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Beyond Bitcoin: Creative Destruction Through the Blockchain

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Introduction and Roadmap

- We are here to talk about Blockchains
- How do they work?
- Why are they great?
- What can we create?



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What is Bitcoin?

Silk Road Shutdown: NY US Attorney Seizes \$28 Million In Bitcoins Belonging To Ross Ulbricht

By Charles Poladian [@CharlieAllDay](#) [c.poladian@ibtimes.com](#) on October 26 2013 2:15 PM EDT

In the Murky World of Bitcoin, Fraud Is Quicker Than the Law

By NATHANIEL POPPER DECEMBER 5, 2013 6:58 PM 186 Comments


TECHNOLOGY **INSIDE THE DARK WEB**

Dark Net Drug Sales Using Bitcoins Are Booming After Fall Of Silk Road Marketplace

By Jeff Stone [@JeffStone500](#) [j.stone@ibtimes.com](#) on June 10 2015 12:20 PM EDT

Is Bitcoin the 'Mark of the Beast'? (Op-Ed)

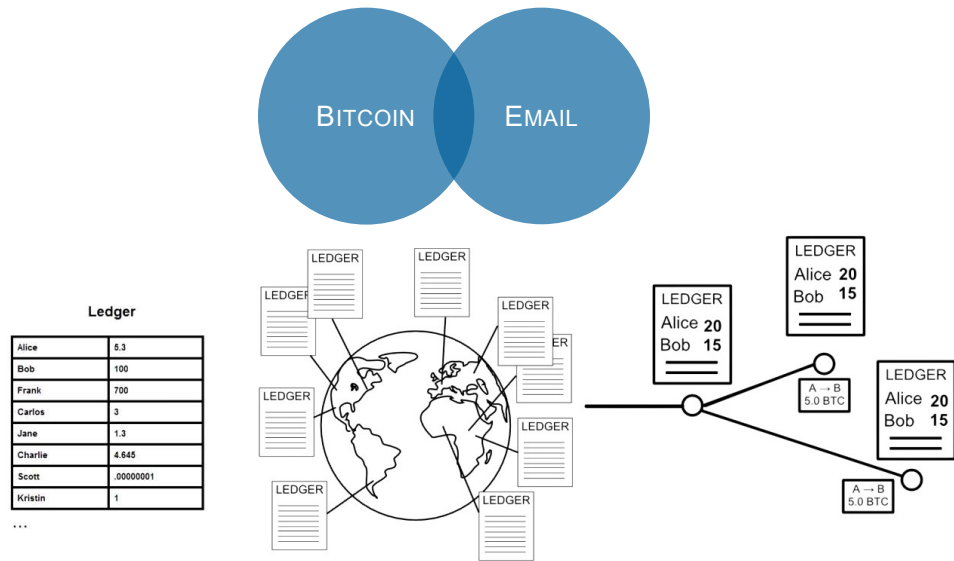
Author Amanda B. Johnson [Tip](#) 1 tip 2015-07-01 10:52 AM



Bitcoin is like email for money.



There is no Bitcoin Inc.



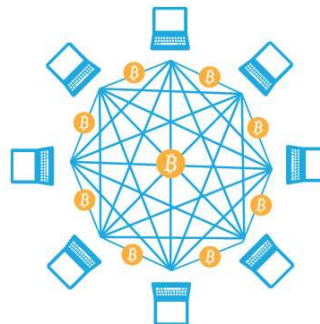
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Bitcoin is decentralized



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So, what's the big deal?

