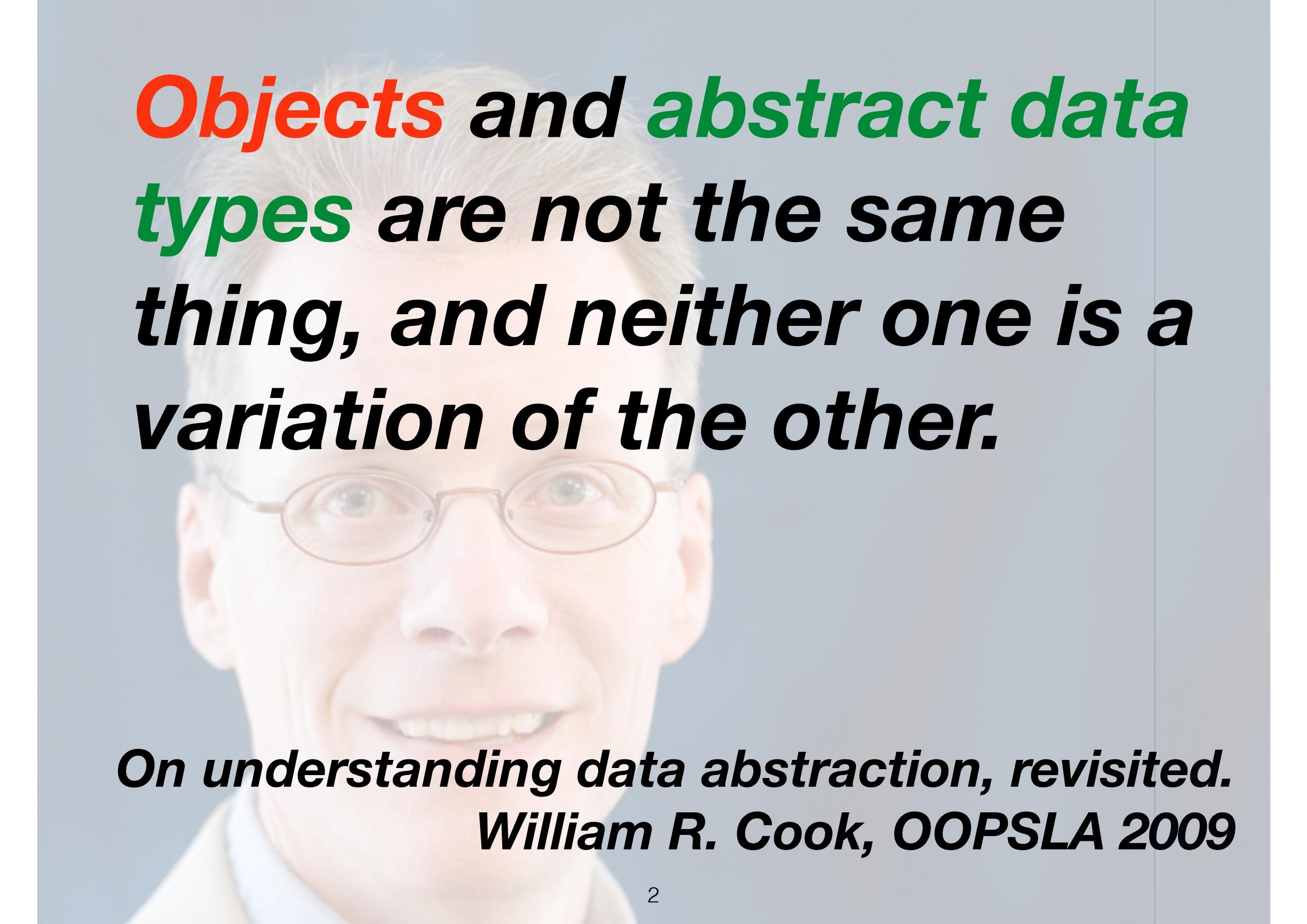


# Abstract Data Types in Object Capability Systems

James Noble  
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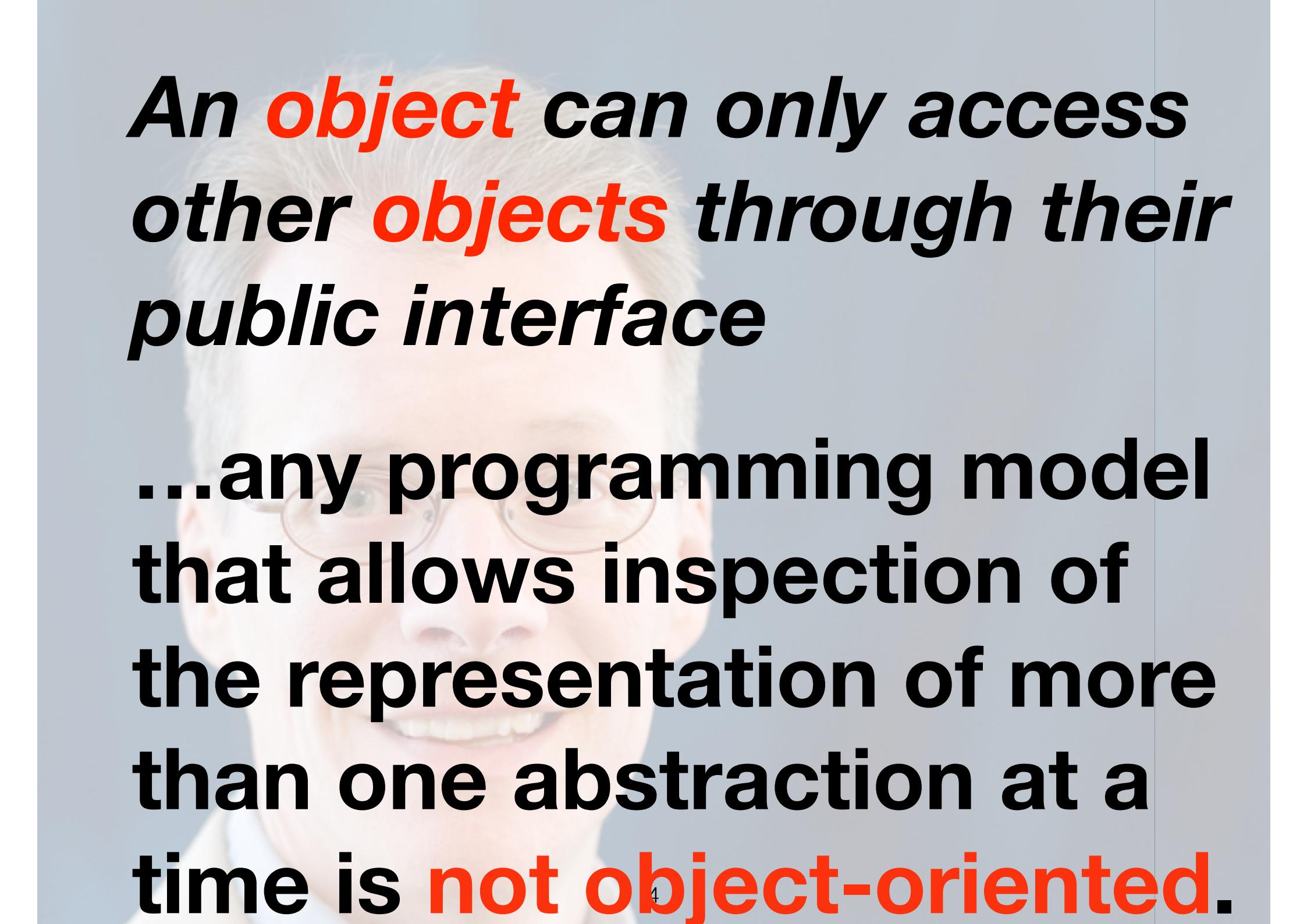
***Objects and abstract data types are not the same thing, and neither one is a variation of the other.***

