

# THE BITCOIN TRANSACTION NETWORK

# BITCOIN IN A NUTSHELL

# HISTORY

- Invented by Satoshi Nakamoto (person or group of person), started in 2009
- The protocol is still evolving, the official *bitcoin core* is a GitHub repository, controlled by 5-10 individuals, on which anyone can propose contributions
  - Objectives: More efficient, faster, more secure, more anonymous,...

<https://github.com/bitcoin/bitcoin>

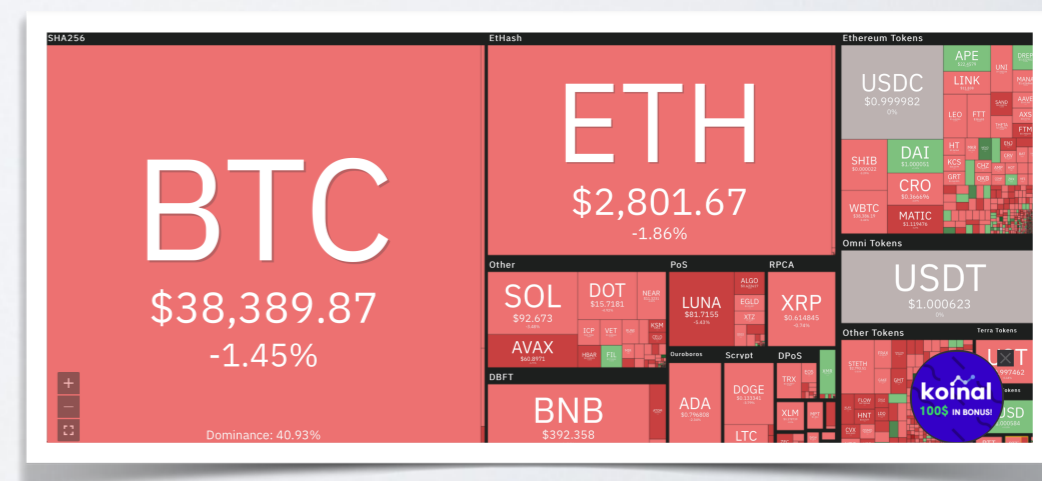
# WHAT IS IT?

- A cryptocurrency
- A decentralized digital currency
  - No central authority (no central bank or state issue or guarantee the currency)
  - Cryptographic methods guarantee that no-one is cheating:
    - Issuing their own coins
    - Stealing coins
    - Etc.



<https://coin360.com> (November 2022)

April 2022





# Is this the end of crypto?

The collapse of FTX has dealt a catastrophic blow to crypto's reputation and aspirations



Nov 17th 2022

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15,875.32 EUR

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-35,318.26 (68.99%) ↓ past year

Nov 23, 14:47 UTC · [Disclaimer](#)

1D | 5D | 1M | 6M | YTD | 1Y | 5Y | Max



15,875.32 EUR

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Market Summary > Meta Platforms Inc

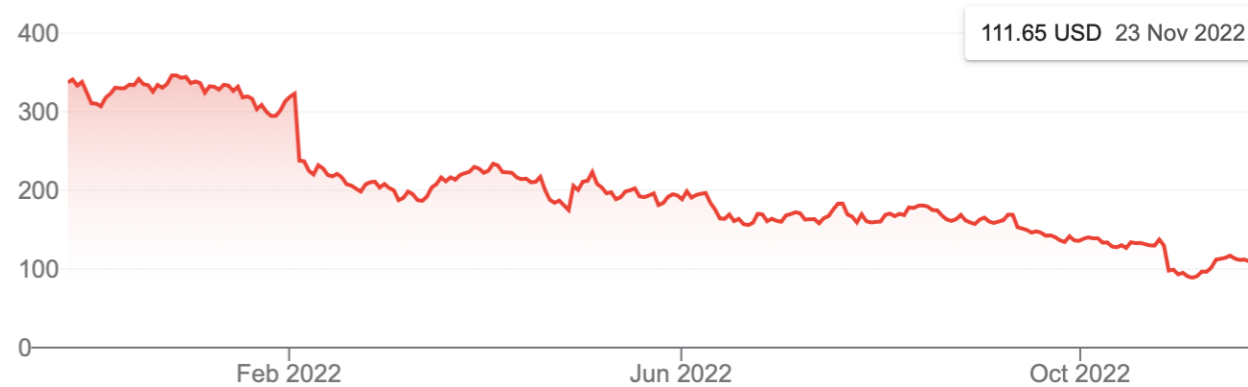
111.84 USD

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-225.59 (-66.89%) ↓ past year

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1D | 5D | 1M | 6M | YTD | 1Y | 5Y | Max



### Amazon

176.76 USD

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-192.99 (-52.20%) ↓ past year

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1D | 5D | 1M | 6M | YTD | 1Y | 5Y | Max



### Netflix

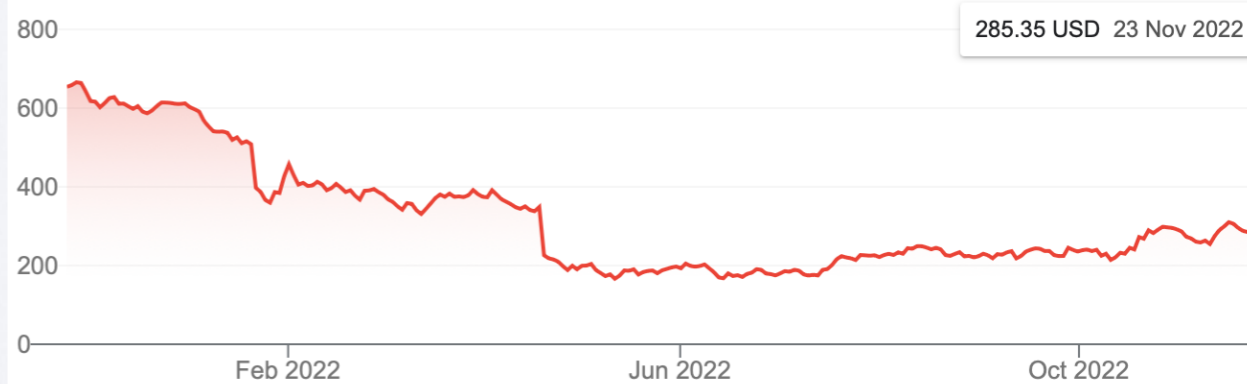
285.35 USD

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-368.71 (-56.37%) ↓ past year

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1D | 5D | 1M | 6M | YTD | 1Y | 5Y | Max





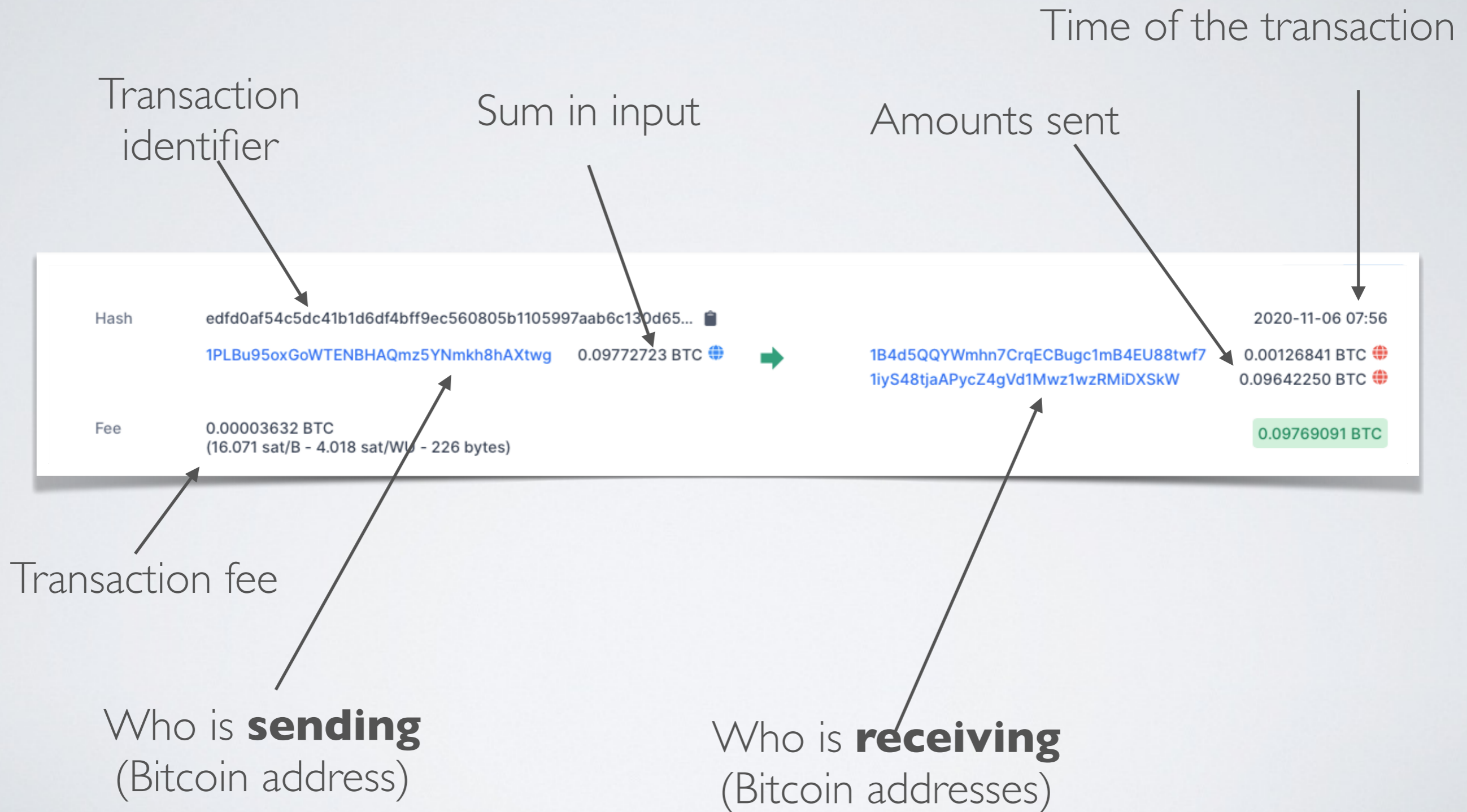
# SOME NUMBERS (2022)

- Bitcoins in existence(market cap) > \$300 Billions
  - > Samsung, intel, mastercard, visa, LVMH
- Transactions per day > 300,000 (+L2, lightning etc.)
  - VISA: 150 million.
- Median transaction fee = \$0,7
- Total value sent per day(without change) > \$5 Billion
- Trading volume per day > Between \$0.5 - 5 Billion
- Median transaction value = \$600

# DIGITAL LEDGER

- Bitcoin is based on a **blockchain**
  - ▶ Every transaction is stored in a *sequential database* (chain), a digital ledger.
    - Each new transaction is added at the end of the chain (in blocks)
    - Anyone can read everything in this chain
    - No-one can modify the older blocks in the chain
    - Adding a new element to the chain requires to solve a cryptographic problem

# TYPICAL RECORD



# TRADING VS BLOCKCHAIN

- False intuition : transactions in the blockchain mainly correspond to trading activities
- Changing BTC $\leftrightarrow$ \$/€  $\Rightarrow$  Exchange platforms
  - Nothing written in the Blockchain
- Volumes exchanged
  - Blockchain (day) > \$5 Billions
  - Estimated trading : About \$0.5 - 5 Billions



# BITCOIN ANONYMITY

- Anyone can see all transactions=>We can study in details aggregated statistics
  - Evolution of numbers, amount of transactions, fees, etc.
- So can we track user's activity?
  - Pseudonymity=>no way to link **bitcoin address** to **identity**
  - Users can create multiple addresses easily
  - Multiple addresses of a same person can sometimes be associated
  - In practice:
    - Large actors (companies, ...) are not anonymous
    - Individual users can hide what they are doing

# BITCOIN MARKETS

- Bitcoin value in \$ is fixed based on exchange markets
  - Trading, much as any other currency
  - Trade operations are usually not written in the blockchain, the bank virtually exchange between counts of its customers
- Transaction fees are decided based on another market
  - **Miners** use computation power to solve cryptographic problems to include transactions in the blockchain
    - They are paid by 1) newly created coins 2) transaction fee
  - Anyone is free to propose any transaction fee
    - Miners choose in priority transactions with higher fees

# ARE CRYPTO GOOD OR BAD?

- ▶ Libertarian ideal ? Or simply more freedom ?
- ▶ Money laundering, illegal activities ?
- ▶ Escape authoritarian states ?
  
