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Asunto:

\*

**SOCCER Workshop Timetable** 

Dear colleagues

Please find attached the agenda for the SOCCER workshop on 30th September 2005.

09.00-09.30 Introduction (Neil Maiden & Luciano Baresi)

09.30-10.30 Service specification

- Quality of Service Requirements Specification Using an Ontology Glen Dobson, Russell Lock, and Ian Sommerville Computing Department, Lancaster University (UK)
- Faceted Service Specification
  Pete Sawyer, John Hutchinson, James Walkerdine, and Ian Sommerville
  Computing Department, Lancaster University (UK)

10.30-11.00 Coffee break

11.00-12.30 Requirements elicitation

- A CRUD Approach to Requirements Analysis for Service-oriented System Development with Existing Systems Kouji Yamamoto, Kyoko Ohashi, Kazuki Munakata, and Rieko Yamamoto IT Core Laboratory, Fujitsu Laboratories Ltd. (Japan)
- Tropos Design Process for Web Services Anna Perini, Angelo Susi, and John Mylopoulos ITC-IRST, Trento (Italy)
- Web services-based security requirement elicitation C.Gutiérrez, E. Fernández-Medina and M. Piattini Departamento de Informática, Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha, Ciudad Real (Spain)

12.30-14.00 Lunch

14.00-15.30 Challenges and Case studies

- A Scenario and Goal Based Approach for Guaranteeing Quality of Service for Negotiated GRID Service Level Agreements: an Experience Report Philippe Massonet and Christophe Ponsard CETIC research center (Belgium)
- From Requirements Engineering to Knowledge Engineering: Challenges in Adaptive Systems Klaus Schmid (1), Michael Eisenbarth (1)

Mathias Grund (2)

- (1) Fraunhofer IESE (2) AG Software Engineering University of Kaiserslautern (Germany)
- Towards a Collaborative Orthopaedics Research Environment Y. W. Sim, C. Wang, L. Gilbert, G. B. Wills Electronics and Computer Science, University of Southampton (UK)

15.30-16.00 Coffee break

16.00-17.00 Service discovery

- Specifying Search Queries for Web Service Discovery Shahram Esmaeilsabzali Nancy A. Day Farhad Mavaddat School of Computer Science, University of Waterloo (Canada)
- Applying Patterns in Service Discovery Xiaohong Zhu, Neil Maiden, Sara Jones, Konstantinos Zachos Centre HCI Design, City University (UK)

17.00-17.30 Wrap-up and final discussion (Luciano Baresi and Neil Maiden)

Therefore, each presentation should last 20 minutes, and allow 10 minutes for questions.

The workshop will be held at:

IAE (Institut d'Administration des Entreprises) Paris

21 rue Broca, 75005 Paris tel: +33 (0)1.53.55.28.00

Access:

Métro : Gobelins, Censier-Daubenton

Bus : 91 - 83 - 27 - 21 - 47

Maps, journey calculators and bus/subway indications can be found on www.ratp.fr, see "international passengers" button on top of the window

Each room has :

- a beamer & whitescreen (PC not provided)
- a whiteboard and color pens
- an overhead projector (no slide or pens)
- internet connections (but cables are not provided)

Hence we anticipate each presentation to be shown from the presenter's laptop. If any presenters have a problem, please contact as soon as possible.

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Northampton Square

London EC1V OHB

James Robertson and Neil Maiden give their ground-breaking tutorial

Creative Requirements - Invention and its Role in Requirements Engineering

at the RE'05 Conference, Paris, France. August 29 2005. Come and discover how to invent better software http://crinfo.univparis1.fr/RE05/tutorial.html

Raine

# Web services-based security requirement elicitation

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#### Abstract

Web services (WS, hereafter) paradigm has attained such a relevance in both the academic and the industry world that the vision of the Internet has evolved from being considered as a mere repository of data to become the underlying infrastructure on which complex business processes and alliances among organizations are deployed. Security is a key aspect if WS are to be generally accepted and adopted. In fact, over the past years, the most important consortiums of the Internet, like IETF, W3C or OASIS, have produced a huge number of WS-based security standards.

Despite this spectacular growth, there does not exist a development process that facilitates the systematic integration of security into all stages of WS-based software development life-cycle. Eventually, this process should guide WS-based software developers in the specification of WS-based security requirements, the design of WS-based security architectures, and the deployment of the most suitable WS security standards. In this article, we will briefly present a process of this type, named PWSSec (Process for Web Services Security), and the artifacts used during the elicitation activity, which pertains to the stage WSSecReq devoted to produce a WS-based security requirement specification.

