

# Fine-Grained Authorization in Modern Software Applications

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*(opinions are my own)*



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## *Unspecified*



## DATASTAX



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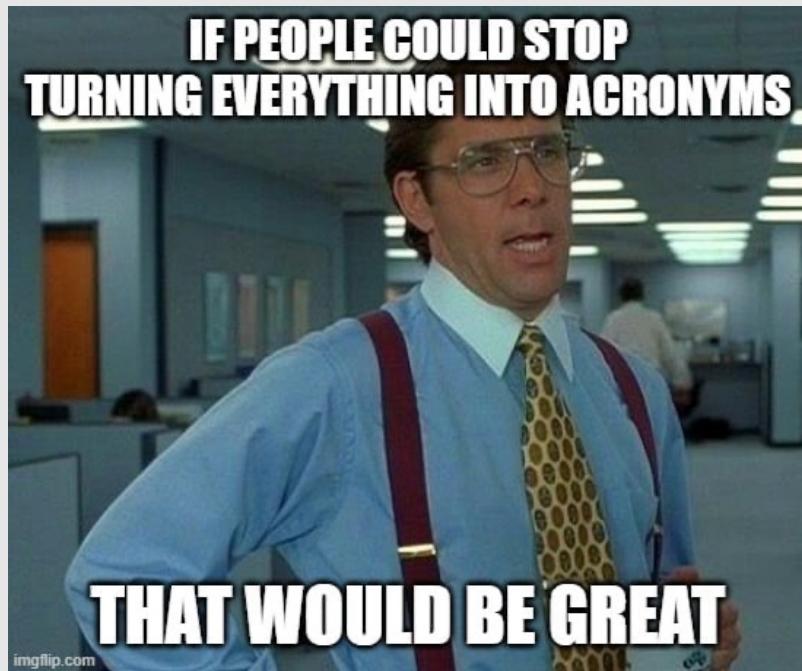


# Acronyms, Buzzwords, blah, blah, blah

Authentication ([AuthN](#)) and Authorization ([AuthZ](#)) are critical for most software applications. The increased adoption of standardized frameworks for AuthN has improved overall security posture. “Broken Authentication” was #2 risk on the [OWASP](#) Top 10:2017 list but slid in 2021 to be part of a rescoped #7. AuthZ is trending the wrong direction with “Broken Access Control” the #1 security risk on 2021 list. This session discusses how open-source policy languages and evaluation engines can improve access control in applications.

The key acronyms are reviewed for background: [JWT](#) concepts (claims, scopes); access control models ([RBAC](#), [ABAC](#), [ReBAC](#)), data-flow model of [XACML](#) ([PAP](#), [PDP](#), [PEP](#), [PIP](#)). Examples of applications requiring fine-grained authorization are modeled using different open-source solutions ([Cedar](#), [OpenFGA](#), [OPA](#)) focusing on their policy language and evaluation engine integration. This session spans high-level architecture to low-level code, and sprinkles humor (and acronyms) throughout.

# Poll: Who said it better?



# Authentication vs Authorization

“In some systems, complete access is granted after successful authentication of the user, but most systems require more sophisticated and complex control. In addition to the *authentication* mechanism (such as a password), access control is concerned with how *authorizations* are structured.”

- NISTIR 7316 Assessment of Access Control Systems

## Authentication

Verifying the identity of a user, process, or device, often as a prerequisite to allowing access to resources in a system.

## Authorization

The granting or denying of access rights to a user, program, or process.



# OWASP Top 10:2021

The OWASP Top 10 is a standard awareness document for developers and web application security. It represents a broad consensus about the most critical security risks to web applications.

- **A01:2021-Broken Access Control** moves up from the fifth position; 94% of applications were tested for some form of broken access control. The 34 Common Weakness Enumerations (CWEs) mapped to Broken Access Control had more occurrences in applications than any other category.
- **A07:2021-Identification and Authentication Failures** was previously Broken Authentication and is sliding down from the second position, and now includes CWEs that are more related to identification failures. This category is still an integral part of the Top 10, but the increased availability of standardized frameworks seems to be helping.

# History of “Broken Authentication”

Application functions related to authentication and session management are often implemented incorrectly...

- #7 in 2021 - Identification and Authentication Failures
- #2 in 2017 - Broken Authentication
- #2 in 2013 - Broken Authentication and Session Management
- #3 in 2010 - Broken Authentication and Session Management
- #7 in 2007 - Broken Authentication and Session Management

# OpenID Connect (OIDC)

OpenID Connect (February 2014) implements authentication as an extension to the OAuth 2.0 (October 2012) authorization process.

The primary extension is the **ID Token** data structure represented as a JSON Web Token (JWT). It has Claims expressing such information as the Issuer, the Subject Identifier, when the authentication was performed, etc.

# Common Claim Names in JWTs

The "**sub**" (subject) claim identifies the principal that is the subject of the JWT. The claims in a JWT are normally statements about the subject. The subject value MUST either be scoped to be locally unique in the context of the issuer or be globally unique.

The "**iss**" (issuer) claim identifies the principal that issued the JWT.

The "**aud**" (audience) claim identifies the recipients that the JWT is intended for.

# History of “Broken Access Control”

Restrictions on what authenticated users are allowed to do are often not properly enforced...

- Broken Access Control (#1 in 2021, #5 in 2017)
- Insecure Direct Object References (#4 in 2013, 2010, 2007)
- Missing Function Level Access Control (#7 in 2013)
- Failure to Restrict URL Access (#8 in 2010, #10 in 2007)

# OWASP Top 10 API Security Risks – 2023

More specific to APIs (mobile, desktop, web) vs other generic application security risks you might find in APIs.

