

Cerberus: Automated Synthesis of Enforcement Mechanisms for Security-sensitive Business Processes

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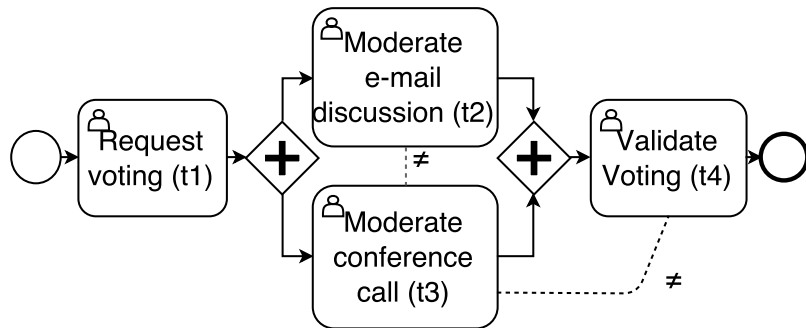
Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Using Cerberus - demo
- 3 Conclusion

Context

- A security-sensitive business process is a structured collection of **tasks** with:
 - **Authorization policy**: which users are entitled to execute which tasks
 - **Authorization constraints**: e.g., some tasks must be performed by the same/different users
- Policy and constraints are crucial to **comply with regulations** and prevent frauds, but business continuity must not be endangered:
 - It must be possible to **complete** the process while satisfying the policy and constraints.

Example



Authorization policy

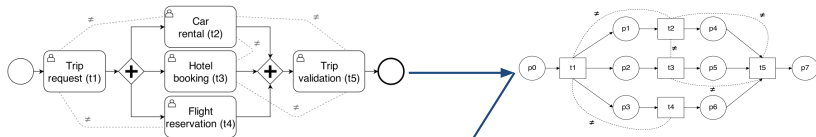
t1	A, B, C
t2	A, B, C
t3	A, B
t4	A

Satisfying runs: t1(C),t2(A),t3(B),t4(A) or
t1(A), t3(B), t2(C), t4(A)

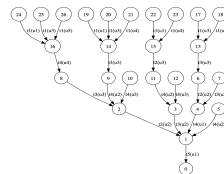
Avoid: t1(A), t2(B), ...

Solution

- Cerberus synthesizes, at **design-time**, monitors capable of answering, at **run-time**, user requests to execute tasks
 - request is granted if user is **authorized** (policy), no **constraint** is violated and the execution can still **terminate** (there are users who can perform the next tasks)
- Synthesized monitors are **parametric** in the authorization **policy**
 - can be combined at run-time with authorization policies dedicated to different instances of the process.



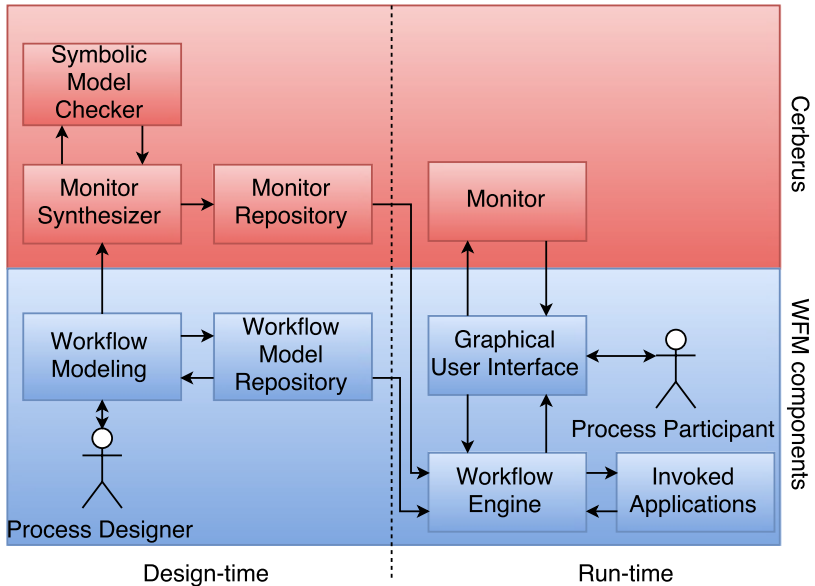
event	enabled		action	
	CF	Auth	CF	Auth
$t1(u)$	$p0 \wedge \neg d_{t1}$	$a_{t1}(u)$	$p0, p1, p2, p3, d_{t1} := F, T, T, T, T$	$h_{t1}(u) := T$
$t2(u)$	$p1 \wedge \neg d_{t2}$	$a_{t2}(u) \wedge \neg h_{t3}(u) \wedge \neg h_{t1}(u)$	$p1, p4, d_{t2} := F, T, T$	$h_{t2}(u) := T$
$t3(u)$	$p2 \wedge \neg d_{t3}$	$a_{t3}(u) \wedge \neg h_{t2}(u)$	$p2, p5, d_{t3} := F, T, T$	$h_{t3}(u) := T$
$t4(u)$	$p3 \wedge \neg d_{t4}$	$a_{t4}(u) \wedge \neg h_{t1}(u)$	$p3, p6, d_{t4} := F, T, T$	$h_{t4}(u) := T$
$t5(u)$	$p4 \wedge p5 \wedge p6 \wedge \neg d_{t5}$	$a_{t5}(u) \wedge \neg h_{t3}(u) \wedge \neg h_{t2}(u)$	$p4, p5, p6, p7, d_{t5} := F, F, F, T, T$	$h_{t5}(u) := T$



