# University of Central Florida

STARS

**Electronic Theses and Dissertations** 

Masters Thesis (Open Access)

# Compiler Design of a Policy Specification Language for Conditional Gradual Release

2018

Manasa Kashyap Harinath University of Central Florida

Find similar works at: https://stars.library.ucf.edu/etd

University of Central Florida Libraries http://library.ucf.edu

Part of the <u>Computer Sciences Commons</u>

#### STARS Citation

Kashyap Harinath, Manasa, "Compiler Design of a Policy Specification Language for Conditional Gradual Release" (2018). *Electronic Theses and Dissertations*. 5959. https://stars.library.ucf.edu/etd/5959

This Masters Thesis (Open Access) is brought to you for free and open access by STARS. It has been accepted for inclusion in Electronic Theses and Dissertations by an authorized administrator of STARS. For more information, please contact lee.dotson@ucf.edu.



## COMPILER DESIGN OF A POLICY SPECIFICATION LANGUAGE FOR CONDITIONAL GRADUAL RELEASE

by

## MANASA KASHYAP HARINATH B.E. Sir M Visvesvaraya Institute of Technology 2013

A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Science in the Department of Computer Science in the College of Engineering and Computer Science at the University of Central Florida Orlando, Florida

Summer Term 2018

Major Professor: Gary T. Leavens

© 2018 Manasa Kashyap Harinath

#### ABSTRACT

Securing the confidentiality and integrity of information manipulated by computer software is an old yet increasingly important problem. Current software permission systems present on Android or iOS provide inadequate support for developing applications with secure information flow policies. To be useful, information flow control policies need to specify declassifications and the conditions under which declassification must occur. Having these declassifications scattered all over the program makes policies hard to find, which makes auditing difficult. To overcome these challenges, a policy specification language, 'Evidently' is discussed that allows one to specify information flow control policies separately from the program and which supports conditional gradual releases that can be automatically enforced. I discuss the Evidently grammar and modular semantics in detail. Finally, I discuss the implementational details of Evidently compiler within the Xtext language development environment and the implementation's enforcement of policies. I dedicate this thesis to my parents Gayathri Tekal Ramarao and Harinath Kashyap Bheema Rao who have loved me unconditionally and whose good examples have taught me to work hard for the things that I aspire to achieve.

# ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I take this opportunity to express my great appreciation towards Professor Dr. Gary T. Leavens for his invaluable and great advice and support. Without his advice and guidelines, I couldn't accomplish this work. Dr. Leavens not only helped me in going through this research and accomplish the work, but even more importantly, showed me how to look from different perspectives into the same problem. I would also like to thank the members of my thesis committee, Professors Damla Turgut and Liqiang Wang for their advice and guidance during the entire process. Special thanks to my best friend, Siddarth Vellakovil Rajamani, who has been a constant source of support and encouragement during the challenges of graduate school and life.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

LIST OF FIGURES	viii
LIST OF ACRONYMS	x
CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION	1
Problem and its importance	2
Background on Evidently	3
Declassification	3
Overview of the thesis	5
CHAPTER TWO: SECURITY POLICIES USING EVIDENTLY	6
Models	6
Flowpoints	6
Predicate Expressions and Predicate Operators	7
Properties	9
Specification of Properties	9
Levels	10
Policies	11
The Root Policy	11
CHAPTER THREE: EVIDENTLY COMPILER IMPLEMENTATION	13
Introduction	13
Overview of Xtext	13

Architecture13
Grammar14
Cross References14
Validations1
Policy Enforcement10
CHAPTER FOUR: CONCLUSION
Future Work
APPENDIX: CODE FOR THE COMPILER22
Grammar23
Validation Rules
LIST OF REFERENCES

# LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: Predicate Expressions and Predicate operators	7
Figure 2: Syntax of Model in Evidently	8
Figure 3: Flowpoint predicates	9
Figure 4: Syntax of Levels in Evidently	1
Figure 5: Syntax of Policy in Evidently12	2
Figure 6: Example of Cross reference and Namespace in Evidently1	5
Figure 7 : Checking for Duplicate Models10	5
Figure 8: Enforcement of Policies	7
Figure 9: Java source code	9
Figure 10: Evidently policy	C
Figure 11: Evidently Grammar part a	3
Figure 12: Evidently Grammar part b24	4
Figure 13: Evidently grammar part c	5
Figure 14: Evidently Grammar part d20	5
Figure 15: Evidently Grammar part e	7
Figure 16: Evidently Grammar part f28	8
Figure 17: Evidently Grammar part g29	9
Figure 18: Evidently Grammar part h	0

Figure 19: Evidently Grammar part i	
Figure 20: Validation Rules part a	31
Figure 21: Validation Rules part b	31
Figure 22: Validation Rules part c	32
Figure 23: Validation Rules part d	33
Figure 24: Validation Rules part e	34
Figure 25: Validation Rules part f	35

# LIST OF ACRONYMS

ANTLR	Another Tool for Language Recognition
AST	Abstract Syntax Tree
CGR	Conditional Gradual Release
EMF	Eclipse Modelling Framework.
IDE	Integrated Development Environment
JDK	Java Development Kit
JML	Java Modeling Language

#### **CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION**

In software systems that operate on data with different sensitivity levels, the challenge is to provide security assurance by controlling the information flow within the system. Access control has been a tool to prevent secure information from being disseminated. Access control verifies the program's access rights at the point of access, and either grants or denies permission to access the secure information.

Information flow control monitors the flow of information through the program thus ensuring its information security. An ideal secure system must possess two major properties: Confidentiality and Integrity. *Confidentiality* suggests that no secure information is released to insecure program locations and *Integrity* suggests that no insecure program location may influence the values stored at the secure program locations. *Noninterference* is a security property that specifies constraints on the information between program locations.

