

Creating trustworthy supply chains via fairness

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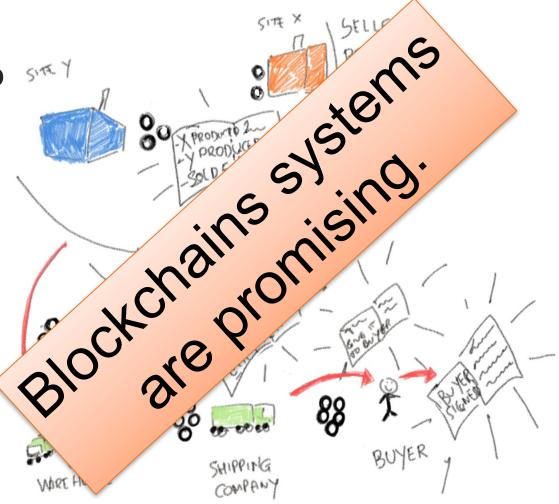
Trustworthy Supply Chains

Transfer of ownership (or use) of assets (physical and digital) in a **cooperative** but possibly **competitive** environment.

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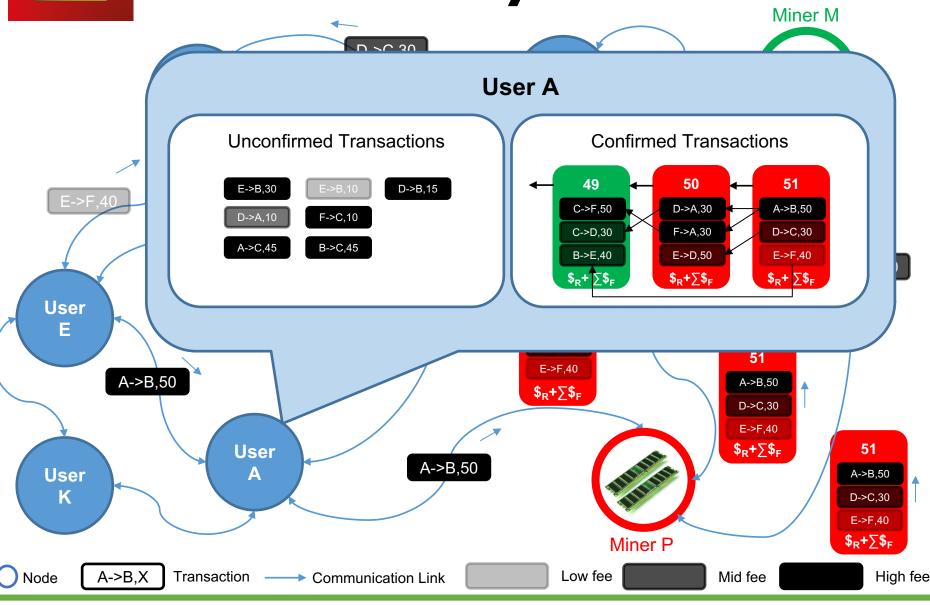
Need for having an audit trail.



