

# Reflections on Blockchain Security

Jan Gorzny, Blockchain Researcher

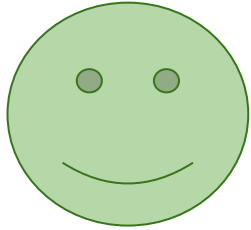


# Smart Contracts

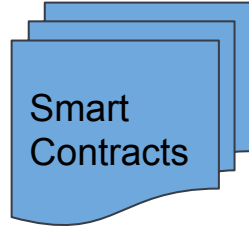
```
1. function withdraw() {  
2.     if (balances[msg.sender] > 0  
3.         && bankBalance > 0){  
4.         msg.sender.call.value(balances[msg.sender])  
5.         bankBalance -= balances[msg.sender];  
6.         balances[msg.sender] = 0;  
7.     }  
8. }
```

Immutable code deployed on a blockchain; public

# Introduction



Pre-deployment



Post-deployment

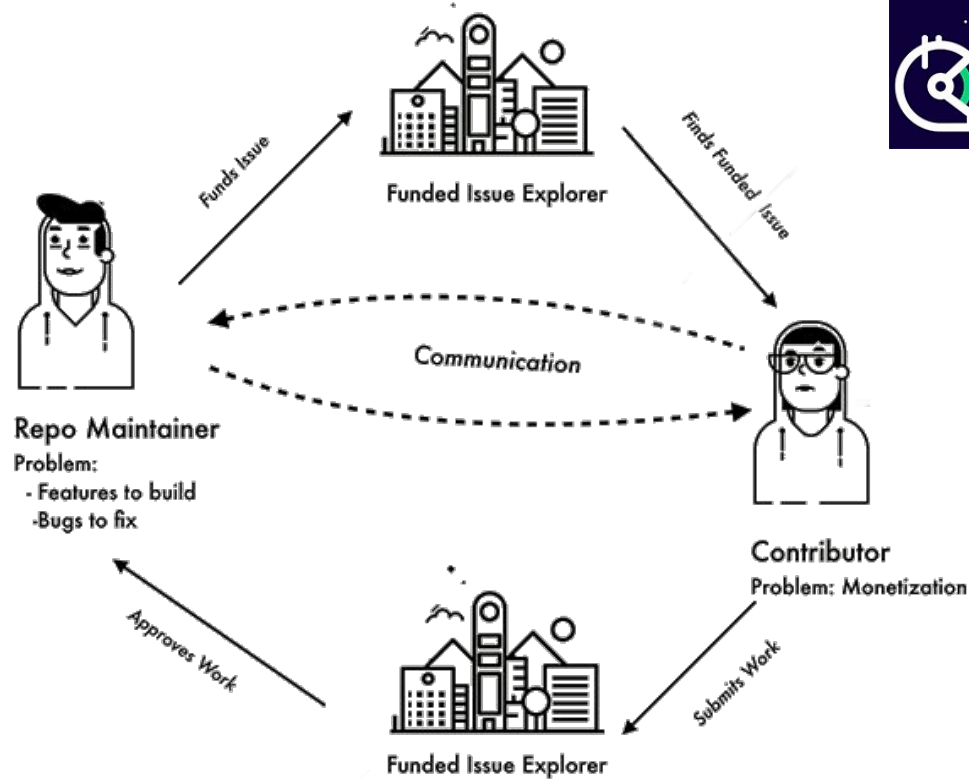
Blockchain



# Pre-Deployment

- Design Choices
- Specifications
- Bug Bounties
- Analyses & Formal Verifications
- Audit

# Bug Bounties



# Bug Bounty Wins

The screenshot shows a HackerOne profile page for a user named 'guido'. The navigation bar at the top includes 'hackerone', 'FOR BUSINESS', 'FOR HACKERS', 'HACKTIVITY', 'COMPANY', and 'TRY HACKERONE'. The main content area displays a list of seven bug bounty wins, each with a rank, a diamond icon, the submitter 'guido', the assigner 'Block.one', a value of '\$10,000.00', and a status. The status for the first six wins is 'closed about 1 year ago', while the seventh win is 'bounty awarded about 1 year ago'. On the right side, there is a 'Skills' badge and a link to 'All badges'.