A system with perfect Confidentiality and Integrity is not always ideal when it comes to real world applications. For example, consider a system that provides a login prompt to a user. If the user enters the incorrect login credentials, the system must deny the user access. However, this action reveals something about what values the username and password are not and therefore leaks information. Such a system does not have the noninterference property. Since the noninterference property is not practical in real systems, some amount of release of the information must be allowed. Programs that release information are said to *declassify* that information.

Therefore, the user (designer) must answer the questions such as: how much information should be released? What information should be released? Under what constraints information should be released? The answer to these questions are specified by information flow control policy specifications.

"Evidently" is a specification language designed for specifying information flow control policies. In Evidently, the Information Flow Control policy specifications are separated from the actual program. Separating the policy specifications from the implementation of a system permits the policy to be modified without changing its underlying implementation. Additionally, when policy specifications are separated from the program code, policy scattering and tangling of policies throughout the program code can be avoided. This feature of Evidently makes auditing easier.

*Tangling* occurs when the module in the application includes repeated code for each type of Conditional gradual release, in many modules. *Scattering* occurs when the information flow control policies are mixed with the business logic of the application.

#### Problem and its importance

As discussed, monitoring information flow between program locations is an inevitable aspect of information flow control policies. Chong and Myers [1] have described a declassification policy language where policies are written along with the program code. This means the expressions for the declassifications are interwoven with the program code, making auditing difficult. Additionally, when the user changes the program code, care must be taken to examine the complete program to verify all the declassification expressions. Similarly, in other specification languages such as, JIF [4], JFlow [5], JRif [6] and Paragon [7] the declassifications rules are specified along with the program code.

Denning [2] presents a compiler-time methodology that verifies the program for secured information flow, before the program is even executed. However, statically-typed policy specification is not always recommended. Real computing systems have information flow that vary dynamically and that cannot be completely determined at compile time. Zheng and Myers [3] proposed a policy specification language,  $\lambda_{DSec}$  to securely monitor and manipulate information with dynamic secure labels.

In  $\lambda_{DSec}$ , the dynamic labels can be used as type annotations to support static analysis. The type system of  $\lambda_{DSec}$  enforces noninterference ensuring secure information flow control.

Evidently is a specification policy language that describes information flow control policies and declassification separate from the program code thereby avoiding scattering and tangling. Writing policies separately from the program code enables the policies to be reused. In Evidently, the security labels are designed in the models using flowpoints which is point of contact through which the policy interacts with the program code. Therefore, if the program code changes, only the model need to be modified.

In this thesis, Evidently language is discussed in detail describing Evidently semantics and constructs. An implementation of Evidently is discussed, which describes enforcement of information flow policies for programs written in the Java.

#### Background on Evidently

In Evidently, the security policy is defined by labelling each location in the program code with a value that represents the security level of that location. For instance, a program location with a high security property might be labelled as 'H' and a program location with a lower security property might be labelled as 'L'. The declassification rules apply constraints on the information flow from 'H' to 'L'.

#### Declassification

Evidently uses Conditional Gradual Release, for declassification, i.e., rather than the delimited style of declassification, wherein declassifications are arbitrarily powerful

relabelings. In Evidently, policies may express the conditions for declassification. In Evidently, the declassification properties of Java program are specified by policies. The policies answers questions such as: 'what' information is being released?, 'where' is this information released to in the program code?, and 'when' is this information allowed to flow?

To be concrete, let us consider a hypothetical example of a free HBO subscription account. This account holds good for a month, after which, the account is terminated. Suppose, the user who still has a valid free HBO subscription, wants to watch an episode of their favorite series. Let us analyze the application of policies through this example.

*What.* While specifying information flow control policy, *what* indicates the information that is being allowed to flow. In our example, the "what" could be the episode of a particular series that the user requests to watch, i.e., a video. The "what" could also be more fine-grained—for example, even though, the user has a free subscription and can watch that episode, there might be a constraint on the duration of the episodes that user is allowed to watch. This information flow and its constraints are specified by Evidently abstractions called 'Models' and 'Properties' which will be discussed in the next chapter.

*Where*. In the context of declassification, "where" can refer to policies that describe release to locations in the code. These locations are represented by variables or fields or even various security levels. In our example, where suggests the security level say, from the DATABASE of HBO to *NETWORK*. In Evidently, the "where" feature is represented by an abstraction called 'Levels' which will be discussed in the next chapter.

*When.* In Evidently, this dimension can be specified using properties in the policies. The 'When' dimension permits declassification under certain arbitrary conditions. Property specifications will be discussed in detail in the next chapter. Considering our example of HBO subscription, the episode will be allowed to be viewed by the user while he has a valid subscription. Once the subscription expires, the user will not be able to watch the episode. In Evidently, the when dimension is encoded by combining properties inside the policy.

## Overview of the thesis

Chapter Two explains more details about Evidently syntax and semantics. Chapter Three discusses the implementation details of the Evidently compiler and enforcement of policies. Evidently is implemented using Language Development framework Xtext. Chapter Four also provides a brief insight about the Future work and Summary of the paper. The Appendix contains the compiler code to the compiler.

#### CHAPTER TWO: SECURITY POLICIES USING EVIDENTLY

As discussed, Evidently is a policy specification language with centralized declassification rules that are not scattered throughout a program. This enables the reusability of the policies. When policies are scattered throughout the program code, any modification done to the program, might change the semantics of the policies. To achieve centralization of policies in Evidently, the user describes an abstraction of the program, which can be used throughout the policy. Evidently provides four abstractions namely: Models, Lenses, Projections, and Levels.

Models, Projections, and Levels are used in describing a Policy, which is the fourth and main abstraction. We discuss the properties and functionalities of all these abstractions starting with models, which describes the program locations that user wants to monitor information flow.

#### Models

Models in Evidently contain references to the data locations that the user wishes to write declassification rules about. A model may define single or multiple data locations by declaring flowpoints. Using these flowpoints, models might also contain properties to specify constraints on the flowpoints. We discuss flowpoints and properties in detail in the next section. The syntax of Models in Evidently is provided in the figure 1.

