULL;
39     else
40         peer = rank-1;
41
42     if( rank == (size/2) ) raise(SIGKILL);
43     /* exchange a value between a pair of two consecutive
44      * odd and even ranks; not communicating with anybody
45      * else. */
46     MPI_Sendrecv(&myvalue, 1, MPI_DOUBLE, peer, 1,
47                 &hisvalue, 1, MPI_DOUBLE, peer, 1,
48                 MPI_COMM_WORLD, MPI_STATUS_IGNORE);
49
50     if( peer != MPI_PROC_NULL)
51         printf("Rank %d / %d: value from %d is %g\n",
52               rank, size, peer, hisvalue);
```

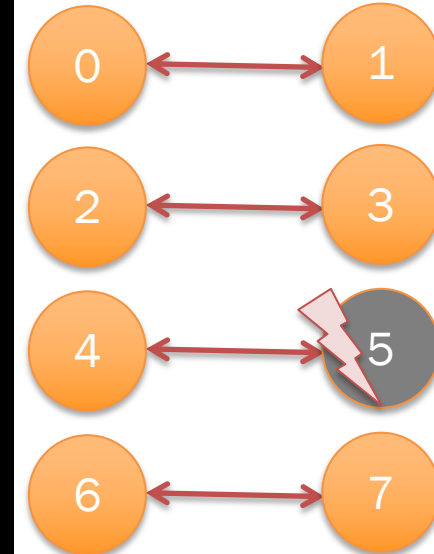


What happens?

# Insulation from irrelevant failures

See 03.undisturbed.c

```
25     double myvalue, hisvalue=NaN;
...
36     myvalue = rank/(double)size;
37     if( 0 == rank%2 )
38         peer = ((rank+1)<size)? rank+1: MPI_PROC_NULL;
39     else
40         peer = rank-1;
41
42     if( rank == (size/2) ) raise(SIGKILL);
43     /* exchange a value between a pair of two consecutive
44      * odd and even ranks; not communicating with anybody
45      * else. */
46     MPI_Sendrecv(&myvalue, 1, MPI_DOUBLE, peer, 1,
47                 &hisvalue, 1, MPI_DOUBLE, peer, 1,
48                 MPI_COMM_WORLD, MPI_STATUS_IGNORE);
```



```
bash$ $ULFM_PREFIX/bin/mpirun -np 10 03.undisturbed
```

```
Rank 0 / 10: value from 1 is 0.1
```

```
Rank 1 / 10: value from 0 is 0
```

```
Rank 3 / 10: value from 2 is 0.2
```

```
Rank 2 / 10: value from 3 is 0.3
```

```
Rank 6 / 10: value from 7 is 0.7
```

```
Rank 7 / 10: value from 6 is 0.6
```

```
Rank 9 / 10: value from 8 is 0.8
```

```
Rank 8 / 10: value from 9 is 0.9
```

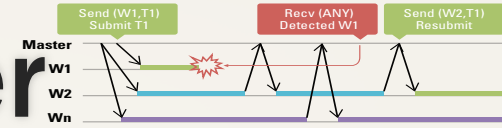
```
Rank 4 / 10: Notified of error MPI_ERR_PROC_FAILED: Process Failure. 1 found dead: { 5 }
```

```
Rank 4 / 10: value from 5 is nan
```

Sendrecv between pairs of live processes complete w/o error. Can post more, it will work too!

Sendrecv failed at rank 4 (5 is dead)  
Value not updated!

# Full application: Master Worker

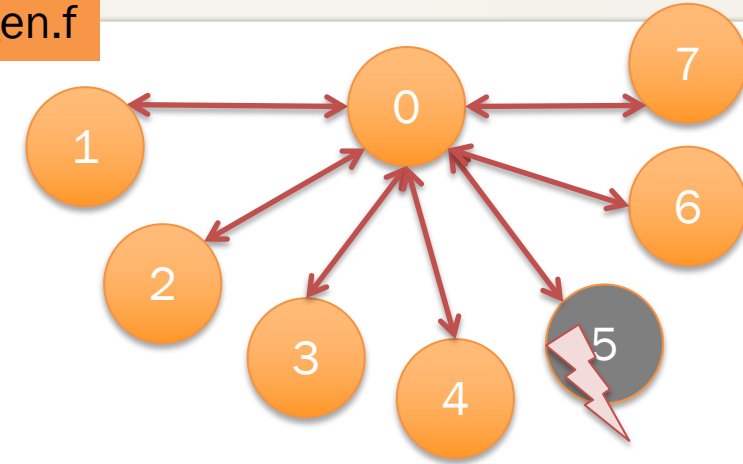


- “bagoftasks-noft” application computes the value of Pi
- main.f: basic program structure
- master\_gen.f: master code
  - Set the errhandler
- slave\_gen.f: worker code
  - Receive work from the master (line 44)
  - Compute part of the Pi formula (line 53)
  - Inject a failure (line 70)
  - Return the result to the master (line 83)
  - Verify if the master sent the “finish” token (line 120)
- errh\_blank.f: error management
  - Only a skeleton, not compiled or invoked in the provided version
  - **Enable the errhandler in the Makefile**

# Resilience from the workers perspective

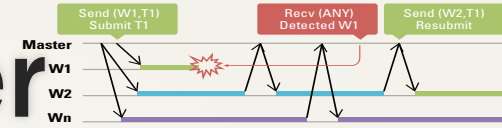
See slave\_gen.f

```
42 C  get work
43 |  if ( mystate .eq. AVAILABLE ) then
44 |    |call MPI_Recv ( todo, 1, MPI_INTEGER, masterrank, WORK_TAG,
45 |    &    lib_comm, status, rc )
46 |    |if (rc.ne.0) write(*,*) "[", myrank, "] ERRORCODE",rc
47 |    |write (*,*) "RECV WORK: [", myrank, "] work [", todo,]"
48 |    |call slave_advance_state (mystate, todo)
49 |  end if
```



What does that mean for the required error handling at our workers?

# Full application: Master Worker



- “bagoftasks-noft” application computes the value of Pi
- main.f: basic program structure
- master\_gen.f: master code
  - Set the errhandler
- slave\_gen.f: worker code
  - Receive work from the master (line 44)
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  - Inject a failure (line 70)
  - Return the result to the master (line 83)
  - Verify if the master sent the “finish” token (line 120)
- errh\_blank.f: error management
  - ~~Enable the errhandler in the Makefile~~
  - Identify failed processes and mark them as failed in application structures

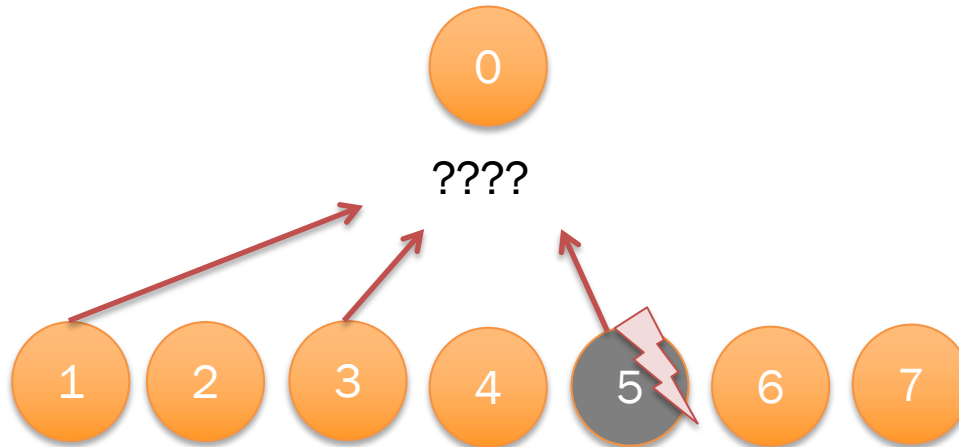
# Dealing with MPI\_ANY\_SOURCE

See 08.err\_any\_source.c

```
36  if( 0 != rank ) {
37      MPI_Send(&rank, 1, MPI_INT, 0, 1, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
38  }
39  else {
40      printf("Recv(ANY) test\n");
41      for(i = 1; i < size-nf; ) {
42          rc = MPI_Recv(&unused, 1, MPI_INT, MPI_ANY_SOURCE, 1,
MPI_COMM_WORLD, &status);
43          if( MPI_SUCCESS == rc ) {
44              printf("Received from %d during recv %d\n", unused, i);
45              i++;
46          }
47          else {
```

Assume a process dies before  
sending the message

No specified source



# Dealing with MPI\_ANY\_SOURCE

See 08.err\_any\_source.c

```
36  if( 0 != rank ) {
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42          rc = MPI_Recv(&unused, 1, MPI_INT, MPI_ANY_SOURCE, 1,
MPI_COMM_WORLD, &status);
43          if( MPI_SUCCESS == rc ) {
44              printf("Received from %d during recv %d\n", unused, i);
45              i++;
46          }
47          else {
```

Assume a process dies before sending the message

No specified source, the failure detection is homogeneous

MPIX\_ERR\_PROC\_FAILED on **every** node posting an ANY\_SOURCE.

- If the recv uses ANY\_SOURCE:
  - Any failure in the comm is potentially a failure of the matching sender!
  - The recv MUST be interrupted
  - If the application knows the receive is safe, it can
- But... it will return an error again, wouldn't it?

repost the MPI\_RECV operation

# MPI\_Comm\_failure\_ack

- **Local** operations that acknowledge all locally notified failures
  - Updates the group returned by MPI\_COMM\_FAILURE\_GET\_ACKED
- Unmatched **MPI\_ANY\_SOURCE** that would have raised MPI\_ERR\_PROC\_FAILED or MPI\_ERR\_PROC\_FAILED\_PENDING **proceed without further exceptions** regarding the acknowledged failures.
- MPI\_COMM\_AGREE do not raise MPI\_ERR\_PROC\_FAILED due to acknowledged failures
  - No impact on other MPI calls especially not on collective communications



# Dealing with MPI\_ANY\_SOURCE

See 08.err\_any\_source.c

```
41     for(i = 1; i < size-nf; ) {
42         rc = MPI_Recv(&unused, 1, MPI_INT, MPI_ANY_SOURCE, 1,
MPI_COMM_WORLD, &status);
43         if( MPI_SUCCESS == rc ) {
44             printf("Received from %d during recv %d\n", unused, i);
45             i++;
46         }
47         else {
48             int eclass;
49             MPI_Group group_f;
50             MPI_Error_class(rc, &eclass);
51             if( MPIX_ERR_PROC_FAILED != eclass ) {
52                 MPI_Abort(MPI_COMM_WORLD, rc);
53             }
54             MPIX_Comm_failure_ack(MPI_COMM_WORLD);
55             MPIX_Comm_failure_get_acked(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &group_f);
56             MPI_Group_size(group_f, &nf);
57             MPI_Group_free(&group_f);
58             printf("Failures detected! %d found so far\n", nf);
59         }
60     }
```

MPIX\_ERR\_PROC\_FAILED on **every** node posting an ANY\_SOURCE.

Resumes normal ANY\_SOURCE operations

# Non-Blocking MPI\_ANY\_SOURCE

See 08.2.err\_iany\_source.c

```
36  if( 0 != rank ) {
37      MPI_Send(&rank, 1, MPI_INT, 0, 1, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
38  }
39  else {
40      printf("Recv(ANY) test\n");
41      for(i = 1; i < size-nf; ) {
42          MPI_Request req;
43          rc = MPI_Irecv(&unused, 1, MPI_INT, MPI_ANY_SOURCE, 1, MPI_COMM_WORLD
&req);
...
47      rc = MPI_Wait(&req, &status);
```

Assume a process dies before  
sending the message

No specified source, non-  
blocking reception

- If the non-blocking recv uses ANY\_SOURCE:
  - *Any failure in the comm is potentially a failure of the matching sender!*
  - *The recv MUST be interrupted*
  - Interrupting non-blocking ANY\_SOURCE could change matching order...
- New error code MPIX\_ERR\_PROC\_FAILED\_PENDING:  
the operation is interrupted by a process failure, **but is still pending**
- If the application knows the receive is safe, and the matching order respected, the pending operation can be waited upon (otherwise MPI\_Cancel)

# Why ERR\_PROC\_FAILED\_PENDING

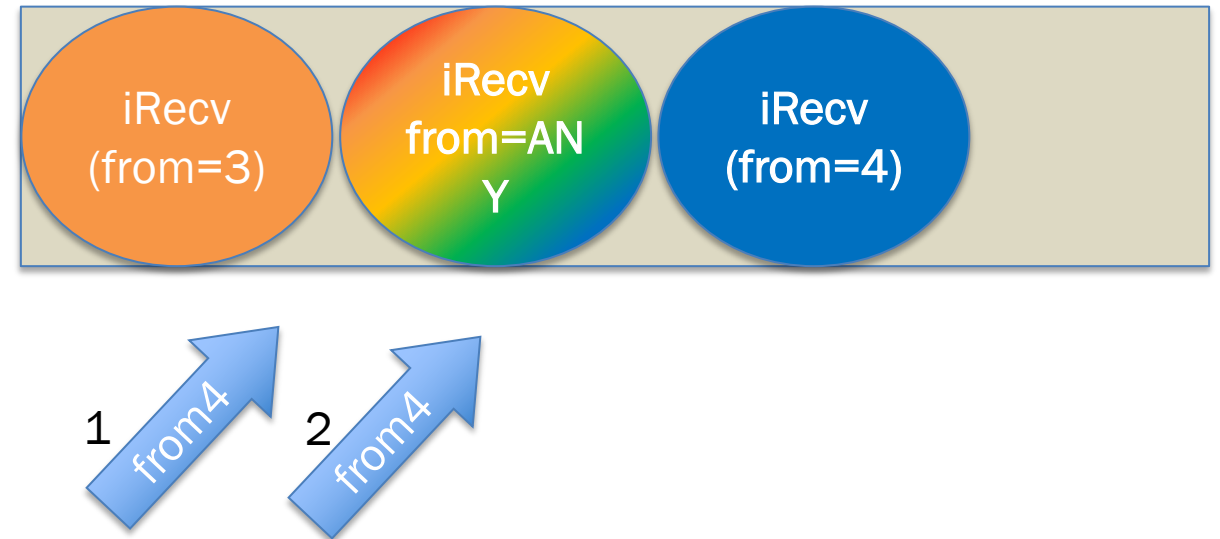
See 08.2.err\_iany\_source.c

```
36  if( 0 != rank ) {
37      MPI_Send(&rank, 1, MPI_INT, 0, 1, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
38  }
39  else {
40      printf("Recv(ANY) test\n");
41      for(i = 1; i < size-nf; ) {
42          MPI_Request req;
43          rc = MPI_Irecv(&unused, 1, MPI_INT, MPI_ANY_SOURCE, 1, MPI_COMM_WORLD
&req);
44
45          rc = MPI_Wait(&req, &status);
```

Assume a process dies before  
sending the message

No specified source, non-  
blocking reception

- If the non-blocking recv uses ANY\_SOURCE:
  - Any failure in the comm is potentially a failure of the matching sender!
- The recv *MUST* be interrupted
- Interrupting non-blocking ANY\_SOURCE could change matching order...



# Why ERR\_PROC\_FAILED\_PENDING

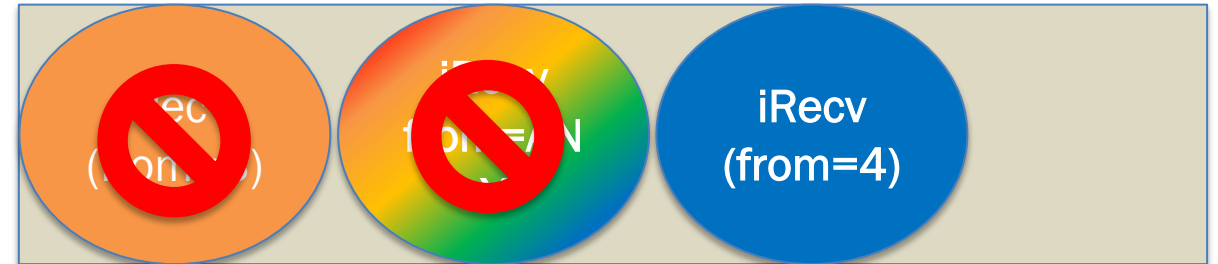
See 08.2.err\_iany\_source.c

```
36  if( 0 != rank ) {
37      MPI_Send(&rank, 1, MPI_INT, 0, 1, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
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42          MPI_Request req;
43          rc = MPI_Irecv(&unused, 1, MPI_INT, MPI_ANY_SOURCE, 1, MPI_COMM_WORLD
&req);
44
45          rc = MPI_Wait(&req, &status);
```

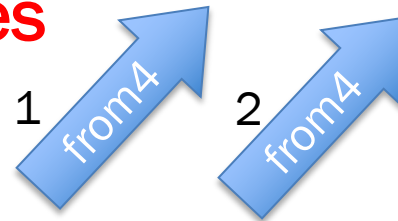
Assume a process dies before sending the message

No specified source, non-blocking reception

- If the non-blocking recv uses ANY\_SOURCE:
  - Any failure in the comm is potentially a failure of the matching sender!
- The recv MUST be interrupted
- Interrupting non-blocking ANY\_SOURCE could change matching order...



3 dies



# Why ERR\_PROC\_FAILED\_PENDING

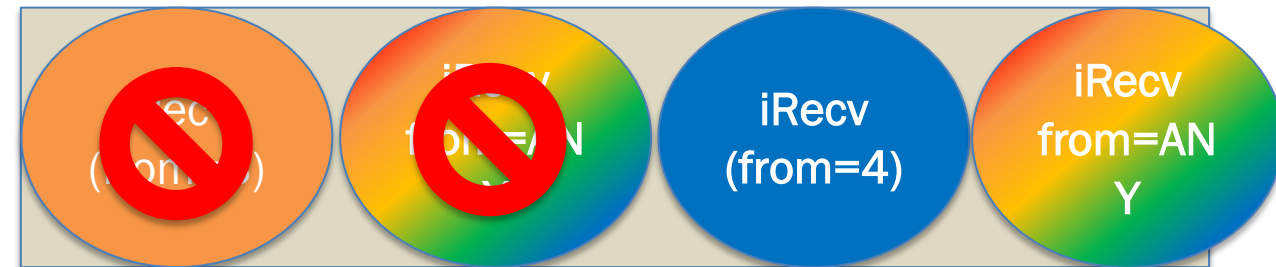
See 08.2.err\_iany\_source.c

```
36  if( 0 != rank ) {  
37      MPI_Send(&rank, 1, MPI_INT, 0, 1, MPI_COMM_WORLD);  
38  }  
39  else {  
40      printf("Recv(ANY) test\n");  
41      for(i = 1; i < size-nf; ) {  
42          MPI_Request req;  
43          rc = MPI_Irecv(&unused, 1, MPI_INT, MPI_ANY_SOURCE, 1, MPI_COMM_WORLD  
&req);  
44          rc = MPI_Wait(&req, &status);  
45          rc = MPI_Wait(&req, &status);  
46          rc = MPI_Wait(&req, &status);  
47          rc = MPI_Wait(&req, &status);
```

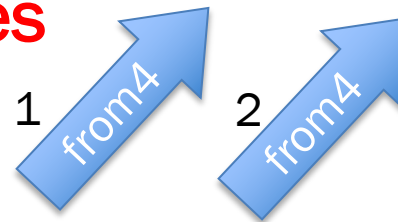
Assume a process dies before sending the message

No specified source, non-blocking reception

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  - Any failure in the comm is potentially a failure of the matching sender!
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3 dies



# Why ERR\_PROC\_FAILED\_PENDING

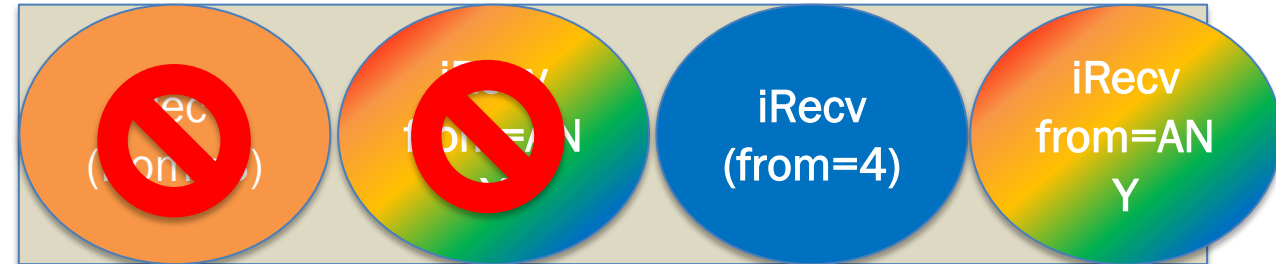
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```
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37      MPI_Send(&rank, 1, MPI_INT, 0, 1, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
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42          MPI_Request req;
43          rc = MPI_Irecv(&unused, 1, MPI_INT, MPI_ANY_SOURCE, 1, MPI_COMM_WORLD
&req);
44
45          rc = MPI_Wait(&req, &status);
```

Assume a process dies before sending the message

No specified source, non-blocking reception

- If the non-blocking recv uses ANY\_SOURCE:
  - Any failure in the comm is potentially a failure of the matching sender!
- The recv *MUST* be interrupted
- Interrupting non-blocking ANY\_SOURCE could change matching order...



