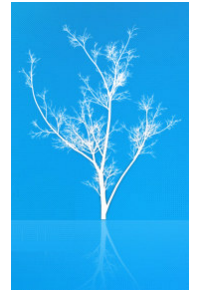


ApacheDS Access Control Administration; The X.500 Way

- Originally presented at *ApacheCon US 2006* in Austin
- Latest presentation materials are at <http://people.apache.org/~ersiner>
- Presented by *Ersin Er*, ersiner@apache.org



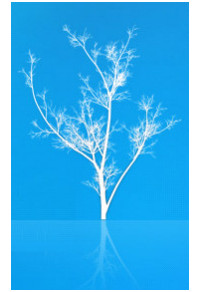
Agenda



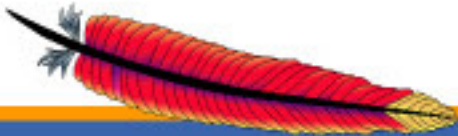
- Access Control
- X.500 Access Control Model
- ACI Items
- Directory Access Control Domains
- Some Principals
- Access Control Administrative Areas
- Delegation of Authority
- Demos



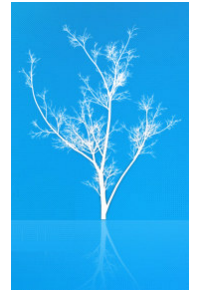
Access Control



- Access: Performing an operation on a resource and getting back some result
- Control: Defining
 - **Who** can
 - access **How**
 - to **What**



X.500 Access Control

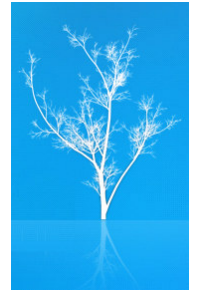


- Defined in terms of Access Control Information (ACI) Items
 - Who can: *User Classes*
 - access How: *Grants and Denials*
 - to What: *Protected Items*



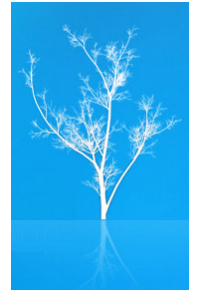


ACI items are powerful



- Fine grained access control
 - Various options with different semantics and capabilities to specify User Classes and Protected Items
- Matter of style - different ways to define access control
 - Who can – (access How, to What)*
 - to What – (Who can, access How)*

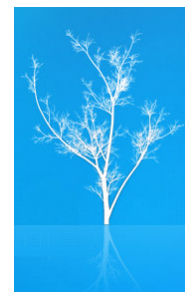
Exploring ACItem components: User Classes



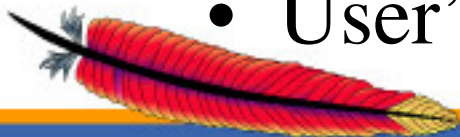
- All users
- A specific user
- A user group
- The user who accesses his/her own (user) entry
- Users (entries) falling under a *subtree*



Exploring ACItem components: Protected Items

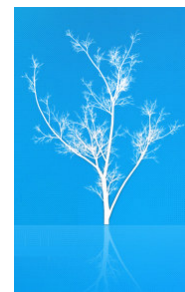


- An entry itself (but not any attribute types or values)
- All user attribute types and values
- All user attribute types (but not any values)
- All attribute values (of a type)
- An attribute type (but not any values)
- Attribute value (of a type)
- User's DN as an attribute value (of a type)



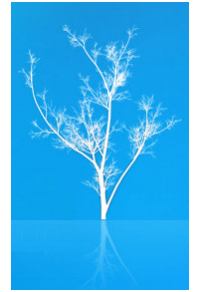


Exploring ACLItem components: Grants and Denials



- Some *Grants and Denials* that can be associated with an *Entry*:
 - Read
 - Browse
 - ReturnDN
 - Add
 - Modify
 - Remove
 - Rename
 - Export
 - Import
- } Search
 } ModifyDN

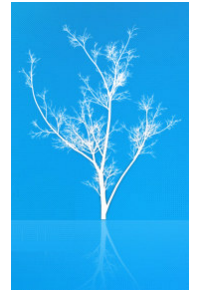
Exploring ACItem components: Grants and Denials



- Some *Grants and Denials* that can be associated with both an *Attribute Type* and an *Attribute Value*:
 - Read
 - Compare
 - FilterMatch
 - Add
 - Remove

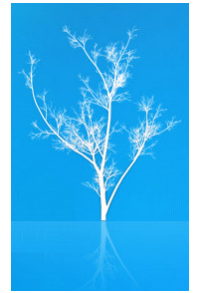


DEMO 1



- Grant read access to an attribute for a user
 - Allow John to read his name!





DEMO 1 - entryACI

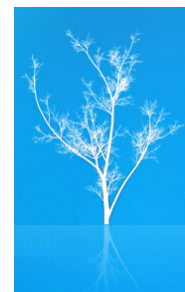
```

• { identificationTag "allowJohnToReadHisName_ACI",
•   precedence 10, authenticationLevel simple,
•   itemOrUserFirst userFirst: {
•     userClasses {
•       name { "cn=John,ou=users,ou=system" }
•     },
•     userPermissions {
•       { protectedItems { entry },
•         grantsAndDenials { grantRead }
•       },
•       { protectedItems {
•         attributeType { commonName },
•         allAttributeValues { commonName }
•       },
•       grantsAndDenials { grantRead }
•     }
•   }
• }

```

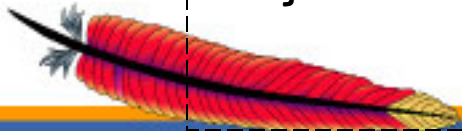
Put this in John's user entry

DEMO 2

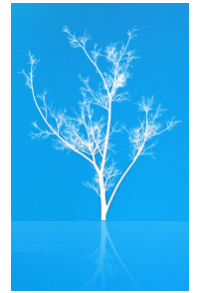


- Grant modify access to an attribute for a user
 - Allow Jane to change her password!