#### Flowpoints

*flowpoints* are defined in the models to refer to data locations in a program's code. As discussed, in Evidently, the primary functionality of models is to identify data locations in the

program code. A model might contain one or more flowpoints. Evidently allows users to be specific or generic by providing a pointcut-like-predicates and operators for describing sets of data locations. Figure 2 provides a brief description of these predicates.

#### Predicate Expressions and Predicate Operators

The flowpoints are comprised of predicate expressions. Predicates are combined to form predicate expressions that describes a set of data locations. The predicate expressions may be joined using && and || operator. The && operator denotes the intersection of two sets of data locations and || denotes their union. Figure 1 shows an example:

flowpoint adminMode:boolean = {
 within(AsmTrial) && field("adminMode")
}

Figure 1: Predicate Expressions and Predicate operators

Model	::= model Id { MBElems }
MBElems	::= MBElem   MBElems MBElem
MBElem	::= Use   Flowpoints   Property
Flowpoints	<pre>::= flowpoints Id : ProgType={ EvExp }   flowpoints Id={ EvExp }</pre>
EvExp	::= (EvExp)   EvPredExt (MethDescs)   EvScopePred (Id)   !EvExp   EvExp && EvExp   EvExp    EvExp
EvPredExt	::= execution   resultof   this   cflow
EvScopePred	::= within   typeof   named   field
MethDescs	::= MethDesc   MethDescs, MethDesc
MethDesc	::= IdOrStar   IdOrStar (MethFormalDescs)   TypeOrStar IdOrStar (MethFormalDescs)
IdOrStar	$:= Id   \star$
TypeOrStar	::= ProgType   *
<b>MethFormalDescs</b>	$::= \ldots   TypeOrStar^*,$
Property	<pre>::= property Id : ProgType EqSpec { PropBody }   property Id EqSpec { PropBody }   property Id PFormals : ProgType EqSpec { PropBody }   property Id PFormals EqSpec { PropBody }</pre>
EqSpec	::= = Specification   =
Specification	::= Requires Assignable Ensures   Assignable Ensures   Requires Ensures   Ensures
Requires	::= requires <i>Exp</i> ;
Assignable	::= assignable <i>Exp</i> ;
Ensures	::= ensures Exp;
PropBody	::= Exp
PFormals	::= (Formals)
Formals	::= Formal   Formals, Formal

Figure 2: Syntax of Model in Evidently

Predicate Name	Meaning
execution	The set of data locations within the execution of the supplied argument
resultof	The set of data locations that are the result of the argument's execution
this	The set of data locations where the <b>this</b> keyword produces specified type
cflow	The set of data locations within the control flow of the supplied argument
within	The set of data locations contained within the supplied namespace.
typeof	The set of data locations that have the type of the argument
named	Program identifier matches the supplied identifier
field	The Set of data locations where the object field name matches the supplied argument

Figure 3: Flowpoint predicates

### Properties

In models, *properties* specify the attributes of the model that are supposed to be released by the policy. They also denote how much of this information is released by the policy. This feature is enabled using projections which will be discussed in the next section.

# Specification of Properties

Having only properties will not make information flow completely secure. For example, if we have a method which displays only last 4 digits of credit card number and we have defined properties to ensure this flow in the models. Suppose, if the method changes, it might degrade the quality of security provided by the policy. To overcome this challenge, there are specifications attached to the properties. These specifications are called pre- and post-conditions specifications. In Evidently, pre-, and post- conditions are achieved using **requires** keyword and **ensures** keywords respectively.

#### Levels

In previous sections, we have been using generic parameters H and L to represent high security and low security labels. In Evidently, these security labels are specified using the abstraction *levels*. Once defined, these levels are recognized within a policy which we will discuss in the next section. A level may be defined as a sink, which denotes the program locations to which information may flow to, or a source, which denotes program locations from which information may flow. The levels we show below are derived from Sparta [8]. Figure 3 shows the syntax of levels in Evidently.

Levels	::= levels Id { LevelsSpec }
LevelsSpec	::= LevelElem   LevelsSpec LevelElem
LevelElem	::= LevelKind {LevBodyElems}
LevelKind	::= sink   source   both
LevBodyElems	::= Id   LevBodyElems, Id

Figure 4: Syntax of Levels in Evidently

#### **Policies**

In Evidently, *policies* are responsible for bringing all abstractions together to express security specifications of a program. In this section we will discuss the policy features of Evidently as well as show examples of how to encode common security properties in Evidently policies. In Evidently, the release keyword is used to specify the actual flow. A release statement in the policy contains a property or flowpoint and set of templates F -> T which denoted the generic information flow. The set of templates, F->T represent the *what* and *where* dimensions respectively. 'F' and 'T' may be instantiated with any two declared labels. Evidently supports parametric polymorphism, similar to Java's generics. The set of templates, F->T is used within the release tuple. The *when* dimension is denoted by the keywords, **when** and **unless.** 

#### The Root Policy

In Evidently, the information flow policy of an application is not written within the program's code. However, to support better modularity, Evidently abstractions such as models,

levels, projections and policies may be written in multiple files. To combine all these elements together, our system requires a root policy file, *policy.epl*, which is the starting point into an applications information flow policy. Within this file the user may import other policies, and set the enforcement level of the various policies. We show the syntax of policy files in Evidently in Figure 4.

