

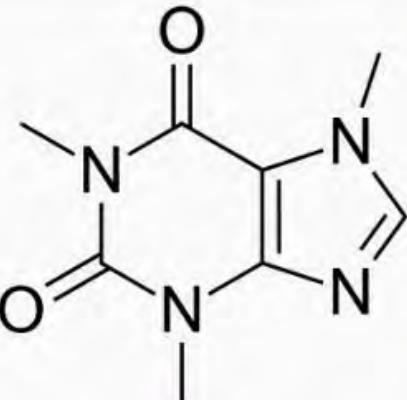
ChemChain @  
InChI open chemical identifier on the block**chain** -  
a decentralized and authoritative identifier

Executive summary:

open algorithmic identifiers  
+ blockchain

= open authoritative  
identifiers

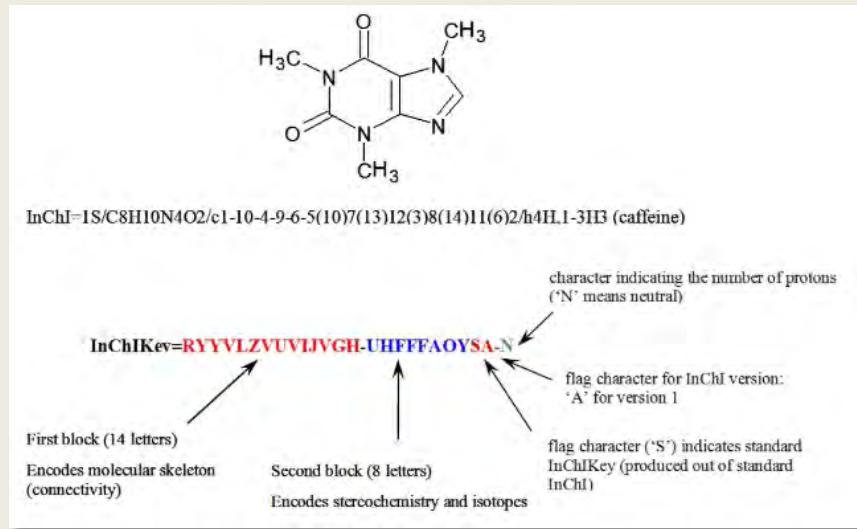
# The present chemical identifier ecosystem:

Caffeine



Identifiers	Chemical and physical data
<b>IUPAC name</b> 1,3,7-Trimethylpurine-2,6-dione	<b>Formula</b> C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>10</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>2</sub>
<b>CAS Number</b> 58-08-2  	<b>Molar mass</b> 194.19 g/mol g·mol <sup>-1</sup>
<b>PubChem CID</b> 2519 	<b>3D model (JSmol)</b> 
<b>IUPHAR/BPS</b> 407 	<b>Density</b> 1.23 g/cm <sup>3</sup>
<b>DrugBank</b> DB00201  	<b>Melting point</b> 235 to 238 °C (455 to 460 °F) (anhydrous) <sup>[8][9]</sup>
<b>ChemSpider</b> 2424  	<b>SMILES</b> [hide] <chem>CN1C=NC2=C1C(=O)N(C(=O)N2C)C</chem>
<b>UNII</b> 3G6A5W338E 	<b>InChI</b> [hide] <chem>InChI=1S/C8H10N4O2/c1-10-4-9-6-5(10)7(13)12(3)8(14)11(6)2/h4H,1-3H3</chem> Key: RYYVLZVUVIJVGH-UHFFFAOYSA-N
<b>KEGG</b> D00528  	
<b>ChEBI</b> CHEBI:27732  	
<b>ChEMBL</b> ChEMBL113  	
<b>PDB ligand</b> CFF (PDBe  , RCSB PDB 	
<b>CompTox Dashboard (EPA)</b> DTXSID0020232  	
<b>ECHA InfoCard</b> 100.000.329  	

# Algorithmic identifiers: InChI

InChI string and key: example caffeine



InChI is an **open** textual identifier for chemical substances, designed to provide a standard way to encode molecular information and to facilitate the search for such information in **decentralized**

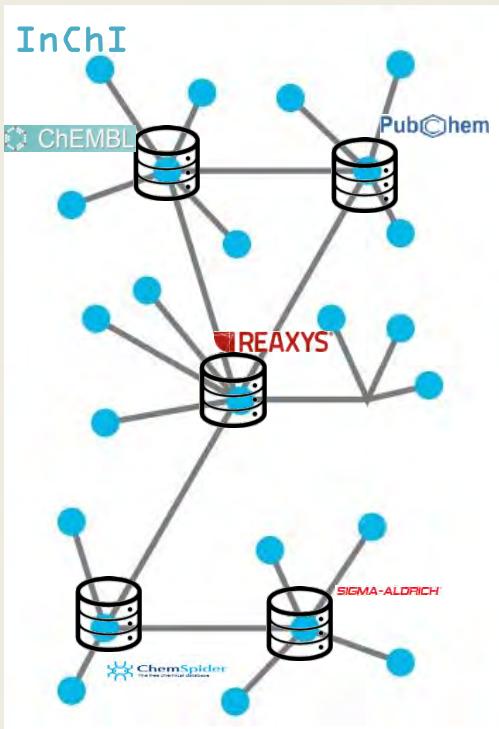


Considerations regarding **safety** and **authority** of the InChI system:

- InChI versions
- Hash collisions
- Trusting the InChI sender/provider is required.

# The InChI system: from a network perspective

Decentralized DBs using



Inconsistency of InChI and other systematic  
identifiers in different data

**Table 3 Consistency of MOLs and systematic identifiers  
(in % agreement) within databases**

Database	MOL-InChI	MOL-SMILES	MOL-IUPAC
DrugBank	98.2	98.5	90.0
ChEBI	96.5	96.5	75.3
HMDB	89.3	37.2	55.7
PubChem	97.7	97.8	87.2
NPC	-	93.4	†

Conclusion: algorithmic  
identifiers like InChI,  
SMILES need to be  
consistently applied among  
the different chemistry  
sources. However,  
inconsistencies exist among

Akhondi et al. *Journal of Cheminformatics* 2012, 4:35  
<http://www.jcheminf.com/content/4/1/35>



## RESEARCH ARTICLE

## Open Access

### Consistency of systematic chemical identifiers within and between small-molecule databases

Saber A Akhondi<sup>1</sup>\*, Jan A Kors<sup>1</sup> and Sorel Muresan<sup>2</sup>

#### Abstract

**Background:** Correctness of structures and associated metadata within public and commercial chemical databases greatly impacts drug discovery research activities such as quantitative structure–property relationships modelling and compound novelty checking. MOL files, SMILES notations, IUPAC names, and InChI strings are ubiquitous file formats and systematic identifiers for chemical structures. While interchangeable for many cheminformatics purposes there have been no studies on the inconsistency of these structure identifiers due to various approaches for data integration, including the use of different software and different rules for structure standardisation. We have investigated the consistency of systematic identifiers of small molecules within and between some of the commonly used chemical resources, with and without structure standardisation.

