CB-XEO: Consensus Based eXplainable Earth Observation

Applications of Blockchain and XAI Concepts to Reliability and Security



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••Week, Side Events ESRIN, Frascati 09-13 September 2019

Extracting actionable in the Explainable SpaceStream



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Why Explainable AI (XAI)?

We can trust only Truth



Why Explainable AI (XAI)?

We can trust only Truth

It seems something simple



How far are we from Truth?

Human Example



Truth



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How far are we from Truth?

Human Example





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We are very far from Truth !



Why Explainable AI (XAI)?

- We train AI algorithms with data that we Humans produce
- Training data may be affected by BIASES
- Al may give responses that we cannot understand (including wrong ones)
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- The «this black box does work but it is very black» is not scientific



What if we combine wisdoms?



reliable consensus mechanism

Example: compressing input by comparison with other **reliable** information



What if we combine wisdoms ?

- Cross Validation through distribution and composition,
- Composition triggered by request.
- Guide principle: "*reproducible results*" have <u>more</u> Value.



The buzz-word "blockchain" (What's that)

A combination of:

- Peer to Peer Networking,
- Public-Key Cryptography,
- Distributed Consensus (fault tolerance),
- Deterministic execution of code (Smart Contracts),
- Business logic based on value exchange,
- Reputation management.







What we designed.



The Actual System (some details)



We just designed



We designed a node in this way

Overall Controller		
Algorithms (XAI + Processing)	Signature Generation (Specialized for EO)	CAS
Networking & Consensus Management (COTS platform)		

An overall controller contains specialized functionalities. Some of them are delegated to COTS components. Functions specifically made vertical for EO are "Algorithms" and "Signature Generation". CAS (Content Addressable Storage) is made accessible by a dedicated interface.



XAI+CB Enabled Devices

Internal hierarchical structure of space devices with smart contract runtime and a federation manager.

Overall Controller





Smart Contract Executive

Contracts between peers are managed by a dedicated executive which acts in a sandbox and interacts with the outer rings by traversing the hierarchy of rings one by one.

-Federation Manager

Devices can work alone and in a federated arrangement of independent and collaborating entities, whose only focus is to produce accurate and reliable shared data and value.

Investigated by CTEO (ESA ϕ -lab project)

XAI+CB Enabled Devices



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XAI in the Consensus Network



XAI in the Consensus Network

Code components that run inside a Node and implement business logic, including algorithms: for example, compression, classification, etc.





Smart Contracts express Configurability

Example: Signature Generation is Compressing



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The "moving" parts...



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In the SpaceStream

- We are migrating from a single processor to an orchestrated cooperation of processing nodes.
- From raw, abundant, redundant data to refined, highly significant, actionable information...
- ...Resulting from the composition of multiple, interacting, mainly cooperating and constructively competing (when needed) nodes.

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The «SpaceStream» paradigm

- EO systems will enforce Wisdom Services
- Nodes in a networks of "heterogeneous, distributed Ground Segments"
- Swarms of "cooperative and competitive Space Agents"
- UpStream and DownStream mixed in the shades of the Continuous SpaceStream



Conclusions

- Exploiting the Relevant-Information-Extraction Process
- Composition of Pluggable Contributing Nodes
- Peer Enhanced Environment Reliability
- On Demand Deploy-Ability



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