# The Real/Ideal Paradigm Lecture 4

# Alley Stoughton

Oregon Programming Languages Summer School June 3–13, 2024 **Boston University** 

**Boston University** 

- We'll start this last lecture with a review of: the program architecture of our secure battleship implementations in
  - Haskell/LIO and Concurrent ML
  - our Real/Ideal Paradigm definition of security against a malicious player interface
- Then we'll survey the two implementations and consider how we used our security definition to audit them

### **Example 3: Battleship (Review)**



#### **Program Architecture and Behavior**





- We implemented in Concurrent ML a trusted referee that holds and updates both player's boards, enforcing the rules of the game
- But we were also interested in reducing the trusted computing base (TCB), by splitting the referee into mutually distrustful player interfaces



#### **Trusted Referee**



#### Splitting Referee into Mutually Distrustful Player Interfaces (Pls)





#### Splitting Referee into Mutually Distrustful Player Interfaces (Pls)



#### How do we define security against a malicious opponent PI?



# **Security Against Malicious PI (Tentative)**



resulting in b, then there is an execution on the other side also resulting in *b* 



# Security Against Malicious PI (Tentative)



security: unfortunately, if M doesn't follow the protocol, the error behavior (*termination*) in the two worlds can be different



# Security Against Malicious Pl



security: instead, we *propagate* errors, and model referee only yields a non-erroneous result if simulator player says OK



#### On GitHub

https://github.com/alleystoughton/battleship

you can find a link to our PLAS 2014 paper You Sank My Battleship!: A Case Study in Secure Programming plus the Haskell/LIO and **Concurrent ML code** 

code or described in the paper

Note that the error propagation presented above is not followed by this

# **Ambiguity Example: Patrol Boat**

	Α	В	С	D	Ε	F	G	Н	J
Α									
В						b			
С	С	С	С	С	С	b			
D						b			
Ε						b			
F									
G			р	S	S	S			
Н			р				d		
							d		
J							d		



# **Ambiguity Example: Patrol Boat**

	Α	В	С	D	Ε	F	G	Н	J
Α									
В						b			
С	С	С	С	С	С	b			
D						b			
Ε						b			
F									
G			р	р					
Н			S				d		
			S				d		
J			S				d		



- information flow control
- used for communication

LIO is a library for Concurrent Haskell with dynamic enforcement of

 Information flow labels have both secrecy and integrety components Provides mutable variables, which can be shared between threads, and



# **LIO Battleship**

```
data LSR = -- labeled shot result
      Miss -- a miss
    | Hit -- hit an unspecified ship
    | Sank Ship -- sank a specified ship
data LC = -- labeled cell
 LC
 (DCLabeled
  (Principal, -- originating player interface)
   Principal, -- receiving player interface
   Pos, -- position of cell
   DC LSR -- DC action for shooting cell
  ))
```

• Pls exchange — using trusted code — labeled boards, made of labeled cells:













#### LIO Example

**PI 2** 

1 : (1, 2, GC, pb) : 1  $\land$  2

1 : (1, 2, HC, pb) : 1 ∧ 2





1 : (1, 2, HC, pb) : 1 ∧ 2



#### LIO Example

**PI 2** 

1 : (1, 2, GC, pb) : 1  $\land$  2

1 : (1, 2, HC, pb) : 1 ∧ 2



#### : (1, 2, HC, pb) : 1 $\land$ 2

**Patrol Boat** MVar

#### LIO Example

**PI 2** 

1 : (1, 2, GC, pb) : 1 ∧ 2

1 : (1, 2, HC, pb) : 1 ∧ 2





#### : (1, 2, HC, pb) : 1 $\land$ 2

**Patrol Boat** MVar

#### LIO Example

**PI 2** 

1 : (1, 2, GC, pb) : 1 ∧ 2

1 : (1, 2, HC, pb) : 1 ∧ 2





: (1, 2, HC, pb) : 1 ∧ 2



#### LIO Example

**PI 2** 

1 : (1, 2, GC, pb) : 1  $\land$  2

1 : (1, 2, HC, pb) : 1  $\land$  2

: (1, 2, HC, pb) : 1  $\land$  2







: (1, 2, HC, pb) : 1  $\land$  2



#### LIO Example







#### LIO Example







#### LIO Example









#### LIO Example









#### LIO Example









#### LIO Example









#### LIO Example



GC, HC



- Concurrent ML is a library for Sta New Jersey implementation)
- It has no special security features
- But the combination of its abstract types (provided by its rich module system) and mutable references can be used to program access control

