

# C Interface

## Initialization

```
void Cblacs_pinfo ( int *mypnum, int *nprocs )
void Cblacs_setup ( int *mypnum, int *nprocs )
void Cblacs_get ( int icontxt, int what, int *val )
void Cblacs_set ( int icontxt, int what, int *val )
void Cblacs_gridinit( int *icontxt, char *order, int nprow, int npcol )
void Cblacs_gridmap ( int *icontxt, int *pmap, int ldpmap, int nprow, int npcol )
```

## Destruction

```
void Cblacs_freebuff( int icontxt, int wait )
void Cblacs_gridexit( int icontxt )
void Cblacs_abort ( int icontxt, int errornum )
void Cblacs_exit ( int doneflag )
```

## Sending

```
void Cgesd2d( int icontxt, int m, int n, TYPE *A, int lda, int rdest, int cdest )

void Cgebs2d( int icontxt, char *scope, char *top, int m, int n, TYPE *A, int lda )

void Ctrsd2d( int icontxt, char *uplo, char *diag, int m, int n, TYPE *A, int lda, int rdest, int cdest )

void Ctrbs2d( int icontxt, char *scope, char *top, char *uplo, char *diag, int m, int n, TYPE *A, int lda)
```

## Receiving

```
void Cgerv2d( int icontxt, int m, int n, TYPE *A, int lda, int rsrc, int csrc )

void Cgebr2d( int icontxt, char *scope, char *top, int m, int n, TYPE *A, int lda, int rsrc, int csrc )

void Ctrrv2d( int icontxt, char *uplo, char *diag, int m, int n, TYPE *A, int lda, int rsrc, int csrc )

void Ctrbr2d( int icontxt, char *scope, char *top, char *uplo, char *diag, int m, int n, TYPE *A, int lda, int rsrc, int csrc )
```

## Combine Operations

```
void Cgamx2d( int icontxt, char *scope, char *top, int m, int n, TYPE *A, int lda, int *RA, int *CA, int RCflag, int rdest, int cdest )

void Cgamn2d( int icontxt, char *scope, char *top, int m, int n, TYPE *A, int lda, int *RA, int *CA, int RCflag, int rdest, int cdest )

void Cgsum2d( int icontxt, char *scope, char *top, int m, int n, TYPE *A, int lda, int rdest, int cdest )
```

## Definition of

is	Data operated on is	TYPE is
s	single precision real	float
d	double precision real	double
c	single precision complex	float
z	double precision complex	double
i	integer	int

## Informational and Miscellaneous

```
void Cblacs_gridinfo( int icontxt, int *nprow, int *npcol, int *myprow, int *mypcol )
int Cblacs_pnum ( int icontxt, int prow, int pcol )
void Cblacs_pcoord ( int icontxt, int pnun, int *prow, int *pcol )
void Cblacs_barrier( int icontxt, char *scope )
```

## Non-standard

```
void Csetpvmtds ( int ntasks, int *tids )
double Cdcputime00 ( )
double Cdwalltime00( )
int Cksendid ( int icontxt, int rdest, int cdest )
int Ckrecvld ( int icontxt, int rsrc, int csrc )
int Ckbsid ( int icontxt, char *scope )
int Ckbrid ( int icontxt, char *scope, int rsrc, int csrc )
```

## Options

```
UPLD = "Upper triangular", "Lower triangular";
DIAG = "Non-unit triangular", "Unit triangular";
SCOPE = "All", "row", "column";
TOP = (SEE DESCRIPTION BELOW).
```

## Broadcast Topologies

```
TOP  = " " : System dependent default topology;
      = "I" : increasing ring;
      = "D" : decreasing ring;
      = "H" : hypercube (minimum spanning tree);
      = "S" : split-ring;
      = "F" : fully connected;
      = "M" : nodes divided into I increasing
              rings, where I is set with call
              to Cblacs_set;
      = "T" : tree broadcast with NBRANCHES = I,
              where I is set with call to
              Cblacs_set;
      = "1" : tree broadcast with NBRANCHES = 1;
      = "2" : tree broadcast with NBRANCHES = 2;
      :
      :
      = "9" : tree broadcast with NBRANCHES = 9.
```

## Global Topologies

```
TOP  = " " : System dependent default topology;
      = "1" : tree gather with NBRANCHES = 1;
      = "2" : tree gather with NBRANCHES = 2;
      :
      :
      = "9" : tree gather with NBRANCHES = 9;
      = "T" : tree gather with NBRANCHES = I,
              where I is set with call to
              Cblacs_set;
      = "F" : Fully connected;
      = "H" : if rdest = -1, a specialized
              "leave on all" hypercube topology
              called bidirectional exchange is used.
              Otherwise, TOP = "1" is substituted.
```

## Notation

Underlined parameters are output arguments. If a routine is underlined it is a function that returns a value. The prefix p usually stands for process. Other standard notations are:

```
GE - GENERAL      TR - TRAPEZOIDAL
SD - SEND         BS - BROADCAST/SEND
RV - RECEIVE      BR - BROADCAST/RECEIVE
GAMX - General element-wise Absolute value MAXIMUM
GAMN - General element-wise Absolute value MINIMUM
GSUM - General element-wise SUMMATION
```

## Key Ideas:

A BLACS context is created via a call to either `Cblacs_gridinit` or `Cblacs_gridmap`. No routine requiring a context may be used until one of these routines has been called. Multiple calls to `Cblacs_gridinit` or `Cblacs_gridmap` result in the creation of new contexts. To preserve resources, the user should free unused contexts by calling `Cblacs_gridexit`. When all BLACS operations are done, a call to `Cblacs_exit` frees any remaining contexts, and shuts down all BLACS operations. Please note that `Cblacs_gridinit` and `Cblacs_gridmap` accept system contexts as input. A default system context encompassing all available processes may be obtained by a call to `Cblacs_get`.

`Cblacs_set` can only be used to set the BLACS' message ID range before the creation of the first context. Subsequent calls will be ignored.

## Topology Hints

Topologies allow the user to optimize communication patterns for a particular operation. If the user does not have a communication pipe to maintain, the default TOP = " " is recommended. For more details, examine the mosaic page or the papers referenced below.

## References

R. Clint Whaley, LAPACK, Working Note 73, *Basic Linear Algebra Communication Subprograms: Analysis and Implementation Across Multiple Parallel Architectures*, Computer Science Dept. Technical Report CS-94-234, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, May, 1994. To receive a postscript copy, send email to `netlib@ornl.gov` and in the mail message type: `send lawn73.ps from lapack/lawns`.

To get the user's guide to the BLACS, send email to `netlib@ornl.gov` and in the mail message type: `send blacs.ug.ps from blacs`. (Can also be downloaded via mosaic).

Reference, examples, troubleshooting, downloading options and installation instructions are available on mosaic. The URL is `http://www.cs.utk.edu/~rwhaley/Blacs.html`

Send comments and questions to `blacs@cs.utk.edu`.

# Basic Linear Algebra Communication Subprograms

## Quick Reference Guide, C Interface

## Release 1.0

February 14, 1995

## University of Tennessee

### Obtaining the BLACS

mosaic: `http://www.cs.utk.edu/~rwhaley/Blacs.html`  
ftp: `netlib2.cs.utk.edu`, directory `blacs/`  
email: `netlib@ornl.gov` with the message `send index from blacs`