



# z/OS UNIX Security Overview

SHARE 2008 Orlando  
Session 5591  
Bruce Wells  
brwells@us.ibm.com



## Disclaimer

The information contained in this document is distributed on an "as is" basis, without any warranty either express or implied. The customer is responsible for use of this information and/or implementation of any techniques mentioned. IBM has reviewed the information for accuracy, but there is no guarantee that a customer using the information or techniques will obtain the same or similar results in its own operational environment.

In this document, any references made to an IBM licensed program are not intended to state or imply that only IBM's licensed program may be used. Functionally equivalent programs that do not infringe IBM's intellectual property rights may be used instead. Any performance data contained in this document was determined in a controlled environment and therefore, the results which may be obtained in other operating environments may vary significantly. Users of this document should verify the applicable data for their specific environment.

It is possible that this material may contain references to, or information about, IBM products (machines and programs), programming, or services that are not announced in your country. Such references or information must not be construed to mean that IBM intends to announce such IBM Products, programming or services in your country.

IBM retains the title to the copyright in this paper as well as title to the copyright in all underlying works. IBM retains the right to make derivative works and to republish and distribute this paper to whomever it chooses.



# Trademarks

The following are trademarks of the International Business Machines Corporation in the United States and/or other countries.

- z/OS
- RACF
- AIX

\* Registered trademarks of IBM Corporation

The following are trademarks or registered trademarks of other companies.

Java and all Java-related trademarks and logos are trademarks of Sun Microsystems, Inc., in the United States and other countries.  
Linux is a registered trademark of Linus Torvalds in the United States, other countries, or both.  
Microsoft, Windows and Windows NT are registered trademarks of Microsoft Corporation.  
UNIX is a registered trademark of The Open Group in the United States and other countries.  
SET and Secure Electronic Transaction are trademarks owned by SET Secure Electronic Transaction LLC.  
SOLARIS is a trademark or registered trademark of Sun Microsystems, Inc. in the United States and other countries.  
Mac OS is a trademark of Apple Inc.

\* All other products may be trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective companies.

#### Notes:

Performance is in Internal Throughput Rate (ITR) ratio based on measurements and projections using standard IBM benchmarks in a controlled environment. The actual throughput that any user will experience will vary depending upon considerations such as the amount of multiprogramming in the user's job stream, the I/O configuration, the storage configuration, and the workload processed. Therefore, no assurance can be given that an individual user will achieve throughput improvements equivalent to the performance ratios stated here.  
IBM hardware products are manufactured from new parts, or new and serviceable used parts. Regardless, our warranty terms apply.  
All customer examples cited or described in this presentation are presented as illustrations of the manner in which some customers have used IBM products and the results they may have achieved. Actual environmental costs and performance characteristics will vary depending on individual customer configurations and conditions.  
This publication was produced in the United States. IBM may not offer the products, services or features discussed in this document in other countries, and the information may be subject to change without notice. Consult your local IBM business contact for information on the product or services available in your area.  
All statements regarding IBM's future direction and intent are subject to change or withdrawal without notice, and represent goals and objectives only.  
Information about non-IBM products is obtained from the manufacturers of those products or their published announcements. IBM has not tested those products and cannot confirm the performance, compatibility, or any other claims related to non-IBM products. Questions on the capabilities of non-IBM products should be addressed to the suppliers of those products.  
Prices subject to change without notice. Contact your IBM representative or Business Partner for the most current pricing in your geography.




# Agenda

- What is UNIX?
- What is a “UNIX user” on z/OS?
- The UNIX file system
- File permissions and access control lists
- UNIX identity uniqueness
- UNIX superusers
- UNIX daemons

SHARE | IBM Systems and Technology Group | IBM

## What is UNIX?

- File system
- Shell and utilities (commands)
- APIs



```
cd /usr/lpp/tivoli
open(/u/bruce/file)
```

z/OS

Solaris

Mac OS X

???

AIX

HP/UX

© 2008 IBM Corporation

SHARE | IBM Systems and Technology Group | IBM

## UNIX User and Group Registry: AKA RACF!

USER Profile

BASE
-----
TSO
-----
CICS
-----
...
OMVS
-----
UID
HOME
PROGRAM
CPUTIMEMAX
FILEPROCMA
...

