

# numba-mpi

Numba @njittable MPI wrappers tested on Linux macOS and Windows

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FOSDEM'23 HPC, Big Data, and Data Science Devroom @ ULB (Feb 5 2023)

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## Python & HPC?

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photo: Nature, doi:10.1038/d41586-019-03167-2

Perkel 2019 (Nature)

doi:10.1038/d41586-019-02310-3

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↑  
papers promoting Julia, Rust, ...

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papers on Python packages



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- NumPy is not the only implementation of the NumPy API
- ~→ alternatives embedded in JIT/GPU frameworks leverage typing & concurrency
- **Python lets you glue (and package) together these technologies**



## **JIT-compiled Python & NumPy API**

---



*Numba is an open source JIT compiler  
that translates a subset of Python and NumPy code into fast machine code ...*

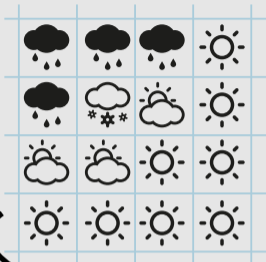
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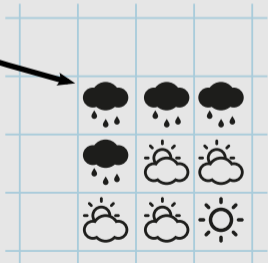
*... at runtime using the industry-standard LLVM compiler library*

## NWP-related prototype problem

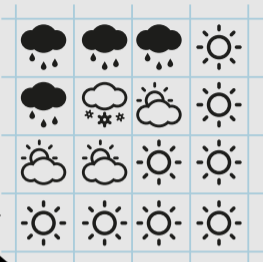


### time evolution:

- hydrodynamics (transport)
- thermodynamics (phase changes)

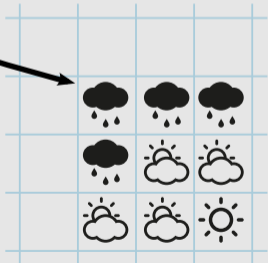


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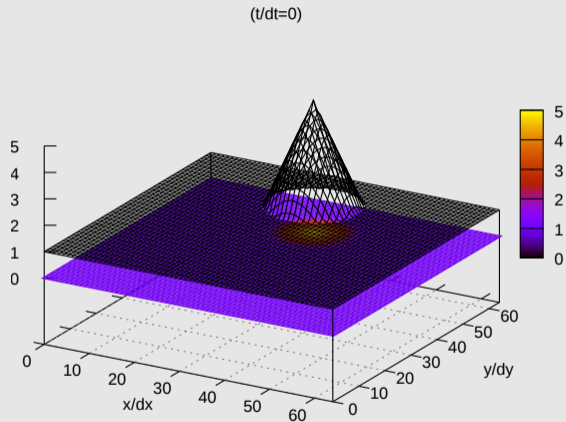


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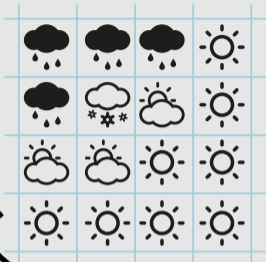
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## numerical solution for transport-only PDE (2D)

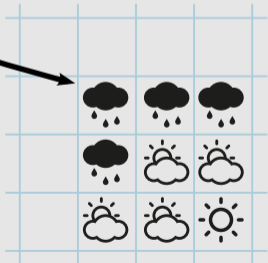


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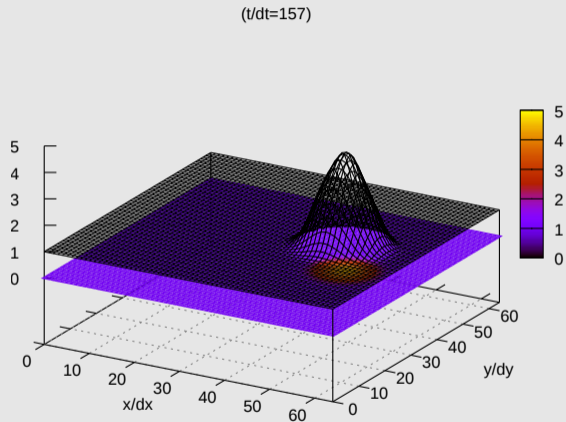


