İTÜ
Computer Security

Trusted Computing and Multilevel Security

Dr. Şerif Bahtiyar
bahtiyars@itu.edu.tr

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Before Starting

Facebook bug 'kills' users in 'terrible error'

An unusual bug on Facebook briefly labelled many people as dead.

http://www.bbc.com/news/technology-37957593

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Before Starting

Bankaların siber güvenlik maliyetleri milyar doları geçecek

Pandeminin etkisiyle birlikte dijital bankacılık hizmetlerinin kullanımı ciddi derecede arttı. Dijital hizmetlerin popüler hale gelmesinin hackerlerin saldırılarını artırdığına ve bankaların bu yılki siber harcamalarında da %15 artışa neden olduğuna dikkat çeken uzmanlar.....

https://www.hurriyet.com.tr/teknoloji/bankalarin-siber-guvenlik-maliyetleri-milyar-dolari-gececek-41682768

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Before Starting

Pentagon publishes zero-trust cyber strategy, eyes 2027 implementation

... Unlike older cybersecurity models, zero trust assumes networks are always at risk or are already compromised....

https://www.defensenews.com/cyber/2022/11/22/pentagon-publishes-zero-trust-cyber-strategy-eyes-2027-implementation/

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Before Starting

Booking.com hackers increase attacks on customers

Hackers are increasing their attacks on Booking.com customers by posting adverts on dark web forums asking for help finding victims.

https://www.bbc.com/news/technology-67583486

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Outline

- Bell-LaPadula Model (BPL)
- Other Formal Models
- Trusted Systems
- Multilevel Security
- Trusted Computing

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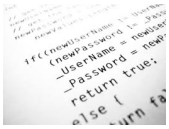
Motivation for Formal Model

Two fundamental security facts:

- All complex software systems have bugs or flaws
- Difficult to build a computer hardware/software system not vulnerable to security attacks.

For example, Windows NT OS



- Introduced in early 1990
- Promised to have high degree of security
- Did not deliver on this promise
- Has wide range of security vulnerabilities

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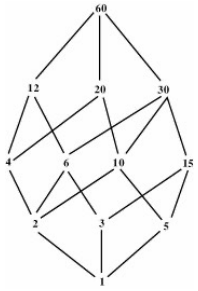
Motivation for Formal Model

- Problems to provide strong security involve both design and implementation.
- Hence, there is desire to prove design and implementation that satisfy security requirements.
- Thus, develop formal models of computer security to verify security design and implementation



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Bell-LaPadula Model

- The most influential security model
- Developed in the 1970 as a formal model for access control
- Each subject and each object is assigned to a security class
- Security classes form a strict hierarchy (security levels)
  - top secret -> secret -> confidential -> restricted -> unclassified
- A subject has a security clearance level
- An object has a security classification level
- Classes control how subject may access an object

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Bell-LaPadula Model

Access modes

- **Read**: subject is allowed only read access to object
- **Append**: subject is allowed only write access to object
- **Write**: subject is allowed both read and write access to object
- **Execute**: subject is allowed neither read nor write access to object but may invoke the object for execution.

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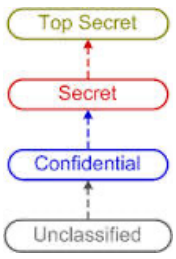
Bell-LaPadula Model

- Multilevel security: it has multiple categories or levels of data.
- In confidentiality-centered multilevel security, a subject at a high level may not convey information to a subject at a lower level unless that flow accurately reflects the will of an authorized user as revealed by an authorized declassification.



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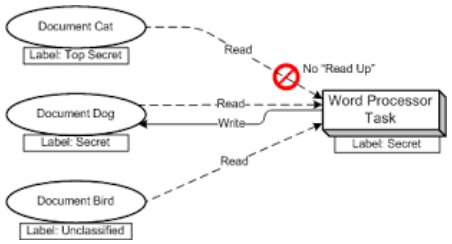
Bell-LaPadula Model

A multilevel secure system for confidentiality must enforce

- **No read up**: A subject can only read an object of less or equal security level known as **simple security property (ss-property)**.



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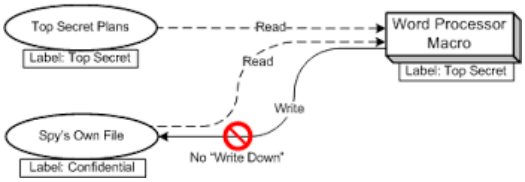
Bell-LaPadula Model

A multilevel secure system for confidentiality must enforce

- **No write down**: A subject can only write into an object of greater or equal security level known as ***-property**.



