



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM · UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING - DISI

Filecoin in practice

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Part I

Socioeconomic context



Public opinions on Filecoin

Hype (1, 2) (1/3)

Months of Hype

In July 2020, Filecoin announced their initial *Space Race* competition to be held in August, where miners on Filecoin's testnet would be *"competing for up to 4M FIL in prizes as they race to onboard as much storage space as possible."* According to the *Space Race* website, 360 miners took part in the competition, onboarding 230 PiB (258million gigabytes) in the three-week competition period. The second Space Race kicked off mid-September.

On the 27th of September, Filecoin stated that their mainnet would go live once the (epoch) block 148'888 had been reached *"We expect this epoch to land around Oct 15, which will begin a period of monitoring and problem solving to ensure the network is nominal..."*. Furthermore, they announced their celebratory mainnet *Lift-off Week*, starting from the 19th — 23rd of October.

True to their estimate, the mainnet went live on the 15th of October at ~14:45 UTC, with a week of pure hype leading to the launch. Over the week leading up to the launch Kraken, Gemini, Huobi, OKEx and as of yesterday, Binance — with Gemini's Tyler Winklevos tweeting *"Filecoin \$FIL, the most anticipated crypto since the launch of Ethereum and Bitcoin itself, is here!"*

A sudden surge in Filecoin social media activity appears to be driven by Chinese miners and speculators.

This recent excitement around Filecoin appears to be largely driven by China, despite Filecoin being a US-based company. As the founder of Ethereum Classic Labs James Wo said this of the phenomenon:

"In China, Filecoin is so hot while DeFi is not. To make hotspot, you have to let people participate. Purchasing mining machines is much easier than purchasing tokens in China."

As with Bitcoin mining, most Filecoin mining is happening in China. Eight out of the ten largest miners on the Filecoin testnet are in China. Though, experts suggest that this could be less to do with Filecoin and more to do with the popularity of mining in China.

"Crypto mining has always been a popular thing in China," said Andy Tian, co-founder of 1475, a Filecoin mining hardware manufacturer.

Apart from mining, the investors are betting big on Filecoin Futures, which are dependent on the mainnet's launch. Filecoin's current 24-hour futures trading volume is more than \$50 million, according to CoinGecko.



Public opinions on Filecoin

Controversies (1, 2) (2/3)

14 Why is Filecoin getting ignored so much?

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kritbell 7 days ago

I wouldn't say it's being ignored. Crypto is almost in like a pre-dot-com bust bubble right now. 99% of the companies won't survive long term and have terrible/nonexistent business models with incompetent people leading them.

Filecoin has a strong use case scenario but will take some time for products to be built on it. It takes a while for the largest proportion of retail investors to cotton on to these sorts of concepts and the same goes for institutional investors who are super risk averse.

14 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

15 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

AlexCventry 6 days ago

Filecoin has a strong use case scenario

What is it?

3 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

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UsernameWanted 7 days ago

For me it's because it's incredibly overvalued at a \$50 billion fully diluted market cap.

10 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

brianjen 6 days ago - edited 5 days ago

It's incredibly overvalued at a \$50 billion fully diluted market cap.

I look at the year 4 diluted state - 1 Billion FILs. So, we are ~20B. In four years. The wildcard here is the burn rate - 100k to 150k per day are taken out of circulation. If real usage happens, there will be lots of upside from here.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

laughnow 7 days ago

because the original investors are still getting new coin issued everyday and they are selling for 10x. Pretty sure it is done in April.

6 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

brianjen 6 days ago

This too. But only the 6 mo vendors will be done. I think this is most of them, however. I actually think we may have found a bottom.

Mining. What's the minimum hardware requirements?

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bluebachcrypto 5 days ago

I'd really like to see more effort and resources put toward lowering the learning curve and making it easier for little Johnny with a 12TB drive that's mostly empty to earn some Filecoin.

2 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

Nicolade 5 days ago

That would be nice but as an investor in the ecosystem, I am glad they made a different design choice. You don't want a casual person storing your important data. You want to make sure that your data is secured and that person will remain online for the duration of that storage deal.

