

# Project Proposal

## Proof-of-Replication Implementation



**Dr. Thomas Austin**

Professor

Department of Computer Science

**Trique (Dung) Nguyen**

Software Engineering Undergraduate

CS 168 - Blockchain & Cryptocurrencies

Date of Submission: Apr 24, 2024

# 1. Background

## 1.1. Choice of Topic

My area of interest in blockchain consensus is Proof-of-Storage, specifically Proof-of-Replication (PoRep) and Proof-of-Spacetime (PoSt), which Filecoin has been researching and developing. In this class project, I plan to implement the PoRep consensus based on Filecoin's research. If time permits, I will extend the PoRep to PoSt.

## 1.2. Theory

**Proof-of-Replication:** a consensus gives proof to the user (verifier V) that some data D has been replicated and stored by the server (prover P) in physical storage.

**Proof-of-Spacetime:** a consensus ensures the storage provider is storing data at a specific time of challenge.

Filecoin PoRep protocol	Filecoin PoSt protocol
<p>Setup</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>INPUTS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>prover key pair <math>(pk_P, sk_P)</math></li> <li>prover SEAL key <math>pk_{SEAL}</math></li> <li>data <math>\mathcal{D}</math></li> </ul> </li> <li>OUTPUTS: replica <math>\mathcal{R}</math>, Merkle root <math>rt</math> of <math>\mathcal{R}</math>, proof <math>\pi_{SEAL}</math></li> </ul> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Compute <math>h_{\mathcal{D}} := CRH(\mathcal{D})</math></li> <li>2) Compute <math>\mathcal{R} := Seal^{\Gamma}(\mathcal{D}, sk_P)</math></li> <li>3) Compute <math>rt := MerkleCRH(\mathcal{R})</math></li> <li>4) Set <math>\vec{x} := (pk_P, h_{\mathcal{D}}, rt)</math></li> <li>5) Set <math>\vec{w} := (sk_P, \mathcal{D})</math></li> <li>6) Compute <math>\pi_{SEAL} := SCIP.Prove(pk_{SEAL}, \vec{x}, \vec{w})</math></li> <li>7) Output <math>\mathcal{R}, rt, \pi_{SEAL}</math></li> </ol> <p>Prove</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>INPUTS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>prover <i>Proof-of-Storage</i> key <math>pk_{POS}</math></li> <li>replica <math>\mathcal{R}</math></li> <li>random challenge <math>c</math></li> </ul> </li> <li>OUTPUTS: a proof <math>\pi_{POS}</math></li> </ul> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Compute <math>rt := MerkleCRH(\mathcal{R})</math></li> <li>2) Compute <math>path :=</math> Merkle path from <math>rt</math> to leaf <math>\mathcal{R}_c</math></li> <li>3) Set <math>\vec{x} := (rt, c)</math></li> <li>4) Set <math>\vec{w} := (path, \mathcal{R}_c)</math></li> <li>5) Compute <math>\pi_{POS} := SCIP.Prove(pk_{POS}, \vec{x}, \vec{w})</math></li> <li>6) Output <math>\pi_{POS}</math></li> </ol>	<p>Setup</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>INPUTS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>prover key pair <math>(pk_P, sk_P)</math></li> <li>prover POST key pair <math>pk_{POST}</math></li> <li>some data <math>\mathcal{D}</math></li> </ul> </li> <li>OUTPUTS: replica <math>\mathcal{R}</math>, Merkle root <math>rt</math> of <math>\mathcal{R}</math>, proof <math>\pi_{SEAL}</math></li> </ul> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Compute <math>\mathcal{R}, rt, \pi_{SEAL} := PoRep.Setup(pk_P, sk_P, pk_{SEAL}, \mathcal{D})</math></li> <li>2) Output <math>\mathcal{R}, rt, \pi_{SEAL}</math></li> </ol> <p>Prove</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>INPUTS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>prover PoSt key <math>pk_{POST}</math></li> <li>replica <math>\mathcal{R}</math></li> <li>random challenge <math>c</math></li> <li>time parameter <math>t</math></li> </ul> </li> <li>OUTPUTS: a proof <math>\pi_{POST}</math></li> </ul> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Set <math>\pi_{POST} := \perp</math></li> <li>2) Compute <math>rt := MerkleCRH(\mathcal{R})</math></li> <li>3) For <math>i = 0 \dots t</math>: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Set <math>c' := CRH(\pi_{POST}    c    i)</math></li> <li>b) Compute <math>\pi_{POS} := PoRep.Prove(pk_{POS}, \mathcal{R}, c')</math></li> <li>c) Set <math>\vec{x} := (rt, c, i)</math></li> <li>d) Set <math>\vec{w} := (\pi_{POS}, \pi_{POST})</math></li> <li>e) Compute <math>\pi_{POST} := SCIP.Prove(pk_{POST}, \vec{x}, \vec{w})</math></li> </ol> </li> <li>4) Output <math>\pi_{POST}</math></li> </ol>

