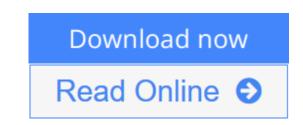# Ethereum: Blockchains, Digital Assets, Smart Contracts, Decentralized Autonomous Organizations

By Henning Diedrich

Ethereum: Blockchains, Digital Assets, Smart Contracts, Decentralized Autonomous Organizations By Henning Diedrich

Blockchain For the Non-Technical

*** THIS IS A PREVIEW PRINT ***

As IBM´s official liaison to the Ethereum core developers I gave talks on blockchain topics pretty much around the world. After one keynote I was asked for a non-technical guide to understand blockchains. This is it.

The book aims to help you get your head around blockchains in general and around Ethereum specifically. Since Ethereum is currently the pre-imminent blockchain, it makes sense as reference point. The essential stuff is the same for any blockchain.

This text was written for people with a fast grasp, who are not programmers. Reading this should give you the basics to cut through the hype and to identify blockchain opportunities in your professional domain. There are tiny bits of code, which can be admired and skipped.

We´ll look at Ethereum´s benefits first, how it is used and what can be done with it; then explain blockchain machinery, visiting the terms that you´ll be confronted with in every discussion about its application. Exactly what you need to tell the signal from the noise in the echo chamber of honest misunderstandings and desperate marketing.

We take a good hard look at limitations, throw in some history and names and give a realistic outlook.

The index reads like an FAQ and you can use the book like that. However, there is a strong build up, one chapter leading to the next, as optimized path to understanding all the interconnected, moving parts. There´s quite a number of them.

Blockchains are not a trivial topic. The fact that blockchain client programs are

small has fooled many people into believing it can´t possibly be that hard. The challenges are in the implications though.

But what's in this book will put you ahead of almost everyone outside the core bubble.

A deep dive into this field now – at least getting started – will help you to become part of the fun ahead. It should allow you to stand out, land deals or a great job.

It will also make you see first hand how early we are in the game.

Hopefully, we will find a contributor to the blockchain community in you, strengthening the portfolio of real-world use cases. Ideally, you´ll learn to navigate your own uncharted course through your domain and revolutionize it.

From the Book's Index:

What is Ethereum?
What is Ether?
What is Ethereum Not?
What is Ethereum Used for?
Create Your Own Digital Currency!
How Does Ethereum Compare?
How Does Ethereum Work?

What is a Blockchain?
What is Cryptography?
What´s the Magic?
What is Holding It Back?
What is a Cryptocurrency?
What is a Digital Currency?
What is a Digital Asset?
What is a Mirror Asset?
What is Consensus?
What is Proof–of–Work?
What is Proof–of–Stake?
What is a Hard–Fork?
What is Mining?
What is Decentralized Code?
What is a Decentralized Application (Dapp)?
What is a Smart Contract?
What is a Decentralized Autonomous Organization (DAO)?
What is an Oracle?
What is Timestamping?
What is a Private Chain?
What is the EVM?
What is Gas?
What is Solidity?

How Fast is Ethereum / Latency?
What is Ethereum´s Capacity / Throughput?
What is Probabilistic Finality?
How Ready is Ethereum?
Is Ethereum Legal?

How did Bitcoin Start?
What's the Story Behind Ethereum?
What is The DAO?
What is Ethereum Classic?
What is all the Hype about?
What's the Future?
Will Ethereum Change the World?

APPENDIX with technical notes
Hello, World!
Installation
Clients

Drafts of the book have been run by core Ethereum people and highest ranking IBM engineers in a bid to ensure accuracy.

I'll be happy to hear what you felt was missing or presented out of order, no matter your background.

Opinions in this book are mine, not that of IBM.

I am not an Ethereum spokesperson either.

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Editorial Review

About the Author

Henning Diedrich has been called IBM's most knowledgeable guy in blockchain, and a thought leader in this field.

He was named architect at the IBM blockchain group, writing the first white paper for IBM's Open Blockchain project and is the official IBM liaison to the Ethereum Foundation's core development teams, helping to harden Ethereum for industrial use.

Henning frequently gives deeply technical presentations as well as highly inspirational keynotes on blockchain topics around the world. Check out his talks on YouTube. Follow @hdiedrich.

"I got into blockchain because I became fascinated by the technology, the same as with language design, database architecture or coding in the first place.

In blockchain tech, many domains coalesce that I have worked in. I started programming age 12 hacking computer games, and always remained passionate about performance and whatever resembles 'AI'. I worked in fintech, distributed databases and functional programming, domains that are all of special significance for the future of blockchain at this point. I created a compiler and virtual machine for the insurance industry, which an eternity before it, looked eerily like Bitcoin's VM. I started programming crypto stuff a decade ago.

I am evangelizer for the best distributed, high-velocity database out there, VoltDB, and suffered with them through different stabs at solving distribution. Which is what the blockchain community re-lives right now.

In a way, it's all coming together for me in blockchains. I had to fall for it."

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Dennis James:

The book Ethereum: Blockchains, Digital Assets, Smart Contracts, Decentralized Autonomous Organizations will bring that you the new experience of reading some sort of book. The author style to explain the idea is very unique. If you try to find new book to study, this book very suitable to you. The book Ethereum: Blockchains, Digital Assets, Smart Contracts, Decentralized Autonomous Organizations is much recommended to you to read. You can also get the e-book in the official web site, so you can quickly to read the book.

Denise Barnhart:

A lot of people always spent their free time to vacation or perhaps go to the outside with them friends and family or their friend. Are you aware? Many a lot of people spent they free time just watching TV, or maybe

playing video games all day long. If you wish to try to find a new activity here is look different you can read the book. It is really fun in your case. If you enjoy the book that you just read you can spent 24 hours a day to reading a e-book. The book Ethereum: Blockchains, Digital Assets, Smart Contracts, Decentralized Autonomous Organizations it is extremely good to read. There are a lot of those who recommended this book. These were enjoying reading this book. When you did not have enough space to deliver this book you can buy the e-book. You can m0ore effortlessly to read this book from the smart phone. The price is not too costly but this book possesses high quality.

Stacey Sims:

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June Slater:

What is your hobby? Have you heard that will question when you got pupils? We believe that that problem was given by teacher to their students. Many kinds of hobby, All people has different hobby. And you know that little person just like reading or as reading through become their hobby. You must know that reading is very important as well as book as to be the issue. Book is important thing to incorporate you knowledge, except your own personal teacher or lecturer. You find good news or update in relation to something by book. Numerous books that can you choose to use be your object. One of them is Ethereum: Blockchains, Digital Assets, Smart Contracts, Decentralized Autonomous Organizations.

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