# Secure Programming via Libraries

### Soundness of LIO

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### Soudness for LIO

[Stefan, Russo, Mitchell, Mazieres 11]

- Formalizes the non-interference guarantee provided by LIO
- For the proof, we consider a core and simple and functional language
  - Why not full Haskell?
  - λ-calculus extended with boolean values, pairs, recursion, monadic operations, references
- We formally prove that the concept of monads works to guarantee non-interference

## **Proof Technique**

- Similar technique as the one used by Li and Zdancewic [Li, Zdancewic 10]
- Programs are expressions
- Main idea is simple:
  - If a program, that involves secret and public information, computes a public result, then the same public result can be obtained by a program that consists on the original one where the secret data has been erased!



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# The Language



### The language

• The language and types

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### The language

### The language and types



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### return and >>=

- Every monad has two operations: return and bind return ::  $a \to Ma$ >>= ::  $Ma \to (a \to Mb) \to Mb$
- So far, we wrote programs using do

$$e_1 >>= \lambda x.e_2 \longrightarrow do x \leftarrow e1$$
  
e2

# The Semantics

### **Operational Semantics**

- It describes how a valid program is interpreted as a sequence of computational steps [Winskel]
- We describe the steps via evaluation contexts
- Evaluation contexts
  - An evaluation contexts E is just a term with a "hole"
  - E[e] is the substitution of e into the hole
  - Intuitively, if a term M is being evaluated where M = E[e]
    - E is the context
    - e is the part of the term being evaluated

## **Evaluation Example**



$$v ::= \ldots | \operatorname{Lb} v e | \ldots$$

 $e ::= \dots | \, \texttt{label} e e | \, \texttt{unlabel} e | \, \texttt{toLabeled} e e \\ | \, \texttt{newRef} e e | \dots$ 

 $E ::= \left[ \cdot \right] \mid \ldots$ 

- LIO computations have state
  - Current label, clearance, and an store for references



- The security checks are done in the semantics
  - Dynamic approach

It respects the current label and clearance

(LAB)

### $\Sigma.\texttt{lbl} \sqsubseteq l \sqsubseteq \Sigma.\texttt{clr}$

### $\langle \Sigma, E[\texttt{label} \; l \; e] \rangle \longrightarrow \langle \Sigma, E[\texttt{return} \; (\texttt{Lb} \; l \; e)] \rangle$

If the security checks are not fulfilled, the execution gets "stuck". In practice, it could be an uncaught exception, etc.

It evaluates to the internal representation

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- You have seen a few rules
- Check the paper for the rest of them
  [Stefan, Russo, Mitchell, Mazieres 11]
- You should be able to understand them after the lecture

# The Types



# Typing

- It is not very interesting for our library
  - It is a dynamic approach, not static one



## Typing rules

- They indicate how to perform type-checking
  - Rules are usually syntax-directed rules
- An expression type-checks if we can construct a type derivation (application of the typing rules)

 $\Gamma \vdash true: Bool \quad \Gamma \vdash 1: Int$ 

Here you have the

type derivation!

 $\Gamma \vdash (\texttt{true}, 1) : (\texttt{Bool}, \texttt{Int}) \qquad \Gamma \vdash \texttt{true} : \texttt{Bool}$ 

 $\Gamma \vdash ((\texttt{true}, 1), \texttt{true}): ((\texttt{Bool}, \texttt{Int}), \texttt{Bool}) <$ 

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What is the

type?

Type system (very simple)

 $\Gamma \vdash$ true : Bool

 $\Gamma \vdash e : \tau \qquad \Gamma \vdash e' : \tau'$ 

 $\Gamma \vdash (e, e') : (\tau, \tau')$ 

## Interesting typing rules



• The rest of the typing rules are just like the ones implemented in Haskell

### So far

- We have seen
  - The language
  - Semantics
  - Types
- What is coming now?
  - Combine all of them (and some other techniques) in order to prove non-interference in programs written using LIO

# Soundness





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### The Erasure Function

- Function  $\varepsilon_L$ 
  - It is responsible for performing term erasure
  - It is often applied homomorphically

 $\varepsilon_L( ext{if } e ext{ then } e_1 ext{ else } e_2) =$ 

if  $\varepsilon_L(e)$  then  $\varepsilon_L(e_1)$  else  $\varepsilon_L(e_2)$ 

- Intuitively, the function removes values and expressions that are not below L
- L is the attacker level