***On understanding data abstraction, revisited.***  
***William R. Cook, OOPSLA 2009***

A faded, semi-transparent portrait of a middle-aged man with short, light-colored hair and glasses, looking directly at the camera with a slight smile.

*An **object** can only access  
other objects through their  
public interface*

*On understanding data abstraction, revisited.  
William R. Cook, OOPSLA 2009*

A woman with blonde hair and glasses is visible in the background, looking slightly to the side.

*An **object** can only access  
other **objects** through their  
public interface*

...any programming model  
that allows inspection of  
the representation of more  
than one abstraction at a  
time is **not object-oriented.**

# Object Capabilities

★ **Only connectivity begets connectivity**

★ “*No ambient authority*”

★ **Access implies permission**

★ “*No access control lists*”

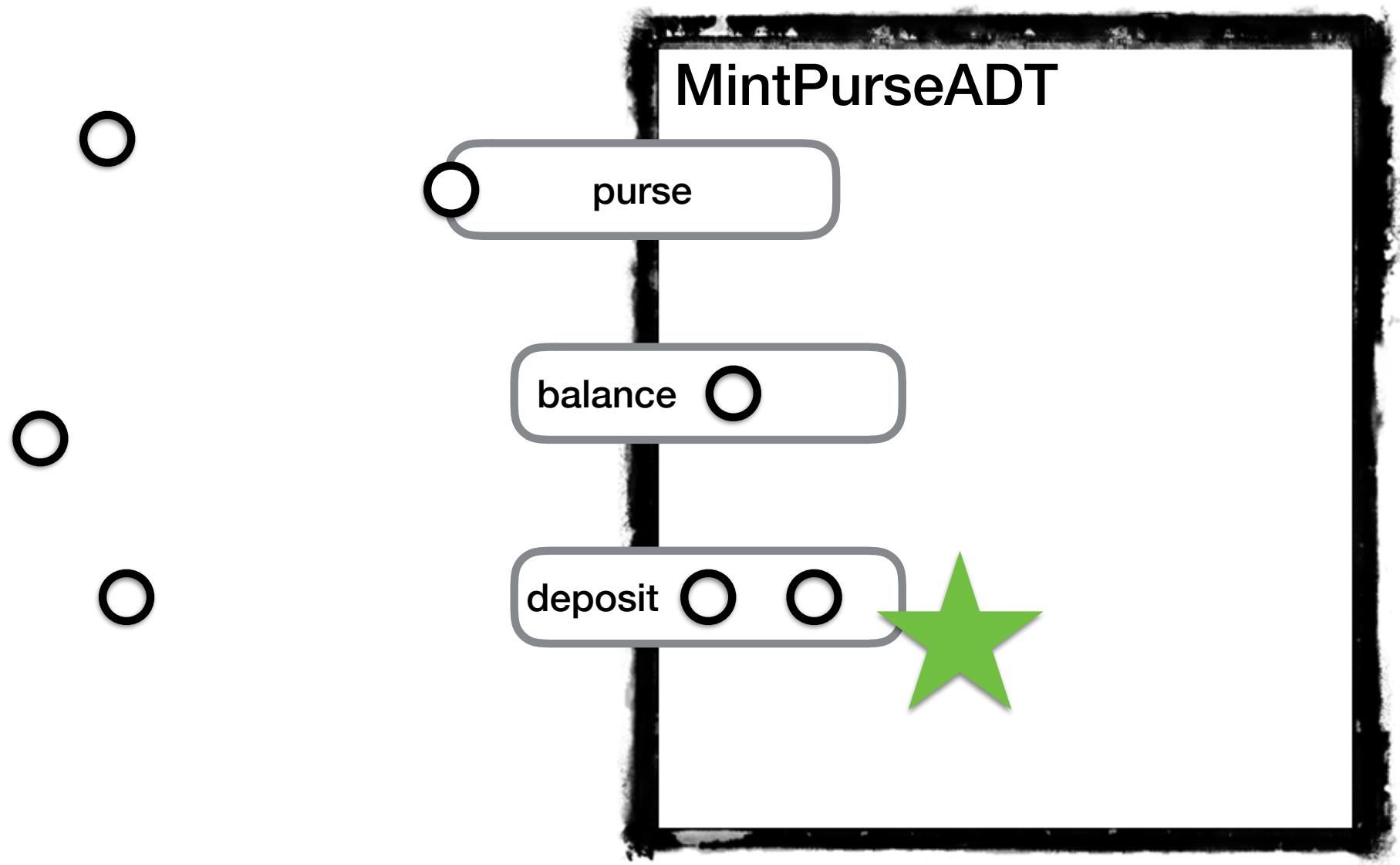
★ Dynamic Loading

***Capability Based Financial Instruments***  
***Miller, Morningstar,<sup>5</sup> Frantz. Fin. Cryp. 2000***

# Grodula-3

```
type MintPurseADT = interface {
    type T <: Object
    purse(amount : Number) -> T
    balance(of : T) -> Number
    deposit(to : T,
            amount : Number,
            from : T) -> Boolean
    sprout -> T
}
```

