

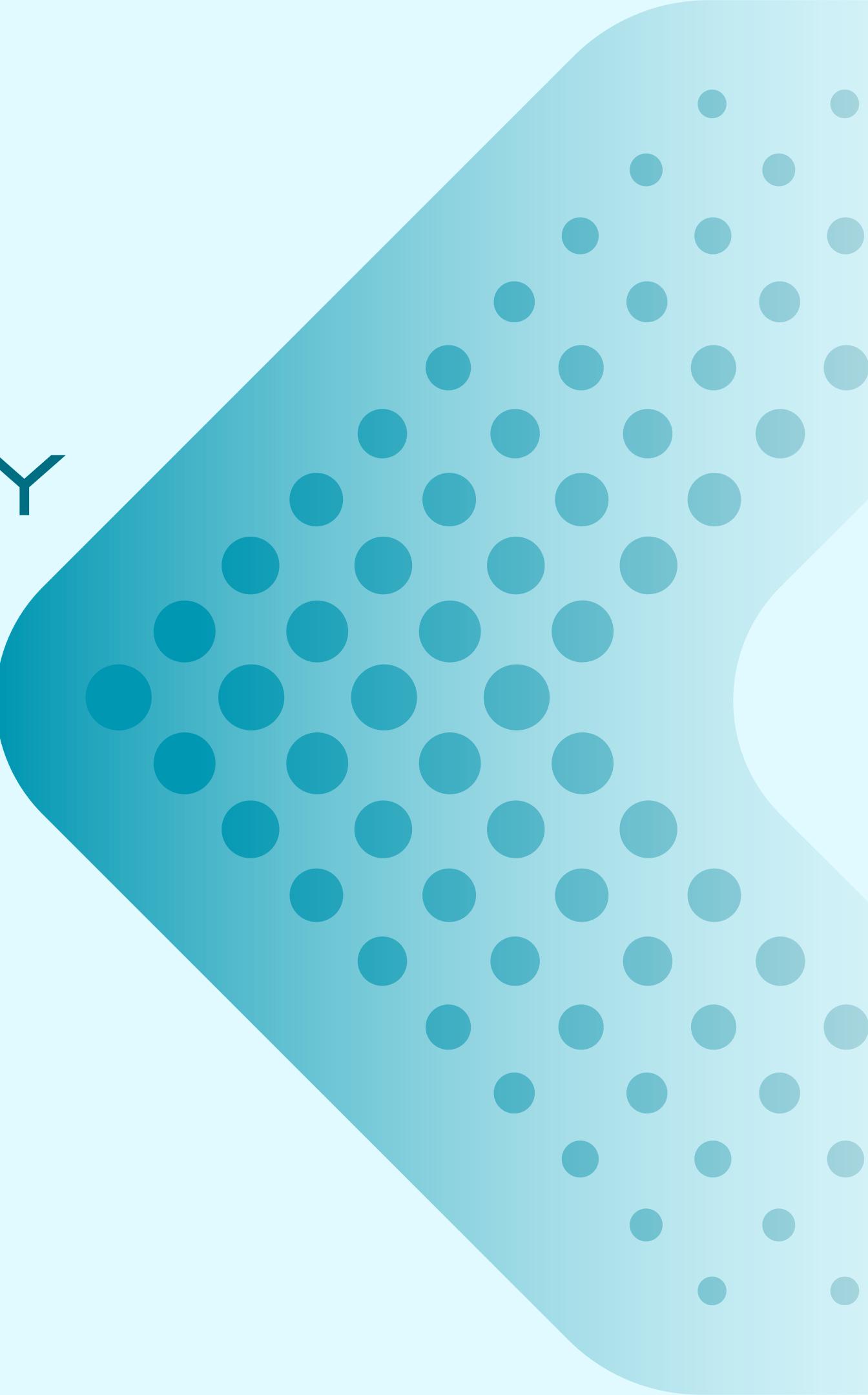


SPPU

# BLOCKCHAIN TECHNOLOGY

## UNIT 3

Blockchain Platforms and Consensus  
in Blockchain



# CONTENTS

- **Types of Blockchain Platforms:** Public, Private and Consortium, Bitcoin, Ethereum, Hyperledger, IoT, Corda, R3.
- **Consensus in Blockchain:** Consensus Approach, Consensus Elements, Consensus Algorithms, Proof of Work, Byzantine General problem, Proof of Stake, Proof of Elapsed Time, Proof of Activity, Proof of Burn.

# TYPES OF BLOCKCHAIN PLATFORMS

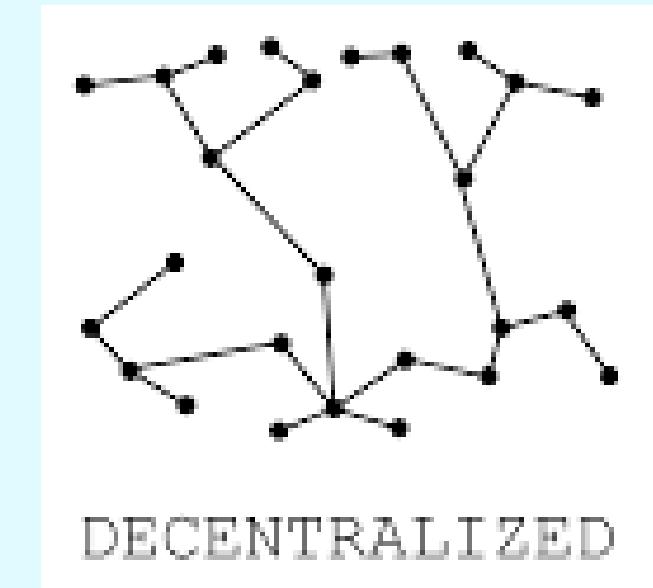
Blockchain is a distributed ledger technology that records transactions across multiple nodes securely.

Key features:

- Decentralization
- Transparency
- Immutability
- Security



TRANSPARENCY



DECENTRALIZED



IMMUTABILITY



# TYPES OF BLOCKCHAIN PLATFORMS

## Public Blockchain

Definition: Open to everyone; anyone can read, write, and participate.

Examples: Bitcoin, Ethereum

Features:

- Fully decentralized
- Transparent and secure
- Slower transactions due to consensus

Use Cases: Cryptocurrencies, decentralized apps (DApps)

## Private Blockchain

Definition: Permissioned blockchain; controlled by one organization.

