

A STUDY OF BLOCK CHAIN TECHNOLOGY IN FARMERS PORTAL

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ABSTRACT

Block chain is a method in which a confirmation of a transaction is kept by means of a cryptocurrency. The record is maintained transversely, linking several computers in a peer to peer network. Contracts, transactions, and the records of them define the economic system of a country. They set boundaries and provide security to the assets. Considering the features of block chain such as immutability and maintaining the footage of transaction details, this paper highlights the usage of block chain technology with farmer's portal that keep the footage of selling and buying information of crops. The proposed solution uses the python as a programming language in integration with the block chain system that will benefit the farmers or vendors and individuals by preserving the contract of trade. An interface for the farmers is designed using a python programming language in addition with block chain technology, which is used to store the information related to seller, buyer, selling and buying an item and total value transacted.

1. INTRODUCTION

Blockchain an open, disseminated and decentralized ledger that evidences transactions involving two parties capably in a confirmable and stable way (Iansiti, Lakhani 2017). In the above given definition, open means the blockchain is accessible to one and all, disseminated means that there is no single party control and decentralized means there is no

central third party available, capable means it is fast and more scalable than the conventional technologies, confirmable means that everyone can check the validity of the information and stable means that the data is nearly immutable that is it is nearly impossible to change or tamper the data or information. They verify and validate the identities and chronological events. They guide every action, transactions that have taken place among individuals, communities, organizations and nations as well. In this era of digitize at ion, the way maintained and regulated these type of data must be changed, it must be highly secure and the block chain is the solution to this.

In the era of information and communication technology, a farmer's portal has always been helpful for farmers in many ways, providing ease of use and convenience of information to the farmers [1]. The Government of India has also taken many initiatives for the same. Few examples of such portals are Krishijagran.com, farmer.gov.in, agricoop.nic.in and agriwatch.com etc. Apart from these some E-commerce websites are also available; fert.nic.in and enam.gov.in etc. The sectors currently using block chain are shown in Fig.1. Using block chain technology in the field can make available decentralized computation and information sharing platform that enables multiple authoritative domains, which do not trust each other, to cooperate, coordinate and collaborate in a rational decision making process, a reliable information recording system can be made that can contribute for the development in the

agriculture sector. Since blockchain works like a public ledger, so it can be utilized to ensure many different aspect such as [3]:

- **Protocols for Commitment:** Ensure that every valid transaction from the clients are committed and included in the blockchain within a finite time.
- **Consensus:** Ensure that the local copies are consistent and updated.
- **Security:** The data needs to be tamper -proof. Note that the client may act maliciously or can be compromised.
- **Privacy and Authenticity:** The data or transactions belong to various clients; privacy and authenticity need to be ensured.

Cryptography is a foremost part of the functioning of block chain technology [4]. Public key encryption is the root of block chain wallets and transaction, cryptography hash functions endow with the trait of immutability and merle trees systematize transactions while enabling block chain to be more competent.

Ensuring the above aspects numerous work has been carried out in the field of block chain. The presented portal is a contribution over them. It can help to maintain a secure platform for farmers, where they can trade with the customers electronically. The main object ive of this study is to record the secure transactions between a seller and a buyer that ensures a contract between the two. This can help farmers to get a legitimate price for their commodity. The system also facilitates a single place to record the whole trade transaction.

The availability and accessibility of information are the crucial points in taking the optimal decision at right time. Nowadays, advancement of ICT make possible to retrieve almost any information from the global repository

(internet). The information in internet is primarily maintained in English. So, a large number of people are deprived from the benefit of internet due to technical and English language illiteracy. This scenario is very bad in developing country like India where nearly 76 % are English illiterate 1 . Moreover, a large percentage of the English literate people are also unable to find their exact need form the large database of internet due to lack of proficient knowledge in English. Indian farmers belong to such type of people who are not much sound in both technical as well as in English.

