



# Systems and Internet Infrastructure Security

Network and Security Research Center  
Department of Computer Science and Engineering  
Pennsylvania State University, University Park PA

## Runtime Analysis

November 28, 2011

# Analysis So Far

- Prove whether a property always holds
  - *May analysis*
- Prove whether a property can hold
  - *Must analysis*
- Key step: abstract interpretation to overapproximate behavior of program
- But, it can be expensive and complex

# Runtime Analysis

- Collect traces of program runs to evaluate a property
- Testing
  - Run test cases to determine if property holds (or fails to hold) in all cases
  - Inherently incomplete
- Traces
  - Compare several runs to determine if a property holds across runs
  - Incomplete?

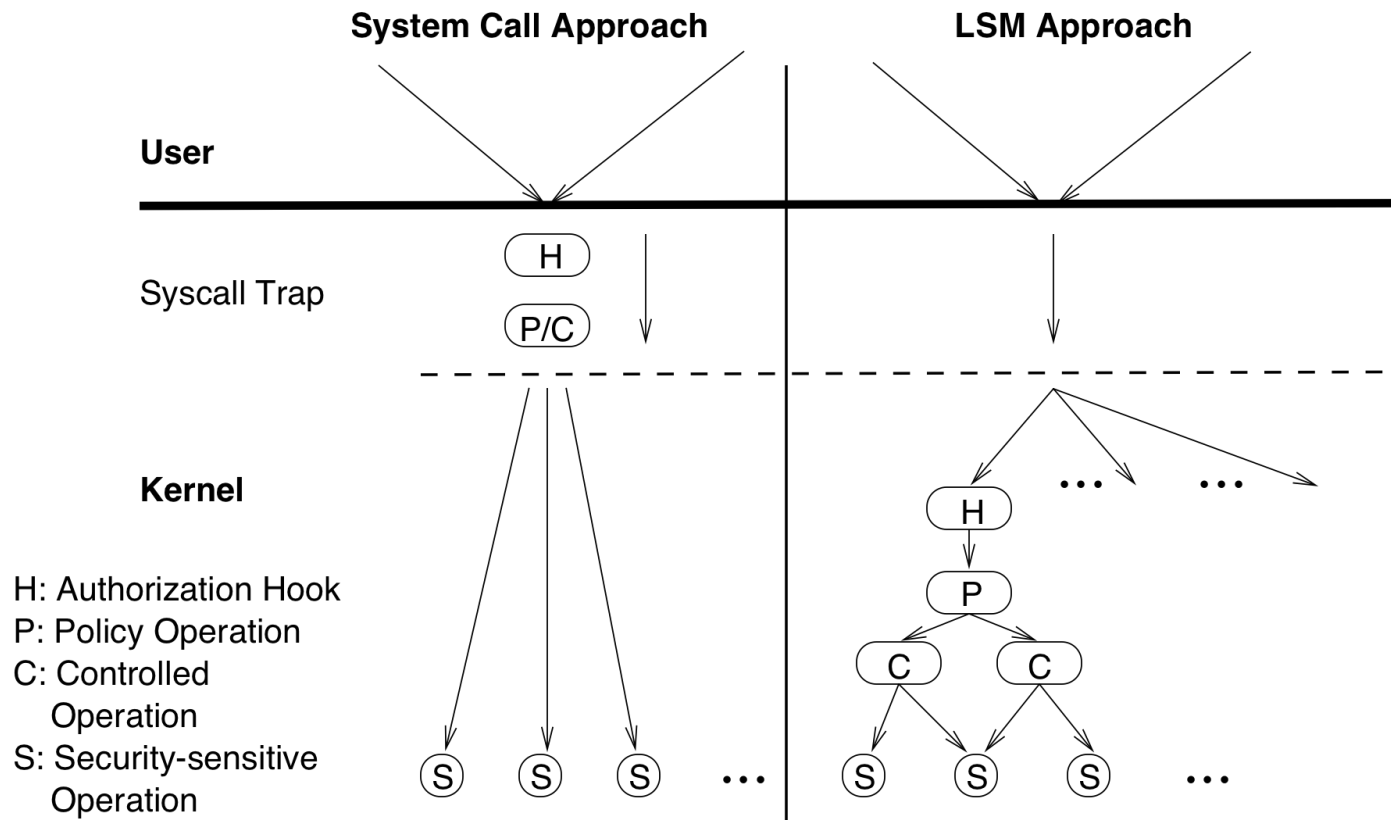
# Example

- Runtime Verification of Authorization Hook Placement for the Linux Security Modules Framework
- Linux Security Modules (LSM) framework
- Problem: Are authorization hooks placed correctly?
  - What does that mean?

