

# Sun City Computer Club

Crypto Currencies

Cyber Security Seminar Series

**Questions, Comments, Suggestions welcomed at  
any time**

**Even Now**

- [Audio Recording of this session](#)
- Use the link above to access MP4 audio recording

- Bitcoin is a collection of concepts and technologies that form the basis of a digital money ecosystem.
- Money a medium of exchange
- a unit of account
- a store of value

**Bitcoin definition**

- Fast, secure, borderless
- Virtual
- Transfer of value sender <-> recipient
- Digital keys prove ownership, unlock value
- Digital keys stored in digital wallet
- Ownership of digital keys allows transactions
- Distributed peer-to-peer ledger
- Created via mining
  - Finding solution(s) to mathematical problem while processing transactions
  - Replacing currency issuance and clearing

## Bitcoin features

- Algorithms to verify and record transactions
- Algorithms adjust to add bitcoin every 10 minutes
- Algorithms adjust by half every 4 years
- 21 million bitcoin limit by year 2140
- Diminishing rate -> deflationary

**Digital currency mining**

- Bitcoin protocol
  - decentralized peer-to-peer network
- Blockchain
  - Public transaction ledger
- Transaction script
  - Decentralized transaction verification
- Distributed mining
  - mathematical & deterministic issuance

- *Bitcoin: A Peer-to-Peer Electronic Cash System*

Satoshi Nakamoto 2008

Decentralized No Central Authority

Distributed computation system *proof-of-work*

Global *election* -> *Consensus*

Distributed computation increased exponentially

Satoshi Nakamoto s/he them ? 2011

Other uses: fairness of elections, asset registries, notarization, contracts, ...

- Many implementations of bitcoin standard
- Can run on many platforms
- Three main forms of clients (peers)
- Full client
  - every transaction
- Lightweight client
  - wallet(s)
- WEB client
  - third party owned client

- Digital currency is protected by digital means
- Can be instantly used by you or by *them*

**WARNING WARNING WARNING**

Balance 0 BTC

 Wallets

Alice's Wallet



0 BTC

 New Wallet

 Send

 Request

 Transactions

 Welcome 

### Welcome to MultiBit

With MultiBit your bitcoin is contained in a wallet. You can have several wallets to help keep organised. These are all shown in the "Wallets" panel on the left.

Use the menu options to open new tabs for what you want to do. The "Send", "Request" and "Transactions" tabs are always open. The others you can close by clicking the small "x" in the tab title.

You can password protect your wallet for more security with the "File | Add Password" menu option.

Many items on the screen have a description in a tooltip. Hover over an item with your mouse to see the tooltip.

Click on the (?) icons to get help for what you are doing. Try clicking on the (?) icon below.



Online

Send

Request

Transactions

Your address 1Cdid9KFAaatwczBwBttQcwXYCpvK8h7FK



Label

Amount

BTC



New

Your receiving addresses

- Similar to physical wallet
- With differences
- Bitcoin address      QR code
- Ability to create new bitcoin addresses
- Stored in digital wallet(s)
- Addresses and Keys
- Fund the desired address(es)
- Fiat currency exchange rate
- <https://bitcoinwisdom.io/>

## **Digital Currency Wallet**

- Transfer to the bitcoin address
- Transaction amount
- Transaction signed by sender's private key
- Bitcoin network propagates transaction



The image shows a mobile application interface titled "Custom Send". It features four main input sections:

- From address:** A dropdown menu currently showing "Any Address".
- Pay to:** A text input field containing "bitcoin address" with a QR code icon to its right.
- Amount to pay:** A text input field showing "BTC 0.00" with a pencil icon to its right.
- Fee (optional):** A text input field showing "BTC 0.0005" with a backspace icon to its right.

- Home
- Prices
- Charts
- DeFi
- NFTs
- Academy
- Developers
- Assets
- Bitcoin
- Ethereum
- Bitcoin Cash
- BTC Testnet
- BCH Testnet
- Blockchain.com
- Wallet
- Exchange

Explorer > Bitcoin Explorer > Address USD

Address USD BTC

This address has transacted 13 times on the Bitcoin blockchain. It has received a total of 0.20340121 BTC (\$6,687.07) and has sent a total of 0.10000000 BTC (\$4,270.90). The current value of this address is 0.10340121 BTC (\$4,416.16).



