

STOCKHOLM

HYBRID CONFERENCE

Improve your tests
with Makina

Luis Eduardo Bueso de Barrio

May 20 | 2022

#CodeBEAM

Before:

| files | blank | comment | code |
|-------|-------|---------|------|
| 4 | 760 | 383 | 4513 |

After:

| files | blank | comment | code |
|-------|-------|---------|------|
| 18 | 500 | 408 | 1692 |

PBT models



Property-Based Testing (PBT) is a great testing methodology.

Successful tools widely used:

- Erlang QuickCheck (EQC)
- PropEr

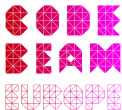
A PBT model is like an oracle.

These tools are great for testing pure functions.

They have mechanisms to test stateful programs.

PBT state-machines or models.

Problems with PBT models



Despite their proven effectiveness:

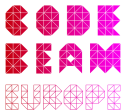
- Very slow adoption

Why?

1. Models are hard to reuse.
2. Bugs in models are hard to detect.
3. Errors are hard to understand.

All these problems made models hard to write and maintain.

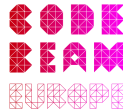
Our solution: Makina



Makina is a DSL for writing PBT models.

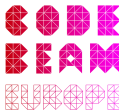
1. Models are hard to reuse.
 - Model refinement and composition.
2. Bugs in models are hard to detect.
 - Automatic type and specs generation.
3. Errors are hard to understand.
 - Automatic generation of runtime-checks.

Introduction to Makina

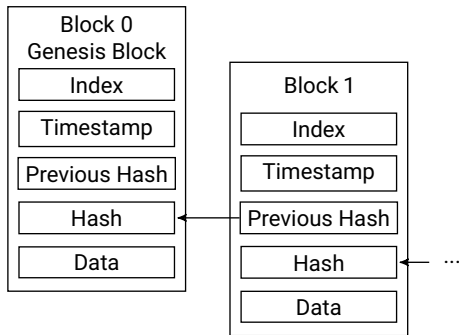


#CodeBEAM

Ethereum Blockchain



A blockchain is a distributed ledger that enables peer-to-peer transactions.



Why Ethereum?

- Big community.
- Multiple implementations.

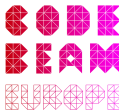
To interact we will use etherex:

<https://gitlab.com/babel-upm/blockchain/etherex>

The properties to test:

1. Mining blocks.
2. Account access.
3. Transactions between accounts.

Mining blocks



The API:

| Command | Returns |
|----------------|-----------|
| mine/0 | :ok |
| block_number/0 | integer() |

1. create module.
2. import Makina.
3. define state.
4. define invariants.
5. define commands.

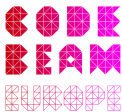
```
defmodule Blocks do
  use Makina

  state height: 0

  invariants non_neg_height: height > 0

  command block_number() do
    pre true
    args []
    call Etherex.block_number
    next []
    post height == result
  end
end
```


Mining blocks



The API:

| Command | Returns |
|----------------|-----------|
| mine/0 | :ok |
| block_number/0 | integer() |

1. create module.
2. import Makina.
3. define state.
4. define invariants.
5. define commands.

```
defmodule Blocks do
  use Makina, implemented_by: Etherex

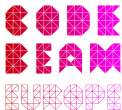
  state height: 0

  invariants non_neg_height: height > 0

  command block_number() do
    post height == result
  end

  command mine() do
    next height: height + 1
  end
end
```

Running the test



```
$ mix test
```

Failed! After 1 tests.

Postcondition crashed:

** invariant "non_neg_height" check failed

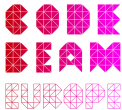
Shrinking x.(1 times)

```
[  
  Blocks.block_number/0  
]
```

Last state: %{height: 0}

```
defmodule Blocks do  
  use Makina, implemented_by: Etherex  
  
  state height: 0  
  
  invariants non_neg_height: height > 0  
  
  command block_number() do  
    post height == result  
  end  
  
  command mine() do  
    next height: height + 1  
  end  
end
```

Fixing the model



```
$ mix test
```

Failed! After 1 tests.