So, they are unable to access required information on the farming life cycle, seed selection, pesticides, market price etc. from the internet. As a consequence, they are not capable to take optimal decisions at different stages of farming life cycle, which make huge impact on the farmer's revenue. As a result suicide rate has been increased rapidly among the Indian farming community. According to the reports, those pathetic incidents are mainly happened due to the frustration that they are unable to pay their debts. These types of situations create huge impact on the agriculture sector. Consequently, the focus of new generation is shifted from farming sector which will be threatening the near future in India. Our preliminary studies reveal that farmers require information at the right stage of the farming life cycle to take the right decisions [1]. However, farmers are unable to get this information from internet due to English language and technical illiteracy. Recently, some webpages like –Wikipedia, Indian Railway web page, etc. provide facility of internet access in many users' language other than English by supporting UTF-8 encoding3 . However, it is observed that information is not so useful to the people who are having poor knowledge on internet and web browsing [2]. Moreover, this type of attempt is meaningless for the illiterate people. A large number of

people from the Indian farmer community are unable to read/write even their own mother tongue. So, it is obvious that text based interface, instead of supporting farmer's own language, are not able to provide the required information. The above mentioned scenario states that there is a requirement of alternative interaction technique(s). By considering this fact, Plauché et al. proposed a speech-driven agricultural query system for Tamil Nadu state of India [3]. However this work does not able to address the scenario of total India. Patel et al. designed an interactive voice application for small-scale farmers in Gujarat, India [4]. However, it does not provide a feature to search for specified content in the forum. There, user needs to answer the questions sequentially starting from the most recent question. User does not have the option to skip any question. Moreover, there is no guarantee of giving accurate answer, as the questions are answered by other users. Furthermore, this work is also confined to a particular area of India. In some recent efforts, expert system based text animation has been proposed for diagnosis of most common diseases occurring in Indian mango [5]. This work also uses picture based system alongwith the text query for easier understanding of the disease symptoms. Though, it is a good initiative for Indian farmer, but limited to a particular fruit. Another notable work was mobile based multimedia social networking platform – GappaGoshti for information and advice exchange, proposed by Lobo et al. [6]. Ramamritham et al. [7] design an online multilingual, multimedia based forum for common man of India. However, those forums and social networking platforms provide limited number of information as compared to the internet. Moreover, quality of information may not be up to the mark, so illiterate people are unable to get any information from there. To overcome the limitation of illiteracy, Samanta et al. [2] proposed and multimodal interface for the

Indian common man. However, the iconic module of this work is not related to the agricultural domain. Other works [8, 9] also highlight the need of a systematic approach which is required to provide the precise information to farming oppurmmunity. Moreover, not only providing of the information to farmer, it is also essential to identify that how the farmers are motivated toward accessing the information [10]. All the aforementioned observations motivate us to conduct in depth research toward making an interface for Indian farmer community, which will be more useable, systematical, and needful for them irrespective of language and technical proficiency. Here, we propose an iconic interface integrated with a text to speech (TTS) engine to access the agricultural information from the internet's global repository for Indian farmer community. Further, we also integrate a local repository with the interface to access urgent information without connecting the internet.

2. LITERATURE SURVEY

1) Krishi-Bharat i: an interface for Indian farmer

AUTHORS: Ghosh, Soumalya, A. B. Garg, Sayan Sarcar, PSV S. Sridhar, Ojasvi Maleyvar, and Raveesh Kapoor

Rapid growth in the field of ICT helps in basic aspects of mankind like- agriculture, education, healthcare etc. However, the moderate technical growth of ICT applications is confined to the community of a limited number of people, who live in digital pockets. The illiterate people like – farmer, shopkeeper etc. are unable to take the advantages of the ICT revolution. According to the UNESCO report, population of such people in the globe is 64% who are unable to use the technology either language or technical barrier. Moreover the percentage (76%) must be increased in the context of developing countries.

The essential agriculture information is very useful to a farmer for taking effective decision thus we proposed to develop an iconic interface which is integrated with speech based interaction in Indian languages. The proposed interface is critically evaluated with the farmer from different states of India. The evaluation results proved the effectiveness of the proposed interface.

