



AN INTRODUCTION TO
BLOCKCHAIN

VICTOR SAWMA

DEC 2018

What is a blockchain?

- » is a **novel** solution that provides **trustless trust**
- » is a **shared, trusted, public, distributed ledger of transactions**
- » allows **public inspection** of the system
- » a **de-centralized** system
- » is a **distributed P2P** database
- » maintains a **continuously growing** list of **transactional records**
- » is **cryptographically secured** from **tampering and revision**

A Few Basics

To understand blockchains, one must first understand:

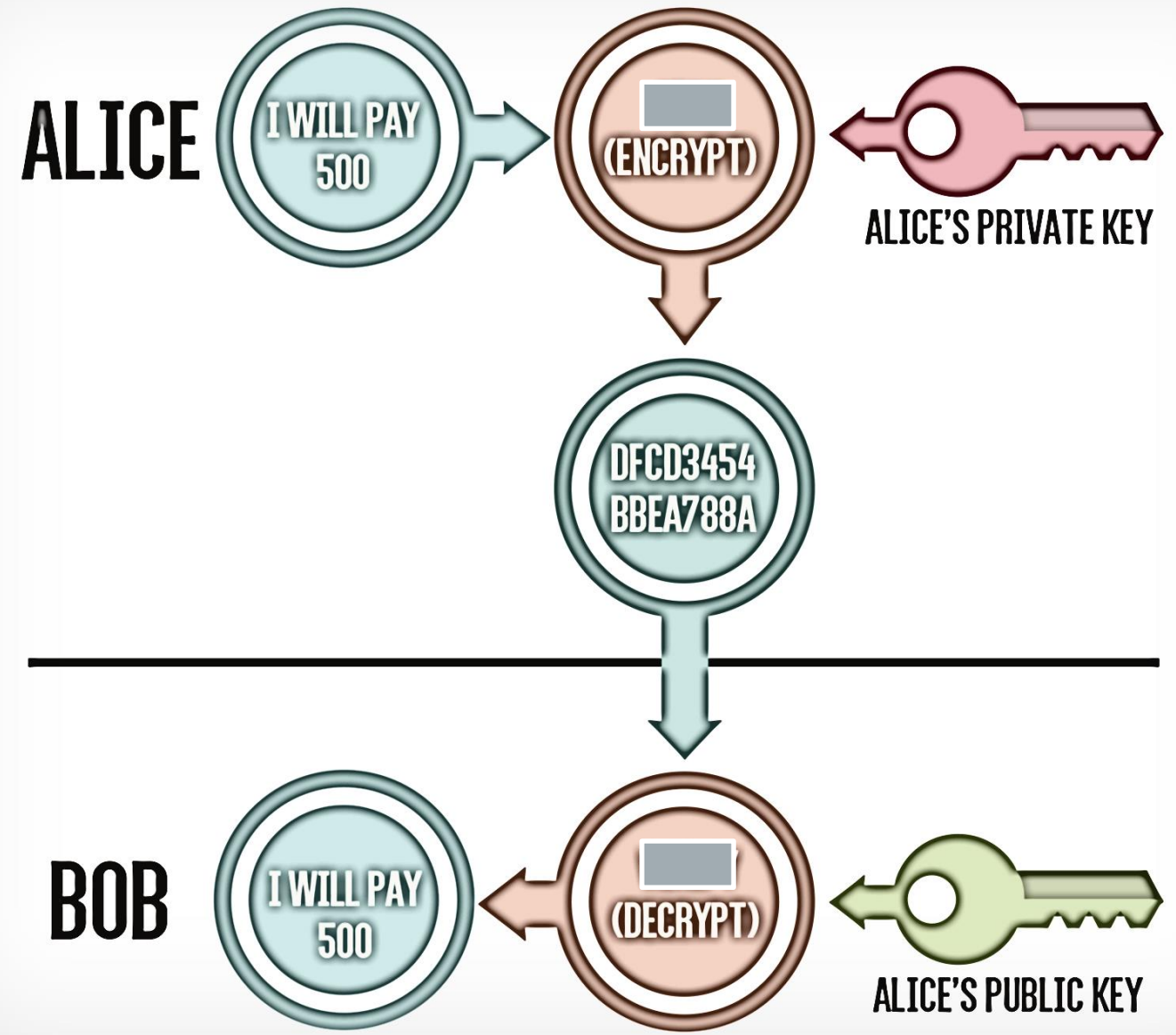
- » Public key crypto systems
- » Digital signatures
- » Cryptographic hashes

Public Key Crypto Systems

» ENCRYPT & DECRYPT

» Keys are the inverse of each other (Public & Private)

