

Implementing a Capability Machine model into Iris

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Introduction

- ▶ Capability machines allow for fine grained control over pointer permissions
- ▶ Good target for secure compilation
- ▶ In particular: we are interested in enforcing certain higher level abstractions such as *local state encapsulation* as *well-bracketed control flow* at the lowest level of the machine
- ▶ We need tools to reason about these subtle properties in a language that does not enforce them
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Capability Machines

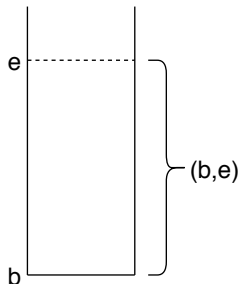
Capability Machine

Capability: An unforgeable token of authority



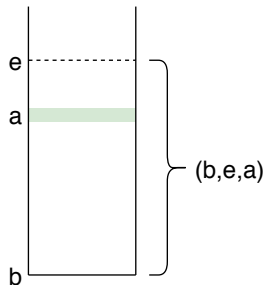
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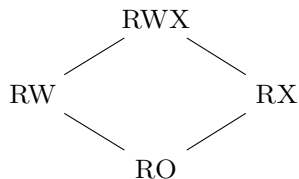
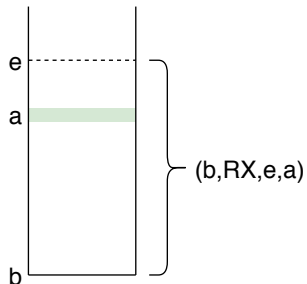
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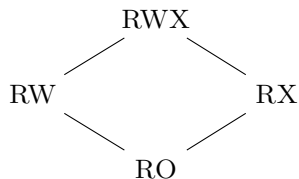
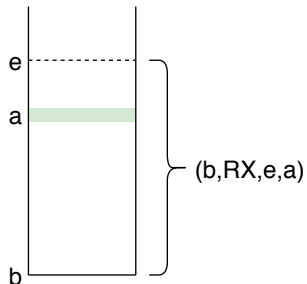
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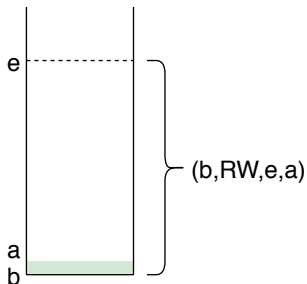
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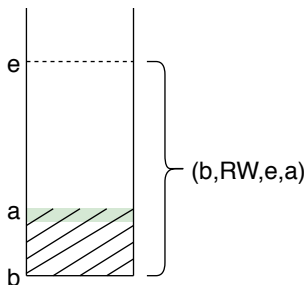
Enforcing Well Bracketed Control Flow using Capabilities

