

Polkadot.

Polkadot for Beginners

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Background:

Lecturer, Computer Science Department,
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Dan Reecer

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Background:

- Head of Marketing, Wanchain
- Global and U.S. Pharmaceutical Brand Strategy, Eli Lilly & Company

This presentation is for beginners

You may have heard of blockchain or Polkadot, but aren't exactly sure what it is or what it's used for.

We will purposely avoid technical words as much as possible - there are hours of technical content on Polkadot's Youtube if that interests you.

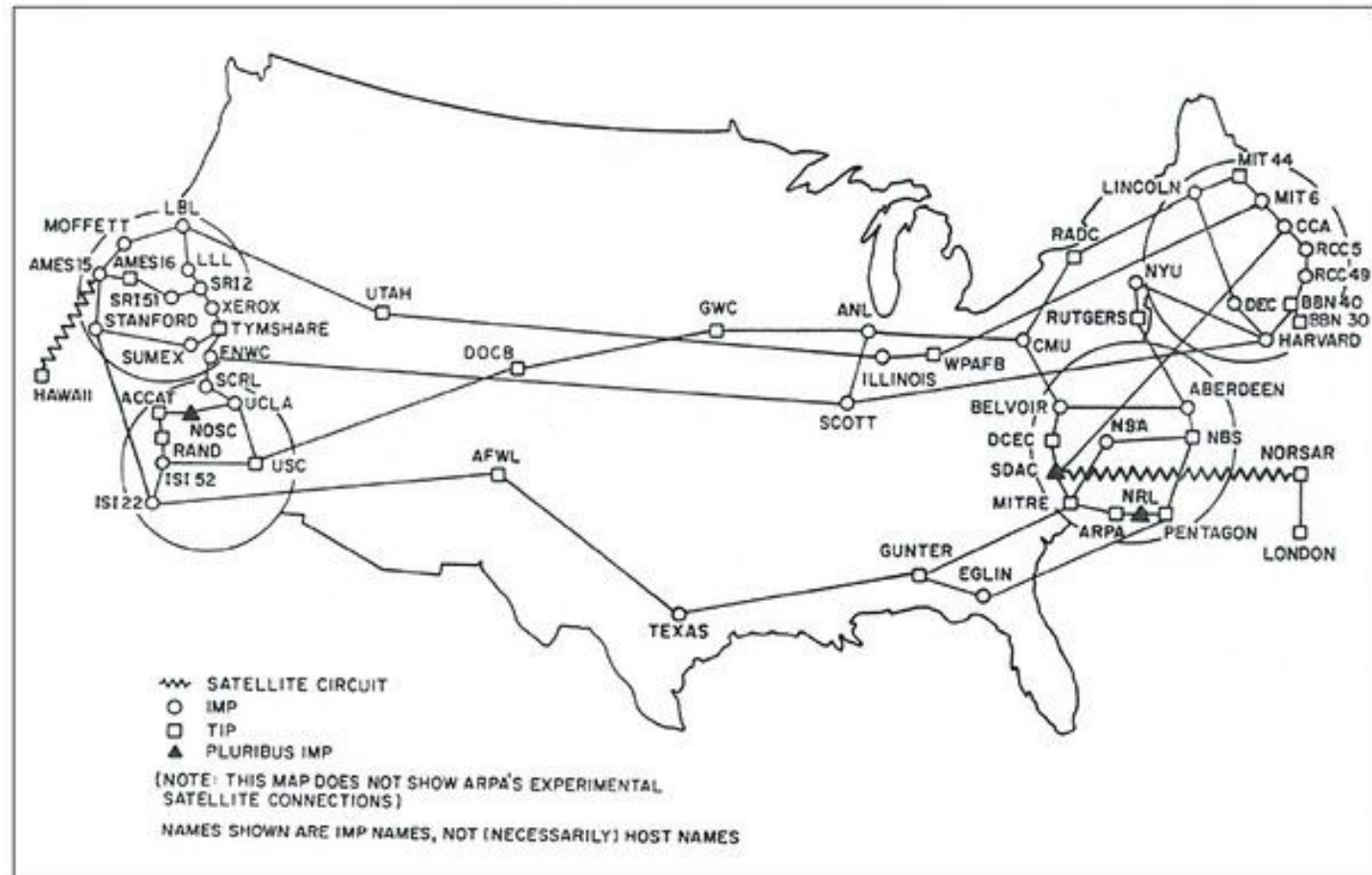
Ask questions - there are no bad questions.

What we'll cover today

1. Brief history of the internet
2. History of blockchain and crypto
3. What is blockchain?
4. What are the issues with legacy blockchains?
5. What is Polkadot?
6. What problems is Polkadot solving?
7. A world built on Polkadot in 5-10 years

1967 to
1975

ARPANET connects Stanford and UCLA, then expands across the United States



1972

Ray Tomlinson wrote the basic **email message** send and read software. Email took off as the largest network application for over a decade. Queen Elizabeth II sent her first email in 1976.

1978

In 1978, Robert Kahn and Vinton Cerf create **TCP/IP** (transmission control protocol / internet protocol), a standard protocol that allows network connections to be made between computers and networks through packets of information.

1983 to
1990

In 1983, **ARPANET adopts TCP/IP**. With a common protocol, other networks joined ARPANET, which was becoming a true “network of networks.” In 1990, ARPANET was officially decommissioned, giving birth to the Internet.

1989 to
1991

HTTP defined in 1989;
first webpage at CERN, 1991

World Wide Web

The WorldWideWeb (W3) is a wide-area [hypermedia](#) information retrieval initiative aiming to give universal access to a large universe of documents.

Everything there is online about W3 is linked directly or indirectly to this document, including an [executive summary](#) of the project, [Mailing lists](#), [Policy](#), November's [W3 news](#), [Frequently Asked Questions](#).

[What's out there?](#)

Pointers to the world's online information, [subjects](#), [W3 servers](#), etc.

[Help](#)

on the browser you are using

[Software Products](#)

A list of W3 project components and their current state. (e.g. [Line Mode](#), [X11 Viola](#), [NeXTStep](#), [Servers](#), [Tools](#), [Mail robot](#), [Library](#))

[Technical](#)

Details of protocols, formats, program internals etc

[Bibliography](#)

Paper documentation on W3 and references.

[People](#)

A list of some people involved in the project.

[History](#)

A summary of the history of the project.

[How can I help?](#)

If you would like to support the web..

[Getting code](#)

Getting the code by [anonymous FTP](#), etc.

1994

Netscape launches



1995



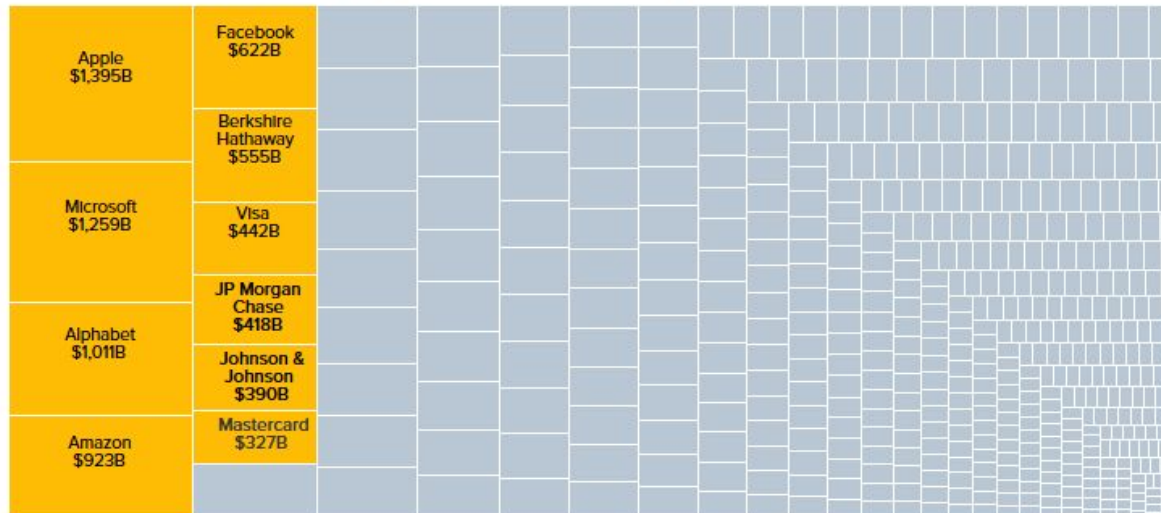
1997 to
2010

Google!

facebook

2020

S&P 500's 10 biggest market caps



SOURCE: S&P Capital IQ, as of Jan. 27 2020

What laid the foundation of today's internet?

User
Applications

SOCIAL
MEDIA

SEARCH
ENGINES

NEWS
SITES

Tools that
Use
Foundation

APPS

EMAIL
CLIENT

BROWSER

Tech that
Connected
Internet
Networks

TCP/IP

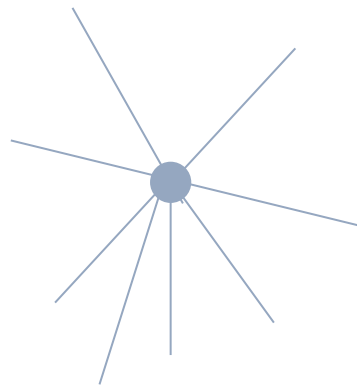
SMTP

HTTP

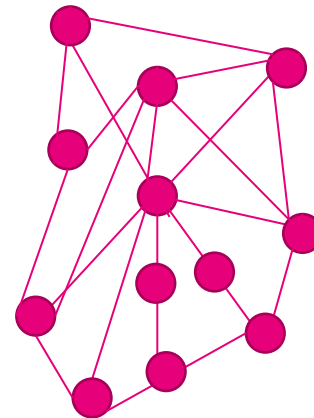


What is Blockchain?

