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Blockchain identity management could replace passwords and fix many hacking problems

brian wang | December 1, 2017 |



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IBM, other large companies and startups are working on a global shift to decentralized identity that is built on [blockchain technology](#). This would mean a person would control their digital identity and would not need to use passwords for systems that interfaced with the ID system.

Blockchain provides distributed ledger technology as the foundation for decentralized identity. In this solution, trust is not rooted in any single point of control but is shared across participants in a network where each person has varying degrees of permission to view data.

Beyond just the technology, however, they must work as a community to establish standards and evolve regulations to work in a decentralized world.

IBM and others have joined the Decentralized Identity Foundation (DIF) as a complement to our current stewardship in the Hyperledger Project. Today, the Hyperledger Project has also announced that they are joining DIF as we together join like-minded organizations such as Microsoft, Evernym, the Sovrin Foundation, and others who aspire to make the vision of self-sovereign identity a reality.

A unified decentralized identity ecosystem requires addressing a set of fundamental user needs and technical challenges:

1. Enabling registration of self-sovereign identifiers that no provider owns or controls.
2. The ability to lookup and discover identifiers and data across decentralized systems.
3. Providing a mechanism for users to securely store sensitive identity data, and enabling them to precisely control what is shared with others.

DIF is working on specs and reference implementations

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Join us today! Thank you!

— *Brian Wang*

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for the following key deliverables:

- * Decentralized Identifiers (DIDs): the specification for establishing and managing identifiers rooted in decentralized systems
- * Universal Resolver: a server featuring a pluggable system of DID Method drivers that enables resolution and discovery of DIDs across any decentralized system
- * Universal Registrar: a server that enables the registration of DIDs across any decentralized system that produces a compatible driver.
- * Identity Hubs: secure personal datastores that coordinate storage of signed/encrypted data, and relay messages to identity-linked devices

At the moment, the Universal Resolver simply accepts an identifier as input, and returns the DID Document as a result. In the future, more advanced input options (such as queries for certain services or keys), as well as additional result information (such as “supplementary” details about the resolution process) can be supported.

They are working on client libraries in Java, Python, and NodeJS that will make it easy to access an instance of the Universal Resolver remotely



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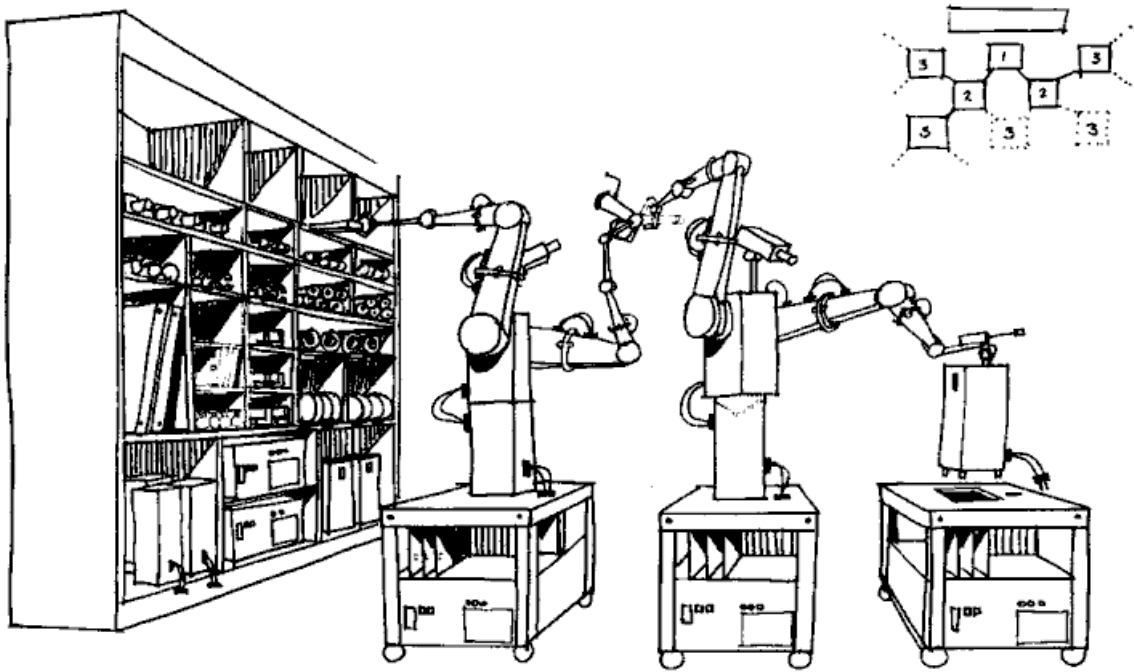
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True Immortality is hard even for civilization or humanity

brian wang | 1 December 2017



True immortality means living forever. Lasting forever is very hard even for a civilization or humanity.

What are things that put a species or civilization at risk of ending ?

We can look at the criteria for endangered species and

the opposite is needed for greater immortality.

1. Reduction in population size (50-70% or more reductions over 10 years).

Having a large and growing base of population can tolerate losing 100 million in a world war or tens of millions to smallpox.

2. Having fewer than 2500 mature adults puts an animal species on the endangered list.

Here is a graph of the history of the world jewish population.

It illustrates and how numbers and scale matter to survivability.

There is the fictional stories and movies about the Planet of the Apes. However, in reality there are only a [total world population of about 500,000 great apes](#).

3. Having a geographic range of less than 5000 square kilometers.

If there was a civilization on a South Pacific Island. No matter how much they fortify the island, certain events like a Tsunami or Volcano could wipe them no matter how well they managed their resources.

