



An Overview and Wishlist for Rollup Escape Hatches

Jan Gorzny, Ph.D.

Head of L2 Scaling, Quantstamp



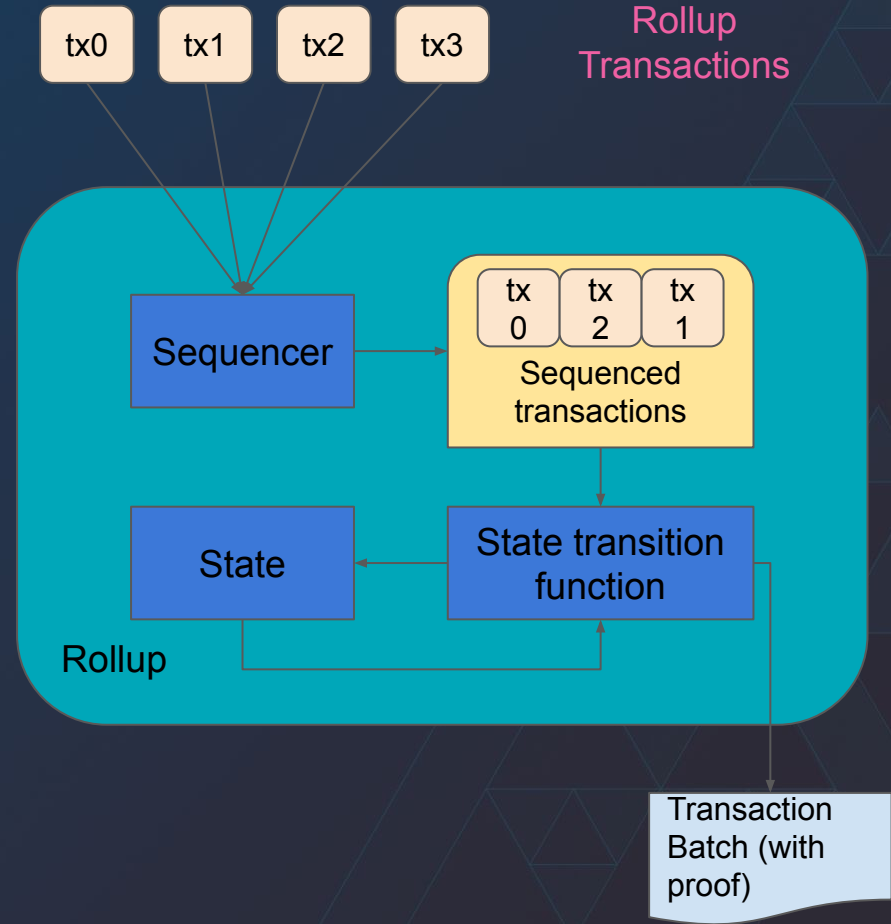
Section 1

Rollup Escape Hatches

Rollups

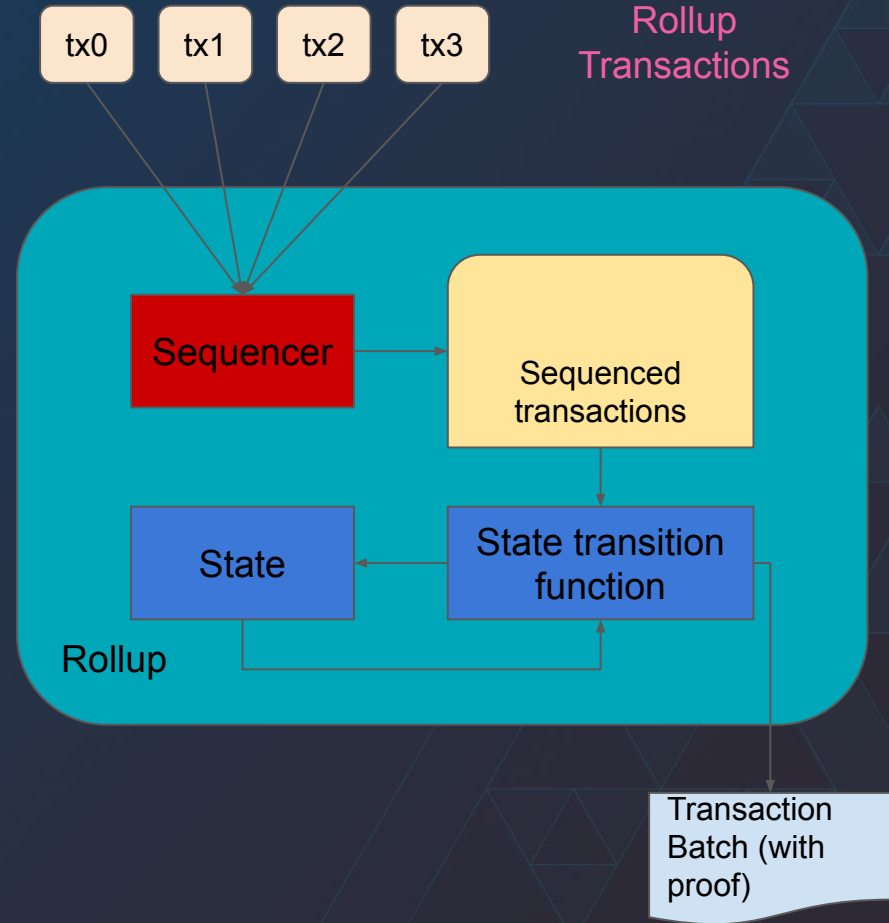
“Layer 2(+)” scaling solution.

- Compute state transitions off-chain
- Aggregate state updates
- Publish data and aggregated data to underlying layer for efficiency



Escape Hatches

An **escape hatch** is a method by which users of a rollup can recover digital assets or program state from a rollup when the operators (sequencers) are **offline**.



Current Approaches

List from, and with thanks to,



Rollup	Escape Hatch Mechanism
Arbitrum Nova [23]/One [24]	Transact Using L1
Aztec [25] (Connect [26])	Propose Blocks* (ZK)
Boba Network [11]	Transact Using L1
dYdX [27]	Force Exit to L1
Fuel (v1) [28]	Propose Blocks
ImmutableX [29]	Force Exit to L1
Layer2.Finance [30]	<i>None</i>
Layer2.Finance-zk [31]	Force Exit to L1
Loopring [32]	Force Exit to L1
Metis Andromeda [33]	Transact Using L1
Optimism [15]	Transact Using L1
Polygon Hermez [34]	Force Exit to L1*
rhino.fi [35]	Force Exit to L1
Sorare [36]	Force Exit to L1
StarkNet [12]	<i>None</i>
ZKSpace (ZKSwap) [37]	Force Exit to L1
zkSync (v1) [21]	Force Exit to L1

Table 1: Escape hatches for various layer two solutions according to [L2Beat.com](#) [38] as of August 2022. We do not distinguish between so-called *Validium* solutions and ZK rollups, as they are similar except that the former is not required to store data on-chain along with their validity proofs.



Section 2

The Menu

Basic Properties

Modular. They should clearly delineate features and functionality.

Secure. They should not be vulnerable to exploitation; they may have large attack surfaces.

Correcting. Users shouldn't need to use consecutive escape hatches.

Advanced Properties I

Support Arbitrary State Escape. What is valuable state may not be clear. Can we escape anything, or provide ways to define specific subsets

Built-In. dApp developers should need minimal extra work to be supported by an escape hatch, if their state is to be escaped.

(Transaction) Efficient. A gas war on the underlying layer should not clog the escape efforts of the L2 users.

Advanced Properties II

Global. Escape hatches shouldn't be application-specific, for the UX.

Automatic & Live. They should always be available when needed, and they should not need manual intervention to “turn on”.



Thank you!
Paper at DICG 2022

Jan Gorzny, Ph.D.
Head of L2 Scaling, Quantstamp
jan@quantstamp.com



[@jgorzny](https://twitter.com/jgorzny)