A digital chain made of **blocks** of information hosted on a decentralized and **distributed network** of computers that **cannot be altered**



Centralized



Decentralized

Blocks

are chunks

of data

collected

over a

specific

period

of time

Blockchain Analogy



1. Everyone records the results of each hand in their own notebook
2. After the full game is complete, all players agree on the chip counts and finalize that game (a block)
3. After 3 games, Kelly tries to cash out \$100 more than she is truly owed
4. Everyone checks the records from the three previous games that were finalized by the group. Kelly's request is declined, and she's paid what she is truly owed

What is Blockchain?

Block start – April 12th

Accounts

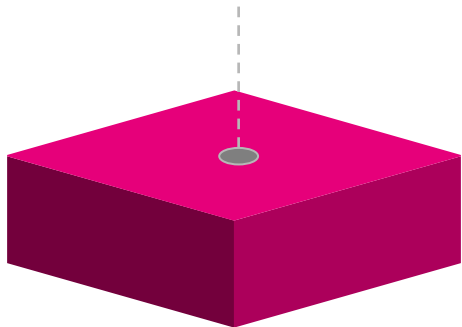
Dan: \$5M
Kevin: \$0
Bill: \$0

Transactions

1. Dan paid Kevin \$5M
 2. Kevin paid Bill \$2M
 3. Bill paid Dan \$1M
-

End Accounts

Dan: \$1M
Kevin: \$3M
Bill: \$1M



Block Start – April 13th

Accounts

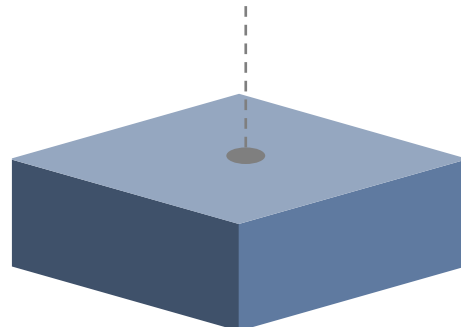
Dan: \$1M
Kevin: \$3M
Bill: \$1M

Transactions

1. Kevin paid Bill \$2M
-

End Accounts

Dan: \$1M
Kevin: \$1M
Bill: \$3M



Block Start – April 14th

Accounts

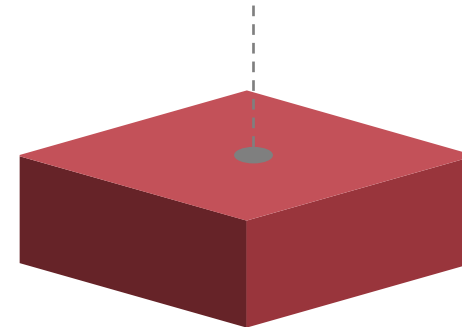
Dan: \$1M
Kevin: \$1M
Bill: \$3M

Transactions

1. Kevin paid Bill \$1M
-

End Accounts

Dan: \$1M
Kevin: \$0
Bill: \$4M



Block Start – April 15th

Accounts

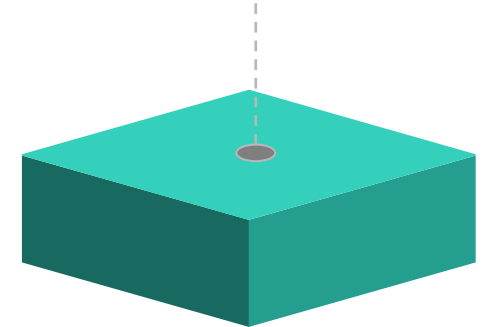
Dan: \$1M
Kevin: \$0M
Bill: \$4M

Transactions

1. Dan paid Bill \$500K
-

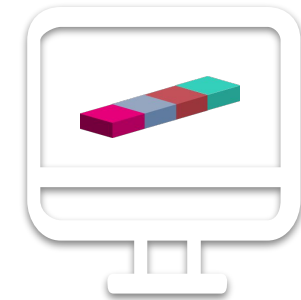
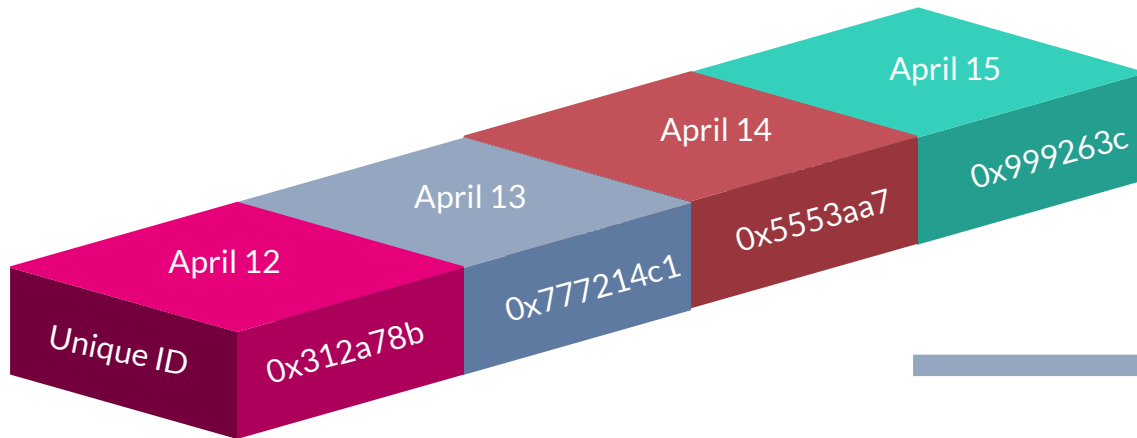
End Accounts

Dan: \$500K
Kevin: \$0
Bill: \$4.5M



What is Blockchain?

Polkadot.



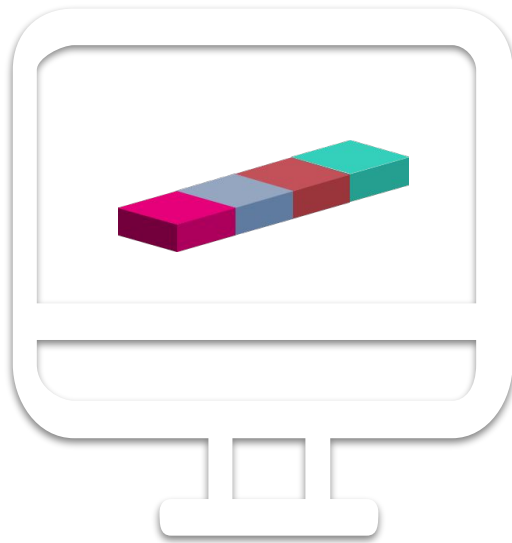
Centralized Server (Facebook)



Decentralized and distributed network

What is Blockchain?

Bill can edit the last transaction in the [single database](#) to show \$1M instead of \$500k



Block Start – April 15th

Accounts

Dan: \$1M
Kevin: \$1M
Bill: \$3M

Transactions

~~1. Dan paid Bill \$500k~~

End Accounts

Dan: \$500k
Kevin: \$1M
Bill: \$4.5M



Block Start – April 15th

Accounts

Dan: \$1M
Kevin: \$1M
Bill: \$3M

Transactions

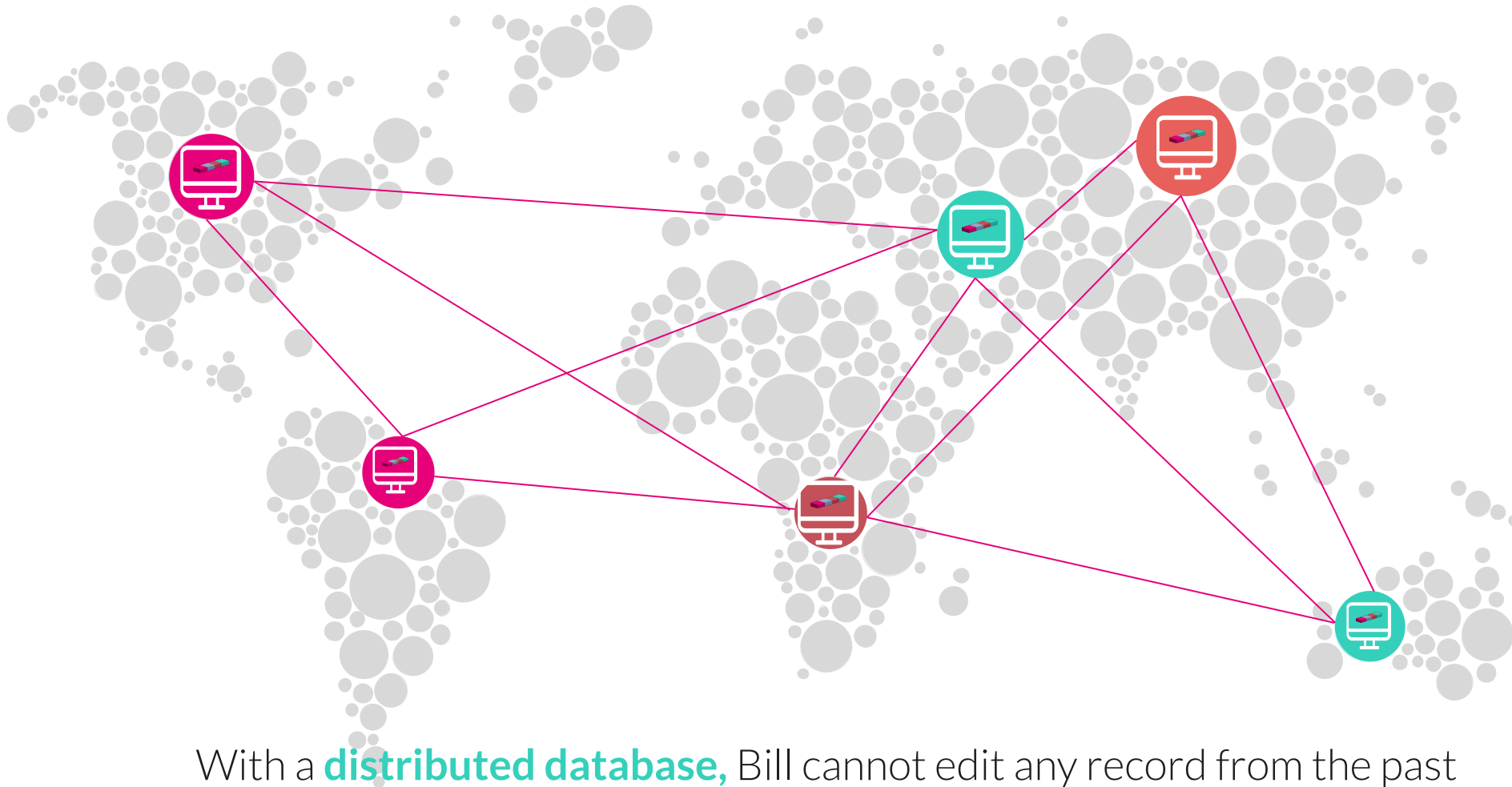
1. Dan paid Bill \$1M

End Accounts

Dan: \$0
Kevin: \$0
Bill: \$5M

What is Blockchain?

