



# Blockchain applications: an energy perspective

12 April 2022

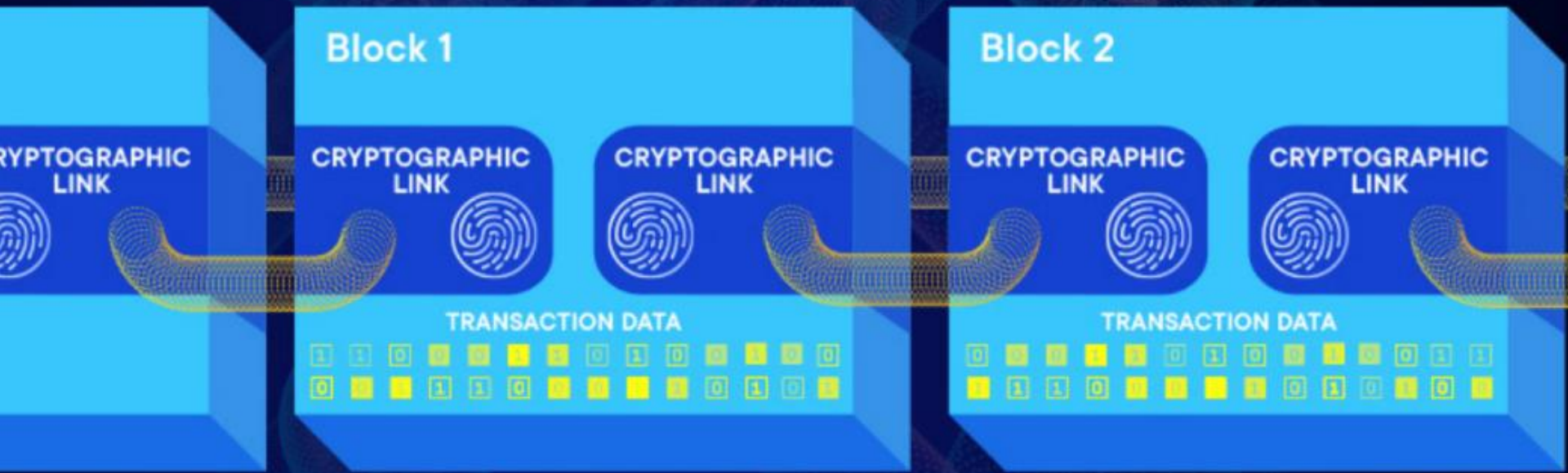
<b>14h00</b>	<b>Welcome and opening remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Pauline Henriot</b>, 3DEN Lead Analyst, Energy Efficiency Division, International Energy Agency</li><li>• <b>Roland Brüniger</b>, 4E EDNA delegate for Switzerland, Swiss Federal Office of Energy</li></ul>
<b>14h10</b>	<b>Presentation of the main findings from the report “Blockchain Energy Consumption - An Exploratory Study”</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Vlad Coroama</b>, Independent researcher, Roegen Centre for Sustainability</li></ul>
<b>14h30</b>	<b>Discussion and Q&amp;A</b> <p>Moderated by <b>George Kamiya</b>, Digital and Energy Analyst, International Energy Agency</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Vlad Coroama</b>, Independent researcher, Roegen Centre for Sustainability</li></ul>
<b>14h55</b>	<b>Closing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Pauline Henriot</b>, 3DEN Lead Analyst, Energy Efficiency Division, International Energy Agency</li></ul>
<b>15h00</b>	<b>End of webinar</b>



# Introduction to EDNA

Roland Brüniger, Swiss Federal Office of Energy (EDNA delegate for Switzerland)

12<sup>th</sup> April 2022

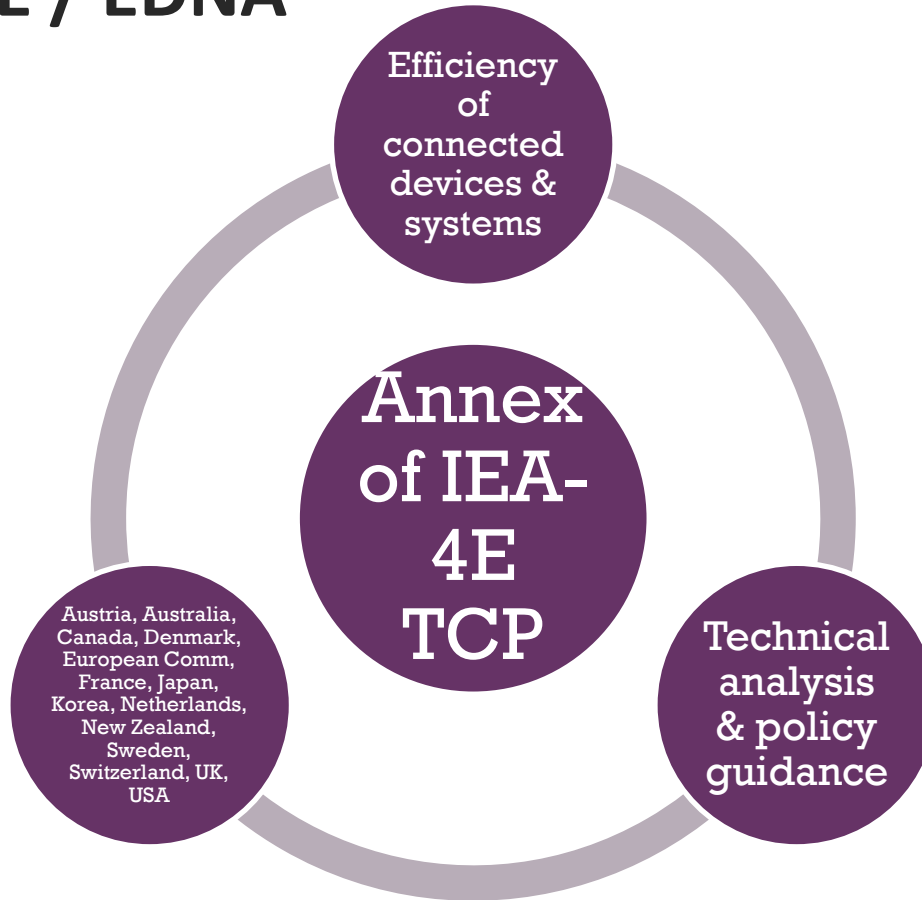


## Introduction to EDNA

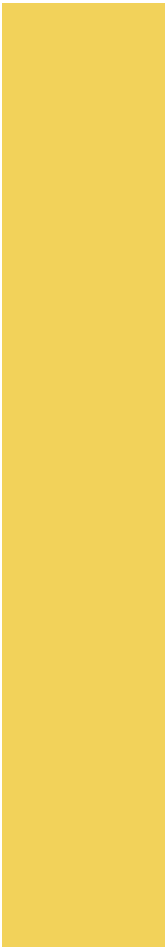
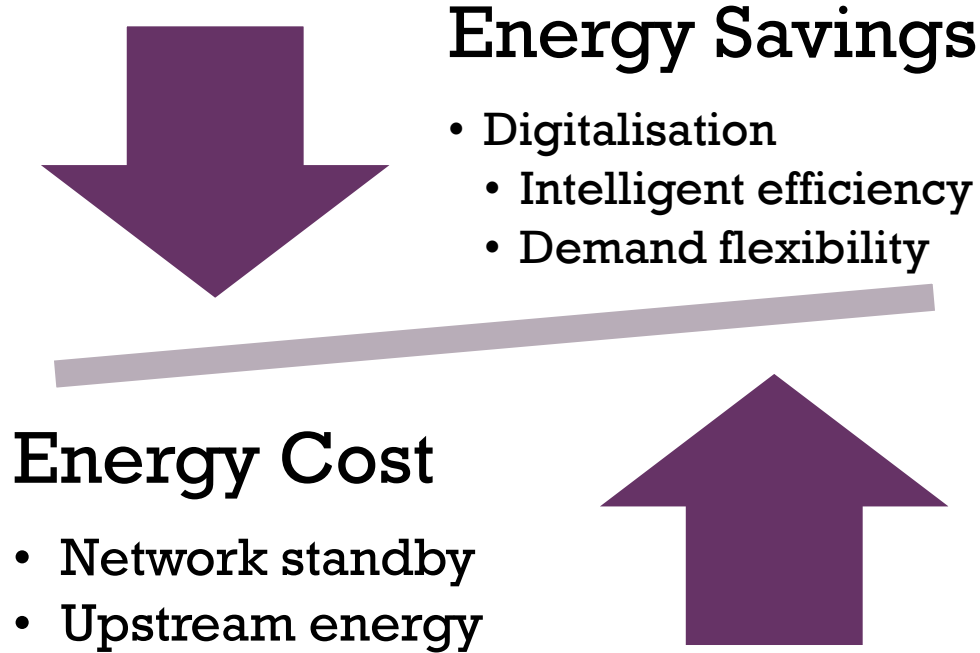
Roland Brüniger, Swiss Federal Office of Energy (EDNA delegate for Switzerland)

IEA Webinar on Blockchain Energy Consumption, 12 April 2022

# IEA-4E / EDNA



# Energy Implications of Device Connectivity



# Blockchain Energy Consumption

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Federal Department of the Environment, Transport,  
Energy and Communications DETEC  
Swiss Federal Office of Energy BFE  
Energy Research and Cleantech Division

Final report dated 27 September 2021

## Blockchain energy consumption

An exploratory study

immutable  
distributed  
transparent  
anonymous  
programmable  
consensual

Source: Tim Wengeler, 2021

4 Energy Efficient End-use Equipment International Energy Agency

## Blockchain Energy Consumption

EDNA14

The 4E Electronic Devices and Networks Annex (EDNA) provides policy guidance to members and other governments aimed at improving the energy efficiency of connected devices and the systems in which they operate. EDNA is focused on the increased energy consumption that results from devices becoming connected to the Internet, and on the optimal operation of systems of devices to save energy.

