

# Lecture 5: Access Control Ep.2


05506044 System Security

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# Recap

- Access Control Concepts
- Subject/object/Access Write
- ACM/Access Control List

- 
- Security m
  - Access Control Models
    - DAC
    - MAC
    - RBAC
  - Bell-lapadula Models

# Security label

With  
protection  
rings,

- เปรียบเทียบระหว่าง
  - the subject (number) and
  - the object (number)
- numbers
- examples of **Security label**

▶ มักจะถูกใช้ใน access control policy แบบ multi-level access control policies.

# Security label คืออะไร

เมื่อ **subject** มีการ  
**request access**

- trust process จะสร้าง **label** ให้ sub นั้น
- ทำการ **attach label** ไป  
กับ **request**



**security server** ใน  
**environment** เดียวกับ **object**  
จะทำการ

- เปรียบเทียบ **label** ของ **sub**  
ที่ร้องขอ กับ **object label\***
- ใช้ **policy rules** (แล้วแต่จะ  
เลือก) เพื่อตัดสินใจจะอนุญาต หรือ  
ปฏิเสธ (e.g. Bell-  
LaPadula rules)

\*\*\*แต่ละ **obj** จะมี **label** ของมัน  
เช่นกัน

# Multilevel security

- ทั้ง *sub* และ *obj* จะต้องมียก่า *security label* ซึ่ง label ของ *sub* และ *obj* จะเป็นคนละชนิด
- subjects labels => clearances,
- objects labels => classifications or sensitivity
  - every action/operation has a sensitivity rating (like top secret).
- Multilevel Security label เหมาะกับ องค์กรหรือระบบที่แบ่งการเข้าถึงข้อมูลเป็นลำดับชั้น เช่น
  - Military organizations.
  - Banks.
- We will look at an example in military organisations but the same approach can be used in other cases.

# Access Control Policies

- คำถาม

- Who might set the security policies? (ใครเป็นคนกำหนดว่า ใครทำอะไรได้บ้าง)

เจ้าของ object หรือ ระบบ ???

# Access Control Models

An access control model is a **framework** that dictates how subjects access objects.

It uses **access control technologies** and **security mechanisms** to enforce the rules and objectives of the model.

There are **three main types** of access control models:



# Access Control Policies/Models:

## Discretionary Access:

ผู้ใช้ที่เป็นเจ้าของ obj เป็นคนกำหนดว่าใครจะเข้าถึงอะไรได้บ้าง

## Non-Discretionary Access:

- Subjects and Objects have **fixed security attributes** that are **used by the System** to determine access.
- **Users cannot** modify security attributes.
- **System (Sec. Admin) → decides.**

# ประเภทของ **Access Control Policies/Models**



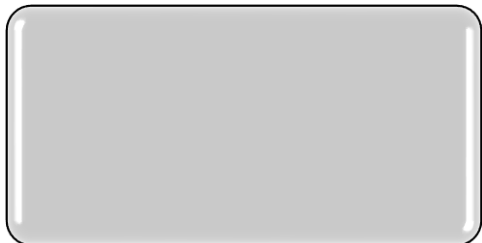
## Discretionary Access Control (DAC)

