



December 23rd 2021 — Quantstamp Verified

Lido stETH Aave Integration

This audit report was prepared by Quantstamp, the leader in blockchain security.

Executive Summary

Type  
Auditors  
Timeline  
EVM  
Languages  
Methods

Decentralized Lending  
  
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2021-12-02 through 2021-12-23  
  
London  
  
Solidity  
  
Architecture Review, Unit Testing, Functional Testing, Computer-Aided Verification, Manual Review



Specification

[HackMD Audit Documentation](#)  
[New Documentation](#)

Documentation Quality

High

Test Quality

High

Source Code

Repository	Commit
<a href="#">aave-protocol-v2</a>	<a href="#">12c9111</a>
None	<a href="#">7cfeab</a>

Total Issues  
High Risk Issues  
Medium Risk Issues  
Low Risk Issues  
Informational Risk Issues  
Undetermined Risk Issues

6 (5 Resolved)  
0 (0 Resolved)  
3 (3 Resolved)  
2 (2 Resolved)  
1 (0 Resolved)  
0 (0 Resolved)



High Risk	The issue puts a large number of users' sensitive information at risk, or is reasonably likely to lead to catastrophic impact for client's reputation or serious financial implications for client and users.
Medium Risk	The issue puts a subset of users' sensitive information at risk, would be detrimental for the client's reputation if exploited, or is reasonably likely to lead to moderate financial impact.
Low Risk	The risk is relatively small and could not be exploited on a recurring basis, or is a risk that the client has indicated is low-impact in view of the client's business circumstances.
Informational	The issue does not post an immediate risk, but is relevant to security best practices or Defence in Depth.
Undetermined	The impact of the issue is uncertain.

Unresolved	Acknowledged the existence of the risk, and decided to accept it without engaging in special efforts to control it.
Acknowledged	The issue remains in the code but is a result of an intentional business or design decision. As such, it is supposed to be addressed outside the programmatic means, such as: 1) comments, documentation, README, FAQ; 2) business processes; 3) analyses showing that the issue shall have no negative consequences in practice (e.g., gas analysis, deployment settings).
Resolved	Adjusted program implementation, requirements or constraints to eliminate the risk.
Mitigated	Implemented actions to minimize the impact or likelihood of the risk.

## Summary of Findings

We have performed an audit for the proposed Lido stETH Aave integration, and have uncovered 6 issues ranging from Medium to Informational. There were some opaqueness to this audit, such as the correctness and safety of the mint and burn formulas provided, the stand-in Incentives Controller, and external contract logic, which we have noted in the issues that follows. We have also made several documentation and best practices recommendations that would go a long way in improving the codebase. Overall, we found the code well-documented and adequately written. That being said, we urge the team to consider our findings and suggestions, and to either fix them or write an official acknowledgement about it.

**Update(2021-12-23):** The reaudit results and fixes came back promptly with some well documented changes as noted in "New Documentation" above. There was a major change to the underlying features of the AStEth token. Borrowing was removed entirely, which rendered many of the issues fixed as the code was no longer existent. The change simplified the logic substantially, and we have also performed a best-effort review of it and found no major errors to report.

ID	Description	Severity	Status
QSP-1	Debt token contracts initialization is not protected, and can be done again	^ Medium	Fixed
QSP-2	Formulas in <code>_mintScaled</code> and <code>_burnScaled</code> cannot be verified	^ Medium	Fixed
QSP-3	Possible integer overflow due to naked arithmetic	^ Medium	Fixed
QSP-4	Unsafe sanity checks	^ Low	Fixed
QSP-5	Violation of principle of least privilege in <code>Incentives Controller</code>	^ Low	Mitigated
QSP-6	Reliance on external contract for critical accounting logic	o Informational	Acknowledged

## Quantstamp Audit Breakdown

Quantstamp's objective was to evaluate the repository for security-related issues, code quality, and adherence to specification and best practices.