#	Token in	Auth					$can_do(u, t)$	Resp.
		h_{t1}	h_{t2}	h_{t3}	h_{t4}	h_{t5}		
0	$p0$	-	-	-	-	-	$(a, t1)$	deny
1	$p0$	-	-	-	-	-	$(b, t1)$	grant
2	$p1, p2, p3$	b	-	-	-	-	$(b, t2)$	deny
3	$p1, p2, p3$	b	-	-	-	-	$(a, t2)$	grant
4	$p4, p2, p3$	b	a	-	-	-	$(c, t3)$	grant
5	$p4, p5, p3$	b	a	c	-	-	$(a, t4)$	grant
6	$p4, p5, p6$	b	a	c	a	-	$(b, t5)$	grant
7	$p7$	b	a	c	a	b	-	-

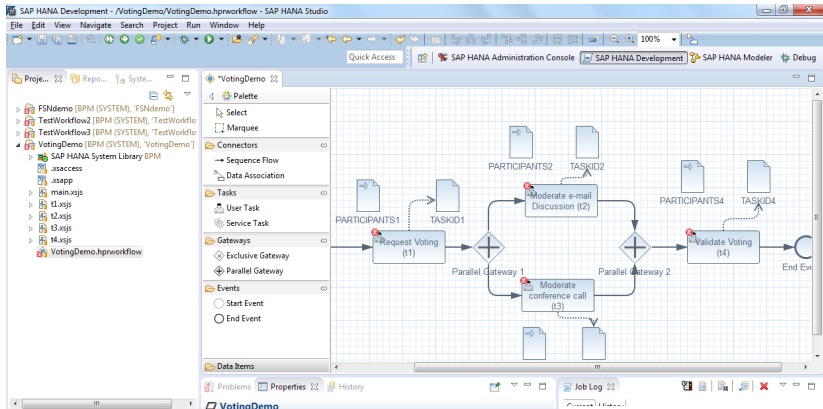
Integration

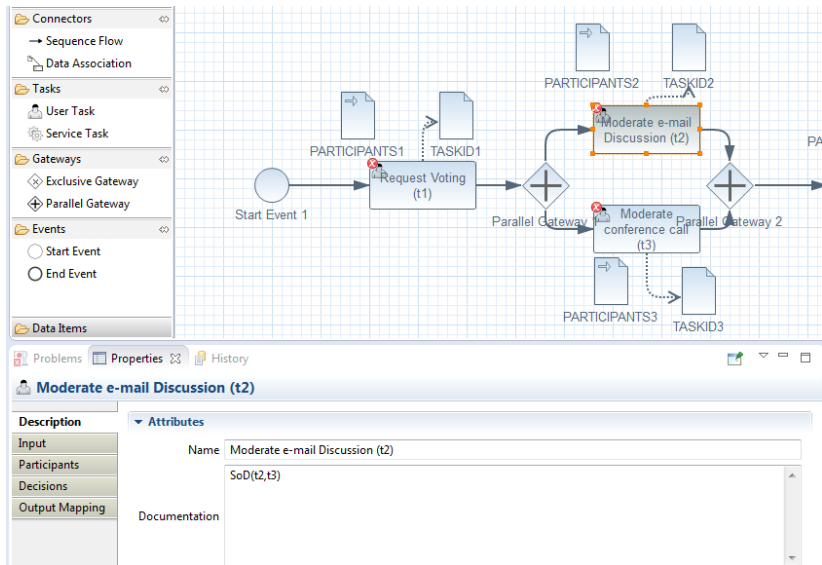
- Cerberus can be integrated in many [workflow management systems](#)
- It is transparent to process designers, and does not require any knowledge beyond usual BP modeling.
- We integrated it into the [SAP HANA Operational Intelligence](#) platform, which offers a BPMN modeling and enactment environment.