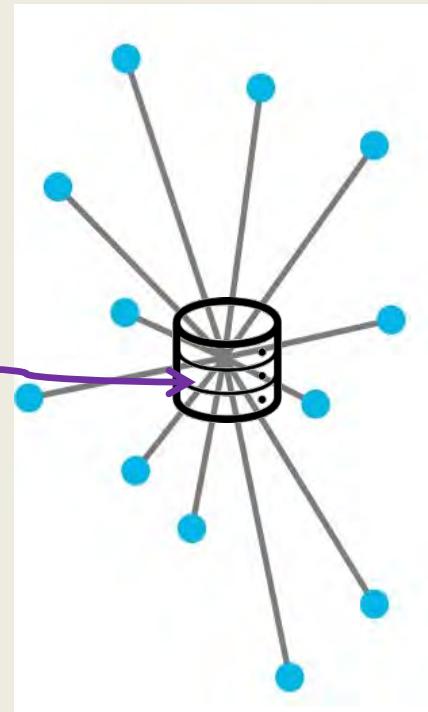
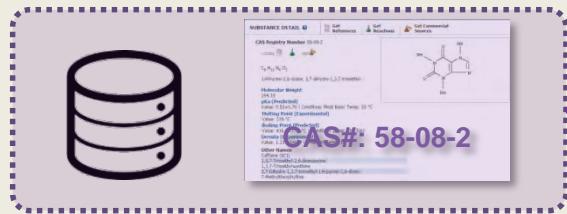
**Results:** The consistency between systematic chemical identifiers and their corresponding MOL representation varies greatly between data sources (37.2%–98.5%). We observed the lowest overall consistency for MOL-IUPAC names. Disregarding stereochemistry increases the consistency (84.8% to 99.9%). A wide variation in consistency also exists between MOL representations of compounds linked via cross-references (25.8% to 93.7%). Removing stereochemistry improved the consistency (47.6% to 95.6%).

**Conclusions:** We have shown that considerable inconsistency exists in structural representation and systematic chemical identifiers within and between databases. This can have a great influence especially when merging data, and if systematic identifiers are used as a key index for structure integration or cross-querying several databases. Regenerating systematic identifiers starting from their MOL representation and applying well-defined and documented chemistry standardisation rules to all compounds prior to creating them can dramatically increase internal consistency.

**Keywords:** Molecular structure, Chemical databases, Systematic chemical identifiers, Quality control, InChI, SMILES, IUPAC.

# Centralized reference identifier system: network perspective

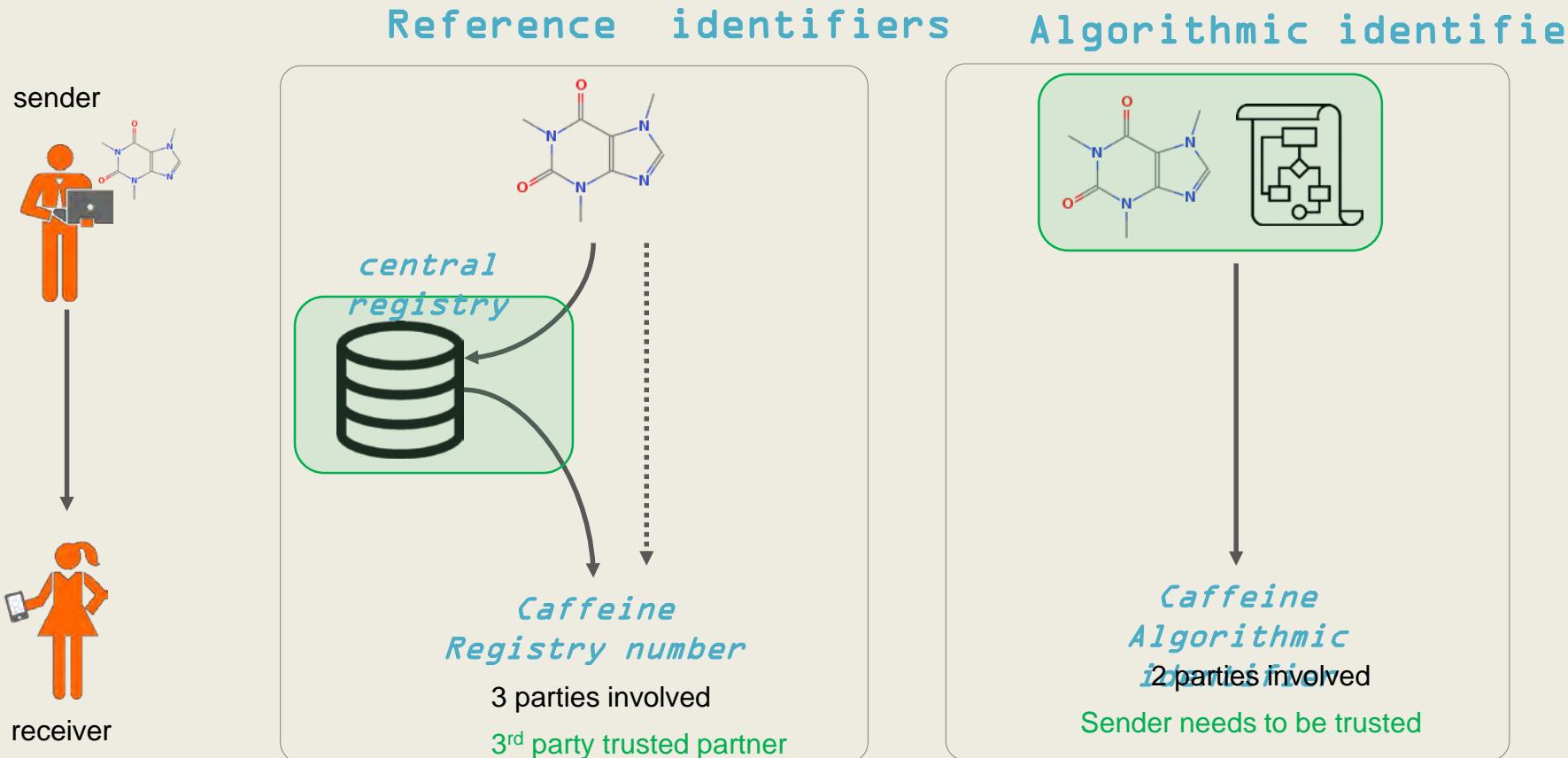
centralized



Note:

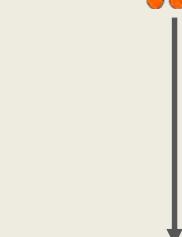
Reference identifiers are hosted on centralized systems. The owner of such important DB has enormous power over the users because of the dependency.

