





Marlowe

A SPECIAL-PURPOSE LANGUAGE
FOR FINANCIAL CONTRACTS

Designed for users, as well as developers.

Designed for maximum assurance.

Assurance

CONTRACTS DO WHAT THEY SHOULD ...
... AND NOT WHAT THEY SHOULDN'T

Language as *simple* as it can be.

Contracts can be *read* and *simulated*.

Before running, can explore *all* behaviour.

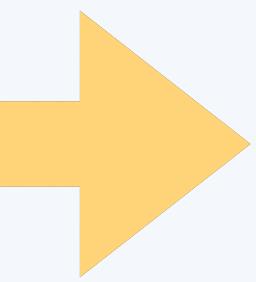
System can be *proved safe* in various ways.





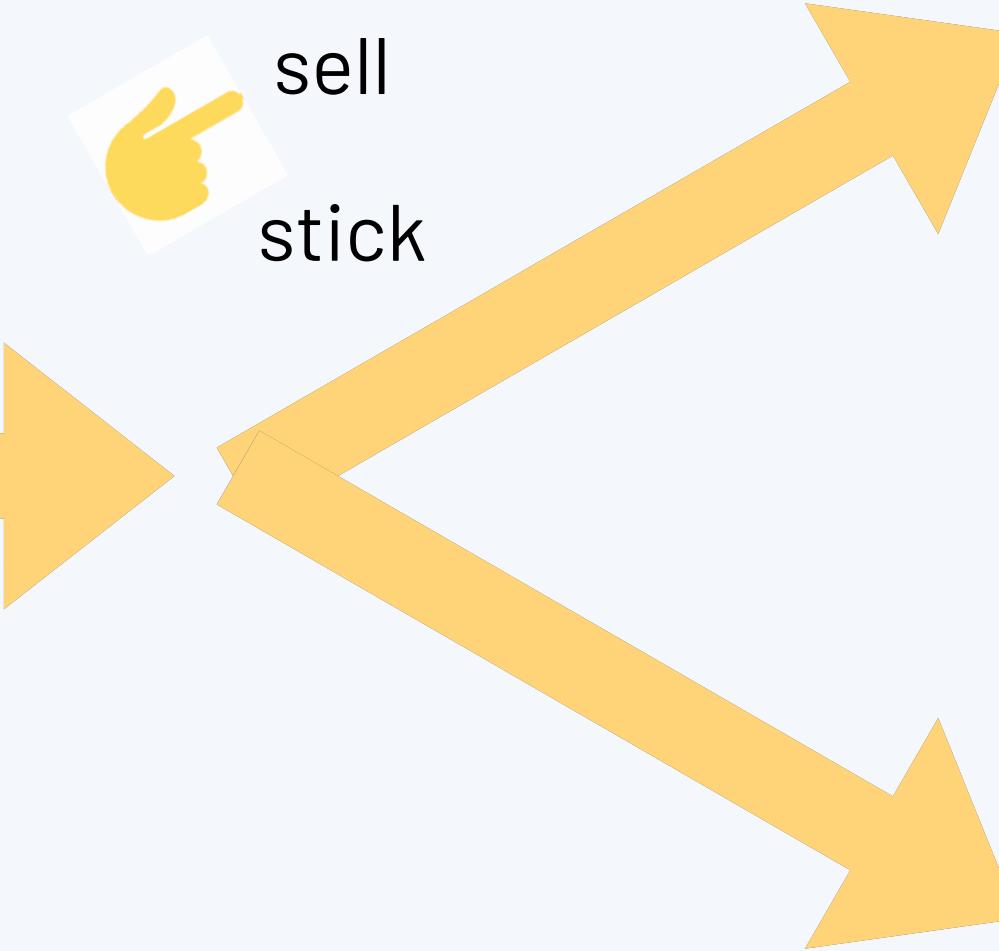
What does a financial
contract do?





