

Uniswap MMA

Security Assessment (Summary Report)

November 13, 2023

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About Trail of Bits

Founded in 2012 and headquartered in New York, Trail of Bits 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/trailofbits/publications, with links to papers, presentations, public audit reports, and podcast appearances.

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Trail of Bits 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.

Table of Contents

About Trail of Bits	1
Notices and Remarks	2
Table of Contents	3
Project Summary	4
Executive Summary	5
Codebase Maturity Evaluation	6
A. Code Maturity Categories	9
B. Role Privileges	11
C. Axelar vs. Wormhole Adapter Differences	13
D. Documentation Improvements	14
E. Code Quality Recommendations	15
F. Invariant Testing	18
G. Fix Review Results	20
Detailed Fix Review Results	21
Code Quality Fix Review Results	21
H. Fix Review Status Categories	24



Project Summary

Contact Information

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Project Timeline

The significant events and milestones of the project are listed below.

Date	Event
September 25, 2023	Pre-project kickoff call
October 2, 2023	Delivery of report draft and report readout meeting
October 13, 2023	Delivery of summary report
October 18, 2023	Fix review of the Uniswap MMA issues
November 13, 2023	Delivery of summary report with fix review

Executive Summary

Engagement Overview

Uniswap engaged Trail of Bits to review the security of the cross-chain MMA multibridge on commit hash dd0ea1e.

A team of two consultants conducted the review from September 25 to September 29, 2023, for a total of two engineer-weeks of effort. With full access to source code and documentation, we performed static and dynamic testing of the codebase, using automated and manual processes.

Observations and Impact

During this review, we focused on all the contracts in the repository. This includes the two receiver and sender contracts and those contracts specific to the Wormhole and Axelar bridges. We did not consider the actual bridges or any off-chain components outside the contracts to be in scope.

We identified several findings related to lack of data validation that stemmed from not properly considering return values on functions, which would result in failing actions not being detected. We discovered another issue related to the incorrect order of operations, which prevents functions from executing correctly. We also found issues where events were missing from owner-controlled functions and assumptions were made around the "successful" execution of a proposal.

Recommendations

We recommend that the Uniswap MMA team take the following steps:

- Address the findings identified during this audit.
- Identify system invariants that are expected to hold on bridges and test them using property-based testing (e.g., Echidna). This will help keep the implementation of all bridge adapters working as expected as more bridge adapters are added.
- Simplify the implementation according to the recommendations outlined in appendix E. This will improve the overall readability of the code.
- Improve the documentation according to the recommendations outlined in appendix D.
- Perform another audit of new adapters whenever they are developed. The Uniswap MMA team intends to add more bridge adapters in the future. We recommend that each of these be reviewed before being used in production.



Codebase Maturity Evaluation

Trail of Bits uses a traffic-light protocol to provide each client with a clear understanding of the areas in which its codebase is mature, immature, or underdeveloped. Deficiencies identified here often stem from root causes within the software development life cycle that should be addressed through standardization measures (e.g., the use of common libraries, functions, or frameworks) or training and awareness programs.

Category	Summary	Result
Arithmetic	The Uniswap multibridge contracts use Solidity v0.8.9, which has built-in overflow and underflow protections. Arithmetic calculations in this codebase are kept to a minimum. The majority of the unchecked blocks in the codebase are used for looping and iterating over arrays.	Satisfactory
Auditing	Most of the functions correctly emit events that aid in the off-chain monitoring of the system. However, we identified two configuration functions that are missing an event emission. There is an elaborate incident response plan in the user-facing documentation. We recommend performing regular test runs of the various scenarios outlined in the plan to learn how to handle such incidents and to uncover any gaps or otherwise incorrect or sub-optimal steps in the plan. We also recommend looking into an off-chain monitoring system to track events. Create a monitoring plan that describes which events and values to detect and how to react to such events.	Moderate
Authentication / Access Controls	All functions have appropriate access controls. The user-facing documentation includes an overview of the access controls on some of the contracts. We recommend extending this by also including the access controls on the actual adapter contracts (as we did in appendix B).	Satisfactory
Complexity Management	The overall complexity of the protocol is low. All the functions perform a single task and are easy to understand. However, we did find numerous areas where code quality improvements would further simplify the	Satisfactory