» Mathematically proven



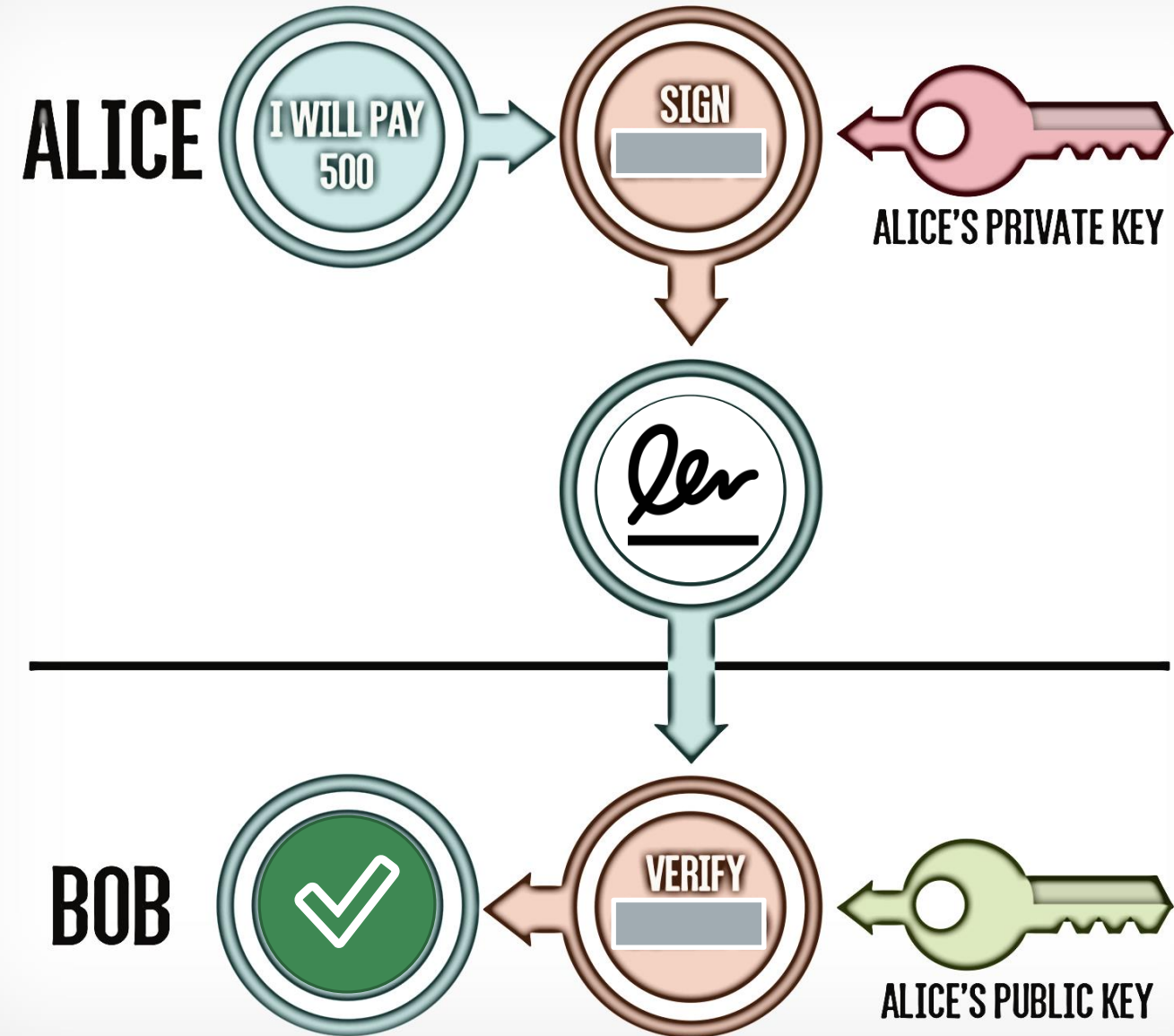
Digital Signatures

» SIGN & VERIFY

» Keys are inverse of each other

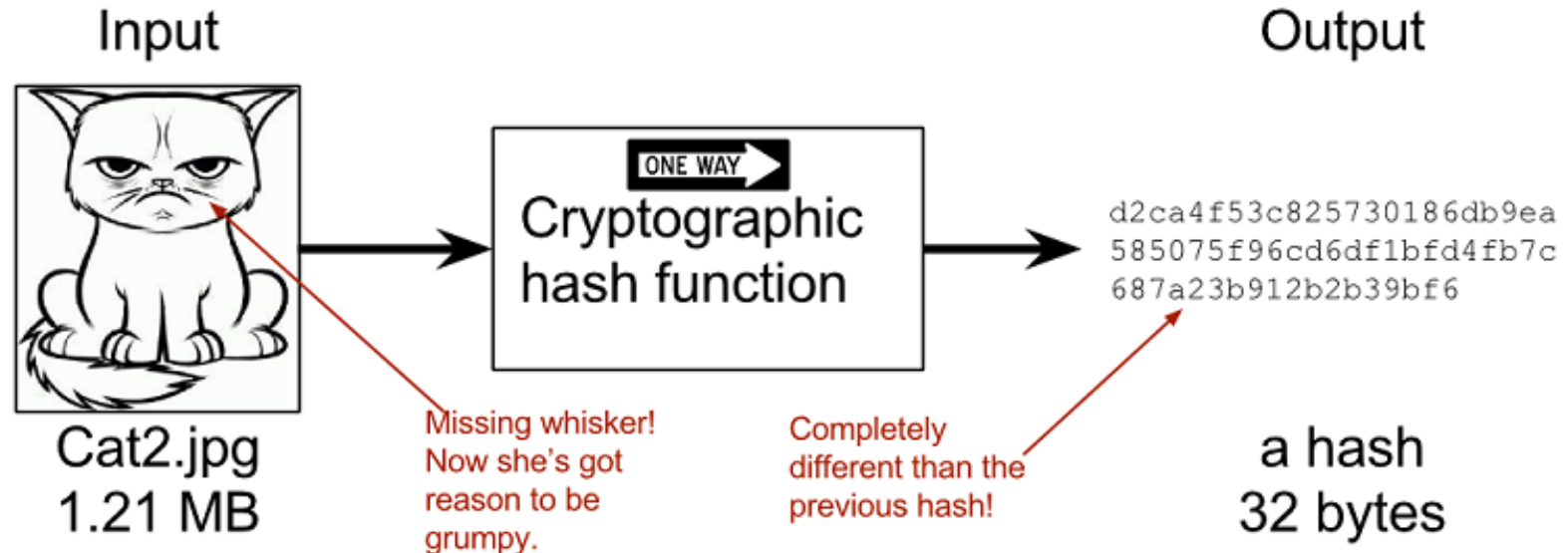
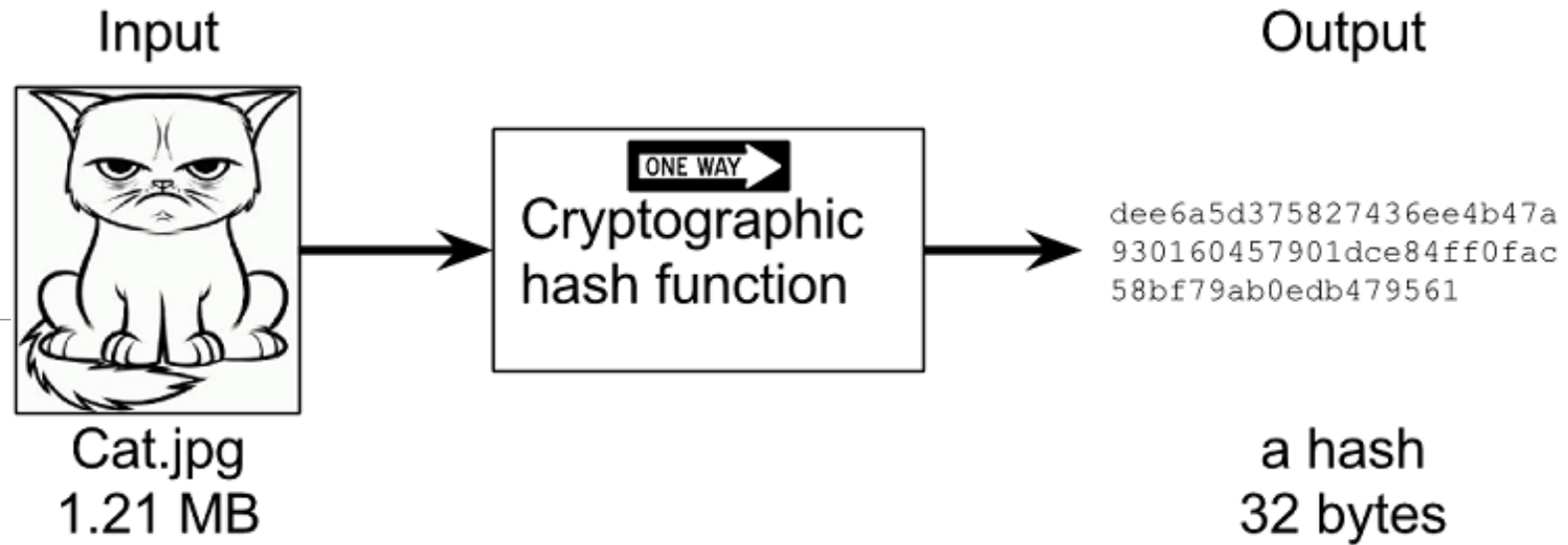
» Public and Private Keys

» Provides non-repudiation



Crypto Hashing Functions

- » One-Way compression algorithm / system
- » Any input provides a fixed size output
- » Changing one bit changes the whole hash
- » Mainly used for integrity



The Basics Combined

If Alice wants to send a message **M** to Bob, Alice can:

- » **H**ash the message (nobody can tamper with the message anymore)
- » **S**ign the generated hash (Alice cannot deny later on sending it)
- » **E**ncrypt the message (only Bob can see it)





BACK TO THE
BLOCKCHAIN

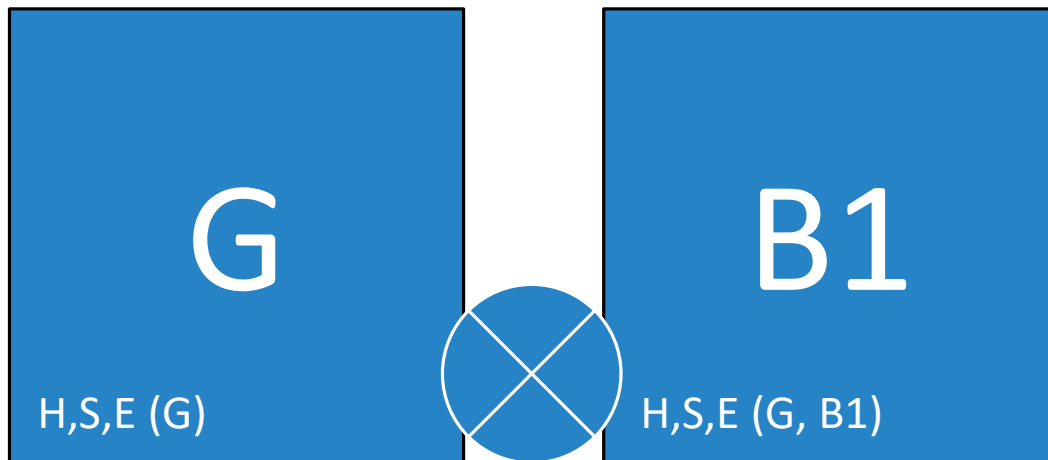
A Block in the Chain

- » can store any data
- » LIMITED storage size
- » First block is known as the **Genesis Block (G)**