Policy	::= policy Id { PoBElems }   policy Id GParams { PoBElems }
GParams	$::= \langle Ids \rangle$
Ids	$::= Id \mid Ids, Id$
PoBElems	::= PoBElem   PoBElems PoBElem
PoBElem	::= Use   Release   EnforceDirective
Use	::= UsePolicy   UseElem
UsePolicy	<pre>::= use policy Id;   use policy Id as Id;   use policy Id GArgs;   use policy Id GArgs as Id;</pre>
UseElem	<pre>::= use model Id;   use model Id as Id;</pre>
GArgs	::= $\langle GenericArgs \rangle$
GenericArgs	::= GenericArg   GenericArgs, GenericArg
GenericArg	$::= Id \mid \{Ids\} \mid \star$
Release	<pre>::= release ( EvidentlyId , LevelFlow) ={RTimes}   release ( * , LevelFlow );</pre>
LevelFlow	::= GenericArg -> GenericArg
RTimes	::= RTime   RTimes RTime
RTime	::= when { Exp }   unless { Exp }
EnforceDirective	::= enforce EnforceMode Id;
EnforceMode	::= static   runtime

Figure 5: Syntax of Policy in Evidently

#### **CHAPTER THREE: EVIDENTLY COMPILER IMPLEMENTATION**

#### Introduction

Implementation of Evidently for the Java language is discussed in this section. I used the Xtext language development tool [9] to implement Evidently. Prior to using Xtext, Evidently's grammar was implemented using Jastadd [10]. In this method, the Lexer and Parser are written using JFlex [11] and Beaver [12] respectively. JastAdd, a meta compilation system that supports Reference Attribute Grammars was used to implement Evidently.

#### Overview of Xtext

Xtext is an ideal language development workbench, to implement Evidently. In Xtext, the grammar is specified in the '.xtext' file. From this specification, Xtext automatically generates the parser and lexer in Java. Like ANTLR, Xtext only needs the grammar specification to create the AST and corresponding Java classes. To implement type checking, validation, and code generation, Xtext provides a structured language called 'Xtend' [13]. In our implementation, the validation checks, type checking and code generation are written using Xtend.

#### Architecture

In this section we discuss the implementational details of Evidently compiler. First, we discuss how the grammar is written using Xtext DSL, Validations using Xtend and, describe

how to enforce the information flow control policies during runtime.

#### Grammar

In Xtext, the grammar is written in the '.xtext' file. The Evidently grammar is written in 'Evidently.xtext. The first rule in the grammar defines where the parser starts and the type of the root element of the grammar and the AST. For Evidently, '*PolicyFile*' is the root element of the AST which contains one or more Evidently abstractions such as Levels, Models and Policy. The complete grammar of Model, Level and Policy is described in the Appendix.

The parser algorithm of Xtext does not deal with left recursive rules. A rule is said to be left recursive when the rule's non-terminal (each rule in a CFG has a non-terminal on the left hand side) refers to itself. To avoid left recursion one must use "left factoring" to remove left recursion. For example, consider the left-recursive rule  $A \rightarrow A a \mid b$ . This rule can be replaced by adding another rule say, A', as follows:

A-> b A' A' -> a A' | (empty)

# **Cross References**

To refer to another element in the grammar, Xtext allows cross references using EMF. The Eclipse Modelling Framework (EMF) [14] is a set of plug-ins available for Eclipse IDE that allows the developer to create the meta-model of the application. Generally, EMF is used to define these meta-models of the application and generate corresponding Java implementation classes.

In Evidently, the root policy, 'policy.epl' generally contains references to models, policies and the levels which are handled using the cross-reference property of Xtext. In EMF,

the element type is not any primitive data type but, is a reference. This reference is an instance of *EReference* (from EMF). Xtext provides a mechanism to store all the cross-referencing objects using a structure called, 'Index'. This index store stores only the meta-data of the object using *IEObjectDescription* elements. Xtext use namespaces to allow elements with the same name in different namespaces. To achieve this functionality, Xtext provides the type *QualifiedName*. Below is a code snippet from Evidently.xtext (Appendix) to demonstrate the usage of namespace with cross reference.

```
UseElem:
    'use' kind='model' name=[Model|QualifiedName] ';' // ';'
    | 'use' kind='model' name=[Model|QualifiedName] 'as' alias=ID ';';
```

Figure 6: Example of Cross reference and Namespace in Evidently

#### Validations

Parsing is only the first stage of language development and overall correctness of an Evidently policy is not completely determined during parsing. Having constraint checks during the parsing process makes grammar specifications more complex and difficult to understand. Hence, it is better to do as little as possible in the grammar and as much as possible in implementation, Validation. In the all the validations are written in the 'EvidentlyValidator.xtend' file. Xtext performs validation by invoking all the methods annotated with @Check. Inside these methods, we carry out the semantic checks on the Evidently elements and if the check fails, an error method is called. The error method is passed with the following: 1) A message for the error 2) Information about the EObject against which the error was reported. The source code for all the validations is provided in the Appendix. An example method is showing in Figure 8 which checks for duplicate models.

```
@Check
def checkDuplicateModelsInFiles(Model m ) {
    print("hey")
    val modelName= m.fullyQualifiedName
    print (modelName)
    m.getVisibleClassesDescriptions.forEach[
        desc |
        if (desc.qualifiedName == modelName &&
                desc.EObjectOrProxy != m
                                            &&
                desc.EObjectURI.trimFragment != m.eResource.URI) {
            error(
                "The type " + m.fullyQualifiedName+ " is already defined",
                EvidentlyPackage::eINSTANCE.model_Name,DUPLICATE_CLASS)
            return
        }
    ]
}
```

Figure 7 : Checking for Duplicate Models

#### Policy Enforcement

To demonstrate the runtime enforcement of policies, we have implemented Evidently to work with the Java language. This section provides details on Evidently policy enforcement during runtime.



Figure 8: Enforcement of Policies

Figure 9 gives an overview of our implementational details of the Evidently policy enforcement. Evidently makes use of ASM tool to perform additional bytecode generation. ASM [15] is a tool for the Java language designed for runtime class transformation and generation. In Evidently, ASM transforms the Java program by instrumenting bytecodes as per the underlying Evidently policy.

In Evidently, flowpoints describe the data locations in the Java program and are an integral part of the models. A model can contain one or more flowpoints. We used Xbase to map flowpoint constructs of the Evidently model to the corresponding Java model elements. This mapping is specified by implementing an **IJvmModelInferrer** interface. Since we use Xbase in our grammar, Xtext automatically generates an Xtend stub class,

**EvidentlyJvmModelInferrer** in the jvmmodel sub-package. The EvidentlyJvmModelInferrer has an **infer** method to create Java model elements, associate them to Evidently elements, and pass them to the **acceptor** which implements the mapping. The **JvmTypesBuilder** is an extension that provides an API to create Java model elements such as: toClass, toMethod, toField and so on. The generated flowpoint class contains two methods, getField() and getCodeClass() that returns the name of data field in the target Java program and its corresponding class respectively.

