Module 18: Protection

- Goals of Protection
- Domain of Protection
 - Access Matrix
 - Implementation of Access Matrix
 - Revocation of Access Rights
 - Capability-Based Systems
 - Language-Based Protection

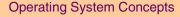




Operating system consists of a collection of objects, hardware or software

- Each object has a unique name and can be accessed through a well-defined set of operations.
- Protection problem ensure that each object is accessed correctly and only by those processes that are allowed to do so.

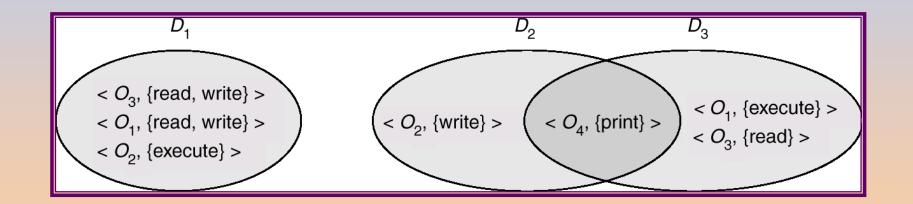


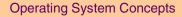




Access-right = <object-name, rights-set> where rights-set is a subset of all valid operations that can be performed on the object.

Domain = set of access-rights



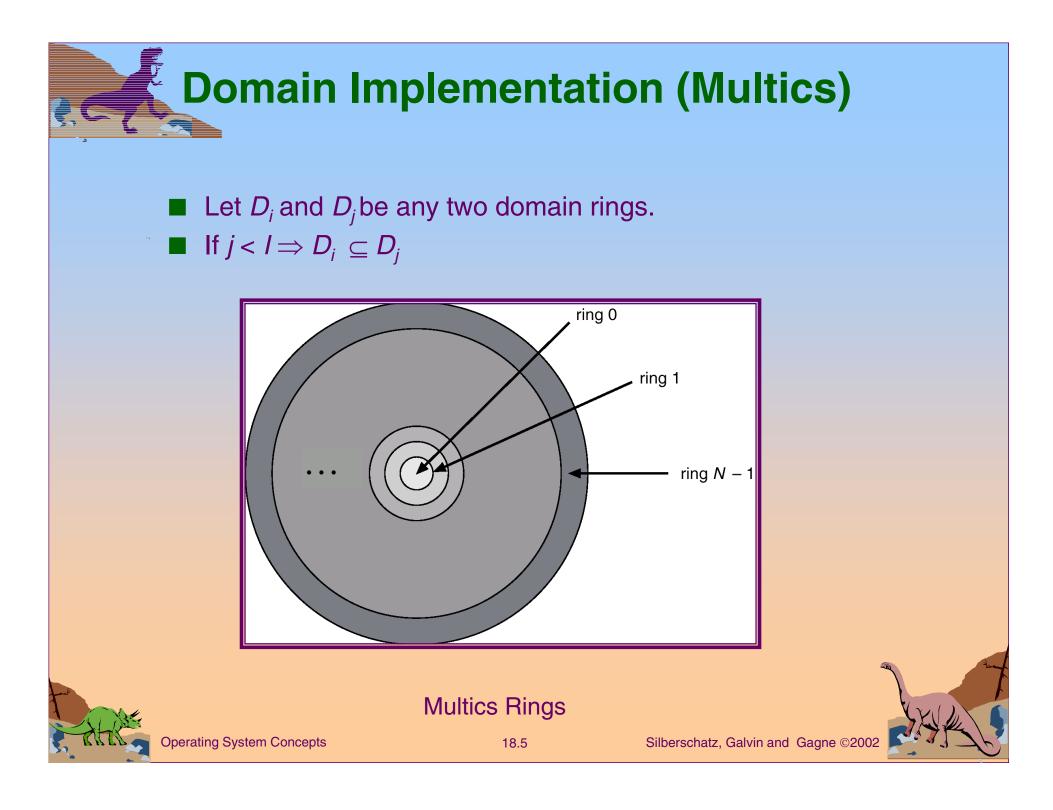


Domain Implementation (UNIX)

- System consists of 2 domains:
 - User
 - Supervisor

- Domain = user-id
- Domain switch accomplished via file system.
 - Each file has associated with it a domain bit (setuid bit).
 - When file is executed and setuid = on, then user-id is set to owner of the file being executed. When execution completes user-id is reset.



