Code Assessment

of the DSS Charter Smart Contracts

March 1, 2022

Produced for



by



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1 Executive Summary

Dear all,

Thank you for trusting us to help MakerDAO with this security audit. Our executive summary provides an overview of subjects covered in our audit of the latest reviewed contracts of DSS Charter according to Scope to support you in forming an opinion on their security risks.

DSS-Charter introduces support for new ilks with a fixed fee when taking debt.

The most critical subjects covered in our audit are the security of the new contracts, the functional correctness and the impact of these changes on the existing system.

After the intermediate report all reported issues have been addressed except some optimization issues which have been acknowledged. The new functionality added and the recent changes did not introduce any additional issue.

The communication with your team during the audit was very good and helped to resolve arising questions quickly.

In summary, we find that the codebase provides a high level of security.

It is important to note that security audits are time-boxed and cannot uncover all vulnerabilities. They complement but don't replace other vital measures to secure a project.

The following sections will give an overview of the system, our methodology, the issues uncovered and how they have been addressed. We are happy to receive questions and feedback to improve our service.

Sincerely yours,

ChainSecurity



1.1 Overview of the Findings

Below we provide a brief numerical overview of the findings and how they have been addressed.

Critical - Severity Findings	0
High-Severity Findings	0
Medium-Severity Findings	1
• Code Corrected	1
Low-Severity Findings	6
• Code Corrected	3
• Acknowledged	3



2 Assessment Overview

In this section, we briefly describe the overall structure and scope of the engagement including the code commit which is referenced throughout this report.

2.1 Scope

The assessment was performed on the source code files inside the DSS Charter repository based on the documentation files. The table below indicates the code versions relevant to this report and when they were received.

V	Date	Commit Hash	Note
1	18 October 2021	3ea76ac216216c24f26f374ba5d3809066026ad e	Initial Version
2	16 November 2021	2a62443ee1fa5d37d5c0ea78862d145d53288c 7b	After Intermediate Report
3	19 January 2022	b3904a69a7996cab6471306c5dafea518f1d194 e	Second Version
4	9 February 2022	225c8eb4b79e2278a878bad95340935dfaf87e 44	Updated proxy actions
5	28 February 2022	4d82b1067c708491c08576d9cc7da0ebb59813 c3	Additional changes

For the solidity smart contracts, the compiler version 0.6.12 was chosen. This version, although being deprecated, has been chosen explicitly to be consistent through all newly developed maker modules.

The files in scope for this review were: CharterManager.sol (renamed into Charter.sol in Version 3) of the code), join-managed.sol and DssProxyActionsCharter.sol.

For the liquidation and the corresponding auction of the collateral a modified version of the Clipper contract is to be used.

• ProxyManagerClipper.sol - The diff to Clip.sol of liquidations 2.0 only. The changes in the liquidation process related to CropJoin has been reviewed.

The main code of Clip.sol is not part of this review but has been reviewed as part of the liquidations 2.0 review.

Minor issues already discussed/reported as part of the review of CropJoin are not repeated in this report.

2.1.1 Excluded from scope

All files not listed above.



3 System Overview

This system overview describes the initially received version (Version 1) of the contracts as defined in the Assessment Overview.

At the end of this report section we have added subsections for each of the changes accordingly to the versions.

Furthermore, in the findings section we have added a version icon to each of the findings to increase the readability of the report.

DSS-Charter introduces a permissioned vault manager which allows users to take debts with origination fees instead of standard fees of Maker (stability fee). This is targeted for institution which have off-chain agreements with Maker. The fee is accrued when debt is taken and in exchange those urns feature fix/beneficial lending rates. For this, special ilks (collateral types) will be enabled in the VAT of the Maker system. These ilks use a special join adapter, which is also part of this review (join-managed). The join-managed adapter ensures that entrance/exit of collateral happens through the CharterManager only, and the CharterManager contract ensures that this is done only for urnproxys.

The receiver of the fee in form of generated DAI is the VOW Contract (Settlement Engine).

