

Fundamentals of
Secure System Modelling
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Chapter 10: **Role-Based Access Control**

Raimundas Matulevičius
University of Tartu, Estonia, rma@ut.ee

Goals

- Introduce principles of role-based access control (RBAC)
- Present requirements for RBAC solution development and administration
- Discuss how SecureUML and UMLsec could be used to define RBAC policies
- Overview principles of model driven security

Outline

- Principles of role-based access control
- RBAC implementation requirements
- RBAC modelling languages
 - SecureUML
 - UMLsec
 - Language comparison
 - Transformation
- Model-driven security
 - Model-driven development
 - Security model transformation
- Further reading

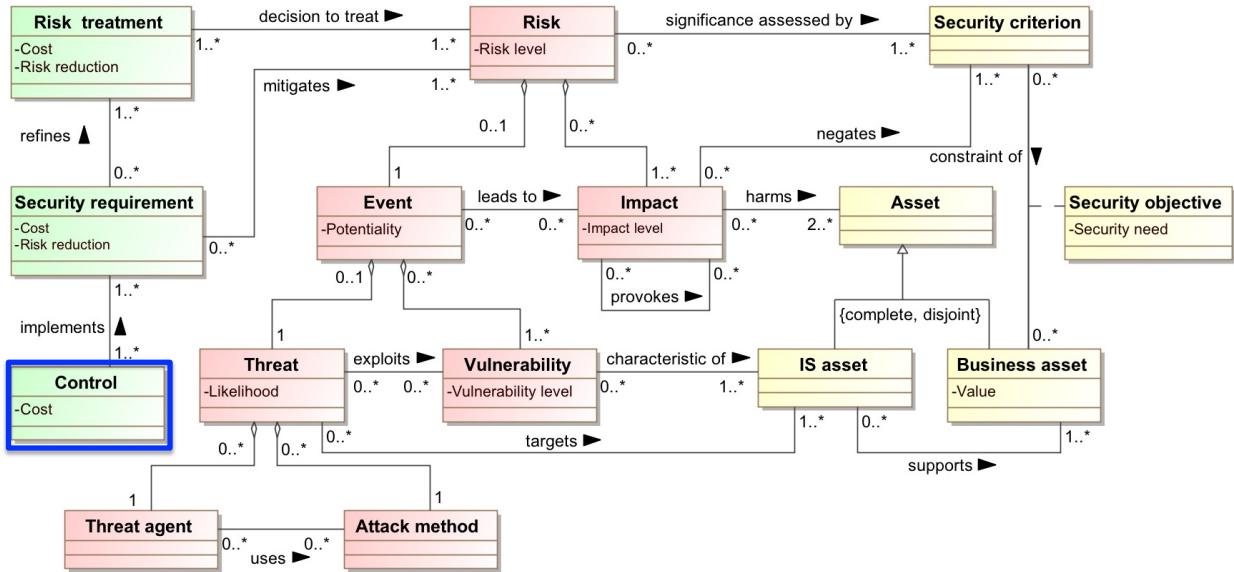
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Security Risk Management Domain Model



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RBAC:

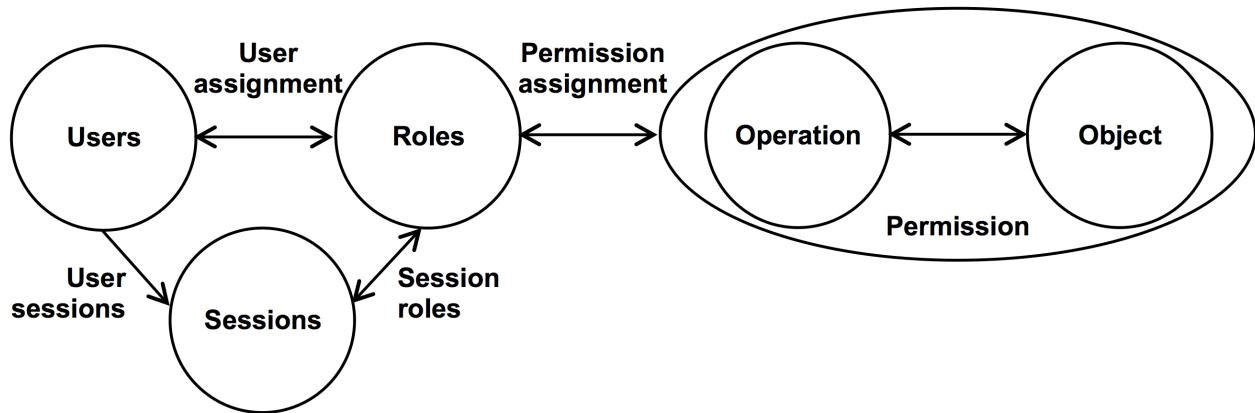
Role-based Access Control

Access – a specific type of interaction between a subject and an object that result in the flow of information from one to the other

Access control – the process of limiting access to the resources of a system only to authorised programs, processes or other systems

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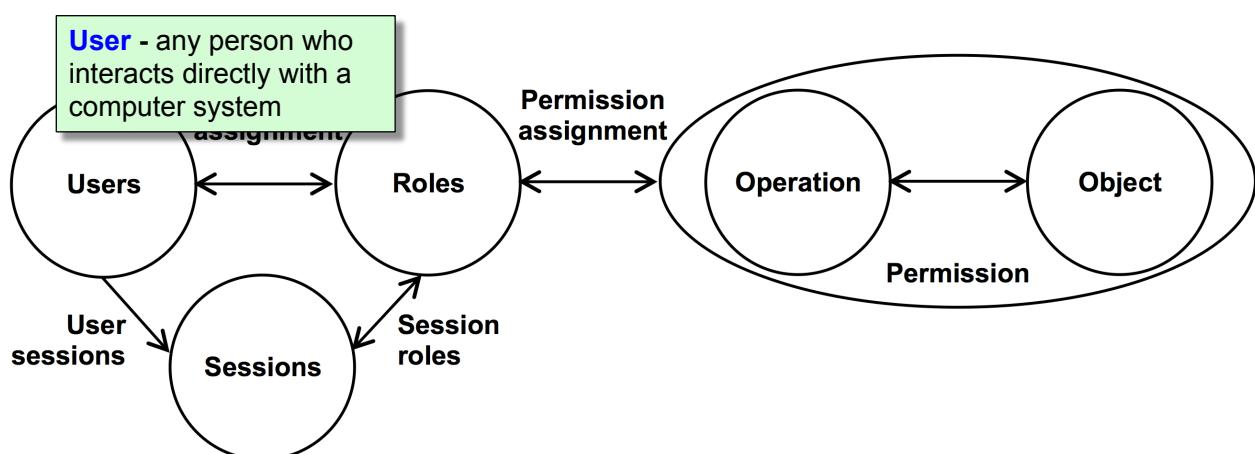
RBAC₀



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Sandhu and Coyne, 1996; Ferraiolo et al., 2001

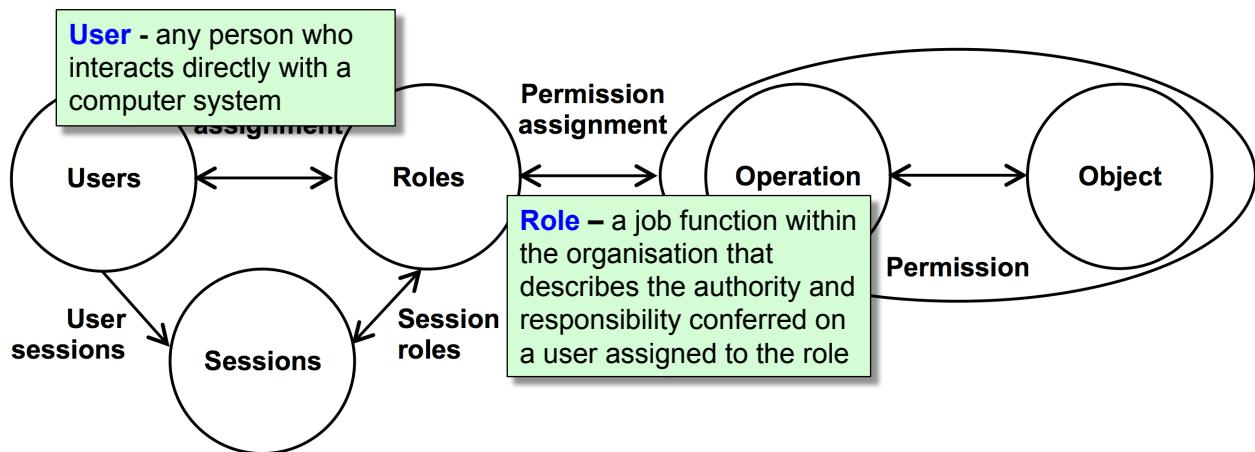
RBAC₀



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Sandhu and Coyne, 1996; Ferraiolo et al., 2001

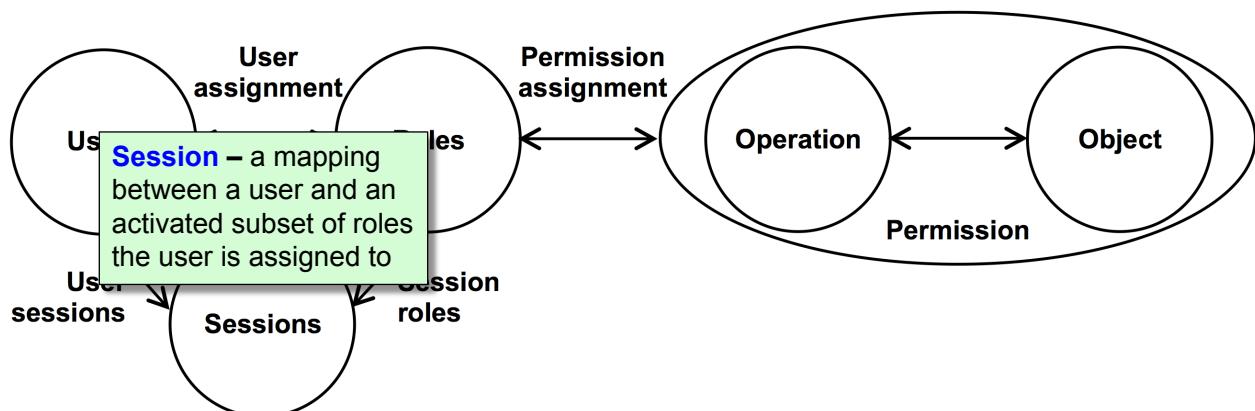
RBAC₀



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Sandhu and Coyne, 1996; Ferraiolo et al., 2001

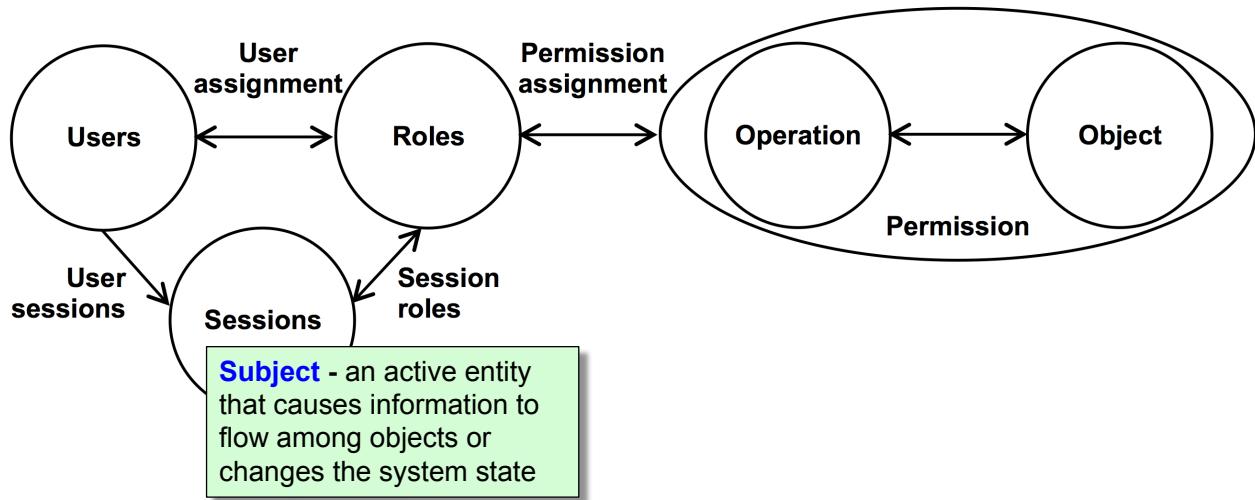
RBAC₀



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Sandhu and Coyne, 1996; Ferraiolo et al., 2001

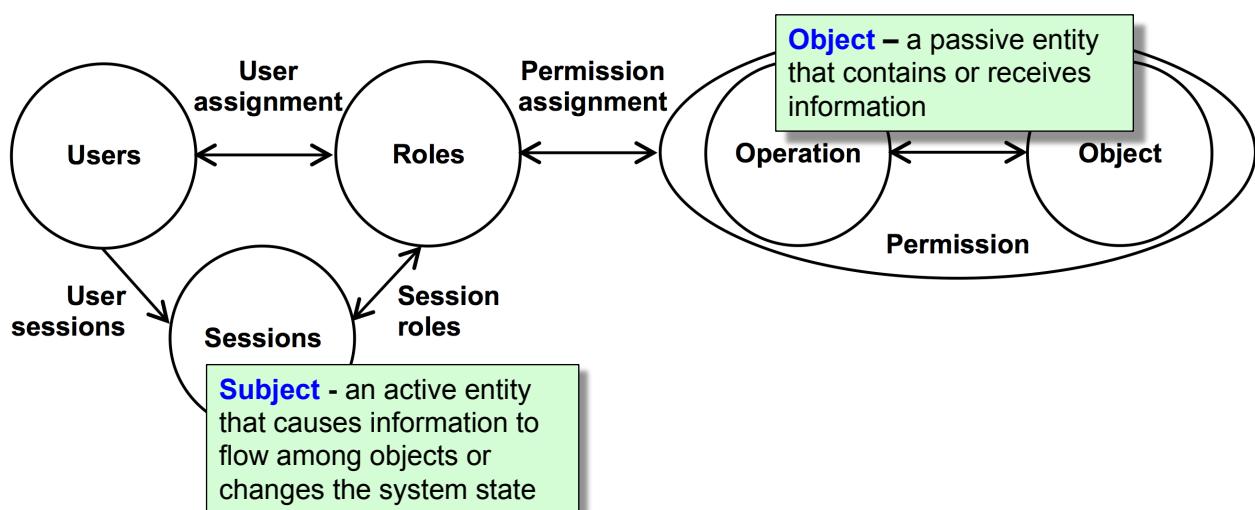
RBAC₀



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Sandhu and Coyne, 1996; Ferraiolo et al., 2001

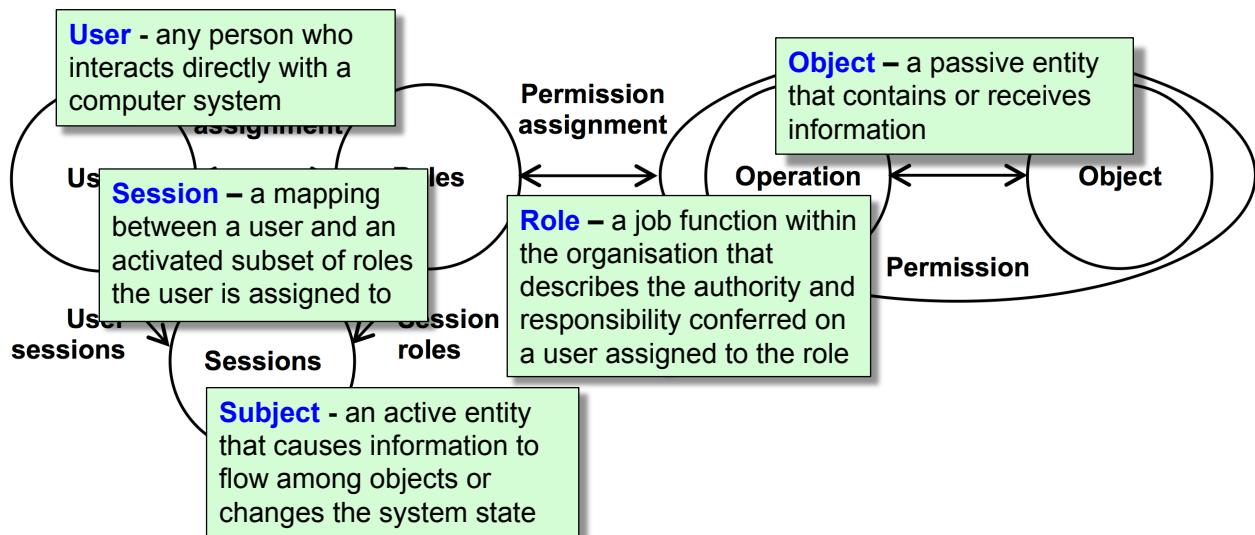
RBAC₀



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Sandhu and Coyne, 1996; Ferraiolo et al., 2001

RBAC₀

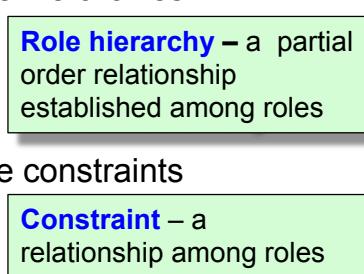


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Sandhu and Coyne, 1996; Ferraiolo et al., 2001

RBAC family

- **RBAC₀**
 - Everything except role hierarchies and constraints
- **RBAC₁**
 - RBAC₀ plus role hierarchies
- **RBAC₂**
 - RBAC₀ plus role constraints
- **RBAC₃**
 - RBAC₁ plus RBAC₂



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Sandhu and Coyne, 1996; Ferraiolo et al., 2001

Outline

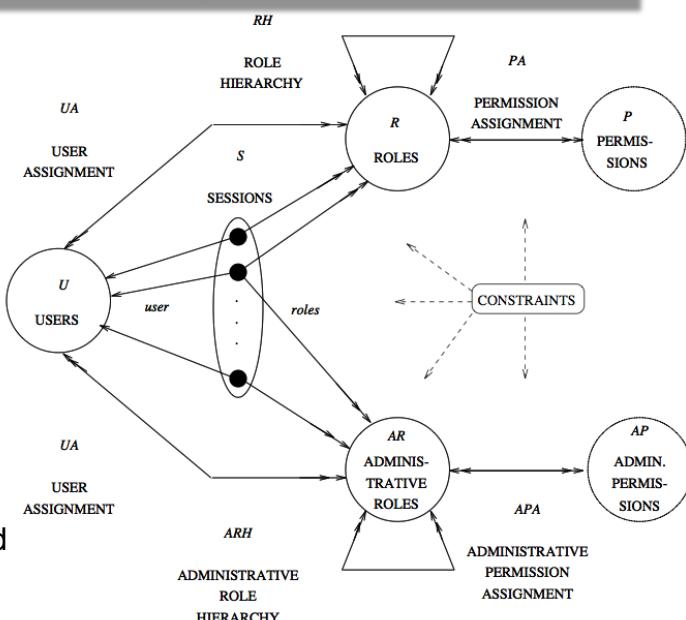
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Implementation requirements

System administrator – the individual who establishes the system security policies, performs the administrative roles and reviews the system audit trail

- **Operations** and **Objects** are considered predefined by the underlying system
- **Administrator**
 - manage **Users**, **Roles**
 - create assignment relationships
 - establish relationships between **Roles** and secured **Operations** and **Objects**.



