



From E to EcmaScript and back again

Mark S. Miller and the Cajadores



Overview

Object-Capabilities

Security as extreme modularity

Securing JavaScript – Why and How?

E → Caja → ES5 → SES → Dr. SES

Patterns of Safe Cooperation

In Secure EcmaScript (SES)

Distributed Cryptographic Capabilities

In Distributed Resilient Secure EcmaScript (Dr. SES)

Security as Extreme Modularity

Modularity: Avoid needless dependencies

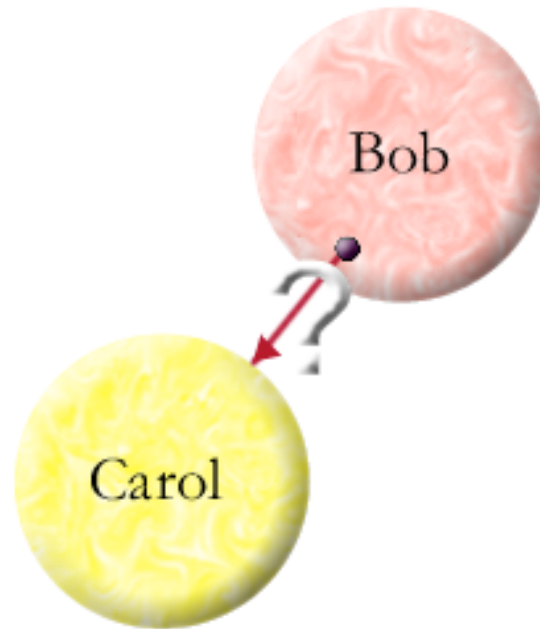
Security: Avoid needless vulnerabilities

Vulnerability is a form of dependency

Mod: Principle of info hiding - need to know.

Sec: Principle of least authority - need to do.

How do I designate thee?



by Introduction

ref to Carol

ref to Bob

decides to share

by Parenthood

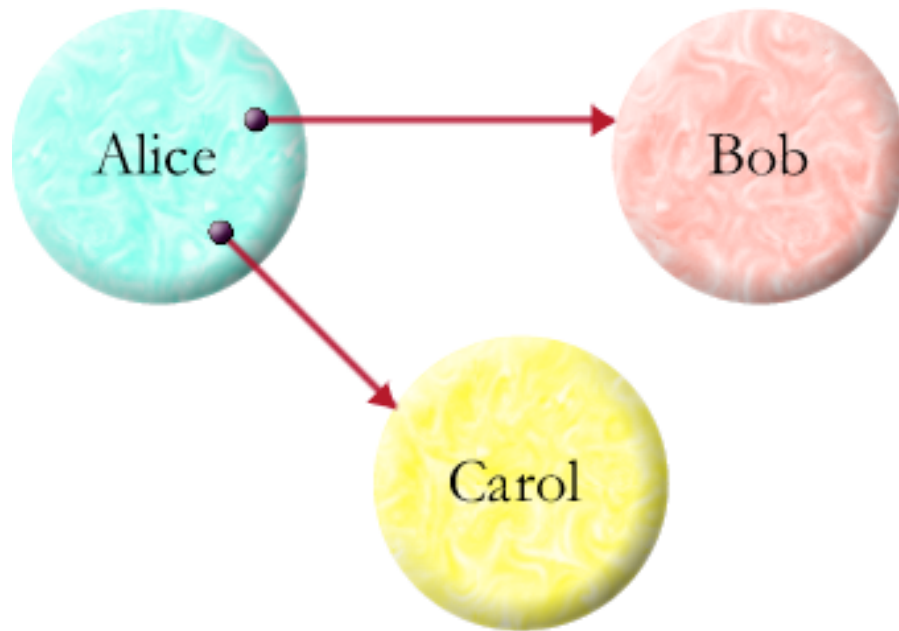
by Endowment

by Initial Conditions

How might object Bob come to know of object Carol?

How do I designate thee?

Alice says: `bob.foo(carol)`



by Introduction

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ref to Bob

decides to share

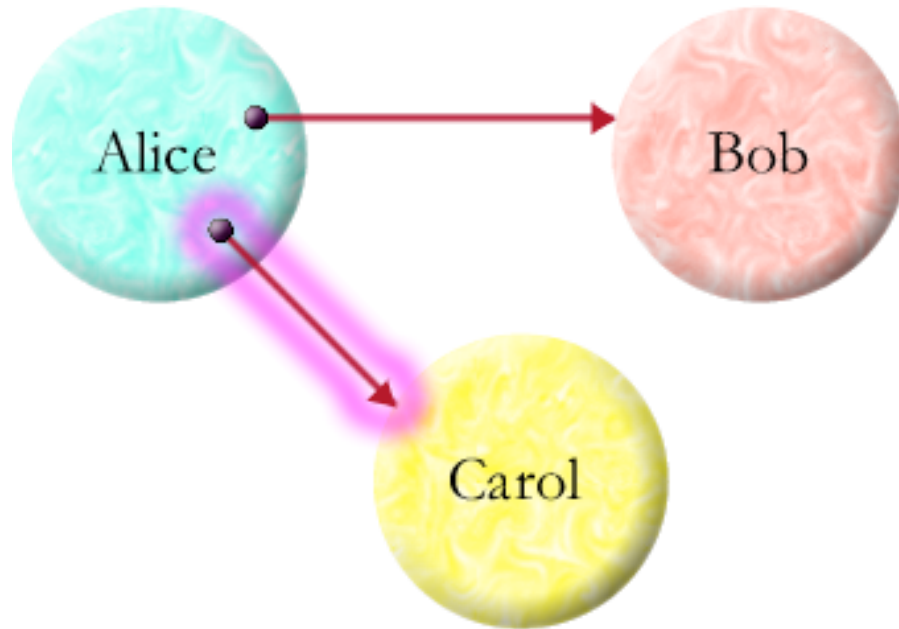
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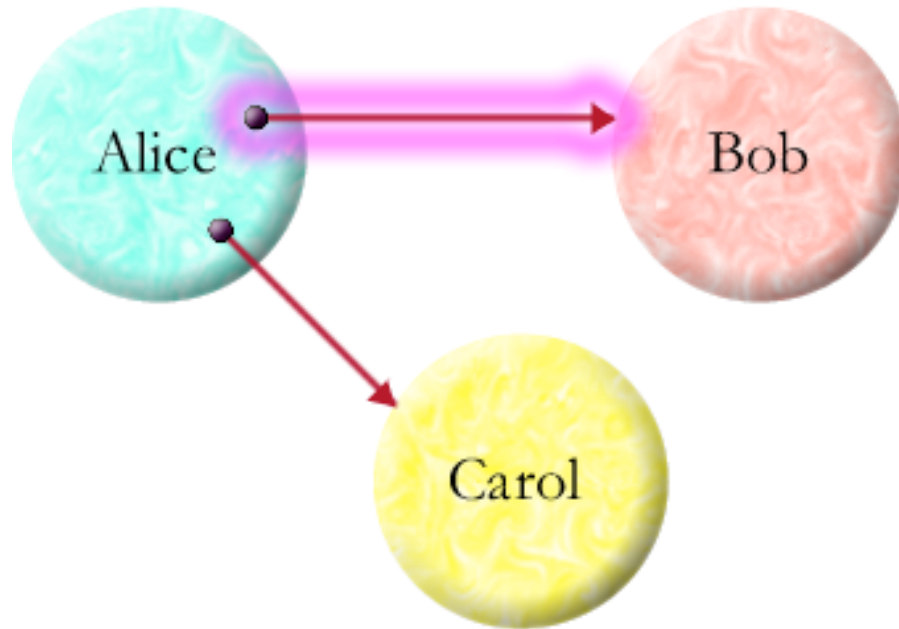
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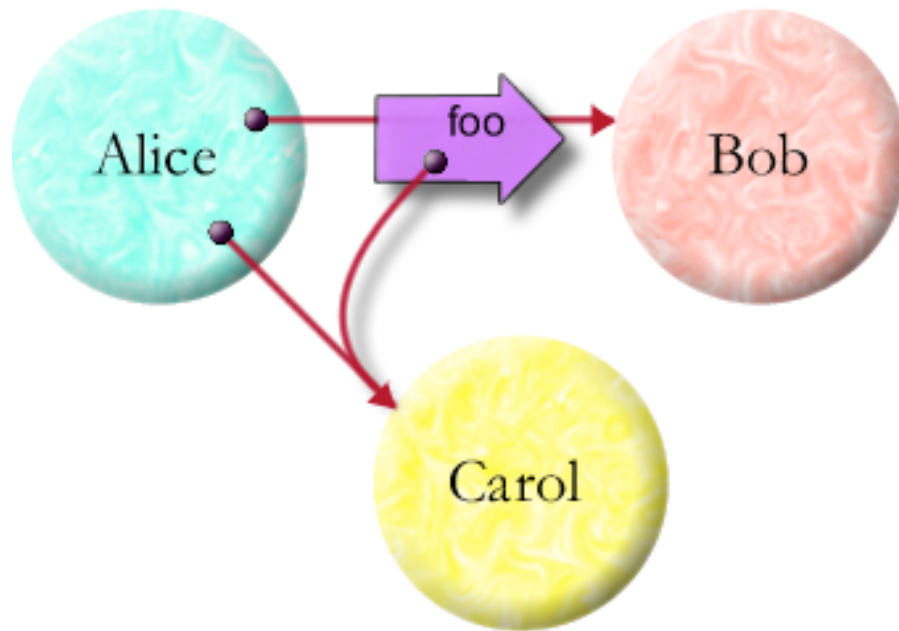
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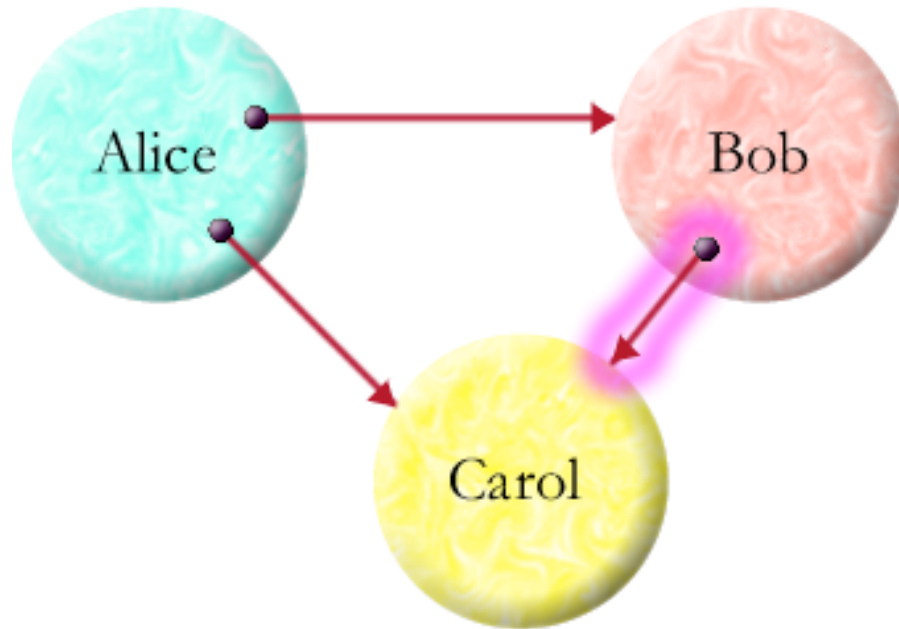
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by Endowment

by Initial Conditions

How do I designate thee?

Alice says: `bob.foo(carol)`



by Introduction

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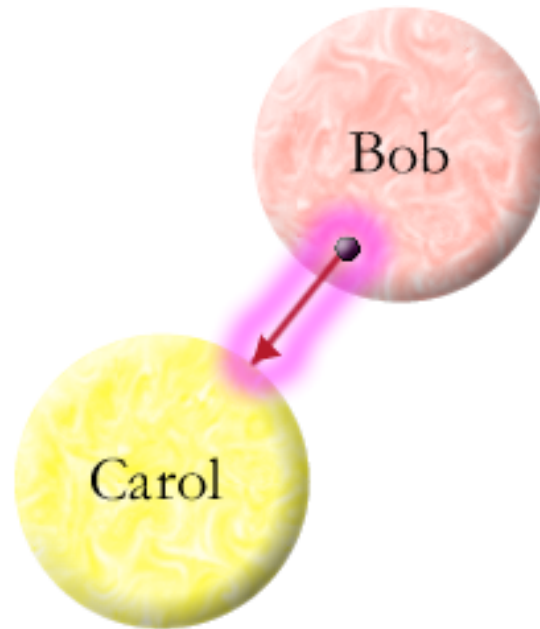
by Parenthood

by Endowment

by Initial Conditions

How do I designate thee?

Bob says: `var carol = { ... };`



by Introduction

ref to Carol

ref to Bob

decides to share

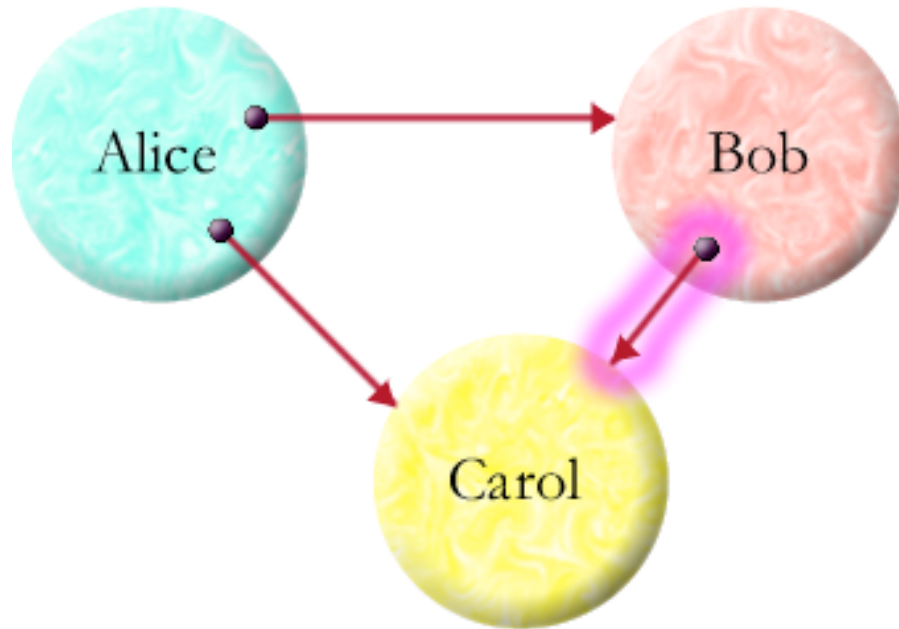
by Parenthood

by Endowment

by Initial Conditions

How do I designate thee?

Alice says: `var bob = { ... carol ... };`



by Introduction

ref to Carol

ref to Bob

decides to share

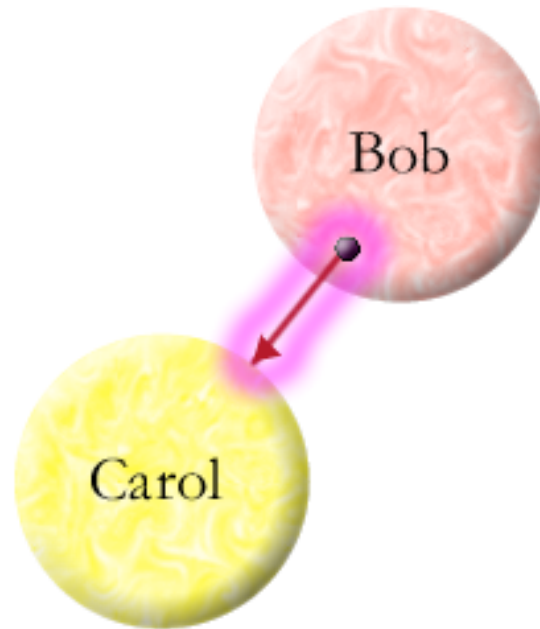
by Parenthood

by Endowment

by Initial Conditions

How do I designate thee?

At t_0 :



by Introduction

ref to Carol

ref to Bob

decides to share

by Parenthood

by Endowment

by Initial Conditions

OCaps: Small step from pure objects

Memory safety and encapsulation

- + Effects **only** by using held references
 - + No powerful references by default
-

OCaps: Small step from pure objects

Memory safety and encapsulation

+ Effects **only** by using held references

+ No powerful references by default

Reference graph \equiv Access graph

Only connectivity begets connectivity

Natural *Least Authority*

OO expressiveness for security patterns

The Mashup problem: Code as Media

```
<html> <head> <title>Basic Mashup</title> <script>
  function animate(id) {
    var element = document.getElementById(id);
    var textNode = element.childNodes[0];
    var text = textNode.data;
    var reverse = false;
    element.onclick = function() { reverse = !reverse; };
    setInterval(function() {
      textNode.data = text = reverse ? text.substring(1) + text[0]
        : text[text.length-1] + text.substring(0, text.length-1);
    }, 100);
  }
</script> </head> <body onload="animate('target')">
  <pre id="target">Hello Programmable World! </pre>
</body> </html>
```

← → ↻ 🏠 🌐 caja-corkboard.appspot.com ⭐ 🔧

— kpreid.switchb.org, 2010-07-24 00:43:10.844801

[View Source](#)

What version and OS? Can't reproduce on either machine I have handy. — kpreid

— Anon, 2010-07-24 00:41:44.706661

[Edit](#) [Delete](#)

Unicode test. You should see two bullets and two (if you've got the font for it) U+1040E DESERET CAPITAL LETTER WU (interleaved).

•ŵ•ŵ

— kpreid.switchb.org, 2010-07-23 00:29:17.917977

[View Source](#)

☆ ✂ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

— Sean B. Palmer

— kpreid.switchb.org, 2010-07-22 17:05:53.107415

[View Source](#)

— erights@google.com ([Logout](#)), just now

[Post This](#)

This is a [Caja](#) demo. You can enter any HTML you like, and it will display as well as we currently support and yet not allow you to take over anyone else's postings or otherwise disrupt the application (other than by making the page load slower or hang).

This site is intended to demonstrate how to straightforwardly use Caja in a web application as a "better HTML sanitizer"; see [CorkboardDemo on the Caja wiki](#) for a tutorial.