Address	1Cdid9KFAaatwczBw8ttQcwXYCpvK8h7FK
Format	BASE58 (P2PKH)
Transactions	13
Total Received	0.20340121 BTC
Total Sent	0.10000000 BTC
Final Balance	0.10340121 BTC

Transactions

Fee	0.00004190 BTC (18.674 sat/B - 4.718 sat/WU - 222 bytes)	+0.00009678 BTC
Hash	ce3454376a468f3fa7f241355724dd340fde63b8e51d7da3c3197a97891d0534	2020-06-27 11:59
	1F8aT9OHrsQddEMuM1YmbRp5XU3arCL7Y9	0.01133668 BTC →
		bc1q6zgwsh89tc7ks9j90nmqdy9gcjfs5829j8 1Cdid9KFAaatwczBw8ttQcwXYCpvK8h7FK
		0.01119500 BTC → 0.00009678 BTC →
Fee	0.00002491 BTC (11.071 sat/B - 2.768 sat/WU - 225 bytes)	+0.00006236 BTC
Hash	b45a9cb4a1061b7c4e752757c44c28575051366483c54c9934036130c4752289	2018-10
	1KY7u02ZxusSdmMYr18h7brWaj1cm0i0h3	0.00029034 BTC →
		1637mckxCS9uA429kufyC18Bx3TusSEm
		0.00029034 BTC →

- Unconfirmed – propagated but unmined
- Confirmed – in newly created block
- Blockchain explorer – many examples
- Example: Retail purchase

POS terminal    Price \$USD    and    BTC

QR code

Bitcoin address

Amount

Recipient address

Payment description

**Transaction Life cycle**

- Chain of transactions
- Spending – Sign the transaction
- Distributed ledger input & output
- Transaction fee
- Destination & key *encumbrance*
- Input -> Output (recipient)
  - > Output (sender) change
  - > Output transaction fee
- Transaction can be “offline”

## Transaction Life cycle

- Transaction output created in form of script
- Script creates encumbrance on value
- Script can only be redeemed by script solution
- This output payable to signature from key corresponding to payee's public address
- Recipient's wallet
- Bitcoin change is second output back to sender
- Bitcoin network generates transaction fee payed to miner

## Transition Life cycle

# Transaction

View information about a bitcoin transaction

0627052b6f28912f2703066a912ea577f2ce4da4caa5a5fbd8a57286c345c2f2

1Cdid9KFAaatwczBwBttQcwXYCpvK8h7FK (0.1 BTC - Output)



1GdK9UzpHBzqzX2A9JFP3Di4weBwqgmoQA  
- (Unspent) 0.015 BTC

1Cdid9KFAaatwczBwBttQcwXYCpvK8h7FK -  
(Unspent) 0.0845 BTC

97 Confirmations

0.0995 BTC

## Summary

Size 258 (bytes)

Received Time 2013-12-27 23:03:05

Included In [277316](#) (2013-12-27 23:11:54 +9  
Blocks minutes)

## Inputs and Outputs

Total Input 0.1 BTC

Total Output 0.0995 BTC

Fees 0.0005 BTC

Estimated BTC Transacted 0.015 BTC

- Transaction information 258 bytes in size
- Transmitted to peer-to-peer network  
Internet, wired, Wi-Fi, mobile, ...  
first node sends this to all its connections  
those nodes send to all their connections  
a few seconds
- Recipient's wallet "hey, that is for me"  
unconfirmed - may be spent if "small"  
transaction well formed  
uses previously unspent inputs  
contains sufficient transaction fees

## Transaction Life cycle

- Mining based on computation
- Transactions bundled into blocks
  - Destined for blockchain inclusion
  - Very large computation effort to build/prove
  - Much smaller computation effort to verify
- Mining creates new bitcoins in new block
  - number of bitcoins created fixed
  - number of bitcoins diminishes with time
- Mining creates trust
  - Enough computation (proof of work)
  - More blocks > more computation > more trust

## **Transaction Life cycle - Mining**

- Miners have new transactions AND copy of entire blockchain
- Proof of work – quadrillions of hashing operations
- Potential solution – eventually  $\sim 10$  seconds

**Transaction Life cycle Mining**

- A LOT of high-end PCs
- Specialized mining kit with GPUs
- ASIC chips
  - Application Specific Integrated Circuits
- Mining pool
- Norton
- Botnet provided
- Environment impact Electricity & Minerals

**Aside Computational difficulty**

- Transactions not verified until published on blockchain
- Transactions flow in from peer-to-peer network
- Pool of unverified transactions
- This growing pool + hash of prior block
- That prior block changes
  - i.e. added by another minor
  - start all over again - you did not win
- Calculate potential next block – proof of work
- Add “reward” (25 BTC per block) currently
- Solution found – published to network
  - solution verified by peer-to-peer network
- Start all over again

## Transaction Life cycle Mining

- The next block now used just verified block as its last block so trust builds
- Exponentially harder to reverse more trust
- Irrevocable after 6 or so

## Transaction Lifecycle Mining

- Lightweight clients SPV  
Simplified Payment Verification  
In the blockchain with several blocks after
- Now available to “spend” new transaction

**Transaction Life cycle**

- Bitcoin full client  
Reference client  
transaction verification engine  
copy of transaction ledger (blockchain)  
peer-to-peer network client  
blockchain “out of synch” for several days  
current size Jan 13, 2022 - 385.14GB

**Wana play?**

- Ownership
- Wallet – simple database
- Keys plural – other uses
  - Digital keys for cryptography functions
  - Hashing
  - symmetric encryption & decryption
  - asymmetric encryption & decryption
  - signing
  - tamper proofing
  - non-repudiation

