



SSE-LAB 1: Security Requirements

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Agenda

- **Brief conceptual review**
- **Practical case**
- **Elicitation of security goals**
- **Elicitation of security requirements**
- **Elaboration of Misuse and Abuse Cases**
- **Instantiation of security specification patterns (KAOS)**



Security Goals & Requirements



How can we write security requirements?

Security Goals & Requirements

There is no good answer to that question!

- It means evolving from “art” to engineering...
- No particular methodology has yet achieved dominance.
- We will follow a **lightweight process**.



I - Preliminaries (*functional requirements*)

Before starting to outline security requirements we need to identify what the system is and does:

- **SECURITY** = *“the system does what it’s supposed to do and **nothing more!**”*
- Hence, we first need to extract the system’s **functional requirements** from its specification.

User stories are short descriptions of software features written from the perspective of the end user:

- They can help us identifying the **assets** of a system.

Assets are things or entities **of great value** that must be properly secured.

I - Preliminaries (*functional requirements*)

Remember: Functional requirements must be **testable**

- ✓ It should be possible to determine whether the system satisfies the requirement or not.
- ✓ Security requirements should be testable as well.

Case study: **The “Metaverse”**

Lab tasks (I):

- Read the case study description.
- Create and discuss user stories.
- Use the following pattern as a guide:



As a <user> I can perform <action>, so that <purpose>

Example: **example goes here**

II - Security Goals (*Harm analysis*)

The goal of system security is to protect assets from harms.

- Harms occur when an action adversely affects the value of an asset.
- Harms are usually related to some of the **CIA+** security concerns:
 - **CONFIDENTIALITY**
 - **INTEGRITY**
 - **AVAILABILITY**
 - **ACCESS-CONTROL**
 - **NON-REDUPLICATION**

Security goals can be extracted through a **harm analysis**.

1. Identify concerns as triples of the form **{action, asset, harm}**
 - “What harm could come to **[asset]** from an action violating **[concern]**?”
2. Derive security goals by negating the concerns → **“AVOID” GOALS**

II - Security Goals (*Harm analysis*)

Security goals can be found within **organization-wide policies**:

- ✓ Generated by applying the management principles to the assets and business goals of the system.
- ✓ Apply globally throughout an organization.

The result is a collection of **“ACHIEVE” GOALS** such as *“achieve separation of duties when paying invoices”* or *“audit all uses of account information”*.

Lab Tasks (II):

- Identify the assets from the user stories
- Conduct a harm analysis
- Identify “avoid’ goals.
- Identify “achieve” goals.



III - Security Requirements (*Threat analysis*)

1. Perform a threat analysis to discover threats T_i , here T_i is a **malicious action** that causes the harm mentioned in the security goal.
2. $SR_i = \neg T_i \rightarrow$ Security requirements are the negation (“avoid”) of the identified threats.

Harm refers to the impact \Rightarrow **Attacker-neutral** (mostly).

Threat refers to the causes \Rightarrow **Attacker-based** (e.g., insider or outsider)

\Rightarrow Misuse cases: A way of performing threat analysis by **anticipating abnormal behavior** and deriving security requirements.

Lab Tasks (III):

- Identify potential attackers of the system under analysis (*Metaverse*).
- Elaborate the misuse cases and extract security requirements.

IV - Security Specification Patterns

Goal *Avoid* [SensitiveInfoKnownByUnauthorizedAgent]

FormalSpec $\forall ag: Agent, ob: Object$

$\neg Authorized (ag, ob.Info) \Rightarrow \neg KnowsV_{ag} (ob.Info)$

CONFIDENTIALITY

Goal *Maintain* [PrivateInfoKnownOnlyIfAuthorizedByOwner]

FormalSpec $\forall ag, ag': Agent, ob: Object$

$KnowsV_{ag} (ob.Info) \wedge OwnedBy (ob.Info, ag') \wedge ag \neq ag'$

$\Rightarrow AuthorizedBy (ag, ob.Info, ag')$

PRIVACY

Goal *Maintain* [ObjectInfoChangeOnlyIfCorrectAndAuthorized]

FormalSpec $\forall ag: Agent, ob: Object, v : Value$

$ob.Info = v \wedge \bullet (ob.Info \neq v) \wedge UnderControl (ob.Info, ag)$

$\Rightarrow Authorized (ag, ob.Info) \wedge \bullet Integrity (ob.Info)$

INTEGRITY

Goal *Achieve* [ObjectInfoUsableWhenNeededAndAuthorized]

FormalSpec $\forall ag: Agent, ob: Object, v : Value$

$Needs (ag, ob.Info) \wedge Authorized (ag, ob.Info)$

$\Rightarrow \Diamond_{\leq d} Using (ag, ob.Info)$

AVAILABILITY

IV - Security Specification Patterns

Notes:

- “ $P \Rightarrow Q$ ” means “ $\Box (P \rightarrow Q)$ ” where the temporal operator “ \Box ” means “in every future state” and “ \rightarrow ” denotes logical implication.
- “o” means “in the next state”.
- “ $\Diamond \leq d$ ” means “some time in the future within d time units”.

Lab Tasks (IV):

- Compute **security goals (SGs)**
 - Instantiate the specification patterns.
- Compute the **anti-goals (AGs)**.



Questions ?