We leveraged the ASM tool to identify the data locations to instrument the policy specifications. The target source code is compiled into Java bytecode and the ASM tool uses this bytecode to inject additional bytecode to the target source code. The ASM tool checks all the class variables and method variables and verifies if there are flowpoints associated with the fields. We handle the policy enforcement by instrumenting the code with special calls to our runtime monitor. The runtime monitor checks the generated policy and corresponding flowpoints and generates appropriate code to instrument into the target source code.

The runtime monitor checks the generated policy file for information to be released and conditions under which it should be released. The 'information' to be released is the Flowpoint and the condition is specified within the 'when' clause. If the condition for the information release is not met, an exit routine is called, which stops the information from being released.

```
public class Test {
             public static int secureNumber = 10;
             public static boolean adminMode=false;
             public static void add(){
                    boolean isOk= true;
                    if(is0k){
                    //Exit code should be instrumented here
                           //We should not allow this
                          System.out.println(secureNumber);
                    }
                    else{
                           //No need to add anything here
                           System.out.println("Not an admin");
                    }
             }
             public static void main(String[] args) {
                    add();
             }
}
```

Figure 9: Java source code

Figure 8 shows a sample Java source code, we wish to write a policy for. We should be able write a policy in Evidently which restricts the release of 'secureNumber', if 'adminMode' is false. Figure 9 shows the corresponding policy example.

```
model AdminAccess {
      flowpoint adminMode:boolean = {
             within(AsmTrial) && field("adminMode")
      }i
      flowpoint secureNumber:int = {
             within(AsmTrial) && field("secureNumber")
      }
}
policy ReleaseSecureNumberToAdmin {
      use model AdminAccess;
      release(AdminAccess.secureNumber, X->Y){
             when {
                    adminMode == true
             }
      }
}
```

Figure 10: Evidently policy

We define a model 'AdminAccess' with two flowpoints, 'adminMode' and 'secureNumber'. Furthermore, we define ReleaseSecureNumberToAdmin policy, to use AdminAccess model which allows the policy to access all the flowpoints and properties in the model. The **release** statement specifies the flowpoint (what) that is to be released based on the condition that is specified by **when** clause. The second parameter within the release tuple (F->T), specifies **where** dimension. In Figure 8, System.out.println(secureNumber); is executed only when the adminMode is 'true'. Otherwise, an exit statement is called before 'secureNumber' is accessed.

# **CHAPTER FOUR: CONCLUSION**

Evidently is a specification language that defines centralized information flow control policies separate from the program code. This avoids policies being scattered throughout the program code thereby making auditing easier. I discussed how the Evidently grammar and Validation rules are written with XText language development tool. Finally, I discussed how policies are enforced during runtime using the concepts of bytecode instrumentation.

#### Future Work

The current implementation is targeted to monitor the information flow of assignments in the program code. The implementation can be extended to track and control the information flow during method calls, and conditional statements. Currently, Evidently is implemented to control information flow in a program written in Java Language. The implementation can be extended to control information flow in the program written in various other object-oriented programming language such as Python.

# **APPENDIX: CODE FOR THE COMPILER**

#### <u>Grammar</u>

```
1 grammar org.evidently.Evidently with org.eclipse.xtext.xbase.Xbase
 2
 3 generate evidently "http://www.example.org/evidently/Evidently"
 4
 5 import "http://www.eclipse.org/emf/2002/Ecore" as ecore
 6 import "http://www.eclipse.org/xtext/common/JavaVMTypes" as jvmTypes
 7
 8⊖PolicvFile:
      (elements+=FileElem)*;
 9
10
11⊖ProgId:
       ID;
12
13
14<sup>©</sup> EvidentlyId:
15
      ID ('.' ID)*;
16
17⊖BooleanLiteral:
      "true" | "false";
18
19
20
21<sup>©</sup> ProgType:
22
       {ProgType}type="byte" prime=ProgTypePrime
23
       {ProgType}type="String" prime=ProgTypePrime
24
       {ProgType} type="short" prime=ProgTypePrime
25
       {ProgType} type="int" prime=ProgTypePrime
26
       {ProgType} type="long" prime=ProgTypePrime
27
       {ProgType} type="float" prime=ProgTypePrime
       |{ProgType} type="double" prime=ProgTypePrime
28
29
       {ProgType} type="char" prime=ProgTypePrime
30
       {ProgType} type="boolean" prime=ProgTypePrime
       {ProgType} type="void" prime=ProgTypePrime
31
32
       {ProgType} type="File" prime=ProgTypePrime
33
       |{ProgType} javaType=[jvmTypes::JvmType|QualifiedName] prime=ProgTypePrime // takes the place of ProgId rules.
34;
35
```

### Figure 11: Evidently Grammar part a

```
35
36<sup>o</sup> ProgTypePrime:
       ("[" "]" ProgTypePrime)?;
37
38
39 FileElem:
       ImportLevels
40
       Policy
41
       Model
42
       Levels
43
44
       AxiomsImpl
45
       ;
46
47⊖ AxiomsImpl:
48
       axioms=Axioms
       imports=XImportSection
49
50;
51
52<sup>©</sup>ModelImpl:
       model=Model
53
       imports=XImportSection
54
55;
56
57 ImportLevels:
       'using' 'levels' importedNamespace=[Levels|QualifiedNameWithoutWildcard]
58
59
       ;
60
61 Policy:
       'policy' name=ID '{' (elements+=PoBElem)* '}'
62
       'policy' name=ID params=GParams '{' (elements+=PoBElem)* '}';
63
64
65 GParams:
       '<' paramOne+=ID (',' params+=ID)* '>';
66
67
```

