CS 216: INTRODUCTION TO BLOCKCHAIN

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ASSIGNMENT 3 : BITCOIN SCRIPTING

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INTRODUCTION

This report describes our implementation and analysis of Bitcoin transactions using Legacy (P2PKH) and SegWit (P2SH-P2WPKH) address formats. We've written Python scripts to interact with bitcoind, create transactions, analyze and debug the Bitcoin scripts involved in these transactions.

BITCOIN-CORE CONFIGURATION

```
[regtest]
regtest=1
server=1
rpcuser=<rpc_credential>
rpcpassword=<rpc_credential>
rpcallowip=127.0.0.1
rpcport=18443
txindex=1

paytxfee=0.0001
fallbackfee=0.0002
mintxfee=0.00001
txconfirmtarget=6
```

Regtest configurations

PART-1: LEGACY ADDRESS TRANSACTIONS (P2PKH)

WORKFLOW

- 1. We generated three legacy addresses: A, B, and C
- 2. Funded address A using the sendtoaddress command
- 3. Created a transaction from A to B using createrawtransaction
- 4. Decoded the transaction to examine the locking script (ScriptPubKey) for B
- 5. Signed and broadcast the transaction, generating txid: <txid_a_to_b>
- 6. Retrieved this unspent transaction output (UTXO) for address B
- 7. Created a transaction from B to C using the UTXO from the previous transaction
- 8. Decoded, signed, and broadcast this transaction, generating txid: <txid_b_to_c>

SCRIPT ANALYSIS

Transaction A to B:

The ScriptPubKey (locking script) for address B follows the P2PKH pattern:

OP DUP OP HASH160 <pubkey hash> OP EQUALVERIFY OP CHECKSIG

The script does the following:

- 1. Duplicates the provided public key
- 2. Hashes it using HASH160 (RIPEMD160(SHA256))
- 3. Checks if the hash matches the stored pubkey hash
- 4. Verifies the signature against the public key

Transaction from A to B

Transaction B to C:

The ScriptSig (unlocking script) for spending from address B:

<signature> <public key>

This unlocking script provides:

- 1. The signature for the transaction
- 2. The public key corresponding to address B

When executed with the locking script from the previous transaction, it forms a complete validation script:

<signature> <public key> OP_DUP OP_HASH160 <publey hash> OP_EQUALVERIFY OP_CHECKSIG

Challenge-Response Validation using btcdeb:

Loading the Script

1. Push signature and public key onto the stack

```
| Stack | Stac
```

2. OP_DUP duplicates the public key

btcdeb> step				
script	stack			
0308be3f7ded2074b14c477fa18ec0ecfe3e3dfc	02a6b47f2ea4d66df2b14b9878c53fe58fec9724500f74390ec45b43994c374bfb 02a6b47f2ea4d66df2b14b9878c53fe58fec9724500f74390ec45b43994c374bfb 3044022073fdb36a203bc0eb4ffa8d2545f26cb4aeec78ff31ae92d79a93707			

3. OP HASH160 hashes the public key

4. The hash is compared with the stored pubkey hash

5. OP_EQUALVERIFY ensures they match

6. OP_CHECKSIG verifies the signature against the public key and pushes a 01 onto the stack if it is valid*.

*We have tried to validate the signature using btcdeb but the debugger doesn't recognise the signature appropriately. Upon looking through the GitHub tutorial page, we found the following statement: "Unfortunately this checking may or may not be working at any point due to vagaries of the Bitcoin Core and btcdeb code."