3 dies

Was matching 2 Originally    Was matching 1 Originally

**WRONG!!!!**

# Why ERR\_PROC\_FAILED\_PENDING

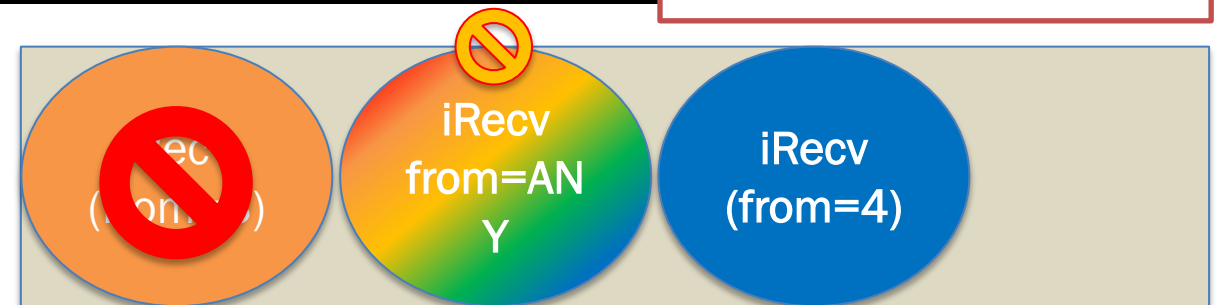
See 08.2.err\_iany\_source.c

```
36  if( 0 != rank ) {  
37      MPI_Send(&rank, 1, MPI_INT, 0, 1, MPI_COMM_WORLD);  
38  }  
39  else {  
40      printf("Recv(ANY) test\n");  
41      for(i = 1; i < size-nf; ) {  
42          MPI_Request req;  
43          rc = MPI_Irecv(&unused, 1, MPI_INT, MPI_ANY_SOURCE, 1, MPI_COMM_WORLD  
&req);  
...  
47          rc = MPI_Wait(&req, &status);
```

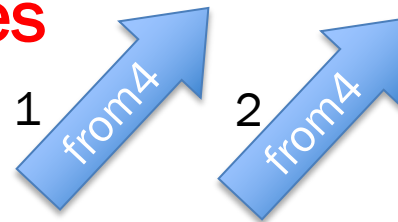
Assume a process dies before sending the message

No specified source, non-blocking reception

- If the non-blocking recv uses ANY\_SOURCE:
  - Any failure in the comm is potentially a failure of the matching sender!
- The recv *MUST* be interrupted
- Interrupting non-blocking ANY\_SOURCE could change matching order...



3 dies



Wait on iRECV ANY returns, but the request remains in queue (and preserve matching in order).  
**User can MPI\_CANCEL** it if it is not needed anymore.



# What did we learn?

- You can write an application that survives process failures
- You can use MPI Error handlers to capture the errors
- MPI Communication can continue between non-failed processes
- You can obtain the list (as per the rank local view) of failed processes
- You can restore ANY\_SOURCE receives with local-only operations
- You have written an application that continues its computation when processes fail!



Propagating an error under the applications' control

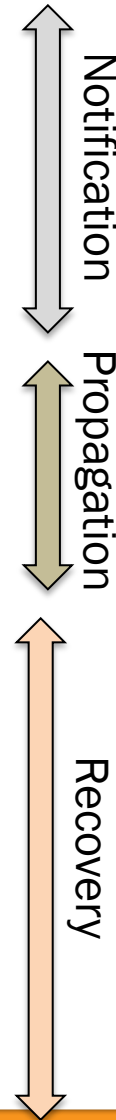
**STOP! WE NEED TO FIX THIS TOGETHER**

# Summary of new functions

- **MPI\_Comm\_failure\_ack(comm)**
  - Resumes matching for MPI\_ANY\_SOURCE
- **MPI\_Comm\_failure\_get\_acked(comm, &group)**
  - Returns to the user the group of processes acknowledged to have failed

- **MPI\_Comm\_revoke(comm)**
  - **Non-collective** collective, interrupts all operations on comm (future or active, at all ranks) by raising MPI\_ERR\_REVOKED

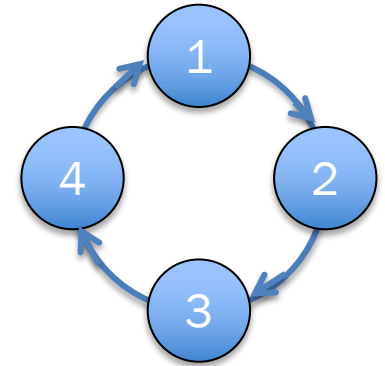
- **MPI\_Comm\_shrink(comm, &newcomm)**
  - Collective, creates a new communicator without failed processes (identical at all ranks)
- **MPI\_Comm\_agree(comm, &mask)**
  - Collective, agrees on the AND value on binary mask, ignoring failed processes (reliable AllReduce), and the return core



# Regrouping for Plan B

```
56  /* Assign left and right neighbors to be rank-1 and rank+1
57  * in a ring modulo np */
58  left  = (np+rank-1)%np;
59  right = (np+rank+1)%np;
60
61  for( i = 0; i < 10; i++ ) {
...
70      /* At every iteration, a process receives from it's 'left' neighbor
71      * and sends to 'right' neighbor (ring fashion, modulo np)
72      * ... -> 0 -> 1 -> 2 -> ... -> np-1 -> 0 ... */
73      rc = MPI_Sendrecv( sarray, COUNT, MPI_DOUBLE, right, 0,
74                        rarray, COUNT, MPI_DOUBLE, left, 0,
75                        fcomm, MPI_STATUS_IGNORE );
...
80      if( rc != MPI_SUCCESS ) {
81          /* ???>>> Hu ho, this program has a problem here */
82          goto cleanup;
83      }
```

See q04.if\_error.c

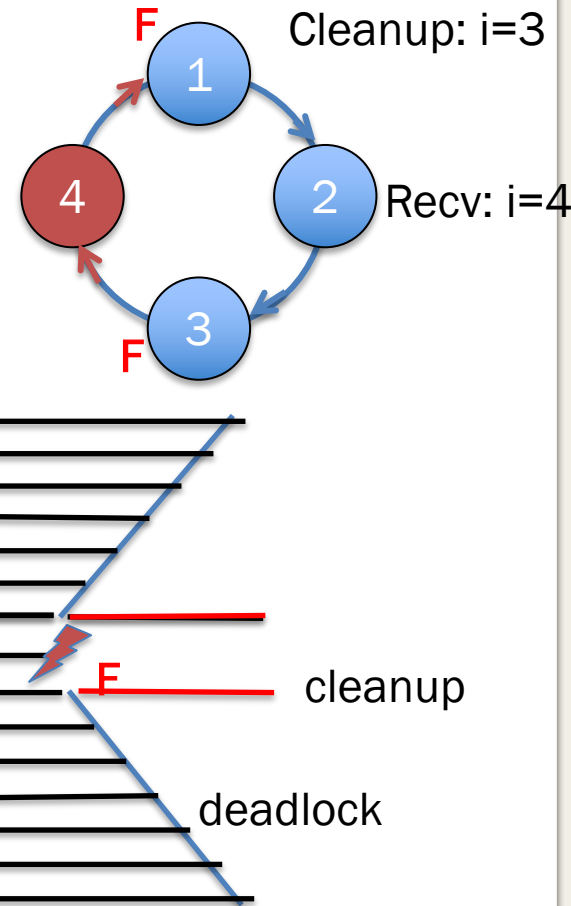


- Run this program. What happens?
- Can you fix it ?

# Regrouping for Plan B

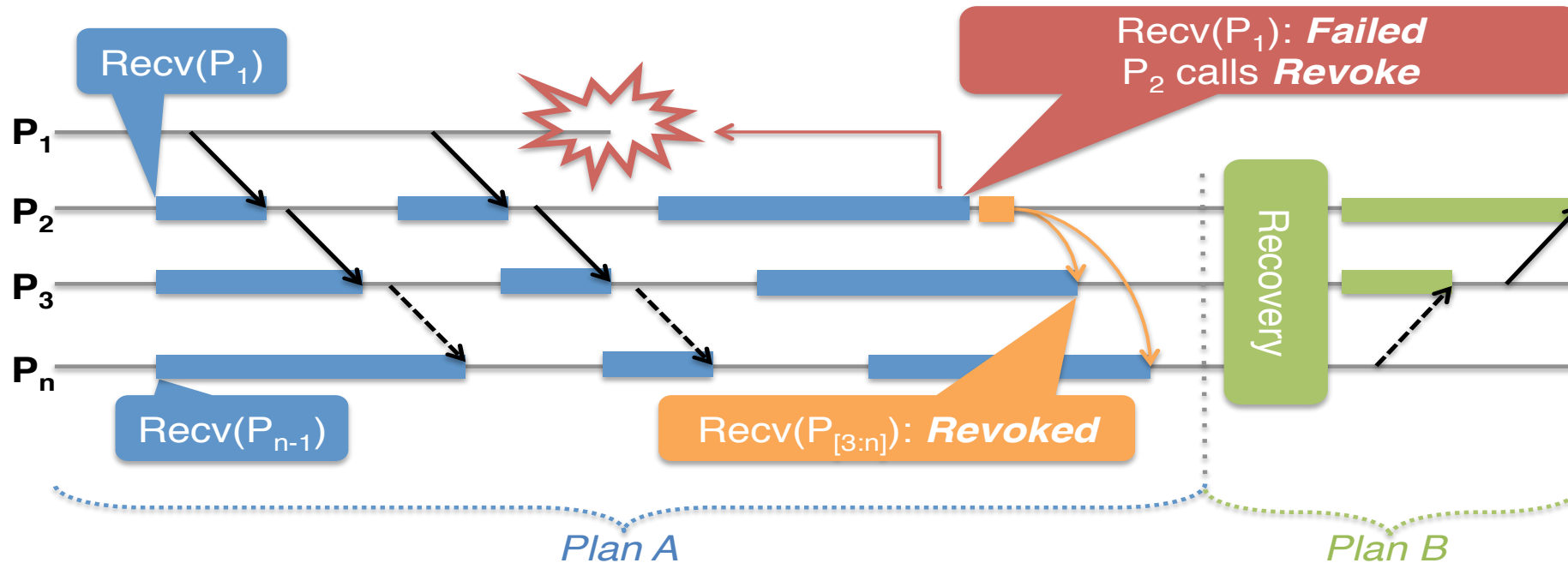
```
56  /* Assign left and right neighbors to be rank-1 and rank+1
57  * in a ring modulo np */
58  left  = (np+rank-1)%np;
59  right = (np+rank+1)%np;
60
61  for( i = 0; i < 10; i++ ) {
...
70      /* At every iteration, a process receives from it's 'left' neighbor
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72      * ... -> 0 -> 1 -> 2 -> ... -> np-1 -> 0 ... */
73      rc = MPI_Sendrecv( sarray, COUNT, MPI_DOUBLE, right, 0,
74                        rarray, COUNT, MPI_DOUBLE, left, 0,
75                        fcomm, MPI_STATUS_IGNORE );
...
80      if( rc != MPI_SUCCESS ) {
81          /* ???>>> Hu ho, this program has a problem here */
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83      }
```

See q04.if\_error.c



- Run this program. What happens?
- Can you fix it ?

# Regrouping for Plan B

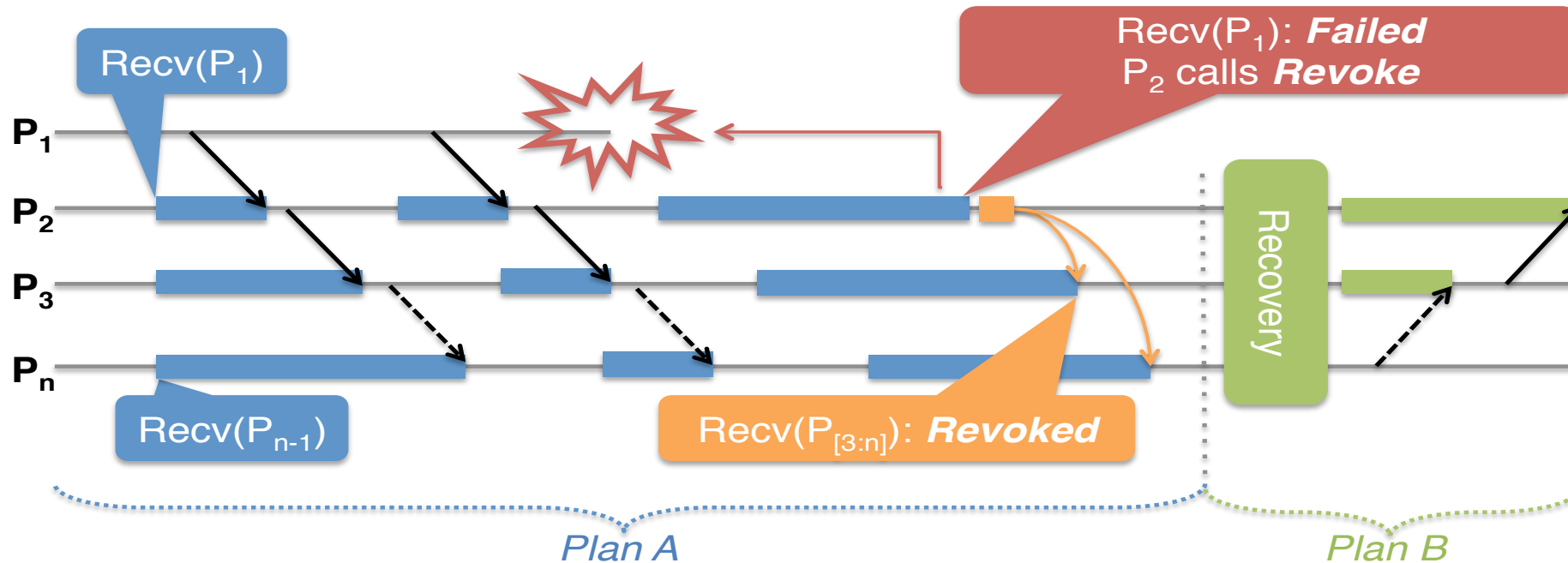


- $P_1$  fails
- $P_2$  raises an error and stop **Plan A** to enter application recovery **Plan B**
- but  $P_3..P_n$  are stuck in their posted recv
- $P_2$  can unlock them with **Revoke** 😊
- $P_3..P_n$  join  $P_2$  in the recovery

# MPI\_Comm\_revoke

- Communicator level failure propagation
- The revocation of a communicator **completes** all pending local operations
  - A communicator is revoked either after a local MPI\_Comm\_revoke or any MPI call raise an exception of class MPI\_ERR\_REVOKED
- Unlike any other concept in MPI it is **not a collective call** but has a **collective scope**
- Once a communicator has been revoked all non-local calls are considered local and **must** complete by raising MPI\_ERR\_REVOKED
  - Notable exceptions: the recovery functions (agreement and shrink)

# Regrouping for Plan B



```

77     if( rc != MPI_SUCCESS ) {
78         /* Ok, some error occurred, force other processes to exit the loop
79          * because when I am leaving, I will not match the sendrecv, and
80          * that would cause them to deadlock */
81         MPIX_Comm_revoke( fcomm );
82         goto cleanup;
83     }

```

See 04.if\_error.c

Making order out of chaos

# **STABILIZING AFTER AN ERROR**



# Hands On: Fault Tolerant MPI with ULFM

George Bosilca @SC19

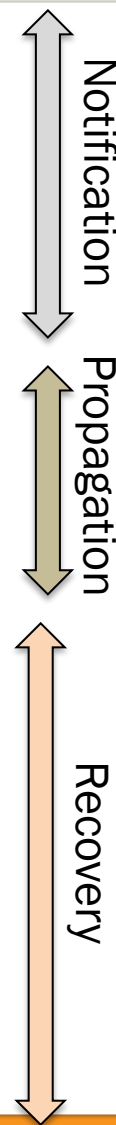


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- **MPI\_Comm\_failure\_ack(comm)**
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- **MPI\_Comm\_agree(comm, &mask)**
  - Collective, agrees on the AND value on binary mask, ignoring failed processes (reliable AllReduce), and the return core



# About non-uniform error reporting

```
35 value = rank/(double)size;
36
37 if( rank == (size/4) ) raise(SIGKILL);
38 MPI_Bcast(&value, 1, MPI_DOUBLE, 0, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
39
40 if( value != 0.0 ) {
41     printf("Rank %d / %d: value from %d is wrong: %g\n",
42           rank, size, 0, value);
43 }
```

See 05.err\_coll.c

Bcast from 0 is  
disrupted by a  
failure

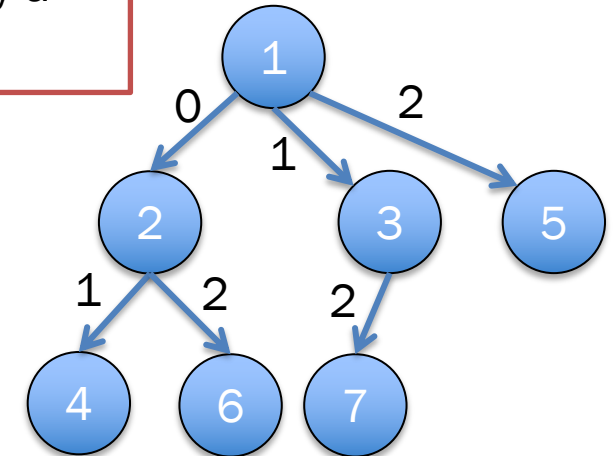
- What processes are going to report an error ?
- Is any process going to display the message line 41 ?
- What if we do an Allreduce instead?

