



Building enterprise solutions with blockchain and ledger technology

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How do we think about blockchain?

Home > Open Access News > Blockchain News > Blockchain: healthcare's next frontier, or so much hype?

Open Access News Blockchain News

Blockchain: healthcare's next frontier, or so much hype?

June 25, 2018

Home > Emerging Technology

NEWS ANALYSIS

Blockchain will be the killer app for supply chain management in 2018

The distributed ledger technology that underpins cryptocurrencies is now poised to disrupt supply chain management – especially in the global shipping industry.

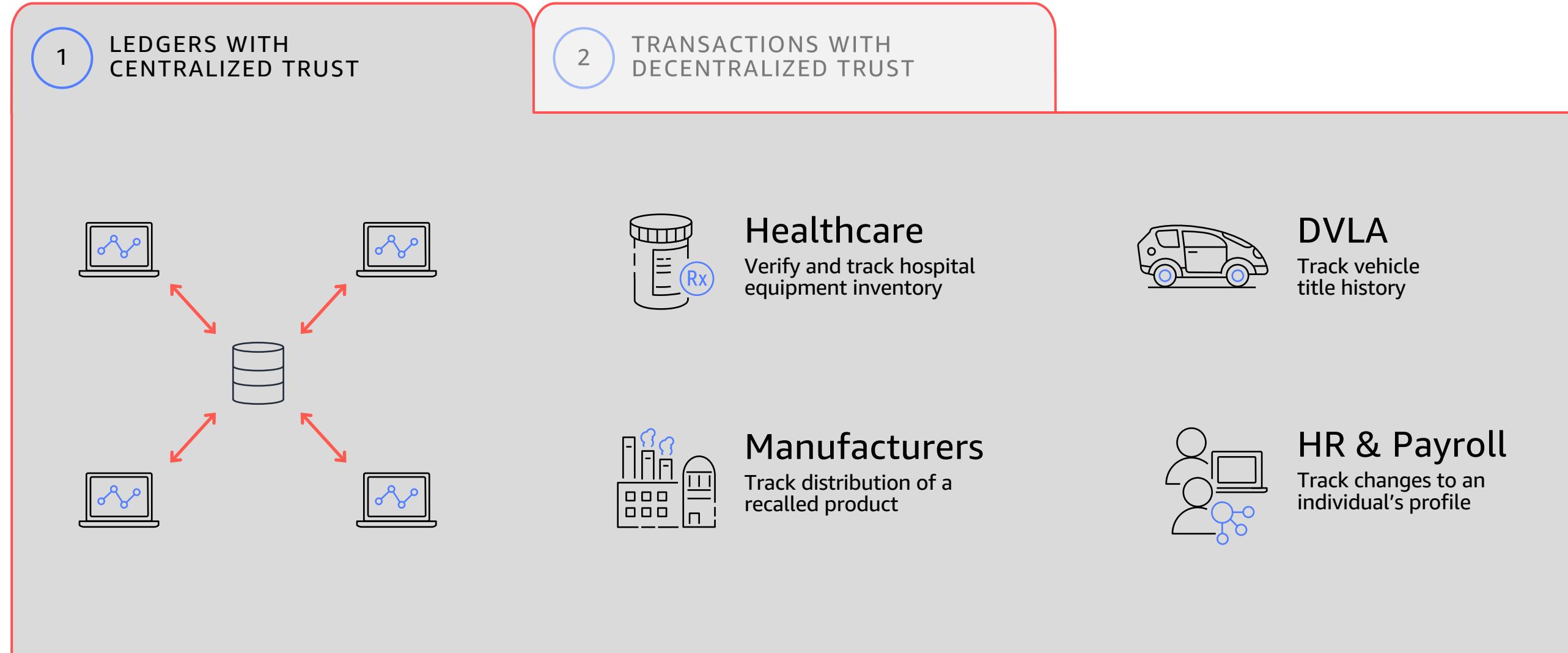
15 JULY 2018 | ARTICLES

Blockchain Logistics – Changing the World or Just Marketing Hype?

Blockchain is this year's buzzword – but can it outlive the hype?

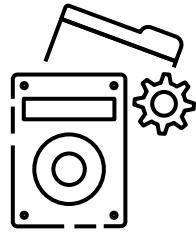
The open-source ledger behind bitcoin is touted as revolutionary for everything from banking to health, but the jury is still out

Need for a ledger with centralized trust

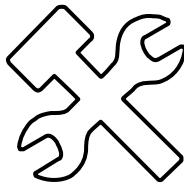


Challenges customers face

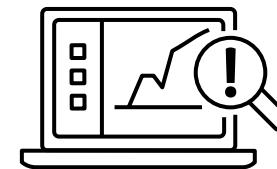
Building ledgers with traditional databases



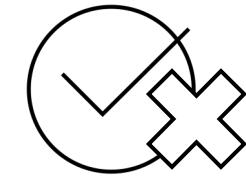
Resource intensive



Difficult to manage and scale

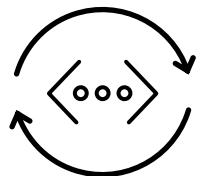


Error prone and incomplete

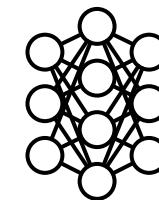


Impossible to verify

Blockchain approaches



Designed for a different purpose



Adds unnecessary complexity

PREVIEW

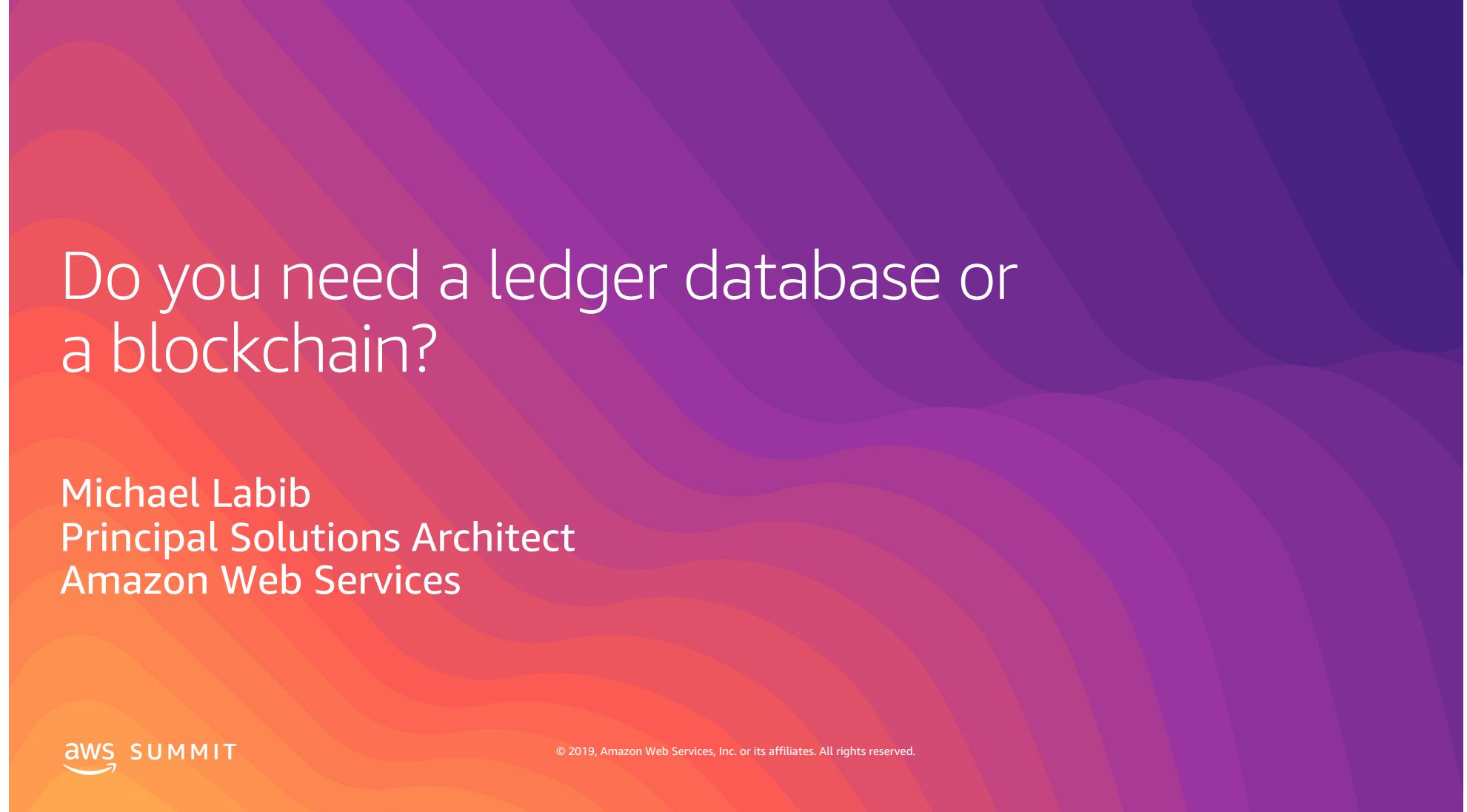
Amazon Quantum Ledger Database (Amazon QLDB)

Fully managed ledger database with a central trusted authority



Theatre 5

3.05pm



Do you need a ledger database or
a blockchain?

Michael Labib
Principal Solutions Architect
Amazon Web Services

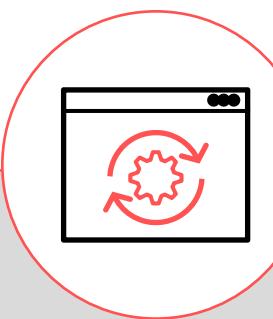
aws SUMMIT

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Amazon QLDB (Preview)

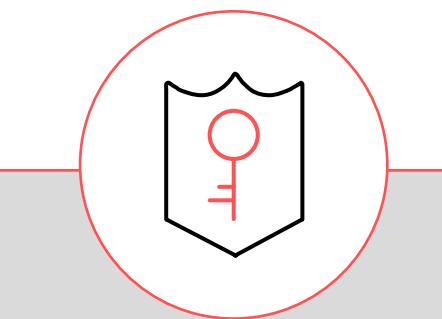
Fully managed ledger database
Track and verify history of all changes made to your application's data

Immutable



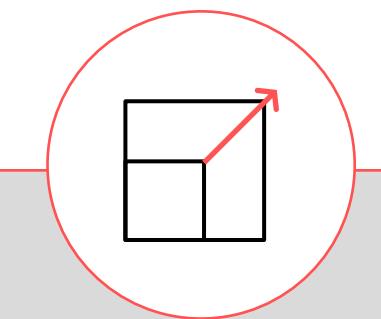
Maintains a sequenced record of all changes to your data, which cannot be deleted or modified; you have the ability to query and analyze the full history