**Wallets, Keys, Addresses**

- **Keys**

- Digital signature

HASH then signed with public/private key

- Public key derives bitcoin address
- Bitcoin addresses can be otherwise derived
  
- Addresses
- Vanity addresses
- Application and scripts

**Keys**

- Hash
  - one-way cryptographic function
  - variable size input
  - fixed size output
- Symmetric encryption – one key
- Asymmetric encryption – two keys
  - based on mathematical intractable function
  - prime number factorization
  - elliptic curve multiplication
  - private/public one derives the other

**Cryptography aside**

- Public/Private keys
- Stored together
- or derive public from private
- Public key -> bitcoin address
- Private key -> signing (different at each use)
- Public key + signature => ownership
- **BACKUP & PROTECT !!**
- Lose your keys/wallet real world
- Same Same bitcoin

**Keys**

- Randomness is important!
- 256-bit number
- Private key space  $2^{256}$
- Large number  $10^{77}$   
number of atoms in universe  $10^{80}$   
example

1E99423A4ED27608A15A2616A2B0E9E52CED330AC530EDCC32C8FFC6A526AEDD

Public key  $K = k * G$

$k$  – private key

$G$  – generator point

elliptic curve multiplication - irreversible

**Generate private key**

- Example

1J7mdg5rbQyUHENYdx39WVWK7fsLpEoXZy

Starts with digit 1

Generated from public keys

or

something else - e.g., payment script

Secure Hash Algorithm SHA

RACE Integrity Primitives Evaluation Message Digest

RIPEMD 160

$$A = \text{RIPEMD160}(\text{SHA256}(K))$$

**Bitcoin address**

- 58 characters + checksum
- Radix 8 – octal
- Radix 10 – decimal
- Radix 16 – Hexadecimal
- Base 64 26 upper 26 lower 10 numerals 2 special
- Base 58 – Base 64 – o 0 1 |
  
- Base58Check adds 4-byte checksum
- Bitcoin address
- Fixed prefix + data + checksum
- Prefix => type of bitcoin address

**Base58Check**

- Bitcoin wallets contain keys usually on keychains  
No Bitcoins Keys  
The coins (currency) are on the blockchain
- Nondeterministic wallets  
100 random private keys  
each key used once (typically)  
Just a Bunch of Keys JBOK  
Backup of JBOK  
Type-0 wallet
- Deterministic (seeded) wallets

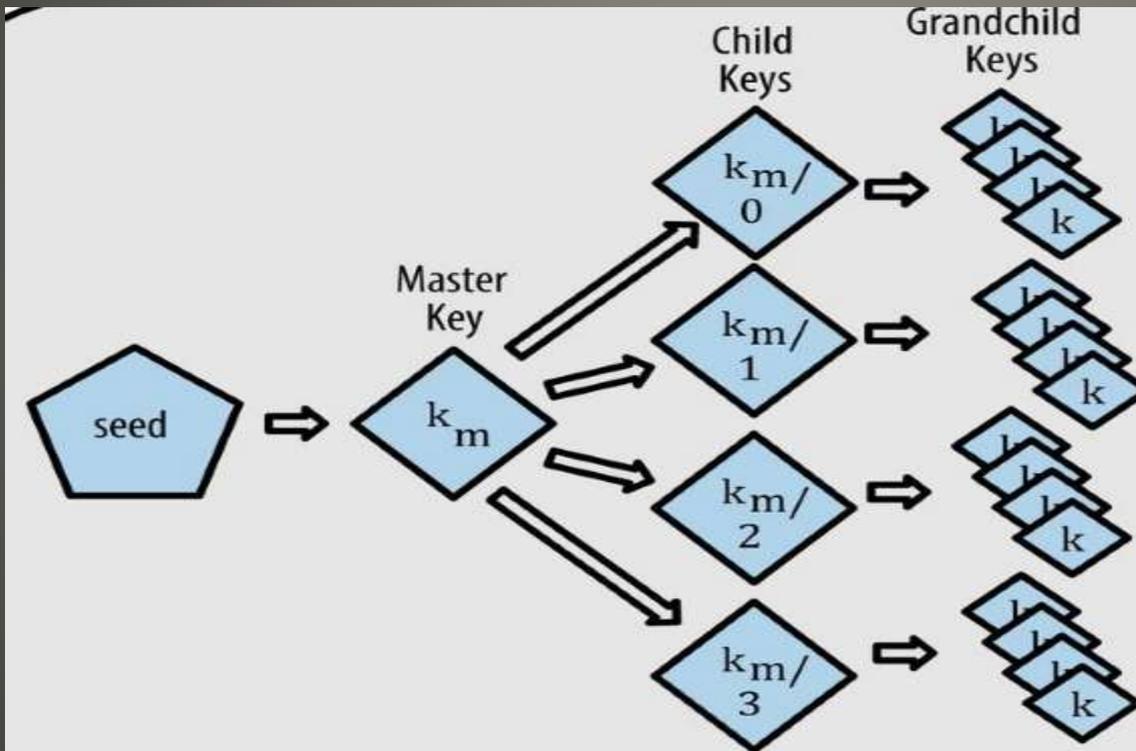
## Wallets

- Deterministic (seeded) wallets
  - all keys derived from a common seed
  - a single backup
  - seeded sufficient for wallet import/export
  - Mnemonic codes
    - allow re-creation of wallet and seeds
    - 12 to 24 words

