

How Bitcoin works



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What we are exploring together today

1. Past and present: History of money
2. Distributed systems – Can we do without a bank?
3. The Bitcoin blockchain
4. Asymmetrical cryptography
5. The Bitcoin payment system
6. Bitcoin in practice
7. Future



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Money in the past 125 years

- First publication of Dow Jones Index (May 26, 1896)
- German Inflation (1914 – November 1923)
- Black Thursday (October 24, 1929)
- **Bretton Woods** (1944 – 1973)
- European Monetary System, ECU (1979 – 1998)
- European Exchange Rate Mechanism, Euro (January 1, 1999)
- Bankruptcy Lehman Brothers (September 15, 2008)
- [[Paper](#)] „Bitcoin: A Peer-to-Peer Electronic Cash System“ published by **Satoshi Nakamoto** (November 1, 2008)

A child of crisis!



German Notgeld (February 15, 1924)



Gold standard

- Mark, 1871 – 4. August 1914
- Pound Sterling, until September 19, 1931
- US-Dollar, until 1933
- No link between gold standard, stable prices and economic growth [[Robert Whaples](#)]

One Hundred Dollars Gold Certificate,
Thomas Hart Benton (1922)

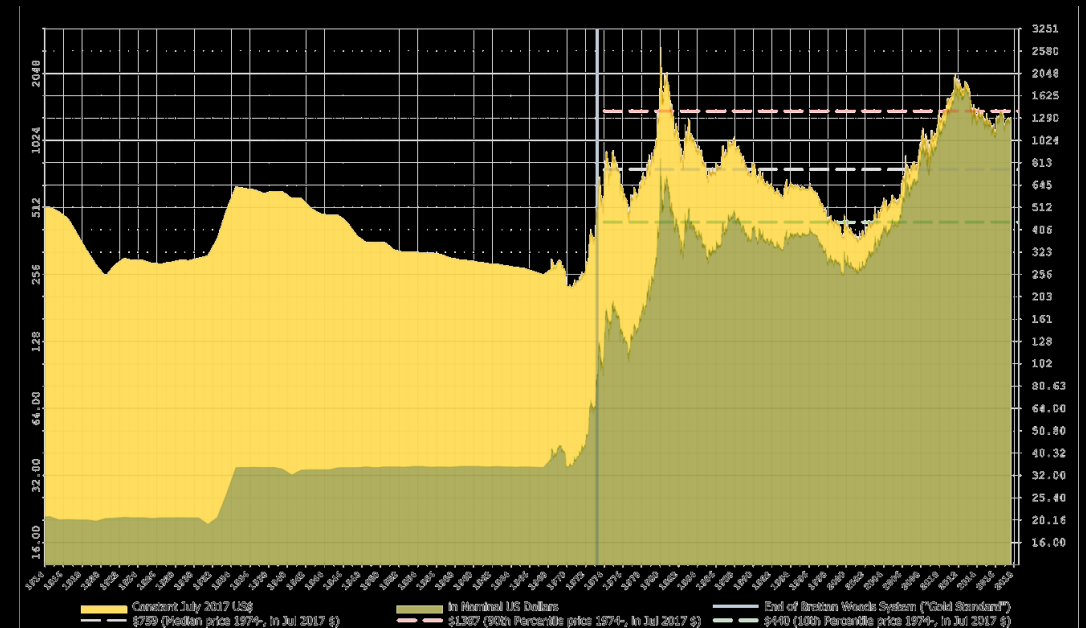


Five Dollars Federal Reserve Note,
Abraham Lincoln (1928)

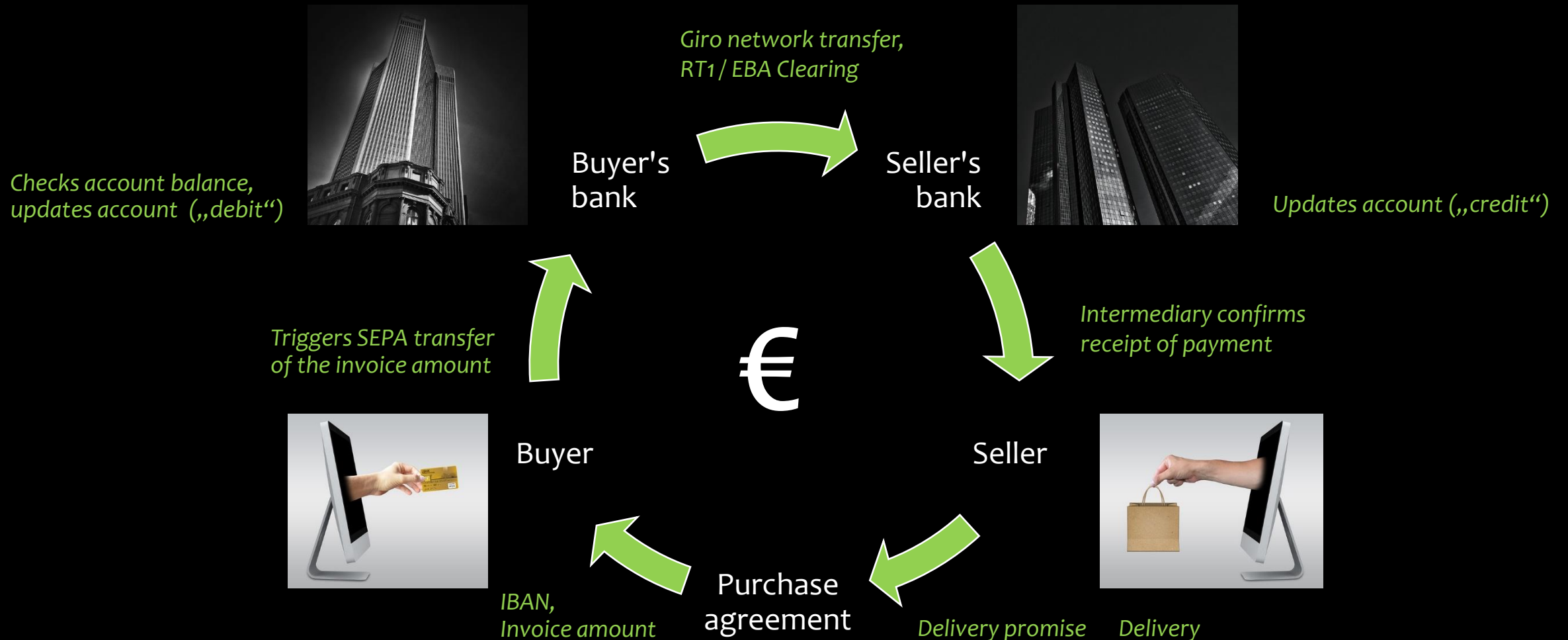
Fiat money

- „Fiat lux!“
- Object with *no intrinsic value*
- The *external value* is based on **usefulness** – as with crypto currencies
- Trust in central banks?
- Allows **money creation** in any amount, inflation!
- Nominal increase in gold price from 1974 to July 2017 from \$ 440 to \$ 1387

Intrinsic value = sourcing costs: 10.9 Cent



Payment transaction with an intermediary



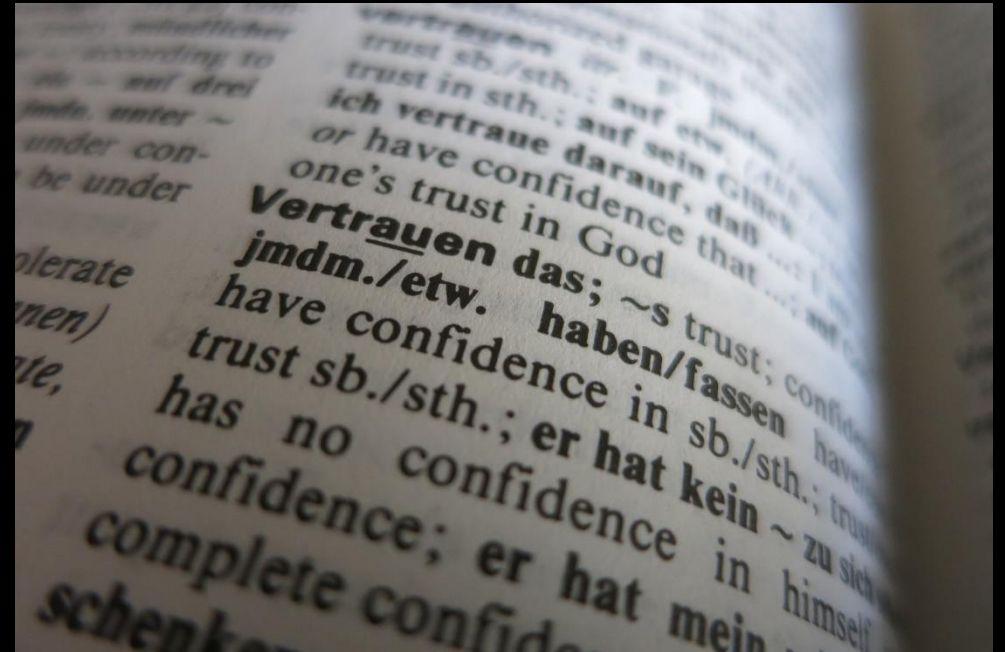
Who trusts whom?

- Prepayment – the buyer trusts the seller:
Does he keep his delivery promise?
- Both parties trust their banks
- Banks among themselves!

Central ledger managed
by the buyer's bank
prevents **Double-Spending**



Buyer can only spend money once!



What we are exploring together today

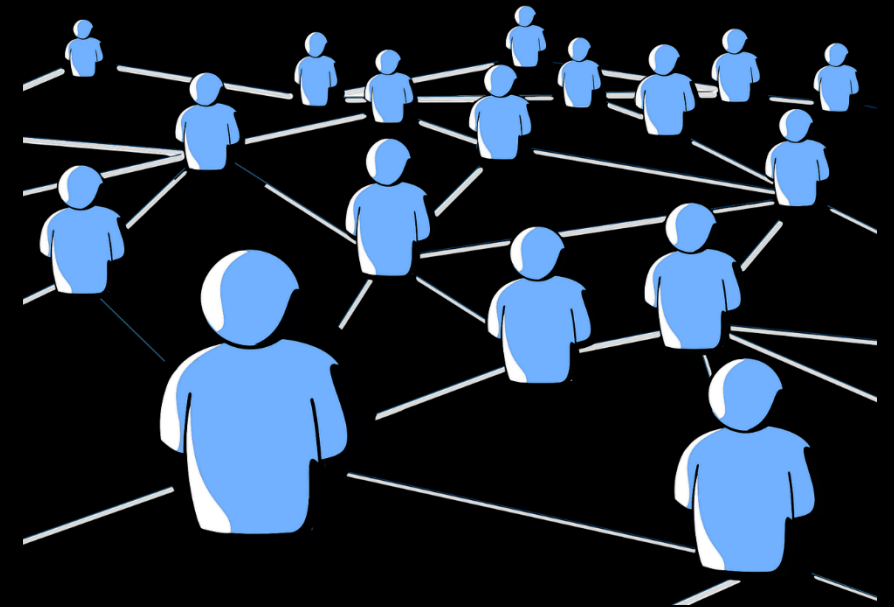
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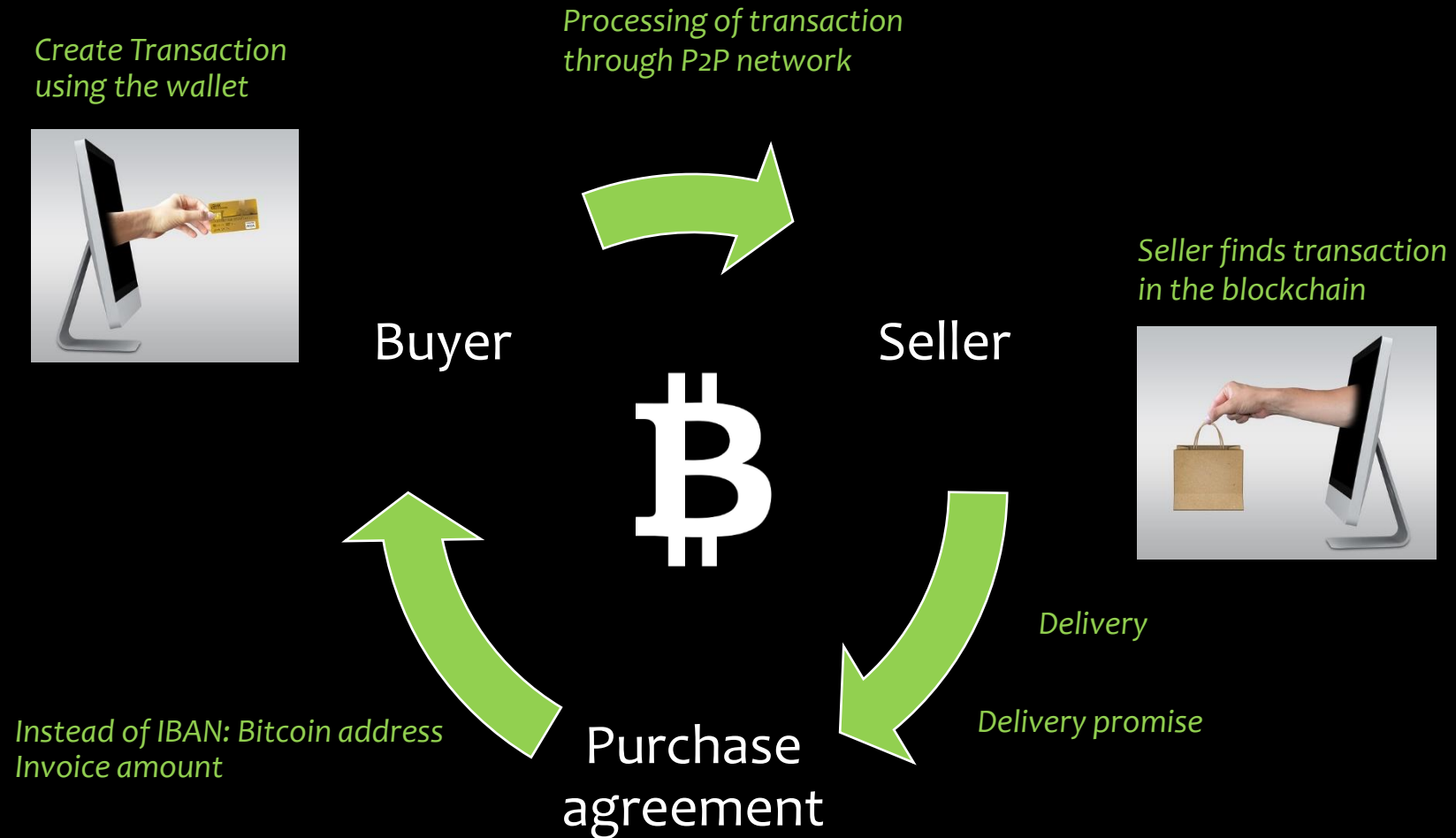
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Peer-to-Peer Networking (P2P)

