

Research on the Convergence Application of Blockchain Technology and Big Data

Xuye Wang, Zhijie Sun, Yunyu Guo

Shenyang Aerospace University, Liaoning, China

ABSTRACT

This paper provides an in-depth discussion on the integration and application of blockchain technology and big data, and provides a comprehensive analysis of the related work, problems, countermeasures, and future research directions in this field. Blockchain technology and big data analytics, as core technologies in the digital era, each have unique advantages, but they also face a series of challenges in convergent applications. Issues include performance optimisation, data privacy protection, complexity of smart contracts, standards and interoperability, cost issues, and governance and compliance. To address these issues, this paper proposes a series of countermeasures, including introducing new consensus mechanisms, optimising privacy protection techniques, simplifying smart contract writing, and establishing standards and interoperability. Finally, this paper points out the directions for future research, including new consensus mechanisms, privacy protection technology, smart contract optimisation, standards and interoperability, deep integration of industry applications, social and legal impact studies, ecosystem building, sustainable development, and education and training. Through comprehensive research, we are expected to promote a deeper integration of blockchain technology and big data, and provide theoretical support and practical guidance for sustainable development in the era of digital economy.

Keywords: Blockchain Technology; Big Data; Converged Applications; Performance Optimisation; Data Privacy

1 INTRODUCTION

In recent years, with the continuous development of information technology, blockchain technology and big data analytics have become two key drivers leading the digital era. Blockchain technology, with its decentralisation, high security and traceability, is widely used in finance, supply chain management, healthcare and other fields. Big data analytics, on the other hand, provides important support for business decision-making with its ability to uncover patterns and insights hidden in huge data sets [1].

However, blockchain technology and big data analytics each face some challenges in their application. Blockchain technology may face performance bottlenecks when processing large-scale data, while big data analytics may be constrained by issues such as data trustworthiness and privacy protection. In order to better utilise the advantages of both and improve the overall effectiveness of the system, research on the integration and application of blockchain technology and big data has become an urgent problem to be solved at present [2].

The aim of this study is to explore in depth the fusion application of blockchain technology and big data, and to construct a more powerful, secure and efficient information management system by combining the advantages of both. By comprehensively analysing the principles, characteristics and application areas of blockchain technology and big data analytics, this study

will try to find ways to solve the existing problems in the fusion application, so as to promote the further development of digital transformation and information management [3].

2 RELEATED WORK

In the application area of the convergence of blockchain technology and big data, there have been some pioneering researches that provide us with useful references. These studies mainly focus on the following aspects:

Data privacy and security issues, with some studies focusing on how blockchain technology can improve data privacy and security in big data applications. This includes the use of the immutable and cryptographic nature of blockchain to ensure the security of big data during storage and transmission. Consensus Mechanisms and Performance Optimisation, Some research has been devoted to improving the performance of blockchain systems, especially when dealing with large-scale data [4]. This may involve optimisation of consensus mechanisms, research on blockchain scaling techniques, and integration with big data platforms. Smart contracts and big data analytics, researchers have also explored how smart contracts can be used to perform complex big data analytics tasks on the blockchain. This helps to execute data-driven smart contracts in a decentralised environment for smarter business logic.

Industry use cases, some studies focus on the convergence of blockchain technology and big data applications in specific industries, such as supply chain management, healthcare, and financial services. These case studies provide solutions to practical problems in different fields. Standard and specification development, some studies focus on the standards and specifications for the converged application of blockchain technology and big data to ensure interoperability between different systems and platforms and facilitate cross-industry sharing and cooperation [5]. Empirical analysis and performance evaluation, some studies validate the effect of the converged application of blockchain technology and big data in real environments through empirical analyses and evaluate the performance. This helps to better understand the feasibility and advantages of the convergence in real-world applications.

Overall, these related works provide a theoretical foundation and practical experience for us to deeply explore the fusion application of blockchain technology and big data. However, there are still many issues that need to be further investigated, such as challenges in system performance enhancement, reasonable privacy protection mechanisms, and efficiency of smart contracts [6]. Therefore, this study will continue to conduct in-depth research in these directions, with a view to providing a more comprehensive and profound understanding of the development of related fields.

3 PROBLEM ANALYSIS

Despite the broad prospects for the convergence of blockchain technology and big data applications, there are still a series of challenges and issues that need to be addressed in practical applications. Some of the key issues are analysed below:

Performance and scalability issues, Blockchain technology itself may encounter performance bottlenecks when processing large-scale data, for example, slow transaction speed

and limited throughput. For big data applications, efficient processing speed is crucial. Therefore, how to improve the performance and scalability of blockchain systems to adapt to the processing needs of large-scale data is an urgent issue. Data privacy and security, big data usually contains sensitive information, how to guarantee data privacy on blockchain becomes an important issue [7]. Current blockchain technology has challenges in anonymity and privacy protection, and there is a need to find more efficient and secure data privacy solutions. Complexity of Smart Contracts, Although smart contracts are capable of performing complex big data analytics tasks on blockchain, writing, testing and deploying complex smart contracts is still a challenging task. How to simplify the process of writing smart contracts, lower the user threshold, and improve the execution efficiency are issues that need to be investigated.

