Distributed Algorithms Lectures

1 Introduction - February 19, 2020

1.1 Defining Dependable Systems

QUOTES:

A distributed system is a system where a computer of which you did not know it exists can prevent you from getting your job done. - Leslie LAMPORT

There is perhaps a market for maybe five computers in the world. - TJ WATSON

$FAULT \rightarrow ERROR \rightarrow FAILURE$

- Train delayed because of tree has fallen on the tracks
- Travelers reach destination too late
- Alice misses her exam

	FAULT	Error	FAILURE
Train:	Tree fallen	no train	delay for passengers
Journey:	Train delay	delay	reached destination 2h after intention
Exam:	arrival 2h late	missed time-slot	repeat exam

FAULT: cause of failure

ERROR: internal state of system, not according to specification

FAILURE: observable deviation of specification

FAULT examples:

- timing
- cables
- power supply
- messages lost
- data loss (solved with RAIDs)

1.1.1 How to make systems tolerate faults

- PREVENTION
- TOLERANCE
 - Replication/Redundancy
 - Recovery
- REMOVAL
- FORECASTING/PREDICTION

 $SAFETY \neq SECURITY$

SAFETY is connected to loss of live/material due to accidents

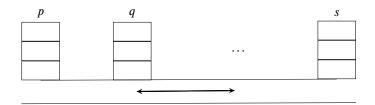
SECURITY is connected to malicious intent

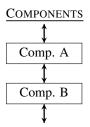
1.1.2 Defining distributed computation

Processes
$$\Pi = \{p, q, r, s \dots\}$$

 $\mid \Pi \mid = N$







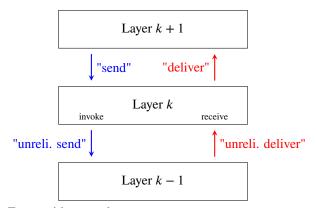
EVENTS for Component c:

$$\langle c, event \mid param_1, param_2 \dots \rangle$$

$$\frac{\text{upon } \langle c, ev_1 \mid param_1 \rangle \underline{\text{do}}}{\text{do something trigger } \langle b, domore \mid p \rangle}$$

$$\text{upon } \langle b, domore \mid p \rangle \underline{\text{do}}$$

1.1.3 Layered modules



Events either travel:

- upwards (red): indication
- downwards (blue): request

Events on a given layer may be:

- input events (IN)
- output events (OUT)

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1.1.4 Module Jobhandler

```
Events:
   Request: \langle jh, handle \mid job \rangle
   Indication: \langle jh, confirm \mid job \rangle
Properties:
   Every job submitted for handling is eventually confirmed.
Implementation (synchronized) JOBHANDLER
State
upon \langle jh, handle \mid job \rangle do
    "process job"
   trigger \langle jh, confirm \mid job \rangle
upon ...
upon ...
Implementation (asynchronized) JOBHANDLER
State
   \overline{bu}f \leftarrow \emptyset
upon \langle jh, handle \mid job \rangle \underline{do}
   \overline{buf} \leftarrow buf \cup \{job\}
   trigger \langle jh, confirm \mid job \rangle
upon buf \neq \emptyset do
   \overline{job} \leftarrow \text{some element of } buf
    "process job"
   buf \leftarrow buf \setminus \{job\}
```

1.2 Concurrency and Replication in Distributed Systems

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2 Models and Abstructions - February 26, 2020

2.1 Processes and Protocols



- Set of Processes Π
 - $|\Pi| = N$
- A process is an automaton
- A protocol is a set of processes

2.1.1 Execution

- Each computation step and every step of sending a message or receiving a message is an event
- An execution (history) is a sequence of all events of the processes as seen by a (hypothetical) global observer
- trace = execution

2.1.2 Properties

Used for specifying the abstractions:

- Safety properties (something "bad" has not happened)

 If a property P has been violated in some execution E, then there exists a prefix E' of E such that in every extension of E', property P is violated
- Liveness properties (something "good" will happen in the future [EVENTUALLY]) Property P can be satisfied by some extension E of a given execution E

Safety or Liveness alone is not very useful. Only combination of both properties.

