

EXTENDS *FiniteSets, Integers, Utils*

CONSTANTS

P the set of processes
 , B the set of malicious processes
 , $tAdv$ the time it takes for a malicious process to produce a message
 , tWB the time it takes for a well-behaved process to produce a message

ASSUME $B \subseteq P$ malicious processes are a subset of all processes

$W \triangleq P \setminus B$ the set of well-behaved processes

$Tick \triangleq Nat$ a tick is a real-time clock tick

$Round \triangleq Nat$ a round is just a tag on a message

Processes build a *DAG* of messages. The message-production rate of well-behaved processes is of 1 message per tWB ticks, and that of malicious processes is of 1 message per $tAdv$ ticks. We require that, collectively, well-behaved processes produce messages at a rate strictly higher than that of malicious processes.

ASSUME $Cardinality(W) * tAdv > Cardinality(B) * tWB$

A message consists of a unique *ID*, a round number, and a coffer containing the *IDs* of a set of predecessor messages:

$MessageID \triangleq P \times Nat$

$Message \triangleq [id : MessageID, round : Round, coffer : SUBSET MessageID]$

$sender(m) \triangleq m.id[1]$

A strongly consistent chain is a subset of the messages in the *DAG* that potentially has some dangling pointers (*i.e.* messages that have predecessors not in the chain) and that satisfies the following recursive predicate:

* Any set of messages which all have a round of 0 is a strongly consistent chain.

* A set of messages C with some non-zero rounds and maximal round r is a strongly consistent chain when, with Tip being the set of messages in the chain that have round r and $Pred$ being the set of messages in the chain with round $r - 1$, $Pred$ is a strict majority of the set of predecessors of each message in Tip and $C \setminus Tip$ is a consistent chain.

The max round of a set of messages is the maximal round of its messages:

$MaxRound(M) \triangleq MaxInteger(\{m.round : m \in M\})$

$StronglyConsistentChain(M) \triangleq$

$\wedge M \neq \{\}$

$\wedge \vee MaxRound(M) = 0$

$\vee \forall r \in 1 \dots MaxRound(M) :$

LET $Tip \triangleq \{m \in M : m.round = r\}$

$Pred \triangleq \{m \in M : m.round = r - 1\}$

IN $\wedge Tip \neq \{\}$

$\wedge \forall m \in Tip :$

$\wedge \{m2.id : m2 \in Pred\} \subseteq m.coffer$

$$\wedge 2 * \text{Cardinality}(\text{Pred}) > \text{Cardinality}(m.\text{coffer})$$

A weaker version of the above:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ConsistentChain}(M) &\triangleq \\ &\wedge M \neq \{\} \\ &\wedge \vee \text{MaxRound}(M) = 0 \\ &\vee \forall r \in 1 \dots \text{MaxRound}(M) : \\ &\quad \text{LET } \text{Tip} \triangleq \{m \in M : m.\text{round} = r\} \\ &\quad \text{Pred} \triangleq \{m \in M : m.\text{round} = r - 1\} \\ &\quad \text{IN } \wedge \text{Tip} \neq \{\} \\ &\quad \wedge \forall m \in \text{Tip} : \exists \text{Maj} \in \text{SUBSET Pred} : \\ &\quad \quad \wedge \{m2.\text{id} : m2 \in \text{Maj}\} \subseteq m.\text{coffer} \\ &\quad \wedge 2 * \text{Cardinality}(\text{Maj}) > \text{Cardinality}(m.\text{coffer}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{SubsetsWithMaxRound}(M, r) \triangleq \{M2 \in \text{SUBSET } M : \exists m \in M2 : m.\text{round} = r\}$$

The set of all consistent chains that can be found in M :

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ConsistentChains}(M, r) &\triangleq \\ &\{C \in \text{SubsetsWithMaxRound}(M, r) : \text{ConsistentChain}(C)\} \end{aligned}$$