GROUP Profile

BASE
-----
DFP
-----
...
OMVS
-----
GID

© 2008 IBM Corporation

SHARE | IBM Systems and Technology Group | IBM

# UNIX identity

**LOGON TSO**

**ACEE**

MVS user ID
USP Address

**OMVS**

**User Security Packet (USP)**

real UID
effective
saved
real GID
effective
saved
Supplemental Groups

From user's OMVS segment or from BPX.DEFAULT.USER

From OMVS segment of user's default group or from BPX.DEFAULT.USER

From OMVS segments of user's list of groups

- USP created when first UNIX service is invoked
- use the id command to show user's UNIX identity

```
# id pierce
uid=34(PIERCE) gid=521(HOOPS) groups=4(KANSAS),16(CELTICS)
```

© 2008 IBM Corporation

SHARE | IBM Systems and Technology Group | IBM

# UNIX identity

SYSL.PARMLIB

**ACEE**

MVS user ID
USP Address

→

**USP**

UID
GID
Suppl. GIDs

→ /u/brwells/myfile

- When accessing MVS data sets and other RACF-protected resources:
  - 8-character MVS user ID (and group names) is checked against RACF profile
- When accessing UNIX files and directories:
  - Numeric UID and GIDs are checked against file owner and permissions

© 2008 IBM Corporation

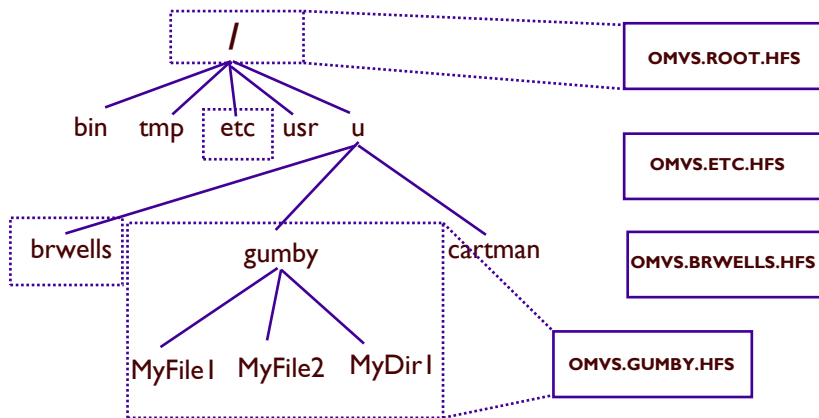


# Default UNIX User and Group identity

- BPX.DEFAULT.USER in the FACILITY class can be used to assign default OMVS segment data
  - RDEFINE FACILITY BPX.DEFAULT.USER APPLDATA('DFTUSER/DFTGROUP')
  - ADDUSER DFTUSER OMVS(... ..) NOPASSWORD
  - ADDGROUP DFTGROUP OMVS(GID(nnn))
- Assigned when user/group doesn't have an OMVS segment
- Can be overridden on a per-user basis
  - ALTUSER BOB OMVS(NOUID)
- Use of default identity is always audited
- Should have only limited use
  - TCP/IP from MVS to MVS, or, just getting your feet wet with UNIX System Services



# Data Sets are MOUNTed into a hierarchical structure



TSO MOUNT FILESYSTEM(OMVS.BRWELLS.HFS) MOUNTPOINT('/u/brwells') MODE(RDWR) TYPE(HFS)

SHARE | IBM Systems and Technology Group | IBM

## Permission Bits

User Owner (UID)			Group Owner (GID)			Other (aka "world")		
r	w	x	r	w	x	r	w	x

Octal notation: 4 2 1

Permission	File	Directory
r	Read contents of file (e.g. obrowse, cat)	See contents of directory (e.g. ls)
w	Edit contents of file (e.g. oedit)	Create or delete (*) files in directory (e.g. touch, rm)
x	Execute a program	Search a directory (aka "lookup")

\* - ability to delete files can be further restricted by the directory "sticky bit". See the chmod command.

© 2008 IBM Corporation

SHARE | IBM Systems and Technology Group | IBM


## File Access Control with Permission Bits

File Owner

<b>User (UID)</b>	<b>Group (GID)</b>
-----------------------	------------------------

Permission Bits

<b>OWNER</b> rwx	<b>GROUP</b> r-x	<b>OTHER</b> ---
---------------------	---------------------	---------------------



**User**

effective UID
effective GID
Supplemental Groups

oedit /etc/profile

IF no access, check  
SUPERUSER.FILESYS  
in UNIXPRIV class

[See z/OS Security Administrator's Guide Appendix F for detailed list of steps](#)

© 2008 IBM Corporation

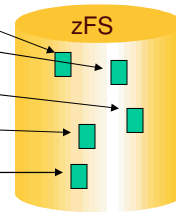
# Files and directories

File

Dear Sir,  
Blah blah blah,  
Yada yada  
yada, etc.