# About non-uniform error reporting

See 05.err\_coll.c

```
35 value = rank/(double)size;
36
37 if( rank == (size/4) ) raise(SIGKILL);
38 MPI_Bcast(&value, 1, MPI_DOUBLE, 0, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
39
40 if( value != 0.0 ) {
41     printf("Rank %d / %d: value from %d is wrong: %g\n",
42           rank, size, 0, value);
43 }
```

Bcast from 0 is disrupted by a failure



- Are all processes going to report an error ?
- Is any process going to display the message line 41 ?

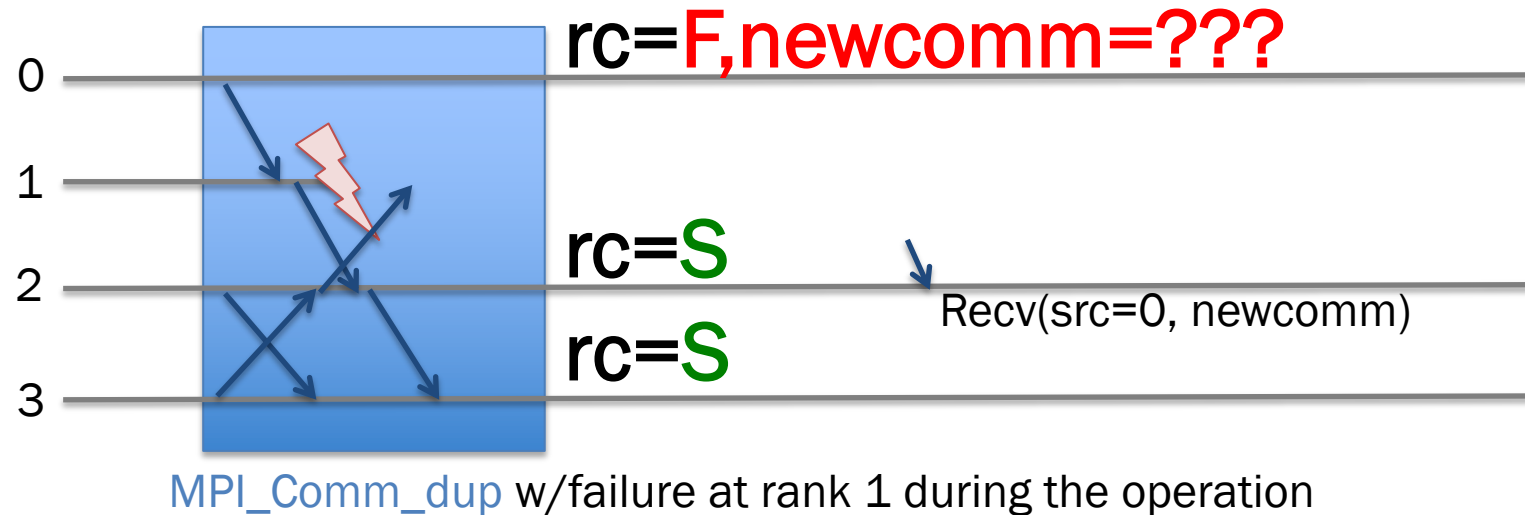
```
bash$ $ULFM_PREFIX/bin/mpirun -np 5 05.err_coll -v
Rank 3 / 5: Notified of error MPI_ERR_PROC_FAILED: Process Failure. 1 found dead:
{ 1 }
Rank 3 / 5: value from 0 is wrong: 0.6
```

MPI\_Bcast internally uses a binomial tree topology 3 (a leaf) was supposed to receive from 1...

0 is the root, it sends to 1, but doesn't see the failure of 1

Bcast failed at rank 3, value has not been updated!

# Issue with communicator creation



- **MPI\_Comm\_dup** (for example) is a collective
  - Like MPI\_Bcast, it may raise an error at some rank and not others
  - When rank 0 sees MPI\_ERR\_PROC\_FAILED, *newcomm* is not created correctly!
  - At the same time, rank 2 creates *newcomm* correctly
  - If rank 2 posts an operation with 0, this operation cannot complete (0 cannot post the matching send, **it doesn't have the newcomm**)
  - *Deadlock!*

# Safe communicator creation

```
20 /* Performs a comm_dup, returns uniformly MPIX_ERR_PROC_FAILED or
21  * MPI_SUCCESS */
22 int ft_comm_dup(MPI_Comm comm, MPI_Comm *newcomm) {
23     int rc;
24     int flag;
25
26     rc = MPI_Comm_dup(comm, newcomm);
27     flag = (MPI_SUCCESS==rc);
28
29     if( !flag ) {
30         if( rc == MPI_SUCCESS ) {
31             MPI_Comm_free(newcomm);
32             rc = MPIX_ERR_PROC_FAILED;
33         }
34     }
35     return rc;
36 }
```

See q06.err\_comm\_dup.c

# MPI\_Comm\_agree

- Perform a **consensus** between all living processes in the associated communicator and consistently return **a value and an error code** to all living processes
- Upon completion all living processes agree to set the output integer value to a **bitwise AND** operation over all the contributed values
  - Also **perform a consensus** on the set of known failed processes (!)
  - Failures non acknowledged by all participants **keep raising** MPI\_ERR\_PROC\_FAILED

# Safe communicator creation

```
20 /* Performs a comm_dup, returns uniformly MPIX_ERR_PROC_FAILED or
21  * MPI_SUCCESS */
22 int ft_comm_dup(MPI_Comm comm, MPI_Comm *newcomm) {
23     int rc;
24     int flag;
25
26     rc = MPI_Comm_dup(comm, newcomm);
27     flag = (MPI_SUCCESS==rc);
28     MPIX_Comm_agree(comm, &flag);
29     if( !flag ) {
30         if( rc == MPI_SUCCESS ) {
31             MPI_Comm_free(newcomm);
32             rc = MPIX_ERR_PROC_FAILED;
33         }
34     }
35     return rc;
36 }
```

See 06.err\_comm\_dup.c

- Solution: MPI\_Comm\_agree
  - After ft\_comm\_dup, either all procs have created newcomm, or all procs have returned MPI\_ERR\_PROC\_FAILED
  - Global state is consistent in all cases



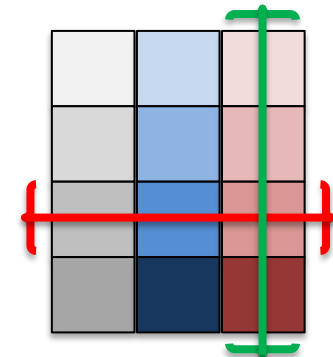
# Benefit of safety separation

See q07.err\_comm\_grid2d

```
34 rc1 = MPI_Comm_split(comm, rank%p, rank, rowcomm);
35 flag = (MPI_SUCCESS==rc1);
36 MPIX_Comm_agree(comm, &flag);
37 if( !flag ) {
38     if( rc1 == MPI_SUCCESS ) {
39         MPI_Comm_free(rowcomm);
40     }
41     return MPIX_ERR_PROC_FAILED;
42 }
43
44 rc2 = MPI_Comm_split(comm, rank/p, rank, colcomm);
45 flag = (MPI_SUCCESS==rc2);
46 MPIX_Comm_agree(comm, &flag);
47 if( !flag ) {
48     if( rc2 == MPI_SUCCESS ) {
49         MPI_Comm_free(colcomm);
50     }
51     MPI_Comm_free(rowcomm);
52     return MPIX_ERR_PROC_FAILED;
53 }
```

## • PxQ 2D process grid

- A process appears in two communicators
- A row communicator
- A column communicator



# Benefit of safety separation

```
20 /* Create two communicators, representing a PxP 2D grid of
21  * the processes. Either return MPIX_ERR_PROC_FAILED at all ranks,
22  * then no communicator has been created, or MPI_SUCCESS and all
23  * communicators have been created, at all ranks. */
24 int ft_comm_grid2d(MPI_Comm comm, int p, MPI_Comm *rowcomm, MPI_Comm *colcomm)
{
...
30 rc1 = MPI_Comm_split(comm, rank%p, rank, rowcomm);
31 rc2 = MPI_Comm_split(comm, rank/p, rank, colcomm);
32 flag = (MPI_SUCCESS==rc1) && (MPI_SUCCESS==rc2);
33 MPIX_Comm_agree(comm, &flag);
34 if( !flag ) {
35     if( rc1 == MPI_SUCCESS ) {
36         MPI_Comm_free(rowcomm);
37     }
38     if( rc2 == MPI_SUCCESS ) {
39         MPI_Comm_free(colcomm);
40     }
41     return MPIX_ERR_PROC_FAILED;
42 }
43 return MPI_SUCCESS;
44 }
```

See 07.err\_comm\_grid2d

- PxP 2D process grid
  - A process appears in two communicators
  - A row communicator
  - A column communicator
- We Agree only once
  - Better amortization of the cost over multiple operations

# Error Insulation



See 09.err\_insulation.c

```
21 int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
24     MPI_Comm half_comm;
...
35     /* Create 2 halfcomms, one for the low ranks, 1 for the high ranks */
36     MPI_Comm_split(MPI_COMM_WORLD, (rank < (size/2)) ? 1 : 2, rank, &half_comm);
37
38     if( rank == 0 ) raise(SIGKILL);
39     MPI_Barrier(half_comm);
40
41     /* Even when half_comm contains failed processes, we call MPI_Comm_free
42      * to give an opportunity for MPI to clean the resources. */
43     MPI_Comm_free(&half_comm);
```

Half\_comm inherits the error handler  
from MPI\_COMM\_WORLD

# Interlude: MPI\_Comm\_split

- MPI\_COMM\_SPLIT( comm, color, key, newcomm )
  - Color : control of subset assignment
  - Key : sort key to control rank assignment

rank	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
process	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
color	0	⊥	3	0	3	0	0	5	3	⊥
key	3	1	2	5	1	1	1	2	1	0

3 different colors => 3 communicators

1. {A, D, F, G} with sort keys {3, 5, 1, 1} => {F, G, A, D}
2. {C, E, I} with sort keys {2, 1, 1} => {E, I, C}
3. {H} with sort key {2} => {H}

B and J get MPI\_COMM\_NULL as they provide an undefined color (MPI\_UNDEFINED)

# More Insulation



See 09.err\_insulation.c

```
21 int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
24     MPI_Comm half_comm;
...
35     /* Create 2 halfcomms, one for the low ranks, 1 for the high ranks */
36     MPI_Comm_split(MPI_COMM_WORLD, (rank < (size/2)) ? 1 : 2, rank, &half_comm);
37
38     if( rank == 0 ) raise(SIGKILL);
39     MPI_Barrier(half_comm);
40
41     /* Even when half_comm contains failed processes, we call MPI_Comm_free
42      * to give an opportunity for MPI to clean the resources. */
43     MPI_Comm_free(&half_comm);
```



Low ranks half\_comm:  
What will happen?



High ranks half\_comm:  
What will happen?

# More Insulation



```
21 int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
24     MPI_Comm half_comm;
...
35     /* Create 2 halfcomms, one for the low ranks, 1 for the high ranks */
36     MPI_Comm_split(MPI_COMM_WORLD, (rank < 5) ? 0 : 1, &half_comm);
37
38     if( rank == 0 ) raise(SIGKILL);
39     MPI_Barrier(half_comm);
40
41     /* Even when half_comm contains failed process, we free it anyway
42      * to give an opportunity for MPI to clean up
43     MPI_Comm_free(&half_comm);
```

See 09.err\_insulation.c

High ranks half\_comm has  
no failure, it works 😊

Low ranks half\_comm  
has failed process, we  
free it anyway



1 2 3 4

5 6 7 8 9

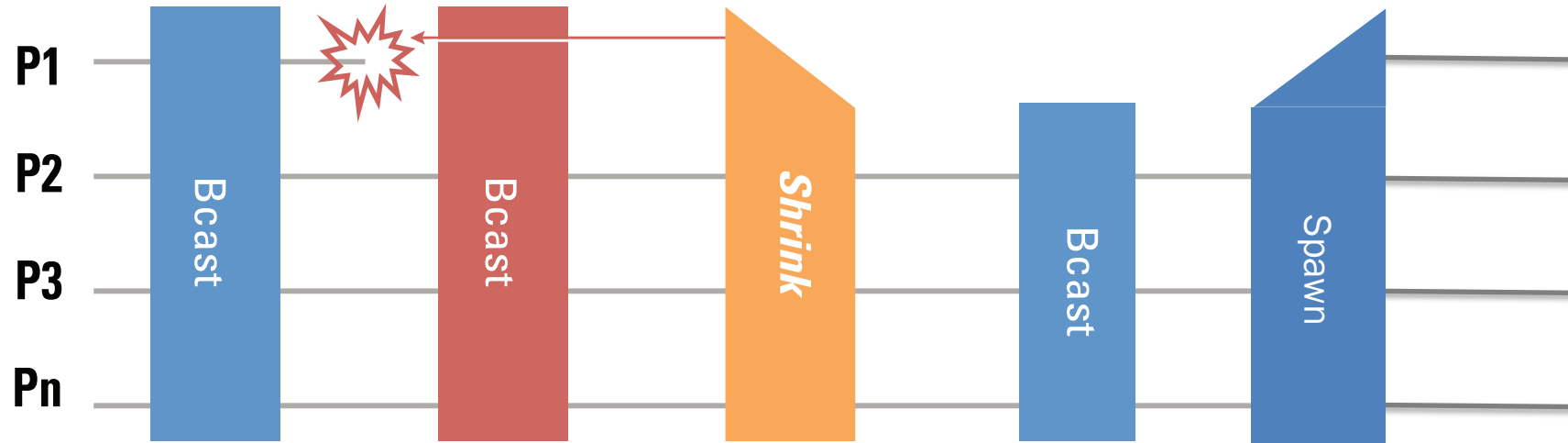
```
$ $ULFM_PREFIX/bin/mpirun -np 10 09.insulation
Rank 1 / 5: Notified of error MPI_ERR_PROC_FAILED: Process Failure. 1 found dead:
{ 0 }
Rank 2 / 5: Notified of error MPI_ERR_PROC_FAILED: Process Failure. 1 found dead:
{ 0 }
Rank 4 / 5: Notified of error MPI_ERR_PROC_FAILED: Process Failure. 1 found dead:
{ 0 }
Rank 3 / 5: Notified of error MPI_ERR_PROC_FAILED: Process Failure. 1 found dead:
{ 0 }
```

Can we fix it? Yes we can!