2.1.3 Process Failures

A process consists of different modules - if one of them fails the entire thing fails at once.

★ Crashes

- Omission failures (message sending and receiving events are omitted)
- Crash-Recovery Failure
 - store(-) operation to write to stable storage
 - upon recovery, one can restore(-) data from this stable storage
- Eavesdropping Fault

★ Arbitrary Fault (Byzantine Fault)

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2.2 Cryptographic Abstraction

• Hash functions (SHA-256)

 $H: 0, 1^* \to \{0, 1\}^k$

- collision-free: difficult to find x, x' with $x \neq x'$ and H(x) = H(x')
- Message-Authentication-Code (MAC) (HMAC-SHA256)
 - $authentication(p, q, m) \rightarrow a$
 - $verifyAuth(p, q, m, a) \rightarrow YES/NO$
- Digital Signatures (RSA, (EC)DSA)
 - $sign(p, m) \rightarrow s$
 - $verifySign(p, m, s) \rightarrow YES/NO$
 - ★ Correctness:

 $\forall m, p : verifySign(p, m, sign(p, m)) = YES$

★ Security:

 $\forall \overline{m, p, s}$: verifySign(p, m, s) = No, unless p has executed $sign(p, m) \rightarrow s$

2.3 Communication Abstraction

Every process can send messages to every other process.

2.3.1 Stubborn point-to-point links

Events:

 $\langle sl.send \mid q, m \rangle$ { send message m to process q $\langle sl.deliver \mid p, m \rangle$ { deliver a received message m from process p

Properties:

Stubborn delivery:

If a process sends a message m to process q, then m is infinitely often delivered at q.

No creation:

If some process q delivers some message m from p then process p has previously sent m to q.

2.3.2 Perfect point-to-point links

Events:

 $\langle sl.send \mid q, m \rangle$ $\langle sl.deliver \mid p, m \rangle$

Properties:

Reliable delivery:

If a correct process sends a message m to a correct process q then q eventually delivers m

No creation:

If process q delivers some m from process p then p has sent m to q

At-most-once delivery:

Every message m is delivered at most once from p to q.



2.3.3 Alg. impl. perfect links (pl) from stubborn links (sl)

```
 \begin{array}{c} \underline{\text{INIT:}} \\ \overline{\mathbb{D}} \leftarrow \emptyset \\ \underline{\text{upon }} \langle pl.send \mid q,m \rangle \, \underline{\text{do}} \\ \underline{\text{trigger }} \langle sl,send \mid q,m \rangle \\ \underline{\text{upon }} \langle sl.deliver \mid p,m \rangle \, \underline{\text{do}} \\ \underline{\text{if }} (p,m) \not\in \mathbb{D} \, \underline{\text{then}} \\ \overline{\mathbb{D}} \leftarrow \mathbb{D} \cup \{(p,m)\} \\ \underline{\text{trigger }} \langle pl.deliver \mid p,m \rangle \\ \end{array}
```

2.4 Timing Assumptions

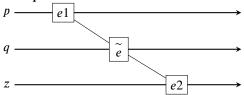
• Asynchronous model (Logical Timing)



If e2 happened after e1 in one process, we know the sequence of events.

If we know that e1 caused e2, we know that e2 happened after e1.

- Three processes



Transitivity holds across processes, so if e1 caused e which cause e2, e2 happened after e1.

• Other time models exist

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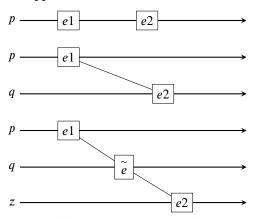
3 Timing Assumptions - March 3, 2020

3.1 Asynchronous System

Logical clock creates a logical time

- Each process *p* keeps a logical clock *lp* (initially 0)
- When an event *e* on *p* occurs, then $lp \leftarrow lp + 1$
- When p sends a message m to q, then p attaches a timestamp ts(m) = lp to m
- When p receives a message m' with ts(m'), then p sets $lp \leftarrow max\{lp, ts(m')\} + 1$

