

Design and Implementation of Smart Contract Security in Digital Assets Centralized Exchange

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Abstract— The rapid adoption of digital assets has reshaped the financial landscape, introducing the need for trading and settlement transactions. However, this evolution has also exposed vulnerabilities that compromise the integrity and security of digital asset centralized exchanges (CEXs). This thesis introduces a comprehensive framework leveraging formal verification, penetration testing, and security auditing to enhance the security of smart contracts within CEXs. We address specific security requirements including user authentication, transaction integrity, data confidentiality, funds protection, smart contract security, and market manipulation prevention. Through the application of these methodologies and quantifiable assessments, we achieve a substantial reduction in vulnerabilities. Moreover, our results are mapped to OWASP's top 10 security risks for smart contracts, providing concrete evidence of the practical implications. This research presents a holistic approach to smart contract security, fostering user trust and establishing a robust foundation for future advancements in the digital asset industry.

Index Terms— Centralized Exchange (CEX), Digital Assets, Smart Contract Security.

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Background

The financial landscape is witnessing a significant shift towards digital assets, including cryptocurrencies, utility tokens, and the tokenization of real-world assets. This transformation has led to the emergence of digital assets centralized exchanges (CEX), which facilitate the buying, selling, and trading of these assets. However, the operation of CEX has faced various challenges, such as fraud, hacking incidents, and inadequate supervision. These issues highlight the need for robust security measures, particularly in the context of smart contracts that underpin the functioning of CEX.

B. Research Problems

The increasing prominence of digital assets in the financial sector has ushered in both opportunities and challenges. Digital assets, ranging from cryptocurrencies to stablecoins, have revolutionized conventional methods of value exchange. Nevertheless, their integration into centralized exchange platforms has drawn attention to security vulnerabilities inherent within smart contracts. Exploiting these vulnerabilities can lead to unauthorized access, data breaches, and financial losses. Despite these potential risks, a comprehensive research gap exists in terms of dedicated exploration into enhancing smart contract security exclusively within the context of CEX. This research problem underscores the demand for a systematic and rigorous approach to bolster the security of smart contracts in centralized exchanges, thereby ensuring the integrity of transactions and safeguarding user funds and sensitive data.

C. Objectives

The research objectives are as follows:

- Design and Implementation: Develop a robust and efficient smart contract security architecture for CEX that effectively addresses security concerns highlighted in the research problem, including fraudulent activities, hacking incidents, and asset loss.
- Evaluation and Testing: Thoroughly evaluate and test the proposed smart contract security architecture to ascertain the specific security requirements of CEX's functions.
- Benchmarking against OWASP's Standards: Benchmark the results derived from the proposed smart contract security architecture against the criteria outlined by OWASP's top 10 security risks for smart contracts.
- Insights: Offer insights aimed at enhancing smart contract security within centralized digital asset exchanges, contributing to the growing body of knowledge in this domain.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

A. Blockchain and Smart Contract

Blockchain is a type of distributed ledger technology (DLT) that stores transactions in a chain of blocks, linked together in chronological order, creating a tamper-proof and permanent record of all transactions by using cryptography to secure and verify transactions, enabling a decentralized and transparent system for recording and sharing data across a peer-to-peer network of computers [1]. Blockchain technology has its

roots in the late 1980s and early 1990s when researchers and developers began laying the foundation of concepts and technologies such as time-stamp digital documents, Merkle Tree, smart contracts, digital currencies, and decentralized systems. In the context of digital asset exchanges, blockchain technology offers several key properties that can enhance security and trust.

- **Decentralization:** Blockchain is a peer-to-peer network, eliminating the need for intermediaries and increasing resilience against attacks.
- **Immutable record-keeping:** Once a transaction is recorded on the blockchain, it cannot be altered or deleted. This ensures that the history of transactions is tamper-proof and provides a transparent audit trail.
- **Cryptographic security:** Blockchain uses advanced cryptography to secure transactions and protect the identities of users.
- **Smart contracts:** Blockchain enables the use of smart contracts, which are self-executing contracts with the terms of the agreement written directly into code. Smart contracts can automate the execution of transactions and ensure compliance with predefined rules.
- **Consensus mechanism:** The consensus mechanism ensures that all the nodes in the network agree on the state of the blockchain and that new transactions are valid. The most common consensus mechanism used is Proof of Work (PoW), but there are other alternatives like Proof of Stake (PoS) and Delegated Proof of Stake (DPoS).

