



Bitcoin基础：数据结构

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Outline & Keywords of this Class



Part 1: Hash Pointer

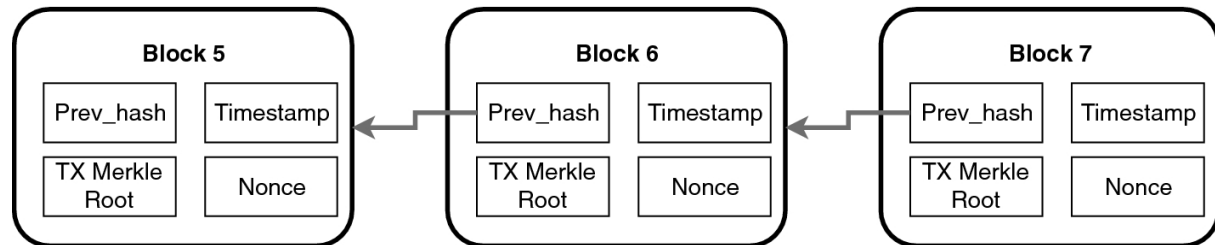
Part 2: Merkel Tree

Part 3: A Bitcoin Block

Intro: What are there inside a block?



Data Structure of a Bitcoin Block

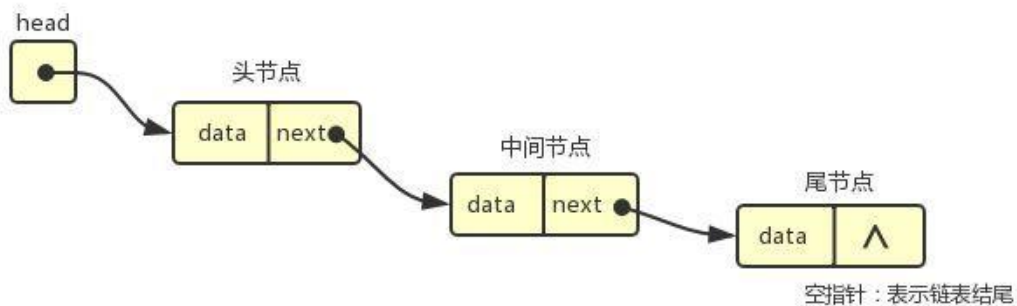
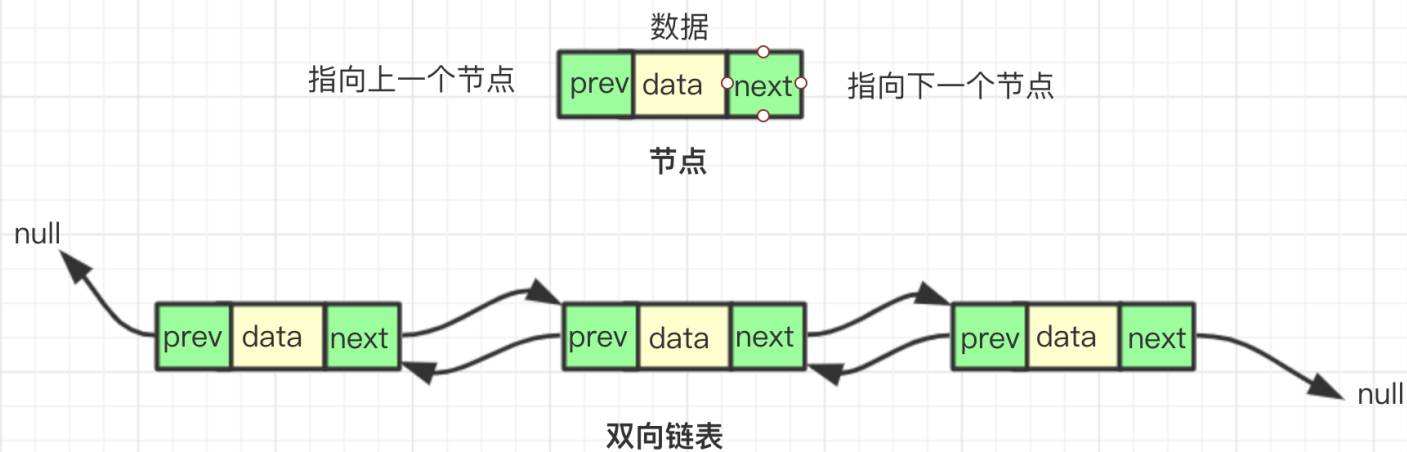


