



Blockchain Breakout Session

Digital Money Symposium
26 January 2016

Imperial College
London



What is a Blockchain?

A blockchain is a distributed ledger database that uses a cryptographic network to provide a single source of truth.

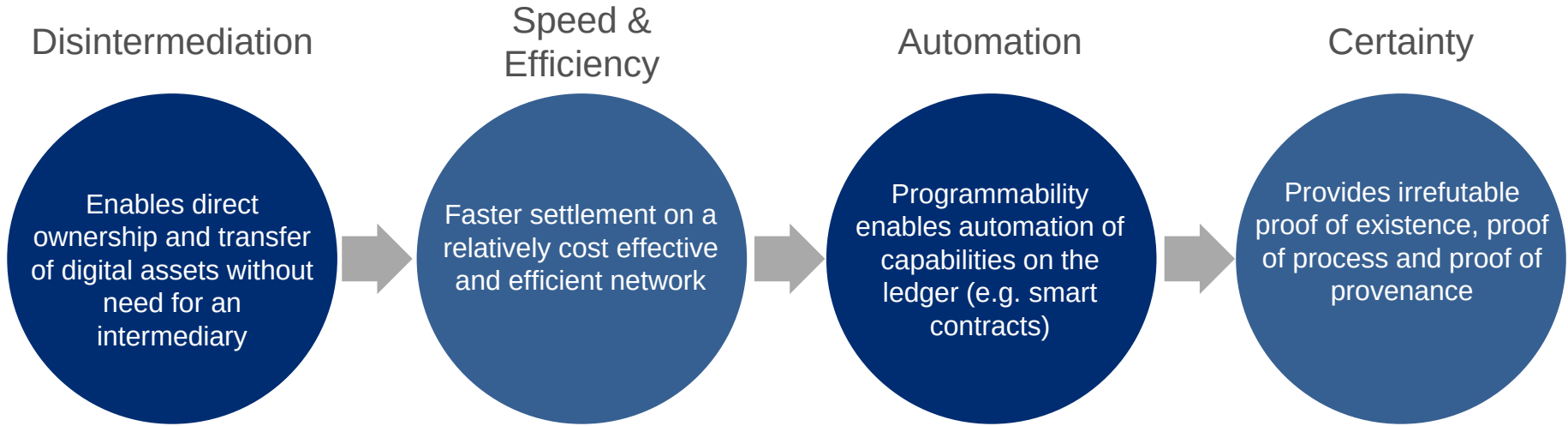
What does it enable?

A blockchain allows untrusting parties with common interests to co-create a **permanent, unchangeable** and **transparent record** of exchange and processing without relying on a central authority.

Why is it significant?

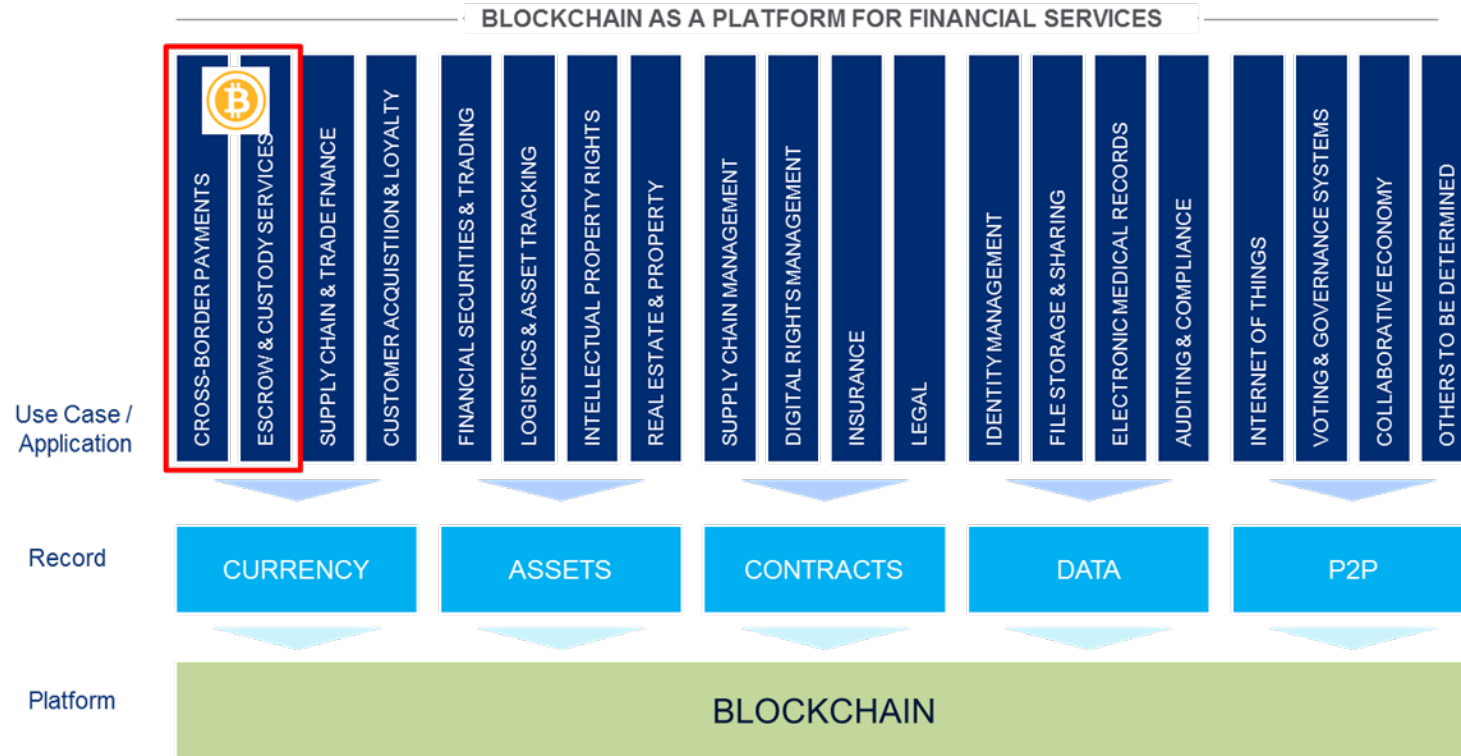
- If the **Internet** is a disruptive platform designed to facilitate the **dissemination of information**.....
- ...then **Blockchain Technology** is a disruptive platform designed to facilitate the **exchange of value**

