



The Silver Standard: The Case for Crypto's Most Undervalued Legacy Coin

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II. Abstract

This paper is written in three parts. In the first, it identifies and diagnoses a misguided investor demographic whose pursuit of experimental innovation is no longer aligned with the generational forces shaping crypto's next major growth wave. Highlighting institutional mandates and preferences—which favor resilience, credibility, and proven performance—part one identifies legacy coins as crypto's market segment that is best positioned for significant capital injections.

Having established a strong case for legacy coins, part two begins with the development of a rigorous valuation framework that employs four core criteria through which to examine legacy coins: integrity, unique utility, technology, and broad resilience. Subsequently, part two analyzes Litecoin through the lens of its valuation framework, identifying LTC as crypto's most potent legacy coin. Thorough analysis highlights Litecoin's fourteen years of uninterrupted uptime, principled monetary schedule, record hashrate growth, deep liquidity, and integrations across crypto-native and fintech payment platforms. Treasury allocations from established firms are further employed as early-stage evidence of Litecoin's credibility as an institutional reserve asset.

Finally, part three introduces LitVM, the first trustless Litecoin Virtual Machine, as a key factor that stands to complement Litecoin's hard money foundation and extend its long-term viability. Highlighting the enhanced programmability conferred by a custom-built EVM execution environment, part three presents Litecoin's adoption curve as a function of its capacity to unlock new avenues of utility for LTC. As a catalyzing agent unlocking vast utility for LTC, LitVM has the potential to transform Litecoin from a reserve-grade asset into a foundation for mass-market financial activity ready to take a leading role in the next-generation digital economy.

III. Introduction

In May 1999, alt-rock band Smashmouth released its hit single “All Star”, an instant classic that encapsulated a nostalgic decade of wholesome humor and feel-good vibes (Smash Mouth, 1999). Bringing zany lyrics to a funky melody, lead singer Steve Harwell electrified youths across the world in a playful rags-to-pop-star-riches story punctuated with the ever-memorable line: “All that glitters is gold; only shooting stars break the mold.”

Smashmouth nailed the warmth of the nineties into pop culture for good, blasting shiny optimism into the ears of a generation about to stumble headfirst into the dot-com bubble—and shortly thereafter, crypto. For an upbeat millennial entering the rigid world of adulthood years later, Harwell’s message might well have echoed: “If you take the path less traveled with enough eccentricity, you’ll be rewarded.” Optimistic indeed, “All Star” and other prominent influences of the nineties imbued youths with a hopeful, unbridled belief in their own uninformed affections.

The trouble is, Smashmouth’s message was unfounded. The band had merely plucked and repurposed a piece of centuries-old wisdom penned by William Shakespeare. Per his original playscript, *The Merchant of Venice*, Shakespeare warned precisely the opposite: “All that glitters is not gold” (Shakespeare, 1600). Perhaps these are the words that should have been hammered into the eardrums of pre-pubescent millennials at the turn of the century. At the very least, it could have prevented a few bankruptcy-fueled quarter-life crises.

Harwell be damned, a generation of self-aggrandizing crypto bros has marched onward, uncovering Shakespeare’s original wisdom one excruciating, expensive mistake at a time. Incontrovertibly, Shakespeare was right: not all that glitters is gold—nor is it Bitcoin, for that matter.

Since its 2009 conception, Bitcoin’s OG blockchain has been followed by its own parade of pretenders —forks that promised revolution but delivered wreckage. The most infamous remains Bitcoin Cash, Roger Ver’s crusade to scale Bitcoin with bigger blocks. Once propped up on CNBC as “the real Bitcoin,” BCash quickly devolved into a tribalist sideshow whose main function was fracturing the crypto community. Its cringeworthy sequel, Bitcoin SV, crowned Craig Wright—the infamous, courtroom-losing Satoshi imposter—as crypto’s de facto godfather. If ever there was a case study in how not to run a chain, it’s the Wright-versus-reality saga that turned BSV into a legal soap opera.

Unfortunately, there was more. Bitcoin Gold marketed itself as a fairer, GPU-mined Bitcoin—until it was promptly 51% attacked into irrelevance. Bitcoin Diamond promised faster, cheaper transactions, and quickly amounted to nothing. Then there was Bitcoin Private, a Frankenstein stitch-up of ZClassic and Bitcoin that purported to offer privacy. It might have flown under the radar, if not for the revelation of an undisclosed pre-mine that the team ever-ironically failed to obscure. With the clarity of hindsight, each Bitcoin fork—very possibly backed and operated by a crop of self-certain

millennials—went all in on the premise that borrowed branding and momentary hype can generate network effects before the clock runs out. Each glittered briefly, only to crash and burn.

Today, much of the millennial crypto crowd has slumped into a hopeless stupor immortalized by the wojak meme featured in the [Low Budget Stories](#) YouTube channel. Such is the hangover of a decade spent glorifying glitter in the pursuit of gold. But while a dopamine detox is more than warranted, there has hardly ever been a worse time to exit, as institutional entry and public sector acceptance have ignited a new era of confidence in digital assets. And so, the pursuit continues—that is, the pursuit of the next big innovation.