# FIXING THE WORLD



# Full capacity recovery



- After a Revoke, our original comm is unusable
- We can Shrink: that create a new comm, but smaller
  - Can be used to do collective and p2p operations, fully functional
- Some application need to restore a world the same size
  - And on top of it, they want the same rank mapping



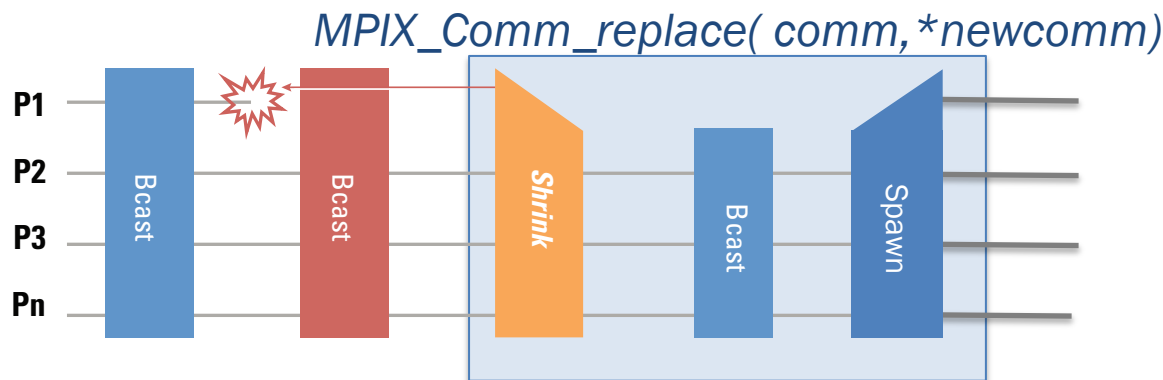
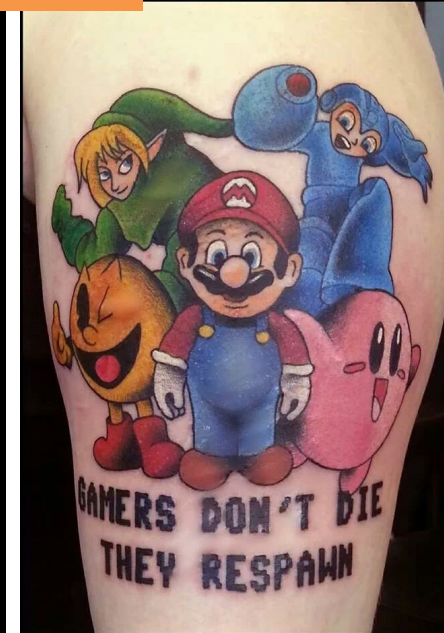
# MPI\_Comm\_shrink

- Creates a new communicator by **excluding all known failed processes** from the parent communicator
  - It completes an agreement on the parent communicator
  - Work on revoked communicators as a mean to create safe, globally consistent sub-communicators
- Absorbs new failures, it is **not allowed to return** MPI\_ERR\_PROC\_FAILED or MPI\_ERR\_REVOKED

# Respawning the deads

See 10.respawn

```
143 int main( int argc, char* argv[] ) {  
...  
157  /* Am I a spare ? */  
158  MPI_Comm_get_parent( &world );  
159  if( MPI_COMM_NULL == world ) {  
160      /* First run: Let's create an initial world,  
161       * a copy of MPI_COMM_WORLD */  
162      MPI_Comm_dup( MPI_COMM_WORLD, &world );  
...  
167  } else {  
168      /* I am a spare, lets get the repaired world */  
169      MPIX_Comm_replace( MPI_COMM_NULL, &world );  
...  
174      goto joinwork;  
175  }
```



- Avoid the cost of having idling spares

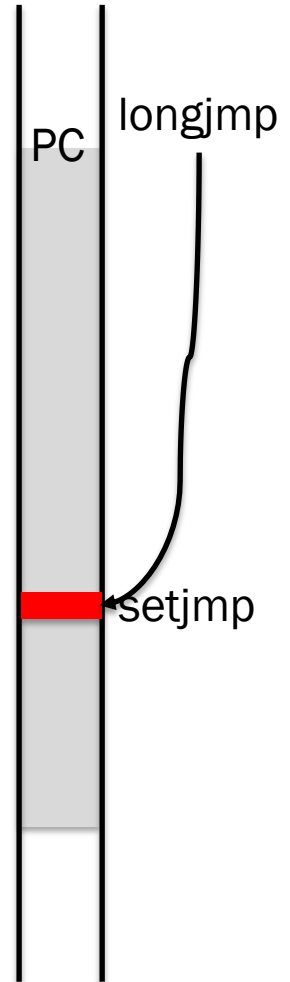
- We use MPI\_Comm\_spawn to launch new processes
- We insert them with the right rank in a new “world”

# Respawn in action: buddy C/R

See 12.buddycr.c

```
109 MPI_Comm_get_parent( &parent );
110 if( MPI_COMM_NULL == parent ) {
111     /* First run: Let's create an initial world,
112      * a copy of MPI_COMM_WORLD */
113     MPI_Comm_dup( MPI_COMM_WORLD, &world );
114 ...
116 } else {
117     /* I am a spare, lets get the repaired world */
118     app_needs_repair(MPI_COMM_NULL);
119 }
120 ...
184 setjmp(jmpenv);
185 while(iteration < max_iterations) {
186     /* take a checkpoint */
187     if(0 == iteration%2) app_buddy_ckpt(world);
188     iteration++;
```

- Do the operation until completion, and nobody else needs repair
- New spawns (obviously) need repair
- Function “app\_needs\_repair” reloads checkpoints, sets the restart iteration, etc...
- “app\_needs\_repair” Called upon restart, in the error handler, and before completion



# Triggering the Restart

See 12.buddycr.c

```
121 static int app_needs_repair(void) {
122     MPI_Comm tmp;
123     MPIX_Comm_replace(world, &tmp);
124     if( tmp == world ) return false;
125     if( MPI_COMM_NULL != world) MPI_Comm_free(&world);
126     world = tmp;
127     app_reload_ckpt(world);
128     /* Report that world has changed, and we need to re-execute */
129     return true;
130 }
131
132 /* Do all the magic in the error handler */
133 static void errhandler_respawn(MPI_Comm* pcomm, int* errcode, ...) {
134     ...
142     if( MPIX_ERR_PROC_FAILED != eclass &&
143         MPIX_ERR_REVOKED != eclass ) {
144         MPI_Abort(MPI_COMM_WORLD, *errcode);
145     }
146     MPIX_Comm_revoke(*pcomm);
147     if(app_needs_repair()) longjmp(jmpenv, 0);
148 }
```

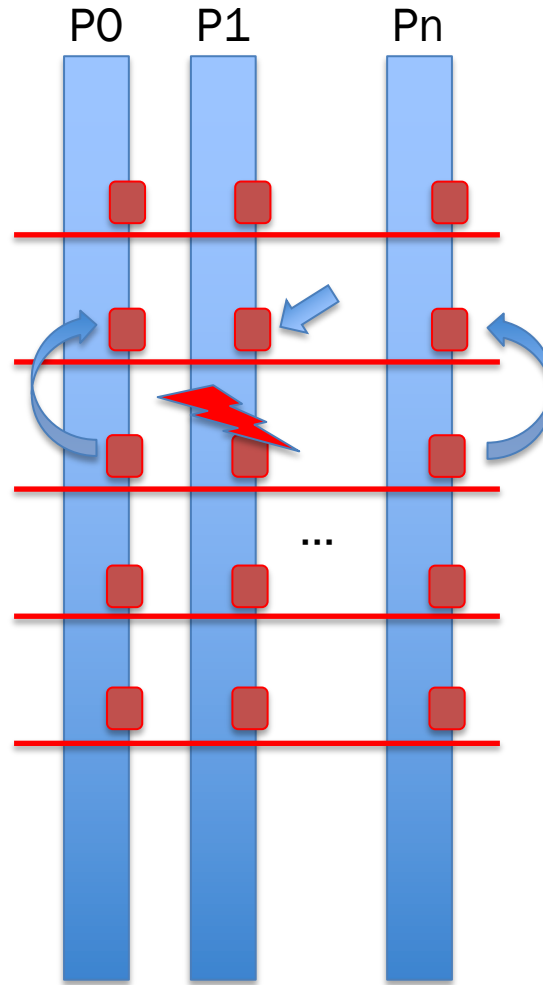
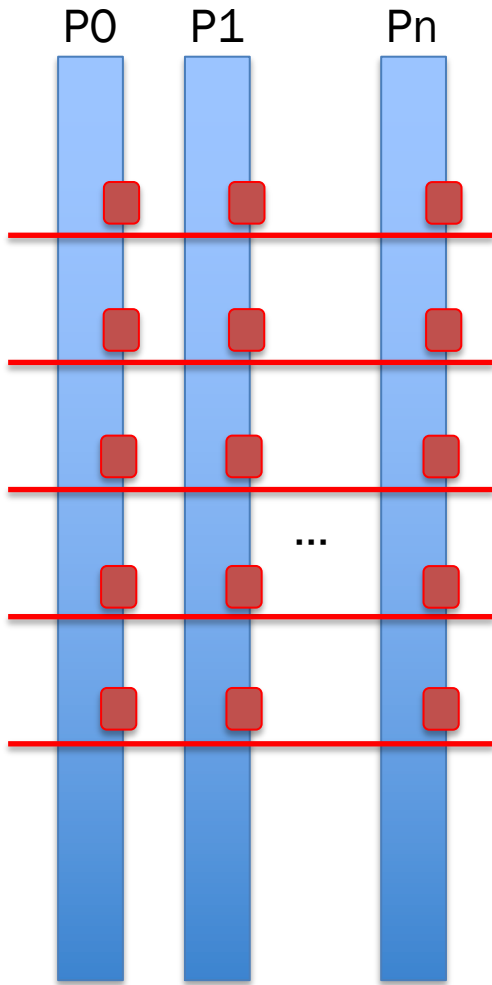
- Upon completion of the spawn and recreation of the new communicator if repairs have been done then we longjmp to skip the remaining of the loop and return to the last coherent version. Keep in mind that longjmp does not restore the variables but leaves them as they were at the moment of the fault.

# Simple Buddy Checkpoint

```
49 static int app_buddy_ckpt(MPI_Comm comm) {
50     if(0 == rank || verbose) fprintf(stderr, "Rank %04d: checkpointing to %04d after iteration
%d\n", rank, rbuddy(rank), iteration);
51     /* Store my checkpoint on my "right" neighbor */
52     MPI_Sendrecv(mydata_array, count, MPI_DOUBLE, rbuddy(rank), ckpt_tag,
53                 buddy_ckpt, count, MPI_DOUBLE, lbuddy(rank), ckpt_tag,
54                 comm, MPI_STATUS_IGNORE);
55     /* Commit the local changes to the checkpoints only if successful. */
56     if(app_needs_repair()) {
57         fprintf(stderr, "Rank %04d: checkpoint commit was not successful, rollback instead\n",
rank);
58         longjmp(jmpenv, 0);
59     }
60     ckpt_iteration = iteration;
61     /* Malloc my own memory in my local checkpoint (with datatypes) */
62     MPI_Sendrecv(mydata_array, count, MPI_DOUBLE, 0, ckpt_tag,
63                 my_ckpt, count, MPI_DOUBLE, 0, ckpt_tag,
64                 MPI_COMM_SELF, MPI_STATUS_IGNORE);
65     return MPI_SUCCESS;
66 }
```

See 12.buddycr.c

# Transaction-like approaches



- Each transaction is either
  - successful and the execution progresses, or
  - fails, and the entire transaction needs to be re-executed
- This requires a copy of all data necessary for the re-execution readily available

# Transaction-like approaches

```
/* save data to be used in the code below */  
do {  
    /* if not original instance restore the data */  
  
    /* do some extremely useful work */  
  
    /* validate that no errors happened */  
} while (!errors)
```

- Let's not focus on the data save and restore
- Use the agreement to decide when a work unit is valid
- If the agreement succeed the work is correctly completed and we can move forward
- If the agreement fails restore and data and redo the computations
- Use REVOKE to propagate specific exception every time it is necessary (even in the work part)
- Exceptions must be bits to be able to work with the agreement

# Transaction-like approaches

```
#define TRY_BLOCK(COMM, EXCEPTION) \
do { \
    int __flag = 0xffffffff; \
    __stack_pos++; \
    EXCEPTION = setjmp(&stack_jmp_buf[__stack_pos]); \
    __flag &= ~EXCEPTION; \
    if( 0 == EXCEPTION ) { \

#define CATCH_BLOCK(COMM) \
    __stack_pos--; \
    __stack_in_agree = 1; /* prevent longjmp */ \
    MPIX_Comm_agree(COMM, &__flag); \
    __stack_in_agree = 0; /* enable longjmp */ \
} \
    if( 0xffffffff != __flag ) {

#define END_BLOCK() \
} } while (0);

#define RAISE(COMM, EXCEPTION) \
MPIX_Comm_revoke(COMM); \
assert(0 != (EXCEPTION)); \
if(!__stack_in_agree ) \
    longjmp( stack_jmp_buf[__stack_pos], \
            (EXCEPTION) ); /* escape */
```

- TRY\_BLOCK setup the transaction, by setting a setjmp point and the main if
- CATCH\_BLOCK complete the if from the TRY\_BLOCK and implement the agreement about the success of the work completion
- END\_BLOCK close the code block started by the TRY\_BLOCK
- RAISE revoke the communicator and if necessary (if not raised from the agreement) longjmp at the beginning of the TRY\_BLOCK catching the if



# Transaction-like approaches

```
/* save data1 to be used in the code
below */
transaction1:
TRY_BLOCK(MPI_COMM_WORLD, exception) {

    /* do some extremely useful work */

    /* save data2 to be used in the code
below */
transaction2:
    TRY_BLOCK(newcomm, exception) {

        /* do more extremely useful work */

    } CATCH_BLOCK(newcomm) {
        /* restore data2 for transaction
2 */
        goto transaction2;
    } END_BLOCK()

} CATCH_BLOCK(MPI_COMM_WORLD) {
    /* restore data1 for transaction 1
```

Transaction 1

Transaction 2

- Skeleton for a 2 level transaction with checkpoint approach
  - Local checkpoint can be used to handle soft errors
  - Other types of checkpoint can be used to handle hard errors
  - No need for global checkpoint, only save what will be modified during the transaction
- Generic scheme that can work at any depth

# Transaction-like approaches

See 13.transactions.c

```
MPI_Comm_rank(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &rank);
MPI_Comm_size(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &size);

TRY_BLOCK(MPI_COMM_WORLD, exception) {

    int rank, size;

    MPI_Comm_dup(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &newcomm);
    MPI_Comm_rank(newcomm, &rank);
    MPI_Comm_size(newcomm, &size);

    TRY_BLOCK(newcomm, exception) {

        if( rank == (size-1) ) exit(0);
        rc = MPI_Barrier(newcomm);

    } CATCH_BLOCK(newcomm) {
    } END_BLOCK()

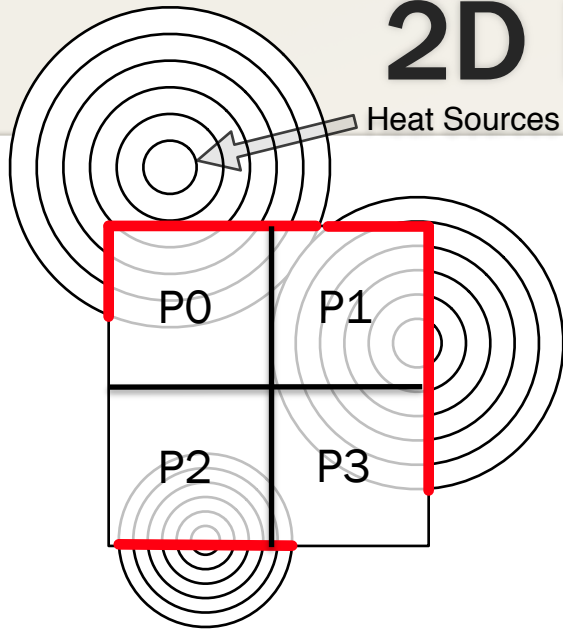
} CATCH_BLOCK(MPI_COMM_WORLD) {
} END_BLOCK()
```

Transaction 1

Transaction 2

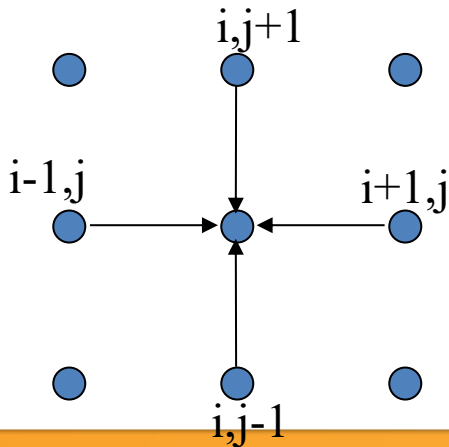
- A small example doing a simple barrier
- We manually kill a process by brutally calling exit
- What is the correct or the expected output?

# 2D Heat Propagation (Laplace eq.)

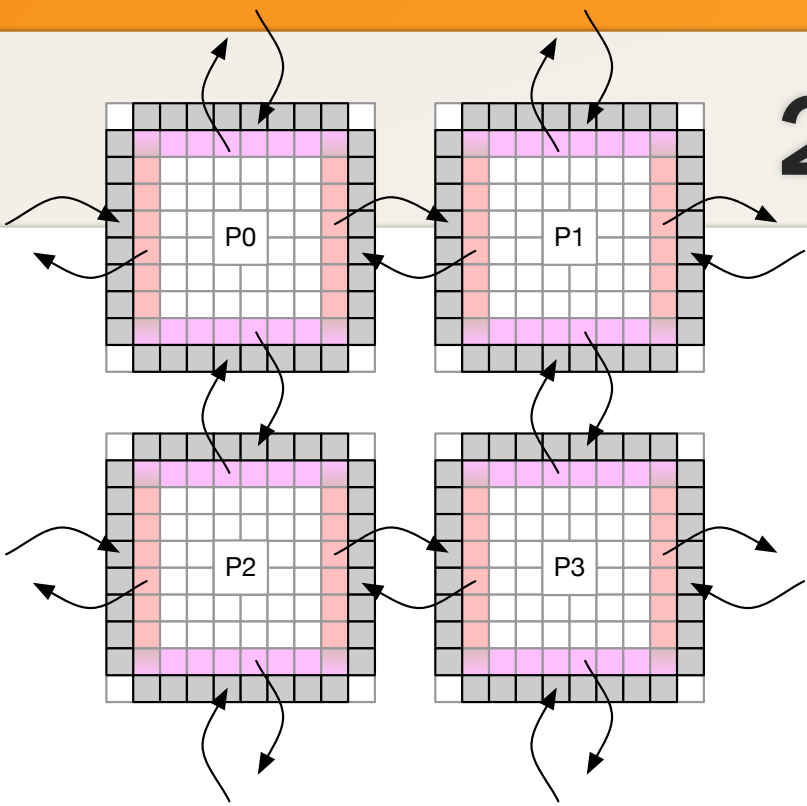


- The root of many types of scientific challenges
  - The implementation used here is however trivial, and only serve teaching purposes
- We imagine a NxM points space represented as a matrix and distributed on a PxQ grid of processes
  - Each process has (N/P) x (M/Q) elements
  - To facilitate the update each process will surround the part of the space she owns with a ghost region, that role is to hold the data from the last iteration from the neighbor on the direction

$$U_{i,j}^{n+1} = \frac{1}{4} (U_{i-1,j}^n + U_{i+1,j}^n + U_{i,j-1}^n + U_{i,j+1}^n)$$



# 2D Heat Propagation (Laplace eq.)



See `jacobi/jacobi_cpu_noft.c`

```
set error handlers
restart:
    recover = setjmp()

    build row and column communicators
    if recover { get data from buddy
                 goto local_computation }

do {
    exchange data with neighbors

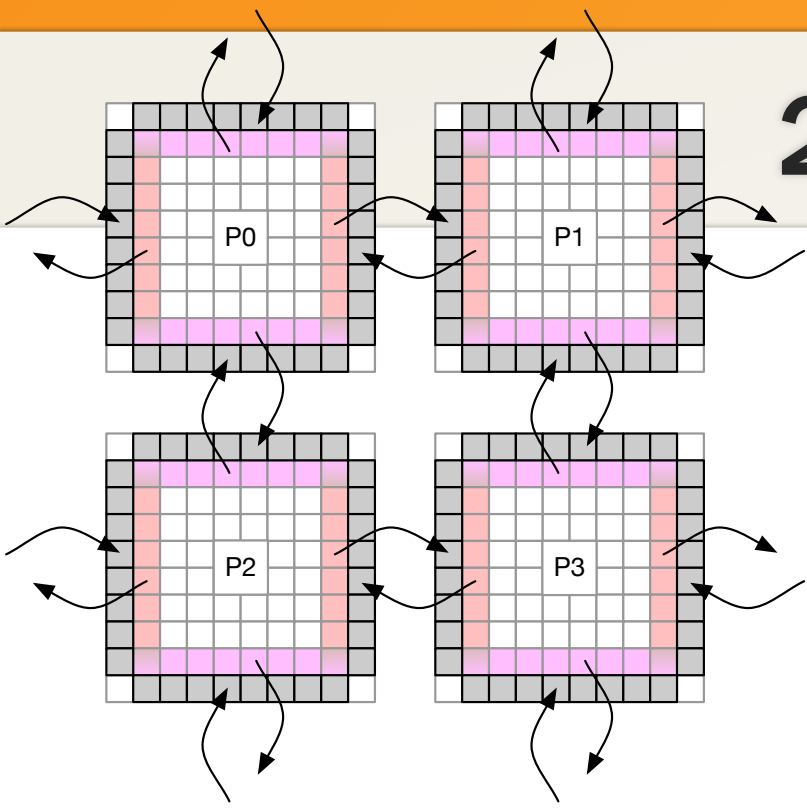
    if time for buddy chkpt: save local data on buddy

local_computation:
    compute local updates and residual

    allreduce the residual with all processes
} until convergence (iterations or residual)
```