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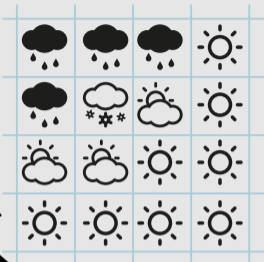
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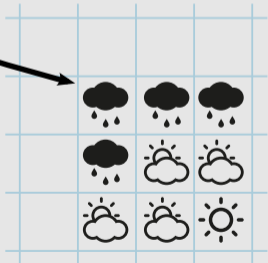


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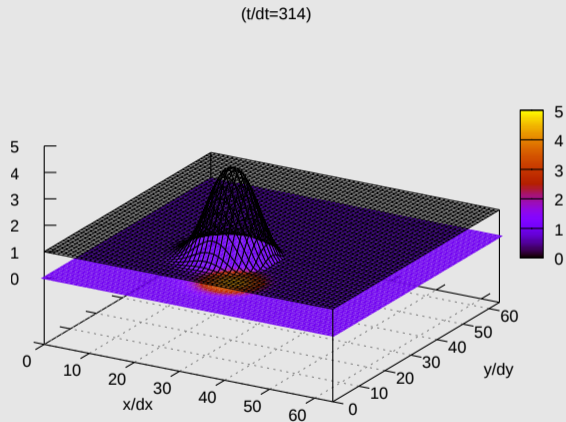


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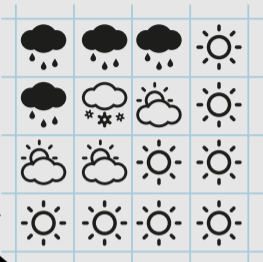
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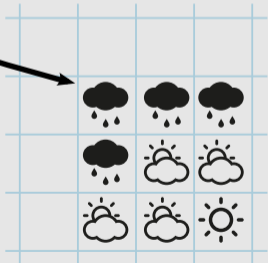


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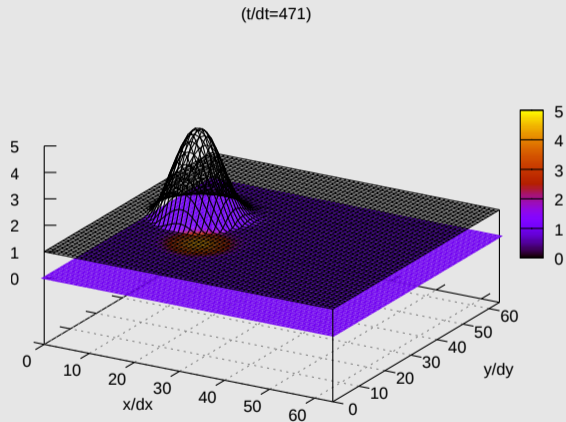


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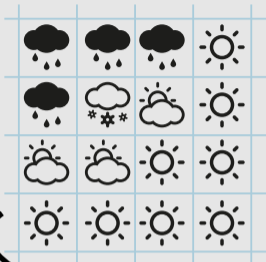


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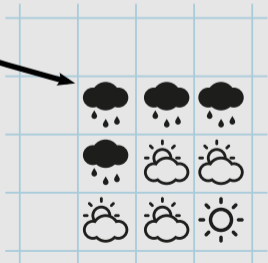


