

2.3.1 Network Topology Taxonomy

[return to Taxonomic Views](#)

Probably one of the most significant differences between DIDO architectures and other architectures is the simple, but powerful, topology of the network of nodes it uses to connect peers. DIDOs rely primarily on a distributed rather than a decentralized or centralized topology. Each [network topology](#) defines a community of nodes that act as peers, which collectively provide a solution to a problem that is then distributed. This community of nodes also employs redundant data storage, redundant computing, or both.

Most DIDO implementations rely heavily on data and computational power that exists externally and, therefore, is beyond the primary focus of the DIDO. For example, an account holder in a [cryptocurrency](#) DIDO [application](#) may require information such as currency exchange rates, the holder's nation of origin, tax IDs, or certificates of trust. In a [greenfield](#) development, all this external data would be held within the DIDO. The reality is that it is not possible to build everything from scratch. Therefore, this data might be held in other network topologies (see section [2.3.4.3.2 Ancillary Data](#)).

These three kinds of network topologies are represented graphically in the following figure.

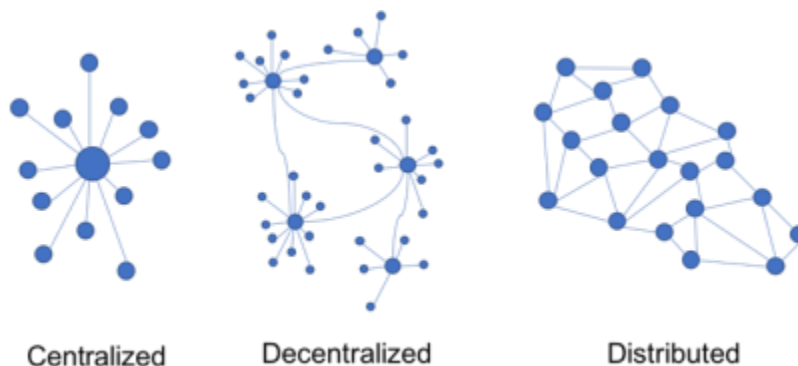


Figure 1: The Difference between Centralized, Decentralized, and Distributed Network Topologies

- [2.3.1.1 Centralized Network Topology](#)
- [2.3.1.2 Decentralized Network Topology](#)
- [2.3.1.3 Distributed Network Topology](#)

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