



# Role-Based Access Control (RBAC)

# Prof. Ravi Sandhu Executive Director and Endowed Chair

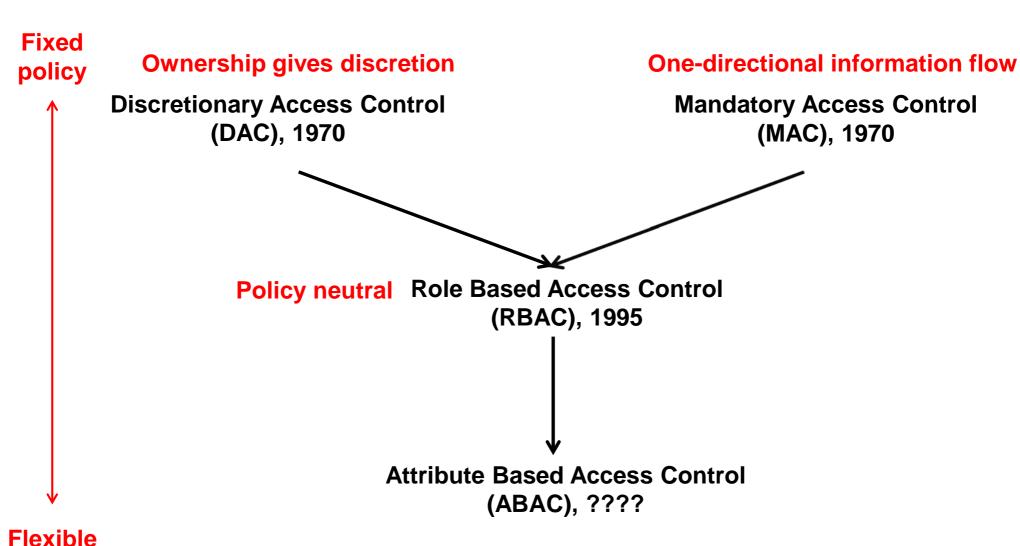
Lecture 3-1

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## **Access Control**



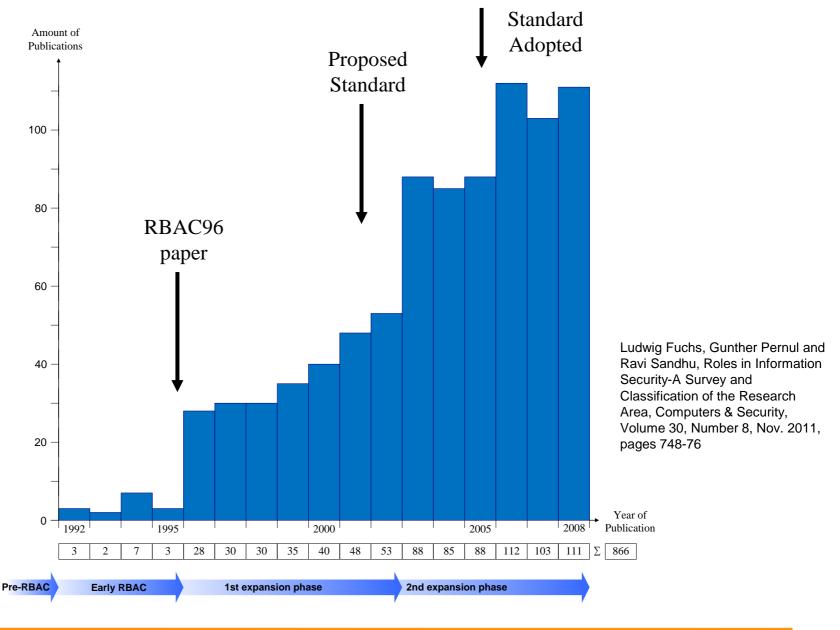


policy



# The RBAC Story







## **RBAC: Role-Based Access Control**



- Access is determined by roles
- A user's roles are assigned by security administrators

First emerged: mid 1970s First models: mid 1990s

 A role's permissions are assigned by security administrators

Is RBAC MAC or DAC or neither?

- RBAC can be configured to do MAC
- RBAC can be configured to do DAC
- RBAC is policy neutral

RBAC is neither MAC nor DAC!



