

A Correctable Public Blockchain

Alexander Marsalek | amarsalek@iaik.tugraz.at

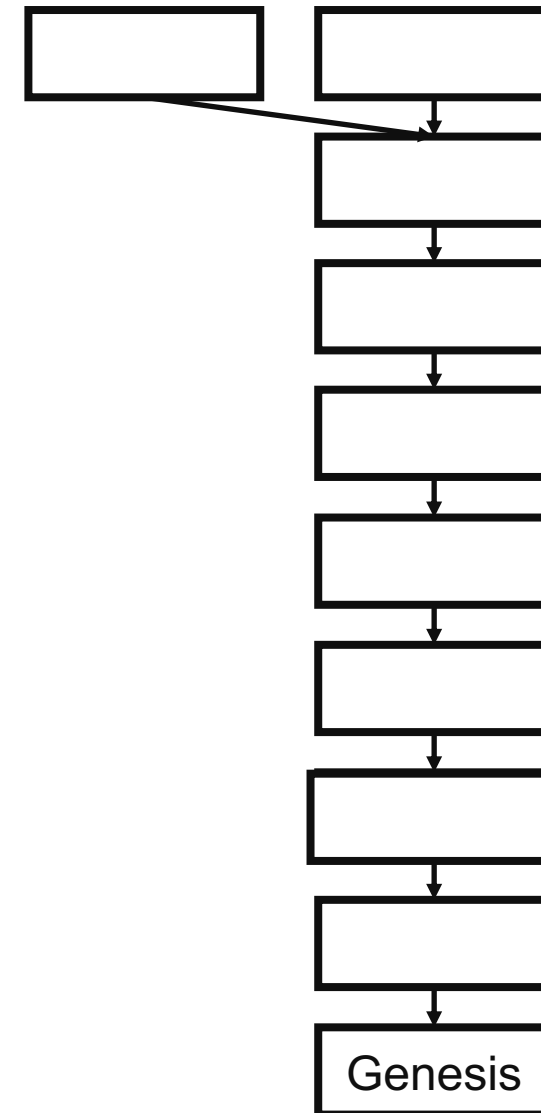
Thomas Zefferer | tzefferer@a-sit.at

Institute of Applied Information Processing and Communications
Graz University of Technology, Austria

06.08.2019

Background

- What are:
 - Miners
 - Transactions
 - Blocks
 - Proof-of-Work
 - Block rewards
 - Consensus algorithms