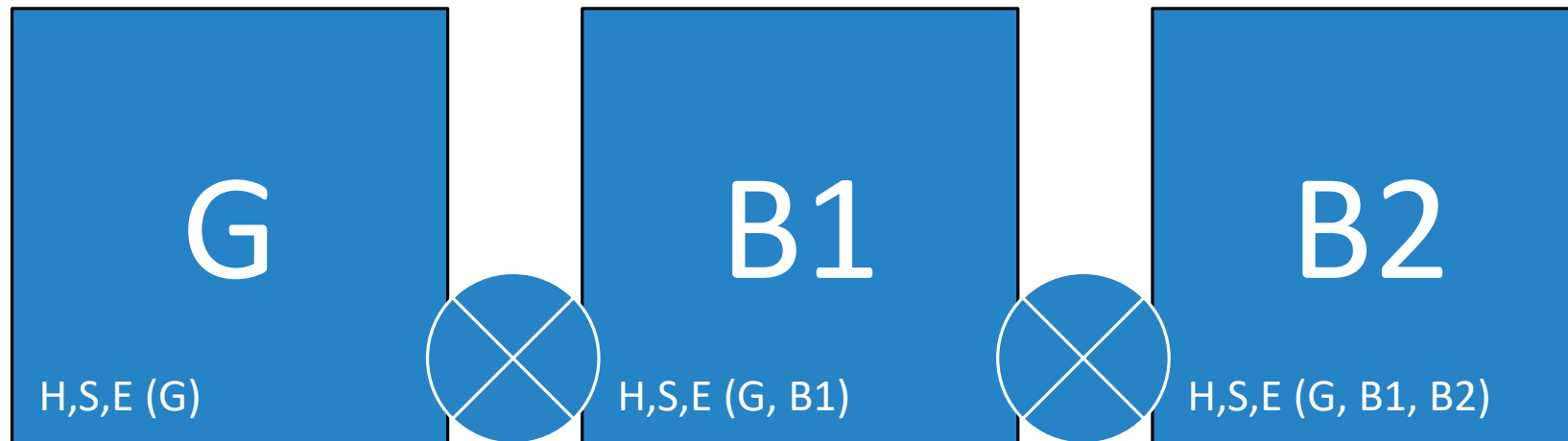
A Block in the Chain



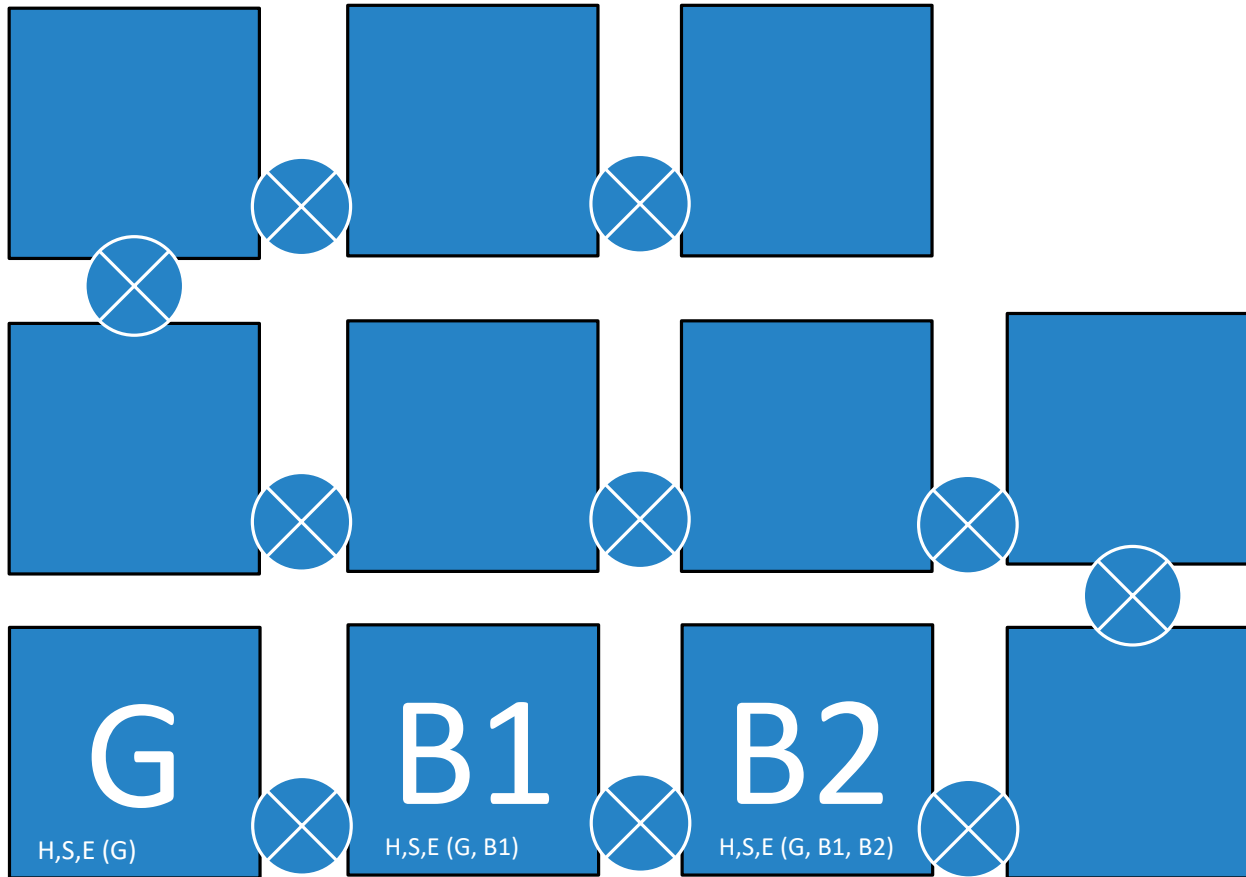
The Ledger in the Chain



The Ledger in the Chain

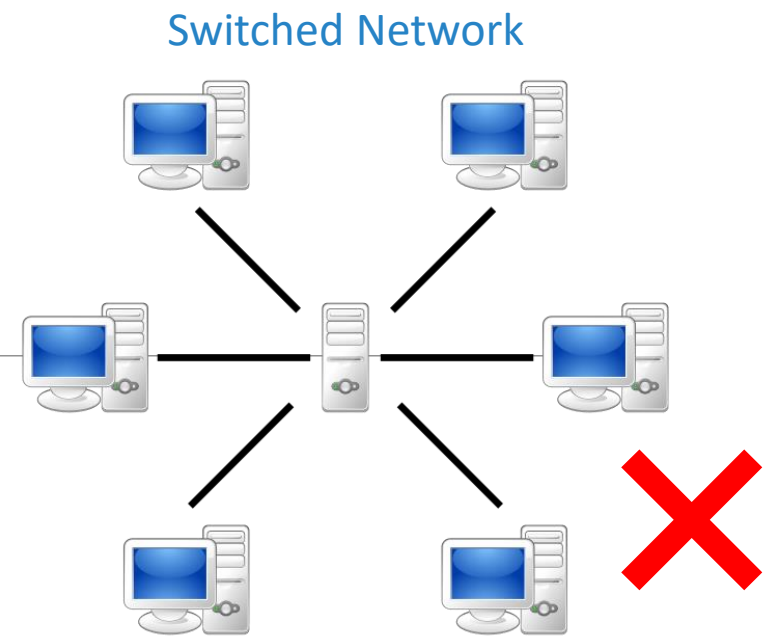
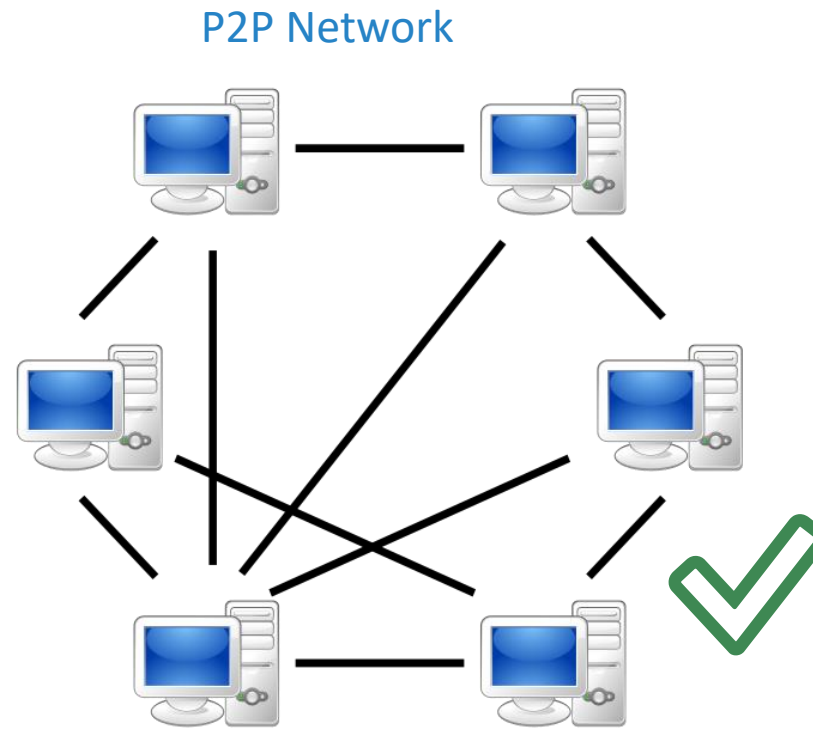


The Ledger in the Chain



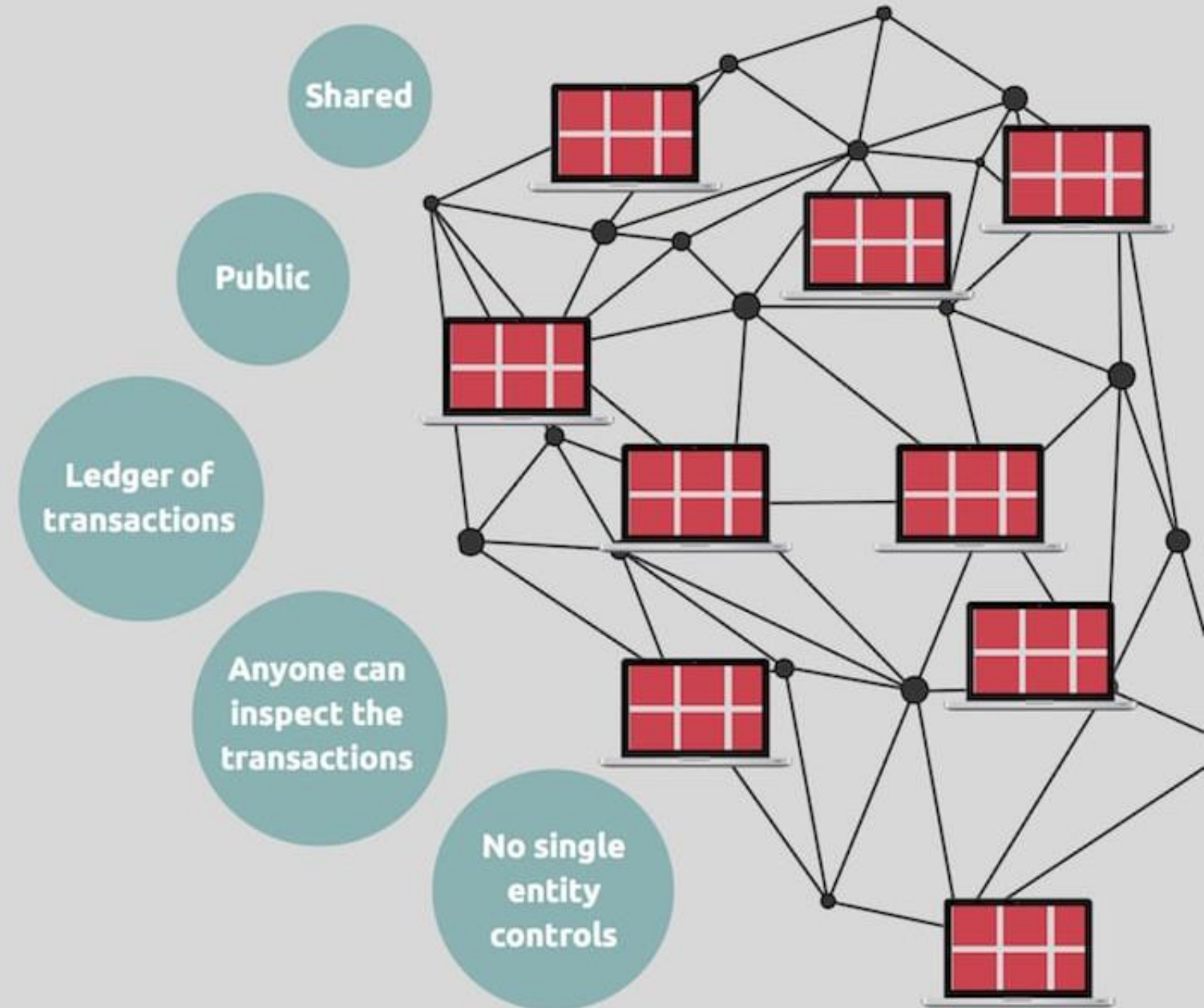
Peer-2-Peer Networks (P2P)

- » No center exists. Decentralized by nature
- » All nodes are connected to each other
- » Only way to get network down is to shut down all servers.



Distributed Ledger

- » Ledgers are shared across many network servers (known as miners)
- » Network uses a Peer-2-Peer structure



Blockchain Consensus

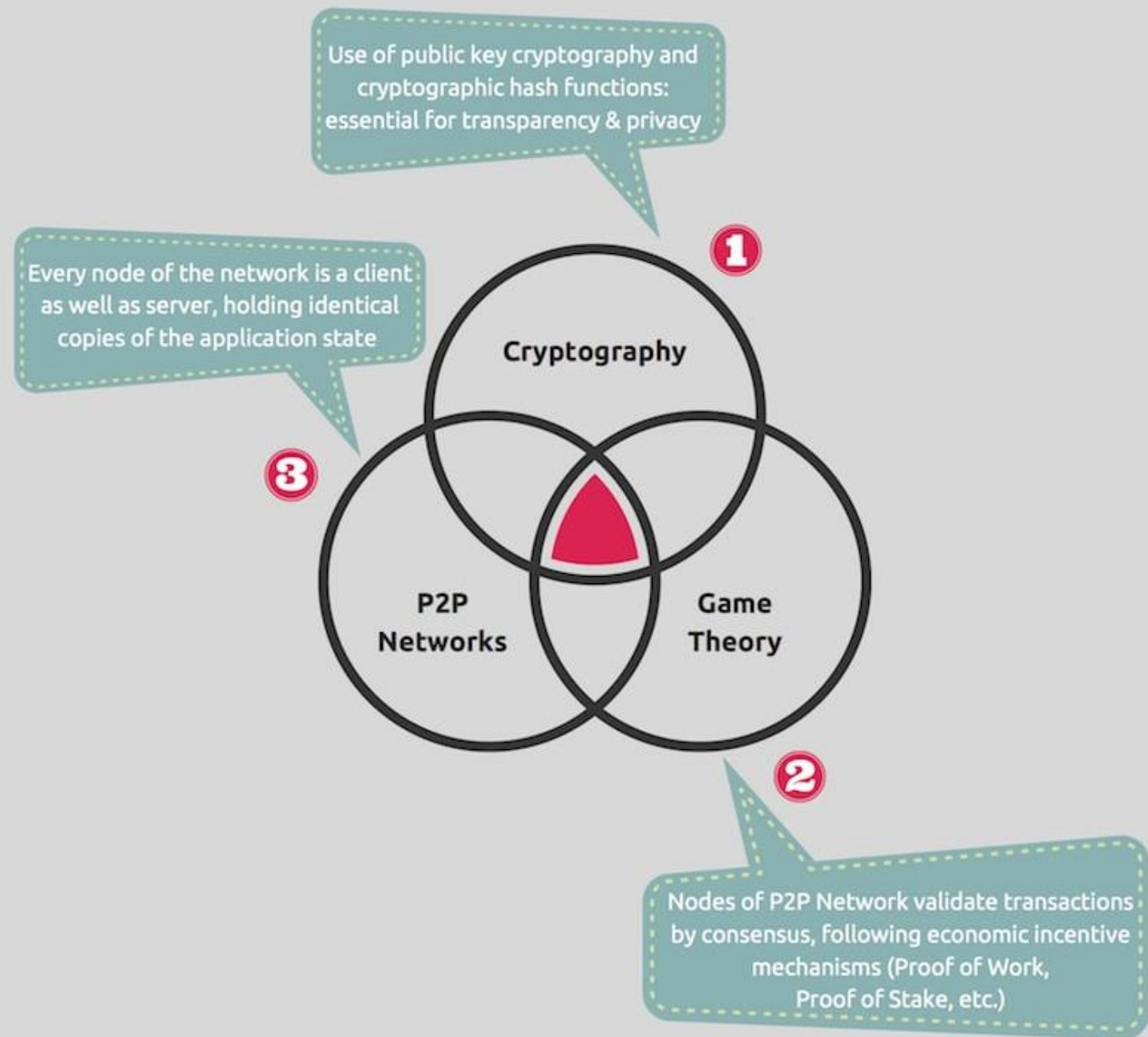
- » Updating the blockchain requires network consensus
- » All miners are notified
- » Each miner verifies the legitimacy of the transaction
- » Majority of network must accept the change to become legitimate



Each network participant keeps a copy of the entire blockchain - the file where all past transactions are recorded. Consensus of network validators verifies new transactions. In the Bitcoin network transactions are validated by network miners who are incentivised to verify transactions through PoW (Proof of Work).

