

 Crypto Timeline – Evolution of Digital Currencies  
  
**Objective/Aim:**  
  
 The objective of this lab is to explore how digital currencies have progressed over time, starting from early

cryptographic ideas to present-day blockchain-based cryptocurrencies. The study highlights important

breakthroughs, innovators, and the role of technology in shaping financial systems.

**Apparatus/Software Used:**

* Computer or Laptop with Internet
* Web Browser for online research
* Document editing software (MS Word / Google Docs)

**Theory/Concept:**

The idea of digital money has its roots in cryptography and secure online communication. In the 1970s, public-key cryptography provided the base for creating secure digital transactions. During the 1980s and 1990s, projects like **David Chaum’s eCash** and **DigiCash** attempted to introduce anonymous digital money, though they didn’t achieve mass adoption.

By 1998, **Wei Dai’s b-money** and **Nick Szabo’s Bit Gold** proposed decentralized models of electronic money, planting seeds for future cryptocurrencies.

The **2008 global financial crisis** revealed the fragility of centralized banking, motivating the release of **Bitcoin in 2009** by Satoshi Nakamoto. Bitcoin introduced blockchain technology — a decentralized, tamper-proof ledger that records transactions without needing a central authority.



**Procedure:**

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* Conduct research on the history of digital money and cryptography.
* Note early attempts such as eCash, DigiCash, b-money, and Bit Gold.
* Study the creation of Bitcoin, its purpose, and its link to the 2008 crisis
* Record the emergence of altcoins and their unique contributions.
* Create a timeline to represent developments in chronological order.
* Summarize the key technological shifts and their impact on finance.

**Observation Table:**