What are the implications?



Blockchain is bigger than Bitcoin

Blockchains are platforms upon which various applications can be built, well beyond currencies.



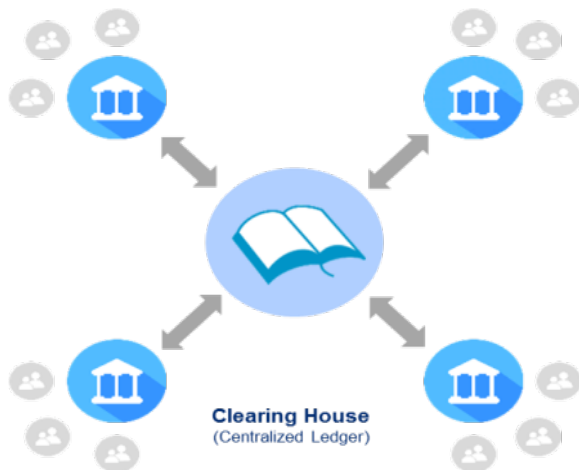
Source: Citi Ventures

Example of Relevance of Blockchain in Banking

Blockchain's distributed ledger model has potential to take steps, time and cost out of financial flows

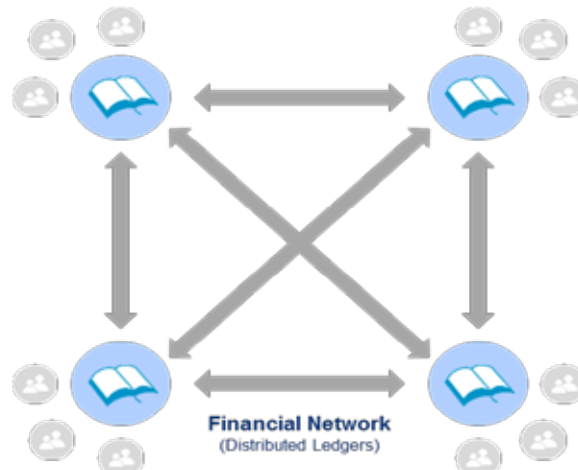
Financial Intermediaries (Today)

- ^a Requires trusted, centralized intermediaries
- ^a Batch clearing and settlement
- ^a Higher fees and costly infrastructure

