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1  ┌────────────────────────── MODULE syncCon3 ───────────────────────────┐
   │ Synchronized consensus │
5  EXTENDS Integers, Sequences, FiniteSets, TLC
6  CONSTANTS N, FAILNUM
7  ASSUME  $N \leq 5 \wedge 0 \leq FAILNUM \wedge FAILNUM \leq 4$ 
8   $Nodes \triangleq 1 \dots N$ 

11 --algorithm syncCon3
12 { variable FailNum = FAILNUM, Initialization block
13    $up = [n \in Nodes \mapsto \text{TRUE}]$ ; nodes are up
14    $pt = [n \in Nodes \mapsto 0]$ ; nodes are at round 0
15    $t = [n \in Nodes \mapsto \text{FALSE}]$ ; nodes are not terminated
16    $d = [n \in Nodes \mapsto -1]$ ; nodes are not decided
17    $mb = [n \in Nodes \mapsto \{\}]$ ; nodes have mailbox as emptyset

19   define {
20      $SetMin(S) \triangleq \text{CHOOSE } i \in S : \forall j \in S : i \leq j$ 
21   }

23   macro MaybeFail( ) {
24     if (  $FailNum > 0 \wedge up[self]$  )
25       { either
26         {  $up[self] := \text{FALSE}; FailNum := FailNum - 1$ ; } Node may fail
27         or skip; } ; or not
28   }

30   fair process (  $n \in Nodes$  )
31   variable  $pmb = \{\}, Q = \{\}$ ;
32   {
33     P: while (  $up[self] \wedge \neg t[self]$  ) {
34       if (  $d[self] = -1$  )  $d[self] := self$ ; vote is set
35        $Q := Nodes$ ;
36     PS: while (  $up[self] \wedge Q \neq \{\}$  ) { send vote to  $mb[p]$  one by one; this node can fail in between
37       with (  $p \in Q$  ) {
38          $mb[p] := mb[p] \cup \{d[self]\}$ ; skip for attacking generals impossibility
39          $Q := Q \setminus \{p\}$ ;
40         MaybeFail( ) ;
41       } ;
42     } ; end_while
43     if (  $up[self]$  )  $pt[self] := pt[self] + 1$ ; move to next round
44     PR: await (  $up[self] \wedge (\forall k \in Nodes : up[k] \Rightarrow pt[k] = pt[self])$  ); wait for others to move
45      $d[self] := SetMin(mb[self])$ ;
46     if (  $pmb = mb[self]$  )  $t[self] := \text{TRUE}$ ;
47      $pmb := mb[self]$ ;
48      $mb[self] := \{\}$ ;
49   } ; end_if

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50 } process
51 }
    \* PR label critical for nonblocking;
    \* Remove up in PR label, to show the FLP result with asynchronous rounds!
55 BEGIN TRANSLATION
56 VARIABLES FailNum, up, pt, t, d, mb, pc

58 define statement
59 SetMin( $S$ )  $\triangleq$  CHOOSE  $i \in S : \forall j \in S : i \leq j$ 

61 VARIABLES pmb, Q

63 vars  $\triangleq$   $\langle$ FailNum, up, pt, t, d, mb, pc, pmb, Q $\rangle$ 

65 ProcSet  $\triangleq$  (Nodes)

67 Init  $\triangleq$  Global variables
68    $\wedge$  FailNum = FAILNUM
69    $\wedge$  up = [ $n \in$  Nodes  $\mapsto$  TRUE]
70    $\wedge$  pt = [ $n \in$  Nodes  $\mapsto$  0]
71    $\wedge$  t = [ $n \in$  Nodes  $\mapsto$  FALSE]
72    $\wedge$  d = [ $n \in$  Nodes  $\mapsto$  -1]
73    $\wedge$  mb = [ $n \in$  Nodes  $\mapsto$  {}]
74   Process n
75    $\wedge$  pmb = [ $self \in$  Nodes  $\mapsto$  {}]
76    $\wedge$  Q = [ $self \in$  Nodes  $\mapsto$  {}]
77    $\wedge$  pc = [ $self \in$  ProcSet  $\mapsto$  "P"]

79 P( $self$ )  $\triangleq$   $\wedge$  pc[ $self$ ] = "P"
80    $\wedge$  IF up[ $self$ ]  $\wedge$   $\neg$ t[ $self$ ]
81     THEN  $\wedge$  IF d[ $self$ ] = -1
82       THEN  $\wedge$  d' = [d EXCEPT ![ $self$ ] =  $self$ ]
83       ELSE  $\wedge$  TRUE
84        $\wedge$  d' = d
85      $\wedge$  Q' = [Q EXCEPT ![ $self$ ] = Nodes]
86      $\wedge$  pc' = [pc EXCEPT ![ $self$ ] = "PS"]
87   ELSE  $\wedge$  pc' = [pc EXCEPT ![ $self$ ] = "Done"]
88    $\wedge$  UNCHANGED  $\langle$ d, Q $\rangle$ 
89    $\wedge$  UNCHANGED  $\langle$ FailNum, up, pt, t, mb, pmb $\rangle$ 

