

The Emerging JSON/REST-Based Identity Protocol Suite

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Background

- Identity interop requires agreement on data representations and protocols
 - Numerous existing standards
 - Kerberos, X.509, SAML, WS-*, OpenID 2.0, etc.
 - Using a variety of data representations
 - ASN.1, XML, custom binary formats
 - *None are ubiquitously adopted*

The Emerging JSON/REST-Based Protocol Suite

Identity First.

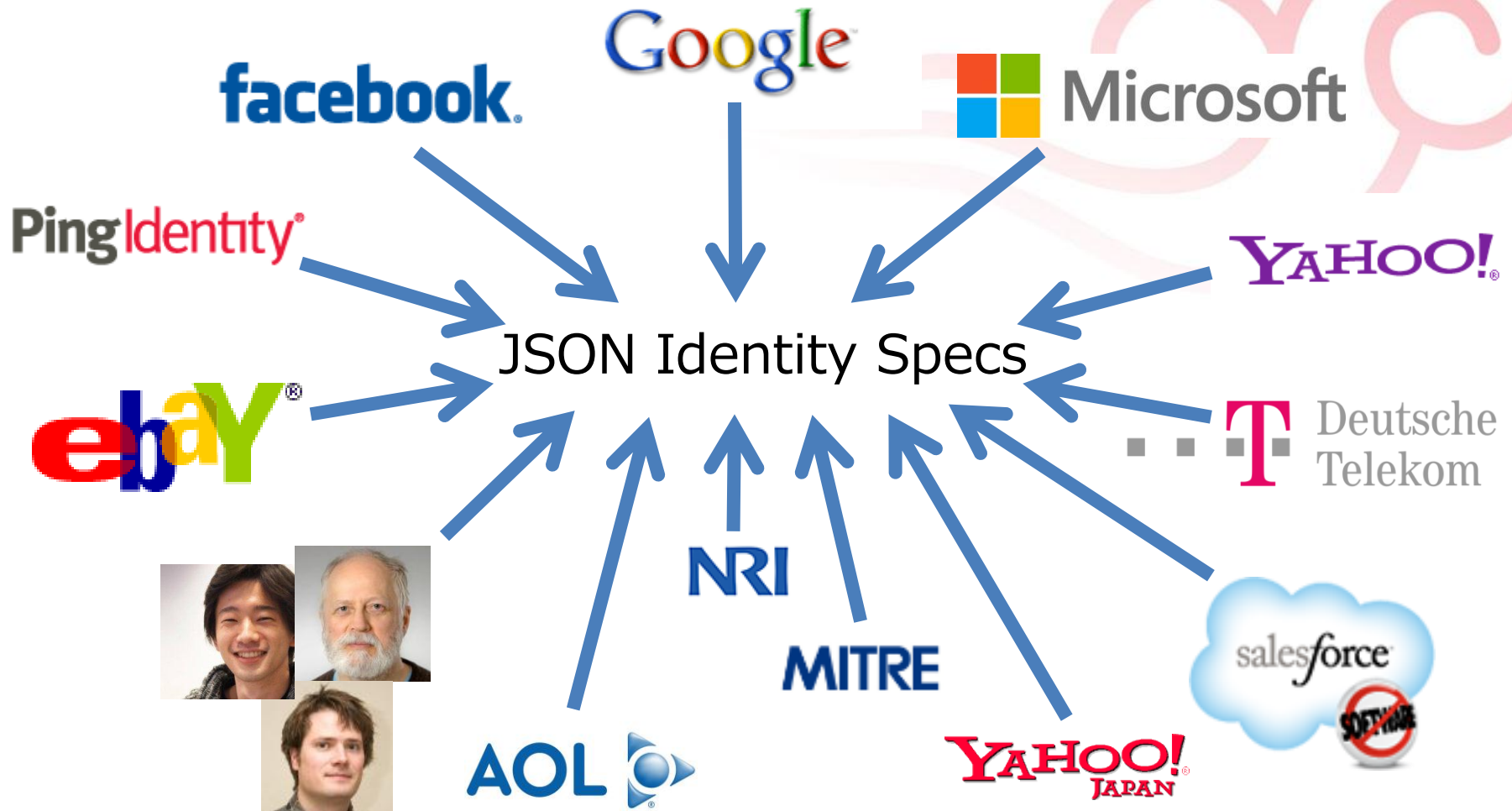
- A new suite of identity specifications is emerging
 - Using JSON data representations
 - Using REST design pattern
 - Reusing lessons learned from previous efforts
- Advantages
 - JSON ubiquitously supported in browsers and modern web development tools
 - Lets developers use tools they already have
 - Chance for much greater reach than past efforts
 - Increasing the scope of identity interop

