CSE446: Blockchain & Cryptocurrencies

Lecture – 8: Bitcoin-3

Inspiring Excellence

Agenda

- Bitcoin components
  - Users
  - Node & Network
  - Blockchain

Bitcoin Node & Network

- All nodes are connected to a common p2p network
- Every node runs a bitcoin implementation (bitcoind, bcoin, etc.)
  - implementations are open source
- Anyone can freely join the network
- Nodes do not have to trust the network!
- Everybody assumes that neighbours may lie (byzantine behaviour)
- Every node receives messages, acts on them and passes these messages to its known neighbours according to protocols
  - malicious nodes can suppress messages and behave beyond protocols rules

Bitcoin Node & Network

BITNODES

Bitnodes estimates the relative size of the Bitcoin peer-to-peer network by finding all of its reachable nodes.

REACHABLE BITCOIN NODES

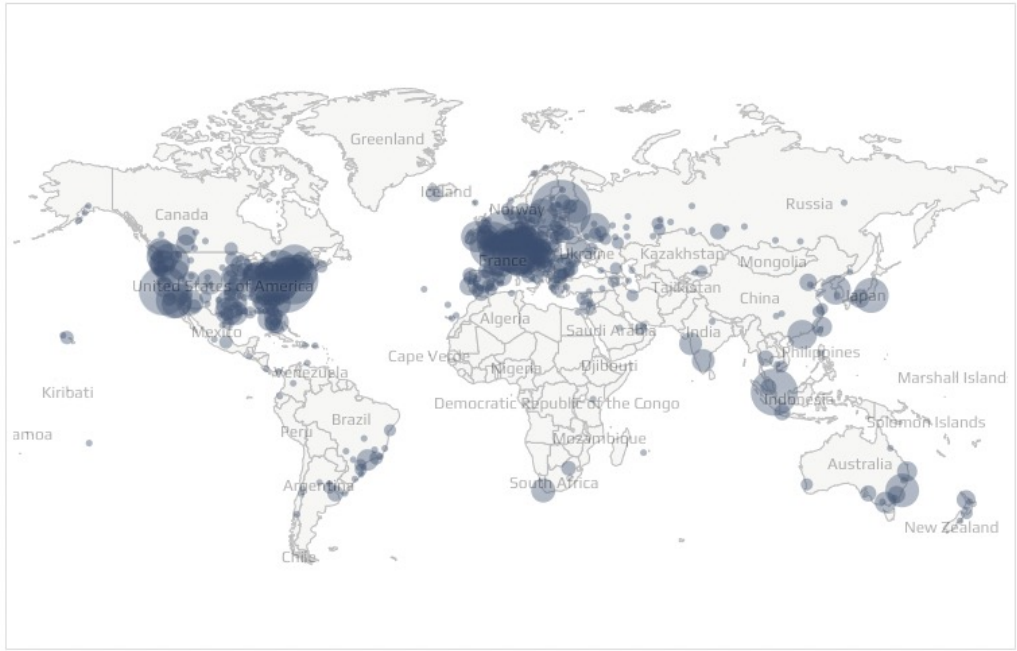
Updated: Sun Oct 16 23:47:43 2022 +06

15038 NODES CHARTS

IPv4: -2.4% / IPv6: -0.1% / .onion: +14.9%

Top 10 countries with their respective number of reachable nodes are as follows.

RANK	COUNTRY	NODES
1	n/a	8177 (54.38%)
2	United States	1905 (12.67%)
3	Germany	1383 (9.20%)
4	France	442 (2.94%)
5	Netherlands	381 (2.53%)
6	Canada	308 (2.05%)
7	Finland	241 (1.60%)
8	United Kingdom	218 (1.45%)
9	Russian Federation	177 (1.18%)
10	Singapore	143 (0.95%)



Map shows concentration of reachable Bitcoin nodes found in countries around the world. LIVE MAP

https://bitnodes.io/

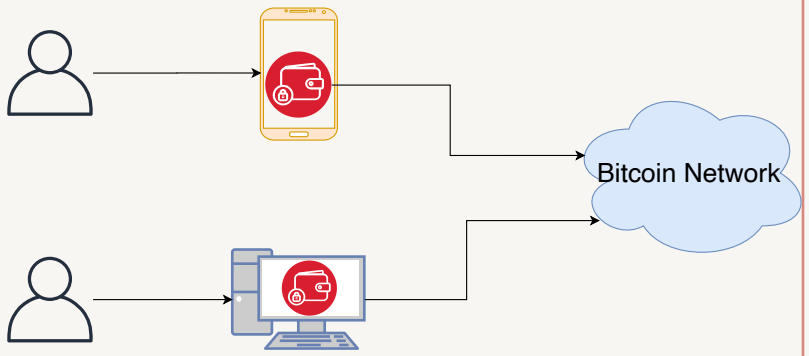
Live map available: https://bitnodes.io/nodes/live-map/

Bitcoin Node

- Bitcoin has four types of nodes:
  - Wallet node
  - Light node
  - Full node
  - Miner node

Bitcoin Node types: wallet node (user)

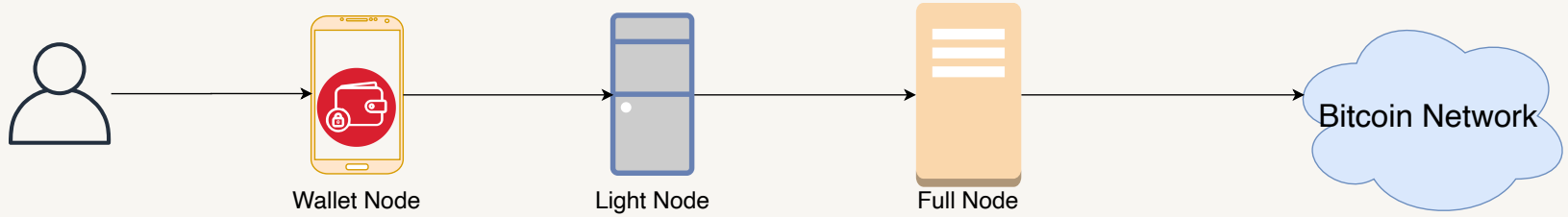
- The wallet owner owns different private keys
- He is the owner of all stored currencies on these addresses
- He sends money by signing and publishing new transactions to a connected light node, full node or miner node



Bitcoin Basics- Gallersdörfer, U., Holl, P., & Matthes, F. (2020). "Blockchain-based Systems Engineering". Lecture Slides. TU Munich.

Bitcoin Node types: light node (software)

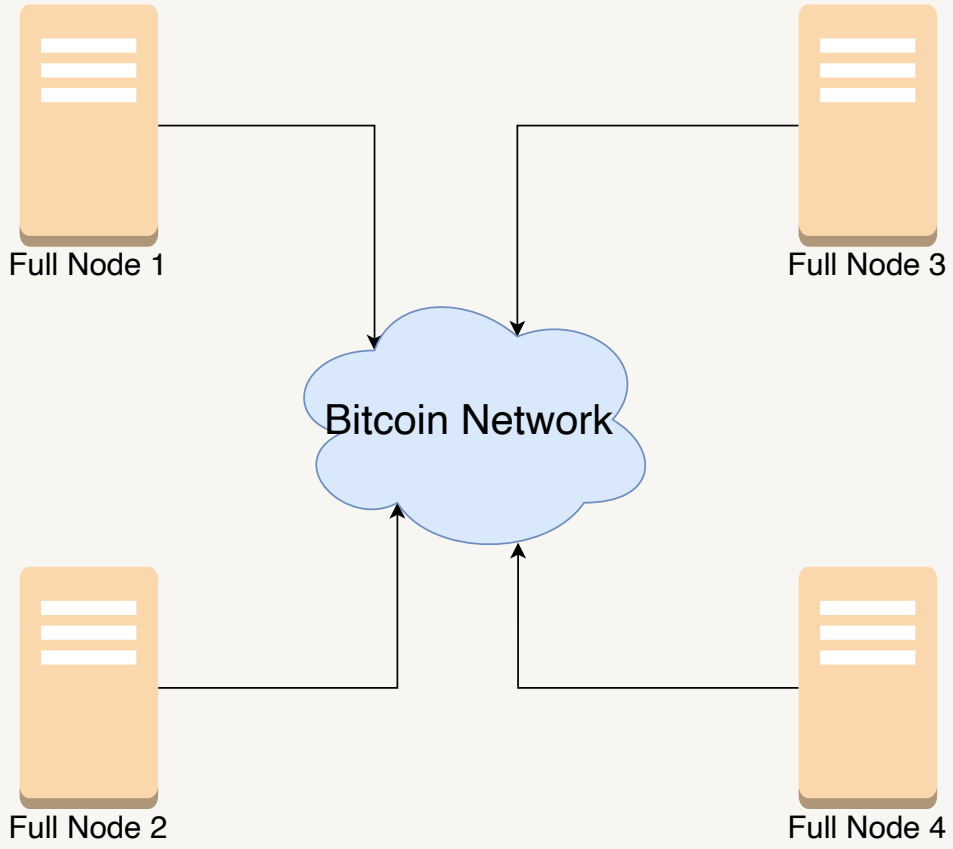
- The light node can act as a relay for transactions of one wallet owner
- It validates whether a single transaction of the wallet owner was executed correctly
- The light node also requires a full node to connect to the network
- Almost no relevance in practice today
- Today, centralised services are used to create transactions



Bitcoin Basics- Gallersdörfer, U., Holl, P., & Matthes, F. (2020). "Blockchain-based Systems Engineering". Lecture Slides. TU Munich.