DEMO 2 - entryACI



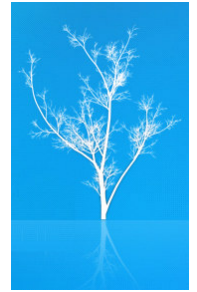
```

• { identificationTag "allowJaneToChangeHerPassword_ACI",
•   precedence 10, authenticationLevel simple,
•   itemOrUserFirst userFirst: {
•     userClasses {
•       name { "cn=Jane,ou=users,ou=system" }
•     },
•     userPermissions {
•       { protectedItems { entry },
•         grantsAndDenials { grantRead, grantModify }
•       },
•       { protectedItems {
•         allAttributeValues { userPassword }
•       },
•         grantsAndDenials { grantRemove, grantAdd }
•       }
•     }
•   }
• }

```

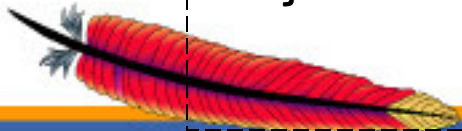
Put this in Jane's user entry

DEMO 3

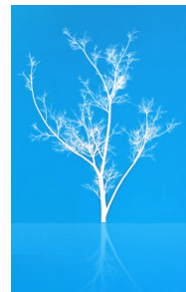


- Grant read and modify access of a specific value to an attribute for a user
 - Allow Jim to subscribe to/unsubscribe from a mail list!





DEMO3 - entryACI

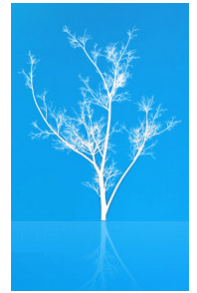


```

• { identificationTag "allowJimToSubsToUnsubsFromAMailList_ACI",
• precedence 10, authenticationLevel simple,
• itemOrUserFirst userFirst: {
•   userClasses { name { "cn=Jim,ou=users,ou=system" } },
•   userPermissions {
•     { protectedItems { entry },
•       grantsAndDenials { grantRead, grantModify }
•     },
•     { protectedItems {
•       attributeValue {
•         { type uniqueMember, value "cn=Jim,ou=users,ou=system" }
•       }
•     },
•     grantsAndDenials { grantRead, grantRemove, grantAdd }
•   }
• }
• }
• }

```

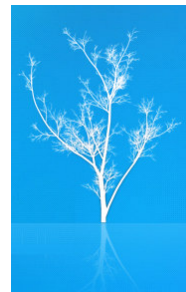
Put this in mail list entry



Questions

- Are we going to create
 - each of these entryACI values
 - for each user entry
 - if we want them all have same permissions?
- Changes from user to user seem to be few, don't they?



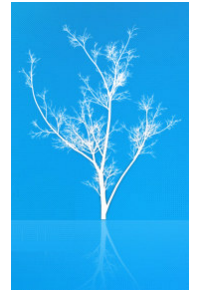


(Unsatisfactory) Answer

- We can replace user specific parts in each entryACI with generic components:
 - For 1st and 2nd cases:
 - UserClass *thisEntry*
 - Not for the 3rd case, because the accessed entry is not the user's entry
 - For 3rd case:
 - UserClass *allUsers*
 - ProtectedItem *selfValue*
 - can be used.

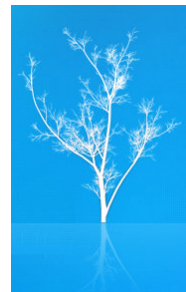


DEMO 4



- Grant read and modify access to an attribute for a user
 - Allow user to read/change his or her password!





DEMO 4 - entryACI

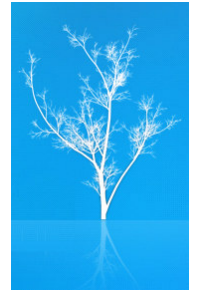
```

• { identificationTag "allowUserToChangeHisOrHerPassword_ACI",
•   precedence 10, authenticationLevel simple,
•   itemOrUserFirst userFirst: {
•     userClasses {
•       thisEntry
•     },
•     userPermissions {
•       { protectedItems {
•         entry
•       },
•       grantsAndDenials {
•         grantRead, grantModify
•       }
•     },
•     { protectedItems {
•       allAttributeValues { userPassword }
•     },
•     grantsAndDenials {
•       grantRemove, grantAdd
•     }
•   }
• }
• }
• }

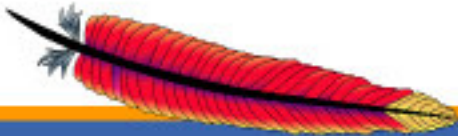
```

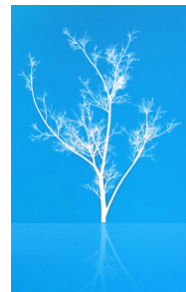
Put this in a user's entry

DEMO 5



- Grant read and modify access of a specific value to an attribute for a user
 - Allow users to subscribe to/unsubscribe from a mailing list!





