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Ho Chi Minh City, 05/04/2025 Ho Chi Minh City, 05/04/2025

Assoc. Prof. Thoai Nam MS. Diep Thanh Dang

#### **Disclaimers**

I hereby declare that this specialized project is the result of my own research and experiments. It has not been copied from any other sources. All content presented and implemented within this document reflects my own hard work, dedication, and honesty, conducted under the guidance of my supervisors, Mr. Thoại Nam and Mr. Diệp Thanh Đăng, from the Faculty of Computer Science and Engineering, Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology.

All data, references, and sources have been legally cited and are explicitly mentioned in the footnotes and references section.

I accept full responsibility for the accuracy of the claims and content in this specialized project and am willing to face any consequences or penalties should any violations or misconduct be identified.



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# **List of Images**



Chapter 1 introduces the project's research topic, focusing on distributed barrier synchronization algorithms in high-performance computing.

Section 1.1 explores the motivation behind the research, highlighting the growing importance of high-performance computing across scientific domains, including large language model training and complex simulations. Particularly, the section emphasizes the critical role of barrier algorithms in synchronizing computational processes across different nodes.

Section 1.2 details the project objectives, which encompass a comprehensive exploration of high-performance computing concepts, including MPI-3 and C++11 threading technologies. The research aims to investigate a hybrid programming model that combines the communication strengths of MPI with the synchronization capabilities of C++11. The objectives include surveying existing barrier synchronization algorithms and proposing methods for their deployment on current high-performance computing systems.

Section 1.3 narrows down the project's focus, the scope includes exploring key HPC concepts, studying MPI-3 and C++11 threading features, and implementing a simple barrier synchronization algorithm using the hybrid programming model. This aims to equip the author with new concepts before tackling the research objectives.

The project report structure, outlined in Section 1.4, provides a clear roadmap for the research. The document is organized into six chapters, progressing from foundational concepts to detailed algorithm proposals, experimental results, and future research directions. Each chapter builds upon the previous one, creating a comprehensive narrative of the research journey from introduction to conclusion.

#### 1.1 Motivation

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## 1.2 Objectives

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# 1.3 Scope

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## 1.4 Project report structure

The rest of this report is organized as follows:

#### Chapter II: Background

This chapter establishes the theoretical and technical foundations of the research through three main sections:

Section 2.1 Message Passing Interface (MPI-3)

- Evolution and significance in distributed computing
- Advanced communication mechanisms, focusing on One-Sided Communications
- Remote Memory Access (RMA) operations and memory models
- Collective operations and parallel I/O capabilities

#### Section 2.2 Modern C++11 Multithreading

- Native threading support and platform independence
- Thread management and synchronization primitives
- Memory model and atomic operations
- Asynchronous programming features and their implications
- Integration of shared and distributed memory paradigms
- Hybrid programming models in modern HPC

#### **Chapter III: Related Works**

Surveys existing research and approaches to barrier synchronization algorithms.

#### Chapter IV: Adaptation from shared memory to distributed memory



This chapter introduces an adaptation of Brook's barrier algorithm, originally designed for shared memory models, to distributed memory systems using MPI's Remote Memory Access (RMA) operations.

This implementation leverages MPI RMA primitives for efficient communication in distributed memory systems, preserving the core synchronization logic of Brook's original algorithm.

#### **Chapter V: Preliminary Results**

Presents the implementation outcomes, experimental results, and performance analysis.

#### **Chapter VI: Conclusions and Future Works**

Summarizes accomplishments, outlines future research directions, and provides a timeline for planned activities.

# Chapter II: Background

Chapter 2 provides a comprehensive background on the fundamental technologies underlying the research: Message Passing Interface (MPI) and C++11 Multithreading. The chapter explores these technologies within the context of high-performance computing, laying the groundwork for understanding the hybrid programming model proposed in the thesis.

## 2.1 Message Passing Interface (MPI)

This section explores Message Passing Interface, its various paradigms for message passing. The section will then shift its focus into MPI's One-Sided Communication mechanics.

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## 2.2 C++11 Multithreading

C++11 (ISO/IEC 14882:2011) introduced native support for multithreading directly in the Standard Template Library (STL) [1]. This eliminated the previous reliance on platform-specific threading libraries like POSIX thread (pthread) and the Microsoft Windows API, offering a more portable and standardized approach to parallel computing. The introduction of these features marked a significant advancement in C++ development, providing developers with powerful, standardized tools for concurrent and parallel programming.

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# **Chapter III: Related Works**

This section examines two key areas relevant to my implementation: barrier synchronization algorithms and hybrid parallelization approaches.

## 3.1 Barrier Synchronization Algorithm Selection

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# 3.2 Hybrid Parallelization Approaches

# Chapter IV: Adaptation from shared memory to distributed memory

This chapter presents my proposed adaptation of Brook's barrier algorithm within the context of distributed memory models.