Someone with 10-20TB drive doing this as a hobby may not care and leave the network. Imagine you paid someone to store your important data and now that person is gone from the network. That would be really bad for trust in the network. No one would store data on filecoin network if the network is not reliable.

The network is designed for long term health. Storage providers have to pay collateral upfront. Payments are vested overtime. There is also a high penalty for the lost storage which comes out of the collateral.

2 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

isannabethecrypto 5 days ago

You don't want a casual person storing your important data

I don't.

However, I do want thousands of casual persons storing my data in an anonymized and encrypted, multiply-redundant, eventual-consistency storage system.

Isn't that the point of IPFS?

6 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

port_a_bite 5 days ago

The problem with this is when Filecoin did the ICO it was marketed as anyone being able to provide storage. Not until the money was already raised and in their hands did this change to only ultrawealthy people with massive farms be able to provide storage

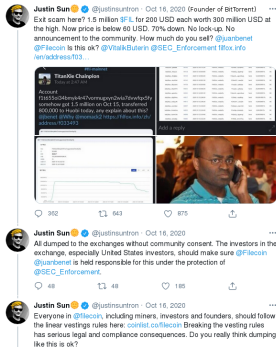
3 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

bluebachcrypto 5 days ago

Getting individuals involved is at the heart of decentralization. It should be the protocol and the incentivization model that keeps ones files online. Catering only to big time players is mostly just reallocating the burden of who pays AWS.

Public opinions on Filecoin

Is Filecoin a scam? (1, 2, 3, 4, 5) (3/3)



Justin Sun also backed his claims by sharing a screenshot of a Filecoin founder's account that reflected the founder receiving 1.5 million FIL on October 15, which happens to be the same day Filecoin launched.

But the screenshot (seen below) also shows that 800,000 FIL tokens were later transferred to the crypto exchange Huobi which Sun believed to be the main reason why FIL tokens price dropped.

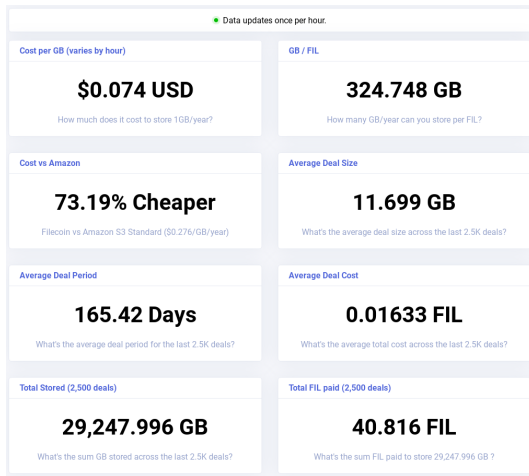


Filecoin is controversial, even in South Korea. Some pyramid scheme companies are selling Filecoin mining machines, and this causes continuous damages. They are openly and actively working on YouTube, portals, and social media to attract customers. Most of the victims who have been trapped by them are ignorant about Filecoin. And it is possible that they still do not know about the series of incidents happening now. If the information does not circulate, damages will continue to grow.



How much it costs me to store a file?

<https://filstats.com>





How's Filecoin Mainnet doing?

<https://stats.filecoin.io>





Can I see proofs without a Filecoin node?

