



Module 5

States

The Corda logo, consisting of the word 'corda' in white lowercase letters on a red rectangular background.

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Learning outcomes

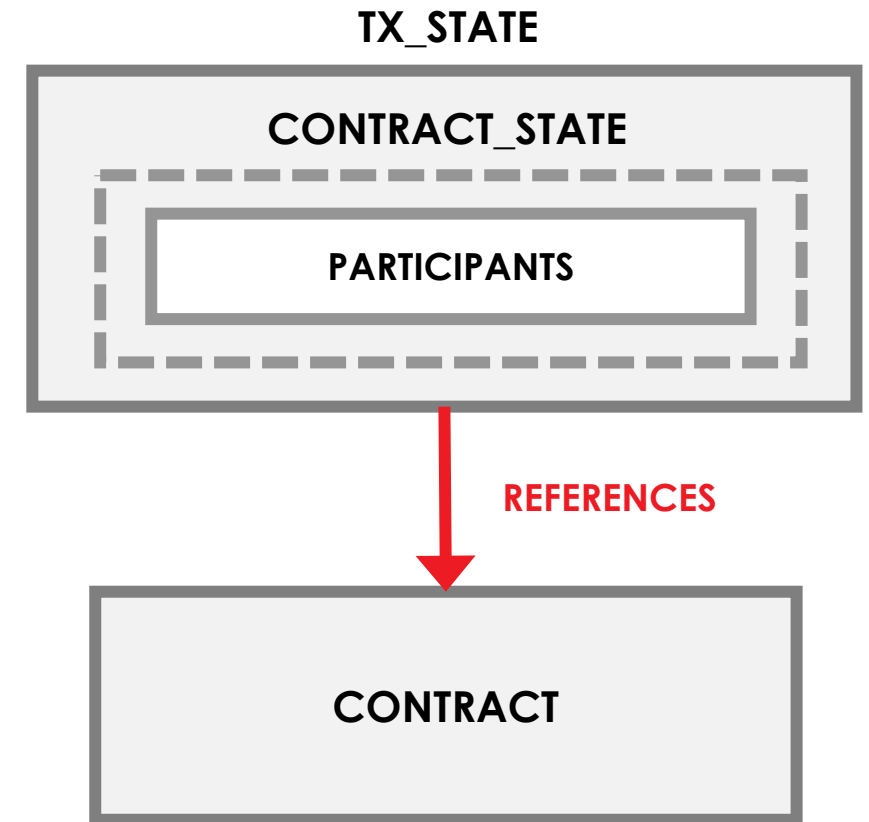
- Learn what key interfaces states need to implement
- Learn how a node's vault decides whether to track a state
- Learn how to design your own states

ContractState and TransactionState

- All states implement the **ContractState** interface:

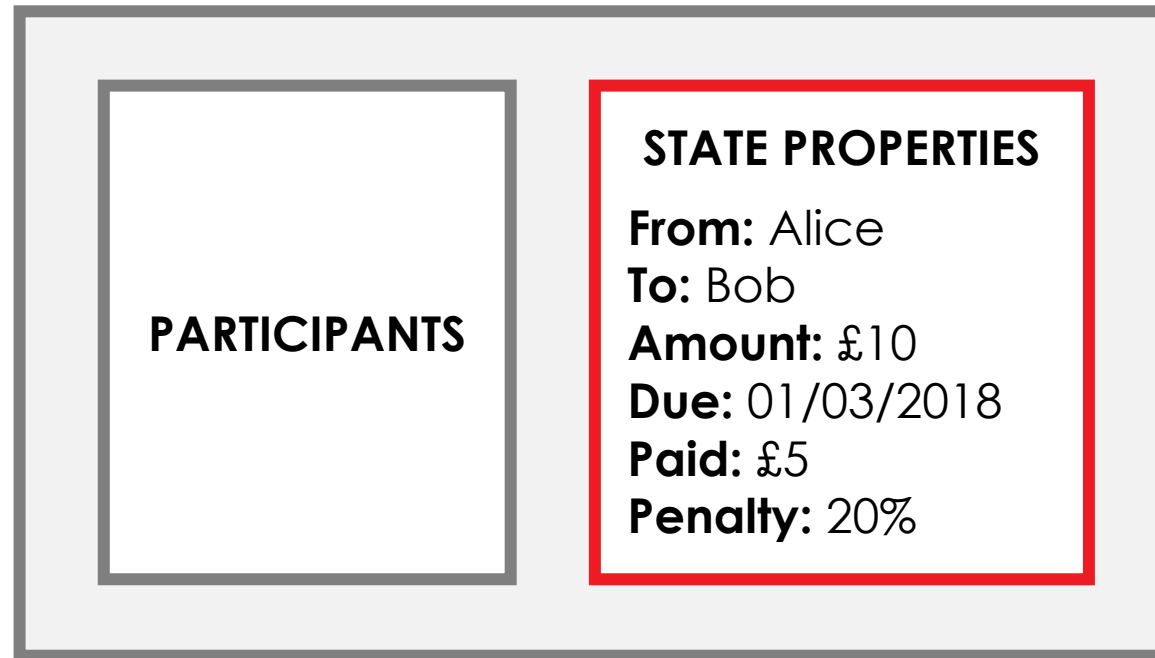
```
interface ContractState {  
    val participants:  
        List<AbstractParty>  
}
```

