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Exploring Internet2 Grouper & NIST RBAC/ABAC

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Exploring Internet2 Grouper & NIST RBAC/ABAC

Introduction to NIST RBAC/ABAC models and standards

- INCITS 359-2012 Role Based Access Control
- INCITS 494-2012 RBAC - Policy-Enhanced
- NIST Special Publication 800-162 Guide to Attribute Based Access Control Definition and Considerations

How do these models and standards apply to Grouper and Grouper based access management systems?



Shout out to Shawn McKinney, symas.

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/shawn-mckinney-5238672>

<https://symas.com/>



- OpenLdap
- Apache Fortress
- [JavaOne Open Source IAM Expert Panel](#)



“Good artists copy, great artists steal” - Steve Jobs quoting Picasso quoting Igor Stravinsky quoting T.S. Elliot quoting ...” - <http://quoteinvestigator.com/2013/03/06/artists-steal/>

INCITS 359-2012 Role Based Access Control

INCITS 494-2012 RBAC - Policy-Enhanced

NIST Special Publication 800-162 Guide to Attribute Based Access Control Definition and Considerations

Introduction to NIST RBAC/ABAC models and standards



NIST: Role Based Access Control (RBAC) and Role Based Security - <http://csrc.nist.gov/groups/SNS/rbac/>

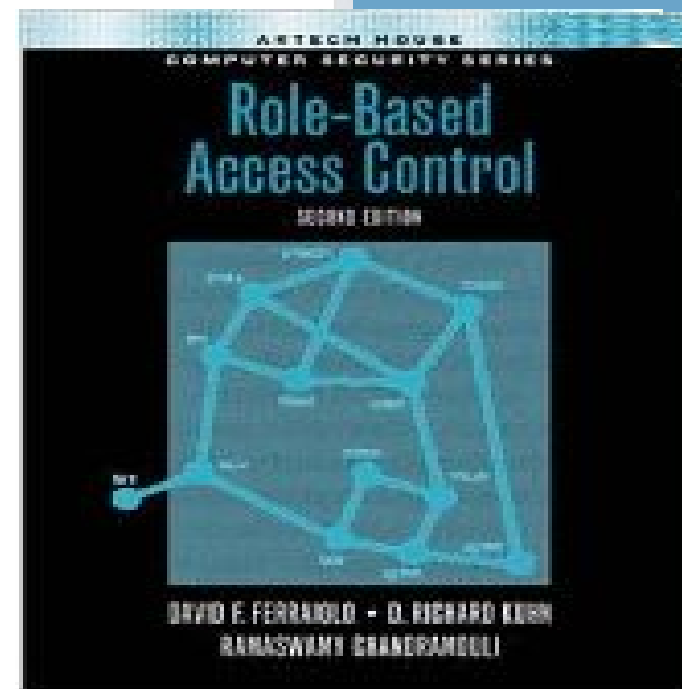
Formalized by David Ferraiolo and Rick Kuhn in Role-Based Access Controls (1992)

NIST RBAC model (Sundhu, Ferraiolo, and Kuhn, 2000)

Initially released as ANSI INCITS standard in 2004

Updated and expanded in 2012 as

- INCITS 359-2012 Role Based Access Control
- INCITS 359-2012 Role Based Access Control - Policy Enhanced



INCITS 359-2012 Role Based Access Control (RBAC)

“...initiated by National Institute of Standards (NIST) in recognition of a need...for **consistent and uniform definition of role based access control (RBAC) features.**”

“...lack of widely accepted model resulted in uncertainty and confusion about RBAC’s utility and meaning. This standard seeks to resolve this situation by using a **reference model to define RBAC features** and then describing the functional specifications for those features.”

Developed by InterNational Committee for Information Technology Standards (INCITS) and approved by American National Standards Institute (ANSI). INCITS Committee members: Apple, EMC, IBM, IEEE, Intel, NIST, Oracle, Microsoft, Purdue University, US DOD, US DHS, VMWare,...



INCITS 359-2012 Role Based Access Control (RBAC)

RBAC Reference Model & Functional Specification

Reference Model has four model components:

Core RBAC - Users, Roles, Perms, Session (aka Role Activation)

Role is a set of permissions

Users assigned to Roles (creates effective permission sets for users)

Users activate one or more Roles in an application Session

Hierarchical Roles

Roles can inherit privilege sets

Static Separation of Duties (SSD)

Can be assigned a subset of roles in a particular collection

Dynamic Separation of Duties (DSD)

Can activate a subset of roles in a particular collection



ANSI INCITS 359 RBAC has three standards interfaces:

1. Administrative - CRUD permission, role, hierarchy assignments, etc.
2. Review - policy interrogation (grouper audit/report/etc)
3. System - policy enforcement (authN/authZ CAS and Spring/Shiro/.Net))

Map RBAC Reference Model to Grouper terminology

(users, roles, permissions, operations, and objects) -> (users/groups, roles, permissions, actions, resources)

