

# Unlocking the Chain

Blockchain from an engineer's perspective

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# About me

Technophile

BEng in Motorsport Engineering

PhD in Automotive Engineering

Decade in automotive industry

5 years following Bitcoin

9 months as Blockchain Development Engineer



# Why Bitcoin

Distributed and decentralised

Transparent

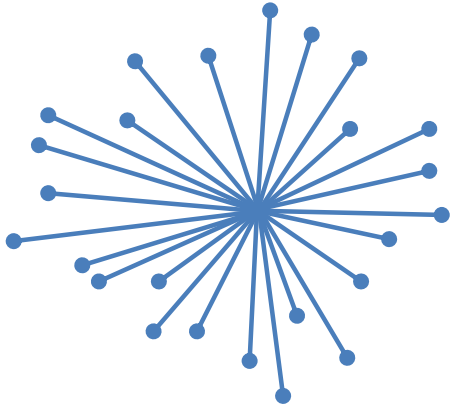
Trustless

Immutable

Positively disruptive technology

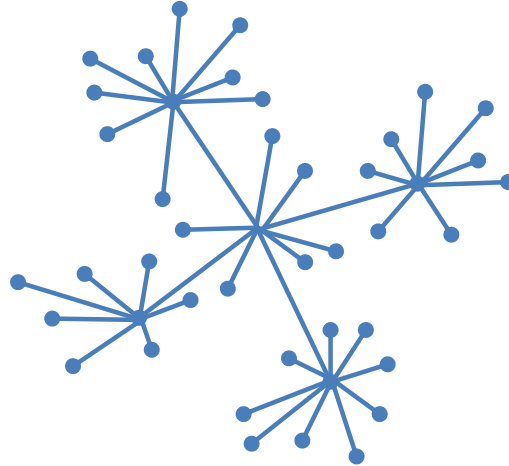
# Why Bitcoin: Distributed and Decentralised

## Centralised



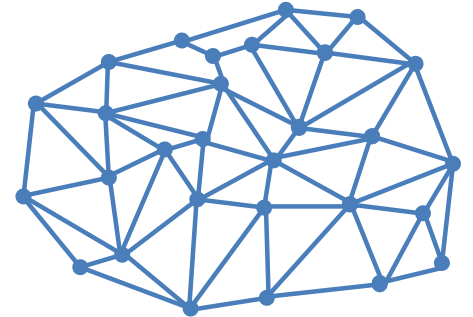
**e.g. Television**  
Easy to control  
Easy to manipulate

