How does the bitcoin chanllenge the traditional notion of currency?

With its ambition to change the way traditional currency works, Bitcoin, which is a decentralized digital currency, truly revolutionalizes the world both digitally and substantially. Researches have shown that anyone can issue their digital tokens such as Bitcoin without the need for regulations utilizing the blockchain technology[1]. Unlike traditional banking systems which depend on a central authority to process all transactions, confirmation of consensus by participants is essential for all Bitcoin transactions[2]. The intrinsic property of decentralization of blockchain technology empowers the system with the ability to process massive data reliably and quickly without intermediaries[3]. For example, cross-border transactions can occur straightly from user to user on a smooth P2P bitcoin network[4]. Though it has the virtues of high liquidity, fast speed, good transparency and impeccable decentralization, Bitcoin is now facing multiple challenges traditional currency never encounters. For example, the Bitcoin network can be compromised via various kinds of attacks such as the 51% attacks, double-spending attacks, dust transactions and code-based attacks[2]. Despite these emerging challenges nowadays, Bitcoin continues to illustrate its vast potential in every aspect of society and has undoubtedly revolutionized the world since the day of its invention.

[1]        M. Bacina and S. Kassra, “Technology: Unlocking Cryptocurrency Token Sales,” *LSJ: Law Society of NSW Journal*, no. 37, p. 79, 2017.

[2]        D. Bradbury, “The problem with Bitcoin,” *Computer Fraud and Security*, vol. 2013, no. 11, pp. 5–8, Nov. 2013, doi: 10.1016/S1361-3723(13)70101-5.

[3]        W. Hutton, “Bitcoin is a bubble, but the technology behind it could transform the world,” *The Guardian*, 2017.

[4]        N. Bauerle, “Blockchain 101 - CoinDesk,” *Coindesk*, 2017. [Online]. Available: https://www.coindesk.com/learn/blockchain-101/what-is-blockchain-technology. [Accessed: 15-Mar-2020].