- API1:2023 - Broken Object Level Authorization
- API2:2023 - Broken Authentication
- API3:2023 - Broken Object Property Level Authorization
- API5:2023 - Broken Function Level Authorization

**OH YOU THOUGHT MOVING A PROBLEM  
TO ANOTHER AREA WILL SOLVE THAT  
PROBLEM?**

**TELL ME MORE ABOUT YOUR  
'PROBLEM SOLVING SKILLS'**

# Access Token

Access tokens are credentials used to access protected resources.

The token may denote an identifier used to retrieve the authorization information or may self-contain the authorization information in a verifiable manner (i.e., a token string consisting of some data and a signature).

# JSON Web Token (JWT) Profile for OAuth 2.0 Access Tokens [RFC9068]

Provide a standardized and interoperable profile as an alternative to the proprietary JWT access token layouts going forward.

An authorization server wanting to include [authorization] attributes in a JWT access token SHOULD use the "**groups**", "**roles**", and "**entitlements**" attributes of the "User" resource schema defined by Section 4.1.2 of [RFC7643]) as claim types.

# System for Cross-domain Identity Management (SCIM): Core Schema [RFC7643]

## **groups**

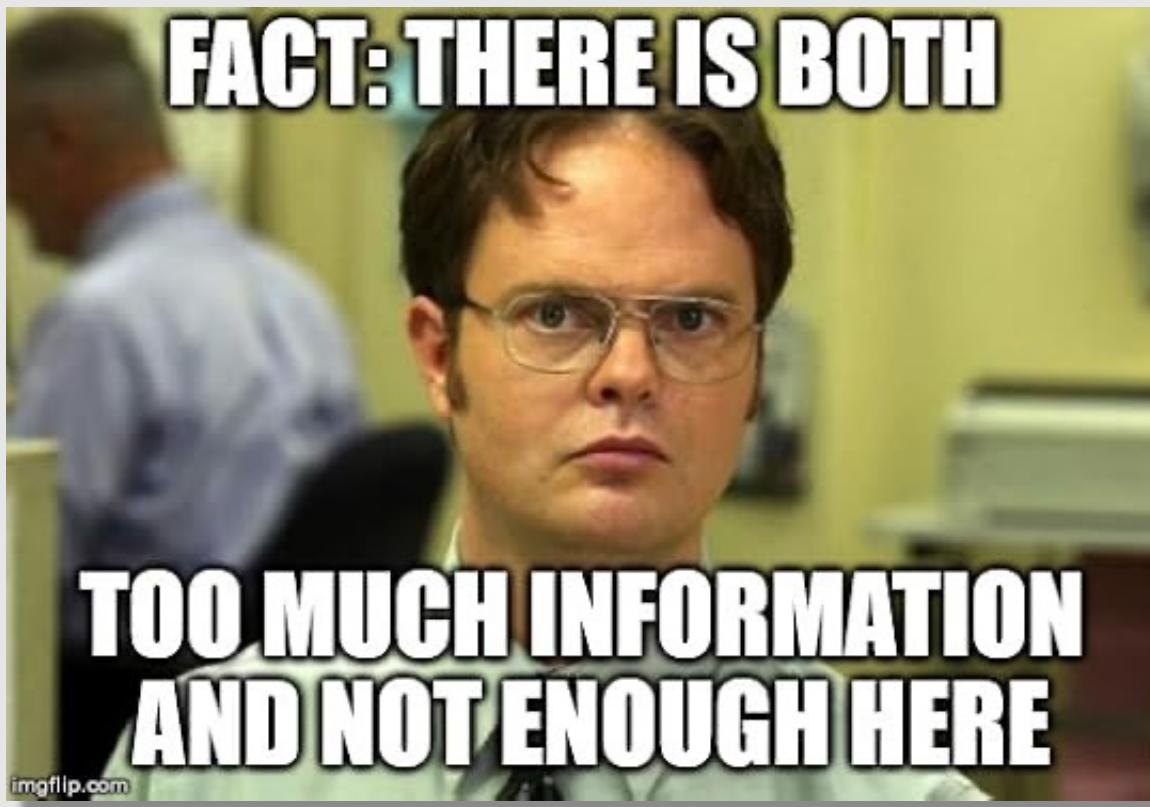
A list of groups to which the user belongs. The values are meant to enable expression of common group-based or role-based access control models, although no explicit authorization model is defined.

## **entitlements**

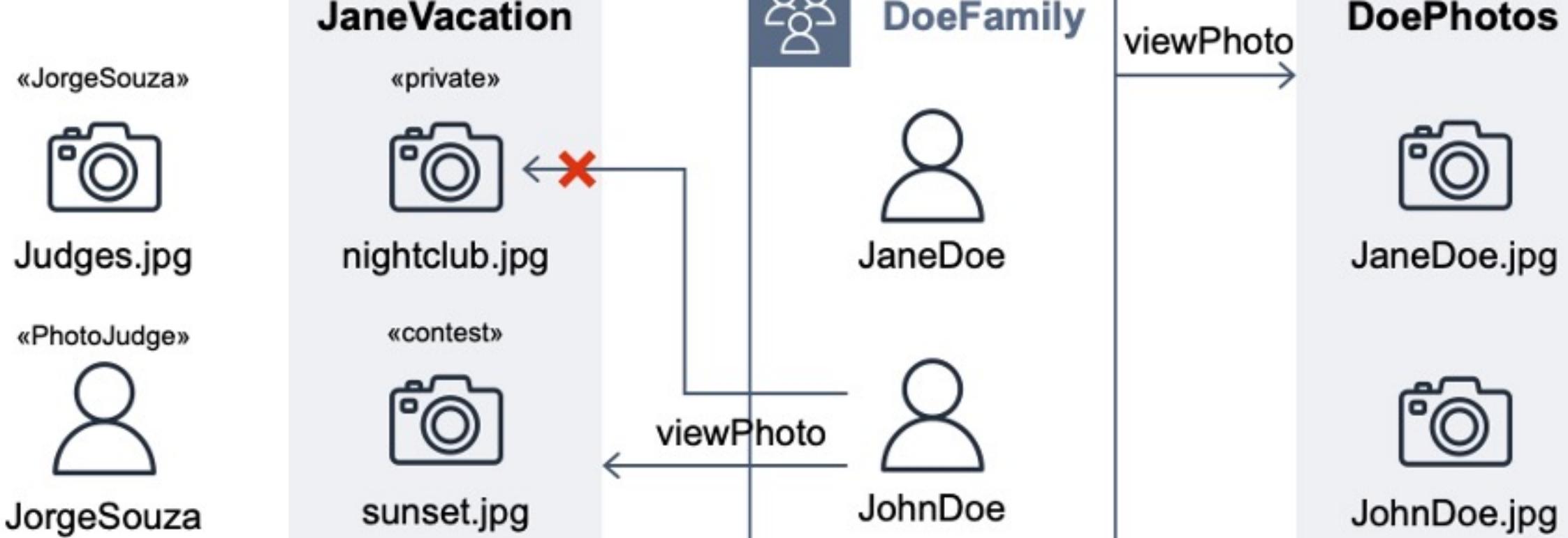
A list of entitlements for the user that represent a thing the user has. An entitlement may be an additional right to a thing, object, or service. No vocabulary or syntax is specified.

