Bitcoin

Part 1 – Network and Data Structure

Prof. Marco Comuzzi



What is Bitcoin?

It is a public blockchain

It is a cryptocurrency: it is used by its users to record the exchange of digital "tokens", denominated BTC

Conceptually, the "state" of the Bitcoin blockchain is given by the BTC balance of all its nodes (accounts)

White paper published at the end of 2008



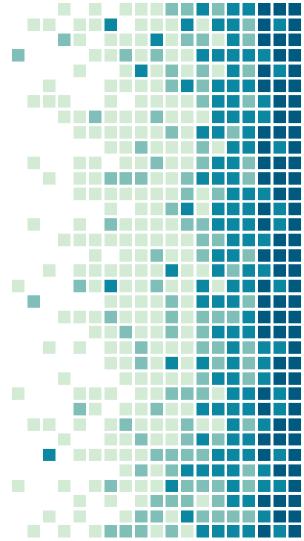
Bitcoin: A Peer-to-Peer Electronic Cash System

Satoshi Nakamoto satoshin@gmx.com www.bitcoin.org

Abstract. A purely peer-to-peer version of electronic cash would allow online payments to be sent directly from one party to another without going through a financial institution. Digital signatures provide part of the solution, but the main benefits are lost if a trusted third party is still required to prevent double-spending. We propose a solution to the double-spending problem using a peer-to-peer network. The network timestamps transactions by hashing them into an ongoing chain of hash-based proof-of-work, forming a record that cannot be changed without redoing the proof-of-work. The longest chain not only serves as proof of the sequence of events witnessed, but proof that it came from the largest pool of CPU power. As long as a majority of CPU power is controlled by nodes that are not cooperating to attack the network, they'll generate the longest chain and outpace attackers. The network itself requires minimal structure. Messages are broadcast on a best effort basis, and nodes can leave and rejoin the network at will, accepting the longest proof-of-work chain as proof of what happened while they were gone.



The Bitcoin Network

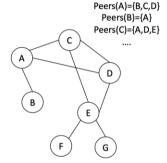


Ritcoin as a P2P Network

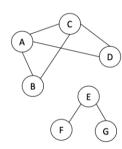
Bitcoin is a P2P network of computational nodes connected to the Internet

Anybody can download the Bitcoin client from https://bitcoin.org and run a Bitcoin node

Fully connected graph



Connected graph (Blockchain network)



Disconnected graph

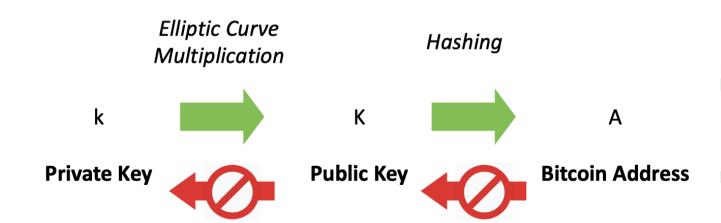


There exists also a Bitcoin "test" network, where BTC are "fake" (used for testing)

What is a Bitcoin address?

A node (account) in the Bitcoin network is associated with a unique private key, public key, and address.

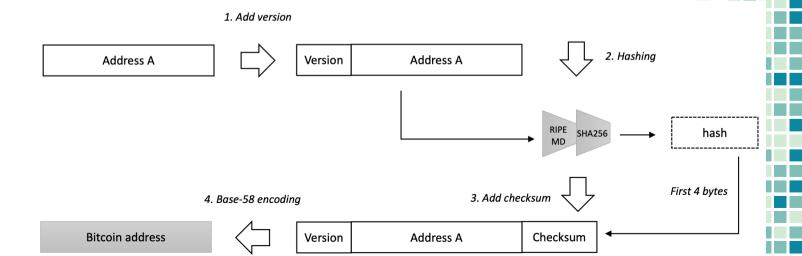
A new account is initialized by creating a random private key. Private, public key and Bitcoin address are mathematically linked



