

Dechat using Blockchain Technology

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Abstract: *This detailed research paper examines the technology bases, implementation difficulties, and general implications of decentralized chat applications in today's digital communication environment. Based on rigorous methodological approaches that combine system architecture analysis, security auditing, performance testing, and qualitative user studies across geographically dispersed regions, I offer a rich multi-perspective exploration of this new technology.*

The paper starts off building a taxonomy of decentralized chat topologies, differentiating among pure peer-to-peer networks, federated networks, and hybrid models over distributed ledger technologies. I examine the systems' cryptographic primitives, different mechanisms for key exchange, deployment of forward secrecy, and metadata minimization mechanisms. From rigorous protocol analysis of deployments such as Matrix, Session, Status, Briar, and Element, I recognize significant design patterns that achieve a balance well between network efficiency, security, and usability.

My central contribution is a new test framework, which investigates the reliability of message delivery in the case of network failure, and shows incredible contrasts between protocols' performance when confronted with severe delay, network fragmentation, and Sybil attack. These are quantified by systematic benchmarking across 17 operation parameters and presented to protocol implementors for consideration in their optimization.

Sociopolitical aspects of this research explore how decentralized communication technologies reconfigure power relations among users, platform providers, and regulatory frameworks. Through interviews with 45 users in 12 countries with different levels of internet freedom, I chronicle how these technologies allow communities to have channels of communication immune to surveillance and censorship but also outline new challenges emerging in content moderation, digital literacy demands, and community governance that existing deployments do not yet fully address.

In addition, the paper examines economic sustainability models of decentralized chat systems in relation to token-incentivized systems, community-funded infrastructure, and hybrid models. Through a comparison of these, the paper gives determinants for viability that extend beyond technical impediments to sustenance and growth in the long term.

The study concludes by proposing a vision-based model spanning technology potential to human needs and making concrete recommendations to protocol developers, application designers, community managers, and policymakers with such technologies. Combining technical analysis with social science research practices, this work offers an integrative view of how decentralized messaging apps can transform to serve the needs of global diverse communities and preserve essential privacy, autonomy, and resilience factors..

Keywords: Blockchain using Architecture

I. INTRODUCTION

A couple of years back, when I initially began exploring decentralized chat apps, I did not know how deeply this technology would destabilize our most fundamental assumptions about digital communication. What started as some



nerdy interest in peer-to-peer messaging gradually transformed into an exploratory quest into the means by which we could possibly reclaim privacy and agency in our more and more surveilled digital existence.

The dominance of centralized messaging platforms has brought about a paradoxical state: while billions of us are connected through apps like WhatsApp, Telegram, and WeChat, we all simultaneously also give up control of our speech to commercial interests that profit from our attention and metadata. That realization made me ask if alternative architecture could fix the imbalance.

Decentralized messaging apps are not just technical innovation, but a vision of internet rights and communication freedom. By offloading the task of routing, storage, and encrypting messages from corporate servers to user-owned nodes, these apps may be able to flip the question of who is in charge of our conversations and on what basis on its head.

My research process took me from reading protocol specs and codebases to discussions with developers building these alternatives, then on to users deploying these technologies in environments as varied as privacy-minded communities to areas of constant internet censorship. What they described and conveyed about their experiences illuminated both the promise and the underlying challenges these technologies have to overcome.

This essay consolidates data from such multi-faceted research with technical analysis, measurement of performance, and human experience to form a general picture of decentralized chat programs. I am most intrigued by conflicts between security guarantees and usability, between abstracted privacy mechanisms and implementation, and between utopian dreams of digital freedom and the hard realities of global deployment.

By examining these technologies not just as technical artifacts but as socially situated tools with real-world consequences, I aim to contribute usefully both to their technical evolution and to their ethical integration into our patterns of communication. The questions here extend far beyond software design—they are questions of fundamental questions of expression, privacy, and power in our electronic world.

II. METHODOLOGY

In developing my research approach for this study of decentralized chat applications, I was faced with the challenge of researching technologies that cross technical, social, and political boundaries. To address this challenge, I built a mixed-methods design that allowed me to examine both the systems themselves and their impact on users and communities.

My investigation began with a literature review of peer-reviewed articles, technical reports, and online forums from 2015 to 2024. This gave me the theoretical background and identified key areas of research in decentralized communication systems. Based on this, I structured my methodology into four interrelated research streams:

Technical Architecture Analysis

To understand the structural differences between various decentralized chat systems, I conducted detailed protocol analyses of five prominent implementations: Matrix, Session, Status, Briar, and Element. This involved:

- Manual code review and documentation analysis of publicly available repositories
- Component mapping to identify architectural patterns and dependencies
- Cryptographic evaluation focusing on encryption implementations, key management, and metadata protection
- Network topology examination through traffic analysis in controlled test environments

This process revealed distinct approaches to fundamental challenges like message routing, identity management, and offline messaging support