<https://proofs.filecoin.io>

v28-proof-of-spacetime-faBback-marketree-possidon_hasher-8-8-0-559a5811022b444ec6a719e5631f0e026a95d42a56c18714a2a692b188d7e meta	QmSv5rRT	27 B
v28-proof-of-spacetime-faBback-marketree-possidon_hasher-8-8-0-559a5811022b444ec6a719e5631f0e026a95d42a56c18714a2a692b188d7e params	QmTtL1L1	192 MB
v28-proof-of-spacetime-faBback-marketree-possidon_hasher-8-8-0-559a5811022b444ec6a719e5631f0e026a95d42a56c18714a2a692b188d7e v.k	QmC2CxDcF	14 kB
v28-proof-of-spacetime-faBback-marketree-possidon_hasher-8-8-2-2627e400b6b799c0f990c0a47d5426b7ab0a0ad58c1061547b2d8b0d6f meta	QmH4BMP	27 B
v28-proof-of-spacetime-faBback-marketree-possidon_hasher-8-8-2-2627e400b6b799c0f990c0a47d5426b7ab0a0ad58c1061547b2d8b0d6f params	QmH4ZK3V	63 GB
v28-proof-of-spacetime-faBback-marketree-possidon_hasher-8-8-2-2627e400b6b799c0f990c0a47d5426b7ab0a0ad58c1061547b2d8b0d6f v.k	QmWvLf17	2.4 MB
v28-proof-of-spacetime-faBback-marketree-possidon_hasher-8-8-2-b62098629d7946e9028127e70295ed998e3ed25b0998eb610a0b4385a3c meta	QmH4BMP	27 B
v28-proof-of-spacetime-faBback-marketree-possidon_hasher-8-8-2-b62098629d7946e9028127e70295ed998e3ed25b0998eb610a0b4385a3c params	QmWvLkV2	200 MB
v28-proof-of-spacetime-faBback-marketree-possidon_hasher-8-8-2-b62098629d7946e9028127e70295ed998e3ed25b0998eb610a0b4385a3c v.k	QmFt_Su8n	14 kB
v28-staked-proof-of-replication-marketree-possidon_hasher-8-0-0-sha256_hasher-012d5138422506ac0082ed72b2dcb18d1847704e35afae82b793b06832f meta	QmEj_J3Fa	20 B
v28-staked-proof-of-replication-marketree-possidon_hasher-8-0-0-sha256_hasher-012d5138422506ac0082ed72b2dcb18d1847704e35afae82b793b06832f params	QmWc_B17h	1.1 GB
v28-staked-proof-of-replication-marketree-possidon_hasher-8-0-0-sha256_hasher-012d5138422506ac0082ed72b2dcb18d1847704e35afae82b793b06832f v.k	QmWc_LqH4	4.7 kB
v28-staked-proof-of-replication-marketree-possidon_hasher-8-0-0-sha256_hasher-8bab486c344a495d558e7770a58fb2382d540225af8d307b8b7c3cd472 meta	QmWc_YsXR	29 B
v28-staked-proof-of-replication-marketree-possidon_hasher-8-0-0-sha256_hasher-8bab486c344a495d558e7770a58fb2382d540225af8d307b8b7c3cd472 params	QmTbLZJC	2.0 GB
v28-staked-proof-of-replication-marketree-possidon_hasher-8-0-0-sha256_hasher-8bab486c344a495d558e7770a58fb2382d540225af8d307b8b7c3cd472 v.k	QmWc_d89H	4.7 kB
v28-staked-proof-of-replication-marketree-possidon_hasher-8-0-0-sha256_hasher-acd893648512ab1765fa2a5f14bab486766314670aa3ad4b5dab0652bb meta	QmWc_LqH4	23 B
v28-staked-proof-of-replication-marketree-possidon_hasher-8-0-0-sha256_hasher-acd893648512ab1765fa2a5f14bab486766314670aa3ad4b5dab0652bb params	QmPLWd0H	1.4 GB
v28-staked-proof-of-replication-marketree-possidon_hasher-8-0-0-sha256_hasher-acd893648512ab1765fa2a5f14bab486766314670aa3ad4b5dab0652bb v.k	QmWc_Zs59	4.7 kB
v28-staked-proof-of-replication-marketree-possidon_hasher-8-8-0-sha256_hasher-82a357d20a81d61b454a782907a2eeeb1b0c5938c4e77a46d1baf7820 meta	QmSv5rRT	27 B
v28-staked-proof-of-replication-marketree-possidon_hasher-8-8-0-sha256_hasher-82a357d20a81d61b454a782907a2eeeb1b0c5938c4e77a46d1baf7820 params	QmWc_LqH4	47 GB
v28-staked-proof-of-replication-marketree-possidon_hasher-8-8-0-sha256_hasher-82a357d20a81d61b454a782907a2eeeb1b0c5938c4e77a46d1baf7820 v.k	QmFS_zk2b	32 kB



Our experience

Forum (1/2)

Preforming contracts for multiple files at once?