# Trust models of chemical identifiers



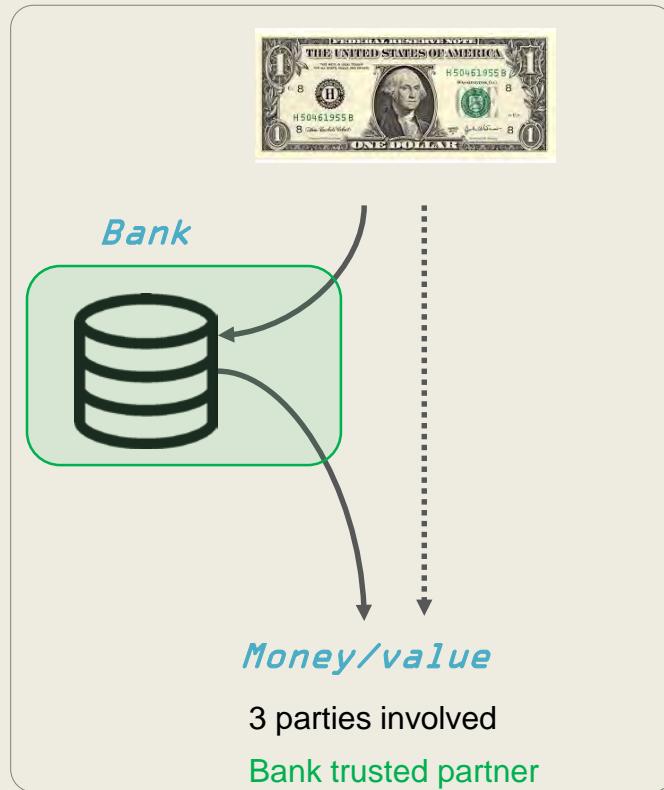
# Transfer of value

sender

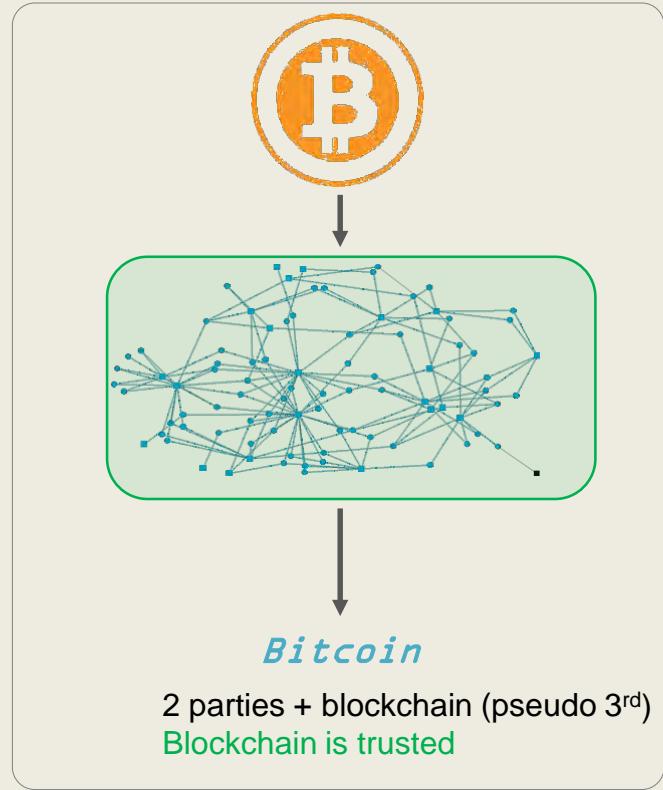


receiver

3<sup>rd</sup> party Bank



Blockchain based



# Inspiration for ChemChain - Bitcoin explorer

The screenshot shows a web-based blockchain explorer interface. At the top, there is a search bar with placeholder text "Search for things like address, transaction, block", a dropdown menu labeled "All Blockchains", and a blue "Search" button. Below the header, the title "Latest blocks" is displayed, followed by a "View more blocks" link. A table lists ten recent blocks, providing details such as height, hash, mining time, miner, and size.

Height	Hash	Mined	Miner	Size
591448	000000000000000000001addd5284fc5c22c73411...	15:50 PM	Unknown	1,325,534 bytes
591447	00000000000000000000079f4f2f32bb1bc275277e...	15:20 PM	F2Pool	1,244,431 bytes
591446	0000000000000000000019b992abdb0d5fb863a29...	15:17 PM	F2Pool	1,319,782 bytes
591445	0000000000000000000008f17c81008fc3b8a772af...	14:54 PM	BTC.com	584,874 bytes
591444	000000000000000000003b4aa388985daacaa34...	14:49 PM	BTC.TOP	458,524 bytes
591443	0000000000000000000033c0ecbb201398b69c2...	14:46 PM	BTC.com	1,009,367 bytes
591442	0000000000000000000025edb7abd13863da67b...	14:40 PM	Unknown	1,211,424 bytes
591441	00000000000000000000fb8fa7cc77536c8f2f2f4b...	14:30 PM	Unknown	1,318,843 bytes
591440	000000000000000000002d817fbdda2667d62830...	14:17 PM	BTC.TOP	1,188,895 bytes
591439	00000000000000000000936c725985391d7477a...	14:12 PM	Unknown	1,385,586 bytes

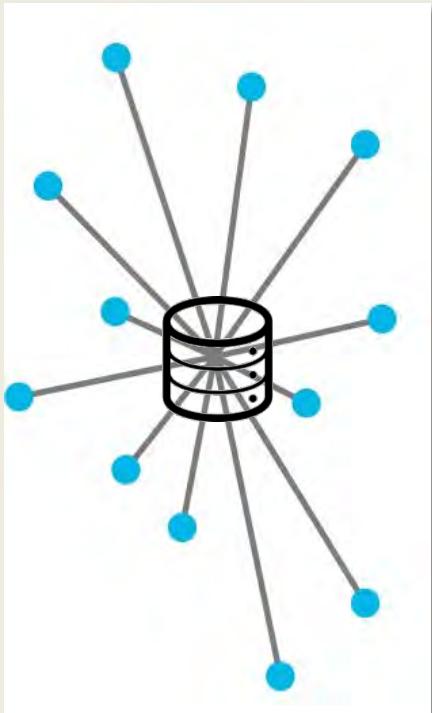
# Hypophysis:

A future-proof chemical identifiers system needs to be:  
authoritative, open and scalable