Bitcoin Node types: full node (software)

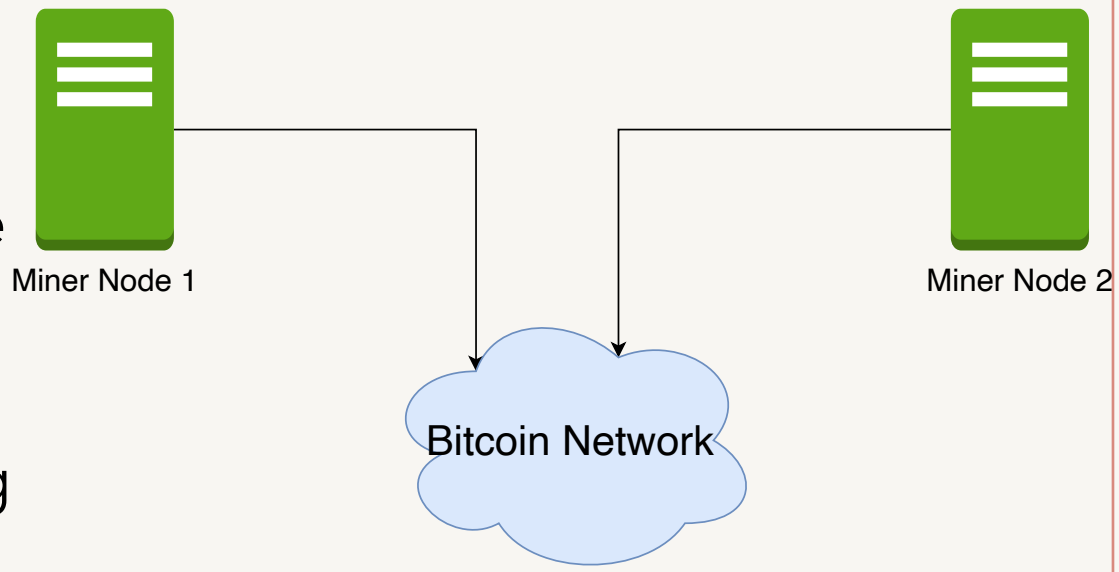
- The full node maintains the complete blockchain
- Its record of the chain is complete
  - it contains every single transaction and block until the genesis (first) block
- Is connected to other full nodes and exchanges information
- Namely:
  - Validates every transaction and block it receives
  - Relays all new transactions and blocks



Bitcoin Basics- Gallersdörfer, U., Holl, P., & Matthes, F. (2020). "Blockchain-based Systems Engineering". Lecture Slides. TU Munich.

Bitcoin Node types: miner node (software)

- The miner needs the same record as a full node to work properly
- It also is connected with other nodes and maintains the network
- Additionally, the miner is responsible for creating new blocks by trying to solve the mining puzzle
- The miner gets rewarded for creating new blocks



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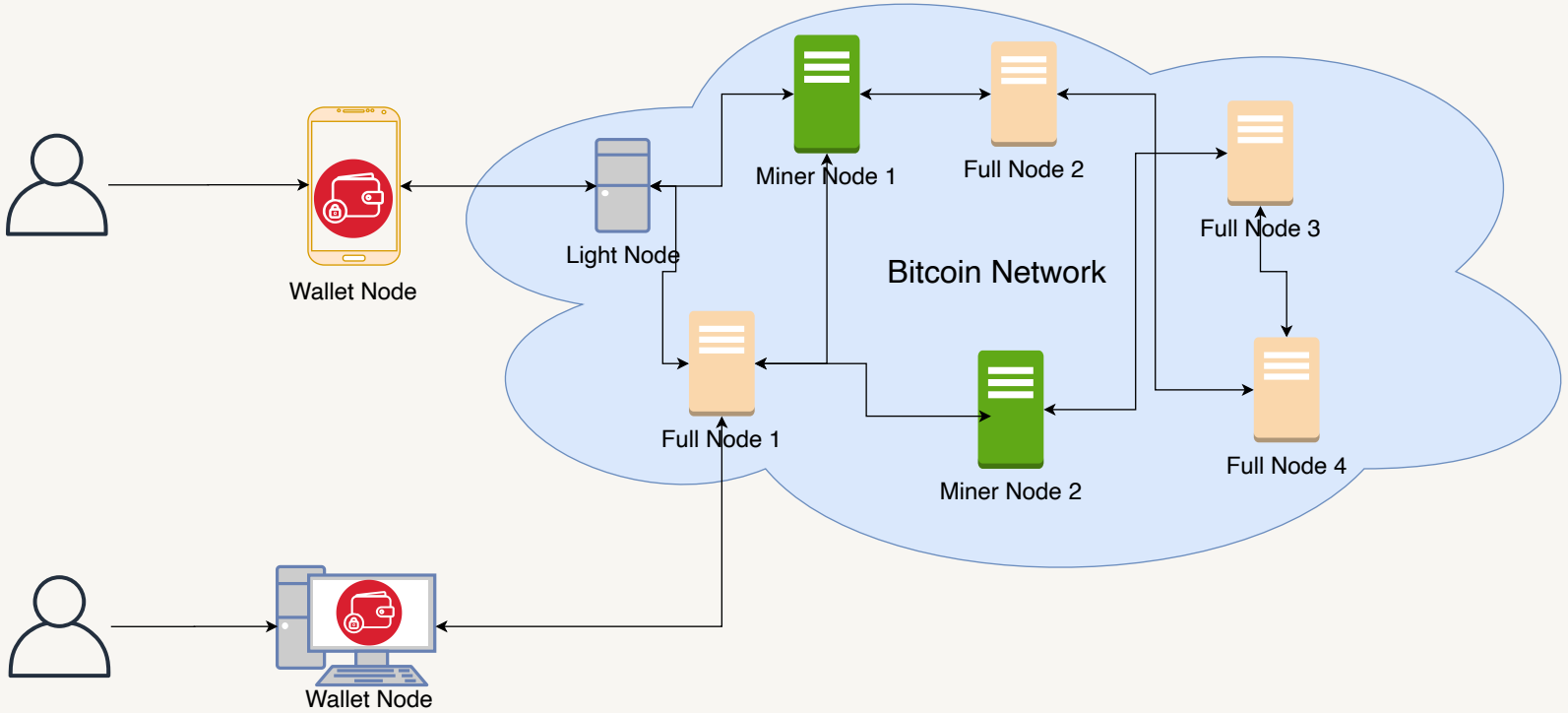
Bitcoin network



Bitcoin P2P network

- Bitcoin nodes communicate in a decentralised fashion, meaning that no single entity or node is superior, all nodes are equal
  - Ad-hoc protocol (runs on TCP port 8333)
  - Ad-hoc network with random topology
- New nodes can join at any time
- Forget non-responding nodes after 3 hr

Bitcoin Basics- Gallersdörfer, U., Holl, P., & Matthes, F. (2020). "Blockchain-based Systems Engineering". Lecture Slides. TU Munich.

