# **Project: Ethereum**

# 1 Project Overview

The main objective for this project is to gain first-hand experience on applications of Ethereum, a popular Blockchain platform, and to get familiar with the concepts in the Public-Key signature, hash function, key management and proof-of-work. With this project, students will learn how cryptographic algorithms are combined for applications in practice and build incentives to learn cryptographic algorithms.

The task description and expected results are given in the project description. You need to find out how to achieve that, e.g., read the given links and reading materials, search the problems and review/preview lecture slides. Please review cryptographic algorithms used in the project, identify the input and output of the algorithms, think of the features of the algorithms, figure out why the algorithms are used in that way, and what kind of security target is achieved via the algorithms.

The pre-compiled geth binary is available on Canvas. Note that the geth can be quite resource consuming. It is better to set at least a 2 core CPU and 3GB memory for the virtual machine.

Ethereum is fast evolving, you should use the executable binary file (geth 1.9.15) on Canvas. To run the binary geth, you may extract geth from the downloaded .gz file to current folder and use ./geth command to execute it. You may find out other flags by yourself.

```
crypto@crypto: ~/xu/pj2 - + x

File Edit Tabs Help

crypto@crypto: ~/xu/pj2$ ls

geth geth-linux-amd64-1.9.15-0f77f34b.tar.gz

crypto@crypto: ~/xu/pj2$ ./geth
```

#### Useful links

https://github.com/ethereum/go-ethereum

https://geth.ethereum.org/docs/interface/javascript-console

https://geth.ethereum.org/docs/rpc/server

https://web3js.readthedocs.io/

# 2 Project Assessment

The assessment will cover group work and individual contribution. The group project will be assessed by tutors in-class based on the task completion and questions on the tasks. 40% project marks are for the group assessment and 60% project marks are for students' individual work. The group component of the mark covers the overall project and how team members have worked collaboratively to implement their chosen overall task. During the assessment, the groups need to present the group work, such as codes and commands, and their results to tutors. Each student will be asked questions about the project task individually, and this will form the basis of individual assessment.

Up to three students per group, solo is also allowed. All the group members need to submit a project report with screenshots describing how do you work on the tasks. Students from the same group can submit the same report. Please list group members in the report.

# 3 PROJECT DESCRIPTION PART I

# Run Your Private Ethereum Network with a Single Node

### 3.1 Task Description

- 1. Create a genesis.json file describing the private Ethereum network
  - o Made Ethereum folder for Ethereum network
  - o Made json file, pasted code inside file (1st article referenced)
    - File initialises new blockchain for Ethereum network (starting point makes first block, next blocks derive from the first one)
    - Setting network parameters:
      - chainID signature process, protects transactions + defence against replay attacks (retransmitting data to achieve fraudulent authentication)
      - difficulty mining difficulty
      - gasLimit limit cost of transactions

```
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{
    "config": {
    "chainId": 2025,
    "homesteadBlock": 0,
    "eip150Block": 0,
    "eip155Block": 0,
    "eip158Block": 0
},
    "gasLimit": "2100000",
    "difficulty": "1",
    "alloc": {
}
}
```

- 2. Use the pre-compiled **geth** binary to init the private Ethereum network
  - o pasted geth download from canvas to Project2 folder
    - Geth software program makes node for blockchain, written in proglanguage Go
      - node Each one creates copy of entire blockchain (keeps it in sync) = validates transactions + propagates blocks
  - o changed directory (geth) to execute it



