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Visual Formulation of Smart Contracts on Blockchains

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Abstract

This project focuses on making it easy for both developers and non-developers to develop smart contracts for solidity on the Ethereum blockchain. Our tool, the Smart Contract Builder, visually represents and simplifies the concepts in blockchain, which is still in its infancy. Graphical objects and diagrams are used to represent code and logic, which will allow quicker prototyping of smart contracts. The Smart Contract Builder also allows easy deployment of smart contract code on to the blockchain with the click of a button. We also examine the performance and gas usage of a smart contract built using this tool and compare it to an example smart contract. This document summarises all design issues, challenges faced and the steps taken to complete the project.

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1. Introduction

1.1 Background

A blockchain is an open-source distributed database using state-of-the-art cryptography that aims to facilitate collaboration and tracking of all kinds of transactions and interactions. Ever since its conceptualisation in 2008, many organisations have been undertaking heavy research in order to unlock its potential. Despite the many performance related concerns that it has, it is widely viewed as an important part of the future of commercial transactions.

Blockchain was initially invented by a person going by the pseudonym Satoshi Nakamoto in 2008. The invention of blockchain for bitcoin made it the first digital currency to solve the double spending problem without needing central servers. [1] When entrepreneurs understood the power of blockchain, there was a surge of investment and discovery to see how blockchain could impact supply chains, healthcare, insurance, transportation, voting, contract management and more. Nearly 15% of financial institutions are currently using blockchain technology. In 2013, Vitalik Buterin, who was an initial contributor to the Bitcoin codebase, became frustrated with its programming limitations and pushed for a malleable blockchain. Met with resistance from the Bitcoin community, Buterin set out to build the second public blockchain called Ethereum. The largest difference between the two is that Ethereum can record other assets such as loans or contracts, not just currency. Because blockchain technology is still in its infancy, there are many different implementations, and the technology is still evolving rapidly. As a result, blockchain technology is still a very niche field that is intimidating to developers and non-developers alike. In order to simplify development on existing blockchains, we propose an application called Smart Contract Builder.

A smart contract is computer code that verifies and ensures that the terms of a contract are carried out to the satisfaction of all parties. The Smart Contract Builder application targets the Ethereum implementation of smart contracts, and uses the

Solidity language. We believe that this application will simplify and encourage development on the blockchain, even by non-developers.

1.2 Objectives and Scope

The objective of this project is to create a graphical user interface tool that makes it easy for both developers and non-developers to create and deploy smart contracts. As blockchain and smart contracts are still new concepts, most people will not be able to develop smart contracts effectively due to the steep learning curve and relatively small community. By abstracting the code layer from the user as much as possible, we believe that this tool will encourage users to build on the blockchain, which will also increase the enthusiasm and competence around this revolutionary technology.

The scope of the project will not only cover the understanding of how smart contracts work but also how to write smart contracts. Because this tool is only a prototype, we will only focus on one language. In the future, further work can be done to extend the implementation to other languages and other blockchains.

1.3 Existing Solutions

At the moment, there are no existing popular graphical user interface applications catering to new developers or non-developers. Command line tools such as Truffle exist to help developers create and deploy smart contracts. However, these are targeted at experienced developers who are comfortable with the command line. Furthermore, with these tools only aiding with the structure, deployment and testing of smart contract code, the user is still required to write a significant amount of code on their own. There are also tools such as MetaMask which allow users to interact with smart contracts and manage their wallets, but this does not conflict with the objective of our application. There are similar tools to the Smart Contract Builder for other fields such as Tableau for Big Data Visualisation and SAS for data science and business analytics. However, since Ethereum and blockchain in general are still very new, it is likely that much of open source effort will go into making blockchain more

viable and efficient rather than to make development accessible to non-technical users.

2. Development and Implementation

2.1 Software And Tools Used

2.1.1 React and Electron

In order to build Smart Contract Builder, Electron and React frameworks were chosen.

Electron is an increasingly popular framework due to its compatibility across platforms, and enables developers to create their user interfaces with HTML and JavaScript. Well known examples of other Electron applications include Slack, GitHub and Microsoft Visual Studio Code. [2]

React is a popular front-end framework developed by Facebook to allow for responsive web interfaces through the Virtual DOM. Well known examples of React users are: Facebook, Instagram, Netflix, Whatsapp, Salesforce, Uber, The New York Times, CNN, Dropbox, DailyMotion, IMDB, Venmo, and Reddit. [3]

Electron React Boilerplate was used to set up the initial packages for the project. It uses Electron, React, Redux, React Router, Webpack and React Hot Loader for rapid application development. [4]

2.1.2 Additional packages

In addition, the solc compiler, Ganache CLI and web3 packages are used. Solc, the Solidity compiler, is used to compile Solidity smart contract code into machine readable code. Ganache CLI is used to simulate full client blockchain behaviour to enable quicker prototyping of the application, and Web3 is used to interact with the blockchain in order to deploy the smart contract and call its functions. Ganache CLI runs on `http://localhost:8545` by default.

Material-UI, a React library that follows Google's material design, is also used to create a simple yet powerful graphical user interface.

The Storm React Diagrams library was also used to provide the drag and drop diagramming functionality needed by the Graphical User Interface. This library is relatively simple to use and includes important features such as serialization and deserialization of the diagrams, as well as extensibility of the nodes to enable custom features.

2.1.3 Remix IDE

Remix IDE allows compilation and testing of smart contracts through the browser. We use Remix IDE's static analysis tool to obtain the gas usage for smart contracts in order to compare their performance and efficiency in a fair manner.

2.1.4 Hardware

The application was built on a personal computer running 64 bit Linux Ubuntu 18.04, with 8GB of RAM and an Intel(R) Core(TM) i7-3770 CPU @ 3.40GHz processor. It has also been tested on a Windows machine with 8GB of RAM.

2.1.5 Dependencies

Appendix A shows the dependencies in the package.json of the project.

2.2 Project Schedule

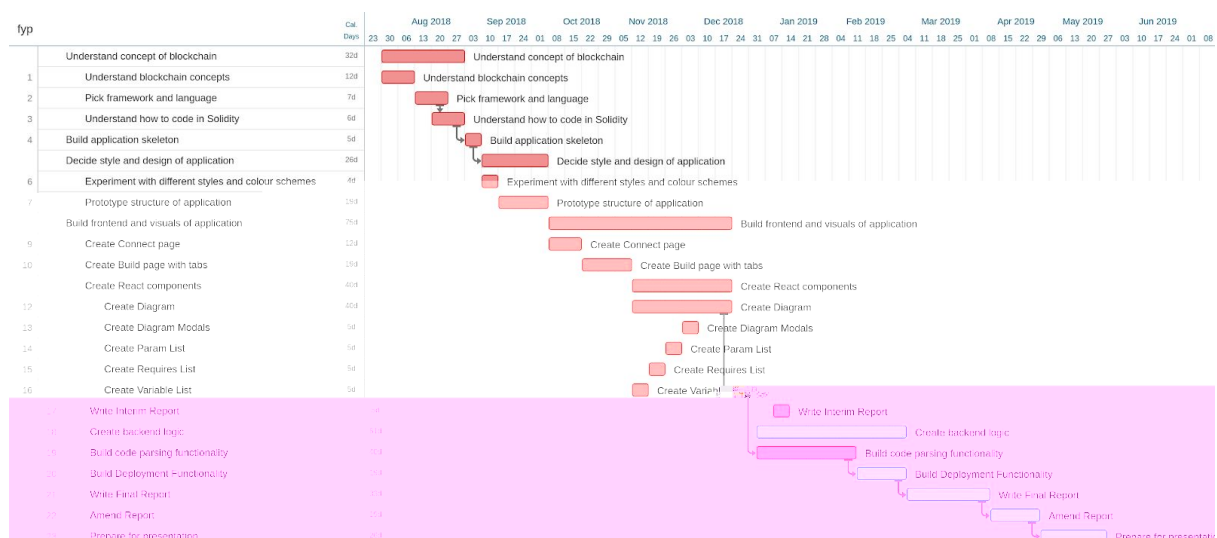


Figure 1.1: Project schedule

The work was planned in this manner to allow for rapid prototyping of the application. By quickly creating a rough skeleton of the application, we were able to iterate and improve on our designs. We built the frontend first as we felt that the main challenge of the project is making the app usable and attractive to use. Once the frontend was completed, we created the backend logic which includes the parser, code generation and code deployment. Once completed, we were able to test the contracts generated on Remix IDE and compare the results.

2.3 Implementation

In this section, a full account of how the project work was carried out is given.

2.3.1 Targeted Feature Scope

In order to prevent over cluttering and over complication of the user interface, we chose to only implement the basic functionality of Solidity contracts, as our target audience, consisting largely of non-developers or developers new to blockchain and Solidity, are not advanced users and are unlikely to require the overly advanced features of Solidity.

The following is a list of Solidity features or constructs that have been implemented and included in the Smart Contract Builder:

- Variable assignment
- Basic variable types (integer, string, address, boolean)
- Mapping variable type
- Logical if/else and while loop constructs
- Events
- Structs (known as “Entities” in the Smart Contract Builder)
- Require statements
- Transfer function

This list is not exhaustive but covers the core functionality of the Smart Contract Builder. The implementation of these features will be covered in the next section, Section 2.3.2.

The following list shows some Solidity features that will not be included in the Smart Contract Builder:

- Arrays
- Modifiers
- Enumerators
- Self Destruct
- Libraries

These are some features that we think will create too much complexity for the Smart Contract Builder and are replaceable with some of the features that we have implemented. For example, an array of strings can be modeled as a mapping of index to the strings and modifiers can be modelled as require statements. By not adding these features, we attempt to avoid creating unnecessary confusion and clutter for the user.

2.3.2 Design

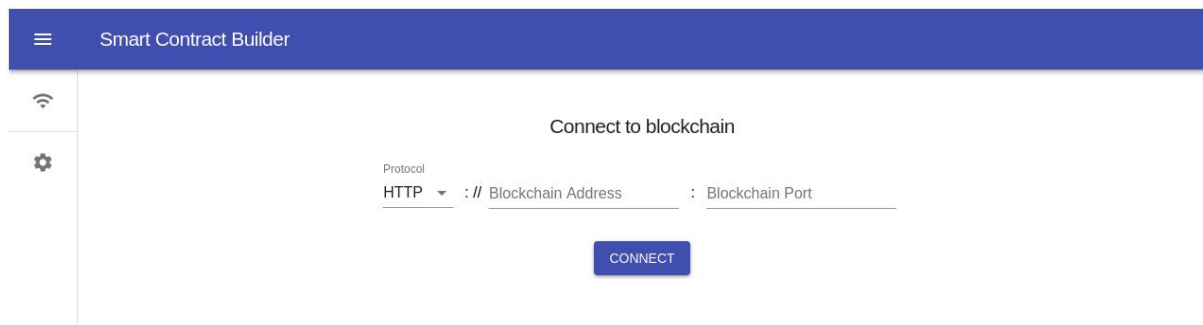
The design of the application was intended to be as simple and non-intimidating as possible. In the initial stages, we rapidly prototyped the application and tested different styles and appearances so as to find out which design would be the most appealing and least intimidating to the user. We settled on a white and blue colour scheme as the colour blue is associated with calmness while the colour white is associated with cleanliness and simplicity. [5]

The Smart Contract Builder has 3 main components that the user should take note of: the connection page, the Global State Tab and the Build Tabs. The Build page that contains the Global State Tab and the Build tabs will have a back button which returns the user to the connection page, as well as a build button, which generates the solidity smart contract code and deploys it.

The Smart Contract Builder also heavily uses tooltips to guide and help the user.

