

# **Beta Audit**

OpenZeppelin | security

The Beta Finance team asked us to review and audit some of their protocol smart contracts. We looked at the code and now publish our results.

## Scope

We audited commit <a href="mailto:9e73eaf40e5118125d6925b29e4fb9ad8bf8e113">9e73eaf40e5118125d6925b29e4fb9ad8bf8e113</a> of the <a href="mailto:beta-finance/beta">beta-finance/beta</a> repository. This repository is private, and the links in this report will only work for the Beta Finance team at the time of writing. In scope were the following contracts:

BToken.sol
BetaBank.sol
BetaInterestModelV1.sol
WETHGateway.sol
BTokenDeployer.sol
BetaConfig.sol
BetaOracleUniswapV2.sol
BetaToken.sol

Notably, the 5 BetaRunner contracts were all out of scope for this audit.

**Update:** After our audit, the Beta finance team fixed the issues to the extent outlined in this report, and then created a new public github repository. Commit

52d8126e873638861fc2dc4265879bc647a10874 of the public repository contains the code audited by OpenZeppelin, as well as Beta Finance's fixes of the issues.

# **System Overview**

Beta Finance is a permissionless money market for lending, borrowing, and short selling crypto assets. They aim to both tolerate and reduce the risk of the high price volatility found in crypto markets.

At the center of the protocol, the BetaBank contract manages all money markets and positions, handling the transferal of funds both in and out of the protocol. Each individual token's market is then managed by a BToken contract, which tracks that particular token's availability and debt at any given time. When a user lends tokens to the protocol, they are minted BToken's to represent the underlying tokens they have claim over.

Positions in the BetaBank are not directly alterable by users, unless they are "whitelisted owners" - instead a set of contracts called the BetaRunner's interact with the bank on behalf of users. These Runners integrate with various decentralized exchanges to enable users to short, repay, and flash repay their positions. As stated above, the Runners were not in scope for this audit.

# **Privileged Roles**

At deployment, the protocol sets addresses for a governor for the various contracts in the system. The governor has the power to initiate a transfer of the governor role to a new address. Initially, the governor will be the Beta Finance team, but they have expressed their intent to transfer this role to the community in the future.

A number of actions in the protocol are callable only by the governor. These include:

- Pausing and unpausing the BetaBank.
- When paused, the bank will not allow users to alter their positions by adding and removing collateral, or borrowing and repaying debt. Additionally liquidations will not be allowed. BTokens linked to a paused BetaBank will not allow minting nor burning.
- Change the oracles used to calculate prices throughout the system.
- Update the interest model used to calculate interest on debt.
- Set and unset whitelisting for contracts that can alter user positions (the 'Beta Runners').
- Set various configuration values and the risk levels associated with each token.

#### **Items of Note**

While auditing the protocol we noted a couple of areas of concern that are not included in the report as issues due to being out of scope. So as to be transparent about our findings we include them here.

#### **Contract Testing**

While auditing protocols we do not audit the test suite that tests the smart contracts in scope. However, while auditing this commit of the Beta Finance contracts, we noticed a few things of concern in the tests. Namely:

- One of the tests, namely test\_betabank\_altruistic\_liquidate, does not pass at all. Update:
  Fixed in commit a49ecc0.
- At least one of the tests does not test what it is supposed to. This test should be using the second account (a[1]). Update: Fixed in PR#80.
- Due to errors encountered with the test suite's tooling, it was not possible to execute brownie coverage in the repository and get a full coverage report. As a result, the OpenZeppelin team were unable to verify the level of test coverage the repository has.

We view having a good suite of tests as critically important when developing smart contracts that will be holding user funds. We recommend the Beta Finance team improve their test suite going forward.

#### Use of tx.origin

The use of tx.origin in smart contracts is known to pose security risks, and has been the root cause of a number of exploits in the space. It is, however, possible to use tx.origin safely.

The BetaBank makes extensive use of the allowActionFor function for access control related to position management. One of the conditions where access is permitted is if \_owner == tx.origin && runnerWhitelists[\_sender]). The first part of this conditional on its own would be prone to exploitation, however here it is coupled with a whitelist controlled by the governor. This whitelist is, ostensibly, to allow Beta Runners permission to act on behalf of the \_owner who initiates a transaction.