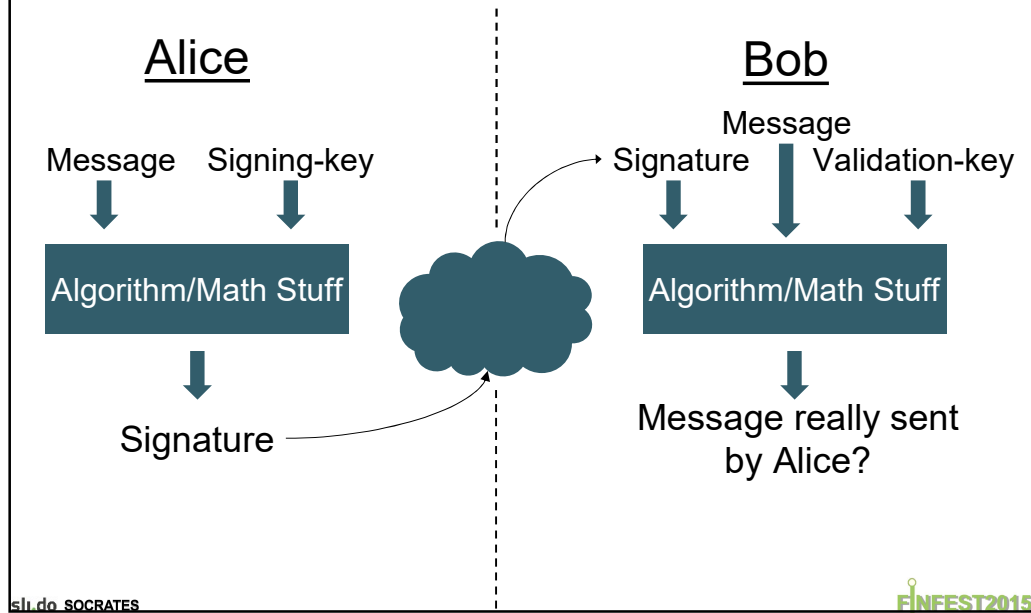
A few things are very easy to prove in real-life but very difficult to do virtually:

- Proving who you are
- Proving what you own

Let's take a look at how the blockchain helps us with all of those!

How can I prove it's me?

Digital Signatures Provide Proof of Identity



How can I prove I *have* something?

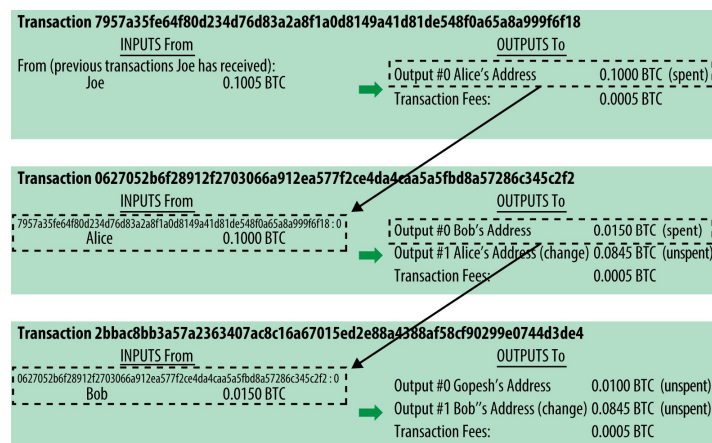
What is a Bitcoin?

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Transactions are the real base unit of the Blockchain

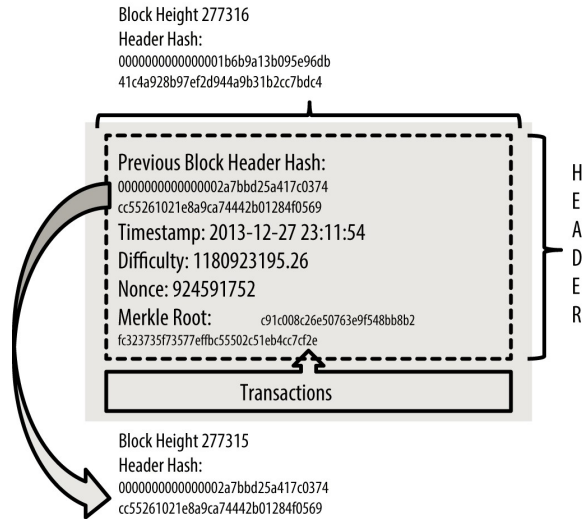
Transactions are made out of prior transactions