2.3.2.1 Connection Page

The smart contract builder's landing page is a connection screen. Users will enter the address and port of the blockchain in order to connect to it. For example, to connect to Ganache CLI, the address should be localhost and the port should be 8545, based on default Ganache CLI settings. Connecting to a valid blockchain will bring the user to the second page, the Build page, which contains the Global State Tab and the Build Tabs.

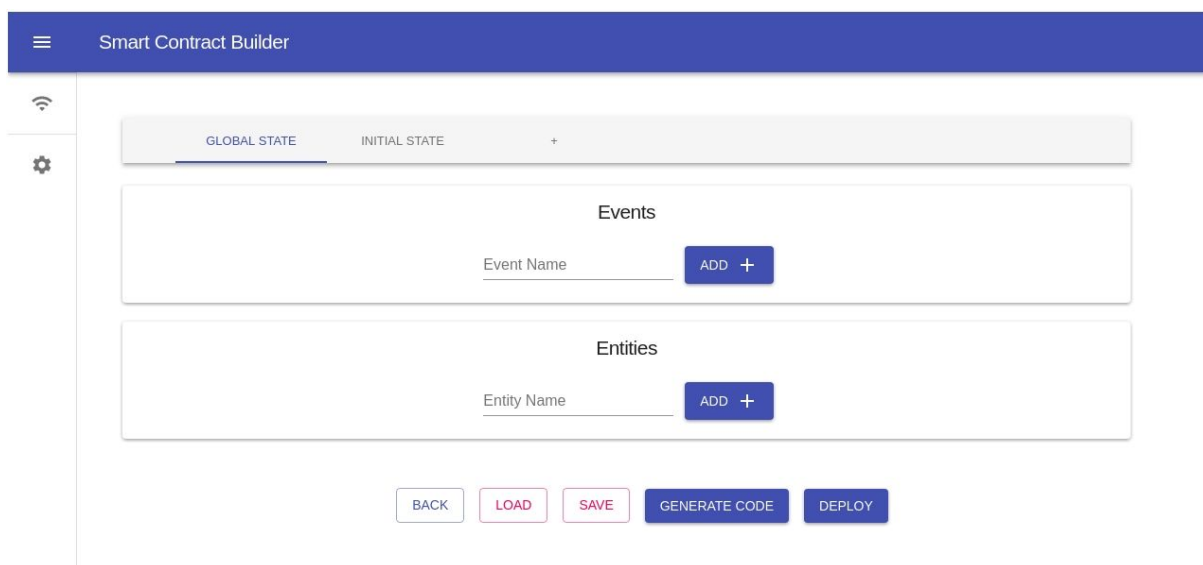


The screenshot shows the 'Smart Contract Builder' interface. On the left is a sidebar with a hamburger menu, a Wi-Fi icon, and a gear icon. The main area is titled 'Connect to blockchain'. It features a 'Protocol' dropdown menu set to 'HTTP', followed by input fields for 'Blockchain Address' and 'Blockchain Port'. A blue 'CONNECT' button is positioned below these fields.

Figure 2.1: Screenshot of Connection Page

2.3.2.2 Global State Tab

The Global State Tab represents details of the smart contract that are not tied to any functions, namely, events and constructor variable declarations.



The screenshot shows the 'Smart Contract Builder' interface with the 'GLOBAL STATE' tab selected. The sidebar on the left is identical to the previous screenshot. The main area has a tab bar with 'GLOBAL STATE' and 'INITIAL STATE'. Below the tabs are two sections: 'Events' and 'Entities'. Each section contains an input field for the name and an 'ADD +' button. At the bottom of the main area are five buttons: 'BACK', 'LOAD', 'SAVE', 'GENERATE CODE', and 'DEPLOY'.

Figure 2.2: Screenshot of Global State Tab

2.3.2.2.1 Events Box

Solidity events give an abstraction on top of the EVM's logging functionality. Applications can subscribe and listen to these events through the RPC interface of an Ethereum client.

Events are inheritable members of contracts. When you call them, they cause the arguments to be stored in the transaction's log - a special data structure in the blockchain. These logs are associated with the address of the contract, are incorporated into the blockchain, and stay there as long as a block is accessible. [6]

In the Smart Contract Builder, users add events by typing the event name and clicking the add button. The events appear above the box and the user can add and customise the event's parameters. These events can be emitted in the Build Tabs.

An elaboration of this will be covered in Section 2.3.2.3.3.

The screenshot displays the 'Smart Contract Builder' interface. At the top, a blue header bar contains a hamburger menu icon and the text 'Smart Contract Builder'. Below the header, a sidebar on the left features a Wi-Fi icon and a gear icon. The main content area is divided into two tabs: 'GLOBAL STATE' (selected) and 'INITIAL STATE'. Below the tabs, the 'Events' section is visible, containing a 'Deposit' event configuration box. This box has three input fields for 'Variable Name' and 'Variable Type': 'from' (Address), 'id' (String), and 'value' (Integer). A blue '+' button is located below these fields. Below the 'Deposit' box, there is an 'Event Name' input field and a blue 'ADD +' button. Below the 'Events' section, the 'Entities' section is visible, featuring an 'Entity Name' input field and a blue 'ADD +' button. At the bottom of the interface, there are five buttons: 'BACK', 'LOAD', 'SAVE', 'GENERATE CODE', and 'DEPLOY'.

Figure 2.3: Screenshot of an event

2.3.2.2.2 Entities Box

In the Smart Contract Builder, the concept of an entity is equivalent to a struct in Solidity or other languages like C. Entities encapsulate information into an object which allows cleaner and more logical code. Similar to events, entities are declared in the Global State Tab so that they can be used later in the diagrams in the Build Tabs.

The screenshot shows the 'Smart Contract Builder' interface. At the top, there is a blue header bar with a menu icon and the text 'Smart Contract Builder'. Below the header, there is a sidebar with a Wi-Fi icon and a gear icon. The main content area has a tabbed interface with 'GLOBAL STATE' and 'INITIAL STATE' tabs. The 'GLOBAL STATE' tab is active. Inside this tab, there are two sections: 'Events' and 'Entities'. The 'Events' section has an input field for 'Event Name' and an 'ADD +' button. The 'Entities' section has a sub-section for a 'Car' entity. This sub-section contains three rows of variable definitions: 'price' with type 'Integer', 'brand' with type 'String', and 'seller' with type 'Address'. Each row has a 'Variable Name' label and a 'Variable Type' dropdown. Below these rows is a blue '+' button. At the bottom of the 'Entities' section, there is an input field for 'Entity Name' and an 'ADD +' button. At the very bottom of the interface, there are five buttons: 'BACK', 'LOAD', 'SAVE', 'GENERATE CODE', and 'DEPLOY'.

Figure 2.4: Screenshot of an entity

2.3.2.2.3 Constructor Parameters Box

The constructor parameters are obtained from the Initial State Tab, and will need to be filled on the Global State Tab. This gives the values for the smart contract to be initialised if the constructor has any parameters. If the constructor does not have any parameters, the constructor parameters field will be omitted. For example, for the constructor input box in the Initial State Tab in Figure 2.4, the Constructor Parameter box will appear as in Figure 2.5:

Function Inputs

Variable Name	Variable Type
<input type="text" value="Initial Value"/>	<input type="text" value="Integer"/> ▼
Variable Name	Variable Type
<input type="text" value="Seller Name"/>	<input type="text" value="String"/> ▼

Figure 2.5: Initial State Tab's example inputs

☰ Smart Contract Builder

📶
⚙️

GLOBAL STATE
INITIAL STATE
+

Events

Entities

Constructor Parameters

Figure 2.6: Global State Tab's Constructor Parameters Corresponding to Figure 2.4

2.3.2.3 Build Tabs

The Build Tabs represent the functions of the smart contract. Each function corresponds to one Build Tab, and the function name is the name of the Build Tab. The Initial State Tab represents the constructor function, while additional functions can be added by clicking on the plus sign and entering a non-duplicate name.

There are 3 boxes in a Build Tab: the function input box, the checking phase and the action phase.

The screenshot shows the 'Smart Contract Builder' interface. At the top, there's a blue header with a menu icon and the text 'Smart Contract Builder'. Below the header, on the left, are icons for a Wi-Fi signal and a settings gear. The main content area is divided into three tabs: 'GLOBAL STATE', 'INITIAL STATE', and 'PURCHASE'. The 'PURCHASE' tab is active. Below the tabs, there are three main sections: 1. 'Function Inputs': A box containing a 'Variable Name' input field, a 'Variable Type' dropdown menu currently set to 'Integer', and a blue '+' button to add more inputs. 2. 'Checking Phase': A box containing 'Variable 1' and 'Variable 2' input fields, a 'Comparator' dropdown menu set to 'is', and a 'Failure Message' input field. A blue '+' button is at the bottom. 3. 'Action Phase': A box containing a 'Nodes' sidebar on the left with buttons for 'Assignment Node', 'Event Node', 'Transfer Node', 'Return Node', and 'Conditional Node'. The main workspace is a dark grid with a blue 'Start' node placed on it.

Figure 2.7: Example “Purchase” Build Tab

2.3.2.3.1 Function Input Box

The function input box allows the user to specify function parameters for each function as well as their types. Clicking on the plus button will add a new row for the user to add another function parameter.

2.3.2.3.2 Checking Phase Box

The checking phase ensures the validity of inputs before a function is run. If the user specified conditions are not met, the transaction and blockchain will be reverted to before the function was run. The failure message will be displayed by the smart contract when the condition is not met.

2.3.2.3.3 Action Phase Box

The action phase represents the actual logic that will be translated into code, and is visualised as a drag and drop flow diagram. The user will choose a type of node that he wants to add to the diagram from the left panel, and drags and drops it on to the diagram. A modal will be opened to ask the user for more details and once the user fills in the modal and clicks the done button, the node will be added to the diagram.

The user will then connect the nodes in the logical order of execution.

The following table shows the modal for each type of node:

Node	Modal
Assignment Node	<div><div>New Assignment Node</div><div><div>Variable Name</div><div>Assigned Value</div></div><div><div>CANCEL ✕</div><div>DONE ✓</div></div></div>

Event Node

New Event Node

Event to emit

Deposit

Event Parameters

Value of from

Value of id

Value of value

CANCEL 

DONE 

Entity Node

New Entity Node

Entity Name

chosen car

Entity Type

Car

Event Parameters

Value of price

1000

Value of brand

"Mercedes"

Value of seller

message sender

CANCEL



DONE



Transfer Node

New Transfer Node

Transfer to

Value

CANCEL



DONE



Return Node	<div> <div>New Return Node</div> <div>Return Variable</div> <div> <div>CANCEL ✕</div> <div>DONE ✓</div> </div> </div>
Conditional Node	<div> <div>New Conditional Node</div> <div> <div>Variable 1</div> <div>Variable 2</div> </div> <div> <div>Comparator</div> <div>is</div> </div> <div> <div>CANCEL ✕</div> <div>DONE ✓</div> </div> </div>

Table 2.1: Modal appearance and options for all node types

Note that for the event and new entity type nodes, users will have to fill in different parameters depending on how the event or entity was defined in the Global State Tab. In Table 2.1, the example used follows the event shown in Figure 2.3.

All variable fields are free text. This is to allow the user more freedom in creating variables and not have to worry about declaring them, as the backend logic will handle this (more on the implementation of this in section 2.4). Our initial designs had the user declaring all variables that they wanted to use in the Global State Tab, but we decided to make it more intuitive and abstract the concept of variables from the user as much as possible.

2.3.3 Backend Logic

There are 2 main components responsible for the backend logic: the BuildParser class and the BuildOptions component. There also exists a saving and loading mechanism, allowing users to save their progress and continue from where they left off.

