Noninterference Security in Communicating Sequential Processes

Pasquale Noce

Security Certification Specialist at Arjo Systems - Gep S.p.A. pasquale dot noce dot lavoro at gmail dot com pasquale dot noce at arjowiggins-it dot com

March 17, 2025

Abstract

An extension of classical noninterference security for deterministic state machines, as introduced by Goguen and Meseguer and elegantly formalized by Rushby, to nondeterministic systems should satisfy two fundamental requirements: it should be based on a mathematically precise theory of nondeterminism, and should be equivalent to (or at least not weaker than) the classical notion in the degenerate deterministic case.

This paper proposes a definition of noninterference security applying to Hoare's Communicating Sequential Processes (CSP) in the general case of a possibly intransitive noninterference policy, and proves the equivalence of this security property to classical noninterference security for processes representing deterministic state machines.

Furthermore, McCullough's generalized noninterference security is shown to be weaker than both the proposed notion of CSP noninterference security for a generic process, and classical noninterference security for processes representing deterministic state machines. This renders CSP noninterference security preferable as an extension of classical noninterference security to nondeterministic systems.

Contents

1	Nor	interference in CSP	2
	1.1	Processes	2
	1.2	Noninterference	5
2	CSF	P noninterference vs. classical noninterference	7
2		P noninterference vs. classical noninterference Classical noninterference	
2	2.1		7

		Noninterference in classical processes	
	2.5	Equivalence between security properties	14
3	CSI	P noninterference vs. generalized noninterference	16
3		P noninterference vs. generalized noninterference Generalized noninterference	

1 Noninterference in CSP

theory CSPNoninterference imports Main begin

An extension of classical noninterference security for deterministic state machines, as introduced by Goguen and Meseguer [1] and elegantly formalized by Rushby [8], to nondeterministic systems should satisfy two fundamental requirements: it should be based on a mathematically precise theory of nondeterminism, and should be equivalent to (or at least not weaker than) the classical notion in the degenerate deterministic case.

The purpose of this section is to formulate a definition of noninterference security that meet these requirements, applying to the concept of process as formalized by Hoare in his remarkable theory of Communicating Sequential Processes (CSP) [2]. The general case of a possibly intransitive noninterference policy will be considered.

Throughout this paper, the salient points of definitions and proofs are commented; for additional information see Isabelle documentation, particularly [7], [6], [5], and [3].

1.1 Processes

It is convenient to represent CSP processes by means of a type definition including a type variable, which stands for the process alphabet. Type *process* shall then be isomorphic to the subset of the product type of failures sets and divergences sets comprised of the pairs that satisfy the properties enunciated in [2], section 3.9. Such subset shall be shown to contain process *STOP*, which proves that it is nonempty.

Property C5 is not considered as it is entailed by C7. Moreover, the formalization of properties C2 and C6 only takes into account event lists t containing a single item. Such formulation is equivalent to the original one, since the truth of C2 and C6 for a singleton list t immediately derives from that for a generic list, and conversely:

• the truth of C2 and C6 for a generic nonempty list t results from the repeated application of C2 and C6 for a singleton list;

- the truth of C2 for t matching the empty list is implied by property C3;
- the truth of C6 for t matching the empty list is a tautology.

The advantage of the proposed formulation is that it facilitates the task to prove that pairs of failures and divergences sets defined inductively indeed be processes, viz. be included in the set of pairs isomorphic to type *process*, since the introduction rules in such inductive definitions will typically construct process traces by appending one item at a time.

In what follows, the concept of process is formalized according to the previous considerations.

type-synonym 'a failure = 'a list \times 'a set

type-synonym 'a process-prod = 'a failure set \times 'a list set

definition process-prop-1 :: 'a process-prod \Rightarrow bool where process-prop-1 $P \equiv ([], \{\}) \in fst P$

definition process-prop-2 :: 'a process-prod \Rightarrow bool where process-prop-2 $P \equiv \forall xs \ x \ X. \ (xs \ @ [x], \ X) \in fst \ P \longrightarrow (xs, \{\}) \in fst \ P$

definition process-prop-3 :: 'a process-prod \Rightarrow bool where process-prop-3 $P \equiv \forall xs \ X \ Y. \ (xs, \ Y) \in fst \ P \land X \subseteq Y \longrightarrow (xs, \ X) \in fst \ P$

definition process-prop-4 :: 'a process-prod \Rightarrow bool where process-prop-4 $P \equiv \forall xs \ x \ X. \ (xs, \ X) \in fst \ P \longrightarrow$ $(xs \ @ [x], \{\}) \in fst \ P \lor (xs, insert \ x \ X) \in fst \ P$

definition process-prop-5 :: 'a process-prod \Rightarrow bool where process-prop-5 $P \equiv \forall xs \ x. \ xs \in snd \ P \longrightarrow xs \ @ [x] \in snd \ P$

definition process-prop-6 :: 'a process-prod \Rightarrow bool where process-prop-6 $P \equiv \forall xs \ X. \ xs \in snd \ P \longrightarrow (xs, \ X) \in fst \ P$

definition process-set :: 'a process-prod set where process-set $\equiv \{P.$ process-prop-1 $P \land$ process-prop-2 $P \land$ process-prop-3 $P \land$ process-prop-4 $P \land$ process-prop-5 $P \land$ process-prop-6 $P\}$

typedef 'a process = process-set :: 'a process-prod set $\langle proof \rangle$

Here below are the definitions of some functions acting on processes. Functions *failures*, *traces*, and *deterministic* match the homonymous notions defined in [2]. As for the other ones:

- futures P xs matches the failures set of process P / xs;
- refusals P xs matches the refusals set of process P / xs;
- next-events P xs matches the event set $(P / xs)^0$.

