

Writing out the entire plan since the talk is a bit longer than usual.

1:15hrs

Outline:

- ZKVM
  - zkVM architecture
  - RISC Zero Terminology
  - zkVM features
  - Proof Stack - Full Perspective
    - Prove RISC-V execution with STARK -->
    - Prove recursion/aggregation with STARK -->
    - Run groth16 circuit to make it small
  - What's possible with the zkVM - Demos
    - showcase different projects built on zkVM
      - Fibonacci walkthrough
      - Chess walkthrough
- Bonsai
  - Explain what it is
    - Where to use it
  - High level architecture
  - What's possible with Bonsai
    - showcase different projects built on Bonsai
    - Bonsai Pay
      - Architecture overview
      - code walkthrough
      - Demo



# RISC Zero

## ZK Hack IV Online

**Get Rusty with RISC Zero: Build your ZK Rust Application**

Brian Retford, CEO  
Dr Iryna Tsimashenka, DevRel  
Hans Martin, Solutions Engineer

# What will we cover?

## Intro to RISC Zero

### zkVM

- » architecture
- » terminology
- » features
- » proof system
- » quick start

Break 5-10 min

### Bonsai

- » what is it? why?
- » Bonsai Pay walk through

# Introduction to R0

**RISC Zero** was started in **2021** and is focused on revolutionizing the internet by creating the infrastructure & tooling necessary for Web3 developers around the globe to build zero-knowledge software. We are bringing **general-purpose computing to the zero-knowledge ecosystem** – enabling users to trust programs run anywhere while allowing developers to use the tools they already know and love.

# RISC Zero zkVM

is based on two main components:



## RISC-V ISA

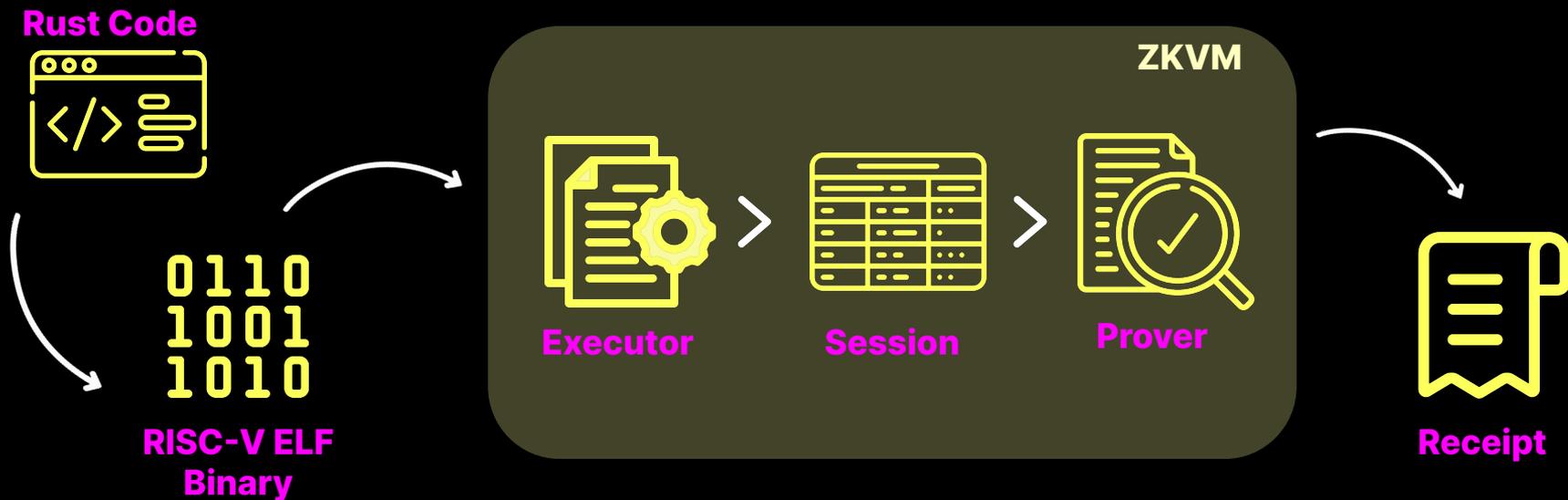
open-source instruction set  
architecture based on the reduced  
instruction set computer that uses  
32 int registers