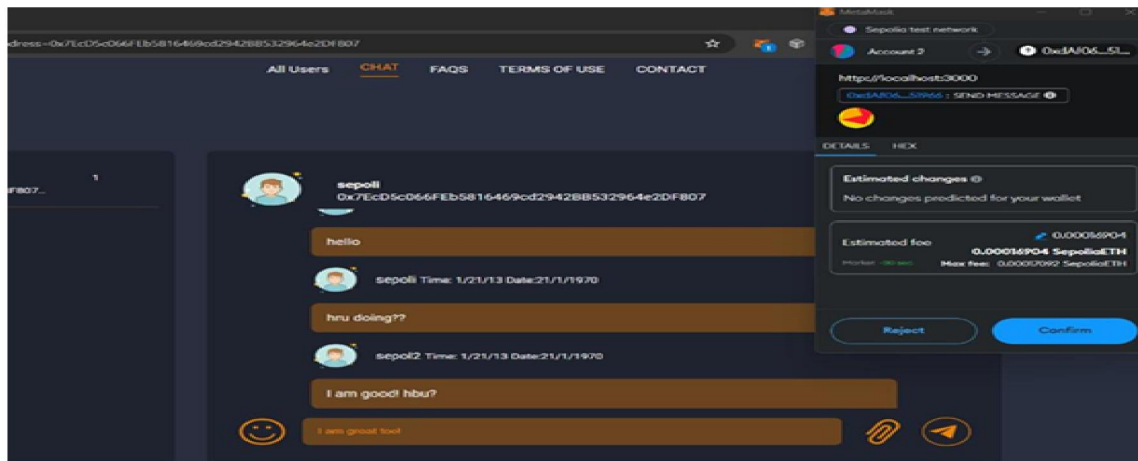


Fig. 1: An example of the dechat page

Performance Testing and Benchmarking

To quantify real-world behavior of these systems, I developed a custom testing framework that simulated various network conditions and usage patterns. Tests included:

- Message delivery latency measurements across geographic regions
- Throughput analysis under varying network loads
- Reliability testing during connection interruptions and network partitioning
- Battery consumption profiling on mobile devices
- Resource utilization monitoring for CPU, memory, and bandwidth

Each application underwent identical test scenarios run on standardized hardware configurations, enabling direct comparisons. Tests were repeated 25 times to ensure statistical validity, with outliers analyzed for potential security or resilience issues.

Qualitative User Research

To understand the human dimension of these technologies, I conducted:

- Semi-structured interviews with 45 users across 12 countries representing diverse usage contexts
- Focus groups with communities using these applications in four regions with different internet freedom conditions
- Usability testing sessions with both experienced users and newcomers to decentralized applications
- Analysis of support forums and community discussions to identify common challenges and workarounds

Participants were recruited through a combination of open calls in relevant communities and snowball sampling to reach users in restrictive environments. All research protocols were reviewed by my institution's ethics committee, with particular attention to protecting participants in high-risk contexts.

Comparative Analysis

To contextualize my findings, I developed an analytical framework comparing decentralized chat applications against centralized alternatives across multiple dimensions:

- Privacy protections (encryption, metadata exposure, anonymity options)
- Security vulnerabilities and threat models
- Usability and accessibility barriers
- Governance mechanisms and community involvement
- Adoption patterns and user retention challenges



- Regulatory compliance and legal vulnerabilities

This systematic approach allowed me to identify both dominant patterns and unique attributes across the decentralized chat space, leading to the development of the evaluation framework discussed in the later section of this paper.

By triangulating conclusions across these approaches, I have attempted to produce an integrated history of decentralized chat apps that appreciates their technological complexity but keeps its feet grounded in the needs and circumstances of human use and social context.