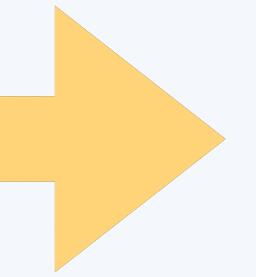


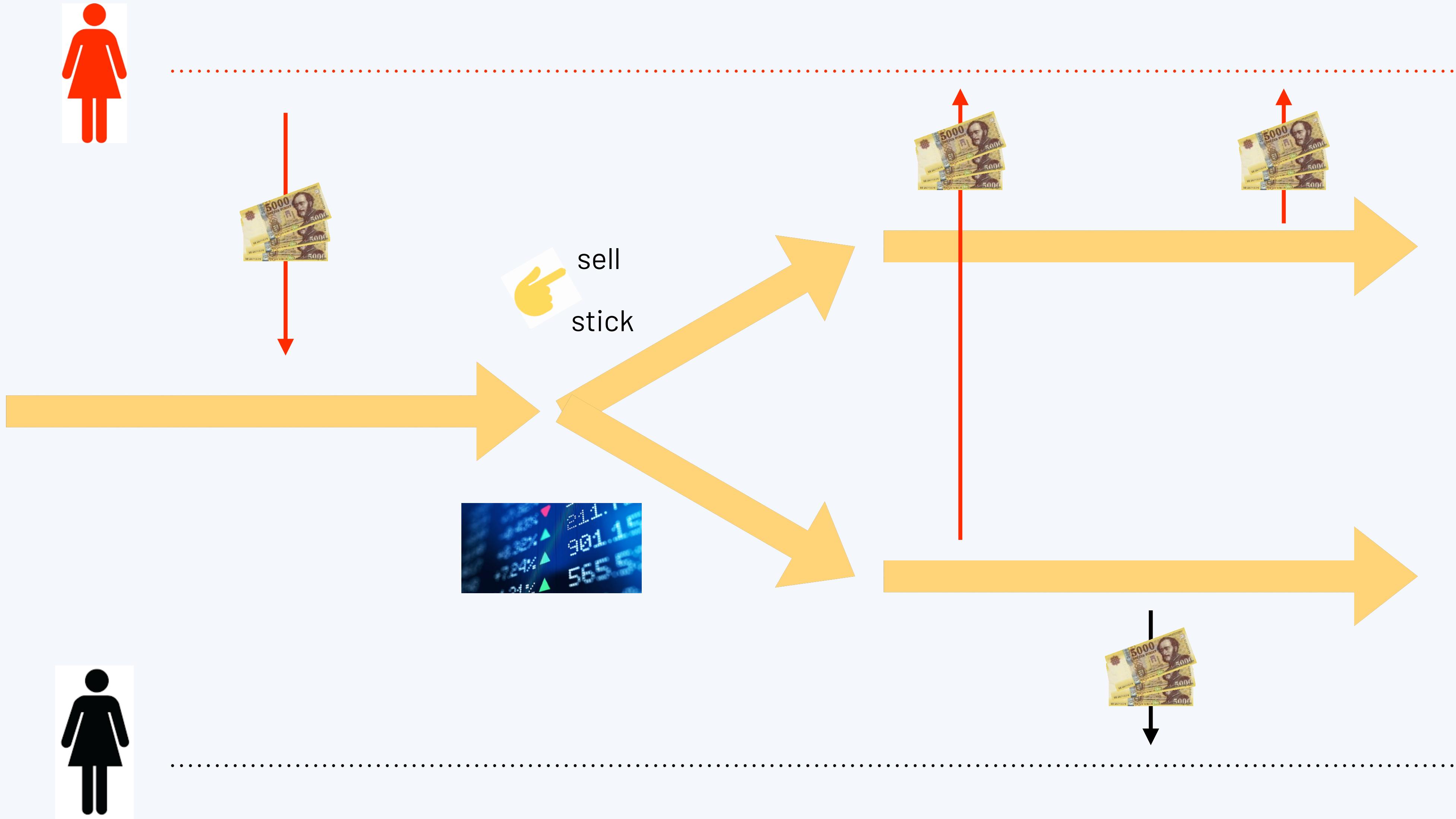
sell
stick





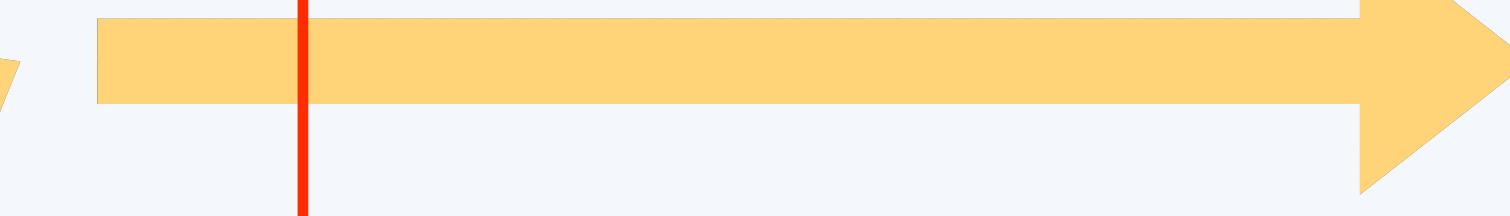
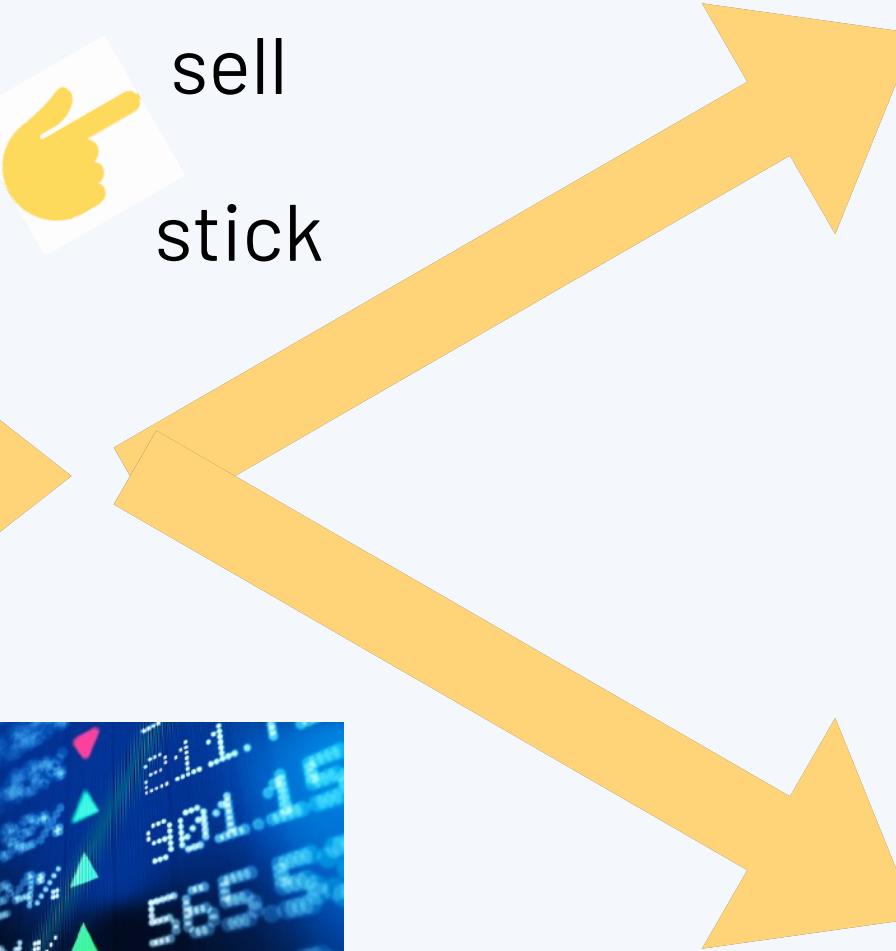
sell
stick







sell
stick





Design

A contract could ...

**A CONTRACT IS JUST A PROGRAM
RUNNING ON A BLOCKCHAIN**

- ... run forever.
- ... wait for an input forever.
- ... terminate holding assets.
- ... “double spend” assets.



Designed for safety

Contracts are finite.

No recursion or loops (in Marlowe).

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Contracts will terminate ...

Timeouts on actions: choice, deposit, ...

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... with a defined lifetime.

Read off from timeouts.

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(Local) accounts refunded on close.

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Conservation of value.

Underlying blockchain

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The Marlowe language

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```
data Contract = Close
| Pay Party Payee Value Contract
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| When [Case Action Contract]
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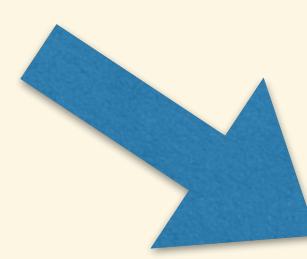
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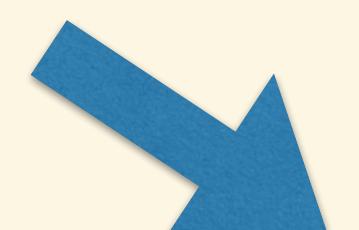
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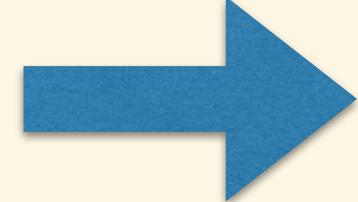
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Product

Marlowe Suite

marlowe-
finance.io

Run

Market

Play

Build

Marlowe Suite

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Build

End users:
obtain and
run contracts
distributed

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Contracts
up and down
loaded, with
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Contracts
built in code,
visually, and
embedded