	implementation (appendix E).	
	The user-facing documentation is very helpful for understanding the protocol.	
Configuration	No deployment scripts were provided.	Further Investigation Required
Decentralization	The MMA protocol is controlled by Uniswap Governance and, as such, is decentralized.	Satisfactory
Documentation	The Uniswap MMA team provided significant documentation outlining the system's expected behavior. While we have some minor recommendations for areas that would benefit from clarification (see appendix D), we recommend that the Uniswap MMA team continue to document system invariants expected to hold on each bridge as more bridges are added. Additionally, some of the files are missing NatSpec comments (e.g., MessageSenderGAC, MessageReceiverGAC, and StringAddressConversion), and some functions' NatSpec comments do not include the function arguments (e.g., updateQuorumAndReceiverAdapter).	Satisfactory
Low-Level Manipulation	The codebase uses limited assembly. We did identify instances where low-level calls were lacking contract size checks, which could result in code not executing despite a "successful" transaction; however, this was considered expected behavior.	Satisfactory
Testing and Verification	The contracts have adequate tests on functionality. However, we recommend spending additional effort documenting system invariants and assumptions on all bridges. We also recommend that all tests check internal state changes before and after execution. Additionally, we recommend including information in the repository README to explain how to execute the tests locally. Lastly, we recommend using Foundry fuzzing tests. These tests might have uncovered at least one of the issues found during this audit and, in general, are a very useful enhancement to regular unit tests.	Moderate

Transaction Ordering	We did not identify any front-running vulnerabilities that affect the system.	Satisfactory
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A. Code Maturity Categories

The following tables describe the code maturity categories and rating criteria used in this document.

Code Maturity Categories	
Category	Description
Arithmetic	The proper use of mathematical operations and semantics
Auditing	The use of event auditing and logging to support monitoring
Authentication / Access Controls	The use of robust access controls to handle identification and authorization and to ensure safe interactions with the system
Complexity Management	The presence of clear structures designed to manage system complexity, including the separation of system logic into clearly defined functions
Cryptography and Key Management	The safe use of cryptographic primitives and functions, along with the presence of robust mechanisms for key generation and distribution
Decentralization	The presence of a decentralized governance structure for mitigating insider threats and managing risks posed by contract upgrades
Documentation	The presence of comprehensive and readable codebase documentation
Low-Level Manipulation	The justified use of inline assembly and low-level calls
Testing and Verification	The presence of robust testing procedures (e.g., unit tests, integration tests, and verification methods) and sufficient test coverage
Transaction ordering risks	The system's resistance to front-running attacks

Rating Criteria	
Rating	Description
Strong	No issues were found, and the system exceeds industry standards.
Satisfactory	Minor issues were found, but the system is compliant with best practices.
Moderate	Some issues that may affect system safety were found.

Weak	Many issues that affect system safety were found.
Missing	A required component is missing, significantly affecting system safety.
Not Applicable	The category is not applicable to this review.
Not Considered	The category was not considered in this review.
Further Investigation Required	Further investigation is required to reach a meaningful conclusion.

B. Role Privileges

This appendix outlines the expected caller for each of the functions within the listed contracts.

MultiBridgeMessageSender

Function	Intended caller
remoteCall	GAC Authorized Caller
remoteCall with additional excludedAdapters argument	GAC Authorized Caller
addSenderAdapters	GAC Global Owner
removeSenderAdapters	GAC Global Owner

According to the documentation, the GAC Global Owner is intended to be set to the Uniswap Timelock contract. We use the terminology and role names used in the Uniswap MMA smart contract in this table.

MultiBridgeMessageReceiver

Function	Intended caller
receiveMessage	Receiver adapter
executeMessage	Anyone
updateGovernanceTimelock	GAC Global Owner
updateReceiverAdapters	GAC Global Owner
updateQuorumAndReceiverAdapter	GAC Global Owner
updateQuorum	GAC Global Owner

According to the documentation, the owner of these contracts should be set to the Uniswap Timelock contract on the destination chain. The receiver adapter is expected to be any address in the "authorized receiver adapters" set that the admins approve.

BaseReceiverAdapter

Function	Intended caller
updateSenderAdapter	GAC Global Owner

AxelarSenderAdapter

Function	Intended caller
dispatchMessage	Multibridge message receiver
setChainIdMap	GAC Global Owner

C. Axelar vs. Wormhole Adapter Differences

There are minor deviations between the Axelar Adapter and the Wormhole Adapter. The following table identifies the differences between these two adapter implementations.