1. We need to be able to break the iterations and jump out of the loop
2. We need to be able to save data on the buddy at regular intervals
3. We need to retrieve the data from the neighbors, coordinate about the iteration and restart the computation

# 2D Heat Propagation (Laplace eq.)



1. We need to be able to break the iterations and jump out of the loop
2. We need to be able to save data on the buddy at regular intervals
3. We need to retrieve the data from the neighbors, coordinate about the iteration and restart the computation

See `jacobi/jacobi_cpu_bckpt.c`

```
set error handlers
restart:
    recover = setjmp()
```

```
build row and column communicators
```

```
if recover { get data from buddy
              goto local_computation }
```

```
do {
```

```
    exchange data with neighbors
```

```
    if time for buddy chkpt: save local data on buddy
```

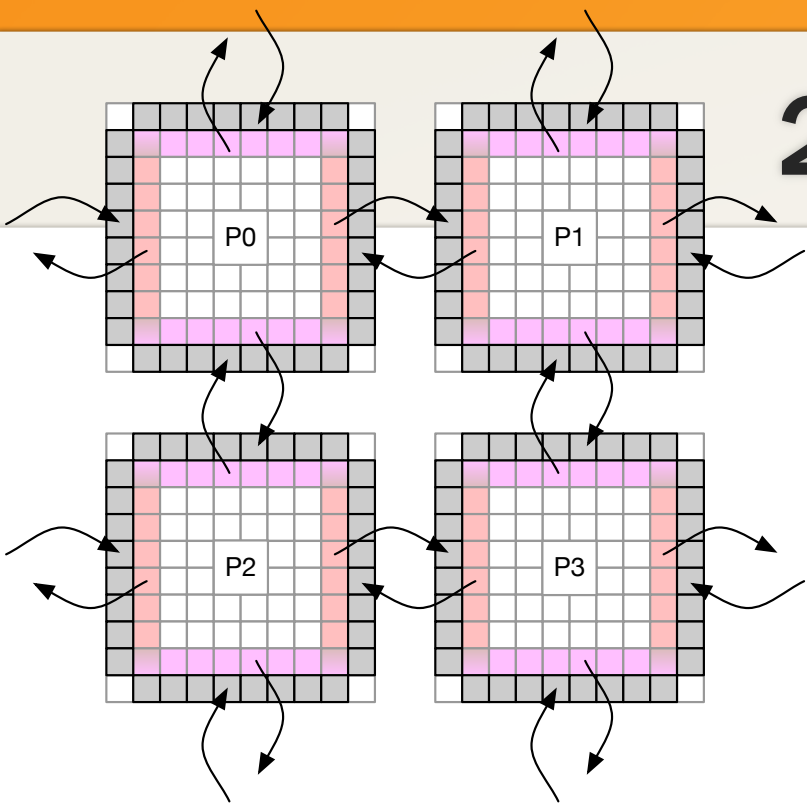
```
local_computation:
```

```
    compute local updates and residual
```

```
    allreduce the residual with all processes
```

```
} until convergence (iterations or residual)
```

# 2D Heat Propagation (Laplace eq.)



1. We need to be able to break the iterations and jump out of the loop
2. We need to be able to save data on the buddy at regular intervals
3. We need to retrieve the data from the neighbors, coordinate about the iteration and restart the computation

See `jacobi/jacobi_cpu_bckpt.c`

```
set error handlers
restart:
    recover = setjmp()

    build row and column communicators
    if recover { get data from buddy
                 goto local_computation }

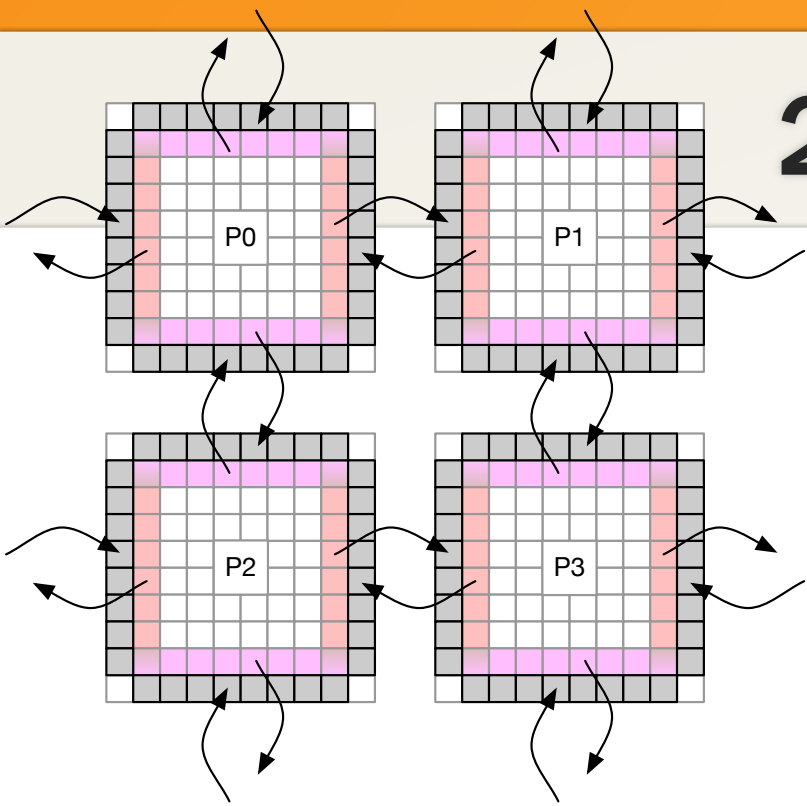
    do {
        exchange data with neighbors

        if time for buddy chkpt: save local data on buddy

        local_computation:
            compute local updates and residual

            allreduce the residual with all processes
    } until convergence (iterations or residual)
```

# 2D Heat Propagation (Laplace eq.)



1. We need to be able to break the iterations and jump out of the loop
2. We need to be able to save data on the buddy at regular intervals
3. We need to retrieve the data from the neighbors, coordinate about the iteration and restart the computation

See `jacobi/jacobi_cpu_bckpt.c`

```
set error handlers
restart:
    recover = setjmp()

build row and column communicators
if recover { get data from buddy
             goto local_computation }

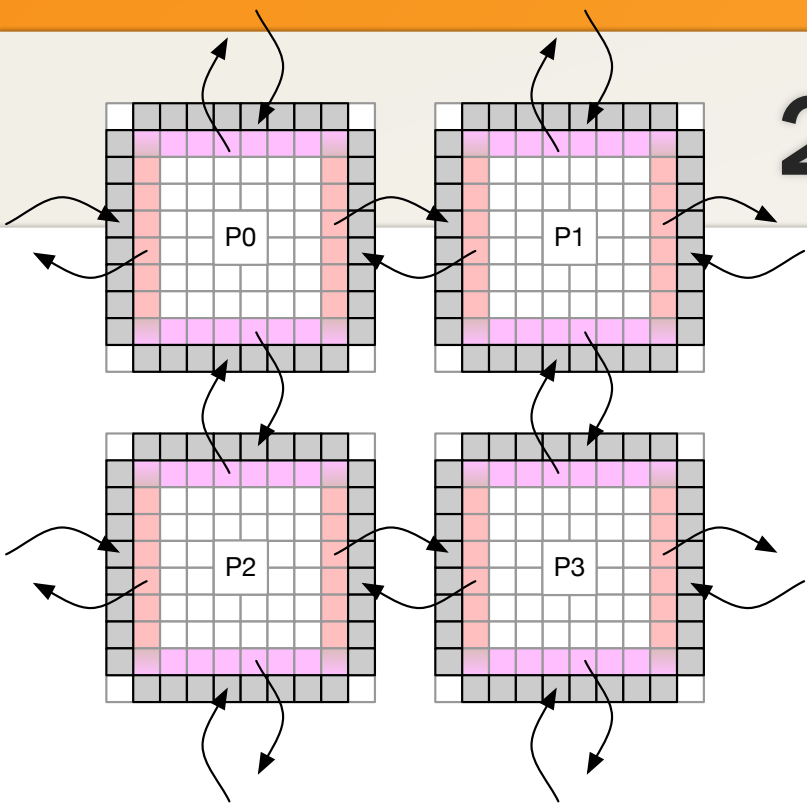
do {
    exchange data with neighbors

    if time for buddy chkpt: save local data on buddy

local_computation:
    compute local updates and residual

    allreduce the residual with all processes
} until convergence (iterations or residual)
```

# 2D Heat Propagation (Laplace eq.)



1. We need to be able to break the iterations and jump out of the loop
2. We need to be able to save data on the buddy at regular intervals
3. We need to retrieve the data from the neighbors, coordinate about the iteration and restart the computation

See `jacobi/jacobi_cpu_bckpt.c`

```
set error handlers
restart:
    recover = setjmp()

    build row and column communicators
    if recover { get data from buddy
                  goto local_computation }

    do {
        exchange data with neighbors

        if time for buddy chkpt: save local data on buddy

    local_computation:
        compute local updates and residual

        allreduce the residual with all processes

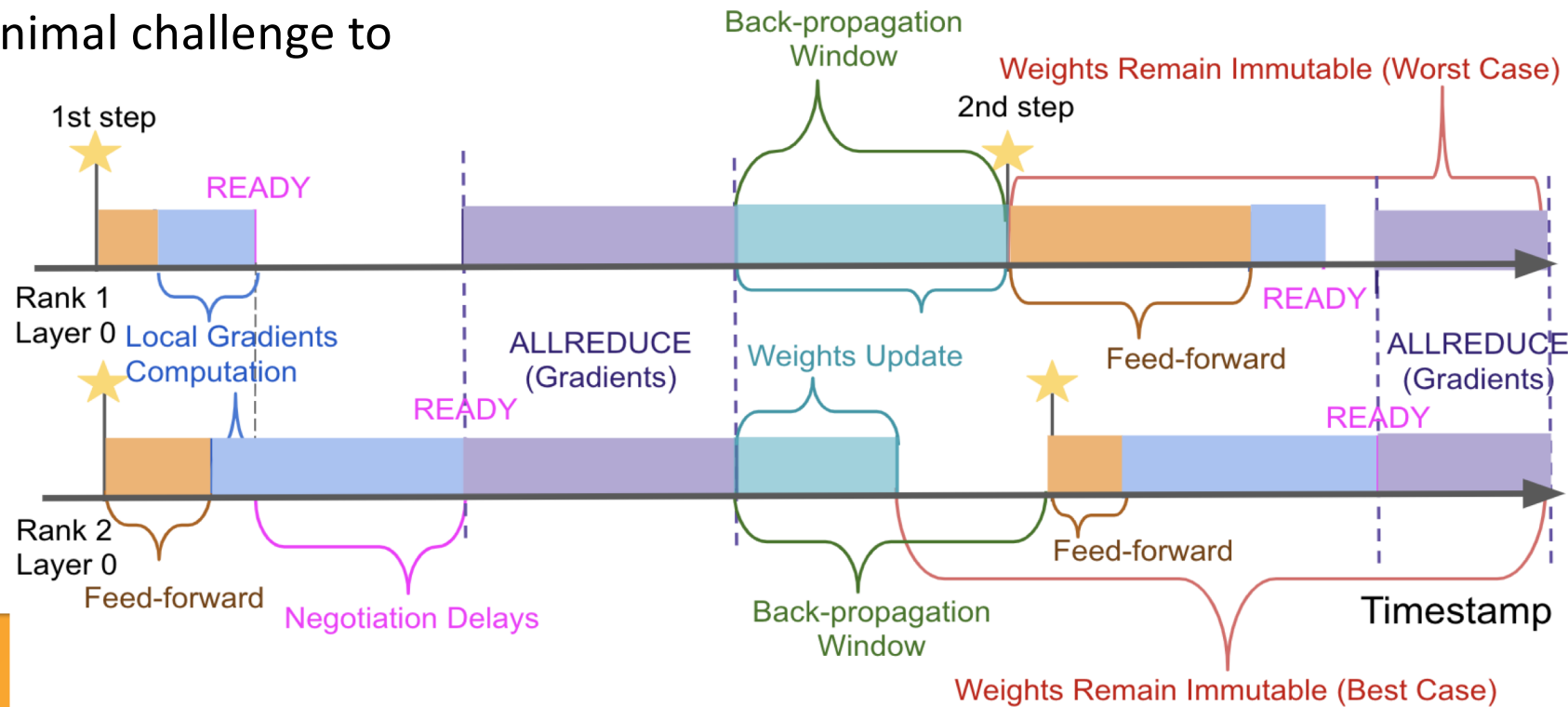
    } until convergence (iterations or residual)
```



# ML: Parallel Training: Timeline Analytics

Fine-grain metrics per tensor for timeline analytics

- **Feed-forward** (averaged among all steps)
- **Negotiation delays** (average among all ranks)
- **Back-propagation window per tensor** (averaged; potential opportunities to delay next phase)
- All participants have a copy of the converged gradients, and this is the only information needed to continue the learning process
  - A restarted process can simply receive the gradients from a buddy and with access to the original test input data it can seamlessly continue the execution
  - Minimal challenge to



Beyond examples, what people are doing with it

## **USER'S RECOVERY STORIES**

# User Level Failure Mitigation: User Adoption

## Fenix Framework/S3D

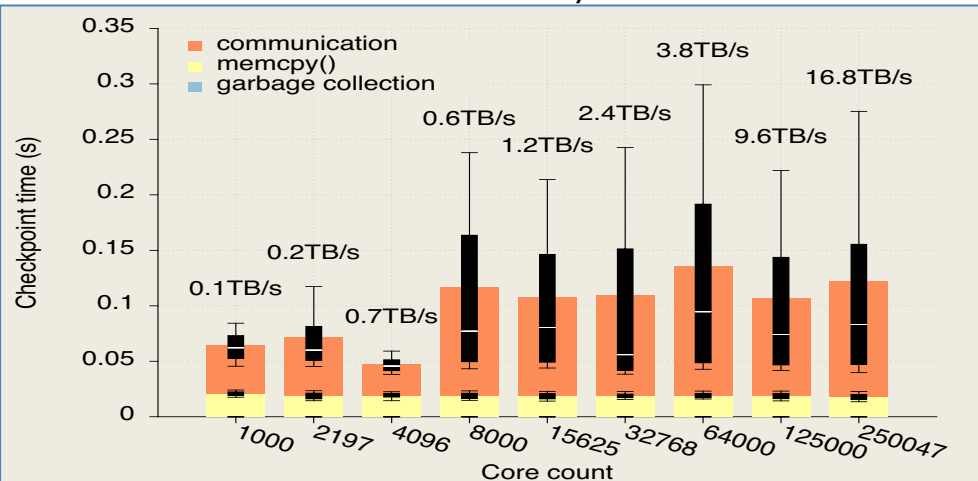


Fig. 3. Checkpoint time for different core counts (8.6 MB/core). The numbers above each test show the aggregated bandwidth (the total checkpoint size over the average checkpoint time).

- Fortran CoArrays “failed images” uses ULFM-RMA to support Fortran TS 18508
- SAP In-memory distributed database
- PHALANX
- Elastic X10

MapReduce

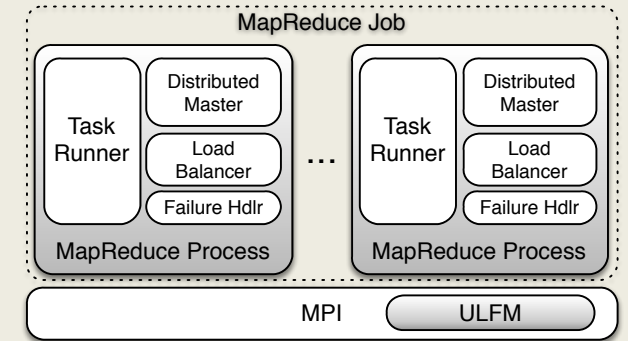


Figure 2: The architecture of FT-MRMPI.

## Domain Decomposition PDE

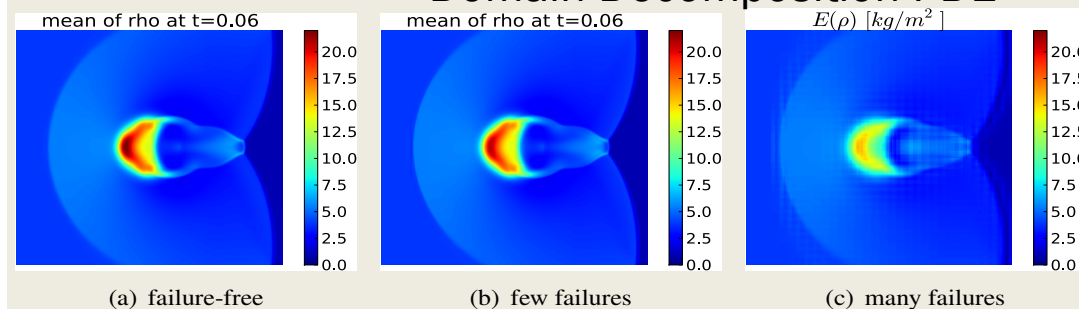
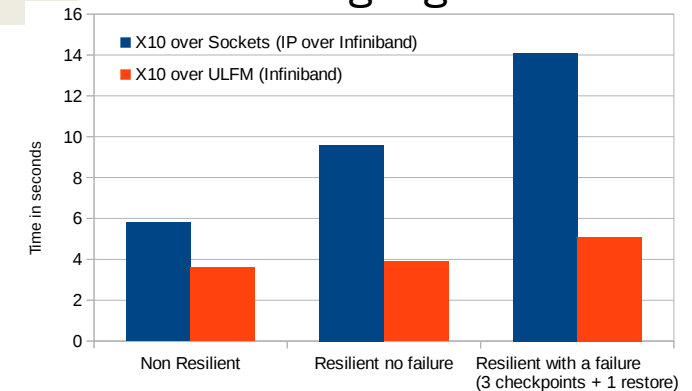


Figure 5. Results of the FT-MLMC implementation for three different failure scenarios.