Sandhu and Coyne, 1996; Ferraiolo et al., 2001

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Implementation requirements

- **To activate RBAC**

- **create session**

- for creating a user session and assigning the user with a default set of roles

- **add role**

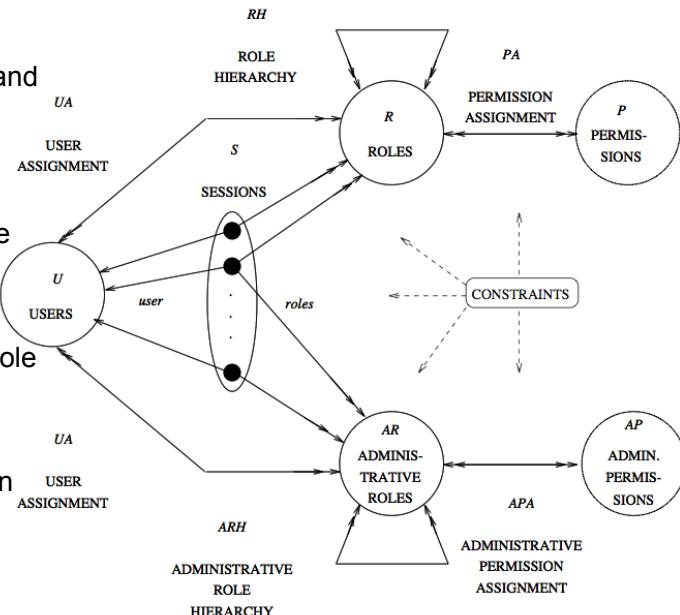
- for creating new roles for the current session

- **drop role**

- for deleting a role from the role set for the current session

- **check access**

- for determining if the session user has permission to perform the requested operation on an object



Sandhu and Coyne, 1996; Ferraiolo et al., 2001

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Implementation requirements

- **User Assignment and Permission Assignment**

- **view assigned users**

- for displaying a set of users assigned to a given role

- **view assigned roles**

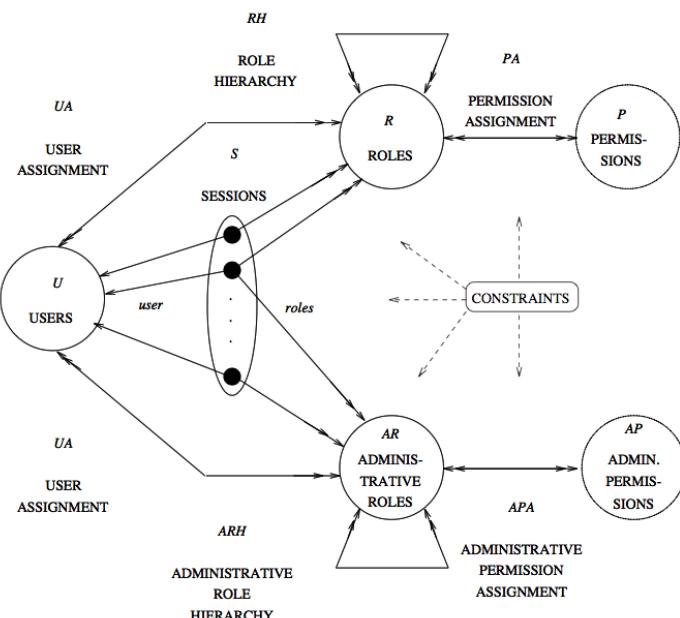
- for displaying a set of roles assigned to a given user

- **view role permissions**

- for displaying a set of permissions granted to a given role

- **view user permissions**

- for displaying a set of permissions a given user gets through his or her assigned roles



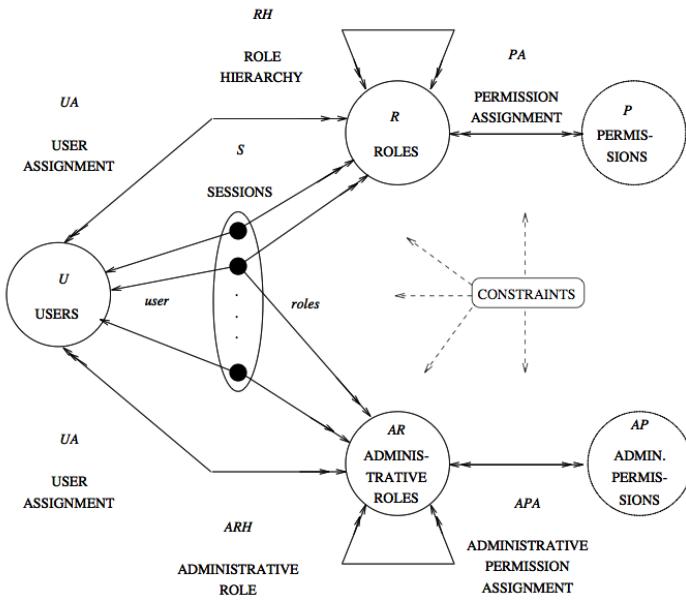
Sandhu and Coyne, 1996; Ferraiolo et al., 2001

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Implementation requirements

- **User Assignment** and **Permission Assignment**

- **view session roles**
 - for displaying a set of roles associated with a session
- **view session permissions**
 - for displaying a set of permissions available in the session
- **view role operations on object**
 - for displaying a set of operations a given role may perform on a given object; and
- **view user operations on object**
 - for displaying a set of operations a given user may perform on a given object



Sandhu and Coyne, 1996; Ferraiolo et al., 2001

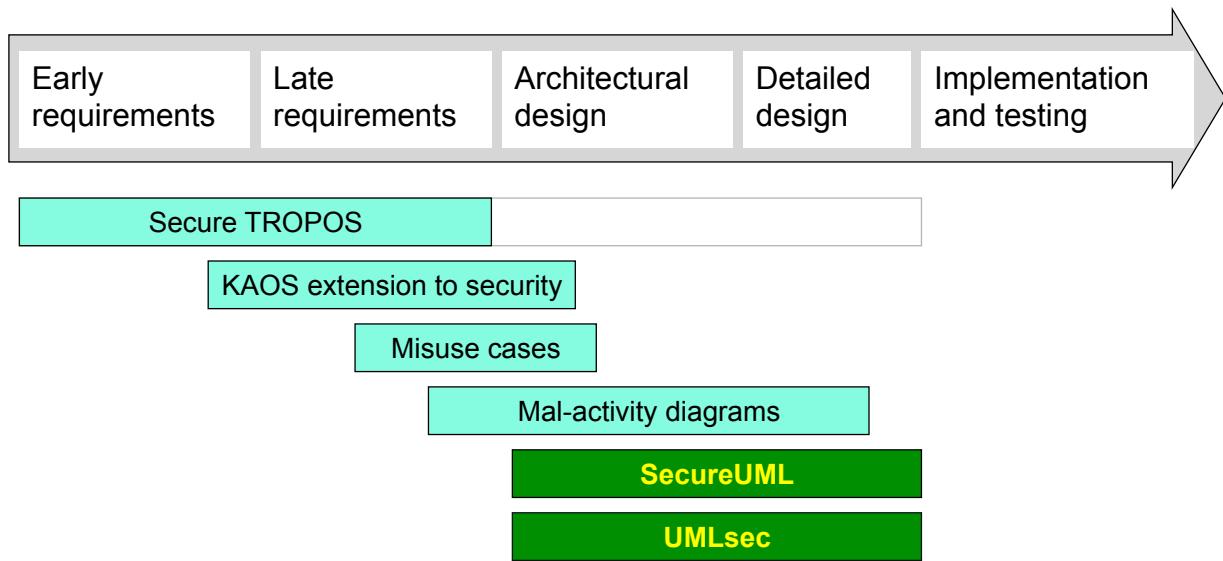
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Security Modelling Languages



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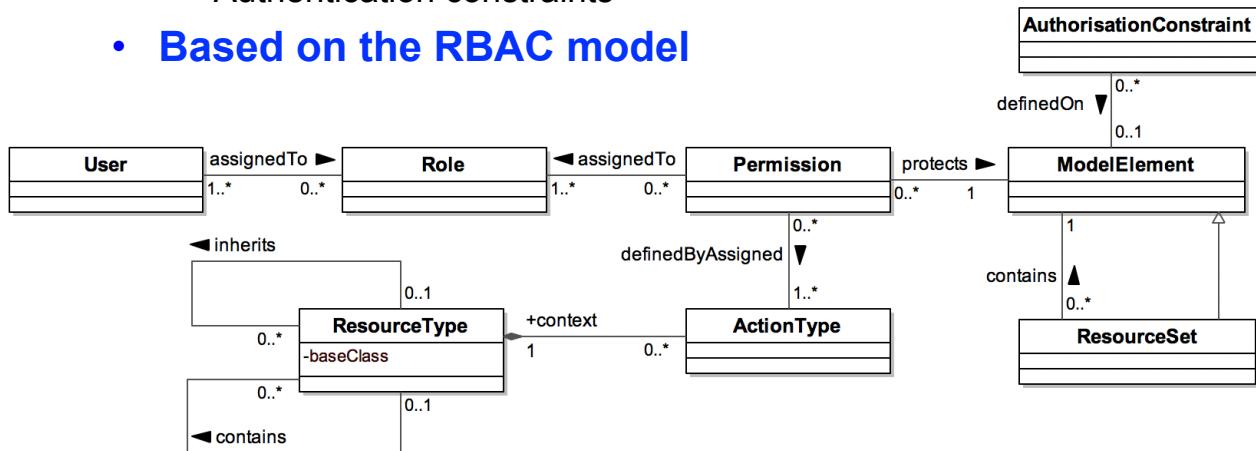
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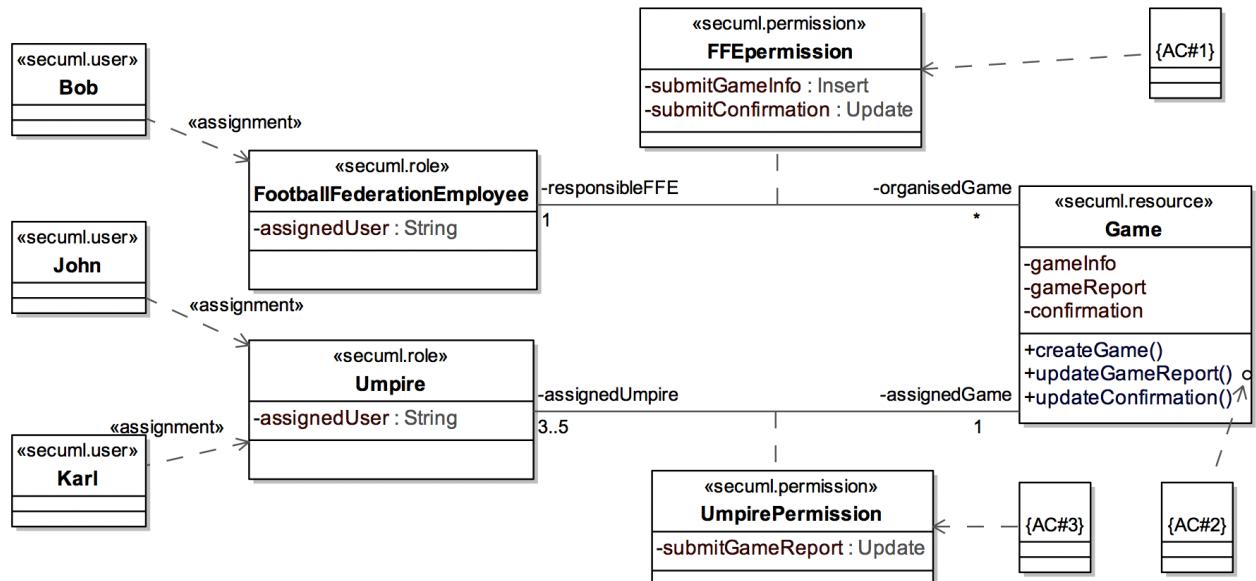
SecureUML

- **Extension of the UML class diagrams**
 - Stereotypes
 - Tagged values
 - Authentication constraints
- **Based on the RBAC model**



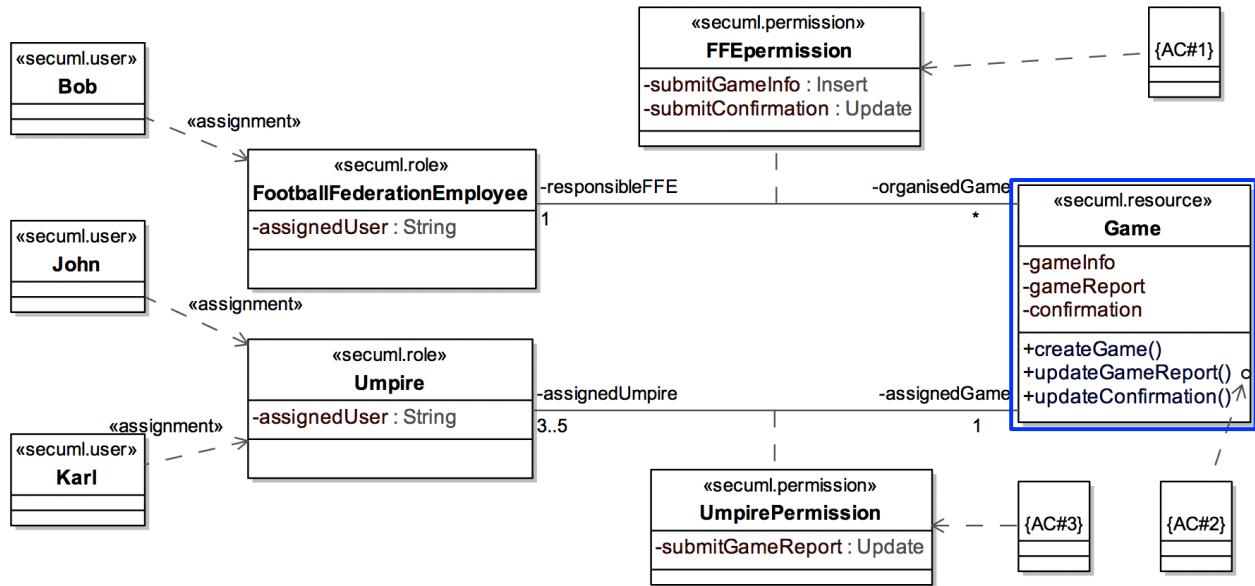
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SecureUML



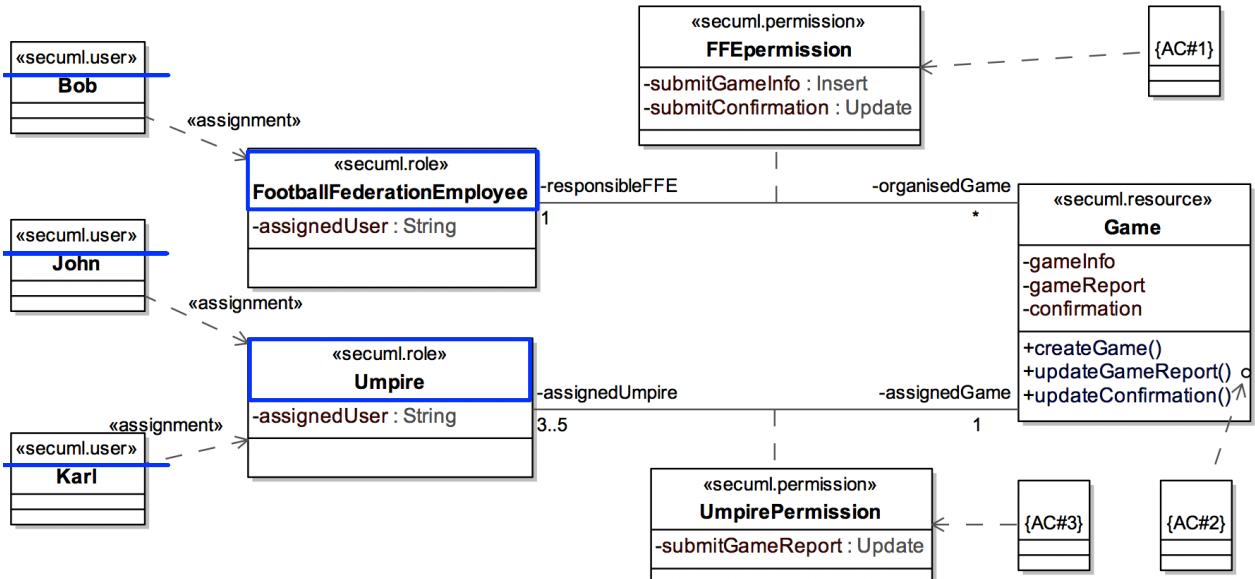
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SecureUML



