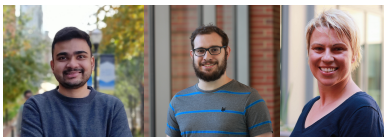


Concentrated Stopping Set Design for Coded Merkle Tree: Improving Security Against Data Availability Attacks in Blockchain Systems

Debarnab Mitra, Lev Tautz, and Lara Dolecek

Electrical and Computer Engineering
University of California, Los Angeles

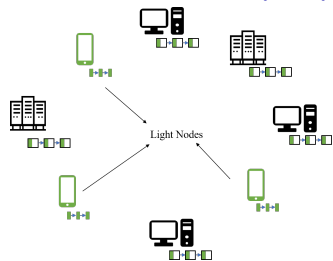
ITW 2020



UCLA

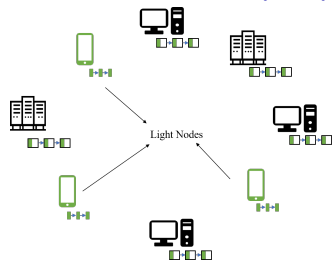
Samueli
School of Engineering

Data Availability (DA) Attacks in Blockchains



Light Nodes:

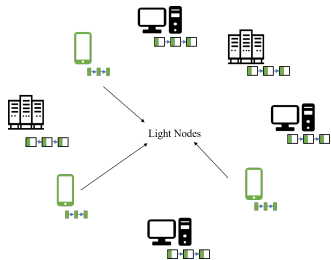
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Light Nodes:

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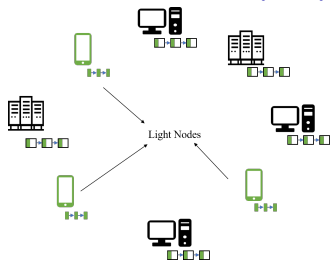
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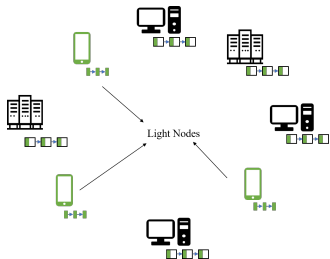
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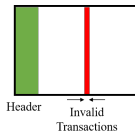


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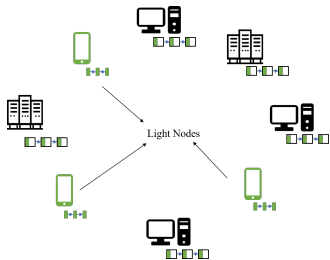
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DA attack:

Adversary creates an invalid block



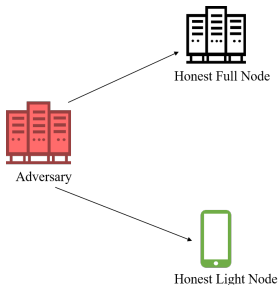
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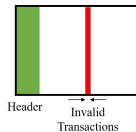
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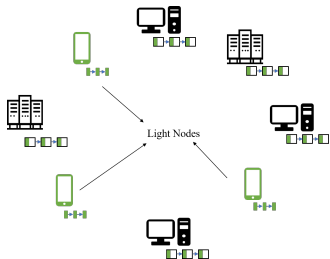
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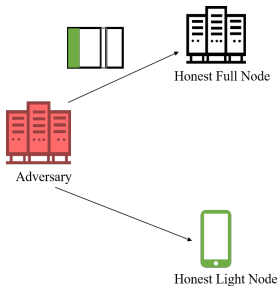
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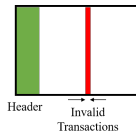
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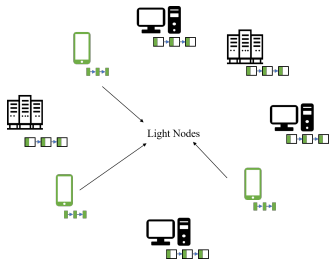
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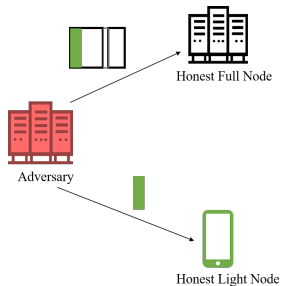
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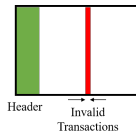
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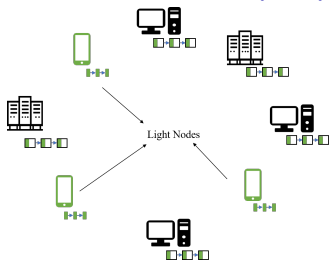
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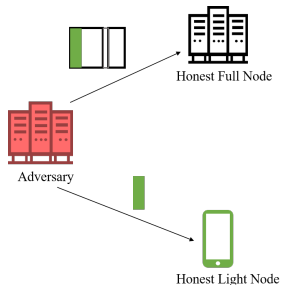
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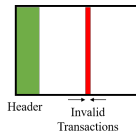
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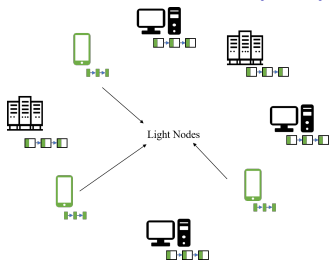