# Mediation

- *Security-sensitive Operations*: These are the operations that impact the security of the system.
- *Controlled Operations*: A subset of security-sensitive operations that mediate access to all other security-sensitive operations. These operations define a *mediation interface*.
- *Authorization Hooks*: These are the authorization checks in the system (e.g., the LSM-patched Linux kernel).
- *Policy Operations*: These are the conceptual operations authorized by the authorization hooks.

# Mediation Overview



# Security-Sensitive Ops



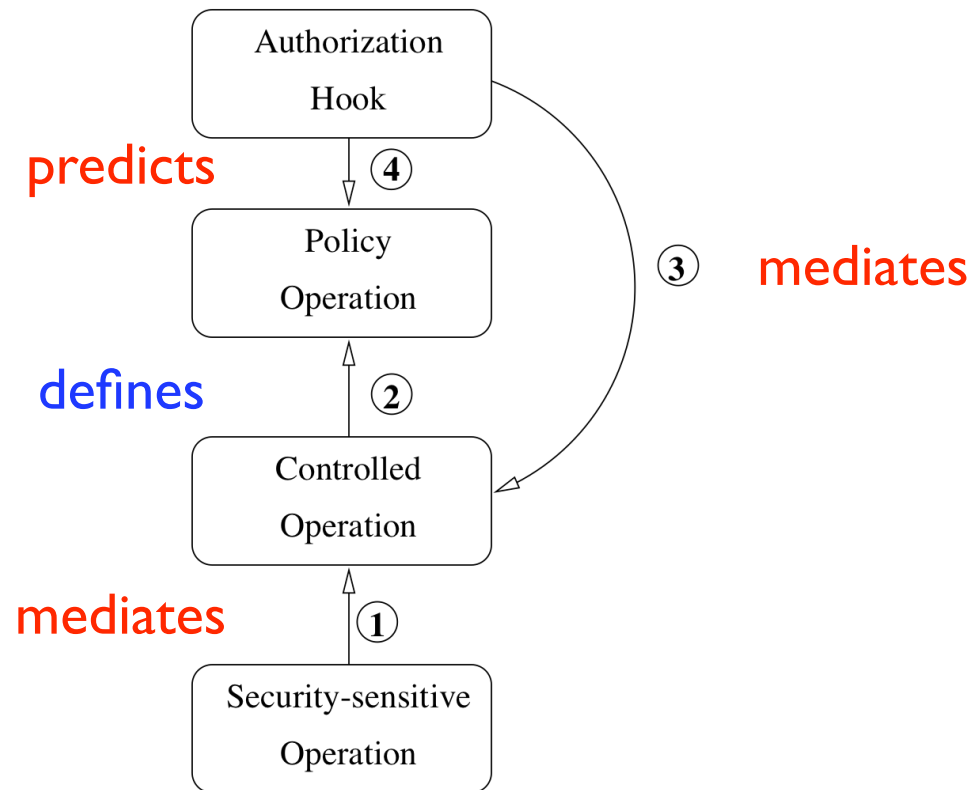
- What code-level operations indicate security-sensitivity?
- Variable access?
- Structure member access?
- Global access?

# Key Challenges

- *Identify Controlled Operations*: Find the set of security-sensitive operations that define a mediation interface
- *Determine Authorization Requirements*: For each controlled operation, identify the policy operation
- *Verify Complete Authorization*: For each controlled operation, verify that the correct authorization requirements (policy operation) is enforced
- *Verify Hook Placement Clarity*: Controlled operations implementing a policy operation should be easily identifiable from their authorization hooks



# Key Relations



# Analysis Approach

- Check consistency between hooks and security-sensitive operations
  - Traces
- Sensitivity
  - Structure member accesses
  - Hooks
- Consistent relationship indicates hook is associated with SMAs (make a controlled op)
  - Sensitivity can vary in granularity

# Sensitivities

<i>Factor</i>	<i>Authorizations are same for:</i>
System Call	all controlled operations in system call
Syscall Inputs	all controlled operations in same system call with same inputs
Datatype	all controlled operations on objects of the same datatype
Object	all controlled operations on the same object
Member	all controlled operations on same datatype, accessing same member, with same operation
Function	all same member controlled operations in same function
Intra-function	same controlled operation instance
Path	same execution path to same controlled operation instance