2) Krishi Ville—Android based solution for Indian agriculture

AUTHORS: Singhal, Manav, Kshitij Verma, and Anupam Shukla

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in agriculture is an emerging field focusing on the enhancement of agricultural and rural development in India. It involves innovative applications using ICT in the rural domain. The advancement of ICT can be utilized for providing accurate and timely relevant information and services to the farmers, thereby facilitating an environment for remunerative agriculture. This paper describes a mobile based application for farmers which would help them in their farming activities. We propose an android based mobile application - Krishi Ville which would take care of the updates of the different agricultural commodities, weather forecast updates, agricultural news updates. The application has been designed taking indian farming in consideration.

3) Blockchain based provenance for agricultural products: A distributed platform with duplicated and shared bookkeeping

AUTHORS : Hua, Jing, Xiujuan Wang, Mengzhen Kang, Haoyu Wang, and Fei-

The provenance (tracing) system of agricultural products is important for ensuring food safety. However, the stakeholders (growers, farmers, sellers etc.) are numerous and physically dispersed, making it difficult to manage data and information with a centralized approach. As a result, the production procedure remains non-transparent and trust is hard to build. In this paper, we propose an agricultural provenance system based on techniques of blockchain, which is featured by decentralization, collective maintenance, consensus trust and reliable data, in order to solve the trust crisis in product supply chain. Recorded information includes the management operations (fertilizing, irrigation, etc.) with certain data structure. Applying blockchain techniques to the provenance of agricultural product not only widens the application domain of blockchain, but also supports building a reliable community among different stakeholders around agriculture production.

4) Bitcoin and beyond: A technical survey on decentralized digital currencies

AUTHORS : Tschorsch, Florian, and Björn Scheuermann

Besides attracting a billion dollar economy, Bitcoin revolutionized the field of digital currencies and influenced many adjacent areas. This also induced significant scientific interest. In this survey, we unroll and structure the manifold results and research directions. We start by introducing the Bitcoin protocol and its building blocks. From there we continue to explore the design space by discussing existing contributions and results. In the process, we deduce the fundamental structures and insights at the core of the Bitcoin protocol and its applications. As we show and discuss, many key ideas are likewise applicable in various other fields, so that their impact reaches far beyond Bitcoin itself.

2. EXISTING SYSTEM:

In the existing system Farmers, as well as agriculture, are the foundation of life. Numerous work has been done towards the enhancement of agriculture by developing technologies that support directly and indirectly to agriculture. A range of research shows that with the various enhancements in the field of ICT (Information and Communication Technologies), the farmers are unable to take its advantage and fail to get the proper sale value for their crops. An interface that benefited the farmers by providing the information related to the advancement of agriculture techniques. Various technical approaches made in agriculture, mostly in the field of food and supply chain management. The incorporation of blockchain technology in agriculture has improved the efficiency of the agriculture supply chain by reducing the need for verification of data. However, the technology proposed benefited only the producers in terms of maintaining the accuracy of data for supply.

DISADVANTAGES OF EXISTING SYSTEM:

- Transaction depends on third party.
- Data stored in local servers it means data may be not secure.

4. PROPOSED SYSTEM:

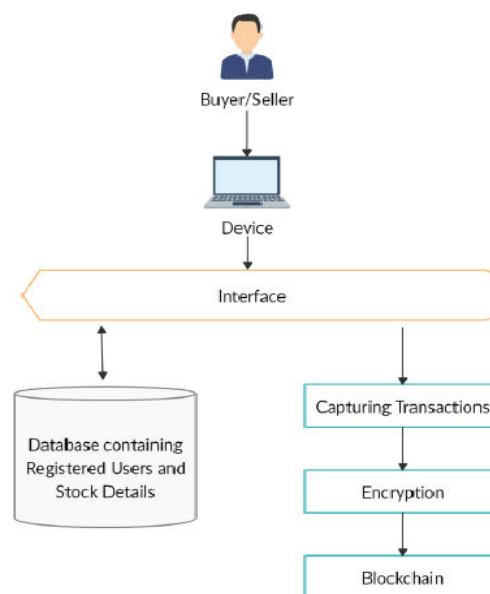
The Proposed Farmer's portal is a single gateway through which the e-commerce activity of crops can be performed. The users' experience of the portal can be tailored according to the individual need. It is a single access point i.e., everything is in a single place, the only thing needed is single login to approved users.