Currently combined in
the Marlowe Playground

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marlowe-
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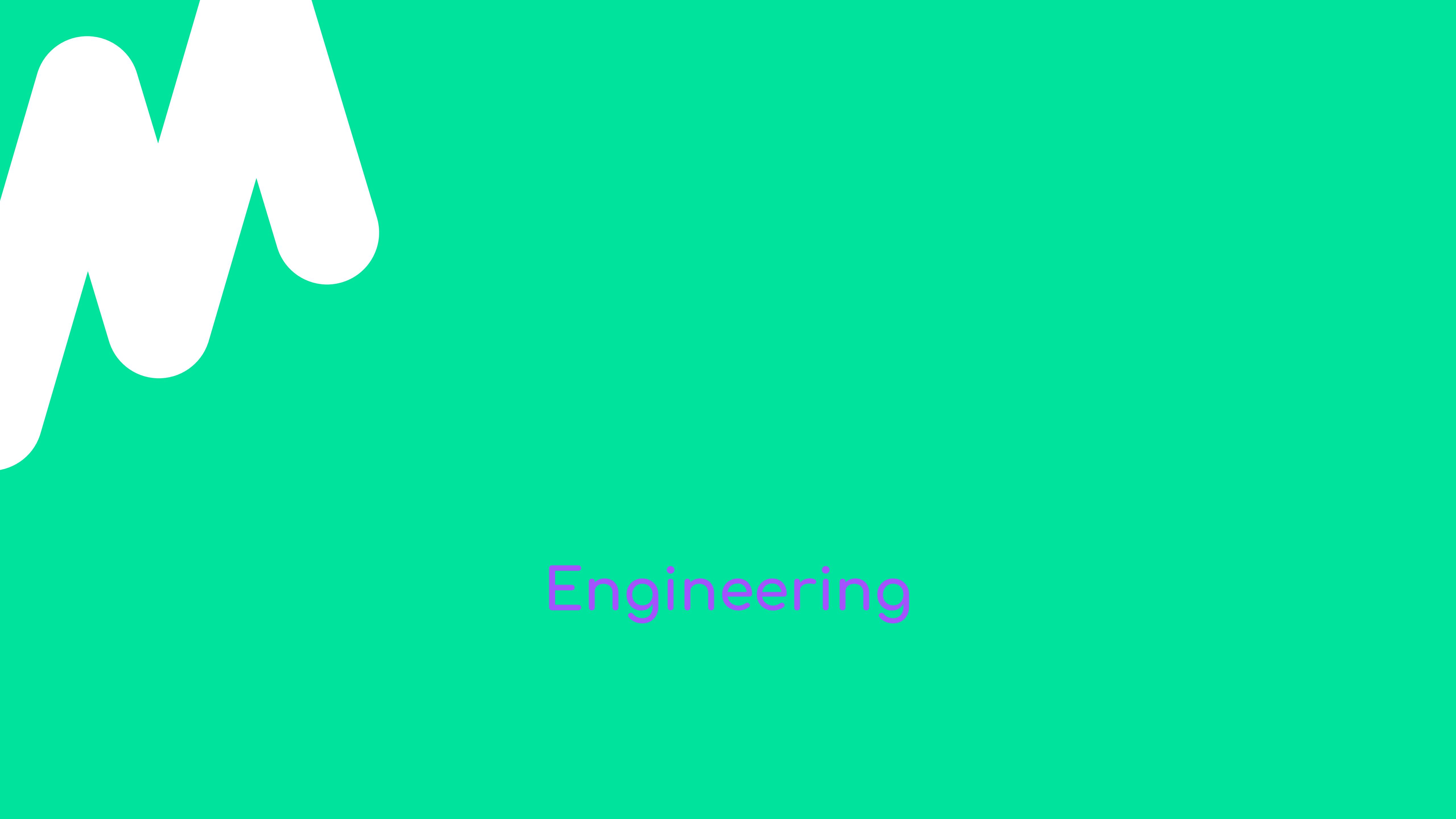
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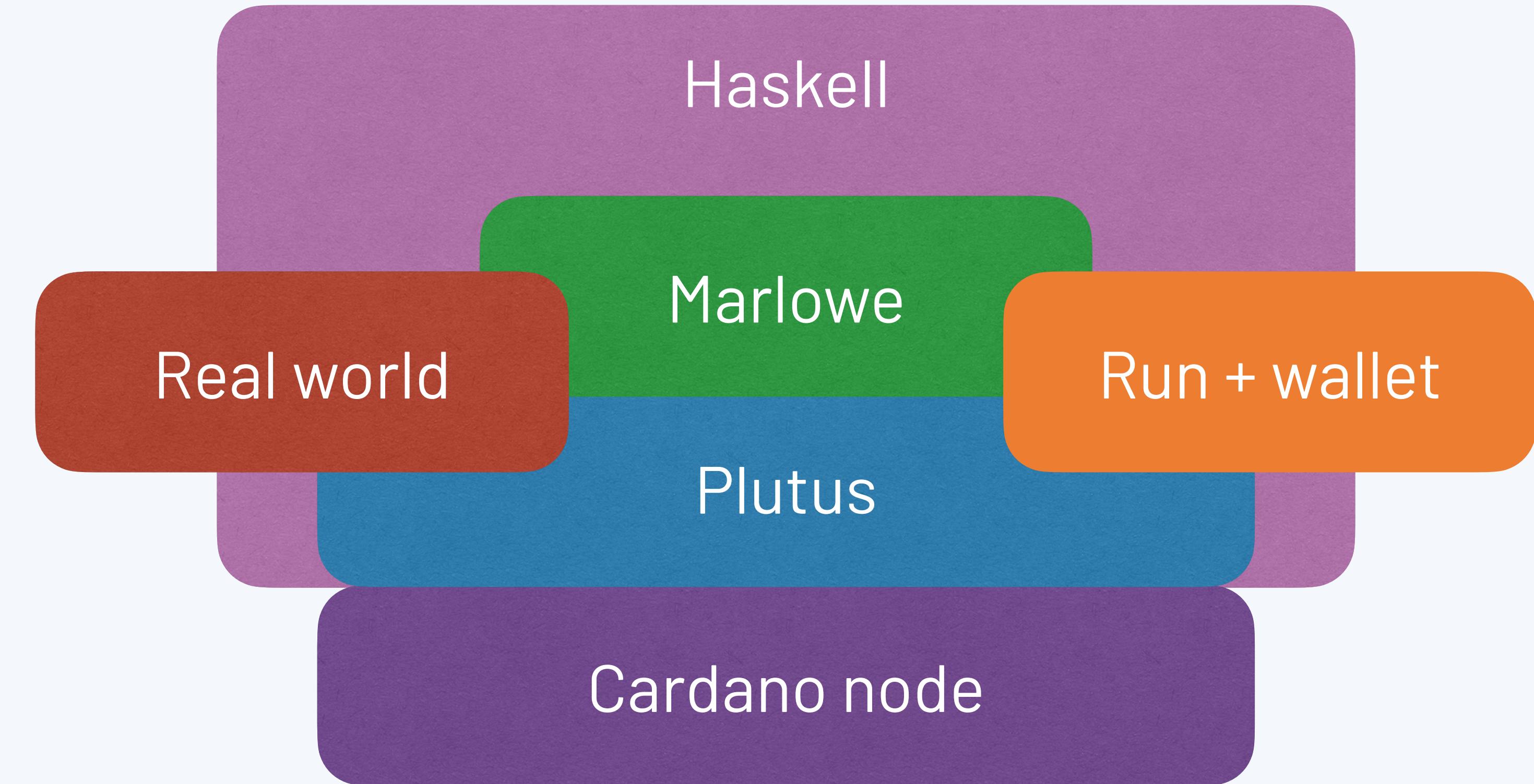
