

# Security Analysis of Software Design

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# Learning objectives

- What are architectural weaknesses?
  - CAWE

## Reading material

- 1) Mehdi Mirakhorli, Common Architecture Weakness Enumeration (CAWE), <http://blog.ieeesoftware.org/2016/04/common-architecture-weakness.html>
- 2) And also <https://cwe.mitre.org/data/definitions/1008.html>

- How to find architectural weaknesses with model-based security analysis?
  - Manual inspection vs automated checking (UMLsec)

## Reading material

Jan Jürjens, *Model-Based Security Engineering with UML*,  
Chapter 4 of the book “Secure Systems Development with UML”  
Link: [https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/3-540-26494-9\\_4](https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/3-540-26494-9_4)

# Goals of model-based security analysis

- Discover security/privacy issues early on, even before developing the code (forward engineering case)
- **Certification** of a system (also existing one)
  - Evidence that risks are identified
  - Evidence that ‘reasonable’ security mechanisms are in place

# Model Based Security Analysis

Why security analysis at the architecture level? Aren't security tests on the implementation enough?

- A different type of issues (than, e.g., implementation vulnerabilities)
  - Using Weak Authentication (e.g., “API keys”)
  - Unprotected Storage of Credentials
  - Permission Re-delegation
  - Download code without integrity checking or origin authN
  - ...
- Late detection and fixing of these flaws can be difficult / expensive (e.g., require refactoring)

# Architectural Flaws

- **Flaws of Omission.** Such design flaws result from ignoring a security requirement or potential threats.
- **Flaws of Commission.** Such design flaws refer to the design decisions which were made and could lead to undesirable consequences.
- **Flaws of Realization.** The design decision is correct but the implementation of that suffers from a coding mistake.

**Code vulnerabilities TERRITORY**

- Common Architecture Weakness Enumeration (CAWE)
- *By Mehdi Mirakhorli*
- <http://blog.ieeesoftware.org/2016/04/common-architecture-weakness.html>

# Share your opinion



- What is wrong in the next slide?

# An example

---

**Listing 1** An example of an incorrect implementation of the tactic “Authenticate Actors” in a Web application written in PHP resulting in an authentication-bypass.

---

```
1  $auth = $_COOKIES['authenticated'];
2  if (!$auth) {
3      if (authenticate($_POST['username'], $_POST['password'])) {
4          // save the cookie to be sent out in future responses
5          setcookie('authenticated', '1', time()+60*60*2);
6      } else {
7          showLoginScreen(); // request user to login
8          die('\n'); // kill the process
9      }
10 }
11 performPrivilegedAction();
```

---

# Share your opinion



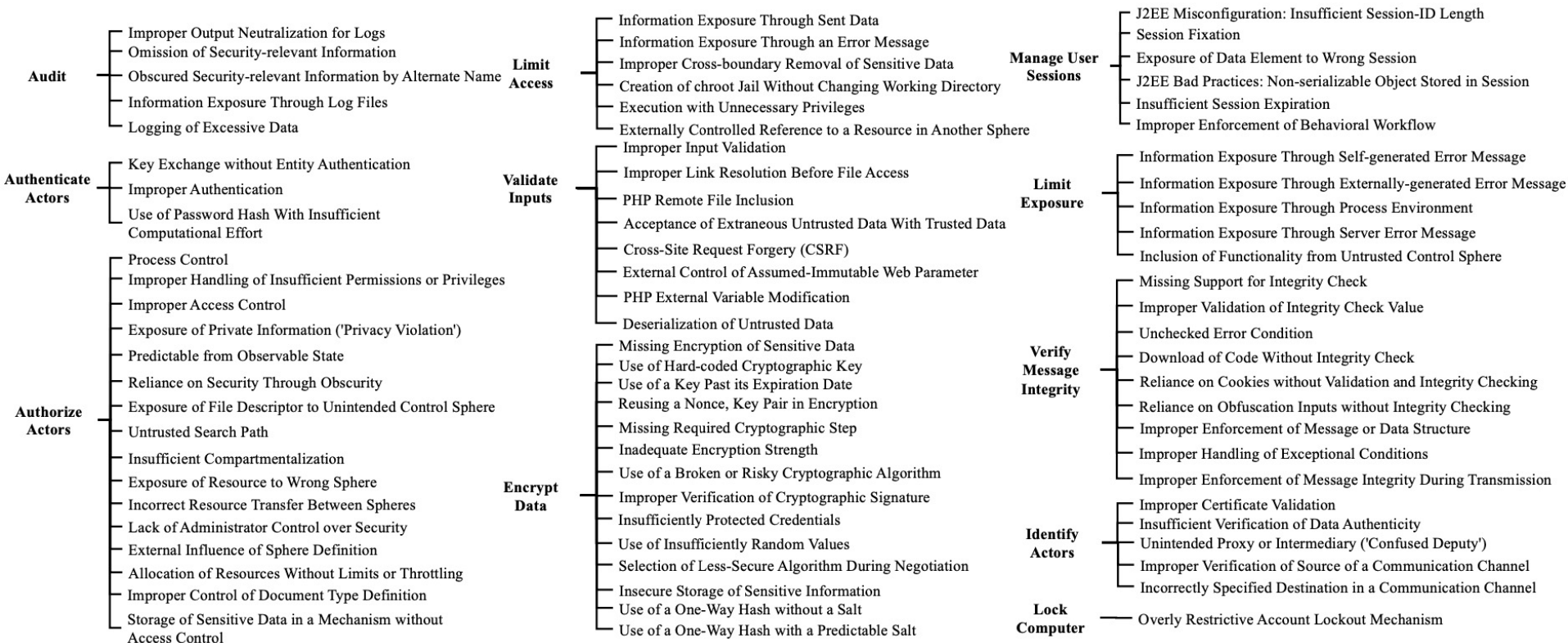
- Trust that the client will not add a bogus “authenticated” cookie
- Is that reasonable?
- Client-side authentication is very easy to break
- [CAWE](#) > [Authenticate Actors - \(1010\)](#) > [Use of Client-Side Authentication - \(603\)](#)