Format of Bitcoin addresses

Addresses are obtained by encoding the hash of the public key using the Base58check encoding

Base58check is more human readable and can be easily verified, thanks to the checkcsum



Bitcoin Address

1FYdZfNwQjmHgoxzXVcUSK2XAXNg7MY4W2

Address 1FYdZfNwQjmHgoxzXVcUSK2XAXNg7MY4W2 has 1 transaction on the Bitcoin blockchain. Last balance change was 2022-09-28 13:02:38 GMT +9. It has received a total of 0.00265247 BTC and has sent a total of 0 BTC. The current balance of this address is 0.00265247 BTC.



Bitcoin Address

16Vmt96W4psGeUbqPLjzmCr9jKnTbxjNig

Address 16Vmt96W4psGeUbqPLjzmCr9jKnTbxjNig has 517 transactions on the Bitcoin blockchain. Last balance change was 2022-09-28 13:02:38 GMT +9. It has received a total of 940.82917105 BTC and has sent a total of 940.82917105 BTC. The current balance of this address is 0 BTC.



Bitcoin Transactions and Ledger



Transactions in Bitcoin

The state of the Bitcoin network is determined by the BTC balance of all nodes (conceptually)

The nodes of the Bitcoin network issue transactions

Transactions signify the exchange of BTC among nodes (not only 1-to-1 exchange)



A Bitcoin transaction

Fee 0.00007874 BTC (41.010 sat/B - 10.253 sat/WU - 192 bytes)

Hash e27824e8c9a8f2fdd4c731c13ea6a057b21d5940a4d0b85473431d10ce6aea9e

15TUAsp5G8k18gXBdJA7jdMvPEaPr2KxLx

0.11847874 BTC 🖦

1CTtPA5hCgtydSCMbcWWnNTfdTRLBm1rVG

0.11840000 BTC

2018-09-26 00:56 0.11840000 BTC 49

Details 0

Weight

Fees

Hash e27824e8c9a8f2fdd4c731c13ea6a057b21d5940a4d0b85473431d10ce6aea9e

768

Status Confirmed

Received Time 2018-09-26 00:56

Size 192 bytes

Included in Block 543028

Confirmations 195.651

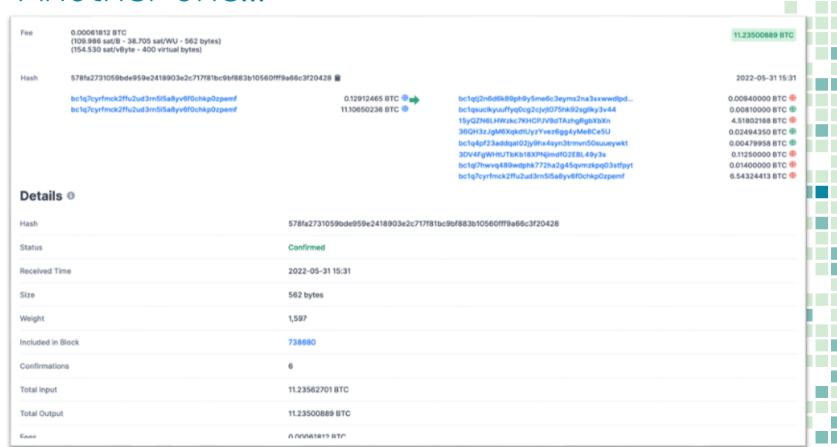
Total Input 0.11847874 BTC

Total Output 0.11840000 BTC

0.00007874 BTC

Marco Comuzzi @ mcomuzzi @ unistac.kr

Another one...

