LikeCoin: Reinventing the Like

Rewarding Contents by Proof of Creativity

White Paper v0.9.4

LikeCoin Foundation Limited

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Value Proposition

LikeCoin aims to reinvent the Like by realigning creativity and reward. We enable attribution and cross-application collaboration on creative contents. With a reinvented Like button and our unique LikeRank algorithm, we trace content footprint and reward content creators by Proof of Creativity mechanism.

Realigning rewards and creativity

In the Internet, rewards and creativity have been decoupled for long. This is especially true for independent content creators and freelancers. In the early days of the Internet, indies made money by selling their works online. All technical aspects of the Internet are now dramatically improved, yet the revenue model is not. In fact, it is worse. Content creators are not getting incomes but Likes. While some can take freelance projects and advertising jobs, such model is rather indirect. LikeCoin protocol is thus designed to monetise creative contents directly, so that creators can focus on creating great contents rather than selling or looking for business models.

As technology evolves, everyone with a smartphone is a content creator of some sort. In particular, some photos taken by smartphones may have quality and resolution as high as single-lens reflex cameras. The crowds of freelance content creators and citizen journalists are huge and the market demand is extremely high. Once rewards and creativity are realigned, an explosive potential will be unlocked.
Elements in the LikeCoin Ecosystem

An ecosystem of collaborated content creation involves various elements and stakeholders. Their roles in the LikeCoin ecosystem are defined with the following example, where Alice takes A.jpg and upload to Apple.io, Bob writes B.txt on Banana.com, Carol adopts their work to become C.doc on Cherry.net; and finally, David shares A.jpg on Durian.org.

Creative content

A digital photo, illustration, article, footage or sound clip. In contrast to private data, a creative content allows consumption by other people under certain copyright terms, such as Creative Commons. Each creative content is represented by a unique content fingerprint in the LikeCoin ecosystem. In our example, A.jpg, B.txt and C.doc are creative contents.

Content creator

A person who produces a creative content. Alice, Bob and Carol are all content creators.

Service provider

A web or native application supporting LikeCoin, by incorporating the LikeCoin attribution protocol and/or the reinvented Like button. In our example, Apple.io, Banana.com, Cherry.net and Durian.org are all service providers of LikeCoin.
Derivative work

Adopt one or more creative contents produced by oneself or other content creators, on the same or another service provider, to generate a new creative content. C.doc is a derivative work.

Content adopter

The creator by whom and the service provider on which a derivative work is produced. Carol is a content adopter.

Content source

The creative content on which a derivative work is adopted from. A content source itself may have its own content source. A.jpg and B.txt are content sources of C.doc.

Content origin

A creative content without a content source. In other words, a creative content which is not a derivative work. A.jpg and B.txt are content origin.

Original creator

The content creator by whom and the service provider on which a content origin is produced. Alice and Bob are original creator.

Distributed Content

Without modification, use a creative content produced by another creator in the same or another service provider. Image A on Durian.org is a distributed content.

Content distributor

The content creator by whom and the service provider on which a distributed content is used. David and Durian.org are content distributors.

In the LikeCoin ecosystem, original creators and content adopters receive LikeCoin through Proof of Creativity from the Creators’ Pool or out of audiences’ own wallets; from content adopters; and from content distributors.

This profit sharing mechanism is the key to incentivise content creators and service providers to adopt LikeCoin protocol.
LikeCoin Attribution Protocol

LikeCoin creates unique fingerprints for creative contents and traces footprints of all derivative works along with content creator and service provider of them. Further than that, LikeCoin incentivises attribution and cross-application collaboration with Proof of Creativity mechanism.

Decentralised creative content library

The cornerstone of LikeCoin protocol is a global, decentralised and resilient creative content library on IPFS\(^1\).

A LikeCoin service provider plays one or more roles among original creator, content adopter and content distributor. Original creators curate creative contents and record the data on blockchain for other content creators to use. The content creator and the service provider both get LikeCoin as an incentive when a content is Liked or Super-liked (see LikeCoin Mining Protocol). Two major original creators funded by LikeCoin Foundation will be puttyimages, an open stock image DApp (decentralized application) and blogchain.md, a blogging DApp which records each post on a LikeCoin smart contract. An example of content adopter is oice, an asset remixing storytelling editor, also funded by LikeCoin Foundation.