Blockchain Technologies

- » Cryptography for data protection and tampering
- » P2P for De-centralization
- » Game Theory for incentives to miners



Again, What is a blockchain?

- » is a **novel** solution that provides **trustless trust**
- » is a **shared, trusted, public, distributed ledger of transactions**
- » allows **public inspection** of the system
- » a **de-centralized** system
- » is a **distributed P2P** database
- » maintains a **continuously growing** list of **transactional records**
- » is **cryptographically secured** from **tampering and revision**



USING THE
BLOCKCHAIN

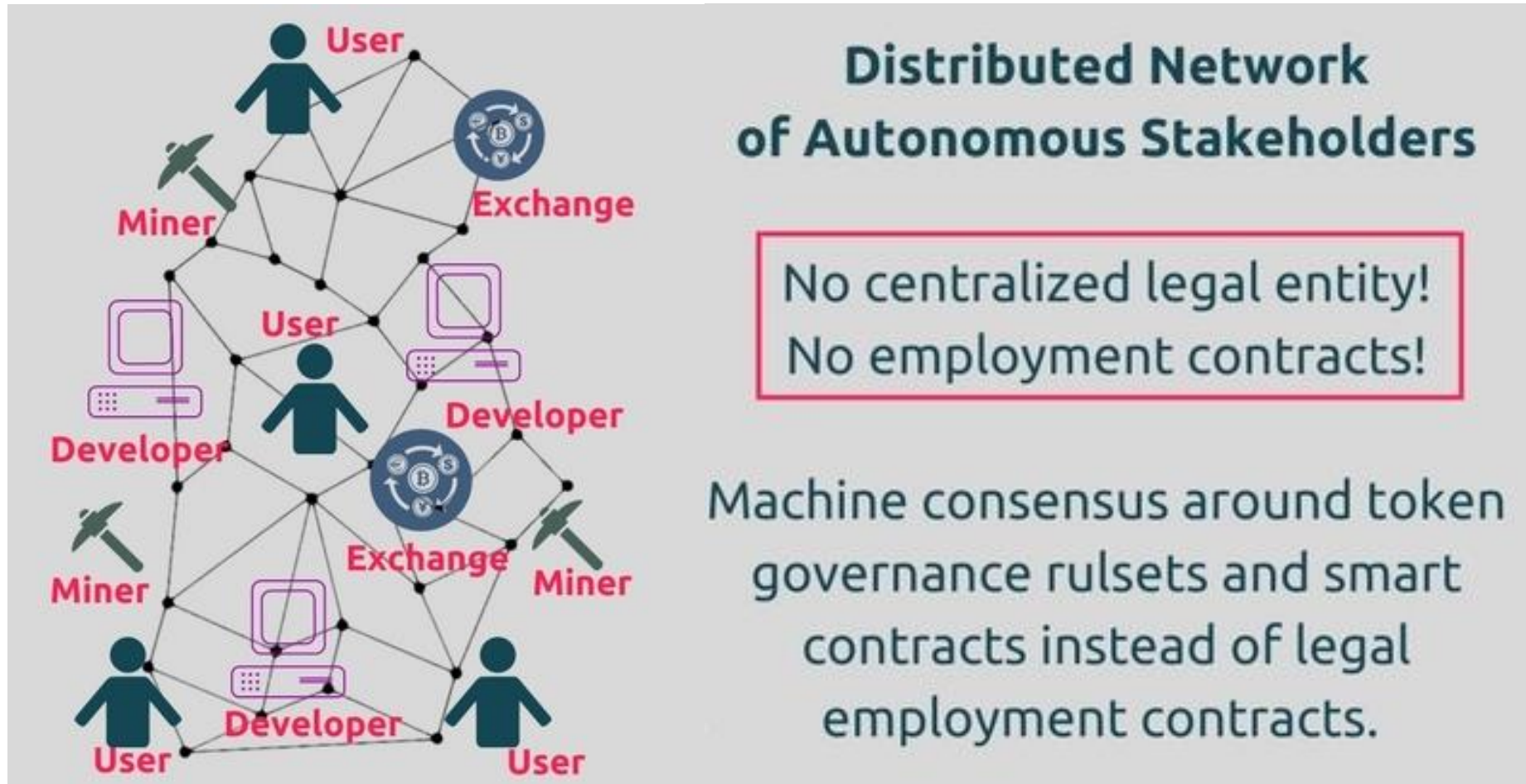
Where Are Blockchains Used?

- » Tokens (Bitcoin, Ethereum, etc)
- » Smart Contracts (Ethereum)

Traditional Organizations



Decentralized Autonomous Organizations (DAOs)