## **roles**

A list of roles for the user that collectively represent who the user is, e.g., "Student", "Faculty". No vocabulary or syntax is specified, although it is expected that a role value is a String or label representing a collection of entitlements.



## Photo Application



# Authorization Stories

- UserGroup DoeFamily has view access to Album DoePhotos
- Everyone has view, edit, and delete access to any Photo where they are the owner
- User JohnDoe has view access to Album JaneVacation, but no one but the owner has access to Photos whose labels include the string "private"
- Role PhotoJudge has view access to Photos whose labels include the string "contest" when in a judgingSession context
- A User has view access to Photos whose optional subjects include their User entity

# Access Control Policies

## **Discretionary access control (DAC)**

leaves a certain amount of access control to the discretion of the object's owner, or anyone else who is authorized to control the object's access. The owner can determine who should have access rights to an object and what those rights should be.

## **Mandatory access control (MAC)**

means that access control policy decisions are made by a central authority, not by the individual owner of an object. User cannot change access rights.

# ABAC and RBAC

**Attribute Based Access Control (ABAC):** An access control approach in which access is mediated based on attributes associated with subjects (requesters) and the objects to be accessed.

Access to an object is authorized or denied depending upon whether the required (e.g., policy-defined) correlation can be made between the attributes of that object and of the requesting subject.

**Role Based Access Control (RBAC):** A model for controlling access to resources where permitted actions on resources are identified with roles rather than with individual subject identities.

# Theoretical (partial) JWT Access Tokens

Questions about groups, roles, and entitlements:

- How are they populated?
  - Custom authorization servers / enriching Access Token
- How are they updated?
  - Use Refresh Token to obtain new Access Token

```
{  
  "sub": "JaneDoe",  
  "iss": "idp.example.com",  
  "aud": "photoapp.example.com",  
  "groups": ["DoeFamily"],  
  "roles": [],  
  "entitlements": ["PhotoApp"],  
}  
  
{  
  "sub": "JorgeSouza",  
  "iss": "idp.example.com",  
  "aud": "photoapp.example.com",  
  "groups": [],  
  "roles": ["PhotoJudge"],  
  "entitlements": ["PhotoApp"],  
}
```

# What is Policy-as-Code?

**Policy-as-Code** refers to the practice of managing and implementing policy decisions through code, making them enforceable and verifiable within IT environments.

This approach enables automated enforcement, validation, and auditing of policies, typically used in areas like security, compliance, and infrastructure configuration.

# eXtensible Access Control Markup Language (XACML)

## Policy administration point (PAP)

The system entity that creates a *policy* or *policy set*

## Policy decision point (PDP)

The system entity that evaluates *applicable policy* and renders an *authorization decision*.

## Policy enforcement point (PEP)

The system entity that performs *access control*, by making *decision requests* and enforcing *authorization decisions*.

## Policy information point (PIP)

The system entity that acts as a source of *attribute* values



# Cedar

- Open source policy language and evaluation engine.
- Enables developers to express fine-grained permissions as easy-to-understand policies enforced in their applications, and decouple access control from application logic.
- Supports common authorization models such as role-based access control and attribute-based access control.
- Built from the ground up to be verified formally by using automated reasoning, and tested rigorously using differential random testing.

# Cedar key concepts

Authorization **policies** describe who (the *principal*) is allowed to perform which *actions*, on which *resources*, and in what *context*.

**Entities** are application data that Cedar needs to see to make authorization decisions.

The **context** is a part of a request that consists of transient data.

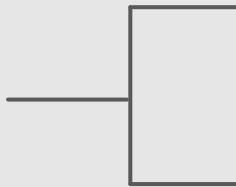
A **schema** defines the types of entities recognized by the application, and which are also the principals, resources, and actions referenced in policies.