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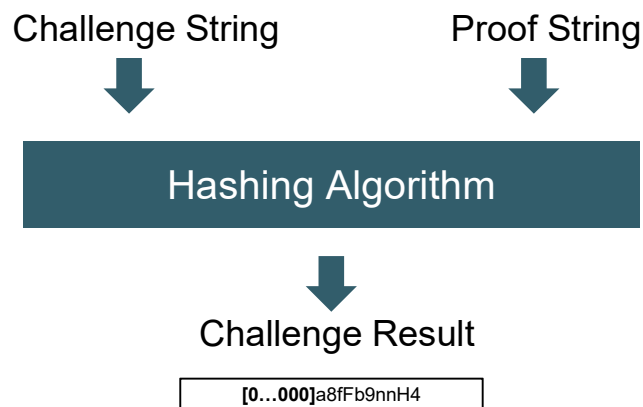
A Block Decomposed



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Proof of Work



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An Endless Array of Use Cases

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| Digital Content / Documents | Digital Identity |
| Smart Contracts | Reviews/Endorsements |
| Network Infrastructure/DNS | Currency Exchanges |
| Ride Sharing | Data Storage |
| Commodities Trading | Real Estate |



Decentralized Cloud Storage - *Storj*

- Files are encrypted before upload to the network
- Miners get paid for using their hard disk to store files
- Ownership of a file is verified using the blockchain ledger



Decentralized Asset Exchange - *BitShares*

- Buy/Sell Orders are maintained on the blockchain
- Smart Contracts can be enforced: Dividends can be paid out by verifying ownership of an equity share on the blockchain at a given date
- Trading fees are eliminated

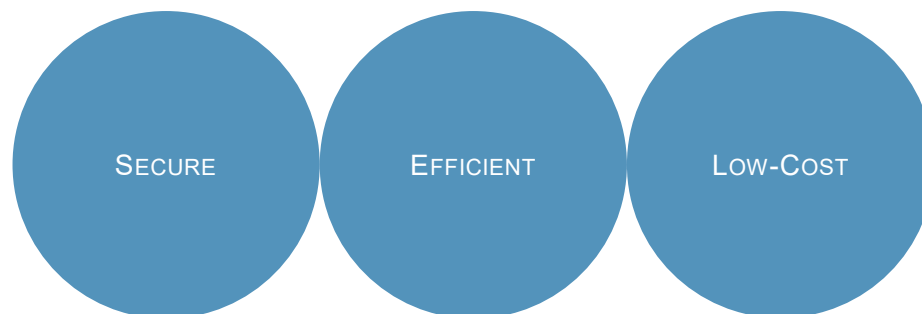




Our Company

FinFest Vote 2.0

- A Distributed, Trustless, and Efficient voting platform on the blockchain





Our Platform - Ethereum

- Blockchain capable of executing custom code called Smart Contracts
- More resilient to downtime, censorship, fraud or third party interference than the internet



Ethereum in Depth

- Ethereum smart contracts can call other smart contracts, allowing for code re-use
- Currently, a good heuristic to use is that you will not be able to do anything on the EVM that you cannot do on a smartphone from 1999
- Ether is the currency used in Ethereum
- In order to prevent deliberate attacks and abuse, the Ethereum protocol charges a market-based fee per computational step

Ethereum in Depth contd.

- The blockchain is one globally distributed VM
- It has its own machine code that it uses
- Multiple Programming Languages exist for it
- The programming language we used was Solidity
- Solidity code is compiled and then deployed

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Solidity in Depth

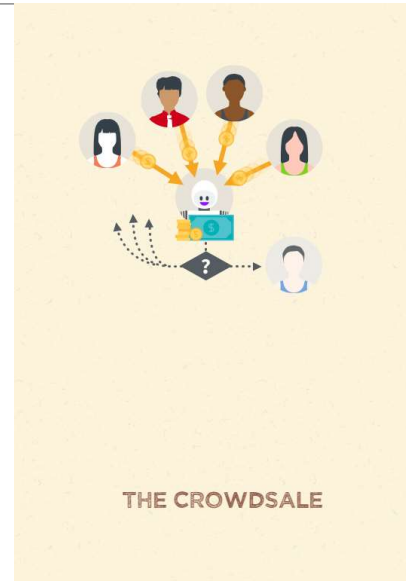
- Syntactically a mix between C++ and JavaScript
- Two types of variables state and local, state variables are stored permanently in the blockchain
- Statically typed and has value types and reference types
- Libraries can also be deployed to the blockchain and be used for importing code into a contract
- Contracts can inherit from other contracts
- Contracts can publish events

