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CoralChain – A Visual Gadget Collection for Exploring Blockchain Fundamentals

INTRODUCTION CoralChain is a lightweight, web-based blockchain network simulator built with Ruby and Sinatra.

"It features interactive visuals that illustrate blockchain structure, synchronization, and consensus mechanisms, helping make these concepts more intuitive and accessible."













METHODS

BLOCKCHAIN STRUCTURE

- Block contains: index, timestamp, data, previous_hash, nonce, and SHA-256 hash
- Hash = SHA256(index + timestamp + data + previous_hash + nonce)
- Valid Chain: contiguous hashes + deterministic rehash
- Block Acceptance: consensus-specific hash rules

MULTI-NODE ARCHITECTURE

- Each node = isolated chain + independent state
- Sync via Longest Valid Chain policy
- Forks resolved by comparing indexed blocks
- Byzantine nodes trigger chain-wide corruption

CONSENSUS MECHANISM

- o Proof of Work (PoW): Increment nonce to find a hash matching an N-bit zero prefix
- Proof of Authority (PoA): Simulate validator rounds with randomized hashing
- Proof of Stake (PoS): Stake-weighted nonce values shape final hash

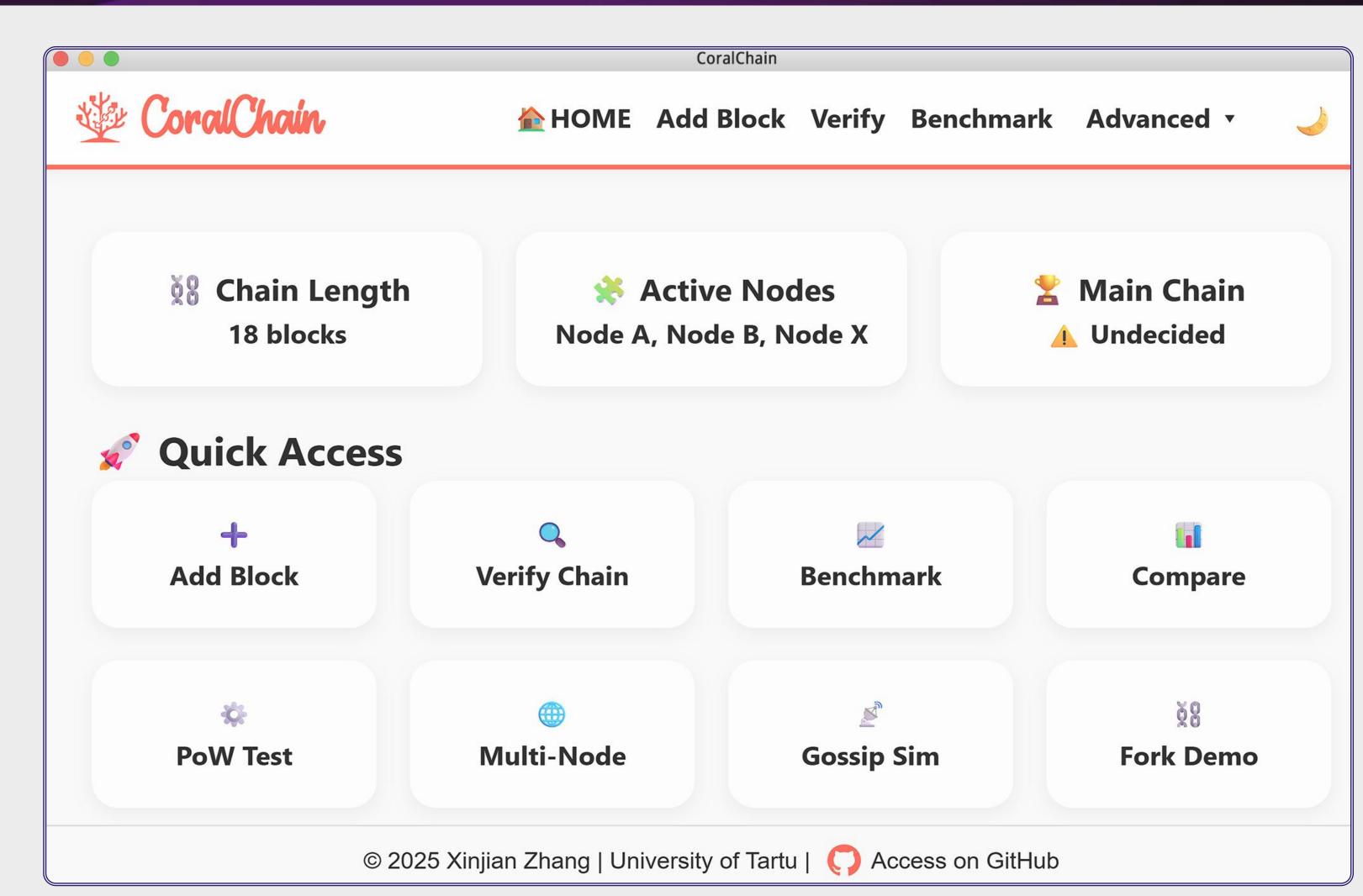


Fig 1. Main Interface of CoralChain