Map RBAC functional specification to Grouper functions



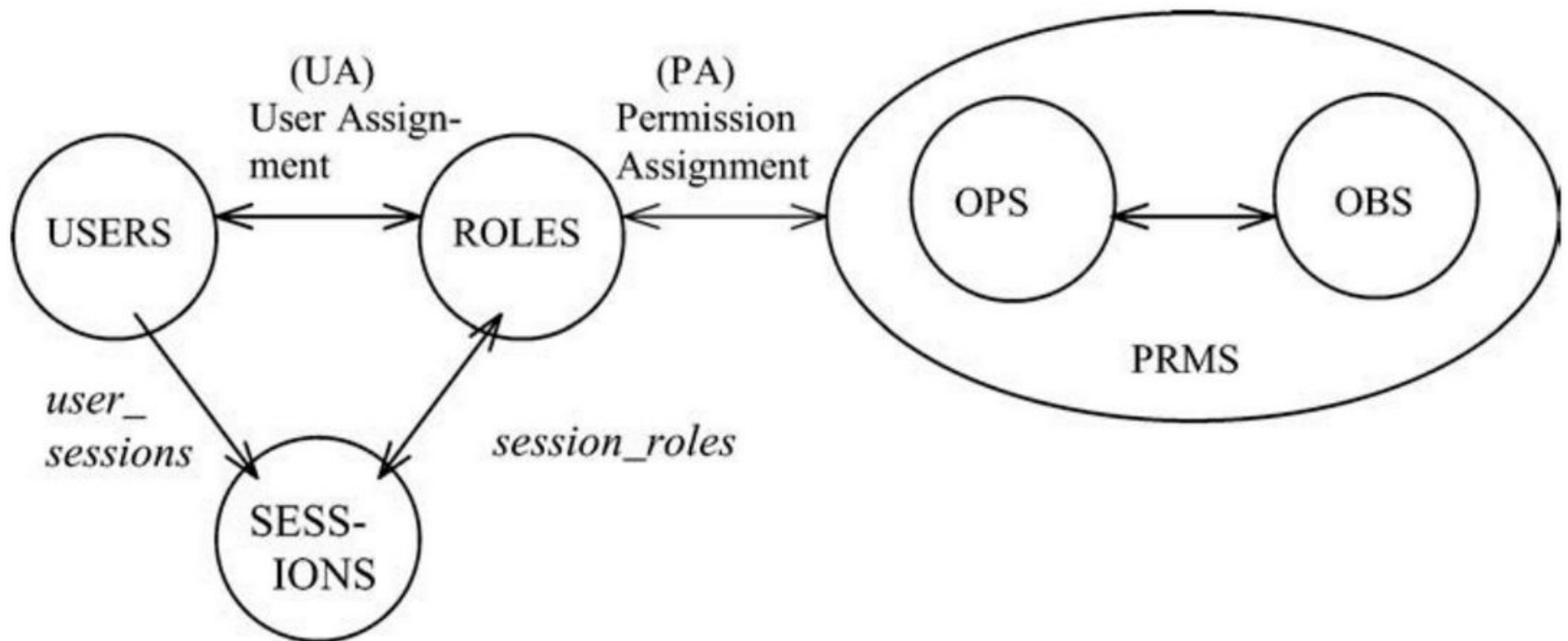


Figure 1: Core RBAC



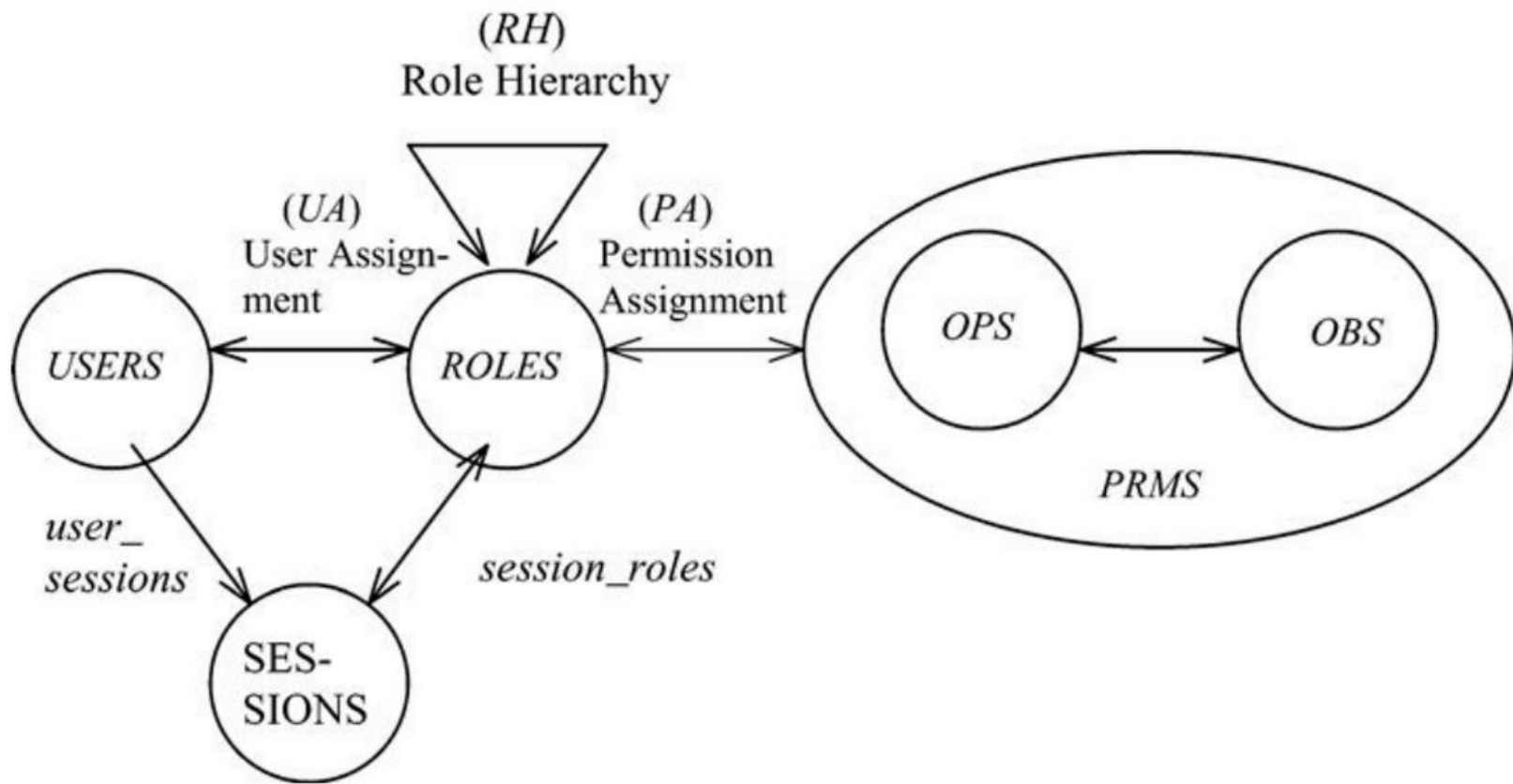


Figure 2: Hierarchical RBAC