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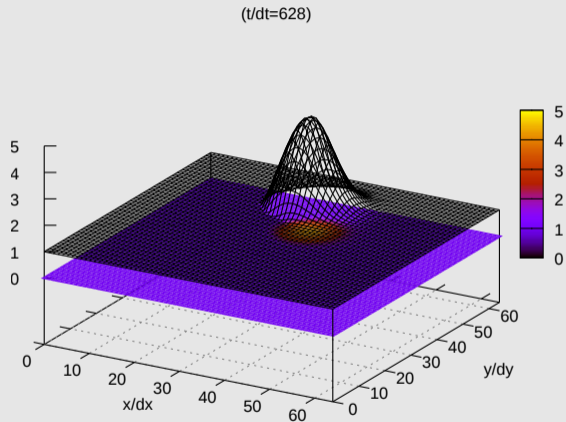


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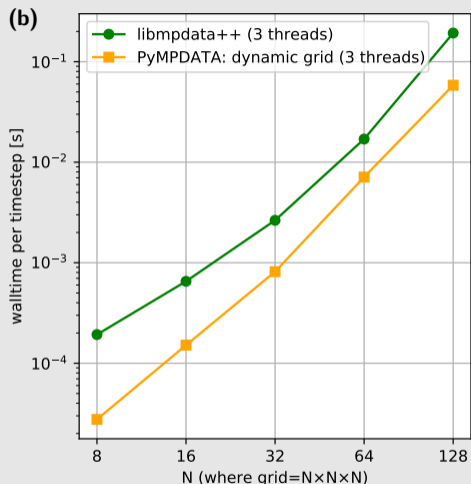
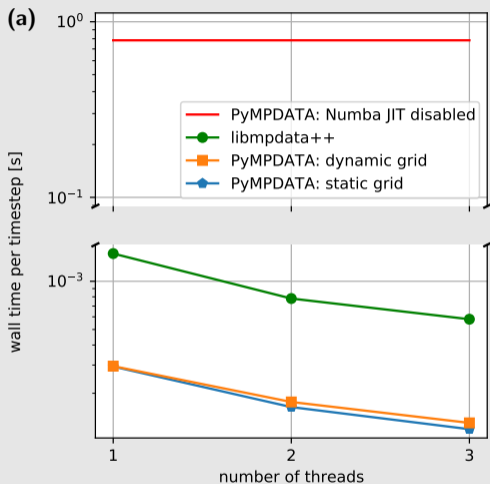
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# example performance comparison: Bartman et al. 2022 (JOSS) doi:10.21105/joss.03896



PyMPDATA  $\rightsquigarrow$  Numba (loop-based code, tricky for NumPy/CPython)

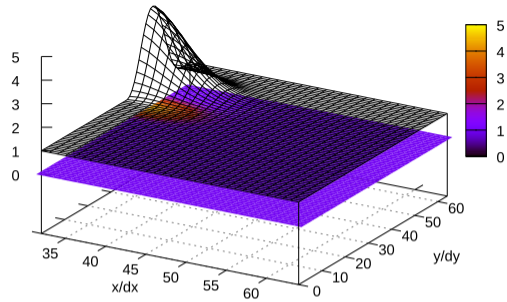
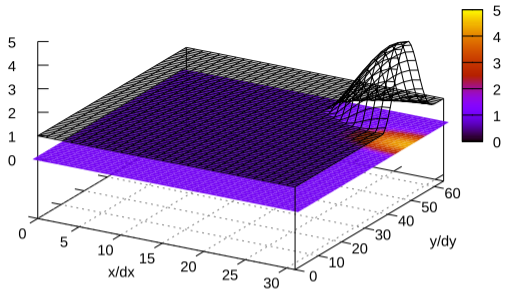
libmpdata++  $\rightsquigarrow$  Blitz++ (OOP code; 5 $\times$  slower than F77 for small domains, on par for larger ones)

