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Comparative Study of Blockchain with Other Databases

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ABSTRACT: This study examines different databases and compares them to blockchain technology. The irreversible feature of blockchain has generated interest and may be advantageous to numerous businesses. Traditional databases, on the other hand, are centralized, managed by trustworthy authority, yet subject to modifications or omissions. Consensus processes, data integrity, security, and transparency are all examined in the study. Through distributed consensus and cryptographic procedures, blockchain ensures immutability, although transaction processing may be sluggish and scaling may be difficult. The paper provides information on the benefits and limitations of each technology, assisting organizations thinking about deployment in making decisions.

I. INTRODUCTION

Blockchain technology has evolved into more and more of a disruptive force in recent years with the ability to reshape numerous industries researchers and practitioners have taken notice of it and shown interest in it due to its decentralized and unchangeable character in order to fully understand the benefits and drawbacks of blockchain its characteristics and capabilities must be compared to those of other technologies already in use this analysis compares blockchain technology to other technologies like traditional databases centralized systems and distributed ledger technologies in order to understand the characteristics of blockchain and how it differs from them this study aims to provide light on the trade-offs and advantages of adopting blockchain technology by looking at important factors such data integrity security transparency expandability and consensus techniques.

Traditional databases have traditionally served as the cornerstone for data management and storage because they offer centralized, effective solutions. However, blockchain presents a decentralized strategy that does away with the necessity for a central authority and adds cryptographic methods to guarantee data integrity. The real-world applications and use cases where blockchain excels or fails to deliver in comparison to other technologies will be examined in this study. This study seeks to help informed decision-making processes and pave the path for the best application of new technologies in a variety of domains by analyzing the advantages and disadvantages of blockchain and its competitors.

II. NEED OF STUDY

- 1. Understanding Unique Features:** Comparing blockchain with other databases reveals its distinct features for diverse applications, aiding informed decision-making for optimal utilization.
- 2. Evaluating Suitability for Use Cases:** Comparing blockchain with alternative databases helps assess its suitability for specific use cases, enabling organizations to choose the best database technology based on their needs.
- 3. Improving Data Security:** In the digital era, blockchain's immutability and cryptographic methods enhance data security, enabling organizations to make informed decisions and mitigate data breach risks.
- 4. Supporting Decision-Making and Adoption:** Comparing blockchain with traditional databases empowers decision-makers to assess its benefits and limitations, enabling informed decisions that maximize advantages and minimize drawbacks.
- 5. Promoting Innovation and Advancements:** Comparative studies guide development and innovation, addressing limitations and enhancing blockchain's scalability, effectiveness, and suitability for diverse applications.

Studying blockchain's comparison with existing databases is crucial for understanding its properties, evaluating use case suitability, enhancing data security, informing decisions, and driving innovation. This approach allows us to leverage blockchain's benefits while addressing drawbacks for more effective database solutions.

III. PROBLEM STATEMENT

Making decisions, identifying use cases, and developing integration strategies are all hampered by the difficulty of comprehending the benefits and drawbacks of blockchain technology in comparison to conventional databases. Due to the lack of a thorough comparison with existing databases, uncertainty exists over adoption, data security, trust, and scalability.

Stakeholders are unable to fully utilize blockchain's potential in a variety of applications due to their insufficient grasp of its distinctive qualities, such as decentralization and cryptographic security. Innovation in distributed ledger systems is hampered by the lack of clarity about how blockchain differs from traditional databases in terms of data integrity, transparency, and consensus techniques.

Decision-makers also struggle to solve scalability difficulties and manage the computing requirements of maintaining a distributed ledger without a thorough understanding of blockchain's limitations. This knowledge gap prevents blockchain technology from being widely used in fields where it has great potential.

To close the knowledge gap and comprehend the advantages, disadvantages, and distinctive characteristics of blockchain technology in comparison to current databases, a thorough comparative study is essential. Decision-making will be aided by this research, which will also encourage blockchain technology advancement.

Hypothesis

It is believed that blockchain technology would be superior to traditional databases in terms of data integrity, transparency, and trust. It is anticipated that its decentralized, unchangeable, and cryptographic security features will improve data security, lessen dependency on centralized authority, and increase participant confidence. Consensus methods and increased processing demands for maintaining a distributed ledger, however, result in scalability restrictions.

The immutability of blockchain technology may limit adaptation in use scenarios where data modification is necessary. The advantages and disadvantages of blockchain technology will be highlighted in a comparative analysis, which will help decision-makers determine whether it is appropriate for particular applications.

