

Blockchain: What, Why and How?

A **blockchain**,<sup>[1][2][3]</sup> originally **block chain**,<sup>[4][5]</sup> is a growing list of **records**, called *blocks*, that are linked using **cryptography**.<sup>[1][6]</sup> Each block contains a **cryptographic hash** of the previous block,<sup>[6]</sup> a **timestamp**, and transaction data (generally represented as a **Merkle tree**).

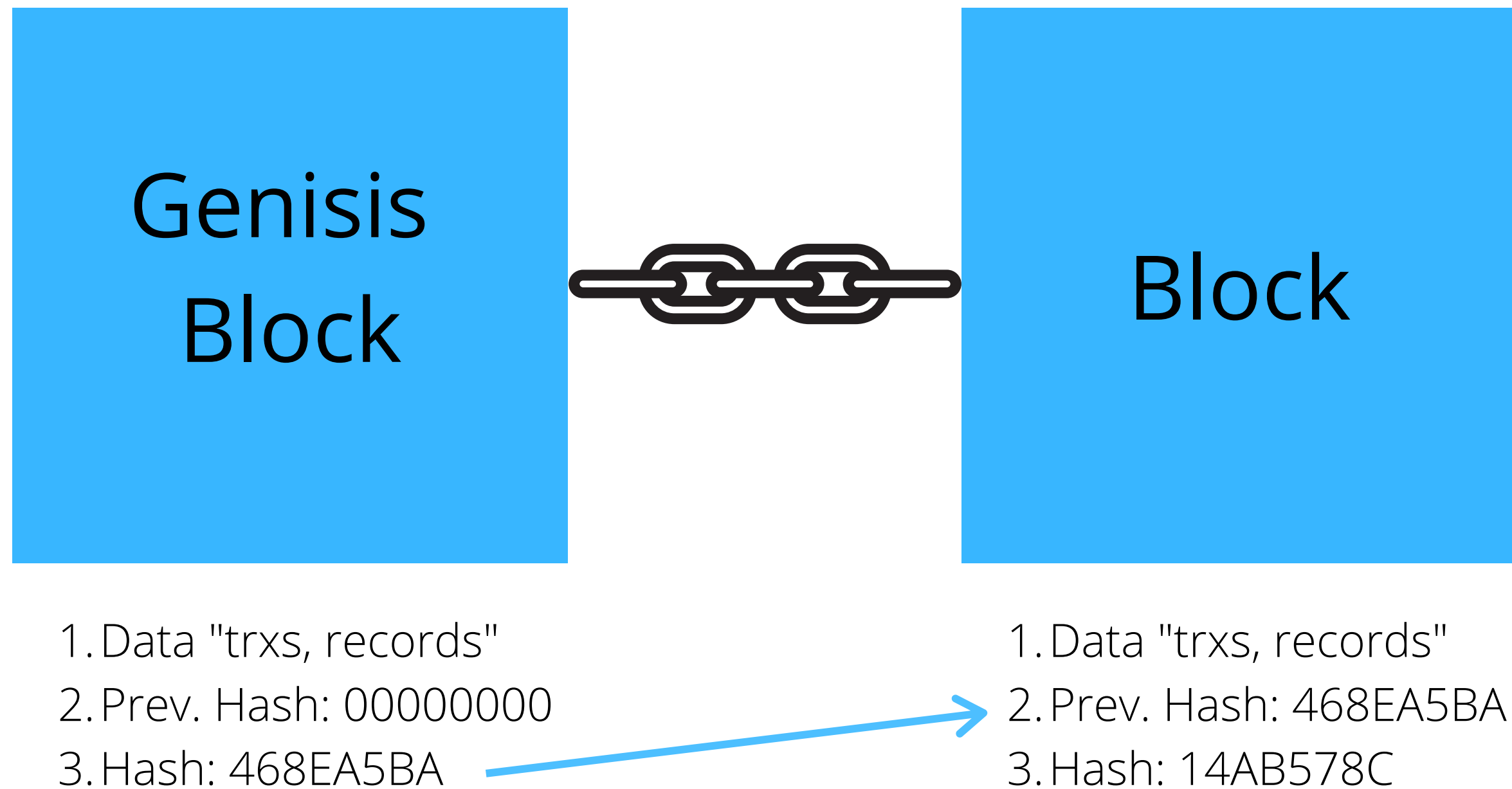
# A Block



Block

- 1.Data "trxs, records"
- 2.Prev. Hash: 14AB578C
- 3.Hash: 468EA5BA

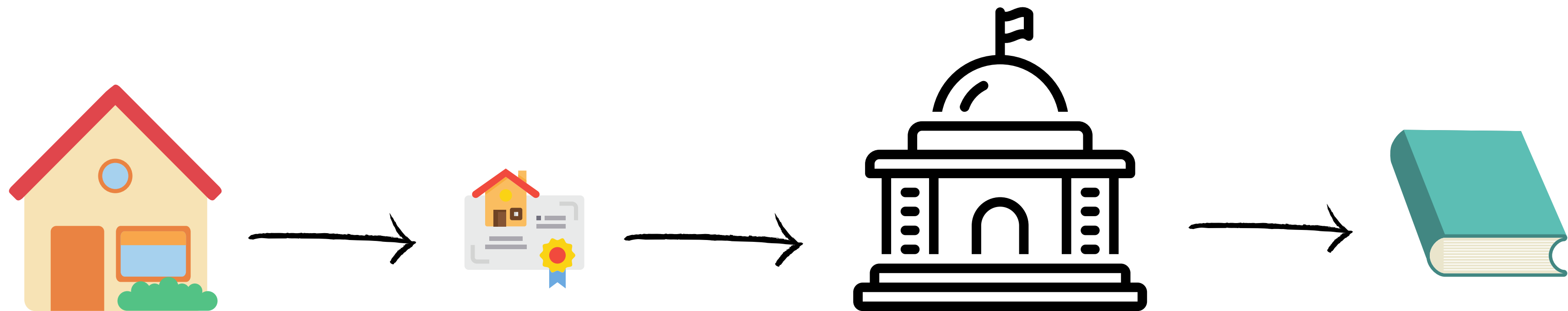
# A Blockchain



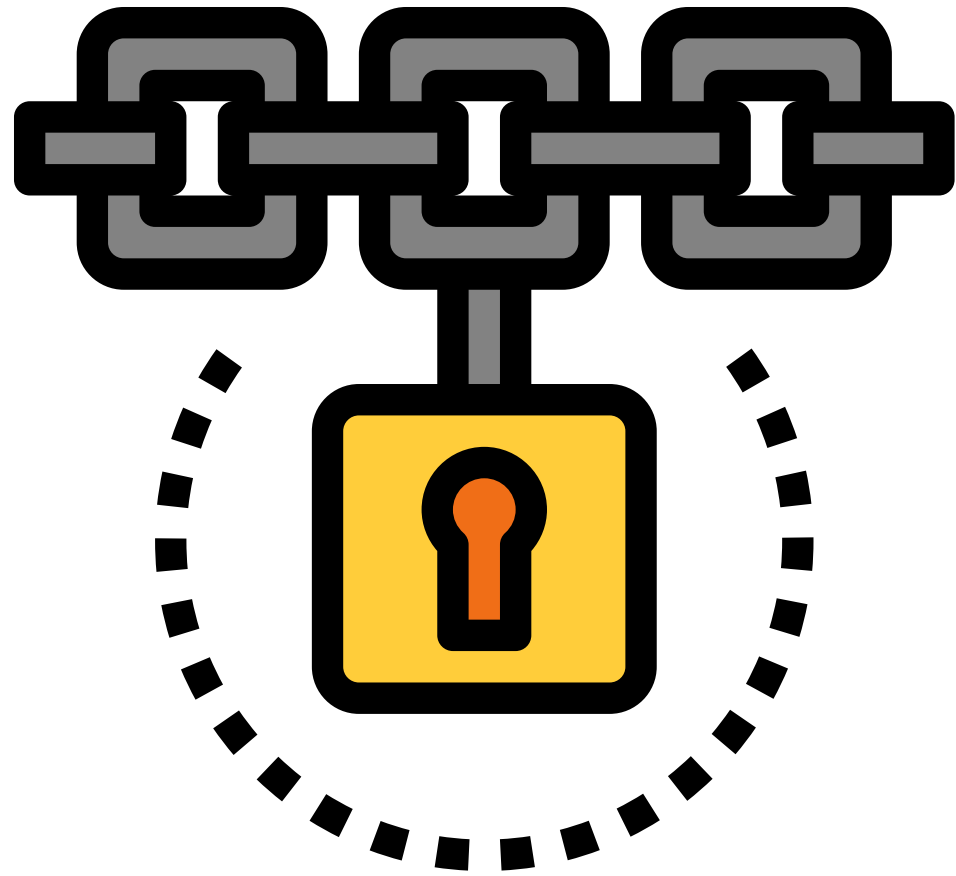
# SHA256 HASH

3fc9b689459d738f8c88a3a48aa9e33542016b7a4052e001aaa536fca74813cb

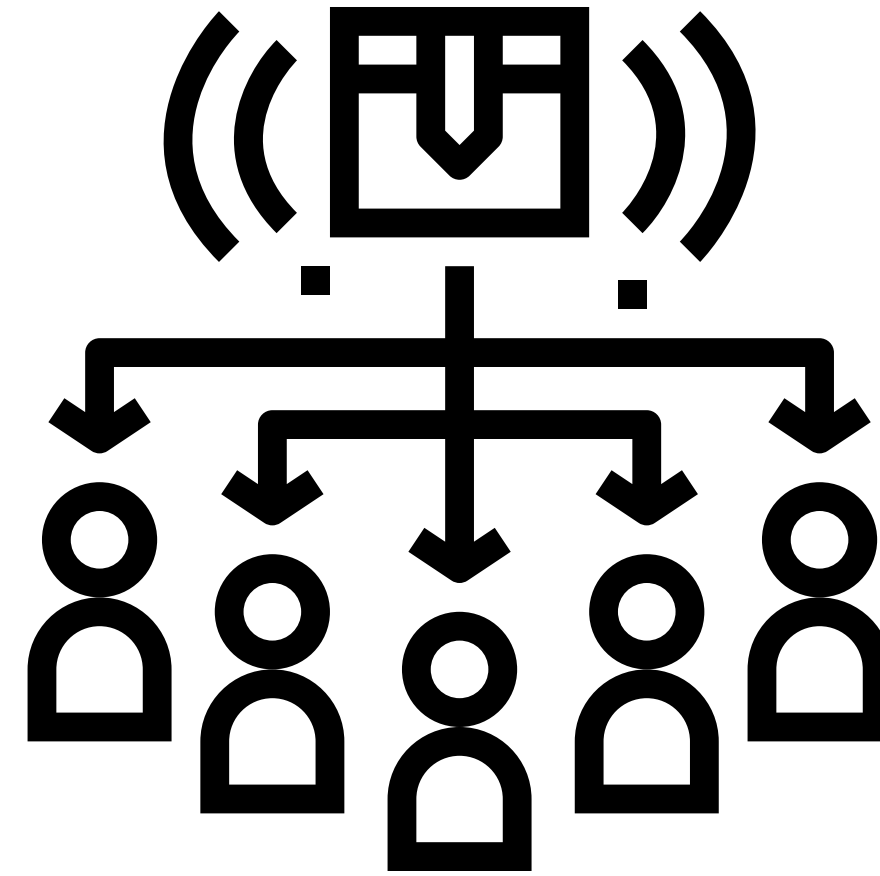
Why?



