

Dexter - Dexter Core

CosmWasm Financial Security Audit

Prepared by: Halborn

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Visit: Halborn.com

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EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW

1.1 INTRODUCTION

Dexter engaged Halborn to conduct a financial audit of its smart contracts from December 5th, 2022 to February 10th, 2023. The security assessment was limited to the smart contracts provided in the GitHub repository Dexter-core, commit hashes and more details can be found in the Scope section of this report.

The audit focused on the financial part of the project, analyzing in depth all aspects related to the movement of funds, such as pools or the rewards' system.

1.2 AUDIT SUMMARY

The team at Halborn assigned a full-time security engineer to audit the security of the smart contract. The security engineer is a blockchain and smart-contract security expert with advanced penetration testing, smart-contract hacking, and deep knowledge of multiple blockchain protocols.

The purpose of this audit is to:

- Thoroughly review the financial aspects to avoid any anomalous performance.
- Ensure that the mathematical mechanisms work as explained in the documentation.
- Ensure that smart contract functions operate as intended.
- Identify potential security issues with the smart contracts.

In summary, Halborn identified some improvements to reduce the likelihood and impact of risks, which were mostly addressed by Dexter team. The main ones are the following:

• Validate the swap fee value provided by the user before saving it in the pool configuration.

- Verify that the maximum fee allowed for swapping is less than a predefined threshold, e.g.: 25%.
- In case of emergency, allow users to withdraw their funds immediately or within a short period of time.
- Separate the precision from the amount of tokens for the variable containing the initial amount of LP tokens to be minted in the weighted-pool contract.
- Add a function in the multi-staking contract to update the 'unlo ck_period' parameter in case of error.
- Validate the 'distribution_schedule' parameter in the ref_staking contract and add a function to update its value in case of error.
- Keep the 'distributed_amount' parameter as Decimal through all calculations.
- Handle appropriately the edge cases of 'calculate_pow' function in the weighted-pool contract.
- Save the rewards accumulated by the generator contract also as orphans, instead of reducing them to zero.

1.3 TEST APPROACH & METHODOLOGY

This framework provides a risk-based approach to assess the likelihood of a financial security event based on auditing the interactions and inputs around environmental factors of a smart contract or DeFi protocol.

Given the dynamic nature of such an audit, several approaches are combined to perform a holistic assessment of which developers can make the best effort to protect themselves from a revenue impacting event through risk awareness and mitigating factors.

Halborn performed a combination of manual and automated security testing to balance efficiency, timeliness, practicality, and accuracy in regard to the scope of this audit. While manual testing is recommended to uncover flaws in logic, process, and implementation; automated testing techniques help enhance coverage of the Rust code and can quickly identify items that do not follow security best practices. The following phases and associated tools were used throughout the term of the audit:

- Research into architecture and purpose.
- Smart contract manual code review and walkthrough.
- Manual testing by custom scripts and fuzzers.
- Scanning of Rust files for vulnerabilities, security hotspots or bugs.
- Static Analysis of security for scoped contract, and imported functions.
- Testnet deployment.

RISK METHODOLOGY:

Vulnerabilities or issues observed by Halborn are ranked based on the risk assessment methodology by measuring the **LIKELIHOOD** of a security incident and the **IMPACT** should an incident occur. This framework works for communicating the characteristics and impacts of technology vulnerabilities. The quantitative model ensures repeatable and accurate measurement while enabling users to see the underlying vulnerability characteristics that were used to generate the Risk scores. For every vulnerability, a risk

level will be calculated on a scale of 5 to 1 with 5 being the highest likelihood or impact.

RISK SCALE - LIKELIHOOD

- 5 Almost certain an incident will occur.
- 4 High probability of an incident occurring.
- 3 Potential of a security incident in the long term.
- 2 Low probability of an incident occurring.
- 1 Very unlikely issue will cause an incident.

RISK SCALE - IMPACT

- 5 May cause devastating and unrecoverable impact or loss.
- 4 May cause a significant level of impact or loss.
- 3 May cause a partial impact or loss to many.
- 2 May cause temporary impact or loss.
- 1 May cause minimal or un-noticeable impact.

The risk level is then calculated using a sum of these two values, creating a value of 10 to 1 with 10 being the highest level of security risk.