# CAWE

## Common Architectural Weakness Enumeration

Accepted as a “view” in CWE



Pls, look at this →

<https://cwe.mitre.org/data/definitions/1008.html>

# Model-based security analysis

- Inspection guidelines
- Algorithmically  
(e.g., model checking, pattern matching, etc.)
- Threat and risk analysis → Later in this course ;)

# Types of model-based security analysis

- **Inspection guidelines**  
(performed manually, possibly tool assisted)

## Design Flaw 1: Missing authentication

**Description** This refers to the absence of an authentication mechanism in the system. Apart from external entities, like users or other systems the system may interact with, authentication may be necessary within the system between processes/components/datastores that are located in different trust boundaries.

### Detection

- Consider the external entities (users/subsystems) that interact with the system and which assets of the system they can access.
- Determine the processes that interact with high-value assets in the system.
- For each interaction examine:
  - If it is an entity: Does the entity go through an authentication point in order to access the asset?
  - If it is a process: Is the identity of a process accessing datastores or processes in a different part of the system (trust boundaries – requires different privilege levels) verified?

K. Tuma et al., **Automating the Early Detection of Security Design Flaws**, MODELS 2020

- **Benchmark** is a ‘trendier’ term  
(see CIS – Center for Internet Security)
  - Also more focus on tool support for the rules

# Manual vs Automated Model Analysis

Accessing the software design/software architecture for detection of flaws

Analysis	Advantages	Disadvantages
<b>Manual</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Interpretation of improper representation of models</li> <li>● Fewer false positives</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Time consuming</li> <li>● Requires expertise</li> <li>● No completeness guarantee</li> </ul>
<b>Automated</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Faster</li> <li>● Easily re-executed if model changes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Specific model with precise notation is required</li> <li>● Effort to add additional info to models</li> </ul>

# UMLSec

# Unified Modeling Language (UML)

**UML:** Industry standard object oriented modeling technique

*Relatively* precisely defined

Widely adopted and accepted

## UML Diagrams

Rich set of diagrams, covering a spectrum of abstractions  
(more/less detailed descriptions)

Visual representation of the architecture and detailed design of  
complex software systems

UML Diagrams	
Structural Diagrams	Behavioral Diagrams
Class Diagram	Use Case Diagram
Component Diagram	Activity Diagram
Deployment Diagram	State Machine Diagram
Object Diagram	Sequence Diagram
Package Diagram	Communication Diagram
Profile Diagram	Interaction Overview Diagram
Composite Structure Diagram	Timing Diagram

# UMLsec – Philosophy

- **Annotate design diagrams** with various recurring security requirements (secrecy, integrity, authenticity...) and security assumptions
- Annotations as
  - **Stereotypes**
  - **Tags**
- **Goal**
  - Documentation / keep track of info
  - Formal semantics → **tool-supported analysis**

# UMLSec Extension Mechanisms

UML profile collects the relevant definitions of stereotypes, tagged values, and constraints

**Stereotypes** Define new sub-types of modelling elements, hence extending the UML metamodel. Stereotype definition can include zero or more tags

*Example: <<guarded>> can only be used on Objects*

**Tagged values:** Name-value pair that add properties to model elements. Can be used in the context of a stereotypes that defines them

*Example: {guard = obj} identifies the guard object*

Foo Boolean values, {tag} means {tag = true}

**Constraints** Define the formal semantics of a model element (e.g., written in first-order logic). That is, the desired security property.

