

# **Navigating on Etherscan**

#### **INITIAL NOTE**

The digital environment is a very dynamic and agile environment where updates and changes occur on a constant basis. In this program, we will use web resources and external software in order to carry out the practical activities and provide a real vision of the tools available in the market.

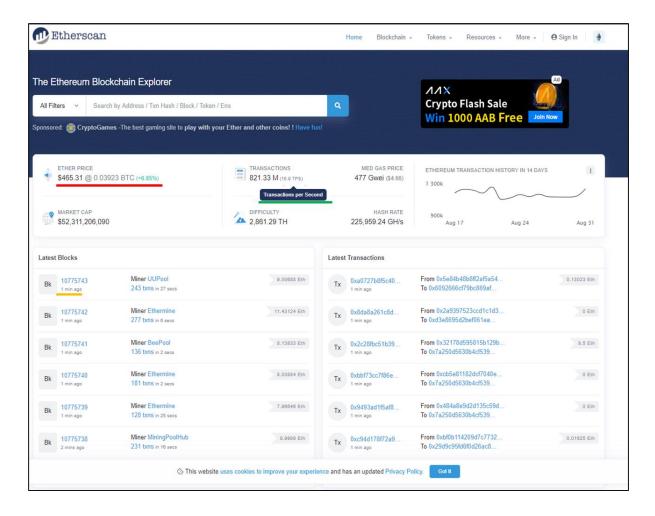
This means that, although we strive to keep the guides updated, sometimes some of the environments we will be showing you in the activities may suffer some small differences from the images reflected in these guides. Normally, it is possible to follow the development of the activity by easily interpreting the differences between the guide and the real environment, if any. In case this is not possible, please let your facilitator know by sending a message through the program's platform inbox.

## 1. Etherscan home page

As mentioned above, blockchain browsers are tools that can help us start navigating blockchains, especially when it comes to searching for information about transactions. Remember, blockchain browsers are connected to a node, which has a copy of all the transactions that are part of the blockchain.

In this document, we will analyze the different elements of the Etherscan page, and how to use the information that is presented to us. When navigating through <a href="https://etherscan.io">https://etherscan.io</a>, the login page will appear very similar to this one.





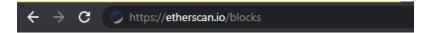
Img 01. The Etherscan login page.

In this page, we can already extract important information. For example, we can see what the current price of the <a href="ether">ether</a> is. At the time the image was captured, the ether was valued at approximately 465 USD. We can also see when the last <a href="block">block</a> was completed. A practical way to think about a block is to imagine a sheet of paper where all our transactions are recorded. That sheet of paper is finished and converted into a format that can no longer be edited.

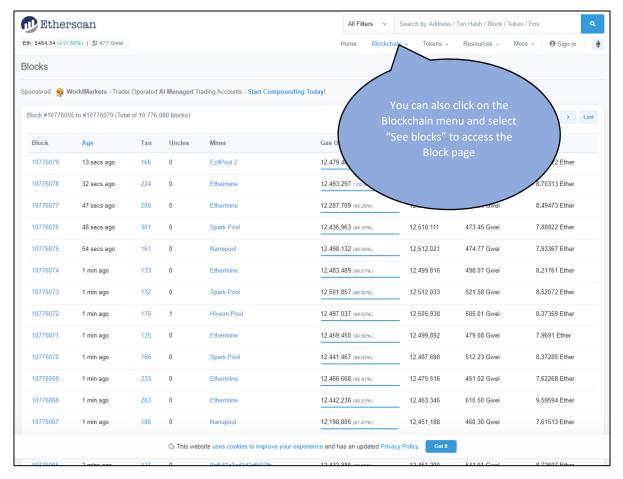
Other important information that we can obtain from this page is the current number of <u>transactions per second</u>, which, in the image, is set at fifteen.

## 2. Recent blocks

Now, we can go on to see a list of all recent blocks, simply by typing "/blocks" at the end of the URL







Img 02. Block list page.