- **ds-property**: An individual (or role) may grant to another individual (or role) access to a document based on the owner's discretion.

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Bell-LaPadula Model

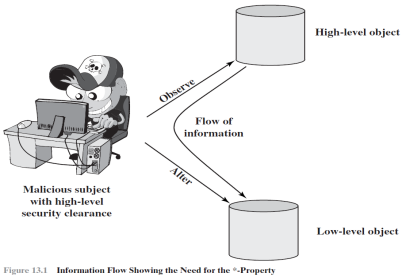

Figure 13.1 Information Flow Showing the Need for the *-Property

- ss-property and *-property provide confidentiality form of mandatory access control.
- All of the three properties provide discretionary access control .

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Bell-LaPadula Model

Formal description of the model

Based on the current state of the system (b, M, f, H)

- b: current access set that is (subject, object, access mode) = (s, o, a)
- M: Access matrix. The matrix element M_{ij} records the access modes in which subject S_i is permitted to access object O_j.
- f: Level function. Assigns a security level to each subject and object. $f_o(O_j)$ classification level of object O_j. $f_s(S_i)$ security clearance of subject S_i. $f_c(S_i)$ current security level of subject S_i.
- H: Hierarchy. A directed rooted tree whose nodes correspond to objects in the system.

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Bell-LaPadula Model

Formal description of the model

Three BPL properties

- ss-property: $(S_i, O_j, read)$ has $f_c(S_i) \geq f_o(O_j)$
- *-property: $(S_i, O_j, append)$ has $f_c(S_i) \leq f_o(O_j)$ and $(S_i, O_j, write)$ has $f_c(S_i) = f_o(O_j)$
- ds-property: (S_i, O_j, A_x) is current access (is in b) where access mode A_x is recorded in (S_i, O_j) element of M. (S_i, O_j, A_x) implies $A_x \in M[S_i, O_j]$

These properties are used to define confidentiality of secure system.

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Bell-LaPadula Model

Formal definition of confidentiality

1. Current state (b, M, f, H) is secure if and only if every element of b satisfies the 3 properties.
2. The security state of the system is changed by any operation that causes a change any of four components of the system, (b, M, f, H).
3. A secure system remains secure so long as any state change does not violate the 3 properties.

BPL gives formal theorems

- Theoretically possible to prove system is secure
- In practice, usually not possible

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Bell-LaPadula Model

BPL rules based on abstract operations

- Get access: add a triple (S,O,A) to current access set b.
- Release access: remove a triple (S,O,A) from the current access set b.
- Change object level: change $f_o(O_j)$
- Change current level: change $f_c(S_i)$
- Give access permission: Add an access mode to some entry of the access permission matrix *M*.
- Rescind (cancel) access permission: Delete an access mode from some entry of M.
- Create an object: Attach an object to the current tree structure H as a leaf.
- Delete a group of objects: Detach from H an object and all other objects beneath it in the hierarchy.

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Bell-LaPadula Model

BPL limitations

- No provision for downgrading
- Can only edit a file at one security level while reading at same or lower level
- Classification creep occurs if a documents consolidates from many sources and levels
- Usability and implementation problems

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Biba Integrity Model

- BPL deals with confidentiality and is concerned with unauthorized disclosure of information, whereas, Biba model deals with integrity and is concerned with the unauthorized modification of data.
- In Biba, data are visible to users at multiple or all security levels but should only be modified by authorized agents.
- Each subject and object is assigned an integrity level, denoted as *I(S)* and *I(O)*.

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Biba Integrity Model

Access Modes

- Modify: write or update
- Observe: read
- Execute
- Invoke: communication from one subject to another

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Biba Integrity Model

The strict integrity policy rules:

- Simple Integrity: A subject can modify an object only if $I(S) \geq I(O)$
- Integrity confinement: A subject can read an object only if $I(S) \leq I(O)$
- Invocation property: A subject can invoke another subject only if $I(S_1) \geq I(S_2)$

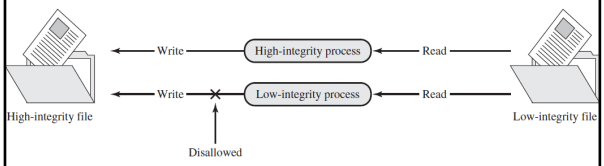

Figure 13.4 Contamination with Simple Integrity Controls

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Clark-Wilson Integrity Model

- Clark-Wilson Model (CWM) is aimed at commercial rather than military applications and it closely models real commercial operations.
- The concepts of CWM
  - Well-formed transactions: A user should not manipulate data arbitrarily, but only in constrained ways that preserve the integrity.
  - Separation of duty among users: Any person permitted to create or certify a well-formed transaction may not be permitted to execute it.