*Example: “guarded objects only accessible via guard object”*



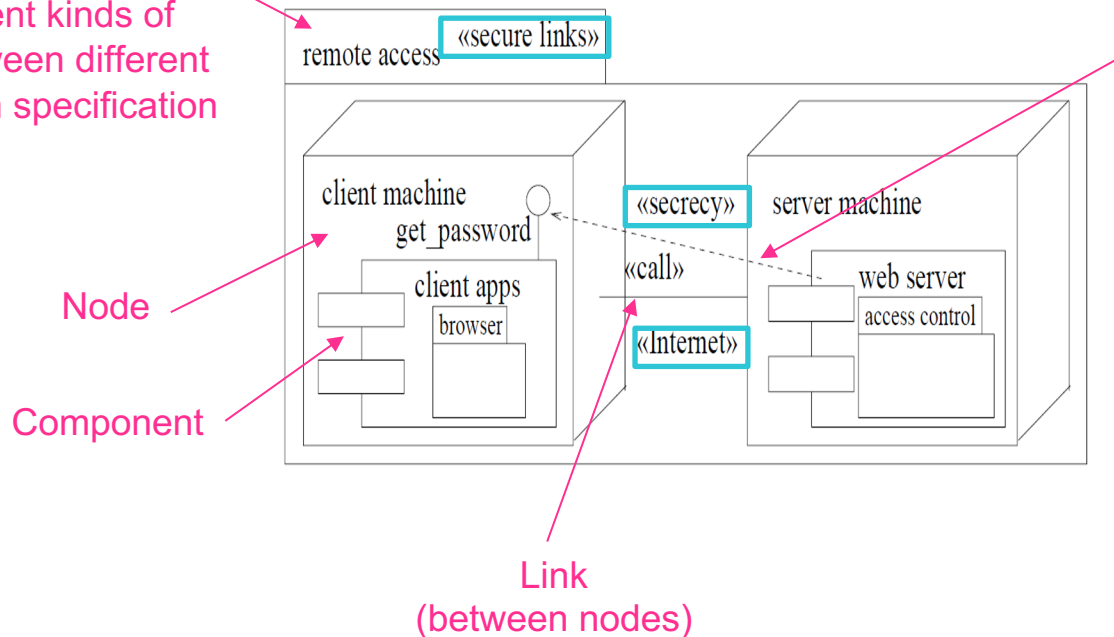
# Example

Stereotype	Base Class	Tags	Constraints	Description
Internet	link			Internet connection
encrypted	link			encrypted connection
LAN	link,node			LAN connection
wire	link			wire
secure links	subsystem		dependency security matched by links	enforces secure communication links
secrecy	dependency			assumes secrecy
integrity	dependency			assumes integrity
high	dependency			high sensitivity

**Subsystem (think of package)**  
Integrate the information between the different kinds of diagrams and between different parts of the system specification

Deployment diagram with

Security annotations



Dependency (between components)

# UMLSec: usage scenarios

(from more abstract to more concrete)

## Use case diagrams

Seen before

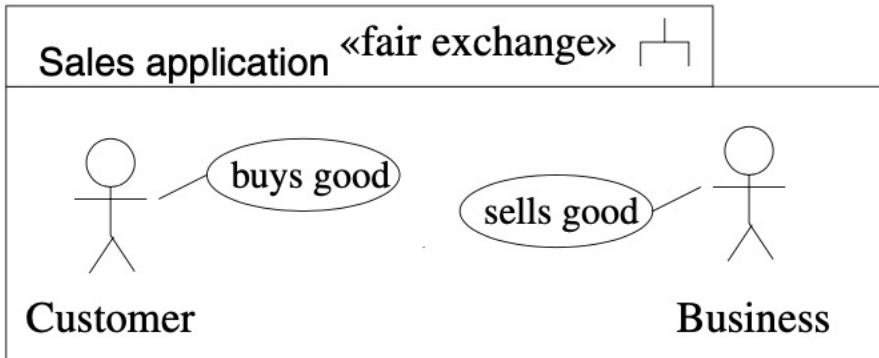


Fig. 2.1. Use case diagram for business application

## In UMLsec: Capture security requirements

## Activity diagrams

Specify the control flow between several components within the system, usually at a higher degree of abstraction than statecharts and sequence diagrams. They can be used to put objects or components in the context of overall system behaviour or to explain use cases in more detail.

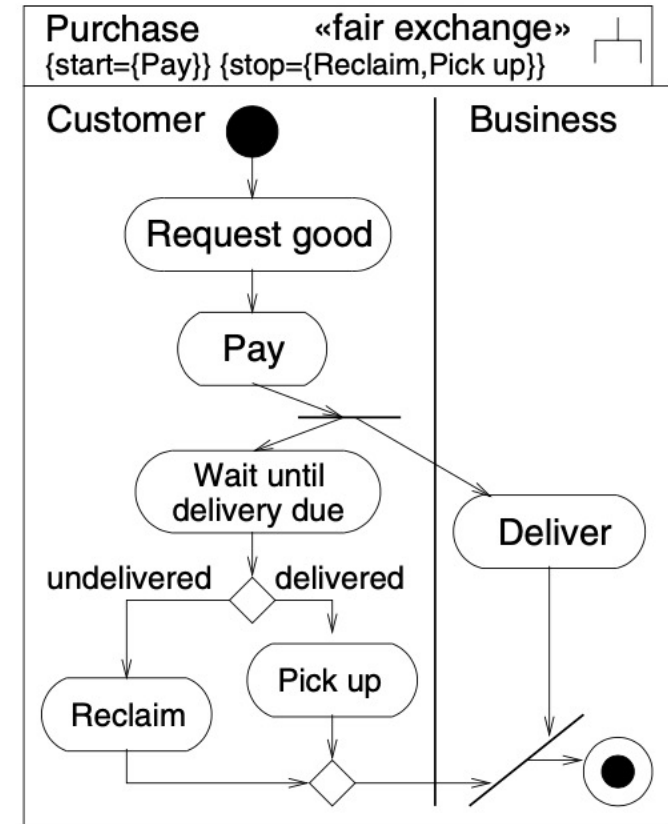
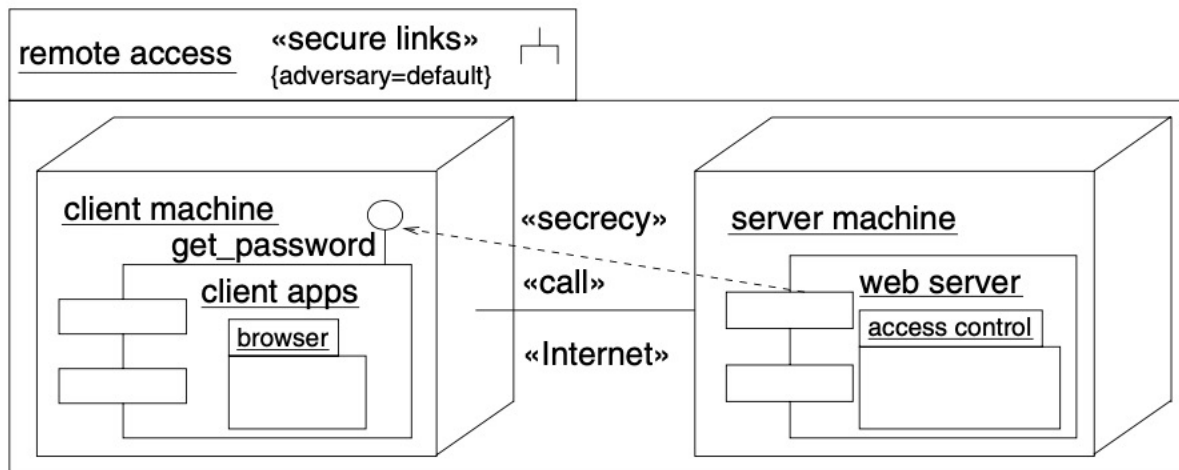


