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Are NFTs Here To Stay?

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Abstract: *Non-fungible tokens (NFTs) are a replacement sort of unique and indivisible blockchain-based tokens introduced in late 2017. While fungible tokens have enabled new use cases like Initial Coin Offerings, the potential of NFTs as a valuable component and their future remains unclear. Non-Fungible Tokens (NFTs) have garnered remarkable investor attention recently, with some NFTs securing selling prices which can have seemed unthinkable for a non-fungible virtual asset. This raises fascinating questions on "value", "scarcity" and "energy consumption" with reference to blockchain technology, through a prism of non-fungibility of a digital asset, and this paper aims to draw attention to those questions insofar as they'll shape an alternate space of blockchain development and exchange going forward. We will look at the carbon footprint of NFTs and the respective blockchains. Have a look into alternative resources that can be used for these blockchain systems also the Carbon Offsets these assets contribute to. As Ethereum blockchain is secured using a proof-of-work system similar to bitcoin, which consumes energy on a large scale, we will look into the scope of converting this system to Proof-of-Stake blockchain systems that do not rely on massive computing power, and thus consume much less electricity. Is a trend of auctioning non-fungible tokens supported scientific data a desirable art fad, an environmental disaster or the longer term of monetized genomics?*

Keywords: NFTs, NFT energy consumption, crypto, cryptoArt

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