Gavin Wood

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Founded Polkadot, Kusama, Ethereum, Parity, Web3 Foundation. Building Polkadot. All things Web 3.0

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Gavin Wood speaking in 2015

Born	April 1980 (age 40)
	Lancaster, United Kingdom
Nationality	British
Education	Lancaster Royal Grammar School
Alma mater	University of York
Known for	Co-founder of Ethereum and former CTO of the Ethereum Foundation; co-founder of Polkadot; CWO

Gavin Wood is a British computer programmer, co-founder of Ethereum and creator of Polkadot.[1][2] He invented Solidity and wrote the Yellow Paper specifying the Ethereum Virtual Machine. Wood served as the Ethereum Foundation's first chief technology officer. After leaving Ethereum in 2016, he co-founded Parity Technologies (formerly Ethcore), which develops core infrastructure for Ethereum, Bitcoin, Zcash and Polkadot.

Career[edit]

Prior to developing Ethereum, Wood worked as a research scientist at Microsoft.[1] He co-founded Ethereum, which he has described as "one computer for the entire planet,"[3] with Vitalik Buterin and others during 2013–2014.[4] Wood wrote Ethereum's coding language, Solidity,[5] and released the Yellow Paper defining the Ethereum Virtual Machine,[6][7] the runtime system for Smart contracts in Ethereum, in 2014.[8] He also served as the Ethereum Foundation's first chief technology officer.[9][10] Wood left Ethereum in 2016.[11]

Wood founded Parity Technologies (formerly Ethcore), which developed a client for the Ethereum network and creates software for companies using blockchain technology, with Jutta Steiner, who also previously worked at the Ethereum Foundation.[1][10] The company released the Parity Ethereum software client, written in Rust, in early 2016. He serves as Parity's CWO, as of 2018.

He founded the Web3 Foundation, a nonprofit organization focusing on decentralised internet infrastructure and technology, starting with Polkadot network.[10] In comparison to Ethereum, Polkadot allows each app developer to create their own blockchain that can talk to other ledgers. Developers can decide what kind of transaction fees to charge and how fast to confirm blocks of transactions across the digital ledgers.