

Thora: Atomic And Privacy-Preserving Multi-Channel Updates

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Abstract—Most blockchain-based cryptocurrencies suffer from a heavily limited transaction throughput, which is a barrier to their growing adoption. Payment channel networks (PCNs) are one of the most promising solutions to this problem. PCNs reduce the on-chain load of transactions and increase the throughput by processing many payments off-chain. In fact, any two users connected via a path of payment channels (i.e., joint addresses between the two channel end-points) can perform payments and the underlying blockchain is used only when there is a dispute between users. Unfortunately, payments in PCNs can only be conducted securely along a path, which prevents the design of many interesting applications. Moreover, the most widely used implementation, the Lightning Network in Bitcoin, suffers from a collateral lock time linear in the path length, it is affected by security issues, and it relies on specific scripting features called Hash Timelock Contracts that restricts its applicability.

In this work, we present Thora, the first Bitcoin-compatible off-chain protocol that enables atomic multi-channel updates across generic topologies beyond paths. Thora allows payments through distinct PCNs sharing the same blockchain and enables new applications such as secure and trustless crowdfunding, mass payments, and channel rebalancing in off-chain ways. Our construction requires only constant collateral and no specific scripting functionalities other than digital signatures and time-locks, thereby being applicable to a wider range of blockchains. We formally define security and privacy in the Universal Composability framework and show that our cryptographic protocol is a realization thereof. In our performance evaluation we show that our construction requires constant collateral, is independent of the number of channels, and has only a moderate off-chain communication as well as computation overhead.

I. INTRODUCTION

Permissionless cryptocurrencies such as Bitcoin [20] use consensus mechanisms to verify transactions in a decentralized way and record them in a public and distributed ledger, often a blockchain. This approach inherently has scalability issues, resulting in a low transaction throughput and a long confirmation latency. These limitations prevent cryptocurrencies from meeting the growing user demands, especially when we compare them with the usability of centralized payment networks, like Visa, which handles tens of thousands of transactions per second and confirms transactions usually within seconds.

Off-chain protocols constitute one of the most promising solutions to tackle the scalability issue. Instead of recording every transaction on the public ledger, users exchange and keep their transactions off-chain and use the ledger only as a fallback when there are disputes in order to keep their funds.

One of the most promising off-chain protocols are Payment Channels (PCs) which are deployed at scale in cryptocurrencies such as Bitcoin and Ethereum [21, 18]. Intuitively, a channel is a shared address that allows two parties to maintain and update a private ledger through off-chain transactions. In a bit more detail, looking at Bitcoin’s unspent transaction output (UTXO) model, users first open a PC by locking some coins in a 2-of-2 multi-signature output. Then, they can update the balance in the PC arbitrarily many times by exchanging signed transactions. Each of the users can close the PC by publishing the last state on-chain. This allows them to perform many transactions while burdening the ledger with only two transactions.

A. HTLC-based PCNs and their limitations

Payment channel networks (PCNs) like the Lightning Network (LN) [21] and Raiden [22] generalize this approach, by allowing two users to pay each other as long as they are connected by a path of channels with enough capacity. Such a payment in a PCN, also called a multi-hop payment (MHP), requires updating each channel on the path. The challenge here is to ensure atomicity, i.e., either all channels are updated consistently or none, such that no user is at risk of losing money. In the most popular PCN, i.e. the Lightning Network, atomicity is achieved through Hash Timelock Contracts (HTLCs) [21], which make the payments on each channel on the path conditioned on revealing the preimage of a certain hash. The receiver has to reveal that preimage in order to receive the money and then all intermediaries from right to left are incentivized to update their left channel in order to claim the money of the payment. An example of a payment using HTLCs is shown in Figure 1.

HTLC-based PCNs, however, have the following fundamental drawbacks:

Collateral All parties on the path have to lock the payment amount α up to a period of *locktime*. The payment amount multiplied by the locktime is also called *collateral*. In addition, parties can impose fees for the service of forwarding payments. In the case of HTLCs, each party has to lock a collateral that is linear in the size of the path n , i.e., $\Theta(\alpha \cdot n \cdot \delta)$, where δ is a security parameter defining the time by which users have to react in case of misbehavior from others (in Lightning, δ is one day).

Due to the linear collateral, the effects of *griefing attacks* [11] on HTLC-based PCNs are particularly severe. In a griefing attack, a malicious user starts a multi-hop payment to itself with the intent to block coins owned by intermediaries. The attacker manages to lock up α coins in $n - 1$ honest channels. The fact that the lock duration is also linear in the path length amplifies the effects of this attack further. The malicious user subsequently lets the payment fail to limit the overall network throughput or to lock coins of specific users.

Weak atomicity Lightning guarantees only a weak form of atomicity, that is, only the two adjacent channels of an honest node are updated consistently. In particular, Lightning is vulnerable to the *wormhole attack* [17], where two colluding malicious users can skip honest users in the phase where they reveal the preimage. This does not lead to a loss in funds for the honest users, but the malicious users can steal the fees originally intended for the honest users.

Path restriction Since HTLC-based PCN protocols rely on an incentive based forwarding of a preimage via a path to ensure that honest users do not lose funds, these protocols are limited to payments over a path of channels. This rules out other topologies reflecting relevant financial applications (e.g., crowd-funding can be seen as a star topology where all nodes update their channel with the beneficiary).

Value privacy In Lightning, intermediaries implicitly learn the paid amount, as the value has to be the same (except for some fee) over all channels within the path to ensure atomicity of the protocol.

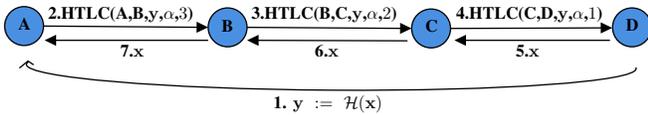


Figure 1: An example of a payment in LN from A to D for a value α using HTLC contracts. An HTLC contract denoted by $\text{HTLC}(\text{Alice}, \text{Bob}, x, y, t)$, shows the following conditions: (i) If timeout t expires, Alice gets back the locked x coins. (ii) If Bob reveals a value r , such that $\mathcal{H}(r) = y$, before timeout t , Alice pays x coins to Bob.

B. Related work

Recently, various protocols have been designed to overcome the aforementioned issues, but they all fall short of some property, as summarized in Table I.

Anonymous Multi-Hop Locks (AMHL) prevent the wormhole attack by dispensing from HTLCs in favor of adaptor signatures, a mechanism in which the secret is somewhat embedded in the randomness of the signature and revealed once that signature is published, but they still suffer from linear collateral and only support path-based payments.

The Atomic Multi-Channel Updates (AMCU) protocol [11] attempts to achieve payments with constant collateral and also to support more generic applications than path-formed payments. Unfortunately, AMCU is not secure: It is vulnerable

to *channel closure attacks* [12], where users honestly updating their channels can be victim of double-spending attacks, which can lead to a loss of funds for honest users.

Blitz [2] is a recently proposed payment protocol for multi-hop payments, which in contrast to Lightning requires only one round of communication through the path with constant collateral. However, Blitz supports only path-based payments.

Sprites [19] is the only secure protocol supporting atomic multi-channel updates with constant collateral. In fact, the paper addresses only path-based payments, but we conjecture that the protocol could in principle be modified so as to support arbitrary topologies and also to hide the paid amount. Unfortunately, Sprites inherently requires Turing-complete scripting, which makes it inapplicable to blockchain technologies with limited scripting capabilities, such as Bitcoin itself. A Turing complete scripting language provides more expressiveness, but it also enlarges the trusted computing base, opens the door to programming bugs, and makes computations more expensive (e.g., in terms of gas fees in Ethereum).

Hence, it is both a foundational and practically relevant question whether or not atomic multi-channel updates with constant collateral are possible at all in blockchains with limited scripting languages like Bitcoin. Indeed, it was conjectured in [19] that they are not.

C. Our contribution

In this paper, we show that the aforementioned conjecture is incorrect. In particular,

- We introduce Thora, the first secure Bitcoin-compatible protocol for atomic, multi-channel updates with constant collateral. Thora only requires signatures and timelocks, and it is thus compatible with a number of cryptocurrencies, such as Bitcoin, Stellar, and Ripple. In addition, Thora supports payments over channels with arbitrary topologies, thereby enabling a variety of interesting applications. Finally, perhaps surprisingly, Thora achieves value privacy, i.e., the channel owners can synchronize their payments without necessarily disclosing the individual payment amounts.
- We formally model our protocol in the *Global Universal Composability* (GUC) framework [9], analyzing its security and privacy properties. For this, we define an ideal functionality which captures the security and privacy notions of interest and prove that Thora constitutes a GUC-realization thereof.
- We conduct a complexity analysis and performance evaluation, demonstrating the practicality of Thora.
- We instantiate Thora in the context of several applications that go beyond simple path-formed payments, such as mass payments, channel rebalancing algorithms, and crowd-funding, thereby exemplifying the class of off-chain applications enabled by Thora.

II. BACKGROUND

In this section, we provide an overview on the background and the notations used throughout the paper. For more details, we refer the reader to [2, 4, 16].

	Atomicity	Path restriction	Smart contract	pp Collateral	Value privacy
Lightning Network [21]	No	Yes	No	Linear	application leak
AMHL [17]	Yes	Yes	No	Linear	application leak
AMCU [11]	No	No	No	Constant	No
Payment Trees [12]	Yes	Yes	No	Logarithmic	No
Blitz [2]	Yes	Yes	No	Constant	application leak
Sprites [19]	Yes	No	Yes	Constant	Yes
Thora	Yes	No	No	Constant	Yes

Table I: Comparing different payment methods: Lightning Network, Anonymous Multi-Hop Locks (AMHL), Sprites, Payment Trees, Atomic Multi-Channel Updates(AMCU), Blitz, and our construction. Studied features are: atomicity property, path restriction, need for Turing-complete smart contracts, size of per party collateral, and value privacy. For the latter, note that there are constructions that do not inherently leak the value transferred in individual channels, but they can only be used for applications (i.e., payments) that require the same value in all channels.

A. UTXO based transactions

We assume the underlying blockchain to be based on the *unspent transaction output* (UTXO) model, like Bitcoin. In this model, *coins*, or the units of currency, exist in *outputs* of *transactions*. We represent each output as a tuple $\theta := (\text{cash}, \phi)$ where $\theta.\text{cash}$ is the output value, and $\theta.\phi$ is the condition required to spend the output. We encode the condition in the scripting language used by the underlying cryptocurrency. The notation $\text{OneSig}(U)$ denotes the condition that a digital signature w.r.t. U 's public key is required for spending an output. If multiple signatures are required, we write $\text{MultiSig}(U_1, U_2, \dots, U_n)$.

Users can transfer the ownership of outputs via transactions. A transaction spends a non-empty list of unspent outputs (transaction inputs) and maps them to a list of new unspent outputs (transaction outputs). Formally a transaction is denoted as a tuple $\text{tx} := (\text{id}, \text{input}, \text{output})$. $\text{tx.id} \in \{0, 1\}^*$ is the identifier, set to be the hash of inputs and outputs, $\text{tx.id} = \mathcal{H}(\text{tx.input}, \text{tx.output})$, where \mathcal{H} is modeled as a random oracle. tx.input denotes the list of identifiers of the inputs and tx.output denotes the list of new outputs. Also we define another notation $\bar{\text{tx}} := (\text{id}, \text{input}, \text{output}, \text{witness})$ or for convenience also $\bar{\text{tx}} = (\text{tx}, \text{witness})$ to denote a full transaction. $\bar{\text{tx}}.\text{witness}$ consists of witnesses for the spending conditions of the transaction's inputs. Only valid transactions can be recorded on the public ledger \mathcal{L} (the blockchain). A transaction is considered valid if (i) its inputs are not spent by other transactions in \mathcal{L} (ii) the sum of its outputs is not greater than the sum of inputs (iii) the transaction provides valid witnesses fulfilling the spending conditions of every input. In practice, transactions are not recorded on the ledger and published immediately, but only after the participants in the distributed consensus accept it. We use Δ to denote the upper bound on the time it takes for a valid transaction to be published and accepted to \mathcal{L} .

Using the scripting language, we can encode more complex conditions on transaction outputs than simple ownerships. To have a better visualization, we use transaction charts. In these charts, we represent transactions as rounded rectangles and inputs as incoming arrows. Boxes inside transactions represent outputs; the values in these boxes determine the amounts of coins stored in the outputs. Outgoing arrows from an output

are used to encode the condition under which said output can be spent. In particular, below an arrow, we identify who can spend an output by listing one or more public keys. A valid transaction must contain signatures that verify under these public keys. Above the arrow, we write additional conditions that are required for spending the output. These conditions can be any script supported by the scripting language of the underlying blockchain, but in this work, we only use time-locks. For denoting relative time-locks, we write $\text{RelTime}(t)$ or $+t$, which means that the output can be spent only if at least t rounds have passed since the transaction holding this output was accepted on \mathcal{L} . For denoting absolute time-locks, we use $\text{AbsTime}(t)$ or $\geq t$, which means that the output can be spent only if the round t has already passed. If an output condition is a disjunction of several conditions, i.e., $\phi = \phi_1 \vee \phi_2 \dots \vee \phi_n$ we draw a diamond in the output box and put each condition ϕ_i below/above its own arrow. For the conjunction of several conditions, we write $\phi = \phi_1 \wedge \phi_2 \dots \wedge \phi_n$. We illustrate an example of our transaction charts in Figure 2.

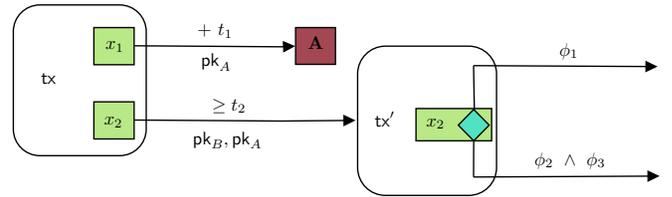


Figure 2: The left transaction tx has two outputs, one of value x_1 that can be spent by A , with a transaction signed w.r.t. pk_A , but only if at least t_1 rounds passed since tx is accepted on the blockchain. The other output of value x_2 can be spent by a transaction signed w.r.t. pk_A and pk_B at or after round t_2 . The right transaction tx' has one input, which is the second output of tx containing x_2 coins, and has only one output, which is of value x_2 and can be spent by a transaction whose witness satisfies the output condition $\phi_1 \vee (\phi_2 \wedge \phi_3)$. The inputs of tx are not shown.

B. Payment channels

Using payment channels, two users can perform an arbitrary number of payments off-chain by publishing only two transactions on the ledger, one for funding and one for closing.

Through the funding transaction tx^f , users jointly lock up some coins in a shared multi-signature output, thereby opening a new channel. To avoid having their funds locked, the two users exchange signed transactions spending from tx^f , and assigning new balances for users, before posting tx^f on-chain. Users can perform payments by exchanging new transactions that reassign their balances. These transactions holding the balances are called *states* of the channel. When the two users are done, they can close the channel by posting the last state to the ledger.

For readability, we omit the implementation details and instead use payment channels in a black-box manner, using the following abstraction: Both users have the same transaction tx^{state} , which holds the outputs representing the last state of the channel. Furthermore, we assume that the users can only publish the last tx^{state} on the ledger. In practice there is a punishment mechanism in place, which gives the total channel capacity to the honest party in case a malicious party publishes an old state. We refer the reader to [4, 16, 17] for more details.

We denote payment channels as $\bar{\gamma} := (\text{id}, \text{users}, \text{cash}, \text{st})$, where $\bar{\gamma}.\text{id} \in \{0, 1\}^*$ is the unique identifier of the channel, $\bar{\gamma}.\text{users} \in \mathcal{P}^2$ contains addresses of two involved parties (out of the set of all parties \mathcal{P}), $\bar{\gamma}.\text{cash} \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ is the total number of coins in the channel, and $\bar{\gamma}.\text{st} := (\text{output}_1, \text{output}_2, \dots, \text{output}_n)$ is the last state of the channel and contains a list of outputs. The balance of both users can be inferred from the current state $\bar{\gamma}.\text{st}$, and $\bar{\gamma}.\text{balance}(P)$ returns the amount of coins owned by P for $P \in \bar{\gamma}.\text{users}$. We define a channel skeleton γ for a channel $\bar{\gamma}$, as $\gamma := (\bar{\gamma}.\text{id}; \bar{\gamma}.\text{users})$. Moreover, in the context of our multi-channel updates protocol, based on the direction of the payment in each channel γ , we define one of the involving parties as sender, which is denoted by $\gamma.\text{sender} \in \gamma.\text{users}$, and one as receiver which is denoted by $\gamma.\text{receiver} \in \gamma.\text{users}$.

C. Payment channel networks

A payment channel network (PCN) [16] is a graph consisting of vertices, representing the users, and edges, representing the channels between pairs of users. PCNs enable payments between any two users connected through a path of open payment channels. This is called a *multi-hop payment*. Assume user U_0 wants to pay user U_n , but there is no direct payment channel between them. Instead, U_0 has an open payment channel γ_0 with U_1 , U_1 has an open payment channel γ_1 with U_2 and so on, until the receiver U_n . An MHP allows transferring coins from U_0 to U_n through intermediaries $\{U_i\}_{i \in [1, n-1]}$ atomically in a secure way, which means that no honest user is at the risk of losing money.

HTLC. The Lightning Network (LN) [21] achieves atomicity by using a technique called *Hash Timelock Contract* (HTLC). This contract can be executed by two parties sharing an open payment channel, e.g., Alice and Bob. First, Alice locks some of her coins in an output that is spendable if one of the following conditions is fulfilled. (i) If a specified timeout t expires, Alice gets her money back. (ii) If Bob presents a pre-

image r_A for a certain hash value $\mathcal{H}(r_A)$ chosen by Alice, Bob gets the money.

An MHP in LN concatenates several HTLCs aiming for an atomic payment. In a nutshell, suppose again there is a sender U_0 who wants to pay α coins to a receiver U_n through some intermediaries $\{U_i\}_{i \in [1, n-1]}$. The payment receiver U_n chooses a random value r and sends $y = \mathcal{H}(r)$ to the sender. Then the sender sets up an HTLC with U_1 by creating a new state with three outputs ($\text{output}_0, \text{output}_1, \text{output}_2$) where output_0 contains α coins, output_1 contains U_0 's balance minus α , and output_2 contains U_1 's balance. The HTLC specifies that output_0 can be spent by U_0 if timeout $n \cdot T$ is expired, or by U_1 , if she knows a value x such that $\mathcal{H}(x) = y$. Then U_1 sets up an HTLC with U_2 in a similar manner using the same hash y but a different time, $(n-1) \cdot T$. This step is repeated until the receiver is reached, with a timeout of T . We call this process the *setup phase*. Thereafter, the receiver can reveal r and claim α coins from the left neighbor. Using r , U_{n-1} can claim α coins from U_{n-2} and so on, in a second phase, which is called *open phase*. In this way, all payments can be performed atomically through the path.

Note that in the open phase, each pair of parties can either agree to update their channel to a new state off-chain, where finally U_n has α coins more, or otherwise the receiver can publish the state and a transaction with witness r on-chain. The timelocks of the HTLCs are staggered, i.e., they increase from right to left, because we need to give enough time to an intermediary party to claim her money from the left neighbor, when her right neighbor reveals r and spends the output of the corresponding HTLC. LN payments thus require (i) two rounds of pairwise, sequential communication from sender to receiver and (ii) a linear collateral lock time in terms of the path length. This opens the door to denial-of-service attacks, also called griefing attacks [11] in the literature. Another attack that threatens the security of the HTLC-based protocols is the *wormhole* attack [17]. This attack allows two colluding users to exclude honest intermediaries from the payment and steal their fees.

