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# Gossiping with interference in radio chain networks

Jean-Claude Bermond

Université Côte d'Azur, CNRS, Inria, I3S, France,  
jean-claude.bermond@inria.fr

Takako Kodate

Department of Information and Sciences,  
Tokyo Woman's Christian University, Japan,  
kodate@lab.twcu.ac.jp

Joseph Yu

Department of Mathematics,  
University of the Fraser Valley, B.C., Canada,  
joseph.yu@ufv.ca

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## Abstract

In this paper, we study the problem of gossiping with neighboring interference constraint in radio chain networks. Gossiping (or total exchange information) is a protocol where each node in the network has a message and is expected to distribute its own message to every other node in the network. The gossiping problem consists in finding the minimum running time (makespan) of a gossiping protocol and efficient algorithms that attain this makespan.

We focus on the case where the transmission network is a chain (directed path or line) network. We consider synchronous protocols where it takes one unit of time (step) to transmit a unit-length message. During one step, a node receives at most one message only through one of its two neighbors. We suppose that during one step, a node cannot be both a sender and a receiver (half duplex model). Moreover we have neighboring interference constraints with which a node cannot receive a message if one of its neighbors is sending. A round consists of a set of non-interfering (or compatible) calls and uses one step. We solve completely the gossiping problem for  $P_n$ , the chain network on  $n$  nodes, and give an algorithm that completes the gossiping in  $3n - 5$  rounds (for  $n > 3$ ), which is exactly the makespan.

**Keywords** Gossiping, Radio Networks, Interference, chains, paths

## 1 Introduction and Notations

This paper answers a problem considered in [6] where we refer the readers for motivations and more references. Our aim is to design optimal gossiping (or total exchange information) protocols for chain networks with neighboring interferences. More precisely our transmission network is a symmetric dipath  $P_n$  called here a chain (or line). The nodes are labeled from 0 to  $n - 1$ , and each node  $i$  has a message also denoted  $i$ . The arcs represent the possible communications. They are of the form  $(i, i + 1)$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq n - 2$  and  $(i, i - 1)$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$ .

In a gossiping protocol, each node wants to distribute its own message to every other node in the network. The network is assumed to be synchronous and the time is slotted into *steps*. During a step, a node receives at most one message only through one of its neighbors. One important feature of our model is the assumption that a node can either transmit or receive at most one message per step. In particular, we do not allow concatenation of messages.

We will consider only useful (valid) calls in which the sender sends a message to a receiver only if it is unknown to the receiver. We can have two types of sendings as follows:

- (a) via a (regular) call  $(i, i + 1)$  (resp.  $(i, i - 1)$ ), in which the node  $i$  sends to the right (resp. to the left) i.e. to the node  $i + 1$  (resp.  $i - 1$ ) one message which is not known to the node  $i + 1$  (resp.  $i - 1$ )
- (b) via a 2-call  $\{i : i - i, i + 1\}$ , in which the node  $i$  sends at the same time to both nodes  $i - 1$  and  $i + 1$  one message which is not known to both nodes and so the message must be  $i$ .

We suppose that each device is equipped with a half duplex interface, i.e. a node can receive or send, but cannot both receive and send during a step. Furthermore we use a primary node interference model like the one used in [1, 2, 3, 6, 7]. In this model, when one node is transmitting, its own power prevents any other signal to be properly received in its neighbors (near-far effect of antennas). So two calls  $(s, r)$  and  $(s', r')$  interfere if  $d(s, r') \leq 1$  or  $d(s', r) \leq 1$ . For example call  $(i, i + 1)$  will interfere with all the following calls  $(i - 2, i - 1)$ ,  $(i - 1, i)$ ,  $(i + 1, i)$ ,  $(i + 1, i + 2)$ ,  $(i + 2, i + 1)$  and  $(i + 2, i + 3)$ . Two non-interfering calls will be called compatible. Therefore the two calls  $(s, r)$  and  $(s', r')$  are compatible if  $d(s, r') > 1$  and  $d(s', r) > 1$ . For example call  $(i, i + 1)$  is compatible with calls  $(i - 1, i - 2)$  and  $(i + 3, i + 2)$ . Only non-interfering (or compatible) calls can be performed in the same step and we will define a round as a set of compatible calls.

The gossiping problem consists in finding the minimum running time (makespan) of a gossiping protocol, i.e. the minimum number  $R$  of rounds needed to complete the gossiping and to find efficient algorithms that attain this makespan.

On problems related to information dissemination, we refer to the survey in [4]. The gossiping problem has been studied in both full duplex and half duplex models (i.e. without interferences) with unbounded size of messages. A survey for gossiping with the interference model considered in this paper has been done in [5], but most of the results concern unbounded size of messages and concatenation is allowed.

The gossiping problem with unit length messages and neighboring interference (our model) was first studied in [6]. The authors established that the makespans of gossiping protocols in chain (called line) and ring networks with  $n$  nodes are  $3n + \Theta(1)$  and  $2n + \Theta(1)$  respectively. They gave for general graphs an upper bound of  $O(n \log^2 n)$ . This bound was improved in [8] to  $O(n \log n)$  with the help of probabilistic argument. In [3], we solved completely the gossiping problem in radio ring networks with the same model (our results depend on the congruence of  $n$  modulo 12).

Furthermore in [6], the authors proved for the chain  $P_n$  a lower bound of  $3n - 6$  and gave a sophisticated protocol in  $3n + 12$  rounds. Here we determine exactly the minimum number  $R$  of rounds needed to complete the gossiping when transmission network is a chain  $P_n$  on  $n$  nodes based on the model described above (see Theorem 1). We first prove a better lower bound of  $3n - 5$  when  $n \geq 4$  and then give gossiping protocols which meet this lower bound. The tools developed in [3] for rings cannot be used for chains. Surprisingly the problem for

chains appears to be more complicated due to the bottleneck in the middle of the chain. So we had to develop new sophisticated tools to design an optimal protocol.

**Theorem 1** *The minimum number  $R$  of rounds needed to complete the gossiping in the chain network  $P_n$  ( $n \geq 3$ ) with the neighboring interference model and unit length messages is*

$$R = \begin{cases} 3n - 5 & \text{if } n \geq 4 \\ 5 & \text{if } n = 3. \end{cases}$$

Remark that for  $n = 3$ , Theorem 1 can be proved easily. We have 6 calls to perform, and a round contains one call except for the unique round containing the 2-call  $\{1 : 0, 2\}$ . Therefore at least 5 rounds are needed. The following five calls will work:  $\{1 : 0, 2\}$  with message 1,  $(0, 1)$  and  $(1, 2)$  with message 0,  $(2, 1)$  and  $(1, 0)$  with message 2.

For the rest of the paper, we suppose that  $n \geq 4$ .

## 2 Lower Bound for $n \geq 4$

**Proposition 1** *The minimum number  $R$  of rounds needed to complete the gossiping in the chain network  $P_n$  ( $n \geq 4$ ), with the neighboring interference model and unit length messages satisfies  $R \geq 3n - 5$ .*

*Proof.* We first note that, for a given  $i$ ,  $i + 1$  messages should be transmitted through the arc  $(i, i + 1)$  (namely the messages  $0 \leq j \leq i$ ) and  $n - i - 1$  messages through the arc  $(i + 1, i)$  (namely the messages  $i + 1 \leq j \leq n - 1$ ). For  $n \geq 4$ , we will count the number of rounds needed to transmit the  $3n$  messages using the calls  $(0, 1)$ ,  $(1, 0)$ ,  $(1, 2)$ ,  $(2, 1)$ ,  $(2, 3)$ , and  $(3, 2)$ . In general, a round contains at most one such call except in the following four types where a round can contain two calls.

- type 1: a round with the unique 2-call  $\{1 : 0, 2\}$ . Note that there is at most one such round.
- type 2: a round with the two calls  $(0, 1)$  and  $(3, 2)$ . Note that there is at most one such round as only one message (namely that of 0) is transmitted on the arc  $(0, 1)$ .
- type 3: a round with the unique 2-call  $\{2 : 1, 3\}$ .
- type 4: a round with the two calls  $(1, 0)$  and  $(2, 3)$ .