Possible issues we looked for included (but are not limited to):

- Transaction-ordering dependence
- Timestamp dependence
- Mishandled exceptions and call stack limits
- Unsafe external calls
- Integer overflow / underflow
- Number rounding errors
- Reentrancy and cross-function vulnerabilities
- Denial of service / logical oversights
- Access control
- Centralization of power
- Business logic contradicting the specification
- Code clones, functionality duplication
- Gas usage
- Arbitrary token minting

### Methodology

The Quantstamp auditing process follows a routine series of steps:

1. Code review that includes the following
  - i. Review of the specifications, sources, and instructions provided to Quantstamp to make sure we understand the size, scope, and functionality of the smart contract.
  - ii. Manual review of code, which is the process of reading source code line-by-line in an attempt to identify potential vulnerabilities.
  - iii. Comparison to specification, which is the process of checking whether the code does what the specifications, sources, and instructions provided to Quantstamp describe.
2. Testing and automated analysis that includes the following:
  - i. Test coverage analysis, which is the process of determining whether the test cases are actually covering the code and how much code is exercised when we run those test cases.
  - ii. Symbolic execution, which is analyzing a program to determine what inputs cause each part of a program to execute.
3. Best practices review, which is a review of the smart contracts to improve efficiency, effectiveness, clarify, maintainability, security, and control based on the established industry and academic practices, recommendations, and research.
4. Specific, itemized, and actionable recommendations to help you take steps to secure your smart contracts.

### Toolset

The notes below outline the setup and steps performed in the process of this audit.

#### Setup

Tool Setup:

- [Slither](#) v0.8.0

Steps taken to run the tools:

Installed the Slither tool: `pip install slither-analyzer` Run Slither from the project directory: `slither .`



# Findings

## QSP-1 Debt token contracts initialization is not protected, and can be done again

Severity: *Medium Risk*

Status: Fixed

File(s) affected: [AStETH.sol](#)

Description: Currently, the `initializeDebtTokens` function does not check for whether the contract state variables `_stableDebtStETH` and `variableDebtStETH` are already set. This means that there is a possibility of these critical state variables are initialized and set again through another call. The function is also not access-controlled, which exacerbates the probability of it taking place. This violates the principle of least privilege.

Recommendation: The `initializeDebtTokens` function should provide a validation that checks for whether the two variables are already set. It can come in the form of `require(_variableDebtStETH == address(0) && _stableDebtStETH == address(0));`.

Update: The relevant logic and state were removed as part of a large change in the [AStETH.sol](#) contract.

## QSP-2 Formulas in `_mintScaled` and `_burnScaled` cannot be verified

Severity: *Medium Risk*

Status: Fixed

File(s) affected: [AStETH.sol](#)

Description: The formula used in `_mintScaled` and `_burnScaled` for minting and burning appears to be correct in its unit and its underlying rationale of manipulating the numbers, although the implied derivation of the final equation is not immediately clear. What's more, based on the currently given information (i.e., the technical specification, code comments, and the code itself), we were unable to prove the formulas correct and verify that it does not contain edge cases that would provide a malicious actor some advantages.

Recommendation: A more concrete and solid mathematical derivation through substitution would go a long way to proving correctness. If that cannot be done, then the team should perform simulation on it to ensure that the characteristics of the formulas are well understood, and that the edge cases found are tolerable by the system.

Update: The relevant logic and state were removed as part of a large change in the [AStETH.sol](#) contract.

## QSP-3 Possible integer overflow due to naked arithmetic

Severity: *Medium Risk*

Status: Fixed

File(s) affected: [AStETH.sol](#)

Description: There is a usage of naked arithmetic on `AStETH.sol::L594-596 ISTETH(UNDERLYING_ASSET_ADDRESS).getPooledEthByShares(uint256(_totalShares - e.totalSharesBorrowed)) + e.totalPrincipalBorrowed;`. It is entirely possible to overflow with these operations, especially considering that the data input is likely to be coming from an external contract.

Recommendation: Use `SafeMath` for the two operations.

Update: The relevant logic and state were removed as part of a large change in the [AStETH.sol](#) contract.

## QSP-4 Unsafe sanity checks

Severity: *Low Risk*

Status: Fixed

Description: The following condition checks should be set to `revert` instead of a gentler `if`, as these conditions should never be violated.

- `L528 if (userBalanceScaledBefore <= scaledTotalSupplyBefore)`
- `L533 if (burnAmountScaled <= scaledTotalSupplyBefore)`
- `L538 if (burnAmountScaled <= userBalanceScaledBefore)`

Recommendation: Switch the `if` statements for a stronger `require`.

Update: The relevant logic and state were removed as part of a large change in the [AStETH.sol](#) contract.