Design Philosophy

- Make simple things simple
- Make complex things possible

Broad Set of Contributors

Identity First.



Presentation Overview

- Introduction
- Overview of the Specifications
- More Details on the Specifications with Examples
- Status of the Specifications and Interop Testing
- Resources and Discussion

Overview of the Specifications

JSON-Based Security Token Specification

- JSON Web Token (JWT)
 - JSON-based representation of signed and optionally encrypted claims
- JSON equivalent of the XML-based SAML Assertion
- JWT is pronounced like the English word “jot”
- *In IETF OAuth Working Group*

JSON-Based Cryptography Specifications

- JSON Web Signature (JWS)
 - JSON-based signature representation
- JSON Web Encryption (JWE)
 - JSON-based encryption representation
- JSON Web Key (JWK)
 - JSON representation for set of public keys
- JSON Web Algorithms (JWA)
 - Algorithms used with JWS, JWE, and JWK
- *In IETF JSON Object Signing and Encryption (JOSE) WG*

OAuth 2.0 Specifications

- OAuth 2.0 Authorization Framework – RFC 6749
 - Third party authorization protocol
- OAuth 2.0 Bearer Token Usage – RFC 6750
 - Using bearer tokens to access protected resources
- JWT Assertion Profiles for OAuth 2.0
 - Using a JWT to authenticate a client or request an access token
- OAuth 2.0 Dynamic Client Registration
 - Protocol for dynamically registering OAuth clients with authorization servers
- *In IETF OAuth Working Group*

WebFinger Discovery Specification

- Discover information associated with an identifier
 - For identifiers such as e-mail addresses and URLs
 - Discovering information such as URLs of service endpoints
- With an HTTPS GET
- Using simple JSON response
- *In IETF Applications Area Working Group*

OpenID Connect

- Simple identity protocol built on top of OAuth 2.0
- Enables sign-in and release of information about the end-user
 - Like Facebook Connect, but with an open set of providers
- Works well on mobile phones
- Works for both native and Web-based applications
- Works across a range of security profiles
- Modular design
 - Lets you build only the parts you need
- Underpinnings
 - OAuth 2.0, JWT, JWS, JWE, JWK, JWA, and WebFinger
- *In OpenID Foundation Artifact Binding/Connect Working Group*
- *OpenID Connect is a cornerstone of the emerging JSON/REST-based identity protocol suite, but is not a subject of this presentation*

More Details on the Specifications with Examples

JSON Web Token (JWT)

- <http://tools.ietf.org/html/draft-ietf-oauth-json-web-token>
- JSON-based security token format
 - Claims passed as signed & optionally encrypted JSON object
- Compact, URL-safe representation
 - Enabling use in URI query parameters, fragment values

JWT ID Token Example from OpenID Connect

Identity First.

- JWT representing information about an authentication event
- Claims:
 - “iss” – Issuer
 - “sub” – Subject – Identifier for the end-user at the issuer
 - “aud” – Audience for the ID Token
 - “exp” – Expiration time
 - “nonce” – Replay attack mitigation

ID Token Claims Example

```
{  
  "iss": "https://server.example.com",  
  "sub": "248289761001",  
  "aud": "https://client.example.org",  
  "exp": 1311281970,  
  "nonce": "n-0S6_WzA2Mj"  
}
```


JSON Web Signature (JWS)

- <http://tools.ietf.org/html/draft-ietf-jose-json-web-signature>
- Sign arbitrary content using compact JSON-based representation
 - Includes both true digital signatures and HMACs
- Representation contains three parts:
 - Header
 - Payload
 - Signature
- Parts are base64url encoded and concatenated, separated by period ('.') characters
 - URL-safe representation
- *JWS is used to sign JWTs*