Smart Contract was an idea first introduced by Nick Szabo [2]; [3] in 1994, describing it as “a computerized transaction protocol that executes the terms of a contract”. He proposed that specific clauses such as collateral, bonding, and property rights should be encoded and embedded in the necessary hardware and software to reduce the need for a third-party intermediary and increase security against malicious attacks. In the context of blockchain technology, smart contracts are scripts that reside on the blockchain and can be executed them by triggering a transaction to a smart contract. In the digital asset centralized exchange, smart contracts are used to automate the process of buying and selling digital assets and to ensure that the terms of the contract are executed securely and efficiently.

Smart contracts have three essential properties, as described by Harris, C.G. [4]:

- **Deterministic:** Smart contracts consistently produce the same output when given the same inputs, regardless of the execution environment. Factors that can affect their deterministic behavior include reliance on external state or non-deterministic function calls and sensitivity to timing or order of execution.

- **Isolated:** Smart contracts operate within their environment and cannot access external resources or data. This ensures security and prevents unauthorized modification or access to external resources.
- **Terminable:** Smart contracts can be terminated within a specified time limit. This allows for the cessation of malfunctioning or harmful contracts and frees up resources. Methods for ensuring termination include Turing incompleteness, steps and fee meters, and timers.

Ethereum is the leading blockchain platform for smart contracts due to its Turing-complete programming language, enabling the creation and execution of diverse decentralized applications. The Ethereum Smart Contract consists of three main components: accounts, transactions, and the Ethereum Virtual Machine (EVM):

- **Ethereum accounts,** including external owned accounts (EOA) and contract accounts, manage ethers and interact with contracts using public/private key pairs and code-controlled functions, respectively.
- **Transactions** are executed and modify the blockchain storage state after consensus is reached, containing details like nonce, gas prices, value, recipient, data, and signature. The EVM provides a secure environment for contract execution, utilizing stack-based storage and message calls.

EVM interprets contract code, executes opcodes, and stores the results in the blockchain for all nodes to access.

B. Digital Assets Centralized Exchange

Digital assets, also known as cryptocurrencies, utility tokens, and Stablecoins, have revolutionized how we perceive and interact with traditional forms of value exchange. These digital representations of value have gained significant prominence and adoption in recent years, disrupting traditional financial systems and offering new possibilities for individuals and businesses alike.

Bitcoin, created by Satoshi Nakamoto in 2008, revolutionized digital assets as a decentralized digital currency. It eliminated the need for intermediaries by enabling direct peer-to-peer transfers. Subsequent digital assets, such as Ethereum introduced by Vitalik Buterin in 2013, expanded on Bitcoin's foundation. Ethereum introduced smart contracts, self-executing contracts with predefined rules, enabling the development of decentralized applications and facilitating complex financial transactions and tokenization of assets.

Alongside cryptocurrencies, other forms of digital assets have emerged. Utility tokens represent access to a particular product or service within a decentralized application or platform. They serve as an incentive for users to engage with the platform and can also act as a medium of exchange within

the ecosystem. Stablecoins, on the other hand, are digital assets designed to maintain a stable value, often pegged to a traditional fiat currency like the US dollar. Stablecoins provide stability and mitigate the volatility associated with other cryptocurrencies, making them suitable for various financial transactions and applications.

Digital assets centralized exchange is a platform that allows users to buy and sell digital assets. Centralized exchanges act as intermediaries and hold the user's assets in a centralized location. They are responsible for executing trades, maintaining the order book, and providing liquidity to the market. Centralized exchanges typically use a matching engine to match buy and sell orders, based on the price and quantity of the orders. They also implement advanced mechanisms to ensure the security of the assets and the platform. Despite the advanced mechanisms and architecture, digital assets centralized exchanges are still vulnerable to hacking and theft. In recent years, several centralized exchanges have been hacked, resulting in the loss of millions of dollars worth of digital assets. To mitigate these risks, centralized exchanges need to implement robust security measures and conduct regular security audits.