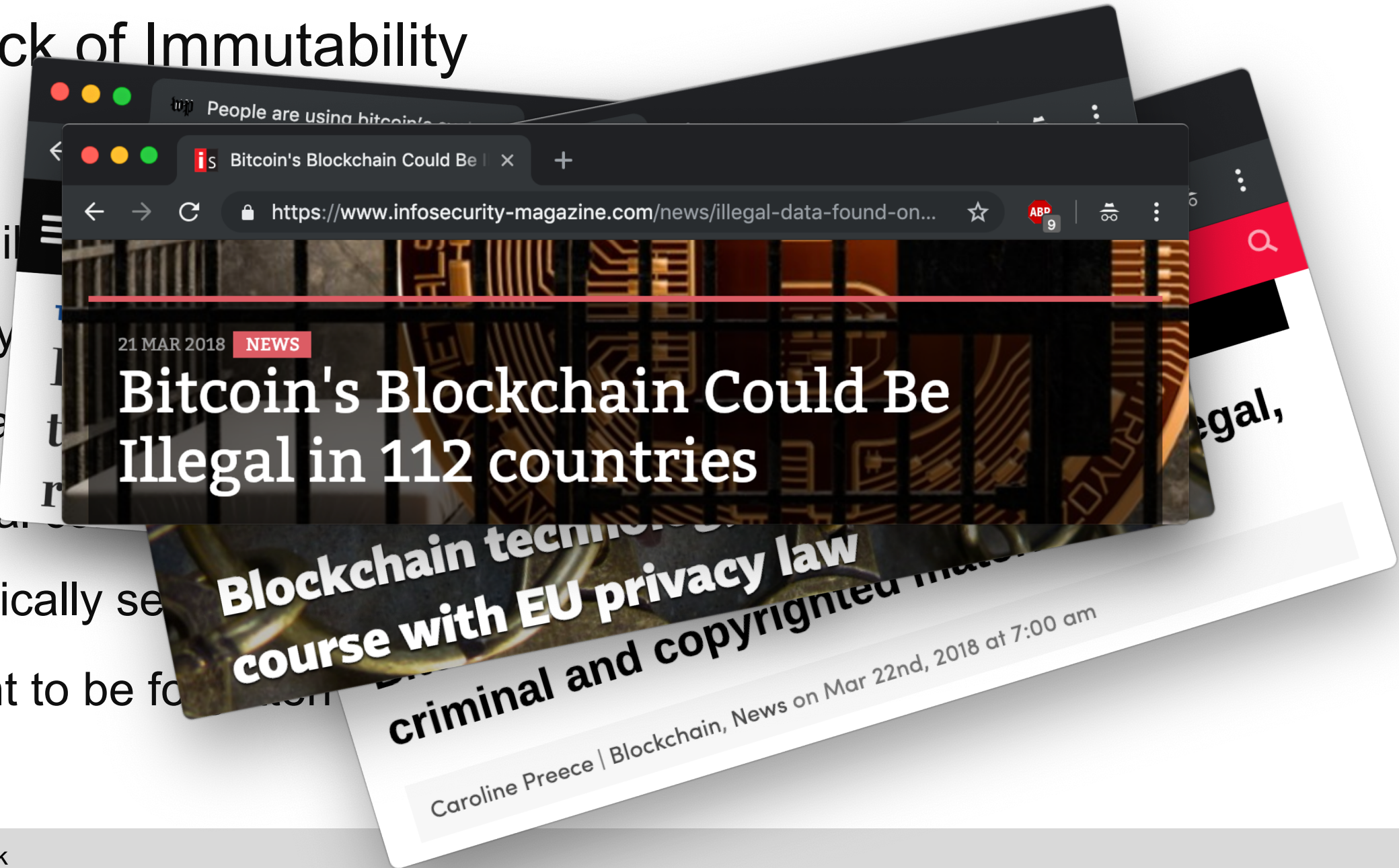


Public Blockchain – Key Features

- Transparency
- Integrity
- Censorship resistance
- Robustness
- Prevent fraud
- Eliminate TTP
- Immutability

Drawback of Immutability

- Impossible
 - Copy
 - Violate
 - Illegal
 - Politically sensitive
 - Right to be forgotten



Main Goal

- Create correctable blockchain that allows to correct erroneous data and to delete malicious data without changing the trust assumption!

Subgoals

1. No change in trust assumption
 - No special or trusted nodes
 - No secret keys
2. Selective removal of data – Make it inaccessible
3. Redaction based on distributed consensus
4. Accountability
5. Scalability
6. Robustness – dynamic changes in miner set
7. Prevent centralization
8. Editing of money transactions

Goals

1. No change in trust assumption
2. Selective removal of data
 - Remove data from ledger
 - Making it inaccessible
3. Redaction based on distributed consensus
4. Accountability
5. Scalability
6. Robustness – dynamic changes in miner set
7. Prevent centralization
8. Editing of money transactions

Goals

1. No change in trust assumption
2. Selective removal of data – Make it inaccessible
3. Redaction based on distributed consensus
 - Majority decision
4. Accountability
5. Scalability
6. Robustness – dynamic changes in miner set
7. Prevent centralization
8. Editing of money transactions

Goals

1. No change in trust assumption
2. Selective removal of data – Make it inaccessible
3. Redaction based on distributed consensus
4. Accountability
 - Changes must be replicable
5. Scalability
6. Robustness – dynamic changes in miner set
7. Prevent centralization
8. Editing of money transactions

Goals

1. No change in trust assumption
2. Selective removal of data – Make it inaccessible
3. Redaction based on distributed consensus
4. Accountability
5. Scalability
 - Must work independent from the number of miners
6. Robustness – dynamic changes in miner set
7. Prevent centralization
8. Editing of money transactions