# Grodula-3



# Abstract Data Type

```
module MintPuse {  
  reveal T = Purse
```

```
type Purse is private = interface {  
  balance -> Number  
  balance:= ( n : Number )  
}
```

```
method purse(amount : Number) -> T {  
  return object { var balance is public := amount }  
}
```

```
method balance(of : Purse) -> Number { of.balance }
```

```
method deposit(to : Purse,  
                amount : Number,  
                from : Purse) -> Boolean {  
    if ((amount >= 0) && (from.balance >= amount))  
        then {  
            from.balance := from.balance – amount  
            to.balance := to.balance + amount  
            return true  
        } else {return false}  
}
```

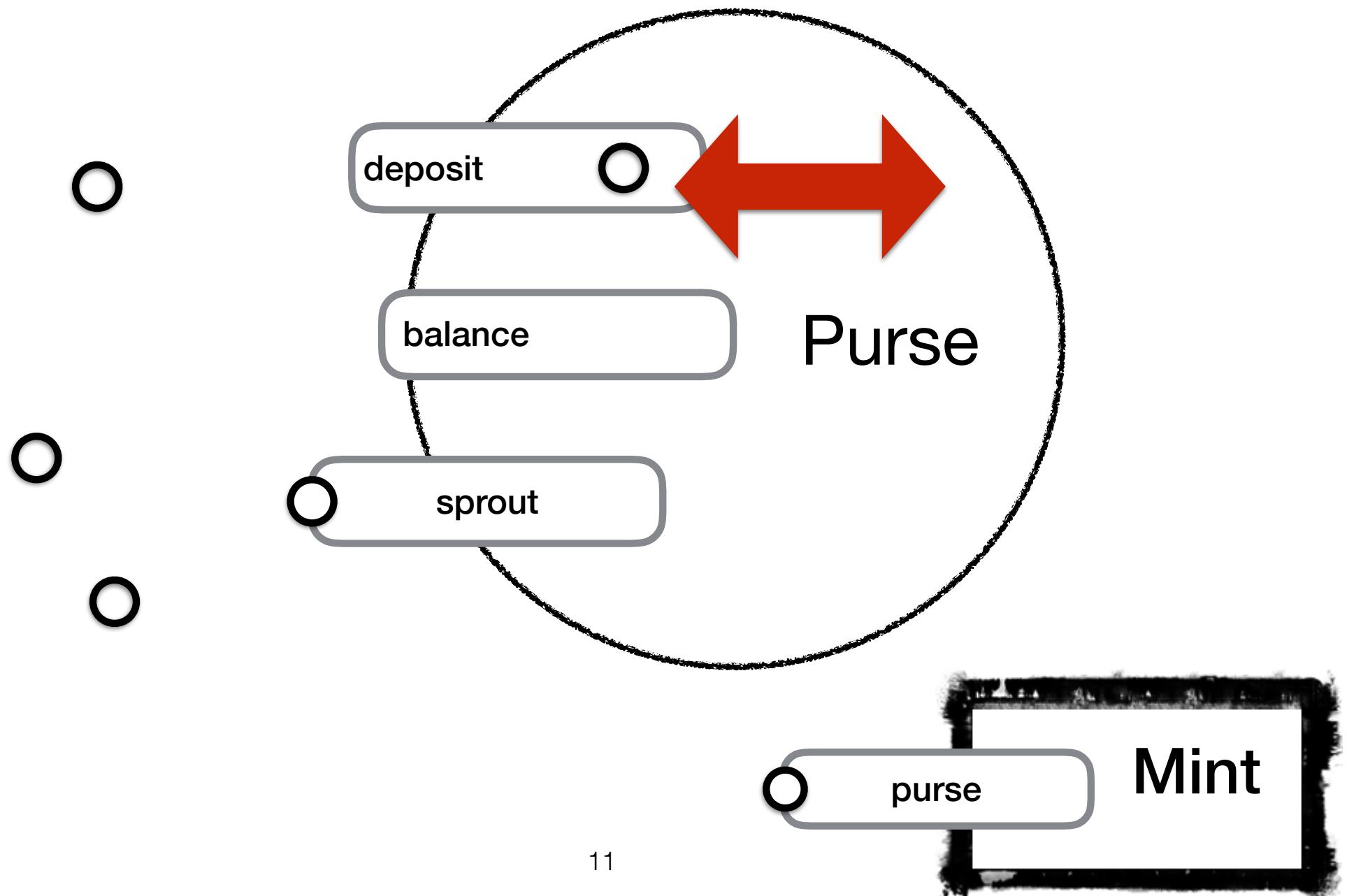
```
method sprout { purse(0) }  
}
```

# “Classical” “OO” ADT

```
type Mint = interface {
    purse(amount : Number) -> Purse
}
```

```
type Purse = interface {
    balance -> Number
    deposit(amount : Number, src : Purse) -> Boolean
    sprout -> Purse
}
```

# “Classical” “OO” ADT



# “Classical” “OO” ADT

```
class purse(amount : Number) -> Purse {  
    var balance is readable, private := amount  
  
    method deposit(amt : Number, src : Purse) -> Boolean  
    { if ((amount >= 0) && (src.balance >= amount))  
        then {  
            src.balance := src.balance – amount  
            balance := balance + amount  
            return true  
        } else {return false}  
    }  
}
```

# OCaps – Brand Pairs

```
type Sealing = interface {  
    makeBrandPair -> interface {  
        sealer -> Sealer  
        unsealer -> Unsealer  
    }  
}
```



