

### THE BITCOIN ERA

"Satoshi Nakamoto", October 31, 2008

Bitcoin: A Peer-to-Peer Electronic Cash System

Strongly inspired by 1998 ideas: B-Money and BitGold



S. Nakamoto:

Unknown person or people who developed Bitcoin, authored the bitcoin white paper, and created and deployed bitcoin's original reference implementation...

# THE BITCOIN PAPER ABSTRACT (KEYWORDS)

- A purely peer-to-peer version of electronic cash would allow online payments to be sent directly from one party to another without going through a financial institution.
- Digital signatures provide part of the solution, but the main benefits are lost if a trusted third
  party is still required to prevent double-spending.
- We propose a solution to the double-spending problem using a peer-to-peer network.
- The network timestamps transactions by hashing them into an ongoing chain of hash-based proof-of-work, forming a record that cannot be changed without redoing the proof-of-work.
- The longest chain not only serves as proof of the sequence of events witnessed, but proof that it came from the largest pool of CPU power.
- As long as a majority of CPU power is controlled by nodes that are **not cooperating to attack the network**, they'll generate the longest chain and outpace attackers. The network itself requires minimal structure.
- Messages are broadcast on a best effort basis, and nodes can leave and rejoin the network at will, accepting the longest proof-of-work chain as proof of what happened while they were gone.

### PEER TO PEER

Distributed application architecture that partitions tasks or workloads between peers. Peers are equally privileged, equipotent participants in the application. They are said to form a peer-to-peer network of nodes.

"What is needed is an electronic payment system [...], allowing any two willing parties to transact directly with each other without the need for a trusted third party."



### **ELECTRONIC CASH**

Money kept in electronic form which allows a buyer to pay for goods and services on the internet without using a credit card

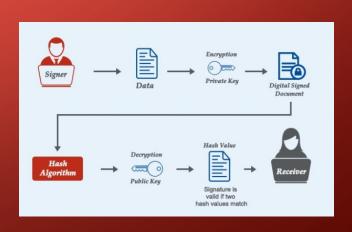
"Commerce on the Internet has come to rely almost exclusively on financial institutions serving as trusted third parties to process electronic payments. While the system works well enough for most transactions, it still suffers from the inherent weaknesses of the trust based model"



### DIGITAL SIGNATURES

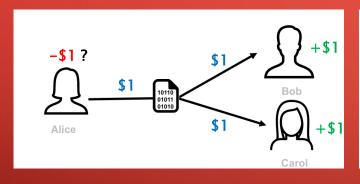
Mathematical scheme for verifying the authenticity of digital messages or documents. A valid digital signature, gives a recipient very strong reason to believe that the message was created by a known sender (authentication), and that the message was not altered in transit (integrity)

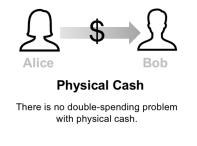
"Digital signatures provide part of the solution, but the main benefits are lost if a trusted third party is still required to prevent doublespending."

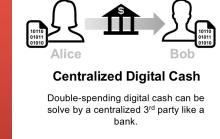


### DOUBLE SPENDING

Spending the same amount of money twice e.g. Alice sends \$1 to Bob, he cannot be sure that Alice has -\$1 on her account and she could spend the same dollar to Carol and many others.







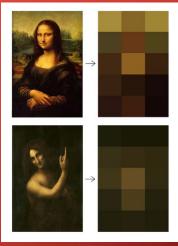


"We propose a solution to the double-spending problem using a peer-to-peer distributed timestamp server to generate computational proof of the chronological order of transactions"

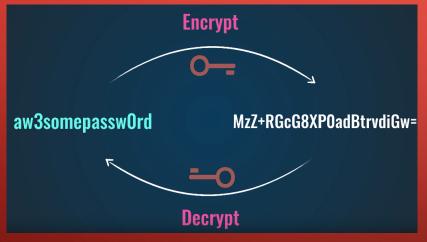
### HASHING

A hash function is any function that can be used to map data of arbitrary size onto data of a fixed size. The values returned by a hash function are called "hash" values or "hashes"