### The Erasure Function

$$\varepsilon_{L}(\bullet) = \bullet \qquad \varepsilon_{L}((e)^{\text{LIO}}) = (\varepsilon_{L}(e))^{\text{LIO}}$$

$$\varepsilon_{L}(\text{Lb } l e) = \begin{cases} \text{Lb } l \bullet & l \not\subseteq L & \text{It removes labeled values where the label ls not below L} \\ \text{Lb } l \varepsilon_{L}(e) & \text{otherwise} & \text{label ls not below L} \end{cases}$$

$$\frac{\varepsilon_{L}(\Sigma.\phi) = \{(x, \varepsilon_{L}(\Sigma.\phi(x)) : x \in \text{dom}(\Sigma.\phi)\}}{\varepsilon_{L}(\Sigma) = \Sigma[\phi \mapsto \varepsilon_{L}(\Sigma.\phi)]} \qquad \text{It propagates the application of the erasure function to the labeled values stored by references} \\ \varepsilon_{L}(\langle \Sigma, e \rangle) = \begin{cases} \langle \varepsilon_{L}(\Sigma), \bullet \rangle & \Sigma.1\text{bl} \not\subseteq L \\ \langle \varepsilon_{L}(\Sigma), \varepsilon_{L}(e) \rangle & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \qquad \text{Erasure in configurations (technical reasons)} \end{cases}$$

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### A new evaluation relationship

$$\frac{\langle \Sigma, e \rangle \longrightarrow \langle \Sigma', e' \rangle}{\langle \Sigma, e \rangle \longrightarrow_L \varepsilon_L(\langle \Sigma', e' \rangle)}$$

- Expressions under this evaluation relationship are evaluated as before
- It guarantees that confidential data (above L) is erased as soon as it is created

### Simulation

This is the main idea behind the proof



### Preliminaries

- In order to prove the simulation, it is necessary to show several auxiliary results
  - You can read it from the paper
- The proof consists on establishing the simulation in two phases
  - For expressions that do not execute any toLabeled
  - For expressions that execute n-toLabeled
- Why is that?
  - The semantics for toLabeled uses big-step semantics

Lemma 1 (Single-step simulation without toLabeled).

If

Subject reductoin

- $\Gamma \vdash e : \tau$ , and
- $\langle \Sigma, e \rangle \longrightarrow \langle \Sigma', e' \rangle$

where toLabeled is not executed, then

*i*)  $\Gamma \vdash e' : \tau$ , and Subject reductoin *ii*)  $\varepsilon_L(\langle \Sigma, e \rangle) \longrightarrow_L \varepsilon_L(\langle \Sigma', e' \rangle).$ 

- The proof going on case analysis on the expression being evaluated
  - Recall that evaluation is performed using evaluation contexts





Lemma 2 (Simulation for expressions not executing toLabeled).
If

- $\Gamma \vdash e : \tau$ , and
- $\langle \Sigma, e \rangle \longrightarrow^* \langle \Sigma', e' \rangle$

where toLabeled is not executed, then

- *i*)  $\Gamma \vdash e' : \tau$ , and
- *ii)*  $\varepsilon_L(\langle \Sigma, e \rangle) \longrightarrow_L^* \varepsilon_L(\langle \Sigma', e' \rangle).$
- The proof is on induction on  $\longrightarrow^*$
- The base case is Lemma 1

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**Lemma 3** (Simulation). If  $\Gamma \vdash e : \tau$  and  $\langle \Sigma, e \rangle \longrightarrow^* \langle \Sigma', e' \rangle$  then  $\Gamma \vdash e' : \tau$  and  $\varepsilon_L(\langle \Sigma, e \rangle) \longrightarrow^*_L \varepsilon_L(\langle \Sigma', e' \rangle).$ 

- The proof is on induction on the number of toLabeled being executed
- Base case is Lemma 2



### Non-interference

- Having the simulation established
- We proceed with a formulation of the theorem that proves non-interference
- The formulation is "standard"
- It requires a notion of low-equivalence
- It captures the observational power of the attacker
- If we run the program twice but with the same public input, the same public output must be observed