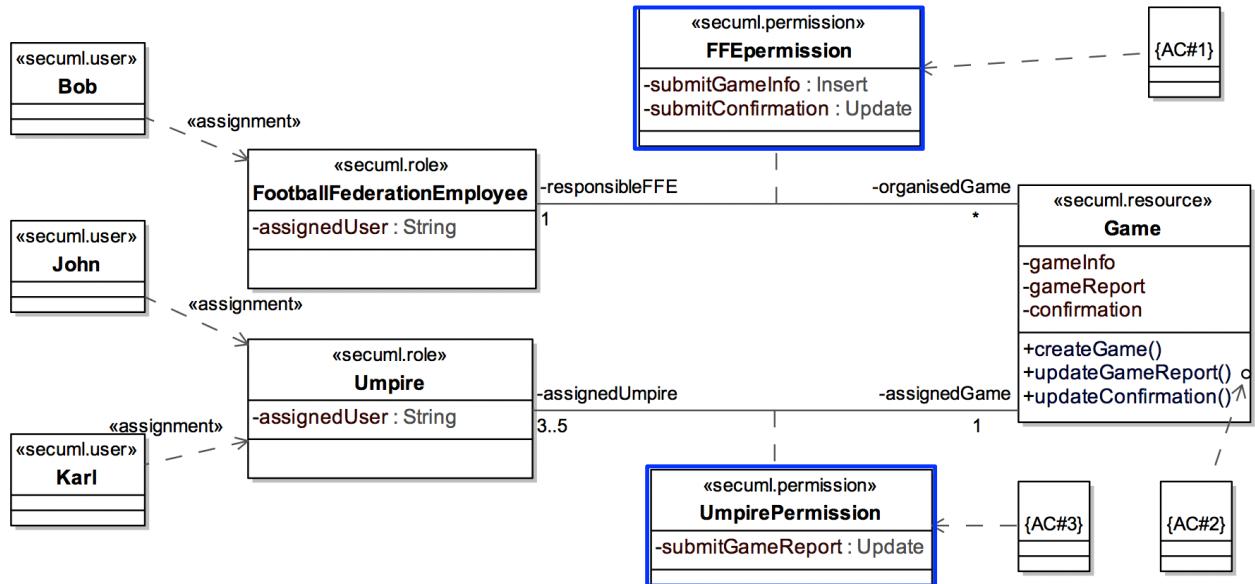
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SecureUML



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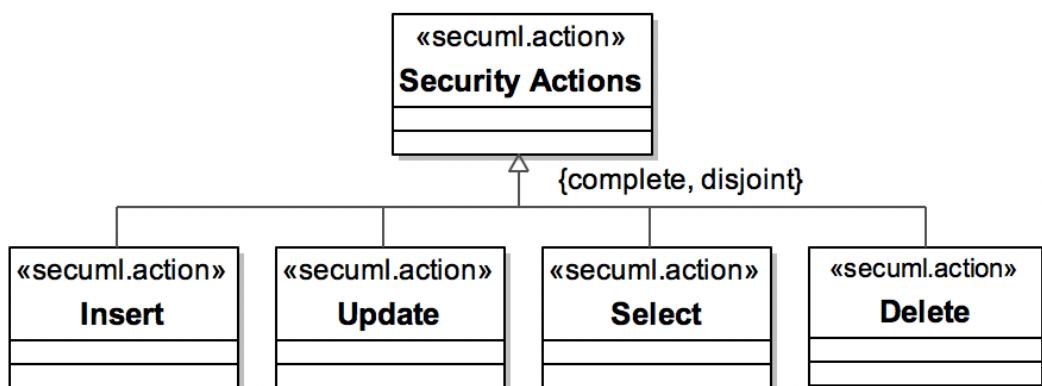
SecureUML



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Access Rules

- **Security actions**



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Authorisation Constraints

AC#1:

```
context Game:: createGame (): void
  pre: self.responsibleFFE.assignedUser ->
    exists(i | i.assignedUser = 'Bob')
```

AC#2:

```
context Game:: updateConfirmation (): void
  pre: self.responsibleFFE.assignedUser ->
    exists(i | i.assignedUser = 'Bob')
```

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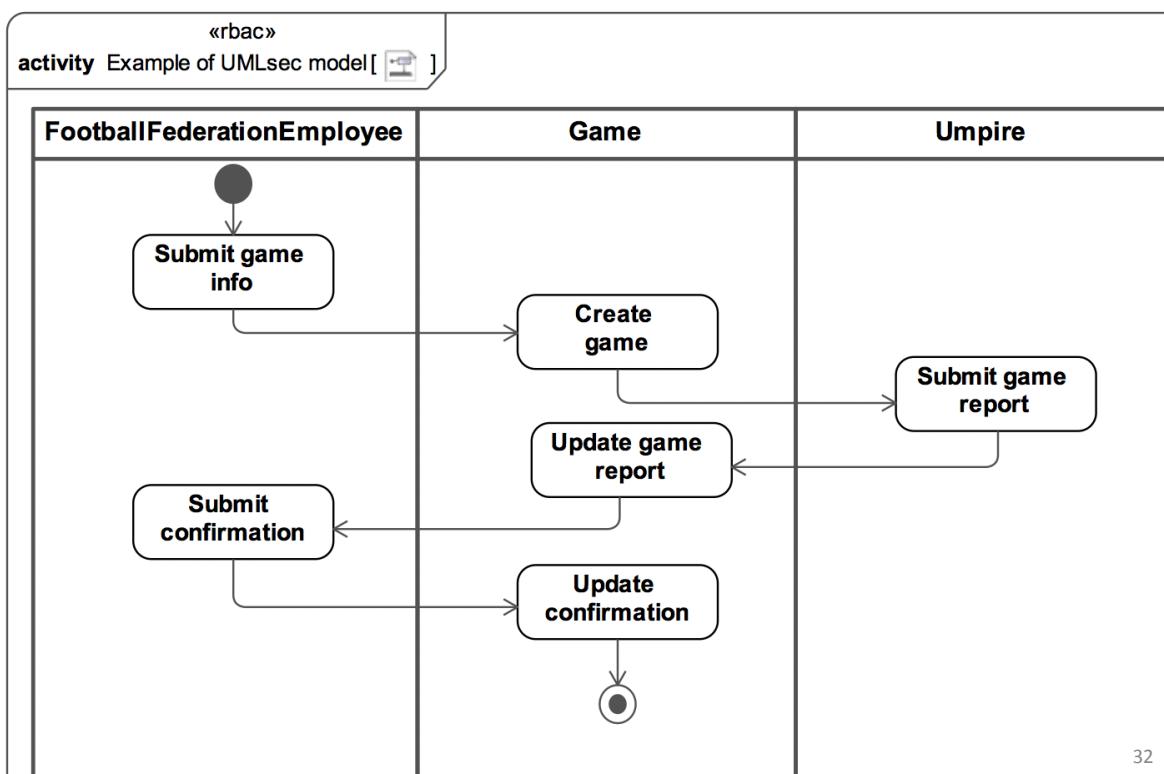
UMLsec

- Extension of the UML diagrams:
 - Stereotypes;
 - Tagged values;
 - Authentication constraints

Stereotype	Base class	Tags	Constraints	Description
fair exchange	subsystem	start, stop, adversary	after start eventually reach stop	Enforce fair exchange
smart card	node	-	-	smart card node
data security	subsystem	adversary, integrity, authenticity	Provides secrecy, integrity, authenticity, freshness	Basic data security constraints
rbac	subsystem	protected, role, right	only permitted activities executed	enforces RBAC

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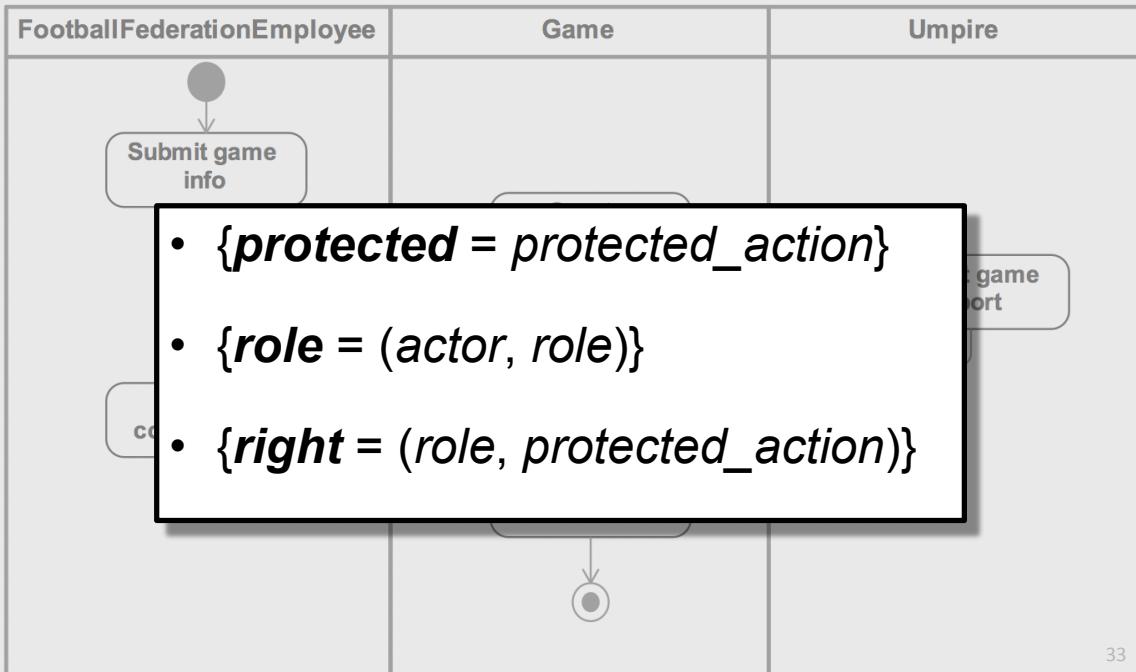
UMLsec



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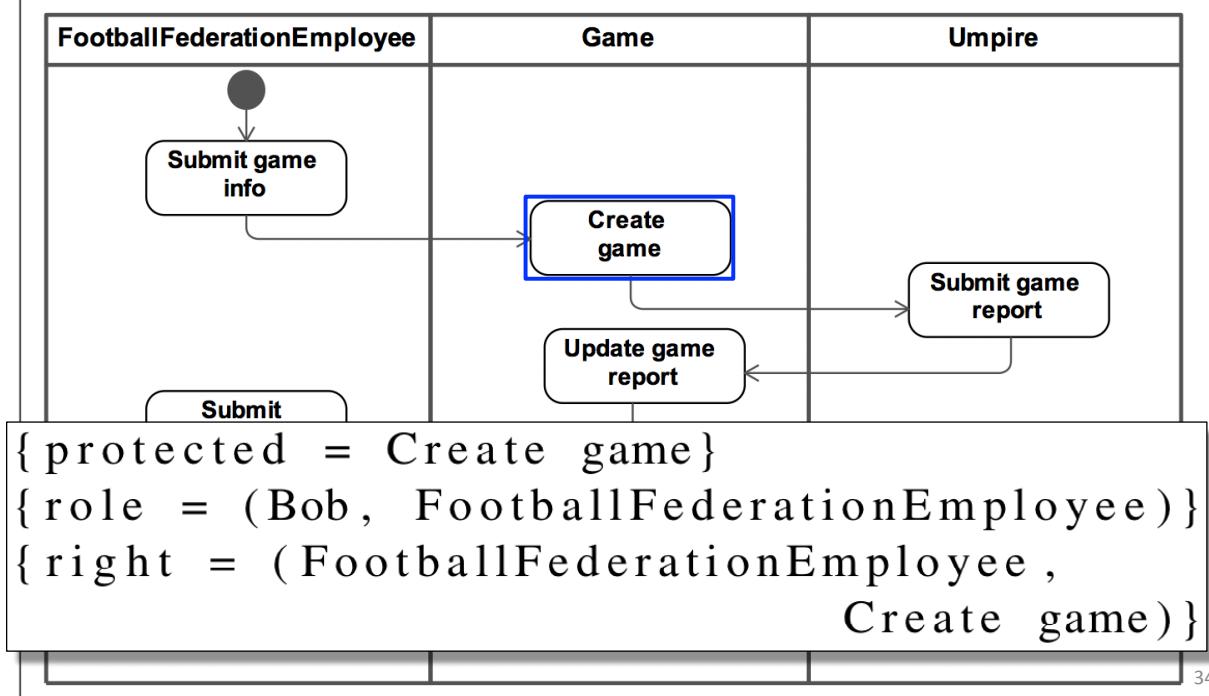
UMLsec

«rbac»
activity Example of UMLsec model []



UMLsec

«rbac»
activity Example of UMLsec model []



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Language comparison

Extension Mechanism

Criteria	SecureUML	UMLsec
Meta-model	Explicit based on the RBAC model	Not explicit as the UML profile extension
UML profile	Mainly <i>class</i> diagram	The whole UML profile i.e., <i>use cases</i> , <i>class</i> , <i>activity</i> , <i>state</i> , <i>component</i> , and other diagrams
Extension	Stereotypes, tagged values and authentication constraints	Stereotypes, tagged values and constraints
Constraints	OC	Constraint language is not identified

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Language comparison

Modelling Targets and Application Guidelines

Criteria	SecureUML	UMLsec
Security criteria	Not identified	Confidentiality, integrity (and derived ones, like authenticity and others)
Security requirements / controls	RBAC	RBAC but also non-repudiations, secure communication links, secrecy and integrity, authenticity, freshness, secure information flows, guard access
Method	Development of the RBAC models	Not explicit but implicitly supports standard security management methods

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Language comparison

Construct Semantics

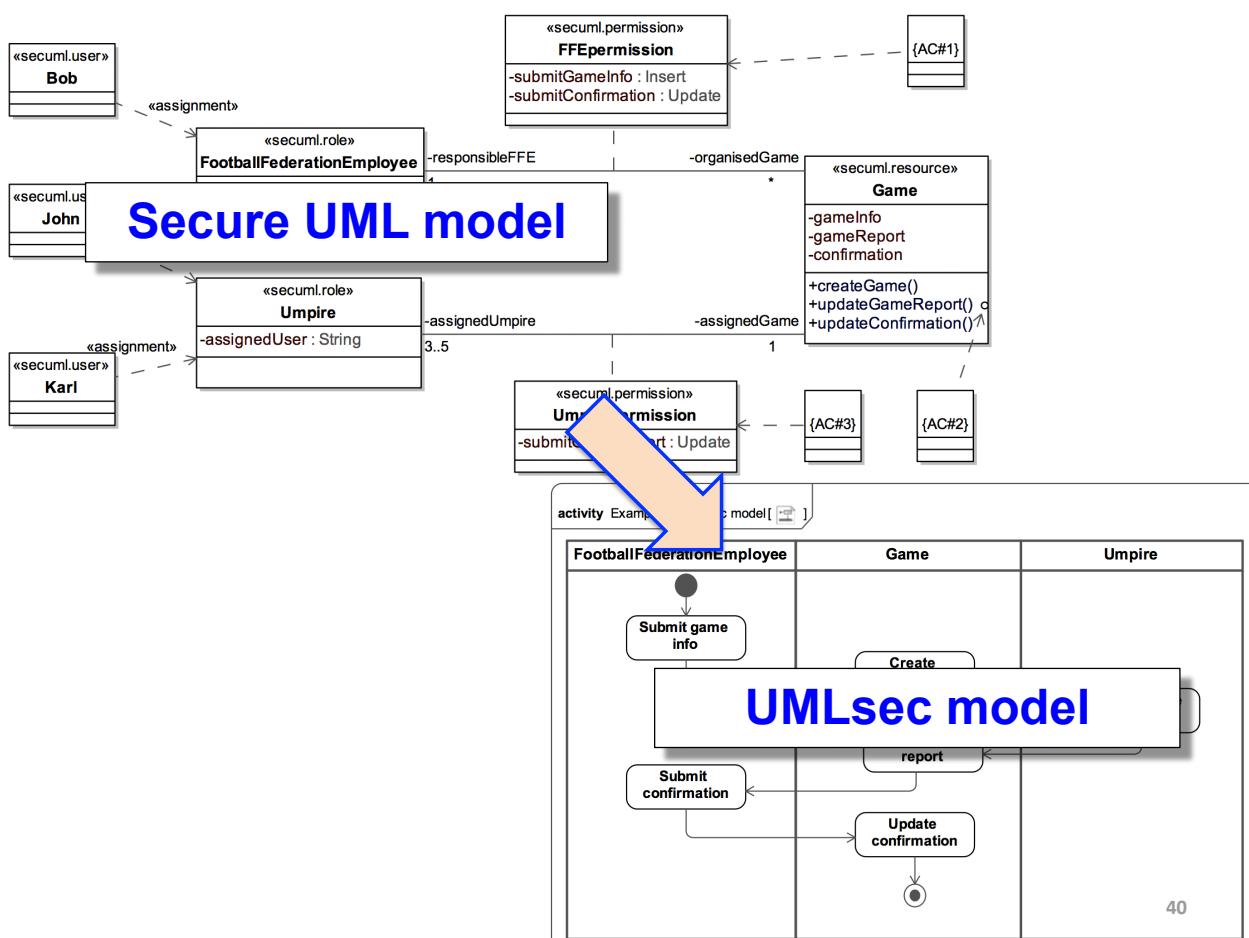
RBAC concepts	SecureUML	UMLsec
User	Class stereotype « <i>secuml.user</i> »	<i>Actor</i> value of association tag { <i>role</i> }
User assignment	Dependency stereotype « <i>assignment</i> »	Associated tag { <i>role</i> }
Roles	Class stereotype « <i>secuml.role</i> »	➤ <i>Activity partition</i> ➤ <i>Role</i> value of association tag { <i>role</i> }
Permission assignment	Association class stereotype « <i>secuml.permission</i> »	➤ <i>Action</i> ➤ Associated tag { <i>right</i> }
Object	Class stereotype « <i>secuml.resource</i> »	<i>Activity partition</i>
Operation	Operation of « <i>secuml.resource</i> » class	➤ <i>Action</i> ➤ Associated tag { <i>protected</i> }
Permission	Authorisation constraints	Not defined