Polkadot.



Why Blockchain?

- Users agree on data in the blocks without trusting or even knowing one another
- Nobody can change this data once it has been added to the blockchain
- Virtually impossible for anyone to permanently delete a blockchain or stop it from running
- Users can own their own data - can avoid major hacks

Blockchain Use Cases

Polkadot.



Anonymous logins



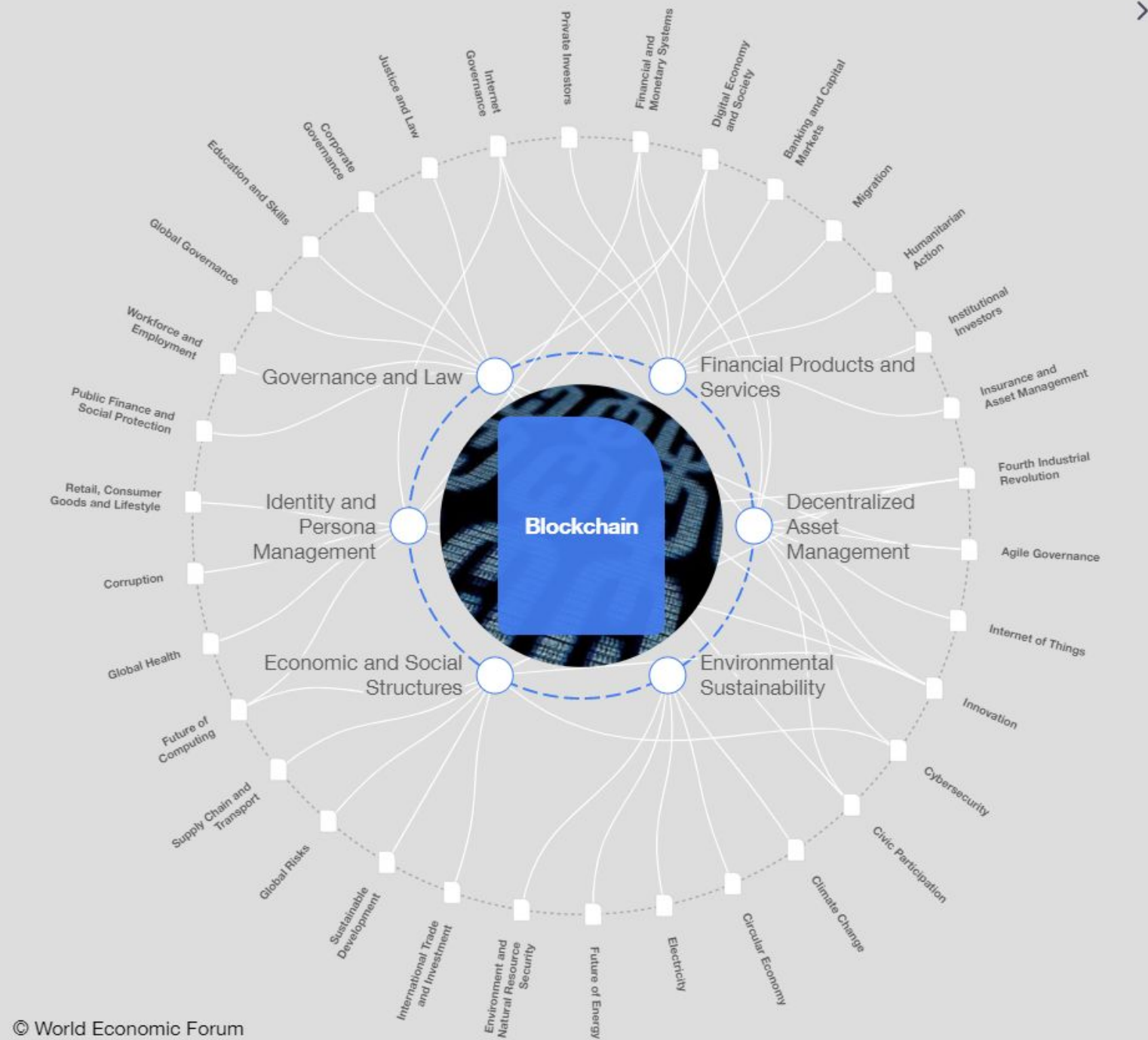
Digital identity



Pharmaceutical drug
anti-counterfeiting



Personal healthcare data
digital ownership



1995



1997 to
2010

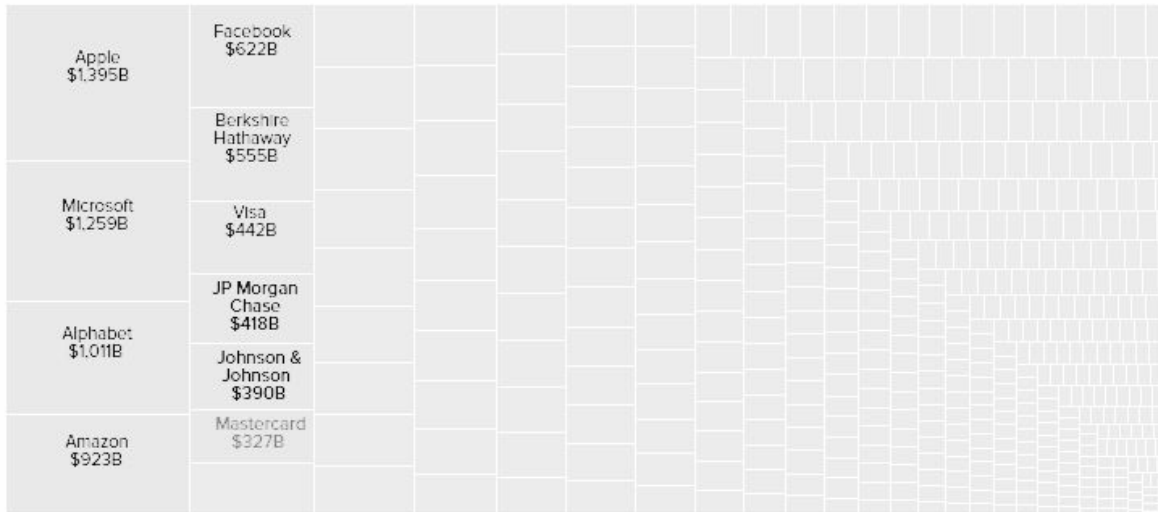


facebook

2020

Dashboard 1

S&P 500's 10 biggest market caps



SOURCE: S&P Capital IQ, as of Jan. 27 2020

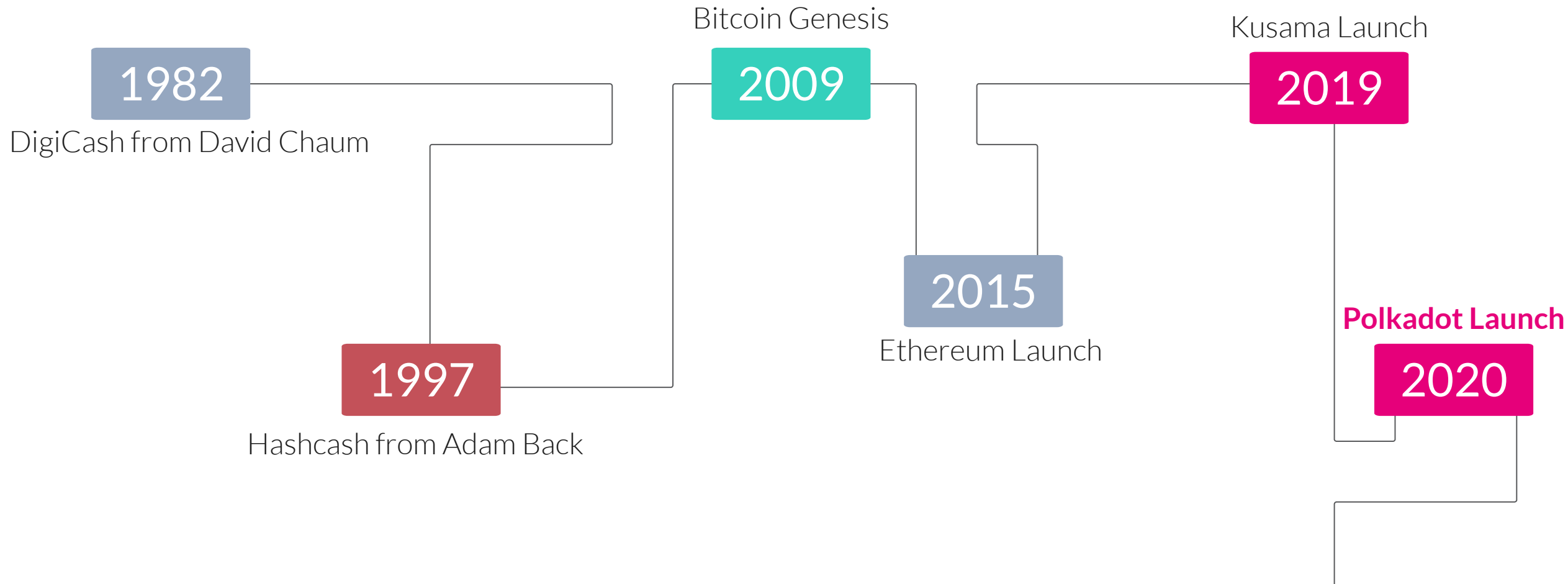


2009

First Bitcoin block

Blockchain and Crypto History

Polkadot.