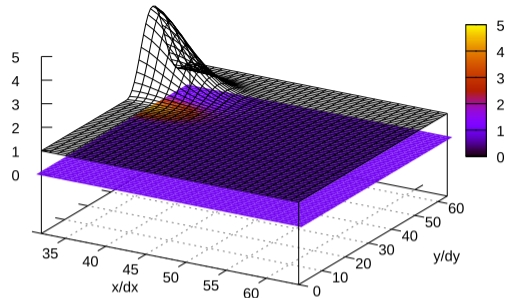
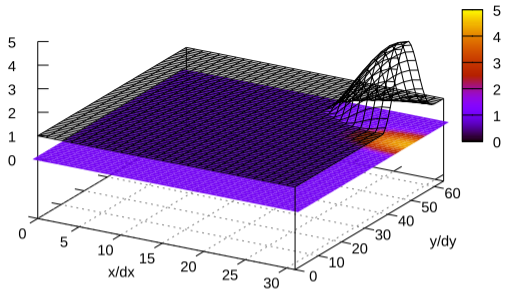
**what if we need MPI?**

---

# Message Passing Interface

**Message Passing Interface (MPI)** is a standardized and portable [message-passing](#) standard designed to function on [parallel computing architectures](#).<sup>[1]</sup> The MPI standard defines the [syntax](#) and [semantics](#) of [library routines](#) that are useful to a wide range of users writing [portable](#) message-passing programs in [C](#), [C++](#), and [Fortran](#). There are several [open-source](#) MPI [implementations](#), which fostered the development of a [parallel software industry](#), and encouraged development of portable and scalable large-scale parallel applications.





**Bangerth & Heister 2013 (Comput. Sci. Discov.) doi:10.1088/1749-4699/6/1/015010**

*„despite the immense expansion of parallel computation both in the number of machines available as well as in the number of cores per parallel machine since then,*

*no other parallel programming paradigm has replaced MPI –*

*even though it is universally acknowledged that MPI is a rather crude way of programming these machines and that MPI might not be successful for machines much larger than the ones available today”*

```
1 import numba
2 from mpi4py.MPI import COMM_WORLD
3
4 def number_crunching():
5     rank = COMM_WORLD.Get_rank()
6
7 numba.njit(number_crunching)()
```

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```

Traceback (most recent call last):

File ".../numba\_plus\_mpi4py.py", line 7, in <module>

numba.njit(number\_crunching)()

File ".../numba/core/dispatcher.py", line 468, in \_compile\_for\_args

error\_rewrite(e, 'typing')

File ".../numba/core/dispatcher.py", line 409, in error\_rewrite

raise e.with\_traceback(None)

numba.core.errors.TypeError: Failed in nopython mode pipeline (step: nopython frontend)

Untyped global name 'COMM\_WORLD': Cannot determine Numba type of <class 'mpi4py.MPI.Intracomm'>

File "numba\_plus\_mpi4py.py", line 5:

```
def number_crunching():
```

```
    rank = COMM_WORLD.Get_rank()
```

```
    ^
```



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~> " You will not be able to use mpi4py's Cython code, it was not designed for such low-level usage..."

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<sup>1</sup><https://github.com/numba/numba/issues/4115#issuecomment-642474009>

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~> " You will not be able to use mpi4py's Cython code, it was not designed for such low-level usage..."
- **but it must be gluable!**
- 30 months, 120 commits and 50 PRs from 5 contributors later... (unplanned side project!)

---

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**introducing: numba-mpi**

---

# numba-mpi

Python 3 LLVM Numba Linux macOS Windows tests passing  
Pylint passing Maintained? yes License GPL v3 pyPI package 0.26 Anaconda.org 0.26  
DOI 10.5281/zenodo.7385622

## Numba @njittable MPI wrappers

- covering: size / rank , send / recv , allreduce , bcast , barrier
- API based on NumPy and supporting numeric and character datatypes
- auto-generated docstring-based API docs on the web: <https://numba-mpi.github.io/numba-mpi>
- pure-Python implementation with packages available on [PyPI](#) and [Conda Forge](#)
- CI-tested on: Linux (MPICH, OpenMPI & Intel MPI), macOS (MPICH & OpenMPI) and Windows (MS MPI)

Hello world example:

```
import numba, numba_mpi, numpy

@numba.njit()
def hello():
    print(numba_mpi.rank())
    print(numba_mpi.size())

src = numpy.array([1., 2., 3., 4., 5.])
dst_tst = numpy.empty_like(src)

if numba_mpi.rank() == 0:
    numba_mpi.send(src, dest=1, tag=11)
```

