Introduction

Trusted Computing Base (TCB)

- Base components that enforce the fundamental protection mechanisms on a computing system
 - Hardware
 - Firmware
 - Software
- > TCB vulnerabilities potentially affect the security of the entire system

TCB by TCSEC (Trusted Computer System Evaluation Criteria, aka Orange Book)

The totality of protection mechanisms within a computing system – including hardware, firmware, and software – the combination of which is responsible for enforcing a computer security policy.

A TCB consists of one or more components that together enforce a unified security policy over a product or system.

The ability of a trusted computing base to correctly enforce a security policy depends solely on the mechanisms within the TCB and on the correct input by system administrative personnel of parameters (e.g., a user's clearance) related to the security policy.

TCB by MITRE

Nibaldi, G. H. *Specification of a trusted computing base (TCB)*. MITRE CORP BEDFORD MA, 1979.

A TCB is a hardware and software access control mechanism that establishes a protection environment to control the sharing of information in computer systems. A TCB is an implementation of a reference monitor, [...], that controls when and how data is accessed.

TCB fundamental components

- > CPU security mechanisms
 - Protection rings
 - Virtualization
 - Other mechanisms
 - E.g. Intel SGX enclaves, etc.
- Operating system security model
 - Computational model
 - Access rights and privileges

TEE (Trusted Execution Environment)

- > Isolated, secure execution environment
- > CPU support
 - ARM TrustZone
- > TEE implementations
 - On-board Credentials (Microsoft/Nokia)
 - <t-base (Trustonic)
 - SecuriTEE (Solacia)
 - QSEE (Qualcomm's Secure Execution Environment)
 - SierraTEE (Sierrawave, open-source)
 - OP-TEE (Linaro, open-source)

Can you trust the operating system?

Can you trust your operating system if you do not control (or trust) the way it booted?

- Secure bootstrapping
 - TPM attestation
 - UEFI secure boot
- > Remote attestation
 - TPM attestation

Can you trust the operating system?

- - Allow user applications to protect code and data from others within enclaves
 - Enclaves are not observable by code running with different privileges
 - · OS kernels, hypervisors, etc.

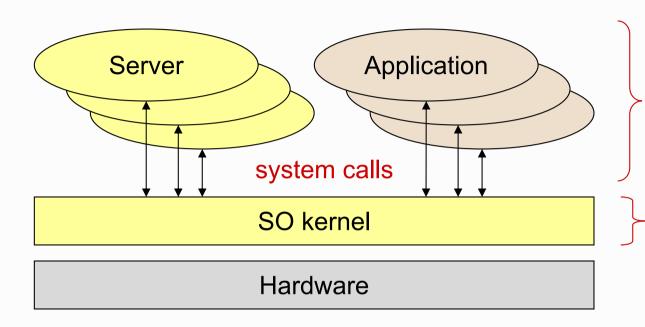
Protection from untrusted code: sandboxes

Executing applications have a set of privileges and a view over a set of resources

- Sandboxes allow the execution of applications with less privileges or less resources
 - e.g. forbid remote communications
 - e.g. hide the majority of the file system
 - e.g. allow volatile system changes

Security in Operating Systems

Operating system



user-mode:

Execute in normal CPU mode, no access to privileged instructions

supervisor mode:

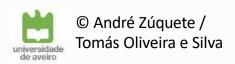
Execute in privileged CPU mode, has access to privileged instructions

> Kernel mission

- Virtualize the hardware
 - Computational model
- Enforce protection policies and provide protection mechanisms
 - Against involuntary mistakes
 - Against non-authorized activities

Protection rings

- Different levels of privilege
 - Forming a set of concentric rings
 - Used by CPU's to prevent non-privileged code from running privileged instructions
 - e.g. IN/OUT, TLB manipulation
- Nowadays processors have 4 rings
 - But OS's usually use only two of them
 - 0 (supervisor/kernel mode) and 3 (user-mode)
- > Transfer of control between rings requires special gates
 - The ones that are used by system calls (syscalls)