definition failures :: 'a process \Rightarrow 'a failure set where failures $P \equiv fst$ (Rep-process P)

definition futures :: 'a process \Rightarrow 'a list \Rightarrow 'a failure set where futures P $xs \equiv \{(ys, Y). (xs @ ys, Y) \in failures P\}$

definition traces :: 'a process \Rightarrow 'a list set where traces $P \equiv Domain$ (failures P)

definition refusals :: 'a process \Rightarrow 'a list \Rightarrow 'a set set where refusals $P xs \equiv$ failures P '' {xs}

definition next-events :: 'a process \Rightarrow 'a list \Rightarrow 'a set where next-events P xs $\equiv \{x. xs @ [x] \in traces P\}$

definition deterministic :: 'a process \Rightarrow bool where deterministic $P \equiv$ $\forall xs \in traces P. \forall X. X \in refusals P xs = (X \cap next-events P xs = \{\})$

In what follows, properties *process-prop-2* and *process-prop-3* of processes are put into the form of introduction rules, which will turn out to be useful in subsequent proofs. Particularly, the more general formulation of *process-prop-2* as given in [2] (section 3.9, property C2) is restored, and it is expressed in terms of both functions *failures* and *futures*.

lemma process-rule-2: (xs @ [x], X) \in failures $P \implies (xs, \{\}) \in$ failures $P \land (proof)$

lemma process-rule-3: $(xs, Y) \in failures P \implies X \subseteq Y \implies (xs, X) \in failures P$ $\langle proof \rangle$

lemma process-rule-2-failures [rule-format]: (xs @ xs', X) \in failures $P \longrightarrow (xs, \{\}) \in$ failures $P \land (proof)$

lemma process-rule-2-futures:

 $(ys @ ys', Y) \in futures P xs \Longrightarrow (ys, \{\}) \in futures P xs \Rightarrow (proof)$

1.2 Noninterference

In the classical theory of noninterference, a deterministic state machine is considered to be secure just in case, for any trace of the machine and any action occurring next, the observable effect of the action, i.e. the produced output, is compatible with the assigned noninterference policy.

Thus, by analogy, it seems reasonable to regard a process as being noninterference-secure just in case, for any of its traces and any event occurring next, the observable effect of the event, i.e. the set of the possible futures of the process, is compatible with a given noninterference policy.

More precisely, let sinks I D u xs be the set of the security domains of the events within event list xs that may be affected by domain u according to interference relation I, where D is the mapping of events into their domains. Since the general case of a possibly intransitive relation I is considered, function sinks has to be defined recursively, similarly to what happens for function sources in [8]. However, contrariwise to function sources, function sinks takes into account the influence of the input domain on the input event list, so that the recursive decomposition of the latter has to be performed by item appending rather than prepending.

Furthermore, let *ipurge-tr I D u xs* be the sublist of event list *xs* obtained by recursively deleting the events that may be affected by domain u as detected via function *sinks*, and *ipurge-ref I D u xs X* be the subset of refusal X whose elements may not be affected by either u or any domain in *sinks I D u xs*.

Then, a process P is secure just in case, for each event list xs and each $(y \# ys, Y), (zs, Z) \in futures P xs$, both of the following conditions are satisfied:

- (ipurge-tr I D (D y) ys, ipurge-ref I D (D y) ys Y) \in futures P xs.
- Otherwise, the absence of event y after xs would affect the possibility for pair (*ipurge-tr I D* (*D y*) ys, *ipurge-ref I D* (*D y*) ys *Y*) to occur as a future of xs, although its components, except for the deletion of y, are those of possible future (y # ys, *Y*) deprived of any event allowed to be affected by y.
- $(y \# ipurge-tr \ I \ D \ (D \ y) \ zs, \ ipurge-ref \ I \ D \ (D \ y) \ zs \ Z) \in futures \ P \ xs.$

Otherwise, the presence of event y after xs would affect the possibility for pair (y # ipurge-tr I D (D y) zs, ipurge-ref I D (D y) zs Z) to occur as a future of xs, although its components, except for the addition of y, are those of possible future (zs, Z) deprived of any event allowed to be affected by y. Observe that this definition of security, henceforth referred to as CSP noninterference security, does not rest on the supposition that noninterference policy I be reflexive, even though any policy of practical significance will be such.

Moreover, this simpler formulation is equivalent to the one obtained by restricting the range of event list xs to the traces of process P. In fact, for each zs, Z, $(zs, Z) \in futures P xs$ just in case $(xs @ zs, Z) \in failures P$, which by virtue of rule process-rule-2-failures implies that xs is a trace of P. Therefore, formula $(zs, Z) \in futures P xs$ is invariably false in case xs is not a trace of P.

Here below are the formal counterparts of the definitions discussed so far.

function $sinks :: ('d \times 'd) set \Rightarrow ('a \Rightarrow 'd) \Rightarrow 'd \Rightarrow 'a \ list \Rightarrow 'd \ set where <math>sinks \ --- [] = \{\} |$ $sinks \ I \ D \ u \ (xs @ [x]) = (if \ (u, \ D \ x) \in I \lor (\exists v \in sinks \ I \ D \ u \ xs. \ (v, \ D \ x) \in I)$ then insert $(D \ x) \ (sinks \ I \ D \ u \ xs)$ $else \ sinks \ I \ D \ u \ xs)$ $\langle proof \rangle$ **termination** $\langle proof \rangle$

function *ipurge-tr* :: $('d \times 'd)$ *set* \Rightarrow $('a \Rightarrow 'd) \Rightarrow$ $'d \Rightarrow$ 'a *list* \Rightarrow 'a *list* **where** *ipurge-tr* - - [] = [] | *ipurge-tr* I D u (*xs* @ [x]) = (*if* $D x \in sinks I D u$ (*xs* @ [x]) *then ipurge-tr* I D u xs *else ipurge-tr* I D u xs @ [x]) $\langle proof \rangle$ **termination** $\langle proof \rangle$

definition *ipurge-ref* :: $('d \times 'd)$ *set* \Rightarrow $('a \Rightarrow 'd) \Rightarrow$ $'d \Rightarrow$ 'a *list* \Rightarrow 'a *set* \Rightarrow 'a *set* **where** *ipurge-ref* I D u xs X \equiv $\{x \in X. (u, D x) \notin I \land (\forall v \in sinks I D u xs. (v, D x) \notin I)\}$

definition secure :: 'a process \Rightarrow ('d \times 'd) set \Rightarrow ('a \Rightarrow 'd) \Rightarrow bool where secure P I D \equiv