- ▶ Unbridled speculation ?
- ▶ Get free from \$/Wester imperialism ? (El Salvador, Central African Republic..., embargos Cuba/Iran, SWIFT...)
- ▶ Facilitate international money transfer ? (Wester Union...)
- ▶ International currency ? (Fragile national economies...)
- ▶ Avoid neoliberal “governance” ? (Sustaining “economic growth”, control of inflation, money creation on stock markets...)

# CRYPTOCURRENCY OR CRYPTO-ASSET ?

- What is a currency ?
  - A priori definition: created by Central Bank, guaranteed by state, monetary policy... => Boring no
  - Definition based on functions:
    - 1) Medium of exchange, 2) unit of account, 3) Store of value => ?
- But how to evaluate ?
  - What fraction of actual exchange ?
  - What fraction of trading ?



# BITCOIN MARKETS

- What are bitcoin transactions?
  - ▶ Mining
  - ▶ Exchange between users?
  - ▶ Users buying services/products?
  - ▶ Trading?
    - No, not directly. Trading is done on exchange platforms and mostly handled internally
  - ▶ Gambling?
  - ▶ Exchange between “banks”, i.e., wallet managers?
  - ▶ Money laundering?
  - ▶ L2 transactions ? (Tether, Lightning, NFT, etc.)
- Detail is not known(yet)

# ROLE PLAYED BY EXCHANGE PLATFORMS

- Exchange behave as (centralized) banks
  - Exchange \$/€=>BTC
  - Gestion of “public accounts”
    - Transfer from/to accounts, internals and externals
    - => Payments
- 3 levels of usage of Bitcoin
  - Manual hand-made transactions (full control)
  - Using a Wallet application (trusting the wallet)
  - Account in an Exchange/centralized walled (full trust, centralized)
- Natural evolution of usage ?
  - Fear of errors, theft, loss (of secret codes...), insurance, ... ?

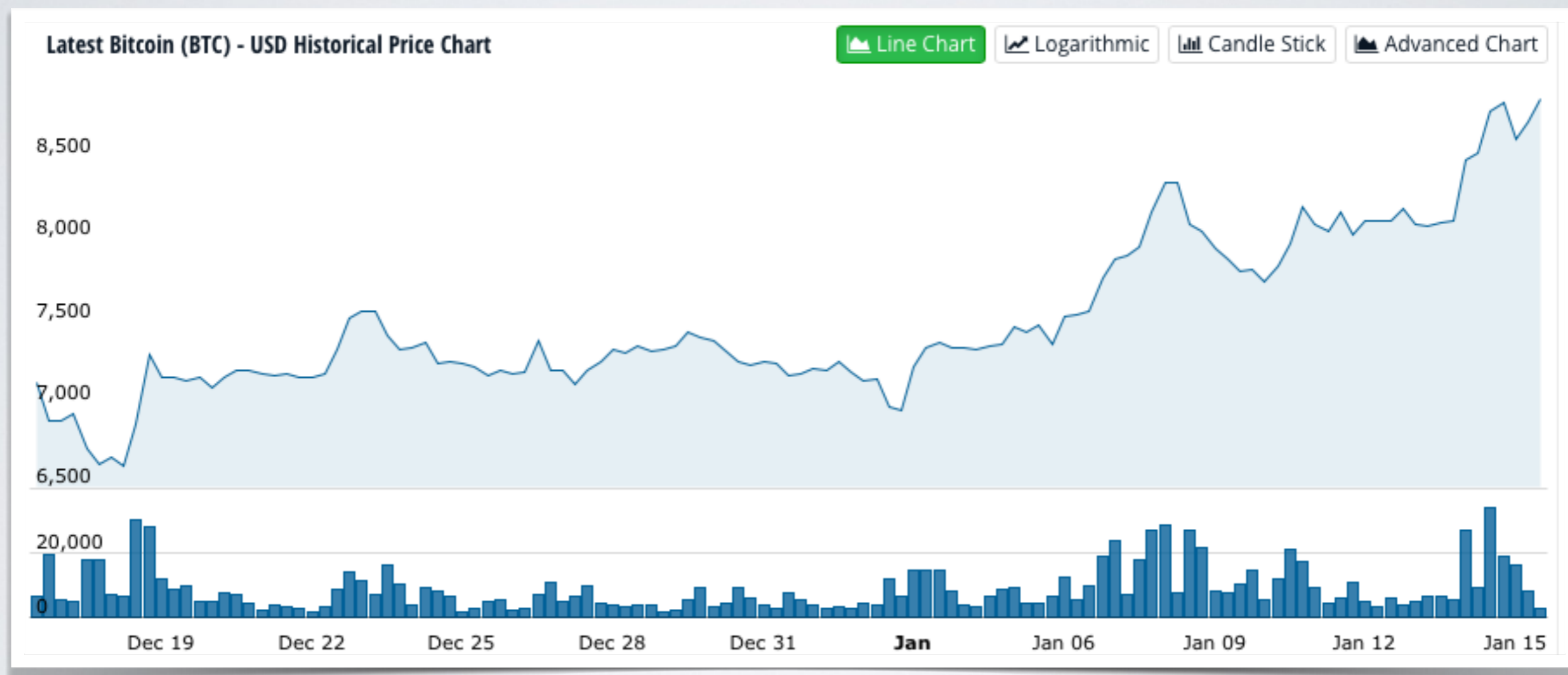
# BITCOIN TRANSACTION NETWORK ANALYSIS

# BITCOIN

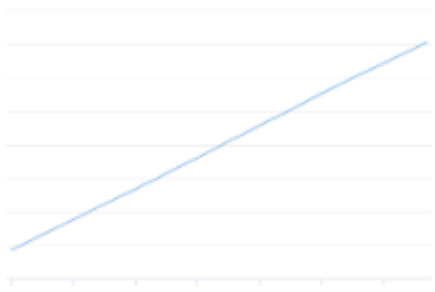
- In this class, we are **not** interested in:
  - Cryptographic aspects
  - How the blockchain works
  - Governance of cryptocurrencies
  - Smart contracts
  - ICO
- What we are interested in:
  - Observing and understanding what is happening at the micro-level in one cryptocurrency (for this class, the largest one, Bitcoin) => **Look under the hood !**
  - How what is happening at the micro-level can be connected to what we observe at the macro-level (crisis, price fluctuation, macro-indicators...)



# BITCOIN - MACRO LEVEL



### Bitcoins in circulation



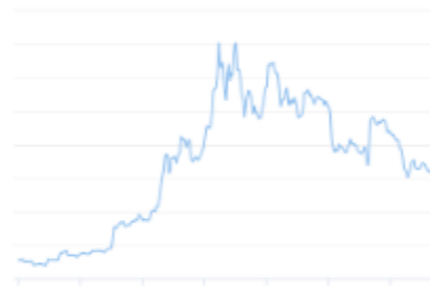
The total number of bitcoins that have already been mined.

### Market Price (USD)



Average USD market price across major bitcoin exchanges.

### Market Capitalization



The total USD value of bitcoin supply in circulation.

### USD Exchange Trade Volume



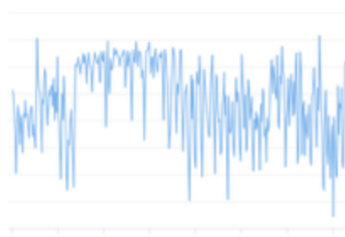
The total USD value of trading volume on major bitcoin exchanges.

### Blockchain Size



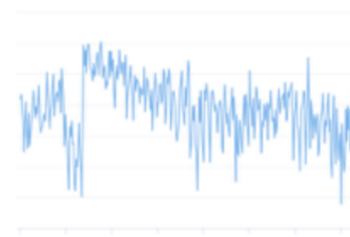
The total size of all block headers and transactions.

### Average Block Size



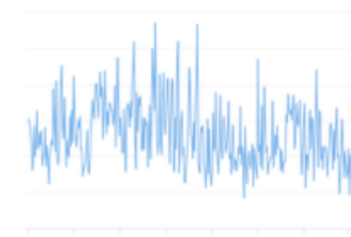
The average block size in MB.

### Transactions per Block



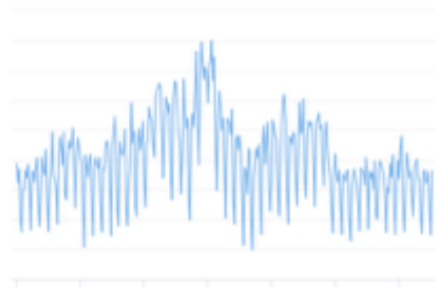
The average number of transactions per block.

### Median Transaction Confirmation Time (with fee)



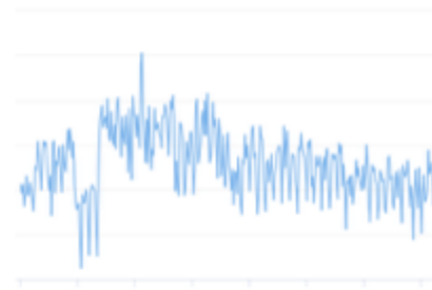
The median time for a transaction to be accepted into a mined block.

### Unique Addresses



The total number of unique addresses used on the Bitcoin blockchain.

### Total Number of Transactions Per Day



The number of daily confirmed Bitcoin transactions.

### Total Number of Transactions



Total number of transactions.

### Transactions Rate



The number of Bitcoin transactions added to the mempool per second.