Bitcoin P2P network

- To communicate, they need to have clear rules
  - How to find other nodes (bootstrapping)
  - How to send and receive transactions
  - How to send and receive blocks
  - How to sync the blockchain
- The basic network uses a peer-to-peer gossip protocol for
  - Node discovery, node status maintenance
  - Messages about new blocks or transactions

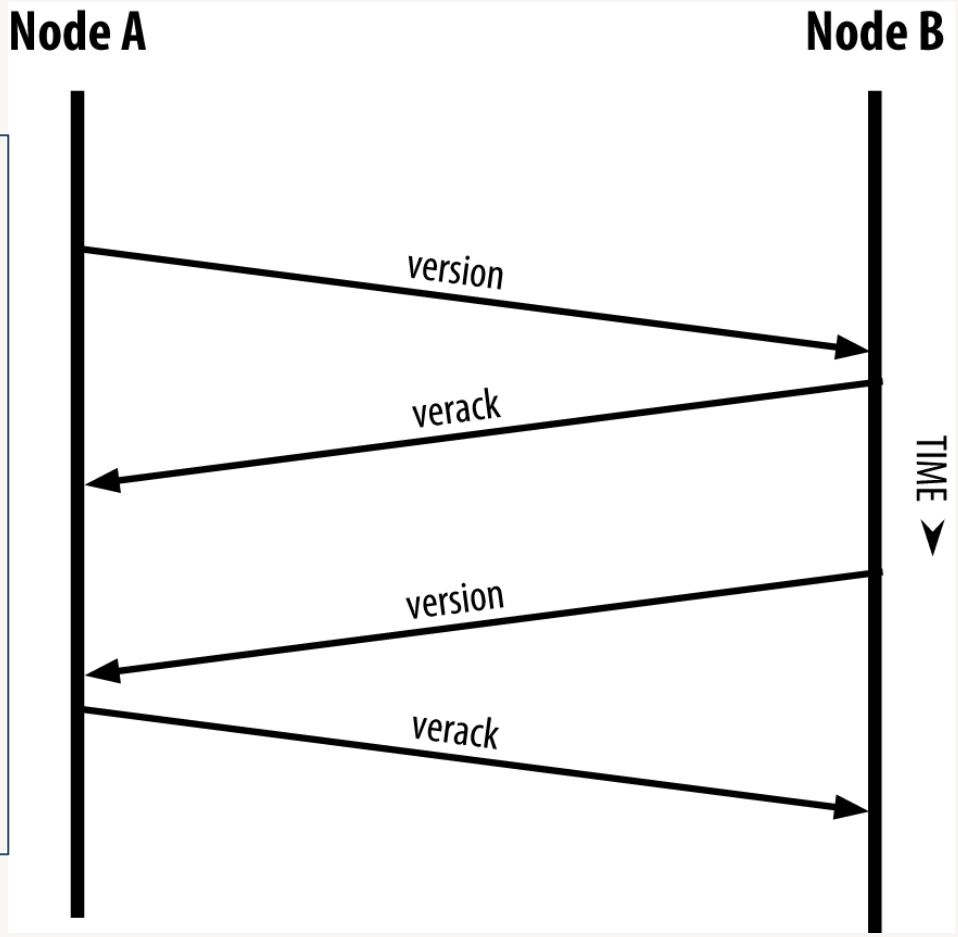
Bitcoin Basics- Gallersdörfer, U., Holl, P., & Matthes, F. (2020). "Blockchain-based Systems Engineering". Lecture Slides. TU Munich.

Node discovery/bootstrapping

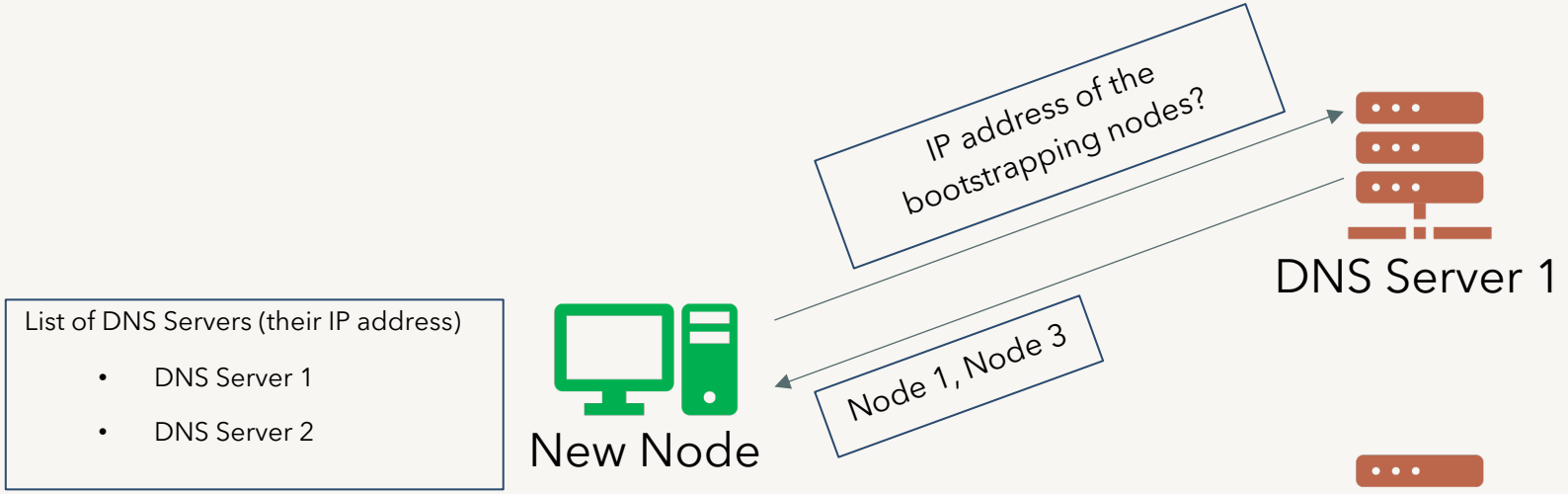
- Adding a new node into the network is called bootstrapping
- The new node needs to discover other nodes in the network to connect to the P2P network
- How does it know who to connect to?
  - Hard-coded DNS-services which offer IP-addresses of nodes
  - Hard-coded seed addresses (last resort)
  - Command-line provided addresses
  - Text-file provided addresses

Node discovery/bootstrapping

- The first message to another Bitcoin peer is the version message
- Using version each node check if the other node is compatible
- If compatible, the other node sends the version acknowledgement (verack) message

