

## Annex A.2 Summary of the Semantics of all Communicating MPI Routines

**Stages:** i=initialization, s=starting, c=completion, f=freeing

**Blk:** b=blocking, nb=nonblocking. Note that from a user's view point, this column is only a hint. Relevant is, whether a routine is local or not and which resources are blocked until when. See next and last column.

**Loc:** l=local, nl=non-local

**Bold:** exceptions, e.g., b+l and nb+nl

**Ixx:** Using names with "l", lx2 = "l" means immediate and incomplete, lm = "l" means only immediate

**Op:** part of operation type: b-op = blocking operation,  
nb-op = nonblocking operation, p-op = persistent operation

**Collective procedures:**

- C = all processes of the group must call the procedure
- sq = in the same sequence
- S1 = blocking synchronization, S2 = start-complete-synchronization

**Blocked resources:** They are blocked after the call until the end of subsequent stage where this resource is not further mentioned.

**Remarks:**

- 1) Must not return before the corresponding MPI\_receive operation is started.
- 2) In a correct MPI program, a call to MPI\_(l)RSEND requires that the receiver has already started the corresponding receive. Under this assumption, the call is local.
- 3) Usually, MPI\_Wait is non-local, but in this case it is local.
- 4) In case of a MPI\_(l)BARRIER, the S1/S2 synchronization is required (instead of "may or may not").
- 5) In this case, MPI\_REQUEST\_FREE is nonlocal, see the Advice to implementors in Section 6.4.3
- 6) It also may not return until MPI\_INIT has been called in the children.
- 7) Cached on the request handle.
- 8) One of the rare cases that a nonblocking call is non-local.
- 9) One shall not free or deallocate the buffer before the operation is freed, that is MPI\_REQUEST\_FREE returned.
- 10) For MPI\_WAIT and MPI\_TEST, see corresponding lines for a) MPI\_BSEND, or b) MPI\_IBCAST.

Procedure	Stages	Blk	Loc	Ixx	Op	Collective C sq S1/2	Blocked resources and remarks
MPI_SEND	i-s-c-f	b	nl		b-op	-	
MPI_SSEND	i-s-c-f	b	nl		b-op	-	1)
MPI_RSEND	i-s-c-f	<b>b</b>	<b>l</b>		b-op	-	2)
MPI_BSEND	i-s-c-f	<b>b</b>	<b>l</b>		b-op	-	
MPI_RECV	i-s-c-f	b	nl		b-op	-	
MPI_ISEND, MPI_ISSEND	i-s----	nb	l	lx2	nb-op	-	buffer
MPI_IRECV	i-s----	nb	l	lx2	nb-op	-	buffer
corresponding MPI_Wait	----c-f		nl		nb-op	-	
corr. MPI_TEST returning flag=TRUE	----c-f		l		nb-op	-	
corr. MPI_TEST returning flag=FALSE	-----		l		nb-op	-	buffer cached on req
MPI_IBSEND	i-s----	nb	l	lx2	nb-op	-	buffer
MPI_IRSEND	i-s----	nb	l	lx2	nb-op	-	buffer 2)
corresponding MPI_Wait	----c-f		<b>l</b>		nb-op	-	3)
corr. MPI_TEST returning flag=TRUE	----c-f		l		nb-op	-	
corr. MPI_TEST returning flag=FALSE	-----		l		nb-op	-	buffer 7)
MPI_PROBE	i-s-c-f	b	nl		b-op	-	
MPI_IPROBE	i-s-c-f	<b>b</b>	<b>l</b>	<b>lm</b>	b-op	-	
MPI_RECV of a probed message	i-s-c-f	<b>b</b>	<b>l</b>		b-op	-	
MPI_IRECV of a probed message	i-s----	nb	l	lx2	nb-op	-	buffer
corresponding MPI_Wait	----c-f		l		nb-op	-	3)
corr. MPI_TEST returning flag=TRUE	----c-f		l		nb-op	-	
corr. MPI_TEST returning flag=FALSE	-----		l		nb-op	-	buffer 7)
MPI_MPROBE	i-s-c-f	<b>nb</b>	<b>nl</b>		b-op	-	the message itself <b>8)</b>
MPI_IMPROBE	i-s-c-f	nb	l	lx2	b-op	-	the message itself
MPI_MRECV of a probed message	i-s-c-f	<b>b</b>	<b>l</b>		b-op	-	
MPI_IMRECV of a probed message	i-s----	nb	l	lx2	nb-op	-	buffer
corresponding MPI_Wait	----c-f		l		nb-op	-	3)
corr. MPI_TEST returning flag=TRUE	----c-f		l		nb-op	-	
corr. MPI_TEST returning flag=FALSE	-----		l		nb-op	-	buffer 7)
MPI_(- S R)SEND_INIT, MPI_RECV_INIT	i-----	nb	l		p-op	-	buffer address
corresponding MPI_START, MPI_STARTALL	--s----	nb	l		p-op	-	buffer address+content 7)
corresponding MPI_Wait	----c--		nl		p-op	-	buffer address 7)
corr. MPI_TEST returning flag=TRUE	----c--		l		p-op	-	buffer address 7)
corr. MPI_TEST returning flag=FALSE	-----		l		p-op	-	buffer content+address 7)
corr. MPI_REQUEST_FREE (for inactive req-handle)	-----f		l		p-op	-	