Anyone may open an urnproxy at the CharterManager contract and deposit collateral in form of a supported ilk. Apart from permissioned vaults, un-permissioned vaults may be supported as well. Note that, by default the un-permissioned mode is enabled for any ilk where any user is allowed to draw debt. The mapping gate allows wards to enable the permissioned mode per ilk. For ilks with the permissioned mode enabled, only whitelisted accounts, namely accounts that have received a non-zero debt ceiling may draw debt. Attempts of un-permissioned vaults to draw debt for those ilk fails as their debt ceiling is zero.

Joining or exiting collateral and repaying debt (call to frob() with dart less or equal to zero) are indifferent between permissioned and unpermissioned vaults for any ilk.

The intended use is that each user executes the DssProxyActionCharter code through his own DSProxy. Note that it's nevertheless possible to directly interact with the CharterManager.

3.1 Contracts:

3.1.1 CharterManager

The main manager contract for DSS-Charter functionality. User are expected to use the DssProxyActionsCharter contract executed in the context of their own DSProxy contract to interact with the CharterManager. Interacting directly with the CharterManager is possible but must be done with care as there are some limitations which could result in lost funds. For each user a urnproxy contract is deployed which is in control of the urn at the VAT. During creation, the urnproxy gives full permission to the CharterManager (VAT.hope()). This ensures that all interactions with the urns created through the CharterManager requiring permissions can only be executed through the CharterManager. Notably owners of a UrnProxy must not attempt to repay debt by either joining DAI into their UrnProxy or moving DAI into their UrnProxy using VAT.move(). DAI balance in the mapping at the VAT will be inaccessible. Repaying dart works by taking DAI from msg.sender vault at the VAT while executing frob() on the urnproxy.

The CharterManager features a mapping proxy to store the link between umproxys and users.

Following functions are available to interact with the urn:

- join: Allows to deposit a supported collateral
- exit: Allows msg. sender to exit collateral from his urn



- frob: Allows to modify a vault if msg.sender has the permission to do so. Reducing the debt is not subject to any restriction. Increasing the debt however has certain conditions, these conditions depend on whether the chosen ilk is restricted to permissioned vaults only or not:
 - For ilks restricted to permissioned vaults only the fee parameter nib and the minimum health factor peace are set per user
 - Otherwise, these parameters are set per ilk

Note that the extra health check based on peace may be disabled.

- flux: Allows to transfer collateral in the VAT accounting between users if msg.sender has the permission to do so.
- quit: In case of shutdown of the VAT, allows to move the ink and art balance to another urn. This urn can be a "free" urn not managed by the CharterManager. Required to free excess collateral in step 5 of the shutdown process as end.free() operates on the urn of msg.sender.

Note that VAT.fork() (splitting a vault) is not exposed to the user and cannot be reached outside of quit().

The owner of the urnproxy (which is the DSProxy of the user if the user uses DssProxyActionsCharter as intended) can give and remove approval to other addresses to act on their behalf using the hope/nope() functionality.

The CharterManager is upgradable through a proxy scheme: The main CharterManager contract features functionality to add/remove wards and to set the implementation address. The fallback function executes the code of the set implementation address as delegatecall for all other function selectors.

Considerations for liquidations:

The liquidation 2.0 system (Dog) is used. Dog.bark() is used to liquidate a vault and initiate the start of the auction. For restricted ilks which are managed through a ProxyManager contract such as the Charter, a special auction (Clipper) contract called ProxyManagerClipper is used. This ProxyManagerClipper ensures the bought gem is only transferred to an urnproxy and features callbacks to the ProxyManager.

Dog.bark() liquidates the urn and assigns the ink/art to the Clipper contract using VAT.grab() before starting the auction by calling ProxyManagerClipper.kick(). The ProxyManagerClipper's kick function contains an additional callback to Charter.onLiquidation(), which does nothing since no internal accounting is needed.

When bidder the collateral in the а buys some of Dutch style auction using ProxyManagerClipper.take() the collateral is transferred to the urnproxy of the address passed as parameter who and a callback with no effects to Charter.onVatFlux() is done.

Bidders on auctions of these ilks need to pass an address as parameter who which already owns an UrnProxy at the Charter or the execution of take() will revert. This prevents unaware buyers to participate in such an auction and therefore receiving collateral on an urnproxy which can only be accessed via the ProxyManager (Charter).

