

# BLOCKCHAIN, USER PREFERENCES, AND CONSENSUS REACHING

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**Blockchain technology:** a technology for storage and data exchange, *neutral, secured, fully decentralized*. Transactions are stored in a distributed ledger. Most applications rely on dedicated crypto-currencies (Bitcoin, Solarcoin, Ethereum, etc.).



Solarcoin four year value <https://coinmarketcap.com/currencies/>

**Specificities:**

- *Authenticated* and *secured* transactions (Proof of Work)
- Transactions are identified but agents remain *anonymous*

**Smart contracts:** programs which execute automatically the terms and conditions of a contract.

Ex. rainforest blockchain: each time a product in the world uses DNA from rainforest species, origin countries are remunerated -> a new bio-economy.



Rainforest alliance bank of code and blockchain

**Questions:**

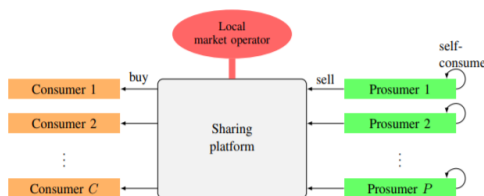
- How can we model a smart contract on top of a peer-to-peer energy market?
- What are the guarantees (if any) for consensus reaching and robustness against attacks and Byzantine behaviors?

**The Model:**

•  $N$  set of  $N$  nodes,  $N = P \cup C$  and  $P \cap C = \{\}$

Each node can be either a *prosumer* (possibility to generate and consume (part) of her own energy while selling the excess by the intermediate of a sharing platform), or a *consumer-only* (without generation facility)

- $P$ , prosumer set
- $C$ , consumer set
- **A two-sided market**
- Asymmetric role of the prosumers



**Consumer-only model:** usage benefit for consuming a quantity  $y_t^C$  of energy, with  $y_t^{C\#}$  target demand

$$U_C(y_t^C) = -\eta^C (y_t^C - y_t^{C\#})^2 + \tilde{\eta}^C,$$

Preferences leading to a utility  $\tilde{U}_C(y_t^C)$

- RES-based generation, locality of production
- Prosumer origin

Consumer  $C$  utility for consuming  $y_t^C$  energy units with  $p_t^*$  market clearing price

$$\Pi_C(y_t^C) = \tilde{U}_C(y_t^C) - p_t^* y_t^C.$$

**Prosumer model:** usage benefit for consuming  $x_t^P$  energy units and sharing  $s_t^P$  energy units on the platform, with  $x_t^{P\#}$  target consumption and  $\mu_t$  probability that a prosumer is matched to a consumer

$$U_P(x_t^P) = -\eta^P (x_t^P - x_t^{P\#})^2 + \tilde{\eta}^P,$$

$$\mu_t := \min \left\{ \frac{\sum_{C \in C} y_t^C}{\sum_{P \in P} s_t^P}; 1 \right\}.$$

Prosumer  $P$  utility for consuming  $x_t^P$  energy units and sharing  $s_t^P$  energy units on the platform

$$\Pi_P(x_t^P, s_t^P) = U_P(x_t^P) + p_t^* \mu_t s_t^P - c_P(x_t^P + s_t^P).$$

**Modeling the platform:**

$$\begin{array}{ll} \max_{y_t^C} & \Pi_C(y_t^C), \\ \text{s.t.} & y_t^C \leq \kappa^C, \\ & 0 \leq y_t^{CP}, \forall P \in \mathcal{P}. \end{array} \quad \dots \quad \begin{array}{ll} \max_{x_t^P, s_t^P} & \Pi_P(x_t^P, s_t^P), \\ \text{s.t.} & x_t^P + s_t^P \leq \kappa^P, \\ & 0 \leq x_t^P, s_t^P. \end{array}$$

**A repeated game:** The consumer-prosumer game takes place  $T_C$  time periods ahead and is repeated

- (i) *Miner selection* (node with the highest reputation index)
- (ii) consumer-prosumer interaction -> market clearing price ( $p_t^*$ )  $t=1, \dots, T_C$
- (iii) *reputation update* with  $A_v^n$  age of the last mined block for node  $n$

$$\begin{aligned} R_{v+1}^C &= R_v^C + 1 - \frac{1}{T_C} \sum_{t=1}^{T_C} \|y_{(v-1)T_C+t}^C - y_{(v-1)T_C+t}^{C\#}\| \leq \tau + A_v^C, \\ R_{v+1}^P &= R_v^P + 1 - \frac{1}{T_C} \sum_{t=1}^{T_C} \|x_{(v-1)T_C+t}^P - x_{(v-1)T_C+t}^{P\#}\| \leq \tau + A_v^P. \end{aligned}$$

**ADMM-reformulation of the platform problem -> privacy preservation**

