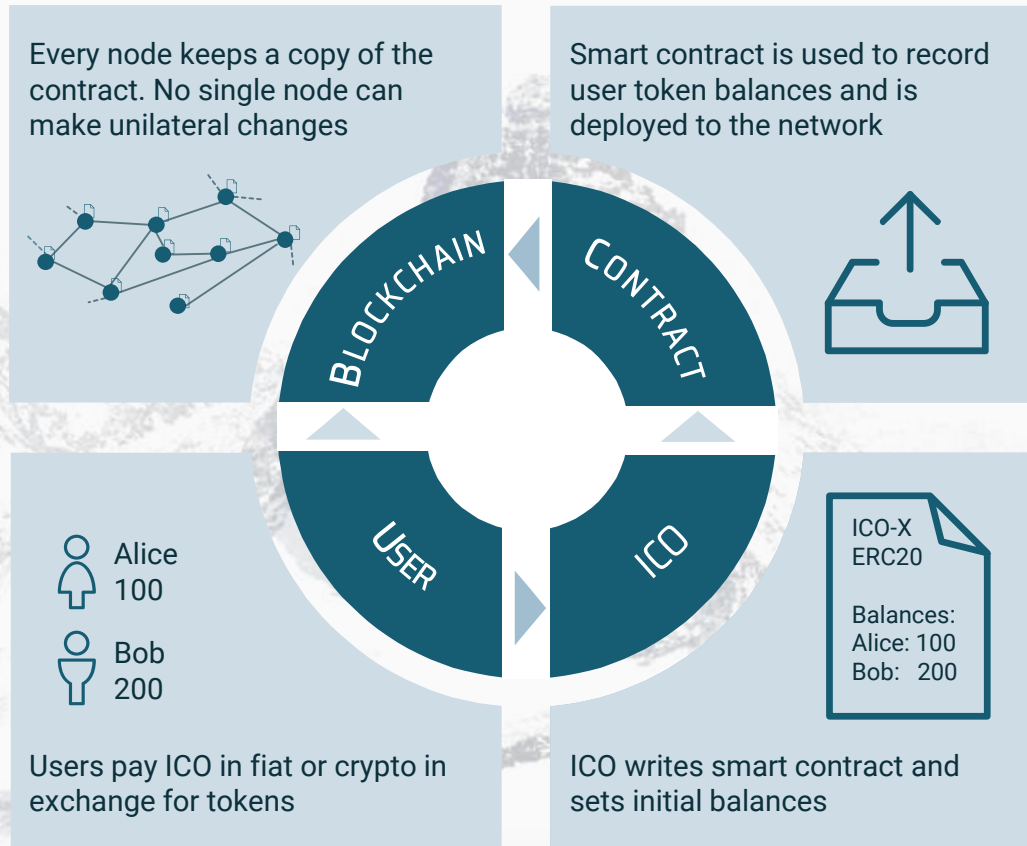


# THE USER AND BLOCKCHAIN LAYERS OF ETHEREUM

HOW USERS, SMART CONTRACTS, AND THE BLOCKCHAIN INTERACT



## BLOCKCHAIN LAYER

- There exist ~25'000 Ethereum nodes
- Nodes store the blockchain as well as additional information like past states
- Nodes can mine and send transactions
- Running a node is relatively expensive\* (e.g. current data size ~2TB)

## USER LAYER

- User do not store state
- Users interact with blockchain through a node (e.g. using metamask)
- Transferring coins = changing the token balance in the contract stored at every node

\*There exist various node types with differing hardware requirements. A "fast sync" node currently uses only about 150GB of disk space.