Directory

Name	inode
File1	
Dir1	
Dir2	
File2	
Dir3	



# Directory Search (a.k.a. lookup)

/ (root)      u      gumby

Name	inode
u	
etc	
bin	
usr	
tmp	

Name	inode
gumby	
pokey	
cartman	
brwells	
tmp	

Name	inode
MyFile1	
MyFile2	
MyDir1	



SHARE | IBM Systems and Technology Group | IBM

## Default file permissions and the umask command

- Files are created with different permission settings, depending on the command or application
- file mode creation mask (umask) defends user against permissive defaults
- Display umask
  - octal format: `umask 0077`
  - symbolic format: `umask -S u=rwx,g=,o=`
- Set umask so group and other write bits cannot be set during file creation
  - `umask g-w,o-w`
  - usually done from `/etc/profile`, and `.profile`

Command	Permissions
OPUT	600
touch	666
redirection (>)	666
oedit	700
mkdir	777

© 2008 IBM Corporation

SHARE | IBM Systems and Technology Group | IBM

## Initialization during file creation

```

graph TD
  root["/"] --- bin
  root --- tmp
  root --- etc
  root --- usr
  root --- u
  u --- brwells
  u --- gumby
  gumby --- MyDir1
  gumby --- MyFile1
  gumby --- MyDir2
  
```

UID	GID
75	200

UID	GID	Perms
50	100	rwx r-x ---

```
mkdir /u/gumby/MyDir2
```

rwx rwx rwx

umask: 008 018 111

UID	GID	Perms

© 2008 IBM Corporation





# Access Control Lists (ACLs)

- Each entry (max 1024) specifies a user (UID) or group (GID) and its allowable permissions
- Displayed/modified with getfacl/setfacl cmds
- Enabled with SETROPTS CLASSACT(FSSEC)
- Support inheritance

Top Secret  
Superbowl Pool

User	Bob	r--
User	Boss	---
Group	Admins	rw-
Group	Execs	rwX
Group	Progs	rwX



# File Access Control with Permission Bits and ACLs

## Permission Bits

<b>OWNER</b>	<b>GROUP</b>	<b>OTHER</b>
rwX	rwX	rwX
<b>User1</b> rwX	<b>Group1</b> rwX	IF no access, check SUPERUSER.FILESYS
<b>User2</b> rwX	<b>Group2</b> rwX	
<b>Usern</b> rwX	<b>Groupn</b> rwX	

ACL  
coi  
cns  
ett  
sr  
so  
l

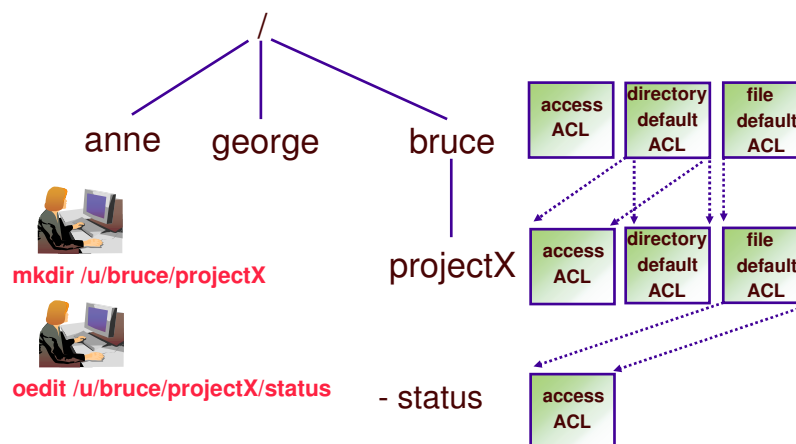
IF FSSEC class active

See z/OS RACF Security Administrator's Guide Appendix F for detailed list of steps

## ACL Inheritance

- Can establish default (or 'model') ACLs on a directory
- Get automatically applied to new files/directories created within the directory
- Separate default used for files and subdirectories
- Reduces administrative overhead

