Introduction to Blockchain Technology

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15th September, 2017

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Introduction

Bitcoin

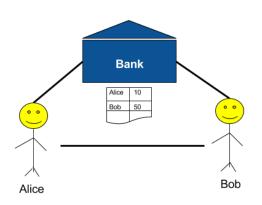
- A decentralized cryptocurrency [Nakamoto, 2008]
- No central authority

Blockchain Technology

- A decentralized P2P trust-based distributed system
- Consensus is achieved through proof-of-work.

Background

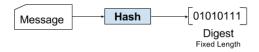
Traditional Banking



- Maintains a ledger (record book)
- Verifies owner and recipient
- Validates every transaction

Background

Cryptographic Hash Function

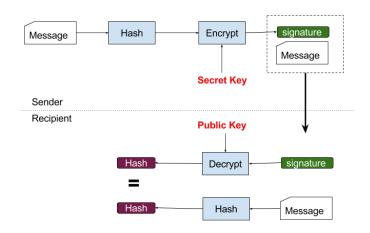


Properties

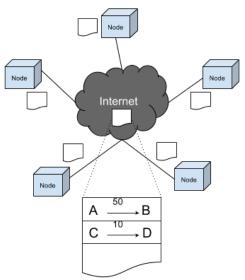
- Collision resistant
- High entropy
- One-way function

Background

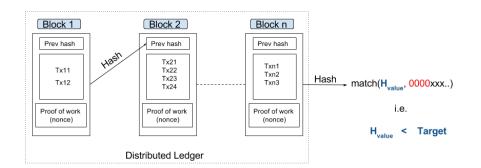
Digital Signature



Distributed and Replicated Ledger

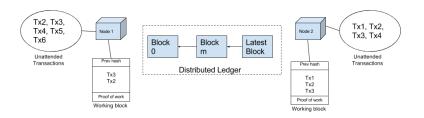


Blockchain



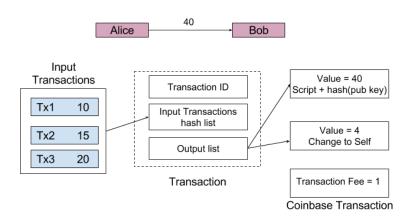
- The process of finding a block is called as Mining
- Highly compute intensive and power hungry
- Rewarded with some coins (newly added into the circulation) and transaction fee

Block Creation



- Group the broadcast transactions after every 10min interval
- Two nodes may find two different blocks simultaneously
- Conflict is resolved by selecting the longest forked chain. Thus, transaction in a block has to wait for next 6 blocks to get confirmed.

Transaction



- Transactions are irreversible and non-encrypted
- Output is transferred to a bitcoin address (recipient's public key)

Transaction Example

Input:

Previous tx: f5d8ee39a430901c91...

Index: 0

scriptSig: 304502206e21798a42fae0e854281abd...

90db022100e2ac980643b0b82c0e88...

Output:

Value: 5000000000

scriptPubKey: OP_DUP OP_HASH160

404371705fa9bd789a2fcd52d2c580b65d35549d

OP_EQUALVERIFY OP_CHECKSIG

Miscellaneous

Blockchain Statistics

- Bitcoins in circulation = 16,564,000 (13th September 2017 05:30)
- System hash rate = 8,715,089.78 TH/s
- Number of transactions per day = 263,320
- Blockchain height (number of blocks mined so far) = 485220 (14th September 2017 19:30 IST)
- Current block reward = 12.5 BTC(bitcoins)
- BTC price = \$3,480.26
- Avg. block size = 0.67MB

Miscellaneous

Crypto Exchanges

poloniex, kraken, bittrex, coinbase etc.

Altcoins

Ethereum (ETH), Litecoin (LTC), Dash, Zcash, Monero etc.

Decentralized applications (DApps) on blockchain

Augur: A decentralized prediction market, Storj: A decentralized cloud storage, InterPlanetary File System (IPFS) etc.

Summary

Bitcoin is a decentralized crypto currency implemented using

- P2P distributed networking
- Cryptography
- Proof-of-work concept

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(2017).
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Bitcoin Wiki .

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

[Online; accessed 14-September-2017].



Current Blockchain Status.

https://blockchain.info/.

[Online; accessed 14-September-2017].



A next-generation smart contract and decentralized application platform.

https://github.com/ethereum/wiki/wiki/White-Paper. [Online; accessed 14-September-2017].



Bitcoin: A peer-to-peer electronic cash system.