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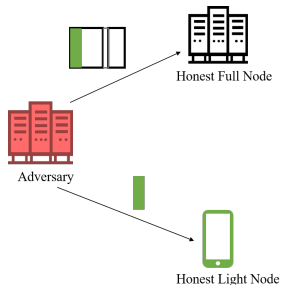
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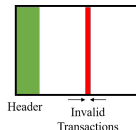
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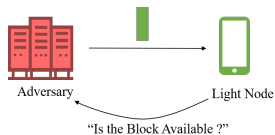


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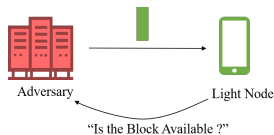
- ▶ Full nodes: cannot send fraud proof
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Ensure Data Availability: Light Node Sampling



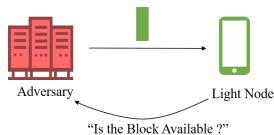
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Ensure Data Availability: Light Node Sampling



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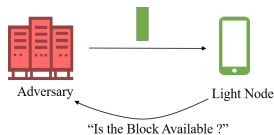
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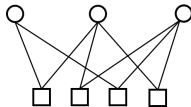
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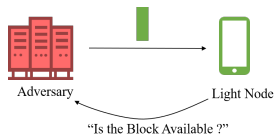
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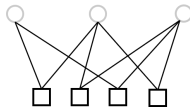
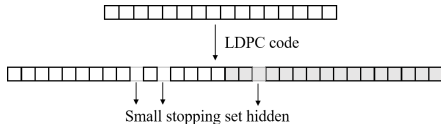


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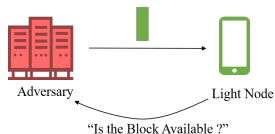
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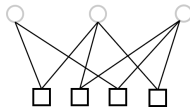
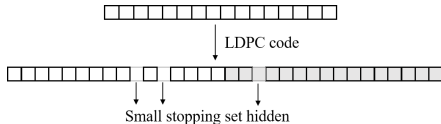


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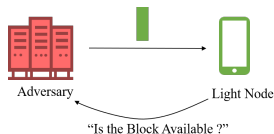
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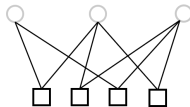
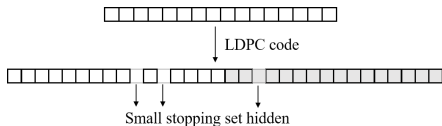


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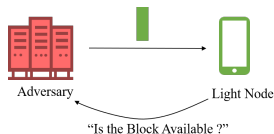
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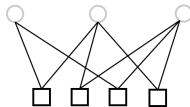
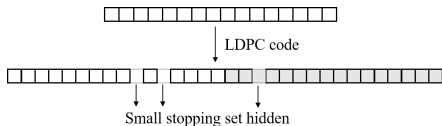


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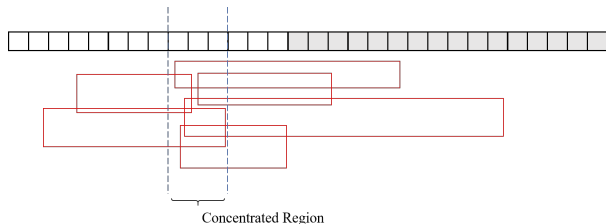
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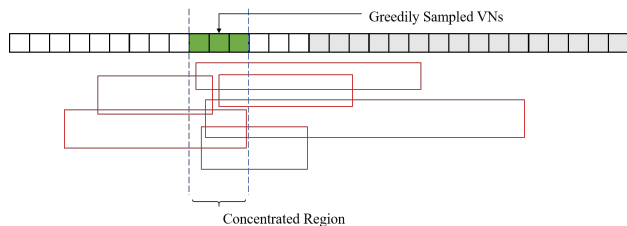


Code Design Idea:

- ▶ Concentrate stopping sets to a small section of VNs

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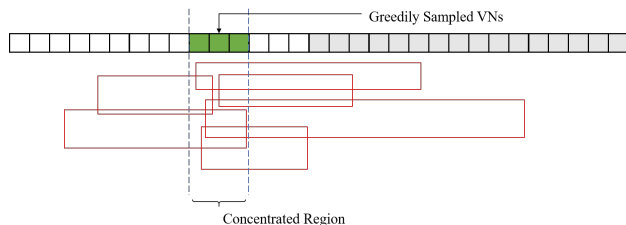


