

# Security-Typed Languages

## Lecture 4

June 21, 2019

### 1 Transparent Endorsement

From last time:  $NI \rightarrow$  Robust declassification (NI refines RD). Robust declassification breaks the confidentiality/integrity duality.

To restore duality we define Transparent Endorsement (TE). For an example, see the code fragment in figure 1

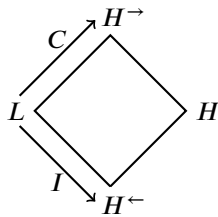


Figure 1: Lattice for TE

A problem can arise when adversary manages to steer password value directly into `check_password` function, abusing downgrading. The problem arises because `pwd` with  $H$  label (trusted) can flow into  $H^{\rightarrow}$  (untrusted). To solve the problem we can give label  $L$  to variable `guess` (untrusted and unconfidential).

This is enforced by the typing rule for *transparent endorsement*:

```
String{H} pwd;  
bool{H^←} check_password(String{H^→} guess) {  
  String{H} endorsed_guess = endorse(guess, H^→ to H);  
  bool{H} res = (password == endorsed_guess);  
  return declassify(res, H to H^←);  
}
```

Figure 2: Example: password checker

$$\frac{\Gamma(y) \sqsubseteq l_1 \quad l_2 \sqsubseteq \Gamma(y) \quad l_1 \sqsubseteq l_2 \sqcup \nabla(l_1 \sqcup pc)}{pc \vdash x := \text{endorse}(y, l_1 \text{ to } l_2)}$$

$\nabla$  = voice = maps confidentiality to corresponding integrity

We can describe both robust declassification and transparent endorsement in the same picture:

$$s_{11} \quad \sim_L \quad s_{12}$$

$$\sim_H \quad \sim_H$$

$$s_{21} \quad \sim_L \quad s_{22}$$

**Definition 1.0.1** (Robust declassification).

$$\llbracket s_{11} \rrbracket \approx_L \llbracket s_{21} \rrbracket \wedge \text{relevant inputs} \Rightarrow \llbracket s_{12} \rrbracket \approx_L \llbracket s_{22} \rrbracket$$

**Definition 1.0.2** (Transparent endorsement).

$$\llbracket s_{11} \rrbracket \approx_H \llbracket s_{12} \rrbracket \wedge \text{relevant inputs} \Rightarrow \llbracket s_{21} \rrbracket \approx_H \llbracket s_{22} \rrbracket$$

RD + TE = "nonmalleable information flow"

**Where do  $\triangle$  and  $\nabla$  come from?**

FLAM (Arden et al. CSF'15)

1. labels are principals
2. primitive principals (Alice, Bob, p, q, ...)
3. principal projections ( $p^{\leftarrow}$  integrity projection,  $p^{\rightarrow}$  confidentiality)
4. joins and meets on principals  $p \wedge q$  (reads as: powers of both  $p$  and  $q$ ),  $p \vee q$ .

$$\forall p, q. p \wedge q \geq p \geq p \vee q$$

where  $\geq$  is a trust ordering. Least powerful principal is  $\perp$ ; most powerful is  $\top$ .  
See figure 4

A normal form for principals is  $A^{\leftarrow} \wedge B^{\rightarrow}$ , where  $A, B$  are CNF expressions over primitive principals. Then  $\triangle$  and  $\nabla$  are defined as:

$$\triangle(A^{\leftarrow} \wedge B^{\rightarrow}) = A^{\rightarrow} \wedge T^{\leftarrow}$$

$$\nabla(A^{\leftarrow} \wedge B^{\rightarrow}) = B^{\leftarrow}$$

$$\text{Reflection: } \boxtimes(A^{\leftarrow} \wedge B^{\rightarrow}) = B^{\leftarrow} \wedge A^{\rightarrow}$$

If something has label  $l \not\sqsubseteq \boxtimes l$ , we can't downgrade it nonmalleably. See figure 1.