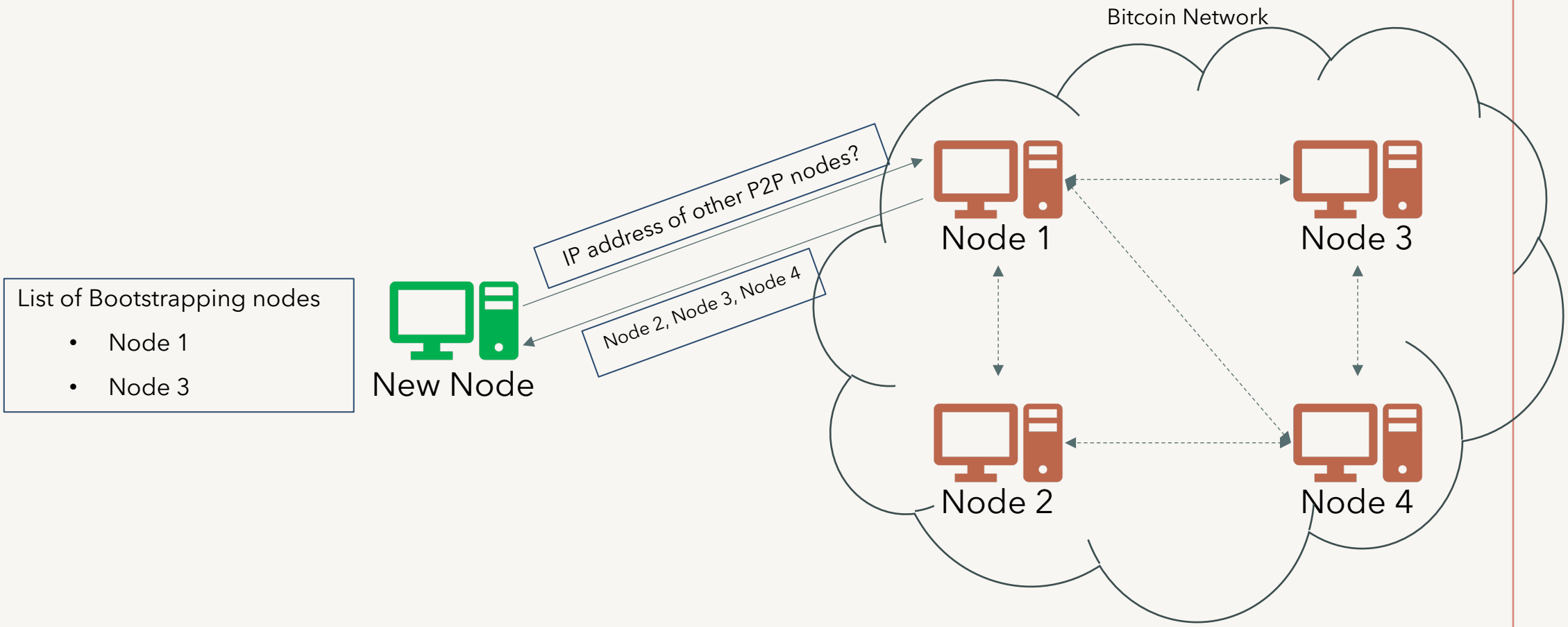


Node discovery/bootstrapping

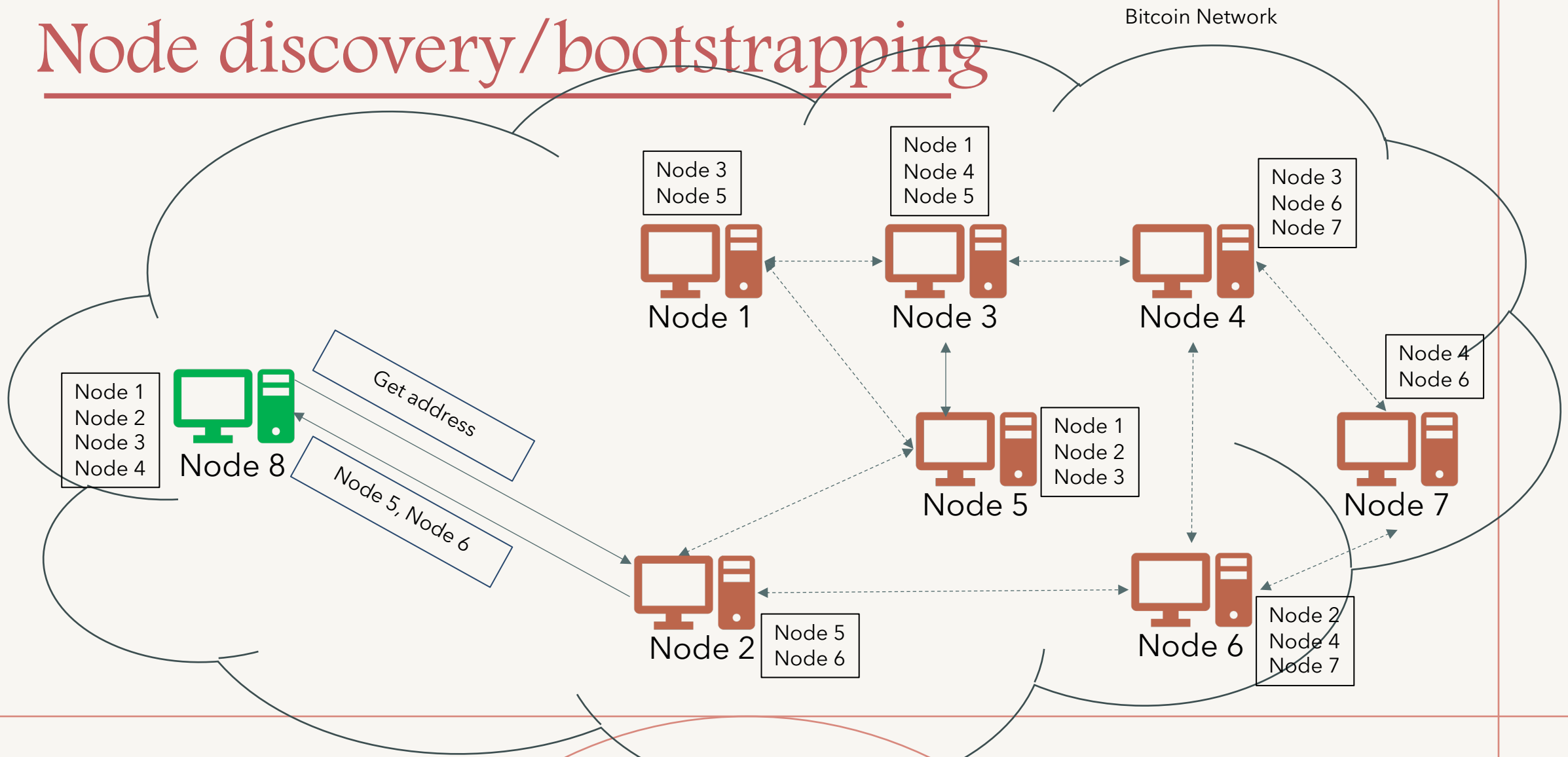


These DNS seeds (servers) provide a static list of IP addresses of stable bitcoin nodes