DEMO 5 - entryACI

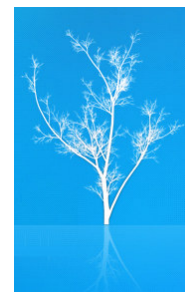
```

• { identificationTag "allowAllUsersToSubscribeToUnsubscribeFromAMailingList_ACI",
• precedence 10, authenticationLevel simple,
• itemOrUserFirst userFirst: {
•   userClasses {
•     allUsers
•   },
•   userPermissions {
•     { protectedItems { entry },
•       grantsAndDenials { grantRead, grantModify }
•     },
•     { protectedItems {
•       selfValue
•     },
•       grantsAndDenials {
•         grantRead, grantRemove, grantAdd
•       }
•     }
•   }
• }

```

Put this in a mail list entry

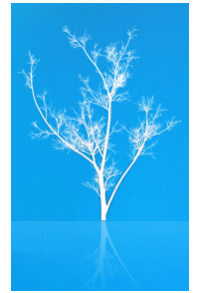
Why was the answer unsatisfactory? New Questions



- Solutions for the 3rd case seemed good but,
- For 1st and 2nd cases,
 - What if we have hundreds of thousands of users that need the same permissions?
 - What if we need much more access control for each user?
 - Will we have to add each generic entry ACI value to all users' entries?
- *So, do we always have to define access control information on a single entry only? What about a set of entries?*

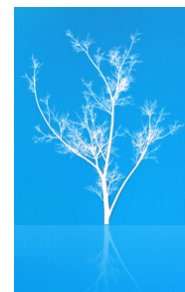


Satisfactory Answer: Directory Access Control Domains (DACD)

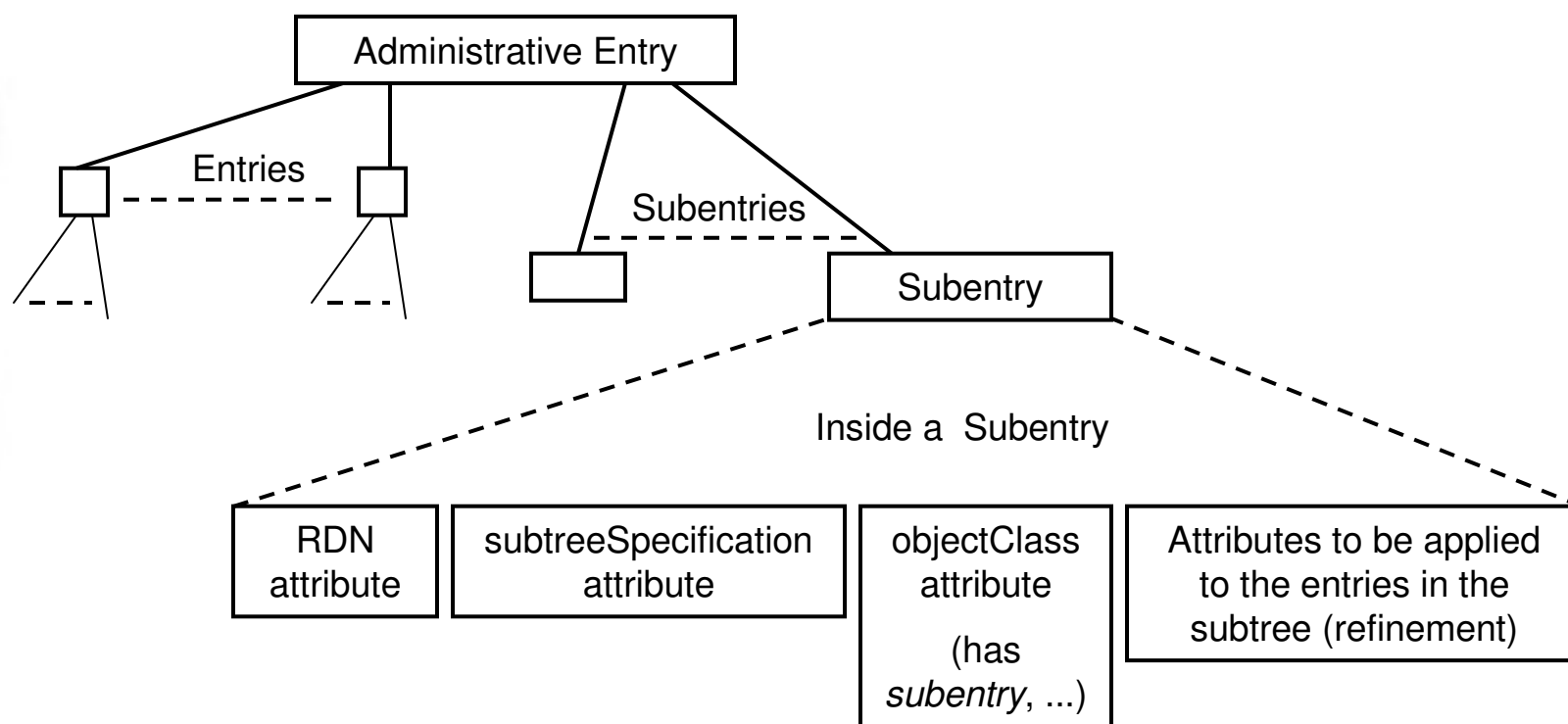


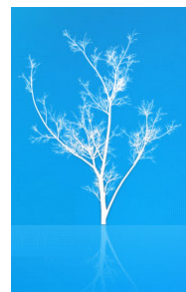
- X.500 Subentries and subtreeSpecification
 - A Subentry holds a subtreeSpecification attribute
 - subtreeSpecification allows specifying a *subtree of entries with chop specifications and refinements*
 - Other attributes in the Subentry are *applied* to the selection of entries
 - A building block of X.500 Administrative Model
 - RFC 3672 - Subentries in the Lightweight Directory Access Protocol
- Directory Access Control Domains
 - Instead of entryACI,
 - use *prescriptiveACI* in *accessControlSubentry*
 - to define access control rules on a set of entries