Procedure	Stages	Blk Loc lxx	Op	Collective C sq S1/2	Blocked resources and remarks
MPI_BSEND_INIT	i-----	nb l	p-op	-	buffer address 9)
corresponding MPI_START, MPI_STARTALL	--s----	nb l	p-op	-	buffer address+content 7)
corresponding MPI_Wait	----c--	l	p-op	-	buffer address 7,9)
corr. MPI_TEST returning flag=TRUE	----c--	l	p-op	-	buffer address 7,9)
corr. MPI_TEST returning flag=FALSE	-----	l	p-op	-	buffer address+content 7)
corr. MPI_REQUEST_FREE (for inactive req-handle)	-----f	l	p-op	-	
MPI_CANCEL of nonblock./persistent pt-to-pt		l	p-op	-	
MPI_SENDRECV(_REPLACE)	i-s-c-f	b nl	b-op	-	
MPI_BCAST and others	i-s-c-f	b nl	b-op	C sq S1	4)
MPI_IBCAST and others	i-s----	nb l lx2	nb-op	C sq	buffer 4)
MPI_IGATHERV and other ...V / ...W	i-s----	nb l lx2	nb-op	C sq	buffer, array arguments
corresponding MPI_Wait	----c--	nl	nb-op	C S2	4)
corr. MPI_TEST returning flag=TRUE	----c--	l	nb-op	C S2	4)
corr. MPI_TEST returning flag=FALSE	-----	l	nb-op		buffer, array arguments 7)
MPI_BCAST_INIT and others	i-----	<b>nb nl</b>	p-op	C sq S1	buffer address <b>8)</b> 9)
MPI_GATHERV_INIT and other ...V/...W_INIT	i-s----	<b>nb nl</b>	p-op	C sq S1	buffer address, array arguments <b>8)</b> 9)
corresponding MPI_START, MPI_STARTALL	--s----	nb l	p-op	C	buffer addr.+content, 4,7)
corresponding MPI_Wait	----c--	nl	p-op	C S2	buffer address and array arguments cached on the request handle, 4,7,9)
corr. MPI_TEST returning flag=TRUE	----c--	l	p-op	C S2	buf-addr&arr-args 4,7,9)
corr. MPI_TEST returning flag=FALSE	-----	l	p-op		buf addr+content&arr-args 7)
corr. MPI_REQUEST_FREE	-----f	<b>nl</b>	p-op	C sq S1	5)
MPI_COMM_CREATE	i-s-c--	b nl	b-op	C sq S1	coll. over comm arg.
MPI_COMM_CREATE_GROUP	i-s-c--	b nl	b-op	C sq S1	coll. over group arg.
MPI_COMM_DUP, MPI_COMM_DUP_WITH_INFO, MPI_COMM_SPLIT, MPI_COMM_SPLIT_TYPE, MPI_CART_CREATE, MPI_GRAPH_CREATE, MPI_DIST_GRAPH_CREATE_ADJACENT, MPI_DIST_GRAPH_CREATE, MPI_CART_SUB: see MPI_COMM_CREATE					
MPI_INTERCOMM_CREATE, MPI_INTERCOMM_MERGE	i-s-c--	b nl	b-op	C sq S1	coll. over union of local & remote group
MPI_COMM_IDUP	i-s----	nb l lx2	nb-op	C sq	communicator handle
corresponding MPI_Wait	----c--	nl	nb-op	C S2	
corr. MPI_TEST returning flag=TRUE	----c--	l	nb-op	C S2	
corr. MPI_TEST returning flag=FALSE	-----	l	nb-op		
MPI_COMM_FREE	-----f	b nl	b-op	C sq S1	see, 6.4.3, Adv. to impl.
MPI_INIT, MPI_INIT_THREAD	i-s-c-f	b nl	b-op	C sq S1	collective over MPI_COMM_WORLD
MPI_FINALIZE	i-s-c-f	b nl	b-op	C sq S1	collective over all connected processes
MPI_COMM_SPAWN, ...._MULTIPLE	i-s-c-f	b nl	b-op	C sq S1	collective over comm, 6)
MPI_COMM_ACCEPT, MPI_COMM_CONNECT	i-s-c-f	b nl	b-op	C sq S1	collective over comm
One-sided procedures					See corresponding chapter
MPI_FILE_READ/WRITE[_AT SHARED], MPI_FILE_DELETE/SEEK/GET_VIEW	i-s-c-f	<b>b l</b>	b-op	-	
MPI_FILE_READ/WRITE[_AT][ <b>ALL</b>   <b>ORDERED</b> ], MPI_FILE_OPEN/CLOSE/SEEK_SHARED, MPI_FILE_PREALLOCATE/SYNC, MPI_FILE_SET_VIEW/SIZE/INFO/ATOMICITY	i-s-c-f	b nl	b-op	C sq S1	
MPI_FILE_IREAD/IWRITE[_AT SHARED]	i-s----	nb l lx2	nb-op	-	buffer 10a)
MPI_FILE_IREAD/IWRITE[_AT] <b>_ALL</b>	i-s----	nb l lx2	nb-op	C sq	buffer 10b)
MPI_FILE_READ/WRITE[_AT] <b>_ALL</b>   <b>ORDERED_BEGIN</b>	i-s----	<b>nb nl</b>	b-op	C sq S1	buffer <b>8)</b>
MPI_FILE_READ/WRITE[_AT] <b>_ALL</b>   <b>ORDERED_END</b>	----c-f	b nl	b-op	C sq S1	