

This is a DoS scenario that came up recently in conversation with a developer that thinks about using Plasma. He brought up the scenario described below.

I do not think it has been discussed in detail in existing Plasma documentation so it is worth discussing it here

The scenario is as follows:

1. A successful ecommerce vendor (e.g. a decentralized ebay) runs a Plasma micropayments chain with 100 million users and \$1B in deposits.
2. Eve wants to do a DoS attack on the vendor
3. Eve deposits \$1 into the Plasma chain and spends all of it.
4. Eve intentionally attempts to pull out the \$1 she spent, triggering fraud exits.
5. The entire 100M users rush to exit, pulling \$1B in deposits and paying millions of dollars in ETH fees.

The existing Plasma MVP explanations seem to suggest that if one user does a bad thing, then all users need to exit, which seems to enable the DoS attack described above. Is this really the case? Must all users exit?

If not, I think the existing Plasma tutorials and docs need to be modified, since the docs seem to suggest the “all out” strategy as the must.