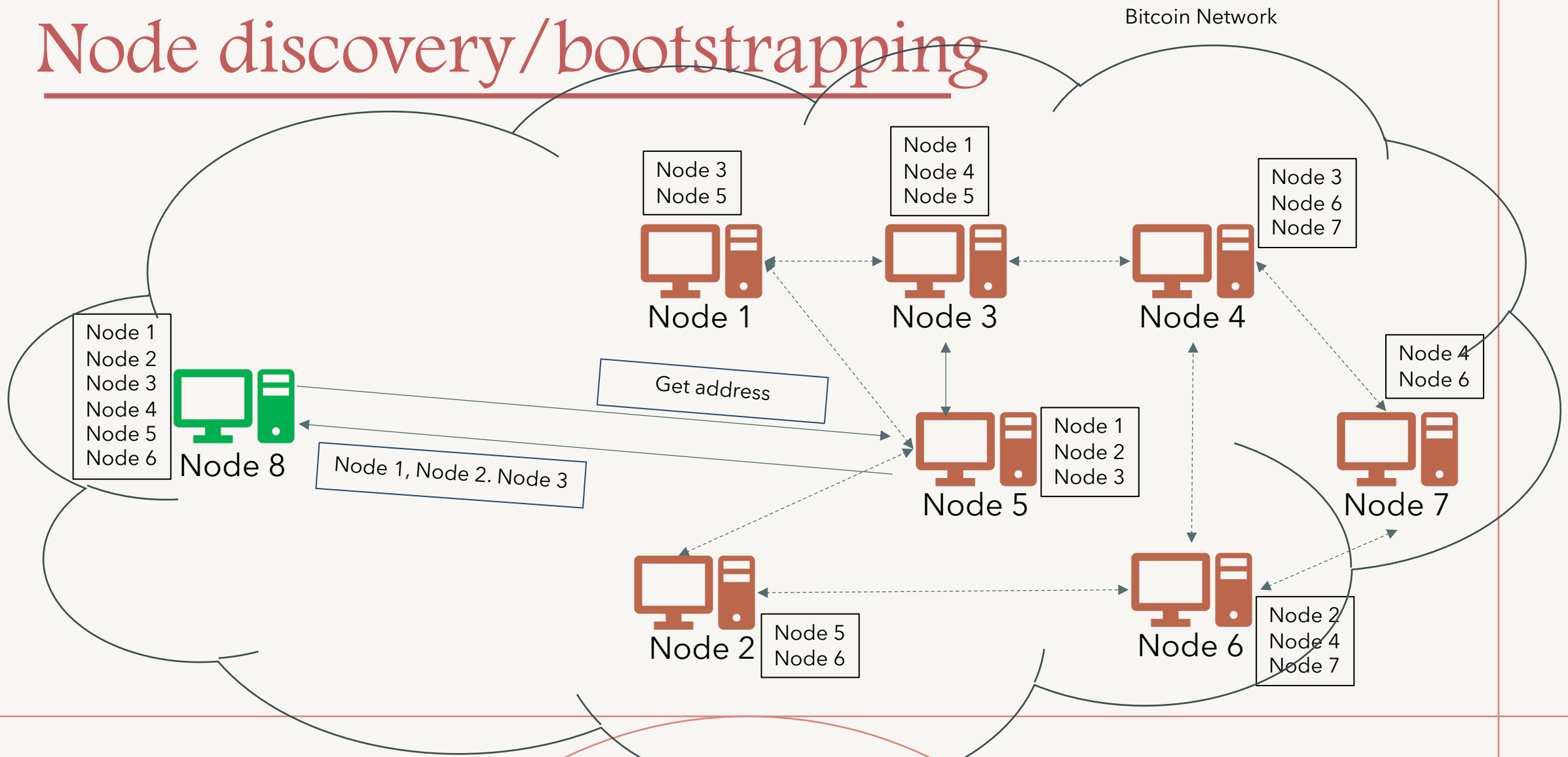
Node discovery/bootstrapping



Node discovery/bootstrapping



Node discovery/bootstrapping



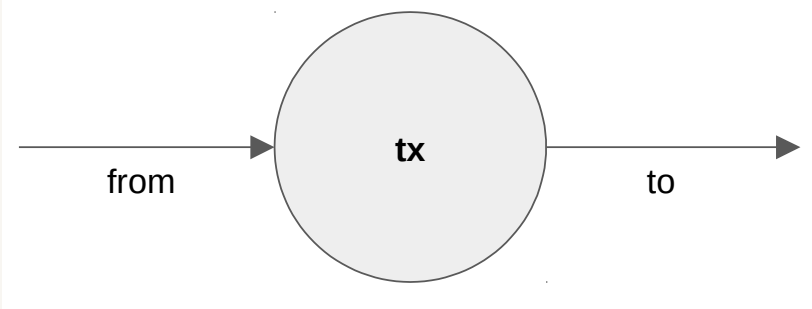
Bitcoin blockchain

- There are three different things to understand
  - Transaction
  - Block
  - Blockchain

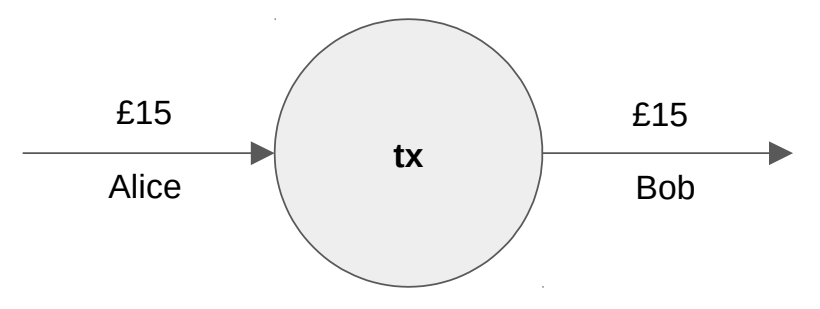
Transaction

- Transactions are the most important part of the bitcoin system
- Everything else in bitcoin is designed to ensure that transactions can be created, propagated on the network, validated, and finally added to the global ledger of transactions (the blockchain)
- Transactions are data structures that encode the transfer of values between participants in the bitcoin system
  - A transaction transfers money from somebody to somebody else
- Each transaction is a public entry in bitcoin's blockchain, the global double-entry bookkeeping ledger
  - an entry that affects at least two different accounts
- All transactions are public
- Everybody can see all transactions in a blockchain explorer

