

# SECURITY

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Avoid the danger which has  
not yet come



# EISA – the BIG picture

- **Enterprise information security architecture (EISA)**  
the part of the **enterprise architecture** focusing on information security throughout the enterprise.
- Key component of the information security technology governance process at any organization of significant size



# The Bottom Line

## Fundamentally:

Most of the damage to Information Technology (IT) security is not from outside malicious attacks, but rather from simple mistakes, unintended **or unauthorized actions** of legitimate users and IT engineers who are either untrained in security and/or who misunderstood the instructions from the management.

[Benson Yeung, Senior Partner – TNS](#)

...biggest problem is simple stupidity. **Lax access policies** and internal employees are still the biggest source of security headaches. A recent Verizon report backs this up, with research indicating that 96 percent of attacks are not sophisticated and 97 percent are easily avoidable.

[eWeek - Top 10 Security Issues](#)

## Fundamentally:

**Keep It Simple...**

applies well to security - Complexity increases the risk of problems. Avoid complexity and avoid problems.



# The Spring Fundamentals

## **Authentication**

refers to unique identifying information from each system user, generally in the form of a username and password.

## **Authorization**

refers to the process of allowing or denying individual user access to resources.

Spring provides for externalized authorization

## **Access Control List**

every secure domain object has an associated definition[ACL] that defines domain object specific authorization [CRUD]

**These concepts are industry wide , and not at all specific to Spring**

**NOTE: Core Enterprise Security is basically communication  
technology agnostic [JMS,RMI, Flat File, etc.]**

**[ RE: it is NOT HTTP specific]**



# Spring Security

- Provides authentication and authorization for enterprise applications.
- These are the two main areas that Spring Security targets.
- Base on 'Acegi Security' (pronounced *Ah-see-gee*)

## **Brief History**

Original Acegi 2003

Apache.org 2004

Spring Project 2006

Spring Security 2008



# Spring Security Core Classes

- **SecurityContextHolder** helper class to provide access to the SecurityContext.
  - **SecurityContext** holds the Authentication Object [current authenticated user].
  - **Authentication** represents the principal in a Spring Security-specific manner.
  - **GrantedAuthority** reflects the application-wide permissions granted to a principal.
- 
- **Helper Interfaces:**
  - **UserDetails Interface** provides the necessary information to build an Authentication object from your application's “custom” DAOs or other source of security data.
  - **UserDetailsService Interface** loads & creates a “custom” UserDetails when passed in a String-based username.



# Main Point

- Security underlies an entire enterprise. It provides a shield that makes the application invulnerable.
- ***Science of Consciousness:*** *Transcendental Consciousness is characterized by the quality of invincibility, which means one cannot be overcome or overpowered.*



# Authentication

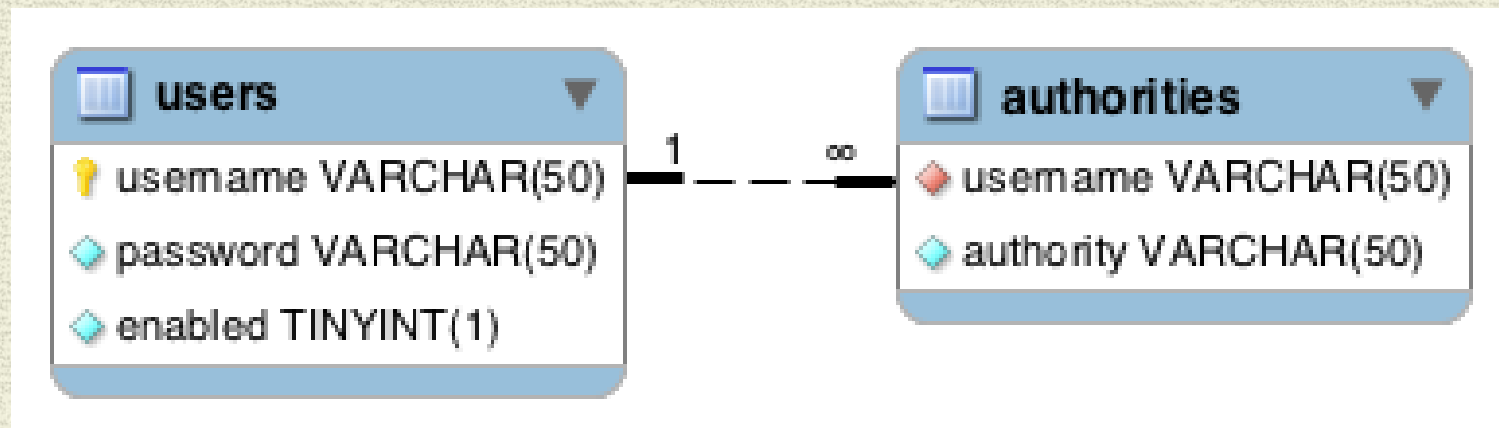
- Spring supports a wide range of authentication models:
- HTTP BASIC
- HTTP Digest
- HTTP X.509
- Java Open Source Single Sign On (JOSSO)
- Form-based
- Java Authentication and Authorization (JAAS)
- Central Authentication Service (CAS)
- Automatic "remember-me"
- Anonymous authentication
- Run-as authentication
- Atlassian Crowd
- Roller
- Tapestry
- LDAP[Lightweight Directory Access Protocol]
- Kerberos
- OpenID
- Mule ESB
- Elastic Path
- AppFuse
- Oauth2



