Stateful Smart Contracts On Cardano Part 1. Securing A Distributed State Minting Unique Tokens With A Shared PolicyId

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Our needs, at the lowest level:

- 1. We want to distribute a smart contract's state over mutiple UTxOs, and...
- 2. ... We must ensure that it cannot be compromised by an attacker.

Otherwise, it would be pointless to use whatever abstractions we might come up with.

An informal statement of the problem might be the following.

" A smart contract's state, distributed over multiple of UTxOs, should be modified only by transactions validated by the smart contract itself.

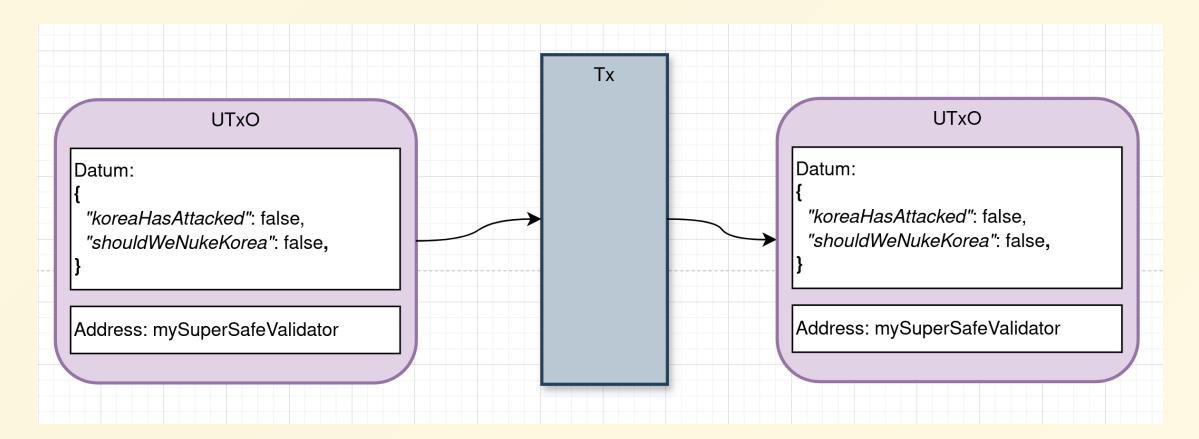
"

There are good news and bad news.

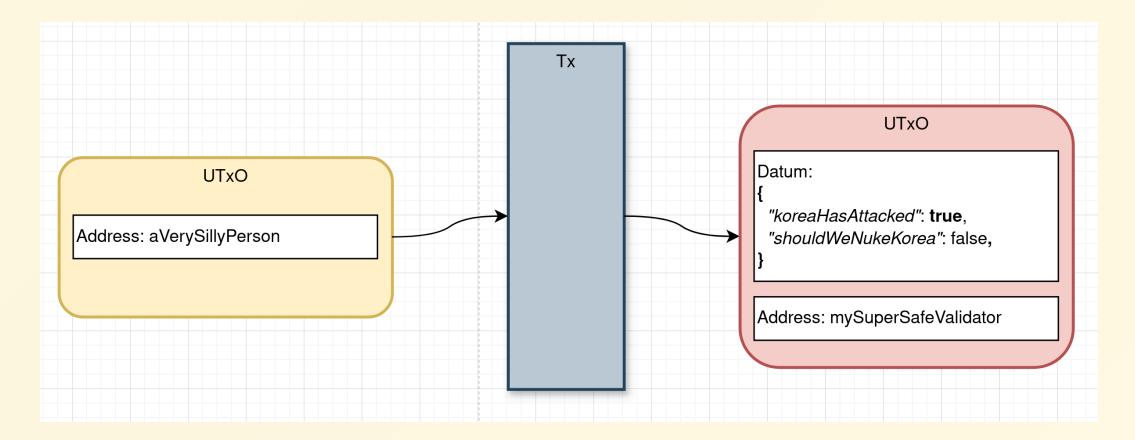
- **Good news**: Smart contracts (on-chain) can enforce the recipient(s) of the UTxOs being created, but...
- **Bad news**: ... They have **zero knowledge** about the sender of the UTxOs being spent.

Why is that a problem?