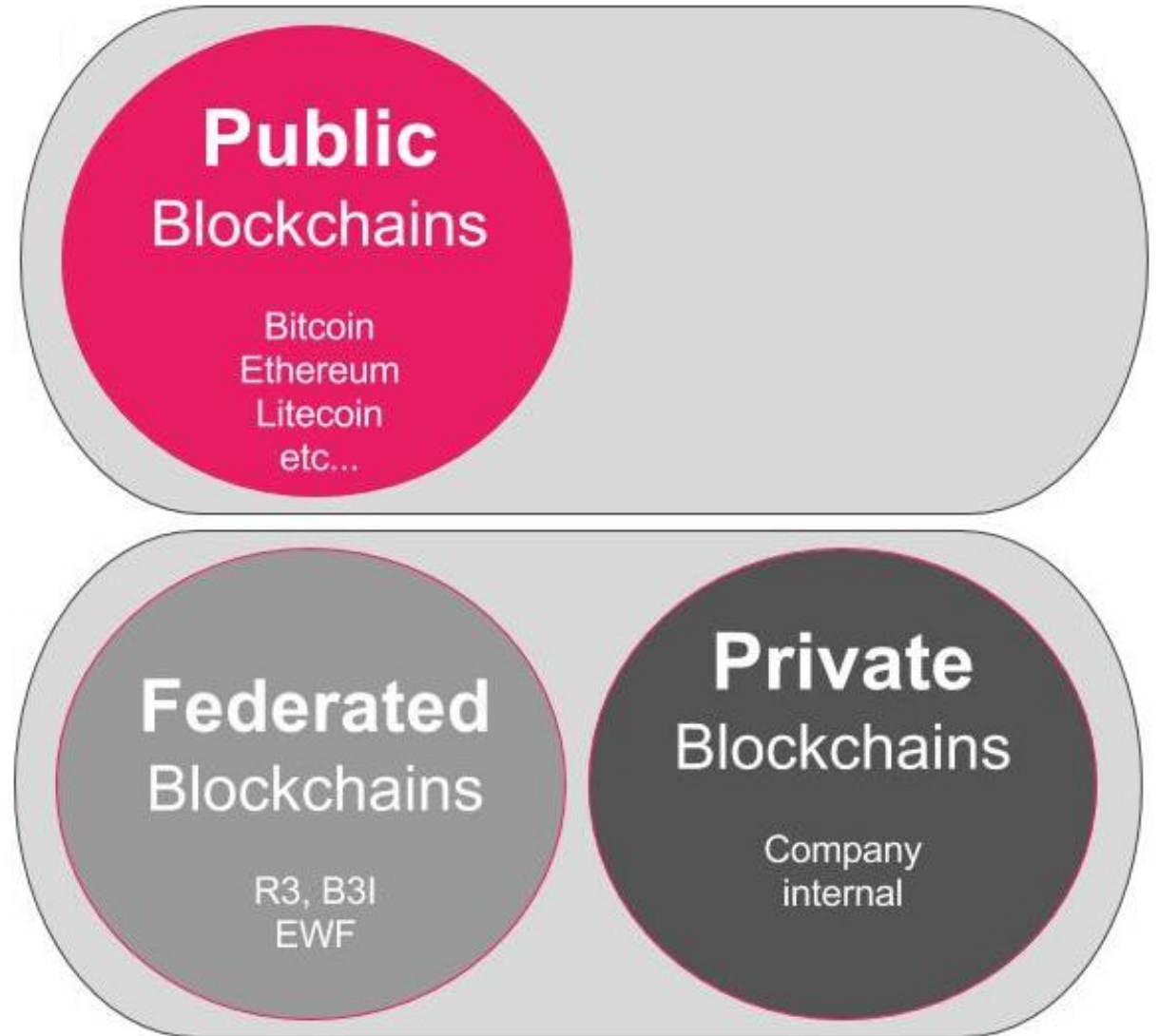


Types of Blockchains

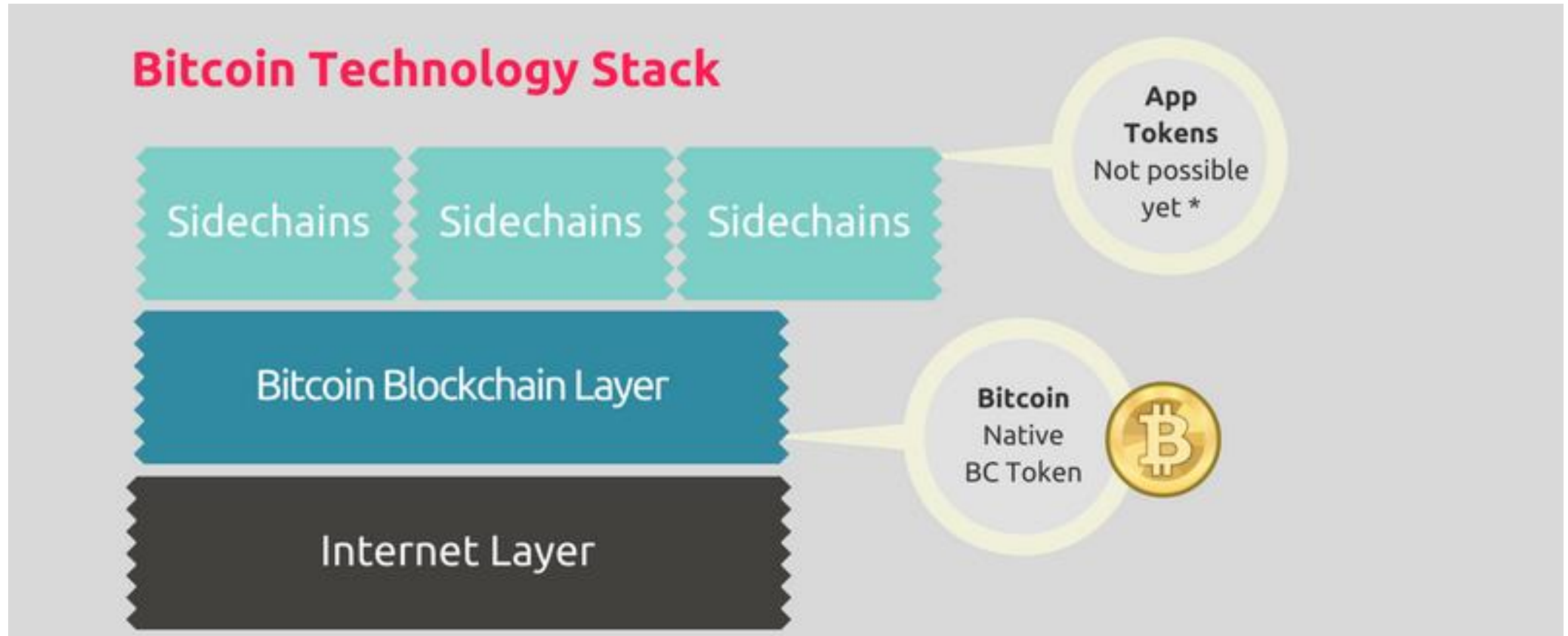
»Public: Bitcoin, Ethereum, Litecoin, Monero, Dash, Dogecoin, etc.

»Federated: R3 (Banks), B3I (Insurance), EWF (Energy)

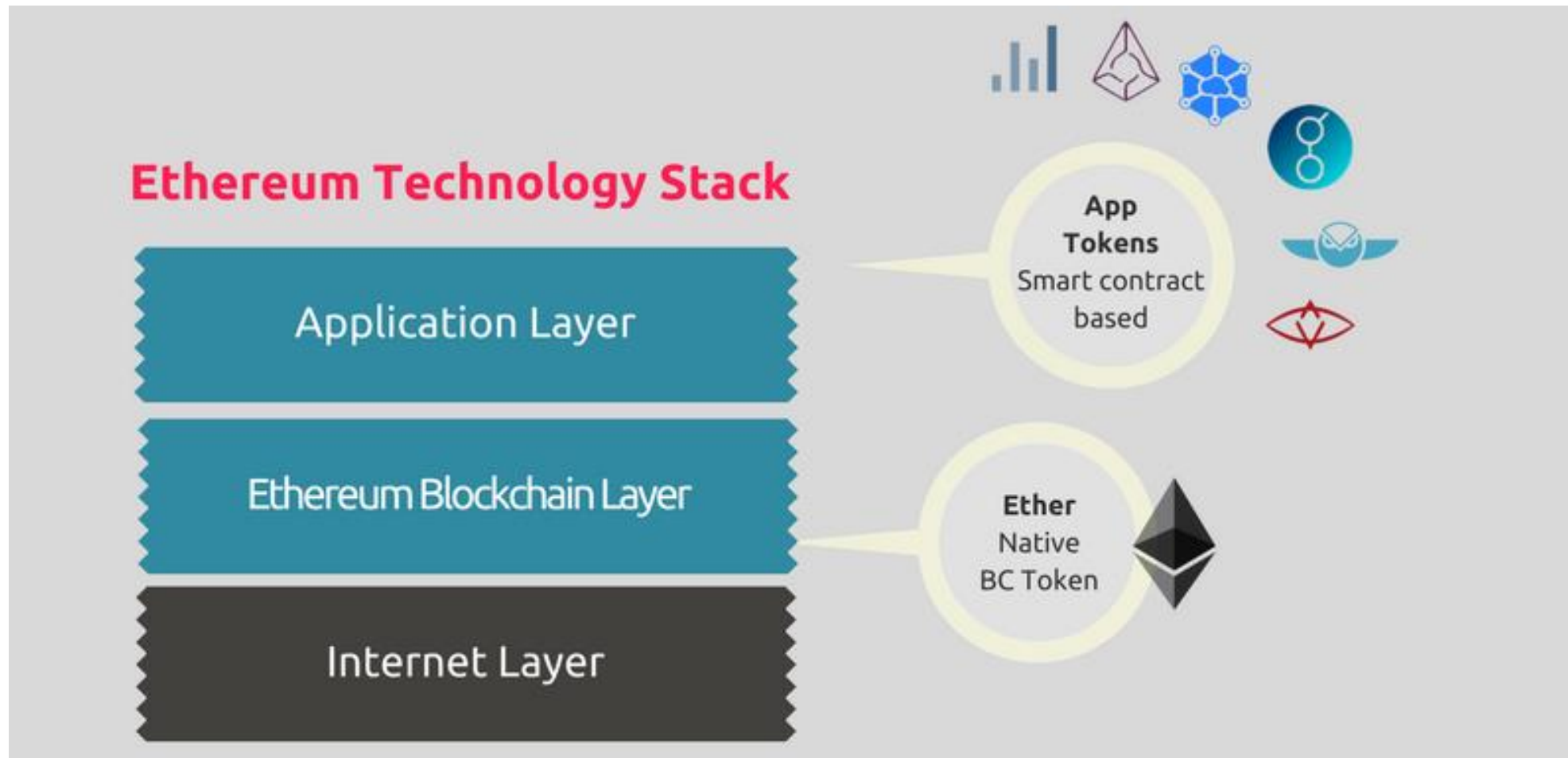
»Private: Monax, Multichain



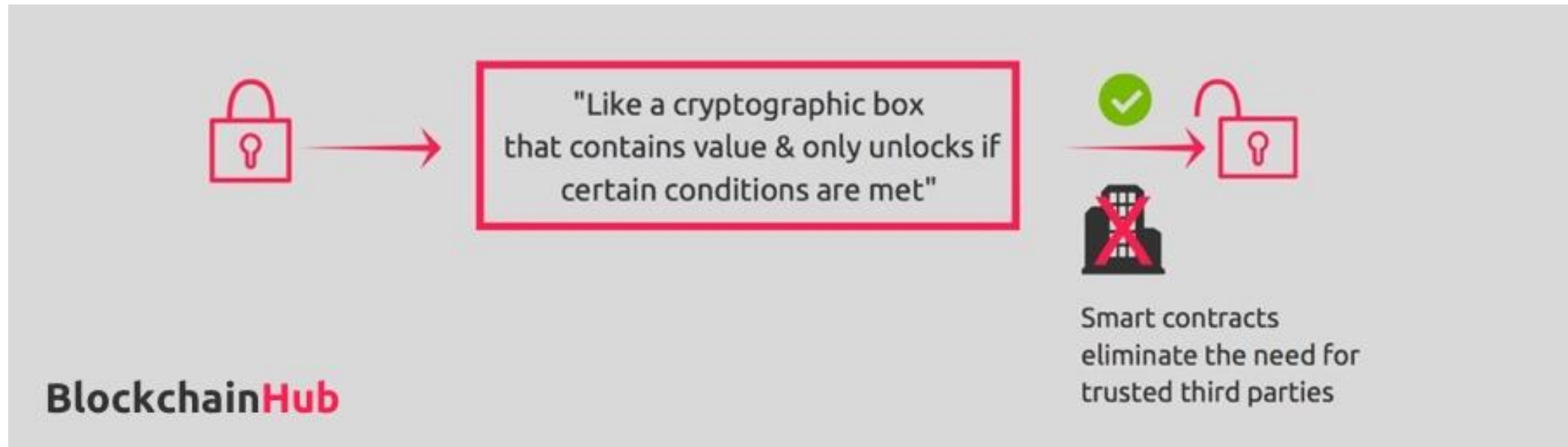
Bitcoin



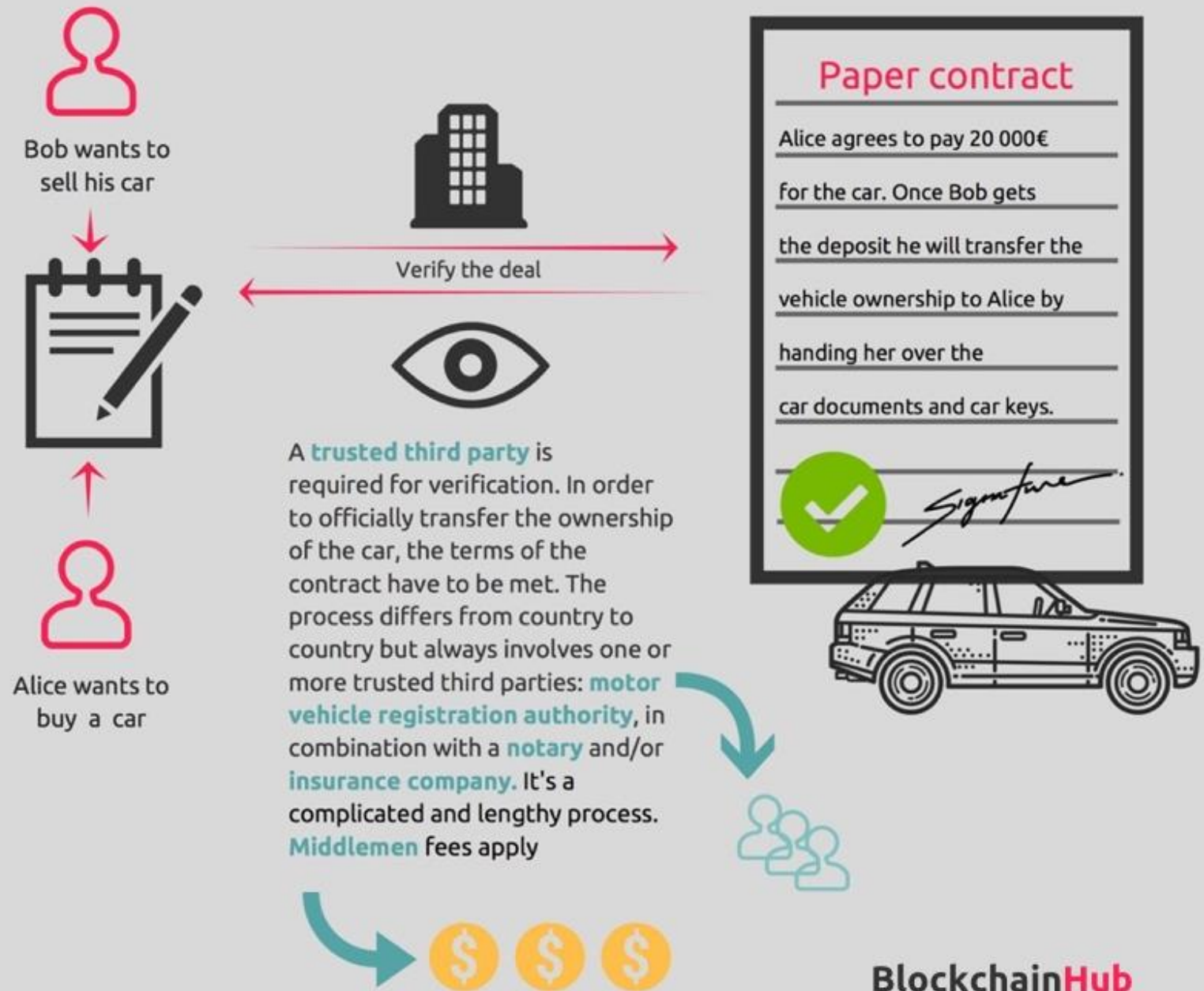
Ethereum



Smart Contracts



Traditional Car Sale



Smart Contract Car Sale

Bob wants to sell his car. He identifies himself with his blockchain address (public key) **757382** and uses a smart contract to define the terms of the sale signing it with his **private key**

