

This is a specification of the commit-adopt algorithm of Gafni and Losa in the message-adversary model with dynamic participation. The specification is written in PlusCal and TLA+.

The message-adversary model with dynamic participation is like the sleepy model, except that processes never fail; instead, the adversary corrupts their messages. This has the same effect as processes being faulty but is cleaner to model.

Note that, to check this specification with the TLC model-checker, you must first translate the PlusCal algorithm to TLA+ using the TLA toolbox or the TLA+ VSCode extension.

EXTENDS *Naturals*, *FiniteSets*

CONSTANTS

- P the set of processors
- , V the set of possible values
- , Bot the special value “bottom”, indicating the absence of something
- , $Lambda$ the failure notification “lambda”
- , $NoCommit$ an indication that a processors didn’t see a unanimous majority in round 1 of the algorithm

$Distinct(s) \triangleq \forall i, j \in \text{DOMAIN } s : i \neq j \Rightarrow s[i] \cap s[j] = \{\}$
 ASSUME $Distinct(\langle P, V, \{Bot\}, \{Lambda\}, \{NoCommit\} \rangle)$

--algorithm *CA*{

variables

$input \in [P \rightarrow V]$; the processors’ inputs
 $sent = [p \in P \mapsto Bot]$; messages sent in the current round
 $received = [p \in P \mapsto [q \in P \mapsto Bot]]$; message received by p from q in the current round
 $rnd = 1$; the current round (1, 2, or 3); we end at 3 but nothing happens in round 3
 $output = [p \in P \mapsto Bot]$; the processors’ outputs
 $participating = [r \in \{1, 2\} \mapsto \{\}]$; the set of participating processors in round r
 $corrupted = [r \in \{1, 2\} \mapsto \{\}]$; the set of corrupted processors in round r

define {

first we make some auxiliary definitions

the set of processors from which p received a message:

$HeardOf(rcvd) \triangleq \{p \in P : rcvd[p] \neq Bot\}$

the set of minority subsets of S :

$Minority(S) \triangleq \{M \in \text{SUBSET } S : 2 * Cardinality(M) < Cardinality(S)\}$

$VoteCount(rcvd, v) \triangleq Cardinality(\{p \in P : rcvd[p] = v\})$

$VotedByMajority(rcvd) \triangleq \{v \in V : 2 * VoteCount(rcvd, v) > Cardinality(HeardOf(rcvd))\}$

$MostVotedFor(rcvd) \triangleq \{v \in V : \forall w \in V \setminus \{v\} : VoteCount(rcvd, v) \geq VoteCount(rcvd, w)\}$

for technical reasons, we need the program counter of a processor in round r :

$Pc(r) \triangleq \text{CASE } r = 1 \rightarrow \text{“r1”}$

$\square r = 2 \rightarrow \text{“r2”}$

$\square r = 3 \rightarrow \text{“r3”}$

Now the two safety properties:

$Agreement \triangleq \forall p, q \in P : output[p] \neq Bot \wedge output[q] \neq Bot \wedge output[p][1] = \text{“commit”}$

$$\Rightarrow output[p][2] = output[q][2]$$

$$Validity \triangleq \forall p \in P : \forall v \in V :$$

$$pc[p] = \text{"Done"} \wedge (\forall q \in P : input[q] = v) \Rightarrow output[p] = \langle \text{"commit"}, v \rangle$$

```

}
macro broadcast( v ) {
  sent := [sent EXCEPT ![self] = v]
}

```

The following macro is used to deliver messages to the processors. It includes message corruptions by the adversary.

```

macro deliver_msgs( ) {
  with ( ByzMsg  $\in [P \rightarrow [corrupted[rnd] \rightarrow V \cup \{Bot, Lambda, NoCommit\}]]$  ) {
    we assert the properties of the no-equivocation model:
    when  $\forall p1, p2 \in P : \forall q \in corrupted[rnd] :$ 
      ByzMsg[p1][q]  $\in V \Rightarrow ByzMsg[p2][q] \in \{ByzMsg[p1][q], Lambda\}$ ;
    received := [p  $\in P \mapsto [q \in P \mapsto$ 
      IF q  $\in corrupted[rnd]$ 
      THEN ByzMsg[p][q]
      ELSE sent[q]]];
  } ;
}

```

Now the specification of the algorithm:

```

fair process ( proc  $\in P$  ) {
  in round 1, vote for input[self]:
r1: broadcast(input[self]);
r2: await rnd = 2;
  if there is a majority for a value v, propose to commit v:
  if ( VotedByMajority(received[self])  $\neq \{\}$  )
    with ( v  $\in VotedByMajority(received[self])$  ) the set is a singleton at this point
      broadcast(v)
  else
    broadcast(NoCommit);
r3: await rnd = 3;
  if ( VotedByMajority(received[self])  $\neq \{\}$  ) if there is a majority for a value v, commit v:
    with ( v  $\in VotedByMajority(received[self])$  ) the set is a singleton at this point
      output[self] := <"commit", v>
  else if ( MostVotedFor(received[self])  $\neq \{\}$  ) otherwise, adopt a most voted value:
    with ( v  $\in MostVotedFor(received[self])$  ) there can be multiple values in the set
      output[self] := <"adopt", v>
  else if no value was voted for, adopt input:
    output[self] := <"adopt", input[self]>
}

```

Below we specify the behavior of the adversary. The no-equivocation model guarantees that if a processor receives v from p , then all receive v or $Lambda$.

```

fair process ( adversary  $\in \{\text{"adversary"}\}$  ) {
adv: while ( rnd < 3 ) {
  await  $\forall p \in P : pc[p] = Pc(rnd + 1)$ ;
}

```

```

    pick a participating set:
with ( Participating  $\in$  SUBSET P ) {
    when Participating  $\neq$  {} ;
    participating[rnd] := Participating ;
} ;
    pick a set of corrupted processors:
with ( Corrupted  $\in$  Minority(participating[rnd]) )
    corrupted[rnd] := Corrupted ;
    deliver_msgs() ;
    rnd := rnd + 1 ;
}
}
}

```

Canary invariants that should break (this is to make sure that the specification reaches expected states):

Canary1 $\triangleq \forall p \in P : \text{output}[p] = \text{Bot}$

Canary2 $\triangleq \forall p, q \in P :$
 $\wedge \text{output}[p] \neq \text{Bot}$
 $\wedge \text{output}[q] \neq \text{Bot}$
 $\Rightarrow \neg(\text{output}[p][1] = \text{"commit"} \wedge \text{output}[q][1] = \text{"adopt"})$

Canary3 $\triangleq \forall p, q \in P :$
 $\wedge \text{output}[p] \neq \text{Bot}$
 $\wedge \text{output}[q] \neq \text{Bot}$
 $\Rightarrow \neg(\text{output}[p][1] = \text{"adopt"} \wedge \text{output}[q][1] = \text{"adopt"} \wedge \text{output}[p][2] \neq \text{output}[q][2])$

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