



Module 5

States

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

c•rda



Learning outcomes

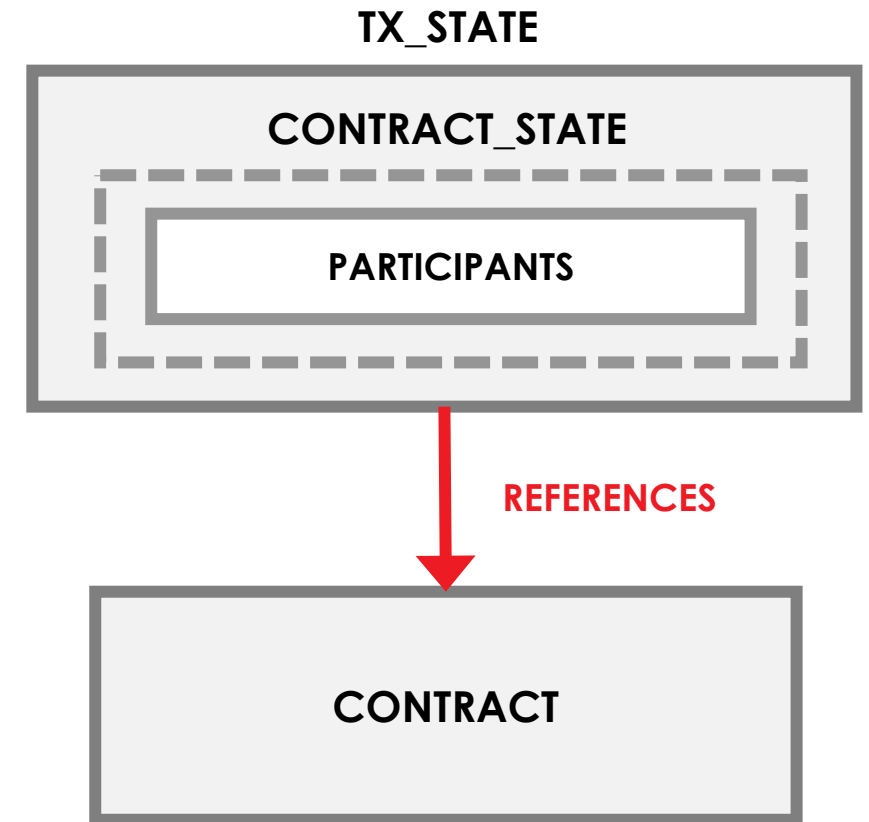
- Learn what key interfaces states need to implement
- Learn how a node's vault decides whether to track a state
- Learn how to design your own states

ContractState and TransactionState

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

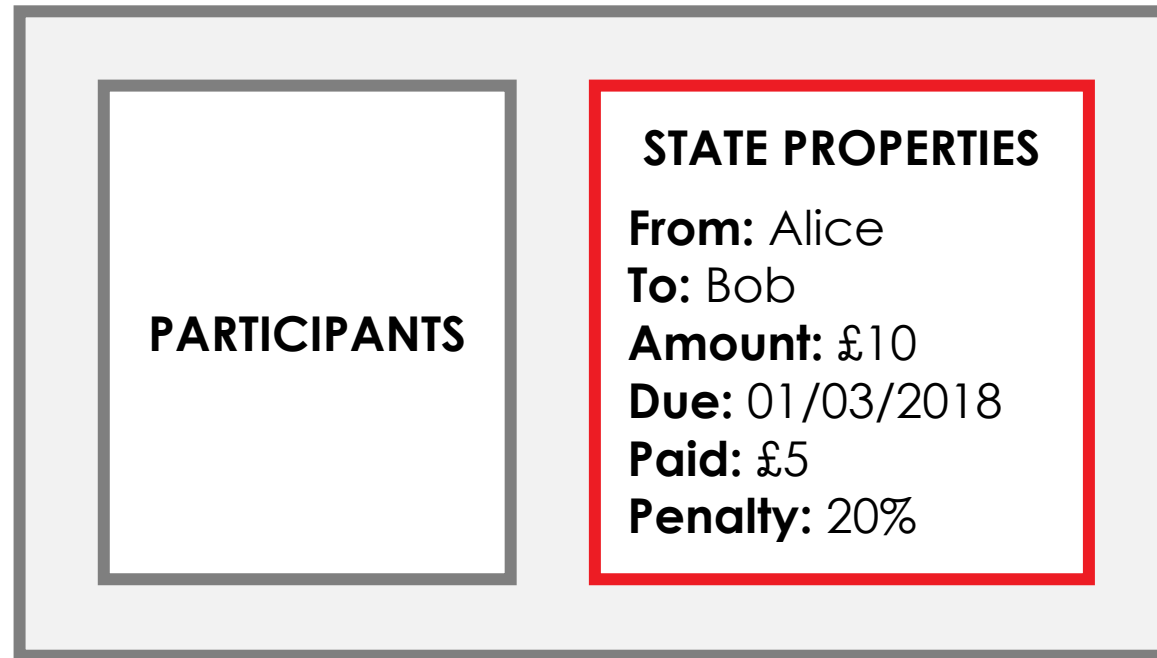
```
interface ContractState {  
    val participants:  
        List<AbstractParty>  
}
```

