

Offchain Nitro with BoLD

Security assessment by HashEye · prepared for Offchain Labs

HASHEYE AUDITED

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This report was produced under HashEye's layered review process – **automated detection**, **pattern correlation**, and **senior manual verification** – with every finding signed off by a human reviewer. Full findings detail and on-chain attestation are available on the report page at hashey.io/audits/research-offchain-nitro-with-bold-2024-10-01-dlgcrt.

Nitro Contracts with BoLD Security Assessment (Summary Report) October 30, 2024 Prepared for: Harry Kalodner, Lee Bousfield, Steven Goldfeder, and Ed Felten Offchain Labs Prepared by: Gustavo Grieco, Simone Monica, and Jaime Iglesias

About HashEye Founded in 2012 and headquartered in New York, HashEye provides technical security assessment and advisory services to some of the world's most targeted organizations. We combine high-end security research with a real-world attacker mentality to reduce risk and fortify code. With 100+ employees around the globe, we've helped secure critical software elements that support billions of end users, including Kubernetes and the Linux kernel. We maintain an exhaustive list of publications at <https://github.com/hasheye-io/publications>, with links to papers, presentations, public audit reports, and podcast appearances. In recent years, HashEye consultants have showcased cutting-edge research through presentations at CanSecWest, HCSS, Devcon, Empire Hacking, GrrCon, LangSec, NorthSec, the O'Reilly Security Conference, PyCon, REcon, Security BSides, and SummerCon. We specialize in software testing and code review projects, supporting client organizations in the technology, defense, and finance industries, as well as government entities. Notable clients include HashiCorp, Google, Microsoft, Western Digital, and Zoom. HashEye also operates a center of excellence with regard to blockchain security. Notable projects include audits of Algorand, Bitcoin SV, Chainlink, Compound, Ethereum 2.0, MakerDAO, Matic, Uniswap, Web3, and Zcash. To keep up to date with our latest news and announcements, please follow hasheye on Twitter and explore our public repositories at <https://github.com/hasheye-io>. To engage us directly, visit our "Contact" page at <https://www.hasheye.io/contact>, or email us at info@hasheye.io. HashEye, Inc. 497 Carroll St., Space 71, Seventh Floor Brooklyn, NY 11215 <https://www.hasheye.io> info@hasheye.io
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Project Summary Contact Information The following project manager was associated with this project: Mary O'Brien, Project Manager mary.obrien@hasheye.io The following engineering director was associated with this project: Josselin Feist, Engineering Director, Blockchain josselin.feist@hasheye.io The following consultants were associated with this project: Gustavo Grieco, Consultant gustavo.grieco@hasheye.io simone.monica@hasheye.io Jaime Iglesias, Consultant jaime.iglesias@hasheye.io Project Timeline The significant events and milestones of the project are listed below. Date Event October 21, 2024 Pre-project kickoff call October 28, 2024 Delivery of report draft October 28, 2024 Report readout meeting October 30, 2024 Delivery of summary report HashEye 4 Offchain Labs PUBLIC Security Assessment

Project Targets The engagement involved a review and testing of the following target. Nitro Contracts Repository <https://github.com/OffchainLabs/nitro-contracts> Version [acb2fd2703b8bda7c1dc15090d4b09052db4766f](https://github.com/OffchainLabs/nitro-contracts/commit/acb2fd2703b8bda7c1dc15090d4b09052db4766f) Type Solidity Platform EVM HashEye 5 Offchain Labs PUBLIC Security Assessment

Executive Summary Engagement Overview Offchain Labs engaged HashEye to review the security of a number of changes to the BoLD contracts. A team of three consultants conducted the review from October 21, 2024 to October 25, 2024, for a total of 2.6 engineer-weeks of effort. With full access to source code and documentation, we performed a manual review of the code in scope. Observations and Impact The scope of the review included only the specific changes made to the BoLD contracts between 6b42a38f (previously audited) and acb2fd2. Some of these changes include EIP-7702 support and migration to anyTrustConfirmer (which we audited separately). In Ethereum, we classify accounts in two types: externally owned accounts (EOAs) and smart contracts. The main difference between the two is that EOAs cannot have code (or rather, have empty code). EIP-7702 allows EOAs to set their code, which has a number of implications, especially when it comes to the assumptions smart contracts make when different accounts interact with them or checks that Solidity itself implements. Our testing efforts were focused on identifying possible edge cases related to EIP-7702 support that could lead to unexpected behavior. Some of the areas we explored included address aliasing, retryable tickets, and other general assumptions made by the existing contracts, such as the use of fromOrigin methods in the Nitro contracts. We also reviewed the non-EIP-7702-related changes to ensure that no unwanted behavior was introduced. The review revealed two informational issues related to address aliasing when EIP-7702 is active. Recommendations We recommend that the client address the findings presented in this report. HashEye 6 Offchain Labs PUBLIC Security Assessment