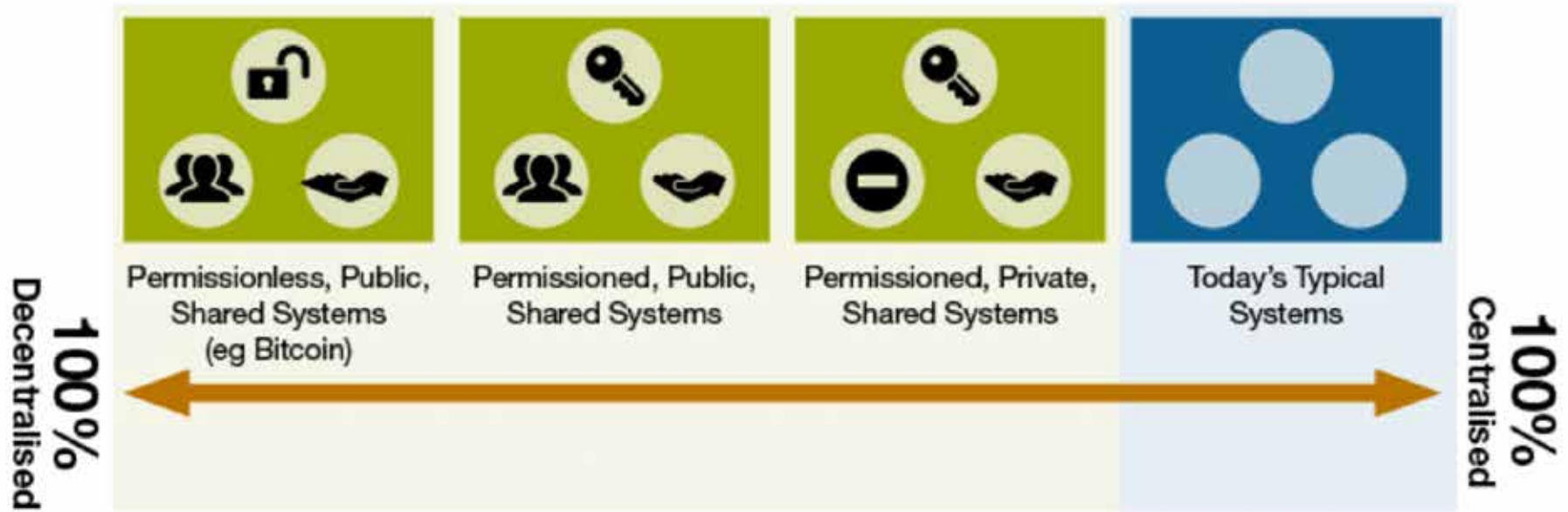


Financial Protocol (Emerging)

- ^a No (or fewer) intermediaries required
- ^a Near real-time processing and management
- ^a Lower fees and reduced infrastructure cost



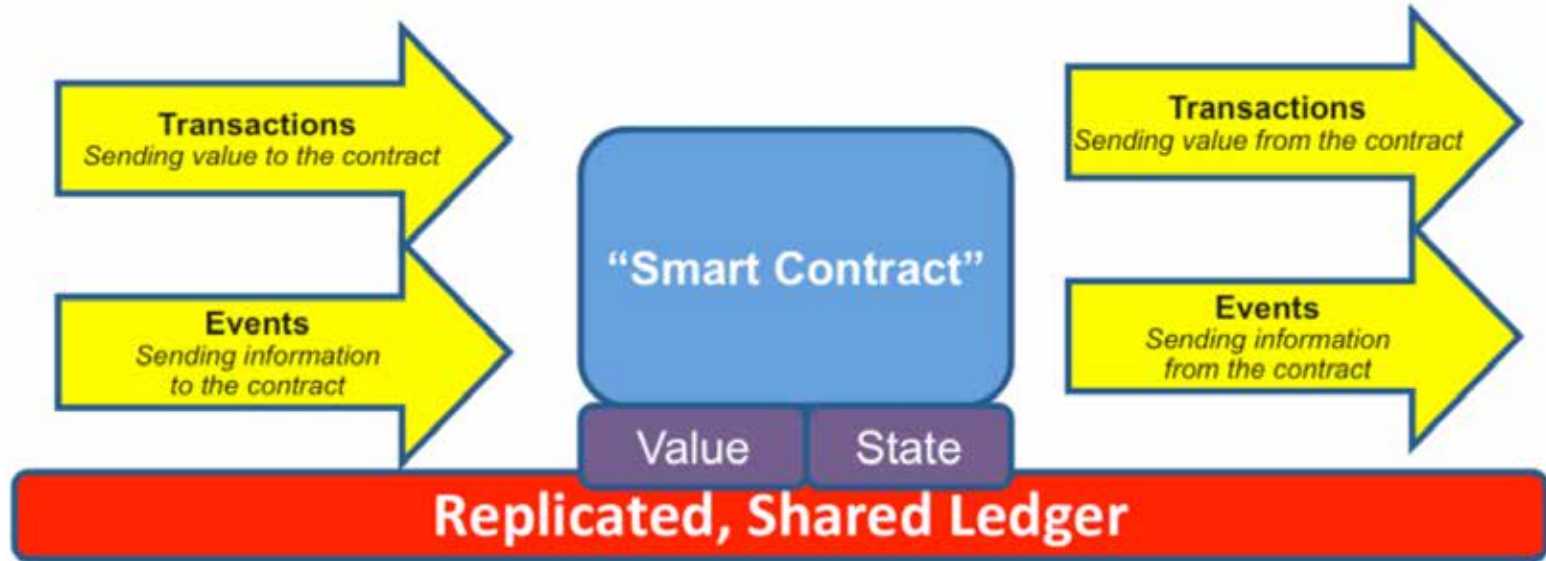
Wide range of contemporary blockchain technologies



Source: Richard Brown, R3

What are smart contracts?