## zk-STARKs

zero knowledge, scalable,  
transparent argument of  
knowledge cryptography

# zkVM Architecture



# **But, why is it important? What can it do?**

**Developers can run Rust code through the zkVM and prove the execution was done correctly.**

**The zkVM makes verifiable computation easy to get started with**

# Q&A with Brian

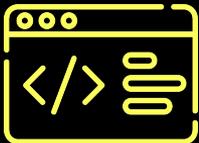
# Terminology

**Guest:** The program running inside the zkVM.

**Host:** The system the zkVM runs on.

**Prover:** Part of zkVM that generates a proof.

## Guest Code



application that gets proven

0110  
1001  
1010

## RISC-V ELF Binary

executable format for the RISC-V instruction set

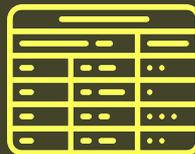
## Host

The system the ZKVM runs on

## ZKVM



Executor



Session



Prover



Receipt

Reasonable for generating the execution trace

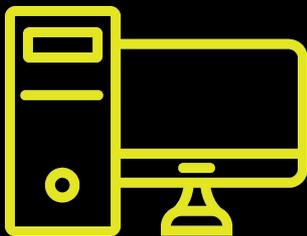
Execution trace of the program

Validates and proves a guest program constructing a receipts

Attests to valid execution of a guest program

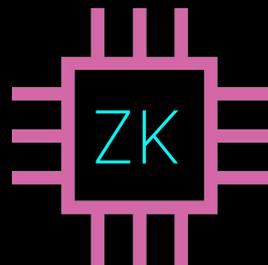
# Proving

## Host



Forwards  
receipt to  
skeptics

Emulated guest,  
sends private data



## Guest

Executes code,  
Commits results  
to receipt

Returns to host as  
proof of compute



Receipt

Verifier



**Receipt:** A receipt attests to valid execution of a guest program.

**Journal:** The portion of the receipt that contains the public outputs of a guest.

**Seal:** Hash of the proof that is passed for validation.

# Receipt: Verification

## Receipt

```
graph TD; Receipt[Receipt] --- Journal[Journal]; Receipt --- Seal[Seal];
```

### Journal

The public outputs of the guest program

### Seal

Cryptographic zero-knowledge proof that the journal is the output of the program whose “hash” is included in the seal

# **Advanced: Let's look under the hood**

# Advanced: What's in a Receipt?

The **seal** of a RISC Zero zkVM receipt is a zk-**STARK**  
**Scalable Transparent AR**gument of **K**nowledge

The prover & verifier

Use **FRI** and **DEEP-ALI**

With the **Fiat-Shamir** heuristic implemented using **SHA-2**

To prove/verify that the **execution trace**

Satisfies appropriate constraints

# zkVM as a VM

The RISC Zero zkVM is a virtual machine with a **RISC-V** instruction set architecture (ISA)

Open

Lightweight

Common compilation target

When you execute guest code, it **executes instructions** from this ISA in the same way any other implementation of this ISA in the same way any other implementation of this ISA would do

**Extensions** for SHA and finite fields

# Advanced: Execution trace

Not **just** a Virtual Machine

The prover records the state of the VM as an **execution trace**

Each row is a clock cycle

Each column is a register

If the **only** thing you care about is proving/checking correct execution, this is enough. But...

zero-knowledge

# Advanced: Trace as Witness

Why is verifying the trace?

The **initial state** matches the claimed code

The **results** are as claimed

There is **computational integrity**: each step must be what a RISC-V processor would do

We encode the trace algebraically

The above conditions become **algebraic constraints**

The encoded trace is called **witness**

# Continuations

Why get Excited???

