



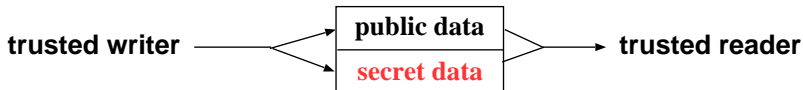
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Science and Technology

Backwards-directed information flow analysis for concurrent programs

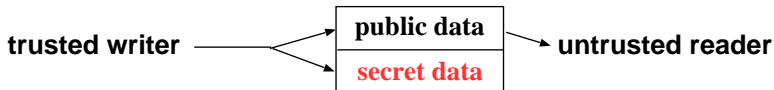
Kirsten Winter*, Nicholas Coughlin, Graeme Smith
DST Group and The University of Queensland
Australia

Cyber Security Foundations Symposium
21 - 24 June 2021

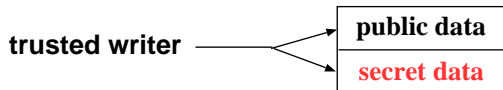
Information flow security for cross-domain components



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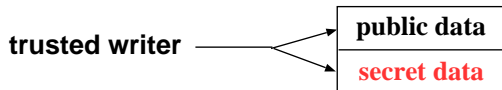
Value-dependent information flow security (IFS)



```
sync_write(dataType secret) :  
while ( $\neg$  CAS(z, 0, 1)) {  
  while (z  $\neq$  0) {}  
}  
x := secret;  
...  
x := 0;  
z := 0;
```

A blue line starts from the right side of the code block, between the lines "x := 0;" and "z := 0;". It extends vertically upwards, then turns left to point at the "while (z \neq 0) {}" line. The label "z=1" is written in blue next to the vertical segment of the line.

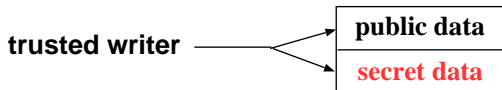
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control variable z
(to alter the security classification of x)

Value-dependent information flow security (IFS)

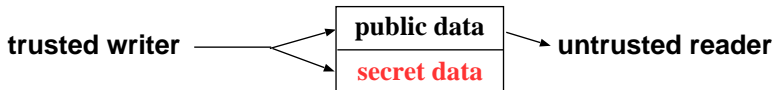


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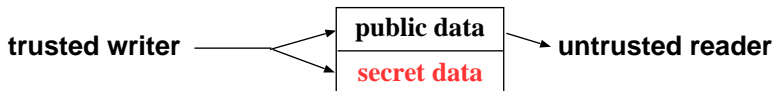
control variable z
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PO
proof obligation to guarantee IFS

Information flow in concurrent programs



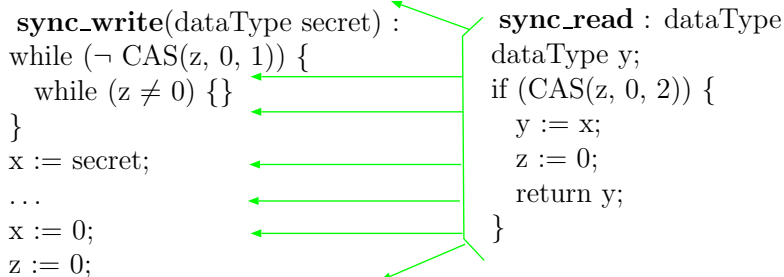
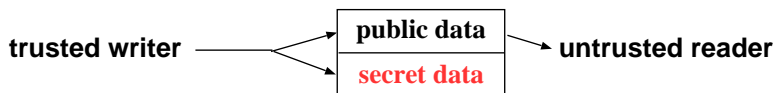
Information flow in concurrent programs



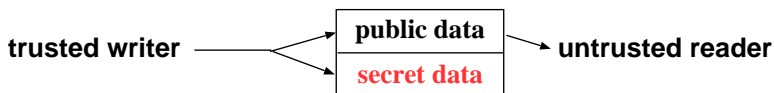
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}  
x := secret;  
...  
x := 0;  
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```

```
sync_read : dataType  
dataType y;  
if (CAS(z, 0, 2)) {  
  y := x;  
  z := 0;  
  return y;  
}
```


Information flow in concurrent programs



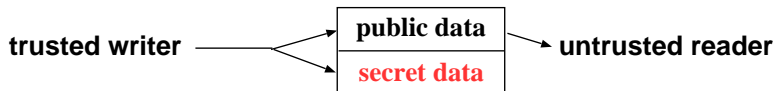
Information flow in concurrent programs



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\mathcal{R}_{read} rely condition
 $(x=x') \wedge (z=1 \Rightarrow z=z')$