## QSP-5 Violation of principle of least privilege in `Incentives Controller`

Severity: *Low Risk*

Status: Mitigated

File(s) affected: [AStETH.sol](#)

Description: In the [HackMD Audit Documentation](#), it is stated that "We realize that having `IncentivesController` owned externally may involve extra security risks for AAVE. Lido is open to other options, if there is a process to upgrade an AAVE owned contract in the future.". It is unclear from the code itself what such a contract would be, as it is currently out of scope, and it is stated in the same documentation that "address should be provided on deploy and couldn't be upgraded, proxies addresses will be provided for both tokens. Lido DAO agent would be owner of both proxies to provide ability to upgrade it via the Lido DAO voting." Given that this is a component that affects both Aave and Lido, two separate actors, it would be much better if the proxy upgrade process is administered bilaterally instead of the proposed unilateral action here. Recommendation: It is suggested that the upgrade operation should be controlled by both AAVE side and Lideo side through a multisig wallet in order to apply the principle of least privilege to the system.

Recommendation: The upgrade operation should be controlled by both Aave and Lido through a bilateral action, such as a shared multi-sig or an equivalent simpler analogue.

Update: From the Lido team: "Upon discussion with the AAVE team, the usage of upgradable proxy for `IncentivesController` was revised. The current implementation of `AStETH` will not be using `IncentivesController` at all. If necessary, the whole implementation of `AStETH` will be upgraded later with passed `IncentivesController` address."

## QSP-6 Reliance on external contract for critical accounting logic

Severity: *Informational*

Status: Acknowledged

File(s) affected: `AStETH.sol`, `VariableDebtStETH.sol`

Description: There are several important calculations that rely on an external contract for critical accounting logic. It appears in the following:

1. `AStETH.sol`. A subset of functions in the scope of the audit rely on `getSharesByPooledEth`. Since this function resides outside the scope of this audit, we assume this function is correctly implemented. That is, there may exists some pitfalls in the stated function.
2. `VariableDebtStETH.sol`. Upon minting `_totalSharesBorrowed` is incremented by `getSharesByPooledEth(_scaledAmount)`. Upon burning the same value is deducted from `_totalSharesBorrowed`. It is crucial that the `getSharesByPooledEth` function carries out the rebasing correctly.

Recommendation: Consider having the stated function reviewed to ensure its correctness and safety.

Update: From the Lido team: The method `getSharesByPooledEth` implemented in the `StETH` contract were reviewed and audited carefully. Detailed audit reports might be found here: <https://github.com/lidofinance/audits/blob/main/Sigma%20Prime%20-%20Lido%20Finance%20Security%20Assessment%20Report%20v2.1.pdf>  
<https://github.com/lidofinance/audits/blob/main/QSP%20Lido%20Report%2012-2020.pdf>

## Automated Analyses

### Slither

Slither detected 232 results, of which we have found that they were all false-positives.

## Code Documentation

1. `AStETH.sol::L193: ccrued -> `accrued`.
2. `VariableDebtStETH.sol::L22-23` has irrelevant legacy comments from where the contract was probably copied and modified from.
3. `AStETH.sol::L577-578` describes the input parameters as `_intBalanceOf` and `_intTotalSupply` but it is clear that the type is `uint256`. It should be more appropriately named `_uint...` instead.
4. `AStETH.sol::L268` has a redundant `@return The scaled balance of the user` that is overwritten by the following line `@return The scaled balance and the scaled total supply`. It should be removed.
5. `AStETH.sol::L287` has a redundant `@return The internal balance of the user` that is overwritten by the following line `return The internal balance and the scaled total supply`. It should be removed.
6. `AStETH.sol::L285,L288` states that the return object contains the `scaled total supply`, when it is likely to be referring to `internal total supply`.

## Adherence to Best Practices

1. `AStETH.sol::L401-404` should only be done under the `if(validate)` context as `fromBalanceScaled` and `toBalanceScaled` are only ever used within it.
2. `AStETH.sol::[L261, L277, L301]` could use the function `scaledTotalSupply()` instead, which would be cleaner.
3. `AStETH.sol::mint()` should check for whether `amount > 0` at the top, instead of doing so at L166 after some operations have been performed.

