# Ethereum SLIP-39 Account Generation

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#### 2021-12-20 10:55:00

Creating Ethereum, Bitcoin and other accounts is complex and fraught with potential for loss of funds.

A BIP-39 seed recovery phrase helps, but a **single** lapse in security dooms the account (and all derived accounts, in fact). If someone finds your recovery phrase (or you lose it), the accounts derived from that seed are *gone*.

The SLIP-39 standard allows you to split the seed between 1, 2, or more groups of several mnemonic recovery phrases. This is better, but creating such accounts is difficult; presently, only the Trezor supports these, and they can only be created "manually". Writing down 5 or more sets of 20 words is difficult, error-prone and time consuming.

The python-slip39 project (and the SLIP-39 macOS/win32 App) exists to assist in the safe creation and documentation of Ethereum HD Wallet seeds and derived accounts, with various SLIP-39 sharing parameters. It generates the new random wallet seed, and generates the expected standard Ethereum account(s) (at derivation path m/44'/60'/0'/0/0 by default) and Bitcoin accounts (at Bech32 derivation path m/84'/0'/0'/0'/0 by default), with wallet address and QR code (compatible with Trezor derivations). It produces the required SLIP-39 phrases, and outputs a single PDF containing all the required printable cards to document the seed (and the specified derived accounts).

Output of BIP-38 or JSON encrypted Paper Wallets is supported, for import into standard software cryptocurrency wallets.

On an secure (ideally air-gapped) computer, new seeds can safely be generated and the PDF saved to a USB drive for printing (or directly printed without the file being saved to disk.). Presently, slip39 can output example ETH, BTC, LTC and DOGE addresses derived from the seed, to illustrate what accounts are associated with the backed-up seed. Recovery of the seed to a Trezor is simple, by entering the mnemonics right on the device.

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# 1 Security with Availability

For both BIP-39 and SLIP-39, a 128-bit random "seed" is the source of an unlimited sequence of Ethereum and Bitcoin HD (Heirarchical Deterministic) derived Wallet accounts. Anyone who can obtain this seed gains control of all Ethereum, Bitcoin (and other) accounts derived from it, so it must be securely stored.

Losing this seed means that all of the HD Wallet accounts are permanently lost. It must be *both* backed up securely, *and* be readily accessible.

Therefore, we must:

- Ensure that nobody untrustworthy can recover the seed, but
- Store the seed in many places, probably with several (some perhaps untrustworthy) people.

How can we address these conflicting requirements?

# 1.1 Shamir's Secret Sharing System (SSSS)

Satoshi Lab's (Trezor) SLIP-39 uses SSSS to distribute the ability to recover the key to 1 or more "groups". Collecting the mnemonics from the required number of groups allows recovery of the seed. For BIP-39, the number of groups is always 1, and the number of mnemonics required for that group is always 1.

For SLIP-39, a "group\_threshold" of how many groups must bet successfully collected to recover the key. Then key is (conceptually) split between 1 or more groups (not really; each group's data alone gives away no information about the key).

For example, you might have First, Second, Fam and Frens groups, and decide that any 2 groups can be combined to recover the key. Each group has members with varying levels of trust and persistence, so have different number of Members, and differing numbers Required to recover that group's data:

Group	Required	Members	Description
First	1 /	1	Stored at home
Second	1 /	1	Stored in office safe
Fam	2 /	4	Distributed to family members
Frens	3 /	6	Distributed to friends and associates

The account owner might store their First and Second group data in their home and office safes. These are 1/1 groups (1 required, and only 1 member, so each of these are 3 1-card groups.)

If the account needs to be recovered, collecting the First and Second cards from the home and office safe is sufficient to recover the seed, and re-generate the HD Wallet accounts.

Only 2 Fam member's cards must be collected to recover the Fam group's data. So, if the HD Wallet owner loses their home and First group card in a fire, they could get the Second group card from the office safe, and 2 cards from Fam group members, and recover the wallet.

If catastrophe strikes and the owner dies, and the heirs don't have access to either the First (at home) or Second (at the office), they can collect 2 Fam cards and 3 Frens cards (at the funeral, for example), completing the Fam and Frens groups' data, and recover the seed, and all derived HD Wallet accounts.

Since Frens are less likely to persist long term, we'll produce more (6) of these cards. Depending on how trustworthy the group is, adjust the Fren group's Required number higher (less trustworthy, more likely to know each-other, need to collect more to recover the group), or lower (more trustworthy, less likely to collude, need less to recover).

# 2 SLIP-39 Account Creation, Recovery and Address Generation

Generating a new SLIP-39 encoded seed is easy, with results available as PDF and text. Any number of derived HD wallet account addresses can be generated from this seed, and the seed (and all derived HD wallets, for all cryptocurrencies) can be recovered by collecting the desired groups of recover card phrases. The default recovery groups are as described above.

#### 2.1 Creating New SLIP-39 Recoverable Seeds

This is what the first page of the output SLIP-39 mnemonic cards PDF looks like:

Run the following to obtain a PDF file containing index cards with the default SLIP-39 groups for a new account seed named "Personal"; insert a USB drive to collect the output, and run:

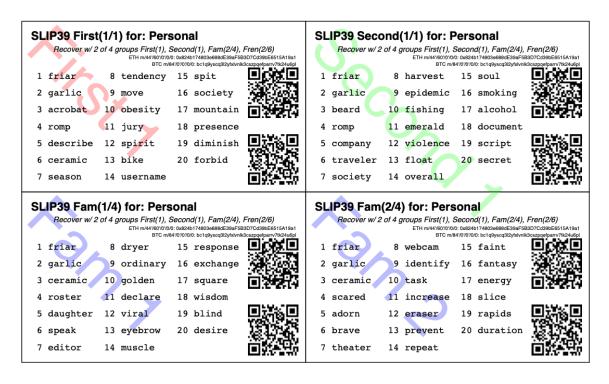


Figure 1: SLIP-39 Cards PDF (from --secret ffff...)

```
2021-12-25 11:10:38 slip39 Wrote SLIP-39-encoded wallet for 'Personal' to:\
Personal-2021-12-22+15.45.36-0xb44A2011A99596671d5952CdC22816089f142FB3.pdf
```

The resultant PDF will be output into the designated file.

This PDF file can be printed on 3x5 index cards, or on regular paper or card stock and the cards can be cut out (--card credit, business, half (page) and third (page) are also available, as well as custom "(<h>,<w>),<margin>").

To get the data printed on the terminal as in this example (so you could write it down on cards instead), add a -v (to see it logged in a tabular format), or --text to have it printed to stdout in full lines (ie. for pipelining to other programs).

#### 2.1.1 Paper Wallets

The Trezor hardware wallet natively supports the input of SLIP-39 Mnemonics. However, most software wallets do not (yet) support SLIP-39. So, how do we load the Crypto wallets produced from our Seed into software wallets such as the Metamask plugin or the Brave browser, for example?