# Spring Standard Authentication Tables

- These standard JDBC implementation tables to load the password, account status (enabled or disabled) and a list of authorities (roles) for the user.
- Each user can have zero or more “authorities”, or roles

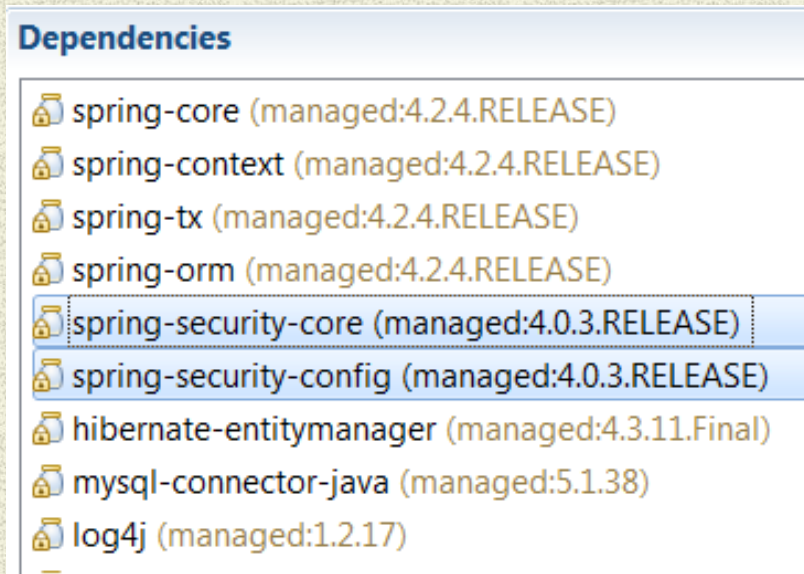
Standard JDBC implementation of the UserDetailsService (JdbcDaoImpl)



- Authority as Roles: `ROLE_USER,ROLE_ADMIN...`
- Authority [Authorization] to do “something”



## Maven Dependencies



## XML NameSpace

`xmlns:security="http://www.springframework.org/schema/security"`

`http://www.springframework.org/schema/security`

`http://www.springframework.org/schema/security/spring-security.xsd`



# Spring Standard Authentication Provider Configuration

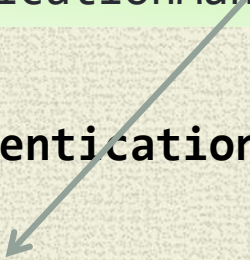
- `<!-- Enable AOP Authorization Annotations -->`
- `<security:global-method-security pre-post-annotations="enabled" >`
- `</security:global-method-security>`
- `<!-- "custom" queries are because we have used our own schema...-->`
- `<security:authentication-manager alias="authenticationManager">`
  - `<security:authentication-provider>`
    - `<security:password-encoder hash="bcrypt" />`
    - `<security:jdbc-user-service`
      - `data-source-ref="dataSource"`
      - `users-by-username-query="select username,password,enabled`  
`from credentials where username=?"`
      - `authorities-by-username-query="select u1.username,`  
`u2.authority from credentials u1, authority u2 where`  
`u1.username = u2.username and u1.username =?" />`
    - `</security:authentication-provider>`
- `</security:authentication-manager>`