Goals

1. No change in trust assumption
2. Selective removal of data – Make it inaccessible
3. Redaction based on distributed consensus
4. Accountability
5. Scalability
6. Robustness
 - Must be robust against changes in the miner set
7. Prevent centralization
8. Editing of money transactions

Goals

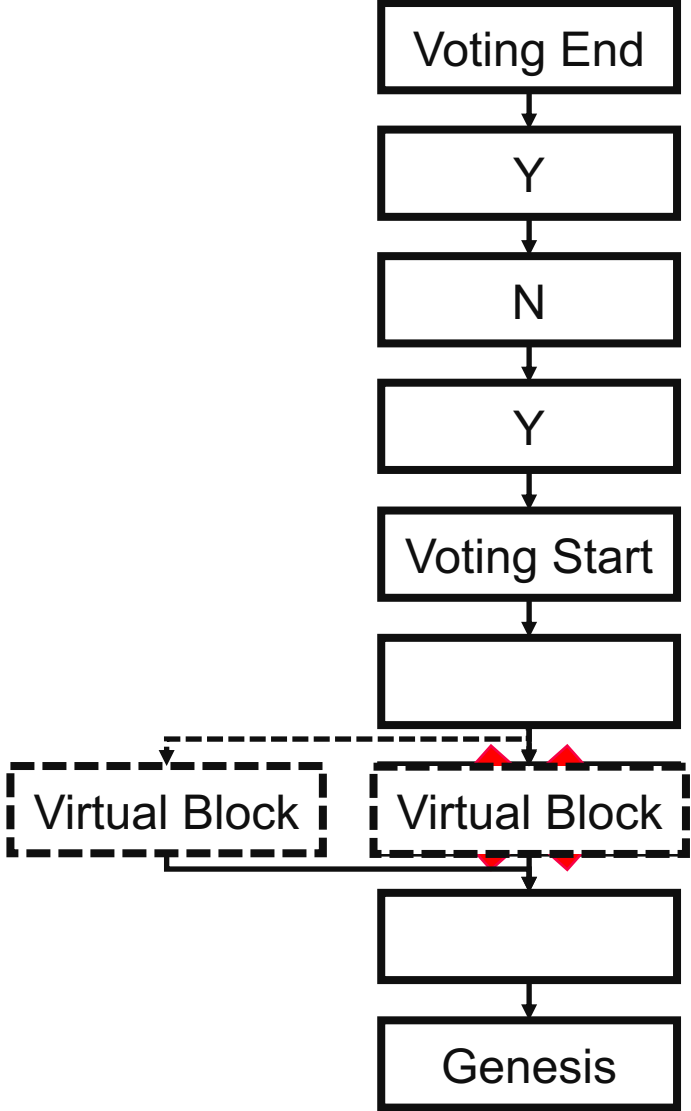
1. No change in trust assumption
2. Selective removal of data – Make it inaccessible
3. Redaction based on distributed consensus
4. Accountability
5. Scalability
6. Robustness – dynamic changes in miner set
7. Prevent centralization
 - No shared-key approach
 - Every miner should have power proportional to her computation power
8. Editing of money transactions

Goals

1. No change in trust assumption
2. Selective removal of data – Make it inaccessible
3. Redaction based on distributed consensus
4. Accountability
5. Scalability
6. Robustness – dynamic changes in miner set
7. Prevent centralization
8. Editing of money transactions
 - It should be possible to remove malicious data, also from payment transaction

