Twitter Thread by Shravan Venkataraman ■■■



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** MEGA THREAD ON Cryptocurrencies/Blockchain**

I wanted to know the best resources to learn about cryptocurrencies and blockchain for someone with zero knowledge. I asked Twitter, and Twitter answered.

This thread is a compilation of the best resources I was recommended. ■■

Let's start with ** BOOKS **

The first thing you should do before you pick up any book:

Learn about Bitcoin & Ethereum by reading the respective whitepapers.

- [Bitcoin white paper](https://t.co/cErOaFn6QL) by Satoshi Nakamoto

- [Ethereum White paper] (https://t.co/0g5kYCGJGq) by Vitalik Buterin

Even if you are not tech savvy, you can get a good grasp about how blockchain functions from these papers.

1) *The Basics of Bitcoins and Blockchains: An Introduction to Cryptocurrencies and the Technology that Powers Them* by Antony Lewis

This book covers topics such as the history of Bitcoin, the Bitcoin blockchain, and Bitcoin buying, selling, and mining.

It also answers how payments are made and how transactions are kept secure.

Other cryptocurrencies and cryptocurrency pricing are examined, answering how one puts a value on cryptocurrencies and digital tokens.

The level of detail in this book is enough to give you a basic but solid understanding without drowning you in jargon or going so far on a tangent that you lose sight of the main subject.

1) *Mastering Bitcoin: Programming the Open Blockchain* by Andreas M. Antonopoulos

It explains everything you need to know to understand the technology (cryptography, blocks, miners, merkle trees, etc) underpinning the crypto revolution. It's also quite technical in parts.

2) *The Bitcoin Standard: The Decentralized Alternative to Central Banking* by Saif Ammous

Although biased towards Bitcoin, it presents you a view on why our financial system has failed us, and what needs to change, and why something like Bitcoin proposes a better alternative.

This book is a lot of economics, finance, and blockchain combined.

3) *Internet Of Money: A collection of talks* by Andreas M. Antonopoulos (@aantonop)

The full version of the talks compiled in this book are available on youtube.

The books central message is that the technology behind bitcoin has "the ability to bring to the world a level of financial integration that the world has never seen before." with implications that go far beyond just transforming finance.

4) *Cryptoassets* by Chris Burniske and Jack Tatar

This book is written for investors, rather than programmers or Bitcoin enthusiasts.

They also explain the crucial differences between Bitcoin and broader blockchain technology.

5) *The Everything Guide To Investing In Crypto Currency: From Bitcoin to Ripple, the Safe and Secure Way to Buy, Trade, and Mine Digital Currencies*

If you are thinking of getting into the cryptocurrency market, this book is the perfect intro.

It is a clear, concise, logical book that makes a very complicated subject easy to understand.

The author's view is objective and sane. He provides a terrific overview of the upsides and downsides in the crypto space entirely without being biased.

6) Layered Money: From Gold and Dollars to Bitcoin and Central Bank Digital Currencies

Nik Bhatia takes you through the history of money in compelling fashion.

It's a very accessible book for those who may be curious about the history of money and credit and how the first banks and central banks formed, with a focus on how the current banking system might evolve as Bitcoin continues to grow in importance and adoption.

7) An Altcoin Trader's Handbook by Nik Patel

The book focuses on riding the upside potential of capital and reducing downside risks, speculating on ‘microcap’ and ‘low cap’ altcoins, with proper risk management.

Take the contents with a pinch of salt, but a good intro though.

8) *The Book Of Satoshi: The Collected Writings of Bitcoin Creator Satoshi Nakamoto*

Contains

- Satoshi's Emails and Posts on Forums Presented in Chronological Order
- Bitcoin Fundamentals
- Bitcoin’s Potential and Profound Economic Implications
- The Whitepaper

9) *Mastering Ethereum: Building Smart Contracts and DApps* by Andreas Antonopoulos

Definitely requires programming background to study, but you can't separate programming from blockchain.

That said, this book is a brilliant introduction to Ethereum and Smart Contracts.

10) *Life After Google: The Fall of Big Data and the Rise of the Blockchain Economy*

Mr. Gilder has exposed the fatally-flawed premise of Google's hierarchical 'system of the world' and unveils the alternative - heterarchical or 'blockchain' system.

In this book, he describes in great detail how Google and “Big Tech” control global data and why decentralization using blockchain will return control of data back to the people of the world instead of the tech leviathans such as Google, Facebook, Apple, Amazon and Microsoft.

11) *How to DeFi* - by CoinGecko

Decentralized Finance (DeFi) is an ecosystem of decentralized applications that provide financial services built on top of distributed networks with no governing authority.

DeFi is a key component in fulfilling Ethereum’s lofty vision and ambition.

In this book, you learn about the various elements of DeFi such as stablecoins, exchanges, lending, derivatives, insurance - all decentralized, and even more insights.