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Clark-Wilson Integrity Model

- The principle components of the model:
  - Constrained data items (CDIs): Subject to strict integrity controls
  - Unconstrained data items (UDIs): Unchecked data items
  - Integrity verification procedures (IVPs): Assure that all CDIs conform to some application specific model of integrity and consistency
  - Transformation procedures (TPs): Transactions that change the set of CDIs from one consistent state to another.
- CWM enforces integrity by means of certification and enforcement rules of TPs.

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Chinese Wall Model

- The model was developed for commercial applications in which conflict of interests can arise.

- Does not assign security levels -> not true multilevel security.
- Uses history of a subject's previous accesses to determine access control.

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Chinese Wall Model

The elements of the model

- Subjects: users and processes
- Information: corporate information with a hierarchy of three levels
  - Objects: items of information, each concerning a single corporation
  - Dataset (DS): all objects
  - Conflict of interest (CI) class: all datasets whose corporations are in competition
- Access rules

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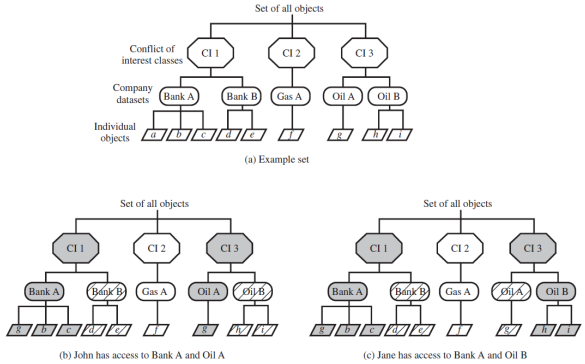
Chinese Wall Model



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The Concept of Trusted Computing

- Early 1970s
- U.S. Department of Defense
- Initially did not gain a serious foothold in the commercial market
- Recently, the interest reemerged

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The Concept of Trusted Computing

- Trust: the extent to which someone who relies on a system can have a confidence that the system meets its specifications.
- Trusted system: A system believed to enforce a given set of attributes to a stored degree of assurance.
- Trustworthiness: Assurance that a system deserves to be trusted, such that the trust can be guaranteed in some convincing way, such as through formal analysis or code review.

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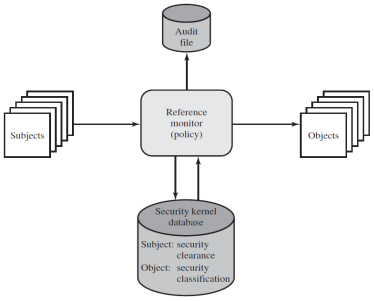
The Concept of Trusted Computing

Reference Monitors is a controlling element in the hardware and OS of a computer that regulates the access of subjects to objects on the basis of security parameters of the subject and the object.



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The Concept of Trusted Computing

Properties of Reference Monitor

- Complete mediation: security rules are enforced on every access.
- Isolation: protected from unauthorized modification.
- Verifiability: prove that the reference monitor does complete mediation and isolation correctly.

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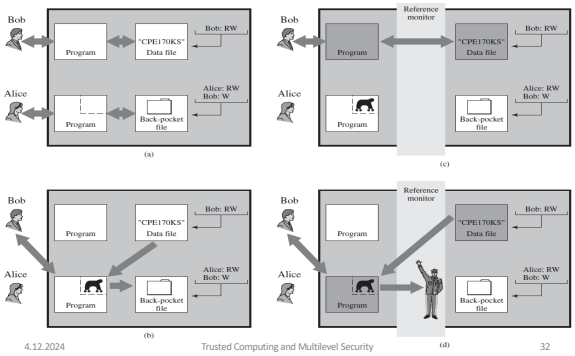
The Concept of Trusted Computing

Trojan Horse Example



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Multilevel Security

- Multilevel Secure (MLS): A class of system that has system resources at more than one security level and that permits concurrent access by users who differ in security clearance and need-to-know, but is able to prevent each user from accessing resources for which the user lacks authorization.
- Multilevel Security for RBAC: RBAC can implement BPL MLS rules given:
  - Security constraints on users
  - Constraints on read/write permissions
  - Read and write level role access definitions
  - Constraint on user-role assignment

