Partial f Overview

Blockchain technology enables the transfer of assets across an open financial network without the need for third parties. There has been a significant rise in the number of digital assets existing on the blockchain and consequently a flurry of investment and speculation but investors remain unable to take complex financial positions.

Our vision is for a more developed blockchain financial ecosystem and we will achieve this by establishing a decentralized derivatives platform. We aim to create a number of tokens that replicate the behavior of traditional financial derivatives but for cryptocurrencies. Consequently, these types of products will be fair, trustless, and easily tradeable. Implementing cryptocurrency derivatives natively on the blockchain permits seamless 24/7 trading of a single fungible product while at the same time eliminating any need for interaction with the traditional financial system or other centralized party.

Derivatives are vital to financial markets as they give investors the ability to manage risk effectively as well as create numerous avenues for speculation. This allows for more complex positions to be taken, aiding in price discovery and hence improving market efficiency. The traditional derivatives market has grown substantially over the years to be worth an estimated $1.2 quadrillion. These markets are both highly regulated and designed to favor select participants, leaving positions exposed. The aforementioned issues stem from placing your trust in centralized actors that may or may not have your best interests in mind.

Decentralized, trustless, financial products are an important progression for the blockchain space. Currently, there is a severe lack of legitimacy surrounding blockchain as a medium of value storage and transfer. This is partly due to the extreme volatility experienced in the market, the absence of efficient risk mitigation tools, and poorly managed centralized exchanges that can go offline without prior notice, often for unknown and lengthy periods of time. This can leave traders vulnerable due to exposed positions.

Our first product is a decentralized token that inversely tracks the price of Bitcoin. Some centralized exchanges allow an individual to take short positions but there is no coin that enables you to do this. Current methods of shorting have a number of issues including exchanges intermittently going offline, high fees, financial limits and poor support. Another big issue with shorting is the asymmetric risk/reward issue, i.e., unlimited downside but limited upside. Our initial product utilizes a system of smart contracts to fix the issues outlined above.

There is no token like this on the market and currently, to our knowledge, nobody is working on creating derivative products in this way. While many start-ups aim to bring derivatives and other financial products to cryptocurrencies, their focus is on underlying protocols to facilitate derivative creation and trading, rather than constructing a tokenized product.

We also plan on launching a number of tokens including inverse products for a variety of other cryptocurrencies such as Ethereum as well as tokenizing other types of derivatives. We have all but finished the architecture of our first token and are in the process of running extensive modeling and simulations. Technical information is available in our whitepaper.

The team currently consists of a group of individuals from Blockchain at Berkeley who all share the same vision for a financial blockchain ecosystem. The co-founders are Sebastian Isaacs, Joseph Plaza, Kochise Bennett and, Luke Strgar. They are experienced in industry, working at a number of leading financial institutions betweenthem. Sebastian Isaacs co-founded London Blockchain Labs, the first student-run blockchain labs, and was an early investor in Bitcoin and Ethereum. Joseph Plaza set up the first Litecoin exchange and has been active in the space since 2010. Kochise Bennett has a Ph.D. in physics and is currently a post-doctoral researcher in applied machine learning at UC Berkeley. Luke Strgar is a recent graduate of UC Berkeley Computer Science. He co-taught a one of a kind course at UC Berkeley on solidity and distributed application development.