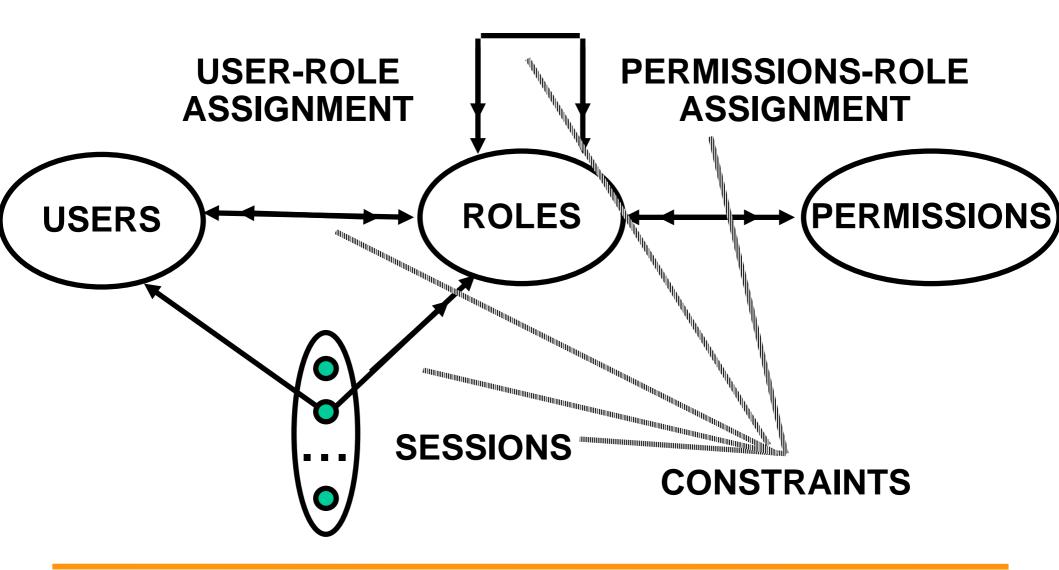


# RBAC96 Model





#### **ROLE HIERARCHIES**

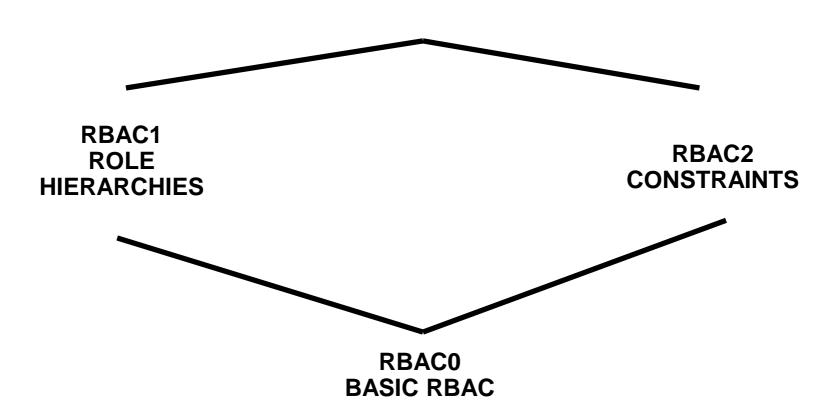




# **RBAC96 Model Family**



RBAC3
ROLE HIERARCHIES +
CONSTRAINTS





### Founding Principles of RBAC96



- Abstraction of Privileges
  - Credit is different from Debit even though both require read and write
- Separation of Administrative Functions
  - Separation of user-role assignment from role-permission assignment
- Least Privilege
  - Right-size the roles
  - Don't activate all roles all the time
  - Limit roles of a user
  - Limit users in a role
- Separation of Duty
  - Static separation: purchasing manager versus accounts payable manager
  - Dynamic separation: cash-register clerk versus cash-register manager

#### **ROLES AS POLICY**





- A role brings together
  - a collection of users and
  - a collection of permissions
- These collections will vary over time
  - A role has significance and meaning beyond the particular users and permissions brought together at any moment

