

Visualizing Non-Functional Requirements Patterns

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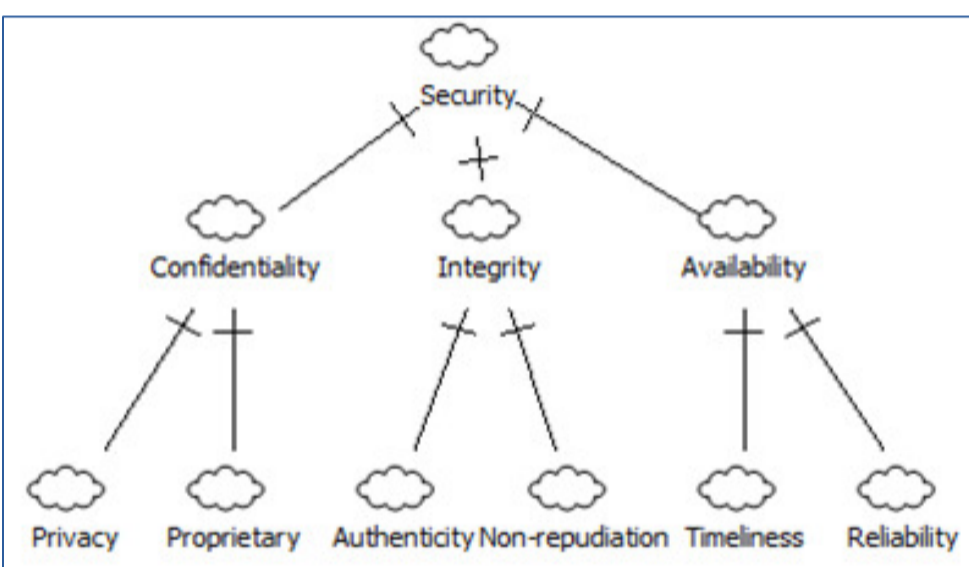
Motivation

- Knowledge of NFRs can have complex structure and relationships
- The structure and relationships are hard to see when knowledge is captured using text
- Captured knowledge should be conveniently reusable during requirements engineering

Objectives

- Knowledge of NFRs captured as visual patterns
- NFR patterns captured, organized, and reused in a tool-assisted environment