Examples: Hyperledger Fabric, R3 Corda

Features:

- Restricted access
- Faster and efficient transactions
- Centralized governance

Use Cases: Supply chain, internal audits, enterprise solutions

## Consortium Blockchain

Definition: Controlled by a group of organizations.

Examples: R3 Corda (used by banks)

Features:

- Partially decentralized
- Collaborative governance
- More secure than private, faster than public

Use Cases: Banking, insurance, healthcare



**PUBLIC BLOCKCHAIN**



**PRIVATE BLOCKCHAIN**



**CONSORTIUM BLOCKCHAIN**



**HYBRID BLOCKCHAIN**

## Types of Blockchain Platforms

# POPULAR BLOCKCHAIN PLATFORMS

## Bitcoin

- Type: Public Blockchain
- Key Features / Description:
  - First-ever cryptocurrency introduced in 2009 by an anonymous person/group called Satoshi Nakamoto.
  - Peer-to-peer digital currency, enabling direct transactions without intermediaries.
  - Uses Proof of Work (PoW) consensus to secure transactions.
  - Highly decentralized and transparent.
- Use Case:
  - Digital currency for payments and value transfer.
  - Store of value like “digital gold.”



# POPULAR BLOCKCHAIN PLATFORMS

## Ethereum

- Type: Public Blockchain
- Key Features / Description:
  - Introduced in 2015 by Vitalik Buterin.
  - Supports smart contracts—self-executing contracts with coded rules.
  - Enables Decentralized Applications (DApps) and decentralized finance (DeFi) solutions.
  - Allows creation and trading of NFTs (Non-Fungible Tokens).
  - Uses PoW currently (moving to Proof of Stake in Ethereum 2.0).
- Use Case:
  - Platforms for DApps, token creation, DeFi, NFTs, and decentralized marketplaces.



# POPULAR BLOCKCHAIN PLATFORMS

## Hyperledger

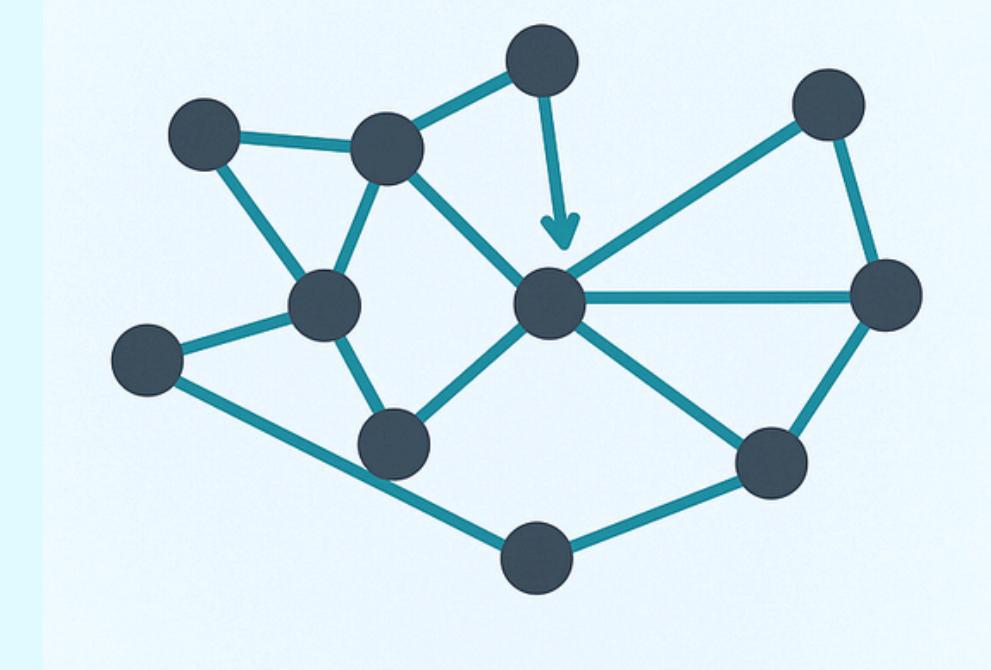
- Type: Private Blockchain
- Key Features / Description:
  - Open-source framework for building permissioned blockchains.
  - Modular design allows customization for different business needs.
  - Controlled access ensures data privacy within organizations.
  - Supports enterprise-level applications with high transaction throughput.
- Use Case:
  - Supply chain management, enterprise record-keeping, internal auditing, and trade finance.



# POPULAR BLOCKCHAIN PLATFORMS

## IOTA

- Type: Public Blockchain
- Key Features / Description:
  - Designed specifically for Internet of Things (IoT) devices.
  - Uses Tangle (a directed acyclic graph) instead of traditional blockchain.
  - Fee-less transactions and highly scalable for microtransactions.
  - Lightweight protocol suitable for devices with limited resources.
- Use Case:
  - IoT networks, smart devices, and sensor data micropayments.