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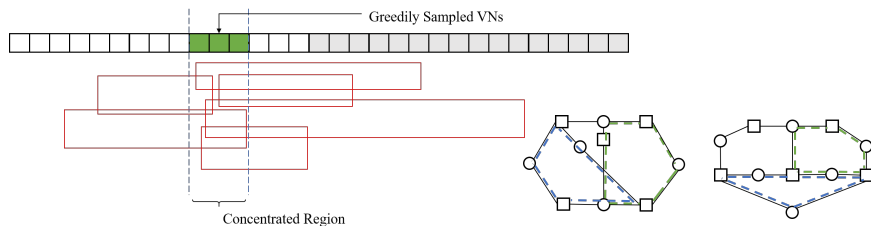
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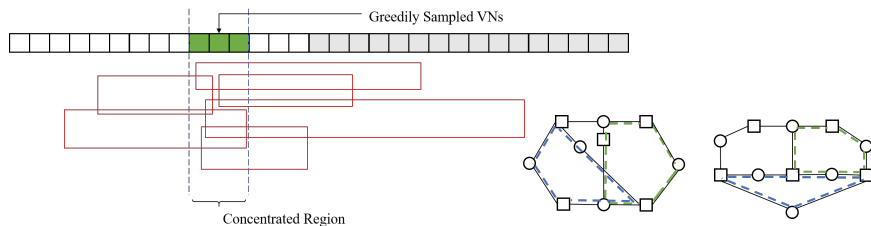
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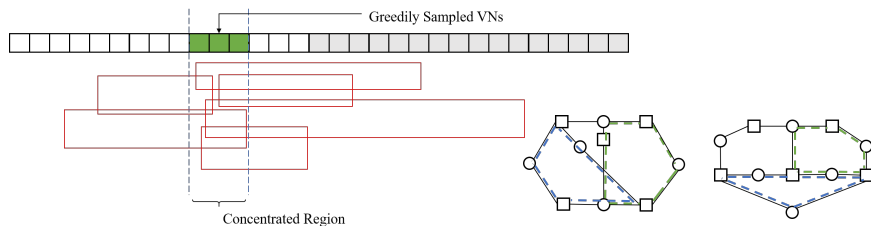
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- ▶ Concentrating cycles \implies Concentrating stopping sets
- ▶ We concentrate cycles by modifying the Progressive Edge Growth (PEG) algorithm

Entropy to Concentrate Cycles: EC-PEG Algorithm

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EC (Entropy Constrained)-PEG Algorithm

For each VN v_j

Expand Tanner Graph in a BFS fashion

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For distribution $p = (p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n)$, Entropy $\mathcal{H}(p) = \sum_{i=1}^n p_i \log \frac{1}{p_i}$

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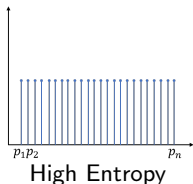
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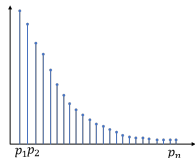
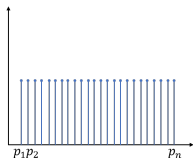
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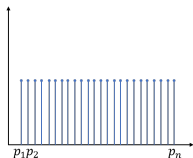
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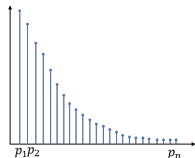
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High Entropy



Low Entropy

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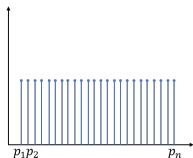
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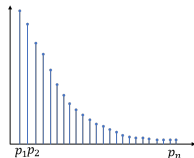
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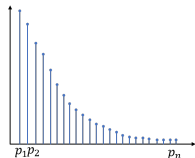
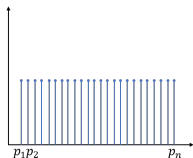
We want the cycle distributions to be concentrated

→ Select CNs such that the entropy of the cycle distribution is minimized

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- Find CNs most distant to v_j
- Select CN that results in minimum entropy of resultant cycle distribution

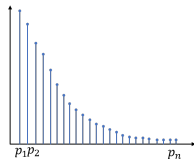
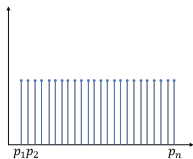
We want the cycle distributions to be concentrated

→ Select CNs such that the entropy of the cycle distribution is minimized

Entropy to Concentrate Cycles: EC-PEG Algorithm

For distribution $p = (p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n)$, Entropy $\mathcal{H}(p) = \sum_{i=1}^n p_i \log \frac{1}{p_i}$

- ▶ Uniform distributions have high entropy
- ▶ Concentrated distributions have low entropy