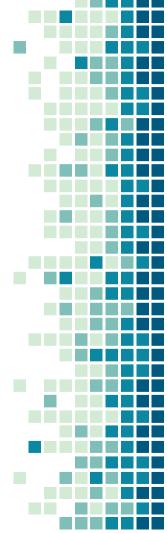


Bitcoin explorers and reality

Explorers make Bitcoin information easy to consult by anybody

To really understand how Bitcoin works, we need to look "under the hood", that is, at the "machine-readable" representation of Bitcoin transactions

Here we study the "JSON" representation



"size": 192. "vsize": 192. transaction "weight": 768, "locktime": 0. "vin": ["txid": "1d09a97d881c0ae4f6a7095686a0d759564b312014a7ea9ace92b1005c95f455". "vout": 1, "scriptSig": { "asm": "3045022100ea (", "hex": "483045022100ea(" "sequence": 4294967295 -(#1.010 sat/8 - 10.253 sat/WU - 192 bytes) e27824e8c9e8r25ss4c731c13ee6e057s21e5940e4e0b85473431d10ce6eede \$ 2018-09-26 00:56 "vout": [NETURAL SOMETHINGS AND AND PERFORMANCE 0.71847974 BTC *** 0.11840000 BTC 6 "value": 0.1184. Details 0 "n": 0. "scriptPubKey": { a 7.78.3 dashir Badif 2 Matrix 7.2 hr Chandra D.C. Pa, 2 Lettini d. Lat. State B. d. 7.3 d. 3 Let Universita annih "asm": "OP DUP OP HASH160 (", "hex": "76a9147dbf17155ee3019b0ca180ec0e8f9bdff43d5e4e88ac" 2018-09-26-00:58 "address": "1CTtPA5hCgtydSCMbcWWnNTfdTRLBm1rVG", 192 bytes "type": "pubkeyhash", "addresses": [Included in Bod "1CTtPA5hCgtydSCMbcWWnNTfdTRLBm1rVG" Conformation Total Input 0.11847974.970 "reqSigs": 1 Total Output 0.00007974 970 Marco Comuzzi @00 mcomuzzi@unistac.kr

A "real" Bitcoin

"txid": "e27824e8c9a8f2fdd4c731c13ea6a057b21d5940a4d0b85473431d10ce6aea9e",

"hash": "e27824e8c9a8f2fdd4c731c13ea6a057b21d5940a4d0b85473431d10ce6aea9e",

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```
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   "vout": 0,
   "scriptSig": {
     "asm": .( .
     "hex": -( . },
    "sequence": 4294967295
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   "n": 0.
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      "reqSigs": 1
                                                             Marco Comuzzi @ © mcomuzzi @ unistac.kr
```

Another one

Bitcoin transactions

Transactions in Bitcoin "produce" transaction outputs

As input, a transaction consumes one or more outputs produced by other transactions

The sum (in BTC) of all transaction inputs must be greater than the sum (in BTC) of all the outputs

The difference (in BTC) between transaction inputs and outputs is the fee



UTXOs

A UTXO (Unspent TX Output) is an output produced by a transaction and not yet used as input by any other transaction

A transaction can only use UTXOs as input

The state of the Bitcoin blockchain (= balance of all nodes) at a given time is fully determined by the list of UTXOs



UTX0s as magic banknotes

A UTXO controlled by a user (Alice) can be seen as a banknote owned by that user. For example, if Alice controls a UTXO valued 20 Bitcoins, it is like if she has a banknote worth 20 Bitcoins in her wallet.

Let us assume that Alice now wants to transfer 6 Bitcoins to Bob. Alice issues a new transaction that uses as input the 20 Bitcoins UTXO that she controls and produces two UTXOs as output: one controlled by Bob, valued 6 Bitcoins and one controlled again by Alice, valued 14 Bitcoins (actually a little less, because Alice also needs to pay a small fee!).

So, somehow, UTXOs are like magic banknotes that can be split by the owner into as many other banknotes as necessary.