This briefing summarises the key findings of a report titled Blockchain Energy Consumption - An Exploratory Study. The report was commissioned by the Swiss Federal Office of Energy and contains a detailed analysis and beyond, and the resulting energy consumption. Though not an EDNA report, it relates to the digitalisation of the energy system and its findings are relevant for policy makers globally.

### Observations for Policy Makers

- A blockchain is a public digital ledger which can be used to verify the ownership of both digital and real-world assets, for example cryptocurrencies, 'tokenised' artworks, real-estate and even energy.
- Changes in asset ownership are recorded in the blockchain and then validated by volunteer computer 'nodes'. Many blockchains employ a 'proof-of-work' mechanism to perform the validation function. This requires the validating nodes to have vast computing power, resulting in substantial electricity consumption. For Bitcoin alone, this now totals more than 100 TWh p.a. which is equivalent to the electricity consumption of the Netherlands.
- The nodes that undertake proof-of-work are rewarded with newly 'mined' cryptocurrency tokens. These computers are usually located where electricity is cheap.
- Alternatives to proof-of-work mechanisms exist, which use several orders of magnitude less energy, for example 'proof-of-stake'.
- Enacting policies to tackle the high energy consumption of blockchains is complicated, especially due to the lack of a central operator that can be held responsible.

immutable  
distributed  
transparent  
anonymous  
programmable  
consensual

More information: The Swiss report is available for download here. For further information please contact the EDNA operating agent at [steev@blocktech.com.au](mailto:steev@blocktech.com.au)

Published March 2022

Technology Collaboration Programme  
11-103

# More Information

- EDNA publications and Contact

- [roland.brueeniger@brueniger.swiss](mailto:roland.brueeniger@brueniger.swiss)
- [steve@beletich.com.au](mailto:steve@beletich.com.au)

- Policy briefs

- <https://www.iea-4e.org/edna/publications/>

- Swiss publications of the report

- <https://www.aramis.admin.ch/Default?DocumentID=68053&Load=true>



# Blockchain Energy Consumption

## An Exploratory Study

Vlad Coroamă

IEA Webinar, 12 April 2022

Study performed when  
I was still affiliated  
with the ETH Zurich..



**ETH** zürich

.. and supported to a  
large extent by the Swiss  
Federal Office of Energy



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

**Bundesamt für Energie BFE**  
**Office fédéral de l'énergie OFEN**  
**Ufficio federale dell'energia UFE**  
**Swiss Federal Office of Energy SFOE**

# Energy consumption of blockchains: Topic of concern



The Big Read **Bitcoin** + Add to myFT

## Bitcoin's growing energy problem: 'It's a dirty currency'



Business | Market Data | New Economy | New Tech

## Tesla will no longer accept Bitcoin over climate concerns, says Musk

13 May 2021 | Comments



### Markets

## Greenpeace Stops Accepting Bitcoin Donations, Cites High Energy Use

Friends of the Earth is reported to be reviewing the situation, too.

By Daniel Palmer

May 21, 2021 at 1:51 p.m.

Updated Sep 14, 2021 at 2:59 p.m.