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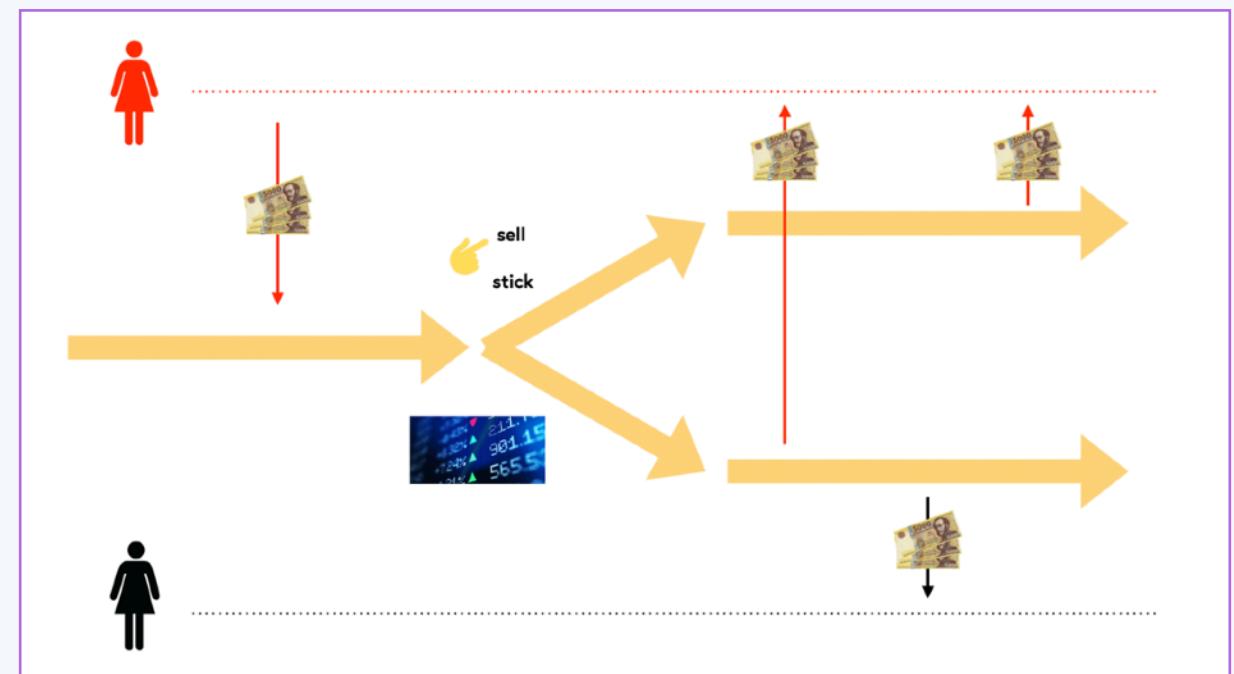
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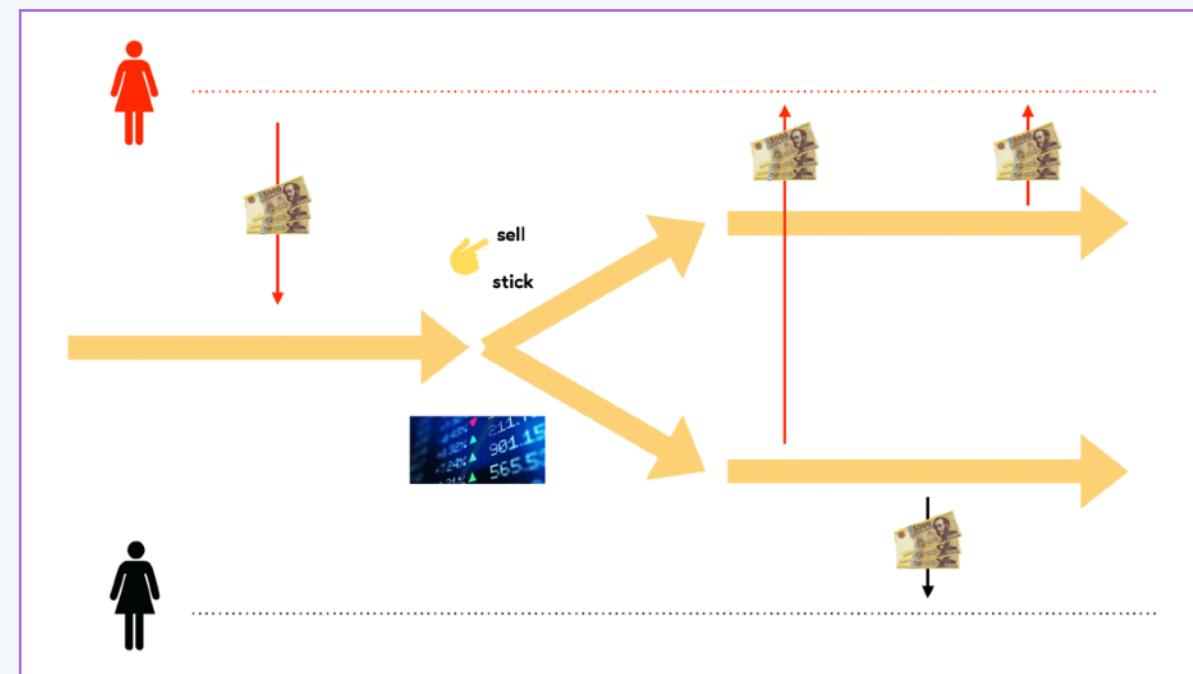
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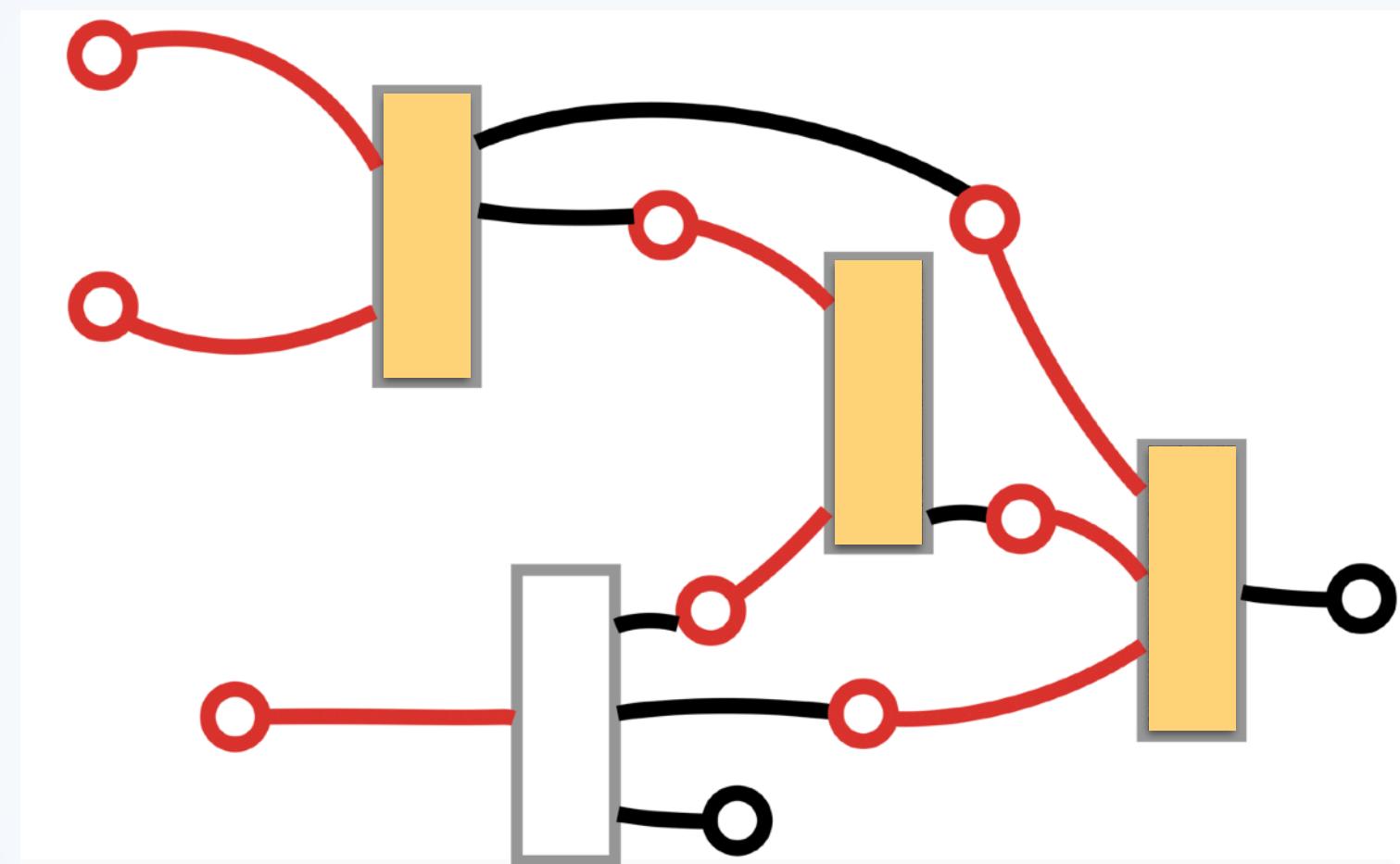
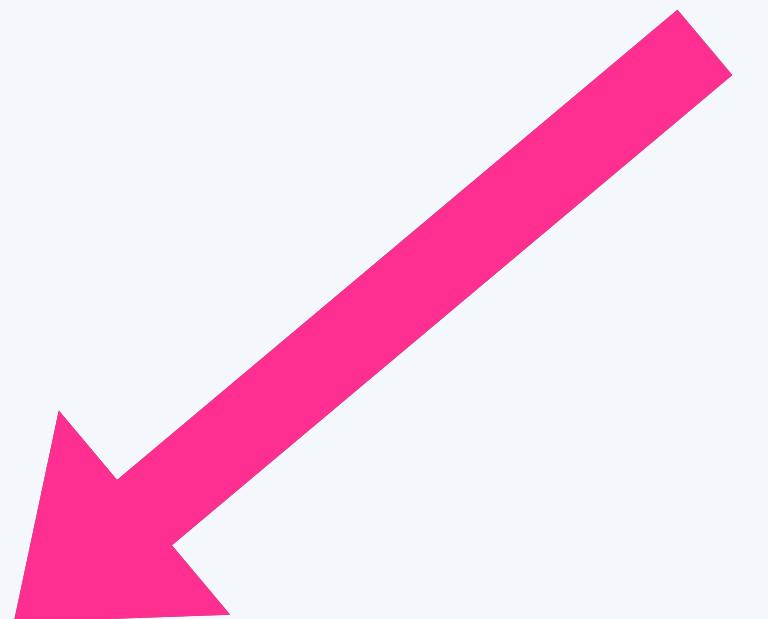
Engineering