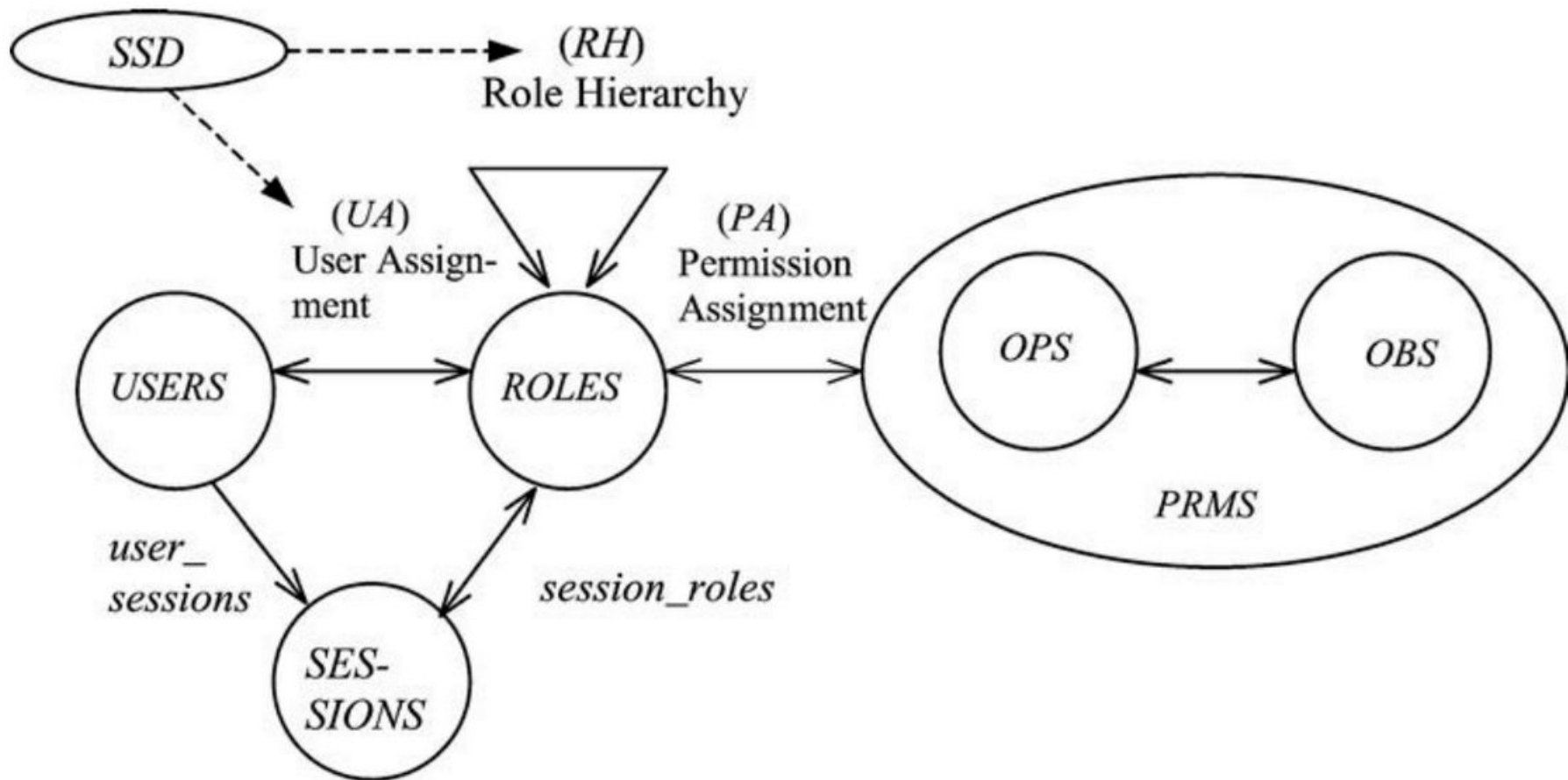


Figure 3: SSD within Hierarchical RBAC

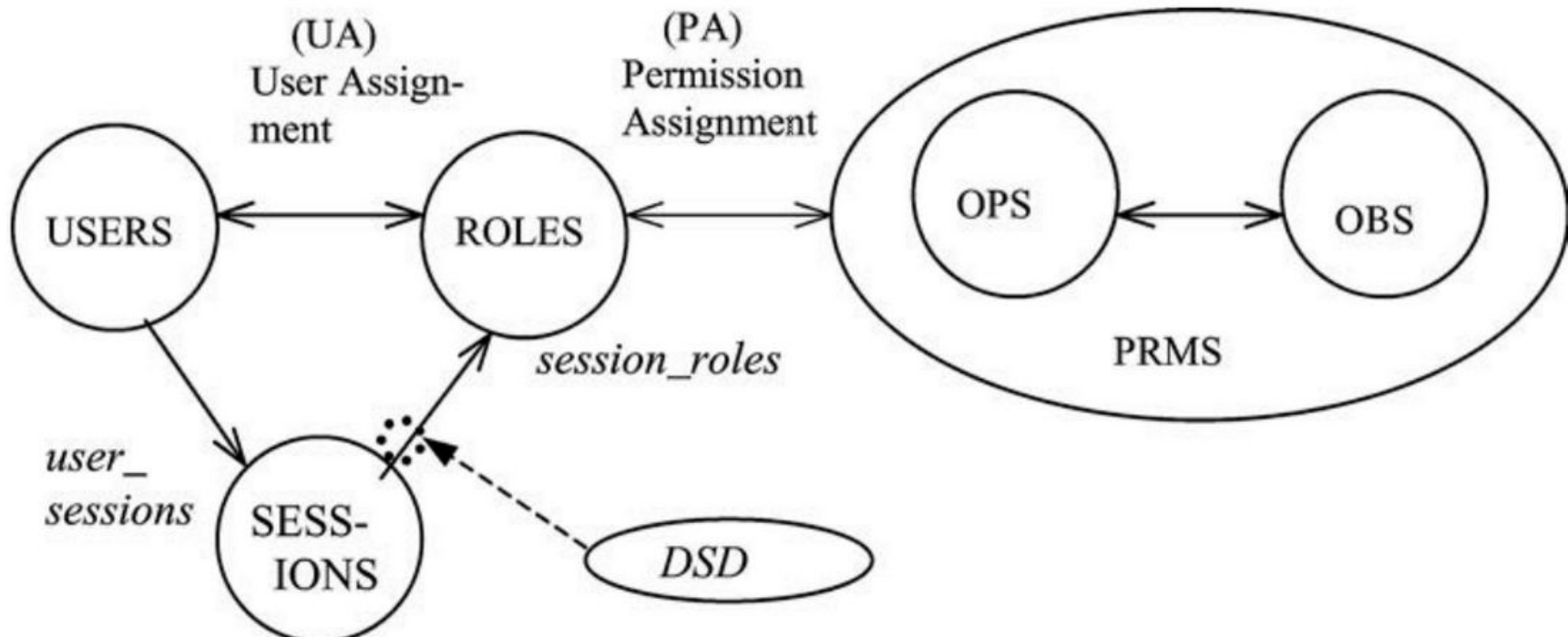
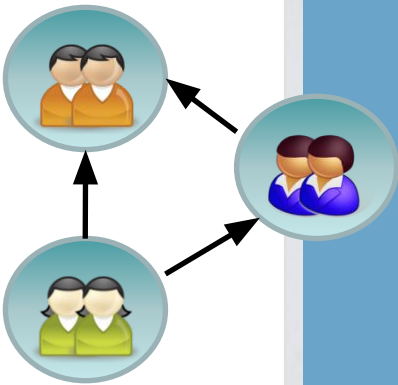
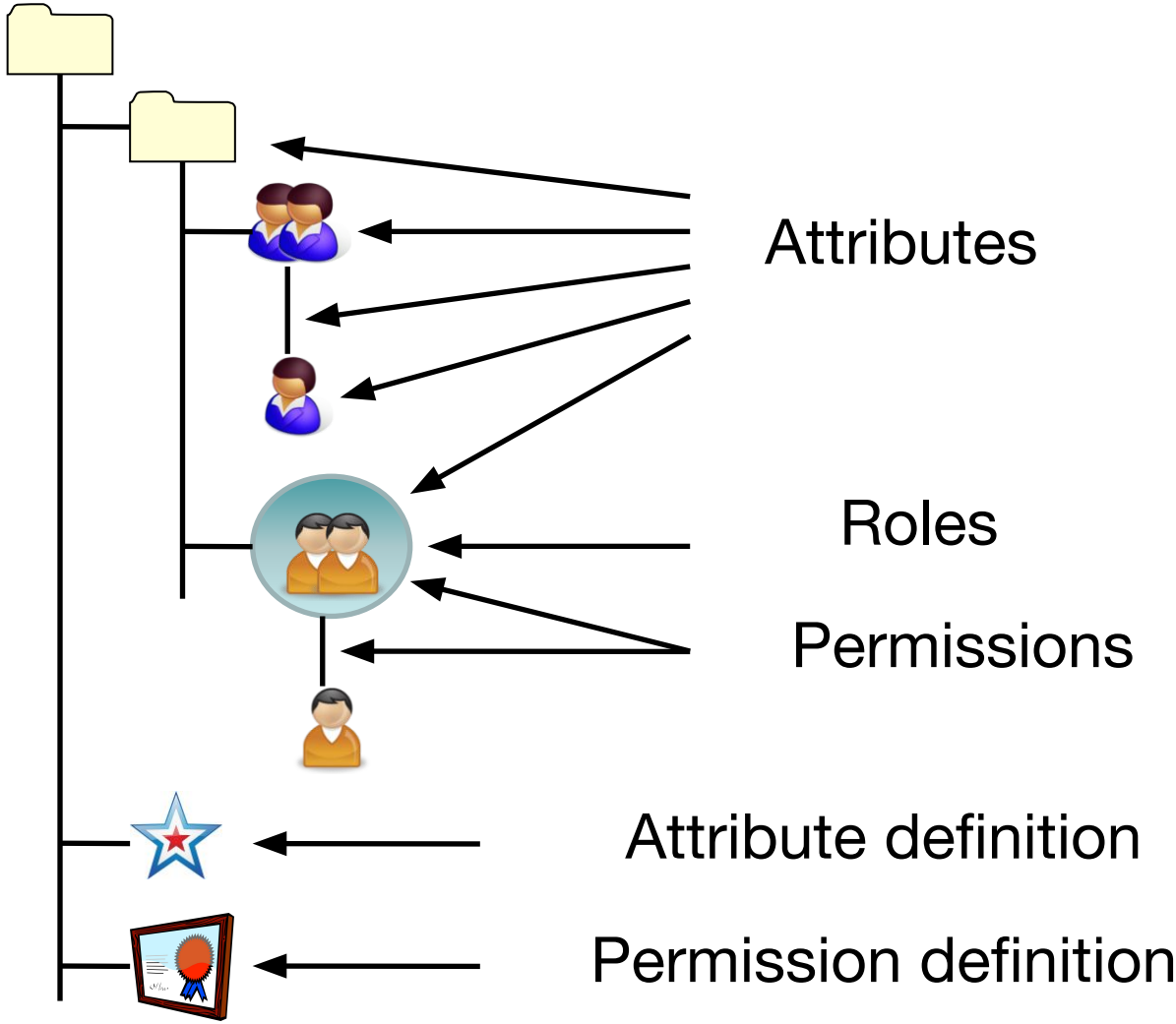