# POPULAR BLOCKCHAIN PLATFORMS

R3

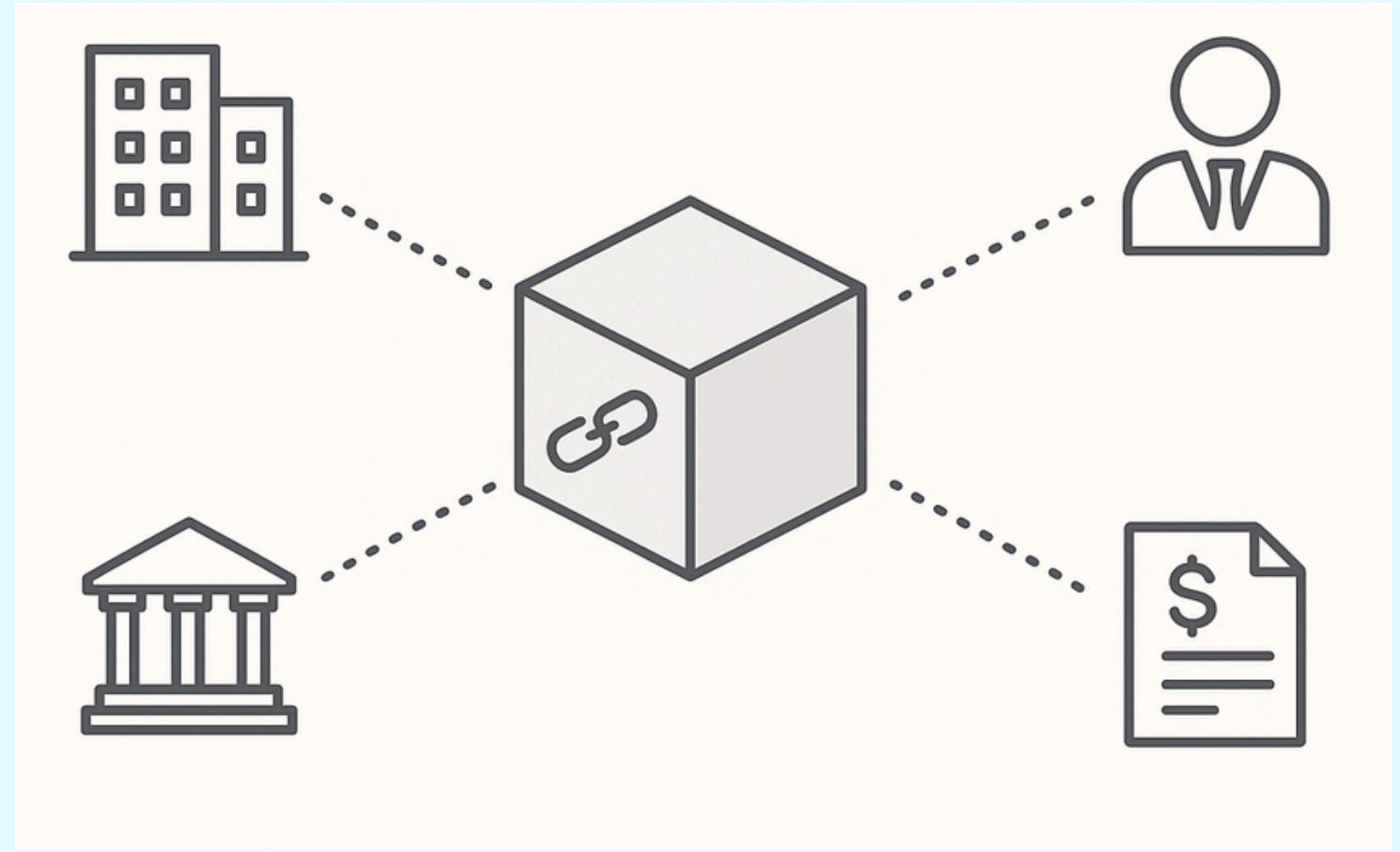
- Type: Consortium Blockchain
- Key Features / Description:
  - Enterprise blockchain platform and consortium of financial institutions.
  - Focus on collaborative governance between organizations.
  - Provides tools for secure financial transactions and compliance.
  - Facilitates shared ledger solutions for banks and enterprises.
- Use Case:
  - Banking networks, cross-border settlements, regulatory reporting, and finance infrastructure projects.



# POPULAR BLOCKCHAIN PLATFORMS

## Corda

- Type: Consortium Blockchain
- Key Features / Description:
  - Developed by R3, specifically for regulated industries.
  - Allows private, secure transactions between authorized participants.
  - Handles complex workflows for financial and legal transactions.
  - Not a traditional blockchain—uses ledger for secure peer-to-peer agreements.
- Use Case:
  - Banking, insurance, trade finance, and other enterprise-grade financial applications.



# CONSENSUS IN BLOCKCHAIN

Definition: Consensus is the mechanism that ensures all nodes in a blockchain network agree on a single version of the ledger.

Purpose:

- Maintains data integrity
- Ensures trust in a decentralized network
- Prevents double spending and fraud



## Consensus Elements

- Nodes: Participants validating transactions
- Transaction Ledger: Shared record that nodes agree on
- Validation Rules: Criteria for accepting transactions
- Incentives: Rewards for honest participation (coins, tokens)