Well Bracketed Control Flow



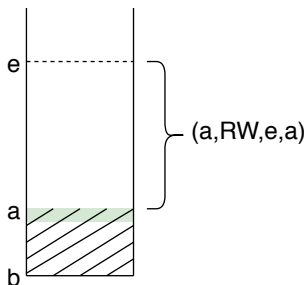
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1 push r_stk 1
2 scall r
3 pop r_stk r_1
4 assert r_1 1
5 push r_stk 2
6 scall r
7 halt
```

Well Bracketed Control Flow



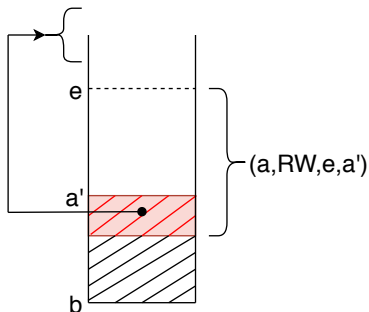
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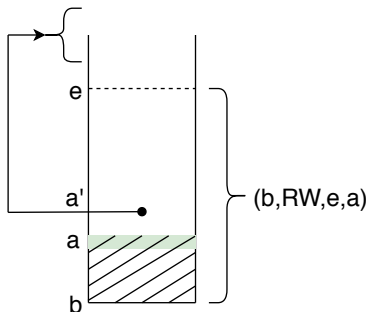
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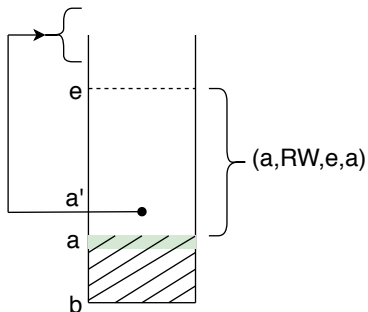
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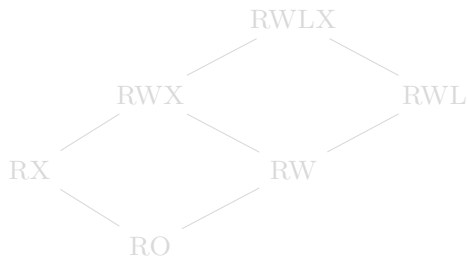


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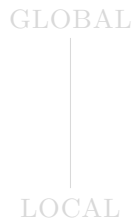
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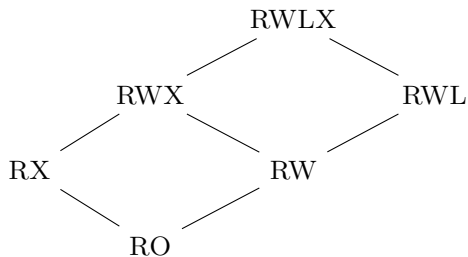


(p, **Global**, b, e, a)

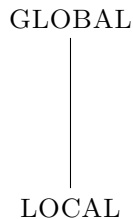


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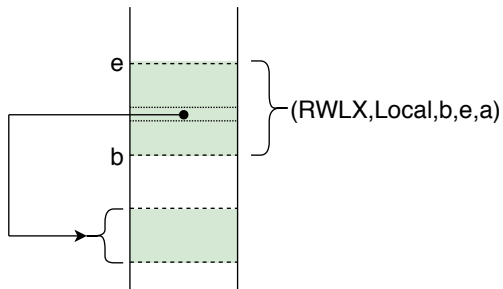
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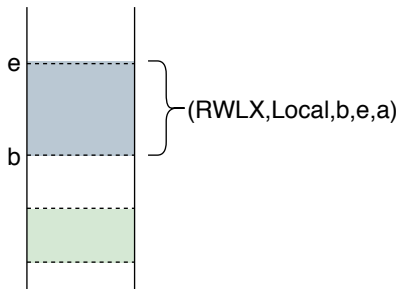
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Calling Convention



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Reasoning about Capability Safety

Expressing Capability Safety

- ▶ using a Program Logic
- ▶ using a logical relation to capture invariants on the type system
- ▶ using a logical relation on an untyped (or uni-typed) language to capture semantic properties of the language

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Step-indexed Kripke Logical Relation

$$\mathcal{V}(W) \triangleq \{n, (RW, g, b, e, a) | \dots\} \cup \dots$$

- ▶ World-circularity problem
 - ▶ Step indexing
- ▶ The world may evolve: we need future world relation
 - ▶ Local capabilities are revoked whereas Global capabilities are not, *the relation needs to model this distinction:*

\sqsubseteq_{pub} *and* \sqsubseteq_{priv}

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Expressing Capability Safety in Iris - an Iris primer

Iris: Higher-order Concurrent Separation Logic Framework

- ▶ Foundational
- ▶ Implemented in Coq – equipped with an interactive proof mode
- ▶ Framework – embed any language and its operational semantics into Iris
- ▶ Comes equipped with:
 - ▶ Invariants
 - ▶ Ghost state
 - ▶ Always and Later Modalities

We can take advantage of Iris' step-indexed model and invariants to mechanize step-indexed Kripke logical relations with recursive worlds in a succinct and elegant way.

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Expressing Capability Safety in Iris - Challenges

- ▶ Region invariants: Iris invariants
- ▶ Future world relation: frame preserving updates and world satisfaction
- ▶ Step indexing: later modality

Challenges

- ▶ Iris was designed with more high level languages in mind, how do we embed a low level machine language into Iris
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Roadmap

- ▶ embed the language into Iris
- ▶ define a program logic by proving Hoare Triples
- ▶ define the logical relation – using Iris tools to solve the world circularity problem
- ▶ prove the fundamental theorem of logical relations
- ▶ use the logical relation to prove examples that rely on local state encapsulation and well-bracketed control flow with calls to unknown adversary

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Program Logic

Abstract Instructions

$$(reg, mem) \rightarrow (reg', mem')$$

- ▶ Instr Executable
- ▶ Instr Halted \rightarrow HaltedV
- ▶ Instr Failed \rightarrow FailedV

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A Capability Points-to Predicate

Points-to Predicate with Permissions

$$a \mapsto_a [RWL]w$$

Points-to Predicate with Permissions

$$a \mapsto_a [RWL]w \Rightarrow a \mapsto_a [RWL]((p, Local), b, e, l)$$

Points-to Predicate with Permissions