Since we have not audited the Beta Runners, it is hard for us to evaluate the robustness of this access control mechanism, and to be certain about the security of this usage of tx.origin. Before entering production, we strongly recommend that any contracts that are to be whitelisted in the runnerWhitelists undergo audits as well.

# **Findings**

Here we present our findings.

# **Critical severity**

None.

# **High severity**

#### [H01] Incorrect Uniswap price use discourages liquidations

When the protocol considers that a position does not have enough collateral, decided by the asset's LiquidationLTV, anyone can call the BetaBank Liquidate function to liquidate the position in question. The caller can pay off up to 50% of the position's debt, and in return gets paid from the collateral of the position.

The process of liquidation follows the following steps:

- 1. The BetaBank contract checks that the loan is in a state that requires liquidation.
- 2. The repayment of debt is made.

- 3. The value of the debt tokens is converted to collateral tokens, and an additional incentive bonus is added.
- 4. The position's state is updated to have less debt (as some has been paid off) and less collateral (as some is being given to the caller).
- 5. The caller is sent their collateral reward.

However, in step 3 of this process, the Beta0racleUniswapV2 contract incorrectly calculates the conversion between debt and collateral tokens. This means that the caller can get severely underpaid for their work - and in reality, liquidations would not happen.

The issue arises from how the <code>BetaOracleUniswapV2</code> convert function uses prices that have been gathered from UniswapV2. Namely, on line 154 of <code>BetaOracleUniswapV2</code>, the <code>convert</code> function uses the reciprocal of the <code>WETH/toToken</code> price to convert from WETH to <code>toToken</code>, instead of gathering the correct <code>toToken/WETH</code> price.

To protect against price manipulation, UniswapV2 uses Time-Weighted Average Prices (TWAPs). These TWAPs enable contracts to fetch an average price over a given time interval, instead of using the asset spot price at the current instant. This means that prices are significantly harder to manipulate, which is a great safety feature for protocols using these prices. However, while the spot price of token0/token1 can be inverted to get the spot price of token1/token0, the same is not true of TWAPs: the TWAP of token0/token1 cannot be inverted to get the TWAP of token1/token0. The more volatile the price of token0/token1, the more extreme this result is.

For example, assume we have tokens WETH and collateral, where the price of WETH/collateralToken at time 1 is 100, and the price at time 5 is 700. With some simplification of scaling, the cumulative prices tracked in UniswapV2 would be:

```
cumulativeWETH: (1*100)+(4*700) = 2900
cumulativeCollateral: (1*1/100)+(4*1/700) = 11/700
```

The average prices over the window from 0 to 5 are therefore calculated as:

```
averagePriceWETH: 2900/5 = 580
averagePriceCollateral: 11/700/5 = 0.00314 (approx.)
```

If instead of using the collateral price of 0.00314, the inverted WETH price is used, this is a price of 1/580 = 0.00172. This is approximately 54% of the correct price. This leads to the caller of the liquidate function being paid just 54% of the value that they were supposed to be paid.

Consider updating the BetaOracleUniswapV2 to track the UniswapV2 TWAP for assets in both directions instead of merely tracking the price of WETH/token for every token. This will enable the protocol to use the correct price when performing liquidations.

**Update:** Not fixed. The Beta team state:

The prices used in Beta will be TWAP of ETH-based prices. This is to ensure consistency when performing calculations that may involve multiplication/division of TWAP prices.

Here are some example calculations on how much difference can our oracle price be from the suggested approach. Using an inverse is equivalent to using harmonic means v.s. arithmetic means.

In practice, the difference is very small. For example, 20% price fluctuation will result in AM of (1 + 1.2) / 2 = 1.1 and HM or 2 / (1/1 + 1/1.2) = 1.09 â†' only  $\sim 0.8\%$  diff.

In an extreme case of 100% price swing, AM = (1 + 2) / 2 = 1.5 and HM = 2 / (1/1 + 1/2) = 1.33 â†' only ~13% difference. The number is relatively small relative to the actual extreme price swing.

Additionally, Beta does not rely on TWAP alone for pricing. The protocol intends to integrate with a more robust oracle source (e.g. Alpha Aggregator Oracle) for certain markets to ensure a reliable price source for these markets.