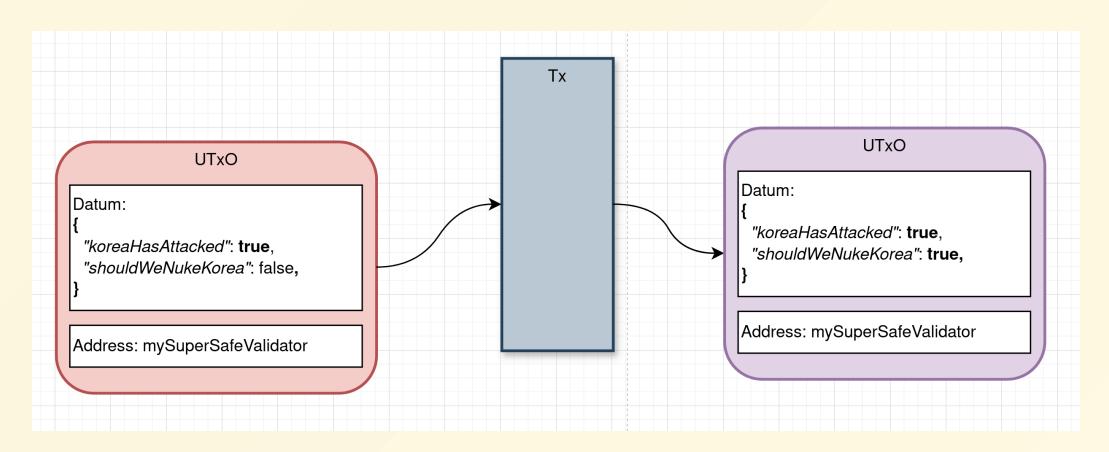
Example: Good State



Example: Attacker Setup



Example: (Very) Bad State



Compromised state could be the source of other, more serious issues.

What could be worse than WW3? Well, for example:

" You could be losing money!!

While total thermonuclear annihilation might be somewhat tolerable and even fun, losing money is not and we must avoid that at all costs.

"

Native Tokens

Native tokens, also called assets, are defined as:

- AssetId := $PolicyId \times AssetName$
- PolicyId := $(\mathbb{F}_{256})^{28}$ (hash of the minting validator script)
- AssetName := $(\mathbb{F}_{256})^{32}$ (arbitrary string)

Where
$$\mathbb{F}_q:=\{0,\ldots,q-1\}$$
.

Spending Validators

We call V the type of a Spending Validator:

$$V := (\mathrm{Datum} \times \mathrm{Redeemer} \times \mathrm{ScriptContext}) o \mathbb{B}$$

Minting Validators

We call M the type of a Minting Validator:

$$M:=(\mathrm{Redeemer} imes \mathrm{ScriptContext}) o \mathbb{B}$$

NB: Minting Validators do not take a Datum as inputs, because they do not spend UTxOs.

Minting The NFTs

Let OutputReference represent an on-chain reference to an UTxO.

We declare the following functions that produce smart contracts:

- $ullet f_{start,mint}: ext{OutputReference}
 ightarrow M$
- $ullet f_{add,mint}:M o M$
- $ullet \ f_{add,validate}:(M imes M) o V$

Minting The NFTs

newm takes an OutputReference utxo and returns a Minting Validator that produces a single token with AssetName "Auth".

Such script is a **one-time** minting validator, because it ensures that utxo is consumed in the transaction (which can happen only once).

Code: $f_{start,mint}: ext{OutputReference} o M$

```
validator(utxo: OutputReference) {
 fn run(_redeemer: Data, context: ScriptContext) → Bool {
   expect Some( input) =
       list.find(fn(input) { input.output_reference = utxo })
   expect Mint(policy_id) = context.purpose
   expect [(asset, 1)]: List<(AssetName, Int)> =
     context.transaction.mint
       value.from minted value()
       value.tokens(policy_id)
     context.transaction.outputs
       ▷ list.filter(
           fn(output: Output) {
            1 = quantity_of(output.value, policy_id, "Auth")
   // 6. The datum is an empty list of AssetName(s)
   expect []: List<AssetName> = datum
```

Code: $f_{add,validate}:(M imes M) o V$

```
validator(newm_script: PolicyId, addm script: PolicyId) {
   datum: (List<AssetName>, Hash<Blake2b_224, Script>),
\rightarrow Bool \{
   expect Spend(outref): ScriptPurpose = context.purpose
   expect Some(mint redeemer): Option<Redeemer> =
    context.transaction.redeemers ▷ dict.get(Mint(addm_script))
   expect address = redeemer
   expect Some(input): Option<Input> =
    context.transaction.inputs > list.at(outref.output_index)
    context.transaction.outputs
      D list.filter(fn(output: Output) { output.address = self_address })
   expect 1 = quantity_of(output.value, newm_script, "Auth")
   expect InlineDatum(inline output datum) = output.datum
   expect output datum: (List<AssetName>, Hash<Blake2b_224, Script>) =
    inline output datum
   let new addm assets: List<AssetName> = list.unique(output datum.1st)
   expect 1 = list.length(new addm assets) - list.length(old addm assets)
   expect [redeemer] = list.difference(new_addm_assets, old_addm_assets)
   expect datum.2nd = output_datum.2nd
```