#### **ROLES VERSUS GROUPS**



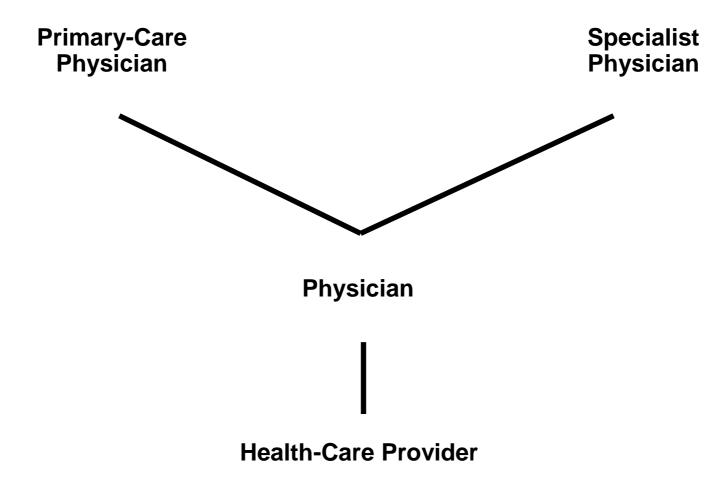


- Groups are often defined as
  - a collection of users
- A role is
  - a collection of users and
  - a collection of permissions
- Some authors define role as
  - a collection of permissions
- Most Operating Systems support groups
  - BUT do not support selective activation of groups
- Selective activation conflicts with negative groups (or roles)