# Custom “standalone” Authenticate a user [ login ]

- **AuthenticateUser.java**

authenticationManager DECLARED in Config



- Authentication request = new
- UsernamePasswordAuthenticationToken(name, password);
- Authentication result =
- authenticationManager.authenticate(request);
- SecurityContextHolder.getContext().setAuthentication(result);

- **To Logout**

- 
- // Clears the context for the current user/thread
- SecurityContextHolder.clearContext();

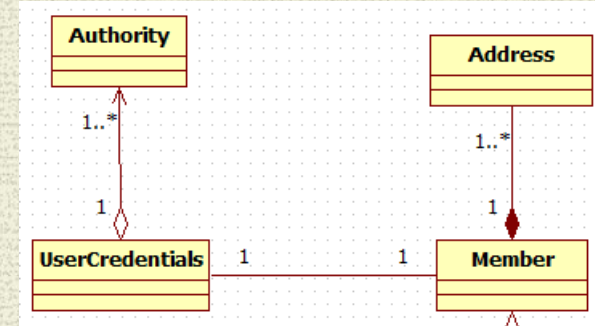


# Code Example

```

• Authority authority = new Authority();
• authority.setAuthority("ROLE_USER");
• authority.setUsername("Sean");
•
• UserCredentials userCredentials = new UserCredentials();
• userCredentials.setUsername("Sean");
• userCredentials.setPassword("Sean");
• userCredentials.setEnabled(true);
•
• userCredentials.getAuthorities().add(authority);
• Member member = new Member();
• member.setFirstName("Sean");
• member.setLastName("Smith");
• member.setMemberNumber(1);
•
• member.setUserCredentials(userCredentials);
• memberService.saveFull(member);

```



**SEE SecurityAuthentication DEMO**



# AUTHORIZATION

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# Authorization

## Access Control Mechanisms

Mandatory Access

– Rigid Fixed; Military

Discretionary Access

– User/Admin modification of access permission

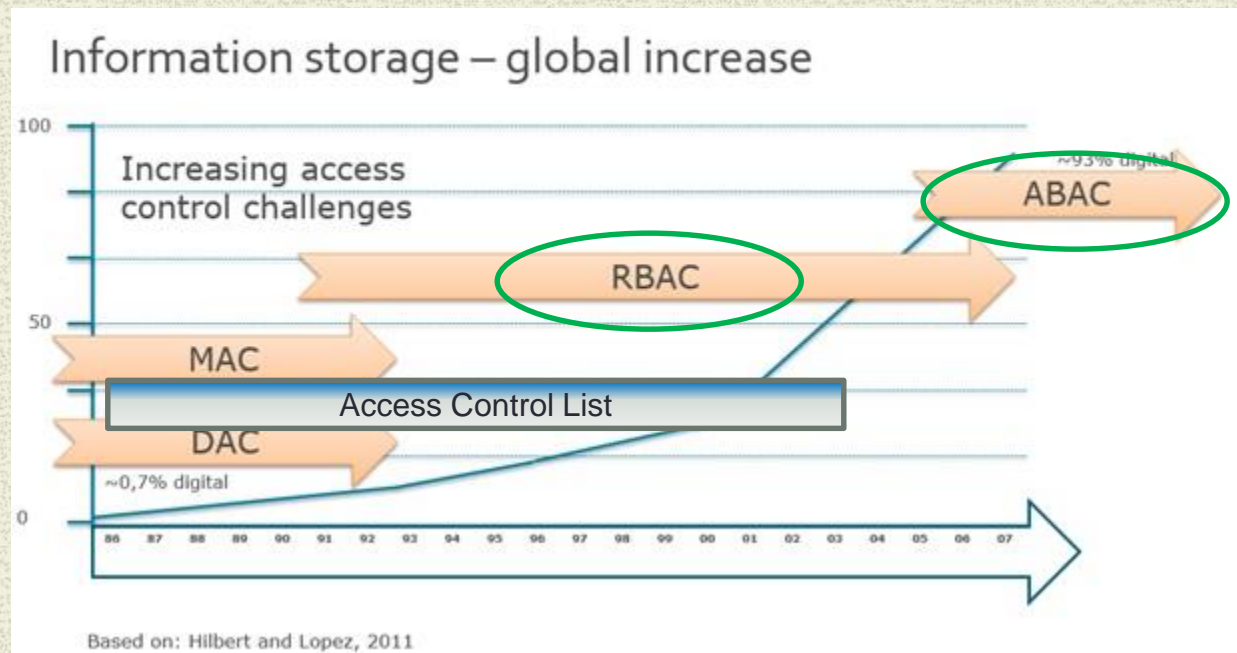
“usually” ACL based

Role Based

– centered around organizational structure role-permissions, user-role and role-role relationships  
“can” be ACL based