Virtual machines and hypervisors

Emulation of a particular (virtual) hardware with the existing one (real)

guest OS
hypervisor process
host OS
hardware

- Hosted virtualization
 - The hypervisor is a process of a given OS (host)
 - The VM runs inside the virtualizer (guest OS)

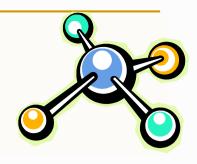
guest OS hypervisor hardware

- Bare-metal virtualization
 - The hypervisor runs on top of the host hardware

Execution of virtual machines

- Common approach for hosted virtualization
 - Software-based virtualization
 - Direct execution of guest user-mode code
 - Binary, on-the-fly translation of privileged code (full virtualization)
 - Guest OS kernels remain unchanged
 - No direct access to the host hardware
- Hardware-assisted virtualization (bare-metal)
 - Full virtualization
 - There is a ring -1 below ring 0
 - Hypervisor (or Virtual Machine Monitor, VMM)
 - It can virtualize hardware for many ring 0 kernels
 - No need of binary translation
 - Guest OS's run faster

Computational model



- Set of entities (objects) managed by the OS kernel
 - High-level abstractions supported transparently by low-level mechanisms
- Processes
- User identifiers
 - Users
 - Groups
- Virtual memory
- Files and file systems
 - Directories
 - Files
 - Special files
- Communication channels
 - Pipes
 - Sockets
 - Etc.

- Physical devices
 - Storage
 - Tapes
 - Magnetic disks
 - Optical disks
 - SSD
 - Network interfaces
 - · Wired, wireless
 - Human-computer interfaces
 - Keyboards
 - Graphical screens
 - · Text consoles
 - Mice
 - Serial/parallel I/O interfaces
 - USB
 - Serial & parallel ports
 - Bluetooth



Computational model: User identifiers

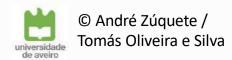


- For the OS kernel a user is a number
 - Established during a login operation
 - User ID (UID)
- All activities are executed on a computer on behalf of a UID
 - The UID allows the kernel to assert what is allowed/denied to processes
 - Linux: UID 0 is omnipotent (root)
 - · Administration activities are usually executed with UID 0
 - Windows: concept of privileges
 - · For administration, system configuration, etc.
 - There is no unique, well-known identifier for an administrator
 - Administration privileges can be bound to several UIDs
 - Usually through administration groups
 - · Administrators, Power Users, Backup Operators
 - Linux: concept of capabilities (similar to privileges)

Computational model: Group identifiers



- Groups also have an identifier
 - A group is a set of users
 - A group can be defined by including other groups
 - Group ID (GID)
- > A user can belong to several groups
 - Actual user rights = UID rights + rights of his groups' GIDs
- ▷ In Linux all activities are executed on behalf of a set of groups
 - Primary group
 - Typically used for setting file protection
 - Secondary groups



Computational model: Processes

- > A process defines the context of an activity
 - For taking security-related decisions
 - For other purposes (e.g. scheduling)
- Security-related context
 - Identity (UID and GIDs)
 - Fundamental for enforcing access control
 - Resources being used
 - Open files
 - Including communication channels
 - Reserved virtual memory areas
 - CPU time used

Access control

- > The OS kernel is an access control monitor
 - Controls all interactions of subjects with protected objects
- Objects
 - Hardware
 - Entities of the computational model
- Subjects
 - Usually local processes
 - Through the system call API
 - A system call (or syscall) is not an ordinary function call
 - But also messages from other hosts



Mandatory access controls

- > OS kernels have plenty mandatory access control policies
 - They are part of the computational model logic
 - They cannot be overruled not even by administrators
 - Unless they change the OS kernel behavior

> Examples:

- Kernel runs in CPU privileged modes, user applications run in non-privileged modes
- Separation of virtual memory areas
- Inter-process signaling
- Interpretation of files' access control protections

Protection with ACLs (Access Control Lists)