Leftover collateral not needed to cover the debt is returned to the liquidated urn.

Considerations for VAT shutdown:

The restrictions of the ilks managed by the Charter impact the shutdown process.

During the step freeEth / feeGem() only vaults holding this type of collateral are affected hence the user is aware of the special behavior. In order to successfully execute end.free() the urnproxy has to be temporarily forked into a normal urn. The functions in DssProxyActionsEndCharter do this.

In the final step of the shutdown process everyone can retrieve gems from all ilks. Users unaware of the specialties of these ilks may participate. Due to the managed gem join adapter, one cannot simply exit the collateral. Exiting the collateral can only be done through the Charter and for this the gem must be in an urn proxy.



cashGem/cashETH() of the DssProxyActionsEndCharter implement the necessary steps. These functions can be used for vaults managed through a DsProxy. For vaults which are managed directly the respective steps must be done similarly.

3.1.2 Join-Managed

Permissioned Join adapter to deposit/withdraw collateral. The permission is required to ensure all interaction, including depositing of collateral happens through the CharterManager. The CharterManager ensures that only unproxy vaults can deposit.

3.1.3 DssProxyActionsCharter

To facilitate the interaction with the core functionality a wrapper contract DssProxyActionsCharter exists. This is an adapted version of the ProxyActions contract.

The interaction with the CharterManager contract is intended to happen through the DssProxyActionsCharter contract as follows: Each user deploys his own DSProxy through which he executes the code of the DssProxyActionsCharter contract. Note that the DSProxy contract of the user is the owner of the UrnProxy in the CharterManager.

Following functionality are implemented:

- lockETH(): Allows users to send Ether, wraps it into WETH, joins it through the CharterManager into the VAT and locks it into a debt position.
- lockGem(): Allows users to deposit tokens, joins it into the VAT through the CharterManager and locks it into a debt position.
- lockETHAndDraw()/lockGemAndDraw(): Allows a user to deposit, lock Ether or Tokens as collateral, generate debt and receive DAI.
- freeETH(): Allows users to unlock WETH in his debt position and receive it as Ether.
- freeGem(): Allows users to unlock collateral token in his debt position and have it transferred.
- exitETH(): Allows users to exit unlocked WETH collateral and receive Ether.
- exitGem(): Allows users to exit unlocked collateral.
- draw(): Allows users to withdraw DAI. Calculates the amount of additional debt needed and modifies the urn using frob().
- wipe()/wipeAll(): Allows users to repay some or all of their debt.
- wipeAndFreeETH()/wipeAllAndFreeETH(): Allows users to repay some or all of their debt and withdraw Ether as collateral.
- wipeAndFreeGem()/wipeAllAndFreeGem(): Allows users to repay some or all of their debt and withdraw the collateral token.
- hope()/nope(): Allow another address to act on one's urnproxy in the CharterManager contract.
- quit(): Executes quit() on the CharterManager. Used when the VAT is shut down.

3.1.4 DssProxyActionsEndCharter

Used in case the Vault Engine is shut down. Allows users to settle & retrieve their funds. For a detailed explanation of the shutdown process please refer to the documentation: https://docs.makerdao.com/smart-contract-modules/shutdown/end-detailed-documentation. This contract wraps functionality to facilitate interaction through vaults held at the Charter through UrnProxys during shutdown.

- freeETH(): Frees the position through the End contract and transfers Ether to the user.
- freeGem(): Frees the position through the End contract and transfers Tokens to the user.



- pack(): Locks new DAI supplied from the DSProxy into a bag in preparation to the call to cashETH/Gem().
- cashETH(): Allows to withdraw the Ether for the DAI locked in pack().
- cashGem(): Allows to withdraw the collateral token for the DAI locked in pack().

3.1.5 Trust Model & Roles

Wards: Fully trusted to behave honestly and correctly at all times. Note that the Proxy and Implementation contracts share the same mapping for the wards. They can set the parameters and can update the implementation of the CharterManager contract.

Permissioned Users: Whitelisted for certain ilks with a set debt ceiling. The ceiling only applies if the Gate is set for this ilk to be used by permissioned vaults only.

Un-permissioned Users: Untrusted. Can interact with the CharterManager contract with unpermissioned ilks only.

