Raft

October 2025

Raft

- System for enforcing strong consistency (linearizability)
- Similar to Paxos and Viewstamped Replication, but much **simpler**
- Clear boundary between *leader election* and the *log consensus*
- Leader log is ground truth; log entries only flow in one direction (from leader to followers)

Recap: Raft Leader election

Everyone sets a randomized timer that expires in [T, 2T] (e.g. T = 150ms)

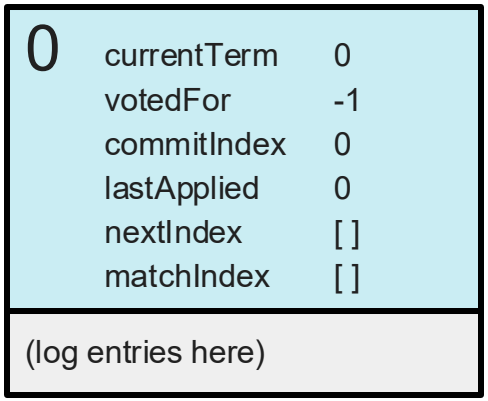
When timer expires, increment term and send a `RequestVote` to everyone

Retry this until either:

1. You get majority of votes (including yourself): become leader
2. You receive an RPC from a valid leader: become follower again

Conditions for granting vote

1. (Assignment 3) We did not vote for anyone else in this term
2. (Assignment 3) Candidate term must be >= ours
3. (Assignment 4) Candidate log is at least as *up-to-date* as ours
    a. The log with higher term in the last entry is more up-to-date
    b. If the last entry terms are the same, then the longer log is more up-to-date



Logs are 1-indexed

currentTerm latest term server has seen

votedFor candidate ID that received vote in current term, or -1 if none

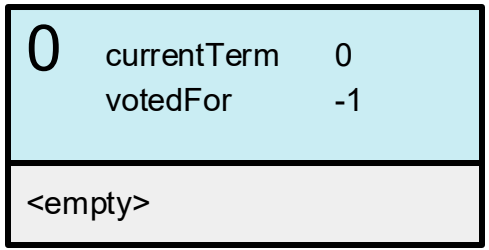
commitIndex index of highest log entry known to be committed

lastApplied index of highest log entry applied to state machine

(Only on leader)

nextIndex for each server, index of the next log entry to send to that server

matchIndex for each server, index of highest log entry known to be replicated on the server

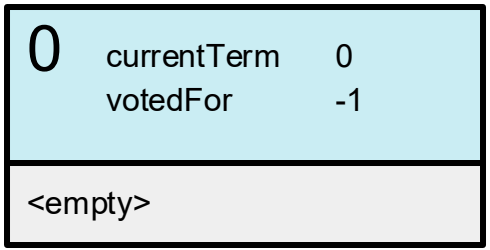


currentTerm latest term server has seen

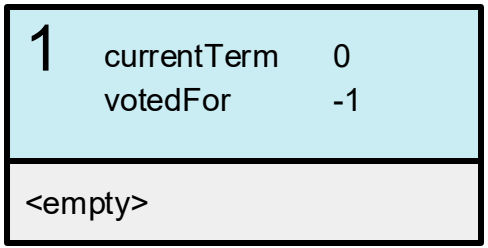
votedFor candidate ID that received vote in current term, or -1 if none

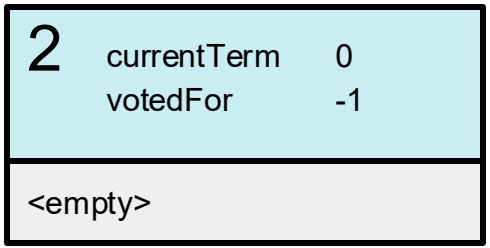
State required for election

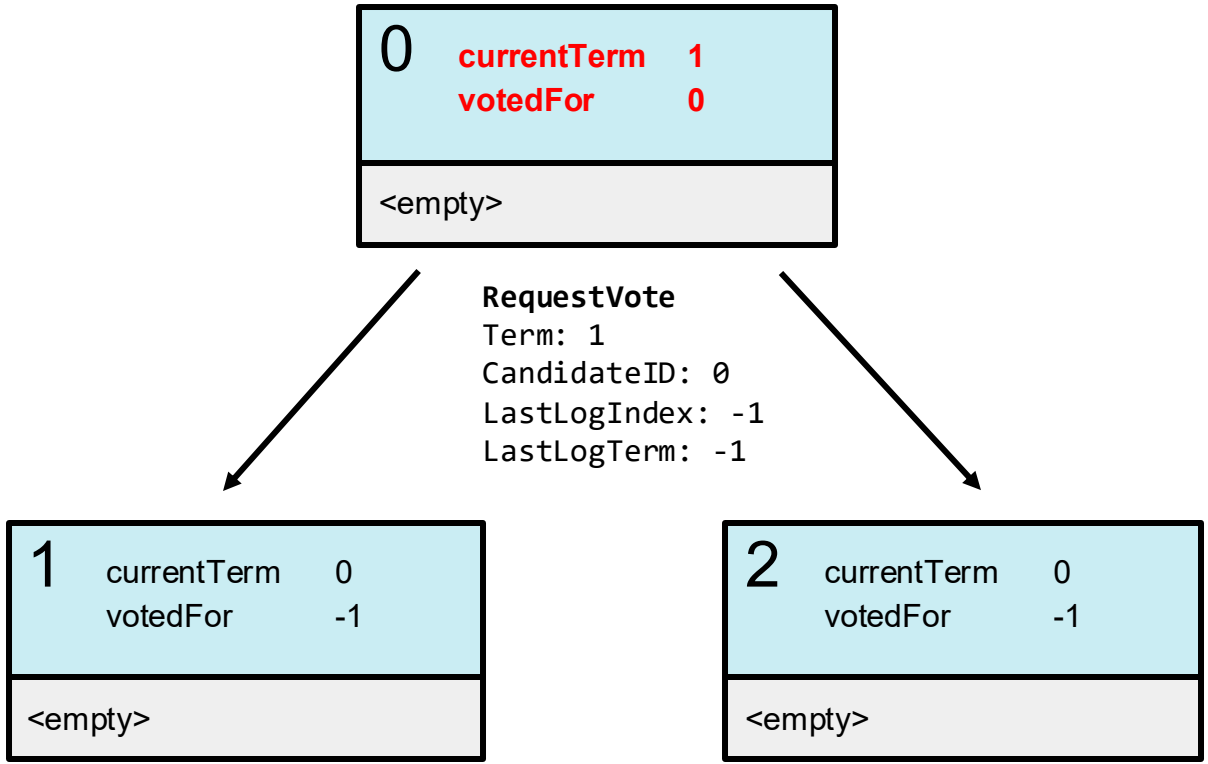
Scenario 1: During System Bootup

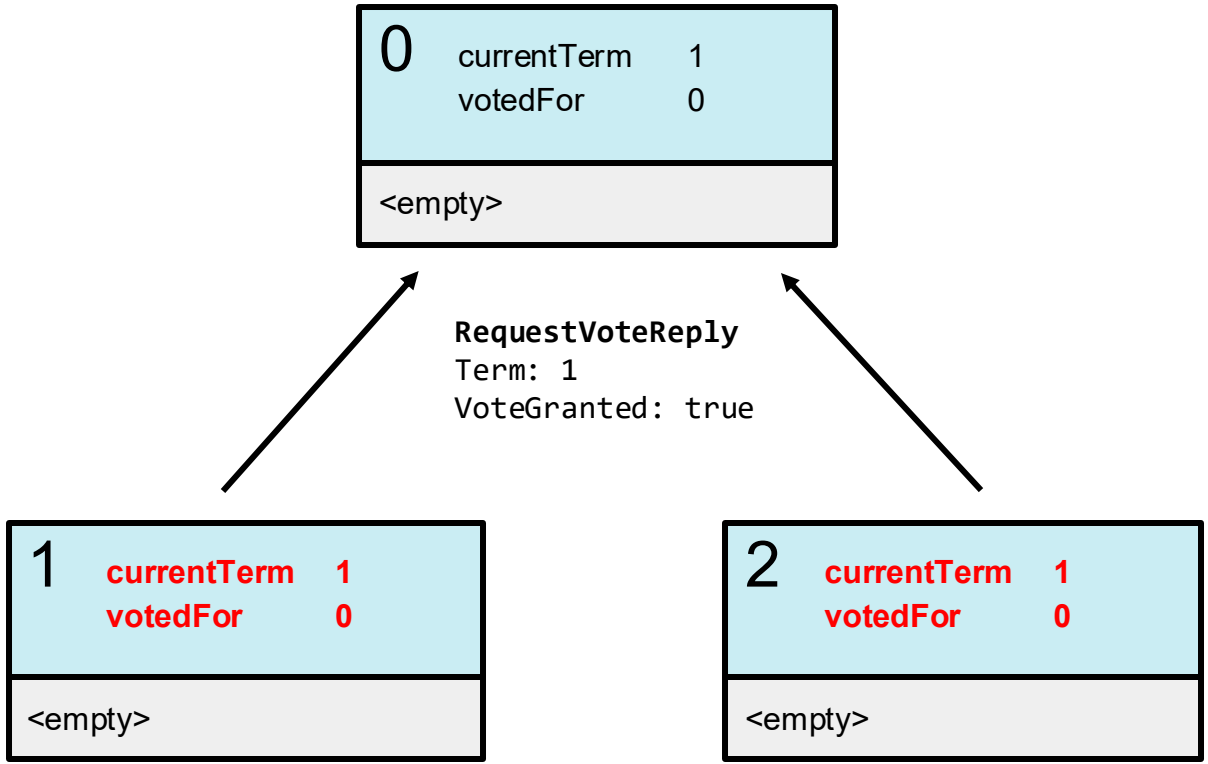

0
currentTerm 0
votedFor -1
<empty>

Timeout


1
currentTerm 0
votedFor -1
<empty>


2
currentTerm 0
votedFor -1
<empty>

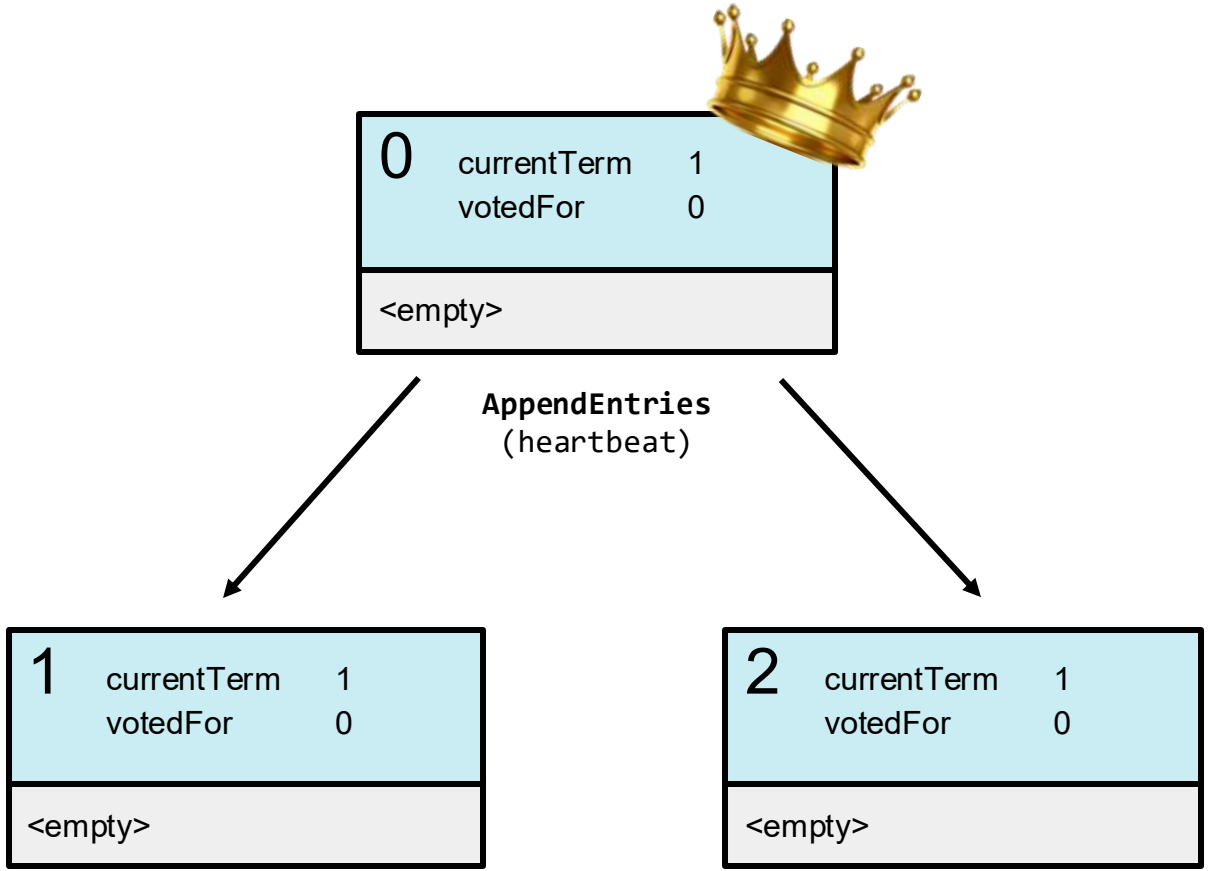

0
currentTerm 1
votedFor 0
<empty>
RequestVote
Term: 1
CandidateID: 0
LastLogIndex: -1
LastLogTerm: -1
1
currentTerm 0
votedFor -1
<empty>
2
currentTerm 0
votedFor -1
<empty>


0
currentTerm 1
votedFor 0
<empty>
RequestVoteReply
Term: 1
VoteGranted: true
1
currentTerm 1
votedFor 0
<empty>
2
currentTerm 1
votedFor 0
<empty>

0	currentTerm	1
	votedFor	0
<empty>		

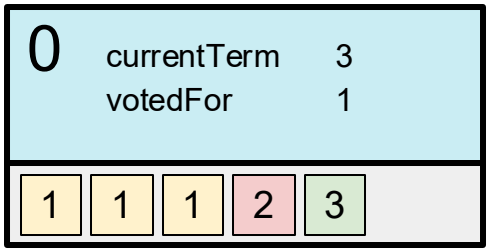
1	currentTerm	1
	votedFor	0
<empty>		

2	currentTerm	1
	votedFor	0
<empty>		

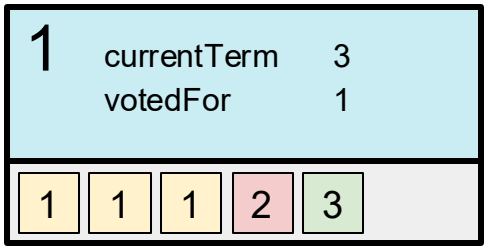

0
currentTerm 1
votedFor 0
<empty>
AppendEntries
(heartbeat)
1
currentTerm 1
votedFor 0
<empty>
2
currentTerm 1
votedFor 0
<empty>

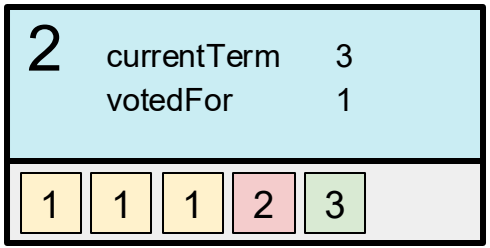
Scenario 2: During Normal Execution

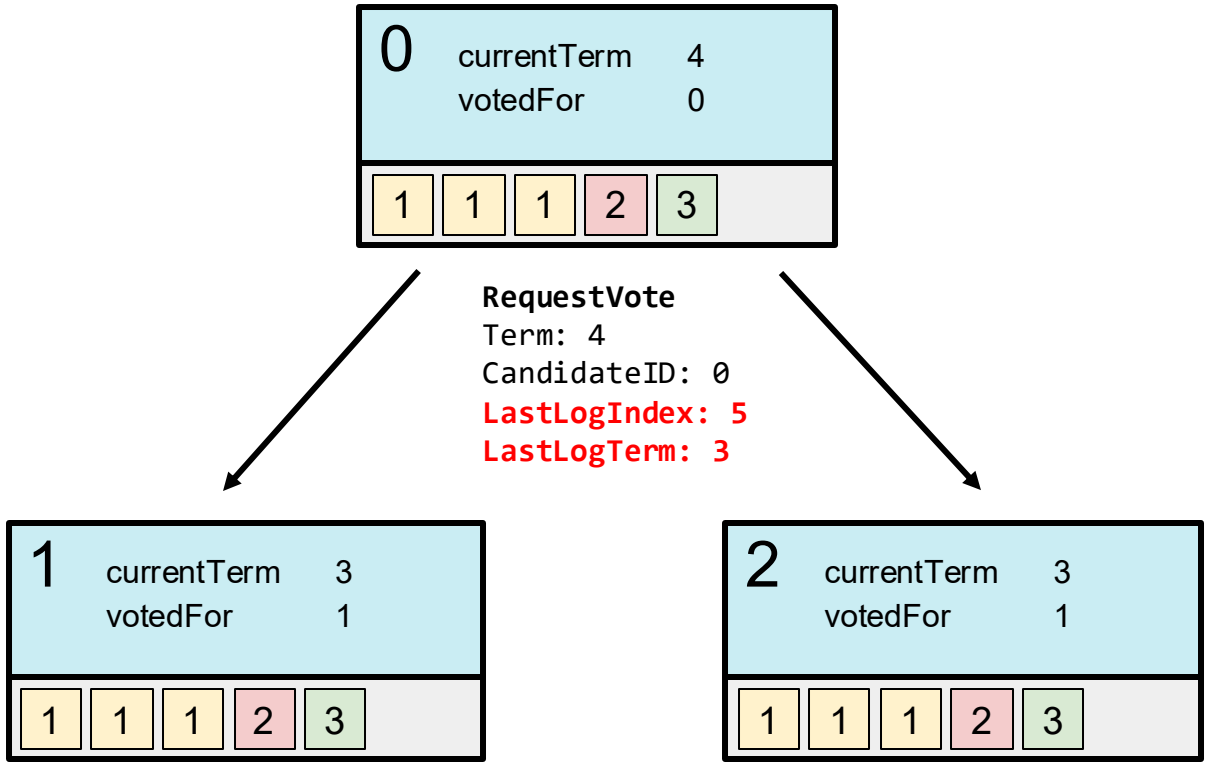
(suppose there are existing log entries…)

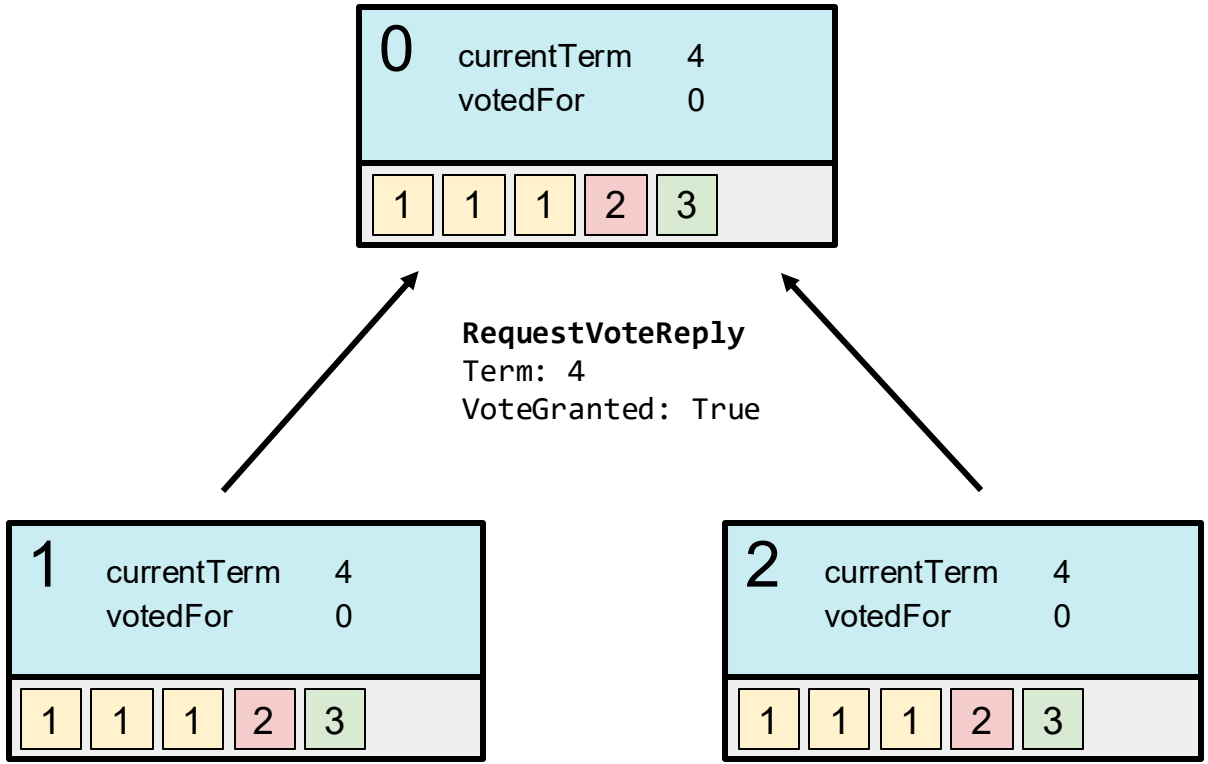

0
currentTerm 3
votedFor 1
1 1 1 2 3

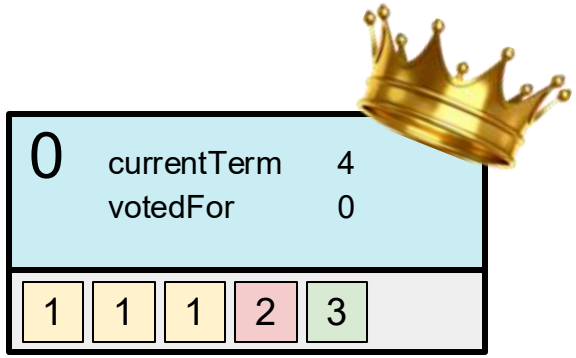
Timeout

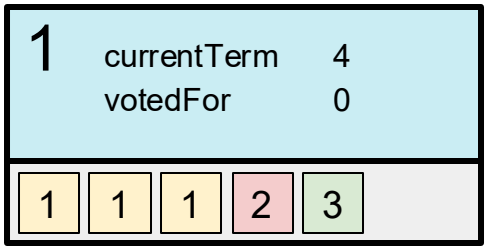

1
currentTerm 3
votedFor 1
1 1 1 2 3

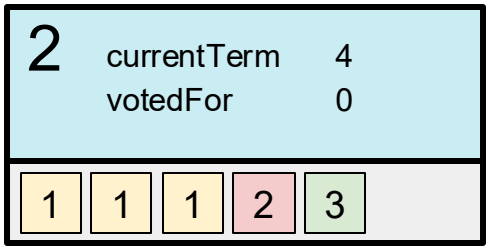

2
currentTerm 3
votedFor 1
1 1 1 2 3


0
currentTerm 4
votedFor 0
1 1 1 2 3
RequestVote
Term: 4
CandidateID: 0
LastLogIndex: 5
LastLogTerm: 3
1
currentTerm 3
votedFor 1
1 1 1 2 3
2
currentTerm 3
votedFor 1
1 1 1 2 3


