

Two can keep a secret
If one of them uses Haskell

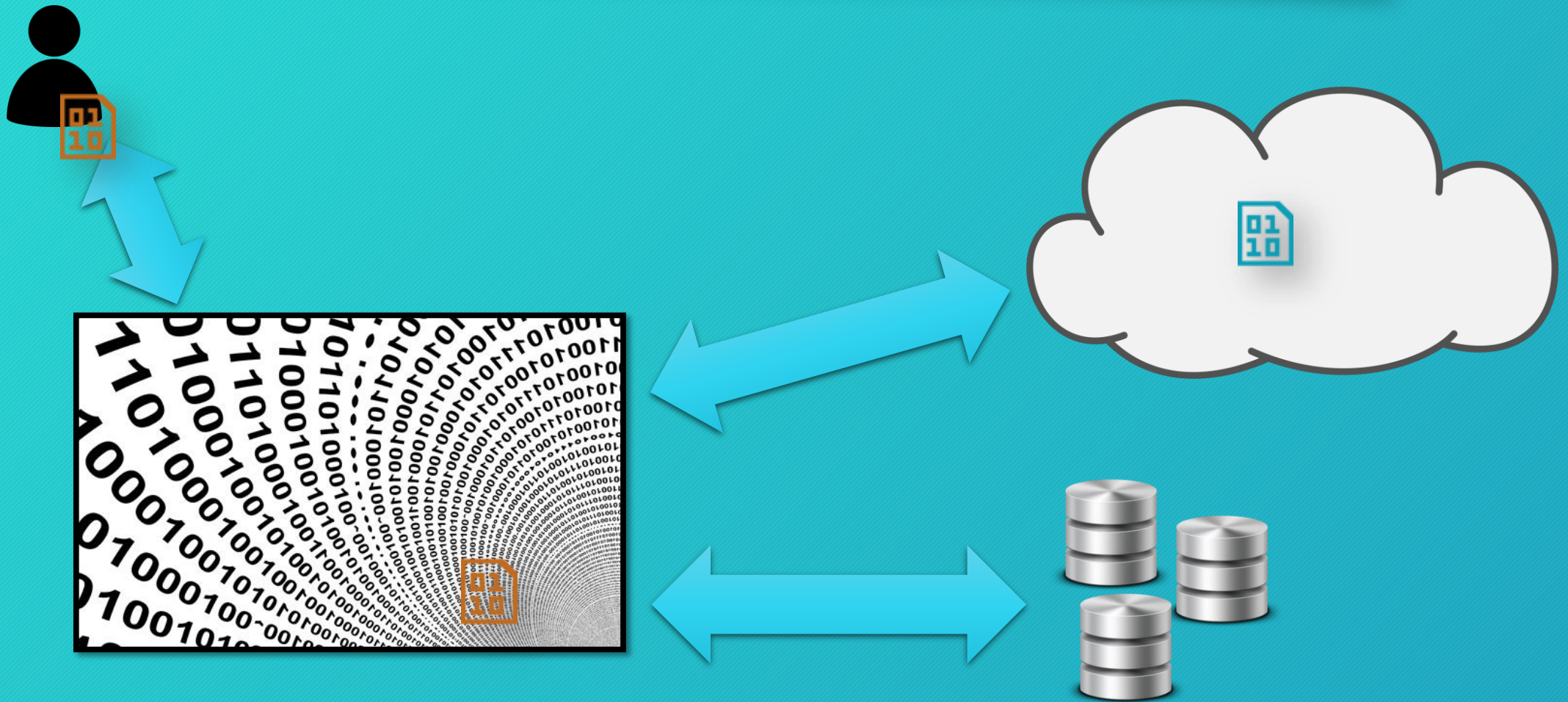
Papers we love, Göteborg

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Motivation

Modern software and privacy



Modern software and privacy



Modern software and privacy



How to protect private data when
manipulated by malicious code?



Modern software and privacy



Data breaches could cripple the growth of mobile wallets

Another Set of Malicious Android Apps Try to Fool Pokemon GO Players

Dell discovers seven new fake Pokemon GO apps

YOUR ANDROID MIGHT BE CONTROLLED BY A MALICIOUS TWITTER ACCOUNT

900 Million Android Devices 'Vulnerable To Attack'

2016 News!



Modern software and privacy



Wordpress, Joomla domains under attack through jQuery JavaScript library

Abuse of the JavaScript library has led to over 4.5 million recent exposures to infection.