Size	Field	Description
4 bytes	Version	A version number to track software/protocol upgrades
32 bytes	Previous Block Hash	A reference to the hash of the previous (parent) block in the chain
32 bytes	Merkle Root	A hash of the root of the merkle tree of this block's transactions
4 bytes	Timestamp	The approximate creation time of this block (seconds from Unix Epoch)
4 bytes	Difficulty Target	The proof-of-work algorithm difficulty target for this block
4 bytes	Nonce	A counter used for the proof-of-work algorithm

Revisit: Data Link Tables



链表

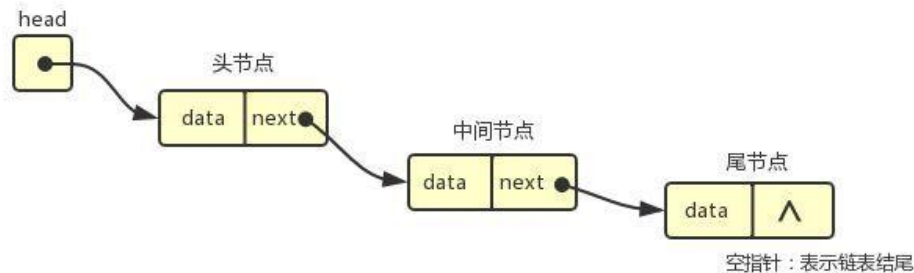


Part 1: Hash Pointer



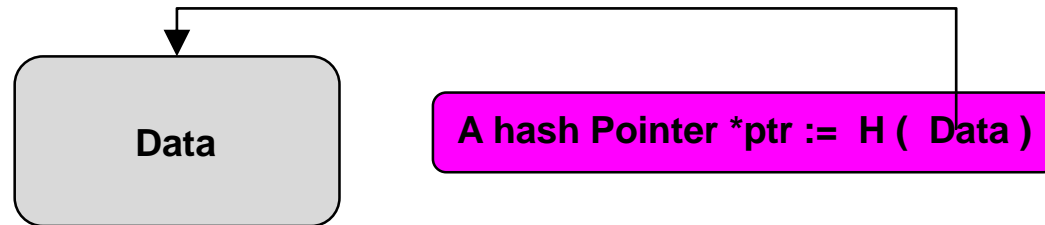
A normal pointer: $*ptr = \& data$

- Tells you the position where a data is



A Hash Pointer: $*ptr = H(Data)$

- Not only tells you where a data is
- But also enables you to verify whether such data has been tampered or not

