

## **Necessity Specifications are Necessary**

ANONYMOUS AUTHOR(S)

Traditional specifications deal in the sufficient conditions for closed programs to be correct — if a function is invoked with valid preconditions, it will meet its post-conditions upon return: calling a function will make good things happen. Unfortunately, sufficient conditions are insufficient for reasoning about programs in an open world — frameworks that can be extended, systems that interact with third parties, programs subject to unintentional or malicious attacks. In an open world, necessity specifications are necessary: programmers need to reason about necessary conditions to prove that bad things can never happen. The Logic of Necessity enables programmers to assert and to reason about the necessary conditions for their programs to be correct, and to infer the necessary conditions that their programs do (or do not) support. Using this logic, programmers can prove that bad things do not happen, defending programs against an unfriendly open world.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

*Condition B is hard to formalize, since it requires saying precisely what a bad plan is,*

[Lamport et al. 1982]

The days of single, monolithic programs are long gone. Contemporary software is built over decades, by combining modules and components of different provenance and different degrees of trustworthiness, which can interact with almost every other program, device, or person. In order for the resulting complex system to be correct, we need to be able to reason about individual components to ensure that they behave correctly, i.e. that good things happen when our programs run. For example: if I send an email to a valid address, it will be delivered to its recipient, or if I provide the right password, I can transfer money from one of my bank accounts to another. To prove that good things can happen, program verification systems can use witnesses, e.g. a precondition, a postcondition describing the good thing (the desired effect), and a code snippet, whose execution will establish the effect, given the precondition. The critical point here is that the precondition is a *sufficient* condition for the code snippet to make the good thing happen: given the precondition, executing a correct code snippet is guaranteed to achieve the postcondition.

Unfortunately, in a system of any complexity, knowing that good things will happen is not enough: we also need to be sure that bad things cannot happen. For example: we need to be sure that an email can only be read by the intended recipient; or that someone can only transfer money if they provide the account's password. To address this problem, we need to consider the *necessary* conditions without which some postcondition (good or bad) cannot be achieved: it is necessary that someone is sent an email before they can read it; it is necessary that the correct password is provided before money can be transferred.

The challenge here is twofold: How do we specify the bad things we are concerned about, and how do we prove that the bad things we've specified do not happen? These challenges are difficult because we cannot refer to just one component of a software system. A sufficient specification can deal with a single component in isolation – a single function for pre- and postconditions; a single class or data structure for invariants. A necessary specification, however, must provide guarantees which encompass the software system in its entirety, and constrain the emergent behaviour of all its components, for an open system, all possible sequences of API invocations.

2022. 2475-1421/2022/1-ART1 \$15.00  
<https://doi.org/>

I think this example does not make the point that well.

50 The importance of distinguishing between sufficient and necessary specifications of various  
 51 kinds has a long history in Computer Science. Lampert distinguishes between “good things will  
 52 eventually happen” (liveness) and “bad things will never happen” (safety) conditions in his seminal  
 53 paper on “Multiprocess Programs”. Type systems ensure entire classes of bad things can’t happen,  
 54 preserving executing even if memory structures are greatly corrupted [Rinard 2003]. More recently,  
 55 Swasey et al. and Sammler et al. with their robust safety and Drossopoulou et al. with their holistic  
 56 systems have tackled open world systems to prevent bad things from happening from untrusted  
 57 code. Swasey et al. use techniques from security to ensure their isn’t undesirable leakage, Sammler  
 58 et al. build a sandbox and have a sophisticated type system to protect it and Drossopoulou et al.  
 59 have necessary conditions, which they expressed through temporal operators.

60 In this paper we introduce *necessity specifications*:

---

```
61 from A1 to A2 onlyIf A3
```

---

63 to say a change from a current state satisfying  $A_1$  to a future state satisfying  $A_2$  (i.e. an effect) is  
 64 possible only if the necessary condition  $A_3$  holds in the current state (i.e.  $(A_1 \wedge \Diamond A_2) \longrightarrow A_3$ ).  
 65 Unlike Permenev et al. or Drossopoulou et al. which employ general temporal operators, we support  
 66 necessity specifications with this explicit “from  $A_1$  to  $A_2$  onlyIf  $A_3$ ” syntax and concomitant  
 67 specialised inference system. Our assertions  $A$  support the usual expressions about program state  
 68 (e.g.  $x.f > 3$ ), logical connectives and quantifiers (e.g.  $\wedge, \forall$ ), and additional predicates to capture  
 69 *provenance* (whether an object  $o$ ’s definition is  $\langle o \text{ internal} \rangle$  or  $\langle o \text{ external} \rangle$ ) to the current  
 70 module, and *permission* [Miller et al. 2013] (whether an object  $o$  has direct access to another object  
 71  $o'$ :  $\langle o \text{ access } o' \rangle$ ).

## 72 1.1 Bank Account Example

73 Consider Account class in module Mod1 that represents a bank account with a balance and a password,  
 74 where funds may be transferred between accounts only when sending *the* account’s password:

---

```
75 module Mod1
 76   class Account
 77     field balance:int
 78     field pwd: Password
 79     method transfer(dest:Account, pwd':Object) -> void
 80       if this.pwd==pwd'
 81         this.balance-=100
 82         dest.balance+=100
 83   class Password
```

---

83 We can capture the intended semantics of the transfer method by writing “classical” specifications  
 84 in terms of pre- and post-conditions — Mod1’s implementation of the transfer method meets this  
 85 specification.

---

```
86 ClassicBankSpec ≡
 87   method transfer(dest:Account, pwd':Password) -> void {
 88     ( PRE: this.balance=bal1 ∧ this.pwd==pwd' ∧ dest.balance=bal2 ∧ dest=/=this
 89       POST: this.balance == bal1-100 ∧ dest.balance == bal2+100 )
 90     ( PRE: this.balance=bal1 ∧ this.pwd=/=pwd' ∧ dest.balance=bal2
 91       POST: this.balance == bal1 ∧ dest.balance=bal2 )
 92     ( PRE: a : Account ∧ a=/=this ∧ a=/=dest ∧ a.balance=bal ∧ a.pwd=pwd1
 93       POST: a.balance=bal ∧ a.pwd=pwd1
 94     ( PRE: a : Account ∧ a.pwd=pwd1
 95       POST: a.pwd=pwd1)
```

---

94 Now consider the following alternative implementations Mod2 allows any client to reset its  
 95 password at any time, while Mod3 first requires the existing password in order to change it.  
 96 The problem is that although the transfer method is the same in all three alternatives, and  
 97 although each one satisfies (ClassicSpec), emergent code sequences such as `account.set(42);`  
 98

*Mod2 is a module, w/o a class*

99 account.transfer(yourAccount, 42) are enough to drain the account Mod2 without supplying  
 100 the password.

---

```
101
102   module Mod2
103     class Account
104       field balance:int
105       field pwd: Password
106       method transfer(..)
107         ... as earlier ...
108       method set(pwd': Object)
109         this.pwd=pwd'
110       class Password
```

---

*There is no leak in Mod2* C

111 We need to rule out Mod2 while permitting Mod3 and Mod1. The catch is the leak in Mod2 is  
 112 the result of *emergent* behaviour from the interactions of the set and transfer methods — even  
 113 though Mod3 also has a set method, it does not exhibit the unwanted interaction. This is exactly  
 114 where a *necessity condition* can help: we want to avoid transferring money (or more generally,  
 115 reducing an account's balance) *without* the account password. Phrasing the same condition the  
 other way around gives us a positive statement that still rules out the theft: that money *can only* be  
 transferred when the account's password is supplied. In our necessity condition syntax:

116 NecessityBankSpec  $\triangleq$  from a:Account  $\wedge$  a.balance==bal  
 117 to a.balance < bal  
 118 onlyIf  $\exists$  o.[ $\langle$ o external  $\rangle \wedge \langle$ o access a.pwd $\rangle]$

*WRONG KNOWIN'* C

119 The critical point of this necessity specification is that it is expressed in terms of observable  
 120 effects — reducing the account balance — and not in terms of individual methods — such as set  
 121 or transfer. This gives necessity specifications the vital advantage that they constrain not only  
 122 any *implementation* of a bank account with a balance and a password (as do traditional sufficient  
 123 specifications) but also any *design* of such a bank account, irrespective of the API it offers, the  
 124 services it exports, or the dependencies on other parts of the system. C

## 1.2 Reasoning about Necessity

125 Our work concentrates on guarantees made for the *open* setting; that is, a certain module  $M$  is  
 126 programmed in such a robust manner that execution of  $M$  together with *any* external module  $M'$   
 127 will uphold these guarantees. In the tradition of visible states semantics, we are only interested in  
 128 upholding the guarantees while  $M'$ , the external module, is executing. We therefore distinguish  
 129 between *internal* and *external* objects: those that belong to classes defined in  $M$ , and the rest.  
 130 Similarly, we distinguish between *internal* calls, i.e. calls made to internal objects, and *external* calls,  
 131 i.e. calls made to external objects. *Should be external states like visible states!*

132 Moreover, because we only require that the guarantees are upheld while the external module is  
 133 executing, we develop an *external state semantics*, where any internal calls are executed in one,  
 134 large, step. Note that we do not — yet — support calls from internal objects to external objects. With  
 135 the external steps semantics, the executing object (the *this*) is always external.

136 We now outline the proof that of Mod3 adheres to (*NecessitySpec*), and will then use that  
 137 outline to introduce the main ingredients of our Necessity Logic. The proof consists, broadly, of the  
 138 following parts:

139 **P1:** We establish that the balance may change only through Account-internal calls. Mod3

140 **P2:** For each method of the class Account, we establish that if the method were called and  
 141 caused the balance to reduce, then, before the call, the caller had access to the password.

142 **P3:** From P1 and P2, we obtain that if the balance were to reduce in *any single* call, then some  
 143 external object would have to have had access to the password before the call.

**P4:** We establish that an external object has access to the password after *one* internal call, only if it already had access before that call. From that, we establish that an external object will have access to the password after *any number* of external or internal steps, only if it already had access before these steps.

**P5:** Combining the results from **P3** and **P4**, we obtain that Version\_III satisfies (*NecessitySpec*)

We now outline the new formal concepts needed to accomplish the five parts of the proof from above:

**Assertion encapsulation** An assertion  $A$  is *encapsulated* by a module  $M$ , if  $A$  can be invalidated only through an  $M$ -internal call. In short, an  $M$ -internal call is a *necessary* condition for a given effect to take place. In **P1**, the assertion  $a : \text{Account} \wedge a.\text{balance} = \text{val}$  is encapsulated by **Account**. *Mod 3*

We assume that there exists some algorithm to judge assertion encapsulation. The construction of such an algorithm is not the focus of our work; we outline a rudimentary such algorithm, but more powerful approaches are possible.

**Per-method necessity specification** We want to infer a necessary condition given an effect and a single, specified, method call.

In **P2**, a necessary condition for the reduction of  $a.\text{balance}$  after the call  $a.\text{transfer}(a', \text{pwd})$  is that the caller had access to  $a.\text{password}$  before the call.

We addressed the challenge of the inference of necessary conditions by leveraging the sufficient conditions from classical specifications: As we will see in Section 3.2, if the negation of a method's classical postcondition implies the effect we are interested in, then the negation of the classical precondition is the necessary precondition for the effect and the method call. Thus, a method's sufficient conditions are used to infer a method's and effect's necessary conditions.

**Single step necessity specification** We want to infer a necessary condition given an effect and a single, unspecified step. This step could be a internal, or an external method call, or any other external step, such as field assignment, or conditional, etc.

In **P3**, a necessary condition for the reduction of  $a.\text{balance}$  after *any* step, is that the caller had access to  $a.\text{password}$  before the call. And similarly in **P4**, a necessary condition for an external object's access to  $a.\text{password}$  after *any* step, is that that object had access to  $a.\text{password}$  before the call.

For effects that are encapsulated in a module  $M$ , we can infer such one-step necessary conditions by combining the necessary conditions for that effect and all methods in  $M$ .

**Necessity specifications of emergent behaviour** We now need to consider the *emergent* behaviour of the internal module combined with any internal module. This step is crucial; namely, remember that while Version\_II adheres to the guarantee from the **P3**, it does not adhere to (*NecessitySpec*). Our Logic of Necessity allows us to combine several such one-step necessary conditions, and obtain a several-step necessary condition.

### 1.3 Contributions

The contributions of this paper are as follows:

- (1) *SpecX*, a language to express necessity specifications (§2);
- (2) a logic for proving a module's adherence to its necessity specifications (§3);
- (3) a mechanised proof of soundness of the logic (§3.5);
- (4) a proof that the bank account example obeys the necessity specification (§4).

Finally we place necessity specifications into the context of related work (§5) and conclude (§6). The Coq proof of the logic appears in the supplementary material.

197 **2 THE MEANING OF NECESSITY**

198 In the introduction we spoke of *Necessity Specifications*, e.g., from  $A_1$  to  $A_2$  onlyIf  $A_3$ . In this  
 199 section we will define the semantics of such specifications. In order to do that, we first define an  
 200 underlying programming language *LangX*, (Section 2.1). We then define an assertion language,  
 201 *SpecW*, which can talk about the contents of the state, as well about of provenance and permission  
 202 (Section 2.2). Finally, we define necessity specifications in *SpecX* (Section 2.3).

203 **2.1 LangX**

205 *LangX* is a small, simple, imperative, class based, object oriented language. Given the simplicity of  
 206 *LangX*, we do not define it here, instead, we direct the reader to Appendix A for the full definitions.  
 207 Here we outline the definitions, and introduce the concepts most relevant to the treatment of the  
 208 open world guarantees.

209 A *LangX* configuration  $\sigma$  consists of a heap  $\chi$ , and a frame stack  $\psi$  – the latter is a sequence of  
 210 frames. A frame  $\phi$  consists of local variable map, and a continuation, i.e. a sequence of statements  
 211 to be executed. A statement may assign to variables, create new objects and push them to the heap,  
 212 perform field reads and writes on objects, or call methods on those objects.

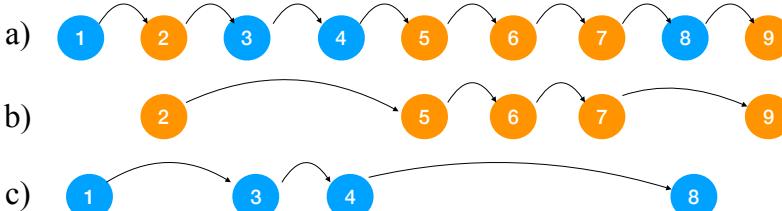
213 Execution is performed in the context of a module  $M$ , which is a mapping from class names to  
 214 class definitions. Execution has the format  $M, \sigma \rightsquigarrow \sigma'$ , and is unsurprising, c.f. Appendix A. The  
 215 statements being executed are those in the continuation of the top frame.