- **Users** decide how they want to protect their asset files



## Mandatory Access Control (MAC)

- **The system decides.**



## Role-based Access Control (RBAC)

- **The system decides.**

# Access Control Model

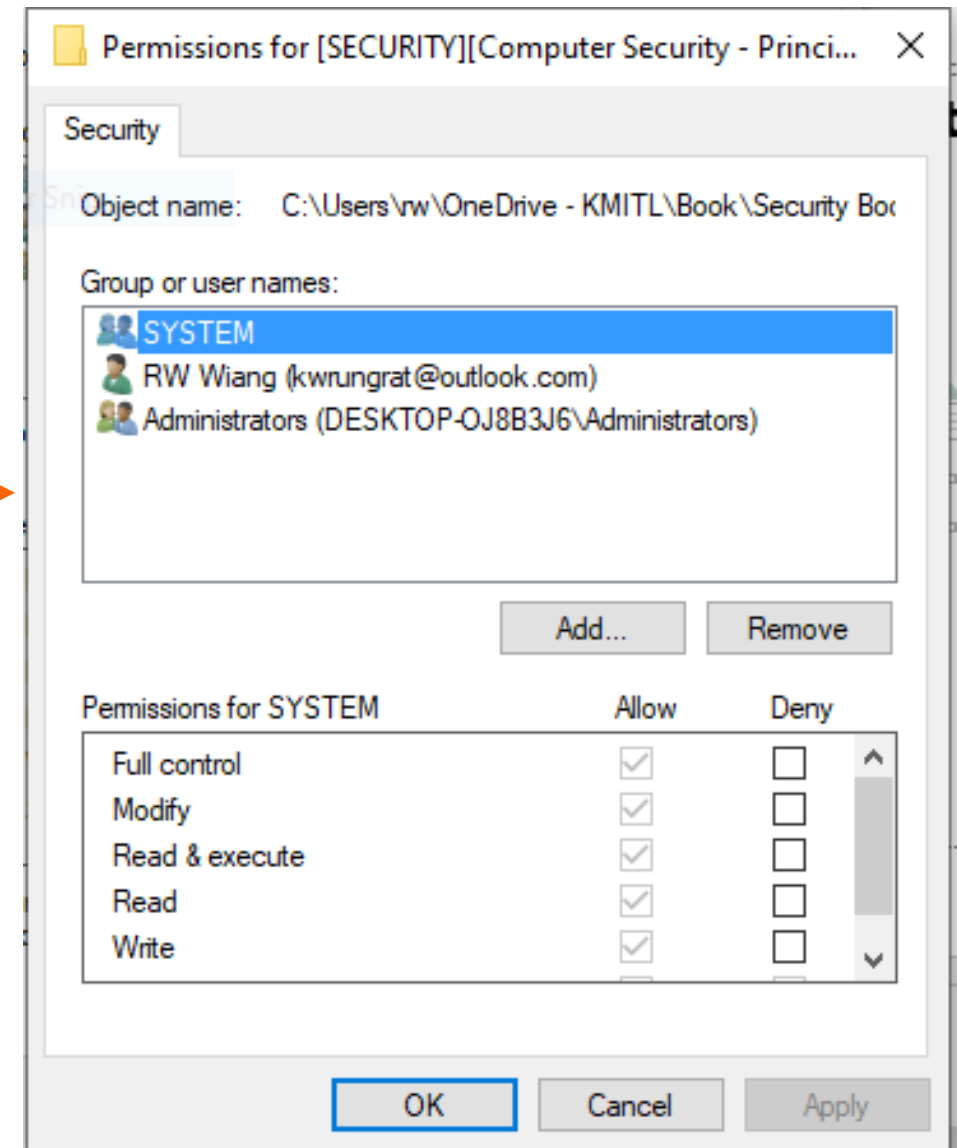
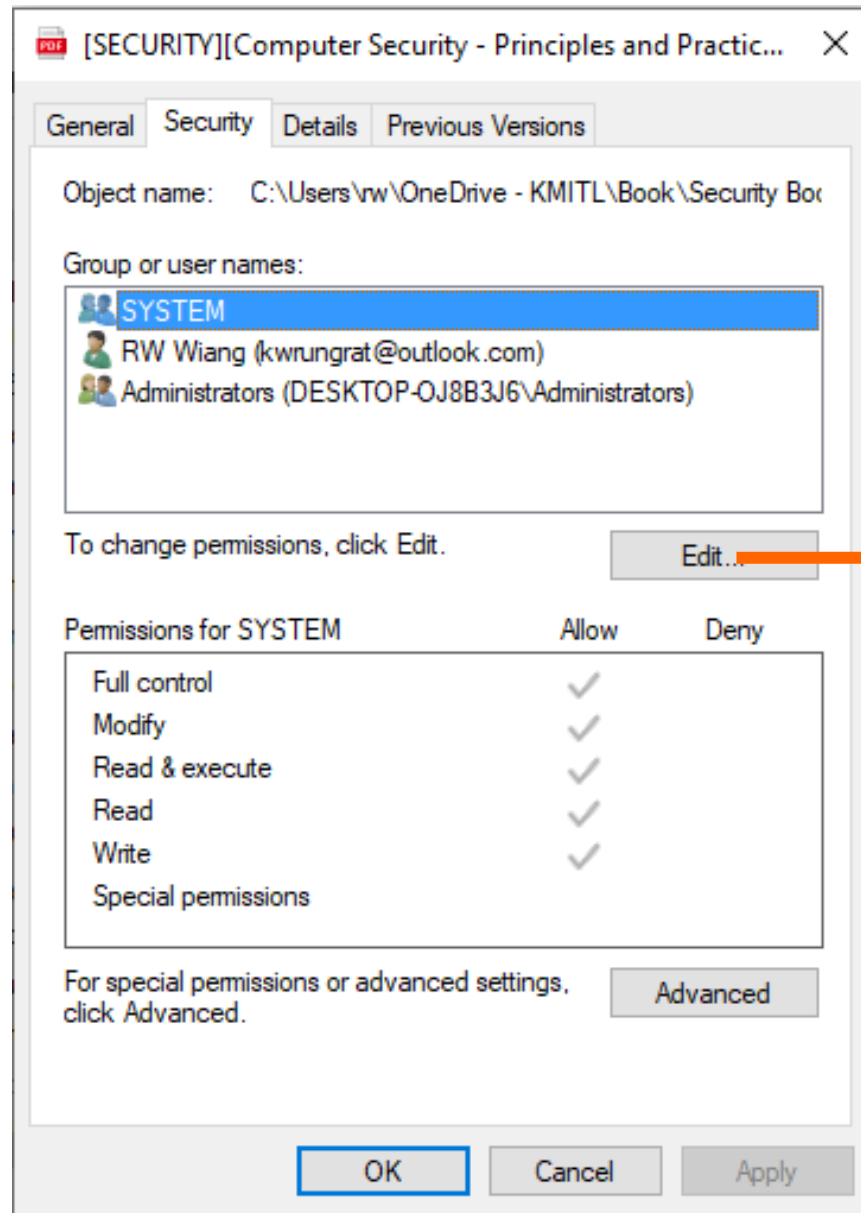
- Each model type uses **different methods** to control **how subjects access objects**, and each has its own benefits and limitations.
- These models are built into the core or the kernel of the **different operating systems** and possibly **their supporting applications**.
- Every operating system has a security kernel that enforces a reference monitor concept, which differs depending upon the type of access control model embedded into the system.
- For every access attempt, before a subject can communicate with an object, the security kernel reviews the rules of the access control model to determine whether the request is allow

# How to know which model to use?

- The **business and security goals** of an organization will help prescribe what access control model it should use, along with **the culture of the company** and the **habits of conducting business**.
- Some companies use one model exclusively, whereas others combine them to be able to provide the necessary level of protection.

