

DIGEX LEXICON

DIGITAL ASSET DICTIONARY

Blockchain • Tokenization • Real-World Assets



About this Dictionary

This dictionary defines core terminology of the digital-asset economy: the protocols that record value, the consensus mechanisms that secure them, the cryptographic primitives that protect keys, the wallets and custodians that hold them, the centralized and decentralized venues that price them, and the smart contracts that tokenize real-world property. Entries cover Bitcoin, Ethereum, Stellar, Solana, and Polygon at the protocol layer; advanced infrastructure including Hedera, Hyperledger, Omnibasis, Chainlink, and Fireblocks; and ecosystem references such as Digex, DigiBank, Lumina, the London Blockchain Bridge, MakaChain, and DigiBank's BUCK, DGBP, DBTK, and DIME tokens.

Where useful, definitions distinguish concepts that are often conflated in popular usage — coins versus tokens versus NFTs, hot versus cold storage, CEX versus DEX versus ATS, public versus private markets, and on-chain versus off-chain settlement.

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A

Address (Blockchain) — *Security & Cryptography*

A public alphanumeric identifier derived from a public key that designates the destination of an on-chain transaction. Addresses are safe to share publicly; the corresponding private key must never be disclosed. Formats vary by protocol (e.g., [Bitcoin](#) Base58/Bech32, [Ethereum](#) hex with EIP-55 checksum, [Stellar](#) 'G...' account IDs, [Solana](#) Base58).

Airdrop — *Tokens & Distribution*

A distribution event in which tokens or NFTs are sent to qualifying wallet addresses, typically as a marketing strategy, network bootstrapping incentive, or reward to early users or governance participants.

Algorithmic Stablecoin — *Stablecoins*

A stablecoin whose peg is maintained through on-chain algorithms and supply/demand mechanics rather than collateral reserves. Historically prone to reflexive de-peg events (e.g., TerraUSD collapse, 2022).

Alternative Trading System (ATS) — *Markets & Exchanges*

A SEC-regulated trading venue that matches buyers and sellers of securities outside of traditional exchanges. ATSs are increasingly used for tokenized securities and private digital asset markets, providing compliant secondary liquidity for restricted offerings.

AML (Anti-Money Laundering) — *Regulation & Compliance*

Statutory and procedural controls that detect and prevent the conversion of illicit proceeds into legitimate assets. Crypto businesses implement [AML](#) via [KYC](#), transaction monitoring, sanctions screening, and Suspicious Activity Reports (SARs).

API (Application Programming Interface) — *Infrastructure*

A defined set of endpoints through which software components communicate. In digital-asset infrastructure, APIs expose price feeds, order routing, custody operations, on-chain queries, and [KYC/AML](#) services.

Arbitrage — *Trading*

The simultaneous purchase and sale of the same asset across different venues to profit from price discrepancies. Common in crypto due to fragmented liquidity across CEXs, DEXs, and chains; often executed by automated bots.

Atomic Swap — *Cross-Chain*

A peer-to-peer exchange of two cryptocurrencies on different blockchains without a trusted intermediary, typically implemented with Hashed Timelock Contracts (HTLCs).

Automated Market Maker (AMM) — *DeFi*

A smart-contract liquidity protocol that prices assets via a deterministic formula (e.g., $x \cdot y = k$) and pools of user-deposited tokens, replacing traditional order books. Foundational to DEXs such as Uniswap, Curve, and Balancer.

B

BASE (Layer 2) — *Blockchains — Advanced*

An [Ethereum](#) Layer-2 optimistic rollup incubated by Coinbase and built on the OP Stack. Offers low-fee, EVM-equivalent execution settled to Ethereum mainnet.



Figure — Major Blockchain Protocols at a Glance

Sources: [bitcoin.org/bitcoin.pdf](#) (Nakamoto, 2008); [ethereum.org/whitepaper](#); [stellar.org/papers](#); [solana.com/solana-whitepaper.pdf](#); [polygon.technology/papers](#)

Birthchain — *Tokenization · Coined Term (Blair, 2026)*

Term coined by Bill Blair. A blockchain-anchored civic identity primitive that ties a newborn's birth record to a distributed ledger at the moment of registration. In the proposed implementation, a [Birthchain](#) account is provisioned on the [Stellar](#) blockchain to receive an initial seed deposit—such as a \$1,000 'Birth Distribution' under proposed Trump-administration child investment accounts—creating a lifelong, portable, cryptographically verifiable financial and identity record from day one.