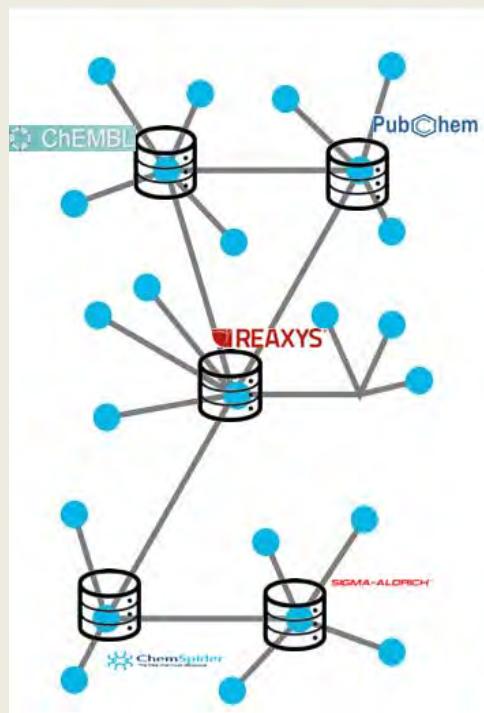
	Reference identifiers	Algorithmic identifiers	ChemChain	
- Open	NO	YES	YES	<i>open code</i>
- Scalable	NO	YES	YES	<i>cryptography</i>
- Safe	YES	NO	YES	
- Authoritative	YES	NO	YES	
- Decentralized	NO	YES	YES	<i>distributed ledger P2P</i>
- Cost effective	NO	YES	YES	

# Chemical identifier evolution: network point of view

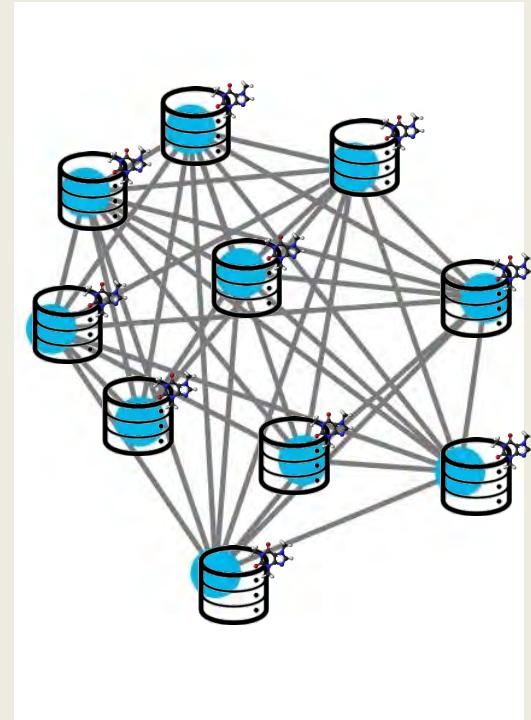
centralized



decentralized



distributed

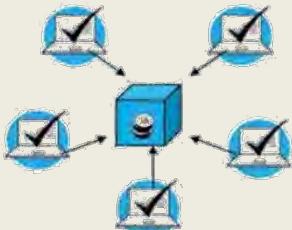


# Three major blockchain components



ChemChain

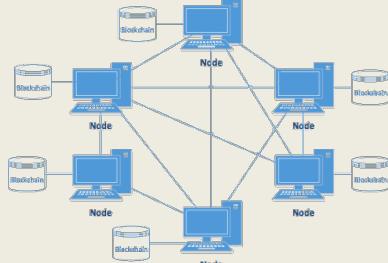
Consensus Mechanism  
(PoW, PoS)



Consensus mechanism prevents the double-spending problem. CM keeps the network clean and honest.

Consensus mechanism controls the uniqueness and relevance of structures in ChemChain.

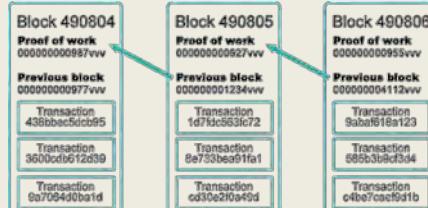
Peer-to-peer network



Distributed ledger technology enables every node to have the exact same copy of transactions.

Distributed ledger technology every chemist (organization) to keep a copy of structures.

Crypto/hashed blocks

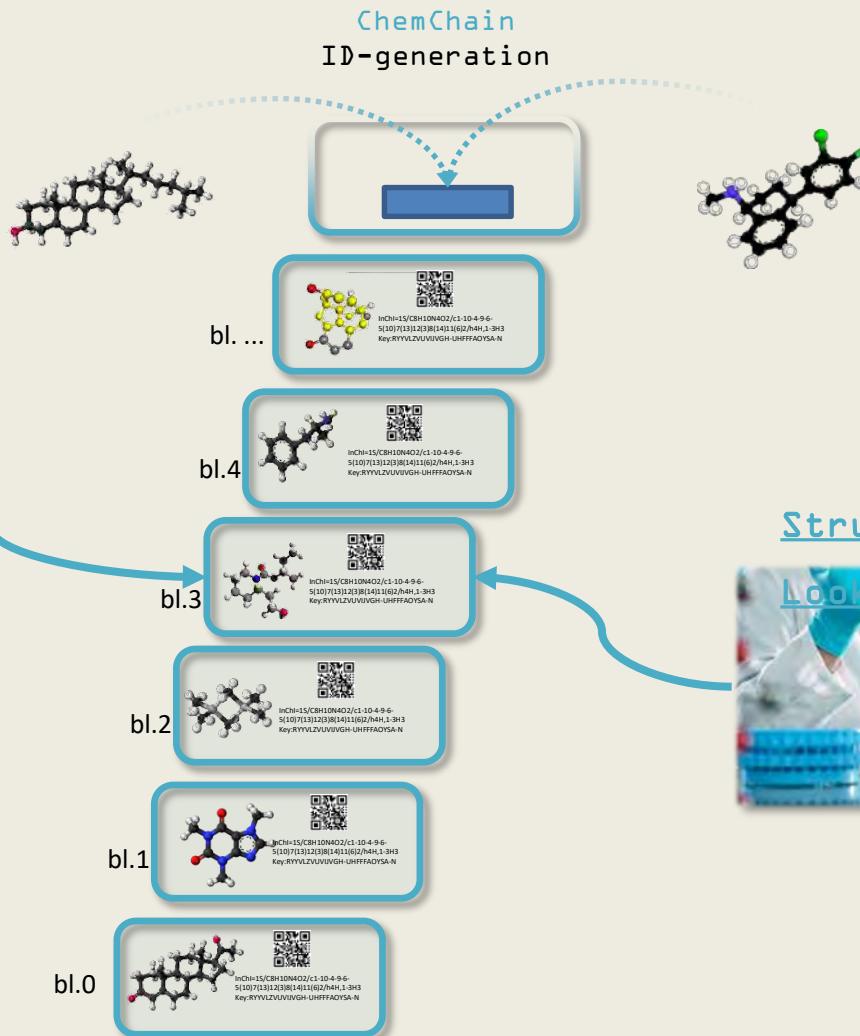
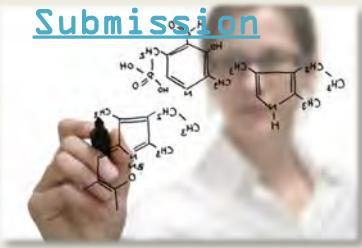


Hashed blocks keep all containing transactions immutable.