## Decentralised



**e.g. YouTube**  
Harder to control  
Harder to manipulate

## Distributed



**e.g. Home media**  
Hardest to control  
Hardest to manipulate

# Why Bitcoin: Transparent

## Accountability

## Open source

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

Every single tx: <https://www.blockchain.com/explorer>

## Collaborative development community

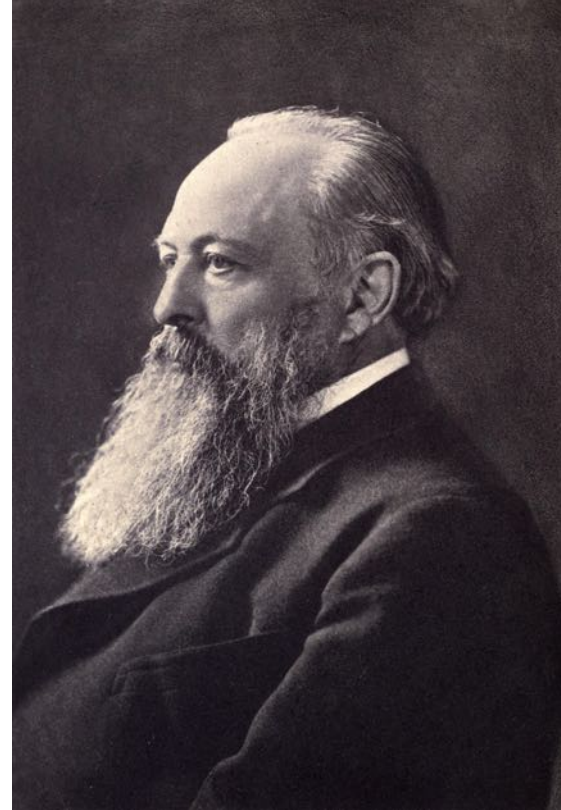
## Very low barrier of entry



# Why Bitcoin: Trustless

*"Power tends to corrupt, and absolute power corrupts absolutely"* – Lord Acton

**Don't trust. Verify.**



# Why Bitcoin: Immutable

Embedded security

No anti-virus required

Valid data exists forever





# Why Bitcoin: Positively disruptive technology

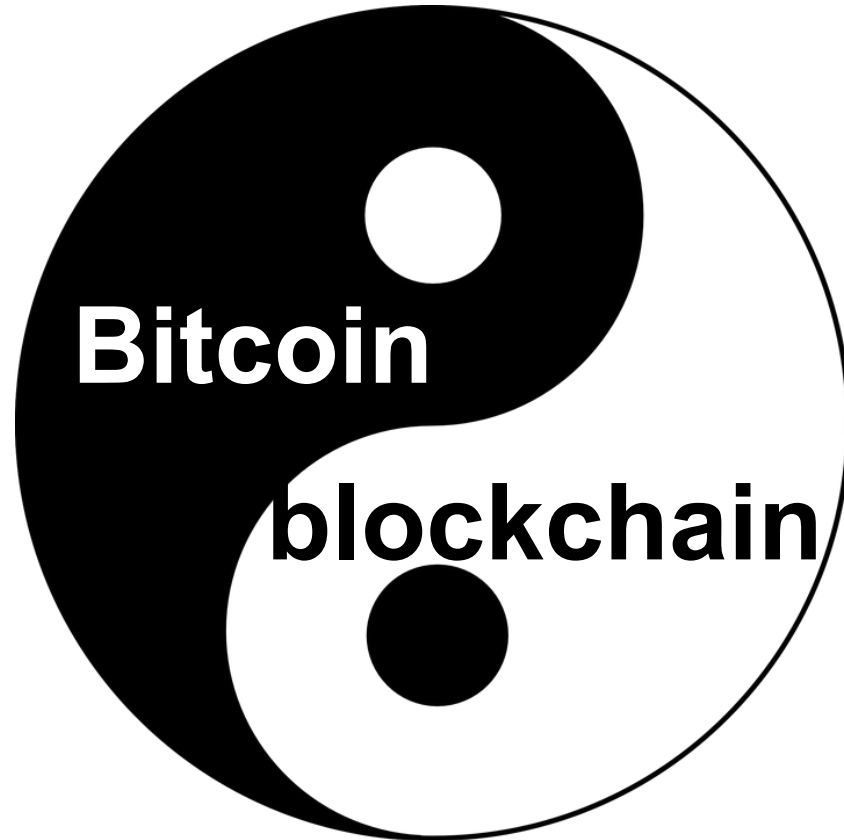
Broad use cases all trying to provide best experience to the end user without fail.

“Be your own bank”

“Bank the unbankable”



# Bitcoin and the blockchain



# Popular questions

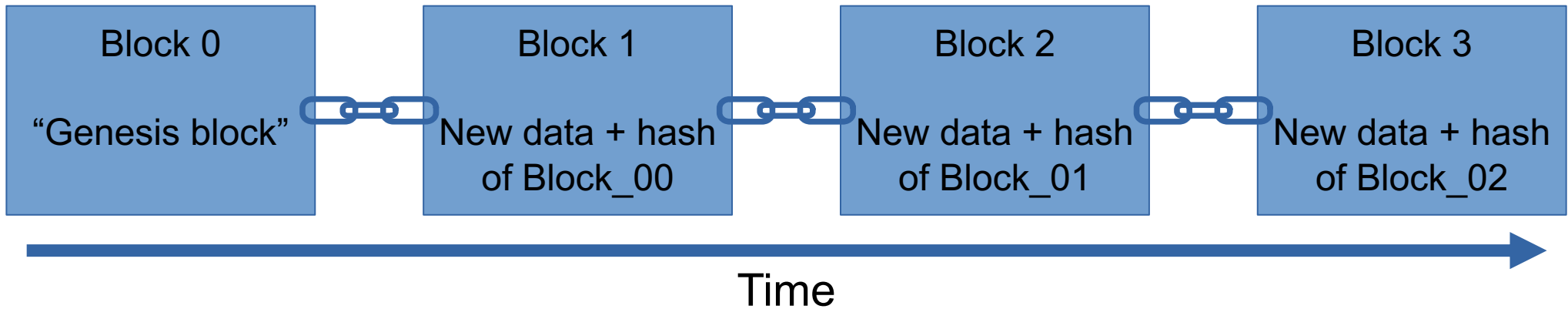
What is a blockchain?