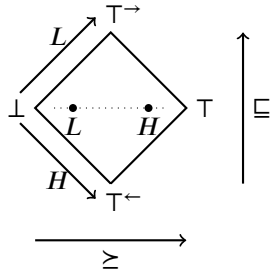


Figure 3: Lattice for FLAM

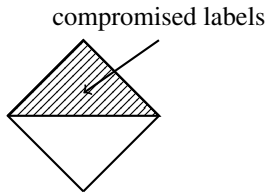


Figure 4: Reflection drawn in lattice

## 2 Hardware security

There are different layers at the hardware level:

Modern systems:	app code
	libraries
	OS
	ISA
	$\mu$ architecture

- Correctness and security depends on having contracts between these different layers
- Classic specifications do not work (Meltdown, spectre)
- Contracts should capture information flow (hyperproperties)
- Contracts should be compositional
- Mandatory vs. discretionary access control

### 2.1 Example

```

if  $h_1$  then
   $h_2 := l_1$  //pulls  $l_1$  into cache

```

```

else
     $h_2 := l_2$ 
 $l_3 := l_1$  // false if  $h_1 = true$ 

```

Listing 1: Timing to update  $l_3$  depends on the value of  $h_1$ .

## 2.2 Reference papers for reading

- Zhang/PLDI'12: ISA/M-arch contract that rules out timing channels (in addition to previously discussed leakage)
- Zagieboylo/CSF'19: Detailed ISA contract for realistic ISA supporting nonmal-leable downgrading

## 2.3 IMP: read and write label

Consider imperative language IMP where each command has a *read label* and a *write label*.

### Read label and write label properties:

- Read label  $l_r$  bounds influences on time taken by instruction
- Write label  $l_w$  is a lower bound on effects instruction has on  $\mu$ -architecture state

ISA register
$\mu$ -arch cache TLB ...

It defines two type of properties that processor needs to satisfy. Hardware satisfying these three porperties can reason about information flow for software/hardware composition:

- Architecturlar semantics (like SOS,  $c, \gamma \longrightarrow c', \gamma'$ )
- $\mu$ -arch semantics:  $c, \gamma, E, G \longrightarrow c', \gamma', E', G'$

where  $E$  = the microarchitecture state,  $G$  is global (wall-clock) time.

### Read-label property:

Execution time should not depend on high state.

Given command  $c[l_r, l_w]$

$(\forall x \in vars(c). \gamma_1(x) = \gamma_2(x)) \wedge E_1 \mid_{l_r} E_2 \wedge c[l_r, l_w], \gamma_i, E_i, G \longrightarrow c_i, \gamma'_i, E'_i, G_i \Rightarrow G_1 =$

$G_2$  for  $i \in \{1, 2\}$

**write-label property:**

$l_w \not\sqsubseteq l \wedge c_{[l_r, l_w]}, \gamma, E, G \longrightarrow c', \gamma', E', G' \Rightarrow E \sqsubseteq E'$

**Single-step noninterference:**

$(\gamma_1 = l\gamma_2 \wedge E_1 \sqsubseteq E_2 \wedge c_{l_r, l_w}, \gamma_i, E_i, G_i \longrightarrow c_i, \gamma'_i, E'_i, G'_i) \Rightarrow E'_1 = E'_2$

```

if  $h_1$  then
     $h_2 := l_1[L, H]$  // pulls  $l_1$  into cache
else
     $h_2 := l_2[L, H]$ 
 $l_3 := l_1[L, L]$  // false if  $h_1 = true$ 

```

$h_1$  flows into assignment  $h_2$  of  $l_1$ . This is updated code from Example 1.1.

### 3 HDLs

(Hardware description language)

How do you build *efficient* hardware that *verifiably* satisfies security properties? Use  
SecVerilog = Verilog + security labels

- Threat model = adversary can see all public memory at every clock cycle.
- Partition cache statically
- Annotations on variables (possibly functions)

*Soundness:* at each clock tick, no H information leaks to a L variable.  
See slides for the rest.