Fig. 2.2. Purchase activity diagram

## In UMLsec: Define secure business processes

## Deployment diagrams

Describe the physical layer on which the system is to be implemented.

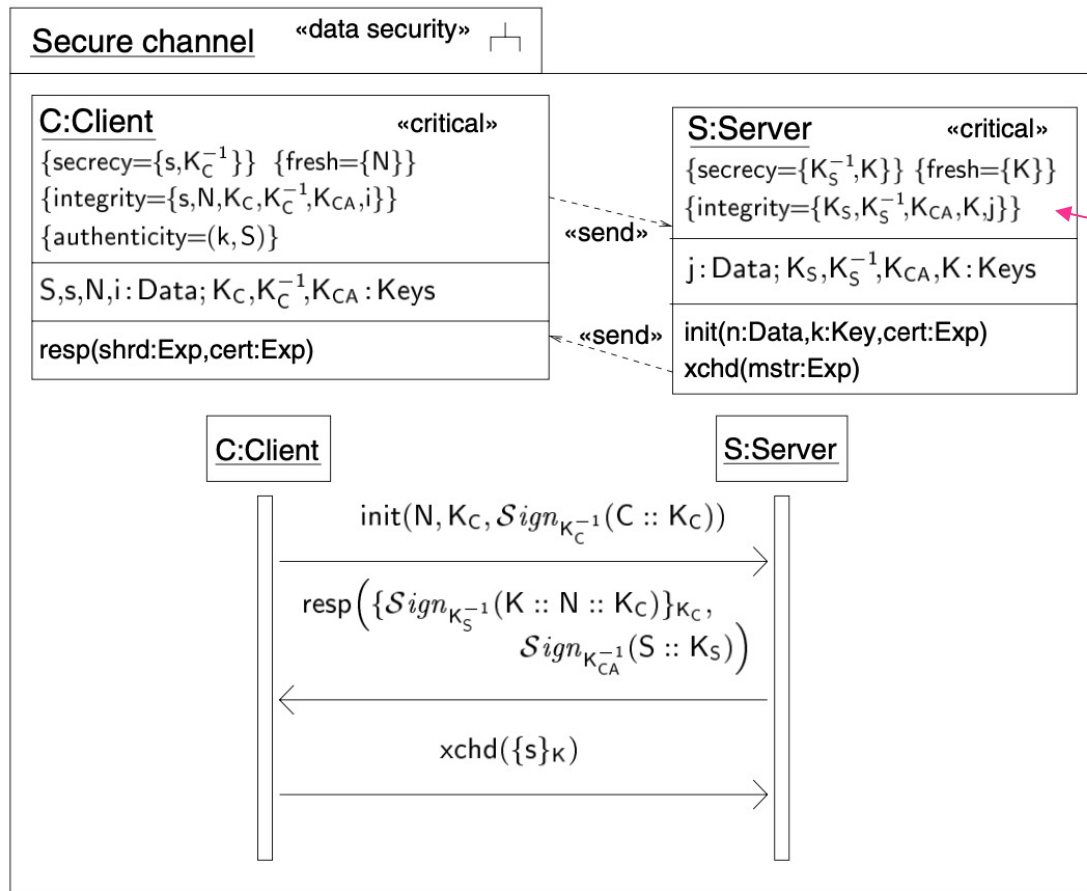


**Fig. 2.3.** Example *secure links* usage

**In UMLsec: Check physical security**

## Sequence diagrams

Describe interaction between objects arranged in time sequence and also sequence of the messages exchanged.



## Class diagrams

Define the static class structure of the system: classes with attributes, operations, and signals and relationships between classes. On the instance level, the corresponding diagrams are called **object diagrams**.

Fig. 2.4. Key exchange protocol

## Statechart diagrams

Give the dynamic behaviour of an *individual object* or component: events may cause a change in state or an execution of actions.