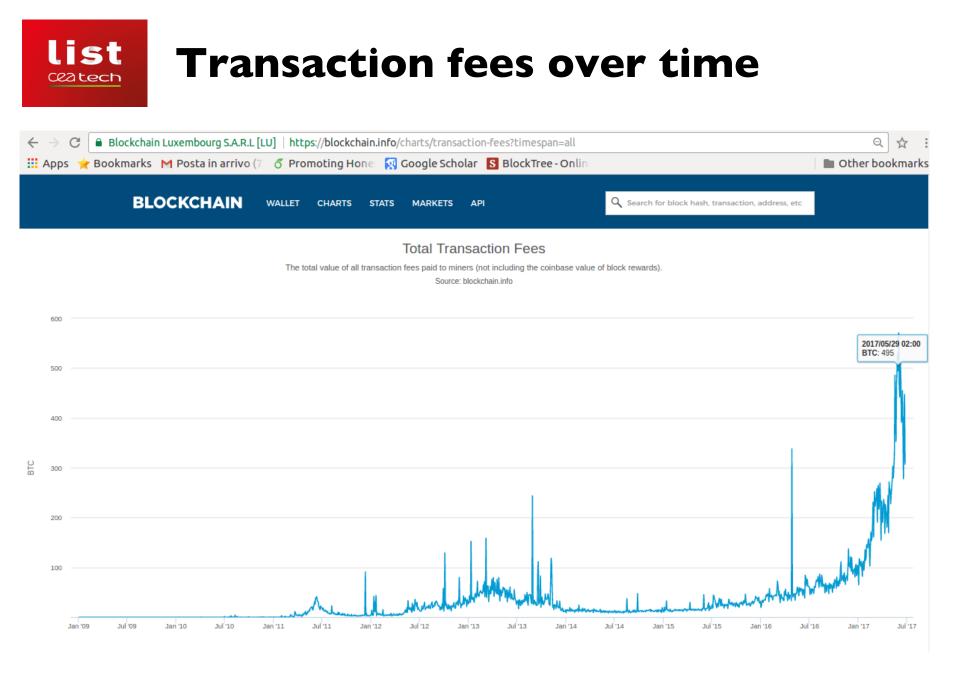
Blockchain Systems

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28/06/2017 "Creating Thrustworthy Supply Chains via Fairness" by Ö. Gürcan, A. Del Pozzo, S. Tucci-Piergiovanni



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List Unconfirmed Transactions

🚍 StackExchange 🔻 🛆	iiii 67 • 8 help v 🔍 not confirmed transaction				
		Delay Time ESTIMATED ESTIMATED IN BLOCKS IN MINUTES			
Bitcoin beta	Questions Tags Users Badges Unanswered Ask Ques	stion 14-Inf 120-Inf			
		4-Inf 35-Inf			
Search	Advanced Search Tips	4- Inf 35- Inf			
not confirmed transaction	search	4-Inf 35-Inf			
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	≡ StackExchange ▼ 🕰 湔 🕅 🙀 67 • 8	help unconfirmed transaction			
1 Q: Transac On Multibit, o square). App					
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Q. Q: Blockch	647 results relevance newest votes active	results found containing unconfirmed transaction			
0 votes Send from Bl appreciated!,		Hot Network Questions			
0 https://blockc what should	O C: Unconfirmed transaction [duplicate] Unconfirmed transaction for 8 days pls help detail				
blockchain	0 unconfirmed-transactions 134?				
421- 450	answers	What factors, in the future, could lead to a dystopia in which precious metals and gems have			
451- 480	Q: Unconfirmed transaction [duplicate]	no value?			
481- 510	o please I have made a bitcoin transaction for almost 40hours but still I haven't had a confirmation. it is still pending and unconfirme. the address to which is going	Is there any way to find out what happened to a post card sent from other country?			
511+	0 (unconfirmed-transactions) asked May 12 by Gershon	Senior management expected bug discovery rate to match their expectation			
	answers	How does water depth affect swimming safety? Why those signs that say DANGER: deep water?			

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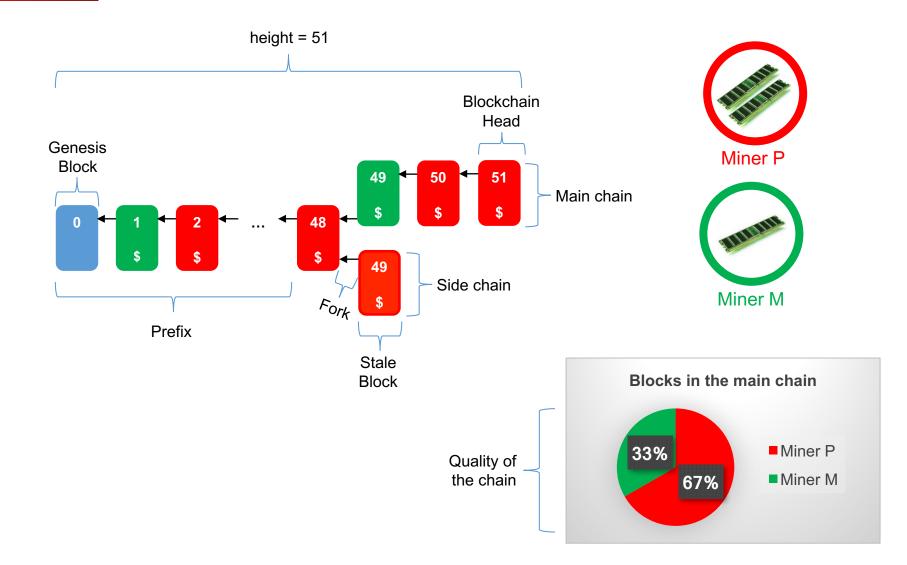