The study's conclusions will be used as a starting point for improving distributed ledger systems and addressing their drawbacks. It will show how blockchain may improve data security, trust, and transparency while illuminating the difficulties that must be solved for successful application across a variety of businesses.

Research Objective

In order to realize its full potential, research, innovation, and cross-sector collaboration will be used to increase the expandability, interoperability, privacy, automation, and integration of blockchain as a database.

- 1. Accessing Security:** Compare the security measures and flaws of blockchain with those of conventional databases while taking into account factors like data integrity, immutability, encryption, authentication, and access control.
- 2. Evaluating expandability:** Considering factors like transaction speed, network capacity, storage requirements, and the ability to support large-scale applications, compare the scalability of traditional databases with blockchain.
- 3. Analyzing Efficiency:** In terms of transaction processing speed, latency, resource utilization, and energy consumption, compare the efficiency and performance of blockchain with that of traditional databases.
- 4. Exploring Consensus Mechanisms:** Examine the implications they have on data integrity, fault tolerance, and decentralization by contrasting the consensus models used in conventional databases with the consensus mechanisms utilized in blockchain.
- 5. Assessing Transparency:** Compare the openness and auditability features of the blockchain with those of traditional databases, such as the ability to track and confirm transactions.
- 6. Analyzing Data Storage and Retrieval:** When contrasting the data storage and retrieval operations of blockchain with those of conventional databases, take into account factors like data dispersion, redundancy, retrieval

speed, and query capabilities.

7. Evaluating Cost-effectiveness: Considering infrastructure requirements, maintenance costs, issues, and the ability to remove intermediaries, contrast the cost-effectiveness of blockchain with that of conventional database systems.

8. Examining Practical Use Cases: Consider some of the unique uses for blockchain technology that differ from those of traditional databases, such as voting systems, supply chain management, decentralized banking, healthcare, and identity management.

The study aids in making decisions about the use of blockchain in various domains by shedding light on how blockchain affects databases.

Comparison of Blockchain with Other Databases

Blockchain as a database

Blockchain is a distributed database that is decentralized and guarantees secure and open tracking of transactions or information. As opposed to centralized databases, its consensus technique involves several nodes checking data. A crucial component is immutability, which prevents data removal or alteration. Blockchain's distributed architecture enables data retrieval efficiency, fault tolerance, and redundancy. Systems of consensus that guarantee agreement on transaction legitimacy include Proof of Work and Proof of Stake.

The need for a centralized authority is eliminated by decentralization, which also gets rid of censorship and single points of failure. Blockchain uses cryptographic techniques for data integrity and authentication, including digital signatures and hashes. Rule execution is automated via smart contracts. Solutions like private or permissioned blockchains handle privacy issues. For many applications, blockchain functions as a dependable and impenetrable database.

Each block in a chain of blocks, each of which contains a list of transactions, is how blockchain works. Cryptographic hashes uphold immutability and transparency. Based on permissions, various blockchain databases exist. While public blockchains like Bitcoin allow participation by anybody, private blockchains restrict access. Public and private components are combined in hybrid blockchains. Enhanced security, immutability, transparency, and decentralization are all benefits of blockchain technology. In contrast to conventional databases, it might have drawbacks in terms of scalability, performance, and storage, which would make it less appropriate for some use cases.

1. Oracle as database

Relational database management system (RDBMS) for structured data, Oracle is dependable and scalable. Through support for ACID, it guarantees data dependability and integrity. Oracle provides concurrency control, transaction management, and high-performance query execution. The advanced features include triggers, stored procedures, and views, as well as a variety of data formats and modeling techniques. Data encryption, access restriction, and user authentication are all security methods. Oracle also offers administration, backup, and recovery solutions. It is a well-liked alternative for enterprise applications needing a scalable and reliable database management system due to its extensive adoption, thorough documentation, and robust support network.

Oracle VS Blockchain

1. Centralization vs. Decentralization: Oracle databases are centralized, which means that they are under the control of a single entity. In contrast, because data is duplicated across several network nodes, blockchain is decentralized and does not need a centralized authority.

2. Data Integrity: The intrinsic data integrity provided by blockchain's immutability and consensus protocols ensures a transparent and unchangeable record. While Oracle databases do offer capabilities to ensure data integrity, they rely on confidence in the central organization in charge of the database.