2.3.3.1 BuildParser

The BuildParser is responsible for parsing the diagrams and generating the code for each function. An instance of the BuildParser class is attached to each instance of the Action Phase diagram. A linkUpdated listener is attached to each diagram, and the BuildParser's parse method is called when a link is created between 2 nodes. The BuildParser keeps track of the code generated and the return type, which is needed in the function declaration. The BuildParser parses the diagram in 2 loops. The first loop looks for variables, infers their types and adds their names and types to a variable lookup table. It checks Assignment, New Entity and Transfer nodes in the first step as these nodes provide the most information about variable types. In the second loop, the BuildParser traverses each node recursively from the start node of the diagram, and visits each neighbour. At each node, it parses all variables involved in that node using the parseVariable method and generates the code for that node using the parseNode method. It uses the variable lookup table from the first loop that keeps track of all variables in the application and their types, allowing it to check for typing problems. If the node is a return type node, it will also update the return variable type in the function declaration.

When it encounters a conditional node, in which there are 2 connected neighbours for true and false condition, it will traverse each path separately and fill in the if else conditions. If there is a loop, as shown in Figure 2.8, it will detect a cycle in the diagram and append a while loop to the smart contract code instead of an if statement. Also, if it detects an intersection later in the diagram, it will exit the if else condition and resume normal single path traversal.

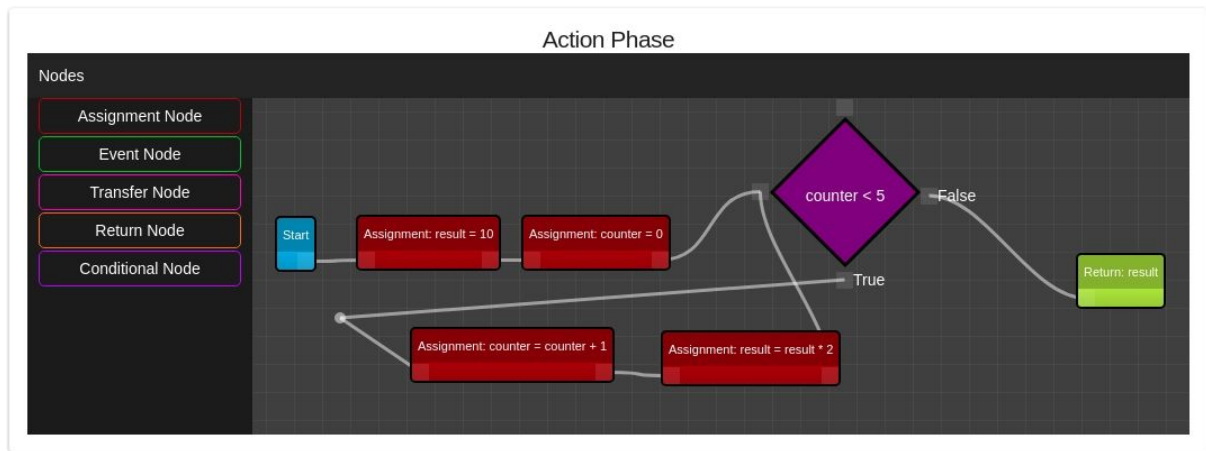


Figure 2.8: Example of while loop detected due to cycle

The initial algorithm used a single iteration to loop through the diagram, but unfortunately this led to many bugs as the algorithm needed more variable typing information about nodes that it had not visited yet. It also attempted to infer variable types and generate code for the same node at the same time, which led to more unexpected errors being thrown. Although the new algorithm is slower due to using 2 loops instead of 1, it is a more reliable parsing algorithm as it splits the two steps of inferring variable types and generating code.

Since the algorithm runs in 2 iterations for parsing variables and generating code and during each iteration it visits every node exactly once, the algorithm has a time complexity of $O(2n) = O(n)$ where n is the number of nodes in the diagram. Thus it runs in linear time to the number of nodes in the diagram that are connected to the start node.

2.3.3.2 BuildOptions

The BuildOptions React component is responsible for generating the code and deploying it to the blockchain. It is triggered when the user clicks on the Build button at the bottom of the Build page. It takes the details and code generated from the Initial State Tab and Build Tabs, and organises it to a syntactically correct Solidity smart contract. It then uses web3 to attempt to deploy this smart contract. If an error is raised, the user will be notified. If deployment is successful, the transaction hash

of the smart contract will be shown. This transaction hash can be used to check the status of the transaction on the blockchain.

2.3.3.2.1 Code Generation

Each solidity function can be broken down into segments, which correspond to each piece of information input by the user. Appendix B illustrates the structure of a typical solidity contract and its components.

By identifying the components of a smart contract, we are able to place the information given by the user at the correct points. This allows us to formulate a general formula for getting a smart contract.

When the generate code button is clicked, the file will be saved to a user-defined Solidity file in the saved_contracts directory. The saving mechanism is described later in Section 2.3.2.2.3.

2.3.3.2.2 Contract Compilation and Deployment

Because electron works by having a single backend main process and multiple renderer windows, the solc compilation must be done on the backend, as it is an operating system process. By using the ipcRenderer and ipcMain classes, we are able to send a request to the main thread to compile the solidity code into the machine readable application binary interface (ABI). The Contract Application Binary Interface (ABI) is the standard way to interact with contracts in the Ethereum ecosystem, both from outside the blockchain and for contract-to-contract interaction. [7] After compilation, web3 will be used to deploy the contract onto the blockchain.

2.3.3.2.3 Saving and Loading Mechanism

The Smart Contract Builder is able to save the current progress of the user and load it at a later time. This is achieved using Electron's readdir, readFile and writeFile functions in the filesystem module (fs). The files are stored in the saved_data directory. The readdir function reads all json files from the saved_data directory and keeps it in the state. When the save button is clicked, a popover appears prompting the user to input a name for the file. After the user enters a name, the entire state of the Build component, that stores and controls the state of the Initial State Tab and

the Build Tabs, will be stringified and dumped into a JSON file in the root of the application directory. When the load button is clicked, a popover appears for the user to select which JSON file to load. The JSON file will be read and parsed, and the state of the Build component will be reverted to the contents of the JSON file.

3. Evaluation of Results

3.1 Methodology of evaluation

We identify and use 2 key metrics for evaluating the usefulness of the Smart Contract Builder, flexibility and performance, which inform us on its usability and efficiency respectively.

We use 7 smart contracts that are available as examples on the official Solidity documentations [8] as reference material, so that we can implement them using the Smart Contract Builder and compare them. For convenience, they can be found in the Appendix (Appendices C to I).

To measure the flexibility of the application, we attempt to implement the reference contracts using the Smart Contract Builder. If the reference contract uses Solidity features that the Smart Contract Builder does not implement, we attempt to find a substitute for the feature using other currently implemented features. The flexibility of the application is the number of contracts that the Smart Contract Builder is able to fully implement.

To measure the performance and efficiency of the application, we will use the amount of gas consumed in the deployment and execution of the smart contracts. Gas is a unit that measures the amount of computational effort that it will take to execute certain operations. Every single operation that takes part in Ethereum, be it a simple transaction, or a smart contract, or even an ICO takes some amount of gas. Gas is what is used to calculate the amount of fees that need to be paid to the network in order to execute an operation. [9]

We model the reference contracts using the Smart Contract Builder to achieve the same functionality. We then ran both the original and generated smart contracts through Remix IDE, which is a powerful, open source tool that allows the writing of Solidity contracts straight from the browser. Remix provides the user with gas usage numbers, which we need to make a comparison. For all contracts, the default Javascript VM environment was used.

3.2 Results

3.2.1 Flexibility

In this section, we attempt to implement the 7 reference contracts using the Smart Contract Builder.

3.2.1.1 Voting

The voting contract can be fully implemented on the Smart Contract Builder. However, because we did not implement arrays functionality into the Smart Contract Builder, the proposals array, which contains Proposal structs, has to be replaced by a mapping of proposal name to vote counts. This is functionally the same as an array of Proposal objects. We also separated the constructor function so that it does not have an array argument, but instead the chairperson will have to call the addProposal function for each proposal that they would like to add instead. Figures 3.1 and 3.2 show the changes in the constructor functions.

```
/// Create a new ballot to choose one of `proposalNames`.
constructor(bytes32[] memory proposalNames) public {
    chairperson  hoosrp
```

```

        voteCount: 0
    }));
}
}

```

Figure 3.1: Initial Voting Constructor

```

/// Create a new ballot to choose one of `proposalNames`.
constructor() public {
    chairperson = msg.sender;
    voters[chairperson].weight = 1;
}

function addProposal(bytes32 proposalName) public {
    require(
        msg.sender == chairperson,
        "Only chairperson can add a new proposal."
    );
    proposals[proposalName] = 0;
}

```

Figure 3.2: Changed Voting Constructor with addProposal Function

The reasoning behind not implementing arrays into the Smart Contract Builder was that it would require an additional node type. Currently there are already 6 node types, and increasing the number of node types any further may confuse users. In most cases, it is also possible to replace arrays with mappings, as shown above. Therefore we chose to omit arrays from the Smart Contract Builder. Appendices J to O show the Build Tabs of the Smart Contract Builder for the Voting contract.

3.2.1.2 Open Auction

We were able to fully implement this contract using the Smart Contract Builder. Appendices P to T show the Build Tabs of the Smart Contract Builder for the Open Auction contract.

3.2.1.3 Blind Auction

The Blind Auction contract is an extension of the Open Auction contract. We were not able to implement the Blind Auction contract as it uses hashing and encoding functions in the reveal function, which we did not implement as we feel that those functions may be too complex for basic users.

3.2.1.4 Safe Remote Purchase

The contract was successfully implemented, but modifiers and enumerators were used in the contract, which we had to replace with repeated require statements and using integers to replace the enumerators. In this case, 0 represented the “Created” enum, 1 represented the “Locked” enum and 2 represented the “Inactive” enum. Appendices U to Y show the Build Tabs of the Smart Contract Builder for the Safe Remote Purchase contract.

3.2.1.5 Micropayments Receiver and Payment Channel

We were unable to implement these contracts as they heavily use self-destruct, hashing and encoding functions, and even writes assembly code directly. The self-destruct operation removes the smart contract code from the blockchain. The remaining Ether stored at that address is sent to a designated target and then the storage and code is removed from the state. It is unlikely that a basic user will require such functionality.

3.2.1.6 Modular Contracts

Libraries are similar to contracts, but their purpose is that they are deployed only once at a specific address and their code is reused. Libraries can be seen as implicit base contracts of the contracts that use them. They will not be explicitly visible in the

inheritance hierarchy, but calls to library functions look just like calls to functions of explicit base contracts.

We did not implement libraries for the Smart Contract Builder as it is unlikely that users will require the modularity that it provides.

3.2.2 Performance

The following 4 sections, from 3.2.2.1 and 3.2.2.3, cover the results for Open Auction, Safe Remote Purchase and Voting respectively.

Deposit costs are based on the cost of sending data to the blockchain. There are 4 items which make up the full transaction cost:

- the base cost of a transaction (21000 gas)
- the cost of a contract deployment (32000 gas)
- the cost for every zero byte of data or code for a transaction.
- the cost of every non-zero byte of data or code for a transaction.

Execution costs are based on the cost of computational operations which are executed as a result of the transaction.

Unfortunately, Remix IDE's static analysis tool is unable to obtain the gas usage for some functions because the function modifies large areas of storage, and so it returns an infinite value for gas usage.

3.2.2.1 Results for Open Auction Smart Contract

The general idea of the Open Auction contract is that everyone can send their bids during a bidding period. The bids already include sending money / ether in order to bind the bidders to their bid. If the highest bid is raised, the previously highest bidder gets their money back.

