

CHAPTER 4

RESULT, DISCUSSION AND FINDING

This chapter will focus more on the finding from the testing phase to make sure the system work according to the development plan and satisfy all of the objective that have been stated on the previous chapter. In this chapter, the results from the testing phase and the problem faced during the development phase will be defined.

4.1 System Development and Testing

System development and testing is a phase where the development of the system will be documented in details, from the beginning of the process until the end of the development process. The topics that will be discusses in this phase are the installation of the dependencies, the programming language used, and the problem that arise.

4.1.1 Installation of the Dependencies

Before developing the system, dependencies like Node Packet Manager (NPM), Create React App, Interplanetary File System (IPFS) and Metamask (web extension) need to be installed first. This is to avoid any missing component or system error during the development process. The installation processes that are shown below are for the Linux OS because it is easier to setup and install the dependencies in Linux than Windows. Not only that, Linux also supports a wide variety of software and some that are already built-in.

a) Node Packet Manager (NPM)

NPM is package managers that were used for the installation of other dependencies, managing JavaScript programming Language and running the development server for the project. The installation commands for the NPM are shown in the figure 4.1.

```
$ sudo apt install npm
```

Figure 4. 1 NPM Installation Command

b) Create React App

Create React App are used for the development of the front end as it is used for initiating a new React App by providing the basic HTML,JS and CSS bundle and the component needed to run the development server for the web. The installation for the Create React App is shown in figure 4.2.

```
npm install -g create-react-app
```

Figure 4.2 Create-React-App Installation Command

c) InterPlanetary File System API (ipfs-api)

The used of ipfs-api in this project is to store the uploaded files in the IPFS and get the hash for the files without running the IPFS server or used any database to store the files. The installation command for the ipfs-api is as shown in the figure 4.3.

```
npm install ipfs-api
```

Figure 4.3 IPFS-API Installation Command

d) Metamask

Metamask is a web extension that can be downloaded by any browser and allows the browser to interact with distributed web and Ethereum decentralized application. Not only that, metamask also allows the user to choose the type of network we want to connect such as Ethereum main network, Rinkeby test network, Ropsten test network, Kovan test network or local blockchai. The metamask also provide us with a “Seed Words” where we can use it to restore an account. Figures 4.4 and 4.5 below show the metamask extension and the “Seed Words” generated after the registration process.

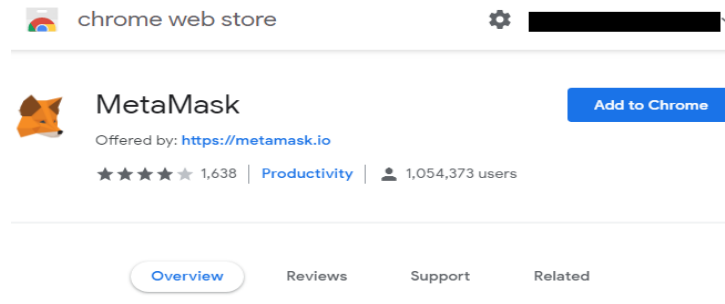


Figure 4.4 Metamask Installation

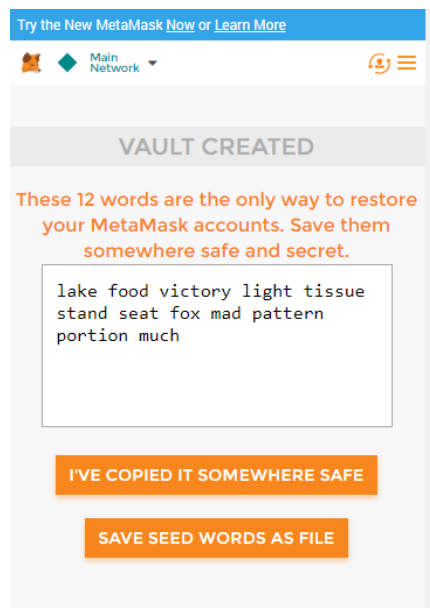


Figure 4.5 Metamask Seed Phrase

4.1.2 Writing the Smart Contract for Storing File Hash, Send Message and Read Message

The process of writing the smart contract was done in Remix Solidity Editor at <https://remix.ethereum.org>. Remix provided the platform for writing and deployment of the smart contract in various environments such as JavaScript VM, Injected Web3 and Web3 Provider. Figures 4.6 shown below are the interface of Remix Solidity IDE interface and the coding for the smart contract that is written in solidity programming language.