- o ./geth --datadir /home/crypto/Downloads/Sophia/Project2/ethereum init /home/crypto/Downloads/Sophia/Project2/genesis.json
  - ./ executes geth in current directory
  - –datadir [pathname] where blockchain data will be stored
  - innit initialises blockchain data in genesis.json file

```
### Crypto@crypto:-/Downloads/Sophia/Project2/geth-linux-amd64-1.9.15-0f77f34b$ ./geth --datadir ethereum init genesis.json

Fatal: invalid genesis file: invalid character ')' looking for beginning of object key string

### crypto@crypto://Downloads/Sophia/Project2/geth-linux-amd64-1.9.15-0f77f34b$ anno genesis.json

### crypto@crypto://Downloads/Sophia/Project2/geth-linux-amd64-1.9.15-0f77f34b$ anno genesis.json

### crypto@crypto://Downloads/Sophia/Project2/s nano genesis.json

### crypto@crypto://Downloads/Sophia/Project2/s nano genesis.json

### crypto@crypto://Downloads/Sophia/Project2/s nano genesis.json

### crypto@crypto://Downloads/Sophia/Project2/s nano genesis.json

### crypto@crypto://Downloads/Sophia/Project2/s cd geth-linux-amd64-1.9.15-0f77f34b

### crypto@crypto://Downloads/Sophia/Project2/geth-linux-amd64-1.9.15-0f77f34b

### crypto@crypto://Downloads/Sophia/Project2/geth-linux-amd64-1.9.15-0f77f34b$ ./geth --datadir /home/crypto/Downloads/Sophia/Project2/geth-linux-amd64-1.9.15-0f77f34b$ ./geth --datadir /home/crypto/Downloads/Sophia/Project2/gethereum/geth/chaindata cache=16.00MiB handles=16

### INFO [04-27]2
```

### 3. Run your private Ethereum network and enable the geth console

- o ./geth --datadir ~/Downloads/Sophia/Project2/ethereum --networkid 2025 --nodiscover console
  - ./ executes geth in current directory
  - –datadir [pathname] where blockchain data will be stored
  - –networkid 2025 network identifier in json file "Chainid: 2025" (differentiates other networks)
  - –nodiscover disables discover protocol in ethereum network, preventing node from being discoverable by other peers in network (makes network private)
  - console runs geth with Javascript console = can use query commands (mining)

## Cryptography Project

- Ethash consensus algorithm to validate blocks = confirming they don't contain any fraudulent information
  - uses Hash for verification keccak
  - POW enables transactions to be processed without needing centralised authority
- IPC endpoint interprocess communication = exchanging data within same network (geth within ethereum network)

# 4. Play supported commands

#### Hint:

The pre-compiled geth binary is available on Canvas.

You may use a small difficulty, e.g., 1, in the genesis to accelerate the block mining. The chainID cannot be 0.

Use the "--nodiscover" option to stop your node from connecting public Ethereum network.

### 3.2 Expected Result

You will be able to open the geth console and input commands there.

```
Welcome to the Geth JavaScript console!
instance: Geth/v1.9.15-stable-0f77f34b/linux-amd64/go1.14.4
coinbase: 0xaa692e9b65e318559253af187b3655257a3ce418
at block: 0 (Wed Dec 31 1969 16:00:00 GMT-0800 (PST))
  datadir: /home/utscsl/Documents/Ethereum/data
  modules: admin:1.0 debug:1.0 eth:1.0 ethash:1.0 miner:1.0 net:1.0 personal:1.0 rp
c:1.0 txpool:1.0 web3:1.0
> eth.blockNumber
0
> ■
```

# 4 Project Description Part II

### **Create Accounts and Mining for Tokens**

#### 4.1 Task Description

# 1. Create at least two accounts

- public/private key pair Public key cryptography
  - to securely receive/send transactions between users
  - private key = password, encrypted
  - public key = Generated by choosing point on secp256k1 elliptic curve (using private key) then adding and multiplying it
    - multiplication modulo a prime (impossible inverse discrete logarithm problem no trapdoor function) = protects private key
    - address Hexadecimal numbers, Keccak 256 hash of public key, keeping last 20 bytes generate address (unique identifier - avoids digital signature forgery)