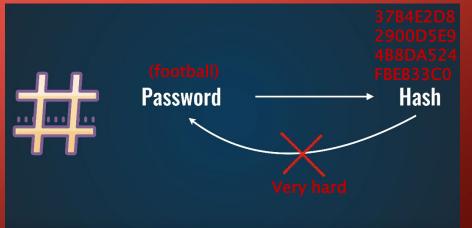
### Image Hash



#### Encryption



#### Hashing

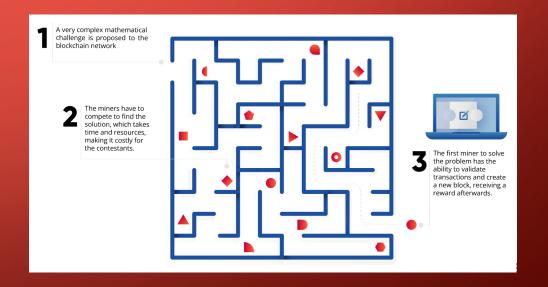


No need to store the Password

## PROOF OF WORK (POW)

A special type of participants in the network called miners compete on searching for the solution to a cryptographic puzzle that will allow them to add a block of transactions to Bitcoin's blockchain.

"The network timestamps transactions by hashing them into an ongoing chain of hash-based proof-of-work, forming a record that cannot be changed without redoing the proof-of-work. The longest chain not only serves as proof of the sequence of events witnessed, but proof that it came from the largest pool of CPU power"



### BLOCKCHAIN

To solve the double-spending problem, Nakamoto proposed a public ledger to keep track of all transactions in the network the Blockchain:

- **Distributed**: The ledger is replicated across a number of computers. Any computer with an internet connection can download a full copy of the blockchain.
- Cryptographic: To make sure that the sender owns the bitcoin that she's trying to send, and to decide how the transactions are added to the blockchain.
- Immutable: transactions can only be added to the blockchain but cannot be deleted or modified.



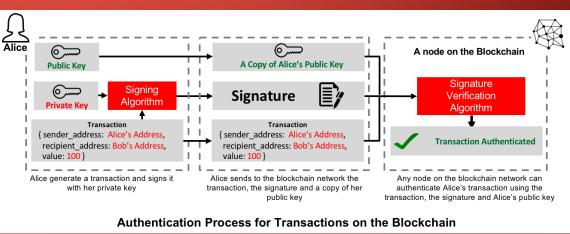




# SENDING **BITCOIN MONEY**

- 1. Create a wallet: Stores Public/Private Key but not the bitcoins
- 2. Create a transaction: connect to wallet with Private Key, define Amount and Public Key of the receiver
- **3. Broadcast to the network**: the transaction is sent to the entire network (including adress)
- 4. Confirm the transaction: a Miner the transaction autenticates the transaction using the sender public key, confirms the amount is OK and adds the transaction to the block

5. Broadcast the change: the miner should broadcast the blockchain change to all Miners to make sure that their copies of the blockchain are all matching.

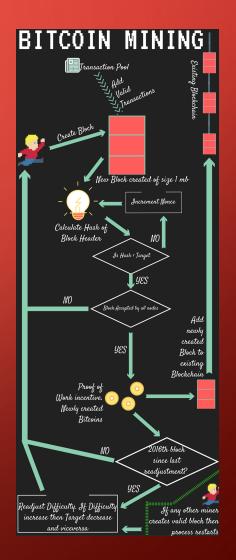


# THE MINING PUZZLE



- Bitcoins uses a Hash function called SHA-256 (64 characters)
- Applied to Block Data (BTC transactions) + Nonce (32B number)
- Change Data and/or Nonce → Different Hash
- Block "valid" or "mined" if Nonce → Hash starts with 000...0
- Difficulty changes every 2016 blocks:  $t = difficulty \times 2^{32} / hashrate$

```
# Simple Mining Implementation - Hugo Flayac
import hashlib, random, time
Block = 'This is the content of the block \
         includes previous hash and transactions with their adresses'
N Zeros = 6
Zeros String = '0'*N Zeros
Hash = 'NotZero'
Tries = 0
start = time.time()
while Hash[0:N Zeros] != Zeros String:
    Tries += 1
    Nonce = str(random.getrandbits(32))
    Hash = str(hashlib.sha256((Block + Nonce).encode('utf-8')).hexdigest())
end = time.time()
print('Nonce =',Nonce)
print('Block Hash =',Hash)
print('Found in', Tries, 'attempts')
print('Duration:',(end-start),'s')
Nonce = 2948979162
Block Hash = 00000068a233d12863e43327d2aac1593fa0e86d064bb5b3b741972dc2cafd5c
Found in 7285567 attempts
Duration: 16.743788480758667 s
```



