Smart Contracts for Litecoin Clemens Ley and Laura Tardivo

Litecoin Summit 2024





Classification

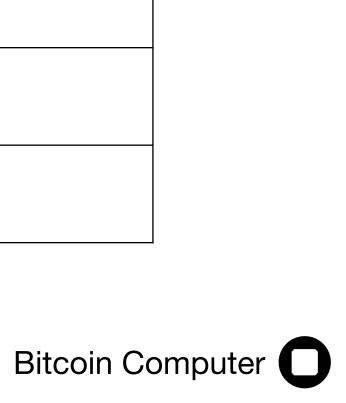
- Interoperable Blockchains (Stacks)
- Sidechains (Liquid, RSK)
- Rollups (BitVM, Citera)
- Block-order based (BRC20)
- UTXO-based (Ordinals, Runes, Bitcoin Computer)

Comparison

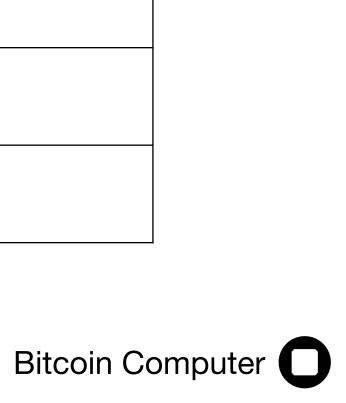
- **Trustless** Is there no trusted third party?
- **Expressive** Can all smart contracts be expressed?
- Efficient Can you compute a value without reading all txs?



	Trustless	Expressive	Efficient
	Is there no trusted third party?	Can all smart contracts be expressed?	Can you compute a value without reading all txs?
Ethereum			
Interoperable			
Sidechain			
Rollup			
Order based			
UTXO based			
Bitcoin Computer			



	Trustless	Expressive	Efficient
	Is there no trusted third party?	Can all smart contracts be expressed?	Can you compute a value without reading all txs?
Ethereum	Yes	Yes	No
Interoperable			
Sidechain			
Rollup			
Order based			
UTXO based			
Bitcoin Computer			



Interoperable Blockchains Stacks, Internet Computer, BOB

- A separate blockchain (L2) that
 - can read from and write to L1
 - use L1 asset in the consensus algorithm of the L2
- How to use:
 - Use an exchange to get L2 asset
 - Use functionality of the L2 \bullet
 - Use exchange to get L1 asset \bullet



Sidechains Liquid, Rootstock

- A separate blockchain (L2) connected to L1 via two-way-peg
- How to use:
 - Send L1 asset into custody of a federation
 - The federation will issue you L2 asset \bullet
 - Use the functionality of the L2
 - Send L2 asset to the federation, they will give you L1 asset



Rollups BitVM, Optimism & Arbitrum on Ethereum

- How to use:
 - Deposit L1 asset into rollup smart contract on L1
 - To use L2
 - Send L2 transaction to an aggregator

 - Smart contract on L1 guarantees that the evaluation is valid (see next slide for details)
 - Send withdraw request to aggregator to get L1 asset

Like a sidechains but the federation is replaced by a smart contract and data is stored on the L1

Aggregator evaluates L2 transactions and publishes L2 transactions and state hash on L1



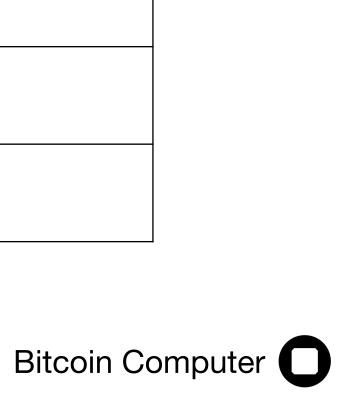
Rollups - Validation How does the L1 contract ensure the validity of L2 batch?

- Optimistic
 - Aggregator publishes a L2 batch to L1 contract
 - Validators can provide a fraud proof to L1 smart contract
 - If the fraud proof is correct, the aggregator is fined
 - Otherwise the validator is fined

- Zero knowledge
 - Aggregator publishes L2 batch and validity proof to L1 contract
 - Contract verifies the proof
 - STARKS: trustless but expensive
 - SNARKS: less expensive but require a trusted setup



	Trustless	Expressive	Efficient
	Is there no trusted third party?	Can all smart contracts be expressed?	Can you compute a value without reading all txs?
Ethereum	Yes	Yes	No
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Order based			
UTXO based			
Bitcoin Computer			



80% of smart contracts on Ethereum are tokens



What can Litecoin do?