#### 1. Introduction

Security is a main concern when developing systems whose operational infrastructure is based on a public network such as the Internet.

WS-based systems are based on Internet protocols so security should be one of the main issues to be addressed when designing software based on this paradigm.

A huge number of WS-based security standards have been developed by a numerous set of diverse consortiums. A great effort and a solid background in computational security theory are necessary in order to obtain an in-depth knowledge of all of them. In addition, knowing what specific set of WS standards should be used in a certain WS-based system requires a previous knowledge of the security requirements that the security mechanisms specified in those standards will address.

In consequence, one of the major problems that developers have to deal with is to come up with a complete specification of the WS-based security requirements of their WS-based systems.

In order to solve this problem, we have defined PWSSec (Process for Web Services Security) process. This process consists of 3 main stages. The first stage, named WSSecReq (Web Services Security Requirements) is aimed at producing the above-WS-based mentioned security requirements specification. In particular, its first activity, named elicitation, applies a set of reusable artifacts that guides developers in the task of identifying security requirements from the piece of functionality whose security we want to analyze.

The main purpose of this article is to describe this set of artifacts showing how they can be used in a coordinated way to specify, in a systematic way, the security requirements of a certain WS-based system.

The rest of the article is organized as follows: in section 2, an overview of PWSSec process will be presented; in section 3, we will offer a complete description of the mentioned artifacts; and in section 4, conclusions as well as future research will be proposed.

#### 2. PWSSec - Process for WS Security

PWSSec [8] has been created to facilitate and orientate the development of WS-based security systems so that a complementary stage comprising security [4] could be easily integrated into each one of the traditional stages for the construction of this kind of systems [3].

Figure 1 illustrates the stages in which PWSSec is structured into.

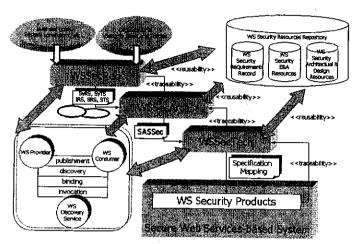


Figure 1. Stages and products in the PWSSec development process.

Each one of the stages defined in PWSSec describes its inputs, outputs, activities, actors and, in some cases, there are also guides, tools and techniques which complement, improve and facilitate the set of activities developed within these stages.

The WSSecReq stage's main purpose is to produce, by means of a systematic approach, a specification (or a part of it) of the security requirements of the WS-based system.

The WSSecArch stage is aimed at allocating the security requirements specified in the previous section to a WS-based security architecture. This security architecture will be equipped with the necessary security architectural mechanisms to achieve the considered security requirements.

The WSSecTech stage's main objective is to identify the set of WS-based security standards that will implement the architectural security mechanisms identified in the previous stage.

# 3. Elicitation in WSSecReq

In this section, we will explain all the security artifacts which the elicitation activity of the WSSecReq stage is based on.

Sometimes, we will present concrete examples where these artifacts are applied in practice. The examples of concrete artifacts shown here are based on the classical use case 'Place Order'. In this use case, a WS-based system of a retailer organization (primary actor) and a WS-based system of its supplier organization (secondary actor) [3] participate. This use case consists of one request/reply message interaction between the WS-based systems of both organizations. When the WS-based retailer system detects that any of

its products is out-of-stock, it sends a request (and it gets blocked until a response is received) of stock replenishment to the WS-based system of the supplier organization.

## 3.1 WSSecReq overview

Two main principles have been considered in the definition of WSSecReq: reusability and traceability. Product reusability is achieved by defining two repositories: i) WS Security E&A Resources, that contains all the abstract artifacts being used during the elicitation activity (we will explain these artifacts in the following section); ii) WS Security Requirements Record that contains a set of WS-specific security requirement templates that can be applied to WS-based systems within diverse domains [14]. Both repositories are constantly being brought up-to-date.

On the other hand, product traceability is addressed by means of a coordinated and reasoned use of a set of security artifacts. These artifacts and their application will be detailed in the following section.