Figure 4: Dynamic Separation of Duty Relations



Grouper RBAC



Role inheritance

Delegation model extends that for Groups



RBAC	Grouper	uPortal
User	Subject	Principal
Operation	Action	Activity
Object	Resource	Target



Attribute definition

i.e. Permission Definition

Folder apps: portal: permissions: UP_ERROR_CHAN:

UUID 68ea564c6210400ba7b2b31ba200983d

ID errorChanPermDef

Type Permission

Description

Multi-assignable

Value type No value

Multi-valued

- Assign to ***
- Attribute definition
 - Attribute definition attribute assignment
 - Folder
 - Folder attribute assignment
 - Group / Role / Local entity
 - Group / Role / Local entity attribute assignment
 - Member
 - Member attribute assignment
 - Membership
 - Membership attribute assignment
 - Membership - immediate only
 - Membership - immediate only - attribute assignment

Assign privileges to everyone admin update read view optin optout

Attribute actions ⓘ

Change actions

Actions VIEW



Groups / roles / local entities




Enter search text to find a group / role / local entity

 Applications:uPortal:Roles:Portal Developers

Edit group / role / local entity

New group / role / local entity

Role

Folder	 apps:  portal:  roles:					
UUID	7260a1c7cd384fe2948cd2ed49b66897					
ID	12.local.16					
ID Path	apps:portal:roles:12.local.16					
Type	<input type="radio"/> Group <input checked="" type="radio"/> Role <input type="radio"/> Local entity					
Name *	<input type="text" value="Portal Developers"/>					
Description	<input type="text" value="All IT developers"/>					
Assign privileges to everyone	<input type="checkbox"/> admin <input type="checkbox"/> update <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> read <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> view <input type="checkbox"/> optin <input type="checkbox"/> optout					
Delete	Cancel	Privileges	Role inheritance	Role inheritance graph	Memberships	Save



Resource/Object - Error Channel Details

Attribute name

Attribute definition apps:portal:permissions:UP_ERROR_CHAN:errorChanPermDef

Folder Applications: uPortal: Permissions: Error Channel:

UUID 075e1829cbfc4a51837b12733f5fb5ac

ID DETAILS

ID Path apps:portal:permissions:UP_ERROR_CHAN:DETAILS

Name *

Description

Delete

Cancel

Inheritance

Inheritance graph


Attribute definition

Save

View or assign permissions

Filter or assign permissions

Permission type: *


Role 

Permission definition:

apps:portal:permissions:UP_ERROR_CHAN:errorChanPermDef


Permission resource:

Role:

 Applications:uPortal:Roles:Portal Developers

Action:

Enabled / disabled:



Enabled only 

Filter

New assignment

Simulate limits

Permission assignments

Permission role	Resource	Actions	Permission definition
Portal Developers	DETAILS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>   	errorChanPermDef