For the rounds of type 3 and 4, we note that only three messages (messages 0, 1, 2) are transmitted on the arc  $(2, 3)$  and so we have at most 3 rounds of the last two types (one of type 3 and two of type 4, or three of type 4). So altogether among the rounds needed to transmit the  $3n$  messages, we have at most 5 rounds with two calls among  $(0, 1)$  and  $(1, 0)$ ,  $(1, 2)$  and  $(2, 1)$ , and  $(1, 3)$  and  $(3, 1)$ . So for  $n \geq 4$ , we need at least  $3n - 5$  rounds.  $\diamond$

## 3 Upper Bound for $n \geq 4$

Let  $n = 2p$  or  $n = 2p + 1$ ,  $n \geq 4$ .

We will design in this section a protocol with  $3n - 5$  rounds. The protocol consists in three phases. First, in phase 1, we do 3 rounds with all the 2-calls. At the end of these three

rounds, each node will have received the message from its two neighbors (only one if it is an end node). Then, in phase 2, we do  $p - 1$  sequences  $S_s$  ( $1 \leq s \leq p - 1$ ) and each sequence has 4 rounds. During such a sequence, a node in the middle part of the chain (a precise definition will be given later) receives a message from each of its neighbors (namely messages of nodes at distance  $s + 1$ ), and a node in the left (resp. right) part receives one or two messages from its right (resp. left) neighbor. At the end of the  $p - 1$  sequences, all messages have arrived at least in the middle. Then we complete the protocol in the phase 3, where in each round information progresses till the end of the chain. The reader can follow the protocol on the examples given for  $n = 12, 13, 14, 15$  (in Table 1, 2, 3, and 4).

Remark: In what follows we will suppose that the nodes mentioned are all in the range  $[0, n - 1]$ . For example, if a node  $i - 1$  is implied, implicitly we suppose  $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$ .

### 3.1 Phase 1

In the first 3 rounds we do all the 2-calls  $\{i : i - 1, i + 1\}$ . For the two end nodes 0 and  $n - 1$ , the 2-calls are reduced to the regular calls  $(0, 1)$  and  $(n - 1, n - 2)$ . More precisely, in the rounds  $r = 1, 2, 3$ , we do the 2-calls  $\{3j + r : 3j + r - 1, 3j + r + 1\}$  for  $0 \leq 3j + r \leq n - 1$ .

**Claim 2** *After the first 3 rounds each node  $1 \leq i \leq n - 2$  has received the message of its two neighbors  $i - 1$  and  $i + 1$ . Node 0 has received the message 1 and node  $n - 1$  the message  $n - 2$ .*

*Proof.* That follows from the fact that in one of the 3 rounds, each node  $i$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq n - 1$  is the sender of a 2-call, while in another round node  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$  is the receiver of the 2-call with sender  $i - 1$  and in another round node  $i$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq n - 2$  is the receiver of the 2-call with sender  $i + 1$ .  $\diamond$

### 3.2 Phase 2

Here, we will do sequences  $S_s$  of 4 rounds  $4s, 4s + 1, 4s + 2$ , and  $4s + 3$  for  $1 \leq s \leq p - 1$ . The first idea is to make the maximum number of alternating calls. More precisely, if  $(i, i + 1)$  (resp.  $(i, i - 1)$ ) is a call in a round, then, the call  $(i + 3, i + 2)$  (resp.  $(i + 1, i + 2)$ ), if they exist, will also be in the round.

We will use the following 4 rounds  $A_k$ ,  $0 \leq k \leq 3$ , and in  $A_k$ , node  $k$  sends to the right via the call  $(k, k + 1)$ .

- Round  $A_0$  contains all the calls  $(4j, 4j + 1)$ ,  $0 \leq 4j \leq n - 2$  and  $(4j + 3, 4j + 2)$ ,  $0 \leq 4j \leq n - 4$ .
- Round  $A_1$  contains all the calls  $(4j + 1, 4j + 2)$ ,  $0 \leq 4j \leq n - 3$  and  $(4j + 4, 4j + 3)$ ,  $0 \leq 4j \leq n - 5$ .
- Round  $A_2$  contains all the calls  $(4j + 2, 4j + 3)$ ,  $0 \leq 4j \leq n - 4$  and  $(4j + 1, 4j)$ ,  $0 \leq 4j \leq n - 2$ .
- Round  $A_3$  contains all the calls  $(4j + 3, 4j + 4)$ ,  $0 \leq 4j \leq n - 5$  and  $(4j + 2, 4j + 1)$ ,  $0 \leq 4j \leq n - 3$ .

Note that rounds  $A_0$  and  $A_2$  (and also  $A_1$  and  $A_3$ ) are symmetric. Furthermore, during the 4 rounds, each node different from  $0, 1, n - 2, n - 1$ , is exactly once receiver from the left, once receiver from the right, once sender to the left, and once sender to the right.

### 3.2.1 Sequence $S_1$

The sequence  $S_1$  (rounds 4 to 7) will consist of the set of 4 rounds  $\{A_0, A_1, A_2, A_3\}$ . We can do them in any order not necessarily  $(A_0, A_1, A_2, A_3)$ .

**Claim 3** *During the sequence  $S_1$  (rounds 4 to 7), each node  $2 \leq i \leq n - 3$  receives messages  $i - 2$  and  $i + 2$ . Node 0 receives message 2, node 1 receives message 3, node  $n - 2$  receives message  $n - 4$ , and node  $n - 1$  message  $n - 3$ .*

*Proof.* That follows from the fact that each node  $i$  (except  $0, 1, n - 2, n - 1$ ) receives in one of the 4 rounds message  $i - 2$  and in another round, message  $i + 2$ . For example node 3 receives message 1 via the call  $(2, 3)$  in round  $A_2$  and message 5 via the call  $(4, 3)$  in round  $A_1$ . Note that during sequence  $S_1$  the calls  $(0, 1)$  and  $(n - 1, n - 2)$  are useless as node 0 (resp.  $n - 1$ ) has no message to send to 1 (resp.  $n - 2$ ). Therefore, node 1 receives only message 3 and node  $n - 2$  only message  $n - 4$ . Finally, node 0 (resp.  $n - 1$ ) receives only message 2 (resp.  $n - 3$ ) because it is an end node of the chain.  $\diamond$

### 3.2.2 Idea of the protocol for a general sequence $S_s$

A simple protocol will consist in repeating  $n - 3$  times the sequence  $S_1$ . This protocol will complete in  $4n - 5$  rounds, which is not optimal. That is not surprising as many calls become useless in the process namely in the  $s$ th sequence the calls  $(i - 1, i)$  with  $i \leq s$  and  $(j + 1, j)$  with  $j \geq n - s$ . For example, for  $s = 2$ , calls  $(0, 1), (1, 2), (n - 2, n - 3), (n - 1, n - 2)$  are useless. Therefore, we will construct the sequence  $S_s$  by keeping only the middle part of the  $A_k$  and deleting useless calls and adding some valid calls on both sides. These added calls will be all directed to the left (resp. right) in the left (resp. right) part. However we will see that in order that these modifications give valid rounds, we have to be careful with the order of the modified rounds.

Let us first define the sequence  $S_2$  (rounds 8 to 11) and then  $S_3$  (rounds 12 to 15) before defining the general sequence  $S_s$ .

### 3.2.3 Sequence $S_2$

Note that call  $(1, 2)$  is now useless as node 1 has no new message to transmit to node 2. We know that call  $(1, 2)$  appears in round  $A_1$ . So we will delete the call  $(1, 2)$  in  $A_1$  and add a call  $(1, 0)$  which will bring a message to node 0. We do the same modification for the useless call  $(n - 2, n - 3)$ . More precisely, if we let  $n \equiv \gamma \pmod{4}$ , then the call  $(n - 2, n - 3)$  appears in the round  $A_{\gamma-1}$ .

For example, for  $n = 12$ , call  $(10, 9)$  appears in round  $A_3$ , while for  $n = 13$ , call  $(11, 10)$  appears in round  $A_0$ . We will delete the call  $(n - 2, n - 3)$  in  $A_{\gamma-1}$  and add a call  $(n - 2, n - 1)$  which will bring a message to node  $n - 1$ .