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The screenshot shows the SAP Studio IDE interface. On the left, the Project Explorer displays a project named 'VotingDemo'. The 'main.xsjs' file is selected, and the 'Generate' button is highlighted in the context menu. The main editor displays the JavaScript code for 'main.xsjs', which defines a workflow API and a process start function. The code includes imports for the workflow API and database connection, and defines parameters for participants and execution context.

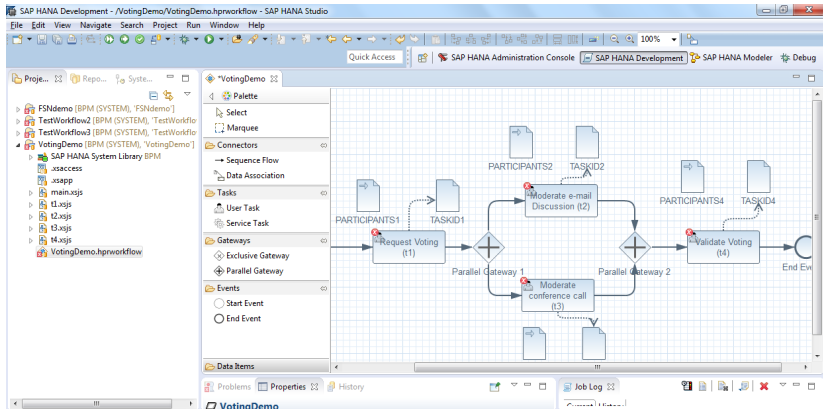
```

main.xsjs
var workflowAPI = $.import("VotingDemo.VotingDemo.v1.api", "PublicApi");
var processStartParams = {
  PARTICIPANTS1: [{PRINCIPAL_ID: "USERA"}, {PRINCIPAL_ID: "USERB"}, {PRINCIPAL_ID: "USERC"}],
  PARTICIPANTS2: [{PRINCIPAL_ID: "USERA"}, {PRINCIPAL_ID: "USERB"}, {PRINCIPAL_ID: "USERC"}],
  PARTICIPANTS3: [{PRINCIPAL_ID: "USERA"}, {PRINCIPAL_ID: "USERB"}],
  PARTICIPANTS4: [{PRINCIPAL_ID: "USERA"}],
};
try {
  var conn = $.db.getConnection();
  var executionContext = new workflowAPI.ExecutionContext({
    connection: conn
  });
  var workflowInstance = workflowAPI.startWorkflow({
    data: processStartParams,
    executionContext: executionContext
  });
  conn.commit();
  var id = workflowInstance.getId().toString();
  var isRunning = workflowInstance.isRunning();
  var result = workflowInstance.getResult();
  var response = "<html>"
  response += "<body>"
  response += "<div id='id'>" + id + "</div>"
  response += "<div id='isRunning'>" + isRunning + "</div>"
  response += "<div id='result'>" + result + "</div>"
  response += "</body>"
  response += "</html>"
} catch (e) {
  response = "<html>"
  response += "<body>"
  response += "<div id='error'>" + e.getMessage() + "</div>"
  response += "</body>"
  response += "</html>"
}
return response;

```

Below the code editor, the 'Properties' tab is active, showing the properties of the generated workflow 'VotingDemo.hprworkflow'. The table below lists the properties:

Property	Value
derived	false
editable	true



VotingDemo_VotingDemo

Details

```

131
132 --monitor authorization check for UserTask_2
133 ELSEIF TASK_ID_IN = m_task_id_UserTask_2 THEN
134   var_out =
135   SELECT
136   CASE WHEN T.STATUS='READY' AND (A.ROLE_TYPE='PARTICIPANT' OR A.ROLE_TYPE='OWNER') THEN 1 ELSE 0 END AS "CAN_COMPLETE",
137   T.TASK_ID
138   FROM "TASKMGT"."sap.bc.taskmgt.task::TASK" AS T INNER JOIN "TASKMGT"."sap.bc.taskmgt.task::ASSIGNMENT" AS A ON T.TASK_ID = A.TASK_ID
139   WHERE (T.CATEGORY = 'TASK' OR T.CATEGORY = 'CHECKLIST')
140   AND A.PRINCIPAL_ID IN
141   (
142     --monitor query
143     SELECT DISTINCT Z1."USER_NAME" FROM "SYS"."USERS" AS Z1 WHERE doneUserTask_2 = 0 AND doneUserTask_4 = 0 AND doneUserTask_1 = 1 AND d
144     UNION
145     SELECT DISTINCT Z2."USER_NAME" FROM "SYS"."USERS" AS Z1, "SYS"."USERS" AS Z2 WHERE doneUserTask_2 = 0 AND doneUserTask_4 = 0 AND don
146     UNION
147     SELECT DISTINCT Z1."USER_NAME" FROM "SYS"."USERS" AS Z1, "SYS"."USERS" AS Z2 WHERE doneUserTask_2 = 0 AND doneUserTask_3 = 0 AND don
148     UNION
149     SELECT DISTINCT Z3."USER_NAME" FROM "SYS"."USERS" AS Z1, "SYS"."USERS" AS Z2, "SYS"."USERS" AS Z3 WHERE doneUserTask_2 = 0 AND doneU
150     UNION
151     SELECT DISTINCT Z2."USER_NAME" FROM "SYS"."USERS" AS Z1, "SYS"."USERS" AS Z2 WHERE doneUserTask_2 = 0 AND doneUserTask_4 = 0 AND don
152     UNION
153     SELECT DISTINCT Z1."USER_NAME" FROM "SYS"."USERS" AS Z1 WHERE doneUserTask_2 = 0 AND doneUserTask_4 = 0 AND doneUserTask_1 = 1 AND d
154     --end of monitor query
155   ) AND A.PRINCIPAL_ID = SESSION_USER;
156
157 --monitor authorization check for UserTask_3
158 ELSEIF TASK_ID_IN = m_task_id_UserTask_3 THEN
159   var_out =
160   SELECT
161   CASE WHEN T.STATUS='READY' AND (A.ROLE_TYPE='PARTICIPANT' OR A.ROLE_TYPE='OWNER') THEN 1 ELSE 0 END AS "CAN_COMPLETE",
162   T.TASK_ID
163   FROM "TASKMGT"."sap.bc.taskmgt.task::TASK" AS T INNER JOIN "TASKMGT"."sap.bc.taskmgt.task::ASSIGNMENT" AS A ON T.TASK_ID = A.TASK_ID
164   WHERE (T.CATEGORY = 'TASK' OR T.CATEGORY = 'CHECKLIST')
165   AND A.PRINCIPAL_ID IN
166   (
167     --monitor query
168     SELECT DISTINCT Z2."USER_NAME" FROM "SYS"."USERS" AS Z1, "SYS"."USERS" AS Z2 WHERE doneUserTask_3 = 0 AND doneUserTask_4 = 0 AND don
169     UNION
170     SELECT DISTINCT Z2."USER_NAME" FROM "SYS"."USERS" AS Z1, "SYS"."USERS" AS Z2 WHERE doneUserTask_2 = 0 AND doneUserTask_3 = 0 AND don
171     UNION
172     SELECT DISTINCT Z3."USER_NAME" FROM "SYS"."USERS" AS Z1, "SYS"."USERS" AS Z2, "SYS"."USERS" AS Z3 WHERE doneUserTask_2 = 0 AND doneU
173     UNION
174     SELECT DISTINCT Z2."USER_NAME" FROM "SYS"."USERS" AS Z1, "SYS"."USERS" AS Z2 WHERE doneUserTask_2 = 0 AND doneUserTask_3 = 0 AND don
175     --end of monitor query
176   ) AND A.PRINCIPAL_ID = SESSION_USER;
177
178 --monitor authorization check for UserTask_4

```

The first screenshot shows the SAP Operational Process Intelligence interface for user USERA. The browser address bar displays <http://10.97.89.146:8000>. The page title is "SAP Operational Process Int...". The user is logged in as USERA. The main heading is "My Workbox". Below it, there are two tabs: "Open" and "Completed". The "Open" tab is selected. A table lists tasks with columns: Type, Subject, Due Date, Status, and Priority. The table contains one row: t1 - VotingDemo, with Status "Ready" and Priority "Medium".

The second screenshot shows the same interface for user USERA, but the "Completed" tab is selected. The main heading is "t1 - VotingDemo". Below it, a message states: "Task 130 completed".

The third screenshot shows the same interface for user USERB. The browser address bar displays <http://10.97.89.146:8000>. The page title is "SAP Operational Process Intelligence powered by SAP HANA". The user is logged in as USERB. The main heading is "t3 - VotingDemo". Below it, a message states: "Task 140 could not be completed because the user is not authorized".

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Conclusion

- We have [other papers](#) describing in more details the techniques used in the tool:
 - “Automated Synthesis of Run-time Monitors to Enforce Authorization Policies in Business Processes” in ASIACCS 2015
 - “Assisting the Deployment of Security-Sensitive Workflows by Finding Execution Scenarios” in DBSec 2015
- The tool is [under development](#) and there is a pilot project for internal use in SAP (payment approval workflows)
- Not yet available for public use

Thank you!

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