Behavior	Axelar Adapter	Wormhole Adapter
Entry point for cross-chain messaging	Uses the execute function	Uses the receiveWormholeMessages function
msg.sender check	No validation	Checks that msg.sender is the relayer contract
Validates incoming chain ID	Hashes using Keccak-256 due to incoming argument being a string	Compares bytes directly due to incoming argument being bytes32
Validates that source address is not senderAdapter	Converts string => address for comparison	Converts bytes => address for comparison
Validates contract call	Calls AxelarGateway.validateCo ntractCall()	No validation
Validates duplicate messages	Checks that commandIdStatus[commandI d] and isMessageExecuted[msgId] flags are set	Checks whether isMessageExecuted[msgId] or deliveryHashStatus[delive ryHash] flags are set
Validates receiver adapter	Checks that the payload.receiverAdapter is set to address(this)	Checks that the payload.receiverAdapter is set to address(this)
Validates destination address	Checks that payload.finishDestinatio n is multiBridgeMsgReceiver	Checks that payload.finishDestination is set to multiBridgeMsgReceiver



D. Documentation Improvements

The Uniswap team provided in-depth documentation outlining the system's expected behavior. During our review, we identified areas that would benefit from additional elaboration and documentation of known assumptions and risks. This appendix details our recommendations in these areas.

Elaborate Current Documentation

- Change the documentation on the MessageExecuted event to specify that the
 event is emitted when the transaction is scheduled for execution. The name of
 the event suggests that the transaction has already been executed, which is
 misleading.
- Add instructions for how to run the test suite for the codebase. The test suite
 relies on API keys to be set in the .env file. We recommend adding instructions for
 how to run these tests.
- **Document all design decisions in the codebase.** This will help provide context for the product and detail the reasons for specific decisions.

Document Known Assumptions

Contracts do not impose restrictions on whether the target address where
code is executed is a contract. This is a known assumption made by the Uniswap
team about external calls because these low-level calls may return "success" despite
not having code run. The success of the transaction execution is inferred by the
return value of the low-level call.



E. Code Quality Recommendations

- Consider simplifying the adapter data structure. Currently, the adapters being added to the infrastructure are submitted in a list of addresses, which must be ordered. This adds complexity to the codebase when adapters are added or deleted by requiring the code to iterate over the entire list of adapters. While this behavior may not be very costly for two to three adapters, the level of complexity may increase as more adapters are added to the system.
- Fix the NatSpec comment on src/libraries/Message.sol#L14 to remove the mention of "zero." When this value is set in MultiBridgeMessageSender._remoteCall#L281, it uses block.timestamp + expiration, which means a zero timestamp is not realistic.
- Remove the version of the remoteCall function without the
 _excludedAdapters argument. The system currently implements two separate
 versions of remoteCall, where the only difference is the address[] calldata
 _excludedAdapters argument. Instead of introducing two separate functions,
 allow the caller to specify an empty adapters list if they do not want to exclude
 adapters.
- Use the onlyGlobalOwners modifier consistently across the codebase. Currently, some contracts use onlyOwner in place of onlyGlobalOwner. We recommend adding specificity in these naming conventions.
- Remove the BaseSenderAdapter.getReceiverAdapter function since the receiverAdapters mapping is already a public variable. By default, Solidity provides getters for public variables, which makes this code redundant.
- Change the multiBridgeMsgReceiver variable to public and remove the MessageReceiverGAC.getMultiBridgeMessageReceiver() function. Solidity can provide these getters by default for public variables.
- Simplify the isGlobalOwner modifier to return _caller == owner() instead of using an if statement. This will enhance code readability.
- Add an underscore to the function argument for MessageSenderGAC.setAuthorizedCaller(address newMMSCaller). The codebase introduces underscores for all other incoming variables and should be kept consistent.