# **Medium severity**

None.

# Low severity

### [L01] Cannot Liquidate positions with only a single debtShare

In <u>BetaBank</u>, the <u>liquidate</u> function requires that the amount of debt to be repaid "Must not exceed half debt." That requirement is enforced on line 372 with the conditional debtShare <= pos.debtShare / 2.

If there is only a single debtShare in the position, then the right-hand side of the inequality will always be zero. The result is that is it impossible to liquidate a position with only a single debtShare.

Consider modifying the logic of the liquidate function so that it can handle all possible liquidation scenarios, including the case of a position with only a single debtShare.

**Update:** Fixed in PR#66.

#### [L02] Duplicated code

Duplicating code leaves the codebase prone to the introduction of errors. Errors can inadvertently be introduced when functionality changes are not replicated across all instances of code that should be identical.

In the Beta codebase the logic, variables, and events that make a contract "governable" are duplicated in the BetaConfig, BetaBank and BetaOracleUniswapV2 contracts.

#### This includes:

• Event: SetGovernor

• Event: SetPendingGovernor

• Event: AcceptGovernor

Variable: address public governor

• Variable: address public pendingGovernor

• Function: setPendingGovernor

Function: acceptGovernor

Relatedly, the implementation in BetaOracleUniswapV2 is inconsistent with the other implementations of "governable" in the codebase. There, the check for the governor is made inline as opposed to using an onlyGov modifier.

To increase readability and maintainability of the codebase and to make the implementations of the same patterns more consistent, consider consolidating duplicated code into a single contract and inheriting from it whenever the duplicated functionality is required.

**Update:** Not fixed. The Beta team stated that they wish to maintain the current design in order to retain the ability to emit different error messages in the various contracts.

#### [L03] Errors and omissions in events throughout codebase

Many of the event definitions are lacking indexed parameters. Some examples include:

- The Mint and Burn events in BToken.
- Most of the events in BetaConfig.
- The events in BetaBank.
- The events in <a href="BetaOracleUniswapV2">BetaOracleUniswapV2</a>

Some events only include the new value of a state variable being set. It is considered best practice to emit both the old and the new values. Some examples include:

- The governor-related events in BetaOracleUniswapV2, BetaBank, and BetaConfig.
- The SetX events in BetaBank.

Finally, the AcceptGovernor event can be removed in all contracts, replacing it with the SetGovernor event.

Consider making the above changes to the codebase to avoid hindering the task of off-chain services searching and filtering for events.

**Update:** Partially fixed in PR#67.

#### [L04] initialize can be frontrun

The BetaBank is designed with upgradeability in mind, and uses an initialize function rather than a constructor to facilitate future upgrades. This is a common upgradeability pattern, but since the initialize function is public, anyone can call it with arbitrary or malicious values. If the contract is not initialized in the same transaction as it is constructed, then a legitimate actor could be frontrun by a malicious actor when calling initialize.

Consider initializing contracts within the same transaction as their construction to be a priority in the design of the upgrade scheme and deployment mechanisms for this project. Alternatively, consider limiting who can call the initialize function.

**Update:** Acknowledged. The Beta team state:

Keep as is. During deployment, we use proxy deploy pattern.

#### [L05] Interest rate tier deviates from whitepaper

Section 2.6 of the Beta whitepaper states that "The optimal range used by the protocol is [0.7, 0.8], and the interest rate remains constant while utilization is within this range." The notation used indicates this range is inclusive and the relevant equations corroborate that fact.

However, the corresponding code in BetaInterestModelV1 sets the range where the interest rate remains stable as  $.7 \le u \le .8$ . Note that the range there is exclusive of .8.

To reduce confusion and clarify intentions, consider bringing the implementation and the whitepaper into agreement.

**Update:** Not fixed. The Beta team state:

At 0.8, the rate won't get updated anyways, so it's the same.

## [L06] Lack of documentation

There are several instances throughout the codebase where NatSpec is missing or incomplete. Some examples of this are:

- Functions in WETHGateway are missing NatSpec @returns.
- WETHGateway's constructor is missing NatSpec comments.

- BToken's constructor is missing NatSpec comments.
- BetaOracleUniswapV2 is missing NatSpec @parameters and @returns for most of its functions.

