Epistemology of BTC

This notebook serves to analyze best approaches to explaining BTC.

by Steven Black October 2023

Raw data

This data comes from the file "btc-epistemology.xlsx". Just copy the range that includes the subjects column and the prerequisite "1" marks.

```
In[34]:= exceldata = "block
        1
                1
                                                     1
    block reward
                            1
        1
             1
                             1
                                         1
    blockchain
        1
    block time
        1
    change
        1
                                                        1 1
    change address
        1
                                                        1 1
    coinbase tx
                    1 1 1
    halving
        1
                    1
                             1
    hashing
        1
    issuance
                        1
        1
                        1
    mempool
              1
```

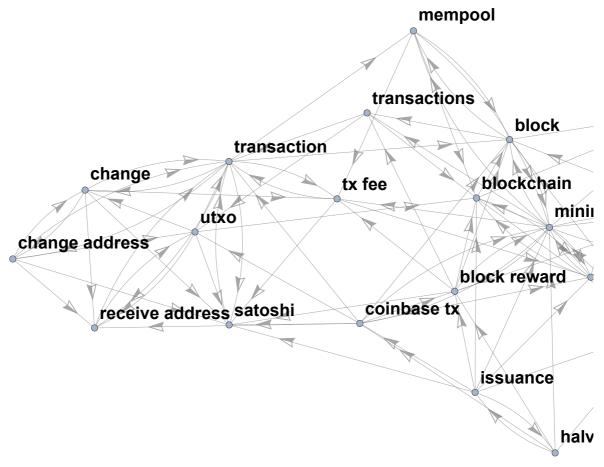
```
1
                          1
mining 1 1 1
          1 1 1 1
                                        1 1
mining difficulty 1
                     1
mining diff adj
 1
              1 1
                         1
proof of work
                    1
   1
              1
                 1
receive
   address
              1
                       1
satoshi
       1
transaction 1
                          1
   1
                                      1 1 1
                     1
tx fee
   1
     1 1
transactions
   1
   1
        1
utxo
                    1
      1
  1
           1
";
rawdata = ImportString[
 StringReplace[
  StringReplace[
   StringReplace[
    StringReplace[
     StringReplace[exceldata, {
      "\t\n" → ", 0\n"
      , "\t" → ", "
      }
     ]
     ", ," → ", 0,"
```

```
}]
          , {
           ", ," → ", 0,"
          }]
         , {",
              " \rightarrow ", 0"}
        1
        , "\n' \rightarrow "\n'"
       1
       , "CSV"
      ]
Out[35]=
     {{block, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0},
      {block reward, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0},
      {blockchain, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0},
      {block time, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0},
      {change, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0},
      {change address, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1},
      {coinbase tx, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1},
      {halving, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0},
      \{issuance, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0\},\
      {mempool, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0},
      \{\text{mining}, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0\},\
      {mining diff adj, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0},
      {proof of work, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0},
      {transaction, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0},
      {utxo, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0}}
In[36]:= subjects = rawdata[All, 1];
     data = rawdata[All, 2;;];
In[38]:= literals =
       Sort[Flatten[List[subjects[#[1]]] → subjects[#[2]]]] & /@ Position[data, 1]]];
     literals // Length
Out[39]=
     100
In[40]:= Column[literals]
Out[40]=
     block → hashing
     block → mempool
     block → mining
     block → transactions
     blockchain → block
```