```
"result": {
    "result": {
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                                                                                                                       "vsize": 192.
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                                                                                                                                        "txid": "1d09a97d881c0ae4f6a7095686a0d759564b312014a7ea9ac
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                                                                                                                                                 "hex": "483045022100ea2f8df5a63197a1a521408d3839cc
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                                                                                                                                        "sequence": 4294967295
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                                                                                                                       "vout":
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                                                                                                                                        "n": 0,
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                                                                                                                                                 "asm": "OP DUP OP HASH160 7dbf17155ee3019b0ca180ec
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                                  "addresses": [
                                                                                                                                                 "hex": "76a9147dbf17155ee3019b0ca180ec0e8f9bdff43d
                                          "3FdkDy6xaKvaugDtCaEiXqXW6oDt5hw9NC"
                                                                                                                                                 "regSigs": 1,
                                                                                                                                                 "type": "pubkeyhash",
                                                                                                                                                 "addresses": [
                                                                                                                                                          "1CTtPA5hCgtydSCMbcWWnNTfdTRLBm1rVG"
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                           "n": 1, 🛋
                           "scriptPubKey": {
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                                                                                                                       "blocktime": 1537890970
                                                                                                              "error": null,
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20
```

Digital signature of Bitcoin transactions

https://www.blockchain.com/btc/tx/15ce5e5b522 519b6bc931472ef93ccf1c051b477b81fc-24008 8237e50fcdb42

A Bitcoin transaction can also capture a N-to-M Bitcoin exchange

Fee 0.00003281 BTC 3.60834201 BTC (4.026 sat/B - 1.006 sat/WU - 815 bytes) 2021-10-19 23:30 15ce5e5b522519b6bc931472ef93ccf1c051b477b81fc0240088... Hash 15ce5e5b522519b6bc931472ef93ccf1c051b477 0.00089505 BTC (1) 0.00996722 BTC 1PG(b81fc0240088237e50fcdb42 3NcwtFUNsigvGUMyBtMKmmNmBoA5Wm4QRP 0.00009047 BTC # 19sGjJHKGDdD21ic5qQgm1Q6MBwKyC5nMZ 1NDvJtNTimwk5xPNhigAMu4HDHigtobu1s 3.59837479 BTC 1.50000000 BTC (1KDufTC9mAgxsLxCt7chu9qPF45NMkxmQW 1.98833513 BTC 🏶 1NHv6qBxu6haWj8rqeLqw9eyJqm4JT26R6 0.11905417 BTC # 1DHKUjABQyVkq6d4r2MJ9CCbimL4wibZPd

How can these transactions be digitally signed?

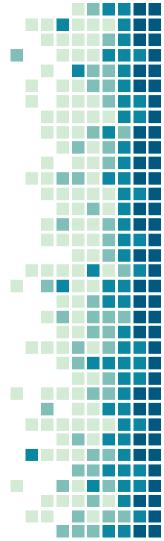
There would be one originator who issued the transaction, but the BTCs moved around are from multiple nodes...



Digital signature of Bitcoin transactions

Originators do not sign transactions (actually, it does not really matter who the originator is!)

Transactions inputs/outputs are digitally signed by their owners



Digital signature of UTXOs

Transaction outputs (UTXOs) are "locked" by the owner using a cryptographic puzzle

A solution of the puzzle can only be given using the private key of the owner.

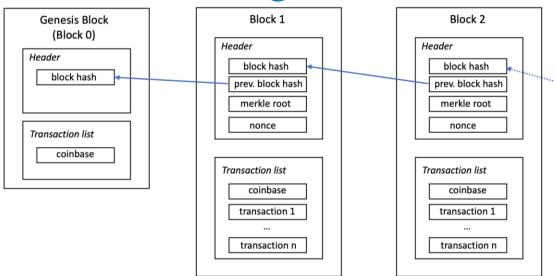
The solution of the puzzle must be given in order to use a UTXO as input of another transaction

Any other node can verify the correctness of a solution provided using an input's owner public key (when "validating" a transaction)

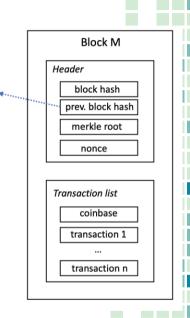