The slip39.gui (and the macOS/win32 SLIP-39.App) support output of standard BIP-38 encrypted wallets for Bitcoin-like cryptocurrencies such as BTC, LTC and DOGE. It also outputs encrypted Ethereum JSON wallets for ETH. Here is how to produce them (from a test secret Seed; exclude --secret ffff... for yours!):

And what they look like:



Figure 2: Paper Wallets (from --secret ffff...)

## 2.1.2 Supported Cryptocurrencies

While the SLIP-39 seed is not cryptocurrency-specific (any wallet for any cryptocurrency can be derived from it), each type of cryptocurrency has its own standard derivation path (eg. m/44'/3'/0'/0'/0 for DOGE), and its own address representation (eg. Bech32 at m/84'/0'/0'/0'/0 for BTC eg. bc1qcupw7k8enymvvsa7w35j5hq4ergtvus3zk8a8s.

When you import your SLIP-39 seed into a Trezor, you gain access to all derived HD cryptocurrency wallets supported directly by that hardware wallet, and **indirectly**, to any coin and/or blockchain network supported by any wallet software (eg. Metamask).

Crypto	Semantic	Path	Address	Support
ETH	Legacy	m/44'/60'/0'/0/0	0x	
BNB	Legacy	m/44'/60'/0'/0/0	0x	Beta
CRO	Bech32	m/44'/60'/0'/0/0	$\operatorname{crc}1$	Beta
BTC	Legacy	m/44'/ 0'/0'/0/0	1	
	SegWit	m/44'/ 0'/0'/0/0	3	
	Bech32	m/84'/ 0'/0'/0/0	bc1	
LTC	Legacy	m/44'/ 2'/0'/0/0	L	
	SegWit	m/44'/ 2'/0'/0/0	M	
	Bech32	m/84'/ 2'/0'/0/0	ltc1	
DOGE	Legacy	m/44'/ 3'/0'/0/0	D	

## 1. ETH, BTC, LTC, DOGE

These coins are natively supported both directly by the Trezor hardware wallet, and by most software wallets and "web3" platforms that interact with the Trezor, or can import the BIP-38

or Ethereum JSON Paper Wallets produced by python-slip39.

## 2. BNB on the Binance Smart Chain (BSC): binance.com

The Binance Smart Chain uses standard Ethereum addresses; support for the BSC is added directly to the wallet software; here are the instructions for adding BSC support for the Trezor hardware wallet, using the Metamask software wallet. In python-slip39, BNB is simply an alias for ETH, since the wallet addresses and Ethereum JSON Paper Wallets are identical.

#### 3. CRO on Cronos: crypto.com

The Cronos chain (formerly known as the Crypto.org chain). It is the native chain of the crypto.com CRO coin.

Cronos also uses Ethereum addresses on the m/44'/60'/0'/0'/0' derivation path, but represents them as Bech32 addresses with a "crc" prefix, eg. crc19a6r74dvfxjyvjzf3pg9y3y5rhk6rds2c9265n. As with BNB, the wallet must support the Cronos blockchain; instructions exist for adding CRO support for the Trezor hardware wallet, using the Metamask software wallet.

## 2.2 The macOS/win32 SLIP-39.app GUI App

If you prefer a graphical user-interface, try the macOS/win32 SLIP-39.App. You can run it directly if you install Python 3.9+ from python.org/downloads or using homebrew brew install python-tk@3.10. Then, start the GUI in a variety of ways:

```
slip39-gui
python3 -m slip39.gui
```

Alternatively, download and install the macOS/win32 GUI App .zip, .pkg or .dmg installer from github.com/pjkundert/python-slip-39/releases.

### 2.3 The Python slip39 CLI

From the command line, you can create SLIP-39 seed Mnemonic card PDFs.

#### 2.3.1 slip39 Synopsis

The full command-line argument synopsis for slip39 is:

```
slip39 --help
                                | sed 's/~/: /' # (just for output formatting)
usage: slip39 [-h] [-v] [-q] [-o OUTPUT] [-t THRESHOLD] [-g GROUP] [-f FORMAT]
              [-c CRYPTOCURRENCY] [-p PATH] [-j JSON] [-w WALLET]
              [--wallet-hint WALLET_HINT] [--wallet-format WALLET_FORMAT]
              [-s SECRET] [--bits BITS] [--passphrase PASSPHRASE] [-C CARD]
              [--paper PAPER] [--no-card] [--text]
              [names ...]
Create and output SLIP-39 encoded Seeds and Paper Wallets to a PDF file.
positional arguments:
 names
                        Account names to produce
options:
 -h, --help
                        show this help message and exit
  -v, --verbose
                        Display logging information.
 -q, --quiet
                        Reduce logging output.
  -o OUTPUT, --output OUTPUT
```

```
Output PDF to file or '-' (stdout); formatting w/
                      name, date, time, crypto, path, address allowed
-t THRESHOLD, --threshold THRESHOLD
                      Number of groups required for recovery (default: half
                      of groups, rounded up)
-g GROUP, --group GROUP
                      A group name[[<require>/]<size>] (default: <size> = 1,
                      <require> = half of <size>, rounded up, eg.
                      'Frens(3/5)').
-f FORMAT, --format FORMAT
                      Specify crypto address formats: legacy, segwit,
                      bech32; default: ETH:legacy, BTC:bech32, LTC:bech32,
                      DOGE:legacy, CRO:bech32, BNB:legacy
-c CRYPTOCURRENCY, --cryptocurrency CRYPTOCURRENCY
                      A crypto name and optional derivation path (eg.
                      '.../<range>/<range>'); defaults: ETH:m/44'/60'/0'/0/0,
                      BTC:m/84'/0'/0'/0/0, LTC:m/84'/2'/0'/0/0,
                      DOGE:m/44'/3'/0'/0/0, CRO:m/44'/60'/0'/0/0,
                      BNB:m/44'/60'/0'/0/0
-p PATH, --path PATH Modify all derivation paths by replacing the final
                      segment(s) w/ the supplied range(s), eg. '.../1/-'
                      means \ldots/1/[0,\ldots)
-j JSON, --json JSON Save an encrypted JSON wallet for each Ethereum
                      address w/ this password, '-' reads it from stdin
                      (default: None)
-w WALLET, --wallet WALLET
                      Produce paper wallets in output PDF; each wallet
                      private key is encrypted this password
--wallet-hint WALLET_HINT
                      Paper wallets password hint
--wallet-format WALLET_FORMAT
                      Paper wallet size; half, third, quarter or
                      '(<h>,<w>),<margin>' (default: quarter)
-s SECRET, --secret SECRET
                      Use the supplied 128-, 256- or 512-bit hex value as
                      the secret seed; '-' reads it from stdin (eg. output
                      from slip39.recover)
--bits BITS
                      Ensure that the seed is of the specified bit length;
                      128, 256, 512 supported.
--passphrase PASSPHRASE
                      Encrypt the master secret w/ this passphrase, '-'
                      reads it from stdin (default: None/'')
-C CARD, --card CARD Card size; index, credit, business, half, third,
                      quarter, photo or '(<h>,<w>),<margin>' (default:
                      index)
--paper PAPER
                      Paper size (default: Letter)
                      Disable PDF SLIP-39 mnemonic card output
--no-card
                      Enable textual SLIP-39 mnemonic output to stdout
--text
```