Figure 12: Evidently Grammar part b

```
69 PoBElem:
 70
       use=Use
 71
        | release=Release
 72
        enforce=EnforceDirective;
 73
 74⊖Use:
 75
       usePolicy=UsePolicy
        useModel=UseElem;
 76
 77
 78
       //USe namespace
 79⊖UsePolicy:
        'use' 'policy' policy=[Policy|QualifiedName] ';'
 80
        'use' 'policy' policy=[Policy|QualifiedName] 'as' alias=ID ';'
 81
        'use' 'policy' policy=[Policy|QualifiedName] args=GArgs ';'
 82
 83
        'use' 'policy' policy=[Policy|QualifiedName] args=GArgs 'as' alias=ID ';'
 84
 85
 86 GArgs:
        "<" args+=GenericArg (',' args+=GenericArg)* ">";
 87
 88
 89
 90 GenericArgRule:
 91
       name=ID
        | '*' name="*"
 92
        | "{" names+=ID (',' names+=ID)* '}'
 93
 94 ;
 95
 96⊖UseElem:
        'use' kind='model' name=[Model QualifiedName] ';' // ';'
 97
 98
     //| 'use' kind='model' importedNamespace=QualifiedNameWithoutWildcard ';'
        'use' kind='model' name=[Model QualifiedName] 'as' alias=ID ';';
99
100
101 QualifiedNameWithoutWildcard:
102
       QualifiedName '.*'?;
103
```

Figure 13: Evidently grammar part c

```
104
105⊖PropertyOrFlowpoint:
106
        Flowpoints | Property;
107
108⊖Release:
       'release' '(' what=[PropertyOrFLowpoint|QualifiedNameWithoutWildcard] ',' flow=LevelFlow ')' '=' '{' (releases+=RTime)* '}'
109
        'release' '(' '*' ',' flowlevel=LevelFlow ')' ';';
110
111
112<sup>®</sup>LevelFlow:
113
       from=GenericArgRule "->" to=GenericArgRule;
114
115⊖RTime:
       type='when' '{' condition=XExpression '}'
116
117
       type='unless' '{' notCondition=XExpression '}';
118
119
120 EnforceDirective:
       'enforce' mode=EnforceMode policy=ID;
121
122
123⊖ EnforceMode:
      'static' | 'runtime';
124
125
126 Model:
        'model' name=ID '{' (elements+=MBElem)* '}';
127
128
129⊖MBElem:
130
       modeluse=Use
131
       flow= Flowpoints
132
       property= Property
133
        ;
134
135⊖Flowpoints:
        'flowpoints' name=ID ':' type=ProgType '=' '{' body=EvBody '}'
136
137
        'flowpoints' name=ID '{' body=EvBody '}';
138
1398 EvBody
<
```

Figure 14: Evidently Grammar part d

```
100
139 EvBody:
140
        EvExpression;
141
142<sup>®</sup> EvExpression:
143
        EvMulOrDiv;
144
145° EvMulOrDiv returns EvExpression:
        ExpPlus (
146
             {EvMulOrDiv.left=current} op=('*'|'/')
147
148
             right=ExpPlus
        )*
149
150 ;
151<sup>®</sup> ExpPlus returns EvExpression:
      ExpMinus ({ExpPlus.left=current} '+' right=ExpMinus)*;
152
153
154<sup>©</sup> ExpMinus returns EvExpression:
155 EvMod ({ExpMinus.left=current} '-' right=EvMod)*;
156
157 EvMod returns EvExpression:
        EvAnd ({EvMod.left=current} '%' right=EvAnd)*;
158
159
160° EvAnd returns EvExpression:
161
        EvOr ({EvAnd.left=current} '&&' right=EvOr)*;
162
163° EvOr returns EvExpression:
        Comparison ({EvOr.left=current} '||' right=Comparison)*;
164
165
166 Comparison returns EvExpression:
167
        Equality (
             {Comparison.left=current} op=(">="|"<="|">"|"<")
168
             right=Equality
169
        )*
170
171
```

Figure 15: Evidently Grammar part e

```
ر ۲/۲
173<sup>o</sup> Equality returns EvExpression:
174
        EvExpBase ({Equality.left=current} op=("=="|"!=")
175
            right=EvExpBase
        )*
176
177 ;
178° EvExpBase returns EvExpression:
179
        '(' exp=EvExpression ')'
        predicate=EvPredExtended '(' description=MethDescs ')'
180
          predicate=EvScopePred '(' id= EvidentlyId')'
181
        '!' EvMulOrDiv
182
183
        |atomic=Atomic;
184
185<sup>®</sup> Atomic returns EvExpression:
        {IntConstant} value=INT |
186
        {StringConstant} value=STRING |
187
        {BoolConstant} value=('true'|'false') |
188
189
        {VariableRef} variable=[Formal]
190
        ;
191
192
193 EvPredExtended:
        'execution' | 'resultof' | 'this' | 'cflow';
194
195
196 EvScopePred:
197
        'within' 'typeof' 'named' 'field';
198
199⊖MethDescs:
        elements+=MethDesc (',' elements+=MethDesc)*;
200
201
202 MethDesc:
203
        name=IdOrStar
204
        name=IdOrStar '(' signature=(MethFormalDescs)? ')'
        type=TypeOrStar name=IdOrStar '(' signature=(MethFormalDescs)? ')';
205
206
```