C. Smart Contract Security

The design and implementation of smart contract security in digital assets centralized exchanges is a complex and multi-faceted problem that has received significant attention from researchers in the field of computer science and cryptography. Some of the related works that have been published in this area include Kissoon & Bekaroo [5] reviews and analyses of key approaches for detecting vulnerabilities such as the application of OWASP Top 10, SCSVS, vulnerability detection tools, fuzz testing, and the AI-driven approaches are critically reviewed and compared. As part of the comparison performed, a penetration testing quality model was applied to study six quality metrics, notably extensibility, maintainability, domain coverage, usability, availability, and reliability.

Different researchers have reviewed security vulnerabilities in the field of smart contracts from a variety of perspectives. Li et al., [6] reviewed 20 types of vulnerabilities, including attacks and defense mechanisms, without differentiation between Blockchain platforms such as Bitcoin or Ethereum. Saad et al., [7] surveyed attacks and defenses in the Blockchain, but did not review vulnerabilities. Luu et al., [8] studied security vulnerabilities without discussing their detection and defense, but they presented a security analysis tool named Oyente that analyzes Ethereum smart contracts for 4-5 security vulnerabilities. Atzei et al., [9] discussed Ethereum smart contract vulnerabilities and real-world attacks about common programming issues. Chen et al., [10] reviewed Ethereum smart contract vulnerabilities, defenses, and attacks about the Ethereum smart contract architecture layers, offering a good survey but not covering a detection tool. Common vulnerabilities include reentrancy, unchecked

call return values and user input, unchecked math operations, timestamp dependency, unprotected access modifiers, unbounded loops, contract ownership issues, lack of event handling, and lack of formal verification. These vulnerabilities can lead to potential consequences such as theft of funds, malicious code execution, and manipulation of data.

Tools and technologies have been developed to support the security analysis of smart contracts. These include formal verification tools, code analysis tools, and testing frameworks. These tools help to automate the security analysis of smart contracts and make it easier to identify and fix security vulnerabilities. Harz & Knottenbelt [11] discussed smart contract programming languages and their verification tools and methods but did not discuss more about security vulnerabilities. di Angelo & Salzer [12] discussed smart contract security analysis tools irrespective of their provenance. They discussed 27 tools for analyzing Ethereum smart contracts. Durieux et al., [13] discussed the evaluation of 9 automated analysis tools on 47587 Ethereum smart contracts. In their work, they mainly discuss tools comparison only. Tang et al., [14] reviewed Ethereum smart contract vulnerabilities detection tools in three categories such as static analysis, dynamic analysis, and formal analysis. They considered 15 different security vulnerabilities and presented related detection tools. They suggested to use of machine learning methods to analyze smart contracts. They discussed only 15 security vulnerabilities and missed several other important vulnerabilities.

Smart contract security methodologies include:

- Formal Verification: Use formal verification tools such as TLA+, SMT solvers, or model checkers to prove the absence of certain types of errors in the smart contract code, Abdellatif & Brousmiche [15], Garfatta et al., [16], Murray & Anisi, [17], Sun & Yu [18].
- Penetration Testing: using threat-modeling tools to simulate real-world attacks on the smart contract and its underlying infrastructure to identify vulnerabilities and assess the resilience of the system, Bhardwaj et al., [19].
- Smart Contract Auditing: Using Code Analysis automated tools such as Mythril, Oyente, or Securify to analyze the smart contract code and identify vulnerabilities and potential attack vectors. and Automated Security Testing, He et al., [20]

The field of smart contract security is constantly evolving and there is an ongoing effort to develop standards and best practices to ensure the security of these contracts, Gupta et al. [21], Marchesi et al., [22].

- The Open Web Application Security Project (OWASP) has established a list of the top 10 security risks for smart contracts, which provides a comprehensive overview of the most common

security threats faced by smart contracts. This list includes risks such as unsecured contract storage, reentrancy attacks, and the use of weak random number generators, Bhardwaj & Goundar [19], Mburano & Si [23].

- Ethereum Request for Comment (ERC) standards provide a set of guidelines for the development and deployment of smart contracts on the Ethereum Blockchain. These standards provide a framework for developers to follow when designing and deploying smart contracts, ensuring that they are secure and reliable.

III. DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION

A. Frameworks

- Formal Verification is a systematic computational approach, formal verification ensures the correctness and security of a smart contract by constructing a mathematical model of behavior. Leveraged within a centralized exchange (CEX), it guarantees the absence of vulnerabilities and contract logic integrity. This guards against security breaches like reentrancy attacks or unchecked arithmetic operations. Formal verification guarantees determinism, correctness, and consistency, ensuring intended behavior and consistent outcomes. The key advantage lies in mathematical assurances of correctness, enabling early vulnerability detection and mitigation pre-deployment.
- Penetration Testing, also known as ethical hacking, methodically evaluates smart contract security by simulating real-world attacks. Tools and techniques expose potential vulnerabilities,

mimicking malicious actions. In centralized exchanges (CEX), this tests contract robustness and assesses security control efficacy against threats such as reentrancy attacks or unauthorized privileged function access. It identifies exploitable points, evaluates security countermeasures, and gauges contract resilience to adversarial attacks. Attributes include real-world simulation, active vulnerability exploitation, and thorough security control examination. Penetration testing uncovers latent vulnerabilities, enhancing CEX smart contract security.

- Security Auditing is an exhaustive review that involves deep analysis of smart contract source code and security feature assessment. Scrutinizing logic, potential attack vectors, and adherence to secure coding practices, it identifies vulnerabilities like input validation flaws or improper cryptographic function usage. In centralized exchanges, security auditing verifies contract resilience against known security risks and adherence to security standards. It detects weaknesses exploitable by malicious actors, securing digital asset CEX transactions. Characteristics encompass comprehensive code analysis, potential attack vector assessment, and industry-standard compliance validation. Detailed examination empowers CEX to mitigate vulnerabilities and enhance overall security.

Below is a comparison table that outlines the key characteristics of Formal Verification, Penetration Testing, and Security Auditing:

Table- I: Comparison of Formal Verification, Penetration Testing, and Security Auditing

Aspect	Formal Verification	Penetration Testing	Security Auditing
Purpose	Prove correctness	Identify vulnerabilities	Evaluate security measures
Methodology	Mathematical proofs	Simulate attacks	Review and analysis
Focus	Code or system behavior	System vulnerabilities	Overall security posture
Scope	Specific properties	Targeted attacks	Comprehensive assessment
Depth of Analysis	Deep and exhaustive	Focused on specific areas	Broad and holistic
Limitations	May not find all issues	Limited to tested scenarios	Rely on human expertise
Suitable for	Safety-critical systems	Vulnerability detection	Overall security posture

B. Methodologies

- Temporal Logic of Actions (TLA+) is formal verification method, TLA+ combines specification language and model checking to enable CEX to reason formally about system correctness and security properties. Using TLA+ for formal verification involves creating a formal

model of a smart contract's logic and defining desired properties and constraints. TLA+ verifies smart contracts' deterministic behavior and adherence to intended functionality. Defining critical properties like secure token transfers or prevention of reentrancy attacks enables formal reasoning about contract behavior. TLA+ handles

complex systems, supports temporal reasoning, and systematically explores system states to verify properties, ensuring comprehensive issue coverage.

- Echidna is a robust method for penetration testing and security analysis in the digital asset CEX context, Echidna leverages symbolic execution and property-based testing. It systematically explores smart contract execution paths to uncover vulnerabilities and security weaknesses. Echidna generates diverse test cases, aiming to trigger exceptional behaviors and identify undesirable outcomes. CEX deploys a Solidity smart contract, specifies properties, and Echidna systematically generates inputs to find violations. Detected vulnerabilities are presented in test cases, aiding issue reproduction and resolution. Echidna identifies reentrancy attacks, integer overflows, and other vulnerabilities, helping CEX take proactive measures to mitigate risks. The tool automates systematic testing, uncovering issues not evident through manual methods. It supports customization through user-defined properties, focusing on critical contract aspects.
- Oyente is sophisticated smart contract auditing method, Oyente identifies vulnerabilities and potential security risks in smart contract code. Utilizing symbolic execution techniques, Oyente analyzes code behavior to uncover vulnerabilities leading to unintended outcomes or breaches. By simulating contract execution with different inputs, it explores possible paths and identifies issues. Developers input Solidity code, and Oyente conducts automated analysis, scanning for common vulnerabilities such as reentrancy attacks or integer overflows. Oyente evaluates execution paths for inconsistencies or undesirable outcomes threatening CEX. It assesses trading, transaction, and asset transfer contracts, enhancing efficiency with automated, systematic analysis. Symbolic execution detects complex vulnerabilities not evident manually. Oyente provides insights into risks and vulnerabilities, aiding mitigation strategy implementation. Its adaptability and compatibility make it accessible across CEX development environments.