The input of the WSSecReq stage consists of:

1. A specification of the piece of software functionality whose security will be analyzed. WSSecReq treats security analysis as a micro-process which is performed at each level of abstraction and for each increment [1]. As we are dealing with WS-specific security requirements, the core artifacts will mainly belong to the system and to the application architecture level of abstraction, i.e. WS and their interactions. However, as we will see later on, WSSecReq may also be used to analyze security at higher levels of abstraction,, for instance, the business level one. For example, WSSeqReq stage's input could be specified at a low

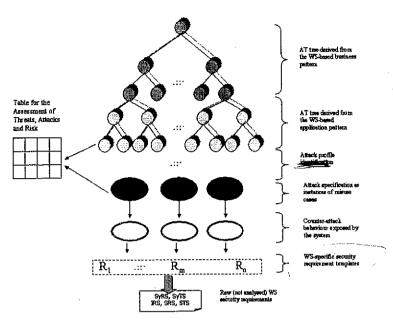


Figure 2. Coordination of products in the elicitation activity of the WSSecReq stage.

level of abstraction (application architecture) when it is composed of a (small) set of WS and operations which are within the scope of the current iteration (in this case the "security enhanced core artifacts" will be the WS and their interactions). On the other hand, it could be specified as a set of high-level functional requirements that describe how a group of responsibilities should be addressed by the WS-based system.

2. The business and security goals defined for the system, as well as the part of the organizational security policy that, in our opinion, can have an impact on the system design.

This stage defines four activities [8]: elicitation, analysis, specification, verification and validation.

In this article, we will focus on the *elicitation* activity and, in particular, on the artifacts involved. The activity of elicitation will be supported by a detailed study of the security of each WS identified and considered in the current iteration.

The activity of elicitation combines concepts derived from the risk analysis and management methodologies (in particular the process known as Operationally Critical Attack, Asset, and Vulnerability Evaluation SM (OCTAVE) [6]) with techniques that enable security requirements reusability [7, 14].

During this activity, several artifacts are considered and coordinated so that both elicitation and traceability of the security requirements can be facilitated and provided.

### 3.2 Traceability in WSSecReq

Traceability in WSSecReq has to do with the elicitation activity. This activity specifies a set of tasks that will produce a set of security requirements to be applied to the piece of software functionality under analysis (SuA).

In this section, we will explain the security artifacts involved in this activity and how they are linked together to obtain full traceability between the WS, whose security is under analysis, and the elicited security requirements. The main artifacts, and the steps in which they take part, are shown in Figure 2.

In [3], a catalog of WS-based business, integration, application, composite and runtime patterns are presented. This catalog of WS-based patterns offers us a complete pattern-based design solution for WS-based system design. In our work, we use these patterns as a reference for identifying the set of potential threats that

3.2.1. WS-based business and application patterns.

should be taken into account during the elicitation stage. Basically, these patterns define a set of elements, and their interactions. Thus, threats on these elements and interactions are studied and considered from the very beginning.

First of all, the WS-based business patterns underlying the design of the functionality whose security is under analysis are identified and instantiated for the specific system. Notice that if we have already made an analysis at the business level, we may not need to identify and instantiate this type of WS-based

```
Abstract TA Tree for WS-based Application Pattern Extended Enterprise; Exposed Direct Connection

ID: A3Application-EDC.
Objective 1. Attack Exposed Direct Connection WS-based Application Pattern

AND/OR 1. Attack System

AND/OR 1. Attack Source Agent

2. Attack Target Agent
                                 2 Attack Zone
                                 AND/OR 1, Attack Secure Zone
                                                 2. Attack Demilitarized Zone
                                                 3. Attack Inter-business Zone
                                      Attack Connection Rules
                                 AND/OR 1. Attack Connection Rules Type A
                                                 N. Attack Connection Rules Type N

    Attack System Interactions
    AND/OR 1. Attack Interaction A

    AND/OR 1. Attack Message Channel
    AND/OR 1. Attack message Channel
    AND/OR 1. Alteration of Mess

                                                                                 2. Confidentiality of Message
                                                                                  3 Felsified Mos
                                                                                  4. Principal Spoofing
                                                                                  5. Forged Statement
                                                                                  6. Replay of Part of the Mes
7. Replay of the Whole Mes
8. Denial-of-Service
                                                                  2. Attack WS Actions
                                                                 AND/OR 1. Attack Underlying Infrastructur
                                                 AND/OR 1. Attack Message Chunnel
AND/OR 1. Alteration of me
                                                                                 2. Confidentiality of Message
                                                 N. Attack Interaction N
```

Figure 5. Abstract TA tree associated with the WS-based application pattern named Exposed Direct Connection.

pattern. In this section, we will assume that we have identified a WS-based business pattern.