What is mining?

What gives Bitcoin value?

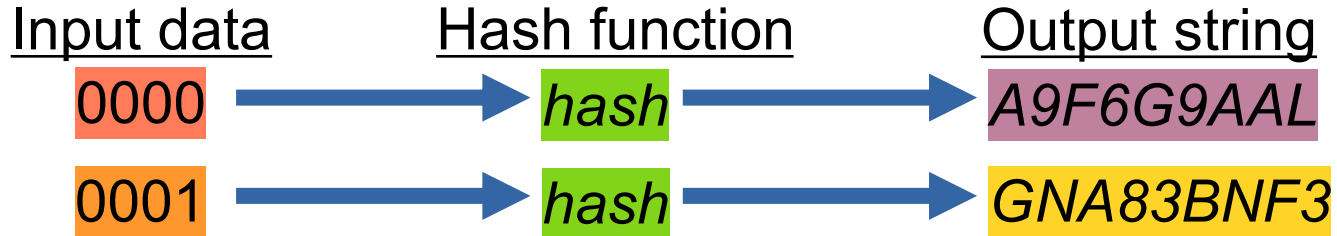
Who controls Bitcoin?

# Popular questions: What is a blockchain?



## Hash

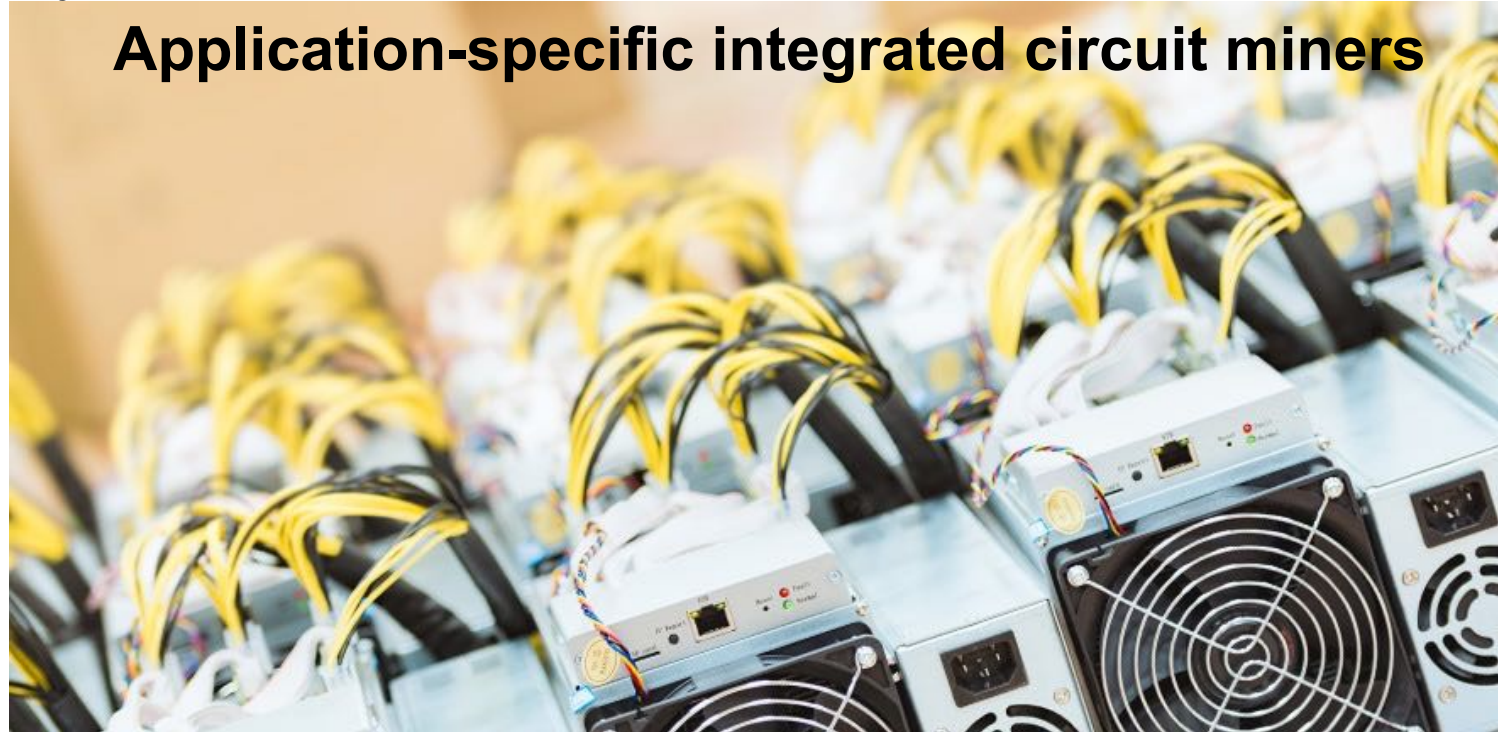
Cryptographic function that generates a digital signature from input data.



