

Of bovines, blockchain, 'smart contracts' and Ghenghis Khan

**June 2017** 



### What the fork?

#### Most presentations on blockchain will attempt to explain:

- The Byzantine general's problem
- ➤ Hashing and SHA-256
- Merkle Tree
- Private and public key encryption and decryption
- Proof of Work consensus mechanism
- Nonce
- Bitcoin mining
- Seigniorage
- Halving
- > Sybil attack
- Forking



Do you know the thermodynamic principles by which an internal combustion engine works?



# Does this stop you from driving a car?



# Do you know the routing protocols for IPv6?



# Does this stop you from shopping on the Internet?



## Do you know how distributed ledger technology works?



### Do you really need to?



### There are four cornerstone features

Authenticity through cryptography



Consortium shared database





Distributed trust model



A digital ledger



### A distributed trust protocol works for knowledge transfer, not just currency

Confirm ownership of [knowledge] assets by any party to a transfer

Prevent anyone trying to perform the same transfer more than once

Ensure no one can tamper or modify the record of the transfer once validated

Be architected in a similar fashion to the Internet, with no single point of failure

Provide permanent availability of the transfer network across all borders

Validate transfers, agreed by all parties using a **consensus mechanism** 

Confirm the value of the [knowledge] transfer is legitimate

Timestamp, encrypt and protect all records of every transfer

Maintain privacy of counterparties to any transfer

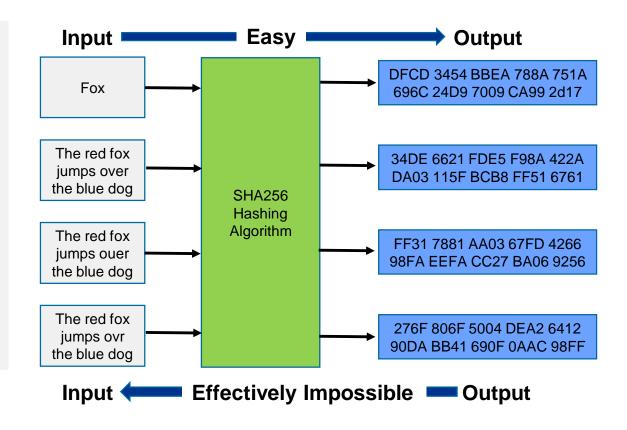
## Transparently share the results and history of transfers with appropriate parties Prevent anyone later denying that they were a party to a transfer (either side)

The blockchain



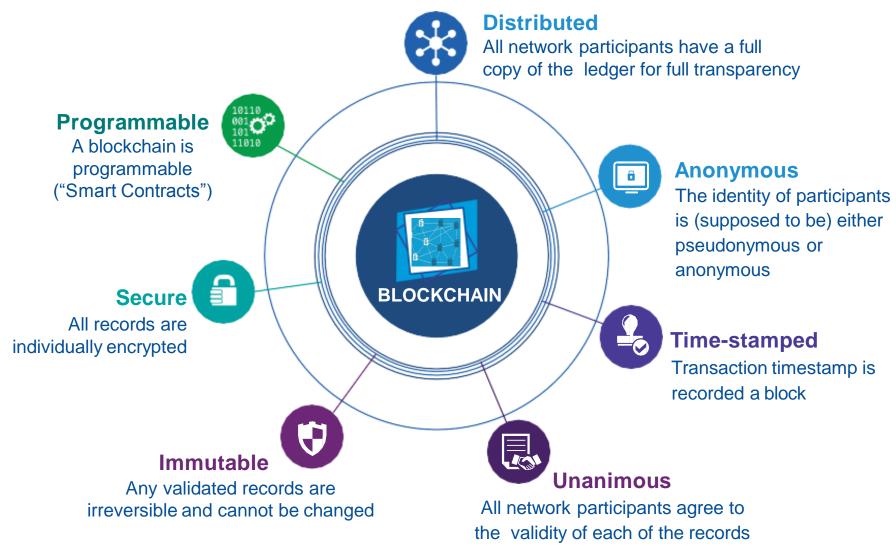
### Let's take a moment to understand 'hashing'

- The foundation of blockchain is hashing and encryption
- Hashing is a long-established and well-proven computing technique
- Hashing is a one-way process, creating fixed length hexadecimal data from source information
- The original information cannot be discerned or recreated from the hash data





### There is much good news amidst this jargon





### It's the '90s again ... an explosion of solutions

Since 2008, blockchain technology was created to enable cryptocurrency transactions with Bitcoin, and has been gaining momentum with R&D activities and applications across industries.

