Distributed Algorithms

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Reliable & Causal Broadcast
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Reliable broadcast

Specification:

- **Validity**: If a *correct* process broadcasts *m*, then it eventually delivers *m*.
- **Integrity**: m is delivered by a process at most once, and only if it was previously broadcast.
- **Agreement**: If a correct process delivers *m*, then all correct processes eventually deliver *m*.

Algorithm: Lazy Reliable Broadcast

Implements:
ReliableBroadcast, **instance** *rb*.

Uses:
BestEffortBroadcast, **instance** *beb*;
PerfectFailureDetector, **instance** $\mathcal{P}$.

upon event $\langle$ *rb*, *Init* $\rangle$ **do**
correct := Π;
from$[p]$:= $[\emptyset]^N$;

upon event $\langle$ *rb*, *Broadcast* | m $\rangle$ **do**
trigger $\langle$ *beb*, *Broadcast* | [DATA, *self*, m] $\rangle$;

upon event $\langle$ *beb*, *Deliver* | p, [DATA, s, m] $\rangle$ **do**
if $m \notin$ *from*$[s]$ **then**
trigger $\langle$ *rb*, *Deliver* | s, m $\rangle$;
from$[s]$:= *from*$[s] \cup \{m\}$;
if $s \notin$ *correct* **then**
trigger $\langle$ *beb*, *Broadcast* | [DATA, s, m] $\rangle$;

upon event $\langle$ $\mathcal{P}$, *Crash* | p $\rangle$ **do**
correct := *correct* $\setminus \{p\}$;
forall $m \in$ *from*$[p]$ **do**
trigger $\langle$ *beb*, *Broadcast* | [DATA, p, m] $\rangle$;

Strong accuracy:
No correct process is ever suspected:

$$\forall F, \forall H, \forall t \in \mathcal{T}, \forall p \in correct(F), \forall q : p \notin H(q,t)$$

Strong completeness:
Eventually, every faulty process is permanently suspected by every correct process:

$$\forall F, \forall H, \exists t \in \mathcal{T}, \forall p \in crashed(F), \forall q \in correct(F), \forall t' \geq t : p \in H(q,t')$$

Where:

- crashed(F) is the set of crashed processes.
- correct(F) is the set of correct processes.
- H(p, t) is the output of the failure detector of process p at time t.

Exercise 1

Implement a reliable broadcast algorithm without using any failure detector, i.e., using only *BestEffort-Broadcast(BEB)*.

Exercise 2

The reliable broadcast algorithm presented in Slide 3 has the processes continuously fill their different buffers without emptying them.

Modify it to remove (i.e. garbage collect) unnecessary messages from the buffers:

A. *from*, and
B. *delivered*

Uniform reliable broadcast

Specification:

- **Validity**: If a *correct* process broadcasts *m*, then it eventually delivers *m*.
- **Integrity**: m is delivered by a process at most once, and only if it was previously broadcast.
- **Uniform Agreement**: If a ~~correct~~ process delivers *m*, then all correct processes eventually deliver *m*.

Algorithm: All-Ack Uniform Reliable Broadcast

Implements:
UniformReliableBroadcast, **instance** *urb*.

Uses:
BestEffortBroadcast, **instance** *beb*.
PerfectFailureDetector, **instance** $\mathcal{P}$.

upon event ⟨ *urb*, *Init* ⟩ **do**
delivered := $\emptyset$;
pending := $\emptyset$;
correct := Π;
forall m **do** *ack*$[m]$:= $\emptyset$;

upon event ⟨ *urb*, *Broadcast* | m ⟩ **do**
pending := *pending* $\cup$ $\{(self, m)\}$;
trigger ⟨ *beb*, *Broadcast* | [DATA, *self*, m] ⟩;

upon event ⟨ *beb*, *Deliver* | p, [DATA, s, m] ⟩ **do**
ack$[m]$:= *ack*$[m]$ $\cup$ $\{p\}$;
if $(s, m) \notin$ *pending* **then**
pending := *pending* $\cup$ $\{(s, m)\}$;
trigger ⟨ *beb*, *Broadcast* | [DATA, s, m] ⟩;

upon event ⟨ $\mathcal{P}$, *Crash* | p ⟩ **do**
correct := *correct* $\setminus$ $\{p\}$;

function *candeliver*(m) **returns** Boolean **is**
return (*correct* $\subseteq$ *ack*$[m]$);

upon exists $(s, m) \in$ *pending* such that *candeliver*$(m) \wedge m \notin$ *delivered* **do**
delivered := *delivered* $\cup$ $\{m\}$;
trigger ⟨ *urb*, *Deliver* | s, m ⟩;

Exercise 3

What happens in the reliable broadcast and uniform reliable broadcast algorithms if the:

A. accuracy, or
B. completeness

property of the failure detector is violated?