0
currentTerm 4
votedFor 0
1 1 1 2 3
RequestVoteReply
Term: 4
VoteGranted: True
1
currentTerm 4
votedFor 0
1 1 1 2 3
2
currentTerm 4
votedFor 0
1 1 1 2 3


0
currentTerm 4
votedFor 0
1 1 1 2 3

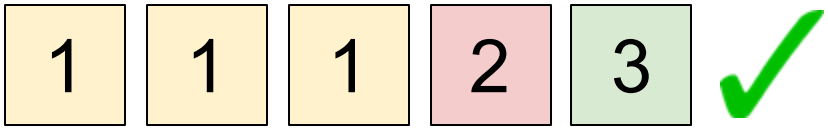

1
currentTerm 4
votedFor 0
1 1 1 2 3

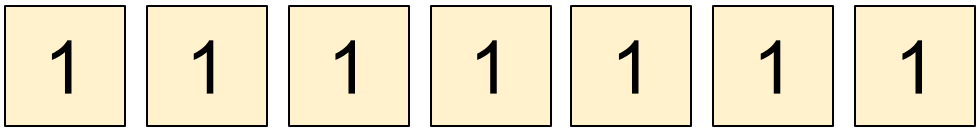

2
currentTerm 4
votedFor 0
1 1 1 2 3

Conditions for granting vote

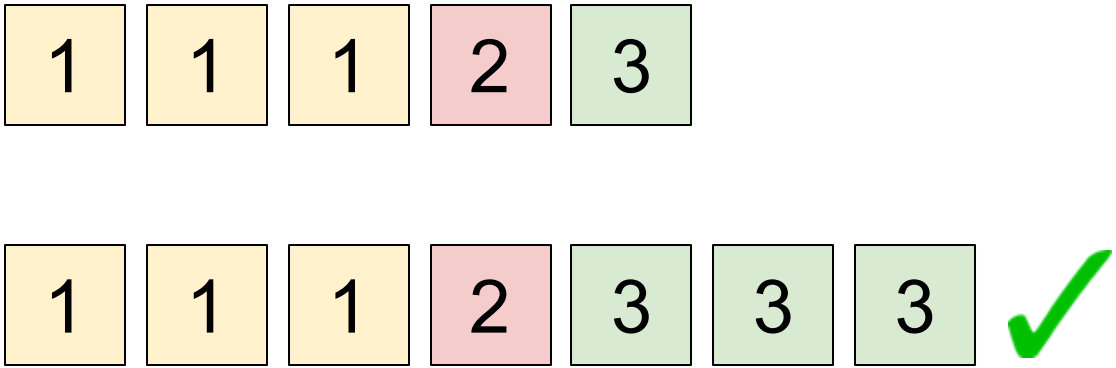
1. We did not vote for anyone else in this term
2. Candidate term must be >= ours
3. Candidate log is at least as *up-to-date* as ours
    a. The log with higher term in the last entry is more up-to-date
    b. If the last entry terms are the same, then the longer log is more up-to-date

Which one is more *up-to-date*?





Which one is more *up-to-date*?



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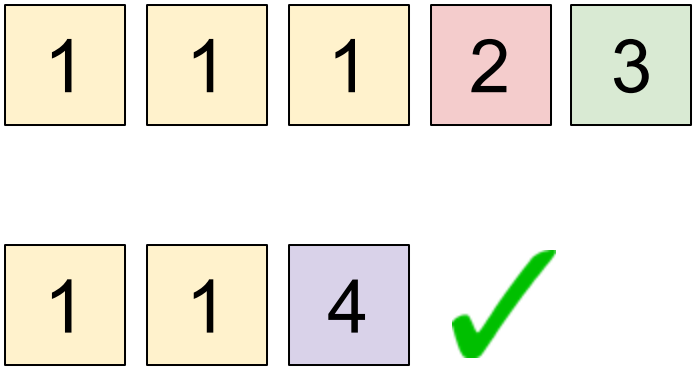


Why reject logs that are not *up-to-date*?

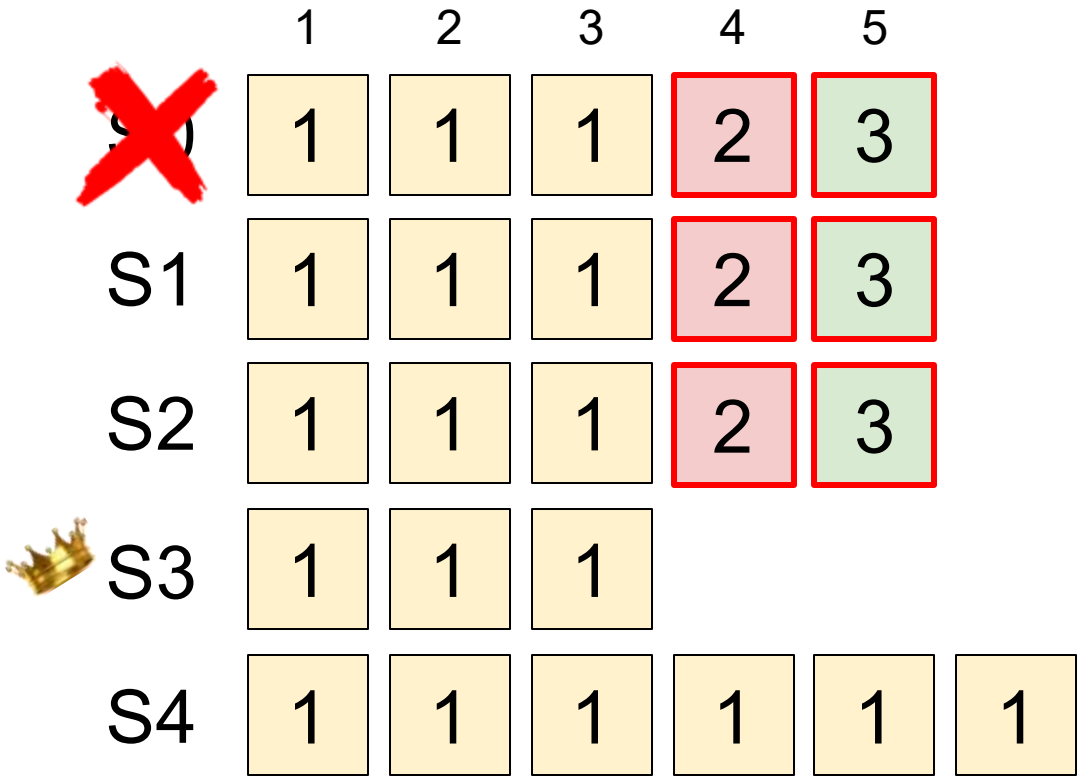
Leader log is always the ground truth

Once someone is elected leader, followers must throw away conflicting entries

Must NOT throw away committed entries!

Note: Log doesn't need to be the MOST up-to-date among all servers

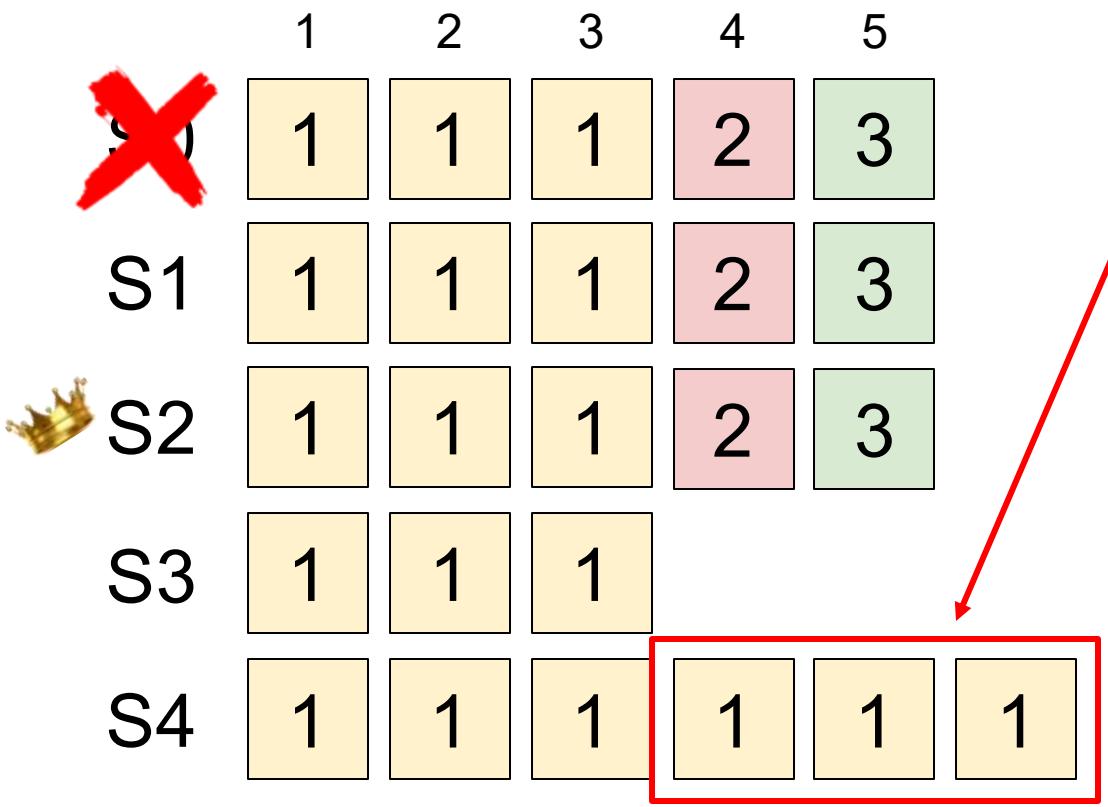
What if we accept logs that are not as *up-to-date* as ours?



Suppose entries 4-5 have already been committed

Then previous leader S0 crashes and S3 times out

If S3 becomes leader then committed entries 4 and 5 may be overwritten!



Why is it OK to throw away these entries?

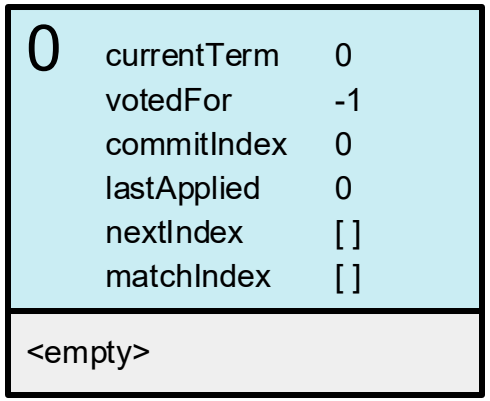
If these entries had been committed, then it means they must exist on a majority of servers

In that case S4 could receive votes from the same majority and become a valid leader

	1	2	3	4	5
S0	1	1	1	2	3
S1	1	1	1	2	3
 S2	1	1	1	2	3
S3	1	1	1	2	3
S4	1	1	1	2	3

Raft

Normal Operation



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(Only on leader)

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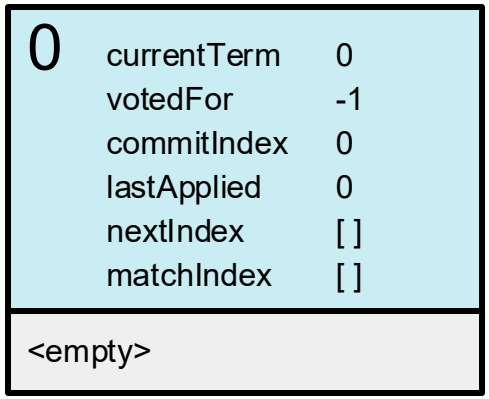
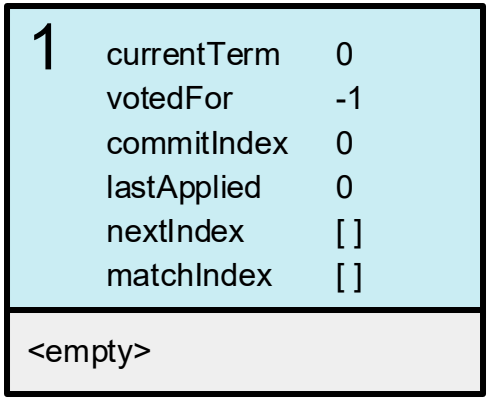
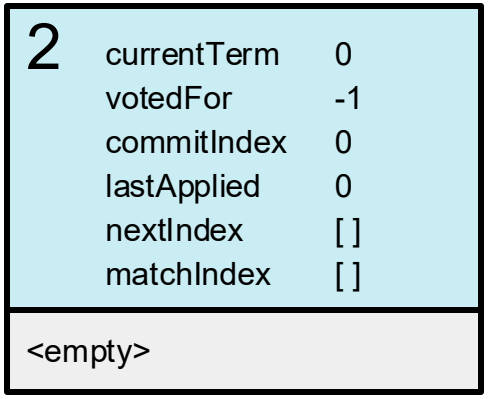

0
currentTerm 0
votedFor -1
commitIndex 0
lastApplied 0
nextIndex [ ]
matchIndex [ ]
<empty>


1
currentTerm 0
votedFor -1
commitIndex 0
lastApplied 0
nextIndex [ ]
matchIndex [ ]
<empty>


2
currentTerm 0
votedFor -1
commitIndex 0
lastApplied 0
nextIndex [ ]
matchIndex [ ]
<empty>

0		
	currentTerm	1
	votedFor	0
	commitIndex	0
	lastApplied	0
	nextIndex	**[1, 1, 1]**
	matchIndex	**[0, 0, 0]**

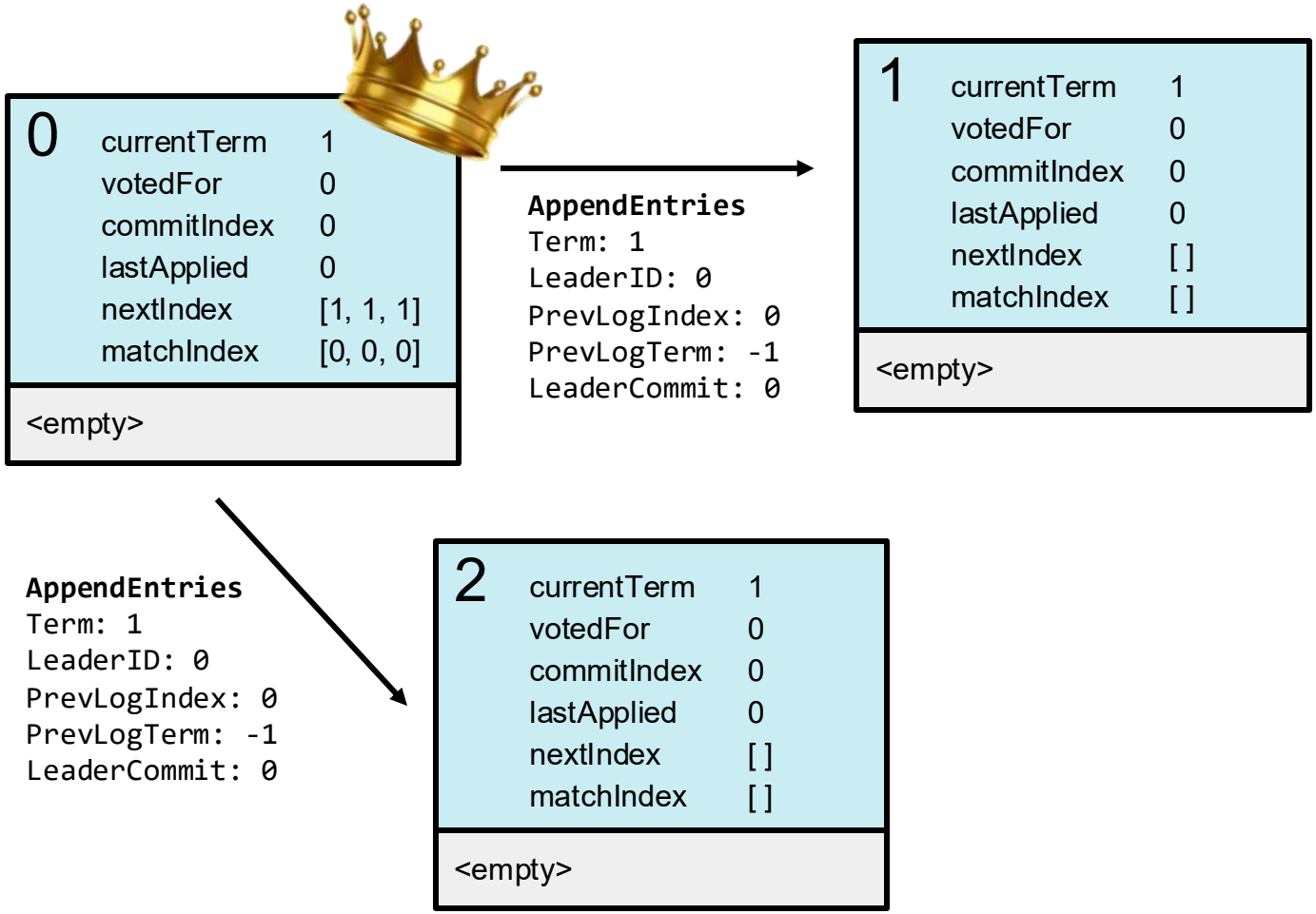
<empty>

1		
	currentTerm	1
	votedFor	0
	commitIndex	0
	lastApplied	0
	nextIndex	[ ]
	matchIndex	[ ]

<empty>

2		
	currentTerm	1
	votedFor	0
	commitIndex	0
	lastApplied	0
	nextIndex	[ ]
	matchIndex	[ ]

<empty>


0
currentTerm 1
votedFor 0
commitIndex 0
lastApplied 0
nextIndex [1, 1, 1]
matchIndex [0, 0, 0]
<empty>
AppendEntries
Term: 1
LeaderID: 0
PrevLogIndex: 0
PrevLogTerm: -1
LeaderCommit: 0
1
currentTerm 1
votedFor 0
commitIndex 0
lastApplied 0
nextIndex [ ]
matchIndex [ ]
<empty>
AppendEntries
Term: 1
LeaderID: 0
PrevLogIndex: 0
PrevLogTerm: -1
LeaderCommit: 0
2
currentTerm 1
votedFor 0
commitIndex 0
lastApplied 0
nextIndex [ ]
matchIndex [ ]
<empty>

0		
	currentTerm	1
	votedFor	0
	commitIndex	0
	lastApplied	0
	nextIndex	[1, 1, 1]
	matchIndex	[0, 0, 0]

<empty>

AppendEntriesReply
Term: 1
Success: True

1		
	currentTerm	1
	votedFor	0
	commitIndex	0
	lastApplied	0
	nextIndex	[ ]
	matchIndex	[ ]

<empty>

AppendEntriesReply
Term: 1
Success: True

2		
	currentTerm	1
	votedFor	0
	commitIndex	0
	lastApplied	0
	nextIndex	[ ]
	matchIndex	[ ]

<empty>

0		
	currentTerm	1
	votedFor	0
	commitIndex	0
	lastApplied	0
	nextIndex	[1, 1, 1]
	matchIndex	[0, 0, 0]
<empty>		

1		
	currentTerm	1
	votedFor	0
	commitIndex	0
	lastApplied	0
	nextIndex	[ ]
	matchIndex	[ ]
<empty>		

Client

Request 1

2		
	currentTerm	1
	votedFor	0
	commitIndex	0
	lastApplied	0
	nextIndex	[ ]
	matchIndex	[ ]
<empty>		

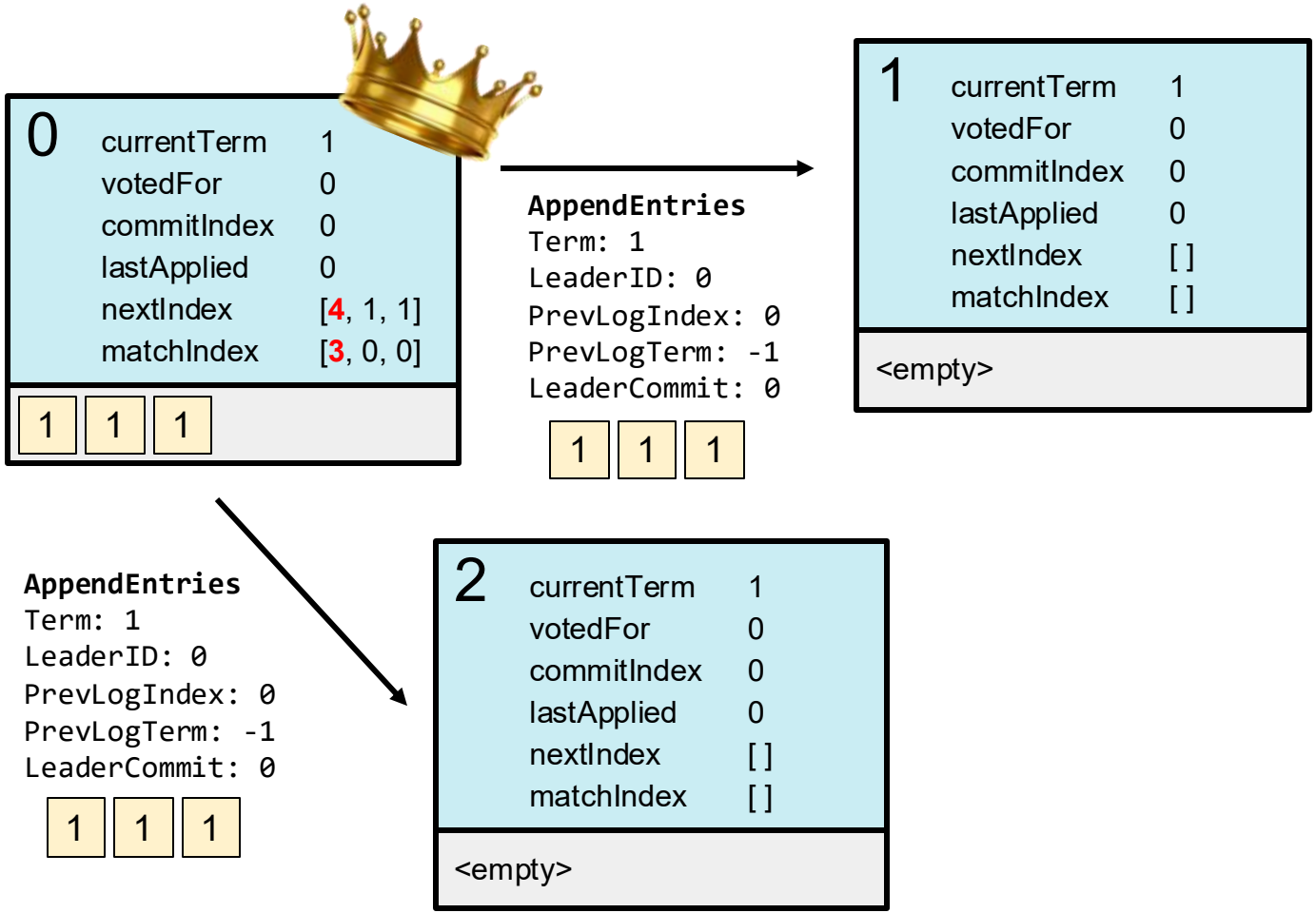
0		
	currentTerm	1
	votedFor	0
	commitIndex	0
	lastApplied	0
	nextIndex	[1, 1, 1]
	matchIndex	[0, 0, 0]
1	1	1