## 2.4 Recovery & Re-Creation

Later, if you need to recover the wallet seed, keep entering SLIP-39 mnemonics into slip39-recovery until the secret is recovered (invalid/duplicate mnemonics will be ignored):

```
$ python3 -m slip39.recovery # (or just "slip39-recovery")
Enter 1st SLIP-39 mnemonic: ab c
Enter 2nd SLIP-39 mnemonic: veteran guilt acrobat romp burden campus purple webcam uncover ...
Enter 3rd SLIP-39 mnemonic: veteran guilt acrobat romp burden campus purple webcam uncover ...
Enter 4th SLIP-39 mnemonic: veteran guilt beard romp dragon island merit burden aluminum worthy ...
2021-12-25 11:03:33 slip39.recovery Recovered SLIP-39 secret; Use: python3 -m slip39 --secret ...
383597fd63547e7c9525575decd413f7
```

Finally, re-create the wallet seed, perhaps including an encrypted JSON Paper Wallet for import of some accounts into a software wallet (use --json password to output encrypted Ethereum JSON wallet files):

```
2022-03-10 14:51:03 slip39

It is recommended to not use '-s|--secret <hex>'; specify '-' to read from input

2022-03-10 14:51:03 slip39

The SLIP-39 Standard Passphrase is not compatible w/ the Trezor hardware wallet; use its '1

2022-03-10 14:51:03 slip39

It is recommended to not use '-w|--wallet <password>'; specify '-' to read from input

2022-03-10 14:51:03 slip39.layout

ETH m/44'/60'/0'/0/0 : 0xb44A2011A99596671d5952CdC22816089f142FB3

2022-03-10 14:51:03 slip39.layout

BTC m/84'/0'/0'/0/0 : bc1qcupw7k8enymvvsa7w35j5hq4ergtvus3zk8a8s

2022-03-10 14:51:05 slip39.layout

Writing SLIP39-encoded wallet for 'SLIP39' to: SLIP39-2022-03-10+14.51.03-ETH-0xb44A2011A995
```

#### 2.4.1 slip39.recovery Synopsis

```
| sed 's/^/: /' # (just for output formatting)
   slip39-recovery --help
usage: slip39-recovery [-h] [-v] [-q] [-b] [-m MNEMONIC] [-p PASSPHRASE]
Recover and output secret seed from SLIP39 or BIP39 mnemonics
options:
  -h, --help
                        show this help message and exit
  -v, --verbose
                        Display logging information.
  -q, --quiet
                        Reduce logging output.
                        Recover 512-bit secret seed from BIP-39 mnemonics
 -b, --bip39
  -m MNEMONIC, --mnemonic MNEMONIC
                        Supply another SLIP-39 (or a BIP-39) mnemonic phrase
  -p PASSPHRASE, --passphrase PASSPHRASE
                        Decrypt the master secret w/ this passphrase, '-'
                        reads it from stdin (default: None/',')
If you obtain a threshold number of SLIP-39 mnemonics, you can recover the original
secret seed, and re-generate one or more Ethereum wallets from it.
```

Enter the mnemonics when prompted and/or via the command line with -m |--mnemonic "...".

The master secret seed can then be used to generate a new SLIP-39 encoded wallet:

```
python3 -m slip39 --secret = "ab04...7f"
```

BIP-39 wallets can be backed up as SLIP-39 wallets, but only at the cost of 59-word SLIP-39 mnemonics. This is because the \*output\* 512-bit BIP-39 seed must be stored in SLIP-39 -- not the \*input\* 128-, 160-, 192-, 224-, or 256-bit entropy used to create the original BIP-39 mnemonic phrase.

## 2.4.2 Pipelining slip39.recovery | slip39 --secret -

The tools can be used in a pipeline to avoid printing the secret. Here we generate some mnemonics, sorting them in reverse order so we need more than just the first couple to recover. Observe the Ethereum wallet address generated.