- Computers of **unknown owners** communicate via Internet protocols (TCP/IP)
- No controlling authority, no server – but that also means: No user service!
- Default setting: **Suspicion**
- Challenge: Identify evil intentions, **find consensus**
- Application **file sharing**: Napster (1999), Gnutella (2000), BitTorrent (2001)
- Application **anonymization**: Tor (2002)

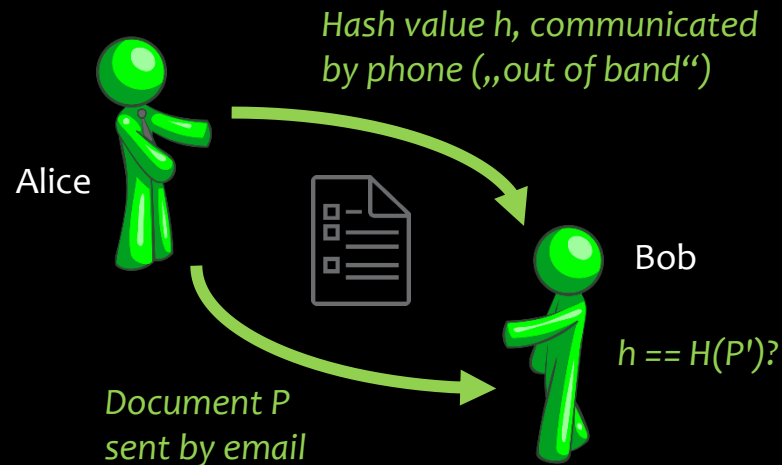


Payment transaction w/o intermediary

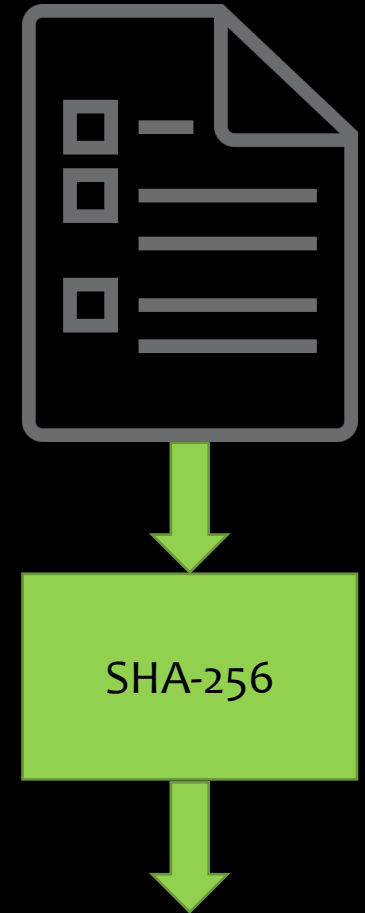


Basis: Hash function

- Function $h = H(P)$ returns „fingerprint“ of Document P
- One-way function
- Characteristic: even small changes to P lead to major changes to h
 - high entropy, mathematical chaos



Document P ,
(almost) arbitrarily large



Hash value h , constant size of 32 bytes

`e3 b0 c4 42 98 fc 1c 14 9a fb f4 c8 99 6f b9 24
27 ae 41 e4 64 9b 93 4c a4 95 99 1b 78 52 b8 55`

VIVA Aspect Integrity

- VIVA Aspects of information security – Confidentiality, Integrity, Availability, Authenticity
- Definition of *Hash Puzzle* – Modify document P such that the value of the hash function $H(P)$ fulfills a criterion, e.g. $h < h_c$

Wie funktioniert Bitcoin? // Hashwert SHA-256 eines Dokuments berechnen

Letzter Hashwert: 65 25 8D 70 58 26 D9 90 93 60 49 7F 49 8C E5 31 02 0D 48 77 35 D9 43 04 55 5A C3

Aktueller Hashwert: 54 2F 23 D4 98 26 FF FC D2 E7 B6 21 D0 7F BE 55 13 96 99 26 C2 35 86 D2 9D 0E 95 CA 9D B6 54 35

Datei: E:\Quarantäne\Rechnung-Vangul-GmbH.docx

Dauer der Berechnung [µs]: 682

Stulle // Dezember 2017

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Dr.-Ing. Markus A. Stulle						
smartContract.world						
Schleißheimer Straße 70						
80797 München						
Rechnungsnummer: RE-1712015						
Pos	Artikelnr.	Artikel	Anzahl	Stückpreis	Preis	Währung
1	STM32F103RB	Entwicklungskit	3,00	15,10	45,30	€
2	XMC1202AS	RGB LED Shield	2,00	42,07	84,14	€
Zwischensumme:					129,44	€
Versand:					9,90	€
Betrag:					139,34	€
19 % Umsatzsteuer:					26,47	€
Summe:					165,81	€
Bankverbindung: Stadtparkasse München IBAN DE02 7015 0000 0000 5949 37 BIC SSKMDEMM						

Document P has been transferred unchanged?

[github.com/relianz/HashGui]

Excursus: *Big natural numbers*

Power of 10	Examples
10^{12} Trillion	Germany's national debt amounts to € 2.1 trillion (2016) There are about 3 trillion trees on Earth Proxima Centauri is 39.7 trillion kilometres from Earth (4.24 ly)
10^{27} Octillion	A human being (= 70 kilograms of water) consists of 7 octillion atoms
10^{78} Quinquavigintillion	Number of SHA-256 hash puzzle options Maximum number of private bitcoin keys The universe known to us contains 10^{79} = 10 quinquavigintillion of atoms
10^{231}	Modulus $n = p \cdot q$ of the public part of a 768 Bit RSA key 4194710539436274208221193987350677135843701756369167540803125688386 000805925985894892042570501977600226811988347329905923326168042471 468173843602232900103487295396441373050508162027365351286097330880 04576046110570456189513172669412

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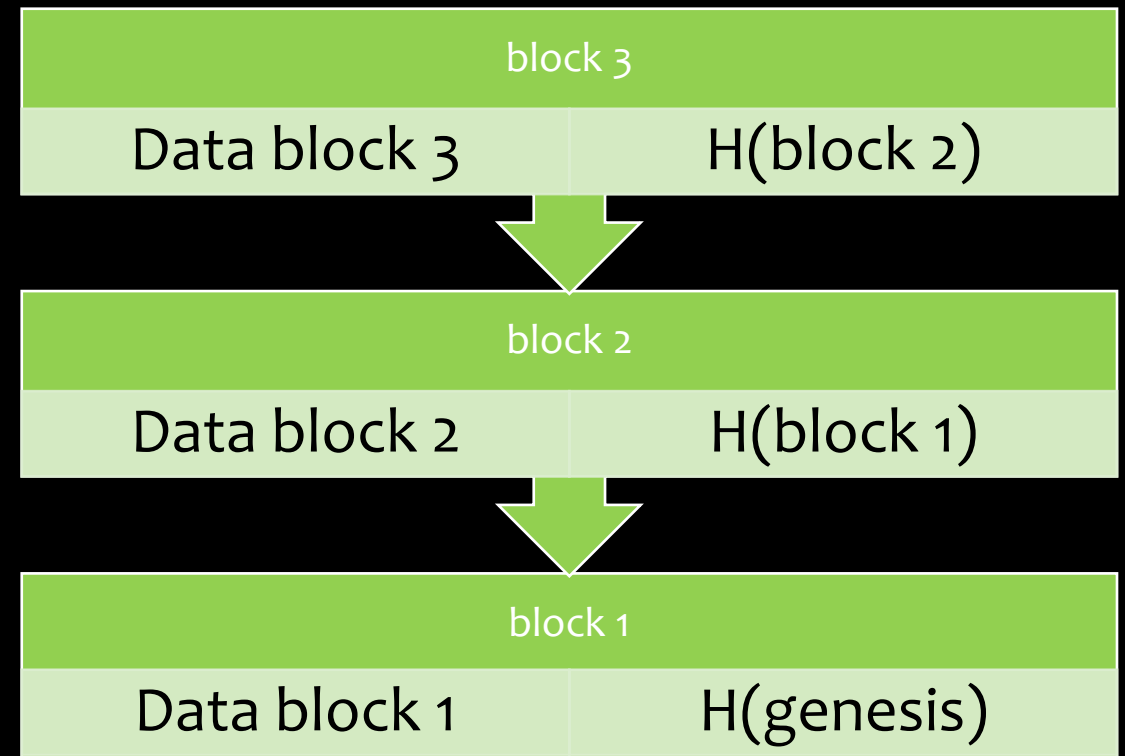
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Hash function app: *The Blockchain*

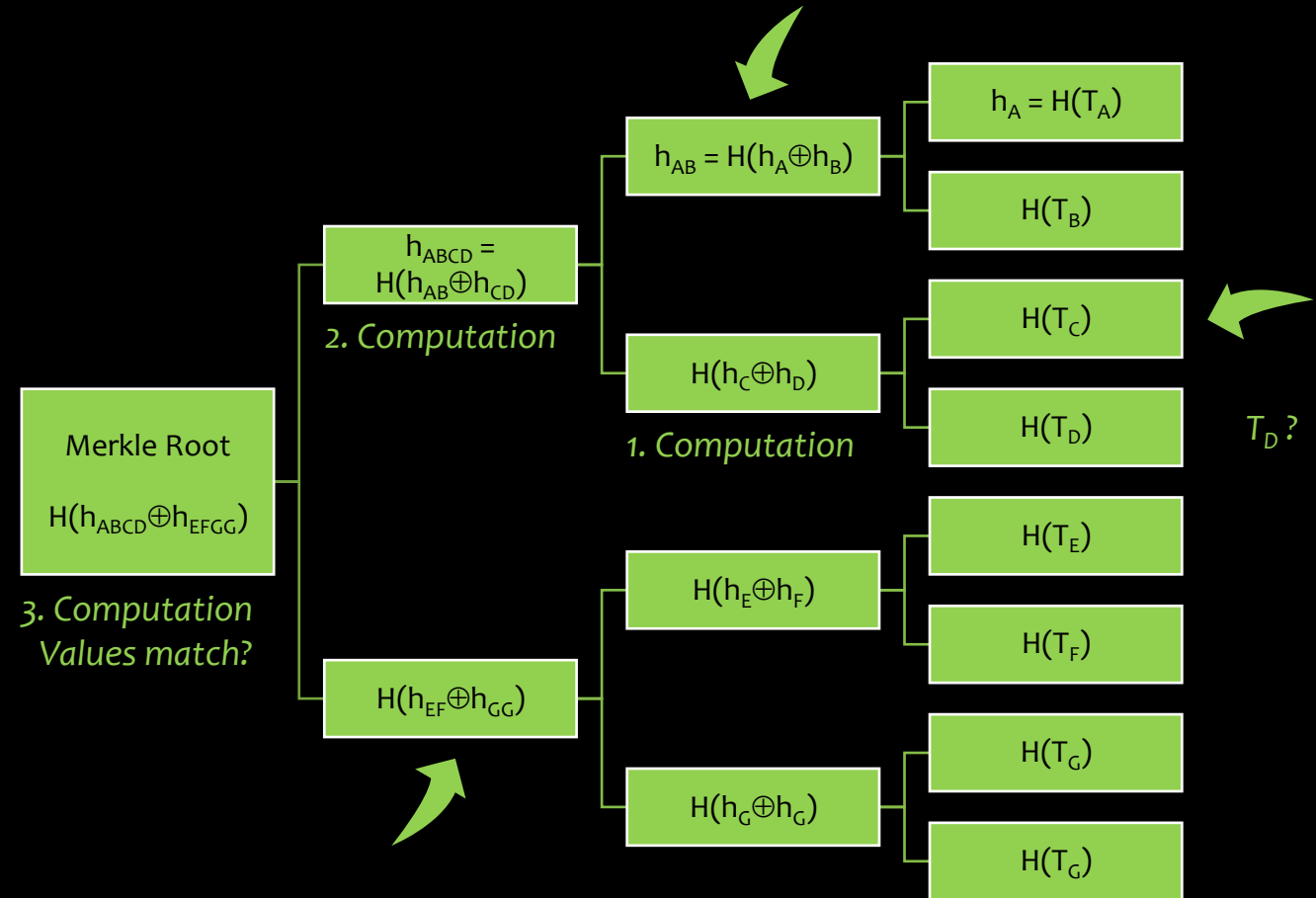
- Well known:
Storing data in blocks
- New (1991, [Haber/Stornetta](#)):
Each block contains the **hash value** of its predecessor!
- The smaller the block number, the more expensive manipulations
- **Bitcoin blockchain**
Height > 512.000 blocks à 1 MB,
about 2.000 transactions / block
- Blocks also contain **Proof-of-Work**
= valuable result of hash puzzle