But while the common crypto chase targets new trends, new tools, and new tech, the institutions dipping their feet in are taking a diametrically opposite approach. The digital assets that are securing allocations on institutional balance sheets, corporate treasuries, and strategic reserves are in fact legacy coins—the long-timers that have accompanied Bitcoin on much of its journey. Labeled “dino coins” by the crypto bro conglomerate, legacy coins have endured brutal bear markets, suffocating regulatory classifications, and grassroots FUD campaigns.

Much to the chagrin of the now-thirty-something-year-old millennial, the next big opportunity might not come from looking forward, but from looking back—not from foresight, but from experience—not from predicting the future, but from having lived the past. For the first time, crypto’s next major growth wave may belong to those who remember the legacy coins of old that slipped through the cracks.

After all, not every codebase ought to be judged by its cover. Bitcoin has inspired a wealth of principled innovation; it would be a great tragedy to dismiss principled technologies with strong track records—that is, to throw out the baby with the BCash bathwater.

For the thousands of copycat coins that have been misconstrued as the real deal, there is one which has been mistakenly dismissed and discarded as yet another undifferentiated Bitcoin clone. And while there is and will only ever be one glittering coin that can call itself digital gold, there exists one other which wields enough merit to earn the silver medal.

Now far-removed from adolescence, millennials ought to consider that the greatest ally in twenty-first century adulthood is a modest disposition that has been honed for objectivity. When you can no longer leverage your youth, it’s time to play to your wisdom—as the saying goes, it’s worth its weight in gold. The new mantra: proceed slowly, research extensively, and question all assumptions—including your own. If you got caught chasing lookalikes during the digital gold rush, you might just have enough time to stack up on digital silver.

If nothing else, legacy coins are worth a look.

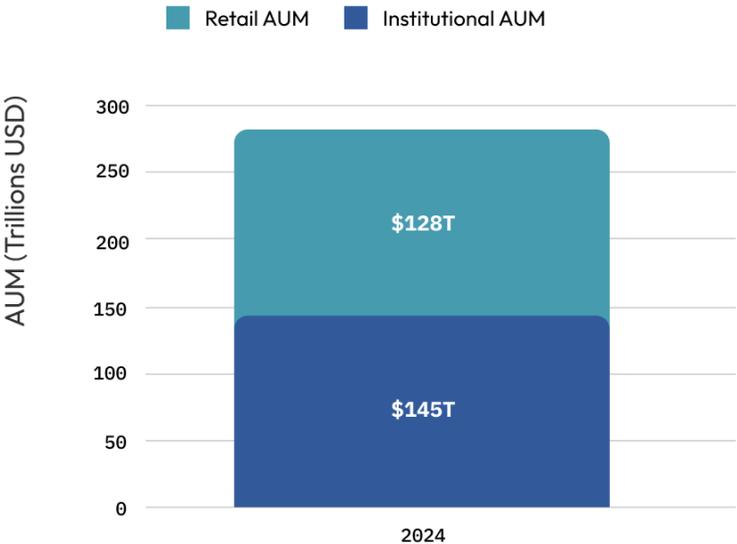
IV. Legacy Coins as Leaders in Web3's Next Major Growth Wave

A legacy coin is a first-generation cryptocurrency that has endured multiple market cycles while maintaining network security, liquidity, and user activity despite shifting narratives and technological innovation. Distinguished by longevity, resilience, and technical robustness, legacy coins serve as the foundational assets of the digital asset economy.

Thus far, the evolution of the digital asset market has unfolded in waves, each driven by a breakthrough innovation that served a digital native body of users and investors. In 2017, Ethereum's smart contracts fueled the ICO boom, creating an explosion of tokenized fundraising opportunities that opened the door to speculative experimentation. From 2019 through 2021, DeFi reshaped the space, offering new ways to lend, borrow, and generate yield on idle assets. As DeFi advanced into 2022, scalability rose to the forefront, spurring major capital migrations to alt-Layer 1s and Layer 2 networks designed to ease congestion and lower costs. Each wave contributed meaningful progress, but the common thread was clear: with little material interest from the outside, all successful innovation was directed inward to address the demands and pain points of existing users.

Today, the digital asset market stands in an entirely different set of circumstances. A combination of substantially higher market capitalizations, growing public sector engagement, and the arrival of traditional institutions and enterprises has shifted the axis of innovation away from crypto's youthful user base. Now, millennials and their chronically online zoomer companion generation will not be the only darlings of onchain innovation—nor do they have the aggregate capital to push the industry's \$4 trillion market cap to the next threshold alone.

The Difference Between Retail And Institutional AUM



This chart does not include digital asset treasuries growing AUM.

Sovereign wealth managers, global financial institutions, and multi-national corporations—whose leadership is predominantly composed of boomers—aren't seeking out the newest liquidity experiment, the latest scaling solution, or the most politically charged meme. Just like millennials and zoomers, the boomers that manage hundred-billion dollar portfolios and formulate corporate investment strategies are selecting digital assets in their own image. That is to say, they're investing in networks with demonstrated resilience, consistent uptime, and credibility that's been proven over multiple market cycles.