2016 News!

Exploit can attack secure websites through ads

HEIST only needs a little JavaScript to do a lot of damage.

Ransomware created using only JavaScript discovered



Modern software and privacy

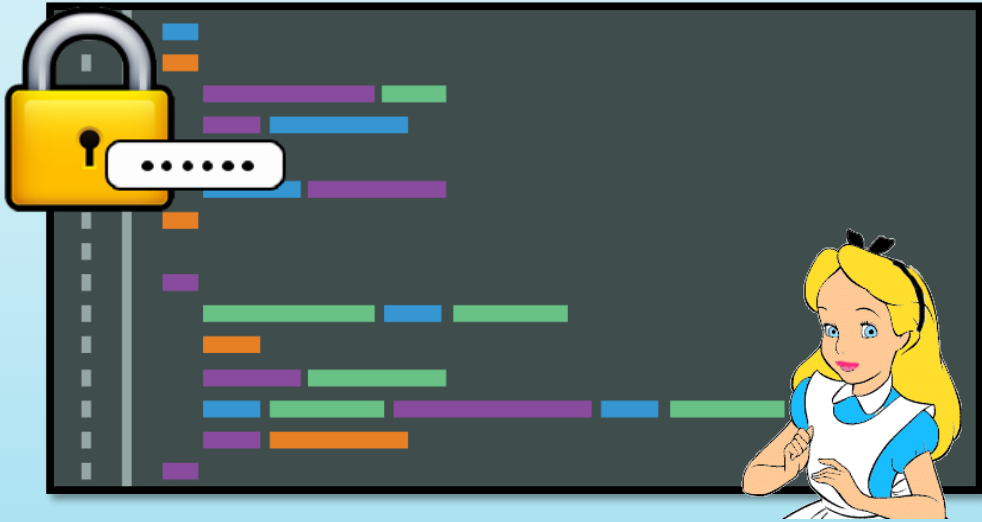


How to protect private data when manipulated by buggy-non-malicious code?



Running example

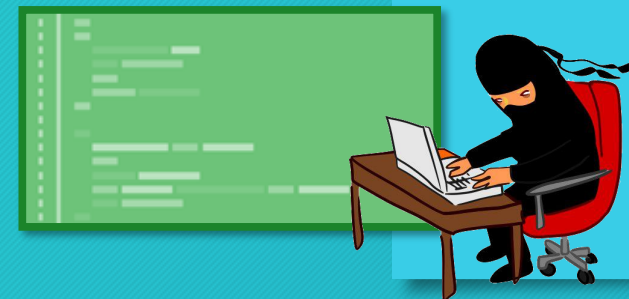
A password manager





`common :: String -> Bool`

Fetching updates for the dictionaries?



`common :: String -> IO Bool`

The power to do anything!

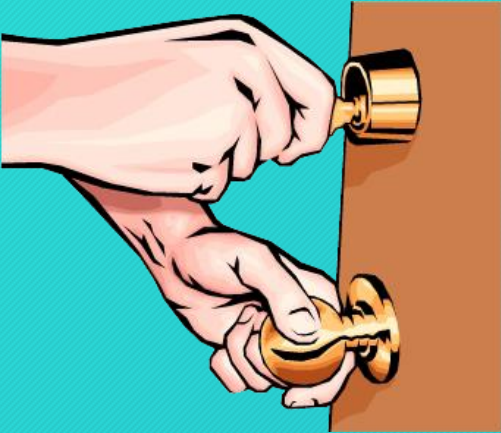


`common :: String -> SafeIO Bool`

Passwords can be still sent to the dictionaries' servers

Restrict IO-actions based on
the data being observed

Reflection on enforcing privacy



It is not about who has access to the information
(DAC)



It is about how the information is handled
(IFC/MAC)