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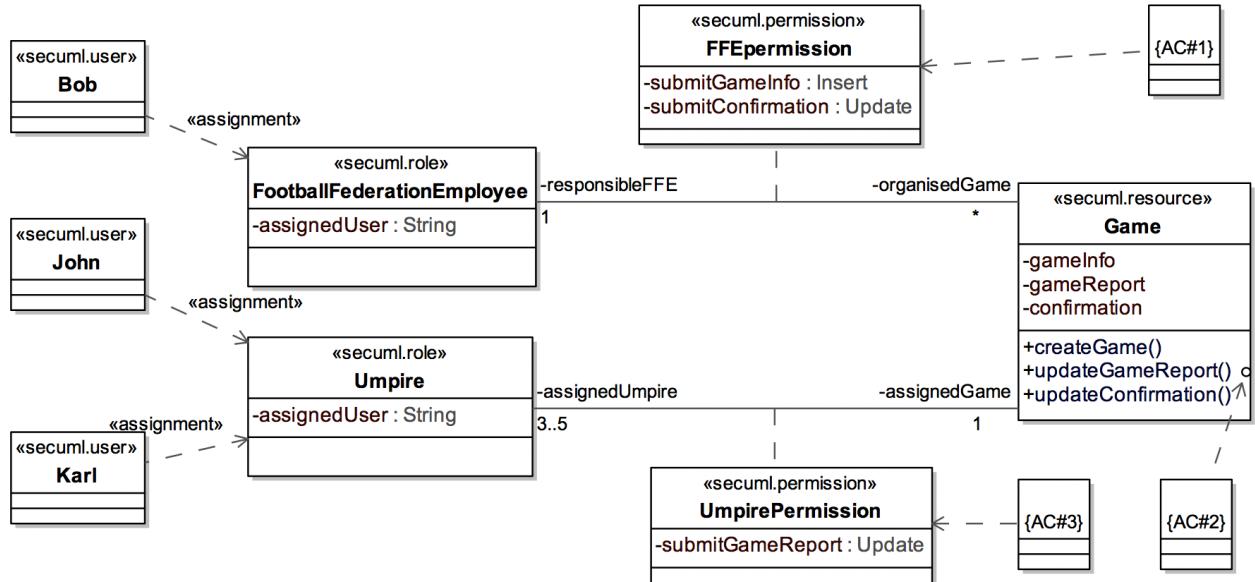
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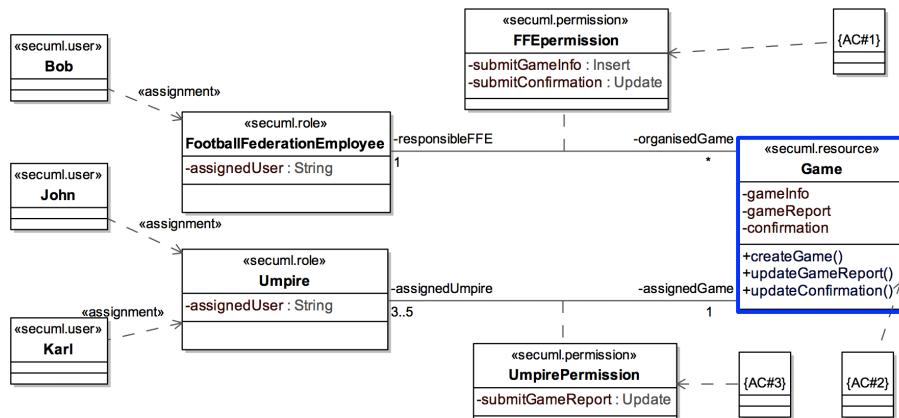
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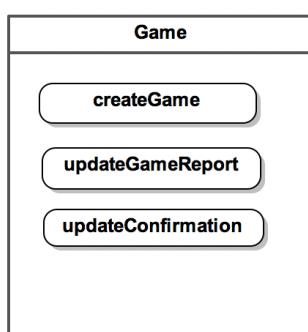
SecureUML model



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- **SU.1:** A class with a stereotype `<<secuml.resource>>` is transformed to an activity partition in the UMLsec model
- *Operations* of this class become *actions* belonging to this partition
 - each operation becomes a value the UMLsec associated tag `{protected}`

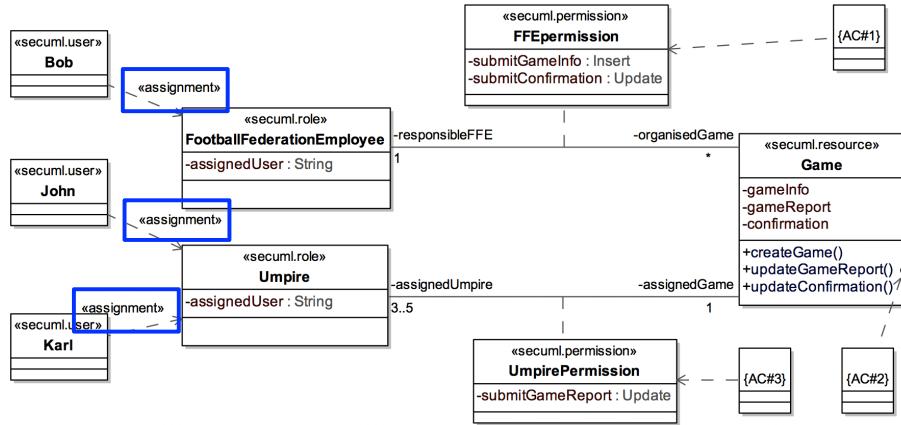


`{protected} = (createGame)`

`{protected} = (updateGameReport)`

`{protected} = (updateConfirmation)`

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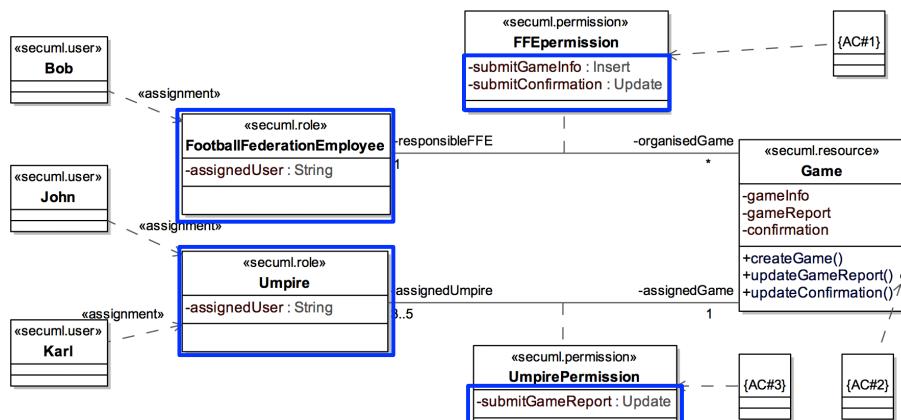
- **SU.2:** A relationship with a stereotype <<**assignment**>> relationship used to connect users and their roles is transformed to an associated tag {**role**}

{**role** = (Bob, FootballFederationEmployee)}

{**role** = (John, Umpire)}

{**role** = (Karl, Umpire)}

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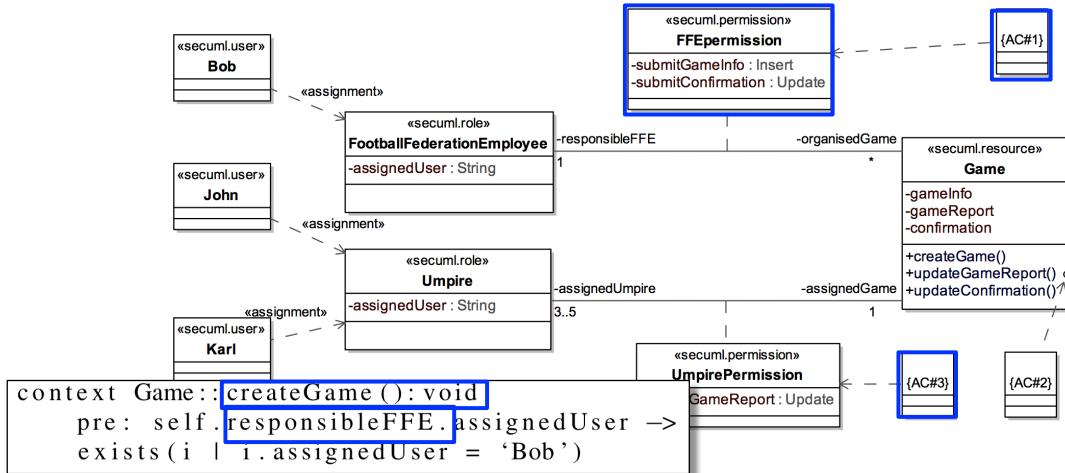


- **SU.3:** A class with the stereotype <<**secuml.roles**>> is transformed to the UMLsec activity partition

- The attributes of an association class that connects the <<**secuml.roles**>> class with <<**secuml.resource**>> class, become actions in the corresponding activity partition

FootballFederationEmployee	Game	Umpire
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">submitGameInfo</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">submitConfirmation</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">createGame</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">updateGameReport</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">updateConfirmation</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">submitGameReport</div>

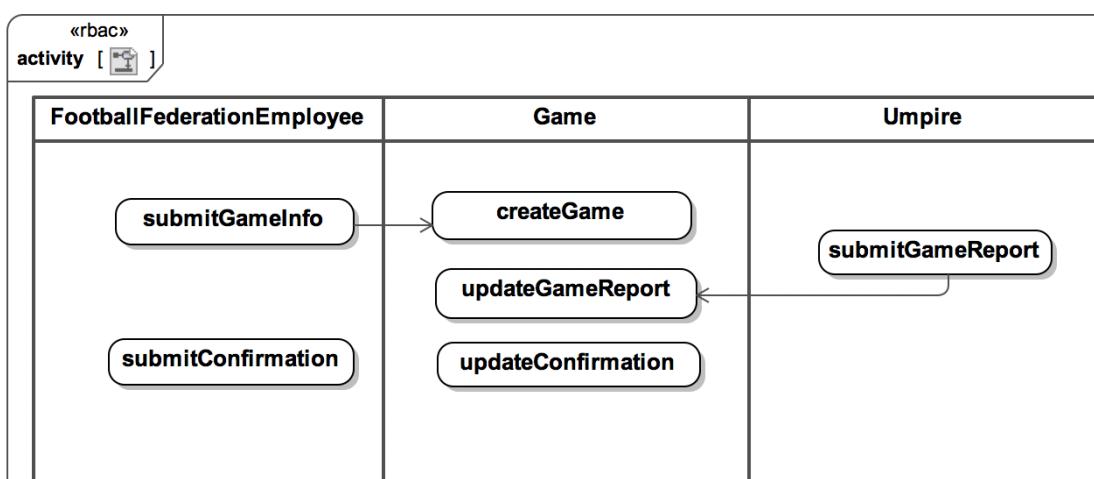
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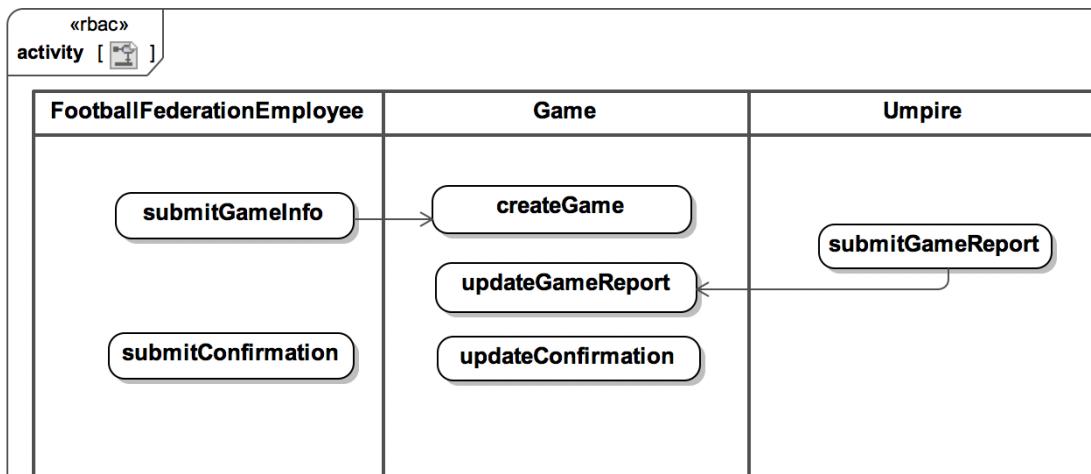
- **SU.4:** The association class with the stereotype <<**secuml.permission**>> defines the *role* value for the associated tag {**right**}
- The value of **right** can be determined from the authorisation constraint defined for the attribute of the SecureUML association class.

{**right** = (FootballFederationEmployee, *createGame*)}
 {**right** = (Umpire, *updateGameReport*)}
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SU.5: Received activity diagram is annotated with the <<**rbac**>> stereotype



UMLsec model



{protected = (createGame)}

{protected = (updateGameReport)}

{protected = (updateConfirmation)}

{right = (FootballFederationEmployee, createGame)}

{right = (Umpire, updateGameReport)}

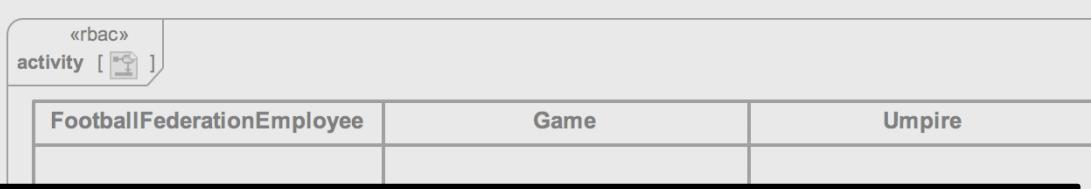
{role = (Bob, FootballFederationEmployee)}

{role = (Karl, Umpire)}

{role = (John, Umpire)}

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UMLsec model



Finish the transformation manually

- Define initial and final activity nodes
- Identify logical sequence of activities
 - Specify missing control flows
 - Identify missing conditions
- Define missing and assembly existing association tags

{protected = (updateGameReport)}

{right = (Umpire, updateGameReport)}

{protected = (updateConfirmation)}

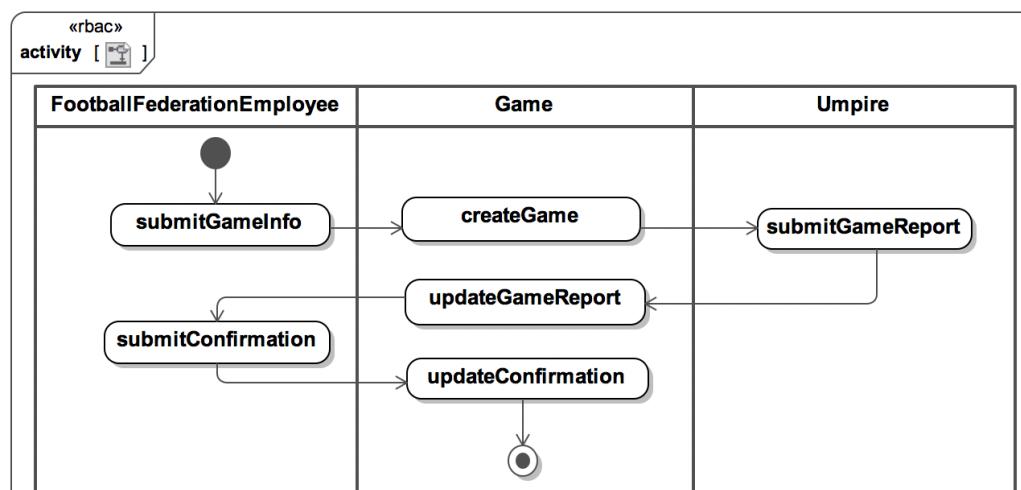
{role = (Bob, FootballFederationEmployee)}