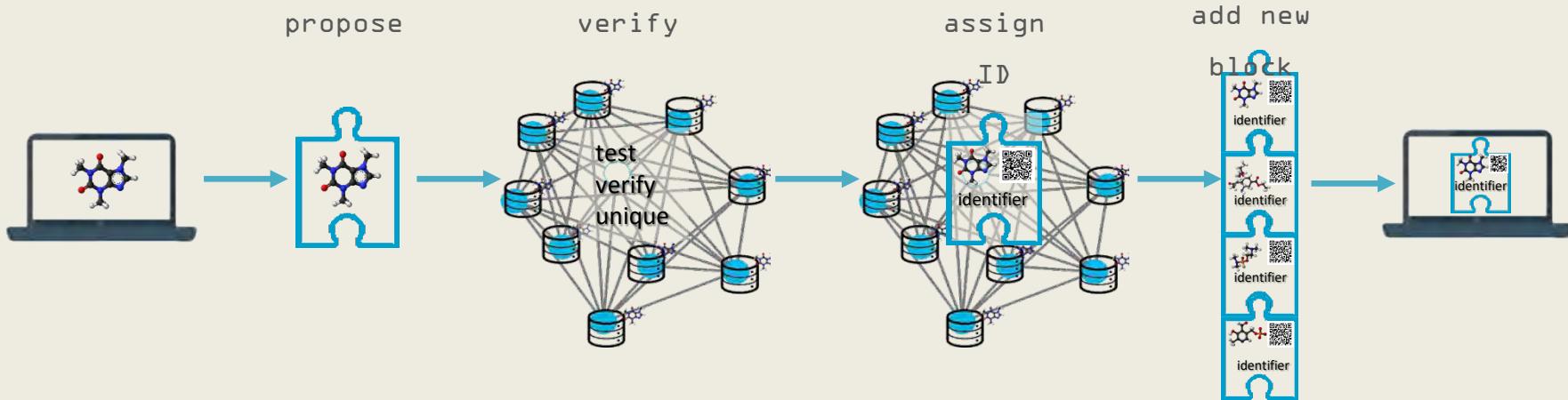
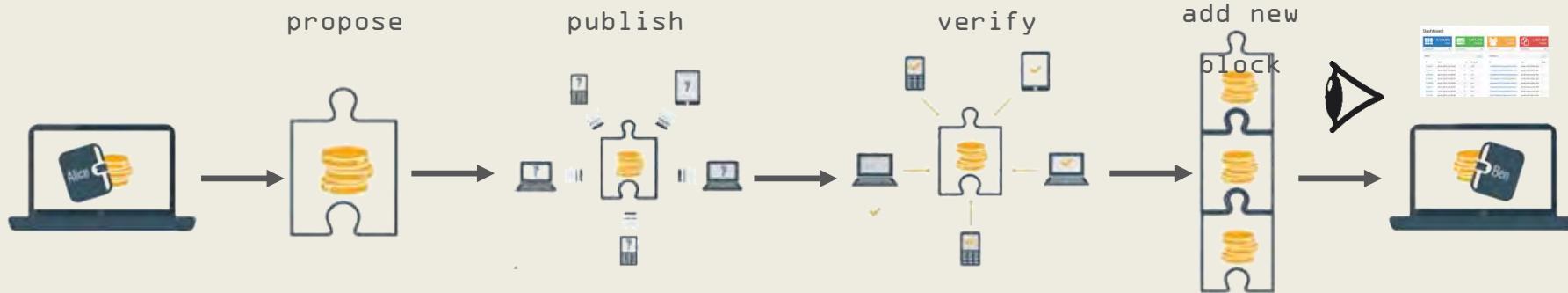
Hashed blocks make it impossible to change the registered structures.

# ChemChain - chemical ID Registration process

## Submission



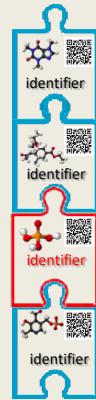
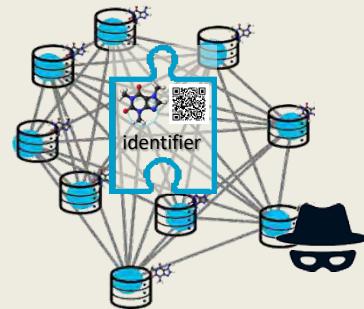
# Blockchain principles of ChemChain



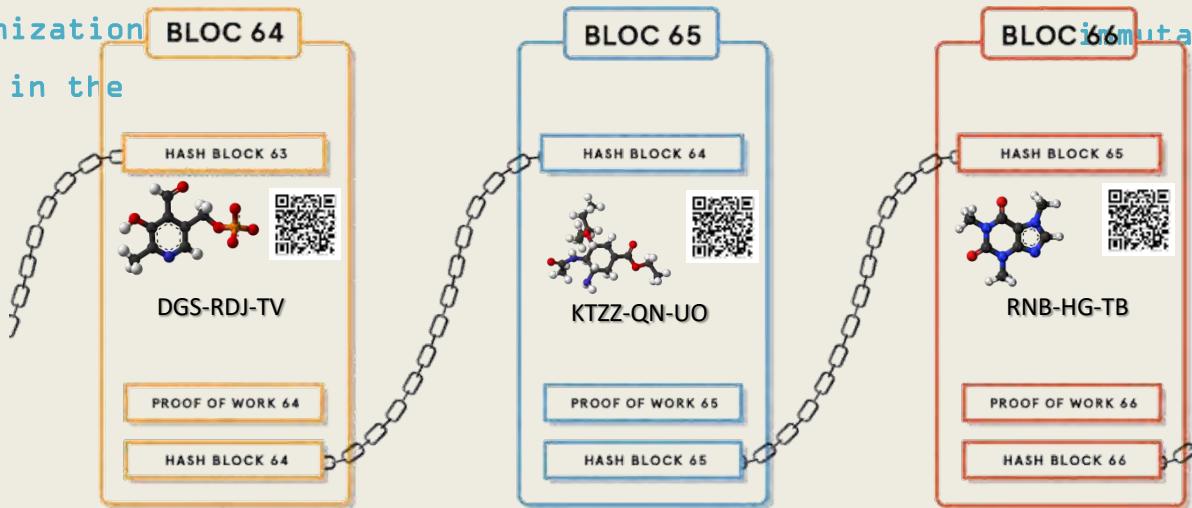
# ChemChain is protected by cryptography

In a blockchain network all nodes have same copy of the ledger/DB.

Cryptography and Peer-to-peer protocols assure the consistency and synchronization of the data in the ledger/DB.