- - It says which subjects can do what
- - When mandatory it cannot be modified
 - When discretionary it can be tailored
- An ACL is checked when an activity, on behalf of a subject, wants to manipulate the object
 - If the manipulation request is not authorized by the ACL, the access is denied
 - The OS kernel is responsible for enforcing ACL-based protection

Protection with capabilities

- Less common in normal OS kernels
 - Though there are some good examples
- Example: open file descriptors
 - Applications' processes indirectly manipulate (open) files through file descriptors kept by the OS kernel
 - File descriptors are referenced using integer indexes (aka file descriptors for simplicity...)
 - The OS kernel has full control over the contents of open file descriptors
 - Access to open file descriptors can only be granted to other processes through the OS kernel
 - · Not really a usual operation, but possible!
 - Changes in the protection of files does not impact existing open file descriptors
 - The access rights are evaluated and memorized when the file is open

Unix file protection ACLs: Fixed-structure, discretionary ACL

- - Binding 3 rights to 3 subjects
 - Only the owner can update the ACL
- - Read (file data) / List directory
 - Write (file data) / create or remove files or subdirectories
 - Execute / use as process' current working directory
- > Subjects:
 - An UID (owner)
 - A GID
 - Others

Windows NTFS file protection: Variable-size, discretionary ACLs

- ACL and a owner
 - 13 types of access rights
 - Variable-size list of subjects
 - Owner can be an UID or a GID
 - Owner has no special rights over the object or its ACL
 - But usually file creators are their initial owners and have Change Permissions rights
- Subjects:
 - Users (UIDs)
 - Groups (GIDs)
 - The group "Everyone" stands for anybody

File	Directory (folder)
Read (data)	List (files / folders)
Write (data)	Create (files)
Append (data)	Create (folders)
Execute	Traverse
Delete (file)	Delete (folder)
	Delete (files and subfolders)
Read attributes / extended attributes	
Write attributes / extended attributes	
Read permissions	
Change permissions	
Take ownership	

Unix file protection ACLs: Special protection bits

> Set-UID bit

- creator:Pictures\$ ls -la /usr/bin/passwd
 -rwsr-xr-x 1 root root 59640 Mar 22 2019 /usr/bin/passwd
- Is used to change the UID of processes executing the file
- > Set-GID bit

```
creator:Pictures$ ls -la /usr/bin/at
-rwsr-sr-x 1 daemon daemon 51464 Feb 20 2018 /usr/bin/at
```

- Is used to change the GID of processes executing the file
- Sticky bit

```
creator:Pictures$ ls -la /tmp
total 108
drwxrwxrwt 25 root root 4096 Dec 15 13:12 .
```

 Hint to keep the file/directory as much as possible in memory cache

Privilege elevation: Set-UID mechanism

- ▷ It is used to change the UID of a process running a program stored on a Set-UID file
 - If a program file is owned by UID X and the set-UID bit of its ACL is set, then it will be executed in a process with UID X
 - · Independently of the UID of the subject that executed the program
- Used to allow normal users to execute privileged tasks encapsulated in administration programs
 - Change the user's password (passwd)
 - Change to super-user mode (su, sudo)
 - Mount devices (mount)

Privilege elevation: Set-UID mechanism (cont.)

- ▷ Effective UID / Real UID
 - Real UID is the UID of the process creator
 - App launcher
 - Effective UID is the UID of the process
 - The one that really matters for defining the rights of the process

- Ordinary application
 - eUID = rUID = UID of process that executed exec
 - eUID cannot be changed (unless = 0)
- Set-UID application
 - eUID = UID of exec'd application file, rUID = initial process UID
 - eUID can revert to rUID
- rUID cannot change

Privilege elevation: Set-UID/Set-GID decision flowchart

- - File referred by path has Set-UID?
 - Yes
 - ID = path owner
 - Change the process effective UID to ID
 - No
 - Do nothing
 - File referred by path has Set-GID?
 - Yes
 - ID = path GID
 - Change the process GID to ID only
 - No
 - Do nothing

Privilege elevation: sudo mechanism

- Administration by root is not advised
 - One "identity", many people
 - Who did what?
- Preferable approach
 - Administration role (uid = 0), many users assume it
 - Sudoers
 - Defined by a configuration file used by sudo
- > sudo is a Set-UID application with UID = 0
 - Logging can take place on each command ran with sudo