# HIERARCHICAL ROLES

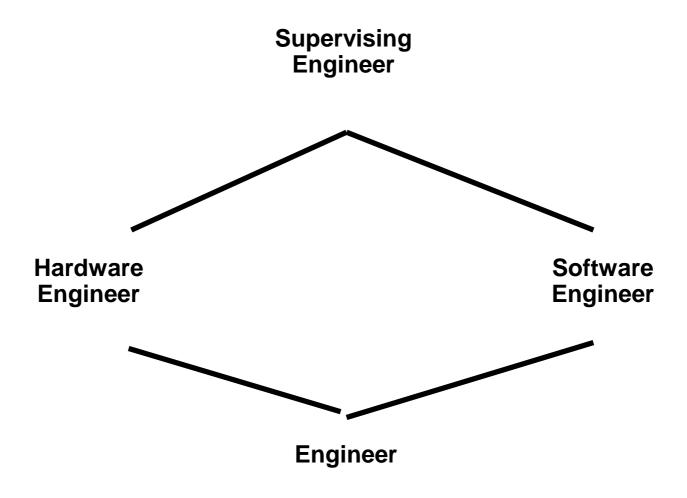






# HIERARCHICAL ROLES

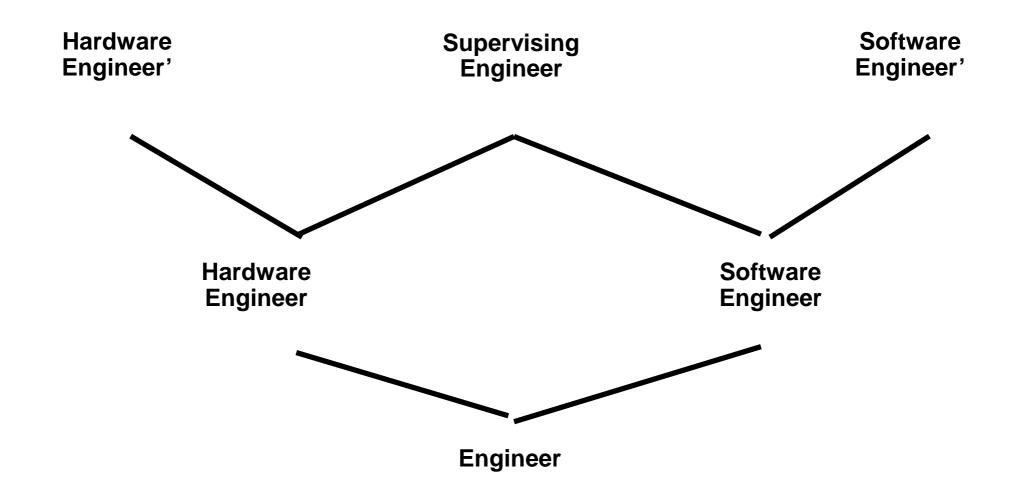






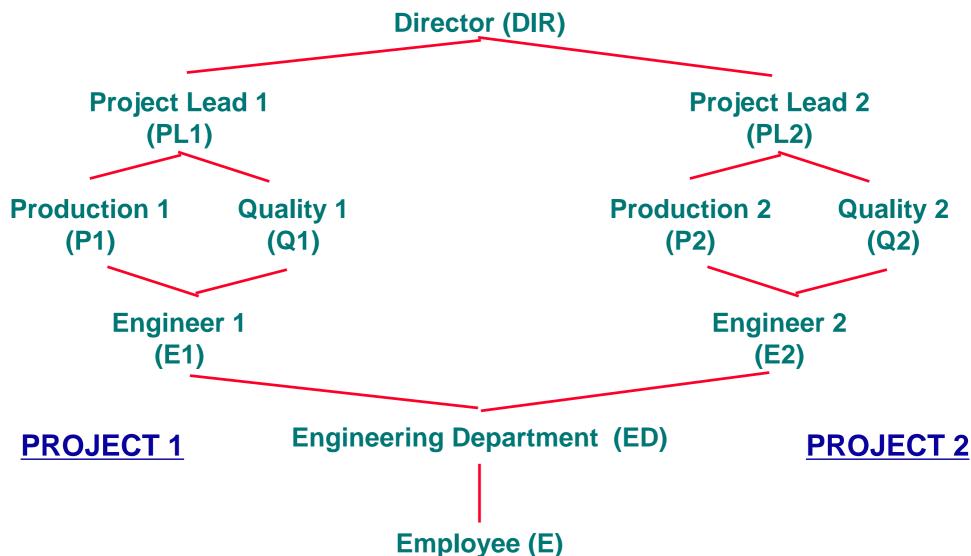
# PRIVATE ROLES





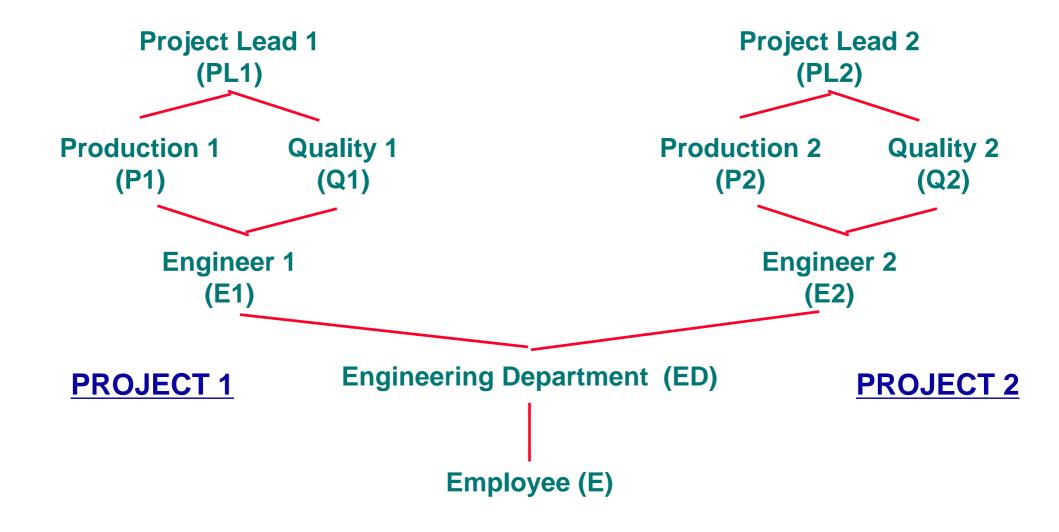








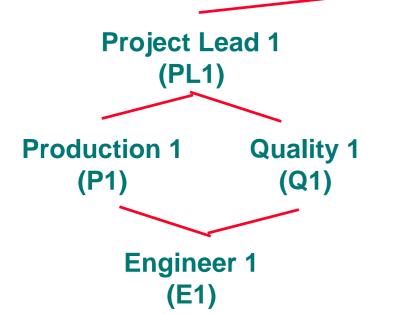


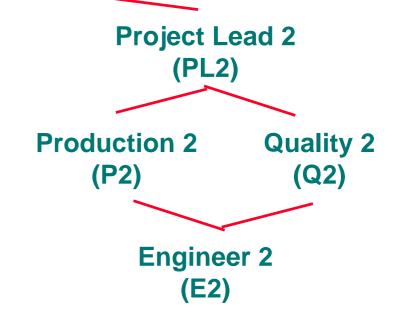






#### **Director (DIR)**



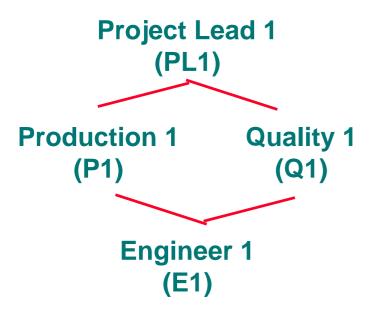


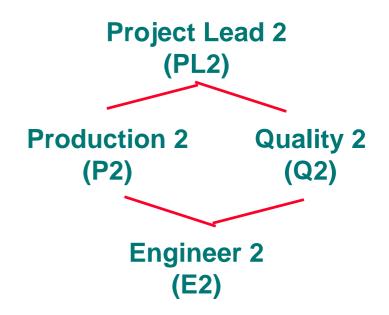
**PROJECT 1** 

**PROJECT 2** 









**PROJECT 1** 

**PROJECT 2** 

# I-C-S The Institute for Cyber Security

#### **CONSTRAINTS**



## Mutually Exclusive Roles

- Static Exclusion: The same individual can never hold both roles
- Dynamic Exclusion: The same individual can never hold both roles in the same context