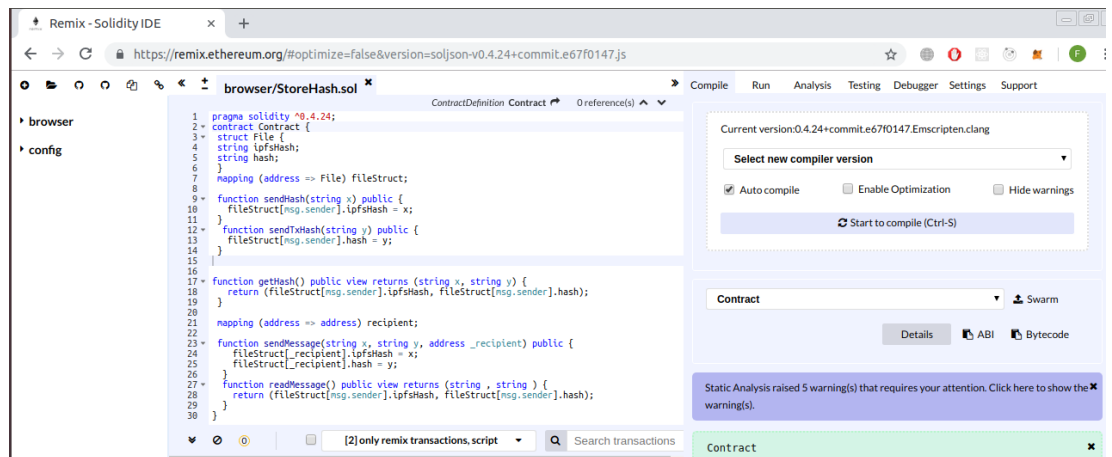


Figure 4.6 Remix IDE Interface

On the right side of the figure 4.6 is where it shows the compiler version and produced the ABI, Bytecode of the smart contract and other information like the smart contract address which is essential for the next phase of the development.

```

pragma solidity ^0.4.24;

contract Contract {
    struct File {
        string ipfsHash;
        string read1;
        string read2;
    }

    mapping (address => File) files;

    function sendHash(address _address,string _ipfsHash) public {
        files[_address].ipfsHash = _ipfsHash;
    }

    function getHash(address _address) view public returns (string) {
        return (files[_address].ipfsHash);
    }

    mapping (address => address) recipient;

    function sendMessage(string msg1, string msg2, address _recipient) public {
        files[_recipient].read1 = msg1;
        files[_recipient].read2 = msg2;
    }
    function readMessage(address _address) public view returns (string , string) {
        return (files[_address].read1, files[_address].read2);
    }
}

```

Figure 4.7 Source Code of the Smart Contract

The figure 4.7 shown above is the source code of the smart contract that were used to serve the function such as storing file hash, return the file hash, sending message to other user and receive message from the sender. Starting from the top, the “pragma solidity ^0.4.24” were defined to specify the type of compiler that are going to be used to compile the source code. Each new contract must be prepended with “contract” followed with the name of the contract with the first letter capitalized, followed by open/close curly brackets to contain the logic.

In this project, the name of the contract will be call “Contract”. After that, all variables are group to a custom defined type called File using struct, map the struct File to an address and called it as “files”. This will allow the system to look up for specific file with their Ethereum address. Next, the sendHash function are used to get the file hash that were passed to the smart contract, map it to the metamask account address to prevent other address from getting the file hash and stored it inside the smart contract. While the getHash function were used to simply return the stored file hash according to the metamask account address of the user.

For the sending message or share, file hash function, first the address of the recipient need to be mapped with the address input by the user instead of the current user. This is to prevent other addresses from reading the message and only the input address can read the message. In the sendMessage function, it will take the file hash, the transaction hash and the recipient address to be stored inside the smart contract. Lastly, the readMessage function will get the current metamask address and return the file hash and transaction hash that were stored for that particular address if there are any.

4.1.3 Deploying Smart Contract on Rinkeby (Ethereum Test Net)

After the completion of writing the smart contract, the next step is the deployment of the smart contract which can be done by clicking the run option in the top right of the figures 4.8 that was shown previously. As stated previously, Remix provided a few option for the deployment of the smart contract such as javascript vm, injected web3, which allows the smart contract to be, deploy on the ethereum testnet like rinkeby testnetwork through metamask account. Remix also can be connected to the local blockchain such as Ganache using the web3 provider option but it will chose the first address in Ganache to deployed the smart contract.