A content distributor, on the other hand, displays or plays the creative contents in the LikeCoin ecosystem. Some examples include Famisu, Lifehack.org, The Initium and The Stand News, etc.

Each original creator and content adopter runs her own IPFS node and is responsible for pinning all the files she curates from content creators so they are not removed. Since

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\(^1\) Juan Benet, IPFS White Paper, https://ipfs.io/ipfs/QmR7GSQM93Cx5eAg6a6yRzNde1FQv7uL6X1o4k7rja3LX/ipfs.draft3.pdf
worldwide IPFS nodes help one another distribute the contents, such decentralised creative content library also serves as a content distribution network, speeding up access from locations unreachable by Internet backbone. Service providers do not have to be concerned about from which IPFS node users will retrieve the content.

In the library, each creative content is addressable by a cryptographic hash rather than a URL. Any changes in the application layer such as domain name, IP and directory structure induce no change to the content address since the hash depends only on the content itself. The content address is thus decoupled from the application where it was created on and where it is used, making it consistent and future-proof. This prevents creative contents from being locked up by specific applications such as Facebook and Instagram. Such cryptographic hash is called content fingerprint in the LikeCoin protocol.

As an example, let's say content creator Alice has painted Image A on service provider Apple.io, and content creator Bob has uploaded his photo Image B on service provider Banana.com:

Apple.io and Banana.com are service provider for content creation and run their IPFS nodes. Now, Image A and Image B are stored and pinned on IPFS, with Fingerprints - 0x825622a44f13fdb776d72570458ae0dc664efbe8b231735b3d838c3739acce34 and 0xf71ce651a525fd4e746b6bed8d8e1db4052912d88313a93d076e27540a8ecd4f respectively, and can be accessed through the IPFS gateway with their corresponding IPFS address QmXWs1nKHbfAHqMjSgBld6EVCbrpskFvrq7rfAsJ9dK and QmPs3Ly2FEuMscttMnkNM2GweTUc2JkdjqWheP6aNEMu7h.
Fingerprint and metadata hash

At the same time when Image A and Image B are stored on IPFS, a unique, one-to-one content fingerprint of each file is generated by the SHA-256 hash function. Metadata of the images are stored off-chain as an IPLD object (see section Metadata Objects below) on IPFS. Only the metadata hash and the content fingerprint are written to the Ethereum blockchain with the private keys of the service providers through a LikeCoin smart contract. Such two-tier architecture maximises speed and flexibility while minimising the gas needed to write to Ethereum.

Continuing with our example, the content fingerprints and metadata hash of Image A and Image B are written to Ethereum through the LikeCoin smart contract by Apple.io and Banana.com respectively. The gas needed is borned by the service providers.

Metadata Objects

Metadata are stored as IPLD objects, which are linked objects that can contain reference hash of other IPLD objects and build a path across them. Since IPLD objects are stored
on IPFS, they are represented by 1-to-1 hashes as well. Such feature is used to build content footprint of every creative content, to be discussed in the next section.

Three kinds of IPLD objects are defined in the LikeCoin protocol following schema.org's ImageObject schema. They are content metadata object, service provider object and content creator object, three of which are all interconnected through hashes of the objects.

Content metadata IPLD object

```
{
  "creator",
  "dateCreated",
  "description",
  "license",
  "likeFingerprint",
  "likeFootprint",
  "likeIpfs",
  "likePreviousVersion",
  "likeProviderShare",
  "provider",
  "type",
  "uploadDate"
}
```

Content creator IPLD object

```
{
  "description",
  "email",
  "likeAddress",
  "likeKeybase",
  "likeUport",
  "name",
  "type"
}
```

Service provider IPLD object

```
{
  "description",
  "likeAddress",
  "name",
  "type",
  "url"
}
```

In our example, the metadata of Image A and Image B are both stored in IPFS as content metadata objects, which further refers to the corresponding content creator objects and service provider objects. The IPFS addresses of the content metadata objects are ________ and ________, respectively.
Content Footprint

Content fingerprint is like the DNA of a creative content, while content footprint is like the family tree of it.