EC (Entropy Constrained)-PEG Algorithm

For each VN v_j

Expand Tanner Graph in a BFS fashion

If \exists CNs not connected to v_j

- select a CN with min degree not connected to v_j

Else *New cycles created*

- Find CNs most distant to v_j
- Select CN that results in minimum entropy of resultant cycle distribution
- Update cycle distribution

We want the cycle distributions to be concentrated

→ Select CNs such that the entropy of the cycle distribution is minimized

Sampling Strategy

- ▶ Greedy Sampling: greedily sample VNs that are part of a large number of cycles
- ▶ Random Sampling (with replacement): sample each variable node with equal probability

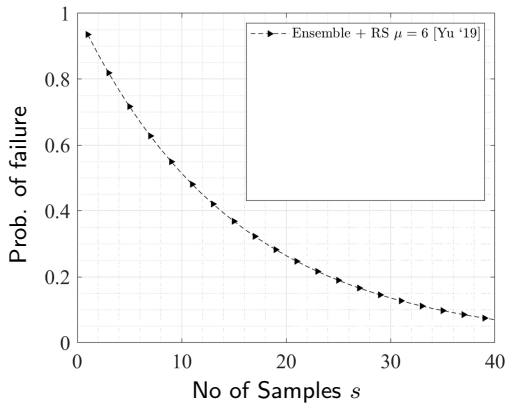
Simulation Results

Probability of failure for a stopping set of size μ

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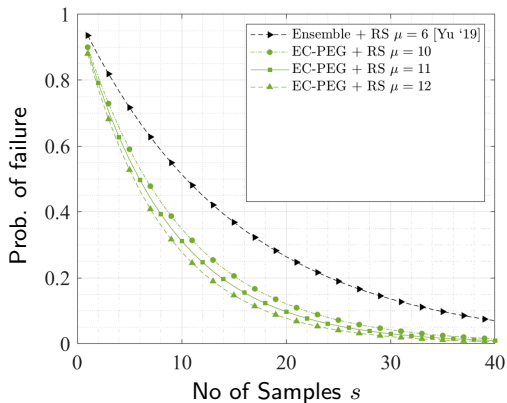
RS: Random Sampling



Simulation Results

Probability of failure for a stopping set of size μ

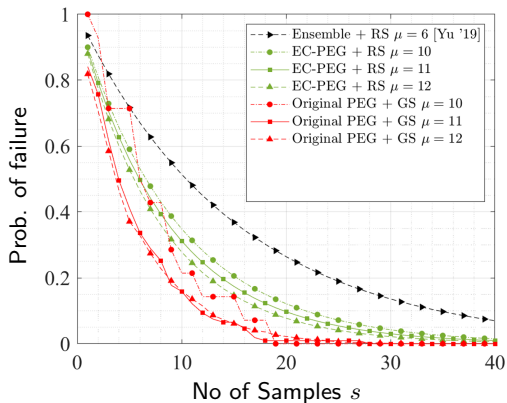
RS: Random Sampling



Simulation Results

Probability of failure for a stopping set of size μ

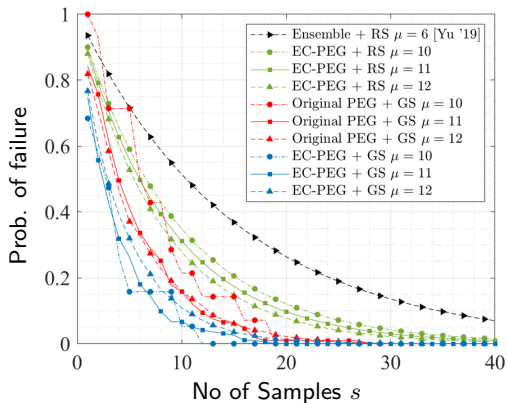
RS: Random Sampling
GS: Greedy Sampling



Simulation Results

Probability of failure for a stopping set of size μ

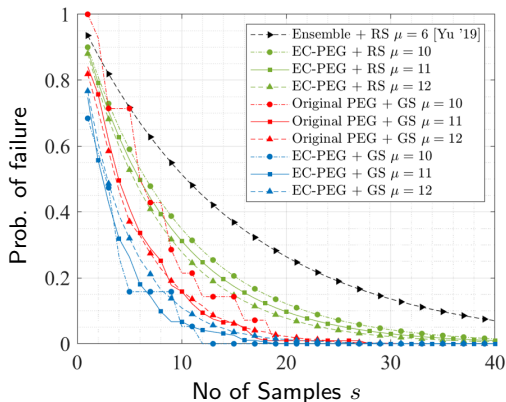
RS: Random Sampling
GS: Greedy Sampling



Simulation Results

Probability of failure for a stopping set of size μ

RS: Random Sampling
GS: Greedy Sampling



- ▶ Concentrated LDPC codes with Greedy sampling improve the probability of failure

References

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