Louis Tremblay Thibault

Privacy-Preserving Smart Contracts using FHE



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Zama is a cryptography company providing open source homomorphic encryption solutions for blockchain and AI.

Agenda

- Quick introduction to FHE
- What FHE means for Blockchain
- How the fhEVM works
- Challenges and research avenues

Ζ

Fully Homomorphic Encryption (FHE) enables processing data blindly

Encryptor encrypts data **x** with its secret key



Encrypted data E[**x**] is sent to the server, who cannot decrypt it

> Evaluator computes **f**(E[**x**]) blindly, producing an encrypted response E[**f**(**x**)].

Encrypted response E[**f(x)**] is sent to the client, who can decrypt it Ζ

FHE enables encrypted data processing

More generally: f(E[x], ..., E[y]) = E[f(x, ..., y)]



E[x] + E[y] = E[x + y]E[x] < E[y] = E[x < y]

FHE is getting exponentially faster

FHE smart contracts are doable today, with a throughput of ~5 TPS. FHE hardware will enable 1,000+ tps at a fraction of the cost.



Zama FHE performance (Million FHE gates / \$)



custom hardware

2027

Onchain data is public by design, making it hard to build dapps that require confidentiality

Transactions Internal Txns		Erc20 Token Txns	Erc721 Token Txns Erc1155 Token Txns Analytics Comments				
J. Tatest 25 ERC-20 Token Transfer Events							
	Txn Hash	Age	From		То	Value	Token
۲	0x61bac8ed64cf49ff537	1 hr 8 mins ago	Uniswap V2: KCAL 2	IN	<>> vitalik.eth	2,500	Step.app (KCAL)
۲	0xd9f47a344e278579cb	1 hr 15 mins ago	Justin Sun	IN	♦ vitalik.eth	25,143,213.150843308745475521	Step.app (KCAL)
۲	0xdea02c32d141997aaa	12 hrs 57 mins ago	() plamer.eth	IN	() vitalik.eth	1	AssangeDAO (JUSTIC)
۲	0x74205c19a313ba8865	1 day 11 hrs ago	Uniswap V2: SEGA 3	IN	♦ vitalik.eth	227,158,544.808096280091774569	SEGA (SEGA)
۲	0xad5c19e1af6de6508e	2 days 20 hrs ago	0xad29c28a868c945caf9	IN	♦ vitalik.eth	21,420	O ERC-20 (BASTAR)
۲	0x1014024546d2e94f39	3 days 4 mins ago	Uniswap V2: ALIS 2	IN	♦ vitalik.eth	153,473.76198500365822856	O Acropolis DA (ALIS)
۲	0xbffdb2fcd52e96f136c7	3 days 24 mins ago	♦ vitalik.eth	OUT	OlympusDAO: DAO Funds	40,323.284453294043855726	O Acropolis DA (ALIS)
۲	0x6ac57444413cd7bbef	3 days 31 mins ago	Uniswap V2: ALIS 2	IN	♦ vitalik.eth	40,323.284453294043855726	O Acropolis DA (ALIS)
۲	0xb15136c85e15dd81b3	3 days 1 hr ago	ClympusDAO: DAO Funds	IN	♦ vitalik.eth	8,633.511805120159396357	O Acropolis DA (ALIS)
۲	0xa9749c78f8ed9da996	3 days 14 hrs ago	🖹 Uniswap V2: Bvlgari	IN	♦ vitalik.eth	3,853,058,515,307.2989734036202684	O ERC-20 (Bvlgar)
۲	0x27fe35a36a42bbed75	3 days 15 hrs ago	🖹 Uniswap V2: Bvlgari	IN	♦ vitalik.eth	3,652,123,857,386.0501562459646840	O ERC-20 (Bvlgar)

Ζ

This leads to many privacy issues





Criminals know what you own, so they can easily target you and steal your crypto.

Surveillance

Governments can surveil you, even if you use multiple addresses.







Bots can front-run you, creating a hidden tax on every transaction.

Zama's fhEVM enables confidential smart contracts using homomorphic encryption





Without compromising transparency and usability



Computation

Users can still know what contracts are doing.



Access Control

Contracts are free to implement their own access control logic.



Composability

It is easy to mix data from multiple users and compose smart contracts.

Zama's fhEVM unlocks new use cases



Tokenization

Manage and swap tokenized assets without other seeing it



Blind Auctions

Bid on items without revealing the amount or the winner



Confidential Voting

Prevents bribery and blackmailing by keeping votes private



Encrypted DIDs

Store identities onchain and generate attestations without ZK



Onchain Games

Hide cards and moves until reveal (e.g. poker, blackjack, ..)



Private Transfers

Keep balances and amounts private, without using mixers Ζ

Zama's fhEVII: an overview

Everything is encrypted under a single global FHE public key



The global key is generated securely using a threshold protocol



Threshold key generation



Ζ



pk



The inputs are simply encrypted using the global public FHE key



Certified ciphertext

Ζ



Computation is done locally by validators using homomorphic operations



Ζ



Values can be decrypted by validators using a threshold protocol



E(x)





Ζ



Χ



Values can also be re-encrypted to user public key using a threshold protocol



pk'



Ζ







Inside the fhEVM

Precompiled Smart Contract

• Calls out to Zama's FHE library (TFHE-rs)

• Prevent misuse by keeping track of honestly obtained ciphertexts

github.com/zama-ai/fhevm



Certified Ciphertexts

Developers can write confidential smart contracts without learning cryptography

contract EncryptedERC20 🚽

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// A mapping from address to an encrypted balance.
mapping(address => euint64) internal balances;

// Transfers an encrypted amount.
function transfer(address from, address to, euint64 amount) internal {
 // Make sure the sender has enough tokens.
 ebool has_enough_funds = TFHE.le(amount, balances[from]);

```
// Compute amount to actually transfer
euint64 amount_to_transfer = amount * TFHE.asEuint64(has_enough_funds);
```

```
// Add to the balance of `to` and subract from the balance of `from`.
balances[to] = balances[to] + amount_to_transfer;
balances[from] = balances[from] - amount_to_transfer;
```

```
// Returns the balance of the caller encrypted under the provided public key.
function balanceOf(
    address wallet,
    bytes32 publicKey,
    bytes calldata signature
) public view virtual onlySignedPublicKey(publicKey, signature) returns (bytes memory) {
    if (wallet == msg.sender) {
        return TFHE.reencrypt(balances[wallet], publicKey, 0);
    }
}
```

Solidity Integration

fhEVM contracts are simple solidity contracts that are built using traditional solidity toolchains.

Simple DevX

Developers can use the euint data types to mark which part of their contracts should be private.

Programmable Privacy

All the logic for access control of encrypted states is defined by developers in their smart contracts. Ζ

Challenges and research avenues

Technical challenges and research avenues



- What would an optimistic or validity FHE rollup look like?
- What about hybrid rollups?



- How to incentivize MPC parties not to collude?
- Can TEEs be used to prevent collusion?

arxiv.org/abs/2301.07041 ia.cr/2024/451



• How does MEV look like on an encrypted blockchain?

Zama's Bounty and Grant Program Build FHE applications to tackle real-world privacy challenges using Zama's suite of libraries

All info: https://github.com/zama-ai/bounty-and-grant-program



Ζ

Try the fhEVM yourself today



Documentation



Github



White Paper

Ζ

Zama is hiring

Join us in making protecting privacy easy.

-> jobs.zama.ai







@louis_tttt

zama.ai

github.com/zama-ai

@zama_fhe