Standards and interoperability, blockchain technology and big data analytics often involve multiple systems and platforms, and different industries and fields may use different standards and specifications. Establishing uniform standards and improving interoperability between systems to facilitate information sharing and collaboration is an issue that needs to be addressed [8]. Cost issues, implementing blockchain technology and big data convergence applications may require significant investment, including costs for hardware, software, training, and so on. How to reduce costs and improve the economic viability of the application is an issue that needs to be examined. Governance and compliance, the governance mechanism of blockchain systems and compliance with regulations is a complex issue. Compliance is especially important in a big data environment, as much big data involves sensitive information such as personal privacy. How to establish an effective governance model to guarantee compliance is a direction that requires in-depth research [9].

Taken together, solving these problems will help promote a closer integration of blockchain technology and big data, and promote its widespread application in various industries. Future research should focus on addressing these challenges to realise the synergistic effects of blockchain technology and big data analytics, and provide more sustainable and innovative solutions for the development of the digital economy era.

4 COUNTERMEASURE RESEARCH

In order to solve the problems in the convergence of blockchain technology and big data applications, it is crucial to develop effective countermeasures. The following are some possible countermeasures:

Performance optimisation and scalability enhancement, introduction of new consensus mechanisms: research on more efficient consensus mechanisms, such as Proof-of-Stake (Proof of Equity) or implementation of layering of consensus mechanisms, to improve the processing speed of the blockchain system. Introduction of sharding technology, research and apply sharding technology to divide the whole blockchain network into small segments, each of which can operate independently, so as to improve the throughput of the whole system [10].

Data privacy and security assurance, using zero-knowledge proofs, exploring the use of privacy-preserving technologies such as zero-knowledge proofs to ensure that big data stored and transmitted on the blockchain can still be sufficiently privacy-protected. Joint use of cryptography, combining traditional encryption techniques to ensure the security of data during storage and transmission.

Simplification and optimisation of smart contracts and introduction of high-level programming languages: providing higher-level programming languages and tools to make

the writing of smart contracts simpler and easier to understand. Automated testing tools, development of automated testing tools to ensure the correctness and efficiency of smart contracts. Establishment of standards and interoperability, develop industry standards, actively participate in the development of international and industry standards in the field of blockchain and big data, and promote interoperability and information sharing. Development of cross-chain technology, promoting the development of cross-chain technology and achieving interoperability between different blockchain systems [11].

Cost problem solving, adopting cloud services, and considering the use of cloud service providers' solutions to reduce the cost of infrastructure building and operation and maintenance. Co-operation and sharing, reduce the cost of R&D and implementation through co-operation and sharing of resources to promote the sustainable development of the whole ecosystem. Governance and compliance enhancement, introduce decentralised governance and study decentralised governance models to make decision-making more transparent and democratic and improve the resilience of the entire system. Compliance with regulatory standards, establishing blockchain technology and big data fusion applications that comply with regulatory standards to ensure compliance and sustainable development.

By adopting these countermeasures, it is possible to move in the direction of solving the key issues in the convergence of blockchain technology and big data applications, and to promote a wider application of these two technologies in different fields. At the same time, attention needs to be paid to adjusting the strategy in a timely manner during the implementation process and making corresponding improvements according to changes in technology and market development.

5 CONCLUSION

The integration and application of blockchain technology and big data is a cutting-edge topic in the field of information management in the digital era, and this research aims to deeply explore the synergistic effect of the two and solve the various challenges faced in practical application. The following conclusions are drawn through the comprehensive consideration of related work, problem analysis and countermeasure research:

Huge Potential and Opportunities, the convergence of blockchain technology and big data analytics applications has a huge potential to drive the digital transformation of various industries. By leveraging the decentralisation and security of blockchain and the mining capabilities of big data, a more efficient, transparent and secure information management system can be achieved. Challenges faced, in the process of converging applications, there are still a series of challenges such as performance issues, data privacy and security challenges, complexity of smart contracts, standards and interoperability issues, cost issues, and governance and compliance. These issues need to be considered in an integrated manner and effective countermeasures taken to address them. Performance optimisation and privacy protection, for performance issues, the introduction of new consensus mechanisms and sharding technology is an effective means to improve the throughput of blockchain systems. At the same time, privacy protection techniques such as zero-knowledge proof are used to ensure that big data is fully secured in converged applications. Improvement of smart contracts and programming languages, simplification of the process of writing smart contracts, and introduction of high-level programming languages and automated testing tools help to improve the readability and execution efficiency of smart contracts and reduce the difficulty of development. The construction of standards and interoperability, the development of industry standards and the promotion of cross-chain technologies help promote the interoperability of blockchain technology and big data, and achieve broader information sharing. Comprehensive management and compliance, establishing a decentralised governance model, following

regulations and standards, and reducing costs through cooperation and sharing can help improve the robustness and compliance of the entire system.