Bitcoin (BTC) — *Protocols*

The first decentralized cryptocurrency, introduced in 2008 by Satoshi Nakamoto. Operates on a [Proof-of-Work](#) consensus, with a fixed supply cap of 21 million coins and a [UTXO](#) transaction model. Primary use cases include store of value and peer-to-peer settlement.

Block — *Blockchain Fundamentals*

A batch of transactions cryptographically linked to its predecessor by a hash pointer, forming the chain. Each block contains a header (parent hash, timestamp, Merkle root, nonce) and a body of transactions.

Blockchain — *Blockchain Fundamentals*

A distributed, append-only ledger replicated across nodes that agree on state through a consensus mechanism. Records are tamper-evident through cryptographic hashing and chaining, providing trust without a central operator.

Blockchain Bridge — *Cross-Chain*

A protocol that transfers assets or messages between independent blockchains, typically by locking assets on the source chain and minting wrapped representations on the destination chain. Bridges have been frequent attack targets (e.g., [Wormhole](#), Ronin); examples in production include [Chainlink](#) CCIP, AllBridge, [MakaChain](#), [Hyperledger](#)-based bridges, and [Digex DigiBank's London Blockchain Bridge](#).

Blockchain Explorer — *Infrastructure*

A web interface that indexes and displays on-chain data — transactions, addresses, blocks, contracts, tokens — for a given network. Examples: Etherscan, [Blockchain.com](#), [Stellar](#) Expert, Solscan, Polygonscan.



Figure — Keys, Wallets & Custody

Sources: NIST SP 800-57 ([Key Management](#)); [Fireblocks MPC-CMP whitepaper](#); [Ledger Donjon security research](#); CCSS — [CryptoCurrency Security Standard](#)

Bridged Wallet — *Wallets*

A wallet supporting native multi-chain accounts and cross-chain transactions without forcing the user to convert via a stablecoin. Examples include [MetaMask](#) (via Snaps and L2s), Coinbase [Wallet](#)'s [DEX](#) features, and [DigiBank](#)'s [Lumina](#).

Broker (Digital Asset) — *Markets & Exchanges*

A licensed intermediary that executes digital-asset trades on behalf of clients, typically against an internal book or via aggregated venue routing. Subject to broker-dealer regulation in jurisdictions such as the United States.

BUCK (DigiBank Token) — *Stablecoins*

A USD-pegged payment token issued by [DigiBank](#) on the [Stellar](#) network. Used for on/off-ramp settlement and as a unit of account in DigiBank ecosystem applications.

Burn (Token) — *Tokenomics*

The permanent removal of tokens from circulation by sending them to an unspendable address or executing a contract method that decrements total supply. Used for deflationary policy, fee mechanisms (e.g., EIP-1559), and buyback-and-burn programs.

C

CBDC (Central Bank Digital Currency) — *Stablecoins*

A digital liability of a central bank, denominated in the sovereign unit of account. Distinct from privately issued stablecoins; designs vary across retail vs. wholesale and account- vs. token-based models.

Centralized Exchange (CEX) — *Markets & Exchanges*

A custodial trading venue operated by a corporate entity that holds user funds, matches orders on internal systems, and provides fiat on/off-ramps. Examples: Coinbase, Binance, Kraken, Gemini.

Chainlink — *Oracles — Advanced*

A decentralized oracle network that delivers off-chain data (prices, weather, events) and cross-chain messaging (CCIP) to smart contracts via a network of independent node operators with cryptoeconomic guarantees.

Coin — *Digital Assets Defined*

A native digital asset of a Layer-1 blockchain (e.g., [BTC](#) on Bitcoin, [ETH](#) on Ethereum, [SOL](#) on Solana, [XLM](#) on [Stellar](#)). Distinct from tokens, which are issued on top of an existing chain. Subcategories include meme coins, stablecoins, and native coins used for gas.

Cold Storage / Cold Wallet — *Wallets*

A wallet that holds private keys on a device or medium permanently disconnected from the internet (hardware wallets, paper wallets, metal seed plates, air-gapped computers). Provides the strongest practical defense against remote attackers; trade-off is slower access and operational complexity.

END OF PREVIEW

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The full edition includes 136 cross-linked entries across 28 categories, with figures and appendices.

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