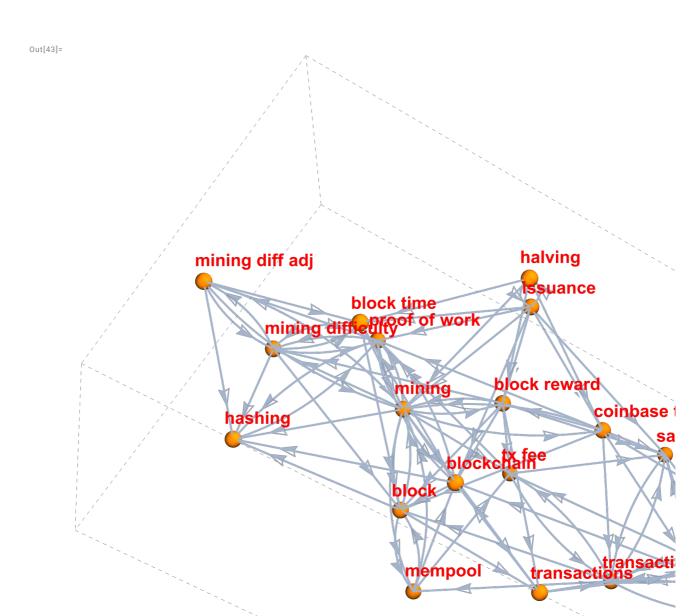
blockchain → block time blockchain → hashing blockchain → proof of work $block\ reward \rightarrow block$ block reward → blockchain block reward → mining block reward → mining difficulty block reward → satoshi block reward \rightarrow transactions block reward \rightarrow tx fee $block\ time \rightarrow block$ block time → mining block time \rightarrow mining difficulty change → change address $\textbf{change} \rightarrow \textbf{receive address}$ change → satoshi $change \rightarrow transaction$ change \rightarrow tx fee change address → change $\textbf{change address} \, \rightarrow \, \textbf{receive address}$ change address → satoshi change address \rightarrow transaction change address → utxo $\texttt{coinbase} \ \texttt{tx} \to \texttt{block}$ coinbase tx → block reward coinbase $tx \rightarrow mining$ coinbase $tx \rightarrow proof of work$ coinbase tx → receive address coinbase tx → satoshi coinbase $tx \rightarrow transaction$ coinbase $tx \rightarrow utxo$ halving → block reward $\texttt{halving} \to \texttt{block} \ \texttt{time}$ halving → coinbase tx halving → issuance halving → mining hashing → proof of work issuance → blockchain $issuance \rightarrow block\ reward$ $issuance \rightarrow block time$ $\texttt{issuance} \rightarrow \texttt{coinbase} \ \texttt{tx}$ issuance → halving issuance → mining $issuance \rightarrow proof of work$ $issuance \rightarrow satoshi$ $mempool \rightarrow block$ mempool → blockchain mempool → mining $mempool \rightarrow tx fee$ mining → block $mining \rightarrow blockchain$ mining → block reward $mining \rightarrow coinbase tx$ $mining \rightarrow hashing$

```
mining \rightarrow mempool
       mining \rightarrow mining diff adj
       mining → mining difficulty
       mining \rightarrow proof of work
       mining \rightarrow transactions
       mining \rightarrow tx fee
       mining diff adj → block time
       mining diff adj → hashing
       mining diff adj \rightarrow mining
       mining diff adj → mining difficulty
       mining diff adj \rightarrow proof of work
       mining difficulty → block
       mining difficulty \rightarrow block time
       mining difficulty → hashing
       \hbox{mining difficulty} \to \hbox{mining diff adj}
       mining difficulty \rightarrow proof of work
       proof of work → blockchain
       proof of work → hashing
       proof of work → mining
       proof of work \rightarrow mining difficulty
       receive address \rightarrow transaction
       receive address → utxo
       satoshi → transaction
       \texttt{transaction} \rightarrow \texttt{block}
       transaction \rightarrow change
       transaction → change address
       transaction \rightarrow mempool
       transaction → receive address
       transaction → satoshi
       transaction \rightarrow tx fee
       transactions → blockchain
       transactions → transaction
       transactions \rightarrow utxo
       tx fee → proof of work
       tx fee → satoshi
       tx fee → transaction
       utxo → blockchain
       utxo → change
       utxo \rightarrow receive address
       utxo → satoshi
       utxo \rightarrow transaction
 In[41]:= vertices = VertexList[literals]
Out[41]=
       {block, hashing, mempool, mining, transactions, blockchain,
        block time, proof of work, block reward, mining difficulty,
         satoshi, tx fee, change, change address, receive address,
         transaction, utxo, coinbase tx, halving, issuance, mining diff adj}
```

```
In[42]:= twoD = Graph[
         literals
         , VertexSize → Small
         , VertexLabels → "Name"
         , VertexLabelStyle → Directive[Black, 18, Bold]
         , EdgeStyle → Directive[Gray]
         , EdgeShapeFunction → {{"CarvedArrow", "ArrowSize" → .02}}
Out[42]=
```



