Solving Privacy and Security issues in Electronic Health Record (EHR) using Blockchain

Abstract:

The advantages of electronic health records in the clinical setting are numerous and important. In the 2012 edition of the Physician Sentiment IndexTM More than two-thirds said an EHR can actually improve patient care. Poor EHR system design and improper use can cause EHR-related errors that jeopardize the integrity of the information in the EHR, leading to errors that endanger patient safety or decrease the quality of care and EHR systems faces problems regarding data security, privacy issues and information asymmetry. We have leveraged blockchain technology to transform the EHR systems and could be a solution for the above issues.

Problems in existing EHR system:

- Interoperability: It is the way for different information systems to exchange information between them.
- *Information Asymmetry*: which refers to one party having better access to information than the other party.
- Data Breaches: Data breaches in healthcare sector also calls for the need of a better platform.

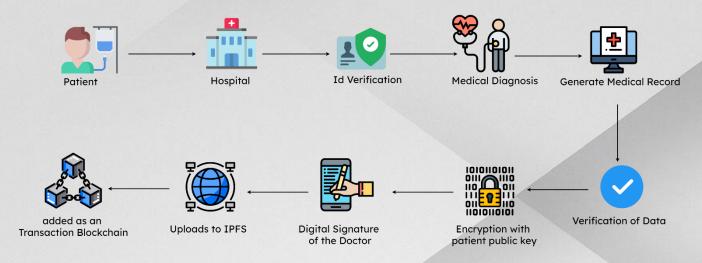
Solution:

- We present a technique where we've leveraged the blockchain technology to transform the EHR systems and could be a solution for the above issues.
- The aim of our solution is firstly to implement blockchain technology for EHR and to give back the control of the Medical data to the patients. Moreover, we've also presented a solution for the scalability problem faced by the blockchain using *off-chain decentralized* storage for storing the EHR data.
- Another main issue in the traditional framework is, our EHR data is accessed and shared with unauthorized Personnel.
- Hence, we have designed a framework for sharing of EHR which is solely controlled by the patient to whom the EHR data belongs to and in order to keep the track of old EHR's we are going to implement git like, version control system on top of the IPFS.
- Data in our system can only be accessed by the patient's private key, even if someone obtains data from the decentralized storage, data will be unreadable and patients have full control over accessing their healthcare data, patients will control who sees their data and what they see. Hence, there's a reduced risk of errors, and better patient care. We believe, that the above solution will definitely improve our current Healthcare industry
- We have ensured decentralization in every flow of the system. Hence, there is *no single point of failure*.

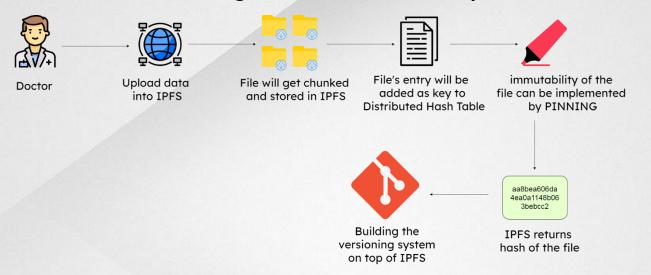
Detailed workflow:

https://prezi.com/q9x25xhgmsrv/ehr-implementation-using-blockchain/

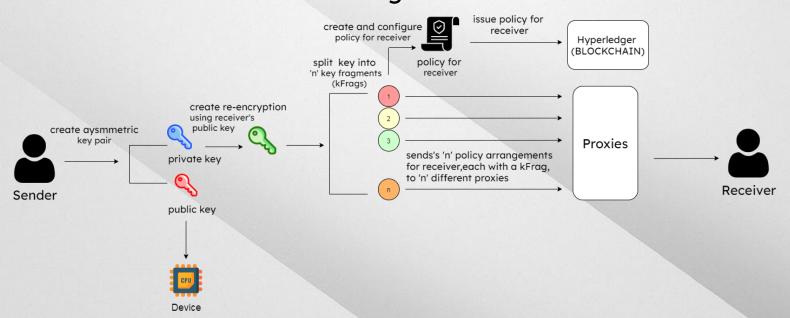
Overall System workflow



How data gets stored in our system?

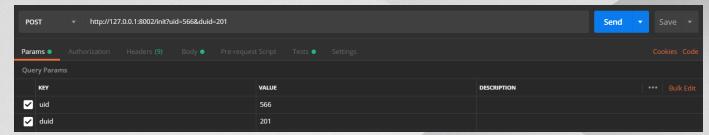


How our data sharing mechanism works?

