

Data persistence in Hyperledger Fabric





Ledger definition in HFC

- Ledger = Blockchain + World State
- Blockchain append only file immutable
- World State database representing current world state
- World State can be at any time reconstructed from Blockchain





Blockchain

- Append only transaction log
- Immutable
- Consists of interlinked blocks
- Block consists of:
 - Header = block number + current block hash + previous block header hash
 - Data = list of transaction in order arranged by ordering service
 - Metadata = certificates + signature





World state

- Database representing current world state
- Updated only on successful transactions
- Includes Key-Value pairs
- Easier search then traversing append only file
- Chaincodes works againts World State
- States can be created, updated or even deleted
- Can be CouchDB or LevelDB
- Can but does not have to store keys history





- Transaction captures changes to the world state
- Single block can contain multiple transactions
- Transaction consists of:
 - Header name of chaincode, version, etc.
 - Signature cryptographic signature created by client application
 - Proposal Input parameters given to chaincode
 - Response Output of chaincode invoke (also Read-Write set capturing state change)
 - Endorsement List of signed transaction responses from organizations to statify endorsement policy
- Submit tx append to blockfile
- Evaluate tx only read world state





Chaincode namespaces

- In reality each chaincode has its own world state
- Blockchain is not namespaced
- Multiple world states representing different chaincodes can exist on single blockchain
- Chaincode can access different world state only by invoking other chaincode
- Provides data isolation between chaincodes



- Takes data isolation even further
- Each channel has completly separate Ledger (both blockchain and world state)
- Each channel has its own configuration
- Each channel consists of its own organizations consortium
- Peers needs to be eligible to join channel
- Single peer can join multiple channels
- Works almost like independent blockchain network
- Can share whole or part of ordering service with other channels



- Data passed to chaincode are stored in blockfile in transaction proposal
- Data stored in blockfile can NOT be deleted
- What if we need to pass some secret data to chaincode to execute transaction?
 - HFC allows to pass part of data as so called Transient data
 - Data passed to chaincode as transient are NOT stored in transcation proposal
 - Chaincode can work with transient data the same way as with standard parameters
 - Transient data can be passed alongside normal parameters.
- Used usually alongside Private data collections



Private data collection

- Additional tool for data isolation in channel
- Private data collection is seen and owned only by selected subset of organizations
- Private data are sent p2p between authorized organizations
- Ordering nodes only sees private data hashes
- Private data is stored ONLY in private state database on peers
- Private data hash is stored in channel ledger (blockchain + world state)
- Organizations with no access to private data can still validate its content againts blockchain if given private data by different means
- Private data can truly be deleted (only hash remains in ledger)





• Used images were taken from: <u>https://hyperledger-fabric.readthedocs.io</u>

• Thanks for all the awesome work HFC team!