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MODULE *BlockDag*

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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  
 $\text{Leader}(\_)$  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  
 $\text{Node}(v) \triangleq v[1]$   
 $\text{Round}(v) \triangleq \text{IF } v = \langle \rangle \text{ THEN } 0 \text{ ELSE } v[2]$  accomodates  $\langle \rangle$  as default value

Next we define leader vertices:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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