In the rest of the paper, we will use the notation  $B_k(s)$  for the 4 rounds of the sequence  $S_s$  where the value  $k$  is always taken modulo 4. We first construct  $B_k(2)$  by modifying the  $A_k$  as explained above. Then we will see that the order in which we do the 4 rounds of  $S_2$  is important and that only some orders are valid.

### Construction of the rounds $B_k(2)$ of $S_2$

$B_0(2)$  is obtained from  $A_0$  by deleting call  $(0, 1)$ . Furthermore, when  $\gamma = 1$ , we also delete call  $(n - 2, n - 3)$  and add call  $(n - 2, n - 1)$ , and when  $\gamma = 0$ , we delete  $(n - 1, n - 2)$ .

$B_1(2)$  is obtained from  $A_1$  by deleting call  $(1, 2)$  and adding call  $(1, 0)$ . Furthermore, when  $\gamma = 2$ , we also delete call  $(n - 2, n - 3)$  and add call  $(n - 2, n - 1)$ , and when  $\gamma = 1$ , we delete  $(n - 1, n - 2)$ .

$B_2(2) = A_2$ , except when  $\gamma = 3$ , we delete call  $(n - 2, n - 3)$  and add call  $(n - 2, n - 1)$ , and when  $\gamma = 2$ , we delete  $(n - 1, n - 2)$ .

$B_3(2) = A_3$ , except when  $\gamma = 0$ , we delete call  $(n - 2, n - 3)$  and add call  $(n - 2, n - 1)$ , and when  $\gamma = 3$ , we delete  $(n - 1, n - 2)$ .

### Constraints on the order of the rounds $B_k(2)$ of the sequence $S_2$

In the sequence  $S_2$ , we now have two calls  $(1, 0)$ , one in round  $B_2(2)$  and the other that was added in round  $B_1(2)$ , and they should transmit two new messages to node 0 namely messages 3 and 4. Node 1 knows the message 3 at the end of sequence  $S_1$ , but it receives message 4 only in round  $B_3(2)$ . So the order in which we will do the 4 rounds of sequence  $S_2$  is important. For example, the order  $(B_0(2), B_1(2), B_2(2), B_3(2))$  will not be valid. In a valid order, round  $B_3(2)$  should be done before at least one of the two rounds  $B_1(2)$  and  $B_2(2)$ . We express this fact by noting that the order  $\prec$  on the rounds should satisfy the following constraint

$$B_3(2) \prec \max\{B_1(2), B_2(2)\}.$$

Similarly, in the sequence  $S_2$ , we now have two calls  $(n - 2, n - 1)$  in rounds  $B_{\gamma-1}(2)$  and  $B_{\gamma-2}(2)$  (where we recall that  $n \equiv \gamma \pmod{4}$  and the subscripts of the  $B$  are integers modulo 4). These two calls should transmit two new messages to node  $n - 1$ , namely messages  $n - 4$  and  $n - 5$ . Node  $n - 2$  knows the message  $n - 4$  at the end of sequence  $S_1$ , but it receives message  $n - 5$  only in round  $B_{\gamma-3}(2)$  and so the order  $\prec$  on the rounds should satisfy the following constraint

$$B_{\gamma-3}(2) \prec \max\{B_{\gamma-1}(2), B_{\gamma-2}(2)\}.$$

Note that if the two constraints above are satisfied, all the calls in any round are valid. There are many orders satisfying these two constraints (see analysis for the general case). We can choose the following orders (used in the tables for  $n = 12, 13, 14, 15$ ):

$$\begin{cases} (B_3(2), B_1(2), B_2(2), B_0(2)) & \text{if } n \text{ is even } (\gamma = 0 \text{ or } 2) \\ (B_2(2), B_3(2), B_0(2), B_1(2)) & \text{if } n \text{ is odd } (\gamma = 1 \text{ or } 3) \end{cases}$$

### Messages received during the sequence $S_2$

We summarize the status of messages received in sequence  $S_2$  in the following claim.

**Claim 4** *There exists an order of the 4 rounds  $B_k(2)$  of sequence  $S_2$  (rounds 8 to 11) such that, during the sequence  $S_2$ , each node  $3 \leq i \leq n - 2$  has received message  $i - 3$ , each node  $1 \leq i \leq n - 4$  has received message  $i + 3$ , node 0 has received messages 3 and 4, and node  $n - 1$  has received messages  $n - 4$  and  $n - 5$ .*

*Proof.* That follows from the fact that, for node  $3 \leq i \leq n - 4$ , the calls are those of the  $A_k$  and so each node in one of the 4 rounds receives a new message from the left namely message  $i - 3$  and in another round receives a new message from the right namely message  $i + 3$ . Node 1 (resp. 2) receives only message 4 (resp. 5) from the right and node  $n - 3$  (resp.  $n - 2$ ) receives only message  $n - 6$  (resp.  $n - 5$ ) from the left. As we have seen above, node 0 (resp.

$n - 1$ ) receives two messages 4 and 5 (resp.  $n - 4$  and  $n - 5$ ). But that is possible only if the order  $\prec$  on the rounds satisfies the two constraints given above.  $\diamond$

### 3.2.4 Sequence $S_3$

#### Construction of the rounds $B_k(3)$ of $S_3$

We have now more useless calls like  $(0, 1), (1, 2), (2, 3), (n - 1, n - 2), (n - 2, n - 3), (n - 3, n - 4)$ . We will delete them, and add some more calls as in  $S_2$ . In  $B_k(3)$  we will keep only the calls of  $A_k$  involving nodes inside  $[4, n - 5]$ . We denote these calls in the middle part by  $A_k[4, n - 5]$ .

For example, for  $s = 3$  and  $n = 13$ :

$$A_0[4, 8] = \{(4, 5), (7, 6), (8, 9)\},$$

$$A_1[4, 8] = \{(4, 3), (5, 6), (8, 7)\},$$

$$A_2[4, 8] = \{(5, 4), (6, 7), (9, 8)\},$$

$$A_3[4, 8] = \{(3, 4), (6, 5), (7, 8)\}.$$

The rounds  $B_k(3)$  will be in the form

$$B_k(3) = \{L_k(3), A_k[4, n - 5], R_k(n - 4)\}$$

where the indices  $k$  are taken modulo 4.

The left part  $L_k(3)$  is defined to be a set containing the call  $(i, i - 1)$  ( $i \leq 3$ ), which does not interfere with the call of  $A_k[4, n - 5]$  involving node 4, and where, furthermore,  $i$  is chosen to be the maximum possible. Similarly the right part  $R_k(n - 4)$  is defined to be a set containing the call  $(j, j + 1)$  ( $j \geq n - 4$ ) which does not interfere with the call of  $A_k[4, n - 5]$  involving node  $n - 5$ , and where, furthermore,  $j$  is chosen to be the minimum possible. Therefore,

as call  $(4, 5)$  appears in  $A_0[4, n - 5]$ ,  $L_0(3) = (3, 2)$ ,

as call  $(4, 3)$  appears in  $A_1[4, n - 5]$ ,  $L_1(3) = (1, 0)$ ,

as call  $(5, 4)$  appears in  $A_2[4, n - 5]$ ,  $L_2(3) = (2, 1)$ , and

as call  $(3, 4)$  appears in  $A_3[4, n - 5]$ ,  $L_3(3) = (2, 1)$ .

Similarly (recall that  $n \equiv \gamma \pmod{4}$ ),

as call  $(n - 5, n - 6)$  appears in  $A_\gamma[4, n - 5]$ ,  $R_\gamma(n - 4) = (n - 4, n - 3)$ ,

as call  $(n - 4, n - 5)$  appears in  $A_{\gamma+1}[4, n - 5]$ ,  $R_{\gamma+1}(n - 4) = (n - 3, n - 2)$ ,

as call  $(n - 6, n - 5)$  appears in  $A_{\gamma+2}[4, n - 5]$ ,  $R_{\gamma+2}(n - 4) = (n - 3, n - 2)$ , and

as call  $(n - 5, n - 4)$  appears in  $A_{\gamma-1}[4, n - 5]$ ,  $R_{\gamma-1}(n - 4) = (n - 2, n - 1)$ .