# BITCOIN - MACRO LEVEL

- This type of aggregated data is mostly identical to data you are used to in finance/economy
- Can be studied with time series analysis (ARIMA, ...)
- What is unique about Bitcoin:
  - We have all data about all transactions done using a given currency
  - We can use this information in relation with macro-level statistics
  - We can use it for new types of analysis

# BITCOIN - DATA

- The data we use: Content of the bitcoin blockchain
  - Seen as a simple list of transactions

Transaction	From	To	Value
t0	@1	@2	5
t1	@1	@3	2
...	...	...	...

- Bitcoin transactions are a little bit more complicated than that



# BITCOIN - DATA

- You can explore it using tools such as a blockchain explorer
  - E.g.: <https://www.blockchain.com/explorer>

Transactions				
	1 2 3 4 5 Next +10			
Hash	4f8d922cb55ef80bd272ea0caa816d220789cbcc8d8435415a6f7f5...		2020-01-16 10:56	
	COINBASE (Newly Generated Coins)	➔ 1KFHE7w8BhaENAswwryaoccDb6qcT6DbYY	12.57483993 BTC	
		OP_RETURN	0.00000000 BTC	
		OP_RETURN	0.00000000 BTC	
		OP_RETURN	0.00000000 BTC	
Fee	0.00000000 BTC (0.000 sat/B - 0.000 sat/WU - 377 bytes)		12.57483993 BTC	
			1 Confirmations	
Hash	7f1b409d20899c72698ae94e21541828256c7b5109f2ff6b4982316...		2020-01-16 10:55	
	1FLEdjadaP9Zih2Vu4fbkY5SbyNcfu85n2	0.00029891 BTC	➔ 16S7Dfb7oD9Cy3RNFkqKSQMMNjxYdhcqQ7	0.00895513 BTC
	1NDWrpHZouTFnB8uoRzEtXpHLZ6SLb2WQ	0.00450559 BTC	➔ 3JoNoM1NxbvYCvsbZW8jib2K5F4cpdAwWr	0.01408432 BTC
	199RNd2JH9snPJFYoyuy9MiAZcu36ftjB	0.01928015 BTC		
Fee	0.00104520 BTC (201.776 sat/B - 50.444 sat/WU - 518 bytes)		0.02303945 BTC	
			1 Confirmations	
Hash	e04d42b758f43c93c09adcf08250e00d9c646118c2be167854c13d...		2020-01-16 10:56	
	34UExmBatmg8HccyFn1Zi93XpkwLAeyNtb	0.00369290 BTC	➔ 346jtLokRPBUwaQPM1TZkC8kxyrc1iuavi	4.79133982 BTC
	3MGTiY83SatUbxDexxi3yDziCg6eH7Zd1v	0.01280760 BTC		
	3LTjJ7n5sf8vhLqVDFKLNyo486dmsRjo4N	0.00257434 BTC		
	3MRbeCXA1ZTA73NGZSjhiS9bTB2if42Qux	0.02100000 BTC		
	3F5HeK5iNNNHAQqVfo2CKGy53xomaUocN9	0.00245706 BTC		
	3PvLyDHFkuiPgTD6QjAD98p61FQqkDpUHP	0.00200000 BTC		
	3JFxmAqzCkCnSwJdXootcDywpBUHBUyVzi	0.04191421 BTC		
	3HzE43w3gb5sx1VQKKJtmVCyzRKtRbaMf	0.00239492 BTC		
	3Lou9V7CqvGvAk9B6qVfV9VNMEMB7myPfi	0.00200000 BTC		
	3EN1io5CbKdKRDDod3YJGwoaiFD4dbZXmq	0.06100000 BTC		
	Load more inputs... (63 remaining)			
Fee	0.01069765 BTC (85.404 sat/B - 40.114 sat/WU - 12526 bytes)		4.79133982 BTC	
			1 Confirmations	

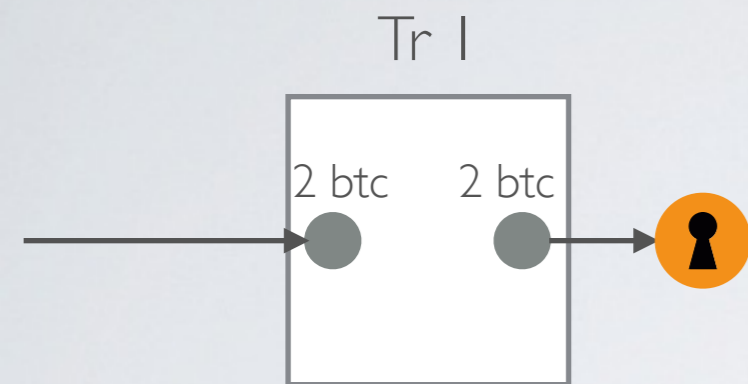
# UNDERSTANDING BITCOIN TRANSACTIONS

- Transactions are between  $m$  “inputs” and  $n$  “outputs”
- Each *input* (resp. *output*) is a pair (value, bitcoin address)
- *inputs* are necessarily *outputs* of previous transactions
  - Unlocked by the private key of the payer

# UNDERSTANDING BITCOIN TRANSACTIONS

- A user possess one (or several) **private keys**
- A user has a **public key** (bitcoin addresses) corresponding to each of these private keys
  - Instantaneously
  - At no cost
  - As often as wanted
- Public key  $\approx$  lock that can be opened only by an associated private key

# ILLUSTRATION



Public keys of user U1 :

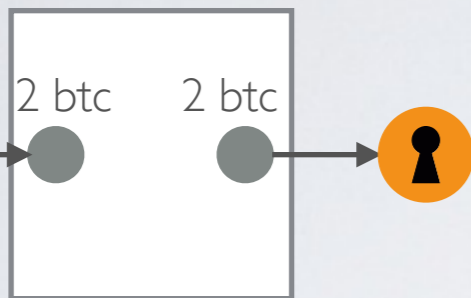


I BusVkYQvbbGbSDZNo5DfhrFeQdgKIYIVY

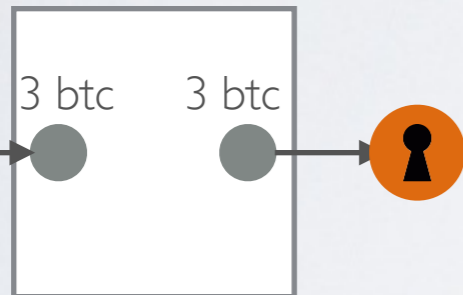


# ILLUSTRATION

Tr 1



Tr 2



Public keys of user U1 :

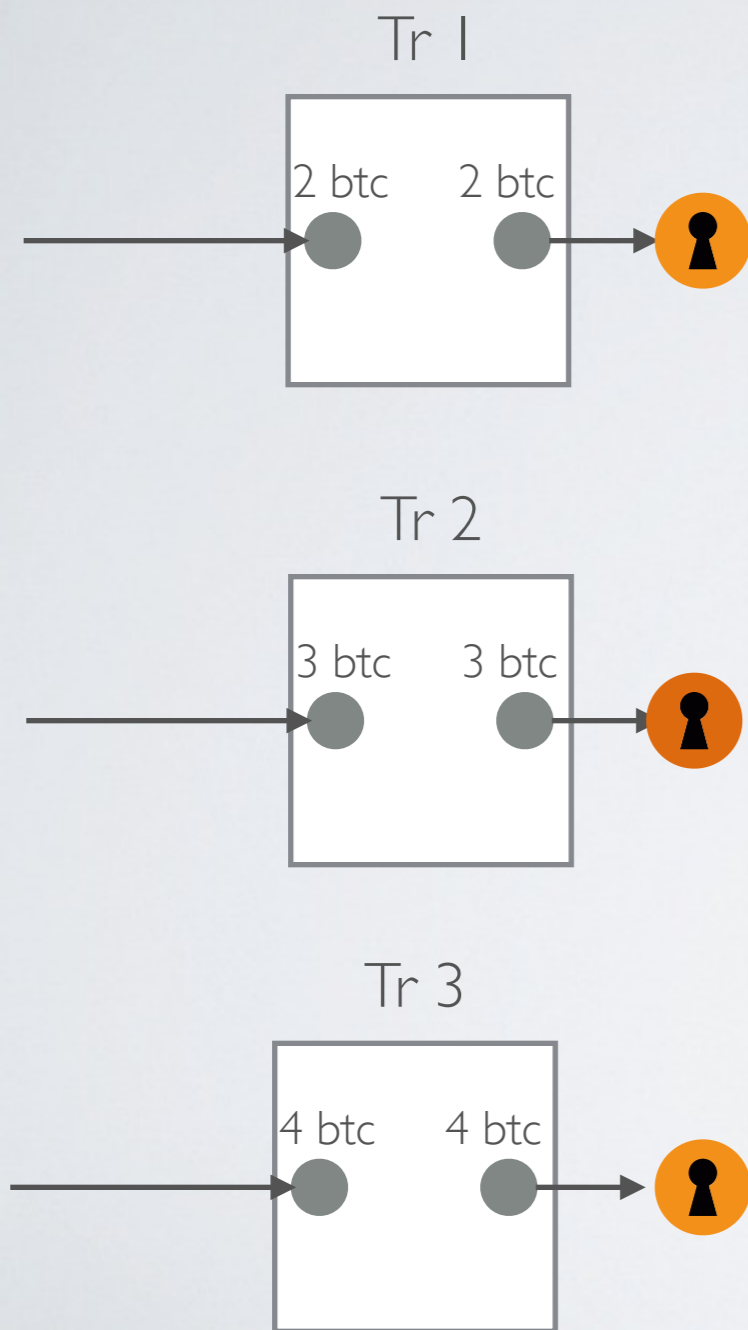


I BusVkYQvbbGbSDZNo5DfhrFeQdgKIYIVY



I QFdbGkhiCDFF45mBHgzWUdiqv55NJbd4u

# ILLUSTRATION



Public keys of user U1 :