216 As we said in section 1.2, we are interested in guarantees which hold when the external module  
 217 is executing, and are not concerned if the internal module temporarily breaks them. Therefore, we  
 218 are only interested in states where the executing object (the *this*) is an internal object. For this, we  
 219 define the *external state semantics*, of the form  $M_1; M_2, \sigma \rightsquigarrow \sigma'$ , where  $M_1$  is the external module,  
 220 and  $M_2$  is the internal module, and where we collapse all internal steps into one single step.

221 *Definition 2.1 (External State Semantics)*. For modules  $M_1, M_2$ , and program configurations  $\sigma, \sigma'$ ,  
 222 we say that  $M_1; M_2, \sigma \rightsquigarrow \sigma'$  if and only if there exists a  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , such that

- 224 •  $\sigma = \sigma_1$ , and  $\sigma' = \sigma_n$ ,
- 225 •  $M_1 \circ M_2, \sigma_i \rightsquigarrow \sigma_{i+1}$  for all  $i \in [0..n]$ ,
- 226 •  $\text{classOf}(\sigma, \sigma.\text{this}), \text{classOf}(\sigma', \sigma'.\text{this}) \in M_2$ ,
- 227 •  $\text{classOf}(\sigma_i, \sigma_i.\text{this}) \in M_1$  for all  $i \in [1..n]$ .

*(more sophisticated, but...)*



236 Fig. 1. External State Semantics (Def. 2.1). (a)  $M_1 \circ M_2, \sigma_1 \rightsquigarrow \dots \rightsquigarrow \sigma_9$  (b)  $M_1; M_2, \sigma_2 \rightsquigarrow \dots \rightsquigarrow \sigma_9$  (c)  
 237  $M_2; M_1, \sigma_1 \rightsquigarrow \dots \rightsquigarrow \sigma_8$

238 Fig. 1 provides a simple graphical description of our external state semantics, showing how  
 239 given a single execution comprised of code from two different modules, we can consider either the  
 240 complete execution as in (a), the external state execution when  $M_2$  is external (b), and the external  
 241 state execution when  $M_1$  is external in (c).

242 In Definition 2.1 we use the function  $\text{classOf}(\sigma, \alpha)$ . This function looks up the class of the address  
 243  $\alpha$  in the heap of  $\sigma$ . We also use module linking,  $M_1 \circ M_2$ . The operator  $\circ$  combines the two modules

```

246   A ::= e | e : C |  $\neg A$  |  $A \wedge A$  |  $A \vee A$  |  $\forall x.[A]$  |  $\exists x.[A]$ 
247   |  $\langle x \text{ access } y \rangle$  |  $\langle x \text{ internal} \rangle$  |  $\langle x \text{ external} \rangle$ 
248   |  $\langle x \text{ calls } y.m(\bar{z}) \rangle$ 

```

Fig. 2. *SpecW* Assertions

*Do we want to talk of states as well as configurations?*

into one module in the obvious way, provided that their domains are disjoint. Full details in Appendix A.

In this work we are interested in guarantees which are upheld by the internal module. Moreover, these guarantees need to be satisfied only at ‘reachable’ states (configurations), and need not be satisfied at states that are not reachable – this is described formally in Definition 2.2. Reachable states are those that may arise by external states execution of a given internal module linked with any external module. We describe the states of interest as the *arising configurations*.

*Definition 2.2 (Arising Program Configuration).* For modules  $M_1$  and  $M_2$ , a program configuration  $\sigma$  is said to be an *arising* configuration, formally  $\text{Arising}(M_1, M_2, \sigma)$ , if and only if there exists some  $\sigma_0$  such that  $\text{Initial}(\sigma_0)$  and  $M_1; M_2, \sigma_0 \rightsquigarrow^* \sigma$ .

In the definition above we used *Initial* configurations, which characterise configurations at the start of program execution. The heap of an initial configuration should contain a single object of class *Object*, and the stack should consist of a single frame, whose local variable map contains only the mapping of *this* to the single object, and whose continuation may be any statement. More in Definition A.5.

*Do we not have to say what  $M_1; M_2, \sigma_0 \rightsquigarrow^* \sigma$  means?  
It is slightly non-standard.*

## 2.2 SpecW

*SpecW* extends the expressiveness of standard specification languages with assertion forms capturing key concepts of software security: *permission*, *provenance*, and *control*.

*Are these from security? More from capabilities world.* ↗  
2.2.1 *Syntax.* Fig. 2 gives the assertion syntax of the *SpecW* specification language. An assertion may be an expression, a class assertion, the usual connectives and quantifiers, along with the following non-standard assertion forms, inspired from the capabilities literature:

- *Permission* ( $\langle x \text{ access } y \rangle$ ):  $x$  has access to  $y$ .
- *Provenance* ( $\langle x \text{ internal} \rangle$  and  $\langle y \text{ external} \rangle$ ):  $x$  is internal, and  $y$  is external.
- *Control* ( $\langle x \text{ calls } y.m(\bar{z}) \rangle$ ):  $x$  calls method  $m$  on object  $y$  with arguments  $\bar{z}$ .

*Are we not saying the same story here?*

*2.2.2 Semantics of SpecW.* The semantics of *SpecW* assertions is given in Definition 2.3. The definition of the semantics of *SpecW* makes use of several language features of *LangX* that can be found in Appendix A. Specifically,  $M, \sigma, e \hookrightarrow v$  is the evaluation relation for expressions, and is interpreted as expression  $e$  evaluates to value  $v$  in the context of program configuration  $\sigma$ , with module  $M$ . The full semantics of expression evaluation are given in Fig. 12. It should be noted that expressions in *LangX* may be recursively defined, and thus evaluation may not necessarily terminate, however the logic remains classical because recursion is restricted to expressions, and not generally to assertions.

Further, Definition 2.3 uses the interpretation of variables within a specific frame or configuration: i.e.  $[x]_\phi = v$ , meaning that  $x$  maps to value  $v$  in the local variable map of frame  $\phi$ , and  $[x]_\sigma = v$  meaning  $x$  maps to value  $v$  in the top most frame of  $\sigma$ ’s stack. And the term  $[x.f]_\sigma = v$  has the obvious meaning.

*Definition 2.3 (Satisfaction of SpecW Assertions).* We define satisfaction of an assertion  $A$  by a program configuration  $\sigma$  with internal module  $M$  as:

295       $H ::= \text{from } A_1 \text{ to } A_2 \text{ onlyIf } A_3 \mid \text{from } A_1 \text{ to } A_2 \text{ onlyThough } A_3 \mid \text{from } A_1 \text{ to } A_2 \text{ onlyIf } A_3$

296

Fig. 3. Syntax of *SpecX*

- 300    •  $M, \sigma \models e$  iff  $M, \sigma, e \hookrightarrow \text{true}$
- 301    •  $M, \sigma \models e : C$  iff  $M, \sigma, e \hookrightarrow \alpha$  and  $\sigma.\text{heap}(\alpha).\text{class} = C$
- 302    •  $M, \sigma \models \neg A$  iff  $M, \sigma \not\models A$
- 303    •  $M, \sigma \models A_1 \wedge A_2$  iff  $M, \sigma \models A_1$  and  $M, \sigma \models A_2$
- 304    •  $M, \sigma \models A_1 \vee A_2$  iff  $M, \sigma \models A_1$  or  $M, \sigma \models A_2$
- 305    •  $M, \sigma \models \forall x.[A]$  iff  $M, \sigma[x \mapsto \alpha] \models A$ , for some  $x$  fresh in  $\sigma$ , and for all  $\alpha \in \sigma.\text{heap}$ .
- 306    •  $M, \sigma \models \exists x.[A]$  iff  $M, \sigma[x \mapsto \alpha] \models A$ , for some  $x$  fresh in  $\sigma$ , and for some  $\alpha \in \sigma.\text{heap}$ .
- 307    •  $M, \sigma \models \langle x \text{ access } y \rangle$  iff
  - 308       -  $[x.f]_\sigma = [y]_\sigma$  for some  $f$ , or
  - 309       - there exists some  $z$ , and some frame  $\phi$  in the stack of  $\sigma$  such that  $[x]_\sigma = [\text{this}]_\phi$
- 310    •  $M, \sigma \models \langle x \text{ internal} \rangle$  iff  $\text{classOf}(\sigma, x) \in M$
- 311    •  $M, \sigma \models \langle x \text{ external} \rangle$  iff  $\text{classOf}(\sigma, x) \notin M$
- 312    •  $M, \sigma \models \langle x \text{ calls } y.m(z_1, \dots, z_n) \rangle$  iff
  - 313       -  $\sigma.\text{contn} = (\_ := y'.m(z'_1, \dots, z'_n))$ ,
  - 314       -  $[x]_\sigma = [\text{this}]_\sigma$
  - 315       -  $[y]_\sigma = [y']_\sigma$
  - 316       -  $[z_i]_\sigma = [z'_i]_\sigma$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$

Why not  
 $\text{classOf}(\sigma, \alpha) = C$

and  $[y]_\sigma = [z]_\phi$

2 pages ago it was  $\text{classOf}(\sigma, \alpha)$   
 now we have  $\text{classOf}(\sigma, x)$

We should explain what is  
 going on in  $\langle \dots \text{access} \dots \rangle$ . If  
 it's a bit subtle..

Finally, we define what it means for a module to satisfy an assertion: a module  $M$  satisfies an assertion  $A$ , if all configurations  $\sigma$  arising from external steps execution of that module with any other external module, satisfy  $A$ .

ASIDE: We can encode all that. Should we do it?

321    *Definition 2.4 (Assertion Satisfaction by Modules).* For a module  $M$  and assertion  $A$ , we say that  
 322     $M \models A$  if and only if for all modules  $M'$ , and all  $\sigma$ , if  $\text{Arising}(M', M, \sigma)$ , then  $M, \sigma \models A$ .

323    *in:  $M \models A$*

324    A proof system for such assertions is indicated by a judgement of the form  $M \vdash A$ . We will not  
 325    define such a judgment, and just rely on its existence (cf. Theorem 3.2). We define soundness of  
 326    such a judgment in the usual way:

327    *Definition 2.5 (Soundness of SpecW Provability).* A judgement of the form  $M \vdash A$  is *sound*, if for all  
 328    all modules  $M$  and assertions  $A$ , if  $M \vdash A$  then  $M \models A$ .

329 Explain why this is a useful shorthand. Refer back to Example

330 2.2.3 *Wrapping*. We define a useful shorthand: wrapped() predicate t states that only internal  
 331 objects have access to some object. That object may be either internal or external.

332    *Definition 2.6 (Wrapped).*  $\text{wrapped}(o) \triangleq \forall x. [\neg \langle x \text{ access } o \rangle \vee \langle x \text{ internal} \rangle]$

333    Wrapped is critical as it captures the conditions under which reading or writing involving an  
 334    object necessitates an interaction with the internal module. If for example, only internal objects  
 335    have access to an account's password, then it follows that access to the password may not be gained  
 336    except by an interaction with the internal module, and subsequently if the internal module is secure  
 337    we know that the password may not be leaked.

338 2.3 *SpecX– Necessity Specifications* *Revise the example and write in the def of wrapped.*

339 In this Section we define syntactic forms and semantics of *Necessity Specifications*. Fig. 3 gives the  
 340 syntax. We have three forms of Necessity Specifications, described below:

state or configuration?

Arising configurations are states. What does it mean for a configuration to start at some state?

Some state A<sub>1</sub> sounds if A<sub>1</sub> is the name of the state.

Anon.

and fails?

Only If [from A<sub>1</sub> to A<sub>2</sub> onlyIf A]: If an arising program configuration starts at some state A<sub>1</sub>, and reaches some state A<sub>2</sub>, then the original program state must have also satisfied A. e.g. if the balance of a bank account changes over time, then there must be some external object in the current program state that has access to the account's password.

Single-Step Only If. [from A<sub>1</sub> to A<sub>2</sub> onlyIf A]: If an arising program configuration starts at some state A<sub>1</sub>, and reaches some state A<sub>2</sub> after a single execution step, then the original program state must have also satisfied A. e.g. if the balance of a bank account changes over a single execution step, then that execution step must be a method call to the bank transfer method.

Only Through. [from A<sub>1</sub> to A<sub>2</sub> onlyThrough A]: If an arising program configuration starts at some A<sub>1</sub> state, and reaches some A<sub>2</sub> state, then program execution must have passed through some A state. e.g. if the balance of an account changes over time, then the bank's transfer method must have been called in some intermediate state. Note that the intermediate state where A is true might be the initial state ( $\sigma_1$ ), or final state ( $\sigma_2$ ).

All three Necessity Specifications from above talk about assertions satisfied in the current configuration as well as of assertions satisfied in some future configuration. These assertions may contain variables, whose denotation might change during program execution: the map may change, variables may be overwritten, or the entire local variable maps may be lost on a method return. For this reason, before we provide the semantics of Necessity Specifications, we first introduce an adaptation operator to account for variable renaming throughout the execution of a program.

Definition 2.7.  $\sigma \triangleleft \sigma' \triangleq (\chi, \{\text{local} := \beta'[\bar{z}' \mapsto \beta(\bar{z})], \text{contn} := [\bar{z}/\bar{z}']c\} : \psi)$  where

- $\sigma = (\chi, \{\text{local} := \beta, \text{contn} := c\} : \psi)$  and  $\sigma' = (\_, \{\text{local} := \beta'; \text{contn} := \_\} : \_),$  and
- $\text{dom}(\beta) = \bar{z}, \text{dom}(\beta') \cap \bar{z}' = \emptyset,$  and  $|\bar{z}| = |\bar{z}'|$

We can now define,  $M \models H$ , the semantics of the Necessity Specifications in Definition 2.8. The definition goes by cases over the three possible syntactic forms of  $H$ :

Definition 2.8 (Necessity Specifications). For any assertions  $A_1, A_2,$  and  $A,$  we define

- $M \models \text{from } A_1 \text{ to } A_2 \text{ onlyIf } A$  iff for all  $M', \sigma, \sigma'$ , such that  $\text{Arising}(M, M', \sigma);$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} - M, \sigma \models A_1 \\ - M, \sigma' \triangleleft \sigma \models A_2 \\ - M; M', \sigma \rightsquigarrow^* \sigma' \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow M, \sigma \models A$$

We need an example. Also, it is not a map, it is a relation

- $M \models \text{from } A_1 \text{ to1 } A_2 \text{ onlyIf } A$  iff for all  $M', \sigma, \sigma'$ , such that  $\text{Arising}(M, M', \sigma);$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} - M, \sigma \models A_1 \\ - M, \sigma' \triangleleft \sigma \models A_2 \\ - M; M', \sigma \rightsquigarrow \sigma' \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow M, \sigma \models A$$

What is  $[x \mapsto ..]$  vs  $[x/u]$  say briefly.

We should say something about that.