Layer 1 Ordinals, Runes, BRC20, Omni, Counterparty, Bitcoin Computer

- No extra blockchain, no trusted third party, just metadata on chain
- How to use:
 - Add metadata to a transaction to create or update a value
 - Parse the metadata on the blockchain to compute/read the value \bullet
- Two variants:
 - Block-order based
 - UTXO based



Layer 1 Block-order based

- Broadcast transaction with meta data
- Read transactions in block order
- Update a value after each transaction
- Advantages
 - Self custody
- Disadvantages
 - Not efficient
 - Not expressive
 - Not composable



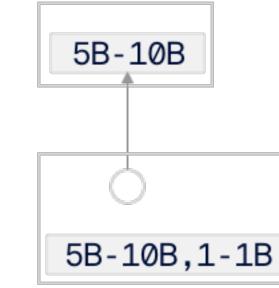
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Ordinals Example

Layer 1 UTXO based

- Broadcast transaction with meta data
- Associate a value with each output, using the meta data and the values of the inputs spent

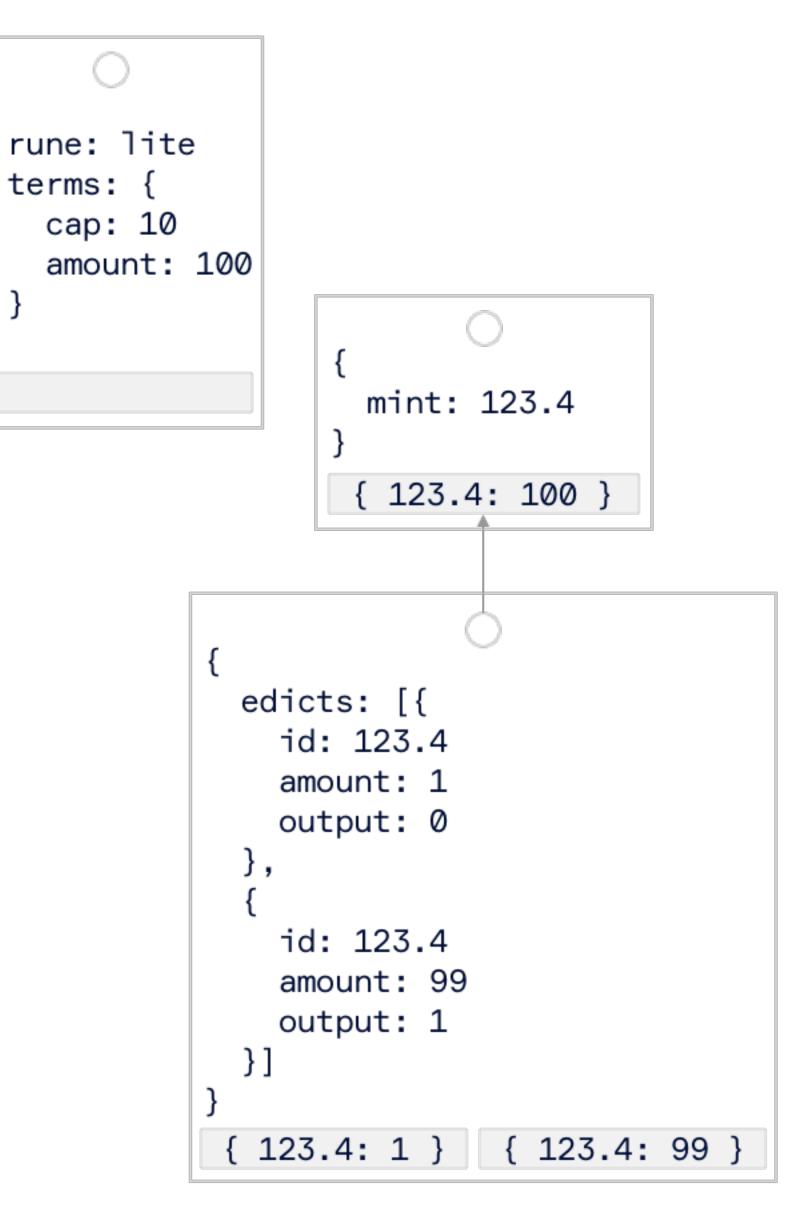


- Advantages
 - Self custody \bullet
 - More efficient
- Disadvantages
 - Not expressive