JSFlow

Laminar

Asbestos

BFlow

HiStar

FlowFox



Flume

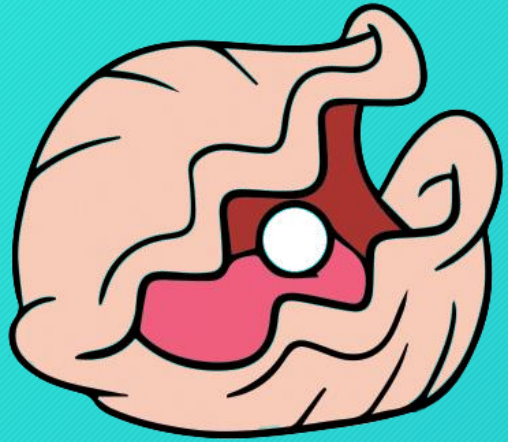


Paragon



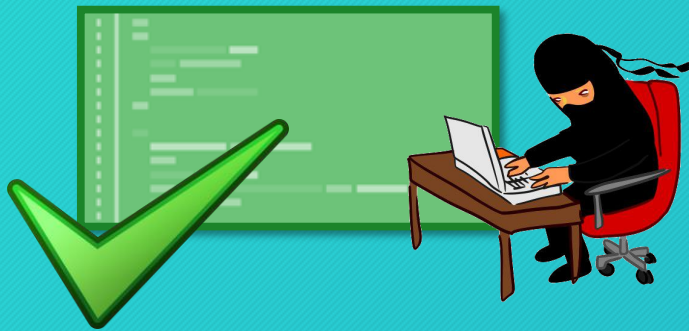
COWL

Privacy via Haskell libraries



MAC - a security library

[\[Russo - ICFP 2015\]](#)



::

Types to the rescue!

~200 SLOC

Haskell 98

References

Exceptions

MVars

Concurrency

+ MultiParamTypeClasses

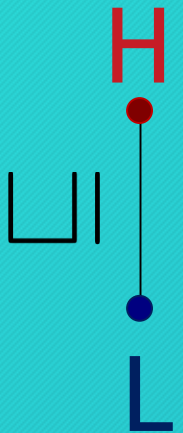
+ Safe Haskell

Security labels

- How secret is a piece of data?
- Labels (organized in a lattice)
- Order: 'can-flow-to' relationship

Information flows in
this direction

$$l \sqsubseteq l'$$



data L

data H

class $l \sqsubseteq l'$ where

instance $L \sqsubseteq L$ where

instance $H \sqsubseteq H$ where

instance $L \sqsubseteq H$ where

Labeling data

`newtype Labeled l a`



`credit_card :: Labeled H Int`



`weather :: Labeled L String`

Secure computations

It encapsulates privacy preserving IO-actions

```
newtype MAC l a  
instance Monad (MAC l)
```

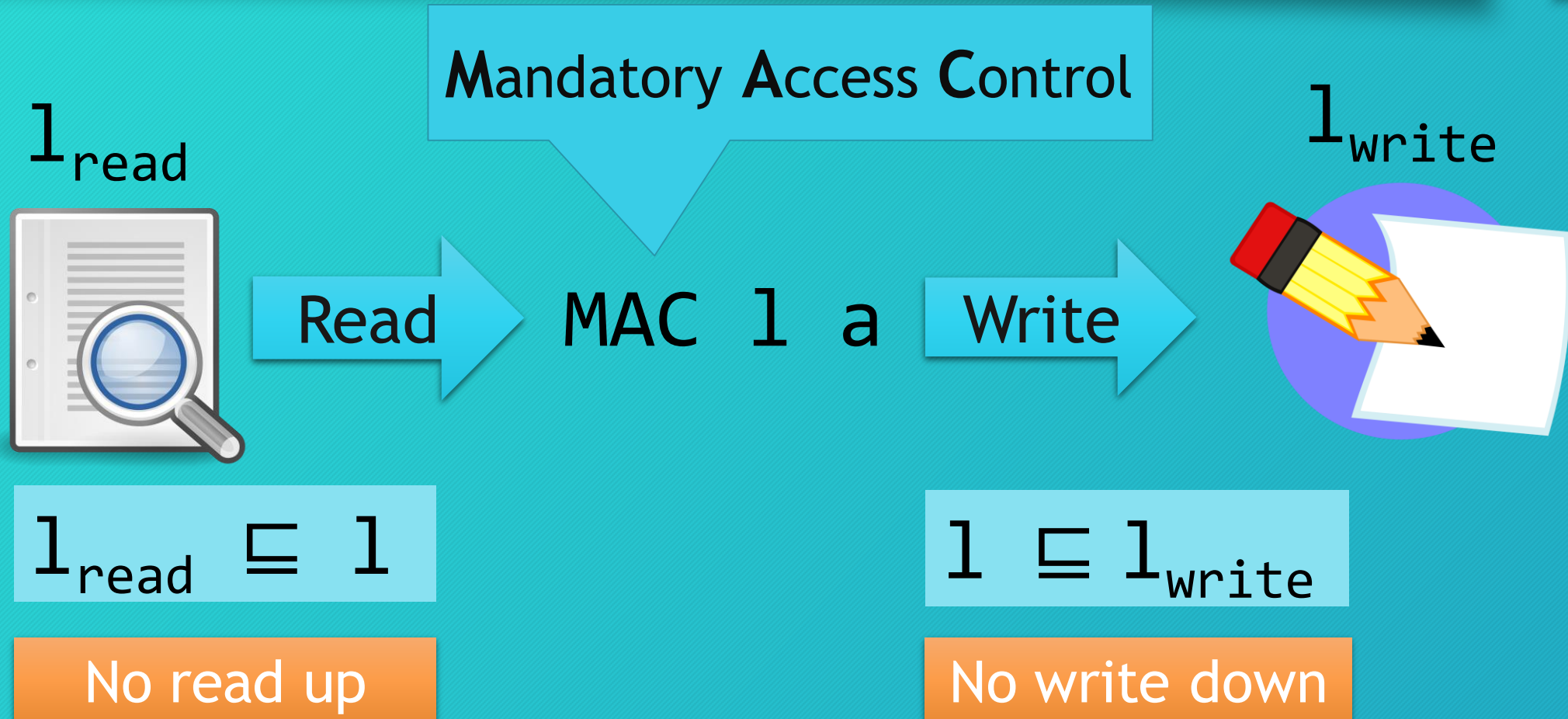
It handles data
with sensitivity l

```
runMAC :: MAC l a -> IO a
```

```
public :: MAC L Int  
secret :: MAC H String
```


