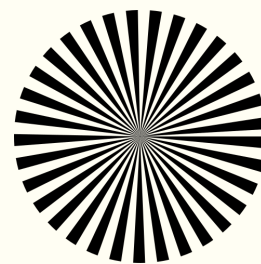


WALLETS, PLATFORMS... WTF?



It's easy to miss how fast the wallet game is changing if you're not paying attention to shifting platform economics.

- What does it mean for wallets to “own” their customers?
- What do wallets owe their customers in return?
- Are we ready for wallets to be as interchangeable as browsers?
- Who gains from raising UX standards?

01/15



CROSS-PLATFORM WALLETS WEN?




← Slides at
[https://bit.ly/
wallets_
platforms_
wtf](https://bit.ly/wallets_platforms_wtf)

1. **INTRO: BROWSER WARS 3.0**
2. **THE REDHEADED STEPCHILD**
3. **SOME PATHS FORWARD:**
COINBASE, METAMASK, WALLET CONNECT, PENUMBRA, C.A.K.E.
4. **...PROFIT?**

PRESENTED BY BUMBLEFUDGE @WEB3SUMMIT BERLIN, AUG 2024

02/15

A horizontal black line with an arrowhead pointing to the right, indicating the current position in the presentation.

CROSS-PLATFORM WALLETS WEN?

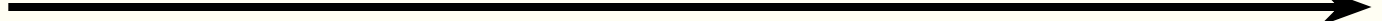


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#GOALS

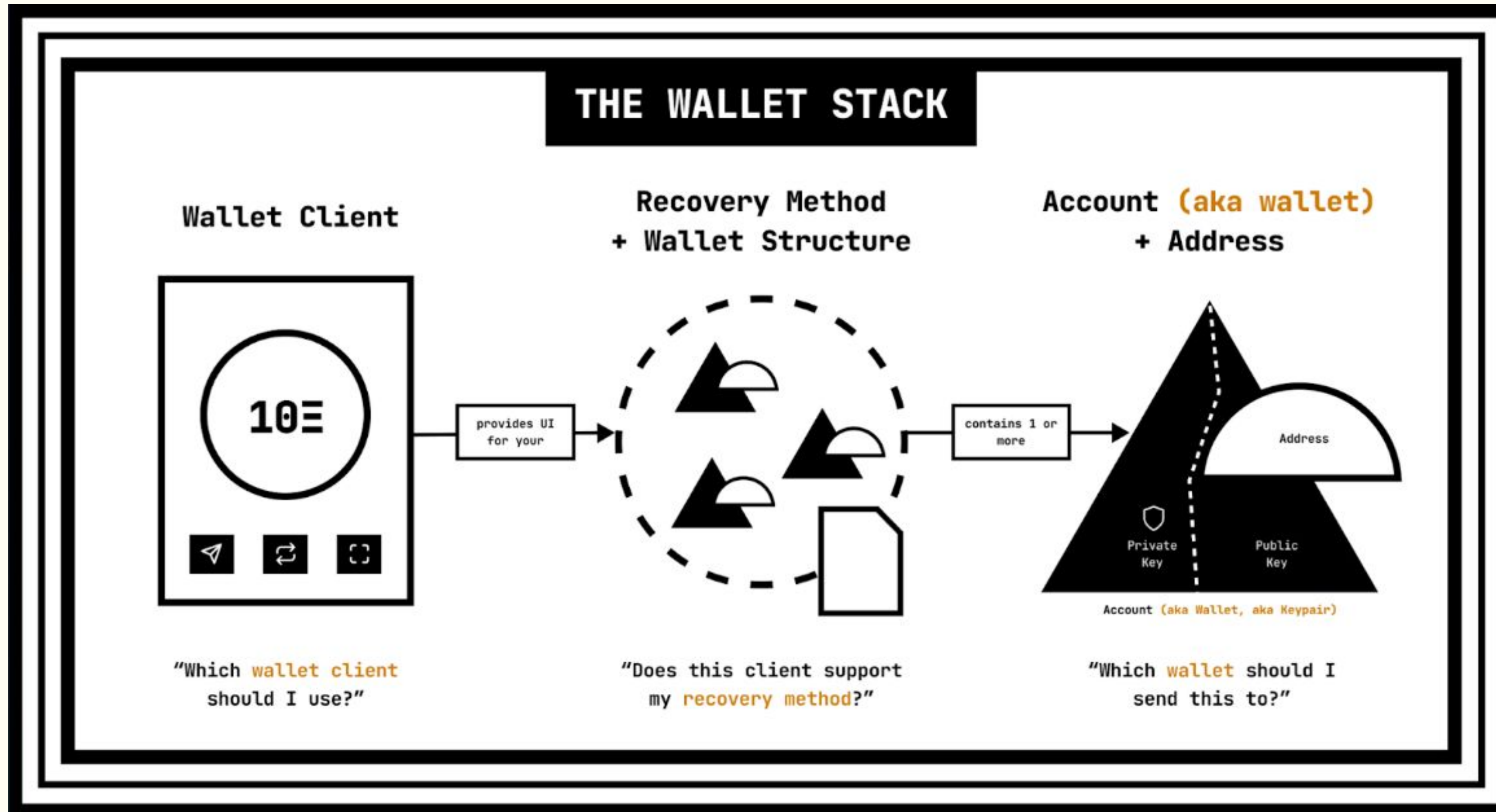
- Community venue, [open governance](#)
- Open-source, public specifications that enable and encourage chain-agnostic engineering and [UX](#)
- [CAIPs](#) - Improvement Proposals spanning multiple systems
- [CANs](#) - Documentation of each LI's RPC & addressing syntaxes *for external consumption*