Smart contracts are cryptographically-assured executable business logic that can move value.



Source: Richard Brown

Evolution from cyber-libertarian hobby into the mainstream

2008

Bitcoin: A Peer-to-Peer Electronic Cash System

Satoshi Nakamoto
satoshi@bitcointalk.org
www.bitcoin.org

Abstract. A peer-to-peer system of electronic cash would allow online payments to be sent directly from one party to another without going through a financial institution. Digital signatures provide part of the answer, but the same benefits are lost if a more direct form of self-organization is not employed. We propose a system to be distributed among persons using a peer-to-peer network. The network consists of nodes that have a public key in the form of an address and a corresponding private key for signing transactions. Transactions are broadcast to the network and are accepted by the network if they are signed by a valid address. The network also has a public key in the form of an address and a corresponding private key for signing transactions. The network also has a public key in the form of an address and a corresponding private key for signing transactions.

1. Introduction

Commerce on the Internet has come to rely almost exclusively on financial institutions serving as trust that parties to a transaction will fulfill their obligations. While this system works well enough to meet the needs of most transactions, it still suffers from the inherent weaknesses of the trust based model. Completely non-reversible transactions are not really possible, since financial institutions cannot avoid making mistakes. The cost of medium-velocity transactions is also high. Having the means to make transactions that are not reversible and that are not subject to the cost of medium-velocity transactions would be a useful addition to the Internet. With the possibility of creating the means for such transactions, the Internet can be used for a wide range of applications, including the ability to make irreversible payments for non-reversible services. With the possibility of creating the means for such transactions, the Internet can be used for a wide range of applications, including the ability to make irreversible payments for non-reversible services.

What a wonder is an electronic payment system based on cryptographic proof instead of trust, allowing any two willing parties to transact directly with each other without the need for a third party. Transactions that are computationally infeasible to reverse would protect buyers. In this paper, we propose a solution to the double-spending problem using a peer-to-peer distributed timestamping service to generate computational proof of the chronological order of transactions. The system is secure, so long as honest nodes collectively control more CPU power than any opposing party of malicious nodes.



