

# Analyzing DApps: from Extraction to Visualization

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## Context

Decentralized Applications (DApps) expanded among several domains and they use **smart contracts to encode and execute business logic**

Ensuring the **correctness of smart contract behaviour is crucial** as logical flaws or undesired situations may occur

Many approaches focus on **verifying the implementation of smart contracts** by analysing data obtained before their deployment, such as source code or bytecode

# Smart Contract Execution Analysis

Smart contracts have been the subject of many **high-profile exploitation** that differently from code vulnerabilities, **cannot be detected during the development**

## Logical Flaws in Design

- Incorrect assumptions
- Unhandled edge cases

## Behavioral Analysis

- Centralization
- Token velocity

## Exploits

- Flash loans
- Market manipulation

Smart contract execution generates **on-chain data** can reveal novel perspectives during **analysis and monitoring activities**

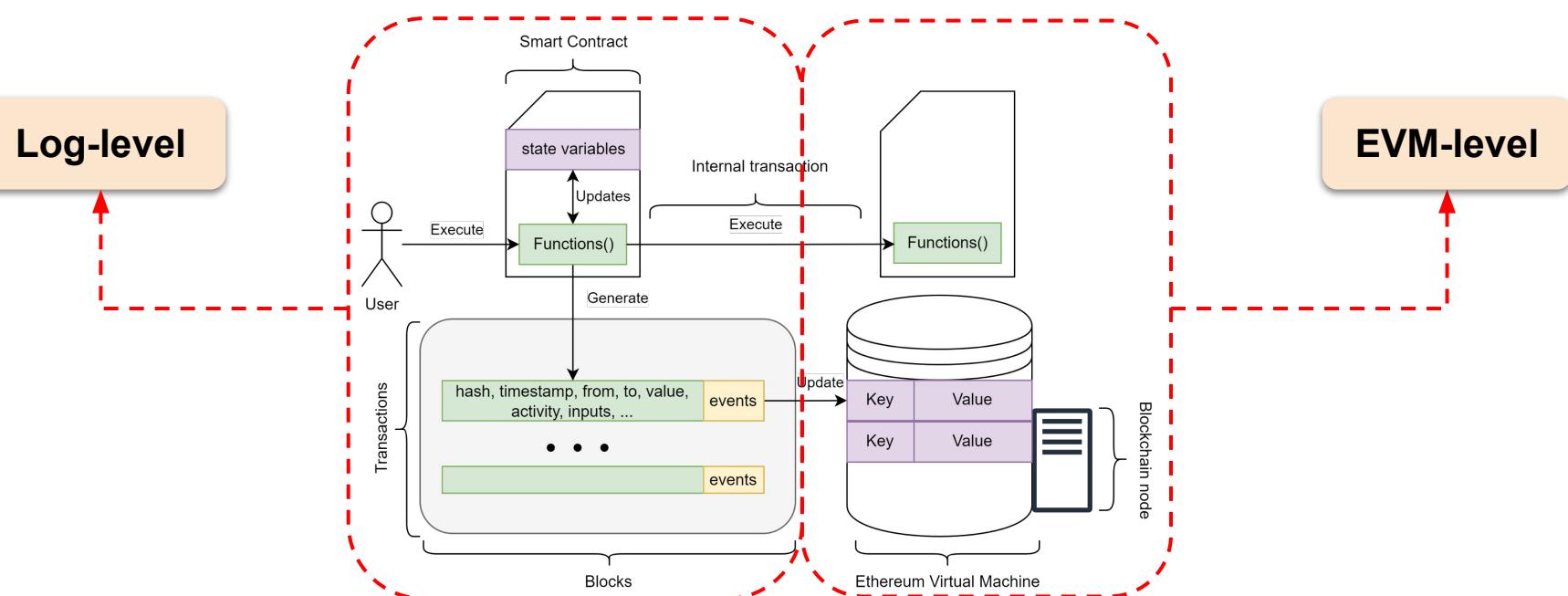
# Contribution

We propose a **framework supporting the analysis of decentralized applications** leveraging execution data [1]