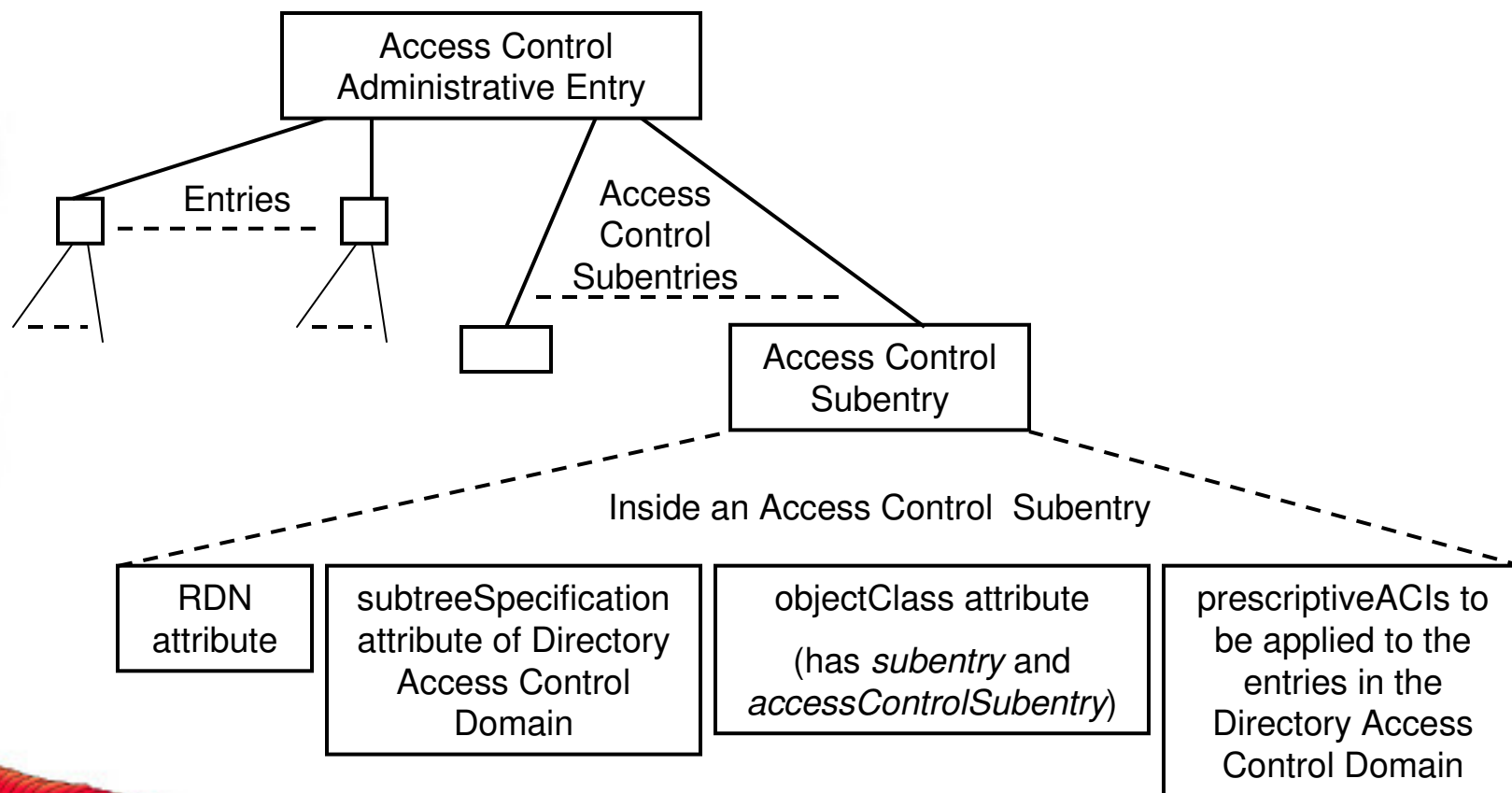


X.500 Administrative Model

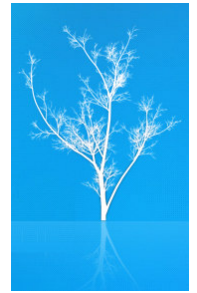




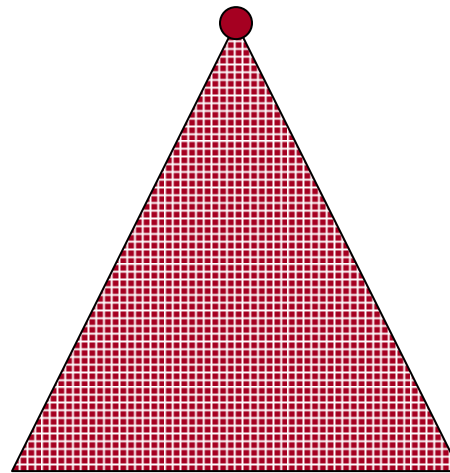
X.500 Administrative Model - Access Control Aspect



What can be specified (How a DACD can be specified) with a subtreeSpecification ? (1)



Administrative Point

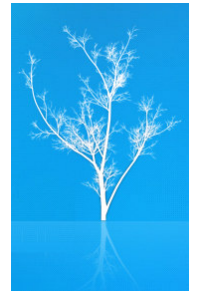


subtreeSpecification= { }

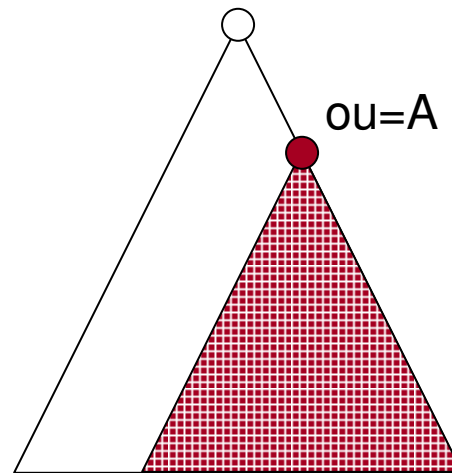




What can be specified (How a DACD can be specified) with a subtreeSpecification ? (2)