For every derivative work in LikeCoin protocol, IPLD references of the content sources are recorded in a footprint array in the metadata object. In our example, when Carol uses Cherry.net to apply a filter on Image B to generate Image C:

In this case, content metadata object of Image C will include an IPLD reference to point to Image B, Bob and Banana.com. By appending /likeFootprint/0/link in IPLD URL of Image C, IPLD of Image B can be retrieved. This is how content footprint of a creative content can be traced, so that derivative works are pointed to their content source(s).
Content footprint of a new creative content can only reference existing content fingerprints, so that the content footprint relations form a directed acyclic graph similar to a citation graph. This structure allows easy analysis of inheritance tree of a particular creative content. It also prevents the existence of any reference loop in the profit sharing process.

Now David, a content creator on Durian.org, designs a poster Image D by adopting Image A and Image C, which is itself a derivative work of Image B:
Similar to the previous case, IPLD references of the content sources, in this case Image A and Image C, are written to the metadata metadata object of Image D. And since Image C has its content source written to Image B, Image B can also be traced as the level 2 content source of Image D.

While there are various blockchain projects such as po.et\(^2\) and KODAKCoin\(^3\) which use technology similar to content fingerprint to keep track of photo copyright, LikeCoin traces the derivative works of a content with this unique content footprint technology.

Content fingerprint is static and tells who owns the content; while content footprint is dynamic and traces how contents flow, from a content creator to another, from a service provider to another. Content fingerprint is about ownership; while content footprint is about collaboration.

We do think protecting content creators copyright is a noble task, but the mission of LikeCoin is instead to help maximise creativity with reasonable rewards under a permissive license such as Creative Commons. Content footprint forms the fundamental of the LikeCoin mining mechanism, to be discussed in the next section.

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\(^2\) Po.et whitepaper, [https://po.et/whitepaper.pdf](https://po.et/whitepaper.pdf)

\(^3\) KODAKOne and KODAKCoin, [https://www.kodak.com/kodakone/default.htm](https://www.kodak.com/kodakone/default.htm)
LikeCoin Mining Protocol

LikeRank

20 years ago, Larry Page and his classmates at Stanford published the now famous paper “The PageRank Citation Ranking: Bringing Order to the Web" which became the fundamental technology of Google search.

Inspired by citation of research paper, PageRank was revolutionary. As the title of the paper says, it brings order to the web. Prior than PageRank, web searches almost always resulted in web pages which did include the keyword, yet irrelevant.

However, PageRank can only cover web pages but not creative contents such as images, footage and music. We know the importance of a web page which often includes various creative contents, but not the importance of a particular creative content. LikeRank is designed to address that.

Based on content footprint tracing in the LikeCoin protocol, LikeRank measures the importance, or creativity as we define it in this context, of a creative content. In general, the more derivative works a creative content generates, the more creative the creative content is, and thus the higher LikeRank of the content. LikeRank is the quantifier of the creativity of contents.

LikeRank proof of concept

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4 Page, Lawrence and Brin, Sergey and Motwani, Rajeev and Winograd, Terry (1999) The PageRank Citation Ranking: Bringing Order to the Web
As one may easily see, such definition of creativity is to encourage sharing and favour contents with more permissive, open license terms. For example, other conditions being equal, contents licensed under cc0 enjoys a higher LikeRank than those licensed in CC BY-NC-ND. In contrast, a more restrictive license such as all rights reserved copyright lowers LikeRank. Also, with a permissive license, more derivative works will be generated, which helps boost LikeRank.

LikeRank is also used to incentivise proper attribution through LikeCoin protocol. A properly attributed creative content enjoys a LikeRank bonus, while a derivative work without following the attribution protocol will not receive LikeCoin, since the derivative work does not have content fingerprint and outside of the LikeCoin ecosystem all together.

That is to say, LikeCoin is to promote permissive license while at the same time tailor make a business model for it. Contradictory to the traditional wisdom, the more open is the license term of a content, the more likely it is for the content to earn LikeCoin because of the higher LikeRank and also the increased number of derivative works.

**Like Button reinvented**

While PageRank is 20 years old, Like button is 10. The Like button was launched on Oct 30 2007 by Friendfeed, which was acquired by Facebook.

