

# Distributed Byzantine Computation

Byzantine node taken over by some bad adversary

- drop messages.
- random messages
- as bad as one can imagine.

A node that is not Byzantine is called correct.

$f$  - number of Byzantine nodes.

[LPS, Dolev '80]:

Computation is possible only if:  $f < \min \left\{ \frac{\text{vertex-conn. of graph}}{2}, \frac{n}{3} \right\}$

Graph  $G$  has vertex-conn.  $X$  if  $\forall u, v \in G$  are connected by  $\geq X$  vertex-disjoint paths.

## Byzantine Agreement

- $n$ -vertex complete graph.
- $f < \frac{n}{3}$  Byzantine nodes.
- Every  $u_i$  has initial value  $x_i \in \{0, 1\}$

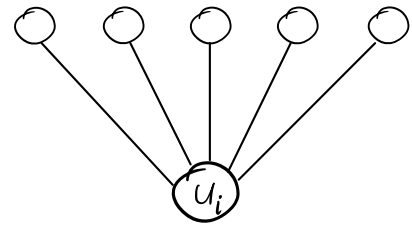
Agreement: all correct nodes should output the same bit.

Validity: If all correct nodes have the same  $x_i$  values then this should be the output.

# The King Algorithm

For node  $u_i$  Let  $x$  be the original value of  $u_i$ .

- all IDs in  $[1, n]$



For  $p=1$  to  $f+1$  do:

$R_1$  [ Broadcast  $val(x)$  to all nodes.

- If received  $val(y)$  from  $\geq n-f$  nodes

Broadcast  $propose(y)$ .

- If received  $propose(w)$  from  $\geq f+1$  nodes

$x \leftarrow w$ .

$u_p$  is the king of the phase.

Case  $u_i = u_p$ : broadcast current value  $w$  to everyone.

Case  $u_i \neq u_p$ : If  $propose(x)$  was received from  $\leq n-f-1$  nodes:

$x \leftarrow$  King's value ( $w$ ).

Lemma 1: validity holds.

Pf: Say all correct nodes have  $x_i = o$ .

Then get  $val(o)$  from  $\geq n-f$  nodes

propose " " "

The value is kept since if-cond. of  $R_3$  does not hold. □

Lemma 2: all correct nodes that propose in  $R_2$ , propose the same value.

Pf:  $u, v$  correct nodes,  $u$  propose( $x$ ) and  $v$  sends  $propose(y)$ . Assume  $x \neq y$ .

-  $u$  received  $x$  from  $\geq n-f$  nodes  $\geq n-2f$  correct nodes.

-  $v$  "  $y$  " " " " " " ,

# correct nodes  $\geq n-2f + n-2f = 2n-4f$

# nodes  $\geq 2n-3f > n$ , contradiction. □

Cor: If  $\exists u$  receiving  $\text{propose}(x)$  from  $\geq f-1$  nodes &

$\exists v$  " "  $y$  " " "

$\Rightarrow x=y$ .

Proof:  $\exists$  correct node  $w$  sending  $\text{propose}(x)$ .

$\exists$  correct node  $w'$  sending  $\text{propose}(y)$ .

By Lemma 2,  $x=y$ .

Lemma 3: Let  $p$  be a phase of a correct king, then at the end of the phase, all nodes get the king's value and maintain this value.

Proof:

Case 1: If-cond of  $R_3$  holds.  $\checkmark$

Case 2:  $\exists u$  for which the If-cond. does not hold.

Let  $x$  be the current value of  $u$ .

$u$  received  $\text{propose}(x) \geq n-f$  nodes

$\geq n-2f$  correct nodes.

$\Rightarrow$  king got  $\text{propose}(x) \geq n-2f \geq f+1$  nodes.

$\Rightarrow$  king value  $= x$ .

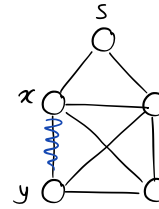
□

Complexity:  $O(f)$  rounds.

What can we do if the graph is not a clique?

# Byzantine Broadcast for General Graphs

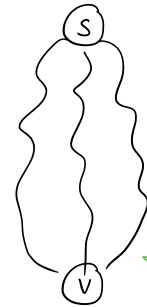
- Byzantine edges. (Single Byzantine edge  $e'$ )



## Adversarial Congest Model:

- 3 edge connected graph.
- In every round exchange  $O(\log n)$ -bit with neighbors.
- Messages through  $e' = (x, y)$  are corrupted.
- The adversary knows everything.

Goal: Given source  $s$  holding message  $m_0$ ,  
all nodes should output  $m_0$ .



Can simply take majority over the paths from  $s$  to  $v$ .  
(Naive and Costly solution).

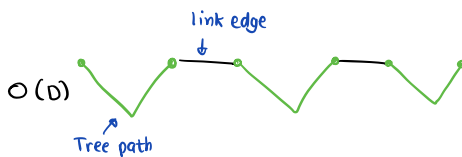
Today:  $\tilde{O}(D^3)$ -round alg.

\* for simplicity assume all nodes know  $D$  (or  $O(1)$ -approximation).