PART 2: SEGWIT ADDRESS TRANSACTIONS (P2SH-P2WPKH)

WORKFLOW

- 1. We generated three P2SH-SegWit addresses: A', B', and C'
- 2. Funded address A' using sendtoaddress
- 3. Created a raw transaction from A' to B' using createrawtransaction
- 4. Decoded the transaction to examine the locking script for B'
- 5. Signed and broadcast the transaction, generating txid: <txid_a'_to_b'>
- 6. Retrieved the unspent transaction output (UTXO) for address B'
- 7. Created a transaction from B' to C' using this UTXO
- 8. Decoded, signed, and broadcast this transaction, generating txid: <txid_b'_to_c'>

SCRIPT ANALYSIS

Transaction A' to B':

The ScriptPubKey (locking script) for address B' follows the P2SH-P2WPKH pattern:

OP_HASH160 <script hash> OP_EQUAL

This script does the following:

- 1. Hashes the provided redeem script
- 2. Checks if it matches the stored script hash

Transaction from A' to B'

Transaction B' to C':

For P2SH-SegWit, the ScriptSig (unlocking script) contains only the redeem script:

<redeem script>

The witness data (not part of the ScriptSig) contains:

<signature> <public key>

The redeem script is typically:

OP_0 OP_HASH160 <pubkey hash> OP_EQUAL

where the witness program is the HASH160 of the public key.

Transaction from B' to C'

Challenge-Response Validation using btcdeb:

```
complexed (IP. Producek. 600. 45. PCT. IT: -/Desktop/bccdeb/btcdeb btcdeb - verbose '[0014263e7f5fbb9155682a1af5621c00937d01b4bc5d OP_HASH160 3823cd961dce36366cbcdc63ace32b1fe5bb0ec0 OP_EQUAL]'
btcdeb 5.0.24 - type 'btcdeb h' for start up options
LOG: signing segwit taproot
notice: btcdeb has gotten quieter; use --verbose if necessary (this message is temporary)
valid script
4 op script loaded. type 'help' for usage information

script

| stack

0014263e7f5fbb9155682a1af5621c00937d01b4bc5d |
09. HASH160
3823cd001dce36366cbcdc63ace32b1fe5bb0ec0 |
09. P.O. HASH160
0014263e7f5fbb9155682a1af5621c00937d01b4bc5d |
09. EQUAL |
09
```

Loading the Script

1. Push redeem script onto the stack

btcdeb> step	9155682a1af5621c00937d01b4bc5d
script	stack
OP_HASH160 3823cd961dce36366cbcdc63ace32b1fe5bb0ec0	0014263e7f5fbb9155682a1af5621c00937d01b4bc5d
OP_EQUAL #0001 OP_HASH160	1

2. OP_HASH160 hashes the redeem script

3. Push script hash onto the stack

4. OP_EQUAL compares the hash of the redeem script with the stored script hash

5. The top of the stack gets 01 if the result of OP_EQUAL evaluates to true.

```
btcdeb> step
script | stack

| 01

btcdeb> step
at end of script
```

PART 3: COMPARISON AND ANALYSIS

Transaction Type	Size (bytes)	Virtual Size (vbytes)	Weight Units
Legacy A to B	191	191	764
Legacy B to C	191	191	764
SegWit A' to B'	215	134	533
SegWit B' to C'	215	134	533

The virtual size reduction is 29.84%

SCRIPT STRUCTURE DIFFERENCES

- 1. P2PKH (Legacy)
 - ScriptPubKey

OP_DUP OP_HASH160 <pubkey hash> OP_EQUALVERIFY OP_CHECKSIG

- ScriptSig

<signature> <public key>

All validation happens in a single script execution

- 2. P2SH-P2WPKH (SegWit)
 - ScriptPubKey

OP_HASH160 [script hash] OP_EQUAL

- ScriptSig

<redeem script>

- Witness Data

<signature> <public key>

- Validation happens in multiple steps:
 - 1. Verify redeem script hash
 - 2. Execute redeem script
 - 3. Verify witness data separately

BENEFITS OF SEGWIT

- 1. *Transaction Malleability Fix:* By moving signatures to witness data, the transaction ID is no longer affected by signature modifications and hence second or third party attacks.
- 2. *Scalability:* SegWit effectively increases the block capacity without changing the block size limit. The smaller virtual sizes result in lower fees despite similar or larger raw byte sizes.
- 3. Fee Efficiency: Witness data is discounted in fee calculations, incentivizing the use of SegWit.

GitHub Repository Link: https://github.com/Srinidhi-Sai-Boorgu/MineOverMatter-Bitcoin-Scripting

END