

# Building Dapp: Under the Hood

*Lecture 10 (2023-04-05)*

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# **Token Example with hardhat, ethers.js & react**

# *Two popular tools to develop contracts*

## **truffle vs. hardhat**

### **truffle**

- The oldest tool, developed in 2016 by ConsenSys
- Comprehensive documentation and resources to learn

### **hardhat**

- A new tool released in 2019 by the Nomic Foundation, and is supported by the Ethereum Foundation

### **hardhat over truffle**

- error handling and testing tools like console.log and stack traces
- easier default local network with Hardhat Network
- more flexible to customize with plugins and tasks
- use ethers.js as the default JavaScript library (more user-friendly and easier to use)
- easily integrate TypeScript into hardhat
- easier to fork the blockchain using Alchemy and Infura

<https://guideofdapp.com/posts/truffle-vs-hardhat/>  
<https://101blockchains.com/hardhat-vs-truffle/>

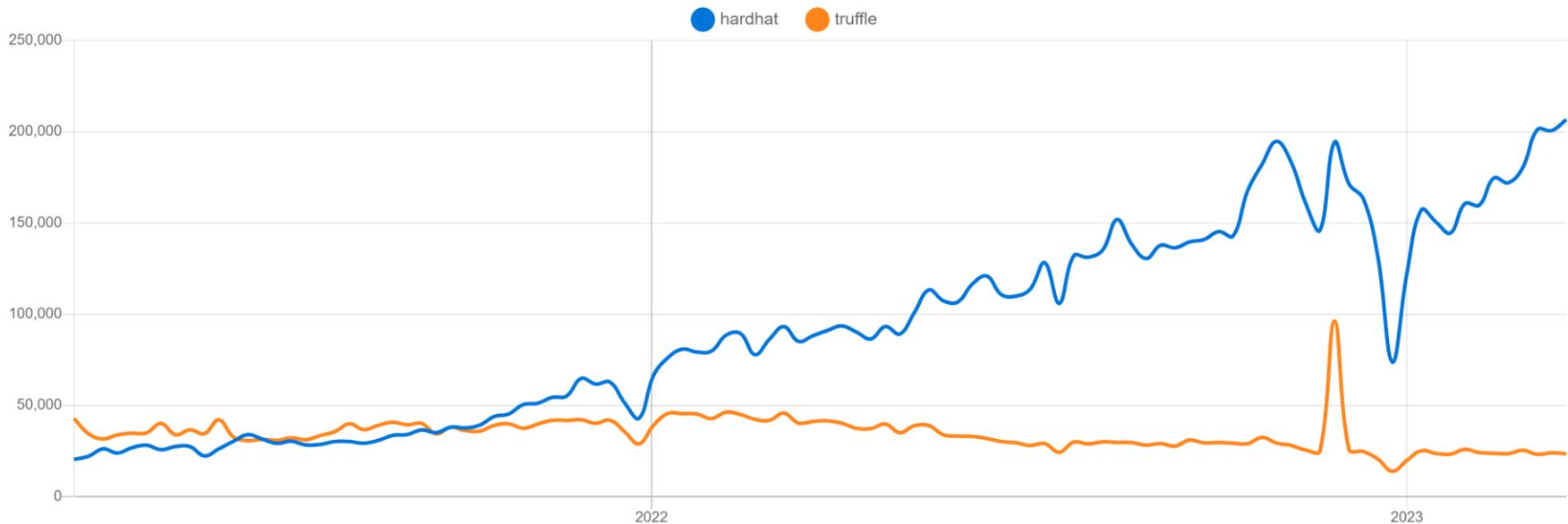
<https://trufflesuite.com/blog/truffle-vs-hardhat-breaking-down-the-difference-between-ethereums-top-development-environments/>



# hardhat vs truffle

- hardhat x
- truffle x
- + ethereum-waffle
- + web3-js
- + embark
- + openzeppelin-solidity
- + ethers
- + alchemy-api

Downloads in past 2 Years ▾



# A simple token Dapp from hardhat tutorial

*<https://hardhat.org/tutorial>*

*It's simple, well-documented, and comprehensive  
It can be used as the starting point for your Ethereum project*

**Clone the code here!**

*<https://github.com/NomicFoundation/hardhat-boilerplate>  
git clone <https://github.com/NomicFoundation/hardhat-boilerplate.git>*