1-5B 1-2B 2B+1-5B

1B+1-2B

Runes Example

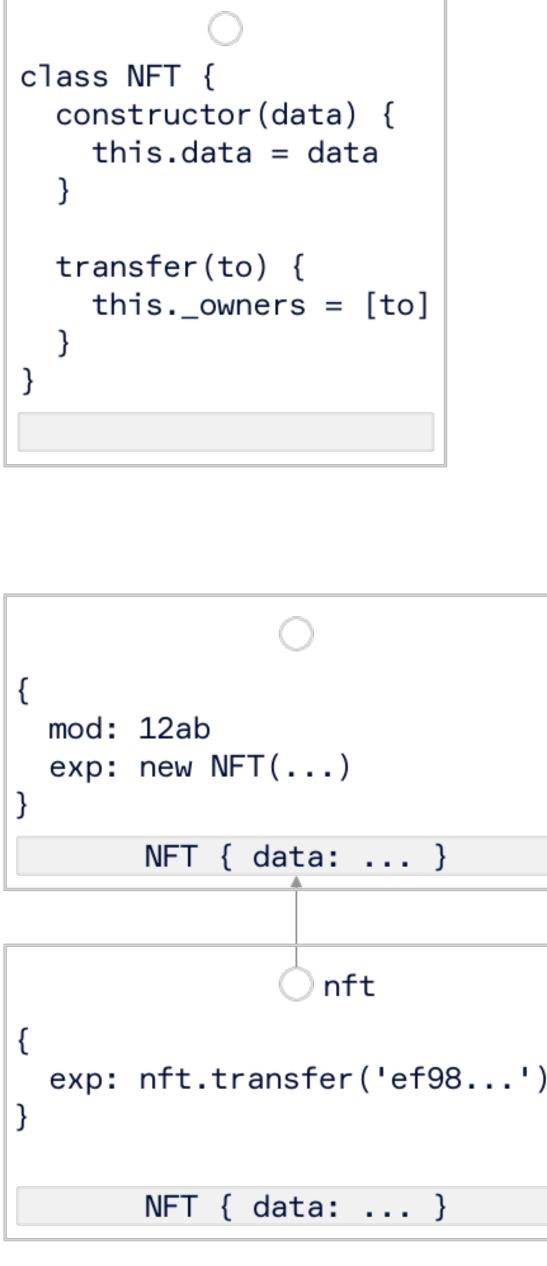


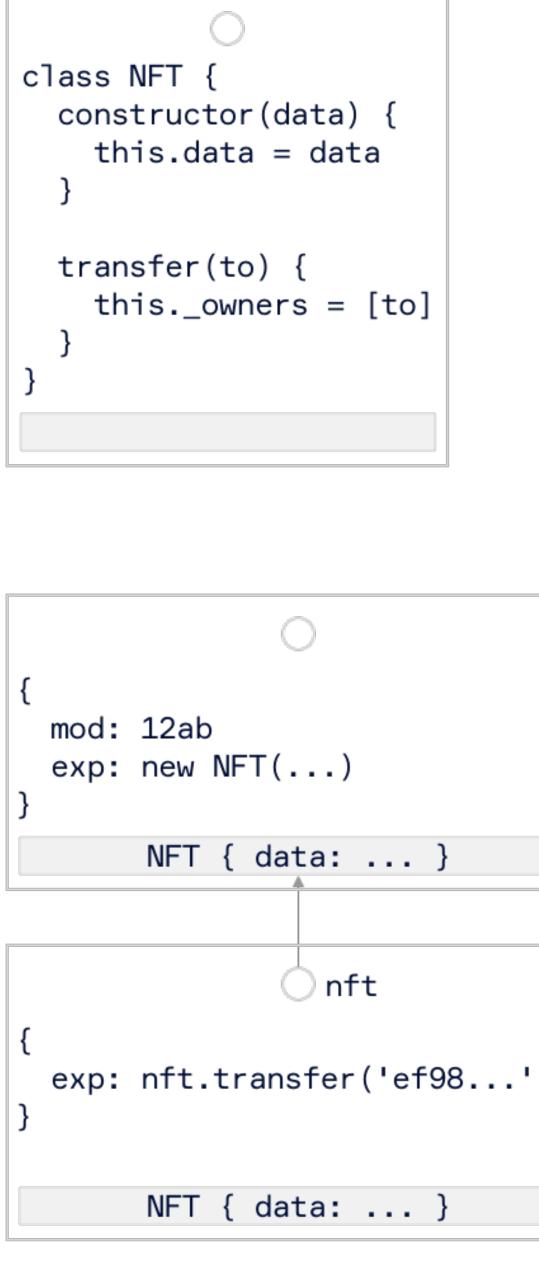
Non Fungible Token

Layer 1 **Bitcoin Computer**

- Broadcast transaction with Javascript code
- Associate a value with each output, by evaluating the Javascript expression, using the values of the outputs spent for the variables
- Advantages
 - Self custody
 - Expressive
 - Efficient
 - Compatible