CRITICAL	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	INFORMATIONAL
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10 - CRITICAL

9 - 8 - HIGH

7 - 6 - MEDIUM

5 - 4 - LOW

3 - 1 - VERY LOW AND INFORMATIONAL

1.4 SCOPE

First round of testing (Dec 5th - Jan 20th):

- 1. CosmWasm Smart Contracts
 - (a) Repository: dexter-core
 - (b) Commit ID: 6b49e0f
 - (c) Contracts in scope:
 - i. xyk_pool
 - ii. stable_pool
 - iii. stable_5pool
 - iv. weighted_pool
 - v. ref_staking
 - vi. multi_staking
 - vii. lp_token
 - viii. generator
 - ix. generator_proxy
 - x. keeper
 - xi. router
 - xii. vesting
 - xiii. vault

Second round of testing (Jan 20th - Feb 2nd): New commit with fixes and changes

- 1. CosmWasm Smart Contracts
 - (a) Repository: dexter-core
 - (b) Commit ID: c45b9dc
 - (c) Contracts in scope:
 - i. xyk_pool
 - ii. stable_pool

```
iii. stable_5pool
iv. weighted_pool
```

v. ref_staking

vi. multi_staking

vii. lp_token

viii. generator

ix. generator_proxy

x. keeper

xi. router

xii. vesting

xiii. vault

Third round of testing (Feb 2nd - Feb 10th): New commit with fixes

1. CosmWasm Smart Contracts

(a) Repository: dexter-core

(b) Commit ID: 06dfa23

(c) Contracts in scope:

i. stable_5pool

ii. weighted_pool

iii. multi_staking

iv. lp_Token

v. keeper

vi. router

vii. vault

Out-of-scope: Not-specified contracts and external libraries.

IMPACT

2. ASSESSMENT SUMMARY & FINDINGS OVERVIEW

CRITICAL	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	INFORMATIONAL
0	1	2	6	1

LIKELIHOOD

	(HAL-02) (HAL-03)	(HAL-01)	
(HAL-05) (HAL-06)	(HAL-04)		
(HAL-10)	(HAL-07) (HAL-08) (HAL-09)		

SECURITY ANALYSIS	RISK LEVEL	REMEDIATION DATE
(HAL-01) SWAP FEE NOT VALIDATED FROM INPUT	High	SOLVED - 01/19/2023
(HAL-02) THE MAXIMUM ALLOWED FEE COULD BE EQUAL THAN THE TOTAL SWAPPED AMOUNT	Medium	SOLVED - 01/23/2023
(HAL-03) EMERGENCY UNSTAKE DO NOT ALLOW WITHDRAWAL OF FUNDS IN THE SHORT TERM	Medium	SOLVED - 02/02/2023
(HAL-04) INITIAL LP TOKENS AMOUNT MAY VARY	Low	SOLVED - 01/31/2023
(HAL-05) STAKE COULD BE STUCK IN THE CONTRACT	Low	SOLVED - 01/24/2023
(HAL-06) REWARDS COULD BE STUCK IN THE CONTRACT	Low	SOLVED - 02/02/2023
(HAL-07) ROUNDING ISSUES	Low	RISK ACCEPTED
(HAL-08) MATH MISCALCULATION	Low	SOLVED - 12/14/2023
(HAL-09) NON-PROXY REWARDS ARE LOST DURING EMERGENCY UNSTAKE	Low	SOLVED - 02/02/2023
(HAL-10) STABLE SWAP FORMULA DIFFERS FROM WHITEPAPER	Informational	ACKNOWLEDGED

FINDINGS & TECH DETAILS

3.1 (HAL-01) SWAP FEE NOT VALIDATED FROM INPUT - HIGH

Description:

The execute_create_pool_instance function from **vault** contract allows creating a new instantiation of those pools that have been previously registered.

One of the input parameters of this function is fee_info, which indicates the percentage of the swapped amount that will be collected as fee. This is an optional parameter and, in case of existence, it replaces the default_fee_info, being directly copied from the input of the ExecuteMsg ::CreatePoolInstance to the tmp_pool_info variable without any kind of validation of maximum or minimum and, consequently, used in the creation of the pool.

