

Web3 is dead

And why would a business want to use it anyway?

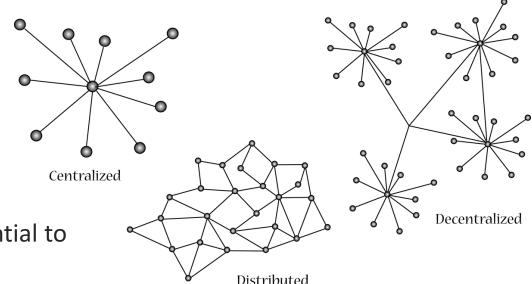
Joel Obstfeld
Distinguished Engineer
July'23

So what is this Web3 thing anyway?

- A set of technologies and business models
- Offer an alternative 'decentralized' approach compared to the predominant 'centralized' (Web2) model of systems and solutions
- Synonymous with Cryptocurrencies, Non-Fungible Tokens (NFTs) and the Metaverse, but is in fact, an arena in its own right, and should be considered as such
- Core technologies include
 - Distributed ledgers & consensus mechanisms
 - Smart contracts
 - Distributed protocols
 - Wallets

Public Web3 business model

- Participants in the network provide a resource for others to use
- Participants are renumerated for participation and for actions performed
- Long-term incentive model essential to retain participants
- Example include, Ethereum, Solana, etc.



And why would businesses use this?

Because of...

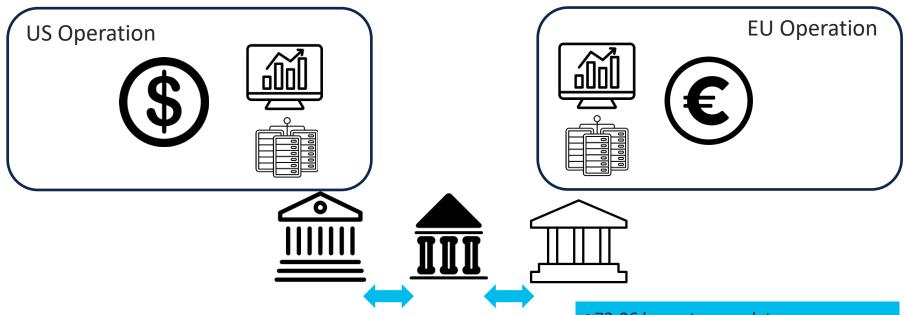
- Existing friction in interactions between multiple (internal or external) business entities
- Need to simplify and/or accelerate exchange of data between multiple business entities
- Need to create data visibility and transparency between multiple business entities

In order to:

- Improve business process efficiency
- Reduce business cost

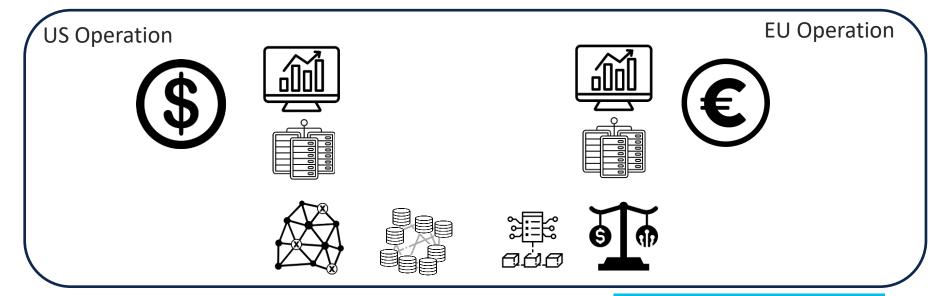
Not because Web3 is (necessarily) cheaper than Web2!

Global Credit card company - Inter-currency transfer



~72-96 hours to complete
Minimum 3 entities
'Spread' exposure risk until 'settled'

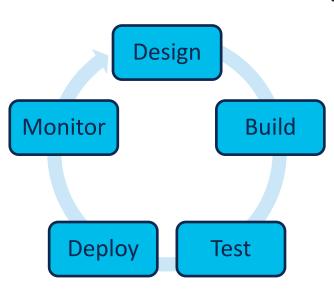
Global Credit card company - Inter-currency transfer



Blockchain + Smart Contracts Internal 'cryptocurrency' 'Settled' in 24 hours or less Significant risk reduction

Web3 presents multiple challenges for Enterprise IT organisations

- Web3 is a mindset & skillset change
 - Steep learning curve from Web2 to Web3
 - Experts are rare
- Web3 is not yet enterprise grade
 - Performance & scalability challenges
 - Significant security concerns
 - Limited telemetry

