

OSY.SSI [2018] [2]

ACCESS DENIED

In the news...

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- ▶ ... "It's unfortunate, but each camera will need to be updated manually by users"

In the last episode...

\$ · CIA · 50/50 · ×

Insert video here.

All definitions in one little playlet

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What could go wrong?

Access control

The goal of access control is to provide

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- ▶ Integrity

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Access control implementations must be **NEAT**

- ▶ Non-bypassable
- ▶ Evaluable
- ▶ Always invoked
- ▶ Tamper-proof





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Example : `chmod`

So far so good

Question: How are *access rights* and *security properties* related?

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Not obvious... More on that in a minute!

AC in practice? CBAC vs ACL

- ▶ **Capability-based (CBAC):** You are given a token that provides access (think key).
- ▶ **Access control lists (ACL):** Access is granted by your presence on a list (think VIP Party!)

Whichever flavour you fancy most, they both rely on

- ▶ A certain notion of *identity*
- ▶ A form of *authority* in control

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When Metaphysics meets Science

Strong version: what characterises an individual?

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Henceforth,

Identity \Leftrightarrow Having the Secret

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Examples ? Realistic examples?

In short, secrets seem to require... access control themselves.

Aside: Keep secrets secret!



Gen Michael Hayden
@GenMhayden

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$$\Pr[\text{Auth}_{X,Z}(Y) \mid \text{Auth}_{X,Y}(X)] = \text{negl}$$

Examples ?

How to achieve non-transferability?

Any idea?

Zero-knowledge proofs

Fact:

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An example from my magical hat

Exercise: Can you think of another one?

Important distinctions

So we have:

- ▶ A **secret** (which is secret)
- ▶ An **authentication mechanism** (which is public)
- ▶ An **access control policy** (which may be public or not, but better be)

These three things are different and (in principle) independent.

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REMEMBER THIS: *Separation of policy and mechanism*

Table of Contents

Access control

Identification and authentication

Formal models: The Bell–LaPadula ACM

Formal models

The goal of a formal model is to prove security properties.

This becomes necessary as soon as the system becomes large.

Bell and LaPadula designed the first provable AC model.

The Bell-LaPadula Model

The archetypical Access Control

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The Bell-LaPadula Model

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- ▶ **Key idea:** “Good” state + “valid” operation \Rightarrow “Good” state.

The Bell-LaPadula Model

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Question:

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Question: Does it work?

The Bell-LaPadula Model

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Do you see why?

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Dilemma: *expressive AC vs. correct AC*.

BLP crime: **confusing policy and mechanism**

Information flow?

Question: can *information flow* be blocked?

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Question: can *information flow* be blocked? Can it be blocked selectively ?

Information flow?

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More about that in a later lecture!

P *clap* A *clap* U *clap* S *clap* E

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