Then, we recover the master secret seed in hex with slip39-recovery, and finally send it to slip39 --secret - to regenerate the same wallet as we originally created.

```
( python3 -m slip39 --text --no-card -v \
    | sort -r \
     python3 -m slip39.recovery \
    | python3 -m slip39 --secret - --no-card -q ) 2>\&1
                                     The SLIP-39 Standard Passphrase is not compatible w/ the Trezor hardware wallet; use its
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                     First(1/1): Recover w/ 2 of 4 groups First(1), Second(1), Fam(2/4), Frens(3/6)
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                     1st 1 observe
                                                       8 switch
                                                                   15 prisoner
                                          2 lungs
                                                       9 says
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                                                   16 campus
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                                                   17 hand
                                          3 acrobat
                                                      10 simple
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                          4 romp
                                                      11 gums
                                                                   18 explain
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                          5 album
                                                      12 moment
                                                                   19 replace
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                          6 deadline 13 hairy
                                                                   20 canyon
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                          7 aunt
                                                      14 rainbow
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                     Second(1/1): Recover w/ 2 of 4 groups First(1), Second(1), Fam(2/4), Frens(3/6)
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                                       8 necklace 15 agree
                                     1st 1 observe
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                          2 lungs
                                                       9 eyebrow
                                                                   16 clay
```

```
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                        3 beard
                                                   10 cluster 17 object
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                                   11 mother
                                                                18 column
                                        4 romp
                                       5 domestic 12 episode 19 fiber
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                        6 length
                                                   13 terminal 20 punish
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                        7 victim
                                                   14 task
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                  Fam(2/4): Recover w/ 2 of 4 groups First(1), Second(1), Fam(2/4), Frens(3/6)
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                  1st 1 observe
                                                    8 plunge
                                                                15 filter
                                        2 lungs
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                                    9 wrap
                                                                16 float
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                        3 ceramic
                                                   10 merchant 17 result
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                        4 roster
                                                   11 alto
                                                                18 jury
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                        5 angel
                                                   12 jerky
                                                                19 smear
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                        6 declare
                                                   13 unusual
                                                               20 describe
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                        7 salon
                                                   14 trash
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                  2nd 1 observe
                                                  8 kidney
                                                                15 voter
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                        2 lungs
                                                    9 shame
                                                                16 arcade
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                        3 ceramic
                                                   10 bedroom
                                                               17 pipeline
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                        4 scared
                                                   11 adjust
                                                                18 kitchen
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                      5 capture
                                                  12 usual
                                                                19 gasoline
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                        6 careful
                                                  13 zero
                                                                20 hunting
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                       7 genuine
                                                  14 mule
                                  3rd 1 observe
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                                   8 receiver 15 item
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                        2 lungs
                                                    9 sniff
                                                                16 echo
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                      3 ceramic 10 magazine 17 morning
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                      4 shadow
                                                   11 gasoline 18 enemy
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                      5 chubby
                                                   12 ivory
                                                                19 fawn
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                        6 holiday
                                                   13 average
                                                                20 writing
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                        7 leader
                                                   14 biology
                                 4th 1 observe
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                                   8 genius
                                                                15 sugar
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                      2 lungs
                                                   9 therapy 16 biology
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                                                17 leaf
                                        3 ceramic
                                                  10 always
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                        4 sister
                                                   11 gravity
                                                               18 editor
                                        5 diploma 12 username 19 wireless
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                        6 elite
                                                   13 cargo
                                                                20 petition
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                        7 cinema
                                                   14 hawk
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                   Frens(3/6): Recover w/ 2 of 4 groups First(1), Second(1), Fam(2/4), Frens(3/6)
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                   1st 1 observe
                                                    8 pitch
                                                                15 amount
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                        2 lungs
                                                               16 traffic
                                                    9 similar
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                        3 decision 10 ambition 17 eraser
                                                   11 dwarf
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                        4 round
                                                                18 pulse
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                        5 dominant 12 usual
                                                                19 agree
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                        6 dictate 13 style
                                                                20 smith
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                        7 insect
                                                   14 shame
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                   2nd 1 observe
                                                  8 retailer 15 story
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                                                16 elder
                                        2 lungs
                                                    9 gross
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                                                17 humidity
                                        3 decision 10 glimpse
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                        4 scatter 11 artist
                                                                18 execute
                                        5 behavior 12 type
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                                                19 loud
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                        6 national 13 type
                                                                20 crucial
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                        7 dress
                                                   14 aspect
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                  3rd 1 observe
                                                   8 type
                                                                15 golden
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                        2 lungs
                                                    9 grief
                                                                16 display
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                        3 decision 10 universe 17 antenna
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                       4 shaft
                                                   11 mama
                                                                18 decorate
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                        5 decent
                                                   12 usual
                                                                19 satoshi
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                        6 mixture
                                                   13 hobo
                                                                20 metric
                                                   14 therapy
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                        7 march
                                  4th 1 observe
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                                   8 warmth
                                                                15 racism
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                        2 lungs
                                                    9 shaft
                                                                16 mobile
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                        3 decision 10 living
                                                                17 cylinder
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                        4 skin
                                                                18 slush
                                                   11 regret
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                       5 bucket
                                                   12 type
                                                                19 ecology
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                        6 depict
                                                   13 forward
                                                                20 inform
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                       7 scramble 14 chew
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                  5th 1 observe
                                                    8 income
                                                                15 dress
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                        2 lungs
                                                    9 mixed
                                                                16 repeat
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                                                17 disaster
                                        3 decision 10 cargo
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                        4 snake
                                                   11 switch
                                                                18 provide
                                                   12 helpful 19 duration
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                        5 body
```

```
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                         6 response 13 election 20 chew
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                         7 method
                                                     14 estate
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                    6th 1 observe
                                                      8 group
                                                                  15 ultimate
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                                                  16 beam
                                         2 lungs
                                                      9 easel
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                         3 decision 10 indicate 17 canyon
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                         4 spider
                                                     11 unfold
                                                                  18 expect
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                         5 early
                                                     12 identify 19 reunion
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                                     13 infant
                                         6 campus
                                                                  20 seafood
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39
                                         7 strike
                                                     14 manual
                                                               : 0x512789317dA5739fc5466268cAb6f105095A5F8C
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39.layout
                                    ETH
                                           m/44'/60'/0'/0/0
                                    BTC
                                           m/84'/0'/0'/0/0
                                                               : bc1qen776hzcmsdk02zp59egeqzzz4q6npqds80jwa
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39.layout
2022-03-10 14:51:06 slip39.recovery Recovered 128-bit SLIP-39 secret with 5 (1st, 2nd, 3rd, 7th, 8th) of 8 supplied mnemonic
```

#### 2.5 Generation of Addresses

For systems that require a stream of groups of wallet Addresses (eg. for preparing invoices for clients, with a choice of cryptocurrency payment options), slip-generator can produce a stream of groups of addresses.

#### 2.5.1 slip39-generator Synopsis

```
slip39-generator --help --version
                                                | sed 's/~/: /' # (just for output formatting)
usage: slip39-generator [-h] [-v] [-q] [-s SECRET] [-f FORMAT]
                         [-c CRYPTOCURRENCY] [-p PATH] [-d DEVICE]
                         [-b BAUDRATE] [-e ENCRYPT] [--decrypt ENCRYPT]
                         [--enumerated] [--no-enumerate] [--receive]
                         [--corrupt CORRUPT]
Generate public wallet address(es) from a secret seed
options:
  -h, --help
                         show this help message and exit
  -v, --verbose
                         Display logging information.
                         Reduce logging output.
  -q, --quiet
  -s SECRET, --secret SECRET
                         Use the supplied 128-, 256- or 512-bit hex value as
                         the secret seed; '-' (default) reads it from stdin
                         (eg. output from slip39.recover)
  -f FORMAT, --format FORMAT
                         Specify crypto address formats: legacy, segwit,
                         bech32; default: ETH:legacy, BTC:bech32, LTC:bech32,
                         DOGE:legacy, CRO:bech32, BNB:legacy
  -c CRYPTOCURRENCY, --cryptocurrency CRYPTOCURRENCY
                         A crypto name and optional derivation path (default:
                         "ETH:{Account.path_default('ETH')}"), optionally w/
                         ranges, eg: ETH:../0/-
  -p PATH, --path PATH Modify all derivation paths by replacing the final
                         segment(s) w/ the supplied range(s), eg. '.../1/-'
                         means \ldots/1/[0,\ldots)
  -d DEVICE, --device DEVICE
                         Use this serial device to transmit (or --receive)
                         records
  -b BAUDRATE, --baudrate BAUDRATE
                         Set the baud rate of the serial device (default:
                         115200)
  -e ENCRYPT, --encrypt ENCRYPT
                         Secure the channel from errors and/or prying eyes with
                         ChaCha20Poly1305 encryption w/ this password; '-'
                         reads from stdin
  --decrypt ENCRYPT
  --enumerated
                         Include an enumeration in each record output (required
                         for --encrypt)
  --no-enumerate
                         Disable enumeration of output records
  --receive
                         Receive a stream of slip.generator output
                         Corrupt a percentage of output symbols
Once you have a secret seed (eg. from slip39.recovery), you can generate a sequence of HD wallet addresses from it. Emits rows in the form:
```

```
<enumeration> [<address group(s)>]
```

If the output is to be transmitted by an insecure channel (eg. a serial port), which may insert errors or allow leakage, it is recommended that the records be encrypted with a cryptographic function that includes a message authentication code. We use ChaCha20Poly1305 with a password and a random nonce generated at program start time. This nonce is incremented for each record output.

