



Attribute-Based Access Control Models and Beyond

Prof. Ravi Sandhu

Executive Director, Institute for Cyber Security
Lutcher Brown Endowed Chair in Cyber Security
University of Texas at San Antonio

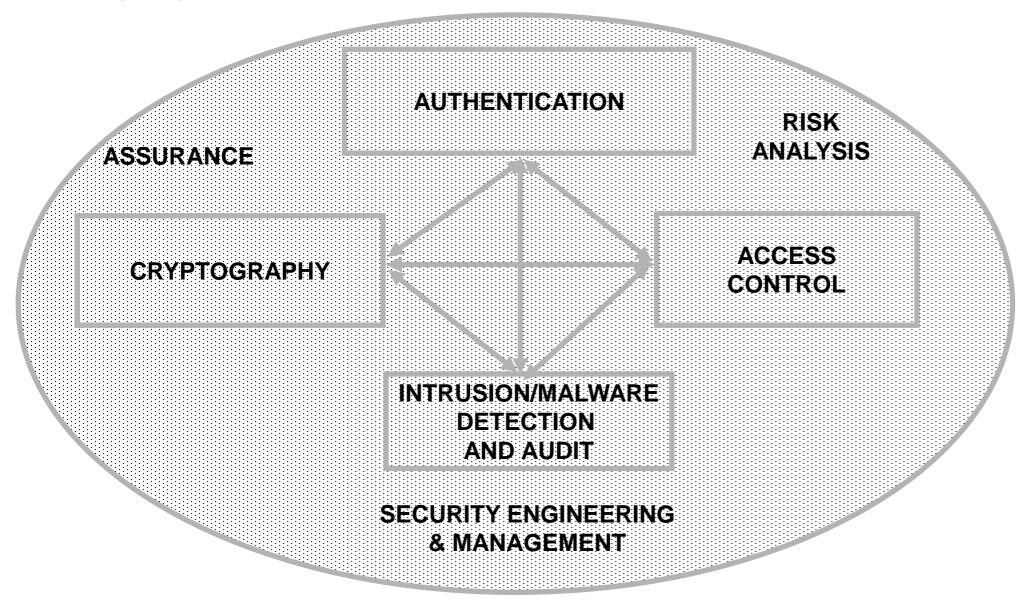
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ravi.sandhu@utsa.edu, www.profsandhu.com, www.ics.utsa.edu



Cyber Security Technologies







Security Limitations

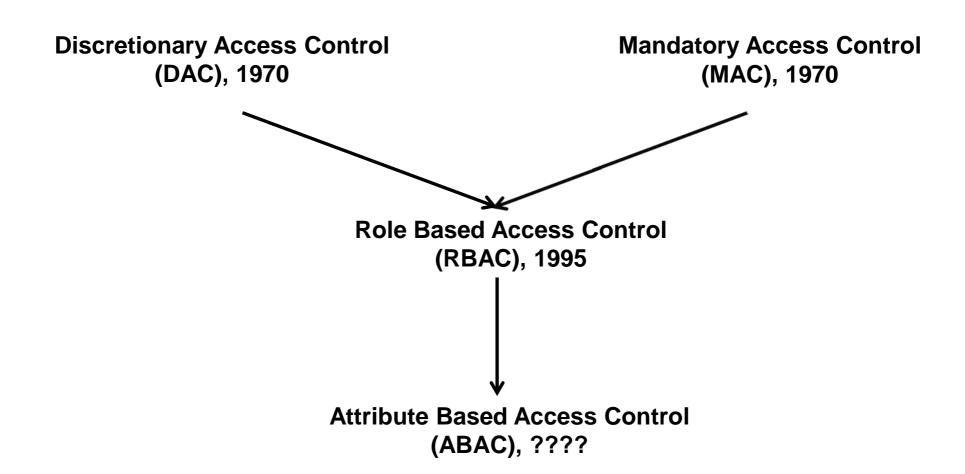


- > Analog Hole
- > Inference
- Covert Channels
- > Side Channels
- > Phishing
- Social Engineering
- Attack Asymmetry
- > Privacy
- **>**