Legacy networks like Bitcoin and Ethereum have many problems



Can't Communicate

Legacy blockchains can't easily communicate with each other



Can't Scale

These networks can't handle a lot of traffic



Poor Security

Many networks have been attacked by hackers



No Customization

One-size-fits-all application platforms do not work



Poor Governance

Decisions on many legacy networks are made by one powerful individual or group, or are not made



Upgrades are Difficult

Users of the network must independently upgrade their software; otherwise the chain can split into two!

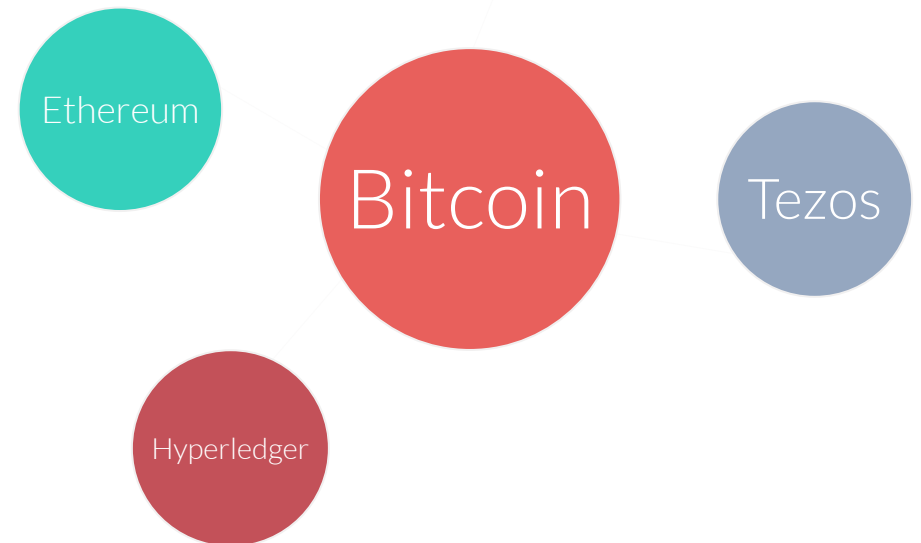


Can't Communicate

Polkadot.

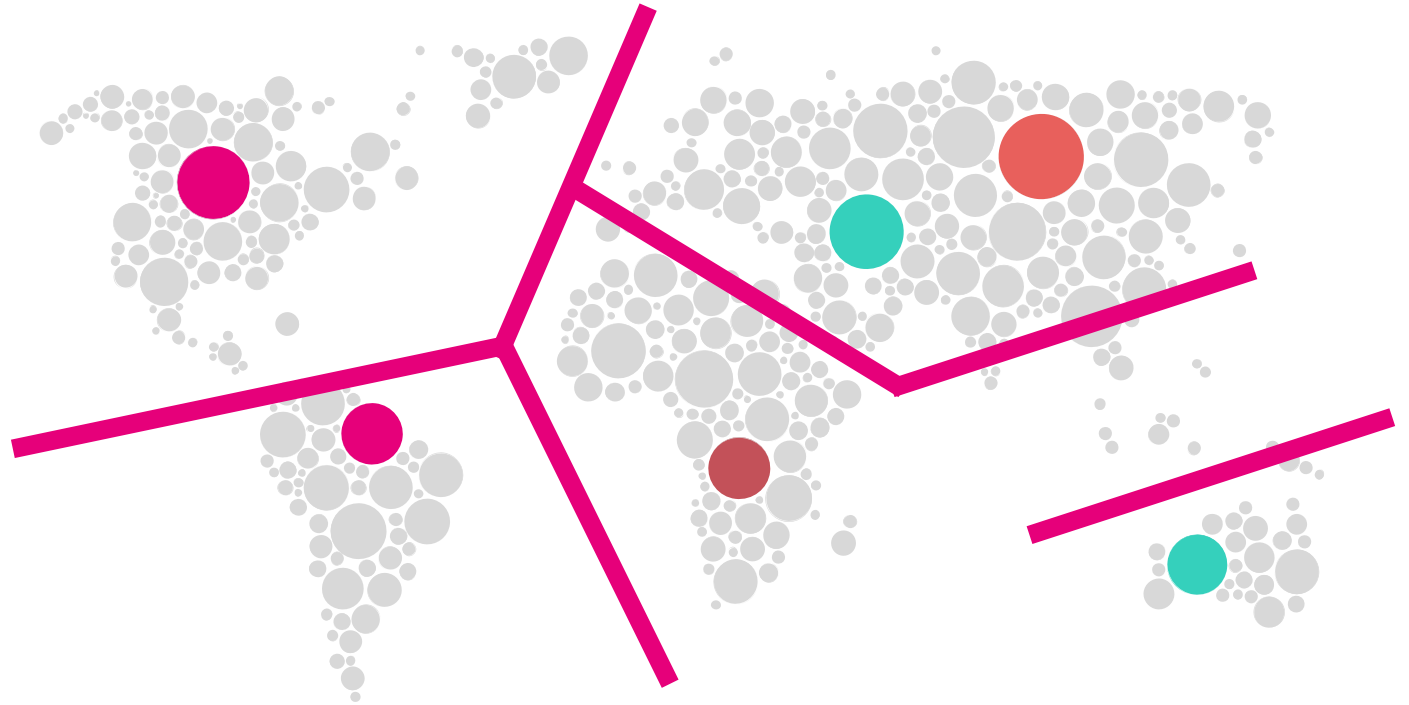
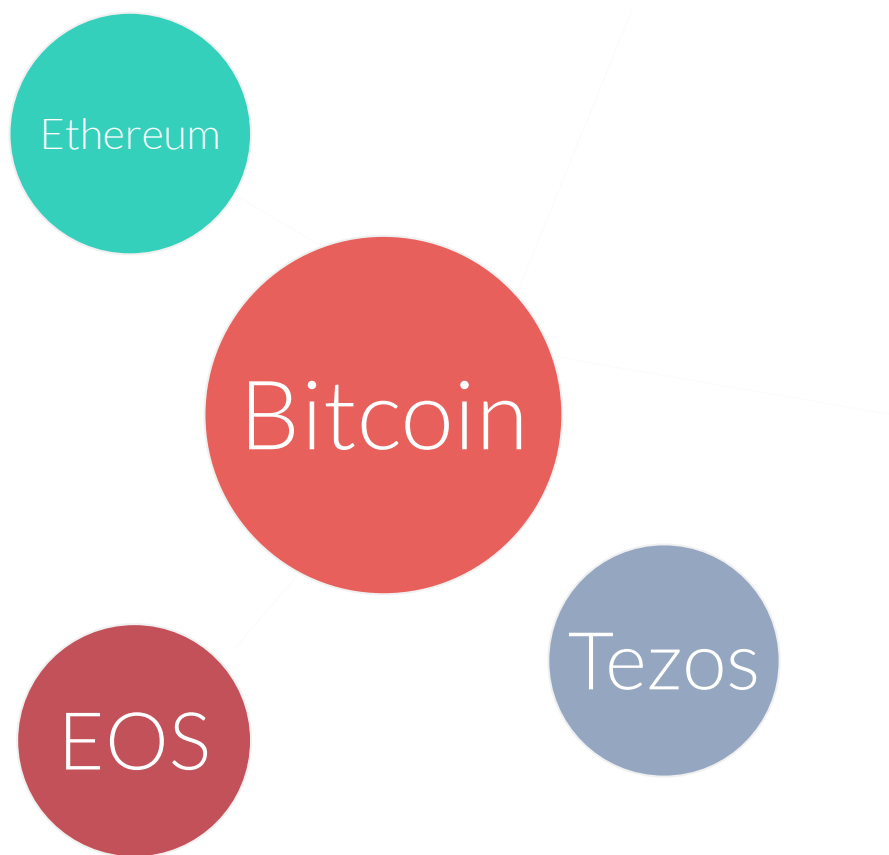
Communications Issues

- Blockchains are very good at interacting with data stored on them...
- ... but are inherently bad at communicating with other chains without trusting an intermediary



Blockchains not communicating is like having several separate 'internets' all over the world

Polkadot.





Can't Scale

Polkadot.

Scaling Issues

- Traditional blockchains are resilient but very slow
- Bitcoin can theoretically max ~7 tps, Ethereum around ~25 tps.
 - Visa does 1,736 transactions per second.
- Issues seen in
 - Bitcoin transaction fees maxing out at ~ \$37 in 2018
 - Fees up 800% over last month
 - Ethereum slowdowns for CryptoKitties, Fomo3D
 - MakerDAO flash crash (people could not submit bids in time)



Poor Security

Security Issues

- Bitcoin and Ethereum are very secure
- But creating a new blockchain is difficult to do securely
- Numerous 51% attacks carried out
 - Ethereum Classic
 - Bitcoin Gold
 - Vertcoin
 - Krypton
 - Shift



No Customization

Lack of Customization Issues

- Choice comes down to using an existing blockchain, which may not have all of the features you want (or may have some you don't!)
- ... or creating your own from nothing (very difficult)
- Blockchain should not be one-size-fits-all



Poor Governance

Polkadot.