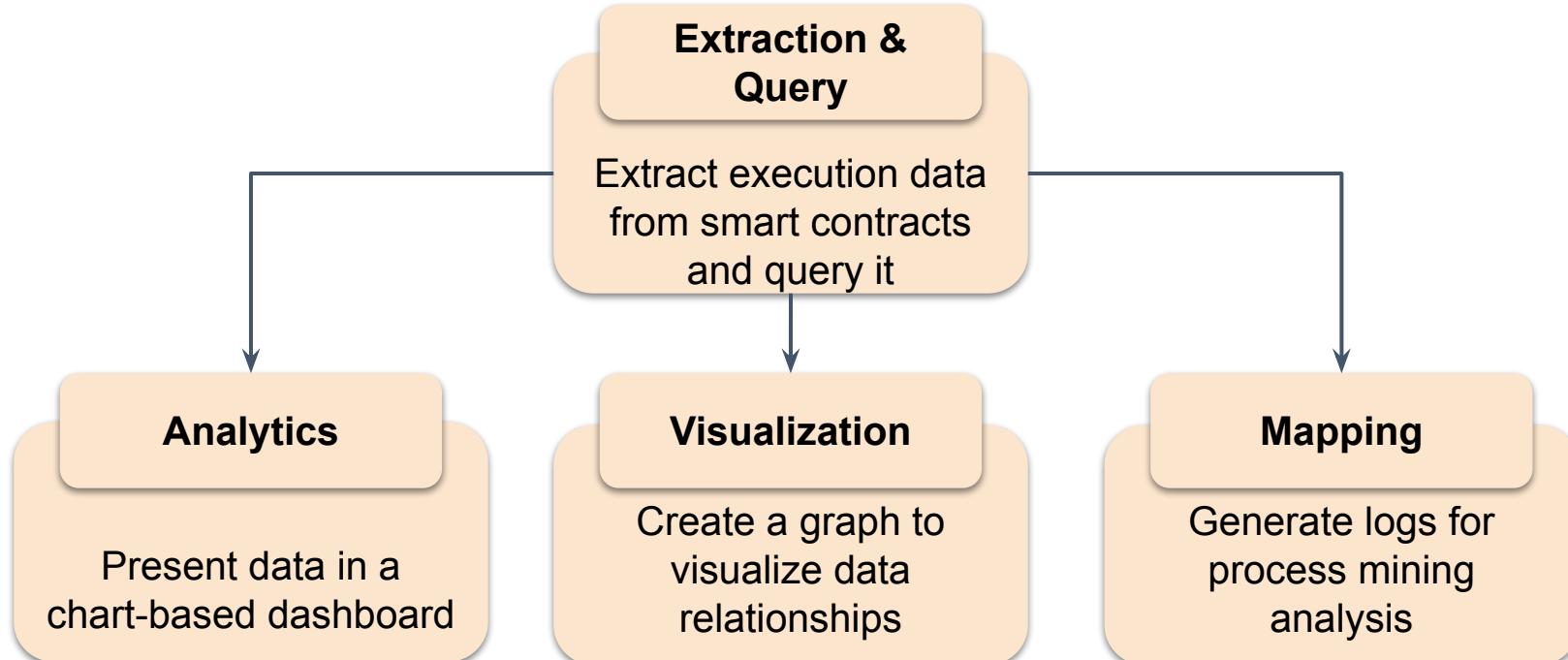
## Key benefits:

1. **extraction of execution data**
2. clear and intuitive **understanding of interactions** among dapps smart contracts
3. **All-in-one tool** accessible without requiring technical skills