# CONSENSUS IN BLOCKCHAIN



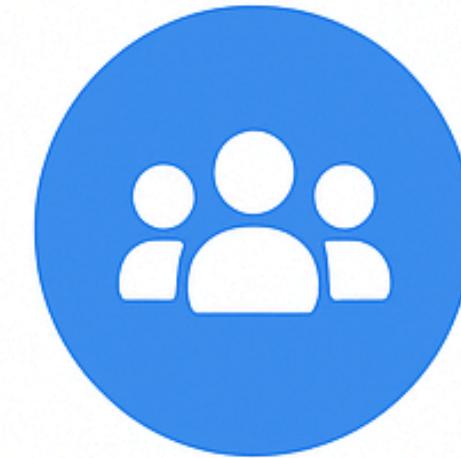
## Agreement

All nodes accept  
the same  
transaction/block



## Cooperation

Nodes work  
together for  
validation



## Equal Rights

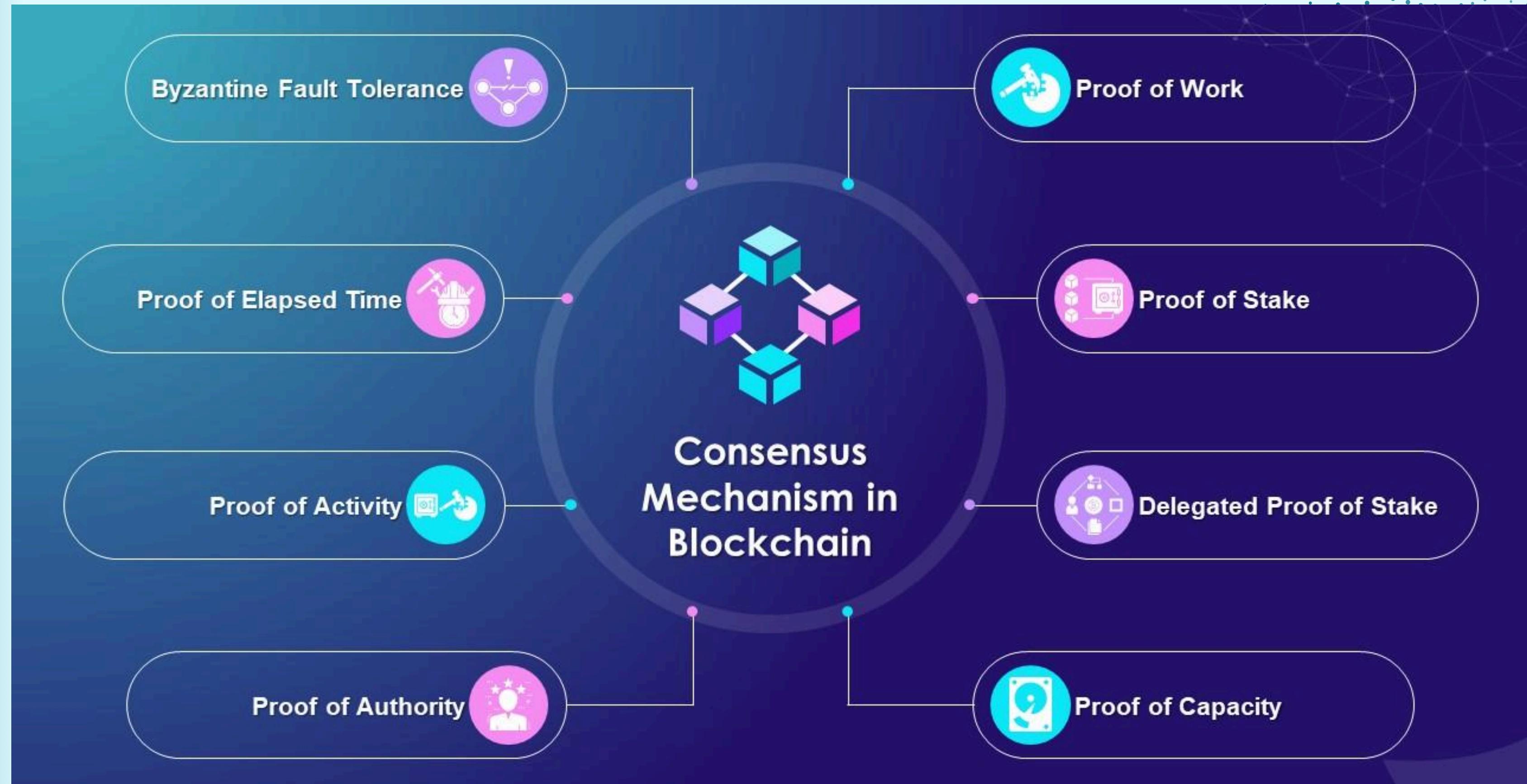
Each node has  
equal voting  
power



## Participation

Every node can  
contribute to  
consensus

# CONSENSUS ALGORITHMS



# Proof of Work (PoW)

Definition: A consensus algorithm in which network participants (miners) compete to solve a complex mathematical puzzle to validate transactions and create new blocks.

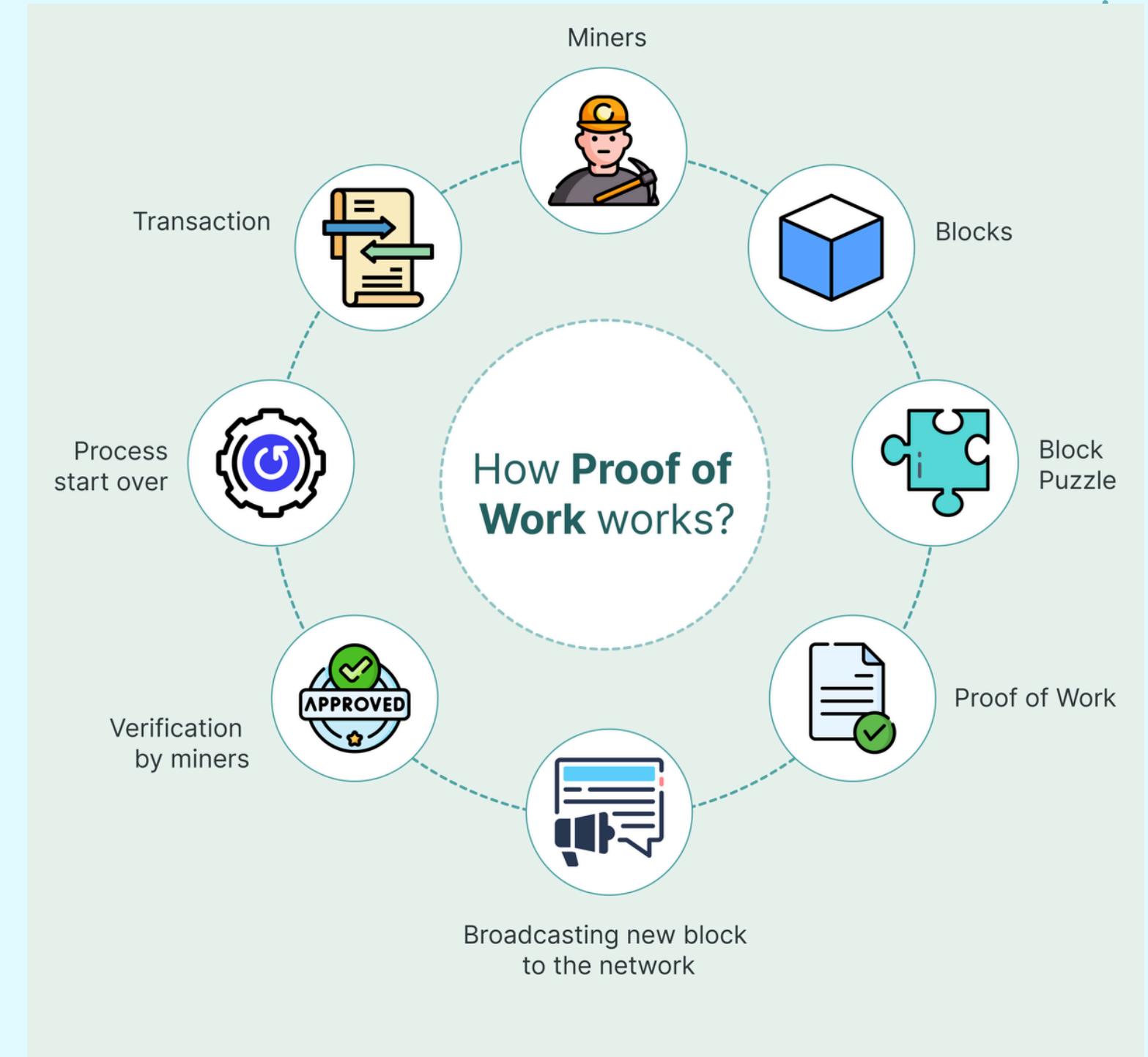
## Key Features:

- Decentralized and secure
- Requires high computational power
- Prevents double-spending

Pros: Highly secure and resistant to tampering

Cons: Energy-intensive and slower transaction speeds

Example: Bitcoin



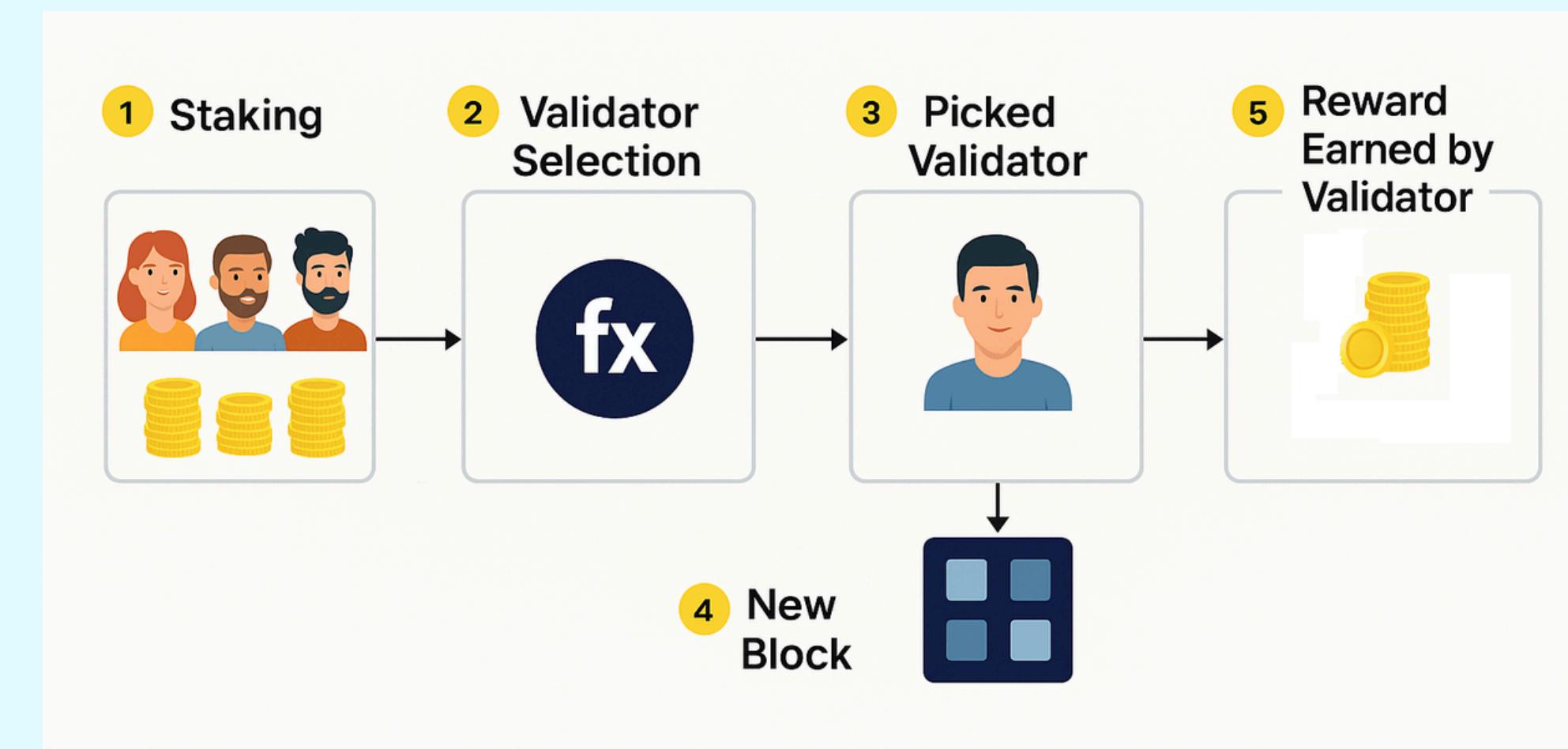
# Proof of Stake (PoS)

Definition: A consensus mechanism where validators are chosen to create blocks based on the amount of cryptocurrency they “stake” as collateral.

## Key Features:

- Energy-efficient (does not require solving puzzles)
- Reduces risk of centralization with proper randomization
- Penalizes dishonest behavior by slashing stake

## Example: Ethereum 2.0



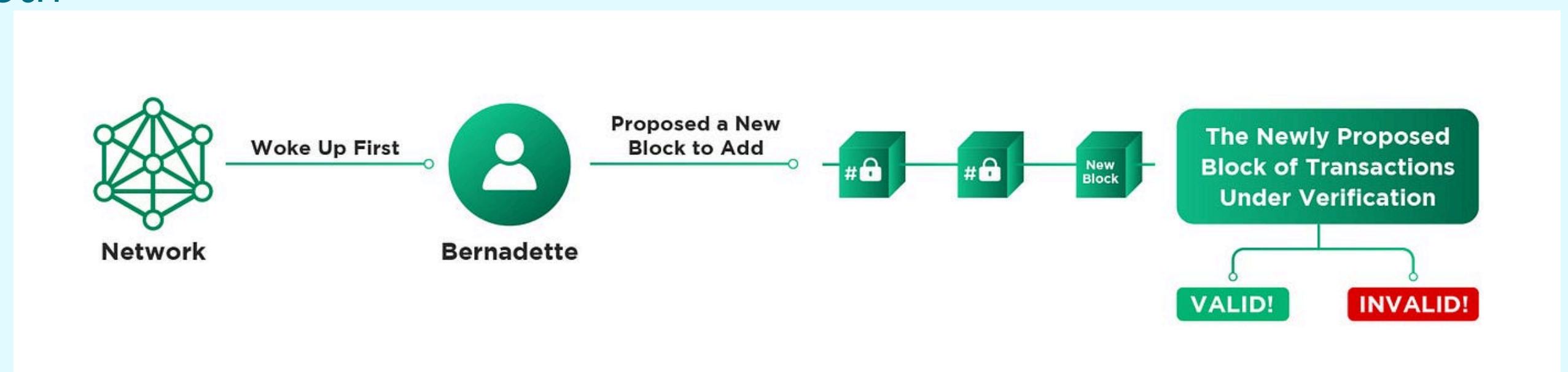
# Proof of Elapsed Time (PoET)

Definition: Consensus algorithm mainly used in permissioned blockchains where each node waits for a randomly assigned time, and the first one to finish the wait gets to create the block.