Attribute Based

– Attributes (user, resource, object, environment)  
dynamically evaluated by policies [rules]





# RBAC

## Role Based Access Control

Common Enterprise approach to managing users' access to resources

### Basic Principle:

Access is through **Roles** - **Permissions** are given to **Roles**, not to **Users**.

**Users** are assigned to **Roles**.

**Permissions** are given to a **Roles**.

**User** has one or more **Roles**.

RBAC has the following model:

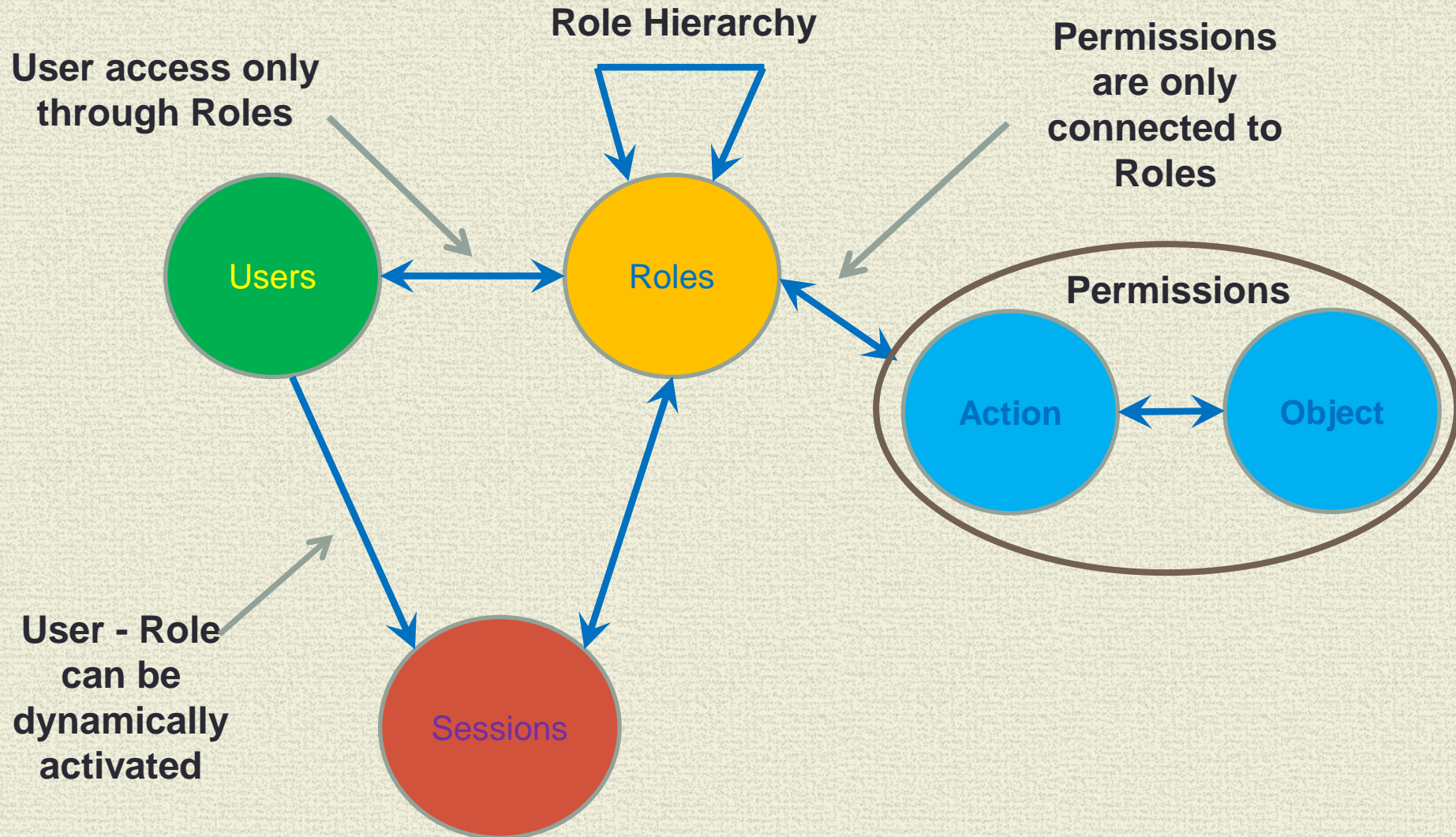
- Many To Many relationship between **Users** and **Roles**.