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## numba-mpi 0.26

pip install numba-mpi

Released: Dec 1, 2022

Numba @njittable MPI wrappers tested on Linux, macOS and Windows

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Numba @njittable MPI wrappers tested on Linux, macOS and Windows

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Home: <https://pypi.org/project/numba-mpi/>

Development: <https://github.com/numba-mpi/numba-mpi/>

Documentation: <https://numba-mpi.github.io/numba-mpi/>

2708 total downloads

## **numba-mpi: implementation**

---

```
1 """MPI_Send() implementation"""
2 import ctypes
3
4 import numba
5 import numpy as np
6
```

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8 from numba_mpi.utils import _mpi_addr, _mpi_dtype
9
10 _MPI_Send = libmpi.MPI_Send
11 _MPI_Send.restype = ctypes.c_int
12 _MPI_Send.argtypes = send_recv_args
13
14
```

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15 @numba.njit
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17     """wrapper for MPI_Send. Returns integer status code (0 == MPI_SUCCESS)"""
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17     """wrapper for MPI_Send. Returns integer status code (0 == MPI_SUCCESS)"""
18     data = np.ascontiguousarray(data)
19     status = _MPI_Send(
20         data.ctypes.data,
21         data.size,
22         _mpi_dtype(data),
23         dest,
24         tag,
25         _mpi_addr(_MPI_Comm_World_ptr),
26     )
27
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22         _mpi_dtype(data),
23         dest,
24         tag,
25         _mpi_addr(_MPI_Comm_World_ptr),
26     )
27
28     # The following no-op prevents numba from too aggressive optimizations
29     # This looks like a bug in numba (tested for version 0.55)
30     data[0] # pylint: disable=pointless-statement
31
32     return status

```

**numba-mpi: hacks :(**

---

... but there is also the `utils.py` ...

```
48 @numba.extending.overload(_mpi_addr)
49 def _mpi_addr_njit(ptr):
50     def impl(ptr):
51         return numba.carray(
52             # pylint: disable-next=no-value-for-parameter
53             _address_as_void_pointer(ptr),
54             shape=(1,),
55             dtype=np.intp,
56             )[0]
57
58     return impl
59
60
61 # https://stackoverflow.com/questions/61509903/how-to-pass-array-pointer-to-numba-function
62 @numba.extending.intrinsic
63 def _address_as_void_pointer(_, src):
64     """returns a void pointer from a given memory address"""
65     sig = types.voidptr(src)
66
67     def codegen(__, builder, ___, args):
68         return builder.inttoptr(args[0], cutils.voidptr_t)
69
70     return sig, codegen
```

**numba-mpi: CI, OSes, MPI impls**

---

## Summary

### Jobs

- ✔ pylint
- ✔ precommit
- ✔ pdoc
- ✔ build (ubuntu-latest, 3.7, open...)
- ✔ build (ubuntu-latest, 3.7, intel...)
- ✔ build (ubuntu-latest, 3.8, open...)
- ✔ build (ubuntu-latest, 3.8, intel...)
- ✔ build (ubuntu-latest, 3.9, open...)
- ✔ build (ubuntu-latest, 3.9, intel...)
- ✔ build (ubuntu-latest, 3.10, mpich)
- ✔ build (ubuntu-latest, 3.10, ope...)