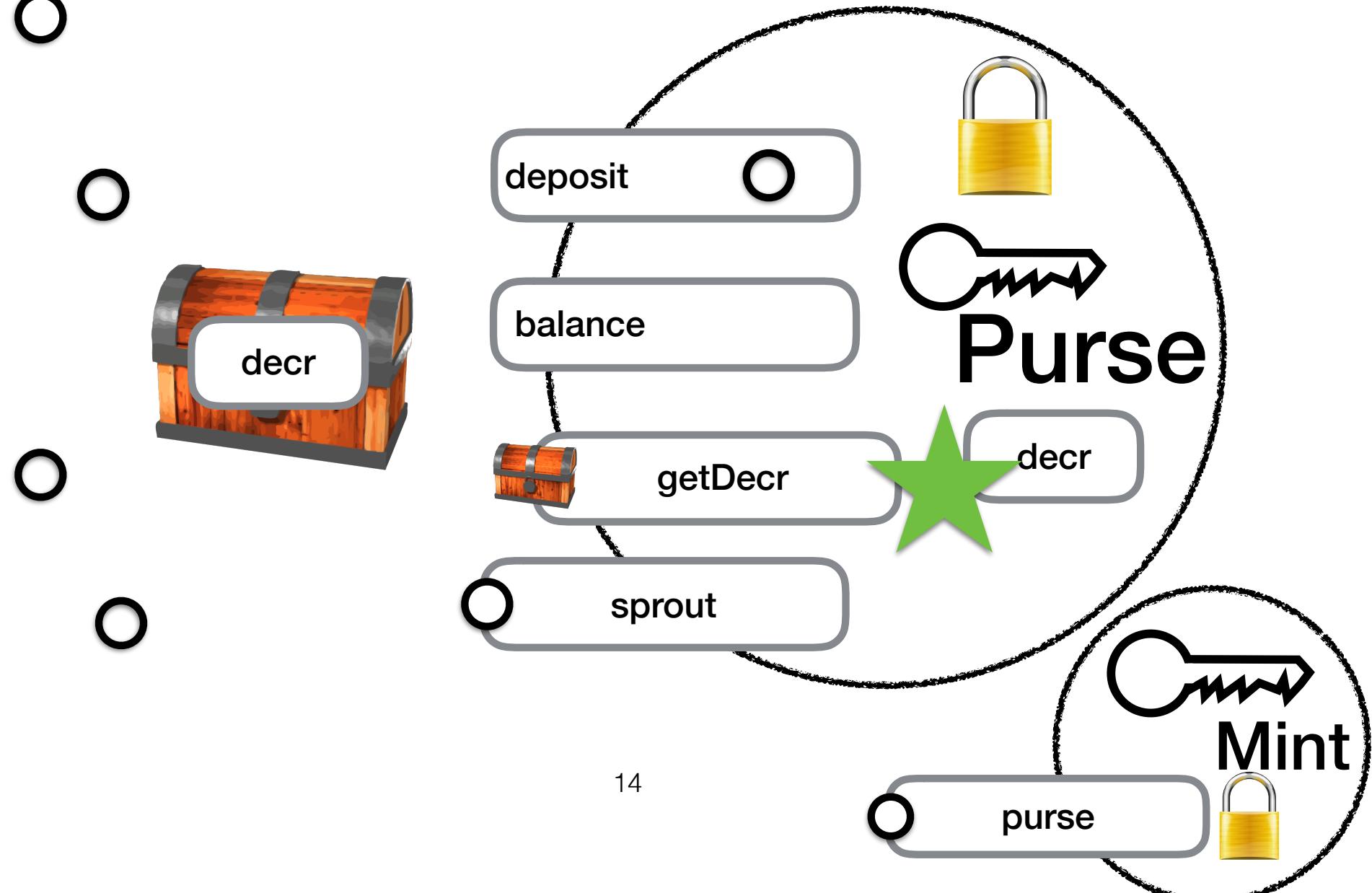
```
type Sealer = interface { seal(o : Object) -> Box }
```

```
type Unsealer = interface { unseal(b : Box) -> Object }
```

```
type Box = interface { }
```



# Brand Pairs



```
class mint -> Mint is public {
```

```
  def brandPair = sealing.makeBrandPair
```

```
  class purse(amount : Number) -> Purse {
```

```
    var balance := amount
```

```
    method decr(amt : Number) -> Boolean is confidential {  
      if ((amt < 0) || (amt > balance)) then {  
        return false }  
      balance := balance - amt  
      return true }
```

```
    method getDecr  
    {brandPair.sealer.seal { amt -> decr(amt) } }
```

```
method deposit(amt : Number, src : Purse) -> Boolean {  
    if (amt < 0) then { return false }  
    var srcDecr  
    try { srcDecr := brandPair.unsealer.unseal(src.getDecr) }  
        catch { _ -> return false }  
    if (srcDecr.apply( amt )) then {  
        balance := balance + amt  
        return true }  
return false }
```