# Toolsets that we will use

1. Package manager: npm
2. Web server for the web app: node.js & react
3. Smart contract IDE: hardhat & ethers.js
4. Web browser & wallet: Chrome & Metamask
5. Local testnet: Hardhat Network
6. Public testnet: Sepolia
7. Code Editor: VSCode

# 1. Design (Problem Statement)

## Problem Statement

- There is a fixed total supply of tokens that can't be changed.
- The entire supply is assigned to the address that deploys the contract.
- Anyone can receive tokens.
- Anyone with at least one token can transfer tokens.
- The token is non-divisible. You can transfer 1, 2, 3 or 37 tokens but not 2.5.
- It's not compatible to ERC20.

## 2. Develop smart contract w/ Remix

```
1 //SPDX-License-Identifier: UNLICENSED
2 pragma solidity ^0.8.9;
3
4 import "hardhat/console.sol";
5
6 contract Token {
7
8     string public name = "My Hardhat Token";
9     string public symbol = "MHT";
10
11     uint256 public totalSupply = 1000000;
12
13     // The address of contract owner
14     address public owner;
15
16     // Store each account's balance.
17     mapping(address => uint256) balances;
18
19     // Event when token transfer happens
20     event Transfer(address indexed _from, address indexed _to, uint256 _value);
21
22     constructor() {
23         // The totalSupply is assigned to the transaction sender, which is the
24         // account that is deploying the contract.
25         balances[msg.sender] = totalSupply;
26         owner = msg.sender;
27     }
28
29     function transfer(address to, uint256 amount) external {
30         // Check if the transaction sender has enough tokens.
31         require(balances[msg.sender] >= amount, "Not enough tokens");
32
33         console.log(
34             "Transferring from %s to %s %s tokens",
35             msg.sender,
36             to,
37             amount
38         );
39
40         // Transfer the amount.
41         balances[msg.sender] -= amount;
42         balances[to] += amount;
43
44         // Notify the transfer.
45         emit Transfer(msg.sender, to, amount);
46     }
47
48     // retrieve the token balance of a given account.
49     function balanceOf(address account) external view returns (uint256) {
50         return balances[account];
51     }
52 }
```

# 3. Deploy & test smart contract (Local)

1) install required packages

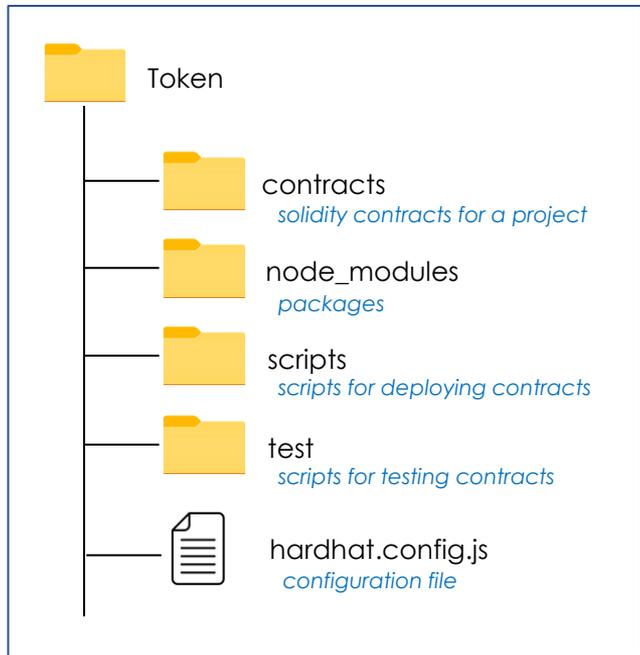
```
mkdir Token
cd Token
npm init
npm install --save-dev hardhat
npx hardhat
```

```
PS C:\dev\ethereum\Token> npx hardhat
npm WARN config global '--global', '--local' are deprecated. Use
888 888 888 888 888
888 888 888 888 888
888 888 888 888 888
8888888888 8888b. 888d888 .d88888 88888b. 8888b. 888888
888 888 "88b 888P" d88" 888 888 "88b" "88b 888
888 888 .d888888 888 888 888 888 .d888888 888
888 888 888 888 888 Y88b 888 888 888 888 Y88b.
888 888 "Y888888 888 "Y88888 888 888 "Y888888 "Y888

Welcome to Hardhat v2.13.0

? What do you want to do? ...
> Create a JavaScript project
  Create a TypeScript project
  Create an empty hardhat.config.js
  Quit
```