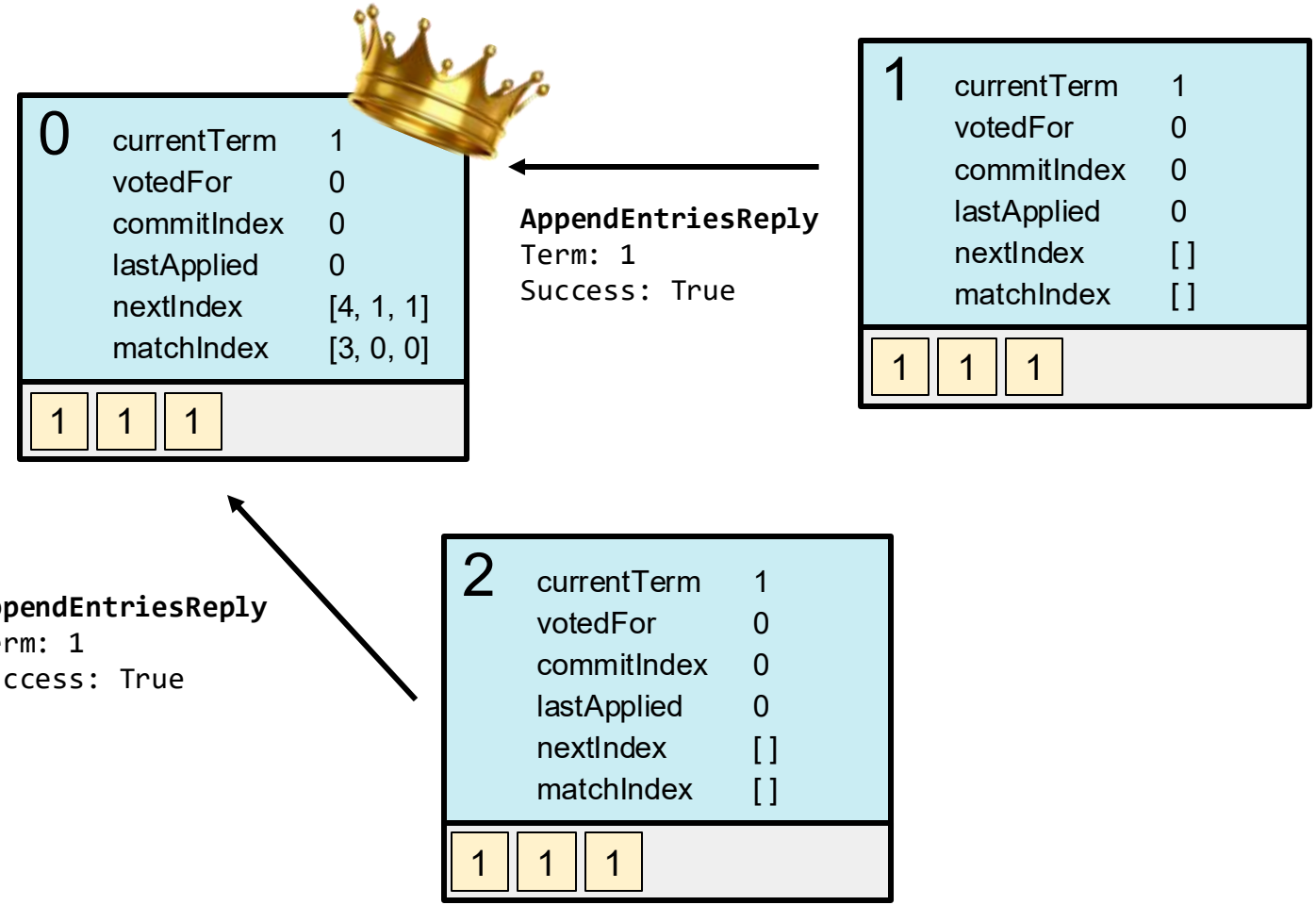
1		
	currentTerm	1
	votedFor	0
	commitIndex	0
	lastApplied	0
	nextIndex	[ ]
	matchIndex	[ ]
<empty>		

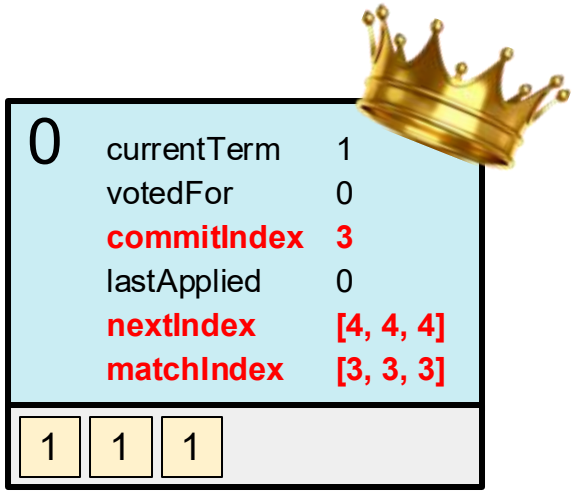
Client

Request 1
Request 2
Request 3

2		
	currentTerm	1
	votedFor	0
	commitIndex	0
	lastApplied	0
	nextIndex	[ ]
	matchIndex	[ ]
<empty>		

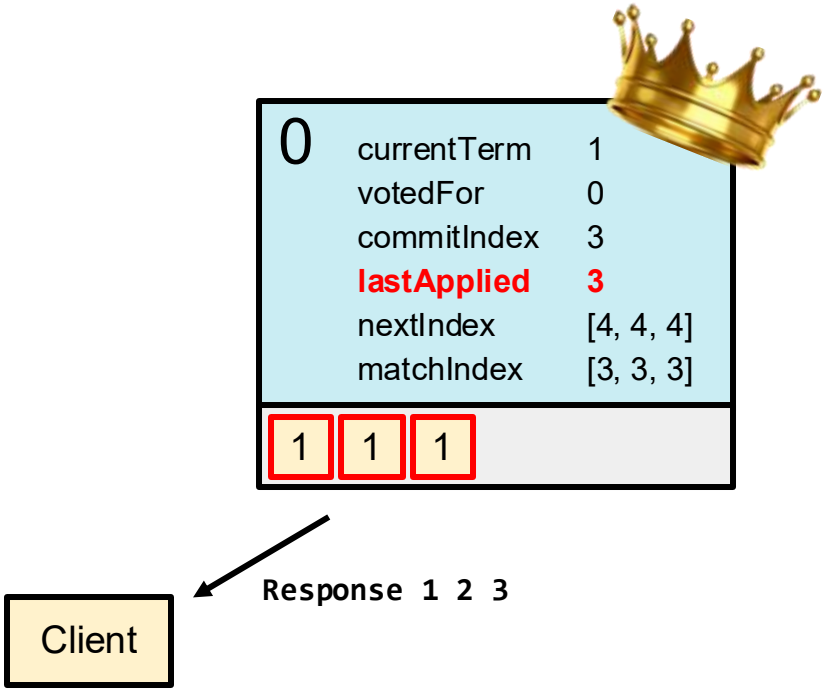

0
currentTerm 1
votedFor 0
commitIndex 0
lastApplied 0
nextIndex [4, 1, 1]
matchIndex [3, 0, 0]
1 1 1
AppendEntries
Term: 1
LeaderID: 0
PrevLogIndex: 0
PrevLogTerm: -1
LeaderCommit: 0
1 1 1
1
currentTerm 1
votedFor 0
commitIndex 0
lastApplied 0
nextIndex [ ]
matchIndex [ ]
<empty>
AppendEntries
Term: 1
LeaderID: 0
PrevLogIndex: 0
PrevLogTerm: -1
LeaderCommit: 0
1 1 1
2
currentTerm 1
votedFor 0
commitIndex 0
lastApplied 0
nextIndex [ ]
matchIndex [ ]
<empty>


0
currentTerm 1
votedFor 0
commitIndex 0
lastApplied 0
nextIndex [4, 1, 1]
matchIndex [3, 0, 0]
1 1 1
1
currentTerm 1
votedFor 0
commitIndex 0
lastApplied 0
nextIndex [ ]
matchIndex [ ]
1 1 1
AppendEntriesReply
Term: 1
Success: True
2
currentTerm 1
votedFor 0
commitIndex 0
lastApplied 0
nextIndex [ ]
matchIndex [ ]
1 1 1
AppendEntriesReply
Term: 1
Success: True



Entry 3 is now replicated on a majority, so we can commit it

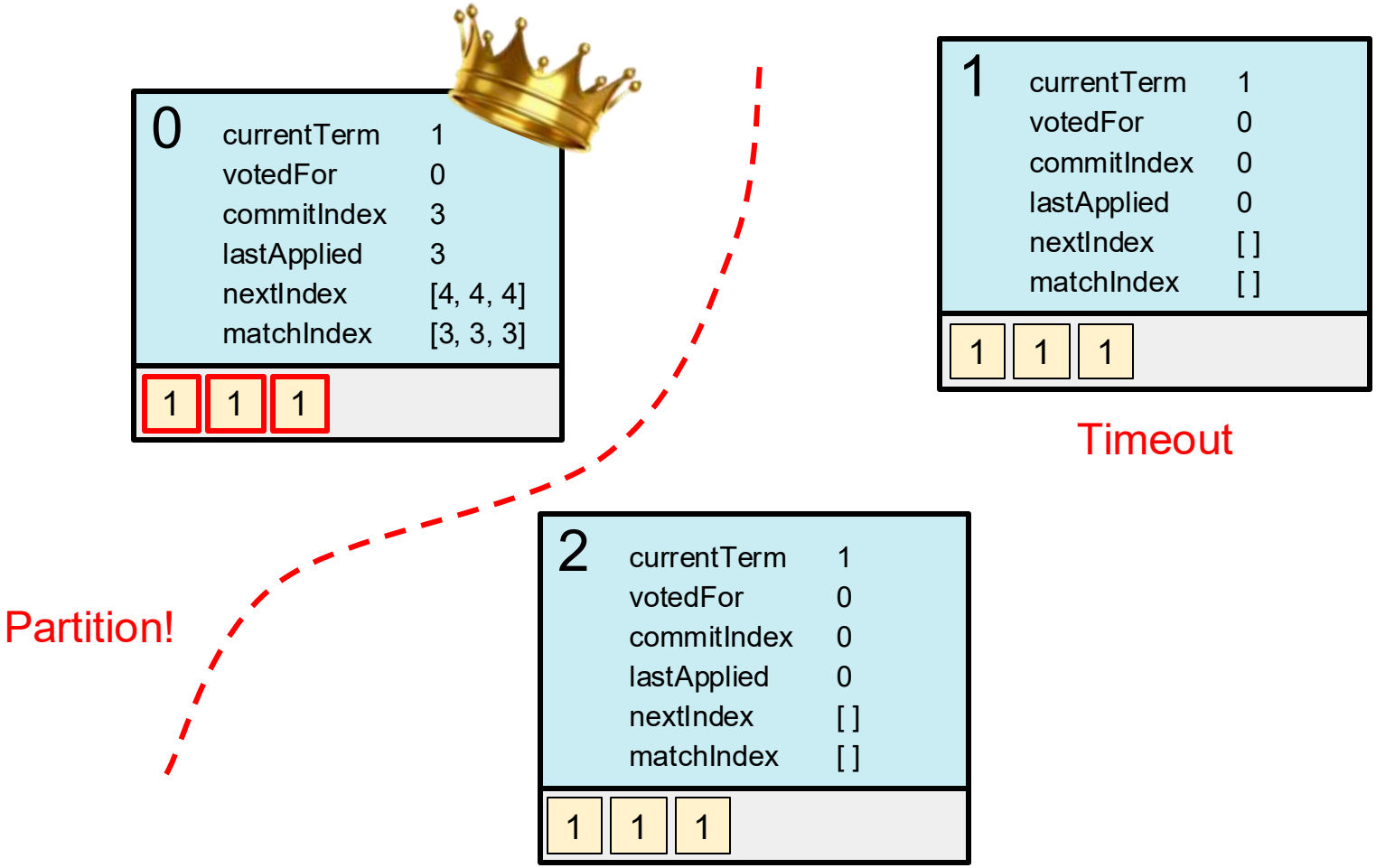
while `commitIndex > lastApplied`, apply commands to state machine

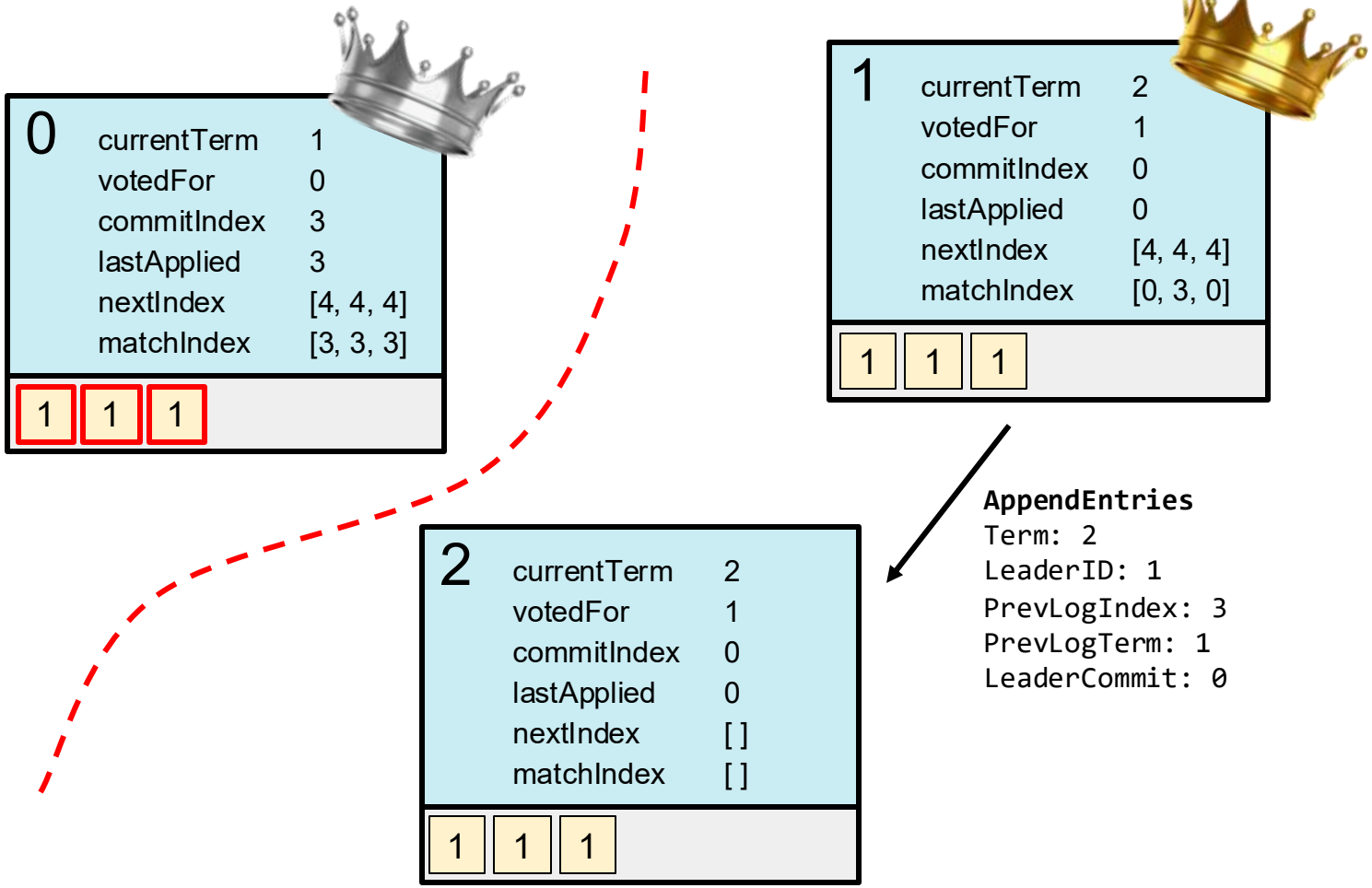


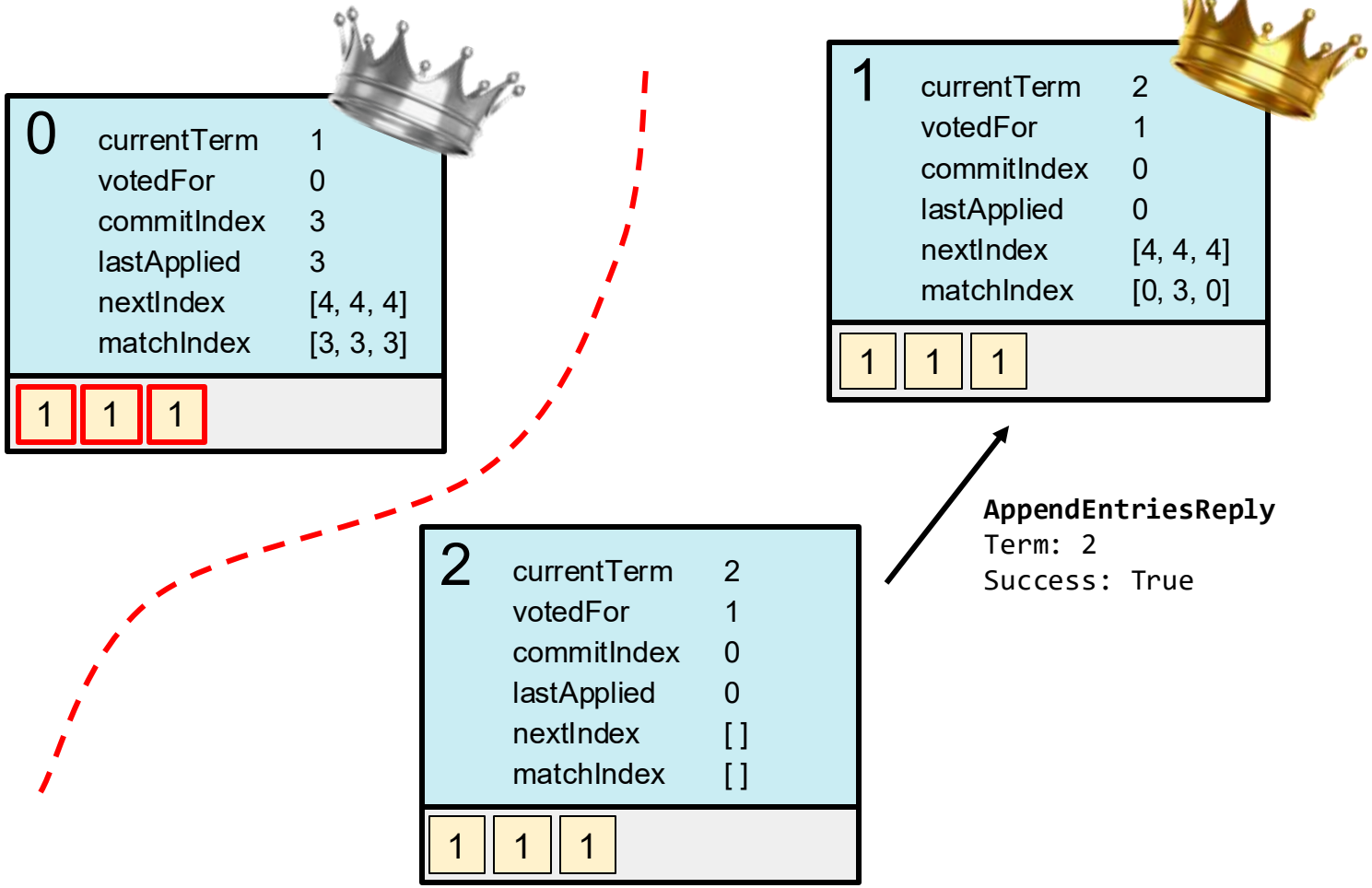
Once leader has applied an entry to state machine, it is safe to tell the client that the entry is committed