Cryptographically verifiable



Uses cryptography to generate a secure output file of your data's history

Highly scalable



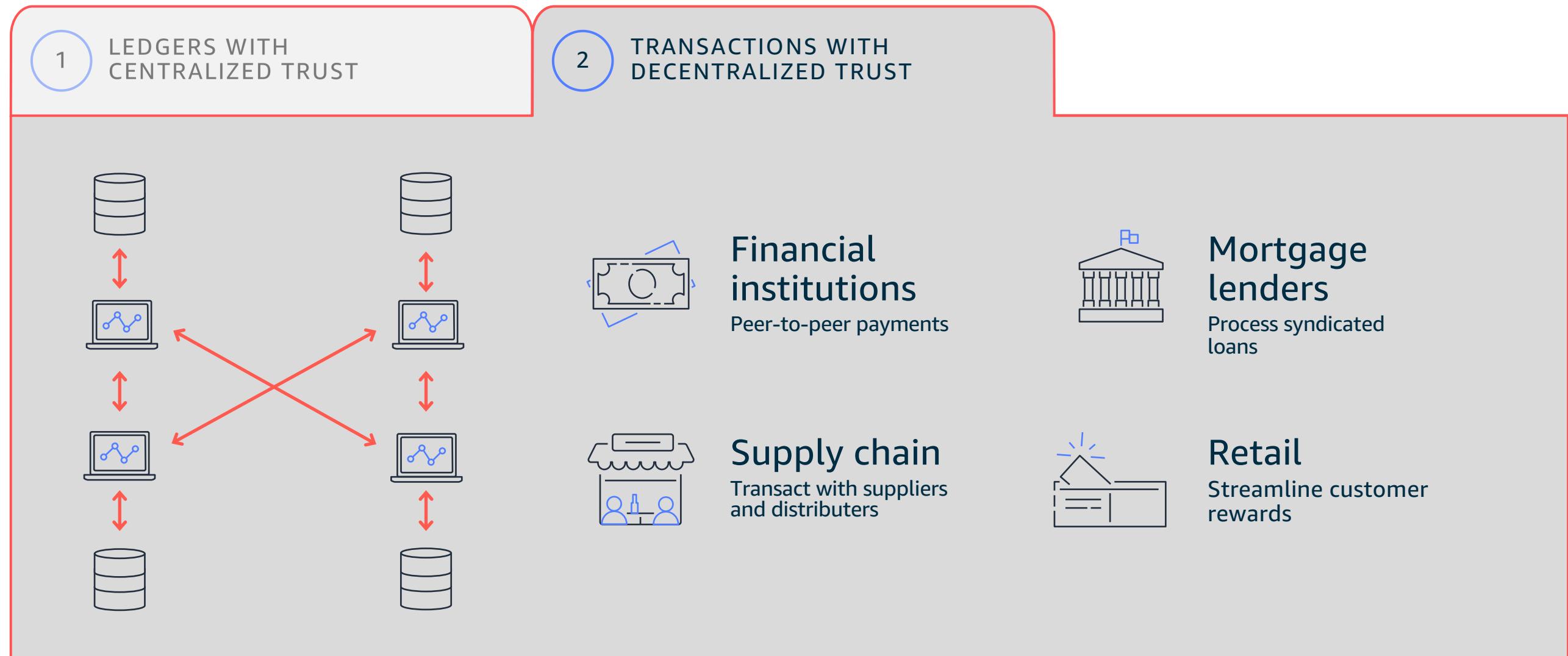
Executes 2–3X as many transactions as ledgers in common blockchain frameworks

Easy to use



Easy to use, letting you use familiar database capabilities like SQL APIs for querying the data

Need for running transactions with decentralized trust



Customer problems with complex business networks

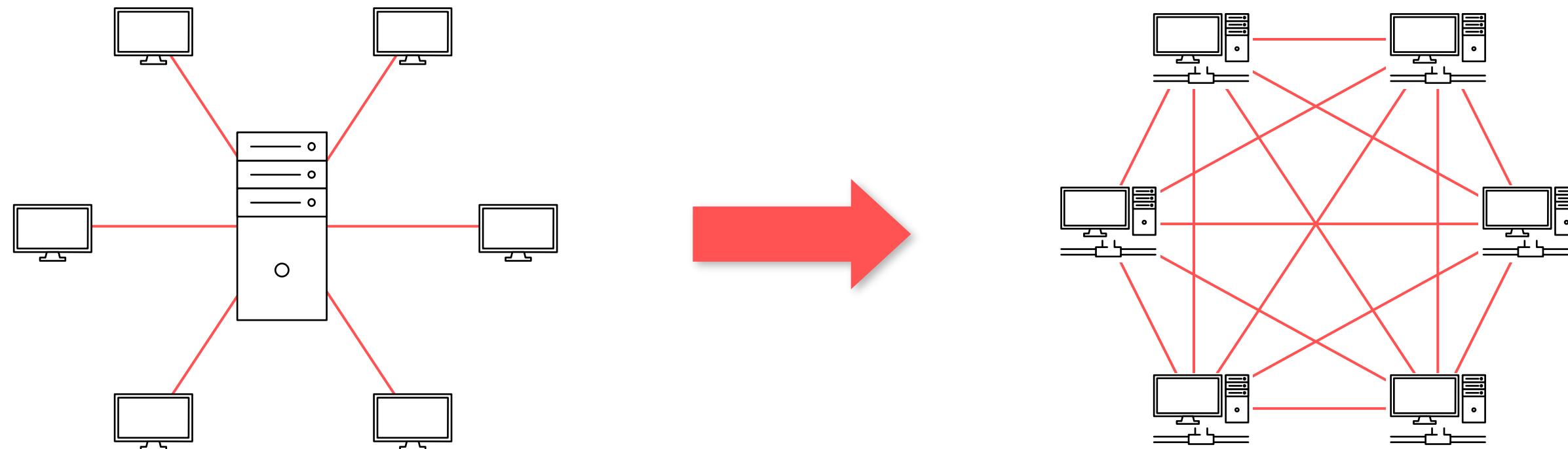
1. Networks rely on central authorities
2. Cannot agree on how data can be securely and fairly shared
3. Multiple organizations need a single, up-to-date view of data
4. Business logic among multiple organizations could be simplified
5. Asset transfers require escrow
6. Public networks needs a tamper-proof history of transactions

Blockchain builds trust in a network

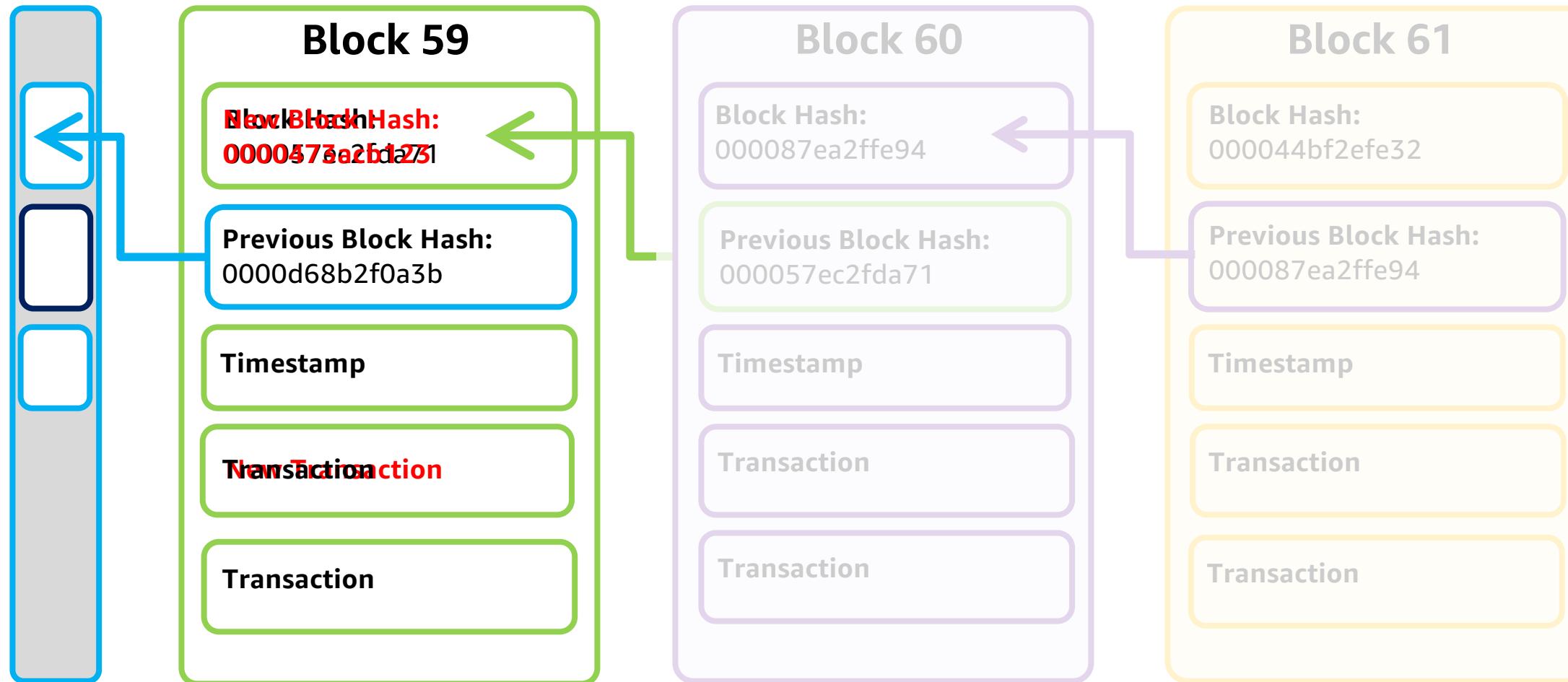
Eliminates the need for central authority in business networks

Three main components: distributed ledger, consensus mechanism, and “smart contract” execution environment

Together these elements allow two parties to transact with one another by ensuring other parties consent to the transaction and record the transaction. This provides immutability and trust