Users must fully trust the CharterManager contract as it features full access on the user's vault in the VAT. Due to the upgradeability this requires users fully trust the wards as they have the power to change the implementation code of the CharterManager.

Users are expected to use their own DSProxy and execute the code of the DssProxyActionsCharter contract.

We assume that the DssCharterProxyAction is used frequently and hence calls to jug.drip() are done frequently updating the ilks rate.

Tokens: The CharterManager disregards the return value of the ERC20 <code>approve()</code> and <code>transferFrom()</code> calls. ERC-20 tokens that do not revert on failure are not supported. In the Maker system the adapter (join) will take care of the token idiosyncrasies and hold the collateral tokens. The join-managed contract reviewed expects and handles the return values of the ERC-20 tokens. This doesn't work for all supported collateral token in the Maker system, USDT which is not compliant with the ERC-20 standard as it does not feature a return value on transfers will not work with this join-managed contract. Generally, it is assumed that only trusted tokens are added to the Maker system. Finally, we assume all tokens have no more than 18 decimals. Note that although the join-managed contract enforces this, older join adapters which are still in use did not enforce this restriction.

3.1.6 Changes in version 3

CharterManager has been renamed to Charter.

Two additional functions are available to interact with the urn:

- move: Allows to move DAI balance in the VAT accounting from an unproxy to an arbitrary address. msg.sender must have the permission to do so from the DAI source address.
- roll: Allows to move the debt from an urnproxy to another without paying origination fees. This is only possible across permissioned ilks that have been specifically marked as "rollable". This action will revert if it endangers the destination vault, if the user's debt line is exceeded or if the user is below its peace ratio. To cope with precision loss and preserve the system, the accounting will add 1 amount of outstanding normalized debt in DAI to the destination urnproxy. This debt surplus will be accumulated as a denormalized amount in the DAI balance of the Charter contract. Only authorized addresses can allow rolling across two ilks for a pair of src and dst addresses.
- flee: will revert but is present to keep the API consistent.

The function frob has been updated such that the msg.sender must have the permission to send/take DAI from the receiver/provider address w.



3.1.7 Changes in version 4

The CdpRegistry has been integrated for the DssCharterProxyAction contract which maps each user/ilk pair to a cdp id an vice-versa. That allows for retrieving the owner and the ilk given a cdpId. The proxy actions contract leverages the registry to generalize the interface of the proxy actions contract such that it operates with cdpId. Hence, the proxy actions contracts allow now for operating on other users' vaults as long as they have been given allowance in the Charter contract.

Following functions now operate with cdp ids:

- All functions in DssProxyActionsCharter
- DssProxyActionsEndCharter.freeETH()
- DssProxyActionsEndCharter.freeGem()

Moreover, following new functions have been added to the proxy actions contracts:

- DssProxyActionsCharter.open(): Opens the cdp for ilk and usr on the CdpRegistry.
- DssProxyActionsCharter.openLockETHAndDraw(): Opens the cdp for ilk and msg.sender on the CdpRegistry and calls DssProxyActionsCharter.lockETHAndDraw().
- DssProxyActionsCharter.openLockGemAndDraw(): Opens the cdp for ilk and msg.sender on the CdpRegistry and calls DssProxyActionsCharter.lockGemAndDraw().
- DssProxyActionsCharter.roll(): Calls Charter.roll() from the source to the target cdp with wad amount.

3.1.8 Changes in version 5:

Besides some optimizations, function quit() has been removed from the regular proxy actions contract since the Charter's quit() can only be used during shutdown.



4 Limitations and use of report

Security assessments cannot uncover all existing vulnerabilities; even an assessment in which no vulnerabilities are found is not a guarantee of a secure system. However, code assessments enable discovery of vulnerabilities that were overlooked during development and areas where additional security measures are necessary. In most cases, applications are either fully protected against a certain type of attack, or they are completely unprotected against it. Some of the issues may affect the entire application, while some lack protection only in certain areas. This is why we carry out a source code assessment aimed at determining all locations that need to be fixed. Within the customer-determined time frame, ChainSecurity has performed an assessment in order to discover as many vulnerabilities as possible.