## Mutually Exclusive Permissions

- Static Exclusion: The same role should never be assigned both permissions
- Dynamic Exclusion: The same role can never hold both permissions in the same context

### Cardinality Constraints on User-Role Assignment

- At most k users can belong to the role
- At least k users must belong to the role
- Exactly k users must belong to the role

## Cardinality Constraints on Permissions-Role Assignment

- At most k roles can get the permission
- At least k roles must get the permission
- Exactly k roles must get the permission





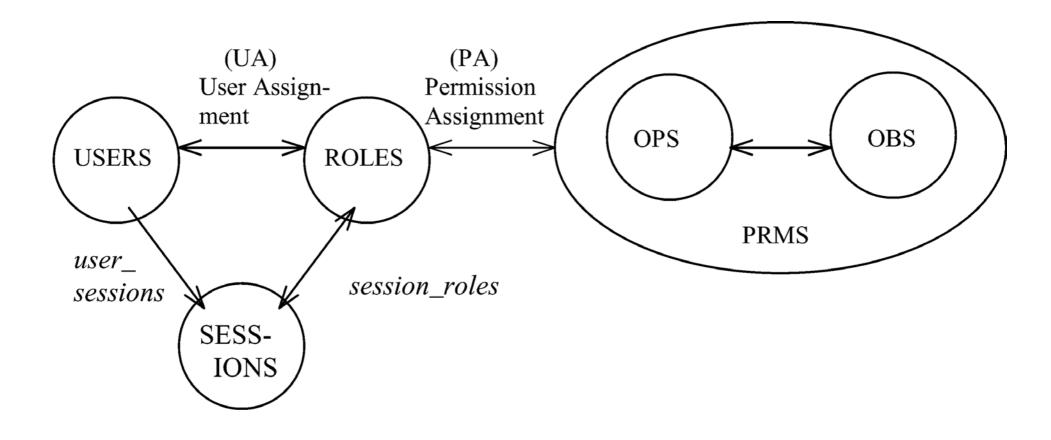
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# NIST RBAC Model



