The Three S's Of Distributed Authorization: Safe, Simple, Scalable

Eve Maler, chair of @UMAWG tinyurl.com/umawg | tinyurl.com/umafaq June 14th, 2013



The "data price" for online service is too high: typing...

- Provisioning by hand
- Provisioning by value
- Oversharing
- Lying!

Name	
Street Address	
City	
State	Enter Text
Zip/Postal	
Province	
Country	Enter Text 🗸
Phone	
Email	
Preferred Communication	Postal Mail Phone E-mail

The "data price" for online service is too high: connecting...

Lwitter



An application would like to connect to your account

The application **KanyeAnalysis™** by **imma-let-u-finish** would like the ability to **access and update** your data on Twitter. This application also plans to **murder all of your children**.

Allow KanyeAnalysis[™] to murder your children?



- Meaningless consent to unfavorable terms
- Painful, inconsistent, and messy access management
- Oblivious oversharing

The "data price" for online service is too high: private URLs...



This video is unlisted. Only those with the link can see it. Learn more

- Handy but insecure
- Unsuitable for really sensitive data

Most data "sharing" today is back-channel and unconsented



Privacy is about context, control, choice and respect – so UMA enables a "digital footprint control console"

- Web 2.0 access control is inconsistent and unsophisticated
- To share with others, you have to list them literally
- You have to keep rebuilding your "circles" in new apps
- You can't advertise content without giving it away
- You can't get a global view of who accessed what

- You can **unify** access control under a single app
- Your access policies can test for **claims** like "over 18"
- You can **reuse** the same policies with multiple sites
- You can control access to stuff with **public** URLs
- You can manage and **revoke** access from one place

UMA turns online sharing into a privacy-by-design solution



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UMA is a profile of OAuth, with bits added for interop and scale









Key use cases

http://kantarainitiative.org/confluence/display/uma/Case+Studies

- Subscribing to a friend's personal cloud
- Sharing accessibility attributes (''GPII'')
- E-transcript sharing (''HEAR'')
- Patient-centric health data access
- Enterprise ''access management 2.0''



Key implementations

http://kantarainitiative.org/confluence/display/uma/UMA+Implementations

- SMARTAM.net (running authorization service from Cloud Identity UK)
- Puma (Python libraries for RS- and client-enabling web apps) from ditto
- Fraunhofer AISEC opensource implementation in Java
- Gluu OX open-source implementation for Access Management 2.0 use cases









Steve Yegge's rant crystallized a key challenge for data sharing

[Jeff Bezos] issued a mandate that was so out there, so huge and eyebulgingly ponderous, that it made all of his other mandates look like unsolicited peer bonuses... '1) **All teams will henceforth expose their data and functionality through service interfaces.**'

Like anything else big and important in life, **accessibility has an evil twin** who, jilted by the unbalanced affection displayed by their parents in their youth, has grown into an equally powerful arch-nemesis (yes, there's more than one nemesis to accessibility) **named security.** And, boy howdy, are the two ever at odds.

But I'll argue that accessibility is actually more important than security because dialing accessibility to zero means you have no product at all, whereas **dialing security to zero can still get you a reasonably successful product** such as the Playstation Network.

We're finally getting around to loosely coupled identity in steps

...but we're often not deeply protected when we do it

Fed authn tech				
First for B2E/B2B (web SSO, SAML), then for B2C (social sign-in, ultimately OpenID Connect)	Fed authn biz A burgeoning number of trust models and best practices, but little public law and few test cases; privacy is just now making a meaningful entrance	Fed authz tech Mostly for B2E/B2B so far ("web access management", XACML); new OAuth and UMA use cases stretch the domain boundaries	Fed authz biz Effectively nonexistent	

A technical innovation: machinereadable scope descriptions





Obligations are tied to auditable changes of protocol state

- Phase I: protect resources
 - Obligations revolve around the introduction of the AS and RS
 - The state change: issuance of a ''protection API token'' for OAuthmediated access to that API
- Phases 2 and 3: get authorization and access resource
 - Obligations run the gamut of types and state changes
 - The two key ones:
 - Requesting Party-Authorizing Party: Adhere-to-Terms
 - Authorizing Party-Requesting Party: Adhere-to-Terms
 - Scope terms of authz can be surfaced up into this agreement if the AS requests a **claim** that confirms consent

Next steps

- We're working on optimization opportunities when UMA, OpenID Connect, XDI, etc. are used together
- We will issue an "Implementor's Draft" by ~end of summer
- We have liaison relationships with projects in the 'trusted identities in cyberspace' ecosystem
- We are profiling and working to pilot UMA for higher ed, accessibility attribute sharing, and healthcare use cases
- We welcome your involvement and contributions
 - Become an UMAnitarian!
 - Follow @UMAWG on Twitter and UserManagedAccess on Facebook

Questions? Thank you

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UMA phase 1: protecting a resource (rev 07b)

Phase I: protect a resource



Section references are from http://docs.kantarainitiative.org/uma/draft-uma-core.html dated 6 Jan 2013

Token terminology:

* PAT = protection API token

Binding obligations terminology, as shown in notes over entities representing obligated parties (see http://docs.kantarainitiative.org/uma/draft-uma-trust.html):

- * Subject = Individual or Non-Person Entity
- * Authorizing Party = Subject acting as resource owner
- * AS Operator = Subject operating authorization server endpoint
- * RS Operator = Subject operating resource server endpoint



www.websequencediagrams.com

Phases 2 and 3: get authorization and access resource I of 3



UMA phases 2 and 3: getting authorization and accessing a resource





Spec call tree for the UMA profile of OAuth