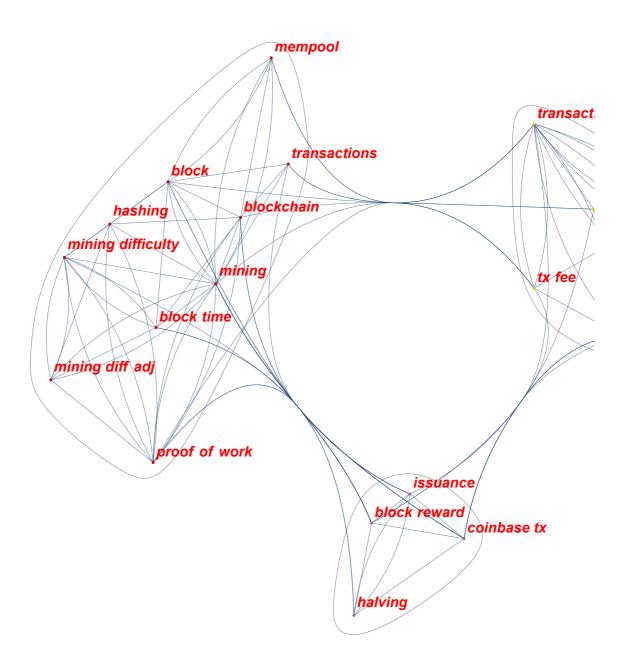
```
In[43]:= threeD = Graph3D[
       literals
        , Boxed → True
        , BoxStyle → Directive[Dashed]
        , VertexLabels → "Name"
        , VertexLabelStyle → Directive[Red, 18, Bold]
        , VertexSize → 0.2
        , VertexStyle → Orange
        , EdgeStyle → Directive[Thick]
        , EdgeShapeFunction → {{"CarvedArrow", "ArrowSize" → .02}}
      ]
```



Community Graph

```
In[44]:= CommunityGraphPlot[
        literals
        , ImageSize → 900
        , ImageMargins \rightarrow 20
        , VertexSize \rightarrow 0.05
        , VertexLabels → "Name"
        , CommunityBoundaryStyle \rightarrow Automatic
        , VertexLabelStyle \rightarrow Directive[Red, Italic, Bold, 15]
        (*, EdgeShapeFunction \rightarrow \{\{"CarvedArrow", "ArrowSize" \rightarrow .01\}\}*)
      ]
```