#### Verify

- INPUTS:
  - prover public key,  $pk_p$
  - verifier SEAL and POS keys  $vk_{SEAL}$ ,  $vk_{POS}$
  - hash of data  $\mathcal{D}$ ,  $h_{\mathcal{D}}$
  - Merkle root of replica  $\mathcal{R}$ ,  $rt$
  - random challenge,  $c$
  - tuple of proofs,  $(\pi_{SEAL}, \pi_{POS})$
- OUTPUTS: bit  $b$ , equals 1 if proofs are valid
- 1) Set  $\vec{x}_1 := (pk_p, h_{\mathcal{D}}, rt)$
- 2) Compute  $b_1 := \text{SCIP.Verify}(vk_{SEAL}, \vec{x}_1, \pi_{SEAL})$
- 3) Set  $\vec{x}_2 := (rt, c)$
- 4) Compute  $b_2 := \text{SCIP.Verify}(vk_{POS}, \vec{x}_2, \pi_{POS})$
- 5) Output  $b_1 \wedge b_2$

#### Verify

- INPUTS:
  - prover *public key*  $pk_p$
  - verifier SEAL and POST keys  $vk_{SEAL}$ ,  $vk_{POST}$
  - hash of some data  $h_{\mathcal{D}}$
  - Merkle root of some replica  $rt$
  - random challenge  $c$
  - time parameter  $t$
  - tuple of proofs  $(\pi_{SEAL}, \pi_{POST})$
- OUTPUTS: bit  $b$ , equals 1 if proofs are valid
- 1) Set  $\vec{x}_1 := (pk_p, h_{\mathcal{D}}, rt)$
- 2) Compute  $b_1 := \text{SCIP.Verify}(vk_{SEAL}, \vec{x}_1, \pi_{SEAL})$
- 3) Set  $\vec{x}_2 := (rt, c, t)$
- 4) Compute  $b_2 := \text{SCIP.Verify}(vk_{POST}, \vec{x}_2, \pi_{POST})$
- 5) Output  $b_1 \wedge b_2$

Figure 1: PoRep & PoSt protocols (Source [1])

## 2. Implementation

In this class project, I plan to implement the simplified Storage Market, where the Client pays the Storage Miner to store their data and the Storage Miner can prove their action with Proof-of-Replication. During the development, some specific parts be simplified for easier implementation.

### 2.1. Filecoin Overview

Filecoin protocol consists of Storage Market and Retrieval Market networks, with Client, Storage Miner, and Retrieval Miner.