On the left side of the page, we can see the "Block" column (sometimes called "block height" or simply "height"). This is a unique identifier for each block. Note that, in the search bar in the field in the upper right corner, we could search for different types of data by choosing different parameters, including the block number.

The "Miner" column shows us who the miner was for each block.

The "Reward" column, which is the last one on the right, indicates how much ether the miner receives in return for completing the mining of a particular block. To attract participants to the network, the block chain gives rewards for mining blocks.

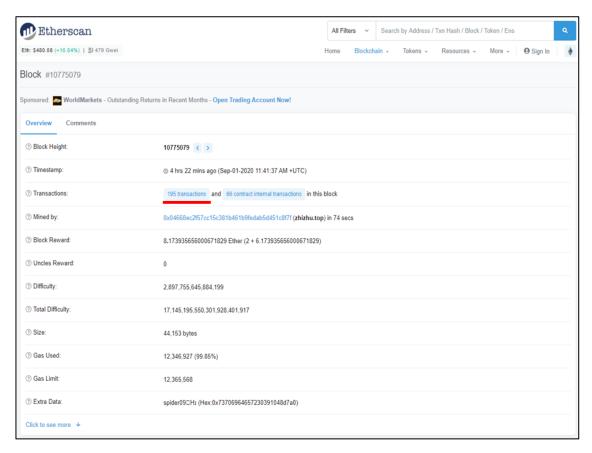
Considering that we saw how much the ether was valued, we can determine how much the miner received simply by multiplying the reward in ether, by the market value of the ether. For block **10776079**, the miner received the equivalent of 3,845.55 USD (at the time the ether was valued at 465 USD).

The "Txn" column represents the amount of transactions contained in a block.

If we click on the block **10775079**, we can see more details related to that block (Remember, if you want to look at this same block, you can simply type the block number 10775079 in the search bar).



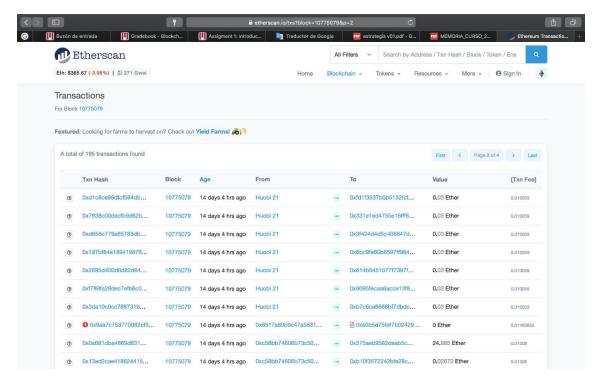
## 3. Block details



Img 03. Details of block 10775079.

For block 10775079, we can see in the image above (by clicking on the "Click to see more" option) when the block was started, the hash that was done (which can be cryptographically verified), and the number of transactions in the block, among other details. If we click on the number of transactions, we will get a detailed list of each of the transactions that belong to that block.





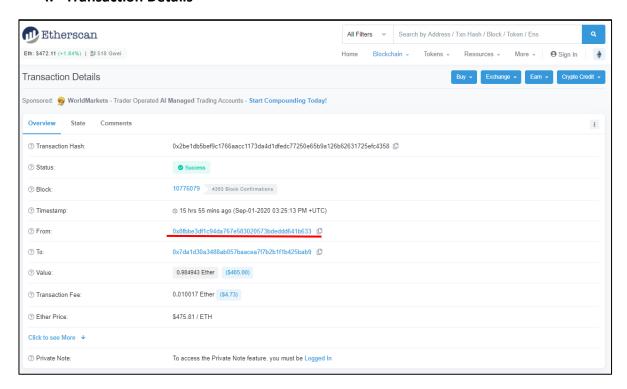
Img 04. List of transactions included in block 10775079

This list of transactions can be useful if we were trying to verify a transaction and its information, such as: when it took place, the account where the funds originated from, and who the funds went to.

On the left side of the page, we have the "Txn Hash" column. Similar to the block hash, this is also cryptographically verifiable. If we click on any transactions in the list, we can see even more detailed information about that specific transaction.



