



BLOCKCHAIN ON DIGITAL ID



In addition to the features, formats and use cases of an ID, with blockchain we are starting to talk about the design and the structure of that ID. One of the characteristics of blockchain, *as a distributed ledger, is decentralization.*



We are used to a centralized ID structure. One example is the legal ID we use. A government agency issues its ID and only it can guarantee that the ID is authentic.



In a decentralized structure, not just one authority can issue a credential and not just one authority can validate that credential.



In the car rental example, the traffic authority issues a document saying that you can drive a car, but the rental company itself can check the validity of that document.



When you want to apply for a job as a truck driver, in addition to presenting a document proving that you have a driver's license, you can also present a certificate for a course you have taken in the field, a credential issued by the school and registered on the blockchain, for example.

This decentralization means you can control who has access to your credentials, for how long and for what purpose. This possibility of control has been studied as self-sovereign identity, but that's a topic for another conversation.



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