## ACL Inheritance ...



SHARE | IBM Systems and Technology Group | IBM

## Using search permission to hide subdirectories

```

graph TD
    Root["/"] --- bin
    Root --- tmp
    Root --- etc
    Root --- usr
    Root --- u["u (rw-)"]
    u --- brwells["brwells (rwx)"]
    u --- gumby["gumby (rwx)"]
    u --- cartman["cartman (rwx)"]
    gumby --- MyFile1["MyFile1 (rwx)"]
    gumby --- MyFile2["MyFile2 (rwx)"]
    gumby --- MyDir1["MyDir1 (rwx)"]
  
```

Denying search (lookup) authority on a given directory prevents traversal through that directory, and thus prevents access to sub-objects, regardless of their permission settings.

© 2008 IBM Corporation

SHARE | IBM Systems and Technology Group | IBM

## File access violations

```


CH408I USER(REDTAIL ) GROUP(RAPTORS ) NAME(PALE MALE)
/u/bruce/work/projectX/secret/documents/Forecast
CL(DIRSRCH ) FID(01C7D5D9D3F1F2001E04000004530000)
INSUFFICIENT AUTHORITY TO OPEN
ACCESS INTENT(--X) ACCESS ALLOWED(OTHER ---)
EFFECTIVE UID(0000000295) EFFECTIVE GID(0000000521)
  
```


- REDTAIL tried to **OPEN** this file, but was denied. Why?
- If the class were FSOBJ, we would know that REDTAIL did not have permission to the file named 'Forecast' (same would be true if class were DIRACC)
- But, the class is **DIRSRCH**, which indicates that REDTAIL did not have search (execute) access to some directory component of the path name
- We must list each directory until we see some **OTHER** bits which are restricting access (this could be an iterative process). This part of the message might also have identified the OWNER or GROUP bits, or a USER or GROUP ACL entry


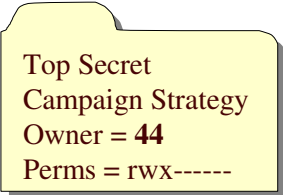

© 2008 IBM Corporation

SHARE | IBM Systems and Technology Group | IBM

## Keep UIDs/GIDs unique – Why?

 ADDUSER HILLARY OMVS(UID(44))

 ALTUSER JOHN M OMVS(UID(44))

 create →  read ← 

Top Secret  
Campaign Strategy  
Owner = 44  
Perms = rwx-----

© 2008 IBM Corporation

SHARE | IBM Systems and Technology Group | IBM

## RACF can help

- Defining SHARED.IDS in the UNIXPRIV class prevents assignment of in-use UID or GID
  - Override with READ access
- AUTOUID/AUTOGID keywords will automatically assign unique id
  - Define BPX.NEXT.USER profile with APPLDATA containing starting point, or range, for UIDs and GIDs
- These require IRRIRA00 database conversion to stage 2 or 3

© 2008 IBM Corporation



## UNIX Superuser

- A superuser is defined as
  - UID 0, any GID
  - Trusted or privileged, any UID, any GID
- A superuser can (by default):
  - Pass all z/OS UNIX security checks
  - Affect any UNIX process on the system
  - Use setrlimit to increase system limits
  - Change his identity to another user

• **Do anything!**



## Limit Superuser Privilege By

- Not assigning UID(0) to humans. Instead
- Use BPX.SUPERUSER (not good enough)  
OR
- Use UNIXPRIV resources (preferred)
- But if you must assign UID(0), define BPX.DAEMON to prevent identity switches



## UNIXPRIV Class Resources

- Used to assign subset of SUPERUSER authority to a user
- Goal: principle of least privilege
- Partial list of functions you can grant:
  - ability to read or write any HFS file
  - ability to change file ownership
  - ability to change file permissions/ACLs
  - ability to send signals to any process
  - ability to mount/unmount file systems

See [z/OS UNIX System Services Planning](#) for complete list of UNIXPRIV resources



## Controlling Daemons ... z/OS UNIX-Level Security



- Activated by defining FACILITY BPX.DAEMON
- Restricts the use of unauthenticated identity changing services
- Only trusted daemons should be given authority
  
- The daemon address space must be kept clean
  - If a program that is NOT a controlled program is loaded, the address space is marked dirty and cannot perform daemon activities
- Clean environment ensures daemons perform their intended function