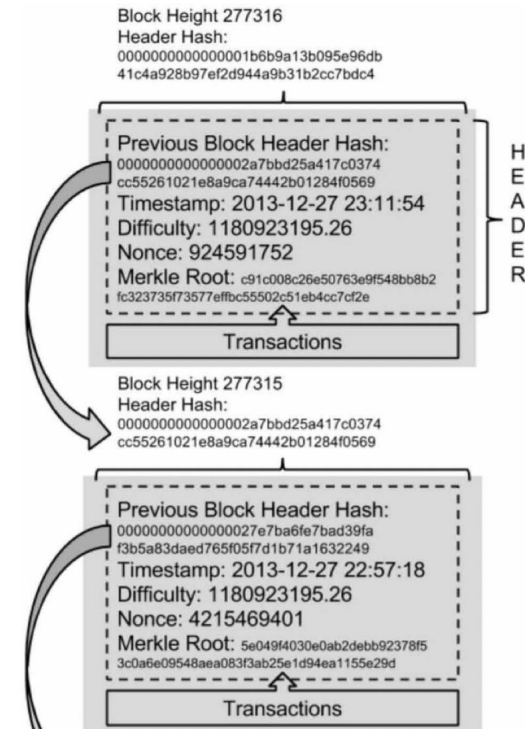
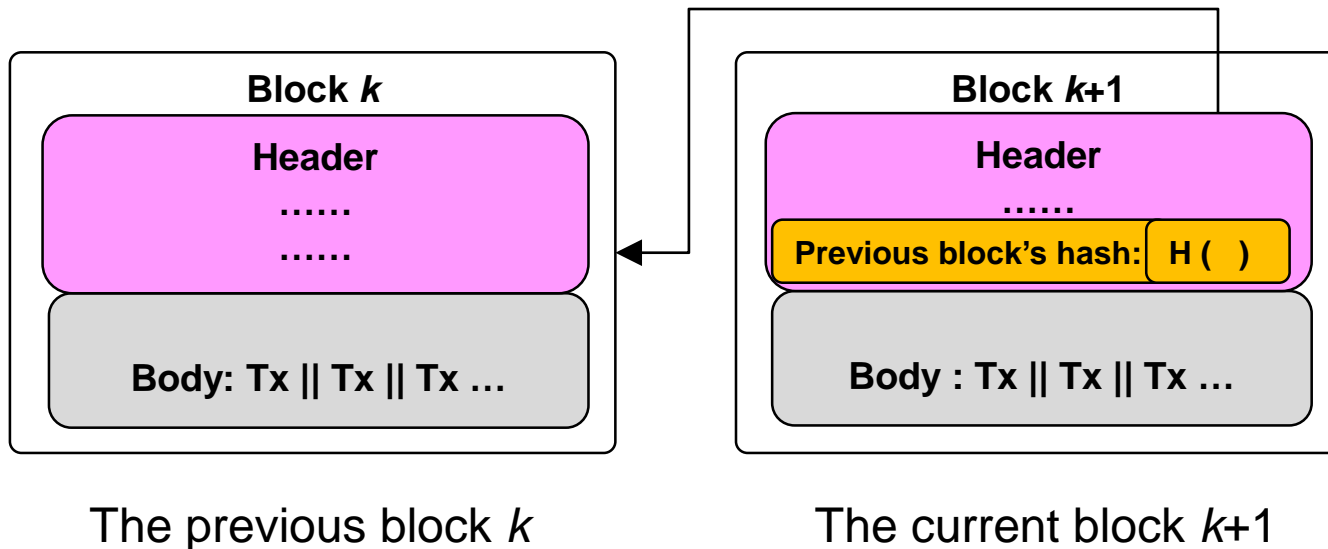


A blockchain == blocks + chains



How to compute a hash pointer in bitcoin?

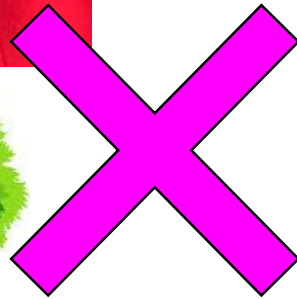
- hash pointer := $H(\text{header} \parallel \text{body})$?
- hash pointer := $H(\text{header})$?



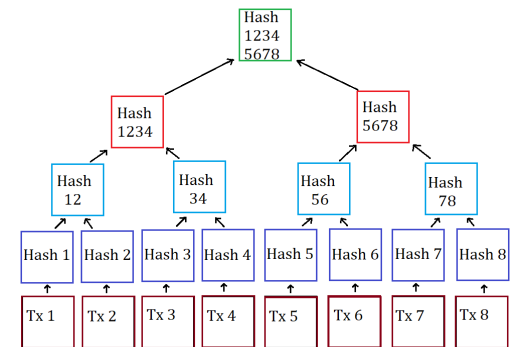
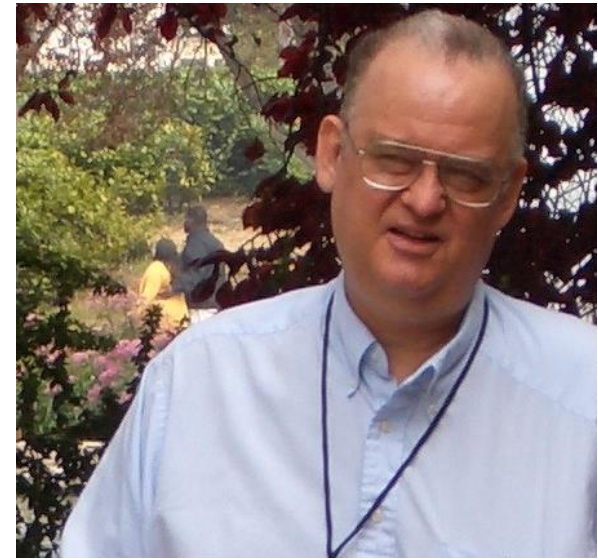
Part 2: Merkle Tree