The set of all strongly consistent chains that can be found in M :

$$\begin{aligned} \text{StronglyConsistentChains}(M, r) &\triangleq \\ &\{C \in \text{SubsetsWithMaxRound}(M, r) : \text{StronglyConsistentChain}(C)\} \end{aligned}$$

We can rank the chains by weight, *i.e.* just their cardinality, or we can consider the maximal or minimal one in the subset order:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{HeaviestConsistentChains}(M, r) &\triangleq \text{MaxCardinalitySets}(\text{ConsistentChains}(M, r)) \\ \text{HeaviestStronglyConsistentChains}(M, r) &\triangleq \text{MaxCardinalitySets}(\text{StronglyConsistentChains}(M, r)) \\ \text{MinimalStronglyConsistentChains}(M, r) &\triangleq \text{MinimalSets}(\text{StronglyConsistentChains}(M, r)) \\ \text{MaximalStronglyConsistentChains}(M, r) &\triangleq \text{MaximalSets}(\text{StronglyConsistentChains}(M, r)) \end{aligned}$$

Two chains are disjoint when there is a round smaller than their max round in which they have no messages in common.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{DisjointChains}(C1, C2) &\triangleq \\ &\text{LET } r_{\text{max}} \triangleq \text{MaxRound}(C1 \cup C2) \\ &\text{IN } \exists r \in 0 \dots (r_{\text{max}} - 1) : \\ &\quad \{m \in C1 : m.\text{round} = r\} \cap \{m \in C2 : m.\text{round} = r\} = \{\} \end{aligned}$$

Acceptance rule

$$\begin{aligned} \text{AcceptedMessages}(M, r) &\triangleq \{m \in M : \\ &\wedge m.\text{round} = r - 1 \\ &\wedge \text{LET } CCs \triangleq \text{MinimalStronglyConsistentChains}(M, r - 1) \text{IN} \quad \text{This looks promising!} \\ &\quad \wedge \exists C \in CCs : m \in C \\ &\quad \wedge \forall C1, C2 \in CCs : \\ &\quad \quad \wedge m \in C1 \\ &\quad \quad \wedge m \notin C2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \wedge \text{DisjointChains}(C1, C2) \\ & \Rightarrow \text{Cardinality}(C2) \leq \text{Cardinality}(C1) \} \end{aligned}$$

M does not have dangling edges:

$$\text{Closed}(M) \triangleq \forall m \in M : \forall i \in m.\text{coffer} : \exists m2 \in M : m2.\text{id} = i$$

Now we specify the algorithm

```

--algorithm Algo{
  variables
    messages = {};
    tick = 0;
    phase = "start";  each tick has two phases: "start" and "end"
    donePhase = [p ∈ P ↦ "end"];
    pendingMessage = [p ∈ P ↦ ⟨⟩];  message we're computing the VDF on
    messageCount = [p ∈ P ↦ 0];  used to generate unique message IDs
  define {
    currentRound  $\triangleq$  tick ÷ tWB  round of well-behaved processes
    wellBehavedMessages  $\triangleq$  {m ∈ messages : sender(m) ∈ P \ B}
    possible sets of messages received by a well-behaved process:
    receivedMsgsSets  $\triangleq$ 
      ignore messages from future rounds:
      LET msgs  $\triangleq$  {m ∈ messages : m.round < currentRound} IN
      {M ∈ SUBSET msgs :
        don't use a set of messages that has dangling edges (messages in coffers that are missing):
        ∧ Closed(M)
        ∧ wellBehavedMessages ⊆ M}
  }
  macro sendMessage( m ) {
    messages := messages ∪ {m}
  }
  process ( clock ∈ {"clock"} ) {
tick:  while ( TRUE ) {
    await ∀ p ∈ P : donePhase[p] = phase;
    if ( phase = "start" )
      phase := "end"
    else {
      phase := "start";
      tick := tick + 1
    }
  }
}
process ( proc ∈ P \ B )  a well-behaved process
{
l1:  while ( TRUE ) {

