

2.3.1.1 Centralized Network Topology

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The Centralized network topology (usually associated with mainframes) has a very large centralized server node that all other nodes connect to. It provides most of the services such as data storage, processing, backups, and computational power for the other nodes. It is possible to implement a “ledger” using the centralized model. In many ways, the centralized model that holds a single ledger is easier to implement and maintain since there is only one version of the data in one place and consequently, by definition, the data is the canonical data (i.e., authoritative or standard data).



Figure 1: Centralized Network Topology

Trying to remove redundant, replicated, or duplicate data is a fundamental principle of the Centralized Model. The multiple “copy of data” problem was first formally addressed by E. F. Codd in his development of A Relational Model of Data for Large Shared Data Banks¹⁾ and has become the cornerstone of Relational Database Management Systems (RDBMSs), used extensively today in products such as Oracle Corporation’s Oracle, IBM’s DB2 or Computer Associates INGRES²⁾. The following chart shows that the Centralized Database market is not shrinking and by 2017 had grown to a net worth of \$50 billion with no signs of change in this growth trend.³⁾ This highlights the magnitude of the effort to convert the world to DIDO technology. Though it may eventually happen, it’s going to take a long time.



Figure 2: Centralized Global Database Market (\$ Billions)

¹⁾ E. F. Codd, “A relational model of data for large shared data banks,” Communications of the ACM, vol. 13, n. 6, pp. 377-387, June 1970

²⁾ G2 Crowd, “Best Relational Databases Software in 2018,” 2018. [Online]. Available: <https://www.g2crowd.com/categories/relational-databases> [Accessed 12 June 2018].

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A. Shields, "Is Oracle's Position Secure in the Database Space?," 18 January 2016. [Online]. Available: <http://marketrealist.com/2016/01/oracles-position-secure-database-space/>. [Accessed 22 July 2017].

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