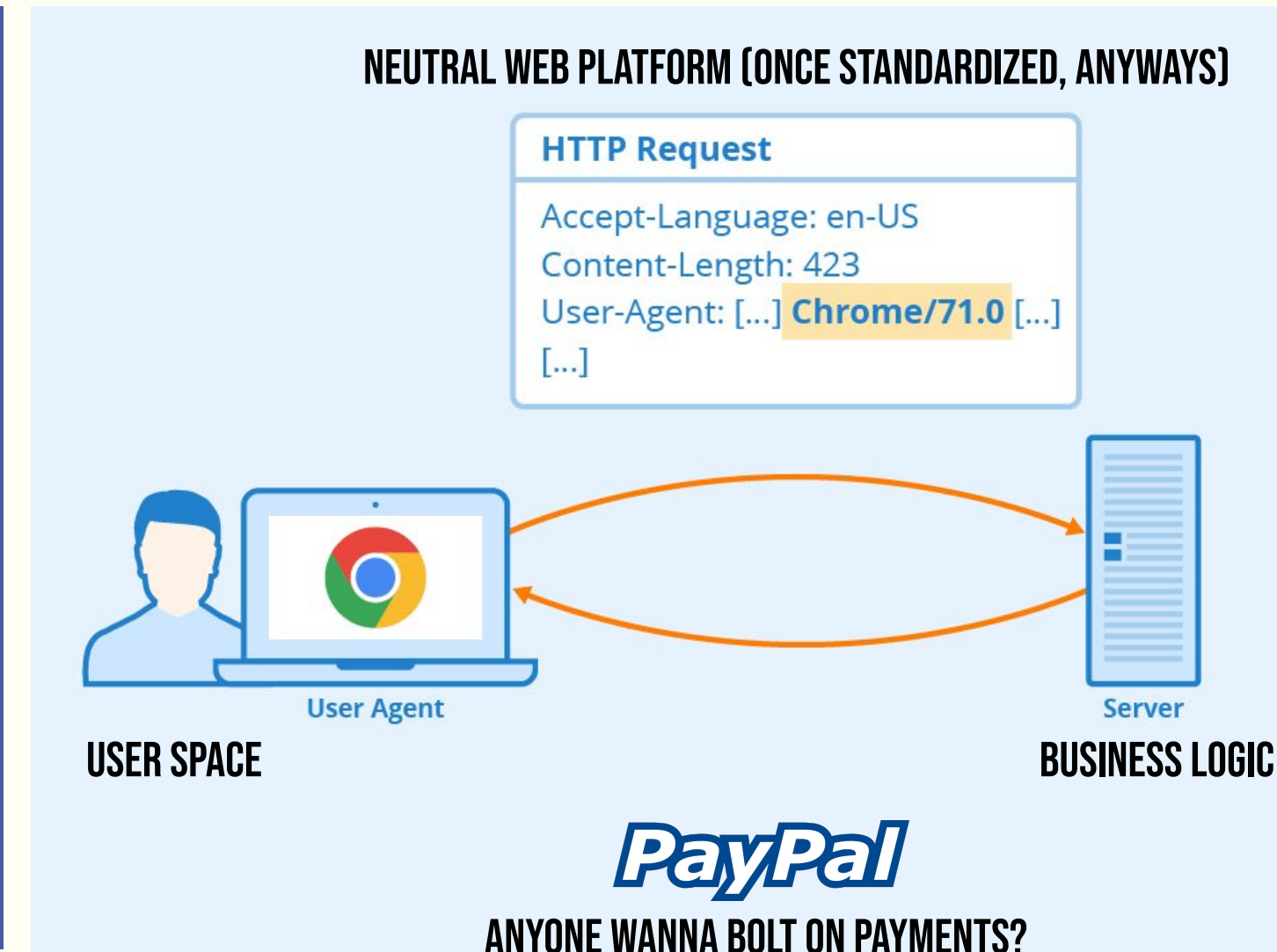
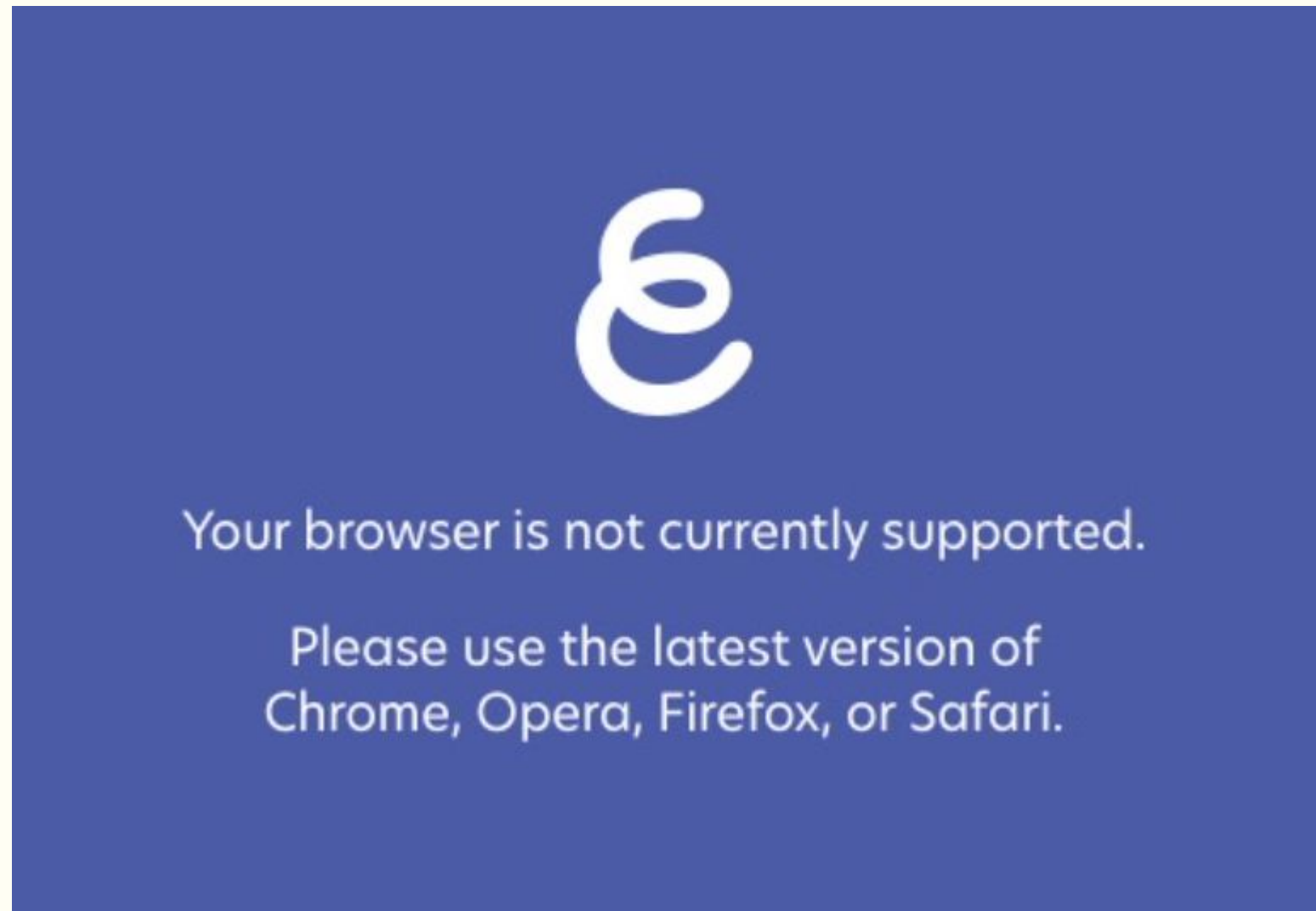
#VISION

- [User Agency](#) > [Sovereignty](#)
- Build for an open web[3] that comes after the “[browser wars](#)” era
- Think of web3 as a cohesive design space and meta-platform, not competing VMs & platforms



03/15





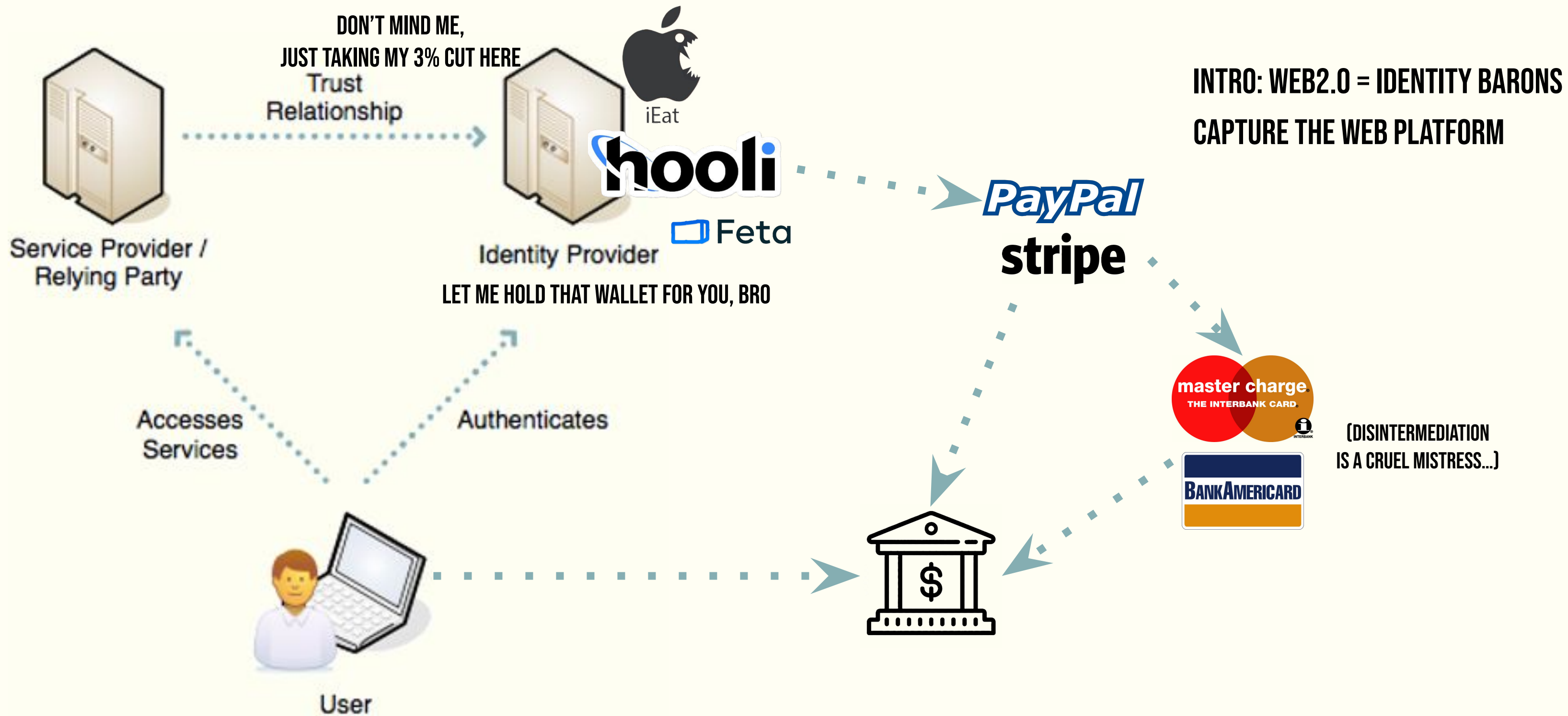
UNTIL BROWSERS COULD AGREE ON STANDARDIZED CORE FEATURES,

EACH BROWSER WAS ITS OWN OVERLAPPING BUT DISTINCT PLATFORM MATCHMAKING SURFERS  TO WAVES 

WHAT ARE THE CORE UX AND SECURITY FEATURES OF THE WEB3 PLATFORM?