Since the receiver requires the nonce to decrypt, and we do not want to separately transmit the nonce and supply it to the receiver, the first record emitted when --encrypt is specified is the random nonce, encrypted with the password, itself with a known nonce of all 0 bytes. The plaintext data is random, while the nonce is not, but since this construction is only used once, it should be satisfactory. This first nonce record is transmitted with an enumeration prefix of "nonce".

#### 2.5.2 Producing Addresses

Addresses can be produced in plaintext or encrypted, and output to stdout or to a serial port.

Here's an example of recovering a test BIP-39 seed; note that it yields the well-known ETH 0xfc20...1B5E and BTC bc1qk0...gnn2 accounts associated with this test Mnemonic:

We can encrypt the output, to secure the sequence (and due to integrated MACs, ensures no errors occur over an insecure channel like a serial cable):

nonce: 4d86e237f8e48c444293f77daa65dac6c343473d89e9aec079e50eba

- $1:\ 1a5cc86e691c7531b90c3bf6f611edc9e4d0a67b995b0ab1e7235cb4053d8ad5e6a826f1465347be7e4767fd934a98443e516ed4d16e50a0b6f771c38abbereauther. \\$
- 2: 2a47075009261a7ea13900a919d0c0861ff58d02a1bec0b38e5a8b002cc5a15573c8f1f65558c8b2c018d79de3cd0da87f30b2280b70aa2b9b4305e9

On the receiving computer, we can decrypt and recover the stream of accounts from the wallet seed; any rows with errors are ignored:

## 2.6 The slip39 module API

Provide SLIP-39 Mnemonic set creation from a 128-bit master secret, and recovery of the secret from a subset of the provided Mnemonic set.

#### **2.6.1** slip39.create

Creates a set of SLIP-39 groups and their mnemonics.

```
Description
 Key
                       Who/what the account is for
 name
                       How many groups' data is required to recover the account
(s) \,
 group threshold
                       Each group's description, as \{"<\!\operatorname{group}>":(<\!\operatorname{required}>,<\!\operatorname{members}>),\,\dots\}
 groups
                       128-bit secret (default: from secrets.token_bytes)
 master secret
                       An optional additional passphrase required to recover secret (default: "")
 passphrase
                       For encrypted secret, exponentially increase PBKDF2 rounds (default: 1)
 iteration exponent
 cryptopaths
                       A number of crypto names, and their derivation paths ]
                       Desired master_secret strength, in bits (default: 128)
 strength
Outputs a slip39.Details namedtuple containing:
                    Description
 Key
 name
                     (same)
 group\_threshold
                     (same)
 groups
                    Like groups, w/ <members> = ["<mnemonics>", ...]
 accounts
                     Resultant list of groups of accounts
This is immediately usable to pass to slip39.output.
import codecs
import random
#
# NOTE:
# We turn off randomness here during SLIP-39 generation to get deterministic phrases;
# during normal operation, secure entropy is used during mnemonic generation, yielding
# random phrases, even when the same seed is used multiple times.
import shamir_mnemonic
shamir_mnemonic.shamir.RANDOM_BYTES = lambda n: b'\00' * n
import slip39
                     = [("ETH", "m/44'/60'/0'/0/-2"), ("BTC", "m/44'/0'/0'/0/-2")]
cryptopaths
master_secret
                     = b'\xFF' * 16
                     = b""
passphrase
create_details
                     = slip39.create(
    "Test", 2, { "Mine": (1,1), "Fam": (2,3) },
    master_secret=master_secret, passphrase=passphrase, cryptopaths=cryptopaths )
Γ
    [
        f''(g_name)((g_of)/(len(g_mnems))) #(g_n+1):" if l_n == 0 else ""
    ] + words
    for g_name,(g_of,g_mnems) in create_details.groups.items()
    for g_n,mnem in enumerate( g_mnems )
    for 1_n,(line,words) in enumerate(slip39.organize_mnemonic(
             mnem, label=f"\{g_name\}(\{g_of\}/\{len(g_mnems)\}) \#\{g_n+1\}:"))
]
```

```
3
 Mine(1/1) \#1:
                   1 academic
                                                15 standard
                                 8 safari
                   2 acid
                                 9 drug
                                                16 angry
                   3 acrobat
                                 10 browser
                                                17 similar
                                 11 trash
                   4 easy
                                                18 aspect
                   5 change
                                 12 fridge
                                                19 smug
                                                20 violence
                   6 injury
                                 13 busy
                   7 painting
                                 14 finger
 Fam(2/3) #1:
                   1 academic
                                 8 prevent
                                                15 dwarf
                   2 acid
                                 9 mouse
                                                16 \, dream
                   3 beard
                                 10 daughter
                                                17 flavor
                   4 echo
                                                18 oral
                                 11 ancient
                   5 crystal
                                 12 fortune
                                                19 chest
                                 13 ruin
                   6 machine
                                                20 marathon
                   7 bolt
                                 14 warmth
 Fam(2/3) #2:
                   1 academic
                                 8 \text{ prune}
                                                15 briefing
                   2 acid
                                 9 pickup
                                                16 often
                   3 beard
                                 10 device
                                                17 escape
                   4 email
                                 11 device
                                                18 sprinkle
                   5 dive
                                 12 peanut
                                                19 segment
                   6 \text{ warn}
                                 13 enemy
                                                20 devote
                   7 ranked
                                 14 graduate
 Fam(2/3) #3:
                   1 academic
                                 8 dining
                                                15 intimate
                                                16 satoshi
                   2 acid
                                 9 invasion
                   3 beard
                                 10 bumpy
                                                17~\mathrm{hobo}
                                 11 identify
                   4 entrance
                                                18 ounce
                   5 \, \, alarm
                                 12 anxiety
                                                19 both
                   6 health
                                 13 august
                                                20 award
                   7 discuss
                                 14 sunlight
Add the resultant HD Wallet addresses:
    [ account.path, account.address ]
    for group in create_details.accounts
    for account in group
1
 0
                      0x824b174803e688dE39aF5B3D7Cd39bE6515A19a1\\
 m/44'/60'/0'/0/0
 m/44'/0'/0'/0/0
                        bc1qm5ua96hx30snwrwsfnv97q96h53l86ded7wmjl\\
 m/44'/60'/0'/0/1
                        0x8D342083549C635C0494d3c77567860ee7456963
 m/44'/0'/0'/0/1
                          bc1qwz6v9z49z8mk5ughj7r78hjsp45jsxgzh29lnh\\
 m/44'/60'/0'/0/2
                      0x52787E24965E1aBd691df77827A3CfA90f0166AA
 m/44'/0'/0'/0/2
                        bc1q690m430qu29auye farw frv fumncunvyw 6v53n9\\
```

### 2.6.2 slip39.produce\_pdf

Key	Description
name	(same as slip39.create)
group_threshold	(same as slip39.create)
groups	Like groups, $w/$ <members> = ["<mnemonics>",]</mnemonics></members>
accounts	Resultant { "path": Account,}
card_format	'index', '( $\langle h \rangle$ , $\langle w \rangle$ ), $\langle margin \rangle$ ',
paper_format	'Letter',