## Test Results

### Test Suite Results

The test suite was executed succesfully, with the log appended as follows:

```
StETH aToken
steth rebasing
  positive rebase
    ✓ should update total supply correctly
  negative rebase
    ✓ should update total supply correctly
user Transfer
  when lenderA deposits 1000 StETH, transfers all to himself
    ✓ should update balances correctly
  the single deposit after rebase
    ✓ should update balances correctly
  the first deposit after rebase for lender
    ✓ should update balances correctly
  several sequential deposits
    ✓ should mint aTokens correctly
  deposit->borrow->rebase->repay->deposit->rebase
    ✓ should mint aToken correctly
  when lenderA deposits 1000 StETH, transfers more than he has
    ✓ should update balances correctly
  when borrowed amount > 0
    when lenderA deposits 1000 StETH, transfers all to himself
      ✓ should update balances correctly
    when lenderA deposits 1000 StETH, transfers more than he has
      ✓ should update balances correctly
user deposit
  first deposit
    ✓ should mint correct number of astETH tokens
    ✓ should update balances after positive rebase
    ✓ should update balances after negative rebase
    ✓ should update balances after neutral rebase
  lone user
    ✓ should mint correct number of astETH tokens
    ✓ should update balances after positive rebase
    ✓ should update balances after negative rebase
many users
  ✓ should mint correct number of astETH tokens
  ✓ should update balances after positive rebase
  ✓ should update balances after negative rebase
v large deposit
  ✓ should mint correct number of astETH tokens
when borrow>0
  ✓ should mint correct number of astETH tokens
  ✓ should update balances on positive rebase
```

```

    ✓ should update balances on negative rebase
user withdraw
single deposit partial withdraw
    ✓ should burn correct number of astETH tokens
single deposit full withdraw
    ✓ should burn correct number of astETH tokens
    ✓ should burn correct number of astETH positive rebase
    ✓ should burn correct number of astETH negative rebase
lone user multiple withdraws
    ✓ should burn correct number of astETH tokens
multiple withdraws
    ✓ should burn correct number of astETH tokens
v large withdraw
    ✓ should burn correct number of astETH tokens
when borrow>0
    ✓ should burn correct number of astETH tokens
    ✓ should update balances on positive rebase
    ✓ should update balances on negative rebase
user borrow repay with interest
    ✓ should update accounting
user borrow repay with positive rebase
    ✓ should update accounting
user borrow repay with negative rebase
    ✓ should update accounting
multi user borrow repay
    ✓ should update accounting
```

## Code Coverage

The attempt to run code coverage failed.

## Appendix

### File Signatures

The following are the SHA-256 hashes of the reviewed files. A file with a different SHA-256 hash has been modified, intentionally or otherwise, after the security review. You are cautioned that a different SHA-256 hash could be (but is not necessarily) an indication of a changed condition or potential vulnerability that was not within the scope of the review.

#### Contracts

5ff9282a57f5a11506d84339146c9e73be6f20cc2fdb25706548ed5e8661e0ac ./lido/StableDebtStETH.sol  
50b6c7cc6a59b9a04beff4b20e3b2719af041cb6524acf844c4d73ae0716a639 ./lido/VariableDebtStETH.sol  
c40a2374ba159b4b7208cbd010b608289bc3dc9e555e618fd197acda6315248a ./lido/AStETH.sol

#### Tests

75661ea331d1855e8565e6cd5208019790f319595c9a20d8a6389abba709d006 ./test/astETH.spec.ts

## Changelog

- 2021-12-02 - Initial report of 12c9111
- 2021-12-23 - Final report of 7cefeab



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With over 1000 Google scholar citations and numerous published papers, Quantstamp’s team has decades of combined experience in formal verification, static analysis, and software verification. Quantstamp has also developed a protocol to help smart contract developers and projects worldwide to perform cost-effective smart contract security scans.

To date, Quantstamp has protected \$5B in digital asset risk from hackers and assisted dozens of blockchain projects globally through its white glove security assessment services. As an evangelist of the blockchain ecosystem, Quantstamp assists core infrastructure projects and leading community initiatives such as the Ethereum Community Fund to expedite the adoption of blockchain technology.

Quantstamp's collaborations with leading academic institutions such as the National University of Singapore and MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) reflect our commitment to research, development, and enabling world-class blockchain security.

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