In addition to their capital, the boomer-headed institutions now entering the digital asset space also have their reputations to consider. Pension funds, sovereign wealth managers, and publicly traded corporations must select assets that exhibit stability, reliability, and durability – qualities that mirror the mandates of their shareholders. Just as millennials poured billions into ICOs, degen farms, and other gamification experiments in search of novelty, adrenaline, and memetic humor, the institutional wave will be characterized by the interests, priorities, and responsibilities of boomers—as boring and colorless as they may appear to their youthful counterparts. While institutional adoption has only just begun, measures have already been taken to anchor longstanding institutions to the onchain landscape's long-timers, veterans, and secure networks.

Without exception, such a profound inversion of priorities dramatically changes the calculus of adoption. Frontier protocols, novel liquidity models, and gamified internet humor still matter, and they will continue to push the boundaries of Web3 innovation—but they will struggle to headline it alongside legacy coins. The real foundation for the next growth wave is already being built on the assets that can withstand regulatory scrutiny, absorb volatility, and maintain liquidity under stress. For large-scale enterprises and sovereign actors, value identification generally has nothing to do with novelty and everything to do with time-tested performance.

The strongest candidates for institutional portfolios are not crypto's newest entrants—they are legacy coins that have survived repeated stress tests. For legacy coins, credibility rests not only in code and consensus, but in performance and perseverance—in the sheer fact that they remain functional, liquid, and active after years weathering the same adversity that crippled their competitors. The digital asset market is entering a stage where resilience is a principal measure of value; the assets that have provably demonstrated it are precisely the ones to be rediscovered as its newfound gems.

The terminology bears no coincidence: it should come as no surprise that the digital assets that legacy institutions have identified as most immediately suitable to occupy their investment portfolios are legacy coins.

V. Criteria for Identifying Undervalued Legacy Coins with Adoption Potential

Legacy coins occupy a unique position in the digital asset landscape, and therefore require unique criteria from which to conduct valuations. Legacy networks have survived multiple market cycles, experienced the rise and fall of compelling narratives, and navigated a market environment that relentlessly rewards adaptation and punishes stagnation. While many legacy coins have been abandoned and effectively rendered ghost chains, others are striving forward as immensely undervalued players in the digital asset landscape. On this accord, crypto's legacy coin sector is a highly bifurcated, hit-or-miss market segment that presents both significant upside and downside potential.

In order to evaluate the vitality, relevance, and adoption prospects of legacy coins, it is essential to establish a clear and empirical rubric that separates enduring value from obsolescence.

The following framework identifies four (4) core criteria that employ objective metrics to select for undervalued legacy coins in the 2025 digital asset market.



1. Integrity: Robust Consensus, Security, & Principled Monetary Policy

At the foundation of any long-lived blockchain is the strength of its consensus mechanism and the robustness of its monetary schedule. Uptime, hashrate, node distribution, and other measures of resistance to 51% attacks demonstrate whether the network can be relied upon for secure settlement. Equally important are the metrics governing a chain's monetary policy, which demands a fixed total supply, a healthy halving cadence or other disinflationary mechanism, and predictable issuance. Ultimately, a chain and its native asset must uphold hard money principles.

2. Unique Utility: Defined Value Proposition & Public Market Usage

A legacy coin must demonstrate a non-redundant use case or a significant competitive advantage over a prevailing market leader in an existing use case. Just as importantly, a legacy coin's differentiated purpose or competitive advantage must be underpinned and advanced by a standalone narrative which has historically aligned with its technology, brand, and community. Distinct utility backed by active usage in the public domain indicates that a legacy coin is capable of generating, maintaining, and expanding upon the network effects necessary to serve a grassroots community, a broader market, and potentially, institutional stakeholders.

3. Technology: Developer Activity, Innovation, & Ecosystem Growth

Operational coasting is one of the primary red flags for legacy coins, as substantial funding bases often diminish motivation to innovate, leading projects to subsist on low monthly burns and non-mission-critical initiatives. A potent legacy coin expresses meaningful intent and long-term adoption potential through ongoing GitHub commits, a healthy active contributor count, well-maintained open-source repositories, and the continuous deployment of new technical components. Beyond these technical markers, true vitality is also reflected in sustained development activity, strategic innovation, and coordinated business development initiatives that bring a chain's native asset into new markets. When paired with technical augmentations that enhance performance and compatibility, these indicators illustrate that a legacy coin's network is actively adapting to new standards and conditions while expanding its utility.

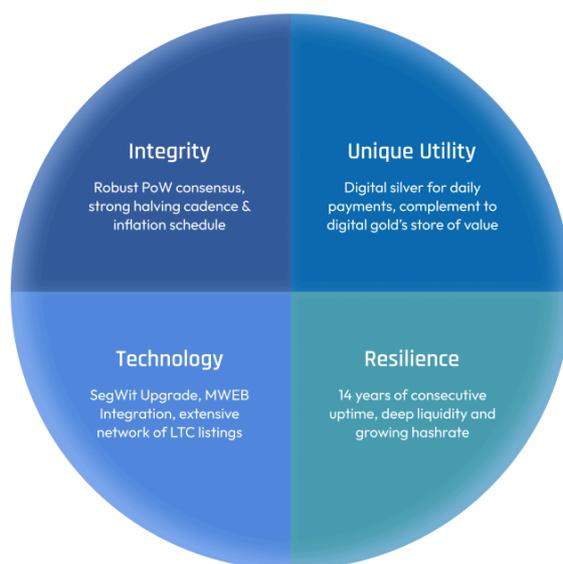
4. Resilience: Longevity Across Capitalization, Liquidity, & Resilience