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Multilevel Security

Database Security and MLS

Department Table - U

Did	Name	Mgr
4	accts	Cathy
8	PR	James

Employee-R

Name	Did	Salary	Eid
Andy	4	43K	2345
Calvin	4	35K	5088
Cathy	4	48K	7712
James	8	55K	9664
Ziggy	8	67K	3054

(a) Classified by table

Department Table

Did - U	Name - U	Mgr - R
4	accts	Cathy
8	PR	James

Employee

Name - U	Did - U	Salary - R	Eid - U
Andy	4	43K	2345
Calvin	4	35K	5088
Cathy	4	48K	7712
James	8	55K	9664
Ziggy	8	67K	3054

(b) Classified by column (attribute)

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Multilevel Security

Database Security and MLS

Department Table

Did	Name	Mgr	
4	accts	Cathy	R
8	PR	James	U

Employee

Name	Did	Salary	Eid	
Andy	4	43K	2345	U
Calvin	4	35K	5088	U
Cathy	4	48K	7712	U
James	8	55K	9664	R
Ziggy	8	67K	3054	R

(c) Classified by row (tuple)

Department Table

Did	Name	Mgr
4 - U	accts - U	Cathy - R
8 - U	PR - U	James - R

Employee

Name	Did	Salary	Eid
Andy - U	4 - U	43K - U	2345 - U
Calvin - U	4 - U	35K - U	5088 - U
Cathy - U	4 - U	48K - U	7712 - U
James - U	8 - U	55K - R	9664 - U
Ziggy - U	8 - U	67K - R	3054 - U

(b) Classified by element

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Multilevel Security

Database Security and MLS

Read Access

- DBMS enforces simple security rule (no read up)
- Easy if classification granularity of all database
- Inference problems if have common granularity
  - Query on restricted data
    SELECT Ename FROM Employee WHERE Salary > 50K
  - Solution is to check access of all data
- Problems with row granularity
  - null response indicates restricted/empty result

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Multilevel Security
Database Security and MLS

Write Access

- Enforce *-security rule (no write down)
- Have problem if a low clearance user wants to insert a row with a primary key that already exists in a higher level row:
  - can reject, but user knows row exists
  - can replace, compromises data integrity
  - can polyinstantiation and insert multiple rows with same key, creates conflicting entries
- Avoided by using a classification granularity of database or table

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Trusted Computing

- Trusted Platform Module (TPM)
  - An industry standard developed by Trusted Computing Group
  - A hardware module
  - At the heart of a hardware/software approach of trusted computing
  - Trusted Computing (TC) is used to refer such hardware and software

- TC employs a TPM chip in personal computer motherboard or a smart card or integrated into the main processor, together with HW and SW that in some sense has been approved or certified to work with the TPM.

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Trusted Computing

- Trusted Computing Approach: TPM generates keys that it shares with vulnerable components that pass data around the system. The keys can be used to encrypt the data flow through the machine.
- TPM works with TC-enabled software to assure that data it receives are trustworthy.
- Trusted Computing Services
  - Authenticated boot
  - Certification
  - Encryption

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Trusted Computing

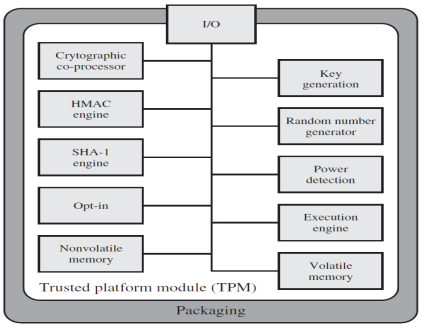

Figure 13.12 **TPM Component Architecture**

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Trusted Computing

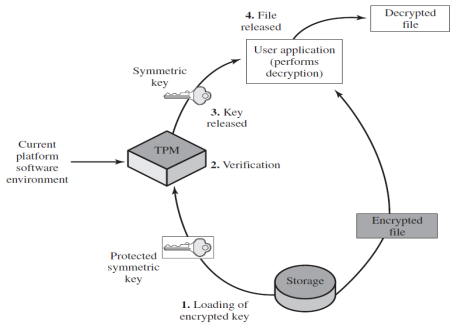

Figure 13.13 **Decrypting a File Using a Protected Key**

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Summary

- BPL security model
- Biba, Clark-Wilson, and Chinese Wall models
- The concept of trusted computing
- Multilevel security
- Trusted computing

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