[Background image by Parée Erica](#) (used under Creative Commons Attribution license).

— kpreid.switchb.org, 2010-07-24 00:43:10.844801

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— kpreid.switchb.org, 2010-07-23 00:29:17.917977

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☆ ☆
Sean B. Palmer
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```
<html> <head> <title>Basic Mashup</title> <script>
function animate(id) {
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  element.onclick = function() { reverse = !reverse; };
  setInterval(function() {
    textNode.data = text = reverse ? text.substring(1) + text[0]
      : text[text.length-1] + text.substring(0, text.length-1);
  }, 100);
}
</script> </head> <body onload="animate('target')">
<pre id="target">Hello Programmable World! </pre>
</body> </html>
```

This is a [Caja](#) demo. You can enter any HTML you like, and it will display as well as we currently support and yet not allow you to take over anyone else's postings or otherwise disrupt the application (other than by making the page load slower or hang).

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[Background image by Parée Erica](#) (used under Creative Commons Attribution license).

Caja Corkboard Demo

grammable World! Hello Pro
— *erights@google.com*, 2010-10-04
13:30:40.185506

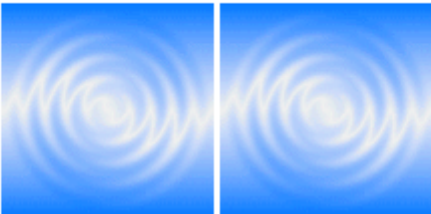
[Edit](#) [Delete](#)

(Error contacting Caja service)
— *kpreid.switchb.org*, 2010-08-22
12:26:41.953037

[View Source](#)

Greetings from [Rosetta Code!](#)
Not just a <marquee>:
World! Hello
— *kpreid.switchb.org*, 2010-08-13
19:06:55.712467

[View Source](#)

Cajoling-of-URLs test: you should see 2
links to google.com and 2 images.
Static **Dynamic**
[Link](#) [Link](#)

— *kpreid.switchb.org*, 2010-08-13
00:27:22.459179

[View Source](#)

Testing 123.
— *kpreid.switchb.org*, 2010-08-10
22:21:44.542621

[View Source](#)


— *kpreid.switchb.org*, 2010-07-24
00:43:10.844801

[View Source](#)

Improving JavaScript in Stages

EcmaScript 3:

One of the hardest oo languages to secure.

Caja: Complex server-side translator. Runtime overhead.

EcmaScript 5:

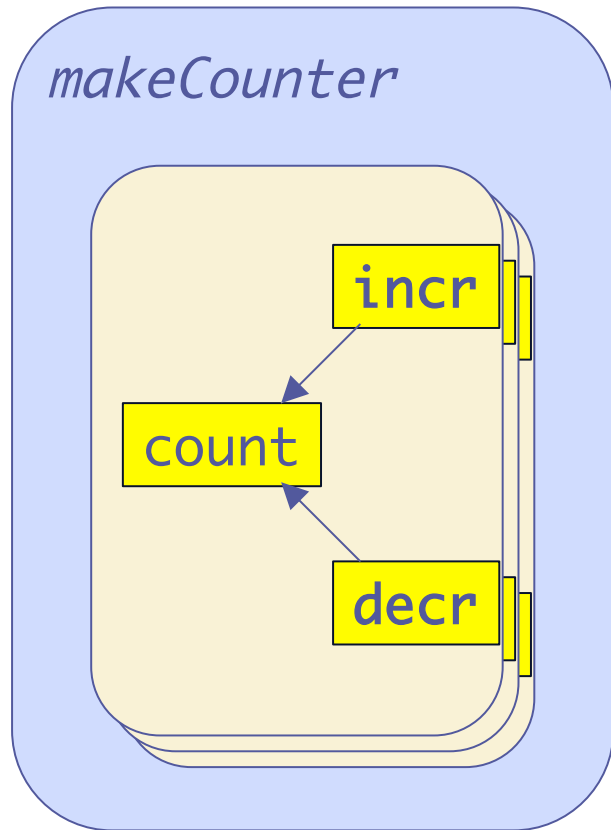
One of the easiest oo languages to secure.

```
<script src="initSES.js"></script>
```

Simple client-side init and verifier. No runtime overhead.

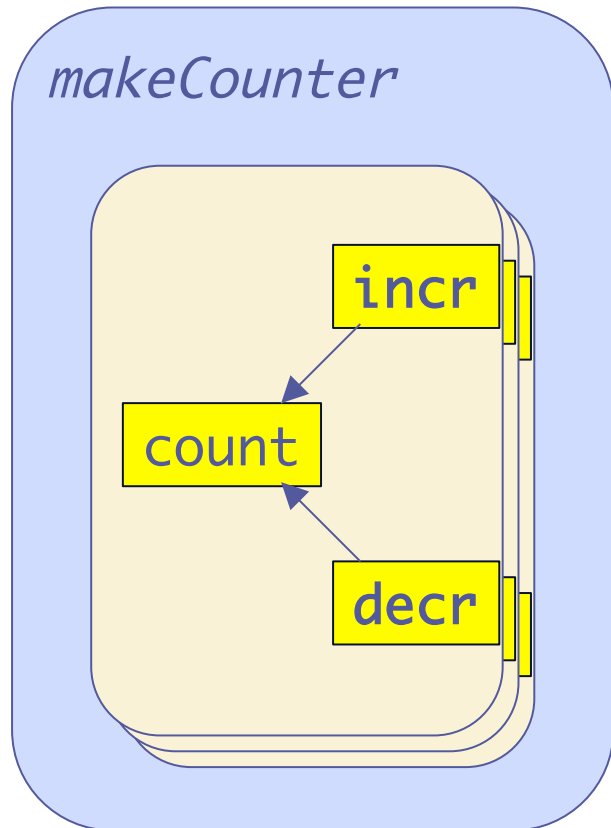
Approx 3K download compressed.

Objects as Closures



```
function makeCounter() {  
  var count = 0;  
  return {  
    incr: function() { return ++count; },  
    decr: function() { return --count; }  
  };  
}
```

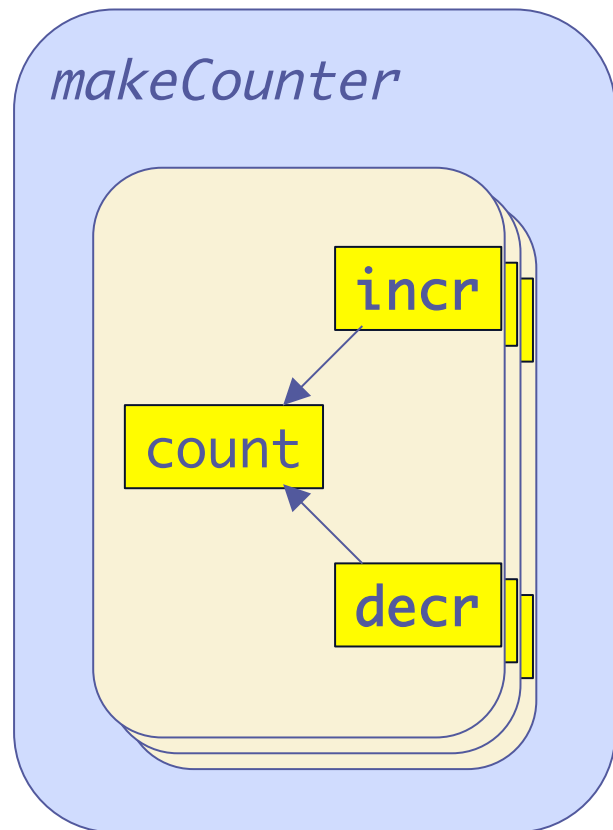
Objects as Closures



```
function makeCounter() {  
  var count = 0;  
  return {  
    incr: function() { return ++count; },  
    decr: function() { return --count; }  
  };  
}
```

A record of closures hiding state
is a fine representation of an
object of methods hiding instance vars

Objects as Closures in ES5/strict



```
“use strict”;  
function makeCounter() {  
  var count = 0;  
  return def{  
    incr: function() { return ++count; },  
    decr: function() { return --count; }  
  });  
}
```

A tamper-proof record of lexical closures encapsulating state is a defensive object

Turning ES5 into SES

```
<script src="initSES.js"></script>
```

- Monkey patch away bad non-std behaviors
- Remove non-whitelisted primordials
- Install leaky **WeakMap** emulation
- Make virtual global **root**
- Freeze whitelisted global variables
- Replace **eval** & **Function** with safe alternatives
- Freeze accessible primordials

Running ES5 & SES on old browsers

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Google Caja Playground

Google Caja. Copyright (C) 2008, Google Inc. Rev 4290 built on 2010-09-27 22:02:35.

Examples | **Source** | **Policy** | **Cajoled Source** | **Rendered Result** | **Compile Warnings/Errors** | **Runtime Warnings/Errors**

- ⊕ How do I..
- ⊕ Web pages
- ⊕ Applications
- ⊕ Attacks

http:// ES5 ES3

```
1 <html> <head> <title>Basic Mashup</title> <script>
2   function animate(id) {
3     var element = document.getElementById(id);
4     var textNode = element.childNodes[0];
5     var text = textNode.data;
6     var reverse = false;
7     element.onclick = function() { reverse = !reverse; };
8     setInterval(function() {
9       textNode.data = text = reverse ? text.substring(1) + text[0]
10        : text[text.length-1] + text.substring(0, text.length-1);
11     }, 100);
12   }
13 </script> </head> <body onload="animate('target')">
14   <pre id="target">Hello Programmable World! </pre>
15 </body> </html>
16
17
18
19
20
21
```




caja.appspot.com



[Tells us what you think](#) [File a bug](#) [Help!](#)



Caja Playground

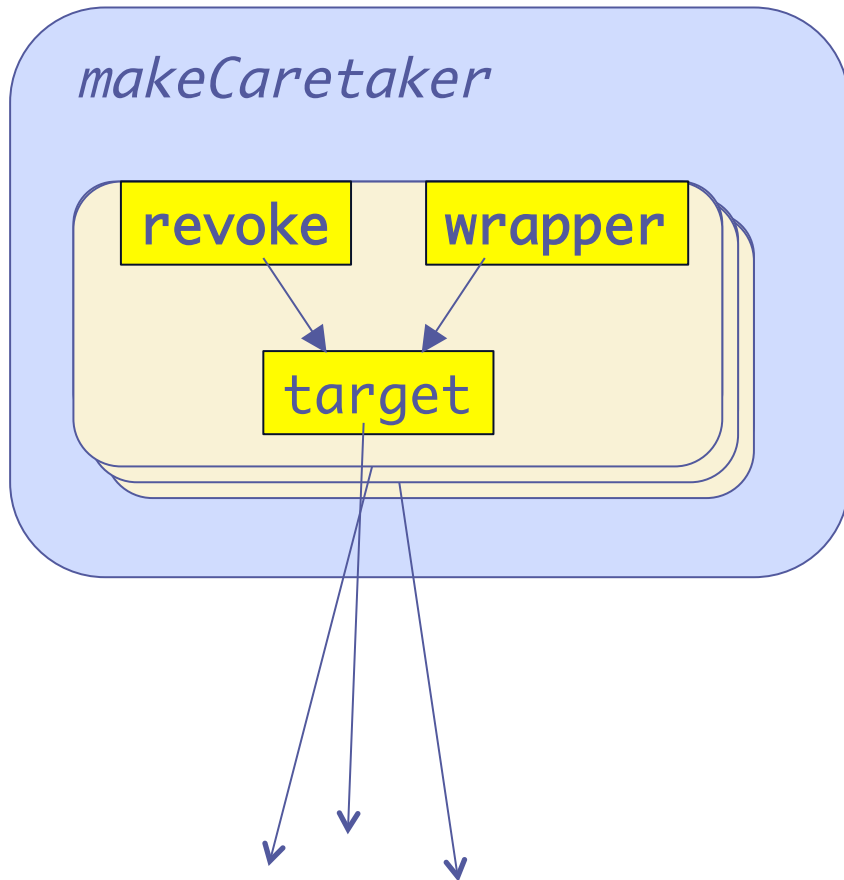
Google Caja. Copyright (C) 2008, Google Inc. Rev 4290 built on 2010-09-27 22:02:35.

Examples

- How do I..
- Web pages
- Applications
- Attacks

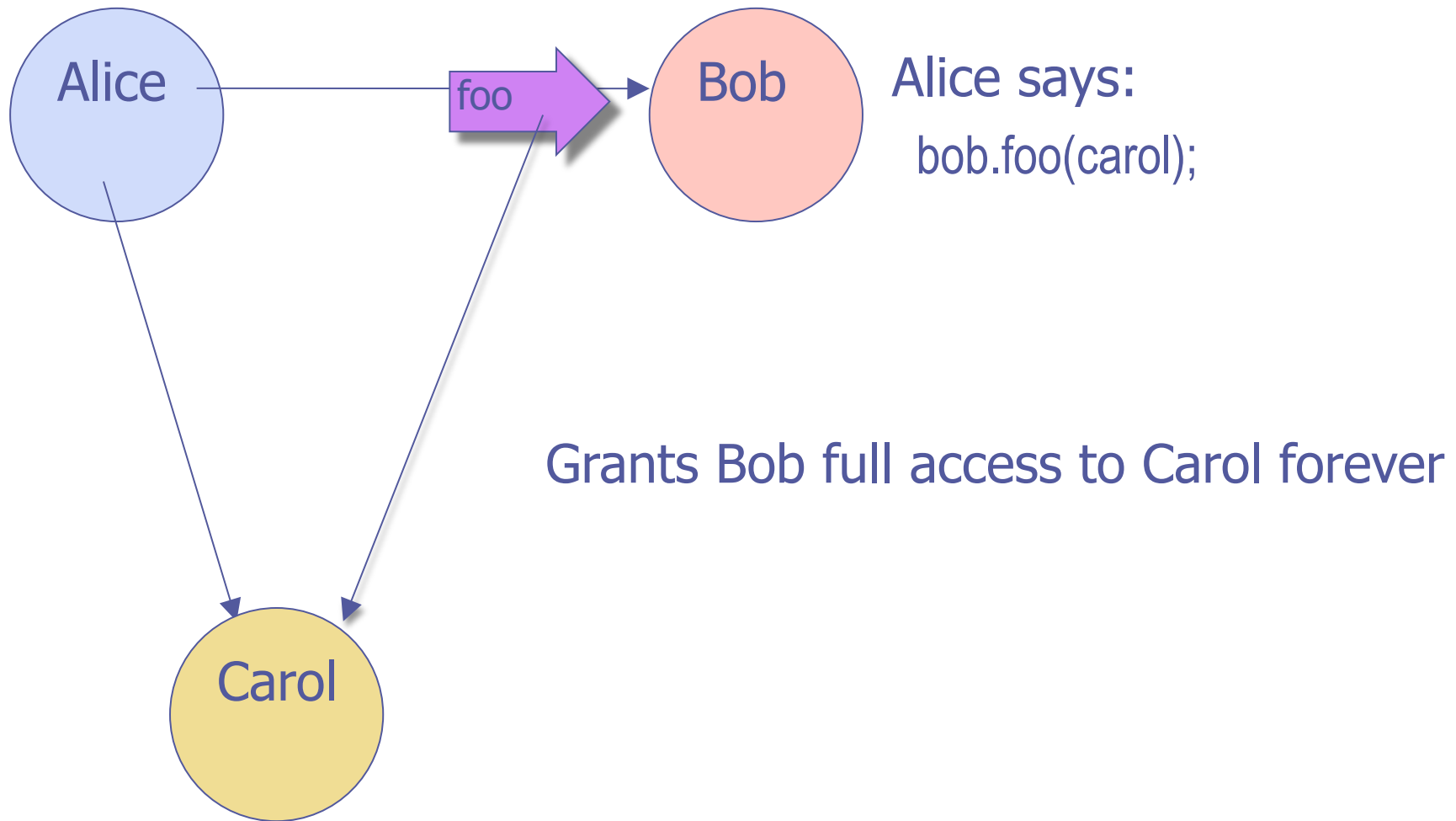
```
function animate(id) {
  var element, x0___, textNode, text, reverse, x1___;
  element = (x0___ = IMPORTS___document_v___?
    IMPORTS___document: ___ri(IMPORTS___, 'document'),
    x0___.getElementById_m___? x0___.getElementById(id):
    x0___.m___('getElementById', [ id ]));
  textNode = (element.childNodes_v___? element.childNodes:
    element.v___('childNodes'))[ 0 ];
  text = textNode.data_v___? textNode.data:
  textNode.v___('data');
  reverse = false;
  x1___ = (function () {
    function onclick$_meth() {
      reverse = !reverse;
    }
    return ___f(onclick$_meth, 'onclick$_meth');
  })(), element.onclick_w___ === element?
  (element.onclick = x1___): element.w___('onclick',
  x1___);
  (IMPORTS___setInterval_v___? IMPORTS___setInterval:
  ___ri(IMPORTS___, 'setInterval')).i___(___f(function
  () {
    var x0___, x1___;
    x1___ = text = reverse? (text.substring_m___?
    text.substring(1): text.m___('substring', [ 1 ]))
    + text[ 0 ]: text.v___(text.length - 1) + (x0___
    = text.length - 1, text.substring_m___?
    text.substring(0, x0___): text.m___('substring',
    [ 0, x0___ ])), textNode.data_w___ ===
    textNode? (textNode.data = x1___):
    textNode.w___('data', x1___);
  }), 100);
}
IMPORTS___w___('animate', ___f(animate, 'animate'));
}
```

Revocable Function Forwarder

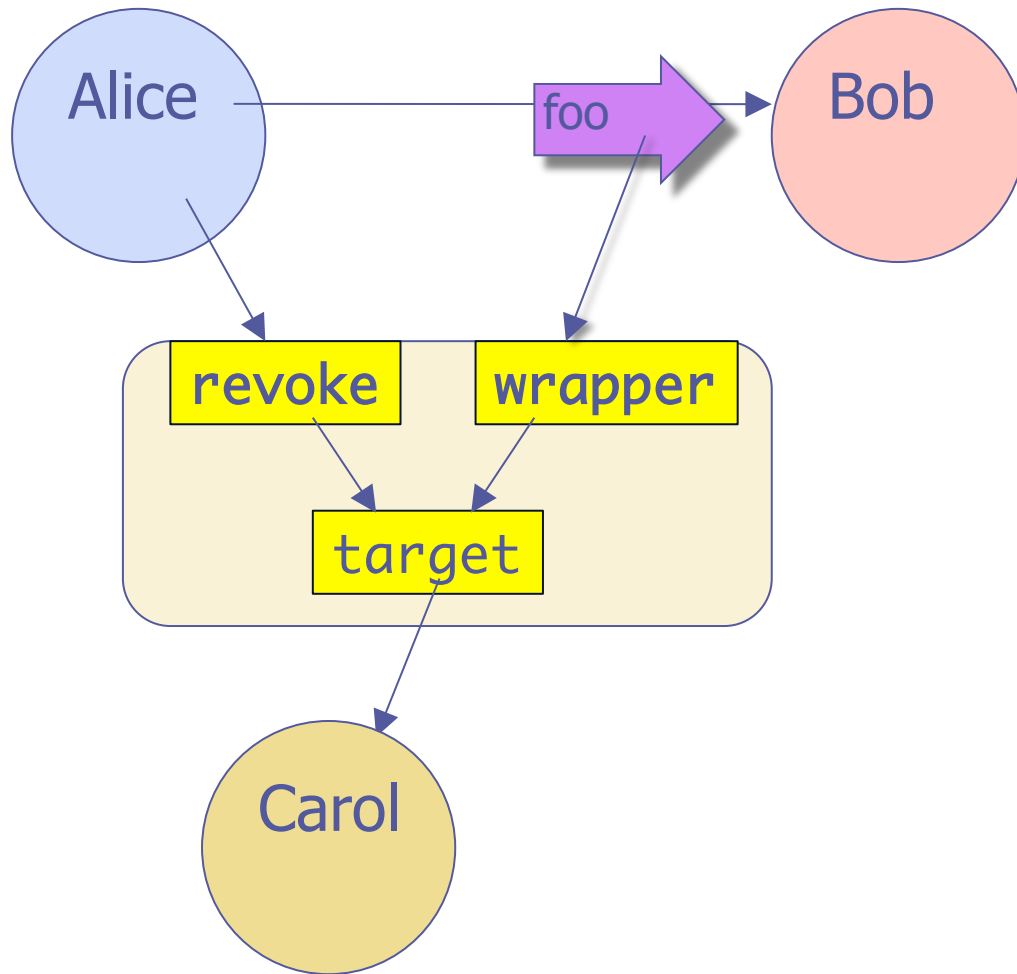


