Distributed Algorihtms Lab 3 report

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1 The assignment

The assignment asked to implement a randomized byzantine agreement algorithm on a distributed system. This algorithm is designed to give a distributed system, where some processes may be faulty, a way of reaching consensus without taking indefinitely long. Also because of the randomized component, the algorithm can run on asynchronous systems as well as synchronous systems. To hold on to this promises the number of faulty processes has to be lower than one fifth of the total number of processes. In the next section we will show our implementation is correct by subjecting it to different tests.

2 Test setup

To verify if our implementation is correct, we ran some tests. The test are designed to check on some boundary conditions. The variable parameters are the total number processes(n), the number of disloyal processes(f) and the type of faulty processes. table 1 shows the parameters for the different tests we ran. Each test is run for each type of faulty process to check the correct execution.

	n	f
All loyal	3	0
5f < n	8	1
5f = n	5	1
5f > n	5	2
large n	>=50	0

Table 1: Parameters for the different test

The last tests consists of multiple runs with an increasing number of processes, to test the time it takes to reach a decision.

3 Results

Below the different results for the tests mentioned in previous chapters are shown. To save on space only one result per test is shown.

3.1 All loyal test

Table 2 shows the result of a test run with all loyal processes. because of the small number, consensus is reached in the first round.

round	process 1	process 2	process 3
intial value	false	false	true
decision	false	false	false

Table 2: results for the test where all processes are loyal

3.2 5f < n test

Table 3 shows the result of a test run with only 1 disloyal process. The results show that the algorithm does reach consensus for this condition in 4 rounds.

round	process 1	process 2	process 3	process 4	process 5	process 6	process 7
intial value	true	false	true	false	false	true	true
1	true	true	true	true	false	false	false
2	false	true	false	false	true	true	true
3	true	true	false	true	true	true	true
decision	true						

Table 3: results for the test where 1 process is disloyal, compared to 7 loyal processes

$3.3 ext{ } 5f = n ext{ } test$

Table 4 shows the result of a test run where the condition 5f < n is just not met. Now the algorithm still reaches a consensus, but not the expected one given the intial values. Some test runs do not even reach consensus in a reasonable amount of time, or some show that 1 process reaches a decission without the others reaching it in the next round.

3.4 5f > n test

When the number of disloyal processes is increased to be a significant amount of the total number of processes the algorithm most of the time doesn't reach consensus within a reasonable amount of time.

round	process 1	process 2	process 3	process 4
intial value	intial value true		false	true
1	false	false	false	true
2	no random value	no random value	no random value	no random value
decision	false	false	false	false

Table 4: results for the test where 1 process is disloyal, compared to 4 loyal processes

3.5 Large n test

Table 5 shows the result for tests where n gets increasingly large, to save on data we only show the amount of rounds it took to reach consensus for the different process counts.

number of processes	Rounds untill consensus
50	141
60	147
70	4136
80	

Table 5: results for tests with increasingly larger N