Investigating how Blockchain can make Cross Border Payments faster and cost effective

Introduction

In this report, we investigate the creation of a blockchain-based cross-border payment system. By utilising the features of the Stellar blockchain, this project seeks to address the difficulties involved with cross-border transactions. We'll look into the application's technology, modules, and user experiences.

Project Overview

An essential component of financial technology, the simplification of cross-border payments, is the subject of our study. It seeks to offer an effective, user-friendly, and secure solution for cross-border transactions. The importance of this technology resides in its potential to completely alter how people and corporations send money across international borders.

Technologies and Libraries Used

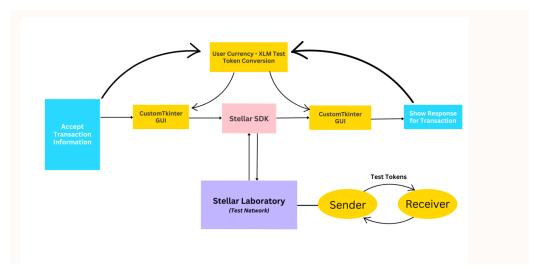
We selected Stellar as our blockchain platform, known for its fast and cost-effective transactions.

Stellar SDK: The Stellar SDK played a pivotal role in integrating the Stellar blockchain into our application.

CustomTkinter: We enhanced the user interface using CustomTkinter, a custom GUI library designed for a visually appealing and user-friendly experience.

Coding Architecture

Our application is structured into modules, each serving a specific purpose. These modules work in harmony to create a seamless user experience and ensure the secure execution of cross-border transactions.



Python Script:

from tkinter import *
import customtkinter
from stellar_sdk import TransactionBuilder, Asset, Network, Server, Keypair

```
customtkinter.set_appearance_mode("dark")
customtkinter.set_default_color_theme("dark-blue")
# Initialize global variables
your_public_key = ""
your secret key = ""
recipient_public_key = ""
cur = ""
val = ""
amount_in_xlm = 0
conversion_rates = {
  "USD": 0.5, # 1 USD = 0.5 XLM
  "EUR": 0.4, #1 EUR = 0.4 XLM
  "INR": 0.3 # 1 INR = 0.3 XLM
}
rate = 0
# Function to capture user details
def details():
  global your public key
  global your_secret_key
  global recipient_public_key
```

```
global cur
  global val
  global conversion rates
  global amount_in_xlm
  global rate
  your_public_key = S_pk.get()
  your_secret_key = S_sk.get()
  recipient_public_key = R_pk.get()
  cur = currency.get()
  val = value.get()
  rate = conversion_rates[cur]
  amount in xlm = int(int(val) / rate)
  textbox.delete(1.0, END)
  deets = f"Sender Public Key: {your public key}\nSender Secret Key:
{your_secret_key}\nReceiver Public Key: {recipient_public_key}\nCurrency: {cur}\nAmount:
{val}\nEquivalent Tokens: {amount_in_xlm}"
  confirm.configure(text="Update Details")
  textbox.insert(END, deets, tags=None)
def transaction():
  global rate
  global your_public_key
  global your secret key
  global recipient_public_key
  global amount_in_xlm
  global cur
  stellar_server = Server("https://horizon-testnet.stellar.org")
  your_keypair = Keypair.from_secret(your_secret_key)
  your_account = stellar_server.load_account(your_keypair.public_key)
  asset = Asset("XLM")
  transaction = TransactionBuilder(
    source_account=your_account,
    network_passphrase=Network.TESTNET_NETWORK_PASSPHRASE,
    base_fee=100,
  ).append payment op(
    destination=recipient_public_key,
    asset=asset, # Specify the asset (XLM)
    amount=str(amount in xlm),
  ).set_timeout(30).build()
  transaction.sign(your keypair)
```

```
try:
     response = stellar_server.submit_transaction(transaction)
     def check transaction status(transaction hash):
       transaction = stellar server.transactions().transaction(transaction hash).call()
       return transaction['successful']
     status = check_transaction_status(response['hash'])
     textbox.delete(1.0, END)
     if status:
       received xlm = amount in xlm
       received amount in currency = received xlm * rate
       deets = f"Transaction Successful!\n\nTransaction Hash: {response['hash']}\n\nSent
{received_xlm} XLM, Equivalent to {received_amount_in_currency:.2f} {cur}"
       textbox.insert(END, deets, tags=None)
     else:
       textbox.insert(END, f"Transaction Failed {status}", tags=None)
  except Exception as e:
     textbox.delete(1.0, END)
     textbox.insert(END, "Transaction Failed", tags=None)
root = customtkinter.CTk()
root.title('Stellar Transaction App')
root.geometry("450x600")
sender = customtkinter.CTkLabel(root, text="Sender Details", justify="left")
sender.pack(padx=5, pady=5)
S_pk = customtkinter.CTkEntry(root, height=10, width=300, text_color="white",
placeholder text="Enter Sender's Public Key")
S pk.pack(padx=2, pady=2)
S sk = customtkinter.CTkEntry(root, height=10, width=300, text_color="white",
placeholder text="Enter Sender's Secret Key")
S sk.pack(padx=4, pady=4)
receiver = customtkinter.CTkLabel(root, text="Receiver Details", justify="left")
receiver.pack(padx=5, pady=5)
R pk = customtkinter.CTkEntry(root, height=10, width=300, text_color="white",
placeholder_text="Enter Receiver's Public Key")
R pk.pack(padx=2, pady=2)
```

```
amount = customtkinter.CTkLabel(root, text="Amount Details", justify="left") amount.pack(padx=5, pady=5)
```

currency = customtkinter.CTkEntry(root, height=10, width=300, text_color="white", placeholder_text="Enter Currency (e.g., INR, USD, EUR)") currency.pack(padx=2, pady=2)

value = customtkinter.CTkEntry(root, height=10, width=300, text_color="white",
placeholder_text="Enter Currency Value")
value.pack(padx=2, pady=2)

confirm = customtkinter.CTkButton(root, text='Confirm Details', command=details) confirm.pack(padx=20, pady=20)

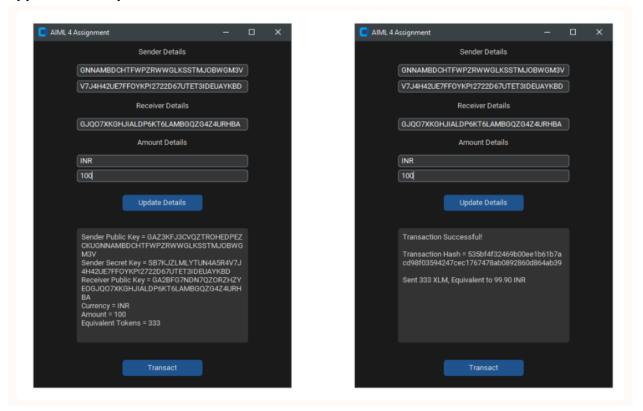
details_frame = customtkinter.CTkFrame(root, height=200, width=300, corner_radius=10) details_frame.pack(padx=10, pady=10)

textbox = customtkinter.CTkTextbox(details_frame, height=200, width=300) textbox.pack()

transact = customtkinter.CTkButton(root, text='Execute Transaction', command=transaction) transact.pack(padx=20, pady=20)

root.mainloop()

Application Snapshot:



Conclusion

In conclusion, our project shows a very basic usage of the vast Blockchain technology in the field of cross border payments. There are more complex and detailed solutions which are in practice in today's world. With more advancements it is only a matter of time until we experience these applications on a regular basis.