I BusVkYQvbbGbSDZNo5DfhrFeQdgKIYIVY



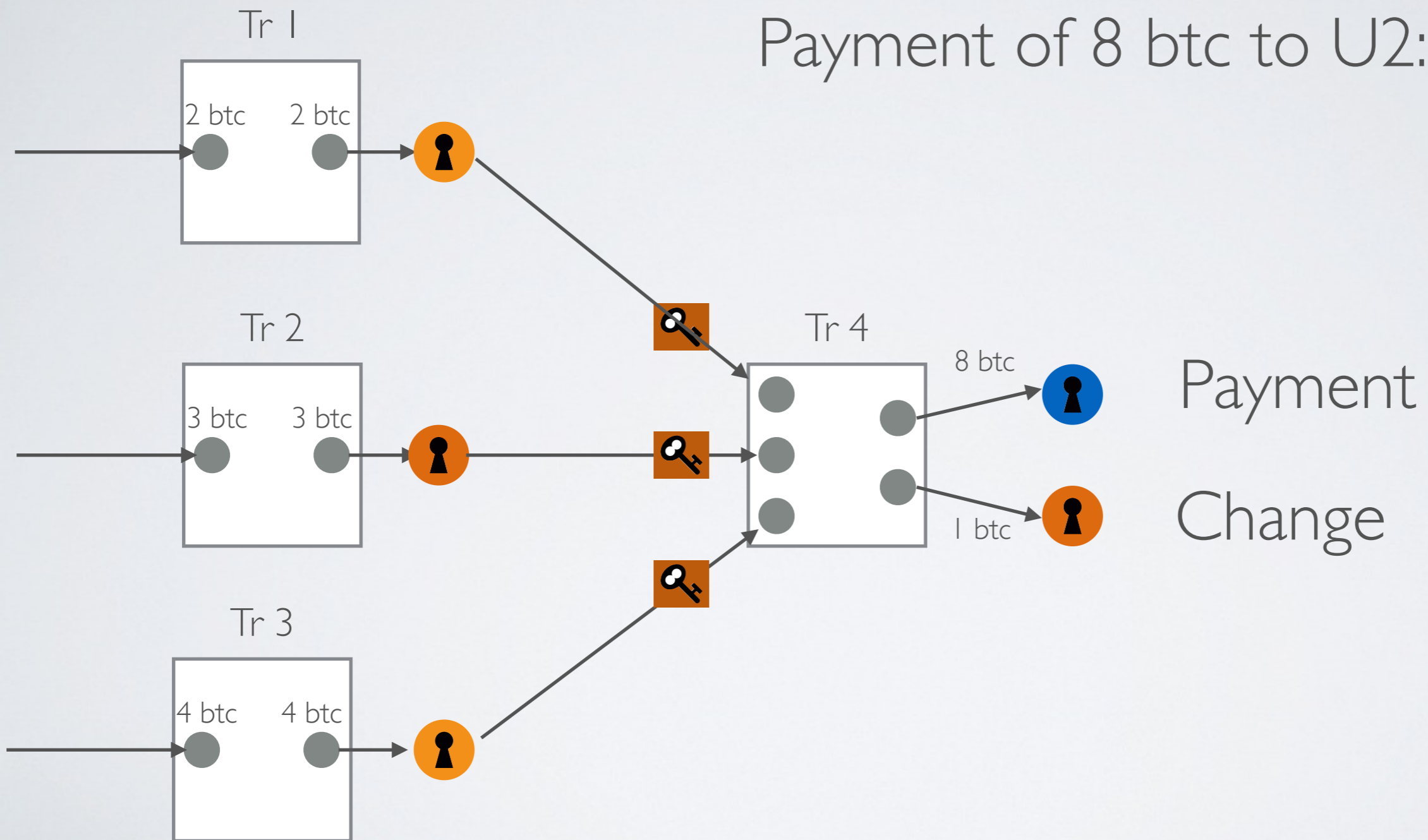
I QFdbGkhiCDFF45mBHgzWUdiqv55NJbd4u

**“Wallet” of U1:**

- 9 btc
- Divided in 3 “output”
- Locked by 2 different public keys

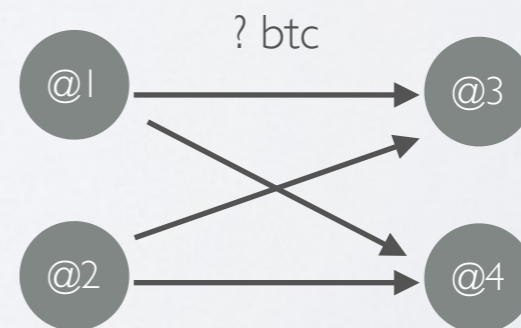
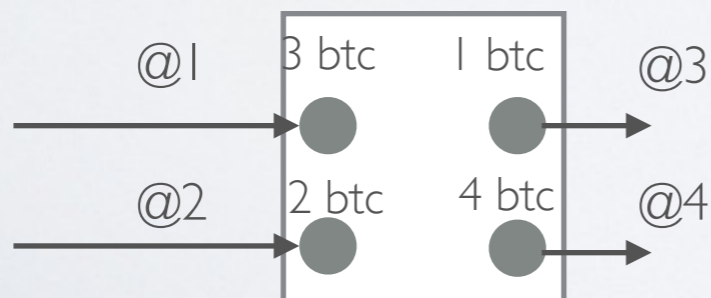
# ILLUSTRATION

Payment of 8 btc to U2:



# ADDRESS NETWORK

- First network, node=Address
  - Naive approach
  - One address  $\neq$  one user!
- Node: bitcoin address (public key)
- Edge: input addresses to output addresses.
- Problem: most transactions have several inputs, several outputs
  - Values ?





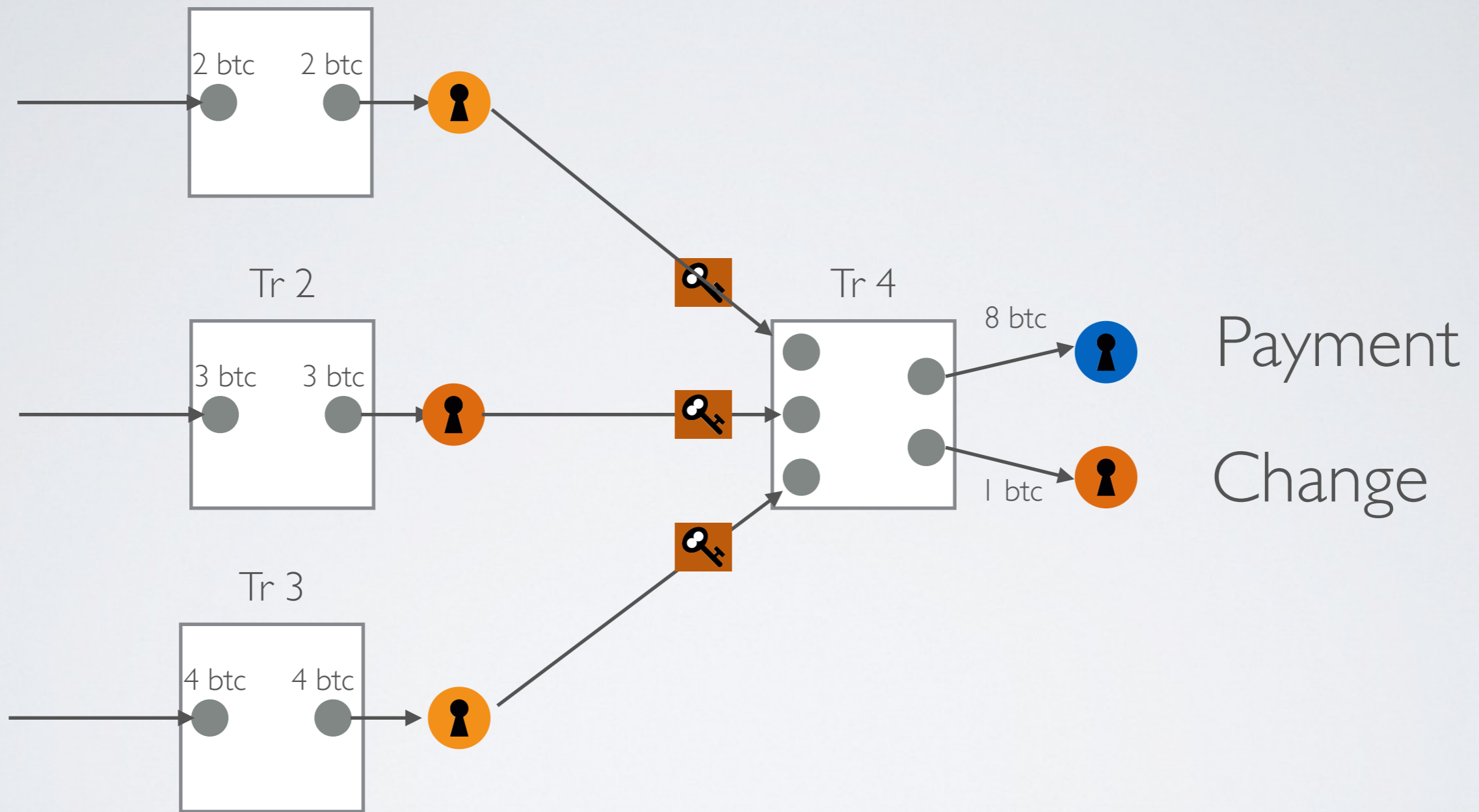
# ADDRESS NETWORK


- Example: 2 days (August 2&3 2016)
  - # Transactions: 490 441
  - # Transaction outputs: 1 210 004 (avg. 2,46)
  - # Transaction inputs 1 211 790 (avg. 2.47)
  - # Addresses: 933 645
  - # @->@ Edges: 3 014 350
- Very large, hard to interpret

# ENTITIES NETWORK

- Transactions between “entities” of the bitcoin ecosystem
  - ▶ Individuals with their own private key(s) (e.g., using BRD, Atomic Wallet, etc.)
  - ▶ Companies/organisations with their own private key(s)
  - ▶ Exchanges (e.g., Binance, Coinbase, etc.)
  - ▶ Mining Pool
  - ▶ etc.
- An entity can have **many** public keys/addresses
- How to retrieve addresses belonging to the same entity?

# ENTITY NETWORK



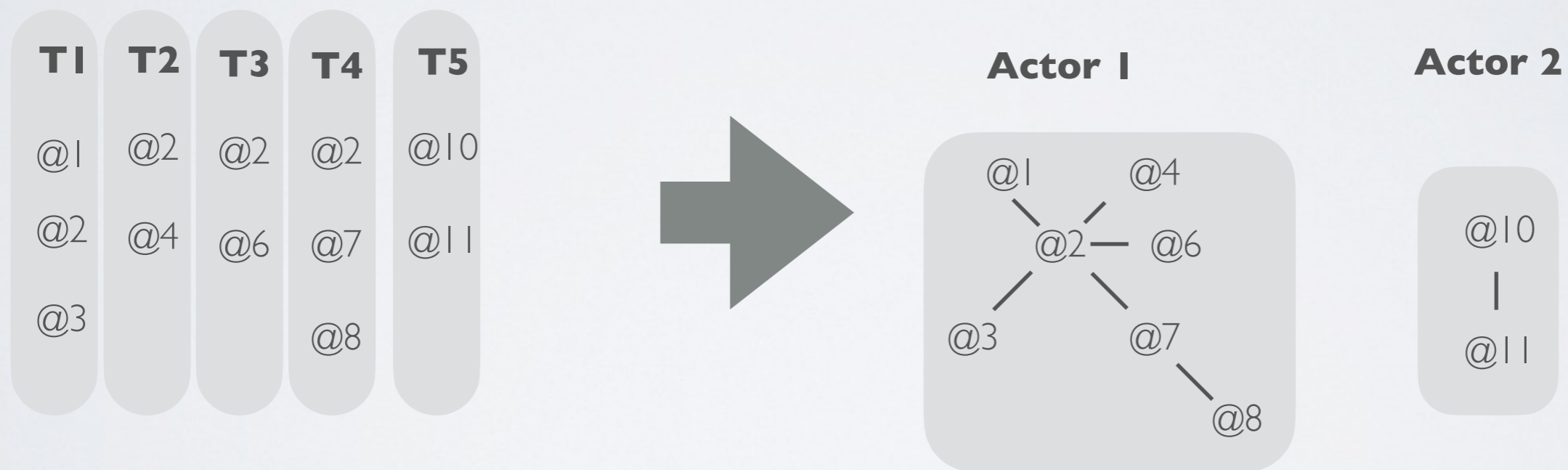
 and  are inputs of the same transaction  
=> same actor