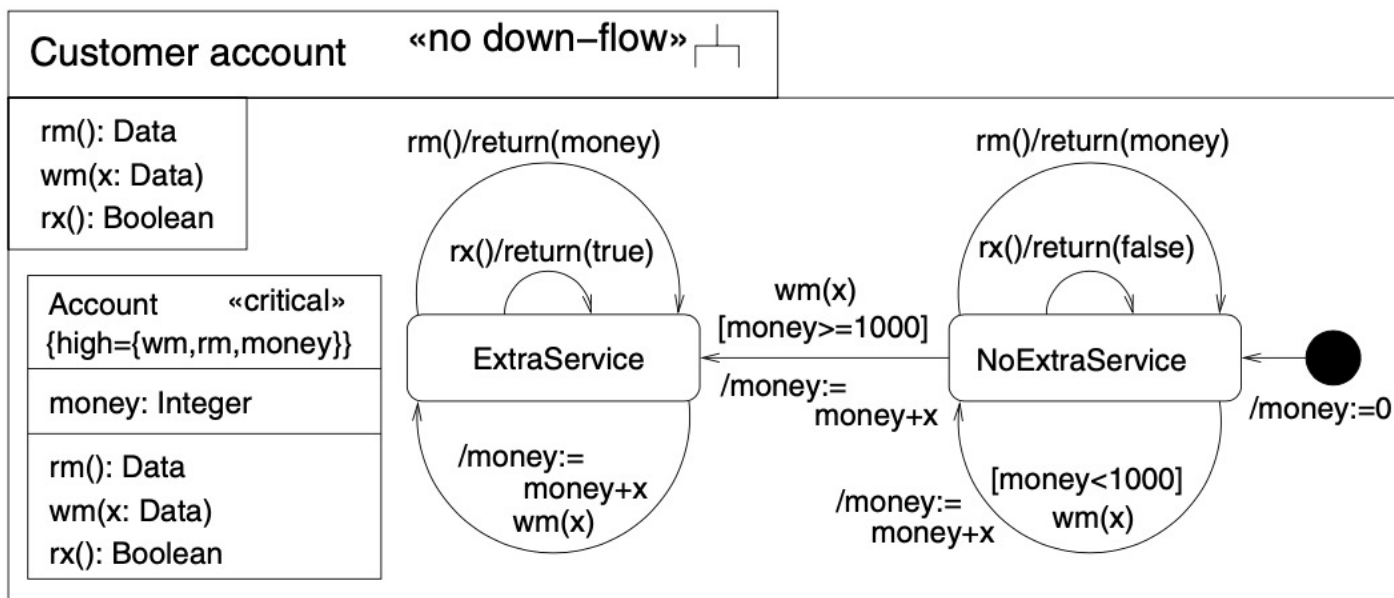


Fig. 2.5. Customer account data object

## In UMLsec: Information flow analysis

# UMLsec profile at a glance

Stereotype	Base Class	Tags	Constraints	Description
fair exchange	subsystem	start, stop, adversary	after start eventually reach stop	enforce fair exchange
provable	subsystem	action, cert, adversary	action is non-deniable	non-repudiation requirement
rbac	subsystem	protected, role, right	only permitted activities executed	enforces role-based access control
Internet	link			Internet connection
encrypted	link			encrypted connection
LAN	link, node			LAN connection
wire	link			wire
smart card	node			smart card node
POS device	node			POS device
issuer node	node			issuer node
secrecy	dependency			assumes secrecy
integrity	dependency			assumes integrity
high	dependency			high sensitivity
critical	object, subsystem	secrecy, integrity, authenticity, high, fresh		critical object
secure links	subsystem	adversary	dependency security matched by links	enforces secure communication links
secure dependency	subsystem		« call », « send » respect data security	structural interaction data security
data security	subsystem	adversary, integ., auth.	provides secrecy, integrity, authenticity, freshness	basic data security requirements
no down-flow	subsystem		prevents down-flow	information flow condition
no up-flow	subsystem		prevents up-flow	information flow condition
guarded access	subsystem		guarded objects accessed through guards	access control using guard objects
guarded	object	guard		guarded object

# Stereotypes 1/3

**Internet, encrypted LAN: Denote communication links-** Stereotypes on links in deployment diagrams denote the corresponding requirements on communication links nodes. Each link or node carries at most one of these stereotypes.

## Secure Dependency

This stereotype, used to label subsystems containing object diagrams or static structure diagrams, ensures <<call>> or <<send>> dependencies respect the security requirements on the data that may be communicated along them, as given by the tags secrecy, integrity and high of the stereotype <<critical>>

## Secrecy, integrity, high

Stereotypes denote dependencies in static structure or component diagrams that provide security requirement for the data that is sent as arguments or return values of operations or signals.



# Stereotypes 2/3

## Secrecy

<<call>> or <<send>> dependencies in object or component diagrams stereotyped <<secrecy>> provide security requirement for the data that is sent as arguments or return values of operations or signals

Both are used in the constraint of the stereotype <<secure links>>

## Critical

This stereotype labels objects or subsystem instances containing data that is critical in some way, which is specified in more detail using the tags secrecy, integrity, fresh and high.

