OST Eastern Switzerland University of Applied Sciences

Distributed Systems (DSy)

In the news

Thomas Bocek 11.05.2022

Distributed Systems & Blockchain in the News

- 05.05.2022: Cloud Pricing Comparison: AWS vs. Azure vs. Google Cloud Platform in 2022 [link]
 - AWS, Azure, Google, Oracle
 - Storage: close together
 - Ondemand: AWS is leading, Google highest price, but double the RAM
 - Benchmarks [link]: AWS: low network latencies, Azure: highest disk IO, Google best throughput bennchmark
 - "That's why you need automation to optimize cloud costs"

- 08.05.2022: The Two Generals Problem [link]
 - From 2 generals to booking a flight
- 10.05.2022: UST Stablecoin Veers Wildly From Dollar Peg. Here's the Latest [link]
 - Terra is a protocol that runs the UST algorithmic stablecoin
 - Savings, lending and borrowing platform on the Terra Blockchain (based on Cosmos SDK) – Anchor, Lido, Astroport [link]
 - Pegged to USD: USDC, USDT have fiat collateral assets that can be liquidated (or they claim that), for UST there is no fiat collateral, only the LUNA token, price fed by oracles
 - To buy UST, you have to buy LUNA to mint UST (LUNA gets burned).
 To get LUNA, buy UST to mint LUNA (UST gets burned).
 - Miners always mints Terra? [link]
 - Why is arbitrage not working? "When TerraSDR's price < 1 SDR, users and arbitragers can send 1 TerraSDR to the system and receive 1 SDR's worth of Luna."



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- Crypto market goes down, BTC from 40k to 30k, Luna from 85\$ soon at 1\$?
- Terra USDT today down to 30cents
 - UST supply burned more than 1.89 billion, 120m
 LUNA issued, to remove supply, but peg still at
 ~60cents.
- Attack or not?
 - Attacker drained liquidity pool, then start selling \$1b UST, causing panic
 - So far, \$815m profit in this attack?

- 23.03.2022: DeFi App Promising 20% Interest on Stablecoin Deposits Raises Concerns [link]
 - "calling LUNA the "biggest and most dangerous" example of a "doomed-to-fail" project."
 - Currently: discussing to go to 4% interest rate [link]



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- 10.05.2022: El Salvador expected to default as bitcoin plummets [link]
 - Bitcoin is a legal currency in El Salvador
 - "Bought \$25 million worth of bitcoin"
 - GDP of ~60b USD $\rightarrow 0.04\%$
 - \$800 million Eurobond repayment due in January
 2023
 - My opinion: they may default, but I don't see the reason being bitcoin.

- 11.05.2022: Coinbase earnings were bad. Worse still, the crypto exchange is now warning that bankruptcy could wipe out user funds [link]
 - Quarterly loss \$430m and a 19% drop of users, shares down by 15%
 - Mention the importance of private keys
 - CEO Brian Armstrong: "no risk of bankruptcy"
 → regulations mandate risk factor disclosure