Governance Issues

Either too centralized (benevolent dictator model)...
... or no on-chain governance whatsoever

Decision making is not well thought out and documented
for the community to see and agree upon

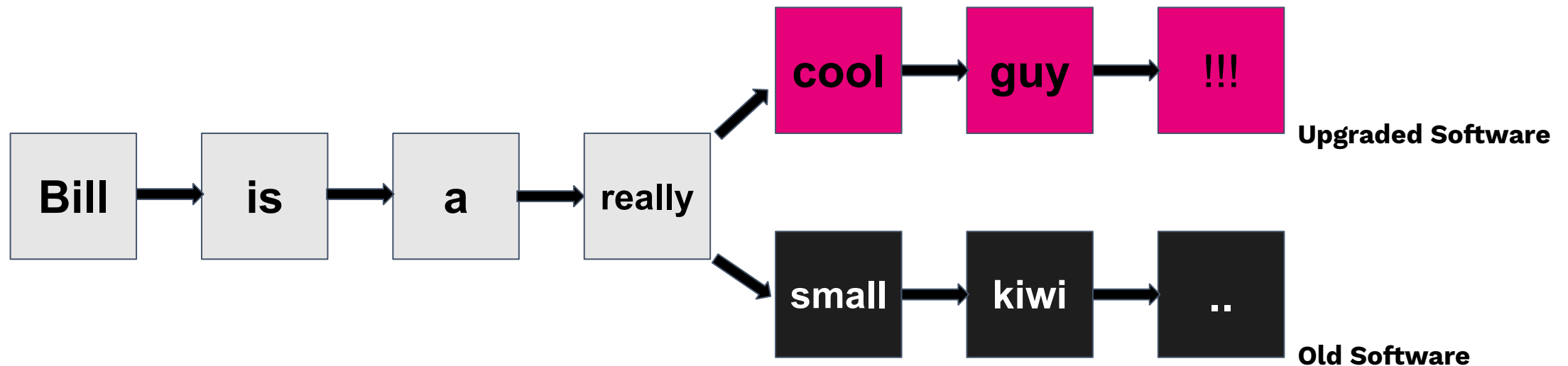


Upgrades are Difficult

Polkadot.

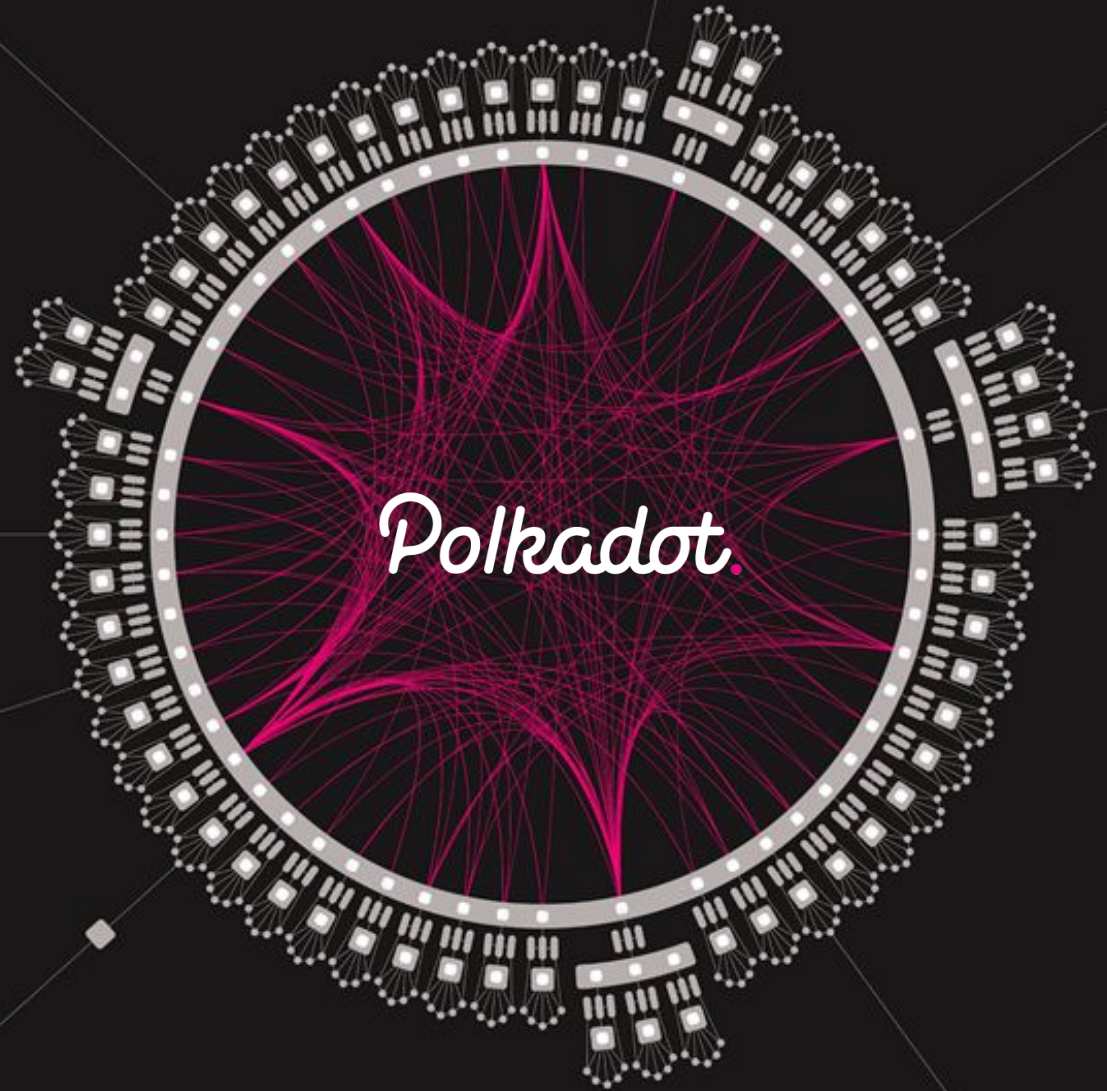
Upgrade Issues

- Everyone must upgrade software before any major change
- Otherwise, a “fork” occurs, where upgraders think one version of the chain is valid, non-upgraders think another



How do we solve these challenges?

Polkadot is a foundational building block of the new web that enables humans, enterprises, and governments to use private and secure applications that don't rely on trusting a third party.

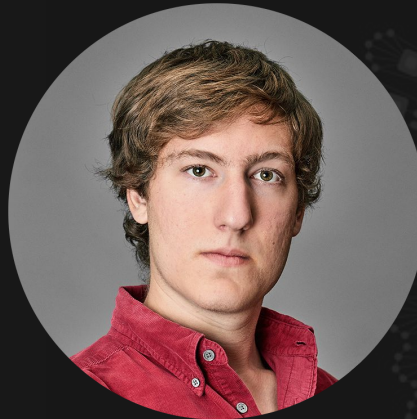


Polkadot was founded by some of the blockchain industry's leading builders



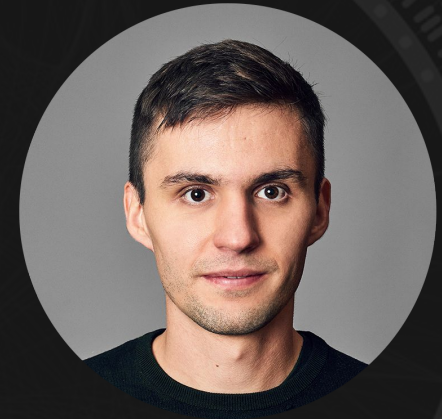
Dr. Gavin Wood

Polkadot co-founder
Web3 Foundation president;
co-founder and former chief
technology of Ethereum



Robert Habermeier

Polkadot co-founder
Thiel Fellow



Peter Czaban

Polkadot co-founder
Web3 Foundation
technology director

Polkadot.

The two organizations behind Polkadot.



Web3 Foundation

~50 employees

Renowned research team

Zug, Switzerland



Parity Technologies

~120 employees

6 years of blockchain development

Berlin, Germany

Polkadot.



**Connects
networks together**



**Handles heavy traffic
at scale**



**Industry-leading
security**



**Enables custom-made
platforms built for
specific apps**



**Revolutionizes online
governance thru open,
community-driven
decision-making**

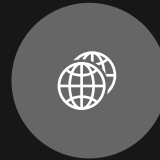


**Self-upgrades
allowing it to be
future-proof**

Polkadot.



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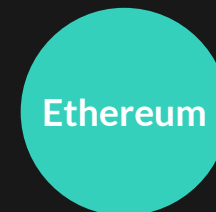
**Single blockchains can be built to
do one thing really well**