# ENTITY NETWORK

- Entity identification: find all addresses of a same user
  - Currently a research question...
- Heuristics (input):
  - All addresses in input of a same transaction belongs to the same person



# ENTITY NETWORK

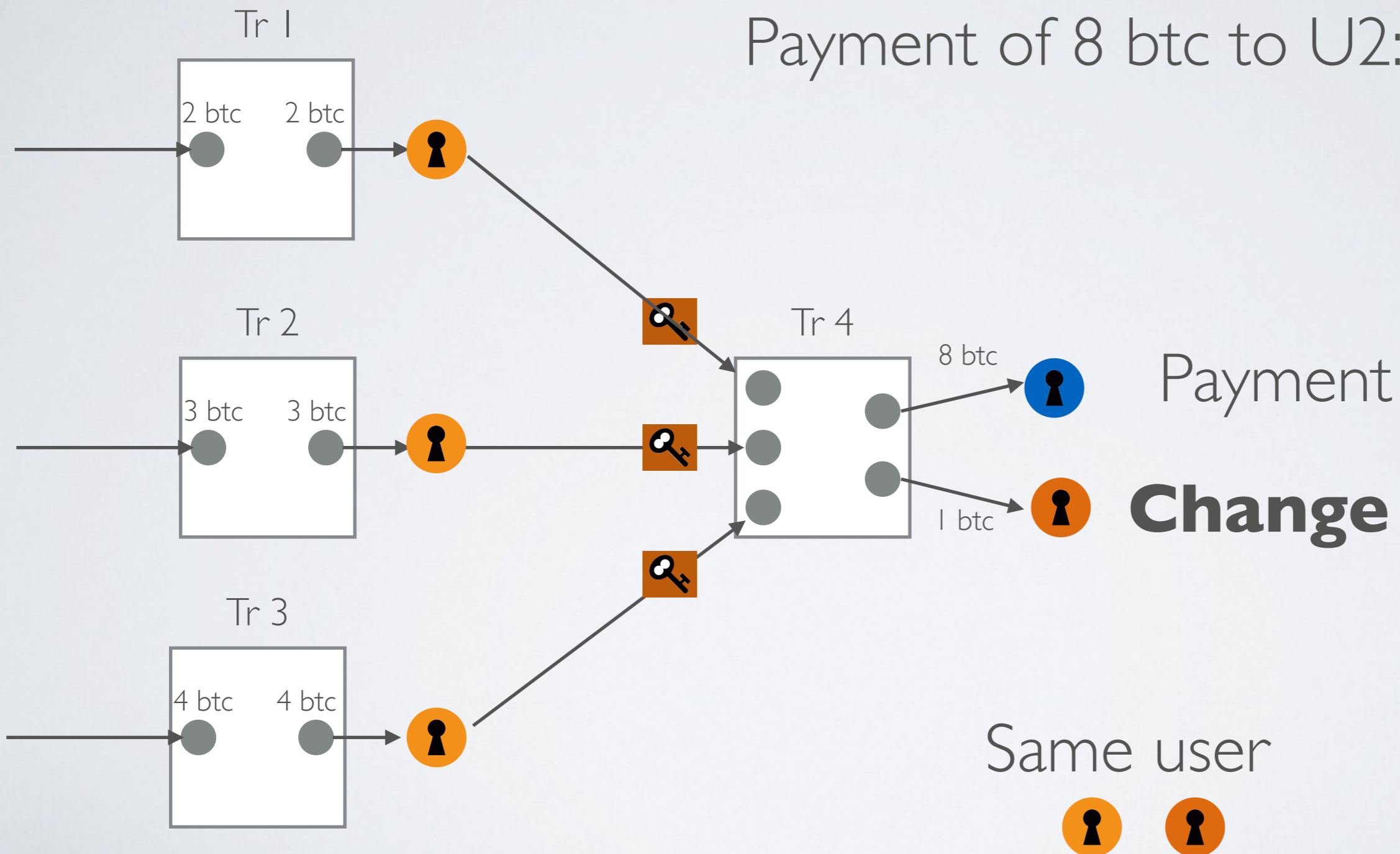


# ENTITY NETWORK

- Entity identification: find all addresses of a same user
  - Currently a research question...
- Heuristics (input):
  - All addresses in input of a same transaction belongs to the same person
- Heuristics (output):
  - One of the addresses in output is probably a **change address**, thus an address of the same user as the one in input
  - But which one ?

# ENTITY NETWORK

Payment of 8 btc to U2:



# ENTITY NETWORK

- Heuristics (output):

- ▶ One of the addresses in output is probably a **change address**, thus an address of the same user as the one in input
- ▶ But which one ?
  - Lower value ?
  - Value with the same decimal as input?
  - Learn which one using machine learning and examples ?
  - ...



# ENTITY NETWORK

- Examples of methods:

- ▶ Cazabet, R., Baccour, R., & Latapy, M. (2017, November). Tracking bitcoin users activity using community detection on a network of weak signals. In The 6th International Conference on Complex Networks and Their Applications.
- ▶ Tubino, R. R., Robardet, C., & Cazabet, R. (2022). Towards a better identification of Bitcoin actors by supervised learning. *Data & Knowledge Engineering*, 142, 102094.
- ▶ Möser, M., & Narayanan, A. (2021). Resurrecting Address Clustering in Bitcoin

# ENTITY NETWORK

- Describe each output using features:
  - ▶ Value in satoshi
  - ▶ Value in \$
  - ▶ Value of input
  - ▶ Number of decimals in Bitcoin
  - ▶ Date
  - ▶ Fees
  - ▶ Number of inputs/outputs
  - ▶ Number of reuse
  - ▶ ...
- Train a machine learning algorithm to recognize change transactions

# ENTITY NETWORK

- Group of addresses => Anonymous Entity
  - ▶ Can we know who is this Entity?
  - ▶ It is sufficient to identify *one* address
  - ▶ One transaction with a person/company => we know one of its addresses
  - ▶ On the internet, many company/individuals provide their addresses.
  - ▶ For some entities, we might infer their category
    - => Miners
    - => Large transactions profiles VS low transaction profiles
    - Has made transactions to identified money laundering services => suspicious
    - Machine learning => Automatically recognize profiles, identify similar entities, ...
    - etc.



# ENTITY NETWORK

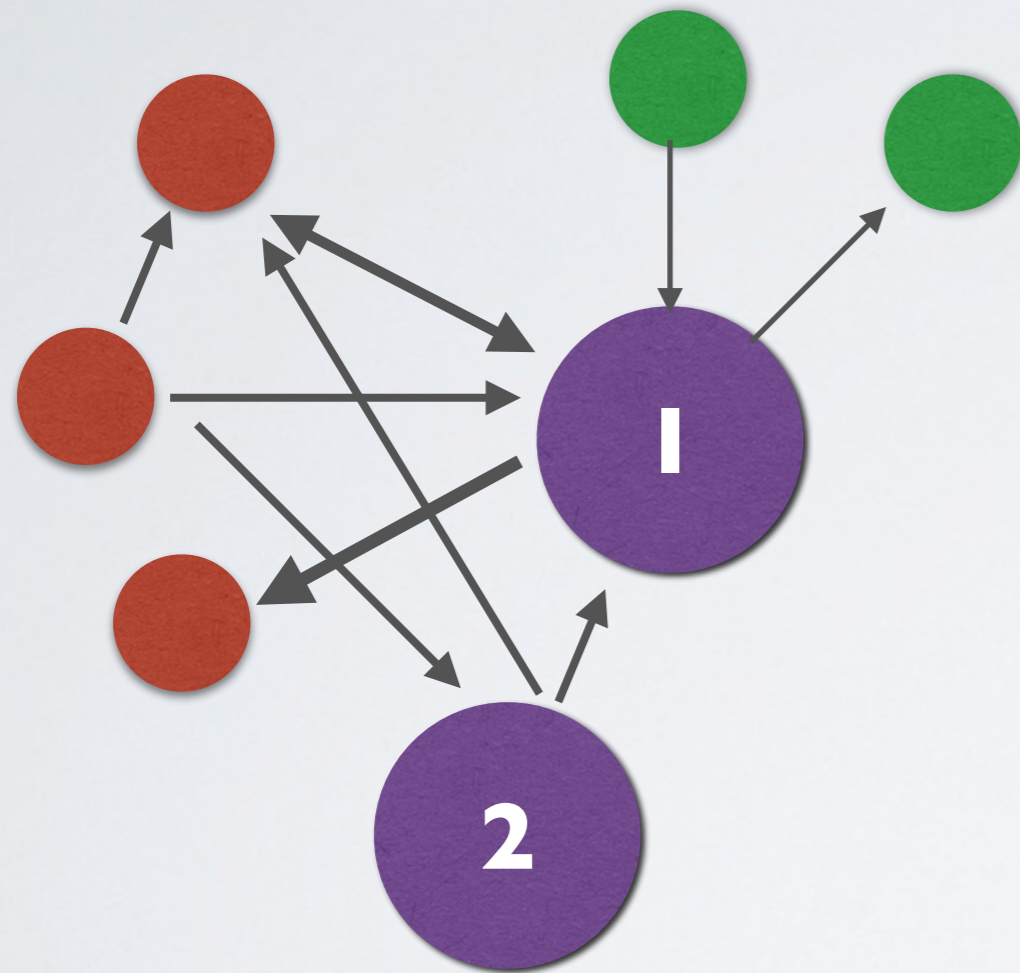
List of actors addresses, for instance: <https://www.walletexplorer.com>