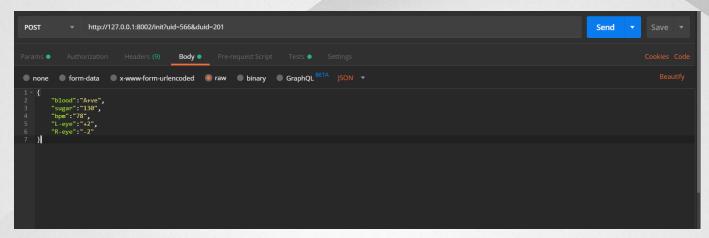


Documentation and Screenshots:

BACKEND:



Generating a new key pair for patient and doctor



Sample EHR data

Version holder of a patient

```
"8998": "QmadjQNJ1BaYaaxzVQJgRYBQBT3APNboo4Xg3tWeQFX2th",
"999": "QmRoZNhCvG85rz8jGryvyRaGVEKDZ59LEKU9Ji7hmeenD9",
"500": "QmejTr9MaFyZdHq3SzqYghTUPPE23QUDyL4YboEGCkcu5J",
"100": "QmNxpJLhPQeAKuDEarV8f3aSpMnaAviT8uo7w6F9BYNHLq",
"997": "QmcUwg66VzR3ufiAkGM5kpR773tAvW6YobvFkfWNxhhi22",
"222": "QmRcBLZSbeUCXfuaXAMFWeCSokJ64SDmn3SHsD997NmwRS",
"10000": "Qmd68W9eCPB76kcsQdBYJwF33EgHRUArpAH25ZioZ4SREM",
"400": "QmSJkuTN2qevDu6dc7yr3vt8pWk3of8UC4LKk8np5mKpDe",
"1001": "QmQfWRqzNCxxJKm6UstzcU4FEy9QC4JE6rLuhuhQ3Z4Beh",
"123": "QmQp5VsKdzWPrFgBRFWFVsy1L9hxVE47PoZBA3XzyQJcCb",
"566": "QmTXu5NMZUkq4ZqJRnfBygLVQA9j7U6UPvQA9sDJ3pR14Q"
```

EHR hash link of few patient (id:hash_link)

```
| Pretty | Row | Preview | Visualize | BETA | ISON | V | ISON | V
```

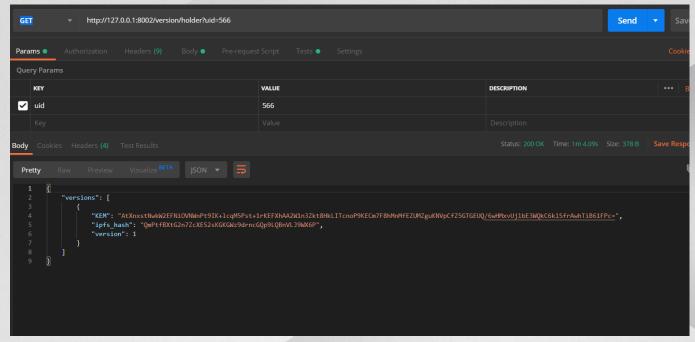
Mining

```
File "C:\Users\Nandu\Anaconda3\lib\sit
(base) C:\Users\Nandu\Desktop\projects\m
Enter port no : 800
* Serving Flask app "main_blockchain" (
(base) C:\Users\Nandu\Desktop\projects\m
Enter port no : 8002
* Serving Flask app "main_blockchain" (
* Environment: production
   WARNING: This is a development server
  Use a production WSGI server instead.
* Debug mode: off
* Running on http://127.0.0.1:8002/ (Pr
checking
Generating key pair
checking
200_doc key pair exists and is readable
127.0.0.1 - - [29/Jan/2020 19:44:56] "GE
New Transaction initiated....
Encryption in progress
uploading.... to ipfs
hash of the file : QmQp5VsKdzWPrFgBRFWFV
hash_indices.json exists and is readable
updating.... hash indices
ipns hash=
[2020-01-29 19:45:20,595] ERROR in app:
Traceback (most recent call last):
```

Background logs-1

```
Generating key pair
127.0.0.1 - - [29/Jan/2020 19:48:29] "PO
New Transaction initiated....
Encryption in progress
uploading.... to ipfs
hash of the file : QmPtfBXtG2n7ZcXES2sKG
hash_indices.json exists and is readable
updating.... hash indices
ipns_hash_indices.json exists and is rea
 updating.... ipns hash indices
ipns hash=
566_version_holder.json exists and is re
uploading.... to ipfs
hash of the file : QmTXu5NMZUkq4ZqJRnfBy
hash_indices.json exists and is readable
updating.... hash indices
ipns key(version holder) and newly uploa
Signing the File
Signing the File
UmbralPublicKey:029eadef8e4aa37
UmbralPublicKey:029e8a5da88510e
127.0.0.1 - - [29/Jan/2020 19:50:30] "POST /transactions/new HTTP/1.1" 201 - 127.0.0.1 - - [29/Jan/2020 19:55:18] "POST /mine HTTP/1.1" 405 -
127.0.0.1 - - [29/Jan/2020 19:55:21] "GET /mine HTTP/1.1" 200 -
checking version holder data
127.0.0.1 - - [29/Jan/2020 19:57:07] "GET /version/holder?uid=566 HTTP/1.1" 200 -
```