Like button was revolutionary, but over the years it deteriorates. Getting thousands of Likes hardly means anything anymore. And from the very beginning till now, it has never meant any income for content creators - no matter how many Likes a content receives, the content creator gets nothing. LikeCoin is to change that.

LikeCoin’s Like button is designed to combine two user experiences into one. By tapping/clicking the Like button for 1 to 5 times, or long press/hover then drag to 1-5, a user shows his/her appreciation and helps the content creator to mine LikeCoin from Creators Pool. If the user really appreciates, s/he may go directly to “Super Like” to pay the content creator certain amount of LikeCoin from his/her own wallet.

We combine the two user experience not only for simplicity, but also to cultivate user behavior over time. Most Internet users are used to showing appreciation to contents at no cost, only a small fraction of them pay content creators out of their own pockets. We believe creative contents have intrinsic value and content consumers are receiving
value. To supplement the advertising model, we make possible a new ecosystem where content consumers pay content creators directly according to their level of appreciation.

**Proof of Creativity**

While blockchain miners usually understand mining as solving a mathematical problem, it does not have to be the case. Say for example, proof of stake (PoS) mechanism does not involve hash power and thus has little impact on environment.

With a focus on rewarding content creators, LikeCoin measures the importance of creative contents, i.e. *creativity*, and allows content creators to *mine* LikeCoin with their creative contents. We call the mechanism **proof of creativity**, or **PoC**.

PoC defines creativity in two dimensions:

1. The higher the LikeRank of a creative content is, the more creative it is.
2. The more Likes a creative content receives, the more creative it is.

A creators pool of 1bil, which accounts for 50% of total number of LikeCoin tokens in the long run, is reserved as the *mining pool*. At each day $t$, $x$ LikeCoin will be minted from creators pool for distribution to content creators, according to the formula:

$$
x = \frac{N}{1 + e^{-\frac{t - 320}{120}}} \quad \text{when } t = 0 \text{ to } 1460
$$

$$
x = \frac{N}{1 + e^{-0.4 \left(1461 - t - 320\right)}} \quad \text{when } t > 1460
$$

$$
N = 391132.253127
$$
The minting formula is designed based on the following principles and assumptions:

1. Majority (90%+) of the creators pool should take 10 years to mint. We believe consumers receive value by high quality creative contents, and encourage them to pay voluntarily. But attitude cultivation is a long process so we allocate 10 years for consumers to convert. Ultimately, we target to have tipping model coexist with advertising model.

2. The minting should smooth out after 10 year period with a very long tail, in our formulae, 28 years. This gives the community time to adopt.

3. The minting should have a slow start. It allows time for content creators and service providers to join the LikeCoin ecosystem and avoid early birds to be overly beneficial.

4. After one year, however, it is assumed that number of creative contents increases quickly.

5. The factor difficulty will be set every day so that the total number of LikeCoin distributed to content creators equals the total number of LikeCoin minted.

Take day 365 as an example. \( x = \frac{391132253127}{1+e^{-\frac{t}{120}}} = 17,827 \) LikeCoin are minted. At the same day, 10,000 creative contents have received a total of 1,000,000 Likes across all the service providers. At end of day 365 GMT, LikeCoin will be distributed to the 10,000 creative contents according to the number of Likes they received as well as their LikeRank. When a derivative work receives Like, the original content(s) receive a cut of LikeCoin as well. The service provider of the creative content also receive a portion. The factor difficulty is calculated so that all of the above added up to be exactly 17,827.
The details of the calculations are as follows:

\[
Like(x, n) = \sum_{y \in \text{Children}(x)} Weight(y, x) \times Like(y, n - 1)
\]

(1)

\[
\text{EffectiveLike}(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} Like(x, n) \times (1 - \sum_{y \in \text{Parent}(x)} Weight(x, y))
\]

(2)

\[
\text{LikeCoin}(x) = Mint \times \frac{\sum_{y \in \text{Content}} \text{EffectiveLike}(y) \times \text{LikeRank}(y)}{\sum_{y \in \text{Content}} \text{EffectiveLike}(y) \times \text{LikeRank}(y)}
\]