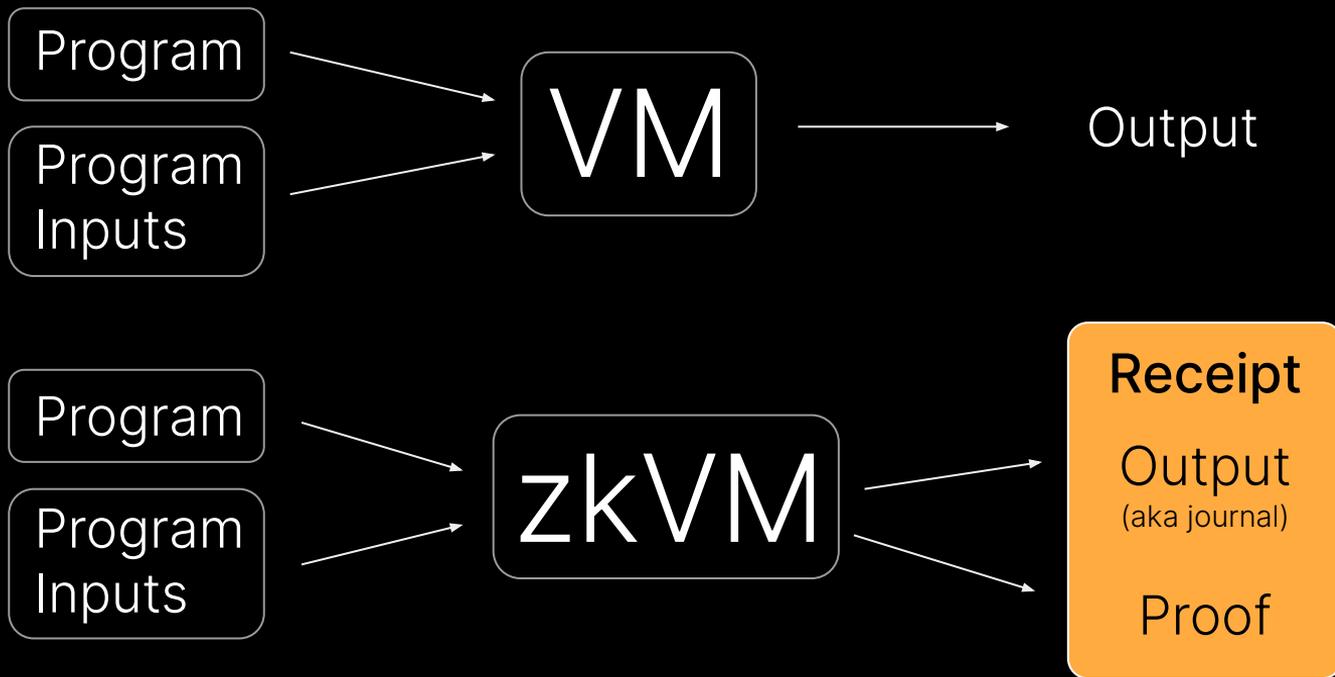
## Max Computation Size

Before Continuations: 16 million cycles