## No down flow

This stereotype of subsystems enforces secure information flow by making use of the associated tag high. According to the <<no-down flow>> constraint, the stereotyped subsystem prevents down-flow wrt messages and their return messages specified as high

# Stereotypes 3/3

## Fair exchange

Tags *start* and *stop* whenever a start state in the activity diagram is reached, then eventually corresponding stop state will be reached.

## Provable

Tags *action* and *cert* whenever a start state in the activity diagram is reached, then eventually corresponding stop state will be reached.

## Guarded Access

Each object in the subsystem that is <<guarded>> can only be accessed through the objects specified by the tag guard attached to <<guarded>> object.

## Guarded

Labels objects (in particular in the scope of the stereotype <<guarded access>> above) that are supposed to be guarded. It has a tagged value guard which defines the name of the corresponding guard object.

# Summary of UMLsec tags

Tag	Stereotype	Type	Multip.	Description
start	fair exchange	state	*	start states
stop	fair exchange	state	*	stop states
adversary	fair exchange	adversary model	1	adversary type
action	provable	state	*	provable action
cert	provable	expression	*	certificate
adversary	provable	adversary model	*	adversary type
protected	rbac	state	*	protected resources
role	rbac	(actor, role)	*	assign role to actor
right	rbac	(role, right)	*	assign right to role
secrecy	critical	data	*	secrecy of data
integrity	critical	(variable, expression)	*	integrity of data
authenticity	critical	(data, origin)	*	authenticity of data
high	critical	message	*	high-level message
fresh	critical	data	*	fresh data
adversary	secure links	adversary model	1	adversary type
adversary	data security	adversary model	1	adversary type
integrity	data security	(variable, expression)	*	integrity of data
authenticity	data security	(data, origin)	*	authenticity of data
guard	guarded	object name	1	guard object

# Key security requirements

Stereotype	Base Class	Tags	Constraints	Description
fair exchange	subsystem	start, stop, adversary	after start eventually reach stop	enforce fair exchange
provable	subsystem	Non-repudiation of actions ; adversary	ble	non-repudiation requirement
rbac	subsystem	Coarse-grain access control ; role, right	; executed	enforces role-based access control
Internet encrypted LAN wire smart card POS device issuer node secrecy integrity high critical	link link link, node link node node node dependency dependency dependency object, subsystem	Confidentiality & integrity of communications		Internet connection encrypted connection LAN connection wire smart card node POS device issuer node assumes secrecy assumes integrity high sensitivity critical object
secure links secure dependency data security	subsystem subsystem subsystem	secrecy, integrity, authenticity, high, fresh adversary	dependency security matched by links « call », « send » respect data security provides secrecy, integrity, authenticity, freshness	enforces secure communication links structural interaction data security basic data security requirements
no down-flow no up-flow	subsystem subsystem	Information flow properties		information flow condition information flow condition
guarded access guarded	subsystem object	Architectural access control	guarded objects accessed through guards	access control using guard objects guarded object

# UMLsec: Supported Security Requirements

**Fair Exchange-** This requirement postulates that the trade is performed in a way that prevents both parties from cheating

**Non-Repudiation-** An action cannot subsequently be denied successfully. That is, the action is provable, usually wrt. some trusted third party

**Secure Logging-** The auditing data is at each point during the transaction of the system consistent with the actual state of the transaction (to avoid the possibility of fraud by interrupting the transaction)

**Message Authenticity or Data origin Authenticity-** Allows to identify the original source of data in the past

**Entity Authenticity-** Allows to identify active participation of a participant in a particular protocol at that time

**Guarded Access-** Access control ensures that only legitimate parties have access to a security-relevant part of the system. Access control can be enforced by guards.

# UMLsec: Supported Security Requirements

**Freshness-** A message is fresh if it is created under the current execution round of the system under consideration and cannot replay an older message by the attacker

**Secure Information Flow-** This requirement is to ensure there is no indirect leakage of sensitive information from a trusted to an untrusted part. Trusted parts of a system are often marked as high, untrusted parts as low

**Secrecy and Integrity-** These are main data security requirements. A subsystem  $S$  preserves the secrecy (a.k.a.confidentiality) of an expression  $E$  from adversary  $A$  if  $E$  never appears in the knowledge set  $K$  of  $A$  during execution of  $S$ . Integrity means that some information can be modified only by legitimate parties.

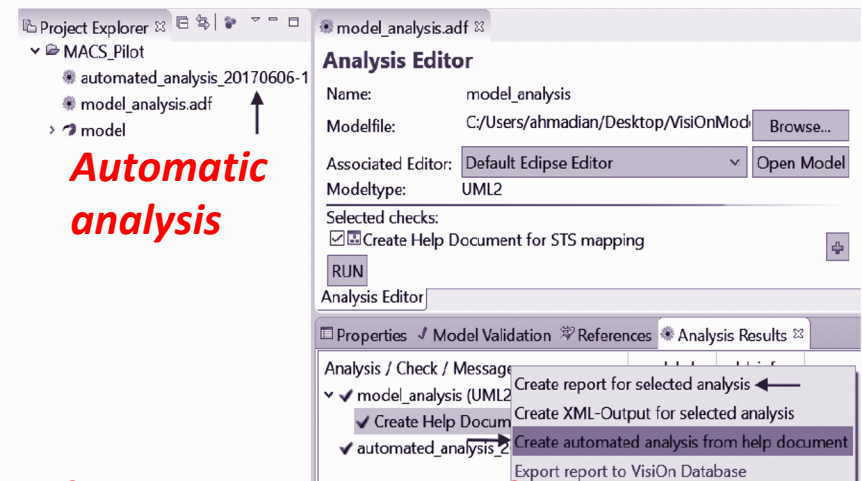
**Secure Communication Link-** Sensitive communication between different parts of a system needs to be protected. The relevant requirement of a secure communication link is here assumed to provide secrecy and integrity for the data in transit.

