

Outline for January 8, 2008

1. Access control matrix and entities
 - a. Subject, objects (includes subjects)
 - b. State is (S, O, A) where A is access control matrix
2. Transitions modify access control matrix entries; primitive operations
 - a. enter r into $A[s, o]$
 - b. delete r from $A[s, o]$
 - c. create subject s (note that for all x , $A[s', x] = A[x, s'] = \emptyset$)
 - d. create object o (note that for all x , $A[x, o'] = \emptyset$)
 - e. destroy subject s
 - f. destroy object o
3. Commands and examples
 - a. Regular command: *create-file*
 - b. Mono-operational command: *make-owner*
 - c. Conditional command: *grant-rights*
 - d. Biconditional command: *grant-read-if-r-and-c*
 - e. Doing “or” of 2 conditions: *grant-read-if-r-or-c*
 - f. General form
4. Miscellaneous points
 - a. Copy flag and right
 - b. *Own* as a special right
 - c. Principle of attenuation of privilege
5. What is the safety question?
 - a. An unauthorized state is one in which a generic right r could be leaked into an entry in the ACM that did not previously contain r . An initial state is safe for r if it cannot lead to a state in which r could be leaked.
 - b. Question: in a given arbitrary protection system, is safety decidable?
 - c. Theorem: there is an algorithm that decides whether a given mono-operational system and initial state is safe for a given generic right.
6. General case: It is undecidable whether a given state of a given protection system is safe for a given generic right.
 - a. Approach: represent Turing machine tape as access control matrix, transitions as commands
 - b. Reduce halting problem to it