ARE WE WARNING USERS IF THEIR WALLETS DON'T HAVE THEM?

05/15

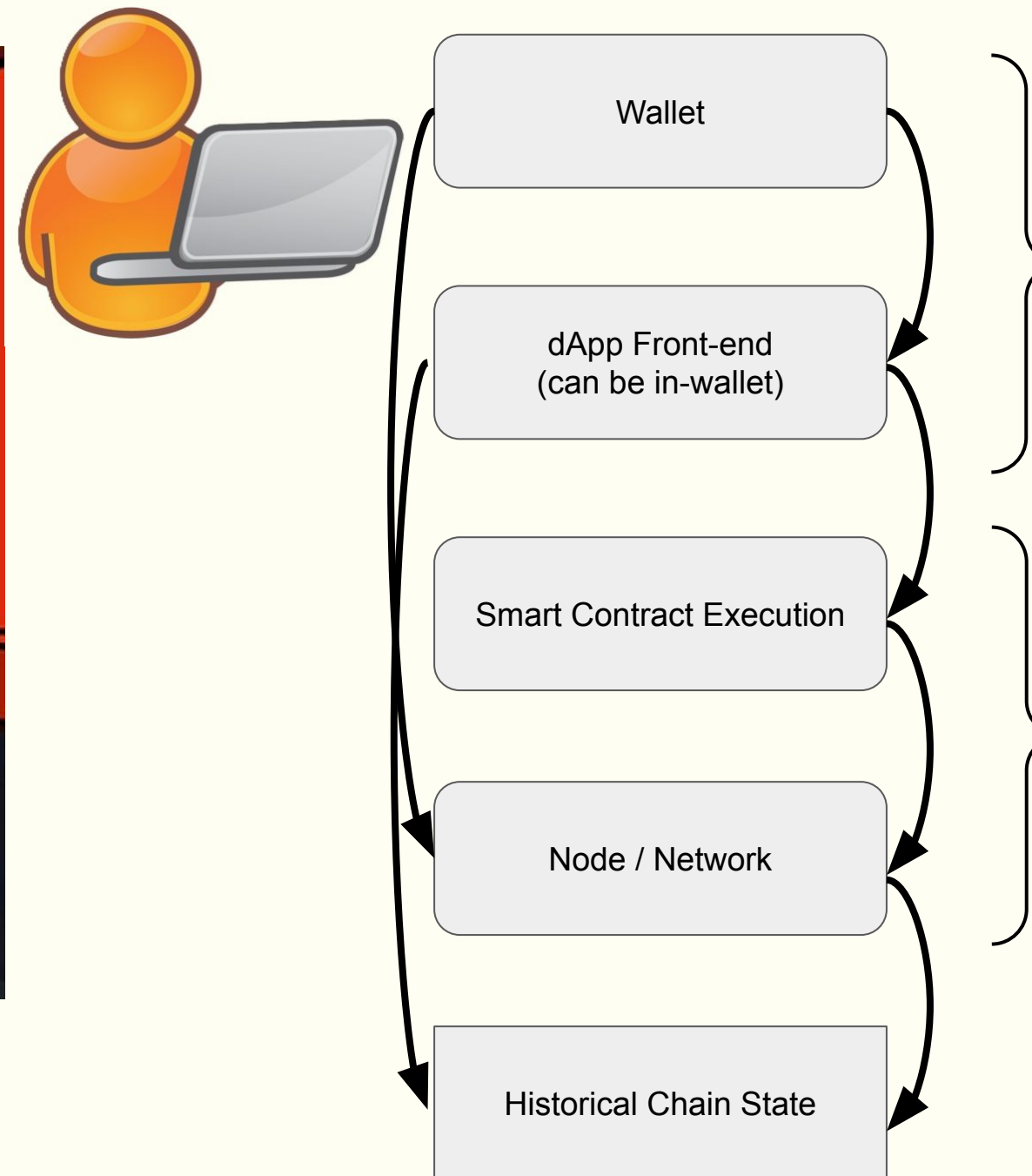


BOLTING ON AN "IDENTITY LAYER" TO THE INTERNET CREATED THE MOST POWERFUL AND PROFITABLE MONOPOLIES IN HISTORY

HEALTHY MARKET ENJOYERS CALL THIS A FAILURE MODE, NOT A COMMON CARRIER MODEL

06/15

SEE: THE VERGE'S [ANTITRUST PAGE](#) OR [WALLET NEWS](#); [DECENTRALIZED.ID](#); [K. PISTOR](#)



USER-SPACE AND BUSINESS LOGIC ARE BOTH
PRECARIOUSLY SQUATTING IN THE
CENSORABLE, VULNERABLE, AND CAPTURED
WEB2 PLATFORM

WEB3 IS MOSTLY PAYING ATTENTION
TO WHAT IT CAN CONTROL, HERE,
ON VERY SHORT TIMELINES

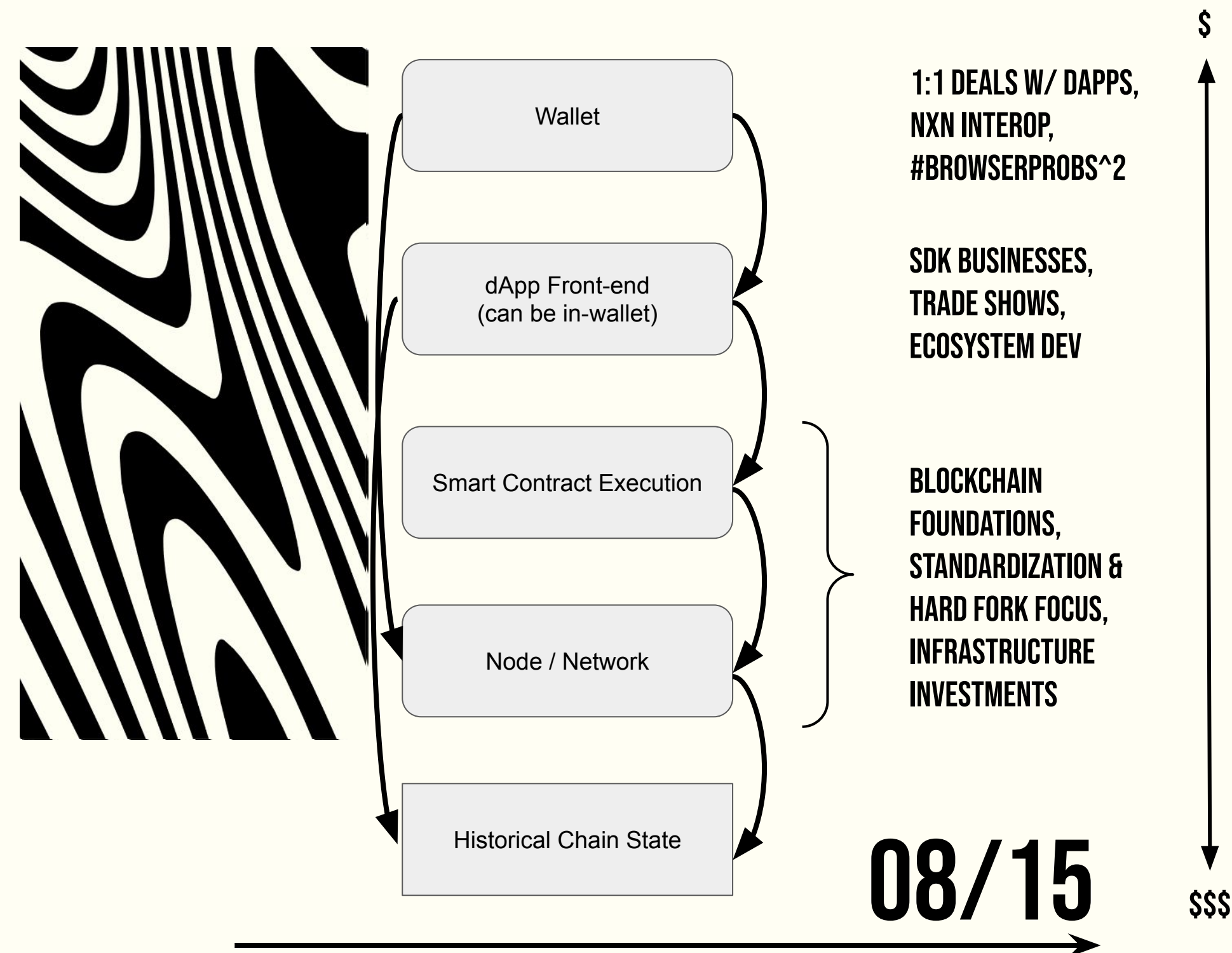
07/15

PROGRESS... SOME DAY?

