

S.Gopinath

National Informatics Centre

Title: Trustable Logs using Blockchain

Advisor: Prof. S.Revathi



Trustable Logs using Blockchain

S.Gopinath

BSA Crescent Institute of Science & Technology

Jul 2020



Problem Statement I

- Events are recorded as *logs*.
- Logs are used for Debugging, Capacity Planning, Accounting etc.
- Regulatory Authorities and Investigating agencies needs *logs!*
- Legacy log systems are mostly *tamperable!*
- WORM devices can address the issue (reasonably trustable) but it is costlier!
- Solution - Blockchain ? *Immutability*



Overview I

- Work \Rightarrow {Phase-1, Phase-2}
- Two Styles of Blockchain Implementation. Style-1 and Style-2
- Blockchain Platform - Hyperledger Sawtooth Platform on Ubuntu
- Consensus Algorithm - PBFT
- Programming Language - Rust



Overview II

- Implementation - 4 Nodes Blockchain Cluster in AWS (for each Style)
- Style-1 - Single State - Multiple Data (*Transaction digging*)
- Style-1 - Multiple States (*No Transaction digging*)
- Off-Chaining - Logs are taken as *file-blocks* - Size-1024000 bytes \Rightarrow SHA256
- *Partial Trust Establishment*



Literature Survey I

- Benedikt Putz,..., "A secure and auditable logging infrastructure based on a permissioned blockchain" *Elsevier* Nov 2019.
- Dr.Manish Kumar,..., "Secure Log Storage Using Blockchain and Cloud Infrastructure", *9th ICCCNT-2018*, IISc Bangalore
- Miguel Castro and Barbara Liskov, "Practical Byzantine Fault Tolerance"
- Vitalik Buterin "White Paper - Next Generation Smart Contracts and Decentralized Application Platform"

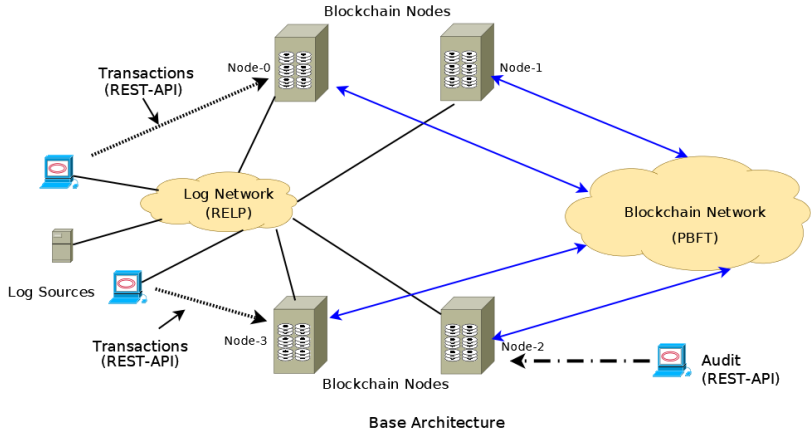


Literature Survey II

- Logan Seeley "Introduction to Sawtooth PBFT" *Blog Hyperledger Sawtooth*, Feb 2019
- Online Sites, Videos, Hyperledger and Rust forums, emails etc.



System Architecture I



Drawn using dia



System Architecture I

- Logs to be delivered to all Blockchain nodes preferably in real time.
- Transport Example-**rsyslogd** with Reliable Event Log Protocol
- Transactions are generated by the clients associated with the log source. They sent to the Blockchain Network at fixed time (may be periodically).
- Each transaction represents a fixed size *file-blocks* in the log. The transaction payload comprises of file-block boundaries and its hash



System Architecture II

- *Partial Trust Establishment*
- After block generation and its addition to blockchain, the logs in the blockchain nodes can be removed.



Software Modules I

- Top Level Modules - Client Module, Transaction Processor Module, Verification Module.
- Client - On behalf of log source.
Log stream \Rightarrow "Trans. Batches" \Rightarrow Sawtooth Validator.
- Transaction Processor (TP)-Business Logic - runs in every node.
- Transaction Processor - Semantic Validation of Transactions.