Additionally, some of the existing NatSpec contains erroneous information. Examples of this include:

- The BToken borrow function incorrectly labels debtShare as a @param but it is a @return.
- The <a href="BetaBank">BetaBank</a> selflessLiquidate function's <a href="Gparam">Gparam</a> amount incorrectly states that it "Must not exceed half debt."

Additionally, inline comments generally are severely lacking throughout the codebase:

- Global variables, such as those in BToken, should be explained.
- Constants, such as those in BToken, should be explained.
- Modifiers, such as those in BetaBank, should be explained.
- Functions containing confusing or complex logic, such as <u>BetaInterestModelV1</u>
   getNextInterestRate, should have thorough inline comments explaining the logic they implement.

To increase the overall quality and readability of the codebase, consider updating and augmenting the current NatSpec and inline documentation so that all functions, modifiers, variables, and constants are well documented.

**Update:** Fixed in PR#68.

## [L07] Lack of input validation

While several of the functions in the codebase that take external input do verify those inputs, there are also several instances of constructors and functions that lack sufficient input validation. This is especially true of functions that take input from "trusted" parties such as the governor. Even a trusted party may make an error while inputting values, and many clients pass along zero values by default for empty fields.

Instances of functions and constructors lacking input validation include:

- The setConfig, setOracle and setInterestModel functions in BetaBank all accept zero address inputs.
- The BToken and BetaOracleUniswapV2 constructors both accept zero address inputs. The
  variables they accept zero addresses for are immutable, so a new deployment would be
  necessary to correct any mistakes.
- The initialize function of BetaBank accepts zero address inputs.

• The pause and unpause functions in BetaBank do not check the pause state first, potentially wasting SSTOREs.

Consider implementing require statements where appropriate to validate all user-controlled input.

**Update:** Fixed in PR#69.

[L08] Liquidate rounding leads to incorrect debtValue

In the BetaBank liquidate function, the \_amount of debt specified is repaid by calling BToken repay, which then returns the number of debtShares that were paid off. The contract then needs to know how much debt was paid off, which it looks up with a call to fetchDebtShareValue. However, due to rounding, the value returned by fetchDebtShareValue can be different than the amount of debt actually paid by a small amount.

To increase the accuracy of the liquidation function, consider having BToken repay return the value of the debt paid off, or alternatively consider looking up the amount repaid with 2 calls to totalLoan.

**Update:** Not fixed. The Beta team state:

This is the intended behavior.

[L09] Magic constants

Literal values expressed in scientific notation are used throughout the codebase. For example:

• On line 441 of BetaBank, where le18 is returned by the \_fetchPositionLTV function. The literal value is used elsewhere in the same function.

• The BetaConfig contract uses the literal value 1e18 extensively to place upper bounds on rates and loan-to-value ratios.

• Throughout BetaInterestModelV1 hard-coded numeric values are used.

These hard-coded numeric values often lack any sort of explicit explanatory inline documentation, making the code difficult to read and understand.

To improve readability and overall clarity, consider defining a <u>constant</u> variable for every magic value used, and giving each a clear and self-explanatory name. Alternatively, consider adding detailed inline comments explaining how the literal values were calculated or why they were chosen.

Update: Not fixed.

#### [L10] Using old Solidity version

Throughout the codebase, Solidity 0.8.3 is used. However, at the time of writing there is one known bug in version 0.8.3. Consider upgrading the codebase to use the latest version of Solidity, 0.8.6.

**Update:** Fixed in PR#83.

#### [L11] Divisions by zero possible

There are instances in the codebase where divisions by zero are not actively prevented. For example, this happens on line 103 in <a href="Beta0racleUniswapV2">Beta0racleUniswapV2</a>. Although divisions by zero will result in reversions, they will not have error messages, making failed transaction more difficult to debug by users.

Consider actively preventing divisions by zero with appropriate require statements that have informative and user-friendly error messages.

**Update:** Fixed in PR#69. minTwapTime can no longer be 0.

#### [L12] Using tx.origin excludes smart contract wallets

The allowActionFor function in BetaBank takes two arguments, a position owner and a message sender. It returns true if the provided sender is allowed to act on behalf of the provided owner.