Idea

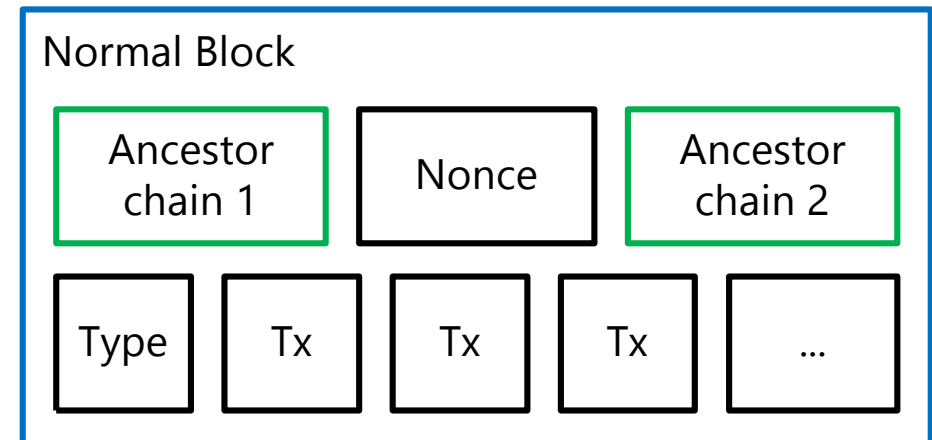
- Create election TX
- Miner validate TX against policy
- Voting starts
- Majority decides
- If won:
 - Replace block with virtual block
- Security?
 - Use second chain



Normal Block

2 new fields

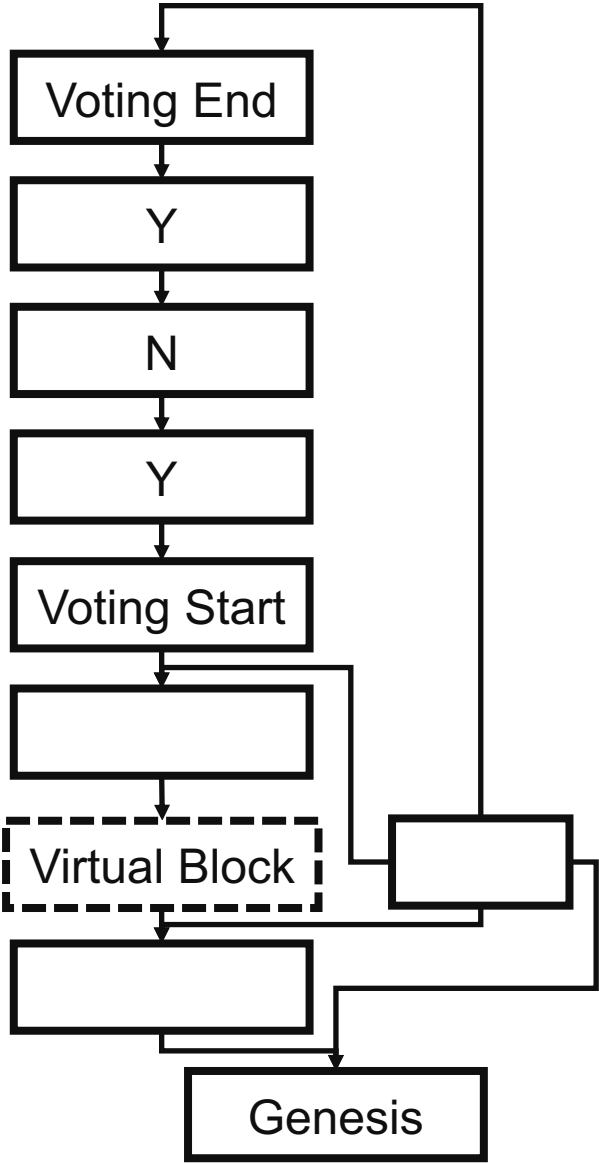
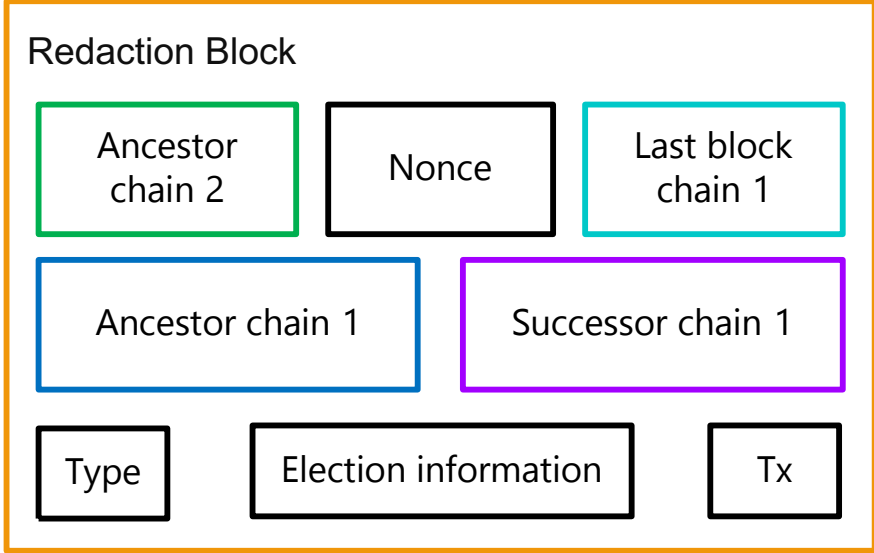
- Type
 - Normal block
 - Virtual block
- Ancestor chain 2
 - Points to last Redaction block



