LP III: BlockChain

Mini Project

Problem Statement:

Develop a Blockchain based application dApp (de-centralized app) for evoting system.

Software Requirements:

Operating System – Windows 10

Editor – Remix-Ethereum IDE

Coding Language – Solidity

Hardware Requirements:

2 GB RAM, 500 GB Hard Disk, PC / Laptop

Learning Objective:

To develop a blockchain based application for evoting system using solidity programming language.

Outcome:

Developed a blockchain based application for evoting system. A person can be reregistered as a candidate and others can vote for the person.

Theory Concepts:

Blockchain is a technology that is rapidly gaining momentum in era of industry 4.0. With high security and transparency provisions, it is being widely used in supply chain management systems, healthcare, payments, business, IoT, voting systems, etc.

Why do we need it?

Current voting systems like ballot box voting or electronic voting suffer from various security threats such as DDoS attacks, polling booth capturing, vote alteration and manipulation, malware attacks, etc, and also require huge amounts of paperwork, human resources, and time. This creates a sense of distrust among existing systems.

Some of the disadvantages are:

Long Queues during elections.

Security Breaches like data leaks, vote tampering.

Lot of paperwork involved, hence less eco-friendly and time-consuming.

Difficult for differently-abled voters to reach polling booth.

Cost of expenditure on elections is high.

Using blockchain, voting process can be made more secure, transparent, immutable, and reliable. How? Let's take an example.

Suppose you are an eligible voter who goes to polling booth and cast vote using EVM (Electronic Voting Machine). But since it's a circuitry after all and if someone tampers with microchip, you may never know that did your vote reach to person for whom you voted or was diverted into another candidate's account?

Since there's no tracing back of your vote. But, if you use blockchain- it stores everything as a transaction that will be explained soon below; and hence gives you a receipt of your vote (in a form of a transaction ID) and you can use it to ensure that your vote has been counted securely.

Now suppose a digital voting system (website/app) has been launched to digitize process and all confidential data is stored on a single admin server/machine, if someone tries to hack it or snoop over it, he/she can change candidate's vote count- from 2 to 22! You may never know that hacker installs malware or performs clickjacking attacks to steal or negate your vote or simply attacks central server.

To avoid this, if system is integrated with blockchain- a special property called immutability protects system. Consider SQL, PHP, or any other traditional database systems. You can insert, update, or delete votes. But in a blockchain you can just insert data but cannot update or delete. Hence when you insert something, it stays there forever and no one can manipulate it- Thus name immutable ledger.

But Building a blockchain system is not enough. It should be decentralized i.e if one server goes down or something happens on a particular node, other nodes can function normally and do not have to wait for victim node's recovery.

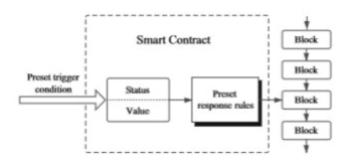
So a gist of advantages are listed below:

You can vote anytime/anywhere (During Pandemics like COVID-19 where it's impossible to hold elections physically

- Secure
- Immutable
- Faster
- Transparent

All data is then encrypted and stored as a transaction. This transaction is then broadcasted to every node in network, which in turn is then verified. If network approves transaction, it is stored in a block and added to chain. Note that once a block is added into chain, it stays there forever and can't be updated. Users can now see results and also trace back transaction if they want.

Since current voting systems don't suffice to security needs of modern generation, there is a need to build a system that leverages security, convenience, and trust involved in voting process. Hence voting systems make use of Blockchain technology to add an extra layer of security and encourage people to vote from any time, anywhere without any hassle and makes voting process more cost-effective and time-saving.



Smart contract:

A smart contract is a self-imposed contract that is embedded in a blockchain managed computer code. This code includes a set of rules governing the communication and decision on the contract between the parties, the contract will be enforced automatically once the already defined rules are met. Smart contract gives a framework for efficient control between two or more parties of tokenizes assets and access rights [1]. Fig 1 [1]; shows the working principle of smart contract. Blockchain is just a database that cannot be altered, without smart contract, which expands and leverages blockchain.

