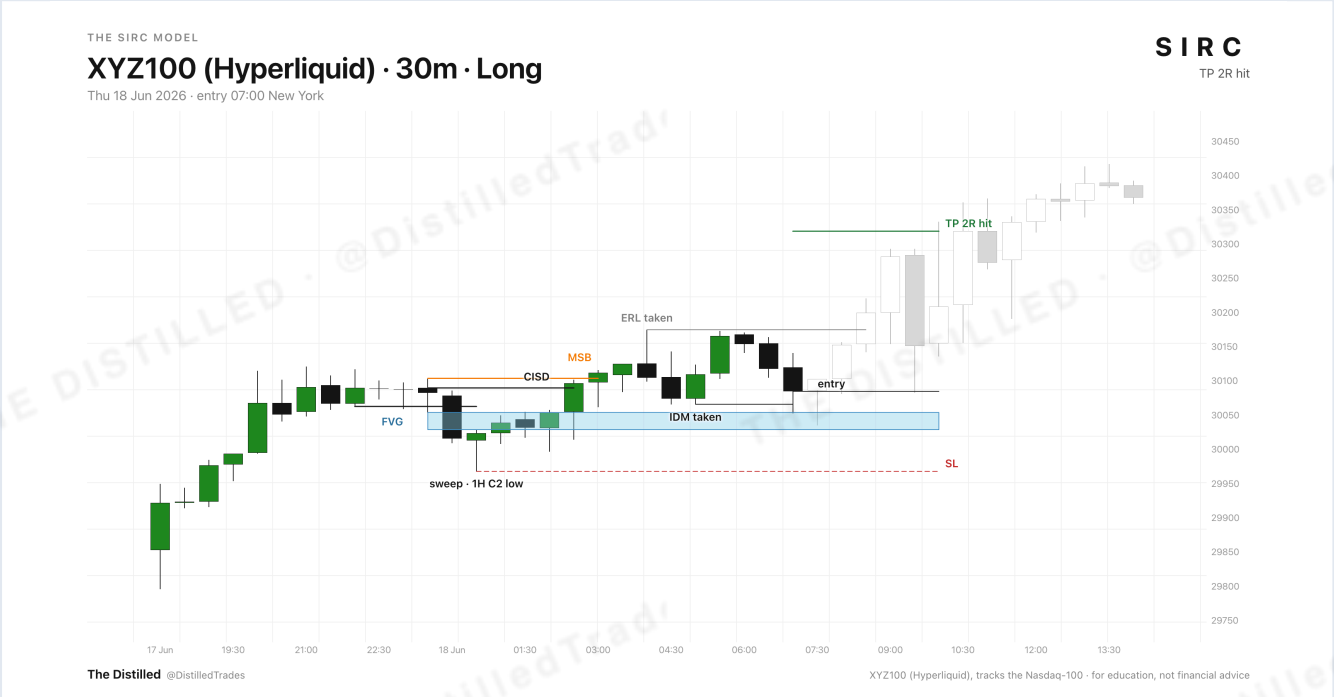
The Impulse IRL

An impulse leaves gaps behind it. They show where price tends to come back to before it continues, and where the leg ends.



XYZ100 (Hyperliquid) 30m long, Thu 18 Jun 2026, New York time: the impulse from the sweep closes back through a gap the sweep leg left (baby blue). Price comes back into it, closes back out, and runs to the ERL.

For education only. This isn't financial advice, and trading carries a high risk of loss. Charts are real historical Hyperliquid data (XYZ100 tracks the Nasdaq-100 and is not CME futures), New York time. Numbers describe what price did; none of them is a signal, a promise or a win rate for you.

Risk warning: futures and CFDs are leveraged; losses can be fast and, on futures, exceed your deposit. Most retail CFD accounts lose money.
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THE PIECES

IRL inside the move, ERL at its end

- **The impulse leg:** the move away from the sweep's extreme. It extends until price retraces.
- **IRL (internal range liquidity):** the gaps inside the leg. **Continuation gaps** are the ones the impulse leaves while it runs. **Inverted gaps** are the sweep leg's gaps that the impulse closes back through.
- **ERL (external range liquidity):** the extreme of the leg. It's set when price first retraces into one of the leg's own gaps after the extreme has stood for a couple of candles.
- **Respected:** price taps a gap, then closes back out on the impulse side. **Failed:** a close beyond the gap's far edge.
- **Delivered:** the ERL is taken after the retrace. **Invalid:** the sweep's extreme trades. Every gap dies with it.

On the chart

Gaps are baby blue: **dashed** while untouched, **solid** once respected. The ERL is grey, dashed until taken. The CISD is drawn dashed from the moment the impulse starts, and turns solid when a close goes through it.

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WHAT IT CAN AND CAN'T TELL YOU

Respected gaps are common. That's the point.

Once price taps a gap, it usually closes back out of it. On our MNQ 30-second study, inverted gaps were respected **75.7%** of the time against a **74.2%** chance line, and continuation gaps 79.4% against 78.7%. Most of that is geometry: a gap is thin, so a tap is usually followed by a close outside it.

So the IRL isn't a signal that price will reverse from a gap. It's a map of **where the retrace is likely to go**, which is exactly what the SIRC retest uses: the entry is the close back out of the gap, and the stop stays beyond the sweep.

> **Try it**
> After your next sweep, draw the impulse leg and its gaps as they form. When price retraces, note which gap it came back to first, and whether it closed back out.

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