NOT Angela Merkel + tree



Ralph Merkle



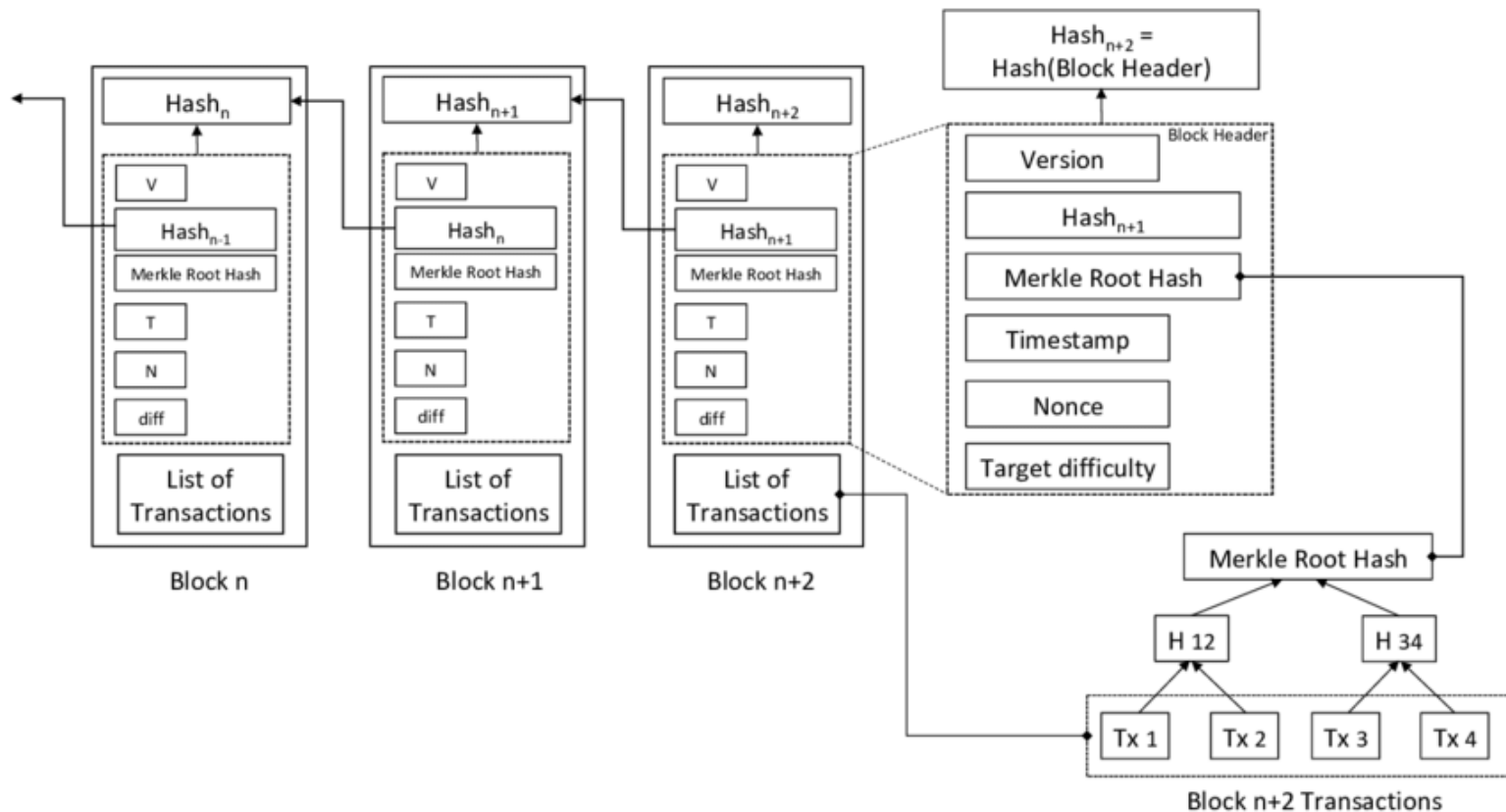
Proposed in 1979, by Ralph Merkle

Definition of Merkle Tree



使用哈希指针的二叉树 —— Merkle Tree

The Merkle tree is a way of structuring large amounts of data in the form of hashes, and representing that data with a single hash.



