OST Eastern Switzerland University of Applied Sciences

Blockchain (BICh)

HTLCs, Cross-chain Atomic Swaps, Payment Channels

Thomas Bocek 19.11.2022

Cross-chain Atomic Swaps?

- A Showcase of Cross-chair Atomic Swaps
 - Either swap happens or becomes void





Why Cross-chain Atomic Swaps

- Use case: I want to exchange my 1 BTC to 37 ETH
 - Obvious approach: use a centralized exchange, such as FTX, Binance, Bitstamp, or Kraken

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Why Cross-chain Atomic Swaps

- There was also Mt.Gox, BTC-e, and FTX
 - You loose control over your funds (Mt. Gox)

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Bitcoin

• This article is more than 5 years old

MtGox files for bankruptcy in Japan after collapse of bitcoin exchange

The bitcoin exchange has debts of £38m and assets of just £22.6m, it reported on Friday



▲ MtGox CEO Mark Karpeles bows in apology at a press conference at the Justice Ministry in Tokyo Friday night, Feb. 28, 2014. Photograph: i/AP

MtGox filed for bankruptcy protection in Tokyo on Friday, with the world's former biggest bitcoin exchange blaming "a weakness in our system" for its collapse.

Why the feds took d largest exchanges

Tracing Mt. Gox's stolen coins led feds to By Russell Brandom and Sarah Jeong | Jul 29, 2017, 10:00am E



Illustration by Alex Castro / The Verge

This week, one of Bitcoin's largest and most notorious coin exchalaw enforcement — and police and prosecutors are now beginning Thursday, the Department of Justice unsealed an indictment against Alexander VINNK thought to be the operator, or one of the operators of Bitcoin exchange BTC-e — charging

ARCHIVE Published: January 17, 2019 12:21 PM UTC

Please Do Not Store Crypto on Any Exchange, Warns CEO of Major Crypto Exchange Kraken

Jesse Powell, the CEO of a major crypto exchange Kraken, warned users of digital assets to not store funds on trading platforms. The warning of Powell follows a high profile security breach suffered by Cryptopia, a New Zealand-based crypto exchange known for its listing of...

Author: Joseph Young @iamjosephyoung



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Mt. Gox

- Mt. Gox (short for Magic: The Gathering Online Exchange)
 - July 2010 reused domain name, started Bitcoin trading platform
- April 2013, handled 70% of Bitcoin trades
- November 2013, users reported payout delays
 - Exchange rates different from other trading platforms
- 7. February 2014, suspended all BT withdrawals
 - "Bug in the Bitcoin system": transaction malleability
- 20. February, suspended all withdrawals

- 24. February, all trading suspended, blank page
- 9. March 2014, filed for bankruptcy
 - 850k Bitcoins missing
- 16.11.2021: Mt. Gox rehabilitation plan is now 'final and binding' [link]
 - Compensate creditors, \$460 million at the time, repaying 150k BTC (from lost 850k BTC)



Why Cross-chain Atomic Swaps

• Exchanges caught trading against their customers - to boost their numbers



Why Cross-chain Atomic Swaps

• With Atomic Swaps no trust in a centralized platform is needed: non-custodial





- Building Blocks of Cross-chain Atomic Swaps
- Cryptographic hashing:
 - one-way function computationally efficient in one way, computationally highly expensive the other way
 - deterministic same input same output
 - collision resistant highly expensive to find two inputs that hash to the same output

SHA256 Hash

Data:	aceuaceuac
Hash:	8698bce64d5c921046ce61e7fd0f538ad44c8f5a44e0b7789daf660d653544d8



- Building block for cross-chain atomic swaps and payment channels
- Hash lock:
 - store hashed secret publicly stored in a smart contract
 - unlock only if secret is provided (publicly)



- Building block for cross-chain atomic swaps and payment channels
- Hash time lock:
 - store hashed secret publicly stored in a smart contract
 - unlock only if secret is provided (publicly) before timeout

Or

• unlock – after timeout

function recover(bytes32 contractId) external {

require(contracts[contractId].lockTime <= now, "refundable: timelock not yet passed");</pre>

c.sender.transfer(c.amount);



- Building block for cross-chain atomic swaps and payment ch.
- Hash time lock:
 - store hashed secret publicly stored in a smart contract
 - store hashed secret publicly stored in a smart contract unlock only if secret is provided (publicly) before timeout unlock after timeout ٠

Or

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- Now we are ready to do an atomic swap with Alice and Bob
 - 1 BTC for 37 ETH





Atomic Swaps

- Now we are ready to do an atomic swap with Alice and Bob with HTLC
 - Alice (initiator) creates "secret", shares with Bob, hash(secret)



Blockchain BTC

Blockchain ETH



Atomic Swaps - Alice reveals secret to redeem 1 BTC





Atomic Swaps - Bob goes offline (worst case)





Scalability Solutions

- Blockchains grow linearly
- Solutions
 - 1. First Layer Scalability Solutions (on-chain)
 - Sharding (distribute storage)
 - Improve protocol (SegWit, Taproot, Rollups)
 - 2. Second Layer Scalability Solutions (offchain)
 - State Channels (payment channels)
 - Lightning Network
 - Sidechains / Blockchain Interoperability





Direct Payment Channel with 2-of-2 Multisig Contracts

- Open a payment channel between Alice and Bob
 - 1 BTC of Alice to Locked Multisig
 - 2-of-2 multisig
 - Initial offchain TX
 - Bob does nothing







Direct Payment Channel with 2-of-2 Multisig Contracts





Other View on Direct Payment Channels

H CADEMY



PAYMENT CHANNEL CONCEPT

https://academy.horizen.io/technology/expert/state-and-payment-channels/



Indirect Payment Channel with HTLC

- Now we are ready to open a payment channel between Alice and Bob and Charlie
 - 1 BTC lockup, Alice Bob, Bob Charlie
 - Alice wants to send 0.5 BTC to Charlie (no direct channel)







Atomic Swaps – 2 Payment Channels with 1 BTC



Bitcoin Blockchain





Other View on Indirect Payment Channels



OST