(3)

where,

- \(\text{Children}(x)\) = the set of direct children (derivative work) of content \(x\)
- \(\text{Parent}(x)\) = the set of direct parents (content source) of content \(x\)
- \(Weight(x, y)\) = weight of content \(y\) as the direct parent of content \(x\)
- \(Weight(x, y)\) = weight of content \(y\) as the direct parent of content \(x\)
- \(Like(x, 0)\) = Likes got by content \(x\) from viewers directly, adjusted to preserve fairness
- \(Like(x, n)\) where \(n > 0\) = Likes got by content \(x\) as the \(n\)-th ancestor of other contents
- \(\text{EffectiveLike}(x)\) = final number of Likes content \(x\) got after distributing Likes to parents and receiving Likes from children
- \(\text{LikeRank}(x)\) = Like Rank of content \(x\), calculated by the license and the descendant trees
- \(Mint\) = number of LikeCoin minted from creators pool at the end of the given day
- \(\text{LikeCoin}(x)\) = number of LikeCoin distributed to the wallet address of content \(x\)

**Like.co**

In order for the public to browse the LikeCoin smart contract conveniently and to stay transparent, a mining section will be set up in **Like.co** to disclose detailed analytics of token distribution of the Creators Pool, including but not limited to:

1. How much LikeCoin was minted the day before, and historically since day 1.
2. How many contents received LikeCoin, and the average.
3. What content receive what amount of LikeCoin.
4. The latest PoC difficulty.
Content creators can access their own creative contents easily on Like.co, and receive detailed analytics of them.

Like.co will also be served as a peer-to-peer payment site. Each content creator has his/her LikeCoin ID similar to a Twitter account. Users may transfer LikeCoin by a user-friendly web interface without owning ETH for gas. This is realized by the delegation function in LikeCoin smart contract, where LikeCoin Foundation serves as a proxy for transfer of LikeCoin token between users for Super Like and other peer-to-peer transfers.
LikeCoin Token

LikeCoin token is a utility token based on Ethereum and is ERC-20 compliant.

Token Distribution

The total number of LikeCoin token is capped at 2bil and is divided into 4 pools: token sale (600 mil), ecosystem development (200 mil), team (200 mil) and creators (1 bil).

Before the token sale takes place, 200mil tokens in the the ecosystem development pool is minted to start building the LikeCoin ecosystem. Such tokens are used for sales and marketing, bounty program, rewarding content creators before Proof of Creativity mining officially starts, and anything that facilitates the development of the ecosystem.

Then, during the public token sale, up to 600mil tokens will be minted in proportion to the amount in ETH provided by the buyers (see the next section, Token Sale).

After the token sale, tokens in the team pool will be used for payroll. Up to 200 mil tokens are reserved for the team, advisors and potentially consultants, with a vesting period of at least 48 months. Most of the team members take LikeCoin as compensation.

Finally, certain number of tokens will be minted daily from the creators pool, according to a set formula for rewarding contents by proof of creativity (refer to the previous
section LikeCoin Mining Protocol). It will be a process of over 10 years, and the total number of tokens minted will be 1bil at the end of the period.

**Token Sale**

LikeCoin tokens are only exchangeable with ETH during token sale period. The standard rate is 1ETH to 40,000 LikeCoin, with optional bonus of lock up period of 6 months.

Tokens will be sold in 4 stages: Early Believers (50% bonus, i.e. 20,000 extra LikeCoin per ETH), Institution (50% bonus), Early Bird (25% bonus) and Public Sale (no bonus except referral bonus). Remaining token at the end of the token sale period, if any, will be transferred to the Ecosystem Development pool.

For the avoidance of doubt, LikeCoin is designed to be used in the ecosystem and LikeCoin holders will not receive any voting rights at board meetings or shareholder meetings.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Round</th>
<th>ETH</th>
<th>Bonus*</th>
<th>LikeCoin</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early Believer</td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>72,000,000</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institution</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>180,000,000</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Bird</td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>60,000,000</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Sale</td>
<td>7,200</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>288,000,000</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hard Cap:</strong></td>
<td><strong>12,600</strong></td>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td><strong>600,000,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Token sale schedule (*bonus is subject to a 6 month lock up period)

**Use of Proceeds**

While LikeCoin tokens will be used for settlement of majority compensation of the team and part of the ecosystem development, proceeds from token sale will be used in ETH or converted fiat currency in other areas.
50% of the proceeds are budgeted for development and operation, especially hosting of the creative contents; 30% to marketing and development; 10% legal and administration and finally 10% for contingency and long-term reserve.