 $\forall xs \ y \ ys \ Y \ zs \ Z. \ (y \ \# \ ys, \ Y) \in futures \ P \ xs \ \land \ (zs, \ Z) \in futures \ P \ xs \longrightarrow (ipurge-tr \ I \ D \ (D \ y) \ ys, \ ipurge-ref \ I \ D \ (D \ y) \ ys \ Y) \in futures \ P \ xs \ \land \ (y \ \# \ ipurge-tr \ I \ D \ (D \ y) \ zs, \ ipurge-ref \ I \ D \ (D \ y) \ zs \ Z) \in futures \ P \ xs$

The continuation of this section is dedicated to the demonstration of some lemmas concerning functions *sinks*, *ipurge-tr*, and *ipurge-ref* which will turn out to be useful in subsequent proofs.

lemma sinks-cons-same: assumes R: refl I $\langle proof \rangle$ lemma ipurge-tr-cons-same: assumes R: refl I **shows** ipurge-tr I D (D x) (x # xs) = ipurge-tr I D (D x) xs $\langle proof \rangle$ **lemma** *sinks-cons-nonint*: assumes $A: (u, D x) \notin I$ shows sinks I D u (x # xs) = sinks I D u xs $\langle proof \rangle$ **lemma** *sinks-empty* [*rule-format*]: sinks $I D u xs = \{\} \longrightarrow ipurge-tr I D u xs = xs$ $\langle proof \rangle$ **lemma** *ipurge-ref-eq*: assumes A: $D \ x \in sinks \ I \ D \ u \ (xs \ @ [x])$ shows ipurge-ref I D u (xs @ [x]) X =ipurge-ref I D u xs $\{x' \in X. (D x, D x') \notin I\}$ $\langle proof \rangle$

shows sinks I D (D x) (x # xs) = insert (D x) (sinks I D (D x) xs)

 \mathbf{end}

2 CSP noninterference vs. classical noninterference

theory ClassicalNoninterference imports CSPNoninterference begin

The purpose of this section is to prove the equivalence of CSP noninterference security as defined previously to the classical notion of noninterference security as formulated in [8] in the case of processes representing deterministic state machines, henceforth briefly referred to as *classical processes*.

For clarity, all the constants and fact names defined in this section, with the possible exception of main theorems, contain prefix c-.

2.1 Classical noninterference

Here below are the formalizations of the functions *sources* and *ipurge* defined in [8], as well as of the classical notion of noninterference security as stated ibid. for a deterministic state machine in the general case of a possibly intransitive noninterference policy. Observe that the function run used in R3 is formalized as function foldl step, where step is the state transition function of the machine.

primrec c-sources :: $('d \times 'd)$ set $\Rightarrow ('a \Rightarrow 'd) \Rightarrow 'd \Rightarrow 'a \text{ list} \Rightarrow 'd \text{ set}$ where c-sources - - u $[] = \{u\} |$ c-sources I D u $(x \# xs) = (if \exists v \in c\text{-sources } I D u xs. (D x, v) \in I$ then insert (D x) (c-sources I D u xs) else c-sources I D u xs)

primrec c-ipurge :: $('d \times 'd)$ set $\Rightarrow ('a \Rightarrow 'd) \Rightarrow 'd \Rightarrow 'a$ list $\Rightarrow 'a$ list where c-ipurge - - [] = [] | c-ipurge I D u $(x \# xs) = (if D x \in c\text{-sources } I D u (x \# xs)$ then x # c-ipurge I D u xselse c-ipurge I D u xs)

definition *c*-secure :: $('s \Rightarrow 'a \Rightarrow 's) \Rightarrow ('s \Rightarrow 'a \Rightarrow 'o) \Rightarrow 's \Rightarrow ('d \times 'd) set \Rightarrow ('a \Rightarrow 'd) \Rightarrow bool$ **where** *c*-secure step out $s_0 \ I \ D \equiv$ $\forall x \ xs. \ out \ (foldl \ step \ s_0 \ xs) \ x = out \ (foldl \ step \ s_0 \ (c\text{-}ipurge \ I \ D \ (D \ x) \ xs)) \ x$

In addition, the definitions are given of variants of functions *c-sources* and *c-ipurge* accepting in input a set of security domains rather than a single domain, and then some lemmas concerning them are demonstrated. These definitions and lemmas will turn out to be useful in subsequent proofs.

primec *c*-sources-aux :: $('d \times 'd)$ set $\Rightarrow ('a \Rightarrow 'd) \Rightarrow 'd$ set $\Rightarrow 'a$ list $\Rightarrow 'd$ set where

 $\begin{array}{l} c\text{-sources-aux} \ - \ U \ [] = U \ | \\ c\text{-sources-aux} \ I \ D \ U \ (x \ \# \ xs) = (if \ \exists \ v \in \ c\text{-sources-aux} \ I \ D \ U \ xs. \ (D \ x, \ v) \in I \end{array}$

then insert (D x) (c-sources-aux I D U xs) else c-sources-aux I D U xs)

primrec *c-ipurge-aux* :: $('d \times 'd)$ set $\Rightarrow ('a \Rightarrow 'd) \Rightarrow 'd$ set $\Rightarrow 'a$ list $\Rightarrow 'a$ list where