- A node finds a blockchain system **fair**, if its overall expectations are satisfied to a certain degree.
 - Utility as a sum of expectation satisfaction
- Satisfied node -> Stays in the system
 - Increased # of participants
 - Increased security and stability
- Unsatisfied node -> Leaves the system
 - Decreased # of participants
 - Decreased security and stability
 - If everyone leaves -> no system at all

Anatomy of Blockchains

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Garay et al. Study

Properties

Common prefix

SI

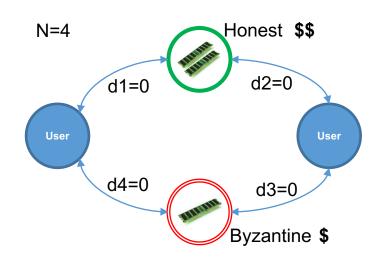
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- Same blocks except for the recent ones.
- Chain quality
 - The number of blocks created by byzantines is limited.

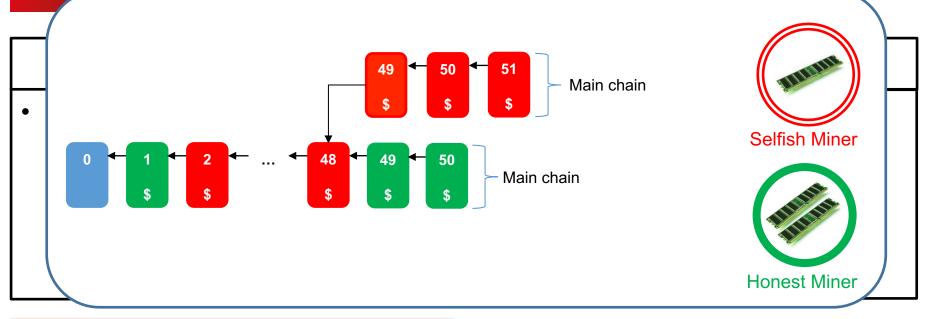
Rewards are proportional to a fraction of computational power ϕ =q/ Σ q_i if $\phi_{\rm H}$ > 50%.

Assumptions

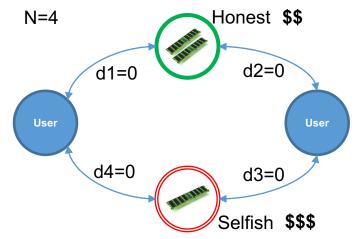
- Fix # of participants
- Honest and Byzantine miners
- Equal computational power q
- q-bounded synchronous setting
- No message delays (d=0)



List Eyal et Sirer Study



- Even if most of the miners are honest ($\phi_{\rm H}$ >50%), a byzantine
 - having enough resource + good connectivity
 - can **selfishly** increase rewards by selectively withholding blocks
- Blockchain is not « incentive compatible ».





Sapirshtein et al. Study

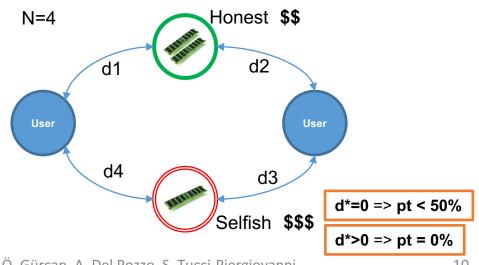
Properties

- Profit threshold
 - Minimum resources required for a profitable attack

Assumptions

- Fix # of participants
- Honest and Selfish miners
- Absence and presence of message delays

- Absence of delays
 - $\phi_{\rm H}$ < 50% is enough for a profitable attack.
- Presence of delays
 - The profit threshold vanishes
 - Any size of attacker can attack



Summary of Mining Studies

	No Delay / Delay is too small*	Delay is considerable		
Honest mining	rewards are proportional to $\phi_{\rm H}$ (no published results yet) (Garay et al., Pass and Shi)			
	These models focus on only miners and do not capture the necessary <i>properties</i> and <i>behaviors</i> for a fair blockchain system from users point of view.			
Selfish Mining + Honest Mining	$\phi_{\rm S}$ > 50% and good connectivity => selfishly increase rewards <i>(Eyal and Sirer)</i> $\phi_{\rm S}$ < 50% => selfishly increase rewards <i>(Sapisthein et al.)</i>	any $\phi_{\rm S}$ => selfishly increase rewards (Sapisthein et al.)		