For every WS-based business pattern, a WS-based application pattern can be selected. If we have not specified a WS-based business pattern, we may identify the WS-based application pattern straight forward from the functional software architecture. Then, the WS-based application pattern which the SuA is based on is selected and put into the context of the system. The identification of the WS-based application pattern assumes that there exists a functional architecture where, at least, a set of core WS and interactions have already been defined. For each WS-based business and WS-based application pattern, we have defined an

```
Abstract TA Tree related to the WS-based business pattern Extended Enterprise.

ID: A3Business-EE
Objective:

1. Cause harm in the execution of service x
OR/AND 1. Attack Business Entities
2. Attack Network
```

3. Attack Business Rules

Figure 3. Abstract TA tree associated with the WS-based business pattern named Extended Enterprise.

4. Attack Business Process Interactions

Abstract Threat/Attack (TA) tree that shows how the elements and their interactions - as defined by the WS-based patterns - are threatened.

Our concept of threat and attack is based on the Internet Glossary (RFC 2828) [11].

3.2.2 Abstract and concrete TA trees. We have adapted the security attack trees, as defined in [9, 10], to the context of security WS-based systems. For every WS-based business and application pattern, we have established a relationship with an Abstract TA tree. Thus, once both WS-based patterns have been identified and instantiated for the part of the SuA of the

```
ID: A3 Business-EE-1
Objective 1. Cause Harm in UC Place Order
OR/AND 1. Attack Business Emitties
OR/AND 1. Attack Studies Organization
2. Attack Studies Organization Organization
2. Attack Studies Organization Network Infrastructure
2. Attack Supplier Organization Network Infrastructure
3. Attack Business Rules
OR/AND 1. Attack Studiess Rules R1
OR /AND 1. Attack Business Rules R1

OR /AND 1. Attack Business Rules R1
4 Attack Business Interactions
OR/AND 1. Attack Replenishment workflow
```

Figure 4. Concrete TA tree associated with the WS-based business pattern named Extended Enterprise.

IB: 43-Renlevishment-PlaceOrder 1. Cause Harm in UC Place Order of the Replenishment Workflow OR/AND 1. Attack Business Entity OR/AND 1. Attack Retailer organization OR/AND I. Attack WS-Resailer agen OR/AND 2. Attack Supplier organization OR/AND 1. Attack WS-Supplier agent 2. Attack Network OR/AND L. Attack Network of Retailer Organization OR/AND I. Attack WS-Retailer secure 2. Attack demilitarised zone of Retailer system Attack Network of Supplier System Organization
 OR/AND 1. Attack WS-Supplier secure zone
 2. Attack dentifitatized zone of Supplier system Attack Internet Attack Internet
 OR/AND 1. Attack ISP used by the Retailer organization
 2. Attack ISP used by the Supplier organization 3. Attack Business Rules OR/AND 1. Attack Business Rules of the Replenishment workflow OR/AND 1. Attack Connection Rules of the PlaceOrder Interaction OR/AND 1. Attack Replenishment workflow OR/AND 1. Attack PlaceOrder interaction OR/AND L. Attack Message Channel
OR/AND L. Alteration of the PlaceOrder's messages Confidentiality of the PlaceOrder's messages
 Falsification of the PlaceOrder's messages
 Spoofing of the principal WS-Retailer 5 Forged statements in the Place Order's messages 6. Replay of part of the PlaceOrder's messages
7. Replay of the complete PlaceOrder's messages
8. WS-Supplier Denial-of-Service 2. Attack Underlying Infrastructure OR/AND 1. Attack Retailer's Database named WS-RetailerDB 1. Attack Supplier's Directory Service WS-RetailerLDAF

Figure 6. Concrete TA tree resulted after combining the business-level TA tree and the application-level TA tree.

current iteration, a tree-like structured set of threats at both, the business and the application level, is systematically obtained. Firstly, the abstract TA tree associated with the WS-based business pattern will be instantiated.

In consequence, a concrete business-level TA that is specific for the current iteration's SuA is defined. In Figure 3, an example of the abstract TA tree associated with the WS-based business pattern named Extended Enterprise is shown. In Figure 4, an example of instantiation of the mentioned abstract TA is depicted. The same process will be performed for the WS-based application pattern so that a concrete application-level TA tree can be produced. In Figure 5, the abstract TA tree associated with the WS-based application pattern named Extended Enterprise: Exposed Direct Connection is shown.