- Contract state does not refer to a contract directly
- contract** defines the constraints on the evolution of instances of this state type
- participants** lists anyone who is able to evolve this state



User-defined fields

Classes implementing the **ContractState** interface can also have unlimited user-defined fields and methods...



AbstractParty

- In Corda, all nodes are identified as **AbstractParty** instances:

```
class AbstractParty(val owningKey: PublicKey)
```

- **owningKey** is a **PublicKey** representing the node's master public key
- **AbstractParty** provides no additional information to identify the node

Party

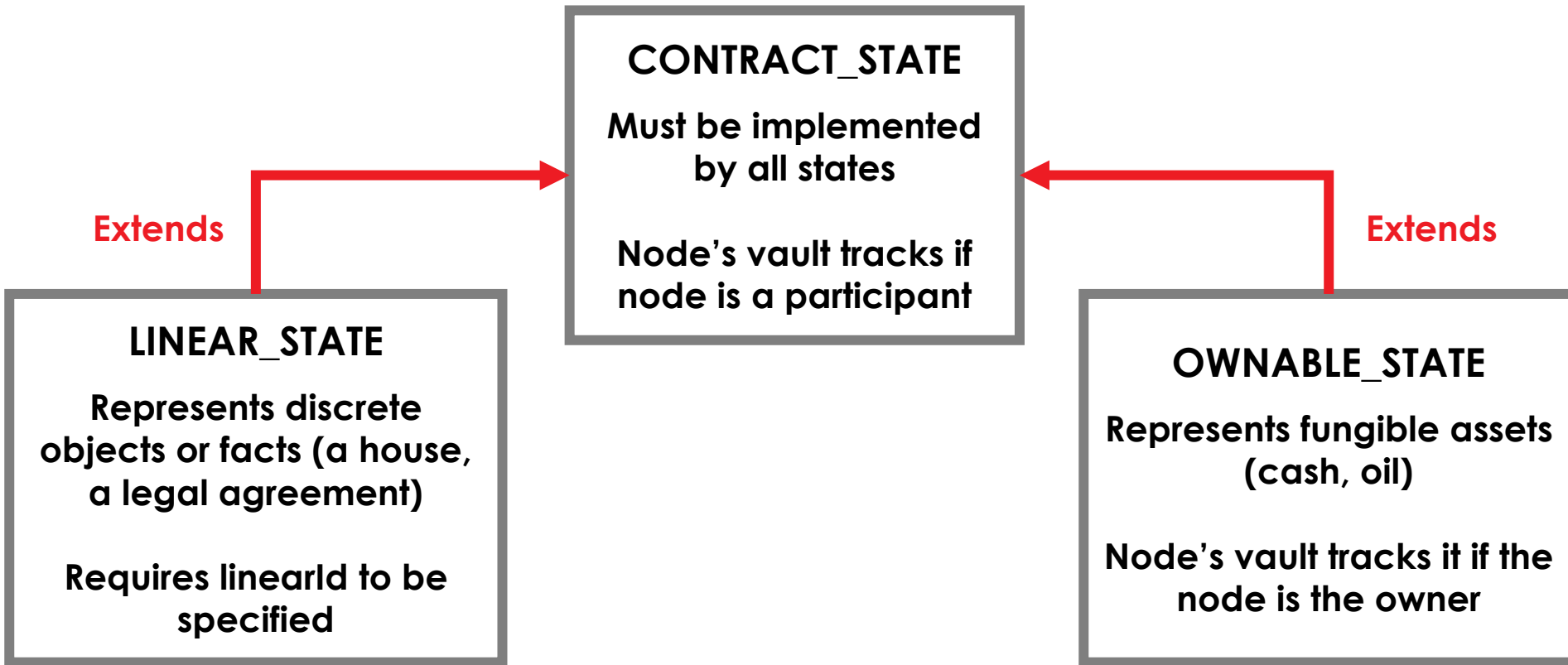
- **Party** is an **AbstractParty** subclass that associates the master public key with an identity:

```
class Party(val name: CordaX500Name, val owningKey: PublicKey)
```

