

Future-block MEV in Proof of Stake

Torgin Mackinga



ChainSecurity

About ChainSecurity

- We are focused on blockchain security
- Smart contract audits
- Some of our clients:
 - Maker
 - o Curve.fi
 - Compound
 - Aave
 - Yearn
 - o 1inch
 - o Lido





Block production

Block production



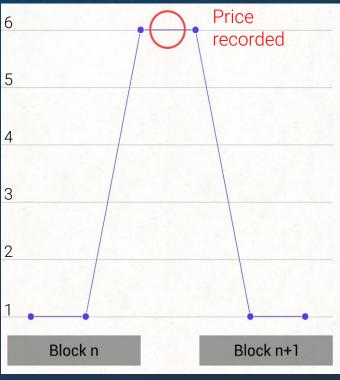
Proof of Work: Everyone mines every block



Proof of Stake: Block producers are determined in advance

You can know when **you** will create a block, up to 12 minutes ahead of time!

Future-block MEV



Uniswap price manipulation

Oracle manipulation

- Usually expensive due to arbitrage
- Unless you are the proposer of n+1
- You can "hide" MEV

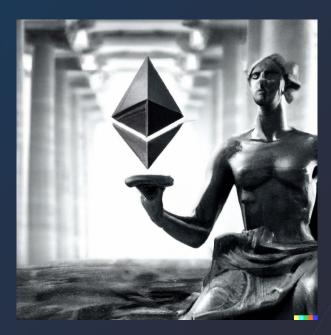
Trigger a liquidation with **no competition!**



1. Block proposers in PoS are known in advance

2. This information is valuable

Read more: <u>https://chainsecurity.com/</u> <u>oracle-manipulation-after-merge</u>



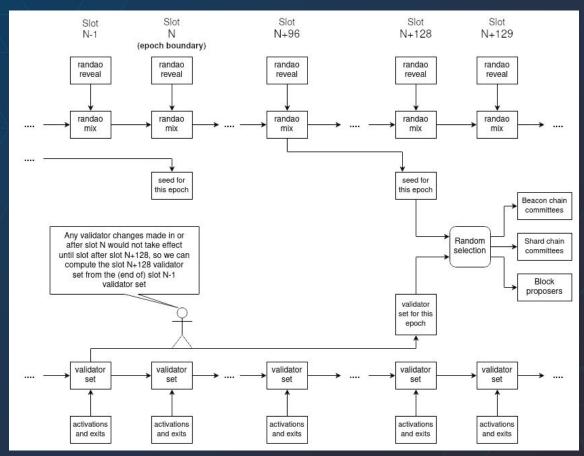
Thank you!

Torgin Mackinga



Read more: https://chainsecurity.com/ oracle-manipulation-after-merge

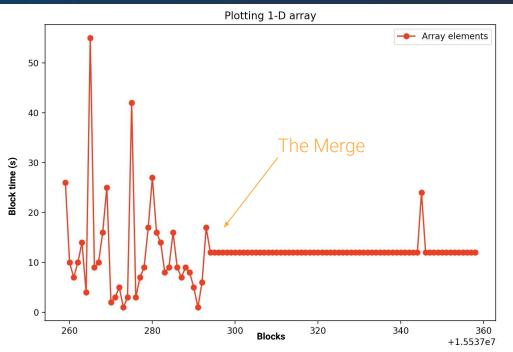
Appendix



Source: https://github.com/ethereum/annotated-spec/blob/master/phase0/beacon-chain.md

Block production

Source: [1]



Proof of Work:

- Block times are random
- Block producers are random

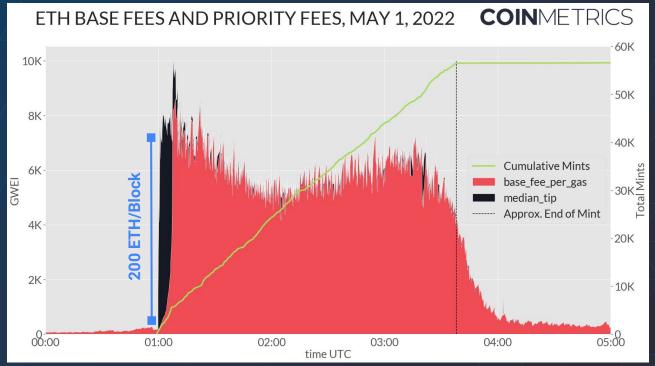
- Block times are deterministic
- Block producers are deterministic

Proof of Stake:

Future-block MEV

Create your own MEV!

• Launch an NFT mint in a block you control



Gas fee during Otherside NFT sale. Source: [2]

Sources

[1]: https://twitter.com/koeppelmann/status/157030 6606339964929/photo/1 [2]: https://coinmetrics.substack.com/p/state-of-thenetwork-issue-153