Generated by npx hardhat



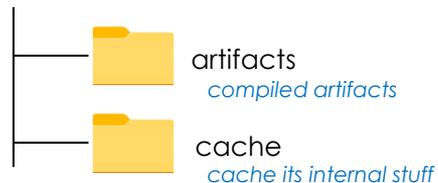
```
npm install --save-dev @nomicfoundation/hardhat-toolbox
```

# 3. Deploy & test smart contract (Local)

2) create `Token.sol` to the contracts folder

3) compile the contract

```
npx hardhat compile
```



4) create a test script (`Token.js`) to the test folder → `Token.js`

5) test the contract

```
npx hardhat test
```

```
PS C:\dev\ethereum\Token\contracts> npx hardhat test
npm WARN config global '--global', '--local' are deprecated. Use '--location=global' instead.

Token contract
  ✓ Deployment should assign the total supply of tokens to the owner (1473ms)
  Transferring from 0xf39fd6e51aad88f64ce6ab8827279cfff992266 to 0x70997970c51812dc3a018c7d01b50e0d17dc79c8 50 tokens
  Transferring from 0x70997970c51812dc3a018c7d01b50e0d17dc79c8 to 0x3c44cddd6a980fa2b585dd299e03d12fa4293bc 50 tokens
  ✓ Should transfer tokens between accounts (99ms)

  2 passing (2s)
```

```
const { expect } = require("chai");

describe("Token contract", function () {
  it("Deployment should assign the total supply of tokens to the owner", async function () {
    const [owner] = await ethers.getSigners();

    const Token = await ethers.getContractFactory("Token");

    const hardhatToken = await Token.deploy();

    const ownerBalance = await hardhatToken.balanceOf(owner.address);
    expect(await hardhatToken.totalSupply()).to.equal(ownerBalance);
  });

  it("Should transfer tokens between accounts", async function() {
    const [owner, addr1, addr2] = await ethers.getSigners();

    const Token = await ethers.getContractFactory("Token");

    const hardhatToken = await Token.deploy();

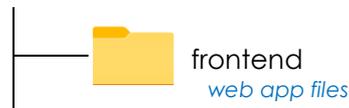
    // Transfer 50 tokens from owner to addr1
    await hardhatToken.transfer(addr1.address, 50);
    expect(await hardhatToken.balanceOf(addr1.address)).to.equal(50);

    // Transfer 50 tokens from addr1 to addr2
    await hardhatToken.connect(addr1).transfer(addr2.address, 50);
    expect(await hardhatToken.balanceOf(addr2.address)).to.equal(50);
  });
});
```

# 4. Develop Web App

1) create a template directory for a web app

```
npx create-react-app frontend
```



2) write web UI and web app

*frontend/src/components/Dapp.js*

*frontend/src/index.js*

```
1 import React from "react";
2 import ReactDOM from "react-dom/client";
3 import { Dapp } from "../components/Dapp";
4
5 import "bootstrap/dist/css/bootstrap.css";
6
7 const root = ReactDOM.createRoot(document.getElementById("root"));
8
9 root.render(
10   <React.StrictMode>
11     <Dapp />
12   </React.StrictMode>
13 );
```

```
1 async _connectWallet() {
2
3   const [selectedAddress] = await window.ethereum.request({ method: 'eth_requestAccounts' });
4
5   this._initialize(selectedAddress);
6
7   // We reinitialize it whenever the user changes their account.
8   window.ethereum.on("accountsChanged", ([newAddress]) => {
9     this._stopPollingData();
10    // 'accountsChanged' event can be triggered with an undefined newAddress.
11    // This happens when the user removes the Dapp from the "Connected
12    // List of sites allowed access to your addresses" (Metamask > Settings > Connections)
13    // To avoid errors, we reset the dapp state
14    if (newAddress === undefined) {
15      return this._resetState();
16    }
17
18    this._initialize(newAddress);
19  });
20
21  // We reset the dapp state if the network is changed
22  window.ethereum.on("chainChanged", ([networkId]) => {
23    this._stopPollingData();
24    this._resetState();
25  });
26 }
27
28 async _initializeEthers() {
29   // We first initialize ethers by creating a provider using window.ethereum
30   this._provider = new ethers.providers.Web3Provider(window.ethereum);
31
32   // Then, we initialize the contract using that provider and the token's
33   // artifact. You can do this same thing with your contracts.
34   this._token = new ethers.Contract(
35     contractAddress.Token,
36     TokenArtifact.abi,
37     this._provider.getSigner(0)
38   );
39 }
```