- **name** is the node's X500 name
- **owningKey** is the node's master public key, as before

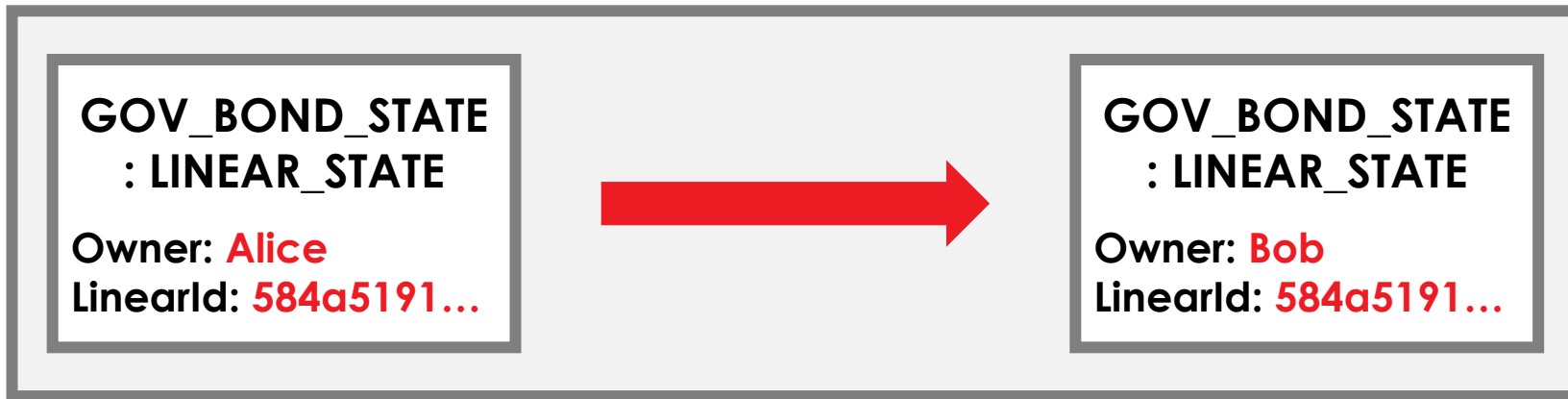
State types

ContractState has several key child interfaces:



LinearState

- **LinearState** is used to represent discrete objects or facts that evolve over time (a specific bond, a trade finance deal...)
- In Corda's UTXO model, we can't modify the state directly
- So we evolve the state through a transaction that consumes the old state and creates an updated one with the same ID:





LinearState

LinearState attributes and methods:

- **linearId: UniqueIdentifier**
 - A unique ID that allows the fact to be tracked over time and referenced in external systems

A common LinearState usecase: agreements

Agreements (contracts, bilateral derivatives, invoices) are a good fit for **LinearState**:

- A given legal agreement has a single identity over time
- Agreements evolve over time by replacing the existing agreement
- We can only evolve the agreement by modifying the most recent version...
- But we still have access to the old versions if required

An example LinearState: the NumberState

- **NumberState** extends **LinearState** to represent a number on ledger:

```
data class NumberState(  
    val number: Int,  
    val partyA: Party,  
    val partyB: Party,  
    override val linearId: UniqueIdentifier =  
        UniqueIdentifier()  
) : LinearState {  
  
    override val participants  
        get() = listOf(partyA, partyB)  
  
}
```

OwnableState

- **OwnableState** is used to represent fungible assets with an owner (cash, barrels of oil, bushels of corn...)

```
interface OwnableState : ContractState {  
    val owner: AbstractParty  
    fun withNewOwner(newOwner: AbstractParty):  
        Pair<CommandData, OwnableState>  
}
```