# Discretion access control (DAC)

- A *discretionary access control (DAC)* policy is a means of assigning access rights based on *rules specified by users (owner of the file)*.
- This model is called discretionary because the *control of access is based on the discretion of the owner*.
- Ex. capabilities, access control list
- Also, the *file permissions* model implemented by nearly all operating systems.
  - Ex. permission string in unix are in this category.
  - the users (owner of the file) CAN change the permissions on files they own, making this a discretionary policy.



# Mandatory Access Control Policies

**Access Control Policy :**

- The **system** decides.
- **Object owners cannot change the policy**

**Enforces the control** mandated by

- a central authority

**Everything has a label,**

- security label
  - Subject - **clearance label**
  - Object - **sensitivity label**

**The most common form**

- is the **multi-level security policy**

# Role based access control Policy

The **system** decides

Based on the **roles** that users **are assigned** in the system rather than the user **identity**.

- Example - Teller, customer manager in the bank.



You have seen  
some examples  
of DAC.

You have seen  
some example  
of RBAC.

How about  
MAC?

- ▶ **Mostly, when talk about MAC, the multilevel security (MLS) policy is given as the example of this type of policy.**

# MAC: Multilevel Security Policy

- The policy specifies whether a **subject** with a given **clearance** can read or write **an object** that has a given **sensitivity**.
- Example: the **US Department of Defense** multilevel security model classifies the security of their documents into **four levels**



Top Secret
Secret
Confidential
Unclassified

- **Users** are **given various levels of clearance**.
- **Objects** have **different levels of sensitivity**.
- The access rights of a subject to an object is determined based on **these two parameters**.
  - **(clearance, sensitivity)**

Classification	Definition	Examples	Organizations That Would Use This
Unclassified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Data is not sensitive or classified.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Computer manual and warranty information</li><li>• Recruiting information</li></ul>	Military
Sensitive but unclassified (SBU)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Minor secret.</li><li>• If disclosed, it may not cause serious damage.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Medical data</li><li>• Answers to test scores</li></ul>	Military
Secret	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• If disclosed, it could cause serious damage to national security.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Deployment plans for troops</li><li>• Nuclear bomb placement</li></ul>	Military
Top secret	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• If disclosed, it could cause grave damage to national security.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Blueprints of new wartime weapons</li><li>• Spy satellite information</li><li>• Espionage data</li></ul>	Military

**Table 2-11** Commercial Business and Military Data Classification (continued)

- Confidential
- Private
- Sensitive
- Public

Classification	Definition	Examples	Organizations That Would Use This
Public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disclosure is not welcome, but it would not cause an adverse impact to company or personnel.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How many people are working on a specific project</li> <li>• Upcoming projects</li> </ul>	Commercial business
Sensitive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Requires special precautions to ensure the integrity and confidentiality of the data by protecting it from unauthorized modification or deletion.</li> <li>• Requires higher-than-normal assurance of accuracy and completeness.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Financial information</li> <li>• Details of projects</li> <li>• Profit earnings and forecasts</li> </ul>	Commercial business
Private	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Personal information for use within a company.</li> <li>• Unauthorized disclosure could adversely affect personnel or the company.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work history</li> <li>• Human resources information</li> <li>• Medical information</li> </ul>	Commercial business
Confidential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For use within the company only.</li> <li>• Data exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act or other laws and regulations.</li> <li>• Unauthorized disclosure could seriously affect a company.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trade secrets</li> <li>• Healthcare information</li> <li>• Programming code</li> <li>• Information that keeps the company competitive</li> </ul>	Commercial business Military

**Table 2-II** Commercial Business and Military Data Classification

# Lattice

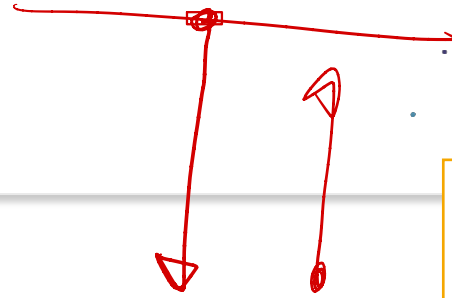
- Lattice ซึ่งเป็นคุณสมบัติหนึ่งทางคณิตศาสตร์
- A lattice model is a mathematical structure that defines greatest lower-bound and least upper-bound values for a pair of elements, such as a subject and an object.
- **Definition:** A lattice  $(L, \leq)$  consists of
  - a set  $L$
  - and a partial order  $\leq$
  - so that for every two elements  $a, b \in L$  there exists:
    - A least upper bound  $u \in L$ .
    - A greatest lower bound  $l \in L$ .
- Formally:
  - $a \leq u, b \leq u$ , and for all  $v \in L : (a \leq v \wedge b \leq v) \rightarrow (u \leq v)$
  - $l \leq a, l \leq b$ , and for all  $k \in L : (k \leq a \wedge k \leq b) \rightarrow (k \leq l)$

# Properties of a lattice

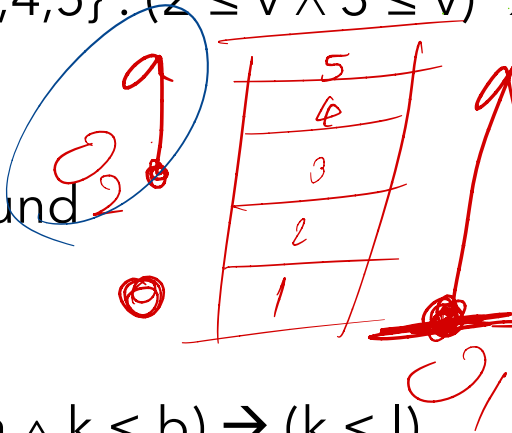
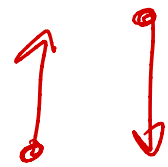
- If  $a \leq b$ , **b dominates a**.
  - **Domination** can be interpreted as meaning **requiring a higher security level**.
- If  $a \leq b$  and  $b \leq c$  then  $a \leq c$ .
- If  $a \leq b$  and  $b \leq a$  then  $a = b$ .