<b>Entropy input (128 bits)</b>	<code>0c1e24e5917779d297e14d45f14e1a1a</code>
<b>Mnemonic (12 words)</b>	<code>army van defense carry jealous true garbage claim echo media make crunch</code>
<b>Seed (512 bits)</b>	<code>3338a6d2ee71c7f28eb5b882159634cd46a898463e9d2d0980f8e80dfbba5b0fa0291e8a599b44b93187be6ee3ab5fd3ead7dd646341b2cdb8d08d13bf7</code>

# Wallets

- Hierarchical Deterministic Wallets  
Tree structure



**Wallets**

- Tree structure maps to organizational structure
- Allows creation of sequence of public keys without access to private keys.

Allows insecure server

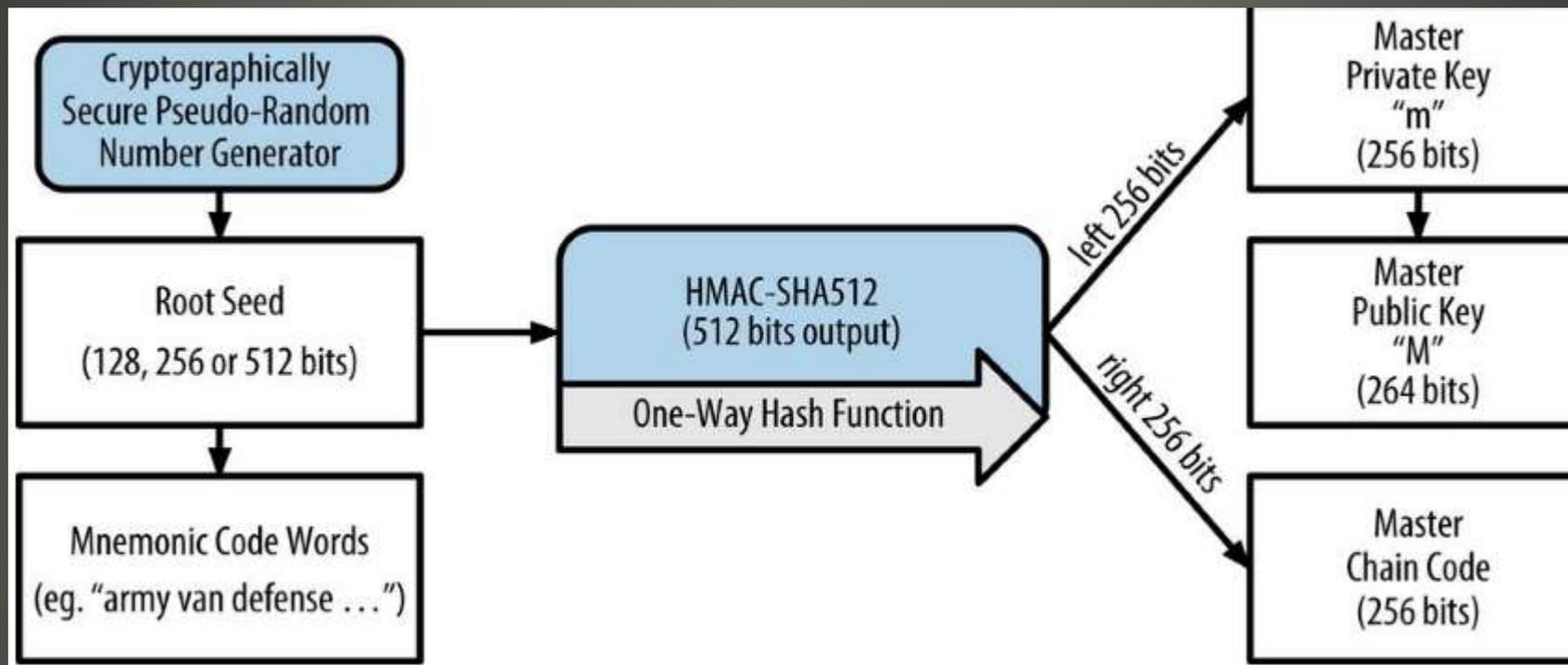
Allows receive-only wallet

Often referred to as HD wallet

Hash gives master private key  
and master chain code

These generate master public key

## **Hierarchical Deterministic Wallet**



## HD wallet generation from seed

- Child key
  - Inputs:
    - Parent private or public key
    - Seed (chain code - 256 bits)
    - index number (32 bits)
- Child key then used as parent key to generate more children keys ...
- Requires parent key and chain code
- Can not use child code to determine parent code or sibling codes
- Extended key = child key + chain code
- Extended private key
- Extended public key