```
"result": {
                                                                                                            "result": {
                                                                                                                            "e27824e8c9a8f2fdd4c731c13ea6a057b21d5940a4d0b85473431d10ce6aea9e
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           "size": 223,
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24
```

The Bitcoin Ledger



Header: metadata about a block, including hashes
Transaction list, including the "coinbase" transaction



• • •

Header of a block

Hash of the block: SHA256 hash of the content of the block, also used as a unique id of the block.

Block height: a progressive number identifying the block. The genesis block has height equal to 0.

Hash of the previous block: including the hash of the previous block in a block guarantees the immutability of the blockchain ledger.

Merkle root: this value is calculated based on the data structure in which the transactions belonging to a block are stored. We do not discuss this aspect of the Bitcoin blockchain in detail in this course. It is important to quickly verify whether a given transaction (identified by its unique id) belongs or not to a block.

Nonce: an integer number. The value of this integer number is set by the 'block mining' process (consensus mechanism). From the point of view of the functioning of the Bitcoin blockchain (i.e., transfers of tokens and state updates), it has no particular meaning.



Block 738656 0

USD

https://www.blockchain.com/btc/block/00000000 <u>000000000073ef06543252dce1cc24c9e31a6d68</u>

48d892ffc824f71

втс

This block was mined on May 31, 2022 at 11:30 AM GMT+9 by ViaBTC. It currently has 293 confirmations on the Bitcoin blockchain.

Hash

Height

Miner

Difficulty

Merkle root Version

Bits

Weight

Size

Nonce

Transaction Volume

Block Reward

Fee Reward

Confirmations Timestamp

Number of Transactions

293

738656 **ViaBTC**

1,758

2022-05-31 11:30

29,897,409,688,833.63

0x20000000

386,492,960 3,993,422 WU

1,324,859 bytes

1,440,543,490

43268.81283562 BTC

6.25000000 BTC

0.15852069 BTC

were included in the block. The Block rewards, also known as the Coinbase reward, were sent to this address.
A total of 43,268.81283562 BTC (\$1,284,125,769.70) were sent in the block with the average transaction being 24.61252152 BTC (\$730,446.97). Learn more about how blocks work.

0000000000000000000073ef06543252dce1cc24c9e31a6d6848d892ffc824f71

0aa51c8d448e8e9e9264449f0a387be3049e69673e9645c79de4b8293ab0fdad

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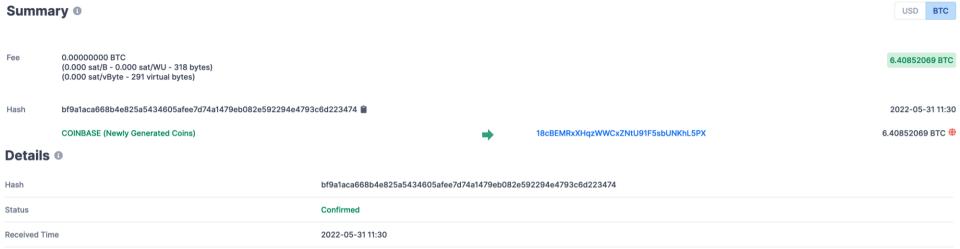
The miner(s) of this block earned a total reward of 6.25000000 BTC (\$185,486.63). The reward consisted of a base reward of 6.25000000 BTC (\$185,486.63) with an additional 0.15852069 BTC (\$4,704.55) reward paid as fees of the 1758 transverse included in the block. The Block rewards, also known as the Coinbase reward, were sent to this address.	sactions whic
A total of 43,268.81283562 BTC (\$1,284,125,769.70) were sent in the block with the average transaction being 24.61252152 BTC (\$730,446.97). Learn more about how blocks work.	

List of transactions

A Bitcoin block contains a variable number of transactions (few thousands)