Software Modules II

- Semantic Validation - Hashes in Transactions are valid ?
Computes independently.
- PBFT ensures that the committed blocks are valid
- Verification Module - Given log - Integrity Checks - Partial Trust
- Programming Language - Rust



Client-Payload I

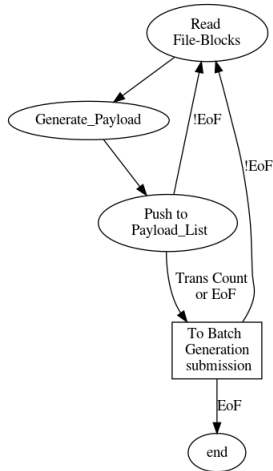
id : u32	id : u32
start_byte : u32	start_byte : u64
end_byte : u32	end_byte : u64
data_hash_value : [u8;32]	data_hash_value : [u8;32]

S.Gopinath S.Gopinath

- Payload is serialized using CBOR



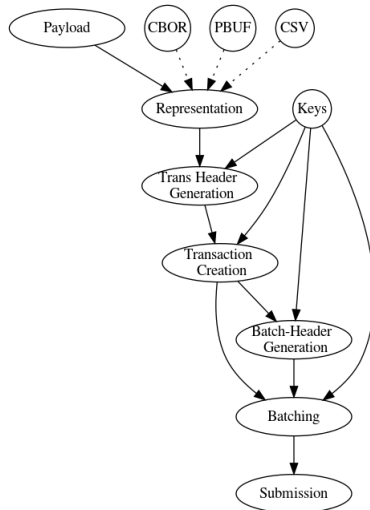
Client-Payload Generation



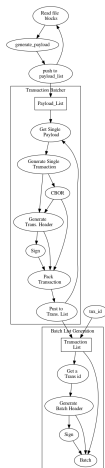
S Gopinath



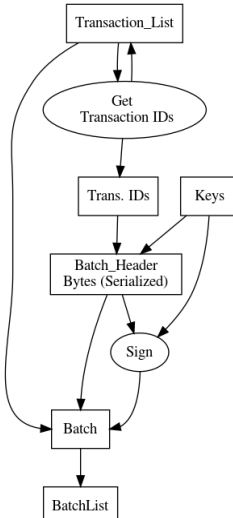
Client-Overall Flow-1



Client-Overall Flow-2



Batch Generation Flow



Transaction Processor Module

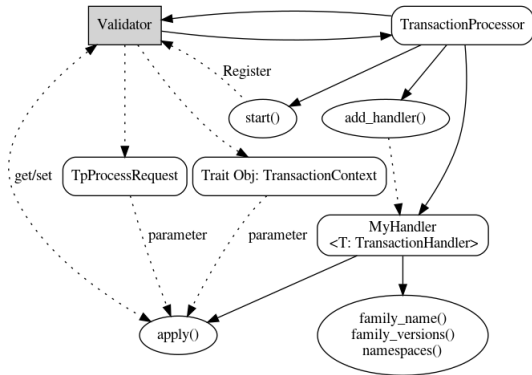
- Runs in every Sawtooth Node.
- Multiple Transaction Processor can run at a same time.
- get/set methods. set method is used to "set" the State with payload.
- Validator calls **apply** method of the TP which it implements.



Transaction Processor - Placement



Transaction Processor- Flow



Verification Module

- Log source presents *log stream* for auditing.
- Verification program, compares the *hash* of submitted file-blocks with the payload data in the blockchain.
- Style-1 Verification - Digs Transactions from blockchain.
- Style-2 Verification - Takes payload in *States*
- REST-API for extracting blocks or States from the blockchain.