Blockchain components: Distributed ledger database

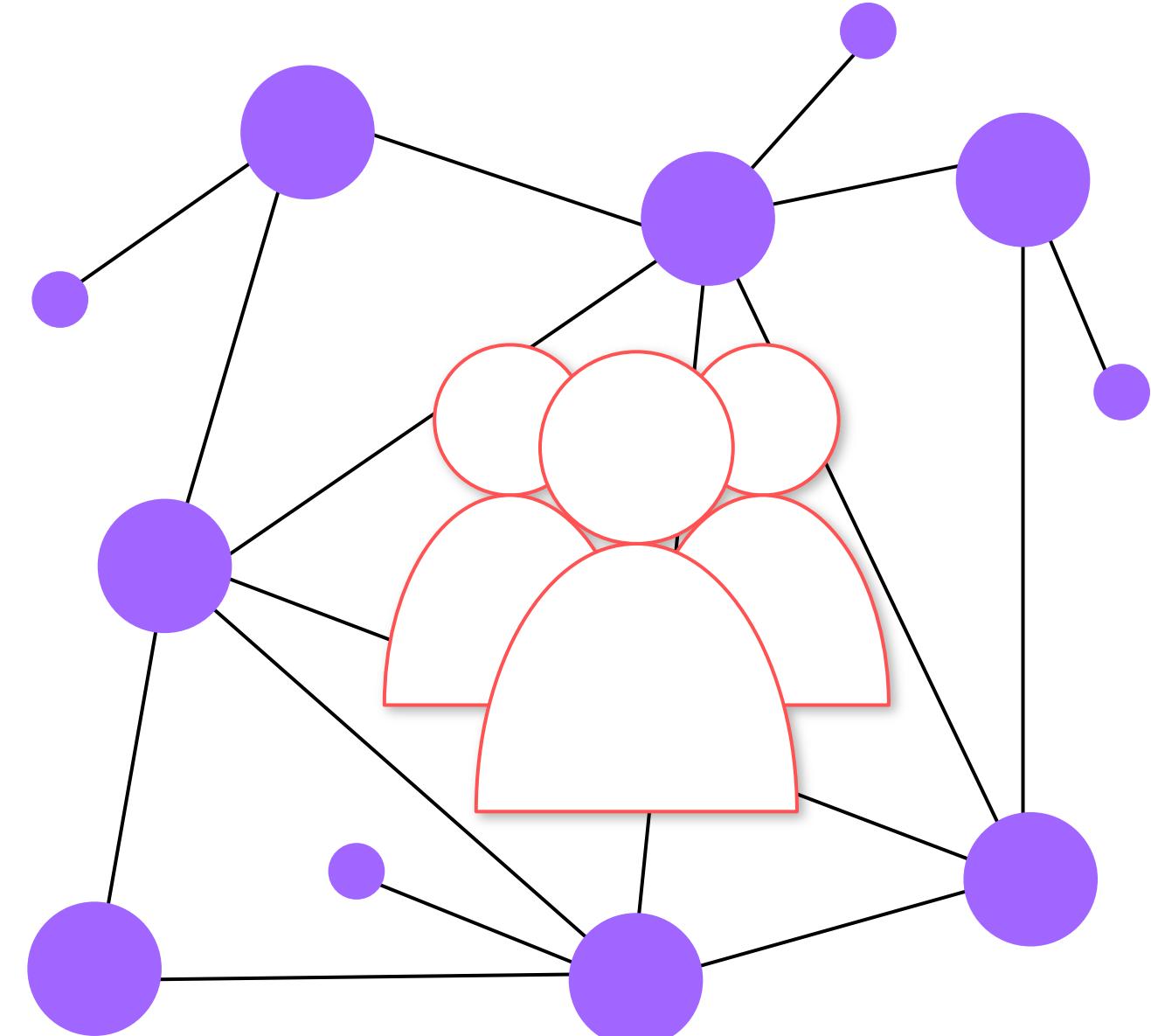


The journal records an immutable log of all transactions and is maintained by nodes in the blockchain network

Blockchain components: Consensus mechanism

Some important attributes

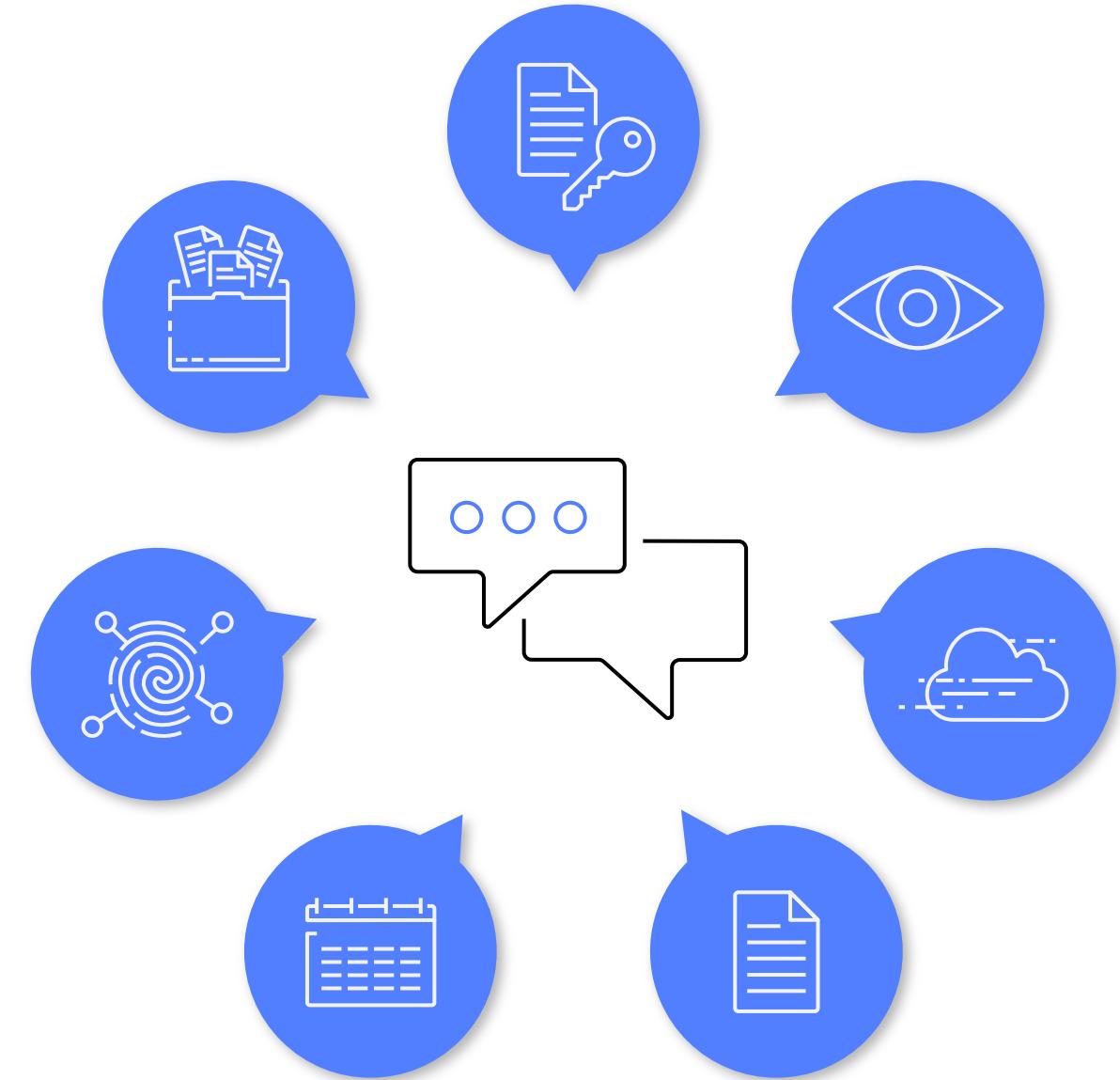
- Byzantine fault tolerance requirements
- Transaction rate, energy consumption
- Hardware requirements
- Security



Blockchain components: “smart contracts”

Smart Contracts

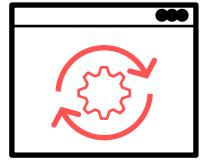
- Rules embedded in app
- Verified execution of code
- Conditional operators
- Application writes to ledger
- Contract can interact with components outside of the blockchain network (off-chain)



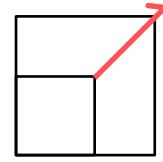
Traditional Contracts

- Require human action
- Open to manipulation
- Verified and enforced by third parties

Challenges with existing blockchain solutions



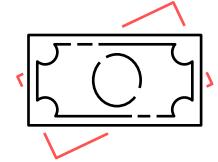
Setup is hard



Hard to scale



Complicated
to manage



Expensive

NEW

Amazon Managed Blockchain

Fully managed blockchain service, supporting both
Hyperledger Fabric and Ethereum frameworks



Announcing General Availability of Amazon Managed Blockchain

Hyperledger Fabric available today and Ethereum coming soon

AMB is now ready for production workloads with availability in US East (N. Virginia)

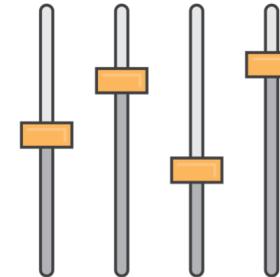
- Customers can simply go to the AWS Management Console and get started
- For more info go to <https://aws.amazon.com/managed-blockchain>

What is Amazon Managed Blockchain?



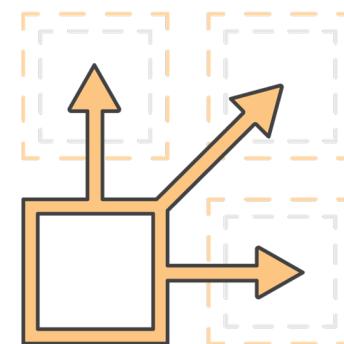
Amazon Managed Blockchain is a fully managed service that makes it easy to create and manage scalable blockchain networks using popular open source frameworks:
Hyperledger Fabric and Ethereum