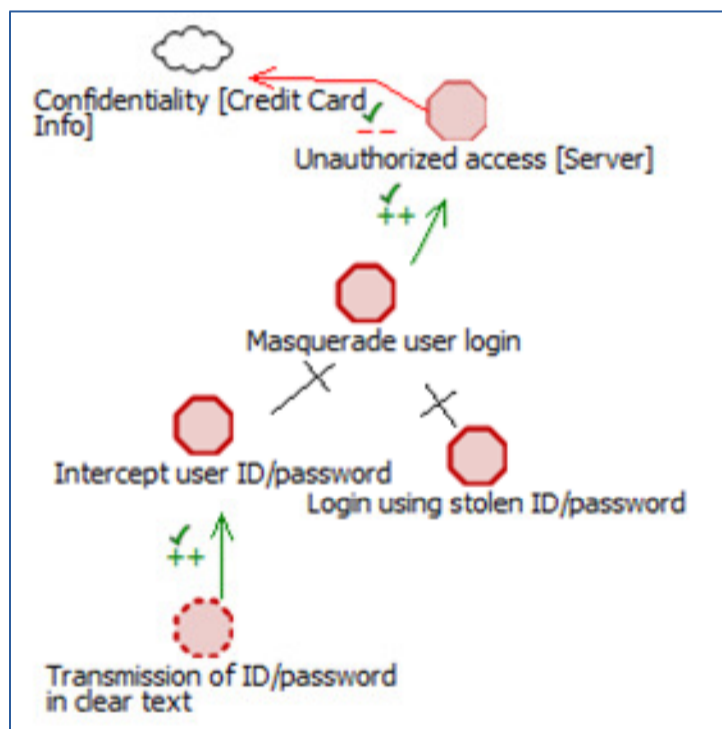
NFR Patterns



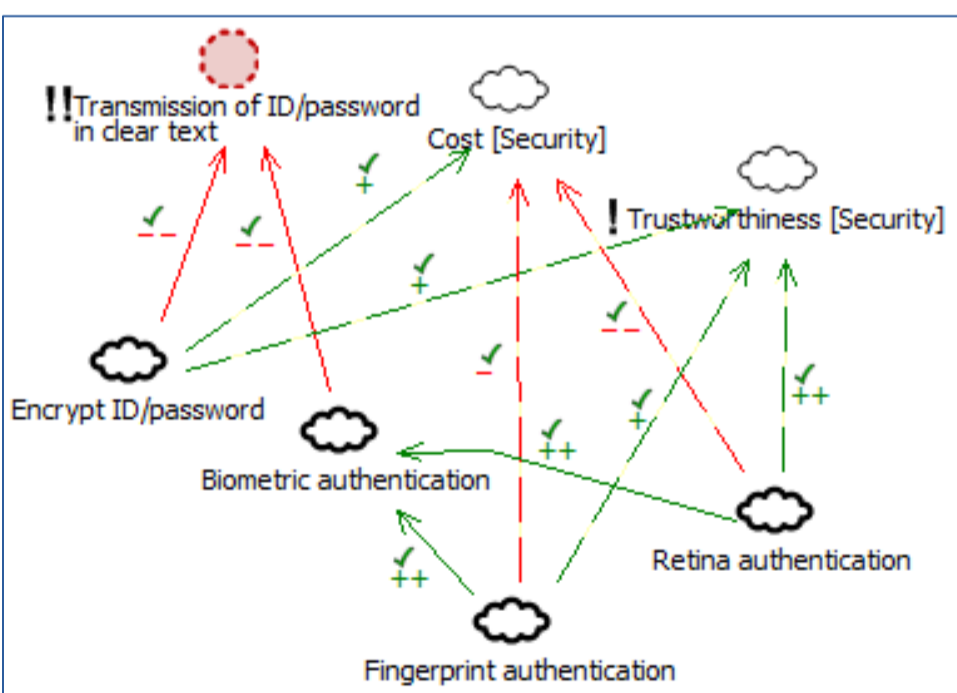
An objective pattern captures a definition of an NFR as a softgoal and its sub-goals to be achieved

Objective Pattern

A problem pattern captures obstacles and their causes that hurt the achievement of a goal.

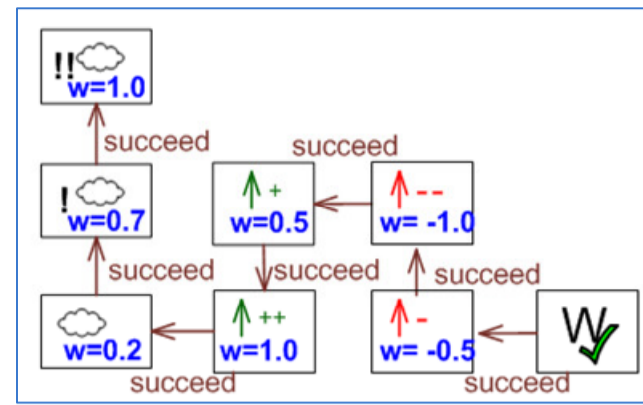


Problem Pattern



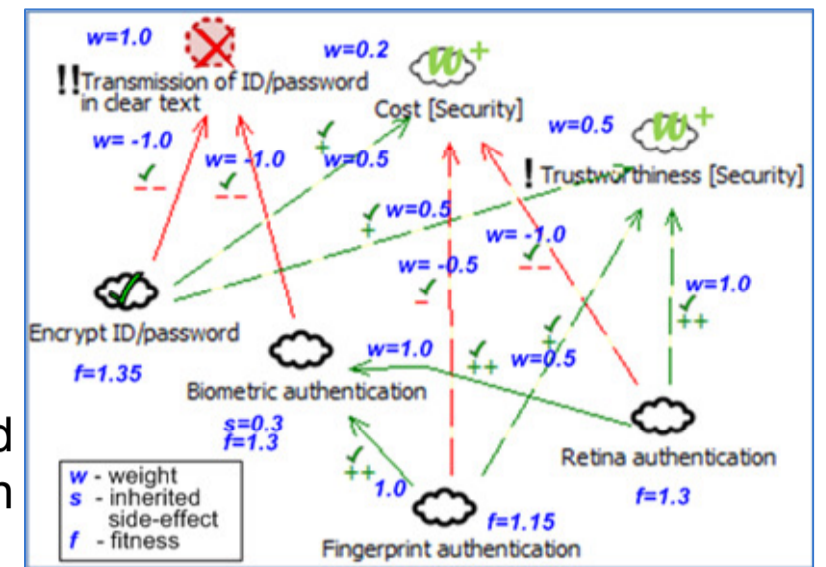
Alternatives Pattern

An alternatives pattern captures alternative means to achieving a goal or solutions to mitigating a problem.