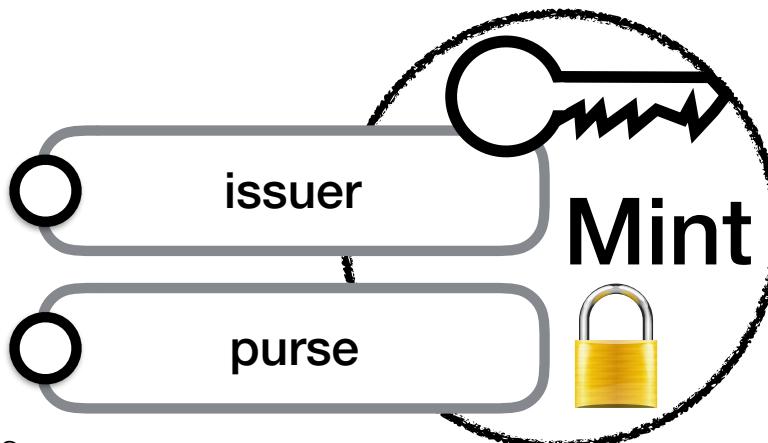
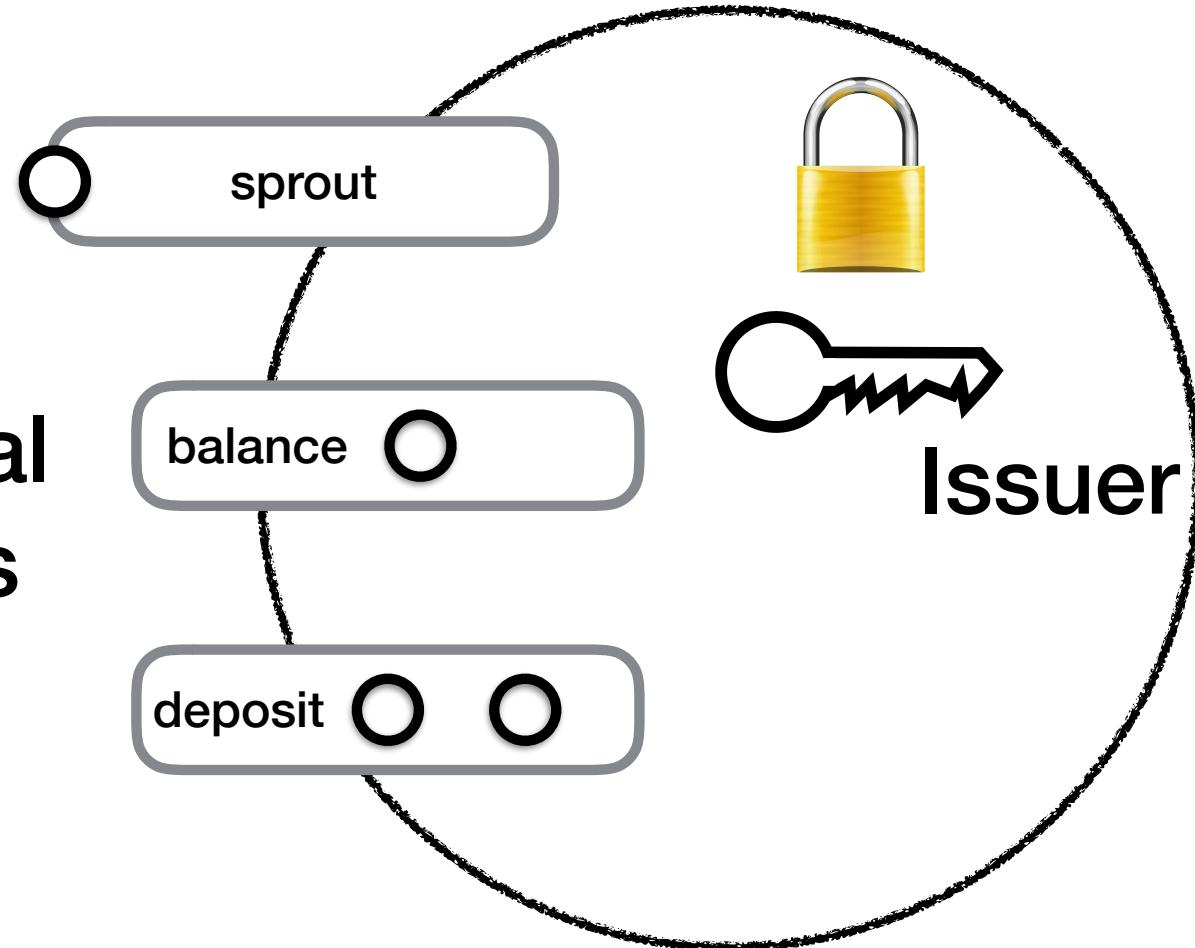
# Generalising the Design

```
type ExternalPurse = interface { }
```

```
type InternalPurse = interface {
    balance -> Number
    balance:= ( n : Number )
}
```

```
type Issuer = interface {
    balance(of : ExternalPurse) -> Number
    deposit(to : ExternalPurse,
            amount : Number,
            from : ExternalPurse ) -> Boolean
    sprout -> ExternalPurse
}
```

## External Purses



# Generalising the Design

```
class mint -> Mint {
```

```
def myBrandPair = sealing.makeBrandPair
```

```
method seal(protectedRep : InternalPurse) -> ExternalPurse  
is confidential { myBrandPair.sealer.seal(protectedRep) }
```

```
method unseal(sealedBox : ExternalPurse) -> InternalPurse  
is confidential { myBrandPair.unsealer.unseal(sealedBox) }
```

```
method purse(amount : Number) -> ExternalPurse {  
    seal( object { var balance is public := amount } ) }
```

```
def issuer is public = object {
    method balance(of : ExternalPurse) -> Number {
        return unseal(of).balance}
    method deposit(to : ExternalPurse,
                  amount : Number,
                  from : ExternalPurse) -> Boolean {
        var internalTo
        var internalFrom
        try {
            internalTo := unseal(to)      // throws if fails
            internalFrom := unseal(from)  // throws if fails
        } catch { _ -> return false }
        if ((amount >= 0) && (internalFrom.balance >= amount))
        then {
            internalFrom.balance := internalFrom.balance - amount
            internalTo.balance := internalTo.balance + amount
            return true
        } else {return false}
    }
}
```

# Splitting Mint from Issuer

```
type Mint = interface {  
    purse(amount : Number) -> ExternalPurse  
    issuer -> Issuer  
}
```

External Purse is a pain

```
type ExternalPurse = interface { }
```

# Let's be evil

```
type ExternalPurse = interface {
    balance -> Number
    deposit(amount : Number, src : ExternalPurse) -> Boolean
    sprout -> ExternalPurse
}
method seal(protectedRep : InternalPurse) -> ExternalPurse
    is confidential {
        object {
            inherit myBrandPair.sealer.seal(protectedRep)
            method balance { issuer.balance(self) }
            method sprout { issuer.sprout }
            method deposit(amt,src) { issuer.deposit(self,amt,src) }
        }
    }
}
```

```
type ExternalPurse = interface {  
    balance -> Number  
    deposit(amount : Number, src : ExternalPurse) -> Boolean  
    sprout -> ExternalPurse  
}
```