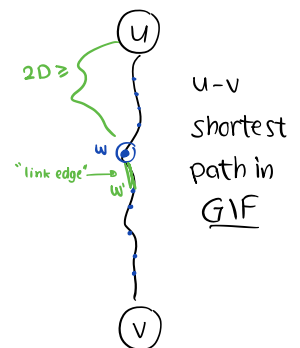
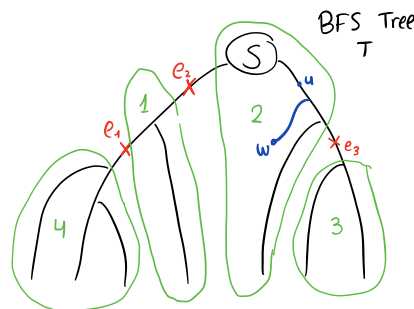
Obs: For every  $(f+1)$ -edge connected graph  $G$  with diam  $D$ ,  
it holds that  $\text{Diam}(G \setminus F) = O(f \cdot D)$  for every  $F \subseteq E$ ,  $|F| \leq f$ .

Proof:  $u, v$ ,  $F \subseteq E$ ,  $|F| \leq f$ , show  $d(u, v, G \setminus F) = O(f \cdot D)$ .

# comp in  $T \setminus F \leq |f| + 1$ .



$\Rightarrow O(fD)$  length.



The observation implies that there is always a path of "reasonable" length ignoring the Byzantine edge  $e'$ . So there is hope!

**Covering family** of a  $D$ -diameter graph  $G$  is an ordered set

$$\mathcal{G} = \{G_1, \dots, G_\ell\}$$

where  $G_i \subseteq G$  and  $\ell = \tilde{O}(D^2)$ .

For every edge  $e \in G$ , and  $\forall$  path  $P \subseteq G \setminus e$  of length at most  $c \cdot D$ ,

there exists  $G_i \in \mathcal{G}$  s.t.:

$$1) P \subseteq G_i$$

$$2) e \notin G_i$$

Example: (Randomized Construction)

$$G_i = G[p] \quad p = 1 - \frac{1}{cD}$$

$$\Pr(G_i \text{ covers } P \setminus e) = \underbrace{\left(1 - \frac{1}{cD}\right)^{|P|}}_{\text{Taking all edges of path } P} \cdot \underbrace{\frac{1}{cD}}_{\text{Not taking the edge } e} \geq \left(1 - \frac{1}{cD}\right)^{cD} \frac{1}{cD} \approx \frac{1}{e} \cdot \frac{1}{cD}$$

A covering family  $\mathcal{G}$  is **locally known** if given index  $i$ , and  $(u, v)$ ,

$v$  knows if  $(u, v) \in G_i$ .

### Byzantine Broadcast with Single Byzantine Edge

Phase 1: Flood  $(m, i)$  messages on every subgraph  $G_i \in \mathcal{G}$  for  $O(D)$  rounds.

Phase 2:  $s$  sends  $\text{accept}(m_0)$  to neighbors

For  $O(D)$  rounds do:

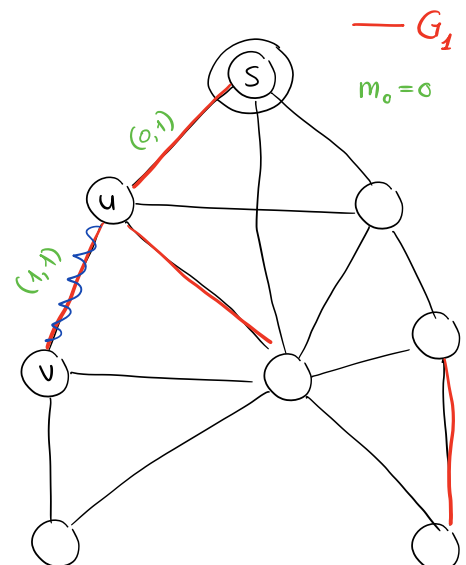
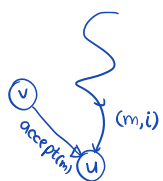
Node  $u$  upon receiving  $\text{accept}(m)$  from  $v$ :

will accept  $m$  only if:

- received  $(m, i)$  s.t.  $(u, v) \notin G_i$

- send  $\text{accept}(m)$  to neighbors

( $G$  is locally known)



Phase 1 can be implemented in  $\tilde{O}(D^3)$  rounds.

- Run in steps of  $2l = \tilde{O}(D^2)$  rounds

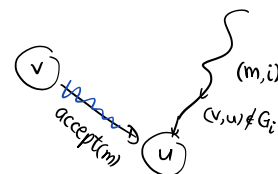


Or even better: just work subgraph by subgraph for  $O(D)$  rounds.

Lemma 1: No node accepts the wrong message.

Let  $u$  be the first node accepting wrong message (by round number)

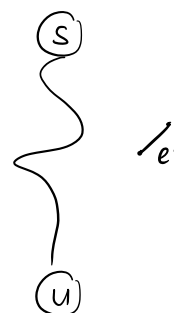
$\Rightarrow (m, i)$  is received for  $G_i$  s.t.  $(v, u) \notin G_i \Rightarrow$  contradiction.



Obs:  $s$ - $u$  path  $P \subseteq G \setminus e'$  of length  $\leq c \cdot D$

and let  $G_i$  be s.t.  $P \subseteq G_i$ ,

then  $u$  receives  $(m_o, i)$ .



Lemma: all nodes accept.

Pf: By induction on the distance from  $s$  in  $G \setminus e'$

Claim: by round  $r$ , all nodes at distance  $\leq r$  from  $s$  in  $G \setminus e'$  accept.

consider a node  $v$  at distance  $r+1$ .

- Since the graph is 3-edge connected, there is an  $s$ - $v$  path  $P$  in  $G \setminus \{(u, v), e\}$  and  $|P| = O(D)$ .

- By covering property,  $\exists G_i$  s.t.  $P \subseteq G_i$ ,  $(u, v) \notin G_i$

- By the obs,  $v$  received the message  $(m_o, i)$

$\Rightarrow$  accepts  $m_o$ .