Where is a Merkle Tree in Bitcoin?



Merkle tree's position

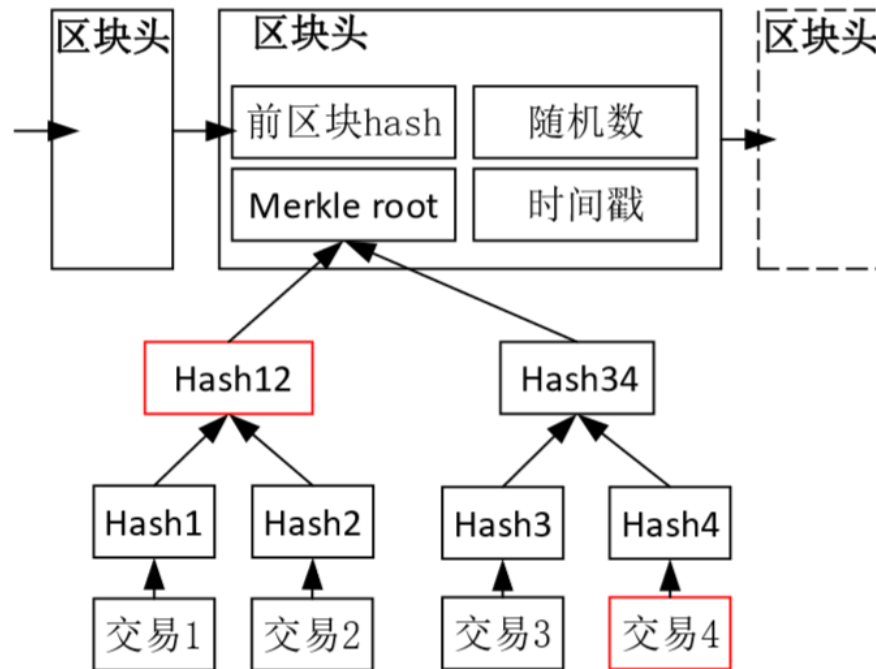


Fig. 2 Bitcoin blockchain data structure

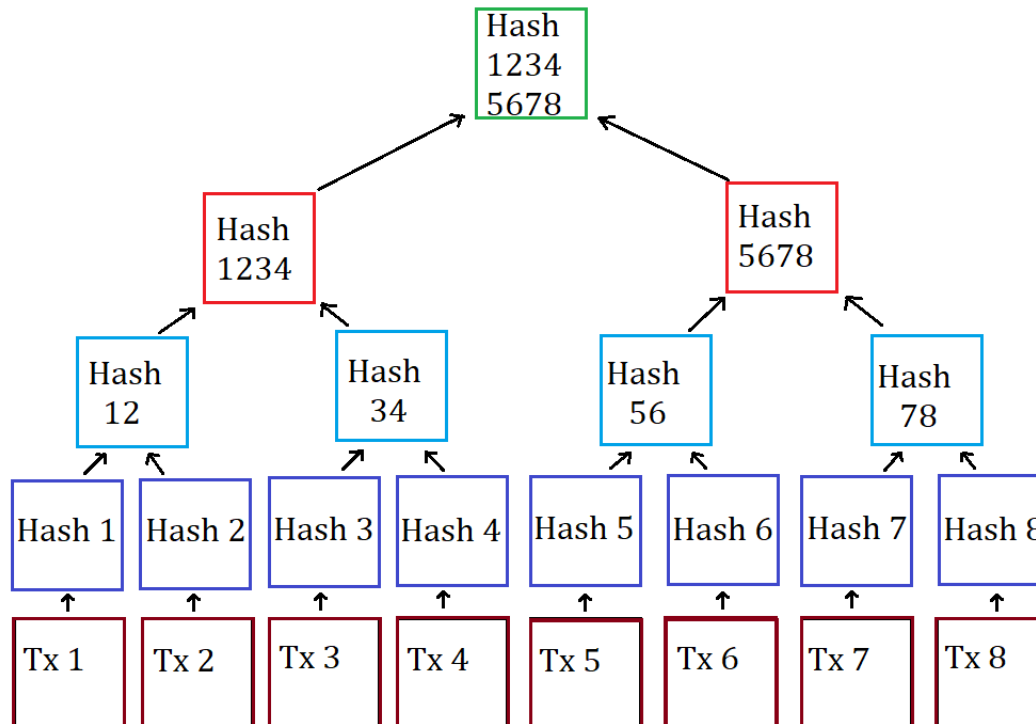
图 2 比特币区块链结构

What can Merkle Tree do in Bitcoin?



Merkle root hash (32 Bytes)

- The hash of the Merkle Tree root of all transactions in the block.
- If any transaction is changed, removed, or reordered, it will change the merkle root hash.
- This is what locks all of the transactions in the block.

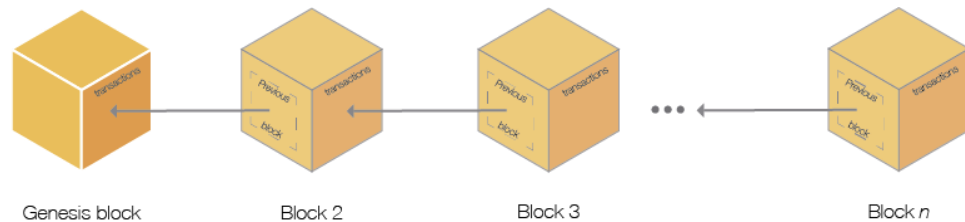


A Question: 为何区块链可以防篡改?



Why would we say that blockchain can prevent the ledger data from tampering?

- Ledger is with the *append-only* property
- If someone modifies any part in previous blocks, we know it immediately. **Why?**
- 篡改会顺着链传导 (图示: 2个维度)