3.1.1 Happens-before relation



In each of these we can say that e1 happens before e2

3.1.2 Lemma

```
e1 occurs at p at lp
e2 occurs at q at lq
\Rightarrow e1 \rightarrow e2, then lp < lq, but not the other way round!
```

3.2 Synchronous System

EITHER:

- Assume every process has access to a real-time clock (*RTC*)

OR:

- Synchronous computation (bounds on computation time)
- Synchonous communication (bounds on message-transmission time)

CAREFUL! when synchrony, assumptions are needed for safety properties

3.3 Partially Synchronous Model

- Synchronous most of the time
- When asynchronous, must not violate safety Formally captured by abstraction of an eventually synchonous system.
- Initial period of asynchrony
- After some point in time (unknown to algorithm), system is synchonous

NOTE: Abstract model will remain synchronous forever after sync-point. In practice, periods of synchrony and asynchrony alternate.

3.4 Abstracting Time

DEFINITION: Perfect Failure Detecture P

EVENT: $\langle \mathbb{P}.Crash \mid p \rangle$ denotes that process p has crashed.

PROPERTIES:

STRONG COMPLETENESS:

Eventually every process that has crashed is detected by all correct processes.

STRONG ACCURACY:

For any process p, if p detects that q crashed, then q has crashed.

Formally, all processes are either alive forever or they crash and stop.

Suppose a notion of time in \mathbb{N} :

 $C: \mathbb{N} \to \Pi$, C(t) denotes the processes that are live at time t.

 $F: \mathbb{N} \to \Pi$, F(t) denotes the proceses that are faulty (crashed) at time t.

 $p \in F(t)$, then $\forall t' \ge t$: $p \in F(t')$ (crashes are irreversible)

 $\mathbb{F} = \bigcup_{t>0} F(t)$, set of all faulty processes

 $\mathbb{C} = \Pi \setminus \mathbb{F}$, set of all correct processes

Strong Completeness:

 $\exists t : \forall p \in \mathbb{F}, \forall q \in \mathbb{C} : \exists t' \geq t : \langle \mathbb{P}.Crash \mid p \rangle \text{ occurs on process } q \text{ at time } t'.$

Strong Accuracy:

 $\forall q \in \mathbb{C} \text{ if } \langle \mathbb{P}.Crash \mid p \rangle \text{ occurs on process } q \text{ at time } t \text{ then } p \in F(t).$

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3.4.1 Implementing \mathbb{P}

```
Initialization: start timer Δ alive ← Π detected ← \emptyset

upon timeout do for all p \in \Pi do

if p \notin alive \land p \notin detected then detected ← detected cup\{p\} start timer with Δ alive ← \emptyset send msg [PING] to all p \in \Pi

upon receive msg. [PING] from p do send msg [PONG] to p

upon receiving [PONG] from p do alive ← alive \cup \{p\}
```

DEFINITION: Leader Election

EVENT: $\langle le.leader \mid p \rangle$, elects p to be leader

PROPERTIES (Eventual Leadership):

Eventually, some process l is elected leader by every correct process

ACCURACY

If a process is elected leader then all previously elected leaders have crashed.

DEFINITION: Eventually Perfect Failure Detector

EVENTS:

 $\langle \diamond \mathbb{P}.Suspect \mid p \rangle$, process *p* is suspected.

 $\langle \diamond \mathbb{P}.Restore \mid p \rangle$, process p is thought to be alive.

PROPERTIES

STRONG COMPLETENESS:

Eventually, every process that has crashed is suspected by every correct process

EVENTUAL STRONG ACCURACY:

Eventually, every process that has crashed is suspected permanently by every correct process.

Model	Processes	Timing	
fail-stop	crash-stop	synchronous	$\langle \mathbb{P} \rangle$
fail-noisy	crash-stop	partially synchronous	$\langle \diamond \mathbb{P} \rangle, N > 2F$
fail-silent	crash-stop	asynchronous	N > 2F

- 4 4th Lecture March 4, 2020
 - 4.1 sub