A legacy coin's historical record is paramount. First and foremost, the stability of a legacy coin's market capitalization is a direct indicator of its resilience. Market cap ranking over time, depth of liquidity across CEXs and DEXs, integrations into prominent fintech payment platforms, and the availability of functional derivatives markets—futures, options, and perpetuals—all contribute to a robust market capable of inspiring confidence from institutions. Further, a legacy coin that sustains liquidity through multiple bear and bull markets demonstrates resilience to speculation and other unpredictable market dynamics. Surviving multiple market cycles without catastrophic failure—whether technical, social, or regulatory—serves as primary evidence of a legacy coin's durability. Networks that maintain relevance through crises, adapt to shifts in demand, and continue to attract users over a decade or more exhibit strong foundations, dedicated communities, and loyal user bases.

Several legacy coins have performed satisfactorily on all four criteria, and have thereby earned the attention of global institutions. But year to year, none has stayed the course nor pushed the boundaries like Litecoin.

VI. The Case for Litecoin as the Top-Performing Legacy Coin Leading Web3's Next Major Growth Wave

Legacy Coin Valuation For Litecoin



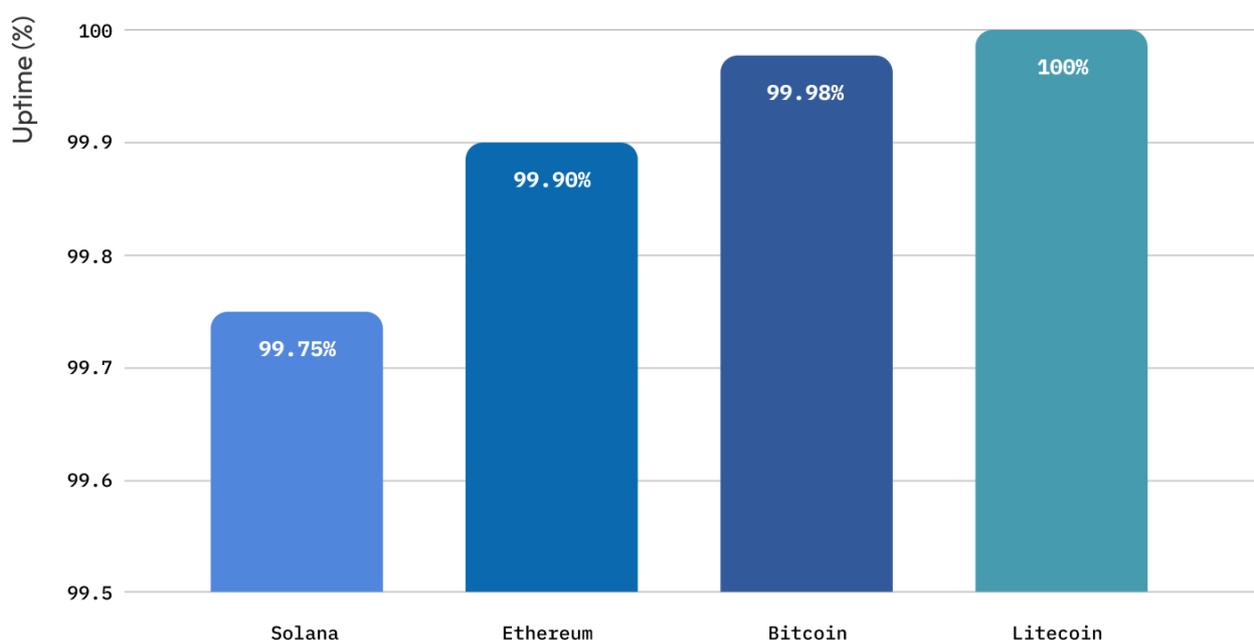
1. Integrity: Robust Consensus, Security, & Principled Monetary Policy

Litecoin's integrity is grounded in its principled monetary design. Created in 2011 as a "lite" version of Bitcoin, the Litecoin blockchain drew on Bitcoin's DNA as a Proof-of-Work (PoW) network with fixed scarcity and predictable disinflation (Lee, 2011). Litecoin's maximum supply was set at 84 million LTC—precisely four times Bitcoin's 21 million—as a deliberate design choice to reduce nominal unit price without diluting scarcity. Litecoin's technical architecture maintains Bitcoin's halving schedule, where block rewards are reduced every 840,000 blocks—as opposed to Bitcoin's 210,000—to ensure that Litecoin's disinflationary curve parallels Bitcoin's across time (Litecoin Foundation, 2022). With blocks produced every 2.5 minutes—four times faster than Bitcoin's 10-minute cadence—Litecoin achieves faster settlement finality and lower transaction costs, making it more suitable as digital cash while preserving its hard money principles.