1

<Smart contract>

```
<contract>
If 20 000€ were sent to
my account number 757382
then automatically transfer
car ID 13849Z as well as grant
smart lock access to the
account from which the
money has been transferred
</contract>
```

Bob wants to sell his car. He identifies himself with his blockchain address (public key) **757382** and uses a smart contract to define the terms of the sale signing it with his **private key**

1

<Smart contract>

```
<contract>
If 20 000€ were sent to
my account number 757382
then automatically transfer
car ID 13849Z as well as grant
smart lock access to the
account from which the
money has been transferred
</contract>
```

3

Alice wants to buy a car. She finds Bob's car listed on the Internet. She signs the contract with her **private key** transferring **20 000€** from her blockchain address (public key) **389157** to Bob's blockchain address **757382**

Bob leaves his car and car key in a garage locked with a smart contract controlled smart lock. The car has its own blockchain address (public key) **13849Z** stored on the blockchain



2



2

Alice can now pick up her car by unlocking the smart lock with her **private key**

6

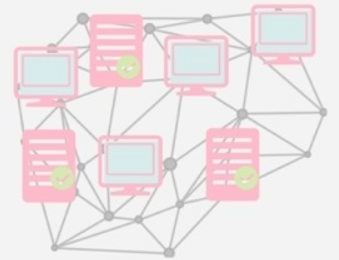
The smart contract is verified by each node on the blockchain network checking if Bob is the owner of the car and if Alice has enough money to pay Bob

4

5

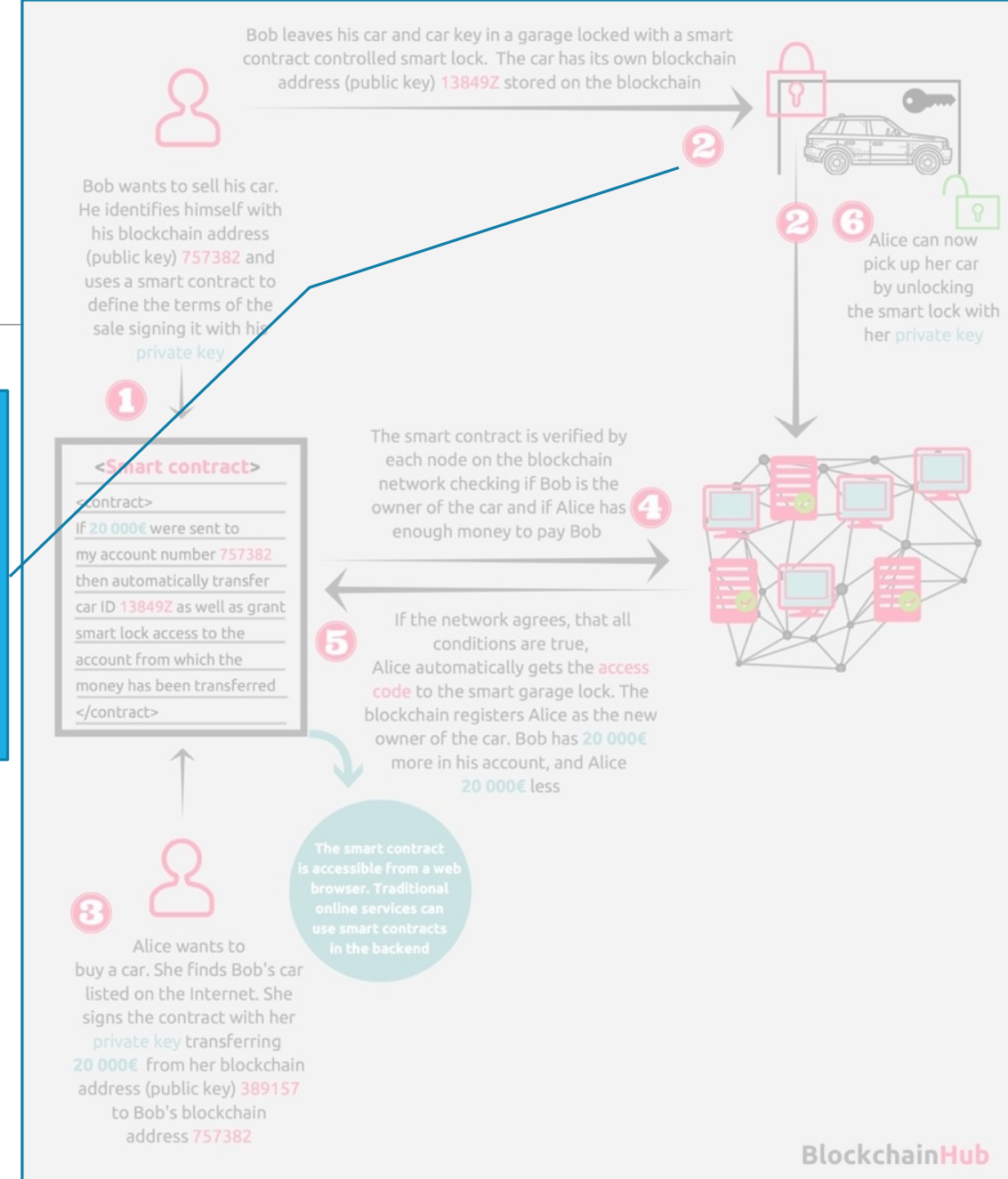


If the network agrees, that all conditions are true, Alice automatically gets the **access code** to the smart garage lock. The blockchain registers Alice as the new owner of the car. Bob has **20 000€** more in his account, and Alice **20 000€** less

The smart contract is accessible from a web browser. Traditional online services can use smart contracts in the backend

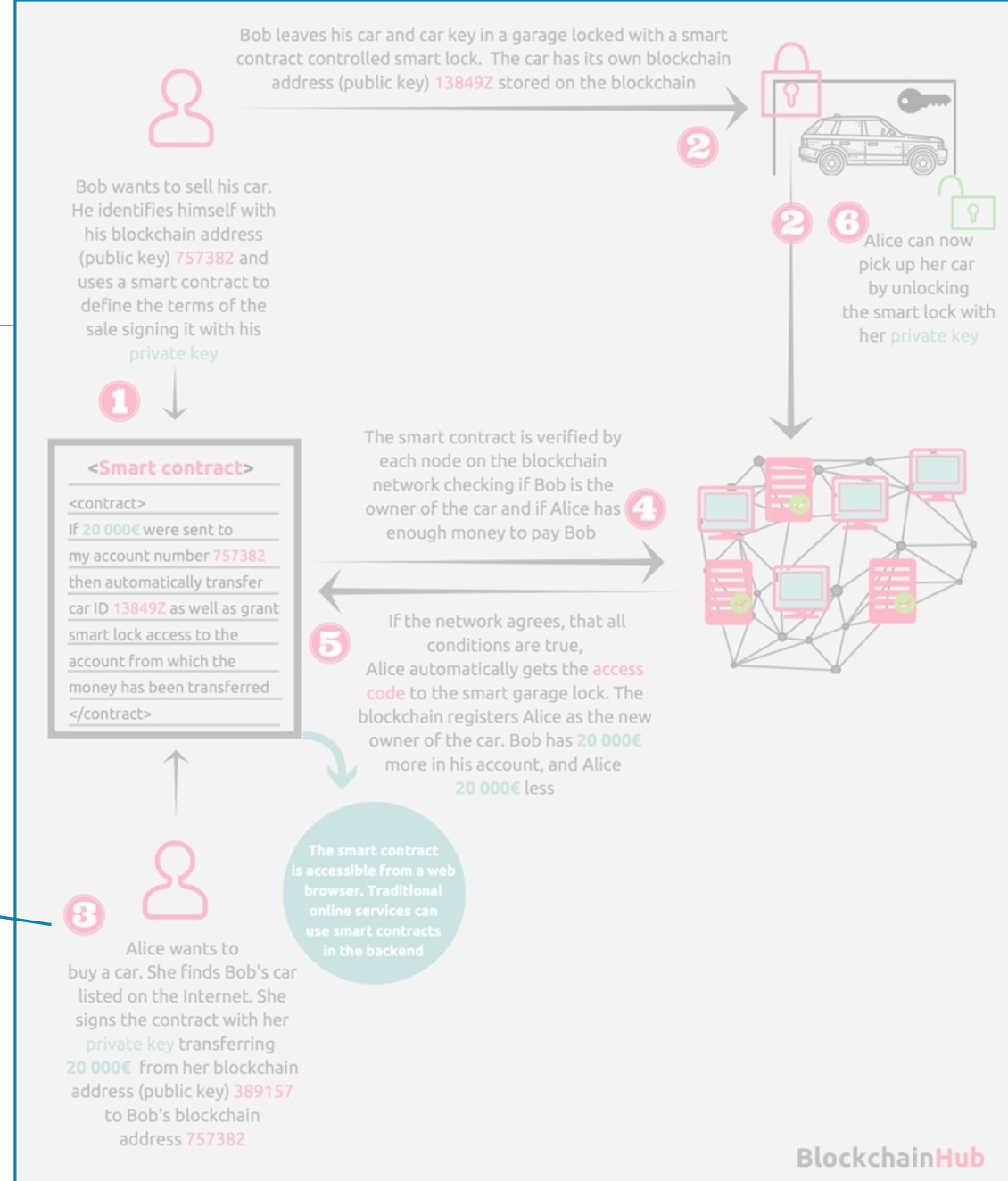


Smart Contract Car Sale

Bob leaves his car and car key in a garage locked with a smart contract controlled smart lock. The car has its own blockchain address (public key) **13849Z** stored on the blockchain