Secure computations

[Bell and LaPadula 73]



Secure computations

[Bell and LaPadula 73]

Mandatory Access Control

L



Read

MAC H a

$L \subseteq H$

No read up

Secure computations

[Bell and LaPadula 73]

Mandatory Access Control

MAC H a

Write



$H \subseteq H$

No write down

Labeled data and computations

type Labeled l a

$\text{label}^{\text{MAC}} :: l \sqsubseteq h \Rightarrow a \rightarrow \text{MAC } l \text{ (Labeled } h \text{ } a)$

$\text{unlabel}^{\text{MAC}} :: l \sqsubseteq h \Rightarrow \text{Labeled } l \text{ } a \rightarrow \text{MAC } h \text{ } a$

References

MVars

Labeled l (IORef a) Labeled l (IO.MVar a)

Password strength checker

```
module Alice where
import qualified Bob
```

```
password :: IO String
password = do
```

```
  putStr "Please, select your password:"
```

```
  pwd <- getLine
```

```
  mac_H <- runMAC $ ( do lpwd <- labelMAC pwd :: MAC L (Labeled H String) )
                        Bob.common lpwd )
```

```
  bool <- runMAC $ mac_H
```

```
  ...
```

```
module Bob where
```

```
...
```

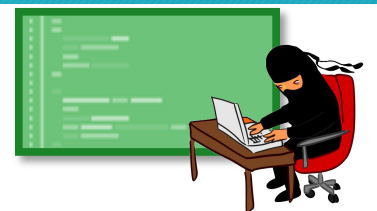
```
common :: Labeled H String -> MAC L (MAC H Bool)
```



Labeled as
secret

To fetch dictionary
updates

to read the
password



Nested MAC-actions

```
module Bob where
```

```
...
```

```
common :: Labeled H String -> MAC L (MAC H Bool)
```

It might contain arbitrary long nested MAC l-actions



It converts MAC h actions into MAC l ones

```
castMAC :: l  $\sqsubseteq$  h => MAC h a -> MAC l (Labeled h a)
```

```
do r <- m1  
  castMAC (f r :: MAC H ())  
  m2
```

It preserves the sensitivity of the result

```
:: MAC L String
```


Core API

```
newtype MAC l a  
newtype Labeled l a  
instance Monad (MAC l)
```

```
labelMAC      :: l ⊆ h => a -> MAC l (Labeled h a)
```

```
unlabelMAC   :: l ⊆ h => Labeled l a -> MAC h a
```

```
castMAC      :: l ⊆ h => MAC h a -> MAC l (Labeled h a)
```


Information-flow libraries

Library	Enforcement
MAC	Static
HLIO	Hybrid
LIO	Dynamic



[HASKELL 2011]
[ICFP 2012]
[OSDI 2012]
[ESORICS 2013]
[CSF 2014]
[ICFP 2015]
[ICFP 2015]

Why going dynamic?