{role = (Karl, Umpire)}

{role = (John, Umpire)}

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UMLsec model



{protected = (createGame)}

{right = (FootballFederationEmployee, createGame)}

{role = (Bob, FootballFederationEmployee)}

{protected = (updateGameReport)}

{right = (Umpire, updateGameReport)}

{role = (John, Umpire)}

{protected = (updateConfirmation)}

{right = (FootballFederationEmployee, updateConfirmation)}

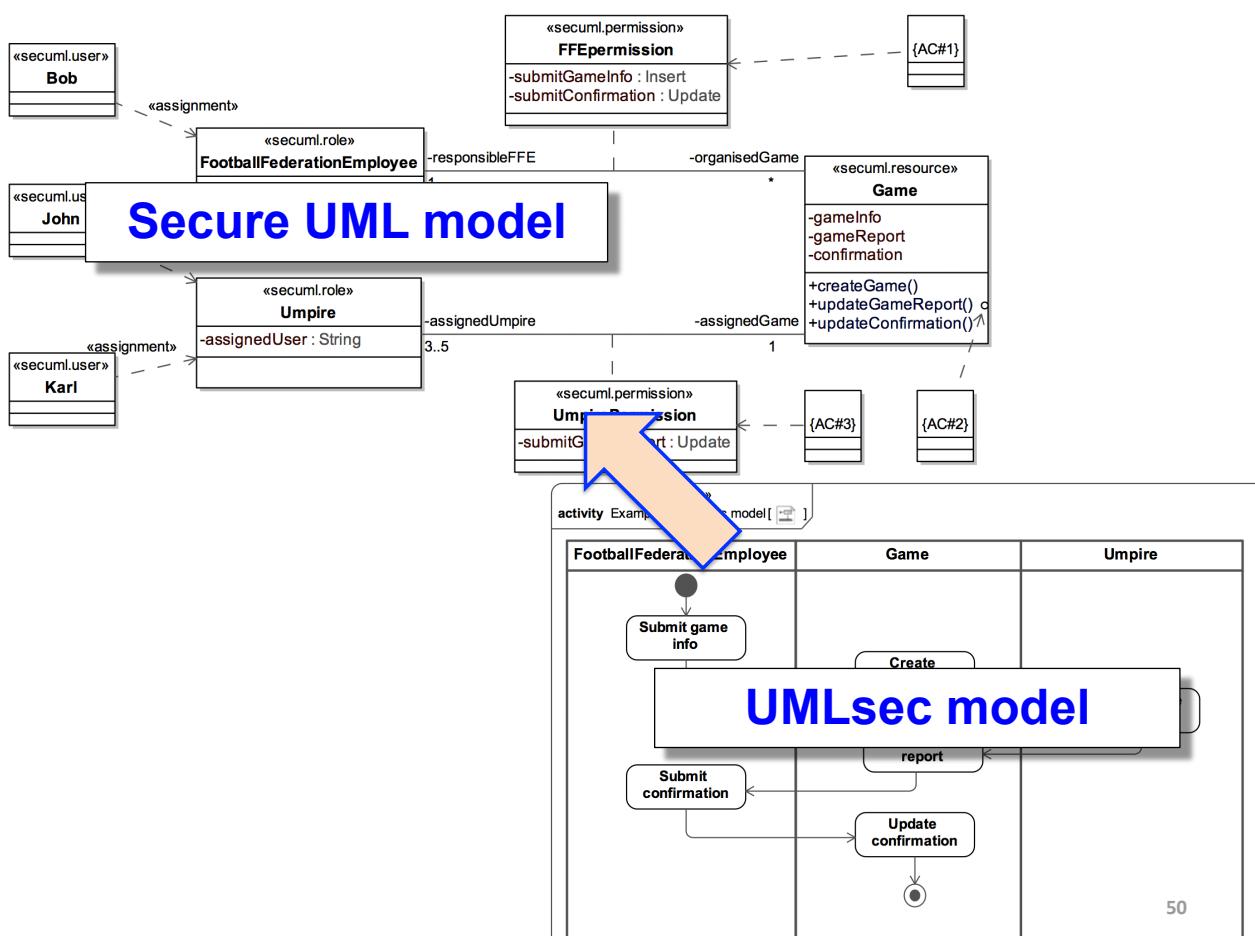
{role = (Bob, FootballFederationEmployee)}

{protected = (updateGameReport)}

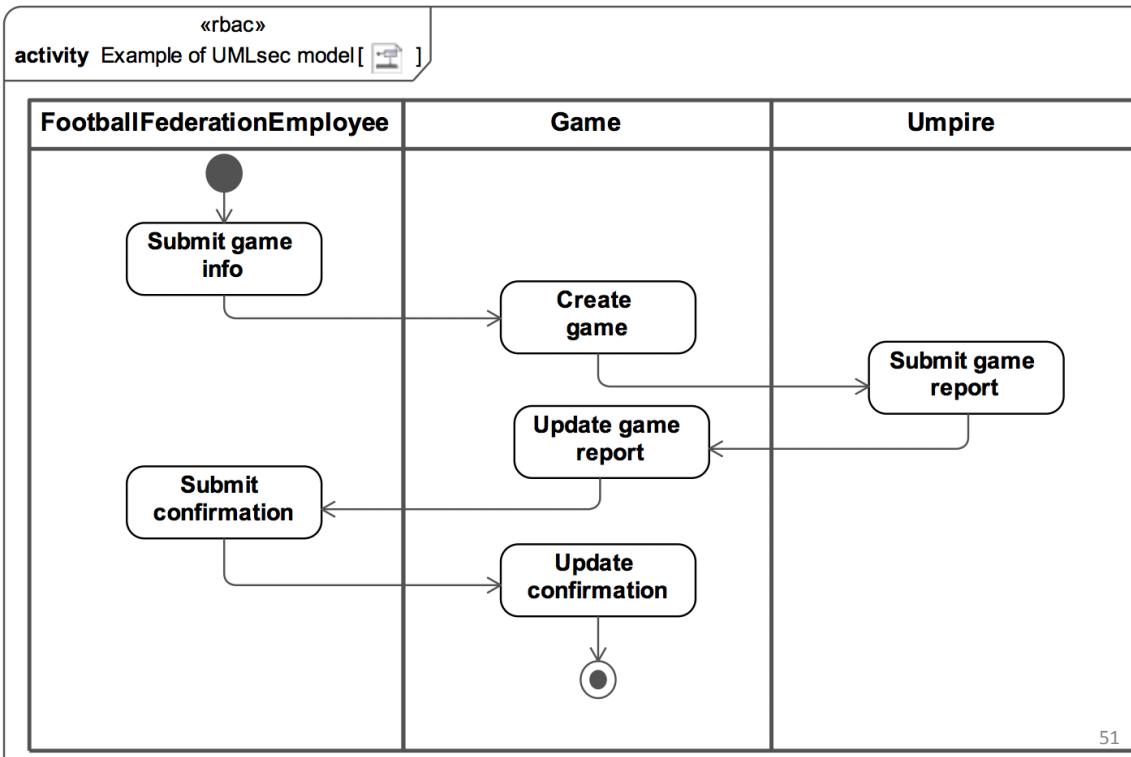
{right = (Umpire, updateGameReport)}

{role = (Karl, Umpire)}

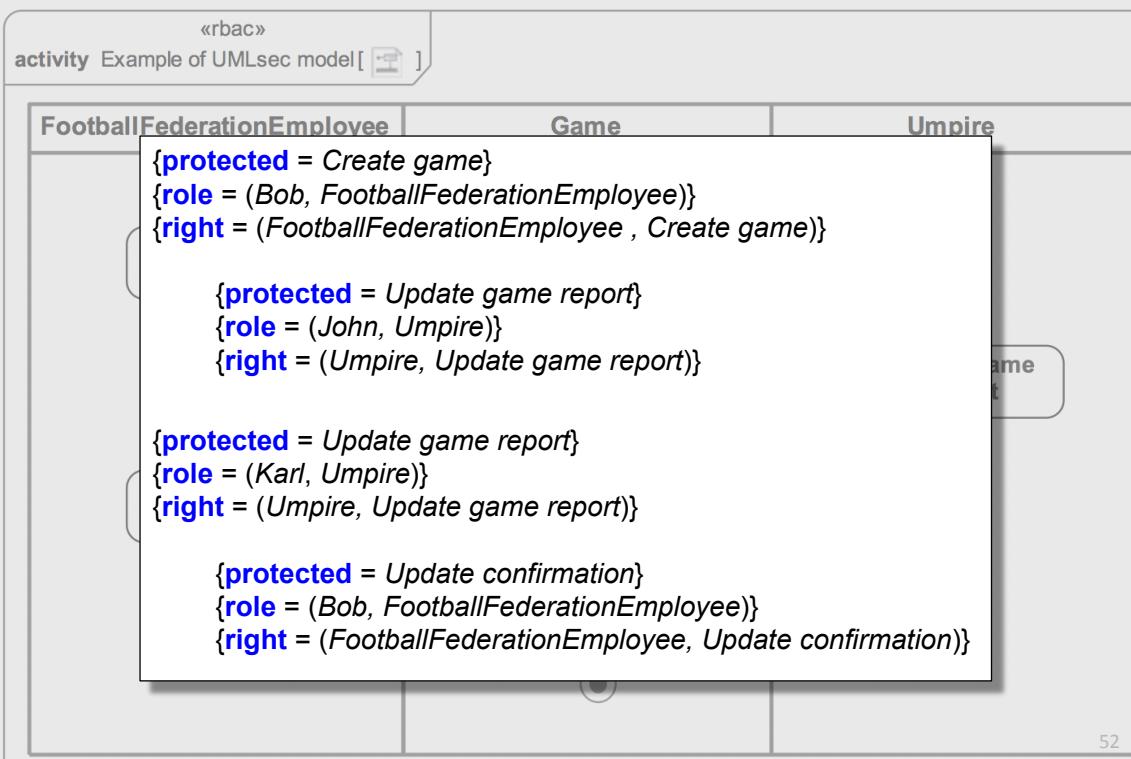
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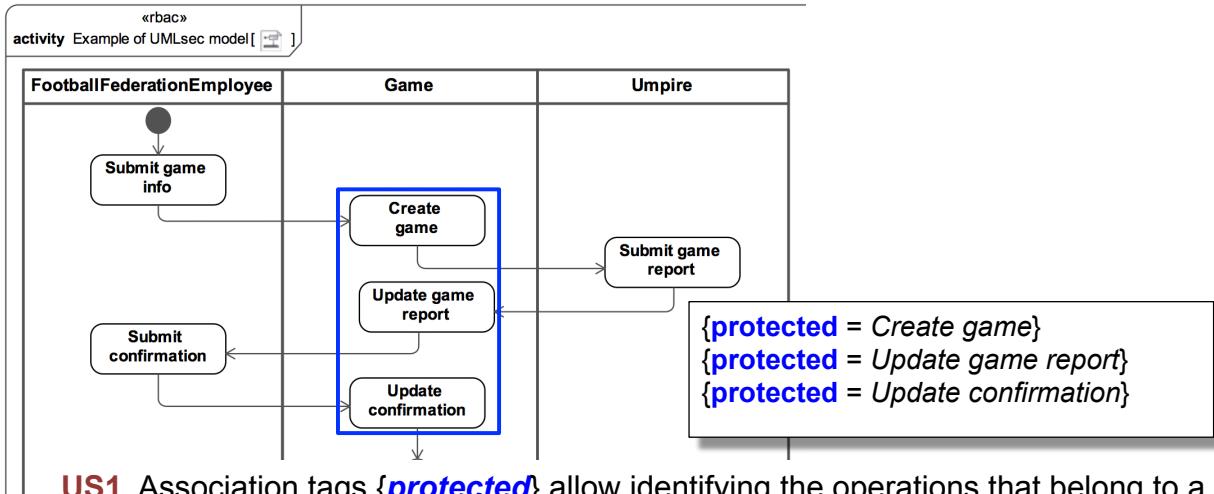


UMLsec model



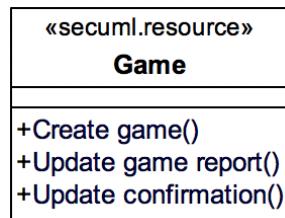
UMLsec model



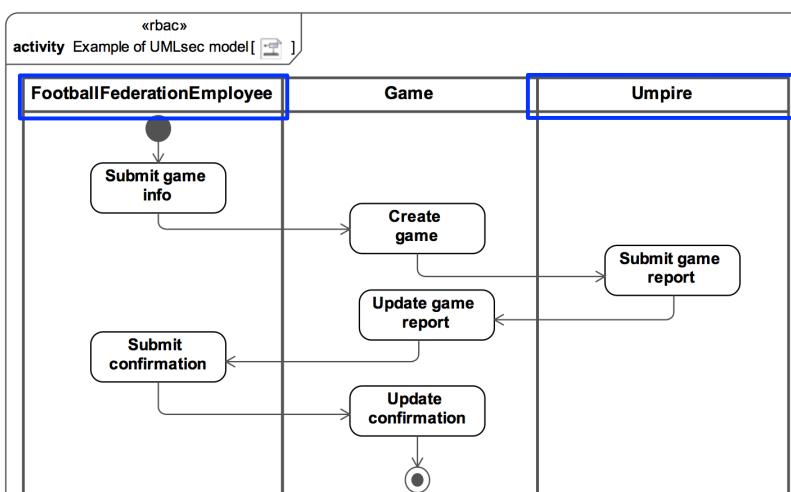


US1. Association tags **{protected}** allow identifying the operations that belong to a secured resource.

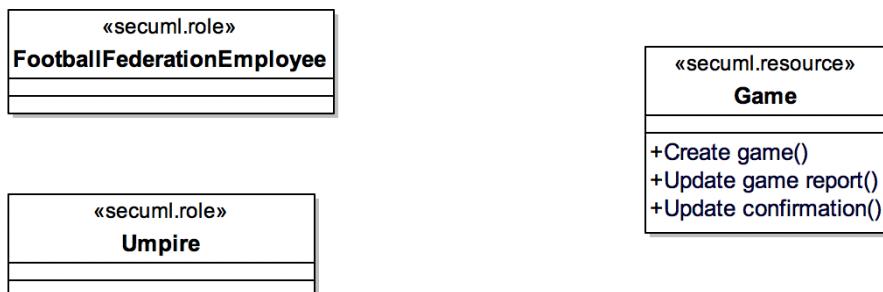
- The activity partitions which hold these operations are transformed to the SecureUML class with a stereotype **«secuml.resource»**.



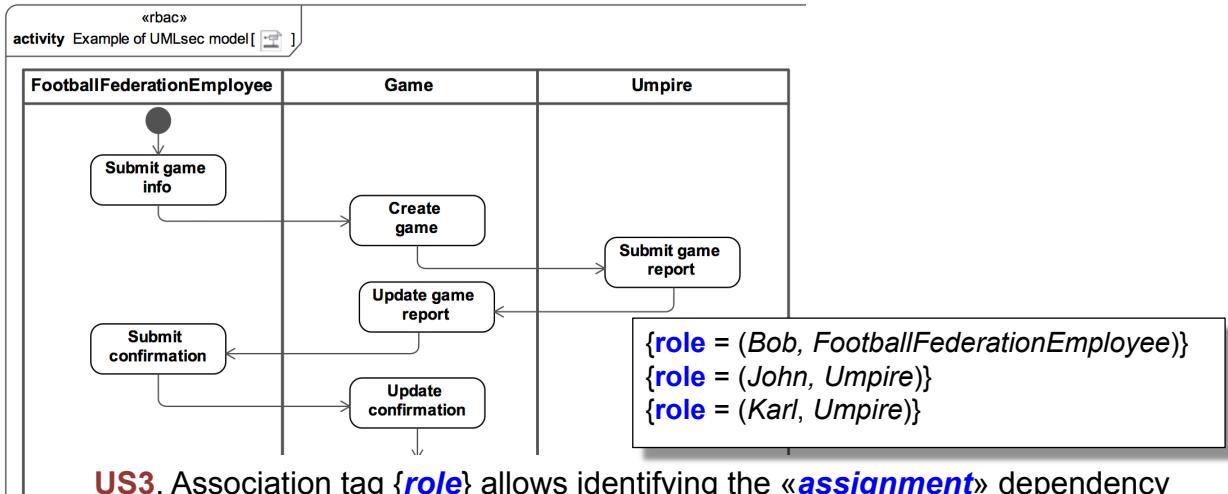
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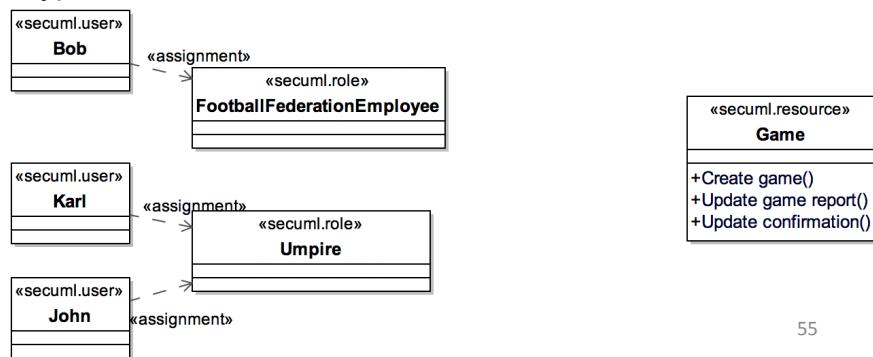
US2. The UMLsec activity partitions which do not hold secured protected actions can be transformed to **«secuml.role»** stereotyped classes.