# 5. Deploy & test all (Local)

1) run Hardhat Network (local blockchain)

```
cd Token
npm install
npx hardhat node
```

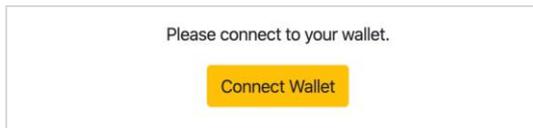
2) deploy contracts to Hardhat Network

```
npx hardhat --network localhost run scripts/deploy.js
```

3) start the react web app

```
cd frontend
npm install
npm run start
```

4) open <http://127.0.0.1:3000/> in a browser



`scripts/deploy.js`

```
const path = require("path");

async function main() {
  // This is just a convenience check
  if (network.name === "hardhat") {
    console.warn(
      "You are trying to deploy a contract to the Hardhat Network, which" +
      " gets automatically created and destroyed every time. Use the Hardhat" +
      " option '--network localhost'"
    );
  }

  // ethers is available in the global scope
  const [deployer] = await ethers.getSigners();
  console.log(
    "Deploying the contracts with the account:",
    await deployer.getAddress()
  );

  console.log("Account balance:", (await deployer.getBalance()).toString());

  const Token = await ethers.getContractFactory("Token");
  const token = await Token.deploy();
  await token.deployed();

  console.log("Token address:", token.address);

  // We also save the contract's artifacts and address in the frontend directory
  saveFrontendFiles(token);
}

function saveFrontendFiles(token) {
  const fs = require("fs");
  const contractsDir = path.join(__dirname, "..", "frontend", "src", "contracts");

  if (!fs.existsSync(contractsDir)) {
    fs.mkdirSync(contractsDir);
  }

  fs.writeFileSync(
    path.join(contractsDir, "contract-address.json"),
    JSON.stringify({ Token: token.address }, undefined, 2)
  );

  const TokenArtifact = artifacts.readArtifactSync("Token");

  fs.writeFileSync(
    path.join(contractsDir, "Token.json"),
    JSON.stringify(TokenArtifact, null, 2)
  );
}

main()
  .then(() => process.exit(0))
  .catch((error) => {
    console.error(error);
    process.exit(1);
  });
});
```

# 5. Deploy & test all (Local)

5) set your network in MetaMask to Localhost:8545  
click "connect wallet"

## My Hardhat Token (MHT)

Welcome 0xb4124ceb3451635dacedd11767f004d8a28c6ee7, you have 0 MHT.

---

You don't have tokens to transfer

To get some tokens, open a terminal in the root of the repository and run:

```
npx hardhat --network localhost faucet 0xb4124ceb3451635dacedd11767f004d8a28c6ee7
```

6) create a custom hardhat task (tasks/faucet.js)  
to send 100 MHT and 1 ETH to an address

7) run the faucet task

```
npx hardhat --network localhost faucet <address>
```

## My Hardhat Token (MHT)

Welcome 0x70997970c51812dc3a010c7d01b50e0d17dc79c8, you have 100 MHT.

---

### Transfer

Amount of MHT

Recipient address

**Video-05**  
**Deploying and testing contracts**  
**with Hardhat locally**

## 6. Deploy & test all (Testnet)

**Leave it as your challenge!**

Using the previous example as a guide, give it a try

**ethers.js**

# Two most popular Ethereum Javascript libraries

## web3.js

- Original Ethereum JavaScript API library
- Launched in 2015 by the Ethereum Foundation
- LGPL-3.0 license

### Pros

- Extremely Popular
- Easier to find tutorials, developers, community support, etc

### Cons

- A few MBs, significantly larger than ethers

## ethers.js

- Original Ethereum JavaScript API library
- Launched in 2015 by a Canadian software engineer named Richard Moore
- A lightweight alternative to Web3.js
- MIT license

### Pros

- Separating the wallet and the provider
- Extremely lightweight library, 77 KB compressed and 284 KB uncompressed
- User-friendly API structure