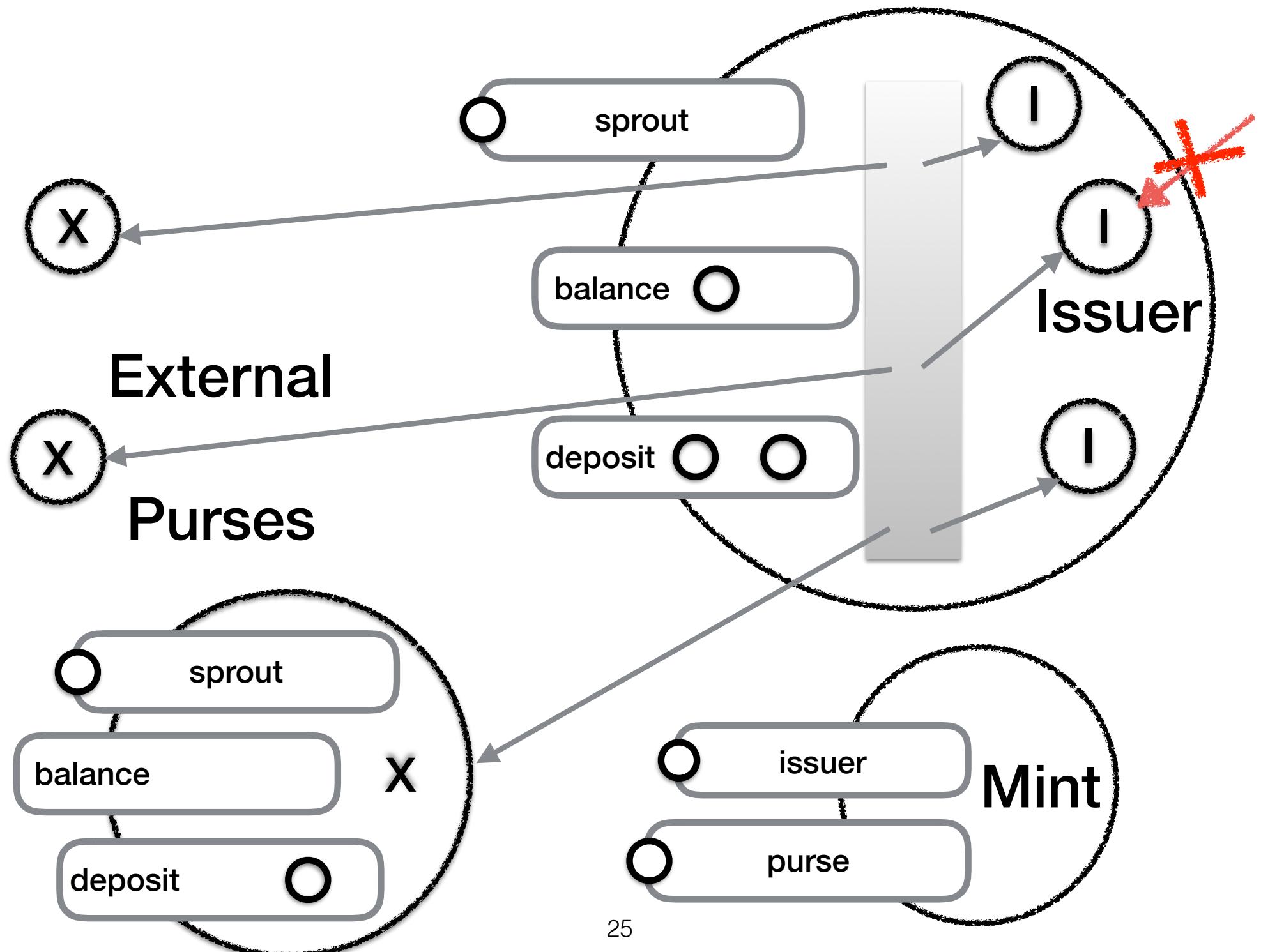
```
type Mint = interface {  
    purse(amount : Number) -> ExternalPurse  
    deposit(to : ExternalPurse,  
            amount : Number,  
            from : ExternalPurse) -> Boolean  
    balance(of : ExternalPurse) -> Number  
    sprout -> ExternalPurse  
}
```

```
type InternalPurse = interface {  
    balance -> Number  
    balance:= (Number) -> Done  
    deposit(amount : Number, src : ExternalPurse) -> Boolean  
}
```

## Hash Table

```
class mint -> Mint {  
  
  def instances = collections.map[[ExternalPurse,InternalPurse]]  
  
  method valid(prs : ExternalPurse) -> Boolean  
  { instances.contains(prs) }  
  
  method internal(prs : ExternalPurse) -> InternalPurse  
  { instances.get(prs) }  
  
  method purse(amount : Number) -> ExternalPurse {  
    def ext = externalPurse(self)  
    def int = internalPurse(amount)  
    instances.put(ext, int)  
    return ext  
  }  
}
```

## Hash Table



# Hash Table

```
method deposit(to : ExternalPurse,  
               amount : Number,  
               from : ExternalPurse) -> Boolean {  
    if ((valid(to)) && (valid(from))) then {  
        return internal(to).deposit(amount, internal(from))}  
    return false  
}  
method balance(prs : ExternalPurse) -> Number  
{ internal(prs).balance }  
  
method sprout -> ExternalPurse {purse(0)}  
}
```

```
class internalPurse(amount : Number) -> InternalPurse {  
    var balance is public := amount  
    method deposit(amount : Number, src : InternalPurse)  
        -> Boolean  
    { if ((amount >= 0) && (src.balance >= amount)) then {  
        src.balance := src.balance – amount  
        balance := balance + amount  
        return true }  
        return false  
    }  
}
```

```
class externalPurse(mint' : Mint) -> ExternalPurse {  
    def mint = mint'  
    method balance {mint.balance(self)}  
    method sprout -> ExternalPurse { mint.sprout }  
    method deposit(amount : Number, src : ExternalPurse)  
        -> Boolean { return mint.deposit(self, amt, src)  
    }  
}
```

