

In this specification we define notions on *DAGs* useful for DAG-based consensus protocols (which build *DAGs* of blocks)

EXTENDS *FiniteSets, Sequences, Integers, Utils, Digraph, TLC*

CONSTANTS

$N$  The set of all network nodes (not *DAG* nodes)  
 $R$  The set of rounds  
 $Leader(-)$  operator mapping each round to its leader

For our purpose of checking safety and liveness, *DAG* vertices just consist of a node and a round.

$V \triangleq N \times R$  the set of possible *DAG* vertices  
 $Node(v) \triangleq v[1]$   
 $Round(v) \triangleq \text{IF } v = \langle \rangle \text{ THEN } 0 \text{ ELSE } v[2]$  accomodates  $\langle \rangle$  as default value

Next we define leader vertices:

$LeaderVertex(r) \triangleq \text{IF } r > 0 \text{ THEN } \langle Leader(r), r \rangle \text{ ELSE } \langle \rangle$   
 $IsLeader(v) \triangleq LeaderVertex(Round(v)) = v$   
 $Genesis \triangleq \langle \rangle$   
 ASSUME  $IsLeader(Genesis)$  this should hold

$OrderSet(S)$  arbitrarily order the members of the set  $S$ . Note that, in TLA+, CHOOSE is deterministic but arbitrary choice, *i.e.* CHOOSE  $e \in S : \text{TRUE}$  is always the same  $e$  if  $S$  is the same

RECURSIVE  $OrderSet(-)$   
 $OrderSet(S) \triangleq \text{IF } S = \{\} \text{ THEN } \langle \rangle \text{ ELSE}$   
     LET  $e \triangleq \text{CHOOSE } e \in S : \text{TRUE}$   
     IN  $Append(OrderSet(S \setminus \{e\}), e)$

$PreviousLeader(dag, r)$  returns the leader vertex in *dag* whose round is the largest but smaller than  $r$ . We assume that *dag* contains at least the genesis vertex.

$PreviousLeader(dag, r) \triangleq \text{CHOOSE } l \in Vertices(dag) :$   
      $\wedge IsLeader(l)$   
      $\wedge Round(l) = \text{Max}(\{Round(l2) : l2 \in$   
          $\{l2 \in Vertices(dag) : IsLeader(l2) \wedge Round(l2) < r\}\})$

Linearize a *DAG*. In a real blockchain we should use a topological ordering, but, for the purpose of ensuring agreement, an arbitrary ordering (as provided by  $OrderSet$ ) is fine. This assume a *DAG* where all paths end with the *Genesis* vertex.

RECURSIVE  $Linearize(-, -)$   
 $Linearize(dag, l) \triangleq \text{IF } Vertices(dag) = \{\langle \rangle\} \text{ THEN } \langle \rangle \text{ ELSE}$   
     LET  $dagOfL \triangleq SubDag(dag, \{l\})$   
      $prevL \triangleq PreviousLeader(dagOfL, Round(l))$   
      $dagOfPrev \triangleq SubDag(dag, \{prevL\})$   
      $remaining \triangleq Vertices(dagOfL) \setminus Vertices(dagOfPrev)$

IN  $Linearize(dagOfPrev, prevL) \circ OrderSet(remaining \setminus \{l\}) \circ \langle l \rangle$

$Compatible(s1, s2) \triangleq$  whether the sequence  $s1$  is a prefix of the sequence  $s2$ , or vice versa  
 $\forall i \in 1 \dots Min(\{Len(s1), Len(s2)\}) : s1[i] = s2[i]$

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