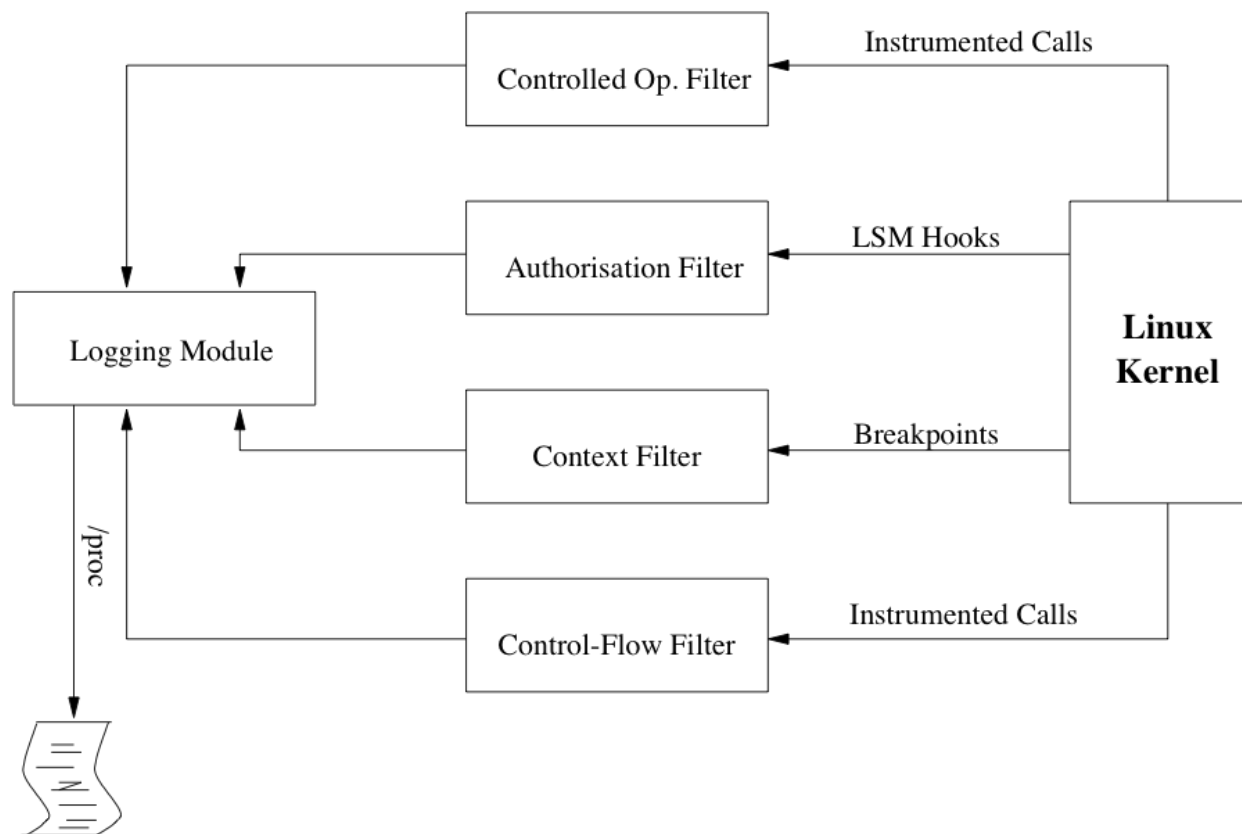
**Table 1: Authorization Sensitivity Factors: names and effects on authorizations**

- For SMAs to be a controlled op
  - ▶ **Path**: all traces with SMA should have same hooks
    - Not dependent on paths taken to get there
  - ▶ **Function**: all traces with same SMA type in same function should have same hooks
    - SMA in function defines controlled op if always associated with hook

# Implementation

- Propose sensitivity rules for system call processing
  - Propose relationship between hooks and controlled ops
- Log traces of system call processing
  - Collect syscall entry/exit/args, function entry/exit, controlled ops, and hooks
- Compute whether hooks always/sometimes/never in trace for each controlled op
  - Evaluate whether the current sensitivity rules express the expected consistency
- Update sensitivity rules

# Implementation



# Logging

- Authorization hooks
  - LSM itself
- Controlled operations (SSOs)
  - GCC module
- Control data
  - GCC flag
- System call contexts
  - Kernel scheduling loop