Network security further reinforces Litecoin's integrity, with a global distribution of nearly 1,000 unique nodes contributing to decentralized consensus across jurisdictions and internet providers (Blockchair, 2025). Litecoin's Scrypt-based mining algorithm is technically distinct from Bitcoin's SHA-256, and provides additional insulation from industrial hash-power concentration. The Litecoin

network's hashrate has grown steadily over time, recently reaching an all-time high of 3.79 PH/s in March 2025—a milestone that indicates both rising miner participation and long-term confidence in the chain's durability. Litecoin's strengthening security profile enhances its resilience against opportunistic 51% attacks. With more than 14 years of uninterrupted operation, the Litecoin blockchain has never suffered a successful double-spend, chain reorganization, halt, or protocol-level failure—a spotless record of stability and security unmatched by nearly any proof-of-work blockchain beyond Bitcoin (Litecoin Foundation, 2022). As far as the world of rock-solid PoW chains is concerned, there is silver and gold, and nothing else comes close.

Blockchain Uptime Since Inception



2. Unique Utility: Defined Value Proposition & Public Market Usage

From its inception, Litecoin was designed as a payments-optimized peer to complement Bitcoin's store of value function. With block times four times faster, lower average fees, and a parallel halving schedule to preserve scarcity, Litecoin was designed for the role of a practical cash that maintains the disinflationary discipline of hard money. Unlike Bitcoin's copycat forks, Litecoin did not orchestrate a direct split from Bitcoin's chain or community; rather, it launched in 2011 as a clean code fork with its own genesis block, ledger, and fair distribution. At no point was a single LTC issued, airdropped, or offered to any user based on existing BTC holdings. As such, Litecoin's independent genesis event has long served as a bold statement in its mission to build a unique brand, cultivate an organic community of grassroots contributors, and construct a distinct value proposition. As BTC has gravitated toward its role as digital gold in recent years, LTC has settled more firmly into its original purpose as a medium of exchange operating on a network purpose-built for practical payments.

Litecoin’s unique utility has been further evidenced by its adoption. LTC has now been integrated into an array of leading consumer payment platforms, including PayPal, Venmo, BitPay, Flexa, OxaPay, ForumPay, and others that extend its reach to millions of merchants and consumers worldwide. In addition, LTC is universally listed on premier cryptocurrency exchanges such as Coinbase, Binance, Kraken, Gemini, Fidelity, and Robinhood, ensuring seamless accessibility for both retail users and institutions. Meanwhile, on-chain activity provides tangible confirmation of organic traction, as the Litecoin blockchain has consistently settled \$200–\$350 billion in trailing 30-day windows throughout 2025—a value comparable to Bitcoin’s \$1.3 trillion in total monthly settlement (CoinMetrics, 2025).

Litecoin Settlement Over The Last Year

Date	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume
Aug 1, 2025	106.22	133.92	103.75	122.79	21,624,835,287
Jul 1, 2025	85.98	121.90	82.49	106.22	23,868,769,816
Jun 1, 2025	87.13	94.01	76.42	85.98	10,812,182,278
May 1, 2025	83.52	106.15	81.18	87.13	17,875,436,117
Apr 1, 2025	83.03	88.07	63.75	83.51	13,291,451,170
Mar 1, 2025	127.96	130.27	81.02	83.03	21,080,712,974
Feb 1, 2025	128.01	139.86	85.31	127.96	37,187,729,541
Jan 1, 2025	103.07	140.62	93.15	128.01	28,582,372,839
Dec 1, 2024	102.67	146.61	86.89	103.07	40,575,053,043
Nov 1, 2024	69.20	105.69	64.64	102.67	28,204,822,034
Oct 1, 2024	66.82	75.88	62.12	69.20	9,251,022,409
Sep 1, 2024	65.06	71.46	59.79	66.82	8,296,813,793

Litecoin's legitimacy is being further reinforced by treasury allocations from publicly traded firms. Canadian digital infrastructure company Luxxfolio has filed a CAD 100 million (approximately \$73 million) base shelf prospectus to expand its holdings, working toward its previously stated goal of accumulating 1 million LTC by 2026 (Luxxfolio Holdings, 2025). In the United States, biopharmaceutical company Lite Strategy has already purchased nearly 930,000 LTC worth more than \$110 million, integrating Litecoin directly into its balance sheet (U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, 2025). While Bitcoin is now the world's digital asset of choice for value storage, Litecoin is securing its own unique role as a resilient, high-performance payments network.

3. Technology: Developer Activity, Innovation, & Ecosystem Growth

Litecoin has consistently positioned itself as one of the most credible proving grounds for forward-looking upgrades while preserving the conservative approach required of a monetary chain. In addition to adapting and evolving in response to threats and opportunities, Litecoin has maintained uninterrupted functionality for its entire lifespan, setting it apart from a host of ever-popular Layer 1 ecosystems that have more recently risen to prominence.

In April 2017, Litecoin's early implementation of Segregated Witness (SegWit) remains one of the most important upgrades in the history of digital assets. By deploying SegWit seamlessly and without disruption, Litecoin provided empirical evidence of the upgrade's safety and efficacy. The successful adoption paved the way for SegWit's activation on Bitcoin later that year, demonstrating Litecoin's early role as a technical testing ground of sorts (Litecoin Foundation, 2022; Bitcoin Core Project, 2017). SegWit adoption on Litecoin has remained strong ever since, with the majority of transactions today taking advantage of its superior efficiency.