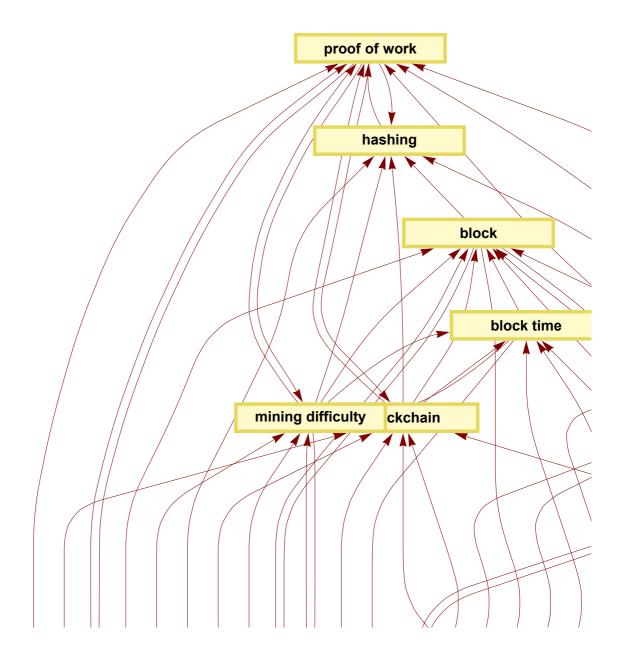
Out[44]=

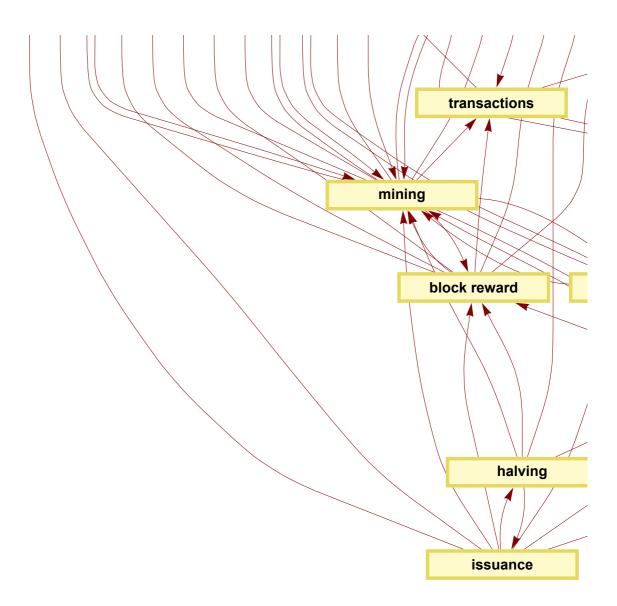


Layered Graph

In[45]:=

```
In[46]:= LayeredGraphPlot[
          literals
          , Bottom
          , ImageSize → 1200
          , ImageMargins \rightarrow 20
          , VertexSize \rightarrow \{2.75, .5\}
          , AspectRatio \rightarrow 1
          , VertexLabelStyle → Directive[Bold, 15]
          (*,VertexSize→0.05
          , VertexLabels→"Name"
          , \texttt{EdgeShapeFunction} \mathbin{\verb+}\{ \texttt{"CarvedArrow"}, \texttt{"ArrowSize"} \mathbin{\to} .02 \} \}
          , PlotTheme \rightarrow "ClassicDiagram"
         ]
Out[46]=
```





In[47]:= ReverseSortBy[Table[{vertices[x], VertexDegree[literals][x]}, {x, 1, Length[vertices]}], Last] Out[47]= {{mining, 20}, {transaction, 15}, {proof of work, 12}, {block, 12}, {coinbase tx, 11}, {block reward, 11}, {blockchain, 11}, {mining difficulty, 10}, {utxo, 9}, {satoshi, 9}, {issuance, 9}, {tx fee, 8}, {change, 8}, {block time, 8}, {receive address, 7}, {mining diff adj, 7}, {mempool, 7}, {hashing, 7}, {change address, 7}, {transactions, 6}, {halving, 6}}

Scoring prerequisites and complexities

Prerequisites Scores

```
In[48]:= prerequisites = AssociationThread@@ (ReverseSortBy[
             Table[{
                vertices[x]
                , VertexInDegree[literals][x]}
               , {x, 1, Length[vertices]
              }]
             , Last]
            // Transpose
      prerequisites // Dataset[
          , ItemStyle \rightarrow {Black}
          , HeaderStyle \rightarrow Bold
          , HeaderBackground \rightarrow LightYellow
          , MaxItems → (vertices // Length)
        ] &
```

Out[49]=

mining	9
transaction	8
satoshi	8
proof of work	8
block	8
blockchain	7
hashing	6
tx fee	5
receive address	5
mining difficulty	5
block time	5
utxo	4
block reward	4
transactions	3
mempool	3
coinbase tx	3
change	3
mining diff adj	2
change address	2
issuance	1
halving	1

Complexity Scores

```
In[50]:= complexity = AssociationThread@@ (ReverseSortBy[
             Table[{
               vertices[x]
               , VertexOutDegree[literals][x]}
              , {x, 1, Length[vertices]}]
           ]
           // Transpose
         );
     complexity // Dataset[#, ItemStyle \rightarrow {Black}, HeaderStyle \rightarrow Bold,
         HeaderBackground → LightYellow, MaxItems → (vertices // Length)] &
```

Out[51]=

mining 11 issuance 8 coinbase tx 8 transaction 7 block reward 7 utxo 5 mining difficulty 5 mining diff adj 5 halving 5	
coinbase tx 8 transaction 7 block reward 7 utxo 5 mining difficulty 5 mining diff adj 5	
transaction 7 block reward 7 utxo 5 mining difficulty 5 mining diff adj 5	
block reward 7 utxo 5 mining difficulty 5 mining diff adj 5	
utxo 5 mining difficulty 5 mining diff adj 5	
mining difficulty 5 mining diff adj 5	
mining diff adj 5	
halving 5	
change address 5	
change 5	
proof of work 4	
mempool 4	
blockchain 4	
block 4	
tx fee 3	
transactions 3	
block time 3	
receive address 2	
satoshi 1	
hashing 1	

Prerequisite minus Complexity Scores

In[52]:= ReverseSort[Merge[{prerequisites, -complexity}, Total]] // ${\tt Dataset[\#, ItemStyle \rightarrow \{Black\}, HeaderStyle \rightarrow Bold,}$ HeaderBackground → LightYellow, MaxItems → (vertices // Length)] &