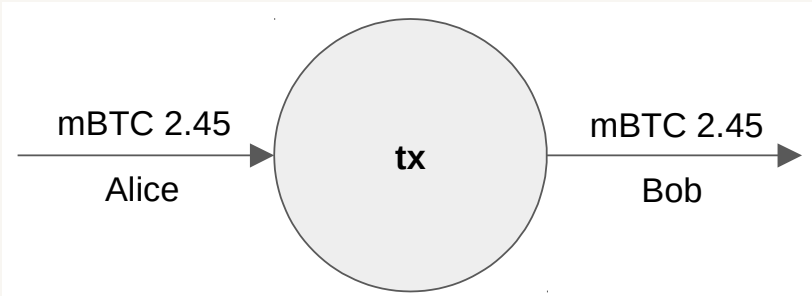
Transaction



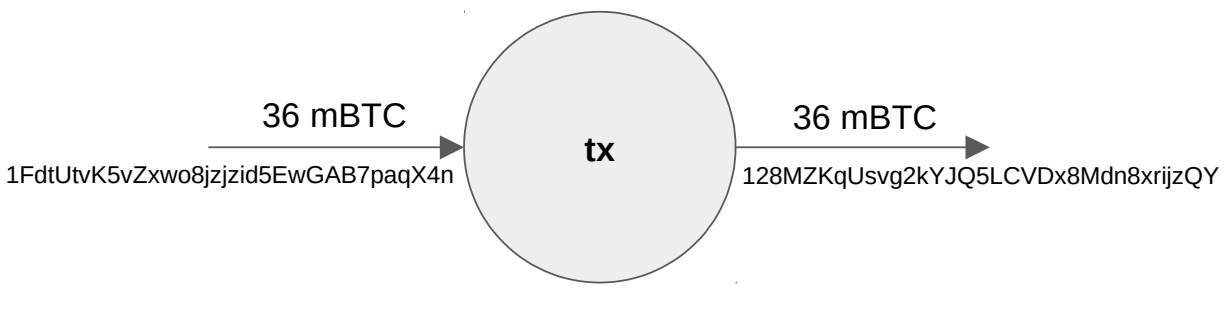
Abstract format of any transaction



A traditional transaction

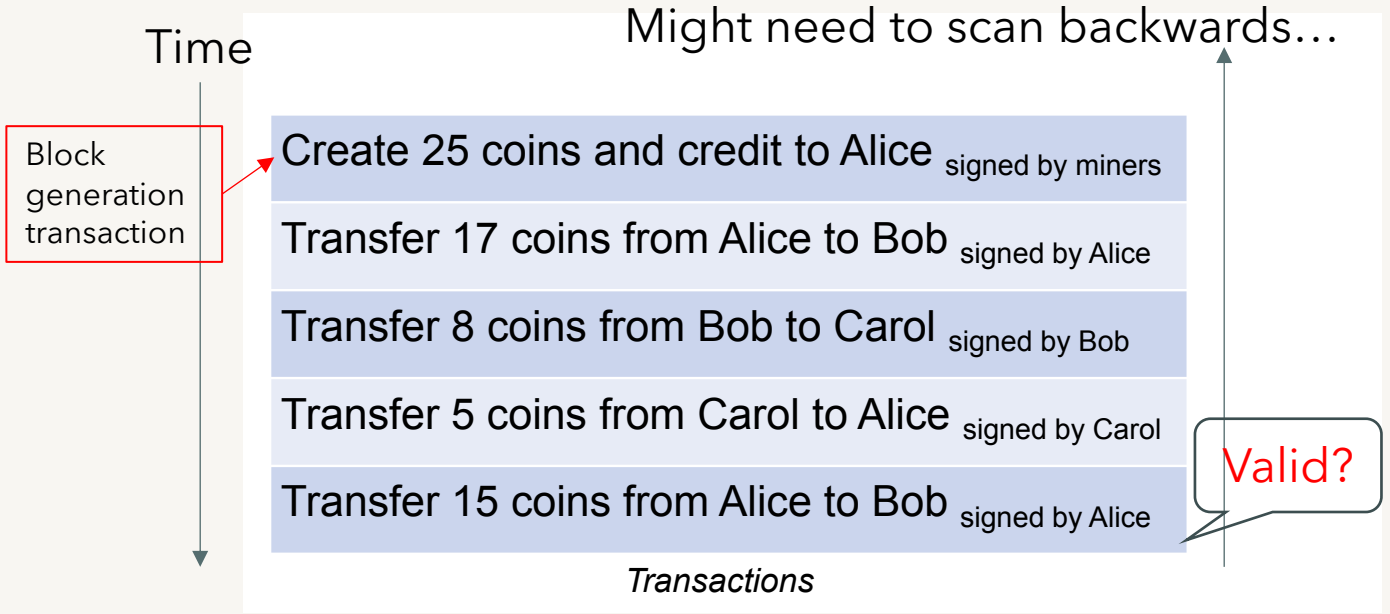


Abstract format of a bitcoin transaction



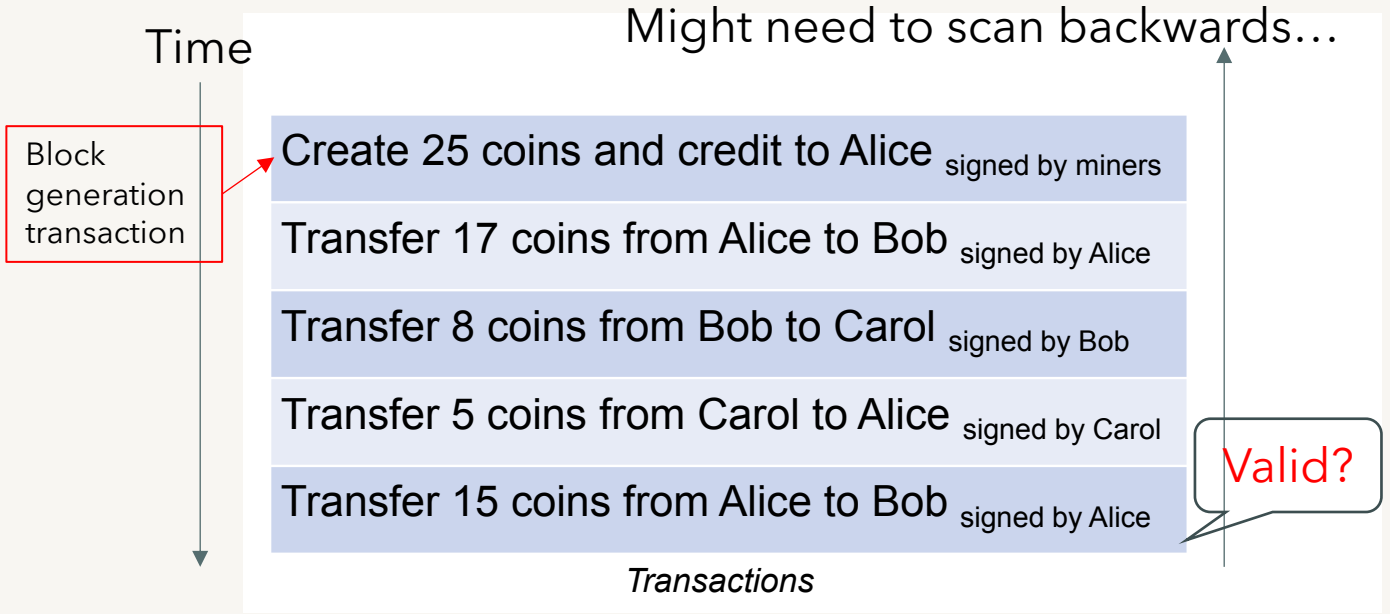
A bitcoin transaction

Account/transaction based Ledger?



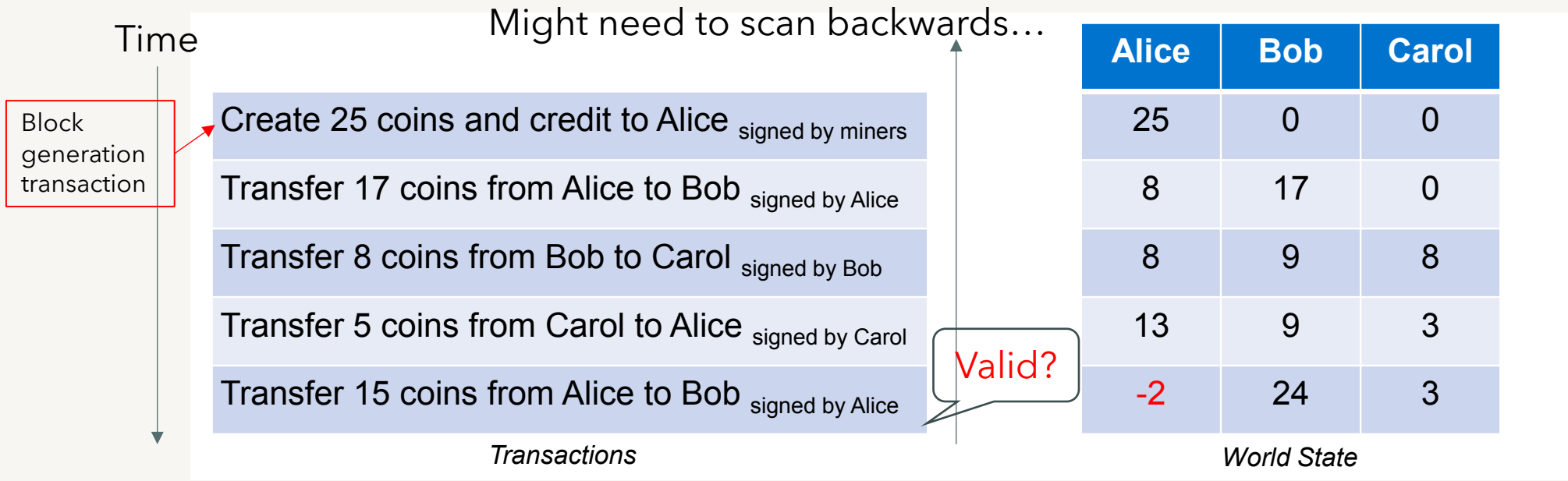
- *Intuitively*: At first, we consider Bitcoin to use an account-based ledger. However, an account-based approach takes a lot of effort to track the balances of every account
- In an account-based ledger, transactions can transfer arbitrary amounts of coins between accounts
- Transactions lead to a “world-state” of accounts and account balances

Account/transaction based Ledger?



- To validate a certain transaction, you might need to track very old transactions
- Since you do not know which old transaction, you need track each of the previous transactions one by one until you find the desired ones

Account/transaction based Ledger?

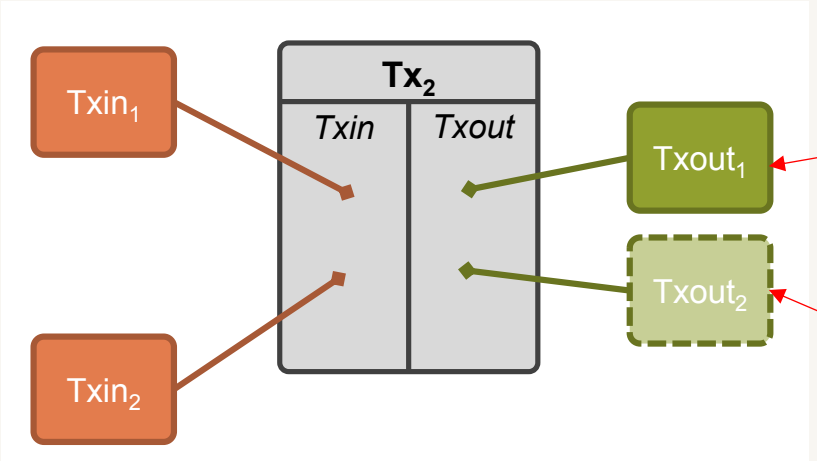


- One option is to maintain the world state in a separate database
  - Remember, in the world state you store the account balance
- That would require to maintain two separate databases: world state and transactions

Account/transaction based Ledger?

- Bitcoin’s solution: a transaction-based ledger
- By using a transaction-based ledger, Bitcoin enables wallet owners to define conditional transactions using Bitcoin Script

Transaction Based Ledger



Output not consumed, not used as inputs in other transactions These are known as **UTXO (Unspent Transaction Output)**

Output consumed, used as inputs in other transactions. These are known as **STXO (Spent Transaction Output**)

- Transactions (Tx) have a number of inputs and a number of outputs
  - Inputs (Txin): Former outputs, that are being consumed
  - Outputs (Txout): New outputs transferring the value
- In transactions (coinbase transaction) where new coins are created, no Txin is used (no coins are consumed)
- Each transaction has a unique identifier (TxID). Each output has a unique identifier within a transaction
- We refer to them (in this example) as *#TX[#txout]*, e.g., 1[1], which is the second Txout of the second transaction

Transaction Based Ledger

This is known as a coinbase transaction

Create 25 coins and credit to Alice signed by miners
Transfer 17 coins from Alice to Bob signed by Alice
Transfer 8 coins from Bob to Carol signed by Bob
Transfer 5 coins from Carol to Alice signed by Carol
Transfer 15 coins from Alice to Bob signed by Alice

Transactions

0	Txin: ∅ Txout: 25.0 -> Alice signed by the miner
1	Txin: 0[0] Txout: 17.0 → Bob, 8.0 → Alice signed by Alice
2	Txin: 1[0] Txout: Txout: 8.0 → Carol, 9.0 → Bob signed by Bob
3	Txin: 2[0] Txout: 5.0 → Alice, 3.0 → Carol signed by Carol
4	Txin: 1[1], 3[0] Txout: 15.0 → Bob, ? → Alice signed by Alice

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Transaction Based Ledger

Create 25 coins and credit to Alice	signed by miners
Transfer 17 coins from Alice to Bob	signed by Alice
Transfer 8 coins from Bob to Carol	signed by Bob
Transfer 5 coins from Carol to Alice	signed by Carol
Transfer 15 coins from Alice to Bob	signed by Alice