Blitz. Blitz [2] recently improved on that by requiring only one round of communication through the path, and a constant collateral lock time, while guaranteeing security in the presence of malicious intermediaries. In this protocol, the sender creates a unique transaction *Enable Refund*, which is denoted by tx^{er} . This transaction acts as a global event and makes the refunds atomic, following a *pay-unless-revoke* paradigm. On a high level, each party U_i for $i \in [0, n-1]$, creates an output of α that is spendable in two ways: (i) U_{i+1} can claim it after some specific time T , or (ii) U_i can refund the coins if tx^{er} is on the ledger before that time T . If all channels are updated from sender to receiver in this way, the receiver sends a confirmation to the sender and the payment is considered successful. Otherwise, if any update fails, the sender posts tx^{er} before time T to the ledger to trigger all refunds.

Note that in LN, payments in the pessimistic case are

performed sequentially. In Blitz, instead, in the case of failure, all refunds can be performed in parallel whenever tx^{er} appears on the ledger. Because of that, the collateral lock time in Blitz for each party is constant, thereby greatly reducing the effects of a griefing attack against Blitz compared to protocols with a linear collateral lock time.

III. SOLUTION OVERVIEW

In this work, we go beyond the path restriction of the existing PCN constructions. We propose a protocol that enables atomic multi-channel updates across networks of channels with arbitrary topologies in a secure way. The networks may contain multiple senders and receivers, and they do not necessarily need to be connected. Among others, this feature allows us to virtually connect distinct PCNs sharing the same blockchain for specific payments. We start by informally presenting the security and privacy goals we aim to achieve and then give a high level explanation of our construction.

A. Security and privacy goals

In this work, we consider two security and privacy notations of interest which are informally defined as follows along with the adversary model we consider. For formal definitions, we refer the reader to Appendix D.

(S1) Atomicity. A multi-channel updates protocol achieves atomicity against rational adversaries, if for all channels with at least one honest user either all or none of the updates are successful. Note that this notion only makes sense for an adversary model where in each channel (i) at least one user is honest and (ii) a potential adversary behaves rationally. Two malicious users can always, e.g., post an old channel state, breaking atomicity, while an irrational corrupted user can do so at the cost of losing her funds.

(P1) Strong value privacy. We say that a multi-channel updates protocol achieves value privacy if in the optimistic case (i.e., when the protocol is executed completely offline), for each channel, no party except for the channel owners can determine the payment value. Note that this property is stronger than value privacy as defined in AMCU [16]. In AMCU, each channel’s payment value is known to all parties involved in the protocol, and the privacy of values are preserved only against parties not involved the protocol.

Assumptions. We assume that there is a secure and authenticated channel between each protocol participant. This can be realized in practice by establishing TLS channels.

B. Key idea

The approach we follow to construct our protocol is reminiscent of the *pay-unless-revoke* paradigm adopted in Blitz [2], but it proceeds the other way around and it should thus be seen as a *revoke-unless-pay* paradigm, as discussed below. In particular, for each channel, we aim to design an update contract that simultaneously allows the receiver to claim her coins if all payments are successful and allows the sender to refund her coins if at least one channel fails to perform the payment. We propose our solution in an incremental way. First,

we start with a high-level overview of the approach. Then, we discuss the challenges and possible solutions, until reaching the final protocol.

Let $\{\gamma_i\}_{i \in [1, n]}$ be the set of involved payment channels. For each channel γ_i , based on the payment direction, we define one party as the sender, denoted by $\gamma_i.\text{sender}$, and one as the receiver, denoted by $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$. We call the payment value for this channel α_i . As a high-level abstraction, $\gamma_i.\text{sender}$ splits α_i coins from her balance in the channel’s current state, and generates a new output. This output can be spent by the receiver if all payments are successful, or can be refunded to the sender if at least one payment fails. In other words, we need to overcome two challenges. First, the design should be such that *if a sender refunds her coins, then all other senders can also do that*. Second, *if the payment in a channel is successful or a receiver is able to claim her coins, then payments in all other channels are forced, and senders cannot refund*.

For the first challenge, we make all refunds possible only if a timeout T expires, so after this time, all senders can refund their coins if the coins have not been spent by the receivers. In other way, we give a time T to all users to finalize payments in their channels. If the payment in a channel has not been finalized until this time, the sender can use a refund transaction and get back her coins. T is a protocol parameter, independent of the number of channels, and the same for all channels.

For the second challenge, we make payments atomic using a global event. For each channel, the sender updates the channel and creates a payment transaction, which transfers coins to the receiver only after a global event occurs before time T . When all channels are updated correctly, senders are expected to finalize their channels, transferring coins to their receiver neighbor. In this case, if at least one receiver does not receive coins, the global event will be triggered before time T , and all payment transactions will become valid. Then, receivers can claim their cash. This global event is the appearance of a specific transaction on the ledger, which we call *Enable Payment* transaction, and denote it by tx^{ep} . This transaction is similar to *Enable Refund* transaction in the Blitz protocol, but the logic is reversed. Instead of refunds, we make payments dependent to a global event.

Update contract. For easing the presentation, let us assume first that there is a trusted user, who creates tx^{ep} and is responsible for posting it to the ledger. tx^{ep} contains outputs to all receivers, which is the key to achieve atomicity. We discuss the structure of the update contract below, which makes both the payment and the refund available to the channel owners. In more detail, for each channel γ_i , the sender $\gamma_i.\text{sender}$ creates three transactions: tx^{state} , tx^{r} , and tx^{p} . tx^{state} is a new state transaction, where α_i coins from the sender are put in a contract which can be spent by the other two transactions. Transaction tx^{r} refunds back the α_i coins to the sender if a timeout T expires. Transaction tx^{p} has inputs from tx^{ep} and tx^{state} and transfers the coins to the receiver, if tx^{ep} is on the ledger before time T . The design of these transactions is

shown in Figure 3. The sender sends tx^{state} and the signed tx^p to the receiver, who verifies the messages and updates the channel to the new state tx^{state} together with the sender. In the case of success, the receiver sends an endorsement to the trusted user.

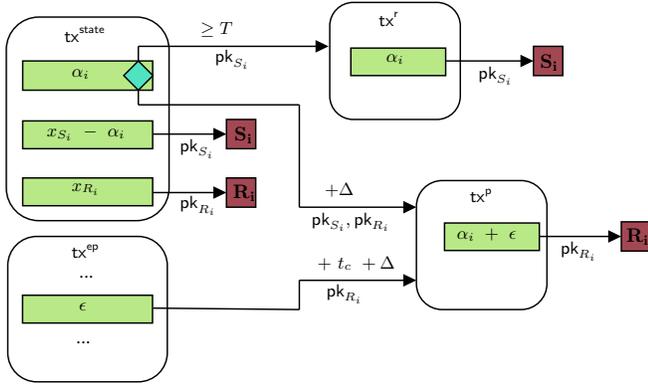


Figure 3: Update contract for the channel γ_i between two neighboring users γ_i .sender and γ_i .receiver with the new state tx^{state} . x_{S_i} is the amount that $S_i = \gamma_i$.sender owns and x_{R_i} is the amount that $R_i = \gamma_i$.receiver owns in the state before tx^{state} .

Atomic payments. If the trusted user receives endorsements from all receivers, she informs all parties to finalize their channels and to transfer coins to receivers safely. There are two error cases. (i) The trusted user does not receive the endorsement from every receiver. In this case, no party will get a message from the trusted user to finalize the channel, so all channels are safe, and after time T they can be restored to the initial state based on refund transactions. (ii) If a sender gets the *finalize* message from the trusted user but does not finalize her channel, the corresponding receiver informs the trusted user to put tx^{ep} on-chain before time T in order to force all payments.

At this point, our goal is to eliminate the trusted user assumption. Indeed, if we elected one of the parties for creating and publishing tx^{ep} , that party might act maliciously and break atomicity. For instance, by not posting tx^{ep} to the ledger when some senders do not finalize their channel, or by posting tx^{ep} when some channels have been updated with tx^{state} and some not, payments would no longer be atomic. Our strategy is thus to enable all receivers to publish tx^{ep} , but only after every channel updated already to tx^{state} . For this, each receiver creates her own tx^{ep} . Each tx^{ep} has an input conditioned on the public keys of the creator and of all senders, and it has outputs to all receivers. An example of this transaction is shown in Figure 4.

All receivers send their tx^{ep} to all other parties, and this time each sender creates one tx^p per tx^{ep} . Then, for each channel, the sender and the receiver jointly update the channel using tx^{state} as we discussed earlier. If no error occurs, the receiver sends a first endorsement to all parties instead of the trusted user. Each sender waits until receiving all endorsements to

make sure that all channels are updated using tx^{state} . After that, the sender sends her signature to each tx^{ep} to the creator. Eventually, when all receivers get complete signatures to their tx^{ep} , they send their second endorsement and the senders are safe to start finalizing channels and transfer coins to the receivers, because all channels have been updated with tx^{state} . If some transfer fails, the receivers can post tx^{ep} on the ledger and force all payments.

We argue that atomicity holds as follows, keeping in mind our adversary model. An honest sender will only update the channel with her receiver neighbor, if she receives the second endorsement from all receivers, which means that every receiver is able to force payments via tx^{ep} . Similarly, honest receivers will only give their second endorsement if they received all the signatures from tx^{ep} . This means that if a malicious user does not send her signature or endorsement to any or some of the users, this will not break atomicity but potentially only prevent updates from taking place or force the updates via some tx^{ep} . Moreover, if a malicious receiver sends either endorsement prematurely, she will only potentially lose money without side effect to other channels, i.e., in her channel the sender may keep her money, but the other channels are unaffected. Finally, malicious users are rational, which means they will either refund their money or claim the money from a forced update, if possible.

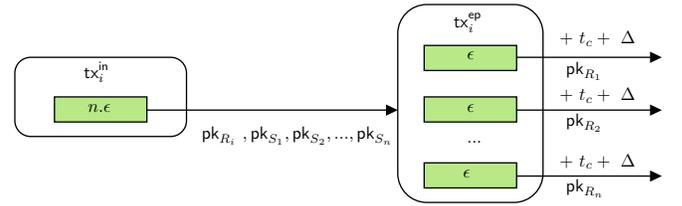


Figure 4: Transaction tx_i^{ep} created by receiver R_i for a payment with n channels, where the set of all senders is $\{S_j\}_{j \in [1, n]}$ and the set of all receivers is $\{R_j\}_{j \in [1, n]}$. This transaction enables all payments and spends the output of transaction tx_i^{in} .

Timelocks. tx^p should be valid until time T , and tx^r should be valid after that time. The latter can easily be handled by using an absolute timelock of T , which is supported by the underlying scripting language of most cryptocurrencies, including Bitcoin. However, we do not have access to scripting functionalities to define outputs that are valid before time T .

We can solve this problem by applying relative timelocks. In particular, we add a relative timelock of Δ for the transaction tx^p , where Δ is the blockchain delay. According to this timelock, if tx^{state} appears on the ledger after time T , users have enough time to post tx^r before the relative timelock of tx^p expires. In other words, tx^r is always accepted over tx^p , in the case that both are published after time T . On the other hand, if tx^{state} appears before time $T - \Delta$, users have enough time to post tx^p and force the payment.

One other issue we should consider is the unfair advantage of a receiver who closes her channel in advance and puts her

tx^{ep} on the ledger just before time $T - \Delta$. In this case, the receiver can post tx^{p} and force the payment in her channel, but other receivers, who have not closed their channels, do not have enough time to react to tx^{ep} . To prevent this issue and give enough time to all users to close their channels and post tx^{p} to the ledger, we add a relative time of $t_c + \Delta$ to the outputs of tx^{ep} , where t_c is an upper bound on the time a user needs to close a channel (Figure 3). For preventing a race condition in a specific corner case, we refer the reader to Appendix B.

Protocol overview. To wrap up, our protocol proceeds in four main phases, as described below and visualized in Figure 5.

- 1) **Pre-Setup:** Each receiver creates her own tx^{ep} , and sends it to all other parties. Each tx^{ep} , in addition to the creator’s signature, requires signatures from all senders, and has one output for each receiver.
- 2) **Setup:** The senders create tx^{state} and tx^{r} , and also one tx^{p} per tx^{ep} . They send tx^{state} and all tx^{p} to their receiver neighbor. Also, they include their signatures for every tx^{p} in the message to their receiver neighbor. This ensures that receivers can post tx^{p} on the ledger regardless of which tx^{ep} is posted in the end. Eventually, the receivers verify the messages and send their first endorsement to all parties.
- 3) **Confirmation:** When a sender gets all such endorsements, she is sure that all channels have been updated by tx^{state} . Then, the sender signs each tx^{ep} and sends it to the corresponding receiver. When a receiver gets the signatures from all senders, she is able to post her tx^{ep} on the ledger, so she sends a second endorsement to all parties.
- 4) **Finalizing:** When the senders get the second endorsement from all receivers, they know that all receivers are able to put their tx^{ep} on the ledger, so they can start updating their channels safely. When one update fails and the corresponding receiver does not get the coins, she checks if a tx^{ep} is on the ledger or else posts her own tx^{ep} . Either way, she claims her coins via some tx^{p} .

Fast payments. Similar to the Lightning Network, in the case that all users are honest, updates can be carried out almost instantaneously, i.e., the channels are updated as soon as the second endorsements are received from receivers. When the senders are ensured that each receiver has all signatures required for spending her tx^{ep} , they can safely update their channels and pay coins to their right neighbors. We emphasize that enabling fast payments is the main reason for flipping the paradigm from *pay-unless-revoke* (tx^{er}) to *revoke-unless-pay* (tx^{ep}). Notice that if there are multiple transactions tx^{er} there is no way to safely start these updates: If a malicious sender posts a transaction tx^{er} after such an update, other honest channels can refund, while this channel performed the payment.

Honest update. The update contract and the corresponding transactions tx^{state} , tx^{r} , and tx^{p} are exchanged between two parties sharing a channel to guarantee that honest users do not lose their coins and atomicity holds during the protocol

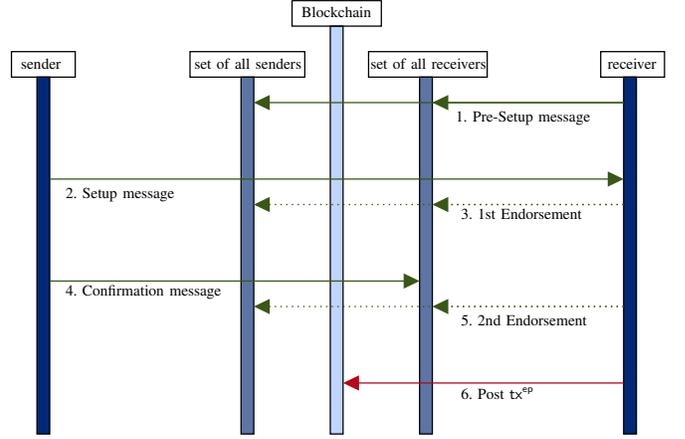


Figure 5: For each channel, first, the receiver sends her own tx^{ep} to all other parties (the Pre-Setup message). The sender creates tx^{state} and one tx^{p} for each tx^{ep} , then sends all these transactions to the receiver (Setup message). After verifying the message, the receiver sends her first endorsement to all other parties. When the sender gets all endorsements, she sends her signature to each tx^{ep} to its creator (Confirmation message). After getting all signatures and verifying them, the receiver sends the second endorsement to all other parties. Finally, when the receiver has enough signatures as her tx^{ep} witnesses, and the payment is not received, she will post her tx^{ep} to the ledger.

execution. However, when one of the two channel owners is able to convince the other one that she is able to force the payment (or refund) by posting tx^{p} (or tx^{r}) to the ledger, the two parties can update the channel honestly to a state on which both agree. In other words, when both parties of a channel are honest, no on-chain transaction is required.

IV. CONSTRUCTION

A. Building blocks

Digital signatures. A digital signature scheme consists of three algorithms: KeyGen, Sign, Vrfy.

$(\text{sk}, \text{pk}) \leftarrow \text{KeyGen}(1^\lambda)$ is a PPT algorithm, taking the security parameter 1^λ as input and returning a public key pk and the corresponding secret key sk .

$\sigma \leftarrow \text{Sign}(\text{sk}, m)$ is a PPT algorithm, taking a secret key sk and a message m as inputs and returning a signature σ .

$\{0, 1\} \leftarrow \text{Vrfy}(\sigma, m, \text{pk})$ is a DPT algorithm, taking signature σ , a message m , and a public key pk as inputs, and returning 1 if σ is a valid signature on message m and created by the secret key corresponding to pk . Otherwise it returns 0.

Ledger and payment channels. In this work, we use a ledger and a PCN as black-boxes. The ledger keeps a record of balances of users and all transactions. The PCN supports the operations *open*, *close*, and *update*. For simplicity, we assume the payment channels involved in the multi-channel updates protocol to be already open. We assume that ledger and PCN expose the following API to the users:

- `getBalance(U)`: Returns the sum of all coins in the UTXOs owned by user U on the ledger.
- `splitCoins(U, v, ϕ)`: Aggregates all UTXOs owned by U and returns a transaction with an output containing v coins, which is conditioned on ϕ . If the balance of U is greater than v , the rest is sent to an address controlled by U . If the balance of U is less than v , the procedure returns \perp .
- `publishTx(\bar{tx})`: Appends the transaction \bar{tx} to the ledger after at most Δ rounds, if witnesses are valid, inputs exist and are unspent, and the sum of coins in their outputs is less than or equal to the sum of coins in the inputs.
- `updateChannel($\bar{\gamma}$, tx^{state})`: Initiates an update in the channel $\bar{\gamma}$ to the state defined by tx^{state} , when called by a user $\in \bar{\gamma}.\text{users}$. The update is performed after at most t_u rounds. Upon the termination, the procedure returns `UPDATE-OK` in the case of success, and `UPDATE-FAIL` in the case of failure to both users.
- `closeChannel($\bar{\gamma}$)`: Closes the channel $\bar{\gamma}$ when called by a user $\in \bar{\gamma}.\text{users}$. The latest state $\bar{\gamma}.\text{st}$ appears on the ledger after at most t_c rounds.

B. Protocol description

Let $U := \{(\gamma_i, \alpha_i)\}_{i \in [1, n]}$ be the set of all updates, where $\{\gamma_i\}_{i \in [1, n]}$ denotes the involved payment channels and α_i denotes the payments value through the channel γ_i . Let dealer be the trigger party, $\mathcal{S} := \{\gamma_i.\text{sender}\}_{i \in [1, n]}$ the set of all senders, and $\mathcal{R} := \{\gamma_i.\text{receiver}\}_{i \in [1, n]}$ the set of all receivers. \mathcal{S} and \mathcal{R} are known to all parties. A simplified version of the Thora protocol and the used macros are shown below. We refer the reader to Appendix C5 for a full description of the protocol. The main phases of the protocol are as follows.

Initialization. First, we make sure that all parties are aware of every channel who is participating in the update, then the protocol starts from the *Pre-Setup* phase.

Pre-Setup. Each user $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ creates tx_i^{in} , which has an output conditioned on the public keys of $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ and all senders in \mathcal{S} . The value of the output is $n \cdot \varepsilon$, where ε is the smallest possible amount of cash. Creating tx_i^{in} is done by calling the procedure `GenTxIn`. Then, $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ calls `GenTxEp`, which takes tx_i^{in} and \mathcal{R} as inputs, and returns a transaction tx_i^{ep} with outputs to all users in \mathcal{R} , each containing ε coins. $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ sends tx_i^{ep} to all users. The structure of tx_i^{in} and tx_i^{ep} can be viewed in Figure 4.

Setup. $\gamma_i.\text{sender}$, upon receiving $\{tx_j^{\text{ep}}\}_{j \in [1, n]}$ from all receivers, verifies the correctness of these transactions. Then, $\gamma_i.\text{sender}$ creates tx_i^{state} , tx_i^r , and $\{tx_{i,j}^p\}_{j \in [1, n]}$. tx_i^{state} splits α_i coins from the sender's current balance in $\gamma_i.\text{st}$, which is spendable by payment or refund transactions. tx_i^r returns the coins back to $\gamma_i.\text{sender}$ only if the time T elapses. $tx_{i,j}^p$ has an input from tx_j^{ep} and sends the split coins to $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$. The sender creates tx_i^{state} by the procedure `GenState`, tx_i^r by the procedure `GenRef`, and $tx_{i,j}^p$ by the procedure `GenPay`. $\gamma_i.\text{sender}$ sends tx_i^{state} and all signed $tx_{i,j}^p$ to the receiver neighbor. We refer the reader to Figure 3 for the structure of these transactions. $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ checks the correctness of the

transactions and signatures, then sends the first endorsement to all parties.

