

Security Review of

dFusion Exchange

January 27, 2020

Overview

G0 Group was engaged to perform a security review of Gnosis DFusion decentralised exchange smart contracts. G0 Group was contracted for a four person-week effort to that end. The primary subjects of this review were the smart contracts which implement Gnosis' dFusion Exchange: a fully decentralized trading protocol which facilitates ring trades via discrete auction between several ERC20 token pairs. This review was initially performed on https://github.com/gnosis/dex-contracts/commit/949f2e2f9d05a3570cb4dd5f4d1d54ecd5f5c009.

Files in Scope

Result Summary

During the course of this review, 4 security issues and 3 efficiency or usability issues were discovered, reported, and addressed.

No further issues were discovered in

https://github.com/gnosis/dex-contracts/commit/6be551d8f0ec2ee0f0fe4c78301e4d303c4d57b6

Issues

1. Mix of an account address provided through a method argument through `msg.sander` allows bypassing of withdrawal lock

Type: security / **Severity:** critical

Function withdraw of TokenConservation.sol contains msg.sender in a check on line while the rest of the function works with user variable that is one of the function's arguments. This oversight allows a malicious attacker to bypass token withdraw lock that is critical for the correct functioning of the system.

Fix Description:

The issue was fixed in this commit:

https://github.com/gnosis/dex-contracts/pull/399/commits/256eaf71975b4d22b41d2a2bec 517b6ed714c705

2. Balances that are prepared for withdrawal in the current batch can still be traded but are not considered in calculation of disregarded utility compromising the system of incentives

Type: flawed incentives / **Severity:** medium

While subtractBalance used on line 351 of BatchExchange.sol can reduce the user's balance below the amount that he requested for withdrawal in current batch, getBalance on line 706 considers this amount as if it was already withdrawn, leading to an inconsistency between the amount of tokens that the system thinks are available for the trade in it's disregarded utility calculation and actual available tokens. This might allow some users to "hide" the actual amount of tokens available for sale from the system leading to a better position in the context of market orders.

Fix Description:

The issue was addressed by preventing subtractBalance function from decreasing user's
balance below the amount that is withdrawable. And is no longer present in the following
commit:

https://github.com/gnosis/dex-contracts/commit/cd6dfb291262a890018498be05a58ab50e 47d312

3. Disregarded utility penalty can be bypassed if users split their orders into multiple ones with smaller volume

Type: flawed incentives / **Severity:** medium

Traders can allow solvers to bypass penalty for solutions that don't use all tradable volume at provided prices by splitting their orders into multiple smaller ones since the system only considers unused volumes in orders that are part of the trade and not all orders available in the batch.

Client's response:

In theory, we would like to calculate the disregarded utility over all orders. Unfortunately, this is not in scope for the first MVP. We are aware that there are different methods in order to benefit from this imperfection. The mentioned strategy is not risk-free, as splitting orders also increases the risk of not being included in the solution. Solvers might exclude orders with a small volume, as the gas costs for including the orders might be higher than the reward for including them.

4. IdToAddressBiMap library has an overflow issue leading to unexpected behavior

Type: unexpected behavior / **Severity:** major

IdToAddressBiMap.sol has an overflow issue in the insert function that leads to malformed state when uint16(-1) is provided as id, this issue is not exploitable in the context of the audited contracts but might be in future uses.

Fix Description:

The issue was fixed and is no longer present in this commit: https://github.com/gnosis/dex-contracts/commit/cd6dfb291262a890018498be05a58ab50e https://github.com/gnosis/dex-contracts/commit/cd6dfb291262a890018498be05a58ab50e https://github.com/gnosis/dex-contracts/commit/cd6dfb291262a890018498be05a58ab50e https://github.com/gnosis/dex-contracts/commit/cd6dfb291262a890018498be05a58ab50e

5. First return value of getTradedAmounts is just a copy of the first argument and doesn't seem necessary

Type: efficiency / **Severity:** minor

Client's response:

Yes, returning the buyAmounts is not necessary. We decided to stick with the current implementation, as it enhances the readability of the code

6. Passing an array to TokenConservation.init is unnecessary

Type: efficiency / Severity: minor

Client's response:

We decided to stick with the current implementation in order to keep the logic for the token conservation data creation encapsulated in TokenConservation library. The compiler undoes this implementation detail and our implementation does not cost more gas.

7. lastCreditBatchld is not reverted in undoCurrentSolution

Type: usability / **Severity:** minor

Client's response:

We decided against a reversion of the <code>lastCreditBatchId</code> in case a better solution is submitted for the current batch. We believe that it is very unlikely that a user would benefit from this reversion. They would only benefit if they were intending to withdraw immediately tokens, which they traded in a previous solution of the current batch, but not in the most recently submitted solution. We prefer the simplicity of the contract over the very unlikely, unnecessary withdraw-blocks for a user.