 $\begin{array}{l} c\text{-}ipurge\text{-}aux \ - \ - \ [] = [] \ | \\ c\text{-}ipurge\text{-}aux \ I \ D \ U \ (x \ \# \ xs) = (if \ D \ x \in c\text{-}sources\text{-}aux \ I \ D \ U \ (x \ \# \ xs) \\ then \ x \ \# \ c\text{-}ipurge\text{-}aux \ I \ D \ U \ xs \\ else \ c\text{-}ipurge\text{-}aux \ I \ D \ U \ xs) \end{array}$

lemma c-sources-aux-singleton-1: c-sources-aux I D $\{u\}$ xs = c-sources I D u xs $\langle proof \rangle$

lemma c-ipurge-aux-singleton: c-ipurge-aux I D {u} xs = c-ipurge I D u xs $\langle proof \rangle$

lemma *c*-sources-aux-singleton-2:

 $D \ x \in c$ -sources-aux $I \ D \ U \ [x] = (D \ x \in U \lor (\exists v \in U. (D \ x, v) \in I)) \land proof \rangle$

lemma *c*-sources-aux-append:

 $\begin{array}{l} c\text{-sources-aux I D U (xs @ [x])} = (if D x \in c\text{-sources-aux I D U [x]} \\ then c\text{-sources-aux I D (insert (D x) U) xs} \\ else c\text{-sources-aux I D U xs} \\ \langle proof \rangle \end{array}$ $\begin{array}{l} \textbf{lemma c-ipurge-aux-append:} \\ c\text{-ipurge-aux I D U (xs @ [x])} = (if D x \in c\text{-sources-aux I D U [x]} \end{array}$

 $\begin{array}{l} c\text{-ipurge-aux I D U (xs @ [x]) = (if D x \in c\text{-sources-aux I D U [x]} \\ then c\text{-ipurge-aux I D (insert (D x) U) xs @ [x]} \\ else c\text{-ipurge-aux I D U xs)} \\ \langle proof \rangle \end{array}$

In what follows, a few useful lemmas are proven about functions c-sources, c-ipurge and their relationships with functions sinks, ipurge-tr.

lemma *c*-sources-ipurge: *c*-sources I D u (*c*-ipurge I D u xs) = *c*-sources I D u xs $\langle proof \rangle$

lemma c-sources-append-1: c-sources I D (D x) (xs @ [x]) = c-sources $I D (D x) xs \langle proof \rangle$

lemma c-ipurge-append-1: c-ipurge I D (D x) (xs @ [x]) = c-ipurge $I D (D x) xs @ [x] \langle proof \rangle$

lemma c-sources-append-2: $(D \ x, \ u) \notin I \implies c$ -sources $I \ D \ u \ (xs @ [x]) = c$ -sources $I \ D \ u \ xs$ $\langle proof \rangle$

lemma c-ipurge-append-2: refl $I \implies (D x, u) \notin I \implies$ c-ipurge I D u (xs @ [x]) = c-ipurge $I D u xs \langle proof \rangle$

lemma *c*-sources-mono: **assumes** *A*: *c*-sources *I D u ys* \subseteq *c*-sources *I D u zs* **shows** *c*-sources *I D u* (*x* # *ys*) \subseteq *c*-sources *I D u* (*x* # *zs*) $\langle proof \rangle$

lemma *c*-sources-sinks [rule-format]: $D \ x \notin c$ -sources $I \ D \ u \ (x \# xs) \longrightarrow sinks \ I \ D \ (D \ x) \ (c$ -ipurge $I \ D \ u \ xs) = \{\}$ $\langle proof \rangle$

lemmas c-ipurge-tr-ipurge = c-sources-sinks [THEN sinks-empty]

lemma c-ipurge-aux-ipurge-tr [rule-format]: **assumes** R: refl I **shows** $\neg (\exists v \in sinks \ I \ D \ u \ ys. \exists w \in U. (v, w) \in I) \longrightarrow$ c-ipurge-aux I D U (xs @ ipurge-tr I D u ys) = c-ipurge-aux I D U (xs @ ys) (proof)

lemma *c-ipurge-ipurge-tr*:

assumes R: refl I and D: $\neg (\exists v \in sinks \ I \ D \ u \ ys. (v, u') \in I)$ shows c-ipurge I D u' (xs @ ipurge-tr I D u ys) = c-ipurge I D u' (xs @ ys) $\langle proof \rangle$

2.2 Classical processes

The deterministic state machines used as model of computation in the classical theory of noninterference security, as expounded in [8], have the property that each action produces an output. Hence, it is natural to take as alphabet of a classical process the universe of the pairs (x, p), where x is an action and p an output. For any state s, such an event (x, p) may occur just in case p matches the output produced by x in s.

Therefore, a trace of a classical process can be defined as an event list xps such that for each item (x, p), p is equal to the output produced by x in the state resulting from the previous actions in xps. Furthermore, for each trace xps, the refusals set associated to xps is comprised of any set of pairs (x, p) such that p is different from the output produced by x in the state resulting from the actions in xps.

In accordance with the previous considerations, an inductive definition is formulated here below for the failures set *c*-failures step out s_0 corresponding to the deterministic state machine with state transition function *step*, output function *out*, and initial state s_0 . Then, the classical process *c*-process step *out* s_0 representing this machine is defined as the process having *c*-failures step *out* s_0 as failures set and the empty set as divergences set.