# Cedar schema

Entity



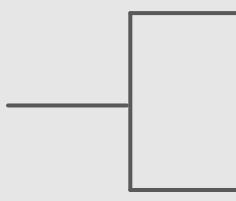
Shape



Action

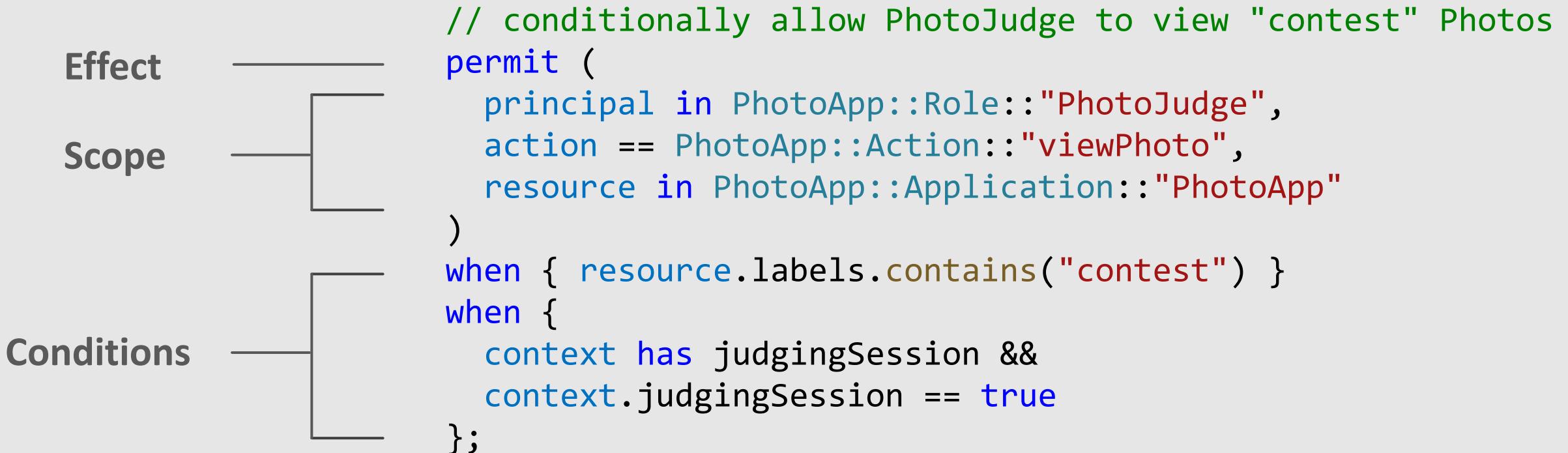


Applies to



```
namespace PhotoApp {  
    entity User in [UserGroup, Role];  
    entity Photo in [Album, Application] = {  
        "labels": Set<String>,  
        "owner": User,  
        "subjects"??: Set<User>  
    };  
    entity UserGroup, Role, Album, Application;  
    action "viewPhoto" appliesTo {  
        principal: [User],  
        resource: [Photo],  
        context: {"judgingSession"??: Bool}  
    };  
}
```

# Cedar policy



# Cedar entities



# www.cedarpolicy.com/en/playground

The screenshot shows a web browser window for the Cedar Language playground at <https://www.cedarpolicy.com/en/playground>. The page title is "PLAYGROUND" and it indicates "Cedar v2.4.7". A dropdown menu shows "Photo Sharing App". The main content area has tabs for "Authorization request" (which is selected) and "Schema and policies". Under "Authorization request", there is a section titled "Principal" with the value "PhotoApp::User::"JaneDoe""; an "Action" section with the value "PhotoApp::Action::"viewPhoto""; and a "Resource" section with the value "PhotoApp::Photo::"JaneDoe.jpg"". To the right of these fields are buttons for "Amazon Verified Permissions format" (radio button selected), "Simple access" (dropdown menu), and "Evaluate" (button). The "Evaluate" button is highlighted in orange. Below the input fields, a message says "Authorization decision: allow." with a green checkmark icon. At the bottom of the page, there are links for "Privacy", "Site Terms", "Cookie Preferences", and copyright information: "© 2024, Amazon Web Services, Inc. or its affiliates. All rights reserved."

# Cedar CLI

```
{  
  "principal": "PhotoApp::User::\"JorgeSouza\"",  
  "action": "PhotoApp::Action::\"viewPhoto\"",  
  "resource": "PhotoApp::Photo::\"sunset.jpg\"",  
  "context": { "judgingSession": true }  
}
```



```
cedar authorize -v -f plain \  
  --policies testdata/temppolicies.cedar \  
  --entities cedarentities.json \  
  --request-json "testdata/Role PhotoJudge/ALLOW/JorgeSouza-view-sunset-session.cedarauth.json"
```

ALLOW

note: this decision was due to the following policies:  
PhotoJudge

# @cedar-policy/cedar-wasm

```
const cedar = require('@cedar-policy/cedar-wasm/nodejs');
const policies: PolicySet = readFileSync('./testdata/temppolicies.cedar', 'utf-8');
const entitiesJson: string = readFileSync('./cedarentities.json', 'utf-8');
const entities: Array<EntityJson> = JSON.parse(entitiesJson);

function viewPhoto(decision: Decision, principal: TypeAndId,
                   resource: TypeAndId, context: Context)
{
  const answer = cedar.isAuthorized({
    principal: principal,
    action: { type: 'PhotoApp::Action', id: 'viewPhoto' },
    resource: resource,
    context: context,
    slice: { policies: policies, entities: entities },
  });

  expect(answer.type).toBe('success');
  expect(answer.response.decision).toBe(decision);
}
```

```
✓ cedar.test.ts (13)
✓ Cedar version (1)
✓ Cedar version: 3.2.1
✓ Album DoePhotos (3)
✓ JaneDoe view JohnDoe.jpg
✓ JohnDoe view JaneDoe.jpg
✓ JorgeSouza view JaneDoe.jpg
✓ Album JaneVacation (4)
✓ JaneDoe view nightclub.jpg
✓ JohnDoe view nightclub.jpg
✓ JaneDoe view sunset.jpg
✓ JohnDoe view sunset.jpg
✓ Role PhotoJudge (2)
✓ JorgeSouza view sunset.jpg session
✓ JorgeSouza view sunset.jpg nosession
✓ User JorgeSouza (3)
✓ JorgeSouza view sunset.jpg
✓ JorgeSouza view nightclub.jpg
✓ JorgeSouza view sunset.jpg
```

```
Test Files 1 passed (1)
Tests 13 passed (13)
```



```
const JORGESOUZA = { type: 'PhotoApp::User', id: 'JorgeSouza' };
const SUNSET_JPG = { type: 'PhotoApp::Photo', id: 'sunset.jpg' };

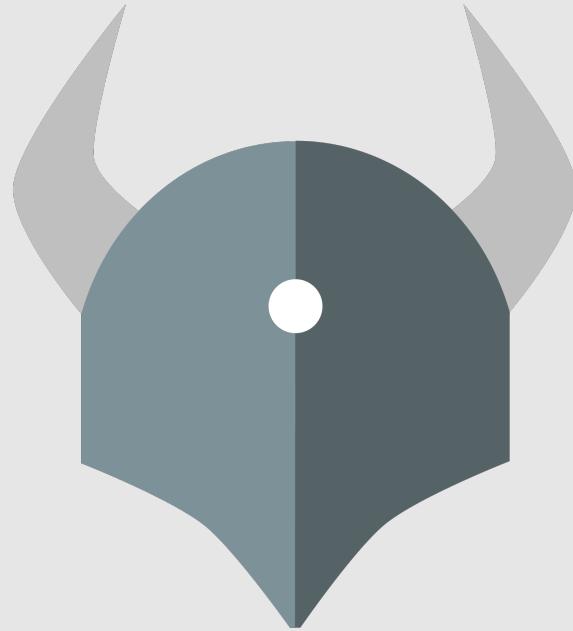
suite('Role PhotoJudge', async () => {
  test('JorgeSouza view sunset.jpg session', () => {
    viewPhoto('Allow', JORGESOUZA, SUNSET_JPG, { judgingSession: true });
  });

  test('JorgeSouza view sunset.jpg nosession', () => {
    viewPhoto('Deny', JORGESOUZA, SUNSET_JPG, { judgingSession: false });
  });
})
```