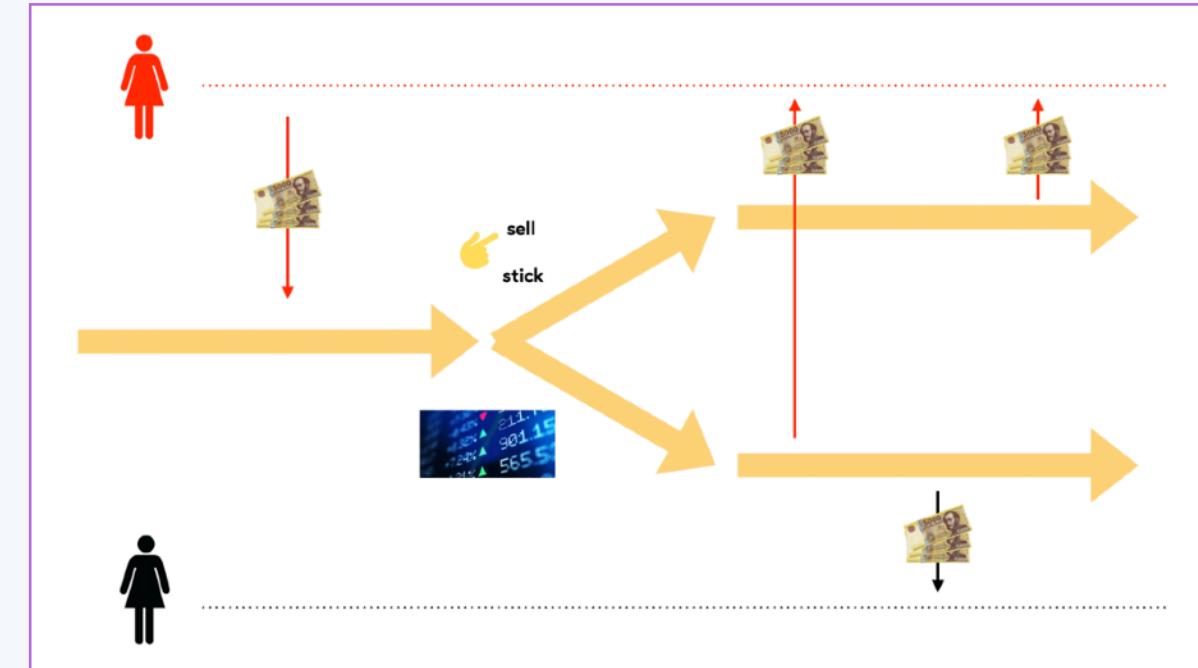




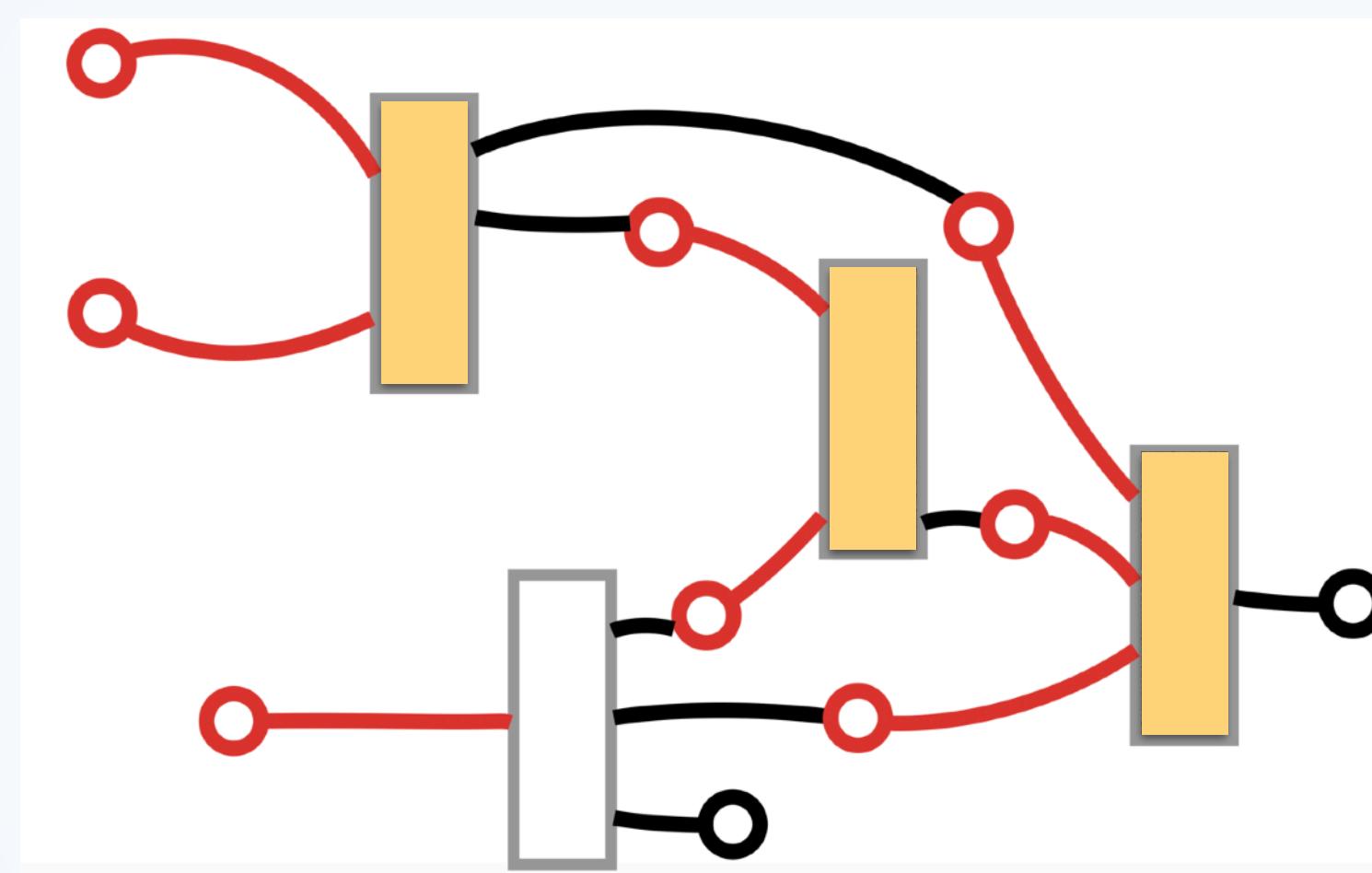


Validation is through
the Marlowe interpreter,
i.e. a Plutus contract.

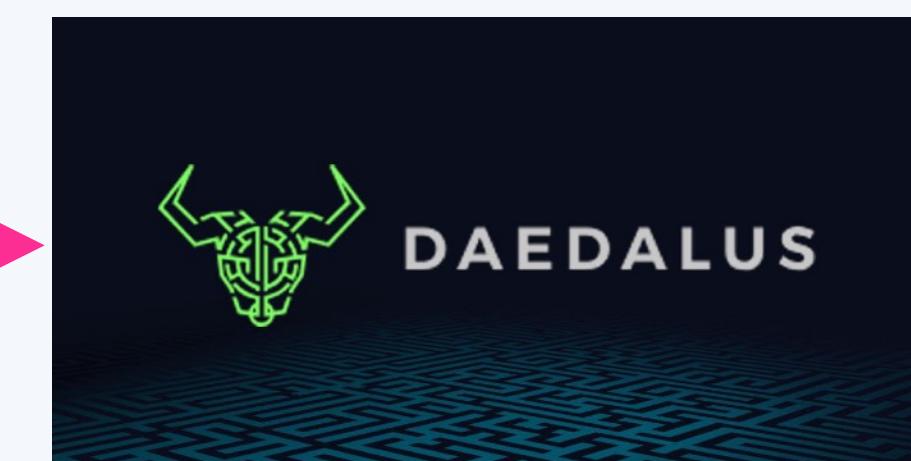
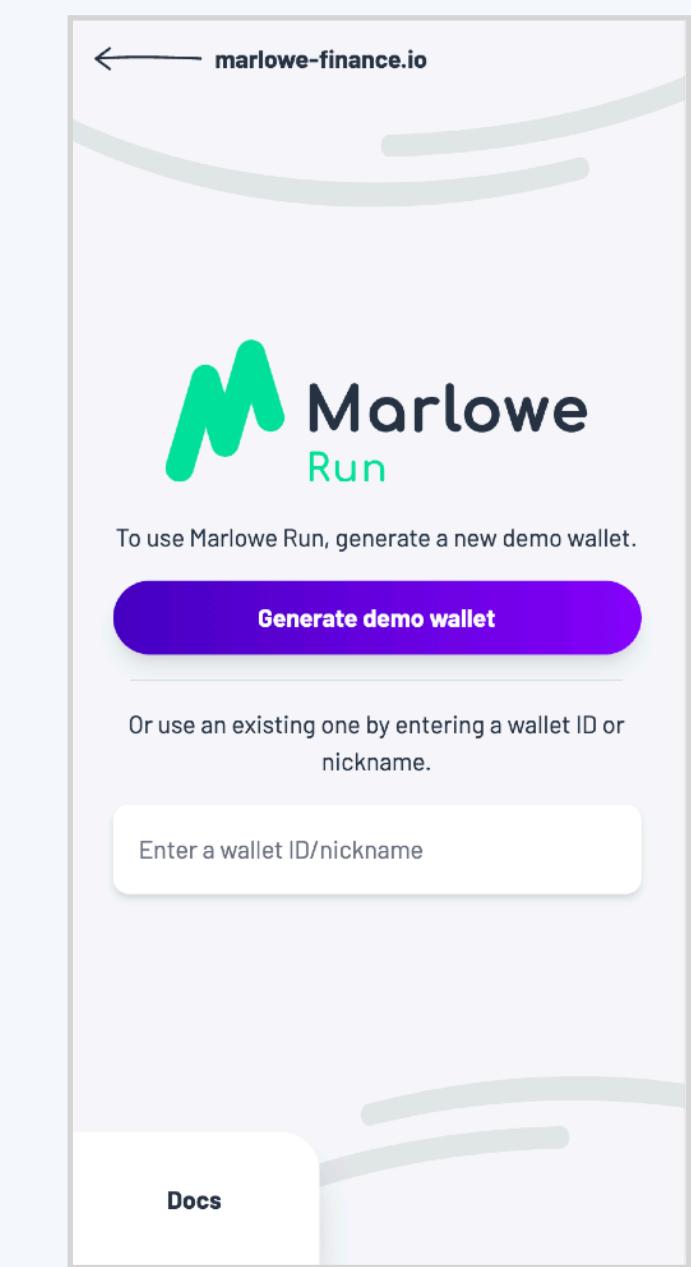


