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CSC489 HW2

Blockchain Implementation

Description and Requirements:

Programming language used: Java

Libraries used: java.security.MessageDigest (for SHA-256

hashing)

java.time.Instant (for timestamp handling)

java.list (for linked list blockchain)

Program Requirements: Java JDK only (no external libraries

required).

Implementation:

Block class:

Attributes:

index: Block's position.

previousHash: Hash of the previous block.

data: Transaction or message stored in the block.

timestamp: Time when the block was created.

hash: Computed hash of the block.

nonce: Used for proof-of-work.

miningTime: Time taken to mine the block.

next: Pointer to the next block.

Methods Implemented:

calculateHash(): Computes SHA-256 hash.

applySHA256(): Generates SHA-256 hash.

mineBlock(int difficulty): Implements proof-of-work and

records mining time.

Blockchain Class:

Attributes:

head: First block (Genesis Block).

tail: Last block in the linked list.

difficulty: Number of leading zeros required in the hash.

Methods Implemented:

createGenesisBlock(): Initializes the blockchain with a genesis block.

addBlock(String data): Mines and adds a new block.

verifyChain(): Ensures blockchain integrity.

displayChain(): Prints blockchain details.

Main Class:

initializes a linked list-based blockchain.

Adds multiple blocks with different data.

Displays the blockchain structure.

Verifies blockchain integrity.

Tampering test: Modifies a block to demonstrate integrity check failure.

Results:

Part 1:

Results before tampering:

Results after tampering:

Part 2:

Implementation of proof of work mechanism with various difficulties:

Difficulty 4:

Difficulty 6:

Difficulty 10: I ran the program for an hour and got no result