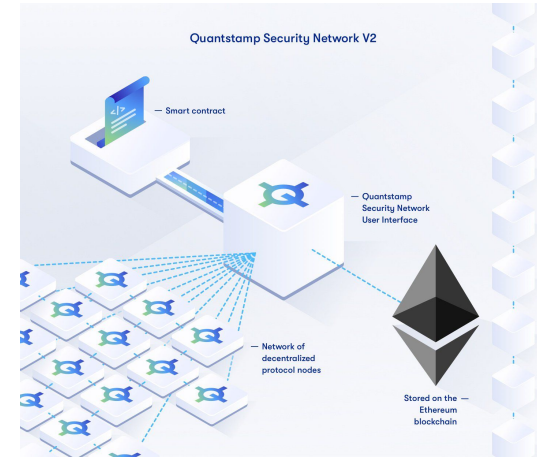
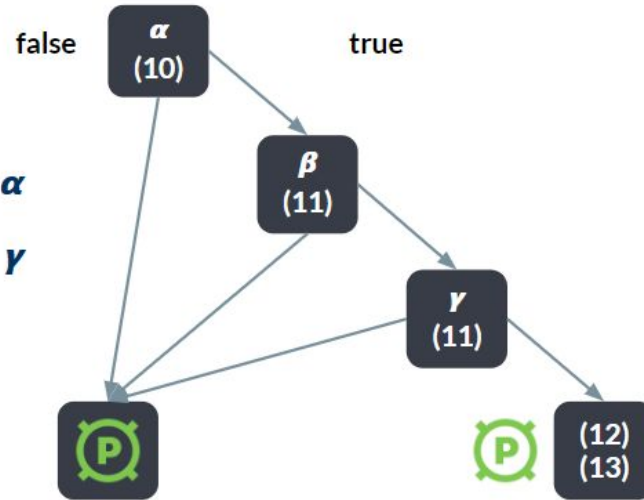
Rank	Submitter	Assigner	Value	Status
35	guido	Block.one	\$10,000.00	closed about 1 year ago
31	guido	Block.one	\$10,000.00	closed about 1 year ago
31	guido	Block.one	\$10,000.00	closed about 1 year ago
31	guido	Block.one	\$10,000.00	closed about 1 year ago
29	guido	Block.one	\$10,000.00	closed about 1 year ago
19	guido	Block.one	\$10,000.00	bounty awarded about 1 year ago
28	guido	Block.one	\$10,000.00	closed about 1 year ago

Skills

[All badges](#)

# (Static) Analysis

```
function transferBalance(address dest) {  
  // no need to update bankBalance: money does not  
  // leave the bank  
  if (balances[msg.sender] > 0) ←  $\alpha$   
    && member[msg.sender] && member[dest] ←  $\gamma$   
    balances[dest] += balances[msg.sender];  
    balances[msg.sender] = 0;  
  }  
} ←  $\beta$ 
```



Expert Security Audits

# (Static) Analysis Wins

2 Transaction Order Dependency (Confirmed) [Learn More](#)

19 Reentrancy [Learn More](#)

24 Unprotected Ether Withdrawal [Learn More](#)

An unprotected Ether withdrawal vulnerability is reported when any user can transfer Ether via a Call.

```
288 ForeignToken t = ForeignToken(tokenAddress);  
289 uint bal = t.balanceOf(who);  
290 return bal;
```



## The K Framework & Formal Verification Efforts in the Blockchain Space



Ola Kohut [Follow](#)

Jun 19, 2018 · 3 min read

*In the past few years we witnessed the development of multiple smart contract languages — each of them requires resources for building formal verification toolsets, compilers, debuggers and other developer tools. Grigore Rosu is a Professor of Computer Science at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, whose dream for the blockchain space is to see all smart contracts formally verified — and he has a tool to that purpose. The K framework is mathematic logic and language that enables language developers to formally define all programming languages, which has massive implications for smart contract programming language development and the formal verification efforts in the blockchain space. Read on or watch the full episode on Epicenter.*