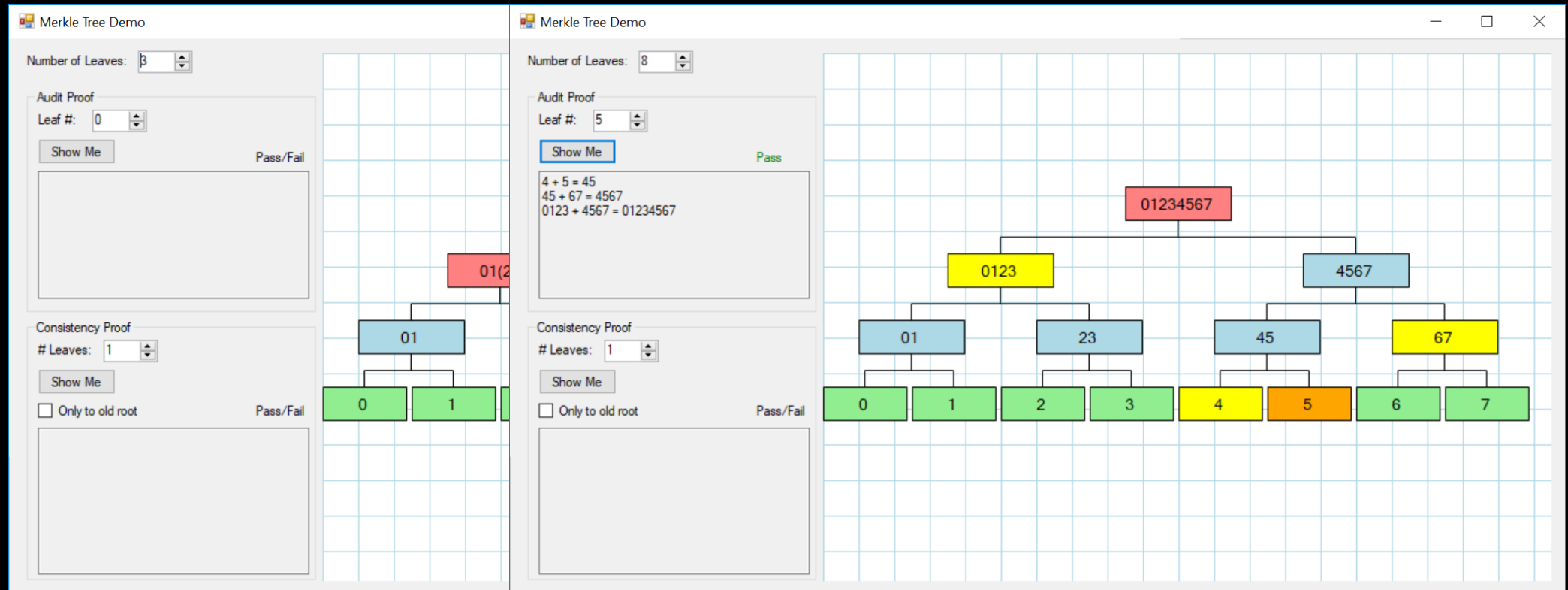
Live data: [blockchain.info]

Checking integrity quickly: *Merkle Tree*

- **Objective:**
Efficient verification of the **Membership** of a transaction T_x in a block („Audit Proof“)
- **Idea:**
Header of the block contains **Binary hash tree**
- **Feature:**
Check for T_x with n transactions requires $\leq 2 \cdot \log_2(n)$ computations
- **Other applications:**
Git, Oracle Btrfs, IPFS, ZFS



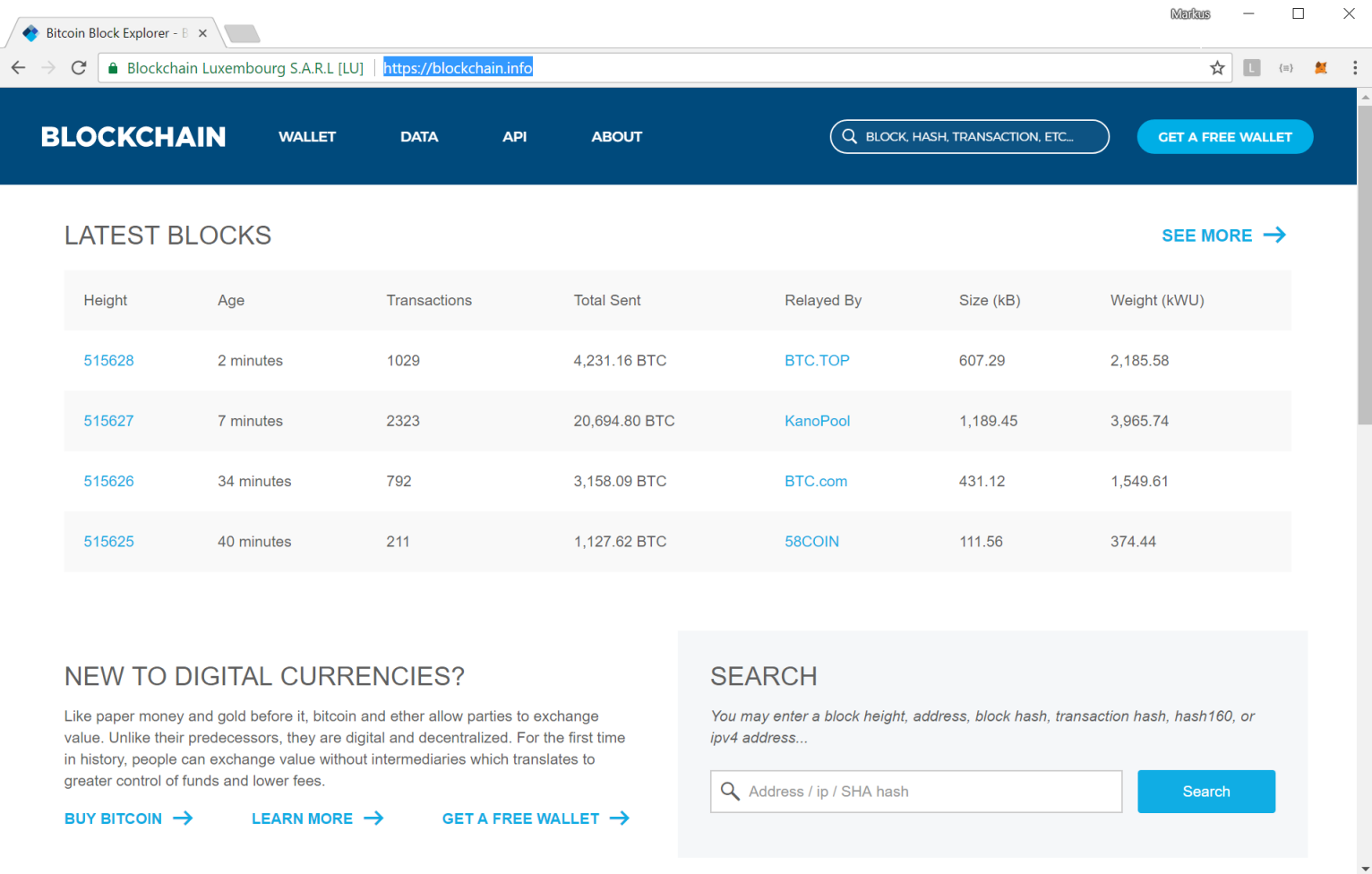
Merkle Tree: *Sample implementation (C#)*



[github.com/cliftonm/MerkleTree]

Bitcoin blockchain: *Live data*

- Chain grows by 6 new blocks per hour
- approx. 3 transactions per second
- Compare this to: Mastercard > 2.500 tps!



The screenshot shows the Bitcoin Block Explorer website. The header includes the site name 'BLOCKCHAIN' and navigation links for 'WALLET', 'DATA', 'API', and 'ABOUT'. A search bar is located on the right side of the header. Below the header, the 'LATEST BLOCKS' section displays a table of recent blocks. The table has columns for Height, Age, Transactions, Total Sent, Relayed By, Size (kB), and Weight (kWU). The first four rows of the table are visible, showing block heights 515628, 515627, 515626, and 515625. Below the table, there is a 'NEW TO DIGITAL CURRENCIES?' section with a brief explanation of Bitcoin and links to 'BUY BITCOIN', 'LEARN MORE', and 'GET A FREE WALLET'. To the right of this section is a 'SEARCH' box with a search bar and a 'Search' button.

Height	Age	Transactions	Total Sent	Relayed By	Size (kB)	Weight (kWU)
515628	2 minutes	1029	4,231.16 BTC	BTC.TOP	607.29	2,185.58
515627	7 minutes	2323	20,694.80 BTC	KanoPool	1,189.45	3,965.74
515626	34 minutes	792	3,158.09 BTC	BTC.com	431.12	1,549.61
515625	40 minutes	211	1,127.62 BTC	58COIN	111.56	374.44

Bitcoin block: *Live data*

- **Block Reward:**
money creation
12.5 BTC p.B.
 $\approx 100,000 \text{ €}$
- per month:
4,500 blocks
= 56,000 BTC
 $\approx 450 \text{ million €}$
- *for comparison:*
EAPP of ECB
 $\approx 60 \text{ billion €}$
- [Cut in half] every
210,000 blocks

Bitcoin Block #515633

Blockchain Luxembourg S.A.R.L. [LU]https://blockchain.info/block/00000000000000004351e7286c807669742e07e7ee59c0254e267d8c38367f

BLOCKCHAIN

WALLET

DATA

API

ABOUT

Q

BLOCK, HASH, TRANSACTION, ETC...

GET A FREE WALLET

Block #515633

Summary

Number Of Transactions	585
Output Total	3,914.88897763 BTC
Estimated Transaction Volume	474.9946103 BTC
Transaction Fees	0.11467442 BTC
Height	515633 (Main Chain)
Timestamp	2018-03-29 05:48:22
Received Time	2018-03-29 05:48:22
Relayed By	ViaBTC
Difficulty	3,462,542,391,191.56
Bits	391203401
Size	333.498 kB
Weight	1124.73 kWU
Version	0x20000000
Nonce	3931785422
Block Reward	12.5 BTC

Hashes

Hash

00000000000000004351e7286c807669742e07e7ee59c0254e267d8c38367f

Previous Block

00000000000000001f9d666f356213baf7c432a83ab98b326b6660378df197

Next Block(s)

Merkle Root

d4f024fe6449c4c2bf99ca8e4c74ed45818e1bb89890abaf52dfb05e72f9d79d

Be Your Own Bank.
Use your Blockchain wallet to buy bitcoin now.
GET STARTED →
BLOCKCHAIN

