Can Bitcoin sustain a 30% annual yield over the next 5 years

NIKOS E. MASTORAKIS
Technical University of Sofia,
English Language Faculty of Engineering
8 Kliment Ohridski Blvd, Building 12, Sofia 1000
BULGARIA

Abstract: In this paper, we will examine if the Bitcoin can sustain a 30% annual yield over the next 5 years has long been a subject of bold predictions and fervent debate. Recently, two prominent figures in the financial world, Robert Kiyosaki, Cathie Wood and Michael Saylor (the Executive Chairman and Co-Founder of MicroStrategy) have shared their optimistic projections for Bitcoin's future. Kiyosaki envisions Bitcoin reaching \\$500,000, while Wood's ARK Invest posits a potential surge to \\$1.5 million by 2030. These forecasts raise an intriguing question: Can Bitcoin sustain a 30% annual yield over the next 5 years? In this paper, we will examine it.

Key-Words: Bitcoin, Investments, Digital Economy, Blockchain

Received: April 26, 2024. Revised: March 18, 2025. Accepted: April 13, 2025. Published: May 26, 2025.

1 Introduction

Robert Kiyosaki, best known for his influential book Rich Dad Poor Dad, has long championed financial education and asset-based wealth accumulation. In recent years, Kiyosaki has emerged as one of the most vocal proponents of Bitcoin, arguing that it represents a powerful hedge against the shortcomings of fiat currency systems. His latest prediction—that Bitcoin could surge to \$500,000—is underpinned by foundational economic principles: scarcity and network effects. These forces, he asserts, are amplified by today's fragile macroeconomic environment marked by inflation, sovereign debt accumulation, and eroding trust in traditional financial institutions, [1], [2], [3], [4], [5], [6]. In the ever-evolving world of cryptocurrency, few voices carry as much weight as Cathie Wood's. As the founder and CEO of ARK Invest, Wood is no stranger to bold predictions backed by rigorous research and a deep conviction in disruptive innovation. Among her firm's most headline-grabbing projections is this: Bitcoin could reach \$1.5 million by the year 2030. While such a figure may sound fantastical to some, ARK Invest's

thesis is anchored in clear economic logic and supported by data-rich models. It reflects not only optimism about Bitcoin's future, but a broader worldview—one in which traditional financial systems evolve, and decentralized digital assets rise to meet global challenges. Let's explore the key pillars behind this vision.

2. The Road to \$500,000: Robert Kiyosaki's Case for Bitcoin as a Generational Wealth Asset

2.1. The Law of Scarcity: Digital Gold in a Fiat World

Scarcity has always been a cornerstone of value. Gold, oil, and land derive much of their worth from limited supply. Bitcoin takes this principle a step further by encoding scarcity into its code. Its protocol dictates that only 21 million coins will ever exist. Unlike gold, which can be mined further or discovered in new geological formations, Bitcoin's supply is capped with mathematical certainty. Kiyosaki sees this predictable scarcity as Bitcoin's most

powerful attribute. In a world where central banks can print trillions of dollars at the press of a button, the idea of an immutable, deflationary asset holds deep appeal. As fiat currencies lose purchasing power over time due to inflation and monetary expansion, Bitcoin's programmed scarcity positions it as a modern-day safe haven—digital gold for the 21st century. Moreover, the halving events, which reduce the rate at which new Bitcoins are created (every four years), further compress supply. With each halving, the inflation rate of Bitcoin decreases, reinforcing its scarcity narrative. Kiyosaki argues that this mechanism, coupled with growing demand, creates an almost inevitable upward pressure on price.

2.2 Network Effects: The Exponential Growth Curve

While scarcity lays the foundation, it is Bitcoin's network effect that accelerates its trajectory. Network effects occur when a product or service becomes more valuable as more people use it. Social media platforms, mobile payment apps, and communication networks all benefit from this phenomenon. Bitcoin is no different. Kiyosaki highlights that as more individuals, institutions, and even governments adopt Bitcoin, its utility and perceived legitimacy grow exponentially. Each new user adds value to the network, attracting even more participants. This self-reinforcing cycle helps drive liquidity, acceptance, and resilience. We've already seen early signs of these network effects:

- 1) Institutional adoption is rising, with firms like MicroStrategy, Tesla, and various hedge funds incorporating Bitcoin into their portfolios.
- 2) Payment platforms like PayPal, Block (formerly Square), and Visa have integrated Bitcoin transactions.
- 3) Governments in countries with unstable currencies (e.g., El Salvador) are experimenting with Bitcoin as legal tender or as a reserve asset.