For example for  $s = 3$  and  $n = 13$  ( $\gamma = 1$ ) we get:

$$B_0(3) = \{(3, 2), (4, 5), (7, 6), (8, 9), (11, 12)\},$$

$$B_1(3) = \{(1, 0), (4, 3), (5, 6), (8, 7), (9, 10)\},$$

$$B_2(3) = \{(2, 1), (5, 4), (6, 7), (9, 8), (10, 11)\}, \text{ and}$$

$$B_3(3) = \{(2, 1), (3, 4), (6, 5), (7, 8), (10, 11)\}.$$

#### Constraints on the order of the rounds $B_k(3)$ of the sequence $S_3$

In the sequence  $S_3$ , we now have two calls  $(2, 1)$  in rounds  $B_2(3)$  and  $B_3(3)$ , which should transmit two messages to node 1 namely messages 5 and 6. Node 2 knows the message 5 at the end of sequence  $S_2$ , but it receives message 6 only in round  $B_0(3)$ . So  $B_0(3)$  should be done before at least one of the two rounds  $B_2(3)$  and  $B_3(3)$ . Therefore the following constraint should be satisfied

$$B_0(3) \prec \max\{B_2(3), B_3(3)\}.$$



Node 1 does not know at the end of  $S_2$  the message 5, but it should transmit it to node 0 in round  $B_1(3)$ . It receives this message in the first of the two rounds  $\{B_2(3), B_3(3)\}$ . So at least one of the two rounds  $B_2(3)$  and  $B_3(3)$  should be done before  $B_1(3)$ . We express this fact by noting that the order  $\prec$  on the rounds should satisfy the following constraint

$$\min\{B_2(3), B_3(3)\} \prec B_1(3).$$

Similarly, in the sequence  $S_3$ , we now have

- two calls  $(n-3, n-2)$  in rounds  $B_{\gamma+1}(3)$  and  $B_{\gamma+2}(3)$  which should transmit two messages to node  $n-2$  namely messages  $n-6$  and  $n-7$ ,
- one call  $(n-4, n-3)$  in round  $B_\gamma(3)$  which should transmit message  $n-7$ , and
- one call  $(n-2, n-1)$  in round  $B_{\gamma-1}(3)$  which should transmit message  $n-6$ .

Node  $n-3$  knows the message  $n-6$  at the end of sequence  $S_2$ , but it receives message  $n-7$  only in round  $B_\gamma(3)$ . So  $B_\gamma(3)$  should be done before at least one of the two rounds  $B_{\gamma+1}(3)$  and  $B_{\gamma+2}(3)$ . Therefore we should have

$$B_\gamma(3) \prec \max\{B_{\gamma+1}(3), B_{\gamma+2}(3)\}.$$

Node  $n-2$  does not know at the end of  $S_2$  the message  $n-6$ , but it should transmit in round  $B_{\gamma-1}(3)$ . It receives this message in the first of the two rounds  $\{B_{\gamma+1}(3), B_{\gamma+2}(3)\}$ . So at least one of the two rounds  $B_{\gamma+1}(3)$  and  $B_{\gamma+2}(3)$  should be done before  $B_{\gamma-1}(3)$ . Therefore we should have

$$\min\{B_{\gamma+1}(3), B_{\gamma+2}(3)\} \prec B_{\gamma-1}(3).$$

Note that there are many orders satisfying the four constraints above (see analysis for the general case). We can choose for example the following orders according to the values of  $n$

$$\begin{cases} (B_0(3), B_2(3), B_3(3), B_1(3)) & \text{if } n \text{ is even } (\gamma = 0 \text{ or } 2) \\ (B_3(3), B_0(3), B_1(3), B_2(3)) & \text{if } n \text{ is odd } (\gamma = 1 \text{ or } 3) \end{cases}$$

### Messages received during the sequence $S_3$

We summarize the status of messages received in sequence  $S_3$  in the following claim.

**Claim 5** *There exists an order of the 4 rounds  $B_k(3)$  of sequence  $S_3$  (rounds 12 to 15) (for example those defined above), such that, during the sequence  $S_3$ , each node  $4 \leq i \leq n-3$  has received message  $i-4$ , each node  $2 \leq j \leq n-5$  message  $j+4$ , node 0 message 5, node 1 messages 5 and 6, node  $n-1$  message  $n-6$ , and node  $n-2$  messages  $n-6$  and  $n-7$ .*

*Proof.* That follows from the fact that for node  $4 \leq i \leq n-5$ , the calls involved are those of  $A_k$ , and so node  $i$  receives a new message from the left namely message  $i-4$  in one of the 4 rounds and receives a new message from the right namely message  $i+4$  in another round. Node 2 (resp. 3) receives only message 6 (resp. 7) from the right and node  $n-4$  (resp.  $n-3$ ) receives only message  $n-8$  (resp.  $n-7$ ) from the left. As we have seen above, node 1 (resp.  $n-2$ ) receives two messages 5 and 6 (resp.  $n-6$  and  $n-7$ ). But that is possible only if the order  $\prec$  on the rounds satisfies the two "max-constraints" given above. Node 0 (resp.  $n-1$ ) receives message 5 (resp.  $n-6$ ) but this is possible only if the order  $\prec$  on the rounds satisfies the two "min-constraints" given above. In summary, for any order satisfying the four constraints (see example above), the claim is true.  $\diamond$

### 3.2.5 Sequence $S_s$

Like for  $s = 3$ , the rounds  $B_k(s)$  will consist of 3 parts: one left part  $L_k(s)$  with a set of calls all directed to the left, a middle part  $A_k[s + 1, n - 2 - s]$ , and a right part  $R_k(n - 1 - s)$  with a set of calls all directed to the right. We will have similar constraints on the orders of the rounds and we will see that there exist two canonical orders according to the parity of  $n$ . Now we define precisely these 3 parts.

#### Construction of the rounds $B_k(s)$ of $S_s$

For a general  $s$ , we note (see Claim 6) that at the end of the sequence  $S_{s-1}$ , the nodes  $1 \leq i \leq s$  have received all the messages from the left (that is messages  $j \leq i$ ), while nodes  $n - s - 1 \leq i \leq n - 2$  have received all the messages from the right (that is messages  $j \geq i$ ). Therefore, in the rounds  $A_k$ , like for  $s = 2, 3$ , there are many useless calls in particular the calls  $(s - 1, s)$  and  $(n + 1 - s, n - s)$  which were useful in the preceding sequence. So in  $B_k(s)$ , we will keep only the set of calls of  $A_k$  with a sender or a receiver in the interval  $[s + 1, n - 2 - s]$ , denoted by  $A_k[s + 1, n - 2 - s]$ .

For example for  $s = 11$  and  $n = 32$ ,

$$A_0[12, 19] = \{(12, 13), (15, 14), (16, 17), (19, 18)\},$$

$$A_1[12, 19] = \{(12, 11), (13, 14), (16, 15), (17, 18), (20, 19)\},$$

$$A_2[12, 19] = \{(13, 12), (14, 15), (17, 16), (18, 19)\},$$

$$A_3[12, 19] = \{(11, 12), (14, 13), (15, 16), (18, 17), (19, 20)\}.$$

We will do the sequence  $S_s$  till  $s = p - 1$ . For  $s = p - 1$ , when  $n = 2p + 1$  is odd, then  $s + 1 = n - 2 - s$  and the interval  $[s + 1, n - 2 - s]$  is reduced to the node  $p$ . For  $s = p - 1$ , when  $n = 2p$  is even, then  $s + 1 > n - 2 - s$  and in this particular case the middle part will be empty.

Having defined the set of calls in the middle part, we now construct the calls in the left (resp. right) part of  $B_k(s)$  denoted by  $L_k(s)$  (resp.  $R_k(n - 1 - s)$ ).  $B_k(s)$  is obtained by the concatenation of these three sets

$$B_k(s) = \{L_k(s), A_k[s + 1, n - 2 - s], R_k(n - 1 - s)\}$$

Recall that all the indices  $k$  are taken modulo 4.