Can manage
Cannot eliminate



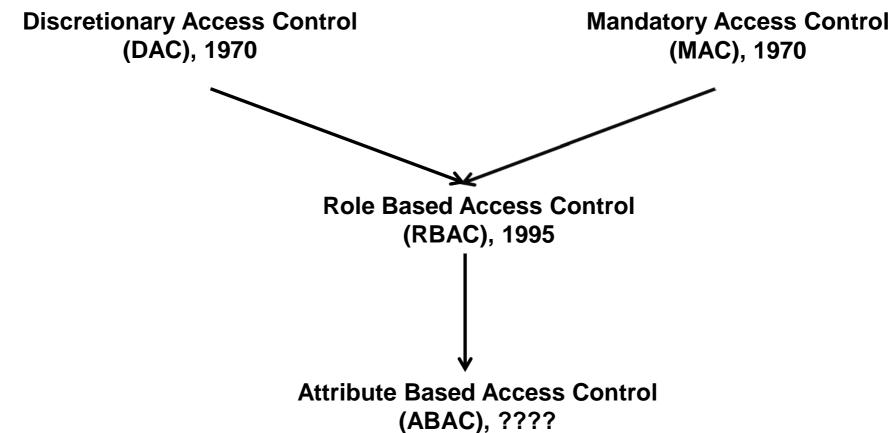










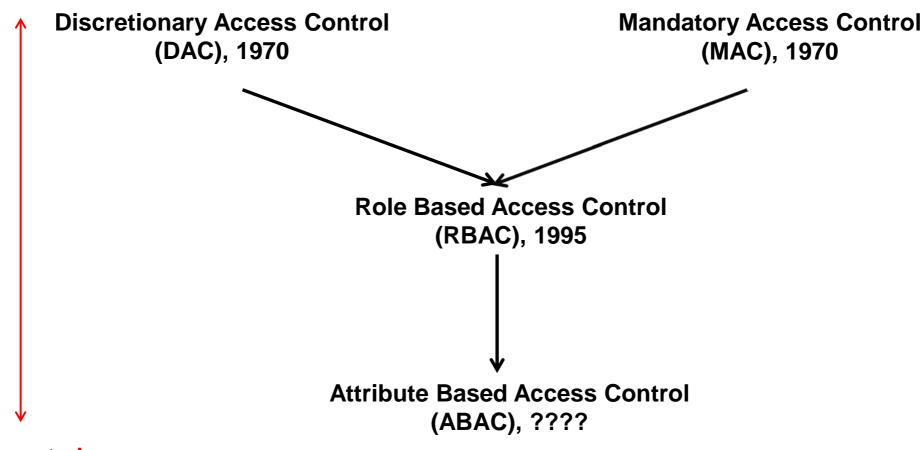


Flexible policy





Administration Driven

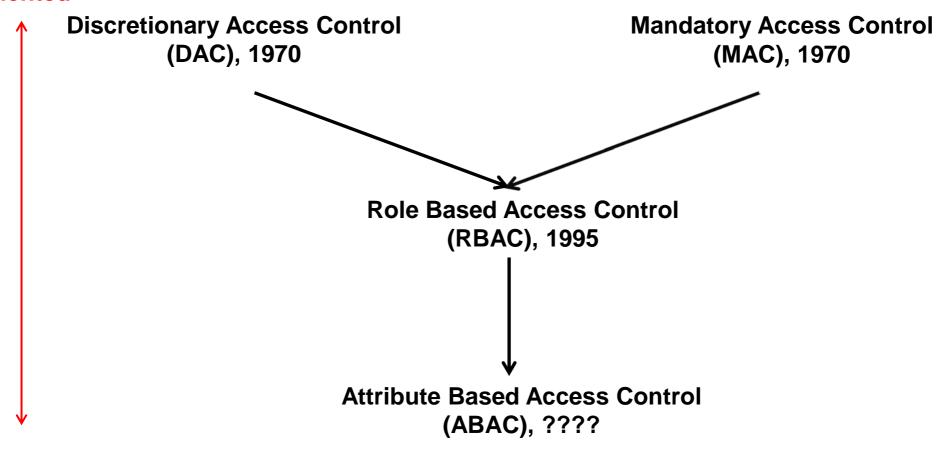


Automated Adaptive





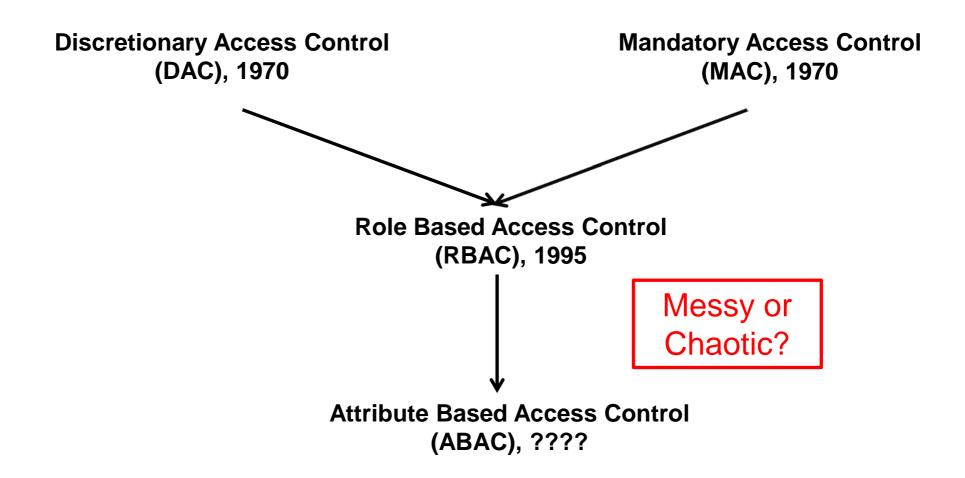
Enterprise Oriented



Beyond Enterprise









Access Control Models



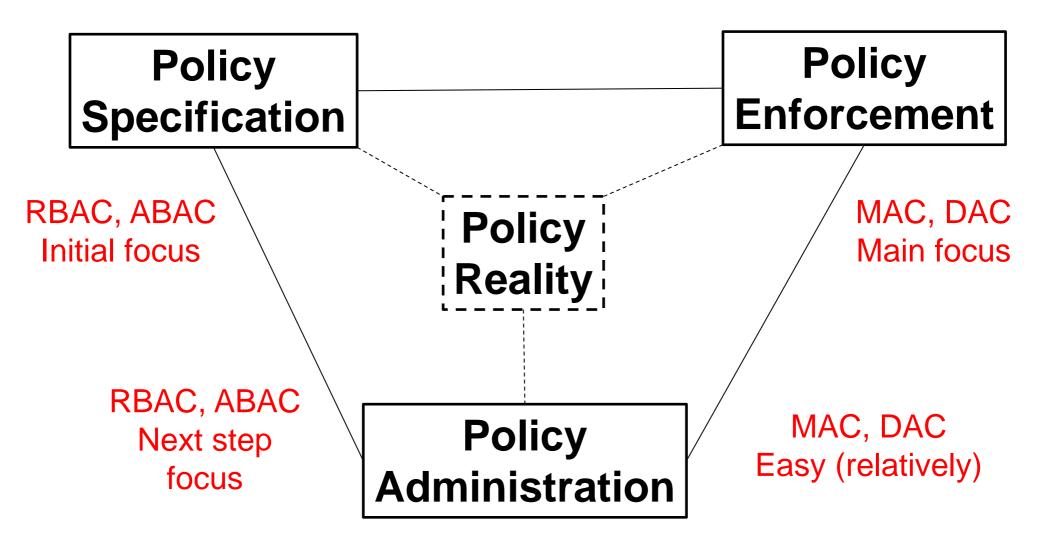
- Discretionary Access Control (DAC), 1970
 - Owner controls access
 - But only to the original, not to copies
 - Grounded in pre-computer policies of researchers
- Mandatory Access Control (MAC), 1970
 - Synonymous to Lattice-Based Access Control (LBAC)
 - Access based on security labels
 - Labels propagate to copies
 - Grounded in pre-computer military and national security policies
- > Role-Based Access Control (RBAC), 1995
 - Access based on roles
 - Can be configured to do DAC or MAC
 - Grounded in pre-computer enterprise policies