- Many To Many relationship between **Roles** and **Permissions**.

- Roles** can have a parent **Role**. {Hierarchy – advanced RBAC}



# RBAC Model





# RBAC Applications

- Addresses needs of commercial and government organizations. Used to facilitate administration of security in large organizations with hundreds of users and thousands of permissions.
- **However**
- User-centric does NOT consider attributes such as :
  - resource information
  - relationship between user and the resource
  - dynamic information [e.g. time of the day or user IP].
- ABAC addresses this by defining access control based on attributes  
**RBAC is essentially a subset of ABAC with one attribute [Role].**
- See [NIST - RBAC](#)



# Attribute Based Access Control [ABAC]

ABAC is a "next generation" authorization model that provides dynamic, context-aware and risk-intelligent access control.

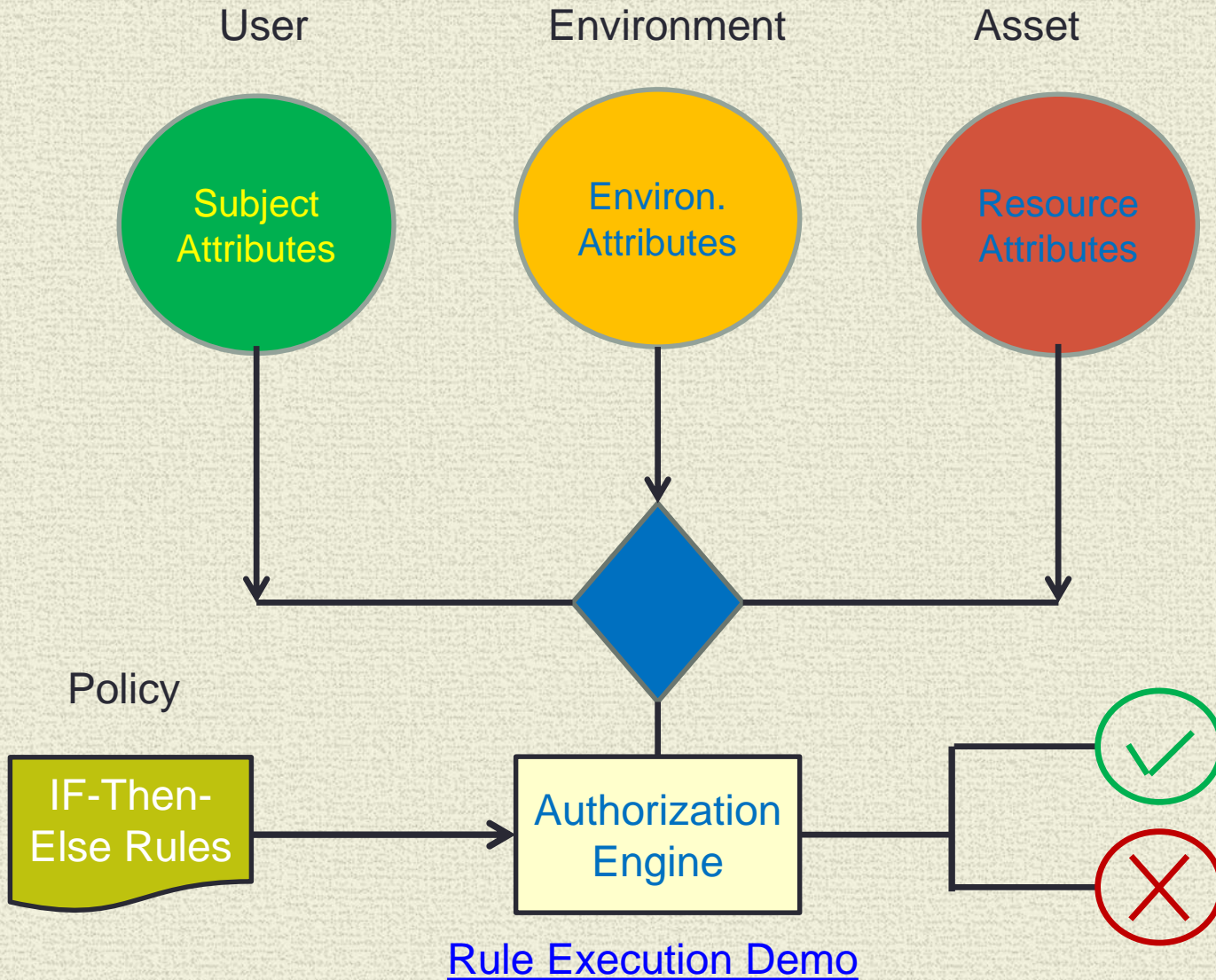
*“By 2020, 70% of all businesses will use ABAC as the dominant mechanism to protect critical assets, up from 5% today.”*

