



# Distributed Systems

CHANG AND ROBERTS ALGORITHM

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*REPORT*

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# 1 Introduction

Our problem is to find a leader in a certain distributed network. In our considerations, we will only examine structures with the following assumptions:

- Each process in the network has a unique identifier (ID)
- The goal is to elect the process with the highest ID as the leader
- Processes communicate asynchronously — messages may be delayed arbitrarily; there is no global clock, meaning processes operate independently and at their own pace
- The network topology is a directed ring
- In the end, each process knows whether it is:
  - A leader — the process with the highest ID
  - A subordinate — a process that is not the leader
  - Who the leader is (*this is not always required*)

## 2 Algorithm

### 2.1 Communication Protocol

Let us begin by formally describing our structure. We have a graph  $G$  with  $n$  vertices, where each vertex represents a process  $P_i$ , where  $i$  is the value in that vertex. These processes will communicate using the following message:

$MESSAGE(a, b)$  will contain two values:

- $a$  - the ID of the process
- $b$  - a flag (0 or 1) indicating whether the message is propagating the leader

Additionally,  $P_{right(i)}$  denotes the right neighbor, and  $P_{left(i)}$  the left neighbor of process  $i$ .

### 2.2 Execution Scheme

Initially, each process  $P_i$  sends a message  $MESSAGE(i, 0)$  to its right neighbor  $P_{right(i)}$ .

Then we analyze the behavior of a single process  $P_x$  when it receives the message  $MESSAGE(y, b)$  from its left neighbor  $P_{left(i)}$ :

- if  $b == 0$ , we are still searching for the leader:
  - if  $y < x$  the message is discarded
  - if  $y > x$ , a message  $MESSAGE(y, 0)$  is sent to  $P_{right(x)}$  and  $P_x$  knows it is a subordinate
  - if  $y == x$ ,  $P_x$  knows it is the leader. If it is required that each node knows who the leader is, the leader starts propagating the message  $MESSAGE(x, 1)$
- if  $b == 1$ 
  - if  $y \neq x$ , the message  $MESSAGE(y, 1)$  is forwarded
  - if  $y == x$ , the message has completed its round and is discarded

## 2.3 Conclusions

Note that the worst-case running time is equal to  $n \times$  the time to send a single message. The pessimistic complexity of the total number of messages sent is  $O(n^2)$ . In the average case, the number of all messages sent is  $O(n \log n)$ .

## 2.4 Pessimistic Complexity

The algorithm can have this complexity when the processes are arranged in order  $P_1, P_2, \dots, P_n$ , and then the  $i$ -th process must traverse a path of length  $i$ , so:

$$\sum_{i=1}^n i = \frac{n(n-1)}{2} = O(n^2)$$

## 2.5 Average Complexity

To calculate the average complexity, we need to compute the expected number of all messages, where  $E_i$  is the expected length of the path a message from node  $i$  will travel before it stops being propagated:

$$E = \sum_{i=1}^n E_i$$

We now compute the expected value for a specific node  $i$ :

$$E_i = \frac{n}{n+1-i}$$

Node  $i$  is the  $(n+1-i)$ -th largest node, so the probability that the message survives one step is that it encounters a smaller value, i.e.,:

$$\frac{n - (n+1-i)}{n} = \frac{i-1}{n}$$

Thus, the probability of stopping is:

$$\frac{n+1-i}{n}$$

What we are doing is making independent attempts to pass the ID to the next process. In each attempt, there is a chance of success, which is the ID not being passed further, and this probability is

$$\frac{n+1-i}{n}$$

What we are asking is: how many attempts are needed until the first success occurs? What we have here is a geometric distribution with a success probability of  $p = \frac{n+1-i}{n}$ , therefore:

$$E_i = \frac{1}{p} = \frac{1}{\frac{n+1-i}{n}} = \frac{n}{n+1-i}$$

Now we sum over all:

$$E = \sum_{i=1}^n E_i = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{n}{n+1-i} = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{n}{i} = n \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{i} = nH_n$$

Now let's estimate  $H_n$ . We'll use the fact that the function  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$  is continuous and decreasing:

$$\int_1^\infty \frac{1}{x} dx = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^n \frac{1}{x} dx = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \ln x|_1^n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\ln n - \ln 1 + c) = \ln n + c$$

So

$$H_n = \ln n + O(1) \approx .69 \log n + O(1)$$

Therefore:

$$nH_n \approx .69n \log n + O(n) = O(n \log n)$$

### 3 Algorithm Minimizing Pessimistic Complexity

We can improve our algorithm by assigning each process  $P_i$  a random value  $rand(i)$ .

#### 3.1 Communication Protocol

This time each process  $P_i$  additionally holds a value  $rand(i)$ , so the message will look like this:  $MESSAGE(a, b, c)$  will contain three values:

- a - the randID of the process
- b - the ID of the process
- c - a flag 0, 1, or 2 depending on whether the message is searching the randID leader, propagating the randID leader, ID leader

#### 3.2 Execution Scheme

We start by assigning each process  $P_i$  a random value  $rand(i)$ .

Then, initially, each process  $P_i$  sends the message  $MESSAGE(rand(i), i, 0)$  to its right neighbor  $P_{right(i)}$ .