## X10 Language

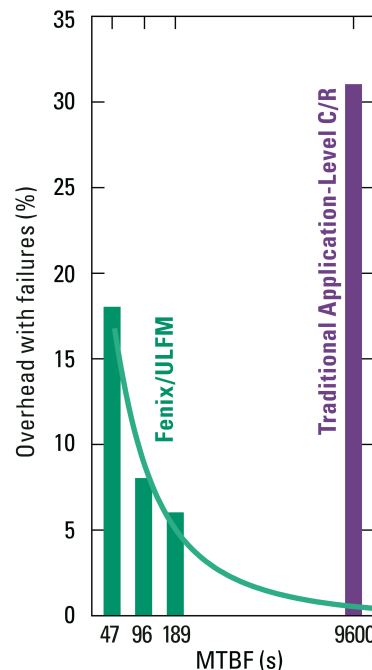


The performance improvement due to using ULFM v1.0 for running the LULESH proxy application [3] (a shock hydrodynamics stencil based simulation) running on 64 processes on 16 nodes with

And many more...

# Use cases: Checkpoints w/Fenix in S3D

- S3D is a production, highly parallel method-of-lines solver for PDEs
  - used to perform first-principles-based direct numerical simulations of turbulent combustion
- S3D rendered fault tolerant using Fenix/ULFM
- 35 lines of code modified in S3D in total!
- Order of magnitude performance improvement in failure scenarios
  - thanks to online recovery and in-memory checkpoint advantage over I/O based checkpointing
- Injection of FT layer: addition of a couple of Fenix calls



**Fenix\_Checkpoint\_Allocate** mark a memory segment (baseptr,size) as part of the checkpoint.  
**Fenix\_Init** Initialize Fenix, and restart point after a recovery, status contains info about the restart mode  
**Fenix\_Comm\_Add** can be used to notify Fenix about the creation of user communicators  
**Fenix\_Checkpoint** performs a checkpoint of marked segments

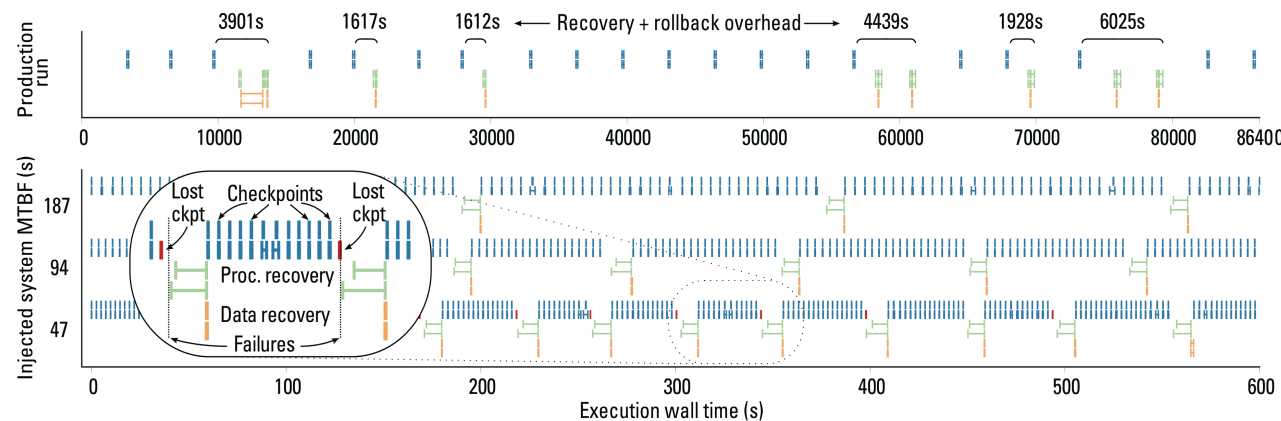


Image courtesy of the authors, M.Gamell, D.Katz, H.Kolla, J.Chen, S.Klasky, and M.Parashar.  
 Exploring automatic, online failure recovery for scientific applications at extreme scales.

In Proceedings of SC '14

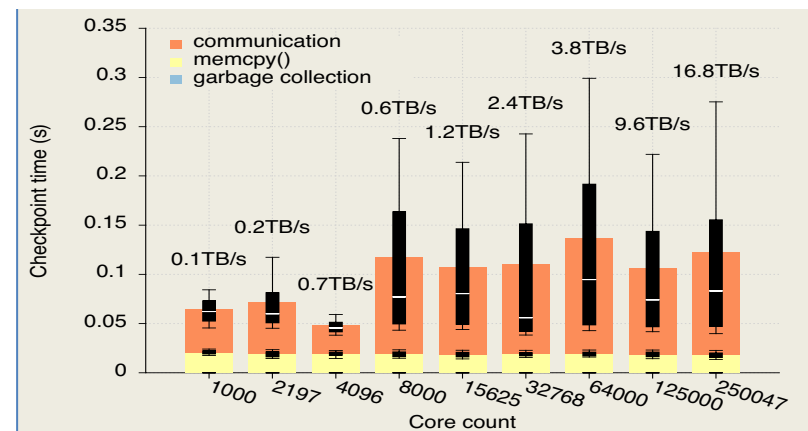


Fig. 3. Checkpoint time for different core counts (8.6 MB/core). The numbers above each test show the aggregated bandwidth (the total checkpoint size over the average checkpoint time).

FRAMEWORKS USING ULFM

LFLR, FENIX, FTLA, Falanx



# Use cases: Languages

## Resilient X10

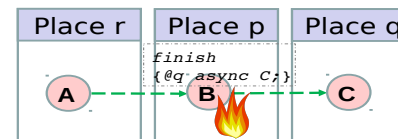
- X10 is a PGAS programming language

- Legacy resilient X10 TCP based

**Happens Before Invariance Principle (HBI):**

*Failure of a place should not alter the happens before relationship between statements at the remaining places.*

```
try{ /*Task A*/  
  at (p) { /*Task B*/  
    finish { at (q) async { /*Task C*/ } }  
  }  
} catch(dpe:DeadPlaceException){ /*recovery steps*/}  
D;
```



*By applying the HBI principle, Resilient X10 will ensure that statement D executes after Task C finishes, despite the loss of the synchronization construct (finish) at place p*

- MPI operations in resilient X10 runtime

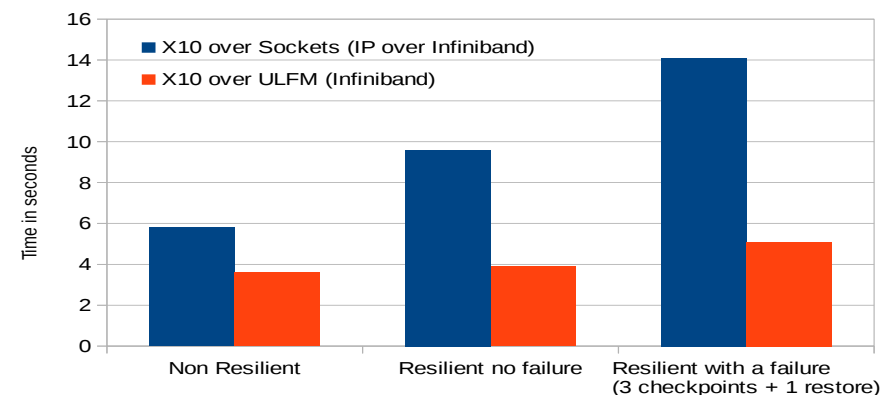
- Progress loop does MPI\_Iprobe, post needed recv according to probes
- Asynchronous background collective operations (on multiple different comms to form 2d grids, etc).

- Recovery

- Upon failure, all communicators recreated (from shrinking a large communicator with spares, or using MPI\_COMM\_SPAWN to get new ones)
- Ranks reassigned identically to rebuild the same X10 “teams”

- Injection of FT layer

- Unnecessary, x10 has a runtime that hides all MPI from the application and handles failures internally



The performance improvement due to using ULFM v1.0 for running the LULESH proxy application [3] (a shock hydrodynamics stencil based simulation) running on 64 processes on 16 nodes with

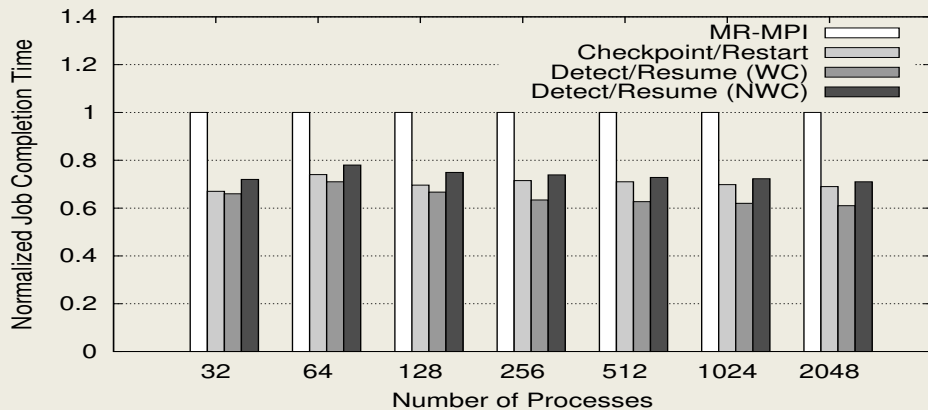
# Use cases: Non traditional HPC

## Hadoop over MPI

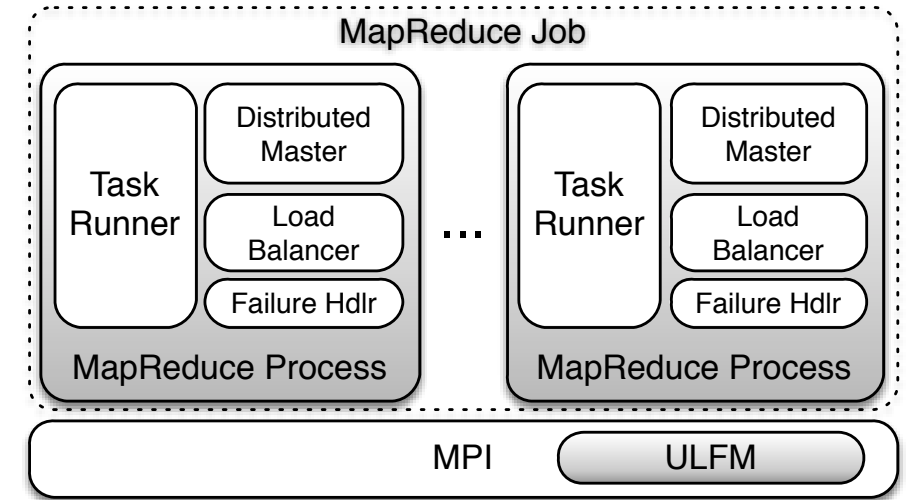
- Non-HPC workflow usually do not consider MPI because it lacks FT

Judicael A. Zounmevo, Dries Kimpe, Robert Ross, and Ahmad Afsahi. 2013. Using MPI in high-performance computing services. In *Proceedings of the 20th European MPI Users' Group Meeting (EuroMPI '13)*. ACM, New York, NY, USA, 43-48. SE, 2013 IEEE 16th International Conference on. IEEE, 2013. p. 58-65.

- ULFM permits high performance exchange in non-HPC runtimes (like Hadoop)



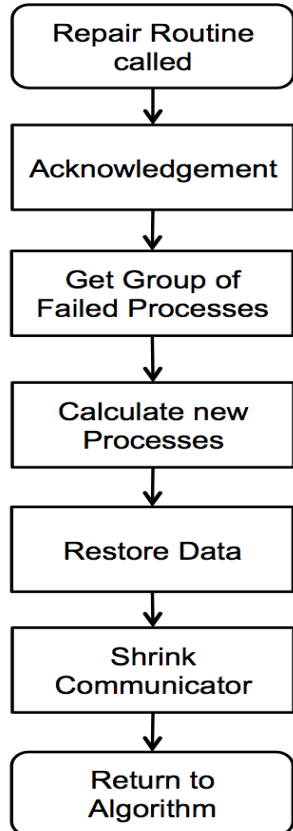
**Figure 8: Normalized job completion time of failed and recovery run.**



**Figure 2: The architecture of FT-MRMPI.**

# Use cases: Non traditional HPC

## SAP Databases



- SAP is a production database system

- Implemented over MPI for high performance applications
- Legacy: Fault tolerance based on full-restart

- SAP with ULFM

- Collective operations consistency protected by agreements
- Database Request continues in-place after an error

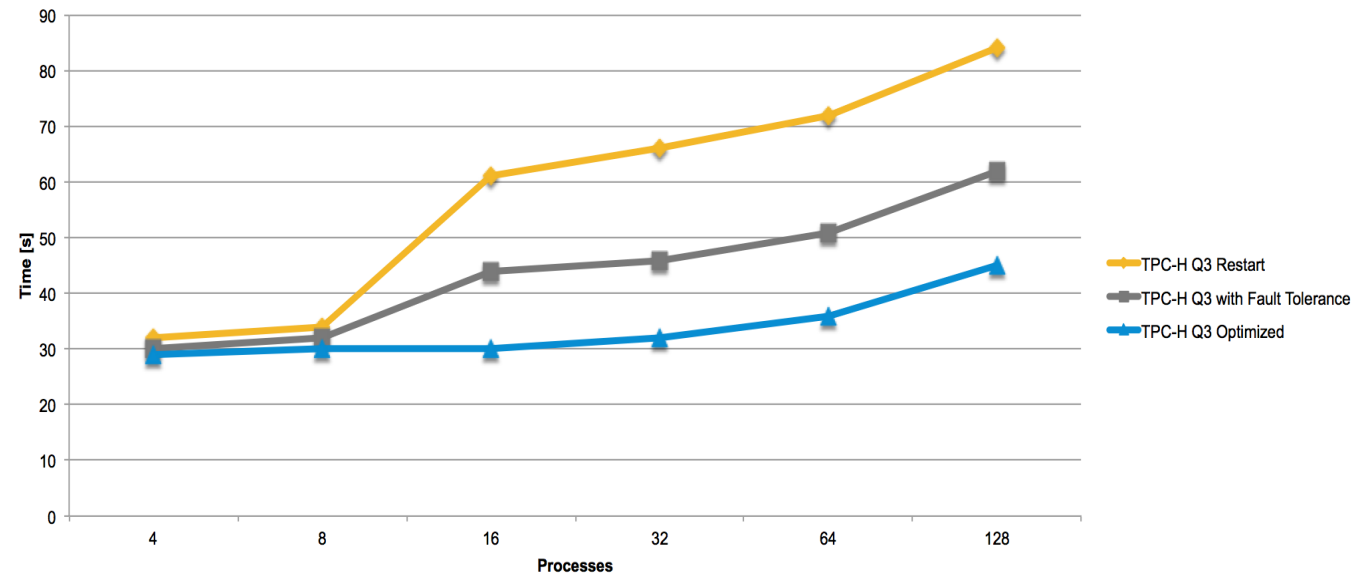


Figure 5.24: Optimization: Runtime of TPC-H Benchmark Query 3 with Failure in Phase 4 (1GB Data per Process)

Figure 3.2: Repair Routine

Source: **Fault Tolerant Collective Communication Algorithms for Distributed Database Systems**

Fehlertolerante Gruppenkommunikations Algorithmen für verteilte

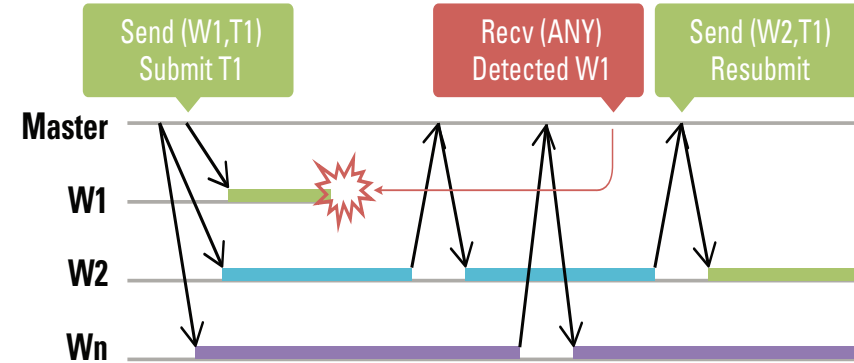
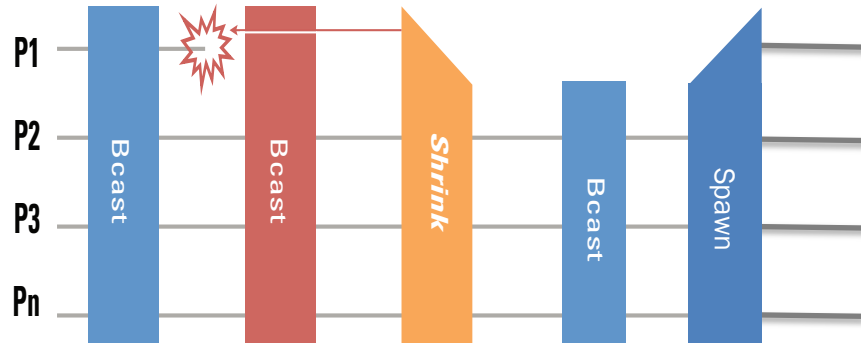
Datenbanksysteme

Master-Thesis von Jan Stengler aus Mainz April 2017

# CONCLUSION



# ULFM: support for all FT types



- Your application is SPMD
  - Coordinated recovery
  - Checkpoint/restart based
  - ABFT
- ULFM can rebuild the same communicators as before the failure!
- Your application is moldable
  - Parameter sweep
  - Master Worker
  - Dynamic load balancing
- ULFM can reduce the cost of recovery by letting you continue to use a communicator in limited mode (p2p only)

# Other mechanisms

- Supported but not covered in this tutorial: one-sided communications and files
  - Files: MPI\_FILE\_REVOKE
  - One-sided: MPI\_WIN\_REVOKE, MPI\_WIN\_GET\_FAILED
- All other communicator based mechanisms are supported via the underlying communicator of these objects.