# Example of a lattice

- Let  $L = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ .
- $a = 2, b = 3$
- Find  $u$  (least upper bound)
  - $a \leq u, b \leq u$ , and for all  $v \in L : (a \leq v \wedge b \leq v) \rightarrow (u \leq v)$
  - $2 \leq u, 3 \leq u$  and for all  $v \in \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5\} : (2 \leq v \wedge 3 \leq v) \rightarrow (u \leq v)$ 
    - $v \in \{3, 4, 5\}$
    - $u \leq \{3, 4, 5\}, 2 \leq u, 3 \leq u$
    - $u \Rightarrow u$  is the least upper bound
    - $u = 3$
- Find  $l$  (greatest lower bound)
  - $l \leq a, l \leq b$ , and for all  $k \in L : (k \leq a \wedge k \leq b) \rightarrow (k \leq l)$
  - $l \leq 2, l \leq 3$ , and for all  $k \in \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5\} : (k \leq 2 \wedge k \leq 3) \rightarrow (k \leq l)$ 
    - $k \in \{0, 1, 2\}$
    - $\{0, 1, 2\} \leq l$
    - so  $l$  is the greatest lower bound.
    - $l = 2$

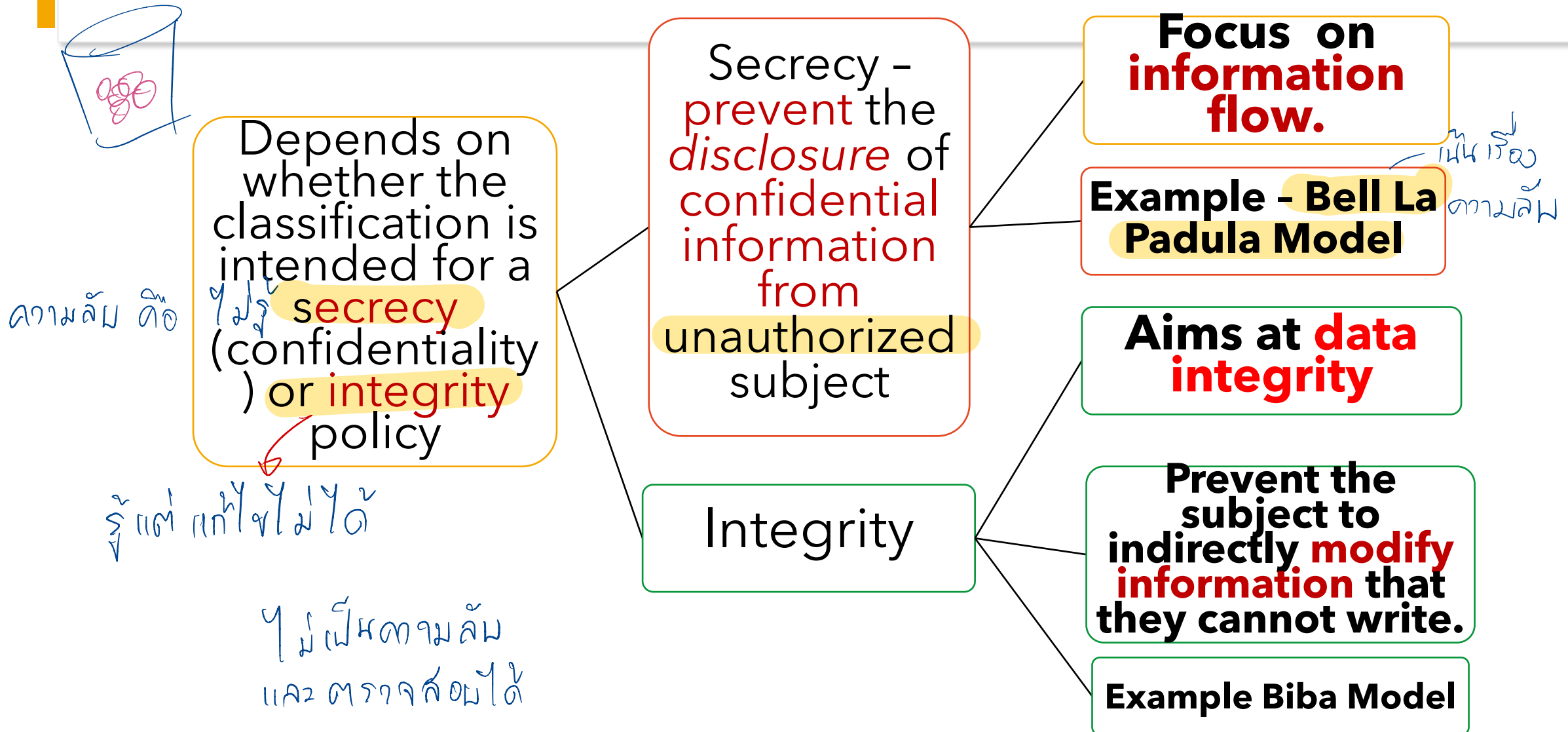


**Least upper bound** ตอบปัญหาของการมี object 2 objects subjects level ไหนขึ้นไป ถึงจะอ่าน object นี้ได้



**Greatest lower bound** ตอบปัญหาของการมี subject 2 subject object สูงสุด level ไหนที่เกินกว่านี้ไป แล้ว subject อ่านไม่ได้