The first transaction in every block is a special one, called "coinbase"





 Weight
 1,164

 Included in Block
 73865

 Confirmations
 293

 Total Input
 0.0000

 Total Output
 6.4088

94e4793c6d223474

https://www.blockchain.com/btc/tx/bf9a1aca6 68b4e825a5434605afee7d74a1479eb082e5922

Size

Fees

1,164

738656

293

0.00000000 BTC

6.40852069 BTC

0.00000000 BTC

318 bytes

A coinbase transaction

Coinbase transaction

It does not have any input

It has one output equal to [sum of all the fees of transactions in the block + fixed reward], controlled by the miner of the block

Fixed reward today: 6.25 BTC per block (>> fees)

Basically, it creates "new" BTCs to reward the miner node (more about this later...)



Bitcoin halving

The coinbase fixed reward halves every 210,000 blocks (~4 years)

Most recent halving: Spring 2020

Next halving: some time in 2024

Last halving: some time around 2140 At that time, the number of Bitcoins will be 21 million, no more Bitcoins will be created.

	First halving	
Date	28 November 2012	
Block number	210,000	
Block reward, BTC	25	
BTC created per day	3600	
BTC price at the start	\$12	
BTC price 100 days later	\$42	
BTC price 1 year later	\$964	Second halving

Date	9 July 2016
Block number	420,000
Block reward, BTC	12.5
BTC created per day	1,800
BTC price at the start	\$663
BTC price 100 days later	\$609
BTC price 1 year later	\$2550

Third halving

Date	11 May 2020
Block number	630,000
Block reward, BTC	6.25
BTC created per day	900
BTC price at the start	\$8740
BTC price 100 days later	\$11,950
BTC price 1 year later	N/A

Block	0 •			USD BTC	
This block	was mined on January 04, 2009 at 3:15 AM GMT+9 by Unknown. It curr	rently has 738,953 confirmations on the Bitcoin blockchain.			
	The miner(s) of this block earned a total reward of 50.00000000 BTC (\$1,491,378.50). The reward consisted of a base reward of 50.00000000 BTC (\$1,491,378.50) with an additional 0.00000000 BTC (\$0.00) reward paid as fees of the 1 transactions which were included in the block. The Block rewards, also known as the Coinbase reward, were sent to this address.				
A total of 0	.00000000 BTC (\$0.00) were sent in the block with the average transa	ction being 0.00000000 BTC (\$0.00). Learn more about how blocks work	k.		
Hash		00000000019d6689c085ae165831e934ff763ae46a2a6c172b3f1b6	50a8ce26f (a)		
Confirmation	ons	738,953			
Timestamp		2009-01-04 03:15			
Height		0	https://www.blockchain.com/btc/block/0		
Miner		Unknown			
Number of	Transactions	1			
Difficulty		1.00			
Merkle roo	t	4a5e1e4baab89f3a32518a88c31bc87f618f76673e2cc77ab2127b7afc	deda33b		
Version		0x1			
Bits		486,604,799			
Weight		1,140 WU			
Size		285 bytes			
Block T	ransactions [®]				
_					
Fee	0.00000000 BTC (0.000 sat/B - 0.000 sat/WU - 204 bytes)			50.00000000 BTC	
Hash	4a5e1e4baab89f3a32518a88c31bc87f618f76673e2cc77ab2127b7a	fdeda33b		2009-01-04 03:15	

1A1zP1eP5QGefi2DMPTfTL5SLmv7DivfNa

COINBASE (Newly Generated Coins)

50.00000000 BTC 🏶

Genesis block

Created on January 4th, 2009

Contained only 1 coinbase transactions

Awarded the first 50 BTC ever minted to the account "1A1zP..."



THANKS!

https://sites.google.com/site/marcocomuzziphd http://iel.unist.ac.kr/

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