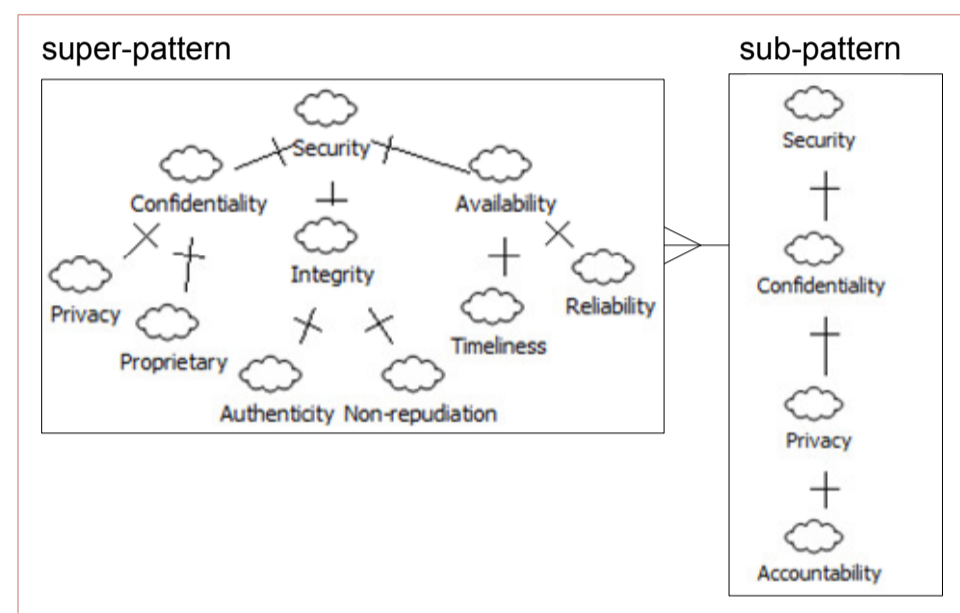
Selection Pattern

A selection pattern captures an application independent selection scheme, consisting of a series of weight/ranking assignments and a selection rule.