The results are as follows:

	Open Auction from Documentations	Smart Contract Builder	Performance Difference
Deposit cost	400000 gas	422800 gas	-5.7%

Constructor cost	440866 gas	463667 gas	-5.17%
Bid cost	63208 gas	63543 gas	-0.53%
Withdraw cost	infinite	infinite	-
Auction ended cost	infinite	infinite	-

Table 3.1: Comparison of performance with reference contract for Open Auction

The code generated for Open Auction by the Smart Contract Builder can be found in Appendix Z.

3.2.2.2 Results for Safe Remote Purchase Contract

The Safe Remote Purchase contract allows 2 parties, a buyer and a seller to transact without the risk of fraud. The money from the buyer will be released to the seller only when the buyer confirms that he has received the item.

The results are as follows:

	Safe Remote Contract From Documentations	Smart Contract Builder	Performance Difference
Deposit cost	437000 gas	425000 gas	+2.82%
Constructor cost	477996 gas	465813 gas	+2.61%
Abort cost	infinite	infinite	-
Confirm purchase cost	42184 gas	42036 gas	+0.35%
Confirm received cost	infinite	infinite	-

Table 3.2: Comparison of performance with reference contract for Safe Remote Purchase

The code generated for Safe Remote Purchase using the Smart Contract Builder can be found in Appendix AA.

3.2.2.3 Results for Voting Smart Contract

The Voting smart contract allows users to vote for proposals that have been submitted by a chairperson. It is significantly more complex than the Open Auction contract, and showcases Solidity's and the Smart Contract Builder's capabilities to a greater extent.

The results are as follows:

	Voting from Documentations	Smart Contract Builder	Performance Difference
Deposit cost	446400 gas	540600 gas	-21.1%
Constructor cost	487492 gas	709092 gas	-45.5%
Add proposal cost	infinite	infinite	-
Give right to vote cost	infinite	infinite	-
Vote cost	102527 gas	184327 gas	-79.8%
Winning proposal cost	418 gas	394 gas	+6.1%

Table 3.3: Comparison of performance with reference contract for Voting

The code generated for Voting using the Smart Contract Builder can be found in Appendix AB.

3.3 Findings

The Smart Contract Builder is able to implement the simple Solidity smart contracts. For more complex smart contracts, workarounds may have to be used to implement certain features. The Smart Contract Builder is unable to implement highly complex smart contracts as advanced Solidity features are not implemented in the Smart Contract Builder, but this is expected as advanced blockchain users are not in our

targeted audience. Our target audience consisting of developers new to blockchain or non-technical users are unlikely to require advanced features like hashing, encryption and optimisations.

For the Open Auction contract, the deposit costs and execution costs have a less than 6% drop in performance, as shown in Table 3.1. For the Safe Remote Purchase contract, the generated code even outperforms the reference contract. The performance does not deviate significantly from the reference contracts, but this is likely because they are relatively small, simple contracts.

However, the Voting contract which is far more complex and with more logical branches and constructs. As a result, the deviation in performance is 79.8% for the vote function. The cost difference for the constructor function, 45.5%, is very significant as well. This shows that the code generated by the Smart Contract Builder does not scale well to complex contracts, which limits its usability for industrial and professional use cases. The Smart Contract Builder performs almost optimally for smaller contracts, but is unable to handle complexity well. There is significant room for improvements through improvement of the parsing algorithm. Users should use the Smart Contract Builder for learning purposes or for creating smaller contracts only. For larger contracts, they may use the Smart Contract Builder to create a skeleton for their smart contract code, but it is not recommended to use it directly in production due to large drops in performance.

4. Conclusions

In this project, the goal was to create a simple, user-friendly application that allowed both developers and non-developers to create smart contracts and deploy them easily. The main focus was on creating a user interface that was clean and simple, while the backend logic would have to be more complex in order to attempt to infer what the user wants to do, such as the types of their variables and the flow of their diagrams.

From the results, we can tell that the Smart Contract Builder is able to implement simple contracts and most of the functionality in advanced contracts, but it is unable to implement highly complex contracts. In terms of performance, the Smart Contract Builder is able to generate a decent performing smart contract for small contracts, but is unable to produce a well performing smart contract for a larger contract. More work will likely have to be done on the algorithms used to generate the smart contract from the diagrams before it is ready for commercial or industrial use. Furthermore, the Smart Contract Builder will have to ensure the security and safety of its generated code for usage in a production environment.

Nevertheless, the Smart Contract Builder is focused on achieving optimal performance, but to simplify and encourage development on the blockchain. Developers may use the Smart Contract Builder to generate the skeleton of a smart contract, then further refine it and optimise it manually. Users who are interested in blockchain but do not have the technical know-how can use the Smart Contract Builder as a first step to learning how smart contracts work in general.

5. Recommendations

There is still much room for improvement in terms of usability, such as abstracting the code layer from the user to a greater extent which can be done by introducing an even greater amount of natural language processing so that the user can describe what the smart contract should do instead of its low level logic. The diagrams can be generated from their descriptions, which they may further refine manually.

Furthermore, with the pace of development for blockchains and Ethereum, it is likely that due to rapid version changes, the application may become outdated when Solidity introduces new updates. Constant development is required to keep the application up to date with Solidity standards. It may even be possible that Solidity becomes obsolete as the Ethereum network may decide to move to Vyper, a newer smart contract language. [10] Future work should be done to ensure that the application keeps up with developments. Compatibility with other smart contract languages like Vyper can be introduced to allow greater flexibility and future proofing. In addition, compatibility with permissioned Blockchain networks like Hyperledger Fabric can also be introduced so that a larger corporate audience can be reached.

6. End Section

6.1 Appendices

Appendix A: package.json dependencies

```
"devDependencies": {
  "babel-core": "^6.26.3",
  "babel-eslint": "^8.2.6",
  "babel-jest": "^23.4.2",
  "babel-loader": "^7.1.5",
  "babel-plugin-add-module-exports": "^0.2.1",
  "babel-plugin-dev-expression": "^0.2.1",
  "babel-plugin-flow-runtime": "^0.17.0",
  "babel-plugin-transform-class-properties": "^6.24.1",
  "babel-plugin-transform-es2015-classes": "^6.24.1",
  "babel-preset-env": "^1.7.0",
  "babel-preset-react": "^6.24.1",
  "babel-preset-react-optimize": "^1.0.1",
  "babel-preset-stage-0": "^6.24.1",
  "babel-register": "^6.26.0",
  "chalk": "^2.4.1",
  "concurrently": "^3.6.1",
  "cross-env": "^5.2.0",
  "cross-spawn": "^6.0.5",
  "css-loader": "^1.0.0",
  "detect-port": "^1.2.3",
  "electron": "^2.0.6",
  "electron-builder": "^20.26.0",
  "electron-devtools-installer": "^2.2.4",
  "electron-rebuild": "^1.8.2",
```

```
"enzyme": "^3.3.0",
"enzyme-adapter-react-16": "^1.1.1",
"enzyme-to-json": "^3.3.4",
"eslint": "^5.2.0",
"eslint-config-airbnb": "^17.0.0",
"eslint-config-prettier": "^2.9.0",
"eslint-formatter-pretty": "^1.3.0",
"eslint-import-resolver-webpack": "^0.10.1",
"eslint-plugin-compat": "^2.5.1",
"eslint-plugin-flowtype": "^2.50.0",
"eslint-plugin-import": "^2.13.0",
"eslint-plugin-jest": "^21.18.0",
"eslint-plugin-jsx-a11y": "6.1.1",
"eslint-plugin-promise": "^3.8.0",
"eslint-plugin-react": "^7.10.0",
"express": "^4.16.3",
"fbjs-scripts": "^0.8.3",
"file-loader": "^1.1.11",
"flow-bin": "^0.77.0",
"flow-runtime": "^0.17.0",
"flow-typed": "^2.5.1",
"husky": "^0.14.3",
"identity-obj-proxy": "^3.0.0",
"jest": "^23.4.2",
"lint-staged": "^7.2.0",
"mini-css-extract-plugin": "^0.4.1",
"minimist": "^1.2.0",
"node-sass": "^4.9.2",
"npm-logical-tree": "^1.2.1",
"optimize-css-assets-webpack-plugin": "^5.0.0",
"prettier": "^1.14.0",
```

```
"react-test-renderer": "^16.4.1",
"redux-logger": "^3.0.6",
"rimraf": "^2.6.2",
"sass-loader": "^7.0.3",
"sinon": "^6.1.4",
"spectron": "^3.8.0",
"storm-react-diagrams": "^5.2.1",
"style-loader": "^0.21.0",
"stylelint": "^9.4.0",
"stylelint-config-standard": "^18.2.0",
"uglifyjs-webpack-plugin": "1.2.7",
"url-loader": "^1.0.1",
"webpack": "^4.16.3",
"webpack-bundle-analyzer": "^2.13.1",
"webpack-cli": "^3.1.0",
"webpack-dev-server": "^3.1.5",
"webpack-merge": "^4.1.3",
"yarn": "^1.9.2"
},
"dependencies": {
  "@fortawesome/fontawesome-free": "^5.2.0",
  "@material-ui/core": "^3.0.1",
  "@material-ui/icons": "^3.0.1",
  "devtron": "^1.4.0",
  "electron-debug": "^2.0.0",
  "history": "^4.7.2",
  "react": "^16.4.1",
  "react-dom": "^16.4.1",
  "react-hot-loader": "^4.3.4",
  "react-redux": "^5.0.7",
  "react-router": "^4.3.1",
```

```
"react-router-dom": "^4.3.1",
"react-router-redux": "^5.0.0-alpha.6",
"redux": "^4.0.0",
"redux-thunk": "^2.3.0",
"source-map-support": "^0.5.6",
"typeface-roboto": "0.0.54",
"web3": "^1.0.0-beta.35"
},
"devEngines": {
  "node": ">=7.x",
  "npm": ">=4.x",
  "yarn": ">=0.21.3"
}
```

Appendix B: Structure of a Solidity Smart Contract

```
pragma solidity ^0.5.4;

contract {contract name} {
    /// variable declarations
    {variable_type} public {variable_name}
    uint public value;
    address public seller;
    address public buyer;

    constructor() public payable {
        {constructor code}
    }

    event {event_name} ({parameter_type} {parameter_name})
    event Aborted();
    event PurchaseConfirmed();
    event ItemReceived();

    /// returns does not appear if there is no return statement
    function {function_name}({function_params}) public returns (int) {
        {require_statements}
        {function_code}
    }

    function abort() public
    {
        emit Aborted();
        seller.transfer(address(this).balance);
    }
}
```



```
function confirmPurchase() public payable
{
    emit PurchaseConfirmed();
    buyer = msg.sender;
}

function confirmReceived() public
{
    emit ItemReceived();
    buyer.transfer(value);
    seller.transfer(address(this).balance);
}
}
```

Appendix C: Voting from Solidity documentation

```
pragma solidity >=0.4.22 <0.7.0;

/// @title Voting with delegation.
contract Ballot {
    // This declares a new complex type which will
    // be used for variables later.
    // It will represent a single voter.
    struct Voter {
        uint weight; // weight is accumulated by delegation
        bool voted;  // if true, that person already voted
        address delegate; // person delegated to
        uint vote;    // index of the voted proposal
    }

    // This is a type for a single proposal.
    struct Proposal {
        bytes32 name;    // short name (up to 32 bytes)
        uint voteCount; // number of accumulated votes
    }

    address public chairperson;

    // This declares a state variable that
    // stores a `Voter` struct for each possible address.
    mapping(address => Voter) public voters;

    // A dynamically-sized array of `Proposal` structs.
    Proposal[] public proposals;
```

```

    /// Create a new ballot to choose one of `proposalNames`.
    constructor(bytes32[] memory proposalNames) public {
        chairperson = msg.sender;
        voters[chairperson].weight = 1;

        // For each of the provided proposal names,
        // create a new proposal object and add it
        // to the end of the array.
        for (uint i = 0; i < proposalNames.length; i++) {
            // `Proposal({...})` creates a temporary
            // Proposal object and `proposals.push(...)`
            // appends it to the end of `proposals`.
            proposals.push(Proposal({
                name: proposalNames[i],
                voteCount: 0
            }));
        }
    }

    // Give `voter` the right to vote on this ballot.
    // May only be called by `chairperson`.
    function giveRightToVote(address voter) public {
        // If the first argument of `require` evaluates
        // to `false`, execution terminates and all
        // changes to the state and to Ether balances
        // are reverted.
        // This used to consume all gas in old EVM versions, but
        // not anymore.
        // It is often a good idea to use `require` to check if
        // functions are called correctly.
        // As a second argument, you can also provide an