Triggered via release 9 hours ago

👤 slayoo published v0.28

Status

**Success**

Total duration

**13m 37s**

Artifacts

—

### main.yml

on: release



### Annotations

```
75 build:
76   needs: [pylint, precommit, pdoc]
77   strategy:
78     matrix:
79       platform: [ubuntu-latest, macos-latest, windows-latest]
80       python-version: ["3.7", "3.8", "3.9", "3.10"]
81       mpi: ['mpich', 'openmpi', 'msmpi', 'intelmpi']
82     exclude:
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95
96     # https://github.com/numba-mpi/numba-mpi/issues/69
97     # (libfabric EFA provider is operating in a condition that
98     # could result in memory corruption or other system errors.)
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109 runs-on: ${ matrix.platform }
110 steps:
111   - uses: actions/checkout@v2
112   - uses: actions/setup-python@v1
113     with:
114       python-version: ${ matrix.python-version }
115   - uses: mpi4py/setup-mpi@v1
116     with:
117       mpi: ${ matrix.mpi }
118   - run: pip install -e .
119   - run: pip install pytest
120   - run: python -We -c "import mpi4py"
121   - run: python -We -c "import numba_mpi"
122   - run: mpiexec -n 2 pytest -p no:unraisableexception -We
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## kudos to mpi4py team

for providing setup-mpi GitHub Action  
this has saved us a lot of time!

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OpenMPI	+	+	
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IntelMPI	+		
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IntelMPI	+		
MSMPI			+

## caveat

MPICH v4 fails on Ubuntu for Python <3.10  
"libfabric EFA provider is operating in a  
condition that could result in memory  
corruption" ~→ SIGABRT

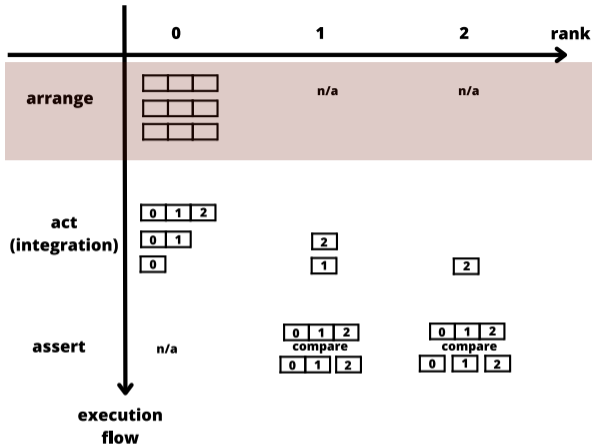
**numba-mpi: sample unit test**

---

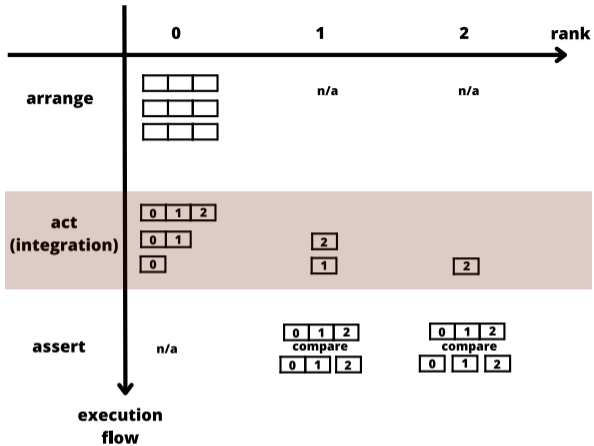
```
2 import numba
3 import numpy as np
4 import pytest
5
6 import numba_mpi as mpi
7 from tests.common import MPI_SUCCESS, data_types
8 from tests.utils import get_random_array
9
10
11 @numba.njit()
12 def jit_bcast(data, root):
13     return mpi.bcast(data, root)
14
15
16 @pytest.mark.parametrize("bcast", (jit_bcast.py_func, jit_bcast))
17 @pytest.mark.parametrize("data_type", data_types)
18 def test_bcast_np_array(data_type, bcast):
19     root = 0
20     data = np.empty(5, data_type).astype(dtype=data_type)
21     datatobcast = get_random_array(5, data_type).astype(dtype=data_type)
22
23     if mpi.rank() == root:
24         data = datatobcast
25
26     status = bcast(data, root)
27
28     assert status == MPI_SUCCESS
29