# UMLSec: model analysis

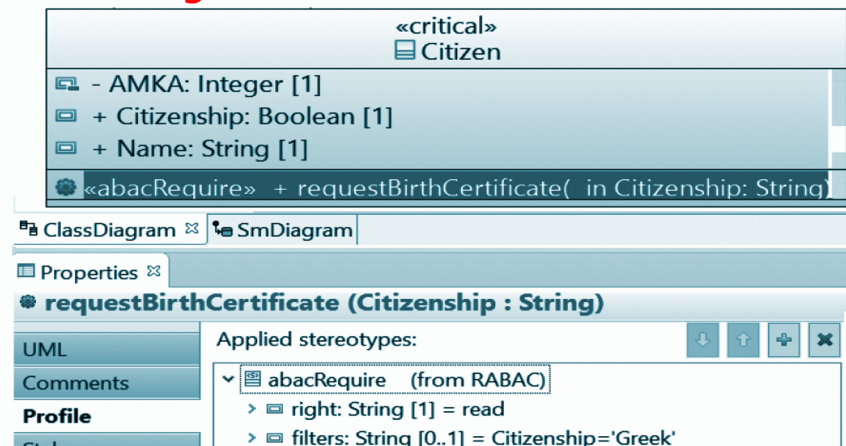
# UML Model Analysis with CARiSMA

- Analyse security requirements based on the information from
  - formal semantics
  - adversary behaviour
- UMLsec diagrams are converted to first-order logic formulas (including epistemic constructs)
- Analysis of the diagrams using automated first-order logic theorem provers (e.g., e-SETHEO or SPASS)

More information about CARiSMA:  
<https://rgse.uni-koblenz.de/carisma/>  
<https://youtu.be/b5zeHig3ARw>



*Class Diagram annotated*





# Adversary in UMLsec

Stereotype	Base Class	Tags	Constraints	Description
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# Adversary in UMLsec

- Type of adversary can be specified in the UML diagram
- If not specified, capability of default attacker is used

Stereotype	Threats <sub>default</sub> ()
Internet	{delete, read, insert}
encrypted	{delete}
LAN	∅
wire	∅
smart card	∅
POS device	∅
issuer node	∅

Threats from **default** attacker

Stereotype	Threats <sub>insider</sub> ()
Internet	{delete, read, insert}
encrypted	{delete, read, insert}
LAN	{delete, read, insert}
wire	{delete, read, insert}
smart card	∅
POS device	{access}
issuer node	{access}

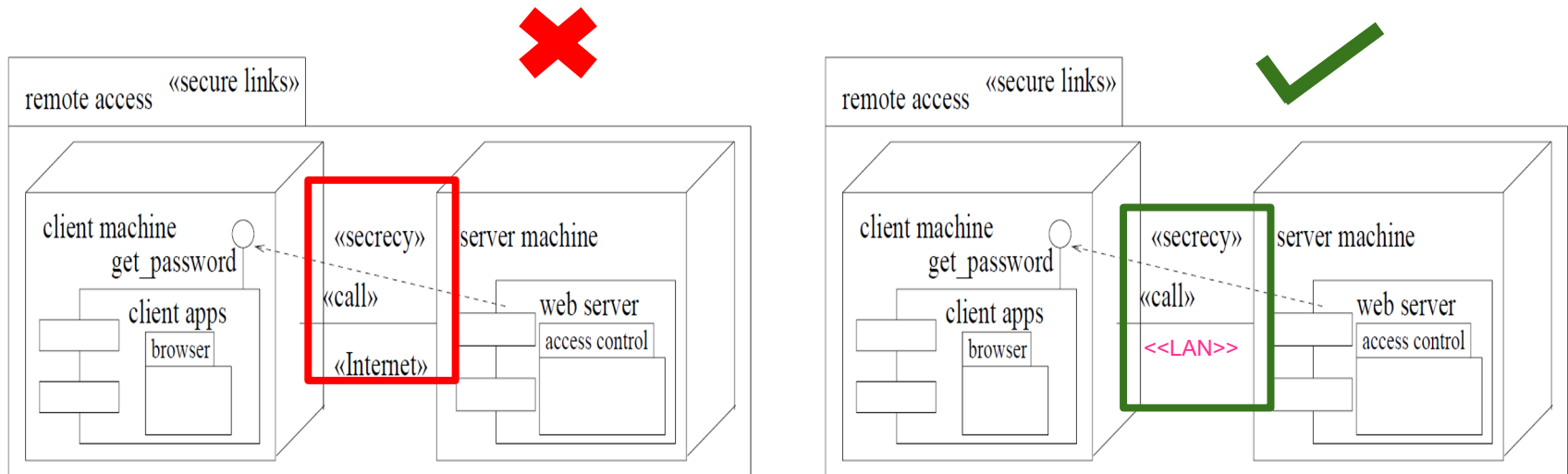
Threats from **insider** attacker

# Security analysis for Secure Links

- The model does not meet the secure requirements against the default adversary:
  - In the model, the call dependency is labeled with the <<secrecy>> constraint
  - The *link* is labeled as <<Internet>>
  - The default attacker has *delete*, **read** and *insert* capability