For the left part, in order to have the maximum number of calls, we will first put in  $L_k(s)$  the call  $(i_{max}, i_{max} - 1)$ , where  $i_{max}$  is the greatest integer  $\leq s$  such that the call  $(i_{max}, i_{max} - 1)$  does not interfere with the call in  $A_k[s + 1, n - 2 - s]$  involving node  $s + 1$ . Then we add in  $L_k(s)$  the calls  $(i_{max} - 3j, i_{max} - 3j - 1)$  for  $0 \leq 3j \leq i_{max} - 1$ . These calls are not pairwise interfering as nodes  $i_{max} - 3j - 2$  do nothing (such idle nodes are indicated by an  $\times$  in the tables). In the example given before with  $s = 11$ , the call of  $A_0[12, 19]$  involving node 12 is  $(12, 13)$ , so  $i_{max} = 11$  and we get  $L_0(11) = \{(11, 10), (8, 7), (5, 4), (2, 1)\}$ .

#### Let $s \equiv \alpha \pmod{4}$ .

The call  $(s + 2, s + 1)$  appears in  $A_{\alpha-1}[s + 1, n - 2 - s]$ . In that case,  $i_{max} = s - 1$  and we get  $L_{\alpha-1}(s) = \{(s - 3j - 1, s - 3j - 2)\} \quad 0 \leq 3j \leq s - 2$ . The call  $(s, s + 1)$  appears in  $A_\alpha[s + 1, n - 2 - s]$ . In that case, we also have  $i_{max} = s - 1$  and so  $L_\alpha(s) = L_{\alpha-1}(s)$  and we get  $L_\alpha(s) = \{(s - 3j - 1, s - 3j - 2)\} \quad 0 \leq 3j \leq s - 2$ . The call  $(s + 1, s + 2)$  appears in  $A_{\alpha+1}[s + 1, n - 2 - s]$ . In that case,  $i_{max} = s$  and we get  $L_{\alpha+1}(s) = \{(s - 3j, s - 3j - 1)\} \quad 0 \leq 3j \leq s - 1$ . The call  $(s + 1, s)$  appears in  $A_{\alpha+2}[s + 1, n - 2 - s]$ . In that case,  $i_{max} = s - 2$  and we get  $L_{\alpha+2}(s) = \{(s - 3j - 2, s - 3j - 3)\} \quad 0 \leq 3j \leq s - 3$ .

In the example with  $s = 11 \pmod{4}$ , or  $\alpha = 3$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} L_2(11) &= \{(10, 9), (7, 6), (4, 3), (1, 0)\}, \\ L_3(11) &= \{(10, 9), (7, 6), (4, 3), (1, 0)\}, \\ L_0(11) &= \{(11, 10), (8, 7), (5, 4), (2, 1)\}, \text{ and} \\ L_1(11) &= \{(9, 8), (6, 5), (3, 2)\}. \end{aligned}$$

For the right part, we do a similar construction obtained by symmetry (node  $i$  is replaced by the node  $n - 1 - i$  and the calls are in the opposite direction). More precisely, in order to have the maximum number of calls, we will first put the call  $(i_{min}, i_{min} + 1)$  in  $R_k(n - 1 - s)$ , where  $i_{min}$  is the smallest integer  $\geq n - 1 - s$  such that the call  $(i_{min}, i_{min} + 1)$  does not interfere with the call in  $A_k[s + 1, n - 2 - s]$  involving node  $n - 2 - s$ . Then we add in  $R_k(n - 1 - s)$  the calls  $(i_{min} + 3j, i_{min} + 3j + 1)$  for  $0 \leq 3j \leq n - 2 - i_{min}$ . These calls are not pairwise interfering as nodes  $i_{min} + 3j + 2$  do nothing (such idle nodes are indicated by an  $\times$  in the tables). In the example given before with  $s = 11$ ,  $n = 32$  and so  $n - 2 - s = 19$ , the call of  $A_0[12, 19]$  involving node 19 is  $(19, 18)$ . Therefore  $i_{min} = 20$  and we get  $R_0(20) = \{(20, 21), (23, 24), (26, 27), (29, 30)\}$ .

**Let  $n - 1 - s \equiv \beta \pmod{4}$ .** (In the preceding subsections we use  $n \equiv \gamma \pmod{4}$ , so for  $s = 2$ ,  $\gamma = \beta - 1$  and for  $s = 3$ ,  $\gamma = \beta$ ).

The call  $(n - s - 3, n - s - 2)$  appears in  $A_{\beta+2}[s + 1, n - 2 - s]$ . In that case,  $i_{min} = n - s$  and we get  $R_{\beta+2}(n - 1 - s) = \{(n - s + 3j, n - s + 3j + 1) \mid 0 \leq 3j \leq s - 2\}$ . The call  $(n - s - 1, n - s - 2)$  appears in  $A_{\beta+1}[s + 1, n - 2 - s]$ . Here again  $i_{min} = n - s$  and so,  $R_{\beta+1}(n - 1 - s) = R_{\beta+2}(n - 1 - s)$  and we get  $R_{\beta+1}(n - 1 - s) = \{(n - s + 3j, n - s + 3j + 1) \mid 0 \leq 3j \leq s - 2\}$ . The call  $(n - s - 2, n - s - 3)$  appears in  $A_{\beta}[s + 1, n - 2 - s]$ . In that case,  $i_{min} = n - s - 1$  and we get  $R_{\beta}(n - 1 - s) = \{(n - s + 3j - 1, n - s + 3j) \mid 0 \leq 3j \leq s - 1\}$ . The call  $(n - s - 2, n - s - 1)$  appears in  $A_{\beta-1}[s + 1, n - 2 - s]$ . In that case,  $i_{min} = n - s + 1$  and we get  $R_{\beta-1}(n - 1 - s) = \{(n - s + 3j + 1, n - s + 3j + 2) \mid 0 \leq 3j \leq s - 3\}$ .

In the example with  $n = 32$  and  $s = 11$ ,  $n - 1 - s = 20 \pmod{4}$ , or  $\beta = 0$  we get

$$\begin{aligned} R_2(20) &= \{(21, 22), (24, 25), (27, 28), (30, 31)\} \\ R_1(20) &= \{(21, 22), (24, 25), (27, 28), (30, 31)\}, \\ R_0(20) &= \{(20, 21), (23, 24), (26, 27), (29, 30)\}, \text{ and} \\ R_3(20) &= \{(22, 23), (25, 26), (28, 29)\}. \end{aligned}$$

If we concatenate the values obtained for the example for  $L_k(11)$ ,  $A_k[12, 19]$ , and  $R_k(20)$  we get the following  $B_k(s)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} B_0(11) &= \{L_0(11), A_0[12, 19], R_0(20)\} \\ &= \{(11, 10), (8, 7), (5, 4), (2, 1), (12, 13), (15, 14), (16, 17), (19, 18), (20, 21), (23, 24), (26, 27), (29, 30)\}. \\ B_1(11) &= \{L_1(11), A_1[12, 19], R_1(20)\} \\ &= \{(9, 8), (6, 5), (3, 2), (12, 11), (13, 14), (16, 15), (17, 18), (20, 19), (21, 22), (24, 25), (27, 28), (30, 31)\}. \\ B_2(11) &= \{L_2(11), A_2[12, 19], R_2(20)\} \\ &= \{(10, 9), (7, 6), (4, 3), (1, 0), (13, 12), (14, 15), (17, 16), (18, 19), (21, 22), (24, 25), (27, 28), (30, 31)\}. \\ B_3(11) &= \{L_3(11), A_3[12, 19], R_3(20)\} \\ &= \{(10, 9), (7, 6), (4, 3), (1, 0), (11, 12), (14, 13), (15, 16), (18, 17), (19, 20), (22, 23), (25, 26), (28, 29)\}. \end{aligned}$$

### Constraints on the order of the rounds $B_k(s)$ of the sequence $S_s$

Like for the case  $s = 3$ , for  $s \equiv \alpha \pmod{4}$ , the calls  $\{(s - 3j - 1, s - 3j - 2)\}$ ,  $0 \leq 3j \leq$