Amazon Managed Blockchain features



Fully managed

Create a blockchain network in minutes



Reliable & secure

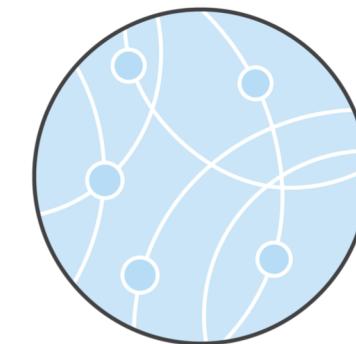
Backed with Amazon QLDB technology

**HYPERLEDGER
FABRIC**

ethereum

Open-source variety

Support for two frameworks



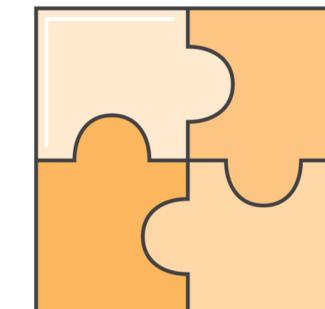
Decentralized

Democratically govern the network



Low cost

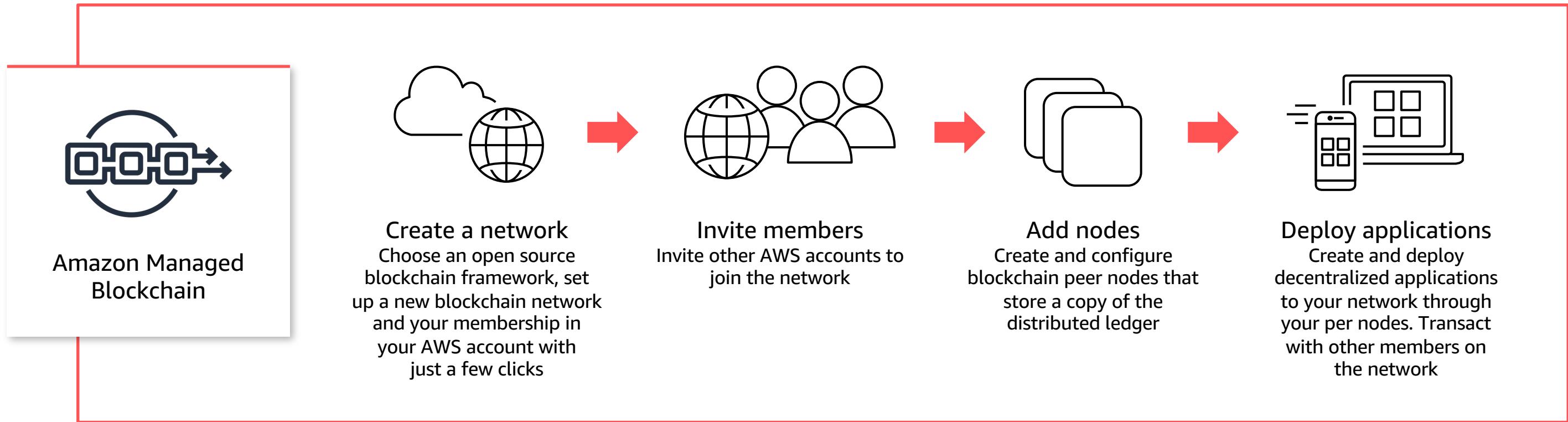
Only pay for resources used



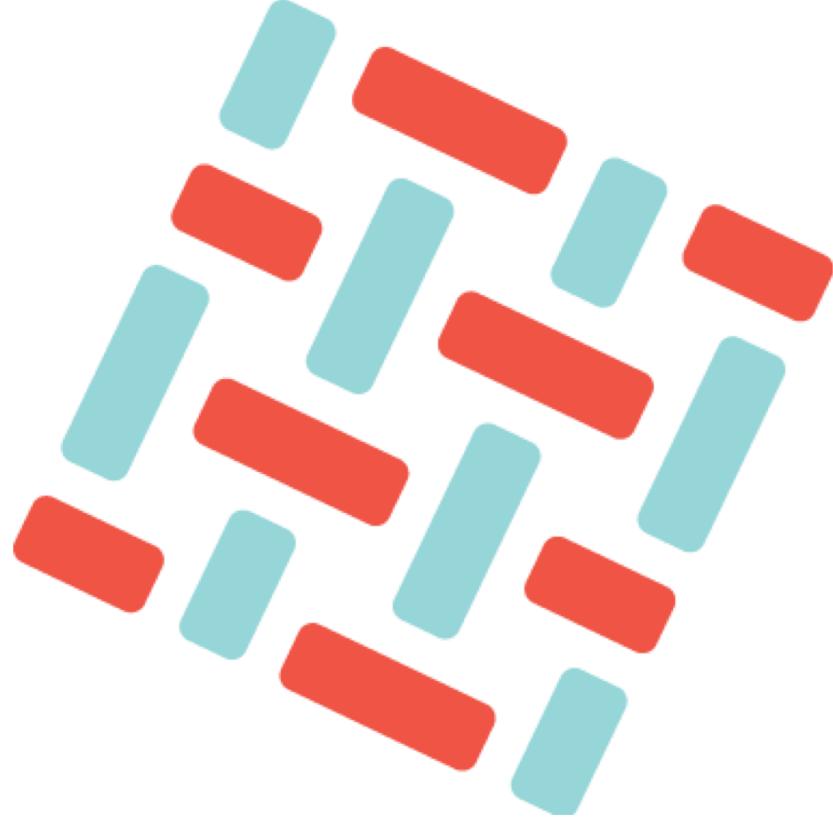
Integrated

Send data to Amazon QLDB
for secure analytics

How Amazon Managed Blockchain works

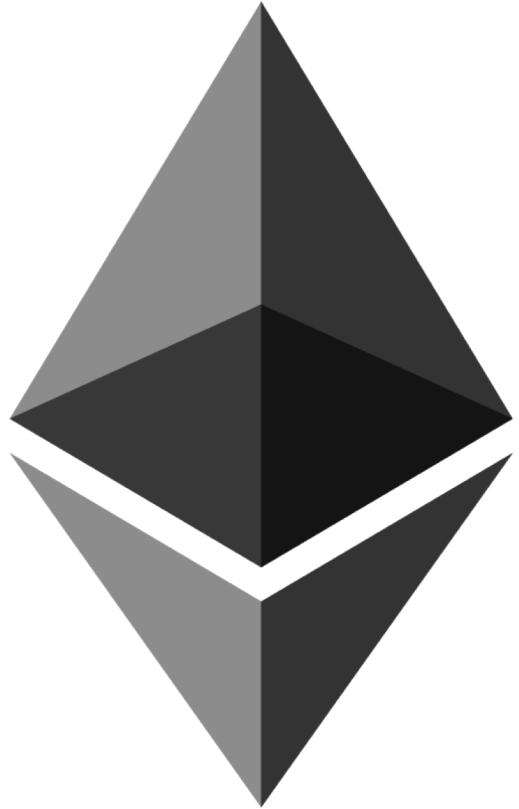


Hyperledger Fabric



- Create permissioned networks with channels to limit the transactions on the ledger each member can see
- Chaincode (smart contracts) written in Go and are executed in Docker containers
- Validation policy for executing chaincode is configurable
- Does not require a native cryptocurrency for chaincode execution

Ethereum



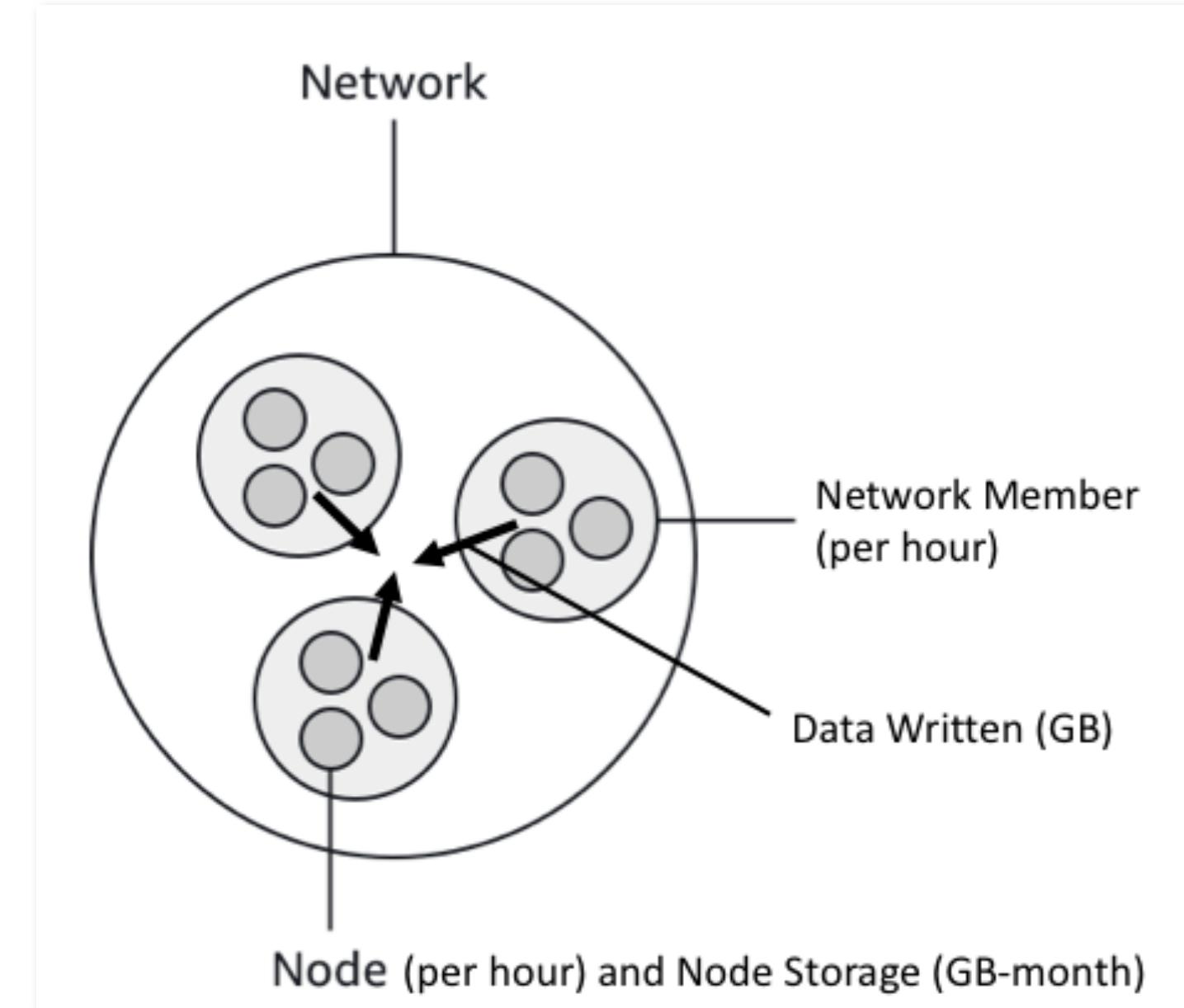
- Create smart contracts using the Solidity language that run across nodes in the network
- Very scalable
- Create permissioned networks or use public Ethereum network
- Configured to use Proof-of-Work consensus algorithm for public network and Proof-of-Authority for private networks
- Anyone who can access the network can see all data on the ledger

Who "owns" the network?

- Networks are decentralized and can remain active even after the initial creator leaves
- Inviting members to join: members vote on who to invite and remove
- Network-wide settings: members can vote on network-wide settings and configure the actual voting rules (e.g., majority rules or one member decides)
- Each member pays for their resources
- Amazon Managed Blockchain manages shared components like the ordering service and networking settings

Pricing dimensions

- Pay-as-you-go with no upfront costs
- Hourly rates billed per-second
- Each member pays for their own resources and the data it writes to the network
- VPC endpoints created to access resource endpoints are billed separately
- Standard data transfer rates



Starter edition and standard edition

Starter edition

- Test and small production networks
- Up to 5 members/network
- Up to 2 peer nodes/member
- bc.t3.small and bc.t3.medium
- Ordering service provisioned has lower transaction throughput and availability than that in a Standard Edition network

Standard edition

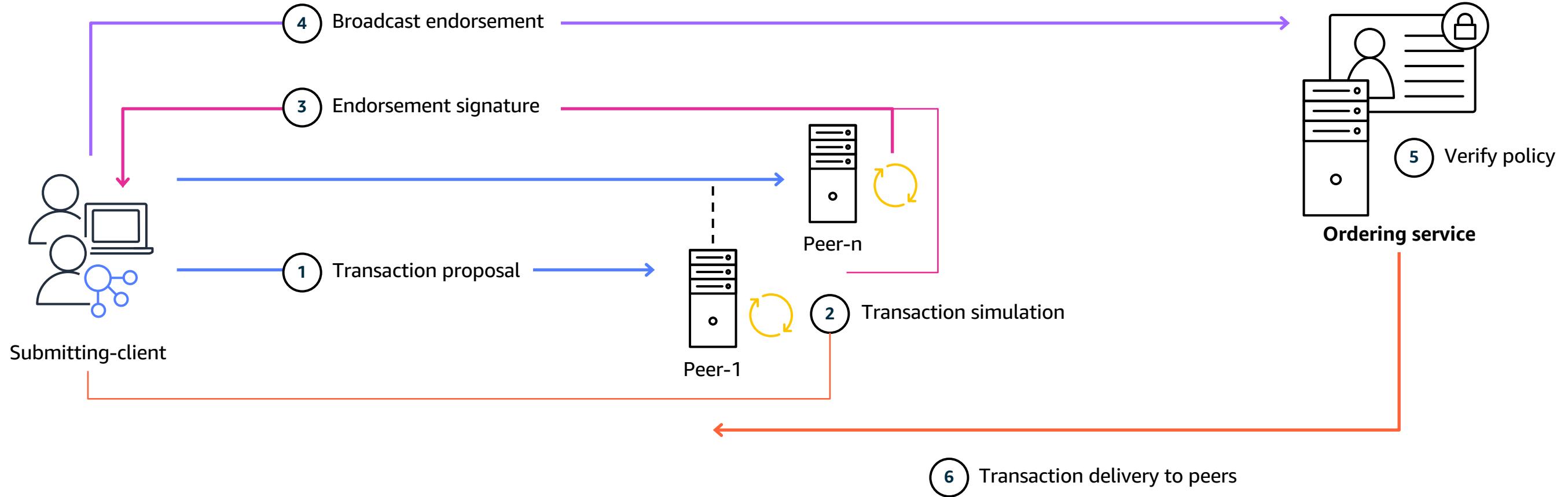
- Production networks
- Up to 14 members/network
- Up to 3 peer nodes/member
- bc.t3, bc.m5, and bc.c5 instance families
- Ordering service provisioned has higher transaction throughput and availability than that in a Starter Edition network

Membership pricing rate is different for each edition

What is Hyperledger Fabric?