Wallets are the hardest layer to improve:

- **Coordination:** what market actor is incentivized to coordinate adoption of wallet features or flows?
- **Compliance risk:** Wallets anonymizing their users keeps dapp liability low and protocol neutral, but they are a kind of fiduciary, tricky relationship
- **Control points:** Mobile OS app stores, browser security models, and soon even browser extension registries can all effectively cripple a wallet
- **Consolidation:** Vertical integration (dapps buying or provisioning wallets) disincentivizes wallet progress

“THE MARKET WILL SORT WALLET OUT” – EVERYONE SINCE 2015



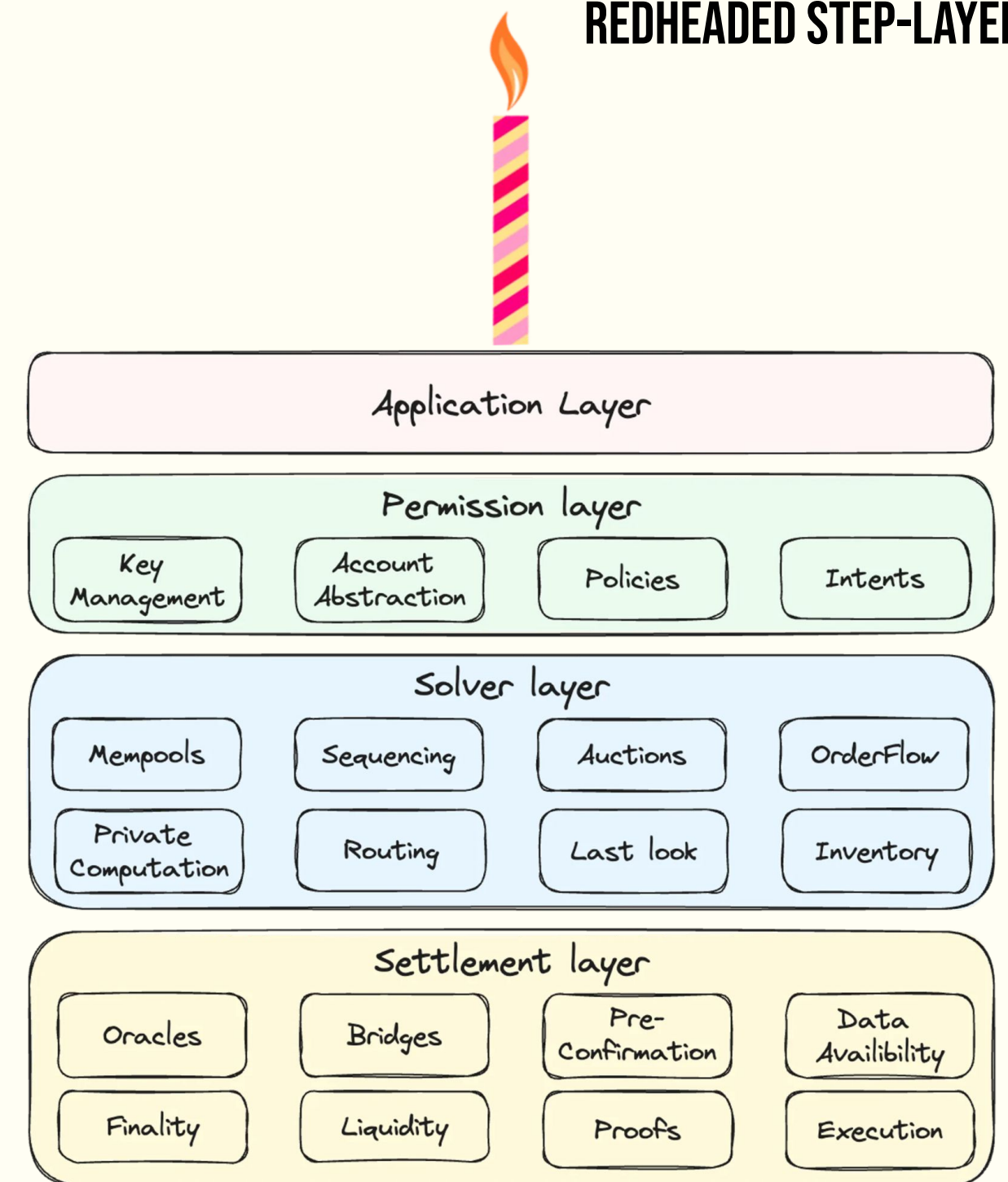
SRC: LOL, [ME](#); SEE ALSO [ETH WALLET WG PROPOSAL](#)

TODAY, SOLVERS & INTENTS!

Compare the amount of business-model and technological innovation everywhere below the individual user... which is even reaching into the green zone (theoretically user-space).

We have so over-engineered the concept of “intents” that we forgot the legal meaning of the word, and the “meaningful consent” needed for **any** of this stuff to be scalable, street-legal for the next billion, or ethical.

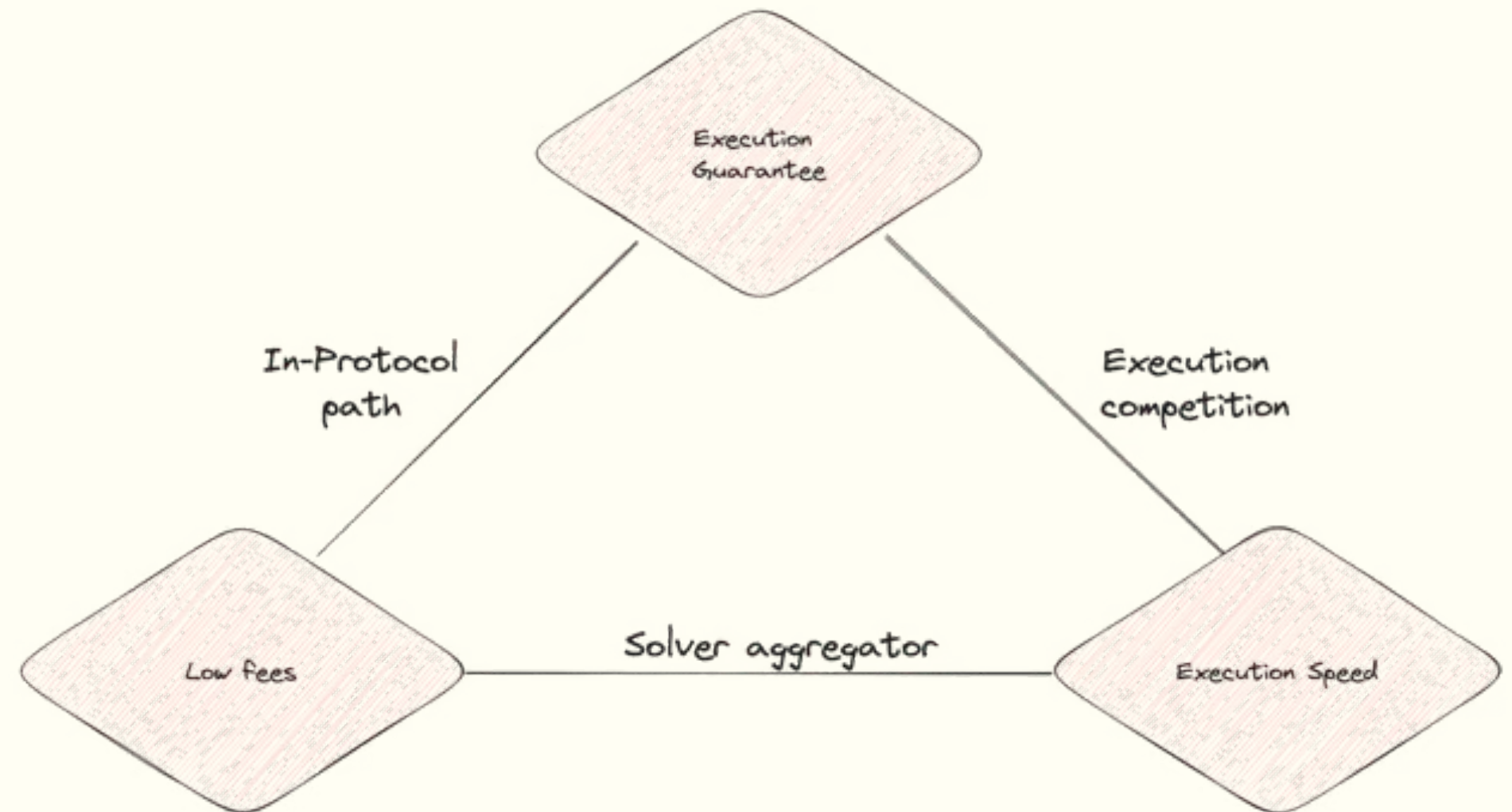
Wallets need to be where permission and consent are enforced... the wallet is the end-user’s **trusted advocate**.



