**Research plan**

**Blockchain technologies**

# Overview

During this semester I will perform research on the topic of Blockchain technologies. I have chosen this topic because it is one of the currently emerging trends in the IT world, and I would like to learn more about the possibilities it offers.

# Goal

The goal of the document is to outline the structure of my research and to define my approach to the problem. This is achieved by defining the research questions and methods that are relevant to the topic. I will be using the methods from the [DOT Framework](https://ictresearchmethods.nl/Methods) to help answer my research questions.

# Deliverables

When the research is completed, I will deliver a research document containing all the information gathered during the given timeframe.

# Research questions & methods

**Main research question:**

What usage can blockchain technologies find in the future?

* **Brainstorm** – By applying this method, innovative ideas will be generated. Those ideas will then be investigated thoroughly to filter out ones that are not suitable for this context.

**Sub-questions:**

What are blockchain technologies used for currently?

* **Available product analysis** – Investigating the already existing applications would give me more clarity on what the use cases for blockchain are.
* **Literature study** – It is important to acquire general information and details about blockchain to have a better understanding of the topic of the topic.

What problems can blockchain solve?

* **Problem analysis –** Identifying what problems modern software systems face would give clarity on the strengths of blockchain, as well as what it can be used for.
* **Community research –** By investigating the community of blockchain and getting behind why this technology is used from the point of view of customers, I would have a better overview of why blockchain is used in some cases.

What are the drawbacks of using blockchain technologies?

* **Problem analysis –** Identifying what problems occur that are related to the usage of blockchain would give me a clearer view of the technology itself, as well as what is preventing it from being more widely used.
* **Literature study** – Gathering general information about blockchain technology would bring forward the disadvantages of the technology, as well as give insight on how to work around those disadvantages.