Transaction flow with Hyperledger Fabric



Augmented Hyperledger Fabric

Ordering service

- Core component of a Fabric network to guarantee delivery and order of transactions
- Production grade networks using open source will utilize Apache Kafka for this component
- Managed Blockchain uses Amazon QLDB technology, increasing durability and reliability

Certificate authority

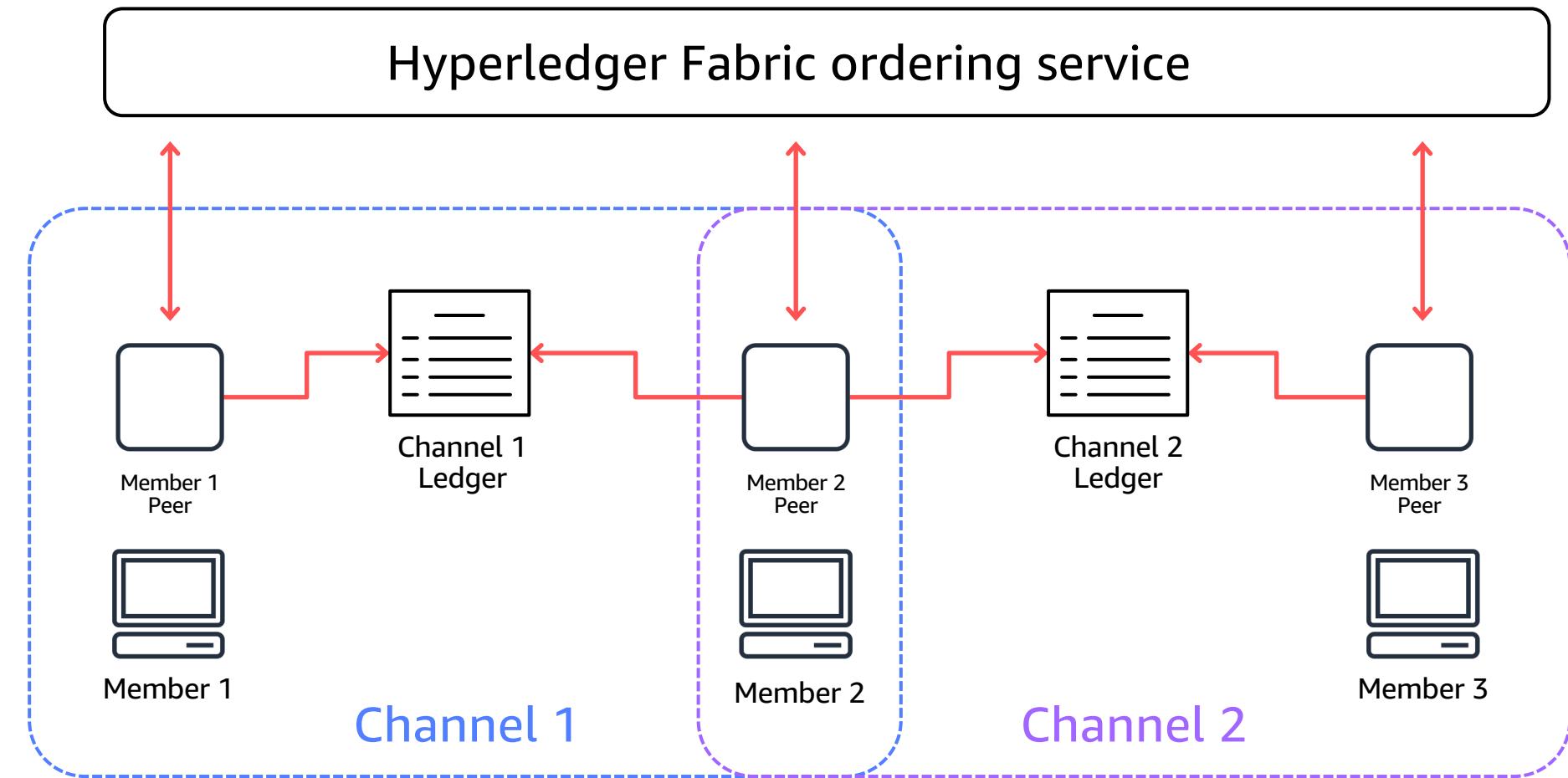
- Open source uses a “soft” HSM
- Managed Blockchain uses AWS Key Management Service (AWS KMS) to secure the Certificate Authority service

Channels and private data for access control

Channels allow isolation of transactions among specific members in the network

Create or update a channel with configuration transaction (configtx)

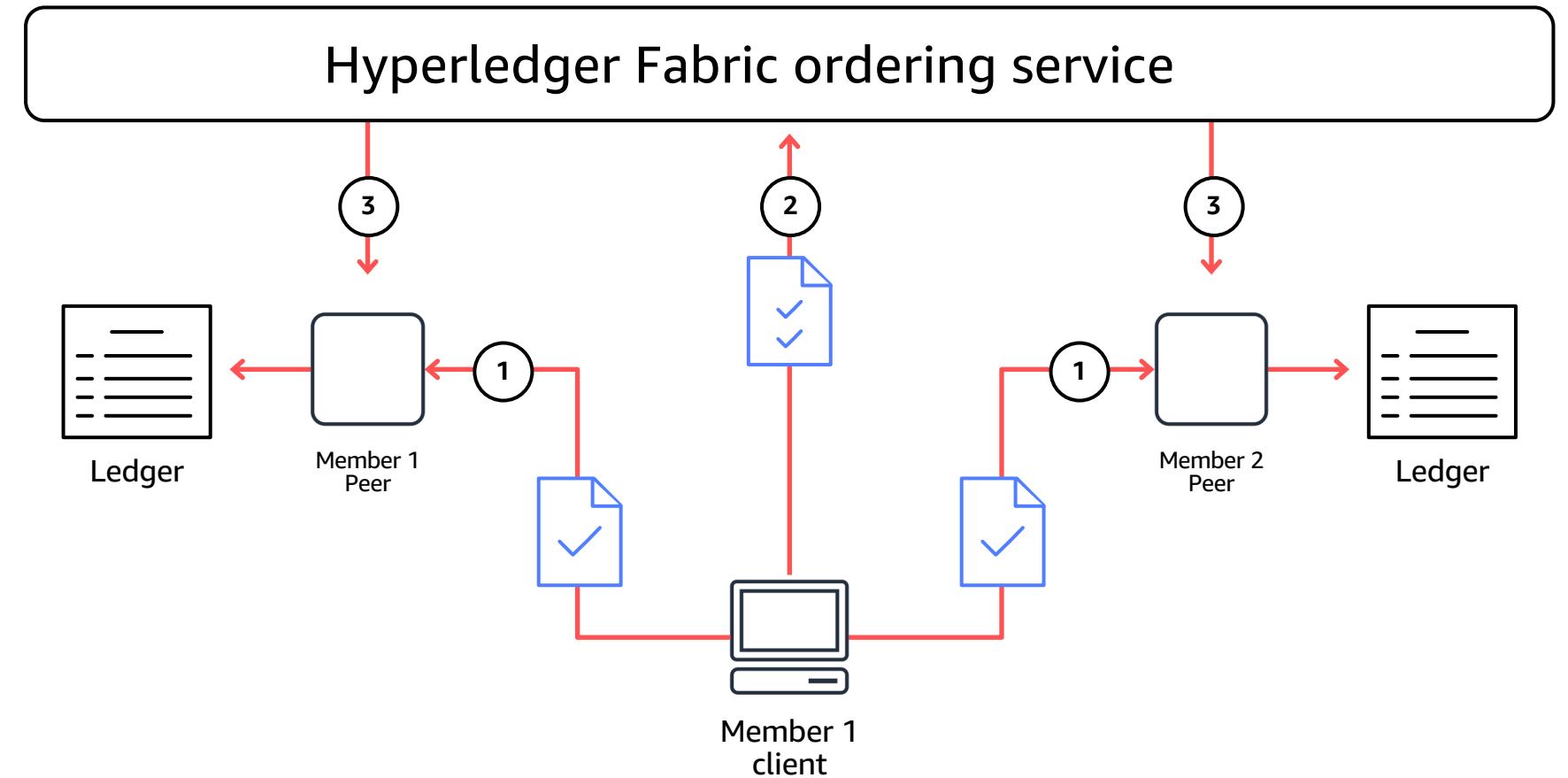
Private data enables sub-channel access control



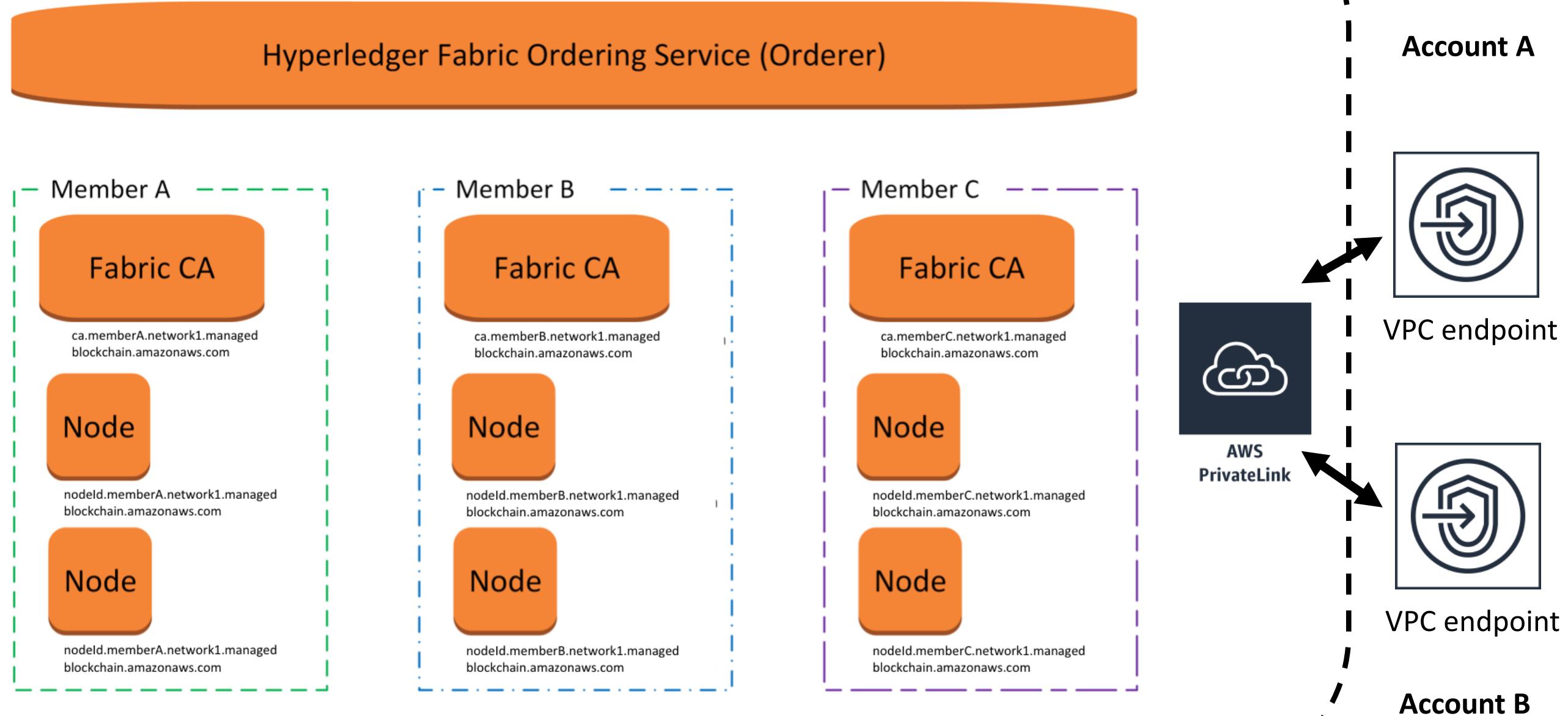
Endorsement policies

Endorsement policies allow chaincode to specify which members (or how many) need to validate a transaction before submitting