Numerous other models but only 3 successes: SO FAR



Access Control Models

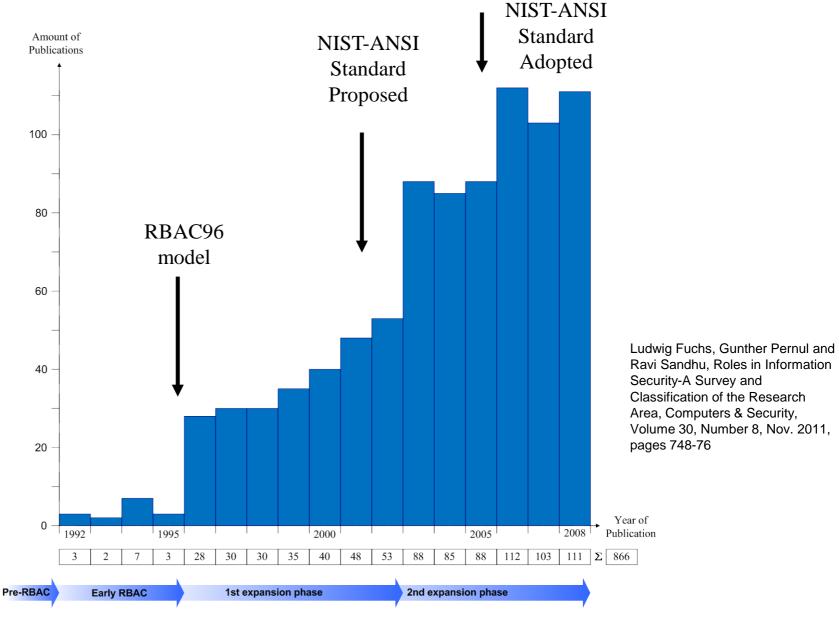






The RBAC Story

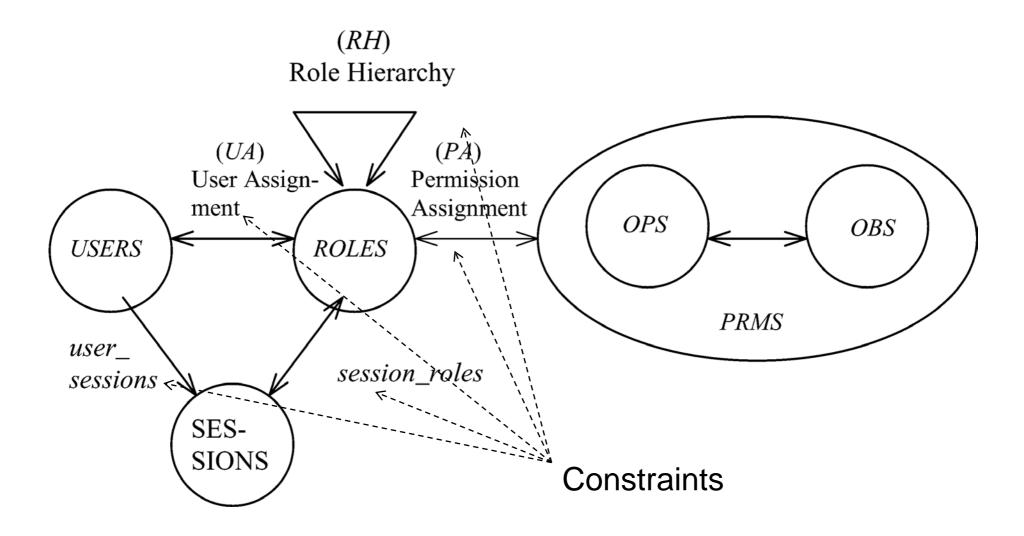






RBAC96 Model



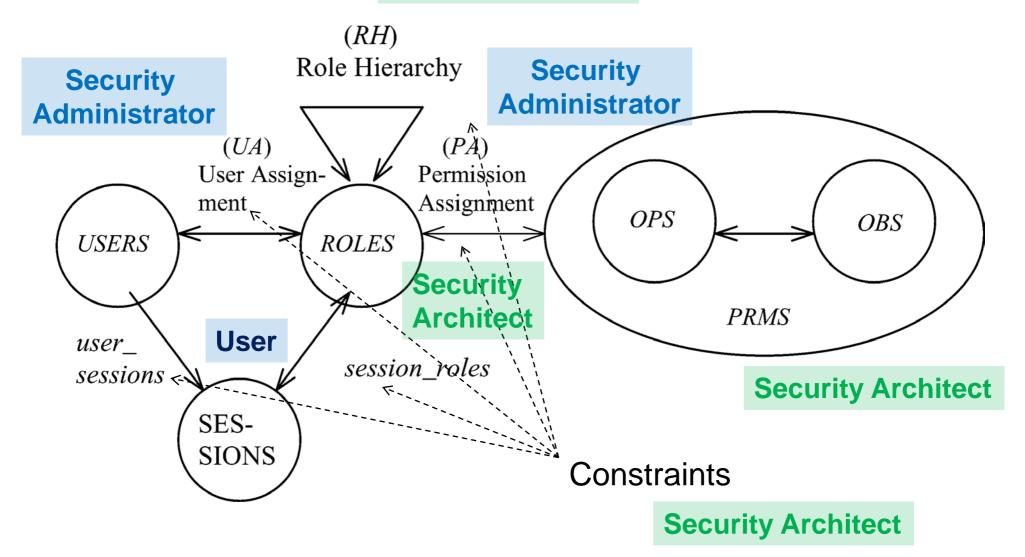




RBAC Policy Configuration Points



Security Architect





Fundamental Theorem of RBAC



- > RBAC can be configured to do MAC
- RBAC can be configured to do DAC
- RBAC is policy neutral

RBAC is neither MAC nor DAC!