Layout and produce a PDF containing all the SLIP-39 details on cards for the crypto accounts, on the paper\_format provided. Returns the paper (orientation,format) used, the FPDF, and passes through the supplied cryptocurrency accounts derived.

```
        0
        1

        Orientation:
        landscape

        Paper:
        Letter

        PDF Pages:
        1

        PDF Size:
        12985
```

## 2.6.3 slip39.write\_pdfs

Key	Description
names	A sequence of Seed names, or a dict of { name: <details> } (from slip39.create)</details>
master_secret	A Seed secret (only appropriate if exactly one name supplied)
passphrase	A SLIP-39 passphrase (not Trezor compatible; use "hidden wallet" phrase on device instead)
group	A dict of {" <group>":(<required>, <members>),}</members></required></group>
group_threshold	How many groups are required to recover the Seed
cryptocurrency	A sequence of [ " <crypto>", "<crypto>:<derivation>", ] w/ optional ranges</derivation></crypto></crypto>
edit	Derivation range(s) for each cryptocurrency, eg. "/0-4/-9" is 9 accounts first 5 change addresses
$\operatorname{card}_{\operatorname{format}}$	Card size (eg. "credit"); False specifies no SLIP-39 cards (ie. only BIP-39 or JSON paper wallets)
paper_format	Paper size (eg. "letter")
filename	A filename; may contain " {name}" formatting, for name, date, time, crypto path and address
filepath	A file path, if PDF output to file is desired; empty implies current dir.
printer	A printer name (or True for default), if output to printer is desired
$json\_pwd$	If password supplied, encrypted Ethereum JSON wallet files will be saved, and produced into PDF
text	If True, outputs SLIP-39 phrases to stdout
$wallet_pwd$	If password supplied, produces encrypted BIP-38 or JSON Paper Wallets to PDF (preferred vs. json_pwd)
wallet_pwd_hint	An optional passphrase hint, printed on paper wallet
$wallet\_format$	Paper wallet size, (eg. "third"); the default is 1/3 letter size

For each of the names provided, produces a separate PDF containing all the SLIP-39 details and optionally encrypted BIP-38 paper wallets and Ethereum JSON wallets for the specified cryptocurrency accounts derived from the seed, and writes the PDF and JSON wallets to the specified file name(s).

```
slip39.write_pdfs( ... )
```

#### 2.6.4 slip39.recover

Takes a number of SLIP-39 mnemonics, and if sufficient group\_threshold groups' mnemonics are present (and the options passphrase is supplied), the master\_secret is recovered. This can be used with slip39.accounts to directly obtain any Account data.

Note that the passphrase is **not** checked; entering a different passphrase for the same set of mnemonics will recover a **different** wallet! This is by design; it allows the holder of the SLIP-39 mnemonic phrases to recover a "decoy" wallet by supplying a specific passphrase, while protecting the "primary" wallet.

Therefore, it is **essential** to remember any non-default (empty) passphrase used, separately and securely. Take great care in deciding if you wish to use a passphrase with your SLIP-39 wallet!

Key Description

```
["<mnemonics>", ...]
 mnemonics
 passphrase
              Optional passphrase to decrypt secret
                    = slip39.recover(
recoverydecoy
    create_details.groups['Mine'][1][:] + create_details.groups['Fam'][1][:2],
    passphrase=b"wrong!"
                    = codecs.encode( recoverydecoy, 'hex_codec' ).decode( 'ascii')
recoverydecoyhex
recoveryvalid
                   = slip39.recover(
    create_details.groups['Mine'][1][:] + create_details.groups['Fam'][1][:2],
    passphrase=passphrase
recoveryvalidhex
                    = codecs.encode( recoveryvalid, 'hex_codec' ).decode( 'ascii')
[[f"{len(recoverydecoy)*8}-bit secret w/ decoy password recovered:"]] + [
 [ f"{recoverydecoyhex[b*32:b*32+32]}" ]
   for b in range( len( recoverydecoyhex ) // 32 )
] + [[ f"{len(recoveryvalid)*8}-bit secret recovered:" ]] + [
 [ f"{recoveryvalidhex[b*32:b*32+32]}" ]
    for b in range( len( recoveryvalidhex ) // 32 )
٦
```

```
0
128-bit secret w/ decoy password recovered:
2e522cea2b566840495c220cf79c756e
128-bit secret recovered:
```

## 3 Conversion from BIP-39 to SLIP-39

If we already have a BIP-39 wallet, it would certainly be nice to be able to create nice, safe SLIP-39 mnemonics for it, and discard the unsafe BIP-39 mnemonics we have lying around, just waiting to be accidentally discovered and the account compromised!

# 3.1 BIP-39 vs. SLIP-39 Incompatibility

Unfortunately, it is **not possible** to cleanly convert a BIP-39 derived wallet into a SLIP-39 wallet. Both of these techniques preserve "entropy" (random) bits, but these bits are used **differently** – and incompatibly – to derive the resultant Ethereum wallets.

The best we can do is to preserve the 512-bit output of the BIP-39 mnemonic phrase as a set of 512-bit SLIP-39 mnemonics.

#### 3.1.1 BIP-39 Entropy to Mnemonic

BIP-39 uses a single set of 12, 15, 18, 21 or 24 BIP-39 words to carefully preserve a specific 128 to 256 bits of initial entropy. Here's a 128-bit (12-word) example using some fixed "entropy" 0xFFFF..FFFF:

```
from mnemonic import Mnemonic
bip39_english = Mnemonic("english")
entropy = b'\xFF' * 16
entropy_mnemonic = bip39_english.to_mnemonic(entropy)
[
   [ entropy_mnemonic ]
]
```

Each word is one of a corpus of 2048 words; therefore, each word encodes 11 bits (2048 = 2\*\*11) of entropy. So, we provided 128 bits, but 12\*11 = 132. So where does the extra 4 bits of data come from?

It comes from the first few bits of a SHA256 hash of the entropy, which is added to the end of the supplied 128 bits, to reach the required 132 bits: 132 / 11 == 12 words.

This last 4 bits (up to 8 bits, for a 256-bit 24-word BIP-39) is checked, when validating the BIP-39 mnemonic. Therefore, making up a random BIP-39 mnemonic will succeed only 1/16 times on average, due to an incorrect checksum 4-bit ( $16 = 2^{**4}$ ). Lets check:

Sure enough, about 1/16 random 12-word phrases are valid BIP-39 mnemonics. OK, we've got the contents of the BIP-39 phrase dialed in. How is it used to generate accounts?