*Gartner Predictions [2013]*

ABAC defines access by matching the current value of **user attributes, object attributes, and environment conditions** with requirements specified in **access control policies[rules]**



# ABAC “Architecture”





# ABAC Scenario

- **ATTRIBUTES:**
- **User:** Group Memberships, Department ,Management level
- **Action:** Read, etc.
- **Asset:** Debit Account, Health Record, etc...
- **Environment:**  
Time; Physical Location; Device type [Smart phone, PC]
- **Policy [ Rule]**
- All **Employees** belonging to the **Product Department** should have **full access** to **uploaded products** between **9 am and 10 pm M-F**.



# ABAC Applications

- **Policy & Attributes** can be defined in a Technology neutral way  
Microservices, Applications,  
Database, Big Data...  
InternetofThings
- Implementation through
- [XACML](#) [eXtensible Access Control Markup Language]  
standard for attribute- and policy-based access control
- **However**
- Auditing is difficult with ABAC ...
- The rules and attribute management can get complex..



# Simple Spring “Role” Based \* Method Level Authorization Example

Enable annotations & expression-based access control

- Configuration:

```
<security:global-method-security  
    pre-post-annotations="enabled"/>
```



- MemberServiceImpl.java

Allows logic to be encapsulated in expression.

- `@PreAuthorize("hasRole('ROLE_USER')")`
- `public void findAll() {`  
    `memberDao.findAll();`

“SIMPLE” is keyword – not very scalable or maintainable

- \* But **NOT** RBAC

SEE Authentication Demo [again]



# Common built-in expressions

Expression	Description
<b>hasRole([role])</b>	Returns true if the current principal has the specified role.
<b>hasAnyRole([role1,role2])</b>	Returns true if the current principal has any of the supplied roles (given as a comma-separated list of strings)
<b>hasAuthority([authority])</b>	Returns true if the current principal has the specified authority.
<b>hasAnyAuthority([auth,auth])</b>	Returns true if the current principal has any of the supplied authorities (given as a comma-separated list of strings)
principal	Allows direct access to the principal object representing the current user
authentication	Allows direct access to the current Authentication object
permitAll	Always evaluates to true
denyAll	Always evaluates to false
isAnonymous()	Returns true if the current principal is an anonymous user
isRememberMe()	Returns true if the current principal is a remember-me user
isAuthenticated()	Returns true if the user is not anonymous
isFullyAuthenticated()	Returns true if the user is not an anonymous or a remember-me user
<b>hasPermission(Object target, Object permission)</b>	Returns true if user has access to target for the given permission
hasPermission(Object targetId, String targetType, Object permission)	Returns true if user has access to target for the given permission



# Spring ROLE HIERARCHY

## USE CASE:

ROLE\_ADMIN should contain ROLE\_USER privileges.