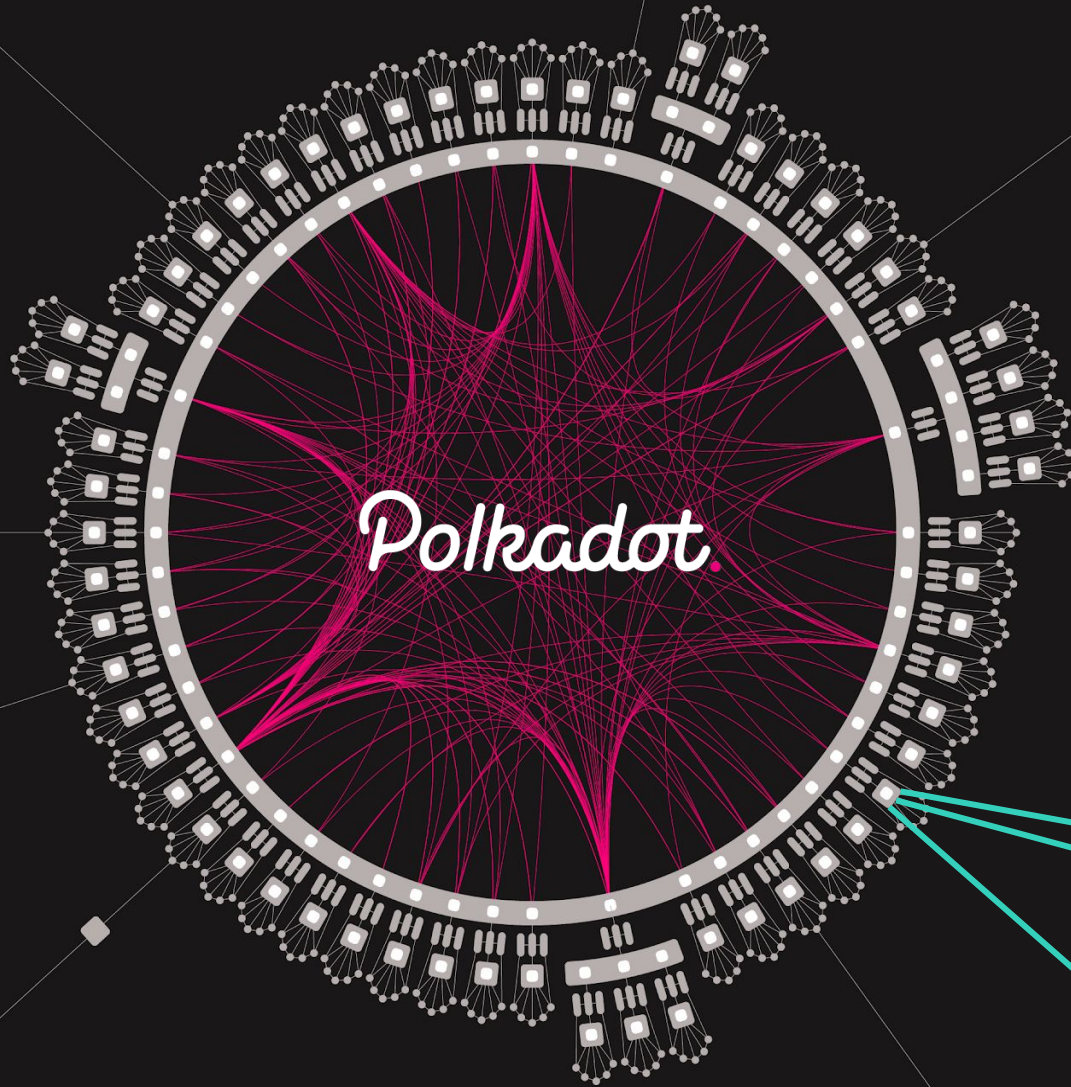


Custom blockchain built
on top of Polkadot



**Single blockchains can also be built
to attempt to do a lot things just ok**





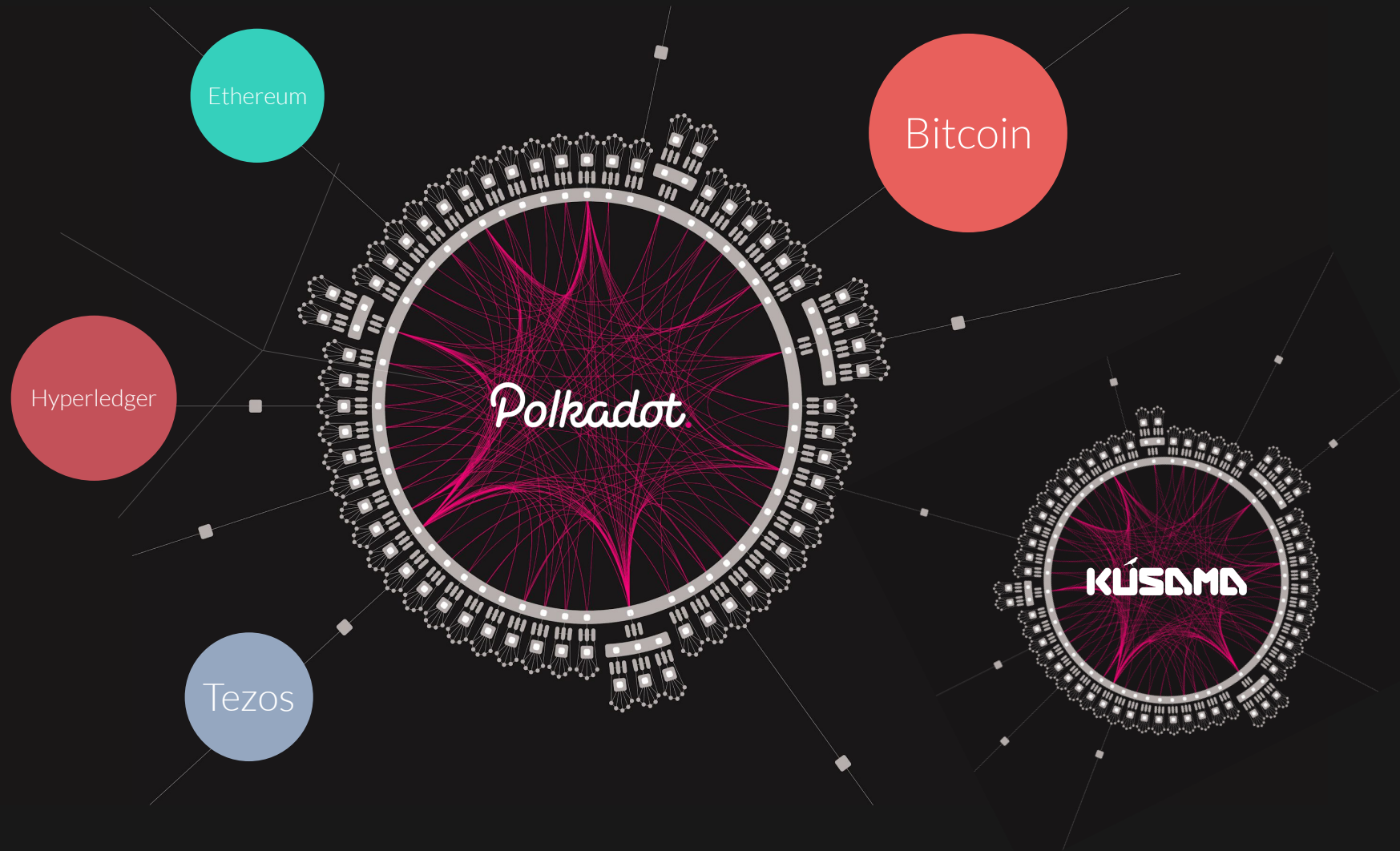
Polkadot connects a network of custom-built blockchains into one



Blockchains are custom-built on Polkadot for specific uses

Example custom blockchains: IOT, finance, insurance, gaming, music, identity, government, data storage

Polkadot also uses bridges to connect to legacy networks and Polkadot's cousin network, Kusama



Polkadot.



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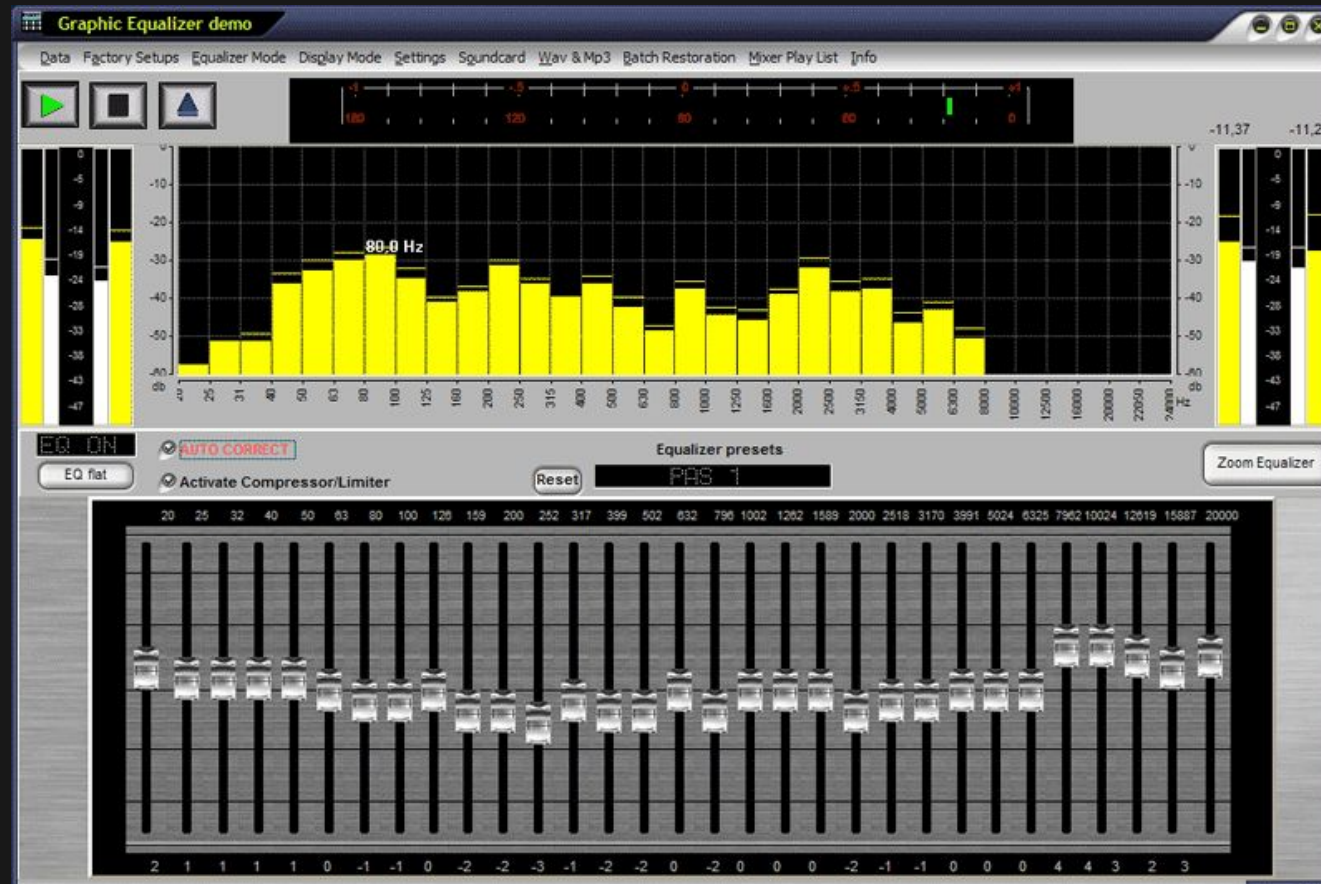
**Self-upgrades
allowing it to be
future-proof**



Customization

Blockchains on Polkadot are custom-built and optimized for specific uses, like a producer would use a music equalizer

Polkadot.

