Problem Set 3, Part a

Due: Wednesday, April 5, 2006 Problem sets will be collected in class. Please hand in each problem on a separate page, with your name on it.

Reading

Local infrastructure Chockler et. al: Consensus and collision detector Broadcast Kowalski, Pelc: Deterministic broadcasting paper (skim) Bar-Yehuda et. al: Time complexity of broadcast Bar-Yehuda et. al: Efficient emulation of single-hop radio network

Reading for next week

Problems

- 1. Consider Algorithm 1 in the Chockler at al. paper.
 - (a) Expand on the correctness proof sketch given in the paper, filling in more steps. Be sure to take into account considerations involving failures and active/passive advice.
 - (b) Suppose Algorithm 1 is run with a 0-complete (instead of complete or majority-complete), eventually accurate collision detector. Describe an execution that causes two nodes to decide on two different values.
- 2. Again suppose we are in the setting of the Chockler et al. paper, with a 0-complete eventually accurate collision detector. The leader election problem requires exactly one node to output "leader", and every other node to output "not leader".
 - (a) Is this problem solvable with a 0-complete collision detector? If yes, describe an algorithm, if no, provide a brief discussion of why not.
 - (b) Does your answer change if the nodes are assumed to have unique identifiers?
- 3. The adversary in the Hitting Game construction, in Section 3.3 of the first Bar-Yehuda et al. paper, constructs a set S that can fool a given sequence M_1, \ldots, M_t of queries, where t = n/2, thereby preventing the sequence from causing the Explorer to "win" the game.
 - (a) Can you construct a longer sequence of queries, for t slightly larger than n/2, such that the given adversary does not prevent a win? (If you can't do this for all n, try it for some specific value of n.)

- (b) Can you construct a longer sequence of queries, again for t slightly larger than n/2, such that no adversary can prevent a win—that is, a short winning strategy for the Hitting Game?
- 4. Consider the collision detection algorithm presented in Section 2.3 of the Bar-Yehuda et. al paper on emulating a single hop network. Sketch a proof that it achieves the stated success probability within the stated time bound.