# Why all these efforts?

## Toward Exascale Computing (My Roadmap)

*Based on proposed DOE roadmap with MTTI adjusted to scale linearly*

Systems	2009	2011	2015	2018
System peak	2 Peta	20 Peta	100-200 Peta	1 Exa
System memory	0.3 PB	1.6 PB	5 PB	10 PB
Node performance	125 GF	200GF	200-400 GF	1-10TF
Node memory BW	25 GB/s	40 GB/s	100 GB/s	200-400 GB/s
Node concurrency	12	32	O(100)	O(1000)
Interconnect BW	1.5 GB/s	22 GB/s	25 GB/s	50 GB/s
System size (nodes)	18,700	100,000	500,000	O(million)
Total concurrency	225,000	3,200,000	O(50,000,000)	O(billion)
Storage	15 PB	30 PB	150 PB	300 PB
IO	0.2 TB/s	2 TB/s	10 TB/s	20 TB/s
MTTI	4 days	19 h 4 min	3 h 52 min	1 h 56 min
Power	6 MW	~10MW	~10 MW	~20 MW

- Whatever scenario we are going for our Exascale platforms the MTBF will just keep shrinking

Prediction is  
very difficult

especially about the future

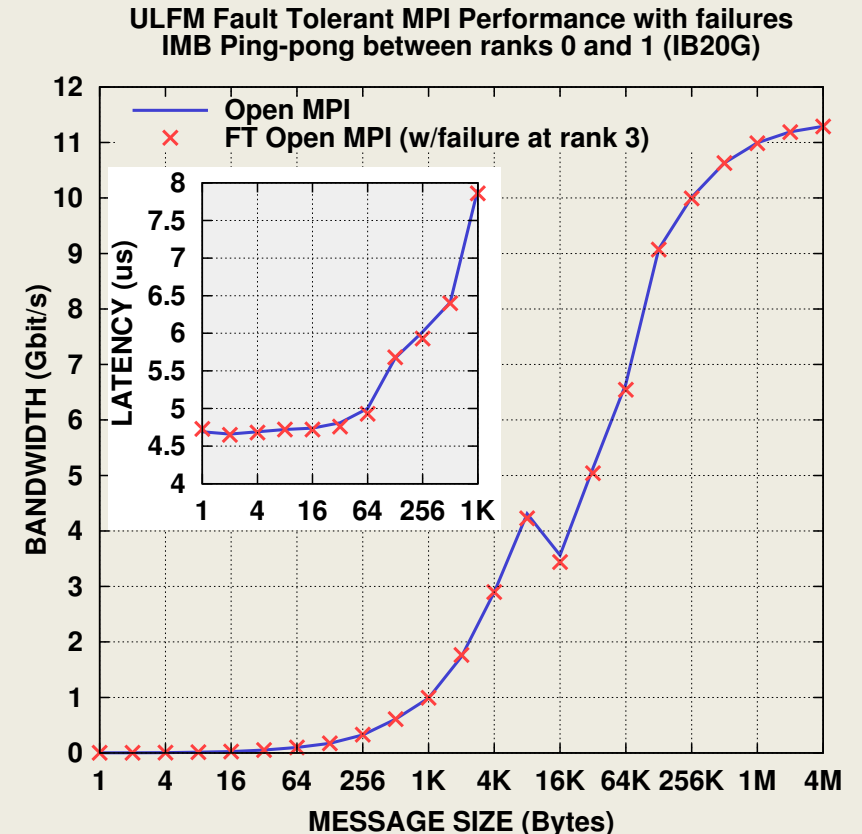
Niels Bohr, Physicist - Nobel Prize Winner

www.schrijf.be - tijdnet

# ULFM MPI: Software Infrastructure

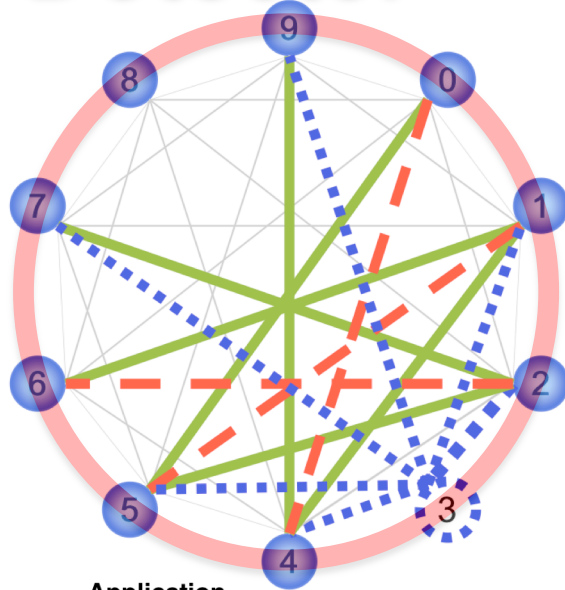
- Implementation in Open MPI, MPICH available
- Very good performance w/o failures
- Open MPI ULFM 4.0.2u1 status
  - In sync with Open MPI master (2 weeks ago)
- New features
  - SC'16 **failure detector** integrated (threaded detector, RDMA heartbeats optimization, etc.)
  - **PMIx notifications** taken into account
  - Fault tolerance with **1-copy CMA** shared memory
  - Fault tolerance with **Non-blocking collective** operations
  - Fail gracefully when failure hit during **MPI-IO**
  - Fail gracefully when failure hit during **MPI-RMA**
  - **Slurm, PBS**, support improved
  - **Tested** on Cori, Edison, Titan, Summit, etc.
  - Failure free performance bump!

## Performance w/failures



The failure of rank 3 is detected and managed by rank 2 during the 512 bytes message test. The connectivity and bandwidth between rank 0 and rank 1 are unaffected by failure handling activities at rank 2.

# Scalable Failure Detector



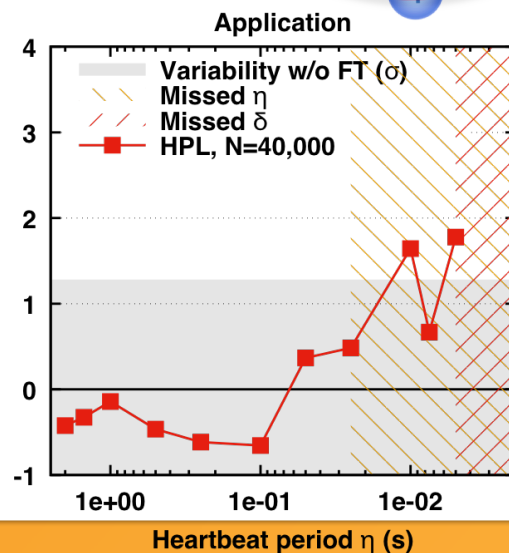
$f$  = supported number of overlapping failures  
 Stabilization Time  $T(f)$  = duration of the longest sequence of non stable configurations assuming at most  $f$  overlapping faults

Broadcast Time  $B(n) = 8\tau \log n$

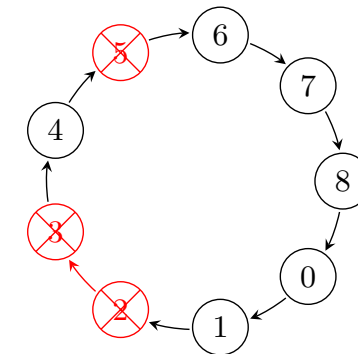
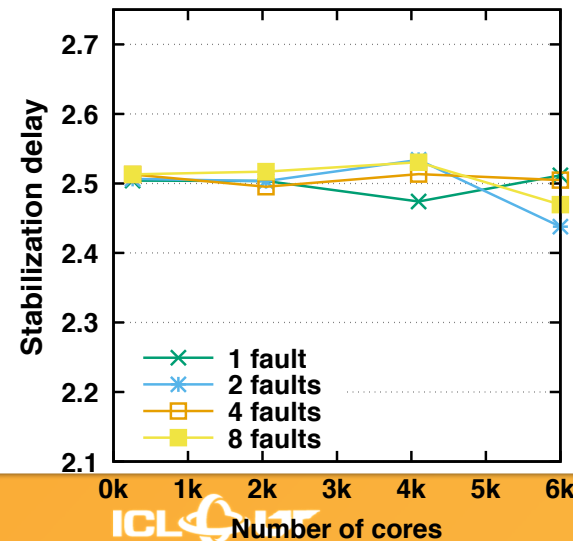
$$T(f) \leq \underbrace{f(f+1)\delta + f\tau}_{\text{reconnect}} + \underbrace{\frac{f(f+1)}{2} B(n)}_{\text{propagate}}$$

The broadcast algorithm can tolerate up to  $\lfloor \log(n) \rfloor$  overlapping failures, thus

$$T(f) \sim O((\log n)^3)$$

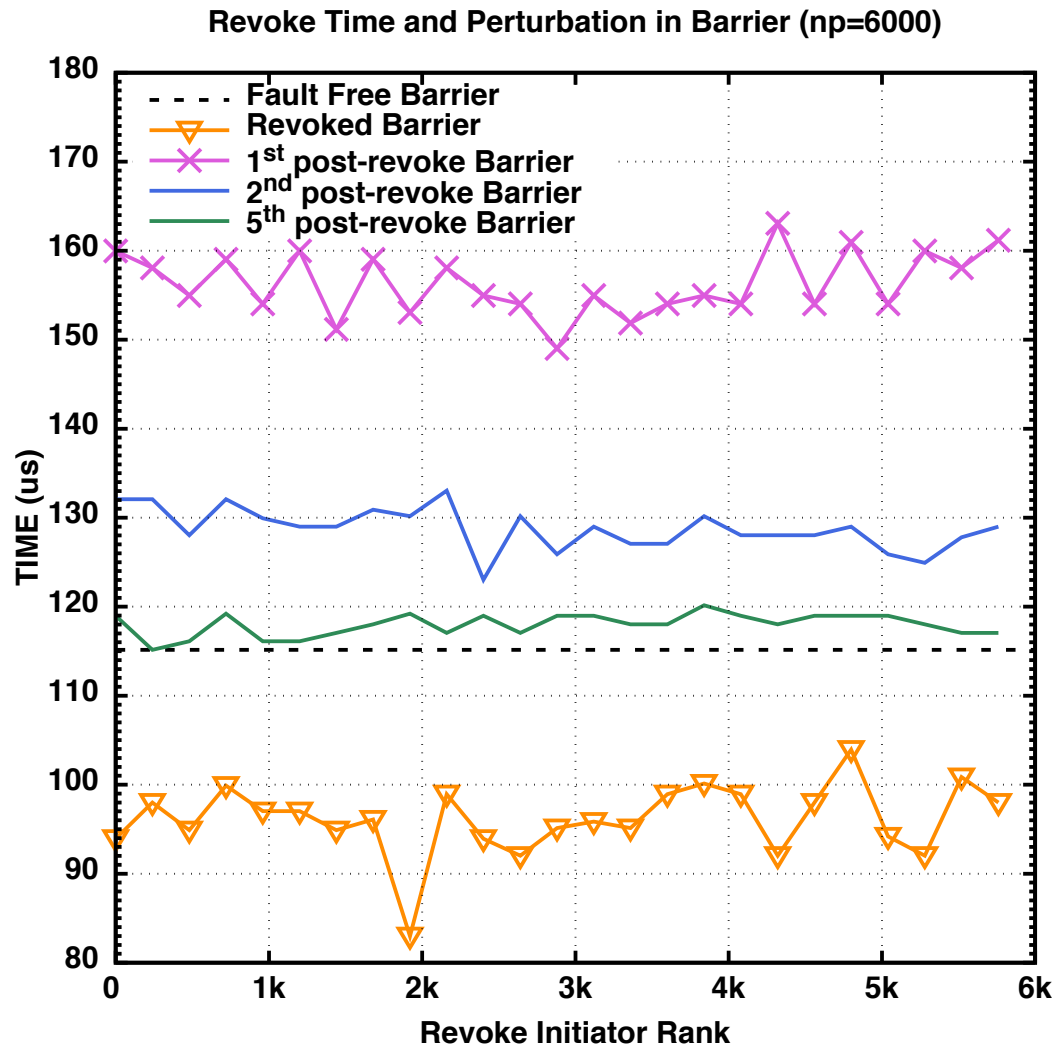


Timeout for suspecting a failure 2.5s



Bosilca, G., Bouteiller, A., Guermouche, A., Herault, T., Robert, Y., Sens, P., Dongarra, J. "Failure Detection and Propagation in HPC systems," SuperComputing, Salt Lake City, UT, November, 2016

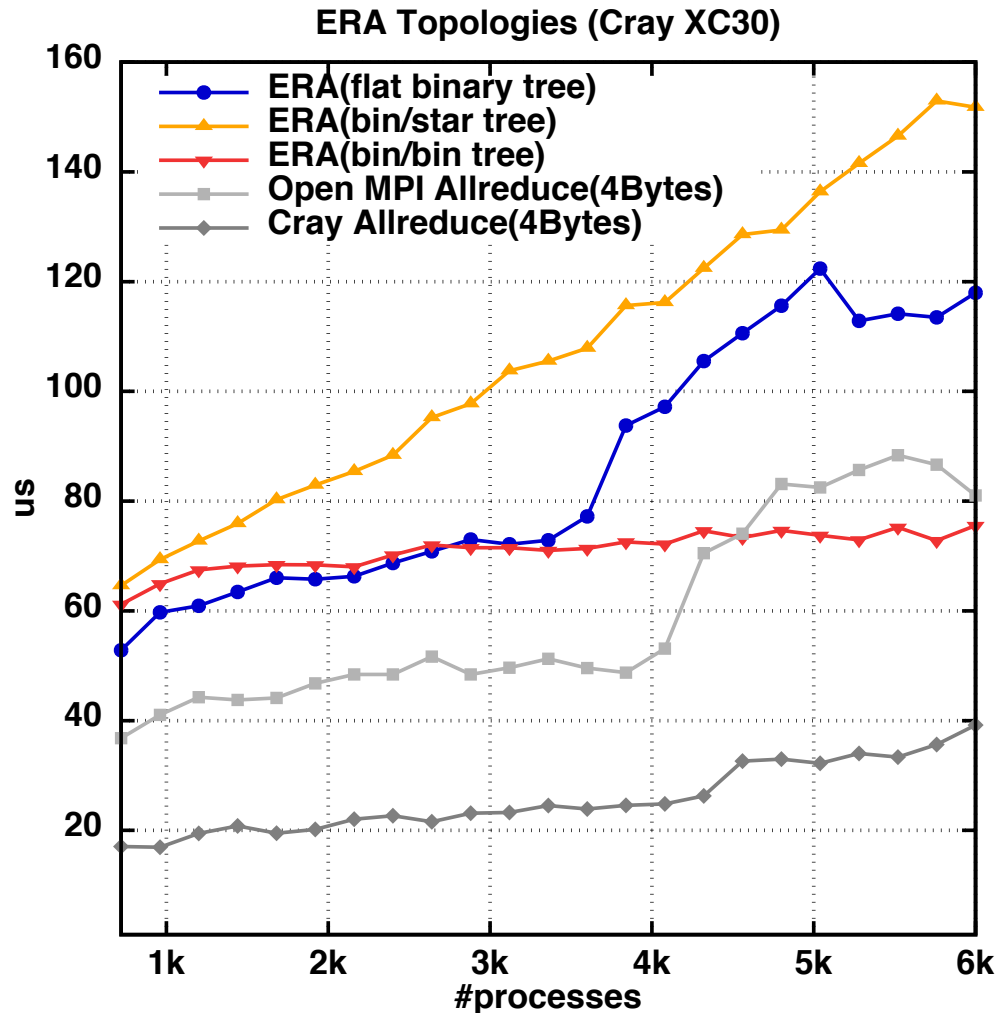
# Scalable Revocation



- The underlying BMG topology is symmetric and reflects in the revoke which is independent of the initiator
- The performance of the first post-Revoke collective operation sustains some performance degradation resulting from the network jitter associated with the circulation of revoke tokens
- After the fifth Barrier (approximately **700μs**), the application is fully resynchronized, and the Revoke reliable broadcast has **completely terminated**, therefore leaving the application free from observable jitter.



# Scalable Agreement



- Early Returning Algorithm: once the decision reached the local process returns, but the decided value remains available for providing to other processes
- The underlying logical topology hierarchically adapts to reflects to network topology
- In the failure-free case the implementation exhibits the theoretically proven logarithmic behavior, similar to an optimized version of MPI\_Allreduce

# So what is the right approach

- Bad news: there might not be **A** right approach
- An efficient, scalable and portable approach might be at the frontier of multiple approaches
- So far the algorithm specific approaches seems the most efficient, but they have additional requirements from the programming paradigms
- We need fault tolerance support from the programming paradigms
  - The glue to allow composability is as important as the approaches themselves
- Is ULFM that glue?



# What about the development cost?

- ULFM has a steep learning cost compared with system level approaches. But:
  - Parallel programming was considered hard a while back. Today it is almost mainstream (!)
  - Training is key for flatten the learning curve
  - ULFM is a building box, most developers are not supposed to use it directly
    - Instead use domain specific approaches, proposed by the domain scientists as a portable library implemented using the ULFM constructs
- The development cost should be put in balance with the building and ownership cost

# Can we fix C/R with hardware?

- NVRAM ? Hardware level triplication? Hardware detection (think ECC++)
- More hardware is not only more expensive, but it also increases
  - The opportunity for failure (the law of big numbers)
  - The cost of ownership (energy, and cooling)
- Why not using this extra hardware to improve the scalability of the application?

# You have the answer!

- You learned how to model the behavior of your application and how to interpret the data
- You learned what you can do if you go outside the box (compose approaches, ULFM, ...)
- You know your algorithms and applications
- We are looking forward to hear about your successes !





More info, examples and  
resources available

<http://fault-tolerance.org>

Your opinion matters!

