Newspeak & its Children: Avarice and Sloth

Gilad Bracha Ministry of Truth



Functional Object-Oriented Programming

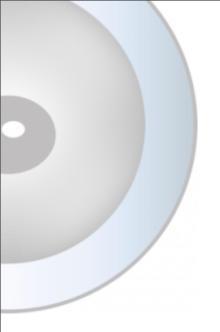
- No contradiction
 - FP is computational paradigm
 - OO is an organizational one



FOOP is Spreading

- OCaml/F#
- Scala





Pure FOOP

- Purely Object-Oriented
- Purely Functional



Purely Object-Oriented

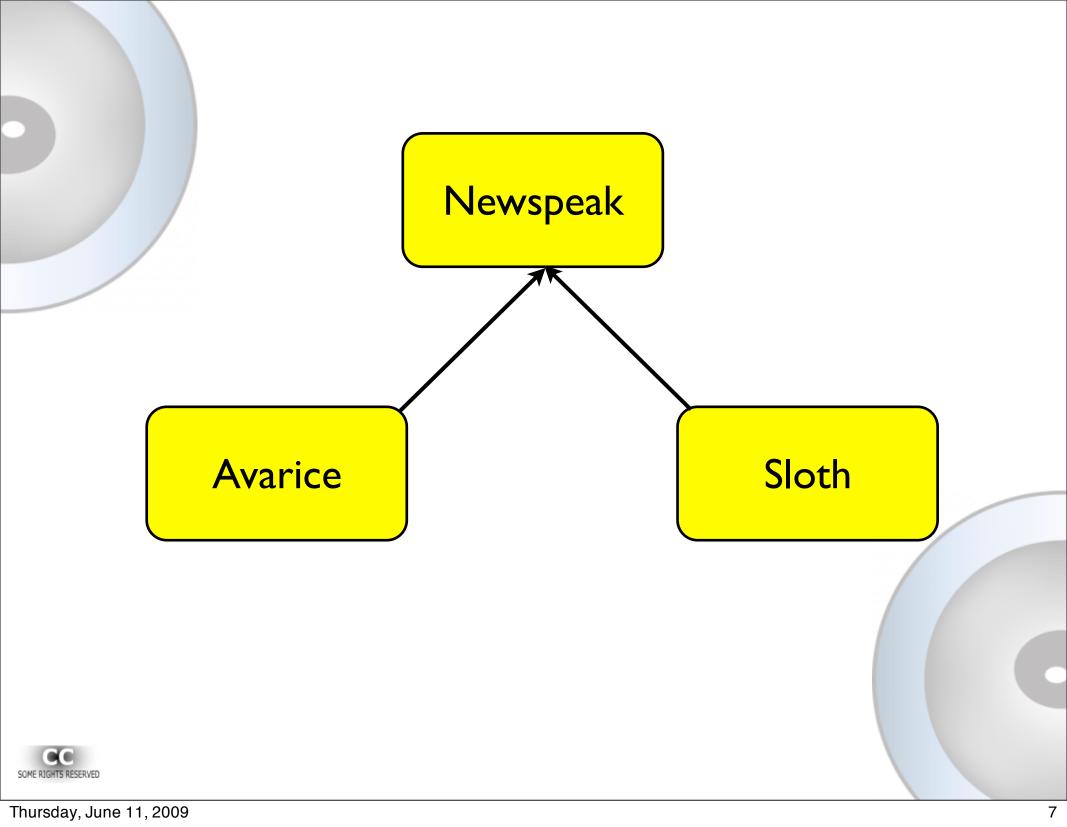
Everything is an Object



Purely Functional

- HOFs
- Referentially transparent
- Lazy?





Newspeak

- The "Mother of all sins"
- Mother and Sin share common OO structure



Newspeak

- Message based
- No global scope



Message-based

- All operations are "message sends"
 - All names are late bound, depending on their receiver



Program to an Interface not an Implementation



No References to Variables

Representation Independence

Always use slots via accessors

id = letter, (letter | digit) star.



No References to Classes

- Always use accessors
- Classes are first class objects
 - Concepts are phenomena



No Global Scope

- As in lambda calculus
- Newspeak is almost as simple as a class calculus



Ban Imports!

- No packages, assemblies, modules, ...
- No imports, using clauses, ...
- Top level classes define modules



How does it work?

- Tools provide any required top level namespace
- Aggregation makes parameterization manageable at top level
- Nesting handles the rest



Nested Classes

- Nested as in Beta, not as in Java
 - Great for Modeling
 - Natural Modularity Solution



Message-based Nested Classes

- Classes are always virtual
- Classes are always mixins
- Class hierarchy inheritance



Practical Benefits

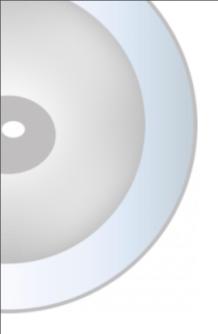
- Side-by-side deployment
- Polymorphism over entire libraries
- Security



Security Implications

- No Ambient Authority
- Object capability model
 - Object reachability defines authority