91 PS( $self$ )  $\triangleq$   $\wedge$  pc[ $self$ ] = "PS"
92    $\wedge$  IF up[ $self$ ]  $\wedge$  Q[ $self$ ]  $\neq$  {}
93     THEN  $\wedge$   $\exists p \in$  Q[ $self$ ] :
94        $\wedge$  mb' = [mb EXCEPT ![p] = mb[p]  $\cup$  {d[ $self$ ]}]
95        $\wedge$  Q' = [Q EXCEPT ![ $self$ ] = Q[ $self$ ]  $\setminus$  {p}]
96        $\wedge$  IF FailNum > 0  $\wedge$  up[ $self$ ]
97         THEN  $\wedge$   $\vee$   $\wedge$  up' = [up EXCEPT ![ $self$ ] = FALSE]

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198                                      $\wedge FailNum' = FailNum - 1$ 
199                                      $\vee \wedge \text{TRUE}$ 
200                                      $\wedge \text{UNCHANGED } \langle FailNum, up \rangle$ 
201                               ELSE  $\wedge \text{TRUE}$ 
202                                      $\wedge \text{UNCHANGED } \langle FailNum, up \rangle$ 
203                                $\wedge pc' = [pc \text{ EXCEPT } ![self] = \text{"PS"}]$ 
204                                $\wedge pt' = pt$ 
205                               ELSE  $\wedge \text{IF } up[self]$ 
206                                   THEN  $\wedge pt' = [pt \text{ EXCEPT } ![self] = pt[self] + 1]$ 
207                                   ELSE  $\wedge \text{TRUE}$ 
208                                        $\wedge pt' = pt$ 
209                                $\wedge pc' = [pc \text{ EXCEPT } ![self] = \text{"PR"}]$ 
210                                $\wedge \text{UNCHANGED } \langle FailNum, up, mb, Q \rangle$ 
211                                $\wedge \text{UNCHANGED } \langle t, d, pmb \rangle$ 

113  $PR(self) \triangleq$   $\wedge pc[self] = \text{"PR"}$ 
114  $\wedge (up[self] \wedge (\forall k \in Nodes : up[k] \Rightarrow pt[k] = pt[self]))$ 
115  $\wedge d' = [d \text{ EXCEPT } ![self] = SetMin(mb[self])]$ 
116  $\wedge \text{IF } pmb[self] = mb[self]$ 
117     THEN  $\wedge t' = [t \text{ EXCEPT } ![self] = \text{TRUE}]$ 
118     ELSE  $\wedge \text{TRUE}$ 
119          $\wedge t' = t$ 
120  $\wedge pmb' = [pmb \text{ EXCEPT } ![self] = mb[self]]$ 
121  $\wedge mb' = [mb \text{ EXCEPT } ![self] = \{\}]$ 
122  $\wedge pc' = [pc \text{ EXCEPT } ![self] = \text{"P"}]$ 
123  $\wedge \text{UNCHANGED } \langle FailNum, up, pt, Q \rangle$ 

125  $n(self) \triangleq P(self) \vee PS(self) \vee PR(self)$ 

127  $Next \triangleq (\exists self \in Nodes : n(self))$ 
128  $\vee$  Disjunct to prevent deadlock on termination
129  $((\forall self \in ProcSet : pc[self] = \text{"Done"}) \wedge \text{UNCHANGED } vars)$ 

131  $Spec \triangleq \wedge Init \wedge \Box [Next]_{vars}$ 
132  $\wedge \forall self \in Nodes : \text{WF}_{vars}(n(self))$ 

134  $Termination \triangleq \Diamond (\forall self \in ProcSet : pc[self] = \text{"Done"})$ 

136 END TRANSLATION

138  $Agreement \triangleq \forall i, j \in Nodes : t[i] \wedge t[j] \Rightarrow (d[i] = d[j] \wedge d[i] \neq -1)$ 
139  $NoTerm \triangleq \neg \forall i \in Nodes : up[i] \Rightarrow t[i]$ 
140  $SyncTerm \triangleq \forall i, j \in Nodes : t[i] \wedge t[j] \Rightarrow pt[i] = pt[j]$ 
141  $Term \triangleq \Diamond \forall i \in Nodes : up[i] \Rightarrow t[i]$ 
142 Remember  $\triangleq \Box [ (\forall j \in Nodes : v'[p] \geq v[p]) ]_{-vars}$ 
143 

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Agreement. Two correct processes can not commit to different decision variables. $(i, j : ti : di = dj)$ Validity (Nontriviality). If all initial values are equal, correct processes must decide on that value. $(k :: (i :: vi = k)) (i : ti : di = vi)$ Termination. The system eventually terminates. $true (i :: ti)$

Synchronous consensus Every process broadcasts (to all other processes, including itself) its initial value vi . In a synchronous network, this can be done in a single “round” of messages. After this round, each process decides on the minimum value it received. If no faults occur, this algorithm is correct. In the presence of a crash fault, however, a problem can arise. In particular, a problem may occur if a process crashes during a round. When this happens, some processes may have received its (low) initial value, but others may not have.

To address this concern, consider this simplifying assumption: say that at most 1 process can crash. How can we modify the algorithm to handle such a failure? Answer: by using 2 rounds. In 1st round, processes broadcast their own initial value. In 2nd round, processes broadcast the minimum value they heard. Each process then decides on the min value among all the sets of values it received in 2nd round. If the one crash occurs during the first round, the second round ensures that all processes have the same set of values from which to decide. Else, if the one crash occurs during the second round, the first round must have completed without a crash and hence all processes have the same set of values from which to decide.

The key observation is that if no crash occurs during a round, all processes have the same set of values from which to decide and they correctly decide on the same minimum value. Thus, to tolerate multiple crashes, say f , the protocol is modified to have $f + 1$ rounds of synchronous communication. Of course, this requires knowing f , an upper bound on the number of possible crash faults.