```

```

    // explanation about what went wrong.
    require(
        msg.sender == chairperson,
        "Only chairperson can give right to vote."
    );
    require(
        !voters[voter].voted,
        "The voter already voted."
    );
    require(voters[voter].weight == 0);
    voters[voter].weight = 1;
}

/// Delegate your vote to the voter `to`.
function delegate(address to) public {
    // assigns reference
    Voter storage sender = voters[msg.sender];
    require(!sender.voted, "You already voted.");

    require(to != msg.sender, "Self-delegation is disallowed.");

    // Forward the delegation as long as
    // `to` also delegated.
    // In general, such loops are very dangerous,
    // because if they run too long, they might
    // need more gas than is available in a block.
    // In this case, the delegation will not be executed,
    // but in other situations, such loops might
    // cause a contract to get "stuck" completely.
    while (voters[to].delegate != address(0)) {

```

```

        to = voters[to].delegate;

        // We found a loop in the delegation, not allowed.
        require(to != msg.sender, "Found loop in
delegation.");
    }

    // Since `sender` is a reference, this
    // modifies `voters[msg.sender].voted`
    sender.voted = true;
    sender.delegate = to;
    Voter storage delegate_ = voters[to];
    if (delegate_.voted) {
        // If the delegate already voted,
        // directly add to the number of votes
        proposals[delegate_.vote].voteCount += sender.weight;
    } else {
        // If the delegate did not vote yet,
        // add to her weight.
        delegate_.weight += sender.weight;
    }
}

/// Give your vote (including votes delegated to you)
/// to proposal `proposals[proposal].name`.
function vote(uint proposal) public {
    Voter storage sender = voters[msg.sender];
    require(sender.weight != 0, "Has no right to vote");
    require(!sender.voted, "Already voted.");
    sender.voted = true;
    sender.vote = proposal;
}

```

```

        // If `proposal` is out of the range of the array,
        // this will throw automatically and revert all
        // changes.
        proposals[proposal].voteCount += sender.weight;
    }

    /// @dev Computes the winning proposal taking all
    /// previous votes into account.
    function winningProposal() public view
        returns (uint winningProposal_)
    {
        uint winningVoteCount = 0;
        for (uint p = 0; p < proposals.length; p++) {
            if (proposals[p].voteCount > winningVoteCount) {
                winningVoteCount = proposals[p].voteCount;
                winningProposal_ = p;
            }
        }
    }

    // Calls winningProposal() function to get the index
    // of the winner contained in the proposals array and then
    // returns the name of the winner
    function winnerName() public view
        returns (bytes32 winnerName_)
    {
        winnerName_ = proposals[winningProposal()].name;
    }
}

```

Appendix D: Simple Open Auction from Solidity documentation

```
pragma solidity >=0.4.22 <0.6.0;

contract SimpleAuction {
    // Parameters of the auction. Times are either
    // absolute unix timestamps (seconds since 1970-01-01)
    // or time periods in seconds.
    address payable public beneficiary;
    uint public auctionEndTime;

    // Current state of the auction.
    address public highestBidder;
    uint public highestBid;

    // Allowed withdrawals of previous bids
    mapping(address => uint) pendingReturns;

    // Set to true at the end, disallows any change.
    // By default initialized to `false`.
    bool ended;

    // Events that will be emitted on changes.
    event HighestBidIncreased(address bidder, uint amount);
    event AuctionEnded(address winner, uint amount);

    // The following is a so-called natspec comment,
    // recognizable by the three slashes.
    // It will be shown when the user is asked to
    // confirm a transaction.
```

```

    /// Create a simple auction with `_biddingTime`
    /// seconds bidding time on behalf of the
    /// beneficiary address `_beneficiary`.
    constructor(
        uint _biddingTime,
        address payable _beneficiary
    ) public {
        beneficiary = _beneficiary;
        auctionEndTime = now + _biddingTime;
    }

    /// Bid on the auction with the value sent
    /// together with this transaction.
    /// The value will only be refunded if the
    /// auction is not won.
    function bid() public payable {
        // No arguments are necessary, all
        // information is already part of
        // the transaction. The keyword payable
        // is required for the function to
        // be able to receive Ether.

        // Revert the call if the bidding
        // period is over.
        require(
            now <= auctionEndTime,
            "Auction already ended."
        );

        // If the bid is not higher, send the
        // money back.

```



```

require(
    msg.value > highestBid,
    "There already is a higher bid."
);

if (highestBid != 0) {
    // Sending back the money by simply using
    // highestBidder.send(highestBid) is a security risk
    // because it could execute an untrusted contract.
    // It is always safer to let the recipients
    // withdraw their money themselves.
    pendingReturns[highestBidder] += highestBid;
}
highestBidder = msg.sender;
highestBid = msg.value;
emit HighestBidIncreased(msg.sender, msg.value);
}

/// Withdraw a bid that was overbid.
function withdraw() public returns (bool) {
    uint amount = pendingReturns[msg.sender];
    if (amount > 0) {
        // It is important to set this to zero because the
recipient
        // can call this function again as part of the
receiving call
        // before `send` returns.
        pendingReturns[msg.sender] = 0;

        if (!msg.sender.send(amount)) {
            // No need to call throw here, just reset the

```

```

amount owing

        pendingReturns[msg.sender] = amount;
        return false;
    }
}
return true;
}

/// End the auction and send the highest bid
/// to the beneficiary.
function auctionEnd() public {
    // It is a good guideline to structure functions that
interact
    // with other contracts (i.e. they call functions or send
Ether)
    // into three phases:
    // 1. checking conditions
    // 2. performing actions (potentially changing conditions)
    // 3. interacting with other contracts
    // If these phases are mixed up, the other contract could
call
    // back into the current contract and modify the state or
cause
    // effects (ether payout) to be performed multiple times.
    // If functions called internally include interaction with
external
    // contracts, they also have to be considered interaction
with
    // external contracts.

    // 1. Conditions

```

```
require(now >= auctionEndTime, "Auction not yet ended.");
require(!ended, "auctionEnd has already been called.");

// 2. Effects
ended = true;
emit AuctionEnded(highestBidder, highestBid);

// 3. Interaction
beneficiary.transfer(highestBid);
}
}
```

Appendix E: Blind Auction from Solidity documentation

```
pragma solidity >0.4.23 <0.7.0;

contract BlindAuction {
    struct Bid {
        bytes32 blindedBid;
        uint deposit;
    }

    address payable public beneficiary;
    uint public biddingEnd;
    uint public revealEnd;
    bool public ended;

    mapping(address => Bid[]) public bids;

    address public highestBidder;
    uint public highestBid;

    // Allowed withdrawals of previous bids
    mapping(address => uint) pendingReturns;

    event AuctionEnded(address winner, uint highestBid);

    /// Modifiers are a convenient way to validate inputs to
    /// functions. `onlyBefore` is applied to `bid` below:
    /// The new function body is the modifier's body where
    /// `_` is replaced by the old function body.
    modifier onlyBefore(uint _time) { require(now < _time); _; }
    modifier onlyAfter(uint _time) { require(now > _time); _; }
```

```

constructor(
    uint _biddingTime,
    uint _revealTime,
    address payable _beneficiary
) public {
    beneficiary = _beneficiary;
    biddingEnd = now + _biddingTime;
    revealEnd = biddingEnd + _revealTime;
}

/// Place a blinded bid with `_blindedBid` =
/// keccak256(abi.encodePacked(value, fake, secret)).
/// The sent ether is only refunded if the bid is correctly
/// revealed in the revealing phase. The bid is valid if the
/// ether sent together with the bid is at least "value" and
/// "fake" is not true. Setting "fake" to true and sending
/// not the exact amount are ways to hide the real bid but
/// still make the required deposit. The same address can
/// place multiple bids.
function bid(bytes32 _blindedBid)
    public
    payable
    onlyBefore(biddingEnd)
{
    bids[msg.sender].push(Bid({
        blindedBid: _blindedBid,
        deposit: msg.value
    }));
}

```

```

    /// Reveal your blinded bids. You will get a refund for all
    /// correctly blinded invalid bids and for all bids except for
    /// the totally highest.
    function reveal(
        uint[] memory _values,
        bool[] memory _fake,
        bytes32[] memory _secret
    )
        public
        onlyAfter(biddingEnd)
        onlyBefore(revealEnd)
    {
        uint length = bids[msg.sender].length;
        require(_values.length == length);
        require(_fake.length == length);
        require(_secret.length == length);

        uint refund;
        for (uint i = 0; i < length; i++) {
            Bid storage bidToCheck = bids[msg.sender][i];
            (uint value, bool fake, bytes32 secret) =
                (_values[i], _fake[i], _secret[i]);
            if (bidToCheck.blindedBid !=
                keccak256(abi.encodePacked(value, fake, secret))) {
                // Bid was not actually revealed.
                // Do not refund deposit.
                continue;
            }
            refund += bidToCheck.deposit;
            if (!fake && bidToCheck.deposit >= value) {
                if (placeBid(msg.sender, value))

```

```

        refund -= value;
    }
    // Make it impossible for the sender to re-claim
    // the same deposit.
    bidToCheck.blindedBid = bytes32(0);
}
msg.sender.transfer(refund);
}

// This is an "internal" function which means that it
// can only be called from the contract itself (or from
// derived contracts).
function placeBid(address bidder, uint value) internal
    returns (bool success)
{
    if (value <= highestBid) {
        return false;
    }
    if (highestBidder != address(0)) {
        // Refund the previously highest bidder.
        pendingReturns[highestBidder] += highestBid;
    }
    highestBid = value;
    highestBidder = bidder;
    return true;
}

/// Withdraw a bid that was overbid.
function withdraw() public {
    uint amount = pendingReturns[msg.sender];
    if (amount > 0) {

```

```

        // It is important to set this to zero because the
recipient
        // can call this function again as part of the
receiving call
        // before `transfer` returns (see the remark above
about
        // conditions -> effects -> interaction).
        pendingReturns[msg.sender] = 0;

        msg.sender.transfer(amount);
    }
}

/// End the auction and send the highest bid
/// to the beneficiary.
function auctionEnd()
    public
    onlyAfter(revealEnd)
{
    require(!ended);
    emit AuctionEnded(highestBidder, highestBid);
    ended = true;
    beneficiary.transfer(highestBid);
}
}