### Cons

- Relatively new library, lack of foundational projects and companies

*Our choice*



# ethers vs web3

Enter an npm package...

ethers x

web3 x

+ ethersjs

+ @alch/alchemy-web3

+ truffle

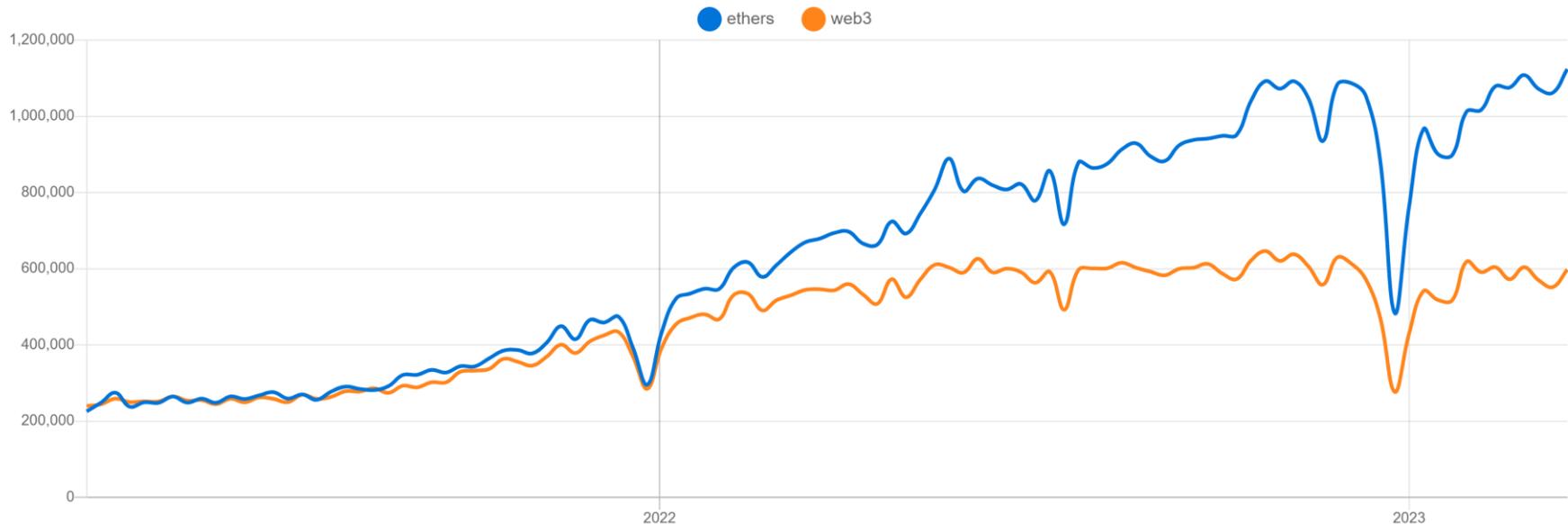
+ embark

+ openzeppelin-solidity

+ hardhat

+ alchemy-api

Downloads in past 2 Years v



# Account-related classes of ethers.js

## **Signer:** an Ethereum **account** that allows for transactions to be signed

- Wrap all operations that interact with an account
- An account generally has a private key located somewhere
- Abstract and cannot be directly instantiated. Instead, use one of sub-classes, such as the Wallet, VoidSigner or JsonRpcSigner
- All important properties of a Signer are immutable
- getAddress( ), getBalance( ), signTransaction( ), sendTransaction( )

## **Wallet:** Sub-class of signer as a standard Externally Owned Account (EOA)

- Sign transactions and messages using a private key
- new ethers.Wallet( privateKey ): create a new Wallet instance
- ethers.Wallet.createRandom(): return a new Wallet with a random private key
- ethers.Wallet.fromMnemonic( mnemonic ): create an instance from a mnemonic phrase

# Contract-related classes of ethers.js

## **Contract:** an abstraction of a **contract** deployed on the Ethereum

- `contract.attach()`: retrieve a new instance of a contract associated with an address
- `contract.address()`: retrieve the contract or ensName that created the contract
- `contract.queryFilter()`: retrieve events that match a specific event