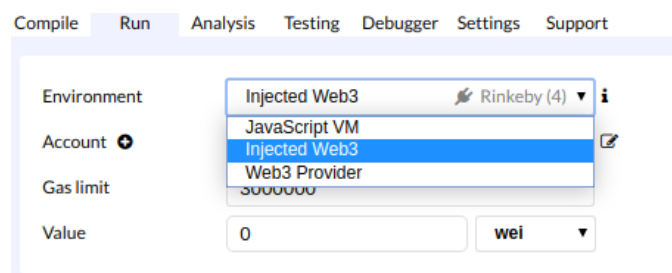


Figure 4.8 Remix IDE Environments

For the purpose of this project, the environment used are the injected web3 where the metamask account is connected to the Rinkeby (Ethereum Test Network). After choosing the environment, clicking the deploy button will pop out the transaction confirmation for deploying the smart contract as shown in figure 4.9.

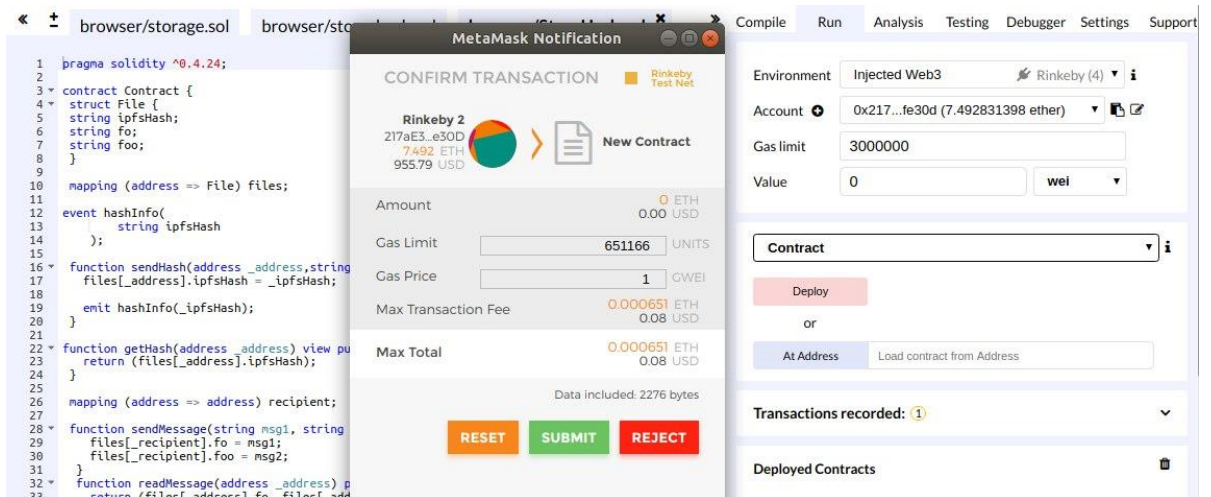


Figure 4.9 User Confirmations for Deploying the Smart Contract on Rinkeby Test Net

After confirming the transaction to deploy the smart contract it will output the function in the smart contract where the testing can be done to identify whether the smart contract is working correctly as intended. The figure 4.10 below shows the output of the deployed smart contract.

