

Offchain Stylus

Security assessment by HashEye · prepared for Offchain Labs

HASHEYE AUDITED

PROJECT	Offchain Stylus
CLIENT	Offchain Labs
CATEGORY	Offchain Labs
PUBLISHED	September 1, 2024
REPORT ID	research-offchain-stylus-2024-09-01-75kgut

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-stylus-2024-09-01-75kgut.

StylusEmergencyFixesReview SecurityAssessment(SummaryReport) October23,2024 Preparedfor:
OffchainLabs Preparedby:GustavoGriecoandJaimeIglesias

About hashey Founded in 2012 and headquartered in New York, hashey 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/hashey-io/publications>, with links to papers, presentations, public audit reports, and podcast appearances. In recent years, hashey 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. hashey 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 hashey on Twitter and explore our public repositories at <https://github.com/hashey-io>. To engage us directly, visit our "Contact" page at <https://www.hashey.io/contact>, or email us at info@hashey.io. hashey, Inc. 497 Carroll St., Space 71, Seventh Floor Brooklyn, NY 11215 <https://www.hashey.io> info@hashey.io hashey 10ffchainLabsStylusEmergencyFixes PUBLIC SecurityAssessment

Notices and Remarks Copyright and Distribution ©2024 by hashey, Inc.

All rights reserved. hashey hereby asserts its right to be identified as the creator of this report in the United Kingdom.

This report is considered by hashey to be public information; it is licensed to Offchain Labs under the terms of the project statement of work and has been made public at Offchain Labs' request. Material within this report may not be reproduced or distributed in part or in whole without the express written permission of hashey.

This is the canonical source for hashey publications; see the hashey Publications page.

Reports accessed through any source other than that page may have been modified and should not be considered authentic. Test Coverage Disclaimer

All activities undertaken by hashey in association with this project were performed in accordance with a statement of work and agreed upon project plan. Security assessment projects are time-boxed and often reliant on information that may be provided by a client, its affiliates, or its partners. As a result, the findings documented in this report should not be considered a comprehensive list of security issues, flaws, or defects in the target system or codebase.

hashey uses automated testing techniques to rapidly test the controls and security properties of software. These techniques augment our manual security review work, but each has its limitations: for example, a tool may not generate a random edge case that violates a property or may not fully complete its analysis during the allotted time. Their use is also limited by the time and resource constraints of a project. hashey 20ffchainLabsStylusEmergencyFixes PUBLIC SecurityAssessment

Table of Contents About hashey 1 Notices and Remarks 2 Table of Contents 3 Project Summary 4 Project Targets 5 Executive Summary 6 Summary of Findings 7 Detailed Findings 8 1. Importing forward__set_trap produces a failure in WASM instantiation 8 A. Vulnerability Categories 10 B. Code Quality Recommendations 12 General 12 arbitrator/wasm-libraries/user-host-trait/src/lib.rs 12 C. WASM Security Measures for Stylus 13 hashey 30ffchainLabsStylusEmergencyFixes PUBLIC SecurityAssessment

Project Summary Contact Information The following project manager was associated with this project: Mary O'Brien, Project Manager mary.obrien@hashey.io

The following engineering director was associated with this project:

Joselin Feist, Engineering Director, Blockchain joselin.feist@hashey.io

The following consultants were associated with this project:

Gustavo Grieco, Consultant Jaime Iglesias, Consultant gustavo.grieco@hashey.io jaime.iglesias@hashey.io

Project Timeline The significant events and milestones of the project are listed below. Date Event

September6,2024Pre-projectkickoffcall September16,2024Deliveryofreportdraft
September16,2024Reportreadoutmeeting September20,2024Deliveryofreportdraft
October23,2024Deliveryoffinalsummaryreport hashey 40ffchainLabsStylusEmergencyFixes PUBLIC
SecurityAssessment

ProjectTargets Theengagementinvolvedareviewandtestingofthefollowingtargets. StylusEmergencyFixes
Repository nitro-private (fixes) Version 0cc80646cff240d3f86cb8d6f6e8b9c83be9266b TypeGo,Rust
PlatformArbitrum GovernanceArb0S32Actions Repository governance-private (PR#1) Version
2d42f247d0cc2ab4b8eb47f49dd2b322be9f9d1f TypeSolidity PlatformArbitrum hashey
50ffchainLabsStylusEmergencyFixes PUBLIC SecurityAssessment

ExecutiveSummary EngagementOverview

OffchainLabsengagedhasheyetoreviewthesecurityoffixesforanumberof high-
severityissuesfoundafterStyluswasdeployed.