Code

```
pragma solidity ^0.4.25;
contract ElectionFact {
   struct ElectionDet {
      address deployedAddress;
      string el_n;
      string el_d;
   }
   mapping(string=>ElectionDet) companyEmail;
```

function createElection(string memory email,string memory election_name, string memory election_description) public{

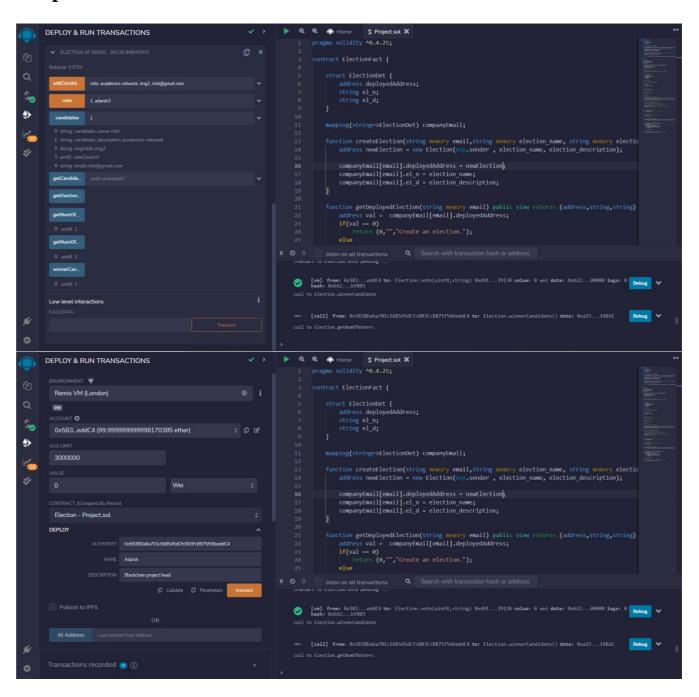
```
address newElection = new Election(msg.sender, election_name,
election_description);
    companyEmail[email].deployedAddress = newElection;
    companyEmail[email].el_n = election_name;
    companyEmail[email].el_d = election_description;
  }
  function getDeployedElection(string memory email) public view returns
(address, string, string) {
    address val = companyEmail[email].deployedAddress;
    if(val == 0)
       return (0,"","Create an election.");
    else
       return
(companyEmail[email].deployedAddress,companyEmail[email].el_n,companyEmail[em
ail].el_d);
  }
}
contract Election {
  //election_authority's address
  address election_authority;
  string election_name;
  string election_description;
  bool status:
  //election_authority's address taken when it deploys the contract
  constructor(address authority, string name, string description) public {
    election authority = authority;
    election_name = name;
    election_description = description;
    status = true;
  }
  //Only election_authority can call this function
  modifier owner() {
    require(msg.sender == election_authority, "Error: Access Denied.");
  //candidate election_description
  struct Candidate {
    string candidate_name;
    string candidate_description;
```

```
string imgHash;
     uint8 voteCount:
     string email;
  //candidate mapping
  mapping(uint8=>Candidate) public candidates;
  //voter election_description
  struct Voter {
     uint8 candidate_id_voted;
    bool voted;
  }
  //voter mapping
  mapping(string=>Voter) voters;
  //counter of number of candidates
  uint8 numCandidates;
  //counter of number of voters
  uint8 numVoters;
  //function to add candidate to mapping
  function addCandidate(string memory candidate_name, string memory
candidate_description, string memory imgHash, string memory email) public owner {
    uint8 candidateID = numCandidates++; //assign id of the candidate
     candidates[candidateID] =
Candidate (candidate name, candidate description, imgHash, 0, email); //add the values to
the mapping
  //function to vote and check for double voting
  function vote(uint8 candidateID, string e) public {
    //if false the vote will be registered
     require(!voters[e].voted, "Error:You cannot double vote");
     voters[e] = Voter (candidateID,true); //add the values to the mapping
     numVoters++;
```

```
candidates[candidateID].voteCount++; //increment vote counter of candidate
  }
  //function to get count of candidates
  function getNumOfCandidates() public view returns(uint8) {
    return numCandidates;
  }
  //function to get count of voters
  function getNumOfVoters() public view returns(uint8) {
    return numVoters:
  }
  //function to get candidate information
  function getCandidate(uint8 candidateID) public view returns (string memory, string
memory, string memory, uint8, string memory) {
     return (candidates[candidateID].candidate_name,
candidates[candidateID].candidate_description, candidates[candidateID].imgHash,
candidates[candidateID].voteCount, candidates[candidateID].email);
  }
  //function to return winner candidate information
  function winnerCandidate() public view owner returns (uint8) {
     uint8 largestVotes = candidates[0].voteCount;
     uint8 candidateID;
    for(uint8 i = 1;i<numCandidates;i++) {
       if(largestVotes < candidates[i].voteCount) {
         largestVotes = candidates[i].voteCount;
         candidateID = i;
       }
    return (candidateID);
  function getElectionDetails() public view returns(string, string) {
    return (election_name, election_description);
  }
```

}

Output:





Conclusion:

Successfully developed a blockchain application for evoting system.