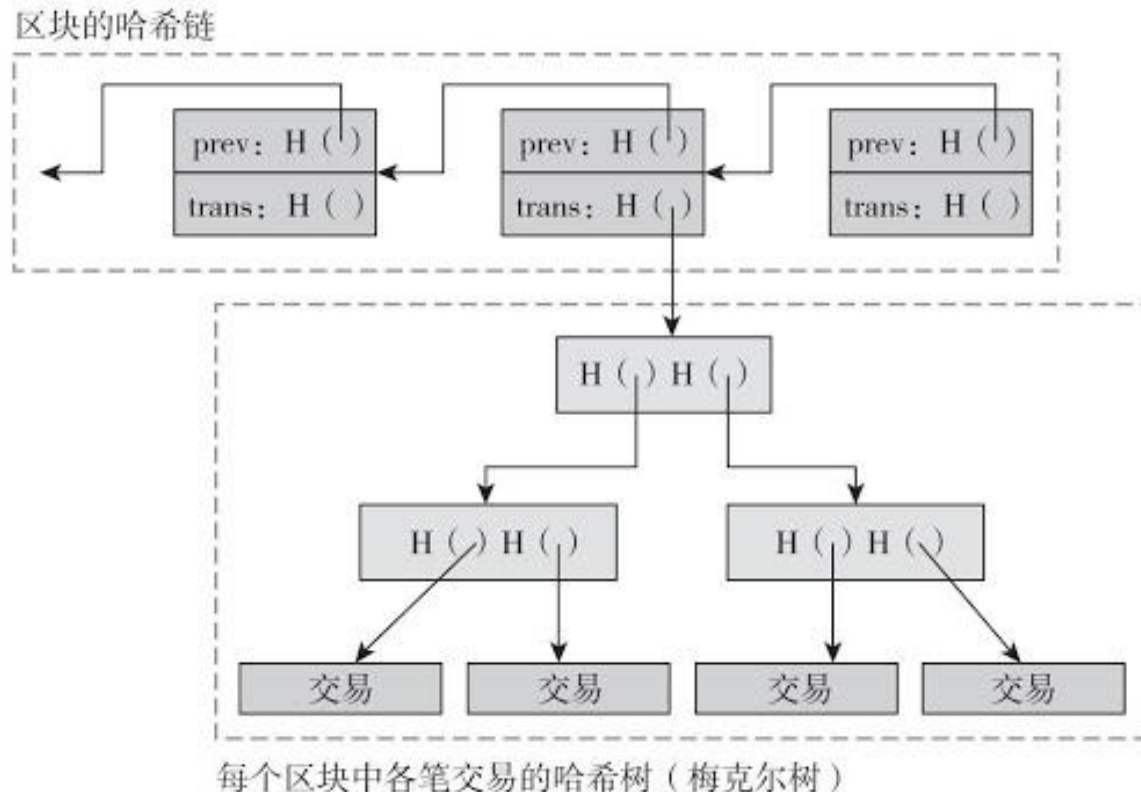


Two types of hash in Bitcoin Blockchain



#1: hash chains

#2: hashes in Merkle Tree inside each block body

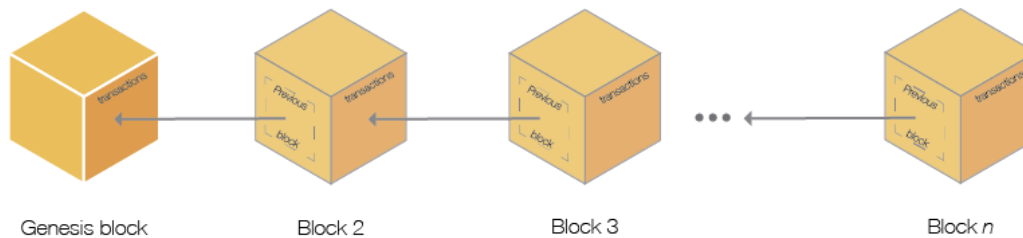


A Question: 为何区块链可以防篡改?



When an attacker tries to tamper a block data (e.g., a Tx)

- He may try to keep changing the **previous hash pointers**
- Can he make it?
 - ◆ No, because we have the **Genesis block**



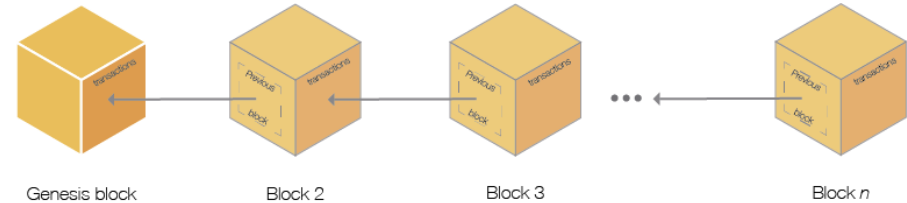
Genesis Block



The **first block** in any blockchain is termed the genesis block.

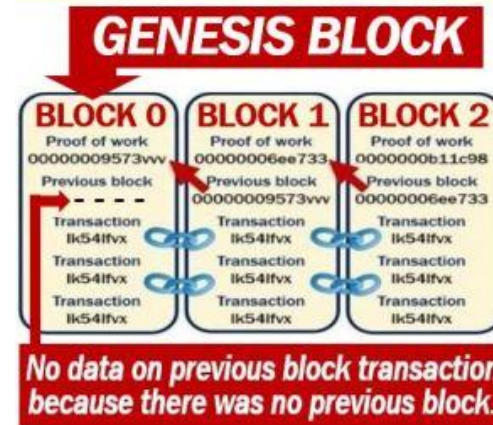
If you start at any block and follow the chain **backwards chronologically**, you will arrive at the genesis block.

The genesis block is **statically encoded** within the client software, that it cannot be changed.



Genesis Block

The first block of a blockchain



The Genesis Block is the ancestor to every block in the blockchain.

The first ever Genesis Block, from the Bitcoin blockchain, was mined in 2009.

Part 3: A Bitcoin Block



What does it look exactly?

- {block header} {transactions}

What components?

- **Block Header**: {version 4B} {previous block hash 32B} {merkle root hash 32B} {time 4B}{bits 4B} {nonce 4B}
- **Transactions**: a bunch of TXs

Hash Pointer

Merkle Tree

What is inside a Bitcoin's block