Sensitivity of data might depend on the data itself

`fetchURL :: String -> MAC ? HTML`

Security policies might change dynamically

`my_pictures :: MAC L [Picture]`

HLIO

Dynamic information-flow control

```
newtype MAO lat a
newtype Labeled lat a
instance Monad (MAO lat)

class Lattice lat where
  ⊑ :: lat -> lat -> Bool
```

LIO

[\[Stefan et al. - HASKELL 2011\]](#)

```
labelMAO :: Lattice lat => lat -> MAC lat (Labeled lat a)
```

```
unlabelMAO :: Lattice lat => Labeled lat a -> MAC lat a
```

```
toLabeledLIO :: Lattice lat => lat -> MAC lat (Labeled lat a)
castMAC :: Lattice lat => Labeled lat a -> MAC lat (Labeled lat a)
```


Exceptions (Control Flow)

Handling errors



Untrusted code

- The password strength checker crashes when the network is down
 - Exception thrown



`throwMAC :: Exception e => e -> MAC l a`

`catchMAC :: Exception e =>
MAC l a -> (e -> MAC l a) -> MAC l a`

(Ninja) Bob in action!



Untrusted code

secret == True

• Received by Bob:1

secret == False

• Received by Bob:1,0

```
catchMAC(  
  do send_1 :: MAC L ()  
    castMAC $ do  
      ...  
      when (secret) (error "crash!")  
      return ()  
  send_0 :: MAC L ()  
)  
(\e :: SomeException -> return ())
```



The problem

Types do not capture that!



```
do send_1 :: MAC L ()  
  castMAC $ do
```

```
...  
  when (secret) (error "crash!")  
  return ()
```

```
send_0 :: MAC L ()
```

Exceptions raised in a sensitive environment can suppress subsequent less sensitive effects



A simple solution

[Stefan et al. - JFP 2015]



```
do send_1 :: MAC L ()  
  castMAC $ do
```

```
...  
when (secret) (error "crash!")  
return ()
```

```
send_0 :: MAC L ()
```

```
castMAC m = ...
```

```
(catchMAC (m >>= label)
```

```
(\ (e :: SomeException) -> label (throw e)))
```

secret == True secret == False

• Received by Bob: 1,0



Core API

```
newtype MAC l a
newtype Labeled l a
instance Monad (MAC l)
```

```
labelMAC      :: l ⊆ h => a -> MAC l (Labeled h a)
```

```
unlabelMAC   :: l ⊆ h => Labeled l a -> MAC h a
```

```
castMAC      :: l ⊆ h => MAC h a -> MAC l (Labeled h a)
```

```
throwMAC     :: Exception e => e -> MAC l a
```

```
catchMAC     :: Exception e =>
    MAC l a -> (e -> MAC l a) -> MAC l a
```



Covert Channels



(Ninja) Bob is not giving up!

[\[Askarov et al. 08\]](#)

Types do not
capture that!

`secret == True`

- Received by Bob:1

`secret == False`

- Received by Bob:1,0

```
do send_1 :: MAC L ()  
  castMAC $ do
```

```
...  
  when (secret) (doop) "crash!"  
  return ()
```

```
send_0 :: MAC L ()
```



```
loop :: a  
loop = loop
```


Termination leaks

[\[Askarov et al. 08\]](#)

$$O(2^{|secret|})$$

Sequential programs

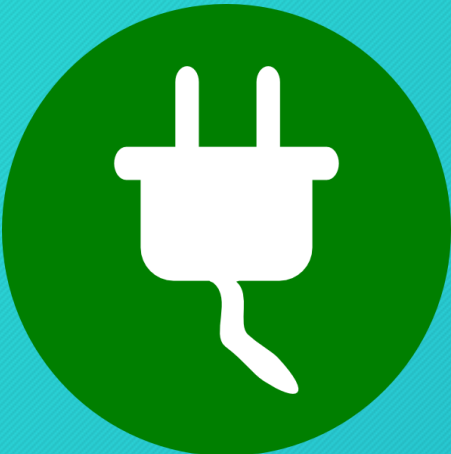


Notorious covert channels



Timing external events

[\[Stefan et al. - ICFP 2012\]](#)