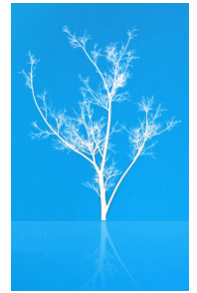
Administrative Point



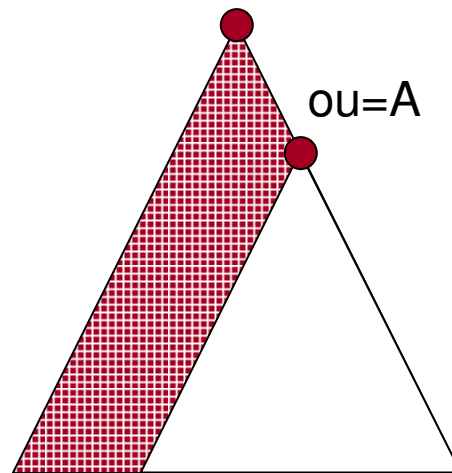
subtreeSpecification=
{ base "ou=A" }



What can be specified (How a DACD can be specified) with a subtreeSpecification ? (3)



Administrative Point

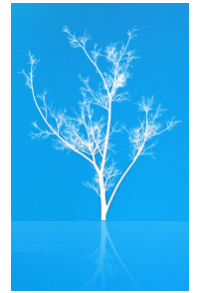


subtreeSpecification=

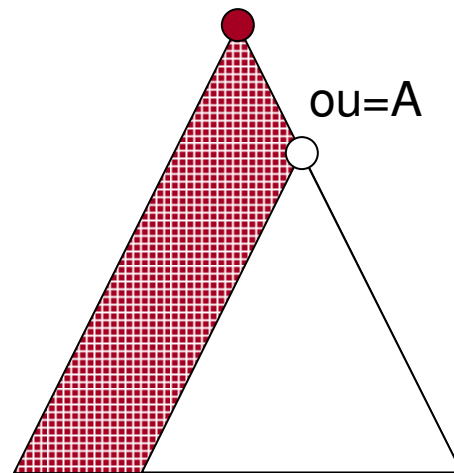
```
{ specificExclusions { chopAfter: "ou=A" } }
```



What can be specified (How a DACD can be specified) with a subtreeSpecification ? (4)



Administrative Point

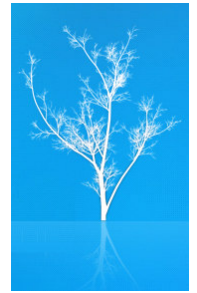


subtreeSpecification=

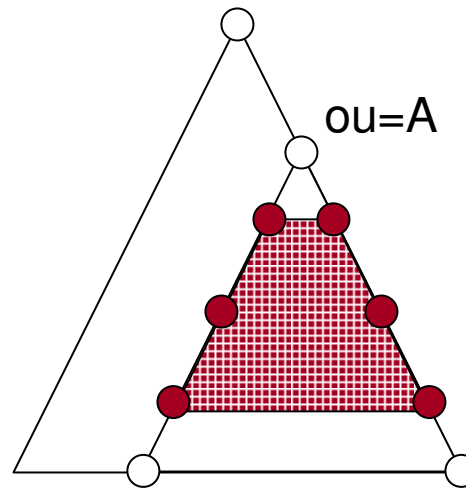
```
{ specificExclusions { chopBefore: "ou=A" } }
```



What can be specified (How a DACD can be specified) with a subtreeSpecification ? (5)



Administrative Point

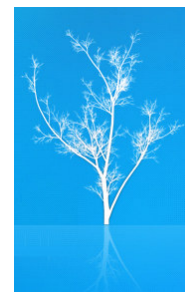


subtreeSpecification=

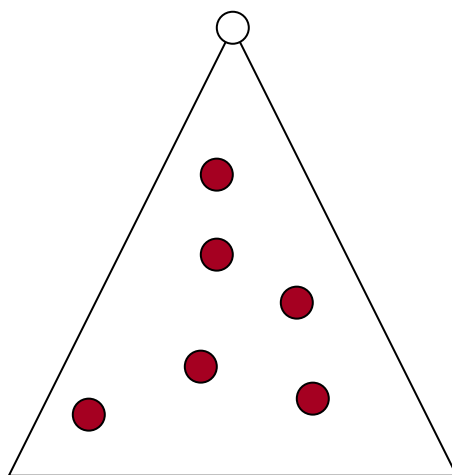
{ base "ou=A", minimum 1, maximum 3 }



What can be specified (How a DACD can be specified) with a subtreeSpecification ? (6)



Administrative Point

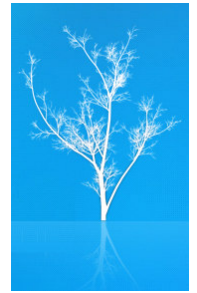


subtreeSpecification=

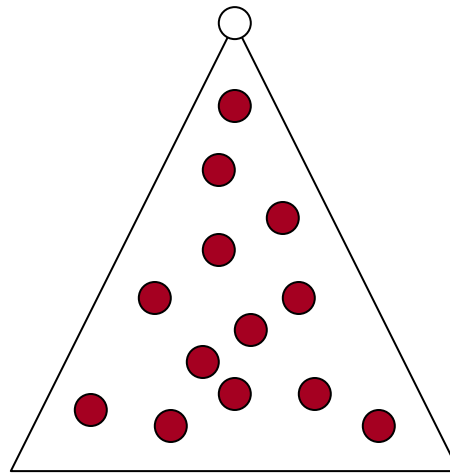
```
{ specificationFilter item:student }
```



What can be specified *(How a DACD can be specified)* with a subtreeSpecification ? (7)



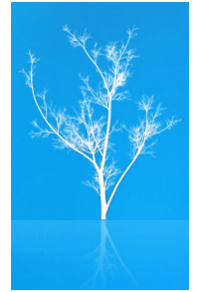
Administrative Point



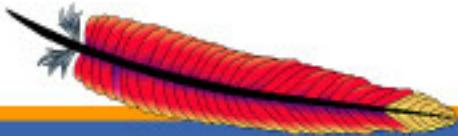
subtreeSpecification=

```
{ specificationFilter or: { item:student, item:faculty } }
```