- $M \models \text{from } A_1 \text{ to } A_2 \text{ onlyThrough } A$  iff for all  $M', \sigma_1, \sigma_n$ , such that  $\text{Arising}(M, M', \sigma_1);$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} - M, \sigma_1 \models A_1 \\ - M, \sigma_n \triangleleft \sigma \models A_2 \\ - M; M', \sigma \rightsquigarrow^* \sigma_n \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \forall \sigma_2, \dots, \sigma_{n-1}. ( \forall i \in [1..n]. M; M', \sigma_i \rightsquigarrow \sigma_{i+1} ) \Rightarrow \exists i \in [1..n]. M, \sigma_i \triangleleft \sigma_1 \models A$$

With the necessity specifications as defined in Definition 2.8, we are able to state what are the necessary preconditions to critical functions in software, including safety properties of software in the open world. The semantics of Single-Step Only If allow for the statement of such necessary preconditions for any execution step for any program to achieve a certain outcome. The semantics

393 of *Only If* and *Only Through* allow us to raise these necessary preconditions to any arbitrary  
 394 number of execution steps, and thus allow for reasoning about the execution of an entire program,  
 395 even those programs in the open world, where client functions are unknown and unspecified in a  
 396 traditional manner.

397 Looking back at the example from the Introduction, it holds that

398 Mod1  $\models$  NecessityBankSpec  
 399 Mod2  $\not\models$  NecessityBankSpec  
 400 Mod3  $\models$  NecessityBankSpec

I would not talk about "reason" yet as this is the next section.

401 As further examples of Necessity Specifications, consider the original bank account example  
 402 discussed in Section 1. We have already shown how we can reason about knowledge of an account's  
 403 password using NecessityBankSpec, but we are also able to write other useful properties about  
 404 the bank account.

---

405 NecessityBankSpec'  $\triangleq$  `from a:Account ∧ a.balance == bal  
 406 to1 a.balance < bal  
 407 onlyIf ∃ o.[⟨o external⟩ ∧ ⟨o calls a.transfer(_, _, _)⟩]`

408 NecessityBankSpec' states that if over a single step the balance of an account decreases, then  
 409 it must have occurred as a result of a call to transfer.

---

410 NecessityBankSpec''  $\triangleq$  `from a:Account ∧ a.password == pwd  
 411 to a.password != pwd  
 412 onlyThrough ∃ o.[⟨o external⟩ ∧ ⟨o calls a.set(pwd, _)⟩]`

413 NecessityBankSpec'' states that if over an arbitrary number of execution steps, the password of  
 414 an account changes, then it follows that there must have been some intervening execution step that  
 415 was a call to set on the account with the correct password. Both of these specifications are important,  
 416 and are both used as intermediate steps when we present the full proof of NecessityBankSpec  
 417 later in Section 4.

418 Necessity Specifications thus provide us with a rich language for talking about the necessary  
 419 conditions under which critical actions within of our software are allowed to occur.

## 4.2 Encapsulation

*Does A  $\Rightarrow$  Enc(A') imply A  $\Rightarrow$  Enc(A')*

420 In the introduction we used the concept of encapsulation of *SpecW* assertions when proving  
 421 adherence to *SpecW* Necessity Specifications. An assertion *A* is encapsulated by a module *M* if it  
 422 cannot be invalidated unless an internal method is called. Here we refine this concept, to allow  
 423 for "conditional" encapsulation:  $M \models A \Rightarrow Enc(A')$  expresses that in states which satisfy *A*, the  
 424 assertion *A'* cannot be invalidated, unless a method from *M* was called.

425 *Definition 2.9 (Assertion Encapsulation).* For a module *M* and assertion *A*, we define an assertion  
 426 *A'* as being encapsulated, written  $M \models A \Rightarrow Enc(A')$ , if and only if for all external modules *M'*,  
 427 and program configurations  $\sigma$  and  $\sigma'$  such that

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} - M; M', \sigma \rightsquigarrow \sigma' \\ - M, \sigma \models A \\ - M, \sigma \models A' \\ - M, \sigma' \triangleleft \sigma \models \neg A' \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \exists x, \bar{z}. (M, \sigma \models \langle \_ \text{calls } x.m(\bar{z}) \rangle \wedge \langle x \text{ internal} \rangle)$$

Arising (H, M, S) ?

## 4.5 Expressiveness of Necessity Specifications

437 Both the object capability literature and more recently the smart contract literature are rich sources  
 438 for exemplars to try *SpecX* on. Ensuring that a visited web page cannot leak your confidential data  
 439 was looked at by Devriese et al.. The high profile, high money losses in the smart contract world  
 440 have made ensuring that smart contracts cannot be attacked from outside a priority. It is interesting

What is node.print?  
access to some ancestor should be  
clarified

Is "Wrapper" a class in a module? Can  
we see it? Can "node" be a ghost  
field?

Anon.

442 to see how straightforward it is to state assertions that protect the exemplars from attacks that  
443 have caused grief in the past.

To whom did DOM cause grief?

444 2.5.1 *DOM*. The key structure underlying a web browser is the Domain Object Model (DOM), a  
445 recursive composite tree structure of objects that represent everything ~~display~~ in a browser window.  
446 Each window has a single DOM tree which includes both the page's main content and also third  
447 party content such as advertisements. To ensure third party content cannot affect a page's main  
448 content, specifications for attenuation for the DOM were proposed in Devriese et al: [Devriese et al.  
449 2016], and (Deseghene et al. →)

displayed?

450 This example deals with a tree of DOM nodes: Access to a DOM node gives access to all its  
451 parent and children nodes, and the ability to modify the node's properties. However, as the top  
452 nodes of the tree usually contain privileged information, while the lower nodes contain less crucial  
453 third-party information, we want to be able to limit access given to third parties to only the lower  
454 part of the DOM tree. We do this through a Wrapper, which has a field node pointing to a Node,  
455 and a field height which restricts the range of Nodes which may be modified through the use of  
456 the particular Wrapper. Namely, when you hold a Wrapper you can modify the property of all the  
457 descendants of the height-th ancestors of the node of that particular Wrapper.

458 DOMSpec states that if the property of a node in a DOM tree changes, it follows that either some  
459 non-node, non-wrapper object presently has access to a node of the DOM tree, or to some wrapper  
460 with access to some ancestor of the node that was modified.

461 *If someone changes to my tree, then I can have access to my tree.*  
462 
$$\text{DOMSpec} \triangleq \text{from } nd : \text{Node} \wedge nd.\text{property} = p \\ \text{to } nd.\text{property} \neq p \\ \text{onlyIf } \exists o. [\neg o : \text{Node} \wedge \neg o : \text{Wrapper} \wedge \\ (\exists nd' : \text{Node}. [\langle o \text{ access } nd' \rangle] \vee \\ \exists w : \text{Wrapper}, k : \mathbb{N}. [\langle o \text{ access } w \rangle \wedge nd.\text{parnt}^k = w.\text{node}. \text{parnt}^{w.\text{height}}])]$$

I think this makes a more  
general claim than Devriese..  
can have made.

463 sounds as if it had proposed the pattern. We only propose it

464 2.5.2 *ERC20*. The ERC20[The Ethereum Wiki 2018] is a widely used token standard describing  
465 the basic functionality of any Ethereum-based token contract. This functionality includes issuing  
466 tokens, keeping track of tokens belonging to participants, and the transfer of tokens between  
467 participants. Tokens may only be transferred if there are sufficient tokens in the participant's  
468 account, and if either they or someone authorized the participant initiated the transfer.

469 We specify these necessary conditions here using *SpecX* and the Logic of Necessity. Firstly,  
470 ERC20Spec1 says that if the balance of a participant's account is ever reduced by some amount  $m$ ,  
471 then that must have occurred as a result of a call to the transfer method with amount  $m$  by the  
472 participant, or the transferFrom method with the amount  $m$  by some other participant.

473 
$$\text{ERC20Spec1} \triangleq \text{from } e : \text{ERC20} \wedge e.\text{balance}(p) = m + m' \wedge m > 0 \\ \text{to1 } e.\text{balance}(p) = m \\ \text{onlyIf } \exists p', p''. [\langle p \text{ calls } e.\text{transfer}(p', m) \rangle \vee \langle p' \text{ calls } e.\text{transferFrom}(p', m) \rangle]$$

474 did we not also have

475 Secondly, ERC20Spec2 specifies under what circumstances some participant  $p'$  is authorized to  
476 spend  $m$  tokens on behalf of  $p$ : either  $p$  approved  $p'$ ,  $p'$  was previously authorized, or  $p'$  was  
477 authorized for some amount  $m + m'$ , and spent  $m'$ .

478 
$$\text{ERC20Spec2} \triangleq \text{from } e : \text{ERC20} \wedge p : \text{Object} \wedge p' : \text{Object} \wedge m : \mathbb{N} \\ \text{to1 } e.\text{allowed}(p, p') = m \\ \text{onlyIf } \langle p \text{ calls } e.\text{approve}(p', m) \rangle \vee \\ (e.\text{allowed}(p, p') = m \wedge \\ \neg (\langle p' \text{ calls } e.\text{transferFrom}(p, m) \rangle \vee \\ \langle p \text{ calls } e.\text{allowed}(p, m) \rangle)) \vee \\ \exists p''. [e.\text{allowed}(p, p'') = m + m' \wedge \langle p' \text{ calls } e.\text{transferFrom}(p'', m') \rangle]$$

479 A  $e.\text{allowed}(p, p') \wedge m' \Rightarrow m$

491  $P, Q ::= e \mid e : C \mid P \wedge P \mid P \vee P \mid P \rightarrow P \mid \neg P \mid \forall x.[P] \mid \exists x.[P]$  Classical Assertion

492

493

494

495

496 2.5.3 DAO. The Decentralized Autonomous Organization (DAO) [Christoph Jentsch 2016] is a  
 497 well-known Ethereum contract allowing participants to invest funds. The DAO famously was  
 498 exploited with a re-entrancy bug in 2016 and lost \$50M. Here we provide specifications that would  
 499 have secured the DAO against such a bug. DAOSpec1 says that no participant's balance may ever  
 500 exceed the ether remaining in DAO.

501  $\text{DAOSpec1} \triangleq \text{from } d : \text{DAO} \wedge p : \text{Object}$   
 502  $\text{to } d.\text{balance}(p) \leq d.\text{ether}$   
 503  $\text{onlyIf false}$

*say that this is not more than  
the usual object invariant, can we  
could have had Intel,*

504 The second specification DAOSpec2 states that if a participant's balance is  $m$ , then either this occurred  
 505 as a result of joining the DAO with an initial investment of  $m$ , or the balance is  $0$ , and they've just  
 506 withdrawn their funds.

507  $\text{DAOSpec2} \triangleq \text{from } d : \text{DAO} \wedge p : \text{Object}$   
 508  $\text{to } d.\text{balance}(p) = m$   
 509  $\text{onlyIf } (p \text{ calls } d.\text{repay}(\_)) \wedge m = 0 \vee (p \text{ calls } d.\text{join}(m)) \vee d.\text{balance}(p) = m$

*d : DAO  $\wedge$  p : Object  $\wedge$   
 $d.\text{balance} = m \rightarrow m \geq d.\text{ether}$*

510 In this Section we provide an inference system for constructing proofs of the Necessity Spec-  
 511 fications defined in Section 2.3. Proving Necessity Specifications requires several steps, from the  
 512 following four categories:

- 513 (1) Proving Assertion Encapsulation (Section 3.1)
- 514 (2) Proving Necessity Specifications from classical specifications for a particular internal method
- 515 (3) Proving module-wide Necessity Specifications by combining per-method Necessity Specifi-
- 516 cations (Section 3.3)
- 517 (4) Raising necessary conditions to construct proofs of emergent behavior (Section 3.4)

### 3 PROVING NECESSITY

#### 3.1 Assertion Encapsulation

*① This is too weak. We can make it stronger, and  
more informative  
② the text does not talk about that part.*

520 As already stated in section 2, the first step in proving adherence to Necessity Specifications is to  
 521 prove that an assertion is encapsulated. And as also already stated, we assume the existence of an  
 522 inference system for constructing proofs of assertion encapsulation, written  $M \vdash A_1 \Rightarrow \text{Enc}(A_2)$ .  
 523 Such an algorithmic system should be sound, in the sense defined below:

524 *Definition 3.1 (Encapsulation Soundness).* A judgment of the form  $M \vdash A \Rightarrow \text{Enc}(A)$  is *sound*,  
 525 if for all modules  $M$ , and assertions  $A_1$  and  $A_2$ , if  $M \vdash A_1 \Rightarrow \text{Enc}(A_2)$  then  $M \vdash A_1 \Rightarrow \text{Enc}(A_2)$ .

526 The construction of such an algorithmic system is not central to our work, because, as we shall  
 527 see in later sections, the Logic of Necessity does not rely on the specifics of any one encapsulation  
 528 system, only its soundness.

529 A rudimentary such inference system for encapsulation can be defined on top of a simple type  
 530 system, while more powerful inference systems are also possible. In the appendix we define such a  
 531 system where internal classes may be annotated as enclosed, and any path that starts at an internal  
 532 object and only navigates through enclosed fields is encapsulated. We will use that inference  
 533 system for the proofs in Section 4, but, as we said, the exact nature of that system is of little  
 534 importance to this work.

535 *what is an encapsulation system?  
 536 Is it a way to enforce  
 537 encapsulation, or a  
 538 way to judge encapsulation?*

explain again what is a  
Per-method necessity specifcations

1:12

Perhaps we shall be  
asked to compare  
with weakest pre-  
strongest post-  
condition

Anon.

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{M \vdash \{x : C \wedge P_1 \wedge \neg P\} \text{ res} = x.m(\bar{z}) \{\neg P_2\}}{M \vdash \text{from } P_1 \wedge x : C \wedge \langle \text{calls } x.m(\bar{z}) \rangle \text{ to1 } P_2 \text{ onlyIf } P} \quad (\text{IF1-CLASSICAL}) \\
 \\ 
 \frac{M \vdash \{x : C \wedge \neg P\} \text{ res} = x.m(\bar{z}) \{\text{res} \neq y\}}{M \vdash \text{from wrapped}(y) \wedge x : C \wedge \langle \text{calls } x.m(\bar{z}) \rangle \text{ to1 } \neg \text{wrapped}(y) \text{ onlyIf } P} \quad (\text{IF1-WRAPPED})
 \end{array}$$

Fig. 5. Per-Method Necessity Specifications

### 3.2 Per-Method Necessity Specifications from Classical Specifications

In this section we detail how we use Classical Specifications to construct per-method Necessity Specifications. In order to do this note that if a precondition and a certain statement is *sufficient* to achieve a particular result, then the negation of that precondition is *necessary* to achieve the negation of the result after executing that statement. Specifically, using classical Hoare logic, if  $\{P\} s \{Q\}$  is true, then it follows that  $\neg P$  is a *necessary precondition* for  $\neg Q$  to hold following the execution of  $s$ .