```


Appendix F: Safe Remote Purchase from Solidity documentation

```
pragma solidity >=0.4.22 <0.7.0;

contract Purchase {
    uint public value;
    address payable public seller;
    address payable public buyer;
    enum State { Created, Locked, Inactive }
    State public state;

    // Ensure that `msg.value` is an even number.
    // Division will truncate if it is an odd number.
    // Check via multiplication that it wasn't an odd number.
    constructor() public payable {
        seller = msg.sender;
        value = msg.value / 2;
        require((2 * value) == msg.value, "Value has to be even.");
    }

    modifier condition(bool _condition) {
        require(_condition);
        _;
    }

    modifier onlyBuyer() {
        require(
            msg.sender == buyer,
            "Only buyer can call this."
        );
    }
}
```

```

        _;
    }

    modifier onlySeller() {
        require(
            msg.sender == seller,
            "Only seller can call this."
        );
        _;
    }

    modifier inState(State _state) {
        require(
            state == _state,
            "Invalid state."
        );
        _;
    }

    event Aborted();
    event PurchaseConfirmed();
    event ItemReceived();

    /// Abort the purchase and reclaim the ether.
    /// Can only be called by the seller before
    /// the contract is locked.
    function abort()
        public
        onlySeller
        inState(State.Created)
    {

```

```
    emit Aborted();
    state = State.Inactive;
    seller.transfer(address(this).balance);
}

/// Confirm the purchase as buyer.
/// Transaction has to include `2 * value` ether.
/// The ether will be locked until confirmReceived
/// is called.
function confirmPurchase()
    public
    inState(State.Created)
    condition(msg.value == (
```

```
state = State.Inactive;

// NOTE: This actually allows both the buyer and the
seller to
// block the refund - the withdraw pattern should be used.

buyer.transfer(value);
seller.transfer(address(this).balance);
}
}
```

Appendix G: Micropayments Channel Receiver from Solidity documentations

```
pragma solidity >=0.4.24 <0.7.0;

contract ReceiverPays {
    address owner = msg.sender;

    mapping(uint256 => bool) usedNonces;

    constructor() public payable {}

    function claimPayment(uint256 amount, uint256 nonce, bytes
memory signature) public {
        require(!usedNonces[nonce]);
        usedNonces[nonce] = true;

        // this recreates the message that was signed on the
client
        bytes32 message =
prefixed(keccak256(abi.encodePacked(msg.sender, amount, nonce,
this)));

        require(recoverSigner(message, signature) == owner);

        msg.sender.transfer(amount);
    }

    /// destroy the contract and reclaim the leftover funds.
    function kill() public {
        require(msg.sender == owner);
    }
}
```

```

        selfdestruct(msg.sender);
    }

    /// signature methods.
    function splitSignature(bytes memory sig)
        internal
        pure
        returns (uint8 v, bytes32 r, bytes32 s)
    {
        require(sig.length == 65);

        assembly {
            // first 32 bytes, after the length prefix.
            r := mload(add(sig, 32))
            // second 32 bytes.
            s := mload(add(sig, 64))
            // final byte (first byte of the next 32 bytes).
            v := byte(0, mload(add(sig, 96)))
        }

        return (v, r, s);
    }

    function recoverSigner(bytes32 message, bytes memory sig)
        internal
        pure
        returns (address)
    {
        (uint8 v, bytes32 r, bytes32 s) = splitSignature(sig);

        return ecrecover(message, v, r, s);
    }

```

```
}  
  
/// builds a prefixed hash to mimic the behavior of eth_sign.  
function prefixed(bytes32 hash) internal pure returns  
(bytes32) {  
    return keccak256(abi.encodePacked("\x19Ethereum Signed  
Message:\n32", hash));  
}  
}
```

Appendix H: Simple Payments Channel from Solidity documentations

```
pragma solidity >=0.4.24 <0.7.0;

contract SimplePaymentChannel {
    address payable public sender;      // The account sending
payments.
    address payable public recipient;   // The account receiving
the payments.
    uint256 public expiration;         // Timeout in case the recipient
never closes.

    constructor (address payable _recipient, uint256 duration)
        public
        payable
    {
        sender = msg.sender;
        recipient = _recipient;
        expiration = now + duration;
    }

    function isValidSignature(uint256 amount, bytes memory
signature)
        internal
        view
        returns (bool)
    {
        bytes32 message =
prefixed(keccak256(abi.encodePacked(this, amount)));

        // check that the signature is from the payment sender
    }
```



```

        return recoverSigner(message, signature) == sender;
    }

    /// the recipient can close the channel at any time by
    presenting a
    /// signed amount from the sender. the recipient will be sent
    that amount,
    /// and the remainder will go back to the sender
    function close(uint256 amount, bytes memory signature) public
    {
        require(msg.sender == recipient);
        require(isValidSignature(amount, signature));

        recipient.transfer(amount);
        selfdestruct(sender);
    }

    /// the sender can extend the expiration at any time
    function extend(uint256 newExpiration) public {
        require(msg.sender == sender);
        require(newExpiration > expiration);

        expiration = newExpiration;
    }

    /// if the timeout is reached without the recipient closing
    the channel,
    /// then the Ether is released back to the sender.
    function claimTimeout() public {
        require(now >= expiration);
        selfdestruct(sender);
    }

```

```

}

/// All functions below this are just taken from the chapter
/// 'creating and verifying signatures' chapter.

function splitSignature(bytes memory sig)
    internal
    pure
    returns (uint8 v, bytes32 r, bytes32 s)
{
    require(sig.length == 65);

    assembly {
        // first 32 bytes, after the length prefix
        r := mload(add(sig, 32))
        // second 32 bytes
        s := mload(add(sig, 64))
        // final byte (first byte of the next 32 bytes)
        v := byte(0, mload(add(sig, 96)))
    }

    return (v, r, s);
}

function recoverSigner(bytes32 message, bytes memory sig)
    internal
    pure
    returns (address)
{
    (uint8 v, bytes32 r, bytes32 s) = splitSignature(sig);

```

```
        return ecrecover(message, v, r, s);
    }

    /// builds a prefixed hash to mimic the behavior of eth_sign.
    function prefixed(bytes32 hash) internal pure returns
(bytes32) {
        return keccak256(abi.encodePacked("\x19Ethereum Signed
Message:\n32", hash));
    }
}
```

Appendix I: Modular Contracts from Solidity documentations

```
pragma solidity >=0.4.22 <0.7.0;

library Balances {
    function move(mapping(address => uint256) storage balances,
address from, address to, uint amount) internal {
        require(balances[from] >= amount);
        require(balances[to] + amount >= balances[to]);
        balances[from] -= amount;
        balances[to] += amount;
    }
}

contract Token {
    mapping(address => uint256) balances;
    using Balances for *;
    mapping(address => mapping (address => uint256)) allowed;

    event Transfer(address from, address to, uint amount);
    event Approval(address owner, address spender, uint amount);

    function balanceOf(address tokenOwner) public view returns
(uint balance) {
        return balances[tokenOwner];
    }

    function transfer(address to, uint amount) public returns
(bool success) {
        balances.move(msg.sender, to, amount);
        emit Transfer(msg.sender, to, amount);
        return true;
    }
}
```

```
}

function transferFrom(address from, address to, uint amount)
public returns (bool success) {
    require(allowed[from][msg.sender] >= amount);
    allowed[from][msg.sender] -= amount;
    balances.move(from, to, amount);
    emit Transfer(from, to, amount);
    return true;
}

function approve(address spender, uint tokens) public returns
(bool success) {
    require(allowed[msg.sender][spender] == 0, "");
    allowed[msg.sender][spender] = tokens;
    emit Approval(msg.sender, spender, tokens);
    return true;
}
}
```

Appendix J: Global State Tab for Voting

Smart Contract Builder

GLOBAL STATE

INITIAL STATE

ADD PROPOSAL

GIVE RIGHT TO VOTE

VOTE

WINNING PROPOSAL

Events

Event Name

ADD +

Entities

Voter

Variable Name	Variable Type
weight	Number
voted	True/False
delegate	Address
vote	Text

+

Entity Name

ADD +

BACK

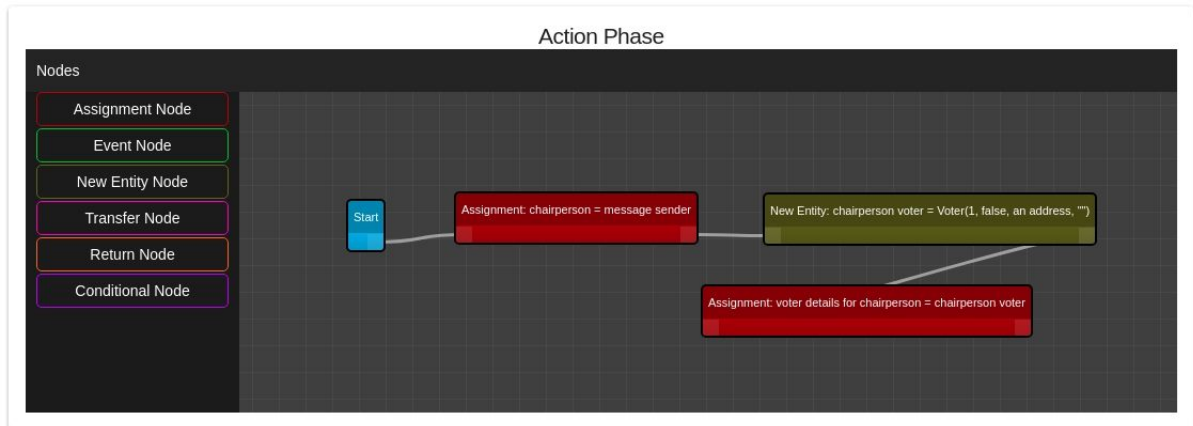
LOAD

SAVE

GENERATE CODE

DEPLOY

Appendix K: Voting Constructor Function



Appendix L: Voting Add Proposal Function

Function Inputs

Variable Name

proposal

Variable Type

Text

▼

+

Checking Phase

Variable 1

message sender

Comparator

is

▼

Variable 2

chairperson

Failure Message

Only chairperson can add a

+

Action Phase

Nodes

Assignment Node

Event Node

New Entity Node

Transfer Node

Return Node

Conditional Node

Start

Assignment: vote count for proposal = 0

Appendix M: Voting Give Right To Vote Function

Function Inputs

Variable Name

target voter

Variable Type

Address

+

Checking Phase

Variable 1

message sender

Comparator

is

Variable 2

chairperson

Failure Message

Only chairperson can give ri

Variable 1

voter details for target voter's

Comparator

is

Variable 2

false

Failure Message

The voter already voted.