Moving on, the following are the best ** YOUTUBE CHANNELS ** related to crypto currencies and blockchain related content.

1) [Benjamin Cowen] (https://t.co/TajkseSvah)

This is among the best accounts to follow for crypto based technical analysis.

2) [Coin Bureau](https://t.co/XABykxHWtY) -

A top crypto research channel on YouTube. They avoid the hype and offer a clear, unbiased view of the cryptocurrency markets.

If you're looking to find crypto projects to invest in over the long term, this is where you start.

3) [Dapp University](https://t.co/Cyja4j1GwL)

Hands down the best channel if you want to learn to become a blockchain developer.

4) [Anthony Pompliano's Youtube](https://t.co/HSsPS1aFpy)

Even though his twitter handle is annoying at times, his YouTube has honestly some of the best people in the space being interviewed, with very good insights into different aspects of the blockchain business.

5) [Data Dash](https://t.co/n0WdMfynFk) -

Youtube equivalent of opinion pieces on the market, balanced and down to earth insights and opinions shared.

6) [JRNY Crypto](https://t.co/9RG6MPlGxV)

Up to date news updates on the crypto space.

7) [Hashoshi](https://t.co/kKYxCnMs1e)

Among the growing and better channels out there for learning more about the alts space, ICOs, DeFi, etc.

8) [Crypto Daily](https://t.co/ryFIEpFnqR) -

This is a very good channel to keep up to date about the news and updates on the crypto space.

Some intelligent arguments, explanations of current events in the space, and some clickbait.

Moving on, the list won't be complete without adding *TWITTER HANDLES* that are very useful to follow the crypto and blockchain space as a whole.

1) @aantonop - He's a thought leader / authority on cryptocurrency and blockchain.

He is also the author of two of the most referred books (that I have mentioned in the books section) in the field.

A must follow account on Twitter for blockchain related content.

2) @balajis - A venture capitalist who is a big proponent of blockchain and the underlying technology, and companies that build on top of blockchain itself.

3) @lopp - Read his pinned tweet. That explains it best.

Do refer to the link in his pinned tweet, has brilliantly curated resources to learn about bitcoin and the technology around it.

4) @Breedlove22 - He runs the [What is money podcast](https://t.co/K2oDzWTJQy) and it's by far one of the best podcasts on money, blockchain and cryptocurrencies.

Also, occasionally tweets good content on the same.

5) [@lopp's Bitcoin list](https://t.co/0sPNop4nuf) - this is more bitcoin focused, but the list has an impressive array of twitter accounts tweeting on bitcoin and cryptocurrencies.

6) @lexfridman - he runs one of the best podcasts in the blockchain and crypto space.

Instead of just bitcoin maximalism, but he focuses on several different aspects of crypto and there are some legends from the crypto/blockchain field in his podcast episodes.

7) @RaoulGMI - my favorite.

He's the most transparent, honest, and realistic person in the crypto space. I'd rate him above most in terms of the level-headedness. He's not a laser eyed Tinky Winky or someone who keeps on pomping.

His Real Vision TV - GEM.

8) @IOHK_Charles - was recommended this by a twitter acquaintance.

Some very good tweets and thoughts on the crypto space as a whole.

Check out his blog though (https://t.co/0ZjVh78MUC) - it has good content on alts and DeFi.

Now, it's important as an investor/trader to first educate yourself about the space properly. Outside of these books and channels, the best place is Coursera.

The following are some of the best introductory courses out there for you to learn about Blockchain & Crypto.

1) [Bitcoin and Cryptocurrency Technologies by Princeton University] (https://t.co/RetjkAVxs0)

After this course, you'll know everything you need to be able to separate fact from fiction when reading claims about Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies.

You'll have the conceptual foundations you need to engineer secure software that interacts with the Bitcoin network.

2) [Blockchain Revolution Specialization by INSEAD](https://t.co/NPzNMyT2HK)

This course is taught by Don Tapscott and Alex Tapscott, authors of the best-selling book *Blockchain Revolution* (I recommend you study the book also).

The course has various industry experts from Ethereum Foundation sharing their experiences within the blockchain ecosystem.

3) [Teach Yourself Crypto](https://t.co/GAjtzim9Mx) -

An open source syllabus of sorts focusing on learning about cryptocurrencies and blockchain, majorly focused on bitcoin.

Sourced by @LifeMathMoney

4) [Blockchain Business Models](https://t.co/pVw9gGM1e0)

This course provides an advanced understanding of the various blockchain technologies.

It helps you determine the specific business situations where blockchain technology can be deployed to solve important problems.

You also learn about the risks, and also learn which specific blockchain technology has the best chance of success for a particular problem.

5) [Blockchain and Money by MIT](https://t.co/tQEEQubq5l)

This is hands down the most detailed course.