We do not define a new assertion language and Hoare logic. Rather, we rely on prior work on such Hoare logics, and assume some underlying logic that can be used to prove *classical assertions*. Classical assertions are *subset* of  $SpecW$ , comprising only those assertions that are commonly present in other specification languages. We provide this subset in Fig. 2. That is, classical assertions are restricted to expressions, class assertions, the usual connectives, negation, implication, and the usual quantifiers.

We assume that there exists some classical specification inference system that allows us to prove specifications of the form  $M \vdash \{P\} s \{Q\}$ . This implies that we can also have proofs of

$$M \vdash \{P\} \text{ res} = x.m(\bar{z}) \{Q\}$$

*guarantees?*

That is, the execution of  $x.m(\bar{z})$  with the pre-condition  $P$  results in a program state that satisfies post-condition  $Q$ , where the returned value is represented by  $\text{res}$  in  $Q$ .

Fig. 5 introduces proof rules to infer per-method Necessary Specifications. These are rules whose conclusion have the form Single-Step Only.

IF1-CLASSICAL states that if any state which satisfies  $P_1$  and  $\neg P$  and executes the method  $m$  on an object of class  $C$ , leads to a state that satisfies  $\neg P_2$ , then, any state which satisfies  $P_1$  and calls  $m$  on an object of class  $C$  will lead to a state that satisfies  $P_2$  only if the original state also satisfied  $P$ . We can explain this also as follows: If the triple  $\dots \vdash \{R_1 \wedge R_2\} s \{Q\}$  holds, then any state that satisfies  $R_1$  and which upon execution of  $s$  leads to a state that satisfies  $\neg Q$ , cannot satisfy  $R_2$  – because if it did, then the ensuing state would have to satisfy  $Q$ ,

IF1-WRAPPED essentially states that a method which does not return an object  $y$  preserves the “wrappedness” of that object  $y$ . This rule is sound, because we do not support calls from internal code to external code – in further work we plan to weaken this requirement, and will strengthen this rule. In more detail, IF1-WRAPPED states that if  $P$  is a necessary precondition for returning an object  $y$ , then since we do not support calls from internal code to external code, it follows that  $P$  is a necessary precondition to leak  $y$ . IF1-WRAPPED is essentially a specialized version of IF1-CLASSICAL for the `wrapped()` predicate. Since `wrapped()` is not a classical assertion, we cannot use Hoare logic to reason about necessary conditions for leaking of data.

### 3.3 Necessity Specifications for Any Single Step

We now raise per-method Necessity Specifications to per-step Necessity Specifications. The rules appear in Fig. 6.

*It is not classical in an  
sense, and we cannot put  
it in the same category.*

589	$\forall C \in \text{dom}(M). \forall m \in M(C).\text{mths}, M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \wedge x : C \wedge \langle \text{calls } x.m(\bar{z}) \rangle \text{ to1 } A_2 \text{ onlyIf } A_3$	
590	$M \vdash A_1 \longrightarrow \neg A_2 \quad M \vdash A_1 \Rightarrow \text{Enc}(A_2)$	
591	$M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to1 } A_2 \text{ onlyIf } A_3$	(IF1-INTERNAL)
592		
593	$\frac{M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to } A_2 \text{ onlyIf } A}{M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to1 } A_2 \text{ onlyIf } A}$	(IF1-IF)
594		
595	$M \vdash A_1 \longrightarrow A'_1 \quad M \vdash A_2 \longrightarrow A'_2 \quad M \vdash A'_3 \longrightarrow A_3 \quad M \vdash \text{from } A'_1 \text{ to1 } A'_2 \text{ onlyIf } A'_3$	(IF1- $\longrightarrow$ )
596	$M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to1 } A_2 \text{ onlyIf } A_3$	
597		
598	$M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to1 } A_2 \text{ onlyIf } A$	
599	$M \vdash \text{from } A'_1 \text{ to1 } A_2 \text{ onlyIf } A'$	
600	$M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \vee A'_1 \text{ to1 } A_2 \text{ onlyIf } A \vee A'$	(IF1-VI1)
601		
602	$M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to1 } A_2 \text{ onlyIf } A \vee A'$	
603	$M \vdash \text{from } A' \text{ to } A_2 \text{ onlyThough false}$	
604	$M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to1 } A_2 \text{ onlyIf } A$	(IF1-VE)
605		
606		Fig. 6. Single-Step Necessity Specifications, OnlyIf_1
607	<i>These two need some discussion</i>	
608		
609		IF-VE
610	IF1-INTERNAL is central. It lifts a per-method Necessity Specification to a per-step Necessity Specification. Essentially, any Necessity Specification which is satisfied for any method calls sent to any object in a module, is satisfied for <i>any step</i> , even an external step, provided that the effect involved, i.e. going from $A_1$ states to $A_2$ states, is encapsulated.	
611		
612		
613		
614	The remaining rules are more standard, and remind of Hoare logic rule of consequence. We have five such rules:	
615		
616	The rule for implication (IF1- $\longrightarrow$ ) may strengthen properties of either the starting or ending state, or weaken the necessary pre-condition.	
617		
618	There are two disjunction introduction rules (IF1-VI1 and IF1-VI2). <i>We should say something about this.</i>	
619	The disjunction elimination rule (IF1- $\wedge$ I), is of note, as it mirrors typical disjunction elimination rules, with a variation stating that if it is not possible to reach the end state from one branch of the disjunction, then we can eliminate that branch.	
620		
621	Note that given the rule for implication, there is no need for conjunction introduction (IF1- $\wedge$ I), but a rule for conjunction elimination is derivable from the rule for implication. <i>But we do have one!</i>	
622		
623		
624	<b>3.4 Necessity Specifications for Emergent Behavior</b>	
625		
626	The final step is to raise per-step Necessity Specifications to multiple step Necessity Specifications, allowing the specification of emergent behavior. Fig. 7 allows for the construction of proofs for <i>Only Through</i> , while Fig. 8 provides rules for the construction of proofs of <i>Only If</i> .	
627		
628		
629	The rules for both of these relations are fairly similar to each other, and to those of the single step necessity specification from section 3.3. Both relations include rules for implication along with disjunction introduction and elimination. While Fig. 8 includes a rule for conjunction introduction (IF- $\wedge$ I), such a rule is not possible for <i>only through</i> , as unlike <i>only if</i> , where the necessary condition must hold, specifically, in the starting configuration, there is no such specific moment in time in which the necessary condition for <i>only through</i> must hold.	
630		
631		
632		
633		
634		
635	Another rule of note is CHANGES, in Fig. 7 that states that if the satisfaction of some assertion changes over time, then there must be some specific intermediate state where that change occurred.	
636		
637		

	$M \vdash \text{from } A \text{ to} 1 \neg A \text{ onlyIf } A'$	$M \vdash \text{from } A \text{ to } \neg A \text{ onlyThough } A'$ (CHANGES)
641	$M \vdash A_1 \longrightarrow A'_1$	$M \vdash A_2 \longrightarrow A'_2$
642	$M \vdash A'_3 \longrightarrow A_3$	$M \vdash \text{from } A'_1 \text{ to } A'_2 \text{ onlyThough } A'_3$ ( $\longrightarrow$ )
	$M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to } A_2 \text{ onlyThough } A_3$	
643	$M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to } A_2 \text{ onlyThough } A$	$M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to } A_2 \text{ onlyThough } A$
644	$M \vdash \text{from } A'_1 \text{ to } A_2 \text{ onlyThough } A'$	$M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to } A'_2 \text{ onlyThough } A'$
645	$M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \vee A'_1 \text{ to } A_2 \text{ onlyThough } A \vee A'$ ( $\vee I_1$ )	$M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \vee A'_2 \text{ to } A_2 \text{ onlyThough } A \vee A'$ ( $\vee I_2$ )
646		
647	$M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to } A' \text{ onlyThough } \text{false}$	$M \vdash \text{from } A' \text{ to } A_2 \text{ onlyThough } \text{false}$
648	$M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to } A_2 \text{ onlyThough } A \vee A'$	$M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to } A_2 \text{ onlyThough } A \vee A'$
649	$M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to } A_2 \text{ onlyThough } A$ ( $\vee E_1$ )	$M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to } A_2 \text{ onlyThough } A$ ( $\vee E_2$ )
650		
651	$M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to } A_2 \text{ onlyThough } A_3$	$M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to } A_2 \text{ onlyThough } A_3$
652	$M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to } A_3 \text{ onlyThough } A$	$M \vdash \text{from } A_3 \text{ to } A_2 \text{ onlyThough } A$
653	$M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to } A_2 \text{ onlyThough } A$ ( $\text{TRANS}_1$ )	$M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to } A_2 \text{ onlyThough } A$ ( $\text{TRANS}_2$ )
654	$M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to } A_2 \text{ onlyIf } A$	$M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to } A_2 \text{ onlyThough } A_2$ (END)
655	$M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to } A_2 \text{ onlyThough } A$ (IF)	

Fig. 7. *Only Through*

$\frac{\begin{array}{c} M \vdash A_1 \longrightarrow A'_1 \\ M \vdash A_2 \longrightarrow A'_2 \\ M \vdash A'_3 \longrightarrow A_3 \end{array}}{M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to } A_2 \text{ onlyIf } A_3}$	$\frac{M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to } A_2 \text{ onlyIf } A}{M \vdash \text{from } A'_1 \text{ to } A'_2 \text{ onlyIf } A'}$
	(IF- $\longrightarrow$ )
$\frac{\begin{array}{c} M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to } A_2 \text{ onlyIf } A \\ M \vdash \text{from } A'_1 \text{ to } A'_2 \text{ onlyIf } A' \end{array}}{M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \vee A'_1 \text{ to } A_2 \text{ onlyIf } A \vee A'}$	$\frac{\begin{array}{c} M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to } A_2 \text{ onlyIf } A \\ M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to } A'_2 \text{ onlyIf } A' \end{array}}{M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to } A_2 \vee A'_2 \text{ onlyIf } A \vee A'}$
	(IF-VI <sub>1</sub> )
	(IF-VI <sub>2</sub> )
$\frac{\begin{array}{c} M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to } A_2 \text{ onlyIf } A \vee A' \\ M \vdash \text{from } A'_1 \text{ to } A'_2 \text{ onlyThough false} \end{array}}{M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to } A_2 \text{ onlyIf } A}$	$\frac{\begin{array}{c} M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to } A_2 \text{ onlyIf } A \\ M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to } A'_2 \text{ onlyThough } A' \end{array}}{M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to } A_2 \text{ onlyIf } A \wedge A'}$
	(IF-VE)
	(IF- $\wedge$ I)
$\frac{M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to } A_2 \text{ onlyThough } A_3}{\frac{\begin{array}{c} M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to } A_3 \text{ onlyIf } A \\ M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to } A_2 \text{ onlyIf } A \end{array}}{M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to } A_2 \text{ onlyIf } A}}$	$M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to } A_2 \text{ onlyIf } A_1$
	(IF-TRANS)
	(IF-START)

Fig. 8. Only if

**CHANGES** is an important rule in the logic, and in allowing for proofs of emergent properties. It is this rule that ultimately connects program execution to encapsulated properties.

It may seem natural that CHANGES should take the more general form:

---

$M \vdash \text{from } A_1 \text{ to1 } A_2 \text{ onlyIf } A_3$

This however would not be sound as in general a transition from one state to another is not required to occur in a single step, however this is true for a change in satisfaction for a specific assertion (i.e.  $A$  to  $\neg A$ ).

687     Only *through* also includes two transitivity rules ( $\text{TRANS}_1$  and  $\text{TRANS}_2$ ) that say that necessary  
 688     conditions to reach intermediate states or proceed from intermediate states are themselves  
 689     intermediate states.

690     Moreover, any *only if* specification entails the corresponding *only through* specification (If).  
 691     Only If also includes a transitivity rule (If-TRANS), but since the necessary condition must be true  
 692     in the beginning state, there is only a single rule. Finally, any starting condition is itself a necessary  
 693     precondition (If-START).

### 694     3.5 Soundness of the Necessity Logic

695     THEOREM 3.2 (SOUNDNESS). Assuming a sound  $\text{SpecW}$  proof system,  $M \vdash A$ , and a sound encapsulation inference system,  $M \vdash A \Rightarrow \text{Enc}(A')$ , and that on top of these systems we built the Necessity Logic according to the rules in Figures 5, and 6, and 8, and 7, then, for all modules  $M$ , and all Necessity Specifications  $H$ :

$$701 \quad M \vdash H \quad \text{implies} \quad M \models H$$

702     PROOF. by induction on the derivation of  $M \vdash H$ . □

703     We have mechanized the proof of Theorem 3.2 in Coq. This can be found in the associated artifact. The mechanized Coq formalism deviates slightly from the system as presented here, mostly in the expression of the  $\text{SpecW}$  language. The Coq version of  $\text{SpecW}$  restricts variable usage to expressions, and allows only addresses to be used as part of non-expression syntax. The reason for this is to avoid spending sizable effort encoding variable renaming and substitution, a well-known difficulty for languages such as Coq. This is justifiable, as we are still able to express assertions such as  $\langle x \text{ access } y \rangle$ , but using addresses and introducing equality statements as part of expressions to connect variables to address, i.e.  $\langle \alpha_x \text{ access } \alpha_y \rangle \wedge \alpha_x == x \wedge \alpha_y == y$ .

712     As we state above, assume the existence of a sound, algorithmic proof system for encapsulation and  $\text{SpecW}$  specifications, along with the soundness of the Hoare logic required for the encoding of rules If1-CLASSICAL and If1-WRAPPED.

