Guest editor’s preface

This issue of the Journal of Computer Security contains four papers selected from the 13th IEEE Computer Security Foundations Workshop (CSFW13), held in Cambridge, UK, 3–5 July 2000. This is the first time that CSFW was held in a city rather than a remote country location. Attendance grew slightly yet again, but despite the distractions of Cambridge and the larger number of participants, a workshop atmosphere was maintained. In addition to the regular papers and panel there was a more historical talk by Tony Sale on Lorenz and Colossus. Tony also led us on an excursion to Bletchley Park where, amongst other things, we viewed the rebuilt Colossus in person.

The four papers in this issue were selected based upon the recommendation of the Program Committee. The authors revised their original papers and the results were reviewed according to the usual standards for JCS.

“Secure composition of untrusted code: box $\pi$, wrappers, and causality types” by Sewell and Vitek presents an extension to the $\pi$ calculus that allows the construction of security wrappers around untrusted programs along with a type system with which information flow security properties are set out and proven for wrapped program components.

In “First-order verification of cryptographic protocols” Cohen describes the TAPS tool for automated protocol verification that performs verifications on protocols very quickly but is also friendly enough to make the construction of hand proofs feasible.

“How to prevent type flaw attacks on security protocols” by Heather, Lowe and Schneider shows how simply tagging fields in security protocols prevents attacks based on, e.g., interpreting a field containing a nonce as instead containing a principal name.

“Reasoning about secrecy in active networks” by Kakkar, Gunter and Abadi develops a formal language and semantics to reason about routing policies in active networks and hiding data from untrusted parties by controlling its routing through such a network.

I would like to thank the Program Committee of CSFW13 for recommending these papers and the anonymous reviewers for their reviews. Thanks to the Editors-in-Chief for the opportunity to produce this special issue. Finally, thanks especially to the authors for preparing the revisions of their original papers.

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