# Log Filtering Rules

- For sensitivity
  - Filter log entries processed to determine sensitivity

```
# Path sensitive rule for operation at
0xc014f046
1 = (+,id.type,CONTEXT) (+,di_cfm_eax,READ)
2 (D,1) = (+,id.type,CNTL.OP)
(+,di_dfm_ip,0xc014f046)
3 (D,1) = (+,id.type,SEC.CHK)

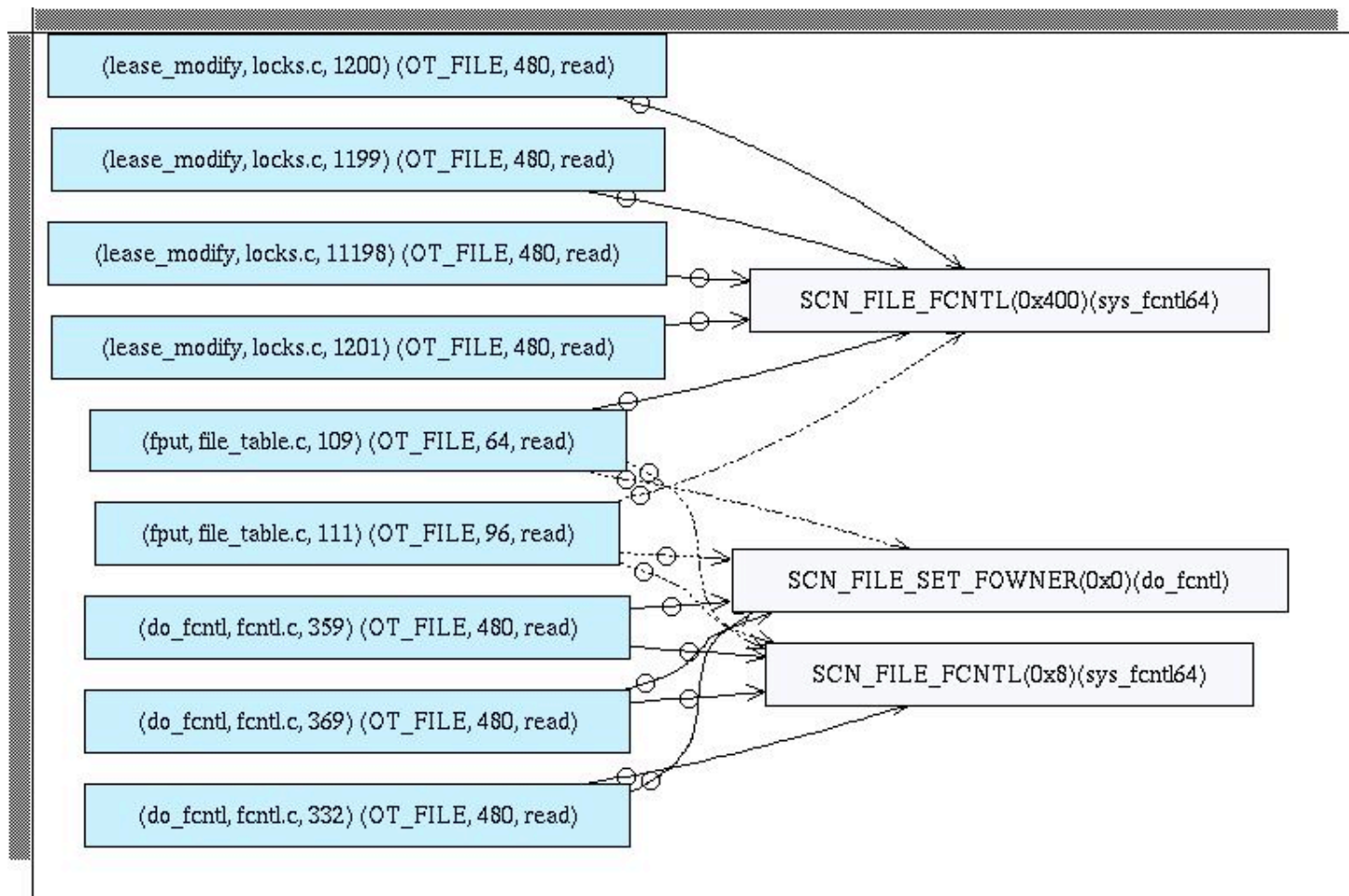
# Member sensitive rule for inode member
i_flock read access
1 = (+,id.type,CONTEXT) (+,di_cfm_eax,READ)
2 (D,1) = (+,id.type,CNTL.OP)
(+,di_dfm_class,OT_INODE)
(+,di_dfm_member,i_flock)
(+,di_dfm_access,OP_READ)
3 (D,1) = (+,id.type,SEC.CHK)

# Input sensitive rule for open for read
access, but not path.walk
1 = (+,id.type,CONTEXT) (+,di_cfm_eax,OPEN)
(+,co_ecx,RDONLY)
2 (D,1) = (+,id.type,FUNC)
(+,di_ffm_ip,path.walk)
3 (D,1)(N,2) = (+,ALL,0,0)
```

Figure 4: Example authorization sensitivity filtering rules



# Log Filtering Rules



# Results

- Missing hook
  - Setgroups16
- Have different numbers of hooks
  - Fcntl (set\_fowner)
- Missing hook
  - Fcntl (signal)
- Missing hook
  - Read (Memory mapped files)

# Runtime Analysis

- Choose test cases
- Collect traces (content of traces)
- Analyze traces
- Evaluate property

# Hook Placement

- A variety of analysis for hook placement and testing
- Zhang [USENIX 2002]
- Ganapathy [CCS 3005, Oakland 2006, ICSE 2007]
- Tan [USENIX 2008]
- [AsiaCCS 2008]
- Son [OOPSLA 2010]
- King etal [ESOP 2010]
- We are working on a purely static analysis