Style-1 Client (shows client and a TP)

```
10.163.190.162:22 - Bitvise sterm - ssg@node04 -
14336000
14336000
95af3ae8e2fd7802415a5fabdf5aaef3a5c4650d446329a4b6713b7
CSXG:13312000,14335999,95af3ae8e2fd7802415a5fabdf5aaef3
Transaction Processor is called!
14336001
15360000
c1fdb5a1c0ec51c85784c2093fd5e6ca352b769ad7e3256435e4512
CSXG:14336000,15359999,c1fdb5a1c0ec51c85784c2093fd5e6ca
Transaction Processor is called!
15360001
16384000
fdb4265495e581f4a67770aa56e41f58ad45b6a2600060886e3fa5
CSXG:15360000,16383999,fdb4265495e581f4a67770aa56e41f58
Transaction Processor is called!
16384001
17408000
124a4a36e16e6f97061f975c9e0b716a51d770f7f048ee84802a5d2
CSXG:16384000,17407999,124a4a36e16e6f97061f975c9e0b716a
Transaction Processor is called!
17408001
18432000
43ac70c890fc740807c3f07bba49ec22c2b3ac536e9a6d5857911ee
CSXG:17408000,18431999,43ac70c890fc740807c3f07bba49ec22
Transaction Processor is called!
18432001
19456000
84c792df8bcb9787510ca76d28679446fa35e1bdbeeca4a197471b4
CSXG:18432000,19455999,84c792df8bcb9787510ca76d28679446
Transaction Processor is called!
19456001
20199360
2ca8d6d106eefdice4a29e56b8462b0410bf53fd4e3d18a1cf10a86
CSXG:19456000,20199359,2ca8d6d106eefdice4a29e56b8462b04
Transaction Processor is called!
20199361
the more likely and severe is missing logs...

Trans Header size: 456
05ddb463fe64bc598c71ae66e5252a8fd87a0bd64a216d4ae9a497b409c485c1c6c27393a5f934db
100b69b623568b2a57eb98d2ba66
CBOR: a4626964016a73746172745f627974651a00fa00016865e645f627974651a0109a0006f64617
16c7565982012184a184a183618e1186e186f189706181f1897185c189e0b1871186a185118d718701
41880182a185d182e18aa188b1825182b
Trans Header size: 456
1e6aeb1f49d8abcb423460a26f7f019ed33a23c2b4b4399472b0337af886535f258bda522bb99ea699
619c552b1b1795e44f7bdcafd50
CBOR: a4626964016a73746172745f627974651a0109a00016865e645f627974651a011940006f64617
16c75659820184318ac187018c189018f1c1874080718c1830187b18ba184918ec182218c218b318a
85818571891181e18e61874186b0018a7
Trans Header size: 456
4b96ff438ffa89a5339b7979bafa2341d93482d16e29238ed3f00dace649c6401d95b70245b783956
3ff54ebc72ad92ea1af5e67166c
CBOR: a4626964016a73746172745f627974651a0119400016865e645f627974651a0128e0006f64617
16c75659820188418c189218df188b18c1897188718510c18a7186d182818671894184618f18351
418a118971847181b1818401845186e18731859
Trans Header size: 456
56b75f64ceea572ef1619887ff8a33705df1637905441b6cd5da7a23259316c2c87c26c58b82cd9e1
aec020f272765ab8c8f51d6f9496
CBOR: a4626964016a73746172745f627974651a0128e00016865e645f627974651a01343c06f64617
16c7565982018218a818d618d10618ee18fd18ac18e418a2189e185618b81846182b041018b1851
118cf1018a8186e18e1183e18490a
Trans Header size: 456
14185ef711686fb55ff064fd8c1a25f709b65cafd5dc273210f4bf26d6a1ff85e9a516a6809e4a1f
3b3bc94a490dfc31f206ca3dc989
No of txns are 20
Inside batch fun size is 14171
aa3bacbefadfd5aae69f3b8d3f520f2a8cf236259316c1d81cbd7750c003397aa78e3b3adb89d75
7ba42eda0e046f3b15fb761124d7
Batch list size is 16997 bytes
Before send
After send
ssg@node4:~/client2$ /
```



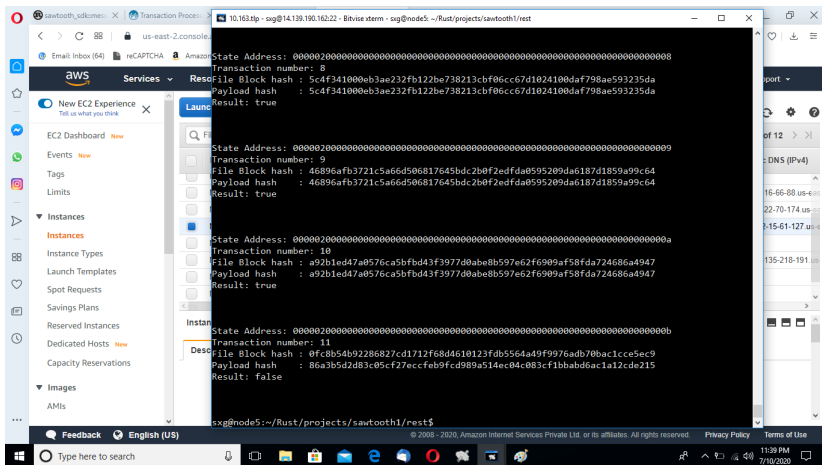
Style-1 Verification-2 (shows False)

The screenshot displays the AWS Management Console interface for EC2 instances. On the left, the navigation pane shows 'Instances' selected. The main content area shows a list of instances with 'Node0' selected. A 'Launch Instance' modal is open, showing a list of instances with their details. The terminal window shows the output of a verification command, which returns 'Result False'.