acc1	0xB038FbCd5C25E2D0Da55F2 3Adabcd13Ada25B011	crypto
acc2	0x76b3720Bdcb28296576cE62 98B1368F638AE03B0	crypto

```
crypto@crypto: {\it \sim}/Downloads/Sophia/Project2/geth-linux-amd 64-1.9.15-0 f77f34b
                                                                                                 - + ×
File Edit Tabs Help
        at native
        at <eval>:1:1(2)
> personal.newAccount()
Passphrase:
Repeat passphrase:
INFO [05-02|22:50:34.313] Your new key was generated
                                                                      address=0xB038FbCd5C25E2D0Da5
5F23Adabcd13Ada25B011
WARN [05-02|22:50:34.314] Please backup your key file!
                                                                      path=/home/crypto/Downloads/S
ophia/Project2/ethereum/keystore/UTC--2025-05-02T12-50-31.5238182292--b038fbcd5c25e2d0da55f23ada
bcd13ada25b011
WARN [05-02|22:50:34.314] Please remember your password!
"0xb038fbcd5c25e2d0da55f23adabcd13ada25b011
> personal.newAccount()
Passphrase:
Repeat passphrase:
INFO [05-02|22:50:50.658] Your new key was generated
                                                                      address=0x76b3720Bdcb28296576
cE6298B1368F638AE03B0
WARN [05-02|22:50:50.658] Please backup your key file!
                                                                      path=/home/crypto/Downloads/S
ophia/Project2/ethereum/keystore/UTC-2025-05-02T12-50-48.802164687Z--76b3720bdcb28296576ce6298b
1368f638ae03b0
WARN [05-02|22:50:50.658] Please remember your password!
"0x76b3720bdcb28296576ce6298b1368f638ae03b0"
```

### 2. Set one account to be the etherbase to receive token reward from mining

miner.setEtherbase(eth.accounts[0]) - specify first account does mining

#### 3. Mining for tokens

- Mining secures network through creating blocks in blockchain, validates transactions, adds ether to network
- tokens Unique items stored in Ethereum blockchain, sold and traded through linking
  - NFT non fungible tokens = can't be replaced

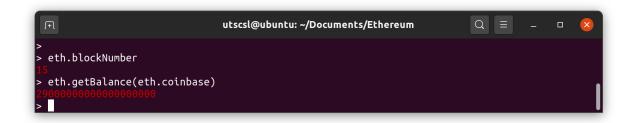
- DAG directed acyclic graph, improves blockchain (data structure)
- epoch time taken for 30,000 blocks to be created in blockchain

## 4. Check the balance of the account

- 46 blockchains node has processed
- balance of account 2300000000000000000

#### 4.2 Expected Result

You will find the blockchain grows. Your account, which is set to be the etherbase, should receive some mining rewards. You can use the eth.getBalance() to check its balance. An example is given below.



# 5 PROJECT DESCRIPTION PART III

Create transactions and mine into blocks

#### 5.1 Task Description

### 1. Stop mining and check the balance of the two accounts

- web3 javascript library, converts values from Wei to readable
- taking fromWei command wei is smallest denomination of Ether (standard readable unit)

```
> web3.fromWei(eth.getBalance(eth.coinbase),"ether")
230
> web3.fromWei(eth.getBalance("0x76b3720Bdcb28296576cE6298B1368F638AE03B0"),"ether")
0
> web3.fromWei(eth.getBalance("0xB038FbCd5C25E2D0Da55F23Adabcd13Ada25B011"),"ether")
230
> ■
```

## 2. Create a transaction from the ether base account to another account

• unlock acc - enables transaction to be processed (moving mining from first acc to second acc)

### 3. Send the transaction

- transaction is sent to Ethereum network for validation by publicly broadcasting using geth (creates nodes) - Ethereum network is an open source blockchain-based computing platform, transparent system, uses smart contracts (automated transactions) = anyone can use without depending on centralised control + transactions can't be stopped by third party interference
- Transactions need digital signature (full hash) to be included in blockchain
- Digital signature = true owner of private key = control over account (verification)

- 4. Check the transaction pool
  - verifying that transaction was added to transaction pool (stores pending transactions before being included in block)

- 5. Start mining
- 6. Check the balance of the two accounts

## Cryptography Project

- acc 1 still has ether, not account 2 still pending? + transaction null?
- unlocking acc, transaction
- txpool.inspect retrieve transaction

another way of retrieving + validating transaction:

## Cryptography Project

### 5.2 Expected Result

The receiver's balance would be updated.

```
utscsl@ubuntu: ~/Documents/Ethereum

utscsl
```

You can also retrieve the transaction with its hash value

# 6 PROJECT DESCRIPTION PART IV

Further Reading

Read the reading materials on Canvas which help you to get a better understanding of Ethereum and the cryptographic techniques it adopts.