Token Spammers, Rug Pulls, and Sniper Bots

An Analysis of the Ecosystem of Tokens in Ethereum and in the Binance Smart Chain

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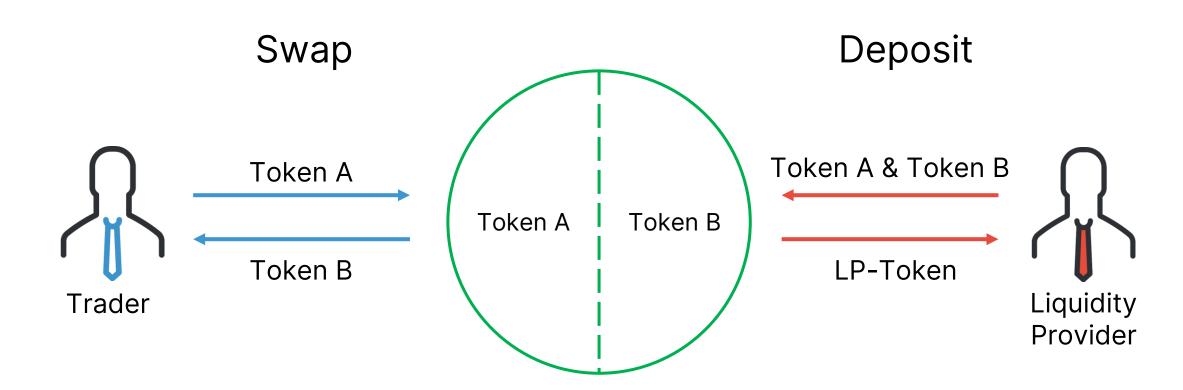
DEXes allow anyone to create a market for a token



Decentralized exchanges employ smart contracts

Liquidity Pools

Liquidity Pools



Goals

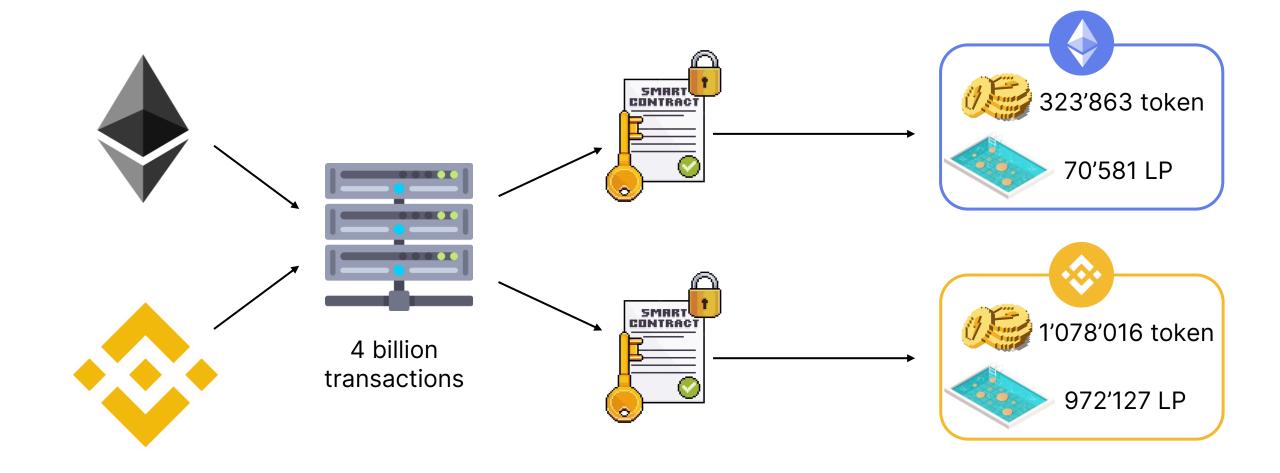
In our work, we study the ecosystem of the tokens and liquidity pools

Blockchains

Ethereum Binance Smart Chain

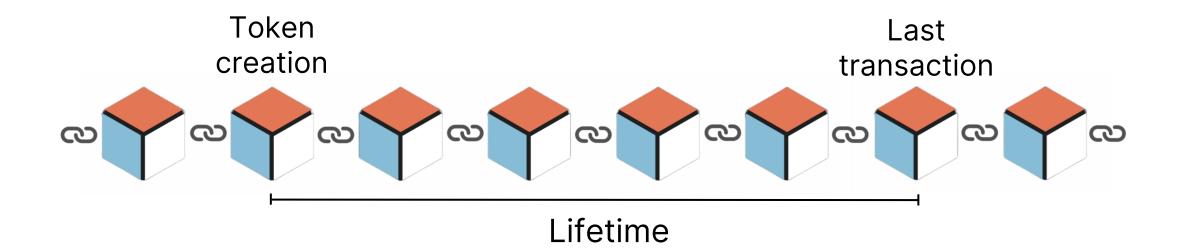






How long are tokens used?