```
function makeFnCaretaker(target) {  
  return def({  
    wrapper: function(...args) {  
      return target(...args);  
    },  
    revoke: function() { target = null; }  
  });  
}
```

Unconditional Access



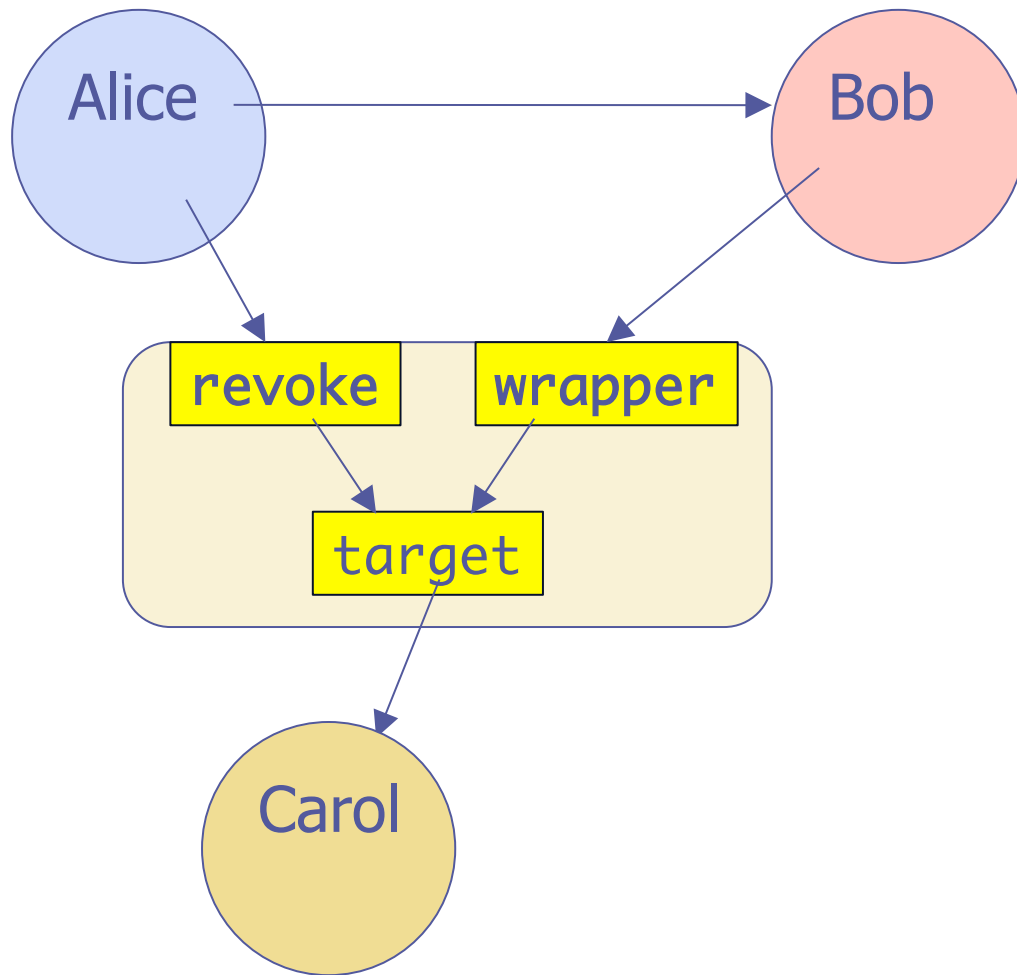
Revocability \equiv Temporal attenuation



Alice says:

```
var ct = makeCaretaker(carol);  
bob.foo(ct.wrapper);
```

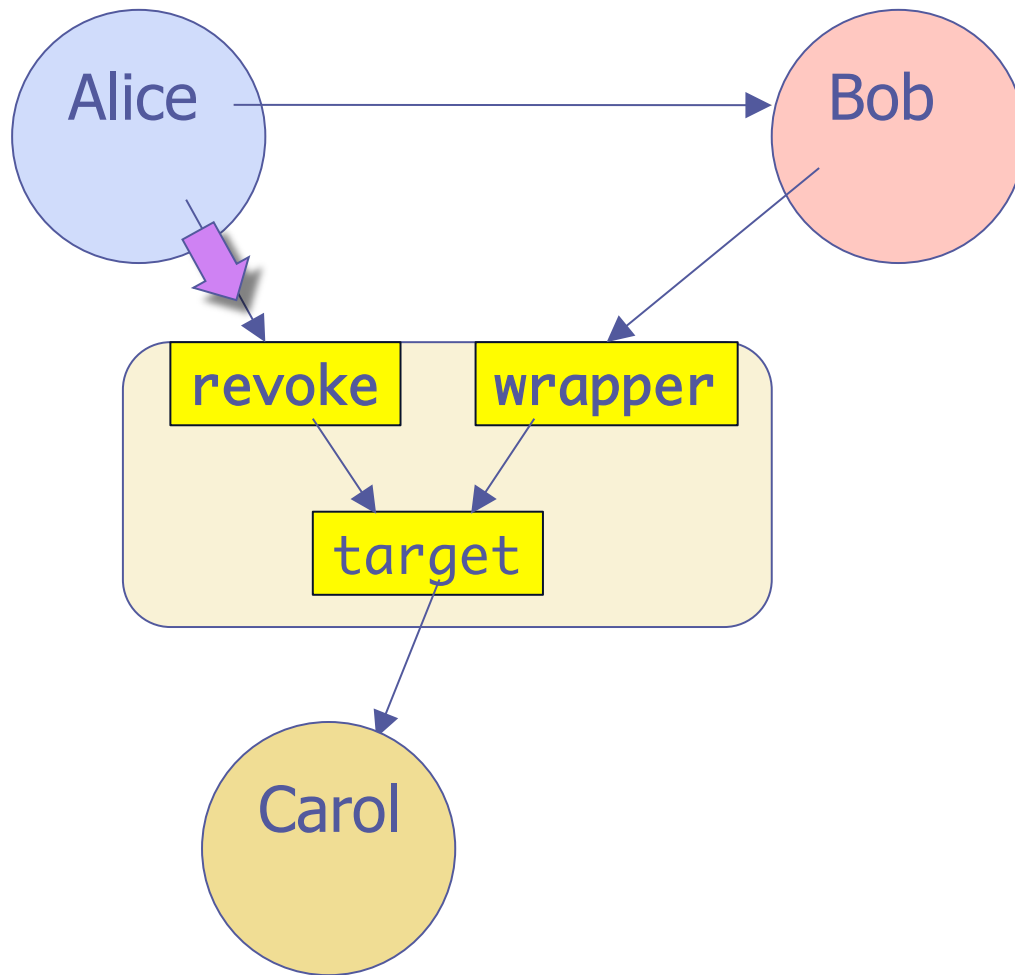
Revocability \equiv Temporal attenuation



Alice says:

```
var ct = makeCaretaker(carol);  
bob.foo(ct.wrapper);  
//...
```

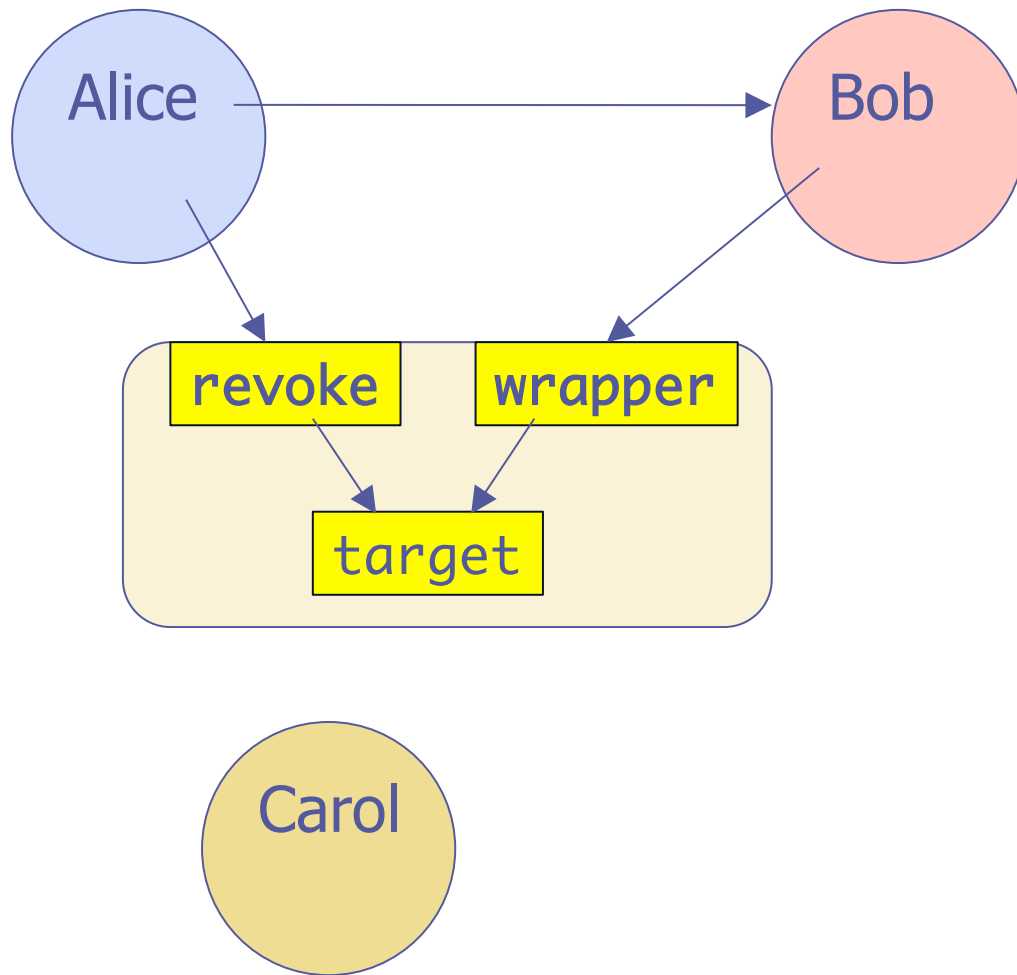
Revocability \equiv Temporal attenuation



Alice says:

```
var ct = makeCaretaker(carol);  
bob.foo(ct.wrapper);  
//...  
ct.revoke();
```

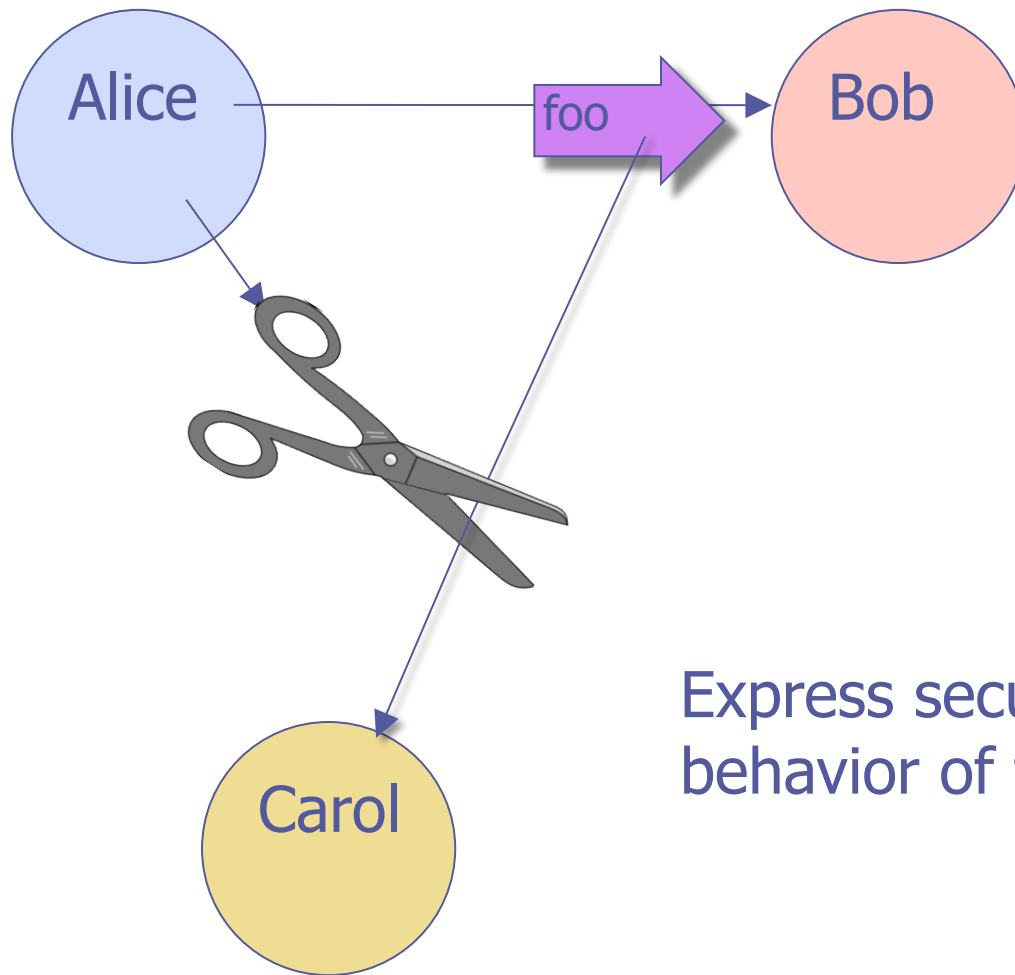
Revocability \equiv Temporal attenuation



Alice says:

```
var ct = makeCaretaker(carol);  
bob.foo(ct.wrapper);  
//...  
ct.revoke();
```

Attenuators \equiv Access Abstractions



Alice says:

```
var ct = makeCaretaker(carol);  
bob.foo(ct.wrapper);
```

Express security policy by the behavior of the objects you provide

Abstractions extend vocabulary

Primitives

+, ., []

int, struct, array

if, while, switch

points-to

Abstraction Forms

procedural abstraction

data abstraction

control abstraction

access abstraction

Extended Vocabulary

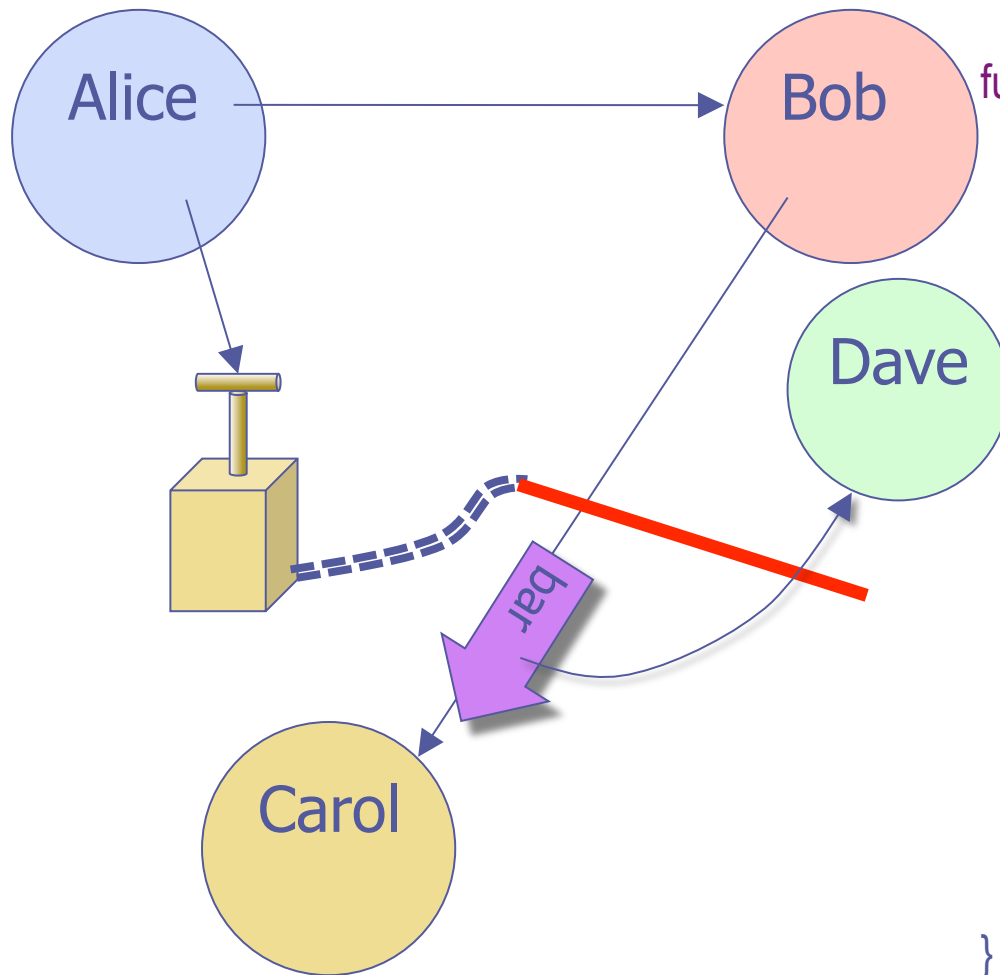
foo(bar, baz), ...

Point, Window, ...

addListener, ...

caretaker, membrane, ...

Membranes: Transitive Interposition

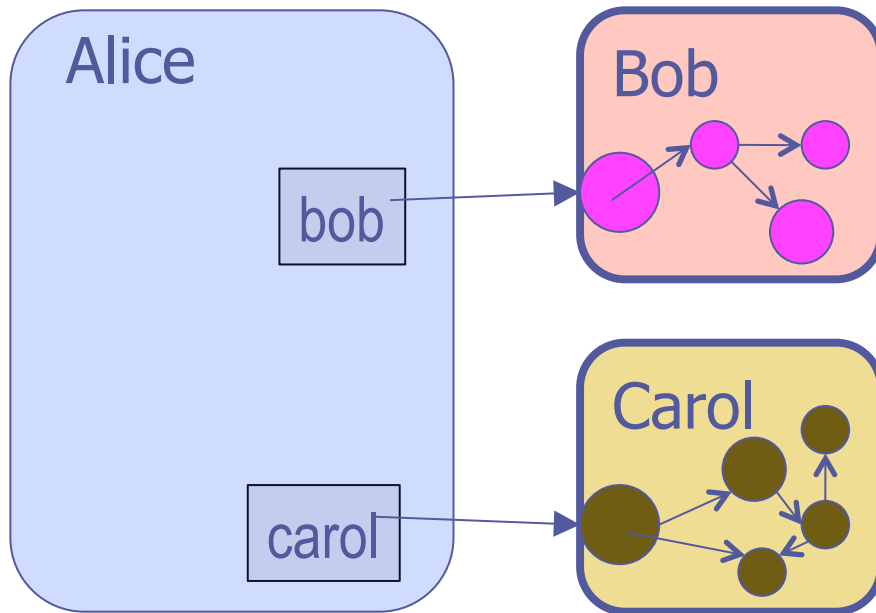


```
function makeFnMembrane(target) {  
  var enabled = true;  
  function wrap(wrapped) {  
    if (wrapped !== Object(wrapped)) {  
      return wrapped;  
    }  
    return function(...args) {  
      if (!enabled) { throw new Error("revoked"); }  
      return wrap(wrapped(...args.map(wrap)));  
    } }  
  return def({  
    wrapper: wrap(target),  
    revoke: function() { enabled = false; }  
  });  
}
```

Attenuators Compose

```
function makeROFile(file) {  
  return def({  
    read: file.read,  
    getLength: file.getLength  
  });  
}  
var rorFile = makeROFile(revocableFile);
```

No powerful references by default



Alice says:

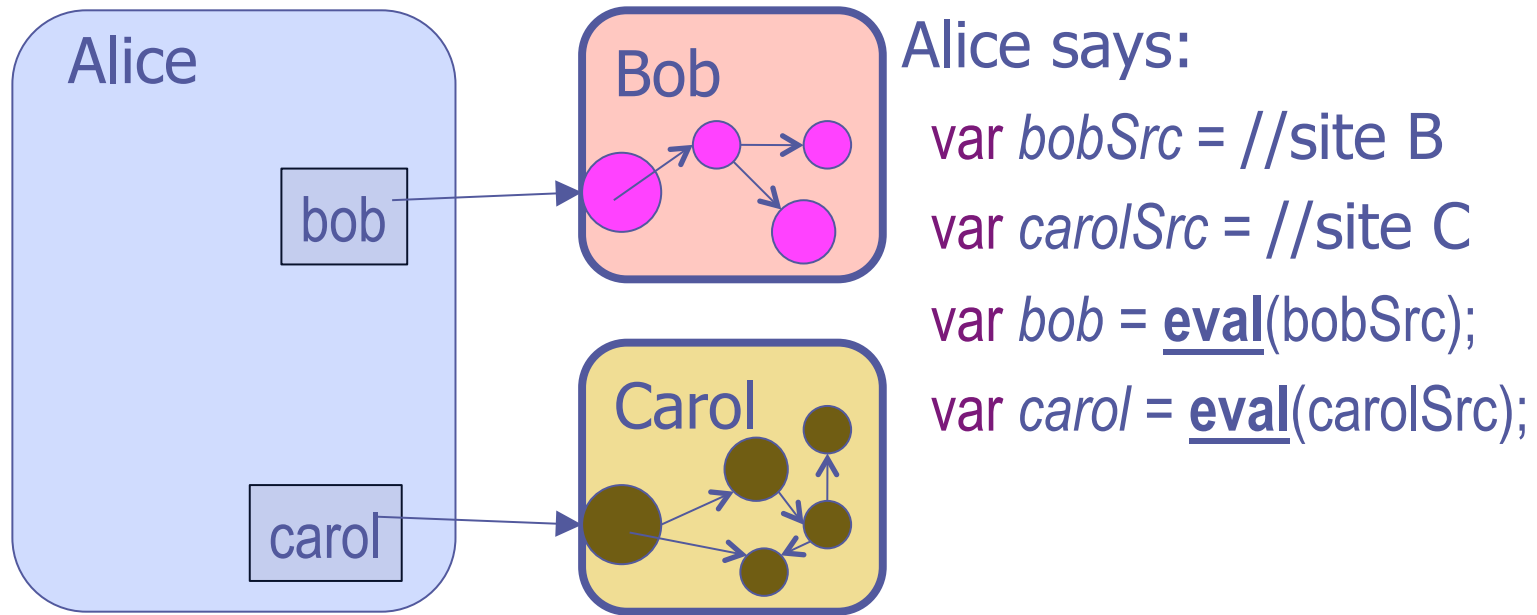
```
var bobSrc = //site B
```

```
var carolSrc = //site C
```

```
var bob = eval(bobSrc);
```

```
var carol = eval(carolSrc);
```

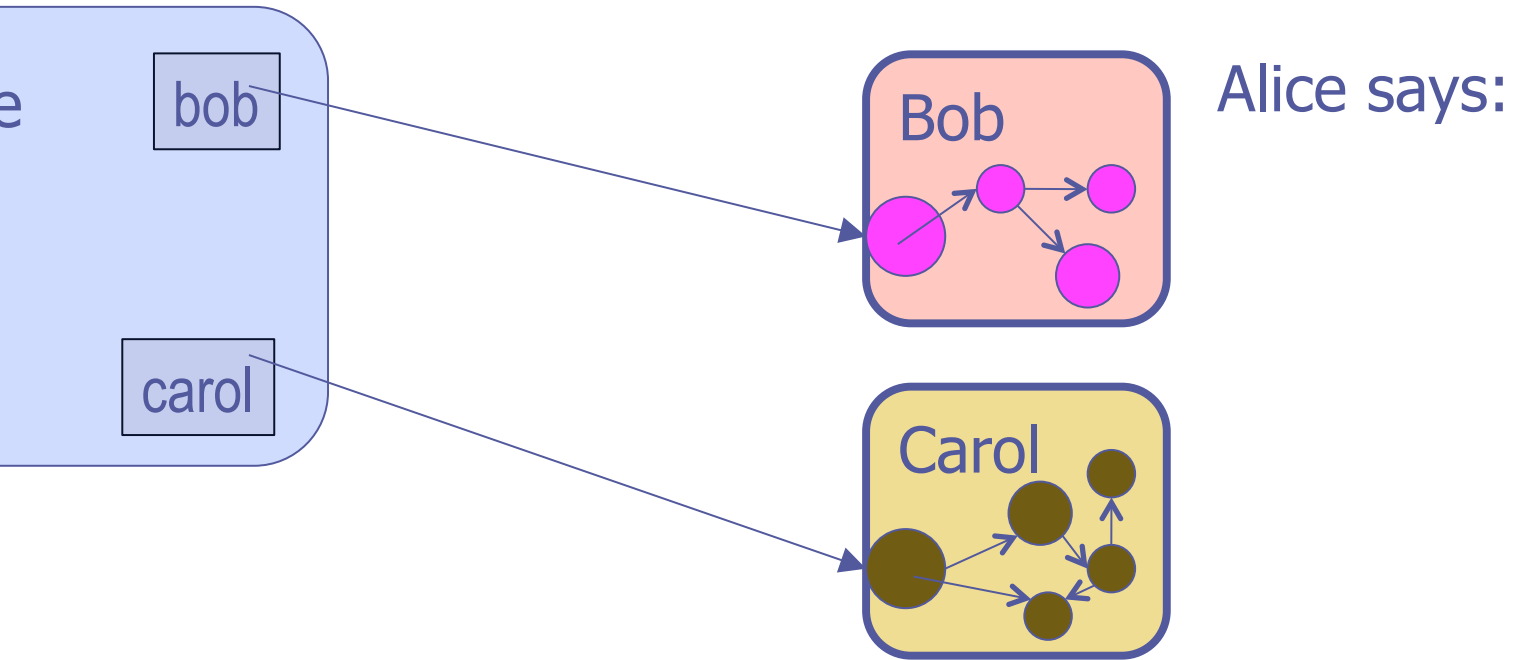
No powerful references by default



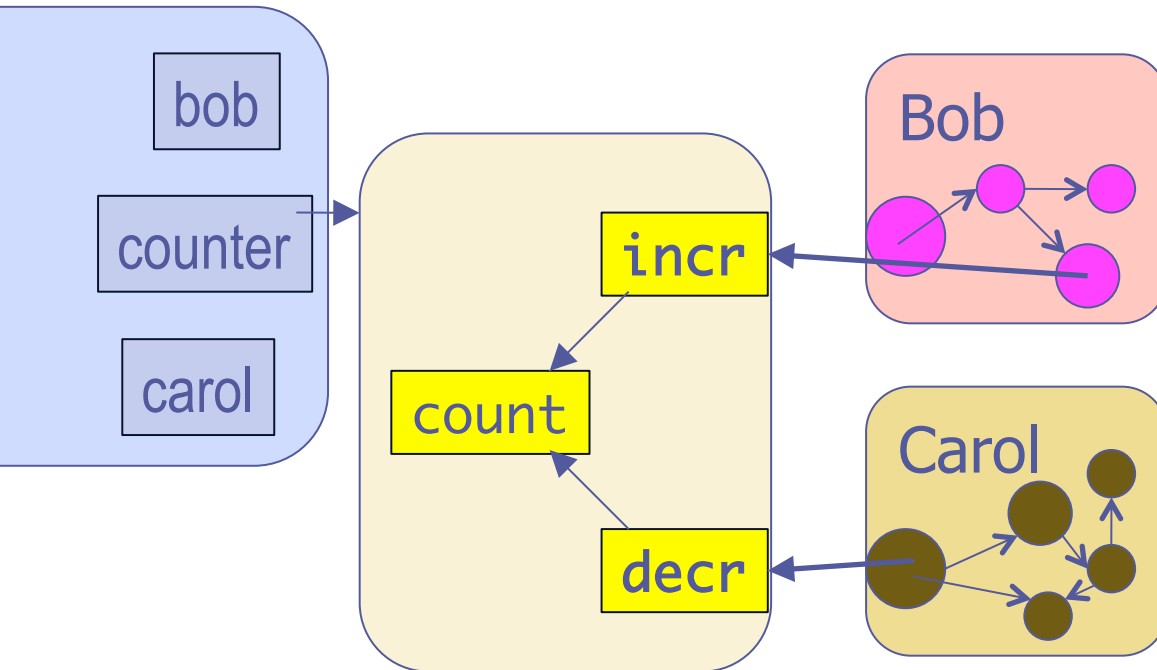
Bob and Carol are ***confined***.

Only Alice controls how they can interact or get more connected.

No powerful references by default



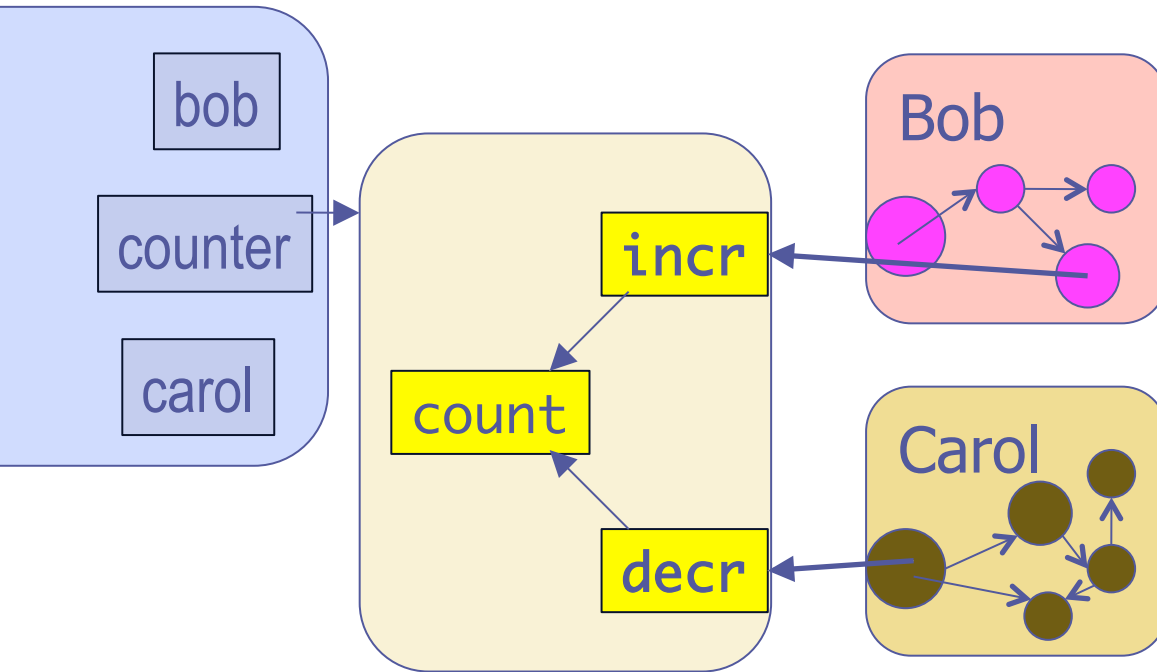
Only connectivity begets connectivity



Alice says:

```
var counter = makeCounter();  
bob(counter.incr);  
carol(counter.decr);  
bob = carol = null;
```

Only connectivity begets connectivity



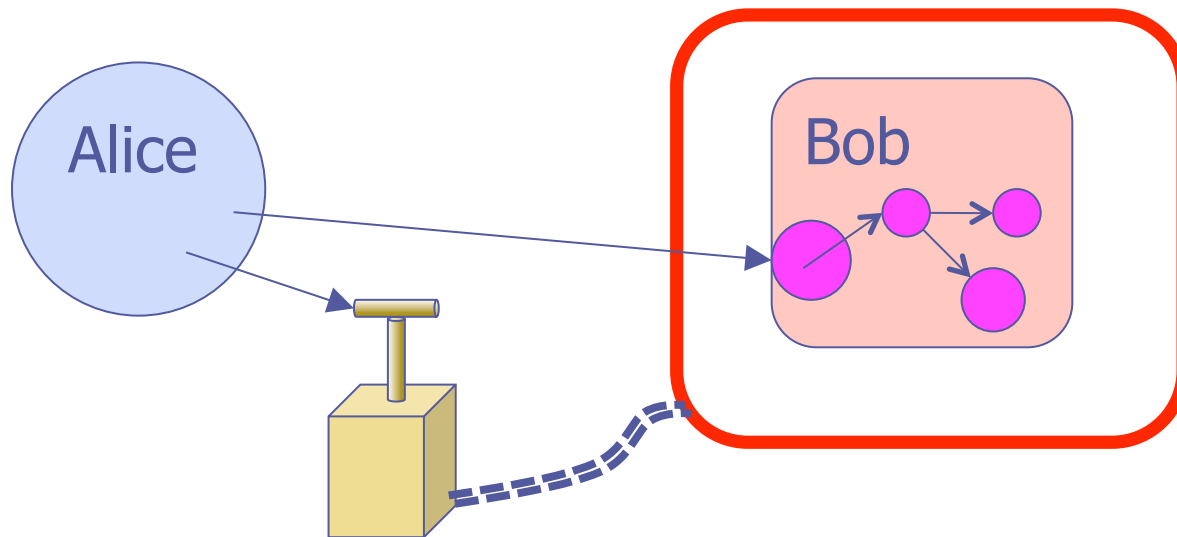
Alice says:

```
var counter = makeCounter();  
bob(counter.incr);  
carol(counter.decr);  
bob = carol = null;
```

Bob can only count up and see result. Carol only down.
Alice can only do both.

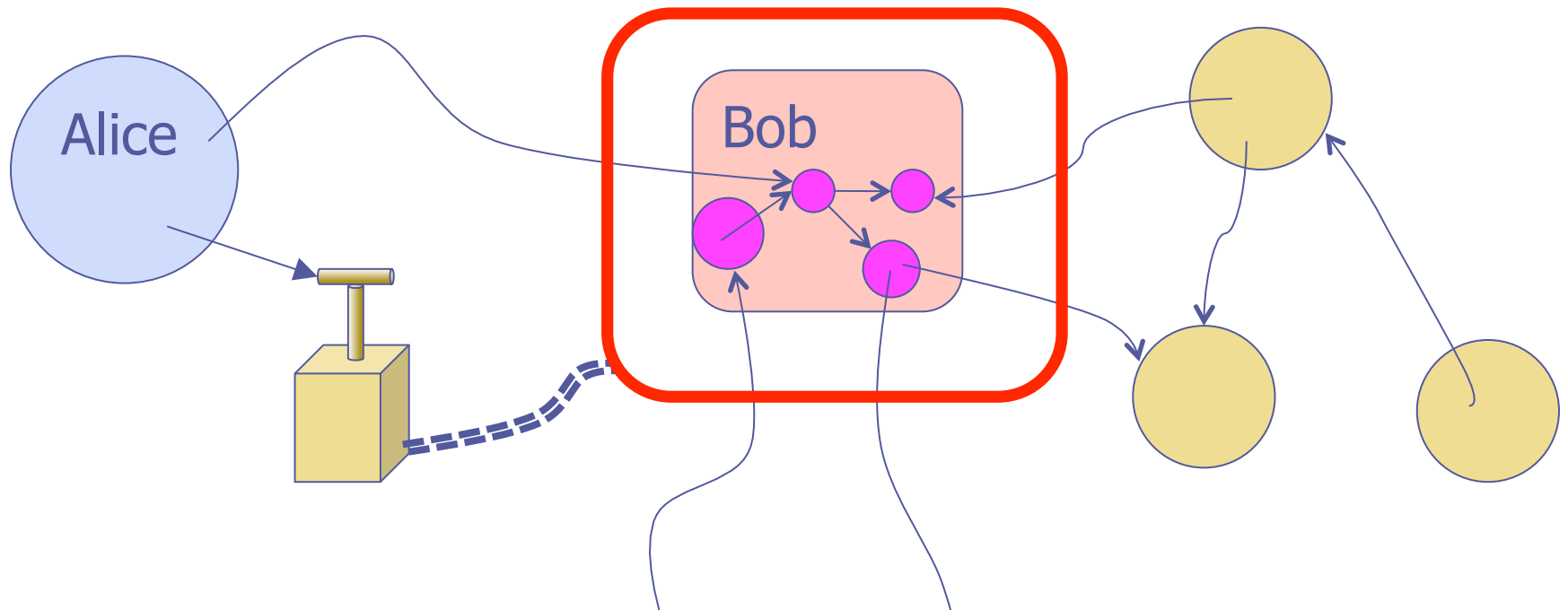
Membrane eval \rightarrow compartment

```
var compartment = makeMembrane(eval);  
var vbob = compartment.wrapper(bobSrc);
```



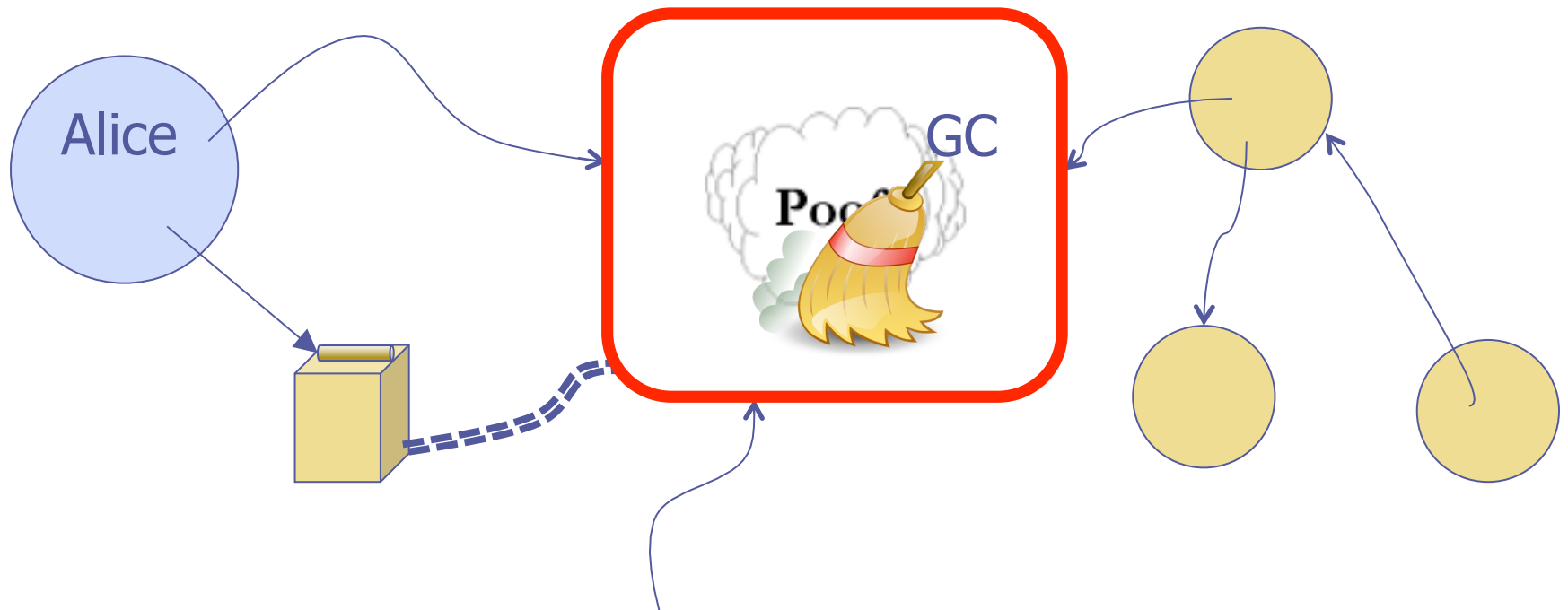
Membrane eval \rightarrow compartment

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var compartment = makeMembrane(eval);  
var vbob = compartment.wrapper(bobSrc);  
//...
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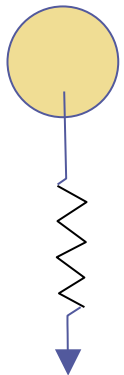
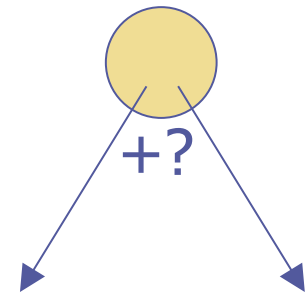
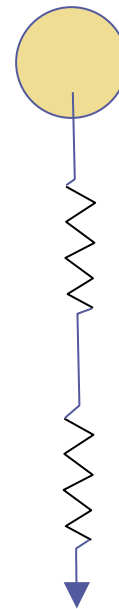
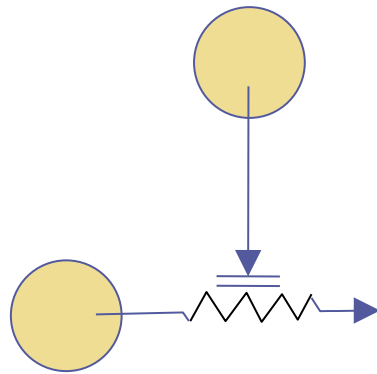
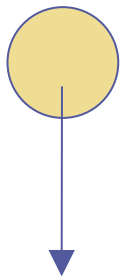


Membrane eval → compartment

```
var compartment = makeMembrane(eval);  
var vbob = compartment.wrapper(bobSrc);  
//...  
compartment.revoke();
```

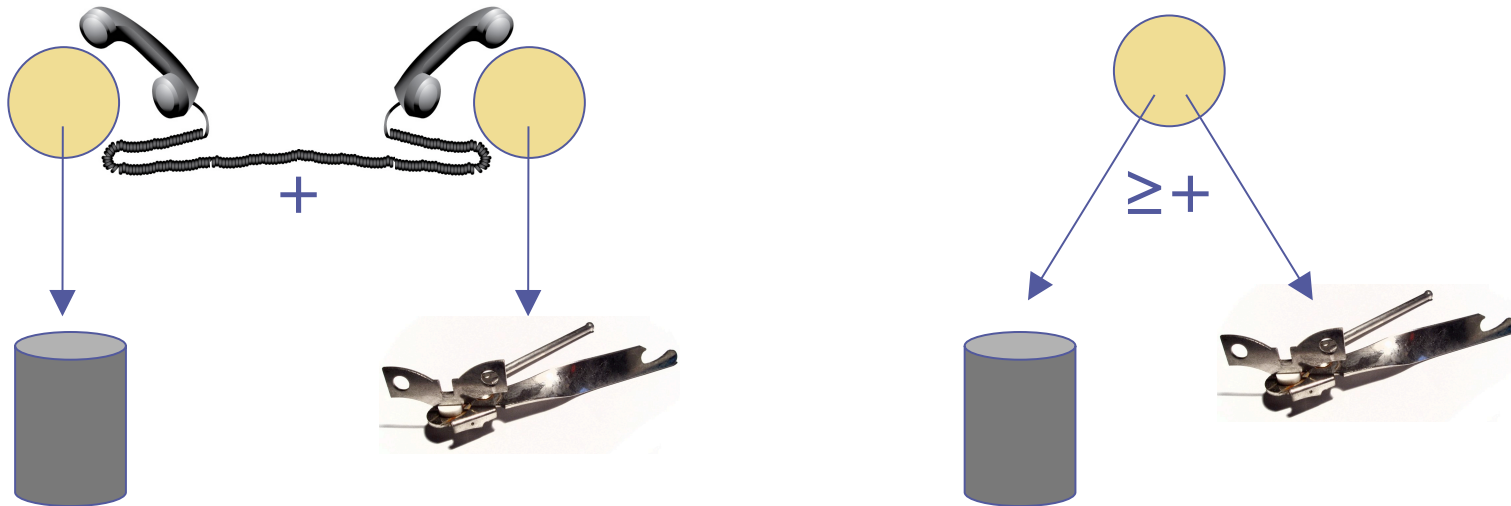


Composing Authority



Usually
intersection

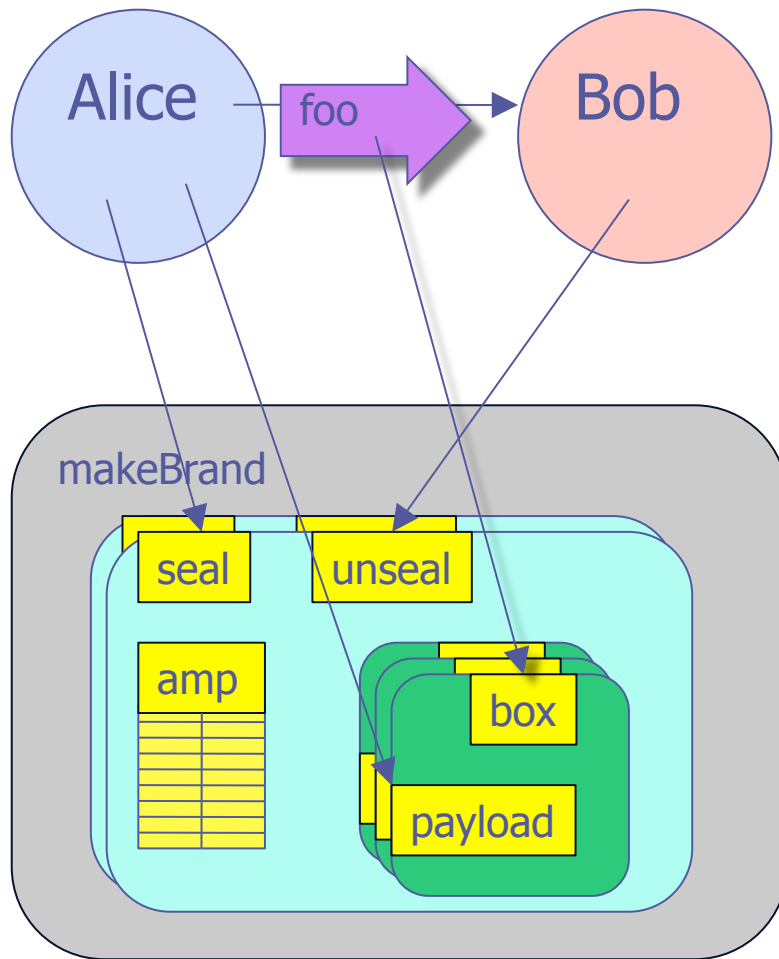
Rights Amplification



Authority conditional on other possessions.

Enables more expressive power.

Rights Amplification



```
function makeBrand() {  
  var amp = WeakMap();  
  return def({  
    seal: function(payload) {  
      var box = def({});  
      amp.set(box, payload);  
      return box;  
    },  
    unseal: function(box) {  
      return amp.get(box);  
    }  
  });  
}
```

Rights Amplification

Crypto patterns without crypto

makeBrand()	generate key pair
seal method	encryption key
unseal method	decryption key
payload	plaintext
box	cyphertext

```
function makeBrand() {  
  var amp = WeakMap();  
  return def({  
    seal: function(payload) {  
      var box = def({});  
      amp.set(box, payload);  
      return box;  
    },  
    unseal: function(box) {  
      return amp.get(box);  
    }  
  });  
}
```

Dr. SES

Distributed Resilient Secure EcmaScript

Most suspicion is not within an address space

Stretch reference graph between machines

Preserve distributed “memory safety”

Async object ops as JSON/REST ops

Object operations

`var result = bob.foo(carol);`

`var resultP = bobP ! foo(carol);`

https: JSON/RESTful operations

local only call

POST https://...q=foo {...}

Async object ops as JSON/REST ops

Object operations

```
var result = bob.foo(carol);  
var resultP = bobP ! foo(carol);  
var result = bob.foo;  
var resultP = bobP ! foo;  
bobP ! foo = newFoo;  
delete bobP ! foo;
```

https: JSON/RESTful operations

local only call

POST https://...q=foo {...}

local only get

GET https://...q=foo

PUT https://...q=foo {...}

DELETE http://...q=foo

Async object ops as JSON/REST ops

Object operations

https: JSON/RESTful operations

~~var result = bob.foo(carol);~~

~~local only call~~

var resultP = bobP ! foo(carol);

POST https://...q=foo {...}

~~var result = bob.foo;~~

~~local only get~~

var resultP = bobP ! foo;

GET https://...q=foo

~~bobP ! foo = newFoo;~~

~~PUT https://...q=foo {...}~~

~~delete bobP ! foo;~~

~~DELETE http://...q=foo~~

Async object ops as JSON/REST ops

Object operations

`var resultP = bobP ! foo(carol);`

`var resultP = bobP ! foo;`

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`var resultP = bobP ! foo;`

https: JSON/RESTful operations

POST https://...q=foo {...}

GET https://...q=foo

Async object ops as JSON/REST ops

Object operations

```
var resultP = bobP ! foo(carol);
```

```
var resultP = bobP ! foo;
```

```
Q.when(resultP, function(result) {  
  ...result...  
}, function (ex) {  
  ...ex...  
});
```

https: JSON/RESTful operations

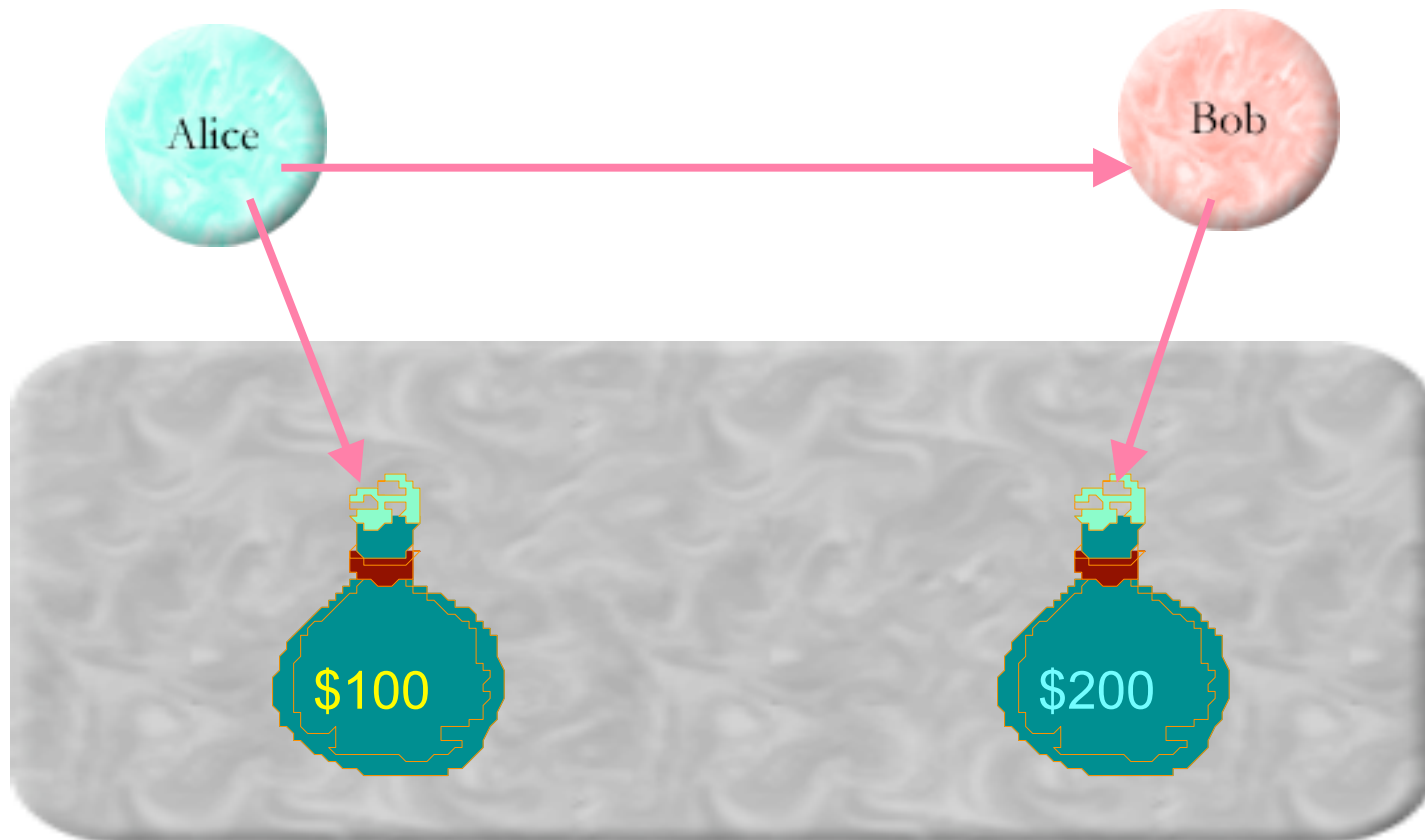
```
POST https://...q=foo {...}
```