As the ecosystem expands—through wallets, exchanges, layer-2 protocols, and integration into traditional finance—the barriers to entry diminish, further accelerating adoption. According to Kiyosaki, Bitcoin's future growth will not just be linear; it will be exponential.

2.3. Macroeconomic Backdrop: A Catalyst for Wealth Preservation

Scarcity and network effects are essential, but Kiyosaki's argument is most persuasive when considered against the backdrop of today's macroeconomic instability. The modern financial system, in his view, is on increasingly shaky ground. He points to:

- 1) **Unprecedented debt levels** in the U.S. and other developed economies, which threaten long-term fiscal sustainability.
- 2) **Rising inflation** eroding the value of savings and wages.
- 3) **Declining confidence** in fiat currencies and central banks, especially after the expansive monetary policies post-COVID.

In this environment, Bitcoin becomes more than just a speculative asset—it transforms into a strategic store of value. Like gold, it offers protection from monetary debasement. But unlike gold, Bitcoin is portable, programmable, divisible, and can be self-custodied without intermediaries. Kiyosaki believes that as more investors wake up to these advantages, capital will flow steadily into Bitcoin, driving demand even higher. For long-term holders, he argues, Bitcoin provides a hedge not only against inflation but against systemic financial failure.

2.4. The \$500,000 Question: Is It Realistic?

Can Bitcoin reach \$500,000? From a mathematical standpoint, the answer is not implausible. Consider the following: If Bitcoin were to reach a market capitalization equivalent to that of gold (~\$13 trillion), each coin would be valued at around \$650,000. Even if Bitcoin were to capture just 10–15% of global gold

reserves and institutional allocation, a price of \$500,000 is within theoretical reach. With halving cycles compressing supply institutional adoption continuing, the mechanics are in place for substantial long-term price appreciation. However, Kiyosaki also cautions investors: Bitcoin is not risk-free. Its volatility, regulatory uncertainty, and technological risks quantum computing) (e.g., must acknowledged. Still, for those willing to take a long-term view, he believes Bitcoin represents the "opportunity of a lifetime."

3. Bitcoin to \$1.5 Million? Inside ARK Invest's Bold Forecast and the Forces Fueling It

In the ever-evolving world of cryptocurrency, few voices carry as much weight as Cathie Wood's. As the founder and CEO of ARK Invest, Wood is no stranger to bold predictions backed by rigorous research and a deep conviction in disruptive innovation. Among her firm's most headline-grabbing projections is this: Bitcoin could reach \$1.5 million by the year 2030. While such a figure may sound fantastical to some, ARK Invest's thesis is anchored in clear economic logic and supported by data-rich models. It reflects not only optimism about Bitcoin's future, but a broader worldview—one in which traditional financial systems evolve, and decentralized digital assets rise to meet global challenges. Let's explore the key pillars behind this vision.

3.1 Institutional Adoption: Bitcoin as a Portfolio Staple

Perhaps the most transformative force in ARK's forecast is institutional adoption. Over the past few years, the attitude of institutional investors toward Bitcoin has shifted dramatically—from skepticism to strategic interest. ARK's investment models assume that if institutional investors were to allocate just 2.5% to 6.5% of their portfolios to Bitcoin, the cumulative demand could drive the cryptocurrency's price into seven-figure territory. This is based on a rebalancing of global assets under

management, which total over \$100 trillion. The rationale is simple: Bitcoin behaves unlike traditional asset classes. Its correlation with stocks, bonds, and commodities remains low, especially during periods of monetary stress. As a result, institutional investors are beginning to view Bitcoin as a non-correlated, asymmetric return generator—a tool for diversification and potential upside. Already, early adopters like BlackRock, Fidelity, and ARK itself have paved the way by either offering Bitcoin products or allocating capital to the asset. As regulatory clarity improves and infrastructure matures, ARK believes the floodgates for institutional capital could open.

3.2 The Digital Gold Narrative: A Modern Store of Value

Another core assumption in ARK's thesis is the growing consensus around Bitcoin **as** "digital gold."For centuries, gold has been the ultimate store of value—a hedge against inflation, monetary manipulation, and geopolitical instability. But in the digital age, Bitcoin offers a number of advantages over its physical counterpart:

It's programmable, enabling smart contracts and financial automation.

It's divisible and easily transferable, allowing for global transactions with minimal friction.

Its supply is fixed at 21 million coins, unlike gold, which can be mined further.