Stereotype	Threats <sub>default</sub> ()
Internet	{delete, read, insert}

- An attacker can read messages on an Internet link
- Internet connections do not provide secrecy against attacker
- Constraint is violated

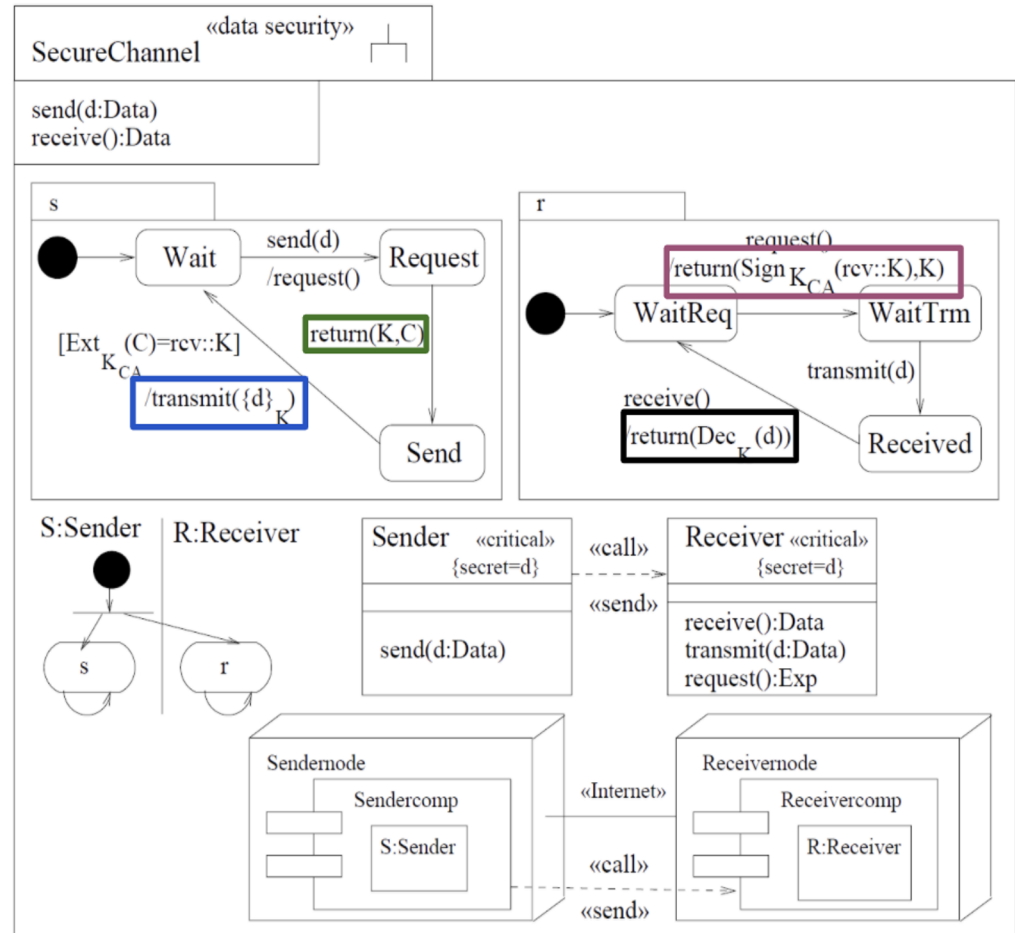


# Security analysis for Data Security

Example is a simple security protocol.

1. The sender requests the public key  $K$  together with the certificate to certify authenticity of the key from the receiver
2. Receiver sends certificate and the public key to the sender
3. Sender then sends the data back encrypted using  $K$  to the receiver
4. Receiver decrypts the ciphertext from the sender using  $K$

The sender and receiver components can interact with each other because of provided `<<call>>` and `<<send>>`  
 An internet connection `<<internet>>` is established between the sender and the receiver



Example: Security protocol



Secrecy of  $d$  is preserved

# Other approaches

# Analysis based on Formalized Signatures

- Detailed model describing the system
- **System description model**
  - Component-based model (components, interface functions)
  - Deployment model (components in nodes)
- **Security specification model**
  - Security objectives (e.g., a component is critical)
  - Security controls (e.g., component enforces user authentication)  
(e.g., node in trusted zone)

# Attack scenario as OCL signature

context System inv Man-in-the-Middle Attack:

```

self.components->select(C1 |
    C1.DeploymentZone = 'Untrusted' and

self.components.exists(C2 |
    C2.Channels->exists(Ch |
        Ch.TargetComponent = C1 and
        Ch.Encryption = false)
    ...
)

```

Model query

Graph navigation

# Security metric as OCL signature

```
context System inv AttackSurface:
```

```
self.components  
  ->select(C1 |  
          C1.DeploymentZone = 'Untrusted')  
  ->collect(C2 |  
          C2.Functions)  
  ->size()
```



# Analysis based on Formalized Signatures

## How does it work

- OCL **signatures** are *provided*  
(16 in total, more can be added)
- **Tool** runs the **checks** on the models  
(**model queries** and **graph navigation**)
- **Report** of results