AteamoftwoconsultantsconductedthereviewfromSeptember11toSeptember19, 2024,foratotaloftwoengineer-
weeksofeffort.Withfullaccesstosourcecodeand

documentation,weperformedamanualreviewoftheaffectedcodeandthefixes. ObservationsandImpact

Duringtheengagement,weverifiedthattheproposedfixescompletelymitigatethe high-
severityissuesfoundafterStyluswasdeployed,includinganactivationedgecasethat
wasfoundduringthisengagement(TOB-STYLUS-FIX-1);notethatthisissuewasalsofound
byOffchainLabsduringarefactoroftheaffectedcode.

Additionally,wereviewedasetofgovernanceactionstoupgradeArb0Stoversion32 (L1ModuleRootArbOneAction
, L1ModuleRootNovaAction ,and L2Arb0S32Action)and

twoemergencyactionsthatwillbeexecutedifStylusneedstobedisabled (SetInkPriceOneAction ,
SetWasmMaxStackDepthZeroAction).

ThegovernanceactionswillupgradeArb0Stoversion32andsetthenewmoduleroot
hashonbothNovaandArbOne;additionally,theywillrevertanychangesmadebyeither
oftheemergencyactions,effectivelyre-enablingStylusifeitheroftheemergencyactions
wasexecuted;otherwise(i.e.,iftheemergencyactionswerenotexecuted),theywillsimply
upgradetheArb0Sversionandthemoduleroot.

Alltheaforementionedactioncontractsarecorrect;additionally,weverifiedthatthe correctmoduleroothash,
0x184884e1eb9fefdc158f6c8ac912bb183bf3cf83f0090317e0bc4ac5860baa39 ,is

beingemployedinalltheactionsandconfirmedthatitistheroothashgeneratedbythe reviewedNitrochanges.

Recommendations PerformanArb0Supgradewiththereviewedactions,eitherasanemergencyor

nonemergencymeasure,dependingonwhethertheissuesareactivelyexploitableand

whetheritislikelythattheissueswillbeidentifiedbythirdparties. hashey

60ffchainLabsStylusEmergencyFixes PUBLIC SecurityAssessment

SummaryofFindings Thetablebelowsummarizesthefindingsofthereview,includingtypeandseveritydetails.

IDTitleTypeSeverity 1Importingforward__set_trapproducesafailurein WASMinitialization Data

Validation High hashey 70ffchainLabsStylusEmergencyFixes PUBLIC SecurityAssessment

DetailedFindings 1.Importingforward__set_trapproducesafailureinWASMinstantiation

Severity:HighDifficulty:Low Type:DataValidationFindingID:TOB-STYLUS-FIX-1 Target: forward_stub.wat

Description UserscandeployaspeciallycraftedStylusprogramthatwillcauseArb0Stopanicafterthe
activationchecksarepassed.

UserscanaccessavarietyofimportstocallintheirStylusprograms.Theseareincludedin the forward_stub.wat

file: ;;allowsuser_hosttorequestatrap (global\$trap(mutis2)(i32.const0))(func\$checkunreachable)

(func(exports"forward__set_trap")unreachable) ;;userlinkage (func(exports"vm_hooks__read_args")

(parami32)unreachable) (func(exports"vm_hooks__write_result")(parami32i32)unreachable) ...

Figure1.1:Partofthe forward_stub.wat file Theimportsavailabletousersfromthe vm_hooks

moduleareproperlydocumentedand seemtoworkcorrectly,butthereisanadditionalimportavailablecalled

forward__set_trap .UsingthisimportwillproduceavalidStylusprogramthatwill

correctlypasstheactivationchecks.

However,theimportsdefinedforWASMinstantiationareonlytheonesfromthe vm_hooks module. define_imports!