User: A user can be a buyer or a seller. The seller may be a farmer or a representative of him. Device: The user can interact through the portal using a computer or a laptop. Interface: To access the portal, the user needs to register using a sign-up. The registered user logs in using the correct credentials. Once the user signs in successfully. The user will have access to the portal/ interface. A user can view available items that are crops and seeds with their price.

ADVANTAGES OF PROPOSED SYSTEM:

- The buyer can buy a product and can search for any product according to the requirement. They can add the product in cart.
- The seller can add a new item, update the existing items, allot and update the price of the item.
- Purchasing an item is considered as a transaction and is added to the blockchain accordingly with the correct unique digital signature and timestamp so that any user cannot deny the activity done by them.

5. SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE:



6. IMPLEMENTATION:

MODULES DESCRIPTION:

Sellers:

The Seller User can register the first. While registering he required a valid user email and mobile for further communications. Once the user register then admin can activate the Sellers. Once admin activated the Seller then he/She can login into our system. The seller can add a new item, update the existing items, allot and update the price of the item. It will increase the market reach and will also eliminate the middleman.

Buyers:

The Seller User can register the first. While registering he required a valid user email and mobile for further communications. Once the user register then admin can activate the Sellers. Once admin activated the Seller then he/She can login into our system. The buyer can buy a product and can search for any product according to the requirement. They can add the product in cart and delete crop from the cart. After finalizing the product to buy and verifying the cart user can check out.

Admin:

Admin can login with his credentials. Once he login he can activate the sellers and buyers. The activated user only login in our applications. The admin user can view the all transaction which is done by buyer user. In the admin frame can view all block chain transaction with its previous block details and hash values.

Blockchain:

Every activity related to introducing a new item and purchasing an item is considered as a transaction and is added to the blockchain accordingly with the correct unique digital signature and timestamp so that any user cannot deny the activity done by them. All these transactions are visible to everyone in the network. The blockchain is a peer to peer transaction based on distributed node systems by

means of data encryption, time stamping and consensus. It makes the portal more secure at the data as it is immutable, transparent and accessible to all.

7. CONCLUSION

Blockchain Technology in the field of agriculture can bring a revolutionary enhancement in the area of maintaining farmers data securely, ensuring the quality of seed, monitoring of moisture content in the soil, data of crop yield and lastly demand and sale price of crops. In this work, a blockchain-based portal is proposed to deal with the issue of demand and sale price of crops which in result ensure crop security to farmers as well as to get fair price of the crop. For this, a portal is proposed on which a farmer can register and sell his crops, recording a transaction on a blockchain at a point when buyers commit to buy a farmer's crop. This transaction is capable of recording crop details, the price at which it is committed to buying and quantity of crop purchased. This immutable nature of blockchain technology will fortify farmers to get a legitimate price of crop and reduce the cost of operation for selling and buying crops when compared to traditional methods.

Further Enhancement

Akin kind of portal can be implemented by the government and its confederate bureaus to ensure amelioration in the field of farming and commerce of crops which will improve the prominence of the nation's farmers. This application can be more refined with increasing integration of blockchain in a spectrum of areas and constellating it into a single paramount portal for farmers. This can be done by putting farmer's crop details to the blockchain, buyer's data to the blockchain and adding more features and services to the single portal and bringing all possible facilities for farmers of the nation under

sui generis awning. Information integrity and precision issues can be solved using open, protected and trusted systems presumptuous; the infrastructure dispensation and footage connections are protected and suitably provided. The blockchain technology did not promise the information reliability in the footage. Thus realization in blockchain faces several boundaries that might require a vital authority or protected footage of confirmation.

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