Lifetime



60%

of tokens have a lifetime of less than 24 hours



1-day tokens

How many 1-day tokens are in a liquidity pool?

33.1%

94.8%

on Ethereum

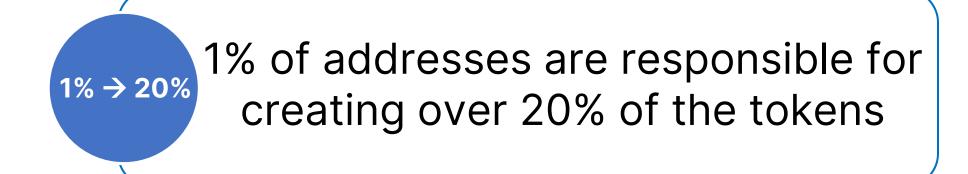
on the Binance Smart Chain

Who creates the tokens?

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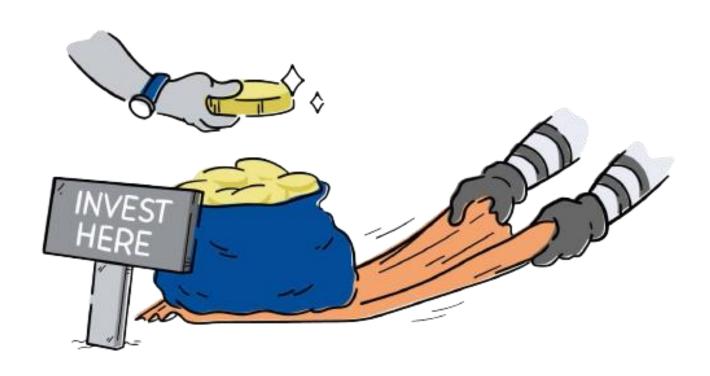
1-day

token



More than half of the tokens created by the token spammers are 1-day tokens

Rug Pulls



Rug Pull

1 Token creation



2 LP creation



3 Add liquidity



4 Swap



5 Remove liquidity



Gain = 1 ETH - fee

How extensive is the phenomenon?

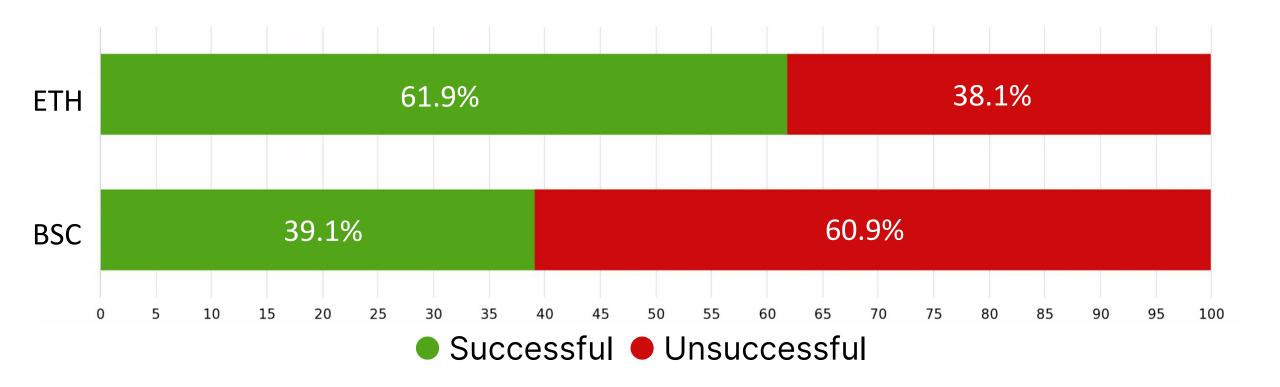
Liquidity pools with a 1-day token and whose single liquidity provider removes all the liquidity

21,742 Ethereum's LP Rug Pull 272,349 BSC's LP

80.7% of liquidity pools with a 1-day token are rug pulls

Profits

Profits



Profits

The average **gain** per rug pull is \$33 in BSC and \$2,538 in Ethereum

On Ethereum users tend to invest more money

The average ${\tt COSt}$ per rug pull is \$9 for BSC and \$380 for Ethereum

The investment needed to perform this kind of rug pull is low

Who buys the tokens?

Sniper Bots

Automated tools designed to buy tokens before anyone else, and as soon as possible

They scan the <u>mempool</u> for new liquidity pools

194 243,024 27% Sniper Bots Liquidity Pools Swaps

Conclusions



More than half of the tokens have a life of less than 24 hours (1-day tokens)



A few addresses create a large number of tokens (*Token Spammers*)



The rug pull phenomenon is present in both of the analyzed blockchains



Sniper bots perform a substantial percentage of the swaps

Thanks

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