3. Security: Among Oracle databases' many robust security features are access controls, user authentication, and data encryption. On the other hand, the distributed nature of blockchain offers an extra layer of security by using decentralized consensus processes and cryptographic techniques to secure data.

4. scalability and Performance: Oracle databases are designed to support extensive business applications and may expand both horizontally and vertically. They are made to quickly process queries. However, blockchain's throughput and transaction processing speed are limited because of the computational overhead of consensus processes.

5. Use Cases: Applications for ERP, CRM, and finance systems frequently employ Oracle databases. Contrarily, blockchain prioritizes transparency and trust and finds use in DeFi, healthcare data, and supply chain management. Depending on application requirements, Oracle or blockchain should be chosen. Oracle excels in centralized, high-performance, and enterprise-scale situations, whereas blockchain offers decentralized trust and transparency.

2. Sybase as database

Sybase is a dependable relational database management system (RDBMS) with a wide range of functions for managing structured data. Its high-performance capabilities guarantee effective data manipulation, storage, and retrieval for enterprise applications. Sybase uses ACID properties to guarantee data dependability and integrity. It excels at query execution thanks to efficient indexing and optimisation. The provision of transaction management, concurrency control, and support for different modeling techniques, triggers, stored procedures, and views. With user authentication, access control, and data encryption, Sybase places a high priority on security. Because of its dependability, scalability, and performance, it is frequently used in the financial, telecommunications, and healthcare sectors.

Sybase VS Blockchain

1. Centralization vs. Decentralization: Sybase is centralized and run by a single organization. In contrast, blockchain is decentralized and does not require a central authority because data is distributed across numerous nodes.

2. Data Integrity and Immutability: Through consensus procedures and cryptography, blockchain assures data integrity and immutability. The data stored on the blockchain is unalterable and transparent. Sybase depends on confidence in the central organization in charge of the database.

3. Security: Sybase provides security tools including encryption, access controls, and authentication. Blockchain, on the other hand, adds an extra degree of security through decentralized consensus and cryptographic methods.

4. scalability and Performance: Sybase databases are designed for high-performance query execution in expansive corporate applications, and they scale both horizontally and vertically. The computational expense of consensus mechanisms, on the other hand, limits the scalability of blockchain and slows down throughput and transaction processing.

5. Use Cases: Reliability and performance are prioritized in the use of Sybase databases in the financial, telecommunications, and healthcare industries. Blockchain is used in cryptocurrency, decentralized finance (DeFi), and supply chain management, with an emphasis on transparency, traceability, and trust.

Depending on the needs of the application, Sybase or blockchain should be used. While blockchain offers decentralized trust and transparency, Sybase is centralized and high-performance.

3. MongoDB as Database

MongoDB is a flexible and scalable NoSQL database for managing unstructured and semi-structured data. It uses the BSON file format for data storage, enabling dynamic and hierarchical structures. MongoDB offers high availability, built-in replication for redundancy, and automatic sharding for growth. With geographic queries, aggregation pipelines, and indexing, it provides robust query capabilities. Unlike relational databases, its flexible structure supports agile development and makes data modeling simpler. Web applications, content management systems, and applications that require large amounts of data frequently employ MongoDB. It places a high value on flexibility and expansion. MongoDB is well-liked for scalable and effective database solutions in many applications because of its robust community, thorough documentation, and language bindings.

MongoDB VS Blockchain

1. Data Structure: While blockchain stores data in a decentralized, immutable fashion using linked blocks and cryptographic hashes, MongoDB is document-oriented and stores data in a JSON-like format with flexible topologies.

2. Centralization vs. Decentralization: MongoDB is centralized and run by just one organization. Because data is duplicated across numerous network nodes in blockchain, there is no need for a central authority.

3. Data Integrity and Immutability: Through consensus procedures and cryptography, blockchain provides data integrity and immutability, making data deletion or alteration very challenging. Contrarily, MongoDB's data integrity depends on confidence in the central organization in charge of the database.

4. Security: Access controls, authentication, and encryption are among the security measures offered by MongoDB. Blockchain, on the other hand, uses decentralized consensus and cryptographic methods to add an additional layer of security.

5. Use Cases: Applications like content management systems and real-time analytics use MongoDB because it is flexible and scalable. Blockchain is used in open, trustworthy contexts like cryptocurrency and supply chain management.

Depending on the needs of the application, MongoDB or blockchain should be chosen. Blockchain gives decentralized trust and immutability, whereas MongoDB excels in flexible data storage.