Endorsed transactions then get submitted to the ordering service and assembled into blocks



Network 1 – Managed Blockchain



Customer use cases

Customers are experimenting in many industries

Proof of Ownership

Documents/Contracts

Digital Security Trading

Enterprise Platforms

Mortgage Loans

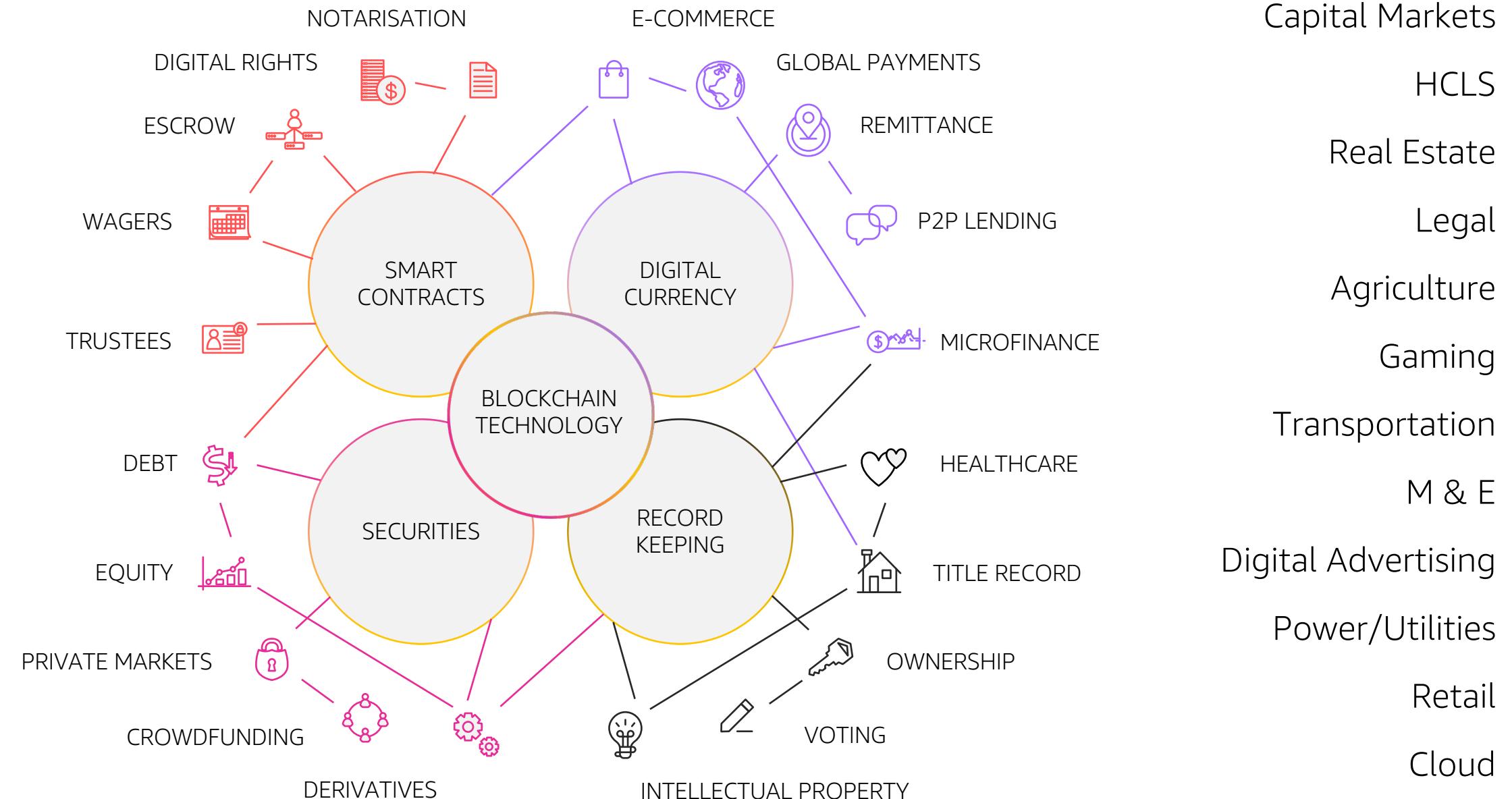
Voting Mechanisms

Patient Records

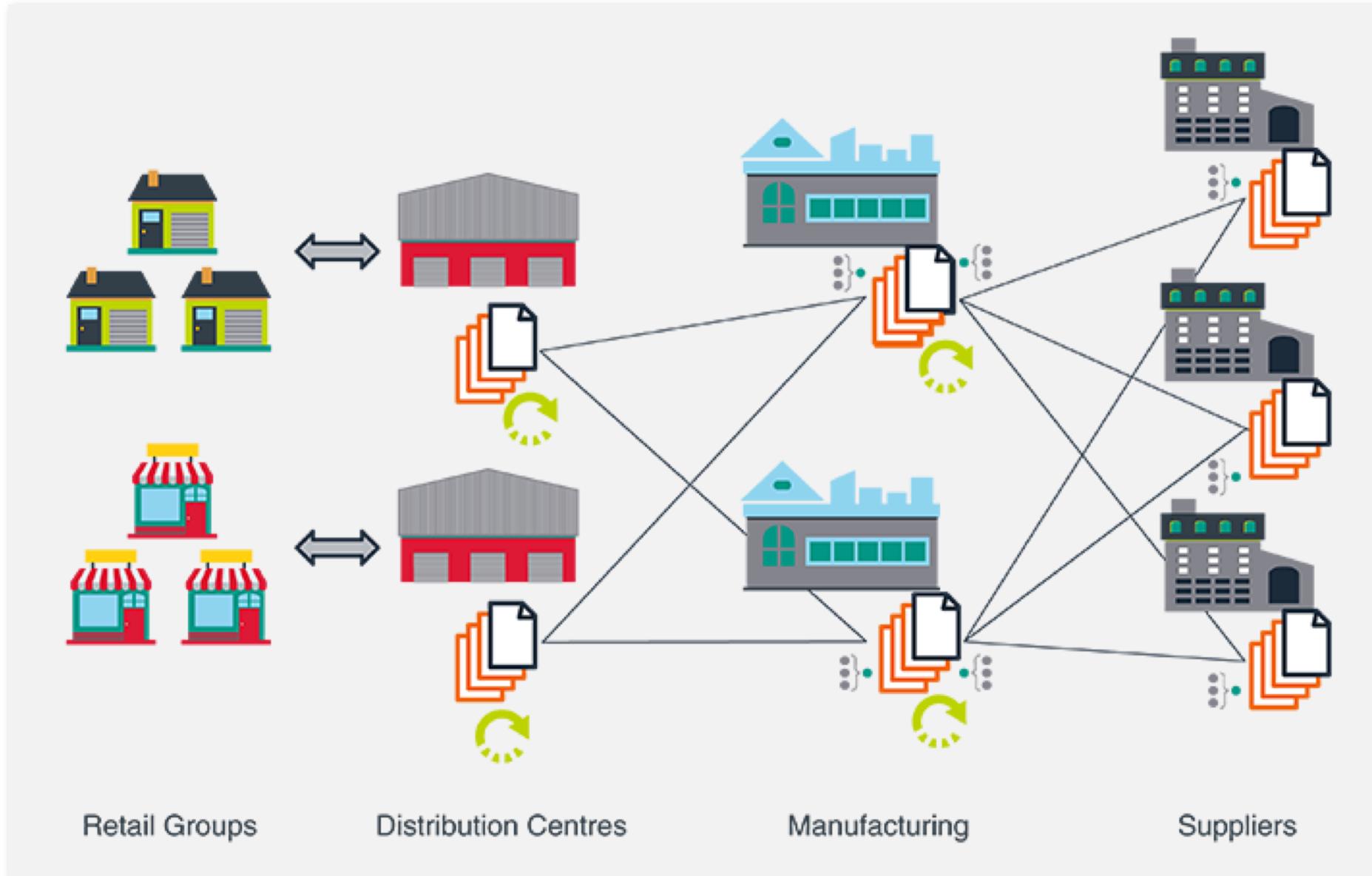
Corporate Governance

Financial

Insurance

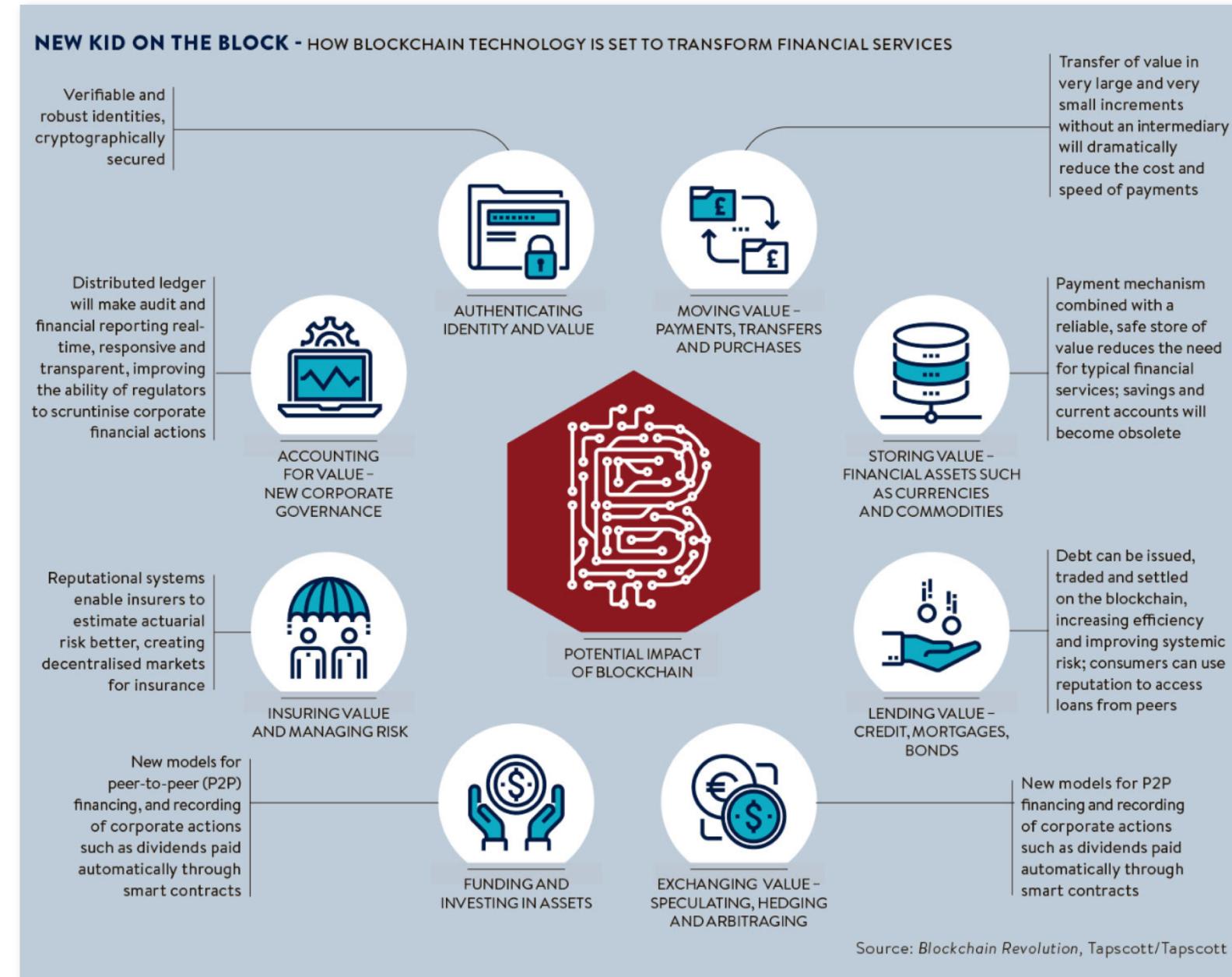


Blockchain in supply chain



- Each organization has a trusted copy of the supply chain data
- Payments can be automated through smart contracts
- Identity of components are immutably tracked as they move through the supply chain
- Quality of products can be monitored and immediately acted on

Blockchain in financial services



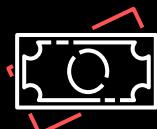


“Given our vast partner ecosystem, we are exploring the decentralization and immutable tracking benefits of blockchain for potential applications in our insurance business. We believe blockchain can improve the transparency and efficiency for stakeholders in these networks to transact, while still maintaining an independently verifiable lineage of activities. However, blockchain frameworks are complex and difficult to operate. With Amazon Managed Blockchain, we can now easily create Hyperledger Fabric blockchain networks to test and learn without worrying about managing the underlying infrastructure, networking, and software configuration.”