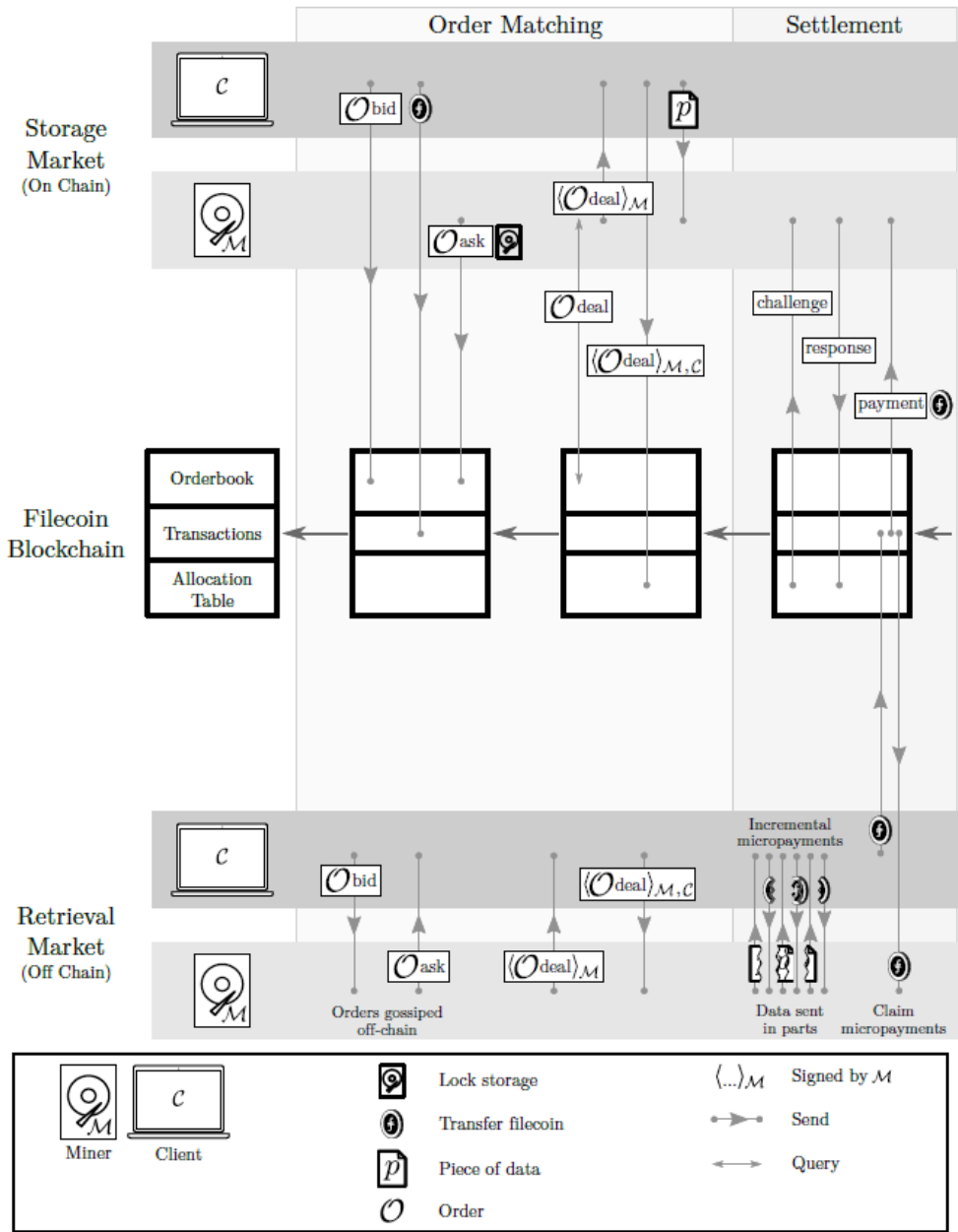


Figure 2: Filecoin Protocol (Source [1])