## Key Features:

- Energy-efficient
- Fair and random selection of block creators
- Mostly used in enterprise blockchains

## Example: Hyperledger Sawtooth



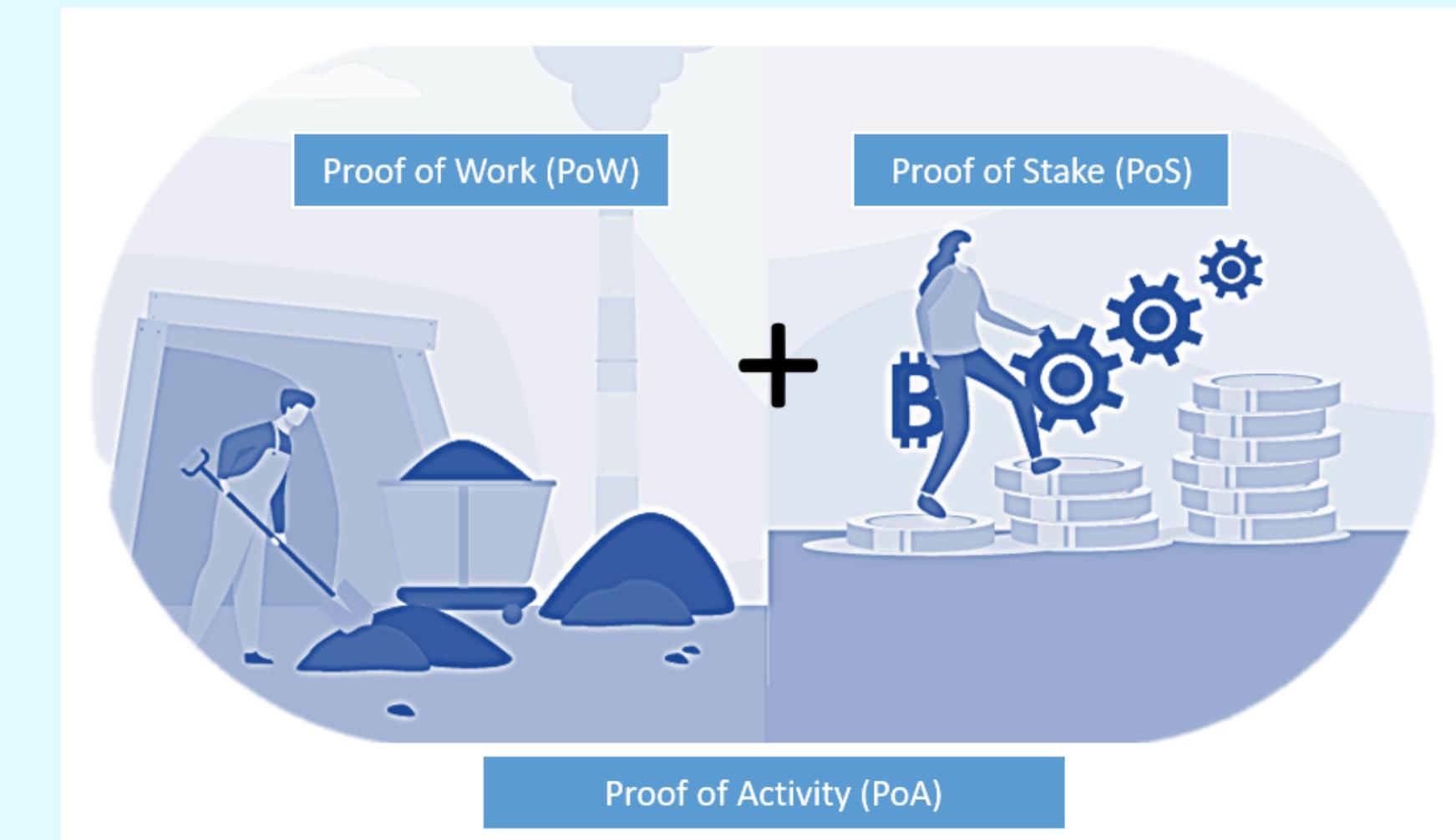
# Proof of Activity(PoA)

Definition: Hybrid consensus mechanism that combines PoW and PoS.

## Key Features:

- Combines security of PoW with efficiency of PoS
- Reduces energy consumption compared to pure PoW
- Encourages both mining and staking participation

