A blockchain is a digital ledger of all cryptocurrency transactions. It is constantly growing as "completed" blocks are added to it with a new set of recordings. Each block contains a cryptographic hash of the previous block, a timestamp, and transaction data. Bitcoin nodes use the block chain to differentiate legitimate Bitcoin transactions from attempts to re-spend coins that have already been spent elsewhere.

The main reason for using blockchain is that it allows for a distributed, decentralized, and secure way of storing data. By using blockchain, there is no need for a central authority to manage and store the data. Instead, the data is stored on a network of computers, which makes it much more secure.

The potential uses of blockchain technology are nearly limitless. Some of the most promising applications include: 1. Supply chain management:

Blockchain can be used to track the movement of goods throughout the supply chain, from raw materials to the finished product. This would increase transparency and efficiency while reducing costs.

- 2. Identity management: Blockchain could be used to store and manage identity information. This would allow individuals to control their own data and reduce the risk of identity theft.
- 3. Voting: Blockchain could be used to create a secure, transparent, and tamper-proof voting system. This would increase confidence in the electoral process and reduce the risk of fraud.
- 4. Healthcare: Blockchain could be used to store and share medical records. This would increase the security and privacy of patient data while making it more accessible to authorized individuals.
- 5. Real estate: Blockchain could be used to streamline the process of buying and selling property. This would reduce the need for third-party intermediaries and improve the efficiency of the market.

## DECENTRALIZED FINANCE

Decentralized finance (DeFi) is a term used to describe the shift from traditional, centralized financial systems to peer-to-peer finance enabled by decentralized technologies built on the Ethereum blockchain.

DeFi applications are built on Ethereum and use smart contracts to enable a wide range of financial services, including lending, borrowing, and trading. These applications are open source and permissionless, meaning anyone can use them.

The DeFi ecosystem has grown rapidly in recent years, with the value locked in Ethereum smart contracts reaching over \$13 billion in 2020. This growth has been driven by the launch of new protocols and applications, as well as an influx of users and capital.

## DECENTRALIZED FINANCE APPLICATION

A decentralized finance application is a software program that enables users to access and interact with decentralized finance protocols and platforms. Decentralized finance applications allow users to manage their digital assets, create and execute smart contracts, and interact with decentralized applications (DApps).

## NEED OF DECENTRALIZED FINANCE APPLICATIONS

The need for decentralized finance applications arises from the fact that traditional financial institutions are centralized. This means that they are subject to the risks associated with centralization, such as single points of failure and the potential for corruption.

Decentralized finance applications are designed to overcome these risks by distributing power and control among a network of users. This can provide a number of benefits, such as increased security, resilience, and transparency.

## WHAT MAKES THEM DIFFERENT AND USE OF THEM

There are a few key ways in which decentralized finance (DeFi) applications differ from traditional finance applications

- : 1. DeFi applications are built on top of decentralized infrastructure, such as blockchain networks. This means that there is no central point of control or failure.
- 2. DeFi applications tend to be open source, meaning that anyone can audit the code and verify that it is working as intended.

- 3. DeFi applications often use crypto assets as collateral, which can help to reduce counterparty risk.
- 4. DeFi applications can offer a wider range of features and functionality than traditional finance applications, due to the lack of restrictions imposed by centralized infrastructure.
- 5. DeFi applications can help to democratize finance by making financial services accessible to anyone with an Internet connection.