

FORMAL VERIFICATION OF TLS IN THE SECURE SOCKET API

PRESENTED MATTHEW CHRISTENSEN
MARCH 5, 2022

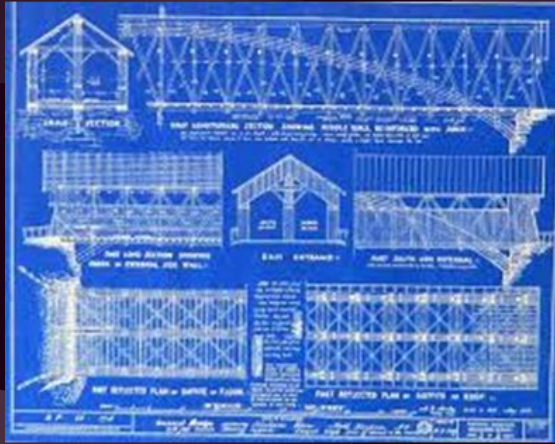


“

FORMAL VERIFICATION

“Program testing can be used to show the presence of bugs, but never to show their **absence!**”

-Edsger W. Dijkstra



THE SECURE SOCKET API

Internet Research Lab

- Using TLS is hard
- Symbols in libssl: 504
- Lines of code: 317

```
int socket = socket(PF_INET, SOCK_STREAM, IPPROTO
```



```
int socket = socket(PF_INET, SOCK_STREAM,  
IPPROTO_TLS);
```



THE PROBLEM

How do we know the Secure Socket API
actually makes your socket secure?

FORMAL VERIFICATION PROCESS

Properties

Determine what properties are required for a secure connection.

Contracts

Determine what is required to guarantee secure properties.

Model

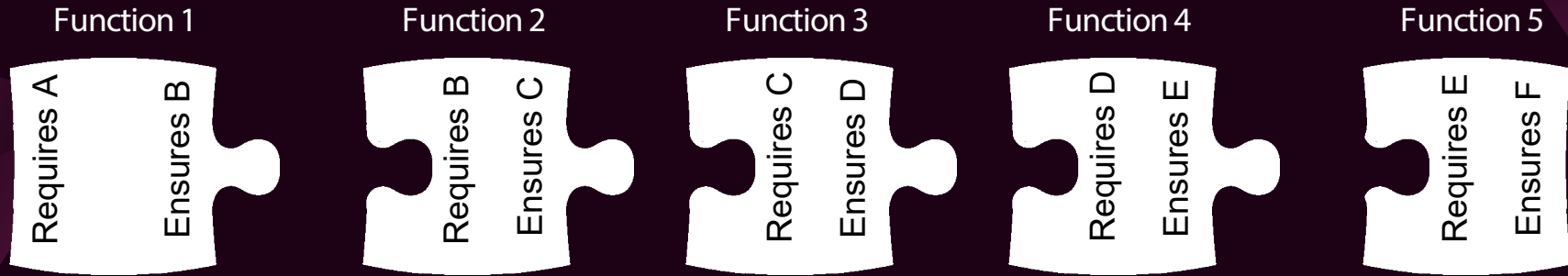
Model codebase in Dafny and overlay contracts onto model.

Verification

Verify that the model represents the codebase accurately.


WEAKEST PRECONDITION CALCULUS

➤ Problem: how to prove quality F?