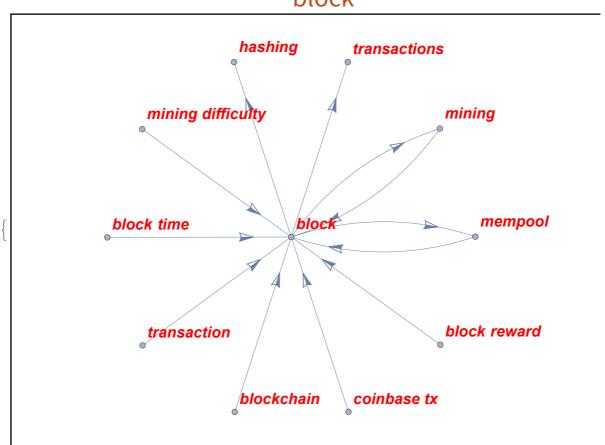
Out[52]=

satoshi7hashing5block4proof of work4receive address3blockchain3block time2tx fee2transaction1transactions0mining difficulty0mempool-1utxo-1change-2mining-2change address-3mining diff adj-3block reward-3halving-4coinbase tx-5issuance-7		
block proof of work receive address blockchain block time tx fee tx fee transaction fransactions mining difficulty mempool -1 utxo change -2 mining change address mining diff adj block reward halving -4 coinbase tx -5	satoshi	7
proof of work receive address blockchain 3 block time 2 tx fee 2 transaction 1 transactions mining difficulty mempool -1 utxo -1 change -2 mining -2 change address mining diff adj block reward halving -4 coinbase tx -5	hashing	5
receive address block chain block time tx fee tx fee 2 transaction 1 transactions mining difficulty mempool -1 utxo -1 change -2 mining change address mining diff adj block reward halving -4 coinbase tx -5	block	4
block time 2 tx fee 2 transaction 1 transactions 0 mining difficulty 0 mempool -1 utxo -1 change -2 mining -2 change address -3 mining diff adj -3 block reward -3 halving -4 coinbase tx -5	proof of work	4
block time 2 tx fee 2 transaction 1 transactions 0 mining difficulty 0 mempool -1 utxo -1 change -2 mining -2 change address -3 mining diff adj -3 block reward -3 halving -4 coinbase tx -5	receive address	3
tx fee 2 transaction 1 transactions 0 mining difficulty 0 mempool -1 utxo -1 change -2 mining -2 change address -3 mining diff adj -3 block reward -3 halving -4 coinbase tx -5	blockchain	3
transaction 1 transactions 0 mining difficulty 0 mempool -1 utxo -1 change -2 mining -2 change address -3 mining diff adj -3 block reward -3 halving -4 coinbase tx -5	block time	2
transactions 0 mining difficulty 0 mempool -1 utxo -1 change -2 mining -2 change address -3 mining diff adj -3 block reward -3 halving -4 coinbase tx -5	tx fee	2
mining difficulty mempool utxo change -2 mining change address -3 mining diff adj block reward halving -4 coinbase tx -1 0 -1 -1 -2 -3 -3 -3 -3 -3 -3 -3 -3 -3	transaction	1
mempool -1 utxo -1 change -2 mining -2 change address -3 mining diff adj -3 block reward -3 halving -4 coinbase tx -5	transactions	0
utxo -1 change -2 mining -2 change address -3 mining diff adj -3 block reward -3 halving -4 coinbase tx -5	mining difficulty	0
change -2 mining -2 change address -3 mining diff adj -3 block reward -3 halving -4 coinbase tx -5	mempool	-1
mining -2 change address -3 mining diff adj -3 block reward -3 halving -4 coinbase tx -5	utxo	-1
change address -3 mining diff adj -3 block reward -3 halving -4 coinbase tx -5	change	-2
mining diff adj -3 block reward -3 halving -4 coinbase tx -5	mining	-2
block reward -3 halving -4 coinbase tx -5	change address	-3
halving -4 coinbase tx -5	mining diff adj	-3
coinbase tx -5	block reward	-3
	halving	-4
issuance –7	coinbase tx	- 5
	issuance	-7