- 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

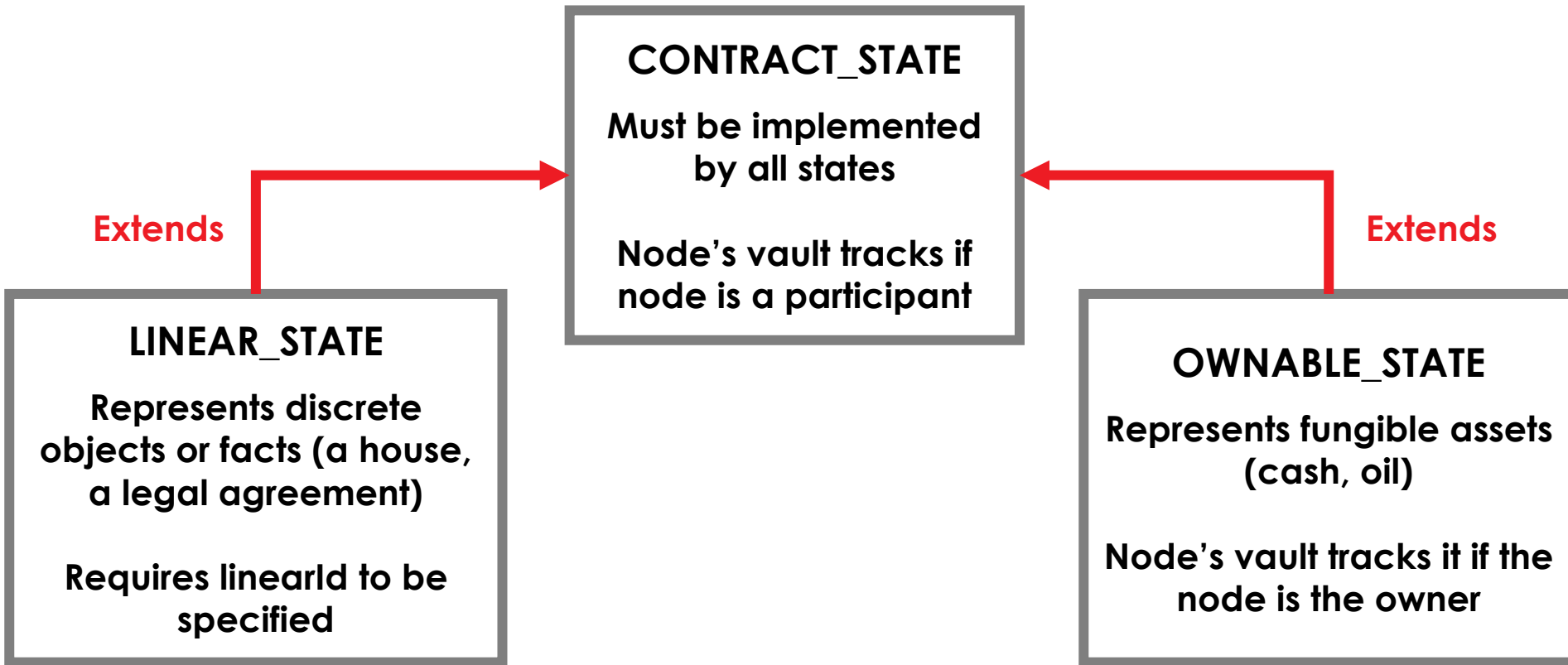
- **Party** is an **AbstractParty** subclass that associates the master public key with an identity:

```
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

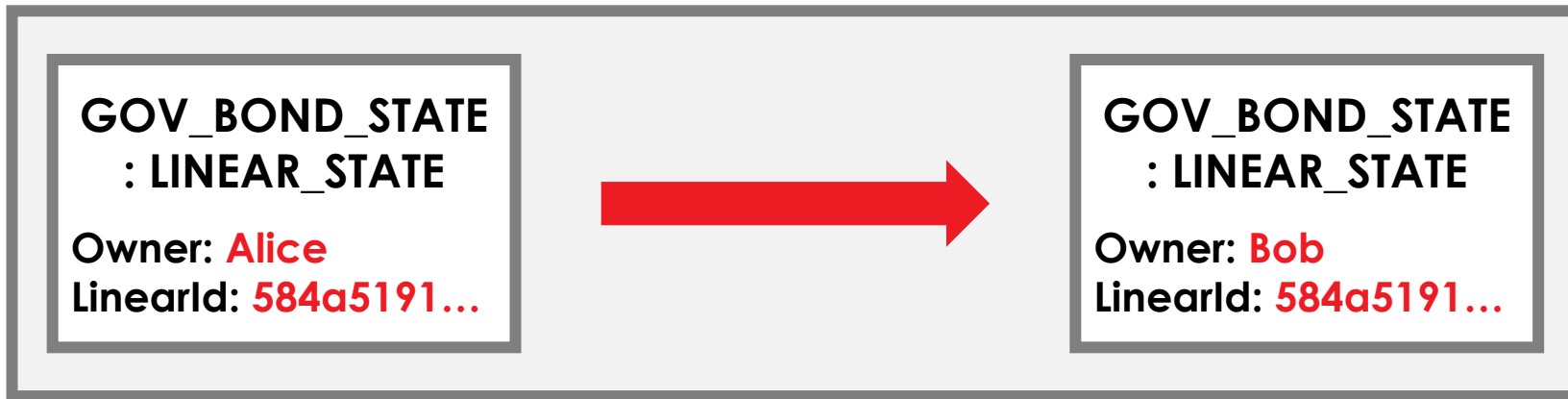
State types

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 alice: Party,  
    val bob: Party,  
    override val linearId: UniqueIdentifier =  
        UniqueIdentifier()  
) : LinearState {  
  
    override val contract = NumberContract()  
  
    override val participants  
        get() = listOf(alice, bob)  
  
}
```