The focus of our assessment was limited to the code parts associated with the items defined in the engagement letter on whether it is used in accordance with its specifications by the user meeting the criteria predefined in the business specification. We draw attention to the fact that due to inherent limitations in any software development process and software product an inherent risk exists that even major failures or malfunctions can remain undetected. Further uncertainties exist in any software product or application used during the development, which itself cannot be free from any error or failures. These preconditions can have an impact on the system's code and/or functions and/or operation. We did not assess the underlying third party infrastructure which adds further inherent risks as we rely on the correct execution of the included third party technology stack itself. Report readers should also take into account the facts that over the life cycle of any software product changes to the product itself or to its environment, in which it is operated, can have an impact leading to operational behaviours other than initially determined in the business specification.



5 Terminology

For the purpose of this assessment, we adopt the following terminology. To classify the severity of our findings, we determine the likelihood and impact (according to the CVSS risk rating methodology).

- Likelihood represents the likelihood of a finding to be triggered or exploited in practice
- Impact specifies the technical and business-related consequences of a finding
- · Severity is derived based on the likelihood and the impact

We categorize the findings into four distinct categories, depending on their severities. These severities are derived from the likelihood and the impact using the following table, following a standard risk assessment procedure.

Likelihood	Impact		
	High	Medium	Low
High	Critical	High	Medium
Medium	High	Medium	Low
Low	Medium	Low	Low

As seen in the table above, findings that have both a high likelihood and a high impact are classified as critical. Intuitively, such findings are likely to be triggered and cause significant disruption. Overall, the severity correlates with the associated risk. However, every finding's risk should always be closely checked, regardless of severity.



6 Findings

In this section, we describe any open findings. Findings that have been resolved have been moved to the Resolved Findings section. The findings are split into these different categories:

• Design: Architectural shortcomings and design inefficiencies

Below we provide a numerical overview of the identified findings, split up by their severity.

Critical -Severity Findings	0
High-Severity Findings	0
Medium-Severity Findings	0
Low-Severity Findings	3

- Inefficient validate (Acknowledged)
- Skip Calls When No Additional Debt Is Needed (Acknowledged)
- getOrCreateProxy() or proxy[msg.sender] (Acknowledged)

6.1 Inefficient_validate



_validate may be refactored to be more efficient. The amount of external calls executed may be reduced.

By checking whether a check of the credit line or the peace is even required first, the call to the VAT and the calculation of the tab could be skipped in case it's not needed. The current code however calls the VAT initially and then calculates the tab, before determining whether a credit line or peace check is needed.

Acknowledged:

Maker acknowledged the issue.

6.2 Skip Calls When No Additional Debt Is Needed

```
Design Low Version 1 Acknowledged
```

 ${\tt DssProxyActionsCharter.draw()} \ \ \textbf{generates the debt required before exiting the DAI amount to the user's wallet:}$

```
// Generates debt in the CDP
_frob(charter, ilk, 0, _getDrawDart(charter, vat, jug, ilk, wad));
...
// Exits DAI to the user's wallet as a token
DaiJoinLike(daiJoin).exit(msg.sender, wad);
```



_getDrawDart() may return 0 if no additional debt is required to exit the specified amount of DAI. The calls to CharterManager.frob() and VAT.frob() will execute nevertheless in this case, despite not being required.

Acknowledged:

Maker acknowledged the issue.

6.3 getOrCreateProxy() or proxy[msg.sender]

Design Low Version 1 Acknowledged

The CharterManager implementation has a function <code>getOrCreateProxy()</code> which returns the address of an urn managed by the CharterManager for a user, or creates a new urn if it does not exist yet. Although, the Charter Manager features a public mapping <code>proxy</code> which stores the list of urns and their respective users, multiple functions in the <code>DssProxyActionsCharter</code> use <code>getOrCreateProxy</code> function even when not necessary, i.e., there is no need to create a new urn if it does not exist already. Examples of such functions are <code>wipe()</code>, <code>wipeAll()</code> or other wiping functions.

Similarly this also applies to CharterManager.quit().

The CharterManager features functions <code>exit</code> and <code>flux</code>. Both operate on the collateral of the user in the VAT. While <code>flux</code> transfers the collateral in the accounting of the VAT to another address, <code>exit</code> exits the collateral to the user.