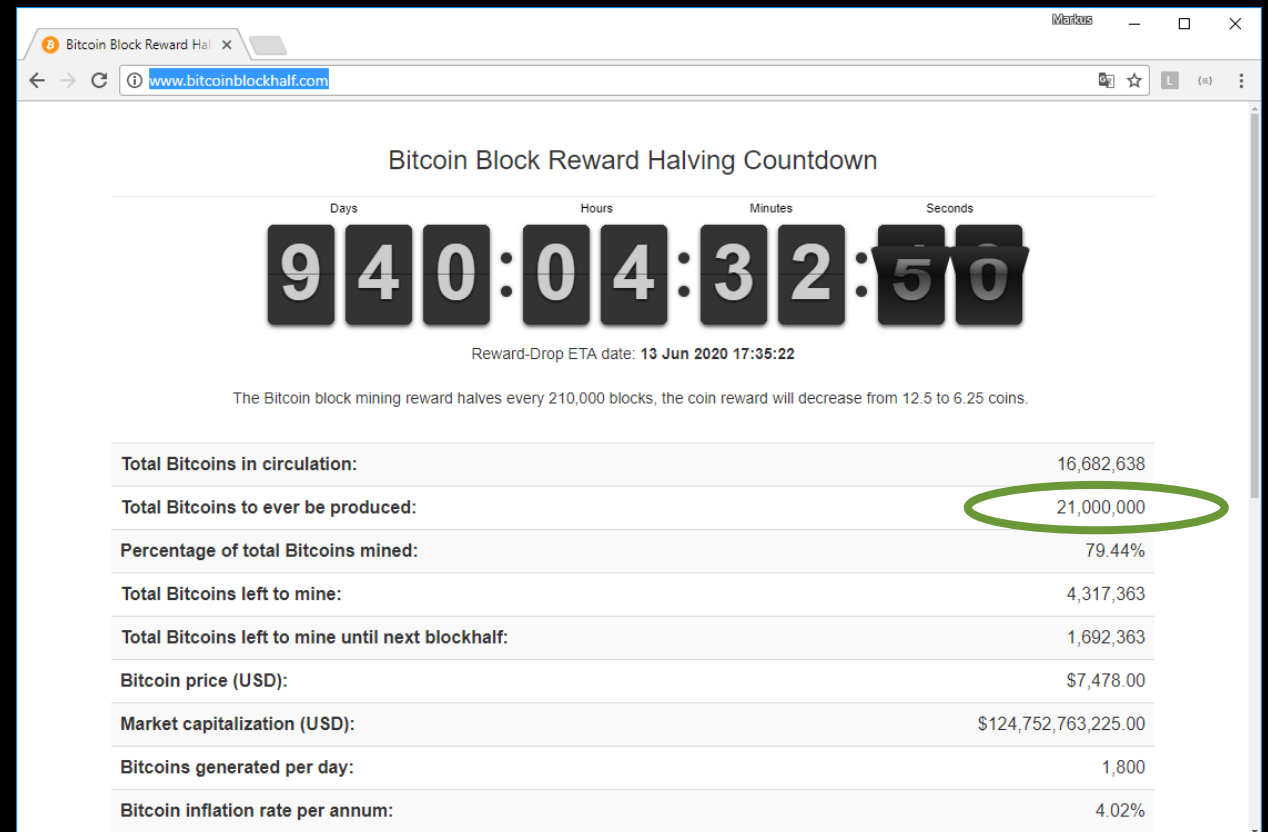
Decline of *Block Reward*

- Money creation will ebb away around 2040

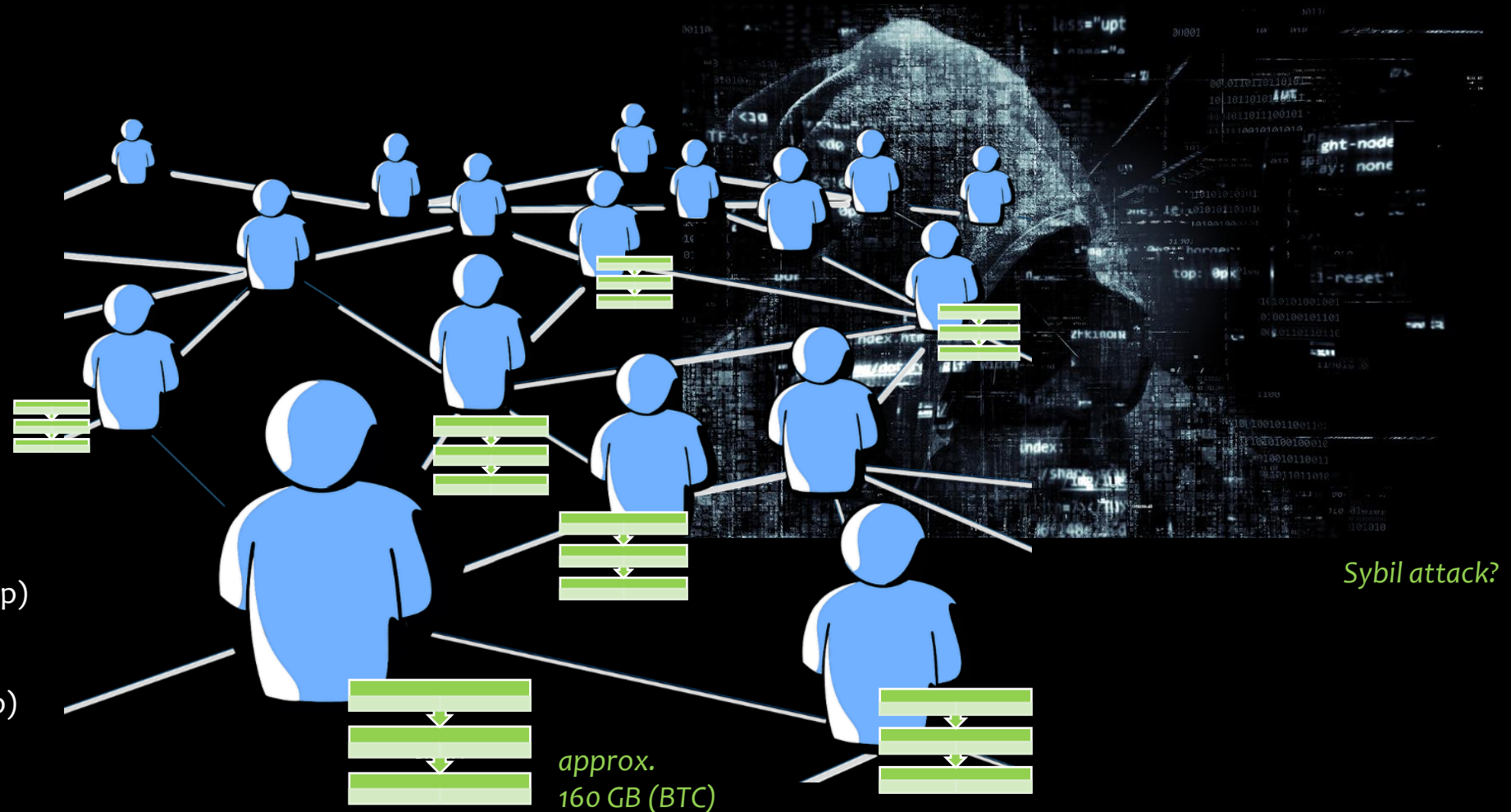
Year	Reward [BTC]	Reward [€]
2016	12,5000	100.000,00
2020	6,2500	50.000,00
2024	3,1250	25.000,00
2028	1,5625	12.500,00
2032	0,7813	6.250,00
2036	0,3906	3.125,00
2040	0,1953	1.562,50
2044	0,0977	781,25

- $6 \text{ B/h} \cdot 24 \text{ h/d} \cdot 365 \text{ d/y} \cdot 4 \text{ y/p}$
= 210,240 Blocks/period
 \Rightarrow **max. amount of money**
= $210,240 \cdot 100 \cdot \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 2^{-n} \text{ BTC}$
= 21,024,000 BTC

- *what will happen next?*



Decentralized storage of the blockchain



Bitcoin nodes: *Distribution*

[bitnodes.earn.com]

GLOBAL BITCOIN NODES DISTRIBUTION

Reachable nodes as of Tue Dec 05 2017

05:44:56 GMT+0100 (Mitteleuropäische Zeit).

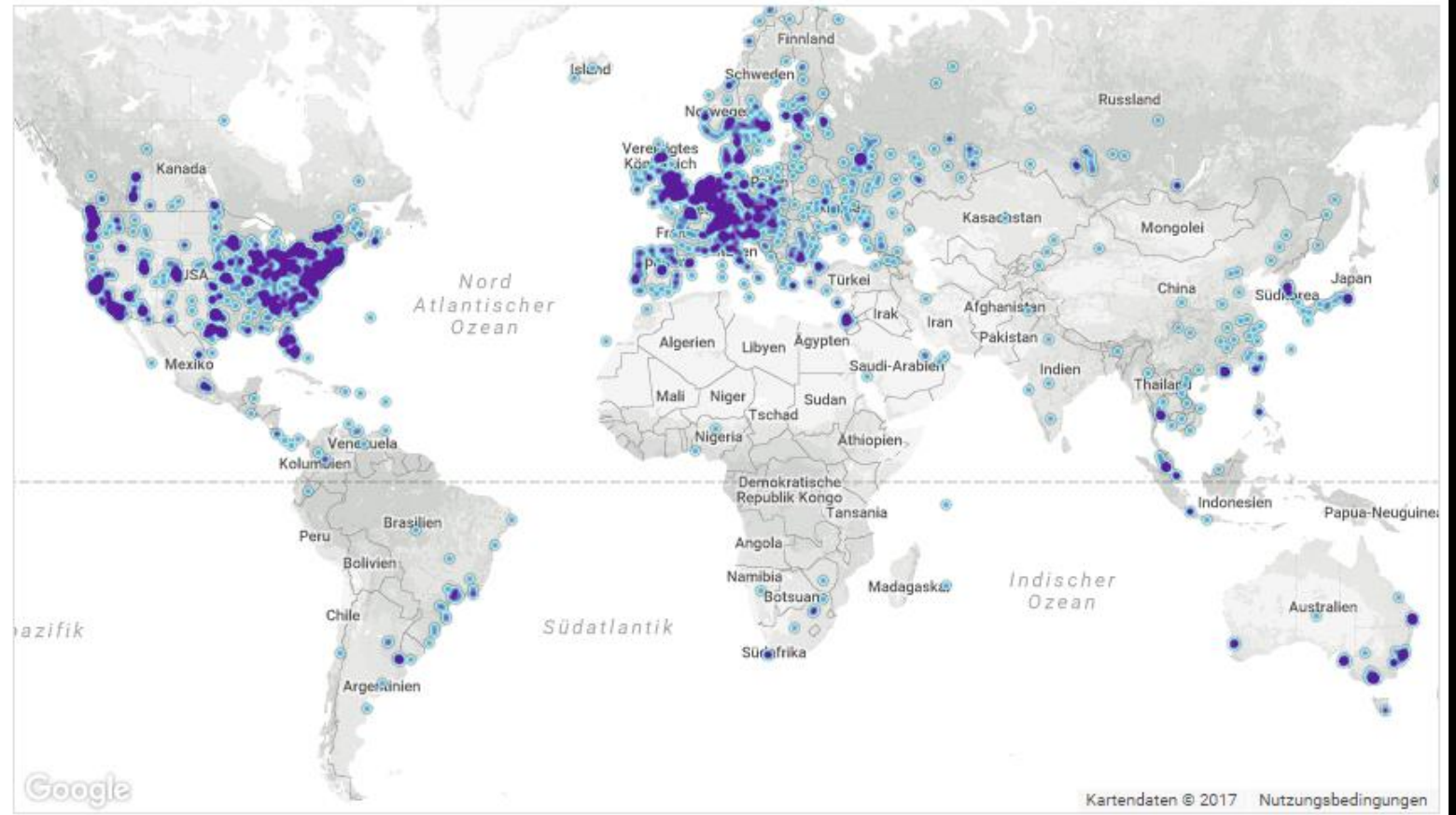
11312 NODES

24-hour charts »

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

RANK	COUNTRY	NODES
1	United States	3162 (27.95%)
2	Germany	1880 (16.62%)
3	France	776 (6.86%)
4	China	719 (6.36%)
5	Netherlands	528 (4.67%)
6	Canada	470 (4.15%)
7	United Kingdom	424 (3.75%)
8	Russian Federation	357 (3.16%)
9	n/a	352 (3.11%)
10	Singapore	246 (2.17%)

More (101) »

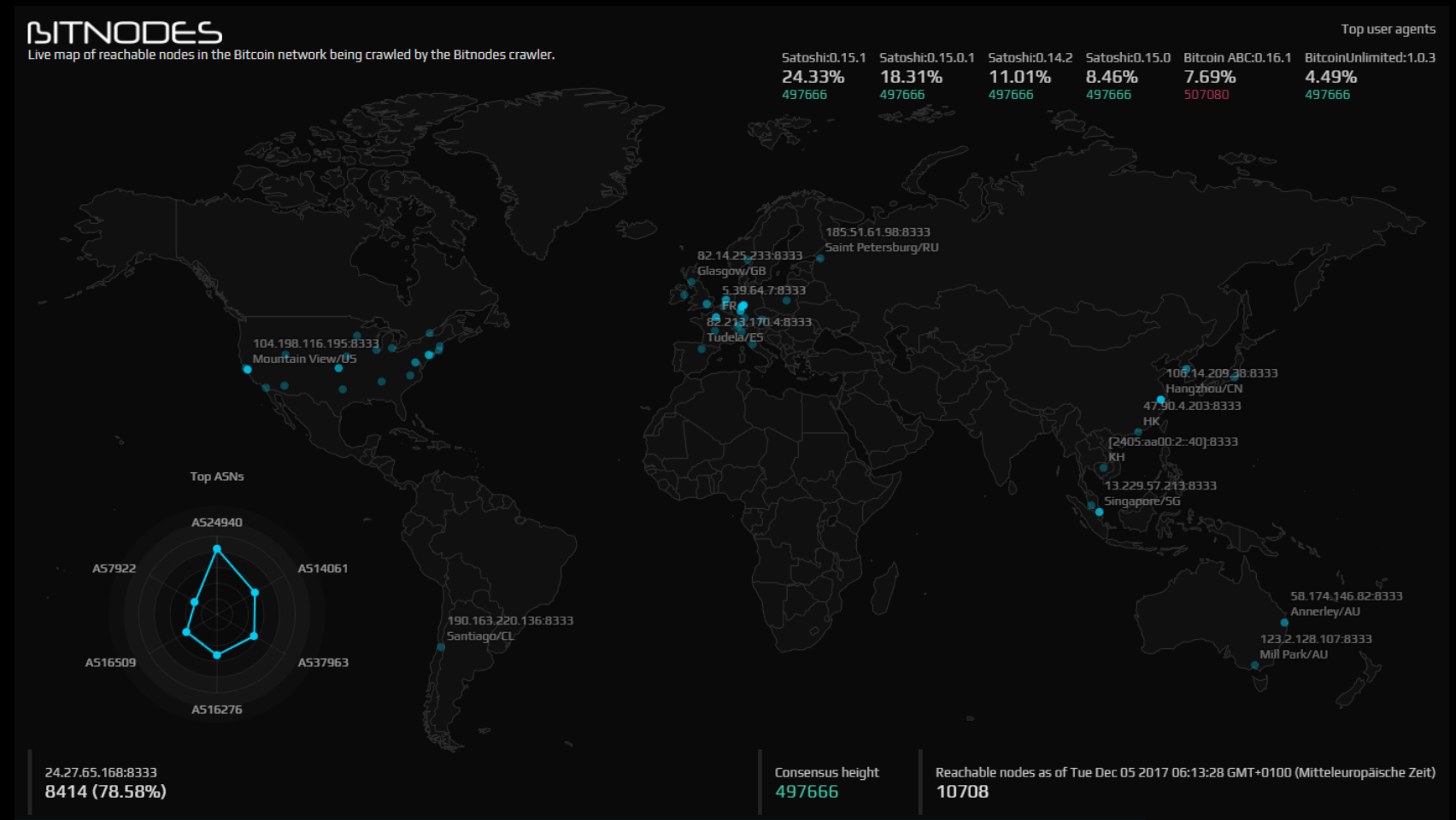


Bitcoin nodes: *Live data*

[bitnodes.earn.com/nodes/live-map]

- Web crawler checks for port 8333/tcp

- ASN = Autonomous System Number



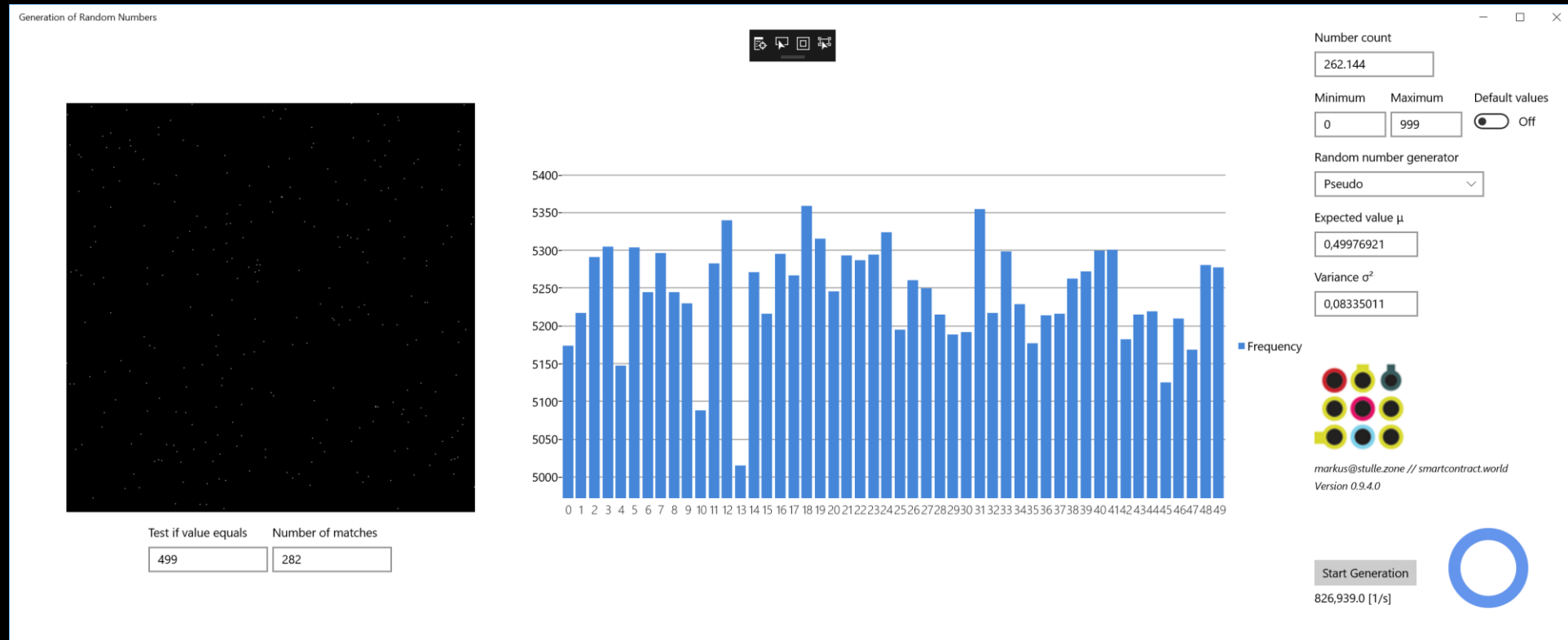
Excursus: *Randomness*

- Natural randomness, if for an **event** no causal explanation
- Synthetic randomness should provide equally distributed values: next value of a sequence **unpredictable!**
- Randomness is the basis for the generation of cryptographic secrets – good **generators** very valuable!
- Mallory tries to recognize patterns in sequences of public keys – defense: hash function, see **Bitcoin address**
- Perfect: [[NIST Randomness Beacon](#)] (*Quantum physics*) delivers 512 bits of maximum **entropy** every 60 seconds