Confirmation. When a sender $\gamma_i.\text{sender}$ gets first endorsements from all parties in \mathcal{R} , it updates γ_i using tx_i^{state} . If the update is performed successfully, $\gamma_i.\text{sender}$ sends a signature on each tx_j^{ep} to the receiver $\gamma_j.\text{receiver}$. Each receiver $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ waits for all signatures on tx_i^{ep} and then sends the second endorsement to all parties if γ_i has been updated successfully.

Finalizing. Upon receiving the second endorsements from all parties in \mathcal{R} , a sender can safely update the channel to its final state with the receiver neighbor. When updating a channel fails in this phase, and no tx^{ep} is on the ledger, the receiver can post her tx^{ep} and force the payment.

Respond. This phase is executed in every round by all users. Each sender $\gamma_i.\text{sender}$ checks whether the current round is greater than T , γ_i has been closed, and at least one tx^{ep} is on the ledger. If so, $\gamma_i.\text{sender}$ posts tx_i^r to the ledger before $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ force the payment by posting a payment transaction. On the other side, each receiver $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ checks whether one tx_j^{ep} has appeared on the ledger. If so, she closes the channel γ_i . After the appearance of tx_i^{state} on the ledger, she posts $tx_{i,j}^p$ to the ledger and force the payment through the channel γ_i .

The Thora multi-channel updates protocol

- Let dealer be a selected user as the trigger party, T the upper bound on the time we expect the updates to be performed, and Δ the blockchain delay.
- Let $U := \{(\gamma_i, \alpha_i)\}_{i \in [1, n]}$ be the set of all ongoing updates. Each α_i is known only for parties in $\gamma_i.\text{users}$.

Initialization

dealer

- 1) Send message `(init, $\{\gamma_i\}_{i \in [1, n]}$)` to all parties in $\{\gamma_i.\text{sender}\}_{i \in [1, n]} \cup \{\gamma_i.\text{receiver}\}_{i \in [1, n]}$.

All parties upon receiving `(init, $\{\gamma_i\}_{i \in [1, n]}$)` from dealer

- 1) Verify the channels set. If decision is not participating in the protocol, return `abort`.
- 2) Set $\mathcal{S} := \{\gamma_i.\text{sender}\}_{i \in [1, n]}$, $\mathcal{R} := \{\gamma_i.\text{receiver}\}_{i \in [1, n]}$, and $\mathcal{P} := \mathcal{S} \cup \mathcal{R}$.
- 3) Go to the *Pre-Setup* phase.

Pre-Setup

$\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$

- 1) Set $tx_i^{\text{in}} := \text{GenTxIn}(\gamma_i.\text{receiver}, \{\gamma_k\}_{k \in [1, n]})$.
- 2) Set $tx_i^{\text{ep}} := \text{GenTxEp}(\{\gamma_k\}_{k \in [1, n]}, tx_i^{\text{in}})$.
- 3) Send tx_i^{ep} to all parties in $\mathcal{R} \cup \mathcal{S}$.

All users upon receiving $\{tx_j^{\text{ep}}\}_{j \in [1, n]}$ from all parties in \mathcal{R}

- 1) For all $j \in [1, n]$, If `CheckTxEp($tx_j^{\text{ep}}, \gamma_j.\text{receiver}, \{\gamma_k\}_{k \in [1, n]} = \perp$)`, return `abort`.
- 2) Go to the *Setup* phase.

Setup

$\gamma_i.\text{sender}$

- 1) Set $tx_i^{\text{state}} = \text{GenState}(\alpha_i, T, \bar{\gamma}_i)$.
- 2) Set $tx_i^r = \text{GenRef}(tx_i^{\text{state}}, \gamma_i.\text{sender})$.

- 3) For all $j \in [1, n]$, let $\theta_{i,j}$ be the output of tx_j^{ep} which corresponds to $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$, then create $\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{p}} := \text{GenPay}(\text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}, \gamma_i.\text{receiver}, \theta_{i,j})$ and the corresponding signature $\sigma_{\gamma_i.\text{sender}}(\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{p}})$.
- 4) Send $(\text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}, \{\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{p}}, \sigma_{\gamma_i.\text{sender}}(\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{p}})\}_{j \in [1, n]})$ to $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$.

$\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ upon receiving

$(\text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}, \{\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{p}}, \sigma_{\gamma_i.\text{sender}}(\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{p}})\}_{j \in [1, n]})$ from $\gamma_i.\text{sender}$

- 1) If $\text{tx}_i^{\text{state}} \neq \text{GenState}(\alpha_i, T, \bar{\gamma}_i)$, return abort.
- 2) If any signature $\sigma_{\gamma_i.\text{sender}}(\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{p}})$ is not correct, return abort.
- 3) For all $j \in [1, n]$, let $\theta_{i,j}$ be the output of tx_j^{ep} owned by $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$. if $\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{p}} \neq \text{GenPay}(\text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}, \gamma_i.\text{receiver}, \theta_{i,j})$, return abort.
- 4) Send message (setup-ok_i) to all parties in \mathcal{P} .

All users upon receiving $\{(\text{setup-ok}_j)_{j \in [1, n]}\}$

from all parties in \mathcal{R}

- 1) Go to the *Confirmation* phase.

Confirmation

$\gamma_i.\text{sender}$

- 1) updateChannel($\bar{\gamma}_i, \text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}$).
- 2) If time t_u has expired and the message (UPDATE-OK) has not been returned, return abort.
- 3) For all $j \in [1, n]$, send $\sigma(\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{ep}})$ to $\gamma_j.\text{receiver}$.

$\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ upon receiving $\{\sigma(\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{ep}})\}_{j \in [1, n]}$ from all parties in \mathcal{S}

- 1) If (UPDATE-OK) has been returned and for all $j \in [1, n]$, $\sigma(\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{ep}})$ is a valid signatures, send message (confirmation-ok_i) to all parties in \mathcal{P} , otherwise return abort.

All users upon receiving $\{(\text{confirmation-ok}_j)_{j \in [1, n]}\}$

from all parties in \mathcal{R}

- 1) Go to the *Finalizing* phase.

Finalizing

$\gamma_i.\text{sender}$

- 1) Set $\text{tx}_i^{\text{trans}} = \text{GenTrans}(\alpha_i, \bar{\gamma}_i)$.
- 2) updateChannel($\bar{\gamma}_i, \text{tx}_i^{\text{trans}}$).

$\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$

- 1) If the message (UPDATE-OK) has not been received for the final transfer, and no tx^{ep} is on the ledger, before time $T - t_c - 3\Delta$, combine received signatures from senders for tx_i^{ep} with own signature inside $\sigma(\text{tx}_i^{\text{ep}})$ and calls $\text{publishTx}(\text{tx}_i^{\text{ep}}, \sigma(\text{tx}_i^{\text{ep}}))$.

Respond(Executed in every round τ_x)

$\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$

- 1) If $\tau_x < T - t_c - 2\Delta$ and at least one tx^{ep} is on-chain, closeChannel($\bar{\gamma}_i$).
- 2) After $\text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}$ is accepted on the blockchain within at most t_c rounds, wait Δ rounds. Let $\sigma(\text{tx}_i^{\text{p}})$ be a signature using the secret key $sk_{\gamma_i.\text{receiver}}$ in addition to received signature from $\gamma_i.\text{sender}$ for tx_i^{p} . publishTx($\text{tx}_i^{\text{p}}, \sigma(\text{tx}_i^{\text{p}})$).

$\gamma_i.\text{sender}$

- 1) If $\tau_x > T$, $\bar{\gamma}_i$ is closed and $\text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}$ and at least one tx^{ep} is on the ledger, but not tx_i^{p} , publishTx($\text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}, \sigma_{\gamma_i.\text{sender}}(\text{tx}_i^{\text{state}})$).

Subprocedures used in the multi-channel updates protocol

GenTxIn($R, \{\gamma_k\}_{k \in [1, n]}$):

- 1) $n := |\{\gamma_k\}_{k \in [1, n]}|$
- 2) $\phi := \text{MultiSig}(R, \gamma_1.\text{sender}, \gamma_2.\text{sender}, \dots, \gamma_n.\text{sender})$.
- 3) Return $\text{tx}^{\text{in}} := \text{splitCoins}(R, n \cdot \varepsilon, \phi)$.

GenTxEp($\{\gamma_k\}_{k \in [1, n]}$, tx^{in}):

- 1) $n := |\{\gamma_k\}_{k \in [1, n]}|$
- 2) If $\text{tx}^{\text{in}}.\text{output}[0].\text{cash} \leq n \cdot \varepsilon$, return \perp .
- 3) $\text{outputList} := \emptyset$.
- 4) For each $R_i := \gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ for all $i \in [1, n]$:
 - $\text{outputList} = \text{outputList} \cup (\varepsilon, \text{OneSig}(R_i) \wedge \text{RelTime}(t_c + \Delta))$
- 5) $id := \mathcal{H}(\text{tx}^{\text{in}}.\text{output}[0], \text{outputList})$.
- 6) Return $\text{tx}^{\text{ep}} := (id, \text{tx}^{\text{in}}.\text{output}[0], \text{outputList})$.

CheckTxEp($\text{tx}^{\text{ep}}, R, \{\gamma_k\}_{k \in [1, n]}$):

- 1) $n := |\{\gamma_k\}_{k \in [1, n]}|$
- 2) If $\text{tx}^{\text{ep}}.\text{input}.\text{cash} \leq n \cdot \varepsilon$ or $\text{tx}^{\text{ep}}.\text{input}.\phi \neq \text{MultiSig}(R, \gamma_1.\text{sender}, \gamma_2.\text{sender}, \dots, \gamma_n.\text{sender})$, return \perp .
- 3) If $|\text{tx}^{\text{ep}}.\text{output}| \neq n$, return \perp .
- 4) For all outputs $(\text{cash}, \phi) \in \text{tx}^{\text{ep}}.\text{output}$ if $\text{cash} \neq \varepsilon$ or $\phi \neq (\text{OneSig}(x), \text{RelTime}(t_c + \Delta))$, where x is one of the receivers, return \perp .
- 5) Return \top .

GenState($\alpha, T, \bar{\gamma}$):

- 1) Let $\theta' := \bar{\gamma}.\text{st}$ be the current state of channel $\bar{\gamma}$ and contains two outputs $\theta'_s = (x_s, \text{OneSig}(\bar{\gamma}.\text{sender}))$ and $\theta'_r = (x_r, \text{OneSig}(\bar{\gamma}.\text{receiver}))$.
- 2) If $x_s < \alpha$ return \perp .
- 3) Return $\theta := (\theta_0, \theta_1, \theta_2)$ such that:
 - $\theta_0 := (\alpha, (\text{OneSig}(\bar{\gamma}.\text{sender}) \wedge \text{AbsTime}(T)) \vee (\text{MultiSig}(\bar{\gamma}.\text{sender}, \bar{\gamma}.\text{receiver}) \wedge \text{RelTime}(t_c + \Delta)))$
 - $\theta_1 := (x_s - \alpha, \text{OneSig}(\bar{\gamma}.\text{sender}))$
 - $\theta_2 := (x_r, \text{OneSig}(\bar{\gamma}.\text{receiver}))$

GenRef($\text{tx}^{\text{state}}, \gamma_i.\text{sender}$):

- 1) Return a transaction tx' such that $\text{tx}'.\text{input} := \text{tx}^{\text{state}}.\text{output}[0]$ and $\text{tx}'.\text{output} := (\text{tx}^{\text{state}}.\text{output}[0].\text{cash}, \text{OneSig}(\gamma_i.\text{sender}))$.

GenPay($\text{tx}^{\text{state}}, \gamma.\text{receiver}, \theta$):

- 1) Return a transaction tx^{p} such that $\text{tx}^{\text{p}}.\text{input} := (\text{tx}^{\text{state}}.\text{output}[0], \theta)$ and $\text{tx}^{\text{p}}.\text{output} := (\text{tx}^{\text{state}}.\text{output}[0].\text{cash} + \theta.\text{cash}, \text{OneSig}(\gamma.\text{receiver}))$.

GenTrans($\alpha, \bar{\gamma}$):

- 1) Let $\theta' := \bar{\gamma}.\text{st} = (\theta'_0, \theta'_1, \theta'_2)$ be the current state of channel $\bar{\gamma}$.
- 2) Return $\theta := (\theta_0, \theta_1)$ such that:
 - $\theta_0 := (\theta'_1.\text{cash}, \text{OneSig}(\bar{\gamma}.\text{sender}))$
 - $\theta_1 := (\theta'_2.\text{cash} + \alpha, \text{OneSig}(\bar{\gamma}.\text{receiver}))$

V. SECURITY ANALYSIS

A. Security model

We model the security of our multi-channel updates protocol in the synchronous setting and global universal composability (GUC) framework [9]. Our security model is similar to the one adopted in prior work [4, 2, 10]. In particular, the global ledger \mathcal{L} is modeled by the functionality $\mathcal{G}_{\text{ledger}}$, which is parameterized by a signature scheme Σ and a blockchain delay Δ . We model the notion of communication by the ideal functionality \mathcal{F}_{GDC} and the time by $\mathcal{G}_{\text{clock}}$. Moreover, we define an ideal functionality $\mathcal{F}_{\text{channel}}$, which provides *open*, *update*, and *close* operations for payment channels.

The formal security analysis is detailed in Appendix C. In this section, we briefly present a high-level overview of the security model. First, we provide an ideal functionality \mathcal{F}_{update} , which describes an ideal multi-channel updates protocol with atomicity and strong value privacy properties. \mathcal{F}_{update} is parameterized by a blockchain delay Δ and a time T , which determine an upper bound on the expected time for a successful Thora payment. The ideal functionality describes input/output behaviors of the payment protocol users, and their impacts on the global ledger.

We then describe the Thora protocol Π formally, and show that Π GUC-realizes \mathcal{F}_{update} . Intuitively, this means that we design a simulator \mathcal{X} , which translates any attack on the protocol Π on the ideal functionality \mathcal{F}_{update} . We then show that no PPT environment can distinguish between interacting with the real world and interacting with the ideal world. Thus, Π provides both atomicity and strong value privacy. This is stated by Theorem 1 and formally proven in Appendix C.

Theorem 1. *For any $\Delta, T \in \mathbb{N}$, the protocol Π GUC-realizes the ideal functionality \mathcal{F}_{update} .*

B. Informal security analysis

Here we informally argue why Thora achieves atomicity and strong value privacy as defined in Section III-A.

Atomicity. We want to prove that if at least one of the involved channels is updated successfully and the coins are sent from the sender to the receiver, then all updates in other channels are forced as well. In other words, all receivers can post tx^p to the ledger. Furthermore, if one of the senders publishes tx^r and refunds her coins, all other senders can do that. Assume that for some $i \in [1, n]$ channel γ_i is updated and α_i coins are transferred from $\gamma_i.\text{sender}$ to $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$. There are two possible cases as follows.

- 1) $\gamma_i.\text{sender}$ has finalized updating the channel γ_i , and sent α_i coins to $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$. We can infer that $\gamma_i.\text{sender}$ has received `confirmation-ok` from all receivers, so each receiver is able to put a tx^{ep} on-chain. If the final update of a channel fails, the corresponding receiver posts her tx^{ep} to the ledger and then publishes the payment transaction.
- 2) $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ has posted one payment transaction $\text{tx}_{i,j}^p$ to the ledger for some $j \in [1, n]$. This means that $\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{ep}}$ is on the ledger, so all other receivers can publish their corresponding payment transactions and force the update in their channel. Note that $\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{ep}}$ contains outputs to all receivers. Otherwise, at least one receiver would not send message `setup-ok` to the senders, and honest senders never send their signatures to $\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{ep}}$, and $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ cannot post $\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{ep}}$ to the ledger.

If no transaction tx^{ep} is put on the ledger, and no channel is updated honestly to carry out the payment, all senders of channels that have passed the *Setup* phase can simply put tx^r on the ledger after time T and refund their coins. In other words, if one sender refunds her coins by publishing tx^r , we know that the timeout T has expired, and no tx^{ep} has been

posted on the ledger. Thus, other senders can also put their tx^r on the ledger and refund their coins.

Strong value privacy. For an optimistic execution of the protocol, the value of payment α_i through each channel γ_i is only known to the sender and the receiver of this channel, where both of them are honest. α_i is used only in $\text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}$, tx_i^r , and $\{\text{tx}_{i,j}^p\}_{j \in [1, n]}$. These transactions are exchanged between $\gamma_i.\text{sender}$ and $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ through secure and authenticated channels, and they are not visible to an adversary unless they are posted to the ledger in the case of a dispute.

VI. EVALUATION

In this section, we analyze the performance of our construction. We conducted an asymptotic analysis to determine the number of transactions required on-chain and off-chain. We also built an implementation to evaluate the size of these transactions and to check the compatibility of the construction with Bitcoin’s scripting functionalities. The implementation is open-source, and the code is publicly available [24]. Let n be the number of payment channels to be updated, which means that there are n possibly non-distinct senders and n possibly non-distinct receivers, and $m \in [0, n]$ be the number of channels in which parties do not agree to update off-chain, and therefore on-chain transactions are required to settle the dispute.

Number and size of transactions. The (worst-case) on-chain overhead of Thora is linear, requiring $2m+1$ transactions to be posted on-chain. In Thora, users are required to store a linear number of off-chain transactions per channel (which results in a quadratic number of total off-chain transactions). While the on-chain overhead the same for other schemes, the off-chain overhead is only constant per channel (or linear in total), see Table II. We argue that this is a reasonable price to pay for supporting arbitrary topologies, as (i) this increase does not incur any on-chain fees and (ii) the size is small enough in practice to be easily handled even on mobile devices, as we show now.

The transaction tx^{ep} is $141n + 160$ bytes large since it requires an output and a signature for each channel. Making use of Taproot’s aggregated Schnorr signatures [23], one can reduce the size of this transaction, which would be at most $38n + 256$ bytes.¹ This is achieved by eliminating n public keys (32 bytes) and signatures (70-72 bytes) from the redeem script in tx^{ep} . Instead, add one Schnorr public key (32 bytes), which is the aggregation of public keys of one receiver and n senders, and one Schnorr signature (64 bytes).

Moreover, each channel requires n transactions tx^p (501 bytes each), one transaction tx^r (272 bytes), an input transaction to tx^{ep} (224 bytes), a channel update of size 380 bytes for initiating the update and another one of size 337 bytes for finalizing the update. For the whole protocol execution, this leads to an off-chain storage overhead of $539n + 1469$ bytes per channel as we plot in Figure 6. For example, even

¹Taproot transactions make use of the SegWit format which introduces more efficiency in terms of size.

when updating $n = 100$ channels, the off-chain transaction overhead is only around 55KB per channel, or around 5.5MB are exchanged in total.

Collateral. Because the success of the update depends on the global event tx^{ep} , Thora manages a constant collateral lock time. For the payment protocols LN [21] and AMHL [17] this collateral is linear in the number of channels, as they require a growing timelock for each channel to propagate the preimage required for unlocking. In PT [12], the time is logarithmic due to the underlying tree-based structure. Finally, Blitz [2], Sprites [19], and AMCU [11] achieve also constant collateral, at the price of various security, expressiveness, and compatibility trade-offs (cf. Tables I and II).

Computational overhead. Computationally, the protocol needs to create and verify transactions (mostly string operations) and handle signatures. In particular, the computational overhead is dominated by computing and verifying signatures. Each sender needs to sign up to $2n + 2$ transactions, more specifically the channel update transaction tx^{state} , one force refund transaction tx^{r} which they need only in case of dispute, n force payment transactions tx^{p} for their receiver neighbors, and n transactions tx^{ep} , one for each receiver. Each receiver signs up to $n + 2$ transactions, i.e., the channel update transaction tx^{state} , one force payment transaction tx^{p} which they need only in case of dispute, and their own transaction tx^{ep} . In our implementation, the time required for creating and verifying one signature is about 30ms on average.