- **owner** is the **AbstractParty** that owns the state
- **withNewOwner()** creates a copy of the **OwnableState** with a new owner
- There is no unique identifier – **OwnableStates** with the same attributes (e.g. two £100 cash states) are effectively identical

A common OwnableState usecase: cash

Cash will implement **OwnableState**:

- Two cash states with the same currency and the same value are identical
- Cash states can be split and merged
- Instead of spending a specific cash state, we spend an amount of cash (i.e. a set of states) of a given value

An example LinearState: the BondState

- **BondState** extends **OwnableState** to represent a fungible bond:

```
data class BondState(  
    val partyA: Date,  
    val partyB: Date,  
    val maturityDate: Date,  
    val nominal: Int,  
    val couponPercent: Int,  
    override val owner: AbstractParty  
) : OwnableState {  
  
    override val participants  
        get() = listOf(partyA, partyB)  
}
```

States in summary

- **States** represent shared facts on the ledger
- States must directly or indirectly implement **ContractState**
- All states have a participants list
- States may also wish to implement some child interfaces:
 - **LinearState**
 - **OwnableState**



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Practical

The IOUState Template

- The `IOUState` provided in the template is just a skeleton

`ContractState`:

```
data class IOUState(val data: String = "data"): ContractState {  
    override val participants: List<AbstractParty> get() = listOf()  
}
```

1. CorDapp Design

2. State

- The IOU Fields
- `getParticipants()`
- `LinearState`
- `isRelevant()`
- ✓ Checkpoint

3. Contract

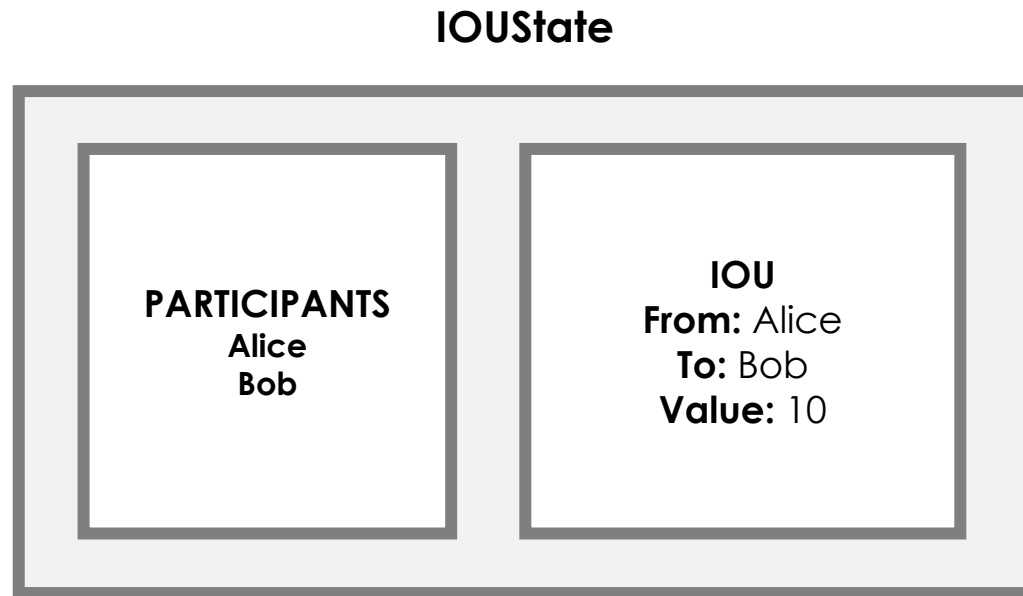
4. Flow

5. Network

6. API

IOUState

- Whereas our **IOUState** has the following design:



- We are going to use test-driven development to implement this design

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Step 1 – The IOU Fields



IOU Fields

- Our `IOUState` needs the following fields:
 - `amount`: the `Amount<Currency>` value of the IOU
 - `lender`: the `Party` lending the amount
 - `borrower`: the `Party` borrowing the amount
 - `paid`: the `Amount<Currency>` of the IOU which has been paid, it should be initialised to an `Amount` of 0
- `Party` is a Corda class representing an entity on the network