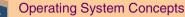




View protection as a matrix (access matrix)

- Rows represent domains
- Columns represent objects
- Access(i, j) is the set of operations that a process executing in Domain_i can invoke on Object_i







object domain	F ₁	F ₂	F ₃	printer
D ₁	read		read	
D ₂				print
D ₃		read	execute	
D ₄	read write		read write	

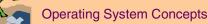
Figure A





- If a process in Domain D_i tries to do "op" on object O_j, then "op" must be in the access matrix.
- Can be expanded to dynamic protection.
 - Operations to add, delete access rights.
 - Special access rights:
 - ✓ owner of O_i
 - \checkmark copy op from O_i to O_j
 - \checkmark control D_i can modify D_j access rights
 - \checkmark transfer switch from domain D_i to D_i





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Use of Access Matrix (Cont.)

- Access matrix design separates mechanism from policy.
 - Mechanism
 - Operating system provides access-matrix + rules.
 - If ensures that the matrix is only manipulated by authorized agents and that rules are strictly enforced.
 - Policy
 - ✓ User dictates policy.
 - Who can access what object and in what mode.



Implementation of Access Matrix

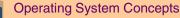
Each column = Access-control list for one object Defines who can perform what operation.

> Domain 1 = Read, Write Domain 2 = Read Domain 3 = Read

Each Row = Capability List (like a key) Fore each domain, what operations allowed on what objects.

> Object 1 – Read Object 4 – Read, Write, Execute Object 5 – Read, Write, Delete, Copy





Access Matrix of Figure A With Domains as Objects

object domain	F ₁	F ₂	F ₃	laser printer	D ₁	D ₂	D ₃	D ₄
D ₁	read		read			switch		
D ₂				print			switch	switch
D ₃		read	execute					
D ₄	read write		read write		switch			

Figure B





Access Matrix with *Copy* Rights

object domain	F ₁	F ₂	F ₃		
D ₁	execute		write*		
D ₂	execute	read*	execute		
D ₃	execute				
(a)					
object domain	F ₁	F ₂	F ₃		
D ₁	execute		write*		
D ₂	execute	read*	execute		
D ₃	execute	read			
(b)					

Access Matrix With Owner Rights

object domain	F ₁	F ₂	F ₃		
D ₁	owner execute		write		
D ₂		read* owner	read* owner write*		
D ₃	execute				
(a)					
abiest					
object domain	F ₁	F_2	F ₃		
	F ₁ owner execute	F ₂	F ₃		
domain	owner	F ₂ owner read* write*	F ₃ read* owner write*		
domain D ₁	owner	owner read*	read* owner		
domain D ₁ D ₂	owner	owner read* write*	read* owner write*		



Operating System Concepts



object domain	F ₁	F ₂	F ₃	laser printer	<i>D</i> ₁	D ₂	D ₃	D ₄
D ₁	read		read			switch		
D ₂				print			switch	switch control
D ₃		read	execute					
D ₄	write		write		switch			



Revocation of Access Rights

- Access List Delete access rights from access list.
 - Simple
 - Immediate
- Capability List Scheme required to locate capability in the system before capability can be revoked.
 - Reacquisition
 - Back-pointers
 - Indirection
 - Keys



Capability-Based Systems

- Hydra
 - Fixed set of access rights known to and interpreted by the system.
 - Interpretation of user-defined rights performed solely by user's program; system provides access protection for use of these rights.
- Cambridge CAP System
 - Data capability provides standard read, write, execute of individual storage segments associated with object.
 - Software capability -interpretation left to the subsystem, through its protected procedures.



Language-Based Protection

Specification of protection in a programming language allows the high-level description of policies for the allocation and use of resources.

- Language implementation can provide software for protection enforcement when automatic hardwaresupported checking is unavailable.
- Interpret protection specifications to generate calls on whatever protection system is provided by the hardware and the operating system.





Protection is handled by the Java Virtual Machine (JVM)

- A class is assigned a protection domain when it is loaded by the JVM.
- The protection domain indicates what operations the class can (and cannot) perform.
- If a library method is invoked that performs a privileged operation, the stack is inspected to ensure the operation can be performed by the library.





protection domain:	untrusted applet	URL loader	networking
socket permission:	none	*.lucent.com:80, connect	any
class:	gui: get(url); open(addr); 	get(URL u): doPrivileged { open('proxy.lucent.com:80'); } <request from="" proxy="" u=""> </request>	open(Addr a): checkPermission(a, connect); connect (a);



Operating System Concepts