- Emit the old value for the MessageSenderGAC.setMultiBridgeSender and MessageSenderGAC.setAuthorisedCaller functions. All other configuration functions emit the old value and the new value.
- Remove the MessageSenderGAC contract's getGlobalMsgDeliveryGasLimit, getMultiBridgeMessageSender, getRemoteMultiBridgeMessageReceiver, and getAuthorisedCaller functions. These functions return values of public variables that already have getters by default.
- Add a DelayUpdated event to the GovernanceTimelock contract's constructor. The contracts emit the AdminUpdated event when the admin address is updated and should do the same for the delay being updated.
- Move the ExecutorAware contract out of the src/interfaces/ directory since the contract is not an interface. This directory should hold only interfaces.
- Rename the MessageExecuted event to MessageScheduledForExecution. The
 event is emitted only when scheduled for the timelock, not when the message
 occurs.
- Change the visibility of the WormholeSenderAdapter.relayer variable from private to public. The WormholeReceiverAdapter.relayer is public.
- Add a zero-value check to the WormholeSenderAdapter constructor to ensure that the relayer cannot be address(0). Most other functions have a zero-value check, but it is missing in this instance.
- Standardize the capitalization of names throughout the codebase to ensure that both receivers and adapters use the same spelling.
 - The WormholeSenderAdapter contract uses wormhole, while the WormholeReceiverAdapter contract uses WORMHOLE.
 - Similarly, the AxelarSenderAdapter contract uses axelar, while the AxelarReceiverAdapter contract uses AXELAR.
- Rename the senderChain variable to senderChainId and the _toChainId variable to receiverChain in the adapter contracts. This will standardize the references to chain IDs and make the code more readable.
- Add a zero-value check for the _gasService, gateway, and _gac arguments provided to the AxelarSenderAdapter.constructor. Almost all other functions check to ensure that addresses sent are nonzero.



- Compare a uint against zero using == 0 instead of <= 0. Checking the case where a uint is less than zero is not meaningful.
- Remove the return value of the adapter's dispatchMessage function. The return value of the dispatchMessage function is not used by the MultiBridgeMessageSender contract.

F. Invariant Testing

This section describes system invariants that are worth implementing and testing using Echidna, Medusa, or Foundry invariant testing. Due to the time constraints of this audit, we were unable to implement these invariants.

Adapter List

- Adding an adapter should always increase the length of the adapter list. After an adapter is added, the senderAdapters array length should be one greater than the pre-execution run.
- Removing an adapter should always decrease the length of the adapter list.

 After an adapter is removed, the senderAdapters array length should be one less than the pre-execution run.
- Once a trusted executor is removed, it should not persist in the adapter list.
- Once a trusted executor is added, its entry should be in the adapter list.
- The adapter list should never contain duplicates. This is an assumption made throughout the code.
- The adapter list should always be in order. The code contains logic to ensure that the list is ordered properly.

Access Controls

- Only authorized callers can execute calls. Any calls not made by external callers should fail.
- The Timelock contract should be the only address allowed to update the quorum and timelock variables. Any calls not made by this address should revert.
- Only the GAC Global Owner should be able to add an adapter to the allowed list. Any calls not made by the GAC Global Owner should revert.

Wormhole Adapter

 Receiving a message always sets the isMessageExecuted and deliveryHashStatus mapping entries to true for the message. Receiving messages should be registered correctly.



Axelar Adapter

• Receiving a message always sets the isMessageExecuted and commandIdStatus mapping entries to true for the message. Receiving messages should be registered correctly.

G. Fix Review Results

When undertaking a fix review, Trail of Bits reviews the fixes implemented for issues identified in the original report. This work involves a review of specific areas of the source code and system configuration, not comprehensive analysis of the system.

On October 18, 2023, Trail of Bits reviewed the fixes and mitigations implemented by the Uniswap MMA team for the issues identified in this report. We reviewed each fix to determine its effectiveness in resolving the associated issue.

In summary, of the four issues described in this report, the Uniswap MMA team has resolved all four issues. The current scope of the review also included fixes for the identified Code Quality Recommendations. For additional information, please see the Detailed Fix Review Results and Code Quality Fix Review Results below.

ID	Title	Status
1	remoteCall does not revert if dispatchMessage fails for all the AMBs	Resolved
2	_updateReceiverAdapter does not check Boolean return value of EnumerableSet operations	Resolved
3	updateQuorumAndReceiverAdapter can unexpectedly revert when increasing or decreasing both the quorum and trusted executors	Resolved
4	Missing events in critical operations	Resolved

Detailed Fix Review Results

TOB-MMA-1: remoteCall does not revert if dispatchMessage fails for all the AMBs Resolved in PR #97. The fix introduces a new variable that specifies a minimum quorum of remote chains required for the call to be successful. If the total quorum of all bridges is less than the threshold, the remoteCall function reverts.

TOB-MMA-2: _updateReceiverAdapter does not check Boolean return value of EnumerableSet operations

Resolved in PR #102. The fix checks the success value from both the addTrustedExecutor and removeTrustedExecutor functions. If one of them fails, it reverts with the expected error.