Privilege reduction: chroot mechanism (or jail)

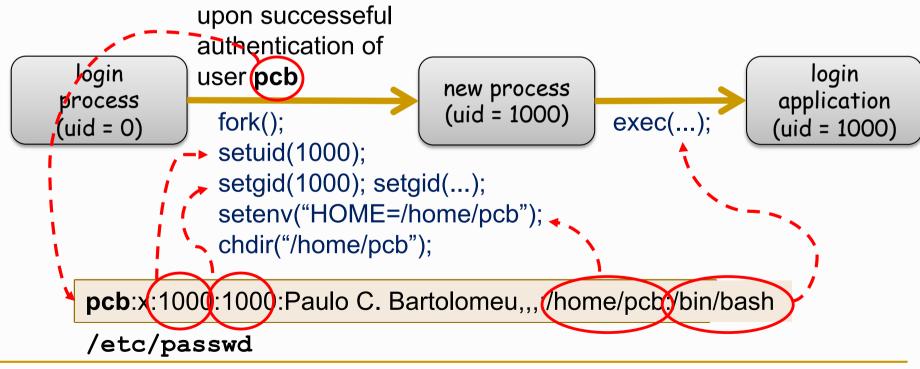
- Used to reduce the visibility of a file system
 - Each process descriptor has a root i-node number
 - From which absolute pathname resolution takes place
 - chroot changes it to an arbitrary directory
 - The process' file system view gets reduced
- Used to protect the file system from potentially problematic applications
 - e.g. public servers, downloaded applications
 - But it is not bullet proof!

Linux login: Not an OS kernel operation

- A privileged login application presents an interface for getting users' credentials
 - A username/password pair
 - Biometric data
 - Smartcard and activation PIN
- ▷ The login application validates the credentials and fetches the appropriate UID and GIDs for the user
 - And starts an initial user application on a process with those identifiers
 - In a Linux console this application is a shell (sh, bash, csh, tcsh, zsh, etc.)
 - When this process ends the login application reappears
- > Thereafter all processes created by the user have its identifiers
 - Inherited through forks

Linux: from login to session processes

- > The login process must be a privileged process
 - Has to create processes with arbitrary UID and GIDs
 - The ones of the entity logging in



Login in Linux: Password validation process

- Username is used to fetch a UID/GID pair from /etc/passwd
 - And a set of additional GIDs in the /etc/group file
- Supplied password is transformed using a digest function
 - Currently configurable, for creating a new user (/etc/login.defs)
 - Its identification is stored along with the transformed password
- - Indexed again by the username
 - If they match, the user was correctly authenticated
- File protections
 - /etc/passwd and /etc/group can be read by anyone
 - This is fundamental, for instance, for listing directories (why?)
 - /etc/shadow can only be read by root
 - Protection against dictionary attacks



Intel Software Guard Extensions



What is SGX (Software Guard eXtensions)?

- It is a TEE (Trusted Execution Environment).
- Everything outside the processor chip is not trusted.
- In particular, the BIOS (Basic Input/Output System), the SMM (System Management Mode, ring -2), the ME (Intel Management Engine, ring -3), and the OS (Operating System, ring 0) are **not** trusted.
- The SGX code and data is put inside a special container (a SGX enclave).
- The contents of the enclave are signed (they are loaded from an untrusted source...) and can be attested by an external third party.
- The contents of the enclave is **isolated** from the rest of the system.
- The enclave code runs in **ring 3** (least privileged mode)
- All SGX instructions are implemented in microcode (potential attack vector)



SGX Enclave Memory

- As mentioned in the previous slide, the trust boundary perimeter is the processor chip (core, cache, and memory controller).
- So, the memory of the SGX enclave, when it resides outside of the processor chip (DRAM) is also encrypted.
- The memory encryption key is chosen at random after every processor reset.
- Values read from memory are checked to see it they match what was written (if not the processor hangs).
- This is done on a cache-line granularity (64 bytes) using an memory integrity tree.
 - For details, see https://eprint.iacr.org/2016/204.pdf
- Very small performance penalty if the SGX enclave memory footprint fits in the processor caches.