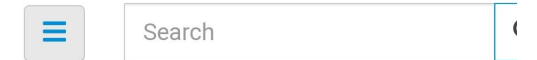


Welcome to the United Nations | Language



## UN News

Global perspective Human stories



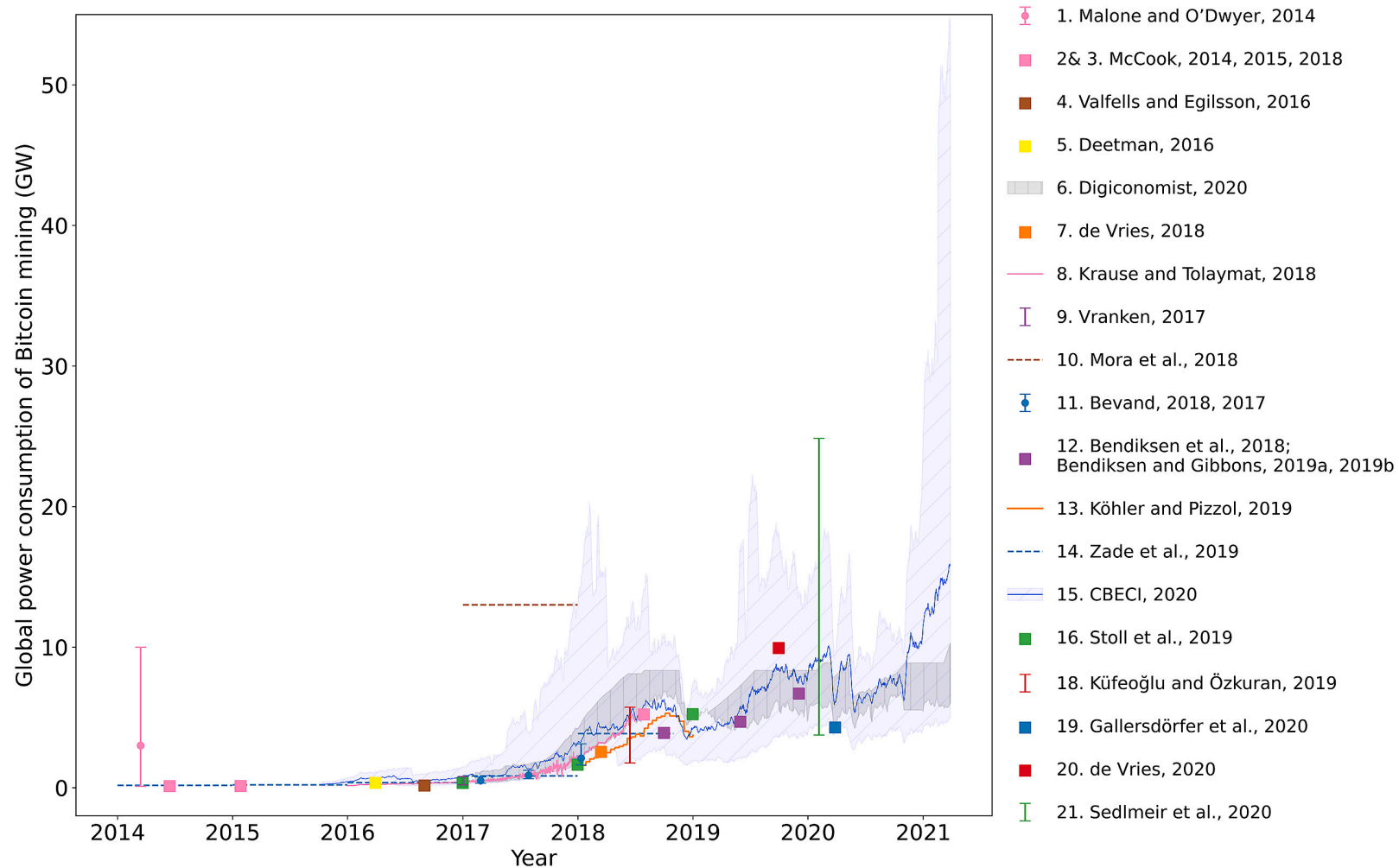
Advanced Search



## Sustainability solution or climate calamity? The dangers and promise of cryptocurrency technology

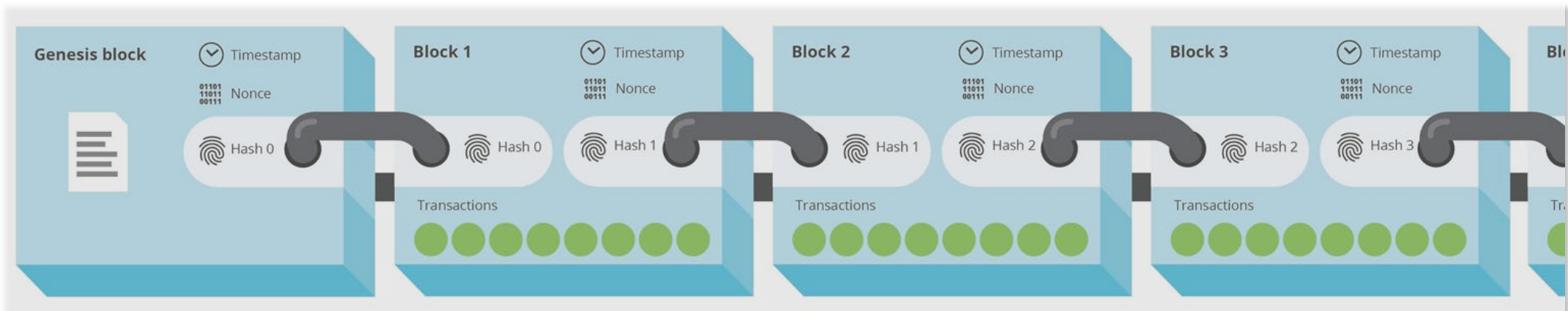
Unsplash/André François McKenz | Bitcoin is a decentralized digital currency that you can buy, sell and exchange directly, without the intermediary like a bank.

# Broad consensus that energy use is growing rapidly, but variation among estimates



# Research questions for the study

- RQ1: What are the **main drivers** of blockchain energy consumption?
- RQ2: What are likely **consumption figures** for today?
- RQ3: Are there any existing **limiting factors** and how do they act?
- RQ4: Which are effective **countermeasures**, if any?



# Part 1: Technological Background

Why blockchains?

Brief history

Components of a blockchain

Consensus mechanisms & proof-of-work

# Technological background: Challenges of digital currencies

- Value units ('coins') of electronic currencies can be trivially multiplied, stored, and transmitted
  - (as with any digital data)
  - known as **multiple spending** problem
- Public-key-infrastructure (PKI, i.e., private-public key pair) in which all coins are signed ("**minted**") by a central Trusted Authority (TA)
  - addresses the authenticity of all original coins
  - does **not solve the copying of (signed) coins** and cannot prevent their multiple spending
- In first-generation digital currencies (in the 90s), TA thus required
  - not only to sign coins
  - but also to keep track (i.e., a ledger) of **which accounts hold each of the coins** and can rightfully spend them

# Early eCash digital currency & General principles of digital currencies

- Relatively cumbersome payment in eCash
    - payer sends digital coins to payee
    - payee sends coins to TA for validation (i.e., that payer owns it, and has not used it yet for payment)
    - after validation, coins are accepted
    - TA reflects new property structure
  - Digital currencies
    - need a **unanimously trusted ledger**,
    - which can certify ownership of coins,
    - and track ownership changes.
  - Drawbacks of centralised TA
    - **system safety** relies on TA safety (proprietary algorithms),
    - questionable **scalability**: TA can become bottleneck,
    - **expensive** and unfit for “small casual transactions”, as Bitcoin was originally designed for (the irony, of course, is strong here).
- See also, e.g., first slide here:  
<https://slideplayer.com/slide/10532466/>

# Bitcoin: Digital currency based on a distributed ledger

## Overall system

- Bitcoin ecosystem
  - currency units (**coins**, BTCs) & subdivisions
  - **accounts** that hold coins
  - **transactions** (either minting of new coins or transfers between accounts)
- Accounts do not directly “own” digital coins
  - as in keeping a (signed) sequence of bits on an HD
- Instead **public, distributed ledger** keeps
  - all existing account numbers (but not the owners)
  - ownership: all BTCs associated with accounts
  - all transactions ever performed
- Proof of **account ownership** via PKI
  - private/public key pair

## Distributed ledger

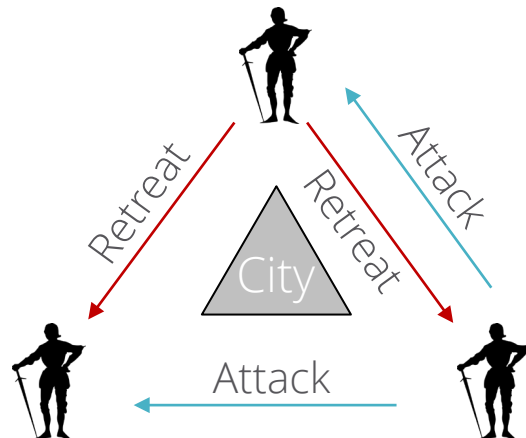
- Numerous distributed replicas of the ledger
  - held by **nodes** of the system
  - anyone can become a node; no access restrictions
- Can also be seen as a Virtual Machine (VM)
  - a VM **state** is a snapshot of accounts and coins associations
  - Bitcoin **transactions represent state transitions**
- Every new period (approx. 10 mins)
  - collection of transactions recorded
  - state transition occurs
  - new **block of transactions added** to the *blockchain*



# New issues and their solutions

## Consensus mechanism

- Needed for individual nodes to agree on the valid transactions
- General problem: Decentralised nodes reaching a consensus
  - not a new problem in computer science
  - coined by later Turing-award winner Leslie Lamport in 1982 as ‘**Byzantine generals problem**’
  - several solutions exist for benevolent nodes that want to reach the “correct” consensus

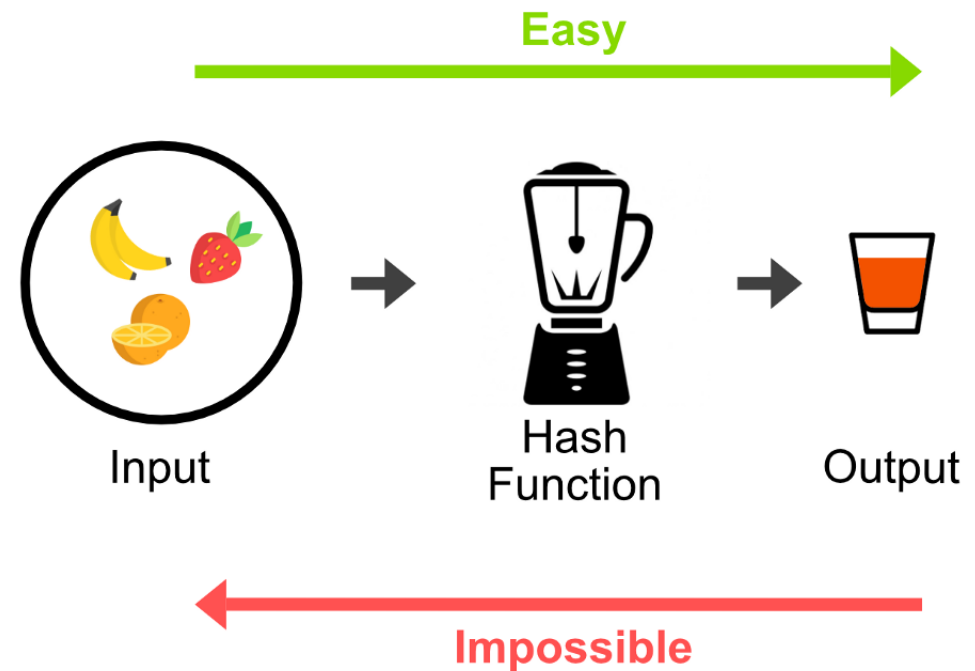


## Sybil attack

- New solution needed for **malevolent nodes**
- Attacker manipulates outcome by creating a large number of nodes (pseudonyms)
  - all put forward the same result desired by the attacker
  - thus manipulating the outcome of the consensus mechanism
- In an open system w/o access restrictions
  - participation in the consensus **cannot be free**
  - vote needs to be **bound to a limited resource** coming at an expense
  - for Bitcoin (and later cryptocurrencies): **Proof-of-Work (PoW)**