TOB-MMA-3: updateQuorumAndReceiverAdapter can unexpectedly revert when increasing or decreasing both the quorum and trusted executors

Resolved in PR #99. The fix now supports the simultaneous changing of receiver adapter and quorum values.

TOB-MMA-4: Missing events in critical operations

Resolved in PR #92. The fix adds events for the GovernanceTimelock contract and the chain ID mapping.

Code Quality Fix Review Results

See the following list for fixes that address the Code Quality Recommendations identified in this report. Resolved issues were fixed in PR #96 unless otherwise noted.

• Consider simplifying the adapter data structure.
Unresolved. The Uniswap MMA team stated the following:

The current design requires that we retain the use of arrays for this purpose because we need the caller to be able to predict the ordered set of bridges that will be used when dispatching a message, taking into account an exclusion list. This is necessary for a caller to know so they can specify a list of fees for each corresponding bridge when sending a message. Although we understand that this may add cost, we believe that the number of bridge adapters will remain small, so we do not expect this to be an issue. This may be revised in the future.

• Fix the NatSpec comment on src/libraries/Message.sol#L14 to remove the mention of "zero."

Resolved.

 Remove the version of the remoteCall function without the _excludedAdapters argument.

Resolved.



- Use the onlyGlobalOwner modifier consistently across the codebase.
 Resolved.
- Remove the BaseSenderAdapter.getReceiverAdapter function since the receiverAdapters mapping is already a public variable.
 Resolved.
- Change the multiBridgeMsgReceiver variable to public and remove the MessageReceiverGAC.getMultiBridgeMessageReceiver() function. Resolved.
- Simplify the isGlobalOwner modifier to return _caller == owner() instead
 of using an if statement.
 Resolved.
- Add an underscore to the function argument for MessageSenderGAC.setAuthorizedCaller(address newMMSCaller). Resolved.
- Emit the old value for the MessageSenderGAC.setMultiBridgeSender and MessageSenderGAC.setAuthorisedCaller functions. Resolved.
- Remove the MessageSenderGAC contract's getGlobalMsgDeliveryGasLimit, getMultiBridgeMessageSender, getRemoteMultiBridgeMessageReceiver, and getAuthorisedCaller functions.
 Resolved.
- Add a DelayUpdated event to the GovernanceTimelock contract's constructor.

Resolved.

 Move the ExecutorAware contract out of the src/interfaces/ directory since the contract is not an interface.

Resolved in commit 1b19216.

- Rename the MessageExecuted event to MessageScheduledForExecution.
 Resolved in PR #100.
- Change the visibility of the WormholeSenderAdapter.relayer variable from private to public.

Resolved.



 Add a zero-value check to the WormholeSenderAdapter constructor to ensure that the relayer cannot be address(0).

Resolved in PR #98.

- Standardize the capitalization of names throughout the codebase to ensure that both receivers and adapters use the same spelling.
 - The WormholeSenderAdapter contract uses wormhole, while the WormholeReceiverAdapter contract uses WORMHOLE.
 Resolved.
 - Similarly, the AxelarSenderAdapter contract uses axelar, while the AxelarReceiverAdapter contract uses AXELAR.
 Resolved.
- Rename the senderChain variable to senderChainId and the _toChainId variable to receiverChain in the adapter contracts.
 Resolved in lines 30-31 and 38-41.
- Add a zero-value check for the _gasService, gateway, and _gac arguments provided to the AxelarSenderAdapter.constructor.
 Unresolved.
- Compare a uint against zero using == 0 instead of <= 0.
 Resolved.
- Remove the return value of the adapter's dispatchMessage function. Unresolved. The Uniswap MMA team stated the following:

One recommendation that we have not addressed is the suggestion to remove the return value from dispatchMessage() because it is currently unused. However, according to the ERC5164 standard specification, the function must return a message ID. Therefore, in order to adhere to the interface, we need to keep the current behavior for our adapters.

H. Fix Review Status Categories

The following table describes the statuses used to indicate whether an issue has been sufficiently addressed.

Fix Status		
Status	Description	
Undetermined	The status of the issue was not determined during this engagement.	
Unresolved	The issue persists and has not been resolved.	
Partially Resolved	The issue persists but has been partially resolved.	
Resolved	The issue has been sufficiently resolved.	