Instructions related to enclaves

- Ring 0 instructions
 - ECREATE, EADD and EINIT are used for Enclave Page Cache (EPC)
 management --- executed by privileged software such as an OS or a VMM
 - The EPC is an untrusted secure storage area used by the enclave; each 4KiB page has some security attributes that are stored in the Enclave Page Cache Map (EPCM), which is not accessible by software
- Ring 3 instructions
 - EENTER, EEXIT, EGETKEY, EREPORT and ERESUME are used by the user space software to execute functionality within or between enclaves.
- Illegal instructions inside an enclave
 - o cpuid, rdtsc, input and output instructions, and some others are not allowed
 - rdrand/rdseed are allowed and can be virtualized (!?!)

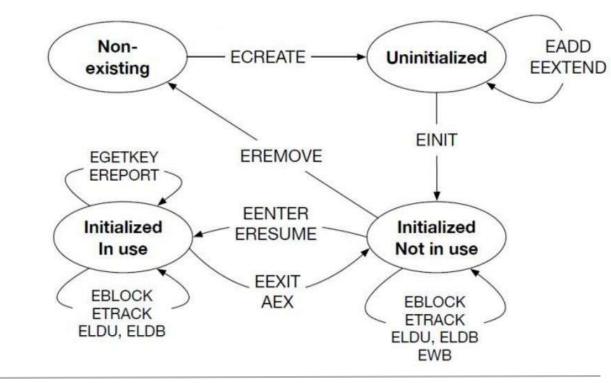


Life cycle of an enclave

https://software.intel.com/content/dam/develop/external/us/en/documents/intelsgx

enclavelifecycle.pdf

- 1. Creation (ECREATE)
- Loading (EADD, EEXTEND)
- 3. Initialization (EINIT)
- 4. Enter/Exit the Enclave
 - (EENTER/EEXIT)
- 5. Teardown (EREMOVE)





Intel SGX Toolkit (version 2.13) requirements https://github.com/intel/linux-sgx

- Hardware:
 - Intel 6th Generation Core processor or newer
- 64-bit operating system:
 - Ubuntu 16.04, 18.04 or 20.04 LTS
 - Red Hat 7.6 or 8.2
 - o CentOS 8.2
 - Fedora 31
- BIOS support (enabling SGX will reserve up to 128MiB of memory for the exclusive use of SGX enclaves)
- It's also possible to install it on Windows 10 (not covered in these slides)



Intel SGX Toolkit (version 2.13)

- Toolkit components:
 - Intel SGX kernel driver
 - Intel SGX PSW (Platform Software Package)
 - Intel SGX SDK
- Programming languages: C and C++
- Does my processor and OS support SGX (after BIOS configuration)?
 - cpuid -1 | grep SGX
 - o If yes:

```
SGX: Software Guard Extensions supported = true
SGX LC: SGX launch config supported = true
```



Intel SGX linux driver installation

- Install needed packages:
 - sudo apt install build-essential ocaml automake autoconf libtool wget python3 libssl-dev dkms
- Download driver (https://01.org/intel-software-guard-extensions/downloads)
 - o wget
 https://download.01.org/intel-sgx/sgx-linux/2.13/distro/ubuntu20.0
 4-server/sgx linux x64 sdk 2.13.100.4.bin
- Install the Dynamic kernel Module Support (DKMS) driver:
 - o sudo bash sgx linux x64 driver 1.41.bin
- If you are using secure boot, the kernel module has to be signed, and so this requires generating a new Machine-Owner Key (MOK). Just follow the instructions (a reboot will be required)
- the module location is /lib/modules/5.8.0-48-generic/updates/dkms/intel_sgx.ko and the module name is (obviously) intel_sgx.