#### 3.1.2 BIP-39 Mnemonic to Seed

Unfortunately, we do **not** use the carefully preserved 128-bit entropy to generate the wallet! Nope, it is stretched to a 512-bit seed using PBKDF2 HMAC SHA512. The normalized **text** (not the entropy bytes) of the 12-word mnemonic is then used (with a salt of "mnemonic" plus an optional passphrase, "" by default), to obtain the seed:

#### 3.1.3 BIP-39 Seed to Address

Finally, this 512-bit seed is used to derive HD wallet(s). The HD Wallet key derivation process consumes whatever seed entropy is provided (512 bits in the case of BIP-39), and uses HMAC SHA512 with a prefix of b"Bitcoin seed" to stretch the supplied seed entropy to 64 bytes (512 bits). Then, the HD Wallet **path** segments are iterated through, permuting the first 32 bytes of this material as the key with the second 32 bytes of material as the chain node, until finally the 32-byte (256-bit) Ethereum account private key is produced. We then use this private key to compute the rest of the Ethereum account details, such as its public address.

```
path = "m/44'/60'/0'/0/0"
eth_hd = slip39.account( seed, 'ETH', path )
[
   [f"{len(eth_hd.key)*4}-bit derived key at path {path!r}:"]] + [
   [f"{eth_hd.key}"]] + [
   [f"Ethereum address: {eth_hd.address}"]
]

   0
   256-bit derived key at path "m/44'/60'/0'/0/0":
   7af65ba4dd53f23495dcb04995e96f47c243217fc279f10795871b725cd009ae
   ... yields ...
   Ethereum address: 0xfc2077CA7F403cBECA41B1B0F62D91B5EA631B5E
```

Thus, we see that while the 12-word BIP-39 mnemonic careful preserves the original 128-bit entropy, this data is not directly used to derive the wallet private key and address. Also, since an irreversible hash is used to derive the seed from the mnemonic, we can't reverse the process on the seed to arrive back at the BIP-39 mnemonic phrase.

#### 3.1.4 SLIP-39 Entropy to Mnemonic

Just like BIP-39 carefully preserves the original 128-bit entropy bytes in a single 12-word mnemonic phrase, SLIP-39 preserves the original 128-bit entropy in a *set* of 30-word mnemonic phrases.

16

0	1	2	3
Mine(1/1) #1:	1 academic	8 safari	15 standard
	2 acid	9 drug	16 angry
;	3 acrobat	10 browser	17 similar
4	4 easy	11 trash	18 aspect
	5 change	12 fridge	19 smug
(	6 injury	13 busy	20 violence
,	7 painting	14 finger	
Fam(2/3) #1:	1 academic	8 prevent	15 dwarf
-	2 acid	9 mouse	16 dream
;	3 beard	10 daughter	17 flavor
4	4 echo	11 ancient	18 oral
	5 crystal	12 fortune	19 chest
(	6 machine	13 ruin	20 marathon
,	7 bolt	14 warmth	
Fam(2/3) #2:	1 academic	8 prune	15 briefing
	2 acid	9 pickup	16 often
;	3 beard	10 device	17 escape
4	4 email	11 device	18 sprinkle
į.	5 dive	12 peanut	19 segment
(	6 warn	13 enemy	20 devote
,	7 ranked	14 graduate	
Fam(2/3) #3:	1 academic	8 dining	15 intimate
5	2 acid	9 invasion	16 satoshi
;	3 beard	10 bumpy	17 hobo
4	4 entrance	11 identify	18 ounce
į.	5 alarm	12 anxiety	19 both
	6 health	13 august	20 award
	7 discuss	14 sunlight	

Since there is some randomness used in the SLIP-39 mnemonics generation process, we would get a **different** set of words each time for the fixed "entropy" <code>0xFFFF..FF</code> used in this example (if we hadn't manually disabled entropy for <code>shamir\_mnemonic</code>, above), but we will <code>always</code> derive the same Ethereum account <code>0x824b..19a1</code> at the specified HD Wallet derivation path.

```
[ "Crypto", "HD Wallet Path:", "Ethereum Address:" ]
] + [
 [ account.crypto, account.path, account.address ]
for group in create_details.accounts
for account in group
]
 Crypto
          HD Wallet Path:
                                                         Ethereum Address:
 ETH
          m/44'/60'/0'/0/0
                            0x824b174803e688dE39aF5B3D7Cd39bE6515A19a1
 BTC
          m/44'/0'/0'/0/0
                               bc1qm5ua96hx30snwrwsfnv97q96h53l86ded7wmjl\\
 ETH
          m/44'/60'/0'/0/1
                              0x8D342083549C635C0494d3c77567860ee7456963
 BTC
          m/44'/0'/0'/0/1
                                bc1qwz6v9z49z8mk5ughj7r78hjsp45jsxgzh29lnh
          m/44'/60'/0'/0/2
 ETH
                             0x52787E24965E1aBd691df77827A3CfA90f0166AA\\
 BTC
          m/44'/0'/0'/0/2
                              bc1q690m430qu29auyefarwfrvfumncunvyw6v53n9\\
```

#### 3.1.5 SLIP-39 Mnemonic to Seed

Lets prove that we can actually recover the **original** entropy from the SLIP-39 recovery mnemonics; in this case, we've specified a SLIP-39 group\_threshold of 2 groups, so we'll use 1 mnemonic from Mine, and 2 from Fam:

```
_,mnem_mine
                    = grps['Mine']
_,mnem_fam
                    = grps['Fam']
                    = slip39.recover( mnem_mine + mnem_fam[:2] )
recseed
recseedhex
                    = codecs.encode( recseed, 'hex_codec' ).decode( 'ascii')
Γ
 [ f"{len(recseed)*8}-bit seed:" ]
] + [
 [ f"{recseedhex[b*32:b*32+32]}" ]
    for b in range( len( recseedhex ) // 32 )
٦
 0
 128-bit seed:
 THEFTHEFITTE
```

#### 3.1.6 SLIP-39 Seed to Address

And we'll use the same style of code as for the BIP-39 example above, to derive the Ethereum address **directly** from this recovered 128-bit seed:

```
receth = slip39.account( recseed, 'ETH', path )
[
   [ f"{len(receth.key)*4}-bit derived key at path {path!r}:" ]] + [
   [ f"{receth.key}" ]] + [
   [ "... yields ..." ]] + [
   [ f"Ethereum address: {receth.address}" ]
]

   0
   256-bit derived key at path "m/44'/60'/0'/0/0":
   6a2ec39aab88ec0937b79c8af6aaf2fd3c909e9a56c3ddd32ab5354a06a21a2b
   ... yields ...
   Ethereum address: 0x824b174803e688dE39aF5B3D7Cd39bE6515A19a1
```

And we see that we obtain the same Ethereum address <code>0x824b..1a2b</code> as we originally got from <code>slip39.create</code> above. However, this is **not** the Ethereum wallet address obtained from BIP-39 with exactly the same <code>0xFFFF...FF</code> entropy, which was <code>0xfc20..1B5E</code>. This is due to the fact that BIP-39 does not use the recovered entropy to produce the seed like SLIP-39 does, but applies additional one-way hashing of the mnemonic to produce the seed.