On-chain comparison with LN and Blitz. In Table III, we compare the on-chain costs of Thora with LN and Blitz, the two state-of-the-art solutions for path-based payments. We assume that Thora is used to conduct such a payment and focus on the on-chain load on the blockchain together with the associated fees, which we calculate using the current price of Bitcoin in USD [6] and the current average fee per bytes [7] (February 2022). When all parties are honest, both protocols are executed completely off-chain, and no transaction is required to appear on the ledger, thus here we are interested in the case where parties need to force either the payment or the refund.

Thora and Blitz have similar message costs, just the cost for the payment and refund transactions are inverted, which corresponds to the fact that one adopts the pay-unless-revoke paradigm and the other one the revoke-unless-pay paradigm. The size of the channel state transaction holding the update contract (370 bytes) is the same in all three constructions, due to our usage of P2SH addresses. The size of the payment transaction in LN is 451 bytes, the size of the refund is 302 bytes. The main difference between the on-chain overhead of these two protocols is tx^{ep} in Thora. In the case of forced payments, in addition to one tx^{p} per channel, also one tx^{ep} in total has to be posted to the ledger to enable payments in all channels. This overhead is present in the Blitz refund case. Aside from this, the on-chain fees of Thora are $+/- 6\%$ of the fees of LN.

	Collateral	# tx (on-chain)	# tx (off-chain)
LN [21]	$\Theta(n)$	$\Theta(n)$	$\Theta(n)$
AMHL [17]	$\Theta(n)$	$\Theta(n)$	$\Theta(n)$
AMCU [11]	$\Theta(1)$	$\Theta(n)$	$\Theta(n)$
PT [12]	$\Theta(\log n)$	$\Theta(n)$	$\Theta(n)$
Blitz [2]	$\Theta(1)$	$\Theta(n)$	$\Theta(n)$
Sprites [19]	$\Theta(1)$	$\Theta(n)$	$\Theta(n)$
Thora	$\Theta(1)$	$\Theta(n)$	$\Theta(n^2)$

Table II: Asymptotic comparison of current solutions, with n being the number of channels.

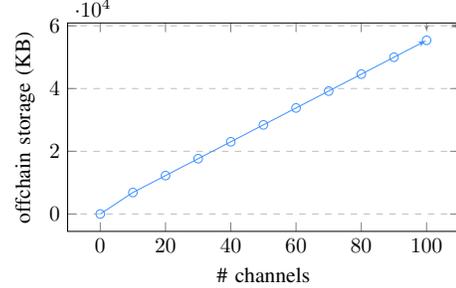


Figure 6: Per-channel off-chain storage overhead for varying number of synchronized channels.

VII. APPLICATIONS

Most of the existing PCN solutions only support payments from one sender to one receiver with a path of open channels between them. This limitation prevents the design of applications with multiple senders or multiple receivers, which might require to perform payments through two or more distinct PCNs sharing the same blockchain in an atomic way. These limitations can be overcome with Thora. Here, we provide some examples beyond simple path-formed payments.

Mass payments. Mass payments can be used by entities that need to perform a high volume of payments. Suppose that a single entity S wants to pay multiple recipients R_1, R_2, \dots, R_n simultaneously, with corresponding values $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n$. Here, atomicity can be highly desirable as it guarantees that either all payments are performed correctly or the sender refunds them back. For simplicity, we assume that S has a direct channel γ_i to each receiver R_i . The sender S can use Thora with the input of the update set $U := \{(\gamma_1, \alpha_1), (\gamma_2, \alpha_2), \dots, (\gamma_n, \alpha_n)\}$ to perform a mass payment in an atomic and off-chain way. Going one step further, the sender does not need to be directly connected to all receivers, but instead can set up updates via some intermediaries.

Rebalancing. In a bidirectional channel, when payments in one direction are highly frequent, the channel becomes skewed and is reduced to a unidirectional channel. Users can close the channel and create a new channel with fresh balances, but for that, they need to post some transactions to the blockchain. As an alternative solution, when there is a path of channels between the two users, they can leverage a payment through the path to refund the depleted channel. However, as the length of the path grows, refunding becomes more expensive in terms of fees and collateral [11, 14]. Moreover, in some cases, rebalancing is performed through

Overhead	LN (Bytes USD)	Blitz (Bytes USD)	Thora (Bytes USD)
Payment transaction	$821m \parallel 1.50m$	$642m \parallel 1.17m$	$871m \parallel 1.59m$
Refund transaction	$672m \parallel 1.23m$	$871m \parallel 1.59m$	$642m \parallel 1.17m$
Cost of enforcing pay/refund	0	$257 + 35n \parallel 0.47 + 0.06n$	$256 + 36n \parallel 0.47 + 0.06n$

Table III: On-chain overhead and cost comparison of LN, Blitz and Thora. n is the number of channels and $m \in [0, n]$ is the number of disputed channels.

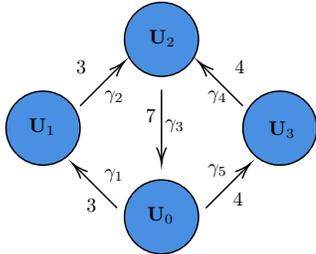


Figure 7: An example of rebalancing with 4 users and 5 channels. Each user holds the same coins after the rebalancing as before, but distribution of coins through channels is changed in order to refund depleted channels. In this case, rebalancing can not be conducted using a single path-formed payment.

more complex topologies, and a single path payment does not suffice. For instance, consider the example shown in Figure 7. In this example, users hold the same amount of coins after the payments as before, but the distribution of coins in the channels is changed. We can perform rebalancing in this case by initiating Thora with the input of the update set $\{(\gamma_1, 3), (\gamma_2, 3), (\gamma_3, 7), (\gamma_4, 4), (\gamma_5, 4)\}$. The set of senders and receivers are defined based on the direction of the payment in each channel.

Crowdfunding. This application is similar to mass payments, but reversed. We have multiple senders S_0, S_1, \dots, S_n that want to fund one single receiver R in an atomic way. In such a case, each sender S_i may want to pay α_i coins to the receiver only when there is a guarantee that all other senders will pay their funds in the same way. Analogous to previous cases, we can use Thora to perform trustless and off-chain crowdfunding by including all involved channels and corresponding payments values in the updates set.

VIII. DISCUSSION

Enhancing privacy. In the case of a dispute when one tx^{ep} appears on the ledger, users can decide to perform honest updates (Section III) and to post no transaction to the ledger. In this way, they can still preserve the privacy of payment values and save the cost of transaction fees. However, because tx^{ep} includes outputs to all receivers, receivers' identities are revealed publicly when tx^{ep} is posted.

To enhance privacy, we can use stealth addresses [25]. On a high level, instead of existing addresses, receivers can generate fresh addresses for other receivers, and create tx^{ep} using new addresses. Thus, if any tx^{ep} is posted to the ledger, and two

users of a channel decide to update the channel honestly, identities will stay private from external adversaries outside of the protocol. For more details on stealth addresses, we refer the reader to Appendix A.

Accountability. Thora guarantees strong value privacy for off-chain payments. However, in some applications, users may have an interest in accounting payments instead of privacy. For instance, in the crowdfunding application, suppose that all senders have planned to fund the receiver entity with an identical value. Here, the users want to be sure all updates are consistent with the agreed payment value. In this case, the senders can use signed versions of tx^{state} and the set of tx^{p} as receipts and prove their correct behavior.

Improving communication and computation overheads. One of the drawback of Thora is the parties have to broadcast some messages, e.g., tx^{ep} or signatures, to every single channel. This leads to a quadratic number of messages. By making use of a dealer, which all parties send these messages to and who aggregates the signatures and combines all transactions tx^{ep} , one could asymptotically reduce the number of messages from quadratic to linear. Note that also the size of the transactions is reduced in practice, since only the aggregated signature is sent instead of every single one. However, asymptotically, the message sizes remain quadratic, because tx^{ep} has a linear number of outputs and there is one for every channel. Since this optimization comes at the cost of additional synchronization, we refrained from adding it to the protocol and instead only discuss it here.

IX. CONCLUSION

In this work, we presented Thora, the first Bitcoin-compatible multi-channel updates protocol that guarantees atomicity of payments without restrictions on the channel topology. Moreover, Thora enables channel owners to keep their payment value private.

We defined an ideal functionality to model the security and privacy notations of interest, and showed that Thora is a secure realization thereof within the *Global Universal Composability* framework. Further, we evaluated the performance and showed the round complexity is constant and independent of the number of channels. Our construction does not require Turing-complete smart contracts and can be implemented on top of any blockchain that supports time-locks and signatures in its scripting language.

An interesting direction of future work is exploring the possibility to extend Thora to achieve a threshold atomicity

property in generic channel networks. For instance a k -threshold atomicity holds, if at least k channels are updated successfully or else, all channels are reverted to the initial state. This extension can further widen the range of practical applications of Thora payments. Other venues of future research are interoperability, exploring how to refine Thora in order to support atomic channel updates over different blockchains, and optimizing Thora in terms of storage and communication for more specific network topologies.

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APPENDIX

A. Stealth addresses

The stealth addresses scheme allows us to derive one-time and fresh public keys in a digital signature scheme for a specific user. Here, we briefly describe a basic dual-key stealth addresses protocol (DKSAP). Assume that G is a base point of an elliptic curve, in which the difficulty of the elliptic curve discrete logarithm problem (ECDLP) [15] holds. Moreover, assume that there is a user (say Alice) with two pairs of private/public keys $(a, A), (b, B)$ such that $A = a \cdot G$ and $B = b \cdot G$. We want to derive fresh public keys for Alice. A DKSAP is a tuple of two algorithms $\text{DKSAP} := (\text{GenPk}, \text{GenSk})$ defined as follows.

- $(P, R) \leftarrow \text{GenPk}(A, B)$: A PPT algorithm takes two Alice’s public keys A, B as inputs and returns a fresh public key for Alice P along with an additional value R , which is required for deriving the secret key for P . For that, a random $r \xleftarrow{\$} [0, l - 1]$ is sampled uniformly, where l is the prime order of the underlying elliptic curve. Then, P is computed as $P := \mathcal{H}(r \cdot A) \cdot G + B$, \mathcal{H} is a hash function modelled as a random oracle. Moreover, R is computed as $R := r \cdot G$.
- $p \leftarrow \text{GenSk}(a, b, P, R)$: A DPT algorithm takes two Alice’s secret keys a, b and P, R generated by GenPk algorithm as inputs and returns the secret key corresponding to P . For that p is computed as $p := \mathcal{H}(a \cdot R) + b$.

Correctness of algorithms follows directly: $p \cdot G = (\mathcal{H}(a \cdot R) + b) \cdot G = \mathcal{H}(a \cdot r \cdot G) \cdot G + b \cdot G = \mathcal{H}(r \cdot A) \cdot G + B = P$. In [25] it is argued that the new address P is unlikable for a spectator, even when observing R .

B. Race condition

When a receiver posts tx^{ep} , it will appear in the ledger after at most Δ rounds. According to Section III, we put a timelock of $t_c + \Delta$ on outputs of a tx^{ep} to give enough time to users to close their channels and post tx^{p} . Thus, for a rational receiver, the latest possible time to publish tx^{ep} is $T - 3\Delta - t_c$, such that it is accepted at $T - 2\Delta - t_c$ and the timelock of the outputs runs out at $T - \Delta$. This ensures that the payment tx^{p} has precedence over the refund tx^{r} .

However, if a receiver posts tx^{ep} after $T - 3\Delta - t_c$ and before $T - 2\Delta - t_c$, the timelock on the outputs of tx^{ep} could run out just before T , at which point the refunds tx^{r} become possible. Now, there is a potential race between the payments and the refunds. In particular, there is a chance that one receiver can post tx^{p} just before T , and in a another channel, a sender might post a refund. Of course, the receiver puts mainly herself and possibly other malicious receivers at risk, since other channels

with honest receivers will have already either updated honestly or posted their tx^{ep} before $T - 3\Delta - t_c$. However, honest senders could be negatively affected by this.

Therefore, we can prevent this irrational race condition of receivers by changing the spending condition of tx^{in} . In more detail, each receiver R sets the condition of her tx^{in} as follows: $(\text{MultiSig}(R, S_1, S_2, \dots, S_n) \wedge \text{RelTime}(\Delta)) \vee (\text{AbsTime}(T - 3\Delta - t_c))$, where S_i is the sender of channel γ_i . According to the new condition, the receiver is forced to post tx^{ep} before $T - 5\Delta - t_c$, because otherwise, any party, e.g., also miners, can spend tx^{in} and prevent forced payments. This mechanism is similar to the one adopted in Blitz [2].

C. UC modeling

In this section, we formalize our construction in the global UC framework (GUC) [9], which is an extension of the standard UC framework [8] that allows for a global setup. We use this global step for modelling the ledger. Through this section, first, we provide some preliminaries. Then, we define an ideal functionality for the multi-channel updates protocol. Our model follows closely the model in [4, 2, 3].

1) Preliminaries, communication model and threat model:

In the real world, a protocol Π is executed by a set of parties \mathcal{P} and in the presence of an adversary \mathcal{A} . A security parameter $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ and an auxiliary input $z \in \{0, 1\}^*$ are given to the adversary as inputs. We consider a static corruption model, which means that \mathcal{A} can corrupt any party $P_i \in \mathcal{P}$ at the beginning of the protocol execution. \mathcal{A} controls corrupted parties and learns their internal states. All parties in \mathcal{P} and \mathcal{A} take their input from a special entity called environment \mathcal{E} , which represents everything external to the protocol. This entity observes all output messages from participants. We assume that the communication network is synchronous, and the protocol execution takes place in rounds. The global ideal functionality $\mathcal{G}_{\text{clock}}$ [13] represents a global clock that proceeds to the next round if all honest parties indicate that they are ready to do so. Every entity always knows the current round. Communications between parties in \mathcal{P} are through authenticated channels with guaranteed delivery after exactly one round. If a party P sends a message to party Q in round t , then Q receives that message in the beginning of round $t + 1$ and knows that P has sent the message. We model authenticated channels by an ideal functionality \mathcal{F}_{GDC} [10]. The adversary can read and reorder the messages sent in the same round, but can not modify or delay messages. Communications involving \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{E} or the simulator \mathcal{X} and every computation that a party executes locally take zero rounds.

2) *Ledger and channels*: We model a UTXO based blockchain in the ideal functionality $\mathcal{G}_{\text{ledger}}$. We denote the blockchain delay as Δ , and the blockchain’s signature scheme by Σ . $\mathcal{G}_{\text{ledger}}$ communicates with a fixed set of parties \mathcal{P} .

Initially, the environment \mathcal{E} chooses a key pair (sk_P, pk_P) for each $P \in \mathcal{P}$ and registers it to the ledger by sending $(\text{sid}, \text{register}, pk_P)$ to $\mathcal{G}_{\text{ledger}}$. Also, \mathcal{E} sets the initial state of \mathcal{L} , which is a publicly accessible set of all published transactions. A party $P \in \mathcal{P}$ can post a transaction $\bar{\text{tx}}$ via

message $(\text{sid}, \text{POST}, \bar{\text{tx}})$ to $\mathcal{G}_{\text{ledger}}$. The transaction will be added to the ledger after at most Δ rounds, if it is valid. The exact number of delay rounds is chosen by the adversary. In this work, we consider a simplified model for the underlying blockchain and assume that the set of users is fixed instead of allowing them to join or leave dynamically. For a more precise model, we refer the reader to works [5]. We define an ideal functionality $\mathcal{F}_{\text{channel}}$ [1], which is built on top of $\mathcal{G}_{\text{ledger}}$ and provides *open*, *update*, and *close* procedures related to payment channels. We assume that closing a channel takes at most t_c rounds and updating a channel takes at most t_u rounds. For simplicity, we assume that channels involved in the multi-channel updates protocol have already been registered and opened with the ledger functionality.

The complete API of $\mathcal{F}_{\text{channel}}$ and $\mathcal{G}_{\text{ledger}}$ are shown below. We hide the calls to $\mathcal{G}_{\text{clock}}$ and \mathcal{F}_{GDC} in our notation. Instead of explicitly calling these functionalities, we write $\text{msg} \xrightarrow{t} X$ to denote sending message msg to party X in round t and also $\text{msg} \xleftarrow{t} X$ to denote receiving message msg from party X in round t .

Interface of $\mathcal{G}_{\text{ledger}}(\Delta, \Sigma)$ [4, 2]

This functionality keeps a record of the public keys of parties. Also, all transactions that are posted (and accepted, see below) are stored in the publicly accessible set \mathcal{L} containing tuples of all accepted transactions.

Parameters:

- Δ : upper bound on the number of rounds it takes a valid transaction to be published on \mathcal{L}
- Σ : a digital signature scheme

API:

Messages from \mathcal{E} via a dummy user $P \in \mathcal{P}$:

- $(\text{sid}, \text{REGISTER}, \text{pk}_P) \xleftarrow{\tau} P$: This function adds an entry (pk_P, P) to PKI consisting of the public key pk_P and the user P , if it does not already exist.
- $(\text{sid}, \text{POST}, \bar{\text{tx}}) \xleftarrow{\tau} P$: This function checks if $\bar{\text{tx}}$ is a valid transaction and if yes, accepts it on \mathcal{L} after at most Δ rounds.

Interface of $\mathcal{F}_{\text{channel}}(T, k)$ [4, 2]

Parameters:

- T : upper bound on the maximum number of consecutive off-chain communication rounds between channel users
- k : number of ways the channel state can be published on the ledger

API:

Messages from \mathcal{E} via a dummy user P :

- $(\text{sid}, \text{CREATE}, \bar{\gamma}, \text{tid}_P) \xleftarrow{\tau} P$: Let $\bar{\gamma}$ be the attribute tuple $(\bar{\gamma}.\text{id}, \bar{\gamma}.\text{users}, \bar{\gamma}.\text{cash}, \bar{\gamma}.\text{st})$, where $\bar{\gamma}.\text{id} \in \{0, 1\}^*$ is the identifier of the channel, $\bar{\gamma}.\text{users} \subset \mathcal{P}$ are the users of the channel (and $P \in \bar{\gamma}.\text{users}$), $\bar{\gamma}.\text{cash} \in \mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$ is the total money in the channel and $\bar{\gamma}.\text{st}$ is the initial state of the channel. tid_P defines P 's input for the funding transaction of the channel. When invoked, this function asks $\bar{\gamma}.\text{otherParty}$ to create a new channel.
- $(\text{sid}, \text{UPDATE}, \text{id}, \bar{\theta}) \xleftarrow{\tau} P$: Let $\bar{\gamma}$ be the channel where $\bar{\gamma}.\text{id} = \text{id}$. When invoked by $P \in \bar{\gamma}.\text{users}$ and both parties agree, the channel $\bar{\gamma}$ (if it exists) is updated to the new state $\bar{\theta}$. If the parties disagree or at least one party is dishonest, the update can fail or the channel can be forcefully closed to either the old or the new state. Regardless

of the outcome, we say that t_u is the upper bound that an update takes. In the successful case, $(\text{sid}, \text{UPDATED}, \text{id}, \bar{\theta}) \xrightarrow{\leq \tau + t_u} \bar{\gamma}.\text{users}$ is output.

- $(\text{sid}, \text{CLOSE}, \text{id}) \xleftarrow{\tau} P$:

Will close the channel $\bar{\gamma}$, where $\bar{\gamma}.\text{id} = \text{id}$, either peacefully or forcefully. After at most t_c in round $\leq \tau + t_c$, a transaction tx with the current state $\bar{\gamma}.\text{st}$ as output ($\text{tx}.\text{output} := \bar{\gamma}.\text{st}$) appears on \mathcal{L} (the public ledger of $\mathcal{G}_{\text{ledger}}$).