$s - 2$  appear twice namely in rounds  $B_{\alpha-1}(s)$  and  $B_\alpha(s)$  in which two messages should be transmitted. But node  $s - 3j - 1$  has only one message and receives the second one via the call  $\{(s - 3j, s - 3j - 1)\}$  in round  $B_{\alpha+1}(s)$ , and so we have the following constraint on the orders

$$B_{\alpha+1}(s) \prec \max\{B_{\alpha-1}(s), B_\alpha(s)\}.$$

Furthermore, in round  $B_{\alpha+2}(s)$ , node  $s - 3j - 2$  has to transmit the message received via one of the two calls  $\{(s - 3j - 1, s - 3j - 2)\}$  and so we have the second constraint

$$\min\{B_{\alpha-1}(s), B_\alpha(s)\} \prec B_{\alpha+2}(s).$$

Similarly, in the right part, for  $n - 1 - s \equiv \beta \pmod{4}$ , the calls  $\{(n - s + 3j, n - s + 3j + 1)\}$  ( $0 \leq 3j \leq s - 2$ ) appear twice namely in rounds  $B_{\beta+2}(s)$  and  $B_{\beta+1}(s)$  in which two messages should be transmitted. But node  $n - s - 3j$  has only one message and it receives the second one via the call  $\{(n - s - 3j - 1, n - s - 3j)\}$  in round  $B_\beta(s)$ . So we have the following constraint on the orders

$$B_\beta(s) \prec \max\{B_{\beta+1}(s), B_{\beta+2}(s)\}.$$

Furthermore, in round  $B_{\beta-1}(s)$ , nodes  $n - s + 3j + 1$  ( $0 \leq 3j \leq s - 2$ ) have to transmit the message received via one of the two calls  $\{(n - s + 3j, n - s + 3j + 1)\}$ , and so we have the second constraint

$$\min\{B_{\beta+1}(s), B_{\beta+2}(s)\} \prec B_{\beta-1}(s).$$

Let us now determine the orders that satisfy the 4 constraints above.

Recall that  $s \equiv \alpha \pmod{4}$  and  $n - 1 - s \equiv \beta \pmod{4}$ . We will see that there are two cases:  $\beta$  has the same parity as  $\alpha$  which happens when  $n$  is odd, and  $\beta$  has a different parity as  $\alpha$  which happens when  $n$  is even.

- When  $n$  is even, then  $\beta$  has a different parity as  $\alpha$ .

If  $\beta \equiv \alpha + 1 \pmod{4}$  or  $\beta \equiv \alpha + 3 \pmod{4}$ , we have four orders which satisfy the 4 constraints as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} & (B_{\alpha+1}(s), B_{\alpha-1}(s), B_\alpha(s), B_{\alpha+2}(s)), \\ & (B_{\alpha+1}(s), B_{\alpha-1}(s), B_{\alpha+2}(s), B_\alpha(s)), \\ & (B_{\alpha-1}(s), B_{\alpha+1}(s), B_\alpha(s), B_{\alpha+2}(s)), \\ & (B_{\alpha-1}(s), B_{\alpha+1}(s), B_{\alpha+2}(s), B_\alpha(s)). \end{aligned}$$

We choose the first one for  $n$  even, then show it with the value of  $s$  (and  $\alpha$ ).

$$\begin{aligned} & (B_1(s), B_3(s), B_0(s), B_2(s)) \text{ for } s \equiv 0 \pmod{4} \ (\alpha = 0) \\ & (B_2(s), B_0(s), B_1(s), B_3(s)) \text{ for } s \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \ (\alpha = 1) \\ & (B_3(s), B_1(s), B_2(s), B_0(s)) \text{ for } s \equiv 2 \pmod{4} \ (\alpha = 2) \\ & (B_0(s), B_2(s), B_3(s), B_1(s)) \text{ for } s \equiv 3 \pmod{4} \ (\alpha = 3) \end{aligned}$$

- When  $n$  is odd, then  $\beta$  has the same parity as  $\alpha$ .

If  $\beta \equiv \alpha \pmod{4}$ , we have six orders which satisfy the 4 constraints as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} & (B_\alpha(s), B_{\alpha+1}(s), B_{\alpha+2}(s), B_{\alpha-1}(s)), \\ & (B_\alpha(s), B_{\alpha+1}(s), B_{\alpha-1}(s), B_{\alpha+2}(s)), \\ & (B_{\alpha+1}(s), B_\alpha(s), B_{\alpha+2}(s), B_{\alpha-1}(s)), \\ & (B_{\alpha+1}(s), B_\alpha(s), B_{\alpha-1}(s), B_{\alpha+2}(s)), \\ & (B_{\alpha+1}(s), B_{\alpha-1}(s), B_\alpha(s), B_{\alpha+2}(s)), \\ & (B_\alpha(s), B_{\alpha+2}(s), B_{\alpha+1}(s), B_{\alpha-1}(s)). \end{aligned}$$

If  $\beta \equiv \alpha + 2 \pmod{4}$ , we have four orders which satisfy the 4 constraints as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} & (B_\alpha(s), B_{\alpha+1}(s), B_{\alpha+2}(s), B_{\alpha-1}(s)), \\ & (B_\alpha(s), B_{\alpha+2}(s), B_{\alpha+1}(s), B_{\alpha-1}(s)), \\ & (B_{\alpha-1}(s), B_{\alpha+1}(s), B_{\alpha+2}(s), B_\alpha(s)), \\ & (B_{\alpha-1}(s), B_{\alpha+2}(s), B_{\alpha+1}(s), B_\alpha(s)) \end{aligned}$$

We select one of these orders that applies to both cases (the first one), and show it with the value of  $s$  (and  $\alpha$ ).

$$\begin{aligned} & (B_0(s), B_1(s), B_2(s), B_3(s)) \text{ for } s \equiv 0 \pmod{4} \ (\alpha = 0) \\ & (B_1(s), B_2(s), B_3(s), B_0(s)) \text{ for } s \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \ (\alpha = 1) \\ & (B_2(s), B_3(s), B_0(s), B_1(s)) \text{ for } s \equiv 2 \pmod{4} \ (\alpha = 2) \\ & (B_3(s), B_0(s), B_1(s), B_2(s)) \text{ for } s \equiv 3 \pmod{4} \ (\alpha = 3) \end{aligned}$$

### Messages received during the sequence $S_s$

We summarize the status of messages received in sequence  $S_s$  in the following claim.

**Claim 6** *There exists an order of the 4 rounds  $B_k(s)$  of sequence  $S_s$  (rounds  $4s$  to  $4s + 3$ ), namely  $(B_{\alpha+1}(s), B_{\alpha-1}(s), B_\alpha(s), B_{\alpha+2}(s))$  for  $n$  even, and  $(B_\alpha(s), B_{\alpha+1}(s), B_{\alpha+2}(s), B_{\alpha-1}(s))$  for  $n$  odd, such that during the sequence  $S_s$ :*

- each node  $s+1 \leq i \leq n-s$  has received message  $i-s-1$ , and each node  $s-1 \leq i \leq n-s-2$  has received message  $i+s+1$ ,
- nodes  $s-3j-2$  (resp.  $n-s+3j+1$ ),  $0 \leq 3j \leq s-2$  have received two messages from the right (resp. from the left)
- and the other nodes  $i \leq s-1$  (resp.  $i \geq n-s$ ) have received one message from the right (resp. from the left).

*Proof.* The first part follows from the fact that for node  $s+1 \leq i \leq n-s-2$ , the calls are those of  $A_k$ , and so in one of the 4 rounds each node receives a new message from the left, namely message  $i-s-1$  and in another round receives a new message from the right, namely message  $i+s+1$  (note that by induction these messages arrived at the sender at the end of sequence  $S_{s-1}$ ). The orders determined in the preceding paragraph enable node  $s-3j-1$  (resp.  $n-s+3j$ ) to send two messages to node  $s-3j-2$  (resp.  $n-s+3j+1$ ), and also ensure the arrival of a message in the other nodes of the left and right. Therefore, the second and third parts are proved.  $\diamond$

### Messages received at the end of phase 2 (end of sequence $S_{p-1}$ )

Recall that  $n = 2p$  or  $2p + 1$  and in phase 2, we do  $p-1$  sequences  $S_s$ ,  $1 \leq s \leq p-1$ .