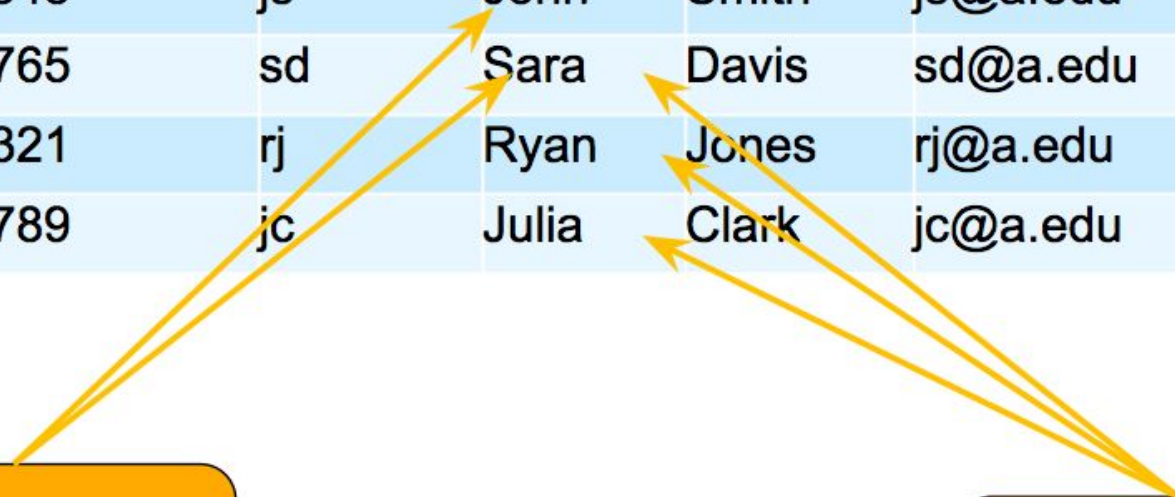


Database table rows and columns (i.e. target resource/object)

ID	PersonID	NetID	First	Last	Email	Work#	Home#
A3	12345	js	John	Smith	js@a.edu	3-1234	123-4567
B4	98765	sd	Sara	Davis	sd@a.edu	5-2345	234-5678
C5	54321	rj	Ryan	Jones	rj@a.edu	7-4567	345-6789
T7	56789	jc	Julia	Clark	jc@a.edu	9-6789	456-7890

Students

Faculty



Permission definition has configuration and security

Attribute definition

Folder fgac: apps: secureUserData: permissions:

UUID 963bd02023bc492a99993c0c81caa219

ID rowOrColumnPermissionDef

Type Permission

Description row or column permission for the Secure User Data application

Multi-assignable

Value type No value

Multi-valued

Assign to *

<input type="checkbox"/> Attribute definition	<input type="checkbox"/> Attribute definition attribute assignment
<input type="checkbox"/> Folder	<input type="checkbox"/> Folder attribute assignment
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group	<input type="checkbox"/> Group attribute assignment
<input type="checkbox"/> Member	<input type="checkbox"/> Member attribute assignment
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Membership	<input type="checkbox"/> Membership attribute assignment
<input type="checkbox"/> Membership - immediate only	<input type="checkbox"/> Membership - immediate only - attribute assignment

Assign privileges to everyone admin update read view optin optout

Delete Cancel Actions Privileges Attribute names Save

Read/write action for this permission def

Include an “all” which implies read and write

Note: this is specific to this one permission definition, and does not affect other permissions in Grouper

Attribute actions ⓘ

Change actions

Actions

			all
			read
			write

Action inheritance graph ⓘ

Action name all

```
graph TD; all((all)) --> write((write)); all --> read((read));
```

Resource/Object name for each set of columns

Find an attribute definition name

Attribute definition

Enter search text to find an attribute definition to filter by

Attribute name

Enter search text to find an attribute name to edit

- :permissions:columns
- fgac:apps:secureUserData:permissions:columns:columns_all
- fgac:apps:secureUserData:permissions:columns:columns_contact
- fgac:apps:secureUserData:permissions:columns:columns_ids
- fgac:apps:secureUserData:permissions:columns:columns_name

Attribute name

<u>Attribute definition</u>	fgac:apps:secureUserData:permissions:rowOrColumnPermissionDef
<u>Folder</u>	📁 fgac: 📁 apps: 📁 secureUserData: 📁 permissions: 📁 columns:
<u>UUID</u>	58e3436a7dbe47ae8d0ec114ce5a6138
<u>ID</u>	columns_contact
<u>ID Path</u>	fgac:apps:secureUserData:permissions:columns:columns_contact
<u>Name</u> *	<input type="text" value="columns_contact"/>
<u>Description</u>	<input type="text" value="Contact information for the user (email, phone, etc)"/>

Delete

Cancel

Inheritance

Inheritance graph

Attribute definition

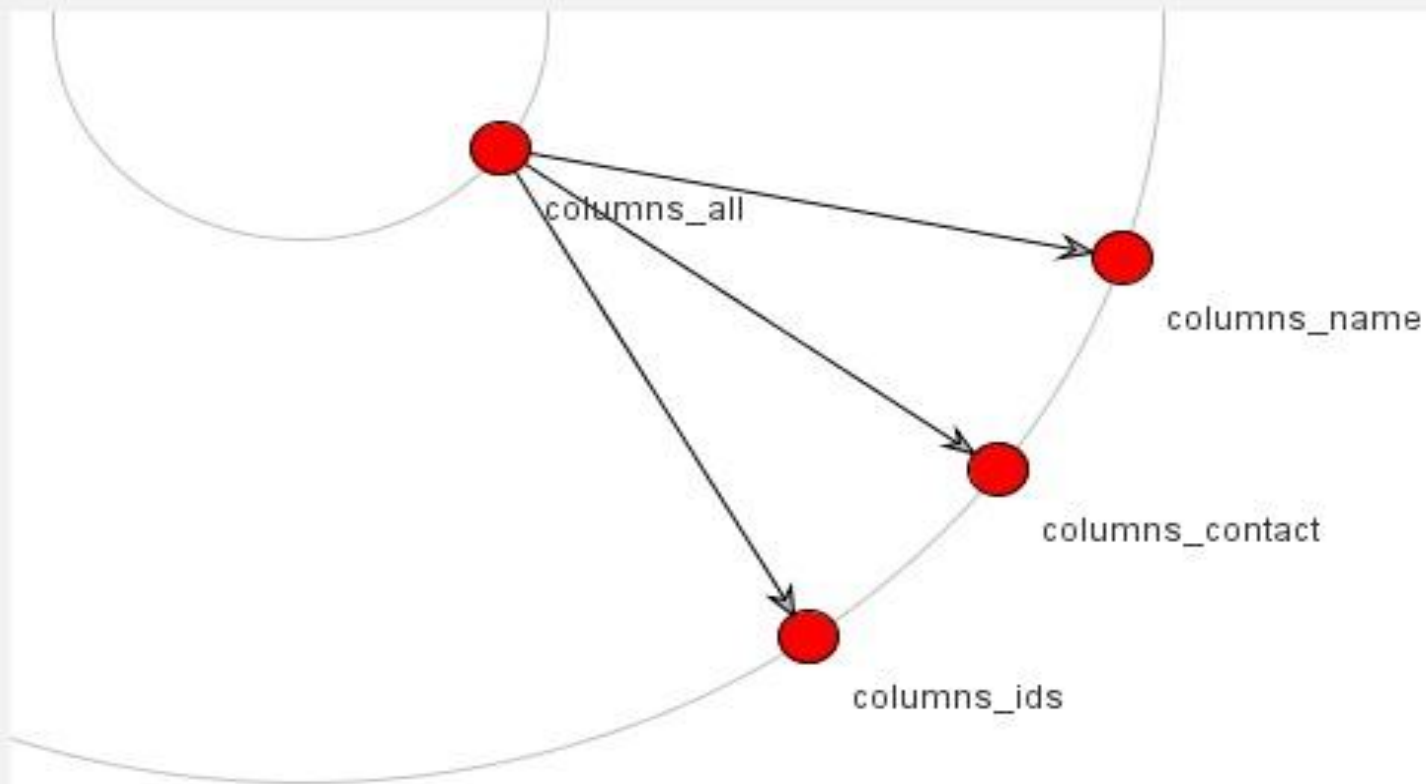
Save



Column resource inheritance

Attribute name graph

Attribute name fgac:apps:secureUserData:permissions:columns:columns_all



Subjects will get connect as a specific database schema.

