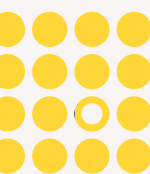


Attacks



- Denial of Service: overloading nodes with lots of transactions.
- 51% Attack: controlling more than 50% of nodes, can create fork longer than the main chain.
- Sybil attacks: when one node tries to represent multiple identities.
- Cryptographic attacks that break the underlying cryptography (Quantum).



The consensus algorithm plays a crucial role in maintaining the safety and efficiency of blockchain. Using the right algorithm may bring a significant increase to the performance of blockchain application.



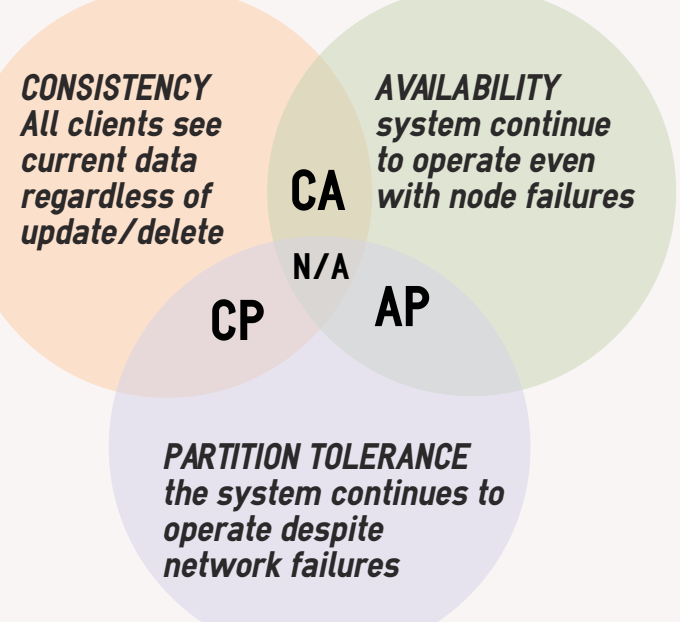
Each consensus algorithm has its own application scenario. There is no absolute good or bad. The choice of which consensus to use for implementing the blockchain depends on the type of network and data.



For a transaction to be valid on most cryptocurrency networks, the transaction needs to collect a certain number of confirmations (often equals to an inclusion in a block of a blockchain) from the network.

The CAP Theorem

States that in case of a partition, a distributed system can only preserve either consistency or availability.



The trilemma

claims that blockchain systems can only at most have two of the following three properties

**Decentralization**  
defined as the system being able to run in a scenario where each participant only has access to  $O(c)$  resources,

**Scalability**

defined as being able to process  $O(n) > O(c)$  transactions

**Security**

defined as being secure against attackers with up to  $O(n)$  resources

Legends



Stakeholders are those having coins or smart contracts on the blockchain. Only they can participate. Those with high stakes are chosen to validate new blocks.



Each participant on the network can participate in the block generation. In order to confirm the transaction and enter a block into the blockchain, a miner has to provide an answer, or proof, to a specific computational challenge.



Proof-of-space, also called Proof-of-capacity, is a means of showing that one has a legitimate interest in a service by allocating a non-trivial amount of memory or disk space to solve a challenge presented by the service provider.



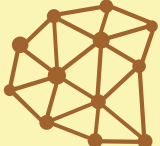
Participants should show proof that they burned something (coin, time,...) – e.g for a coin that they are sent to a verifiably unspendable address.



Most of the time a combination of existing consensus algorithm, e.g PoW+PoS but not always...



Byzantine Fault Tolerance is the characteristic which defines a system that tolerates the class of failures that belong to the Byzantine Generals' Problem. ... and work as long as the number of traitors do not exceed one third of the generals.



In order to send a new transaction, you need to validate two previous transactions you're received. The two-for-one, pay-it-forward consensus strengthens the validity of transactions the more transactions are added to the Tangle.