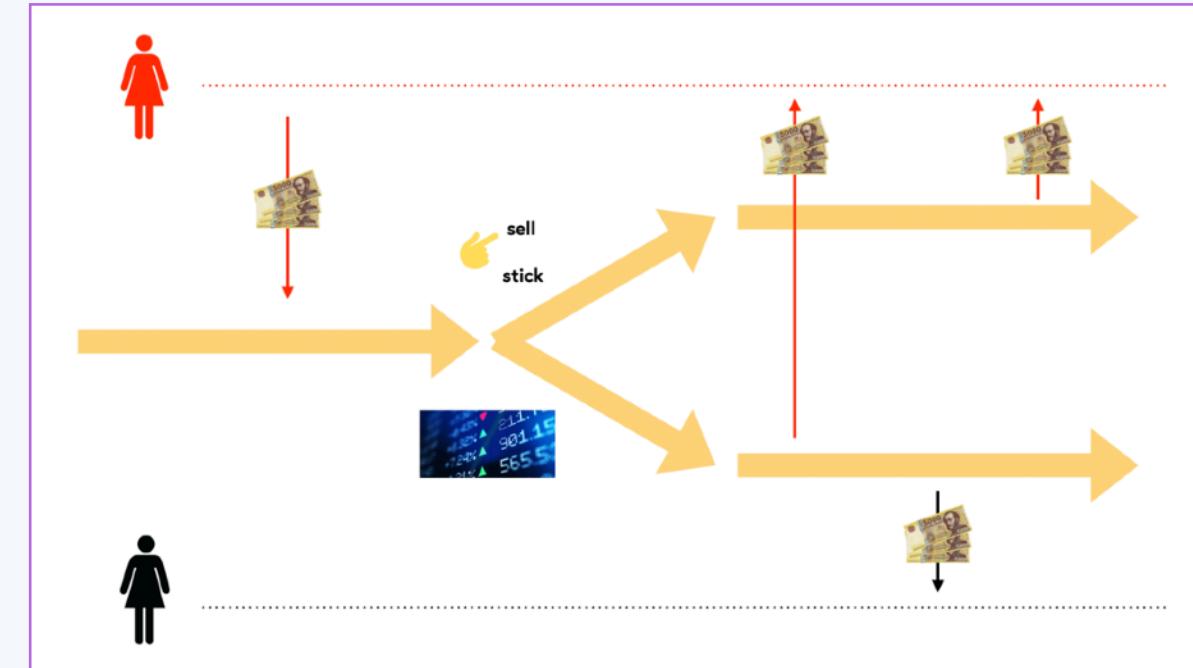


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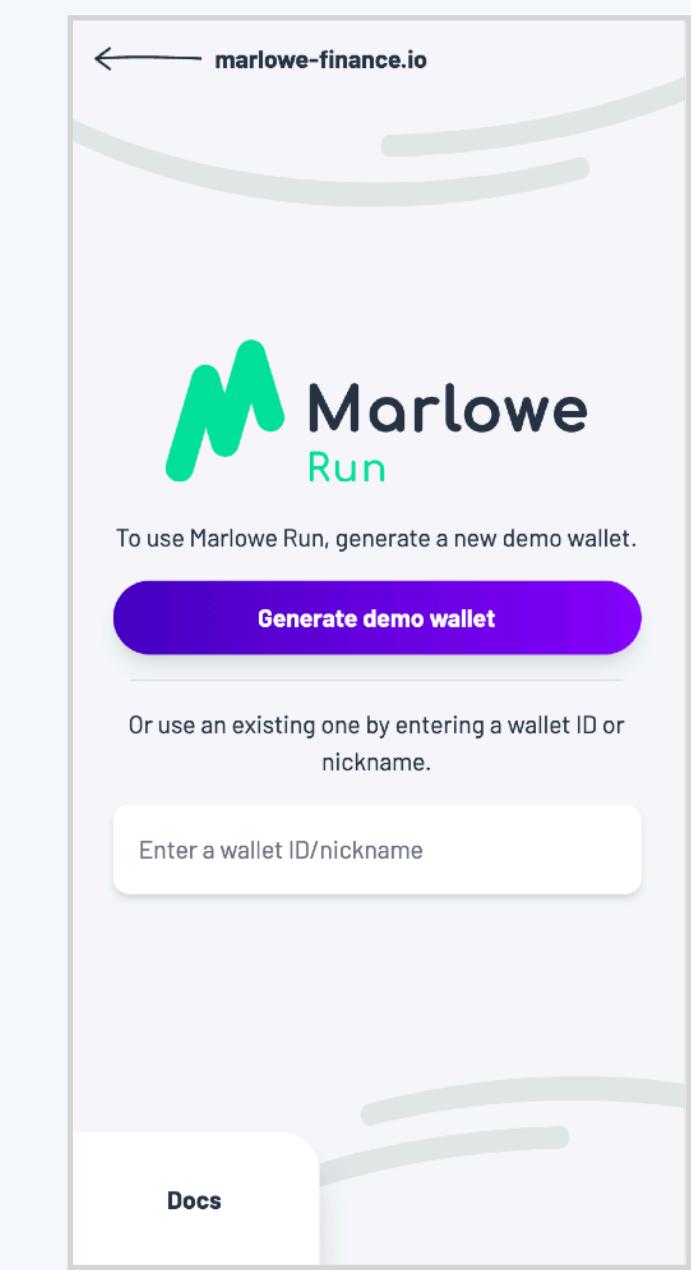
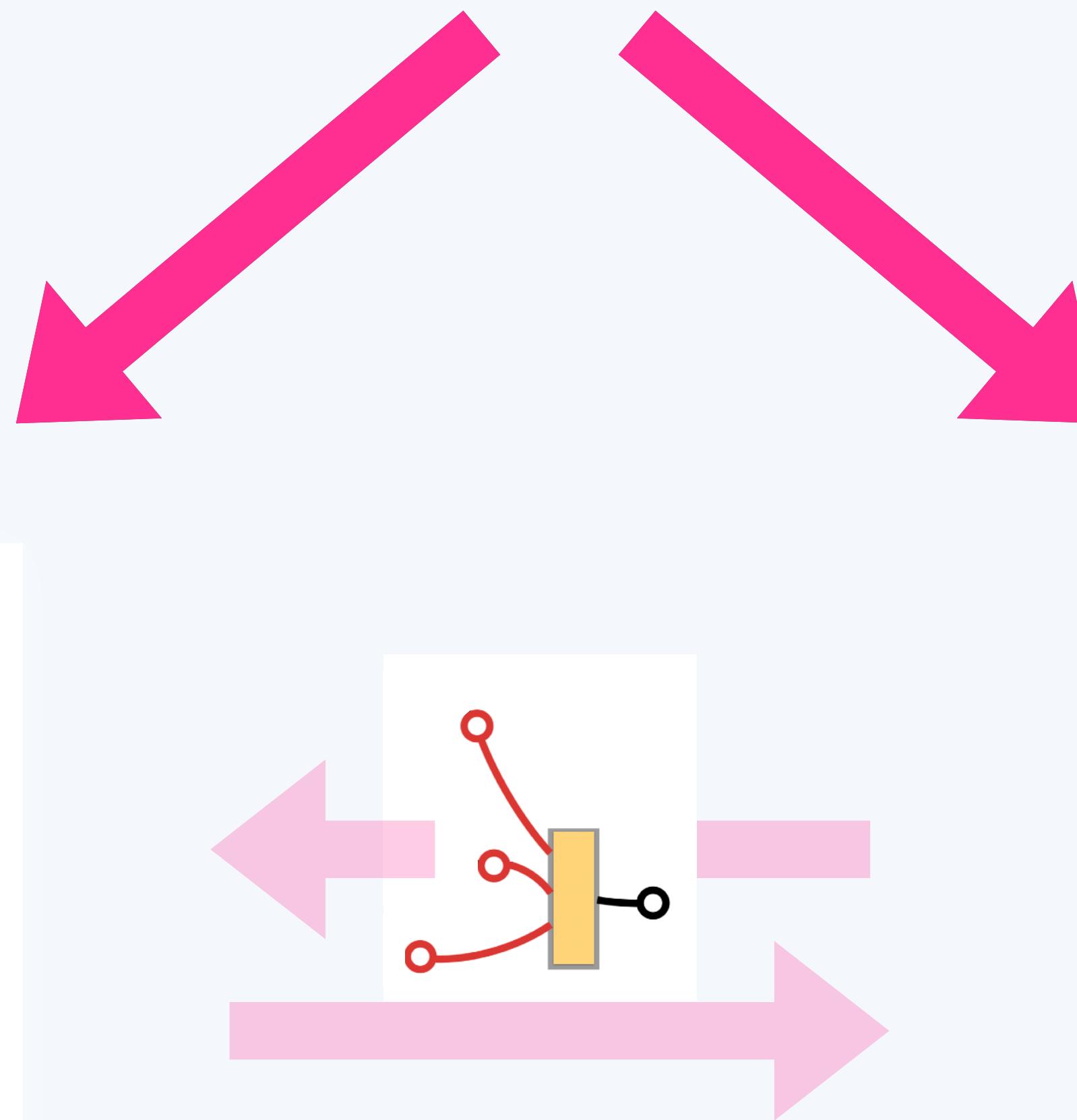
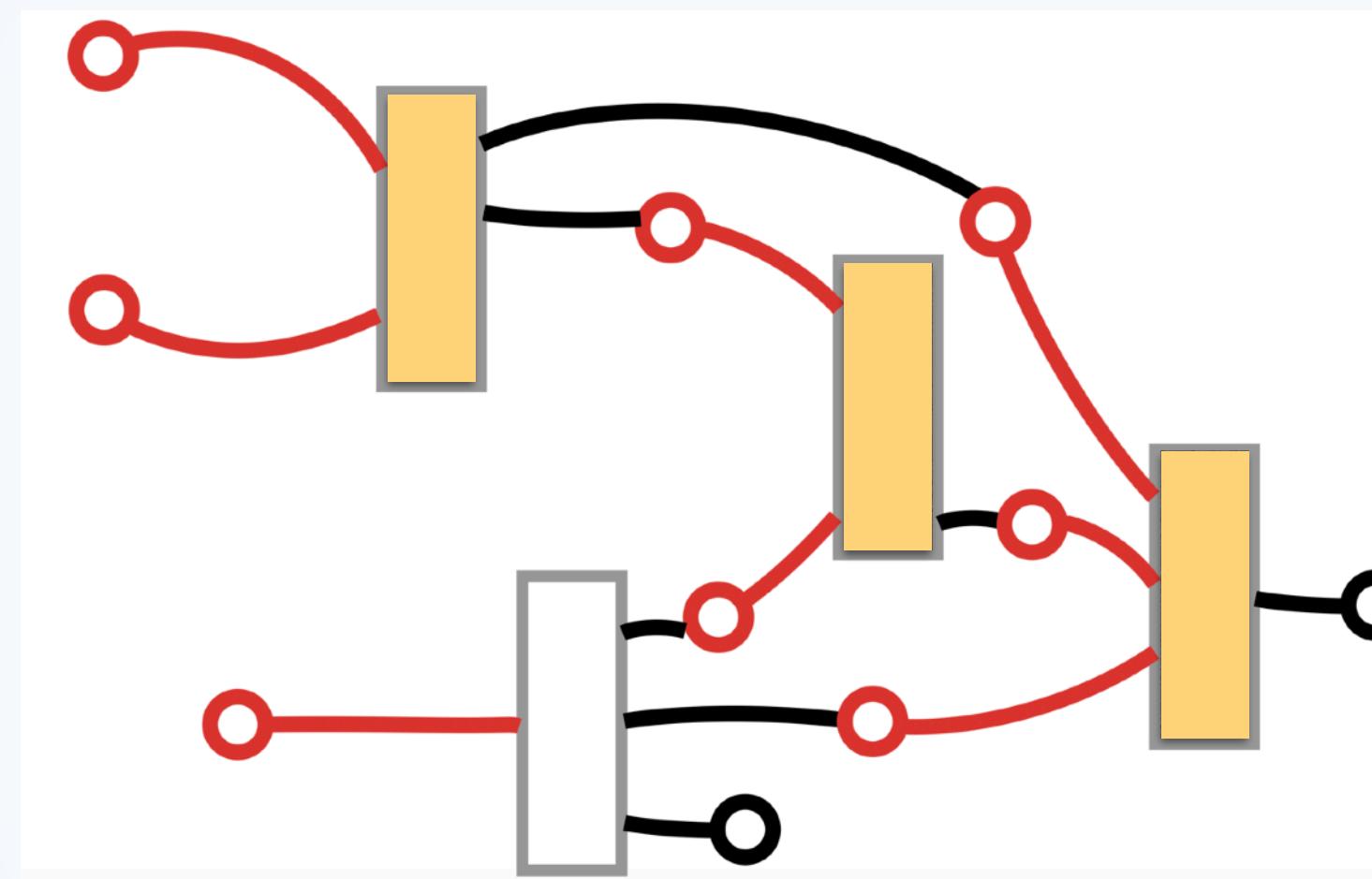