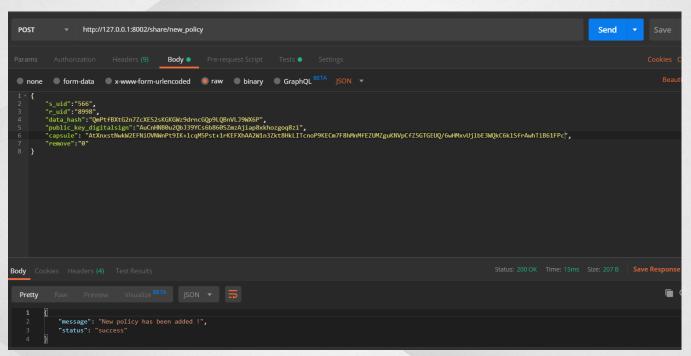
Background logs-2



Requesting the version holder of a patient

Viewing our data from the real IPFS endpoint

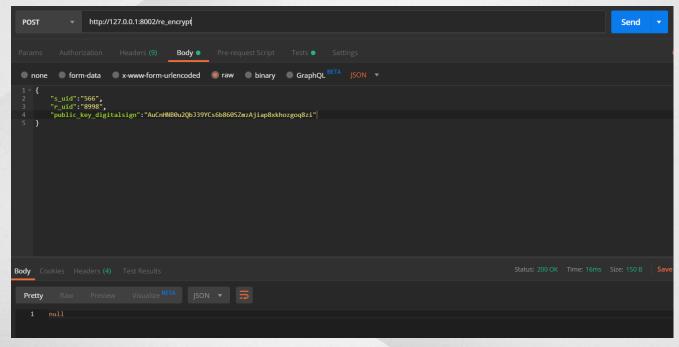
Blockchain data of a single node



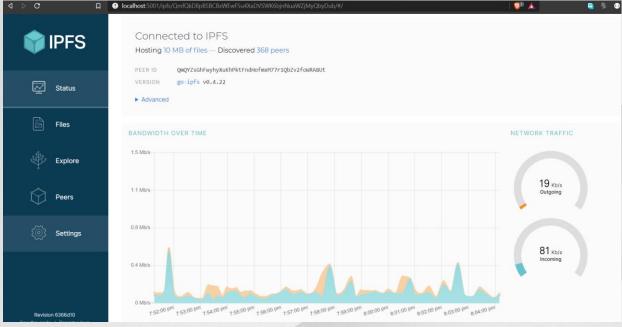
Creating a new policy for data sharing

```
hash_indices.json exists and is readable
updating.... hash indices
The static ipns hash :
ipns key(version holder) and newly uploa
Signing the File
Signing the File
UmbralPublicKey:029eadef8e4aa37
UmbralPublicKey:029e8a5da88510e
127.0.0.1 - - [29/Jan/2020 19:50:30] "POST /transactions/new HTTP/1.1" 201 -
127.0.0.1 - - [29/Jan/2020 19:55:18] "POST /mine HTTP/1.1" 405 -
127.0.0.1 - - [29/Jan/2020 19:55:21] "GET /mine HTTP/1.1" 200 -
checking version holder data
127.0.0.1 - - [29/Jan/2020 19:57:07] "GET /version/holder?uid=566 HTTP/1.1" 200 -
127.0.0.1 - - [29/Jan/2020 19:58:40] "GET /chain HTTP/1.1" 200 -
data_sharing_policies.json exists and is readable
Modifying ploicies
127.0.0.1 - - [29/Jan/2020 20:01:45] "POST /share/new_policy HTTP/1.1" 200 -
in share
```

Background logs-3



Requesting for data re-encryption



Connection details of a single Hospital (node)