Section 4.1 presents Brook's barrier algorithm within the context of the shared memory model.

Section 4.2 provides a straightforward implementation of Brook's two-process barrier algorithm in a distributed memory programming model using MPI's Remote Memory Access (RMA) operations.



## 4.1 Brook Algorithm

Brook [2] bases the n-process barrier on a two-process barrier using two shared variables. The algorithm is as follows:

#### Brook-Barrier-Algorithm

- 1 **procedure** Brook's-Barrier(SetByMyProcess, SetByTargetProcess)
- while SetByMyProcess is true do wait
- SetByMyProcess ← true 3
- while SetByTargetProcess is false do wait 4
- $SetByTargetProcess \leftarrow false$
- 6 end procedure

We can visualize the algorithm as follows:

| Step | Process 1                        | Process 2                        |
|------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1    | while SetByProcess1 do wait;     | while SetByProcess2 do wait;     |
| 2    | SetByProcess1 := true;           | SetByProcess2 := true;           |
| 3    | while not SetByProcess2 do wait; | while not SetByProcess1 do wait; |
| 4    | SetByProcess2 := false;          | SetByProcess1 := false;          |

# 4.2 My proposed implementation of Brook's algorithm

We can extend the concept of Brooks' two-process barrier, where two processes share memory through shared variables, to the one-sided communication model.

In this model, one process can directly access the variables of another process. Instead of storing the shared variables in a common memory segment, each process maintains its own copy, allowing the other process to read and modify it using one-sided communication primitives.

This is my simple adaptation of Brook's two-process barrier algorithm to a distributed memory model using MPI RMA operations:



```
MPI_BROOK_BARRIER(exposed_flag, win, target_rank)
INPUTS:
exposed_flag: BOOL
win: MPI_WIN
target_rank: INT
OUTPUTS:
None
```

Listing 1: Barrier signature

#### Distributed-Mem-Brook-Barrier

```
1 procedure Brook's-Barrier(exposed flag, win, target rank)
    while exposed flag is true do wait
2
    exposed flag ← true
3
4
    while target flag is false do wait
5
      MPI WIN LOCK(win)
      MPI GET ACCUMULATE(&target_flag, 0, BOOL, &target_flag, 1, BOOL,
6
      target rank, 0, 1, BOOL, MPI NO OP, win);
      MPI WIN FLUSH(win)
7
      MPI WIN UNLOCK(win)
8
9
    end while
    false value ← false
10
11
    MPI WIN LOCK(win)
    MPI ACCUMULATE(&false value, 1, BOOL, target rank, 0, 1, BOOL,
12
    MPI REPLACE, win);
    MPI WIN FLUSH(win)
13
    MPI WIN UNLOCK(win)
14
15 end procedure
```

Listing 2: My adaptation of Brook's two-process barrier using MPI primitives

#### 4.2.1 Notes on the adapted algorithm

The implementation uses MPI\_GET\_ACCUMULATE and MPI\_ACCUMULATE instead of MPI\_GET and MPI\_PUT for atomicity guarantees. The MPI\_WIN\_LOCK and MPI\_WIN\_UNLOCK functions are used to ensure atomicity of the operations.

# **Chapter V: Preliminary Results**

This chapter showcases the preliminary test result of the Brook's two-process barrier algorithm using MPI's RMA operations.

#### **5.1 Test Environment**

• Hardware: Apple M1 chip

• Compiler: MPICH's mpic++ compiler

• MPI Implementation: MPICH

• Compilation flags: -std=c++11

• Operating System: macOS

## **5.2 Test Implementation**

The test program was designed to verify the basic functionality of the barrier synchronization:

```
int main(int argc, char **argv) {
   std::cout<< "hello world";
   return 0;
}</pre>
```

Listing 3: Ran the barrier four times to prove the algorithm is reusable.

#### 5.3 Compilation and Execution

The program was compiled using the following command:

```
mpic++ -std=c++11 src/brook.cpp -o brook
```

Execution was performed using MPICH's mpirun with two processes:

```
mpirun -np 2 ./brook
```

#### 5.4 Results

The test results demonstrated successful barrier synchronization between two processes:

```
→ mpic++ -std=gnu++11 src/brook.cpp -o brook
→ mpirun -np 2 ./brook
Process 0: reached destination
Process 1: reached destination
```

Figure 1: Test results on Apple M1

# **Chapter VI: Conclusions and Future Works**

# 6.1 Accomplishments This Semester

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## 6.2 Challenges and Learnings

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## 6.3 Planned Research Trajectory

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- [1] A. Williams, C++ Concurrency in Action, 2nd ed. Manning, 2019, pp. 1–172.
- [2] E. D. Brooks, "The butterfly barrier," *International Journal of Parallel Programming*, vol. 15, no. 4, pp. 295–307, Aug. 1986, doi: 10.1007/BF01407877.