### Introduction to MIMD architectures

- {Multi-processor}
- {Multi-computer}
- 15.1 Architectural concepts
- 15.2 Problems of scalable computers
- 15.3 Main design issues of scalable MIMD computers





#### Multi-computer (distributed memory system): Advantages and Disadvantages

- +Highly Scalable
- +Message passing solves memory access synchronization problem
- · -Load balancing problem
- Deadlock in message passing
- · -Need to physically copying data between processes



#### Multi-processor (shared memory system): Advantages and Disadvantages

- +May use uniprocessor programming techniques
- +Communication between processor is efficient
- · -Synchronized access to share data in memory needed
- -Lack of scalability due to (memory) contention
  problem

# Best of Both Worlds

## (Multicomputer using virtual shared memory)

- Also called distributed shared memory architecture
- The local memories of multi-computer are components of global address space:
  - → any processor can access the local memory of any other processor
- · Three approaches:
  - ✤ Non-uniform memory access (NUMA) machines
  - Cache-only memory access (COMA) machines
  - Cache-coherent non-uniform memory access (CC-NUMA) machines