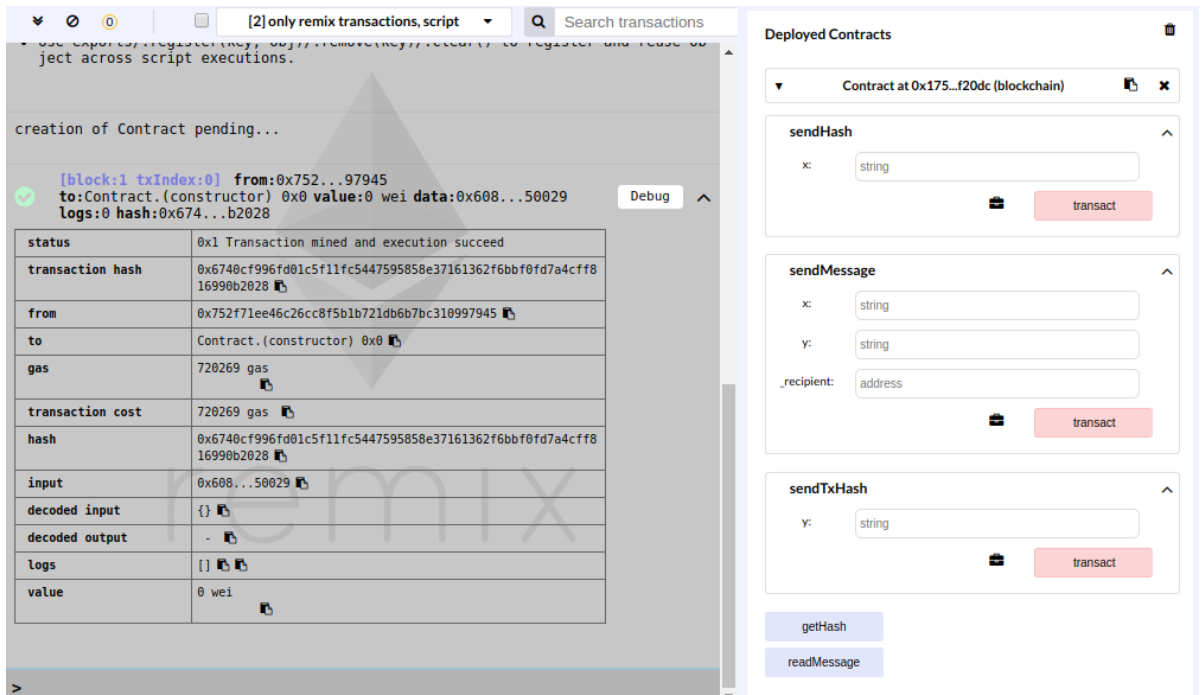


Figure 4.10 Output of the Deployed Smart Contract on Remix IDE Terminal

The left sight of the figure 4.10 shows the transaction receipt that are generated once the contract have been successfully deployed and mined in the Rinkeby Testnet while the right side of the figures shows the output list of all the function that were set in the smart contract and also the smart contract address.

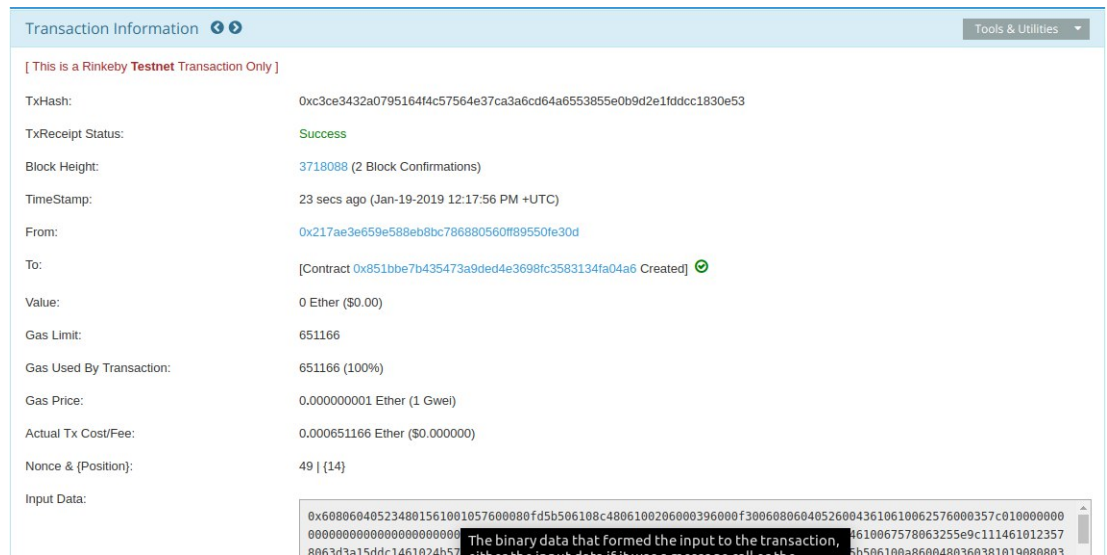


Figure 4.11 Transaction of the Deployed Smart Contract in Etherscan Website

As shown in figure 4.11 above, the successful transaction of the contract creation can be seen in Etherscan Website by providing either the smart contract address, metamask account address or the transaction hash that were generated by Remix in its terminal.