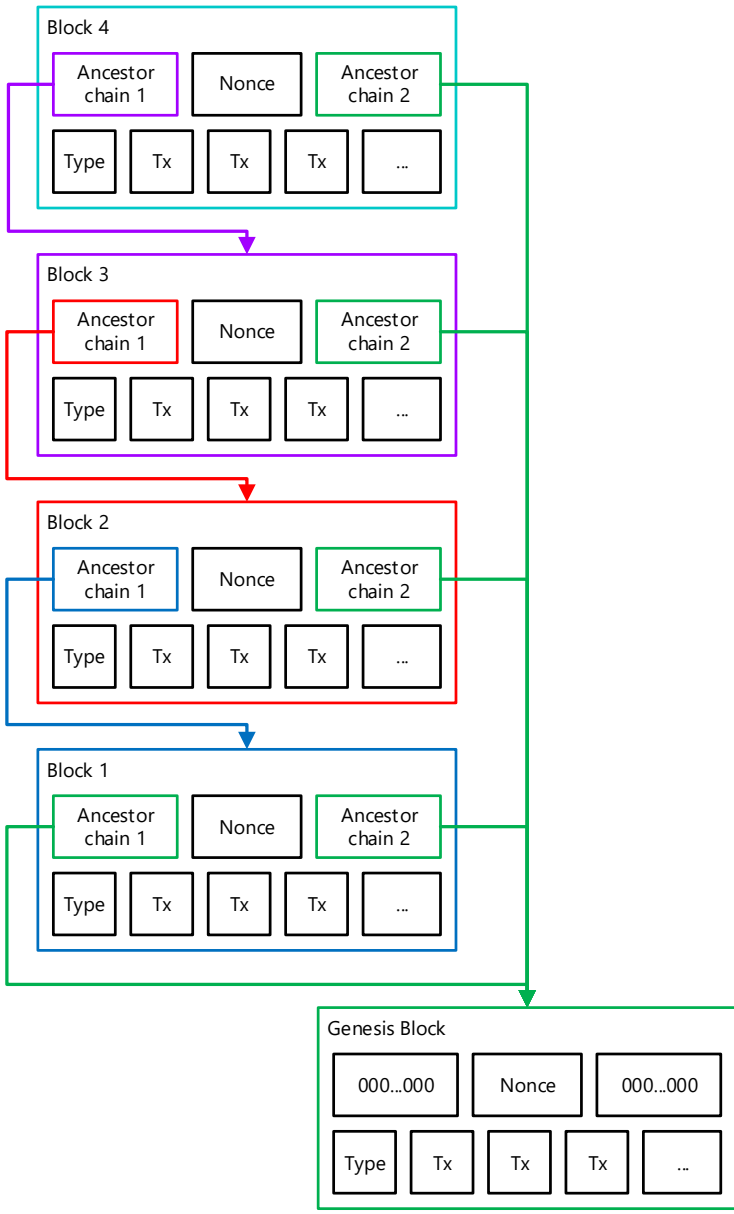
Redaction Block

- Ancestor chain 2
- Last block chain 1
- Ancestor chain 1
- Successor chain 1
- Election information