```
GET https://...q=foo
```

Register for notification using

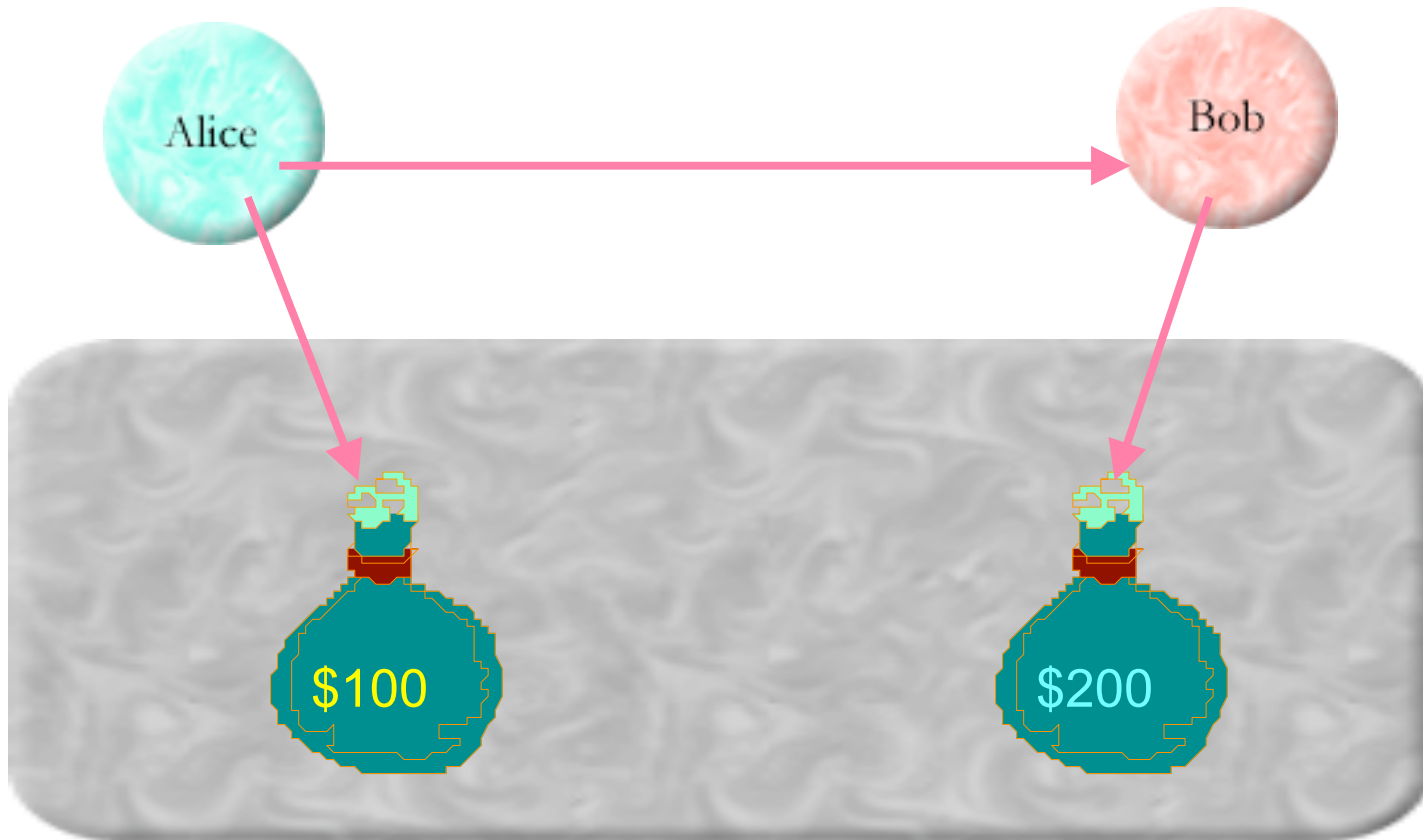
```
xhr.onreadystatechange = ...
```

Distributed Secure Currency



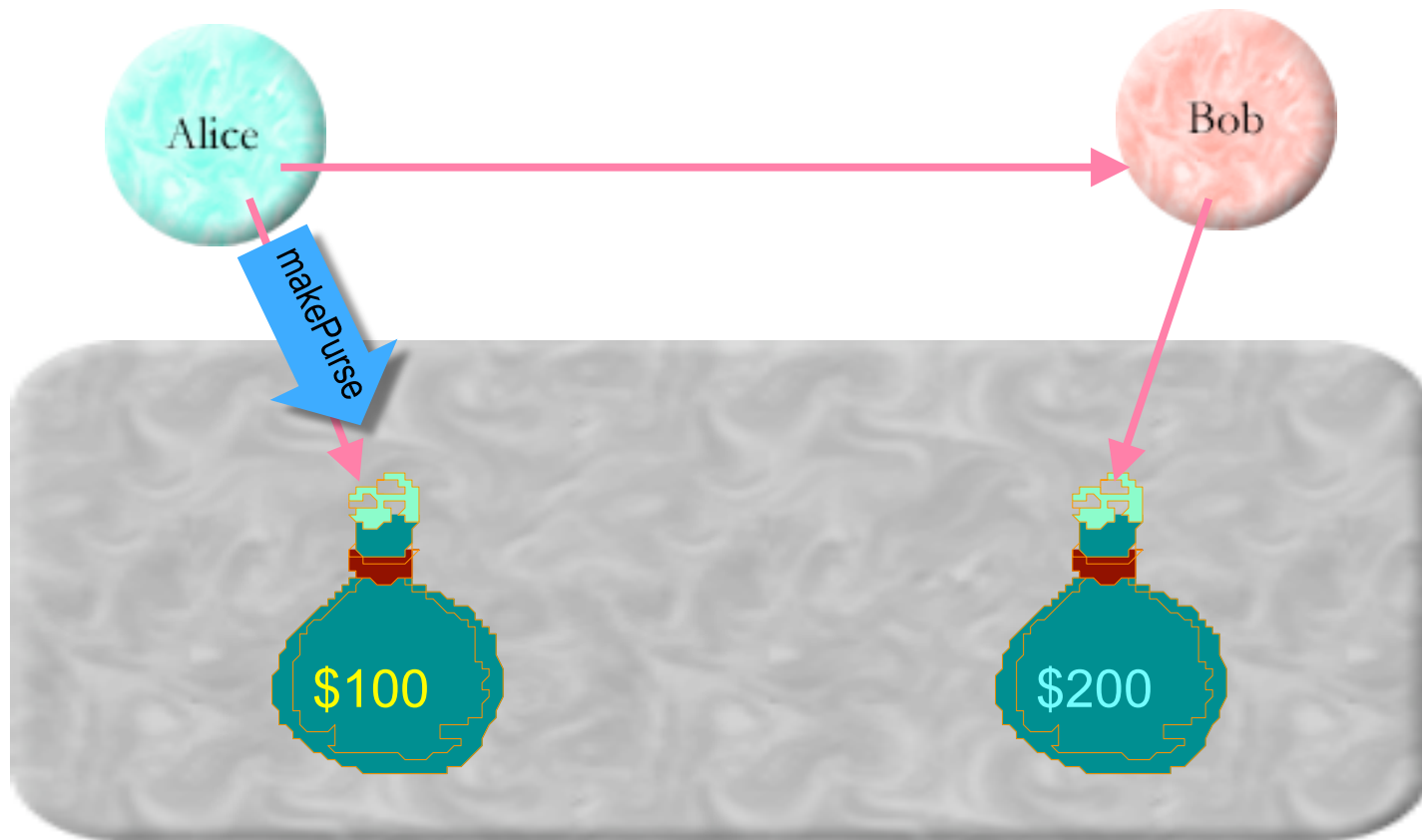
Distributed Secure Currency

```
var paymentP = myPurse ! makePurse();
```



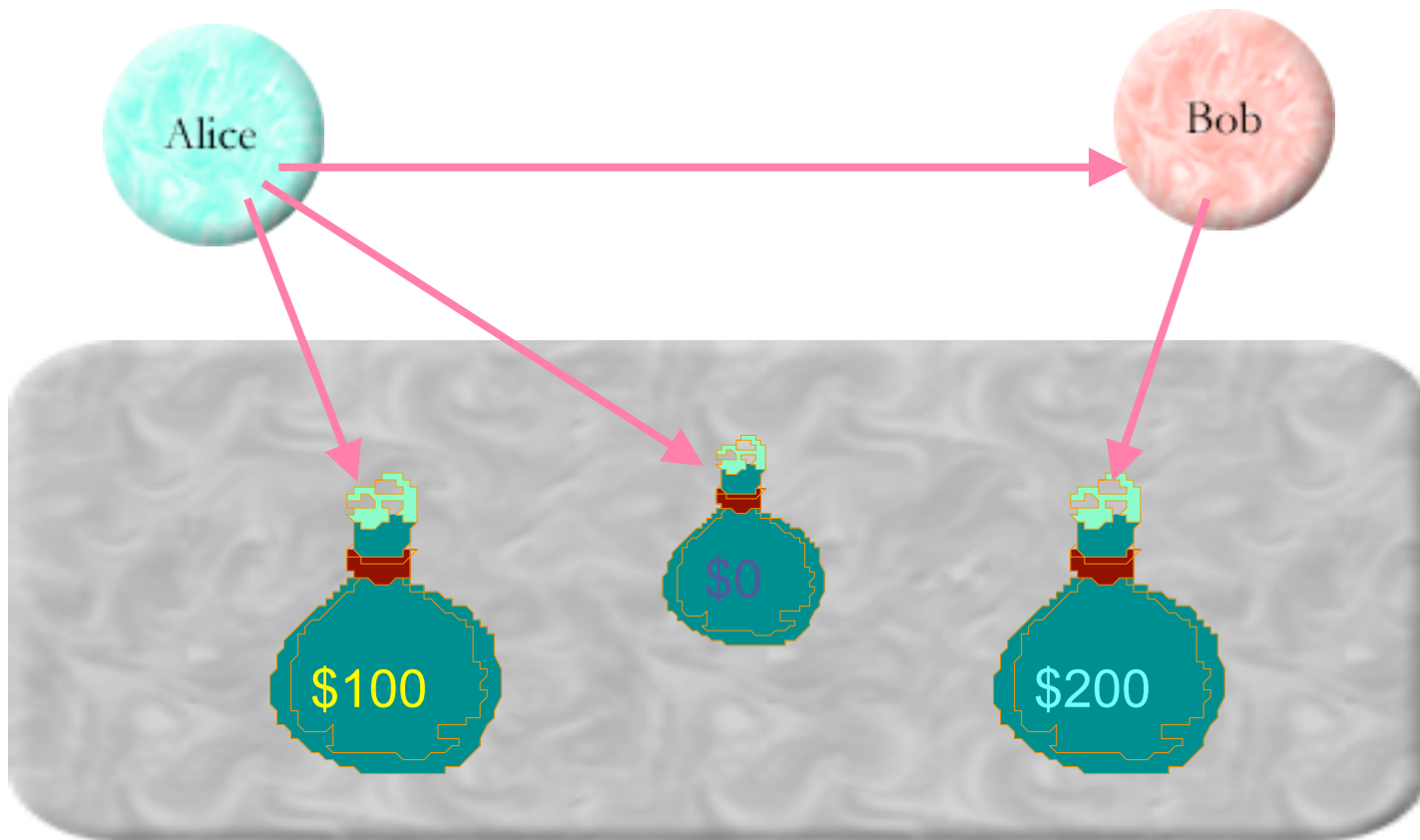
Distributed Secure Currency

```
var paymentP = myPurse ! makePurse();
```



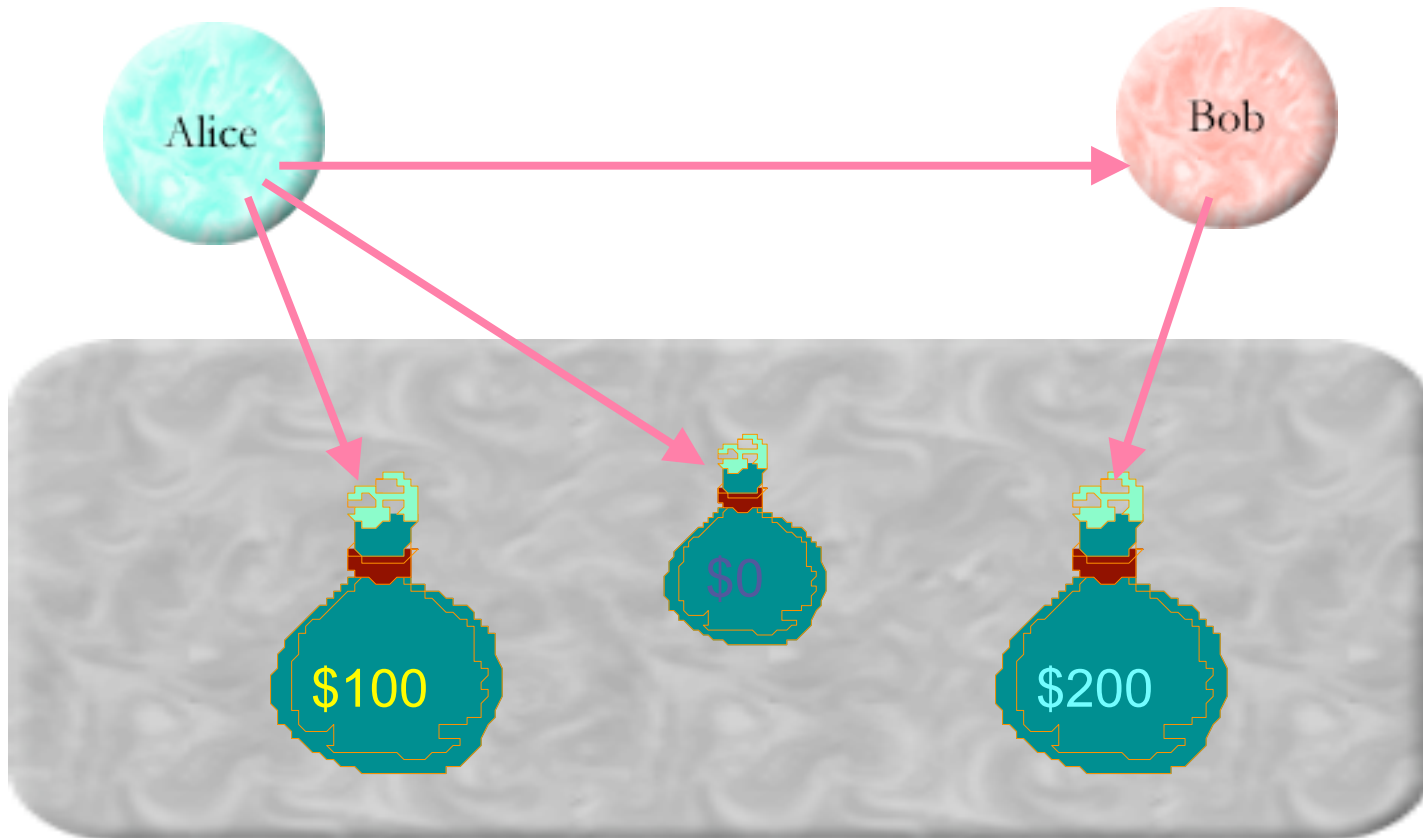
Distributed Secure Currency

```
var paymentP = myPurse ! makePurse();
```



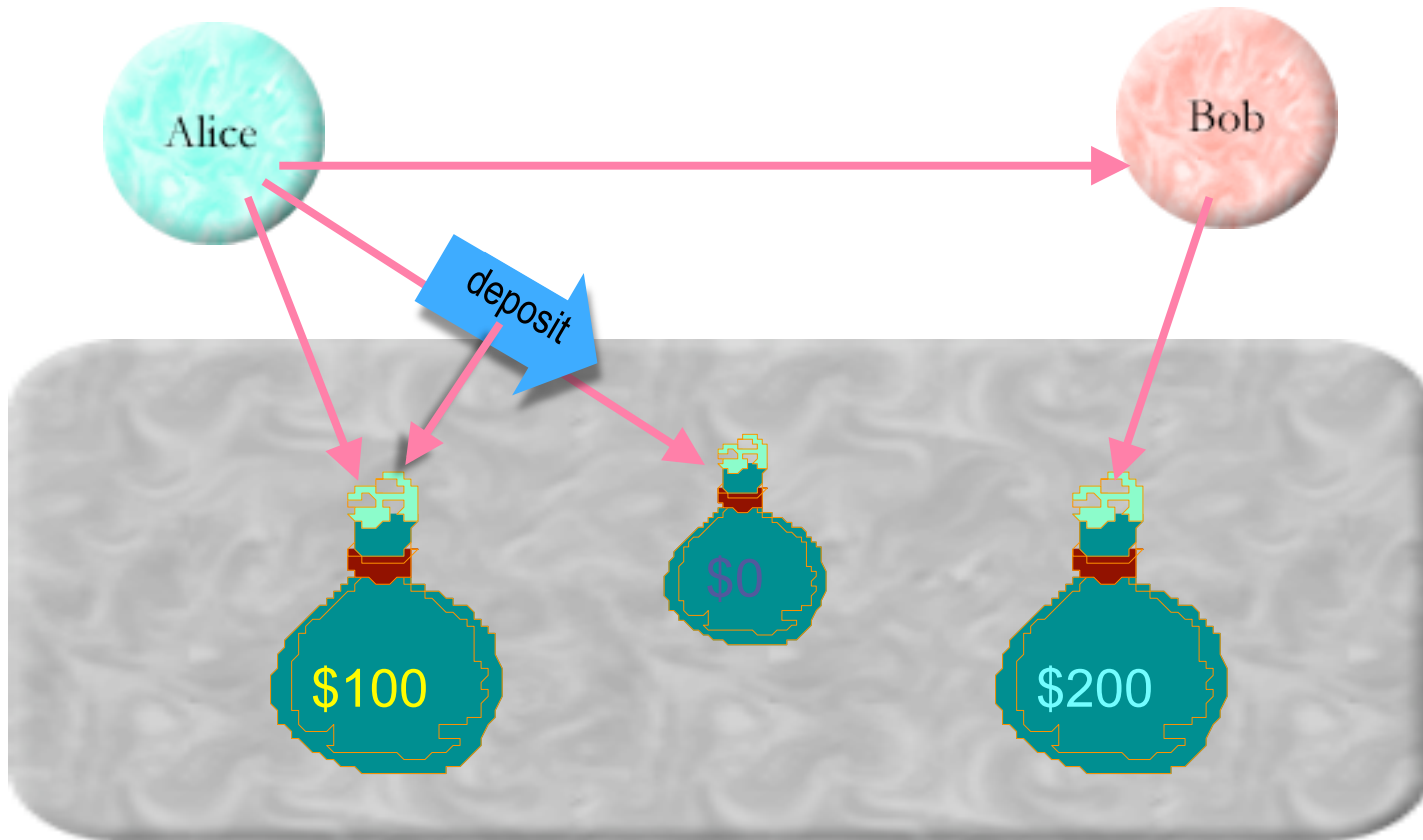
Distributed Secure Currency