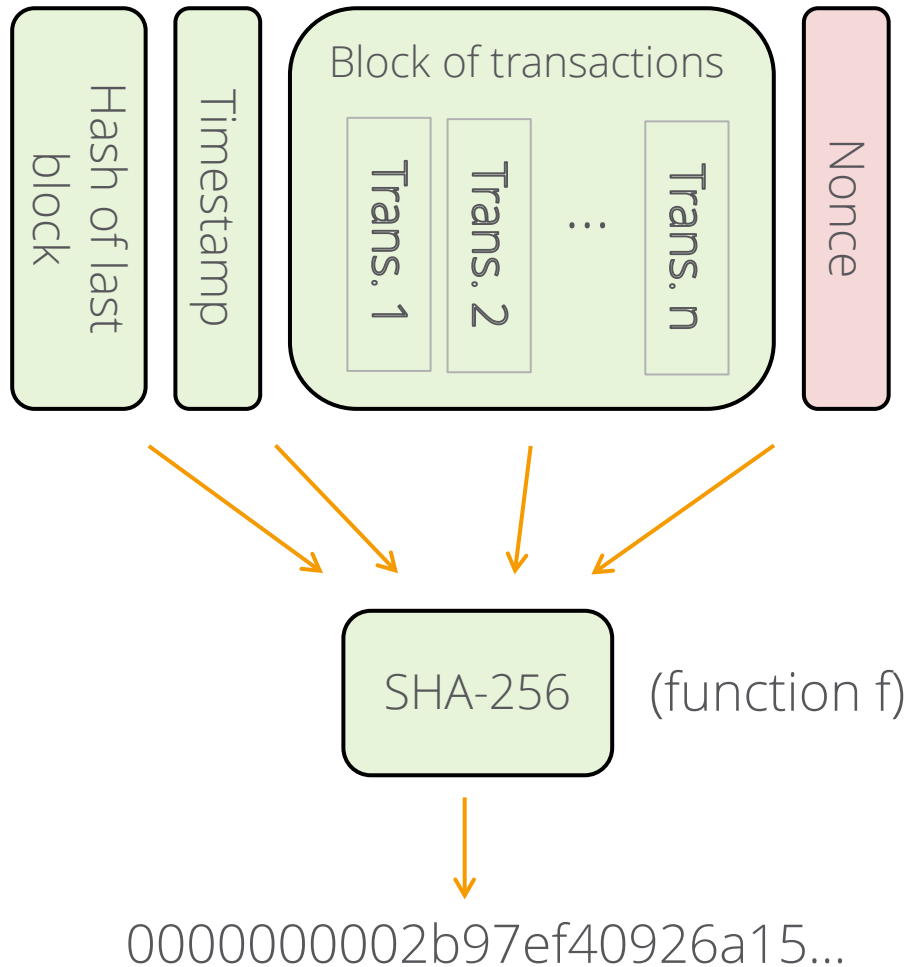
# Digression: One-way functions (& hashing functions)

- Functions that are “fairly easy” to compute, but almost “very hard” to revert, i.e.,
  - $f(X) = Y$  straightforward computation
  - $f^{-1}(Y) = X$  not feasible with today's computers
- Additionally, if  $f(X) = Y-1$ ,  $f(X+1) \neq Y$ 
  - reaching “close to  $Y$ ” does not help in finding  $Y$  quicker
- Thus, the only way to reach the desired outcome is by trying time and again
  - concept known in cryptography as **brute force**
- Thus a good PoW mechanism



# Proof of Work (Bitcoin)

## Searching for a puzzle-solving nonce



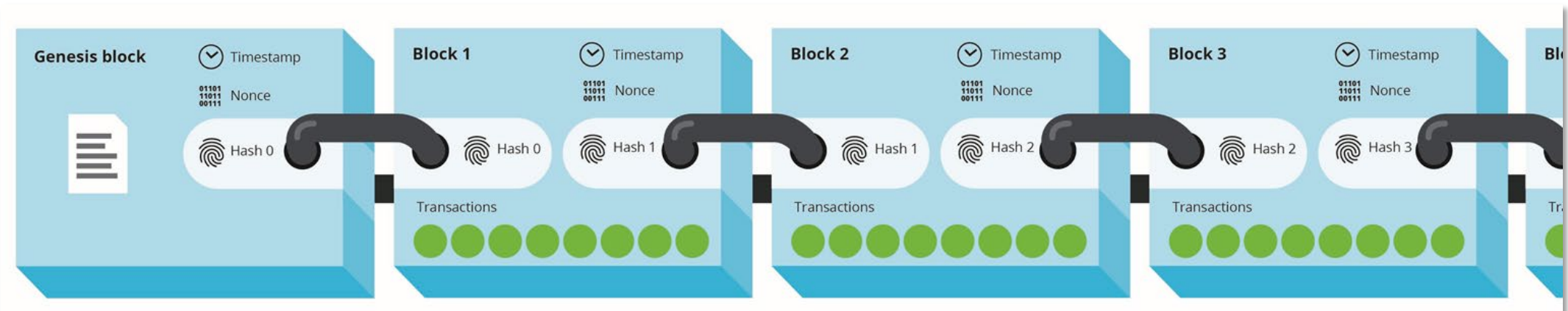
[256 bits represented by 64 hexadecimal characters]

## Aim of the puzzle & work needed

- Aim: finding a result with a certain number of leading (hexadecimal) zeroes
  - amount of leading zeroes tuned so that a solution is found about every 10 minutes
  - the more nodes throw more computation at it, number will increase
- Likelihood:  $1/16^N == 1/2^{4N}$ 
  - On average after  $16^N == 2^{4N}$  tries (across all participating nodes)
- Currently: 20 leading zeroes
  - $2^{80}$  computations/ hashes needed ==
  - 1'208'925'819'614'629'174'706'176 ==
  - over **1 septillion hashes** every 10 minutes

# Incentivising nodes to partake in the consensus mechanism

- One-way hash function is fairly inexpensive (computationally and thus energetically)
  - it does, however, not come for free
  - and 1 septillion of them a fortiori not
- 2 types of rewards for successful node
  - *transaction fees*, from the accounts having transactions bundled in the new block
  - *block reward* from the system, newly minted BTCs
- Analogy: (search for successful nonce → new BTCs) and (digging → more gold)
  - nodes taking part thus often called **miners**
- Each new block links to the previous one
  - **Blockchain** (actually more complex Merkle tree)



# Technological background recap

- To **avoid multiple spending**, a digital currency
  - needs a **unanimously trusted ledger**
- For **scalability** and **open security** (as opposed to security through obscurity)
  - the ledger needs to be **open** and **distributed**
- An **open and distributed** ledger
  - needs a **consensus mechanism** for its transactions
- The open **consensus mechanism**
  - is prone to **Sybil attacks** by malevolent nodes
- To counter **Sybil attacks** (i.e., through massive, pseudonymous copies)
  - a **cost must be placed** on the participation in the consensus mechanism
- For Bitcoin (and other currencies) the **cost**
  - is represented by the computation (work) needed to **solve a cryptographic puzzle**
  - (hence, such digital currencies are called **cryptocurrencies**)
- To **incentivise nodes** to invest these costs
  - they receive **rewards**, esp. newly mined coins

# Part 2: Bitcoin Energy Consumption

Storage

Communication

Computation/Proof-of-work

# Three sources of energy consumption for a blockchain

- A. *Storage* of the distributed VM (or distributed ledger)
- B. *Communication* among nodes, which can be triggered by some or all of the following events:
  - i. the *initial download* of the entire blockchain by a new node entering the system,
  - ii. the *transactions* submitted by individual nodes, and
  - iii. the *messages* of the consensus mechanism.
- C. *Computation* triggered by the consensus mechanism, in particular PoW (if applicable)

## A. Storage energy

$$E_{St} \left[ \frac{kWh}{year} \right] = \#Repl_{Av} * BC_{St} [GB] * EI_{St} \left[ \frac{kWh}{year * GB} \right]$$

Term	Meaning	Value April 2022 (approx.)
$\#Repl_{Av}$	average number of replicas (as weighted over the year)	~ 15k
$BC_{St}$	size of the stored blockchain (in GB)	~ 400GB
$EI_{St}$	average energy intensity of storing a unit of data (1 GB) for one year	0.008 – 0.66 kWh/(GB * year)

- Average energy intensity depends on the main storage medium; the two extremes being:
  - laptops/desktops dedicated exclusively: (30 W \* 8760h/year) / 400GB = 0.66 kWh/(GB\*year)
  - hyperscale data centres: 0.008 kWh/(GB\*year)
- Range for result: **48 MWh – 4 GWh energy** (5.5 kW – 0.45 MW average power)  
(worst case: yearly production of one mid-sized on-shore wind turbine)