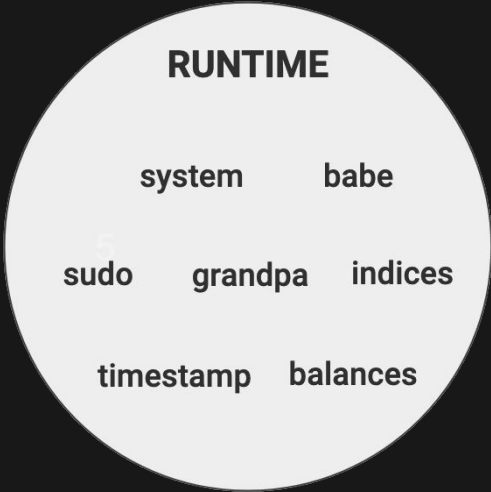




Customization

Blockchains on **Polkadot** are custom-built and optimized for specific uses with a tool called **Substrate**

Substrate FRAME Pallets			
assets	babe	balances	collective
contract	democracy	elections	grandpa
indices	grandpa	indices	membership
offences	session	staking	sudo
system	timestamp	treasury	and more...



*Check out the new substrate.io website for info and tutorials on Substrate

Polkadot.



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networks together**



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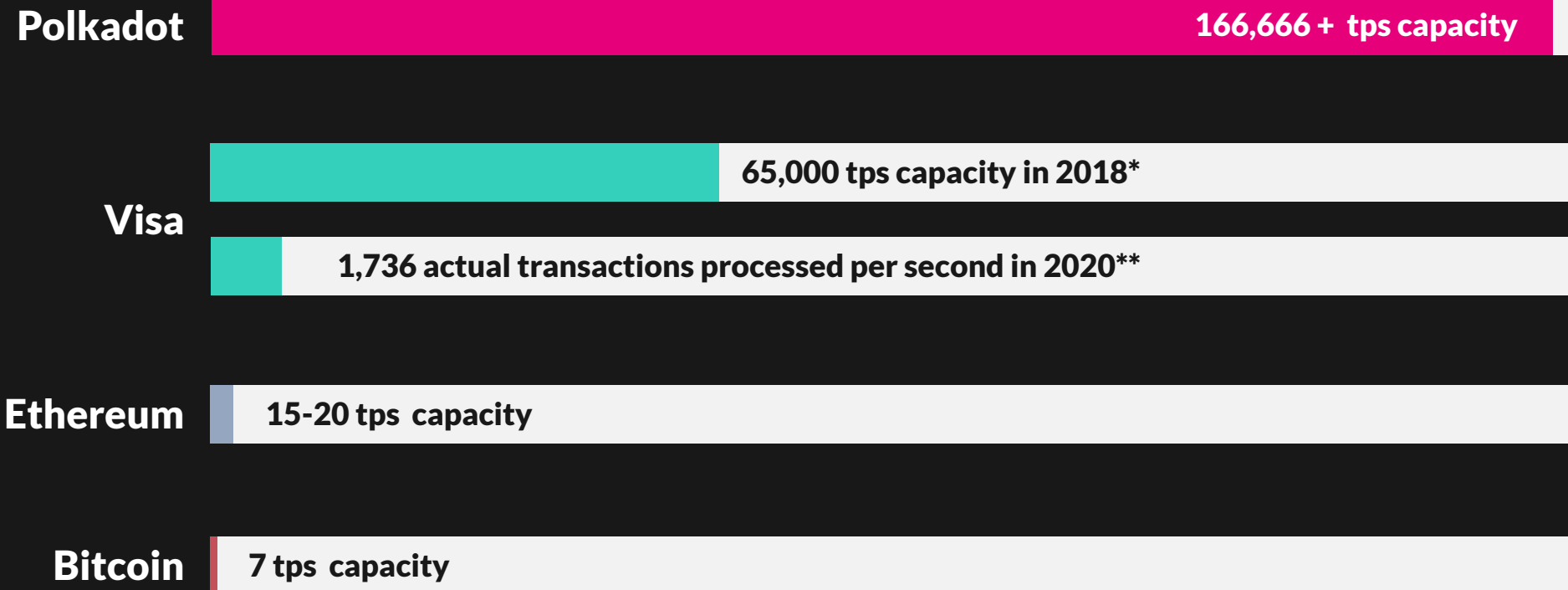
**Revolutionizes online
governance thru open,
community-driven
decision-making**



**Self-upgrades
allowing it to be
future-proof**

Polkadot handles transactions at the scale of global commerce

Polkadot.



*<https://usa.visa.com/dam/VCOM/download/corporate/media/visanet-technology/aboutvisafactsheet.pdf>

**<https://usa.visa.com/run-your-business/small-business-tools/retail.html>

Polkadot.



**Connects
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**Self-upgrades
allowing it to be
future-proof**

Blockchain governance

- 1 No governance
- 2 One person or small group decides on the network's future
- 3 The community proposes and votes on decisions that impact the network's future

Polkadot's novel governance system puts decisions on the network's future in the hands of users instead of an individual

DOT holders can contribute to the future of Polkadot in several ways



Propose a
public
referendum

Prioritize
public
referenda

Vote on all
active
referenda

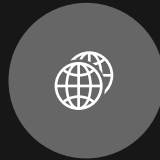
Vote for
council
members

Become a
council
member

Polkadot.



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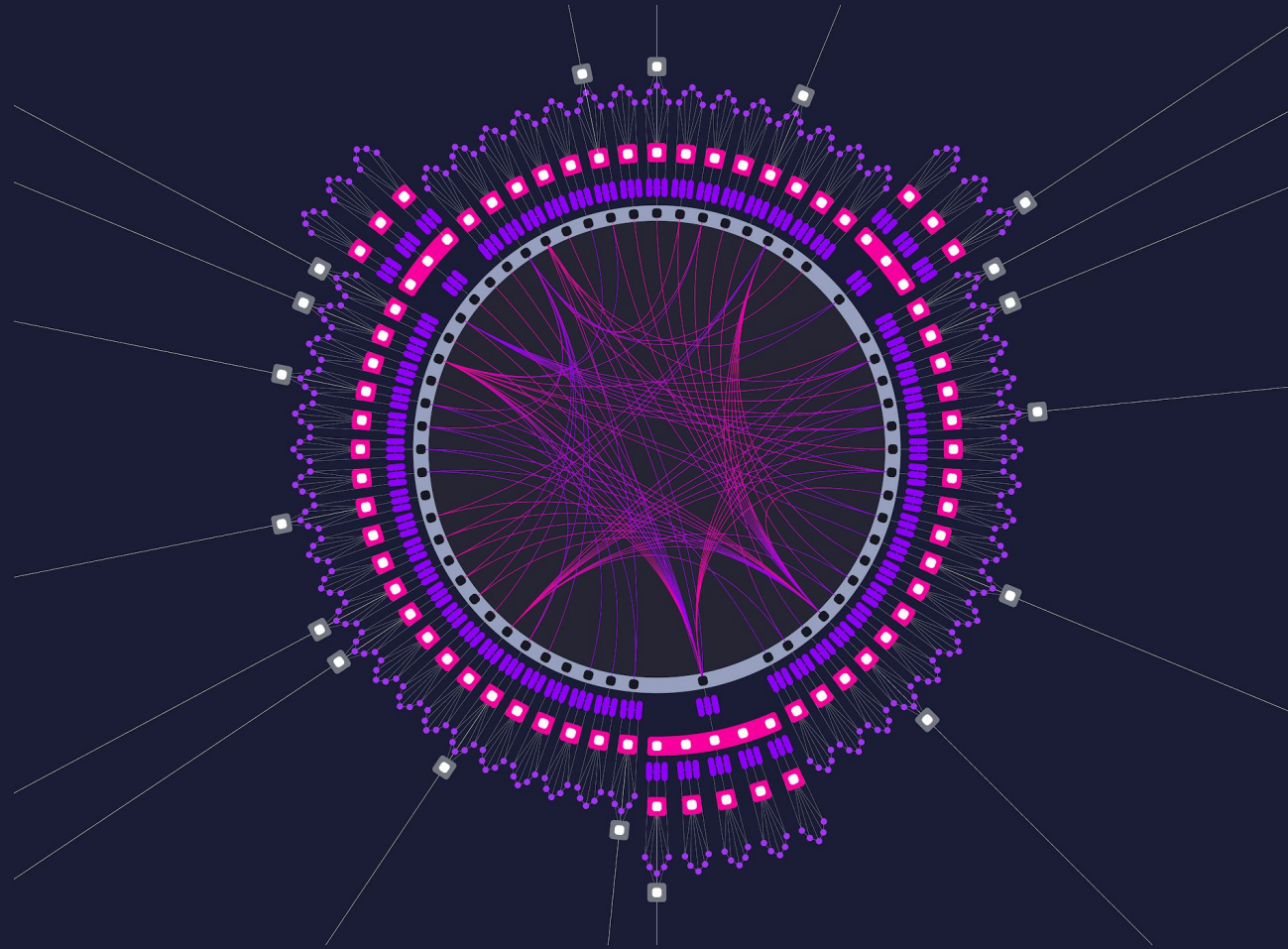
**Revolutionizes online
governance thru open,
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**Self-upgrades
allowing it to be
future-proof**

Polkadot makes security easy for new blockchain teams by
allowing them to **plug right into** an existing security system...

Polkadot.



...and focus on what they do best, **coding.**

Polkadot.