Instance Name	Start Byte	End Byte	File hash	Blockchain hash	Result
Node9	16384000	17408000	fdb4265495e581f4a67770aa56e41f58ad45b6a26080608868e3fa581b12cb8a	fdb4265495e581f4a67770aa56e41f58ad45b6a26080608868e3fa581b12cb8a	Okay
Node5	16384001	17408001	124a4a36e16e6f97061f975c9e0b716a51d7707f048ee84802a5d2eaa8b252b	124a4a36e16e6f97061f975c9e0b716a51d7707f048ee84802a5d2eaa8b252b	Okay
Node3	17408000	18432000	43ac70c890fc740807cf307bba49ec22c2b3ac536e9a6d5857911ee6746b00a7	43ac70c890fc740807cf307bba49ec22c2b3ac536e9a6d5857911ee6746b00a7	Okay
Node7	18432001	19456000	84c792df8bc9787510ca76d28679446fa35e1dbdbee4a197471b49456e7359	84c792df8bc9787510ca76d28679446fa35e1dbdbee4a197471b49456e7359	Okay
Node2	19456001	20199360	b9ebaa7f2f0886d10df304eee3fb89a351ae86124d81816d5424a4c681630030	2ca8d6d10eefdfac4a29e56b8462b0410bf53fd4e3d18a1cf10a86ee13e490a	False



Style-2 Verification-1 (shows False)



The screenshot displays the AWS Management Console interface on the left and a terminal window on the right. The terminal shows the output of a script verifying transactions. The results for transactions 8, 9, 10, and 11 are as follows:

Transaction number	File Block hash	Payload hash	Result
8	5c4f34100eb3ae232fb122be738213cbf06cc67d1024100daf798ae593235da	5c4f34100eb3ae232fb122be738213cbf06cc67d1024100daf798ae593235da	true
9	46896afb3721c5a66d506817645bdc2b0f2edfda0595209da6187d1859a99c64	46896afb3721c5a66d506817645bdc2b0f2edfda0595209da6187d1859a99c64	true
10	a92b1ed47a0576ca5bfd43f3977d0abe8b597e62f6909af58fda724686a4947	a92b1ed47a0576ca5bfd43f3977d0abe8b597e62f6909af58fda724686a4947	true
11	0fc8b54b92286827cd1712f68d4610123fdb5564a49f9976ad70bac1cce5ec9	86a3b5d2d83c05cf27eccfeb9fcd989a514ec04c083f1bbabd6ac1a12cde215	false

The terminal prompt at the bottom is `sxgnode5:~/Rust/projects/sawtooth1/rest$`. The AWS console shows the 'Instances' page with a list of instances and their details.



Conclusion I

- The parameters (stream name, file-block size) may be passed as arguments. Run time parameterization may be implemented in future.
- Persistence System may help to update blocks in near real time.
- The use of Generics in programming may help better code organization.
- A exhaustive testing is required and VA may be done



Conclusion II

- The log *transport* mechanisms to be studied and to go beyond RELP. Other log architectures to be considered.



Challenges I

- Lack of Text material for Blockchain
- Sawtooth Programming documentation may be improved.
- Rust - *intimidating* and lot of concepts to be absorbed.



Acknowledgement I

- Mr.SM Arun, Sawtooth Developer - Hyperledger Community. Shared examples and studied. Leap forward.
- The confidence came after seeing some of his codes.
- Hyperledger Community - Notably SM-Arun.
- Rust - Users Community - Good support from them.



Acknowledgement II

- Lockdown during Covid-19 - It helped *slow learning*, micro-experimentation, *subtle* learning and all with lesser *stress*.
- Encouragement from Dr.S.Revathi, Mrs.Valli, Mrs.R.Akila and Administration.
- Online materials.



Thanks

Thanks!!!