## Example: Particl



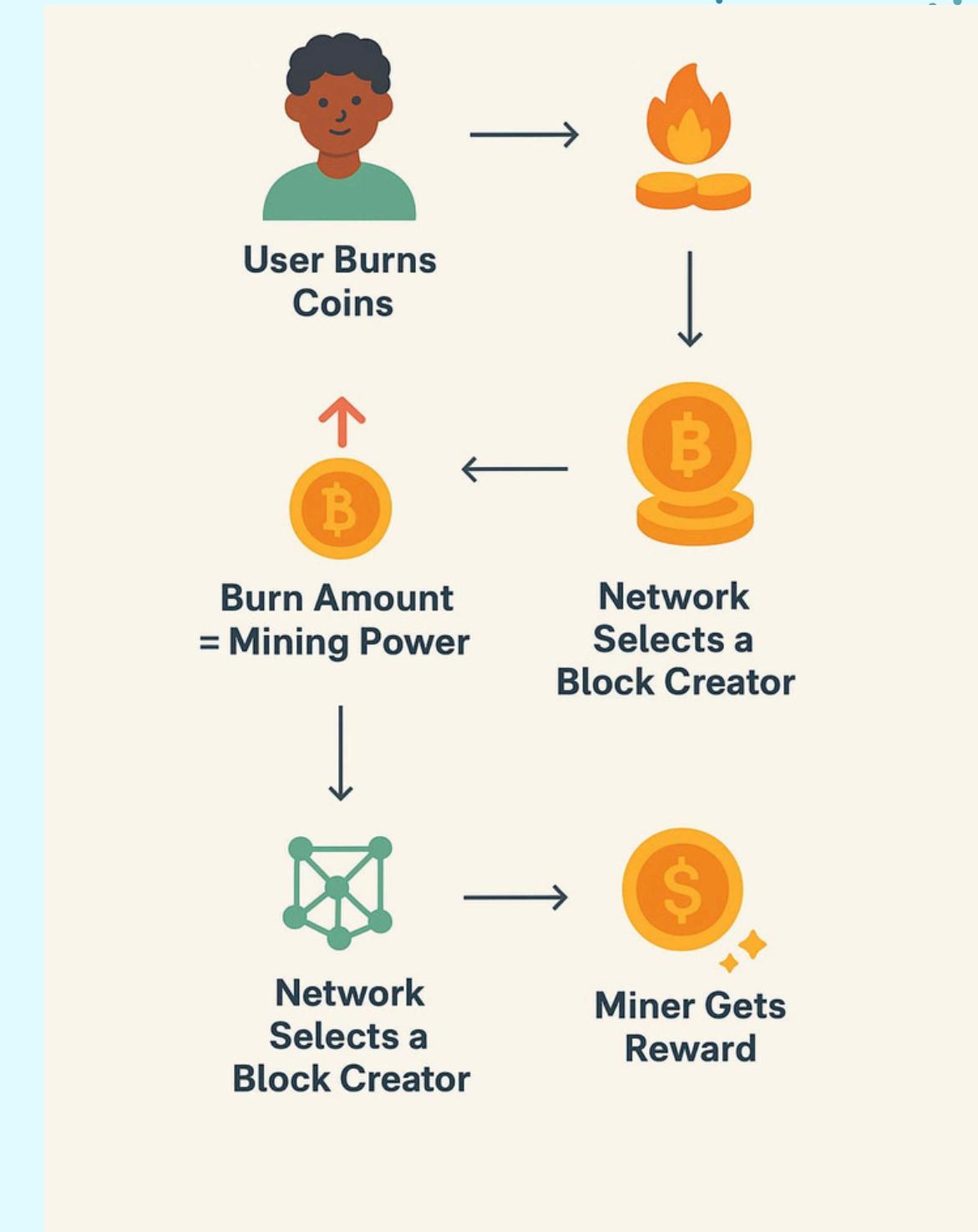
# Proof of Burn

Definition: A consensus algorithm where participants “burn” (destroy) coins to earn the right to mine new blocks.

## Key Features:

- Reduces energy consumption
- Introduces a cost to participate, deterring spamming
- Some coins are permanently destroyed, reducing total supply

## Example: Slimcoin



# Byzantine General Problem

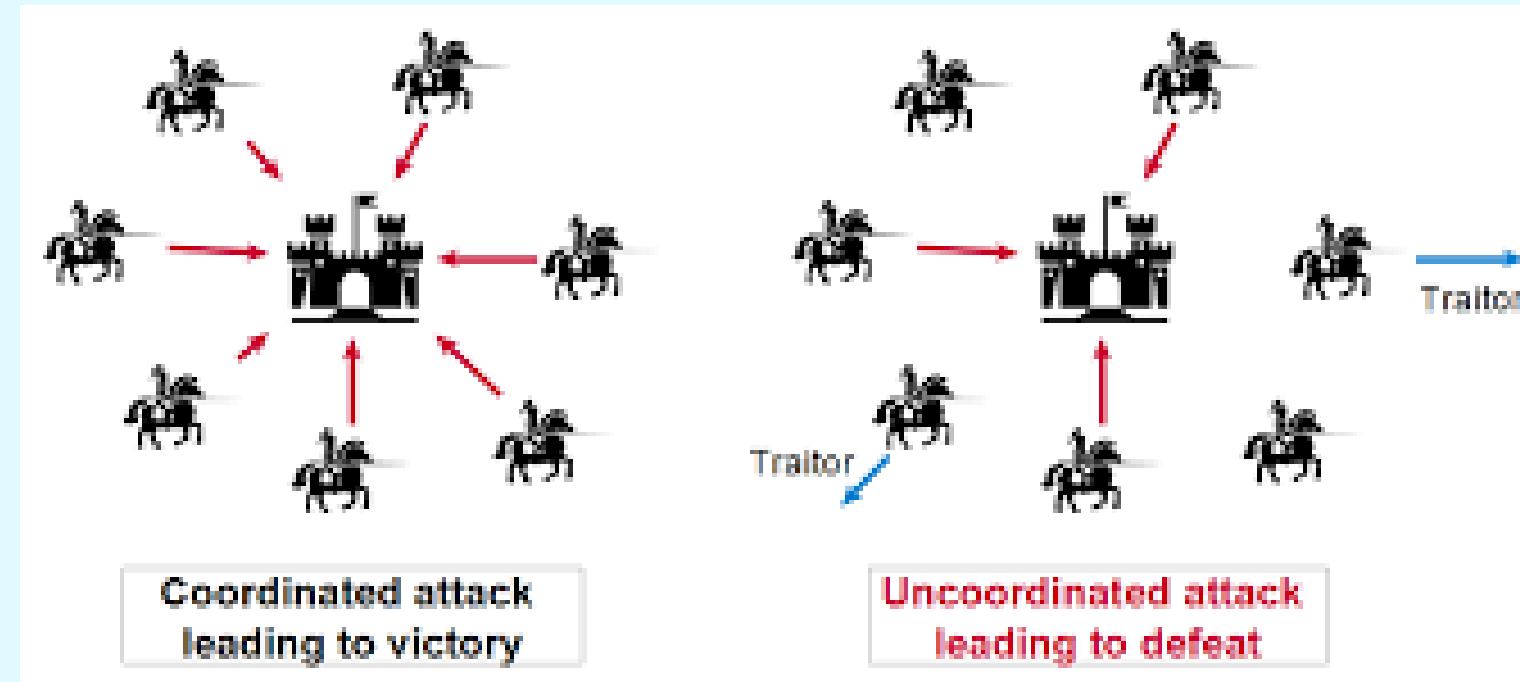
Definition: A classic problem in distributed computing describing the challenge of reaching agreement in a network where some nodes may be unreliable or malicious.