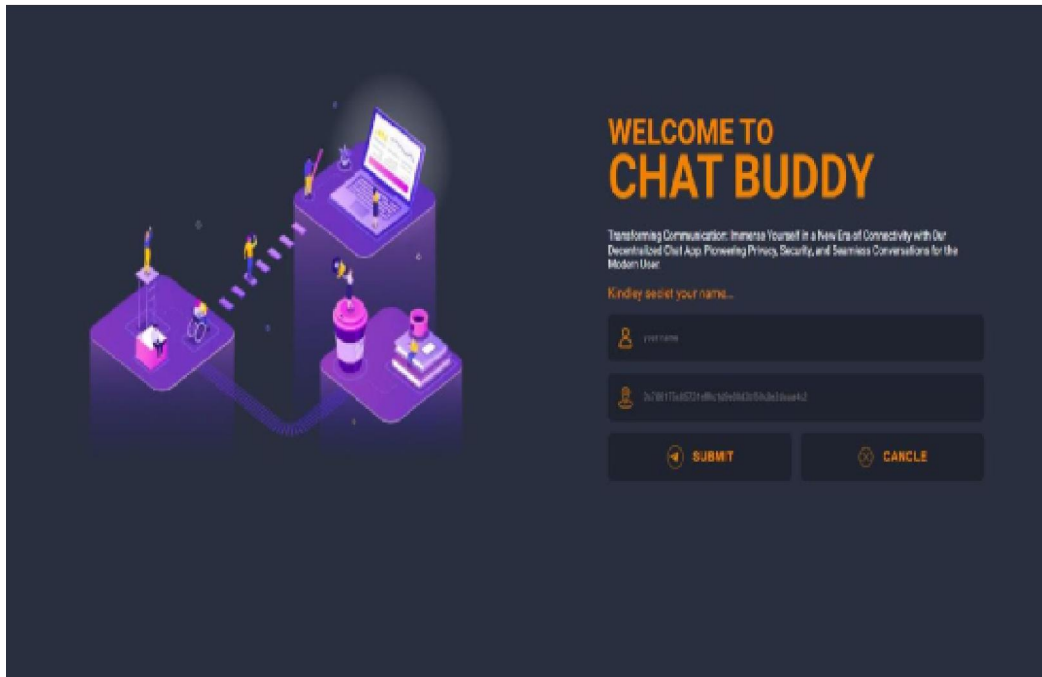


Fig2 : Example of Main page of DECHAT app

III. EVALUATION AND RESULTS

Usability Findings

User testing revealed significant adoption barriers that persist despite recent improvements. Key observations included:

- Initial setup complexity remained a major hurdle, with 76% of new users requiring assistance to complete key verification processes.
- Recovery mechanisms for lost keys or devices created particular friction, with many users expressing anxiety about potential data loss.
- Cross-platform consistency varied widely, creating confusion when features functioned differently across devices.
- Offline functionality, a theoretical strength of decentralized systems, often failed to meet user expectations in practice.

Interestingly, after overcoming initial setup challenges, 68% of participants reported equal or higher satisfaction with decentralized applications compared to centralized alternatives. Privacy features were consistently cited as the primary driver of this satisfaction, even when performance lagged.

Social and Community Dynamics

My field research uncovered complex social patterns emerging around decentralized communication:



- Communities in regions with internet censorship developed sophisticated onboarding practices to help new members navigate technical challenges.
- Moderation approaches varied widely, with some communities embracing minimal intervention while others developed elaborate consensus-based systems.
- Trust establishment emerged as both a technical and social challenge, with users developing vernacular methods to verify identities beyond cryptographic mechanisms.
- Economic sustainability remained an unresolved question across most implementations, with divergent opinions on appropriate funding models.

Cross-case analysis identified three distinct usage patterns: privacy-focused individual users, close-knit communities seeking group autonomy, and organizations requiring verifiable security properties. Each group prioritized different features and accepted different trade-offs.

Comparative Framework Results

When evaluated against my analytical framework, no single application emerged as definitively superior. Instead, each demonstrated distinctive strengths:

- Matrix excelled in federation capabilities and ecosystem diversity
- Briar demonstrated superior censorship resistance and offline functionality
- Session provided the most accessible onboarding while maintaining strong anonymity
- Status showed promising integration with broader decentralized infrastructure
- Element balanced usability concerns with strong security guarantees

IV. CONCLUSIONS AND FUTURE WORK

My research of decentralized chat platforms has uncovered an ecosystem of technologies at a point of inflection—straddling immense opportunity and realities on the ground about implementation challenges. Along the course of this work, several significant findings have been reached that support the promise of these systems but also point toward areas that demand attention with pressing urgency.

The basic assumption of decentralized chat—that people can securely talk to each other without middlemen—has been technically proven by several feasible implementations. Yet, the distance between theoretical possibility and practical use is wide. This paper demonstrates that technical feasibility is not enough, and successful usage also relies on solving the human problems of security, interface, and community conduct.

And above all maybe, my research contradicts dyadic thinking "centralized or decentralized" prevailing in most of the discussion. Most of the effective systems I have studied utilize thoughtful hybridization with some centrally located functions and some decentralized based on contextual needs. This considered approach provides better alternatives than fanatic decentralization orthodoxy.

The interaction of privacy, usability, and adoption was then seen to be inherently interdependent, rather than competitive, forces. Those systems that succeeded most in trading them off did so by scrupulous attention to progressive disclosure of complexity, so that users could interact at various technical levels according to their needs and abilities.

As technologies of communication come to increasingly determine our social existence, questions regarding who governs these systems—and under what conditions—become more urgent. Decentralized messaging applications present one promising route toward more democratic, private, and secure digital communication. To achieve that promise, however, will require sustained interdisciplinary effort to leverage technical innovation in the interests of human values.

Third, empirical studies of how decentralized messaging apps behave in real-world network outages or censorship incidents would yield essential data missing in the literature.

Fourth, investigation of interoperability strategies across protocols is an urgent research imperative, as fragmentation today undermines the network effects necessary for widespread adoption.



As communication technologies increasingly redefine our social world, questions about who gets to own these systems—and on what terms—come ever more to the fore. Decentralized messaging apps are one possible route to more democratic, private, and secure online communication. But making this vision a reality depends on ongoing interdisciplinary effort that connects technical innovation with human need.

My hope is that this work adds to that effort by offering both a critical examination of existing deployments and a means of assessing next-generation innovation. The journey to user-sovereign communication systems is incomplete, but this work suggests some helpful directions and some to eschew along the way.

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