JWS Header Example

- JWS Header:

```
{ "typ": "JWT",  
  "alg": "HS256" }
```

- Specifies use of HMAC SHA-256 algorithm
- Also contains optional type parameter

- Base64url encoded JWS Header:

- eyJ0eXAiOiJKV1QiLA0KICJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9

JWS Payload Example

- JWS Payload (before base64url encoding):

```
{ "iss": "joe",  
  "exp": 1300819380,  
  "http://example.com/is_root": true }
```
- JWS Payload (after base64url encoding):
 - eyJpc3MiOiJqb2UiLA0KICJleHAiOjEzMDA4MTkzODAsDQogImh0dHA6Ly9leGFtcGxlLmNvbS9pc19yb290IjpwcnVlfQ

JWS Signing Input

- Signature covers both Header and Payload
- Signing input is the concatenation of encoded Header and Payload, separated by a period ('.') character
 - Enables direct signing of output representation
- Example signing input:

```
eyJ0eXAiOiJKV1QiLA0KICJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJpc3MiOiJqb2UiLA0KICJleHAiOjEzMDA4MTkzODAsDQogImh0dHA6Ly9leGFtcGxlIjM9PC19yb290Ijp0cnVlfQ
```

JWS Signature

- Example base64url encoded HMAC SHA-256 value:

`dBjftJeZ4CVP-mB92K27uhbUJU1p1r_wW1gFWFOEjXk`

Complete JWS Example

- Header.Payload.Signature:

```
eyJ0eXAiOiJKV1QiLA0KICJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJpc3MiOiJqb2UiLA0KICJleHAiOjEzMDA4MTkzODAsDQogImh0dHA6Ly9leGFtcGxlIjM9PC19yb290Ijp0cnV1fQ.dBjftJeZ4CVP-mB92K27uhbUJU1p1r_wW1gFWFOEjXk
```

- Representation is compact, URL-safe
- Enables, JWS/JWT values to be passed as URI query parameters or fragment values

JWS Algorithm Identifiers

- Compact algorithm ("alg") identifiers:
 - "HS256" – HMAC SHA-256
 - "RS256" – RSA SHA-256
 - "ES256" – ECDSA with P-256 curve and SHA-256
- Other hash sizes also defined:
 - 384, 512
- Other algorithms, identifiers MAY be used
- Defined in JSON Web Algorithms (JWA) Specification
 - <http://tools.ietf.org/html/draft-ietf-jose-json-web-algorithms>

JSON Web Encryption (JWE)

- <http://tools.ietf.org/html/draft-ietf-jose-json-web-encryption>
- Encrypt arbitrary content using compact JSON-based representation
 - With either asymmetric or symmetric keys
- Representation contains five parts:
 - Header
 - Encrypted Key
 - Initialization Vector
 - Ciphertext
 - Integrity Value
- Parts are base64url encoded and concatenated, separated by period ('.') characters
 - Compact, URL-safe representation
- *JWE is used to encrypt JWTs*

JWE Header Example

- JWE Header:

```
{ "alg": "RSA1_5",  
  "enc": "A128CBC+HS256" }
```

- Block encryption key encrypted with RSAES-PKCS1-V1_5
 - Plaintext encrypted with AES-CBC using a 128 bit key
 - Integrity value for result calculated with HMAC SHA-256
- Header base64url encoded, just like JWS

JWE Key Encryption & Agreement Algorithms

- Algorithm ("alg") identifiers:
 - "RSA1_5" – RSAES-PKCS1-V1_5
 - "RSA-OAEP" – RSAES using Optimal Asymmetric Encryption Padding (OAEP)
 - "A128KW", "A256KW" – AES Key Wrap with 128, 256 bit keys
 - "ECDH-ES" – Elliptic Curve Diffie-Hellman Ephemeral Static
 - "dir" – Direct symmetric encryption without a wrapped key
- Other algorithms, identifiers MAY be used
- Defined in JSON Web Algorithms (JWA) Specification
 - <http://tools.ietf.org/html/draft-ietf-jose-json-web-algorithms>