■ Protocol and General Questions

E Ezekiel

Jan 4

Greetings. We are evaluating (especially in terms of performance) the use of Filecoin as part of the communication infrastructure of an IoT system we are developing for research purposes. Reading the documentation it seems that the negotiations are typically (or always?) done on a per-file basis, so the upload time is coupled with the contract stipulation.

Systems from competitors (namely Sia) offer a way to use contracts to "preallocate" a certain amount of space which will later be filled by actual files, allowing to decouple contract stipulation and upload (which in our usecase is important to reduce upload latency: imagine having a node which will produce during its lifetime a certain amount of data, made available to other nodes as soon as it is produced, by uploading smaller files. If a single contract is formed for the entire "chunk", performance should be sensibly better, compared to forming one contract for each file). Is this possible in Filecoin as well?

Thank you.


PS: We already tested our infrastructure using "pure" IPFS, but Filecoin's additional features (especially the Proof-of-Spacetime) are very interesting for our research.

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Does filecoin share the same storage network with ipfs? ■ Protocol and General Q...	0	161	Jul '20
Actor type for message identification ■ Protocol and General Q...	0	105	Jul '20
Getting error on filfox ■ Protocol and General Q...	0	50	Oct '20





tsiotas commented 21 days ago


<https://docs.filecoin.io/build/examples/simple-pinning-service/step-4-explore-pinning-service-app/#step-4f-fetch-data-back-from-ips-and-ffs-via-powergate-instance>


The pinning service app apparently works only with powergate docker version < 1.0.0 but only the Network page if I try to use the first version v.0.0.1-beta10 it doesn't work anyway because a dns error occurs:
 "resolving dns: lookup lotus on 127.0.0.11:53: no such host localnet_powergate_1 exited with code 1" OR SIGINT e"
 I tried to build the lotus image by myself, too and tried on different OS (Ubuntu and CentOS)
 The Profile page retrieves always messages like "Uncaught (in promise) Error: auth token not found" or the Pin page "Cannot read property 'defaultConfig' of undefined"
 So for me not possible testing Powergate Pinning Service, probably because problems related to different version releases and compatibility with the original service (but also the docker version 0.0.1 doesn't work anymore)... so no way to fix these problems?
 Thanks


tsiotas added the **needtriage** label 21 days ago


tsiotas assigned **johnnymatthews** 21 days ago


johnnymatthews changed the title **Powergate Pinning Service App doesn't work** Revisit the "Powergate Pinning Service App" example. 20 days ago


johnnymatthews added **diff/medium** **effort/days** **kind/maintenance** **P2** **status/ready** **topic/docs** and removed **needtriage** labels 20 days ago



johnnymatthews commented 20 days ago

Thanks for bringing this up @tsiotas. It sounds like we need to revisit this example.

Part II

Running Filecoin



Filecoin infrastructure

Available networks (1/6)

Mainnet

- ▶ Primary Filecoin network
- ▶ Sector sizes: 32GiB, 64 GiB
- ▶ Minimum power to participate in consensus: 10TiB

Butterfly

- ▶ Test network for core implementers, reset frequently
- ▶ Sector sizes: 512MiB, 32GiB, 64 GiB
- ▶ Minimum power to participate in consensus: 1GiB

Nerpa

- ▶ Test network for app developers, sealing is faster (25 mins)
- ▶ Sector sizes: 512MiB, 32GiB, 64 GiB
- ▶ Minimum power to participate in consensus: 4GiB

Calibration

- ▶ Primary test network, simulates Mainnet behavior (real deals are made between miners and users) as demo/calibration for new miners and users
- ▶ Sector sizes: 512MiB, 32GiB, 64 GiB