4.1.4 Development of the Frontend of the Web Application Using React, CSS, Web3 and IPFS Infura

After the deployment of the smart contract, the next step is to write the graphical user interface or the frontend of the system to make it user friendly and interactive using react where it already provide us with the basic page that we need such as app.js, index.js and the css of the web application. Even though the Web3 and IPFS infura are still considered as the backend but it will be easier to understand the development of the system as both Web3 and IPFS infura are used to connect the frontend of the application to the local blockchain and IPFS node as it take the user input to be able to functionalized.

Upon completion of the installation of React App, the React App can finally be created by using the command “create-react-app <project name>”. It will take a while for the files to be downloaded, as it will install all the essential files for the React App. Once it have downloaded all the files it will produce an output shown as figures 4.12 below and the user manual to run the development server.

```
delyvix@ubuntu:~$ create-react-app fyp2
Creating a new React app in /home/delyvix/fyp2.
Installing packages. This might take a couple of minutes.
Installing react, react-dom, and react-scripts...
+ react-dom@16.6.3
+ react-scripts@2.1.1
+ react@16.6.3
added 1706 packages from 661 contributors and audited 35639 packages in 303.52s
found 0 vulnerabilities
```

Figure 4.12 Creating New Project With React

```

Initialized a git repository.

Success! Created fyp2 at /home/delyvix/fyp2
Inside that directory, you can run several commands:

  npm start
    Starts the development server.

  npm run build
    Bundles the app into static files for production.

  npm test
    Starts the test runner.

  npm run eject
    Removes this tool and copies build dependencies, configuration files
    and scripts into the app directory. If you do this, you can't go back!

We suggest that you begin by typing:

  cd fyp2
  npm start

Happy hacking!

```

Figure 4.13 React App User Manual

a) App.js

The App.js keeps all page navigation within the session of the webpage. In the figure 4.14 below, the first line of code is where we import the entire library from react bootstrap for the user interface (UI), react-router-dom from page navigation, Routes is where we store all the routes for the navigation bar and finally the css for the navigation bar.

```

index.js  App.js
1  import React, { Component } from "react";
2  import { Link } from "react-router-dom";
3  import { Nav, Navbar, NavItem } from "react-bootstrap";
4  import { LinkContainer } from "react-router-bootstrap";
5  import Routes from "./Routes";
6  import "./App.css";
7

```

Figure 4.14 Importing Library for App.js File

After all the libraries and related pages have been imported, the next step is to code the navigation bar for the App, which as shown in figure 4.15.

```

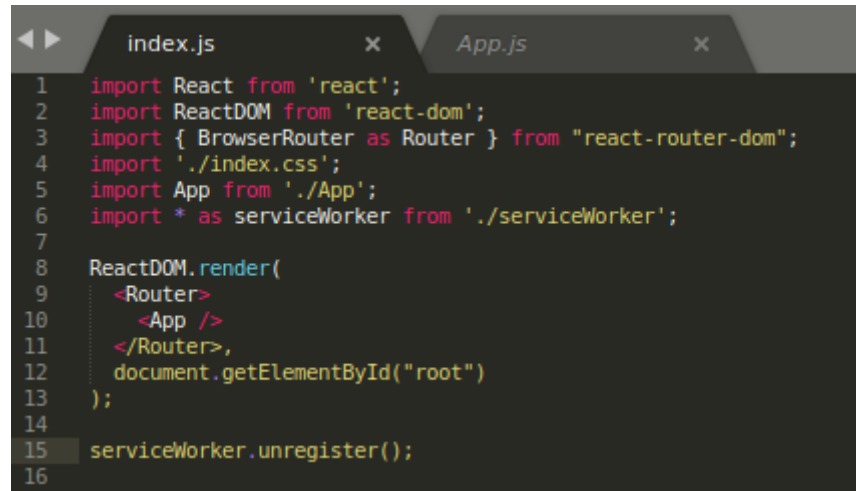
8   class App extends Component {
9     render() {
10      return (
11        <div className="App container">
12          <Navbar fluid collapseOnSelect>
13            <Navbar.Header>
14              <Navbar.Brand>
15                <Link to="/">Dashboard</Link>
16              </Navbar.Brand>
17              <Navbar.Toggle />
18            </Navbar.Header>
19            <Navbar.Collapse>
20              <Nav pullRight>
21                <LinkContainer to="/uploadfile">
22                  <NavItem>Upload File</NavItem>
23                </LinkContainer>
24                <LinkContainer to="/receive">
25                  <NavItem>Receive</NavItem>
26                </LinkContainer>
27              </Nav>
28            </Navbar.Collapse>
29          </Navbar>
30          <Routes />
31        </div>
32      );
33    }
34  }
35
36  export default App;