 $('s \Rightarrow 'a \Rightarrow 's) \Rightarrow ('s \Rightarrow 'a \Rightarrow 'o) \Rightarrow 's \Rightarrow ('a \times 'o)$ failure set

for step :: 's \Rightarrow 'a \Rightarrow 's and out :: 's \Rightarrow 'a \Rightarrow 'o and s₀ :: 's where

 $R0: ([], \{(x, p), p \neq out s_0 x\}) \in c$ -failures step out $s_0 \mid c$

 $R1: \llbracket (xps, -) \in c\text{-failures step out } s_0; \ s = foldl \ step \ s_0 \ (map \ fst \ xps) \rrbracket \Longrightarrow$

 $(xps @ [(x, out s x)], \{(y, p). p \neq out (step s x) y\}) \in c$ -failures step out $s_0 | R2: [(xps, Y) \in c$ -failures step out $s_0; X \subseteq Y] \Longrightarrow$

 $(xps, X) \in c$ -failures step out s_0

definition *c*-process ::

 $(s \Rightarrow a \Rightarrow s) \Rightarrow (s \Rightarrow a \Rightarrow o) \Rightarrow s \Rightarrow (a \times o) \text{ process where}$ *c*-process step out $s_0 \equiv Abs$ -process (*c*-failures step out s_0 , {})

In what follows, the fact that classical processes are indeed processes is

proven as a theorem.

lemma *c*-process-prop-1 [simp]: process-prop-1 (*c*-failures step out s_0 , {}) $\langle proof \rangle$

lemma *c*-process-prop-2 [simp]: process-prop-2 (*c*-failures step out s_0 , {}) $\langle proof \rangle$

lemma *c*-process-prop-3 [simp]: process-prop-3 (*c*-failures step out s_0 , {}) $\langle proof \rangle$

lemma *c*-process-prop-4 [simp]: process-prop-4 (*c*-failures step out s_0 , {}) $\langle proof \rangle$

lemma *c*-process-prop-5 [simp]: process-prop-5 (F, $\{\}$) $\langle proof \rangle$

```
lemma c-process-prop-6 [simp]: process-prop-6 (F, \{\}) \langle proof \rangle
```

theorem *c*-process-process: (*c*-failures step out s_0 , {}) \in process-set $\langle proof \rangle$

The continuation of this section is dedicated to the proof of a few lemmas on the properties of classical processes, particularly on the application to them of the generic functions acting on processes defined previously, and culminates in the theorem stating that classical processes are deterministic. Since they are intended to be a representation of deterministic state machines as processes, this result provides an essential confirmation of the correctness of such correspondence.

lemma c-failures-last [rule-format]: (xps, X) \in c-failures step out $s_0 \Longrightarrow xps \neq [] \longrightarrow$ snd (last xps) = out (foldl step s_0 (butlast (map fst xps))) (last (map fst xps)) (proof)

lemma c-failures-ref: $(xps, X) \in c$ -failures step out $s_0 \Longrightarrow$ $X \subseteq \{(x, p). p \neq out (foldl step s_0 (map fst xps)) x\}$ $\langle proof \rangle$

lemma *c*-failures-failures: failures (*c*-process step out s_0) = *c*-failures step out $s_0 \langle proof \rangle$

lemma c-futures-failures: $(yps, Y) \in futures (c-process step out s_0) xps =$ $((xps @ yps, Y) \in c-failures step out s_0)$ $\langle proof \rangle$

lemma *c*-traces:

 $xps \in traces \ (c-process \ step \ out \ s_0) = (\exists X. \ (xps, X) \in c-failures \ step \ out \ s_0) \ \langle proof \rangle$

lemma *c*-refusals:

 $X \in refusals (c-process step out s_0) xps = ((xps, X) \in c-failures step out s_0) \langle proof \rangle$

lemma c-next-events: $xp \in next-events (c-process step out s_0) xps =$ $(\exists X. (xps @ [xp], X) \in c\text{-failures step out } s_0)$ $\langle proof \rangle$

lemma *c*-*traces*-*failures*:

 $xps \in traces \ (c-process \ step \ out \ s_0) \Longrightarrow$ $(xps, \{(x, p). p \neq out \ (foldl \ step \ s_0 \ (map \ fst \ xps)) \ x\}) \in c-failures \ step \ out \ s_0 \ (proof)$

theorem *c*-process-deterministic: deterministic (*c*-process step out s_0) $\langle proof \rangle$

2.3 Traces in classical processes

Here below is the definition of function c-tr, where c-tr step out s xs is the trace of classical process c-process step out s corresponding to the trace xs of the associated deterministic state machine. Moreover, some useful lemmas are proven about this function.

function $c\text{-}tr :: ('s \Rightarrow 'a \Rightarrow 's) \Rightarrow ('s \Rightarrow 'a \Rightarrow 'o) \Rightarrow 's \Rightarrow 'a \ list \Rightarrow ('a \times 'o) \ list where$ $<math>c\text{-}tr \ - - \ [] = [] \ |$ $c\text{-}tr \ step \ out \ s \ (xs \ @ \ [x]) = c\text{-}tr \ step \ out \ s \ xs \ @ \ [(x, \ out \ (foldl \ step \ s \ xs) \ x)]$ $\langle proof \rangle$ **termination** $\langle proof \rangle$

lemma *c*-*tr*-length: length (*c*-*tr* step out s xs) = length xs $\langle proof \rangle$

lemma *c*-*tr*-*map*: *map fst* (*c*-*tr step out s xs*) = *xs* $\langle proof \rangle$

lemma *c*-tr-singleton: *c*-tr step out $s [x] = [(x, out \ s \ x)] \langle proof \rangle$

lemma *c*-tr-append: *c*-tr step out s (xs @ ys) = *c*-tr step out s xs @ c-tr step out (fold step s xs) ys

$\langle proof \rangle$

```
 \begin{array}{l} \textbf{lemma } c\text{-}tr\text{-}hd\text{-}tl\text{:} \\ \textbf{assumes } A\text{: } xs \neq [] \\ \textbf{shows } c\text{-}tr \ step \ out \ s \ xs = \\ (hd \ xs, \ out \ s \ (hd \ xs)) \ \# \ c\text{-}tr \ step \ out \ (step \ s \ (hd \ xs)) \ (tl \ xs) \\ \langle proof \rangle \end{array}
```

lemma *c*-failures-tr: $(xps, X) \in c$ -failures step out $s_0 \implies xps = c$ -tr step out s_0 (map fst xps) $\langle proof \rangle$

lemma c-futures-tr: **assumes** A: $(yps, Y) \in futures$ (c-process step out s_0) xps **shows** yps = c-tr step out (foldl step s_0 (map fst xps)) (map fst yps) $\langle proof \rangle$

lemma *c*-tr-failures:

 $\begin{array}{l} (c\text{-}tr \ step \ out \ s_0 \ xs, \ \{(x, \ p). \ p \neq out \ (foldl \ step \ s_0 \ xs) \ x\}) \\ \in \ c\text{-}failures \ step \ out \ s_0 \\ \langle proof \rangle \end{array}$

lemma c-tr-futures:

(c-tr step out (fold step $s_0 xs$) ys, {(x, p). $p \neq out$ (fold step (fold step $s_0 xs$) ys) x}) \in futures (c-process step out s_0) (c-tr step out $s_0 xs$) (proof)

2.4 Noninterference in classical processes

Given a mapping D of the actions of a deterministic state machine into their security domains, it is natural to map each event (x, p) of the corresponding classical process into the domain D x of action x.

Such mapping of events into domains, formalized as function c-dom D in the continuation, ensures that the same noninterference policy applying to a deterministic state machine be applicable to the associated classical process as well. This is the simplest, and thus preferable way to construct a policy for the process such as to be isomorphic to the one assigned for the machine, as required in order to prove the equivalence of CSP noninterference security to the classical notion in the case of classical processes.

In what follows, function c-dom will be used in the proof of some useful lemmas concerning the application of functions sinks, ipurge-tr, c-sources, c-ipurge from noninterference theory to the traces of classical processes, constructed by means of function c-tr.

definition c-dom :: $('a \Rightarrow 'd) \Rightarrow ('a \times 'o) \Rightarrow 'd$ where c-dom D $xp \equiv D$ (fst xp)

lemma *c*-dom-sources: *c*-sources I (*c*-dom D) u xps = *c*-sources I D u (map fst xps) $\langle proof \rangle$

lemma c-dom-sinks: sinks I (c-dom D) u xps = sinks I D u (map fst xps) $\langle proof \rangle$

lemma c-tr-sources: c-sources I (c-dom D) u (c-tr step out s xs) = c-sources I D u xs $\langle proof \rangle$

lemma c-tr-sinks: sinks I (c-dom D) u (c-tr step out s xs) = sinks I D u xs $\langle proof \rangle$

```
lemma c-tr-ipurge:
```

c-ipurge I (c-dom D) u (c-tr step out s (c-ipurge I D u xs)) = c-tr step out s (c-ipurge I D u xs) $\langle proof \rangle$

 $\begin{array}{l} \textbf{lemma } c\text{-}tr\text{-}ipurge\text{-}tr\text{-}1 \ [rule\text{-}format]:} \\ (\forall n \in \{..< length \ xs\}. \ D \ (xs \ ! \ n) \notin sinks \ I \ D \ u \ (take \ (Suc \ n) \ xs) \longrightarrow \\ out \ (foldl \ step \ s \ (ipurge\text{-}tr \ I \ D \ u \ (take \ n \ xs))) \ (xs \ ! \ n)) = \\ out \ (foldl \ step \ s \ (take \ n \ xs)) \ (xs \ ! \ n)) \longrightarrow \\ ipurge\text{-}tr \ I \ (c\text{-}dom \ D) \ u \ (c\text{-}tr \ step \ out \ s \ xs) = c\text{-}tr \ step \ out \ s \ (ipurge\text{-}tr \ I \ D \ u \ xs) \\ \langle proof \rangle \end{array}$

 $\begin{array}{l} \textbf{lemma } c\text{-}tr\text{-}ipurge\text{-}tr\text{-}2 \; [rule\text{-}format]\text{:}} \\ \textbf{assumes } A\text{: } \forall n \in \{\text{..}length \; ys\}. \exists Y. \\ (ipurge\text{-}tr \; I \; (c\text{-}dom \; D) \; u \; (c\text{-}tr \; step \; out \; (foldl \; step \; s_0 \; xs) \; (take \; n \; ys)), \; Y) \\ \in futures \; (c\text{-}process \; step \; out \; s_0) \; (c\text{-}tr \; step \; out \; s_0 \; xs) \\ \textbf{shows } n \in \{\text{..}<\text{length } ys\} \longrightarrow D \; (ys \; ! \; n) \notin sinks \; I \; D \; u \; (take \; (Suc \; n) \; ys) \longrightarrow \\ out \; (foldl \; step \; (foldl \; step \; s_0 \; xs) \; (take \; n \; ys))) \; (ys \; ! \; n) = \\ out \; (foldl \; step \; (foldl \; step \; s_0 \; xs) \; (take \; n \; ys)) \; (ys \; ! \; n) \\ \langle proof \rangle \end{array}$

lemma c-tr-ipurge-tr [rule-format]:

assumes $A: \forall n \in \{..length ys\}. \exists Y.$ $(ipurge-tr \ I \ (c-dom \ D) \ u \ (c-tr \ step \ out \ (foldl \ step \ s_0 \ xs) \ (take \ n \ ys)), \ Y)$ $\in futures \ (c-process \ step \ out \ s_0) \ (c-tr \ step \ out \ s_0 \ xs)$ **shows** $ipurge-tr \ I \ (c-dom \ D) \ u \ (c-tr \ step \ out \ (foldl \ step \ s_0 \ xs) \ ys) =$ $c-tr \ step \ out \ (foldl \ step \ s_0 \ xs) \ (ipurge-tr \ I \ D \ u \ ys)$ $\langle proof \rangle$

2.5 Equivalence between security properties

The remainder of this section is dedicated to the proof of the equivalence between the CSP noninterference security of a classical process and the classical noninterference security of the corresponding deterministic state machine.