# NIST MODEL: CORE RBAC

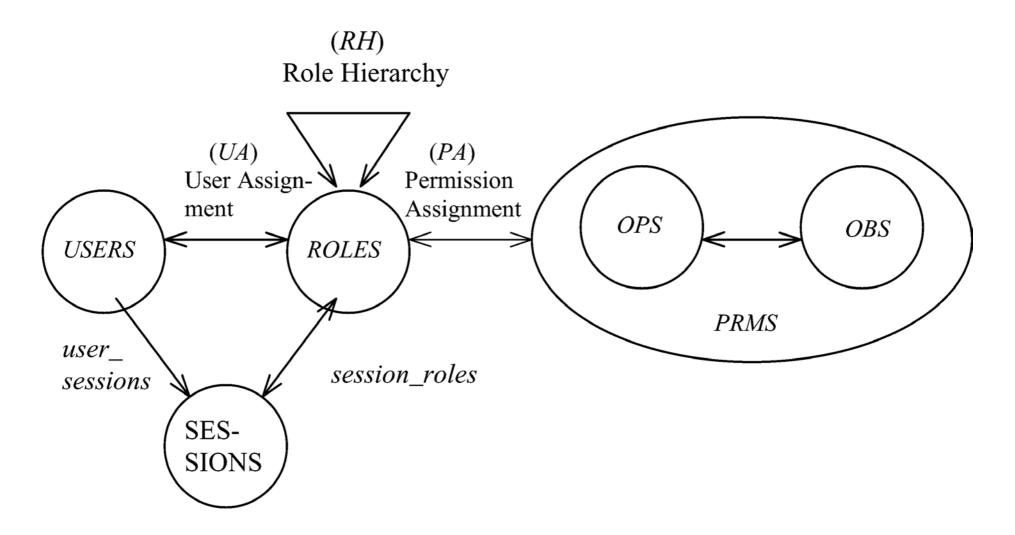






#### NIST MODEL: HIERARCHICAL RBAC

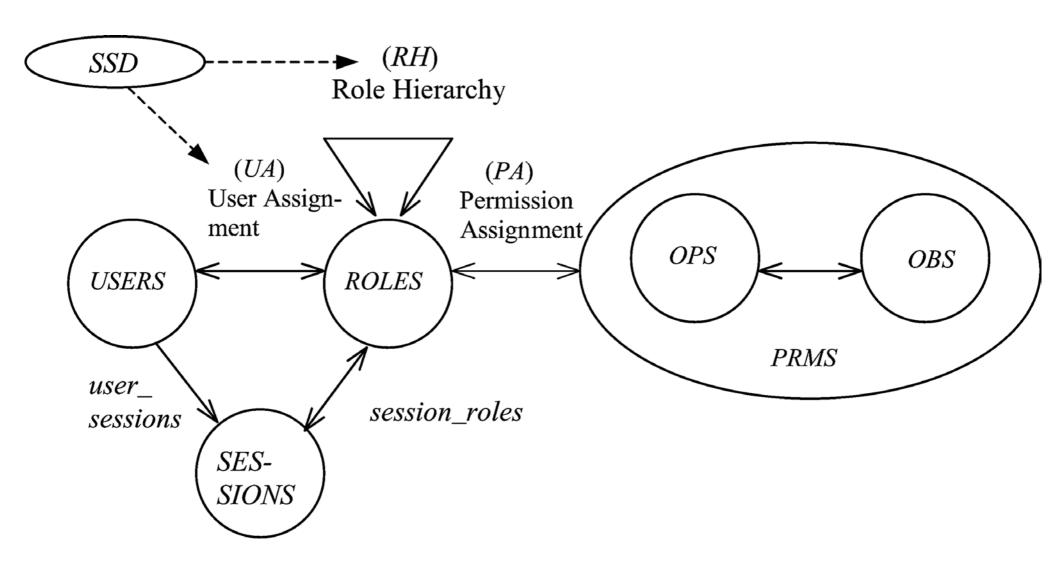






#### SSD IN HIERARCHICAL RBAC

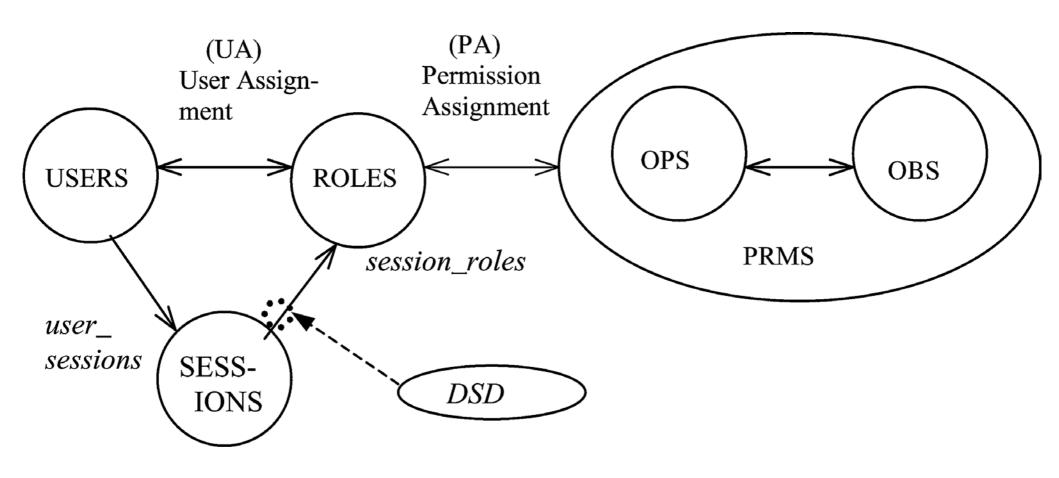