Variable 1

voter details for target voter's

Comparator

is

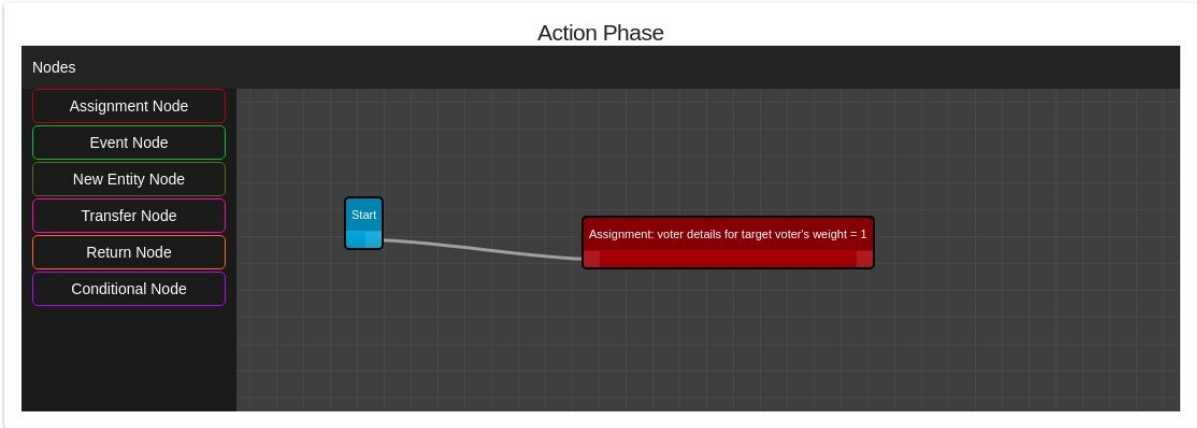
Variable 2

0

Failure Message

The voter already has a righ

+



Appendix N: Voting Vote Function

Function Inputs

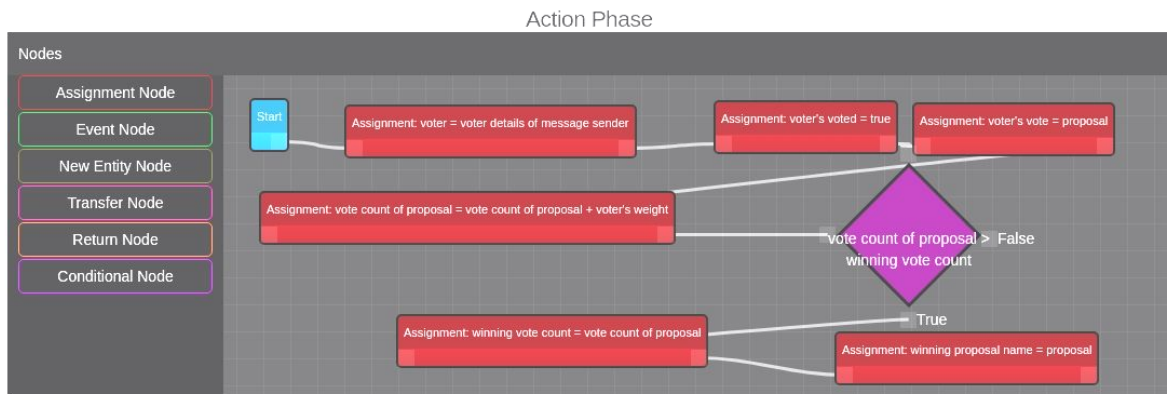
Variable Name	Variable Type
<input type="text" value="proposal"/>	<input type="text" value="Text"/>

+

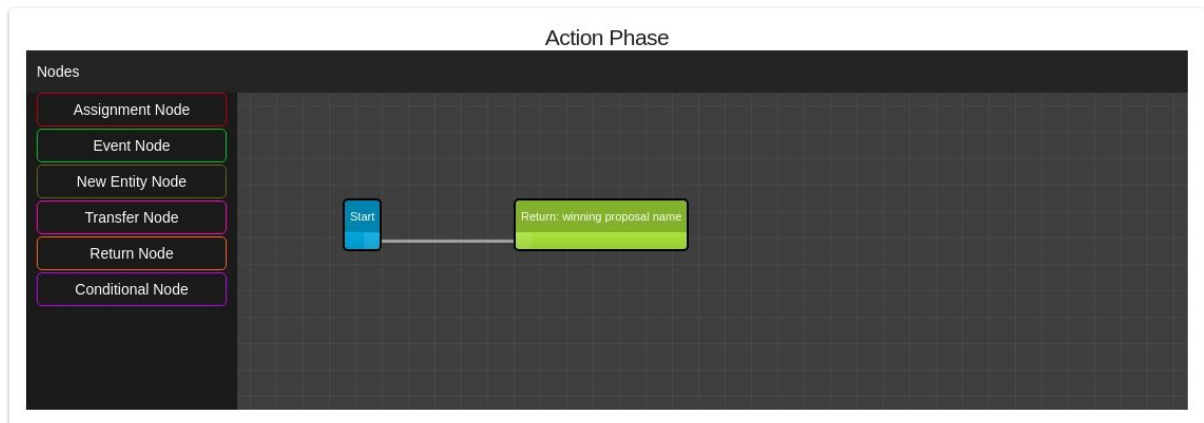
Checking Phase

Variable 1	Comparator	Variable 2	Failure Message
<input type="text" value="voter details of message ser"/>	<input type="text" value="is not"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="Has no right to vote."/>
<input type="text" value="voter details of message ser"/>	<input type="text" value="is"/>	<input type="text" value="false"/>	<input type="text" value="Already voted."/>

+



Appendix O: Voting Winning Proposal Function



Appendix P: Global State Tab for Open Auction

Smart Contract Builder

GLOBAL STATE

INITIAL STATE

BID

WITHDRAW

AUCTION END

+

>

Events

HighestBidIncreased

Variable Name

bidder

Variable Type

Address

Variable Name

amount

Variable Type

Number

+

AuctionEnded

Variable Name

winner

Variable Type

Address

Variable Name

amount

Variable Type

Number

+

Event Name

ADD +

Entities

Entity Name

ADD +

Constructor Parameters

Value of _beneficiary

0x00

Value of bidding time

1000

Appendix Q: Open Auction Constructor Function

Function Inputs

Variable Name	Variable Type
<input type="text" value="_beneficiary"/>	<input type="text" value="Address"/>
<input type="text" value="bidding time"/>	<input type="text" value="Integer"/>

Checking Phase

Variable 1	Comparator	Variable 2	Failure Message
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="is"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Action Phase

Nodes

Assignment Node

Event Node

New Entity Node

Transfer Node

Return Node

Conditional Node

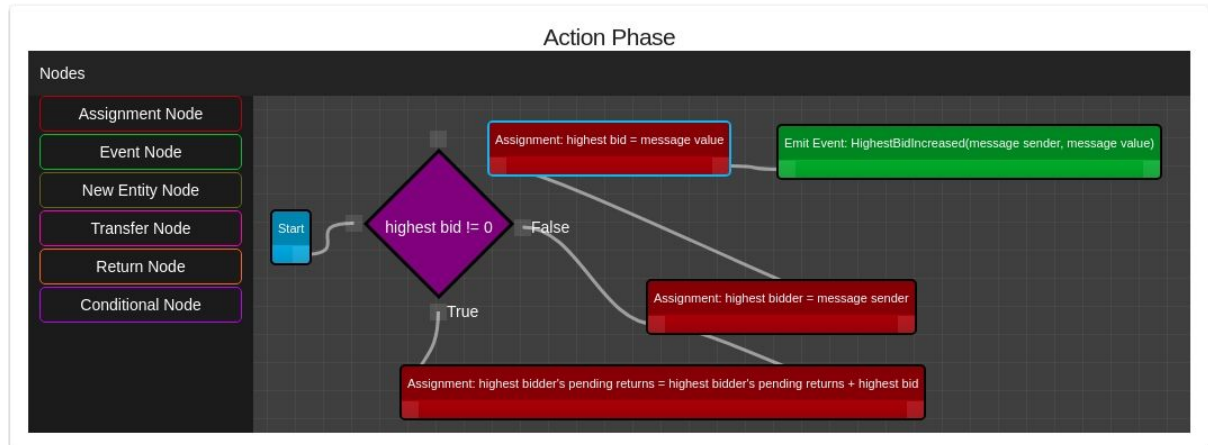
```
graph LR; Start[Start] --> A1[Assignment: beneficiary = _beneficiary]; A1 --> A2[Assignment: auction end = now + bidding time];
```

The flowchart illustrates the sequence of actions in the auction constructor. It begins with a 'Start' node, which leads to an 'Assignment Node' where the variable 'beneficiary' is assigned the value of '_beneficiary'. This is followed by another 'Assignment Node' where 'auction end' is assigned the value 'now + bidding time'.

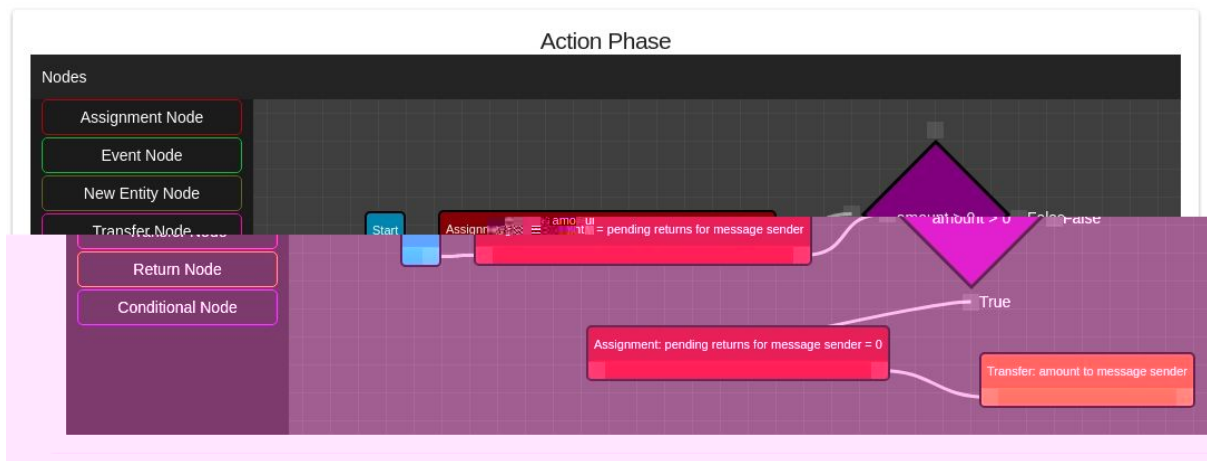
Appendix R: Open Auction Bid Function

Checking Phase			
Variable 1	Comparator	Variable 2	Failure Message
now	less than or e...	auction end	Auction already eni
message value	greater than	highest bid	There already is a l

+



Appendix S: Open Auction Withdraw Function



Appendix T: Open Auction Auction End Function

Checking Phase

Variable 1

now

Comparator

greater than or equals to

Variable 2

auction end

Failure Message

Auction not yet ended.

Variable 1

ended

Comparator

is

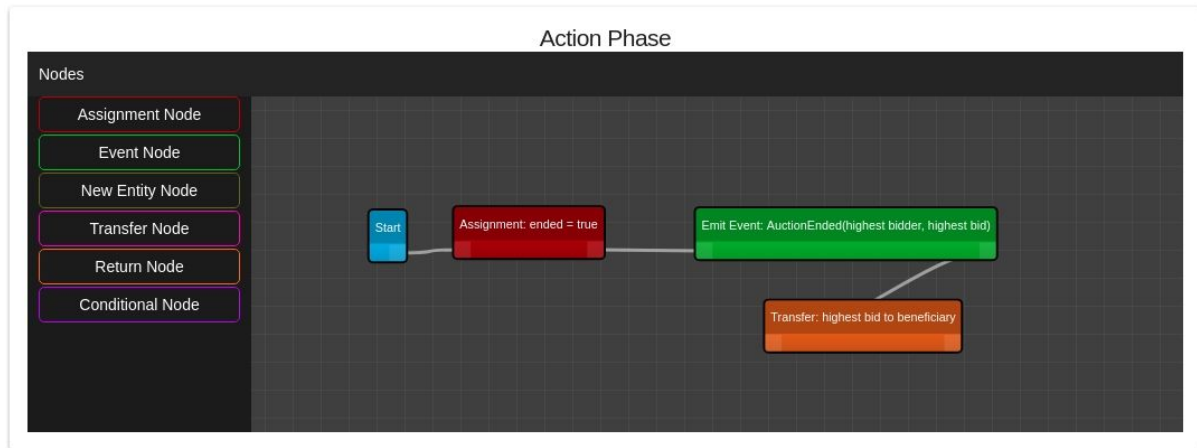
Variable 2

false

Failure Message

auctionEnd has already been

+



Appendix U: Global State Tab for Safe Remote Purchase

Smart Contract Builder

GLOBAL STATE

INITIAL STATE

ABORT

CONFIRM PURCHASE

CONFIRM RECEIVED

+

>

Events

aborted

Variable Type

Variable Name

Number

+

purchase_confirmed

Variable Type

Variable Name

Number

+

item_received

Variable Type

Variable Name

Number

+

Event Name

ADD +

Entities

Entity Name

ADD +

BACK

LOAD

SAVE

GENERATE CODE

DEPLOY

Appendix V: Safe Remote Purchase Constructor Function

Checking Phase

Variable 1

2 * message value / 2

Comparator

is

▼

Variable 2

message value

Failure Message

Value has to be even.