*"you are in a maze of twisty  
little objects, all alike"*

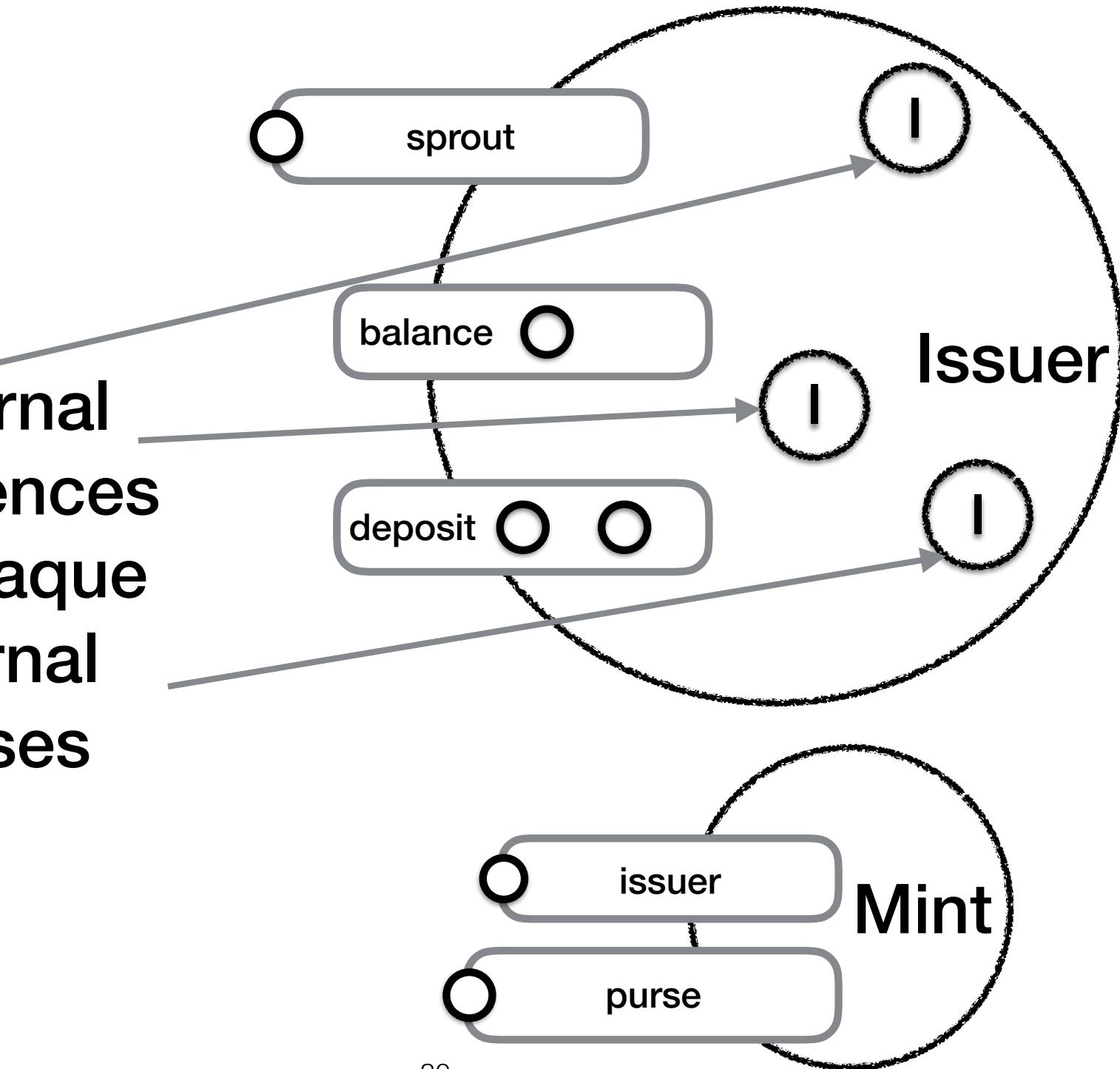
```
type Mint = interface {  
    purse(amount : Number) -> Purse  
    issuer -> Issuer  
}
```

```
type Issuer = interface {  
    balance(of : Purse) -> Number  
    deposit(to : Purse,  
            amount : Number,  
            from : Purse) -> Boolean  
    sprout -> Purse  
}
```

```
type Purse = interface {  
    balance -> Number  
    balance:= ( n : Number )  
}
```

Owners  
as  
Readers

# External References to Opaque Internal Purses



```
class mint -> Mint {  
    class purse(amount : Number) -> Purse is owned {  
        var balance is public := amount  
    }  
    def issuer is public = object {  
        method deposit(to : Purse is owned, amount : Number,  
                      from : Purse is owned) -> Boolean {  
            if ((amount >= 0) && (from.balance >= amount))  
                then {  
                    from.balance := from.balance – amount  
                    to.balance := to.balance + amount  
                    return true  
                } else {return false}  
            }  
        method balance(of : Purse is owned) -> Number {  
            return of.balance}  
        method sprout -> Purse { purse(0) }  
    }  
}
```

```
type Mint = interface {  
    purse(amount : Number) -> Purse  
    issuer -> Issuer  
}
```

```
type Issuer = interface {  
    balance(of : Purse) -> Number  
    deposit(to : Purse,  
            amount : Number,  
            from : Purse) -> Boolean  
    sprout -> Purse  
}
```

```
type Purse = interface {  
    balance -> Number  
    balance:= ( n : Number )  
}
```

Owners  
as  
Readers  
?

# ADTs, Objects, Owners

```
type Mint = interface {  
    purse(amount : Number) -> Purse  
}
```

```
type Purse = interface {  
    balance -> Number  
    deposit(amount : Number, src : Purse) -> Boolean  
    sprout -> Purse  
}
```

```

class mintADT -> Mint is public {

    class purse(amount : Number) -> Purse is owned {
        var balance is readable, owner := amount

        method deposit(amt : Number,
                      src : Purse is owned) -> Boolean
        { if ((amount >= 0) && (src.balance >= amount))
          then {
            src.balance := src.balance – amount
            balance := balance + amount
            return true
          } else {return false}
        }
    }
}

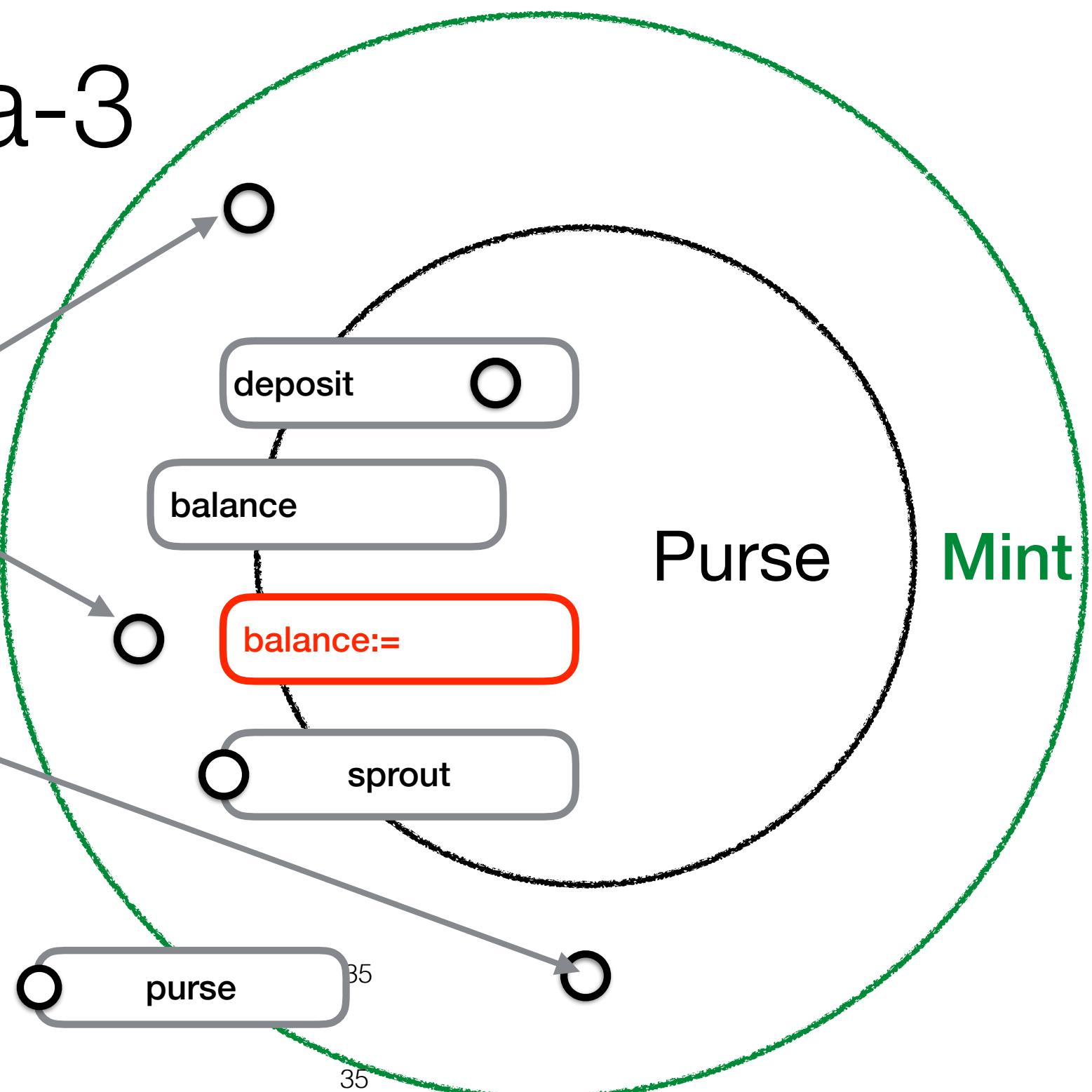
```