Causal Broadcast

Definition (Happens-before):

We say that an event *e* happens-before an event *e'*, and we write *e* → *e'*, if one of the following three cases holds (is true):

$$\exists p_i \in \Pi \; s.t. \; e = e_i^r, \; e' = e_i^s, \; r < s$$

(*e* and *e'* are executed by the same process)

$$e = send(m, *) \wedge e' = receive(m)$$

(*e* and *e'* are send/receive events of a message respectively)

$$\exists e'' \; s.t. \; e \rightarrow e'' \rightarrow e'$$

(i.e. → is transitive)

Causal Broadcast

Specification:

It has the same specification of reliable broadcast, with the additional ordering constraint of causal order.

More precisely (causal order):

$$broadcast_p(m) \rightarrow broadcast_q(m') \Rightarrow deliver_r(m) \rightarrow deliver_r(m')$$

Which means that:
If the broadcast of a message *m happens-before* the broadcast of a message *m'*, then no correct process delivers *m'* unless it has previously delivered *m*.

Exercise 4

Can we devise a broadcast algorithm that does **not** ensure the causal delivery property **but only** in its non-uniform variant:

No correct process p_i delivers a message m_2 unless pi has already delivered every message m_1 such that $m_1 \rightarrow m_2$?

Exercise 5

Suggest a memory optimization of the garbage collection scheme of the following algorithm:

No-Waiting Causal Broadcast

```
Implements:
    CausalOrderReliableBroadcast, instance crb.

Uses:
    ReliableBroadcast, instance rb.

upon event ⟨ crb, Init ⟩ do
    delivered := ∅;
    past := [];

upon event ⟨ crb, Broadcast | m ⟩ do
    trigger ⟨ rb, Broadcast | [DATA, past, m] ⟩;
    append(past, (self, m));

upon event ⟨ rb, Deliver | p, [DATA, mpast, m] ⟩ do
    if m ∉ delivered then
        forall (s, n) ∈ mpast do          // by the order in the list
            if n ∉ delivered then
                trigger ⟨ crb, Deliver | s, n ⟩;
                delivered := delivered ∪ {n};
                if (s, n) ∉ past then
                    append(past, (s, n));
        trigger ⟨ crb, Deliver | p, m ⟩;
        delivered := delivered ∪ {m};
        if (p, m) ∉ past then
            append(past, (p, m));
```

Garbage-Collection of Causal Past in the "No-Waiting Causal Broadcast"

```
Implements:
    CausalOrderReliableBroadcast, instance crb.

Uses:
    ReliableBroadcast, instance rb;
    PerfectFailureDetector, instance P.

// Except for its ⟨ Init ⟩ event handler, the pseudo code on the left is
// part of this algorithm.

upon event ⟨ crb, Init ⟩ do
    delivered := ∅;
    past := [];
    correct := Π;
    forall m do ack[m] := ∅;

upon event ⟨ P, Crash | p ⟩ do
    correct := correct \ {p};

upon exists m ∈ delivered such that self ∉ ack[m] do
    ack[m] := ack[m] ∪ {self};
    trigger ⟨ rb, Broadcast | [ACK, m] ⟩;

upon event ⟨ rb, Deliver | p, [ACK, m] ⟩ do
    ack[m] := ack[m] ∪ {p};

upon correct ⊆ ack[m] do
    forall (s', m') ∈ past such that m' = m do
        remove(past, (s', m));
```

Exercise 6

Can we devise a Best-effort Broadcast algorithm that satisfies the causal delivery property, *without* being being a causal broadcast algorithm, i.e., without satisfying the *agreement* property of a reliable broadcast?