```

Figure 4.15 Source Code for Navigation Bar

b) Index.js

Index.js loads all the files in the directory synchronously and the imported serviceWorker.js was used to add offline caching support for offline development. In the figure 4.16, it shows that first the ReactDOM will render the App.js and unregister method of the serviceWorker was used to prevent the site from crashing incase the service worker is facing a technical problems.



```

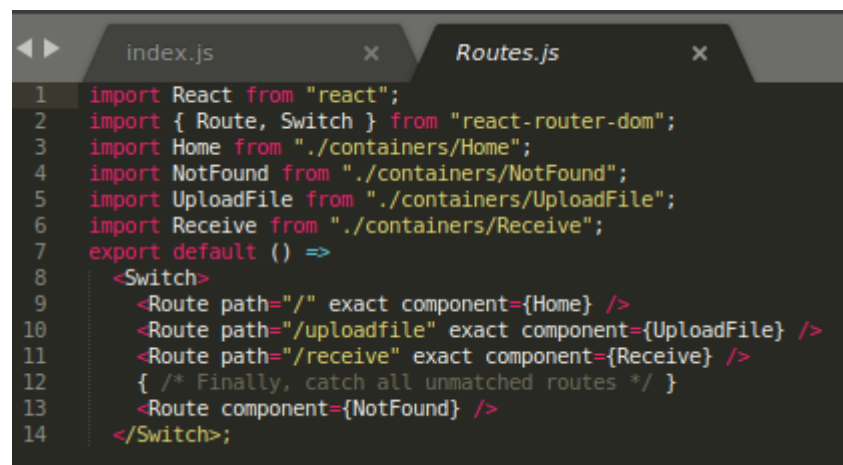
1  import React from 'react';
2  import ReactDOM from 'react-dom';
3  import { BrowserRouter as Router } from "react-router-dom";
4  import './index.css';
5  import App from './App';
6  import * as serviceWorker from './serviceWorker';
7
8  ReactDOM.render(
9    <Router>
10     <App />
11   </Router>,
12   document.getElementById("root")
13 );
14
15 serviceWorker.unregister();
16

```

Figure 4.16 Source Code for Index.js

c) Routes.js

Routes.js is where all the routes for the navigation bar are defined. In order to route the user to the specific page in React, Route and Switch was imported from the react-router-dom library as shown in figure 4.17 below. With the Route and Switch, the pages for the web can finally be add for routing purposes.



```

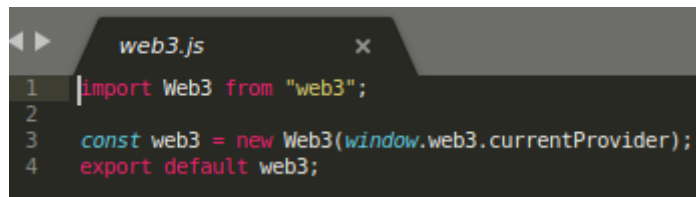
1  import React from "react";
2  import { Route, Switch } from "react-router-dom";
3  import Home from "../containers/Home";
4  import NotFound from "../containers/NotFound";
5  import UploadFile from "../containers/UploadFile";
6  import Receive from "../containers/Receive";
7  export default () =>
8  <Switch>
9    <Route path="/" exact component={Home} />
10   <Route path="/uploadfile" exact component={UploadFile} />
11   <Route path="/receive" exact component={Receive} />
12   { /* Finally, catch all unmatched routes */ }
13   <Route component={NotFound} />
14 </Switch>;

```

Figure 4.17 Source Code for Routes.js

d) Web3.js

Web3 is a library, which contains a collection of modules needed for the ethereum environment and allows the browser to connect with the ethereum. In figure 4.18 below, the source code, specify the environment of the ethereum from the metamask account.



```
web3.js
1 import Web3 from "web3";
2
3 const web3 = new Web3(window.web3.currentProvider);
4 export default web3;
```