# Popular questions: What is mining?

A global race every ~ 10 minutes.

**Application-specific integrated circuit miners**



Block 631031:  
8.36 Bitcoin  
(\$80,762)

<https://mempool.space/>

<http://www.epe.admin.cam.ac.uk/cambridge-bitcoin-electricity-consumption-index-cbeci>

# Popular questions: What gives Bitcoin value?

Store of value

Transfer of value

Micropayments

Interoperability

Speculation

To be seen...

# Popular questions: Who controls Bitcoin?

Short – nobody.

Long – the community

Bitcoin holders

miners

software developers

merchants

embedded system designers

...

# Common topics

Power consumption

Speed and cost of transactions

Volatility and losing coins

I thought Bitcoin was dead?



# Common topics: Power consumption

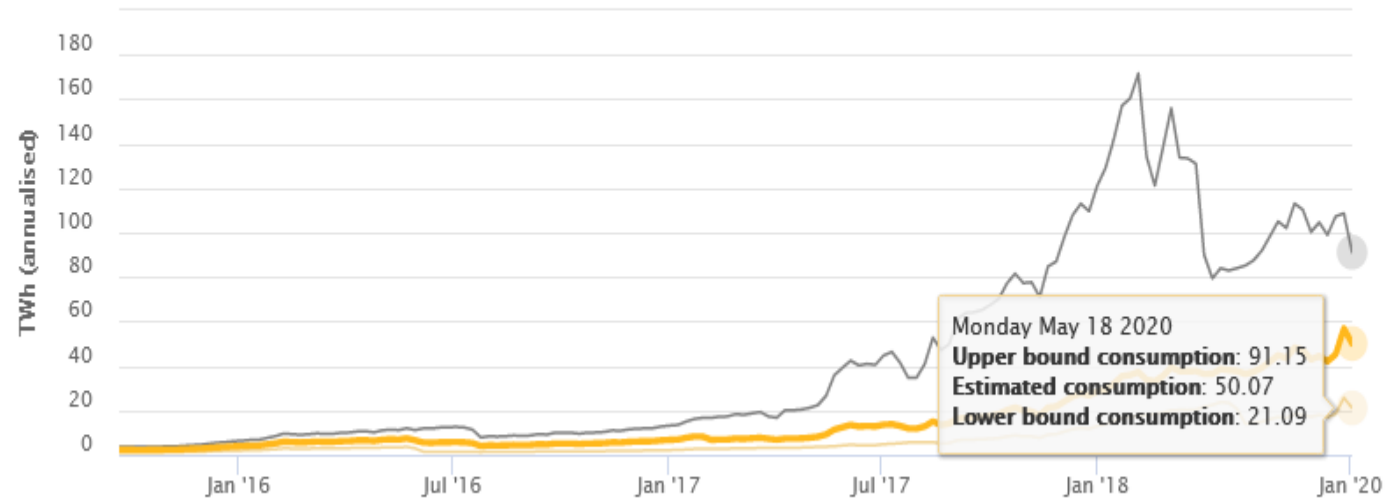
Bitcoin mining uses ~ 4.97 GW

Energy use is transparent

Up to 0.25% globally

Gold?