JWE Plaintext Encryption Algorithms

- Encryption Algorithm ("enc") identifiers:
 - "A128CBC+HS256", "A256CBC+HS512" – AES Cipher Block Chaining (CBC) mode with 128/256 bit keys and integrity provided by HMAC SHA-256/HMAC SHA-512
 - "A128GCM", "A256GCM" – AES Galois/Counter Mode (GCM) with 128/256 bit keys
- Other algorithms, identifiers MAY be used
- Defined in JSON Web Algorithms (JWA) Specification
 - <http://tools.ietf.org/html/draft-ietf-jose-json-web-algorithms>

JSON Web Key (JWK)

- <http://tools.ietf.org/html/draft-ietf-jose-json-web-key>
- JSON representation of a public key or set of keys
- Also recently extended to represent private and symmetric keys
 - <http://tools.ietf.org/html/draft-jones-jose-json-private-and-symmetric-key>

JWK Example

```
{ "keys":  
  [  
    { "kty": "EC",  
      "crv": "P-256",  
      "x": "MKBCTNIcKUSDii1lySs3526iDZ8AiTo7Tu6KPAqv7D4",  
      "y": "4Et16SRW2YiLUrN5vfvVHuhp7x8PxltmWWlbbM4IFyM",  
      "use": "enc",  
      "kid": "1"},  
  
    { "kty": "RSA",  
      "n": "0vx7ag...(omitted)...Cur-kEgU8awapJzKnqDKgw",  
      "e": "AQAB",  
      "kid": "2011-04-29"}  
  ]  
}
```

JWK Key Type Identifiers

- Key type ("key") identifiers for asymmetric keys:
 - "EC" – Elliptic Curve key
 - "RSA" – RSA key
- Key type identifier for symmetric keys:
 - "oct" – Octets representing a bare key
- Types for asymmetric keys defined in JSON Web Algorithms (JWA):
 - <http://tools.ietf.org/html/draft-ietf-jose-json-web-algorithms>
- Type for symmetric keys defined in:
 - <http://tools.ietf.org/html/draft-jones-jose-json-private-and-symmetric-key>



What is OAuth?

- REST/JSON-based authorization protocol
- Enables a resource owner to authorize limited access to resources by specific applications
 - Without sharing passwords with the applications

Example OAuth Scenario

- Mary has Microsoft and Facebook accounts
- Mary wants to display her Facebook photos on her Microsoft pages
- Mary authorizes Microsoft to have read-only access to her Facebook photos using OAuth 2.0
 - She uses her Facebook password at Facebook to enable this authorization
 - Facebook grants a scoped access token to Microsoft
 - Microsoft uses the access token to retrieve Mary's photos for her

Primary OAuth Specifications

- OAuth 2.0 Authorization Framework
 - Defines OAuth 2.0 flows
 - <http://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc6749>
- OAuth 2.0 Bearer Token Usage
 - Defines how to use Bearer Tokens to access protected resources
 - Bearer tokens can be used by any party in possession of them to access the corresponding protected resources
 - <http://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc6750>

OAuth Assertions Specifications

- OAuth 2.0 Assertions Profile
 - Defines how to use assertions as client credentials and authorization grants
 - In manner independent of assertion/token type
 - <http://tools.ietf.org/html/draft-ietf-oauth-assertions>
- OAuth 2.0 SAML Assertion Profiles
 - Defines how to use SAML assertions with OAuth 2.0
 - <http://tools.ietf.org/html/draft-ietf-oauth-saml2-bearer>
- OAuth 2.0 JWT Assertion Profiles
 - Defines how to use JWTs with OAuth 2.0
 - <http://tools.ietf.org/html/draft-jones-oauth-jwt-bearer>
- *The JWT Assertion Profiles spec is used by OpenID Connect*