Blockchain Integrity Check







Block Operations & Verification

- Create blocks with input data and chosen consensus method
- Hash and verify chains using SHA-256 linkage
- Tamper blocks to trigger chain-wide invalidation
- Show mismatched hashes and real-time verification results

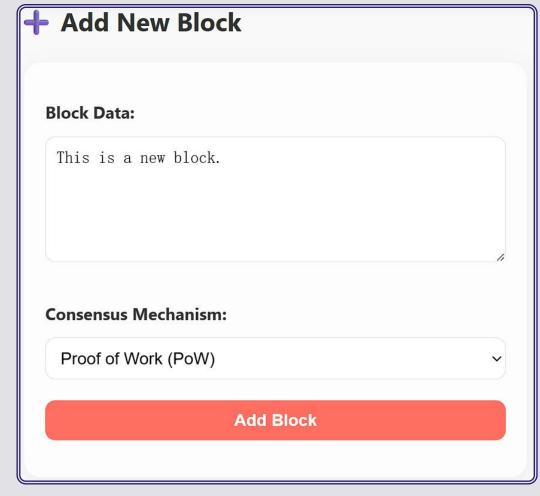


Fig 2. Block Creation



Fig 3. Blockchain Integrity Check

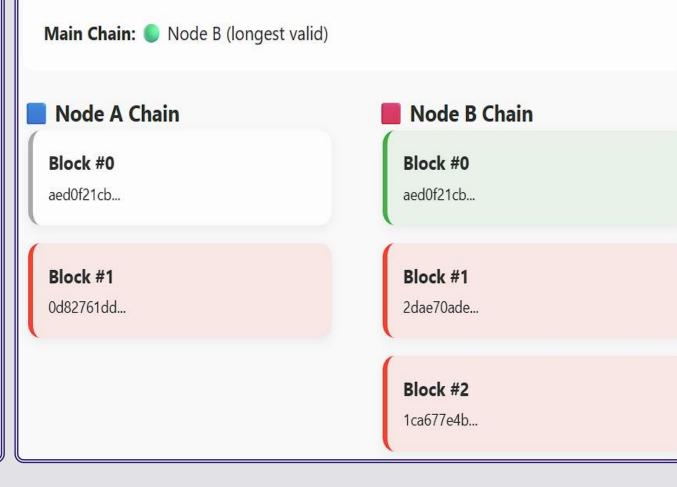


Multi-Node Interaction & Synchronization





Node X (Byzantine) **⚠** Generate Fake Data: S FAKE DATA 0 Data: 🧠 FAKE DATA 1 Signature: 🔽 c99a9c00cfc4d2a0a.. Index: 2 Data: 🧠 FAKE DATA 2 Signature: 🗹 d992779ae96810971..



- Run nodes (A, B, X) with isolated chain states
- Compare chains block-by-block to detect divergence
- Resolve forks using longest-valid-chain replacement
- Simulate Byzantine nodes, conflict injection scenarios

Fig 4. Chain Synchronization Between Nodes A & B

Fig 5. Byzantine Fake Chain Injection (Node X -> B)

Fig 6. Chain Fork Between Nodes A & B

Consensus & Network Simulation

- Switch between PoW, PoS, and PoA during runtime
- Track block time and performance across algorithms
- Simulate gossip-based message spread with delay and faults Export chain data and results as CSV