Postcondition crashed:

```
** invariant "non_neg_height" check failed
```

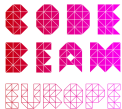
Shrinking x.(1 times)

```
[  
  Blocks.block_number/0  
]
```

Last state: %{height: 0}

```
defmodule Blocks do  
  use Makina, implemented_by: Etherex  
  
  state height: 0  
  
  invariants non_neg_height: height >= 0  
  
  command block_number() do  
    post height == result  
  end  
  
  command mine() do  
    next height: height + 1  
  end  
end
```

Running the test



```
$ mix test
```

```
.....  
.....
```

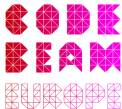
```
OK, passed 100 tests
```

```
51.5 Blocks.mine/0
```

```
48.5 Blocks.block_number/0
```

```
defmodule Blocks do  
  use Makina, implemented_by: Etherex  
  
  state height: 0  
  
  invariants non_neg_height: height >= 0  
  
  command block_number() do  
    post height == result  
  end  
  
  command mine() do  
    next height: height + 1  
  end  
end
```

Adding type information



```
$ mix gradient
```

```
$
```

Something changes in Etherex...

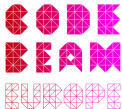
```
$ mix gradient
```

The function call `Etherex.block_number()`
on line 8 is expected to have type `integer()`
but it has type
`{:ok, quantity()} | {:error, error()}`

```
$
```

```
1 defmodule Blocks do
2   use Makina, implemented_by: Etherex
3
4   state height: 0 :: integer()
5
6   invariants non_neg_height: height >= 0
7
8   command block_number() :: integer() do
9     post height == result
10  end
11
12  command mine() :: :ok do
13    next height: height + 1
14  end
15 end
```

Adding documentation



```
iex> h Blocks
```

```
Contains a Makina model called Blocks.
```

```
Checks blocks are mined correctly.
```

```
## Commands
```

- mine stored at Blocks.Command.Mine
- block_number stored at Blocks.Command.BlockNumber

```
## State attributes
```

- height

```
## Invariants
```

- non_neg_height

```
defmodule Blocks do
  use Makina, implemented_by: Etherex

  @moduledoc """
  Checks blocks are mined correctly.
  """

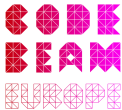
  state height: 0 :: integer()

  invariants non_neg_height: height >= 0

  command block_number() :: integer() do
    @moduledoc "Gets the block number."
    post {:ok, height} == result
  end

  command mine() :: :ok do
    @moduledoc "Mines a new block."
    next height: height + 1
  end
end
```

Adding documentation



```
iex> h Blocks.Command.Mine
```

This module contains the functions necessary to generate and execute the command mine.

Mines a new block.

Definitions

- next
- call
- weight
- post
- args
- pre

```
defmodule Blocks do
  use Makina, implemented_by: Etherex

  @moduledoc """
  Checks blocks are mined correctly.
  """

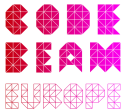
  state height: 0 :: integer()

  invariants non_neg_height: height >= 0

  command block_number() :: integer() do
    @moduledoc "Gets the block number."
    post {:ok, height} == result
  end

  command mine() :: :ok do
    @moduledoc "Mines a new block."
    next height: height + 1
  end
end
```

Adding documentation



```
iex> h Blocks.Command.Mine.post
```

This definition contains a predicate that should be true after the execution of mine

Available variables

State

- state
- height

Arguments

- arguments

Result

- result

```
defmodule Blocks do
  use Makina, implemented_by: Etherex

  @moduledoc """
  Checks blocks are mined correctly.
  """

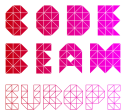
  state height: 0 :: integer()

  invariants non_neg_height: height >= 0

  command block_number() :: integer() do
    @moduledoc "Gets the block number."
    post {:ok, height} == result
  end

  command mine() :: :ok do
    @moduledoc "Mines a new block."
    next height: height + 1
  end
end
```


Account access



The API:

| Command | Returns |
|-----------|-----------|
| balance/1 | integer() |

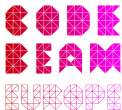
1. create module.
2. import Makina.
3. define state.
4. define commands.

```
defmodule Accounts do
  use Makina, implemented_by: Etherex

  state accounts: Etherex.accounts() :: [address()],
        balances: Etherex.balances() :: %{address() => integer()}

  command balance(account :: address()) :: integer() do
    pre accounts != []
    post balances[account] == result
  end
end
```