Since August 2017, Litecoin has also supported Lightning Network as an off-chain scaling solution, enabling users to conduct instant, near-costless microtransactions. Although adoption remains modest compared to Bitcoin's Lightning Network, Litecoin's roughly 95 nodes and 170 active channels as of mid-2024 have enabled atomic swaps with Bitcoin, realizing a trustless bridge between two of crypto's most secure PoW chains. Even at a relatively small scale, such compatibility demonstrates that Litecoin can integrate with second-layer protocols and adapt to scaling demands beyond its native block space.

But most significant among Litecoin's more technical achievements is the integration of MimbleWimble Extension Blocks (MWEB), which were activated on mainnet in 2022. Litecoin's MWEB upgrade introduced optional privacy and fungibility features while preserving compatibility with the base protocol. Today, more than 90% of miners and nodes validate MWEB blocks, with a total of 150,000 LTC transacted through MWEB and adoption continuing to rise (Litecoin Foundation, 2022).

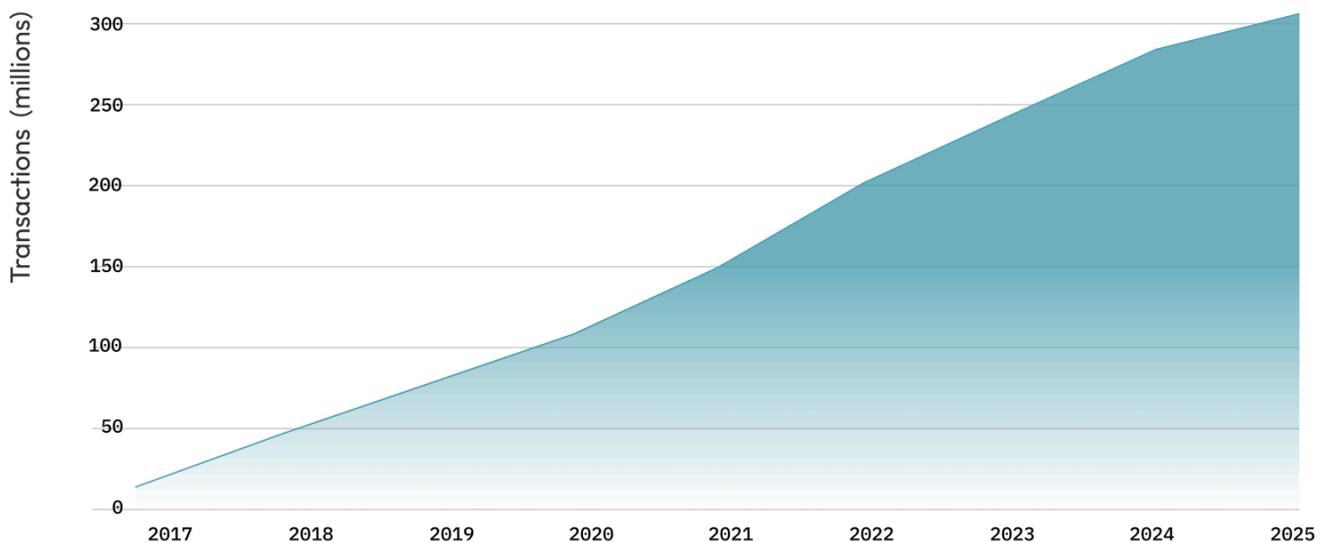
For those unacquainted with the tumultuous history of digital assets, the ability to integrate a cutting-edge privacy protocol into a fourteen-year-old network without compromising stability or liquidity is a rare achievement. In order to maintain its role as store of value, Bitcoin has remained largely fixed

within its conservative development culture; whereas Litecoin has effectively expanded the functionality of its lightweight payments network while remaining true to its core hard money design principles.

Over 14 years of continuous operation, a successful stream of technical advancements has driven growth throughout the Litecoin network. In 2023, the introduction of Ordinals emerged as a breakthrough innovation, enabling individual satoshis and litoshis to be inscribed with arbitrary data. Ordinals unlocked entirely new categories of onchain activity, from collectible assets to novel methods of digital expression, while further demonstrating Litecoin’s capacity to integrate experimental features without compromising its core performance (Litecoin Foundation, 2023).

As of 2025, Litecoin has surpassed 300 million lifetime transactions, a milestone that reflects consistent demand across multiple market cycles (CoinMetrics, 2025). With daily volume routinely exceeding \$11 billion, Litecoin’s transaction totals have frequently exceeded its market capitalization (CoinMetrics, 2025). Altogether, Litecoin’s balanced approach to layered innovation and hard money principles has forged a credible path for an ecosystem that can adapt while remaining true to its identity.