RBAC Shortcomings

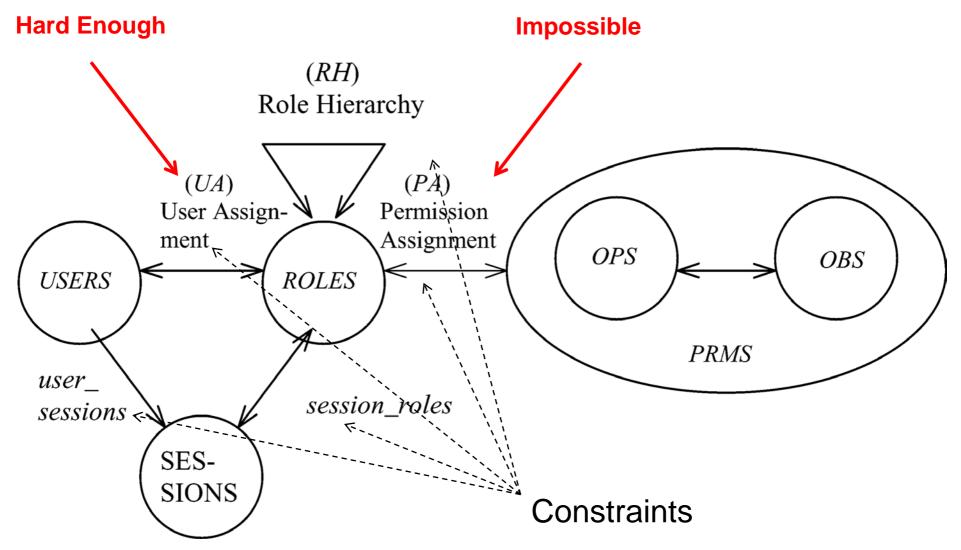


- > Role granularity is not adequate leading to role explosion
 - Researchers have suggested several extensions such as parameterized privileges, role templates, parameterized roles (1997-)
- > Role design and engineering is difficult and expensive
 - Substantial research on role engineering top down or bottom up (1996-), and on role mining (2003-)
- > Assignment of users/permissions to roles is cumbersome
 - ❖ Researchers have investigated decentralized administration (1997-), attribute-based implicit user-role assignment (2002-), role-delegation (2000-), role-based trust management (2003-), attribute-based implicit permission-role assignment (2012-)
- Adjustment based on local/global situational factors is difficult
 - ❖ Temporal (2001-) and spatial (2005-) extensions to RBAC proposed
- > RBAC does not offer an extension framework
 - Every shortcoming seems to need a custom extension
 - Can ABAC unify these extensions in a common open-ended framework?