Running the test

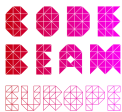


```
$ mix test
```

```
** (Makina.Error) argument  
  'account' missing in command  
  get_balance
```

```
defmodule Accounts do  
  use Makina, implemented_by: Etherex  
  
  state accounts: Etherex.accounts() :: [address()],  
        balances: Etherex.balances() :: %{address() => integer()}  
  
  command balance(account :: address()) :: integer() do  
    pre accounts != []  
    post balances[account] == result  
  end  
end
```

Fixing the model

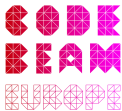


```
$ mix test
```

```
** (Makina.Error) argument  
'account' missing in command  
get_balance
```

```
defmodule Accounts do  
  use Makina, implemented_by: Etherex  
  
  state accounts: Etherex.accounts() :: [address()],  
        balances: Etherex.balances() :: %{address() => integer()}  
  
  command balance(account :: address()) :: integer() do  
    args account: oneof(accounts)  
    pre accounts != []  
    post balances[account] == result  
  end  
end
```

Running the test



```
$ mix test
```

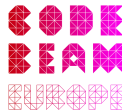
```
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....
```

```
OK, passed 100 tests
```

```
'100.0 Accounts.get_balance/1
```

```
defmodule Accounts do  
  use Makina, implemented_by: Etherex  
  
  state accounts: Etherex.accounts() :: [address()],  
        balances: Etherex.balances() :: %{address() => integer()}  
  
  command balance(account :: address()) :: integer() do  
    args account: oneof(accounts)  
    pre accounts != []  
    post balances[account] == result  
  end  
end
```

Generating transactions



The API to generate and check transactions:

| Command | Returns |
|----------------|-----------|
| mine/0 | :ok |
| block_number/0 | integer() |
| get_balance/1 | integer() |
| transfer/3 | hash() |

We can compose Blocks and Accounts!

```
defmodule Transactions do
  use Makina,
    extends: [Blocks, Accounts],
    implemented_by: Etherex
end
```

Generates a model Transactions.Composed.

```
iex(1)> h Transactions.Composed
```

```
# Transactions.Composed
```

```
## Commands
```

- mine stored
- get_balance
- block_number

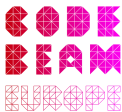
```
## State attributes
```

- height
- balances
- accounts

```
## Invariants
```

- non_neg_height

Generating transactions

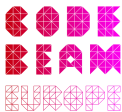


| Command | Returns |
|------------|---------|
| transfer/3 | hash() |

```
defmodule Transactions do
  use Makina,
    implemented_by: Etherex,
    extends: [Accounts, Blocks]

  command transfer(from, to, value) :: hash() do
    pre accounts != []
    args from: oneof(accounts),
          to: oneof(accounts),
          value: pos_integer()
    next balances: update(balances, from, to, value)
  end
end
```

Running the test



```
$ mix test
```

```
transfer("0xffcf8fdee72ac11",  
         "0x90f8bf6a479f320",  
         1)  
block_number()
```

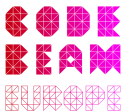
Postcondition failed.

```
block_number() -> {:ok, 1}
```

```
Last state: %{height: 0, ...}
```

```
defmodule Transactions do  
  use Makina,  
    implemented_by: Etherex,  
    extends: [Accounts, Blocks]  
  
  command transfer(from, to, value) :: hash() do  
    pre accounts != []  
    args from: oneof(accounts),  
          to: oneof(accounts),  
          value: pos_integer()  
    next balances: update(balances, from, to, value)  
  end  
end
```

Fixing the model



```
$ mix test
```

```
Postcondition failed.
```

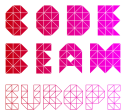
```
transfer("0xffcf8fdee72ac11",  
         "0x90f8bf6a479f320",  
         1)
```

```
block_number() -> {:ok, 1}
```

```
Last state: %{height: 0, ...}
```

```
defmodule Transactions do  
  use Makina,  
    implemented_by: Etherex,  
    extends: [Accounts, Blocks]  
  
  command transfer(from, to, value) :: hash() do  
    pre accounts != []  
    args from: oneof(accounts),  
          to: oneof(accounts),  
          value: pos_integer()  
    next height: height + 1,  
          balances: update(balances, from, to, value)  
  end  
end
```


Running the test



```
$ mix test
```

```
transfer("0x90f8bf6a479f320",
         "0x90f8bf6a479f320",
         1),
get_balance("0x90f8bf6a479f320")
```

Postcondition failed.