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- We considered labeled values as the input and output of programs
- Intuitively, two expressions are low-equivalent if the are equal, modulo labeled values whose labels are above L

$$\frac{e \approx_L e' \qquad l \sqsubseteq L}{\operatorname{Lb} l \ e \approx_L \operatorname{Lb} l \ e'}$$

$$\frac{l \not\sqsubseteq L}{\operatorname{Lb} l \ e \approx_L \operatorname{Lb} l \ e'}$$

If the label is not below L, then the content of labeled values it is not important

if true then (Lb H false) else false  $\approx_L$  if true then (Lb H true) else false

- We define low-equivalence between stores as well
- Intuitively, two stores are low-equivalent if the stored labeled values below L are the same



- We now define low-equivalence for configurations
  - It essentially means to have low-equivalence in the store and the expression to be evaluated when the current label is below L

$$\frac{e \approx_L e'}{\sum \phi \approx_L \Sigma'.\phi \qquad \Sigma.\text{lbl} = \Sigma'.\text{lbl} \qquad \Sigma.\text{clr} = \Sigma'.\text{clr} \qquad \Sigma.\text{lbl} \sqsubseteq L}{\langle \Sigma, e \rangle \approx_L \langle \Sigma', e' \rangle}$$
$$\frac{\sum \phi \approx_L \Sigma'.\phi \qquad \Sigma.\text{lbl} \not\sqsubseteq L \qquad \Sigma'.\text{lbl} \not\sqsubseteq L}{\langle \Sigma, e \rangle \approx_L \langle \Sigma', e' \rangle}$$

### Non-interference

**Theorem 1** (Non-interference). Given a computation e (with no  $\bullet$ , ()<sup>LIO</sup>, or Lb) where  $\Gamma \vdash e$ : Labeled  $\ell \tau \rightarrow LIO \ell$  (Labeled  $\ell \tau'$ ), initial environments  $\Sigma_1$  and  $\Sigma_2$  where  $\Sigma_1.\phi = \Sigma_2.\phi = \emptyset$ , security label l, an attacker at level L such that  $l \sqsubseteq L$ , then

$$\forall e_1 e_2. (\Gamma \vdash e_i : Labeled \ell \tau)_{i=1,2} \\ \wedge (e_i = Lb \ l \ e'_i)_{i=1,2} \wedge \langle \Sigma_1, e \ e_1 \rangle \approx_L \langle \Sigma_2, e \ e_2 \rangle \\ \wedge \langle \Sigma_1, e \ e_1 \rangle \longrightarrow^* \langle \Sigma'_1, (Lb \ l_1 \ e''_1)^{\scriptscriptstyle LIO} \rangle \\ \wedge \langle \Sigma_2, e \ e_2 \rangle \longrightarrow^* \langle \Sigma'_2, (Lb \ l_2 \ e''_2)^{\scriptscriptstyle LIO} \rangle \\ \Rightarrow \langle \Sigma'_1, Lb \ l_1 \ e''_1 \rangle \approx_L \langle \Sigma'_2, Lb \ l_2 \ e''_2 \rangle$$

### Non-interference (specialized)

**Theorem 1** (Non-interference). Given a computation e (with no  $\bullet$ , ()<sup>LIO</sup>, or Lb) where  $\Gamma \vdash e$ : Labeled  $\ell \tau \rightarrow LIO \ell$  (Labeled  $\ell \tau'$ ), initial environments  $\Sigma_1$  and  $\Sigma_2$  where  $\Sigma_1.\phi = \Sigma_2.\phi = \emptyset$ , an attacker at level L, then

$$\forall e_1 e_2. (\Gamma \vdash e_i : Labeled \ \ell \ \tau)_{i=1,2}$$

$$\land (e_i = Lb \ H \ e'_i)_{i=1,2} \land \langle \Sigma_1, e \ e_1 \rangle \approx_L \langle \Sigma_2, e \ e_2 \rangle$$

$$\land \langle \Sigma_1, e \ e_1 \rangle \longrightarrow^* \langle \Sigma'_1, (Lb \ l_1 \ e''_1)^{\scriptscriptstyle LIO} \rangle$$

$$\land \langle \Sigma_2, e \ e_2 \rangle \longrightarrow^* \langle \Sigma'_2, (Lb \ l_2 \ e''_2)^{\scriptscriptstyle LIO} \rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow \langle \Sigma'_1, Lb \ l_1 \ e''_1 \rangle \approx_L \langle \Sigma'_2, Lb \ l_2 \ e''_2 \rangle$$