None of the instantiate functions of the pools performs additional checks on the fee_info value, so it could be any value from 0% to 100%. It could even be higher than 100%, but the swap execution would fail.

Since some pools can be instantiated by everyone, the risk of this issue becomes higher.

Code Location:

Fragment of execute_create_pool_instance function from vault contract:

```
Listing 1: contracts/vault/src/contract.rs (Lines 789,794)

786 // Pool Id for the new pool instance
787 let pool_id = config.next_pool_id;
788

789 let fee_info = fee_info.unwrap_or(pool_type_config.

Ly default_fee_info);
790 let tmp_pool_info = TmpPoolInfo {
791    code_id: pool_type_config.code_id,
792    pool_id,
```

```
1p_token_addr: None,
1p_t
```

Likelihood - 4 Impact - 4

Recommendation:

The fee_info input value must be validated before being assigned to the pool instantiation info. It is also good practice to include this validation in the instantiation function of each pool before saving the value in the configuration.

As a general recommendation, all percentage rates should be checked to ensure that they are within certain limits.

Remediation Plan:

SOLVED: The Dexter team has solved this issue in commit 214e122 by adding a call to valid_fee_info inside the execute_create_pool_instance function.

3.2 (HAL-02) THE MAXIMUM ALLOWED FEE COULD BE EQUAL THAN THE TOTAL SWAPPED AMOUNT - MEDIUM

Description:

The valid_fee_info function from vault package performs some checks on the fee_info parameter. This function is used during the initialization and update of the fee info in the Pool Type configuration, which is overridden if the optional parameter of CreatePoolInstance is set.

The maximum allowed value for fee.info.total_fee_bps is 10_000 with the same precision of 10_000. In the calculate_underlying_fees function it can be checked that, if fee_info.total_fee_bps reaches the maximum allowed, the amount will be multiplied by 1, which means that the fee percentage is the 100% of the amount. Even if fee_info is validated, a maximum fee value of 100% of the swapped amount does not make sense for the purpose of the project.

All functions that make use of valid_fee_info have access control for the owner, which reduces the likelihood of this issue.

Code Location:

The valid_fee_info function from **vault** package:

Listing 2: packages/dexter/src/vault.rs (Line 92) 91 pub fn valid_fee_info(&self) -> bool { 92 self.total_fee_bps <= MAX_TOTAL_FEE_BPS 93 && self.protocol_fee_percent <= MAX_PROTOCOL_FEE_PERCENT 94 && self.dev_fee_percent <= MAX_DEV_FEE_PERCENT 95 }

Constant values from vault package:

Listing 3: packages/dexter/src/vault.rs (Line 73) 69 // FEE PRECISION is 4 decimal places 70 pub const FEE_PRECISION: u16 = 10_000u16; 71 // Maximum total commission in bps that can be charged on any Ly supported pool by Dexter 72 // If MAX_TOTAL_FEE_BPS / FEE_PRECISION is 1, then the maximum Ly total commission that can be charged on any supported pool by Ly Dexter is 1% 73 const MAX_TOTAL_FEE_BPS: u16 = 10_000u16;

The calculate_underlying_fees function from helpers package:

Risk Level:

Likelihood - 2 Impact - 4

Recommendation:

It is recommended to have a maximum swap fee allowed below 25%.

Remediation Plan:

SOLVED: The Dexter team has solved this issue in commit beafd41 by changing the MAX_TOTAL_FEE_BPS value from 10_000 to 1_000, which is equivalent to a fee of 10%.

3.3 (HAL-03) EMERGENCY UNSTAKE DO NOT ALLOW WITHDRAWAL OF FUNDS IN THE SHORT TERM - MEDIUM

Description:

The emergency_unstake function of the **generator** contract allows withdrawing the stake deposited in the contract if some kind of emergency occurs. However, the withdrawal cannot be done immediately, it is necessary to wait until the whole unlock_period has ended, like in normal unstake situations.

This behavior turns the emergency_unstake into a normal unstake but losing all the accumulated rewards.

Code Location:

Fragment of emergency_unstake function from generator contract:

Likelihood - 2

Impact - 4

Recommendation:

It is recommended to allow any user to withdraw their funds **immediately** in case of emergency or, at least, using a short unlocking period.

