

CYBR 371

Assignment 1: File System Access Control (ACL)

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Question 1

Create an access matrix of the directories shown in Figure 1 and created by the script file-
system-setup.sh (see task 2). For each directory (group of directories) justify the permissions given
(e.g., why did you have to give rwx permission to X directory for X staff). The permissions set on
these directories must follow the principle of least privilege

Directory	Owner	Registered Doctor	Unregistered Doctor	Nurse	Receptionist	Administrator
Scripts	Administrator	r-X	r-X	r-X	r-X	rwx
Staff	Administrator	- - -	- - -	- - -	r-X	rwx
Patients	Administrator	r-X	- - -	r-X	r-X	rwx
Subdirectories of Staff						
Administrators	Administrator	- - -	- - -	- - -	r-X	rwx
Doctors	Administrator	- - -	- - -	- - -	r-X	rwx
Nurses	Administrator	- - -	- - -	- - -	r-X	rwx
Receptionists	Administrator	- - -	- - -	- - -	r-X	rwx
Subdirectories of Doctors, Nurses, Administrators and Receptionists						
administrator_name	Administrator	- - -	- - -	- - -	r-X	rwx
doctor_name	Administrator	- - -	- - -	- - -	r-X	rwx
nurse_name	Administrator	- - -	- - -	- - -	r-X	rwx
receptionist_name	Administrator	- - -	- - -	- - -	r-X	rwx
Subdirectories of Patient						
patient_name	Administrator	r-X	- - -	r-X	r-X	rwx

Question 4

Explain in detail where the ACL information of an object is saved on a Linux system (EXT2, 3 and 4 file systems) and how your system keeps track of them.

Links:

- <https://unix.stackexchange.com/questions/93508/where-is-acl-data-technically-stored>
- <https://www.rampfesthudson.com/where-are-acls-stored-in-linux/>

This is dependent on the filesystem, but generally ACLs are metadata stored in the file nodes, just like traditional permissions, dates etc.

As the size of ACLs vary, they may end up being stored in separate blocks. That said, this detail will only matter if one is designing a filesystem or programming a filesystem driver.