Transactions built by
Marlowe Run + wallet

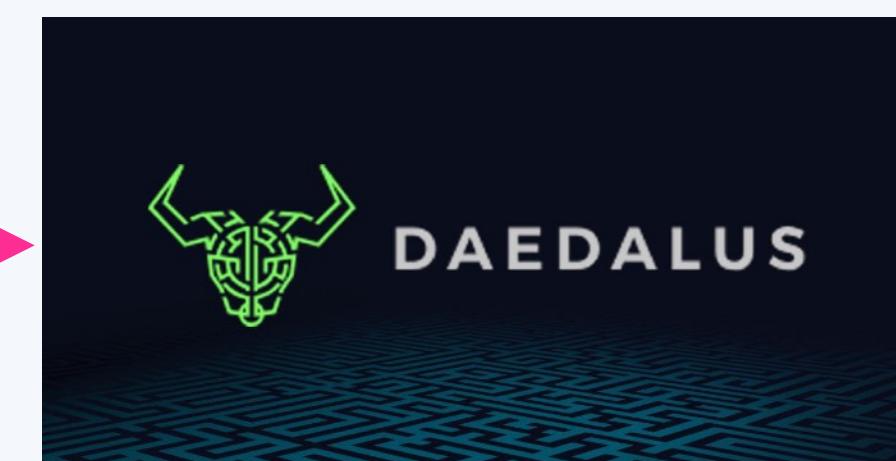


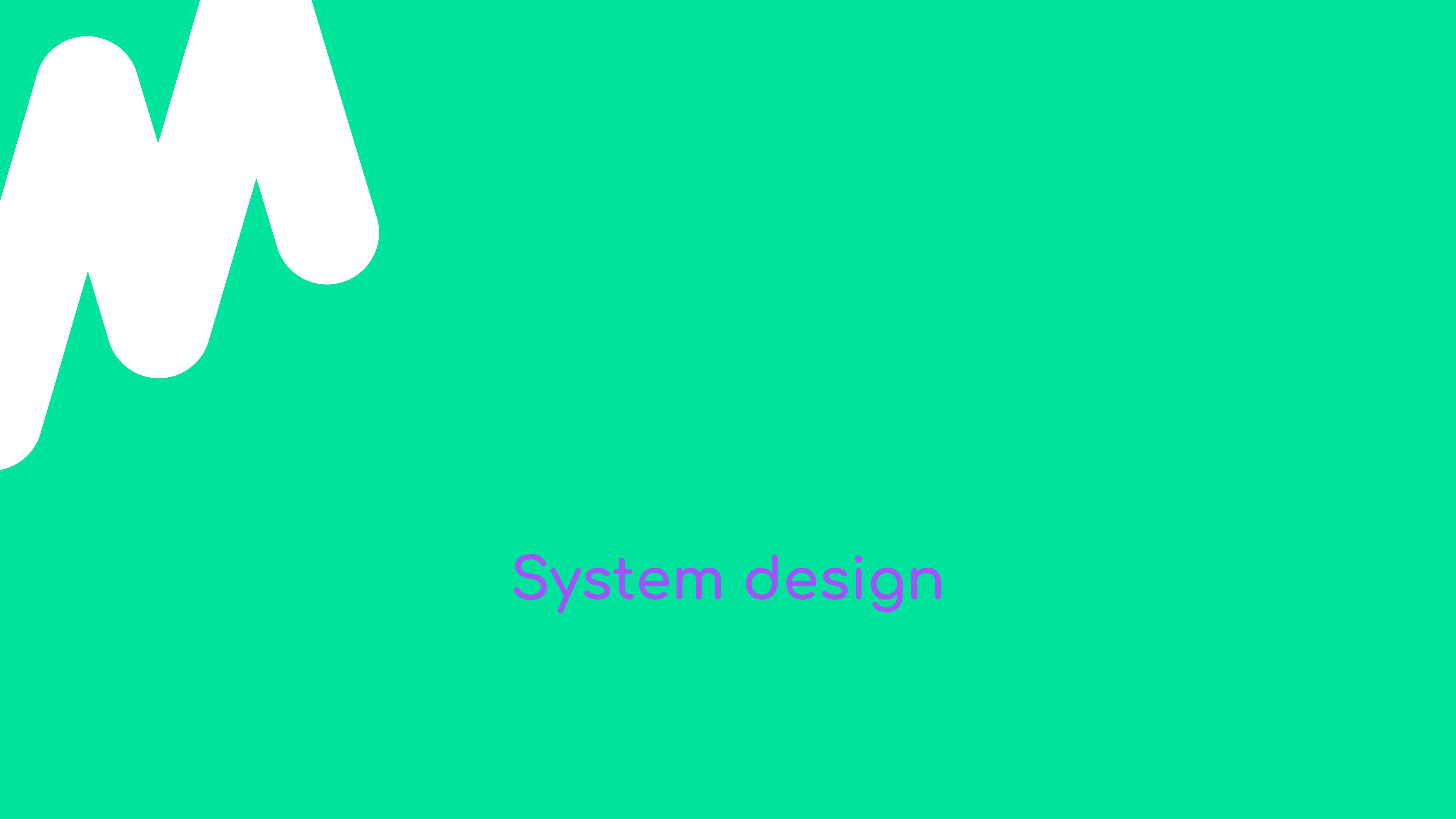


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Transactions built by
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System design

```

-- | Carry a step of the contract with no inputs
reduceContractStep :: Environment -> State -> Contract -> ReduceStepResult
reduceContractStep env state contract = case contract of

  Close -> case refundOne (accounts state) of
    Just ((party, money), newAccounts) -> let
      newState = state { accounts = newAccounts }
      in Reduced ReduceNoWarning (ReduceWithPayment (Payment party money)) newState Close
    Nothing -> NotReduced

  Pay accId payee val cont -> let
    amountToPay = evalValue env state val
    in if amountToPay <= 0
       then Reduced (ReduceNonPositivePay accId payee amountToPay) ReduceNoPayment state cont
       else let
         balance      = moneyInAccount accId (accounts state) -- always positive
         moneyToPay   = Lovelace amountToPay -- always positive
         paidMoney    = min balance moneyToPay -- always positive
         newBalance   = balance - paidMoney -- always positive
         newAccs      = updateMoneyInAccount accId newBalance (accounts state)
         warning      = if paidMoney < moneyToPay
                         then ReducePartialPay accId payee paidMoney moneyToPay
                         else ReduceNoWarning
         (payment, finalAccs) = giveMoney payee paidMoney newAccs
         in Reduced warning payment (state { accounts = finalAccs }) cont

```

Semantics = executable specification in Haskell

Denotational semantics

Definitional interpreter

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Denotational semantics

Completeness

Definitional interpreter

Must cover *all* cases

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Engagement

Can *run* the semantics

Repurpose the semantics

In Isabelle

For reasoning and proof

In Plutus (\approx Haskell)

For implementation on blockchain

In PureScript

For browser-based simulation

Aside: how to verify that these versions are the same?

Extract Haskell code from the Isabelle version.

Test this against the original Haskell version on random contracts.

Eventually use a Haskell in JS implementation to replace the PureScript.



Usable



Usable

CONTRACT WRITING AND UNDERSTANDING

Marlowe contracts can be *authored* in various different ways.

Marlowe contracts can be explored before they are run in a *simulation*.