# THE MINING PUZZLE

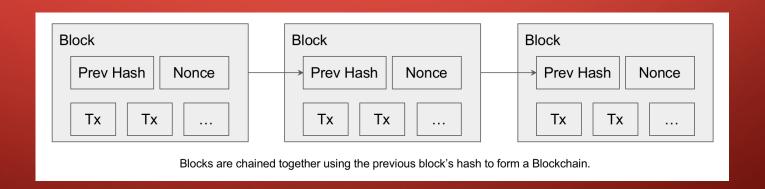


12,5 BTC = \$50'000

Latest Blocks					
Height	Relayé par	Taille(B)	Récompense	Heure	Hash du bloc
567,847		1,365,446	12.65382720 BTC	3 minutes ago	00000000000000000000000000000000000000
567,846	BTC.com	1,497,212	12.63790999 BTC	9 minutes ago	000000000000000000001d224364d576c14d86ab10e5c0a5f8b84f47ccde05e2ee
567,845		1,237,147	12.78540976 BTC	12 minutes ago	00000000000000000000000000000000000000
567,844	™ BTC.com	1,436,847	12.72296227 BTC	33 minutes ago	00000000000000000000000000000000000000
567,843	ViaBTC	1,541,676	12.63249457 BTC	47 minutes ago	00000000000000000000000000000000000000
567,842	™ BTC.com	1,191,393	12.75165806 BTC	50 minutes ago	00000000000000000000000000000000000000
567,841	™ BTC.com	1,278,493	12.76425355 BTC	1 heure 08 minutes ago	000000000000000000001d1e88bc0deefeb5e1f10de34dc41b25e339d651dafaf3
567,840	unknown	1,239,761	12.63405441 BTC	1 heure 25 minutes ago	000000000000000000000157948cb11b31d035beb246a3d6579aca457e2c5d191ac
567,839	♠ F2Pool	1,277,905	12.95085862 BTC	1 heure 25 minutes ago	00000000000000000000000000000000000000
567,838	BitFury	242,948	12.53080711 BTC	2 heures 07 minutes ago	00000000000000000000000000000000000000

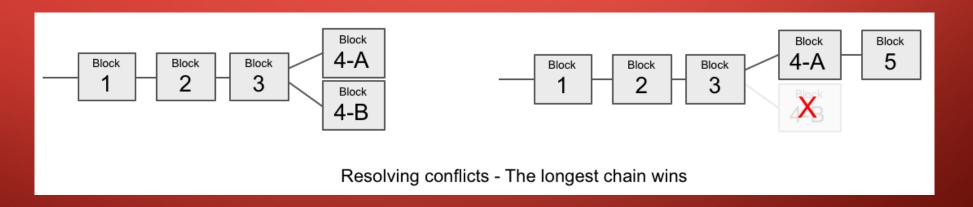
### FROM BLOCKS TO BLOCKCHAIN

- Transactions are grouped in blocks and blocks are appended to the blockchain
- · Each new block uses the previous block's hash as part of its data
- To create a new block:
  - Miner selects a set of transactions
  - Adds the previous block's hash
  - Tries to mine the block
- Changes to the data in a block will affect all the hash values of the following blocks



