

Recent Developments in OAuth

Dr. Torsten Lodderstedt, yes.com

A bit of OAuth history

The OAuth 2.0 Success Story

- Tremendous adoption since publication in 2012
 - Driven by large service providers and OpenID Connect
 - Key success factors: simplicity & versatility
-
- **BUT: Old and new security challenges!**

Challenge 1: Implementation Flaws

- We still see many implementation flaws
 - E.g., Facebook hack
 - “View As” to view timeline from the perspective of another user
 - created Access Tokens for other users (impersonation)
 - Token was accessible in the HTML
 - Much more privileges than required for view as (read only) -> reused client id of mobile Facebook app

Challenge 1: Implementation Flaws

- We still see many implementation flaws
 - E.g., Facebook hack
- Documented anti-patterns are still used
 - E.g., insufficient redirect URI checking, CSRF, open redirection

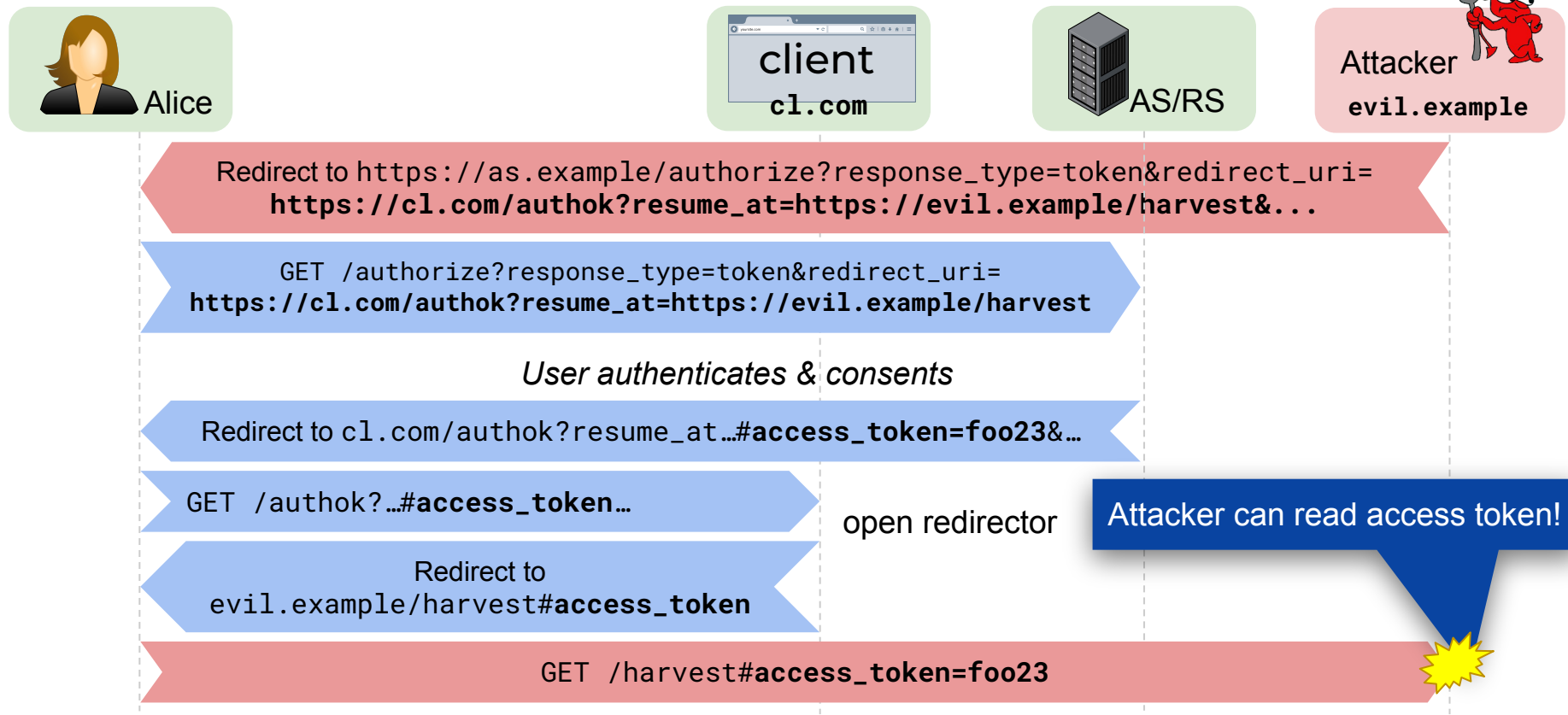
Redirect URI matching with broad Regex

```
https://*.somesite.example/*.
```

Challenge 1: Implementation Flaws

- We still see many implementation flaws
 - E.g., Facebook hack
- Documented anti-patterns are still used
 - E.g., insufficient redirect URI checking, CSRF, open redirection
- Technological changes haven't simplified the situation
 - E.g., URI fragment handling in browsers.