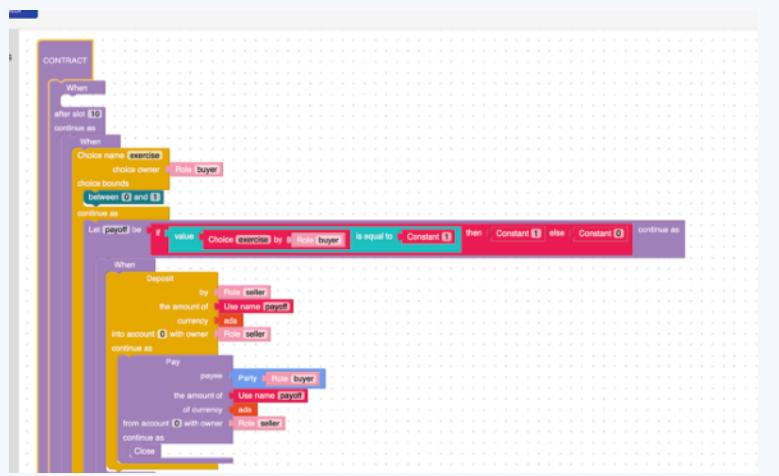
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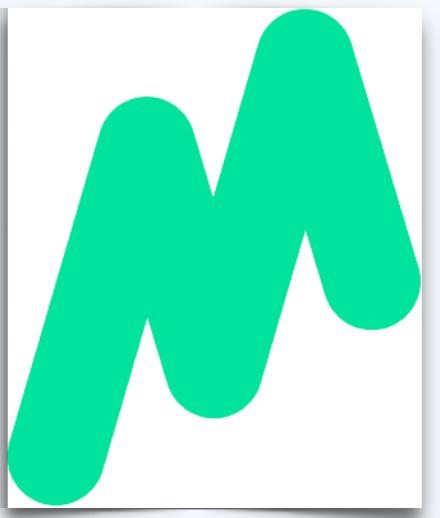
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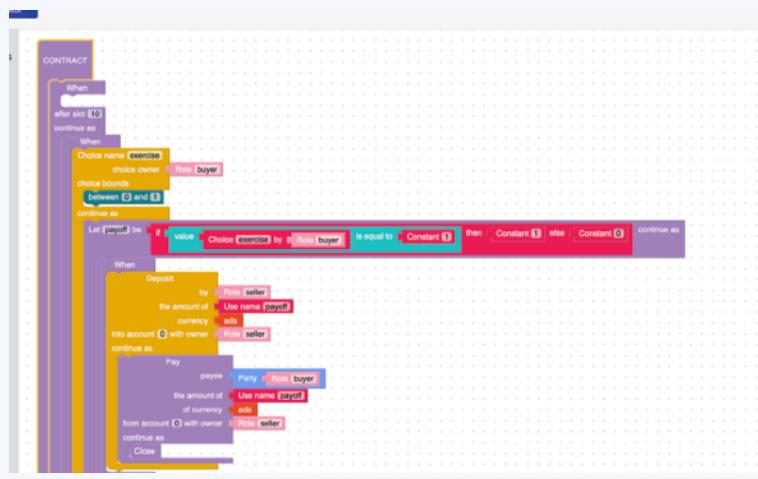
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Visual editor





Haskell Editor

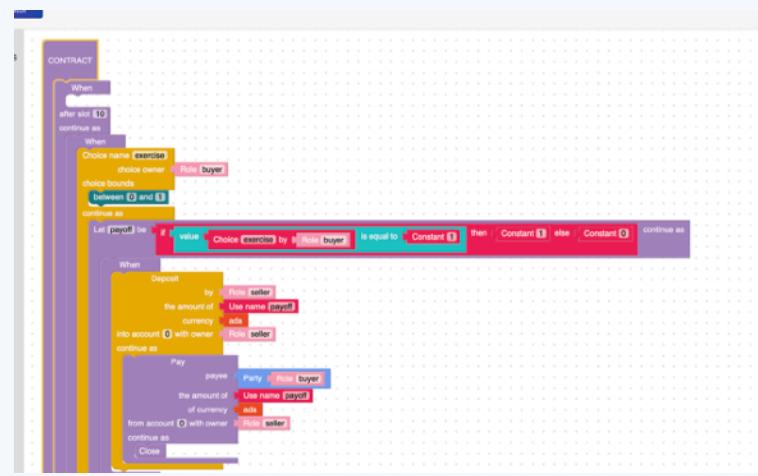


JS Editor

Visual editor

Embedded DSL





Haskell Editor



JS Editor



Labs

Visual editor

Embedded DSL

Contract generator





New Project Open Open Example Rename Save Save As...

Edit source

```
1 When
2   [Case
3     (Deposit
4       (Role "Seller")
5       (Role "Buyer")
6       (Token "" "")
7       (Constant 100000000)
8     )
9     (When
10      [Case
11        (Choice
12          (ChoiceId
13            "Everything is alright"
14            (Role "Buyer")
15          )
16          [Bound 0 0]
17        )
18        Close , Case
19        (Choice
20          (ChoiceId
21            "Report problem"
22            (Role "Buyer")
23          )
24          [Bound 1 1]
25        )
26        (Pay
27          (Role "Seller")
28          (Account (Role "Buyer"))
29          (Token "" "")
30          (Constant 100000000)
31          (When
32            [Case
33              (Choice
34                (ChoiceId
35                  "Confirm problem"
36                  (Role "Seller")
37                )
38                [Bound 1 1]
39              )
40              Close , Case
41              (Choice
42                (ChoiceId
```

current slot: 0

expiration slot: 17

ACTIONS

Participant **Buyer** "The party that pays for the item on sale.."
Deposit 100,000,000 units of ADA into account of Seller as Buyer

Other Actions

Move to slot 10

Undo

Reset

TRANSACTION LOG

Action	Slot
Deposit 1,000,000 units of ADA into account of <u>Seller</u> as <u>Seller</u>	0
Deposit 1,000,000 units of ADA into account of <u>Buyer</u> as <u>Buyer</u>	0

Current State



Escrow with collateral

ESCROW

Tasks Balances

Step 1 ✓ Completed

S Seller
Seller made a deposit of ₩ 1.000000 into their account on 31 May 2021 between 08:44 and 08:45

Tasks Balances

Step 2 ✓ Completed

B Buyer
You made a deposit of ₩ 1.000000 into your account on 31 May 2021 between 08:45 and 08:46

Tasks Balances

Step 3 ✓ Completed

B Buyer
You made a deposit of ₩ 1,000.000000 into Seller's account on 31 May 2021 between 08:45 and 08:47

Tasks Balances

Step 4 ✓ Completed

B Buyer
You chose 0 for "Everything is alright" on 31 May 2021 between 08:45 and 08:49

Tasks Balances

Step 5 Contract closed

This contract is now closed
There are no tasks to complete



Next →



Assurance

Assurance

USING THE POWER OF LOGIC

Static analysis: automatic verification of properties of individual contracts.

Verification: machine-supported proof of system and contract properties.



Static analysis

Can check *all* execution paths through a Marlowe contract.

All choices, *all* choices of slots for transaction submission.

Example: is it possible there may not be enough to fulfil a *Pay* construct?

Constructive: if it is, then here's a counter-example.

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Example: is it possible there may not be enough to fulfil a *Pay* construct?

Constructive: if it is, then here's a counter-example.

```
4   (Role "alice")
5   (Role "alice")
6   (Token "" "")
7   (Constant 450) ←
8   )
9   (When
10  [Case
11   (Choice
12    (ChoiceId
13     "choice"
14     (Role "alice")
15    )
16    [Bound 0 1]
17   )
18   (When
19   [Case
20    (Choice
21    )
```

Current State | Static Analysis | Warnings | Errors | Logs

Warning Analysis Result: Pass

Static analysis could not find any execution that results in any warning.

Analyse for warnings

Analyse reachability

Participant **alice**
Deposit 450 units of A
Account (Role "alice")
"alice")

Other Actions
Move to slot 10

Undo

Modelling co
Marlowe

Marlowe is designed to
execution of financial
blockchain, and specific
Cardano. Contracts are
together a small number
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```

4   (Role "alice")
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7   (Constant 40) ←
8 )
9 (When
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```

Participant **alice**

Deposit **40** units of **ADA**
(Role "alice") as **(Role "alice")**

Other Actions

Move to slot **10**

Undo

Modelling contracts in Marlowe

Marlowe is designed to support the execution of financial contracts on the blockchain, and specifically on the Cardano. Contracts are built together a small number of primitives in combination can be used to model many different kinds of contracts.

Warning Analysis Result: Warnings Found

Static analysis found the following counterexample:

- Warnings issued:
 1. **TransactionPartialPay** - The contract is supposed to make a payment of **450** units of **ADA** from account of **(Role "alice")** to party **(Role "bob")** but there is only **40**.
- Initial slot: **0**
- Offending transaction list:
 1. **Transaction** with slot interval **0 to 3** and inputs:
 - a. **IDeposit** - Party **(Role "alice")** deposits **40** units of **ADA** into account of **(Role "alice")**.
 2. **Transaction** with slot interval **1 to 2** and inputs:
 - a. **IChoice** - Party **(Role "alice")** chooses number **0** for choice **"choice"**.
 3. **Transaction** with slot interval **1 to 1** and inputs:
 - a. **IChoice** - Party **(Role "bob")** chooses number **0** for choice **"choice"**.

Analyse for warnings

Analyse reachability

The system is safe

Prove properties of the Marlowe system once and for all.

Theorem: Accounts are never -ve.

Theorem: Money preservation:

$$\text{money_in} = \text{money_in_accounts} + \text{money_out}$$

Theorem: Close produces no warnings.

Theorem: Static analysis is sound and complete.

And we can do the same for individual contracts and templates too.

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More information about Marlowe

The marlowe and plutos github repositories.

The IOHK research library: search for “Marlowe”.

Online tutorial in the Marlowe Playground.

Alex's presentation coming up next.



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