Figure 16: Evidently Grammar part f

```
206
207⊖IdOrStar:
208
        EvidentlyId
        '*';
209
210
211<sup>®</sup> TypeOrStar:
        {TypeOrStar} '*'
212
213
        ProgType;
214
215<sup>®</sup>MethFormalDescs:
      desc='...'
216
217
        descs+=TypeOrStar (',' descs+=TypeOrStar)*;
218
219<sup>o</sup> Property:
        'property' var=Formals (spec=Specification)? '{' (expression=XExpression) '}'
220
        'property' propertyName=ID formals=PFormals (':' type=ProgType)? (spec=Specification)? '{' (expression=XExpression) '}';
221
222
223 Axioms:
224
        arr='axioms' '{' elements+=AxElems '}'
225;
226
227 AxElems:
228
        package=PackagedMethod ':' level=[Levels|QualifiedName]
229;
230
231<sup>®</sup> PackagedMethod:
232
         {PackageMethod} package= IdOrStar '.' method=IdOrStar '(' signature=(MethodLevelDescs)? ')'
        {UnnamedPackageMethod} method=IdOrStar '(' signature=(MethodLevelDescs)? ')'
233
234 ;
235
236 MethodLevelDescs:
237
        desc='...'
238
        descs+=IdOrStar (',' descs+=IdOrStar)*
239
240 :
```

Figure 17: Evidently Grammar part g

```
241
242<sup>®</sup> Specification:
243
        {Specification} (requires+=Requires)+ (assignable+=Assignable)* (ensures+=Ensures)+
         {Specification} (assignable+=Assignable)+ (ensures+=Ensures)+
244
245
        {Specification} (ensures+=Ensures)+;
246
247⊖Requires:
        'requires' expression=XExpression ';';
248
249
250 Assignable:
251
         'assignable' expression=XExpression ';';
252
253<sup>©</sup> Ensures:
        'ensures' expression=XExpression ';';
254
255
256 PFormals:
257
       '(' formal=Formals ')';
258
259 Formals:
        elements+=Formal (',' elements+=Formal)*;
260
261
262 Formal:
263
        name=ID ':' type=ProgType;
264
265 Levels: 'levels' name=ID '{' (elements+=LevElem)* '}';
266
267⊖LevElem:
        kind=LevelKind '{' elements=(LevelBodyElems)? '}'
268
269 ;
270
271<sup>®</sup> LevelKind:
272
       'sink' | 'source' | 'both'
273 ;
```

Figure 18: Evidently Grammar part h

```
LevelBodyElems:
    elements+=LevelBodyElem (',' elements+=LevelBodyElem)*
;
LevelBodyElem:
    name=ID
;
GenericArg:
    arg=[LevelBodyElem|QualifiedName]
    | '*' star="*"
    | '{' elements+=[LevelBodyElem|QualifiedName] (',' elements+=[LevelBodyElem|QualifiedName])* '}'
```



#### Validation Rules

```
4 package org.evidently.validation
5. import org.evidently.evidently.Levels
36
379/**
38 * This class contains custom validation rules.
39
40 * See https://www.eclipse.org/Xtext/documentation/303_runtime_concepts.html#validation
41 */
42eclass EvidentlyValidator extends AbstractEvidentlyValidator {
43
44
       @Inject ResourceDescriptionsProvider rdp
45
46
        @Inject IContainer$Manager cm
47
       @Inject extension IQualifiedNameProvider
48
49
       public static val DUPLICATE_CLASS = "org.Evidently.DuplicateClass"
public static val DUPLICATE_NAME = "org.Evidently.DuplicateName"
50
51
52
53
54⊝
       def getVisibleClassesDescriptions(EObject o) {
55
           o.getVisibleEObjectDescriptions(EvidentlyPackage::eINSTANCE.fileElem)
56
       }
57
       def getVisibleEObjectDescriptions(EObject o, EClass type) {
58⊖
           o.getVisibleContainers.map[ container |
59
60
                container.getExportedObjectsByType(type)
61
            ].flatten
62
       }
63
```

Figure 20: Validation Rules part a

```
def getVisibleContainers(EObject o) {
   val index = rdp.getResourceDescriptions(o.eResource)
    val rd = index.getResourceDescription(o.eResource.URI)
    if (rd !== null)
        cm.getVisibleContainers(rd, index)
   else
        emptyList
}
@Check
def checkDuplicateModelsInFiles(Model m ) {
   print("hey")
   val modelName= m.fullyQualifiedName
   print (modelName)
   m.getVisibleClassesDescriptions.forEach[
        desc
        if (desc.qualifiedName == modelName &&
                desc.EObjectOrProxy != m
                                            &&
                desc.EObjectURI.trimFragment != m.eResource.URI) {
            error(
                "The type " + m.fullyQualifiedName+ " is already defined",
                EvidentlyPackage::eINSTANCE.model_Name,DUPLICATE_CLASS)
            return
        }
   ]
}
```



```
/2
73⊝
       @Check
74
       def checkDuplicateModelsInFiles(Model m ) {
75
           print("hey")
76
           val modelName= m.fullyQualifiedName
77
           print (modelName)
78
           m.getVisibleClassesDescriptions.forEach[
79
               desc
               if (desc.qualifiedName == modelName &&
80
                       desc.EObjectOrProxy != m
81
                                                     &&
                       desc.EObjectURI.trimFragment != m.eResource.URI) {
82
83
                   error(
                        "The type " + m.fullyQualifiedName+ " is already defined",
84
85
                       EvidentlyPackage::eINSTANCE.model_Name,DUPLICATE_CLASS)
86
                   return
87
               }
           ]
88
89
       }
       @Check
90⊝
91
       def checkDuplicatePolicyInFiles(Policy p ) {
92
           val policyName= p.fullyQualifiedName
93
94
           p.getVisibleClassesDescriptions.forEach[
95
96
               desc
               if (desc.qualifiedName == policyName &&
97
98
                       desc.EObjectOrProxy != p
                                                  &&
99
                       desc.EObjectURI.trimFragment != p.eResource.URI) {
00
                   error(
                        "The type " + p.name+ " is already defined",
01
02
                       EvidentlyPackage::eINSTANCE.policy_Name,DUPLICATE_CLASS)
03
                   return
04
               }
05
           ]
06
       }
```