Browse groups hierarchy

You can look for groups throughout the hierarchy.
(You might not be able to see some groups if you lack appropriate privileges)

Browse or list groups

Current location is:

 Root:  fgac:  apps:  secureUserData:  **schemas**

Showing 1-2 of 2 items

 **FASTDEV2**
 **FASTDEV3**

Assign the permissions

Permission type: * Entity ▾

Permission definition: fgac:apps:secureUserData:permissions:rowOrColumnPermissionDef

Permission resource:

Role:

Entity:

Action:

Enabled / disabled: Enabled only ▾

Assignment **Simulate limits**

Assignments

Entity	Resource	Actions		
		all	read	write
fgac:apps:secureUserData:schemas:FASTDEV2	columns_ids	<input type="checkbox"/> ❌ ▾	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ✅ ▾	<input type="checkbox"/> ❌ ▾
fgac:apps:secureUserData:schemas:FASTDEV2	columns_name	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ✅ ▾	<input type="checkbox"/> ✅ ▾	<input type="checkbox"/> ✅ ▾
fgac:apps:secureUserData:schemas:FASTDEV2	rows_fgacStudents	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ✅ ▾	<input type="checkbox"/> ✅ ▾	<input type="checkbox"/> ✅ ▾
fgac:apps:secureUserData:schemas:FASTDEV3	columns_contact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ✅ ▾	<input type="checkbox"/> ✅ ▾	<input type="checkbox"/> ✅ ▾
fgac:apps:secureUserData:schemas:FASTDEV3	columns_ids	<input type="checkbox"/> ❌ ▾	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ✅ ▾	<input type="checkbox"/> ❌ ▾
fgac:apps:secureUserData:schemas:FASTDEV3	columns_name	<input type="checkbox"/> ❌ ▾	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ✅ ▾	<input type="checkbox"/> ❌ ▾
fgac:apps:secureUserData:schemas:FASTDEV3	rows_fgacFacultyAndStaff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ✅ ▾	<input type="checkbox"/> ✅ ▾	<input type="checkbox"/> ✅ ▾

- arts_env
- cognos
- crashplan
- DHCP Admins
- file_services
- HR Mail Lists
- ITS-Library Wiki Access
- keyserver
- Lab Manager
- mediaspace
- moodle
- nolij
- papercut
- portal
- provost_archive
- rt
- splunk
- trustee_archive
- vpn

exports

More ▾

Folder contents

Privileges

Filter for: Folder, group, or attribute name

Name ▾

^ Up one folder

adv_annual_fund

adv_executive

adv_major_gifts

adv_tools_bi_analytics_explorer

adv_tools_bi_analytics_user

bi_administrator_edms

2016
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INCITS 494-2012 RBAC - Policy-Enhanced

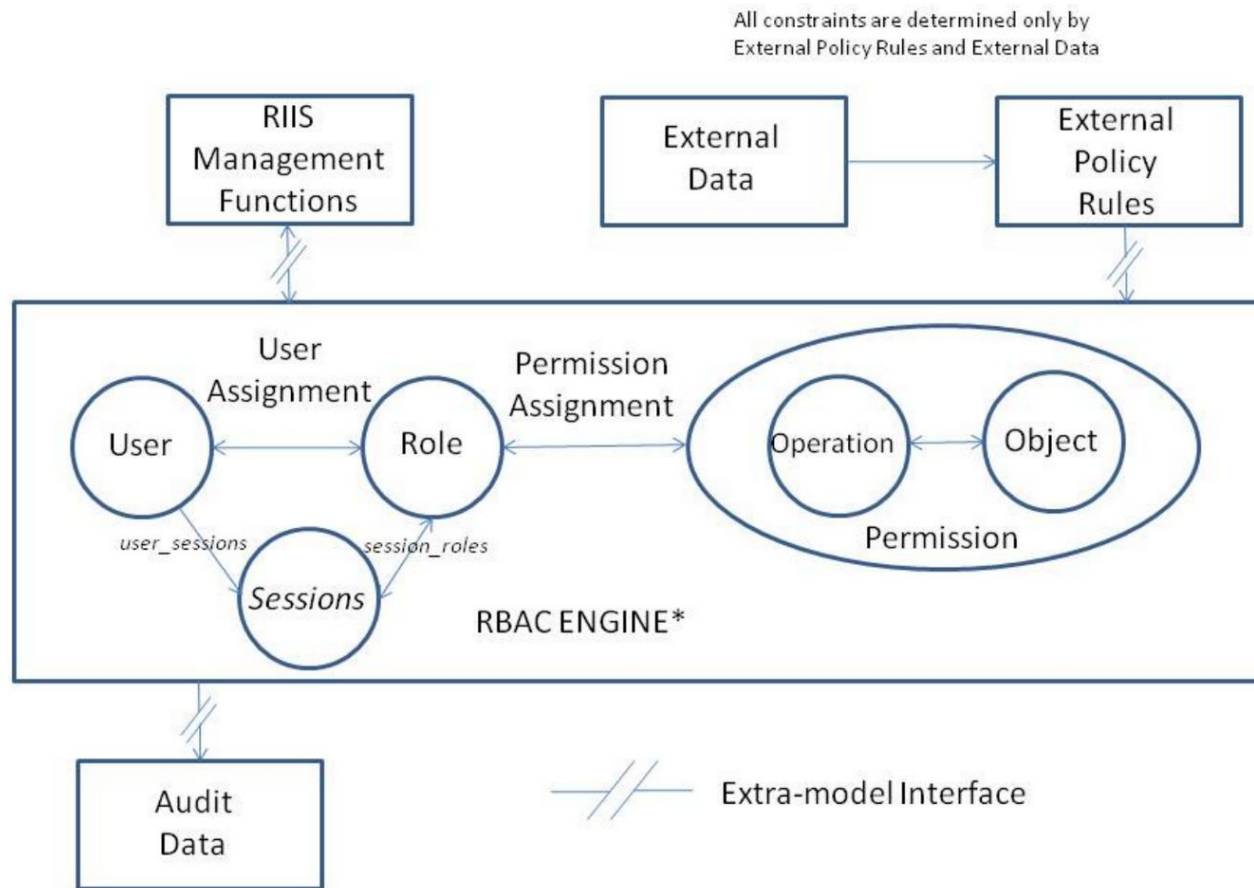
attribute: RBAC session attributes as used in this document are a characteristic of a subject, resource, action, or environment that may be referenced in a predicate or target.

constraint: A constraint is a relation among role features that acts as a restriction. This standard describes both static constraints (administratively controlled) and dynamic constraints (run time)

external policy rules: Imported constraints and data values for use in making role-base access control decisions.



