



Hyperledger Sawtooth for Application Developers

Module 7: Course Conclusion

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Summary

In this course, you learned these important concepts for Sawtooth application development:

- Blockchain basics
- Features of the Hyperledger Sawtooth enterprise blockchain platform, including the separation of core-level and application-level functionality that allows an application's business logic to be handled by a client front-end and a transaction processor (the equivalent of a smart contract) that runs on the validator node
- How to design and create a distributed application for the Hyperledger Sawtooth enterprise blockchain platform
- A detailed walk-through of a basic application, Sawtooth Simple Supply, that demonstrated how to use the Sawtooth SDKs to create an application with a web front end, a transaction processor for the blockchain business logic, and a custom REST API for communication
- How to run the Sawtooth Simple Supply application and understand its log messages

Resources and References

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Learn about Sawtooth application development:

- [Sawtooth Application Developer's Guide](#)
- [Hyperledger Sawtooth - Introductory Tutorial](#): rahulr92's article on Wordpress
- [Understanding Hyperledger Sawtooth — Proof of Elapsed Time](#): Keenan Rilee's article on Medium.com

See example Sawtooth applications:

- [Sawtooth Supply Chain](#)
- [Sawtooth Marketplace](#):

Join the Sawtooth development community:

- [Hyperledger Sawtooth project page](#): Links to code, documentation, examples, and latest news
- [#sawtooth](#): Hyperledger Sawtooth channel for general discussions and questions
- [Hyperledger Sawtooth mailing list](#)



Application

Set of Sawtooth components that implement business logic and support functions. A Sawtooth application (also called a transaction family) includes a data model, a state schema, and the transaction operations for the application.

Batch

Group of related transactions. In Sawtooth, a batch is the atomic unit of state change for the blockchain. For a batch with multiple transactions, if one transaction fails, all transactions in that batch fail. (The application is responsible for handling failure appropriately.) See [Transactions and Batches](#) in the Sawtooth documentation.

Block

A set of transactions (state changes for the blockchain) that is cryptographically linked to the previous block on the blockchain.

Consensus

Method of reaching agreement between a group of *peers* (Sawtooth nodes) about the state of the blockchain, also called *global state*. Sawtooth supports the following consensus types:

- PoET-SGX: Sawtooth Proof of Elapsed (PoET) time consensus using secure instruction execution with Intel® SGX
- PoET simulator: Provides PoET-style consensus on any type of hardware, including a virtualized cloud environment.
- Dev mode: Simplified random-leader algorithm that is useful for development and testing on a single Sawtooth node.

Distributed ledger

Another term for blockchain. A Sawtooth distributed ledger records transactions, in chronological order, that are shared by all participants in a Sawtooth network. Each block on the ledger is linked by a cryptographic hash to the previous block.

Glossary (continued)

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Event Subscriber

Optional application component that handles Sawtooth events (block commit and state delta information) and optional application-defined events.

Genesis block

First block on the blockchain. The genesis block contains configuration settings and initial values for the Sawtooth network.

Global state

Shared agreement on the state of the blockchain, according to the chosen *consensus* method. Note that each validator has its own instance of the state database, which is represented as a Merkle-Radix tree. For more information, see [Global State](#) in the Sawtooth documentation.

Off-chain

Term used for information that is stored by an application rather than on the blockchain.

On-chain

Term used to refer to data that is stored on the blockchain, such as configuration settings.

Peer

Participant in a Sawtooth network; also called a *Sawtooth node* or *validator node*. Each peer runs a validator and the same set of transaction processors.



Glossary (continued)

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PoET

Sawtooth consensus algorithm that uses Proof of Elapsed Time (PoET) to agree on which participant should commit a block of transactions to the blockchain. PoET is a Nakamoto-style consensus algorithm that is designed to support large networks. It relies on secure instruction execution to achieve Nakamoto-style scaling benefits without the power consumption drawbacks of Proof of Work (PoW) consensus. Sawtooth includes two versions of PoET consensus: PoET-SGX and PoET simulator. For more information, see [the Sawtooth documentation](#).

Reporting database

Sawtooth application component that stores event data (state changes) that is gathered by an *event subscriber*.

REST API

In Sawtooth, a component that adapts communication between a client and the validator using HTTP/JSON. Sawtooth includes a REST API that is used by clients such as the Sawtooth CLI commands. Developers can use this REST API or develop custom APIs for client-validator communication.

Sawtooth core

Central Sawtooth software that is responsible for block validation and publishing, consensus, and global state management. The Sawtooth architecture separates these core functions from application-specific business logic, which is handled by Sawtooth applications (also called *transaction families*).

SGX

Intel® Software Guard Extensions. “An Intel® architecture extension designed to increase the security of application code and data.” -- <https://software.intel.com/en-us/sgx-sdk>.

State delta

Event data that contains information about changes to the blockchain state.



Glossary (continued)

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Transaction family

Another term for a Sawtooth application. A transaction family includes the design for the application's data model, state schema, and business logic, as well as the client and transaction processor. See [Transaction Family Specifications](#) in the Sawtooth documentation.

Transaction processor

Hyperledger Sawtooth component that implements the business logic for a Sawtooth application. The transaction processor validates transactions and updates state based on the rules defined by the application.

Validator

Hyperledger Sawtooth component that is responsible for validating batches of transactions, combining them into blocks, maintaining consensus with the Sawtooth network, and coordinating communication between clients, transaction processors, and other validator nodes.