FRONTIER.TECH: CHAIN ABSTRACTION KEY ELEMENTS



When you're holding a DeFi solver, everything looks like an opportunity for arbitrage and routing hijinx.



10/15

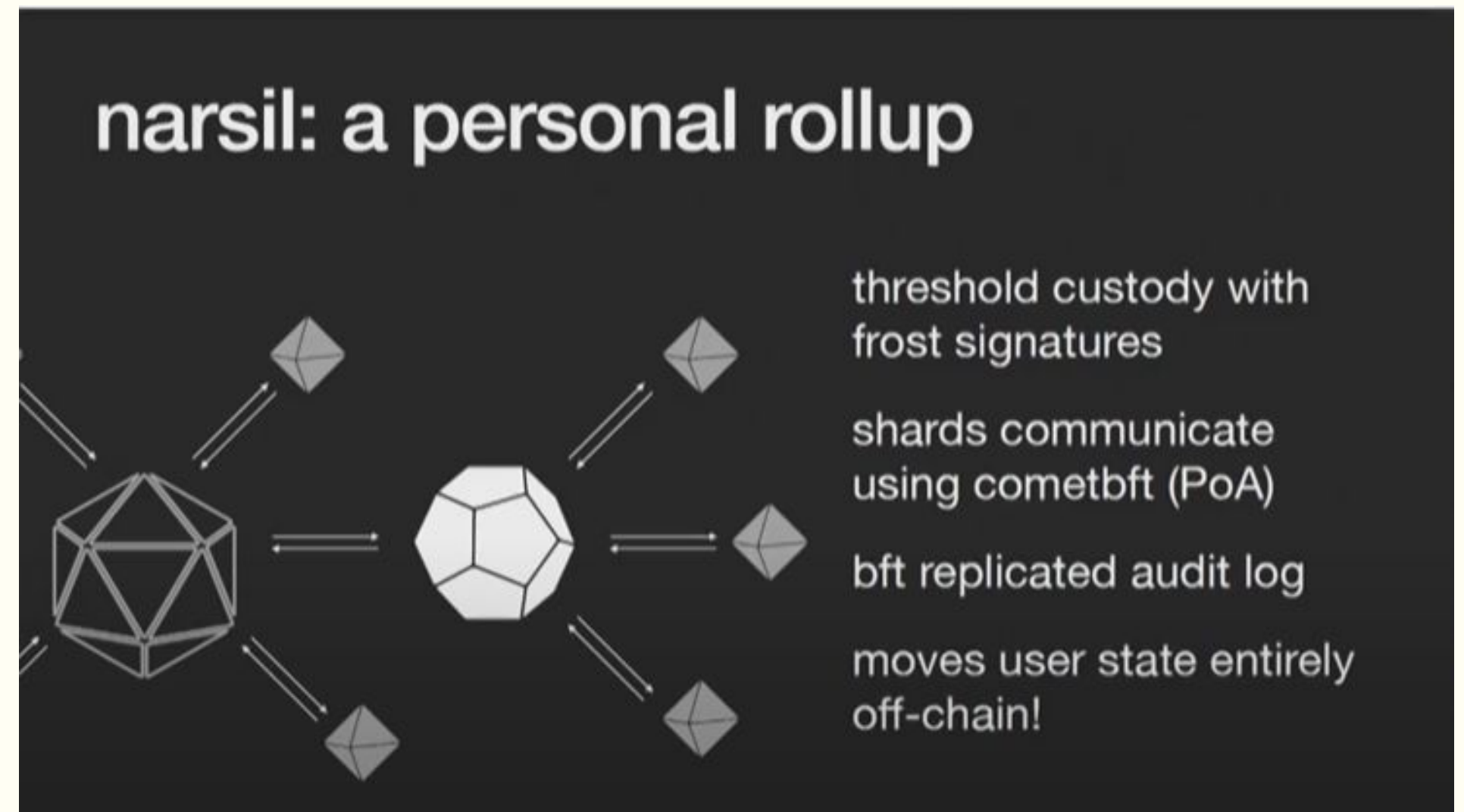
FROM THE TALK “SHIELDED TRANSACTIONS ARE ROLLUPS”, ETHCC 2023

PENUMBRA:

PER-USER ROLLUPS?!



The end-state of all onchain maximalism is all human activity is made legible to nodes, even if proved off-chain and managed by squishy human wallets off-screen