First, the search is for the Rand-leader. Once found, it starts propagating its info while also searching for the leader based on ID, and then propagating that information.

Now consider the behavior of a specific process  $P_x$  that receives the message  $MESSAGE(u, y, b)$  from  $P_{left(x)}$ :

- if  $b == 0$ , we are still looking for the Rand-leader:
  - if  $u < rand(x)$ , the message is discarded
  - if  $u > rand(x)$ , the message  $MESSAGE(u, x, 0)$  is forwarded to  $P_{right(x)}$
  - if  $u == rand(x)$ ,  $P_x$  knows it is the Rand-leader. It begins propagating the message  $MESSAGE(u, y, 1)$  to find the ID leader
- if  $b == 1$ 
  - if  $u \neq rand(x)$ 
    - \* if  $x > y$ , update the ID and send  $MESSAGE(u, x, 1)$
    - \* otherwise, forward the message  $MESSAGE(u, y, b)$
  - if  $u == rand(x)$ , the message has returned to the Rand-leader and contains the leader by ID. It now starts propagating this information with the message  $MESSAGE(u, y, 2)$
- if  $b == 2$ 
  - if  $u \neq rand(x)$ , the process  $P_x$  knows it is a subordinate of  $y$  and forwards the info
  - if  $u == rand(x)$ , the message has returned to the Rand-leader and the communication ends

### 3.3 Conclusions

Since each process has an assigned random ID, we minimize the chance of encountering the worst-case scenario. The algorithm still has an average complexity of  $O(n \log n)$ , because propagation of messages with flags 1 and 2 is linear.

## 4 Code

```
1 package king
2 import (
3     "encoding/binary"
4     "math/rand"
5 )
6
7 type ICandidate interface {
8     SelectLeader() int
9 }
10
11 func NewCandidate(id int, input <-chan []byte, output chan<- []byte) ICandidate {
12     x := rand.Uint64()
13     //println("node", id, x)
14     return &Candidate{id, input, output, x}
15 }
16
17 type Candidate struct {
18     id int
19     input <-chan []byte
20     output chan<- []byte
21     randid uint64
22 }
23
24 func (candidate *Candidate) SelectLeader() int {
25
26     data := make([]byte, 8*3)
27     binary.BigEndian.PutUint64(data[0:8], candidate.randid)
28     binary.BigEndian.PutUint64(data[8:16], 0)
29     binary.BigEndian.PutUint64(data[16:24], uint64(candidate.id))
30     go func(){
31         //println("wysylka", candidate.id, candidate.randid, 0, candidate.id)
32         candidate.output <- data
33     }()
34
35     for {
36         datarecv := <- candidate.input
37         recvId := binary.BigEndian.Uint64(datarecv[0:8])
38         ifleader := binary.BigEndian.Uint64(datarecv[8:16])
39         goodid := binary.BigEndian.Uint64(datarecv[16:24])
40         //println("odbior", candidate.id, recvId, ifleader, goodid)
41         if(ifleader==2){
42             if(candidate.randid == recvId){
43                 return int(goodid)
44             } else{
45                 //println("wysylka", candidate.id, recvId, ifleader, goodid)
46                 candidate.output <- datarecv
47                 return int(goodid)
48             }
49         }
50         if(ifleader==1){
51             if(candidate.randid == recvId){
52                 code := make([]byte, 8*3)
53                 binary.BigEndian.PutUint64(code[0:8], recvId)
```

```

55     binary.BigEndian.PutUint64(code[8:16], 2)
56     binary.BigEndian.PutUint64(code[16:24], goodid)
57     //println("wysylka", candidate.id, reciveId, 2, goodid)
58     candidate.output <- code
59
60 } else{
61     if(candidate.id>int(goodid)){
62         code:=make([]byte, 8*3)
63         binary.BigEndian.PutUint64(code[0:8], reciveId)
64         binary.BigEndian.PutUint64(code[8:16], 1)
65         binary.BigEndian.PutUint64(code[16:24], uint64(candidate.id))
66         //println("wysylka", candidate.id, reciveId, 1, candidate.id)
67         candidate.output <- code
68
69     } else {
70         //println("wysylka", candidate.id, reciveId, 1, goodid)
71         candidate.output <- datarecive
72
73     }
74 }
75 } else if(ifleader==0){
76     if(candidate.randid < reciveId){
77         code:=make([]byte, 8*3)
78         binary.BigEndian.PutUint64(code[0:8], reciveId)
79         binary.BigEndian.PutUint64(code[8:16], 0)
80         binary.BigEndian.PutUint64(code[16:24], uint64(candidate.id))
81         //println("wysylka", candidate.id, reciveId, 0, candidate.id)
82         candidate.output <- code
83
84     } else if( candidate.randid == reciveId){
85         code:=make([]byte, 8*3)
86         binary.BigEndian.PutUint64(code[0:8], reciveId)
87         binary.BigEndian.PutUint64(code[8:16], 1)
88         binary.BigEndian.PutUint64(code[16:24], uint64(candidate.id))
89         //println("wysylka kurwa", candidate.id, reciveId, 1, uint64(candidate.id))
90         candidate.output <- code
91
92     }
93 }
94 }
95
96 }

```