## Top wallets

Exchanges:	Pools:	Services/others:	Gambling:	Old/historic:
<a href="#">Huobi.com</a> (2) <a href="#">Bittrex.com</a> <a href="#">Poloniex.com</a> <a href="#">Luno.com</a> <a href="#">BTC-e.com</a> (output) (old) <a href="#">Kraken.com</a> (old) <a href="#">LocalBitcoins.com</a> (old) <a href="#">Bitstamp.net</a> (old) <a href="#">MercadoBitcoin.com.br</a> <a href="#">BitZlato.com</a> <a href="#">Cryptsy.com</a> (old) <a href="#">Bitcoin.de</a> (old) <a href="#">Cex.io</a> <a href="#">Binance.com</a> (old) <a href="#">BtcTrade.com</a> <a href="#">YoBit.net</a> <a href="#">OKCoin.com</a> (2) <a href="#">BTCC.com</a> (old) (old2) <a href="#">BX.in.th</a> <a href="#">HitBtc.com</a> (old) <a href="#">MaiCoin.com</a> <a href="#">Bter.com</a> (old) (old2) (old3) (cold) <a href="#">CoinSpot.com.au</a> <a href="#">Hashnest.com</a> <a href="#">AnxPro.com</a> <a href="#">BitBay.net</a> <a href="#">Bleustrade.com</a> <a href="#">Bitfinex.com</a> (old) (old2) <a href="#">Matbea.com</a> <a href="#">Bit-x.com</a> <a href="#">VirWoX.com</a> <a href="#">Paxful.com</a> <a href="#">BitBargain.co.uk</a>	<a href="#">BTCPOOL</a> <a href="#">SlushPool.com</a> (old) (old2) <a href="#">GHash.io</a> <a href="#">AntPool.com</a> (old) (old2) <a href="#">BitMinter.com</a> <a href="#">EclipseMC.com</a> (old) (old2) (old3) <a href="#">KnCMiner.com</a> <a href="#">Bitfury.org</a> <a href="#">BW.com</a> <a href="#">Eligius.st</a> <a href="#">Kano.is</a> (old) <a href="#">Telco214</a>	<a href="#">CoinPayments.net</a> <a href="#">Xapo.com</a> <a href="#">Cubits.com</a> <a href="#">Cryptonator.com</a> (old) <a href="#">BitPay.com</a> (old) (old2) (old3) <a href="#">BitoEX.com</a> <a href="#">HaoBTC.com</a> <a href="#">Cryptopay.me</a> (old) <a href="#">AlphaBayMarket</a> (old) <a href="#">NucleusMarket</a> <a href="#">BitcoinFog</a> <a href="#">CoinJar.com</a> <a href="#">BitcoinWallet.com</a> <a href="#">HolyTransaction.com</a> <a href="#">HelixMixer</a> (old) (old2) (old3) (old4) (old5) (old6) (old7) (old8) (old9) (old10) (old11) (old12) (old13) (old14) (old15) (old16) (old17) (old18) (old19) (old20) (old21) (old22) (old23) (old24) (old25) (old26) (old27) (old28) (old29) (old30) (old31) (old32) (old33) (old34) <a href="#">BTCJam.com</a> <a href="#">VIP72.com</a> <a href="#">MoonBit.co.in</a> <a href="#">CoinKite.com</a> <a href="#">FaucetBOX.com</a> <a href="#">OkLink.com</a> <a href="#">Purse.io</a> <a href="#">ePay.info</a> <a href="#">Loanbase.com</a> <a href="#">GermanPlazaMarket</a> <a href="#">Paymium.com</a> <a href="#">Bitbond.com</a> <a href="#">CrimeNetwork.co</a> (old)	<a href="#">SatoshiDice.com</a> (original) <a href="#">LuckyB.it</a> (chatbot) <a href="#">BitZillions.com</a> <a href="#">999Dice.com</a> <a href="#">CoinGaming.io</a> <a href="#">PrimeDice.com</a> (old) (old2) (old3) (old4) <a href="#">CloudBet.com</a> <a href="#">SatoshiMines.com</a> <a href="#">NitrogenSports.eu</a> <a href="#">SecondsTrade.com</a> <a href="#">PocketDice.io</a> <a href="#">FortuneJack.com</a> <a href="#">Rollin.io</a> <a href="#">BitZino.com</a> <a href="#">BitcoinVideoCasino.com</a> (old) (old2) <a href="#">Betcoin.ag</a> (old) <a href="#">YABTCL.com</a> <a href="#">SatoshiBet.com</a> <a href="#">SafeDice.com</a> <a href="#">Coinroll.com</a> <a href="#">Crypto-Games.net</a> <a href="#">Betcoin.tm</a> <a href="#">SwCPoker.eu</a> <a href="#">SatoshiRoulette.com</a> <a href="#">BTCOracle.com</a> <a href="#">Peerbet.org</a> <a href="#">AnoniBet.com</a> <a href="#">Satoshi-Karoshi.com</a> (old) <a href="#">777Coin.com</a> <a href="#">BitStarz.com</a> <a href="#">SatoshiCircle.com</a> <a href="#">Coinichiwa.com</a>	<a href="#">AgoraMarket</a> <a href="#">BetcoinDice.tm</a> <a href="#">SilkRoadMarketplace</a> <a href="#">DeepBit.net</a> <a href="#">SilkRoad2Market</a> <a href="#">EvolutionMarket</a> <a href="#">Instawallet.org</a> <a href="#">UpDown.BT</a> <a href="#">AbraxasMarket</a> <a href="#">MintPal.com</a> <a href="#">SealsWithClubs.eu</a> <a href="#">PandoraOpenMarket</a> <a href="#">MiddleEarthMarketplace</a> <a href="#">BtcDice.com</a> <a href="#">McxNOW.com</a> <a href="#">SheepMarketplace</a> <a href="#">DiceOnCrack.com</a> <a href="#">BlackBankMarket</a> <a href="#">BTCGuild.com</a> <a href="#">Coin-Swap.net</a> <a href="#">BlueSkyMarketplace</a> <a href="#">Justcoin.com</a> <a href="#">PinballCoin.com</a> <a href="#">Inputs.io</a> <a href="#">BitAces.me</a> (old) <a href="#">AllCoin.com</a> <a href="#">Bitcoin-24.com</a> (old) (old-hotwallet) <a href="#">Betcoins.net</a> <a href="#">CrimeNetwork.biz</a> <a href="#">Bitcoin-Roulette.com</a> <a href="#">Bitmit.net</a> <a href="#">Cryptorush.in</a>