## B. Communication power

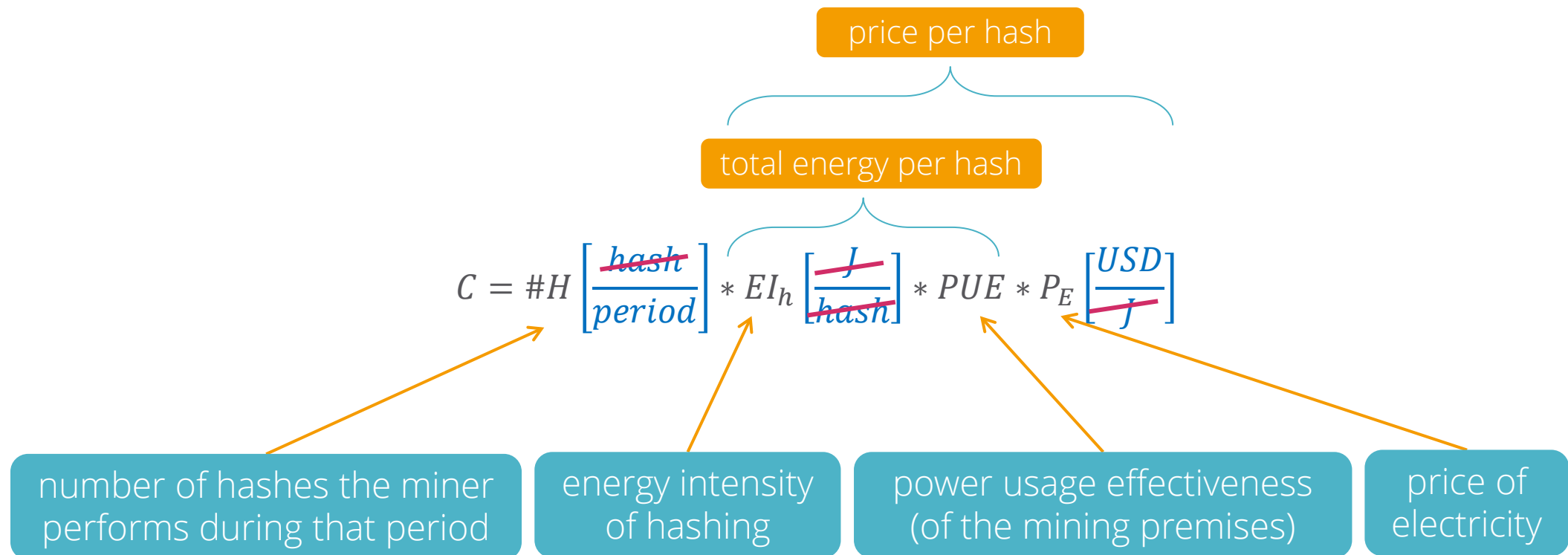
$$P_C = \frac{Bl [GB] * \#Repl_{Av} * (EI_{WAN} + EI_{FAN}) \left[ \frac{kWh}{GB} \right]}{t [h]}$$

Term	Meaning	Value April 2022 (approx.)
$Bl$	size of one block of transactions	1.25 MB == 0.00125 GB
$\#Repl_{Av}$	average number of replicas	~ 15k
$EI_{WAN}$	energy intensity of wide-area network	0.02 kWh/GB
$EI_{FAN}$	energy intensity of fixed access network	0.07 kWh/GB
$t$	average length of one period	600 s

- Counter of fraction represents energy to propagate a new block to all nodes
  - 1.7 kWh/period spent all 10 minutes on average → average communication power = 10 kW
- Yearly communication energy: 88.7 MWh

## C. Computational power for the PoW mechanism

- Principle: As long as the expected gain is higher than the costs, it is reasonable
  - for participants to keep mining, or
  - to freshly join the mining community
- For each miner, the (variable) mining costs for one period are



# Costs per miner per period

$$C = \#H \left[ \frac{\text{hash}}{\text{period}} \right] * EI_h \left[ \frac{J}{\text{hash}} \right] * PUE * P_E \left[ \frac{\text{USD}}{J} \right]$$

- Equation can be rewritten to reflect the state-of-the-art of mining hardware
  - as speed of hashing operations (*hash rate*)
  - for that, first term (#hashes per period) can be expressed as:

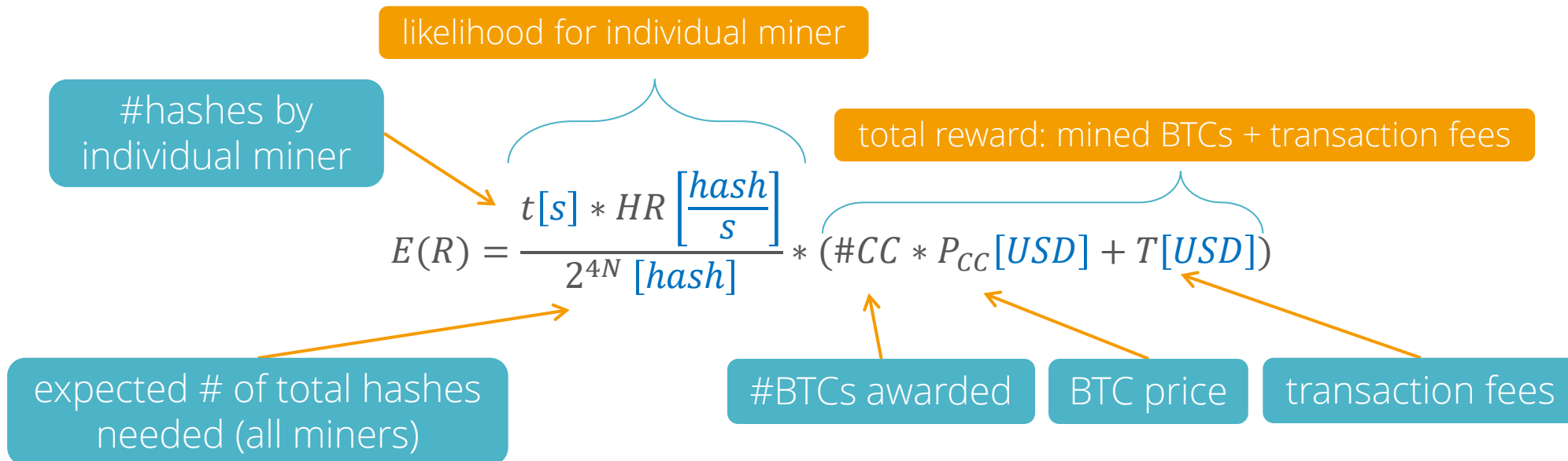
$$C = t[s] * HR \left[ \frac{\text{hash}}{s} \right] * EI_h \left[ \frac{J}{\text{hash}} \right] * PUE * P_E \left[ \frac{\text{USD}}{J} \right]$$

length of period

hash rate (hashes per second)

# Expected revenue per miner per period

- Expected revenue equals the likelihood for miner to be successful times the total reward for successful mining



System equilibrium when expected revenue equals costs  $E(R) == C$

$$\cancel{t * HR} * EI_h * PUE * P_E = \frac{\cancel{t * HR}}{2^{4N}} * (\#CC * P_{CC} + T)$$

- Can be simplified to

$$EI_h * PUE * P_E = \frac{(\#CC * P_{CC}) + T}{2^{4N}}$$


- The equilibrium energy intensity of a hashing operation can be derived by solving the identity:

$$EI_h = \frac{1}{2^{4N}} * \frac{(\#CC * P_{CC}) + T}{P_E * PUE}$$

- unsurprisingly, directly correlated to the reward expected,  $(\#CC * P_{CC}) + T$ 
  - and thus essentially to the **price of the cryptocurrency**,  $P_{CC}$
- inversely related to what makes mining more expensive
  - the (average) price of electricity  $P_E$  as well as the **PUE**, which stands for the “wasted” share of electricity
  - the **complexity of the cryptographic puzzle** (and thus the needed amount of hashing operations)

# Deriving an upper bound for WW electricity consumption of PoW

- Using the  $EI_h$  estimate to compute an upper bound for the WW electricity consumption of PoW per block/period:

$$E_{PoW}(WW, \text{one period}) \left[ \frac{J}{\text{period}} \right] = \#H \left[ \frac{\text{hash}}{\text{period}} \right] * EI_h \left[ \frac{J}{\text{hash}} \right] * PUE$$


- Knowing
  - the expected number of hashes during one period  $\#H = 2^{4N}$ , and
  - dividing by the average length of one period  $t$ ,

yields an upper-bound for the WW power consumption used for PoW:

$$P_{PoW}(WW) = \frac{2^{4N} * EI_h * PUE}{t}$$

- Using the equilibrium (i.e., threshold) energy intensity  $EI_h$  as computed above, yields

$$P_{PoW} = \frac{2^{4N} * PUE}{t} * EI_h = \frac{\cancel{2^{4N}} * \cancel{PUE}}{t} * \frac{1}{\cancel{2^{4N}} * \frac{(\#CC * P_{CC}) + T}{P_E * \cancel{PUE}}} = \frac{(\#CC * P_{CC}) + T}{t * P_E}$$

# Upper bound for WW electricity consumption of PoW

$$P_{PoW}(WW) = \frac{(\#CC * P_{CC}) + T}{t * P_E}$$

- Current Bitcoin data:

–  $\#CC = 6.25 * P_{CC} \sim 40k \text{ USD} = 250k \text{ USD}$ ,  $T \sim 1500 \text{ transactions} * 2 \frac{\text{USD}}{\text{transaction}} = 3,000 \text{ USD}$   
(reward is thus around 250,000 USD)

–  $t = 600s$ ,  $P_E = \frac{0.05\text{USD}}{\text{kWh}}$

$$P_{PoW}(WW) = \frac{250,000 \cancel{\text{USD}}}{600 \text{ s} * 0.05 \frac{\cancel{\text{USD}}}{\text{kWh}}} = \frac{250,000 \text{ kWh}}{30 \text{ s}}$$

- Given that  $1 \text{ kWh} = 3,600 \text{ "kWs"}$ , this results in

$$P_{PoW}(WW) = \frac{250,000 * 3,600 \text{ kWs}}{30 \text{ s}} = (250,000 * 120) \text{ kW} = \mathbf{30 \text{ GW}}$$

# Interpretation of PoW power and energy

- Worst case WW power and yearly energy:

$$P_{PoW}(WW) = 30 \text{ GW}; E_{PoW}(WW) = 263 \frac{\text{TWh}}{\text{year}}$$

- This **worst-case** figure amounts to
  - power production of 30 nuclear power plants
  - yearly electricity consumption of ~Spain, Australia, UK (top 11-20 WW)
  - almost Romania's entire (i.e., primary) energy consumption (370 TWh/year), and slightly more than Portugal's (259 TWh/year)
  - similar to the entire energy consumption of all (non-crypto) data centres WW: 200 – 400 TWh/year (Masanet et al. 2020 and Borderstep 2019, respectively)
  - around 1% of WW electricity usage



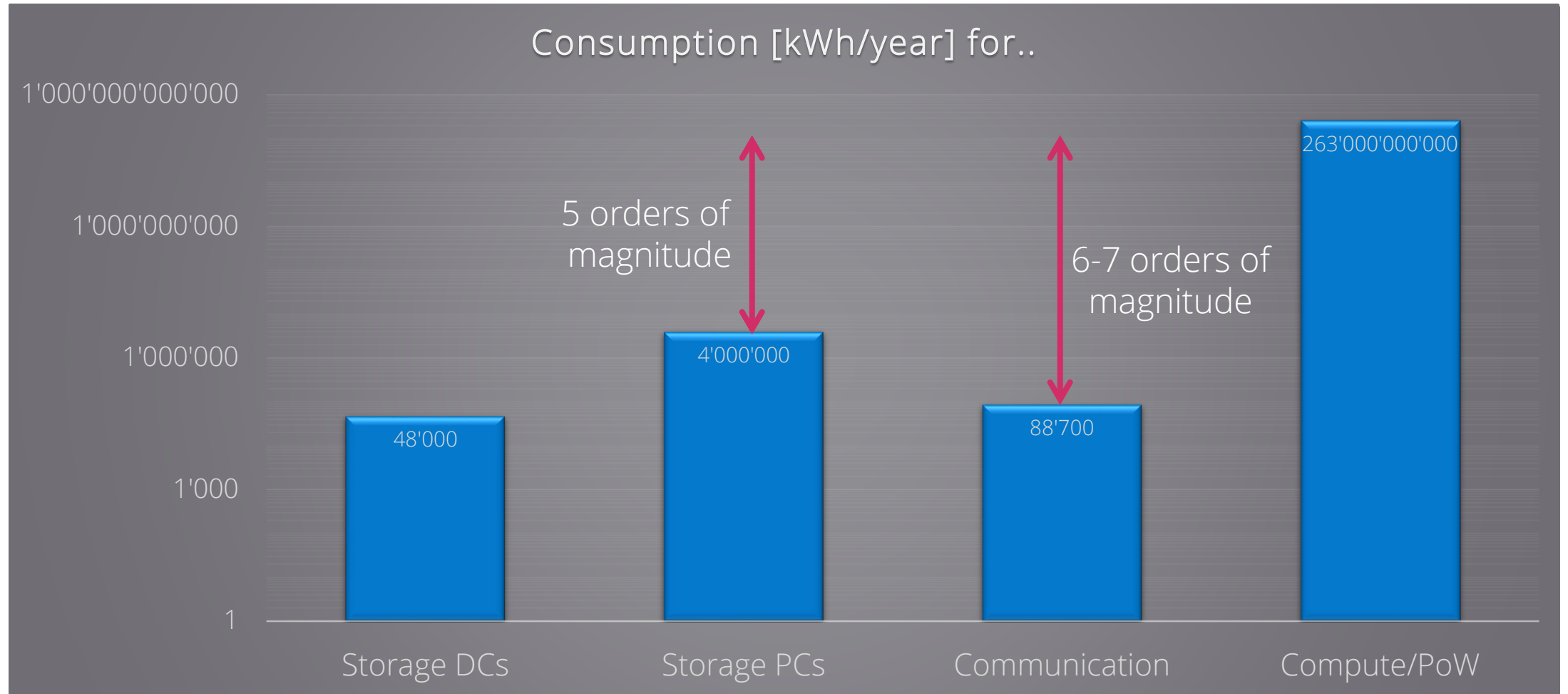
## Comparison to related work (all TWh/year)

Period	Publication	Date	Lower bound	Expected	Upper bound
Earlier studies	(de Vries 2018)	May-18	22	67	78
	(Krause and Tolaymat 2018)	Nov-18		30	
	(Stoll et al. 2019)	Jul-19		46	
	(de Vries 2020)	Sep-19		87	
	(Bendiksen and Gibbons 2019)	Dec-19		61	
	(Sedlmeir et al. 2020)	Feb-20	60		125
Current studies	(Cambridge BECI 2021)	Apr-22	54	144	362
	(Digiconomist 2021)	Apr-22	61	204	
	this study	Apr-22			263