Is it worth it?



<https://cbeci.org/>

# Common topics: Speed and cost of transactions

Bitcoin: 7 transactions per second  
10,000 active nodes

Visa: 7000 transactions per second  
119 data centres



# Common topics: I thought Bitcoin was dead?

380 times so far...

<https://99bitcoins.com/bitcoin-obituaries/>

```
00000000 00 e0 ff 27 9b a7 2c 6a 3f 1e 81 e6 20 04 f9 91 0xx'xx,j ?*xx *xx
00000010 dc 12 b5 af 3d 97 58 c1 84 06 03 00 00 00 00 00 x*x*xXx x*00000
00000020 00 00 00 00 0f 3a 57 0c 00 a2 96 20 ed 50 17 e1 0000*:W 0xx xP*x
00000030 22 5e ff a1 a4 be 5c 47 f5 49 ab d8 42 00 cb 55 "^*xxx\G xIxxB0xU
00000040 3d 11 75 f4 2b a6 b9 5e 39 7a 11 17 cf 8d fb 83 =*u*x+xx^ 9z**xxxx
00000050 fd b1 09 01 00 00 00 00 01 01 00 00 00 00 00 00 xx_*0000 **000000
00000060 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00000000 00000000
00000070 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 ff ff ff ff 64 03 00000000 00xxxxd*
00000080 ef 9c 09 52 f0 9f 90 9f 4e 59 54 69 6d 65 73 20 xx_Rxxxx NYTimes
00000090 30 39 2f 41 70 72 2f 32 30 32 30 20 57 69 74 68 09/Apr/2 020 With
000000a0 20 24 32 2e 33 54 20 49 6e 6a 65 63 74 69 6f 6e $2.3T I njection
000000b0 2c 20 46 65 64 27 73 20 50 6c 61 6e 20 46 61 72 , Fed's Plan Far
000000c0 20 45 78 63 65 65 64 73 20 32 30 30 38 20 52 65 Exceeds 2008 Re
000000d0 73 63 75 65 20 20 14 4d 69 6e 65 64 20 05 00 ba scue *M ined *0x
000000e0 5e 48 00 00 00 00 00 04 6d 4a e0 50 00 00 00 00 ^H00000* mJxP0000
000000f0 19 76 a9 14 c8 25 a1 ec f2 a6 83 0c 44 01 62 0c *v*x*x%xx *xx_D*b_
```



*With \$2.3 Trillion Injection, Fed's Plan Far Exceeds Its 2008 Rescue*

The Federal Reserve said it would buy some municipal bonds and some riskier debt to help governments and companies.

Block 629999: 2020-05-11 19:23  
<https://blockchair.com/bitcoin/block/629999>

<https://www.nytimes.com>

# Building Services Engineering including HVAC&R/MEP

Construction accounts for ~7% working age population worldwide

\$10 trillion spent on construction-related goods and services each year

Construction pre-tax margins average 1.5% down 4.1%

[www.theconstructionindex.co.uk/news/view/construction-pre-tax-margins-average-15](http://www.theconstructionindex.co.uk/news/view/construction-pre-tax-margins-average-15)

\$1.6 trillion dollars wasted – 2% global economy

<https://www.mckinsey.com/industries/capital-projects-and-infrastructure/our-insights/reinventing-construction-through-a-productivity-revolution>

20% of cost overruns are caused by inefficient project governance

<https://www.pwc.com/gx/en/capital-projects-infrastructure/pdf/pwc-correcting-the-course-of-capital-projects-v3-pdf.pdf>



# Blockchains in construction: Space-based land analysis

Hypervine co-funded by European Space Agency  
Improving efficiency for extractive industries using space-based data