("vm_hooks"⇒host{ read_args,write_result,exit_early,

storage_load_bytes32,storage_cache_bytes32,storage_flush_cache,

transient_load_bytes32,transient_store_bytes32,

call_contract,delegate_call_contract,static_call_contract,create1,

create2,read_return_data,return_data_size, emit_log, hashey 80ffchainLabsStylusEmergencyFixes

PUBLIC SecurityAssessment

account_balance,account_code,account_codehash,account_code_size, evm_gas_left,evm_ink_left,

block_basefee,chainid,block_coinbase,block_gas_limit,block_number, block_timestamp,

contract_address, math_div,math_mod,math_pow,math_add_mod,math_mul_mod,

msg_reentrant,msg_sender,msg_value, tx_gas_price,tx_ink_price,tx_origin, pay_for_memory_grow,

native_keccak256, },); ... letinstance=Instance::new(&mutstore,&module,&imports)?;

Figure 1.2: WASM instantiation in Arb0S using the Wasmer API. Trying to activate a Stylus program that imports `forward__set_trap` will produce a panic in the Arb0S code: `thread '<unnamed>' panicked at stylus/src/util.rs:19:5: encountered fatal wasm: init failed`. Caused by: `Error while importing "forward". "set_trap": unknown import. Expected Function(FunctionType{params: [], results: []})`. Location: `stylus/src/native.rs:207:24`

Figure 1.3: Part of the panic error when trying to activate a Stylus program that imports `forward__set_trap`. Note that this issue was independently discovered by the 0ffchainLab team as well as by `hashey`, during this review. Exploit Scenario: Evedeploys a specially crafted Stylus program that imports `forward__set_trap`, meaning that it will halt the chain once it is activated. Recommendations: Short term, remove the `forward__set_trap` export from `forward_stub.wat`. Long term, consider creating a complete specification of the allowed WASM properties enforced during WASM activation and include additional test cases. `hashey` 90ffchainLabsStylusEmergencyFixes PUBLIC SecurityAssessment

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	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	As 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

`hashey` 100ffchainLabsStylusEmergencyFixes PUBLIC SecurityAssessment

Severity Levels

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.

`hashey` 110ffchainLabsStylusEmergencyFixes PUBLIC SecurityAssessment

B. Code Quality Recommendations

The following recommendations are not associated with specific vulnerabilities. However, they enhance code readability and may prevent the introduction of vulnerabilities in the future.

- Consider using the `must_use` Rust hint in function signatures such as `flush_storage_cache` to mitigate the possibility that the caller will ignore the return value. `arbitrator/wasm-libraries/user-host-trait/src/lib.rs`
- Consider expanding the documentation of each function in the file to include the minimum and maximum value of `ink` and `gas` that need to be charged for every call. Additionally, clearly note whether an internal function handles the computational cost of each operation. This will help to prevent computational costs from being undercharged or overcharged.
- Related to the previous recommendation, add unit tests to cover average and corner cases in the `ink/gas` usage for each function.

`hashey` 120ffchainLabsStylusEmergencyFixes PUBLIC SecurityAssessment

C. WASM Security Measures for Stylus

This appendix lists the current security measures and constraints checked during WASM activation. These checks guarantee that WASM activation produces Stylus programs that are secure and execute correctly. Imports of WASM modules have the following constraints:

- In general, only the function imports available in the `forward_stub.wat` file are available to use.
- Only function imports are valid. WASM programs importing other entities such as tables or memories will immediately fail validation.

The use of imports with valid names but incorrect signatures will immediately fail validation. •
Any use of imports with the reserved prefix `stylus_` will immediately fail validation.
However, we must not do the following: • Imports can be duplicated as long as they are consistent and the number of
duplicates is not directly limited. • Imports can have special characters such as the null character (`\00`).
Exports In general, users are free to export any function they need. However, there are a number of constraints: •
The `user_entrypoint` export must be available, and it should have a specific signature. •
Export names cannot shadow any import names, either the raw name (e.g., `pay_for_memory`
) or the full canonical name (e.g., `module__pay_for_memory`). • Any use of exports with the reserved prefix
`stylus_` will immediately fail validation. •
Some special global exports will be added to support ink metering (e.g., `stylus_ink_left`
). These exports are correctly added at the end of the global index space and cannot be accessed by users directly. •
Exports can have special characters such as the null character (`\00`).
hashey 130ffchainLabsStylusEmergencyFixes PUBLIC SecurityAssessment

Additional Internal Functions

A number of internal functions are added into WASM programs during activation. These
functions should never be used directly by the user. Fortunately, calling them is not
possible since user WASM programs are validated to make sure the function indices are
correct, so adding more internal functions is safe as long as they are added at the end of the function index space.
hashey 140ffchainLabsStylusEmergencyFixes PUBLIC SecurityAssessment