# Smart Contract Execution Data

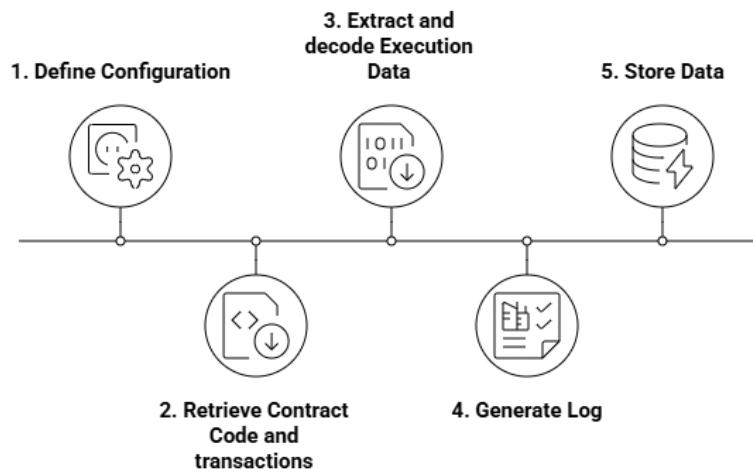
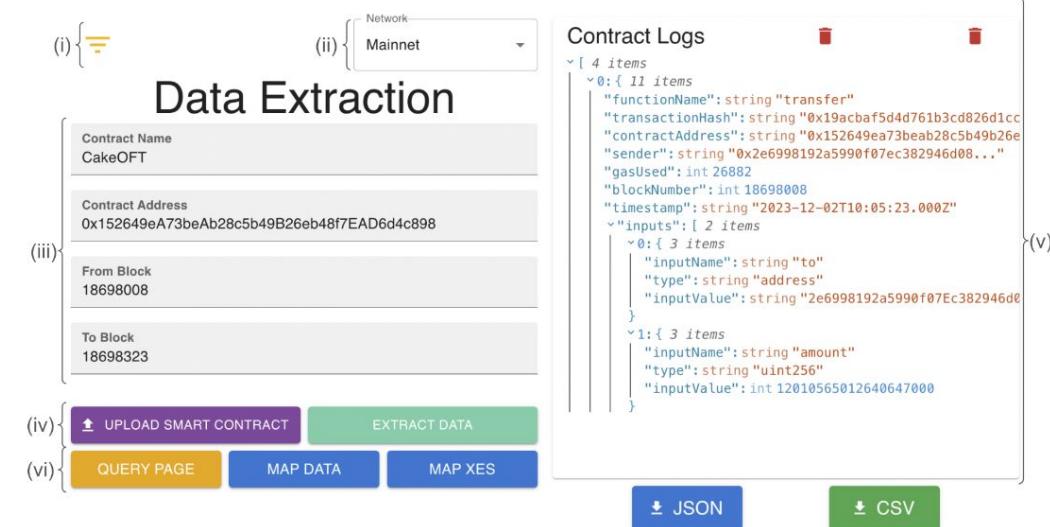


# The Framework Modules



# Extraction and Query Modules

The modules [2] automates the collection, decoding, and storage of smart contract execution data, making it accessible for analysis

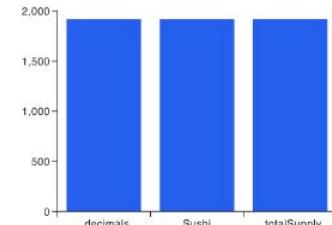
The interface consists of two main sections:

- Data Extraction** (Left):
  - (i) Network dropdown: Mainnet
  - (ii) Form fields:
    - Contract Name: CakeOFT
    - Contract Address: 0x152649eA73beAb28c5b49B26eb48f7EAD6d4c898
    - From Block: 18698008
    - To Block: 18698323
  - (iii) Buttons: UPLOAD SMART CONTRACT, EXTRACT DATA
  - (iv) Buttons: QUERY PAGE, MAP DATA, MAP XES
- Contract Logs** (Right):
  - (v) List of logs (4 items):
    - 0: transactionHash: "0x19acbaf5d4d761b3cd826d1cc", sender: "0x2e6998192a5990f07ec382946d08...", gasUsed: 26882, timestamp: "2023-12-02T10:05:23.000Z", inputs: [2 items]
    - 1: inputName: "to", type: "address", inputValue: "2e6998192a5990f07ec382946d08..."
    - 2: inputName: "amount", type: "uint256", inputValue: 12010565012640647000
  - (vi) Download buttons: JSON, CSV

# Analytics Module

Chart-based dashboard that visualizes and explores data from multiple smart contracts

Section	Chart content	Table content
Gas Used	Total percentage of gas consumed by each function	Smart contract information, function name, total gas consumed by each function
Function	Occurrence of executed function by each function	Smart contract information, function name, occurrences of executed function
Sender	X	Sender address, occurrences of transaction performed, average gas used
Time	Time interval of sent transaction	X
Input	Occurrences of each input variable	Smart contract information, input name, input type, occurrences of each input variable
Event	Occurrences of each emitted event	Smart contract information, event name, occurrences of each emitted event
Internal transaction	Occurrences of each internal transaction	Smart contract information, internal call type, occurrences of each internal transaction
Storage state	Occurrences of each updated state variable	Smart contract information, variable name, occurrences of each update state variable