Open Redirection + Fragment Handling (Example)



Challenge 2: High-Stakes Environments

New Use Cases, e.g. Open Banking, require a very high level of security

OPEN BANKING

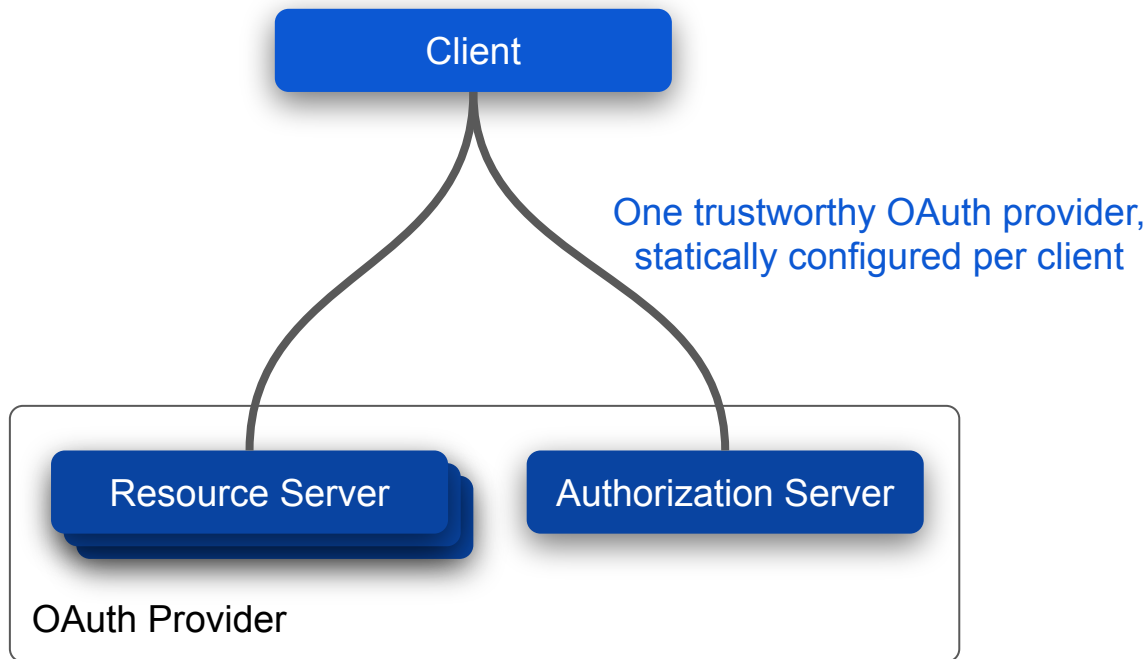


Also: eIDAS/QES (legally binding electronic signatures) and eHealth

Far beyond the scope of the original security threat model!