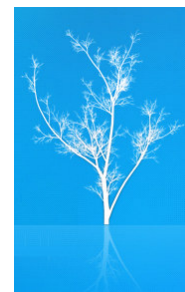

DEMO 6



- Allow all users on the whole domain
 - to do search operations by commonName attribute
 - read (as search result) and compare commonName and telephoneNumber attributes

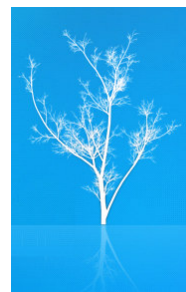


DEMO 6 - subtreeSpecification



- subtreeSpecification: { }
- All entries in the domain will be subject to access control by prescriptiveACIs defined in the accessControlSubentry



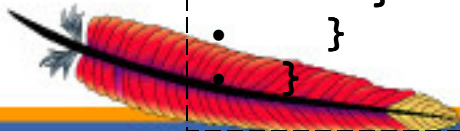


DEMO 6 - prescriptiveACI

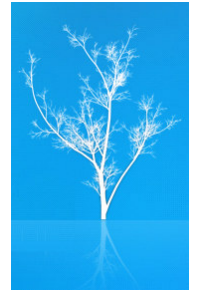
```

• { identificationTag "demo6_ACI",
• precedence 10, authenticationLevel simple,
• itemOrUserFirst userFirst: {
• userClasses { allUsers },
• userPermissions {
• { protectedItems { entry },
• grantsAndDenials { grantBrowse, grantRead, grantReturnDN }
• },
• { protectedItems {
• attributeType {
• commonName, telephoneNumber, objectClass }
• allAttributeValues {
• commonName, telephoneNumber, objectClass }
• },
• grantsAndDenials {
• grantRead, grantCompare, grantFilterMatch }
• }
• }
• }
• }

```

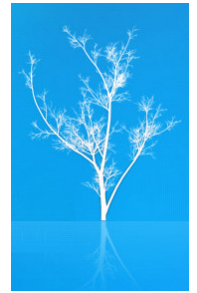


DEMO 7



- Allow a group of user administrators on the whole domain
 - to do all operations on only “person” entries
 - to do all operations related to entryACIs in users’ entries

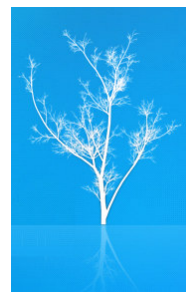




DEMO 7 - subtreeSpecification

- subtreeSpecification:
 { specificationFilter item:person }
- All “person” entries in the domain will be subject to access control by prescriptiveACIs defined in the accessControlSubentry



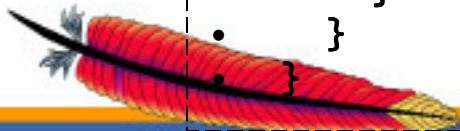


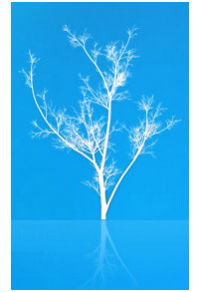
DEMO 7 - prescriptiveACI

```

• { identificationTag "demo7_ACI",
•   precedence 10, authenticationLevel simple,
•   itemOrUserFirst userFirst: {
•     userClasses { userGroup { "ou=User Administrators,..." } },
•     userPermissions {
•       { protectedItems { entry },
•         grantsAndDenials { grantBrowse, grantRead, grantModify }
•       },
•       { protectedItems {
•         allUserAttributeTypesAndValues,
•         attributeType { entryACI },
•         allAttributeValue { entryACI }
•       },
•       grantsAndDenials {
•         grantRead, grantCompare, grantFilterMatch, grantAdd, grantRemove
•       }
•     }
•   }
• }

```



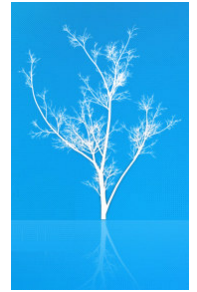


Some Principals

- Least privilege by default
 - Information is not present unless it's allowed to access it
- Precedence
 - Highers override Lowers
- Specificity
 - If precedences are the same
 - For User Classes and Protected Items
 - High overrides Low
- Denials vs. Grants
 - If precedences and specificities are same
 - Denials override Grants



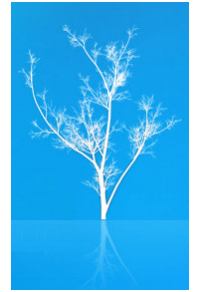
Application of Principals - Precedence



- Two ACItems
- 1st one is of precedence 10 defines rules to deny search for all users
- 2nd one is of precedence 20 and defines rules to grant search for all users
- Result: Search is allowed for users



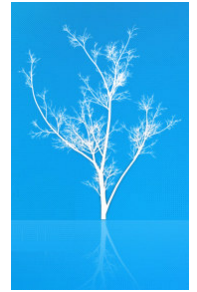
Application of Principals - Specificity



- Two ACItems with the same precedence
- 1st one defines rules to deny search for all users
- 2nd one defines rules to grant search for user Jimmy
- Result: Search is allowed for Jimmy