## **ContractFactory:** a factory class to deploy a contract

- Sends a special type of transaction, an initcode transaction (i.e. the `to` field is null, and the `data` field is the initcode)
- `new ethers.ContractFactory( interface , bytecode [ , signer ] )`: create a new instance of a `ContractFactory` for the contract
- `contractFactory.attach( address )`: get an instance of a `Contract` attached to address
- `contractFactory.deploy( ...args )`: deploy the `Contract` with args

# Blockchain-related classes of ethers.js

## **Provider: a read-only connection to the blockchain**

- Abstraction to the Ethereum Network that allows developers to connect to a standard Ethereum node
- `provider.getBalances()` to retrieve the balances from specific addresses
- `provider.getGasPrice()` to retrieve the gas price for a transaction that is displayed to a user
- `provider.call()` to read from the blockchain and execute smart contracts, but cannot publish to the blockchain
- `provider.getTransaction()` to retrieve the transaction hash to confirm the completion of an execution by the user

## **Various sub-classes to implement the Provider class**

- **DefaultProvider:** the safest, easiest way to begin developing on Ethereum
- **JsonRpcProvider:** a popular method for interacting with Ethereum and is available in all major Ethereum node implementations
- **Web3Provider:** an EIP-1193 Provider or an existing Web3Provider-compatible Provider, moving from a web3.js based application to ethers
- **API Providers:** providers from third-party services, InfuraProvider, AlchemyProvider, EtherscanProvider, etc. (Not recommended to use in order to mitigate the reliance on third-parties)

# hardhat-ethers plugin

Interact with the Ethereum blockchain **in a simple way**

The same API as ethers.js with some extra Hardhat-specific functionality

## Helper functions

- `getContractFactory()`: return a new `ContractFactory` instance
- `getContractAt()`: return a new `Contract` instance
- `getSigners()`: return `Signers` (accounts) in the network
- `getSigner(address)`: return a `Signer` (account) of the address

# Deploy the smart contract

*scripts/deploy.js*

**deployer: Signer**  
the first account of network

**Token: ContractFactory**  
ContractFactory for Token contract

**token: Contract**  
Token contract

```
1 // ethers is available in the global scope
2 const [deployer] = await ethers.getSigners();
3 console.log(
4   "Deploying the contracts with the account:",
5   await deployer.getAddress()
6 );
7
8 console.log("Account balance:", (await deployer.getBalance()).toString());
9
10 const Token = await ethers.getContractFactory("Token");
11 const token = await Token.deploy();
12 await token.deployed();
```

# Send initial tokens to an account (faucet)

*tasks/faucet.js*

**token: Contract**  
Token contract

**sender: Signer**  
the first account of network

call the transfer function of Token

send tx  
(send 1 ETH to receiver)

```
1  const token = await ethers.getContractAt("Token", address.Token);
2  const [sender] = await ethers.getSigners();
3
4  const tx = await token.transfer(receiver, 100);
5  await tx.wait();
6
7  const tx2 = await sender.sendTransaction({
8    to: receiver,
9    value: ethers.constants.WeiPerEther,
10  });
11  await tx2.wait();
```

contract address

```
npx hardhat --network localhost faucet <address>
```

# Test the smart contract

*test/Token.js*

**Token: ContractFactory**  
ContractFactory for Token contract

**owner, addr1, addr2: Signer**  
the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> account of network

**hardhatToken: Contract**  
Token contract

call the transfer function of Token  
from owner account

new instance of Token contract  
for 2<sup>nd</sup> account  
(connect(addr1))

call the transfer function of Token  
from 2<sup>nd</sup> account

```
1 describe("Token contract", function () {
2   async function deployTokenFixture() {
3     const Token = await ethers.getContractFactory("Token");
4     const [owner, addr1, addr2] = await ethers.getSigners();
5
6     const hardhatToken = await Token.deploy();
7     await hardhatToken.deployed();
8
9     return { Token, hardhatToken, owner, addr1, addr2 };
10  }
11
12  describe("Transactions", function () {
13    it("Should transfer tokens between accounts", async function () {
14      const { hardhatToken, owner, addr1, addr2 } = await loadFixture(deployTokenFixture);
15      // Transfer 50 tokens from owner to addr1
16      await expect(hardhatToken.transfer(addr1.address, 50))
17        .to.changeTokenBalances(hardhatToken, [owner, addr1], [-50, 50]);
18
19      // Transfer 50 tokens from addr1 to addr2
20      // We use .connect(signer) to send a transaction from another account
21      await expect(hardhatToken.connect(addr1).transfer(addr2.address, 50))
22        .to.changeTokenBalances(hardhatToken, [addr1, addr2], [-50, 50]);
23    });
24  });
25 }
```