Beacon Record	
Version:	Version 1.0
Frequency:	60 seconds
Time:	11/28/2017 4:37 pm (1511883420)
Seed Value:	A1A369673A41E7109435F028FC3C8055B0065DB4794ED0B4E387F98F8F73CF02 E513169E4F23EC0E0FE567B6EE2491DF00AB650E66ABD1ACD814FAA0E717798F
Previous Output:	7983E173F028A6D126AC40439BC6C191DDC5A8E6F0C8A08FFCF1C364D39E2E35 73BC9D71D6672A088035F203881884A1E99118EAB72C8208DF1536DAF92861C1
Signature:	7A46E09D9C922012FC7295DF767FA71D468E0CE73EEB19717B186BB379397349 9F263F63D2D08889D490887F9FEC478277138AF7EA3214E7388DE9FC7E0DC3E2 45EF938779931459FA47180E461FBD45D8EB34EF39DE425702CCADBE1EB58A12 AA7CE873AE5E962772F2458F76C3E81BEBFC29096C41AC33D28A5D0C3C7E501C 08472550516C5FAA08FB016A648F21C2F674368F2B027FCE353A6574C6FE05E 0EE81FFBDD0E01E8564167C4DA6BC0892F6ABBD686CC2A53BD1A5E5F80572E02 6D88ADAA6DA5EB6010D1718C33AB0BED726D34D9E4ADCF33732655DFA92752E 66753151194D0298C34087D3E5C00C843E3946CD11914CD86C8FE48BB768439C
Output Value:	8FA3DB65E872D145F6E33114ACC0A256F4A256EF78E2C8A8C887654EB7AC4999 0AC4BEC78DF8015640A4B48ADD4A6CA24F99E0E28D9B9C397714097DA964711F
Status:	0: Normal

Randomness: *Sample implementation (C#)*



[github.com/relianz/Random-Numbers]

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Basis: Asymmetric cryptosystem

- Basis **RSA** – Ron Rivest, Ami Shamir und Ben Adleman (1978):
Integer factorization $n = p \cdot q$ of big numbers cannot be carried out efficiently!
Algorithm [[Number Field Sieve](#)] – though not exponential, but *superpolynomial*

$$6.750.622.348.964.143.051.956.305.469.326.962.117.763.788.889.781.985.387 \approx 10^{54}$$
$$= 7 \cdot 97 \cdot 997 \cdot 9.973 \cdot 99.991 \cdot 999.983 \cdot 9.999.991 \cdot 99.999.989 \cdot 999.999.937 \cdot 9.999.999.967$$

Naive **Factorization** takes ≤ 90 seconds on a i7-6700K!

- Basis **DHM** – Diffie-Hellman-Merkle (1976):
Discrete logarithm $y = \log_b x$ of big numbers cannot...
- Keys in the asymmetric cryptosystem
always consist of two parts :
public key k_{pub} – private key k_{priv} (= your secret!)

That's it!



RSA key generation



Challenging – you remember?

- Select **randomly** two big primes p and q , compute modulus $n := p \cdot q$
Example: $n = 17 \cdot 23 = 391$ (key length: 9 Bit, recommended: ≥ 2048 Bit)
- Compute Euler's totient function – since factors are prime: $\varphi(n) = (p-1) \cdot (q-1)$
Example: $\varphi(391) = 16 \cdot 22 = 352$, there are 352 numbers that don't divide 391
- Select natural number e , that has no common divisors with $\varphi(n)$.
Favorable exponents have binary few ones: 3, 17, 257 or 65,537
Example: $e = 257$
- Communicate the public key $k_{pub} = (n; e)$
Example: $k_{pub} = (391; 257)$
- Compute $d := e^{-1} \bmod \varphi(n) \Leftrightarrow$ find $d \therefore d \cdot e = 1 \bmod \varphi$
and store the private key $k_{priv} = (d)$ in a secure way!
Example: $d \cdot 257 = 1 \bmod 352 \Rightarrow d = 641$, Check: $641 \cdot 257 = 468 \cdot 352 + 1$



RSA modular arithmetic



Encryption

- Alice wants to encrypt message P to Bob – Assumption: P is an integer
Alice knows Bob's public key $k_{pub|Recipient} = (n; e)$
Example: $P = 42$, $k_{pub|Bob} = (391; 257)$
- Alice computes ciphertext $C := P^e \bmod n$ – Modulo exponentiation
Example: $C = 42^{257} \bmod 391 = 365$

[System.Numerics]

Decryption

- Bob receives C and computes using $k_{priv|Recipient} = (d)$
the plaintext $M := C^d \bmod n$ – Modulo root extraction
Example: $d = 641 \Rightarrow M = 365^{641} \bmod 391 = 42$

Security!



- Mallory must guess d , he does not know p und q !

```
public BigInteger EncryptWithPublicKey( BigInteger plainText )
{
    // berechne M^e mod n:
    BigInteger cipherText = BigInteger.ModPow( plainText, e, n );

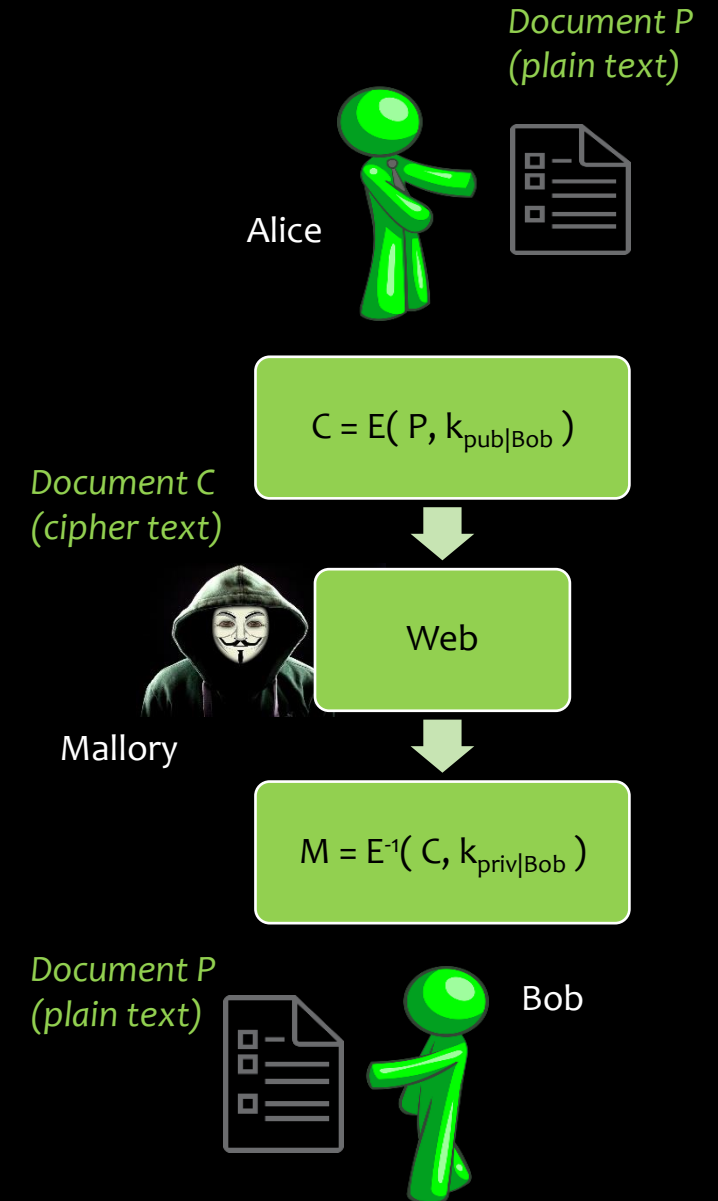
    // Geheimtext C:
    return cipherText;
}

public BigInteger DecryptWithPrivateKey( BigInteger cipherText )
{
    // berechne C^d mod n:
    BigInteger plainText = BigInteger.ModPow( cipherText, d, n );

    // Klartext M:
    return plainText;
}
```

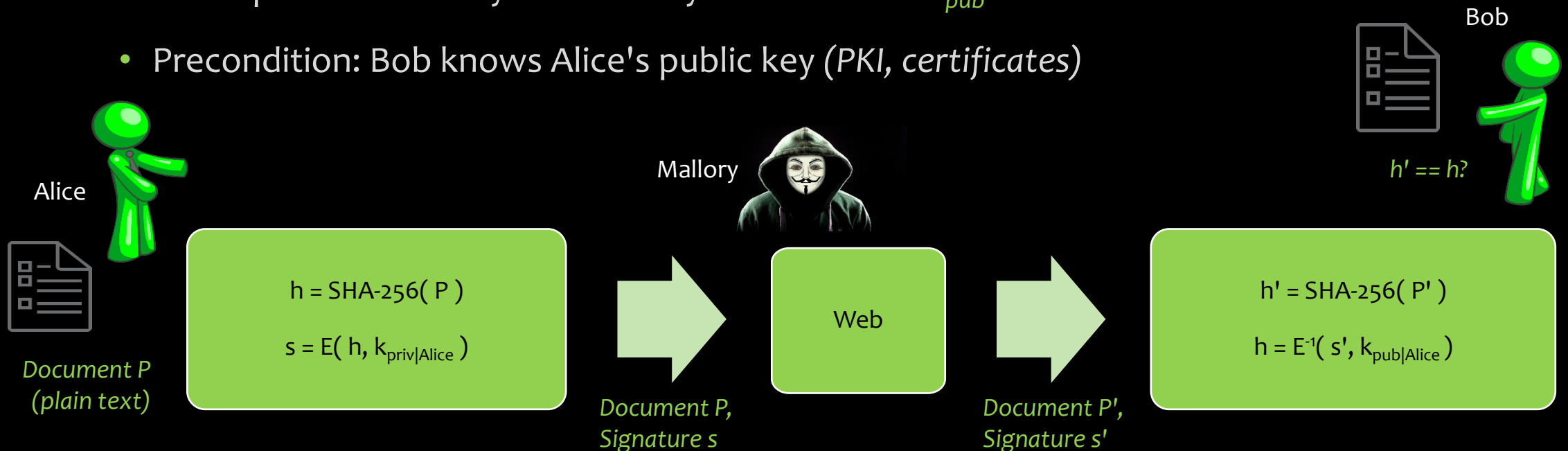

VIVA aspect: Confidentiality

- Objective:
Protection of confidential information in document P from unauthorized access
- Method:
Encryption of P with k_{pub} of recipient – only Bob can decrypt C with his secret k_{priv}
- Precondition:
Alice knows Bob's public key, securing integrity through transmission by hash function
- Advantage over symmetrical algorithms:
no shared secret between Alice and Bob et al.
- Confidentiality for the next N years (quantum computing?)

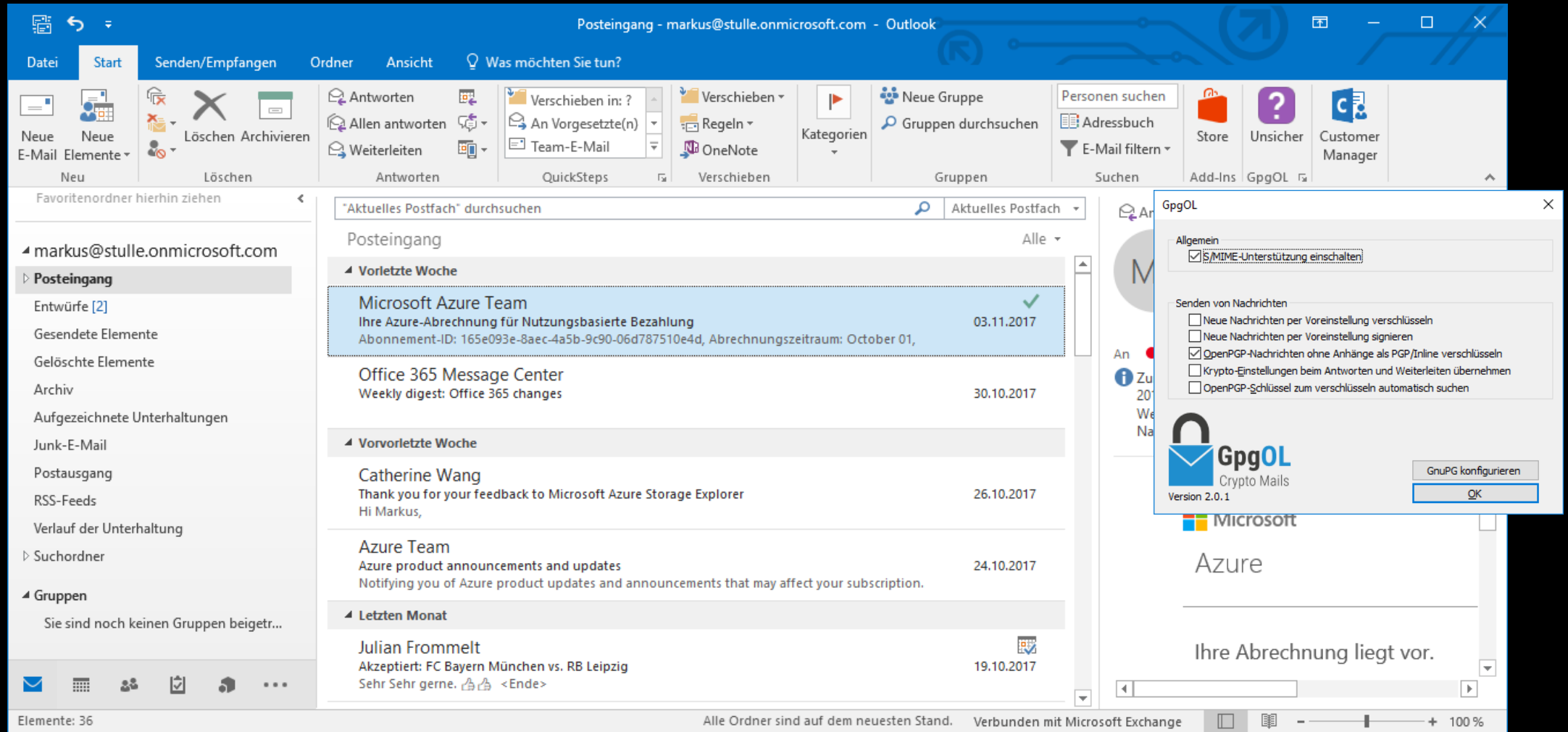


VIVA aspect: *Authenticity*

- Objective: Document P really comes from the sender of the message and is untampered
- Method:
Digital signature of document with sender's k_{priv} –
all recipients can verify authenticity with sender's k_{pub}
- Precondition: Bob knows Alice's public key (PKI, certificates)