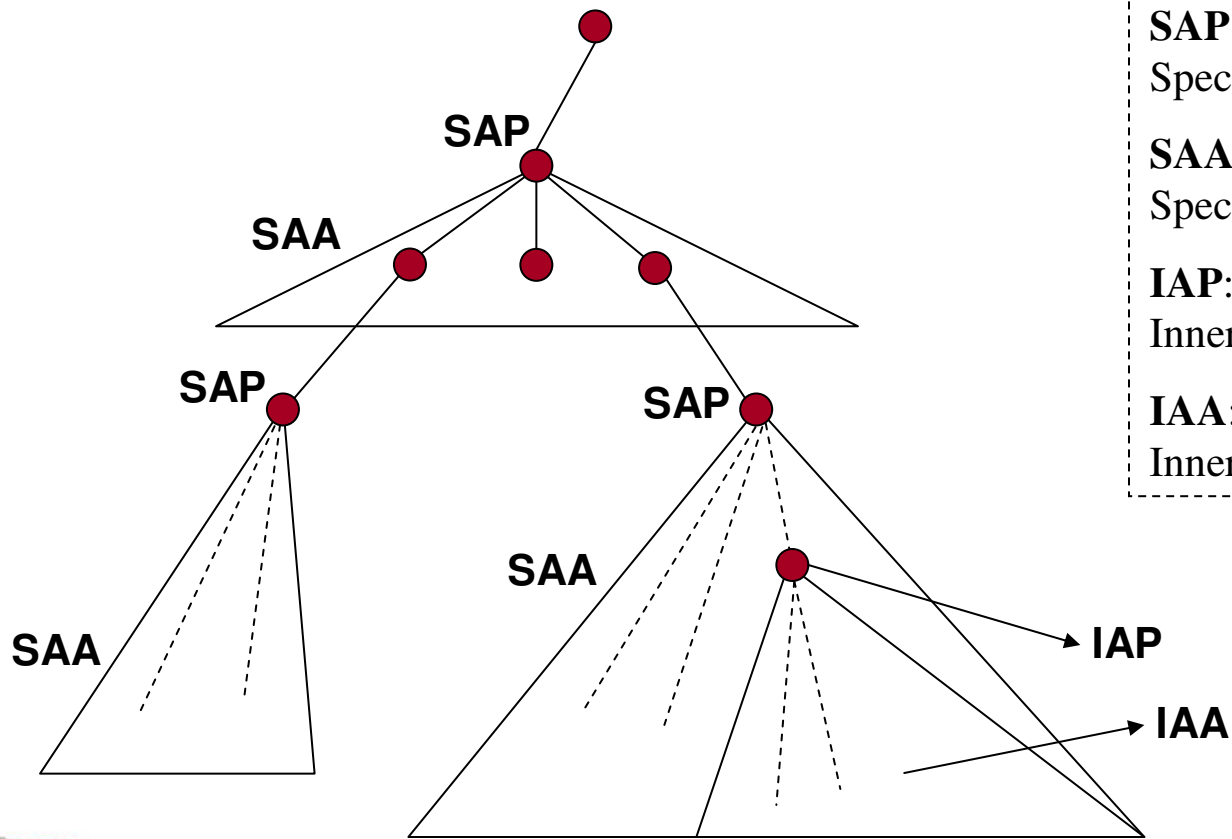
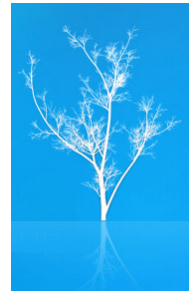
Application of Principals - Grants vs. Denials



- Two ACIItems with the same precedence
- 1st one defines rules to deny search for all users
- 2nd one defines rules to grant search for all users
- Result: Search is now allowed for users



Access Control Administrative Areas



SAP: Access Control Specific Admin. Point

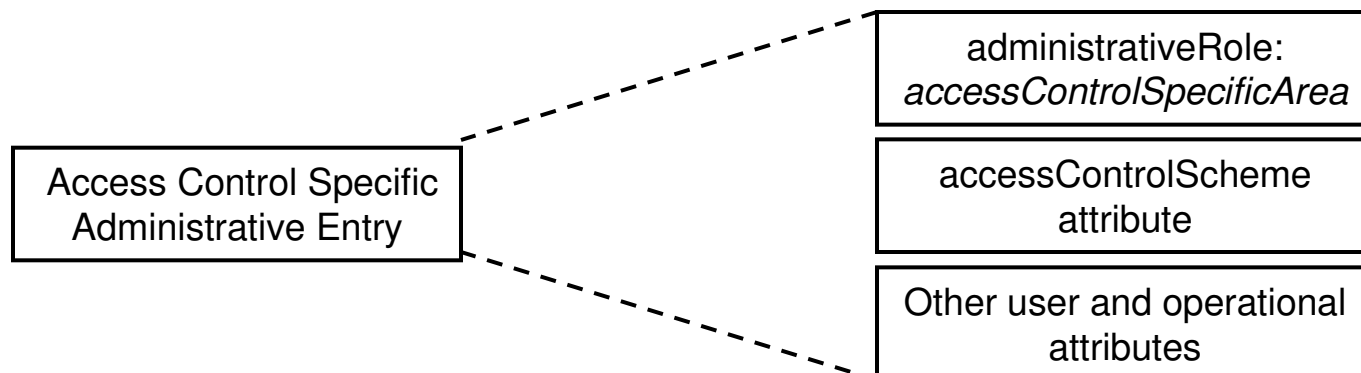
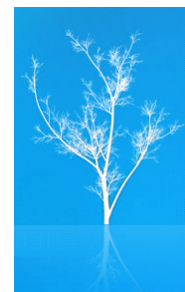
SAA: Access Control Specific Admin. Area

IAP: Access Control Inner Admin. Point

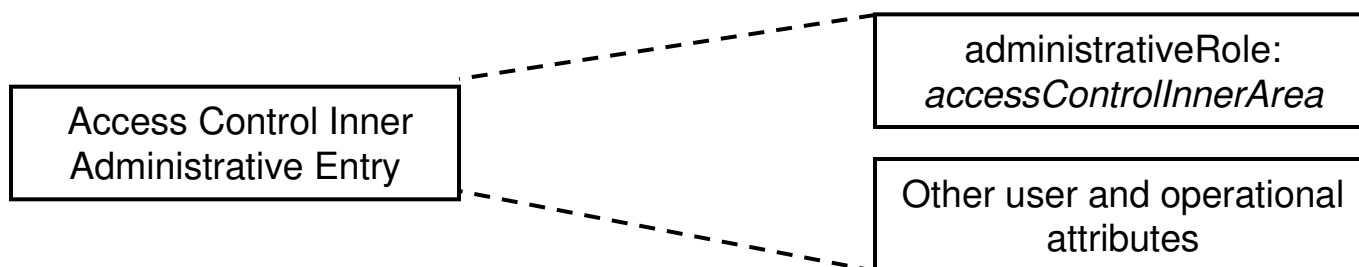
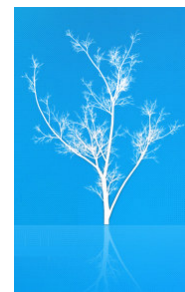
IAA: Access Control Inner Admin. Area