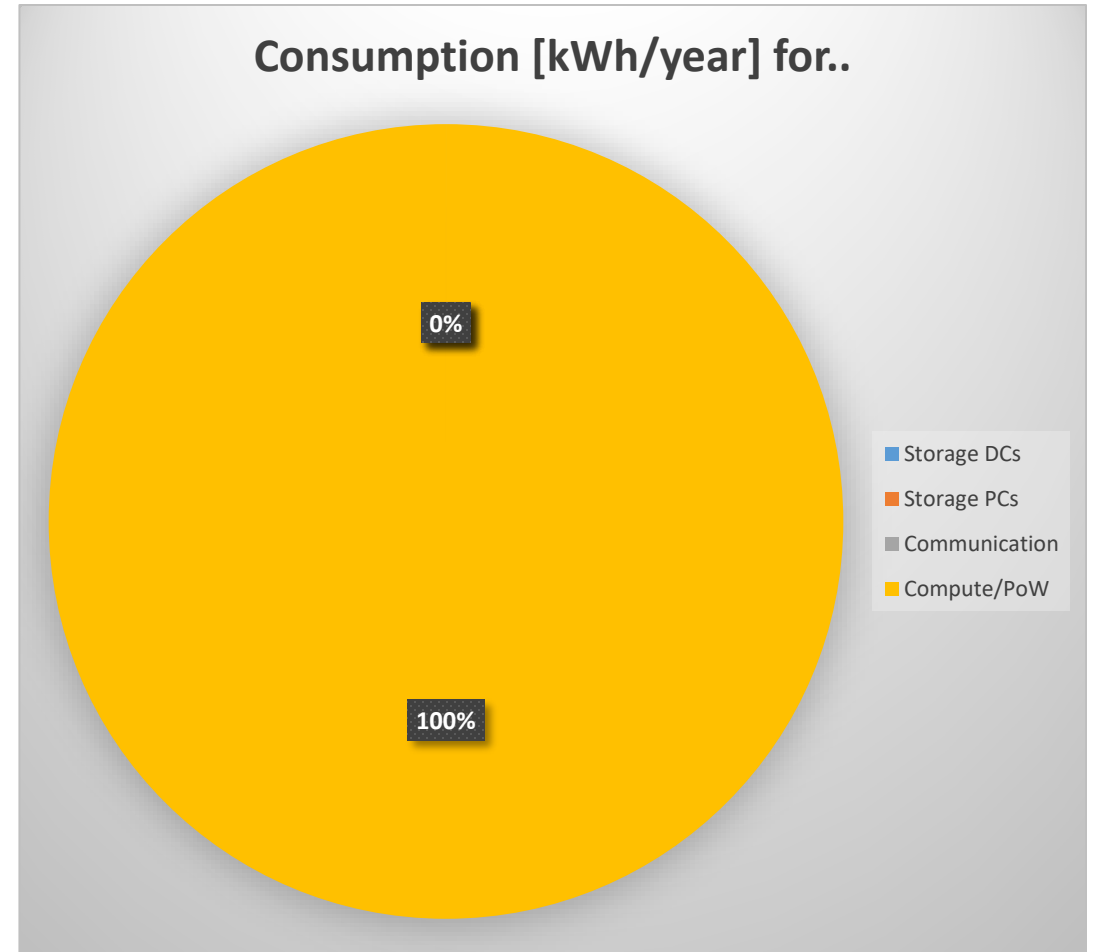
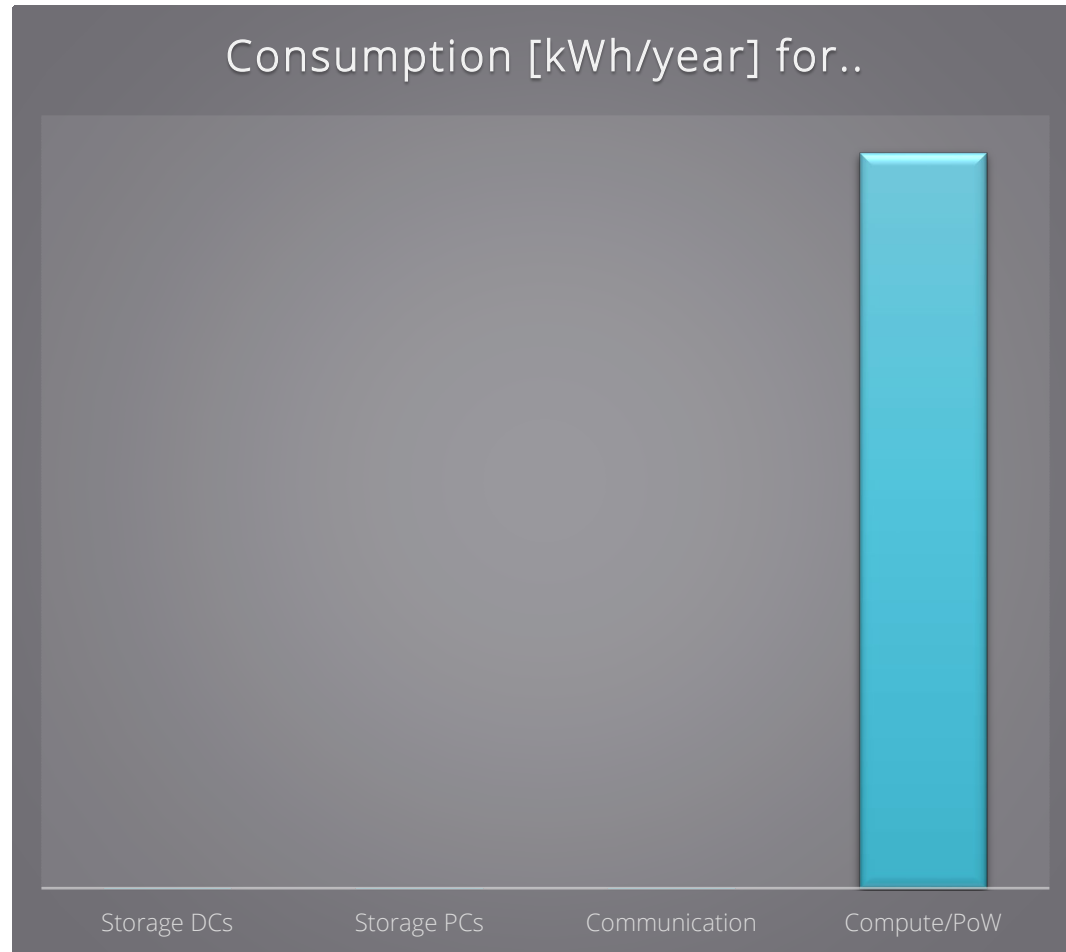
# Part 3: Getting to Grips with the Consumption

Natural limiting mechanisms?  
Governmental and private policies  
Weighting against benefits

# Individual consumption for Blockchain components



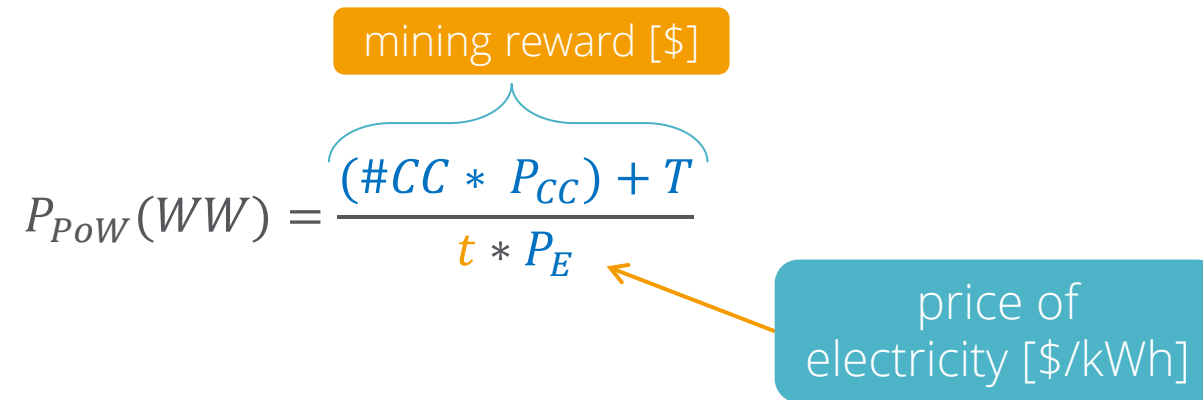
How does this appear on linear (non-logarithmic) scales?



# Mechanisms limiting the energy consumption of PoW?

$$P_{PoW}(WW) = \frac{\overbrace{(\#CC * P_{CC}) + T}^{\text{mining reward } [\$]}}{t * P_E}$$

price of electricity [\$/kWh]



- Value entirely determined by
  - rewards **value** (mined coins and transaction fees) & **price** of electricity
- No economic counteracting mechanism
  - except, perhaps, indirectly (and very slowly) over an increasing electricity price
- No technological mechanisms either: Entirely independent of mining hardware efficiency
  - in the short run, more efficient HW represents competitive advantage, can pull total down from worst-case
  - in the long run, everyone switches to the more efficient HW, pushing total again towards worst-case
  - typical **rebound effect** (unfortunately, not the topic here, but essential concept in the context of digital efficiency)

# Alternative consensus mechanisms

- Several alternative consensus mechanisms, chief among them “Proof-of-Stake” (PoS)
  - getting rid of the concept of miners entirely
  - owing blockchain’s native cryptocurrency enables one to be **validator**
- Validators for each block randomly chosen
  - likelihood to be chosen proportional to stake
  - return on investment 2 – 18% of stake/year
  - Sybil attack would require >50% of stake
- Some cryptocurrencies already deploy PoS
  - e.g., EOS, Tezos, TRON
  - Ethereum is changing towards it (Eth. 2.0)

Platform	Global (kW)		Per transaction (kW h/tx)	
<b>Eth. 2.0<sup>↑</sup></b>	1010.6	30 887.5	0.000 09	0.002 86
<b>Eth. 2.0<sup>↓</sup></b>	1010.6	30 887.5	0.018 23	0.557 13
<b>Algorand</b>	6.2	189.3	0.000 17	0.005 34
<b>Cardano</b>	16.3	497.2	0.012 39	0.378 54
<b>Polkadot</b>	1.6	49.9	0.003 78	0.115 56
<b>Tezos</b>	2.2	67.1	0.000 36	0.010 96
<b>Hedera</b>	3.5	6.9	0.000 02	0.000 04
<b>Bitcoin</b>	3 373 287.7	34 817 351.6	360.393 00	3691.407 00
<b>VisaNet</b>		22 387.1		0.003 58

↑ High throughput projection

↓ Low throughput projection

consensus mechanism needs a factor of 1000-3000 less energy, once PoS implemented (for similarly-sized blockchains)

# The most efficient policy interventions are those discouraging/banning PoW-based blockchains

Not only public policies, btw; companies have power (and thus responsibility) as well