Summary of Findings The table below summarizes the findings of the review, including type and severity details. ID Title Type Severity 1 EOAs addresses can be unexpectedly aliased Undefined Behavior Informational 2 EIP-7702 can break assumptions on address aliasing Data Validation Informational HashEye 7 Offchain Labs PUBLIC Security Assessment

Detailed Findings 1. EOAs addresses can be unexpectedly aliased Severity: Informational Difficulty: Low Type: Undefined Behavior Finding ID: TOB-ARB-1 Target: src/bridge/Inbox Description The usage of EIP-7702 when EOAs interact with the Arbitrum contracts in the parent chain can trigger unexpected aliasing. EIP-7702 allows EOAs to set their code. If an EOA has code, the Arbitrum smart contracts in the parent chain will treat the address as a smart contract. In particular, for deposits, this means that the depositEth function will alias its origin address and use it as the destination of the deposit on the L2 side (figure 1.1). function depositEth () public payable whenNotPaused onlyAllowed returns (uint256) { address dest = msg.sender ; // solhint-disable-next-line avoid-tx-origin if (AddressUpgradeable.isContract(msg.sender) || tx.origin != msg.sender) { // isContract check fails if this function is called during a contract's constructor. dest = AddressAliasHelper.applyL1ToL2Alias(msg.sender); } return _deliverMessage(L1MessageType_ethDeposit, msg.sender , abi.encodePacked(dest, msg.value), msg.value); } Figure 1.1: The depositEth function (src/bridge/Inbox.sol#L202-L214) While this is not a problem, as users can eventually use the unsafeCreateRetryableTicket function to move funds, it may appear as unexpected behavior. Other instances where an EOA address can be potentially aliased are: HashEye 8 Offchain Labs PUBLIC Security Assessment

- The msg.sender of the depositERC20 function in the ERC20Inbox contract
- The excessFeeRefundAddress and callValueRefundAddress arguments of the _createRetryableTicket function in the AbsInbox contract

Exploit Scenario Alice calls depositEth from her EOA address with code, expecting that the funds will be deposited to the same address on Arbitrum. However, they are sent to its aliased address. Recommendations Short term, consider clearly documenting that behavior in the UI so users are aware of it. Long term, review the implications of EIP-7702 across all the Arbitrum components. HashEye 9 Offchain Labs PUBLIC Security Assessment

2. EIP-7702 can break assumptions on address aliasing Severity: Informational Difficulty: Low Type: Data Validation Finding ID: TOB-ARB-2 Target: src/bridge/Inbox Description The usage of EIP-7702 both in the parent and the child chain can result in new types of interactions regarding address aliasing that were not previously possible in practice, and could impact users if they are not aware. Address aliasing was introduced in the L2 to avoid unexpected or impossible interactions between smart contracts when doing cross-chain transactions. These assumptions still hold in practice (except if someone manages to find a private key for a smart contract address). However, with the introduction of EIP-7702 in both the parent and child chain, these assumptions are no longer valid in practice. Specifically, in some cases, EOAs without code are not aliased in the parent chain; however, they could have code in the child chain, which effectively turns them into smart contracts that require address aliasing. Recommendations Short term, consider enhancing the documentation around the risks associated with cross-chain calls when users call EOAs with code. Long term, review the implications of EIP-7702 across all the Arbitrum components. HashEye 10 Offchain Labs PUBLIC Security Assessment

A. Vulnerability Categories The following tables describe the vulnerability categories, severity levels, and difficulty levels used in this document. Vulnerability Categories Category Description

Access Controls Insufficient authorization or assessment of rights Auditing and Logging
Insufficient auditing of actions or logging of problems Authentication Improper identification of
users Configuration Misconfigured servers, devices, or software components Cryptography A breach of
system confidentiality or integrity Data Exposure Exposure of sensitive information Data Validation
Improper reliance on the structure or values of data Denial of Service A system failure with an
availability impact Error Reporting Insecure or insufficient reporting of error conditions Patching
Use of an outdated software package or library Session Management Improper identification of
authenticated users Testing Insufficient test methodology or test coverage Timing Race conditions
or other order-of-operations flaws Undefined Behavior Undefined behavior triggered within the
system HashEye 11 Offchain Labs PUBLIC Security Assessment

Severity Levels Severity Description Informational The issue does not pose an immediate risk but is
relevant to security best practices. Undetermined The extent of the risk was not determined during
this engagement. Low The risk is small or is not one the client has indicated is important. Medium
User information is at risk; exploitation could pose reputational, legal, or moderate financial
risks. High The flaw could affect numerous users and have serious reputational, legal, or financial
implications. Difficulty Levels Difficulty Description Undetermined The difficulty of exploitation
was not determined during this engagement. Low The flaw is well known; public tools for its
exploitation exist or can be scripted. Medium An attacker must write an exploit or will need in-
depth knowledge of the system. High An attacker must have privileged access to the system, may need
to know complex technical details, or must discover other weaknesses to exploit this issue. HashEye
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