```
var paymentP = myPurse ! makePurse();  
paymentP ! deposit(10, myPurse);
```



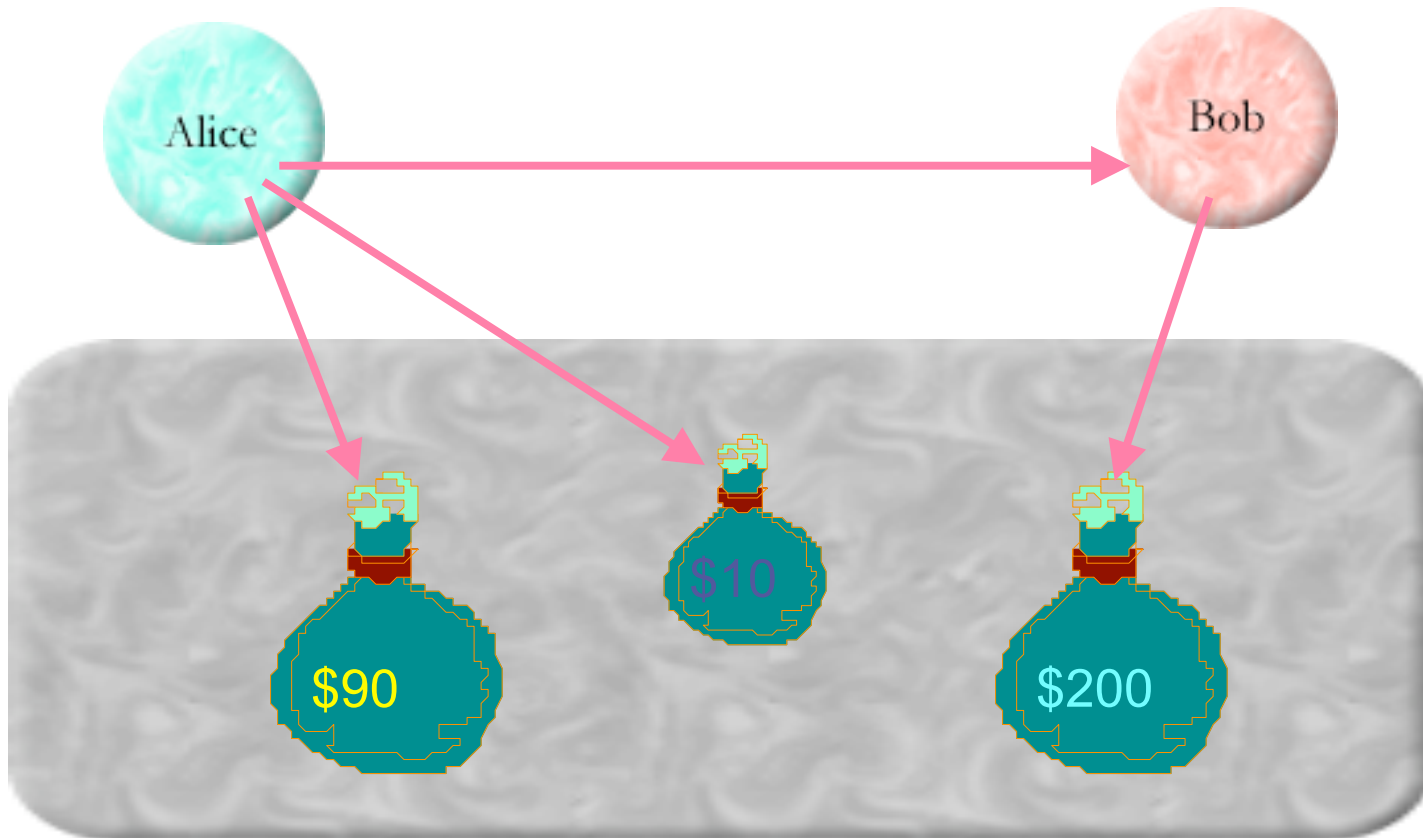
Distributed Secure Currency

```
var paymentP = myPurse ! makePurse();  
paymentP ! deposit(10, myPurse);
```



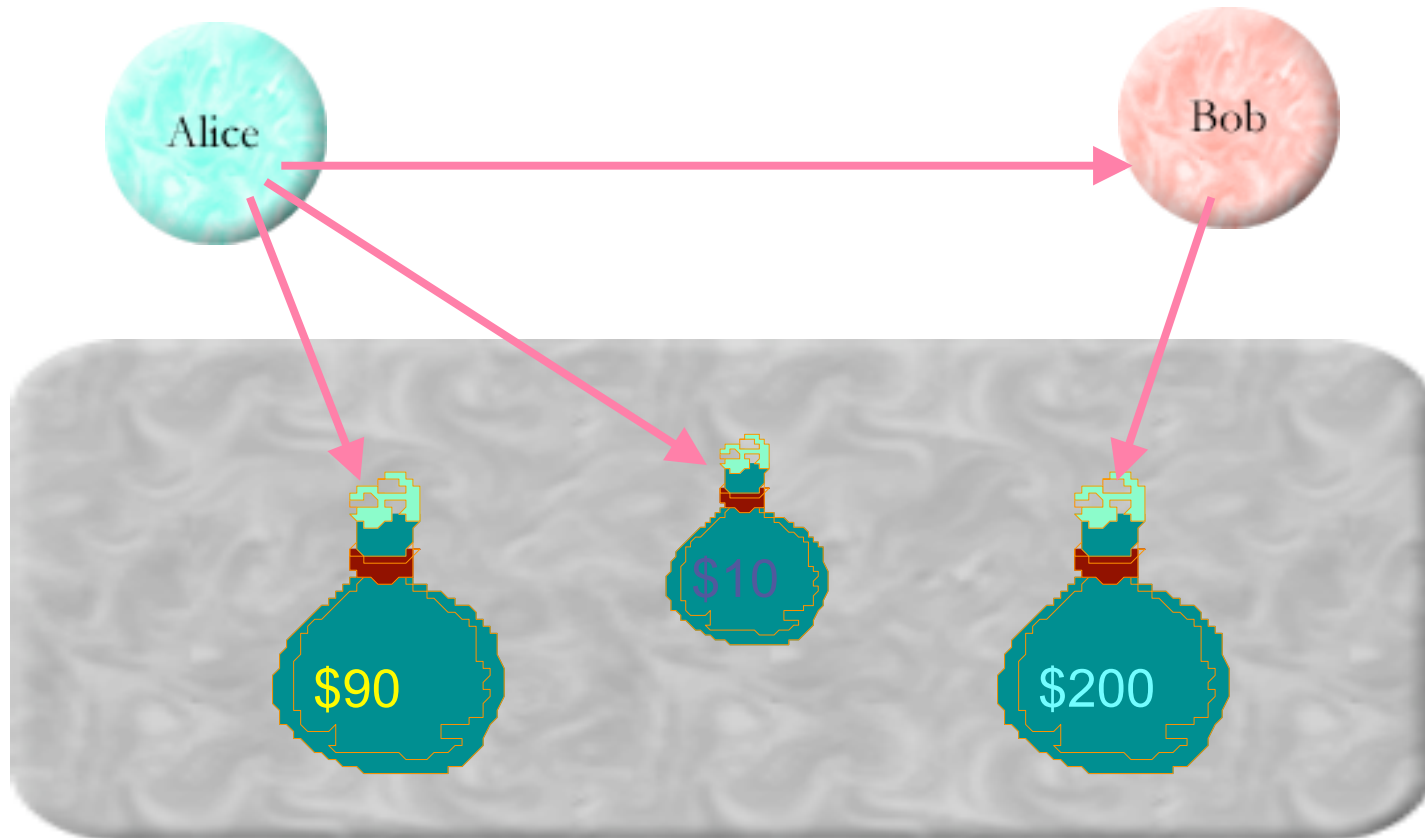
Distributed Secure Currency

```
var paymentP = myPurse ! makePurse();  
paymentP ! deposit(10, myPurse);
```



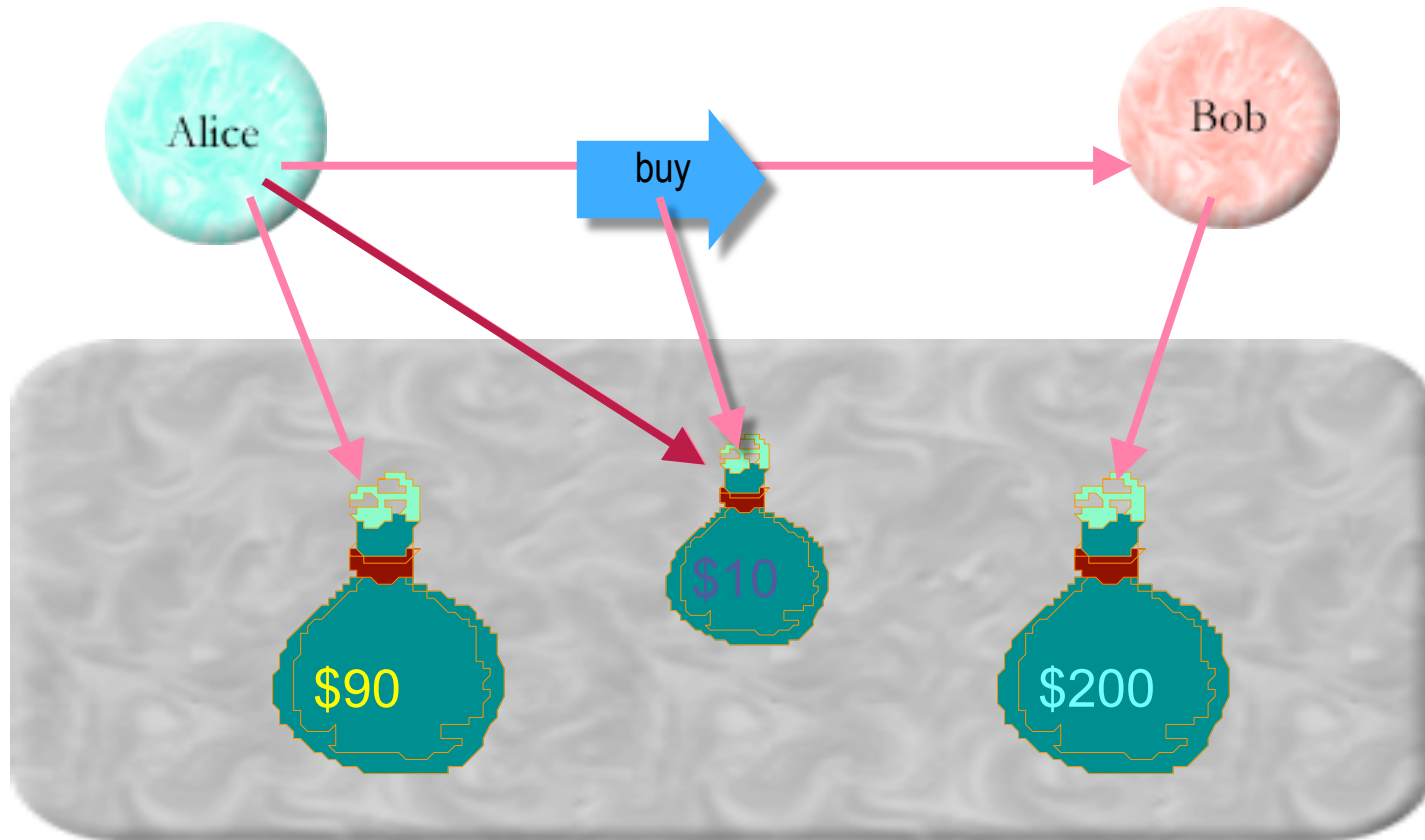
Distributed Secure Currency

```
var paymentP = myPurse ! makePurse();  
paymentP ! deposit(10, myPurse);  
var goodP = bobP ! buy(desc, paymentP);
```



Distributed Secure Currency

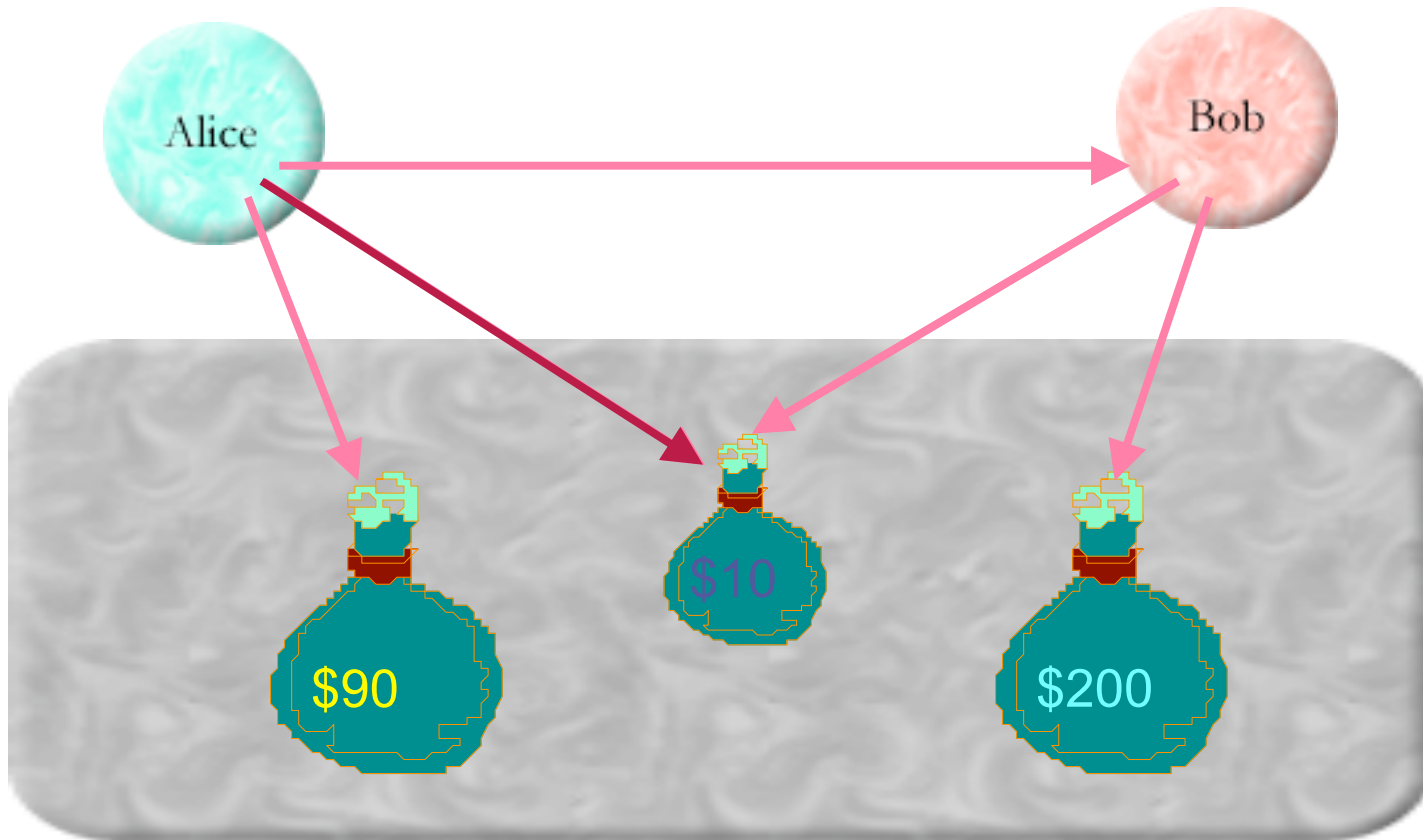
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paymentP ! deposit(10, myPurse);  
var goodP = bobP ! buy(desc, paymentP);
```