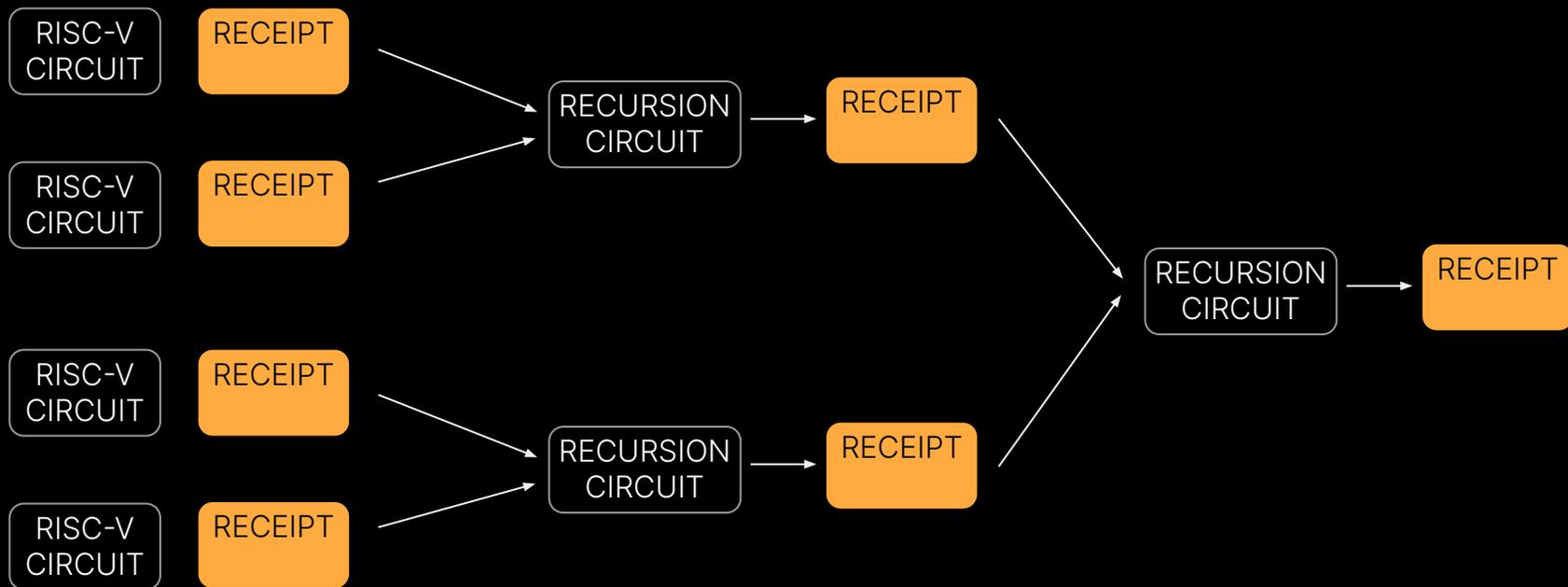
After Continuations: ~ **10 billion cycles**