**Claim 7** *Let  $n = 2p$ . At the end of phase 2 (after round  $4p-1$ ),*

- nodes  $p-1-3j$ ,  $0 \leq 3j \leq p-1$  have received messages  $0 \leq i \leq 2p-1-2j$
- nodes  $p-2-3j$ ,  $0 \leq 3j \leq p-2$  and  $p-3-3j$ ,  $0 \leq 3j \leq p-3$  have received messages  $0 \leq i \leq 2p-2-2j$
- nodes  $p+3j$ ,  $0 \leq 3j \leq p-1$  have received messages  $2j \leq i \leq 2p-1$
- nodes  $p+1+3j$ ,  $0 \leq 3j \leq p-2$  and  $p+2+3j$ ,  $0 \leq 3j \leq p-3$  have received messages  $2j+1 \leq i \leq 2p-1$

Let  $n = 2p + 1$ . At the end of phase 2 (after round  $4p - 1$ ),

- node  $p$  has received all the messages
- nodes  $p - 1 - 3j$ ,  $0 \leq 3j \leq p - 1$  have received messages  $0 \leq i \leq 2p - 1 - 2j$
- nodes  $p - 2 - 3j$ ,  $0 \leq 3j \leq p - 2$  and  $p - 3 - 3j$ ,  $0 \leq 3j \leq p - 3$  have received messages  $0 \leq i \leq 2p - 2 - 2j$
- nodes  $p + 1 + 3j$ ,  $0 \leq 3j \leq p - 1$  have received messages  $2j + 1 \leq i \leq 2p$
- nodes  $p + 2 + 3j$ ,  $0 \leq 3j \leq p - 2$  and  $p + 3 + 3j$ ,  $0 \leq 3j \leq p - 3$  have received messages  $2j + 2 \leq i \leq 2p$

*Proof.* By claim 6, at the end of sequence  $S_{p-1}$ , any node  $i$  has received the messages of the nodes at distance  $\leq p$ . Therefore, node  $i \leq p$  (resp.  $i \geq n - 1 - p$ ) has received all the messages from the left (resp. right). In particular, node  $p$  has received all the messages and, when  $n = 2p$ , node  $p - 1$  has also received all the messages. Furthermore, node  $i \leq p$  (resp.  $i \geq n - 1 - p$ ) has received more than  $p$  messages from the right (resp. left) as it has received in some sequences two messages. For the precise analysis we distinguish two cases according the parity of  $n$ .

Let  $n = 2p$ . As noted above, nodes  $p - 1$  and  $p$  have received all the messages. Node  $p - 2$  has received all the messages  $0 \leq i \leq 2p - 2$ . But node  $p - 3$  has also received all the messages  $0 \leq i \leq 2p - 2$ ; indeed in  $S_{p-1}$  it has received two messages namely  $2p - 3$  and  $2p - 2$ . More generally, node  $p - 1 - 3j$  has received from the right two messages during the  $j$  sequences  $S_{p-2-3k}$ ,  $0 \leq k \leq j - 1$  and so it has received at the end of phase 2 from the right altogether  $p + j$  messages, i.e. all the messages between  $p - 3j$  and  $2p - 1 - 2j$ .

Node  $p - 2 - 3j$  has received two messages during the  $j$  sequences  $S_{p-3-3k}$ ,  $0 \leq k \leq j - 1$  and so has received at the end of phase 2 from the right all the messages between  $p - 1 - 3j$  and  $2p - 2 - 2j$ . Node  $p - 3 - 3j$  has received two messages during the  $j + 1$  sequences  $S_{p-1-3k}$ ,  $0 \leq k \leq j$  and so has received at the end of phase 2 from the right all the messages between  $p - 2 - 3j$  and  $2p - 2 - 2j$ .

The proof for the other side is similar. Node  $p + 1$  has received the messages  $1 \leq i \leq 2p - 1$  at the end of phase 2. Node  $p + 2$  has also received the messages  $1 \leq i \leq 2p - 1$ ; indeed in  $S_{p-1}$  it has received 2 messages namely 2 and 1. More generally node  $p + 3j$  has received from the left two messages during the  $j$  sequences  $S_{p-2-3k}$ ,  $0 \leq k \leq j - 1$  and so it has received at the end of phase 2 from the left  $p + j$  messages that is all the messages between  $2j$  and  $p + 3j - 1$ . Node  $p + 3j + 1$  has received two messages during the  $j$  sequences  $S_{p-3-3k}$ ,  $0 \leq k \leq j - 1$  and so it has received at the end of phase 2 from the left  $p + j$  messages that is all the messages between  $2j + 1$  and  $p + 3j$ . Node  $p + 3j + 2$  has received two messages during the  $j + 1$  sequences  $S_{p-1-3k}$ ,  $0 \leq k \leq j$  and so it has received at the end of phase 2 from the left  $p + 1 + j$  messages that is all the messages between  $2j + 1$  and  $p + 3j + 1$ .

For  $n = 2p + 1$ , the proof is similar as that for the case  $n$  even. ◇

### 3.3 Phase 3

At the end of phase 2, the nodes in the left part  $0 \leq i \leq p - 1$  have still to receive some messages of large nodes and in particular, we have to move message  $n - 1$  till the node 0

while in the right part nodes  $p + 1 \leq i \leq n - 1$  have still to receive some messages of small nodes and in particular, we have to move message 0 till the node  $n - 1$ . These moves can be done independently as there will be no interferences between the calls in the left part and those in right part (except for the two first rounds in the case  $n$  odd). We have already done  $3 + 4(p - 1) = 4p - 1$  rounds in phases 1 and 2. So to complete the protocol in the optimal time, we should do phase 3 in  $3n - 4 - 4p$  rounds that is, when  $n = 2p$ , in  $2p - 4$  rounds, and when  $n = 2p + 1$ , in  $2p - 1$  rounds.

**Claim 8** *We can construct  $3n - 4 - 4p$  rounds (phase 3) to complete the protocol in optimal time.*

*Proof.* The readers can again follow the proof on the tables given for  $n = 12, 13, 14, 15$ . Let  $n = 2p$ . We first do the following two rounds. The first round contains the non-interfering calls  $(p - 1 - 3j, p - 2 - 3j)$  and  $(p + 3j, p + 1 + 3j)$  for  $0 \leq 3j \leq p - 2$ , and the second round the calls  $(p - 2 - 3j, p - 3 - 3j)$  and  $(p + 1 + 3j, p + 2 + 3j)$  for  $0 \leq 3j \leq p - 3$ . According to claim 7, after these two rounds, nodes  $p - 3, p - 2, p + 1$ , and  $p + 2$  have received all the messages and nodes  $p - 4 - 3j, p - 5 - 3j$ , and  $p - 6 - 3j$  (resp.  $p + 3 + 3j, p + 4 + 3j$ , and  $p + 5 + 3j$ ) have received all messages  $0 \leq i \leq 2p - 3 - 2j$  (resp.  $2j + 2 \leq i \leq n - 1$ ) for valid  $j$ . It just remains to push the messages  $n - 2$  and  $n - 1$  (resp. 1 and 0) to the left (resp. right) via  $p - 3$  sequences  $T_k$  ( $0 \leq k \leq p - 4$ ). Each  $T_k$  consists of two identical rounds each containing the calls  $(p - 3 - k - 3j, p - 4 - k - 3j)$  and  $(p + 2 + k + 3j, p + 3 + k + 3j)$  for  $0 \leq 3j \leq p - 4 - k$ . At the end of these sequences, each node has received all the messages. Altogether we have completed the protocol in  $2 + 2 \times (p - 3) = 2p - 4$  rounds as required.