—Daniel Johnson
CTO and Head of Innovation, Guardian Life Insurance Company

Who is Singapore Exchange

A diversified exchange group that runs key market infrastructure including the Singapore stock market and a pan-Asian derivatives exchange covering all major asset classes.



High annual dividend of 28 cents for the past 5 years



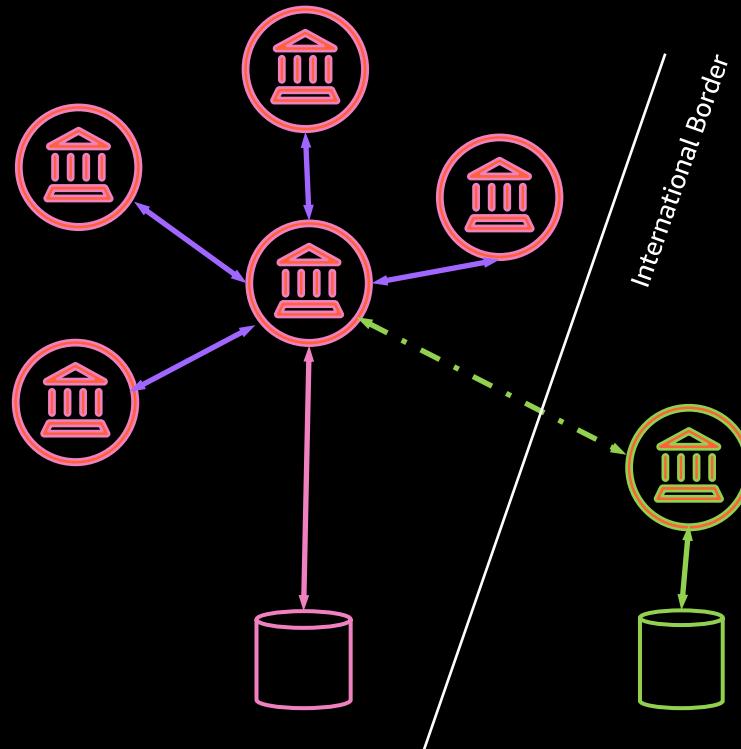
Strong cash-flow with debt-free balance sheet



Anchored in Singapore, an AAA-rated economy



Singapore Exchange blockchain use case



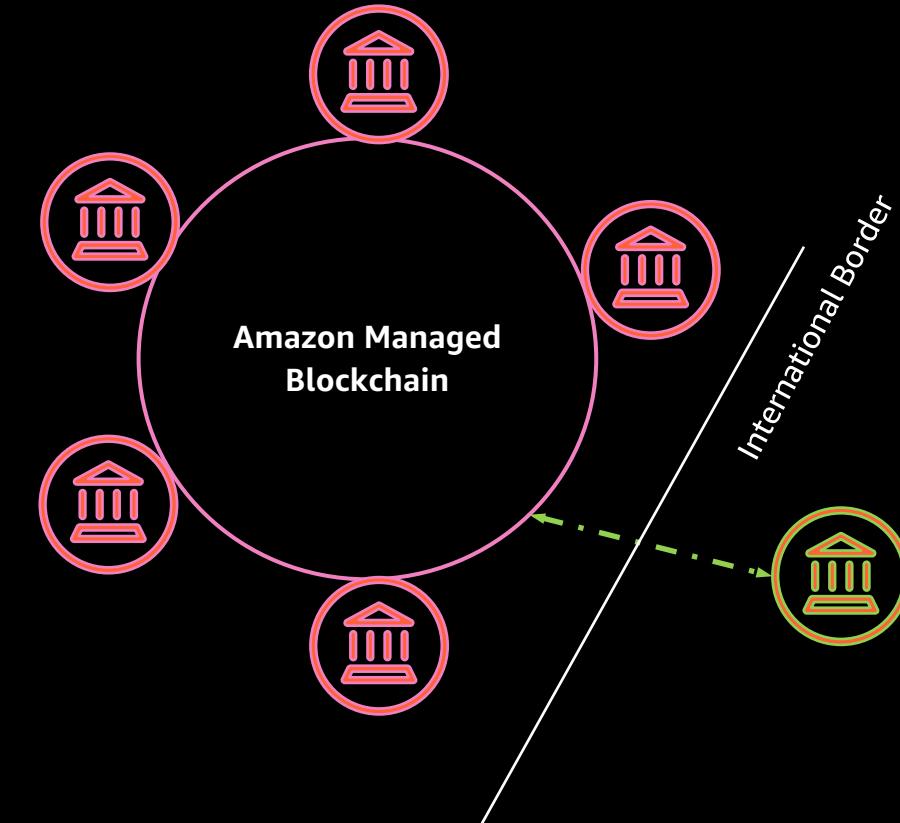
Challenges with existing financial systems:

- Lack of trust between multiple banks for settling trade transactions, and thus require an intermediary financial institution
- Inefficient processes for sending data across each other as extra hops result in delays, especially for international transfers
- API divergence is expensive and cumbersome to maintain as banks communicate with each other using API integrations from disparate systems

Singapore Exchange blockchain use case

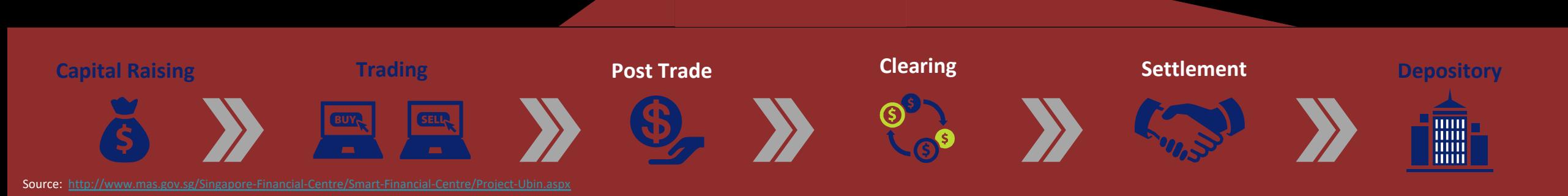
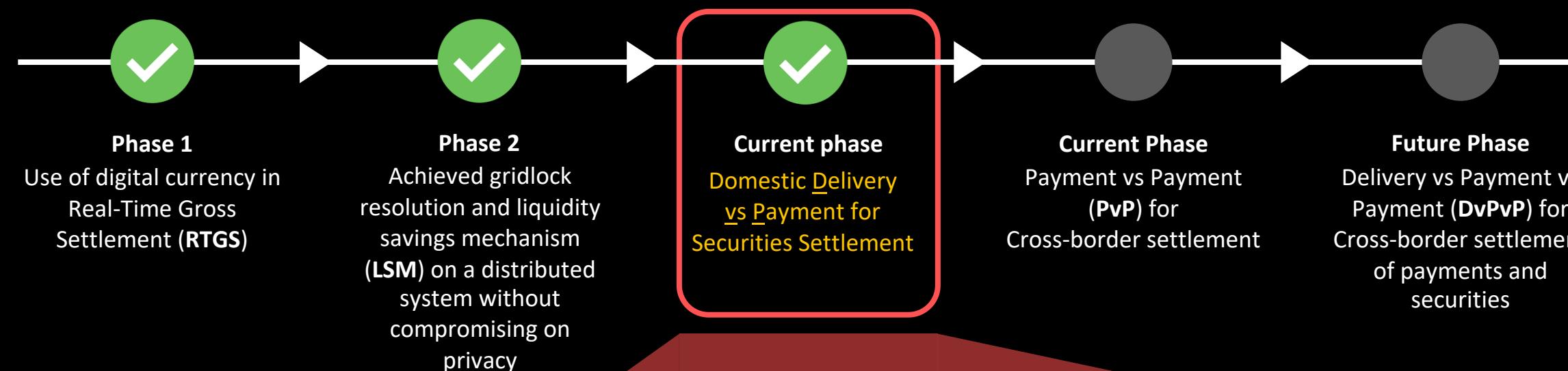
Benefits of implementing a blockchain

- Efficient transfer of data and transactions without intermediaries
- Enables distributed trust and allows for significant reduction in settlement time on trade by trade basis
- Compliance enforcement through smart contracts reduces costs (no more API spaghetti across disparate banking systems)
- Easy to add new participating members