File the SC19 tutorial evaluation form

<http://bit.ly/sc19-eval>



How to design your own replace/spare system (not presented live)

## **ADVANCED CONTENT**

# Inside MPIX\_COMM\_REPLACE

See 10.respawn

```
30 if( comm == MPI_COMM_NULL ) { /* am I a new process? */
31     /* I am a new spawnnee, waiting for my new rank assignment
32      * it will be sent by rank 0 in the old world */
33     MPI_Comm_get_parent(&icomm);
35     MPI_Recv(&crank, 1, MPI_INT, 0, 1, icomm, MPI_STATUS_IGNORE);
...
40 }
41 else {
42     /* I am a survivor: Spawn the appropriate number
43      * of replacement
44      * First: remove dead processes */
45     MPIX_Comm_shrink(comm, &scomm);
46     MPI_Comm_size(scomm, &ns);
47     MPI_Comm_size(comm, &nc);
48     nd = nc-ns; /* number of deads */
49     if( 0 == nd ) {
50         /* Nobody was dead to start with. We are done here */
51         ...
54         return MPI_SUCCESS;
55     }
56     /* We handle failures during this function ourselves... */
57     MPI_Comm_set_errhandler( scomm, MPI_ERRORS_RETURN );
59     rc = MPI_Comm_spawn(gargv[0], &gargv[1], nd, MPI_INFO_NULL,
60                        0, scomm, &icomm, MPI_ERRCODES_IGNORE);
```

Same as in spare: new guys wait for their rank from 0 in the old world

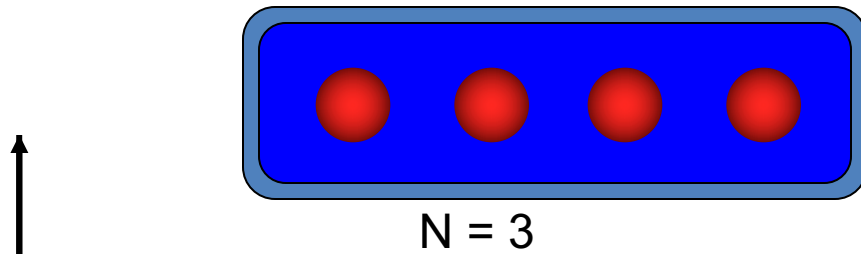
Spawn *nd* new processes

# Intercommunicators – P2P

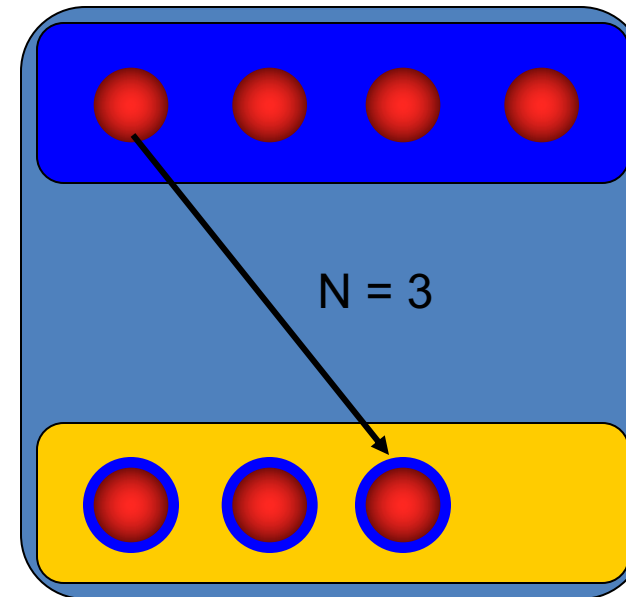
On process 0:

```
MPI_Send( buf, MPI_INT, 1, n, tag, intercomm )
```

- Intracommunicator

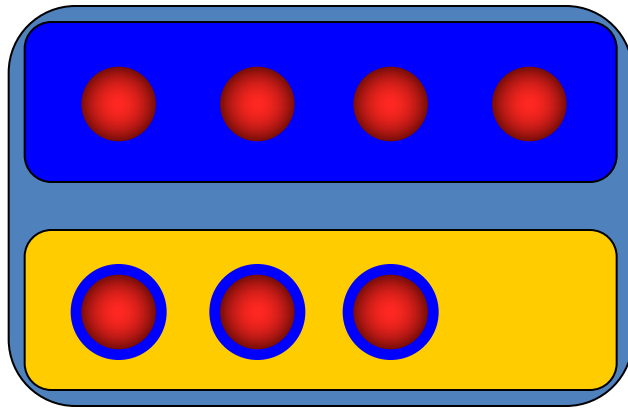


- Intercommunicator



# Intercommunicators

- And what's an intercommunicator ?

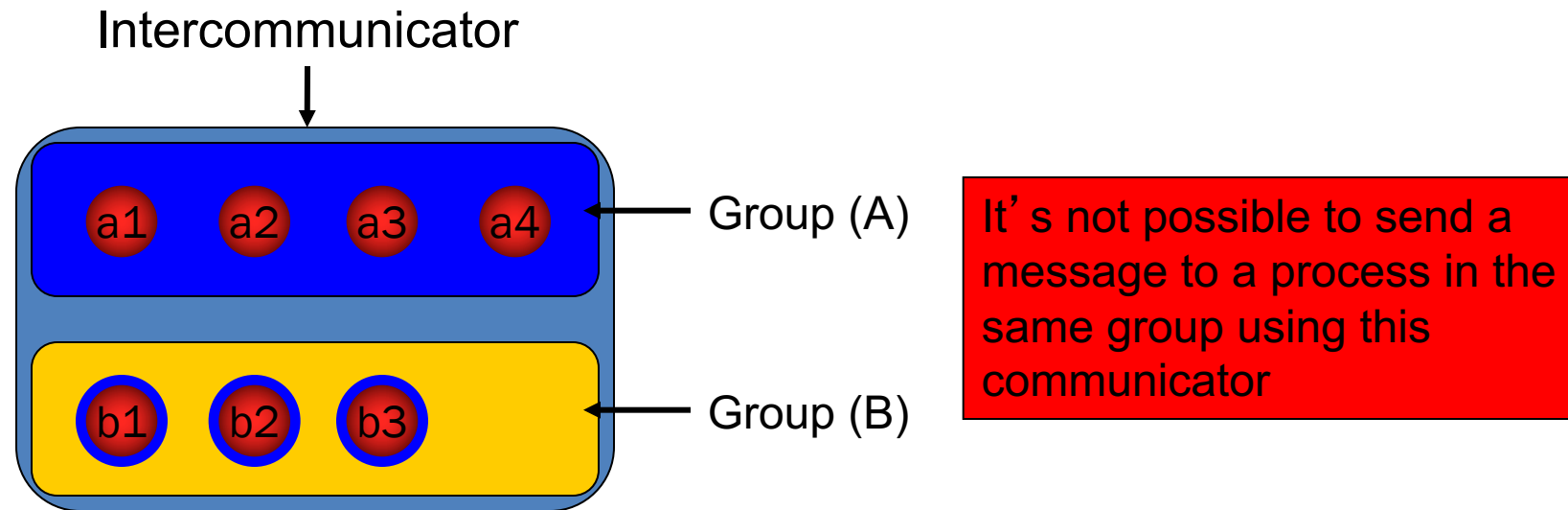


- some more processes
- **TWO** groups
- one communicator

- `MPI_COMM_REMOTE_SIZE(comm, size)`  
`MPI_COMM_REMOTE_GROUP( comm, group)`
- `MPI_COMM_TEST_INTER(comm, flag)`
- `MPI_COMM_SIZE`, `MPI_COMM_RANK` return the local size respectively rank



# Anatomy of a Intercommunicator



For any processes from group (A)

- (A) is the **local** group
- (B) is the **remote** group

For any processes from group (B)

- (A) is the **remote** group
- (B) is the **local** group

# Inside MPIX\_Comm\_replace

```
59     rc = MPI_Comm_spawn(gargv[0], &gargv[1], nd, MPI_INFO_NULL,  
60                          0, scomm, &icomm, MPI_ERRCODES_IGNORE);  
61     flag = (MPI_SUCCESS == rc);  
62     MPIX_Comm_agree(scomm, &flag);  
63     if( !flag ) {  
64         if( MPI_SUCCESS == rc ) {  
65             MPIX_Comm_revoke(icomm);  
66             MPI_Comm_free(&icomm);  
67         }  
68         MPI_Comm_free(&scomm);  
...  
70         goto redo;  
71     }
```

Check if spawn worked  
(using the shrink comm)

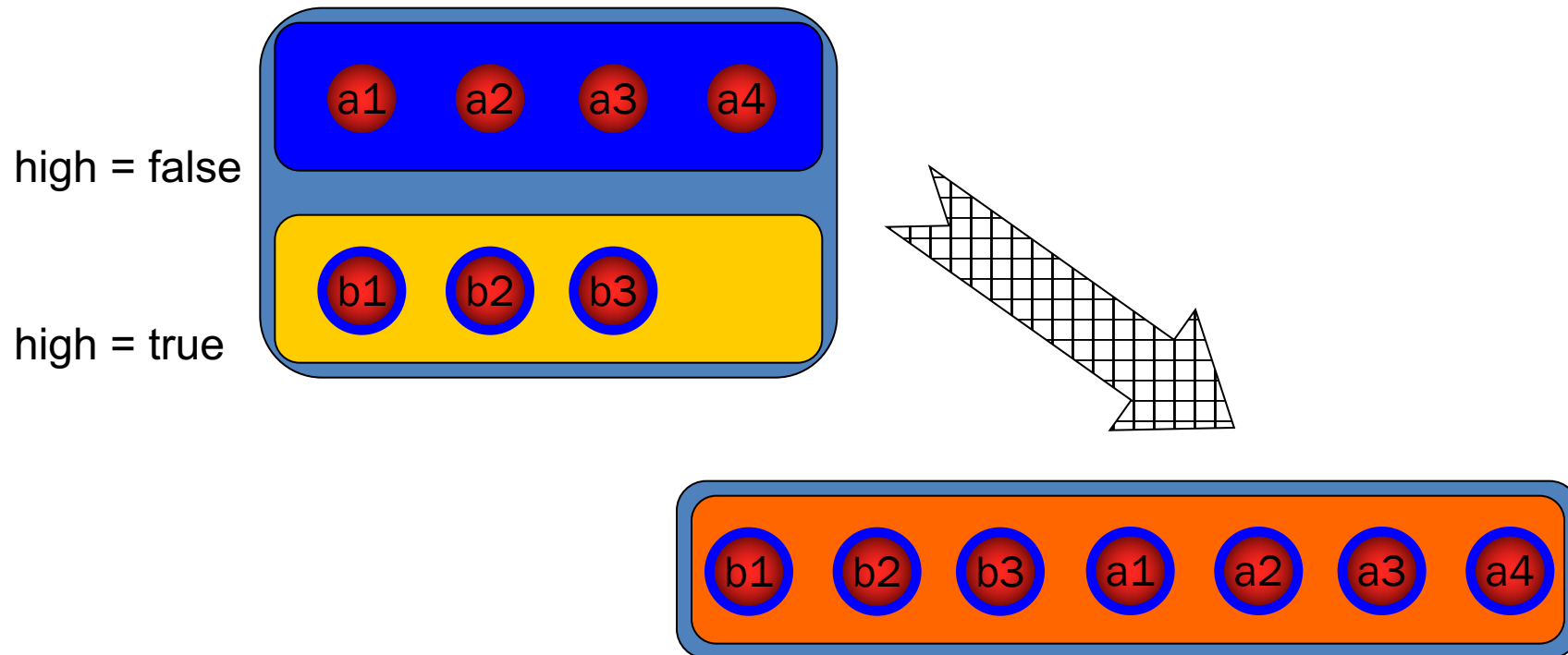
If not, make the spawnnees  
abort with MPI\_ERR\_REVOKE

See 9.respawn

We need to check if spawn succeeded before proceeding further...

# Intercommunicators

- `MPI_INTERCOMM_MERGE( intercomm, high, intracomm)`
  - Create an intracomm from the union of the two groups
  - The order of processes in the union respect the original one
  - The high argument is used to decide which group will be first (rank 0)



# Respawn 3/3

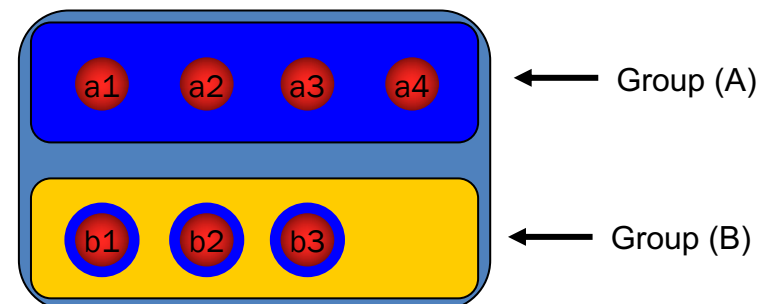
```
95  /* Merge the intercomm, to reconstruct an intracomm (we check
96   * that this operation worked before we proceed further) */
97  rc = MPI_Intercomm_merge(icomm, 1, &mcomm);
98  rflag = flag = (MPI_SUCCESS==rc);
99  MPIX_Comm_agree(scomm, &flag);
100  if( MPI_COMM_WORLD != scomm ) MPI_Comm_free(&scomm);
101  MPIX_Comm_agree(icomm, &rflag);
102  MPI_Comm_free(&icomm);
103  if( !(flag && rflag) ) {
...
108      goto redo;
109  }
```

Merge the icomm  
We are back with an intra

Verify that icomm\_mege  
worked takes 2  
agreements

See 10.respawn

- First agree on the local group (a's know about flag provided by a's)
- Second agree on the remote group (a's know about flag provided by b's)
- At the end, all know if both flag and rflag (flag on the remote side) is good



# Copy an errhandler

```
130  /* restore the error handler */
131  if( MPI_COMM_NULL != comm ) {
132      MPI_Errhandler errh;
133      MPI_Comm_get_errhandler( comm, &errh );
134      MPI_Comm_set_errhandler( *newcomm, errh );
135  }
```

See 10.respawn

- In the old world, *newcomm* should have the same error handler as *comm*
  - We can copy the errhandler function ☺
  - New spawns do have to set the error handler explicitly (no old *comm* to copy it from)

# Rank Reordering

```
74      /* remembering the former rank: we will reassign the same
75      * ranks in the new world. */
76      MPI_Comm_rank(comm, &crank);
77      MPI_Comm_rank(scomm, &srnk);
78      /* the rank 0 in the scomm comm is going to determine the
79      * ranks at which the spares need to be inserted. */
80      if(0 == srnk) {
81          /* getting the group of dead processes:
82          *   those in comm, but not in scomm are the deads */
83          MPI_Comm_group(comm, &cgrp);
84          MPI_Comm_group(scomm, &sgroup);
85          MPI_Group_difference(cgrp, sgroup, &dgroup);
86          /* Computing the rank assignment for the newly inserted spares
87          */
88          for(i=0; i<nd; i++) {
89              MPI_Group_translate_ranks(dgroup, 1, &i, cgroup, &drank);
90              /* sending their new assignment to all new procs */
91              MPI_Send(&drank, 1, MPI_INT, i, 1, icscomm);
92          }
```

See 11.respawn\_reorder

# Working with spares

- First use case:

- We deploy with mpirun -np p\*q+s, where s is extra processes for recovery
- Upon failure, spare processes join the work communicator

Split the spares out of  
“world”, the work  
communicator

```
73  /* Let's create an initial world, a copy of MPI_COMM_WORLD w/o
74  * the spare processes */
75  spare = (rank>np-SPARES-1)? MPI_UNDEFINED : 1;
76  MPI_Comm_split( MPI_COMM_WORLD, spare, rank, &world );
77
78  /* Spare process go wait until we need them */
79  if( MPI_COMM_NULL == world ) {
80      do {
81          MPIX_Comm_replace( MPI_COMM_WORLD, MPI_COMM_NULL, &world );
82      } while( MPI_COMM_NULL == world );
83      MPI_Comm_size( world, &wnp );
84      MPI_Comm_rank( world, &wrnk );
85      goto joinwork;
86  }
```

We will define (ourselves)  
MPIX\_Comm\_replace, a  
function that fix the world

See ex3.0.shrinkspares.c

# Working with spares

```
19 int MPIX_Comm_replace(MPI_Comm worldspares, MPI_Comm comm, MPI_Comm
    *newcomm) {
...
25     /* First: remove dead processes */
26     MPIX_Comm_shrink(worldspares, &shrunked);
27     /* We do not want to crash if new failures come... */
28     MPI_Comm_set_errhandler( shrunked, MPI_ERRORS_RETURN );
29     MPI_Comm_size(shrunked, &ns); MPI_Comm_rank(shrunked, &srnk);
30
31     if(MPI_COMM_NULL != comm) { /* I was not a spare before... */
32         /* not enough processes to continue, aborting. */
33         MPI_Comm_size(comm, &nc);
34         if( nc > ns ) MPI_Abort(worldspares, MPI_ERR_PROC_FAILED);
35
36         /* remembering the former rank: we will reassign the same
37          * ranks in the new world. */
38         MPI_Comm_rank(comm, &crnk);
39         /* >>??? is crnk the same as srnk ???<<< */
42     } else { /* I was a spare, waiting for my new assignment */
44     }
45     printf("This function is incomplete! The comm is not repaired!\n");
```

Shrink MPI\_COMM\_WORLD

- A look at what we need to do...

See ex3.0.shrinkspares.c



# Assigning ranks to spares

See ex3.1.shrinkspares\_reorder.c

```
31  if(MPI_COMM_NULL != comm) { /* I was not a spare before... */
...
36      /* remembering the former rank: we will reassign the same
37      * ranks in the new world. */
38      MPI_Comm_rank(comm, &crank);
39
40      /* the rank 0 in the shrunked comm is going to determine the
41      * ranks at which the spares need to be inserted. */
42      if(0 == srnk) {
43          /* getting the group of dead processes:
44          *   those in comm, but not in shrunked are the deads */
45          MPI_Comm_group(comm, &cgrp); MPI_Comm_group(shrunked, &sgrp);
46          MPI_Group_difference(cgrp, sgrp, &dgrp); MPI_Group_size(dgrp, &nd);
47          /* Computing the rank assignment for the newly inserted spares */
48          for(i=0; i<ns-(nc-nd); i++) {
49              if( i < nd ) MPI_Group_translate_ranks(dgrp, 1, &i, cgrp, &drank);
50              else drank=-1; /* still a spare */
51              /* sending their new assignment to all spares */
52              MPI_Send(&drank, 1, MPI_INT, i+nc-nd, 1, shrunked);
53          }
...
55      }
56  } else { /* I was a spare, waiting for my new assignment */
57      MPI_Recv(&crank, 1, MPI_INT, 0, 1, shrunked, MPI_STATUS_IGNORE);
58  }
```

# Inserting the spares in world

```
31 if(MPI_COMM_NULL != comm) { /* I was not a spare before... */
...
36 /* remembering the former rank: we will reassign the same
37    * ranks in the new world. */
38 MPI_Comm_rank(comm, &crank);
...
51 /* sending their new assignment to all spares */
52 MPI_Send(&drank, 1, MPI_INT, i+nc-nd, 1, shrunked);
...
56 } else { /* I was a spare, waiting for my new assignment */
57 MPI_Recv(&crank, 1, MPI_INT, 0, 1, shrunked, MPI_STATUS_IGNORE);
58 }
60 /* Split does the magic: removing spare processes and reordering ranks
61    * so that all surviving processes remain at their former place */
62 rc = MPI_Comm_split(shrunked, crank<0?MPI_UNDEFINED:1, crank, newcomm);
...
67 flag = MPIX_Comm_agree(shrunked, &flag);
68 MPI_Comm_free(&shrunked);
69 if( MPI_SUCCESS != flag ) {
70     if( MPI_SUCCESS == rc ) MPI_Comm_free( newcomm );
71     goto redo;
72 }
73 return MPI_SUCCESS;
```

Send, Recv or Split could have failed due to new failures...  
If any new failure, redo it all

See ex3.1.shrinkspares\_reorder.c