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 maturityDate: Date,  
    val nominal: Int,  
    val couponPercent: Int,  
    override val owner: AbstractParty  
) : OwnableState {  
  
    override val contract = BondContract()  
  
    override val participants  
        get() = listOf(alice, bob)    }
```

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**



r3

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

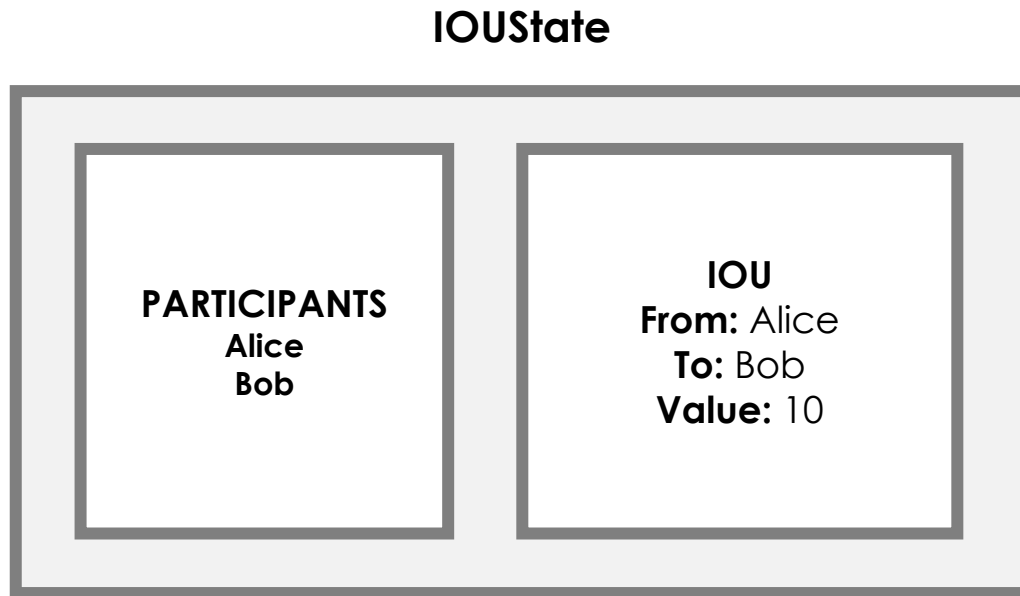
4. Flow

5. Network

6. API

IOUState

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



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

r3.

1. CorDapp Design

2. State

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

3. Contract

4. Flow

5. Network

6. API

Step 1 – The IOU Fields

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 planes and lines, creating a sense of depth and geometric complexity. The perspective is from the base looking up, making the building appear to converge towards a point at the top. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent grid of small, light-colored dots, which adds a technical or digital feel to the composition.

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

1. CorDapp Design

2. State

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

3. Contract

4. Flow

5. Network

6. API

IOU Fields - Implementation



r3.

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

1. CorDapp Design

2. State

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

3. Contract

4. Flow

5. Network

6. API

IOU Fields - Solution



r3.

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>

1. CorDapp Design

2. State

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

3. Contract

4. Flow

5. Network

6. API