# Cedar performance

## **Cedar: A New Language for Expressive, Fast, Safe, and Analyzable Authorization (Extended Version)**

Comparing Cedar to two open-source languages, OpenFGA and Rego, we find (subjectively) that Cedar has equally or more readable policies, but (objectively) performs far better.



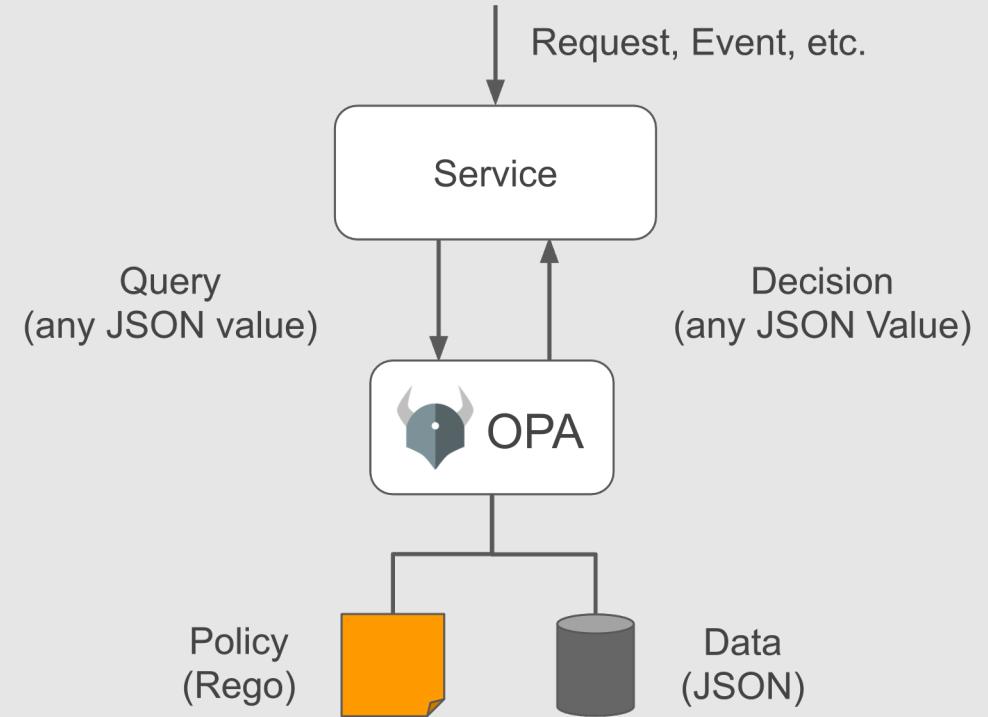
# Open Policy Agent

# Open Policy Agent (OPA)

## Declarative

- Express policy in a high-level, declarative language that promotes safe, performant, fine-grained controls.
- Use a purpose-built, declarative policy language (Rego) for a world where JSON is pervasive.
- Iterate, traverse hierarchies, and apply 150+ built-ins like string manipulation and JWT decoding to declare the policies you want enforced.

- When your software needs to make policy decisions it queries OPA and supplies arbitrary structured data (e.g., JSON) as input.
- OPA generates policy decisions by evaluating the query input against policies and data.
- Policy decisions are not limited to simple allow/deny answers. Like query inputs, your policies can generate arbitrary structured data as output.



# play.openpolicyagent.org

The screenshot shows the The Rego Playground interface at <https://play.openpolicyagent.org>. The top navigation bar includes tabs for "The Rego Playground", "Examples", "Options", "Evaluate", "Format", and "Publish".

