Ensuring Trust in Service Consumption through Certification

Software certification is a well established process in assessing the security of software and this is used by many organizations. However one of the major drawbacks of this certification process is that they are time consuming as they require human effort and sometimes can take up to a year or more depending on the kind of certification process that is employed, thereby slowing the release to the market. Another major drawback of the current software certification is the fact that the assessment process and the results are captured in human readable documents and so this vast information, that can be used for automated reasoning to facilitate the decision making process of consumers, is not truly exploited to its full potential. During my thesis I will be working in an EU funded Project ASSERT4SOA, which aims to overcome the limitations of the current certification schemes and develop a comprehensive framework that allows the certification of services and the discovery of services based on their security requirements of the consumers. My thesis will contribute to certain parts of the project and also compliment the project in order to have a comprehensive eco-system for service certification (certification process, certification representation, certification lifecycle) to realize the vision of the project.