## Solutions[s]:

Admin user ::= ROLE\_ADMIN, ROLE\_USER  
OR  
hasAnyRole('ROLE\_USER','ROLE\_ADMIN')  
OR

## Configure ROLE HIERARCHY:

```
<bean id="roleHierarchy"
class="org.springframework.security.access.hierarchicalroles.RoleHierarchyImpl">
  <property name="hierarchy">
    <value>
      ROLE_SUPERVISOR > ROLE_ADMIN
      ROLE_ADMIN > ROLE_USER
      ROLE_USER > ROLE_GUEST
    </value> </property>
  </bean>
```

**In Authentication DEMO,**  
**Bill has Admin Role .**  
**He cannot execute a**  
**Member findAll() because**  
**it requires ROLE\_USER!**

**With Role Hierarchy**  
**Admin Role will**  
**Assume User Role**

**Bill can now execute a**  
**Member findAll()**

**Still "SIMPLE"– not very scalable or maintainable**

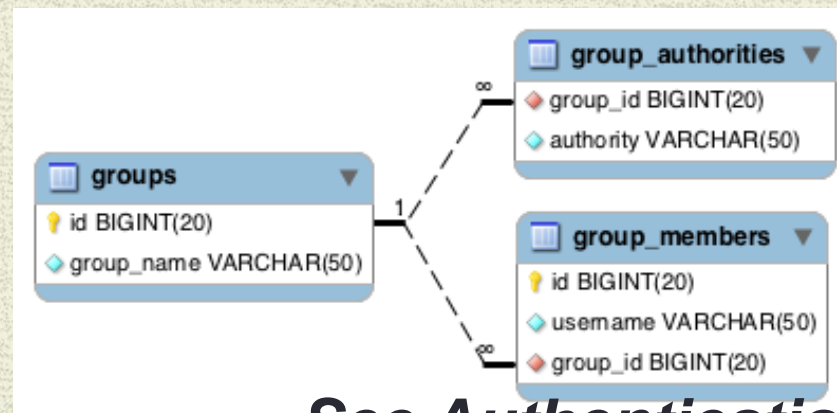
**Hierarchy DEMO**



# Spring Security Groups

- Users and Roles are structured according to Groups
  - Users are organized into groups;
  - Roles are assigned to the groups.
  - User inherits Roles from Associated Group[s].
- Reflects an enterprise organizational structure
- Users can be moved in/out of a group “at will”...

## Spring Standard Authority Groups Tables

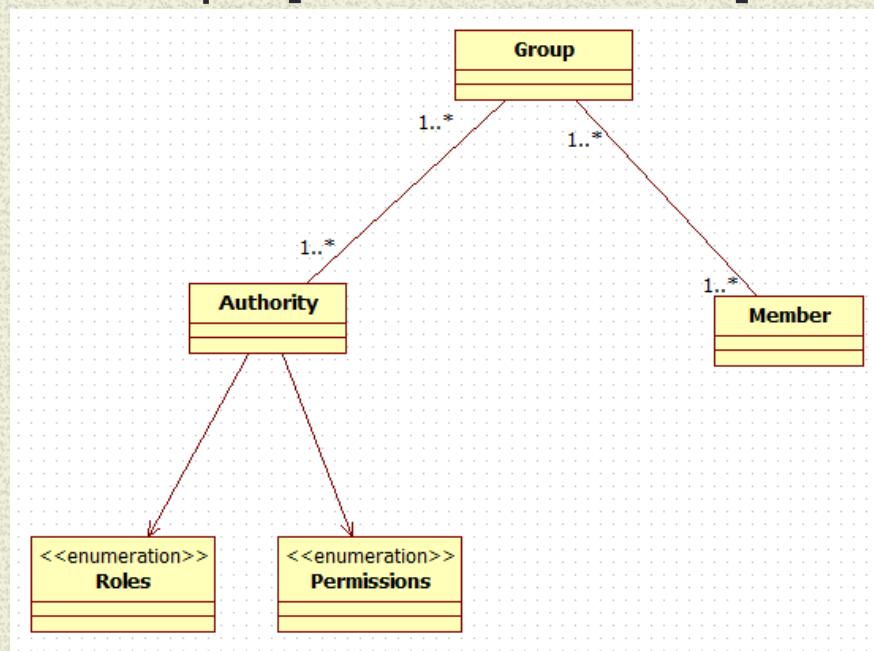


***See AuthenticationGroup Demo***



# Basic RBAC Support in Spring

1. Many To Many Relationships
2. No **direct** Member to Permission Assignment
3. “Active” [Based on User session] Group Filtering \*\*
4. Hierarchy of Groups [= RBAC Roles] \*\*



