Disciplina: Data Disclosure Protocol

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Abstract

This document describes the two-party protocol of fair data trade used in the Disciplina blockchain platform.

1 Notation

Throughout this document we use the following notations:

Notation	Description
A	Party that takes part in the protocol
H(m)	Result of applying a collision-resistant hash-function H to a message m
$\mathtt{mtree}(a)$	Merkle tree of the data array a
$\mathtt{root}(M)$	Root element of the Merkle tree M
$\mathtt{path}(e,M)$	Path of the element e in the Merkle tree M
k	Symmetric key
$pk_{\mathbf{A}}, sk_{\mathbf{A}}$	Public and secret keys of a party $\bf A$
$\mathtt{E}_k(m)$	Symmetric encryption with the key k
$E_{\mathbf{A}}(m)$	Asymmetric encryption with the key $pk_{\mathbf{A}}^*$
$\operatorname{\mathtt{Sig}}_{\mathbf{A}}(m)$	Tuple $(\mathbf{A}, m, sig(sk_{\mathbf{A}}, H(m)))$, where sig is a digital signature algorithm*
$\mathtt{sizeof}(m)$	Size of m in bytes
\oplus	Binary string concatenation

2 Prerequisites

Suppose the seller S has some data D. Before the deal S ought to perform some preparation steps. S should:

1. Divide D into N chunks of size no more than 1 KiB:

$$D = \bigoplus_{i=1}^{N} d_i, \quad \operatorname{sizeof}(d_i) \le 1 \text{ KiB}$$
 (1)

- 2. Generate a symmetric key \boldsymbol{k}
- 3. Encrypt each d_i with k and make an array of encrypted chunks:

$$D_{\mathbf{a}} = \{ \mathbf{E}_k(d_1), \ \mathbf{E}_k(d_2), \ \dots, \ \mathbf{E}_k(d_N) \}$$
 (2)

^{*}The particular keys $pk_{\bf A}$ and $sk_{\bf A}$ belonging to the party ${\bf A}$ are generally deducible from the context

4. Compute a Merkle root of the encrypted chunks:

$$R = \mathsf{root}(\mathsf{mtree}(D_{\mathbf{A}})) \tag{3}$$

On this stage R is a public knowledge, while k, D_{\bullet} and all of the d_i are kept hidden.

3 Protocol description

The protocol fairness is guaranteed by a contract on the public chain. The contract is able to hold money and is stateful: it is capable of storing a log L with data. All the data that parties send to the contract are appended to L.

- 1. The buyer generates a new keypair $(pk_{\mathbf{B}}, sk_{\mathbf{B}})$, creates the contract and sends the money to the contract address. Along with the money, \mathbf{B} sends the public key $pk_{\mathbf{B}}$ of the newly generated keypair.
- 2. If S agrees to proceed, she also sends a predefined amount of money to the contract address.
- 3. **S** transfers the encrypted data chunks $D_{\mathbf{a}}$ to the buyer. **B** computes the Merkle root R' of the received data $D_{\mathbf{a}}'$:

$$R' = \operatorname{root}(\operatorname{mtree}(D_{\mathbf{A}}')) \tag{4}$$

- 4. B makes a transaction with a receipt $Sig_{\mathbf{B}}(R')$ to the contract address.
- 5. S sends $\operatorname{Sig}_{\mathbf{S}}(\{\mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{B}}(k), R\})$ to the contract. The contract accepts it iff R = R' (this implies that $D_{\mathbf{A}} = D_{\mathbf{A}}'$).
- 6. **B** decyphers and checks the received data. In case some data chunk $e_i \in D_{\mathbf{a}}$ is invalid, **B** sends a transaction with $\{sk_{\mathbf{B}}, e_i, \mathsf{path}(e_i, \mathsf{mtree}(D_{\mathbf{a}}))\}$ to the contract. By doing so, **B** reveals the data chunk d_i corresponding to the encrypted chunk e_i . She also shares proof that e_i was indeed part of Mekle tree with root R. The contract checks the validity of d_i and decides whether **B** has rightfully accused **S** of cheating.

The on-chain communications of the parties (steps 2, 4, 5, 6) are bounded by a time frame τ . In order for the transaction to be valid, the time t passed since the previous step have to be less than or equal to τ . In case $t > \tau$ the communication between the parties is considered over, and one of the protocol exit points (Sec. 4) is automatically triggered.

4 Protocol exit points

To decide on whether the communication is over, the protocol utilizes some timeout τ (e.g. 1 hour) which bounds all communications that should happen between **B** and **S**.

Before step 4: B, S get their money back

Interpretation: **S** wasn't able to transfer the data to **B**.

After step 4: B, S get their money back

Interpretation: **B** received the data, but **S** wasn't able to share the key for it.

After step 5: S gets all money

Interpretation: S correctly shared data to B

After step 6: B gets all money

Interpretation: **B** proofs S cheated, **S** loses all money