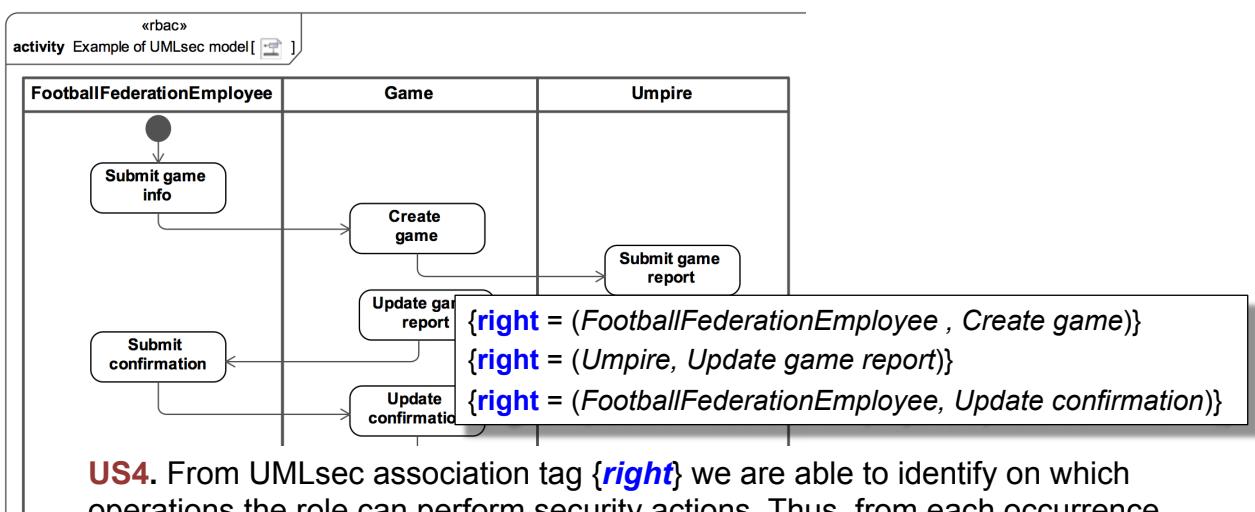
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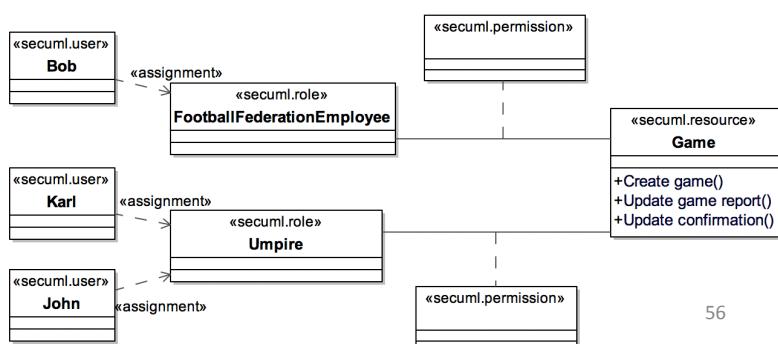
US3. Association tag **{role}** allows identifying the «**assignment**» dependency relationship between classes with a stereotype «**secuml.user**» and their «**secuml.role**» stereotypes



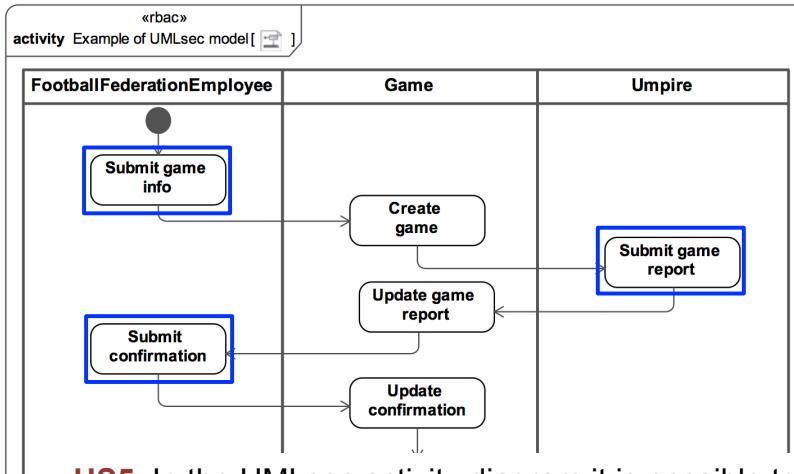
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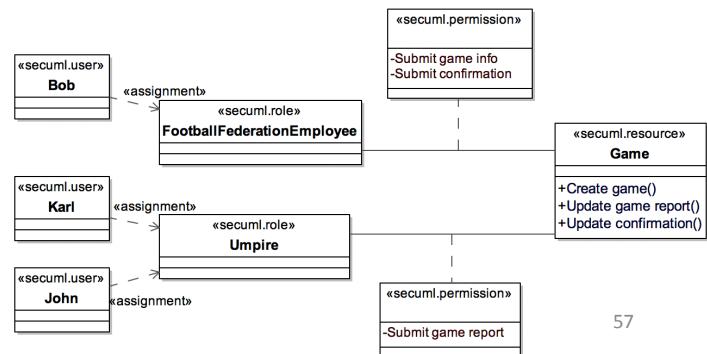
US4. From UMLsec association tag **{right}** we are able to identify on which operations the role can perform security actions. Thus, from each occurrence of this association tag in the SecureUML model, a corresponding association class between a «**umlsec.role**» and a «**umlsec.resource**» is introduced



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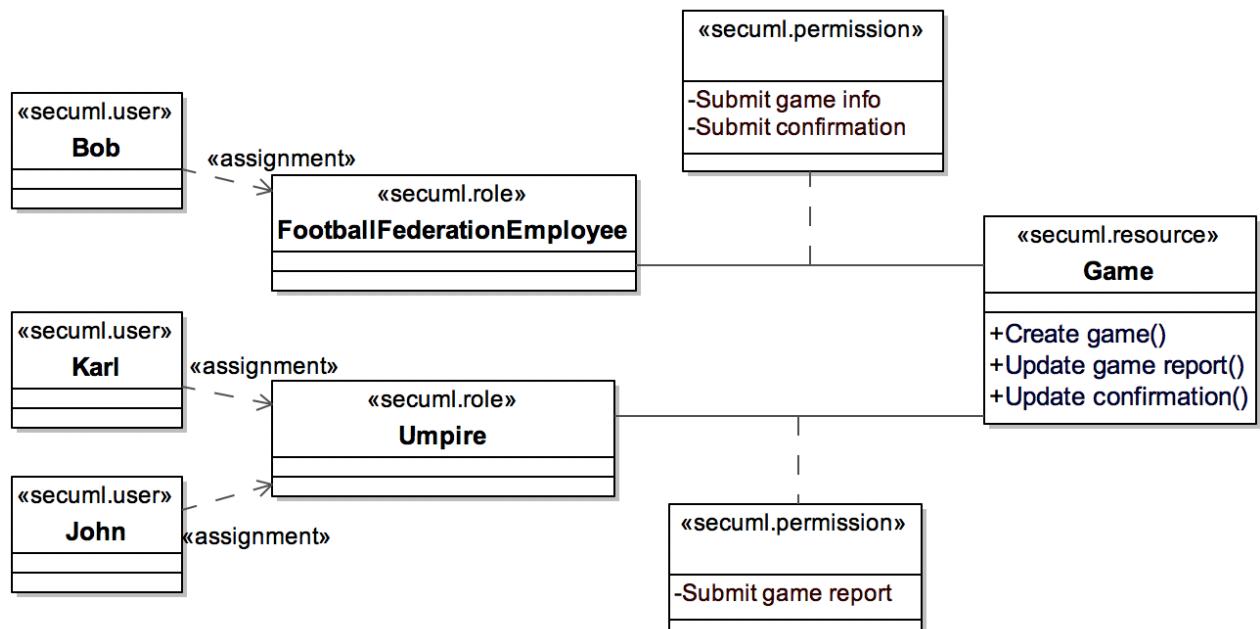


US5. In the UMLsec activity diagram it is possible to identify the security actions that are carried towards the secured operations: these are unprotected actions performed before the protected ones.



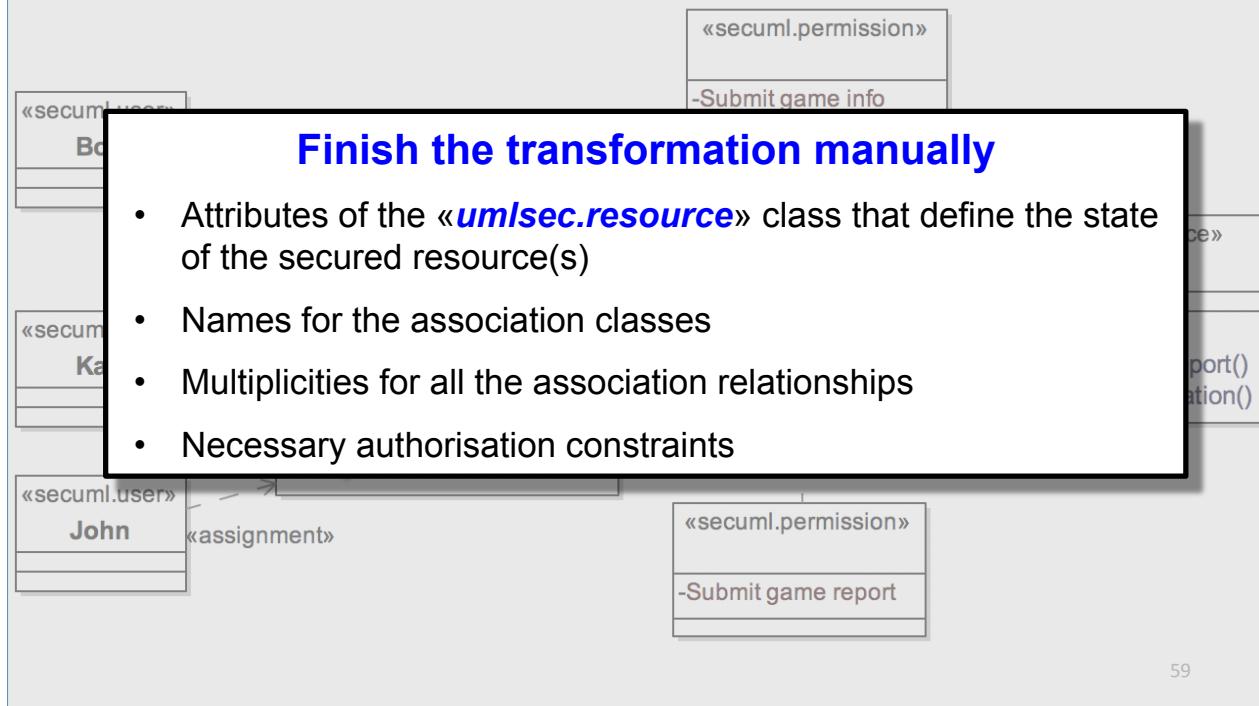
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SecureUML model

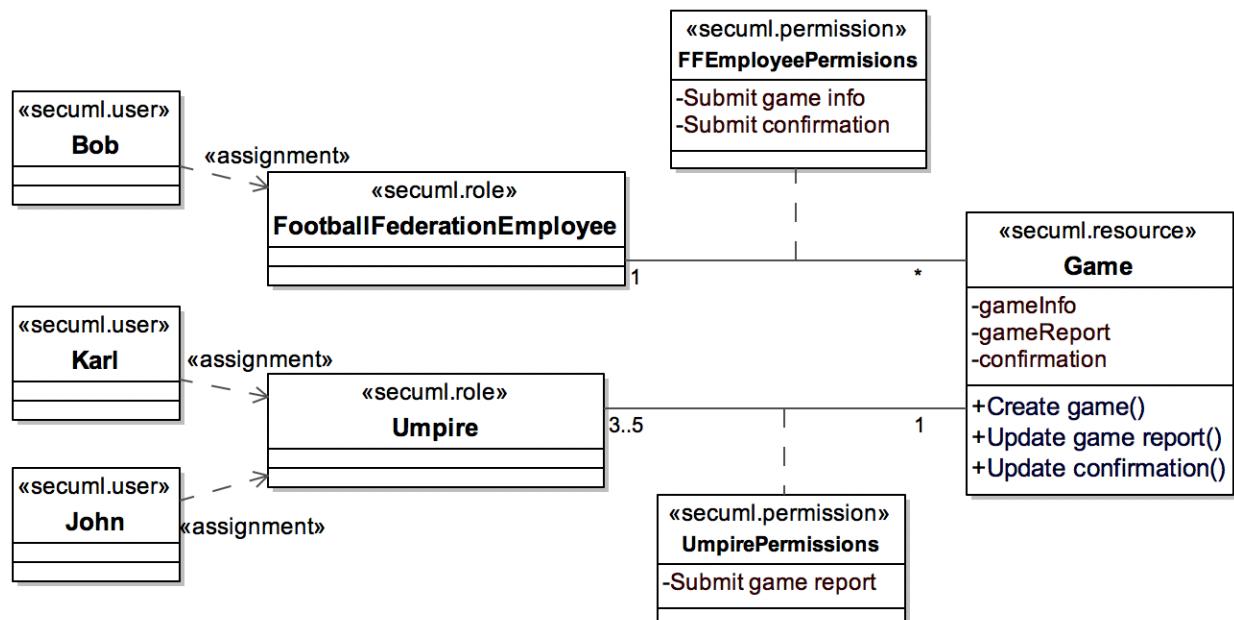


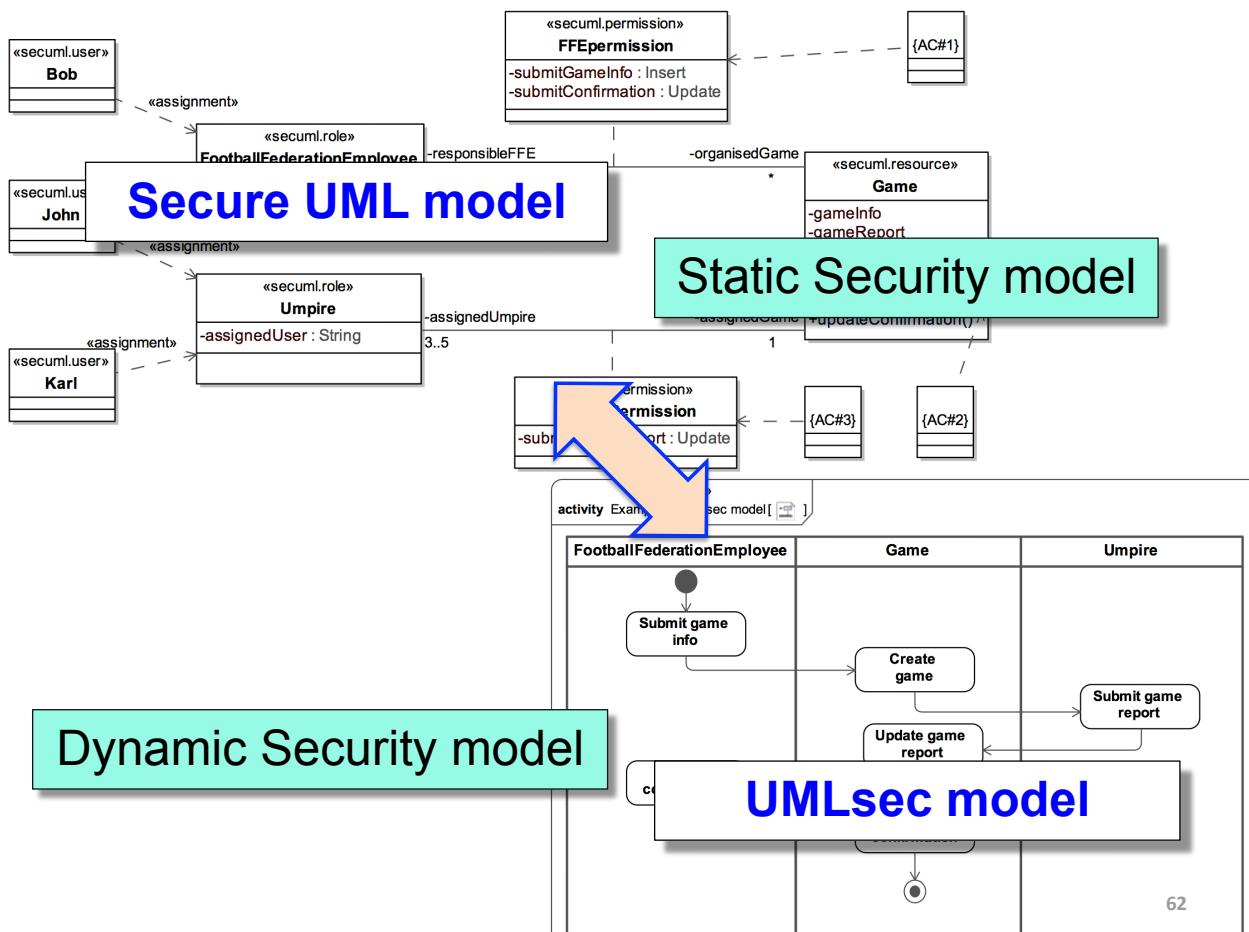
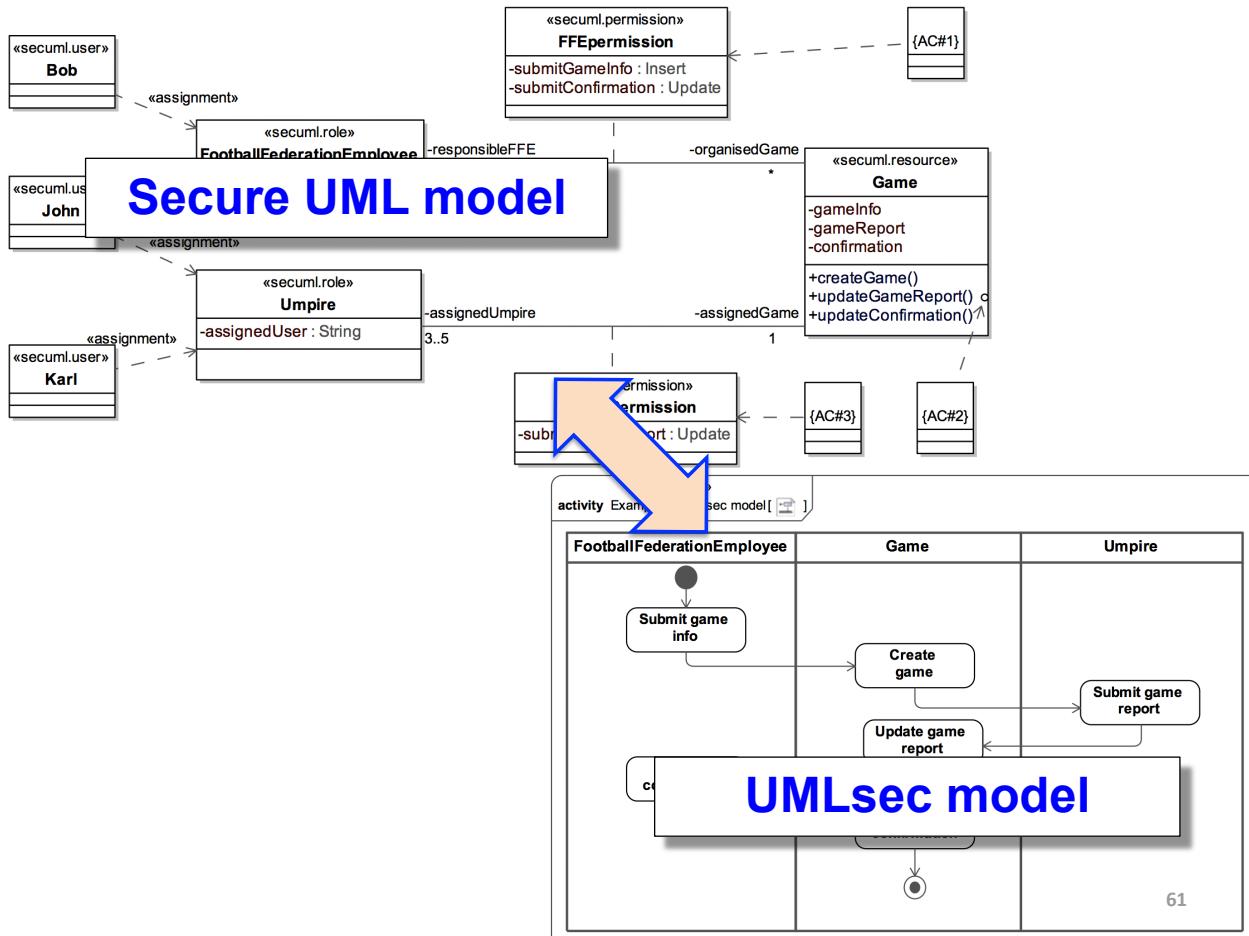
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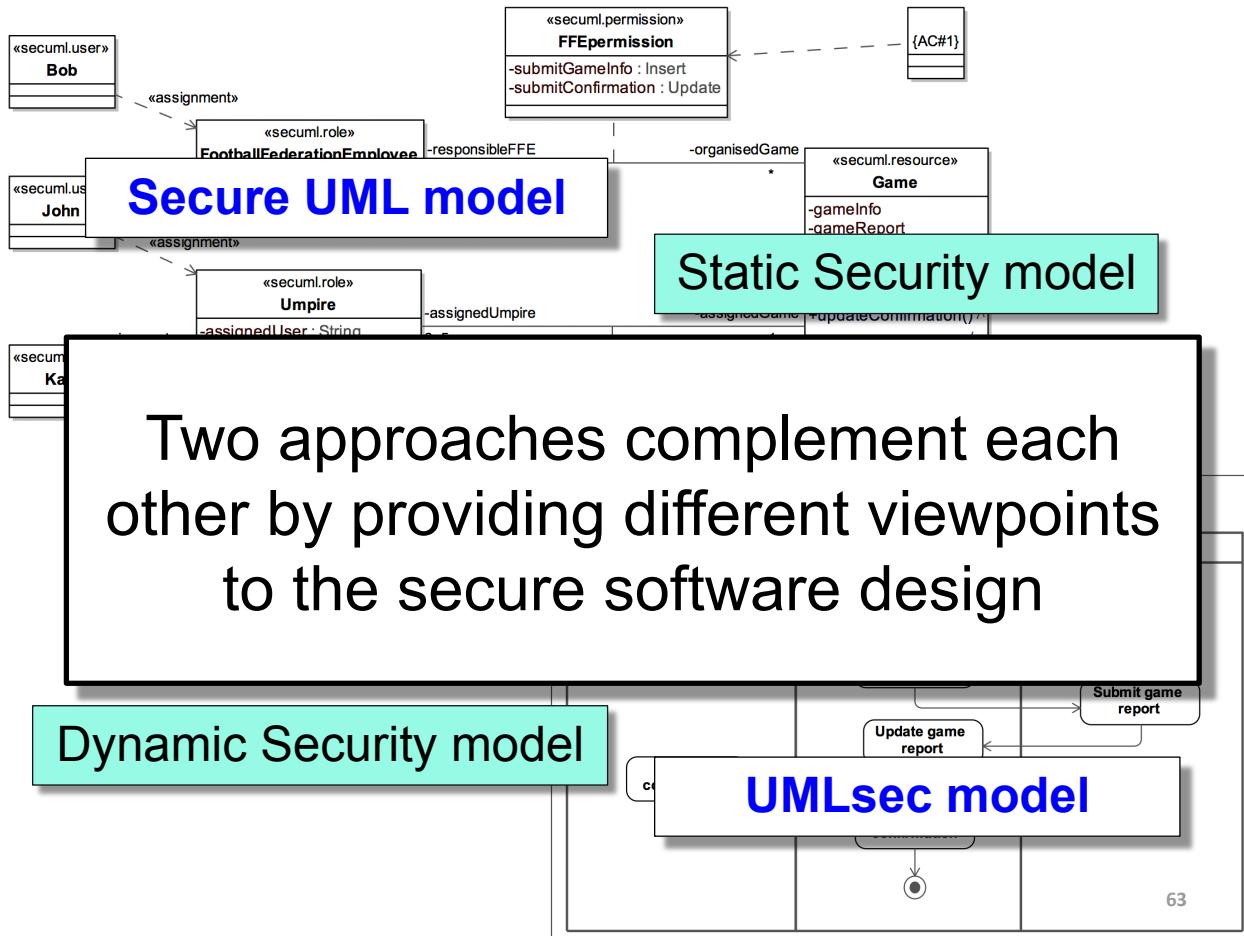
SecureUML model



