

NOVAK PROTOCOL LAWS

# Law L8: Temporal Ordering

---

Global Monotonic Consistency

Authoritative Edition

# L8 Definition

---

"Time is not a local clock. It is a global, monotonic, cryptographically bound sequence."

Events **MUST** occur in order.





# The Time Equation

---

Time is a hash, not just a number.

$$T = H( \text{UTC} \parallel \text{Sequence} \parallel \text{Device\_Drift} )$$

Ensures strict linear progression.

# Monotonicity

---

Time only moves forward. It can never loop back.



Attempting to use T-1 results in immediate block.

# PL-X Integration

---

## Hardware Clocks

L8 mandates the use of high-precision hardware counters (TSC/HPET) to prevent software spoofing.

## Drift Detection

If local time drifts beyond the allowed window (e.g., >50ms), the Safety Gate locks execution.



# Preventing Time Attacks

---



## Replay Attack

Using an old valid token.

**BLOCKED**



## Backdating

Faking a past event.

**BLOCKED**



## Future-Dating

Predicting future state.

**BLOCKED**



# Cryptographic Binding

---

The timestamp  $T$  is embedded inside the HVET.

```
HVET = Hash( ... || T )
```

This means:

-  You cannot change the time without breaking the hash.
-  You cannot change the data without breaking the time link.



# Global Consistency

---

## Trusted Nodes (TTAN)

Trusted Time Attestation Nodes provide the heartbeat.

## Cross-Verification

Systems verify each other's time delta. Large skews trigger a freeze.



# Summary

---



Temporal  
Ordering

## The Arrow of Time

L8 ensures that history is linear, monotonic, and irreversible. It is the heartbeat of the NOVAK protocol.

# Questions?

NOVAK Protocol Standards Series

Law L8: Temporal Ordering