Cathie Wood and her analysts argue that Bitcoin could absorb a significant portion of gold's \$13 trillion market cap. If Bitcoin were to capture even 50% of the "store-of-value" market currently dominated by gold, its price could exceed \$500,000 per coin. Full parity would bring it close to \$1 million. Importantly, this narrative is gaining traction not just among crypto enthusiasts but in mainstream finance. Prominent investors such as Paul Tudor Jones,

Stanley Druckenmiller, and Ray Dalio have all compared Bitcoin favorably to gold.

3.3 Emerging Market Demand: Bitcoin as a Monetary Lifeline

Beyond Wall Street, ARK Invest sees Bitcoin playing a critical role in emerging markets, where access to stable currencies and banking services is often limited or unreliable. In experiencing hyperinflation, capital countries controls, or monetary corruption, Bitcoin offers a lifeline—a way for citizens to store and transmit value across borders and generations. Countries like Argentina, Nigeria, Venezuela, and Turkey have witnessed surging demand for Bitcoin precisely for this reason. ARK's research suggests that adoption in these regions could accelerate as mobile internet access grows and as fiat currencies continue to falter. Unlike traditional banking systems, Bitcoin doesn't discriminate: anyone with a smartphone can participate in a global financial network without needing permission. This bottom-up, grassroots adoption could add millions of new users and billions of dollars of value to the Bitcoin ecosystem—supporting the long-term price trajectory envisioned by ARK.

3.4 Quantitative Modeling: Projecting to \$1.5 Million

ARK's Bitcoin price model is rooted in datadriven simulations, analyzing how various adoption scenarios might unfold. The \$1.5 million target represents the upper bound of several convergence trends:

- a) Institutional investment reaching critical mass.
- b) Replacement or complement of gold as a global store of value.
- c) Use in remittances, treasury reserves, and decentralized finance (DeFi).

d) High conviction among holders, leading to reduced market liquidity and supply constraints.

ARK's model also considers historical volatility. Bitcoin has already delivered compounded annual growth rates (CAGR) in excess of 100% over the past decade. Even if future returns are more modest—say, in the 30–50% range—the \$1.5 million figure is within reach by 2030.

3.5 Risks and Roadblocks: A Cautious Optimism

While Cathie Wood is unapologetically bullish, ARK Invest also acknowledges the risks:

- a) Regulatory uncertainty could stifle adoption or innovation.
- b) Technological vulnerabilities, such as those posed by quantum computing, could threaten cryptographic integrity.
- c) Market sentiment swings could induce longterm volatility, affecting short-term projections.

Nonetheless, ARK views these risks as manageable in light of the broader technological and financial transformation that Bitcoin represents.

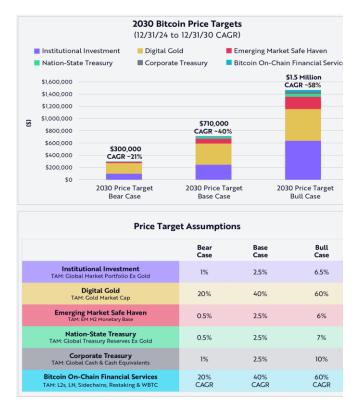


Fig 1: Bitcoin Price Targets, Source [7]

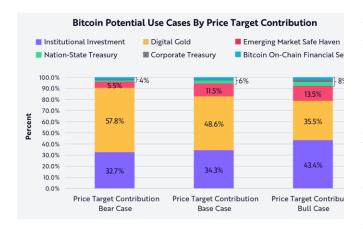


Fig 2: Bitcoin Potential Use Cases By Price Contribution, Source [7]

ARK - Cathy Wood's price targets are the sum of TAM (Total Addressable Market) contributions at the end of 2030, based on the following formula:

Price target₂₀₃₀ =
$$\sum_{n=1}$$
 $\left(\frac{\text{TAM}_{n,2030} \times \text{Penetration rate}_n}{\text{Bitcoin supply}_{2030}}\right)$