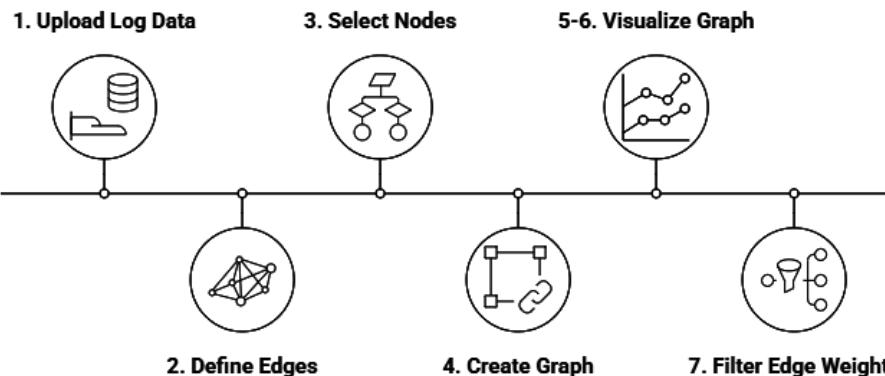


Smart Contract	Variable Name	Occurrences
0x2662e8407673927826...	_decimals	1916
0x2662e8407673927826...	Sushi	1916
0x2662e8407673927826...	_totalSupply	1916

Rows per page: 100 ▾ 1-3 of 3 &lt; &gt;

## Visualisation Module

Extracted data can be visualized as **undirected graphs** to reveal complex relationships



The figure shows a user interface for generating a graph from data. At the top, there are several input fields and buttons:

- UPLOAD FILE** (i)
- ADD EDGE** (ii) with three dropdown menus: **functionName**, **contractAddress**, **timestamp**, and **gasUsed**.
- GENERATE GRAPH** (iv)
- Edge Size** (vii) with a dropdown menu.

On the right, a summary indicates **Visible Nodes: 19** and a **Color Legend**:

- functionName** (purple dot)
- contractAddress** (black dot)
- timestamp** (green dot)
- gasUsed** (blue dot)

Below these are two sections labeled (vi) and (viii) which are collapsed.

The main area (v) displays a network graph with nodes and edges. Nodes are colored according to the legend:

- functionName** (purple): `approve`
- contractAddress** (black): `0x8798249c2e807446efb7a549ec89dd1865f4272`
- timestamp** (green): `2022-12-15T05:35:00.000Z`, `2022-12-15T05:36:00.000Z`, `2022-12-15T05:37:47.000Z`, `2022-12-15T03:45:11.000Z`, `2022-12-15T03:32:47.000Z`, `2022-12-15T03:35:00.000Z`, `2022-12-15T03:10:47.000Z`, `2022-12-15T03:12:47.000Z`
- gasUsed** (blue): `46507`, `73328`, `61028`, `65937`, `53637`, `70713`

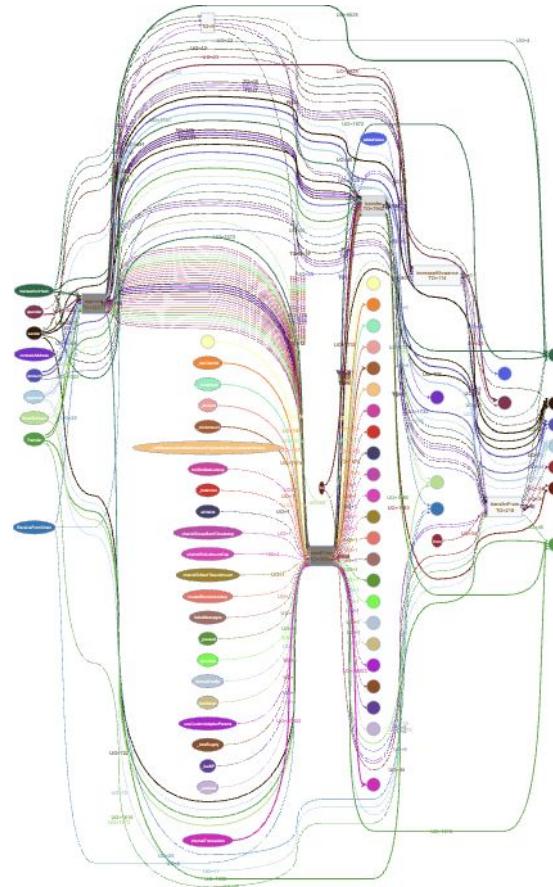
Edges represent relationships between these nodes, such as `approve` to `0x8798249c2e807446efb7a549ec89dd1865f4272` at various timestamps.