### FROM BLOCKS TO BLOCKCHAIN

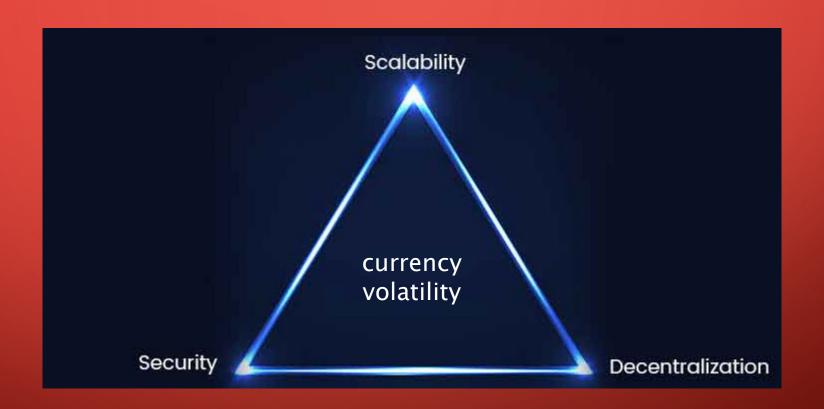
- All the miners in the Bitcoin network compete with each other to find the next valid block
- Given the number of miners, the probability of a miner in the network validating a block is high
- What happens if two miners or more submit their blocks at the same time?



### ATTACKING THE BLOCKCHAIN

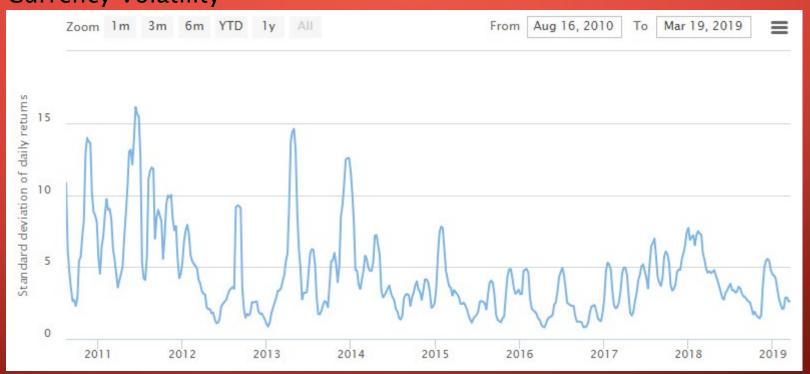
- Race Attack: An attacker sends the same coin in rapid succession to two different addresses. It is recommended to wait for at least one block confirmation (10 mins) before accepting the payment.
- Finney Attack: An attacker pre-mines a block with a transaction, and spends the same coins in a second transaction before releasing the block. In this scenario, the second transaction will not be validated. To prevent from this attack, it is recommended to wait for at least 6 block confirmations (60 mins) before accepting the payment.
- Majority 51% Attack: The attacker owns 51% of the computing power of the network. The attacker starts by making a transaction that is broadcasted to the entire network, and then mines a private blockchain where he double-spends the coins of the previous transaction. Since the attacker owns the majority of the computing power, he is guaranteed that he will have a longer chain.

## **BLOCKCHAIN TRI-LEMMA**



# BLOCKCHAIN QUADRI-LEMMA

#### **Currency Volatility**



### BITCOIN FACTS

- 1998: B-Money and BitGold: Wei Dai creates B-Money, an "anonymous, distributed electronic cash system." Nick Szabo proposes a similar idea: Bit Gold, which lay the groundwork for blockchain.
- October 2009: Bitcoin whitepaper
- January 2009: Genesis Block 0 mined by Nakamoto. Worth 50 BTC that can't be spent. A Bitcoin is worth 0,001 USD at that time
- May 2010: Bitcoin Pizza Laszlo Hanyecz paid 10,000 BTC for two Papa John's pizzas
- July 2010: In 5 days, the price grew 900%, rising from \$0.008 to \$0.08
- August 2010: a protocol failures allows the generation of 92 Billons BTC. The blockchain is reversed to previous state.
- December 2018: BTC is worth almost \$20k
- Today: BTC is worth \$4k

## F.A.Q

- Why fees?

  Because you want miners to validate your transactions quickly. Typically 0.00001BTC.
- Why limited Bitcoins?

  Because limited solution to the math problem and this is necessary for a currency.
- Why volatility?
   The total value of bitcoins in circulation and the number of businesses are still small compared to what they could be.
   Small events, trades, or business activities can significantly affect the price.
- Is Bitcoin anonymous? It's pseudonymous as the adress is shared on the blockchain but the adress can be different for every transaction.
- What if I didn't mine on the longest chain?

  If the block doesn't end up in the main chain, the miner effectively doesn't get the reward: Attempts to spend it will not be accepted as valid payment by others. The transactions go back to the pool and have to be re-validated.

## MORE TO BE DISCUSSED NEXT...