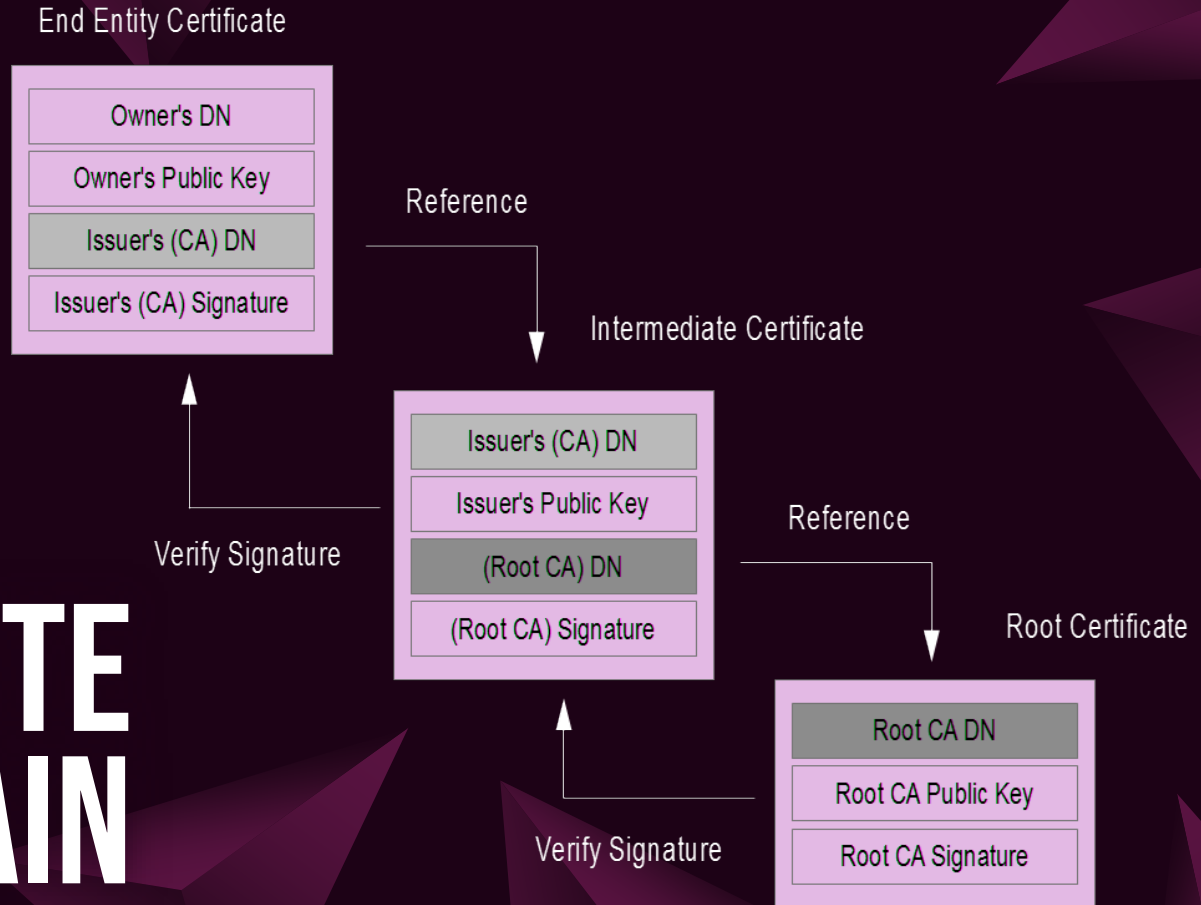
Thus, given A we can prove F

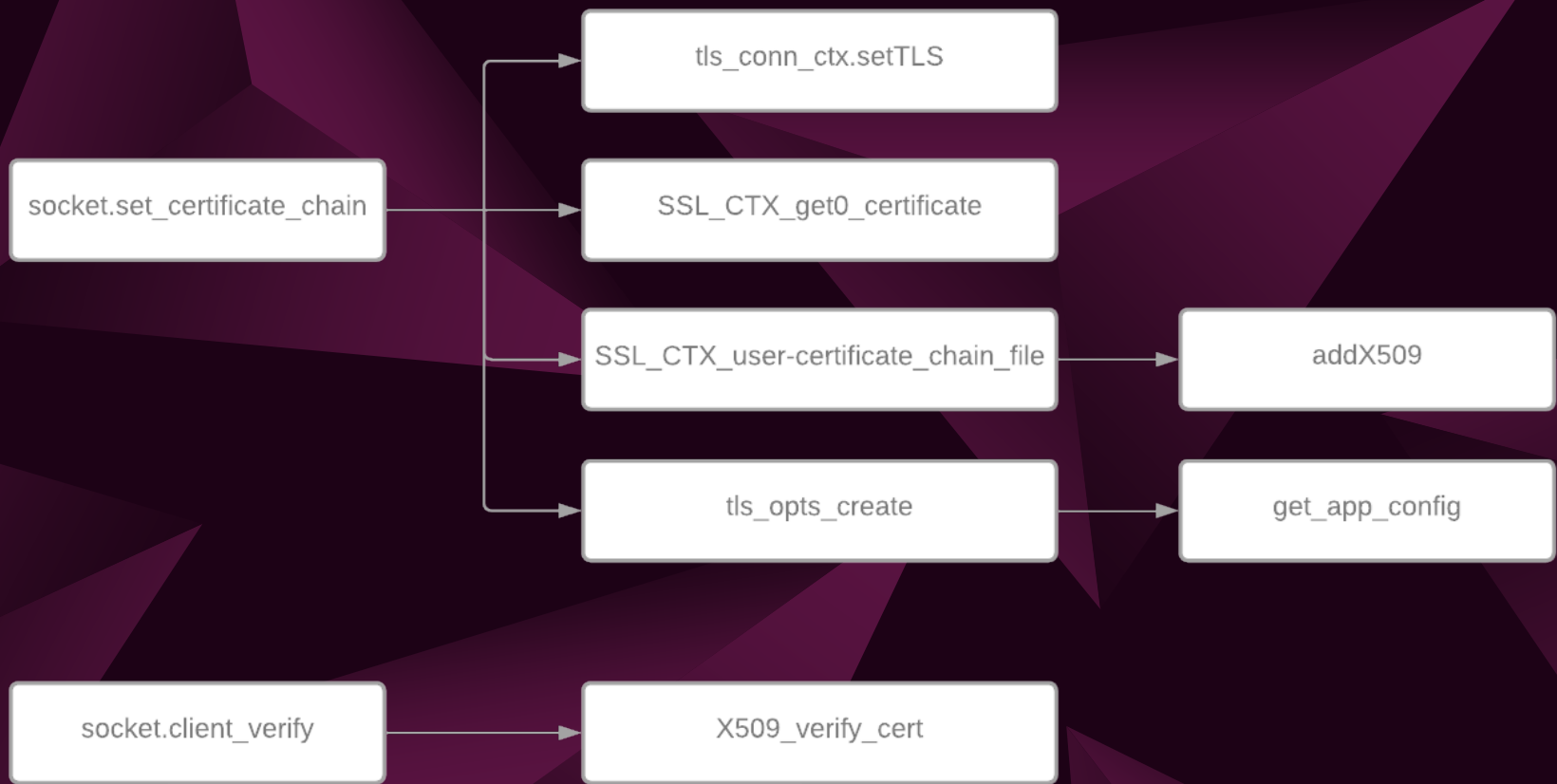
CONCRETE EXAMPLE




Secure State Properties			
Property	Implemented in the SSA	Function	File
Actually Connect Via SSL (Encryption)	Yes!	bufferevent_socket_connect()	daemon.c and tls_wrapper.c
Verify Certificate Chain	Yes!	SSL_CTX_set_verify(SSL_VERIFY_PEER) and X509_verify_cert	tls_wrapper.c
Domain name checking	Maybe??	SSL_set1_host()	?
Loaded Cert Authorities	?	SSL_CTX_load_verify_locations()	tls_wrapper.c
Ciphersuites (TLS 1.3)	NO	SSL_CTX_set_ciphersuites()	-
Cipher List (TLS 1.2 & lower)	Yes (ish)	SSL_CTX_set_cipher_list()	tls_wrapper.c
Setting minimum protocol version	Yes	SSL_CTX_set_min_proto_version()	tls_wrapper.c
Check to See that the Server Actually Sent a Certificate	NOEZ	SSL_get_peer_certificate(); SSL_get_verify_result()	-
Cert Revocation (Via OCSP Stapling)	NO	Multiple	-
Cert Revocation (Via CRL Checking)	NO	Multiple	-
Cert Revocation (Via OCSP Response--not stapling)	NO	Multiple	-
Disable TLS Compression	No	SSL_CTX_set_options()	-
Disable Session Tickets (only needed with TLS v1.2 and below)	No	SSL_CTX_set_options()	-

CERTIFICATE CHAIN







```
// loads a certificate chain from B<file> into B<ctx>.