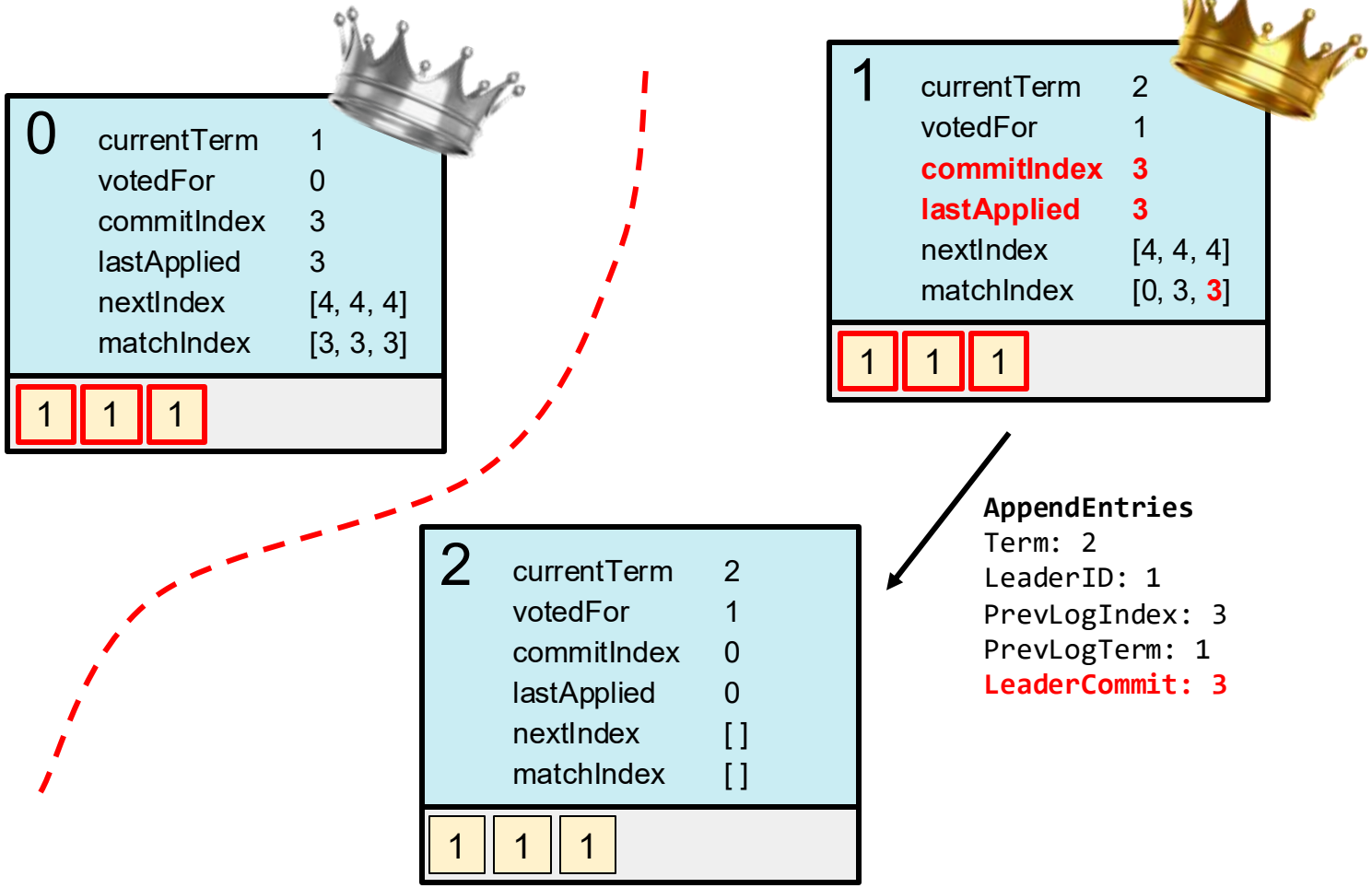
Raft

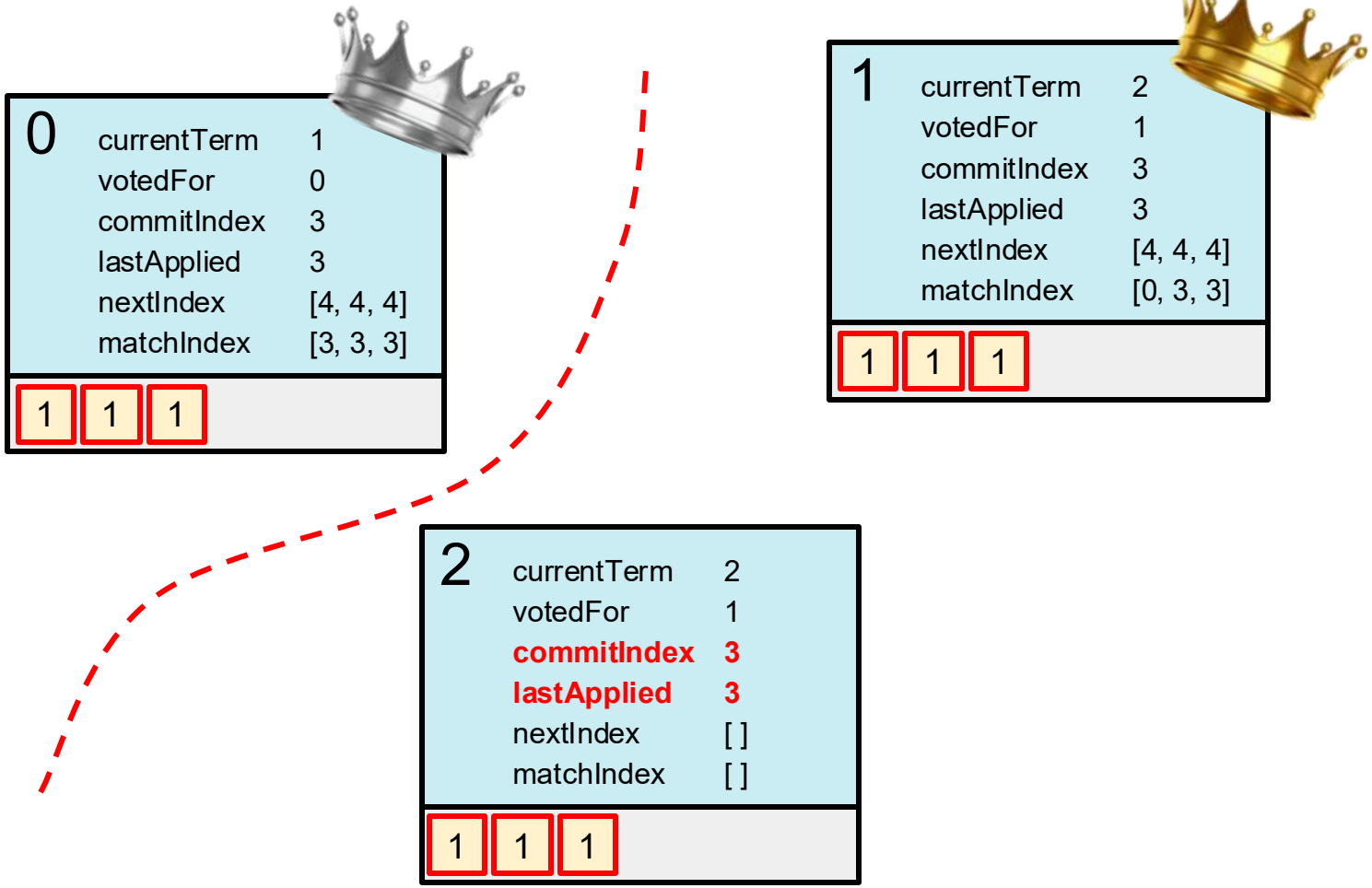
After new leader election

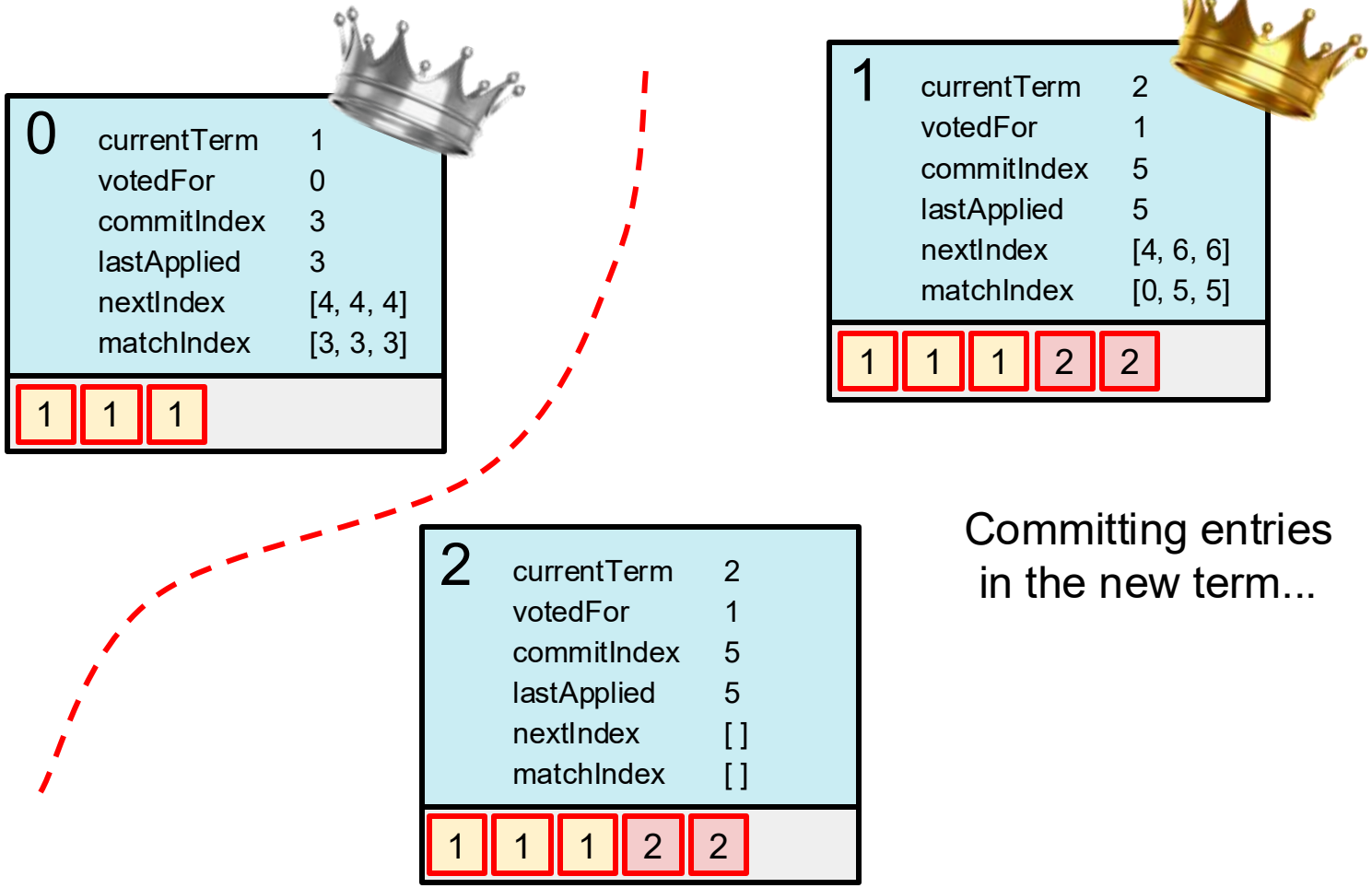

0
currentTerm 1
votedFor 0
commitIndex 3
lastApplied 3
nextIndex [4, 4, 4]
matchIndex [3, 3, 3]
1 1 1
1
currentTerm 1
votedFor 0
commitIndex 0
lastApplied 0
nextIndex [ ]
matchIndex [ ]
1 1 1
Timeout
Partition!
2
currentTerm 1
votedFor 0
commitIndex 0
lastApplied 0
nextIndex [ ]
matchIndex [ ]
1 1 1


0
currentTerm 1
votedFor 0
commitIndex 3
lastApplied 3
nextIndex [4, 4, 4]
matchIndex [3, 3, 3]
1 1 1
1
currentTerm 2
votedFor 1
commitIndex 0
lastApplied 0
nextIndex [4, 4, 4]
matchIndex [0, 3, 0]
1 1 1
2
currentTerm 2
votedFor 1
commitIndex 0
lastApplied 0
nextIndex [ ]
matchIndex [ ]
1 1 1
AppendEntries
Term: 2
LeaderID: 1
PrevLogIndex: 3
PrevLogTerm: 1
LeaderCommit: 0

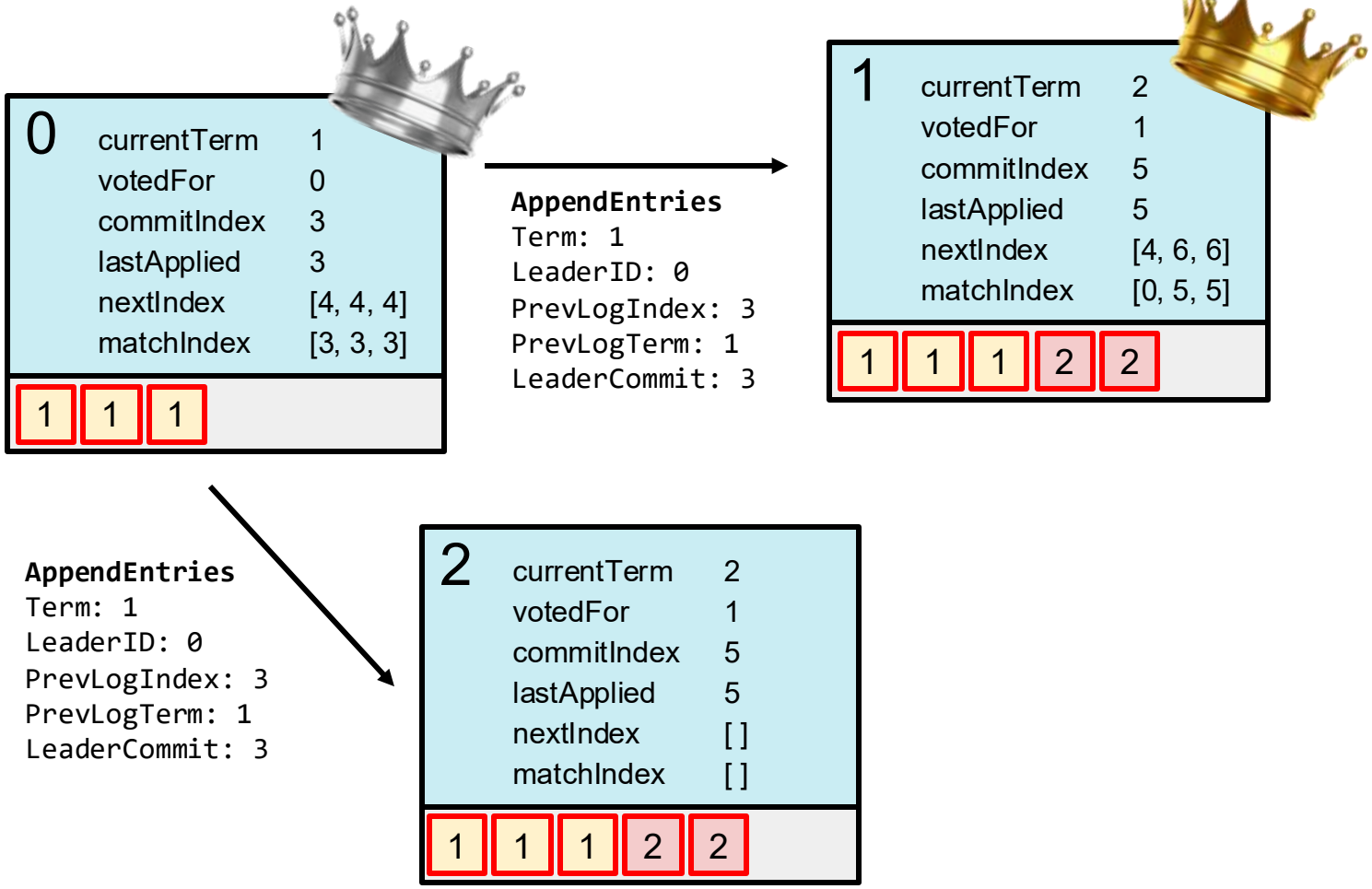

0
currentTerm 1
votedFor 0
commitIndex 3
lastApplied 3
nextIndex [4, 4, 4]
matchIndex [3, 3, 3]
1 1 1
1
currentTerm 2
votedFor 1
commitIndex 0
lastApplied 0
nextIndex [4, 4, 4]
matchIndex [0, 3, 0]
1 1 1
2
currentTerm 2
votedFor 1
commitIndex 0
lastApplied 0
nextIndex [ ]
matchIndex [ ]
1 1 1
AppendEntriesReply
Term: 2
Success: True

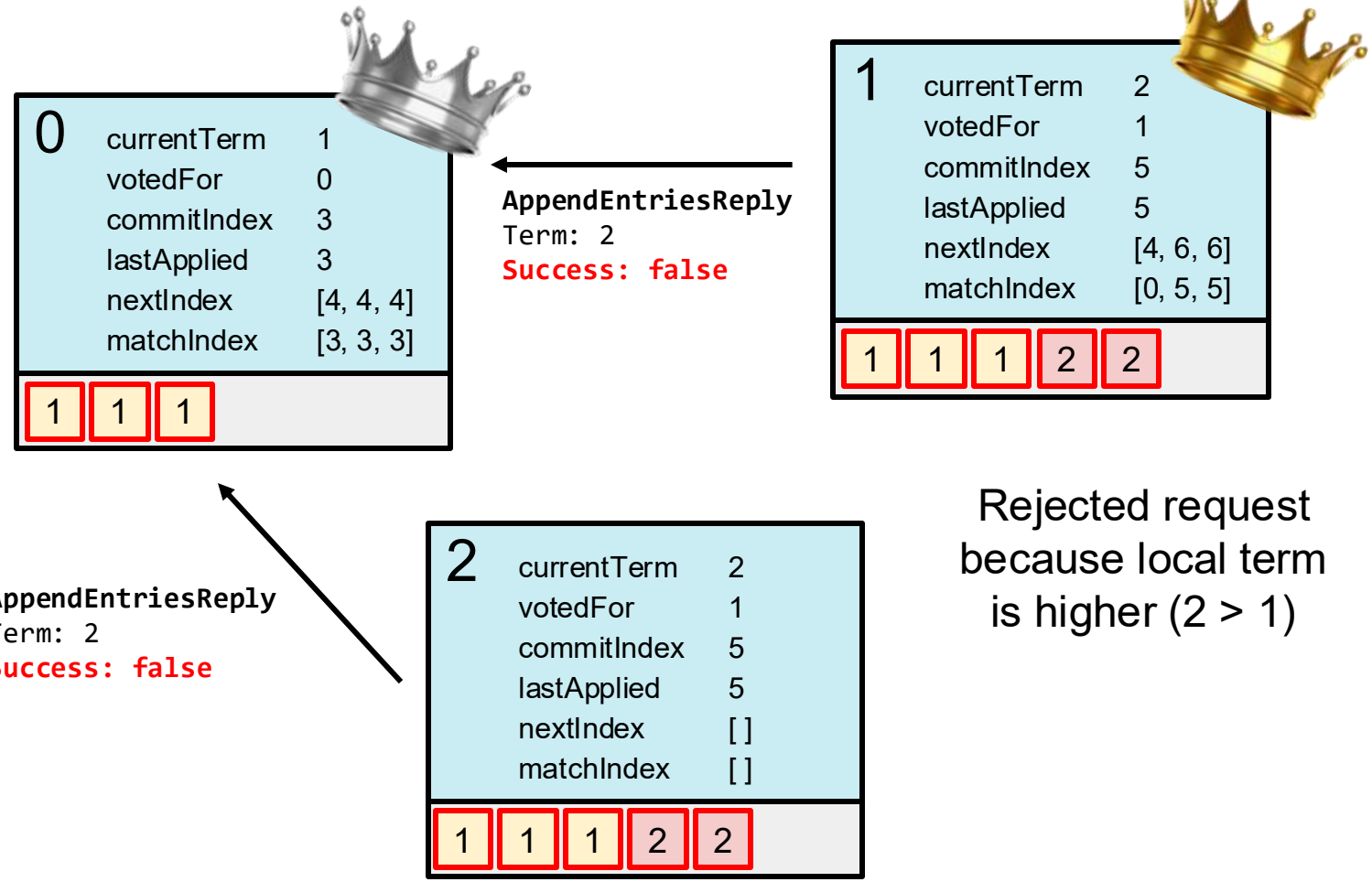

0
currentTerm 1
votedFor 0
commitIndex 3
lastApplied 3
nextIndex [4, 4, 4]
matchIndex [3, 3, 3]
1 1 1
1
currentTerm 2
votedFor 1
commitIndex 3
lastApplied 3
nextIndex [4, 4, 4]
matchIndex [0, 3, 3]
1 1 1
2
currentTerm 2
votedFor 1
commitIndex 0
lastApplied 0
nextIndex [ ]
matchIndex [ ]
1 1 1
AppendEntries
Term: 2
LeaderID: 1
PrevLogIndex: 3
PrevLogTerm: 1
LeaderCommit: 3

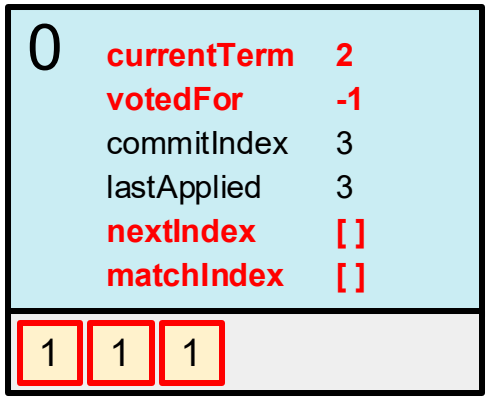

0
currentTerm 1
votedFor 0
commitIndex 3
lastApplied 3
nextIndex [4, 4, 4]
matchIndex [3, 3, 3]
1 1 1
1
currentTerm 2
votedFor 1
commitIndex 3
lastApplied 3
nextIndex [4, 4, 4]
matchIndex [0, 3, 3]
1 1 1
2
currentTerm 2
votedFor 1
commitIndex 3
lastApplied 3
nextIndex [ ]
matchIndex [ ]
1 1 1

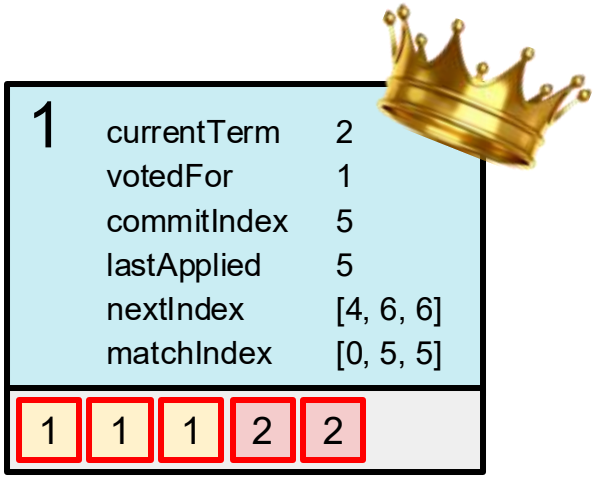

0
currentTerm 1
votedFor 0
commitIndex 3
lastApplied 3
nextIndex [4, 4, 4]
matchIndex [3, 3, 3]
1 1 1
1
currentTerm 2
votedFor 1
commitIndex 5
lastApplied 5
nextIndex [4, 6, 6]
matchIndex [0, 5, 5]
1 1 1 2 2
2
currentTerm 2
votedFor 1
commitIndex 5
lastApplied 5
nextIndex [ ]
matchIndex [ ]
1 1 1 2 2
Committing entries in the new term...