# How?

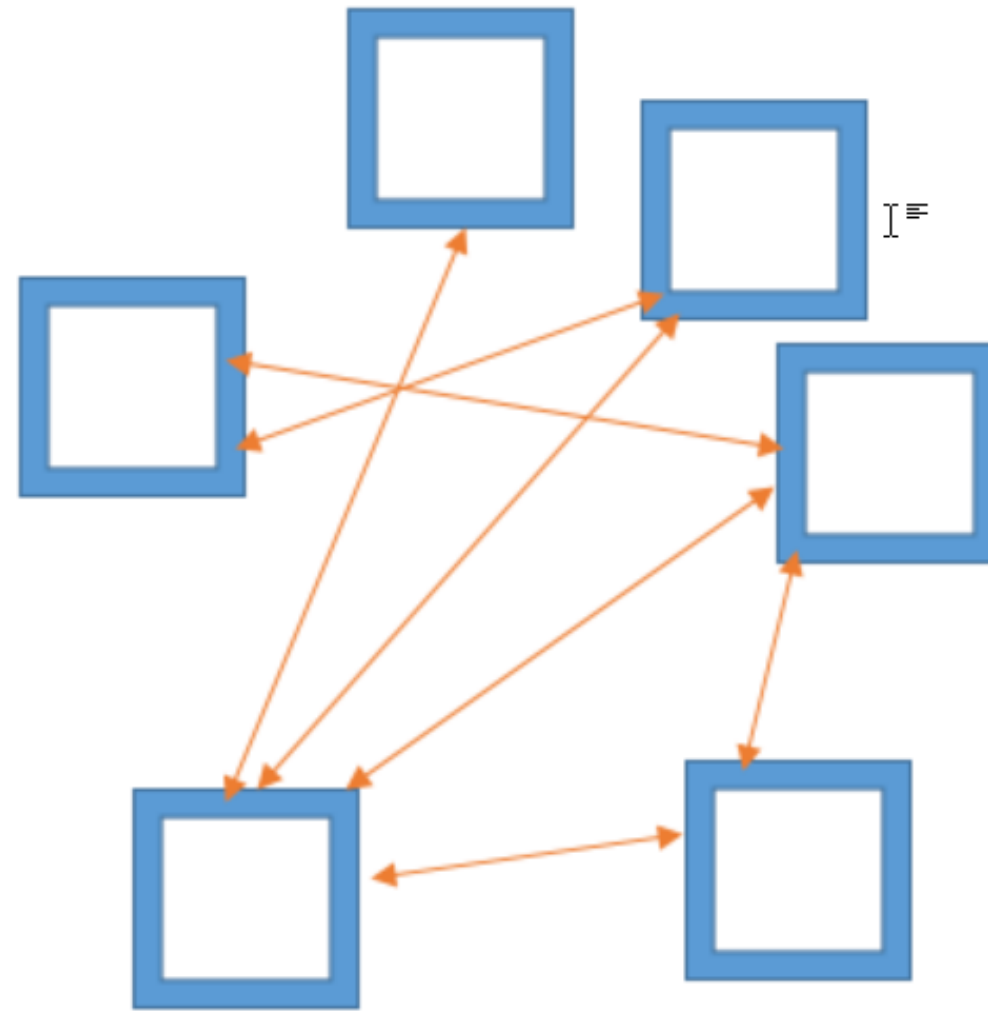


cryptographically linked



Distributed

# Distributed P2P Networks





# Mining

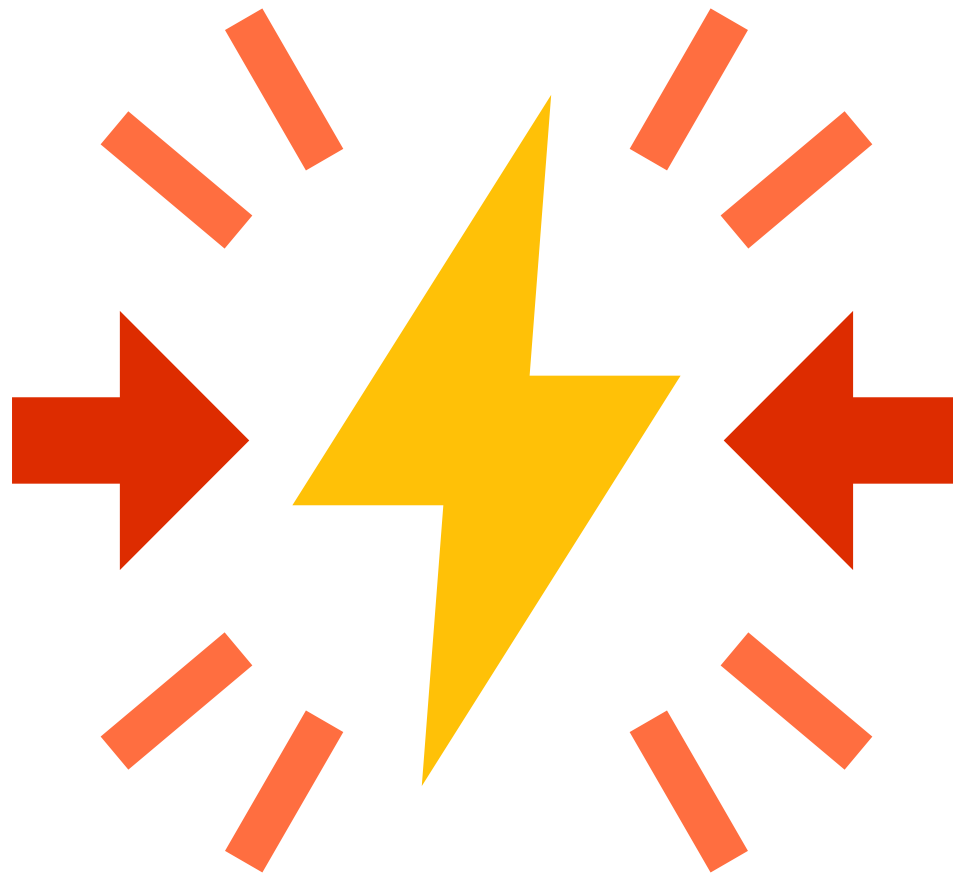
|        |  |
|--------|--|
| Block: | # 2  |
| Nonce: | 35230  |
| Data:  | Transactions:<br><br>A -> B 5 Coins<br>B -> D 10 Coins<br>A -> C 2 Coins |
| Prev:  | 000015783b764259d382017d91a36d206d0600e2cbb35677                         |
| Hash:  | 5f1053bc0516ea1956fa0ce570b14fa6eae1be27047f6ed9c5                       |

# Flow

1. Transactions broadcast
2. Nodes maintain a pool of transactions
3. Take up some transaction (say 2000) and try to mine a block
4. Find the correct **nonce**
5. Block is mined
6. Block broadcast
7. Verified by other nodes
8. Other nodes add the new block to their local copy

# Conflicts

1. What if 2 nodes mined a block at same time?
2. What if someone tries to add malicious block?



Let's build a blockchain in Julia 