Localnet

- ▶ Configurable parameters (sector sizes, blockchain epoch duration, etc.)
- ▶ Sealing is mocked, allowing sensibly faster deal making
- ▶ A pool of simulated miners is generated at startup (with deterministic addresses)
- ▶ Miners are configured to always accept every deal they receive



Filecoin infrastructure

Lotus (2/6)

Lotus is a full-featured implementation of Filecoin node and miner.
Comes in three flavors:

- ▶ **lotus**: Filecoin user node (manages FIL wallet, storage and retrieval deals and validates transactions)
- ▶ **lotus-miner**: Filecoin miner
- ▶ **lotus-worker**: node which assists miners

Online networks

The current state of each network can be checked out from
<https://github.com/filecoin-project/lotus.git>

- ▶ `git checkout master`
- ▶ `git checkout ntwk-butterfly`
- ▶ `git checkout ntwk-nerpa`
- ▶ `git checkout ntwk-calibration`

Localnet

The localnet implementation can be cloned from <https://github.com/textileio/lotus-devnet>

- ▶ Sector sizes: 2KiB, 512KiB
- ▶ Block production rate configurable
- ▶ Mock sealing
- ▶ Simulated miners

File lifecycle in Lotus:

1. IPFS blocks and their CIDs are compressed into a CAR (content-addressable archive)
2. The client makes a deal with a miner
3. The CAR file is transferred to the miner
4. The file is stored in a sector which is sealed
5. The miner submits constantly proofs to the network



Filecoin infrastructure

Mining hardware requirements (3/6)

The hardware requirements for Filecoin mining are tied to the computational resources needed to seal a sector and generating regular Proof of Spacetime for every sealed sector (WindowPoSt).

For reference, the requirements listed below correspond to 32GiB sectors, as used by Mainnet and some testnets (calibration, nerpa):

- ▶ A miner will need an **8+ core CPU**
- ▶ **128 GiB of RAM** are needed at the very least. This should be complemented with **256 GiB of swap** on a very fast NVMe SSD storage medium
- ▶ A **powerful GPU** is recommended
- ▶ Filecoin network parameters are over 100GiB and need to be read and verified during Miner start. As mentioned above, lack of RAM needs to be addressed with a fast swap drive or file. For this reasons, a minimal amount of **1TiB NVMe-based disk space for cache** storage is recommended. This disk should be used to store data during the sealing process, to cache Filecoin parameters and serve as general temporal storage location. Additional hard drives for the final storage of "sealed sectors", the Lotus chain, etc. will be needed as well.

“The above requirements will not increase in the presumable future, and money spent on hardware should provide users with many years of reliable service, paying for themselves several times over.”

(<https://docs.filecoin.io/mine/hardware-requirements>)

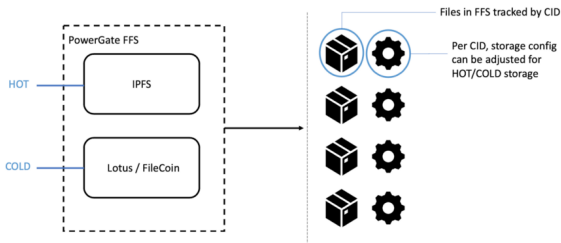
Filecoin infrastructure

Powergate (4/6)

Powergate is a file storage API which wraps IPFS and Filecoin. Files (tracked by CID) can be stored in Powergate in two modes (by default a copy will be saved in both modes):

- ▶ Hot storage: the file is stored on the IPFS network
- ▶ Cold storage: the file is stored on the Filecoin network

For cold storage, Powergate collects informations about miners like (power, price and ranking) and automatically selects the best satisfying the configuration associated with the file's CID.





Filecoin infrastructure

Reputation in Powergate (5/6)

Powergate builds three indexes related to on-chain and off-chain data.

