Cardano-Semaphore Trusted Setup Phase 2.

Process overview

The objective of the ceremony was to derive the public keys necessary for constructing the Zero-Knowledge proofs used in the Cardano-Semaphore protocol.

The ceremony involved **20** participants and began on November 18th, 2024, concluding on December 20th 2024. Participation was announced open to the public on X, and coordination was facilitated through a dedicated Discord server.

To ensure the authenticity of contributors, their identities were verified through direct messages or, when necessary, via video calls. Ten contributors who did not respond to our messages could not be fully verified; however, a record of their social media accounts was included.

The software used is based on an instance of the p0tion software. This software provides the means to coordinate and contribute to the ceremony. First, we created a package of the software required to contribute, and published it to the npm registry as @modulo-p/phase2cli.

Coordinator

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Participants

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Verification transcript for semaphore circuit Phase 2 contribution.

The software generates a transcript file which details the participants and its contributions. A new transcript file is generated at each contribution, the outputs of this process can be found in this link:

https://github.com/Modulo-P/Cardano-Semaphore/tree/main/docs/Ceremony/test_outputs/transcript

Taking in account the final transcript which sums up the whole process. The coordinator is specified at the start of the document, along with each participant's contribution digest and an ID based on its Github profile. The transcript shows a digest of the circuit, which is the circuit that we are using in our prototype. The final contributor has to generate a beacon to finalize the ceremony.

Outputs: Public keys

The resulting keys of the process can be found in the following link:

https://github.com/Modulo-P/Cardano-Semaphore/blob/main/keys/semaphore_final.zkey

These keys are the public values that are used by Semaphore protocol to build the Zero-Knowledge proofs.

Conclusions

We could successfully conduct the ceremony and derive a set of public keys to be used for the Semaphore protocol.