

NOVAK PROTOCOL LAWS

Law L9: Forward-Only Integrity

Global Consistency & The Prohibition of Rewrites

Authoritative Edition

L9 Definition



"NOVAK prohibits rewriting history, erasing links, selective rollback, or partial execution. Every drift must be visible."

The One-Way Street

Time and Audit Logs only move in one direction.



To "Correct" an error, you must **Append** a correction.
You cannot **Delete** the error.

Strictly Prohibited



Rewriting History

Changing a past ledger entry.



Erasing Links

Removing evidence of a connection.



Selective Rollback

Undoing only specific bad transactions.



Partial Execution

Committing only half a state.

Drift Visibility

In legacy systems, admins can "fix" database errors silently.



In NOVAK, L9 forces every deviation to be recorded as a new event.

Visible Anomaly

Global Consistency

The Problem

Distributed systems often have "Split Brain" where Server A thinks X is true, and Server B thinks Y is true.

The Solution

Because history cannot be rewritten, there is only one valid chain tip. All nodes must converge on the Forward-Only path.

Convergent Truth



L9 ensures that valid states are universally agreed upon.

Enforcement Mechanism



The RGAC enforces L9.

- 🔒 Hash Pointers prevent insertion.
- ⌚ Monotonic Time prevents reordering.
- 🚫 Verification fails on any break.

Summary



Forward
Only

No Looking Back

L9 guarantees that the past is immutable. It prevents "Gaslighting" by systems or administrators by making every change a permanent, visible event.

Questions?

NOVAK Protocol Standards Series

Law L9: Global Consistency