In some detail, it will be proven that CSP noninterference security alone is a sufficient condition for classical noninterference security, whereas the latter security property entails the former for any reflexive noninterference policy. Therefore, the security properties under consideration turn out to be equivalent if the enforced noninterference policy is reflexive, which is the case for any policy of practical significance.

```
lemma secure-implies-c-secure-aux:
 assumes S: secure (c-process step out s_0) I (c-dom D)
 shows out (foldl step (foldl step s_0 xs) ys) x =
   out (foldl step (foldl step s_0 xs) (c-ipurge I D (D x) ys)) x
\langle proof \rangle
theorem secure-implies-c-secure:
  assumes S: secure (c-process step out s_0) I (c-dom D)
 shows c-secure step out s_0 I D
\langle proof \rangle
lemma c-secure-futures-1:
 assumes R: refl I and S: c-secure step out s_0 I D
 shows (yps @ [yp], Y) \in futures (c-process step out s<sub>0</sub>) xps \Longrightarrow
   (yps, \{x \in Y. (c-dom D yp, c-dom D x) \notin I\})
    \in futures (c-process step out s_0) xps
\langle proof \rangle
lemma c-secure-implies-secure-aux-1 [rule-format]:
 assumes
    R: refl I and
    S: c-secure step out s_0 \ I \ D
  shows (yp \# yps, Y) \in futures (c-process step out s_0) xps \longrightarrow
    (ipurge-tr I (c-dom D) (c-dom D yp) yps,
    ipurge-ref I (c-dom D) (c-dom D yp) yps Y)
    \in futures (c-process step out s_0) xps
\langle proof \rangle
lemma c-secure-futures-2:
 assumes R: refl I and S: c-secure step out s_0 I D
 shows (yps @ [yp], A) \in futures (c-process step out s_0) xps \Longrightarrow
   (yps, Y) \in futures (c-process step out s_0) xps \Longrightarrow
   (yps @ [yp], \{x \in Y. (c-dom D yp, c-dom D x) \notin I\})
    \in futures (c-process step out s_0) xps
\langle proof \rangle
lemma c-secure-ipurge-tr:
  assumes R: refl I and S: c-secure step out s_0 I D
```

shows ipurge-tr I (c-dom D) (D x) (c-tr step out (step (fold step $s_0 xs) x$) ys) = ipurge-tr I (c-dom D) (D x) (c-tr step out (fold step $s_0 xs) ys$)

$\langle proof \rangle$

theorem c-secure-implies-secure: assumes R: refl I and S: c-secure step out s_0 I D shows secure (c-process step out s_0) I (c-dom D) $\langle proof \rangle$

theorem secure-equals-c-secure: refl $I \Longrightarrow$ secure (c-process step out s_0) I (c-dom D) = c-secure step out s_0 I D $\langle proof \rangle$

 \mathbf{end}

3 CSP noninterference vs. generalized noninterference

theory GeneralizedNoninterference imports ClassicalNoninterference begin

The purpose of this section is to compare CSP noninterference security as defined previously with McCullough's notion of generalized noninterference security as formulated in [4]. It will be shown that this security property is weaker than both CSP noninterference security for a generic process, and classical noninterference security for classical processes, viz. it is a necessary but not sufficient condition for them. This renders CSP noninterference security preferable as an extension of classical noninterference security to nondeterministic systems.

For clarity, all the constants and fact names defined in this section, with the possible exception of datatype constructors and main theorems, contain prefix g-.

3.1 Generalized noninterference

The original formulation of generalized noninterference security as contained in [4] focuses on systems whose events, split in inputs and outputs, are mapped into either of two security levels, *high* and *low*. Such a system is said to be secure just in case, for any trace xs and any high-level input x, the set of the *possible low-level futures* of xs, i.e. of the sequences of low-level events that may succeed xs in the traces of the system, is equal to the set of the possible low-level futures of xs @ [x].

This definition requires the following corrections:

- Variable x must range over all high-level events rather than over high-level inputs alone, since high-level outputs must not be allowed to affect low-level futures as well.
- For any x, the range of trace xs must be restricted to the traces of the system that may be succeeded by x, viz. trace xs must be such that event list xs @ [x] be itself a trace.

Otherwise, a system that admits both high-level and low-level events in its alphabet but never accepts any high-level event, always accepting any low-level one instead, would turn out not to be secure, which is paradoxical since *high* can by no means affect *low* in a system never engaging in high-level events. The cause of the paradox is that, for each trace xs and each high-level event x of such a system, the set of the possible low-level futures of xs matches the Kleene closure of the set of low-level events, whereas the set of the possible low-level futures of xs @ [x] matches the empty set as xs @ [x] is not a trace.

Observe that the latter correction renders it unnecessary to explicitly assume that event list xs be a trace of the system, as this follows from the assumption that xs @ [x] be such.

Here below is a formal definition of the notion of generalized noninterference security for processes, amended in accordance with the previous considerations.

datatype g-level = High | Low

 $\begin{array}{l} \textbf{definition } g\text{-secure :: }'a \ process \Rightarrow ('a \Rightarrow g\text{-level}) \Rightarrow bool \ \textbf{where} \\ g\text{-secure } P \ L \equiv \forall xs \ x. \ xs \ @ \ [x] \in traces \ P \land L \ x = High \longrightarrow \\ \{ys'. \ \exists \ ys. \ xs \ @ \ ys \in traces \ P \land \ ys' = \ [y \leftarrow ys. \ L \ y = Low]\} = \\ \{ys'. \ \exists \ ys. \ xs \ @ \ x \ \# \ ys \in traces \ P \land \ ys' = \ [y \leftarrow ys. \ L \ y = Low]\} \end{array}$

It is possible to prove that a weaker sufficient (as well as necessary, as obvious) condition for generalized noninterference security is that the set of the possible low-level futures of trace xs be included in the set of the possible

low-level futures of trace xs @ [x], because the latter is always included in the former.

In what follows, such security property is defined formally and its sufficiency for generalized noninterference security to hold is demonstrated in the form of an introduction rule, which will turn out to be useful in subsequent proofs.