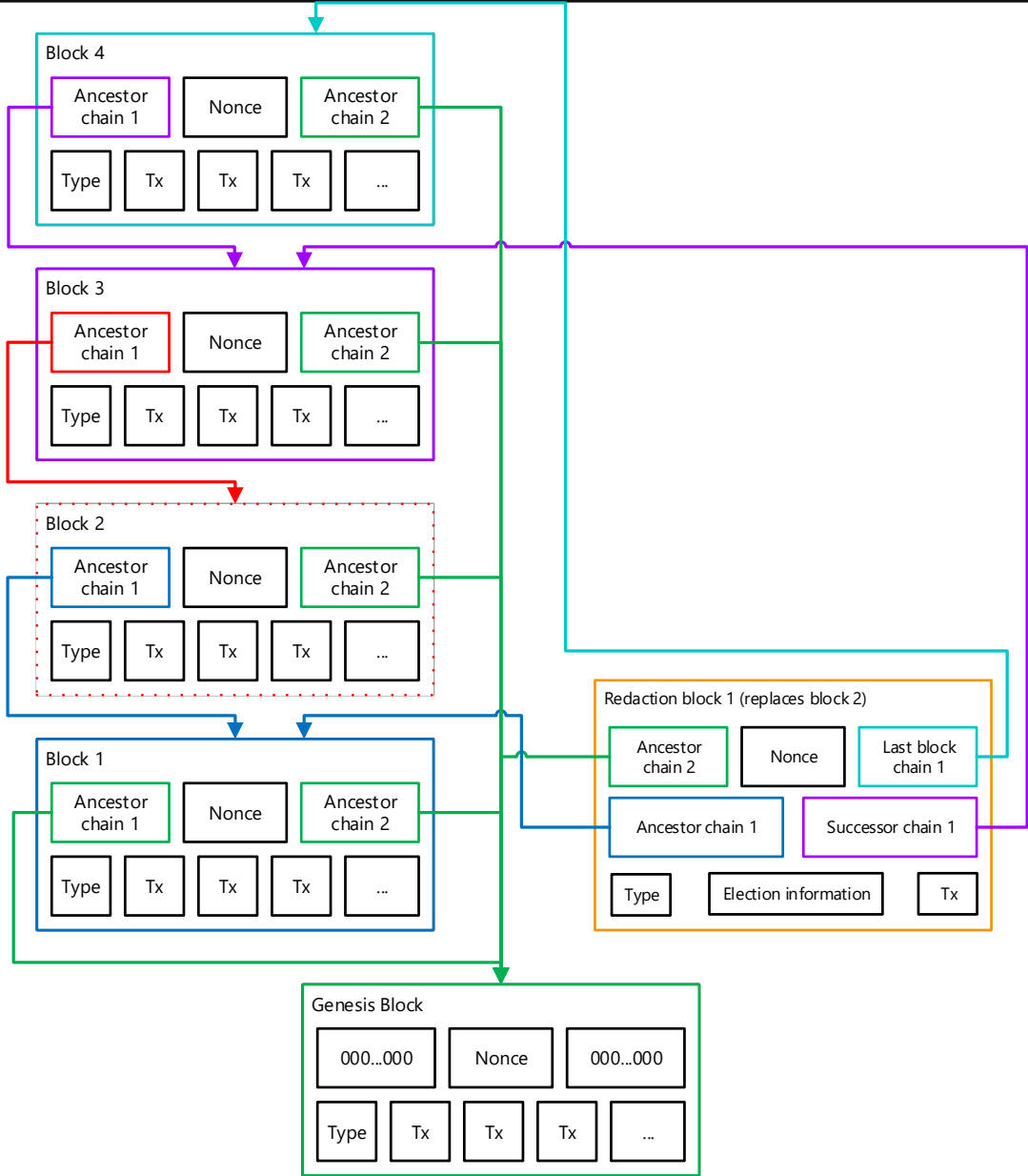
- All block in chain 2 are of this type



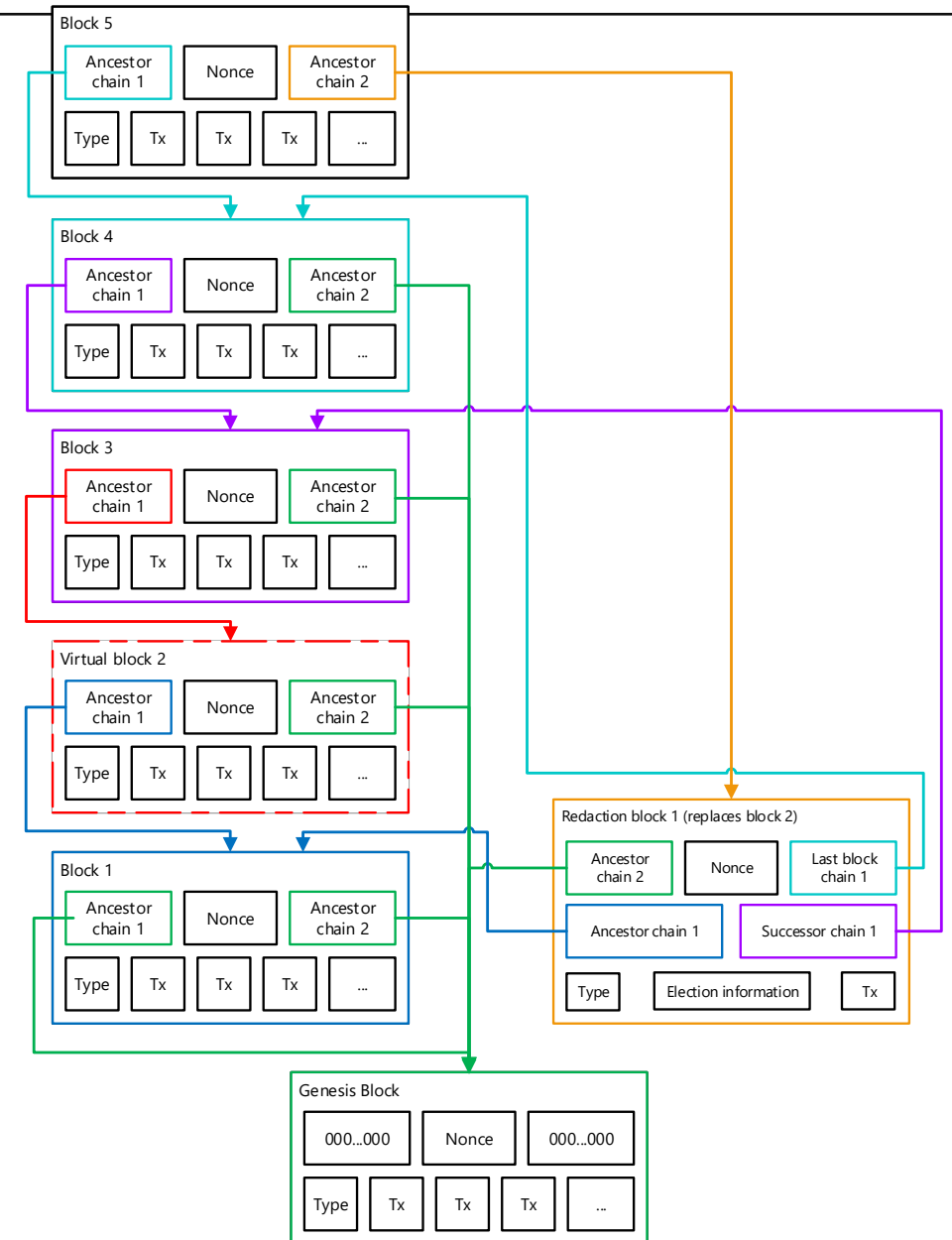
- Voting to decide which data to delete
- Virtual block replaces original block
- Second (linked) chain approves virtual block



- Voting to decide which data to delete
- Virtual block replaces original block
- Second (linked) chain approves virtual block



- Voting to decide which data to delete
- Virtual block replaces original block
- Second (linked) chain approves virtual block



Added Rules

When voting is over

- Won: Next block must be a redaction block
- Lost: Next block must be a normal block