## **HD Wallet Private child key derivation**

- Deploy large numbers of public child keys without knowing private keys

Very secure public key deployments

large number of public key and bitcoin addresses

Unable to spend any coin sent to those addresses

Extended private can derive private keys to sign transactions

**HD wallet advantages**

- Confidentiality vs availability
- Backup
- Backup protection
- Private keys prove ownership by their knowledge or possession
- Wallet protection by password
- **Password**
- Backups now multiple protection issues

**Encrypted private keys**

- BIP0038
- Common standard
  - encrypt private keys with passphrase
  - encoding with Base58Check
  - Stored on paper Paper Wallets
  - USB Cold Storage
  - Input WIF (wallet Import Format)
  - Output Base58Check with *6P* prefix

```
6PRTHL6mWa48xSopbU1cKrVjpKbBZxcLRRCdctLJ3z5yxE87MobKoXdTsJ
```

## Bitcoin Improvement Proposal 38

- Private Key -> Public key -> Bitcoin address
- Bitcoin address starts with 1
- Bitcoin address starting with 3
  - Pay-to-script addresses
  - Multi-signature M-of-N
- Vanity bitcoin addresses
  - Trial and error resemble vanity address

```
1LoveBPzzD72PUXLzCkYAtGFYmK5vYNR33
```

## Bitcoin address variations

- Printed on paper
- Cold Storage

Public Address	Private Key (WIF)
1424C2F4bc9JidNjjTUZCbUxv6Sa1Mt62x	5J3mBbAH58CpQ3Y5RNJpUKPE62SQ5tfcvU2Jpbnkey



# Paper Wallets & Cold Storage

- Offline theft methods
- Copy paper, photograph of paper
- Use BIP0038 – now needs the passphrase
- Never been online
- Scratch off sticker

## **Paper Wallets & Cold Storage**

- Paper check/cheque
  - Created by anyone – not necessarily the signer
  - Not known by network until signed and submitted
- 300 to 400 bytes
- Tens of thousand bitcoin nodes
- Transaction contains no confidential information
  - private keys
  - credentials
  - so broadcast over public network
  - unlike credit card transaction or check
- Currency now a data structure

## **Bitcoin and real-world analogies**

- Bitcoin network mesh w/o structures
- Each node validates each transaction before forwarding

Size	Field	Description
4 bytes	Version	Specifies which rules this transaction follows
1–9 bytes (VarInt)	Input Counter	How many inputs are included
Variable	Inputs	One or more transaction inputs
1–9 bytes (VarInt)	Output Counter	How many outputs are included
Variable	Outputs	One or more transaction outputs
4 bytes	Locktime	A Unix timestamp or block number

- Unspent Transaction Output  
UTXO

Undividable chunks

Wallets balance derived by scanning blockchain

Coin divided to 8 decimal places Satoshi

UTXO NOT - you get change

Consume UTXO – unlock with owner’s signature

Create UTXO lock to new owner’s bitcoin address

Coinbase transaction – created by miners

Currency creation

**Transaction units**

- Amount in Satoshis
- Locking script conditions for spending encumbrance

Size	Field	Description
8 bytes	Amount	Bitcoin value in satoshis ( $10^{-8}$ bitcoin)
1-9 bytes (VarInt)	Locking-Script Size	Locking-Script length in bytes, to follow
Variable	Locking-Script	A script defining the conditions needed to spend the output

## Transaction Output

- Spend  
coin locked to recipient's bitcoin address  
coin unlocked with private key
- Collect available UTXOs
- Get change
- Pay transaction fee  
Fees based on size & "market forces"  
Not mandatory  
Fees = Sum (Inputs) - Sum (outputs)  
including change  
20 UTXO to spend 1 payment needs 20 change outputs  
plus fees  
OR "keep the change" as fees  
Many small inputs => larger size transaction  
thus, larger fees

## Transaction

- CoinJoin – privacy protection
- Parent – child – grandchild  
arrival out of sequence  
orphan transaction pool  
size of pool limited to avoid denial of service attack

**Transaction complexity**

- Simple Pay-to-Public-key-hash
- Complex
- Locking and Unlocking scripts
- *Script* Forth-like reverse Polish  
Shared stack  
Stateless  
No loops

## Transaction scripting

- Pay-to-Public-Key-Hash (P2PKH)
- Multi-Signature
- Data Output
- Pay-to-Script-Hash (P2SH)

**Other transaction types**

- Peer-to-peer
  - Bitcoin P2P protocol
  - Stratum – mining
  - Routing
  - blockchain database
  - Mining
  - Wallet services
- 
- Full nodes
  - Simplified Payment Verification (SPV)
  - Lightweight
  - Mining