Transactions

Joined payment

0	Txin: ∅ Txout: 25.0 -> Alice signed by the miner
1	Txin: 0[0] Txout: 17.0 → Bob, 8.0 → Alice signed by Alice
2	Txin: 1[0] Txout: Txout: 8.0 → Carol, 9.0 → Bob signed by Bob
3	Txin: 2[0] Txout: 5.0 → Alice, 3.0 → Carol signed by Carol
4	Txin: 1[1], 2[0] Txout: 15.0 → Bob, ? → Alice signed by Alice

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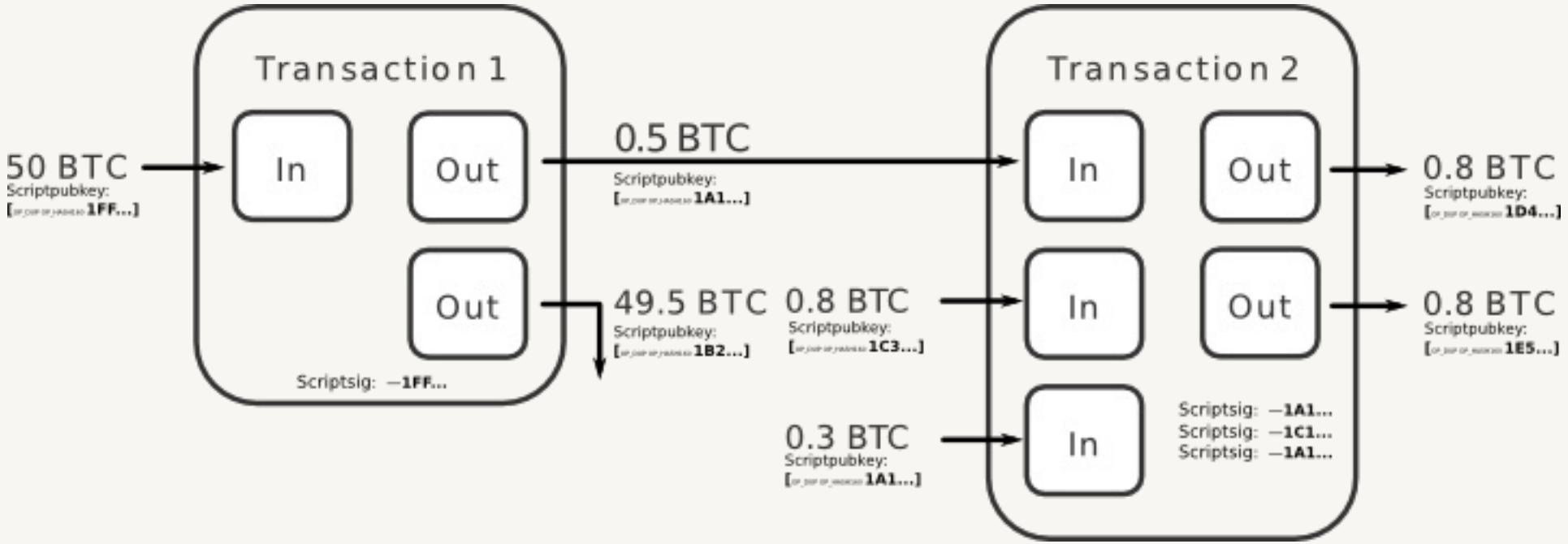
Connecting different transactions

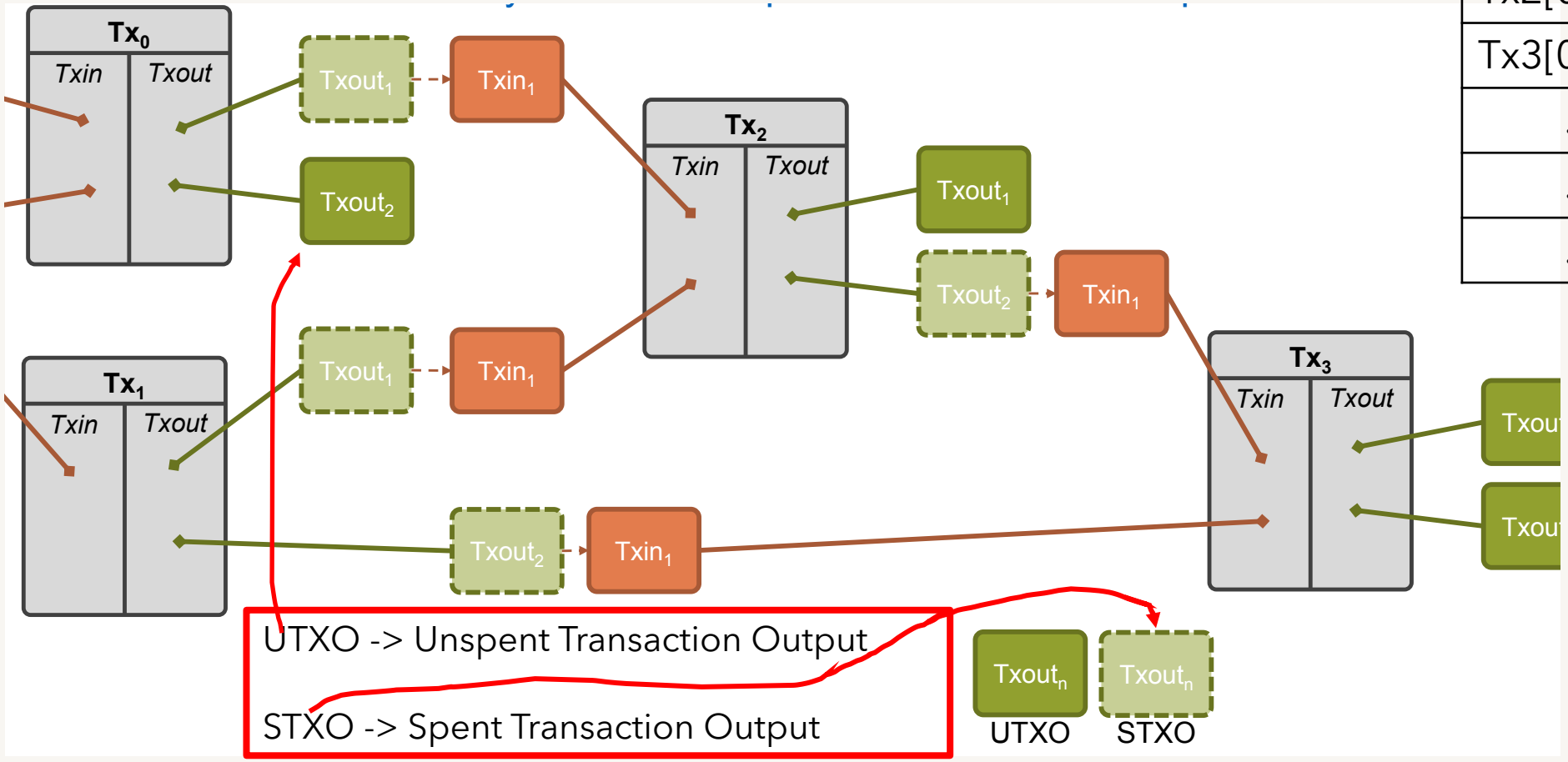


Source: http://s3.amazonaws.com/main-newsbtc-images/2015/11/27120846/Coinjoin.png