Scenario:

- Imagine generals of an army need to agree on a coordinated attack, but some generals may be traitors sending conflicting messages.
- The problem is to reach consensus even with malicious actors.

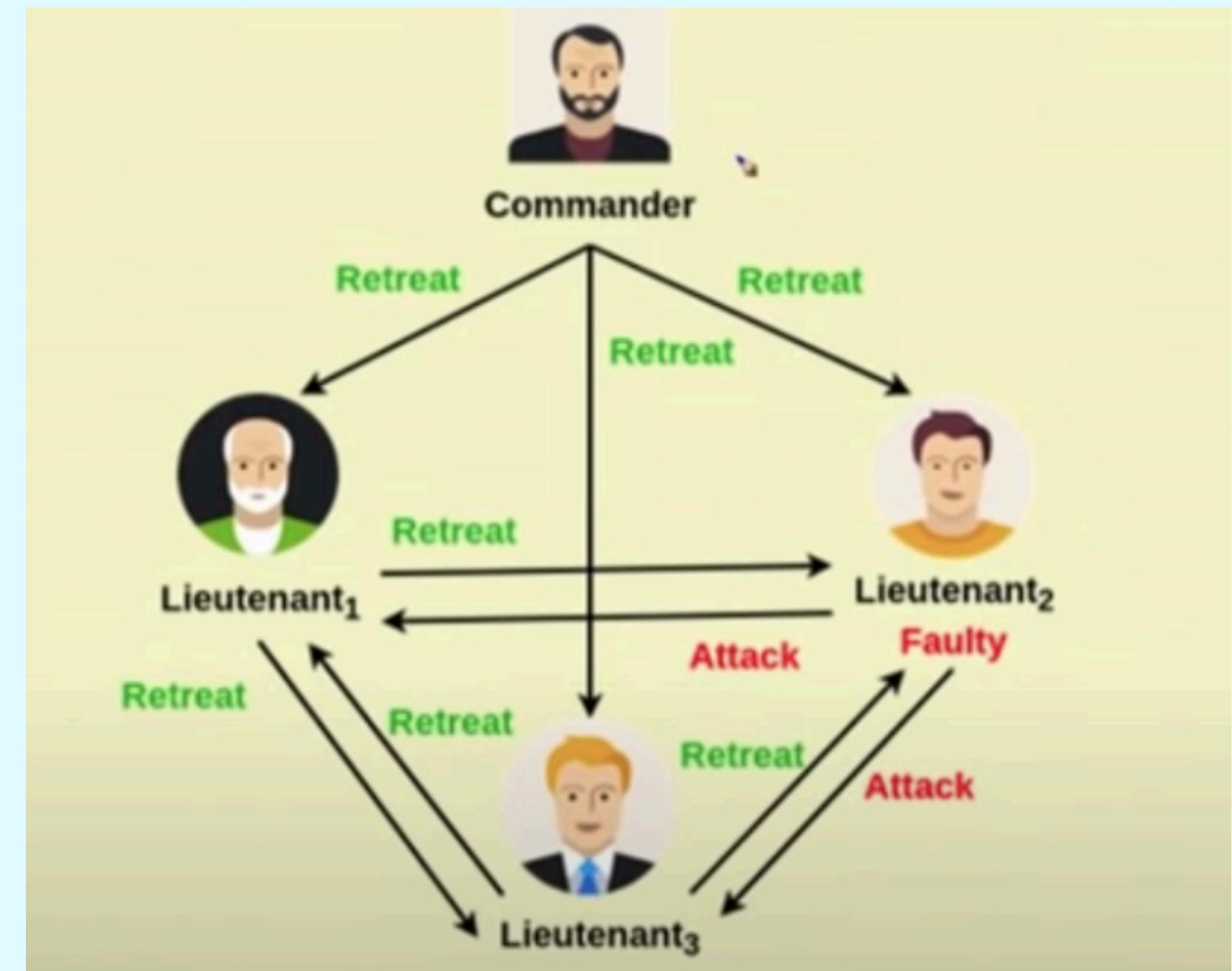
Relevance to Blockchain:

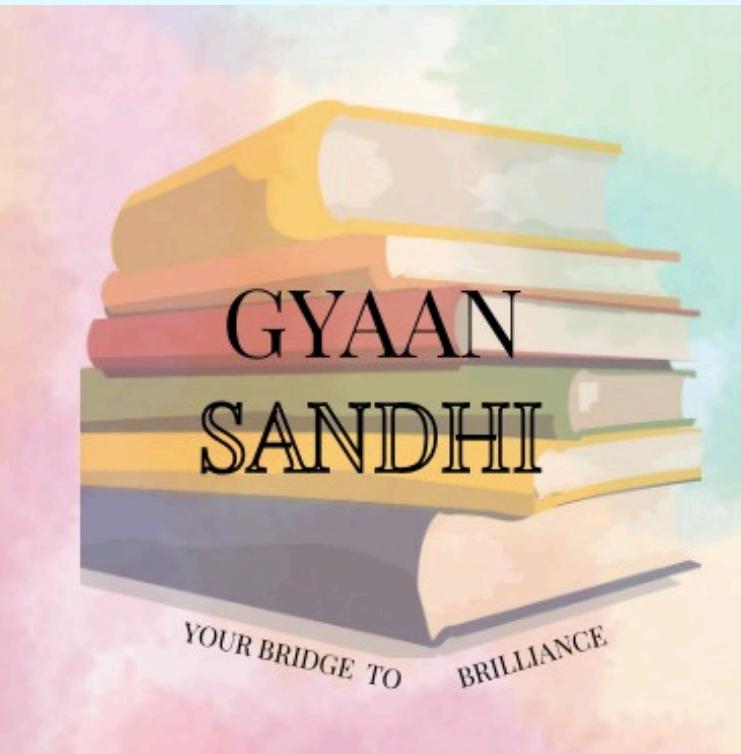
- Blockchains solve this problem using consensus algorithms like PoW, PoS, and PBFT.
- Ensures all honest nodes agree on the same version of the ledger



Byzantine Fault Tolerance (BFT) is the ability of a distributed system to continue operating correctly and reach a common agreement even when some of its nodes behave arbitrarily, maliciously, or send incorrect or inconsistent information.

A BFT system ensures that all honest nodes can agree on the same valid state of the system despite the presence of faulty or compromised participants.





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