From an users perspective, for the account which is the source of the collateral these should behave similarly. Exit() however uses proxy[msg.sender] to load the address of the Urnproxy, while flux() uses getOrCreateProxy(src).

Acknowledged:

Maker acknowledged the issue.



7 Resolved Findings

Here, we list findings that have been resolved during the course of the engagement. Their categories are explained in the Findings section.

Below we provide a numerical overview of the identified findings, split up by their severity.

Critical -Severity Findings	0
High-Severity Findings	0
Medium-Severity Findings	1
Possible Revert Due to Underflow Code Corrected	
Low-Severity Findings	3

- Inconsistent Retrieval of Ilk Parameter Code Corrected
- Possible Optimization on Getting VAT Address Code Corrected
- Unused Function toRad() Code Corrected

7.1 Possible Revert Due to Underflow

Design Medium Version 1 Code Corrected

Should the recorded DAI balance of the DSProxy at the VAT exceed the amount required to repay the debt, the subtraction in DssProxyActionsCharter._getWipeAllWad() will underflow causing the transaction to revert.

Code corrected:

_getWipeAllWad() now returns 0 when enough DAI is available to cover the debt.

7.2 Inconsistent Retrieval of Ilk Parameter

Design Low Version 1 Code Corrected

The function <code>cashETH</code> in the <code>DssProxyActionsCharter</code> contract takes as parameters <code>ethJoin</code> and <code>ilk</code> among others. However, in other functions, e.g., <code>freeETH()</code>, <code>wipeAllAndFreeETH()</code>, etc. only <code>ethJoin</code> is passed as parameter, while the <code>ilk</code> value is retrieved from the adapter: <code>bytes32 ilk = GemJoinLike(ethJoin).ilk()</code>.

Code corrected:

cashEth() and cashGem() now retrieve the ilk from the adapter as the other functions do.

7.3 Possible Optimization on Getting VAT Address





Multiple functions in the DssProxyActionsCharter and DssProxyActionsEndCharter contracts receive the VAT address as follows: address vat = CharterLike(charter).vat(). Considering that the VAT contract is already deployed and its address is not expected to change, the contracts can store this value as immutable or constant to optimise gas costs.

Code corrected:

Both the address of the VAT and the CharterManager (which was previously passed as function argument) are now stored as immutables.

7.4 Unused Function _toRad()



The function _toRad() is implemented in DssProxyActionsCharter but it is not used.

Code corrected:

The unused function has been removed.



8 Notes

We leverage this section to highlight further findings that are not necessarily issues. The mentioned topics serve to clarify or support the report, but do not require an immediate modification inside the project. Instead, they should raise awareness in order to improve the overall understanding.

8.1 Overflow When Drawing More Than 100 Trillion Debt

Note (Version 1)

Theoretically, the function _getDrawDart() can overflow when computing dart: dart = _toInt256(_mul(netToDraw, WAD) / _sub(_mul(rate, WAD), _mul(rate, nib))). netToDraw is in rad (45 decimals) and wad has 18 decimals, therefore for large netToDraw (greater than 10**14) the computation overflows.

8.2 Possible Overflow in exit()

Note Version 1

The function exit() in ManagedGemJoin contract converts uint256 wad into a negative value: -int256(wad). Before the conversion, the following check is performed to prevent overflows: require(wad <= 2 ** 255). Theoretically, if wad == 2 ** 255 the overflow will happen twice, but the result matches the expected value in this case.

8.3 Unaware Users and Permissioned Ilks

Note Version 1

Unaware users may deposit collateral for a permissioned ilk. Only when a user attempts to draw debt for such a permissioned ilk the transaction will revert.

The reason is that for a permissioned ilk an unpermissioned user has a credit line of 0, hence cannot take on debt. The error message CharterManager/user-line-exceeded and the place where the transaction reverts may be confusing for an unaware user.

8.4 UrnProxy With Different ilk

Note Version 1

It is possible to send gem that do not correspond to any ilk managed by the Charter to an urn proxy and generate debt from this collateral. With the Charter it's also possible join but not exit gem of another ilk. Since the urn proxy is managed by the Charter it is not possible to get this gem out of the urn proxy.