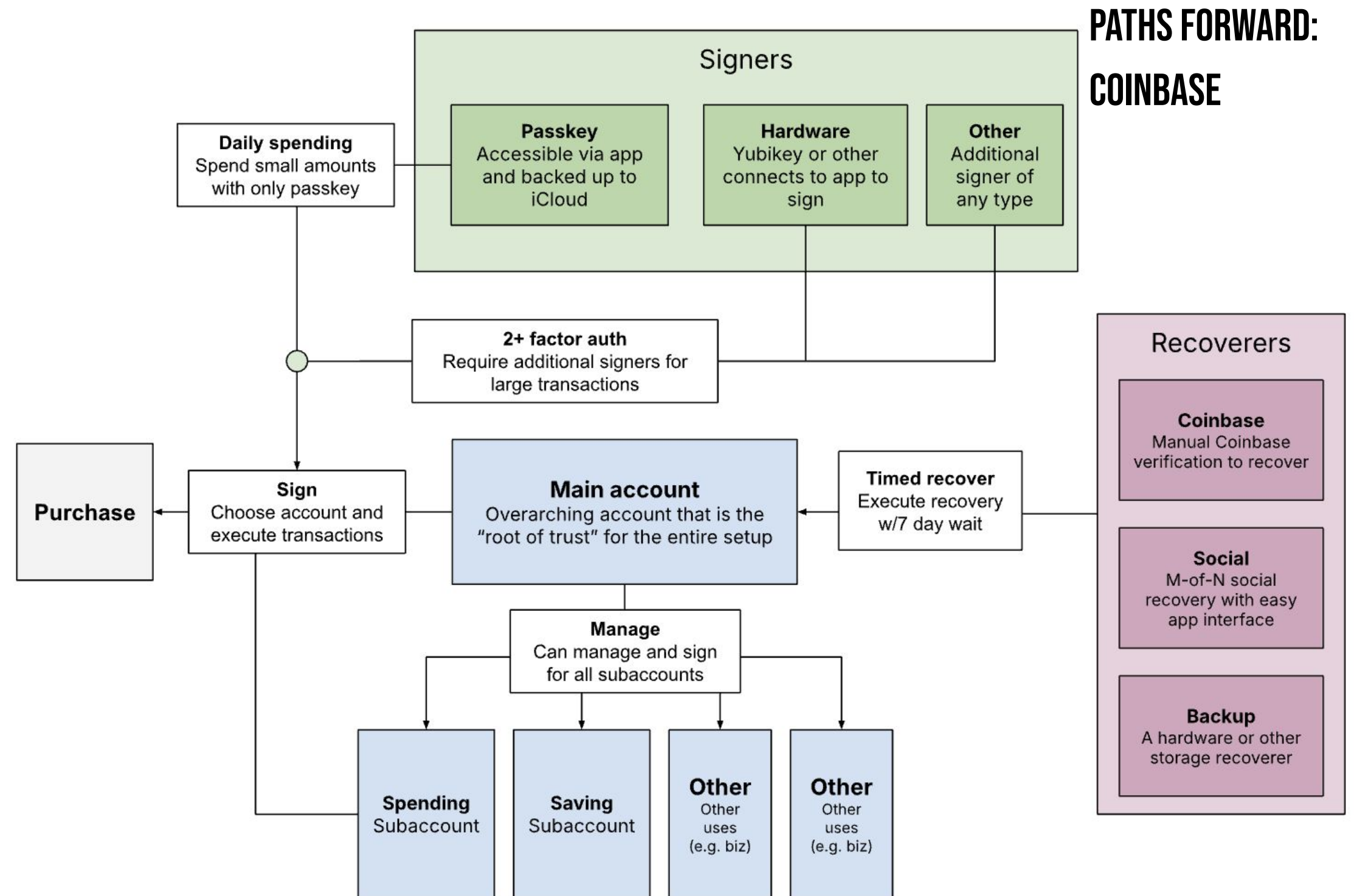
11/15



COINBASE: THE EVERYTHING APP



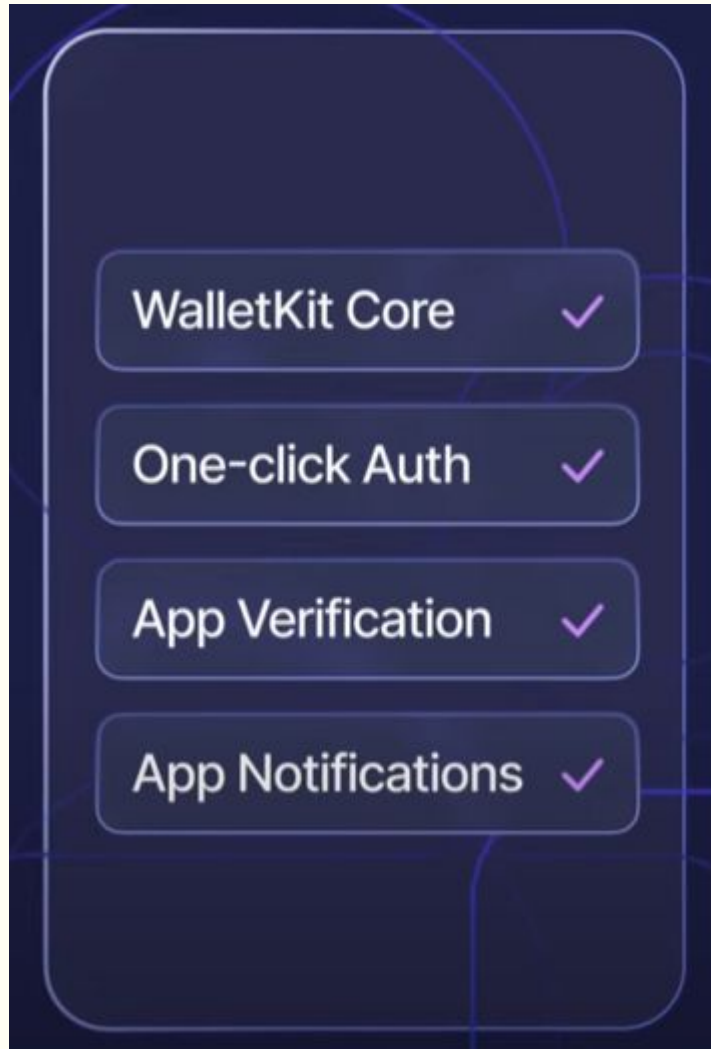
Props to team
#standardOil,
honestly



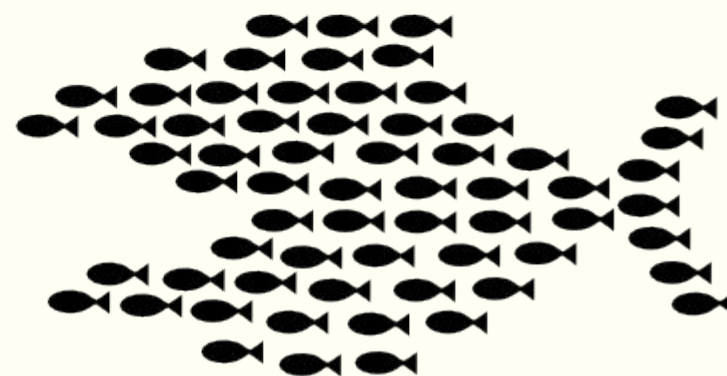
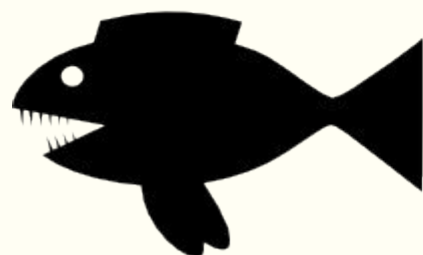
12/15



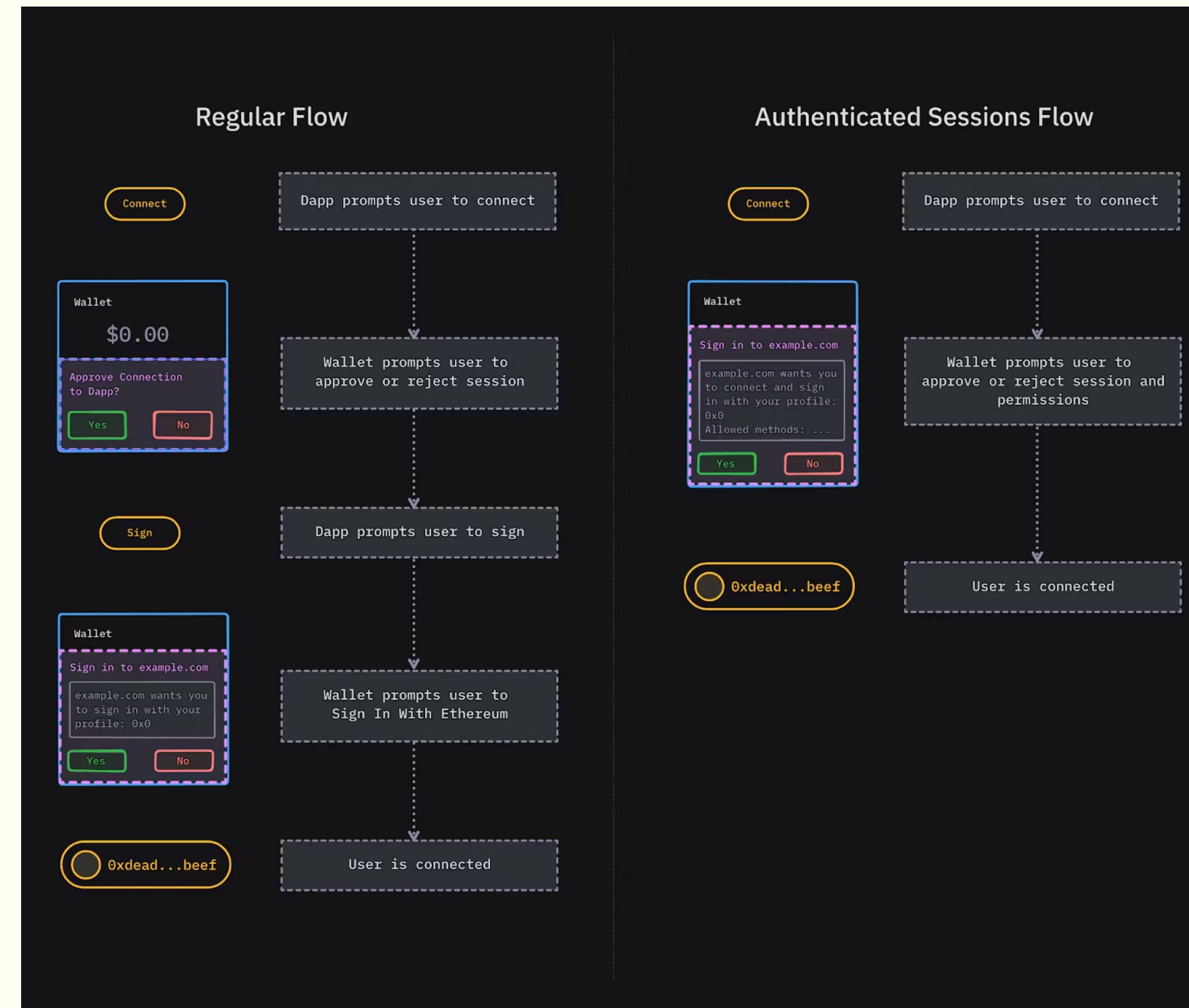
WALLET CONNECT: WALLETKIT SDK + CERTIFIED = UX BASELINE SCRUM



By giving wallets an SDK of standardized features that dapps are demanding, a “baseline” of wallet UX features and flows can be coordinated...cooperatively!