RSA in the office: *GnuPG for Outlook*



Elliptic Curve Cryptography (ECC)

- NIST standard [[secp256k1](#)] („Bitcoin curve“) – elliptic curve $y^2 = x^3 + 7$ over finite field \mathbb{F}_p with prime $p = 2^{256} - 2^{32} - 2^9 - 2^8 - 2^7 - 2^6 - 2^4 - 1 \approx 10^{77}$
- Select k_{priv} as a random natural number $1 < k < n = 2^{256}$
 $n = 115.792.089.237.316.195.423.570.985.008.687.907.852.837.564.279.074.904.382.605.163.141.518.161.494.336$
- Compute $k_{pub} := k_{priv} \cdot G$ with generator $G = (g_x, g_y)$:
 $g_x = 55.066.263.022.277.343.669.578.718.895.168.534.326.250.603.453.777.594.175.500.187.360.389.116.729.240$
 $g_y = 32.670.510.020.758.816.978.083.085.130.507.043.184.471.273.380.659.243.275.938.904.335.757.337.482.424$
- **Security** comparable with RSA key length of **3.072 Bit**
Energy for Brute-force search: $1,9 \cdot 10^{26}$ \$ (GNP_{world} = $7,9 \cdot 10^{13}$ \$, $T_{earth < 30^\circ C} = 9 \cdot 10^8$ years)
[[Nemec et al.](#)], [[Weis & Forler 34C3](#)]

Again:
Challenge
randomness!



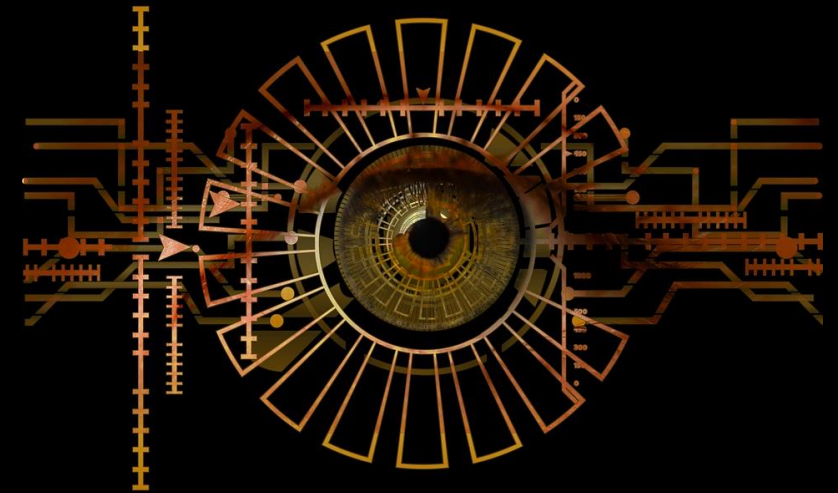
Summary Cryptography

VIVA Aspects

- Hash function ensures **Integrity**
- Encryption ensures **Confidentiality**
- Digital Signature ensures **Authenticity**
- **Availability** comes from *P2P Network!*

Special features Bitcoin

- **ECDSA** – Elliptic Curve Digital Signature Algorithm
BSI Technical Guideline [[TR-03111](#)], Version 2.0
- Lining up hash functions [[SHA-256](#)] and [[RIPEMD-160](#)] for Bitcoin Address



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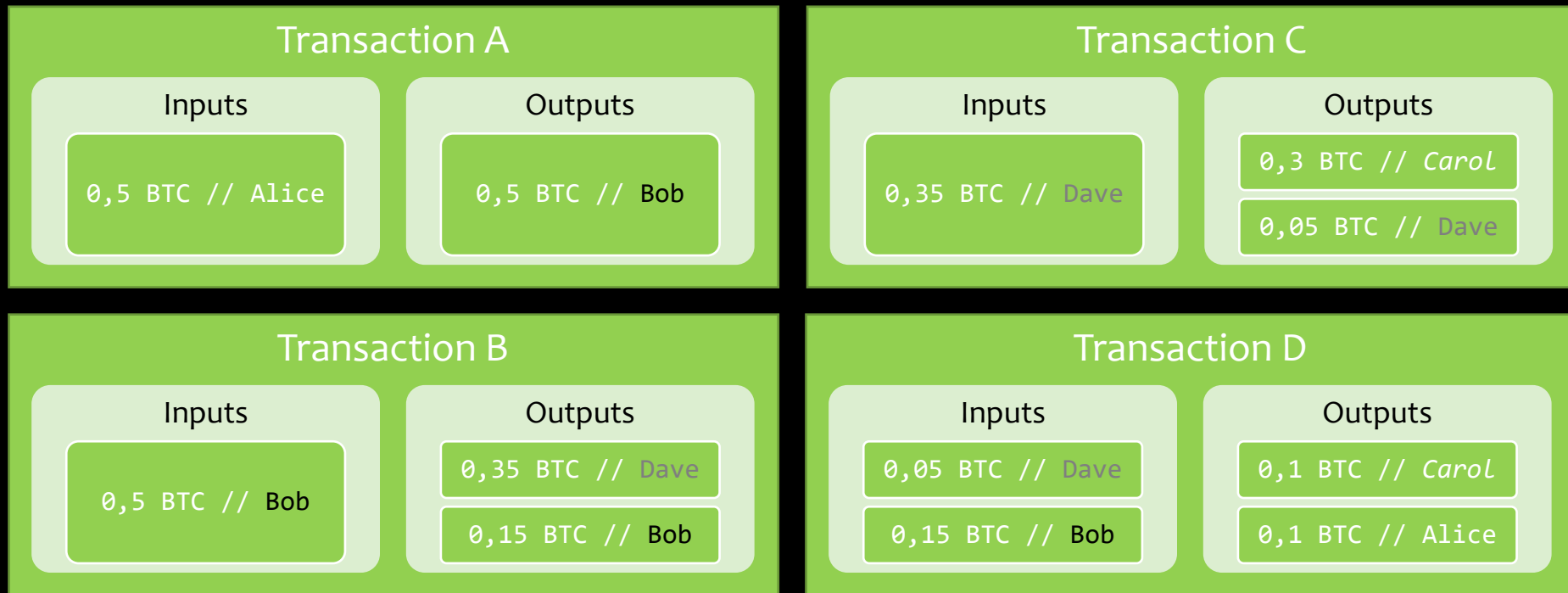


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Transferring crypto assets: *Transactions*

- **UTXO** – Unspent Transaction Output
Balance := Sum of all UTXO (*requires reading the whole blockchain!*)

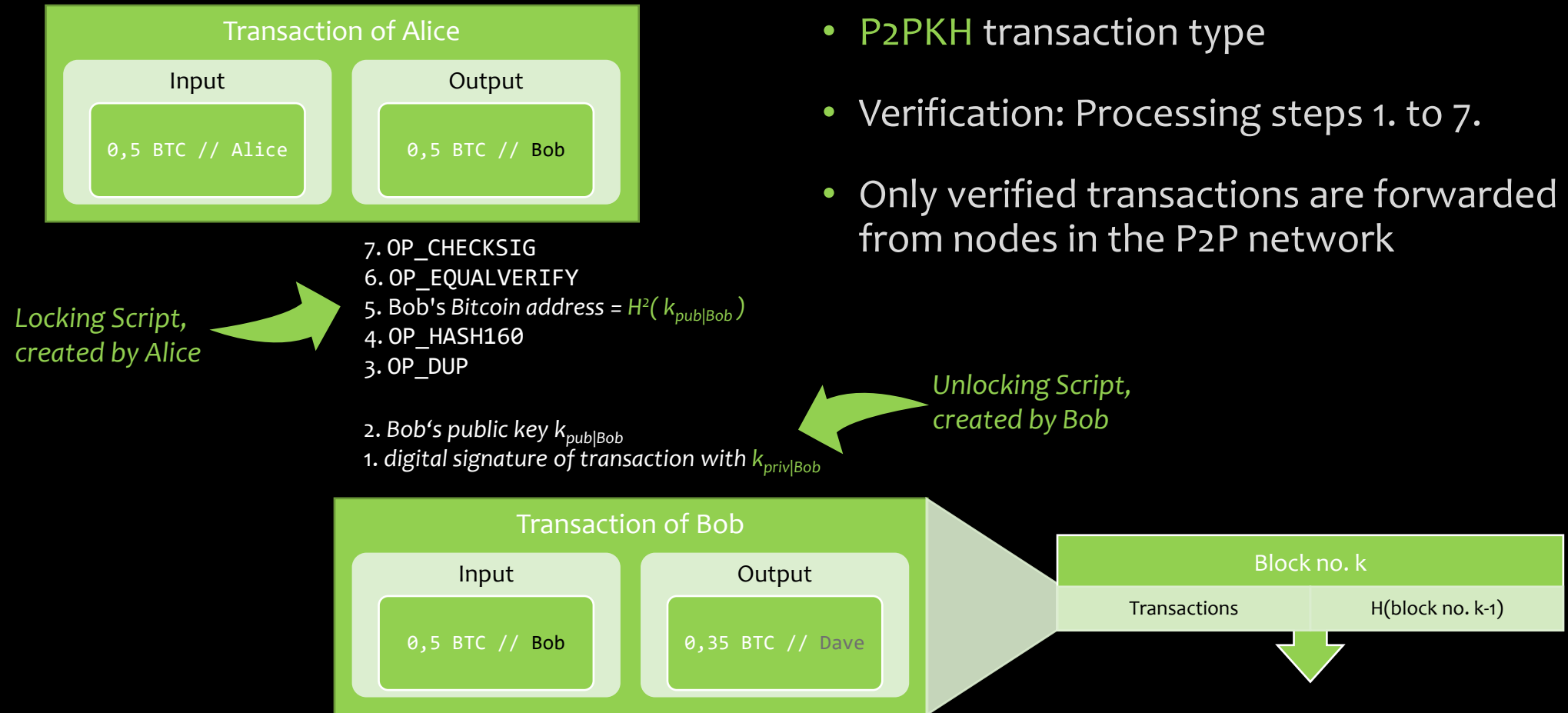
Can anyone
really spend
Bob's money?!



Balance
Carol?

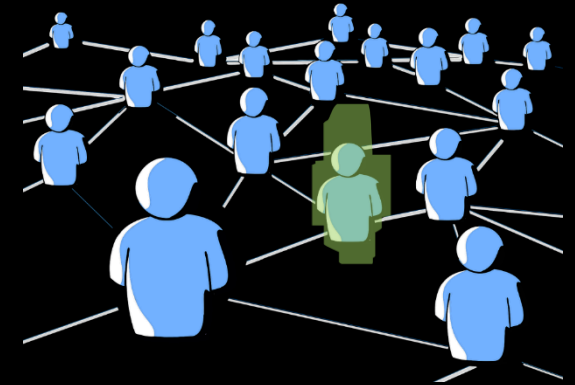
CoinJoin

Securing a crypto asset transaction

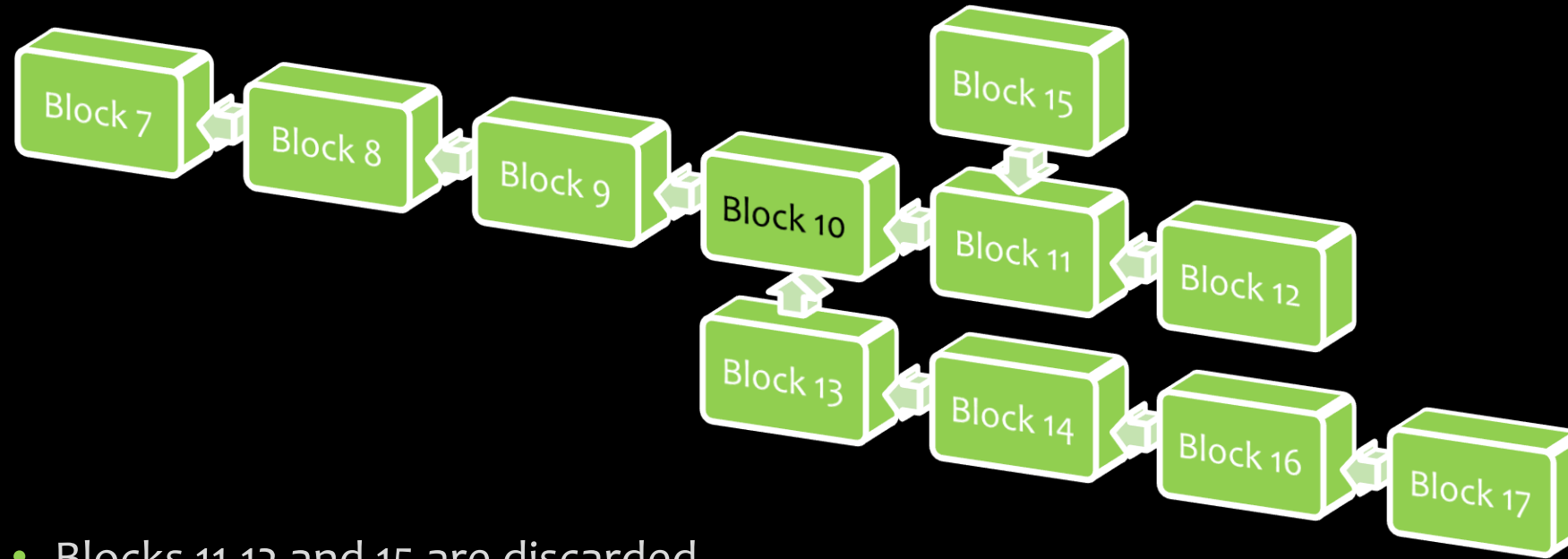


Bitcoin consensus algorithm

1. New **transactions** are distributed to all nodes
2. Each node participating in the mining process combines new transactions into a **block**
3. *In every round of consensus building:*
a **randomly** selected node publishes its newly formed block in the net
4. The other nodes only accept the new block if all transactions contained in it are **valid**
5. Acceptance of the new block causes its hash value to be included in the next generated block, it is thus attached to the **blockchain**
6. The nodes always follow the **longest path** in the chain.