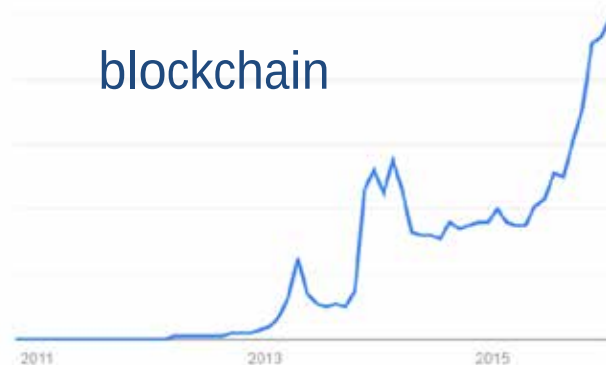
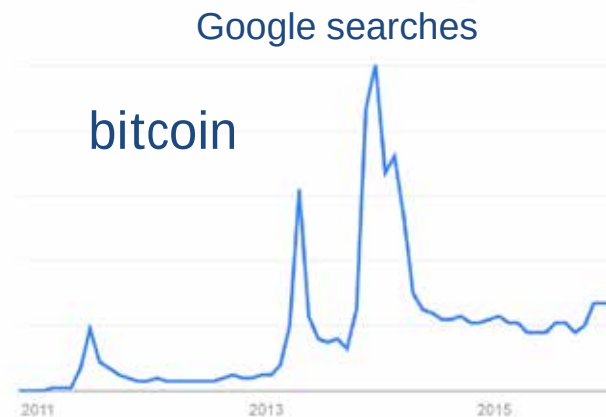
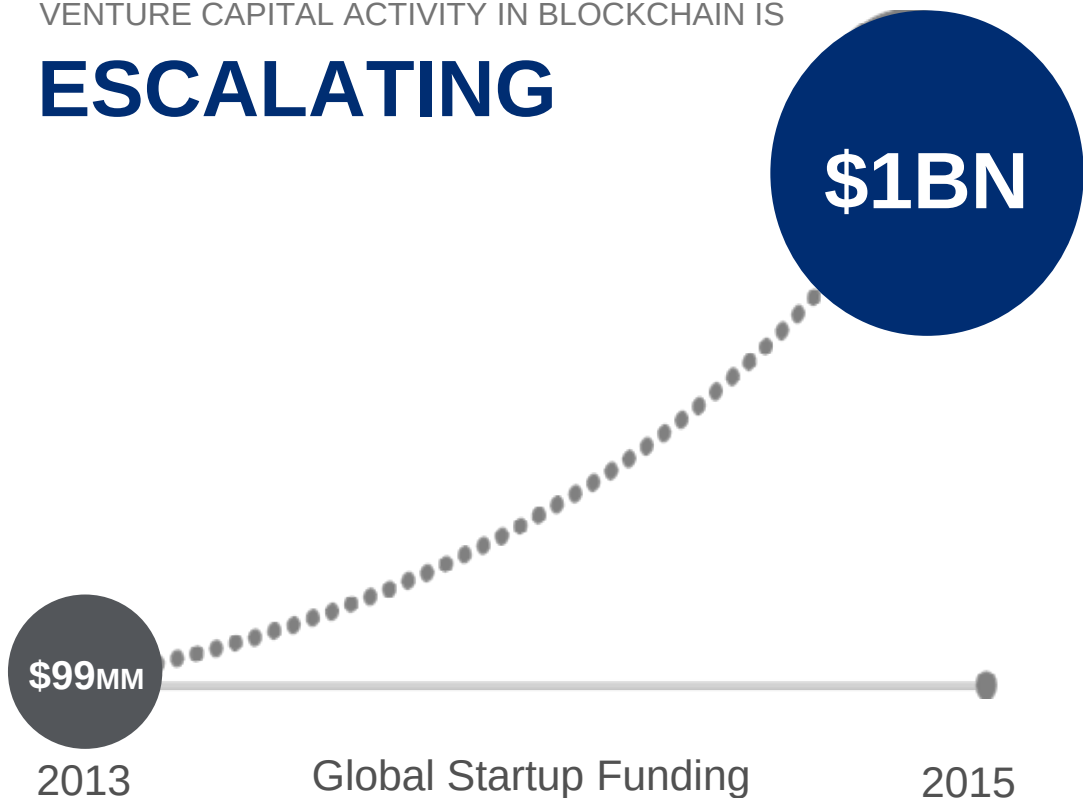
2016



Growing interest in blockchain

VENTURE CAPITAL ACTIVITY IN BLOCKCHAIN IS

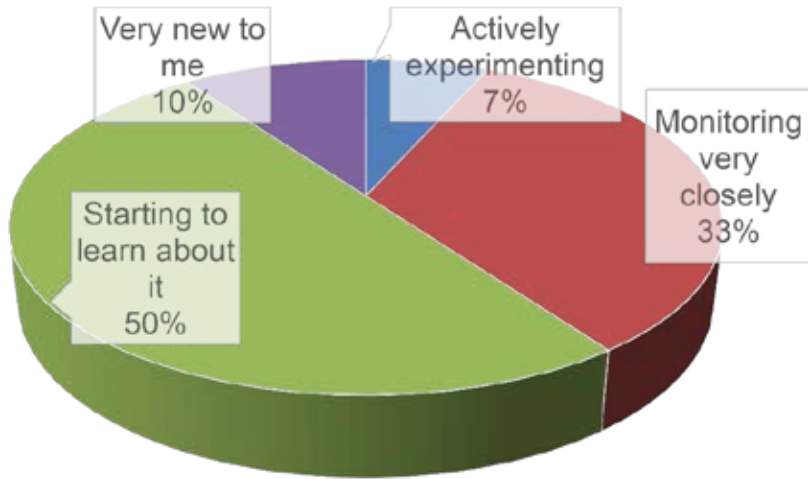
ESCALATING



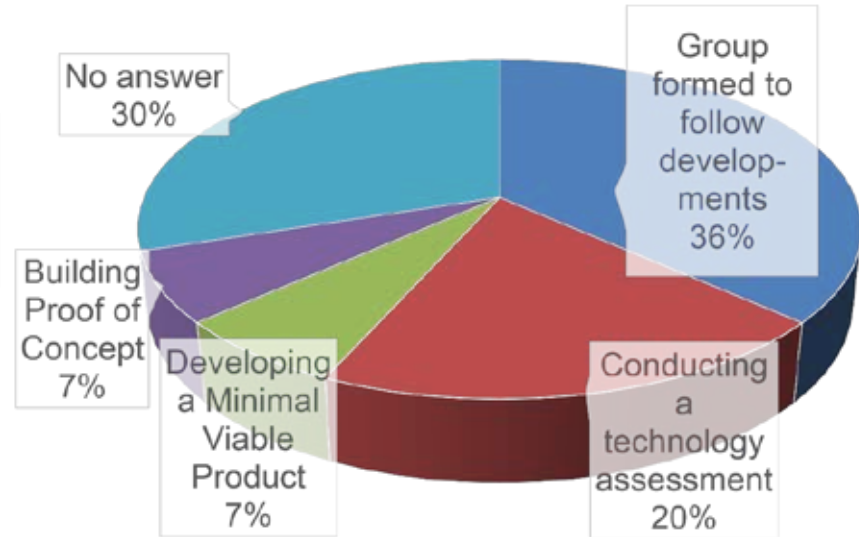
Poll Results

(30 Respondents)