*what does this sentence say?*

## 716     4 PROOF OF ADHERENCE TO NECESSITYBANKSPEC

717     In this section we return to the Bank Account example, providing an elaborated proof. As we have stated Section 3, we assume the existence of a logic for constructing proofs of the form  $M \vdash A$ . For the purposes of the examples in this section, we state several rules that under any such logic should be provable.

$$\begin{array}{c} \frac{\cdot}{\vdash M \vdash \langle x \text{ calls } y.m(\bar{z}) \rangle \longrightarrow \langle x \text{ external} \rangle} \text{ (CALLER-EXT)} \\ \frac{\cdot}{\vdash M \vdash \langle x \text{ calls } y.m(\bar{z}) \rangle \longrightarrow \langle x \text{ access } y \rangle} \text{ (CALLER-RECV)} \\ \frac{\cdot}{\vdash M \vdash \langle x \text{ calls } y.m(\dots, z_i, \dots) \rangle \longrightarrow \langle x \text{ access } z_i \rangle} \text{ (CALLER-ARGS)} \\ \frac{C \in M}{\vdash M \vdash x : C \longrightarrow \langle x \text{ internal} \rangle} \text{ (CLASS-INT)} \quad \frac{(\text{field\_}f : D) \in M(C).\text{(flds)}}{M \vdash e : C \longrightarrow e.f : D} \text{ (FLD-CLASS)} \\ \frac{(\text{class enclosed } C\{\_, \_\}) \in M}{\vdash M \vdash \alpha : C \longrightarrow \text{wrapped}(\alpha)} \text{ (WRAPPED-INT)} \quad \frac{M \vdash \text{false} \longrightarrow A}{M \vdash A \vee \neg A} \text{ (EXCLUDED MIDDLE)} \\ \frac{}{\text{BankMdl IS AN}} \end{array}$$

732     We devote the rest of this section to the elaborated of our running example of a Bank Account, along with a proof of the bank account specification using our Logic of Necessity. We start by providing an implementation of BankMdl in Fig. 9. A Bank consists of a Ledger, a method for transferring funds between accounts (transfer), and a ghost field, balance for

---

```

736 module BankMdl
737   class Account
738     field password : Object
739     method authenticate(pwd)
740       (PRE: a : Account ∧ b : Bank
741        POST: b.getBalance(a)old == b.getBalance(a)new)
742       (PRE: a : Account
743        POST: res != a.password)
744       (PRE: a : Account
745        POST: a.passwordold == a.passwordnew)
746       {return pwd == this.password}
747     method changePassword(pwd, newPwd)
748       (PRE: a : Account
749        POST: res != a.password)
750       (PRE: a : Account ∧ b : Bank
751        POST: b.getBalance(a)old == b.getBalance(a)new)
752       (PRE: a : Account ∧ pwd != this.password
753        POST: a.passwordold = a.passwordnew)
754       {if pwd == this.password
755         this.password := newPwd}
756
757     class enclosed Ledger
758       field acc1 : Account
759       field bal1 : int
760       field acc2 : Account
761       field bal2 : int
762       ghost intrnl getBalance(acc) =
763         if acc == acc1
764           bal1
765         else if acc == acc2
766           bal2
767         else -1
768       method transfer(amt, from, to)
769         (PRE: a : Account ∧ b : Bank ∧ (a != acc1 ∧ a != acc2)
770          POST: b.getBalance(a)old == b.getBalance(a)new)
771         (PRE: a : Account
772          POST: res != a.password)
773         (PRE: a : Account
774          POST: a.passwordold == a.passwordnew)
775         {if from == acc1 && to == acc2
776           bal1 := bal1 - amt
777           bal2 := bal2 + amt
778         else if from == acc2 && to == acc1
779           bal1 := bal1 + amt
780           bal2 := bal2 - amt}
781
782     class Bank
783       field book : Ledger
784       ghost intrnl getBalance(acc) = book.getBalance(acc)
785       method transfer(pwd, amt, from, to)
786         (PRE: a : Account ∧ b : Bank ∧ (a == acc1 ∧ a == acc2)
787          POST: b.getBalance(a)old a = b.getBalance(a)new)
788         (PRE: a : Account
789          POST: res != a.password)
790         (PRE: a : Account
791          POST: a.passwordold == a.passwordnew)
792         {if (from.authenticate(pwd))
793           book.transfer(amt, from, to)}
794

```

---

Fig. 9. Bank Account Module

looking up the balance of an account at a bank.<sup>1</sup> A Ledger is a mapping from Accounts to their balances. Note, for brevity our implementation only includes two accounts (acc1 and acc2), but it is easy to see how this could extend to a Ledger of

<sup>1</sup>A Necessity Specification is independent of the implementation details of the code. It would need to hold for an account whose implementation did not use a ledger or ghost variables to hold balances.

arbitrary size. Ledger is annotated as enclosed, and as such the type system ensures our required encapsulation properties. Finally, an Account has some password object, and methods to authenticate a provided password (`authenticate`), change the password (`changePassword`). The specification we would like to prove is given as `NecessityBankSpec`.

```
788
789 NecessityBankSpec ≡ from b : Bank ∧ b.getBalance(a) = bal
790     to b.getBalance(a) < bal
791     onlyIf ¬wrapped(a)
```

*Mod 2  
leak  
over user  
call is still  
good enough.*

That is, if the balance of an account ever decreases, it must be true that some object external to `BankMdl` has access to the password of that account. An informal account of the construction of the overall proof follows the outline of our reasoning given in Section 1.2:

- 797 A We use our rudimentary encapsulation system to prove that both `b.getBalance(a) = bal` and `a.password = pwd` are encapsulated assertions.
- 799 B We use classical specifications to prove that only a call to `Bank::transfer` with the correct password may be used to decrease the balance of an account. Similarly, we use classical specifications to prove that no method can leak the password of an account.
- 801 C We combine the per-method necessary preconditions along with the encapsulation of `b.getBalance(a) = bal` to arrive at a per-step necessary precondition for reducing the balance using *any* method in `BankMdl`. Similarly, we show that *no* step may leak the password of an account.
- 804 D Finally we use the Logic of Necessity and the results of A, B, and C, to prove the emergent behavior specified in `NecessityBankSpec`.

#### 4.1 A: The Encapsulation of Account Balance and Password

We base the soundness of our encapsulation of the type system of *LangX*, and use the proof rules given in Fig.s 13 and 14. We provide the proof for the encapsulation of `b.getBalance(a)` below

<b>BalanceEncaps:</b>	
<b>aIntrnl:</b>	
$\text{BankMdl} \vdash b, b' : \text{Bank} \wedge a : \text{Account} \wedge b.\text{getBalance}(a) = \text{bal} \Rightarrow \text{Intrnl}(a)$	by INTRNL-OBJ
<b>bIntrnl:</b>	
$\text{BankMdl} \vdash b, b' : \text{Bank} \wedge a : \text{Account} \wedge b.\text{getBalance}(a) = \text{bal} \Rightarrow \text{Intrnl}(b)$	by INTRNL-OBJ
<b>getBalIntrnl:</b>	
$\text{BankMdl} \vdash b, b' : \text{Bank} \wedge a : \text{Account} \wedge b.\text{getBalance}(a) = \text{bal} \Rightarrow \text{Intrnl}(b.\text{getBalance}(a))$	by aEncaps, bEncaps, and INTRNL-GHOST
<b>balIntrnl:</b>	
$\text{BankMdl} \vdash b, b' : \text{Bank} \wedge a : \text{Account} \wedge b.\text{getBalance}(a) = \text{bal} \Rightarrow \text{Intrnl}(\text{bal})$	by INTRNL-INT
$\text{BankMdl} \vdash b, b' : \text{Bank} \wedge a : \text{Account} \wedge b.\text{getBalance}(a) = \text{bal} \Rightarrow \text{Enc}(b.\text{getBalance}(a) = \text{bal})$	by getBalIntrnl, balIntrnl, ENC-INTRNL

We omit the proof of `Enc(a.password = pwd)`, as its construction is very similar to that of `Enc(b.getBalance(a) = bal)`.

#### 4.2 B: Proving Necessary Preconditions from Classical Specifications

We now provide proofs for necessary preconditions on a per-method basis, leveraging classical specifications.

First we use the classical specification of the `authenticate` method in `Account` to prove that a call to `authenticate` can only result in a decrease in balance in a single step if there were in fact a call to `transfer` to the `Bank`. This may seem odd at first, and impossible to prove, however we leverage the fact that we are first able to prove that `false` is a necessary condition to decreasing the balance, or in other words, it is not possible to decrease the balance by a call to `authenticate`. We then use the proof rule `ABSURD` to prove our desired necessary condition. This proof is presented as `AuthBalChange` below.

```

834 AuthBalChange:
835 { a : Account  $\wedge$  a' : Account  $\wedge$  b : Bank  $\wedge$  b.getBalance(a') = bal }
836   a.authenticate(pwd)
837   {b.getbalance(a') == bal}
838
839 { a : Account  $\wedge$  a' : Account  $\wedge$  b : Bank  $\wedge$  b.getBalance(a') = bal  $\wedge$   $\neg$  false }
840   a.authenticate(pwd)
841   { $\neg$  b.getbalance(a') < bal}
842
843 from a : Account  $\wedge$  a' : Account  $\wedge$  b : Bank  $\wedge$  b.getBalance(a') = bal  $\wedge$ 
844    $\neg$  calls a.authenticate(pwd)
845   tol b.getbalance(a') < bal
846   onlyIf false
847
848 from a : Account  $\wedge$  a' : Account  $\wedge$  b : Bank  $\wedge$  b.getBalance(a') = bal  $\wedge$ 
849    $\neg$  calls a.authenticate(pwd)
850   tol b.getbalance(a') < bal
851   onlyIf ( $\neg$  calls b.transfer(a'.password, amt, a', to))

```

by classical spec.

by classical Hoare logic

by IF1-CLASSICAL

by ABSURD and IF1--&gt;

We provide the statements of the proof results for the remaining methods in the module below, but we elide most of the steps as they do not differ much from that of **AuthBalChange**.

```

847 ChangePasswordBalChange:
848 from a, a' : Account  $\wedge$  b : Bank  $\wedge$  b.getBalance(a') = bal  $\wedge$  ( $\neg$  calls a.changePassword(pwd))
849   tol b.getbalance(a') < bal
850   onlyIf ( $\neg$  calls b.transfer(a'.password, amt, a', to))

```

by similar reasoning to **AuthBalChange**

```

850 Ledger::TransferBalChange:
851 from l : Ledger  $\wedge$  a : Account  $\wedge$  b : Bank  $\wedge$  b.getBalance(a) = bal  $\wedge$ 
852   ( $\neg$  calls l.transfer(amt, from, to))
853   tol b.getbalance(a) < bal
854   onlyIf ( $\neg$  calls b.transfer(a.password, amt, a, to))

```

by similar reasoning to **AuthBalChange**

```

855 Bank::TransferBalChange:
856 from b' : Bank  $\wedge$  a : Account  $\wedge$  b : Bank  $\wedge$  b.getBalance(a) = bal  $\wedge$ 
857   ( $\neg$  calls b'.transfer(pwd, amt, from, to))
858   tol b.getbalance(a) < bal
859   onlyIf a == from  $\wedge$  pwd == a.password  $\wedge$  b' == b
860
861 from a : Account  $\wedge$  b : Bank  $\wedge$  b.getBalance(a) = bal  $\wedge$ 
862   ( $\neg$  calls b'.transfer(pwd, amt, from, to))
863   tol b.getbalance(a) < bal
864   onlyIf ( $\neg$  calls b.transfer(a.password, amt, a, to))

```

by similar reasoning to **AuthBalChange**

by IF1--&gt;

Below we provide the proofs for each method in **BankMdl** that they cannot be used to leak the password of an account.

```

862 AuthPwdLeak:
863 { a : Account  $\wedge$  a' : Account  $\wedge$  a.password == pwd }
864   res = a'.authenticate(_)
865   {res != pwd}
866
867 { a : Account  $\wedge$  a' : Account  $\wedge$  a.password == pwd  $\wedge$   $\neg$  false }
868   res = a'.authenticate(_)
869   {res != pwd}
870
871 from wrapped(pwd)  $\wedge$  a : Account  $\wedge$  a' : Account  $\wedge$  a.password = pwd  $\wedge$ 
872   ( $\neg$  calls a'.authenticate(_))
873   tol  $\neg$ wrapped(pwd)
874   onlyIf false

```

by classical spec.

by classical Hoare logic

by IF1-WRAPPED

by similar reasoning to **AuthPwdLeak**

```

875 ChangePasswordLeak:
876 from wrapped(pwd)  $\wedge$  a : Account  $\wedge$  a' : Account  $\wedge$  a.password = pwd  $\wedge$ 
877   ( $\neg$  calls a'.changePassword(_, _))
878   tol  $\neg$ wrapped(pwd)
879   onlyIf false

```

```

880 Ledger::TransferPwdLeak:
881 from wrapped(pwd)  $\wedge$  a : Account  $\wedge$  l : Ledger  $\wedge$  a.password = pwd  $\wedge$ 
882   ( $\neg$  calls l.transfer(_, _, _))
883   tol  $\neg$ wrapped(pwd)
884   onlyIf false

```

by similar reasoning to **AuthPwdLeak**

**883 Bank::TransferPwdLeak:**  
884 from wrapped(pwd)  $\wedge$  a : Account  $\wedge$  b : Bank  $\wedge$  a.password = pwd  $\wedge$   
885  $\langle\!\langle$  calls l.transfer( $\_\!\_\_$ , $\_\!\_\_$ )  
  tol ~wrapped(pwd)  
  onlyIf false  
by similar reasoning to **AuthP-wdLeak**

### 4.3 C: Proving Per-Step Necessary Specifications

The next step is to construct proofs of necessary conditions for *any* possible step in our external state semantics. In order to prove the final result in the next section, we need to prove three per-step necessity specifications: BalanceChange, PasswordChange, and PasswordLeak.

```
BalanceChange ≡ from a : Account ∧ b : Bank ∧ b.getBalance(a) = bal
                           to b.getBalance(a) < bal
                           onlyIf ⟨_ calls b.transfer(a.password, _, a, _)⟩
```

```
PasswordChange ≡ from a : Account ∧ a.password = p  
                      to1 ¬ a.password ≠ p  
                      onlyIf ⟨_ calls a.changePassword(a.password,_)⟩
```

```
>PasswordLeak ≡ from a : Account ∧ a.password = p ∧ wrapped<p>
                           to! → wrapped<p>
                           onlyIf false
```

We provide the proofs of these below. The proof of BalanceChange is constructed by combining the results from 4.1 and 4.2 using If1-INTERNAL. Again, we elide the details of the proof of PasswordChange and PasswordLeak as they are similar to that of BalanceChange.