\*\* Can be achieved through custom implementation

\*\* Advanced RBAC - can be achieved using LDAP



# Permission Based Access

*As a general rule, prefer permission-based access to role-based access. There are exceptions to this rule, but it holds as a general rule.*

*Maintaining correct Authorization [Adding & Deleting ROLES] is an ongoing code level task*

```
@PreAuthorize("hasAnyRole('ROLE_USER','ROLE_ADMIN','ROLE_SUPERVISOR')")  
public Member getMember(long id){ ... }
```

 Assume ROLE\_s NOT hierarchical

## VERSUS

```
@PreAuthorize("hasAuthority('READ')")  
public Member getMember(long id){ ... }
```

*This is more maintainable since access is based on READ permission. Just remove permission from GROUP instead of modifying inline annotations*

• See AuthGroupPermission DEMO



# Custom Rule Authorization

- Authorization can get more complicated than simple allow/deny access.
- Authorization decisions need to be made concerning the actual domain object

## ***Fine grained object Control***

The built-in hasPermission() expression is linked into the Spring Security ACL

***We can create a Custom implementation of [PermissionEvaluator](#) allows for custom rules***



# Override ACL permissionEvaluator

- `<security:global-method-security pre-post-annotations="enabled" >`
- `<security:expression-handler ref="methodExpressionHandler"/>`
- `</security:global-method-security>`
- `<bean id="methodExpressionHandler"`
- `class="org.springframework.security.access.expression.method.DefaultMethodSecurityExpressionHandler">`
- `<property name="permissionEvaluator">`
- `<bean id="permissionEvaluator"`
- `class="edu.mum.security.rules.CustomPermissionEvaluator"/>`
- `</property>`
- `</bean>`



# Rule Execution Demo Implementation

- `@PreAuthorize("hasPermission(#comment, 'update')")`
  - `public void update(Comment comment)`
- 
- `public class CustomPermissionEvaluator implements PermissionEvaluator`
  - `@Override`
  - `public boolean hasPermission(Authentication authentication, Object targetDomainObject, Object permission) {`
  - `// Setup "environment" values`
  - `environment.put("timeZone" , authenticateUser.getTimeZone());`
  - `// Look up asset specific policy/rules`
  - `Policy policy= (Policy)`  
`Main.policyList.get(targetDomainObject.getClass().getSimpleName());`
  - `// policy is ABAC context [User, action, asset, environment]`  
`return policy.checkRules(authentication, (String)permission, targetDomainObject, environment);`
-



# Spring & ABAC

- Spring Security ABAC Support
  - Utilizes cross-cutting concern
  - Separates application logic from rule logic.
  - Has the capability to support XACML
- **By Example: \*\***
- Axiomatics[3<sup>rd</sup> party vendor] provides an SDK for integrating XACML into Spring Security Enterprise Java applications.
  - [Axiomatics -Enhancing Spring Security](#)
- The SDK provides three core capabilities:
  - URL level access control using Web Expressions      **WEB**
  - UI level access control using JSP Tag library      **WEB**
  - Method level access control (PreAuthorize, PostAuthorize, PreFilter and PostFilter)***
- **\*\*NOTE: Essentially an XACML implementation of hasPermission.**



# Summary

## Access Control on Service Methods

- Check for Role [Spring definition of Role] **"SIMPLE"**
  - `@PreAuthorize("hasRole('ROLE_ADMIN')")`
  - `public void delete(Comment comment) {`
- Check for Permission[ AKA Authority] **Use with groups [RBAC]**
  - `@PreAuthorize("hasAuthority('DELETE')")`
  - `public void delete(Comment comment) {`
- Check against [custom] Rule **Fine grained [ABAC]**
  - `@PreAuthorize("hasPermission(#comment, 'update')")`
  - `public void update(Comment comment) {`

SpEL syntax

#comment refers to method argument

**NAME**

it is checking for  
Update Permission



# Main Point

1. Spring Security allows for authentication and authorization of system users. It gives access to resources “appropriately”. It works as a stabilizing factor in the enterprise infrastructure
2. ***Science of Consciousness: Securing life at its basis - at the underlying field of Creative Intelligence – guarantees stability and success at all levels***