# Post-Deployment

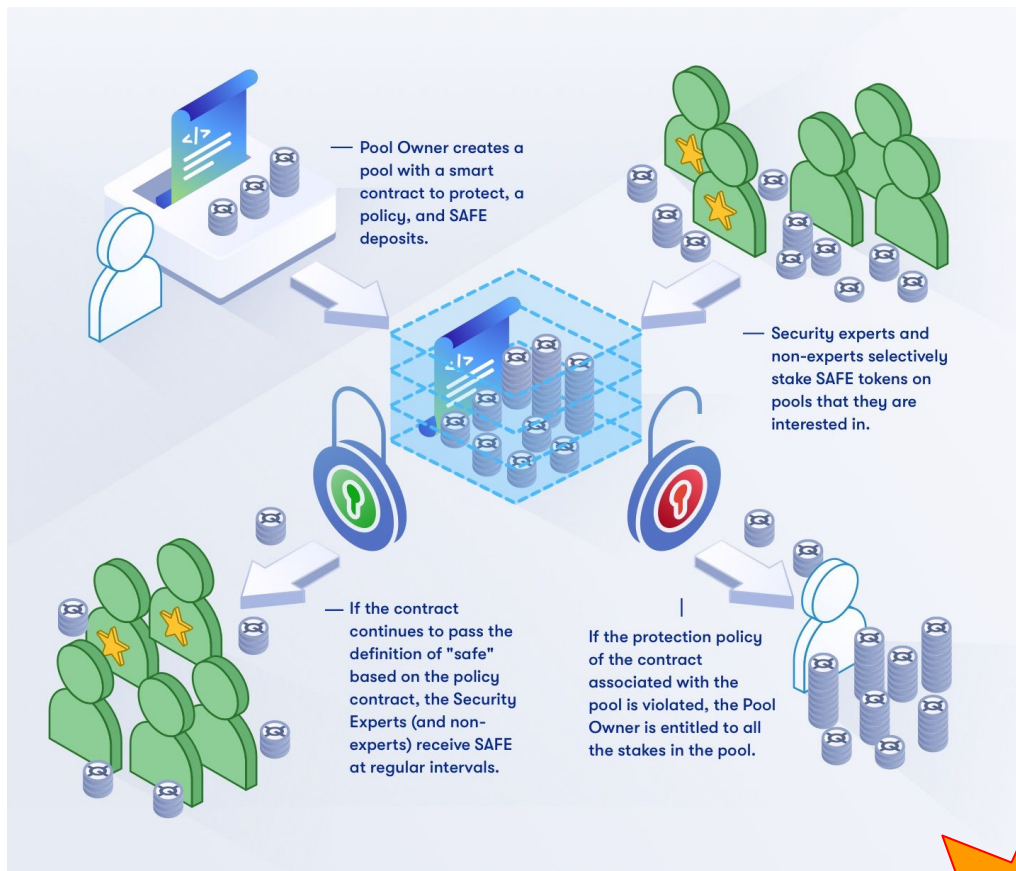
Recall: smart contracts are  
*immutable*

Upgradeable contracts?





# Assurance



# Assurance Walkthrough

1

Pool Owner creates a pool based on an existing contract.

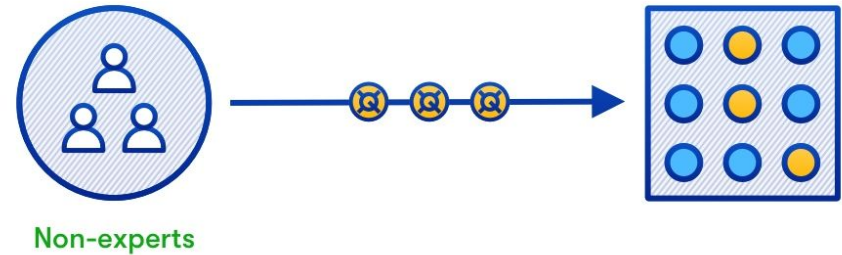


# Assurance Walkthrough

2 Security expert Assurance Providers (defined by the CCR) selectively stake QSP tokens on pools they are interested in.

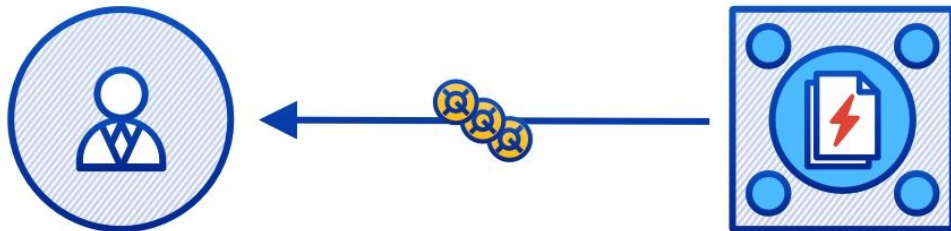


3 Non-expert users also stake QSP tokens in existing pools.



# Assurance Walkthrough

4 If the protection policy of the contract associated with the pool is violated, the Pool Owner is entitled to all the stakes in the pool.



5 If the contract continues to pass the definition of “safe” based on the policy contract, the Security Experts (and non-experts) receive QSP at regular intervals.



# Example Assurance Policy

```
pragma solidity 0.4.24;
interface IPolicy {
    function isViolated(address contractAddress) external view
returns(bool);
}
import "../test/CandidateToken.sol";

/// @title TotalSupplyNotExceededPolicy - the policy is violated if too many
coins are minted
contract TotalSupplyNotExceededPolicy is IPolicy {
    uint256 public maximumSupply;

    constructor(uint256 max) public { maximumSupply = max; }

function isViolated(address contractAddress) external view returns(bool) {
    CandidateToken candidateToken = CandidateToken(contractAddress);
    if (candidateToken.totalSupply() > maximumSupply) { return true;
    } else { return false; }
}
}
```



# Future Concerns (Ethereum)

- Layer 2 Solutions
  - Standards please!
- New solutions to old problems (e.g., randomness)
- Eth 2.0? eWASM?



# Future Concerns

- STARKS
- Other blockchains and their concerns?

# Thank you!

## Questions?



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