It should have use  $(e_i = \text{Lb } L \text{ (Lb } H e'_i))_{i=1,2}$  but for simplicity I did not

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### **Proof Sketch**

- We will use our simulation
- We asumme (you can prove it) that

$$\varepsilon_L(e) = \varepsilon_L(e') \Rightarrow e \approx_L e'$$

### Proof Sketch II

$$(e_{i} = \operatorname{Lb} H e_{i}')_{i=1,2} \wedge \langle \Sigma_{1}, e e_{1} \rangle \approx_{L} \langle \Sigma_{2}, e e_{2} \rangle$$
  
 
$$\wedge \langle \Sigma_{1}, e (\operatorname{Lb} H e_{1}') \rangle \longrightarrow^{*} \langle \Sigma_{1}', (\operatorname{Lb} l_{1} e_{1}'')^{\operatorname{LIO}} \rangle$$
  
 
$$\wedge \langle \Sigma_{2}, e (\operatorname{Lb} H e_{2}') \rangle \longrightarrow^{*} \langle \Sigma_{2}', (\operatorname{Lb} l_{2} e_{2}'')^{\operatorname{LIO}} \rangle$$

By our simulation, we know that

By the simulation

 $\varepsilon_L(\langle \Sigma_1, e (\operatorname{Lb} H e_1') \rangle) \longrightarrow_L^* \varepsilon_L(\langle \Sigma_1', (\operatorname{Lb} l_1 e_1'')^{\operatorname{LIO}} \rangle)$  $\varepsilon_L(\langle \Sigma_2, e (\operatorname{Lb} H e_2') \rangle) \longrightarrow_L^* \varepsilon_L(\langle \Sigma_2', (\operatorname{Lb} l_2 e_2'')^{\operatorname{LIO}} \rangle)$ 

### Proof Sketch III

 $\varepsilon_L(\langle \Sigma_1, e (\operatorname{Lb} H e_1') \rangle) \longrightarrow_L^* \varepsilon_L(\langle \Sigma_1', (\operatorname{Lb} l_1 e_1'')^{\operatorname{LIO}} \rangle)$  $\varepsilon_L(\langle \Sigma_2, e (\operatorname{Lb} H e_2') \rangle) \longrightarrow_L^* \varepsilon_L(\langle \Sigma_2', (\operatorname{Lb} l_2 e_2'')^{\operatorname{LIO}} \rangle)$ 

Erase function goes inside the configuration

- $\langle \varepsilon_L(\Sigma_1), \varepsilon_L(e (\operatorname{Lb} H e'_1)) \rangle \longrightarrow^* \varepsilon_L(\langle \Sigma'_1, (\operatorname{Lb} l_1 e''_1)^{\operatorname{lo}} \rangle) \\ \langle \varepsilon_L(\Sigma_2), \varepsilon_L(e (\operatorname{Lb} H e'_2)) \rangle \longrightarrow^* \varepsilon_L(\langle \Sigma'_2, (\operatorname{Lb} l_2 e''_2)^{\operatorname{lo}} \rangle)$
- A little bit more

We expand it

 $\langle \varepsilon_L(\Sigma_1), \varepsilon_L(e) \; (\text{Lb} \; H \bullet) \rangle \longrightarrow^* \varepsilon_L(\langle \Sigma'_1, (\text{Lb} \; l_1 \; e''_1)^{\text{lio}} \rangle) \\ \langle \varepsilon_L(\Sigma_2), \varepsilon_L(e) \; (\text{Lb} \; H \bullet) \rangle \longrightarrow^* \varepsilon_L(\langle \Sigma'_2, (\text{Lb} \; l_2 \; e''_2)^{\text{lio}} \rangle)$ 

### Proof Sketch IV

These are the same configurations

$$\langle \varepsilon_L(\Sigma_1), \varepsilon_L(e) \ (\text{Lb} \ H \bullet) \rangle \longrightarrow_L^* \varepsilon_L(\langle \Sigma'_1, (\text{Lb} \ l_1 \ e''_1)^{\text{lio}} \rangle) \\ \langle \varepsilon_L(\Sigma_2), \varepsilon_L(e) \ (\text{Lb} \ H \bullet) \rangle \longrightarrow_L^* \varepsilon_L(\langle \Sigma'_2, (\text{Lb} \ l_2 \ e''_2)^{\text{lio}} \rangle)$$