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IOU Fields - Implementation



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Goal	Add the <code>amount</code> , <code>lender</code> , <code>borrower</code> and <code>paid</code> fields
Where?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <code>test/kotlin/states/IOUStateTests.kt</code>• <code>state/IOUState.kt</code>
Steps	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Uncomment the following tests:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <code>hasIOUAmountFieldOfCorrectType()</code>• <code>hasLenderFieldOfCorrectType()</code>• <code>hasBorrowerFieldOfCorrectType()</code>• <code>hasPaidFieldOfCorrectType()</code>2. Run the tests:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Press the green arrow/play button next to the <code>IOUStateTests</code> class3. Modify <code>IOUState.kt</code> to make the tests pass
Key Docs	https://www.jetbrains.com/help/idea/2016.3/run-debug-configurations.html https://docs.corda.net/tutorial-test-dsl.html

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IOU Fields - Solution



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Goal	Add the <code>amount</code> , <code>lender</code> , <code>borrower</code> and <code>paid</code> fields
Steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Add fields of the correct type for:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <code>amount</code>• <code>lender</code>• <code>borrower</code>• <code>paid</code>
Code	<pre>data class IOUState(val amount: Amount<Currency>, val lender: Party, val borrower: Party, val paid: Amount<Currency> = Amount(0, amount.token)) : ContractState { ... }</pre>

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A low-angle, black and white photograph of a modern skyscraper with a complex, angular facade, viewed through a grid of small dots. The building's structure is composed of many sharp, intersecting lines and planes, creating a sense of depth and complexity. The grid of dots is a light gray, semi-transparent overlay that covers the entire image, adding a technical or architectural feel to the composition.

Step 2 – participants

getParticipants()

- Remember that all `ContractStates` have a `participants` field holding a list of the `Partys` involved in the state
- For our `IOUState`, `participants` should return:
 - The `lender`
 - The `borrower`



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getParticipants() - Implementation



Goal	Return a list of the <code>lender</code> and <code>borrower</code> from <code>participants</code>
Where?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <code>test/states/IOUStateTests.kt</code>• <code>state/IOUState.kt</code>
Steps	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Uncomment the following tests:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <code>lenderIsParticipant()</code>• <code>borrowerIsParticipant()</code>2. Run the tests:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Press the green arrow/play button3. Modify <code>IOUState.kt</code> to make the tests pass
Key Docs	N/A

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getParticipants() - Solution



Goal	Return the <code>lender</code> and <code>borrower CompositeKeys</code> from <code>participants</code>
Steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Retrieve the sender and the recipient's <code>CompositeKeys</code>• Return them as a list
Code	<pre>override val participants get() = listOf(lender, borrower)</pre>

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Step 3 – LinearState

A low-angle, black and white photograph of a modern skyscraper with a complex, angular facade, viewed through a grid of small dots. The building's structure is composed of many sharp, intersecting lines that create a sense of depth and complexity. The grid of dots is a light gray, semi-transparent overlay that covers the entire image, creating a technical or architectural feel. The building is centered in the frame, with its base at the bottom and its peak reaching towards the top. The overall composition is symmetrical and balanced.

LinearState

- Remember that **LinearState** is a child interface of **ContractState** that models facts that evolve over time
- Implementing LinearState will allow the same IOU to be tracked across ledger updates
 - Creation, transfer, redemption...