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Startups on the Ethereum Blockchain

1. Lets kickstart our project with a crowdsale!
2. We will use Ethereum to create a contract that will hold people's money until our funding goal is reached.
3. Depending on the outcome, the funds will either be released to us, or returned.
4. All without requiring a centralized arbitrator, clearing house, or needing to trust anyone.



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Funding in depth

Parameters:

- Funding Goal
- Deadline
- Beneficiary
- Exchange Rate of equity to Ether

... We got funded!
Now lets use the
blockchain to build our
application

```
contract Crowdsale {
    address public beneficiary;
    uint public fundingGoal; uint public amountRaised; uint public deadline; uint public price;
    token public tokenReward;
    Funder[] public funders;
    event FundTransfer(address backer, uint amount, bool isContribution);

    /* data structure to hold information about campaign contributors */
    struct Funder {
        address addr;
        uint amount;
    }

    /* at initialization, setup the owner */
    function Crowdsale(address _beneficiary, uint _fundingGoal, uint _duration, uint _price, token _re
        beneficiary = _beneficiary;
        fundingGoal = _fundingGoal;
        deadline = now + _duration * 1 minutes;
        price = _price;
        tokenReward = token(_reward);
    }

    /* The function without name is the default function that is called whenever anyone sends funds to
    function () {
        uint amount = msg.value;
        funders[funders.length++] = Funder({addr: msg.sender, amount: amount});
        amountRaised += amount;
        tokenReward.sendCoin(msg.sender, amount / price);
        FundTransfer(msg.sender, amount, true);
    }

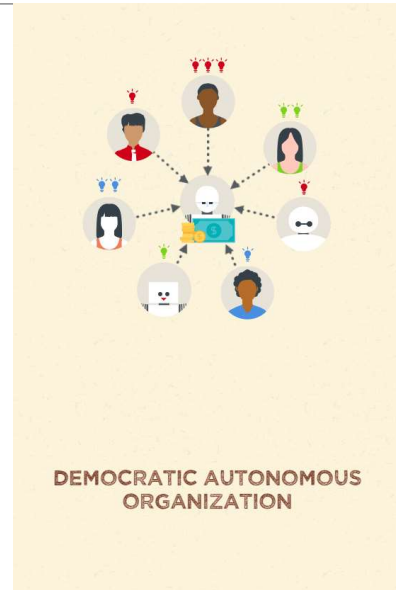
    modifier afterDeadline() { if (now >= deadline) _ }

    /* checks if the goal or time limit has been reached and ends the campaign */
    function checkGoalReached() afterDeadline {
        if (amountRaised >= fundingGoal) {
            beneficiary.send(amountRaised);
            FundTransfer(beneficiary, amountRaised, false);
        } else {
```

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Now, let's build FinFest Vote 2.0

1. We distributed shares – or voting rights – during funding.
2. Anyone who holds our share can vote on a proposal as needed.
3. Like any share, it can be traded on the open market and the vote is proportional to amounts of tokens the voter holds.
4. The voting system can never disappear, never be frauded and cannot be controlled by anyone other than its own shareholders.



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Lessons Learned/Summary

1. The blockchain is useful for creating an application that implements smart contracts: software programs that operate as intended, without censorship, fraud, or intervention.
2. This creates efficiencies in the marketplace, and can replace any entity that operates as an intermediary or ledger system – payment networks, stock exchanges, titles and contract enforcement, DNS.
3. The technology is not in its primetime yet, but it is easy to see how a number of applications may run on the blockchain due to the immense security and low overhead of the applications. It is how the Internet was supposed to work: no possibility of downtime, censorship, fraud or third party interference.
4. Our voting system is transparent, low-cost, incorruptible, and uncensorable.

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Thank you.

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