Branch 1.4, known as Attack System, will refine branch 1.1 Attack Business Entities of the A3Business-

EE, 1.2 will refine branch 1.2 of the A3Business-EE, and so forth. Likewise, branch 1.4 Attack Business Process Interactions of the A3Business-EE will refine branch 1.4 Attack System Interactions The set of threats which appear under branches 1.4.x.1 have been taken from [15]. Once both concrete TA trees have been developed, they will be combined to obtain a single TA tree that groups the set of threats to be considered within the selected fragment of functionality.

Figure 6 shows us an example of the resulting TA tree once both TA trees, business and application level trees have been combined. Combining both trees is optional, being possible to maintain and refine both trees in a separate way (e.g. when the combined TA tree is too big to be handled).

We should highlight the fact that, thanks to this adaptation of the attack trees from [9, 10] and the relationship established with the WS-based business

Table 1. Attack profiles associated with the WS-based application pattern Exposed Direct Connection.

Bushiess Pattern	Application Pattern	Element	Variation	Attack Profile	<b>ID</b>
Extended Enterprise	Exposed Direct Connection	Interaction	Message-based Variation	WS Message-based Interaction with no Acknowledgement	AAP-I-1
	:		Invocation-based Variation	WS Message-based Interaction with Acknowledgement	AAP-1-2

and application patterns, we are making it possible not only to consider the aspects of security of the interactions of the WS security agents themselves but also to take into account, although without this being the main objective of this specific work, possible attacks on the provider and consumer organizations, on the network services (e.g.: attacks on the Internet Service Providers of any of the participating business entities) or the infrastructure in use, along with other elements at the organizational level.

**3.2.3** Attack Identification. The next step will consist of refining the leaf-nodes of the TA tree, i.e. further specification of the threats by means of concrete

attacks. The threats themselves are of no significance if there are not attacks which may bring them to fruition. It is the right time, then, to identify the set of possible attacks which could occur, for each of the threats identified. To do this, use will be made of the concept of Attack Profile described in [9]. The attack patterns set out in this work seem not particularly formal, as compared to the misuse cases in [13]. As both artifacts have the same aim, i.e. to define the sequences of steps which state the achievement of successful attacks on the system, we have opted to employ the second type when defining the attack profiles. Basically, an attack profile contains a set of abstract misuse cases that

Table 2. Abstract misuse case 'Attack on the Semantic Content of the SOAP'.

ID: AMUC-1-1-1 PROBABILITY	<del></del>	
THIGHTIMEDIUMTIL	ישר	
Summary: the attacker provider   discovery] as	type [attacker type] gains according to the second fagent name] and the second fagent name and the second fagent name.	ess to the [message   interaction] [name] exchanged by the [consumer   nsumer   provider   discovery] agent [agent name] and [modifies   deletes   AP]-level situated in the [header   body   attachment] with the object of
	sical access to the message.	ind meaning of the message.
Interactions of the Consumer Agent	Interactions of the Misuser	Interactions of the Provider Agent
The Consumer Agent [agent name] sends the message [name of message]		
<b>V</b>	The attacker [type of attacker] [name of attacker] intercepts it	
	The attacker [type of attacker] [name of attacker] identifies the part to modify and [deletes   replaces   adds] information	
·	The attacker [type of attacker] [name of attacker] forwards the message to the Provider Agent [agent name	1
		The Provider Agent [agent name] receives the message[name of message and processes it erroneously due to the altered semantic content.

apply to a reference model defined within the profile. Therefore, interactions in every WS-based application pattern have one attack profile related. Every WSbased application pattern has one or more attack profiles related to it which state the potential attacks that could be targeted at them. For instance, for the WS-based application pattern Exposed Direct Connection, the set of attack profiles exposed in Table 2 has been defined. Every attack profile gathers a set of abstract misuse cases that focuses on a particular element defined within the reference model specified for the questioned profile. In Table I, both attack profiles are interaction-centered, i.e. the attacks they contain are focused on exploiting any vulnerability that may be deduced from the analysis of the messages exchanged within the interaction and from the nature of itself (eg: synchronous interaction asynchronous, message exchange pattern in use, etc.). Other attack profiles, which are connection rulescentered or zone-centered, have been specified.