Provide data for topography, liquid, mineral and density readings

500,000 global extraction sites benefit from improved transparency

Carbon reduction achieved with operational efficiencies

Safety improved by eradicating lost paperwork or miss-recorded data

<https://hypervine.io/>

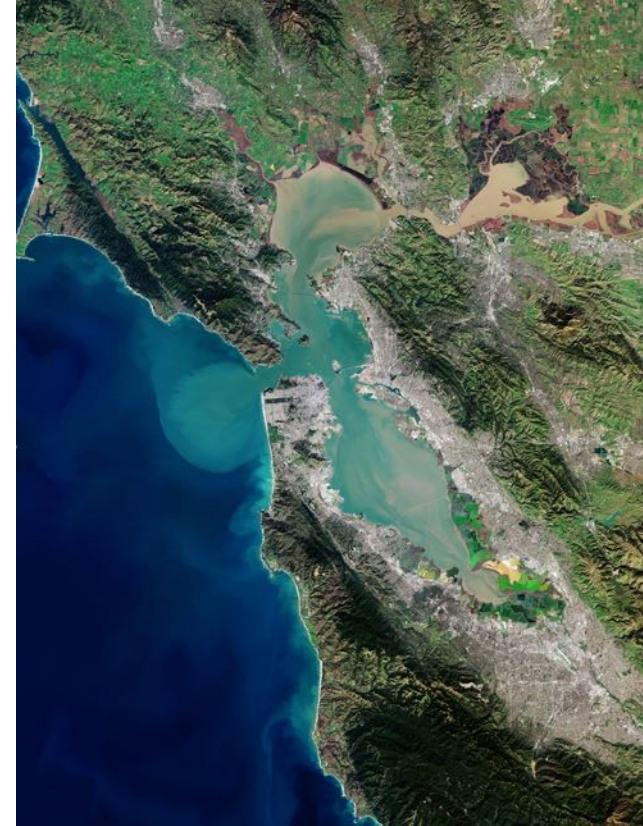


Image: ESA

# Blockchains in construction: Real-time energy monitoring

ACCIONA

Construction company energy, infrastructure, water

Data validates renewable energy source to clients in Spain and Portugal

Scalable integration with data systems

<https://www.accion.com>

# Blockchains in construction: Real-estate

Skanska

Home sales in minutes

<https://group.skanska.com/media/articles/new-listing-digital-home-buying-powered-by-blockchain/>



Liisa Lintula December 11, 2018





# Blockchains in construction: Land registry

ChromaWay

National land registry



# Recommended resources

The source:

<https://www.bitcoin.org>

Live transactions:

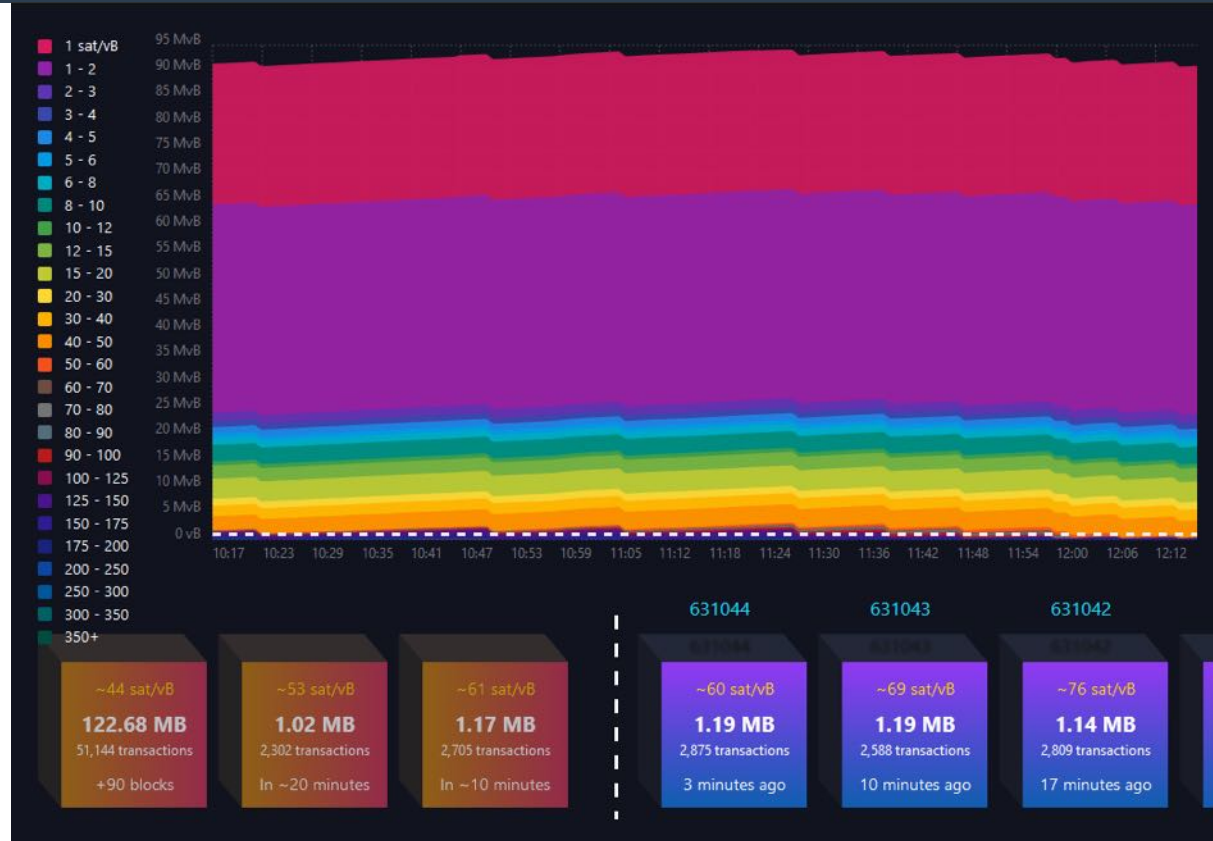
<https://mempool.space/tv>

High quality educational talks:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/aantonop>

Lots of network information:

<https://www.blockchain.com/charts>



# My current contact details

My e-mail address:

[tom@tomdwyer.uk](mailto:tom@tomdwyer.uk)

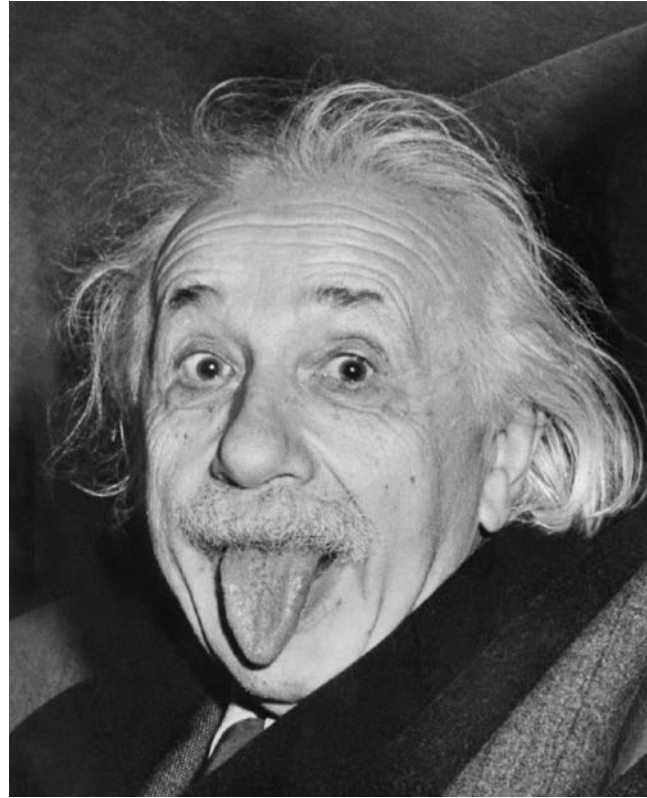
My blockchain employer:

<https://extropy.io/>

# Final thoughts

“We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used when we created them.”

– Albert Einstein



GETTY IMAGES

Thank you for your attention.