## Europe rejects proposal limiting PoW cryptos such as Bitcoin but sets draft rules for sustainability

By Pascale Davies · 14/03/2022

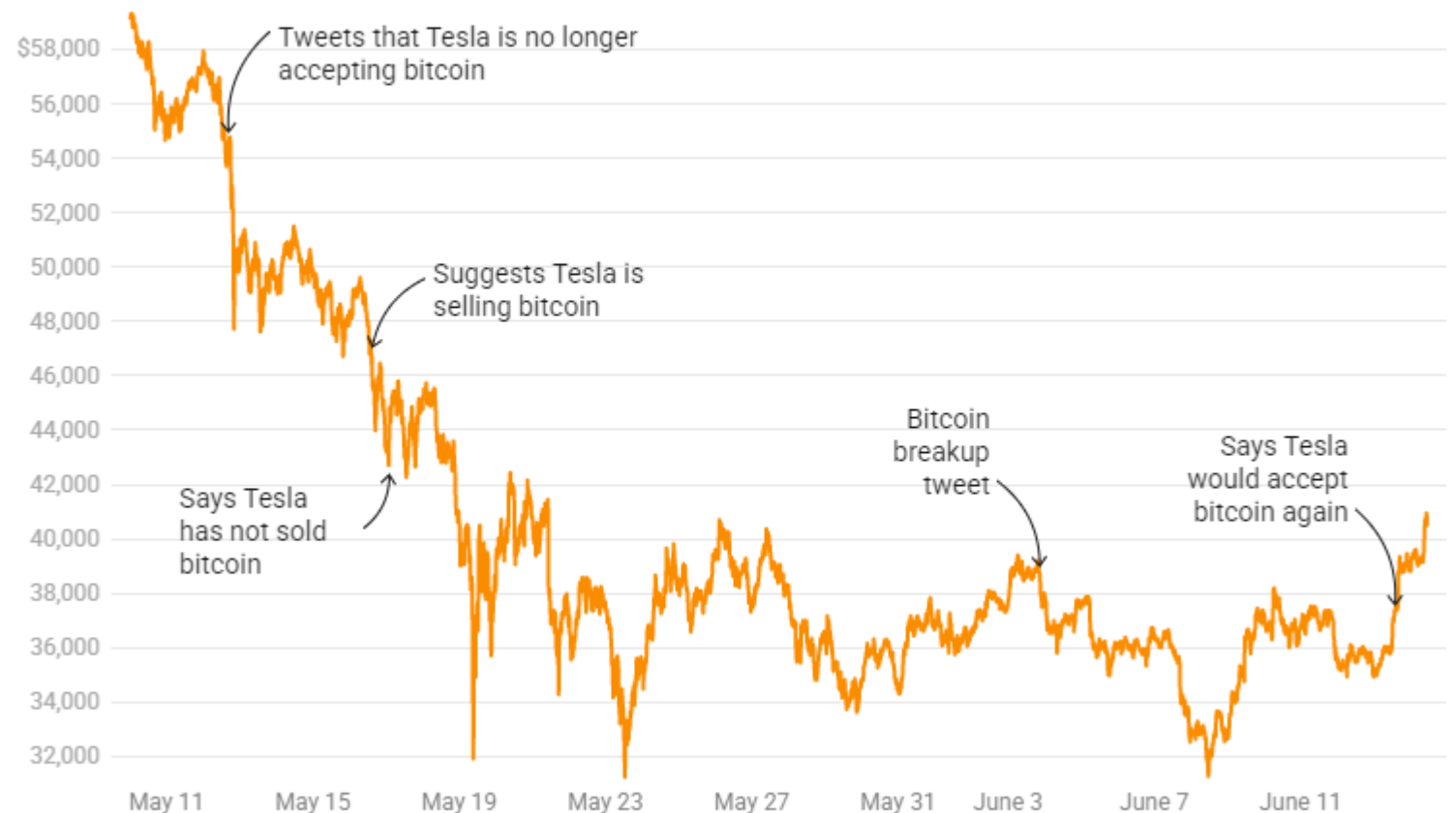


Several EU parliamentarians have been pushing to ban PoW cryptos over energy concerns - Copyright CANVA

The European Union has rejected a proposed rule that could have banned the cryptocurrency Bitcoin across the bloc but set new draft rules to protect consumers and make mining more sustainable.

Source: Euronews

## How Elon Musk's tweets have moved bitcoin prices



Source: <https://www.vox.com/recode/2021/5/18/22441831/elon-musk-bitcoin-dogecoin-crypto-prices-tesla>

# Blockchain benefits – investment & inflation hedging

## Cryptocurrency: Hedge against inflation



Image source: Reuters, <https://www.reuters.com/article/uk-crypto-currencies-graphic-idUSKBN27Z2IG>

## NFTs on digital & physical assets

≡ Neue Zürcher Zeitung

### Schweizer Bank digitalisiert Meisterwerk: Ein Stück Picasso ins Portfolio legen

Die Sygnum Bank ermöglicht den fraktionalen Kauf eines Gemäldes des spanischen Meisters. Damit eröffnet das Schweizer Institut einen ungewöhnlichen Zugang zu einer neuen Anlageklasse.

Werner Grundlehner  
15.07.2021, 09.41 Uhr

“Swiss bank digitalises masterpiece – put a piece of Picasso in your portfolio.”



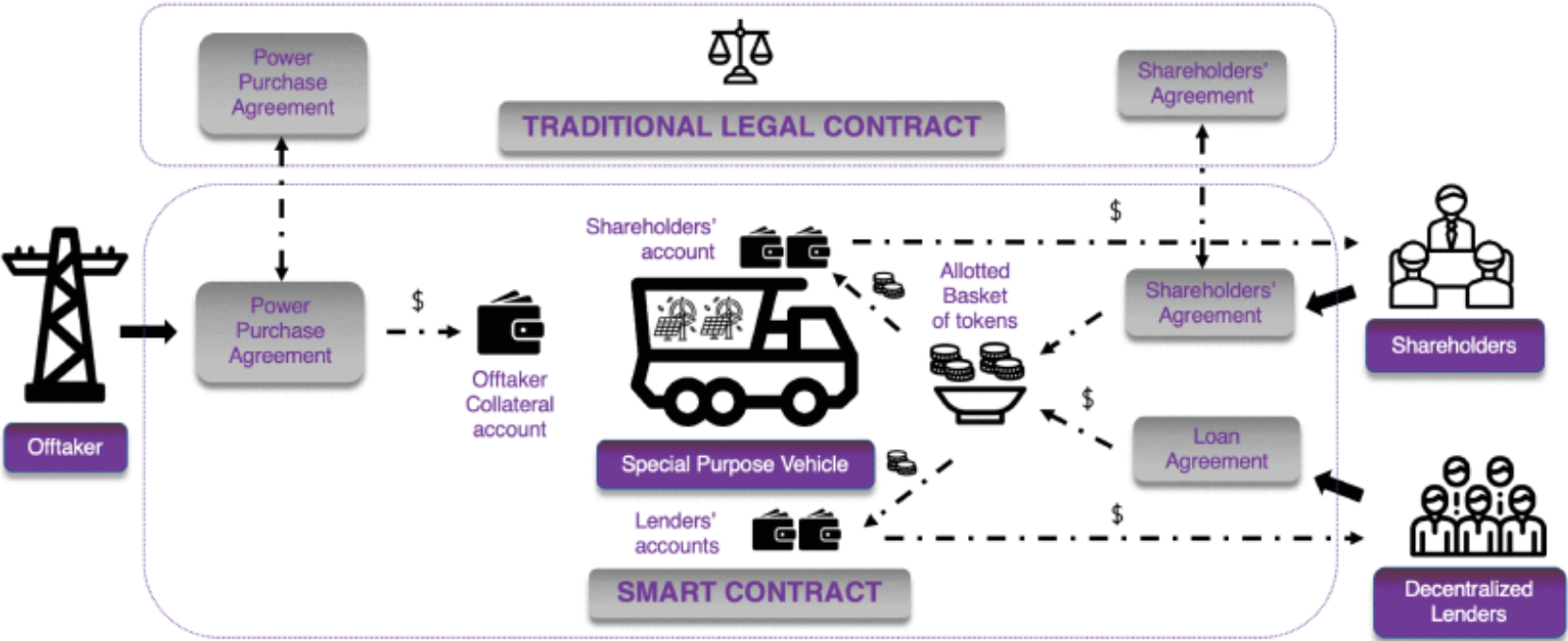
Source: <https://www.nzz.ch/finanzen/etwas-picasso-ins-portfolio-legen-ld.1635718>



# Blockchain benefits: Smart contracts & DeFi for development

## Towards a Blockchain Special Purpose Vehicle for Financing Independent Renewable Electricity Projects in Sub-Saharan Africa

Olakunle Alao, *Member, IEEE* and Paul Cuffe, *Member, IEEE*



# Q&A



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Federal Department of the Environment, Transport,  
Energy and Communications DETEC

**Swiss Federal Office of Energy SFOE**  
Energy Research and Cleantech Division

**Final report dated 27 September 2021**

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## **Blockchain energy consumption**

### **An exploratory study**

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Full study: <https://www.aramis.admin.ch/Default?DocumentID=68053>