ABSTRACT: In the information systems context, Policies are rules governing the choices in behavior of a (software) system. They enable the dynamic parametrization of behavior in a system – without changing the system entities interpreting and enforcing these rules. The complexity of today’s distributed information systems results in high administrative efforts which become even worse for growing/expanding systems. Therefore, policies have become a popular approach to cope with the increasing complexity of system management.

However, a variety of different problem domains exist in the context of policy-based management. These problem domains range from the specification to the enforcement of policy rules and do further include life cycle aspects such as maintenance of policies. In this talk we present an integrated methodology for the elicitation, management, and enforcement of access control policies in software-based systems.

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