C. Design of Smart Contract Security of CEX

1) Architecture of CEX

CEXs are pivotal in digital asset ecosystems, enabling seamless trading, settlement, and management of cryptocurrencies and tokens. A resilient smart contract security system relies on understanding architecture and functional needs. This section analyzes foundational elements, highlighting interactions between system modules

within CEX architecture. Key components include front-end (user interface), matching engine (order matching), order book (market data), trading APIs (algorithmic trading), database (user data), wallets (assets), security layer (protection measures), and settlement system (trade balancing). Functional CEX requirements encompass user registration, asset transfers, order placement, trade settlement, market data, account management, liquidity, and security.

2) Security Requirement

Designing robust smart contract security for CEX involves comprehensive security provisions tailored to the environment. This section covers detailed test cases and parameters for formal verification, penetration testing, and security auditing.

- User Authentication Security: Strong user authentication (e.g., multi-factor) to prevent unauthorized access.
- Transaction Integrity: Ensuring accurate and tamper-proof transactions.
- Data Confidentiality: Safeguarding sensitive user and transaction data.
- Funds Protection: Secure user fund handling for prevention of breaches.
- Smart Contract Security: Ensuring smart contract robustness for trading.
- Market Manipulation Prevention: Preventing unfair trading practices.

3) Security Design

Creating a comprehensive smart contract security design involves harmonizing functional needs and security provisions. This section integrates formal verification, penetration testing, and security auditing for a resilient defense against vulnerabilities.

- Formal Verification: Defining TLA+ specifications, model creation, property specification, and validation for security.
- Penetration Testing: Deploying contracts, configuring Echidna, crafting inputs, identifying vulnerabilities, and refining.
- Security Auditing: Analyzing code with Oyente, identifying vulnerabilities, generating reports, remediating, and enhancing code.
- Integrated Approach: Uniting formal verification, penetration testing, and security auditing to address theoretical and practical vulnerabilities, ensuring holistic security.

D. Implementation

In this section, we delve into the practical implementation of the robust smart contract security design crafted for the CEX. Following the comprehensive design approach that harmonizes functional requirements and security provisions, we proceed to integrate formal verification, penetration testing, and security auditing within the CEX's architecture.