Litecoin Lifetime Transactions



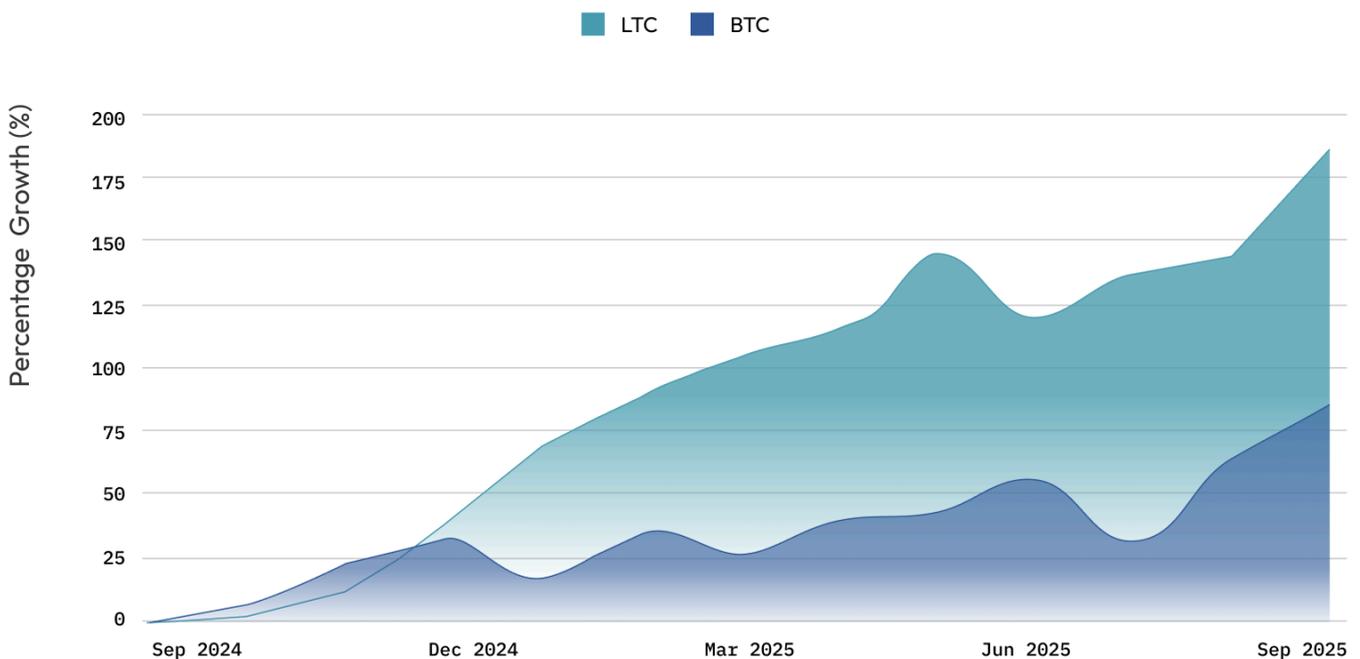
4. Resilience: Longevity Across Capitalization, Liquidity, & Resilience

Resilience is the definitive measure of whether a blockchain and its native digital asset can withstand volatility and external pressures. In this respect, Litecoin is unparalleled among Bitcoin’s OG companion networks. Since its launch in October 2011, Litecoin’s uninterrupted record of performance is extraordinary in a sector where high-profile networks have suffered recurring outages, reorgs, and

Proven durability has allowed Litecoin to retain its position among the most actively traded and liquid assets in the digital economy. Despite the rise and fall of countless narratives and market cycles, Litecoin has consistently ranked in the top echelon of digital assets by market capitalization and exchange volume. Today, LTC remains listed on virtually every major global exchange, while its deep liquidity extends beyond centralized exchanges to institutional custody solutions, OTC desks, and integrated payment rails that ensure both retail and institutional investors can trade and transact with confidence.

Hashrate growth further illustrates Litecoin's resilience at the technical level. Even in recent years, Litecoin's hashrate has continued to grow, rising from just over 1 PH/s in 2024 to an all-time high of 3.79 PH/s in March 2025 (CoinWarz, 2025). A rising hashrate has not only hardened the network against 51% attacks, but continues to point toward long-term confidence among participants who have direct economic exposure to the network's viability. The fact that miners continue to allocate capital to Litecoin at record levels demonstrates that the chain continues to exhibit significant adoption potential and economic upside.

Litecoin Vs Bitcoin Hashrate Growth



For legacy institutions, Litecoin's resilience carries particular weight. By surviving every cycle while maintaining global liquidity, expanding exchange listing and integrations, and strengthening its security profile, Litecoin has become the archetype of a resilient legacy coin. Its endurance is systemic: the product of hard money principles, a fair and independent launch, and persistent demand across nearly a decade and a half of radical volatility.

VII. LitVM: The Cardinal Catalyzing Agent for Litecoin's Next Chapter

The story surrounding digital assets has always oscillated between glitter and substance, with forks, fads, and fleeting narratives all fighting for mindshare with crypto's durable elite. In the forthcoming phase of institution-led adoption, no amount of hype will be able to elevate speculative novelties to the height of time-tested legacy coins whose strength lies in resilience, credibility, and performance. Institutions, sovereign funds, and public companies are aligning their capital with digital assets that mirror their mandates for stability and durability. Within this framework, Litecoin stands out as a fair-launched, principled PoW chain with over fourteen years of flawless uptime, a rising hashrate, deep liquidity, and a credible role as a payments-focused digital silver to complement Bitcoin's digital gold.