Remediation Plan:

SOLVED: The Dexter team has solved this issue since the **generator** contract has been removed from the final version of the code.

3.4 (HAL-04) INITIAL LP TOKENS AMOUNT MAY VARY - LOW

Description:

The query_on_join_pool function of the weighted_pool contract uses the constant variable INIT_LP_TOKENS to mint the initial LP tokens when an empty pool receives the first deposit. This variable has a value of 100_000000, which means 100 tokens with a precision of 6 decimal places.

Since the precision of the LP tokens is configured during the instantiation of the LP contract, it is not known beforehand how many decimal places it will have, so it can be different from 6, reducing or increasing this initial amount of tokens.

Code Location:

Initialization of the constant INIT_LP_TOKENS in the weighted_pool contract:

```
Listing 6: contracts/pools/weighted_pool/src/contract.rs (Line 39)

38 // Number of LP tokens to mint when liquidiity is provided for the Ly first time to the pool

39 const INIT_LP_TOKENS: u128 = 100_000000;
```

Fragment of query_on_join_pool function from weighted_pool contract:

Likelihood - 2

Impact - 3

Recommendation:

It is recommended to separate the precision from the number of tokens, since the decimal precision is not known until the moment of the LP contract instantiation.

Remediation Plan:

SOLVED: The Dexter team has solved this issue in commit 830cbce.

3.5 (HAL-05) STAKE COULD BE STUCK IN THE CONTRACT - LOW

Description:

The instantiate function of the **multi_staking** contract accepts as input the parameters owner and unlock_period. Both are saved directly from the **Instantiate** message without any validation.

In addition, this contract has no function to update any of the configuration values, which means that an error in the value of unlock_period would leave the stake locked in the contract for longer than desired.

Code Location:

The instantiate function form multi_staking contract:

Likelihood - 1

Impact - 3

Recommendation:

It is recommended to add a function to update the unlock_period in case of error.

Remediation Plan:

SOLVED: The Dexter team has solved this issue in commit d017094 by adding the update_config function.

3.6 (HAL-06) REWARDS COULD BE STUCK IN THE CONTRACT - LOW

Description:

The instantiate function of the **ref_staking** contract does not validate the distribution_schedule input data before saving it in the configuration. There is not a function to update its value. This also applies to the token addresses in case they need to be updated in the future.

The variable distribution_schedule is a tuple of three values representing the starting and ending point in time of the reward distribution and the amount of rewards to be shared. There is no validation in case the ending point is lesser than starting point, which would cause an underflow error preventing any kind of reward distribution, or if the amount to be distributed is zero (useless operations).

Code Location:

Fragment of instantiate function from ref_staking contract:

Likelihood - 1 Impact - 3

Recommendation:

It is recommended to validate the distribution_schedule input from InstantiateMsg before any assignment, or to include an update configuration function in the code to update its value in case of error.

Remediation Plan:

SOLVED: The Dexter team has solved this issue since the **ref_staking** contract has been removed from the final version of the code.

3.7 (HAL-07) ROUNDING ISSUES - LOW

Description:

The compute_reward function of the **multi_staking** contract calculates the reward to be distributed over a period of time.

The variable distributed_amount increases its value over a few iterations, and it starts as **Decimal**, but at the end of each iteration it is converted from **Decimal** to **Uint128**, losing some precision.

Since this value is subsequently divided by a **Decimal** number and then added to another **Decimal**, it should be kept as **Decimal** since the beginning without losing precision.

Code Location:

Fragment of compute_reward function from multi_staking contract:

```
307 }
308
309 state.last_distributed = current_block_time;
310 state.reward_index =
311 state.reward_index + Decimal::from_ratio(distributed_amount,
L, total_bond_amount);
```

Likelihood - 2 Impact - 2

Recommendation:

It is recommended to keep the distributed_amount parameter as **Decimal** through all calculations.

Remediation Plan:

RISK ACCEPTED: The Dexter team has accepted the risk of this finding.

3.8 (HAL-08) MATH MISCALCULATION - LOW

Description:

There is a calculation error in the calculate_pow function of the weighted_pool contract for edge cases exponent = 0 or base = 0. The correct approach for those cases should be:

- If base = 0 -> return 0.
- If exponent = 0 -> return 1.