The left panel displays a Rego policy file with numbered lines:

```
42
43 # allow DoeFamily to view DoePhotos
44 policies_permit contains "DoePhotos" if {
45   p := principal_parents[_]
46   p.type == "PhotoApp::UserGroup"
47   p.id == "DoeFamily"
48   input.action == "viewPhoto"
49   r := resource_parents[_]
50   r.type == "PhotoApp::Album"
51   r.id == "DoePhotos"
52 }
53
54 # allow JohnDoe to view JaneVacation
55 policies_permit contains "JaneVacation" if {
56   input.principal.type == "PhotoApp::User"
57   input.principal.id == "JohnDoe"
58   input.action == "viewPhoto"
59   r := resource_parents[_]
60   r.type == "PhotoApp::Album"
61   r.id == "JaneVacation"
62 }
63
64 # deny access to private Photos from non-owner
65 policies_forbid contains "Photo-labels-private" if {
66   input.resource.type == "PhotoApp::Photo"
67   "private" in resource_attrs.labels
68 }
69
70 # allow resource.owner full access to Photos
71 policies_permit contains "Photo-owner" if {
72   input.action in ["viewPhoto", "editPhoto", "deletePhoto"]
73   input.resource.type == "PhotoApp::Photo"
74   resource_attrs.owner.type == input.principal.type
75 }
```

The right side of the interface is divided into three panels: INPUT, DATA, and OUTPUT.

**INPUT:**

```
1 {  
2   "principal": {  
3     "type": "PhotoApp::User",  
4     "id": "JaneDoe"  
5   },  
6   "action": "viewPhoto",  
7   "resource": {  
8     "type": "PhotoApp::Photo",  
9     "id": "JohnDoe.jpg"  
10 }
```

**DATA:**

```
1 {  
2   "type": {  
3     "PhotoApp::User": {  
4       "JaneDoe": {  
5         "parents": [  
6           {  
7             "type": "PhotoApp::UserGroup",  
8             "id": "DoeFamily"  
9           ]  
10       }  
11     }  
12   }  
13 }
```

**OUTPUT:**

```
1 Found 1 result in 442µs.  
2 {  
3   "is_authorized": {  
4     "decision": "ALLOW",  
5     "determiningPolicies": [  
6       "DoePhotos"  
7     ]  
8   },  
9   "policies_forbid": [],  
10 }
```

At the bottom, it says "LINT" and "OPA v0.67.0, Regal v0.24.0".

Built by styra

```
{  
  "type": {  
    "PhotoApp::User": {  
      "JaneDoe": {  
        "parents": [  
          { "type": "PhotoApp::UserGroup", "id": "DoeFamily" }  
        ]  
      },  
      "PhotoApp::Photo": {  
        "JohnDoe.jpg": {  
          "parents": [  
            { "type": "PhotoApp::Album", "id": "DoePhotos" }  
          ],  
          "attrs": {  
            "labels": [],  
            "owner": {"type": "PhotoApp::User", "id": "JohnDoe" }  
          }  
        }  
      }  
    }  
  }  
}
```

```
# default DENY
default is_authorized := {
  "decision": "DENY", # ALLOW | DENY
  "determiningPolicies": [],
}

# forbid policies always DENY authorization
is_authorized := {
  "decision": "DENY",
  "determiningPolicies": policies_forbid,
} if {
  count(policies_forbid) > 0
}

## helper rules

principal_parents := data.type[input.principal.type][input.principal.id].parents

resource_parents := data.type[input.resource.type][input.resource.id].parents

resource_attrs := data.type[input.resource.type][input.resource.id].attrs

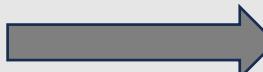
# forbid overrides permit
is_authorized := {
  "decision": "ALLOW",
  "determiningPolicies": policies_permit,
} if {
  count(policies_forbid) == 0
  count(policies_permit) > 0
}
```

```
{  
  "principal": {  
    "type": "PhotoApp::User",  
    "id": "JaneDoe"  
  },  
  "action": "viewPhoto",  
  "resource": {  
    "type": "PhotoApp::Photo",  
    "id": "JohnDoe.jpg"  
  },  
  "context": {}  
}
```



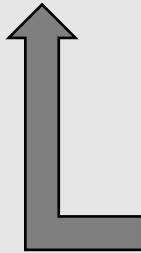
```
# allow DoeFamily to view DoePhotos  
policies_permit contains "DoePhotos" if {  
  some p in principal_parents  
  p.type == "PhotoApp::UserGroup"  
  p.id == "DoeFamily"  
  input.action == "viewPhoto"  
  some r in resource_parents  
  r.type == "PhotoApp::Album"  
  r.id == "DoePhotos"  
}
```

```
opa eval "data.photoapp.isAuthorized" \  
--schema schemas/ \  
--format pretty \  
--data photoapp.rego \  
--data data.json \  
--input input/JaneDoe-view-JohnDoe.regoinput.json
```



```
{  
  "decision": "ALLOW",  
  "determiningPolicies": [  
    "DoePhotos"  
  ]  
}
```

```
opa test data.json photoapp.rego photoapp_test.rego -v  
photoapp_test.rego:  
data.photoapptest.Album_DoePhotos.test_JaneDoe_viewPhoto_JohnDoe: PASS (1.393502ms)  
-----  
PASS: 1/1
```



To help you verify the correctness of your policies, OPA also gives you a framework that you can use to write tests for your policies.

```
package photoapptest  
  
Album_DoePhotos.test_JaneDoe_viewPhoto_JohnDoe if {  
    result := data.photoapp.isAuthorized with input as {  
        "principal": {  
            "type": "PhotoApp::User",  
            "id": "JaneDoe"  
        },  
        "action": "viewPhoto",  
        "resource": {  
            "type": "PhotoApp::Photo",  
            "id": "JohnDoe.jpg"  
        },  
        "context": {}  
    }  
    result.decision == "ALLOW"  
    result.determiningPolicies["DoePhotos"]  
}
```