# Categories of multilevel security policies





# Confidential based policies' principles

- มีกฎพื้นฐานที่สำคัญอยู่ สอง กฎ คือ
  - **No-read -up** policy ไม่ให้ read object ที่อยู่สูงกว่า
    - A subject is allowed a **read access** to an object only if the **access class** of the **subject dominates** the **access class of the object**
  - **No-write-down** policy ไม่ให้ write ข้อมูลลง obj ที่ต่ำกว่า
    - A subject is allowed a **write access** to an object only if the **access class** of the **subject is dominated** by the **access class of the object**.

# Confidential based policies' principles: no read up policy

- the **read ability** is only possible for **subjects** with a level **higher or equal** to that of the **object level**.
- เน้นที่ security level ของ sub (clearance)
- อนุญาตให้ read access ถ้า sub-clearance สูงกว่า หรือ อยู่ในระดับเดียวกับ obj-sensitivity
  - เช่น top secret sub อ่าน obj ของระดับต่ำกว่า ได้ทั้งหมด
  - Unclassified sub อ่าน obj ได้แค่ระดับ unclassified เท่านั้น
  - secret clearance subj อ่าน obj ได้ระดับ
    - unclassified sensitivity, confidential sensitivity and unclassified sensitivity but not top secret sensitivity.
- SS property -> simple security property.
  - For subject S, object O, and authorization or ability A, with A = read, the **subject S dominates the classification of the object O**.

# Confidential based policies' principles: no write down policy

- Sub อนุญาตให้เข้าถึง obj โดยการ write ได้ ถ้า access class ของ obj dominate access class ของ sub
  - เน้นที่ security level ของ obj
  - อนุญาตให้ **write** เฉพาะ **sensitivity** ของ **obj** สูงกว่า หรือ อยู่ในระดับเดียว กับ clearance ของ obj
    - Sub ระดับ top secret clearance write ได้เฉพาะ obj ระดับ top secret sensitivity เท่านั้น
    - Sub ในระดับ unclassified clearance สามารถ write ได้ทั้งหมด
    - Sub ในระดับ confidentiality clearance write ได้ obj แต่ confidentiality sensitivity ขึ้นไป
  - \* property -> star property

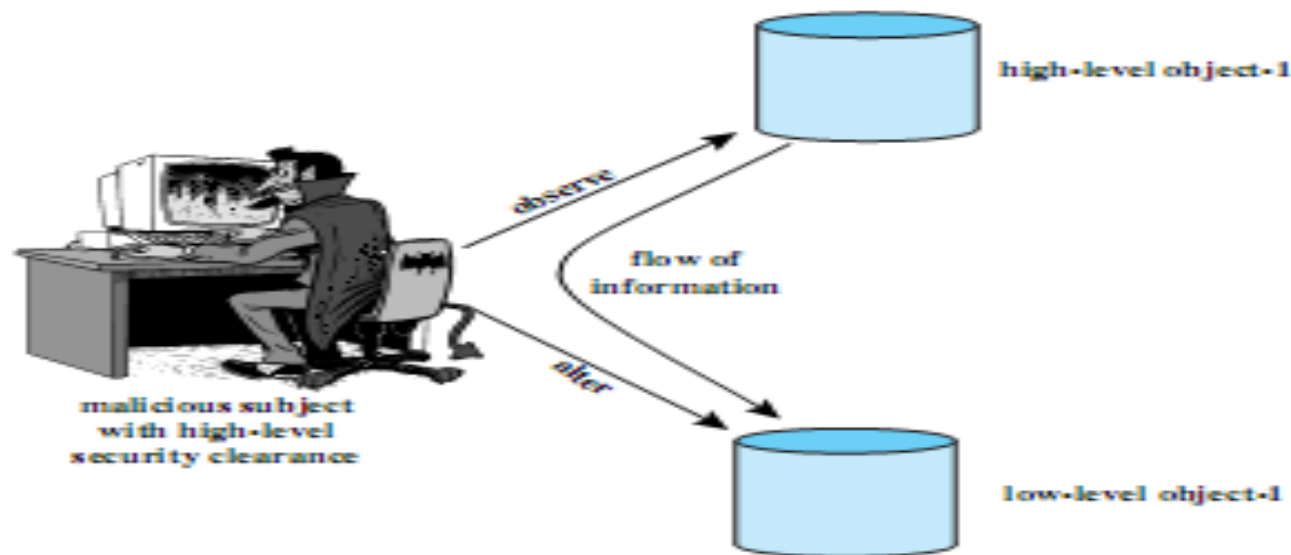
เขียนเอกสาร ส่งให้ สิทธิที่สูงกว่า

# star property (\*)

Hacker นำ data ทุกระดับมาใส่ในเครื่องเดียวกัน  
เพื่อความสะดวกในการแฮก

↪ No Write Down

- For subject S, object O, and authorization or ability A, where A = writing, the **subject S is dominated by the object O**.



# Problems with the $*$ - property

- เมื่อ ห้าม write down แล้วถ้า
- How can **high ranking subjects** pass any information to lower level subjects?
  - One way is to allow subjects to operate at lower ranks.
  - Another is to identify **trusted subjects** which are allowed to violate the  $*$  - property.