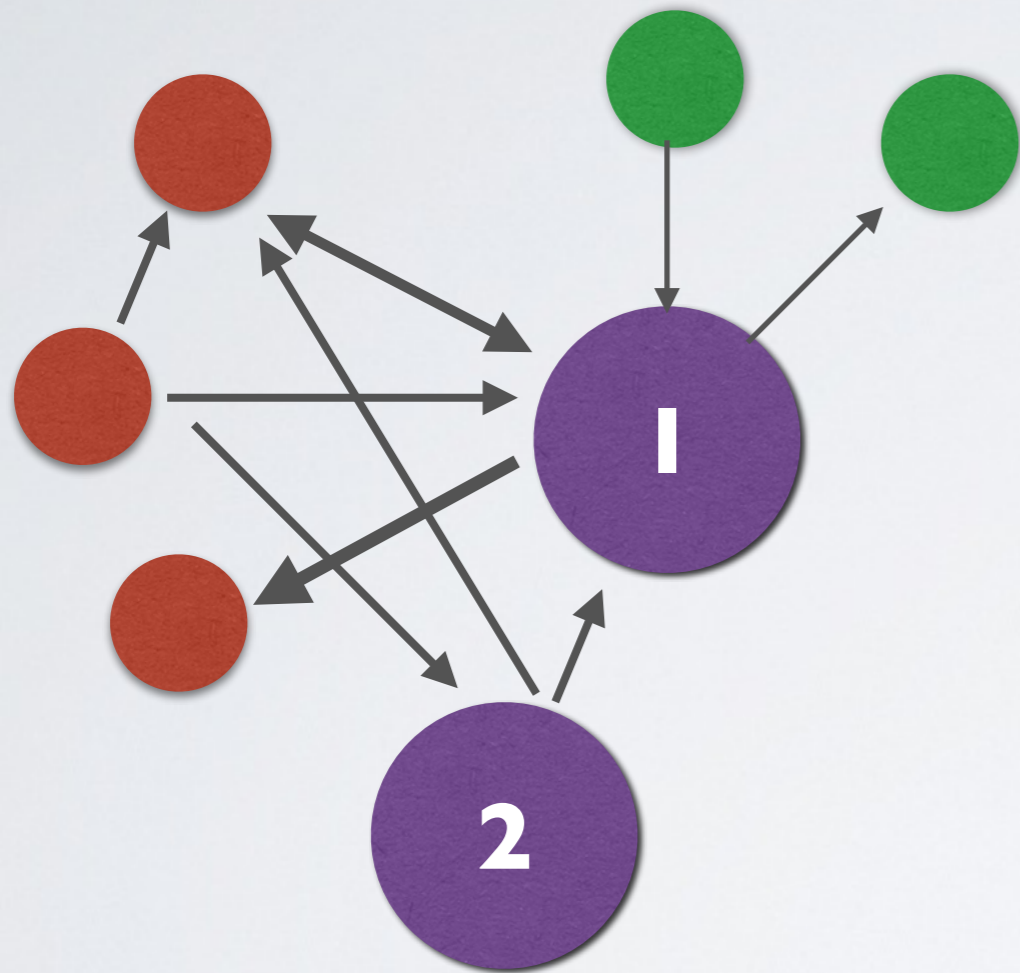


# OBTAINED NETWORK

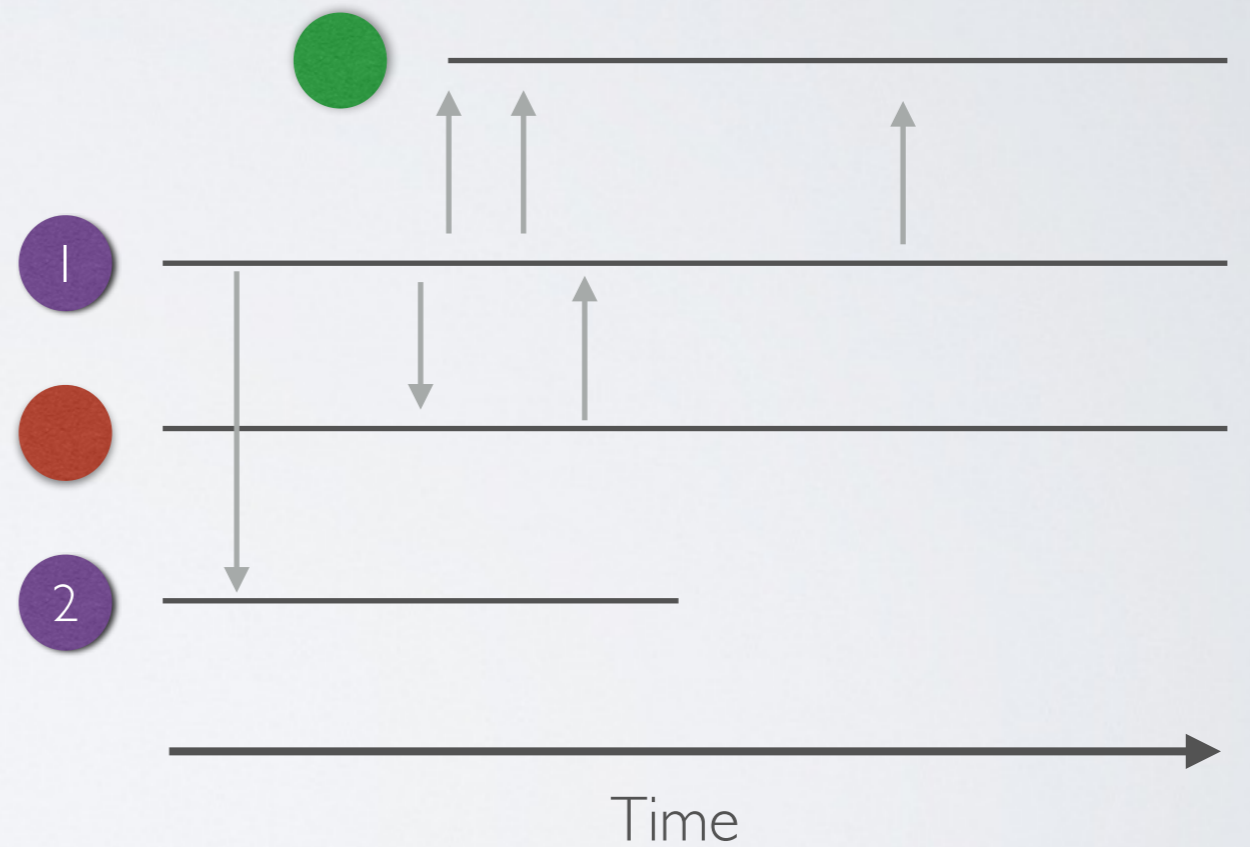


- Identified nodes
- Category 1
- Category 2

# OBTAINED NETWORK



- Identified nodes
- Category 1
- Category 2



# ENTITY NETWORK

- Example: 2 days (August 2&3 2016)
- Address network
  - ▶ # Transactions: 490 441
  - ▶ # Transaction outputs: 1 210 004 (avg. 2,46)
  - ▶ # Transaction inputs 1 211 790 (avg. 2.47)
  - ▶ # Addresses: 933 645
  - ▶ # @->@ Edges: 3 014 350
- Entity network
  - ▶ # Clusters: 456 012
  - ▶ Largest clusters sizes: 20 023, 19 381, 17 244
  - ▶ # Edges (Entity -> Entity) : 956 347

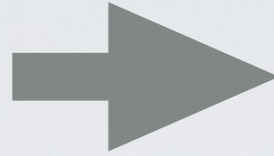
# BITCOIN BLOCKCHAIN ACTIVITY TRACKING EXAMPLE



1

Traditional Bank

Transfer (€)



→ deposited 75.00 € processed 2/10/2017

Operations

Account	Name	Amount	Date
available	operation	+75.00 €	2/10/2017 - 3:28 PM

2

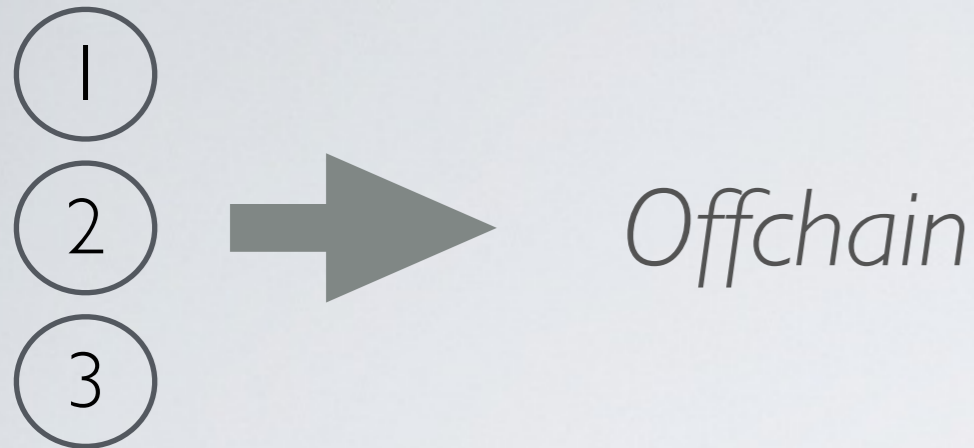
Initial Bitcoin purchase (trading)

↑ bought 0.05423052 btc for 921.99 € average filled 2/10/2017

3

“Trading”

↓ sold	0.07130000 btc	for 1,059.00 €	average	filled	2/22/2017
↑ bought	0.07136414 btc	for 1,008.91 €	average	filled	2/18/2017
↓ sold	0.07400000 btc	for 980.17 €	average	filled	2/18/2017
↑ bought	0.05076142 btc	for 985.00 €	average	filled	2/17/2017
↓ sold	0.02600000 btc	for 975.01 €	average	filled	2/16/2017



- How it works (probably)

- ▶ The exchange company owns a stock of Bitcoin
- ▶ It maintains a list of customer accounts, and how much each customer owns at time  $t$
- ▶ When customer  $c_1$  buys BTC to a customer  $c_2$ , change in the internal database of the company (scripture)
  - Goal: no transaction fees, easier to manage
- ▶ The company itself certainly buys and sell on the market to ensure liquidity
  - Success=more customers who want to buy=>need to provide fresh coins
  - Need of buying/selling on the blockchain
- ▶ The company needs enough reserve since customers can order bitcoin transactions from their (*virtual*) account to a *real bitcoin wallet*

bought

0.05417748 btc for 1,974.99 € average

filled 5/28/2017

9:23GMT+1

timestamp	sender	receiver	value	date	value_btc	
619503540	1495929670	-192947146	Paymium.com	4276511	2017-05-28 00:01:10	0.042765
619622203	1495940615	35172026	Paymium.com	21408870	2017-05-28 03:03:35	0.214089
619627952	1495940615	36676998	Paymium.com	1278580	2017-05-28 03:03:35	0.012786
619641058	1495941084	320110	Paymium.com	2889754	2017-05-28 03:11:24	0.028898
619678470	1495946218	234	Paymium.com	50000000	2017-05-28 04:36:58	0.500000
619720731	1495953357	21	Paymium.com	500000000	2017-05-28 06:35:57	5.000000
619724954	1495954071	Poloniex.com	Paymium.com	90000000	2017-05-28 06:47:51	0.900000
619734802	1495953492	15195288	Paymium.com	563100	2017-05-28 06:38:12	0.005631
619742071	1495956403	32328334	Paymium.com	300000000	2017-05-28 07:26:43	3.000000
619749598	1495956760	Bitstamp.net	Paymium.com	500000000	2017-05-28 07:32:40	5.000000
619773769	1495962103	Poloniex.com	Paymium.com	5990000	2017-05-28 09:01:43	0.059900
619813537	1495968880	Poloniex.com	Paymium.com	299990000	2017-05-28 10:54:40	2.999900
619814805	1495969178	-193097249	Paymium.com	5000000	2017-05-28 10:59:38	0.050000
619816324	1495969665	-193098289	Paymium.com	501097	2017-05-28 11:07:45	0.005011
619859643	1495972870	Bitstamp.net	Paymium.com	99900000	2017-05-28 12:01:10	0.999000
619870536	1495971407	-193116479	Paymium.com	4113900	2017-05-28 11:36:47	0.041139
619874781	1495972455	5224442	Paymium.com	1373550	2017-05-28 11:54:15	0.013735
619877124	1495973819	-193121122	Paymium.com	365283	2017-05-28 12:16:50	0.003653
619880471	1495972455	-193122823	Paymium.com	59539	2017-05-28 11:54:15	0.000595
619880482	1495972455	-193122827	Paymium.com	58606	2017-05-28 11:54:15	0.000586
619882043	1495973387	Paymium.com	16096	620000	2017-05-28 12:09:47	0.006200
619882044	1495973387	Paymium.com	222	6800000	2017-05-28 12:09:47	0.068000

Paymium on-chain activity on 2017-05-28

Hard to say what it corresponds too...  
But my exact transaction is not there

... (153 total)



# 4 Sending 0.005 btc from Paymium exchange to my personal wallet



transferred 0.00500000 btc processed 2/10/2017

Hash	2017-02-10 19:48
1431198bef5645bcce667c11f988257292c...	
1FNhjTqbogGenAtiVn... 0.03000000 BTC	1FBov1eSTzbEWFhNP... 0.04811430 BTC
1FNhjTqbogGenAtiVn... 0.29980000 BTC	1FnJ7ifPVs6pVzPAHj... 0.15385554 BTC
1ChT8jHwnu28S8Gse... 0.00552015 BTC	1PLS2uFx9RCXj6y7o... 0.03240000 BTC
134JTcD1rwYzf3mJh... 0.01066365 BTC	1JPDfDbpYu7ZMN54... 0.11000000 BTC
1F2DnSngMqhx3Bc5t... 0.00102304 BTC	1Acekhv2vRYE8JUY... 0.10000000 BTC
1PmJouprMuWvnuz1... 0.00060627 BTC	125UVAGTHgRpUWu... 5.00000000 BTC
1CNKsJdKEGAfk7A6... 0.02800000 BTC	1LCy45fGKy5DDyLX7... 0.19080000 BTC
1Jv324ZskcMwVaHo... 0.04971298 BTC	1JQAJC1as3zqGvh3R... 0.10780000 BTC
1Jv324ZskcMwVaHo... 0.02700664 BTC	1uQWT55a31oXbG7y... 0.06000000 BTC
1FyJw1oF7ojJVfb... 200.00000000 BTC	1AtG2dZL2QT9Anob... 0.26000000 BTC
Load more inputs... (1 remaining)	19P2i6fCFLyhsZWVd... 0.05476170 BTC
	1NAr6doa9jzdAtjfcED... 0.00100000 BTC
	1GZjj8XvbdVvMgiSm... 0.21500000 BTC
	32SRuobXXWbxRYeLt... 0.11180000 BTC
	1DtnwrYpuj2AviHBKL... 0.31386546 BTC
	1mxx5bDua8844zAik... 0.03416878 BTC
	1X9rcMVx8SvZ5uPz... 0.00500000 BTC
	1Hxm69VGPXfGu7kK... 0.01000000 BTC
	1CEoEkc1xzb5mBhpa... 0.00547958 BTC
	3ErsNJgohjZ9DeJcz... 0.56630000 BTC
	13sSQcEjasD7S5Pzn... 0.01185000 BTC
	17McVX1jhiEMg5Mnt... 0.85516806 BTC
	1LHY6mAeqHVYbpZ... 0.37096600 BTC
	15Gw27cNPkqgUxqe... 0.26954988 BTC
	15wgdrhi64ZuV8QY... 0.26955280 BTC
	1KbB2KsEV2wUkAAx... 0.10780000 BTC
	1Bjkr17q2TF37nvTdC... 1.00000000 BTC
	16zFtGxAF7RWNpZay... 0.10712284 BTC
	14qiXwDXJLUM5P7h... 0.04280000 BTC
	1FyJw1oF7ojJVfbM... 193.37661929 BTC

Fee 0.00150000 BTC (55.310 sat/B - 13.827 sat/WU - 2712 bytes) +0.00500000 BTC



4

The screenshot shows a Bitcoin transaction interface. At the top, the hash '1431198bef5645bcce667c11f988257292c...' and the date '2017-02-10 19:48' are visible. The transaction consists of multiple inputs and outputs. A red circle highlights the first input: '1FNhjTqbogGenAtiVn... 0.03000000 BTC'. Another red circle highlights the output: '1FyJw1oF7ojJVfbM... 193.37661929 BTC'. A green arrow points from the first input to the highlighted output. At the bottom, the fee is '0.00150000 BTC (55.310 sat/B - 13.827 sat/WU - 2712 bytes)' and a green box shows '+0.00500000 BTC'.