3) *The UC-security definition*: Closely following [2, 3], we define Π as a *hybrid* protocol that accesses to ideal functionality $\mathcal{F}_{\text{prelim}}$ consisting of \mathcal{F}_{GDC} , $\mathcal{G}_{\text{ledger}}$, $\mathcal{F}_{\text{channel}}$, and $\mathcal{G}_{\text{clock}}$. In the beginning, the environment \mathcal{E} supplies inputs to the parties in \mathcal{P} and the adversary \mathcal{A} with a security parameter λ and auxiliary input z . We denote the output that \mathcal{E} observes as the ensemble $\text{EXEC}_{\Pi, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{E}}^{\mathcal{F}_{\text{prelim}}}(\lambda, z)$. $\Phi_{\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}}$ denotes the ideal protocol of the ideal functionality $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$, where the dummy users simply forward their input to $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$. With access to functionalities $\mathcal{F}_{\text{prelim}}$, we denote the output of this idealized protocol as $\text{EXEC}_{\Phi_{\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}}, \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{E}}^{\mathcal{F}_{\text{prelim}}}(\lambda, z)$.

If a protocol Π GUC-realizes an ideal functionality $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$, then any attack that is possible on the real world protocol Π can be carried out against the ideal protocol $\Phi_{\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}}$ and vice versa.

Definition 1. A protocol Π GUC-realizes an ideal functionality $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$, w.r.t. $\mathcal{F}_{\text{prelim}}$, if for every adversary \mathcal{A} there exists a simulator \mathcal{X} such that for any $z \in \{0, 1\}^*$ and $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$, we have

$$\text{EXEC}_{\Pi, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{E}}^{\mathcal{F}_{\text{prelim}}}(\lambda, z) \approx_c \text{EXEC}_{\Phi_{\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}}, \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{E}}^{\mathcal{F}_{\text{prelim}}}(\lambda, z) \quad (1)$$

where \approx_c denotes computational indistinguishability.

4) *Ideal functionality*: Here, we define our the ideal functionality $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$. This functionality can output an ERROR message, e.g., when a transaction does not appear on the ledger as it should. When $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ outputs ERROR, any guarantees are lost. Hence, we are only interested in protocols that realize $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ and never output an ERROR. The subprocedures used in $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$, Π , and \mathcal{X} follow the same logic as the macros defined in Section IV-B.

Note that in $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ and Π , for better readability, we use the set \mathcal{P} to store all parties, the set \mathcal{S} to store all senders, and the set \mathcal{R} to store all receivers. We know that two different channels may have a common user. Thus, for handling duplicated identifiers in the aforementioned sets, we implicitly assign different identifiers for users of different channels. Consequently, the size of each set is equal to the number of channels.

Ideal Functionality $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}(\Delta, T)$

Parameters:

Δ : Upper bound on the time it takes a transaction to appear on \mathcal{L} .

T : Upper bound on the time expected for successful payments.

Local variables:

idSet : A set of tuples containing pairs of ids and channels (pid, γ_i) to avoid duplicated channels.

Γ : A set of tuples $(\text{pid}, \bar{\gamma}_i, \text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}, \text{tx}_i^r, \{\text{tx}_{i,j}^p, \theta_{i,j}\}_{j \in [1,n]})$ that for each payment id pid and channel $\bar{\gamma}_i$, store the state transaction $\text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}$, refund transaction tx_i^r and a set of tuples for payment transactions $(\text{tx}_{i,j}^p, \theta_{i,j})$ where $\theta_{i,j}$ is the output of tx_j^{ep} used in $\text{tx}_{i,j}^p$.

Ψ : A map, storing for a given pid a copy of all tx^{ep} in a set $\{\text{tx}_j^{\text{ep}}\}_{j \in [1,n]}$.

t_u : Time required to perform a ledger channel update honestly.

t_c : Time it takes at most to close a channel.

Start (executed in the beginning in round t_{start})

Send $(\text{sid}, \text{start}) \xrightarrow{t_{\text{start}}} \mathcal{X}$ and upon $(\text{sid}, \text{start-ok}, t_u, t_c) \xleftarrow{t_{\text{start}}} \mathcal{X}$ set t_u and t_c accordingly.

Initialization

Let τ be the current round, and \mathcal{S} , \mathcal{R} , and \mathcal{P} be initially empty sets.

- 1) If $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{CHANNELS-SET}, \{\gamma_i\}_{i \in [1,n]}) \xleftarrow{\tau}$ dealer where the dealer is honest, do the following.
 - a) Send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{send-init}, \{\gamma_j\}_{j \in [1,n]}, \text{dealer}) \xrightarrow{\tau} \mathcal{X}$.
 - b) For all honest $P_i \in \{\gamma_i.\text{sender}\}_{i \in [1,n]} \cup \{\gamma_i.\text{receiver}\}_{i \in [1,n]}$, send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{INIT-CHECK}, \{\gamma_j\}_{j \in [1,n]}) \xrightarrow{\tau+1} P_i$.
- 2) Upon each message $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{send-check}, \{\gamma_i\}_{i \in [1,n]}, P_i) \xleftarrow{\tau+1} \mathcal{X}$, send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{INIT-CHECK}, \{\gamma_j\}_{j \in [1,n]}) \xrightarrow{\tau+1} P_i$.
- 3) Upon $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{INIT-CHECKED}, \{\gamma_j\}_{j \in [1,n]}) \xleftarrow{\tau+1} P_i$ for each honest P_i , do following.
 - a) Send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{send-init-ok}, \{\gamma_j\}_{j \in [1,n]}, P_i) \xrightarrow{\tau+1} \mathcal{X}$.
 - b) If this is the first INIT-CHECKED message from an honest party, for each γ_i the tuple $(\text{pid}, \gamma_i) \notin \text{idSet}$, set $\text{idSet} = \text{idSet} \cup \{(\text{pid}, \gamma_i)\}$, add $\gamma_i.\text{sender}$ to \mathcal{S} and \mathcal{P} , and add $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ to \mathcal{R} and \mathcal{P} .
- 4) If there is an honest $P_i \in \mathcal{P}$, where the message $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{INIT-CHECKED}, \{\gamma_j\}_{j \in [1,n]}) \xleftarrow{\tau+1} P_i$ is not received, go idle.
- 5) If there is an honest $P_i \in \mathcal{P}$ and a corrupted $P_j \in \mathcal{P}$, where the message $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{init-acc}, P_i, P_j) \xleftarrow{\tau+2} \mathcal{X}$ is not received, remove P_i from \mathcal{P} and \mathcal{S} or \mathcal{R} .
- 6) Go to the *Pre-Setup* phase, and pass the set of channels with the receiver in \mathcal{P} to the next phase.

Pre-Setup

Let τ be the current round.

- 1) For each channels γ_i do following.
 - a) Let $\text{tx}_i^{\text{in}} := \text{GenTxIn}(\gamma_i.\text{receiver}, \{\gamma_k\}_{k \in [1,n]})$.

- b) Let $\text{tx}_i^{\text{ep}} := \text{GenTxEp}(\{\gamma_k\}_{k \in [1,n]}, \text{tx}_i^{\text{in}})$, and add tx_i^{ep} to $\Psi(\text{pid})$.
 - c) If $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ is corrupted, send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{presetup-req}, \gamma_i, \text{tx}_i^{\text{ep}}) \xrightarrow{\tau} \mathcal{X}$.
 - d) Else if $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ is honest, for all corrupted $P_j \in \mathcal{P}$ send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{send-presetup}, \text{tx}_i^{\text{ep}}, \gamma_i.\text{receiver}, P_j) \xrightarrow{\tau} \mathcal{X}$.
- 2) If there is an honest $P_i \in \mathcal{P}$ and a corrupted $P_j \in \mathcal{R}$, where the message $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{presetup-acc}, P_i, P_j) \xleftarrow{\tau+1} \mathcal{X}$ is not received, remove P_i from \mathcal{P} and \mathcal{S} or \mathcal{R} .
 - 3) Go to the *Setup* phase, and pass the set of channels with at least one user in \mathcal{P} to the next phase.

Setup

Let τ be the current round.

- 1) For each channel γ_i if both $\gamma_i.\text{sender}$ and $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ are honest, do the following.
 - a) If $\gamma_i.\text{sender} \in \mathcal{P}$, send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{REQ-VALUE}, \gamma_i) \xrightarrow{\tau} \gamma_i.\text{sender}$.
 - b) Upon $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{VALUE}, \bar{\gamma}_i, \alpha_i) \xleftarrow{\tau} \gamma_i.\text{sender}$, continue. Otherwise skip the steps (c) to (g).
 - c) Let $\text{tx}_i^{\text{state}} := \text{GenState}(\alpha_i, T, \bar{\gamma}_i)$, and $\text{tx}_i^r := \text{GenRef}(\text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}, \gamma_i.\text{sender})$.
 - d) For all $j \in [1, n]$, let $\theta_{i,j}$ be the output of tx_j^{ep} which corresponds to $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$, then create $\text{tx}_{i,j}^p = \text{GenPay}(\text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}, \gamma_i.\text{receiver}, \theta_{i,j})$.
 - e) If $\gamma_i.\text{receiver} \in \mathcal{P}$, send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{REQ-VALUE}, \gamma_i) \xrightarrow{\tau+1} \gamma_i.\text{receiver}$.
 - f) Upon $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{VALUE}, \bar{\gamma}_i, \alpha_i) \xleftarrow{\tau+1} \gamma_i.\text{receiver}$, continue. Otherwise skip the step (g).
 - g) For all corrupted $P_j \in \mathcal{P}$ send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{send-setup-ok}, \gamma_i.\text{receiver}, P_j) \xrightarrow{\tau+1} \mathcal{X}$.
- 2) Else If $\gamma_i.\text{sender}$ is corrupted and $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ is honest, do the following.
 - a) If $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{setup-acc}, \bar{\gamma}_i, \text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}, \{\text{tx}_{i,j}^p\}_{j \in [1,n]}) \xleftarrow{\tau+1} \mathcal{X}$, set $\alpha_i := \text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}.\text{output}[0].\text{cash}$. Otherwise, skip the steps (b) to (d).
 - b) If $\gamma_i.\text{receiver} \in \mathcal{P}$, send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{REQ-VALUE}, \gamma_i) \xrightarrow{\tau+1} \gamma_i.\text{receiver}$.
 - c) Upon $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{VALUE}, \bar{\gamma}_i, \alpha_i) \xleftarrow{\tau+1} \gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ with a same α_i as the step(b) and $\text{tx}_i^{\text{state}} = \text{GenState}(\alpha_i, T, \bar{\gamma}_i)$, continue. Otherwise skip the step (e).
 - d) For all corrupted $P_j \in \mathcal{P}$ send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{send-setup-ok}, P_i, P_j) \xrightarrow{\tau+1} \mathcal{X}$.
- 3) Else If $\gamma_i.\text{sender}$ is honest and $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ is corrupted, do the following.
 - a) If $\gamma_i.\text{sender} \in \mathcal{P}$, send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{REQ-VALUE}, \gamma_i) \xrightarrow{\tau} \gamma_i.\text{sender}$.
 - b) Upon $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{VALUE}, \bar{\gamma}_i, \alpha_i) \xleftarrow{\tau} \gamma_i.\text{sender}$, continue. Otherwise skip the steps (c) to (e).
 - c) Let $\text{tx}_i^{\text{state}} := \text{GenState}(\alpha_i, T, \bar{\gamma}_i)$, and $\text{tx}_i^r := \text{GenRef}(\text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}, \gamma_i.\text{sender})$.
 - d) For all $j \in [1, n]$, let $\theta_{i,j}$ be the output of tx_j^{ep} which corresponds to $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$, then create $\text{tx}_{i,j}^p = \text{GenPay}(\text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}, \gamma_i.\text{receiver}, \theta_{i,j})$.
 - e) Send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{send-setup}, \bar{\gamma}_i, \text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}, \{(\text{tx}_{i,j}^p, \sigma_{\gamma_i.\text{sender}}(\text{tx}_{i,j}^p))\}_{j \in [1,n]}) \xrightarrow{\tau+1} \mathcal{X}$.
- 4) If there is an honest receiver $P_i \in \mathcal{R}$, where the message $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{VALUE}, \bar{\gamma}_i, \alpha_i) \xleftarrow{\tau+1} P_i$ is not received, go idle.
- 5) If there is an honest $P_i \in \mathcal{P}$ and a corrupted $P_j \in \mathcal{R}$, where the message $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{setup-finalized}, P_i, P_j) \xleftarrow{\tau+1} \mathcal{X}$ is not received, remove P_i from \mathcal{P} and \mathcal{S} or \mathcal{R} .
- 6) Go to the *Confirmation* phase. Pass the set of channels with at least one user in \mathcal{P} to the next phase.

Confirmation

- Let τ be the current round.

- 1) For each honest sender $\gamma_i.sender \in \mathcal{S}$, do the following.
 - a) Send $(ssid_C, UPDATE, \bar{\gamma}_i.id, tx_i^{state}.output) \xrightarrow{\tau} \mathcal{F}_{channel}$.
 - b) If not $(ssid_C, UPDATED, \bar{\gamma}_i.id, tx_i^{state}.output) \xleftarrow{\tau+t_u} \mathcal{F}_{channel}$, skip the step (c).
 - c) For each corrupted $\gamma_j.receiver \in \mathcal{R}$, send $(sid, pid, send-sig, \gamma_i.sender, \gamma_j.receiver, tx_j^{ep}) \xrightarrow{\tau+t_u} \mathcal{X}$.
- 2) For each honest receiver $\gamma_i.receiver \in \mathcal{R}$, if (i) $(sid, pid, confirmation-acc, \gamma_i.receiver, \gamma_j.sender) \xleftarrow{\tau+t_u+1} \mathcal{X}$ is received for all corrupted $\gamma_j.sender \in \mathcal{S}$, and (ii) $(ssid_C, UPDATED, \bar{\gamma}_i.id, tx_i^{state}.output) \xleftarrow{\tau+t_u} \mathcal{F}_{channel}$ is received on behalf of $\gamma_i.receiver$, do the following.
 - a) Send $(sid, pid, OPENED, \bar{\gamma}_i) \xrightarrow{\tau+t_u+1} \gamma_i.receiver$
 - b) For all corrupted $P_j \in \mathcal{P}$, $(sid, pid, send-confirmation-ok, \gamma_i.receiver, P_j) \xrightarrow{\tau+t_u} \mathcal{X}$.
- 3) If there is an honest receiver $\gamma_i.receiver$, where $(sid, pid, confirmation-acc, \gamma_i.receiver, \gamma_j.sender) \xleftarrow{\tau+t_u+1} \mathcal{X}$ is not received for at least one corrupted $\gamma_j.sender \in \mathcal{S}$, or $(ssid_C, UPDATED, \bar{\gamma}_i.id, tx_i^{state}.output) \xleftarrow{\tau+t_u} \mathcal{F}_{channel}$ is not received on behalf of $\gamma_i.receiver$, go idle.
- 4) If there is an honest $P_i \in \mathcal{P}$ and a corrupted $P_j \in \mathcal{R}$, where the message $(sid, pid, confirmation-finalized, P_i, P_j) \xleftarrow{\tau+t_u+1} \mathcal{X}$ is not received, remove P_i from \mathcal{P} and \mathcal{S} or \mathcal{R} .
- 5) Send $(sid, pid, agg-sig, \{tx_j^{ep}\}_{j \in [1, m]}, \mathcal{S}) \xrightarrow{\tau+t_u+1} \mathcal{X}$.
- 6) Go to the *Finalizing* phase. Pass the set of channels with at least one user in \mathcal{P} to the next phase.

Finalizing

- Let τ be the current round.

- 1) For each channel γ_i , let $tx_i^{trans} := \text{GenTrans}(\alpha_i, \bar{\gamma}_i)$.
- 2) For each honest sender $\gamma_i.sender$, send $(ssid_C, UPDATE, \gamma_i.id, tx_i^{trans}.output) \xrightarrow{\tau} \mathcal{F}_{channel}$.
- 3) For each channels γ_i . If $\gamma_i.receiver$ is honest, do the following.
 - a) If not $(ssid_C, UPDATED, \bar{\gamma}_i.id, tx_i^{trans}.output) \xleftarrow{\tau+t_u} \mathcal{F}_{channel}$, send $(sid, pid, post-txep, \bar{\gamma}_i, tx_i^{ep}) \xrightarrow{\tau+t_u} \mathcal{X}$.
 - b) Send $(sid, pid, FINALIZED, \bar{\gamma}_i) \xrightarrow{\tau+t_u} \gamma_i.receiver$.

Respond (executed at the end of every round)

Let t be the starting round. For every element $(pid, \bar{\gamma}_i, tx_i^{state}, tx_i^r, \{tx_{i,j}^p, \theta_{i,j}\}_{j \in [1, m]}) \in \Gamma$, if $\bar{\gamma}_i.st = tx_i^{state}.output$, and one $tx_j^{ep} \in \Psi(pid)$ is on \mathcal{L} , do the Pay step as follows.

Pay: If $\gamma_i.receiver$ is honest and $t < T - t_c - 2\Delta$ do the following.

- 1) $(ssid_C, CLOSE, \bar{\gamma}_i.id) \xrightarrow{t} \mathcal{F}_{channel}$
- 2) At time $t + t_c$, if a transaction tx with $tx.output = \bar{\gamma}_i.st$ appears on \mathcal{L} , Wait for Δ rounds and send $(sid, pid, post-pay, \bar{\gamma}_i, tx_{i,j}^p) \xrightarrow{t' < T - \Delta} \mathcal{X}$.
- 3) At time $t'' < T$, if a transaction tx' appears on \mathcal{L} with $tx'.input = [\theta_{i,j}, tx.output[0]]$ and $tx'.output = [(tx.output[0].cash + \theta_{i,j}.cash, \text{OneSig}(\gamma_i.receiver))]$, send $(sid, pid, PAID) \xrightarrow{t''} \gamma_i.receiver$. Otherwise return ERROR to all parties.

Force-Refund: Else, if a transaction tx with $tx.output = \bar{\gamma}_i.st$ is on-chain and $tx.output[0]$ is unspent, $t \geq T$, and $\gamma_i.sender$ is honest, do the following.

- 1) Send $(sid, pid, post-refund, \bar{\gamma}_i, tx_i^r) \xrightarrow{t} \mathcal{X}$
- 2) If transaction tx' with $tx'.input = [tx.output[0]]$ and $tx'.output = (tx.output[0].cash, \text{OneSig}(\gamma_i.sender))$ appears on the \mathcal{L} in round $t_1 < t + \Delta$, send $(sid, pid, FORCE-REFUND) \xrightarrow{t_1} \gamma_i.sender$. Otherwise, return ERROR to all parties.

5) *Protocol:* In this section, we present the formal protocol II. For simplicity, we assume that users involved in the payment do not use (e.g., update, close) the channels involved in the payment. The protocol is similar to what is presented in Figure 5, but extended with payment ids and UC formalism. We add the environment \mathcal{E} and model communication in rounds. The protocol is divided into six phases. In *Initialization*, a user dealer receives the ongoing updates from \mathcal{E} and sends them to every user to check whether all participants agree with that. In *Pre-Setup*, each receiver generates tx^{ep} and sends it to all parties. In *Setup*, senders generate and send tx^{state} , tx^p , and tx^r to their neighbors. Receivers verify the messages and inform all parties when everything is OK. In *Confirmation*, senders update their channels, and then send their signature to each tx^{ep} to the corresponding receivers. When a receiver gets all signatures, sends an endorsement to all parties. In *Finalizing*, the senders after receiving all endorsements update their channel to the final state. If a receiver does not get UPDATED from $\mathcal{F}_{channel}$, puts tx^{ep} on-chain. In *Respond* users will react to tx^{ep} being published and, either force payments or refunds.