## Bitcoin network

- Handshake
- IP address exchanges
  
- Genesis block
- Build chain as peer list grows

**New node**

- Probabilistic search filter
- Privacy protection

**Bloom filters**

- Temporary list
- Pending or incomplete transactions

**Transaction pools**

- Block header has hash of parent block
- Block can have several child block candidates – forks  
Resolved
- Block header 80 bytes

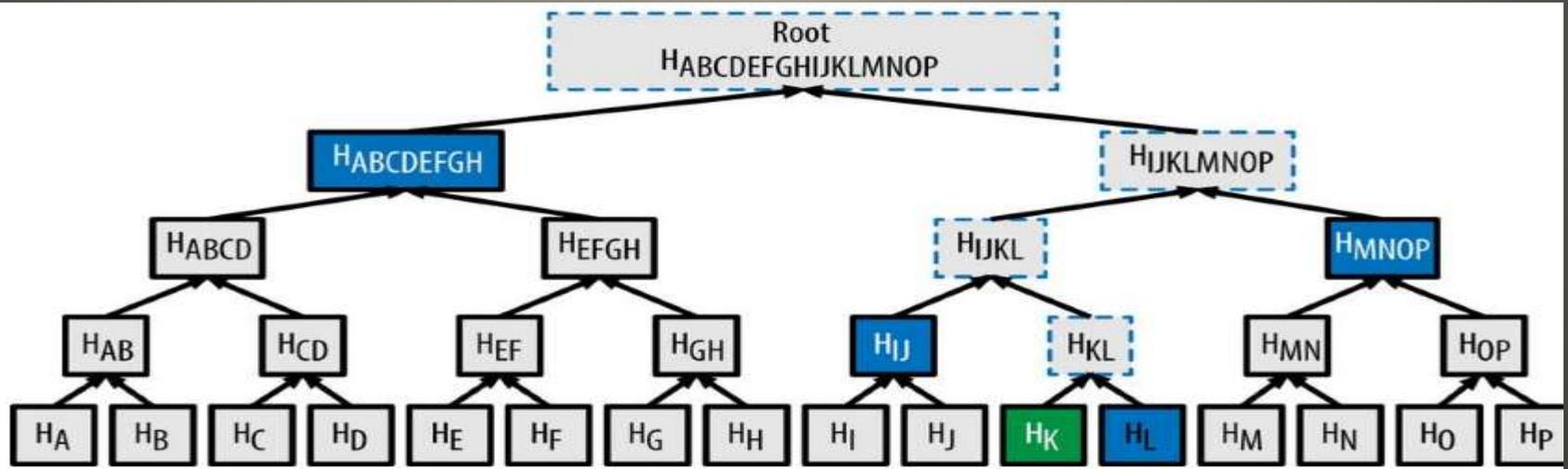
Size	Field	Description
4 bytes	Block Size	The size of the block, in bytes, following this field
80 bytes	Block Header	Several fields form the block header
1-9 bytes (VarInt)	Transaction Counter	How many transactions follow
Variable	Transactions	The transactions recorded in this block

## Blocks & Blockchain

- Block hash
- Block “height”
- Genesis block
- text “The Times 03/ Jan/ 2009 Chancellor on brink of second bailout for banks.”

## **Blocks and Blockchain**

- Merkle Trees binary hash tree
- Summary of all transactions in block
- Merkle root 32 bytes
- Specific transaction in this block?
- Authentication path Merkle path



## Merkle Trees

- “Hey, have my transaction(s)?”
- Bloom filter privacy
- Peer node responds with *merkleblock*  
block header & Merkle path  
1 KB vs 1MB

**Simplified Payment Verification nodes**

- New coin added to blockchain
- Bitcoin reward for first to create
- And validate all transactions to be added
- And fees
- Solve difficult mathematical problem
- Solution to proof of work yields new coin and fees
- 50 bitcoin per block + fees 2009
- 25 bitcoin per block + fees 2012
- 12.5 bitcoin per block + fees 2016
- By 2140 just fees 21million limit
- Deflationary due to diminishing supply
- Universal "truth" without trust

## **Mining**

- Each & every peer-to-peer node
  - Acting on information transmitted over insecure network
  - Arrives at same conclusion
- emergent consensus
- Independent verification of each transaction
  - Independent aggregation transactions > blocks
  - Independent verification of new blocks building chain
  - Independent selection of every node with most cumulative computation demonstrated through proof of work
  - Long checklist of criteria
  - Transaction Age, Fees, Priority
  - Miners balance these to construct candidate blocks

## Mining

- Generation transaction – pay the miner  
pay miner wallet 25.09094928 bitcoin
- Construct block header
- Hash, check, change a parameter, hash, check, .....
- Quadrillions
- 100 petahashes per second

- Difficulty target

New Difficulty = Old Difficulty \* (actual time of last 2016 blocks / 20160 minutes)

related to electricity cost and exchange rate of bitcoin to pay for electricity

# Mining

- Bing Bing – I found candidate block
- Oh yeah – send it over
- Peers validate just found candidate block
- Looks good to me, what do you think?