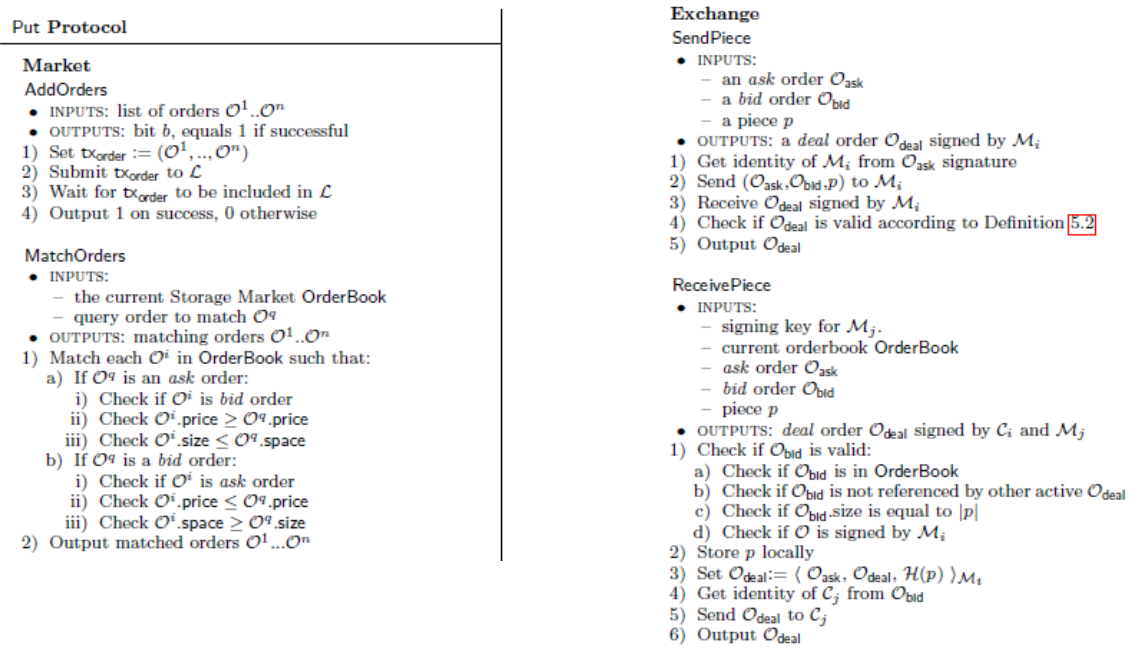


Figure 3: Storage Market Protocol (Source [1])

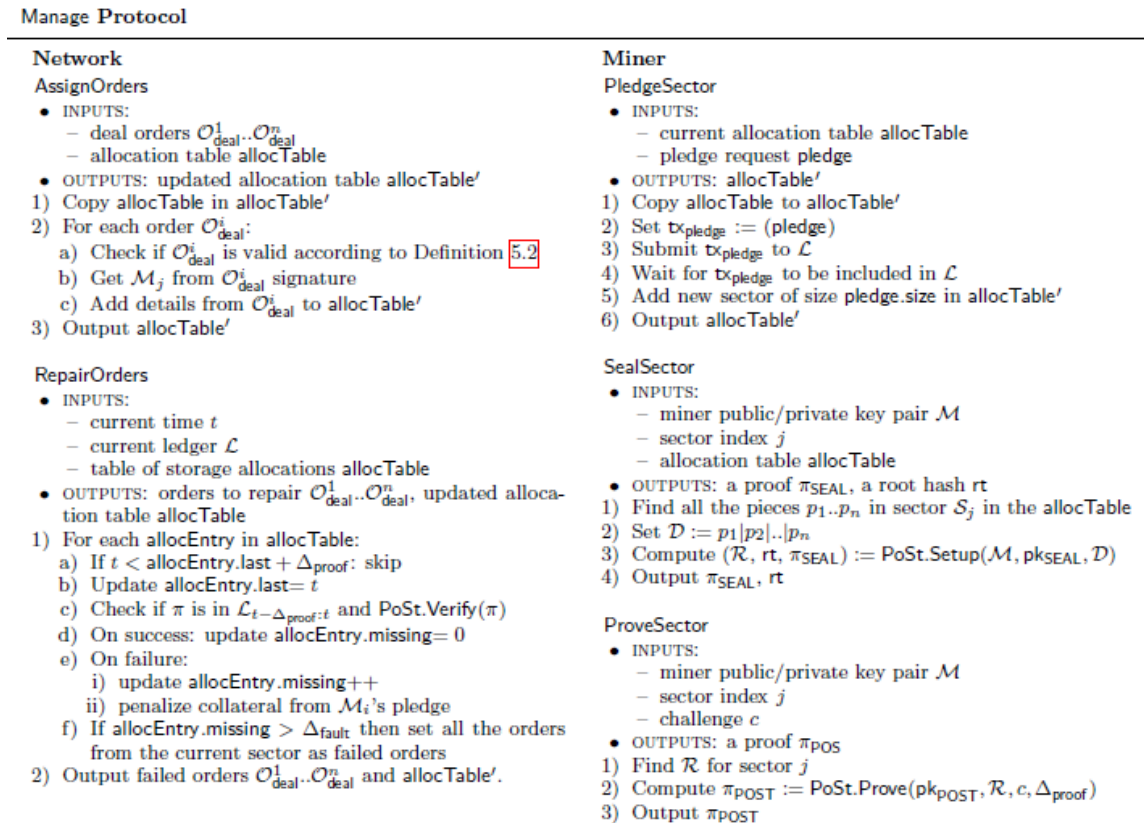


Figure 4: Manage Protocol (Source [1])

## 2.2. SpartanSuperStorage

My initial plan was to implement Proof-of-Replication consensus with SpartanGold but the integration might take a lot of for modifying most of the SpartanGold codebase. I eventually plan to work on the PoRep for my own blockchain implementation based on Filecoin.