**LikeCoin Foundation**

All the LikeCoin tokens and proceeds from token sale are managed by LikeCoin Foundation Limited, which is a tax-exempt NGO under Section 88 of the Inland Revenue Ordinance of Hong Kong. The Directors of the Foundation are independent and are responsible for monitoring the issuance of tokens, payrolls or material contractors’ compensation and use of proceeds in general. The financial reports of the Foundation were and will be released to public.

The LikeCoin team are employees of the Foundation or her subsidiaries, and will be managing LikeCoin protocol as an open source project under GPL 3.0 license. Contents created by the Foundation, including this whitepaper, will be licensed in Creative Commons.
Conclusion

With an aim to realign creativity and rewards, LikeCoin attribution and mining protocols incentivises protocol adoption and *permissive license* by offering *reasonable rewards*. Permissive license and rewards reinforce each other, and maximise creativity of the content creators.

On the community side, LikeCoin is a movement to cultivate the habit and culture of voluntary payment for high quality creative contents. By providing a large creators pool for mining by Proof of Creativity over 10+ years, the community may get used to voluntary payment model gradually over a long period of time. If a paradigm shift happens in 10 years and indie content creators can make a living in the LikeCoin ecosystem, we regard LikeCoin as a success.
Appendix 1: roadmap

2017 Q1-Q3: brainstorming, R&D: the team developed oice, a visual novel editor which is the origin of LikeCoin. In oice, a director remixes art and music assets provided by other content creators to make interactive stories, next to which detailed credits are shown automatically.

Other than credit, the team believes each content creator involved should receive a share when the story receives income. Lots of technologies and tools were evaluated but none could meet the requirements, until we finally landed on cryptocurrency. We then generalize the idea to serve broader use cases and LikeCoin protocol was born.

2017 Q4: Early Believer Sale: with a series of articles explaining the concept and design of LikeCoin protocol and proof of concept deployed to Rinkeby testnet, Early Believer private sale of LikeCoin token were done. 1,200ETH were raised for development of the protocol and marketing.
2018 Q1: LikeCoin Token, Like.co and ID launched: LikeCoin main smart contract deployed to mainnet for production. LikeCoin ID registration opened to public. LikeCoin token peer-to-peer transfer made possible on Like.co.

2018 Q2: prototype of puttyimages: kickoff development of puttyimages and blogchain.md DApps with prototype deployed to test net. Simulated proof of creativity mining on oice. LikeCoin peer-to-peer payment features provided for content creators on early adopter websites. Public sale of LikeCoin token.

2018 Q3: launch of puttyimages: puttyimages DApps to launch on mainnet, with content creators beginning to upload creative contents.

2018 Q4: Like button launch: Like button SDK available for early adopters. puttyimages to launch internationally in more languages. Proof of creativity mining starts at a small scale.

2019: blogchain.md and LikeCoin ecosystem scale up: development and launch of blogchain.md DApps. Like button WordPress plugin and other SDKs available for public. oice backend to merge with LikeCoin protocol.
Appendix 2: People

Independent Directors

Jacky Chu: early investor of BTC, ETH, IOTA, VEN and ARDR; venture investor in China; Founder of Pad for Hope Foundation; member of Chartered Institute of Management Accountants. Jacky previously worked in Transaction Services at KPMG and management consultant at IMS Health. Graduated from UBC EECE and HK CUMBA, Jacky is endeavoring to use data technology to transform the charity sector.

Bonita Wang: Founder of iDonate, the first charity rating site in Hong Kong which measures the operating efficiency and fund needs based on audited reports and public information of charities. Bonita has Big4 and private equity experiences. She holds a Master of Science in Investment Management from Hong Kong University of Science and Technology and a Bachelor of Science in Economics from Ohio State University.