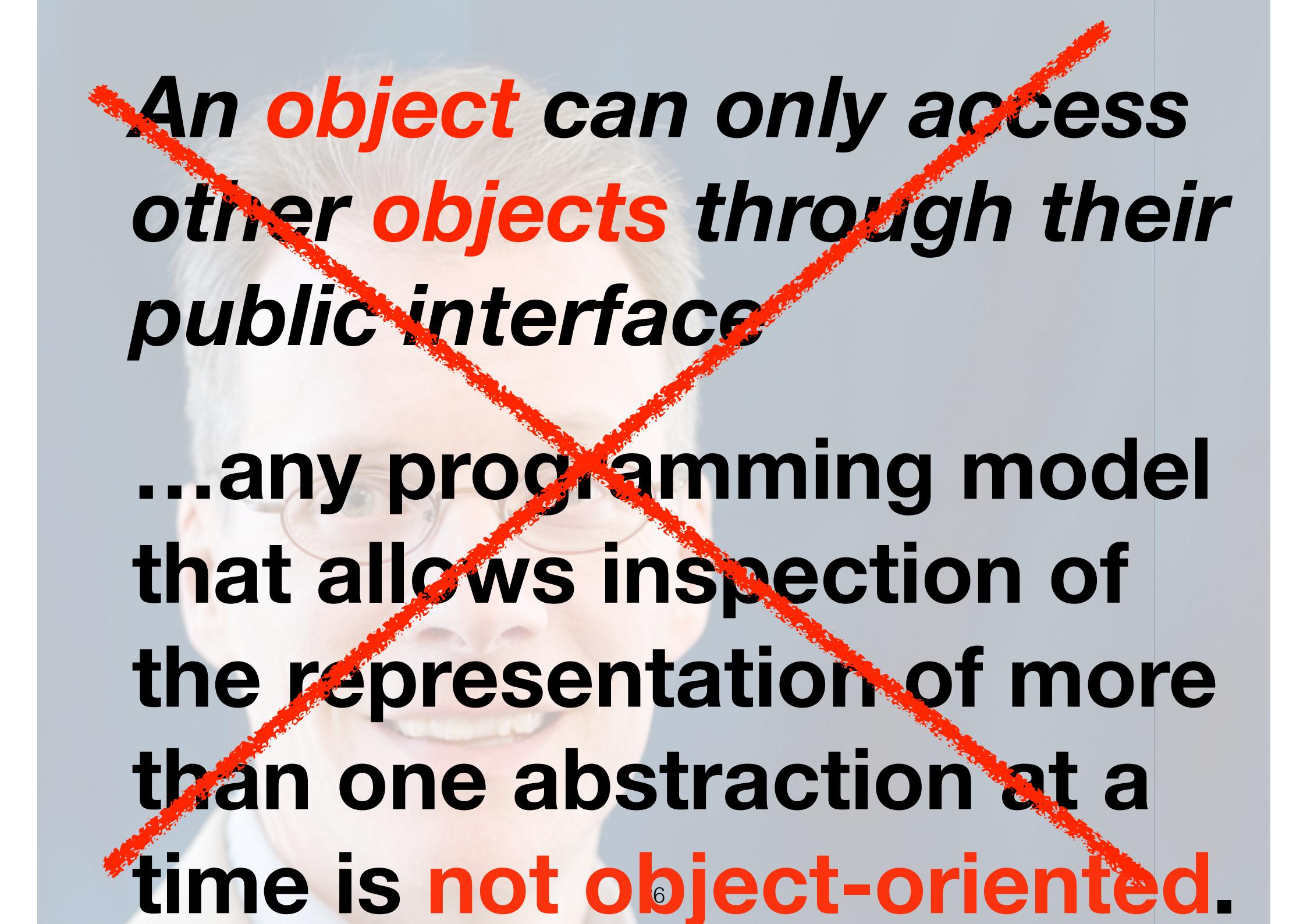
Gracula-3

**method** sprout -> Purse **is owned** { purse(0) }

# Gracula-3

Magical External References to *Partially Opaque Internal Purse*



A faint background image of a woman's face, wearing glasses and looking towards the right.

**An *object* can only access  
other *objects* through their  
public interface**

**...any programming model  
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time is not object-oriented.**

# Object Capabilities

★ Only connectivity begets connectivity

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