In our example, the PlaceOrder interaction follows a request-reply message exchange pattern. An uncontrolled network, i.e. the Internet, is the context that should be assumed for it. These are the variants specified for this profile:

 WS Provider and WS Consumer Organizations. In this study, these are the Supplier and the Retailer Organization, respectively.

 WS Provider Agent and WS Consumer Agent. In our case, these are the WS-Supplier and WS-Retailer agents, respectively.

 The name of the operation to be performed, here known as PlaceOrder operation, which is in line with the message exchange patterns defined in WSDL (Web Services Description Language) [2] classified as a request/reply operation.

- A set of misuse cases has been defined as a result of analyzing the threats enumerated in branch 1.4.x.1.y (interaction attacks) of the A3Application-EDC.

Misuse cases specify the possible attack scenarios that materialize the threats which they are associated with. We have abstract misuse cases and concrete misuse cases. As mentioned above, the former are grouped into attack profiles, while the latter are instances of the former and set out the sequence of steps for a given attack. Two abstract misuse cases described in this profile are listed below: i) Misuse Case of Attack on Semantic content SOAP (AMUC-1-1-1), which refines the threat represented by branch 1.4.x.1.1 (Alteration of the Message) of the A3Application-EDC in the WS-based application pattern Exposed Direct Connection (see Figure 5); ii) misuse Case of Attack on the Authenticity of the

**SOAP Message (AMUC-1-1-2)**, which refines branches 1.4.x.1.3, 1.4.x.1.4 and 1.4.x.1.5 of the A3Application-EDC (see Figure 5).

Finally, the possible attackers, primary actors in the stated abstract misuse cases, are (extracted from the attack profile): i) Malicious WS-Provider Agent: the WS-Provider agent may not behave as expected and perform illicit activities such as revealing the identity of buyers for its own benefit (selling this information, creating buyer profiles to personalize offers, etc.); ii) intermediary WS Agent: in the SOAP architecture, which Web-based services systems are founded on, the figure of the intermediary SOAP nodes appears. These nodes can process messages while traveling along their path; iii) External Attacker: this is an attacker who has the ability to perpetrate all the attacks we have pointed out from the Internet. The risk from this type of attacker is extremely high, due to how unpredictable and uncontrollable the Internet is.

In Table 2, an example of an abstract misuse case is presented. As it can be seen, it is highly parameterized; therefore it is not application-specific and can be reused in different systems.

#### 3.2.4 Specification of System Security Behaviour.

Every abstract misuse case holds a relationship with one or more security use cases [5, 12]. Security use cases define a sequence of steps which allow the system to prevent, detect or react to each of the attacks which take place in the form of an instance of the misuse cases they are associated with.

3.2.5 Specification of Security Requirements. Each abstract security use case will have associated with it one or more templates of WS-based security requirements, which should be instantiated in order to obtain the final security requirements. In Figure 7, an example of a WS-based security requirement template is shown. This template is associated with the abstract security use case presented in Table 2.

The steps that should be followed when instantiating the WS-specific security template are explained in detail in [8].

Figure 7. WS-specific security requirement template.

## 4. Conclusions and future research

Security is a crucial aspect if WS-based systems are to be the 'de facto' solution for inter- and intraintegrating heterogeneous systems [16].

In this article, we have presented an overview of the PWSSec process. Then, we have focused our discussion on the reusable artifacts used during the elicitation activity of the WSSecReq. The stated application of these artifacts enables developers to perform a systematic approach that will produce a complete WS-based security requirement specification. In addition, all these artifacts used during elicitation expose associations among them that provide full traceability. This traceability lets us know what security requirements have been derived from which fragment of functionality and vice-versa. This traceability connects the fragment of software functionality whose security is under analysis with the set of security requirements elicited through a set of security artifacts (e.g. threat attack trees, misuse cases, security use

Some of the research lines we are currently working on are listed below:

- To define and refine TA trees at the business level in order to obtain a complete security vision of the problem. This analysis is producing new businesslevel TA trees, attack profiles, misuse business cases, security business cases and business security requirements templates.
- To analyze the potential relationships that may exist between branches defined within and between TA trees defined at different abstraction levels (e.g. business, application, etc.).
- To define a formal meta-model for the artifacts in order to make it possible not only to create -a repository of reusable artifacts but also to provide tool-based support to developers during the activity of elicitation.
- To incorporate threat and attack trees as a result of taking into account the WS-based Runtime patterns. From the abstraction point of view, WS-based runtime patterns refine WS-based application patterns.

### 5. Acknowledgments

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