Hash	Amount	Unit
1431198bef5645bcce667c11f988257292c...		
1FNhjTqbogGenAtiVn...	0.03000000	BTC
1FNhjTqbogGenAtiVn...	0.29980000	BTC
1ChT8jHwnu28S8Gse...	0.00552015	BTC
134JTcD1rwYzf3mJh...	0.01066365	BTC
1F2DnSngMqhx3Bc5t...	0.00102304	BTC
1PmJouprMuWvnuz1...	0.00060627	BTC
1CNKsJdKEGafk7A6...	0.02800000	BTC
1Jv324ZskcMwVaHo...	0.04971298	BTC
1Jv324ZskcMwVaHo...	0.02700664	BTC
1FyJw1oF7ojJVfb...	200.00000000	BTC
Load more inputs... (1 remaining)		
1F8ov1eSTzbEWFhNP...	0.04811430	BTC
1FnJ7ifPVs6pVzPAHj...	0.15385554	BTC
1PLS2uFx9RCXj6y7o...	0.03240000	BTC
1JPDfDbpYu7ZMN54...	0.11000000	BTC
1Acehkhv2vRYE8JUJ...	0.10000000	BTC
125UVAGTHgRpUWu...	5.00000000	BTC
1LCy45fGKy5DDyLX7...	0.19080000	BTC
1JQAJC1as3zqGvh3R...	0.10780000	BTC
1uQWT55a31oXbG7y...	0.06000000	BTC
1AtG2dZL2QT9Anob...	0.26000000	BTC
19P2i6fCFLyhsZWVd...	0.05476170	BTC
1NAr6doa9jzdAtjfcED...	0.00100000	BTC
1GZjj8XvbdVvMgiSm...	0.21500000	BTC
32SRuobXXWbxRYeLt...	0.11180000	BTC
1DtnwrYpuj2AviHBKL...	0.31386546	BTC
1MXx5bDua8844zAiK...	0.03416878	BTC
1X9rcMVx8SvZ5uPz...	0.00500000	BTC
1Hxm69vGPXrGu7kB...	0.01000000	BTC
1CEoEkc1xzb5mBhpa...	0.00547958	BTC
3ErsNJgohjZ9DeJcz...	0.56630000	BTC
13sSQcEjasD7S5PZn...	0.01185000	BTC
17McVX1jhiEMg5Mnt...	0.85516806	BTC
1LHY6mAeqHVVYbpZ...	0.37096600	BTC
15Gw27cNPkqgUxqe...	0.26954988	BTC
15wgdri64ZuV8QY...	0.26955280	BTC
1KbB2KsEV2wUkAAx...	0.10780000	BTC
1Bjkr17q2TF37nvTdC...	1.00000000	BTC
16zFtGxAF7RWNpZAY...	0.10712284	BTC
14giYwDXJLUM3P7i...	0.04280000	BTC
1FyJw1oF7ojJVfbM...	193.37661929	BTC
Fee	0.00150000	BTC
(55.310 sat/B - 13.827 sat/WU - 2712 bytes)		
		+0.00500000 BTC

The exchange do not write on-chain transaction for each custom activity, but instead factorize them.

It reduces individual transaction fees.

Same for inputs.

Note the change address with a large amount

5

# Sending back **0.001** from Wallet to Paymium Exchange

Address I received payment to

Address provided by Paymium

Hash	40a08e1ff76d8133c151705f816bec87c75a8d7dd0957b4bd1ecd...	2017-02-11 07:56
	<a href="#">1X9rcMVx8SvZ5uPzpjaaPn6psXkw5LZhB</a> 0.00500000 BTC	<a href="#">1NdhZ1TBi1dE8uk1qzUqYR2x7dRi52j5wr</a> 0.00100000 BTC
	<a href="#">1ArvJf54cVwJ2Y6gH6nic63ofQeiN32jbf</a>	0.00380700 BTC
Fee	0.00019300 BTC (85.778 sat/B - 21.444 sat/WU - 225 bytes)	0.00480700 BTC

High fees:  
20% of the amount sent

Change  
(My address in my wallet)

# What happens with coins sent at this address?

Hash	40a08e1ff56d8133c151705f816bec87c75a8d7dd0957b4bd1ecd...	2017-02-11 07:56
	1X9rcMVx8SvZ5uPzpjaaPn6psXkw5LZhB 0.00500000 BTC	→ 1NdhZ1TBi1dE8uk1qzUqYR2x7dRi52j5wr 0.00100000 BTC
		1ArvJf54cVwJ2Y6gH6nic63ofQeiN32jbf 0.00380700 BTC
Fee	0.00019300 BTC (85.778 sat/B - 21.444 sat/WU - 225 bytes)	0.00480700 BTC

Hash	59c821350e1291c55ae8e0286b05e3627...	2017-02-11 14:09
	1HsSSUvaMuL3VUw... 0.72080588 BTC	→ 1544JSQRTLCKfhJ1E... 0.05040000 BTC
	1NdhZ1TBi1dE8uk1qz... 0.00100000 BTC	1HzGDkZN7fe4rAmW... 0.04910000 BTC
	1KM3b551HzSQ4MQ... 0.00951400 BTC	128DsHfMjaeCDunze... 0.44900000 BTC
	1HUxJ5kTqLNhuMZy... 0.45732080 BTC	1NCe8eAhHzyZPneYh... 0.11000000 BTC
	1BoBVfPfk3BxaN1M1... 0.03900991 BTC	1CjcXagRZviJwWSH... 0.06900000 BTC
	1MgQhKRk4QqMTgeY... 0.01447889 BTC	1A4wdSpiToSc3rw1G... 2.30000000 BTC
	1FyJw1oF7ojJVfbM... 193.18850960 BTC	19DBZUM62sYv66up... 0.05344623 BTC
		1PKmMMR7S26Usrjkj... 0.34257068 BTC
		17puCgUUALRV222V... 2.09300000 BTC
		1HoEKSQfmCebgcKo... 0.04000000 BTC
		<a href="#">Load more outputs... (19 remaining)</a>
Fee	0.00150000 BTC (72.886 sat/B - 18.222 sat/WU - 2058 bytes)	-0.00100000 BTC

“My” coins have been spent the same day, and not by me!

=> 1Ndh... Is not “my” address, it’s paymium’s address.

It’s just that when coins are sent to this address, Paymium *credit* my customer account of the same amount.



6

# Using my wallet coins to buy some real things (Amazon gift card)

Hash: 40a08e1ff56d8133c151705f816bec87c75a8d7dd0957b4bd1ecd... 2017-02-11 07:56

1X9rcMVx8SvZ5uPzpjaaPn6psXkw5LZhB 0.00500000 BTC → 1NdhZ1Tbi1dE8uk1qzUqYR2x7dRi52j5wr 0.00100000 BTC  
1ArvJf54cVwJ2Y6gH6nic63ofQeiN32jbf 0.00380700 BTC

Fee: 0.00019300 BTC (85.778 sat/B - 21.444 sat/WU - 225 bytes) **0.00480700 BTC**

Hash: 1650dd5cd9233705193aa83e42d8460d... 2021-01-27 23:16

1ArvJf54cVwJ2Y6gH... 0.00380700 BTC → bc1qcp8uuxkx48ylrg... 0.00060200 BTC  
3JnJU19y21FgySKoX... 0.00300300 BTC

Fee: 0.00020200 BTC (91.403 sat/B - 22.851 sat/WU - 221 bytes) **-0.00380700 BTC**

Company selling gift card

Hash: 7578596ecc510bb93d662d97d8bf6c8b7... 2021-01-28 05:08

3PXW8ghgJuC4J5y1... 0.00438600 BTC → bc1qj4zp28m9r3elw5... 7.00529441 BTC  
3Q2xe5JyvuL5mvxn... 0.01404900 BTC  
38LwzsRkxqXe3jfSD... 0.00806700 BTC  
3C8i2YX1EWurpK9qt... 0.00318400 BTC  
34Z85bRMu4jE5mRm... 0.00212500 BTC  
35zcYgpERQo9SUUo... 0.01549100 BTC  
3GZ2PMcvphAiYdA2... 0.00325000 BTC  
349AFe7DdK4bfJZ7R... 0.00212600 BTC  
3N3W124kvbjPQ89u... 0.02365300 BTC  
32dkoFUb5bh9ECPG... 0.00314300 BTC

**Load more inputs... (776 remaining)**

Fee: 0.00163316 BTC (1.211 sat/B - 0.571 sat/WU - 134825 bytes) **-0.00300300 BTC**



SOME ADDITIONAL TOPICS...

# BLOCKCHAIN OR BULLSHIT?

- Many new trends have emerged on using blockchains for many different things.
  - In some cases, blockchain is essential for the system to exist
  - In others, a centralized solution works and blockchain is only a buzzword
- What do you think ?
  - NFT ?
  - Smart Contracts ?
  - De-Fi ?
  - CBDC
  - Private Blockchains ? (Binance BNB)...

# LAYER 2

- Cryptocurrencies allow to transmit a “script”, coding the transaction itself, but not only (stored forever...)
  - ▶ The script can be as simple as a text message
    - Several love letters stored in the blockchain...
  - ▶ A dataset
    - Some Wikileaks data stored on the blockchain
  - ▶ A source code
    - The code to read the Wikileaks data for instance...
  - ▶ A picture
    - And what if it is some illegal e.g., child pornography ?
  - ▶ Executable code

# LAYER 2

- These scripts can be used to build “Level 2” applications
  - Typical Example: Tether.





# LAYER 2: TOKENS

- Tether (stablecoin) is a *token*, a currency existing in the layer 2 of a blockchain
- Blockchain Bitcoin: Omni-layer allows to create L2 tokens
  - But a “hack” of the original system. Bitcoin not thought for that.
- Blockchain Ethereum: ERC-20 Tokens
  - Standardization of a solution though from the start
  - “Smart contracts”
    - =>Any code than can be executed on the Blockchain.

# L2 TRANSACTION

- Tether exists both
  - As OMNI token (born that way)
  - As ERC-20 token (now dominant)
- Move possible only through Bitfinex (burn/mint)

# WRAPPED BITCOIN

- There is an ERC-20... corresponding to Bitcoin.
- A stable coin with parity fixed to Bitcoin.
- Same mechanism as Tether
  - But possible to check in the Bitcoin Blockchain that the backing reserve exist.
- Allows to exchange Bitcoin against other ERC20 inside ether (DeFi...)
  - Bitcoin supposed to play the role of gold in the digital economy, being the most stable, reliable as a currency...