# Interact with MetaMask in Web App

*frontend/src/components/Dapp.js*

**window.ethereum**

JavaScript Ethereum Provider API  
(EIP-1193)

**request:** wrapper function for RPCs  
submit RPC requests via MetaMask

**eth\_requestAccounts**  
get accounts of MetaMask

**window.Ethereum.on()**  
listen for events

**accountChanged**  
when MetaMask account changed,  
call handler to initialize with new address

**chainChanged**  
when the network changed,  
call handler to reset the dapp state

**Web3Provider**  
an EIP-1193 Provider or  
Web3Provider-compatible Provider  
as an ethers.js Provider

**ethers.Contract**  
create a new instance of the contract

```
1 async _connectWallet() {
2
3   const [selectedAddress] = await window.ethereum.request({ method: 'eth_requestAccounts' });
4
5   this._initialize(selectedAddress);
6
7   // We reinitialize it whenever the user changes their account.
8   window.ethereum.on("accountsChanged", ([newAddress]) => {
9     this._stopPollingData();
10    // `accountsChanged` event can be triggered with an undefined newAddress.
11    // This happens when the user removes the Dapp from the "Connected
12    // list of sites allowed access to your addresses" (Metamask > Settings > Connections)
13    // To avoid errors, we reset the dapp state
14    if (newAddress === undefined) {
15      return this._resetState();
16    }
17
18    this._initialize(newAddress);
19  });
20
21  // We reset the dapp state if the network is changed
22  window.ethereum.on("chainChanged", ([networkId]) => {
23    this._stopPollingData();
24    this._resetState();
25  });
26 }
27
28 async _initializeEthers() {
29   // We first initialize ethers by creating a provider using window.ethereum
30   this._provider = new ethers.providers.Web3Provider(window.ethereum);
31
32   // Then, we initialize the contract using that provider and the token's
33   // artifact. You can do this same thing with your contracts.
34   this._token = new ethers.Contract(
35     contractAddress.Token,
36     TokenArtifact.abi,
37     this._provider.getSigner(0)
38   );
39 }
```

# MetaMask Ethereum Provider API

MetaMask injects a global API into websites visited by its users at `window.ethereum`

This API allows websites to 1) request users' Ethereum accounts,

2) read data from blockchains the user is connected to (local, testnet, mainnet)

3) suggest that the user sign messages and transactions

The Ethereum JavaScript provider API is specified by EIP-1193

## Methods

- **ethereum.request(args)**: submit RPC requests to Ethereum via MetaMask
  - methods: `eth_requestAccounts`, `eth_accounts`, `eth_call`, `eth_getBalance`, `eth_sendTransaction`, etc
- **ethereum.on(eventType, handler)**: listen for a specific event and call a handler
  - `accountsChanged`, `chainChanged`, `connect`, `disconnect`, `message`