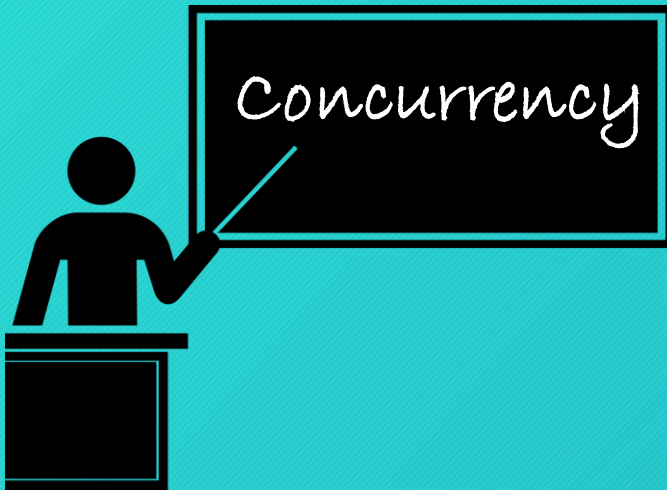


Power consumption



Concurrency

Concurrency



It spawns a computation of the
same kind

$\text{fork}^{\text{MAC}} :: \text{MAC } 1 \ () \rightarrow \text{MAC } 1 \ ()$

Exploiting termination and concurrency

a 0
b 1
...

```
do send_a_1_Bob :: MAC L ()  
  castMAC $ do
```

```
    ...  
    when (bit_a) (loop)  
    return ()
```

```
  send_a_0_Bob :: MAC L ()
```

```
do send_b_1_Bob :: MAC L ()  
  castMAC $ do
```

```
    ...  
    when (bit_b) (loop)  
    return ()
```

```
  send_b_0_Bob :: MAC L ()
```

bit_a == True

• Sent to Bob: (a,1)

bit_a == False

• Sent to Bob: (a,1), (a,0)

bit_b == True

• Sent to Bob: (b,1)

bit_b == False

• Sent to Bob: (b,1), (b,0)

Termination leaks and concurrency

$$O(|secret|)$$

Concurrent programs



Concurrency and termination

[Stefan et al. - ICFP 2012]



- Dangerous mix

```
castMAC :: Less l h =>  
          MAC h a -> MAC l (Labeled h a)  
forkMAC :: MAC l () -> MAC l ()
```

```
do send_0_Bob :: MAC L ()  
   castMAC $ do  
     ...  
     when (secret) (loop)  
     return ()  
   send_1_Bob :: MAC L ()
```

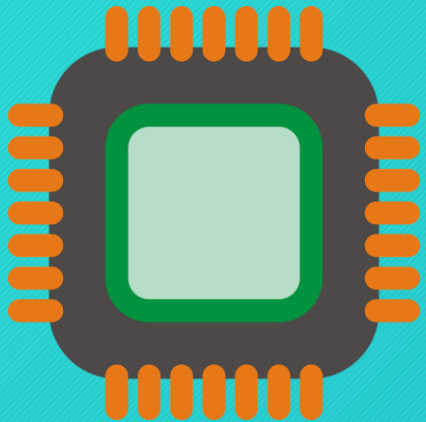

Concurrency and termination

[Stefan et al. - ICFP 2012]


$$\text{fork}^{\text{MAC}} :: l \sqsubseteq h \Rightarrow$$
$$\text{MAC } h \ () \rightarrow \text{MAC } l \ ()$$

```
do send_0_Bob :: MAC L ()  
   forkMAC $ do  
    ...  
    when (secret) (loop)  
    return ()  
send_1_Bob :: MAC L ()
```


Other covert channels for security libraries



Caches

[\[Stefan et al. - ESORICS 2013\]](#)

[\[Buiras et al. - TGC 2013\]](#)



Lazy evaluation

[\[Buiras and Russo - NORDSEC 2013\]](#)

Summary

- Privacy is a pressing demand
 - Untrusted (third-party) code
 - Buggy-non-malicious code
- Access Control is not enough!
 - Track how sensitive data propagates
- Haskell plays a unique privileged role
 - Security via libraries

Summary

- Covert channels
 - Bandwidth
 - Attacker power
- Adding features
 - Control-flow leaks (Exceptions)
 - Bandwidth magnification (concurrency)
 - New covert channels



Summary

References

Exceptions

MVars

Concurrency

```
cabal install mac
```

~200 SLOC



No read up

No write down



Haskell 98

+ MultiParamTypeClasses

+ Safe Haskell