The onlyOwner modifier in the BetaBank contract is simply a wrapper around allowActionFor that always provides msg.sender as the sender argument. This modifier is used on most position management functions in BetaBank.

The result is that to fully interact with BetaBank, a caller must either be: 1. The owner of a position and also whitelisted in the ownerWhitelists mapping or 2. The initiator of a transaction where the caller to BetaBank is in the runnerWhitelists (ostensibly this whitelist is reserved for Beta runners).

The runners are outside the scope of this audit, but it is apparent from the second condition alone that smart contract wallets, unable to satisfy the requirement that <a href="https://owner== tx.origin">owner == tx.origin</a>, will not be able to interact with <a href="https://owners.zerial.org/left">BetaBank</a> via runners. This means that such wallets will be unable to use the Beta Finance protocol as it is intended to be used.

If this is desirable or expected behavior, consider explicitly documenting this restriction alongside the allowActionFor function. Otherwise, consider modifying conditions so that they do not exclude smart contract wallet users from interacting with BetaBank via runners.

**Update:** Not fixed. The Beta team state:

This is the intended behavior.

**Notes & Additional Information** 

[N01] Undocumented implicit approval requirements

Throughout the codebase, the contracts implicitly assume that they have been granted an appropriate

allowance before calling transferFrom or safeTransferFrom. For instance:

Within the burn function in WETHGateway

• Within the put function of BetaBank

Within the mint function of BToken

In favor of explicitness and to improve the overall clarity of the codebase, consider documenting all

approval requirements in the corresponding functions' comments.

Update: Not fixed.

[N02] Incomplete interface

The interface IBetaConfig is missing several public functions from the corresponding BetaConfig

contract. Missing functions include cFactors, rLevels, rConfigs, and getRiskLevel among others.

To help clarify intentions and make integrating with the project less error prone, consider including all

public and external functions in the appropriate interfaces throughout the codebase.

Update: Partially fixed in PR#70.

[N03] Misleading conditional

On line 82 of the BToken contract there is a conditional that tests whether the uint timePast is less

than or equal to zero (<= 0). As timePast is a uint, it cannot ever be less than zero.

To increase overall code clarity and readability, consider limiting conditionals so that they only compare

against values that are possible.

**Update:** Fixed in PR#71.

[N04] Naming issues

Good naming is one of the keys for readable code, and to make the intention of the code clear for

future changes. There are some names in the code that make it confusing or hard to understand.

Consider the following suggestions:

#### In the BetaBank contract

- The runnerWhitelists and ownerWhitelists variables and the setRunnerWhitelists and setOwnerWhitelists functions are unnecessarily pluralized.
- The allowActionFor function should be renamed to isPermittedCaller.
- The lastCumu variable and the currentPriceOCumu and currentPriceICumu functions should be renamed to include the complete Cumulative word.
- The exts variable should be renamed to externalOracles.
- The take function should be renamed to takeCollateral.
- The put function should be renamed to putCollateral.
- The borrow function should be renamed to borrowUnderlying.
- The repay function should be renamed to repayUnderlying.
- The checkPID modifier should be renamed to checkPIDExists.
- The onlyOwner modifier should be renamed to isPermittedByOwner.

#### In the BToken contract

• The totalAvailable variable should be renamed to totalLoanable.

**Update:** Partially fixed in PR#72. Some of the above changes were made.

#### [N05] Non-standard implementation of ERC20 metadata

While ERC20 metadata - including decimals, name, and symbol - are all optional parts of the ERC20 standard, they are often relied upon by off-chain services to facilitate user interactions with ERC20 tokens. These off-chain services, ranging from centralized exchanges to wallet clients, often use metadata to present user balances and token information in a user-friendly manner.

The BToken contract has metadata that is based on the underlying token it represents. However instead of storing this data once, it reassembles the metadata of the underlying token as part of every call to the view functions outlined above. This means that the stability of that metadata cannot be relied upon.

While we did not identify a security risk stemming from this behavior in the codebase itself, it may cause unnecessary issues with projects wishing to integrate with BTokens. Since non-stable metadata is abnormal, it could potentially deter other projects from integrating with BTokens. In the worst case, some popular off-chain service could make assumptions about stable metadata that could prove to be problematic and confusing for BToken users.