INCITS 494-2012 RBAC - Policy-Enhanced



*The RBAC engine controls all access control decisions

Figure 1 – RBAC Policy-Enhanced Reference Model



Table 1 – RPE Dynamic Constraints

Constraint Type	Description
Role-role (Dynamic)	Restriction on which roles may be active simultaneously
User-role (Dynamic)	Restriction on which users may activate a given pair of roles at the same time
Attribute-sensitive (Dynamic)	Restriction on roles or permissions that depends on the value of an attribute

Table 2 – RPE Static Constraints

Constraint Type	Description
Role-role (Static)	Restriction on which roles may be assigned to a given user
Permission-permission (Static)	Restriction on which permissions may be assigned to the same role
Permission-role (Static)	Restriction on which permissions may be assigned to a given role
User-role (Static)	Restriction on which users may ever be assigned to a given pair of roles



Grouper RPE

Grouper Permission Limit Built-In Implementations are:

- Weekday 9 to 5 limit
- Amount less than limit
- Amount less than or equal limit
- Labels contain limit
- IP address on networks limit
- IP address on network realm limit
- Expression language (EL) limit

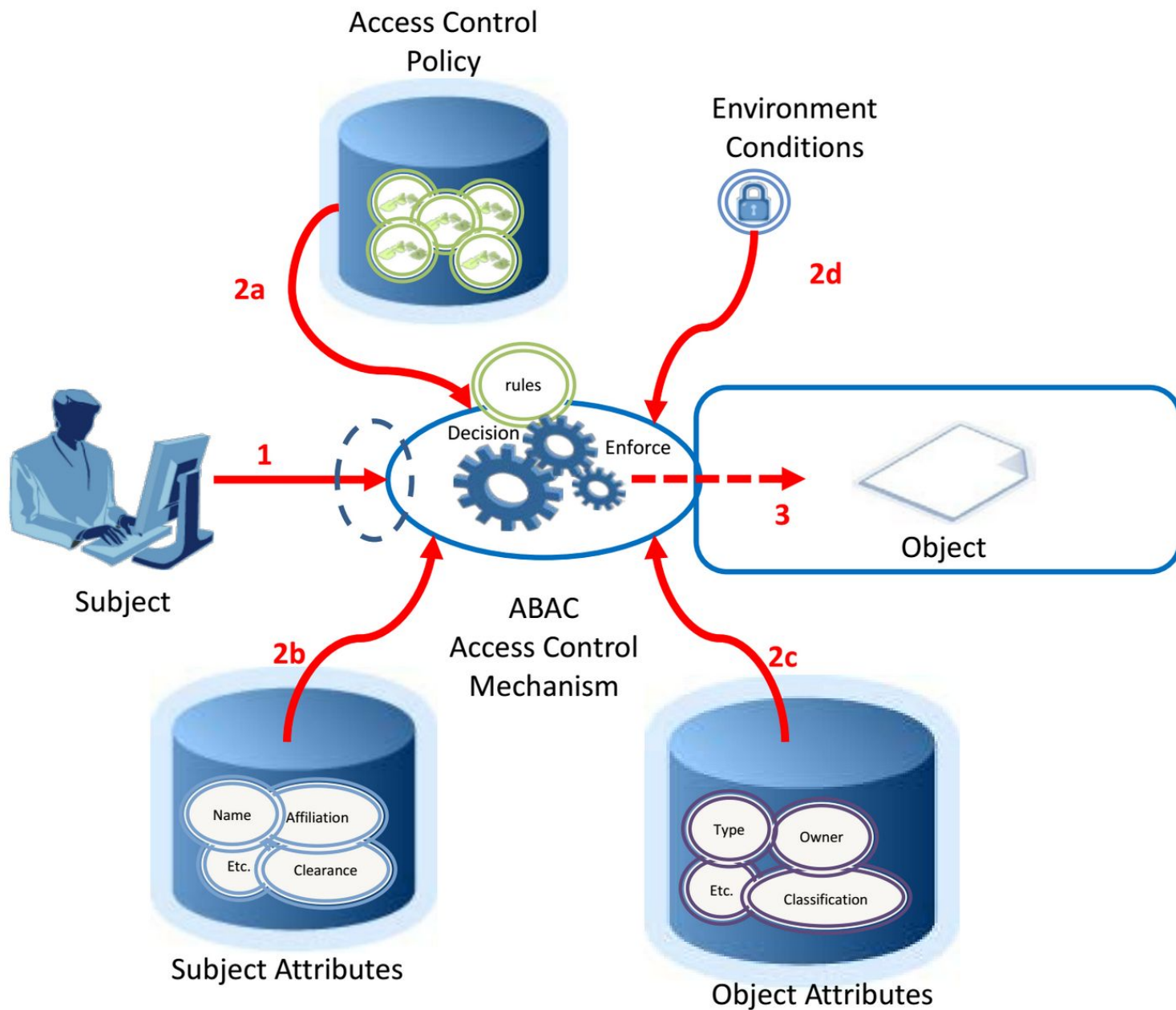


NIST Special Publication 800-162 Guide to Attribute Based Access Control Definition and Considerations

Attribute Based Access Control (ABAC): An access control method where subject requests to perform operations on objects are granted or denied based on assigned attributes of the subject, assigned attributes of the object, environment attributes and conditions.

Access Control Mechanism (ACM): The logical component that serves to receive the access request from the subject, to decide, and to enforce the access decision.