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 angles and lines, creating a sense of height and architectural complexity. The grid of dots is a light gray, semi-transparent overlay that covers the entire image, adding a technical or digital 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`



1. CorDapp Design

2. State

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

3. Contract

4. Flow

5. Network

6. API

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

r3.

1. CorDapp Design

2. State

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

3. Contract

4. Flow

5. Network

6. API

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>

r3.

1. CorDapp Design

2. State

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

3. Contract

4. Flow

5. Network

6. API



Step 3 – LinearState

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...

1. CorDapp Design

2. State

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

3. Contract

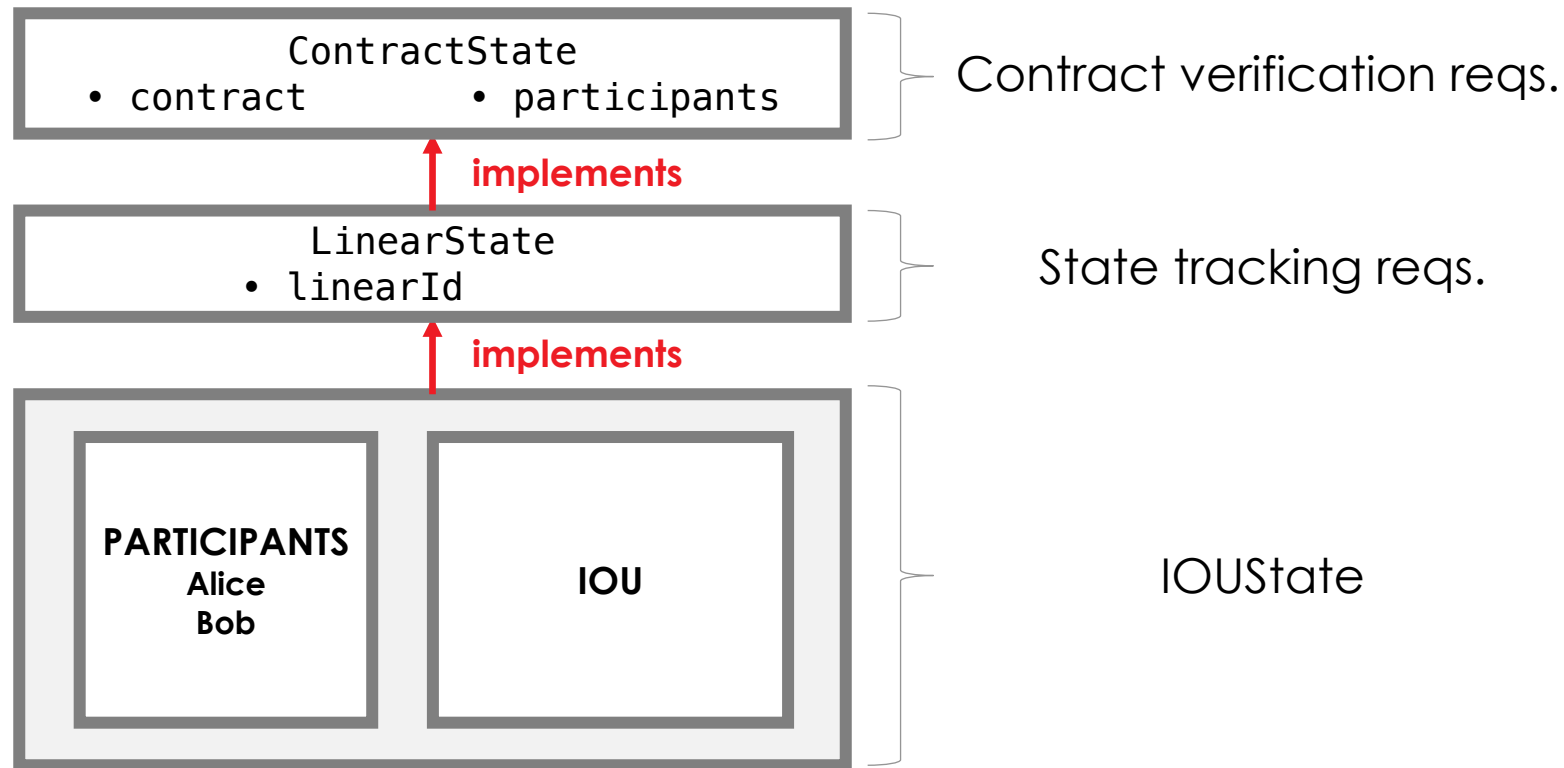
4. Flow

5. Network

6. API

The IOUState Inheritance Tree

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



1. CorDapp Design

2. State

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

3. Contract

4. Flow

5. Network

6. API

LinearID and isRelevant()

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

1. CorDapp Design

2. State

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

3. Contract

4. Flow

5. Network

6. API

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

r3.

1. CorDapp Design

2. State

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

3. Contract

4. Flow

5. Network

6. API

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>

1. CorDapp Design

2. State

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

3. Contract

4. Flow

5. Network

6. API



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