-or-

REJECTED try again

Miner's time + expenses wasted

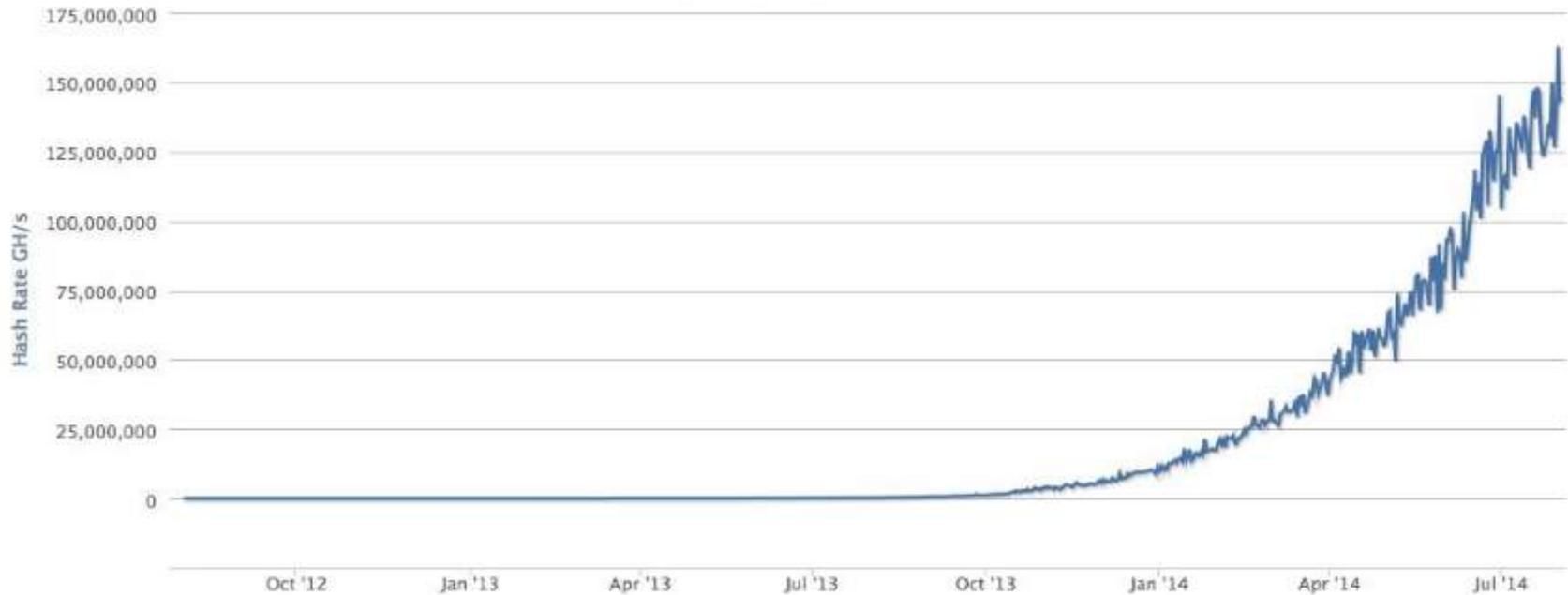
If valid, add to block chain

Start process yet again

**Mining**

### Hash Rate

Source: blockchain.info

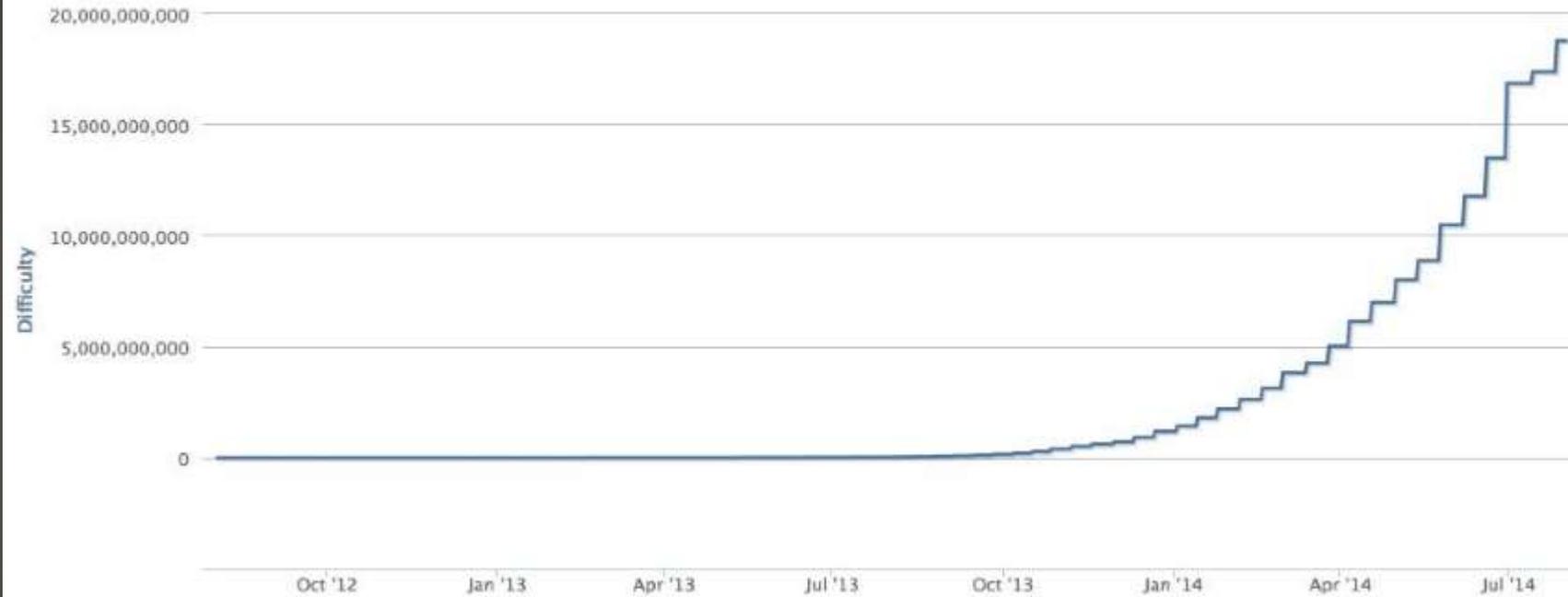


*Figure 8-7. Total hashing power, gigahashes per second, over two years*

# Mining & hashing race

## Difficulty

Source: blockchain.info



# Mining & Difficulty

- Warehouse filled with ASIC mining chips
- Located near power plants
  
- Construct pools
- Split the mining reward
  
- Join a pool
- Pool joins you

## **Mining Pools**

- Colored Coins  
meta protocol to layer small snippets of information on bitcoin. *Free magazine*
- Counterparty  
Other currencies
- Namecoin, IXCoin, Tenebrix, Litecoin, 50 or so

Crypto.com

10 million users, 3000 employees

Domain name \$10 Million

Rename of Staples Center

Matt Damon brand ambassador

Sponsorships Formula One, Philadelphia 76ers, Montreal Canadians, Water.org

**AND others**

- Digital cash
  - Like information it gives no indication of being stolen – cloned
- Information has mass, motion, topography
- Relies on possession and protection of keys
  - Keys can be backed up - unlike cash and money
  - Possession is ten-tenths of the law
  - Lose it, misplace it, have it stolen, give wrong amount, ...
  - Credit card “open ended”
- Stolen at rest or in transit  
Identity theft (cloning)

## Bitcoin Security

- Bitcoin transaction

Authorizes specific value to specific recipient

Can not be easily forged

Does not reveal any Personal Identifiable Information

**YOU** are solely responsible

Private key protection relies on cyber hygiene

Hacked bitcoin exchanges

Theft Instant

Theft irrevocable

No money laundering required

Hardware wallets [Trezor](#)

**Bitcoin Security**

- Diversification
- Multi signature
- Survivability private key  