RBAC Shortcomings

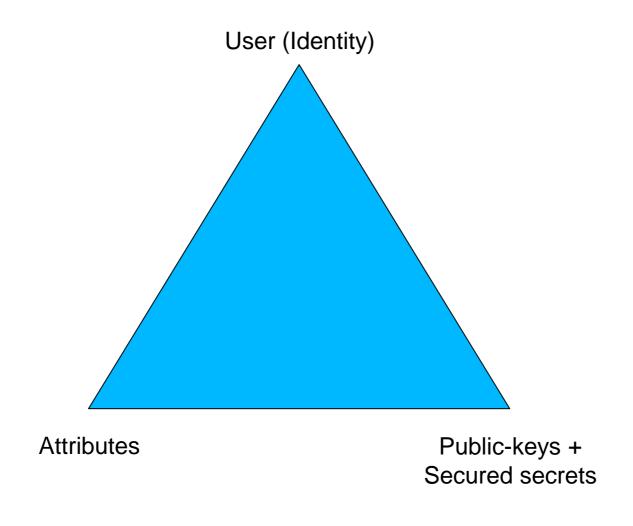






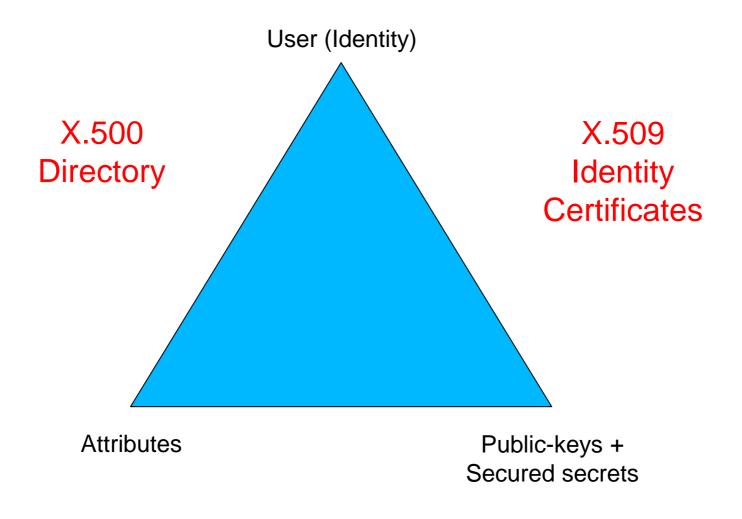








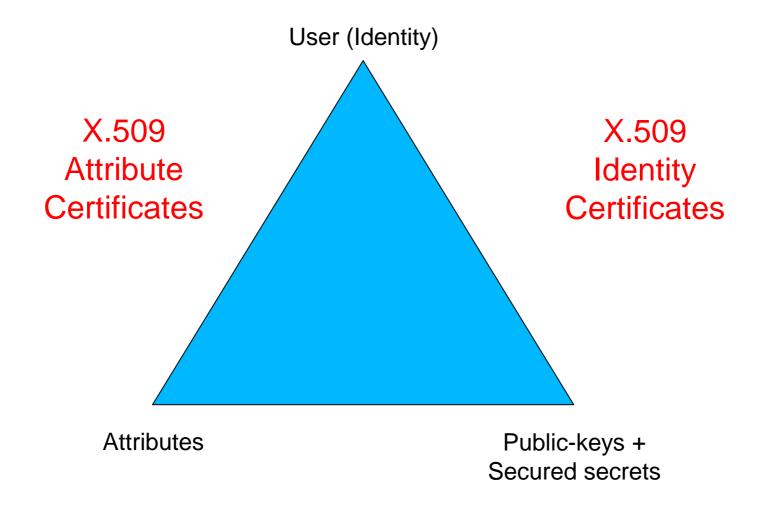




Pre Internet, early 1990s





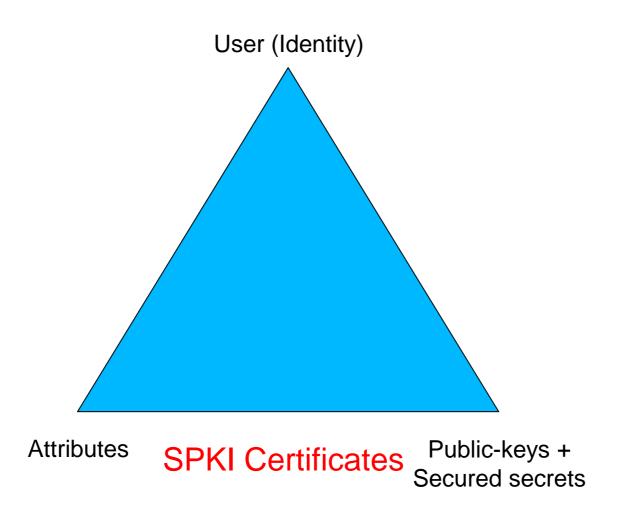


Post Internet, late 1990s







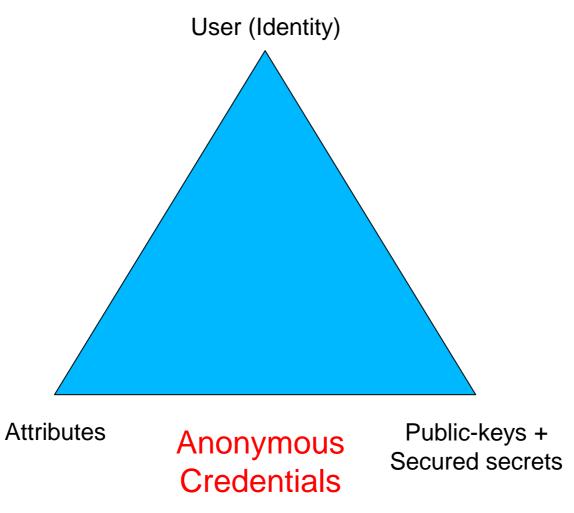


Post Internet, late 1990s







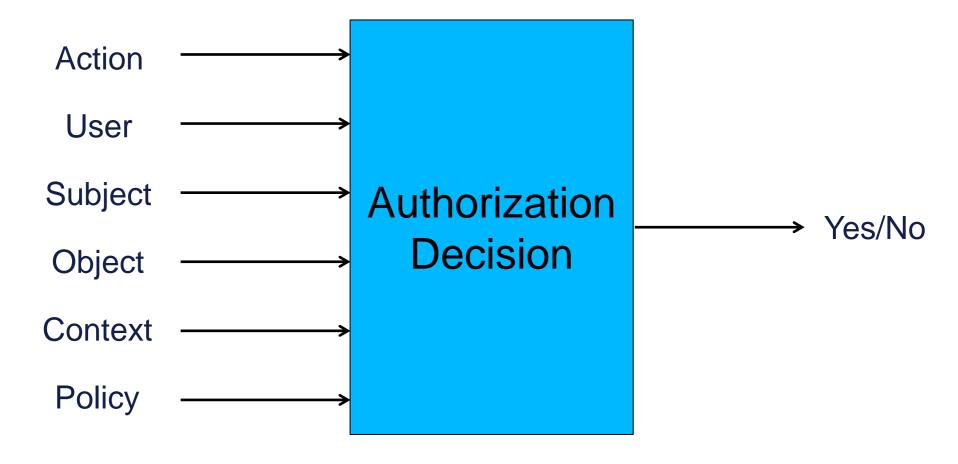


Mature Internet, 2000s





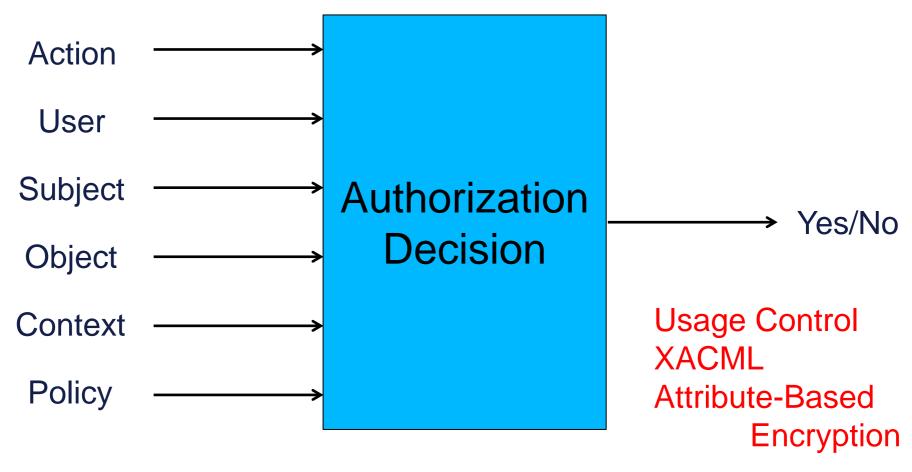
Attributes









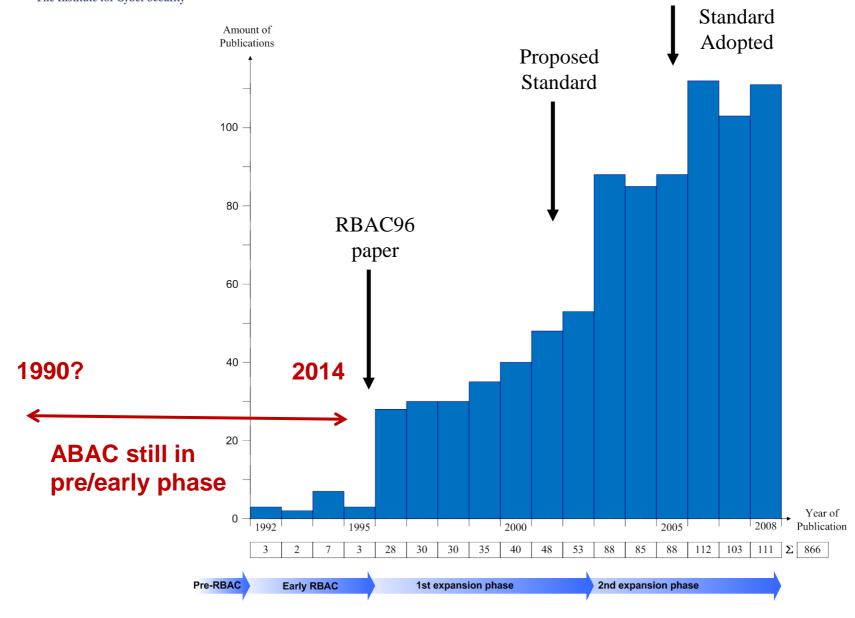


Mature Internet, 2000s



ABAC Status







Attribute-Based Access Control (ABAC)