- ▶ The Miners index provides processed data regarding registered miners (on-chain and off-chain), such as: total miner power, relative power, online status, geolocation, and more
- ▶ The Ask index provides a fast-retrieval up to date snapshot of miner's asking prices for data storage
- ▶ The Faults index provides history data about miners faults while proving their storage on-chain

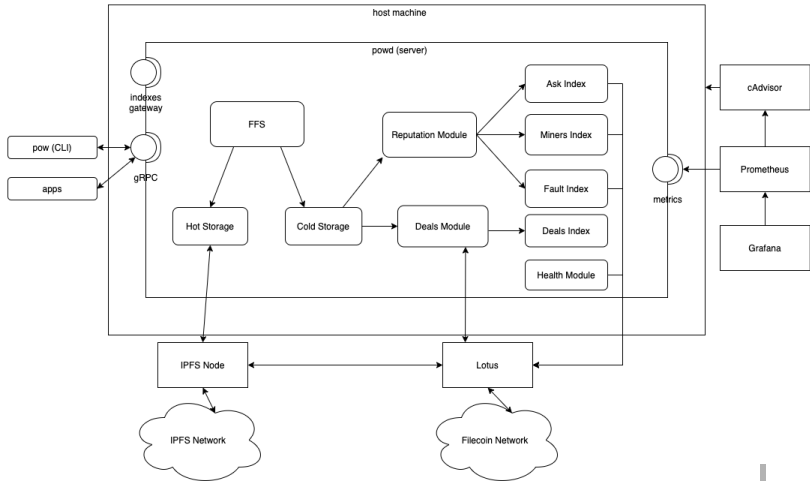
Built on top of the previous indexes, a Reputation module constructs a weighted-scoring system that allows to sort miners considering multiple on-chain and off-chain data, such as: compared price to the median of the market, low storage-fault history, power on network, and external sources.

API changes

From version 0.9.x to version 1.0 the API interface of Powergate has changed. Before this update informations on the miners' reputation could be retrieved using the APIs, after the update it's no longer possible (although internally Powergate still uses the reputation to select the best miner).

Filecoin infrastructure

Powergate architecture (6/6)





Filecoin deals

What's inside Powergate's storage options? (1/2)

```
/app # ./pow config default -t 6190def8-0637-41d1-8378-6115ba3a0049
{
  "hot": {
    "enabled": true,
    "allowUnfreeze": false,
    "unfreezeMaxPrice": "0",
    "ipfs": {
      "addTimeout": "30"
    }
  },
  "cold": {
    "enabled": true,
    "filecoin": {
      "replicationFactor": "1",
      "dealMinDuration": "518400",
      "excludedMiners": [],
      "trustedMiners": [],
      "countryCodes": [],
      "renew": {
        "enabled": false,
        "threshold": "0"
      }
    },
    "address": "f3uzaveqggfymgl4cbxgbtyxu4dbux2jobziegpy627ucfvfsss744adaacpnzmybowndjzlabbtclkpfo765q",
    "maxPrice": "0",
    "fastRetrieval": false,
    "dealStartOffset": "0"
  },
  "repairable": false
}
```



Filecoin deals

Sector status (2/2)

A sector (and therefore all the deals stored within it) can be in one of the following states:

- ▶ **Precommitted:** The miner is sealing the sector
- ▶ **Committed:** The miner has created the PoRep and submitted it
- ▶ **Active:** The miner continuously produces PoSt and submits them
- ▶ **Faulty:** A proof for the sector was not generated
- ▶ **Recovering:** The sector was declared faulty before generating the proof
- ▶ **Terminated:** The sector expired, the miner removed it from the network or was Faulty for 14 consecutive proofs

Part III

Appendix



Powergate CLI

Launching the Localnet (1/2)

Powergate comes preinstalled into three separate Docker containers (one for Powergate itself, one for Lotus and one for IPFS).