Digital Asset Executor

**Bitcoin Security**

- Non-fungible token

unique and non-interchangeable unit of data  
usually associated with reproducible data  
blockchain

“there are many like it, but this is MY NFT”  
authorship, ownership chain, history, etc.

u can prove this by looking up xyzfu423955jftuitrtuihvftgkoye on CL1T Blockchain V2.

- Social media create, buy & sale NFTs

**NFT**

- Satoshi Nakamoto

*secure without the need to trust third party middleman*

Secure individual transactions

Verifiable record keeping capability

- OR bubble, Ponzi scheme, environmental disaster

**What is crypto currency anyway?**

- Maintain value
- Universally accepted as payment
- Measure of earnings, expenses, debts, assets
- Medium of exchange
  
- Anonymity
  
- Gold? E-Gold 1996
- *Electronic claim checks*
- Payments & users anonymous
- Company could not be

**Currency**

- Bitcoin 2019
- Supply limitations – retain value  
21 million bitcoins  
25 new coins created every 10 minutes
- Cryptographic hash functions
- Public/Private cryptography
- Blockchain

- Blockchain to define, enforce, contracts
- Smart contract functionality
- Ether
- Decentralized application platform
- Financial service  
Borrow, collect interest
- NFTs
- 15 transactions/sec -> tens of thousands/sec

**Ethereum**

**Other Blockchain uses**

- Immune from counterfeiting
- Cash & commodity
- A first purchase
  - 2 takeout pizzas 10,000 bitcoin
  - \$939 million today
  - Satoshi Nakamoto
  - Samsung Toshiba Nakamichi *Motorola* ?
- Unlike stocks, no fixed trading hours
- You store/guard Your cryptocurrencies

**Some more**

- Recalls
- Logistics
- Supply chain food (wild salmon or farmed)
- Education

**Blockchain**

- Our thanks for viewing a presentation  
In Cyber Security SIG Seminar Series
- Topic suggestions are most welcome

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