# Proof System

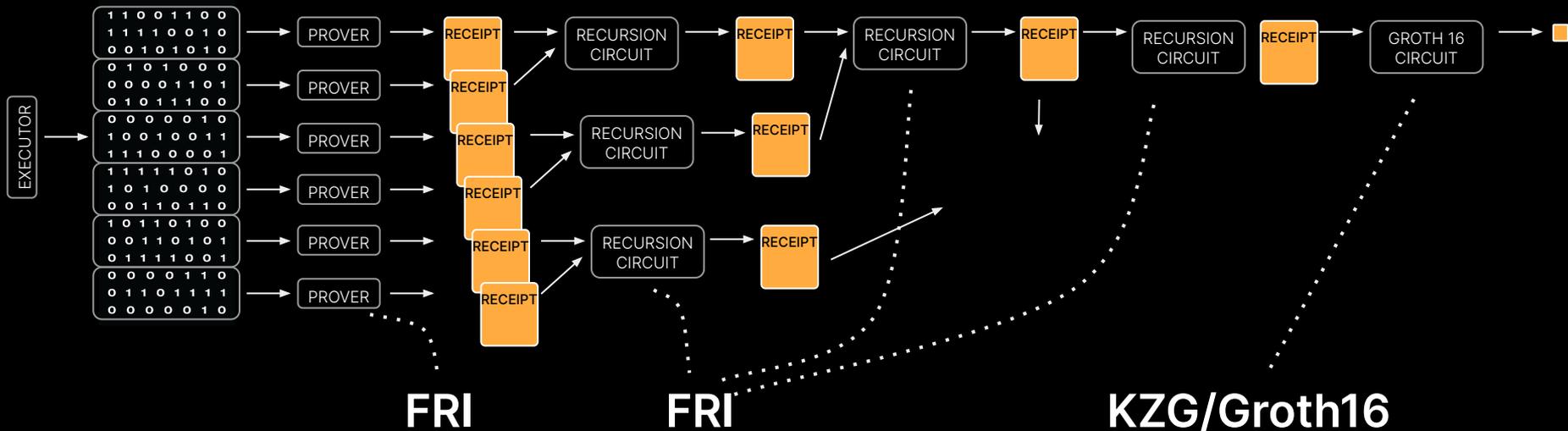
# General purpose zkVMs are here



# Two STARK Circuits



# The Emergent Pattern



# Example Walkthrough of Factors

## methods/guest/src/main.rs

```
1 #![no_main]
2 // If you want to try std support, also update
  // the guest Cargo.toml file
3 #![no_std] // std support is experimental
4
5 use risc0_zkvm::guest::env;
6
7 risc0_zkvm::guest::entry!(main);
8
9 pub fn main() {
10     // TODO: Implement your guest code here
11     let a: u64 = env::read();
12     let b: u64 = env::read();
13
14     if a == 1 || b == 1 {
15         panic!("Can't do")
16     }
17
18     let product =
19     a.checked_mul(b).expect("Integer overflow!");
20     env::commit(&product);
21 }
```

## host/src/prover.rs

```
1 use methods::{
2     FACTORS_ELF,
3     FACTORS_ID
4 };
5 use risc0_zkvm::{default_prover, ExecutorEnv};
6
7 fn main() {
8     // Initialize tracing. In order to view logs, run `RUST_LOG=info cargo run`
9     env_logger::init();
10
11     let a: u64 = 17;
12     let b: u64 = 15;
13
14     // let input: u32 = 15*2^27 + 1;
15     let env =
16     ExecutorEnv::builder().write(&a).unwrap().write(&b).unwrap().build().unwrap();
17
18     // Obtain the default prover.
19     let prover = default_prover();
20
21     // Produce a receipt by proving the specified ELF binary.
22     let receipt = prover.prove_elf(env, FACTORS_ELF).unwrap();
23
24     let _output: u32 = receipt.journal.decode().unwrap();
25     println!("I know the factors of {}, and I can prove it!", _output);
26
27     // Optional: Verify receipt to confirm that recipients will also be able to
28     // verify your receipt
29     receipt.verify(FACTORS_ID).unwrap();
30 }
```

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```

**Import functions for interacting with the host environment**

**Read the objects from the host**

**Commit the public output to the journal**

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```

Pick 2 numbers

### Set up the Executor Environment

This holds configuration details that inform how the guest environment is set up prior to guest code execution