• We know that  $\longrightarrow_L^*$  is deterministic

By equality and definition of erasure function

• Then,

$$\varepsilon_L(\langle \Sigma_1', (\operatorname{Lb} l_1 \ e_1'')^{\operatorname{lio}} \rangle) = \varepsilon_L(\langle \Sigma_2', (\operatorname{Lb} l_2 \ e_2'')^{\operatorname{lio}} \rangle)$$
Remember

• Which means,  $\varepsilon_L((\operatorname{Lb} l_1 e_1'')^{\operatorname{Lio}}) = \varepsilon_L((\operatorname{Lb} l_2 e_2'')^{\operatorname{Lio}}) \xrightarrow{\operatorname{By definition of erasure function}} \varepsilon_L(\operatorname{Lb} l_1 e_1'') = \varepsilon_L(\operatorname{Lb} l_2 e_2'') \xrightarrow{\operatorname{Lio}} \operatorname{Lb} l_1 e_1'' \approx_L \operatorname{Lb} l_2 e_2''$ 

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### Proof Sketch V

- Then,  $\varepsilon_L(\langle \Sigma'_1, (\operatorname{Lb} l_1 e''_1)^{\operatorname{IIO}} \rangle) = \varepsilon_L(\langle \Sigma'_2, (\operatorname{Lb} l_2 e''_2)^{\operatorname{IIO}} \rangle)$ • Which means,  $\varepsilon_L(\Sigma'_1.\phi) = \varepsilon_L(\Sigma'_2.\phi) \Rightarrow \operatorname{dom}_L(\Sigma'_1.\phi) = \operatorname{dom}_L(\Sigma'_2.\phi)$ By equality and definition of erasure function
- For any "public" labeled value in the store, we have  $\varepsilon_L(\Sigma'_1.\phi(x)) = \varepsilon_L(\Sigma'_2.\phi(x)), \text{ for any } x \in \text{dom}_L(\Sigma'_1.\phi)$ By definition of  $\Rightarrow \Sigma'_1.\phi(x) \approx_L \Sigma'_2.\phi(x), \text{ for any } x \in \text{dom}_L(\Sigma'_1.\phi)$ By definition of  $\Rightarrow \Sigma'_1.\phi \approx_L \Sigma'_2.\phi$ By definition of low-equivalence for stores
  What we assume in the beginning

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### Proof Sketch VI

Now, we have that

 $\Sigma_1'.\phi \approx_L \Sigma_2'.\phi$  Lb  $l_1 e_1'' \approx_L Lb l_2 e_2''$ 

- We still need to prove  $\langle \Sigma'_1, \operatorname{Lb} l_1 e''_1 \rangle \approx_L \langle \Sigma'_2, \operatorname{Lb} l_2 e''_2 \rangle$
- From the simulation, we had

 $\varepsilon_L(\langle \Sigma_1', (\operatorname{Lb} l_1 \ e_1'')^{\operatorname{lio}} \rangle) = \varepsilon_L(\langle \Sigma_2', (\operatorname{Lb} l_2 \ e_2'')^{\operatorname{lio}} \rangle)$ 

Which implies that

 $\Sigma_1'.\texttt{lbl} = \Sigma_2'.\texttt{lbl} \land \Sigma_1'.\texttt{clr} = \Sigma_2'.\texttt{clr}$ 

### Proof Sketch VII

• So, having

$$\begin{split} \Sigma_1'.\phi \approx_L \Sigma_2'.\phi & \text{Lb} \ l_1 \ e_1'' \approx_L \text{Lb} \ l_2 \ e_2'' \\ \Sigma_1'.\text{lbl} = \Sigma_2'.\text{lbl} \quad \Sigma_1'.\text{clr} = \Sigma_2'.\text{clr} \end{split}$$

• We can prove

 $\langle \Sigma'_1, \operatorname{Lb} l_1 e''_1 \rangle \approx_L \langle \Sigma'_2, \operatorname{Lb} l_2 e''_2 \rangle$ 

• by just case analysis if  $\Sigma'_1.lbl \sqsubseteq L$  and applying the definition of low-equivalence for configurations

### **Final Remarks**

- We formalize the ideas behind LIO
  - Language: simple call-by-name lambda-calculus
- Semantics
  - Security checks
- Types (not very interesting)
- Simulation
- Low-equivalence
- Non-interference theorem