# Integrity based policies principle

- The mandatory policy that we have discussed above protects only the **confidentiality of the information**
  - No control is enforced on its **integrity**.
  - Low classified subjects could still be able to enforce improper indirect modification to objects they cannot write. Sub สามารถทำการ modify obj ที่ไม่สามารถ write ได้
- Like for secrecy, each subject and object is assigned an **integrity classification**.
- detail see in Biba Model.

# The real model: Multilevel security policy

## **Confidentiality based security policy**

- Bell La Padula Model

## **Integrity based security policy**

- Biba model

## **Other models**

# Bell-LaPadula Model (BLP)

- The Bell-LaPadula Model (1973, 1975) is a multilevel security model which works by specifying allowable paths of information flow in a secure system.
- This is an important model when a system/machine has to concurrently handle data at different sensitivity levels.
  - For example, a machine processing confidential and top-secret files at the same time.
- Focuses on Data Confidentiality and access to classified information





# BLP properties

- As a whole the properties are designed to protect against unauthorized disclosure of information.
  - 2 mandatory properties
    - No read up - ss property
      - A subject can only read an object of less or equal security level
    - No write down - \* property
      - A subject can only write into an object of greater or equal security level
  - 1 discretionary property
    - ds property
      - This is designed to capture the idea that permission may be passed from an authorised subject to another subject.

# Biba Integrity Model

- Concerned with **unauthorized modification of data**.
- Deal with the case in which
  - there is **data** that must be **visible to** users at **multiple** or **all security levels**
  - but should **only be modified** in controlled ways **by authorized agents**.
  - เนื่องจากในบางระบบ ข้อมูลไม่ได้เป็นความลับ ต่อ ผู้ใช้ในระดับต่างๆ
  - แต่สิ่งที่ต้องการ คือ ผู้ที่จะทำการ แก้ไขข้อมูลเหล่านั้นได้จะต้องเป็น ผู้ที่ได้รับอนุญาตในการแก้ไข
- Has the same structure (component) as BLP model.
  - $S, O, A, (L, \leq)$

# Different access mode

- The access modes can be extended to include an Invoke instruction:
- {Modify (Write), Observe (Read), Execute, Invoke (subject to subject communication/use)}
- The rules to provide the appropriate policies are, in some sense, the reverse (or dual) of those for BLP.
  - "No write up, no read down!"
- This policy is used in the static version of the Biba model, but not in the dynamic version which we won't consider in detail.
- Biba is important now because of its use in Vista.

;) )

The policy is based on these three rules

## Three rules

Simple  
integrity

- No write up

Integrity  
confinement

- No read down

Invocation  
property

# Simple integrity

- A subject can modify an object only if
  - the integrity level of the subject dominates the integrity level of the object
- This is the no write up policy.
- Integrity is to do with how much you can rely on something.
  - If A, as a process say, is trusted less than B as a resource, then B should not be modified on the basis of A.
  - We shouldn't contaminate B.

# Integrity confinement

- A subject can read an object only if
  - the integrity level of the subject is dominated by the integrity level of the object.
- This is the **no read down** policy.
- Effectively this means a subject doesn't trust information with a lower integrity level, so it shouldn't even be influenced by it.
  - Juries in court cases are sometimes told to disregard something that has been said, or to ignore some evidence.
    - Humans tend to take information into account whether they have been told to disregard it or not.
    - The **no read down** means the jury would never see the untrustworthy evidence.

# Invocation property

- A subject  $S_1$  can invoke/execute/use another subject  $S_2$  only if
  - the integrity level of  $S_1$  dominates the integrity level of  $S_2$ .
- In other words, a process cannot use a process or entity that has higher integrity than it does.

# Other Models

No read Up  
No read Down } ห้ามจากจัด

## Confidential Model

Ex. The Harrison-  
Ruzzo-Ullman Model

- addresses some of the shortcomings of BLP, in particular,
- how to create and delete files, and how to change access rights.

## Integrity Model

Ex. Clark Wilson  
Model

- Clark-Wilson is another integrity based access model.
- Aims for **commercial applications**.
- many of the earlier access control models were driven by the military.
- Appeared as the paper : "A Comparison of Commercial and Military Computer Security Policies."