Figure 22: Validation Rules part c

```
def checkDuplicateLevelsInFiles(Levels 1 ) {
    val policyName= 1.fullyQualifiedName
    l.getVisibleClassesDescriptions.forEach[
        desc
        if (desc.qualifiedName == policyName &&
                desc.EObjectOrProxy != 1
                                             &&
                desc.EObjectURI.trimFragment != l.eResource.URI) {
            error(
                "The type " + 1.name+ " is already defined",
                EvidentlyPackage::eINSTANCE.levels_Name,DUPLICATE_CLASS)
            return
        }
    ]
}
@Check
def checkDuplicateAxiomsInFiles(Axioms a ) {
    val axiomsName= a.fullyQualifiedName
    a.getVisibleClassesDescriptions.forEach[
        desc
        if (desc.qualifiedName == axiomsName &&
                desc.EObjectOrProxy != a
                                            &&
                desc.EObjectURI.trimFragment != a.eResource.URI) {
            error(
                "The type " + a.arr+ " is already defined",
                EvidentlyPackage::eINSTANCE.axioms_Arr,DUPLICATE_CLASS)
            return
        }
    ]
}
```

Figure 23: Validation Rules part d

```
def static containingPolicy(EObject e) {
    e.getContainerOfType(typeof(Policy))
}
def static containingModel(EObject e) {
   e.getContainerOfType(typeof(Model))
}
def static containingGA(EObject e) {
    e.getContainerOfType(typeof(GenericArg))
}
def static containingLevel(EObject e) {
    e.getContainerOfType(typeof(Levels))
}
@Check
def void checkNoDuplicateVariable(UseElem vardecl) {
    val list = vardecl.containingPolicy.elements
    for(PoBElem eachPolicy:list){
     val duplicate=eachPolicy.use.getAllContentsOfType(typeof(UseElem)).findFirst[
            (it != vardecl && it.name == vardecl.name) ||
            (it.name.name == it.alias)||(it.alias == vardecl.name.name)
        1
        if (duplicate !== null)
        error("Duplicate variable declaration '" + vardecl.name.name + "'",
            EvidentlyPackage::eINSTANCE.useElem_Name,
            DUPLICATE_NAME
        )
    }
   <u>}</u>____
```

Figure 24: Validation Rules part e

```
@Check
def void checkForDuplicateFlowpoints( Flowpoints fp){
    val list = fp.containingModel.elements
    for(MBElem elem: list){
 val duplicate=elem.getAllContentsOfType(typeof(Flowpoints)).findFirst[
        (it != fp && it.name == fp.name)
    1
    if (duplicate !== null)
    error("Duplicate variable declaration '" + fp.name + "'",
        EvidentlyPackage:: eINSTANCE.flowpoints_Name,
        DUPLICATE_NAME
    )
    }
}
@Check
def void checkForDuplicateProperty(Property p){
    val list = p.containingModel.elements
    for(MBElem elem: list){
         val duplicate=elem.getAllContentsOfType(typeof(Property)).findFirst[
        (it != p && it.propertyName == p.propertyName)
    ]
    if (duplicate !== null){
    error("Duplicate variable declaration '" + p.propertyName + "'",
        EvidentlyPackage::eINSTANCE.property_PropertyName,DUPLICATE_NAME)
        }
        }
    }
```

Figure 25: Validation Rules part f

#### LIST OF REFERENCES

- S. Chong and A. C. Myers, "Security policies for downgrading," Proceedings of the 11th ACM conference on Computer and communications security - CCS 04, 2004.
- [2] Certification of Programs for Secure Information Flow http://www.cs.cornell.edu/andru/cs711/2003fa/reading/denning77.pdf
- [3] Zheng, L., & Myers, A. C. (n.d.). Dynamic Security Labels and Noninterference (Extended Abstract). Formal Aspects in Security and Trust IFIP International Federation for Information Processing, 27-40. doi:10.1007/0-387-24098-5\_3
- [4] Java + information flow. <u>https://www.cs.cornell.edu/jif/</u>
- [5] Andrew C. Myers. JFlow: Practical Mostly-static Information Flow Control. In Proceedings of the 26th ACM SIGPLAN-SIGACT Symposium on Principles of Programming Languages, POPL '99, pages 228–241, New York, NY, USA, 1999. ACM. doi:10.1145/292540.292561.
- [6] Elisavet Kozyri, Owen Arden, Andrew C. Myers, and Fred B. Schneider. JRIF: Reactive Information Flow Control for Java. February 2016.
- [7] Niklas Broberg, Bart van Delft, and David Sands. Paragon for practical programming with information-flow control. In APLAS, volume 8301, pages 217–232. Springer, 2013.
- [8] Michael D. Ernst, Ren´e Just, Suzanne Millstein, Werner Dietl, Stuart Pernsteiner, Franziska Roesner, Karl Koscher, Paulo Barros Barros, Ravi Bhoraskar, Seungyeop Han, Paul Vines, and Edward X. Wu. Collaborative Verification of Information Flow for a High-Assurance App Store. In Proceedings of the 2014 ACM SIGSAC

Conference on Computer and Communications Security, pages 1092–1104, New York, NY, USA, 2014. ACM. doi:10.1145/2660267.2660343.

- [9] Xtext language development tool: https://www.eclipse.org/Xtext/documentation/index.html
- G. Hedin. Tutorial: An Introductory Tutorial on JastAdd Attribute Grammars
   GTTSE III, 166-200, LNCS 6491, 2011. <u>http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/978-3-642-18023-1\_4</u>.
- [11] JFlex, lexical analyzer generator for Java: <u>http://jflex.de/manual.html</u>
- [12] Beaver a LALR Parser Generator: <u>http://beaver.sourceforge.net/</u>
- [13] Building Domain-specific Languages with Xtext and Xtend: <u>https://blogs.itemis.com/en/building-domain-specific-languages-with-xtext-and-xtend</u>
- [14] Eclipse Modeling Framework (EMF) Tutorial: http://www.vogella.com/tutorials/EclipseEMF/article.html
- [15] "Using the ASM framework to implement common bytecode transformation patterns", E. Kuleshov, AOSD.07, March 2007, Vancouver, Canada.