Distributed Web Applications with IPFS, Tutorial

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Abstract IPFS, the InterPlanetary File System, is the distributed and permanent Web, a protocol to make the Web faster, more secure, open and available. IPFS could be seen as Git meets a BitTorrent swarm, exchanging objects within one Git repository. In other words, IPFS provides a high throughput content-addressed block storage model, with content-addressed hyperlinks. This forms a generalised MerkleDAG, a data structure that can be used to build versioned file systems, blockchains, unix like file systems, amongst other options. IPFS combines a Distributed Hash Table, an incentivised block exchange and a self-certifying namespace. IPFS has no single point of failure, and nodes do not need to trust each other.

This tutorial will focus on the IPFS Application Stack, including: libp2p, the networking layer; bitswap for data exchange; IPLD and the MerkleDAG, the thin waist data structure of IPFS and how to use IPFS interface to build distributed applications. The full length of the tutorial is 6 hours.

Keywords: IPFS, Web, Distributed, P2P, Cryptography, MerkleTree, MerkleDAG, IPLD, Go, JavaScript, Application, Apps, Blockchain, Hash, Secure, Data, File System, Files, Graphs, Database

- 2 David Dias mail@daviddias.me and Juan Benet juan@benet.ai
- 1 Introduction
- 2 Motivations and goals
- 3 IPFS, the InterPlanetary FileSystem
- 4 Tutorial
- 4.1 Learning outcomes
- 4.2 Target audience
- 4.3 Curriculum
- 5 Presenter
- 6 Conclusion
- 6.1 Acknowledgments

References

All links were last followed on March 10, 2016.