#### **Permissioned Permissionless** Traditional Centralized **Permissioned Private Permissioned Public Permissionless Public Database Ledgers** Ledgers Ledgers Ledgers · Consensus by PBFT or · Consensus by Proof of · Consensus by Proof of Work, Proof of Stake, or manual reconciliation other mechanism Work · Decentralised, only · Distributed, anyone can Voting Pools or other read and write the Record is not immutable permissioned entities mechanism Must be reconciled with may read and write the Decentralised, only ledger, as long they meet permissioned entities certain criteria and follow other ledgers to settle ledger may write the ledger, but certain rules anyone may view the ledgers contents ORACLE ripple stellar **Digital Asset** Holdings Axoni SOL Server

#### **High throughput**



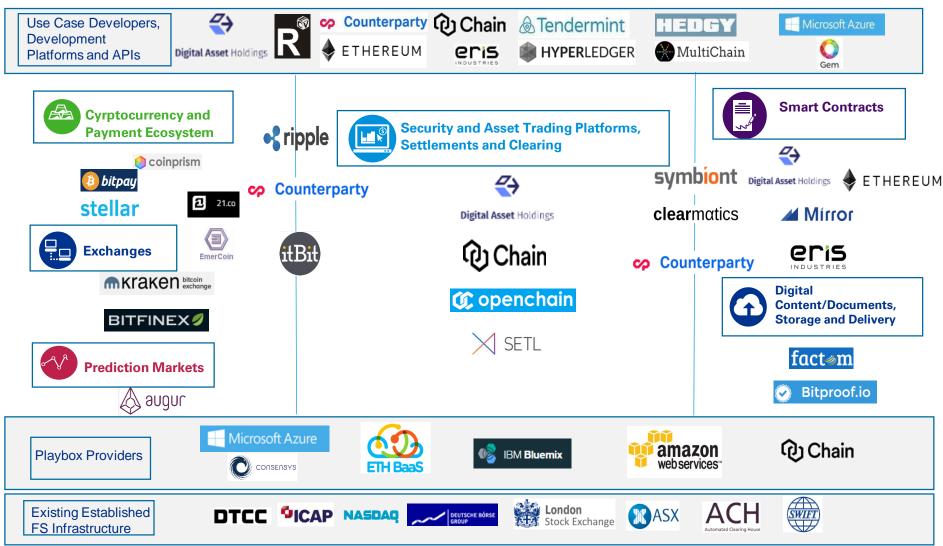
**Decentralised** 





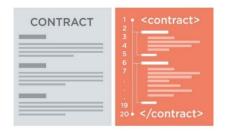
Low throughput

### The blockchain / DLT ecosystem is crowded

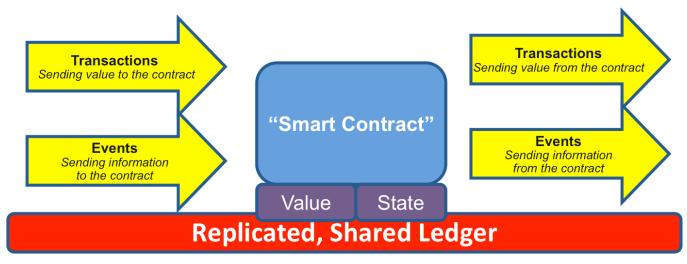




### What exactly is a 'smart contract'?



- Smart contracts are self-executing protocols that work with a blockchain to enforce performance of a contract with certainty and resilience
  - Neither a paper nor digital document on a server, but a computer program
  - Executed by the entire blockchain network
  - Can easily contain the same level of detail as a physical contract
- Triggered by an event, the code in the blockchain automatically executes the fulfillment of a previously agreed arrangement
  - Negotiate prices and monitor inventory levels
  - Enact renewal or termination clauses
- > Replace expensive, manual effort with automation





### Digital ledgers revolutionise supply chains

Digital ledgers have huge potential in supply chains – for provenance of goods, proving the integrity of items and enabling a full chain-of-custody type solution. Is this handbag a real Louis Vuitton of not?



Confirmed. According to LVMH supply chain blockchain, this bag is in the right place at the right time.

Disproved. According to LVMH supply chain blockchain, this bag has to be a fraud. It is not where it should be right now.



### Smart contracts can come in many forms ...

#### Smart contracts - simple to complex

Digital value exchange



A family member sends some bitcoin to another family member

Use case examples

Smart right and obligation



Consumer buys a digital content stream

Basic smart contract



Landlord remotely locks nonpaying tenant out of apartment

Multiparty smart contract



Seller lends buyer funds to buy a house Distributed autonomous business unit



t of a coration issues wm bonds, and ers monitor ments via a red ledger Distributed autonomous organization



Self-driving trucks make P2P deliveries, pay local toll road fees, and buy local electricity Distributed autonomous government



Settlers of a previously uninhabited area code their own self-enforcing government services Distributed autonomous society



Groups of settlers from different areas establish selfenforcing trade agreements

Complex

#### Simple

#### ... and if we can deliver on 'distributed trust', there might be far less need for

- Escrow
- Underwriters
- Notaries
- Clearance systems

- Intermediaries
- Brokers
- Exchanges
- Arbitrators

- Regulators?
- Bankers?
- Accountants?
- Auditors?



### Reality in summary

- New technologies with dramatic impacts across many industries
- Many blockchains, not just 'The' public blockchain underpinning Bitcoin
- Many potential uses for different types of blockchains
- There is enough traction now to sustain growth
- New developments are more suitable for enterprises and regulated sectors
  - o Distributed Ledger Technologies (DLTs) or Blockchain 2.0 will gain more traction
  - Some of these can form the backbone of emerging 'Smart Contract' solutions
- There are multiple use cases for DLTs as well
- It is still very early days, but the potential disruptive impact is significant enough to warrant assessment, experimentation and implementation by firms today
- In all this, the role of governments, not just regulators, has yet to be standardised
  - This role could spell success or failure in a given jurisdiction

#### But being human still means something ...



### ... and to detest traffic is entirely human





KPMG

## Thank you