1. Download a release (powergate-docker-v<version>.zip) from <https://github.com/textileio/powergate/releases> and unzip it
2. Edit docker-compose-localnet.yaml to expose port 8080:8080 (as well as the default 5001:5001) from the IPFS container
3. Start Powergate with the provided Makefile (eg. BIGSECTORS=true make localnet)
4. A terminal on each container can be run as usual:
 - ▶ docker exec -it localnet_powergate_1 sh
 - ▶ docker exec -it localnet_lotus_1 sh
 - ▶ docker exec -it localnet_ipfs_1 sh
5. The IPFS interface can be accessed from `http://<ip>:5001/webui`
6. If the IPFS node is not on localhost, the daemon needs to be configured to accept all connections: `ipfs config -json API.HTTPHeaders.Access-Control-Allow-Origin '["*"]'`



Powergate CLI

Creating a user and making a deal (2/2)

1. Launch a shell inside Powergate container: `docker exec -it localnet_powergate_1 sh`
2. Create a new user: `./pow admin create`
3. Create a CID for a file: `./pow data stage -t <user-token> <file>`
4. Store the file: `./pow config apply -w -t <user-token> <file-cid>`
5. Wait for Powergate to finish uploading and negotiating the deal (for cold storage)

```
/app # ./pow admin user create
{
  "user": {
    "id": "608313e6-18a1-41c5-a273-d789d59fa058",
    "token": "6190def8-0637-41d1-8378-6115ba3a0049"
  }
}
/app # ./pow data stage -t 6190def8-0637-41d1-8378-6115ba3a0049 myfile.txt
{
  "cid": "QmRut2gmGHZkTtjXWYSWYwCcb4wwJF2GH9udCNRGoP4FbF"
}
/app # ./pow config apply -w -t 6190def8-0637-41d1-8378-6115ba3a0049 QmRut2gmGHZkTtjXWYSWYwCcb4wwJF2GH9udCNRGoP4FbF
{
  "jobId": "f5a6ce42-0a50-46a8-9311-6528ac6e9a6f"
}
```

JOB ID	STATUS	MINER	PRICE	DEAL STATUS
f5a6ce42-0a50-46a8-9311-6528ac6e9a6f	JOB_STATUS_EXECUTING	f01000	119	StorageDealAwaitingPreCommit



Powergate Node.js

Boilerplate (1/3)

A JavaScript Powergate client can be cloned from <https://textileio.github.io/js-powergate-client> or installed in Node.js with `npm i @textile/powergate-client`. The following boilerplate can be used for any Powergate-based application:

```
import fs from "fs"
import { createPow, powTypes } from "@textile/powergate-client"

const host = "http://0.0.0.0:6002" // or whatever powergate instance you want
const pow = createPow({ host })
```



Powergate Node.js

Example APIs (2/3)

```
// get wallet addresses associated with the user
const { addressesList } = await pow.wallet.addresses()
// create a new address associated with the user
const { address } = await pow.wallet.newAddress("my new address")
// get build information about the powergate server
const res = await pow.buildInfo()
// cache data in IPFS in preparation to store it
const buffer = fs.readFileSync('path/to/a/file')
const { cid } = await pow.data.stage(buffer)
// store the data using the default storage configuration
const { jobId } = await pow.storageConfig.apply(cid)
// watch the job status to see the storage process progressing
const jobsCancel = pow.storageJobs.watch((job) => {
  if (job.status === powTypes.JobStatus.JOB_STATUS_CANCELED) {
    console.log("job canceled")
  } else if (job.status === powTypes.JobStatus.JOB_STATUS_FAILED) {
    console.log("job failed")
  } else if (job.status === powTypes.JobStatus.JOB_STATUS_SUCCESS) {
    console.log("job success!")
  }
}, jobId)
```




Powergate Node.js

Example APIs (3/3)

```
// watch all log events for a cid
const logsCancel = pow.data.watchLogs((logEvent) => {
  console.log('received event for cid ${logEvent.cid}')
}, cid)
// get information about the latest applied storage configuration,
// current storage state, and all related Powegate storage jobs
const { cidInfo } = await pow.data.cidInfo(cid)
// retrieve data stored in the user by cid
const bytes = await pow.data.get(cid)
// send FIL from an address managed by the user to any other address
await pow.wallet.sendFil(addressesList[0].address, "<some other address>",
  BigInt(1000))
```