method SSL_CTX_use_certificate_chain_file
  (file : string, ctx : SSL_CTX?)
  returns (ret : int)
  {
    requires file != ""
    requires ctx != null
    ensures ctx.num_certs != old(ctx.num_certs)
  }
  {
    var x509 := new X509.Init();
    ctx.addX509(x509);
    ret := 0;
  }
```

```
71
72 ✓    method addX509(cert : X509?)
73 |    → modifies `num_certs
74 |    → modifies cert_store
75 |    {
76 |      requires cert != null
77 |      requires 0 <= num_certs < cert_store.Length - 1
78 |      ensures num_certs == old(num_certs) + 1
79 |      ensures num_certs < cert_store.Length
80 |      ensures forall i : int :: 0 <= i < old(num_certs)
81 |      |||    ==> cert_store[i] == old(cert_store[i])
82 |      ensures cert_store[old(num_certs)] == cert
83 |    }
84 |    → cert_store[num_certs] := cert;
85 |    → num_certs := num_certs + 1;
86 |    }
```

CONCLUSION

AND

WHAT IS NEXT?

- The Secure Socket API is an effective way of guaranteeing a secure TLS connection (as far as it has been implemented validated)
- Formal verification of meaningful (non-trivial) code is hard

- We lack formal verification that our model represents the codebase
 - Solution: Integrate proof into the codebase
- We need more general tools for formal verification

THANKS!



Any questions?