---

**BalanceChange:**

```
from a : Account ∧ b : Bank ∧ b.getBalance(a) = bal
    tol b.getbalance(a) < bal
    onlyIf ⟨_ calls b.transfer(a.password, amt, a, to)⟩
```

by **AuthBalChange**,  
**ChangePasswordBalChange**,  
**Ledger:TransferBalChange**,  
**Bank:TransferBalChange**, **Bal-**  
**anceEncaps**, and **Ir1-INTERNAL**

**>PasswordChange:**  
from a : Account  $\wedge$  a.password = p  
to a.password  $\neq$  p  
onlyif ( $\_\_calls\_\_$  a.changePassword(p, \_))  
by similar reasoning to **BalanceChange**

**PasswordLeak:**  
from a : Account  $\wedge$  a.password = p  $\wedge$  wrapped(p)  
    to !wrapped(p)  
    onlyIf false  
        by similar reasoning to  
        Balancechange

## 4.4 D: Proving Emergent Behavior

Finally, we combine our module-wide single-step Necessity Specifications to prove emergent behavior of the entire system. Informally the reasoning used in the construction of the proof of BankSpec can be stated as

- (1) If the balance of an account decreases, then by BalanceChange there must have been a call to transfer in Bank with the correct password.
  - (2) If there was a call where the Account's password was used, then there must have been an intermediate program state when some external object had access to the password.
  - (3) Either that password was the same password as in the initial program state, or it was different.
  - (4 A) If it is the same as the initial password, then since by PasswordLeak it is impossible to leak the password, it follows that some external object must have had access to the password initially.
  - (4 B) If the password is different from the initial password, then there must have been an intervening program state when it changed. By PasswordChange we know that this must have occurred by a call to change password with the correct password. Thus, there must be a some intervening program state where the initial password is known. From here we proceed by the same reasoning as (4 A).

```

932 NecessityBankSpec:
933   from a : Account ∧ b : Bank ∧ b.getBalance(a) = bal
934     to b.getBalance(a) < bal
935     onlyThrough ⟨_ calls b.transfer(a.password, _, a, _)⟩
936
937   from a : Account ∧ b : Bank ∧ b.getBalance(a) = bal
938     to b.getBalance(a) < bal
939     onlyThrough ∃ o.⟨o external⟩ ∧ ⟨o access a.password⟩
940
941   from a : Account ∧ b : Bank ∧ b.getBalance(a) = bal ∧ a.password = pwd
942     to b.getBalance(a) < bal
943     onlyThrough →wrapped(a.password)
944
945   from a : Account ∧ b : Bank ∧ b.getBalance(a) = bal ∧ a.password = pwd
946     to b.getBalance(a) < bal
947     onlyThrough →wrapped(pwd) ∨ a.password != pwd
948
949   Case A (~wrapped(pwd)):
950     from a : Account ∧ b : Bank ∧ b.getBalance(a) = bal ∧ a.password = pwd
951       to →wrapped(pwd)
952       onlyIf wrapped(pwd) ∨ ~wrapped(pwd)
953
954   from a : Account ∧ b : Bank ∧ b.getBalance(a) = bal ∧ a.password = pwd
955     to a.password != pwd
956     onlyThrough ⟨_ calls a.changePassword(pwd, _)⟩
957
958   from a : Account ∧ b : Bank ∧ b.getBalance(a) = bal ∧ a.password = pwd
959     to a.password != pwd
960     onlyThrough ~wrapped(pwd)
961
962   from a : Account ∧ b : Bank ∧ b.getBalance(a) = bal ∧ a.password = pwd
963     to b.getBalance(a) < bal
964     onlyIf ~wrapped(pwd)
965
966   by CHANGES and BalanceChange
967
968   by →, CALLER-EXT, and CALLS-ARGS
969
970   by →
971
972   by → and EXCLUDED MIDDLE
973
974   by →
975
976   by →
977
978   by → and EXCLUDED MIDDLE
979
980   by If-→ and EXCLUDED MIDDLE
981
982   by VE and PasswordLeak
983
984
985   by Changes and Password-Change
986
987   by VE and PasswordLeak
988
989   by Case A and TRANS
990
991
992   by Case A, Case B, If-VI2, and If-→
993
994
995
996
997
998
999

```

## 5 RELATED WORK

*Behavioural Specification Languages.* [Hatchfield et al. 2012] provide an excellent survey of contemporary specification approaches. With a lineage back to Hoare logic [Hoare 1969], Design by Contract [Meyer 1997] was the first popular attempt to bring verification techniques to object-oriented programs. Several more recent specification languages are now making their way into use, including JML [Leavens et al. 2007a], Spec# [Barnett et al. 2005], Dafny [Leino 2010] and Whiley [Pearce and Groves 2015]. These approaches assume a closed system, where modules can be trusted to coöperate. Our approach builds upon these fundamentals, particularly two-state invariants [Leino and Schulte 2007] and Considerate Reasoning [Summers and Drossopoulou 2010].

*Defensive Consistency.* [Miller 2006; Miller et al. 2013] define the necessary approach as **defensive consistency**: “*An object is defensively consistent when it can defend its own invariants and provide correct service to its well behaved clients, despite arbitrary or malicious misbehaviour by its other clients.*” Defensively consistent modules are particularly hard to design, write, understand, and verify: but it is easier to make guarantees about multiple component systems [Murray 2010].

[Drossopoulou et al. 2020]’s Chainmail is a specification language for open world systems with necessary conditions. Like SpecX, Chainmail is able to express specifications of *permission*, *provenance*, and *control*. Unlike SpecX, Chainmail has a rich set of temporal operators and includes assertions about *space*. However we present a simpler semantics, that does not restrict execution to the top frame of the stack. We model aspects of *time* using our Logic of Necessity and don’t include assertions about *space*, as they are not required for either the definition of our logic, or expressing the Chainmail examples (see Section 4). To date, Chainmail lacks a proof system.

981     *Object Capabilities.* Capabilities supporting the development of concurrent and distributed system were developed in the  
982     60's by [Dennis and Horn 1966], and adapted to the programming languages setting in the 70's [Morris Jr. 1973]. Object  
983     capabilities were first introduced by [Miller 2006], and many recent studies manage to verify safety or correctness of object  
984     capability programs. Google's Caja [Miller et al. 2008] applies sandboxes, proxies, and wrappers to limit components' access to *ambient* authority. Sandboxing has been validated formally: [Maffei et al. 2010] develop a model of JavaScript, demonstrate that it obeys two principles of object capability systems, and show how untrusted applications can be prevented from interfering with the rest of the system. Recent programming languages [Burtsev et al. 2017; Hayes et al. 2017; Rhodes et al. 2014] including Newspeak [Bracha 2017], Dart [Bracha 2015], Grace [Black et al. 2012; Jones et al. 2016] and Wyvern [Melicher et al. 2017] have adopted the object capability model.

985     [Murray 2010] made the first attempt to formalise defensive consistency and correctness. Murray's model was rooted in counterfactual causation [Lewis 1973]: an object is defensively consistent when the addition of untrustworthy clients cannot cause well-behaved clients to be given incorrect service. Murray formalised defensive consistency abstractly, without a specification language for describing effects. Both Miller and Murray's definitions are intensional, describing what it means for an object to be defensively consistent. [Drossopoulou and Noble 2014] sketched a specification language and used it to specify the six policies from [Miller 2006]. They also sketched how a trust-sensitive example (escrow) could be verified in an open world [Drossopoulou et al. 2015].

986     [Devriese et al. 2016] have deployed powerful theoretical techniques to address similar problems: They show how step-indexing, Kripke worlds, and representing objects as state machines with public and private transitions can be used to reason about object capabilities. They have demonstrated solutions to a range of exemplar problems, including the DOM wrapper (replicated in 2.5.1) and a mashup application. Their distinction between public and private transitions is similar to our distinction between internal and external objects.

987     [Swasey et al. 2017] designed OCPL, a logic for object capability patterns, that supports specifications and proofs for object-oriented systems in an open world. They draw on verification techniques for security and information flow: separating internal implementations ("high values" which must not be exposed to attacking code) from interface objects ("low values" which may be exposed). OCPL supports defensive consistency (they use the term "robust safety" from the security community [Bengtson et al. 2011]) via a proof system that ensures low values can never leak high values to external attackers. As low values *can* be exposed, the behaviour of the system is described by considering attacks only on low values. They prove a number of object-capability patterns, including sealer/unsealer pairs, the caretaker, and a general membrane.

988     [Schaefer et al. 2018] have added support for information-flow security using refinement to ensure correctness (in this case confidentiality) by construction. By enforcing encapsulation, SpecXall these approaches share similarity with techniques such as ownership types [Clarke et al. 1998; Noble et al. 1998], which also protect internal implementation objects from accesses that cross encapsulation boundaries. [Banerjee and Naumann 2005a,b] demonstrated that by ensuring confinement, ownership systems can enforce representation independence.

989     SpecX differs from Swasey, Schaefer's, and Devriese's work in a number of ways: They are primarily concerned with mechanisms that ensure encapsulation (aka confinement) while we abstract away from any mechanism. They use powerful mathematical techniques which the users need to understand in order to write their specifications, while SpecX users only need to understand first order logic. Finally, none of these systems offer the kinds of necessity assertions addressing control flow, provenance, and permission that are at the core of SpecX's approach.

990     *Blockchain.* The recent VerX tool is able to verify a range of specifications for Solidity contracts automatically [Permenev et al. 2020]. VerX includes temporal operators, predicates that model the current invocation on a contract (similar to SpecX's "calls"), access to variables and sums (only) can be computed over collections. SpecX is strictly more expressive as a specification language, including quantification over objects and sets (so can compute arbitrary reductions on collections) and specifications for permission ("access"), and viewpoint ("external") which have no analogues in VerX. Unlike SpecX, VerX includes a practical tool that has been used to verify a hundred properties across case studies of twelve Solidity contracts.

991     *Incorrectness Logic.* [O'Hearn 2019; Raad et al. 2020] defined a Hoare Logic for modelling program incorrectness. O'Hearn's Incorrectness Logic is based on a Reverse Hoare Logic [de Vries and Koutavas 2011], and empowers programmers to specify preconditions under which specific errors and program states may result. Incorrectness Logic provides a sound and compositional way to reason about the presence of bugs rather than the absence of bugs. As with Hoare logic, Incorrectness Logic provides a system for reasoning about sufficient conditions for post-conditions to hold. However, where Hoare logic specifies the shape of the result of execution of all program states that satisfy the precondition, Incorrectness Logic specifies that all states that satisfy the postcondition are reachable from those that satisfy the precondition. This suits the specification of program errors, as it allows for the exclusion of false negatives. In comparison, SpecX, as with Hoare Logic, is concerned with correctness (as seen in the exemplars of Section 4). Extending the comparison, SpecX differs from both Hoare Logic and Incorrectness, in the ability to specify, not just sufficient conditions, but necessary conditions for reaching certain program states. Neither Incorrectness Logic, nor Hoare Logic allows for such specifications.

1030 **6 CONCLUSION**

1031 Bad things can happen to good programs. In an open world, every accessible API is an attack surface: and worse, every  
 1032 combination of API calls is a potential attack. Developers can no longer consider components in splendid isolation, verifying  
 1033 the sufficient pre- and post- conditions of each method, but must reckon with the emergent behaviour of entire software  
 1034 systems. In practice, this means they need to identify the necessary conditions under which anything could happen [Kilour  
 1035 et al. 1981] – good things and bad things alike – and then ensure the necessary conditions for bad things happening never  
 arise.

1036 This paper defines *SpecX*, a specification language that takes an holistic view of modules. Rather than focusing on  
 1037 individual pieces of code, *SpecX* can describe the emergent behaviour of all the classes and all their methods in a module.  
 1038 Using *SpecX*, programmers can write Necessity Specifications defining the necessary conditions for effects – things  
 1039 happening – in programs. *SpecX* treats program effects as actions: that is, as transitions from states satisfying some  
 1040 assertion  $A_1$  to other states satisfying assertions  $A_2$ . Necessity Specifications then permit those transitions only if some  
 1041 other assertion  $A_3$  holds beforehand; or only if  $A_3$  holds and  $A_2$  is reached in a single step; or only if  $A_3$  holds at some point  
 1042 on the path between  $A_1$  and  $A_2$ . The assertion language  $A$  supports the usual expressions about the values of variables, the  
 1043 contents of the heap, and predicates to capture provenance and permission.

1044 We have developed an inference system to prove that modules meet necessity specifications. Our inference system  
 1045 exploits the sufficient conditions of classical method specifications (pre- and post-conditions) to infer per method necessity  
 1046 specifications, and then generalise those to cover any single execution step. By combining single step specifications,  
 1047 programs can describe components' emergent behaviour – i.e. the necessary conditions for program effects, irrespective of  
 how that effect is caused. Finally, we have proved our inference system is sound, and then used it to prove the necessity  
 1048 specifications of the bank account example.

1049 Deriving per method necessity Specifications from classical method pre- and post-conditions has two advantages: First,  
 1050 it means that we did not need to develop a special purpose logic for that task. Second, it means that all modules that have  
 1051 the same classical per method specifications can be proven to satisfy the same Necessity Specifications using the *same* proof.  
 1052 This holds even when the classical specifications are “similar enough”. For instance, the modules Mod1 and Mod3 from the  
 1053 introduction, and also module BankMdl from section 4 satisfy NecessityBankSpec. The proofs for these three modules  
 differ slightly in the proof of encapsulation of the assertion  $a.\text{password}=\text{pwd}$  (step (A) in section 4), and in the proof of the  
 1054 per-method necessity specification for transfer, but otherwise are identical.

1055 We considered developing a bespoke logic to infer per method Necessity Specifications. Such a logic might be more  
 1056 powerful than the *SpecX* inference system; we aim to consider that in further work. Moreover, the classical specifications  
 1057 we use to infer the per method Necessity Specifications are very “basic”, and thus they need to explicitly state what has  
 1058 not been modified – this makes proofs very cumbersome. In future work, we plan to start from classical specifications  
 1059 which have more information about the affected part of the state (e.g. using modifies-clauses, or implicit frames [Ishtiaq  
 and O'Hearn 2001; Leavens et al. 2007b; Leino 2013; Parkinson and Summers 2011; Smans et al. 2012]) as we expect this  
 could make the step from classical specifications to per method necessity specifications more convenient.

1060 Our inference system is parametric with an algorithmic judgment which can prove that an assertion is encapsulated.  
 1061 In this paper we have used a rudimentary, type-based inference system, but we aim to develop a logic for inferring such  
 1062 assertions. The concept of encapsulation in this work is very coarse, and based on the classes of objects. In the future, we  
 1063 plan to refine our handling of encapsulation, and support reasoning about more flexible configurations of objects. Similarly,  
 1064 to facilitate the formal treatment, we currently forbid internal objects to call into external objects: we hope a better model  
 of encapsulation will let us remove this restriction.

1065 To conclude: bad things can always happen to good programs. Necessity specifications are necessary to make sure  
 1066 good programs don't do bad things in response.

1067 **REFERENCES**

- 1068 Anindya Banerjee and David A. Naumann. 2005a. Ownership Confinement Ensures Representation Independence for  
 Object-oriented Programs. *J. ACM* 52, 6 (Nov. 2005), 894–960. <https://doi.org/10.1145/1101821.1101824>
- 1069 Anindya Banerjee and David A. Naumann. 2005b. State Based Ownership, Reentrance, and Encapsulation. In *ECOOP (LNCS, Vol. 3586)*, Andrew Black (Ed.).
- 1070 Mike Barnett, Rustan Leino, and Wolfram Schulte. 2005. The Spec Programming System: An Overview. In *CASSIS 2004, Construction and Analysis of Safe, Secure and Interoperable Smart devices* (cassis 2004, construction and analysis of safe, secure and interoperable smart devices ed.) (*Lecture Notes in Computer Science, Vol. 3362*). Springer, 49–69. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-540-30569-9\\_3](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-540-30569-9_3)
- 1071 Jesper Bengtson, Karthikeyan Bhargavan, Cédric Fournet, Andrew D. Gordon, and Sergio Maffeis. 2011. Refinement  
 1072 Types for Secure Implementations. *ACM Trans. Program. Lang. Syst.* 33, 2, Article 8 (Feb. 2011), 45 pages. <https://doi.org/10.1145/1890028.1890031>
- 1073 Andrew Black, Kim Bruce, Michael Homer, and James Noble. 2012. Grace: the Absence of (Inessential) Difficulty. In *Onwards*.