# OPA WebAssembly (Wasm)

OPA is able to compile Rego policies into executable Wasm modules that can be evaluated with different inputs and external data. This is not running the OPA server in Wasm, nor is this just cross-compiled Golang code.

```
import { loadPolicy } from '@open-policy-agent/opa-wasm';
const policyWasm = readFileSync('policy.wasm');
policy = await loadPolicy(policyWasm);
const data = readFileSync('data.json');
policy.setData(JSON.parse(data.toString()));
```

```
function isAuthorized(regoinput, decision, policyId) {
  const input = readFileSync(`input/${regoinput}.regoinput.json`);
  const resultSet = policy.evaluate(JSON.parse(input.toString()));
  expect(resultSet).not.toBeNull();
  expect(resultSet.length).toBe(1);
  expect(resultSet[0].result.decision).toEqual(decision);
  expect(resultSet[0].result.determiningPolicies).toContain(policyId);
}
```

```
test.each([
  ['JaneDoe-view-JohnDoe', 'ALLOW', 'DoePhotos'],
  ['JorgeSouza-view-Judges', 'ALLOW', 'PhotoJudge'],
])('%s', async (regoinput, decision, policy) => {
  isAuthorized(regoinput, decision, policy);
});
```



- ✓ opa.test.js (2)
- ✓ photoapp test suite (2)
- ✓ JaneDoe-view-JohnDoe
- ✓ JorgeSouza-view-Judges

Test Files 1 passed (1)  
Tests 2 passed (2)



OpenFGA™

# OpenFGA

- Takes the best ideas from Google's Zanzibar paper for Relationship-Based Access Control (ReBAC), and also solves problems for Role-based Access Control and Attribute-Based Access Control use cases.
- Originally developed by Auth0/Okta, and donated to the Cloud Native Computing Foundation on September 14, 2022, and is currently at the Sandbox level of graduation.

# Zanzibar: Google's Consistent, Global Authorization System

Zanzibar provides a uniform data model and configuration language for expressing a wide range of access control policies from hundreds of client services at Google, including Calendar, Cloud, Drive, Maps, Photos, and YouTube.

- Allows clients to define arbitrary relations between users and objects
- ACLs are collections of object-user or object-object relations represented as *relation tuples*
- Groups are simply ACLs with membership semantics
- Can implement RBAC policies on top of namespace configuration language

# What Is A Relationship Tuple?

A relationship tuple consists of:

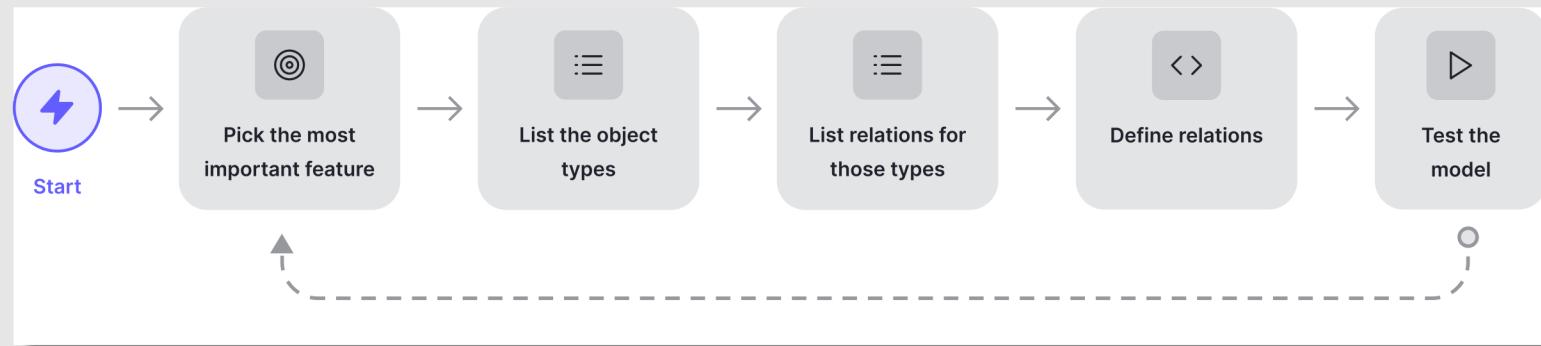
- a **user** (entity in the system)
- a **relation** (string defined in the type definition)
- an **object** (entity in the system)
- a **condition** (optional truthy outcome)

An **authorization model**, together with relationship tuples, determinate whether a relationship exists between a user and an object.

# Define a ReBAC model in OpenFGA

Your feature description should include the objects, users and groups of users participating in the system. Sentences should look like this:

A user {user} can perform action {action} to/on/in {object types} ... IF {conditions}



```

model
schema 1.1

type User
type UserGroup
relations
  define member: [User]

type Role
relations
  define assignee: [User]

type Photo
relations
  define parent: [Album]
  define viewPhoto: [User with nonPrivatePhoto, UserGroup#member, Role#assignee with inJudgingSession]
    or owner or subject or viewPhoto from parent
  define editPhoto: owner
  define deletePhoto: owner
  define owner: [User]
  define subject: [User]

type Album
relations
  define viewPhoto: [User with nonPrivatePhoto, UserGroup#member]

condition inJudgingSession(judgingSession: bool, labels: list<string>) {
  judgingSession == true && "contest" in labels
}

condition nonPrivatePhoto(labels: list<string>) {
  !("private" in labels)
}

```

The Configuration Language describes the relations possible for an object of a given type and lists the conditions under which one is related to that object.