4. Bitcoin to \$1.5 Million? Michael Saylor's opinion.

Michael Saylor, the Executive Chairman and Co-Founder of MicroStrategy, is one of the most vocal and influential advocates for Bitcoin. While he has consistently expressed extremely bullish views on Bitcoin's long-term potential, he has not specifically claimed that Bitcoin can or will sustain a 30% annual yield over the next 5 years. Saylor frequently describes Bitcoin as a superior store of value, often comparing it to digital gold. He argues that Bitcoin is a more efficient, safer, and more powerful monetary network than any that has come before. According to him, Bitcoin is an ideal asset for preserving wealth, especially in an environment of rising inflation and fiat currency debasement. He has repeatedly stated that Bitcoin is a long-term solution for individuals, corporations, and governments seeking to protect purchasing power. Historically, Bitcoin has delivered impressive returns. From 2011 to 2023, its annual compound growth rate (CAGR) exceeded 100%, although this pace has naturally slowed as the asset has matured. In various interviews, Saylor has suggested that Bitcoin could continue to provide 50%+ annualized returns during periods of rapid adoption and monetary instability. However, he generally avoids making precise or rigid predictions. Specifically, the notion that Bitcoin could consistently deliver 30% annual returns for 5 straight years — which would imply a nearly 2,000-fold increase in value — is not something he has publicly endorsed in concrete terms. Saylor's strategic perspective is rooted in the idea of long-term accumulation. He believes buying and holding Bitcoin with an investment horizon of at least a decade, dismissing short-term volatility as irrelevant in the face of long-term appreciation. He envisions Bitcoin absorbing value from multiple asset classes, including gold, real estate, equities, and even bonds. In this context, Bitcoin's potential for significant growth is clear in his rhetoric, though he stops short of putting firm numbers on future performance. In summary, while Michael Saylor strongly believes that Bitcoin

will outperform traditional assets over the long run, he has never formally claimed that it will sustain a 30% annual yield over the next 5 years. His enthusiasm suggests high expectations, but not specific mathematical forecasts. Such a return rate would result in astronomical prices — over \$8 million per BTC by 2040 — a scenario even Saylor has not explicitly projected.

5. Conclusion

In this paper, we examined if the Bitcoin can sustain a 30% annual yield over the next 5 years. Let's their views:

Robert Kiyosaki's advocacy for Bitcoin is not rooted in hype but in a coherent framework built on time-tested economic principles. Scarcity and network effects give Bitcoin intrinsic and growing value. while macroeconomic instability fuels its appeal as a hedge and wealth preservation tool. His \$500,000 prediction may seem bold, but when viewed through the lenses of history, technology, and monetary theory, it becomes a compelling—if still speculative—possibility. Whether or not Bitcoin reaches that level, Kiyosaki's broader message is clear: in a world awash in debt and inflation, assets that are scarce, decentralized, and trusted may be the pillars of financial freedom in the decades to come. Cathie Wood's \$1.5 million Bitcoin target may appear audacious, but it's not without merit. Rooted in macroeconomic trends, technological disruption, and behavioral shifts among investors and institutions, ARK's projection paints a picture of a world where Bitcoin is not a fringe asset—but a foundational one. Whether or not Bitcoin reaches that milestone by 2030 remains to be seen. But ARK's forecast, like many of Wood's previous calls, is less about timing and more about direction. The world is moving toward decentralization, transparency, and financial autonomy. And in that future, Bitcoin, according to ARK Invest, could be king. The projections by Robert Kiyosaki and Cathie Wood underscore a strong belief in Bitcoin's potential. While their forecasts differ in magnitude, both highlight the transformative impact Bitcoin could have on the financial landscape. However, investors should approach such predictions with cautious optimism, recognizing the speculative nature of long-term forecasts and the myriad factors influencing market dynamics.

References:

- [1] R. A. F. Minihane and Y. Guo, "Quantum threats to cryptocurrencies," *MIT Technology Review*, vol. 125, no. 3, pp. 18–23, 2023.
- [2] MicroStrategy Inc., "Bitcoin acquisition strategy," *MicroStrategy Investor Relations*, 2023. [Online]. Available: https://www.microstrategy.com/en/bitcoin
- [3] K. Christidis and M. Devetsikiotis, "Blockchains and Smart Contracts for the Internet of Things," *IEEE Access*, vol. 4, pp. 2292–2303, 2016.
- [4] J. K. Liu, D. S. Wong, E. Y. Zhang, and X. Deng, "Enhancing privacy and security in outsourced biometric identification," IEEE Transactions on Dependable and Secure Computing, vol. 12, no. 5, pp. 428–439, Sept.—Oct. 2015.
- [5] A. Giaretta, M. Dion, and M. Goodwin, "Preserving Digital Heritage: Technological Challenges and the Role of Blockchain," in Proc. 2020 IEEE Intl. Conf. on Big Data (Big Data), Atlanta, GA, USA, Dec. 2020, pp. 5790–5792.
- [6] P. Zhang, D. C. Schmidt, J. L. White, and G. Lenz, "Blockchain Technology Use Cases in Health Care," in Proc. 2018 IEEE Intl. Conf. on Blockchain (Blockchain), Halifax, Canada, Jul. 2018, pp. 177–183.
- [7] https://www.ark-invest.com/articles/valuation-models/arks-bitcoin-price-target-2030#:~:text=In%20ARK's%20Big%20Ideas%202025,%2C%20respectively%2C%20as%20shown%20below.