We know there are events that occur every 200 million years or so such as biosphere endangering Asteroid strikes.

Category 8+ supervolcanoes erupt about every million years. A total of 47 eruptions of VEI 8 magnitude or above, ranging in age from Ordovician to Pleistocene, have been identified, of which 42 occurred in the past 36 million years.

There are cosmic events such as supernova, microscopic blackholes which could be put life in a solar system at risk.

Technologies that would permit an interstellar colonization wave should be developed by 2100

There are technologies which are likely to be developed well before 2100 which will enable humans to travel at 10-99% of the speed of light and to have ships with high acceleration.

These technologies are:

Laser propulsion

Advanced molecular nanotechnology

Nuclear fusion space propulsion

Producing significant quantities of antimatter and harnessing it for propulsion

Advanced molecular nanotechnology and nuclear fusion will also enable large spaceships to be perpetually self sustaining. The ships will be able to gather all resources from asteroids and convert them for appropriate use.

People in spaceships with advanced nanotechnology and fusion would be able to detect a star going supernova and move away to escape any destructive blast.

Our current civilization is beyond disasters or wars that would wipe out any Island based civilization. A future nanotech-fusion space faring civilization would be beyond any planetary or solar system based disaster.

Self replicating colonization waves

A civilization using self replicating systems and traveling at 50% of the speed of light could send out a colonization wave that would colonize the entire galaxy within 200,000 years.

Here self replicating colonization waves beyond 50% of the speed of light should be safe if the speed of light limit was absolute.

ONE RESPONSE



December 1, 2017

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Japan's Slow Demographic Apocalypse – 90,000 per year are dying and rotting alone in Japan

brian wang | 1 December 2017



Experts estimate about 30,000 people per year are dying alone in Japan and many have bodies discovered weeks later. Yoshinori Ishimi, who runs the Anshin Net service that cleans up afterwards, believes the true figure is “twice or three times that” (60,000 to 90,000)

A combination of uniquely Japanese cultural, social and demographic factors have compounded the problem.

Japan’s social safety net has failed to keep pace – with the burden still on the family to look after the elderly.

There is a rising of single people and the size of the family becoming smaller.

In the past three decades, Japan has seen the share of single-occupant households more than double to 14.5 per cent of the total population, the rise driven mainly by men in their 50s and women in their 80s and older.

In a bid to be polite, elderly Japanese people fear to disturb their neighbors even to ask for help in the most trifling matters, resulting in a lack of interaction and isolation, expert Fujimori said.

Some 15 per cent of elderly Japanese people living alone report having only one conversation a week, compared to

five per cent of their peers in Sweden, 6 per cent in the US and 8 per cent in Germany, according to a Japanese government study.

In 2016, there were an estimated 1,296,000 deaths in Japan. There were 981,000 births in 2016. The population fell by 315,000.

2 COMMENTS



goatguy

December 1, 2017

New comment system? WooHoo! Can't wait.

We're talking about the [b]demographic collapse of Japan[/b] though. I feel that the problem is very real: that the [i]integration of past births[/i] compounded by time, actuarial statistics and a further downward trendline in births is quite a problem.

However, before going rad, let's just look at what happens in the next 20–30 years.

Japan's population significantly decreases. So?

They are the masters of Robotics.

Perhaps (although no one could have predicted it 20+ years back) their dalliance with negative-growth isn't the worst thing to hit them. Seriously: since there are going to be [u]fewer jobs[/u] in the future, almost necessarily – then having a smaller future

workforce isn't a bad thing.

The declining population base further goes to maximizing the use of existing structures. There doesn't need to be an endless new building-boom. The existing metropolises don't have to keep expanding, taking up more valuable agricultural space. The subways don't need continual upsizing. The markets – if they're presently adequate – will remain adequate. Congestion on roads might decline with the auto-driving boom soon to hit.

Indeed: I think "the problem" of a declining population is "all in the head". Stable civilizations do not necessarily need to keep growing. They actually demonstrate additional personal prosperity when net income remains steady and the number of people depending on it declines.

What I envision happening is all very Human at the core: whilst the mind-set of the young is guided into deep recycling, concern for environment, the unnecessary-ness of having kids, and the financial burden kids impose, well ... the population will decline. Every child will be a princess or prince. Cherished, spoiled, self-certain. Lousy "playing well with others".

And further of the opinion that their comfy lives need little-to-no upset with raising kids. Much more fun to sip from the urn of Civilization's endless buffet of pleasures.

One bedroom living.

And that's OK!

But [b]perhaps at some point[/b] there will come a point where more workers ARE needed than the base of new working blokes and lasses can afford. Will Japan then turn against their age-old nature eschewing the need for immigrants? Nah... if there's one thing we can count on, The Japanese will largely stick to their old ways, sociologically.

But what WILL change will be the position of the civic message. Kids will be encouraged to think of their future beautiful, fun, silly, happy-and-sad children as one of the great Meanings of Life. The Shintos will get into the Kids-are-Good business. The pre-marriage counsellors will do the same. Advertisements on TV. Tax advantages. Income stipends. Government provided robotic Momma assistants. FREE larger living upgrades. The negative trend can definitely be economically driven to whatever comfortable level the planners have in mind.

Then just as gradually, new opportunitites will be filled. New short-term foreign worker permits issued. New push for additional robotics.

And the Japanese will attain whatever 'comfortable population' needed.

To keep their economy running at a “high state of tune”.

Just saying.

[b]Goat[/b]Guy

[Reply](#)



Nelson Swanberg

December 2, 2017

Goat, interesting comments – as usual. Any country or society faced with a population decline will see the value of most everything drop.

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