Normal blocks always reference last redaction block

Redaction blocks must build a valid chain

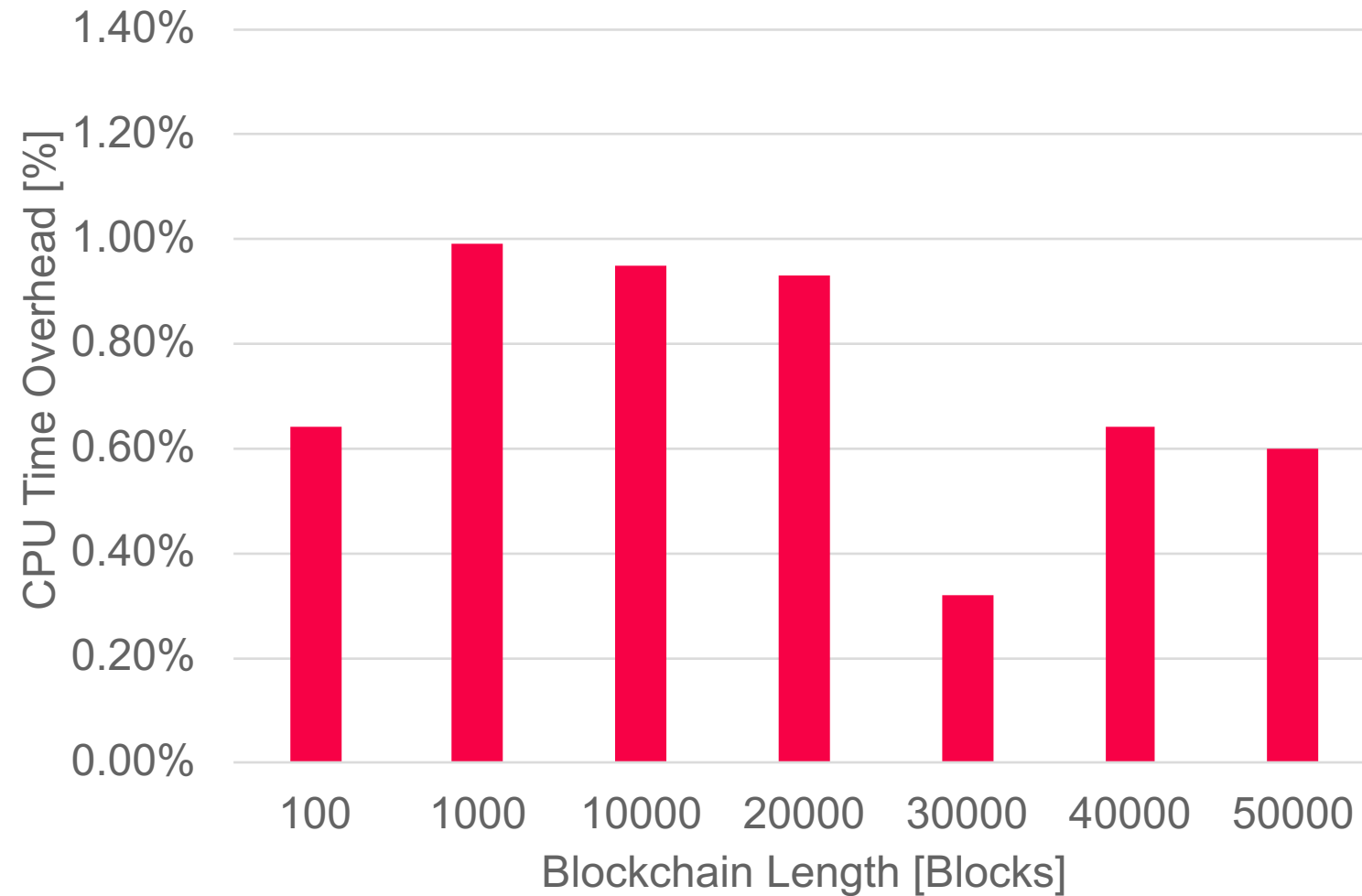
- All virtual blocks must be part of the main chain
- Virtual blocks are seen as having the hash of the block they replace

Evaluation

Evaluation Setup

- Different blockchain lengths
 - 100, 1000, 10k, 20k, 30k, 40k, 50k blocks
- 1% of blocks are being corrected

Performance Overhead



Conclusions

- Approach allows to edit or remove data from public blockchain
- Deletion based on majority decision
 - Trust assumptions unchanged
- Only small performance overhead