Protocol II

Local variables:

pidSet : A set storing every payment id pid that a user has participated in, to prevent duplicates.

paySet : A map storing for a given pid a tuple $(\{\gamma_i\}_{i \in [1,n]}, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{R})$ where U is the set of containing channels and payment values, \mathcal{S} is the set of all senders and \mathcal{R} is the set of all receivers.

local : A map storing for a given pid a copy of all tx^{ep} in a set $\{\text{tx}_j^{\text{ep}}\}_{j \in [1,n]}$.

left : For each sender $\gamma_i.\text{sender}$, a map storing for a given pid a tuple $(\bar{\gamma}_i, \text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}, \text{tx}_i^r)$ which contains the channel $\bar{\gamma}_i$ and corresponding state and refund transactions.

right : For each receiver $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$, a map storing for a given pid a tuple $(\bar{\gamma}_i, \text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}, \{(\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{p}}, \sigma_{\gamma_i.\text{sender}}(\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{p}}), \theta_{i,j})\}_{j \in [1,n]})$ which contains a channel and corresponding state transaction and the set of payment transactions. Along with each $\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{p}}$, a signature from the sender of the channel and the input of this transaction that comes from tx_j^{ep} are saved.

sigSet : For each receiver $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$, a map, storing for a given pid the signatures for tx_i^{ep} of all senders $\{\sigma_{\gamma_i.\text{sender}}(\text{tx}_i^{\text{ep}})\}_{j \in [1,n]}$.

Initialization

- Let τ be the current round.

dealer upon $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{CHANNELS-SET}, \{\gamma_i\}_{i \in [1,n]}) \xleftarrow{\tau} \mathcal{E}$

1) For all parties P_i in $\{\gamma_i.\text{sender}\}_{i \in [1,n]} \cup \{\gamma_i.\text{receiver}\}_{i \in [1,n]}$, send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{init}, \{\gamma_i\}_{i \in [1,n]}) \xrightarrow{\tau} P_i$.

Each $\gamma_i.\text{sender}$ and $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$

upon $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{init}, \{\gamma_j\}_{j \in [1,n]}) \xleftarrow{\tau+1} \text{dealer}$

- 1) If $\text{pid} \in \text{pidSet}$, abort. Add pid to pidSet , and let \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{R} and \mathcal{P} be initially empty sets.
- 2) Send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{INIT-CHECK}, \{\gamma_j\}_{j \in [1,n]}) \xleftarrow{\tau+1} \mathcal{E}$.
- 3) If $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{INIT-CHECKED}, \{\gamma_j\}_{j \in [1,n]}) \xleftarrow{\tau+1} \mathcal{E}$, for each channel γ_j add $\gamma_j.\text{sender}$ to \mathcal{S} and $\gamma_j.\text{receiver}$ to \mathcal{R} . Then set $\text{paySet}(\text{pid}) := (\{\gamma_j\}_{j \in [1,n]}, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{R})$ and $\mathcal{P} := \mathcal{R} \cup \mathcal{S}$. Otherwise abort.
- 4) Send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{init-ok}) \xrightarrow{\tau+1} P_i$ to all $P_i \in \mathcal{P}$.
- 5) If $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{init-ok}) \xleftarrow{\tau+2} P_i$ from all parties in \mathcal{P} , go to the *Pre-Setup* phase. Otherwise abort.

Pre-Setup

- Let τ be the current round.

$\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$

- 1) Let $\text{tx}_i^{\text{in}} := \text{GenTxIn}(\gamma_i.\text{receiver}, \{\gamma_k\}_{k \in [1,n]})$.
- 2) Let $\text{tx}_i^{\text{ep}} := \text{GenTxEp}(\{\gamma_k\}_{k \in [1,n]}, \text{tx}_i^{\text{in}})$.
- 3) Send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{pre-setup}, \text{tx}_i^{\text{ep}}) \xrightarrow{\tau} P_i$ for all $P_i \in \mathcal{P}$.

All users upon

$(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{pre-setup}, \text{tx}_i^{\text{ep}}) \xleftarrow{\tau+1} \gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ for all $i \in [1, n]$

- 1) For all $j \in [1, n]$, if $\text{CheckTxEp}(\text{tx}_j^{\text{ep}}, \gamma_j.\text{receiver}, \{\gamma_k\}_{k \in [1,n]}) = \perp$, abort. otherwise set $\text{local}(\text{pid}) = \{\text{tx}_j^{\text{ep}}\}_{j \in [1,n]}$ and go to the *Setup* phase.

Setup

- Let τ be the current round.

$\gamma_i.\text{sender}$

- 1) Send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{REQ-VALUE}, \gamma_i) \xrightarrow{\tau} \mathcal{E}$. If this message is replied by $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{VALUE}, \bar{\gamma}_i, \alpha_i) \xrightarrow{\tau} \mathcal{E}$, continue. Otherwise go idle.
- 2) Let $\text{tx}_i^{\text{state}} := \text{GenState}(\alpha_i, T, \bar{\gamma}_i)$.
- 3) Let $\text{tx}_i^r := \text{GenRef}(\text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}, \gamma_i.\text{sender})$.
- 4) For all $j \in [1, n]$, let $\theta_{i,j}$ be the output of tx_j^{ep} which corresponds to $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$, then create $\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{p}} := \text{GenPay}(\text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}, \gamma_i.\text{receiver}, \theta_{i,j})$.
- 5) Set $\text{left}(\text{pid}) := (\bar{\gamma}_i, \text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}, \text{tx}_i^r, \{\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{p}}\}_{j \in [1,n]})$.
- 6) Generate the set $\{\sigma_{\gamma_i.\text{sender}}(\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{p}})\}_{j \in [1,n]}$.
- 7) Send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{setup}, \bar{\gamma}_i, \text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}, \{(\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{p}}, \sigma_{\gamma_i.\text{sender}}(\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{p}}))\}_{j \in [1,n]}) \xrightarrow{\tau} \gamma_i.\text{receiver}$.

$\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ upon $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{setup}, \bar{\gamma}_i, \text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}$

$, \{(\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{p}}, \sigma_{\gamma_i.\text{sender}}(\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{p}}))\}_{j \in [1,n]}) \xleftarrow{\tau+1} \gamma_i.\text{sender}$

- 1) Send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{REQ-VALUE}, \gamma_i) \xrightarrow{\tau+1} \mathcal{E}$. If this message is replied by $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{VALUE}, \bar{\gamma}_i, \alpha_i) \xrightarrow{\tau+1} \mathcal{E}$, continue. Otherwise go idle.
- 2) If $\text{tx}_i^{\text{state}} \neq \text{GenState}(\alpha_i, T, \bar{\gamma}_i)$, abort.
- 3) For each element in $\{(\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{p}}, \sigma_{\gamma_i.\text{sender}}(\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{p}}))\}_{j \in [1,n]}$, If $\sigma_{\gamma_i.\text{sender}}(\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{p}})$ is not a correct signature, abort.
- 4) For all $j \in [1, n]$, let $\theta_{i,j}$ be the output of tx_j^{ep} which corresponds to $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$. If $\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{p}} \neq \text{GenPay}(\text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}, \gamma_i.\text{receiver}, \theta_{i,j})$, abort.
- 5) Set $\text{right}(\text{pid}) = (\bar{\gamma}_i, \text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}, \{\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{p}}, \sigma_{\bar{\gamma}_i.\text{sender}}(\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{p}}, \theta_{i,j})\}_{j \in [1,n]})$.
- 6) Send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{setup-ok}) \xrightarrow{\tau+1} P_i$ for all $P_i \in \mathcal{P}$.

All users

- 1) If $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{setup-ok}) \xleftarrow{\tau+2} P_i$ for all $P_i \in \mathcal{R}$, go to the *Confirmation* phase. Otherwise abort.

Confirmation

- Let τ be the current round.

$\gamma_i.\text{sender}$

- 1) Send $(\text{ssid}_C, \text{UPDATE}, \bar{\gamma}_i.\text{id}, \text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}.\text{output}) \xrightarrow{\tau} \mathcal{F}_{\text{channel}}$.
- 2) If $(\text{ssid}_C, \text{UPDATED}, \bar{\gamma}_i.\text{id}, \text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}.\text{output}) \xleftarrow{\tau+t_u} \mathcal{F}_{\text{channel}}$, for all $j \in [1, n]$, create signature $\sigma_{\gamma_i.\text{sender}}(\text{tx}_j^{\text{ep}})$ and send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{confirmation}, \sigma_{\gamma_i.\text{sender}}(\text{tx}_j^{\text{ep}})) \xrightarrow{\tau+t_u} \gamma_j.\text{receiver}$.

$\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ upon $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{confirmation}, \sigma_{\gamma_j.\text{sender}}(\text{tx}_i^{\text{ep}}))$

$\xleftarrow{\tau+t_u+1} \gamma_j.\text{sender}$ for all $j \in [1, n]$

- 1) If $(\text{ssid}_C, \text{UPDATED}, \bar{\gamma}_i.\text{id}, \text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}.\text{output}) \xleftarrow{\tau+t_u} \mathcal{F}_{\text{channel}}$, send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{OPENED}, \bar{\gamma}_i) \xrightarrow{\tau+t_u+1} \mathcal{E}$. Otherwise abort.
- 2) If for all $j \in [1, n]$, $\sigma_{\gamma_j.\text{sender}}(\text{tx}_i^{\text{ep}})$ are valid signatures, let $\text{sigSet} := \{(\sigma_{\gamma_j.\text{sender}}(\text{tx}_i^{\text{ep}}))\}_{j \in [1,n]}$. Otherwise abort.
- 3) Send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{confirmation-ok}) \xrightarrow{\tau+t_u+1} P_i$ for all $P_i \in \mathcal{P}$.

All users

- 1) If $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{confirmation-ok}) \xleftarrow{\tau+t_u+2} P_i$ for all $P_i \in \mathcal{R}$, go to the *Finalizing* phase. Otherwise abort.

Finalizing

- Let τ be the starting round.

γ_i .sender

- 1) Let $\text{tx}_i^{\text{trans}} := \text{GenTrans}(\alpha_i, \bar{\gamma}_i)$.
- 2) Send $(\text{ssid}_C, \text{UPDATE}, \bar{\gamma}_i.\text{id}, \text{tx}_i^{\text{trans}}.\text{output}) \xrightarrow{\tau} \mathcal{F}_{\text{channel}}$.

γ_i .receiver

- 1) If not $(\text{ssid}_C, \text{UPDATED}, \bar{\gamma}_i.\text{id}, \text{tx}_i^{\text{trans}}.\text{output}) \xleftarrow{\tau+t_u} \mathcal{F}_{\text{channel}}$, sign tx_i^{ep} and add the signature to sigSet . Send $(\text{ssid}_L, \text{POST}, (\text{tx}_i^{\text{ep}}, \text{sigSet})) \xrightarrow{\tau+t_u} \mathcal{G}_{\text{ledger}}$.
- 2) Send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{FINALIZED}, \bar{\gamma}_i) \xrightarrow{\tau+t_u} \mathcal{E}$.

Respond

Let t be the current round. Do the following:

γ_i .receiver at the end of every round t

- 1) For every pid in $\text{right.keyList}()$, let $(\bar{\gamma}_i, \text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}, \{\text{tx}_{i,j}^p, \sigma_{\gamma_i.\text{sender}}(\text{tx}_{i,j}^p, \theta_{i,j})\}_{j \in [1,n]}) := \text{right}(\text{pid})$ and let $\{\text{tx}_j^{\text{ep}}\}_{j \in [1,n]} := \text{local}(\text{pid})$.
- 2) If $t < T - t_c - 2\Delta$, one tx_i^{ep} is on the ledger \mathcal{L} , and $\bar{\gamma}_i.\text{st} = \text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}.\text{output}$, do the following:
 - a) Send $(\text{ssid}_C, \text{CLOSE}, \bar{\gamma}_i.\text{id}) \xrightarrow{t} \mathcal{F}_{\text{channel}}$.
 - b) If a transaction tx with $\text{tx.output} = \text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}.\text{output}$ is on \mathcal{L} in round $t + t_c$, wait Δ rounds.
 - c) Sign $\text{tx}_{i,j}^p$ and set $\overline{\text{tx}_{i,j}^p} := (\text{tx}_{i,j}^p, \{\sigma_{\gamma_i.\text{receiver}}(\text{tx}_{i,j}^p), \sigma_{\gamma_i.\text{sender}}(\text{tx}_{i,j}^p)\})$.
 - d) Send $(\text{ssid}_L, \text{POST}, \overline{\text{tx}_{i,j}^p}) \xrightarrow{t+t_c+\Delta} \mathcal{G}_{\text{ledger}}$.
 - e) When $\text{tx}_{i,j}^p$ appears on \mathcal{L} in round $t_1 < T$, send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{PAID}, \bar{\gamma}_i) \xrightarrow{t_1} \mathcal{E}$

γ_i .sender at the end of every round t

- 1) For every pid in $\text{left.keyList}()$, let $(\bar{\gamma}_i, \text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}, \text{tx}_i^r, \{\text{tx}_{i,j}^p\}_{j \in [1,n]}) := \text{left}(\text{pid})$.
- 2) If $t > T$ and a transaction tx with $\text{tx.output} = \text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}$ is on the ledger \mathcal{L} , but not any transaction in $\{\text{tx}_{i,j}^p\}_{j \in [1,n]}$, do the following:
 - a) Sign tx_i^r and set $\overline{\text{tx}_i^r} := (\text{tx}_i^r, \sigma_{\gamma_i.\text{sender}}(\text{tx}_i^r))$.
 - b) Send $(\text{ssid}_L, \text{POST}, \overline{\text{tx}_i^r}) \xrightarrow{t} \mathcal{G}_{\text{ledger}}$.
 - c) When tx_i^r appears on \mathcal{L} in round $t_1 < t + \Delta$, send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{FORCE-REFUND}, \bar{\gamma}_i) \xrightarrow{t_1} \mathcal{E}$

6) *Proof:* In this section, we present the simulator and formal proof that our multi-channel updates protocol Appendix C5 UC-realizes the ideal functionality $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ Appendix C4.

Simulator

Local variables:

enableSig : A map, sorting for a given $(\text{pid}, \text{tx}_i^{\text{ep}})$ the set of signatures $\{\sigma_{\gamma_j.\text{sender}}(\text{tx}_i^{\text{ep}})\}$ from all senders.

paySig : A map, sorting for a given $(\text{pid}, \text{tx}_{i,j}^p)$ the signature $\sigma_{\gamma_i.\text{sender}}(\text{tx}_{i,j}^p)$.

Start phase

- Upon $(\text{sid}, \text{start}) \xleftarrow{t_{\text{start}}} \mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$, Send $(\text{sid}, \text{start-ok}, t_u, t_c) \xrightarrow{t_{\text{start}}} \mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ and go to the *Initialization* phase.

Initialization phase

- Upon $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{send-init}, \{\gamma_j\}_{j \in [1,n]}, \text{dealer}) \xleftarrow{\tau} \mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$, for all corrupted $P_i \in \{\gamma_i.\text{sender}\}_{i \in [1,n]} \cup \{\gamma_i.\text{receiver}\}_{i \in [1,n]}$, send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{init}, \{\gamma_i\}_{i \in [1,n]}) \xrightarrow{\tau} P_i$ on behalf of dealer.
- If the trigger party dealer is corrupted, upon $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{init}, \{\gamma_i\}_{i \in [1,n]}) \xleftarrow{\tau}$ dealer on behalf on each honest party P_i , send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{send-check}, \{\gamma_i\}_{i \in [1,n]}, P_i) \xrightarrow{\tau} \mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$.
- Upon $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{send-init-ok}, \{\gamma_j\}_{j \in [1,n]}, P_i) \xrightarrow{\tau} \mathcal{X}$, for all corrupted $P_j \in \{\gamma_i.\text{sender}\}_{i \in [1,n]} \cup \{\gamma_i.\text{receiver}\}_{i \in [1,n]}$, send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{init-ok}) \xrightarrow{\tau} P_j$ on behalf of P_i .
- Upon $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{init-ok}) \xleftarrow{\tau+2} P_j$ on behalf of P_i , where P_i is honest and P_j is corrupted, send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{init-acc}, P_i, P_j) \xrightarrow{\tau+2} \mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$.

Pre-Setup phase

- Upon $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{presetup-req}, \gamma_i, \text{tx}_x^{\text{ep}}) \xleftarrow{\tau} \mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ where $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ is a corrupted party, do the following.
 - 1) Upon $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{pre-setup}, \text{tx}_x^{\text{ep}}) \xleftarrow{\tau+1} \gamma_j.\text{receiver}$ on behalf of P_i , where $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ is corrupted, and P_i is honest, check if $\text{tx}_x^{\text{ep}} = \text{tx}_x^{\text{ep}}$, send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{presetup-acc}, P_i, \gamma_j.\text{receiver}) \xrightarrow{\tau+1} \mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$.
- Upon $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{send-presetup}, \text{tx}_i^{\text{ep}}, \gamma_i.\text{receiver}, P_j) \xleftarrow{\tau} \mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$, where $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ is honest and P_j is corrupted, send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{pre-setup}, \text{tx}_i^{\text{ep}}) \xrightarrow{\tau} P_j$ on behalf of $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$.

Setup phase

- Upon $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{send-setup-ok}, P_i, P_j) \xleftarrow{\tau} \mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$, where P_i is honest and P_j is corrupted, send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{setup-ok}) \xrightarrow{\tau} P_j$ on behalf of P_i .
- Upon $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{setup}, \bar{\gamma}_i, \text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}, \{\text{tx}_{i,j}^p, \sigma_{\gamma_i.\text{sender}}(\text{tx}_{i,j}^p)\}_{j \in [1,n]}) \xleftarrow{\tau+1} \gamma_i.\text{sender}$, where $\gamma_i.\text{sender}$ is corrupted, do the following.
 - 1) Check if any signature $\sigma_{\gamma_i.\text{sender}}(\text{tx}_{i,j}^p)$ is not valid, abort.
 - 2) For all $j \in [1, n]$, let $\theta_{i,j}$ be the output of $\text{tx}_{i,j}^p$ which corresponds to $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$. If $\text{tx}_{i,j}^p \neq \text{GenPay}(\text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}, \gamma_i.\text{receiver}, \theta_{i,j})$, abort.
 - 3) Add the signature for each $\text{tx}_{i,j}^p$ to $\text{paySig}(\text{pid}, \text{tx}_{i,j}^p)$.
 - 4) Send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{setup-acc}, \bar{\gamma}_i, \text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}, \{\text{tx}_{i,j}^p\}_{j \in [1,n]}) \xrightarrow{\tau+1} \mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$.
- Upon $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{send-setup}, \text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}, \{\text{tx}_{i,j}^p\}_{j \in [1,n]}, \gamma_i) \xleftarrow{\tau} \mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ where $\gamma_i.\text{sender}$ is honest but $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ is corrupted, do the following.