## Mix Model

- Ex. Chinese Wall Model



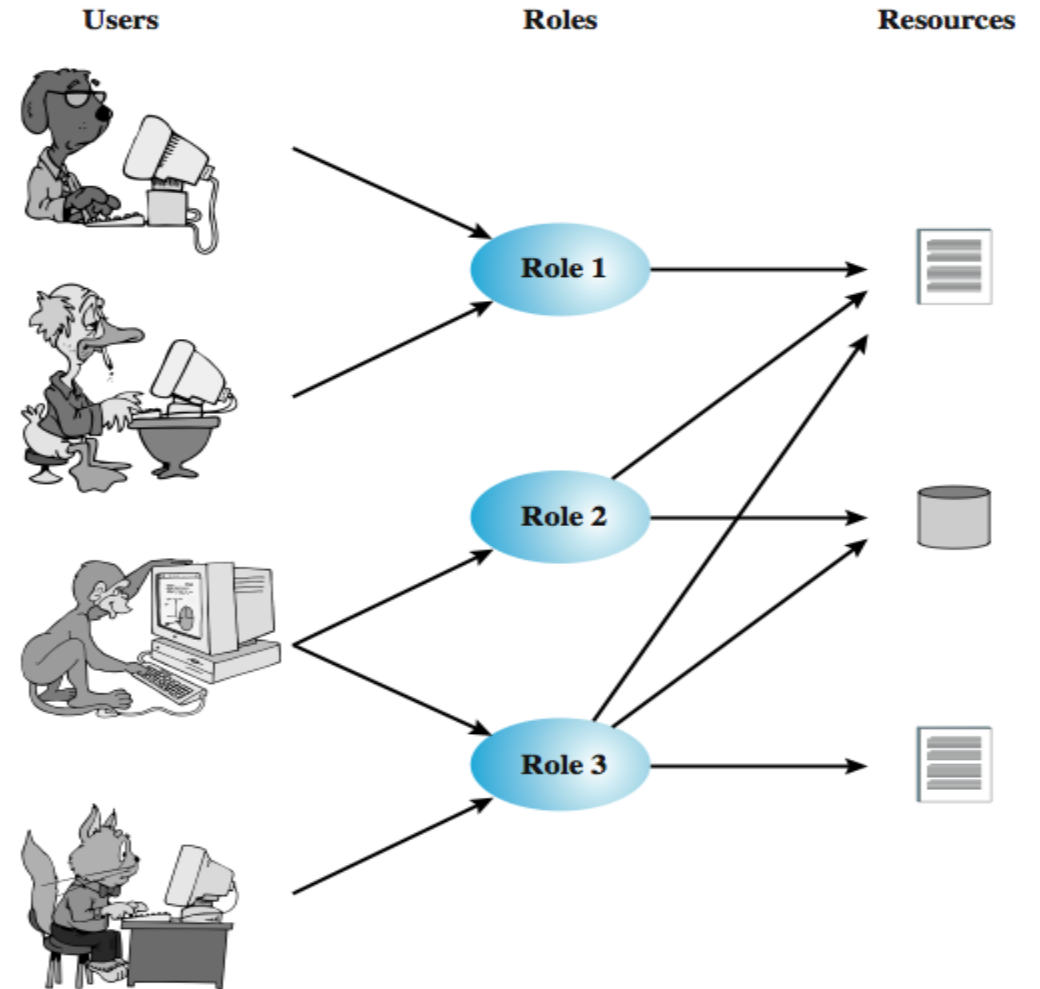
# Role-Based Access Control

RBAC based on **roles** ของ  
ผู้ใช้งานในระบบไม่ใช่ the user's  
identity.

Access right จะถูกกำหนดตาม role

ความสัมพันธ์ระหว่าง ผู้ใช้ กับ role

- Many to many



# Role-Based Access Control

เราสามารถใช้อccess matrix ในการช่วยกำหนด key elements ของแต่ละ Role

RBAC lends itself to an effective implementation of the **principle of least privilege**.

Each role should contain

- the minimum set of access rights needed for that role.
- A user is assigned to a role that enables him or her to perform only what is required for that role. Multiple users assigned to the same role, enjoy the same minimal set of access rights.

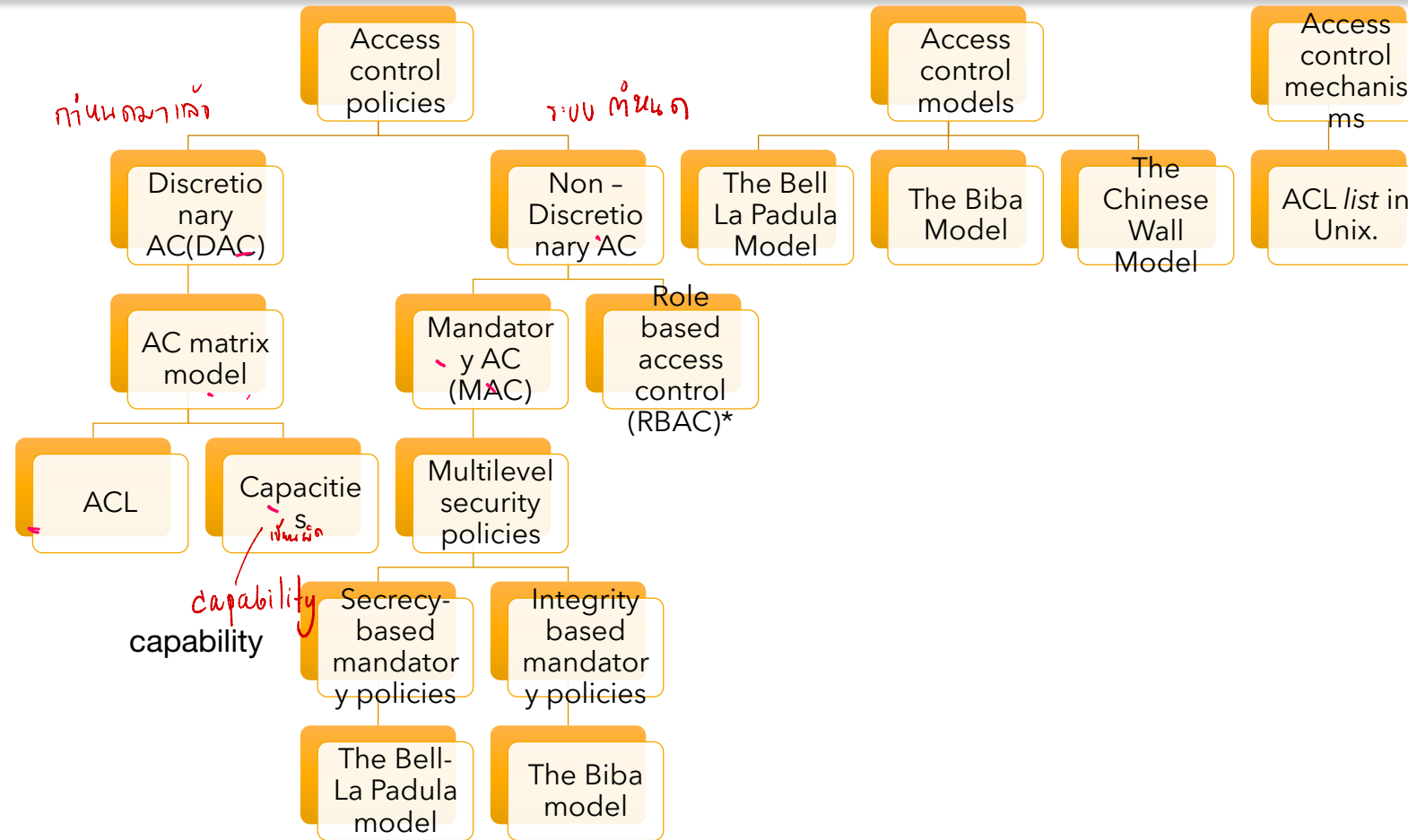
	R <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>2</sub>	...	R <sub>n</sub>
U <sub>1</sub>	×			
U <sub>2</sub>	×			
U <sub>3</sub>		×		×
U <sub>4</sub>				×
U <sub>5</sub>				×
U <sub>6</sub>				×
⋮				
U <sub>m</sub>	×			