SecureUML model







Outline

- Principles of role-based access control
- RBAC implementation requirements
- RBAC modelling languages
 - SecureUML
 - UMLsec
 - Language comparison
 - Transformation
- Model-driven security
 - **Model-driven development**
 - Security model transformation
- Further reading

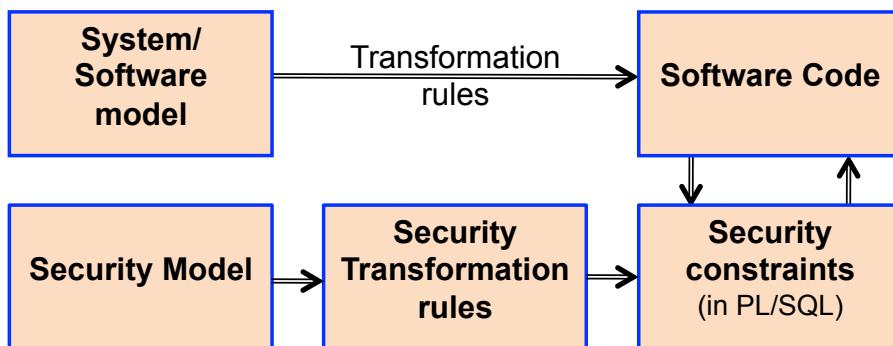
Model Driven Development



- Definition of the system/software model
- Systematic development of the set of the transformation rules
- Application of these rules to generate executable software code from the model

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Model Driven Security



- Security model is translated to security code
- Software code and security code are generated into system architectures

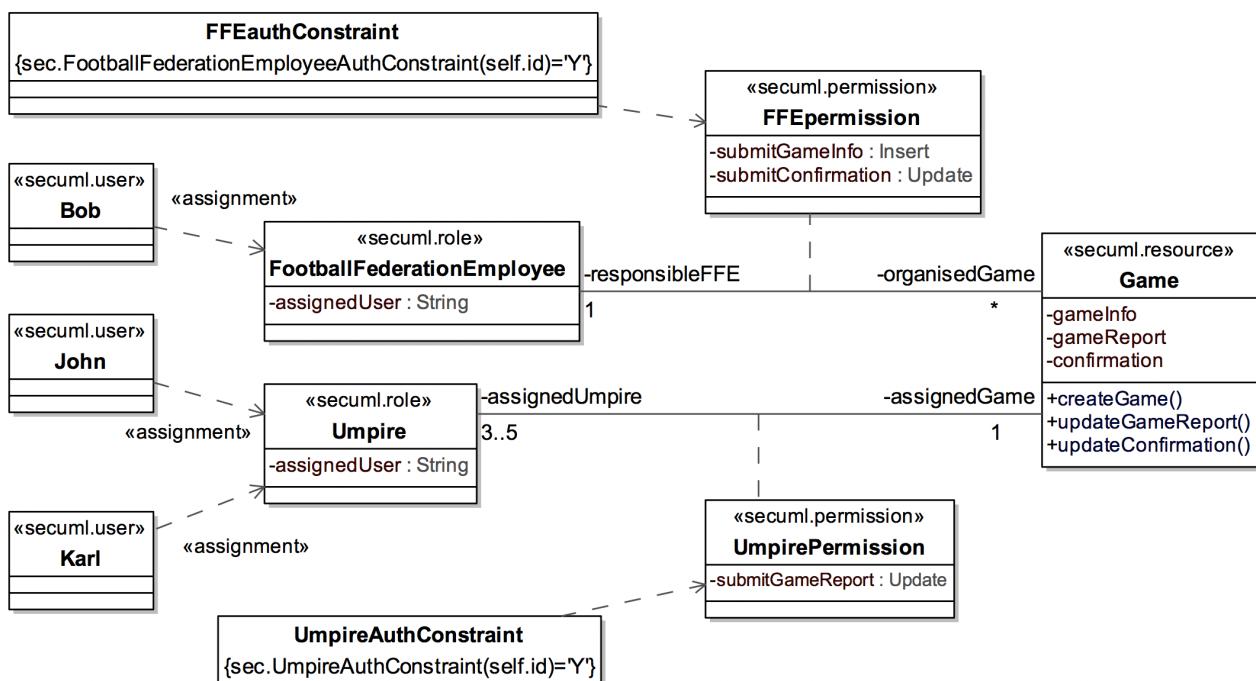
66

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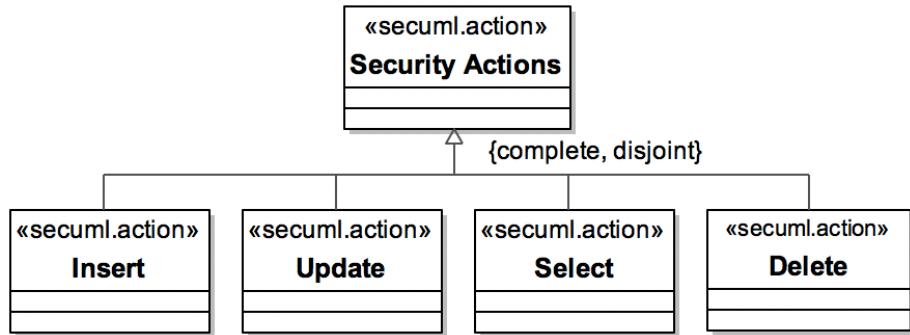
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Security Model

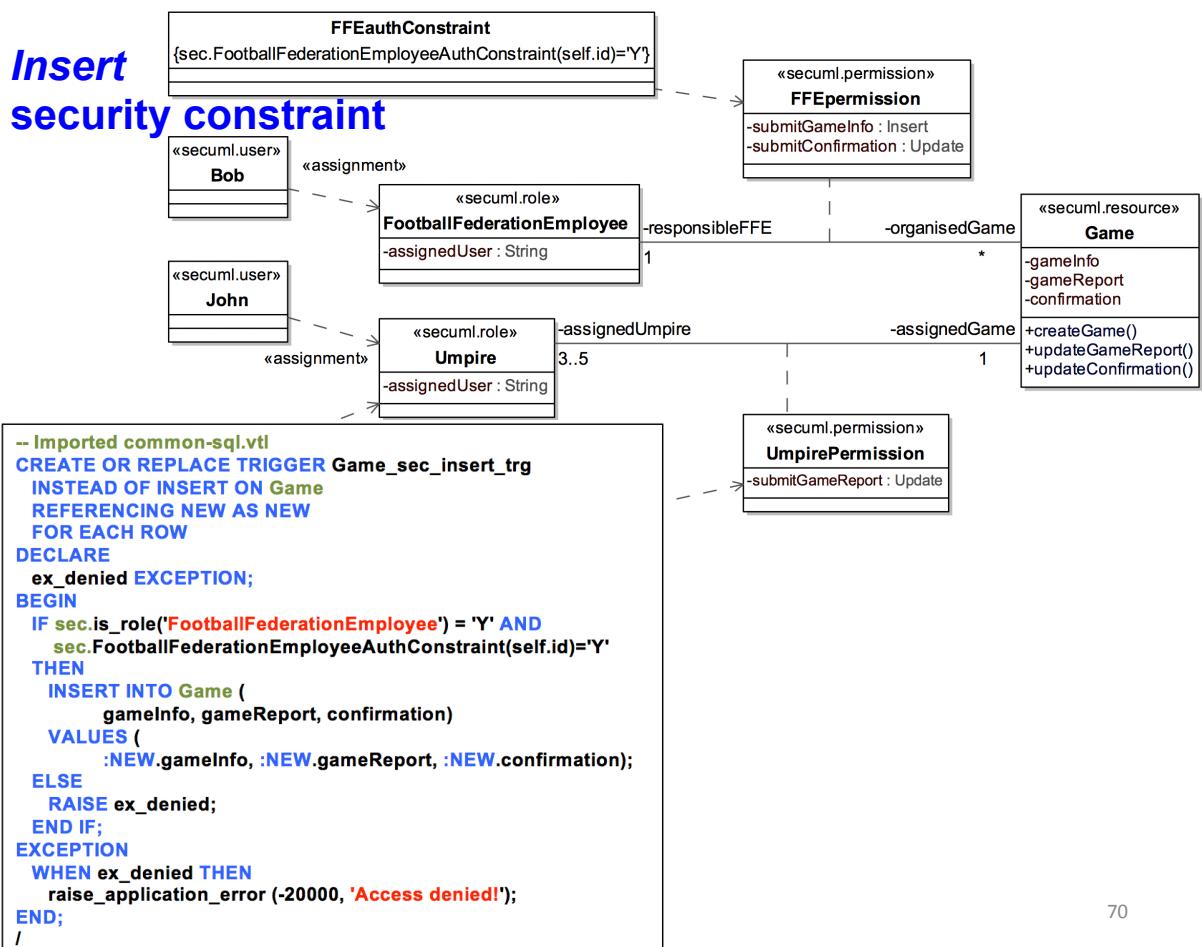


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Security transformation rules