## Controlling Daemons ... z/OS UNIX-Level Security



- All programs loaded must be controlled
  - PROGRAM profiles covering all programs from MVS libraries (UACC READ is OK)
    - 'sticky' bit on file executable defers to MVS
  - Controlled attribute for programs from the HFS
    - Set with *extattr +p*
    - Issuer needs authority to BPX.FILEATTR.PROGCTL (UID 0 does not grant authorization for extattr!)
    - Turned off automatically if file is changed
    - Ignored if HFS mounted with *noasetuid* or *nosecurity*



## set-UID and set-GID files

- Executable files which change the effective UID/GID to that of the file owner
  - UNIX file access now based on owner (user and/or group) of set-id file
  - does \*not\* change the MVS identity
  - locate your set-uid files with `find / -perm -4000` or by using `irrhfsu`
- `chmod u+s,g+s myprogram`
  - must be file owner or have superuser privilege
- `ls -l myprogram`  
`-rwsr-s--x 2 BRWELLS DEPTD60 8192 Feb 8 10:51 myprogram`



## set-UID and set-GID files ...

- Changing file ownership (chown command), or writing to the file, resets set-uid and set-gid bits
- Consider mounting remote/untrusted file systems with the NOSETUID option
- Don't create user file systems with user as HLQ



## Good Sources of Information: UNIX

- UNIX System Services web site, at <http://www-03.ibm.com/servers/eserver/zseries/zos/unix/>
- UNIX System Services Planning manual (for your release)
  - Available online at [http://publibz.boulder.ibm.com/cgi-bin/bookmgr\\_OS390/Shelves/BPXZSH80](http://publibz.boulder.ibm.com/cgi-bin/bookmgr_OS390/Shelves/BPXZSH80)
  - mvs-oe mailing list (see the Forums link at the UNIX web site above for information)
- Check program product documentation for daemon or server security setup



## Good Sources of Information: RACF

- RACF Auditor's Guide
    - UNIX auditing classes
  - RACF Macros and Interfaces
    - SMF 80 formats and SMF Unload mappings
  - RACF Security Administrator's Guide
    - Chapter on z/OS UNIX security

[http://publibz.boulder.ibm.com/cgi-bin/bookmgr\\_OS390/Shelves/ICHZBK80](http://publibz.boulder.ibm.com/cgi-bin/bookmgr_OS390/Shelves/ICHZBK80)
  - RACF web page – irrhfsu and presentations
- <http://www-03.ibm.com/servers/eserver/zseries/zos/racf/>

## Appendix: Supplementary material



SHARE | IBM Systems and Technology Group | IBM

initialized to ...	File security info	changed by ...
effective UID	User (UID) owner	chown command
parent dir's group	Group (GID) owner	chown or chgrp
varies by function (qualified by umask)	Permission bits	
	Owner rwx	Group rwx
flags specified by open()	Flags	
	set-uid	set-gid
read, write, and execute failures	Owner audit options	
	read	write
no auditing	AUDITOR audit options	
	read	write
SHAREAS bit on for executable files	Extended attributes	extattr command
contents of parent's default ACL	Access Control List	setfacl command
SECLABEL of covering dataset	Security label	chlabel command

© 2008 IBM Corporation

SHARE | IBM Systems and Technology Group | IBM

### UNIX File Security Packet (FSP) ... who can change what?

Security Field	Required authority
Owning UID	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UID 0</li> <li>File owner if CHOWN.UNRESTRICTED is defined in the UNIXPRIV class</li> <li>READ access to UNIXPRIV profile SUPERUSER.FILESYS.CHOWN</li> </ul>
Owning GID	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UID 0</li> <li>Owner, if a member of new group</li> <li>File owner if CHOWN.UNRESTRICTED is defined in the UNIXPRIV class</li> <li>READ access to UNIXPRIV profile SUPERUSER.FILESYS.CHOWN</li> </ul>
File mode (permissions and flags) and ACL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UID 0</li> <li>File owner</li> <li>READ access to UNIXPRIV profile SUPERUSER.FILESYS.CHANGEPERMS</li> </ul>
Security Label	RACF SPECIAL
Owner audit options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UID 0</li> <li>File owner</li> </ul>
Auditor audit options	RACF AUDITOR
Extended attributes	READ access to FACILITY class profile named: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>APF - BPX.FILEATTR.APF</li> <li>Program control - BPX.FILEATTR.PROGCTL</li> <li>shared library - BPX.FILEATTR.SHARELIB</li> </ul>

© 2008 IBM Corporation