In summary, the integration and application of blockchain technology and big data is a complex and challenging research field. Through sustained efforts to address the relevant issues, it will be expected to realise the benign interaction between blockchain technology and big data and promote sustainable development in the era of digital economy. Future research and practice should pay close attention to technological innovation, standardisation, and the promotion of practical applications, in order to promote the widespread implementation of converged applications in various industries.

6 DISCUSSION

Novel consensus mechanisms, research and development of more efficient and scalable consensus mechanisms to cope with the processing needs of large-scale data. Proof of rights, Byzantine fault-tolerant algorithms, etc. may become the focus of future research to improve the performance of blockchain systems. Privacy protection technology, further research and improvement of privacy protection technology, including zero-knowledge proof, homomorphic encryption, etc., in order to meet users' higher requirements for personal data privacy and promote the integration of privacy security and blockchain technology. Smart Contract Optimisation, research on performance optimisation methods for smart contracts, including improving execution efficiency, reducing gas costs, simplifying contract writing, etc., in order to promote the wider application of smart contracts in big data scenarios. Standards and interoperability, to strengthen the formulation of standards and specifications for the integration of blockchain technology and big data applications, and to promote the development of cross-chain technology to achieve a higher degree of interoperability between different systems. Deep integration of industry applications, in specific industry sectors, such as Internet of Things, supply chain management, healthcare, financial services, etc., to study in-depth integration of blockchain technology and big data applications, and formulate solutions that are more suitable for the characteristics of the industry. Social and Legal Impact Research, to study the impact of the integration and application of blockchain technology and big data on the social structure and legal system, and to explore how to establish a more reasonable regulatory framework to ensure the safe, legal and sustainable development of the technology. Ecosystem construction, focusing on building a sound ecosystem for the convergence of blockchain technology and big data applications, including development tools, platforms and eco-partnerships, to promote the development of the entire industry. Sustainable development, researching how to achieve sustainable development in the convergence application of blockchain technology and big data, including the efficiency of resource utilisation, social acceptance, and economic viability, in order to promote the sustainable application of the technology. Education and training to promote the cultivation of talents in the field of convergence application of blockchain technology and big data, offer relevant courses and training, and cultivate professionals and researchers to provide talent support for the long-term development of the industry.

Future research should take into account a number of technical, economic and social factors to comprehensively promote the further development of the converged application of blockchain technology and big data in different fields, so as to meet the complex challenges of the digital era.

REFERENCES

- [1] Bhatt, P. C., Kumar, V., Lu, T. C., & Daim, T. (2021). Technology convergence assessment: Case of blockchain within the IR 4.0 platform. *Technology in Society*, 67, 101709.
- [2] Kaur, M., & Gupta, S. (2021). Blockchain technology for convergence: an overview, applications, and challenges. *Blockchain and AI Technology in the Industrial Internet of Things*, 1-17.
- [3] Singh, P., Elmi, Z., Lau, Y. Y., Borowska-Stefańska, M., Wiśniewski, S., & Dulebenets, M. A. (2022). Blockchain and AI technology convergence: Applications in transportation systems. *Vehicular Communications*, 100521.
- [4] Sharma, A., Podoplelova, E., Shapovalov, G., Tselykh, A., & Tselykh, A. (2021). Sustainable smart cities: convergence of artificial intelligence and blockchain. *Sustainability*, 13(23), 13076.
- [5] Ahsan, A., & Shabbir, A. (2021). Blockchain and Big Data: Exploring Convergence for Privacy, Security and Accountability. *Sage Science Review of Educational Technology*, 4(2), 53-68.
- [6] Baek, Y. T., & Min, Y. A. (2020). A Study on Modified PBFT Study for Effective Convergence of IoT Big Data and Blockchain Technology. In *Proceedings of the Korean Society of Computer Information Conference* (pp. 193-194). Korean Society of Computer Information.
- [7] Haiying, L. (2018). Research on Sharing Economic Development of “Big Data+ Block Chain” — —Based on Industry Convergence Theory. *Journal of Technical Economics & Management*, 1, 91-95.
- [8] Choudhary, T., Virmani, C., & Juneja, D. (2020). Convergence of Blockchain and IoT: An Edge Over Technologies. *Toward Social Internet of Things (SIoT): Enabling Technologies, Architectures and Applications: Emerging Technologies for Connected and Smart Social Objects*, 299-316.
- [9] Blakely, B. E., Pawar, P., Jololian, L., & Prabhaker, S. (2021, March). The Convergence of EDI, Blockchain, and Big Data in Health Care. In *SoutheastCon 2021* (pp. 1-5). IEEE.
- [10] Hibti, M., Baïna, K., & Benatallah, B. (2019, October). Towards Swarm Intelligence Architectural Patterns: an IoT-Big Data-AI-Blockchain convergence perspective. In *Proceedings of the 4th International Conference on Big Data and Internet of Things* (pp. 1-8).
- [11] Muheidat, F., Patel, D., Tammisetty, S., Lo'ai, A. T., & Tawalbeh, M. (2022). Emerging concepts using blockchain and big data. *Procedia Computer Science*, 198, 15-22.