Figure 4.18 Source Code for Web3.js

e) StoreHash.js

In storehash.js, the address and the abi of the smart contract that were previously deployed were defined to enable the App to connect to the smart contract and use all the function in the smart contract.



```

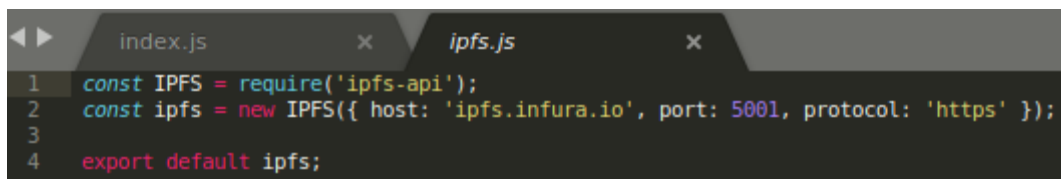
1  import web3 from './web3';
2
3  const address = '0x989323781df404b72de9216924bd67alb59b14fd';
4
5  const abi = [
6    {
7      "constant": true,
8      "inputs": [],
9      "name": "readMessage",
10     "outputs": [
11       {
12         "name": "",
13         "type": "string"
14       },
15       {
16         "name": "",
17         "type": "string"
18       }
19     ],
20     "payable": false,
21     "stateMutability": "view",
22     "type": "function"
23   },
24   {
25     "constant": false,
26     "inputs": [
27       {
28         "name": "y",
29         "type": "string"
30       }
31     ],
32     "name": "sendTxHash",
33     "outputs": [],
34     "payable": false,
35     "stateMutability": "nonpayable",
36     "type": "function"
37   },

```

Figure 4.19 Source Code for StoreHash.js

f) IPFS.js

In order to connect to ipfs node, the lines of codes that were shown in figure 4.20 below are essential and to ease the user to use the ipfs function without running the ipfs daemon, ipfs infura were used.



```

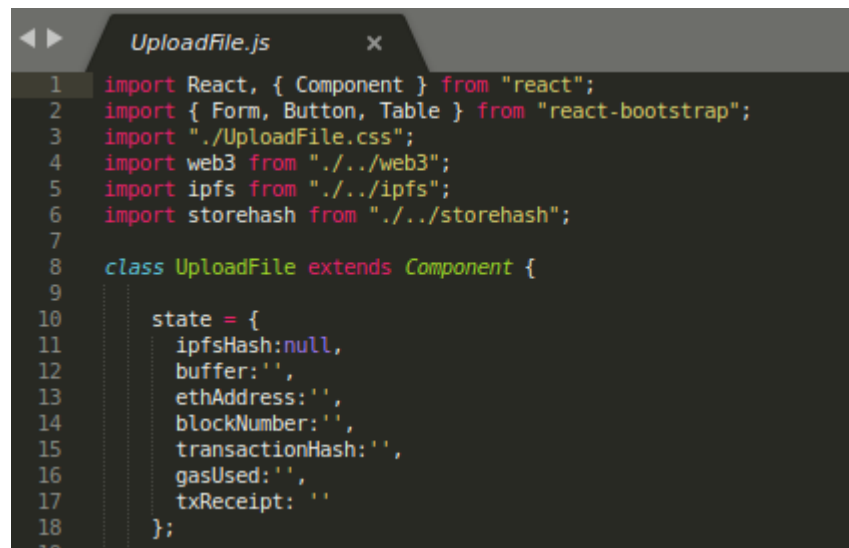
1  const IPFS = require('ipfs-api');
2  const ipfs = new IPFS({ host: 'ipfs.infura.io', port: 5001, protocol: 'https' });
3
4  export default ipfs;

```

Figure 4.20 Source Code for IPFS.js

g) UploadFile.js

As figure 4.21 below shows, the first six lines of the code are where all the related component, UI and files that were previously mentioned such as web3.js, ipfs.js and storehash.js were imported. The next step is to declare the state that is going to be used.



```
1 import React, { Component } from "react";
2 import { Form, Button, Table } from "react-bootstrap";
3 import "../UploadFile.css";
4 import web3 from "../../web3";
5 import ipfs from "../../ipfs";
6 import storehash from "../../storehash";
7
8 class UploadFile extends Component {
9
10     state = {
11         ipfsHash:null,
12         buffer:'',
13         ethAddress:'',
14         blockNumber:'',
15         transactionHash:'',
16         gasUsed:'',
17         txReceipt: ''
18     };
19 }
```