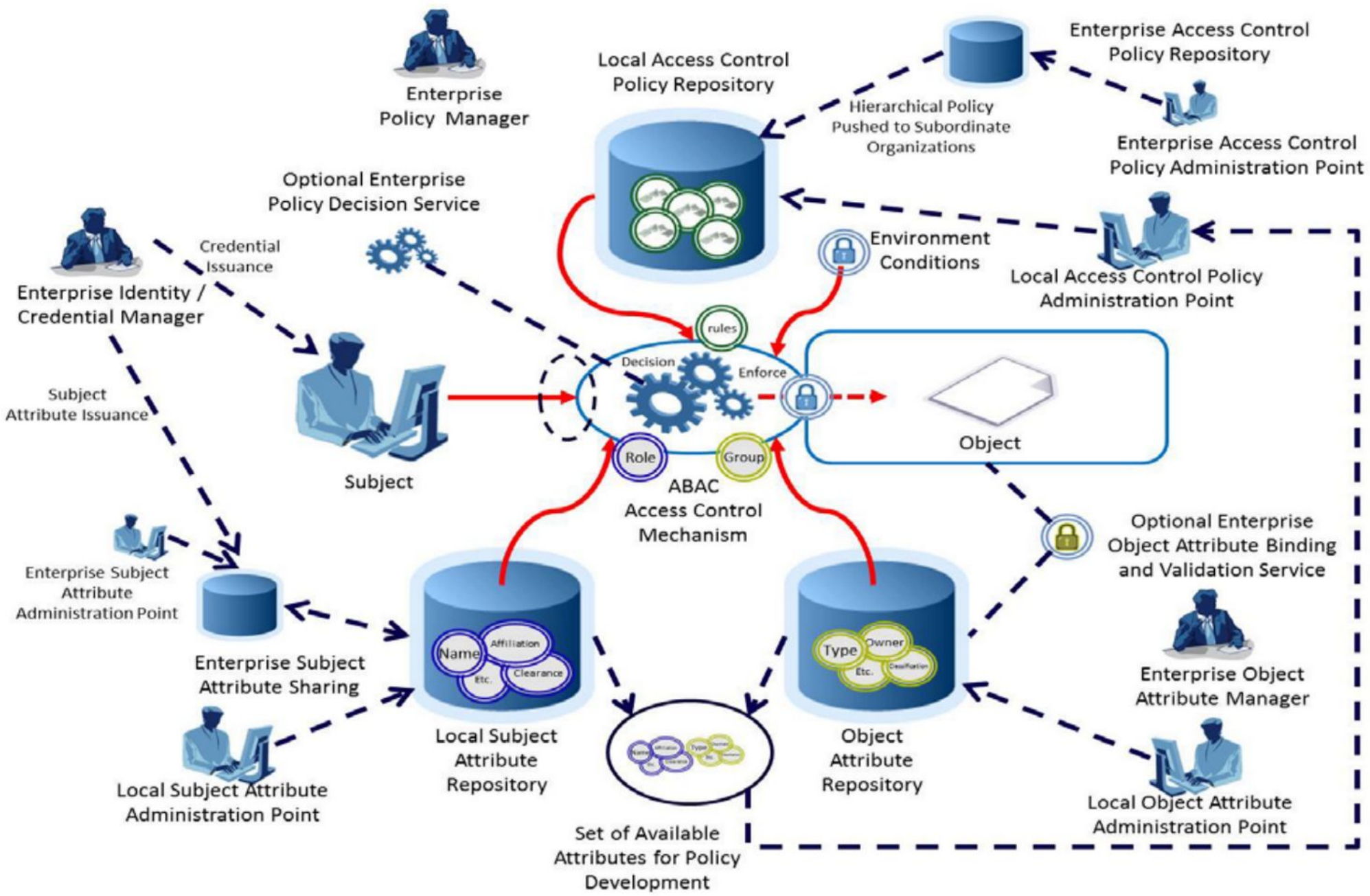


Figure 4: Enterprise ABAC Scenario Example

Reference Groups

ref

role

banner

class_years

contractors

ex_officio

interns

legacy

new_hires

personas

alum

alum_no_degree

december_grads_2015

disabled

employee

faculty

incoming_class

lafayette_members

on_track_grad

outgoing_class

student

vendors

ref

role

banner

class_years

first_class

Ivaic

part_time

transfers

class2015

class2019

class2020

contractors

ex_officio

chaplain

clerk_faculty

dean_of_curriculum_a

dean_of_faculty

president

pres_stu_gov

provost

interns

legacy

new_hires

personas

alum

alum_no_degree

org

academic

compsci

admin

communications_division

digital_communication

dining_services

dining_services_staff

its

di

edms

itech

web

admin

di

edms

itech

its_staff

usg

webdev

student_include

Student includes.

More ▾

Members

Privileges

More ▾

The following table lists all entities wh

Filter for:

Remove selected members

Entity name ▾

 cos_students

 fall2015_grads

 first_class

 incoming_class

 lvaic

 part_time

 student

cos_students

Students that are in a COS state may not quite meet the definition of "student" invented for the portal. ITS policy seems to be to continue services for these accounts unless the Office of Advising indicates the account should be termed. Recently reinstated students may also need student access to the portal prior to taking classes. Those accounts should be added to this group with a definite end date (e.g. start of next semester) in mind.

More ▾

Members

Privileges

More ▾

The following table lists all groups in which this group is a member.

Filter for:


Remove from selected groups

Folder Group Membership


lc : app : portal  student_include Direct

  vpn_roles


 exceptions

 exceptions_exclude


 exceptions_include

 netadmins

 netadmins_exclude

 netadmins_include

 vpn

 vpn_exclude

 vpn_include

Grouper

Support is enabled by including the following dependency in the WAR overlay:

Show Code

```
1 <dependency>
2   <groupId>org.jasig.cas</groupId>
3   <artifactId>cas-server-integration-grouper</artifactId>
4   <version>${cas.version}</version>
5 </dependency>
```

This access strategy attempts to locate Grouper groups for the CAS principal. The groups returned by Grouper are collected as CAS attributes and examined against the list of required attributes for service access.

The following properties are available:

Field	Description
<code>groupField</code>	Decides which attribute of the Grouper group should be used when converting the group to a CAS attribute. Possible values are <code>NAME</code> , <code>EXTENSION</code> , <code>DISPLAY_NAME</code> , <code>DISPLAY_EXTENSION</code> .

You will also need to ensure `grouper.client.properties` is available on the classpath:



- Grouper access strategy based on group's display extension:

Show Code

```
1 {
2   "@class" : "org.jasig.cas.services.RegexRegisteredService",
3   "serviceId" : "^https://.+",
4   "name" : "test",
5   "id" : 62,
6   "accessStrategy" : {
7     "@class" : "org.jasig.cas.grouper.services.GrouperRegisteredServiceAccessStrate
8     "enabled" : true,
9     "ssoEnabled" : true,
10    "requireAllAttributes" : true,
11    "requiredAttributes" : {
12      "@class" : "java.util.HashMap",
13      "memberOf" : [ "java.util.HashSet", [ "admin" ] ]
14    },
15    "groupField" : "DISPLAY_EXTENSION"
16  }
17 }
```

Policy Enforcement Points

<https://github.com/UniconLabs/CASGrouperWebServicesWebApplication>

ASP .NET web application with a custom implementation of a RoleProvider that uses Grouper Web Services to determine roles and permissions.

<https://github.com/UniconLabs/cas-spring-security-grouper>

A proof of concept Spring Security adapter implementation on top of Grouper data store

<https://github.com/UniconLabs/cas-shiro-grouper>

proof of concept Apache Shiro adapter implementation on top of Grouper data store