Intel SGX PSW installation (on ubuntu)

- Install needed packages:
 - sudo apt install libssl-dev libcurl4-openssl-dev libprotobuf-dev
- Run the following commands
 - o echo 'deb [arch=amd64]
 https://download.01.org/intel-sgx/sgx_repo/ubuntu focal main' |
 sudo tee /etc/apt/sources.list.d/intel-sgx.list
 - o wget -q0 https://download.01.org/intel-sgx/sgx_repo/ubuntu/intel-sgx-deb.ke
 y | sudo apt-key add
 - sudo apt update
 - sudo apt install libsgx-launch libsgx-urts
 - o sudo apt install libsgx-epid libsgx-urts



Intel SGX SDK installation (on ubuntu)

- Do the following:
 - o wget
 https://download.01.org/intel-sgx/latest/linux-latest/distro/ubunt
 u20.04-server/sgx_linux_x64_sdk_2.13.100.4.bin
 - o sudo bash sgx_linux_x64_sdk_2.13.100.4.bin
 - answer no and choose /opt/intel as the installation directory
 - Copy the contents of /opt/intel/sgxsdk/environment to your .bashrc
 - o wget
 https://download.01.org/intel-sgx/latest/linux-latest/as.ld.objdum
 p.gold.r3.tar.gz
 - o tar xzvf as.ld.objdump.gold.r3.tar.gz external/toolset/ubuntu20.04
 - o sudo cp -v external/toolset/ubuntu20.04/* /usr/local/bin/



Intel SGX SDK test (on ubuntu)

- Do the following:
 - o mkdir tmp
 - o cd tmp
 - o cp -av /opt/intel/sgxsdk/SampleCode/SampleEnclave .
 - o cd SampleEnclave
 - make SGX DEBUG=0 SGX PRERELEASE=1
 - conditions of the condition of the conditions of the condition of the cond
 - o make clean
- The output should be

```
Checksum(0x0x7ffeac1ee4f0, 100) = 0xfffd4143
```

Info: executing thread synchronization, please wait...

Info: SampleEnclave successfully returned.

Enter a character before exit ...



Guidelines for designing applications using SGX

- Partition the software into trusted and untrusted components
- Use the SGX SDK tools to create the enclave module (a shared object) --- it implements the trusted component of the software
- The enclave code and data is not secret
- Secrets has to be loaded in a secure manner (using an ECDH key exchange for example) from a trusted outside source.
- Enclave data has to be sealed (encrypted and signed) if it is stored outside of the enclave
- Enclave data has to be unsealed if it is loaded into the enclave
- A large memory footprint (in the enclave) will give rise to a significant performance degradation in the memory accesses



Performance Overhead

- Creating an enclave is slow (4KiB pages have to be added one at a time)
- Calling an enclave function from outside of the enclave (an ecall) takes about 10k clock cycles
- Calling a non-enclave function from inside the enclave (an ocall) takes also about
 10k clock cycles



SDK documentation

- <u>Developer reference for Linux OS</u> (PDF)
- Intel developer zone --- Software Guard Extensions (online)



Intel SGX SDK compilation modes

- SGX applications can be compiled in several modes:
 - hardware debug mode (signed with Intel's key, code not optimized)
 - SGX_MODE=HW SGX_DEBUG=1 SGC_PRERELEASE=0
 - hardware prerelease mode (signed with your key, code is optimized)
 - SGX_MODE=HW SGX_DEBUG=1 SGC_PRERELEASE=0
 - hardware release mode (signed with your key, code is optimized, cannot be debugged)
 - SGX_MODE=HW SGX_DEBUG=0 SGC_PRERELEASE=0
 - This mode may require a <u>commercial licence</u>
 - simulation mode (in debug mode)
 - SGX_MODE=SIM SGX_DEBUG=1



SGX SDK Tools

- Edger8r (sgx_edger8r)
 - Generates "edge" routines (interface between the untrusted application and the enclave) described in a Enclave Description Language (EDL) file
 - Using it on file XYZ.edl produces files XYZ_[tu]t.[hc] where t=trusted,
 u=untrusted, h=prototypes, and c=functions
- Enclave signing tool (sgx_sign)
 - supports key management
- Enclave Memory Measurement Tool (sgx_emmt)
 - Use it to measure how much memory the enclave uses (needed by the Enclave Configuration File)