Later, the network partition is fixed …

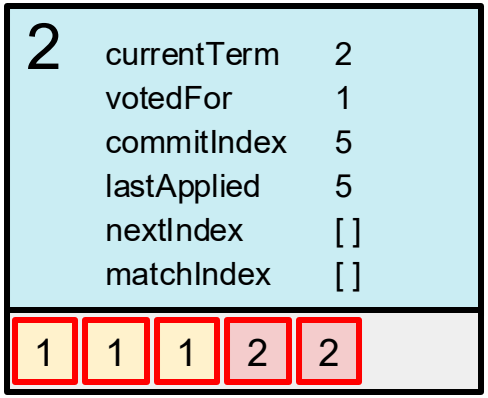

0
currentTerm 1
votedFor 0
commitIndex 3
lastApplied 3
nextIndex [4, 4, 4]
matchIndex [3, 3, 3]
1 1 1
AppendEntries
Term: 1
LeaderID: 0
PrevLogIndex: 3
PrevLogTerm: 1
LeaderCommit: 3
1
currentTerm 2
votedFor 1
commitIndex 5
lastApplied 5
nextIndex [4, 6, 6]
matchIndex [0, 5, 5]
1 1 1 2 2
AppendEntries
Term: 1
LeaderID: 0
PrevLogIndex: 3
PrevLogTerm: 1
LeaderCommit: 3
2
currentTerm 2
votedFor 1
commitIndex 5
lastApplied 5
nextIndex [ ]
matchIndex [ ]
1 1 1 2 2

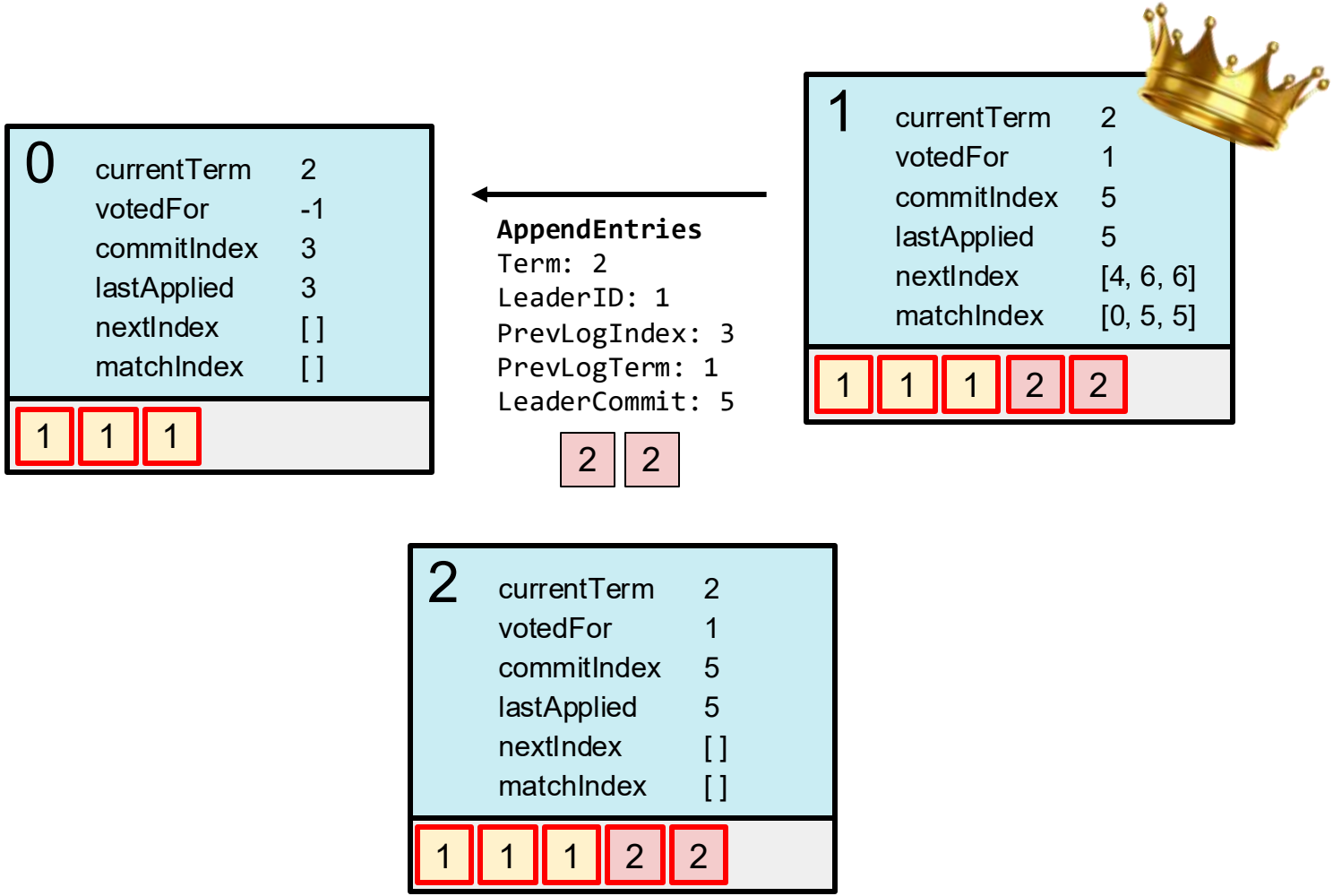

0
currentTerm 1
votedFor 0
commitIndex 3
lastApplied 3
nextIndex [4, 4, 4]
matchIndex [3, 3, 3]
1 1 1
AppendEntriesReply
Term: 2
Success: false
1
currentTerm 2
votedFor 1
commitIndex 5
lastApplied 5
nextIndex [4, 6, 6]
matchIndex [0, 5, 5]
1 1 1 2 2
AppendEntriesReply
Term: 2
Success: false
2
currentTerm 2
votedFor 1
commitIndex 5
lastApplied 5
nextIndex [ ]
matchIndex [ ]
1 1 1 2 2
Rejected request because local term is higher (2 > 1)

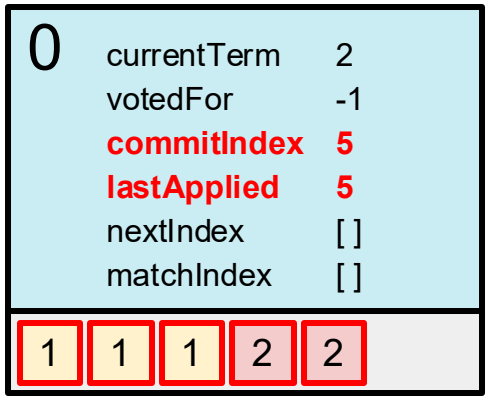




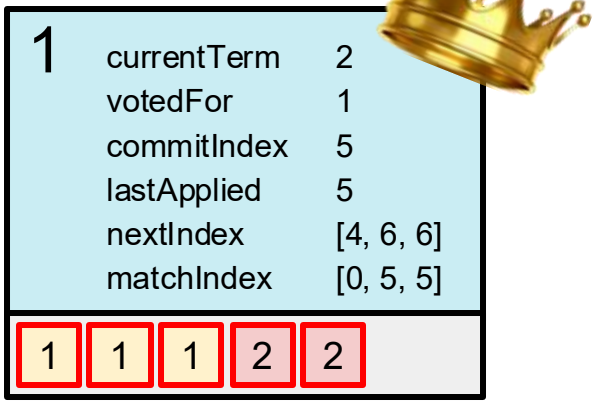
Old leader is dethroned!

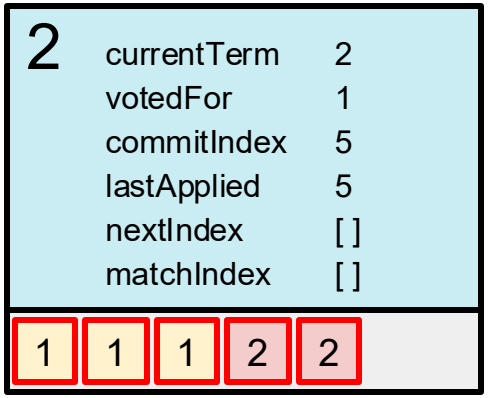



0
currentTerm 2
votedFor -1
commitIndex 3
lastApplied 3
nextIndex [ ]
matchIndex [ ]
1 1 1
AppendEntries
Term: 2
LeaderID: 1
PrevLogIndex: 3
PrevLogTerm: 1
LeaderCommit: 5
2 2
1
currentTerm 2
votedFor 1
commitIndex 5
lastApplied 5
nextIndex [4, 6, 6]
matchIndex [0, 5, 5]
1 1 1 2 2
2
currentTerm 2
votedFor 1
commitIndex 5
lastApplied 5
nextIndex [ ]
matchIndex [ ]
1 1 1 2 2



AppendEntriesReply
Term: 2
Success: true





0		
	currentTerm	2
	votedFor	-1
	commitIndex	5
	lastApplied	5
	nextIndex	[ ]
	matchIndex	[ ]

1	1	1	2	2

1		
	currentTerm	2
	votedFor	1
	commitIndex	5
	lastApplied	5
	nextIndex	[**6**, 6, 6]
	matchIndex	[**5**, 5, 5]

1	1	1	2	2

Everyone is on the same page again

2		
	currentTerm	2
	votedFor	1
	commitIndex	5
	lastApplied	5
	nextIndex	[ ]
	matchIndex	[ ]

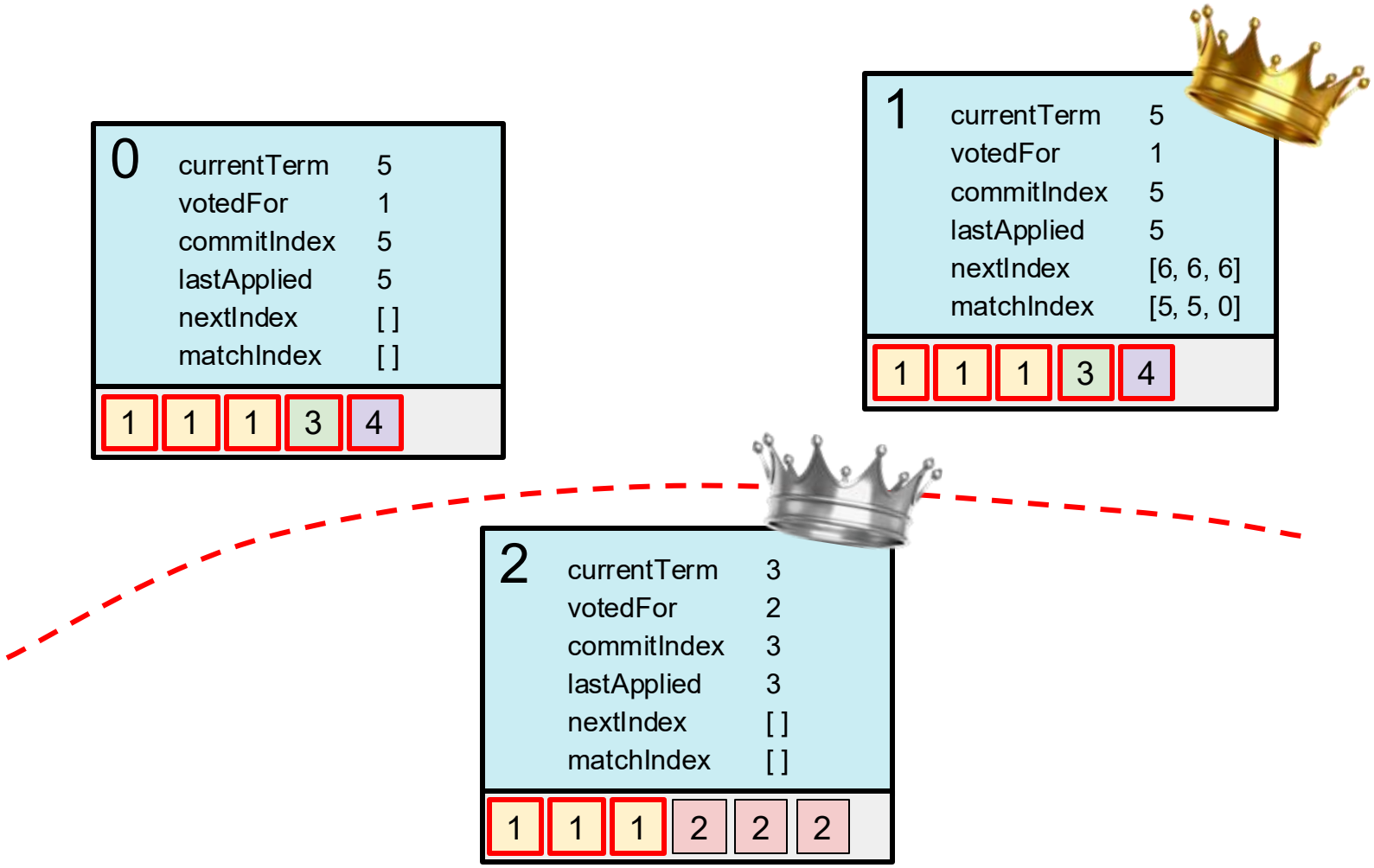
1	1	1	2	2

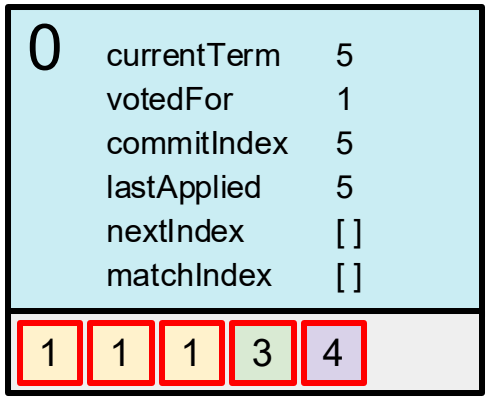
When log entries don’t match...

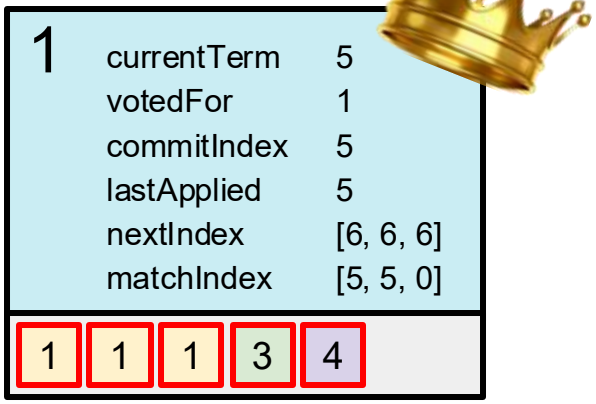
When log entries don’t match...

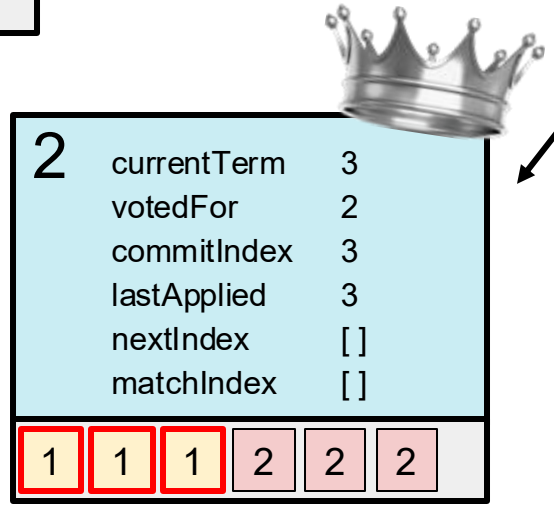
- The leader will find the latest log entry in the follower where the two logs agree

- At the follower:
  - Everything after that entry will be deleted
  - The leader’s log starting from that entry will be replicated on the follower


0
currentTerm 5
votedFor 1
commitIndex 5
lastApplied 5
nextIndex [ ]
matchIndex [ ]
1 1 1 3 4
1
currentTerm 5
votedFor 1
commitIndex 5
lastApplied 5
nextIndex [6, 6, 6]
matchIndex [5, 5, 0]
1 1 1 3 4
2
currentTerm 3
votedFor 2
commitIndex 3
lastApplied 3
nextIndex [ ]
matchIndex [ ]
1 1 1 2 2 2



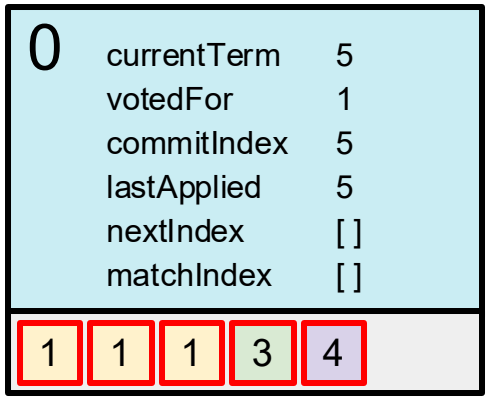


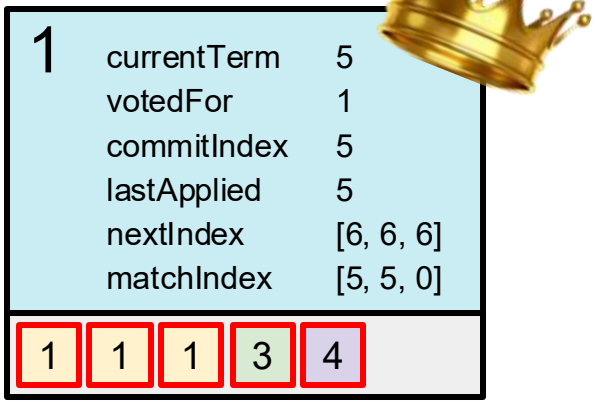


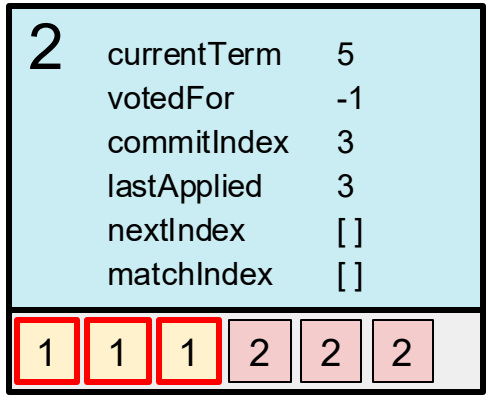

```
prevLogIndex = 5
    S1 log[5] = 4
    S2 log[5] = 2
```

Mismatch!

AppendEntries
```
Term: 5
LeaderID: 1
PrevLogIndex: 5
PrevLogTerm: 4
LeaderCommit: 5
```







AppendEntriesReply
Term: 5
Success: False

0		
	currentTerm	5
	votedFor	1
	commitIndex	5
	lastApplied	5
	nextIndex	[ ]
	matchIndex	[ ]

1	1	1	3	4

1		
	currentTerm	5
	votedFor	1
	commitIndex	5
	lastApplied	5
	nextIndex	[6, 6, **5**]
	matchIndex	[5, 5, 0]

1	1	1	3	4

```
prevLogIndex = 4
   S1 log[4] = 3
   S2 log[4] = 2
```

Mismatch!

2		
	currentTerm	5
	votedFor	-1
	commitIndex	3
	lastApplied	3
	nextIndex	[ ]
	matchIndex	[ ]

1	1	1	2	2	2

AppendEntries
Term: 5
LeaderID: 1
PrevLogIndex: 4
PrevLogTerm: 3
LeaderCommit: 5

4

0		
	currentTerm	5
	votedFor	1
	commitIndex	5
	lastApplied	5
	nextIndex	[ ]
	matchIndex	[ ]

1	1	1	3	4

1		
	currentTerm	5
	votedFor	1
	commitIndex	5
	lastApplied	5
	nextIndex	[6, 6, 5]
	matchIndex	[5, 5, 0]

1	1	1	3	4

2		
	currentTerm	5
	votedFor	-1
	commitIndex	3
	lastApplied	3
	nextIndex	[ ]
	matchIndex	[ ]

1	1	1	2	2	2

AppendEntriesReply
Term: 5
Success: False

0		
	currentTerm	5
	votedFor	1
	commitIndex	5
	lastApplied	5
	nextIndex	[ ]
	matchIndex	[ ]

1	1	1	3	4

1		
	currentTerm	5
	votedFor	1
	commitIndex	5
	lastApplied	5
	nextIndex	[6, 6, **4**]
	matchIndex	[5, 5, 0]

1	1	1	3	4

```
prevLogIndex = 3
   S1 log[3] = 1
   S2 log[3] = 1
```

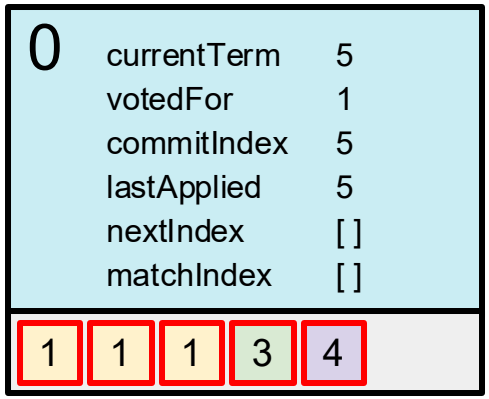
Match!

