

# Data Availability (DA) using Celestia

## Introduction

Rollup reduces transaction costs and increases Ethereum's throughput by processing transactions off-chain. Rollup transactions are compressed and posted on L1 in batches. Batches represent thousands of individual off-chain transactions in a single transaction on L1. This reduces congestion on the base layer and reduces fees for users. However, it is only possible to trust the 'summary' transactions posted to L1 if the state change proposed can be independently verified and confirmed to be the result of applying all the individual off-chain transactions. If rollup operators do not make the transaction data available for this verification, then they could send incorrect data to L1. This problem is referred to as the data availability problem. In fact, if it is possible to verify that the data corresponding to a rollup block is available directly on the L1, then anyone can take the transaction data and recompute the correct rollup state. The data availability problem is particularly interesting for rollups as the rollup itself operates as an off-chain database and if the rollup operators do not post the data on a Data Availability layer such as the L1, then it becomes impossible to verify the rollup state.

## A cheaper and more scalable rollup using Celestia as Data availability layer

The most obvious DA option is to use a base monolithic chain such as Ethereum. Full nodes in a monolithic network share and hold raw transaction data that gets included in each block by a validator. With that data, a full node can recompute the chain's state and compare it with any state root committed by a network validator. As a result, even in the absolute worst-case when the validator network is compromised and produces an invalid block, a full node can reject the block at the social layer. However, any monolithic chain that performs execution, consensus and ensures data availability all on one single P2P layer is often not optimised for either and hence can be costly if used for data availability needs. For context, Arbitrum One pays about USD 112k per day to Ethereum for its DA needs. This is about USD 0.15 per transaction on average, considering the average daily transaction volume on Arbitrum One. There are many applications, such as on-chain gaming, for which a transaction cost of USD 0.15 would be completely unacceptable. As a result, new types of networks optimized for data availability are being built. One such solution is Celestia. Celestia is a data availability (DA) layer that provides a scalable solution to the [data availability problem](#). Two key features of Celestia's DA layer are [data availability sampling](#) (DAS) and [Namespaced Merkle trees](#) (NMTs). Both features are novel blockchain scaling solutions: DAS enables light nodes to verify data availability without downloading an entire block; NMTs enable execution and settlement layers on Celestia to download transactions that are only relevant to them.

## Integrating Celestia into AltLayer

At AltLayer, we are creating modular rollups. One example will be using Celestia as the data availability layer for rollup created by AltLayer rollups-as-a-service platform to lower the costs required for data availability.

### Workflow

We have developed a service that performs the following workflow

#### 1. Initialisation

The service first retrieves the genesis information and node version of the rollup. It posts both information into Celestia (similar to step 4) and updates the smart contract with the block height at which the data is stored.

#### 2. Retrieval of blocks data from L2 rollup

The goal here is to retrieve sufficient data from the L2 to commit to DA layer such that the L2 rollup can be reconstructed in a disastrous event. To do that, the data availability service will constantly fetch blocks and proof of validity in batches.

#### 3. Compressing blocks data

To minimize data cost, block data are compressed using zlib compression library. To achieve better data compression efficiency, batch size can be increased. For example, compressing a batch of 2 blocks will result in a 48% data size reduction. If the batch size is increased to 100 blocks, the reduction increases to 67%.

#### 4. Posting data to Celestia

To post data, \* Set up a \* [Celestia light node](#) \*. Light nodes ensure data availability in particular, Light nodes ensure data availability by \* Listens for new block headers and relevant DA metadata \* Data availability sampling on the received headers \* Specify a namespace, version and commitment \* Post your data to Celestia DA using \* `blob.Submit` execute ( logger ,

async

$\Rightarrow$ 

```
[ { namespace :
```

"0x"

CELESTIA\_NODE\_SHARE\_VERSION , commitment :

await

-X POST -H

-H

-d

## 5. Tracking block height where data is stored

```
set ( uint256 key , uint256 value , bytes
```

```
calldata metadata_)
```

```
external onlyOperator { emit
```