Obtain default prover

Prove the ELF Binary and return a receipt

Extract output from journal

Verify the integrity of this receipt w. image id

# Quick start with zkVM



<https://dev.risczero.com/api/zkvm/quickstart>

# What's possible?

# Fibonacci demo

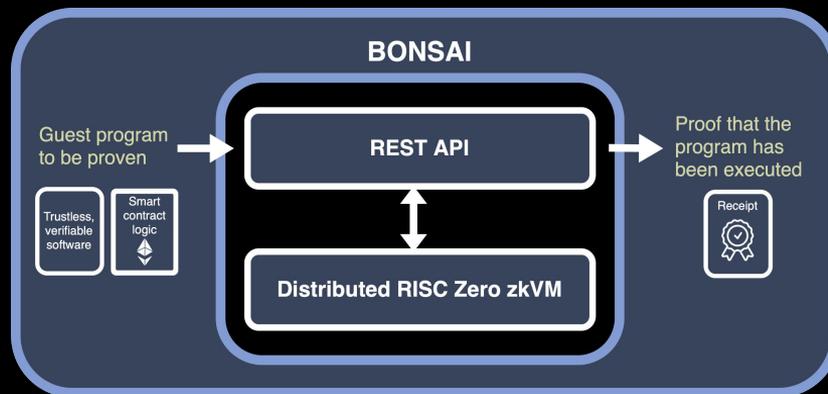
# Chess demo

**What if I don't want to run the zkVM locally? Is there a remote option?**

**Bonsai**

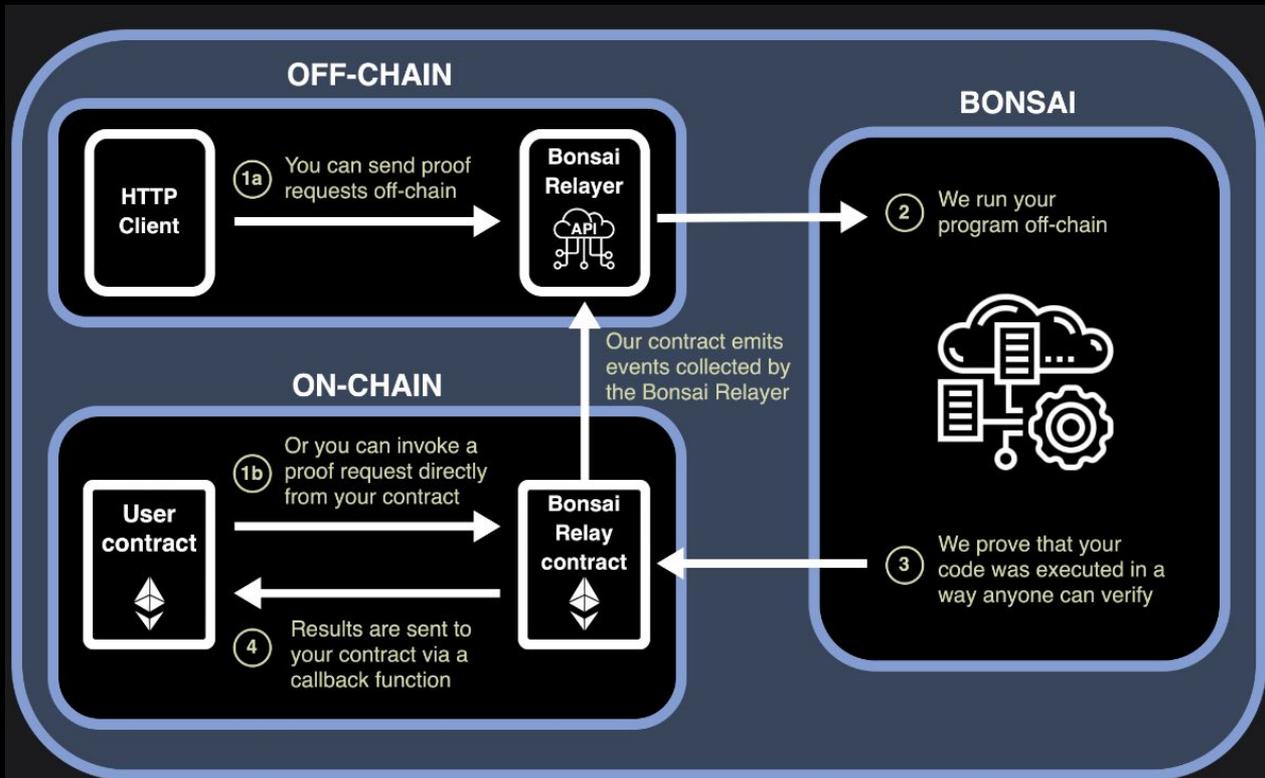
# Bonsai

- » Remote proving
- » We provide the infrastructure
- » Ideal for heavy computations & fast proving
- » Offchain computation



Bonsai  
API key

# Bonsai Architecture



**What's possible?**

# Bonsai Pay

# Questions?



SCAN ME!

(Bonsai Apply)



SCAN ME!

(Bonsai Docs)



SCAN ME!

(zkVM)