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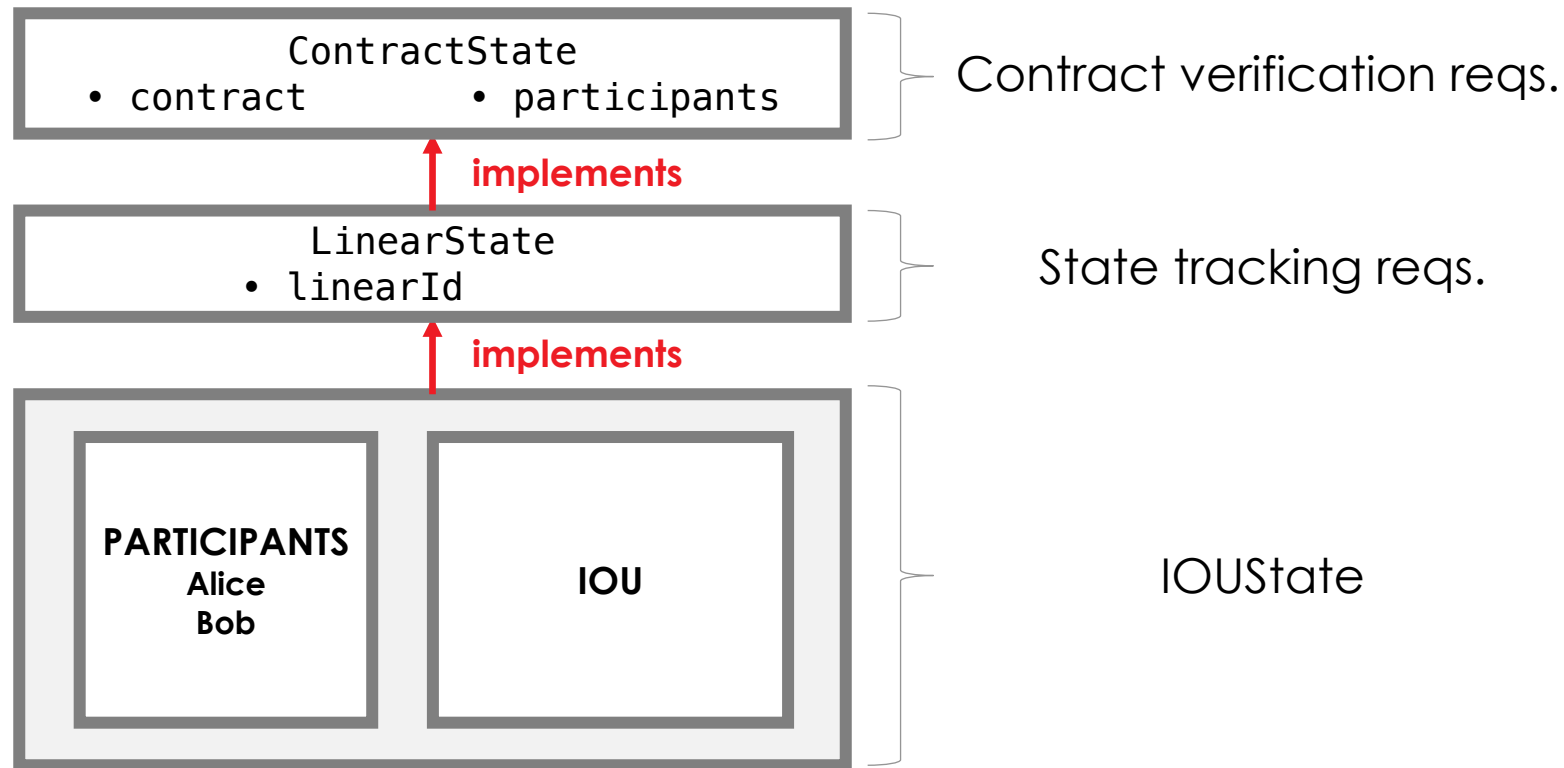
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The IOUState Inheritance Tree

- We need to extend our **IOUState** to implement **LinearState**:



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LinearID and isRelevant()

- The `LinearId` for our IOU can simply be a new `UniqueIdentifier` instance

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- ✓ Checkpoint

3. Contract

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LinearState - Implementation



Goal	Make <code>IOUState</code> implement <code>LinearState</code>
Where?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <code>test/states/IOUStateTests.kt</code>• <code>state/IOUState.kt</code>
Steps	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Uncomment the following test:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <code>isLinearState()</code>• <code>hasLinearIdFieldOfCorrectType()</code>2. Run the test:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Press the green arrow/play button3. Modify <code>IOUState.kt</code> to make the tests pass
Key Docs	N/A

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LinearState - Solution



Goal	Make <code>IOUState</code> implement <code>LinearState</code>
Steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Implement <code>LinearState</code>• Override the <code>linearId</code> field
Code	<pre>public class IOUState (... override val linearId: UniqueIdentifier = UniqueIdentifier() implements LinearState { ... }</pre>

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Checkpoint – Progress So Far

Our progress so far

- Our **IOUState** allows us to model an IOU on the ledger:
 - It has **value/sender/recipient** fields to store IOU information
 - It references an **IOUContract** governing state evolution
 - It implements **LinearState**:
 - To provide a common ID over time
 - To tell the vault when to track the state
- However, the evolution of **IOUStates** is currently completely uncontrolled
- We need to modify **IOUContract**'s logic to control this evolution