- Attributes are name:value pairs
 - possibly chained
 - values can be complex data structures
- Associated with
 - actions
 - users
 - subjects
 - objects
 - contexts
 - policies
- > Converted by policies into rights just in time
 - policies specified by security architects
 - attributes maintained by security administrators
 - but also possibly by users OR reputation and trust mechanisms
- Inherently extensible



ABACα Hypothesis (DBSEC 2012)



- > An ABAC model requires
 - identification of policy configuration points (PCPs)
 - languages and formalisms for each PCP
- A core set of PCPs can be discovered by building the ABACα model to unify simple forms of DAC, MAC and RBAC
- Additional ABAC models can then be developed by
 - increasing the sophistication of the ABACα PCPs
 - discovering additional PCPs driven by requirements beyond DAC, MAC and RBAC

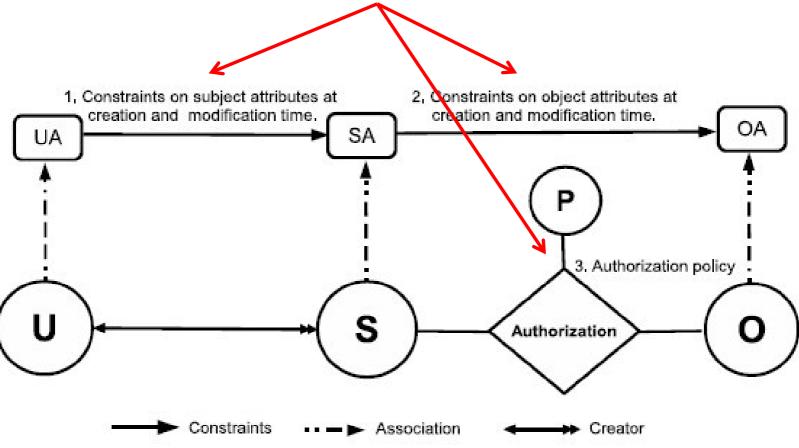
A small but crucial first step



ABACα Model Structure



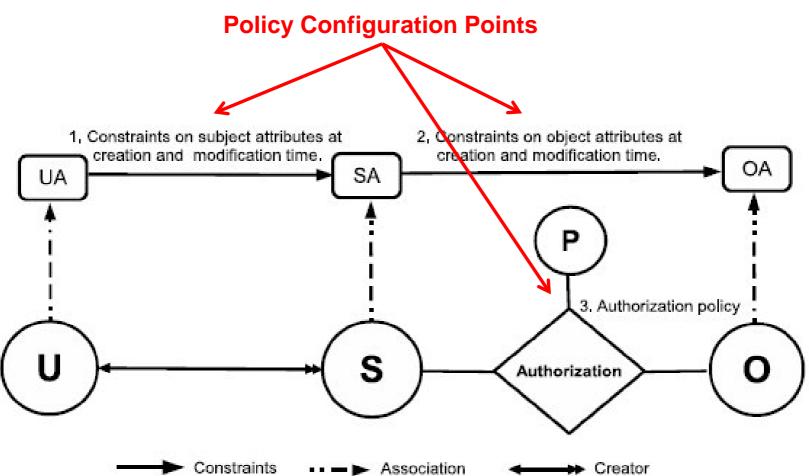
Policy Configuration Points





ABACα Model Structure





Can be configured to do DAC, MAC, RBAC



$ABAC_{\beta}$ Scope



The Institute for Cyber Security

1, 2, 4, 5

Extended Constraints on Role Activation:

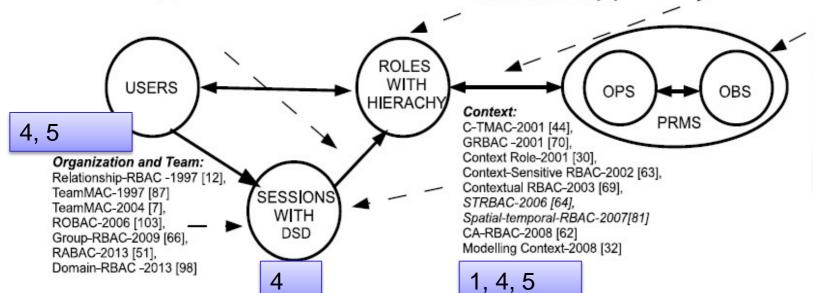
Attribute-Based User-Role Assignment- 2002 [6], OASIS-RBAC-2002 [9], SRBAC-2003 [46] Rule-RBAC-2004 [5], GEO-RBAC-2005 [16] 1,4

Extended Concept of Role:

Role Template-1997 [45], Parameterized RBAC-2004 [2], Parameterized RBAC-2003 [34], Parameterized Role-2004 [43], Attributed Role-2006 [99] 1, 4, 5

Changes in Role-Permission Relationship:

Task-RBAC-2000 [77], Task-RBAC-2003 [78]



Extended Permission Structure:

RBAC with Object class- 2007 [24], Conditional PRBAC 07 [74], PRBAC 07 [75],

Purpose-aware RBAC- 2008 [67], Ubi-RBAC-2010 [76], RCPBAC-2011 [55]

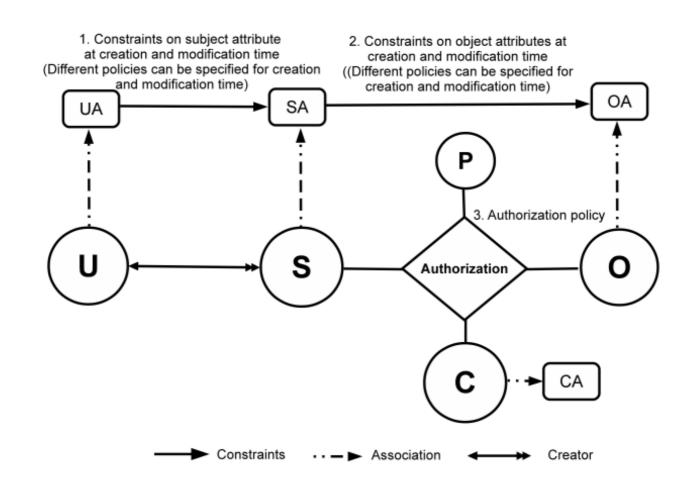
1, 2, 3, 4, 5

- 1. Context Attributes
- 2. Subject attribute constraints policy are different at creation and modification time.
- 3. Subject attributes constrained by attributes of subjects created by the same user.
- 4. Policy Language
- 5. Meta-Attributes



$ABAC_{\beta}$ Model

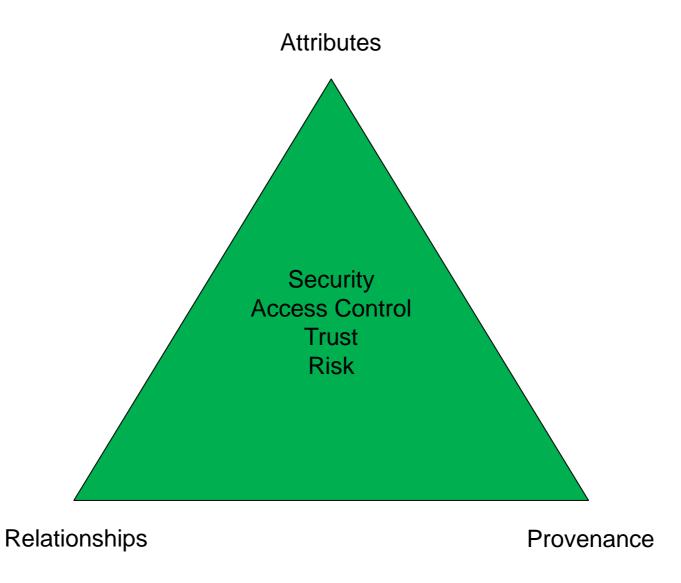














ABAC Research at ICS



- GURA model for user-attribute assignment
- \triangleright Safety analysis of ABAC_{α} and ABAC_{β}
- Undecidable safety for ABAC models
- Decidable safety for ABAC with finite fixed attributes
- Constraints in ABAC
- ABAC Cloud laaS implementations (OpenStack)
- > Attribute Engineering
- > Attribute Mining
- Unification of Attributes, Relationships and Provenance