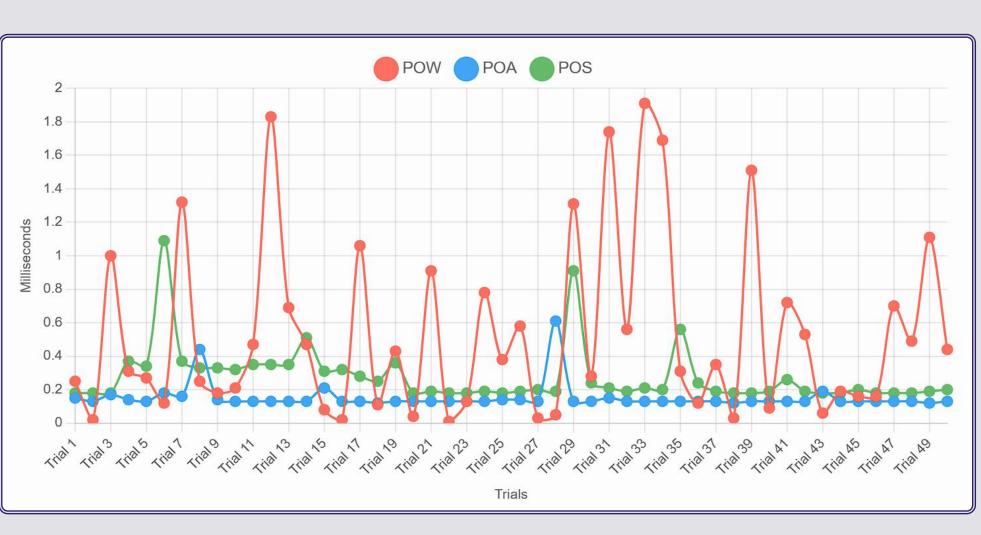
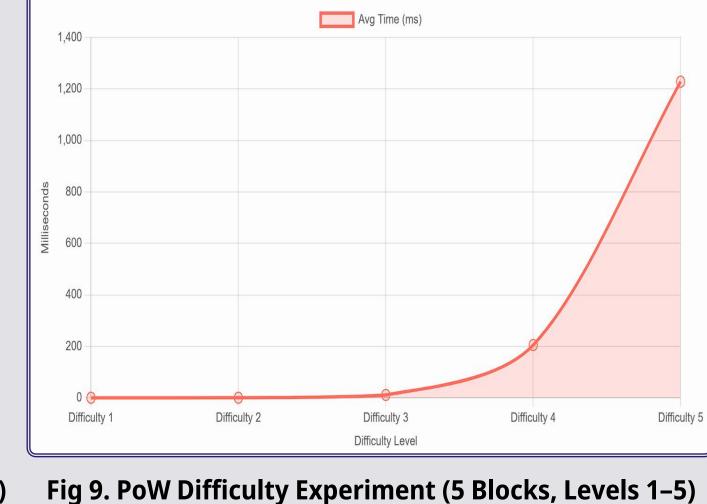


Fig 7. Consensus Benchmark Results (PoW, PoA, PoS, 50 Trials Each)



Fig 8. Consensus Performance Comp. (50 Trials Each)



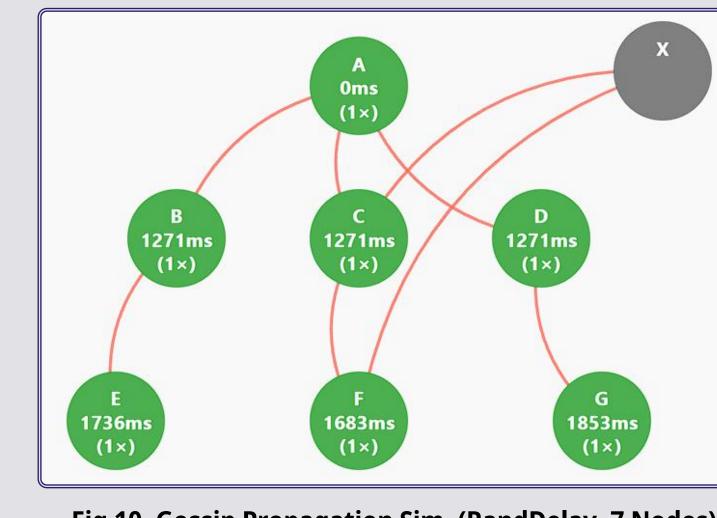


Fig 10. Gossip Propagation Sim. (RandDelay, 7 Nodes)

Website



This project originated from a spontaneous idea, without a predefined goal in mind. Though its functionality is still limited, I hope it might offer a small spark of interest for anyone curious about blockchain.