# localhost:3000/playground

localhost:3000/playground

OpenFGA PhotoApp

AUTHORIZATION MODEL (5)

```
4 type User
5
6 type UserGroup
7   relations
8     | define member: [User]
9
10 type Role
11   relations
12     | define assignee: [User]
13
14 type Photo
15   relations
16     | define deletePhoto: owner
17     | define editPhoto: owner
18     | define owner: [User]
19     | define parent: [Album]
20     | define subject: [User]
21     | define viewPhoto: [User with nonPrivatePhoto, UserGroup#member, Role#assignee with
inJudgingSession] or owner or subject or viewPhoto from parent
22
23 type Album
24   relations
25     | define viewPhoto: [User with nonPrivatePhoto, UserGroup#member]
```

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TYPES PREVIEWER

subject

viewPhoto

owner

editPhoto

deletePhoto

parent

viewPhoto

Album

User

UserGroup

Role

Photo

PhotoApp

member

assignee

RELATIONS

STORE

TYPE

Tuples (15) Assertions (0)

ADD TUPLE >

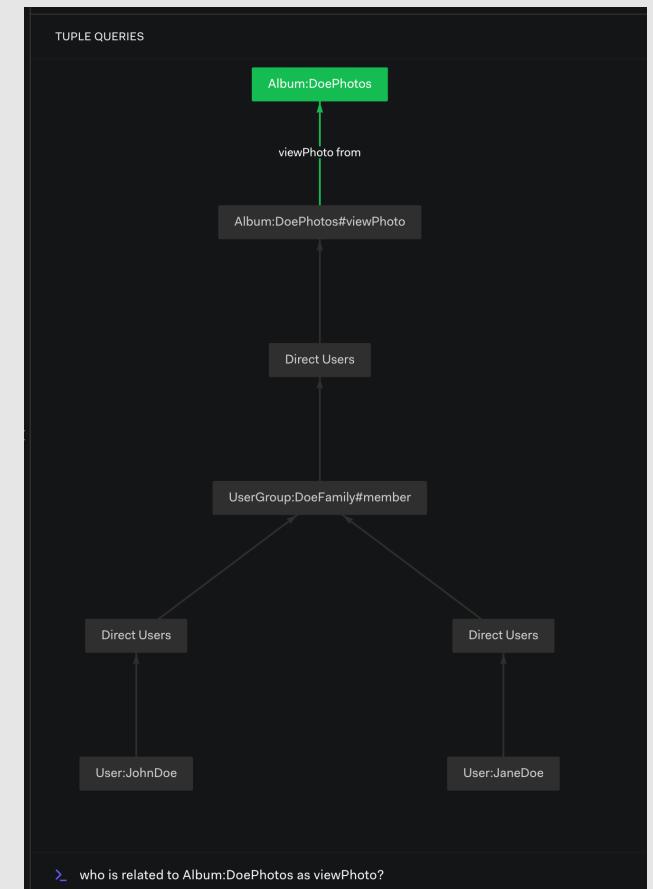
USER	UserGroup:DoeFamily#member
RELATION	viewPhoto
OBJECT	Album:DoePhotos

USER	User:JohnDoe
RELATION	member
OBJECT	UserGroup:DoeFamily

USER	Album:JaneVacation
RELATION	parent
OBJECT	Photo:nightclub.jpg

SAVE

TUPLE QUERIES >



# OpenFGA CLI

- A cross-platform CLI to interact with an OpenFGA server
- If a model is provided, the test will run in a built-in OpenFGA instance (you do not need a separate server).

```
fga model validate --file model.fga
{
  "is_valid":true
}
```

```
fga model test --tests store.fga.yaml
# Test Summary #
Tests 12/12 passing
Checks 25/25 passing
```

A user {UserGroup DoeFamily} can perform action {viewPhoto} to/on/in {Album DoePhotos}

Object-to-Object relationships can be used to indicate that a user's relation with one object can influence their relationship with another object.

```
type Photo
relations
  define parent: [Album]
  define viewPhoto: [User with nonPrivatePhoto, UserGroup#member] or owner or viewPhoto from parent
  define owner: [User]
type Album
relations
  define viewPhoto: [User with nonPrivatePhoto, UserGroup#member]
```

- **user:** User:JaneDoe  
**relation:** member  
**object:** UserGroup:DoeFamily
- **user:** Album:DoePhotos  
**relation:** parent  
**object:** Photo:JohnDoe\_jpg
- **user:** UserGroup:DoeFamily#member  
**relation:** viewPhoto  
**object:** Album:DoePhotos

- **name:** JaneDoe view JohnDoe\_jpg  
**check:**
  - **user:** User:JaneDoe  
**object:** Photo:JohnDoe\_jpg  
**assertions:**
    - viewPhoto:** true
    - owner:** false

A user {User} can perform action {viewPhoto} to/on/in {Photo}  
... IF {subject include User}

```
type Photo
  relations
    define parent: [Album]
    define viewPhoto: [User with nonPrivatePhoto, UserGroup#member] or owner or subject
    define owner: [User]
    define subject: [User]
```

- user: User:JohnDoe  
relation: owner  
object: Photo:Judges\_jpg
- user: User:JorgeSouza  
relation: subject  
object: Photo:Judges\_jpg
- name: JorgeSouza view Judges\_jpg  
check:
  - user: User:JorgeSouza  
object: Photo:Judges\_jpg  
assertions:
    - viewPhoto: true
    - subject: true

A user {User JohnDoe} can perform action {viewPhoto} to/on/in {Album JaneVacation}  
... IF {labels doesn't include "private"}

Conditions allow you to model more complex authorization modeling scenarios involving attributes and can be used to represent some Attribute-based Access Control (ABAC) policies.

```
condition nonPrivatePhoto(labels: list<string>)
{
  !("private" in labels)
}
```

---

```
- user: User:JohnDoe
  relation: viewPhoto
  object: Album:JaneVacation
  condition:
    name: nonPrivatePhoto
```

- name: JohnDoe view sunset\_jpg  
check:
  - user: User:JohnDoe  
object: Photo:sunset\_jpg  
context:  
  labels: ["contest"]  
assertions:  
  viewPhoto: true  
  owner: false
- name: JohnDoe view nightclub\_jpg  
check:
  - user: User:JohnDoe  
object: Photo:nightclub\_jpg  
context:  
  labels: ["private"]  
assertions:  
  viewPhoto: false  
  owner: false

# Call to Action

- Bookmark / Star the GitHub repo
  - <https://github.com/hakanson/that2024>
- Take an authorization problem and model using one of these open-source projects

# Thank You

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