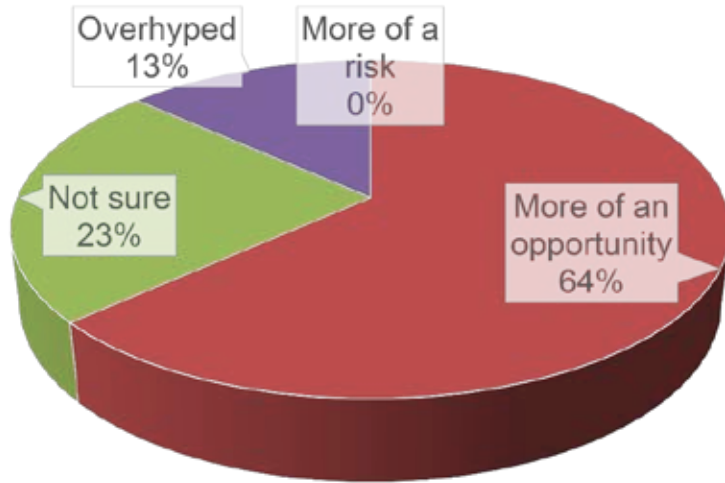
Level of Knowledge of Blockchain



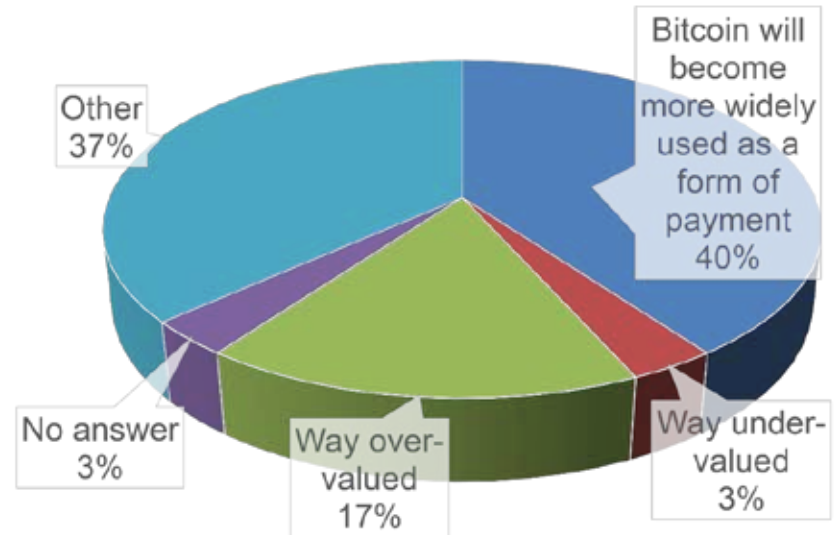
State of Blockchain Technology Adoption



Attitude towards Blockchain



Attitude towards Bitcoin



Blockchain Use Cases



“Whilst it is true that virtually ANY application COULD store its data on a blockchain, it is not true that ANY application WOULD WANT to do this.”

Research grant reviewer, January 2016

Poll Responses on Most Promising Use Cases

- Low-friction low-cost cross-border payments
- Digital legal tender
- Replacing traditional payment schemes
- Corporate action automation
- Exchange of assets with superfast settlement
- Know your customer (KYC)
- Sharing of personal data in innovative distributed and secure ways (e.g. health records)
- Ensuring integrity of code and systems
- Auditing services
- IoT (esp. with Smart Contracts)
- Provenance (e.g. of used cars)

Blockchain Financial Use Cases

Currency and Payments

P2P (including Merchant Wallets)

Remittances

Merchant Processing

B2B, B2C

Networks & Consortia

Other Areas of Interest

Trade

Markets and Securities

AML & Compliance

Digital Identity

coinbase

CIRCLE

xapo

SNAPCARD

ABRA

BitPesa

Bitspark

Unocoin

R&BIT

coinbase

bitpay

Bitnet

stripe PayPal

Align
Commerce

SNAPCARD

earthport

bitWAGE

ripple

R

SWIFT

skuchain

WAVE

Chain

symbiont

R

t0

Digital Asset Holdings

ELLIPTIC

CHAINALYSIS

COINALYTICS

POLYCOIN

ShoCard

onename

Blockchain Use Cases

Non-financial



VERIFY DEGREE

SUCCESS

Qualification verified by Imperial College London

[Transaction details](#)

Confirmed by Bitcoin network.