## 3.2 BIP-39 vs SLIP-39 Key Derivation Summary

At no time in BIP-39 account derivation is the original 128-bit mnemonic entropy used directly in the derivation of the wallet key. This differs from SLIP-39, which directly uses the 128-bit mnemonic entropy recovered from the SLIP-39 Shamir's Secret Sharing System recovery process to generate each HD Wallet account's private key.

Furthermore, there is no point in the BIP-39 entropy to account generation where we **could** introduce a known 128-bit seed and produce a known Ethereum wallet from it, other than as the very beginning.

## 3.2.1 BIP-39 Backup via SLIP-39

There is one approach which can preserve an original BIP-39 wallet address, using SLIP-39 mnemonics.

It is clumsy, as it preserves the BIP-39 **output** 512-bit stretched seed, and the resultant 59-word SLIP-39 mnemonics cannot be used (at present) with the Trezor hardware wallet. They can, however, be used to recover the HD wallet private keys without access to the original BIP-39 mnemonic phrase – you could generate and distribute a set of more secure SLIP-39 mnemonic phrases, instead of trying to secure the original BIP-39 mnemonic.

We'll use slip39.recovery --bip39 ... to recover the 512-bit stretched seed from BIP-39:

 $2022-03-10\ 14:51:17\ \mathtt{slip}39.\mathtt{recovery}\ \mathtt{Recovered}\ 512-\mathtt{bit}\ \mathtt{BIP-39}\ \mathtt{secret}\ \mathtt{from}\ \mathtt{english}\ \mathtt{mnemonic}$ 

Then we can generate a 59-word SLIP-39 mnemonic set from the 512-bit secret:

2022-03-10 14:51:17 slip39.layout ETH m/44'/60'/0'/0' : 0xfc2077CA7F403cBECA41B1B0F62D91B5EA631B5E 2022-03-10 14:51:17 slip39.layout BTC m/84'/0'/0'/0' : bc1qk0a9hr7wjfxeenz9nwenw9flhq0tmsf6vsgnn2

This Oxfc20..1B5E address is the same Ethereum address as is recovered on a Trezor using this BIP-39 mnemonic phrase.

# 4 Building & Installing

The python-slip39 project is tested under both homebrew:

```
$ brew install python-tk@3.9
```

and using the official python.org/downloads installer.

Either of these methods will get you a python3 executable running version 3.9+, usable for running the slip39 module, and the slip39.gui GUI.

## 4.1 The slip39 Module

To build the wheel and install slip39 manually:

```
$ git clone git@github.com:pjkundert/python-slip39.git
$ make -C python-slip39 install
```

To install from Pypi, including the optional requirements to run the PySimpleGUI/tkinter GUI, support serial I/O, and to support creating encrypted BIP-38 and Ethereum JSON Paper Wallets:

```
$ python3 -m pip install slip39[gui,paper,serial]
```

## 4.2 The slip39 GUI

To install from Pypi, including the optional requirements to run the PySimpleGUI/tkinter GUI:

```
$ python3 -m pip install slip39[gui]
```

Then, there are several ways to run the GUI:

```
$ python3 -m slip39.gui  # Execute the python slip39.gui module main method
$ slip39-gui  # Run the main function provided by the slip39.gui module
```

#### 4.2.1 The macOS/win32 SLIP-39.app GUI

You can build the native macOS and win32 SLIP-39.app App.

This requires the official python.org/downloads installer; the homebrew python-tk@3.9 will not work for building the native app using either PyInstaller. (The py2app approach doesn't work in either version of Python).

```
$ git clone git@github.com:pjkundert/python-slip39.git
$ make -C python-slip39 app
```

#### 4.2.2 The Windows 10 SLIP-39 GUI

Install Python from https://python.org/downloads, and the Microsoft C++ Build Tools via the Visual Studio Installer (required for installing some slip39 package dependencies).

To run the GUI, just install slip39 package from Pypi using pip, including the gui and wallet options. Building the Windows SLIP-39 executable GUI application requires the dev option.

```
PS C:\Users\IEUser> pip install slip39[gui,wallet,dev]
```

To work with the python-slip39 Git repo on Github, you'll also need to install Git from git-scm.com. Once installed, run "Git bash", and

```
$ ssh-keygen.exe -t ed25519
```

to create an id\_ed25519.pub SSH identity, and import it into your Git Settings SSH keys. Then,

```
$ mkdir src
$ cd src
$ git clone git@github.com:pjkundert/python-slip39.git
```

## 1. Code Signing

The MMC (Microsoft Management Console) is used to store your code-signing certificates. See stackoverflow.com for how to enable its Certificate management.

# 5 Dependencies

Internally, python-slip39 project uses Trezor's python-shamir-mnemonic to encode the seed data to SLIP-39 phrases, python-hdwallet to convert seeds to ETH, BTC, LTC and DOGE wallets, and the Ethereum project's eth-account to produce encrypted JSON wallets for specified Ethereum accounts.

## 5.1 The python-shamir-mnemonic API

To use it directly, obtain , and install it, or run python3 -m pip install shamir-mnemonic.

\$ shamir create custom --group-threshold 2 --group 1 1 --group 1 1 --group 2 5 --group 3 6

Using master secret: 87e39270d1d1976e9ade9cc15a084c62 Group 1 of 4 - 1 of 1 shares required: merit aluminum acrobat romp capacity leader gray dining thank rhyme escape genre havoc furl breathe class pitch location render Group 2 of 4 - 1 of 1 shares required: merit aluminum beard romp briefing email member flavor disaster exercise cinema subject perfect facility genius bike include say Group 3 of 4 - 2 of 5 shares required: merit aluminum ceramic roster already cinema knit cultural agency intimate result ivory makeup lobe jerky theory garlic ending s merit aluminum ceramic scared beam findings expand broken smear cleanup enlarge coding says destroy agency emperor hairy device merit aluminum ceramic shadow cover smith idle vintage mixture source dish squeeze stay wireless likely privacy impulse toxic mo merit aluminum ceramic sister duke relate elite ruler focus leader skin machine mild envelope wrote amazing justice morning voca merit aluminum ceramic smug buyer taxi amazing marathon treat clinic rainbow destroy unusual keyboard thumb story literary weapo Group 4 of 4 - 3 of 6 shares required: merit aluminum decision round bishop wrote belong anatomy spew hour index fishing lecture disease cage thank fantasy extra often merit aluminum decision scatter carpet spine ruin location forward priest cage security careful emerald screw adult jerky flame merit aluminum decision shaft arcade infant argue elevator imply obesity oral venture afraid slice raisin born nervous universe merit aluminum decision skin already fused tactics skunk work floral very gesture organize puny hunting voice python trial laws merit aluminum decision snake cage premium aide wealthy viral chemical pharmacy smoking inform work cubic ancestor clay genius i merit aluminum decision spider boundary lunar staff inside junior tendency sharp editor trouble legal visual tricycle auction go