Sample Code screenshots (this is not full code):

```
blockchain.py ×
                                                                                                                       ពេ 🗆 ...
                    ar > Desktop > projects > main_module > 👶 blockchain.py
       from time import time
       import hashlib,json
       import pickle
       import hashlib
       import json
       from urllib.parse import urlparse
       import requests
       from config import *
       class Blockchain:
           def __init__(self): #Initializing the genesis block ...
           def register_node(self, address): # Registering a new Hospital in our system...
           def valid_chain(self, chain): # Check whether the present Blockchain in our system is valid...
     >
           def resolve_conflicts(self): # Resolve conflicts(different blockchain) among the available hospital
     >
           {\tt def\ new\_block(self,\ proof,\ previous\_hash):}\ \#\ \textit{A}\ \textit{block}\ \textit{structure}\cdots
           def new_transaction(self, ipfs_file_hash, version_holder, digital_sign_doctor, digital_sign_patient
           @property
```

Blockchain (code)-1

```
Disckchain.py X

C:> Users > Nandakumar > Desktop > projects > main_module > Desktop > Disckchain.py

def register_node(self, address): # Registering a new Hospital in our system ...

def resolve_conflicts(self): # Resolve conflicts(different blockchain) among the available hospital

def new_block(self, proof, previous_hash): # A block structure...

def new_transaction(self, ipfs_file_hash, version_holder, digital_sign_doctor, digital_sign_patient

def last_block(self): # Retrive the recent block...

property
def last_block(self): # Retrive the recent block...

def proof_of_work(self, last_block): # Consensus in our system...

def proof_of_work(self, last_block): # Consensus in our system...

@staticmethod
def valid_proof(last_proof, proof, last_hash): # Check whether the proof is vaild...
```

Blockchain (code)-2

```
main_blockchain.py ×
C: > Users > Nandakumar > Desktop > projects > main_module > 🏺 main_blockchain.py
      @app.route('/init', methods=['GET','POST'])
    > def key_gen(): # Generate key pair for the patient and doctor...
      @app.route('/transactions/new', methods=['GET','POST']) # Create a new transaction
    > def new_transaction(): ...
      @app.route('/version/holder', methods=['GET','POST']) # Retrive the version holder of patient from IPFS
    > def view_version_holder(): ...
      @app.route('/update/data', methods=['GET','POST']) # Update the old EHR of an patient
    > def update_data(): ···
      @app.route('/mine', methods=['GET']) # Trigger Mining
    > def mine(): ···
      @app.route('/share/new_policy', methods=['GET','POST']) # Create a new policy for sharing data
    > def share_data(): ···
      @app.route('/view_policy', methods=['GET']) # View all the registered poilicies
    > def share datas(): ···
```

Code for interacting with the blockchain-1

```
Distribution of the project of the
```

Code for interacting with the blockchain-2

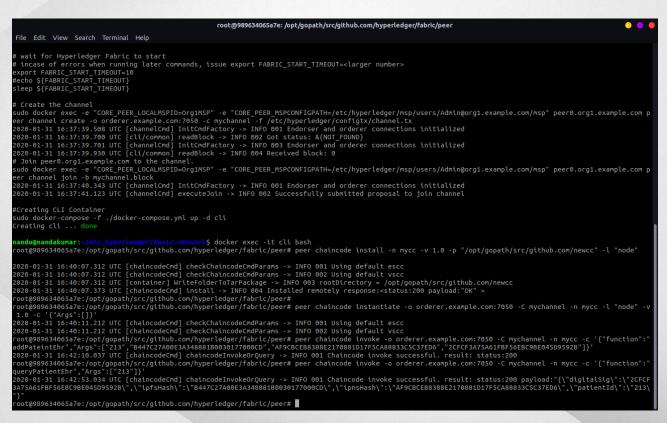
Code for interaction with the IPFS

```
main_blockchain.py
                                    ipfs_integration.py
                                                           ipfs_versioning.py
                                                                                                            ព្រ 🛚
  s > Nandakumar > Desktop > projects > main_module > 🍨 ipfs_versioning.py
  import ipfs_integration as ipfs
  import os
  from config import *
  import encryp
  from umbral.curve import Curve, SECP256K1
  from umbral import pre
  from umbral.params import UmbralParameters
  import base64
  import chalk
> def gen_ipnskey(uid): # Generate PKI inorder to create and maintain version holder...
> def get_ipns_hash_from_index(uid): # Retrives the ipns values from the patient id...
> def ipfs_version_holder(uid): ...
> def update_medical_record(uid,initial_hash,capsule): # has the logic for updating a medical record...
> def ipfs_version_holder_updater(uid,details): #this gets new medical data and updates into ipns...
> def retrive_lastest(uid): ...
```

Code for Handling the logics behind versioning of HER

Sample Hyperledger Fabric EHR Chaincode

Background logs-4 (Hyperledger Fabric Deployment)



Background logs-5 (Fabric Chaincode installation and invocation)

Frontend (WebApp):