		OBJECTS								
		R <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>2</sub>	R <sub>n</sub>	F <sub>1</sub>	F <sub>1</sub>	P <sub>1</sub>	P <sub>2</sub>	D <sub>1</sub>	D <sub>2</sub>
ROLES	R <sub>1</sub>	control	owner	owner control	read *	read owner	wakeup	wakeup	seek	owner
	R <sub>2</sub>		control		write *	execute			owner	seek *
	•									
	•									
	R <sub>n</sub>			control		write	stop			

# Summary: AC policies Vs AC mechanisms Vs AC models

- High level requirement that specifies
  - How access is managed
  - Who, under what circumstances may access what information.
- Can be application-specific
  - Thus taken into consideration by the application vendor.
- Pertain the user actions within the context of an organizational unit or across organizational boundaries.
- Enforced through a *mechanism*.
  - *Implementation level*.
- Access control model bridges the gap between the *policy* and *mechanism*.

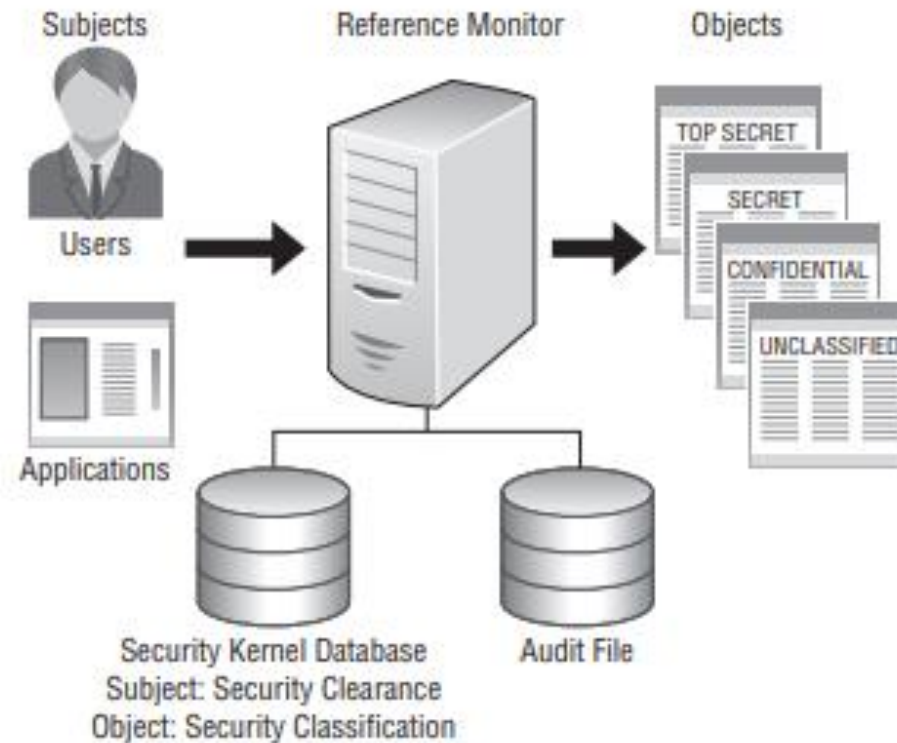
# Summary of AC system



# References:

- [1] CSCI262 Lecture Notes by Dr. Luke McEvan, University of Wollongong Australia.
- [2] Computer Security: Principles and Practice, W. Stalling and L. Brown, 1st edition, Pearson Education, 2008.
- [3] Computer Security, D. Gollman. 2nd edition, John Wiley & Sons, 2006.
- [4] Wikipedia.org

**FIGURE 3.12** The reference monitor mediates all transactions between subjects and objects.



**Security Kernel** The component of the trusted computing base consisting of hardware, software and firmware elements that implements an authorized control list (ACL) database, usually referred to as a security kernel database. This database is utilized when mediating (comparing) subject and object labels in a Mandatory **Access Control** (MAC) authentication system.