**Connects
networks together**



**Handles heavy traffic
at scale**



**Industry-leading
security**



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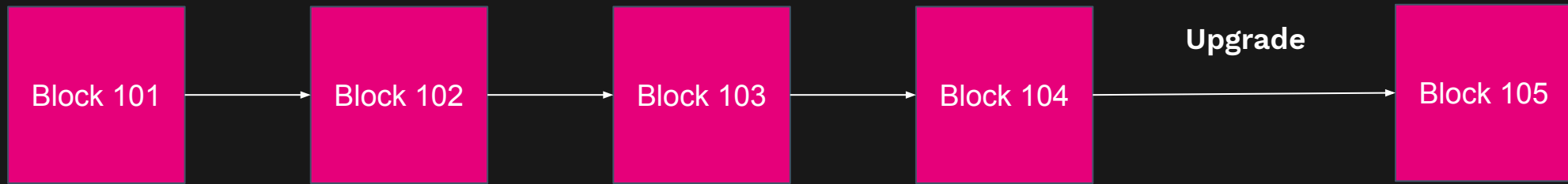
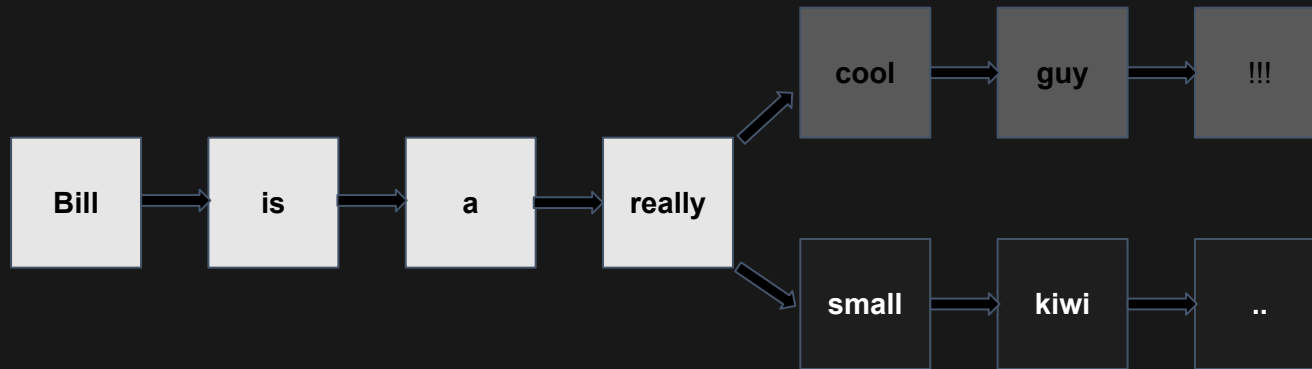


Future-proof

Polkadot.

Polkadot can easily upgrade its entire network without splitting the community and splitting the chain

Legacy
blockchain
upgrades



A world built on Polkadot

Application Layer

Facebook, Email, Chrome Browser, YouTube

TCP/IP

SMTP

HTTP

BROWSER

Tech that
Connected
Internet
Networks

Application Layer

SubSocial (decentralized social networking), Acala
(decentralized finance & trading), Brave Browser

SUBSTRATE

**POLKADOT
CONSENSUS**

**CROSS CHAIN
MESSAGE
PASSING**

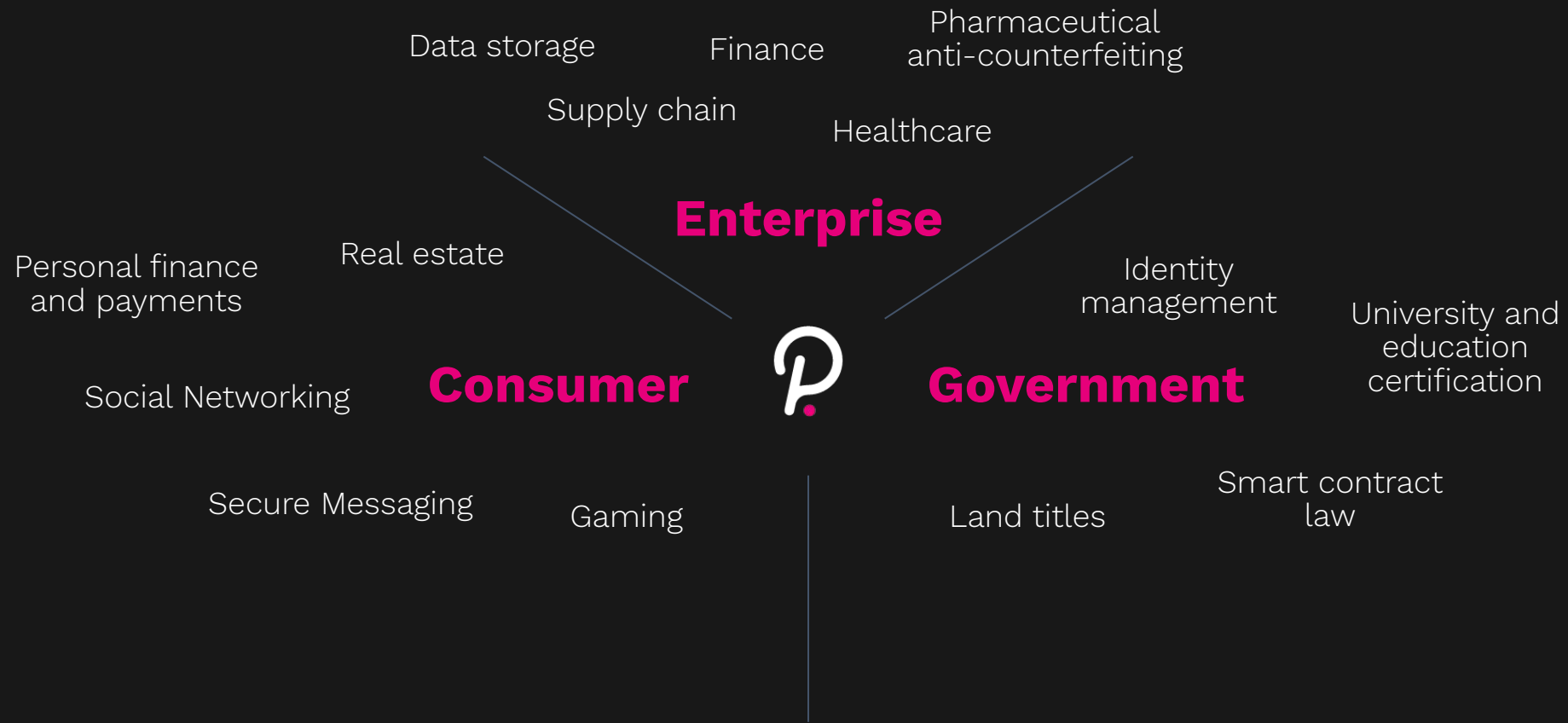
BRIDGES

Tech
Connecting
Distributed
Networks in
Web 3.0

Just like with databases, end users shouldn't notice their app uses a blockchain



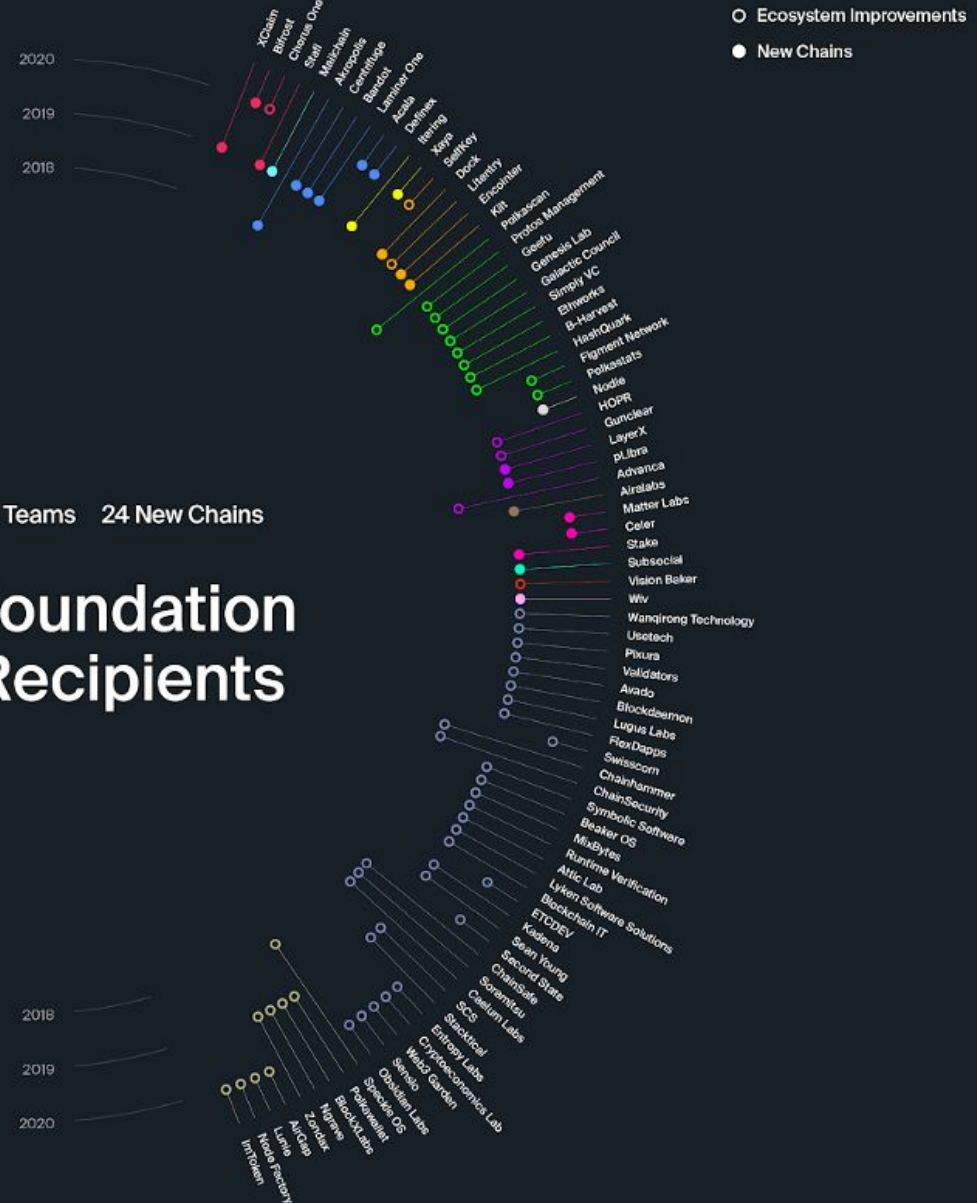
A world built on Polkadot





100 projects 83 Teams 24 New Chains

Web3 Foundation Grant Recipients



Thank you

Get involved

- [Polkadot Ambassador Program](#)
- [Polkadot Telegram channel](#)

Learn and stay updated

- [Polkadot Twitter](#)
- [Polkadot YouTube](#)
- [Polkadot Blog](#)
- [Polkadot Email Newsletters](#)
- [Substrate.io](#)
- [Polkadot Wiki](#)

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