Name:	Kacper Zylka
Date of birth:	08.10.1993
University:	Imperial College London
Qualification type:	Master of Engineering
Course name:	Computing
Year of graduation:	2018
Degree classification:	First-class Honours

EXPRESS AGREEMENT

Verify the Existence of NDA Contract : Widget Manufacturing Consultation

View independent proof that the contract has been signed and recorded in a trusted public ledger

[Home](#) / [Choose Contract Type](#) / [Initialise Contract Outline](#) / [Negotiate Contract Clauses](#) / [Sign Agreed Version](#) / [View Proof of Contract](#)



View Proof of Contract Existence

See your contract hash and signatures recorded on a trusted public ledger

[← BACK TO PREVIOUS STAGE](#)

[VIEW CONTRACT CLAUSES AS PDF](#)

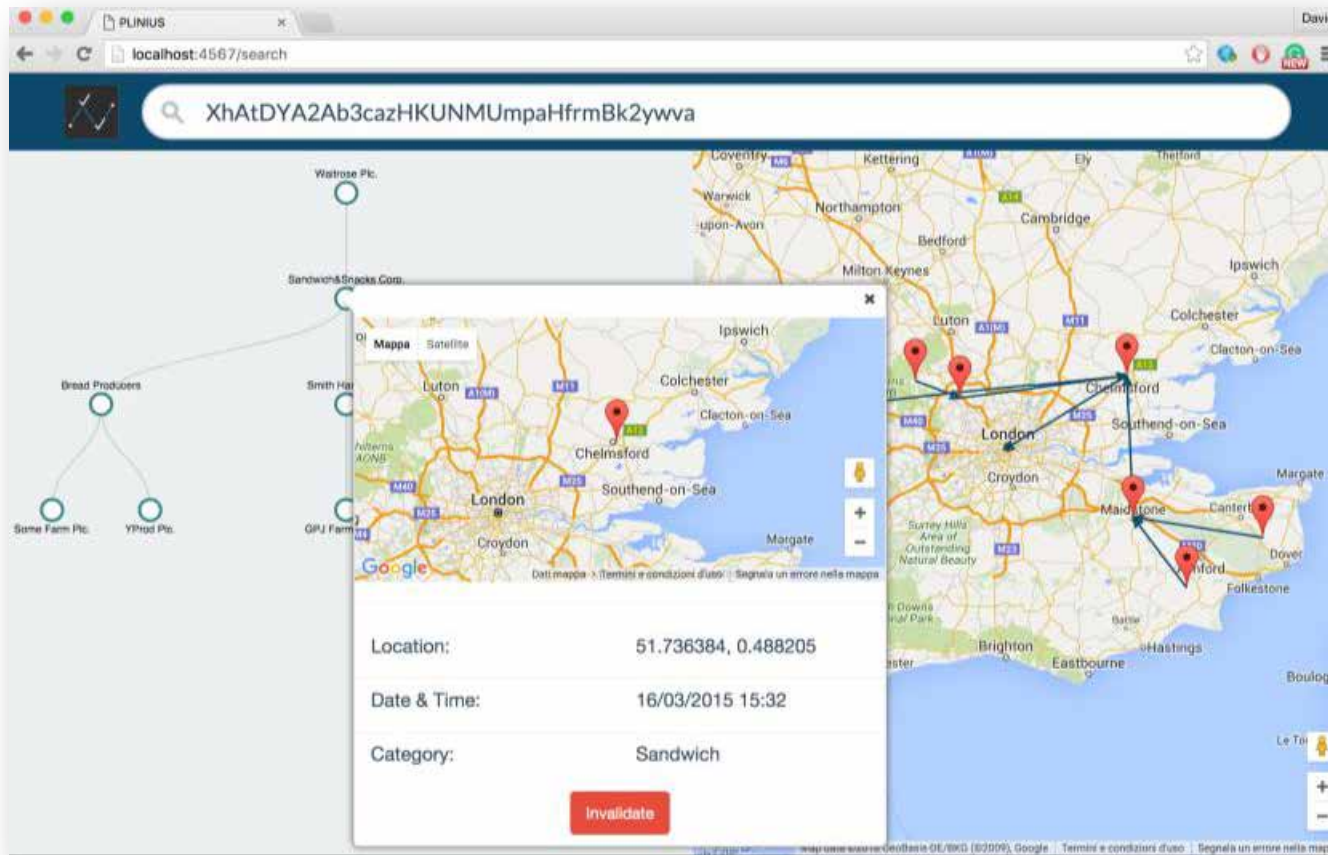
[VIEW FULL CONTRACT WITH CLAUSES AND SIGNATURES](#)

Your contract has been recorded the form of a transaction in the Bitcoin Blockchain. The Blockchain is an immutable public ledger, which means it is transparent and easily verifiable through multiple independent sources, and it is not possible to alter or change transaction records.