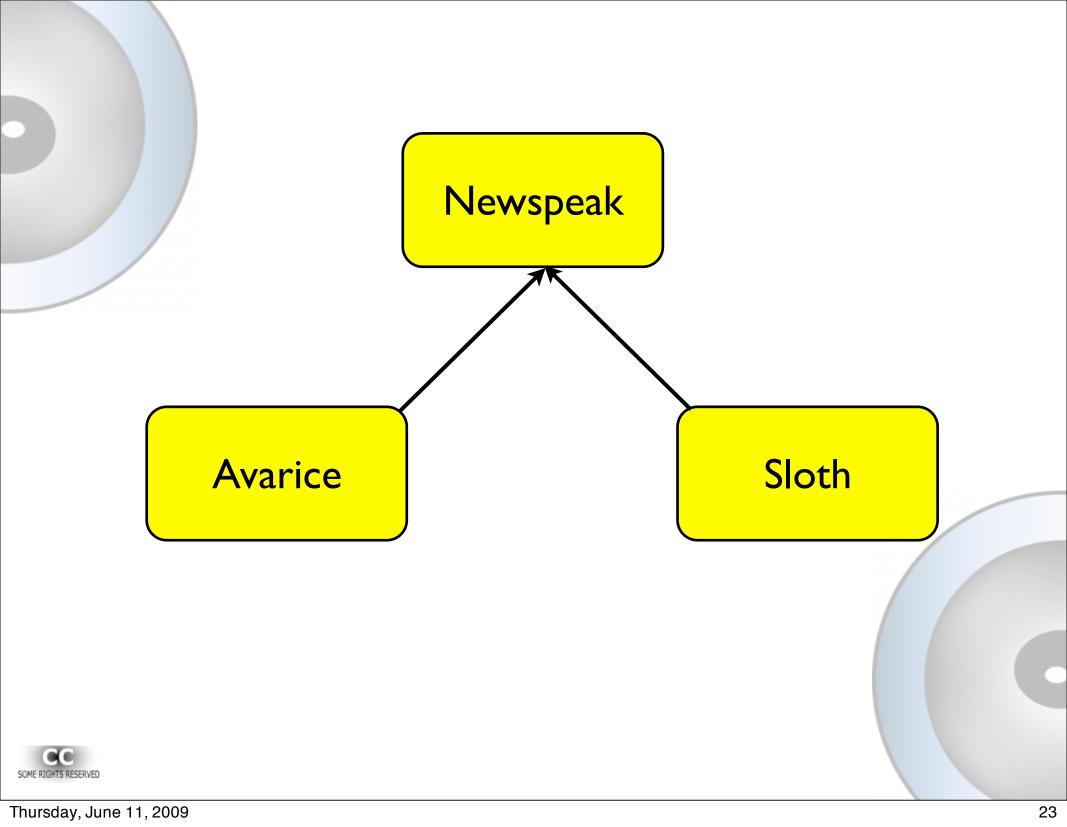
Beyond Baked



Concurrency?

- Actors
- Value types
- A slippery slope into Avarice and Sloth





```
class Foo {
    | x y ::= 2 * x. z = y + 3.|
} ...
```



```
class Foo {
    | x y ::= 2 * x. z = y + 3.|
} ...
```



```
class Foo {
    | x = 0. y = 2 * x. z = y + 3.|
} ...
```



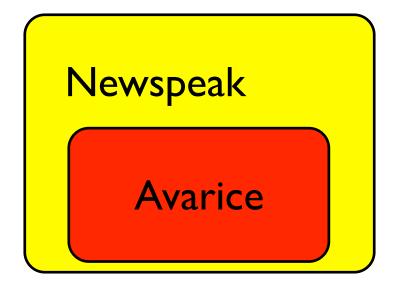
```
class Foo { | | x = 0. y = 2 * x. z = y + 3. || } ...
```



- Eliminate mutable slot declarations
- Hide order of slot initialization
- Change libraries:
 - Object identity
 - Reflective modification
 - Application libraries



Avarice is a proper subset of Newspeak





Avarice and Sloth:

Same syntax, different semantics

Avarice

Applicative order

Sloth

Normal order



Pattern Matching?

- Only if we preserve data abstraction
- Everything is an object
 - First class patterns and queries



Typechecking?

- Pluggable type system planned
 - Type system is a priority the lowest one
- Non-trivial
 - Classes, superclasses all dynamically bound



Status

- Available at http://newpeaklanguage.org
 - open source under Apache 2.0 license
- Work in Progress
 - Expect some tweaks to syntax and semantics
 - Implementation still not complete especially libraries



Connections

- Mirrors
 - Self
 - Strongtalk, JDI, APT ... See OOPSLA 04
- No static
 - Scala
 - E



Connections

- Security
 - E (Miller 06)
 - Java
- Modules
 - Jigsaw, 1991
 - Units
 - ML
 - Fortress



Connections

- Message-based programming
 - Emerald, Trellis/Owl
 - Smalltalk
 - Self
- Virtual Types
 - Beta, gBeta, Scala, CaesarJ, Tribe...
- Hierarchy inheritance: Ossher & Harrisson 92, Cook 89



Credits

- Peter Ahe
- Vassili Bykov
- Yaron Kashai
- Bill Maddox
- Eliot Miranda



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