GRADUATE INSTITUTE GENEVA

Economics of Bitcoin and Cryptocurrenies

Bastiaar Quast

The Basic

The Economics

The Social

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Bastiaan Quast

The Graduate Institute, Geneva

April 15, 2014



Overview

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The Economic:

The Social Value 1 The Basics

2 The Economics

3 The Social Value

The Basics?

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The Basics

The Economics

The Socia Value

- What is Bitcoin?
 - some more stuff

How does Bitcoin Work?

- wallet
- private key
- public address
- signature
- blockchain

When is Bitcoin useful?

- Capital Controls
- Financial inclusion / empowerment

- Middle men
- remittances

Is Bitcoin Money?

- medium of exchange
- unit of account
- 3 store of value
- 4 legal tender?!

Is Bitcoin Legal

currency vs. financial asset



The Economics

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Denationalized Money: Hayek's Paradise

- no government control
- no inflation
- limited number -> information asymentry -> market failure

Cryptocurrencies and Inflation

■ not with a cryptocoin, but through plurality



The Social Value

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The Social Value Is Mining Socially Wasteful?

- compared to what? paper money? coins? gold?
- what happens to the costs?

Proof of Stake

■ inflation or not