- 1) sign each $\text{tx}_{i,j}^p$ on behalf of $\gamma_i.\text{sender}$ and add it to $\text{paySig}(\text{pid}, \text{tx}_{i,j}^p)$.
 - 2) send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{setup}, \bar{\gamma}_i, \text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}, \{(\text{tx}_{i,j}^p, \sigma_{\gamma_i.\text{sender}}(\text{tx}_{i,j}^p))\}_{j \in [1,n]}) \xrightarrow{\tau} \gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ on behalf of $\gamma_i.\text{sender}$.
- Upon $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{setup-ok}) \xrightarrow{\tau+1} \gamma_j.\text{receiver}$ on behalf of P_i , where P_i is honest and $\gamma_j.\text{receiver}$ is corrupted, send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{setup-finalized}, P_i, \gamma_j.\text{receiver}) \xrightarrow{\tau+1} \mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$

Confirmation phase

- Upon $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{send-sig}, \gamma_i.\text{sender}, \gamma_j.\text{receiver}, \text{tx}_j^{\text{ep}}) \xrightarrow{\tau} \mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$, where $\gamma_i.\text{sender}$ is honest but $\gamma_j.\text{receiver}$ is corrupted, sign tx_j^{ep} on behalf of $\gamma_i.\text{sender}$ and send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{confirmation}, \sigma_{\gamma_i.\text{sender}}(\text{tx}_j^{\text{ep}})) \xrightarrow{\tau} \gamma_j.\text{receiver}$.
- Upon $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{confirmation}, \sigma_{\gamma_j.\text{sender}}(\text{tx}_i^{\text{ep}})) \xrightarrow{\tau} \gamma_j.\text{sender}$ is received on behalf of $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$, where $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ is honest and $\gamma_j.\text{sender}$ is corrupted, check if all signatures are valid, send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{confirmation-acc}, \gamma_i.\text{receiver}, \gamma_j.\text{sender}) \xrightarrow{\tau} \mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$.
- Upon $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{send-confirmation-ok}, P_i, P_j) \xrightarrow{\tau} \mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$, where P_i is honest and P_j is corrupted, send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{confirmation-ok}) \xrightarrow{\tau+1} P_j$ on behalf of P_i .
- Upon $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{confirmation-ok}) \xrightarrow{\tau} \gamma_j.\text{receiver}$ is received on behalf of an honest party P_i , where $\gamma_j.\text{receiver}$ is corrupted, send $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{confirmation-finalized}, P_i, \gamma_i.\text{receiver}) \xrightarrow{\tau} \mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$.
- Upon $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{agg-sig}, \{\text{tx}_j^{\text{ep}}\}_{j \in [1,n]}, \mathcal{S}) \xrightarrow{\tau} \mathcal{X}$, for each tx_j^{ep} , sign the transaction on behalf of all honest $P_i \in \mathcal{S}$ and add $\sigma_{P_i}(\text{tx}_j^{\text{ep}})$ to $\text{enableSig}(\text{pid}, \text{tx}_j^{\text{ep}})$

Finalizing phase

- Upon $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{post-txep}, \bar{\gamma}_i, \text{tx}_i^{\text{ep}}) \xrightarrow{\tau} \mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ where $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ is a honest:
 - 1) Sign tx_i^{ep} on behalf of $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ and add the signature to $\text{enableSig}(\text{pid}, \text{tx}_i^{\text{ep}})$
 - 2) Set $\bar{\text{tx}}_i^{\text{ep}} := (\text{tx}_i^{\text{ep}}, \text{enableSig}(\text{pid}, \text{tx}_i^{\text{ep}}))$.
 - 3) Send $(\text{ssid}_L, \text{POST}, \bar{\text{tx}}_i^{\text{ep}}) \xrightarrow{\tau} \mathcal{G}_{\text{ledger}}$.

Respond phase

- Upon $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{post-pay}, \bar{\gamma}_i, \text{tx}_{i,j}^p) \xrightarrow{\tau} \mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$, where $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ is honest:
 - 1) Sign $\text{tx}_{i,j}^p$ on behalf of $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ and add the signature to $\text{paySig}(\text{pid}, \text{tx}_{i,j}^p)$.
 - 2) Set $\bar{\text{tx}}_{i,j}^p := (\text{tx}_{i,j}^p, \text{paySig}(\text{pid}, \text{tx}_{i,j}^p))$.
 - 3) Send $(\text{ssid}_L, \text{POST}, \bar{\text{tx}}_{i,j}^p) \xrightarrow{\tau+t_c} \mathcal{G}_{\text{ledger}}$.
- Upon $(\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{post-refund}, \bar{\gamma}_i, \text{tx}_i^f) \xrightarrow{\tau} \mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ where $\gamma_i.\text{sender}$ is honest:
 - 1) Sign tx_i^f on behalf of $\gamma_i.\text{sender}$ and set $\bar{\text{tx}}_i^f := (\text{tx}_i^f, \sigma_{\gamma_i.\text{sender}}(\text{tx}_i^f))$.
 - 2) Send $(\text{ssid}_L, \text{POST}, \bar{\text{tx}}_i^f) \xrightarrow{\tau+t_c} \mathcal{G}_{\text{ledger}}$.

Now, we show that in the view of the environment \mathcal{E} , a transcript resulted from interactions between the simulator \mathcal{X} and the ideal functionality $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ is indistinguishable from a transcript resulted from a execution of the protocol Π in the presence of the adversary \mathcal{A} . Formally, we want to show that $\text{EXEC}_{\Pi, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{E}}$ and $\text{EXEC}_{\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}, \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{E}}$ are indistinguishable.

Our protocol Π and ideal functionality $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ both are executed in six phases: *Initialization*, *Pre-Setup*, *Setup*, *Confirmation*, *Finalize*, and *Respond*. For each phase separately, we show how the ideal world and the real world are indistinguishable for the environment.

In our description, we write $m[\tau]$ to denote that message m is observed at round τ . In other meaning, τ is the receiving round for message m (not the round it is sent). Moreover, sometimes we interact with ideal functionalities such as $\mathcal{F}_{\text{channel}}$ and $\mathcal{G}_{\text{ledger}}$. These functionalities in turn interact with either the environment \mathcal{E} or other parties, who are possibly under adversarial, either by sending messages or additional impacts on publicly observable variables, i.e., the ledger \mathcal{L} . To capture this, we define $\text{obsSet}(m, \mathcal{F}, \tau)$ as the set of all observable messages which are triggered by calling \mathcal{F} with message m in round τ .

Lemma 1. *The initialization phase of protocol Π GUC-emulates the initialization phase of the functionality $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$.*

Proof. Let τ be the starting round. Note that in the real world environment controls \mathcal{A} , and therefore, all corrupted parties. For better readability we define following messages that are used for *Initialization* phase in $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ and Π .

- $m_0 := (\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{INIT-CHECK}, \{\gamma_i\}_{i \in [1,n]})$
- $m_1 := (\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{INIT-CHECKED}, \{\gamma_j\}_{j \in [1,n]})$
- $m_2 := (\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{CHANNELS-SET}, \{\gamma_i\}_{i \in [1,n]})$
- $m_3 := (\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{init}, \{\gamma_i\}_{i \in [1,n]})$
- $m_4 := (\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{init-ok})$
- $m_5 := (\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{send-init}, \{\gamma_j\}_{j \in [1,n]}, \text{dealer})$
- $m_6 := (\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{send-check}, \{\gamma_i\}_{i \in [1,n]}, P_i)$
- $m_7 := (\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{send-init-ok}, \{\gamma_j\}_{j \in [1,n]}, P_i)$
- $m_8 := (\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{init-acc}, P_i, P_j)$

For each participant P_i , we compare messages that \mathcal{E} receives from this party and the trigger party dealer in the ideal world and the real world. The types of the messages depends on corruption cases for P_i and dealer. Note that messages from corrupted parties to \mathcal{E} are not considered, because the environment is communicating with itself, which is trivially the same in the ideal and the real world.

Case 1: P_i honest, dealer honest

Real world: \mathcal{E} receives m_3 from dealer in round $\tau + 1$ on behalf of all corrupted parties. Moreover, \mathcal{E} receives m_0 from P_i , which contains the set of all channels in round $\tau + 1$. If P_i gets m_1 from \mathcal{E} in the response, then \mathcal{E} receives m_4 from P_i on behalf of all corrupted parties in round $\tau + 2$.

$$\text{EXEC}_{\Pi, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{E}} := \{m_3[\tau + 1], m_0[\tau + 1], m_4[\tau + 2]\}$$

Ideal world: $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ sends m_5 to the simulator, which in turn, \mathcal{X} sends m_3 on behalf on dealer to all corrupted parties in round τ . Moreover, $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ sends m_0 on behalf of P_i to \mathcal{E} in round τ . Upon this message is replied by m_1 from \mathcal{E} , $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ sends m_7 to the simulator. After receiving this message, \mathcal{X} sends m_4 to all corrupted parties on behalf of P_i in round $\tau + 1$, which is received by \mathcal{E} .

$$\text{EXEC}_{\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}, \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{E}} := \{m_3[\tau + 1], m_0[\tau + 1], m_4[\tau + 2]\}$$

Case 2: P_i honest, dealer corrupted

Real world: Because dealer is corrupted, we do not need to consider messages from dealer to \mathcal{E} . Other received message are similar to the previous case.

$$\text{EXEC}_{\Pi, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{E}} := \{m_0[\tau + 1], m_4[\tau + 2]\}$$

Ideal world: No longer \mathcal{X} is required to send m_3 on behalf of dealer to \mathcal{E} . Simulation of the behavior of P_i is done same as the previous case.

$$\text{EXEC}_{\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}, \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{E}} := \{m_0[\tau + 1], m_4[\tau + 2]\}$$

Case 3: P_i corrupted, dealer honest

Real world: We do not to consider messages sent from P_i . \mathcal{E} receives m_3 From dealer on behalf of all corrupted parties.

$$\text{EXEC}_{\Pi, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{E}} := \{m_3[\tau + 1]\}$$

Ideal world: $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ sends m_5 to the simulator, which in turn, \mathcal{X} sends m_3 to all corrupted parties who are under the control of \mathcal{E} .

$$\text{EXEC}_{\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}, \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{E}} := \{m_3[\tau + 1]\}$$

Lemma 2. *The pre-setup phase of protocol Π GUC-emulates the pre-setup phase of the functionality $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$.*

Proof. Again we compare observed messages by \mathcal{E} in the ideal world and the real world. Let τ be the starting round, and consider the following definitions for all messages that are used for *Pre-Setup* phase in $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ and Π .

- $m_9 := (\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{pre-setup}, \text{tx}_i^{\text{ep}})$
- $m_{10} := (\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{presetup-req}, \gamma_i, \text{tx}_i^{\text{ep}})$
- $m_{11} := (\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{send-presetup}, \text{tx}_i^{\text{ep}}, \gamma_i.\text{receiver}, P_j)$
- $m_{12} := (\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{presetup-acc}, P_i, P_j)$

In this phase, for each channel γ_i , \mathcal{E} receives message only from $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$, so we should consider only one case. The case that $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ is honest.

Real world: $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ creates tx_i^{in} and tx_i^{ep} and sends m_9 to all other parties, so this message is received by \mathcal{E} on behalf of all corrupted parties in round $\tau + 1$.

$$\text{EXEC}_{\Pi, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{E}} := \{m_9[\tau + 1]\}$$

Ideal world: $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ first creates tx_i^{in} and tx_i^{ep} transactions for each channel γ_i . Then, $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ sends m_{11} to the simulator for all corrupted parties P_j . When \mathcal{X} receives this message, sends m_9 to the all corrupted parties on behalf of $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$. The messages are received by \mathcal{E} in round $\tau + 1$.

$$\text{EXEC}_{\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}, \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{E}} := \{m_9[\tau + 1]\}$$

Lemma 3. *The setup phase of protocol Π GUC-emulates the setup phase of the functionality $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$.*

Proof. Again we compare observed messages by \mathcal{E} in the ideal world and the real world. Let τ be the starting round, and consider the following definitions for all messages that are used for *Setup* phase in $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ and Π .

- $m_{13} := (\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{REQ-VALUE}, \gamma_i)$
- $m_{14} := (\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{VALUE}, \bar{\gamma}_i, \alpha_i)$
- $m_{15} := (\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{setup}, \bar{\gamma}_i, \text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}, \{(\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{p}}, \sigma_{\gamma_i.\text{sender}}(\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{p}}))\}_{j \in [1,n]})$
- $m_{16} := (\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{setup-ok})$
- $m_{17} := (\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{send-setup}, \bar{\gamma}_i, \text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}, \{(\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{p}}, \sigma_{\gamma_i.\text{sender}}(\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{p}}))\}_{j \in [1,n]})$

- $m_{18} := (\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{setup-acc}, \bar{\gamma}_i, \text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}, \{\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{p}}\}_{j \in [1,n]})$
- $m_{19} := (\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{send-setup-ok}, \gamma_i.\text{receiver}, P_j)$
- $m_{20} := (\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{setup-finalized}, P_i, P_j)$

In this phase, for each channel γ_i , both the sender and the receiver have interactions with the environment. We need to consider different corruption cases for these parties except the case that both of them are corrupted.

Case 1: $\gamma_i.\text{sender}$ honest, $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ honest

Real world: $\gamma_i.\text{sender}$ sends m_{13} to \mathcal{E} in round τ . Upon this message is replied by m_{14} , $\gamma_i.\text{sender}$ generates $\text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}$, tx_i^{r} , and the set $\{\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{p}}\}_{j \in [1,n]}$. Then she sends m_{15} to $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$. When $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ gets this message, first asks \mathcal{E} about the payment value via message m_{13} in round $\tau + 1$. Upon this message is replied by m_{14} , $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ checks validity of the transactions inside received m_{15} , and then sends m_{16} to all other parties, which is received by \mathcal{E} on behalf of corrupted parties in round $\tau + 2$. Note that two m_{13} messages are received by \mathcal{E} in different rounds. One from the sender and one from the receiver.

$$\text{EXEC}_{\Pi, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{E}} := \{m_{13}[\tau], m_{13}[\tau + 1], m_{16}[\tau + 2]\}$$

Ideal world: $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ sends m_{13} to \mathcal{E} on behalf of $\gamma_i.\text{sender}$ in round τ . After receiving the response m_{14} , $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ creates $\text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}$, tx_i^{r} , and the set $\{\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{p}}\}_{j \in [1,n]}$. Again, $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ sends m_{15} to \mathcal{E} this time on behalf of $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ in round $\tau + 1$. After receiving the response, $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ sends m_{19} to the simulator, which in turn, \mathcal{X} sends m_{16} to all corrupted parties, which is received in round $\tau + 2$.

$$\text{EXEC}_{\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}, \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{E}} := \{m_{13}[\tau], m_{13}[\tau + 1], m_{16}[\tau + 2]\}$$

Case 2: $\gamma_i.\text{sender}$ honest, $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ corrupted

Real world: In this case, we only consider messages that are sent from the sender. Similar to the previous case, $\gamma_i.\text{sender}$ sends m_{13} to \mathcal{E} in round τ , and waits for the response m_{14} . Then she generates $\text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}$, tx_i^{r} , and the set $\{\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{p}}\}_{j \in [1,n]}$ and sends m_{15} to $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$. This time the message m_{15} is observed by \mathcal{E} in round $\tau + 1$. because the receiver is corrupted.

$$\text{EXEC}_{\Pi, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{E}} := \{m_{13}[\tau], m_{15}[\tau + 1]\}$$

Ideal world: Similar to the previous case, $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ sends m_{13} to \mathcal{E} on behalf of $\gamma_i.\text{sender}$ in round τ . After receiving the response m_{14} , $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ creates $\text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}$, tx_i^{r} , and the set $\{\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{p}}\}_{j \in [1,n]}$. This time $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ sends m_{17} to the simulator, which in turn, \mathcal{X} sends m_{15} to the corrupted receiver in round τ .

$$\text{EXEC}_{\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}, \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{E}} := \{m_{13}[\tau], m_{15}[\tau + 1]\}$$

Case 3: $\gamma_i.\text{sender}$ corrupted, $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ honest

Real world: In this case, we only consider messages that are sent from the receiver. At first, When $\gamma_i.\text{receiver}$ gets m_{15} message from the sender, sends m_{13} to \mathcal{E} to get the payment value in round $\tau + 1$. Then, this party after receiving the response from \mathcal{E} , checks the validity of the transactions inside m_{15} . Finally, she sends m_{16} to all other parties, which received by \mathcal{E} on behalf of corrupted parties in round $\tau + 2$.

$$\text{EXEC}_{\Pi, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{E}} := \{m_{13}[\tau + 1], m_{16}[\tau + 2]\}$$

Ideal world: \mathcal{X} gets transactions $\text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}$, and the set $\{(\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{p}}, \sigma_{\gamma_i.\text{sender}}(\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{p}}))\}_{j \in [1,n]}$ from \mathcal{A} and sends them to

\mathcal{F}_{update} via m_{18} if they are correct. \mathcal{F}_{update} sends m_{13} to \mathcal{E} this time on behalf of γ_i .receiver in round $\tau+1$. If this message is reponed by \mathcal{E} with m_{14} , \mathcal{F}_{update} checks correctness of $\text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}$ received from the simulator. \mathcal{F}_{update} sends m_{19} to the simulator, which in turn, \mathcal{X} sends m_{16} to all corrupted parties in round $\tau + 1$.

$$\text{EXEC}_{\mathcal{F}_{update}, \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{E}} := \{m_{13}[\tau + 1], m_{16}[\tau + 2]\}$$

Lemma 4. *The confirmation phase of protocol Π GUC-emulates the confirmation phase of the functionality \mathcal{F}_{update} .*

Proof. Again we compare observed messages by \mathcal{E} in the ideal world and the real world. Let τ be the starting round, and consider the following definitions for all messages that are used for *Confirmation* phase in \mathcal{F}_{update} and Π .

- $m_{21} := (\text{ssid}_C, \text{UPDATE}, \bar{\gamma}_i.\text{id}, \text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}.\text{output})$
- $m_{22} := (\text{ssid}_C, \text{UPDATED}, \bar{\gamma}_i.\text{id}, \text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}.\text{output})$
- $m_{23} := (\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{confirmation}, \sigma_{\gamma_i.\text{sender}}(\text{tx}_j^{\text{ep}}))$
- $m_{24} := (\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{OPENED}, \bar{\gamma}_i)$
- $m_{25} := (\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{confirmation-ok})$
- $m_{26} := (\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{send-sig}, \gamma_i.\text{sender}, \gamma_j.\text{receiver}, \text{tx}_j^{\text{ep}})$
- $m_{27} := (\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{confirmation-acc}, \gamma_i.\text{receiver}, \gamma_j.\text{sender})$
- $m_{28} := (\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{send-confirmation-ok}, \gamma_i.\text{receiver}, P_j)$
- $m_{29} := (\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{confirmation-finalized}, P_i, P_j)$
- $m_{30} := (\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{agg-sig}, \{\text{tx}_j^{\text{ep}}\}_{j \in [1, n]}, \mathcal{S})$

For each channel γ_i , both the sender and the receiver send messages to \mathcal{E} . We need to consider different corruption cases for these parties except the case that both of them are corrupted.