Information flow in concurrent programs



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guarantee condition

$$\mathcal{G}_{write} \Rightarrow \mathcal{R}_{write}$$

Information flow in concurrent programs



```
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  while (z ≠ 0) {}  
}  
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...  
x := 0;  
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```

$\text{stable}_{\mathcal{R}}(\text{PO})$

\mathcal{R}_{read} rely condition
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$\text{stable}_{\mathcal{R}}(p) \hat{=} p \wedge \mathcal{R} \Rightarrow p'$

Proof Obligations to guarantee IFS

Sec : lattice of security values (e.g., *true* as *low* and *false* as *high*)

$\mathcal{L} : Var \rightarrow \mathcal{P}red$ security classification (value dependent)

$\Gamma : Var \rightarrow Sec$ security level of data held in a variable ($\rightsquigarrow \Gamma_E$)

e.g., $\mathcal{L}(x) = (z \neq 1)$ and $\mathcal{L}(z) = true$

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$$PO(z := 0) \hat{=} (z \in \mathcal{G} \Rightarrow (\mathcal{L}(z) \Rightarrow \Gamma_E(0))) \wedge \\ (z \in \mathcal{C} \Rightarrow \text{secureUpd}(z := 0))$$

$$\text{secureUpd}(z := 0) \hat{=} \\ \forall x \in \text{ctrled}(z). \mathcal{L}(x)[z \leftarrow 0] \Rightarrow \Gamma_x \vee \mathcal{L}(x)$$

Proof Obligations to guarantee IFS

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Backwards analysis via weakest precondition reasoning

$wp(c, Q)$: finds all states for which instruction c results in states Q
 $wpif(c, Q) \hat{=} PO(c) \wedge wp(c, Q)$

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$wpif$ $\left(x := 0; \right.$

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 $PO(z:=0)$

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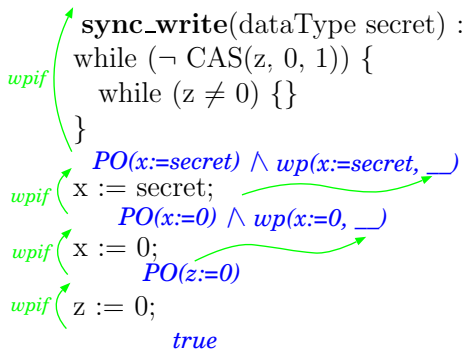
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Backwards analysis via weakest precondition reasoning

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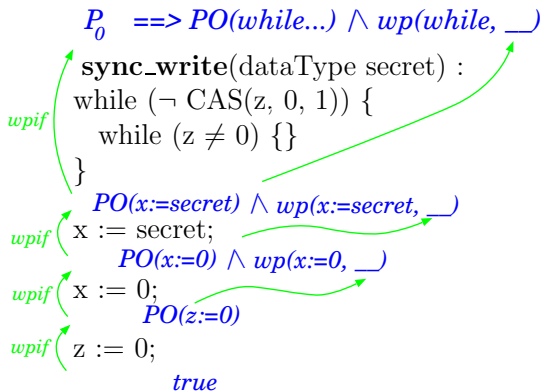
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Backwards analysis via weakest precondition reasoning

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Backwards analysis for concurrent programs

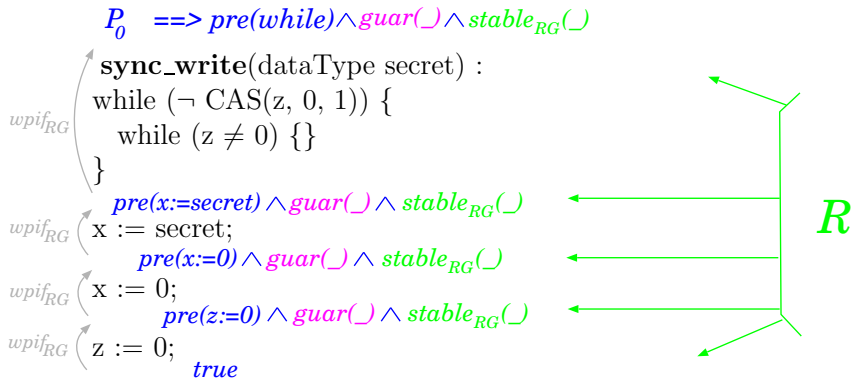
$$\begin{aligned} wpif_{\mathcal{R}\mathcal{G}}(c, Q) \hat{=} & PO(c) \wedge wp(c, Q) \wedge \\ & guar(c, \mathcal{G}) \wedge \\ & stable_{\mathcal{R}}(PO(c) \wedge guar(c, \mathcal{G}) \wedge wp(c, Q)) \end{aligned}$$

Backwards analysis for concurrent programs

$$\begin{aligned} wpif_{\mathcal{R}\mathcal{G}}(c, Q) \hat{=} & PO(c) \wedge wp(c, Q) \wedge \text{--- } pre(c) \\ & guar(c, \mathcal{G}) \wedge \\ & stable_{\mathcal{R}}(PO(c) \wedge guar(c, \mathcal{G}) \wedge wp(c, Q)) \end{aligned}$$

Backwards analysis for concurrent programs

$$wpif_{RG}(c, Q) \hat{=} PO(c) \wedge wp(c, Q) \wedge \text{pre}(c) \wedge \text{guar}(c, \mathcal{G}) \wedge \text{stable}_R(PO(c) \wedge \text{guar}(c, \mathcal{G}) \wedge wp(c, Q))$$



Conclusion

- ▶ general (rely/guarantee) approach to concurrency
- ▶ backwards analysis leads to simpler predicates (for IFS)
- ▶ based on standard verification techniques
- ▶ soundness proof in Isabelle/HOL
- ▶ automation:
 - ▶ theorem prover via tactics
 - ▶ custom-made analyser with interface to SMT solver
- ▶ analysis of assembly code