A formal definition and statistical model checking of the constellation blockchain

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Abstract

Introduction

Fundamental Data Structures, Types and Functions

T <: Numeric

Numeric type delineating tier within multi-tier hierarchy

BlockData[T] <: U

Consider a type *BlockData* which serves as the universal parent type of all data going on chain. All transactions, validator requests, meme data etc. All BlockData is isomorphic and thus all BlockData can be compressed into a Block.

Block[U]

Contains compressed form of Block Data. This is the result of consensus. Each unit of BlockData must reference the previous round of consensus, this is satisfied by containing the Block hash. it is worth noting that $Block[U] \equiv Block[BlockData[T]]$ through covariance.

Transaction <: BlockData[0]

Transaction is a subtype of BlockData that can only exist on the bottom tier. It is the building block of our currency.

LeftHand <: RightHand <: Transaction

Note: LeftHand and RightHand are symmetric subtypes of Transaction. For a Transaction to be valid it must be 'signed' by the counterparty. This is satisfied by sending a RightHand transaction that references a LeftHand transaction.

Definition: Consensus Cluster := collection[node]

A set of validators, undergoing cryptographic consensus to produce a block.

Definition: Validator

A node that has 'woken up' by starting a *consensus* process. It now gossips transactions to it's neighbors and is waiting to be selected as a Delegate.

Definition: Delegate

A node who has been selected to perform consensus. Delegates are implicitly chosen on each node locally. Once a new *Block* is received, it is passed to the Generator Function, which tells this node if it is a delegate.

Generator Function $g: Block \rightarrow collection[node]$

This function is used to determine the next set of delegates from a given set of validators (consensus cluster).

General Architecture

Node Architecture

A node consists of two processes, and a remote procedure call (rpc) interface.

```
/**
 * This needs to be refactored to spin up one or two processes, one for
    protocol and one (or zero) for consensus
 * the main method to this singleton needs to execute a hylomorphic
    method that takes types representing these actors
 * ex:
 * def hylo[F[_] : Functor, A, B](f: F[B] => B)(g: A => F[A]): A => B =
    a => f(g(a) map hylo(f)(g))
 */
object BlockChainApp extends App with RPCInterface {
  implicit val system: ActorSystem = ActorSystem("BlockChain")
  implicit val materializer: ActorMaterializer = ActorMaterializer()
  implicit val executionContext: ExecutionContextExecutor =
    system.dispatcher
```

The *protocol* process handles transaction signing and essentially all functionality to send and receive payments. The *consensus* process implements the responsibilities of a validator node. Nodes can be 'sleepy', turning on the *consensus* process at will.

The *chain* class is a local blockchain made up of all transactions/interactions with the chain that this node has made. Each link in the chain is a sub type of BlockData.

The rpc interface RPCInterface connects the node to the outside world through a set of endpoints for sending/signing transactions and 'waking up' the node by starting a consensus process.

Underlying protocol

Consensus

Consensus is the process of forming a Block, it can be thought of as a function $f:collection[node] \to Block$. Consensus clusters are formed in a tiered hierarchy. The top most tier forms the global state of the chain, which is made up of Blocks from preceding tiers. Each tier, from top down until the second to last, has responsibility for routing transactions and validating the blocks from consensus clusters.

What is the lifecycle of a transaction

When a transaction is sent, it is sent from a node to a higher tier which 'routes' the transaction to the consensus cluster(s) that host its 'shard', or the shard of the blockchain that host's it's public key's history. Each transaction has a left and right half. The initiator of the transaction sends the LeftHalf to the network. Its LeftHalf is then referenced by the RightHalf which is sent by the counterparty.

How is consensus performed

How is this secure/fit in with our incentive model

Scaling Tiers

Hylochain: Recursive Parachains

Routing and Distributed Data Storage

DAG Architecture

Definition using chain complexes

Scaling formula

Dynamic Partitioning for Recursive Parachains

Proof of meme

Proof of meme and consensus

Proof of meme and routing