$$\begin{aligned} a \mapsto_a [RWL]w &\Rightarrow a \mapsto_a [RWL]((p, Local), b, e, l) \\ &\Rightarrow a \mapsto_a [RW]((p, Local), b, e, l) \end{aligned}$$

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A Unary Logical Relation for Reasoning about Semantic Properties of an Untyped Language

The Value Relation

A unary logical relation of an un-typed language

$$\mathcal{V} : \text{Word} \rightarrow iProp \Sigma$$

Challenge: distinguish between Local and Global capabilities:

- ▶ At the level of the value relation
- ▶ Model revocation

STS: A collection of state transition systems

$$\mathcal{V}((_{RW}, g), b, e, a) \triangleq \bigstar_{a \in [b, e]} \boxed{\exists w, a \mapsto_a [RW]_w * \mathcal{V}(w)}$$

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The Execute Condition

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$$\text{exec_cond}(\Sigma)(p, g, b, e) \triangleq \begin{cases} \forall a \in [b \ e], \Sigma' \sqsupseteq_{pub} \Sigma. \\ \quad \triangleright \mathcal{E}(\Sigma')(((p, g), b, e, a)) \quad g = Local \\ \\ \forall a \in [b \ e], \Sigma' \sqsupseteq_{priv} \Sigma. \\ \quad \triangleright \mathcal{E}(\Sigma')(((p, g), b, e, a)) \quad g = Global \end{cases}$$

The Expression Relation

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$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{E}(W)(pc) &\triangleq \forall r, \mathcal{R}(W)(r) * \text{context}(W)(r[\text{PC} := pc]) \\ &\quad \rightarrow * \text{WP Seq (Instr Executable)} \\ &\quad \{v, v = \text{Halted}V \implies \exists W' r', W' \sqsubseteq_{\text{priv}} W \\ &\quad * \text{context}(W')(r')\}\end{aligned}$$

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$$\text{context}(W)(r) = \left(\bigstar_{r_i \mapsto w \in r} r_i \mapsto_r w \right) \wedge \text{full_map } r$$

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The Fundamental Theorem of Logical Relations

The Fundamental Theorem of logical relations

If we can read a region, and every word in that region is safe, then
we can safely execute it

- ▶ "If we can read a region" : $p = \text{RX} \vee p = \text{RWX} \vee p = \text{RWLX}$
- ▶ "and every word in that region is safe":
 $\text{read_write_cond}(p, b, e)$
- ▶ "then we can safely execute it": $\mathcal{E}(W)((p, g), b, e, a)$

$$(p = \text{RX} \vee p = \text{RWX} \vee p = \text{RWLX}) \implies$$

$$\text{read_write_cond}(p, b, e) \implies \mathcal{E}(W)((p, g), b, e, a)$$

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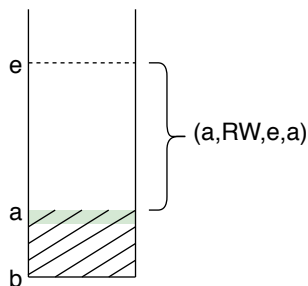
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Reasoning about Unknown Code

Reasoning about Unknown Code

We use the fundamental theorem to reason about calls to an unknown adversary



```
1 push r_stk 1
2 scall r
3 pop r_stk r_1
4 assert r_1 1
5 halt
```

$$\mathcal{E}(W)(pc) \triangleq \forall r, \mathcal{R}(W)(r) * \text{context}(W)(r[\text{PC} := pc])$$

* WP Seq (Instr Executable)

$$\{v, v = \text{HaltedV} \implies \exists W' r', W' \sqsubseteq_{\text{priv}} W$$

* context(W')(r')\}

What's new: capability machine viewpoint

- ▶ Mechanized formalization: currently $\sim 20,000$ lines of code
- ▶ A higher level of abstraction

What's new: Iris formalization viewpoint

- ▶ Formalization of a machine level language, with no distinction between program and memory
- ▶ Distinction between well-bracketed and non well-bracketed calls: using public/private transitions

Conclusion

- ▶ Embed a capability machine into Iris
- ▶ Define its program logic
- ▶ Mechanize a unary logical relation for an untyped capability machine language
- ▶ Prove the fundamental theorem of logical relations
- ▶ Reason about examples that rely on Local Stack Encapsulation and Well-Bracketed Control Flow with calls to an unknown adversary

References



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