BTC nodes follow the longest path

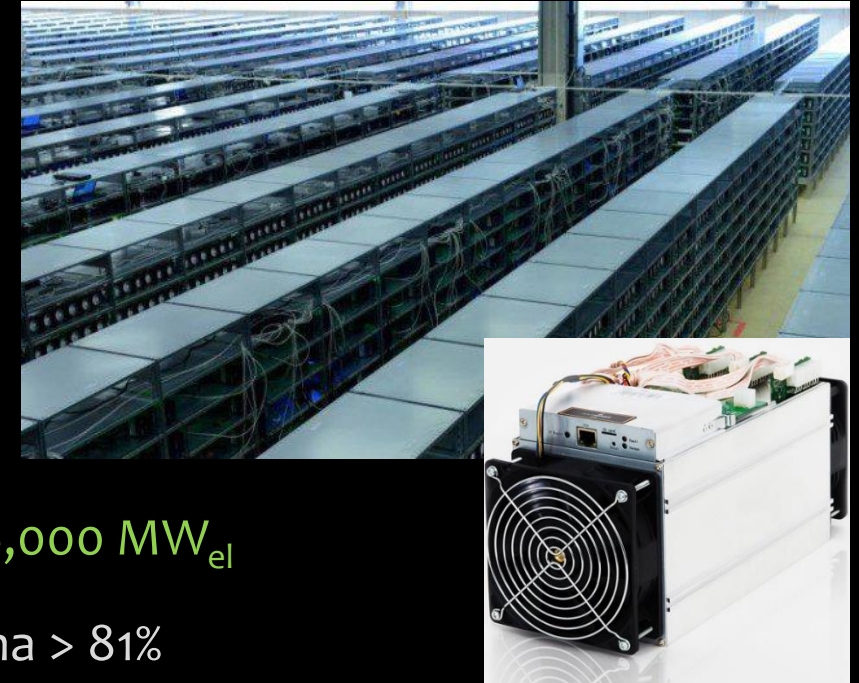


- Blocks 11,12 and 15 are discarded
- **51% attack:** Mallory would have to create more blocks than the rest of the net
- Recommended: qualifying period ≥ 6 **blocks** before delivery of „expensive“ goods!

Random selection of a P2P full node

- **Proof-of-Work** – Miners must solve hash puzzle:
Add numbers to block B
such that hash value $H(B) < h_{target}$ [[difficulty](#)]
- Hash function is one-way:
Solving the puzzle by trial and error!
- Competitive mining requires ASICs
and a lot of electrical power :
 $(\frac{1}{2} \cdot 12.5 \text{ BTC/B} \cdot 8,000 \text{ €/BTC} \cdot 6 \text{ B/h}) / 0.05 \text{ €/kWh} = 6,000 \text{ MW}_{el}$
- Nodes work together in pools [[survey](#)], share of China > 81%
- Alternatives: Solving meaningful tasks
[[Folding@home](#)], [[climateprediction.net](#)] (BOINC)
or implementing **Proof-of-Stake**

Central
system?



Antminer S9



Proof-of-Useful-Work

1. Producibility

Task easy to create and difficulty well controllable

2. Verifiability

Result of work can be checked with little effort

3. Randomness

all participants have identical chances to find the solution of the task in the next calculation step (→ [Bernoulli process](#))

4. Statelessness

the race starts anew in each round of consensus finding

5. Usefulness

The result of the work is not only a contribution to the hygiene of the blockchain but also an economic benefit or serves humanity.



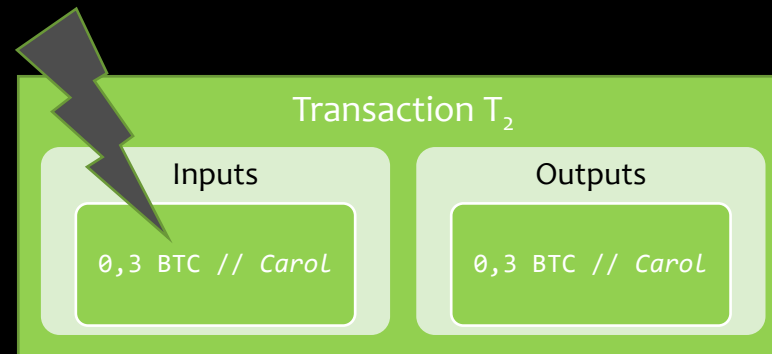
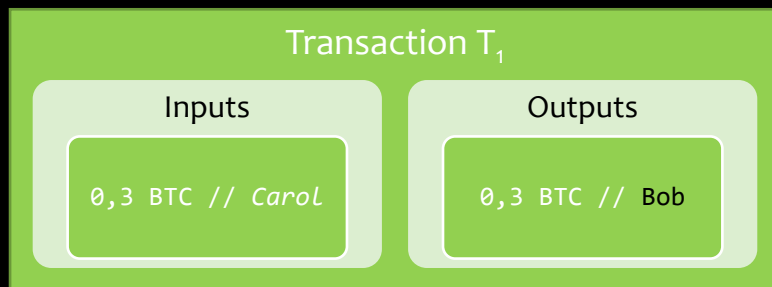
*1. – 4. perfectly fulfilled
by hash puzzle SHA-256*

*ASIC resistant hashes:
scrypt, Argon2, Catena*

Double-spending?



- Carol transfers 0.3 BTC to Bob
- ...and the same UTXO to herself!
- Fully-fledged P2P neighbours („full nodes“)
reject transaction T_2 , because UTXO is already consumed by T_1 –
functions in [[Bitcoin Core](#)]: *AcceptToMemoryPool*, *CheckTransaction* und *CheckInputs*
- Corollary: There must be more honest than dishonest knots (51% attack).



[[Statistics](#)]

What we are exploring together today

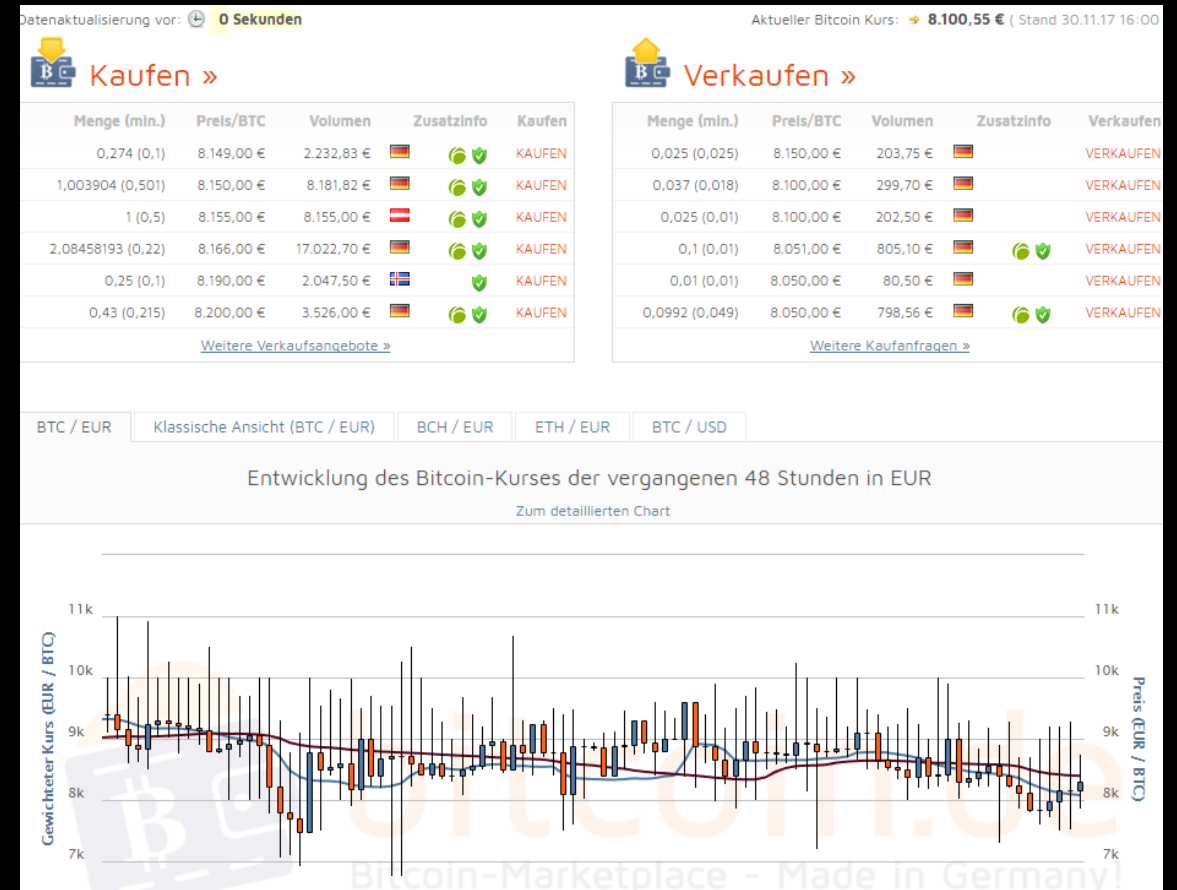
1. Past and present: History of money
2. Distributed systems – Can we do without a bank?
3. The Bitcoin blockchain
4. Asymmetrical cryptography
5. The Bitcoin payment system
6. Bitcoin in practice
7. Future



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Exchange Bitcoin for fiat money

- Market place [bitcoin.de] trading BTC, BCH and Ether
- Login with Multi-Factor Authentication:
 1. Username / password
 2. Captcha (image recognition)
 3. Time-based One-time Password, works best with smartphone app
- Prerequisite for trading: account with a **direct bank** [fidor.de]
- Bitcoin keys stored in **Online-Wallet**



Storing keys in local wallet

- Example: Open source product [[Copay](#)] available for numerous platforms
- Uses **Bitcore Wallet Service** by HTTP/REST
⇒ no access to local computer „from outside“
- Creates a new Bitcoin key pair (= address) after each receive
- Often: Bitcoin transfer from the market place to the local wallet
- Absolutely necessary: Regular data backups

Important!



No access to UTXO
if private keys are lost!



Bitcoin address
 $= H^2(k_{pub})$

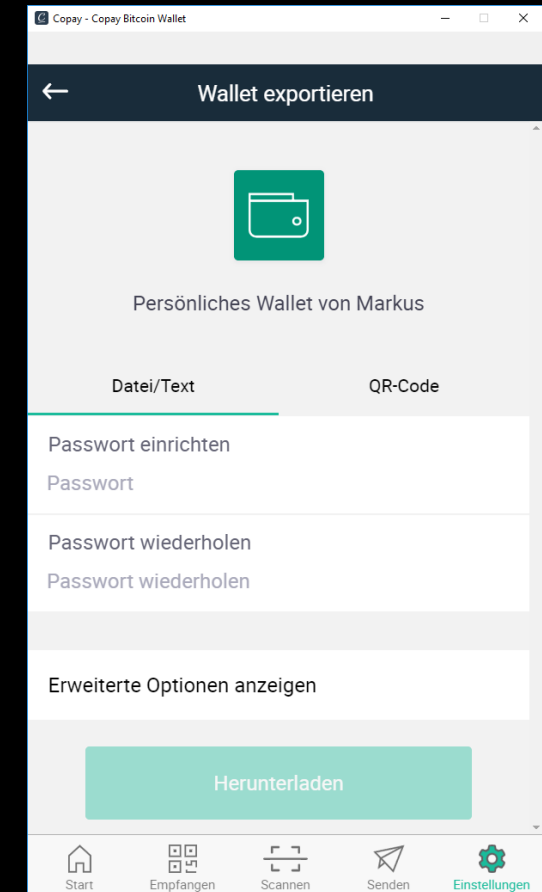
Saving your wallet data

- **Export function** in Copay accessible via *Settings / Wallet selection / More Options / Wallet export*
- Checking the JSON file of the export:

```
C:\> powershell
Windows PowerShell
Copyright (C) Microsoft Corporation. Alle Rechte vorbehalten.

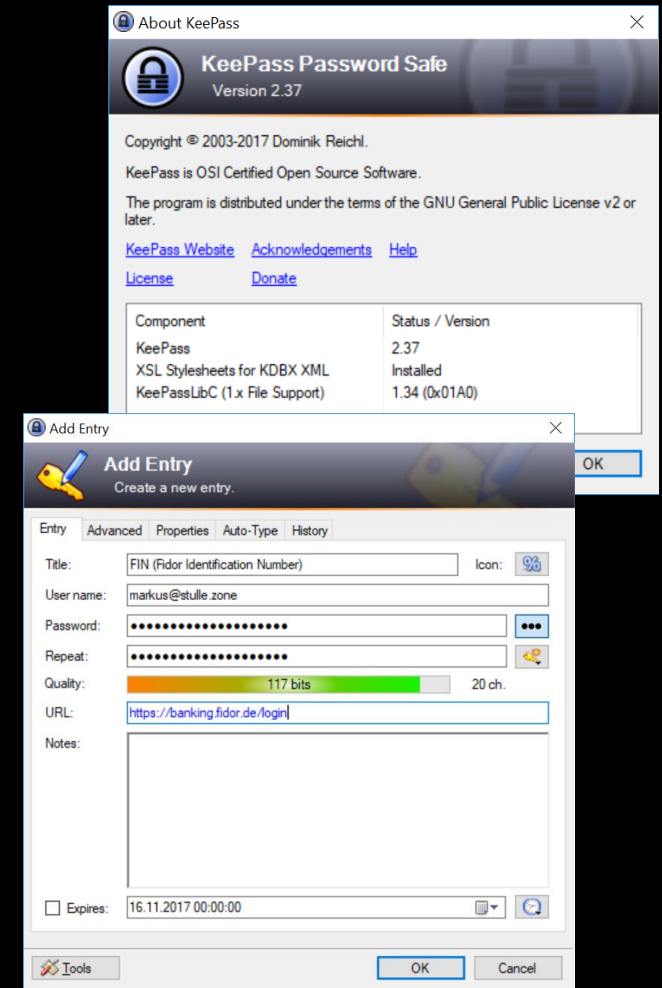
PS C:\> $json = ${E:\Betrieb\Datensicherung\BTC\Copay.aes.json}
PS C:\> $json | ConvertFrom-Json | ConvertTo-Json
{
  "iv": "2/VI/5xEmd5fTdoUP+qs+g==",
  "v": 1,
  "iter": 10000,
  "ks": 128,
  "ts": 64,
  "mode": "ccm",
  "adata": "",
  "cipher": "aes",
  "salt": "PD1ArGGPJwA=",
  "ct": "5Ct5eIvLUD0tsKhPKyWUiicDaC5/5/SKhJC5IxFotbDvuPu4rLu..."
}
```