## 4. Transaction Details



Img 05. Transaction details for transaction hash "0x2be1db5bef9c1766aacc11173da4d1dfedc77250e65b9a126b62631725efc4358"

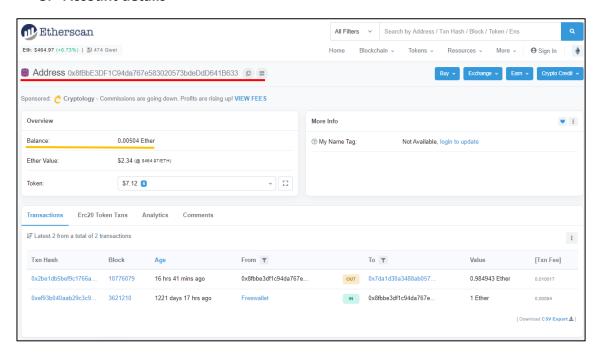
Once we select a transaction for analysis, the first piece of information we would like to see is whether the transaction was successful or not. Note that, in the image above, the transaction was performed correctly. We can also see which block it belongs to (10776079 is the block we selected earlier), the accounts that participated in the transaction and the value that was transferred from one account to another.

We will address transaction fees in more detail at a later point in the program.

Now, we will click on the <u>account where the funds came from</u>, in order to see more details regarding that account.



## 5. Account details



Img 06. Account details for the address "0x8fBbE3DF1C94da767e583020573bdeDdD641B633" (sender's account for the transaction shown above).

In the upper left corner, we have the <u>address of the account</u>, which was the same as the one we clicked on the previous page to get here.

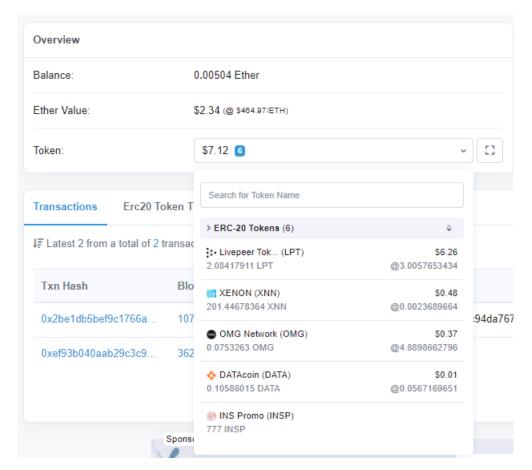
We can also see the <u>balance of</u> this account, which at the time the image was captured, stood at 0.00504 ether. In the valuation at that time, that represented 2.34 USD. In the following window, the most recent transactions are shown, as well as a general total of transactions for this account. If we were to click on any of these, we would go to the page containing all the transaction details, similar to what we saw in part four of this document.

**NOTE:** You may notice that it is possible to track every movement and piece of information for any given account in the blockchain. For example, if we think of a bank account that we have, we will most likely not be comfortable with every single one of our publicly available transactions and movements. However, given the anonymous nature of blockchain, there is no way of knowing who this account belongs to. There is no personal information related to this account in any way, so it is impossible to trace whether this account belongs to an organization, university or individual.

#### 6. Tokens

Apart from Ether, tokens can also be deposited into accounts to make transactions with those tokens. In the "token" drop-down menu, you will find "Ether Value" ...





Img07. List of tokens for the account with the address "0x8fBbE3DF1C94da767e583020573bdeDdD641B633"

...We can see all different types of tokens that this account contains.

#### Summary

As mentioned at the beginning, a blockchain browser is a good way to initially interact with the blockchain, to understand how information is collected and organized, and how we can track this information from a block, to a transaction, to an account and verify any information we may need.

We encourage you to navigate through Etherscan while you read this guide to explore and interact with the platform.

#### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

In case you are interested in further expanding your knowledge about the Etherscan tool, and particularly in understanding more about the transactions in the Ethereum, you can consult additional information in these references:

- https://info.etherscan.com/
- https://info.etherscan.com/understanding-an-ethereum-transaction/