Corrupting data is practically impossible due to the economic burden of the cryptographic hash functions. Data stored in blockchains is



# What information should be stored in ChemChain block?

structures



personal

identifiers

Affiliation

Location

IP

identifier

consecutive numbers: 1,2,3,... 9999

InChI/SMILEs - style: BTEGFTGE-

YTZ-H

~~CAS# 50-00-2~~



RNB-HG-TB  
3424525

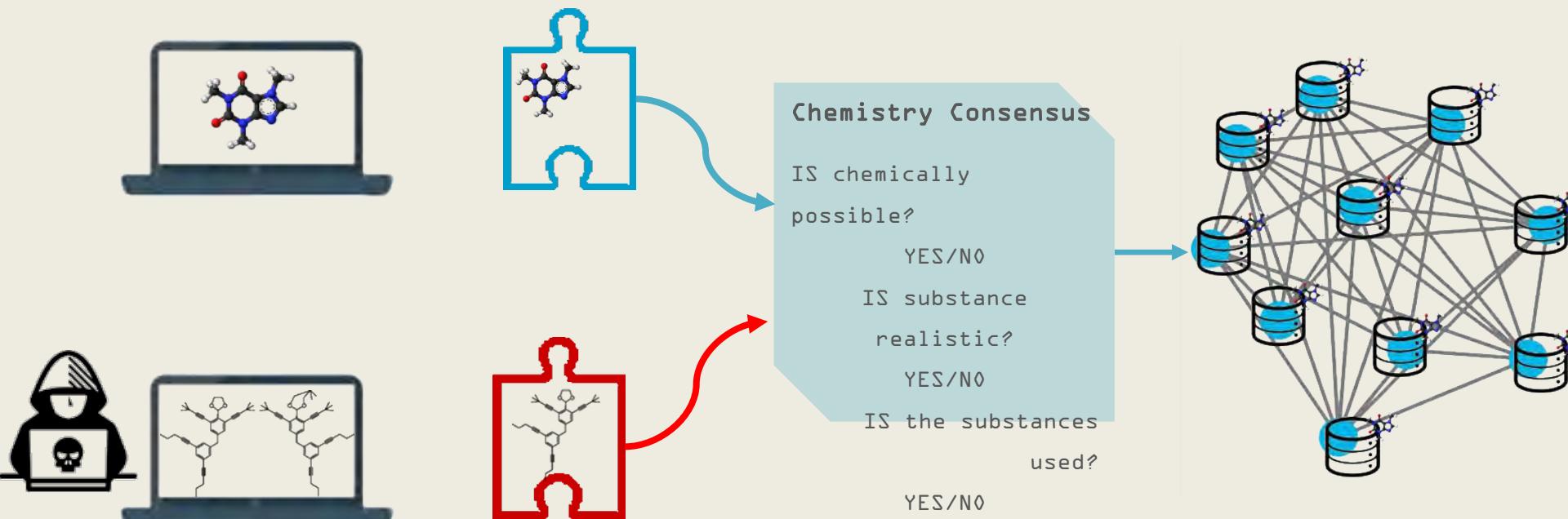
Big  
Unknown:

Names and

machine readable

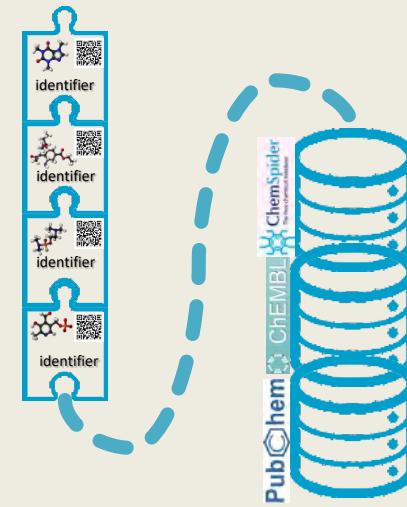
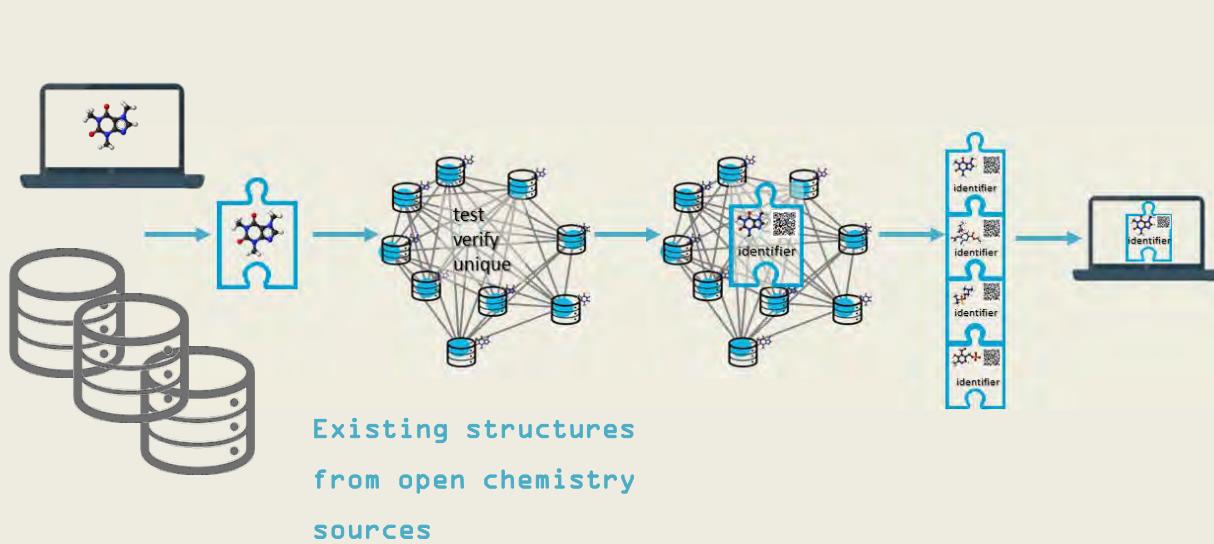
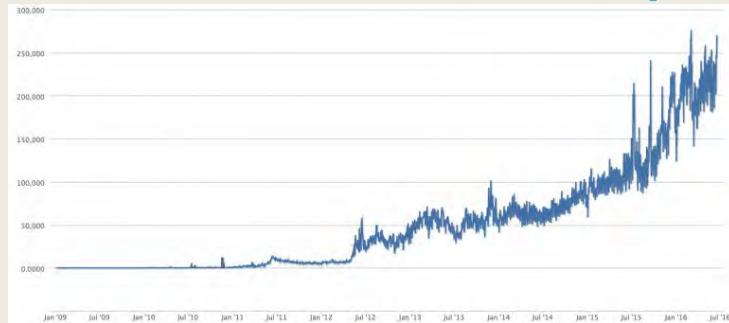
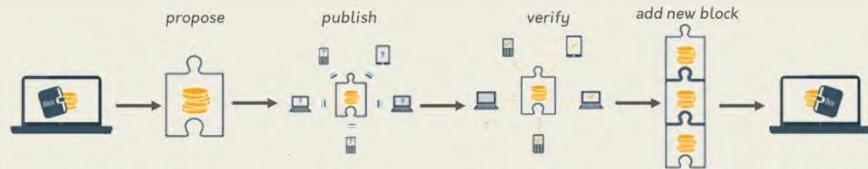