```

```

await phase = "start" ;
if ( tick%tWB = 0 ) {
    Start the VDF computation for the next message:
    with ( msgs ∈ receivedMsgsSets )
    with ( predMsgs = AcceptedMessages(msgs, currentRound) ) {
        pendingMessage[self] := [
            id ↦ ⟨self, messageCount[self] + 1⟩,
            round ↦ currentRound,
            coffer ↦ {m.id : m ∈ predMsgs} ;
        messageCount[self] := messageCount[self] + 1
    }
} ;
donePhase[self] := "start" ;
l2: await phase = "end" ;
if ( tick%tWB = tWB - 1 )
    it's the end of the tWB period, the VDF has been computed
    sendMessage(pendingMessage[self]) ;
    donePhase[self] := "end" ;
}
}
process ( byz ∈ B ) a malicious process
{
l1: while ( TRUE ) {
    await phase = "start" ;
    if ( tick%tAdv = 0 ) {
        Start the VDF computation for the next message:
        with ( maxRound = Max({m.round : m ∈ messages} ∪ {0}, ≤) )
        with ( rnd ∈ {maxRound, maxRound + 1} )
        with ( predMsgs ∈ SUBSET {m ∈ messages : m.round = rnd - 1} ) {
            when rnd > 0 ⇒ predMsgs ≠ {} ;
            pendingMessage[self] := [
                id ↦ ⟨self, messageCount[self] + 1⟩,
                round ↦ rnd,
                coffer ↦ {m.id : m ∈ predMsgs} ;
            messageCount[self] := messageCount[self] + 1
        }
    } ;
    donePhase[self] := "start" ;
l2: await phase = "end" ;
    if ( tick%tAdv = tAdv - 1 )
        sendMessage(pendingMessage[self]) ;
        donePhase[self] := "end" ;
    } ;
}
}

```

$$TypeOK \triangleq$$
$$\begin{aligned} & \wedge \text{messages} \in \text{SUBSET } \text{Message} \\ & \wedge \text{pendingMessage} \in [P \rightarrow \text{Message} \cup \{\langle \rangle\}] \\ & \wedge \text{tick} \in \text{Tick} \\ & \wedge \text{phase} \in \{\text{"start"}, \text{"end"}\} \\ & \wedge \text{donePhase} \in [P \rightarrow \{\text{"start"}, \text{"end"}\}] \\ & \wedge \text{messageCount} \in [P \rightarrow \text{Nat}] \end{aligned}$$

The main property we want to establish is that, each round, for each message m of a well-behaved process, the messages of well-behaved processes from the previous round are all in m 's coffer and consist of a strict majority of m 's coffer.

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Safety} &\triangleq \forall p \in P \setminus B : \text{LET } m \triangleq \text{pendingMessage}[p] \text{ IN} \\
&\quad \wedge m \neq \langle \rangle \\
&\quad \wedge m.\text{round} > 0 \\
&\Rightarrow \\
&\quad \wedge \forall m2 \in \text{wellBehavedMessages} : m2.\text{round} = m.\text{round} - 1 \Rightarrow m2.\text{id} \in m.\text{coffer} \\
&\quad \wedge \text{LET } M \triangleq \{m2 \in \text{wellBehavedMessages} : m2.\text{round} = m.\text{round} - 1\} \\
&\quad \text{IN } 2 * \text{Cardinality}(M) > \text{Cardinality}(m.\text{coffer})
\end{aligned}$$

helper definition:

$$messageWithID(id) \triangleq \text{CHOOSE } m \in messages : m.id = id$$

Basic well-formedness properties:

$$\begin{aligned} Inv1 &\triangleq \forall m \in messages : \\ &\quad \wedge \forall m2 \in messages : m \neq m2 \Rightarrow m.id \neq m2.id \\ &\quad \wedge \forall id \in m.coffer : \\ &\quad \quad \wedge \exists m2 \in messages : m2.id = id \\ &\quad \quad \wedge messageWithID(id).round = m.round - 1 \end{aligned}$$