Let  $n = 2p + 1$ . We first do the following three rounds (the first two rounds enable us to separate the left and right part). The first round contains the calls  $(p - 3j, p - 1 - 3j)$ ,  $0 \leq 3j \leq p - 1$  and  $(p + 1 + 3j, p + 2 + 3j)$   $0 \leq 3j \leq p - 2$ . The second round contains the calls  $(p - 1 - 3j, p - 2 - 3j)$ ,  $0 \leq 3j \leq p - 2$ , and  $(p + 3j, p + 1 + 3j)$ ,  $0 \leq 3j \leq p - 1$ . The third round contains the calls  $(p - 1 - 3j, p - 2 - 3j)$  and  $(p + 1 + 3j, p + 2 + 3j)$  for  $0 \leq 3j \leq p - 2$ . According to claim 7 after these three rounds, nodes  $p - 1, p - 2, p + 1$ , and  $p + 2$  have received all the messages. Nodes  $p - 3 - 3j, p - 4 - 3j$ , and  $p - 5 - 3j$  (resp.  $p + 3 + 3j, p + 4 + 3j$ , and  $p + 5 + 3j$ ) have received all messages  $0 \leq i \leq 2p - 2 - 2j$  (resp.  $2j + 2 \leq i \leq n - 1$ ). Then we end the protocol like in the case  $n$  even with the  $p - 2$  sequences  $T'_k$ ,  $0 \leq k \leq p - 3$ .  $T'_k$  consists of two identical rounds each containing the calls  $(p - 2 - k - 3j, p - 3 - k - 3j)$  and  $(p + 2 + k + 3j, p + 2 + k + 3j)$  for  $0 \leq 3j \leq p - 3 - k$ . At the end of these sequences, each node has received all the messages. Altogether we have completed the protocol in  $3 + 2 \times (p - 2) = 2p - 1$  rounds.  $\diamond$

In summary, we have given a protocol in three phases which completes the gossiping for  $n > 3$  in the optimal number of rounds  $3n - 5$  as given in Theorem 1.

## 4 Conclusion

In this article, we have determined the exact minimum gossiping time in the chain network with  $n$  nodes under the hypothesis of unit length messages and neighboring interference. One can also try to determine the exact gossiping time for other simple topologies like grids. Perhaps one can use our tools for chains to improve the bounds for trees given in [6]. It

will also be interesting to consider stronger interferences (a sending node preventing nodes at distance  $d_I$  to receive messages).

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Table 1:  $n = 12$ 

round	$s$		nodes											
			0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Phase1														
1			1		1	4		4	7		7	10		10
2			×	2		2	5		5	8		8	11	
3				0	3		3	6		6	9		9	×
Phase2														
4	1	$A_0$	×	×	4			3	8			7	×	×
5		$A_1$	×		0	5			4	9			8	×
6		$A_2$	2			1	6			5	10			9
7		$A_3$	×	3			2	7			6	11		×
8	2	$B_3$	×	4			1	8			5	×		8
9		$B_1$	3		×	6			3	10			7	×
10		$B_2$	4			0	7			4	11			7
11		$B_0$	×	×	5			2	9			6	×	×
12	3	$B_0$	×	×	6			1	10			5	×	×
13		$B_2$	×	5		×	8			3	×		6	×
14		$B_3$	×	6			0	9			4	×		6
15		$B_1$	5		×	7			2	11			5	×
16	4	$B_1$	6		×	8			1	×		4	×	×
17		$B_3$	×	×	7		×	10			3	×		5
18		$B_0$	×	×	8			0	11			3	×	×
19		$B_2$	×	7		×	9			2	×		4	×
20	5	$B_2$	×	8		×	10			1	×		3	×
21		$B_0$	7		×	9		×	×		2	×		4
22		$B_1$	8		×	10			0	×		2	×	×
23		$B_3$	×	×	9		×	11			1	×		3
Phase3														
24			×	9		×	11			0	×		2	×
25			9		×	11		×	×		0	×		2
26			×	×	10		×	×	×	×		1	×	×
27			×	×	11		×	×	×	×		0	×	×
28			×	10		×	×	×	×	×	×		1	×
29			×	11		×	×	×	×	×	×		0	×
30			10		×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		1
31			11		×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		0

Table 2:  $n = 13$ 

round	$s$		nodes												
			0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Phase1															
1			1		1	4		4	7		7	10		10	×
2			×	2		2	5		5	8		8	11		11
3				0	3		3	6		6	9		9	12	
Phase2															
4	1	$A_0$	×	×	4			3	8			7	12		×
5		$A_1$	×		0	5			4	9			8	×	×
6		$A_2$	2			1	6			5	10			9	×
7		$A_3$	×	3			2	7			6	11			10
8	2	$B_2$	3			0	7			4	11			8	×
9		$B_3$	×	4			1	8			5	12			9
10		$B_0$	×	×	5			2	9			6	×		8
11		$B_1$	4		×	6			3	10			7	×	×
12	3	$B_3$	×	5			0	9			4	×		7	×
13		$B_0$	×	×	6			1	10			5	×		7
14		$B_1$	5		×	7			2	11			6	×	×
15		$B_2$	×	6		×	8			3	12			6	×
16	4	$B_0$	×	×	7			0	11			4	×		6
17		$B_1$	6		×	8			1	12			5	×	×
18		$B_2$	×	7		×	9			2	×		4	×	×
19		$B_3$	×	×	8		×	10			3	×		5	×
20	5	$B_1$	7		×	9			0	×		3	×		5
21		$B_2$	×	8		×	10			1	×		3	×	×
22		$B_3$	×	×	9		×	11			2	×		4	×
23		$B_0$	8		×	10		×	12			2	×		4
Phase3															
24			×	×	10		×	12			1	×		3	×
25			×	9		×	11			0	×		2	×	×
26			×	10		×	12		×		0	×		2	×
27			9		×	11		×	×	×		1	×		3
28			10		×	12		×	×	×		0	×		2
29			×	×	11		×	×	×	×	×		1	×	×
30			×	×	12		×	×	×	×	×		0	×	×
31			×	11		×	×	×	×	×	×	×		1	×
32			×	12		×	×	×	×	×	×	×		0	×
33			11		×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		1
34			12		×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		0

Table 3:  $n = 14$ 

round	$s$		nodes													
			0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Phase1																
1			1		1	4		4	7		7	10		10	13	
2			×	2		2	5		5	8		8	11		11	×
3				0	3		3	6		6	9		9	12		12
Phase2																
4	1	$A_0$	×	×	4			3	8			7	12			11
5		$A_1$	×		0	5			4	9			8	13		×
6		$A_2$	2			1	6			5	10			9	×	×
7		$A_3$	×	3			2	7			6	11			10	×
8	2	$B_3$	×	4			1	8			5	12			9	×
9		$B_1$	3		×	6			3	10			7	×		10
10		$B_2$	4			0	7			4	11			8	×	×
11		$B_0$	×	×	5			2	9			6	13			9
12	3	$B_0$	×	×	6			1	10			5	×		8	×
13		$B_2$	×	5		×	8			3	12			7	×	×
14		$B_3$	×	6			0	9			4	13			7	×
15		$B_1$	5		×	7			2	11			6	×		8
16	4	$B_1$	6		×	8			1	12			5	×		7
17		$B_3$	×	×	7		×	10			3	×		6	×	×
18		$B_0$	×	×	8			0	11			4	×		6	×
19		$B_2$	×	7		×	9			2	13			5	×	×
20	5	$B_2$	×	8		×	10			1	×		4	×		6
21		$B_0$	7		×	9		×	12			3	×		5	×
22		$B_1$	8		×	10			0	13			3	×		5
23		$B_3$	×	×	9		×	11			2	×		4	×	×
24	6	$B_3$	×	×	10		×	12			1	×		3	×	×
25		$B_1$	×	9		×	11		×	×		2	×		4	×
26		$B_2$	×	10		×	12			0	×		2	×		4
27		$B_0$	9		×	11		×	13			1	×		3	×
Phase3																
28			×	×	11		×	13			0	×		2	×	×
29			×	11		×	13		×	×		0	×		2	×
30			10		×	12		×	×	×	×		1	×		3
31			11		×	13		×	×	×	×		0	×		2
32			×	×	12		×	×	×	×	×	×		1	×	×
33			×	×	13		×	×	×	×	×	×		0	×	×
34			×	12		×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		1	×
35			×	13		×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		0	×
36			12		×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		1
37			13		×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		0