Therefore proof of existence of your contract is permanently stored on the Blockchain.

The transaction identification number of your contract is:

bdf1d54693a26040026a5ad618fd10129c9e751dec35aab2b9fe91e04c1ffc8



Blockchain Implementation Considerations

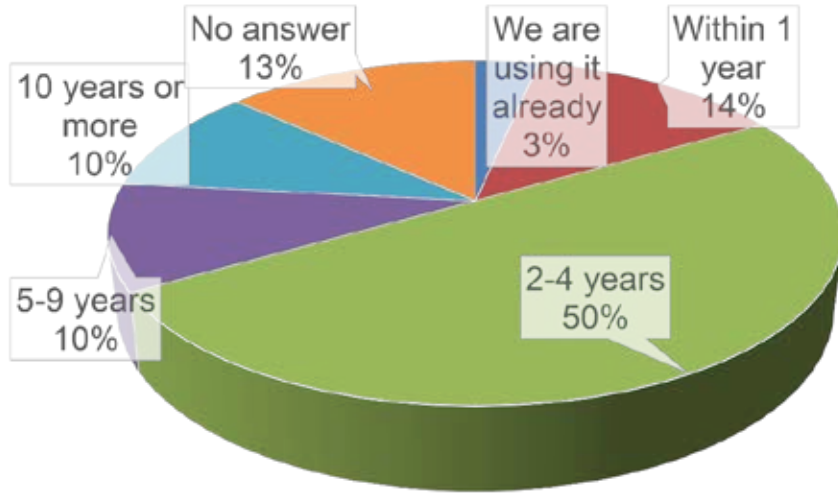
Poll results: Biggest Challenges

Challenge	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Finding the most appropriate use cases	16	53%
Developing an ecosystem	16	53%
Selecting and implementing an appropriate technology	7	23%
Security/privacy issues	6	20%
Scalability	3	10%

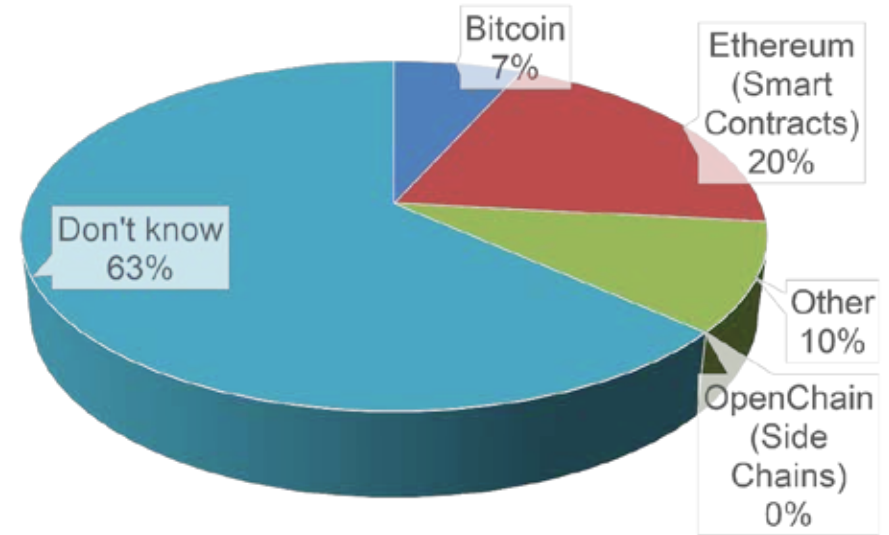
Additional challenges identified:

Legal/Regulatory (2), Stability/resilience of platform/provider (2), Engagement (1)

Timeframe to Production



Dominant Emerging Platform



Other: Credits (10%), Hyperledger R3 (3%)

Challenges to blockchain adoption

- Determining optimal blockchain use cases
- Requires building an ecosystem/network of participants
- Technology is not yet industrial grade
- Requires integration into legacy systems or migration of current tech
- Requires fundamental business process redesign
- Will require adaptation of some regulatory and legal frameworks
- Unless asset remains digital, full benefit of blockchain cannot be fully realized

Comments

Your experiences

Q&A

Contacts: morgan.mckenney@citi.com and wjk@imperial.ac.uk