Distributed Secure Currency

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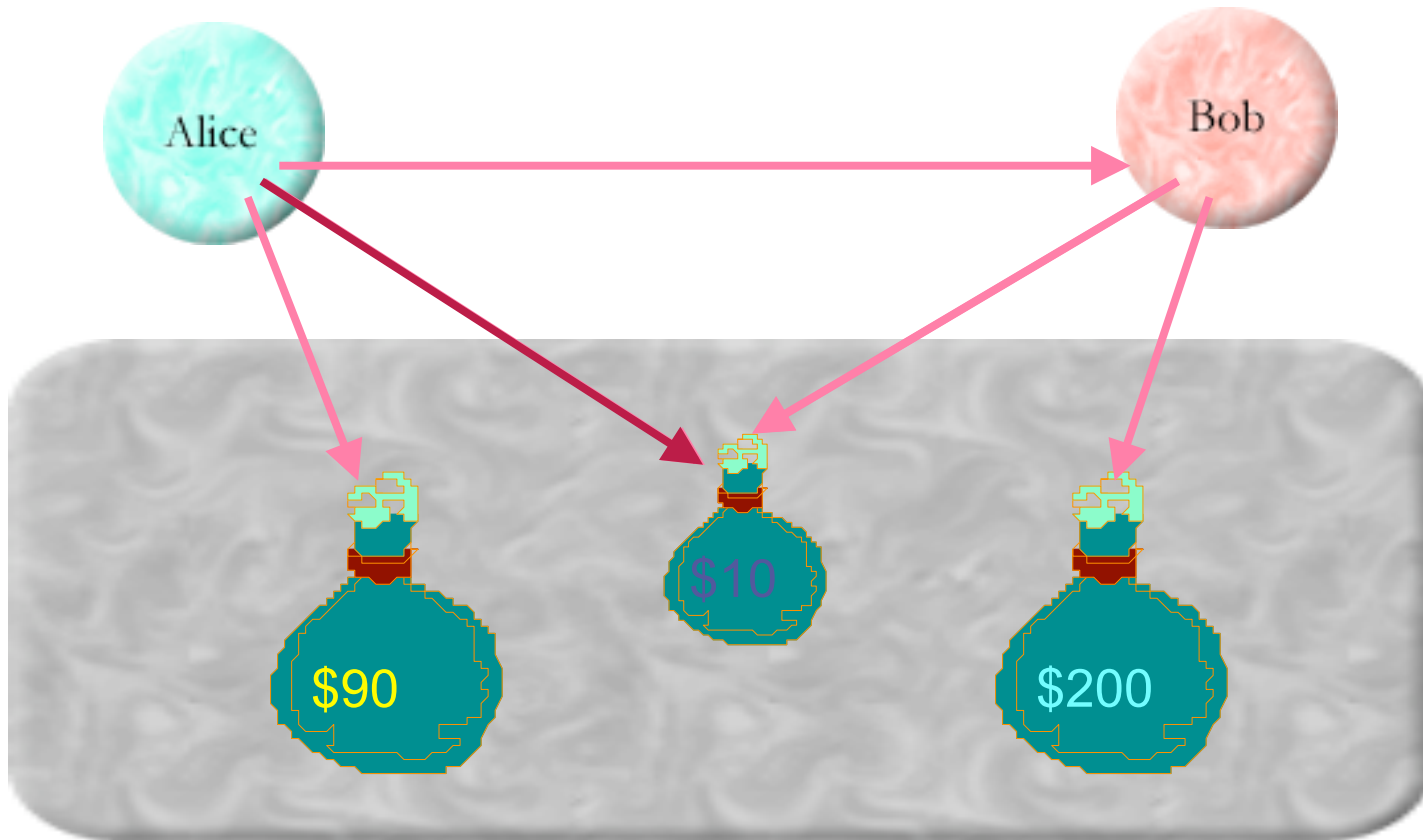
```
return Q.when(paymentP, function(p) {
```



Distributed Secure Currency

```
var paymentP = myPurse ! makePurse();  
paymentP ! deposit(10, myPurse);  
var goodP = bobP ! buy(desc, paymentP);
```

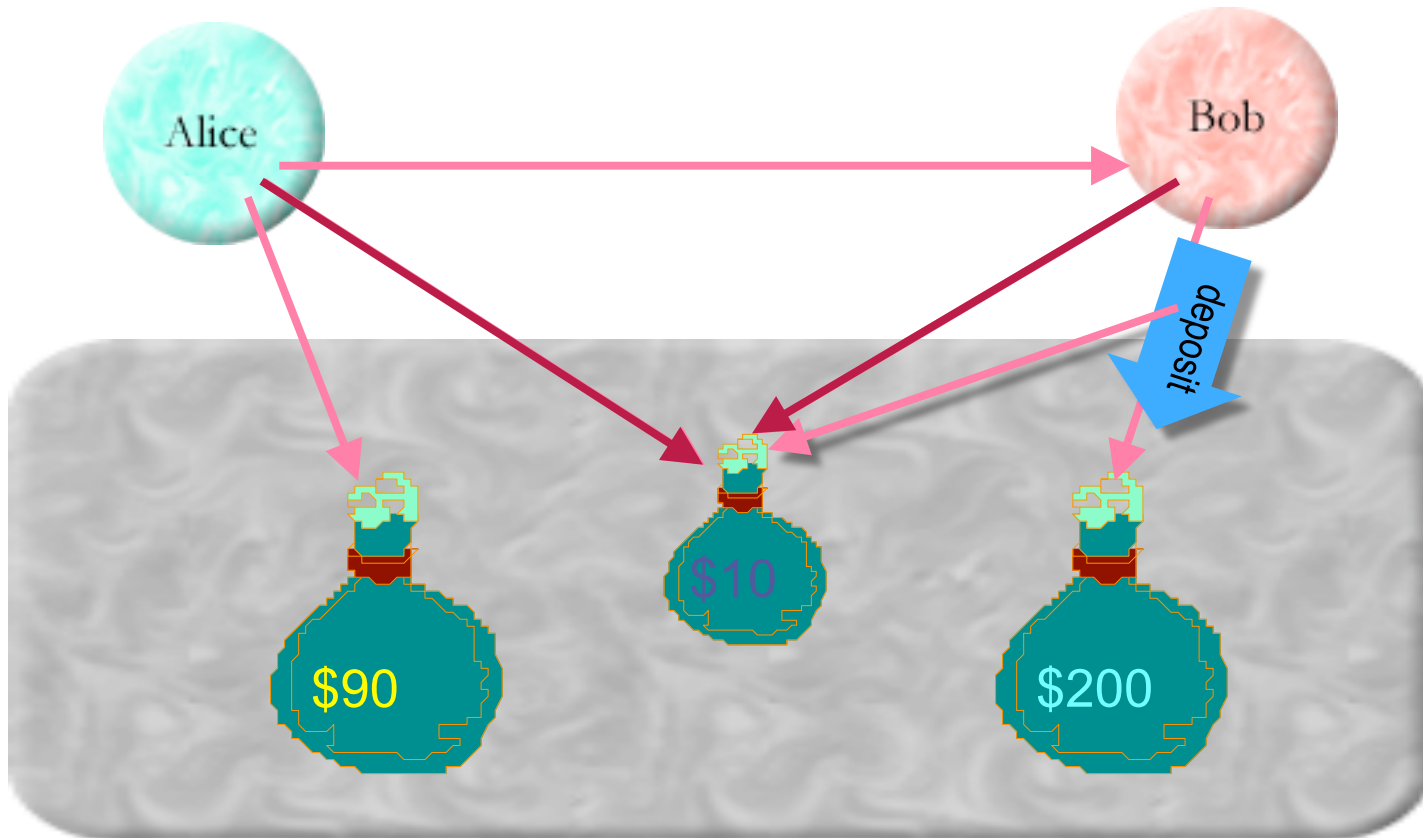
```
return Q.when(paymentP, function(p) {  
  return Q.when(myPurse ! deposit(10, p), function(_) {
```



Distributed Secure Currency

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```

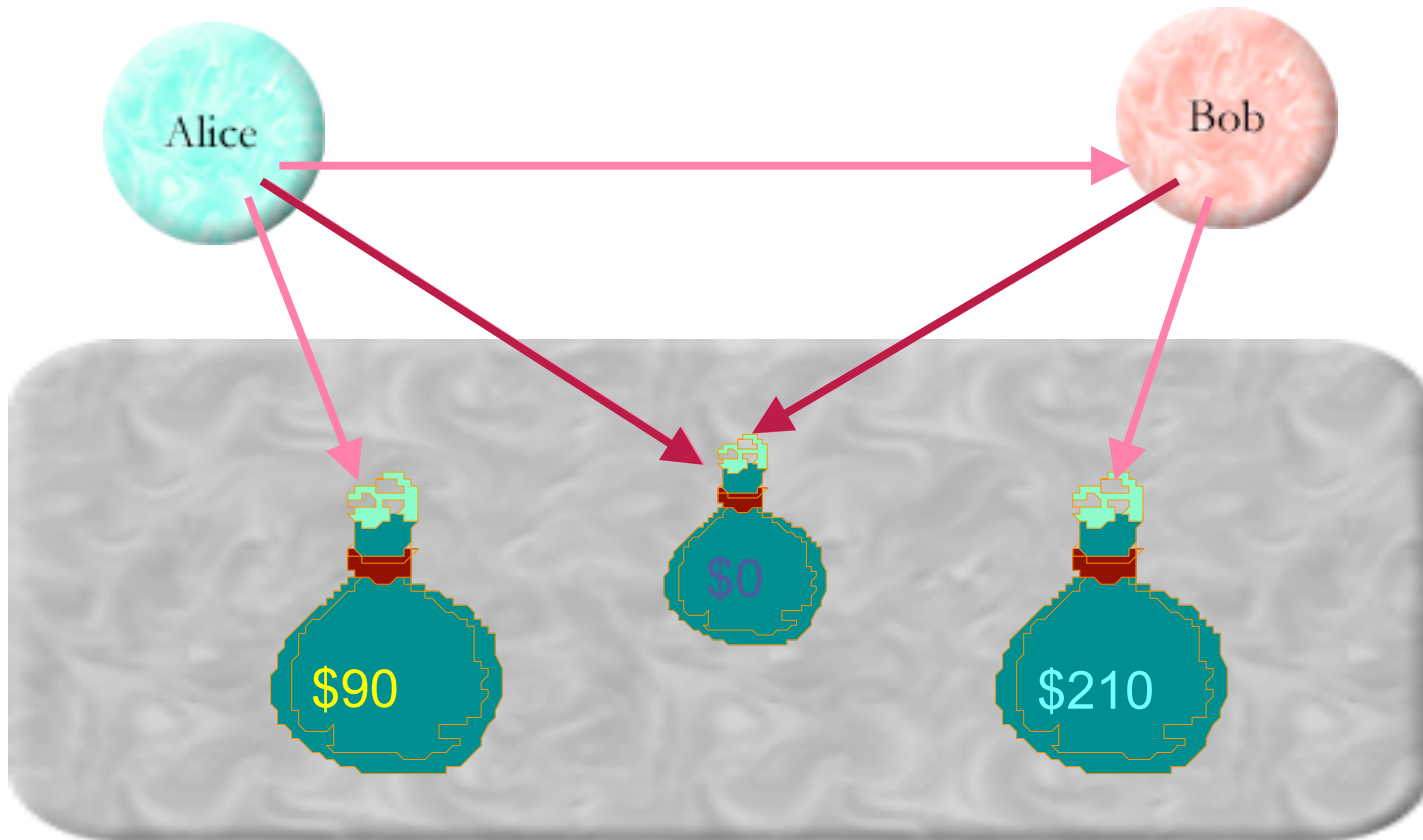
```
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  return Q.when(myPurse ! deposit(10, p), function(_) {
```



Distributed Secure Currency

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paymentP ! deposit(10, myPurse);  
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```

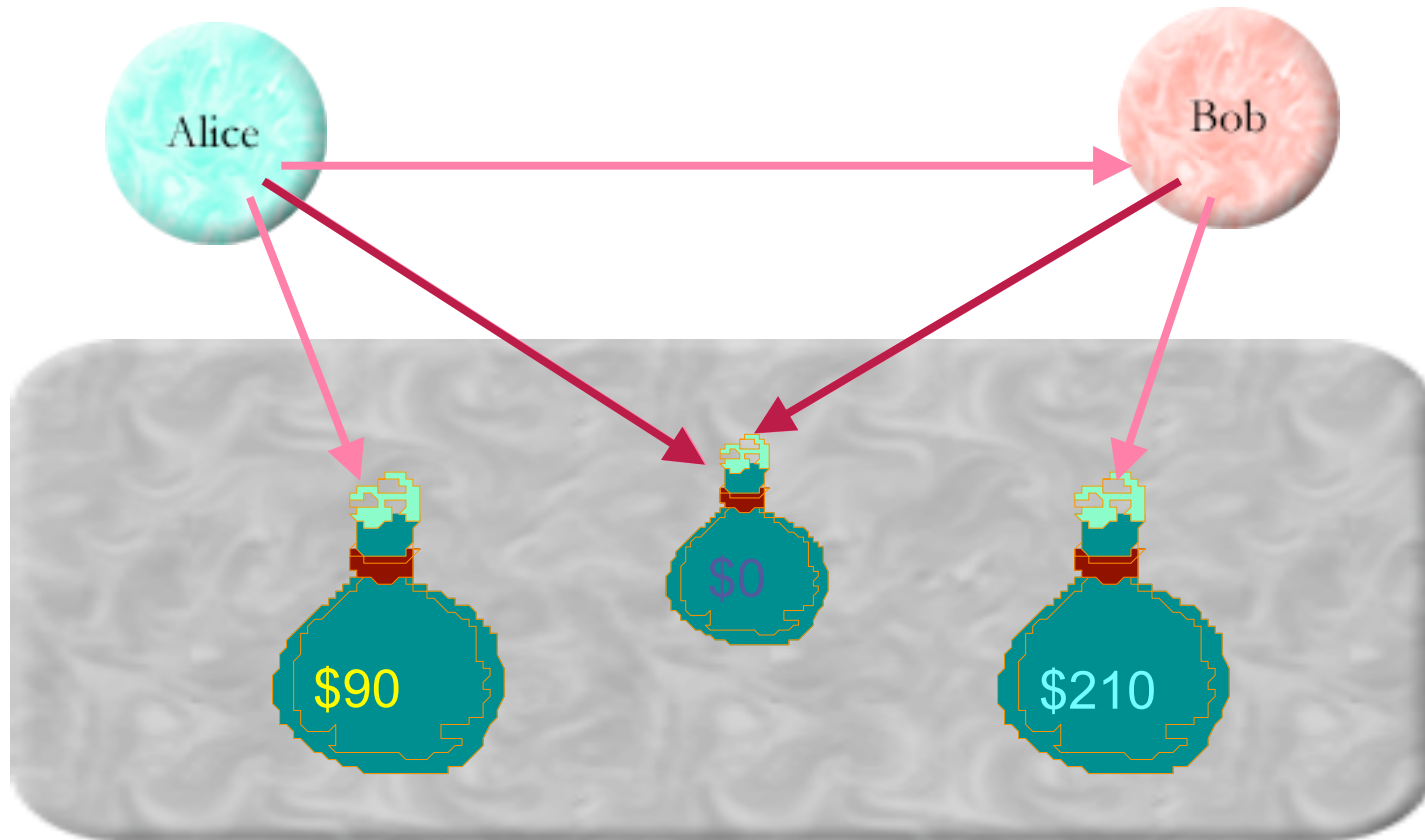
```
return Q.when(paymentP, function(p) {  
  return Q.when(myPurse ! deposit(10, p), function(_) {
```



Distributed Secure Currency

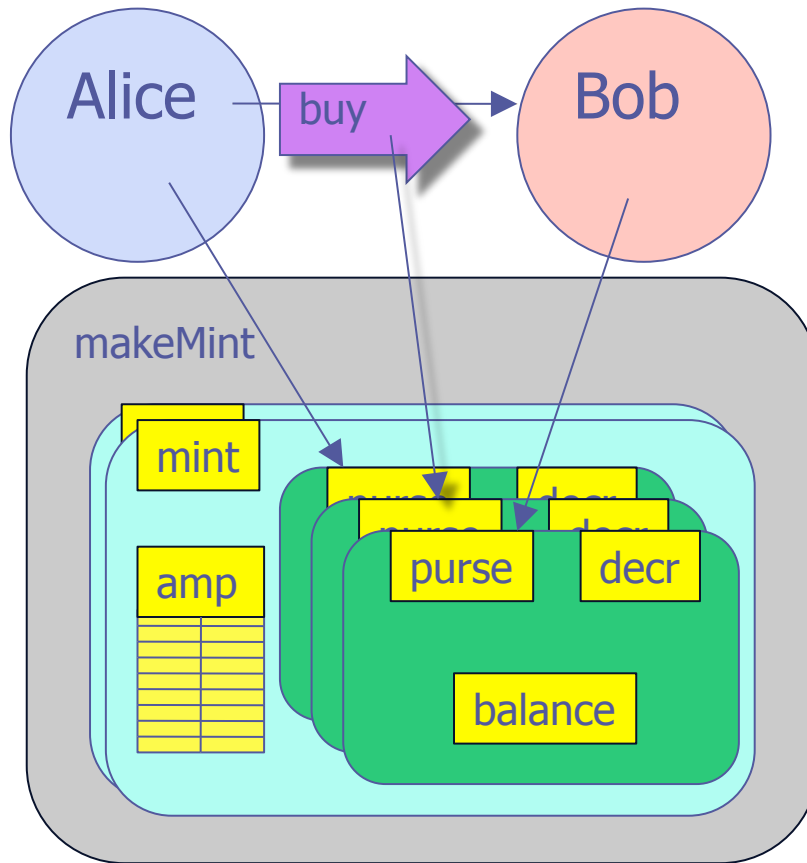
```
var paymentP = myPurse ! makePurse();  
paymentP ! deposit(10, myPurse);  
var goodP = bobP ! buy(desc, paymentP);
```

```
return Q.when(paymentP, function(p) {  
  return Q.when(myPurse ! deposit(10, p), function(_) {  
    return good; }, ...
```



Money as “factorial” of secure coding

No explicit crypto



```
function makeMint() {  
  var amp = WeakMap();  
  return function mint(balance) {  
    var purse = def({  
      getBalance: function() { return balance; },  
      makePurse: function() { return mint(0); },  
      deposit: function(amount, src) {  
        var newBal = Nat(balance + amount);  
        amp.get(src)(Nat(amount));  
        balance = newBal;  
      }  
    });  
    function decr(amount) {  
      balance = Nat(balance - amount);  
    }  
    amp.set(purse, decr);  
    return purse;  
  }  
}
```

The other half of the object revolution

Protect object from world

Responsibility driven design

Avoid needless coupling

Information hiding

Avoid global variables

Procedural, data, control, ...

Patterns and frameworks

Say what you mean

Protect world from object

Authority driven design

Avoid needless vulnerability

Principle of Least Authority

Forbid mutable static state

..., and access abstractions

Patterns of safe cooperation

Mean only what you say

Questions?

Caja Roadmap

	Cajita	SES5/3	SES/ES5-strict
+	Valija	ES5/3	Sandboxed ES5-strict
+	ref_send / server-proxy	—————→	ref_send / UMP
+		server-server captp	captp / web-sockets
+		"!" sending sugar	—————→
Subtotal:		Dr. SES5/3	Dr. SES
+	Sanitize HTML & CSS	—————→	—————→
+	Domita / uncajoled JS	Domado / SES	—————→
=	Caja Yesterday	Caja Tomorrow	Caja on ES5,HTML5