Concurrent ML is a library for Standard ML (we use the Standard ML of



#### **CML + AC Battleship**

• Pls exchange — using trusted code — immutable, abstract locked originating player:

```
type key (* key *)
type ck (* counted key *)
val labelKey : key * int -> ck
type lb (* locked board *)
datatype lsr =
          Invalid (* invalid counted key *)
        | Repeat
                       (* illegal repetition *)
        I Miss (* missed a ship *)
        | Hit
                   (* hit an unspecified ship *)
        | Sank of ship (* sank the given ship *)
val lockedShoot : lb * pos * ck -> lb * lsr
```

boards, whose cells can be unlocked using unforgeable keys held by





**PI 2** 







**PI 2** 







**PI 2** 



























<b>PI 2</b>						
	lb <sub>1</sub>	HC	(key <sub>HC</sub> , 1)			
Hit	lb <sub>2</sub>	GC				







<b>PI 2</b>						
	lb <sub>1</sub>	HC	(key <sub>HC</sub> , 1)			
Hit	lb <sub>2</sub>	GC				







	F	PI 2	
	lb <sub>1</sub>	HC	(key <sub>HC</sub> , 1)
Hit	lb <sub>2</sub>	GC	(key <sub>GC</sub> , 2)





#### A counted key is only applicable to a single locked board, and can't be deconstructed



#### **Construction of Simulator Player for CML + AC**







### **Construction of Simulator Player for CML + AC**







#### CML + AC: M Doesn't Learn More Than it Should















































![](_page_52_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_53_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_53_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_54_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_54_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_55_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_55_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_56_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_56_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_56_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_57_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_57_Picture_2.jpeg)

# CML + AC: M Commits to a Board

![](_page_58_Figure_1.jpeg)

abstract type has *two* kinds of locked boards: one for shooting and one for extraction; S extracts board from locked board M initially provides

![](_page_58_Figure_3.jpeg)

Q: What is the potential pitfall with this approach?

![](_page_58_Picture_5.jpeg)

# CML + AC: M Commits to a Board

![](_page_59_Figure_1.jpeg)

abstract type has *two* kinds of locked boards: one for shooting and one for extraction; **S** extracts from the locked board **M** provides its source board, to give to G

![](_page_59_Figure_3.jpeg)

A: A replay attack in which M gives G back its own locked board must be prevented

![](_page_59_Picture_5.jpeg)

- We used theoretical cryptography's real/ideal paradigm to define when one program interface is secure against a possibly malicious program interface
  - This separates the definition of security from its enforcement
- We gave two secure implementations, using our definition to guide our design and *informally audit* it
  - Using LIO and information flow control
  - Using Concurrent ML + access control
- We found numerous security bugs during our audits

#### Summary

![](_page_60_Picture_10.jpeg)

- Safe Haskell mostly automates the check that the malicious player interface only communicates via its channels
  - But we also want to check that it doesn't do an exit (terminating the whole program) — and this may have to be checked manually
- In Concurrent ML, it must be manually checked that the malicious PI only communicates via its channels

![](_page_61_Picture_4.jpeg)

- How do we know that a real/idea want?
- Designing ideal functionalities is something of an art, and tools for making their design easier would be useful
- Tools for helping the designer know they got the correct definition would also be helpful

How do we know that a real/ideal paradigm definition says what we

![](_page_62_Picture_5.jpeg)

### How Do We Know This Is What We Want?

![](_page_63_Figure_1.jpeg)

S(M) could simulate this by making *different* shots

![](_page_63_Picture_3.jpeg)

- What are alternatives to the real/ideal paradigm for defining the security of one component against another?
- When is it useful to split a trusted component into two mutually distrustful ones?
  - For Battleship, are there solutions relying on smaller trusted computing bases?
- When is information flow control necessary to achieve security?
  - Why did Battleship not require information flow control?

![](_page_64_Picture_6.jpeg)

- We want to prove security using a proof assistant
- It must be possible to formalize and reason about a programming language with
  - A rich module system, supporting abstract types
  - Concurrency
  - Mutable references
- We need to be able to reason about thread scheduling
- We are currently investigating whether the Coq development of the concurrent separation logic Iris would be a good vehicle for this work
  - Joint work with Jared Pincus, Arthur Azevedo de Amorim and Marco Gaboardi

#### **Future Work**

![](_page_65_Picture_10.jpeg)

# Questions about Example 3?

#### **Example 3: Battleship**

![](_page_66_Picture_4.jpeg)

- Let's end these lectures with an open discussion about the real/ideal paradigm
- Possible discussion points:
  - Difficulty defining ideal functionalities capturing correct security notions
  - Approaches to proving security in the real/ideal paradigm
  - Applicability to non-cryptographic security
  - Possible alternative approaches

### **Real/Ideal Paradigm Summary and Discussion**

![](_page_67_Picture_9.jpeg)