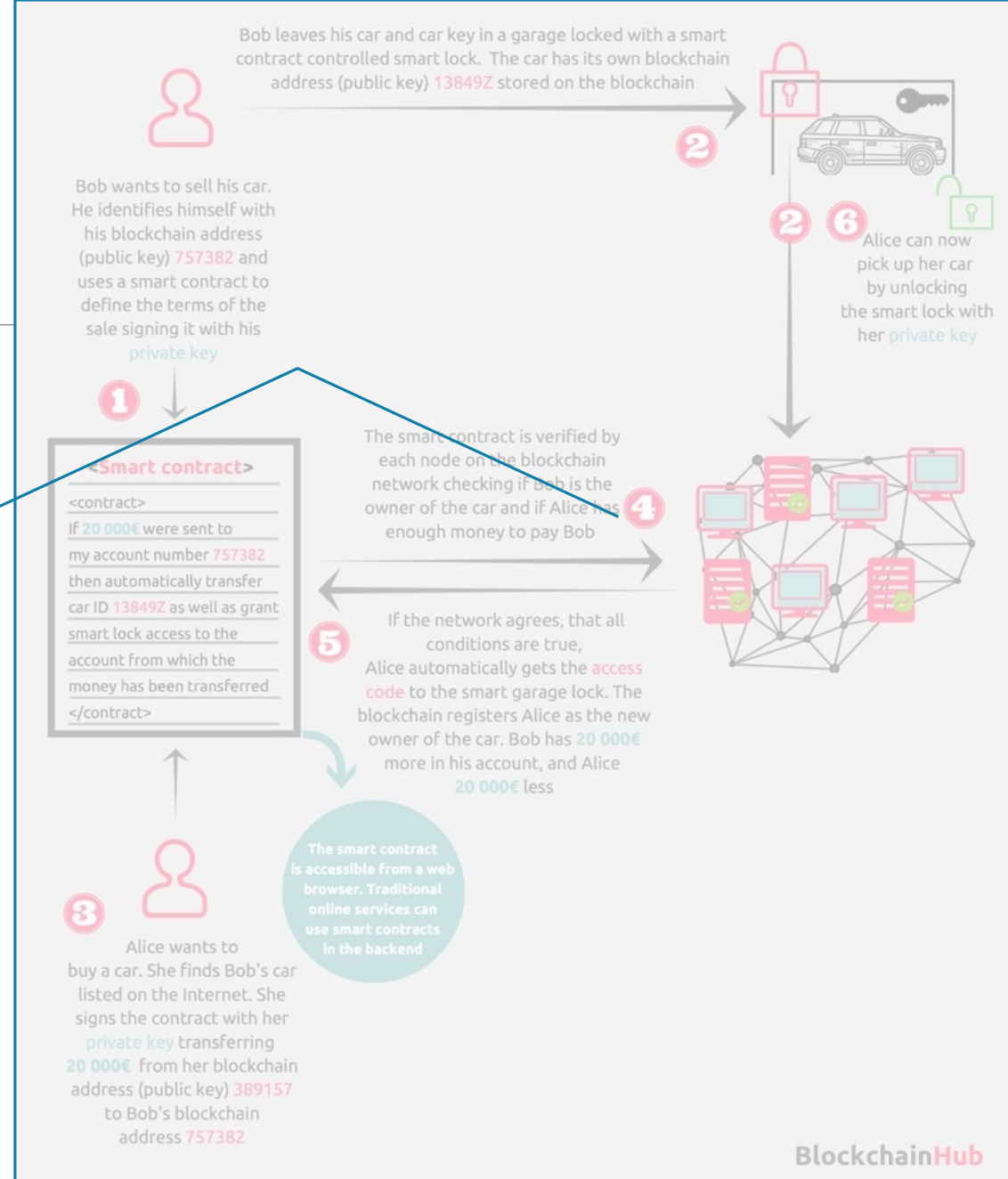
Smart Contract Car Sale



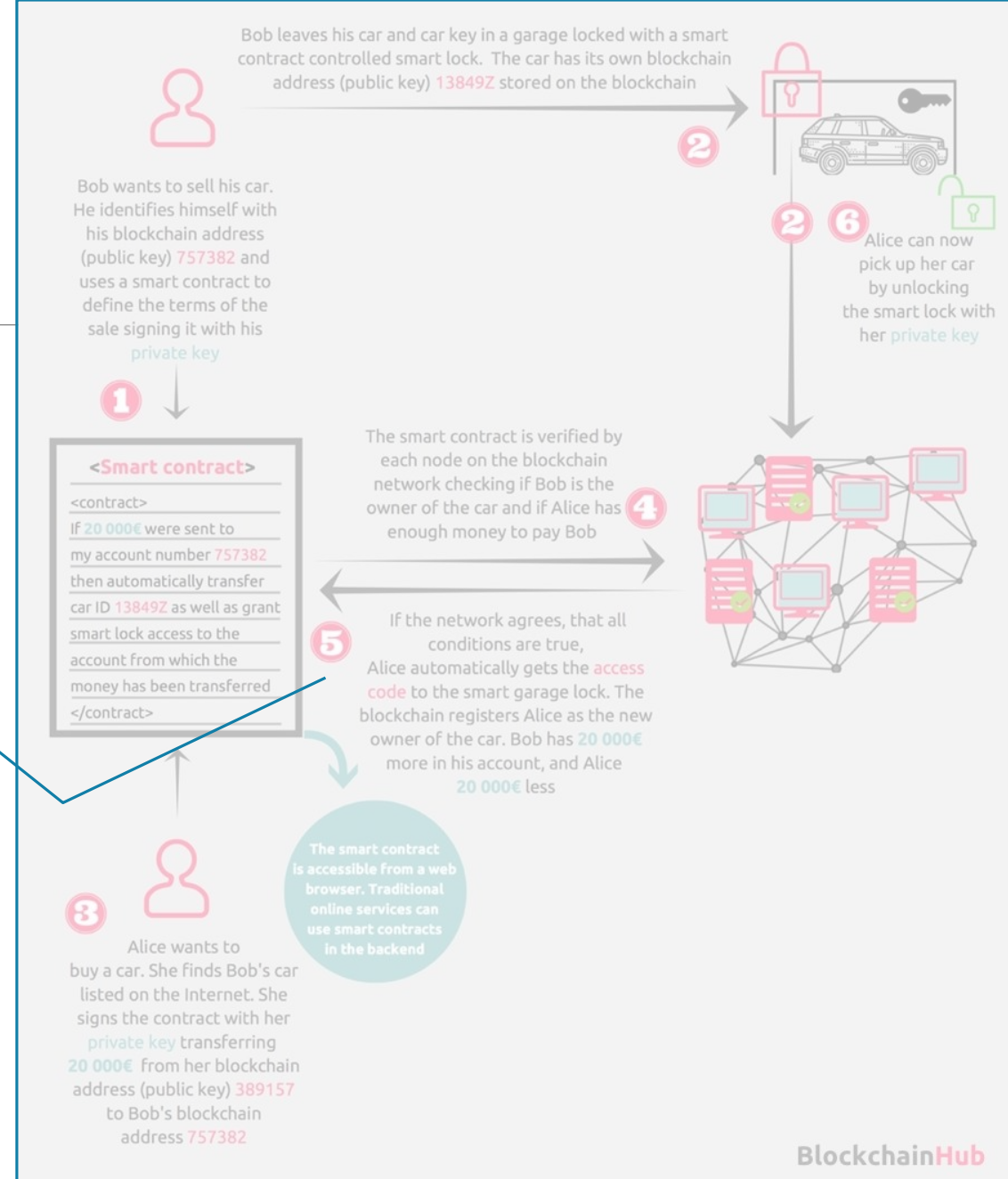
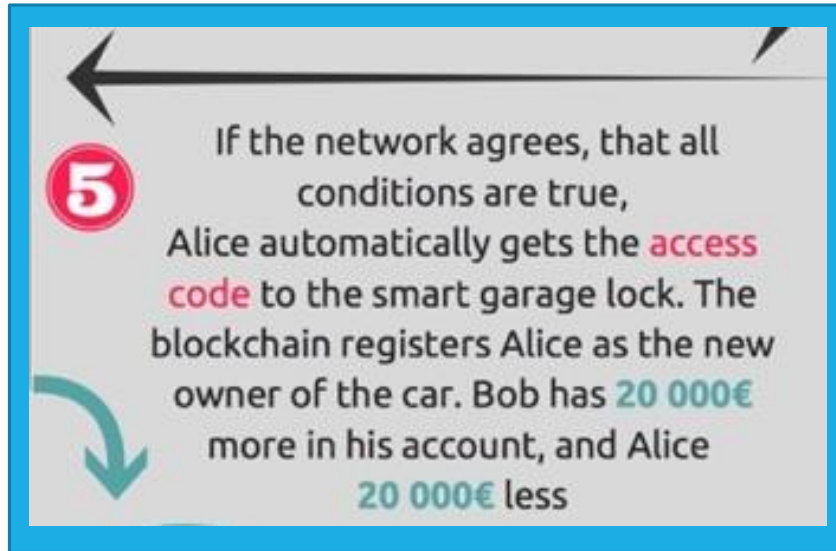
Smart Contract Car Sale

The smart contract is verified by each node on the blockchain network checking if Bob is the owner of the car and if Alice has enough money to pay Bob