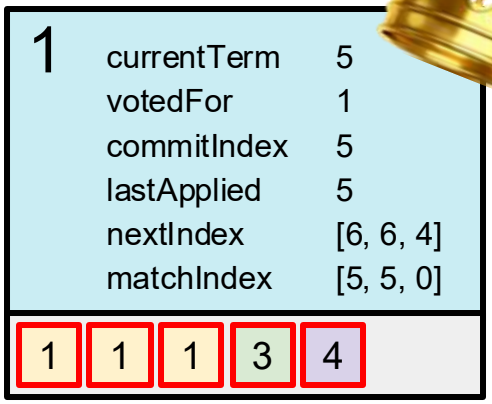
2		
	currentTerm	5
	votedFor	-1
	commitIndex	3
	lastApplied	3
	nextIndex	[ ]
	matchIndex	[ ]

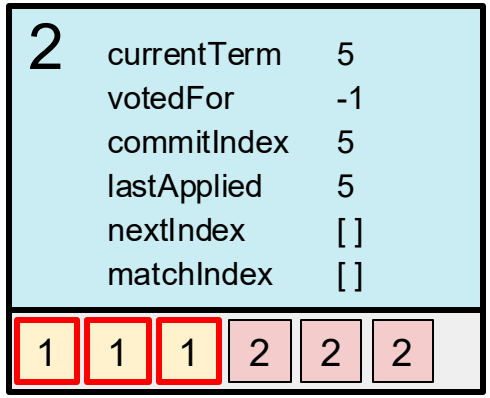
1	1	1	2	2	2

AppendEntries
Term: 5
LeaderID: 1
PrevLogIndex: 3
PrevLogTerm: 1
LeaderCommit: 5

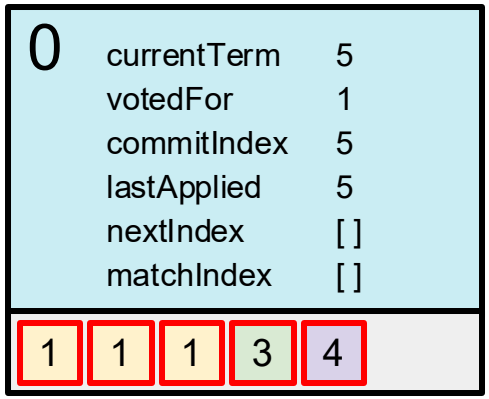
3	4

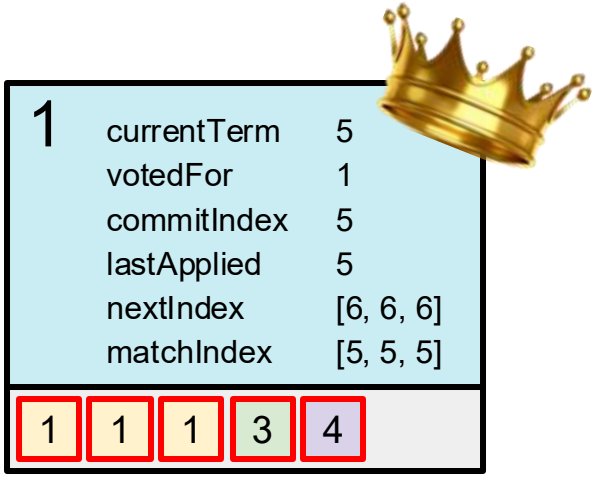

0
currentTerm 5
votedFor 1
commitIndex 5
lastApplied 5
nextIndex [ ]
matchIndex [ ]
1 1 1 3 4


1
currentTerm 5
votedFor 1
commitIndex 5
lastApplied 5
nextIndex [6, 6, 4]
matchIndex [5, 5, 0]
1 1 1 3 4

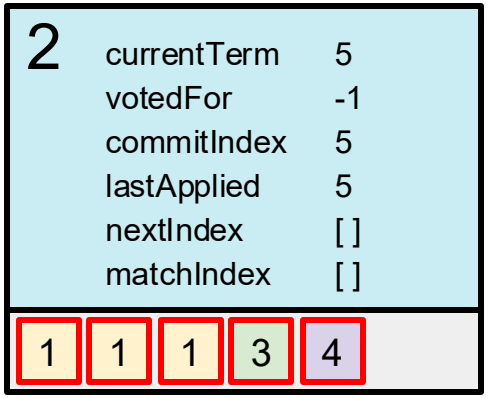

2
currentTerm 5
votedFor -1
commitIndex 5
lastApplied 5
nextIndex [ ]
matchIndex [ ]
1 1 1 2 2 2


AppendEntriesReply
Term: 5
Success: True





Everyone is on the same page again



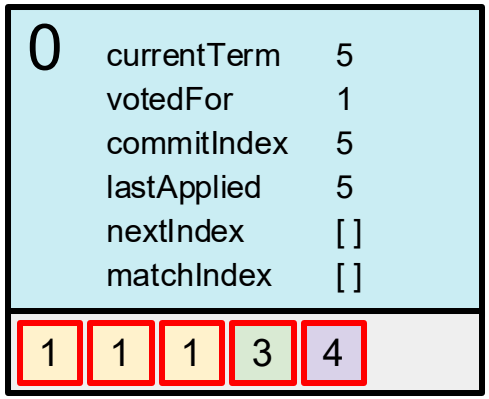
Optimization to reduce number of messages?

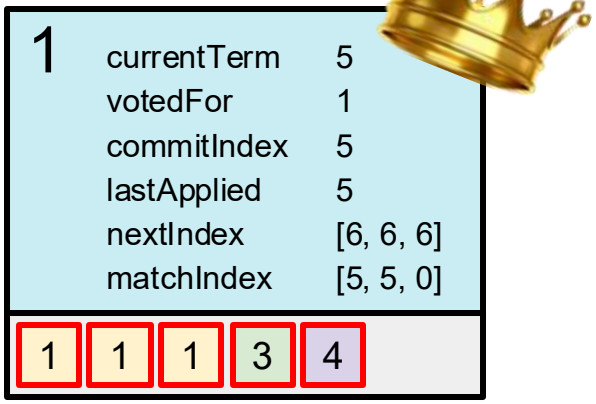
Key Idea

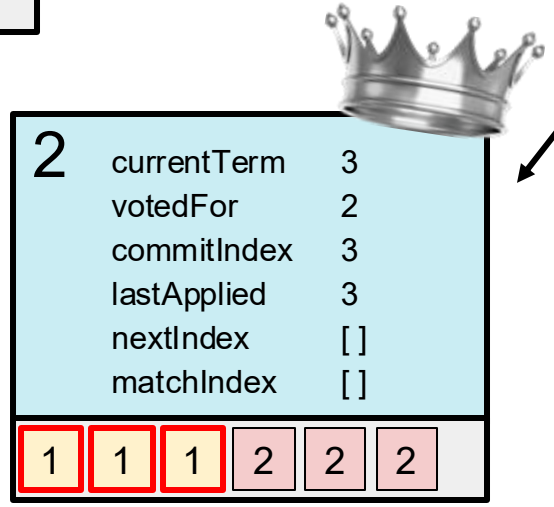
- Reduce the number of rejected AppendEntries RPCs
- One RPC per conflicting **term**, rather than one RPC per conflicting entry

Detailed Algorithm:

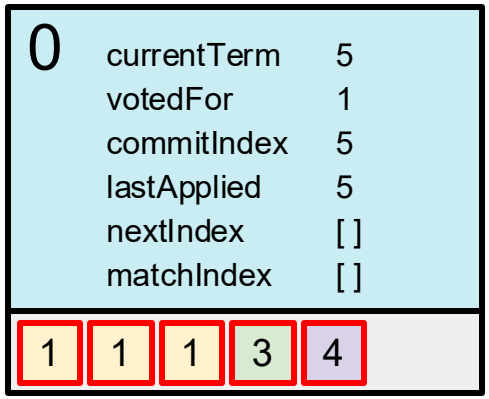
- When rejecting an AppendEntries request, the follower can include the term of the conflicting entry and the first index it stores for that term.
- With this information, the leader can decrement nextIndex to bypass all of the conflicting entries in that term.
- See page 7-8 in Raft (extended version)

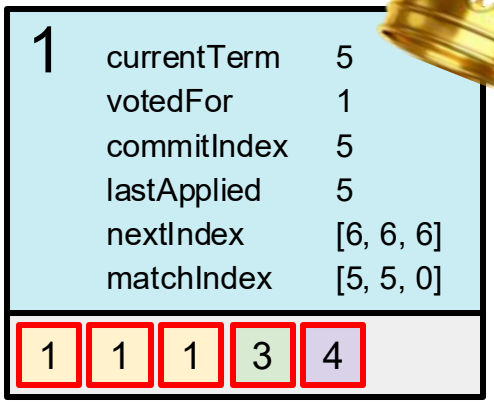


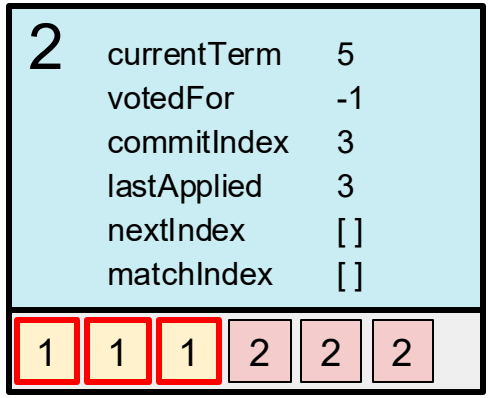


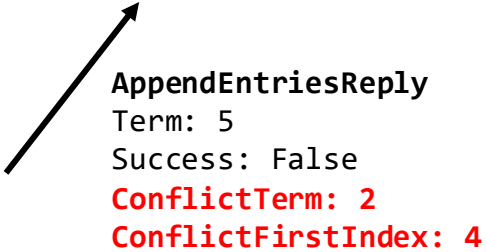


AppendEntries
Term: 5
LeaderID: 1
PrevLogIndex: 5
PrevLogTerm: 4
LeaderCommit: 5

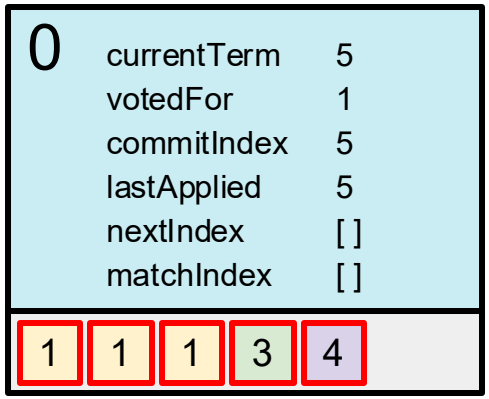


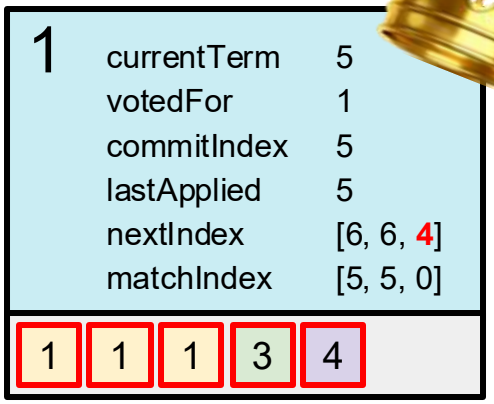


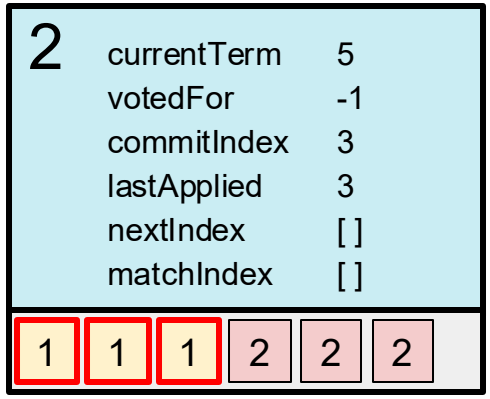


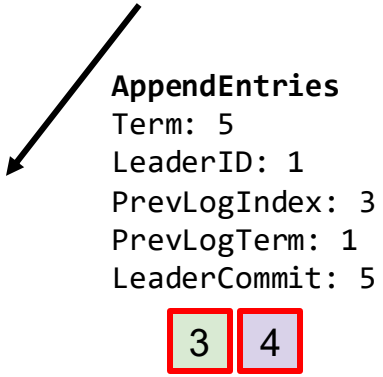


Specify the conflicting term and the first index of this term

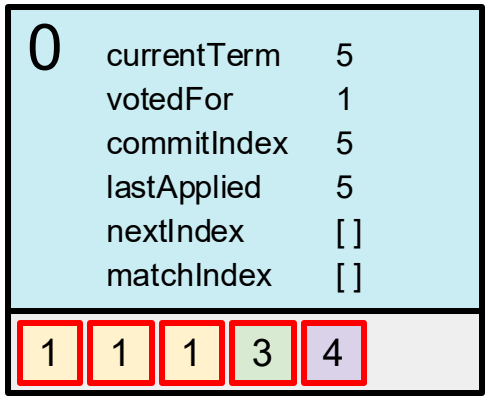


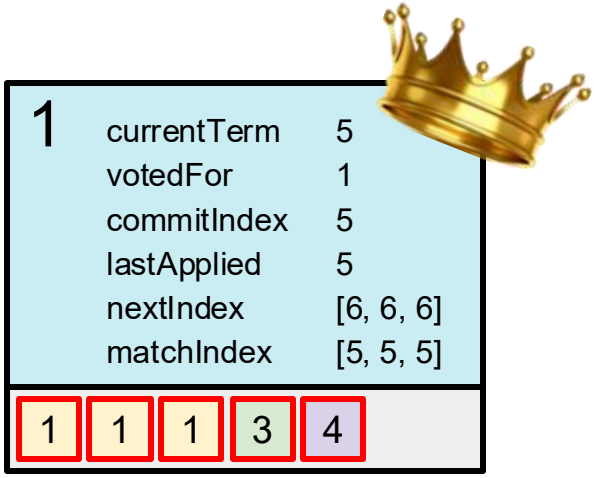


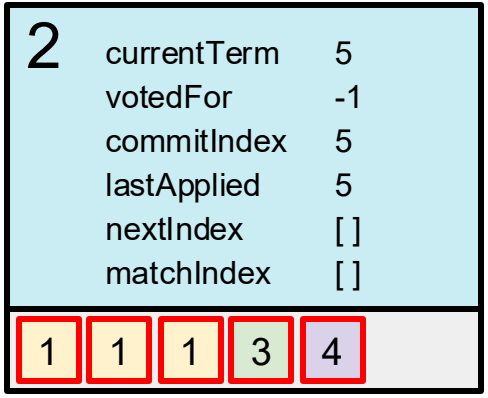




Leader sends its log entries that are different from the follower's starting the specified conflicting term







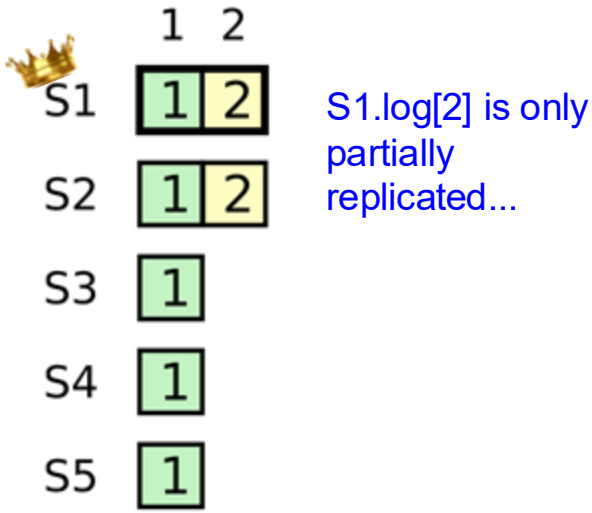
Key Idea:
Decrement `nextIndex`
one term at a time

Conditions for committing an entry

1. The entry exists on a majority AND was appended to leader in the current term
2. Or, the entry precedes another entry that is committed

Caveat for committing old entries

Can’t assume an old entry has been committed *even if* it exists on a majority

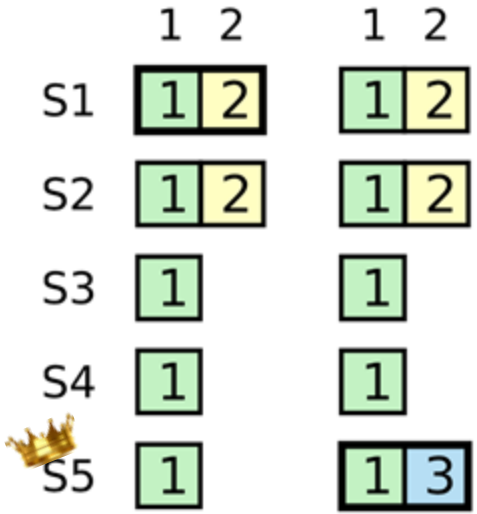


S1.log[2] is only partially replicated...

S1 is the leader

Caveat for committing old entries

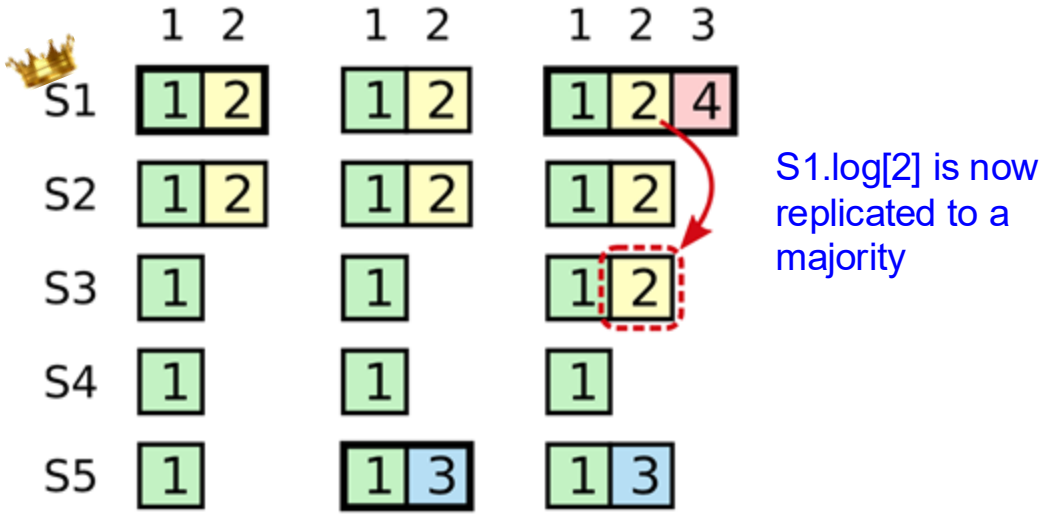
Can’t assume an old entry has been committed *even if* it exists on a majority



S1 crashes,
S5 becomes leader

Caveat for committing old entries

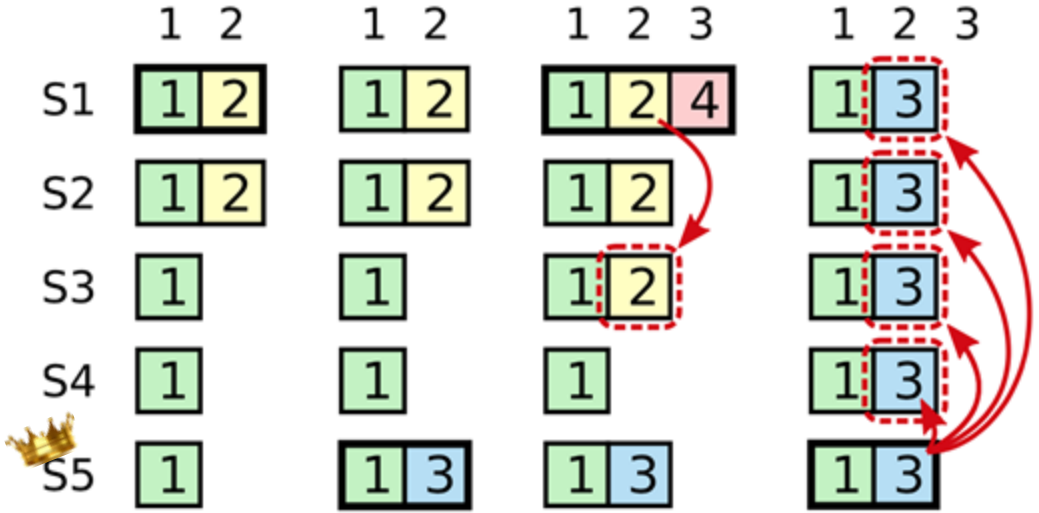
Can’t assume an old entry has been committed *even if* it exists on a majority



S5 crashes,
S1 becomes leader

Caveat for committing old entries

Can’t assume an old entry has been committed *even if* it exists on a majority

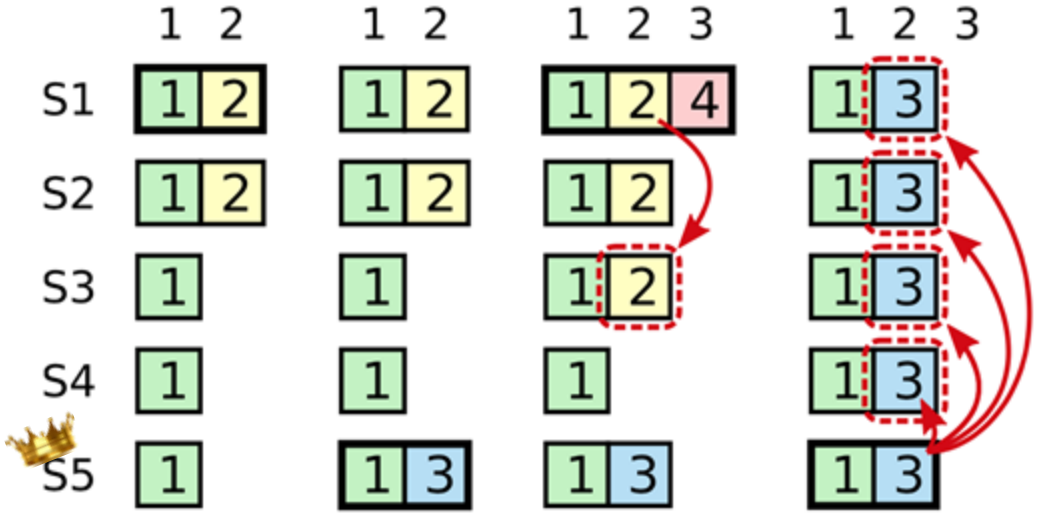


S5 replicates S5.log[2] to all other nodes...