Code Location:

Fragment of calculate_pow function from weighted_pool contract:

```
Listing 11:
              contracts/pools/weighted_pool/src/approx_pow.rs (Lines
25, 26)
19 pub fn calculate_pow(
       base: Decimal,
       exp: Decimal,
       precision: Option < Decimal > ,
23 ) -> StdResult < Decimal > {
       let precision = precision.unwrap_or(Decimal::from_str("
if exp.is_zero() || base.is_zero() {
           return Ok(base);
       };
       if base > Decimal::from_str("2").unwrap() {
           return Err(StdError::generic_err(
          ));
```

Likelihood - 2

Impact - 2

Recommendation:

It is recommended to apply the correct results for the edge cases.

Remediation Plan:

SOLVED: The Dexter team solved this issue in commit d2db2ab.

3.9 (HAL-09) NON-PROXY REWARDS ARE LOST DURING EMERGENCY UNSTAKE - LOW

Description:

The emergency_unstake function of the **generator** contract allows with-drawing the stake if some kind of emergency occurs and saving the accumulated proxy rewards in the pool.orphan_proxy_rewards parameter. However, rewards accumulated by the generator contract using the pool. accumulated_rewards_per_share parameter are lost.

Code Location:

Fragment of emergency_unstake function from generator contract:

```
Listing
         12:
                  contracts/dexter_generator/generator/src/contract.rs
(Lines 1055-1057,1071)
048 if let Some(proxy) = &pool.reward_proxy {
           let accumulated_proxy_rewards = pool
               .checked_mul_uint128(user.amount)?
               .checked_sub(user.reward_debt_proxy)?;
                .checked_add(accumulated_proxy_rewards)?;
           transfer_msgs.push(WasmMsg::Execute {
               contract_addr: proxy.to_string(),
               msg: to_binary(&ProxyExecuteMsg::EmergencyWithdraw {
                    account: env.contract.address.clone(),
               })?,
               funds: vec![],
           });
       }
```

Likelihood - 2 Impact - 2

Recommendation:

It is recommended to save the rewards accumulated by the generator also as orphans instead of reducing them to zero.

Remediation Plan:

SOLVED: The Dexter team has solved this issue since the **generator** contract has been removed from the final version of the code.

3.10 (HAL-10) STABLE SWAP FORMULA DIFFERS FROM WHITEPAPER - INFORMATIONAL

Description:

The formula used for **stable_pool** and **stable_5pool** contracts differs from the original formula from Curve whitepaper, which is the one referenced in the documentation.

$$An^n\sum x_i+D=DAn^n+\frac{D^{n+1}}{n^n\prod x_i}$$

Parameters in the formula for the stable swap invariant are the following:

- n: Number of different tokens in pool
- A: Amplification coefficient (defined by pool creator)
- x, y: Pooled tokens
- D: Stable swap invariant

In the **stable_pool** and **stable_5pool** contracts, the formula replaces the $\mathrm{An^n}$ by simply An . This difference is noticeable when the number of tokens in the pool is the maximum (5) and the amounts exchanged are high, resulting in fewer tokens given in exchange than the original formula indicates.

Code Location:

Fragment of calc_y function from stable_5pool contract:

```
Listing 13: contracts/pools/stable_5pool/src/math.rs (Line 112)

111    let n_coins = Uint64::from(pools.len() as u8);

112    let ann = Uint256::from(amp.checked_mul(n_coins)?.u64() /

L> AMP_PRECISION);

113    let mut sum = Decimal256::zero();
```

```
let pool_values = pools.iter().map(|asset| asset.amount).

Ly collect_vec();
```

Fragment from compute_d function from stable_5pool contract:

Risk Level:

Likelihood - 1 Impact - 2

Recommendation:

It is recommended to adjust the applied formula to the whitepaper equation, or change the documentation and the comments with the modified formula.

Remediation Plan:

ACKNOWLEDGED: The Dexter team acknowledged this finding. They also stated that in the case of a 5-token pool (where there may be a maximum deviation) they do not consider these differences to have an impact.

THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING

