

Delegated Byzantine Fault Tolerance (dBFT)

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Delegated Byzantine Fault Tolerance (dBFT) is a sophisticated algorithm meant to facilitate consensus on a [blockchain](#). Although it is not in common use as of yet, it represents an alternative to simpler [proof of stake](#), [proof of importance](#), and [proof of work](#) methods.

<https://www.techopedia.com/definition/33598/delegated-byzantine-fault-tolerance-dbft>

Delegated Byzantine Fault Tolerance (dBFT) consensus was introduced by NEO, often called the “*Ethereum of China*”. This Chinese blockchain plans to achieve the “smart economy” by digitizing assets and providing smart contracts on the blockchain.

According to its creators, the voting system of dBFT allows large-scale participation, in a similar way to the Delegated Proof-of-Stake consensus. This allows the holder of a NEO token to support a specific ‘bookkeeper’ through a vote. The selected group of bookkeepers then use the [Byzantine Fault Tolerance](#) mechanism to reach a consensus and generate more blocks.

One of the strongest points of using the dBFT mechanism is its absolute finality. After final [confirmation](#), a block can not be bifurcated, so the transaction can’t be revoked or rolled back. However, this irrevocability is a two-edged sword if and when a bifurcation is needed.

The finality of dBFT is somehow guaranteed because NEO is not a wholly distributed network. Despite NEO’s efforts to take this direction, there are currently just seven nodes and a few delegates operating on the blockchain. The majority of these are connected to the NEO council.¹⁾

1)

Christina Comben, Coin Rivet, 14 March 2019, Accessed 18 July 2021,
<https://coinrivet.com/delegated-byzantine-fault-tolerance-dbft-explained/>

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Last update: **2021/08/13 14:01**