4.NoSQL as database

NoSQL databases can handle unstructured, semi-structured, and constantly changing data, which sets them apart from relational databases. They provide eventual consistency models and place a higher priority on flexibility and scalability than strict consistency. Key-value stores, document stores, columnar databases, and graph databases are some examples of NoSQL databases that cater to particular data formats and use cases. They are frequently used in applications like web applications, IoT, and big data processing that require high expandability, real-time analytics, flexible data modeling, and enormous amounts of data.

NoSQL VS Blockchain

1. Data Structure: Flexible schemas in NoSQL databases allow them to manage unstructured or semi-structured data. By employing cryptographic hashes to connect blocks, blockchain, on the other hand, organizes data in a decentralized and immutable manner.

2. Centralization vs. Decentralization: Blockchain is decentralized, with data replicated across numerous network nodes, as opposed to NoSQL databases, which are centralized and controlled by a single person.

3. Data Integrity and Immutability: Through consensus and cryptography, blockchain assures data integrity and immutability, making it challenging to change or erase recorded data. NoSQL databases do not have the same tamper-proof assurance that blockchains do.

4. Security: NoSQL databases provide security safeguards like encryption, access limits, and authentication. Blockchain, on the other hand, uses decentralized consensus and encryption to offer more security and defense against fraud or unauthorized alterations.

5. Use Cases: NoSQL databases are the best choice for applications like CMS, real-time analytics, and IoT because of their flexible data structures, scalability, and high-performance retrieval. Blockchain is ideal for supply chains, cryptocurrencies, and smart contracts because it promotes trust, transparency, and decentralized record-keeping. Blockchain prioritizes decentralization, immutability, and trust while NoSQL concentrates on flexibility, expandability, and performance. Data structure, integrity, security, and desired decentralization requirements for the application will determine the best option.

V. CONCLUSION

Blockchain and other databases can be compared to learn more about their strengths, weaknesses, and capabilities. Blockchain is the best technology for applications needing tamper-proof record keeping and decentralized consensus due to its distinctive qualities of decentralization, immutability, transparency, and trust.

However, compared to traditional databases, blockchain exhibits difficulties with scalability, throughput, and storage capacity. When determining if blockchain technology is appropriate for a given use case, it is important to take into account details like computational costs associated with consensus processes and the trade-off between scalability and decentralization.

The study shows that traditional databases, including relational and NoSQL databases, excel in scalability, high-performance query execution, and organized data management. To accommodate various application requirements, these databases provide flexible data modeling, effective indexing, and cutting-edge security features.

In conclusion, the choice between blockchain and alternative databases depends on the requirements of the individual application. While traditional databases have a track record of expandability, performance, and data management, blockchain provides unmatched trust and transparency. Making an informed database choice requires being aware of the trade-offs and matching the advantages of each technology with the needs of the application.

VI. FUTURE SCOPE

Blockchain's future as a database shows promising potential for development and application. Here are some key aspects of the future scope of blockchain as a database:

- 1. Enhanced scalability:** By improving consensus algorithms, maximizing block sizes, and delivering layer-two solutions for increased transaction throughput and scalability, future blockchain development intends to address expandability.
- 2. Interoperability and Integration:** In order to facilitate seamless integration with current databases, systems, and blockchain networks for greater data sharing and collaboration, blockchain has evolved to have improved interoperability.
- 3. Privacy and Confidentiality:** Future blockchain solutions might prioritize privacy by utilizing cutting-edge cryptographic methods like secure multi-party computing and zero-knowledge proofs for the safe processing and storing of sensitive data.
- 4. Smart Contracts and Automation:** Blockchain-based smart contracts' potential for revolutionizing sectors like supply chain management, banking, and healthcare depends on their ability to support sophisticated logic and automate business processes.
- 5. Integration with IoT and AI:** The combination of IoT, AI, and blockchain opens up new opportunities for decentralized IoT networks and transparent, auditable AI decision-making processes while enabling safe communication between IoT devices.
- 6. Governance and Regulation:** Establishing industry-wide standards and regulations will be essential as blockchain implementation increases to guarantee compliance, security, and accountability, create confidence, and facilitate broad adoption.

In order to realize its full potential, research, innovation, and cross-sector collaboration will be used to increase the expandability, interoperability, privacy, automation, and integration of blockchain as a database.

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These references offer information on the comparison of blockchain technology with existing databases, as well as discussions of scalability, consensus protocols, privacy, applications in other fields, and difficulties and potential related to blockchain adoption.



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