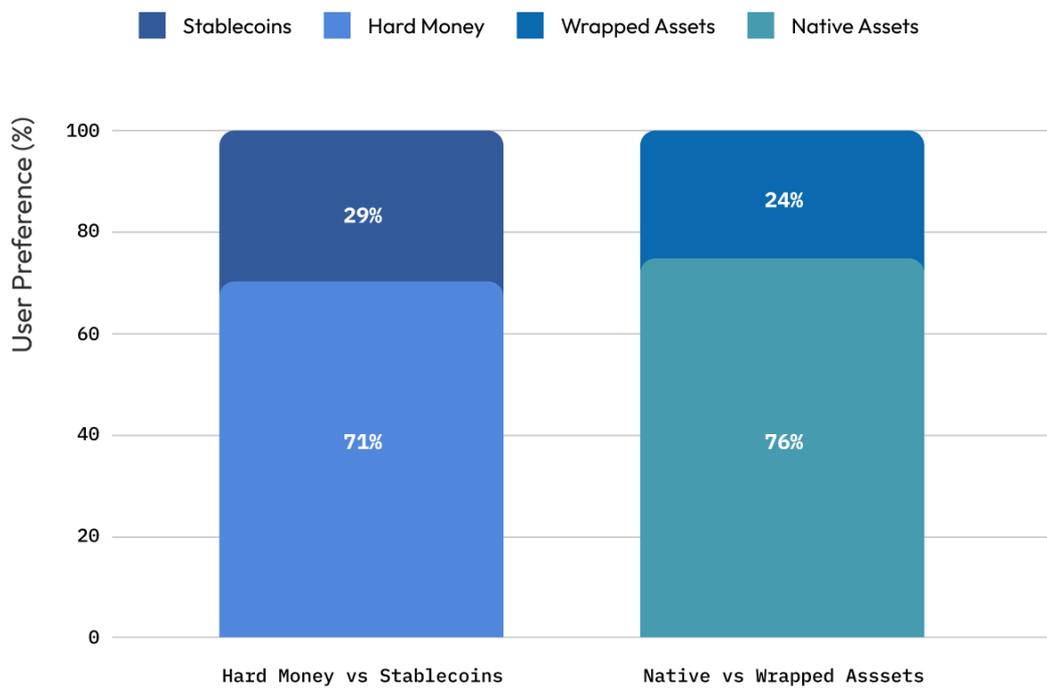
Nonetheless, an opening remains for the very qualities that have preserved Litecoin's integrity to be complemented by expanded functionality—especially if it is to thrive in a broader digital economy that increasingly demands programmable value. Litecoin has already demonstrated the capacity to adapt through SegWit, Lightning, and MWEB, integrating innovation without compromising its founding principles. Now is the perfect moment for LitVM to make its arrival as the next suite of Litecoin-native technical innovation.

Litecoin's history is one of durability, integrity, and pragmatic innovation. With a market capitalization exceeding \$8 billion, LTC is no longer a niche asset confined to retail speculation. The coin is now held by funds, institutions, corporate treasuries, and pushing toward a new phase where Litecoin can serve as a programmable foundation for financial activity at scale.

Digital asset adoption projections from top institutions and Web3-native organizations point to steady growth over the next five years. Much of the digital asset space's trajectory stands to be shaped by institutional adoption, digital asset treasury mandates, advancing regulatory clarity, and ongoing blockchain innovation. Against such a backdrop, LitVM extends the scope of what LTC can achieve—not just as digital silver, but as programmable silver.

Independent surveys conducted by this paper's authors demonstrate that 71% of blockchain users hold a preference for spending and saving in hard money assets such as Bitcoin and Litecoin when compared to stablecoins like Tether's USDT and Circle's USDC. This preference becomes significantly clearer when narrowed to native asset usage: 76% of the same surveyed users favor transacting directly in BTC and LTC rather than relying on wrapped equivalents such as wBTC or cbLTC. Together, these figures highlight a critical source of friction in today's digital asset landscape: while stablecoins and wrapped assets have dominated early liquidity flows,

Blockchain User Preferences



they do not satisfy the trustless expectations of users who prefer settlement in hard money. This is precisely where LitVM stands to add value as a crucial technical solution. By enabling programmable, trustless use cases for LTC within an EVM-compatible framework, LitVM removes the dependence on wrapped derivatives and extends Litecoin's utility into DeFi and beyond, positioning Litecoin as the natural asset of choice for users and institutions whose operations require both hard money settlement and modern onchain programmability. Payment providers and ecosystems that remain tethered primarily to stablecoins or wrapped assets are likely to face growing adoption challenges, while LitVM offers a clear path that aligns with true user preferences.

For decentralized asset treasuries (DATs), sovereign institutions, and global funds, the opportunity is also significant. LitVM enables Litecoin to serve as both a balance sheet reserve asset and an active instrument of programmable finance. If adoption trends continue, the launch of LitVM could substantially amplify Litecoin's performance in the projected five-year growth of digital asset markets. In this sense, LitVM acts as a cardinal catalyst that stands to define the digital economy's next era of innovation: where hard money and programmability converge.

In extending that adaptability, Litecoin may be able to generate powerful synergies by pairing its hard-money foundation with LitVM's broader execution environment that can host new applications, enable high-impact use cases, and welcome a more diverse body of users. Perhaps, it might even become the shooting star that allows Litecoin to finally break the mold.

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