#### DSD IN HIERARCHICAL RBAC

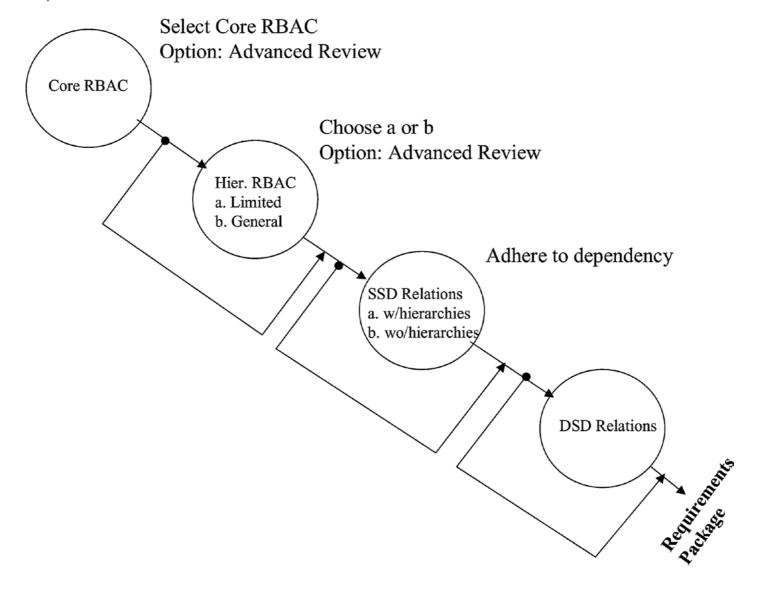






#### NIST MODEL FAMILY



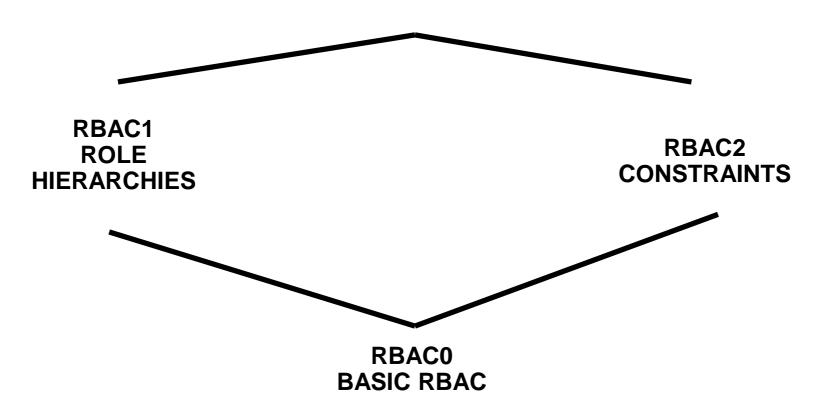


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# **RBAC Administration**





#### **ROLE HIERARCHIES**

