

**Subject:** Re: Bitcoin UI question  
**From:** Satoshi Nakamoto <satoshin@gmx.com>  
**Date:** 13/02/2009, 15:09  
**To:** nbohm@ernest.net

It's the total number of blocks in the block chain, meaning the network's block chain, which everyone has a copy of. Every Bitcoin node displays the same number and it goes up about every 10 minutes whenever someone generates a block. When you haven't had it running for a while, once you're connected it spins up rapidly as it downloads what was generated while you were gone to catch up. I'm not sure exactly how to describe it (that would fit on the status bar in 1 word, maybe 2 words max), any ideas?

The blocks number in the status column next to your transactions is the number of blocks that have come after that transaction. Your transaction is essentially "in" that many blocks.

Satoshi

Nicholas Bohm wrote:

The bottom of the UI shows:

Generating      4 connections      4024 blocks      164 transactions

I understand "generating"; I assume I am connected to 4 other nodes; and I know I have recorded 164 transactions (including failed generation attempts). I'm not clear what the "blocks" figure describes. It's much smaller than the total of all the blocks shown against all my transactions.

Regards,

Nicholas