Additional OAuth Specifications

- OAuth 2.0 Dynamic Client Registration
 - Protocol for dynamically registering an OAuth client
 - <http://tools.ietf.org/html/draft-ietf-oauth-dyn-reg>
- OAuth 2.0 Token Revocation
 - Defines how to voluntarily relinquish access
 - <http://tools.ietf.org/html/draft-ietf-oauth-revocation>
- OAuth 2.0 JSON Requests
 - Specifies JSON format encoding for OAuth requests
 - <http://tools.ietf.org/html/draft-sakimura-oauth-requrl>
- *OAuth 2.0 Dynamic Client Registration is used by OpenID Connect*

WebFinger Discovery Specification

- <http://tools.ietf.org/html/draft-ietf-appsawg-webfinger>
- Discover information associated with an identifier
- Uses these HTTP request parameters:
 - “resource” – Identifier for which discovery is being performed
 - Such as “acct:mary@example.com”
 - “rel” – Link relation type being queried for
 - Such as “http://openid.net/specs/connect/1.0/issuer”
- Response contains list of JSON links with discovered information
 - Such as:

```
{ "rel": "http://openid.net/specs/connect/1.0/issuer",  
  "href": "https://server.example.com" }
```
- *WebFinger is used by OpenID Connect*

Example WebFinger Request and Response

- Example WebFinger Request

```
GET /.well-known/webfinger?  
resource=acct%3Amary%40example.com&  
rel=http%3A%2F%2Fopenid.net%2Fspecs%2Fconnect%2F1.0%2Fissuer  
HTTP/1.1  
Host: example.com
```

- Example WebFinger Response

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK  
Access-Control-Allow-Origin: *  
Content-Type: application/jrd+json
```

```
{  
  "subject" : "acct:mary@example.com",  
  "links" :  
  [  
    {  
      "rel" : "http://openid.net/specs/connect/1.0/issuer",  
      "href" : "https://server.example.com"  
    }  
  ]  
}
```

Status of the Specifications and Interop Testing

Completed Specifications

- OAuth Authorization Framework – RFC 6749
- OAuth Bearer Token Usage – RFC 6750

Specifications Close to Completion

- JSON Web Token (JWT)
- JSON Web Signature (JWS)
- JSON Web Encryption (JWE)
- JSON Web Key (JWK)
- JSON Web Algorithms (JWA)
- OAuth Assertion Framework
- OAuth SAML Assertion Profiles
- OAuth JWT Assertion Profiles
- OAuth Dynamic Client Registration
- WebFinger
- OpenID Connect

Specifications Farther from Completion

- OAuth Token Revocation
- OAuth JSON Requests
- JSON Private and Symmetric Key Representation
- JWE Encryption of JWKs
- JWK PKIX (X.509) Key Representation

- *None are used by OpenID Connect*

Interoperability Testing

- Interop testing is ongoing for all the specs used by OpenID Connect:
 - JWT, JWS, JWE, JWK, JWA, OAuth (RFC 6749 and RFC 6750), OAuth JWT Assertions, OAuth Dynamic Registration, WebFinger
 - And the OpenID Connect specifications themselves
- Currently in 4th round of interop testing
 - See <http://osis.idcommons.net/>
- Interop mailing list:
 - <http://groups.google.com/group/openid-connect-interop>
- By the numbers:
 - 14 implementations participating
 - 66 cross-solution test results recorded
 - 110 feature tests defined
 - 1,260 feature test results recorded
 - 101 members of interop mailing list
 - 860 messages to interop mailing list

Resources and Discussion

Resources and Discussion

- IETF OAuth Working Group & Mailing List
 - <http://datatracker.ietf.org/wg/oauth>
 - <https://www.ietf.org/mailman/listinfo/oauth>
- IETF JSON Object Signing and Encryption (JOSE) WG & Mailing List
 - <http://datatracker.ietf.org/wg/jose>
 - <https://www.ietf.org/mailman/listinfo/jose>
- IETF WebFinger WG & Mailing List
 - <http://datatracker.ietf.org/wg/appsawg>
 - <https://www.ietf.org/mailman/listinfo/webfinger>
- OpenID Connect WG & Mailing List
 - <http://openid.net/connect>
 - <http://lists.openid.net/mailman/listinfo/openid-specs-ab>
- My Blog and Twitter Handle
 - <http://self-issued.info/>
 - @selfissued