# A chemistry-consensus mechanism controls ChemChain

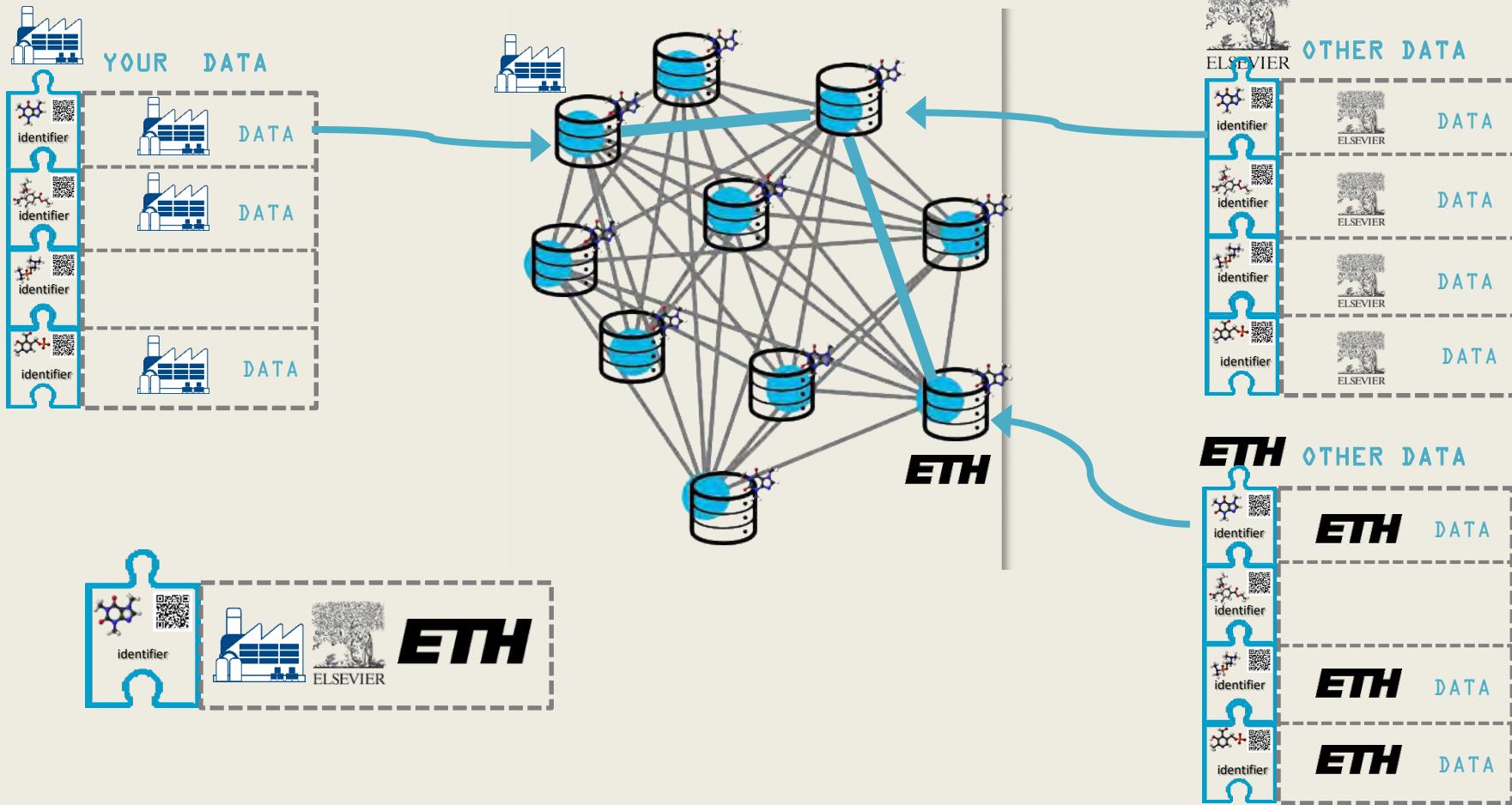


# ChemChain could add existing structures quickly

Bitcoin transactions/day



# ChemChain semantically connects chemistry

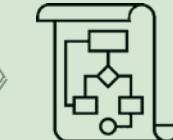
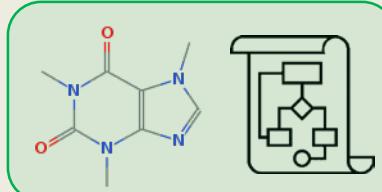


# ChemChain acts as a trusted authority

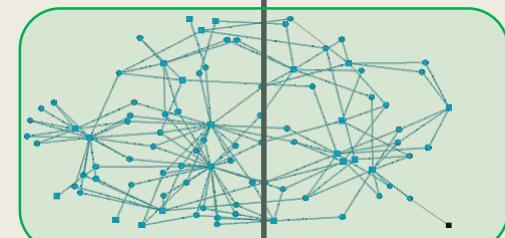
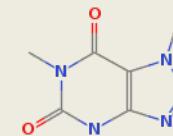
Reference identifier      Algorithmic identifier      Blockchain identifier



*Caffeine  
Registry number*  
3 parties involved  
3<sup>rd</sup> party trusted partner



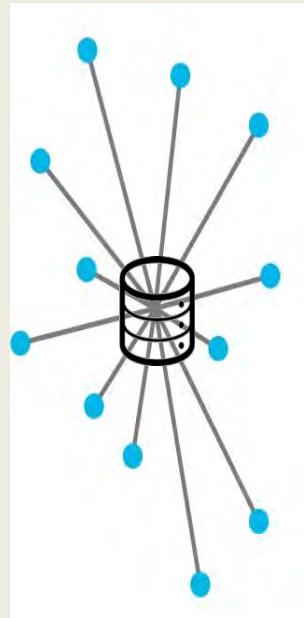
*Caffeine  
algorithmic  
identifier*  
2 parties involved  
Sender needs to be trusted



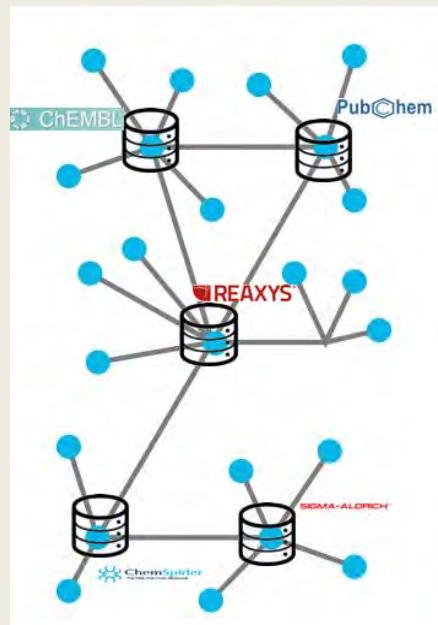
*Caffeine  
blockchain  
identifier*  
2 parties and one BC network  
BC network is trusted