PATHS FORWARD: WALLETCONNECT



13/15

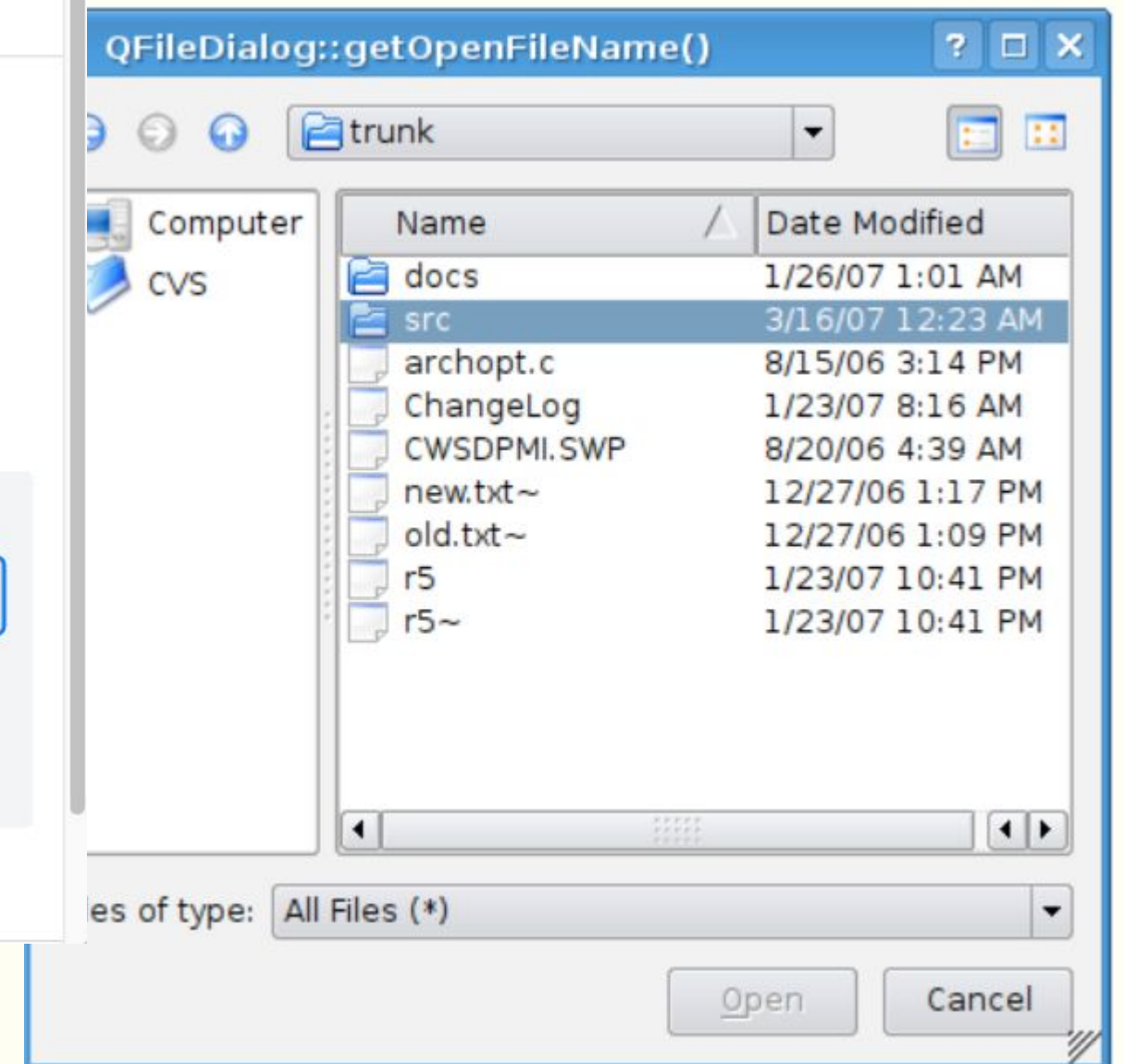
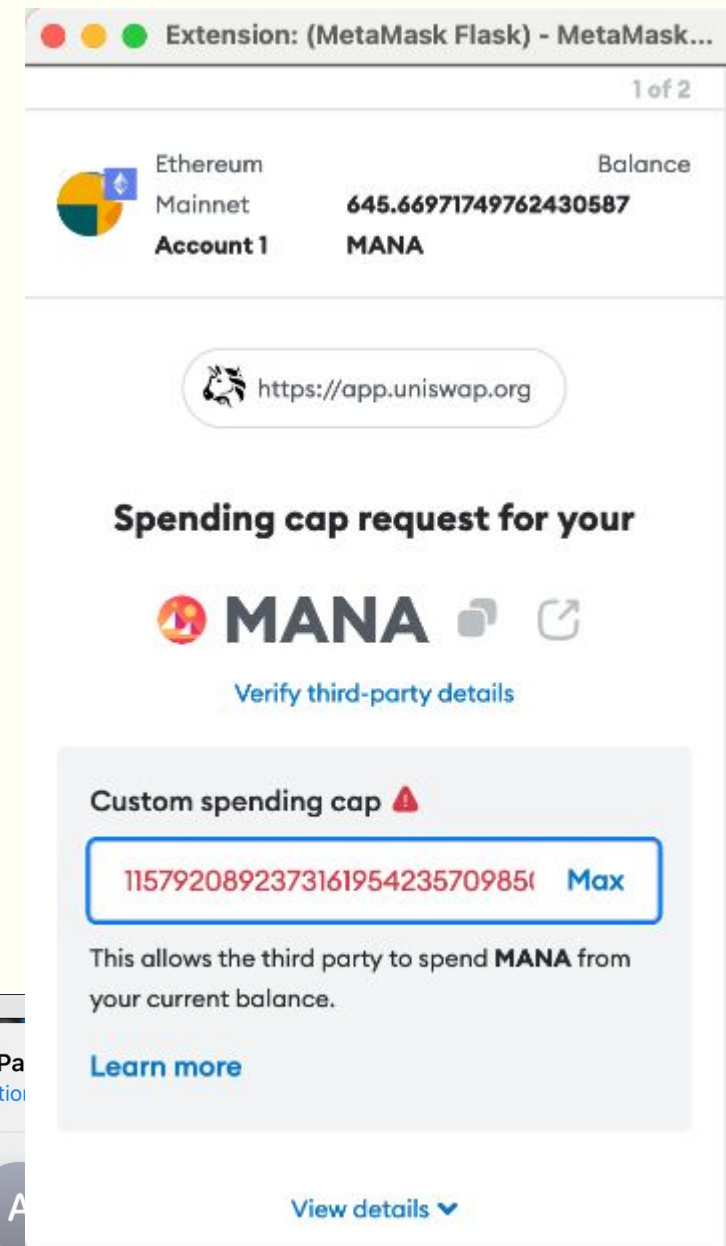
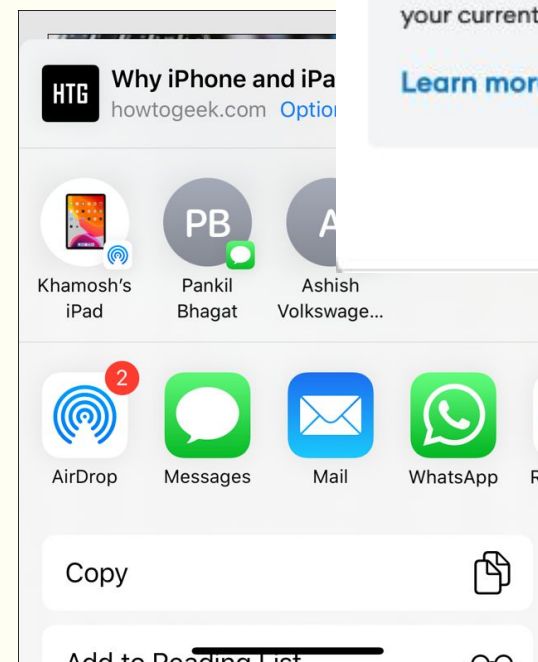
SRC: [WC CERTIFIED](#); [1CLICK-AUTH](#) ([CAIP-122](#) / [EIP-4361](#) + [5573](#)); SEE [NOTA BENE](#)

METAMASK:

ASSET ABSTRACTION



Will the next billion
want to know, much
less *manage*, most of
their 200 addresses or
even know what chain
anything is “on”?