## Mapping Module

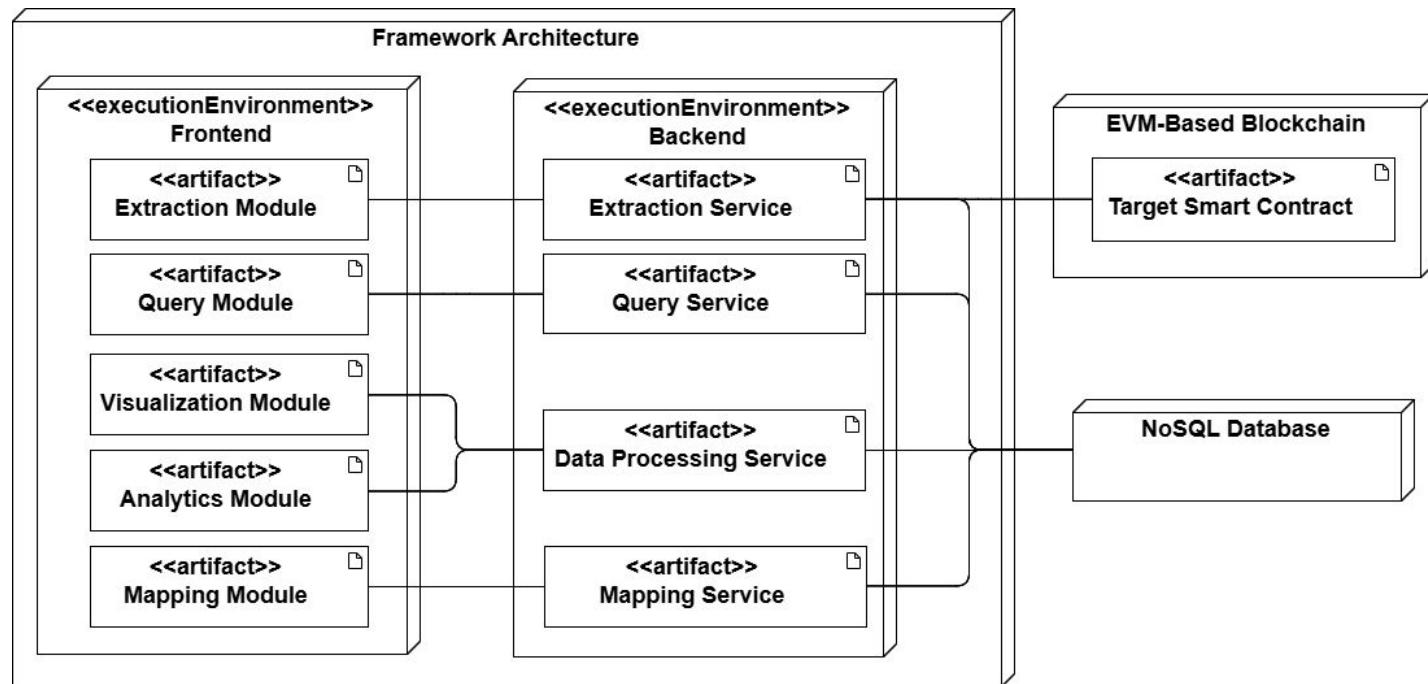
This module enables **process mining analysis** on blockchain applications [3] by:

- **Automatically mapping** executed smart contract functions to process mining **events**
- **Manually selecting** of which blockchain data should be mapped as an **object**

As a result, an OCEL2.0 log is generated, usable in current available tools



# Implementation



# To Wrap Up

## Conclusion

Analysing DApps is crucial to ensure their correct behavior and detect issues

**Smart contract execution data** enables the analysis of the actual behavior

We propose a framework for supporting DApps Analysis, **integrating from data extraction to its visualization**

## Future Works

Apply **monitoring techniques** to detect specific behaviors

Enhance **graph functionalities** with custom aggregation or clustering

Provide an **open source dataset** of extracted smart contracts

# Thank you for your attention

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