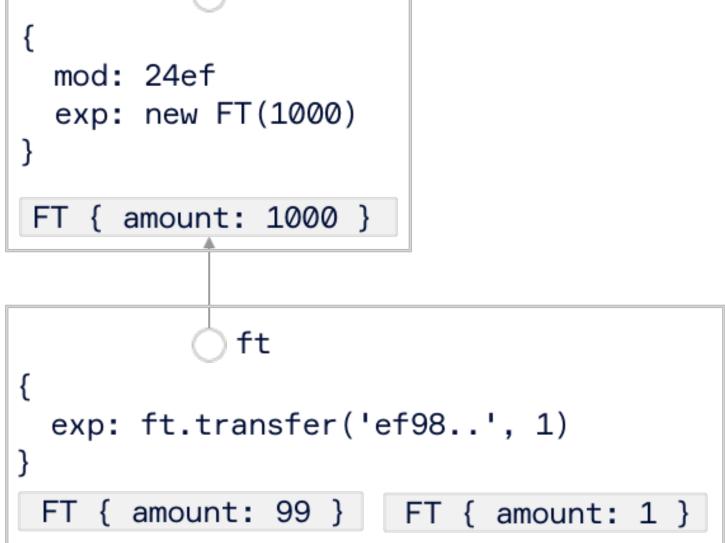
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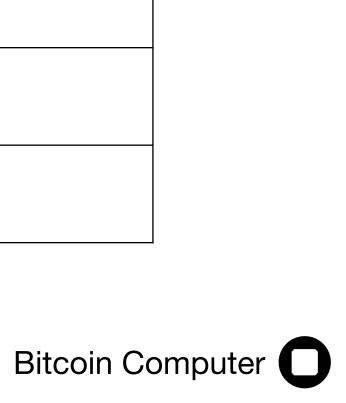


Fungible Token

```
class FT {
 constructor(to, amount) {
   this.amount = amount
   this._owners = [to]
 transfer(to, amount) {
   if (this.amount < amount)
     throw new Error()
   this.amount -= amount
   return new Token(to, amount)
```



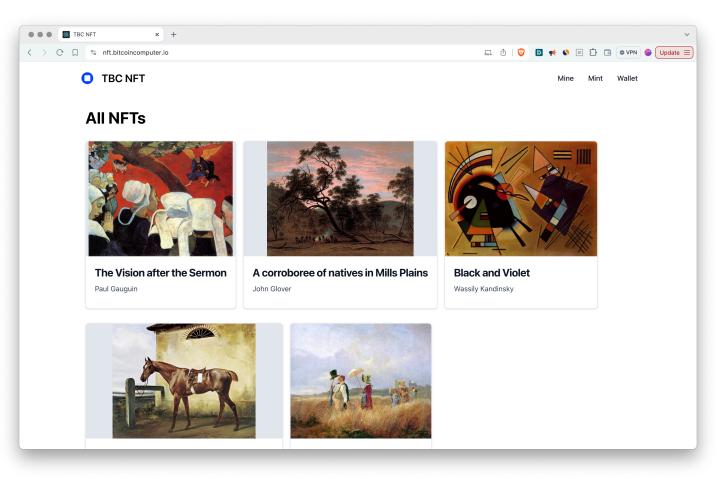
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Sidechain	No	Yes	No
Rollup	No	Yes	No
Order based	Yes	No	No
UTXO based	Yes	No	Yes
Bitcoin Computer	Yes	Yes	Yes



Conclusion

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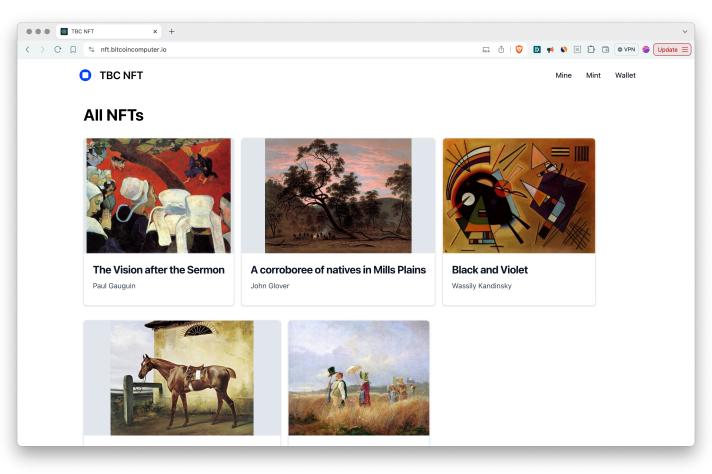
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