S1 crashes,
S5 becomes leader

Caveat for committing old entries

Can’t assume an old entry has been committed *even if* it exists on a majority

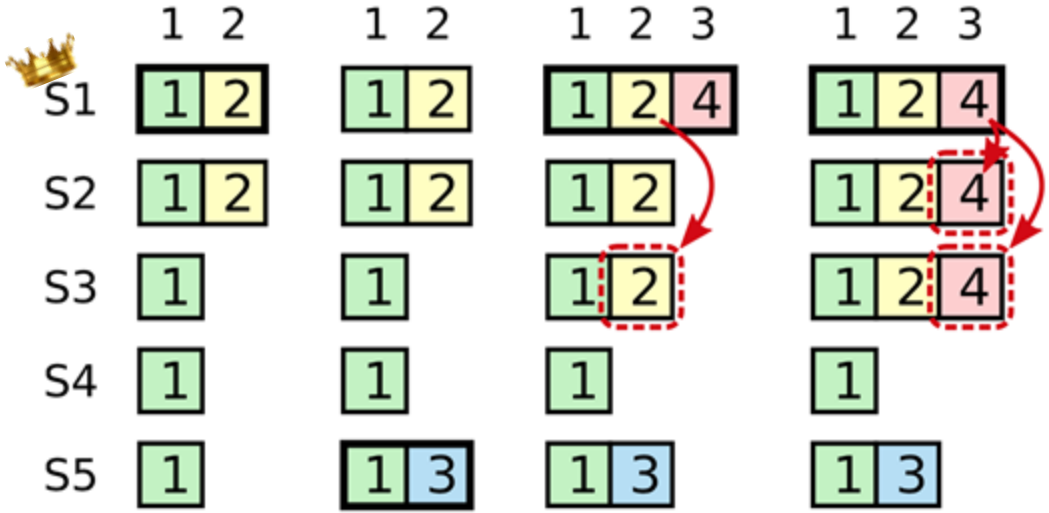


Entry 2 was overwritten even though it was replicated on a majority!

Cannot assume entry 2 was committed

Caveat for committing old entries

Can’t assume an old entry has been committed *even if* it exists on a majority



Entry 2 is committed once entry 3 is committed

Commit old entries *indirectly*

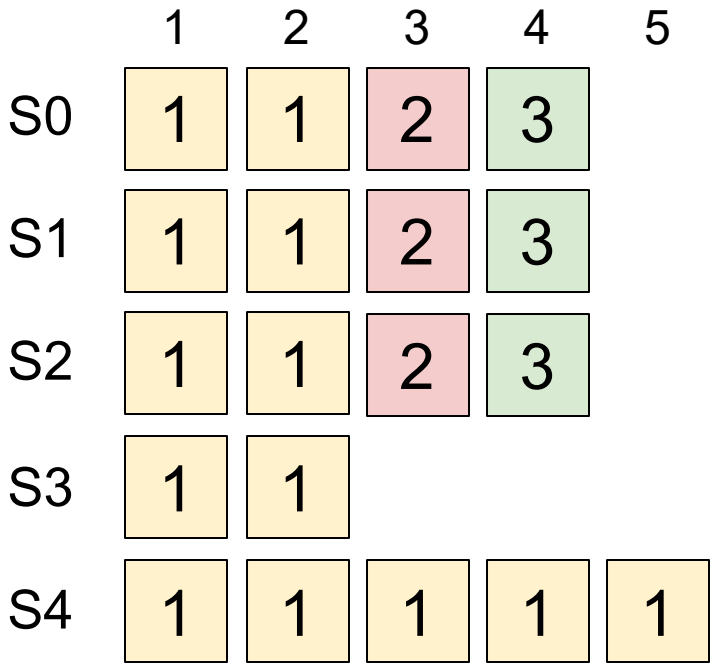
S1 commits entry 3

Exercise...

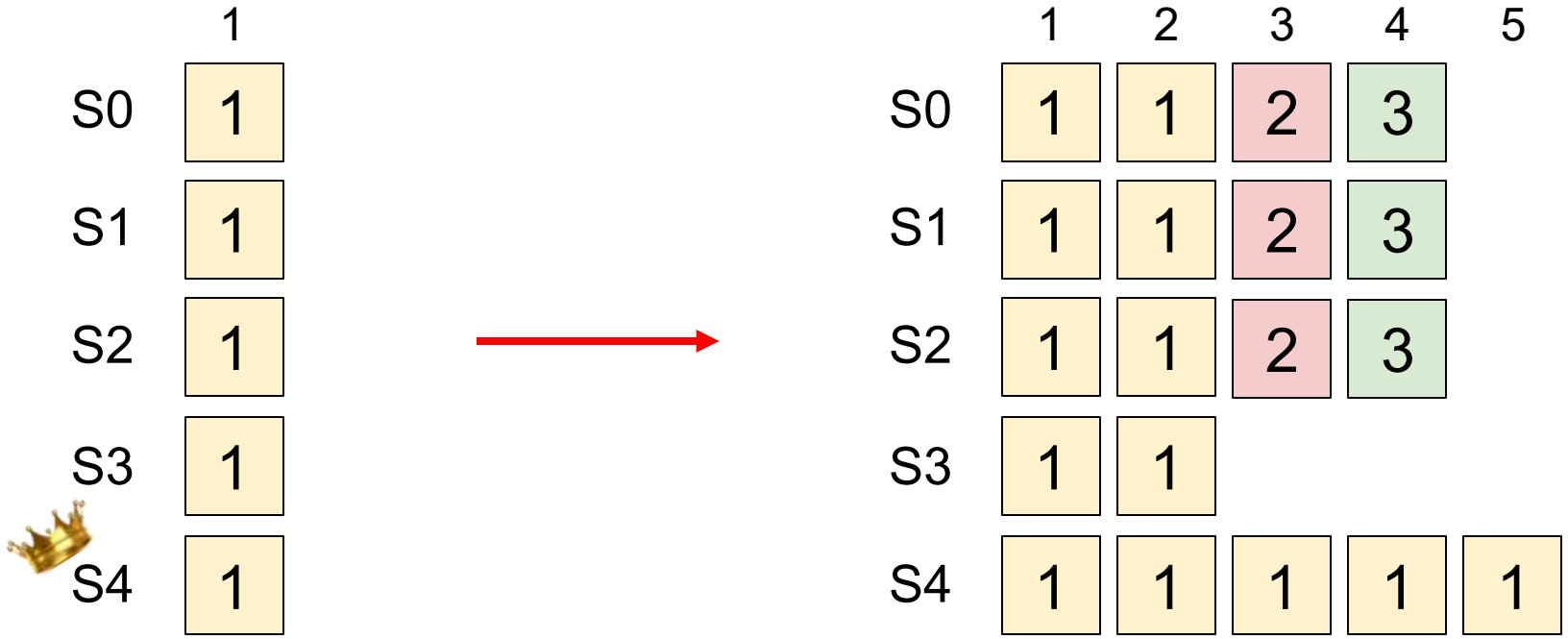
Rules for deciding which log is more up-to-date:

- Compare **index** and **term** of last entries in the logs
- If the terms are different: log with **later term is more up-to-date**
- If the terms are the same: **longer log is more up-to-date**

Q1: Is this a possible configuration?



Trace the steps...

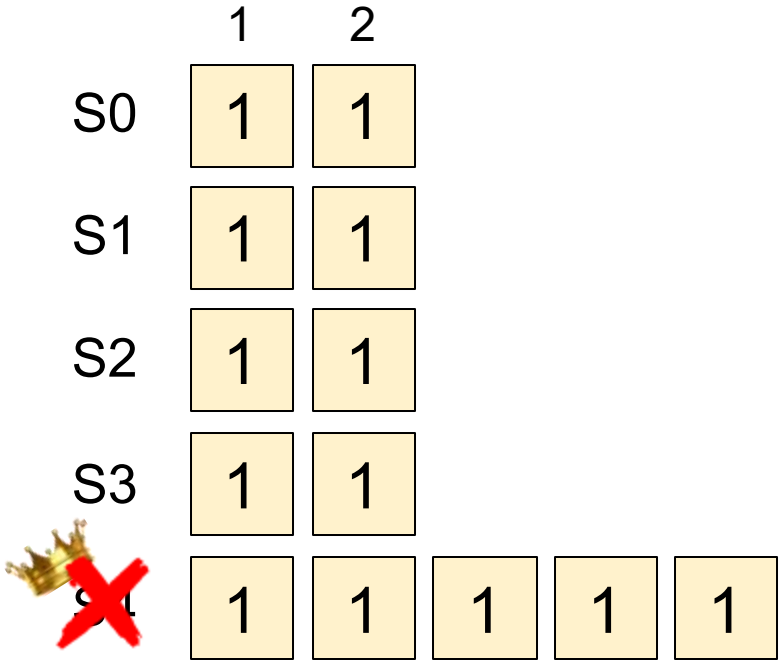


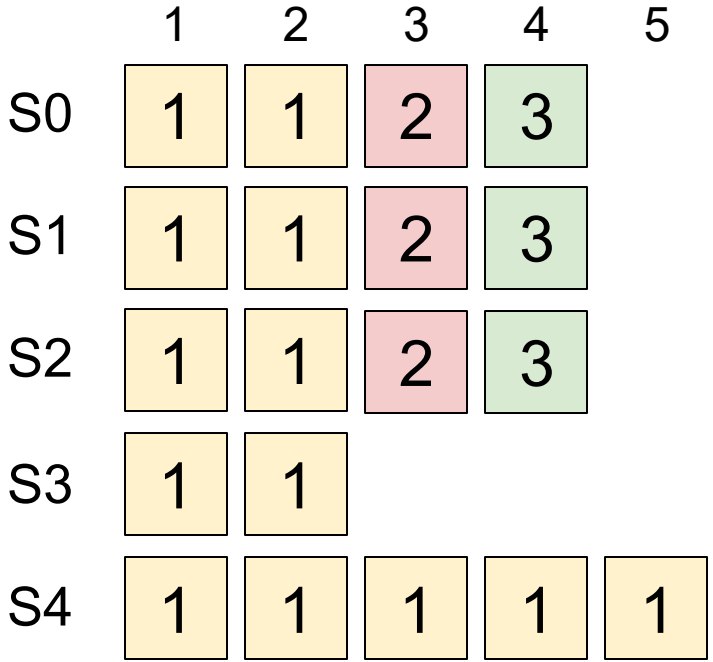
Trace the steps...

	1	2
S0	1	1
S1	1	1
S2	1	1
S3	1	1
S4	1	1

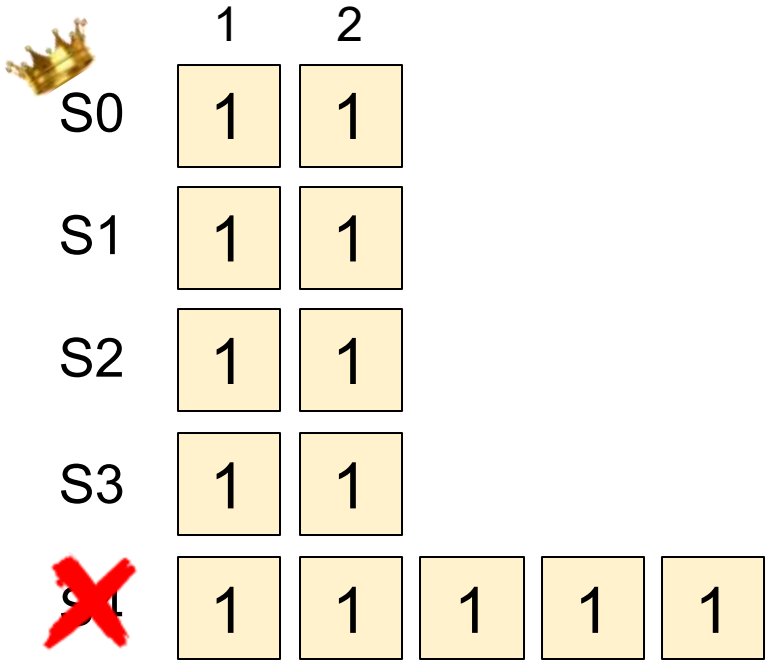
	1	2	3	4	5
S0	1	1	2	3	
S1	1	1	2	3	
S2	1	1	2	3	
S3	1	1			
S4	1	1	1	1	1

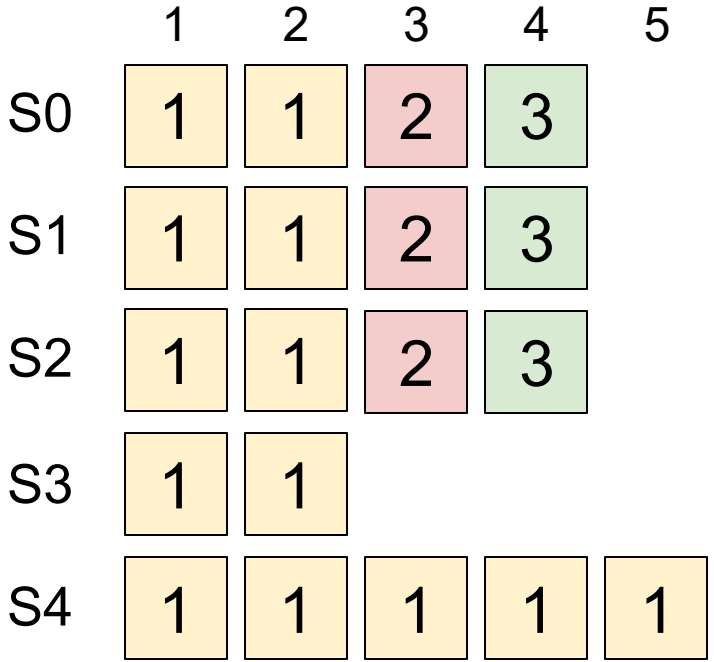
Trace the steps...



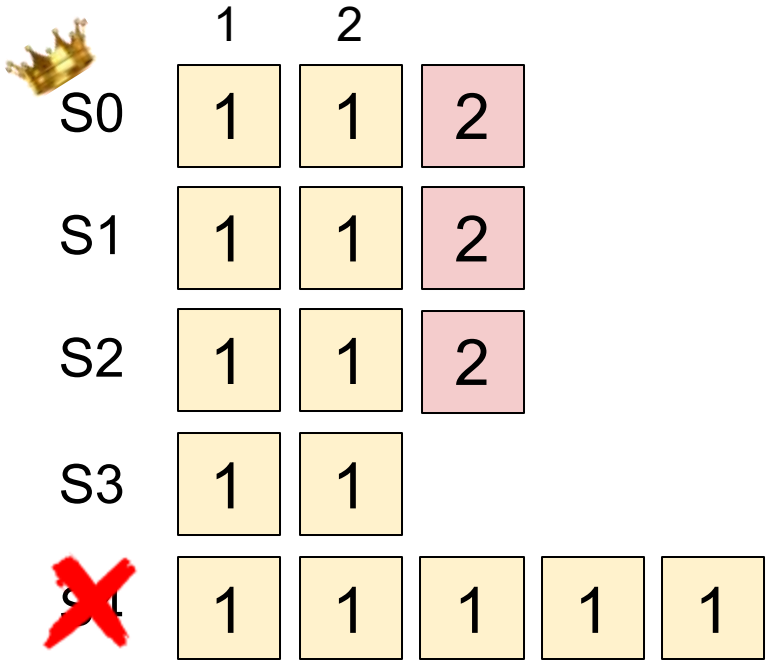


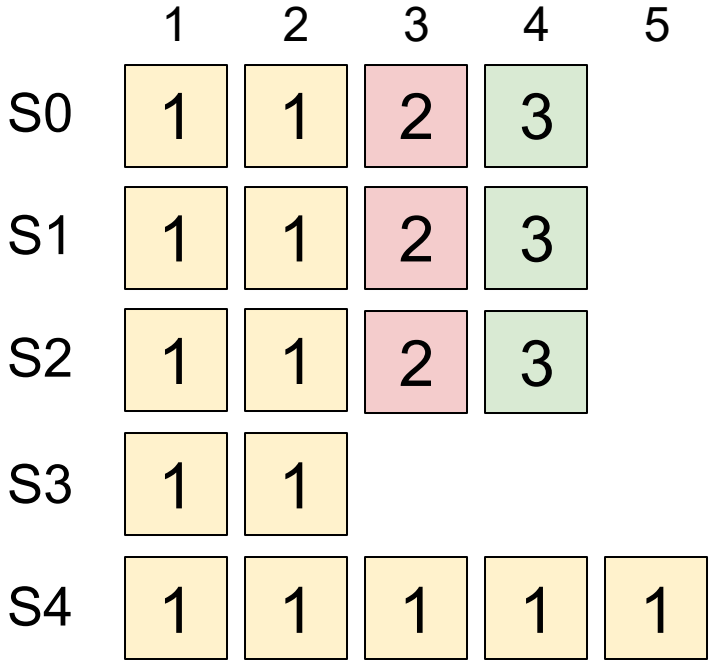
Trace the steps...



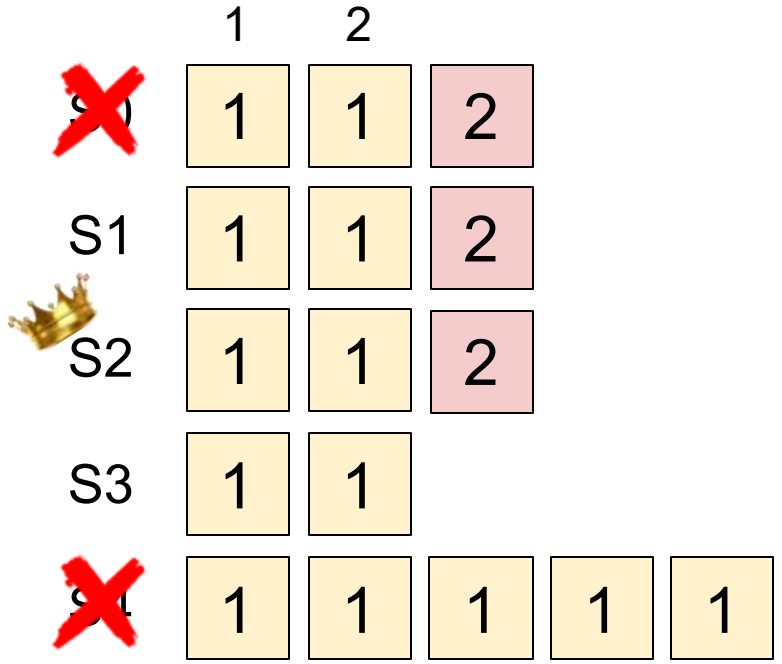


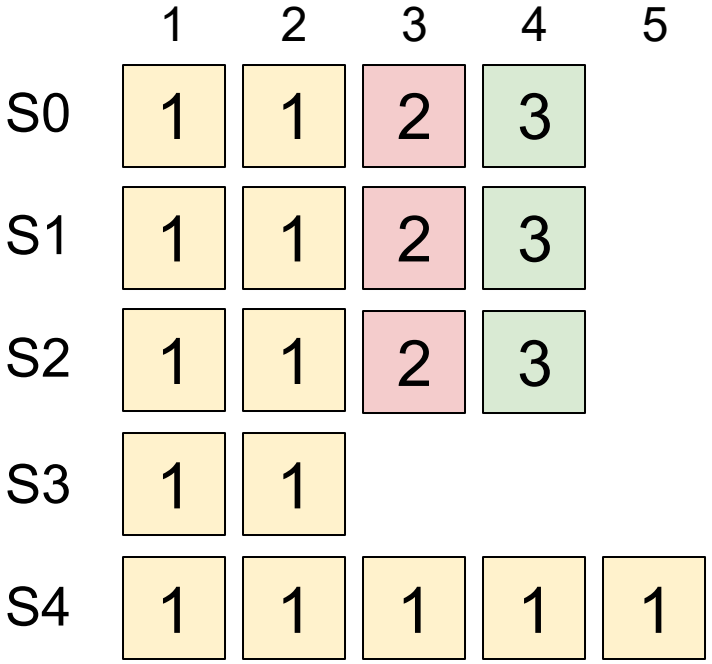
Trace the steps...



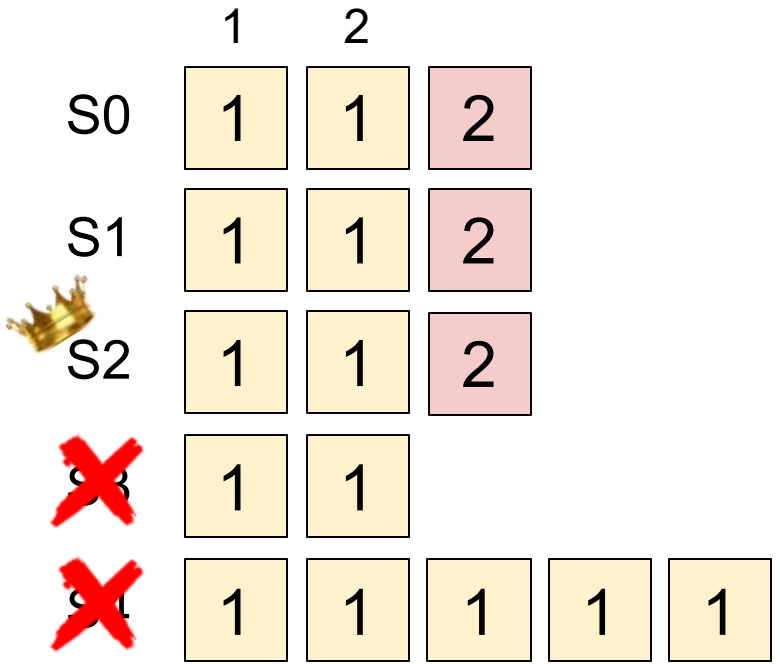


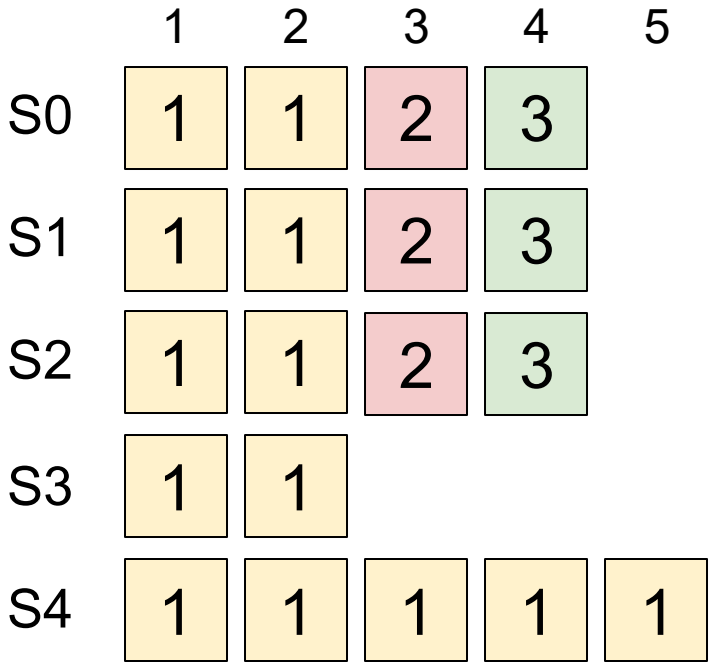
Trace the steps...