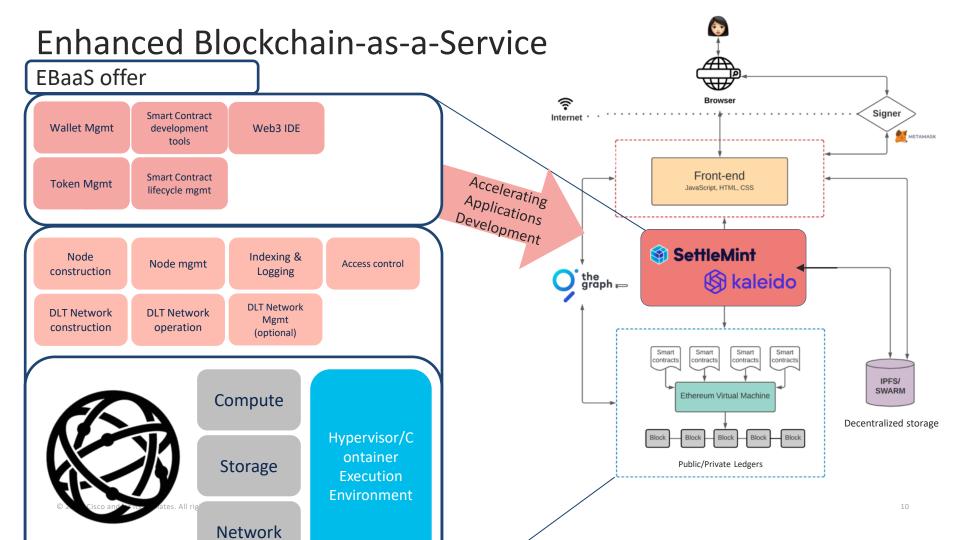


- The Web3 ecosystem is fragmented, evolving, and often immature
 - Hard to select the right tech stack / services based on requirement
 - New / inconsistent coding languages
 - Dependency, versioning, and portability challenges
 - Lack of documentation, few examples
 - Lack the tools to streamline debugging & testing

When things are complicated...

Make it available as a Service...

Blockchain-as-a-Service BaaS offer Signer Internet Node METAMASK Indexing & Node mgmt Access control construction Logging Front-end **DLT Network** JavaScript, HTML, CSS **DLT Network DLT Network** Mgmt construction operation (optional) JSON RPC 玉 INFURA ▲ alchemy Compute the graph ⊨ Provider METAMASK Hypervisor/C Storage Execution Smart Smart Smart Smart contracts contracts contracts **Environment** IPFS/ **SWARM** Ethereum Virtual Machine Network Decentralized storage Public/Private Ledgers Virtualization Internet Compute



BAaaS - Blockchain Applications as a Service!

- Web3 'disappears'...
 - Consume service through an interface or a set of API calls, without any need to understand, develop or deal with Web3 complexity

- Examples
 - Notarization & Authentication of data as-a-Service
 - Certificated proof-of-existence as-a-Service
 - Digital Media rights & attestation as-a-Service
 - Identity management as-a-Service

How does the cookie crumble?

Possible Web3 outcomes

- Web 3 Technology Uncertainty:
 - Simple enough can be consumed by enterprises
 - Scales with lower incremental cost
 - Interoperability improved utility and reach
- Web3 Business Case Uncertainty:
 - Reduces intermediary/transaction costs
 - Increases information velocity between market participants – increase in productivity
 - Network effects: the higher the adoption, the higher the delivered value

+ Regulation and Standards need to be factored in scenario analysis

Scenario B: "Assimilation" Incumbents offer just enough to neutralize business value of web3 innovators, web3 subsumed to a feature of web2

Weak - Business case -

Scenario C: "Failure"

Neither technology nor business case deliver enough value, vendor interest and ecosystem fizzle Scenario X: "Success"

Easy

consumption

Technology

Challenging

Adoption increases across variety of use-cases and breadth of participants. Enterprises invest in skills, technology, solutions and infrastructure.

Strong

Scenario A: "Niche"

Complexity and inability of scale result in failure to develop beyond niche use cases

strong

Summary

- Web3 technologies have the potential to solve key business process challenges but currently, ecosystem is still immature
 - Very limited experience with scaled enterprise production use-cases
 - Significant security and operations concerns yet to be addressed by products
- Web3 is not at a point of mass adoption nor will Web2 be replaced
- Web3 becoming increasingly Web2-like

Q&A

Thank you



The bridge to possible