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Decentralized E-Voting System Using Blockchain

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Abstract: Voting is a primary right of every citizen living in a country. Traditional methods used for voting includes paper ballot system, EVMs (Electronic Voting Machines), etc. which are still followed and trusted by every voter or citizen blindly. These voting systems can have ambiguity as the data is maintained under a centralized environment whether it is counting the paper ballots or storing the vote cast on a computer server. This use of a centralized database for the voting system has some security issues such as Data modification through the third party in the network due to the use of the central database system as well as the result of the voting is not shown in real-time, or manipulation with the data which can hamper the result and thus have an impact on not only system integrity but also lose faith in democracy, government, nation, etc. The voting methods used in an election should be legal, accurate, safe, and convenient.

Keywords: Blockchain Technology, EVM (Electronic Voting System), Smart Contracts, Ethereum, Solidity, etc.

I. INTRODUCTION

The most fundamental aspect of a democracy is the availability for citizens to not only share ideas, opinions, and beliefs but to make their individual voices heard by deciding the collective future by vote. However, for the voting to proceed as intended, there needs to be a transparent and secure process where also the voters knowingly keep their privacy. The challenge is to find a solution that prevents unlawful manipulation of the collected data and achieve desired transparency in the security measures, taken to protect voter privacy and the collected results and therefore democracy itself. By using blockchain our proposed system has the features like security, privacy, and integrity. In blockchain every node or user is anonymous and every action performed is a transaction which is hashed and then stored into the network.

To test our protocol, we put it on Ethereum a blockchain platform that uses Solidity as a programming language to create smart contracts. Smart Contracts are backbone of Blockchain System. The usage of smart contracts ensures a safe means for performing voter verification, ensuring the correctness of voting results, making the counting system public, and protecting against fraudulent activities. Blockchain Technology eliminates the risk of single point of failure, which is usually seen in traditional approaches as discussed above, making our voting system tamperproof and trustworthy which not only provides integrity to voters or citizens, but also supports transparency among voters and candidates and it also strengthens the actual meaning of democracy and create a sense of belief among them and thus making the system more secured and reducing the cost for infrastructure management as well. Voting is a process which is defined as the right of people to choose their leaders. Voting is a important process that enables people to handpick their government leader.

The voting system should be democratic, independent, and unprejudiced. As a result, it must be a transparent and secure procedure that allow everyone to partake their standpoint freely. A lot of people in the world do not keep faith in the election system.

The Traditional voting is controlled and full of mediators. Furthermore, people are dealing with a variety of issues, such as booth capture, dummy voting and the problem of proper monitoring, a massive line of people in front of the polling booths, false voting, pre-vote casting, redundant vote, lack of awareness, polling booths are located a long distance away from the house, etc. The above problems can be solved using Blockchain technology which will provide a reliable system, where one can trust the system with integrity. Blockchain is a decentralized network in which the node members exchange data, but each user maintains the identical data replication. Blockchain technology provides characteristics such as privacy, and data accuracy, etc.

II. LITERATURE SURVEY

A. Related Works

Decentralized E-Voting Portal Using Blockchain. Kriti Patidar, Dr. Swapnil Jain. In this paper proposes an e-voting system based on blockchain that eliminates some of the limitations in existing voting systems. The paper also presents state of art of some blockchain frameworks for e-voting. The presented implementation is suitable for small scale elections like inside corporate houses, board rooms etc. [1]

Decentralized E-voting system based on Smart Contract by using Blockchain Technology. Ali Mansour Al-madani, Dr. Ashok T. Gaikwad, Vivek Mahale, Zeyad A.T. Ahmed.

This paper aims to provide an E-voting system with high security by using blockchain. Blockchain provides a decentralized model that makes the network Reliable, safe, flexible, and able to support real-time services.[2]

DVTChain: A blockchain-based decentralized mechanism to ensure the security of digital voting system. Syada Tasmia Alvi, Mohammed Nasir Uddin, Linta Islam, Sajib Ahamed. The system in this paper provides voter anonymity by keeping the voter information as a hash in the blockchain.[3]

Decentralized E-Voting Systems Based on the Blockchain Technology. Jen-Ho Hsiao¹, Raylin Tso¹, Chien-Ming Chen² and Mu-En Wu. This paper is aimed to design a decentralized e-voting system.[4]

Decentralized E-Voting System Using Blockchain. Dr S.Sekar, C.Vigneshwar, J.Thiyagarajan, V.B.Soorya Narayanan, M.Vijay. The purpose of this paper is to overcome the limitation of existing e-voting system by implementing voter validation using Biometric, Dynamic Ballot loading and Acknowledgement after casting votes with the help of Blockchain technology.[5]

Blockchain Based E-Voting Recording System Design. Zibin Zheng, Shaoan Xie, Hongning Dai, Xiangping Chen, and Huaimin Wang. This paper provides an overview of blockchain architecture firstly and compare some typical consensus algorithms used in different blockchain.[6]

Secure Digital Voting System based on Blockchain Technology. Rifa Hanifatunnisa, Budi Rahardjo. This research discusses the recording of voting result using blockchain algorithm from every place of election.[7]

Decentralized Electronic Voting System Based on Blockchain Technology Developing Principals. Kateryna Isirova, Anastasiia Kiian, Mariia Rodinko and Alexandr Kuznetsov. In the paper, the new concept for developing a decentralized electronic voting system using blockchain technology is proposed.[8]

An Overview of Blockchain Technology: Architecture, Consensus, and Future Trends. Syada Tasmia Alvi, Mohammed Nasir Uddin, Linta Islam, Sajib Ahamed. In this paper, by using blockchain the proposed system ensures security, privacy, and integrity of voting system.