1074

- 1079 Gilad Bracha. 2015. *The Dart Programming Language*.
- 1080 Gilad Bracha. 2017. The Newspeak Language Specification Version 0.1. (Feb. 2017). [newspeaklanguage.org/](http://newspeaklanguage.org/).
- 1081 Anton Burtsnev, David Johnson, Josh Kunz, Eric Eide, and Jacobus E. van der Merwe. 2017. CapNet: security and least authority in a capability-enabled cloud. In *Proceedings of the 2017 Symposium on Cloud Computing, SoCC 2017, Santa Clara, CA, USA, September 24 - 27, 2017*. 128–141. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3127479.3131209>
- 1083 Christoph Jentsch. 2016. Decentralized Autonomous Organization to automate governance. (March 2016). <https://download.slock.it/public/DAO/WhitePaper.pdf>
- 1085 David G. Clarke, John M. Potter, and James Noble. 1998. Ownership Types for Flexible Alias Protection. In *OOPSLA*. ACM.
- 1086 Edsko de Vries and Vasileios Koutavas. 2011. Reverse Hoare Logic. In *Software Engineering and Formal Methods*, Gilles Barthe, Alberto Pardo, and Gerardo Schneider (Eds.). Springer Berlin Heidelberg, Berlin, Heidelberg, 155–171.
- 1087 Jack B. Dennis and Earl C. Van Horn. 1966. Programming Semantics for Multiprogrammed Computations. *Comm. ACM* 9, 3 (1966).
- 1089 Dominique Devriese, Lars Birkedal, and Frank Piessens. 2016. Reasoning about Object Capabilities with Logical Relations and Effect Parametricity. In *IEEE EuroS&P*. 147–162. <https://doi.org/10.1109/EuroSP.2016.22>
- 1091 Sophia Drossopoulou and James Noble. 2014. Towards Capability Policy Specification and Verification. [ecs.victoria.ac.nz/Main/TechnicalReportSeries](http://ecs.victoria.ac.nz/Main/TechnicalReportSeries).
- 1093 Sophia Drossopoulou, James Noble, Julian Mackay, and Susan Eisenbach. 2020. Holistic Specifications for Robust Programs. In *Fundamental Approaches to Software Engineering*, Heike Wehrheim and Jordi Cabot (Eds.). Springer International Publishing, Cham, 420–440. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-45234-6\\_21](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-45234-6_21)
- 1095 Sophia Drossopoulou, James Noble, and Mark Miller. 2015. Swapsies on the Internet: First Steps towards Reasoning about Risk and Trust in an Open World. In *(PLAS)*.
- 1097 John Hatcliff, Gary T. Leavens, K. Rustan M. Leino, Peter Müller, and Matthew J. Parkinson. 2012. Behavioral interface specification languages. *ACM Comput.Surv.* 44, 3 (2012), 16.
- 1099 Ian J. Hayes, Xi Wu, and Larissa A. Meinicke. 2017. Capabilities for Java: Secure Access to Resources. In *APLAS*. 67–84. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-71237-6\\_4](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-71237-6_4)
- 1100 C. A. R. Hoare. 1969. An Axiomatic Basis for Computer Programming. *Comm. ACM* 12 (1969), 576–580.
- 1101 S. S. Ishaq and P. W. O'Hearn. 2001. BI as an assertion language for mutable data structures. In *POPL*. 14–26.
- 1102 Timothy Jones, Michael Homer, James Noble, and Kim B. Bruce. 2016. Object Inheritance Without Classes. In *ECOOP*. 13:1–13:26. <https://doi.org/10.4230/LIPIcs.ECOOP.2016.13>
- 1103 David Kilour, Hamish Kilgour, and Robert Scott. 1981. Anything Could Happen. In *Boddle Boddle Boddle*. Flying Nun Records.
- 1105 Leslie Lamport. 1977. Proving the Correctness of Multiprocess Programs. *TSE SE-3*, 2 (March 1977), 125–143.
- 1106 Leslie Lamport, Robert Shostak, and Marshall Pease. 1982. The Byzantine Generals Problem. *ACM Trans. Program. Lang. Syst.* 4, 3 (July 1982), 382–401. <https://doi.org/10.1145/357172.357176>
- 1108 G. T. Leavens, E. Poll, C. Clifton, Y. Cheon, C. Ruby, D. R. Cok, P. Müller, J. Kiniry, and P. Chalin. 2007a. JML Reference Manual. (February 2007). Iowa State Univ. [www.jmlspecs.org](http://www.jmlspecs.org).
- 1109 G. T. Leavens, E. Poll, C. Clifton, Y. Cheon, C. Ruby, D. R. Cok, P. Müller, J. Kiniry, and P. Chalin. 2007b. JML Reference Manual. (February 2007). Iowa State Univ. [www.jmlspecs.org](http://www.jmlspecs.org).
- 1111 K. R. Leino. 2010. Dafny: An Automatic Program Verifier for Functional Correctness. In *LPAR16*. Springer.
- 1112 K. Rustan M. Leino. 2013. Developing verified programs with dafny. In *ICSE*. 1488–1490. <https://doi.org/10.1109/ICSE.2013.6606754>
- 1113 K. Rustan M. Leino and Wolfram Schulte. 2007. Using History Invariants to Verify Observers. In *ESOP*.
- 1114 David Lewis. 1973. Causation. *Journal of Philosophy* 70, 17 (1973).
- 1115 S. Maffei, J.C. Mitchell, and A. Taly. 2010. Object Capabilities and Isolation of Untrusted Web Applications. In *Proc of IEEE Security and Privacy*.
- 1117 Darya Melicher, Yangqingwei Shi, Alex Potanin, and Jonathan Aldrich. 2017. A Capability-Based Module System for Authority Control. In *ECOOP*. 20:1–20:27. <https://doi.org/10.4230/LIPIcs.ECOOP.2017.20>
- 1118 B. Meyer. 1997. *Object-Oriented Software Construction, Second Edition* (second ed.). Prentice Hall.
- 1119 Mark Samuel Miller. 2006. *Robust Composition: Towards a Unified Approach to Access Control and Concurrency Control*. Ph.D. Dissertation. Baltimore, Maryland.
- 1121 Mark S. Miller, Tom Van Cutsem, and Bill Tulloh. 2013. Distributed Electronic Rights in JavaScript. In *ESOP*.
- 1122 Mark Samuel Miller, Mike Samuel, Ben Laurie, Ihab Awad, and Mike Stay. 2008. Safe active content in sanitized JavaScript. [code.google.com/p/google-caja/](http://code.google.com/p/google-caja/).
- 1123 James H. Morris Jr. 1973. Protection in Programming Languages. *CACM* 16, 1 (1973).
- 1124 Toby Murray. 2010. *Analysing the Security Properties of Object-Capability Patterns*. Ph.D. Dissertation. University of Oxford.
- 1125 James Noble, John Potter, and Jan Vitek. 1998. Flexible Alias Protection. In *ECOOP*.

- 1128 Peter W. O’Hearn. 2019. Incorrectness Logic. *Proc. ACM Program. Lang.* 4, POPL, Article 10 (Dec. 2019), 32 pages.  
 1129 <https://doi.org/10.1145/3371078>
- 1130 Matthew Parkinson and Alexander J. Summers. 2011. The Relationship between Separation Logic and Implicit Dynamic  
 1131 Frames. In *ESOP*.
- 1132 D.J. Pearce and L.J. Groves. 2015. Designing a Verifying Compiler: Lessons Learned from Developing Whiley. *Sci. Comput.  
 1133 Prog.* (2015).
- 1134 Anton Permenev, Dimitar Dimitrov, Petar Tsankov, Dana Drachsler-Cohen, and Martin Vechev. 2020. VerX: Safety Verification  
 1135 of Smart Contracts. In *IEEE Symp. on Security and Privacy*.
- 1136 Azalea Raad, Josh Berdine, Hoang-Hai Dang, Derek Dreyer, Peter W. O’Hearn, and Jules Villard. 2020. Local Reasoning  
 1137 About the Presence of Bugs: Incorrectness Separation Logic. In *CAV*. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-53291-8\\_14](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-53291-8_14)
- 1138 Dustin Rhodes, Tim Disney, and Cormac Flanagan. 2014. Dynamic Detection of Object Capability Violations Through  
 1139 Model Checking. In *DLS*. 103–112. <https://doi.org/10.1145/2661088.2661099>
- 1140 Martin C. Rinard. 2003. Acceptability-oriented computing. In *OOPSLA*. 221–239.
- 1141 Michael Sammler, Deepak Garg, Derek Dreyer, and Tadeusz Litak. 2019. The High-Level Benefits of Low-Level Sandboxing.  
 1142 *Proc. ACM Program. Lang.* 4, POPL, Article 32 (Dec. 2019), 32 pages. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3371100>
- 1143 Ina Schaefer, Tobias Runge, Alexander Knüppel, Loek Cleophas, Derrick G. Kourie, and Bruce W. Watson. 2018. Towards  
 1144 Confidentiality-by-Construction. In *Leveraging Applications of Formal Methods, Verification and Validation. Modeling  
 1145 - 8th International Symposium, ISoLA 2018, Limassol, Cyprus, November 5–9, 2018, Proceedings, Part I*. 502–515. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-03418-4\\_30](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-03418-4_30)
- 1146 Jan Smans, Bart Jacobs, and Frank Piessens. 2012. Implicit Dynamic Frames. *ToPLAS* (2012).
- 1147 Alexander J. Summers and Sophia Drossopoulou. 2010. Considerate Reasoning and the Composite Pattern. In *VMCAI*.
- 1148 David Swasey, Deepak Garg, and Derek Dreyer. 2017. Robust and Compositional Verification of Object Capability Patterns.  
 1149 In *OOPSLA*.
- 1150 The Ethereum Wiki. 2018. ERC20 Token Standard. (Dec. 2018). [https://theethereum.wiki/w/index.php/ERC20\\_Token\\_Standard](https://theethereum.wiki/w/index.php/ERC20_Token_Standard)

## A LANGX

We introduce *LangX*, a simple, typed, class-based, object oriented language that underlies the necessity specifications introduced in this paper. *LangX* includes ghost fields, recursive definitions that may only be used in the specification language. While typed, we do not define *LangX*’s full type system, however we assume several properties enforced by the type system, including simple ownership properties:

- Method calls may not be made to external, non-module methods.
- Classes may be annotated as `inside` or `boundary`, and objects of `inside` classes may not be returned by methods of `boundary` classes.
- Ghost fields may be annotated as `intrnl` and thus may only include and be passed references to objects belonging to module internal classes.

These encapsulation properties are easily enforceable, and we do not define the type system as ownership types have been well covered in the literature. We specifically use a simple ownership system to model encapsulation as the theory has been well established by others, however there is no reason other encapsulation mechanisms could not be substituted without affecting the Necessity Logic that is the central contribution of this paper.

### A.1 Syntax

The syntax of *LangX* is given in Fig. 10. *LangX* modules ( $M$ ) map class names ( $C$ ) to class definitions ( $ClassDef$ ). A class definition consists of a list of a class annotation (`inside` or `boundary`), a list of field definitions, ghost field definitions, and method definitions. A program configuration ( $\sigma$ ) is represented as a heap ( $\chi$ ), stack ( $\psi$ ) pair, where a heap is a map from addresses ( $\alpha$ ) to objects ( $\alpha$ ), and a stack is a non-empty list of frames ( $\phi$ ). A frame consists of a local variable map and a continuation ( $c$ ) that represents the statements that are yet to be executed ( $s$ ), or a hole waiting to be filled by a method call in the frame above ( $x := \bullet; s$ ). A statement is either a field read ( $x := y.f$ ), a field write ( $x.f := y$ ), a method call ( $x := y.m(\bar{z})$ ), a constructor call ( $\text{new } C(\bar{x})$ ), a method return statement ( $\text{return } x$ ), or a sequence of statements ( $s; s$ ).

*LangX* also includes syntax for expressions  $e$  that may only be used in writing specifications or the definition of ghost fields.

### A.2 Semantics

*LangX* is a simple object oriented language, and the operational semantics (given in Fig. 11 and discussed later) do not introduce any novel or surprising features. The operational semantics make use of several helper definitions that we define here.

1177	$x, y, z$	Variable
1178	$C, D$	Class Id.
1179	$T ::= \_ \mid C$	Type
1180	$f$	Field Id.
1181	$g$	Ghost Field Id.
1182	$m$	Method Id.
1183	$\alpha$	Address Id.
1184	$i \in \mathbb{Z}$	Integer
1185	$v ::= \alpha \mid i \mid \text{true} \mid \text{false} \mid \text{null}$	Value
1186	$e ::= x \mid v \mid e + e \mid e = e \mid e < e$   if $e$ then $e$ else $e$   $e.f$   $e.g(e)$	Expression
1187	$o ::= \{\text{class} := C; \text{flds} := \overline{f \mapsto v}\}$	Object
1188	$s ::= x := y.f \mid x.f := y \mid x := y.m(\bar{z})$   new $C(\bar{x})$   return $x$   $s; s$	Statement
1189	$c ::= s \mid x := \bullet; s$	Continuation
1190	$\chi ::= \overline{\alpha \mapsto o}$	Heap
1191	$\phi ::= \{\text{local} := \overline{x \mapsto v}; \text{contn} := c\}$	Frame
1192	$\psi ::= \phi \mid \phi : \psi$	Stack
1193	$\sigma ::= (\text{heap} := \chi, \text{stack} := \psi)$	Program Config.
1194	$mth ::= \text{method } m(\bar{x} : T)\{s\}$	Method Def.
1195	$fld ::= \text{field } f : T$	Field Def.
1196	$gfld ::= \text{ghost } g(x : T)\{e\} : T \mid \text{ghost intrnl } g(x : T)\{e\} : T$	Ghost Field Def.
1197	$An ::= \text{enclosed}$	Class Annotation
1198	$CDef ::= [An] \text{class } C \{ \text{constr} := (\bar{x} : T)\{s\}; \text{flds} := \overline{fld}; \text{gfls} := \overline{gfls}; \text{mths} := \overline{mth}\}$	Class Def.
1199	$Mdl ::= \overline{C \mapsto ClassDef}$	Module Def.

Fig. 10. *LangX* Syntax

1206 We provide a definition of reference interpretation in Definition A.1

1207 *Definition A.1.* For a program configuration  $\sigma = (\chi, \phi : \psi)$ , we provide the following function definitions:

- 1208 •  $[x]_\sigma \triangleq \phi.(\text{local})(x)$
- 1209 •  $[\alpha.f]_\sigma \triangleq \chi(\alpha).(\text{flds})(f)$
- 1210 •  $[x.f]_\sigma \triangleq [\alpha.f]_\sigma$  where  $[x]_\sigma = \alpha$

1211 That is, a variable  $x$ , or a field access on a variable  $x.f$  has an interpretation within a program configuration of value  $v$  if  
1212  $x$  maps to  $v$  in the local variable map, or the field  $f$  of the object identified by  $x$  points to  $v$ .