Consider making BToken metadata stable to simplify ecosystem integrations in the future.

**Update:** Not fixed.

[N06] Inconsistent use of SafeERC20

Contracts throughout the codebase that handle ERC20 token transfers and approvals utilize OpenZeppelin's SafeERC20 and its methods to perform the function calls safely. However there are a handful of occurrences where this is not the case, and instead the transfers and approvals are

performed as calls directly to the token.

While each of these calls is to a currently "known token" and not to arbitrary ERC20s, future token

versions and changes could cause these direct function calls to be unsafe.

Consider using SafeERC20 throughout the entire codebase to ensure all token calls are handled safely.

**Update:** Fixed in PR#73.

[N07] Not using latest stable version of OpenZeppelin **Contracts** 

An old version of OpenZeppelin Contracts, version 4.0.0, is being used throughout the codebase. Consider using the latest stable release of the library, which is version 4.2.0 at the time of writing.

**Update:** Fixed in PR#74.

[N08] Redundant require

In the BetaConfig contract, the getCollFactor function, "Returns the collateral factor of the given token." However, if the collateral factor is not greater than zero, then the function will revert rather

than return.

This getCollFactor function is only ever called by the BetaBank (here and here), and whenever it is called it is accompanied by an additional require statement that checks that the return value is greater than zero. The result being that the return value of getCollFactor is always subjected to

redundant require statements.

Consider removing the redundancy to save gas, and simplify the codebase.

**Update:** Not fixed. The Beta team states:

Config may get updated and this extra check will serve as a safety measure for bad config contract

implementation.

#### [N09] Reimplementing OpenZeppelin Contracts library

The <u>lock</u> modifier in <u>BetaBank</u> implements custom logic to prevent reentrancy of security-critical functions. Although this does not pose a security risk, consider always inheriting functionality from the secure, community-vetted, OpenZeppelin Contracts library.

In particular, consider inheriting from the OpenZeppelin ReentrancyGuard contract, which is already used in the BToken contract. This will help reduce the code's attack surface.

Additionally, the IERC20Metadata interface in BToken reimplements the OpenZeppelin IERC20Metadata interface. Consider instead utilizing this community-vetted implementation.

**Update:** Not fixed.

#### [N10] Rounding calculation can overflow

In lines 172 and 116 of BToken, the result of an integer division is rounded up. The addition contained in this calculation might overflow if the underlying token operates with extremely large amounts.

Although it is unlikely to encounter a token that can lead to this issue, given the permissionless nature of the system it is not possible to prevent a user from using such a token. Consider using the <a href="mailto:ceilDiv">ceilDiv</a> function from OpenZeppelin's <a href="Math">Math</a> Library in order to avoid overflows caused by the rounding calculations.

**Update:** Fixed in PR#76.

#### [N11] Typos

The codebase contains the following typos:

- "adjust the rate" should be "adjusts the rate".
- "Not constructor" should be "No constructor".
- "borrow" should be "borrowed".
- "is is" should be "is".
- timePast should be timePassed on line 81 of BToken and line 37 of BetaInterestModelV1.
- "decimals" should be "decimal" in lines 20 and 69 of BToken.
- "Must not exceed half debt" should be removed.

Consider correcting these typos to improve code readability.

**Update:** Fixed in PR#77.

[N12] Unused named return

The deploy function in BTokenDeployer names its return value as bToken. However ultimately uses an

explicit return, not the named return.

Consider removing unnecessary named returns to clarify the intentions and improve the readability of

the codebase.

**Update:** Fixed in PR#78.

[N13] Unused variable

On line 402 of the BetaBank contract, the variable underlying is declared, but it is never used.

Consider removing unused variables to reduce the size of the codebase and improve overall code

clarity.

**Update:** Fixed in PR#79.

[N14] Use of uint instead of uint256

Across the codebase, there are hundreds of instances of uint, as opposed to uint256. The lack of explicitness can make the codebase less readable, for instance type(uint).max is not as clear to

reason about as the more verbose type(uint256).max.

In favor of explicitness, consider replacing all instances of uint with uint256.

Update: Not fixed.

**Conclusions** 

0 critical and 1 high severity issues were found. Some changes were proposed to follow best practices

and reduce the potential attack surface.