This system provides voter anonymity by keeping the voter information as a hash in the blockchain.[9]

A Decentralized Voting System. Jack Ahlqvist, Anton Gustafsson, Carl Lundborg, Joakim Mattsson Thorell, Aron Sandstedt Sanjin Slavnic. This thesis investigates the possibility of a decentralized voting system and explores the possible challenges regarding privacy, correctness and integrity.[10]

An efficient and effective Decentralized Anonymous Voting System. Wei-Jr Lai, Ja-Ling Wu. In this work, a lightweight E-voting system is proposed for voters to minimize their trust in the authority or government. We ensure the transparency of election by putting all message on the Ethereum blockchain, in the meantime, the privacy of individual voter is protected via an efficient and effective ring signature mechanism.[11]

Blockchain based E-voting System. Albin Benny, Aparna Ashok Kumar, Abdul Basit, Betina Cherian and Amol Kharat. In this project, we have implemented and tested an e-voting application as a smart contract for the Ethereum network using the Ethereum and the Solidity language.[12]

A Review on Distributed Blockchain Technology for E-voting Systems. Rihab H Sahib and Eman S. Al-Shamery. This paper introduced many different ideas for implementing e-voting systems based on Blockchain and how the users (voters and candidates) interact with the system showing the voting process from the first step of registration to authentication till showing the final results. Users are authenticated through their mobile phone numbers without the need of a third party server. Results showed that the system is feasible and may offer a step towards ideal environments for such experience.[13]

Blockchain for Electronic Voting System—Review and Open Research Challenges. Uzma Jafar, Mohd Juzaidin Ab Aziz and Zarina Shukur. The following article gives an overview of electronic voting systems based on blockchain technology. The main goal of this analysis was to examine the current status of blockchain-based voting research and online voting systems and any related difficulties to predict future developments.[14]

Decentralized Voting Platform Based on Ethereum Blockchain. David Khoury, Elie F. Kfoury, Ali Kassem, Hamza Harb. In this paper we propose a novel approach for a decentralized trustless voting platform that relies on Blockchain technology to solve the trust issues. The main features of this system include ensuring data integrity and transparency, and enforcing one vote per mobile phone number for every poll with ensured privacy.[15]

III. PROPOSED SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE

The system architecture comprises of Client side,Blockchain network and Middleware edge technology by removing the barrier of dependency, which will be adopted by the tech industry very soon and then further by customers.

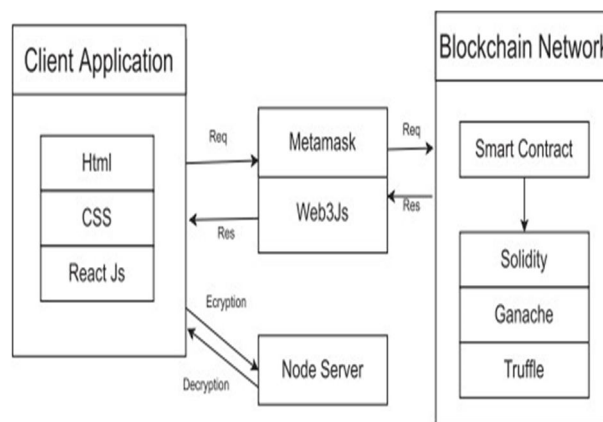


Fig. 1. System Architecture.

- 1) *Client Side Application:* The client side application is build using HTML,CSS, React.js Library.
- 2) *Blockchain Network:* The Smart Contracts are written using the Solidity programming language. Ganache is used as Ethereum client for testing. Truffle framework is used for development, testing and deploying smart contracts.
- 3) *Middleware:* Meta-mask is used as browser wallet. Web3.js a collection of libraries is used for connection between user interface and blockchain database(network), and A small node server is used in our system. It acts as a cryptographic server which is named as a crypto server. This server is used for storing the public private keys for encryption and decryption, respectively.

IV. CONCLUSION

This paper presents a blockchain based e-voting system that runs on Ethereum. It shows that blockchain technology can overcome limitations of centralized voting systems. This implementation uses Ethereum blockchain as a network as well as database for storing voter's accounts, candidate details and votes. This implementation makes use of smart contracts. Blockchain as a technology carries a great future ahead where many real world problems of depending on third party centralized authority in day-to-day life can be resolved, people want an less ambiguous system where everything is crystal clear and at the same time making sure that their (users) data is safe and secure. Voting system using Blockchain will for sure solve all these circumstances faced by people or citizens of a country and will provide them with a system where we no longer need to depend and follow on to these old aged traditional approaches. World is moving faster and it will move faster in terms of Technology, when we noticed a boom in Web 2 Era that is the dot com era everything was digitalized but centralized at the same time, but this revolution of Web3 Era brings a lot of exciting and one step ahead cutting

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