1213 Definition A.2 defines the class lookup function an object identified by variable  $x$ .

1214 *Definition A.2 (Class Lookup).* For program configuration  $\sigma = (\chi, \phi : \psi)$ , class lookup is defined as

$$1215 \quad \text{classOf}(\sigma, x) \triangleq \chi([x]_\sigma).(class)$$

1217 Definition A.3 defines the method lookup function for a method call  $m$  on an object of class  $C$ .

1218 *Definition A.3 (Method Lookup).* For module  $M$ , class  $C$ , and method name  $m$ , method lookup is defined as

$$1219 \quad \text{Meth}(M, C, m) \triangleq M(C).\text{mths}(m)$$

1220 Fig. 11 gives the operational semantics of *LangX*. Program configuration  $\sigma_1$  reduces to  $\sigma_2$  in the context of module  $M$  if  
1221  $M, \sigma_1 \rightsquigarrow \sigma_2$ . The semantics in Fig. 11 are unsurprising, but it is notable that reads (READ) and writes (WRITE) are restricted  
1222 to the class that the field belongs to.

1223 While the small-step operational semantics of *LangX* is given in Fig. 11, specification satisfaction is defined over an  
1224 abstracted notion of the operational semantics that models the open world, called *external state semantics*. That is, execution

$$\begin{array}{c}
1226 \quad \sigma_1 = (\chi, \phi_1 : \psi) \quad \sigma_2 = (\chi, \phi_2 : \phi'_1 : \psi) \\
1227 \quad \phi_1.(contn) = (x := y.m(\bar{z}); s) \quad \phi'_1 = \phi_1[contn := (x := \bullet; s)] \quad Meth(M, classOf(\sigma_1, x), m) = m(\overline{p : T}) \{body\} \\
1228 \quad \phi_2 = \{local := ([this \mapsto [x]_{\sigma_1}] \overline{[p_i \mapsto [z_i]_{\sigma_1}]}, contn := body\} \\
1229 \quad \hline M, \sigma_1 \rightsquigarrow \sigma_2 \quad \text{(CALL)} \\
1230 \\
1231 \quad \sigma_1 = (\chi, \phi_1 : \psi) \quad \sigma_2 = (\chi, \phi_2 : \psi) \quad \phi_1.(contn) = (x := y.f; s) \\
1232 \quad [x.f]_{\sigma_1} = v \quad \phi_2 = \{local := \phi_1.(local)[x \mapsto v], contn := s\} \quad classOf(\sigma_1, this) = classOf(\sigma_1, y) \\
1233 \quad \hline M, \sigma_1 \rightsquigarrow \sigma_2 \quad \text{(READ)} \\
1234 \\
1235 \quad \sigma_1 = (\chi_1, \phi_1 : \psi) \quad \sigma_2 = (\chi_2, \phi_2 : \psi) \quad \phi_1.(contn) = (x.f := y; s) \quad [y]_{\sigma_1} = v \\
1236 \quad \phi_2 = \{local := \phi_1.(local), contn := s\} \quad \chi_2 = \chi_1[\overline{[\sigma_1]_x.f \mapsto v}] \quad classOf(\sigma_1, this) = classOf(\sigma_2, x) \\
1237 \quad \hline M, \sigma_1 \rightsquigarrow \sigma_2 \quad \text{(WRITE)} \\
1238 \\
1239 \quad \sigma_1 = (\chi, \phi : \psi) \quad \phi.(contn) = (x := new C(\bar{z}); s) \\
1240 \quad M(C).(constr) = (\overline{p : T}) \{s'\} \quad \phi' = \{local := [this \mapsto \alpha], \overline{[p_i \mapsto [z_i]_{\sigma_1}]}, contn := s'\} \\
1241 \quad \sigma_2 = (\chi[\alpha \mapsto \{class := C, flds := f \mapsto null\}], \phi' : \phi[contn := (x := \bullet; s)] : \psi) \\
1242 \quad \hline M, \sigma_1 \rightsquigarrow \sigma_2 \quad \text{(NEW)} \\
1243 \\
1244 \quad \sigma_1 = (\chi, \phi_1 : \phi_2 : \psi) \quad \phi_1.(contn) = (\text{return } x; s) \text{ or } \phi_1.(contn) = (\text{return } x) \\
1245 \quad \phi_2.(contn) = (y := \bullet; s) \quad \sigma_2 = (\chi, \phi_2[y \mapsto [x]_{\sigma_1}] : \psi) \\
1246 \quad \hline M, \sigma_1 \rightsquigarrow \sigma_2 \quad \text{(RETURN)} \\
1247 \\
1248 \quad \text{Fig. 11. LangX operational Semantics} \\
1249 \quad M, \sigma, v \hookrightarrow v \quad (\text{E-VAL}) \qquad \qquad M, \sigma, x \hookrightarrow [x]_{\sigma} \quad (\text{E-VAR}) \\
1250 \\
1251 \quad \frac{M, \sigma, e_1 \hookrightarrow i_1 \quad M, \sigma, e_2 \hookrightarrow i_2 \quad i_1 + i_2 = i}{M, \sigma, e_1 + e_2 \hookrightarrow i} \quad (\text{E-ADD}) \qquad \frac{M, \sigma, e_1 \hookrightarrow v \quad M, \sigma, e_2 \hookrightarrow v}{M, \sigma, e_1 = e_2 \hookrightarrow \text{true}} \quad (\text{E-EQ}_1) \\
1252 \\
1253 \quad \frac{M, \sigma, e_1 \hookrightarrow v_1 \quad M, \sigma, e_2 \hookrightarrow v_2 \quad v_1 \neq v_2}{M, \sigma, e_1 = e_2 \hookrightarrow \text{false}} \quad (\text{E-EQ}_2) \qquad \frac{M, \sigma, e \hookrightarrow \text{true} \quad M, \sigma, e_1 \hookrightarrow v}{M, \sigma, e \hookrightarrow v} \quad (\text{E-IF}_1) \\
1254 \\
1255 \quad \frac{M, \sigma, e \hookrightarrow \text{false} \quad M, \sigma, e_2 \hookrightarrow v}{M, \sigma, e \hookrightarrow v} \quad (\text{E-IF}_2) \qquad \frac{M, \sigma, e \hookrightarrow \alpha}{M, \sigma, e.f \hookrightarrow [\alpha.f]_{\sigma}} \quad (\text{E-FIELD}) \\
1256 \\
1257 \quad \frac{M, \sigma, e_1 \hookrightarrow \alpha \quad M, \sigma, e_2 \hookrightarrow v' \quad \text{ghost } g(x : T) \{e\} : T' \in M(classOf(\sigma, \alpha)).(g.flds)}{M, \sigma, e_1.g(e_2) \hookrightarrow v} \quad (\text{E-GHOST}) \\
1258 \\
1259 \\
1260 \quad \text{Fig. 12. LangX expression evaluation} \\
1261 \\
1262 \\
1263 \quad \text{occurs in the context of not just an internal, trusted module, but an external, untrusted module. We borrow the definition of} \\
1264 \quad \text{external state semantics from Drossopoulou et al., along with the related definition of module linking, given in Definition} \\
1265 \quad \text{A.4.} \\
1266 \\
1267 \quad \text{Definition A.4. For all modules } M_1 \text{ and } M_2, \text{ if the domains of } M_1 \text{ and } M_2 \text{ are disjoint, we define the module linking} \\
1268 \quad \text{function as } M_1 \circ M_2 \triangleq M_1 \cup M_2. \\
1269 \\
1270 \quad \text{That is, given an internal, module } M_1, \text{ and an external module } M_2, \text{ we take their linking as the union of the two if their} \\
1271 \quad \text{domains are disjoint.} \\
1272 \quad \text{An } \textit{Initial} \text{ program configuration contains a single frame with a single local variable } this \text{ pointing to a single object in} \\
1273 \quad \text{the heap of class } \texttt{Object}, \text{ and a continuation.} \\
1274 \\
1275 \quad \text{Definition A.5 (Initial Program Configuration). A program configuration } \sigma \text{ is said to be an initial configuration } (Initial(\sigma)) \\
1276 \quad \text{if and only if} \\
1277
\end{array}$$

1275 $M \vdash A \Rightarrow \text{Intrnl}(i)$ (INTRNL-INT)	$M \vdash A \Rightarrow \text{Intrnl}(\text{null})$	$M \vdash A \Rightarrow \text{Intrnl}(\text{true})$
1276		
1277 $M \vdash A \Rightarrow \text{Intrnl}(\text{false})$	$\frac{M \vdash A \longrightarrow \alpha : C \quad C \in M}{M \vdash A \Rightarrow \text{Intrnl}(\alpha)}$ (INTRNL-OBJ)	
1278		
1279 $M \vdash A \Rightarrow \text{Intrnl}(e) \quad M \vdash A \longrightarrow e : C \quad [\text{field\_}f : D] \in M(C).\text{(flds)} \quad D \in M$	$M \vdash A \Rightarrow \text{Intrnl}(e.f)$	(INTRNL-FIELD)
1280		
1281		
1282 $M \vdash A \Rightarrow \text{Intrnl}(e_1)$		
1283 $M \vdash A \Rightarrow \text{Intrnl}(e_2) \quad M \vdash A \longrightarrow e_1 : C \quad \text{ghost intrnl } g(x : \_) \{e\} \in M(C).\text{(gflds)}$	$M \vdash A \Rightarrow \text{Intrnl}(e_1.g(e_2))$	(INTRNL-GHOST)
1284		
1285		

Fig. 13. Internal Proof Rules

- $\sigma.\text{heap} = [\alpha \mapsto \{\text{class} := \text{Object}; \text{flds} := \emptyset\}]$  and
- $\sigma.\text{stack} = [\text{local} := [\text{this} \mapsto \alpha]; \text{contn} := s]$

for some address  $\alpha$  and some statement  $s$ .

We give the semantics of module pair execution in Definition 2.1

*Definition A.6 (External State Semantics).* For all internal modules  $M_1$ , external modules  $M_2$ , and program configurations  $\sigma$  and  $\sigma'$ , we say that  $M_1; M_2, \sigma \rightsquigarrow \sigma'$  if and only if

- $\text{classOf}(\sigma, \sigma.\text{(this)}) \in M_2$  and
- $\text{classOf}(\sigma', \sigma'.\text{(this)}) \in M_2$  and

and  $M_1 \circ M_2, \sigma \rightsquigarrow \sigma_1 \rightsquigarrow \dots \sigma_n \rightsquigarrow \sigma'$  and  $\text{classOf}(\sigma_i, \sigma_i.\text{(this)}) \in M_1$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$

Finally, we provide a semantics for expression evaluation is given in Fig. 12. That is, given a module  $M$  and a program configuration  $\sigma$ , expression  $e$  evaluates to  $v$  if  $M, \sigma, e \hookrightarrow v$ . Note, the evaluation of expressions is separate from the operational semantics of  $\text{LangX}$ , and thus there is no restriction on field access.

## B ENCAPSULATION

### B.1 Proving Encapsulation

We provide a simple inference system for assertion encapsulation (Definition 2.9), that is proving a change in satisfaction of an assertion depends on computation from the internal module. As encapsulation is not the core topic of this paper, we keep this relatively simple. As discussed before, we assume the existence of a simple ownership type system to ensure certain forms of encapsulation.

To assist in the definition of a proof system to proof assertion encapsulation, we define proof rules for expressions that depend entirely on internal objects (or primitives) for their evaluation.

*Definition B.1 (Internal Expressions).* For all modules  $M$ , assertions  $A$ , and expressions  $e$ ,  $M \vdash A \Rightarrow \text{Intrnl}(e)$  if and only if for all external modules  $M'$ , heaps  $\chi$ , frame stacks  $\psi$ , and values  $v$ , such that  $M, M' \models (\chi, \psi)A$  and  $M \circ M', (\chi, \psi), e \hookrightarrow v$  then  $M \circ M', (\chi', \psi), e \hookrightarrow v$ , where  $\chi'$  is the portion of  $\chi$  internal to  $M$ , i.e.  $\chi' = \{[\alpha \mapsto o] | [\alpha \mapsto o] \in \chi \text{ and } o.\text{(class)} \in M\}$

The encapsulation proof system thus consists of two relations

- Purely internal expressions:  $M \vdash A \Rightarrow \text{Intrnl}(e)$  and
- Assertion encapsulation:  $M \vdash A \Rightarrow \text{Enc}(A')$

Fig. 13 gives proof rules for evaluation of an expression comprising of purely module internal objects. Fig. 14 gives proof rules for whether an assertion is encapsulated, that is whether a change in satisfaction of an assertion requires interaction with the internal module.

**LEMMA B.2 (INTRNL IS ENCAPSULATED).** For all modules  $M$ , assertions  $A$ , and expressions  $e$ , if  $M \vdash A \Rightarrow \text{Intrnl}(e)$ , then  $M \vdash A \Rightarrow \text{Enc}(e)$

**LEMMA B.3 (ENCAPSULATION SOUNDNESS).** For all modules  $M$ , and assertions  $A$  and  $A'$ , if  $M \vdash A \Rightarrow \text{Enc}(A')$  then  $M \vdash A \Rightarrow \text{Enc}(A')$

**PROOF.** asdf **Case a:**

sdf

□

1324	$M \vdash A \Rightarrow Intrnl(e)$	(ENC-INTRNL)
1325	$M \vdash A \Rightarrow Enc(e)$	
1326	$M \vdash A \Rightarrow Enc(e.f)$	
1327	$M \vdash A \Rightarrow Enc(e_1)$	$M \vdash A \Rightarrow Enc(e_2)$
1328	$M \vdash A \Rightarrow Enc(e_1 + e_2)$	$M \vdash A \Rightarrow Enc(e_1 < e_2)$
1329		
1330	$M \vdash A \Rightarrow Enc(e)$	$M \vdash A \Rightarrow Enc(e_1)$
1331	$M \vdash A \Rightarrow Enc(e_2)$	$M \vdash A \rightarrow \langle \alpha_1 \text{ internal} \rangle$
1332		
1333	$M \vdash A \Rightarrow Enc(\text{wrapped}(\alpha))$	(ENC-WRAPPED)
1334		$M \vdash A \rightarrow \text{wrapped}(\alpha_2)$
1335	$M \vdash A_1 \rightarrow A_2$	$M \vdash A \rightarrow A_1$
1336	$M \vdash A \Rightarrow Enc(A_1)$	$M \vdash A \Rightarrow Enc(A_2)$
1337		
1338	<b>Fig. 14. Assertion Encapsulation Proof Rules</b>	
1339		
1340		
1341		
1342		
1343		
1344		
1345		
1346		
1347		
1348		
1349		
1350		
1351		
1352		
1353		
1354		
1355		
1356		
1357		
1358		
1359		
1360		
1361		
1362		
1363		
1364		
1365		
1366		
1367		
1368		
1369		
1370		
1371		
1372		