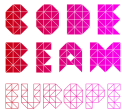
```
get_balance("0x90f8bf6a479f320")
-> {:ok, 979000}
```

```
Last state: %{
  balances: %{
    "0x90f8bf6a479f320" => 1000000
  }
}
```

```
defmodule Transactions do
  use Makina,
    implemented_by: Etherex,
    extends: [Accounts, Blocks]

  command transfer(from, to, value) :: hash() do
    pre accounts != []
    args from: oneof(accounts),
          to: oneof(accounts),
          value: pos_integer()
    next height: height + 1,
          balances: update(balances, from, to, value)
  end
end
```

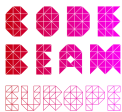
Fixing the model



```
defmodule Transactions do
  use Makina,
    implemented_by: Etherex,
    extends: [Accounts, Blocks]

  command transfer(from, to, value) :: hash() do
    pre accounts != []
    args from: oneof(accounts),
          to: oneof(accounts),
          value: pos_integer()
    next height: height + 1,
          balances: update(balances, from, to, value)
  end
end
```

Fixing the model



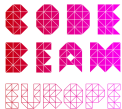
```
defmodule Transactions do
  use Makina,
    implemented_by: Etherex,
    extends: [Accounts, Blocks]

  state transactions: [] :: [symbolic(hash())]

  command transfer(from, to, value) :: hash() do
    pre accounts != []
    args from: oneof(accounts),
          to: oneof(accounts),
          value: pos_integer()
    next height: height + 1,
          transactions: [result | transactions],
          balances: update(balances, from, to, value)
                  |> symbolic(),
    end

  command get_balance() do
    pre transactions == []
  end
end
```

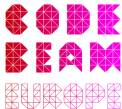
Fixing the model



```
defmodule Transactions.GasCost do
  use Makina, extends: Transactions

  command gas_cost(hash :: hash())
    :: {address(), quantity()} do
    pre transactions != []
    args hash: oneof(transactions)
    next do
      from = symbolic(elem(result, 0))
      gas = symbolic(elem(result, 1))
      [transactions: List.delete(transactions, hash),
       balances: update(balances, from, gas)
       |> symbolic()]
    ]
  end
end
end
```

Running the test



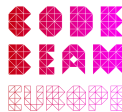
```
$ mix test
```

```
.....  
.....  
OK, passed 100 tests
```

```
'25.5 Transactions.mine/0  
'24.9 Transactions.block_number/0  
'23.6 Transactions.transfer/3  
'14.3 Transactions.gas_cost/1  
'11.8 Transactions.get_balance/1
```

```
defmodule Transactions.GasCost do  
  use Makina, extends: Transactions  
  
  command gas_cost(hash :: hash())  
    :: {address(), quantity()} do  
    pre transactions != []  
    args hash: oneof(transactions)  
    next do  
      from = symbolic(elem(result, 0))  
      gas = symbolic(elem(result, 1))  
      [transactions: List.delete(transactions, hash),  
       balances: update(balances, from, gas)  
       |> symbolic()  
      ]  
    end  
  end  
end
```

Results and conclusions



Before Makina:

| files | blank | comment | code |
|-------|-------|---------|------|
| 4 | 760 | 383 | 4513 |

After Makina:

| files | blank | comment | code |
|-------|-------|---------|------|
| 18 | 500 | 408 | 1692 |

Libraries:

- <https://gitlab.com/babel-upm/makina/makina>
- <https://gitlab.com/babel-upm/blockchain/etherex>

Slides and code:

- https://gitlab.com/babel-upm/makina/code_beam_2022