All UTXOs are maintained in an UTXO Table

Tx0[1]
Tx2[0]
Tx3[0]
…
…
…

Connecting different transactions



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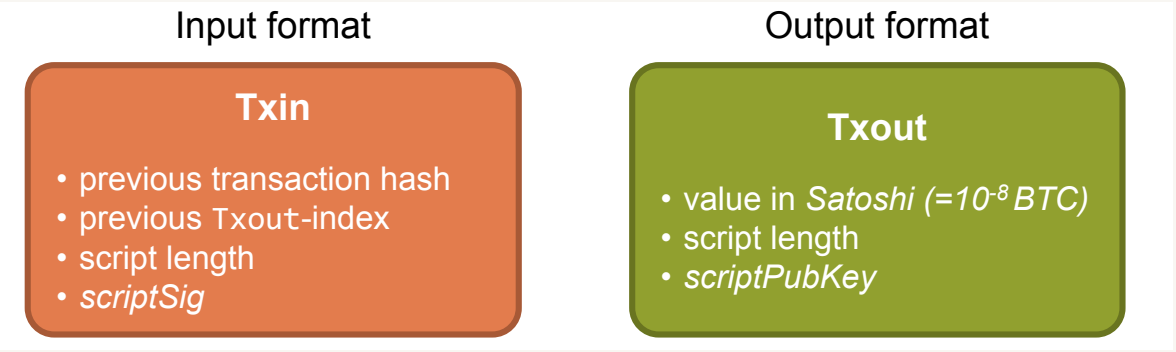
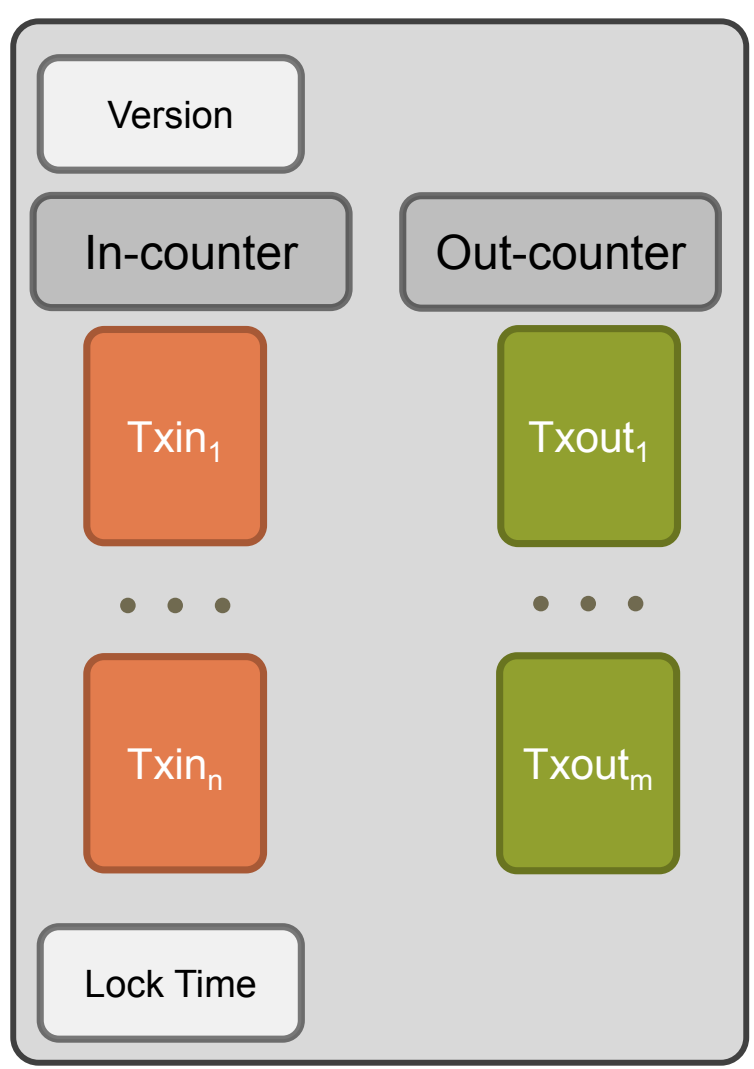
Transaction

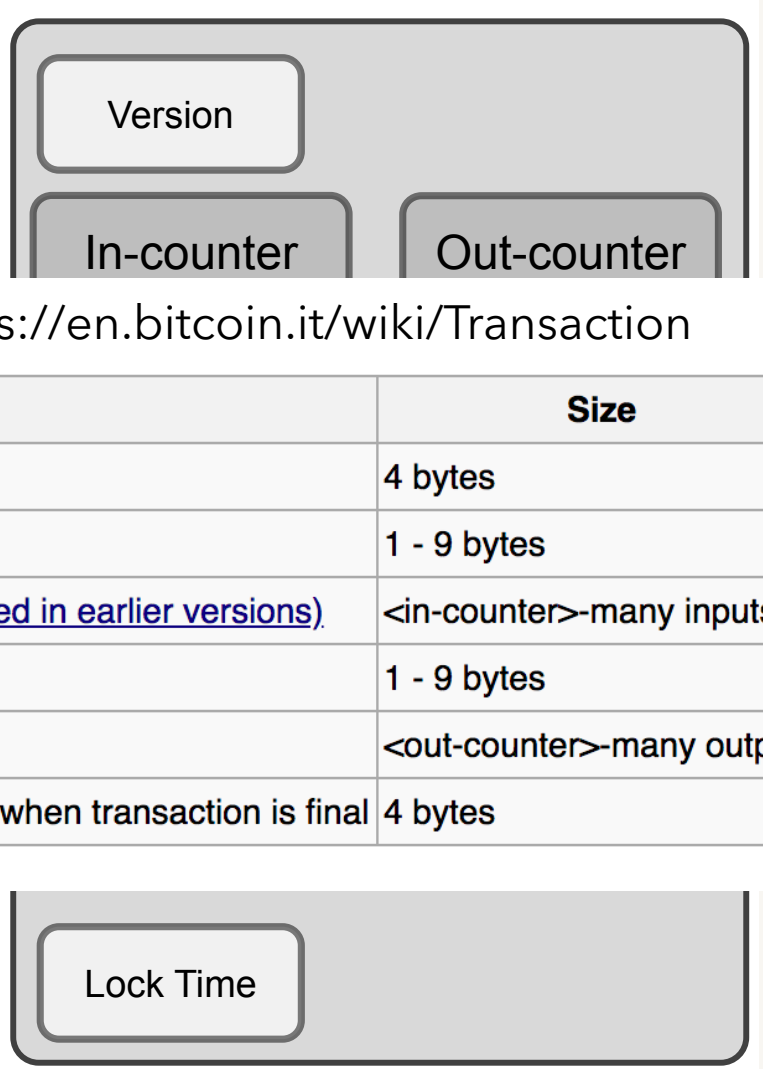
- Each transaction has a list of inputs and outputs
- All inputs reference an existing unspent output or a coinbase transaction
- Inputs and outputs contain scripts (scriptSig, scriptPubKey) for verification and other metadata
- lock_time: is the time at which a particular transaction can be added to the blockchain, 0 means now





Transaction

- All inputs reference an existing unspent output or a



General format of a Bitcoin transaction (inside a block)

https://en.bitcoin.it/wiki/Transaction

Field	Description	Size
Version no	currently 1	4 bytes
In-counter	positive integer VI = VarInt	1 - 9 bytes
list of inputs	the first input of the first transaction is also called "coinbase" (its content was ignored in earlier versions)	<in-counter>-many inputs
Out-counter	positive integer VI = VarInt	1 - 9 bytes
list of outputs	the outputs of the first transaction spend the mined bitcoins for the block	<out-counter>-many outputs
lock_time	if non-zero and sequence numbers are < 0xFFFFFFFF: block height or timestamp when transaction is final	4 bytes

- previous transaction hash
- previous `Txout`-index
- script length
- *scriptSig*

- value in *Satoshi* (=10^{-8} *BTC*)
- script length
- *scriptPubKey*

Transaction

It contains the size of the transaction, the number of inputs and outputs, the version and a lock-time. The hash is the transaction ID (TxID) discussed later

An array of all inputs. Each input contains the previous transaction hash (TxID) and the index of Txout. Also a signature *script (scriptSig)* is provided.

An array of all outputs. One output has two fields: the amount of the transferred coins and the scriptPubKey.

Transaction output

- An output contains instructions for sending bitcoins
  - Value is the number of Satoshi (1 BTC = 100,000,000 Satoshi) that this output will be worth when claimed
- There can be more than one output, and they share the combined value of the inputs
- If the input is worth 50 BTC but you only want to send 25 BTC,
  - Bitcoin will create two outputs worth 25 BTC: one to the receiver, and one back to you (known as "*change*", though you send it to yourself)
- Any input bitcoins not redeemed in an output is considered a *transaction fee*; whoever generates the block will get it


```
"vout": [
  {
    "value": 0.01500000,
    "scriptPubKey": "OP_DUP OP_HASH160 ab68025513c3dbd2f7b92a94e0581f5d50f654e7 OP_EQUALVERIFY
    OP_CHECKSIG"
  },
  {
    "value": 0.08450000,
    "scriptPubKey": "OP_DUP OP_HASH160 7f9b1a7fb68d60c536c2fd8aeaa53a8f3cc025a8 OP_EQUALVERIFY OP_CHECKSIG",
  }
]
```


https://github.com/bitcoinbook/bitcoinbook/blob/develop/ch06.asciidoc


THANK YOU
QUESTIONS?