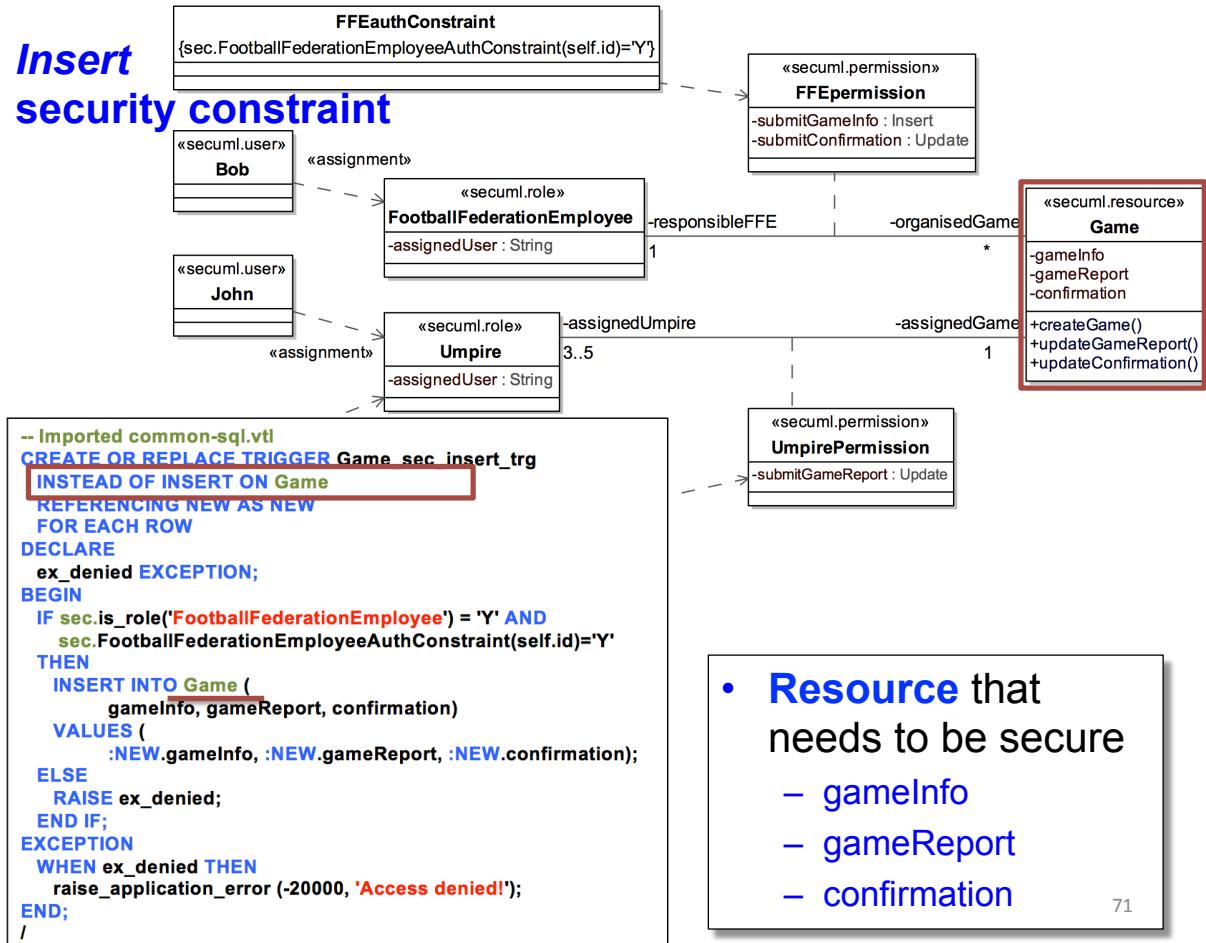


69



70

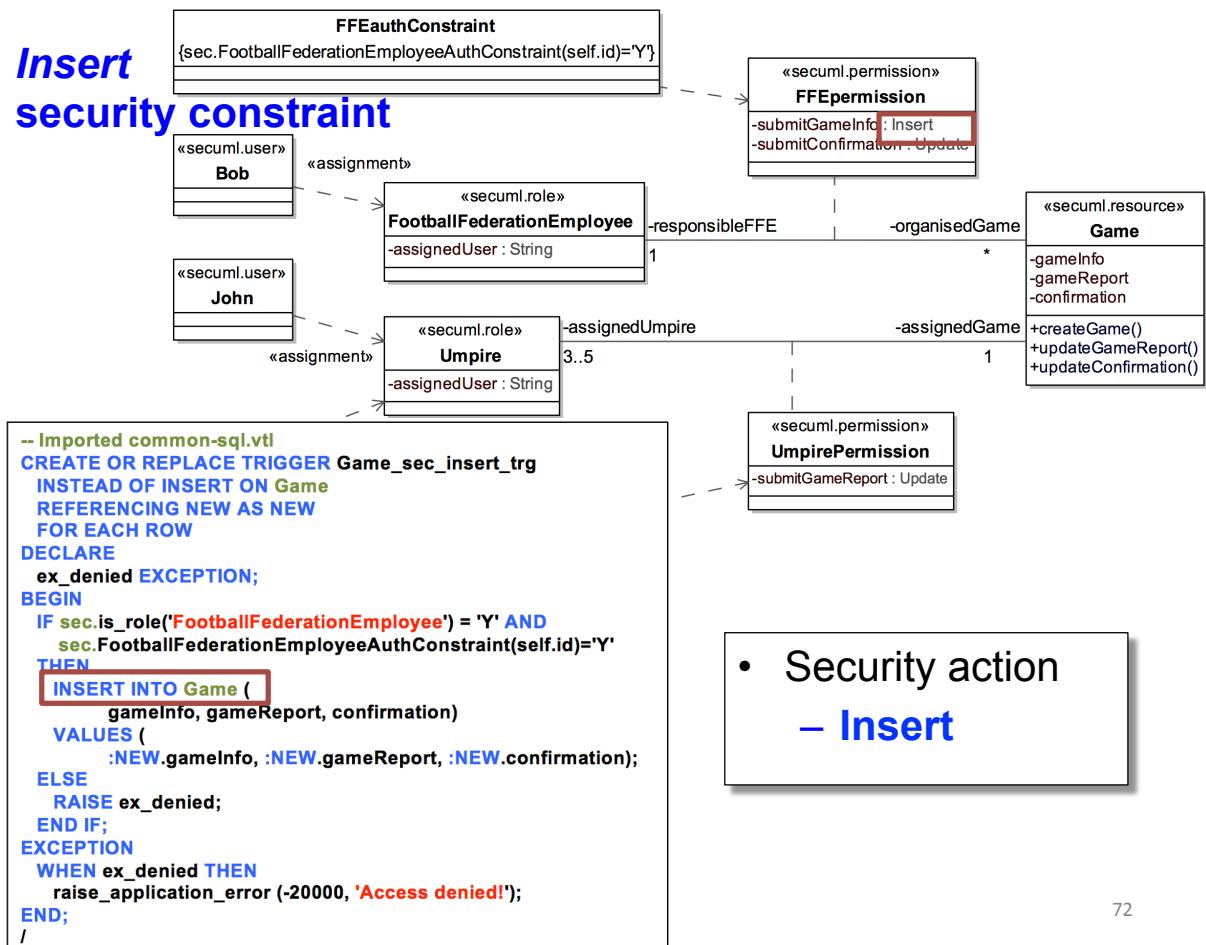
Insert security constraint



- **Resource** that needs to be secure
 - gameInfo
 - gameReport
 - confirmation

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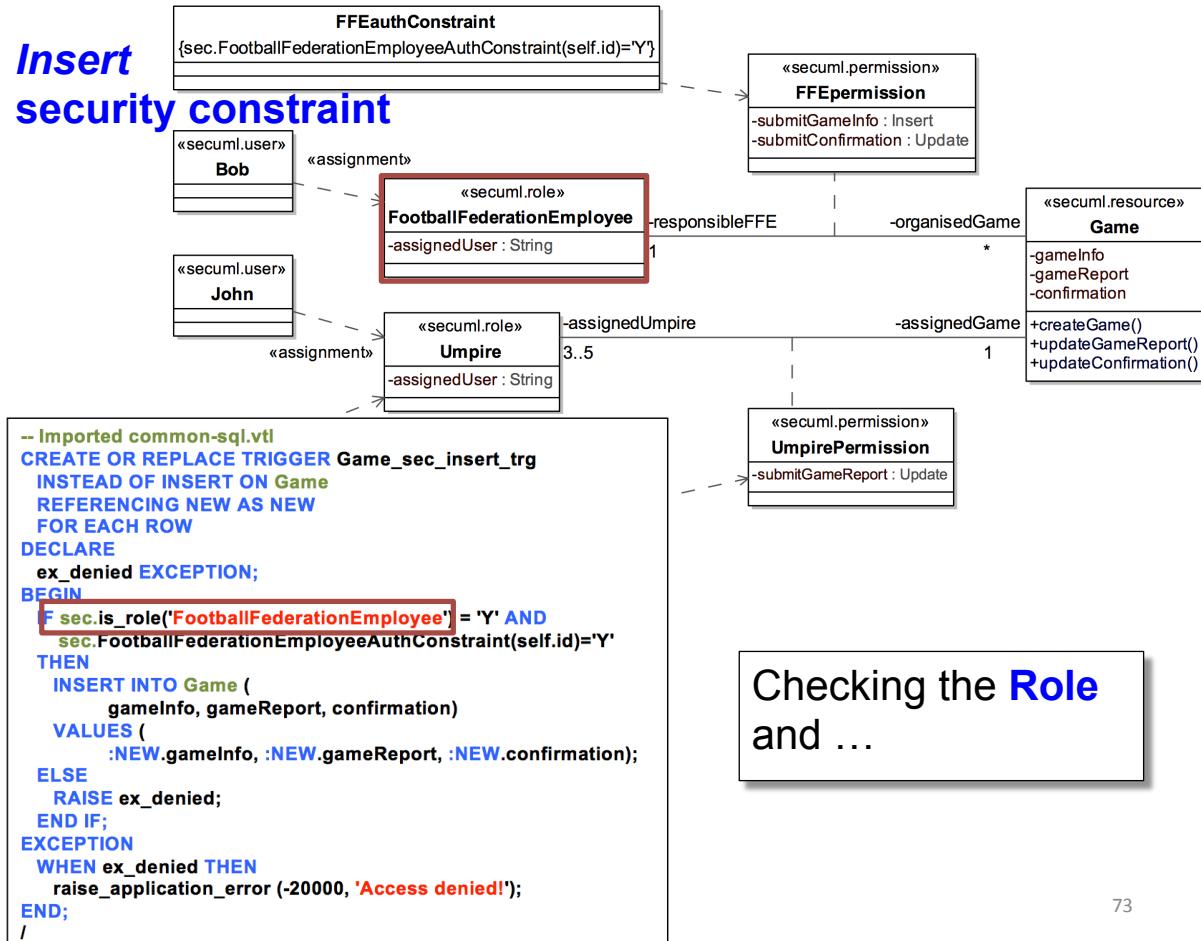
Insert security constraint



- Security action
 - Insert

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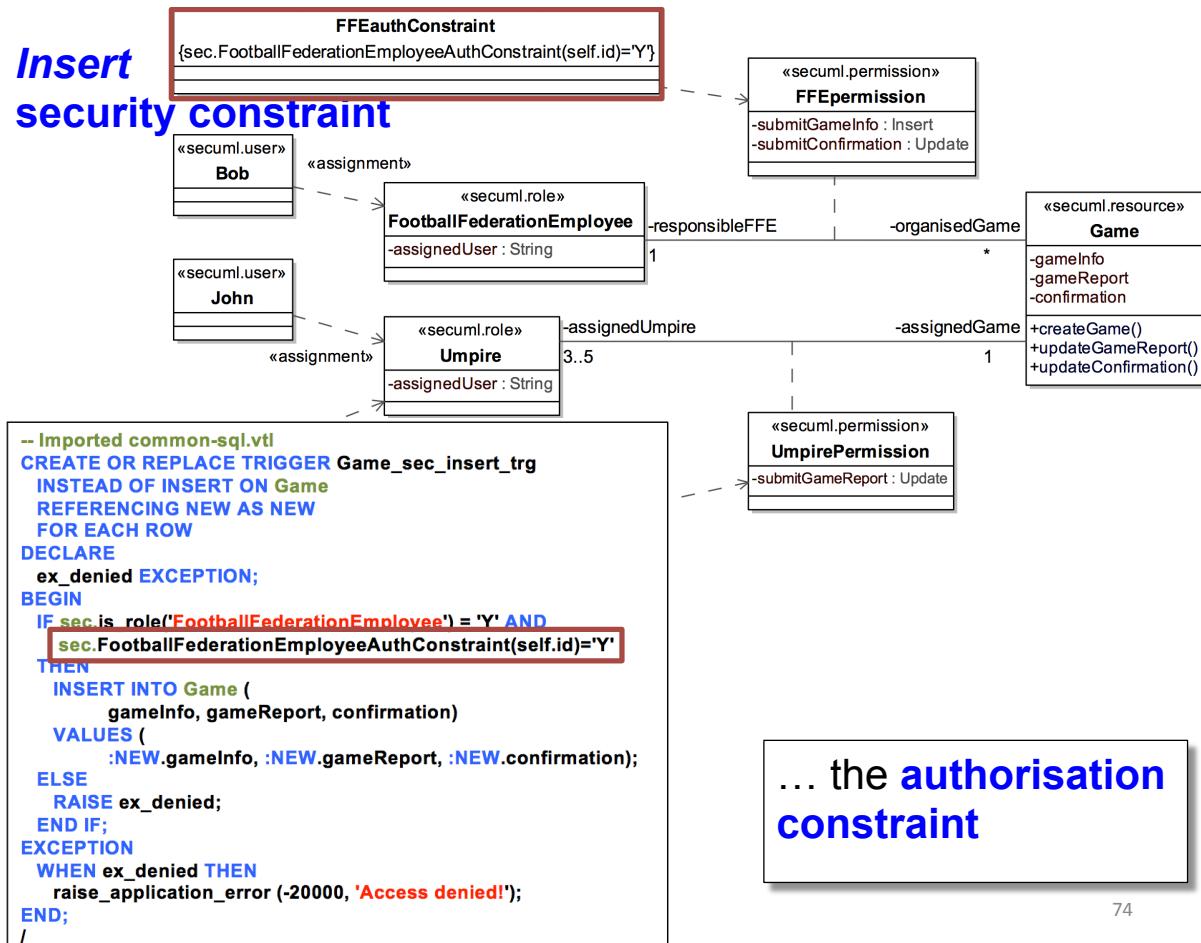
Insert security constraint



Checking the Role and ...

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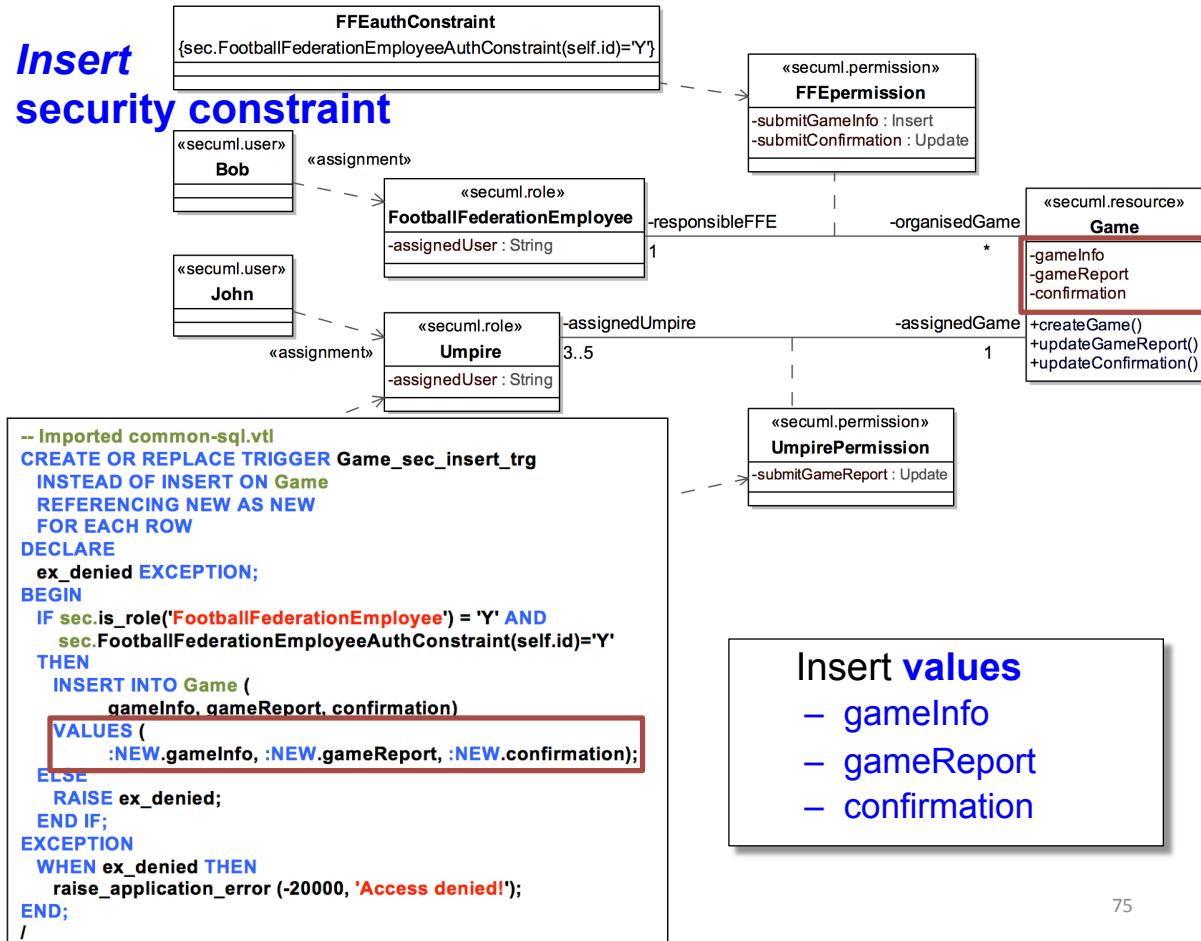
Insert security constraint



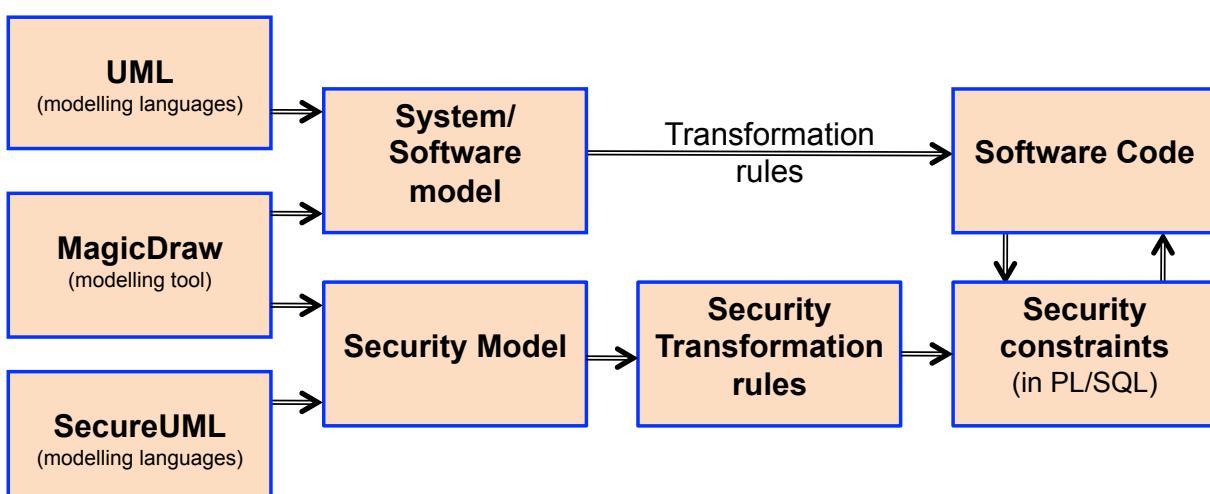
... the authorisation constraint

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Insert security constraint

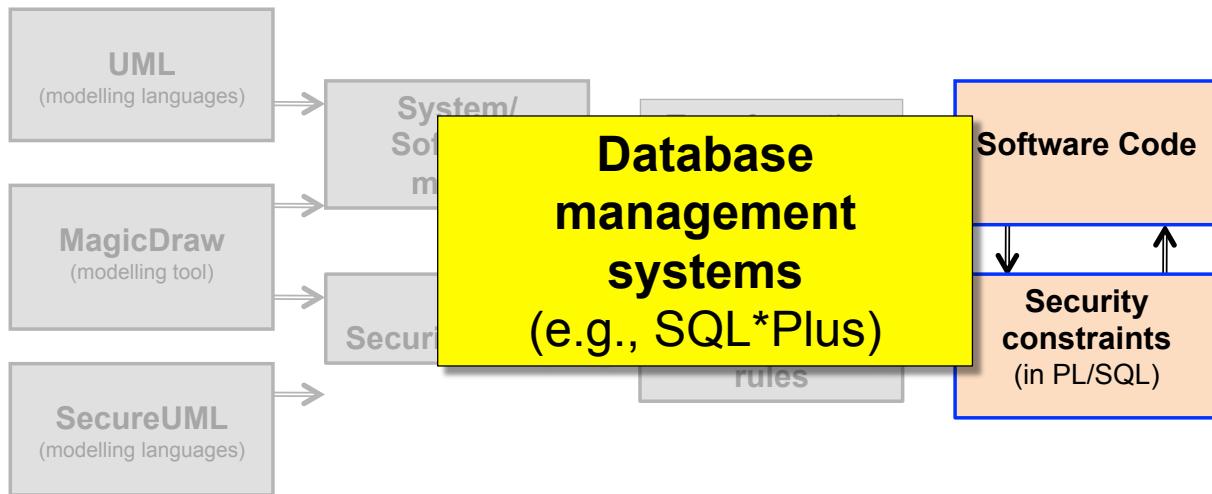


Model Driven Security Applying Authorisation Constraints



Model Driven Security

Applying Authorisation Constraints



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Further reading

Access Control Approaches

- **ABAC**: Attribute-based access control
[Hu et al., 2014, 2015]
- **UCON**: Usage control model
[Park and Sandhu, 2004]
- **RAdAC**: Risk-adaptive access control
[McGraw, 2009; Shaikh et al., 2012]
- **TBAC**: Token-based access control
[Radhakrishnan, 2012]

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Further reading

Model-driven security

- Framework for RBAC modelling using XACML architecture
[Xin, 2006]
- UML for access control features to support policy validation using OCL [Ahn and Hu, 2007]
- UML Profile for RBAC to integrate access control specifications with the development process [Cirit and Buzluca, 2009]
- SecureUML is applied to define RBAC policy on XML documents to dynamically define document structure and security policy
[Tark and Matulevicius, 2014]
- A method to recover the RBAC security model from structural and behavioural models of Web applications [Alalfi et al., 2012]
- Access control policies are captured from the Spring Framework applications to facilitate needed access changes [Sergeev, 2016]

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