 $\begin{array}{l} \text{definition } g\text{-secure-suff} :: 'a \ process \Rightarrow ('a \Rightarrow g\text{-level}) \Rightarrow bool \ \text{where} \\ g\text{-secure-suff} \ P \ L \equiv \forall xs \ x. \ xs \ @ \ [x] \in traces \ P \ \land \ L \ x = High \longrightarrow \\ \{ys'. \ \exists \ ys. \ xs \ @ \ ys \in traces \ P \ \land \ ys' = \ [y \leftarrow ys. \ L \ y = Low]\} \subseteq \\ \{ys'. \ \exists \ ys. \ xs \ @ \ x \ \# \ ys \in traces \ P \ \land \ ys' = \ [y \leftarrow ys. \ L \ y = Low]\} \end{array}$

lemma g-secure-suff-implies-g-secure: assumes S: g-secure-suff P L shows g-secure P L

 $\langle proof \rangle$

3.2 Comparison between security properties

In the continuation, it will be proven that CSP noninterference security is a sufficient condition for generalized noninterference security for any process whose events are mapped into either security domain *High* or *Low*, under the policy that *High* may not affect *Low*.

Particularly, this is the case for any such classical process. This fact, along with the equivalence between CSP noninterference security and classical noninterference security for classical processes, is used to additionally prove that the classical noninterference security of a deterministic state machine is a sufficient condition for the generalized noninterference security of the corresponding classical process under the aforesaid policy.

definition g-I :: (g-level \times g-level) set where g- $I \equiv \{(High, High), (Low, Low), (Low, High)\}$

lemma g-I-refl: refl g-I $\langle proof \rangle$

lemma g-sinks: sinks g-I L High $xs \subseteq \{High\}$ $\langle proof \rangle$

lemma g-ipurge-tr: ipurge-tr g-I L High $xs = [x \leftarrow xs. L x = Low] \langle proof \rangle$

theorem secure-implies-g-secure:
 assumes S: secure P g-I L
 shows g-secure P L
 ⟨proof⟩

theorem c-secure-implies-g-secure: c-secure step out s_0 g-I $L \Longrightarrow$ g-secure (c-process step out s_0) (c-dom L) $\langle proof \rangle$

Since the definition of generalized noninterference security does not impose any explicit requirement on process refusals, intuition suggests that this security property is likely to be generally weaker than CSP noninterference security for nondeterministic processes, which are such that even a complete specification of their traces leaves underdetermined their refusals. This is not the case for deterministic processes, so the aforesaid security properties might in principle be equivalent as regards such processes.

However, a counterexample proving the contrary is provided by a deterministic state machine resembling systems A and B described in [4], section 3.1. This machine is proven not to be classical noninterferencesecure, whereas the corresponding classical process turns out to be generalized noninterference-secure, which proves that the generalized noninterference security of a classical process is not a sufficient condition for the classical noninterference security of the associated deterministic state machine.

This result, along with the equivalence between CSP noninterference security and classical noninterference security for classical processes, is then used to demonstrate that the generalized noninterference security of the aforesaid classical process does not entail its CSP noninterference security, which proves that generalized noninterference security is actually not a sufficient condition for CSP noninterference security even in the case of deterministic processes.

The remainder of this section is dedicated to the construction of such counterexample.

datatype g-state = Even | Odd

datatype g-action = $Any \mid Count$

primrec g-step :: g-state \Rightarrow g-action \Rightarrow g-state where g-step s Any = (case s of Even \Rightarrow Odd | Odd \Rightarrow Even) | g-step s Count = s

primrec g-out :: g-state \Rightarrow g-action \Rightarrow g-state option where g-out - Any = None | g-out s Count = Some s

primrec g-D :: g- $action \Rightarrow g$ -level where g-D Any = High |g-D Count = Low **definition** g- $s_0 :: g$ -state where g- $s_0 \equiv Even$

lemma g-secure-counterexample: g-secure (c-process g-step g-out g-s₀) (c-dom g-D) $\langle proof \rangle$

lemma not-c-secure-counterexample: \neg c-secure g-step g-out g-s₀ g-I g-D $\langle proof \rangle$

theorem not-g-secure-implies-c-secure: \neg (g-secure (c-process g-step g-out g-s_0) (c-dom g-D) \longrightarrow c-secure g-step g-out g-s_0 g-I g-D) $\langle proof \rangle$

theorem not-g-secure-implies-secure: \neg (g-secure (c-process g-step g-out g-s_0) (c-dom g-D) \longrightarrow secure (c-process g-step g-out g-s_0) g-I (c-dom g-D)) $\langle proof \rangle$

end

References

- J. A. Goguen and J. Meseguer. Security policies and security models. In IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy, 1982.
- [2] C. A. R. Hoare. Communicating Sequential Processes. Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1985.
- [3] A. Krauss. Defining Recursive Functions in Isabelle/HOL. http://isabelle.in.tum.de/website-Isabelle2013-2/dist/Isabelle2013-2/ doc/functions.pdf.
- [4] D. McCullough. Noninterference and the composability of security properties. In Proceedings of the 1988 IEEE Conference on Security and Privacy, 1988.
- [5] T. Nipkow. A Tutorial Introduction to Structured Isar Proofs. http://isabelle.in.tum.de/website-Isabelle2011/dist/Isabelle2011/doc/ isar-overview.pdf.
- T. Nipkow. Programming and Proving in Isabelle/HOL, Dec. 2013. http://isabelle.in.tum.de/website-Isabelle2013-2/dist/Isabelle2013-2/ doc/prog-prove.pdf.

- T. Nipkow, L. Paulson, and M. Wenzel. Isabelle/HOL A Proof Assistant for Higher-Order Logic, Dec. 2013. http://isabelle.in.tum.de/website-Isabelle2013-2/dist/Isabelle2013-2/doc/tutorial.pdf.
- [8] J. Rushby. Noninterference, transitivity, and channel-control security policies. Technical report, SRI International, 1992.