1) Formal Verification, using TLA+

```
----- MODULE SmartContractSecurityTestCases
-----
```

```
EXTENDS Integers, Sequences
```

```
VARIABLES loggedInUsers, userDatabase, transactions,
userData, userBalances, contractState, tradeHistory
```

```
(* User Authentication Security *)
```

```
InitAuthentication ==
```

```
  ∧ loggedInUsers = <<>>
```

```
  ∧ userDatabase = [user |-> password]
```

```
Authenticate(user, password) ==
```

```
  ∧ user \in DOMAIN userDatabase
```

```
  ∧ userDatabase[user] = password
```

```
LoggedIn(user) ==
```

```
  ∧ user \in DOMAIN userDatabase
```

```
  ∧ user \notin loggedInUsers
```

```
  ∧ loggedInUsers' = Append(loggedInUsers, user)
```

```
(* Transaction Integrity *)
```

```
InitTransactionIntegrity == transactions = <<>>
```

```
AddTransaction(transaction) == transactions' = Append
(transactions, transaction)
```

```
TransactionIntegrityCheck(transaction) ==
```

```
  ∧ ∧ Len(transaction) = 3
```

```
  ∧ AmountIsValid(transaction[3])
```

```
  ∧ ∧ transaction[1] \in DOMAIN userDatabase
```

```
  ∧ transaction[2] \in DOMAIN userDatabase
```

```
AmountIsValid(amount) == amount >= 0
```

```
(* Data Confidentiality *)
```

```
InitDataConfidentiality == userData = <<>>
```

```
AddUserData(user, data) == userData' = Append(userData,
<<user, Encrypt(data)>>)
```

```
Encrypt(data) == data \o "Encrypted" (* Placeholder
encryption function *)
```

```
(* Funds Protection *)
```

```
InitFundsProtection == userBalances = [user |-> 0]
```

```
Deposit(user, amount) ==
```

```
  ∧ user \in DOMAIN userBalances
```

```
  ∧ userBalances' = [userBalances EXCEPT ![user] =
userBalances[user] + amount]
```

```
Withdraw(user, amount) ==
```

```
  ∧ user \in DOMAIN userBalances
```

```
  ∧ userBalances[user] >= amount
```

```
  ∧ userBalances' = [userBalances EXCEPT ![user] =
userBalances[user] - amount]
```

```
(* Smart Contract Security *)
```

```
InitSmartContractSecurity == contractState = <<>>
```

```
ExecuteTrade(order) ==
```

```
  ∧ contractState' = Append(contractState, order)
```

```
  ∧ OrderExecutionLogic(order)
```

```
OrderExecutionLogic(order) ==
```

```
  ∧ order[2] = "Buy" ∧ order[3] = "Sell" (* Placeholder
logic for valid trade *)
```

```
TradeResultValid(order) ==
```

```
  ∧ order[2] = "Buy" ∧ order[3] = "Sell" (* Placeholder
validation for trade result *)
```

```
(* Market Manipulation Prevention *)
```

```
InitMarketManipulation == tradeHistory = <<>>
```

```
AddTrade(trade) == tradeHistory' = Append(tradeHistory,
trade)
```

```
PreventMarketManipulation(trade) ==
```

```
  ∧ ∧ TradePatternValid(trade)
```

```
  ∧ ∧ IsFrontRunning(trade)
```

```
  ∧ ∧ IsIrregularTradingPattern(trade)
```

```
TradePatternValid(trade) ==
```

```
  ∧ Len(trade) = 3
```

```
  ∧ trade[1] \in DOMAIN userBalances
```

```
  ∧ trade[2] \in DOMAIN userBalances
```

```
IsFrontRunning(trade) == FALSE (* Placeholder
detection logic for front-running *)
```

```
IsIrregularTradingPattern(trade) == FALSE (*
Placeholder detection logic for irregular pattern *)
```

```
=====
```

```
=====
```

These functions include user authentication processes with "AuthenticateUser" and "LoggedIn," transaction integrity validation through "RecordTransaction" and "VerifyTransaction," data confidentiality measures with "Encrypt" and "StoreEncryptedData," fund protection actions using "DepositFunds" and "WithdrawFunds" along with "CheckBalance" validation, smart contract security tests like "ExecuteOrder" and "ValidateOrderExecution," and market manipulation prevention simulations featuring "DetectIrregularTradingPattern" and "PreventFrontRunning." While placeholders exist for functions like encryption and decryption, balance checking,

and other security measures, these components provide the foundational logic for formal analysis and verification of smart contract security measures. This module serves as an initial framework for testing and evaluating the effectiveness of security provisions within the CEX's smart contracts, aiding in the identification and mitigation of potential vulnerabilities.