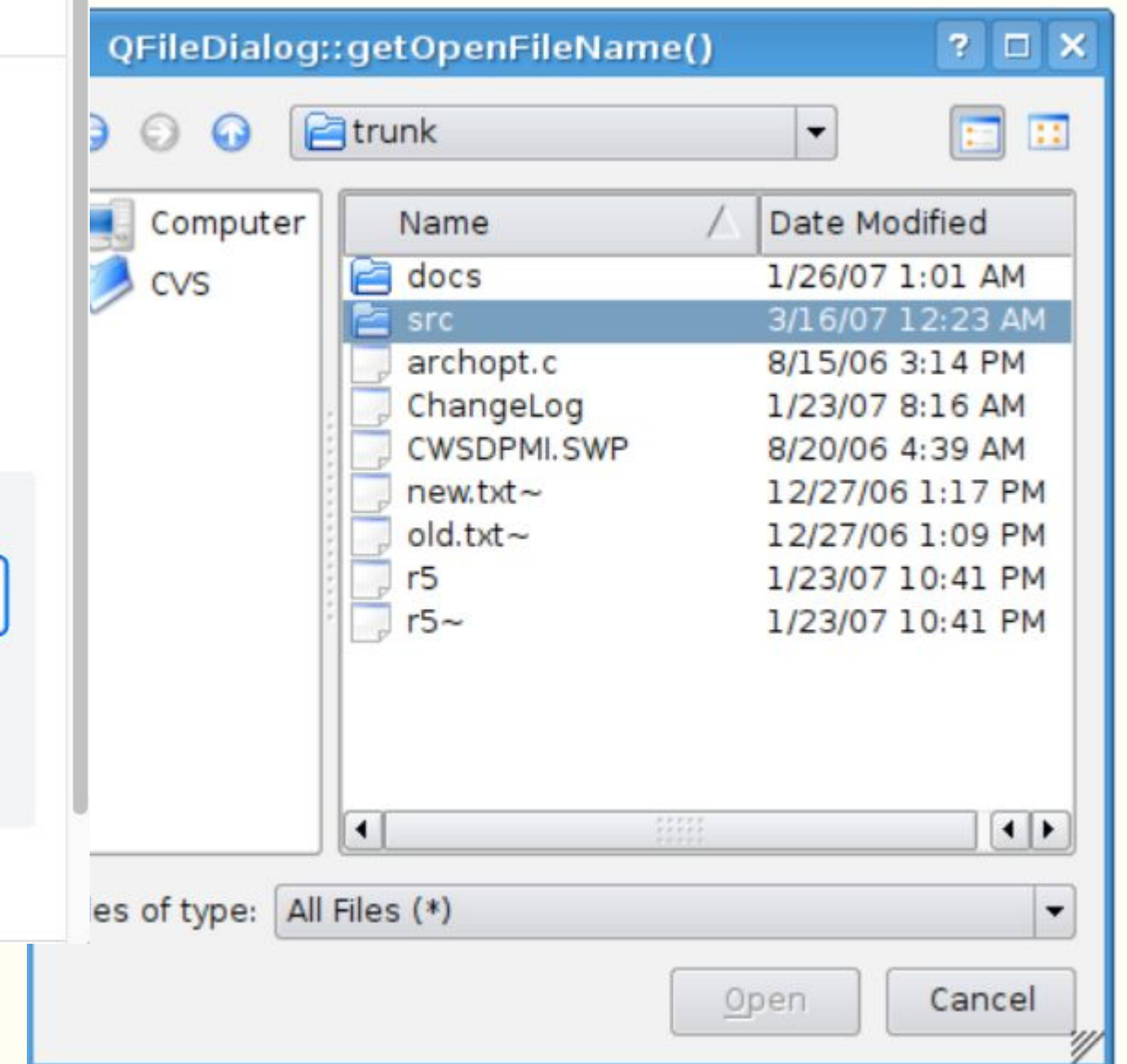
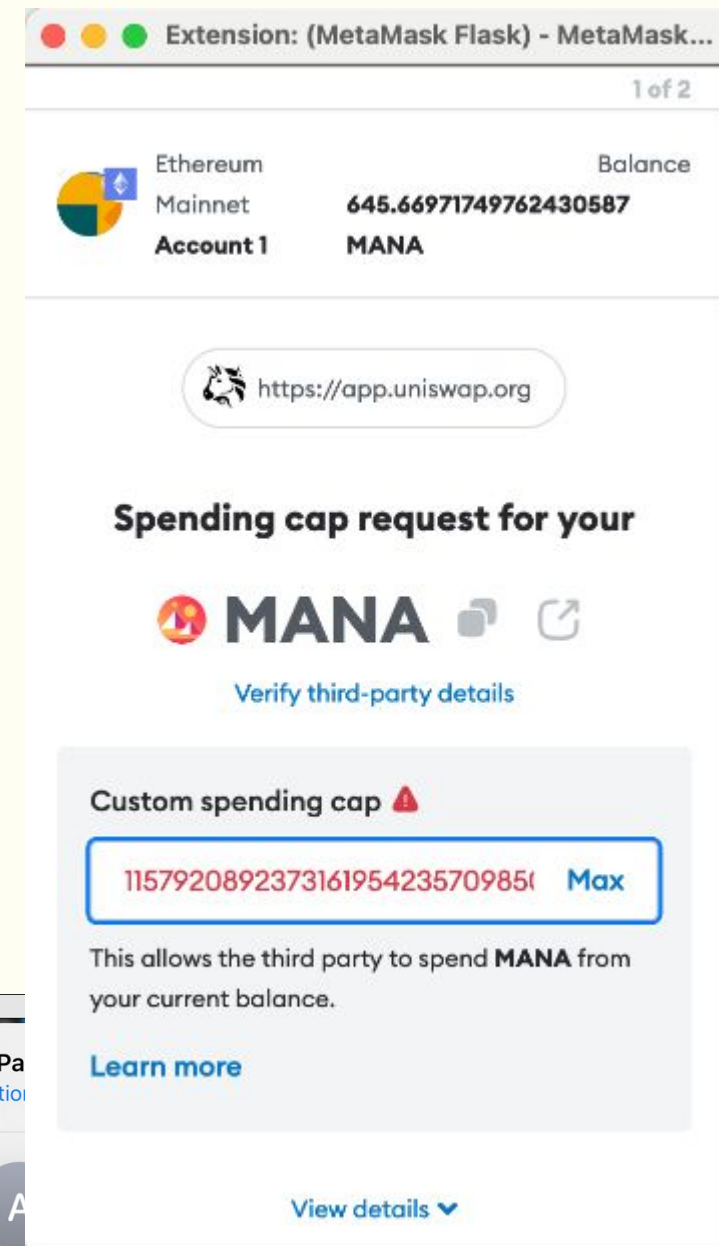
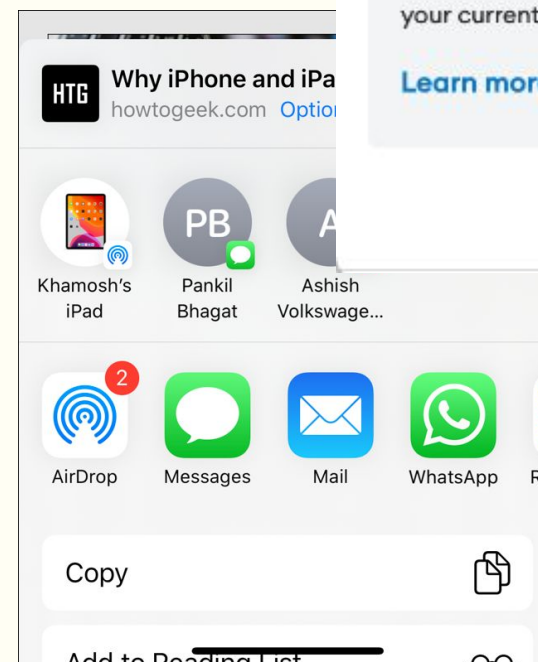


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THE END

Koans to ponder:

- What does it mean for wallets to “own” their customers?
- What do wallets owe their customers in return?
- Are we ready for wallets to be as interchangeable as browsers?
- Who gains from raising UX standards?

 @chainagnostic

 chainagnostic.org