*Data encrypted
using AES with key
derived from password*



Exkurs: *For your security*

- Use tools like [[KeePass](#)] to generate and store really strong **passwords**!
- When applying cryptography – use open source products whenever possible
- Apply [[Gpg4win](#)], practice PKI process!
- Clarify your **digital heritage**! Storage media? Store wallets for large UTXO offline („cold storage“), also: print keys and put it in the safe deposit box
- Do not store unencrypted data in the **Cloud** – apply products like [[Boxcryptor](#)]



Bitcoin myths



- Transactions are **anonymous**
No – Bitcoin only offers pseudonymity,
De-Anonymization possible thru „Taint Analysis“

„An Analysis of Anonymity in the Bitcoin System“,
F. Reid and M. Harrigan, Cornell U. – Mai 2012 [[PDF](#)]
- Bitcoin is suitable for **money laundering**
No – Market places for exchange BTC / fiat money are subject to strict rules („KYC“)

„New York's BitLicense Proposal“, [[NYDFS](#)] – Juni 2015 [[PDF](#)]
- Bitcoin transactions are **cheap**
No – Transaction costs much higher than for credit card payments: [bitcoinfees.earn.com]
Example: 150 Satoshi/Byte · 512 Byte/transaction = 76,800 Satoshi/T ≈ 6,2 €/T

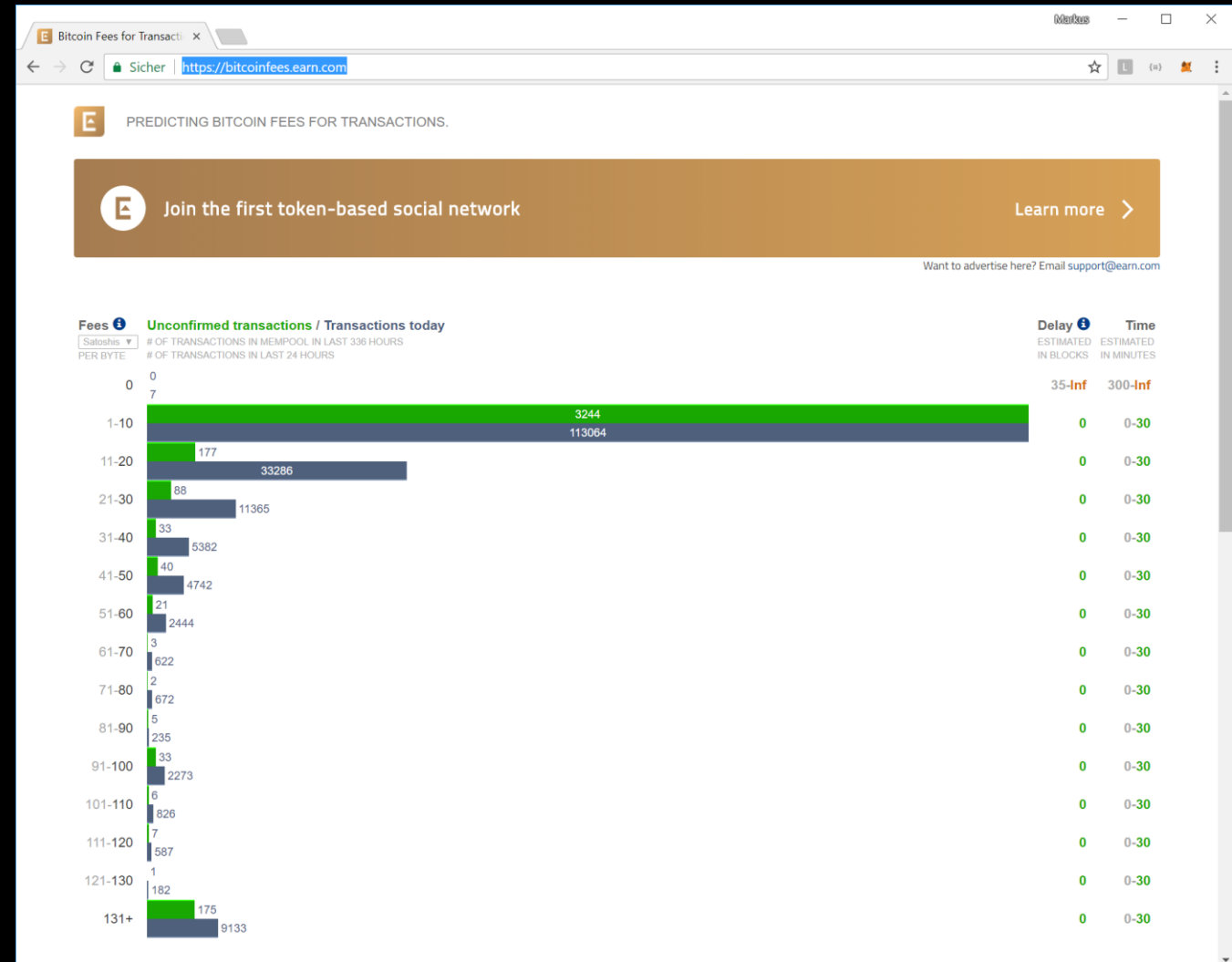
Transaction costs: *Live data*

- Costs are determined by the originator of a transaction
- Stinginess is punished with delay

*Only from 61 Satoshi
p.B. secure chance of
transaction in the
next block*



[Unconfirmed transactions]



What we are exploring together today

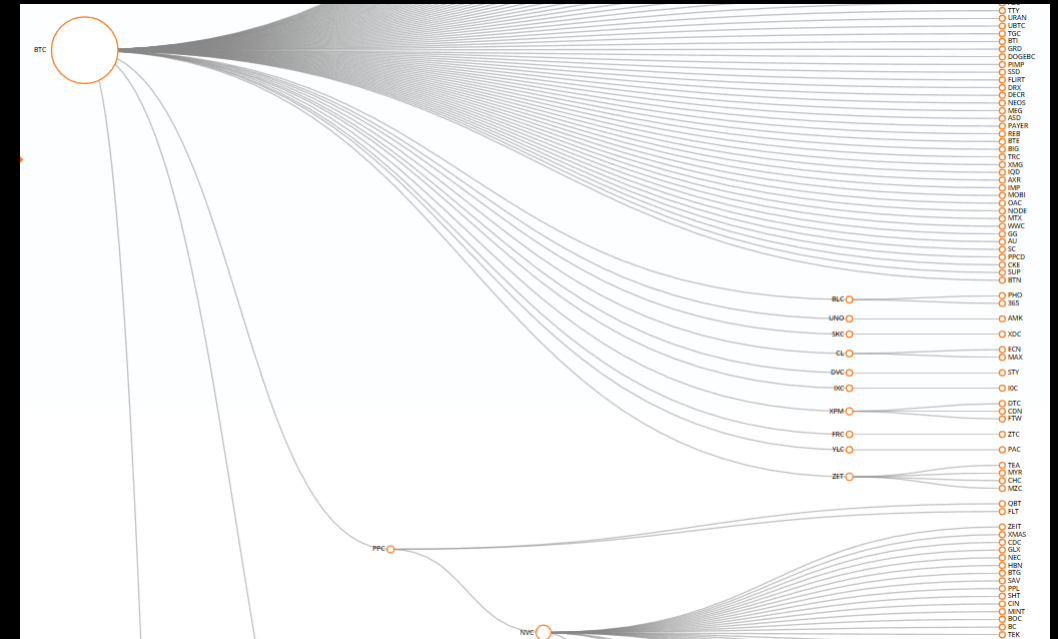
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Forks

- A “hard fork” leads to incompatible splits of the blockchain – UTXO are doubled!
- **Bitcoin Cash (BCH // August 1, 2017)**
Block size of 8 MB to increase transaction performance
- **Bitcoin Gold (BTG // October 23, 2017)**
Mining with Equihash algorithm to push back ASICs
- Overview of market capitalization at [coincap.io]



#	Name	Market Cap ▼	Price	24hour VWAP	Available Supply	24 Hour Volume	%24hr	Trade
1	Bitcoin BTC	\$178.015.705.509	\$10139.00000000	\$10653.3000	16.709.912	\$11.960.100.000	1.22%	Buy / Sell
2	Ethereum ETH	\$44.356.844.491	\$435.89000000	\$461.8630	96.038.965	\$2.851.590.000	-5.18%	Buy / Sell
3	Bitcoin Cash BCH	\$24.557.493.554	\$1375.70300000	\$1520.0000	16.829.538	\$2.439.170.000	-3.16%	Buy / Sell
4	Ripple XRP	\$9.850.299.623	\$0.24390000	\$0.2550	38.622.870.411	\$521.608.000	-11.91%	Buy / Sell
5	Dash DASH	\$5.573.419.722	\$752.71400000	\$722.0650	7.718.723	\$444.782.000	11.24%	Buy / Sell
6	Bitcoin Gold BTG	\$5.314.617.150	\$297.72530000	\$318.6360	16.679.274	\$251.508.000	1.50%	
7	Litecoin LTC	\$4.960.895.951	\$89.09000000	\$91.7646	54.061.108	\$732.764.000	-8.76%	Buy / Sell
8	IOTA IOT	\$3.755.756.908	\$1.32000000	\$1.3512	2.779.530.283	\$287.864.000	-10.21%	
9	Monero XMR	\$2.830.365.147	\$179.56000000	\$183.6490	15.411.819	\$186.561.000	-8.82%	Buy / Sell
10	Ethereum Classic ETC	\$2.759.594.426	\$24.74300000	\$28.1795	97.929.148	\$1.011.040.000	-11.31%	Buy / Sell

Disruptive blockchain applications

- Already available today
 - Digital Identity of citizens, e.g.: [[City of Zug](#)]
 - Prediction Markets, e.g.: [[predictionous.com](#)]
 - Auctions, e.g.: [[domraider.io](#)]
- Future applications
 - Rental of Smart Properties –
Car or apartment door as Bitcoin node (SPV)
 - Saving the hash values of data of IoT-enabled devices,
e.g.: Real driving emissions of vehicles
 - Hedging, also for private users –
insuring short-term life risks, inexpensive derivatives and futures contracts for all!
- For more: [[smartcontract.world/Blockchain.pdf](#)]



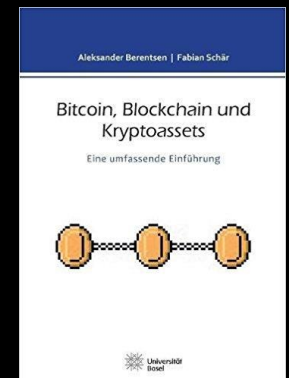
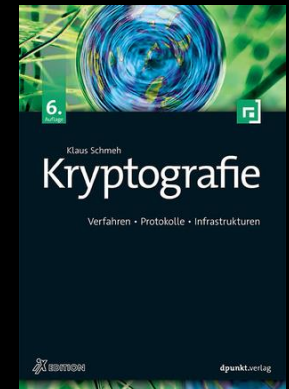
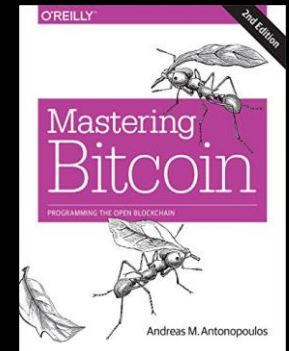
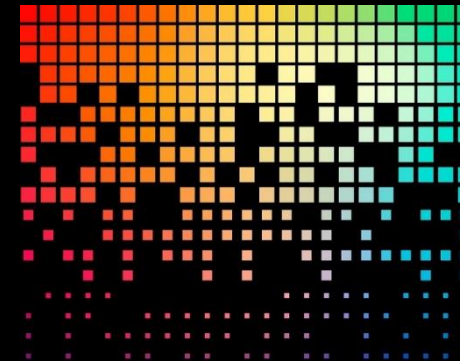
Risks



- Bugs in [[Bitcoin Core](#)] („Code is law!“)
- Pollution of the blockchain with data whose possession is punishable by law
 - [[Paper](#)] “A Quantitative Analysis of the Impact of Arbitrary Blockchain Content on Bitcoin” by Roman Matzutt et al. // February 1, 2018
- Collapse of important exchanges, Bsp.: [[Mt. Gox](#)]
- P2P network imbalances, 51% attack
- Gossip & Politics
 - Prohibition of PoW mining due to high energy consumption
 - Ban on crypto currencies through lobbying by financial dinosaurs

Related Literature

- Andreas M. Antonopoulos
Mastering Bitcoin
2nd Edition, O'Reilly 2017
ISBN-13: 978-1491954386 – [bitcoinbook.info]
- Klaus Schmeh
Kryptografie – Verfahren, Protokolle, Infrastrukturen
6. Auflage, dpunkt.verlag 2016
ISBN-13: 978-3864903564 – [dpunkt.de]
- Aleksander Berentsen, Fabian Schär
Bitcoin, Blockchain und Kryptoassets
Universität Basel
ISBN-13: 978-3738653922 – [blockchainbuch.de]



Thank you!



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„The best way to predict the future
is to invent it!“ – [Alan Kay](#)

