

# Blockchain

## What is it?

The blockchain is a technology with similarities to a database: it allows to store and access data on a computer support. Unlike a database, the data stored on a blockchain is unalterable: it can not be deleted or modified. Another difference: the blockchain is not controlled by a particular actor: everyone has a copy. This ensures transparency and inalterability, and eliminates the need for a trusted third party.

## Influencers to follow

Nadia Filali, Sajida Zouarhi, Luca Comparini, Xavier Lavyssiere, @leshackeuses

## What business impact?

- Disintermediation. A blockchain guarantees the inalterability of registered transactions. For this reason, it can replace trusted third parties responsible for the notarization of acts: notaries, certification offices, chartered organizations, public regulators and official agencies. The guarantee provided by these organizations would now be provided by a blockchain.
- Re-intermediation. New players invent several blockchain variants ("distributed ledgers", "smart contracts"), implement and manage them, and create related services (certification, audit, marketplaces, etc.)

## Companies to guide you

StratumnHQ, TheLedger.be, ChainAccelerator

## 3 use cases

**bitcoin** - This currency uses the blockchain to determine how new currency units are created, and to manage financial transactions. Bitcoin was created as the first use case of the blockchain in 2009.

**BCDiploma**: start-up developing a solution for the certification and authentication of diploma, across schools.

**Guardtime HSX** "bridges the gap between patients, providers, payers, regulators and pharma by seamlessly transporting data across multiple healthcare stakeholders, delivering secure use of a single, truthful version of health data."

## Traps to avoid

Always ask yourself these questions before embarking on a blockchain project:

- Does the project involve the need to do without a trusted third party?
- Would a "classic" database suffice?