+

Action Phase

Nodes

Assignment Node

Event Node

New Entity Node

Transfer Node

Return Node

Conditional Node

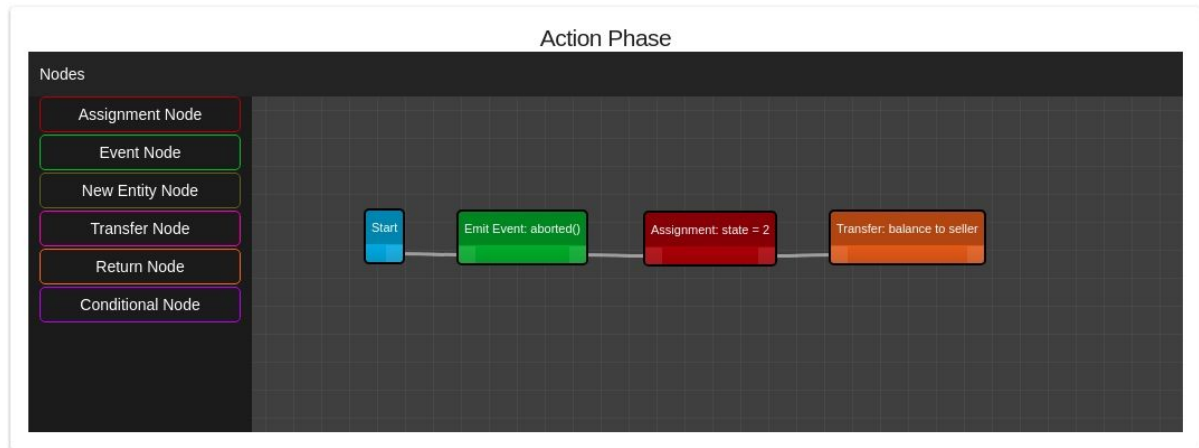
Start

Assignment: seller = message sender

Assignment: sell value = message value / 2

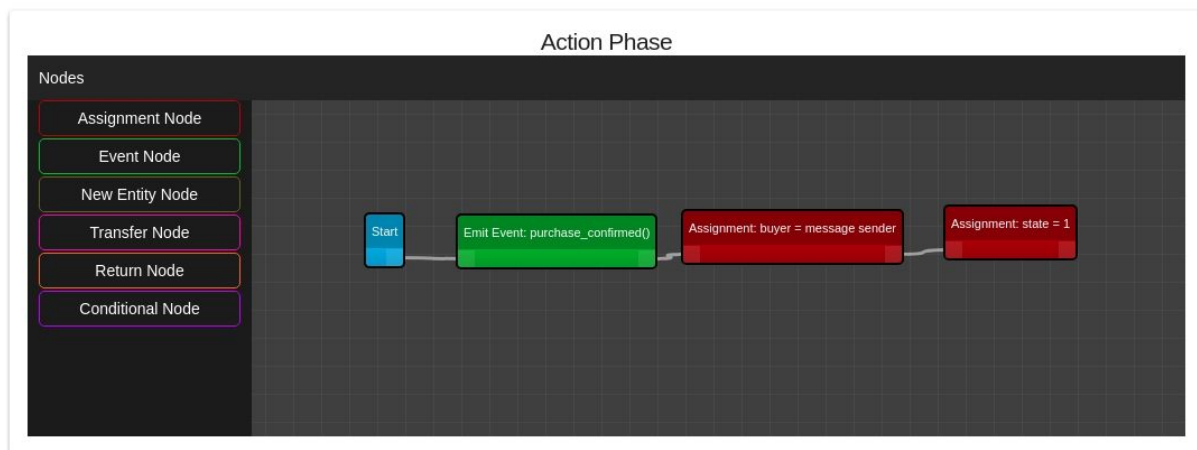
Appendix W: Safe Remote Purchase Abort Function

Checking Phase			
Variable 1	Comparator	Variable 2	Failure Message
<input type="text" value="message sender"/>	<input type="text" value="is"/> ▼	<input type="text" value="seller"/>	<input type="text" value="Only seller can call this."/>
<input type="text" value="state"/>	<input type="text" value="is"/> ▼	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="Invalid state."/>
<input type="button" value="+"/>			



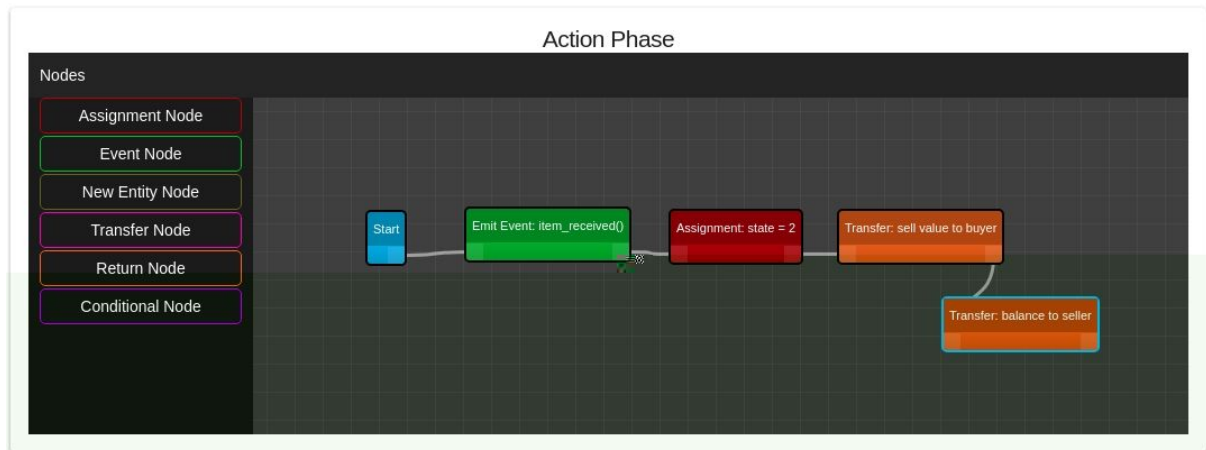
Appendix X: Safe Remote Purchase Confirm Purchase Function

Checking Phase			
Variable 1	Comparator	Variable 2	Failure Message
<input type="text" value="state"/>	<input type="text" value="is"/> ▼	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="Invalid state."/>
<input type="text" value="message value"/>	<input type="text" value="is"/> ▼	<input type="text" value="2 * sell value"/>	<input type="text" value="Failure Message"/>
<input type="button" value="+"/>			



Appendix Y: Safe Remote Purchase Confirm Received Function

Checking Phase			
Variable 1	Comparator	Variable 2	Failure Message
<input type="text" value="message sender"/>	<input type="text" value="is"/> ▼	<input type="text" value="buyer"/>	<input type="text" value="Only buyer can call this."/>
<input type="text" value="state"/>	<input type="text" value="is"/> ▼	<input type="text" value="1"/>	<input type="text" value="Invalid state."/>
<input type="button" value="+"/>			



Appendix Z: Code Generated by Smart Contract Builder for Open Auction

```
pragma solidity ^0.5.4;
contract Code {
    bool public ended;
    uint public amount;
    mapping(address => uint) pending_returns;
    address payable public highest_bidder;
    uint public highest_bid;
    address payable public beneficiary;
    uint public auction_end;
    event HighestBidIncreased (address payable bidder, uint amount);
    event AuctionEnded (address payable winner, uint amount);
    constructor(address payable _beneficiary, uint bidding_time)
    public payable {
        beneficiary = _beneficiary;
        auction_end = now + bidding_time;
    }
    function bid() public payable {
        require(now <= auction_end, "Auction already ended.");
        require(msg.value > highest_bid, "There already is a higher
        bid.");
        if (highest_bid != 0) {
            pending_returns[highest_bidder] = pending_returns[highest_bidder]
            + highest_bid;
        }
        highest_bidder = msg.sender;
        highest_bid = msg.value;
        emit HighestBidIncreased(msg.sender, msg.value);
    }
}
```

```
function withdraw() public payable {
    amount = pending_returns[msg.sender];
    if (amount > 0) {
        pending_returns[msg.sender] = 0;
        msg.sender.transfer(amount);
    }
}

function auctionEnd() public payable {
    require(now >= auction_end, "Auction not yet ended.");
    require(ended == false, "auctionEnd has already been called.");
    ended = true;
    emit AuctionEnded(highest_bidder, highest_bid);
    beneficiary.transfer(highest_bid);
}
```

Appendix AA: Code Generated by Smart Contract Builder for Safe Remote Purchase

```
pragma solidity ^0.5.4;
contract Code {
    uint public state;
    address payable public buyer;
    address payable public seller;
    uint public sell_value;
    event aborted();
    event purchase_confirmed();
    event item_received();
    constructor() public payable {
        require(2 * msg.value / 2 == msg.value, "Value has to be even.");
        seller = msg.sender;
        sell_value = msg.value / 2;
    }
    function abort() public payable {
        require(msg.sender == seller, "Only seller can call this.");
        require(state == 0, "Invalid state.");
        emit aborted();
        state = 2;
        seller.transfer(address(this).balance);
    }
    function confirmPurchase() public payable {
        require(state == 0, "Invalid state.");
        require(msg.value == 2 * sell_value, "");
        emit purchase_confirmed();
        buyer = msg.sender;
        state = 1;
    }
}
```



```
}  
function confirmReceived() public payable {  
    require(msg.sender == buyer, "Only buyer can call this.");  
    require(state == 1, "Invalid state.");  
    emit item_received();  
    state = 2;  
    buyer.transfer(sell_value);  
    seller.transfer(address(this).balance);  
}  
}
```

Appendix AB: Code Generated by Smart Contract Builder for Voting

```
pragma solidity ^0.5.4;
contract Code {
    struct Voter {
        uint weight;
        bool voted;
        address payable delegate;
        string vote;
    }
    mapping(string => uint) vote_count;
    address payable public chairperson;
    Voter public chairperson_voter;
    mapping(address => Voter) voter_details;
    Voter public voter;
    uint public winning_vote_count;
    string public winning_proposal_name;
    constructor() public payable {
        chairperson = msg.sender;
        chairperson_voter = Voter(1, false, address(uint160(0)), "");
        voter_details[chairperson] = chairperson_voter;
    }
    function addProposal(string memory proposal) public payable {
        require(msg.sender == chairperson, "Only chairperson can add a new proposal.");
        vote_count[proposal] = 0;
    }
    function giveRightToVote(address payable target_voter) public payable {
        require(msg.sender == chairperson, "Only chairperson can give right to vote.");
    }
}
```

```
require(voter_details[target_voter].voted == false, "The voter
already voted.");
require(voter_details[target_voter].weight == 0, "The voter
already has a right to vote.");
voter_details[target_voter].weight = 1;
}

function vote(string memory proposal) public payable {
    require(voter_details[msg.sender].weight != 0, "Has no right
to vote.");
    require(voter_details[msg.sender].voted == false, "Already
voted.");
    voter = voter_details[msg.sender];
    voter.voted = true;
    voter.vote = proposal;
    vote_count[proposal] = vote_count[proposal] + voter.weight;
    if (vote_count[proposal] > winning_vote_count) {
        winning_vote_count = vote_count[proposal];
        winning_proposal_name = proposal;
    }
}

function winningProposal() public payable returns (string memory)
{
    return winning_proposal_name;
}
```

6.2 References

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