## Errors

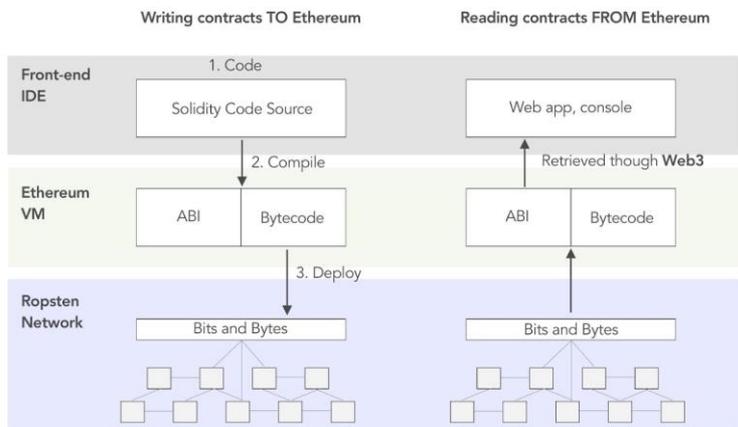
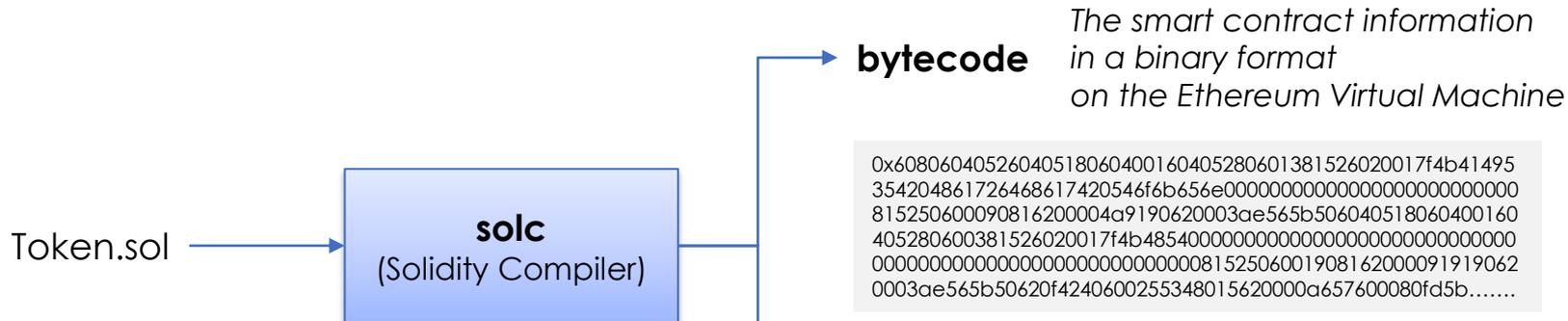
- `ethereum.request()` throws errors (EIP-1474)
  - `4001`: The request was rejected by the user
  - `-32602`: The parameters were invalid
  - `-32603`: Internal error

<https://docs.metamask.io/guide/ethereum-provider.html>  
<https://github.com/MetaMask/providers>  
<https://eips.ethereum.org/EIPS/eip-1193>  
<https://eips.ethereum.org/EIPS/eip-1474>

# **Under the hood**

**What happen  
when you call a smart contract function?**

# bytecode and ABI



## ABI(Application Binary Interface)

*An interpreter that facilitates communication with the EVM bytecode  
Human-readable JSON format*

- <https://www.alchemy.com/overviews/solidity-abi>
- <https://www.alchemy.com/overviews/what-is-an-abi-of-a-smart-contract-examples-and-usage>
- <https://cypherpunks-core.github.io/ethereumbook/13evm.html>

# ABI from Token.sol

frontend/src/contracts/Token.json

```
// Event when token transfer happens
event Transfer(address indexed _from, address indexed _to, uint256 _value);
```

```
11 {
12   "anonymous": false,
13   "inputs": [
14     {
15       "indexed": true,
16       "internalType": "address",
17       "name": "_from",
18       "type": "address"
19     },
20     {
21       "indexed": true,
22       "internalType": "address",
23       "name": "_to",
24       "type": "address"
25     },
26     {
27       "indexed": false,
28       "internalType": "uint256",
29       "name": "_value",
30       "type": "uint256"
31     }
32   ],
33   "name": "Transfer",
34   "type": "event"
35 }
```

```
// retrieve the token balance of a given account.
function balanceOf(address account) external view returns (uint256) {
  return balances[account];
}
```

```
36 {
37   "inputs": [
38     {
39       "internalType": "address",
40       "name": "account",
41       "type": "address"
42     }
43   ],
44   "name": "balanceOf",
45   "outputs": [
46     {
47       "internalType": "uint256",
48       "name": "",
49       "type": "uint256"
50     }
51   ],
52   "stateMutability": "view",
53   "type": "function"
54 }
```

ABI JSON spec: <https://docs.soliditylang.org/en/develop/abi-spec.html#json>





# Type of transactions

- **Regular transactions:** a transaction from one account to another
- **Execution of a contract:** a transaction that interacts with a deployed smart contract. In this case, 'to' address is the smart contract address
- **Contract deployment transactions:** a transaction without a 'to' address, where the data field is used for the contract code

Wrap-up

# We Learned

**Building Token Dapp**

**Hardhat-based smart contract development**

**ethers.js & MetaMask Web3Provider**

**Under the hood: what happen in calling a contract**

## **Note.**

Many people simply copy and paste contract code without understanding how it works.

Be careful when copying code,  
and try to understand how it works.

**Q & A**