Some of the concepts have been updated since this course in 2018, but it is still the most relevant and detailed course out there.

Moving on, the following are the best blogs/websites to follow for learning about the developments in the cryptocurrency and blockchain space.

Bookmark these for regular updates in case you're diving deep into this field.

1) [Vitalik Buterin's Blog](https://t.co/MBYi4uWjJ3)

If there is any blog that you should clearly start with as an investor who is looking to gain more technical knowledge on all things Blockchain, then this could be the one.

2) [CoinFund Blog](https://t.co/cWQoQV2Cvj)

The blog has posts on a variety of topics, most of which involve issues serious Blockchain investors will have to consider as they begin and continue their journey in the space

3) [Jimmy Song blog](https://t.co/rMd9btxEUV)

Although the posts have been sparse, this is one of the important blogs. He was actually one of the first developers to work on the Bitcoin network.

4) [Multicoin Capital](https://t.co/XnHZd987Lo)

Multicoin Capital is a crypto hedge fund, and if you want to learn how to invest in this space, this is the best place to go to.

Their articles on how to succeed as a crypto investor using traditional investing strategies is very helpful.

They educate both new and experienced Crypto investors on how to beat the market.

5) [Bitmex Research] (https://t.co/AFvf90DulL)

Bitmex's research blog is one of the most in-depth in existence.

They provide deep insights into why one or more current events are influencing the industry.

This is one of the important blogs to bookmark.

6) https://t.co/zaj2xXWhAA - Up to date news on crypto.

7) [r/ethereum](https://t.co/cpRkP0U7xv) - about the Ethereum Technology

8) [r/ethtrader](https://t.co/bfkXTh4ZPi) - ethereum as an investment.

9) [r/bitcoin](https://t.co/Z70RG1ga0Z)
[r/btc](https://t.co/08nnx0IH3j)

- All things bitcoin.

10) [r/cryptocurrency](https://t.co/kKcSbu8fB1)

- About all cryptocurrencies in general

11)
[Live Coin Watch](https://t.co/MzSsYnJVI3) [Coin Market Cap](https://t.co/IYk5uljOCi)

- Information about price performance and market capitalization of cryptocurrencies / tokens

12) [CoinTelegraph](https://t.co/MlUI6FkDtu) - it's a news aggregator for all things cryptocurrencies and blockchain related.

13) [Coin Spectator](https://t.co/mf7fEsQsRL) - this site aggregates cryptocurrency-related news from over 100 sources

14) [Blockchain terminology explained](https://t.co/FgK5jful8R)

- this page breaks down the terms used in the blockchain world in detail which I found very useful.

To Wrap up, the following are some of the platforms you could look into, to trade crypto.

1) [Binance](https://t.co/qbge0jM4Tq) – biggest crypto-to-crypto exchange

2) [Coinbase](https://t.co/hJBYrKrR4u) / [Coinbase Pro](https://t.co/4Ub3lyzuCQ)

– biggest cryptocurrency exchange in the US that takes fiat deposit
- is FDIC insured
- all digital currencies are fully insured

3) [Kraken](https://t.co/x9EYPyEn57)

- based in San Francisco
- it is the biggest exchange for transactions denominated in Euro

4) [Gemini](https://t.co/P8bsjBK828) – based in New York, founded by the Winklevoss twins, all digital currencies are fully insured

5) [Poloniex](https://t.co/9dAdnbE6l1) – largest cryptocurrency exchange by transaction volume but do not accept fiat deposits

6) [Bittrex](https://t.co/1jsNo5xxM4) – also offers trading in many tokens with higher volume. This is where I bought my coins.

This list won't be complete without *DATA*.

As a systematic trader, I'd like to backtest any strategy before venturing into putting capital to trade.

Cryptocurrency space is very interesting as a trader as it is very volatile and conducive for pure systematic trading.

1) [Binance Historical Data]

This data is provided by Binance, and being the top most exchange in the world, the data is legit.

https://t.co/RCfRqpPYn3

2) Binance data collection - 16GB

1min candlestick data for 1287 cryptocurrency pairs.

https://t.co/1iwkOGnFo1

3) https://t.co/zT9MRF08DU

You can find data from several exchanges here, of many cryptocurrencies.

Completely free of cost.

4) https://t.co/4VcKmtq8B4

This is legitimate data from Kraken which is again a top exchange in US. The data quality is very good too.

I hope I have pointed you to the right resources in this thread, to learn about crypto, blockchain, and DeFi.

Do retweet and share, share the link with those you know who are trying to learn more about this space.

Don't trade or invest in cryptocurrencies blindly.

If you want to do that, learn about the space in-depth, and research thoroughly before investing.

If you want to trade, don't trade on Elon Musk's tweets. Have a solid backtested strategy and execute with discipline.

Goodluck.