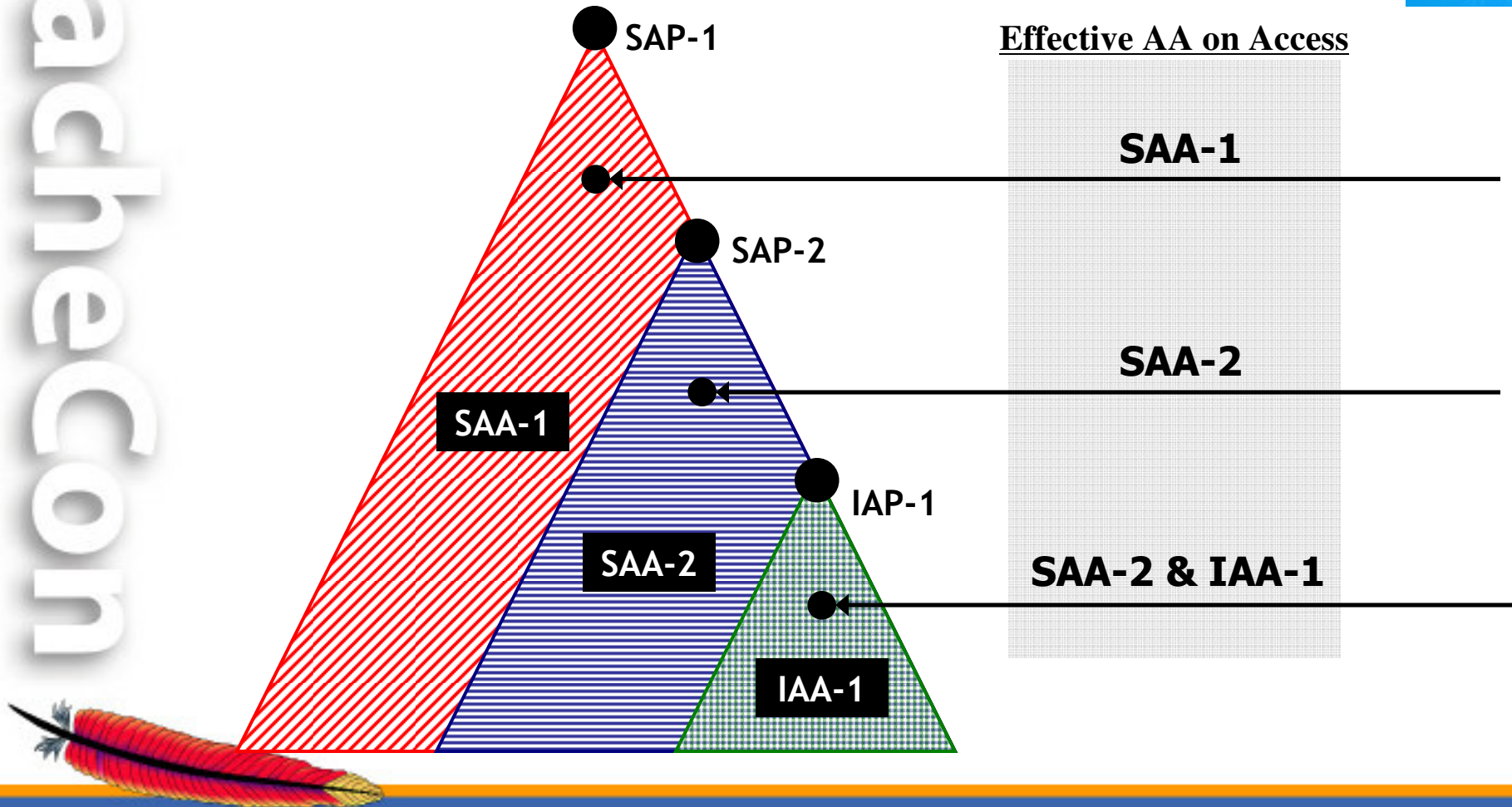
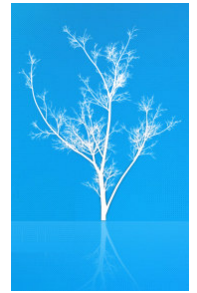
Inside an Access Control *Specific* Administrative Point (Entry)

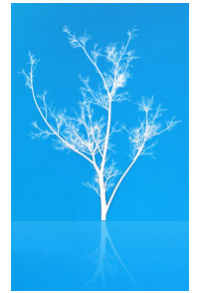


Inside an Access Control *Inner* Administrative Point (Entry)



Effects of Administrative Areas on Access Control

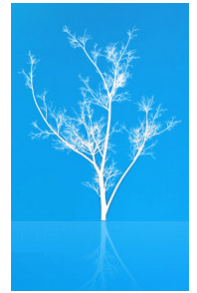




Delegation of Authority

- Complete Delegation of Authority
 - Access Control Specific Areas
- Partial Delegation of Authority
 - Access Control Inner Areas
 - ACI precedence





ApacheDS Access Control Administration; The X.500 Way

- Originally presented at *ApacheCon US 2006* in Austin
- Latest presentation materials are at <http://people.apache.org/~ersiner>
- Presented by *Ersin Er*, ersiner@apache.org