Case 1: γ_i .sender honest, γ_i .receiver honest

Real world: γ_i .sender sends m_{21} to $\mathcal{F}_{channel}$ in round τ to update the state of $\bar{\gamma}_i$ using $\text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}$. If the update is executed correctly, γ_i .sender sends m_{23} to each receiver. This message is received by \mathcal{E} in behalf of each corrupted receiver in round $\tau+t_u+1$. Again, if the update is executed correctly, γ_i .receiver waits until receiving signatures to tx_i^{ep} from all senders. Then, she sends m_{24} to \mathcal{E} in round $\tau+t_u+1$. Also, after verifying all signatures, she sends m_{25} messages to all parties, which are received by \mathcal{E} on behalf of corrupted parties in round $\tau+t_u+2$.

$$\text{EXEC}_{\Pi, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{E}} := \{m_{23}[\tau + t_u + 1], m_{24}[\tau + t_u + 1], m_{25}[\tau + t_u + 2]\} \cup \text{obsSet}(m_{21}, \mathcal{F}_{channel}, \tau)$$

Ideal world: \mathcal{F}_{update} sends m_{21} message to $\mathcal{F}_{channel}$. If the update is executed correctly, \mathcal{F}_{update} via message m_{26} , asks \mathcal{X} to generate a signature to each tx_j^{ep} on behalf of γ_i .sender and sends it to the corresponding receiver if the receiver is corrupted. This is done via message m_{23} which is received by \mathcal{E} in round $\tau + t_u + 1$. Moreover, \mathcal{F}_{update} sends m_{24} to \mathcal{E} in round $\tau + t_u + 1$ and m_{28} to the simulator, which in turn, \mathcal{X} sends m_{25} on behalf of γ_i .receiver to all corrupted parties, which is received by \mathcal{E} in round $\tau + t_u + 2$.

$$\text{EXEC}_{\mathcal{F}_{update}, \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{E}} := \{m_{23}[\tau + t_u + 1], m_{24}[\tau + t_u + 1], m_{25}[\tau + t_u + 2]\} \cup \text{obsSet}(m_{21}, \mathcal{F}_{channel}, \tau)$$

Case 2: γ_i .sender honest, γ_i .receiver corrupted

Real world: In this case, we only consider messages that are sent from the sender. γ_i .sender sends m_{21} to $\mathcal{F}_{channel}$ in round τ . If the update is executed correctly, she sends m_{23} to

each receiver. This message is received by \mathcal{E} in behalf of each corrupted receiver in round $\tau + t_u + 1$.

$$\text{EXEC}_{\Pi, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{E}} := \{m_{23}[\tau + t_u + 1]\} \cup \text{obsSet}(m_{21}, \mathcal{F}_{channel}, \tau)$$

Ideal world: Again, \mathcal{F}_{update} sends m_{21} message to $\mathcal{F}_{channel}$ and if the update is executed correctly, \mathcal{F}_{update} sends m_{26} to \mathcal{X} to generate a signature to each tx_j^{ep} on behalf of γ_i .sender. Then \mathcal{X} sends it to the corresponding receiver if she is corrupted via message m_{23} in round $\tau + t_u$.

$$\text{EXEC}_{\mathcal{F}_{update}, \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{E}} := \{m_{23}[\tau + t_u + 1]\} \cup \text{obsSet}(m_{21}, \mathcal{F}_{channel}, \tau)$$

Case 3: γ_i .sender corrupted, γ_i .receiver honest

Real world: In this case, we only consider messages that are sent from the receiver. If the update is executed correctly, γ_i .receiver verifies received signatures to tx_i^{ep} from all senders, sends m_{24} to \mathcal{E} in round $\tau + t_u + 1$, and sends m_{25} messages to all parties in round $\tau + t_u + 2$.

$$\text{EXEC}_{\Pi, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{E}} := \{m_{24}[\tau + t_u + 1], m_{25}[\tau + t_u + 2]\}$$

Ideal world: \mathcal{X} receives signatures from a corrupted sender. If the signature is valid \mathcal{X} sends m_{27} to \mathcal{F}_{update} . If the update is already executed correctly, then \mathcal{F}_{update} sends m_{24} to \mathcal{E} in round $\tau + t_u + 1$. Moreover, sends m_{28} to the simulator, which in turn, \mathcal{X} sends m_{25} on behalf of γ_i .receiver to all corrupted parties in round $\tau + t_u + 1$.

$$\text{EXEC}_{\mathcal{F}_{update}, \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{E}} := \{m_{24}[\tau + t_u + 1], m_{25}[\tau + t_u + 2]\}$$

Lemma 5. *The finalizing phase of protocol Π GUC-emulates the finalizing phase of the functionality \mathcal{F}_{update} .*

Proof. Again we compare observed messages by \mathcal{E} in the ideal world and the real world. Let τ be the starting round, and consider the following definitions for all messages that are used for *Confirmation* phase in \mathcal{F}_{update} and Π .

- $m_{31} := (\text{ssid}_C, \text{UPDATE}, \bar{\gamma}_i.\text{id}, \text{tx}_i^{\text{trans}}.\text{output})$
- $m_{32} := (\text{ssid}_C, \text{UPDATED}, \bar{\gamma}_i.\text{id}, \text{tx}_i^{\text{trans}}.\text{output})$
- $m_{33} := (\text{ssid}_L, \text{POST}, (\text{tx}_i^{\text{ep}}, \text{sigSet}))$
- $m_{34} := (\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{FINALIZED}, \bar{\gamma}_i)$
- $m_{35} := (\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{post-texp}, \bar{\gamma}_i, \text{tx}_i^{\text{ep}})$

For each channel γ_i , both the sender and the receiver send messages to \mathcal{E} . We need to consider different corruption cases for these parties except the case that both of them are corrupted.

Case 1: γ_i .sender honest, γ_i .receiver honest

Real world: γ_i .sender generates tx_i^{in} , which transfers α_i coins from the sender to the receiver. Then, sends m_{31} to $\mathcal{F}_{channel}$ in round τ . If the update fails, the receiver sends m_{33} to \mathcal{G}_{ledger} in round $\tau + t_u$ and post tx_i^{ep} to the ledger. Finally, γ_i .receiver sends m_{34} to \mathcal{E} in round $\tau + t_u$.

$$\text{EXEC}_{\Pi, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{E}} := \{m_{34}[\tau + t_u]\} \cup \text{obsSet}(m_{31}, \mathcal{F}_{channel}, \tau) \cup \text{obsSet}(m_{33}, \mathcal{G}_{ledger}, \tau + t_u)$$

Ideal world: \mathcal{F}_{update} generates tx_i^{in} and updates the channel γ_i via sending m_{31} to $\mathcal{F}_{channel}$ in round τ . After the update execution, \mathcal{F}_{update} sends m_{34} to \mathcal{E} in round $\tau + t_u$ and on behalf of the receiver. If the update fails, \mathcal{F}_{update} sends m_{35} to \mathcal{X} and asks it to post tx_i^{ep} on the ledger via message m_{33} to \mathcal{G}_{ledger} in round $\tau + t_u$ on behalf of γ_i .receiver.

$$\text{EXEC}_{\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}, \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{E}} := \{m_{34}[\tau + t_u]\} \cup \text{obsSet}(m_{31}, \mathcal{F}_{\text{channel}}, \tau) \cup \text{obsSet}(m_{33}, \mathcal{G}_{\text{ledger}}, \tau + t_u)$$

Case 2: γ_i .sender honest, γ_i .receiver corrupted

Real world: In this case, we ignore messages that are sent directly from the receiver to \mathcal{E} . γ_i .sender generates tx_i^{in} , and sends m_{33} to $\mathcal{F}_{\text{channel}}$ to update the channel.

$$\text{EXEC}_{\Pi, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{E}} := \text{obsSet}(m_{33}, \mathcal{F}_{\text{channel}}, \tau)$$

Ideal world: $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ generates tx_i^{in} and updates the channel γ_i via sending m_{33} to $\mathcal{F}_{\text{channel}}$ in round τ .

$$\text{EXEC}_{\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}, \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{E}} := \text{obsSet}(m_{33}, \mathcal{F}_{\text{channel}}, \tau)$$

Case 3: γ_i .sender corrupted, γ_i .receiver honest

Real world: In this case, we only consider messages that are sent from the receiver. γ_i .receiver waits until time $\tau + t_u$. If message m_{32} is received in this round, the final transfer has been performed, so γ_i .receiver sends m_{34} to \mathcal{E} . If m_{32} is not received and the update fails, sends m_{33} to $\mathcal{G}_{\text{ledger}}$ in round $\tau + t_u$.

$$\text{EXEC}_{\Pi, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{E}} := \{m_{34}[\tau + t_u]\} \cup \text{obsSet}(m_{33}, \mathcal{G}_{\text{ledger}}, \tau + t_u)$$

Ideal world: $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ waits until receiving m_{32} from $\mathcal{F}_{\text{channel}}$. If this happens, the update is executed and $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ sends m_{34} to \mathcal{E} on behalf of the receiver in round $\tau + t_u$. Otherwise, $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ sends m_{35} to \mathcal{X} and asks it to send m_{33} to $\mathcal{G}_{\text{ledger}}$ on behalf of the receiver.

$$\text{EXEC}_{\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}, \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{E}} := \{m_{34}[\tau + t_u]\} \cup \text{obsSet}(m_{33}, \mathcal{G}_{\text{ledger}}, \tau + t_u)$$

Lemma 6. *The respond phase of protocol Π GUC-emulates the respond phase of the functionality $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$.*

Proof. Again we compare observed messages by \mathcal{E} in the ideal world and the real world. Let τ be the starting round, and consider the following definitions for all messages that are used for *Confirmation* phase in $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ and Π .

- $m_{36} := (\text{ssid}_C, \text{CLOSE}, \overline{\gamma_i}, \text{id})$
- $m_{37} := (\text{ssid}_L, \text{POST}, \text{tx}_{i,j}^P)$
- $m_{38} := (\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{PAID}, \overline{\gamma_i})$
- $m_{39} := (\text{ssid}_L, \text{POST}, \overline{\text{tx}_i^f})$
- $m_{40} := (\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{FORCE-REFUND}, \overline{\gamma_i})$
- $m_{41} := (\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{post-pay}, \overline{\gamma_i}, \text{tx}_{i,j}^P)$
- $m_{42} := (\text{sid}, \text{pid}, \text{post-refund}, \overline{\gamma_i}, \text{tx}_i^f)$

For each channel γ_i , both the sender and the receiver send messages to \mathcal{E} independently. We consider cases that the parties are honest.

Case 1: γ_i .receiver honest, Pay

Real world: In every round, γ_i .receiver checks whether one of transactions in $\{\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{ep}}\}_{j \in [1,n]}$ is observed on the ledger and $\tau < T - t_c - 2\Delta$. If so, she closes the channel γ_i via message m_{36} to $\mathcal{F}_{\text{channel}}$. When the channel become closed and $\text{tx}_i^{\text{state}}$ is found on the ledger, γ_i .receiver waits time Δ , and then, post transaction $\text{tx}_{i,j}^P$, which forces the payment. This is done by sending m_{37} to $\mathcal{G}_{\text{ledger}}$. The receiver finally sends m_{38} to \mathcal{E} in round $\tau + t_c + 2\Delta$

$$\text{EXEC}_{\Pi, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{E}} := \{m_{38}[\tau + t_c + 2\Delta]\} \cup \text{obsSet}(m_{36}, \mathcal{F}_{\text{channel}}, \tau) \cup \text{obsSet}(m_{37}, \mathcal{G}_{\text{ledger}}, \tau + t_c + \Delta)$$

Ideal world: In every round, $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ checks if one of transactions in $\{\text{tx}_{i,j}^{\text{ep}}\}_{j \in [1,n]}$ is observed on the ledger and $\tau < T - t_c - 2\Delta$, sends m_{36} to $\mathcal{F}_{\text{channel}}$ to close the channel γ_i . After a successful closure, $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ after a time Δ , send m_{41} to the simulator. The \mathcal{X} aggregates signatures required for spending $\text{tx}_{i,j}^P$ and sends m_{37} to $\mathcal{G}_{\text{ledger}}$. When this transaction appears on the ledger, $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ sends m_{38} to \mathcal{E} .

$$\text{EXEC}_{\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}, \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{E}} := \{m_{38}[\tau + t_c + 2\Delta]\} \cup \text{obsSet}(m_{36}, \mathcal{F}_{\text{channel}}, \tau) \cup \text{obsSet}(m_{37}, \mathcal{G}_{\text{ledger}}, \tau + t_c + \Delta)$$

Case 2: γ_i .sender honest, Revoke

Real world: In every round, when τ is larger than T and channel γ_i has been closed, but not any payment transaction $\text{tx}_{i,j}^P$ is on the ledger, γ_i .sender signs tx_i^f and post it on the ledger via message m_{39} to $\mathcal{G}_{\text{ledger}}$. After observing tx_i^f on the ledger, γ_i .sender sends m_{40} to \mathcal{E} .

$$\text{EXEC}_{\Pi, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{E}} := \{m_{40}[\tau + \Delta]\} \cup \text{obsSet}(m_{39}, \mathcal{G}_{\text{ledger}}, \tau)$$

Ideal world: In every round, when τ is larger than T and channel γ_i has been closed, $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ sends m_{42} to the simulator, which in turn, \mathcal{X} sign tx_i^f on behalf of γ_i .sender and sends m_{39} to $\mathcal{G}_{\text{ledger}}$. When tx_i^f is observed on the ledger, $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ sends m_{40} to \mathcal{E} again on behalf of γ_i .sender.

$$\text{EXEC}_{\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}, \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{E}} := \{m_{40}[\tau + \Delta]\} \cup \text{obsSet}(m_{39}, \mathcal{G}_{\text{ledger}}, \tau)$$

Theorem 2. *For ideal functionalities $\mathcal{F}_{\text{channel}}$, $\mathcal{G}_{\text{clock}}$, \mathcal{F}_{GDC} , and $\mathcal{G}_{\text{ledger}}$ and for any $T, \Delta \in \mathbb{N}$, the protocol Π GUC-emulates the the functionality $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$.*

This theorem follows directly from Lemmas 1 to 6.

D. Discussion on security and privacy

In Section III-A we introduced the security and privacy goals of interest, atomicity and strong value privacy. In Section V-B we informally showed that the security and privacy goals are achieved by our construction. Further, in Appendix C4 we defined an ideal functionality $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ for multi-channel updates, and then we proved that the Thora protocol GUC-emulates the ideal functionality. In this section, formalize our security and privacy properties and then prove that $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ fulfills them.

1) *Atomicity:* For our multi-channel updates, let $U := \{(\gamma_i, \alpha_i)\}_{i \in [1,n]}$ be the set of updates. Each tuple (γ_i, α_i) contains a channel γ_i , which is going to be updated and a value α_i , which determines the payment value through that channel. For each channel γ_i , we define possible outcomes. We define γ_i as *successful*, if α_i coins have been transferred from the sender to the receiver. In other words, γ_i .balance(γ_i .sender) has been decreased by α_i and γ_i .balance(γ_i .receiver) has been increased by α_i at the end of the protocol execution. We define γ_i as *reverted*, if at the end of the protocol execution the channel balance is the same as before the start of the protocol execution. We define γ_i as *compensated*, if there is an honest node that receives the total channel balance via the channel punishment mechanism. For every other outcome, we say a channel is *invalid*.

Now, we define a security game $\text{Atom}_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi}$ as follows. The adversary \mathcal{A} selects a set of n channels $\{\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots, \gamma_n\}$,

chooses the corrupted users from the users of these channels, selects dealer and sends these values to the challenger. The challenger sets `sid` and `pid` to two random identifiers. With these parameters, the challenger starts simulating Thora from the *Initialization* phase on the input of the channels set for the given dealer. Behavior of honest parties can be simulated directly by the challenger, and every time that a corrupted party needs to be contacted, the challenger sends the query to \mathcal{A} , and waits for the corresponding answer. \mathcal{A} can respond correctly, wrongly, not at all, manipulate the ledger by posting (valid) transactions, try updating channels, etc.

After the protocol simulation terminates, we say that \mathcal{A} wins if one of the following cases holds after the execution.

- 1) There exists two channel γ_i, γ_j with only two honest channel users, such that one channel update was successful and one channel update was reverted.
- 2) Let $\{\gamma\}$ be the set of channels with one honest node and one corrupted node, which are not (i) γ .sender is honest and channel is reverted, not (ii) γ .receiver is honest and channel is successful, not (iii) compensated. The outcome of all the channels has to be the same $x \in \{\text{successful, reverted}\}$ and the same as the outcome $x \in \{\text{successful, reverted}\}$ of any channel with only honest nodes.
- 3) There exists any channel γ_i without two corrupted nodes such that γ_i is invalid or channel γ_j with two honest users such that γ_j is compensated.

Definition 2. We say that a multi-channel updates protocol achieves atomicity if for every PPT adversary \mathcal{A} , the adversary wins the $\text{Atom}_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi}$ game with negligible probability.

Theorem 3. *The multi-channel updates functionality $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ achieves atomicity property defined in Definition 3.*

Proof. Assume that there is an adversary \mathcal{A} that can win the game $\text{Atom}_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi}$, which implies that at least one of the three conditions (1), (2) or (3) from the game definitions holds.

If (1) holds, this means that there exist two honest channels where one was successful and one was reverted. This contradicts the ideal functionality description, which moves to the finalize phase for all honest channels or none of them. Similarly, should either a tx^{ep} appear on the ledger before T ends. Due to the second statement and the fact that γ_i .sender is honest, we have two possible scenarios. First, $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ has created $\text{tx}_i^{\text{trans}}$ in the *Finalizing* phase, and has updated the channel γ_i using $\text{tx}_i^{\text{trans}}$ successfully. Second, at least one tx_k^{ep} and $\text{tx}_{i,k}^{\text{p}}$ are on the ledger. In any other cases, $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ would wait until time T and refund coins to γ_i .sender using tx_i^{r} . So also for (2) the contrary holds. The ideal functionality will monitor behavior of corrupted parties. If the diverge from the execution of an honest channel, the ideal functionality will ensure that these channels are compensated or put them in a state that is beneficial to the honest parties. Finally, for (3), as we previously described the only possible outcomes the ideal functionality allows for channels with at least one honest

nodes, this cannot hold. It follows, that such an adversary does not exist.

2) *Strong value privacy:* For a protocol Π and an adversary \mathcal{A} , we define another game VPriv to capture the strong value privacy property. \mathcal{A} selects dealer, and chooses a set of n channels $\{\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots, \gamma_n\}$, where for each channel γ_i both γ_i .receiver and γ_i .sender are honest or semi-honest parties. In other words, corrupted parties involved in the protocol do not deviate from the protocol during the execution. The goal \mathcal{A} is to guess the payment values regarding the channels with both honest senders and honest receivers. \mathcal{A} has access to messages sent from honest parties to corrupted ones and publicly auditable parameters, like transactions posted to the ledger.

\mathcal{A} sends the set of channels to the challenger. The challenger sets `sid` and `pid` to two random identifiers. Then, the challenger starts simulating Thora from the *Initialization* phase on the input of the channels set for the given dealer. We assume that messages honest parties receive from \mathcal{E} about the payment values (`REQ-VALUE` messages) are not leaked to any other parties. Moreover, we assume the values \mathcal{E} sends to the receiver and the sender of a single channel are the same.

By the end of the protocol simulation, \mathcal{A} sends the set $\{\alpha'_{i_1}, \alpha'_{i_2}, \dots, \alpha'_{i_k}\}$ to the challenger, each α'_{i_j} is the guess of \mathcal{A} for the payment value in channel γ_{i_j} where both the sender and the receiver are honest. We say that \mathcal{A} wins the game if there is at least one $j \in [1, k]$ such that $\alpha'_{i_j} = \alpha_{i_j}$.

Definition 3. We say that a multi-channel updates protocol achieves strong value privacy if for every PPT adversary \mathcal{A} , the adversary wins the $\text{VPriv}_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi}$ game with negligible probability.

Theorem 4. *The multi-channel updates functionality $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ achieves the strong value privacy property.*

Proof. We assume that k is negligible with regard to the size of the domain which payment values can be chosen from. Thus, without any leaked information about payment values, the probability of the adversary winning the game is negligible.

Suppose that there is an adversary \mathcal{A} that can win the game $\text{VPriv}_{\mathcal{A}, \Pi}$ with a non-negligible probability. It means that there is a payment value α_{i_j} , where \mathcal{A} is able to extract some information about the value and guess α'_{i_j} , such that $\alpha'_{i_j} = \alpha_{i_j}$. The only ways to get information about α_{i_j} are the messages $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ sends to corrupted parties and transactions that are posted to the ledger.

α_{i_j} is encoded only in four types of transactions. $\text{tx}_{i_j}^{\text{state}}$, $\{\text{tx}_{i_j,k}^{\text{p}}\}_{k \in [1,n]}$, $\text{tx}_{i_j}^{\text{r}}$, and $\text{tx}_{i_j}^{\text{trans}}$. γ_{i_j} .sender is honest so all these transactions are created by $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$. $\text{tx}_{i_j}^{\text{r}}$ and $\text{tx}_{i_j}^{\text{trans}}$ are never sent to other parties inside exchanged messages. Moreover, because γ_{i_j} .receiver is honest, $\mathcal{F}_{\text{update}}$ will not send $\text{tx}_{i_j}^{\text{state}}$, $\text{tx}_{i_j,k}^{\text{p}}$ neither to γ_{i_j} .receiver nor other parties.

On the other hand, since all parties are honest or semi-honest and do not deviate from the protocol, we expect the final update using transaction $\text{tx}_{i_j}^{\text{trans}}$ to be executed successfully for all channels, and no tx^{ep} is required to be posted on

the ledger. Therefore, in the *respond* phase, $\text{tx}_{i_j}^{\text{state}}$, $\text{tx}_{i_j, k}^p$, or $\text{tx}_{i_j}^r$ are not required to be posted on the ledger, and \mathcal{A} has no way to observe these transactions.