Writing Enclave Functions

- Describe each function that may be called from outside of the enclave in the .edl file
- The functions can use special versions of the C/C++ runtime libraries (available in the SDK)
- System calls are not allowed (use ocalls instead; C linkage only!)
- Not all C/C++ language features are available
- The sgx_edger8r tool will take care of the details of making the execution flow enter or leave an enclave
 - Pointer arguments in ecall functions must point to untrusted memory
 - Pointer arguments in ocall functions must point to trusted memory
 - You may need to copy buffer from untrusted memory to trusted memory
- Keep in mind that the enclave will be statically linked



Some available trusted libraries

- libsgx_tstdc.a (standard C library, math, strings, etc.)
- libsgx_tcxx.a (standard C++ libraries, STL)
- libsgx tservice.a (seal/unseal, EC DH library, etc.)
- libsgx tcrypto.a
- libsgx tkey exchange.a
- libsgx tpcl.a (Protected Code Loader, for enclave code confidentiality)

Hello world in an enclave (https://github.com/sangfansh/SGX101 sample code)

- One enclave function, printf helloworld, prints the text "Hello World"
- It cannot do this directly, so it calls an untrusted function, ocall_printf_string,
 to do the actual printing
- In this example, for the enclave code, the printf function is re-implemented so that its output goes to a string
- In the untrusted part, the enclave is loaded and the printf_helloworld function is called



Hello world in an enclave

- List of files
 - Makefile
 - App/App.cpp
 - O App/App.h
 - Enclave/Enclave.config.xml
 - Enclave/Enclave.cpp
 - Enclave/Enclave.edl
 - Enclave/Enclave.h
 - Enclave/Enclave.lds
 - Enclave/Enclave_private.pem



- Relevant parts of the Makefile:
 - O SGX_SDK ?= /opt/intel/sgxsdk
 - O SGX_MODE ?= HW
 - \circ SGX_ARCH ?= $\times 64$
 - SGX_DEBUG ?= 1
- You can also add
 - O SGX_PRERELEASE ?= 0
- List your untrusted source code files (the application) in the ####### App Settings #######
 section
- List your trusted source code files (the SGX enclave) in the ####### Enclave Settings ####### section



• Relevant parts of App/App.h:

```
#include "sgx_error.h" /* sgx_status_t */
#include "sgx_eid.h" /* sgx_enclave_id_t */

# define TOKEN_FILENAME "enclave.token"

# define ENCLAVE_FILENAME "enclave.signed.so"

extern sgx enclave id t global eid; /* global enclave id */
```



Relevant parts of App/App.cpp:
 int initialize enclave(void) { /*...*/ }

```
void ocall print string(const char *str) { printf("%s",str); }
int SGX CDECL main(int argc, char *argv[])
  if(initialize enclave() < 0) return -1;
 printf helloworld(global eid);
  sgx destroy enclave(global eid);
```



Enclave/Enclave_config.xml:

```
universidade de aveiro
```

Relevant parts of Enclave/Enclave.edl:

```
enclave {
  trusted {
    public void printf helloworld();
  };
  untrusted {
    void ocall print string([in,string] const char *str);
  };
```



Relevant parts of Enclave/Enclave.h:
 #include <stdlib.h>
 #include <assert.h>

```
#if defined( cplusplus)
extern "C" {
#endif
void printf(const char *fmt, ...);
void printf helloworld();
#if defined( cplusplus)
#endif
```



• Relevant parts of Enclave/Enclave.cpp:

```
##include <stdarg.h>
#include <stdio.h> /* vsnprintf */
#include "Enclave.h"
#include "Enclave t.h" /* print string */
void printf(const char *fmt, ...) { char buf[BUFSIZ];
 va list ap; va start(ap, fmt);
 vsnprintf(buf, BUFSIZ, fmt, ap);
 va end(ap); ocall print string(buf); }
void printf helloworld() { printf("Hello World\n"); }
```





