Algorand's Layer-1

Intro to Algorand's Layer-1 Features



Performance

- ~3.7 second block time
- Instant finality
- 6,000 TPS
- .001 ALGO fee
- Low energy consumption



Algorand Standard Assets (ASA)

- User-created tokens that are primitive to the blockchain
- Allows easy creation of tokens without smart contract risk
 - Supports fungible tokens and non-fungible tokens (NFTs)
- Features
 - Clawback: Allows a specified address to take back an asset
 - Freeze: Allows a specific address to freeze an asset
 - Metadata URL: Point to off-chain metadata for a token
 - Opt-in: Accounts must whitelist assets they wish to receive



Smart Contracts

- Flat fee until congestion
- Turing complete
 - Hard-coded limitations to keep complexity in check
- Can read/write blockchain state and send transactions



State Proofs

- Attest to state of the chain in a verifiable way
- Can be leveraged by other chains for interoperability
 - Bridge on another chain can verify Algorand state proof on-chain
- Provides quantum security of chain history



Minimum balance requirement (MBR)

- Every account has a minimum balance
 - Starts at 0.1 ALGO
- Any transaction that would result in an account going under the MBR will fail
 - Exception is when an account makes an account to specifically close out the entire balance
- MBR is a way to rent space in the current state of the blockahin
 - Since ALGO is capped, the active state of the blockchain is also capped



MBR Changes

| Action | Effect | Effect on MBR |
|-------------------------|--|--|
| Asset opt-in | account can receive the asset | increased by 0.1 ALGO |
| Application opt-in | application can save state to the account | increased proportional to data saved locally (see formula here) |
| Application creation | application is created | increased proportional to data saved globally (see formula here) |
| Asset opt-out | account can no longer hold or receive asset | decreased by 0.1 ALGO |
| Application opt- out | account's local state for the given application is cleared | decreased by same amount as opt-in |
| Application delete | no one can interact with the app | decreased by same amount as creation |



Rekeying

- Allows a different private key to sign for a given address
- Once an account is rekeyed the original private key can no longer sign transactions
- Rekeying can be initiated with any regular transaction



Atomic Transactions

- Algorand supports grouping 16 transactions together
 - If one transaction fails, they all fail
- Smart contracts can also send 16 transactions
 - Total of 256 atomic transactions
- Smart contracts can verify data of transactions in the same group