Figure 4.21 Importing Component and Defining State for Upload.js

In the next line of code which is capture file, the selected file were send to convertToBuffer and converted the selected file to buffer and stored in the state that were declared previously as shown in the figure 4.22 below.



```
20 captureFile =(event) => {
21     event.stopPropagation()
22     event.preventDefault()
23     const file = event.target.files[0]
24     let reader = new window.FileReader()
25     reader.readAsArrayBuffer(file)
26     reader.onloadend = () => this.convertToBuffer(reader)
27 };
28 convertToBuffer = async(reader) => {
29     //convert file to
30     const buffer = await Buffer.from(reader.result);
31     //set this buffer -using es6 syntax
32     this.setState({buffer});
33 };
```

Figure 4.22 Source Code for Converting File to Buffer

In figure 4.23 below, the onClick function are derived from the user input as the user click the “Get Transaction Receipt” which will generate the block number and gas used once the block from the transaction hash that have been mined and display it on user browser.

```

35  onClick = async () => {
36    try{
37      this.setState({blockNumber:"waiting.."});
38      this.setState({gasUsed:"waiting.."});
39
40      await web3.eth.getTransactionReceipt(this.state.transactionHash, (err, txReceipt)=>{
41        console.log(err,txReceipt);
42        this.setState({txReceipt});
43      }); //await for getTransactionReceipt
44      await this.setState({blockNumber: this.state.txReceipt.blockNumber});
45      await this.setState({gasUsed: this.state.txReceipt.gasUsed});
46    } //try
47
48    catch(error){
49      console.log(error);
50    } //catch
51  } //onClick

```

Figure 4.23 Source Code for Getting the Transaction Receipt

The onSubmit function will first get the user’s metamask account to pay for the transaction and get the address of the smart contract address from the storehash file, while the ipfs.add() will send the buffered file to IPFS. IPFS will then generate the hash of the file to make it viewable and the hash of the file was stored inside the blockchain using the sendHash method. The user needs to confirm the transaction with their metamask account for the transaction hash to be generated.

```

52  onSubmit = async (event) => {
53    event.preventDefault();
54    //get user's metamask account address
55    const accounts = await web3.eth.getAccounts();
56
57    console.log('Sending from Metamask account: ' + accounts[0]);
58    //obtain contract address
59    const ethAddress= await storehash.options.address;
60    this.setState({ethAddress});
61    //save document to IPFS,return its hash, and set hash to state
62    await ipfs.add(this.state.buffer, (err, ipfsHash) => {
63      console.log(err,ipfsHash);
64      this.setState({ ipfsHash:ipfsHash[0].hash });
65      storehash.methods.sendHash(this.state.ipfsHash).send({
66        from: accounts[0]
67      }, (error, transactionHash) => {
68        console.log(transactionHash);
69        this.setState({transactionHash});
70      }); //storehash
71    }) //await ipfs.add
72  }; //onSubmit
73

```

Figure 4.24 Source Code for Storing the File to IPFS and File Hash to Blockchain

The next function is the `handleMessage` function as shown in figure 4.25 below, which it will act the same as `onSubmit` function where it will get the user's metamask account and smart contract address. After that it will call the `sendMessage` method to send the `ipfsHash` and `transactionHash` to the recipient ethereum address from the user input.

```
80 handleSendMessage = async (event) => {
81   event.preventDefault();
82   const accounts = await web3.eth.getAccounts();
83
84   console.log('Sending from Metamask account: ' + accounts[0]);
85
86   //obtain contract address from storehash.js
87   const ethAddress= await storehash.options.address;
88   this.setState({ethAddress});
89
90   storehash.methods.sendMessage(this.state.ipfsHash, this.state.transactionHash ,this.state.recipient).send({
91     from: accounts[0]
92   }); //storehash
93
94 };
```

Figure 4.25 Source Code for Sending the File Hash and Transaction Hash to Other User

For the user interface (UI) of the `UploadFile.js`, the first thing is to create the form for an upload file using the HTML as shown in figure 4.26 below.

```
76 return (
77   <div className="App">
78     <header className="App-header">
79       <h1> Upload File To IPFS And Get The Transaction Receipt</h1>
80     </header>
81
82     <hr />
83     <h3> Choose file to send to IPFS </h3>
84     <Form onSubmit={this.onSubmit}>
85       <input
86         type = "file"
87         onChange = {this.captureFile}
88       />
89       <Button
90         bsStyle="primary"
91         type="submit">
92         Send it
93       </Button>
94     </Form>
```

Figure 4.26 Source Code for Upload Form UI