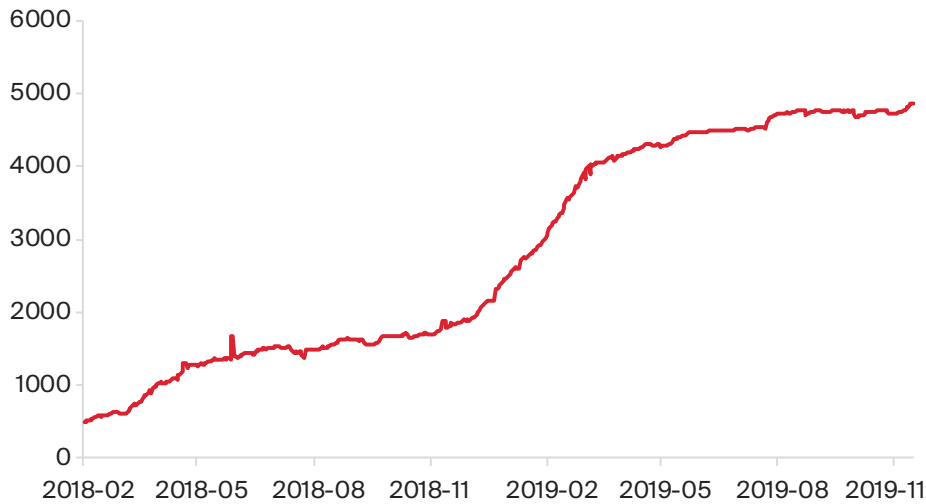
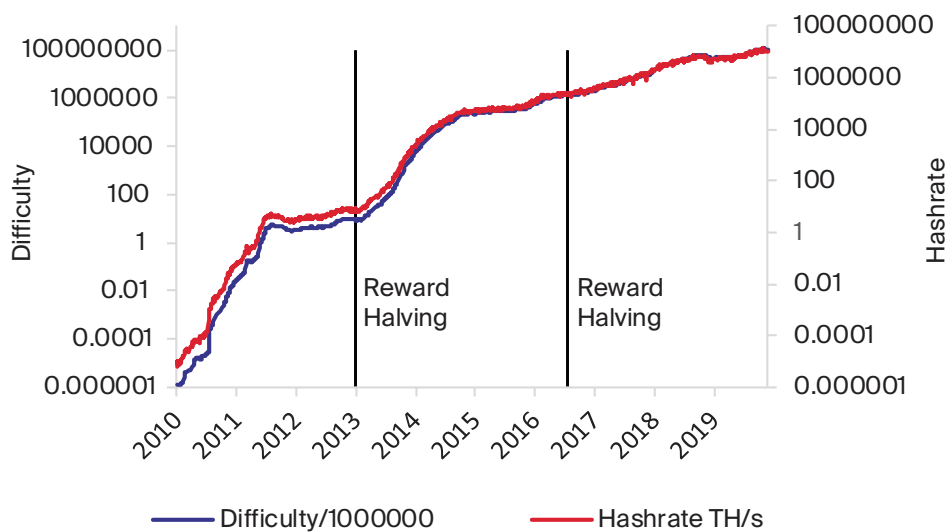


Lightning Nodes with Channels



The Lightning Network, Bitcoin's second-layer scaling solution that enables micro-payments through payment channels, has seen strong growth of the number of connected nodes in late 2018 / early 2019. Currently, there are around 5'000 nodes present in the network.

BTC Hashrate and Difficulty



After a slight dip in hashrate (and difficulty) towards the bottom of the bear market in late 2018 / early 2019, Bitcoin's hashrate – and hence security – continues making all-time highs.