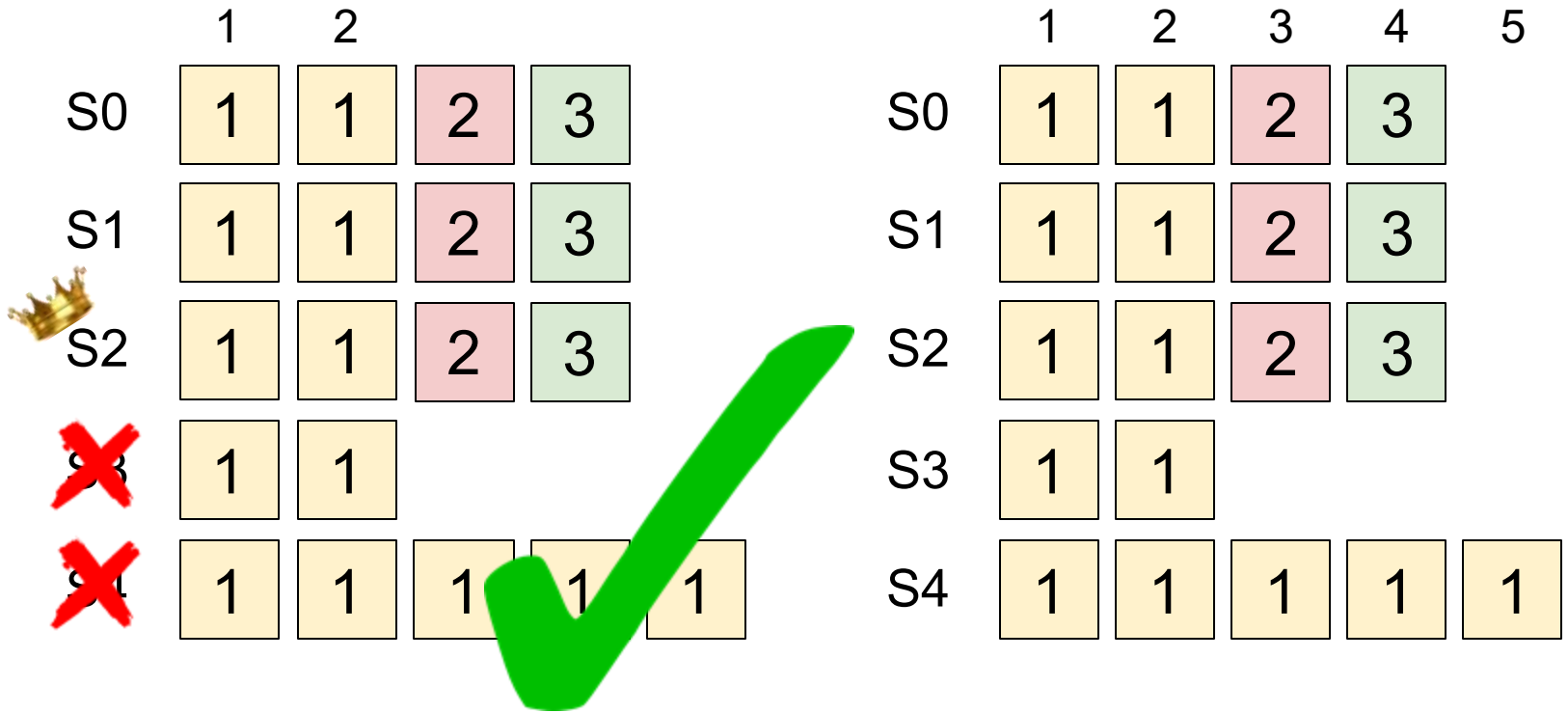


Trace the steps...

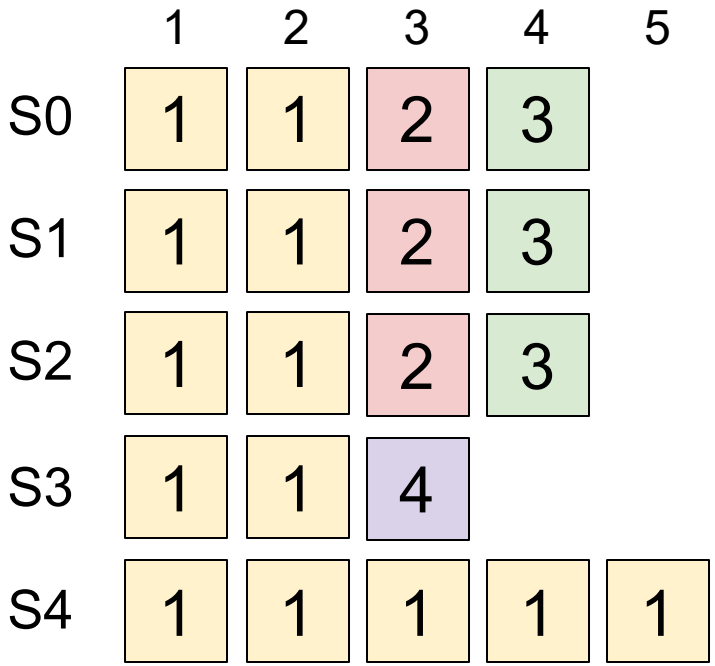




Trace the steps...



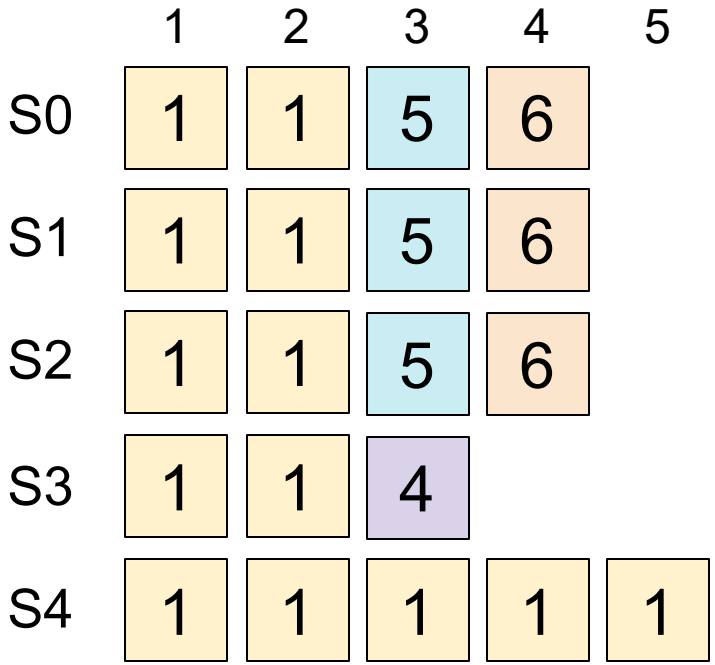
Q2: Is this a possible configuration?



NO!

S3 cannot become leader in term 4
(Who's going to vote for him?)

Q3: Is this a possible configuration?

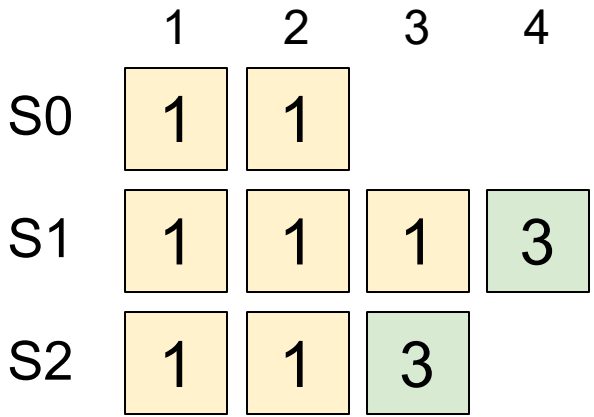


Yes

What happened to terms 2 and 3?

1. Split vote: no one became leader
2. Partitions: no one became leader
3. Simply no requests in these terms

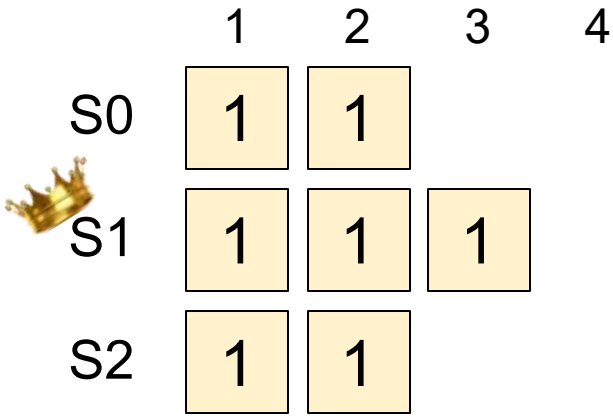
Q4: Is this a possible configuration?

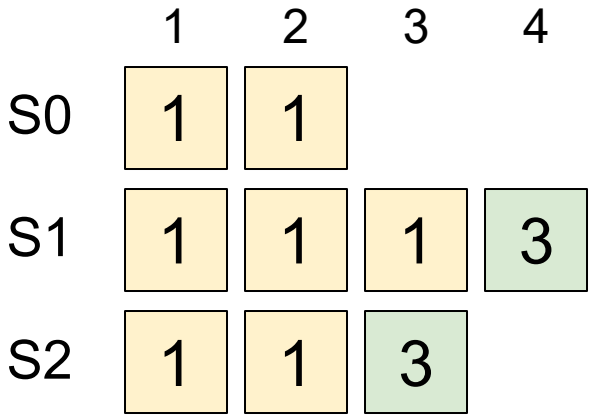


NO!

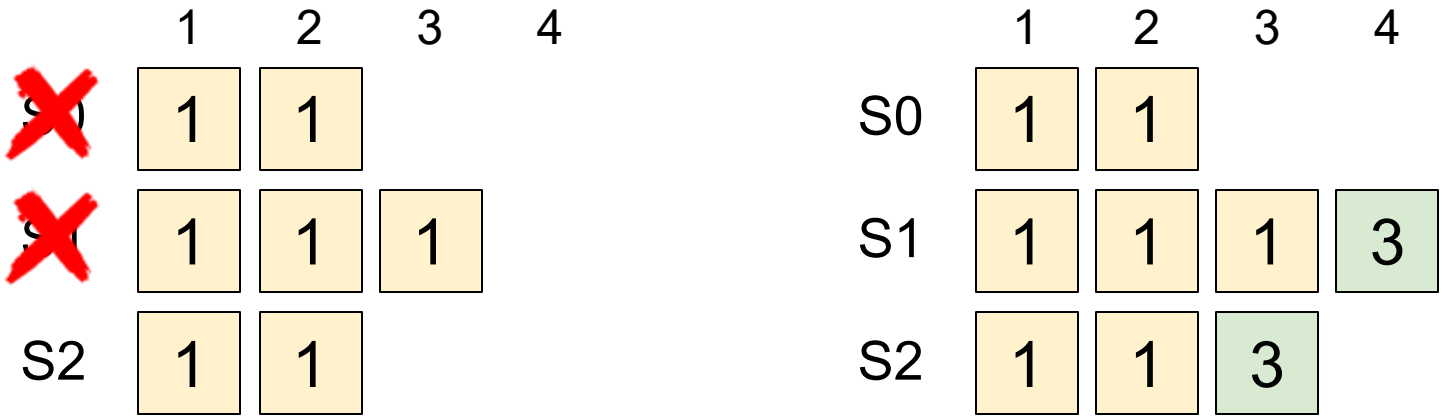
Let’s try tracing the steps...

Q4: Is this a possible configuration?



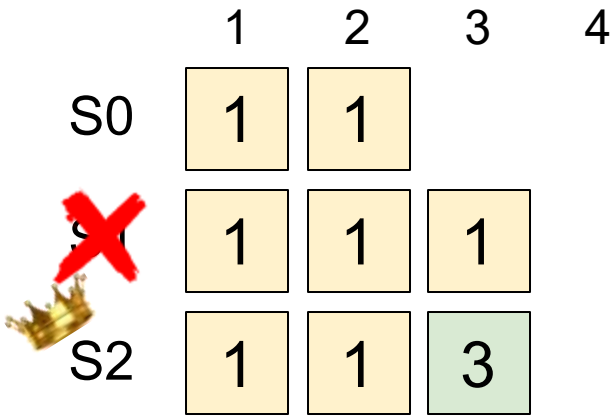


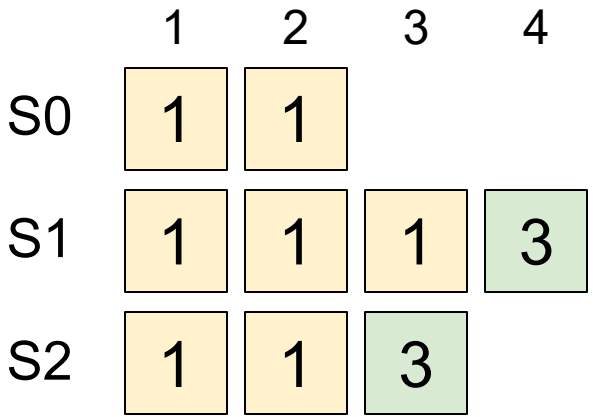
Q4: Is this a possible configuration?



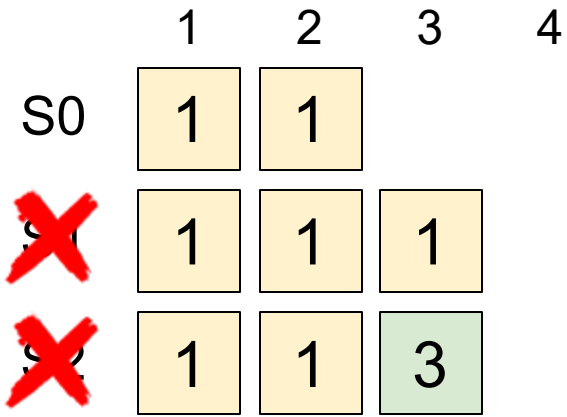
No one becomes leader in term 2...

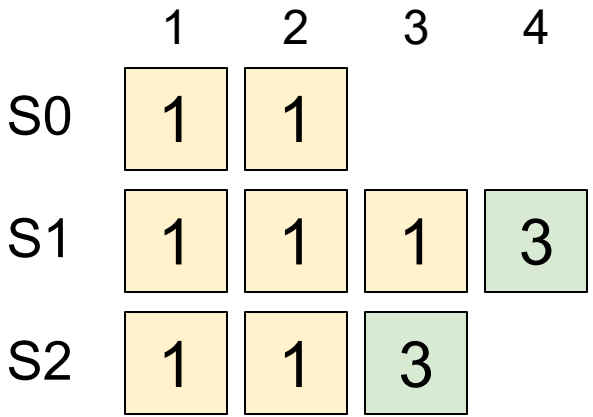
Q4: Is this a possible configuration?



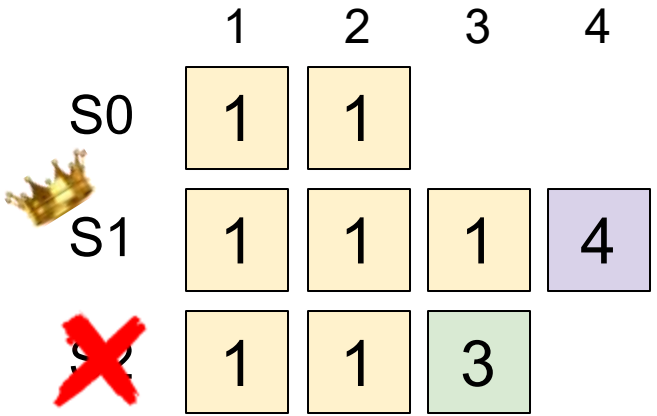


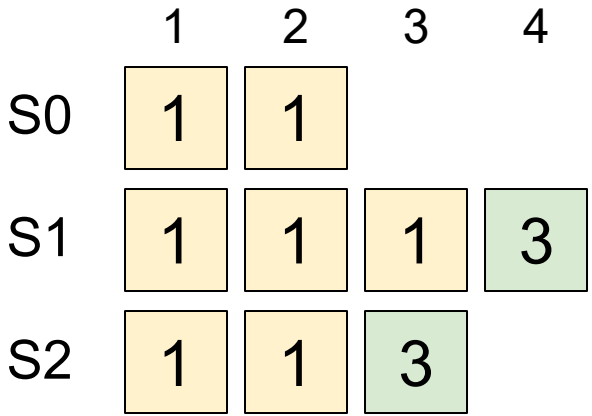
Q4: Is this a possible configuration?





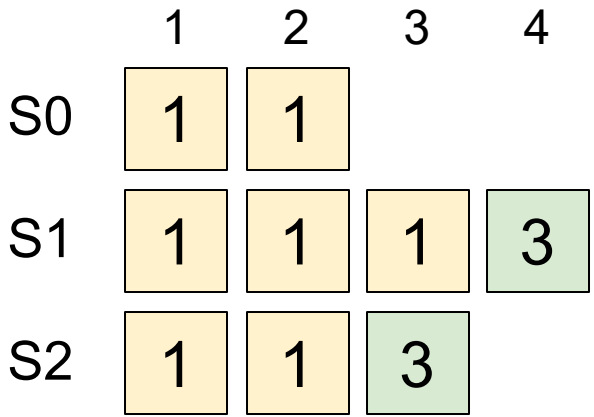
Q4: Is this a possible configuration?





S0 previously voted for S2 in term 3
S0 can only vote for S1 for term 4!

Q4: Is this a possible configuration?



The two entries in term 3 are in different positions

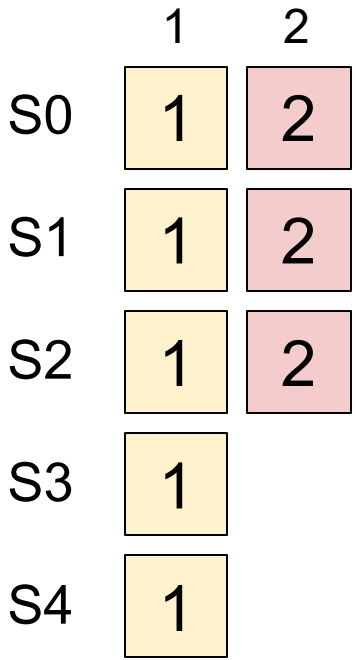
S1 and S2 could not have written these entries without being leaders

But they can't both be leaders in the same term!

Conditions for committing an entry

1. The entry exists on a majority AND was appended to leader in the current term
2. Or, the entry precedes another entry that is committed

Q5: Is entry 2 (term 2) guaranteed to be committed?

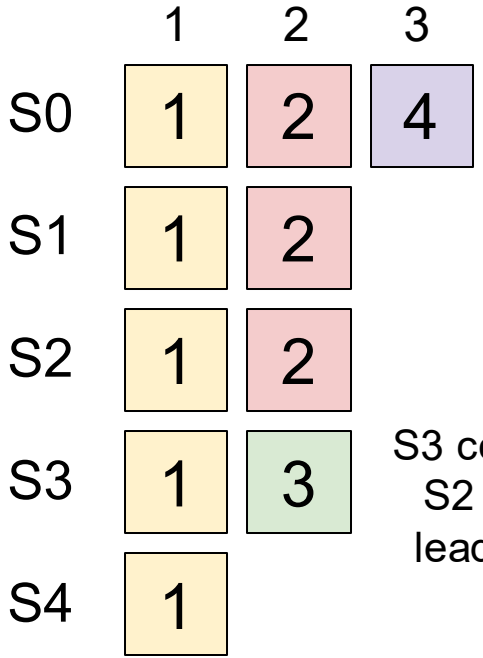


Yes!

Entry 2 is on a majority of nodes

No one else has a more *up-to-date* log

Q6: Is entry 2 (term 2) guaranteed to be committed?

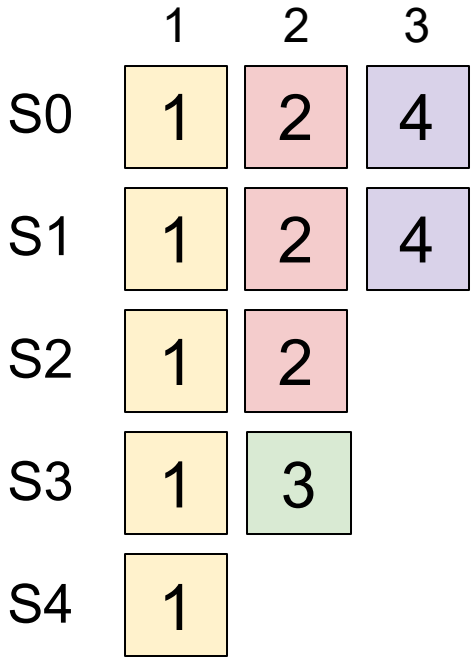


NO!

(See Figure 8 in Raft paper)

S3 could win the election for Term 3, before Term 2 was replicated on S2 (with cotes from S2, S3, S4), then S3 crashes and the previous leader continued replicating Term 2 on S2 (similar to Figure 8 in the paper)

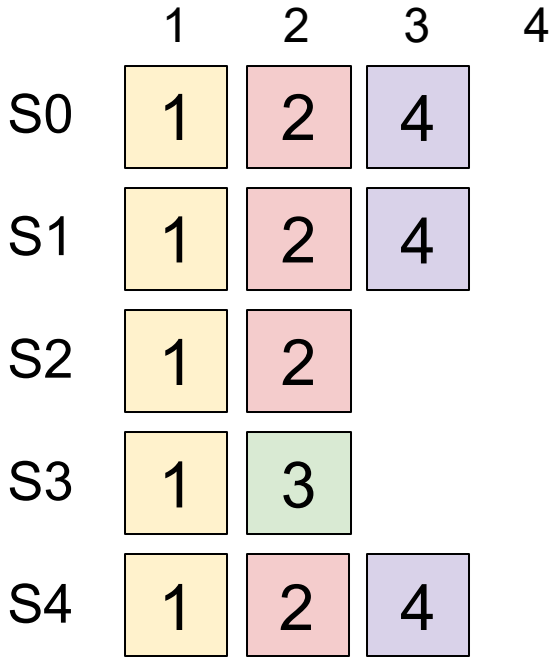
Q7: Is entry 2 (term 2) guaranteed to be committed?



NO!

S3 could still become leader if S0 crashes
(votes from S2, S3 and S4)

Q8: Is entry 2 (term 2) guaranteed to be committed?



Yes!

Entry 4 is guaranteed to be committed because no one else has a more *up-to-date* log, *and* majority has entry 4

All entries before entry 4 are safe