An example of a weight-based selection pattern application

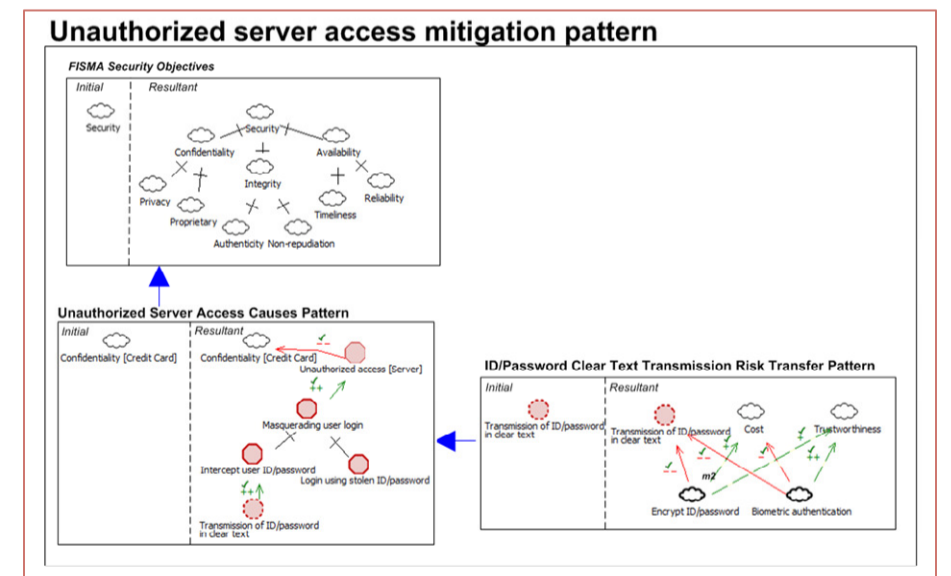
Pattern Organization



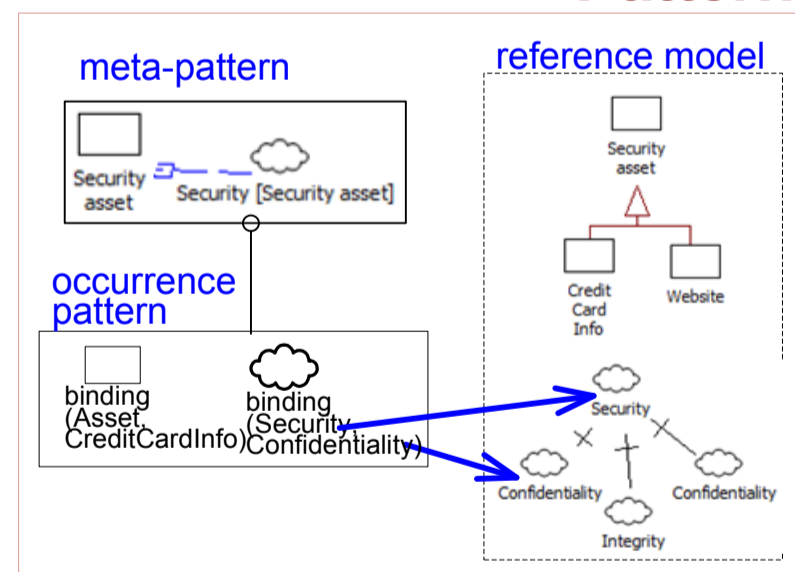
A specialized pattern captures a more specific definition of an NFR

Pattern Specialization

A composite pattern assembles smaller patterns to capture a larger chunk of knowledge



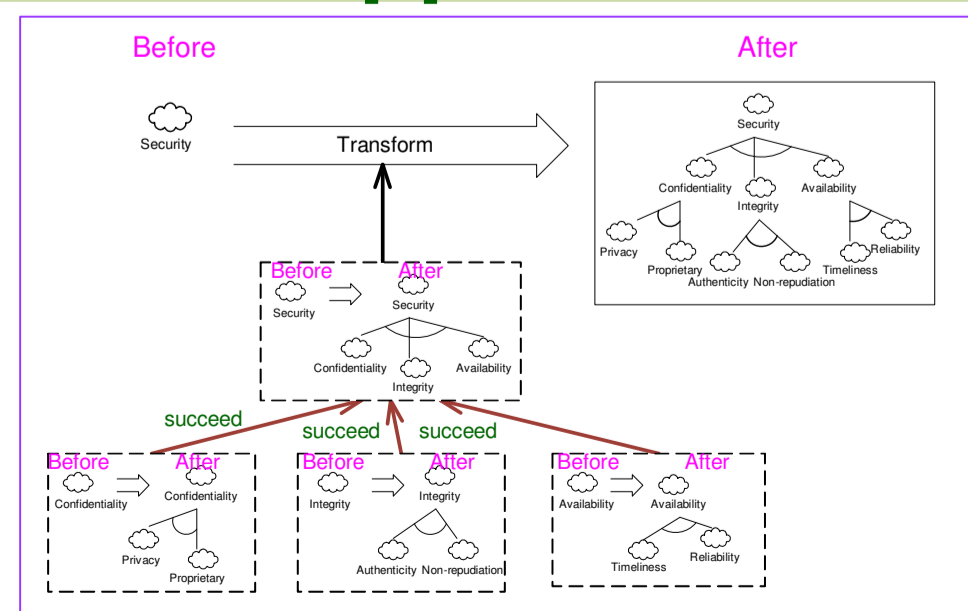
Pattern Composition



Pattern Instantiation

A pattern can be used as a template to create new patterns with customizations specified by the binding specifications

Tool Support



Each pattern is captured with single-step model refinement rules that can be applied by a tool to transform a target model when the pattern is applied

Quantitative Weight-based Selection = $\max(\sum \text{weight}(\text{criticality}) \times \text{weight}(\text{contribution}))$

Qualitative Rank-based Selection = $\text{best}(\sum \text{rank}(\text{contribution}, \text{criticality}))$

Quantitative and Qualitative Selection Rules