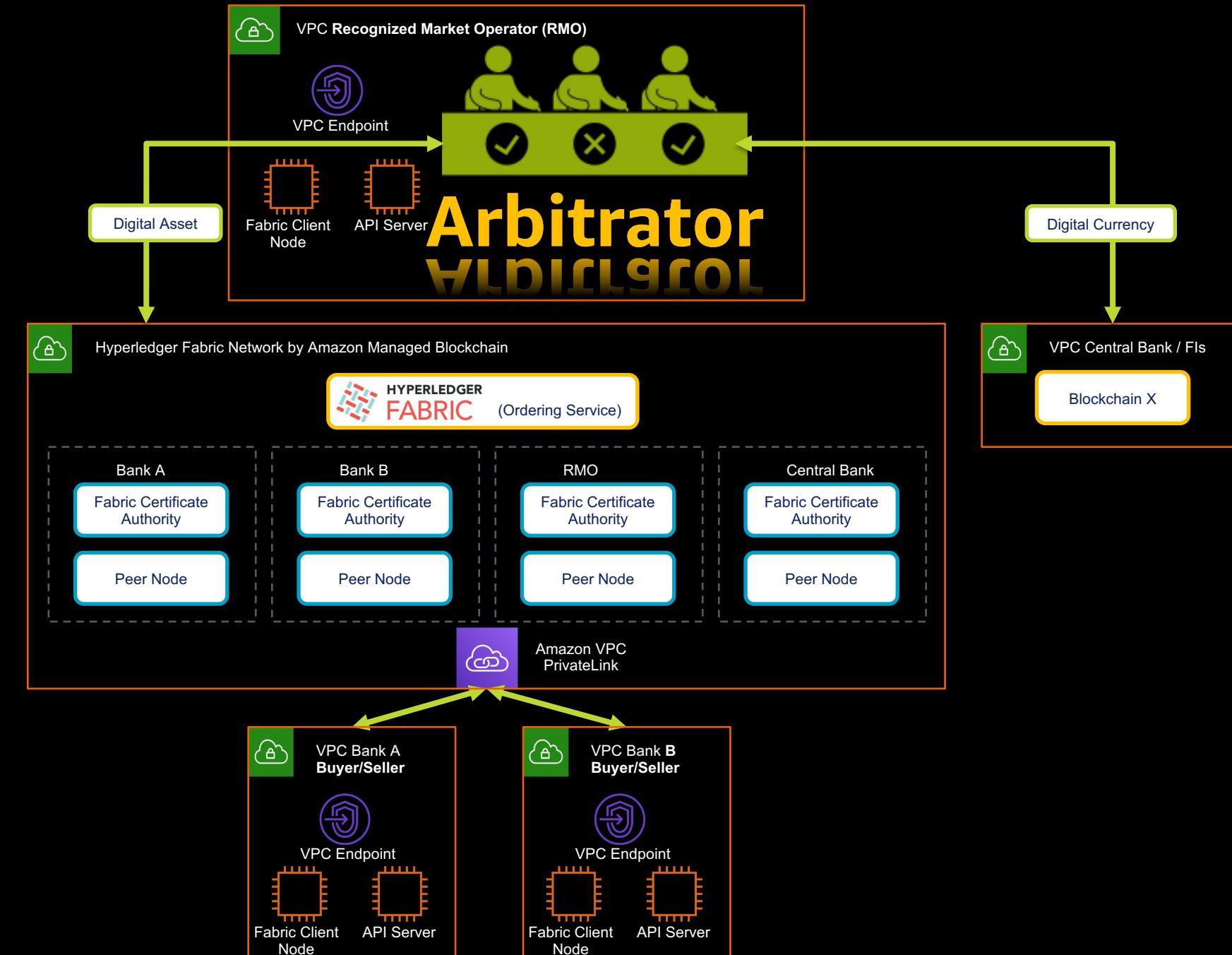


About Project Ubin—a multiphase journey

Project Ubin is a collaborative project between **Singapore Exchange**, the **Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS)** and the industry to explore the use of blockchain for clearing and settlement of payments and securities.



Our pilot on Amazon Managed Blockchain



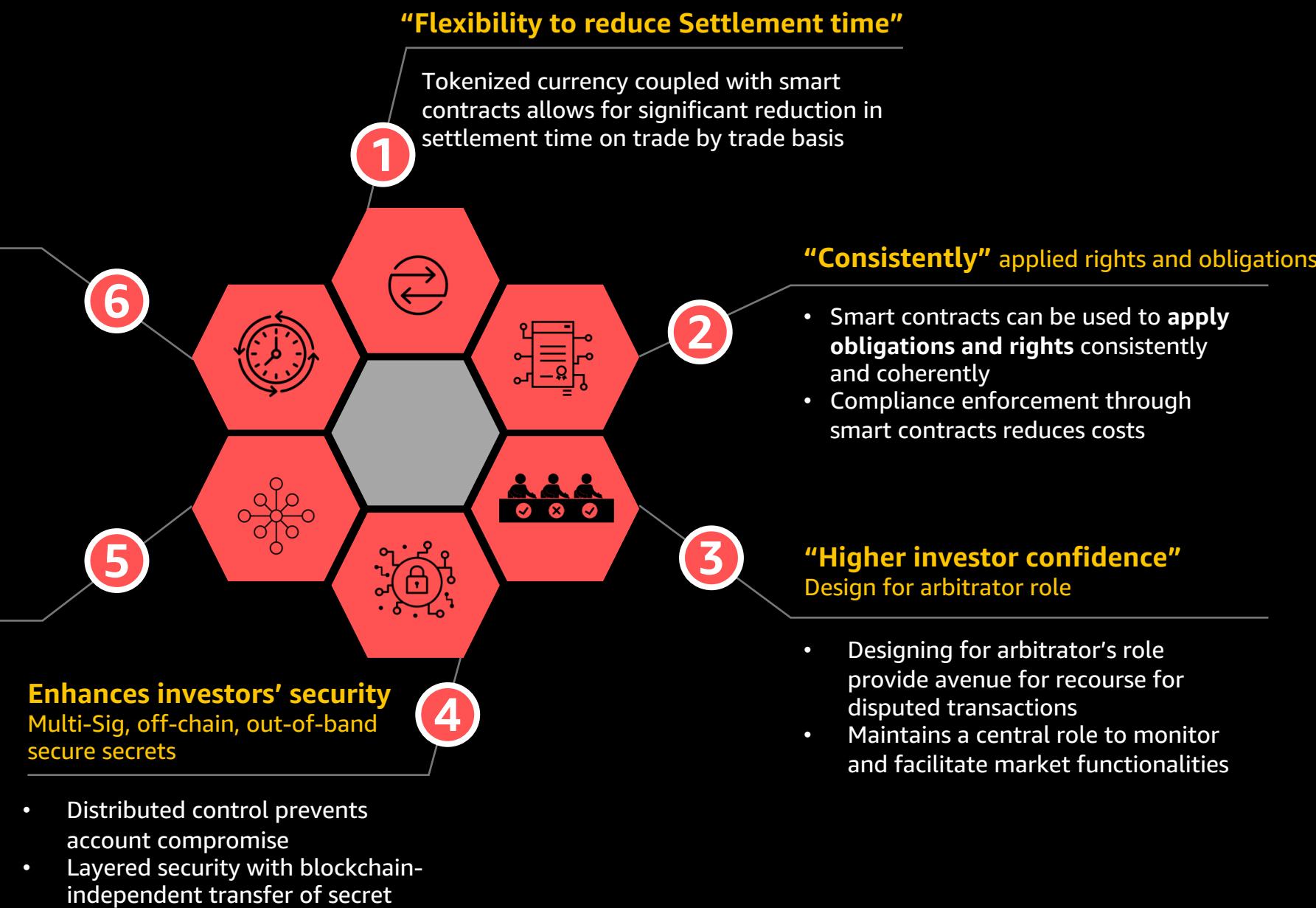
Our conclusions

Potential for round-the-clock operations

Underlying DvP Design can be further explored for cross-border transactions where time-zone differences could mean a delay in settlement time, exposing participants to unnecessary FX fluctuations and principal risks

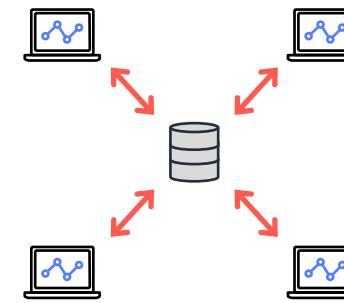
Potential broadening of asset classes & investor types

Project DvP's underlying design, architecture & benefits can be scaled for other asset classes beyond central bank-issued digital currencies including securities, corporate bonds, commodities etc. and other investor types such as retail etc.



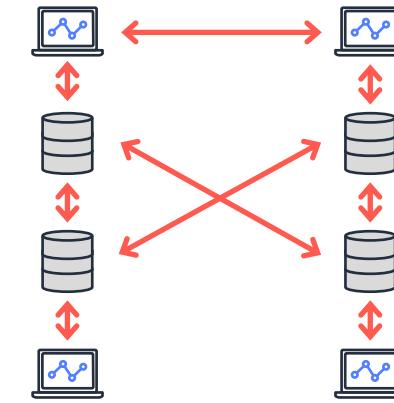
Summary

Identifying the right AWS blockchain service



Amazon QLDB

Owned by a single, trusted authority



Amazon Managed Blockchain

No single owner of the ledger. Joint ownership by multiple parties

Addresses Need Addresses core need of a immutable and verifiable transactional log

Addresses core need of enabling multiple parties to transact transparently and with trust with each other

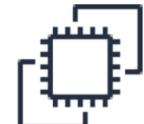
Key Benefit It's a database, so it's fast, as it doesn't require consent from members

Removes intermediaries when a group of members needs to transact. So it makes business processes more efficient

Blockchain solution building blocks on AWS



AMAZON
MANAGED
BLOCKCHAIN



AMAZON
EC2



AMAZON
ECS



AMAZON
EBS



AMAZON
API GATEWAY*



AWS
CLOUDHSM



AMAZON
IOT

Use AWS's managed blockchain service or other compute services as the foundation for your blockchain infrastructure

Amazon API Gateway lets you create custom REST API to power your blockchain apps

Use CloudHSM to manage blockchain participant's secret keys

Connect IoT devices with unique identities to a common underlying data layer



AMAZON
S3

Utilize S3 as your off-chain data storage for high availability



AMAZON
QLDB



AMAZON
DYNAMODB

Leverage off-chain database solutions to support blockchain applications and store metadata



AMAZON
KINESIS



AMAZON
REDSHIFT

Perform analytics and gain insights from your blockchain's data in near real time



AMAZON
SQS



AMAZON
SNS



AWS
LAMBDA

Send notifications or leverage serverless compute to respond to events programmed into blockchain smart contracts

AWS blockchain customers



Securing Today. Shaping Tomorrow.SM



Next steps

Learn more about our services!

Amazon Managed Blockchain (Generally available)

- Amazon Managed Blockchain webpage: <https://aws.amazon.com/managed-blockchain>
- Deploying a sample application: <https://aws.amazon.com/blogs/database/build-and-deploy-an-application-for-hyperledger-fabric-on-amazon-managed-blockchain/>
- Documentation: <https://docs.aws.amazon.com/managed-blockchain/latest/managementguide/what-is-managed-blockchain.html>

Amazon QLDB (Apply for preview)

- Amazon QLDB webpage: <https://aws.amazon.com/qldb>
- Preview sign-up: <https://pages.awscloud.com/QuantumLedgerDatabase-preview.html>

Thank you!

Dr. Andrew Kane
Principal Solutions Architect
Amazon Web Services



Please complete the
session survey.