* with respect to the time to block creation interval.

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 $\phi_{\rm S}$: fraction of selfish miners' computational power. $\phi_{\rm H}$: fraction of honest miners' computational power.

So... for the users

- Unconfirmed Transactions
 - Workarounds:
 - I: Resend it again as it is.
 - 2: Resend it with higher fees.
 - 3: Resend it directly to an **altruistic miner** (accept lower fees)
 - Free market => Increased fees.
- Transaction Cancellation
 - Workarounds:
 - I: Try to double spend the same output (send to yourself).
 - 2: Wait several days for it to be forgotten.
 - No guarantee for cancellation.
 - In general they do not work.

Proposed User Strategy

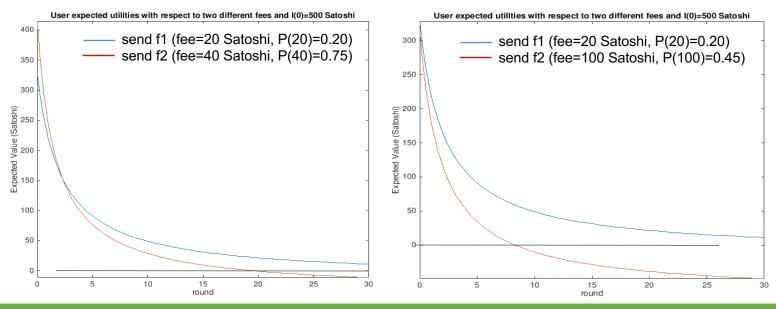
actions	tx confirmed during round r		tx unconfirmed during round r	Expected Value (EV)
send(tx, f _{k(r-1)})	$(I(r) - f_{k(r-1)}) * P(f_{k(r-1)})$	+	$(I(r) - C_{k(r-1)}) * (1 - P(f_{k(r-1)}))$	= EV(send(tx, $f_{k(r-1)})$)
send(tx, f _{k(r)})	$(I(r) - f_{k(r)}) * P(f_{k(r)})$	+	$(I(i) - C_{k(r)}) * (1 - P(f_{k(r)}))$	= EV(send(tx, $f_{k(r)})$)

 $f_{k(r-1)} < f_{k(r)} \ , \ 0 \le \mathsf{P}(f_{k(r-1)}) \le \mathsf{P}(f_{k(r)}) \le 1 \ , \ \mathsf{I}(r-1) < \mathsf{I}(r) \ , \ C_{k(r-1)} < C_{k(r)}$

I(r): interest in tx at round r, C: cost of waiting for confirmation

A transaction re-sent with a higher fee overwrites the previous one, not true for a transaction re-sent with a lower fee.

The more the user has to wait for confirmation, the more it loses.



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Fairness for users means that:

$$\exists i > 0 \land S = \{tx_1, tx_2, ..., tx_i\}$$

such that

 $\sum_{i}(maxEV(tx_{j})) > 0$

List Conclusions

- Strong focus on miners, but not on users.
 - But every node is important.
- Sustainability, security and stability of blockchain systems depends on their **fairness**.
 - Since it promotes participation.
- We proposed initial user *strategies* for a fair blockchain system.
 - Initial simulation results.
- Bitcoin does not provide any proactive mechanisms to improve the situation of the users.
 - The proposed strategies are the best a user can do.

list Prospects

- Improving the strategies for users.
- Defining the fairness and the strategies for miners.
 - A preliminary work for selecting transactions confirming the fact that
 - if the proportion of the fixed reward is low, the miners tend to be more *picky*.
- Teratec as an "altruistic miner" (accepting low fees)
 - Rebalancing the network (e.g., to decrease the average expected fees)
 - Increased user satisfaction, security and stability.



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List Miner Strategy

When a new block is mined, the miner should start to mine given the transaction in its memory pool.

We consider the miner selects the transactions with the highest fees associated to be in the next block.

What if there are not enough "interesting" transaction in the memory pool? P(q-q'): the probability to solve the POW from the moment q' in a round of q attempts..

actions	"interesting"	no "interesting" tx arrives	
wait	(12,5BTC+tx1+tx2)*P(q-q')	(12,5BTC+tx1)*P(q-q')	
start mining (12,5BTC+tx1)*P(q)		(12,5BTC+tx1)*P(q)	