Code: $f_{add,mint}: M o M$

```
expect Mint(policy_id) = context.purpose
expect [(asset, amount)]: List<(AssetName, Int)> =
 context.transaction.mint
    value.tokens(policy_id)
expect 1 = amount
expect asset = redeemer
         1 = quantity_of(output.value, policy_id, redeemer)
 context.transaction.outputs
       fn(output: Output) {
         1 = quantity_of(output.value, newm_script, "Auth")
```

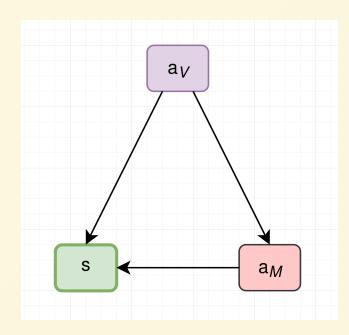
Minting The NFTs

In particular, let o: OutputReference.

We build the following three contracts that will take part in the generation of our NFTs:

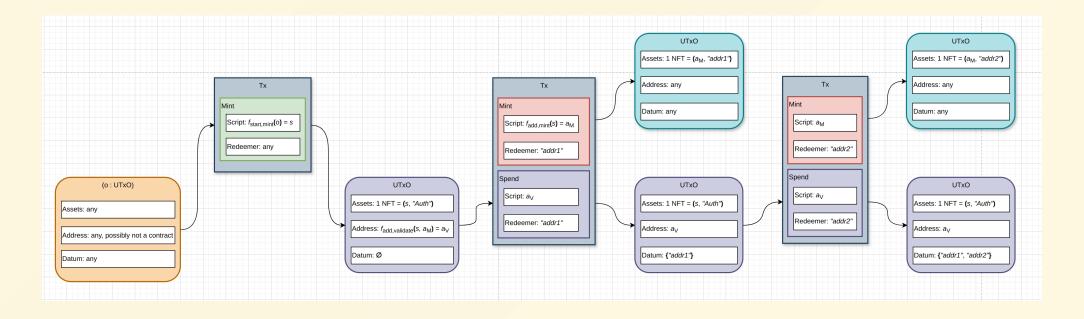
- $ullet (s:M) = f_{start,mint}(o)$
- $ullet (a_M:M)=f_{add,mint}(s)$
- $ullet (a_V:V) = f_{add,validate}(s,a_M)$

Dependencies



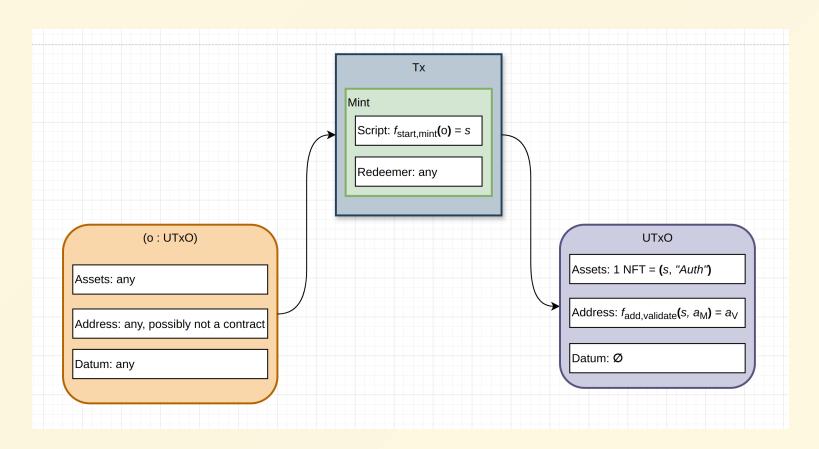
NB: " \rightarrow " means "depends on".

Example: Full Example

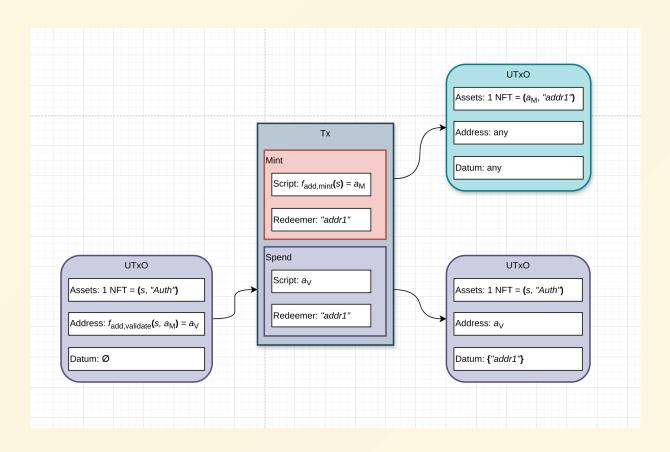


NB Cyan UTxOs contain the minted NFTs that we will use to authenticate our smart contract's state.

Example: Start The Minting Process



Example: Minting The 1st NFT



Example: Minting The 2nd NFT