For the demo and presentation, my goal is to have a blockchain in which the Client sends some data to the Storage Miner, and the miner stores that data in their pledged storage, which is an associated folder with the miner's information.

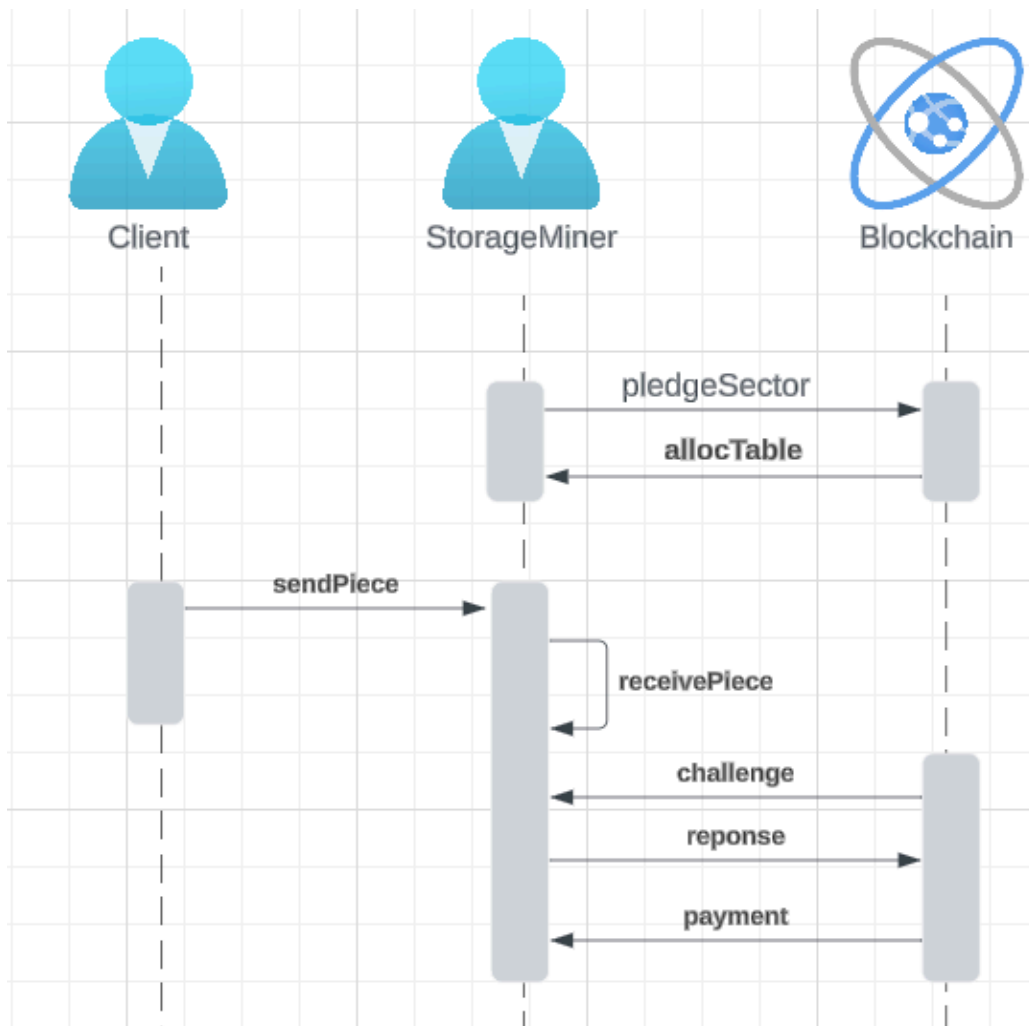


Figure 5: User flow for Demonstration

### 2.3. Schedule

Date	Task & Plan
Apr 22	Simplified version of PoRep with Seal function
Apr 24	Refined project system, plans & goals Have PoRep functions working
Apr 26	Implement Client & Storage Miner functionalities
Apr 28	Implement Block & Blockchain functionalities
Apr 30	Integrate everything

## References

1. Filecoin: A decentralized storage network. Technical report, Protocol Labs, August 2017.