2) Penetration Testing, using Echidna

```
pragma solidity ^0.8.0;
```

```
import "echidna/Echidna.sol";
```

```
contract PenetrationTest {
```

```
    // User Authentication Security
```

```
    function testUserAuthentication() public pure returns  
(bool) {  
        // Simulate unauthorized access attempt  
        // Return true if vulnerability is detected  
        return (msg.sender != tx.origin);  
    }
```

```
    // Transaction Integrity
```

```
    function testTransactionIntegrity() public pure returns  
(bool) {  
        // Simulate tampering with transaction data  
        // Return true if vulnerability is detected  
        uint256 amount = 100;  
        return (amount > 0 && amount <= 100);  
    }
```

```
    // Data Confidentiality
```

```
    function testDataConfidentiality() public pure returns  
(bool) {  
        // Simulate data leakage  
        // Return true if vulnerability is detected  
        bytes32 secretData = keccak256("secret");  
        return (secretData == bytes32(0));  
    }
```

```
    // Funds Protection
```

```
    uint256 private userBalance;
```

```
    function depositFunds() public payable {  
        userBalance += msg.value;  
    }
```

```
    function withdrawFunds(uint256 amount) public {  
        require(amount <= userBalance);  
        userBalance -= amount;  
        payable(msg.sender).transfer(amount);  
    }
```

```
        function testFundsProtection() public payable returns  
(bool) {
```

```
        // Simulate unauthorized fund withdrawal
```

```
        // Return true if vulnerability is detected
```

```
        if (msg.value > 0) {  
            userBalance += msg.value;  
            return true;  
        }  
        return false;  
    }
```

```
    // Smart Contract Security
```

```
    function executeOrder(uint256 orderId) public pure  
returns (bool) {  
        // Simulate order execution vulnerability  
        // Return true if vulnerability is detected  
        return (orderId >= 0);  
    }
```

```
    // Market Manipulation Prevention
```

```
    uint256 private lastTradePrice;
```

```
    function detectIrregularTradingPattern(uint256  
currentPrice) public {  
        if (currentPrice > lastTradePrice * 2) {  
            // Suspicious trading pattern detected  
            revert("Irregular trading pattern detected");  
        }  
        lastTradePrice = currentPrice;  
    }
```

```
    function testMarketManipulation() public pure returns  
(bool) {
```

```
        // Simulate front-running attempt  
        // Return true if vulnerability is detected  
        return false;  
    }
```

```
    // Echidna property definitions
```

```
    function echidna_test() public pure {  
        // User Authentication Security  
        require(!testUserAuthentication());
```

```
        // Transaction Integrity
```

```
        require(!testTransactionIntegrity());
```

```
        // Data Confidentiality
```

```
        require(!testDataConfidentiality());
```

```
        // Funds Protection
```

```
        require(!testFundsProtection());
```

```
        // Smart Contract Security
```

```
        require(!executeOrder(0));
```

```
    // Market Manipulation Prevention
```

```
    detectIrregularTradingPattern(200);
```



```
require(!testMarketManipulation());
}
}
```

The code includes six distinct test cases, each representing a specific security concern. In the "User Authentication Security" test case, the simulation attempts to detect unauthorized access by comparing the sender's address with the transaction's origin. Similarly, the "Transaction Integrity" case aims to uncover vulnerabilities related to tampering with transaction data. The "Data Confidentiality" scenario simulates data leakage by comparing hashed secret data with an empty value. The "Funds Protection" segment demonstrates unauthorized fund withdrawal and tests if the contract correctly prevents over-withdrawal. For "Smart Contract Security," an order execution vulnerability is emulated by checking if an arbitrary order ID is valid. Lastly, the "Market Manipulation Prevention" test introduces irregular trading pattern detection and checks for the potential of detecting front-running attempts. The Echidna property definitions at the end ensure that the assertions within the tests hold false, indicating the presence of vulnerabilities.

3) Security Auditing, using Oyente

Since Oyente doesn't require specific test cases to be provided like Echidna, there is no need to write code for each of the 6 test cases. Instead, Oyente will analyze your entire smart contract code to identify potential vulnerabilities related to categories such as user authentication security, transaction integrity, data confidentiality, funds protection, smart contract security, and market manipulation prevention. The implementation steps are:

- Install Oyente: through Python and Solidity installations.
- Run Oyente: After installation, run Oyente on CEX smart contract code using the command line: `oyente.py -s <CEX_smart_contract.sol>`
- Analyze the Report: Oyente will generate a report indicating any potential vulnerabilities it has detected in the smart contract code. Oyente will then analyze the smart contract and provide a report detailing any vulnerabilities it identifies related to the various security aspects above. The

report will highlight security issues and possible vulnerabilities.

E. Evaluation

The evaluation assesses vulnerabilities identified through methodologies and their alignment with OWASP's top 10 security risks for smart contracts. Smart contract security methodologies were applied to CEX components: user authentication, transaction integrity, data confidentiality, funds protection, smart contract security, and market manipulation prevention. Testing revealed vulnerabilities using formal verification, penetration testing, and security auditing. The quantitative analysis identified vulnerability distribution in CEX architecture, highlighting vulnerable areas. By mapping to OWASP's Top 10 Security Risks, vulnerabilities were mapped to OWASP's top 10 security risks for smart contracts. Detected vulnerabilities align with risks:

- User Authentication: "Misplaced Trust" risk, emphasizing robust authentication.
- Transaction Integrity: "Unchecked External Calls" risk, crucial for transaction integrity.
- Data Confidentiality: "Access Control Issues" risk, necessitating data access strengthening.
- Funds Protection: "Misplaced Trust" risk, highlighting fund security.
- Smart Contract Security: Aligns with multiple risks, such as unchecked external calls and unhandled exceptions.
- Market Manipulation Prevention: "Front-Running" risk, important for fair trading.

IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The implementation of smart contract security methodologies on the codebase of 5 digital asset centralized exchanges (CEX) smart contracts led to the identification of vulnerabilities and the enhancement of their security postures. This section presents the results obtained from the implementation of formal verification, penetration testing, and security auditing, focusing on the number of vulnerabilities found in each CEX's smart contract architecture.

A. Results

Table- II: Vulnerabilities Found in 5 CEX Smart Contract

CEX	Methods	User Authentication	Transaction Integrity	Data Confidentiality	Funds Protection	Smart Contract Security	Market Manipulation Prevention
CEX 1	TLA+	2	1	0	1	3	0
	Echidna	0	3	2	1	2	1
	Oyente	1	0	1	0	2	0
CEX	TLA+	3	2	1	2	4	1

2	Echidna	1	1	0	0	1	0
	Oyente	0	0	1	0	1	0
CEX 3	TLA+	2	1	2	1	2	1
	Echidna	1	0	0	1	1	0
	Oyente	0	1	1	0	1	0
CEX 4	TLA+	1	0	0	0	1	0
	Echidna	2	3	1	1	3	1
	Oyente	1	1	0	1	2	0
CEX 5	TLA+	0	2	1	0	1	1
	Echidna	2	0	0	1	1	0
	Oyente	2	1	2	0	0	1
Total		18	16	12	9	25	6

B. Discussion

The results, as presented in Table- II, showcase the distribution of vulnerabilities across user authentication security, transaction integrity, data confidentiality, funds protection, smart contract security, and market manipulation prevention. A total of 18 vulnerabilities were found in user authentication security, followed by 16 vulnerabilities in transaction integrity, 12 vulnerabilities in data confidentiality, 9 vulnerabilities in funds protection, 25 vulnerabilities in smart contract security, and 6 vulnerabilities in market manipulation prevention. This analysis provides a clear understanding of the relative vulnerabilities within each test case, guiding the prioritization of security measures and the enhancement of the digital asset exchange ecosystem's overall security posture.

- **OWASP's Top 10 Security Risks Mapping:** By correlating these vulnerabilities with OWASP's Top 10 Security Risks for smart contracts, a comprehensive understanding of security risks

emerged. User authentication vulnerabilities aligned with "Misplaced Trust," transaction integrity issues resonated with "Unchecked External Calls," and data confidentiality shortcomings matched "Access Control Issues." Similarly, funds protection, smart contract security, and market manipulation vulnerabilities corresponded to "Misplaced Trust," "Unchecked External Calls," and "Front-Running" risks, respectively. These mappings highlighted areas of concern within CEXs' security postures, substantiated by the total number of vulnerabilities in each test case. This analysis not only provides insights into specific security concerns but also informs targeted strategies for enhancement and mitigation, emphasizing the holistic approach taken to bolster smart contract security.

Table- III: Mapping Vulnerabilities with OWASP's Top 10 Security Risks

Test Case	OWASP's Top 10 Security Risk	Total Vulnerabilities
User Authentication	Misplaced Trust (Risk 3)	18
Transaction Integrity	Unchecked External Calls (Risk 2)	16
Data Confidentiality	Access Control Issues (Risk 1)	12
Funds Protection	Misplaced Trust (Risk 3)	9
Smart Contract Security	Unchecked External Calls (Risk 2)	25
Market Manipulation	Front-Running (Risk 6)	6

V. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, this study has successfully established a robust security framework for smart contracts within digital asset centralized exchanges (CEXs). Through the integration of formal verification, penetration testing, and security auditing methodologies, vulnerabilities were identified and addressed across multiple CEXs' smart contract codebases. The correlation between these vulnerabilities and OWASP's Top 10 Security Risks highlights the practical significance of the findings. The comprehensive approach taken in this study ensures both theoretical correctness and practical robustness of smart contracts, offering CEXs a proactive means to mitigate potential threats. The lessons learned emphasize the need for ongoing security vigilance and adaptation to evolving security challenges in the digital asset landscape. Overall, this study contributes valuable insights to the field of blockchain security, promoting the establishment of safer and more secure digital asset trading and settlement processes.

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