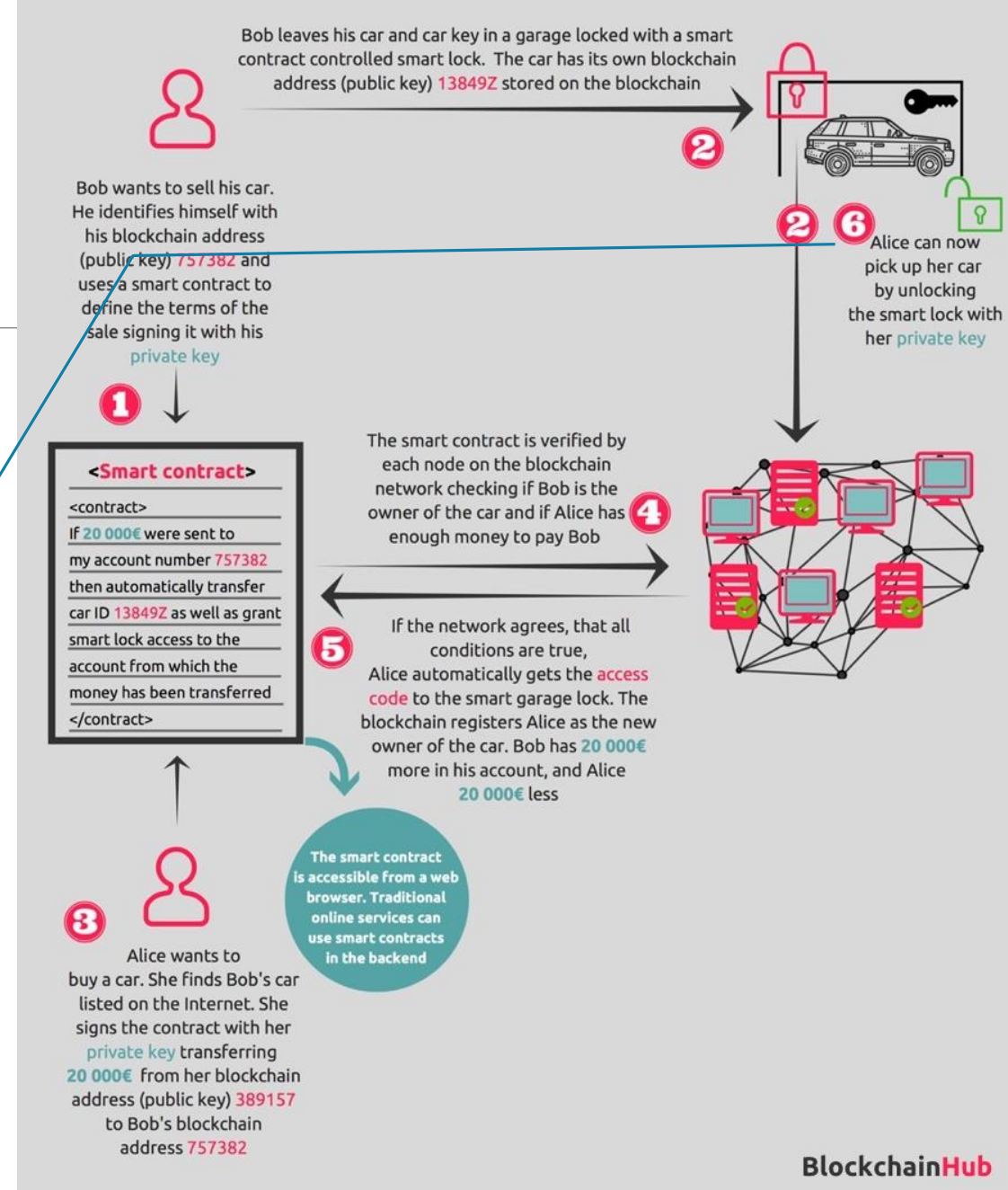
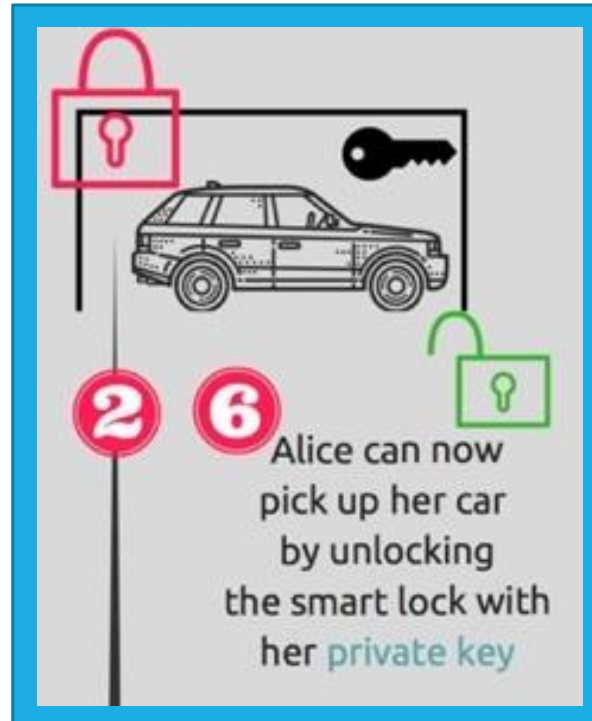
4



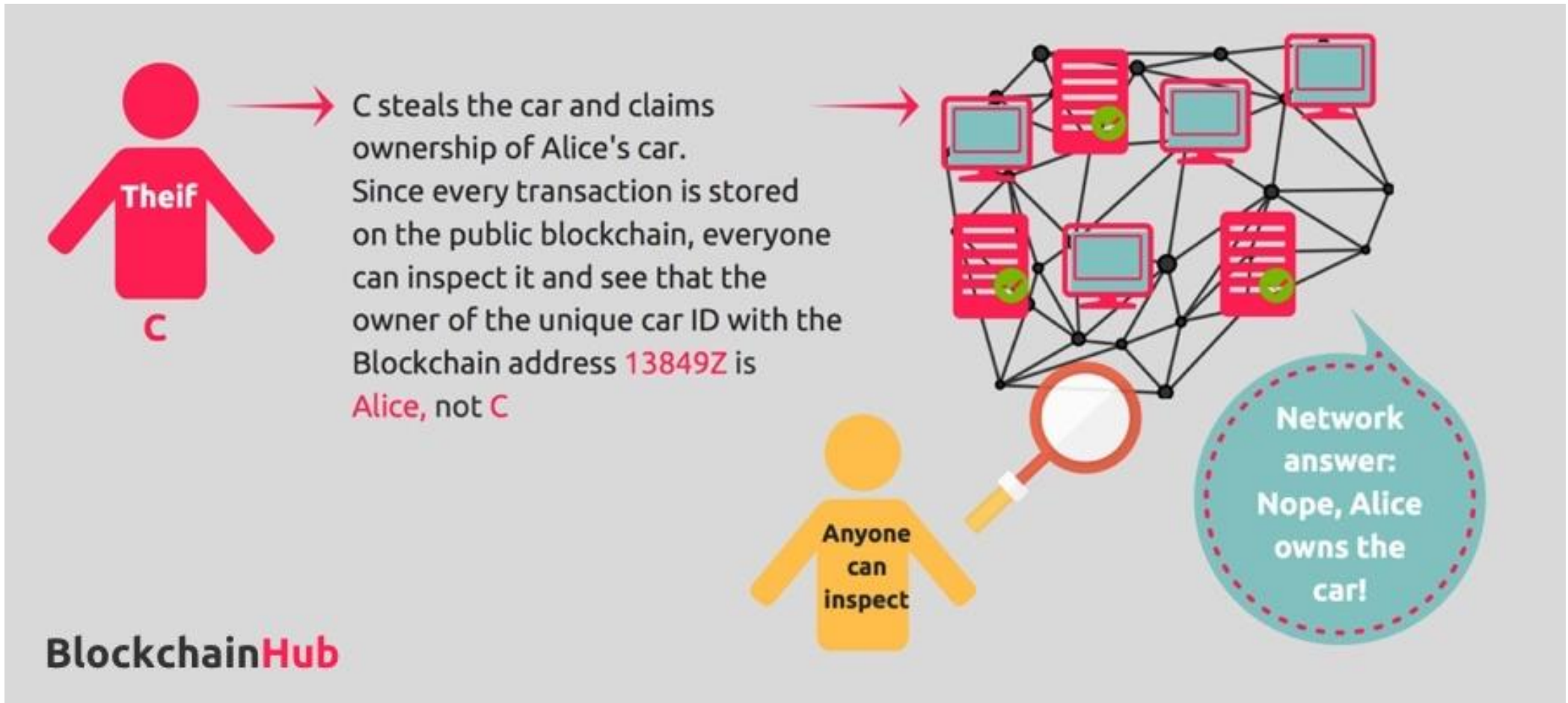
Smart Contract Car Sale



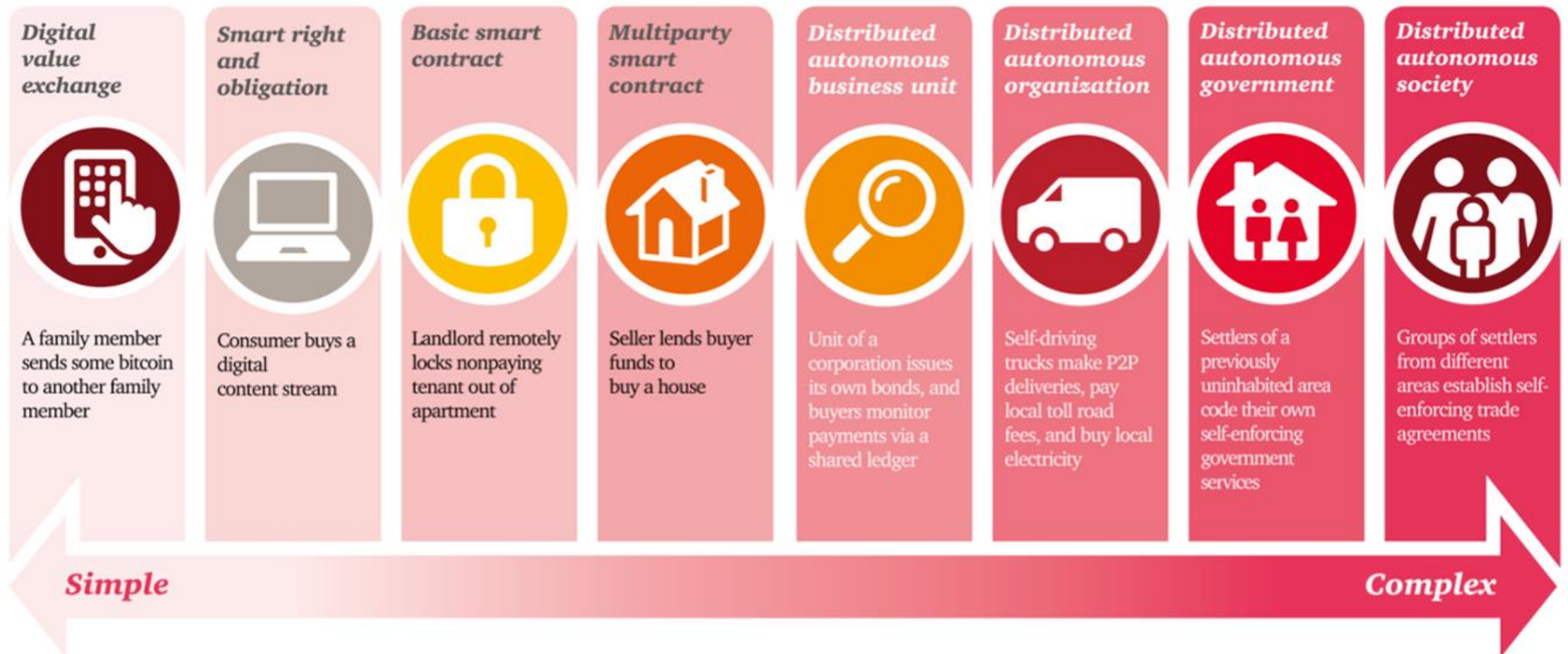
Smart Contract Car Sale



Can We Trust Smart Contracts?



Smart Contracts Types





ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT
BLOCKCHAIN?

THANK YOU

I CAN BE REACHED AT

VSAWMA@NDU.EDU.LB
VICTOR.SAWMA@INTOUCHMENA.COM