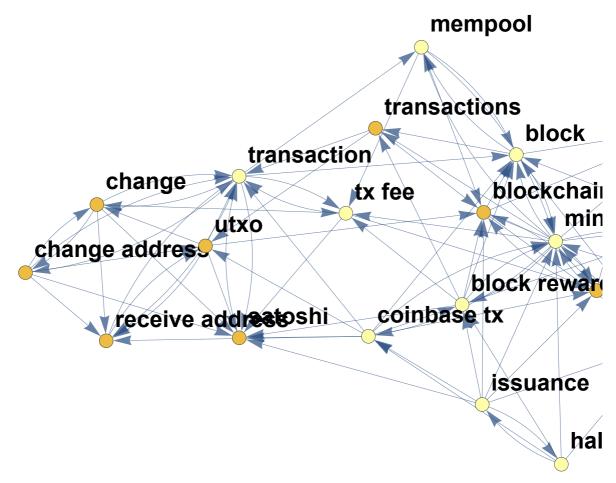
Vertex views

```
In[68]:= Table[
        Labeled[
          Framed[
           Graph[
            Select[literals, #[1] == x || #[2] == x &]
            , ImageSize → {600, 400}
             , ImageMargins \rightarrow 20
             , VertexSize → 0.05
             , VertexLabels → "Name"
             , VertexLabelStyle → Directive[Red, Italic, Bold, 16]
            , EdgeShapeFunction \rightarrow {{"CarvedArrow", "ArrowSize" \rightarrow .04}}
           ]
          ]
          , x
          , Top
          , LabelStyle → "Section"
         , {x, vertices}
       ]
Out[68]=
```

block



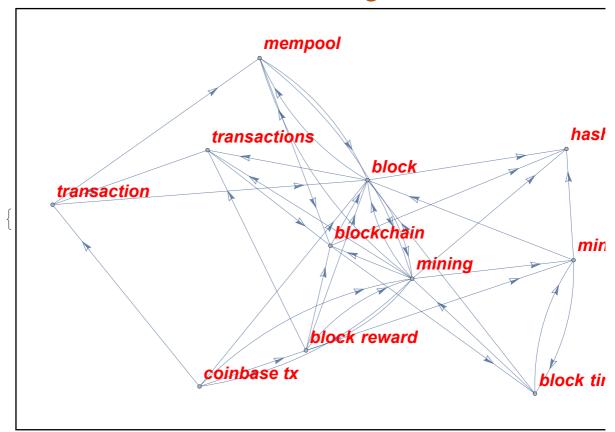
```
In[54]:= literals // Length
Out[54]=
       100
 In[55]:= ve = Table[VertexEccentricity[literals, v], {v, vertices}];
       HighlightGraph[literals, Table[
         Style[v, ColorData["TemperatureMap", ve[VertexIndex[literals, v]]] / Max[ve]]],
         \{v, vertices\}], VertexLabels \rightarrow "Name",
        VertexLabelStyle → Directive[Black, 24, Bold]]
Out[56]=
```



```
In[57]:= Table[
       Labeled[
        Framed[
         NeighborhoodGraph[
           literals
           , х
           , ImageSize → 700
           , ImageMargins \rightarrow 20
           , VertexSize \rightarrow 0.05
           , VertexLabels \rightarrow "Name"
           , VertexLabelStyle → Directive[Red, Italic, Bold, 18]
           , EdgeShapeFunction → {{"CarvedArrow", "ArrowSize" → .02}}
         ]
        ]
        , StringJoin[x, " neighborhood"]
        , LabelStyle \rightarrow "Section"
       , {x, vertices // Sort}
      ]
```

Out[57]=

block neighborhood



In[58]:= AssociationThread[VertexList[literals], VertexDegree[literals]] // ReverseSort Out[58]=

```
\langle\,\big|\,\mbox{mining} \rightarrow \mbox{20, transaction} \rightarrow \mbox{15, proof of work} \rightarrow \mbox{12,}
 block \rightarrow 12, coinbase tx \rightarrow 11, block reward \rightarrow 11, blockchain \rightarrow 11,
 mining difficulty \rightarrow 10, issuance \rightarrow 9, utxo \rightarrow 9, satoshi \rightarrow 9, change \rightarrow 8,
 tx fee \rightarrow 8, block time \rightarrow 8, mining diff adj \rightarrow 7, receive address \rightarrow 7,
 change address \rightarrow 7, mempool \rightarrow 7, hashing \rightarrow 7, halving \rightarrow 6, transactions \rightarrow 6 \mid \rangle
```

```
In[33]:= LayeredGraphPlot[
       literals
        , Bottom
        , ImageSize → 900
        , ImageMargins \rightarrow 20
        , VertexSize \rightarrow \{2.75, .5\}
        , AspectRatio \rightarrow 0.75
        , VertexLabelStyle \rightarrow Directive[Bold, 15]
        (*,VertexSize→0.05
        , VertexLabels→"Name"
        , {\tt EdgeShapeFunction} {\tt + \{"CarvedArrow", "ArrowSize" \rightarrow .02\}} \\
        , PlotTheme → "ClassicDiagram"
      ]
```