Set ( key , value , metadata\_ ,

```
_msgSender ()); // slither-disable-next-line unused-return _map . set ( key , value ); metadata [ key ]
```

```
= metadata_ ; latestKey = key ; } Full contract code: // SPDX-License-Identifier: UNLICENSED // SEE LICENSE IN
https://files.altlayer.io/Alt-Research-License-1.md // Copyright Alt Research Ltd. 2023. All rights reserved. // // You
acknowledge and agree that Alt Research Ltd. ("Alt Research") (or Alt // Research's licensors) own all legal rights, titles and
interests in and to the // work, software, application, source code, documentation and any other documents pragma
```

solidity

^ 0.8.18 ; import

```
{ AccessControlUpgradeable }
```

from

```
"@openzeppelin/contracts-upgradeable/access/AccessControlUpgradeable.sol" ; import
```

```
{ EnumerableMapUpgradeable }
```

from

"@openzeppelin/contracts-upgradeable/utils/structs/EnumerableMapUpgradeable.sol" ; /// @title UintToUintMap /// @notice This contract allows mapping between uint256 keys and values using EnumerableMapUpgradeable utility from OpenZeppelin. /// @dev Contract also includes a role based access system. contract

UintToUintMap

is AccessControlUpgradeable { using

EnumerableMapUpgradeable

for EnumerableMapUpgradeable . UintToUintMap ; /// @notice Role identifier for operators. bytes32

public

constant OPERATOR\_ROLE =

keccak256 ( "OPERATOR\_ROLE" ); /// @dev Internal storage for the map. EnumerableMapUpgradeable . UintToUintMap  
private \_map ; uint256

public latestKey ; uint256

public globalMetadata ; /// @notice Public metadata storage associated with each key. mapping ( uint256

=>

bytes )

public metadata ; /// @dev This error is thrown when the lengths of the keys and values arrays are not equal in the set  
function. error LengthMismatch (); /// @dev This error is thrown when caller is not an operator. error NotOperator (); ///  
@notice Emitted when global metadata is set. event

SetGlobalMetadata ( uint256 value ,

address sender ); /// @notice Emitted when a key-value pair is set. event

Set ( uint256

indexed key , uint256 value , bytes metadata , address sender ); /// @custom:oz-upgrades-unsafe-allow constructor  
constructor ()

{ \_disableInitializers (); } /// @dev Ensures only operators can call a function. modifier

onlyOperator ()

{ if

( ! hasRole ( OPERATOR\_ROLE ,

\_msgSender ()))

{ revert

NotOperator (); } \_ ; } /// @notice Initializes the contract, sets roles of default admin and operator. /// @param  
initialDefaultAdmin Address of the first default admin. /// @param initialOperator Address of the first operator. function

initialize ( address initialDefaultAdmin , address initialOperator )

external initializer { \_grantRole ( DEFAULT\_ADMIN\_ROLE , initialDefaultAdmin ); \_grantRole ( OPERATOR\_ROLE ,  
initialOperator ); } /// @notice Sets global metadata. /// @param value global metadata ID. function

setGlobalMetadata ( uint256 value )

external onlyOperator { emit

SetGlobalMetadata ( value ,

msgSender ()); globalMetadata = value ; } /// @notice Inserts a key-value pair into the map and emits a Set event. ///  
@param key The key to insert. /// @param value The value to insert. /// @param metadata The metadata associated with  
the key. function

set ( uint256 key , uint256 value , bytes

calldata metadata\_ )

{ "id": 1, "jsonrpc": "2.0", "method": "blob.GetAll", "params": [ 110684, [ "AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAJpDCBNOWAP3dM=" ] ] } http://localhost:26658/

1. Run the node with the correct version
2. Retrieve the mapping of the rollup block number to Celestia block height from the L1 smart contract
3. Download block data from Celestia by calling blob.GetAll
7. with the right namespace and block height
9. Decompress the block data
10. import block data into the node
11. Repeat till the node is fully synced
12. Start the node with the required information

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