Team

kin ko: Product Designer; Founder; Chief (when one is needed). kin is an Internet veteran who in 1999 founded game developer Lakoo, backed by Tencent and Sequoia Capital. He stepped down after 18 years of operation mostly in China and started LikeCoin Foundation in Hong Kong in 2017. kin’s mixed background of Computer Engineering and Social Science reflected his strong belief that technology and humanity cannot and should never be divided.

Aludirk Wong: System Architect. In his 10+ years of experience as a software engineer, Aludirk has a specific focus on system design and software development methodologies. He was a core developer of a live dealer online casino system and has been in charge a massively multiplayer online game development. Aludirk is obsessed with blockchain and machine learning research in recent years.

Jacky Ko: CMO. Jacky was the founder of Octius Company Limited, the market leader in Hong Kong in retail merchandising services. With more than 16 years in merchandising services like visual display management, retail audit and POSM arrangement, Octius is the top player in the HK market with long term clients including Unilever, Mead Johnson, Abbott, Reckitt Benckiser, Frieslandfood, GSK, BAT, J&J, AMOY, Hawley & Hazel etc.

William Chong: Full Stack Developer. B.Sc in Computer Science, CUHK. Likes to try out edgy technologies and hack things together in his free time. Also likes to spend time on DevOp when he is procrastinating feature development.

Chung Wu: Blockchain Developer. Being called Satoshi in the team, Chung has strong passion on cryptography and is now focusing on blockchain technologies. He treats
reading whitepapers as entertainment in his spare time. Chung holds a M.Sc in Computer Science, Chinese University of Hong Kong.

**Michael Cheung:** Full Stack Developer. B.Sc in Computer Science, CUHK. Michael mainly supports data logging, searching and analytics of the team’s application. On weekends, Michael likes playing Chinese chess and board games.

**Edmond Yu:** Operation Manager. Exited from Cloud Pillar, a web and mobile solution consultancy Edmond cofounded, he cofounded oice, a visual novel editor which turned into a LikeCoin DApp. Edmond is an entrepreneur with 20-year startup experience in IT and telecom field.

**Simon But:** Growth Hacker. Asking himself “what games are” all his life, SimonB founded firepillar2, an indie game development group, when he’s studying in the Chinese University of Hong Kong. He strongly believes creative works make life better.

**David Ng:** Full Stack Developer. David is an engineer who understands design, with a passion on UX/UI and motion design. David is graduated from HKBU with a Bachelor Degree in Computer Science.

**Miles Wong:** Full Stack Developer. Miles is an enthusiastic software engineer in web and application development. He is familiar with both frontend and backend technologies. Miles holds a Bachelor of Engineering in Computer Science from HKUST.

**Joshua Lo:** UX Designer. Joshua is a *fullstack designer* with over 10-year experience. After his study in Hong Kong and Berlin, he founded Buliuming in 2012, a design consultancy specialized on infographic and UX/UI design. Clients include The Bank of East Asia, HAECO, Pico and YouGov.

**Advisors**

**Alex Lau:** Blockchain OpenSource Advisor of CyberMiles, Webank and TruBuzz; R&D Engineering Consultant of SUSE Linux Enterprise Storage; establish BCOS Community Non-Profile Chapter for WeBank.

**Dr. Haggen So:** Founder and President of Hong Kong Creative Open Technology Association; Project Manager of the Creative Commons Hong Kong; active in global movements such as Creative Commons, One Laptop Per Child and GNOME.

**Isaac Mao:** Founder of Musicoin; Founder of CNBlogs.org; Project Lead of iCommons China, Creative Commons China Team.

**Jon Phillips:** an open source-developer, artist, designer, writer, lecturer, and has over 12 years experience in creating communities. Community director of GNU social; Founder of Openclipart; developer of Inkscape; Founder of Qi copyleft hardware.
Early supporters

Annie Zhang: Editor in Chief of Initium Media; Deputy Chief Editor at City Magazine; Executive Chief Editor of iSun Affairs.

Harry Xiao: Founder of Meshbox; Founder of Downjoy.

Heatherm Huang: Founder of Measurable Token and MailTime.

Greg Sung: Founder of OneSky; Founder of anobii.