30     np.testing.assert_equal(data, datatobcast)
```

## **sample integration test scheme**

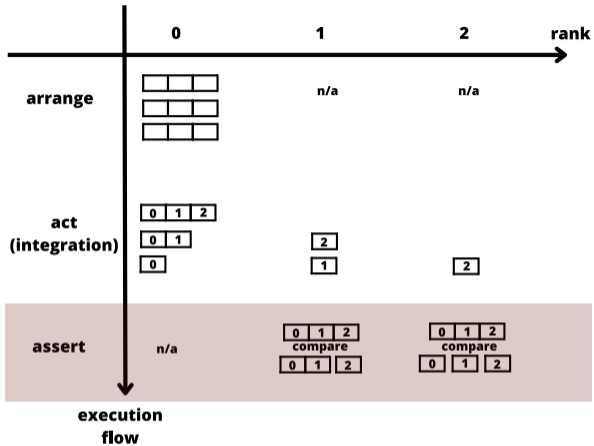
---



([https://github.com/atmos-cloud-sim-uj/PySuperDropletLES/blob/main/tests/test\\_2d.py](https://github.com/atmos-cloud-sim-uj/PySuperDropletLES/blob/main/tests/test_2d.py))

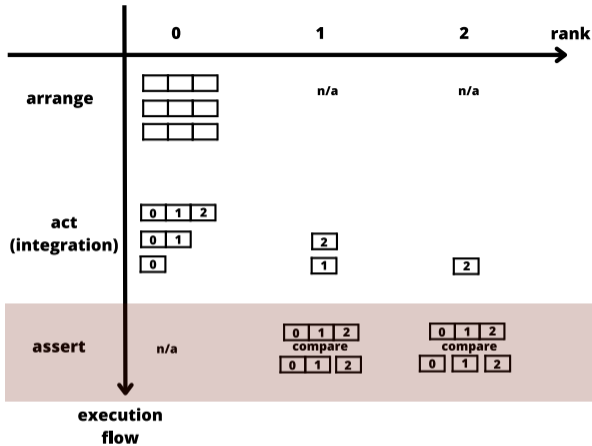


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### caveat

using HDF5/MPI-IO (**h5py**) for concurrent file access from different MPI ranks  
 ... implies insurmountable trouble setting up CI test env on Windows (help welcome!)

py-pde: **independent use case**

---

`py-pde` is a Python package for solving partial differential equations (PDEs).



py-pde

<https://py-pde.readthedocs.io>

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Focus:

- Finite differencing and simple grids
- PDEs defined by mathematical expressions (supplied as strings)



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Focus:

- Finite differencing and simple grids
- PDEs defined by mathematical expressions (supplied as strings)

Solution strategy:

- Partition the grid onto different nodes using `numba-mpi`
- On each node, parse expressions using `sympy` and compile the result using `numba`
- Iterate the PDE, exchanging boundary information between nodes using `numba-mpi`



**take-home messages**

---

## Python:

- common mismatch: **language vs. ecosystem** (e.g., arrays, number-crunching)
- has a range of **gluable HPC solutions** (JIT, GPU, multi-threading, MPI, ...)

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## numba-mpi:

- enables one to **glue MPI with LLVM JIT-compiled Python** code
- **CI-tested** on Linux, macOS, Windows; MPICH, OpenMPI, Intel MPI, & MS MPI
- developed aiming for **100% unit test coverage** (of the wrapping logic)
- already a dependency of two PDE-solver projects: py-pde & PySuperDropletLES



## numba-mpi sites:

- [github.com/numba-mpi](https://github.com/numba-mpi) (contributors: slayoo, xann16, david-zwicker, Delcior, abulenok)
- [pypi.org/p/numba-mpi](https://pypi.org/p/numba-mpi)
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## contributions welcome:

- packaging **h5py for Windows** (HDF5) with support for MPI-IO
- MPICH  $\geq$  4.0 with Python  $<$  3.10 on Linux (**libfabric EFA provider issue**)
- numba-mpi contribs:
  - **logo**
  - adding support for other functions from the MPI API
  - **dropping dependency on mpi4py**
  - benchmarking performance



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## funding:



(grant no. 2020/39/D/ST10/01220)