# ChemChain is the better system, not the better identifier

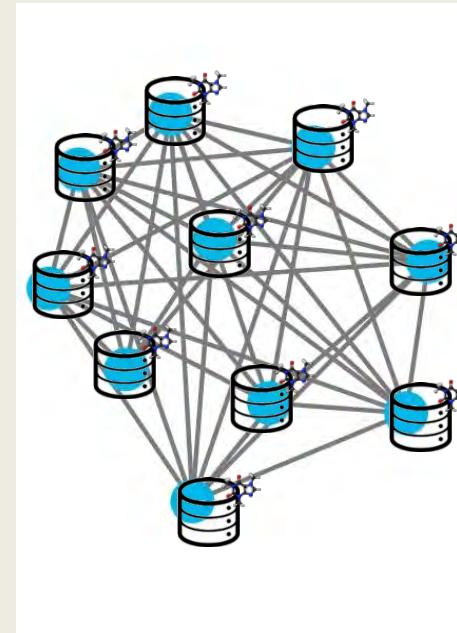
centralized



decentralized



distributed



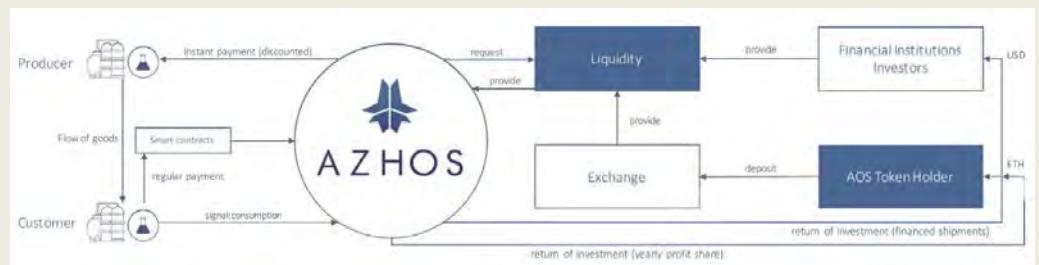
# Examples for chemical/pharma blockchain projects

Project Production Login

## Zr coin

### The world's first commodity-backed blockchain option

- Based on real production
- Unique, stable and innovative blockchain product
- 100% profit for 18 months
- Complete transparency at every stage
- Possibility to become a commodity token holder
- Over \$1 million in R&D



BASF and arc-net collaborate to use blockchain technology for livestock sustainability

FLORHAM PARK, NEW JERSEY, and BELFAST, NORTHERN IRELAND; April 17, 2018 – BASF Corporation and arc-net, are collaborating to use blockchain technology to capture and analyze sustainability parameters in livestock production along the value chain. arc-net is a technology company utilizing blockchain technology to provide transparency in the agri-food industry. As part of this collaboration, BASF will use its taxation calculation tool, AgBalance™ Livestock, to provide science-based information on environmental impacts along the animal production value chain.



Tony Graetzel  
Nutrition & Pharma SBU  
10 Park Ave, Florham Park, NJ

### Walmart considers blockchain technology for tracing chemicals

Potential to create 'a new era of transparency'

21 June 2018 | Confidentiality & right-to-know, Data, United States, Voluntary action



US retail giant Walmart is assessing whether the digital technology 'blockchain' can be used to trace chemicals across some of its products and packaging.

Blockchain is a digital record keeping system that enables the creation and maintenance of a growing number of records, allowing fast tracking of information. It was originally created to manage transactions through the crypto-currency Bitcoin, but has since shown potential for sharing and retrieving many other forms of data.

**FarmaTrust**

BLOCKCHAIN AND AI SOLUTIONS FOR THE PHARMACEUTICAL AND HEALTHCARE SECTOR

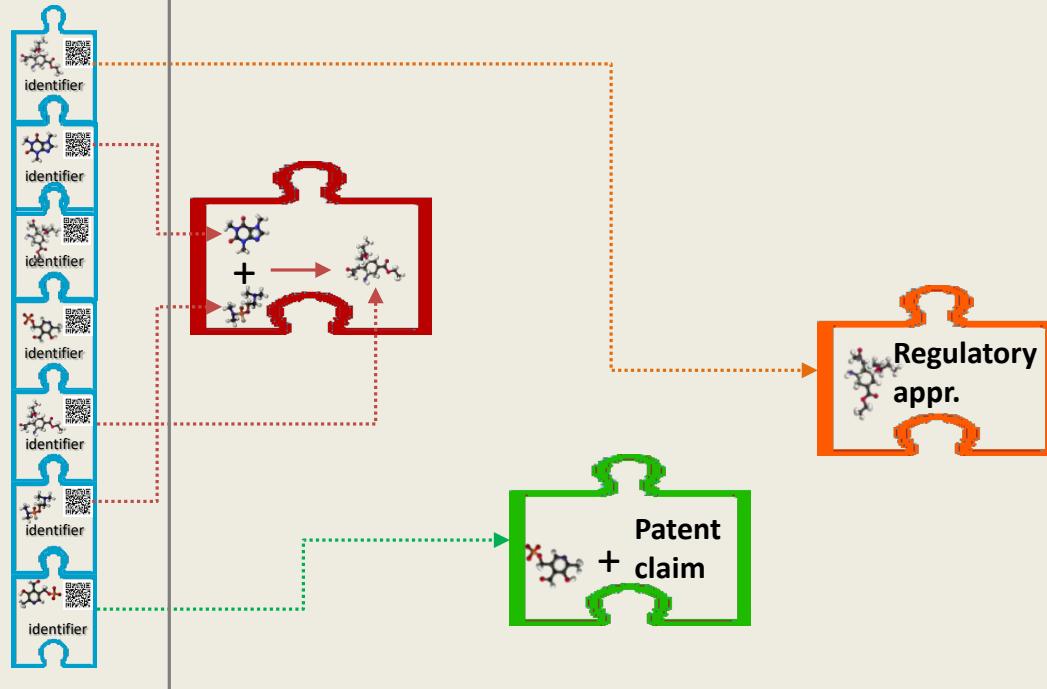
- PHARMACEUTICAL TRACKING & DATA SERVICES
- CGT & PERSONALISED MEDICINE SERVICES
- CLINICAL TRIALS SERVICES
- MEDICAL DEVICES SERVICES

# ChemChain as reference layer for other service layers

Reference Layer

Service Layer

ChemChain ReactionChain PatentChain RegulatoryChain



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