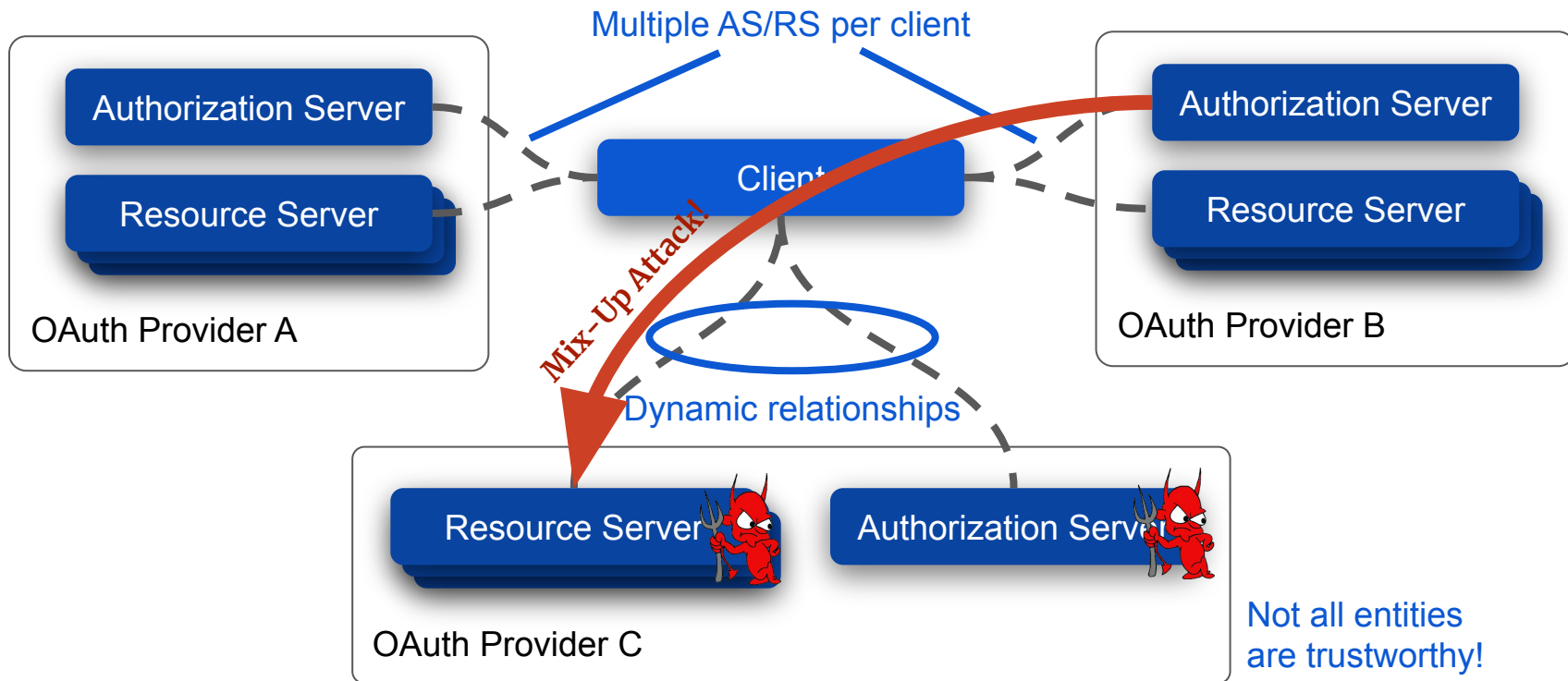
Challenge 3: Dynamic Use-Cases

Originally anticipated:



Challenge 3: Dynamic Use-Cases

Today:



Challenge 4: Complex Authorization Models

PISP

PISP

Payment total £31.94

Select payment method

Credit/Debit Card >

PayPal >

Pay by bank account ✓

Paying with your bank account is completely safe and secure with Open Banking.

1

Name: MERCHANT
Sort code: 20-40-60
Account number: 98765432
Payment reference: Merchant Ltd

☐ Select your Account
☐ Add your bank details
2 ☒ Select your Account

List of banks (ASPPs) ▼

Back Continue

PISP

PISP

Payment total £31.94

3 To consent to this transaction, check the details below

Payee information

Payee name: MERCHANT
Sort code: 20-40-60
Account no.: 98765432
Payment ref.: MERCHANT LTD

Payment information

Bank name:

4 You will be securely transferred to the ASPSP to authenticate and make the payment

Back Confirm

OAuth Authorization

Does not work with scopes!

Authentication

9

Payee name: MERCHANT
Sort code: 20-40-60
Account no.: 98765432
Payment ref.: MERCHANT LTD
Amount: £31.94

Please select the account to pay from

10

Current Account
48-59-60 72346879
Available: £345.67

Savings Account
10-11-12 789012345
Available: £678.90

Press Proceed to make payment

Cancel Proceed **11**

PISP

PISP

Payment details have been submitted

Transaction ID: 0-9328-472398
Total paid: £31.94

Payment details

Bank name: Your ASPSP
MERCHANT LTD

Continue

Payment Details

Account Selection

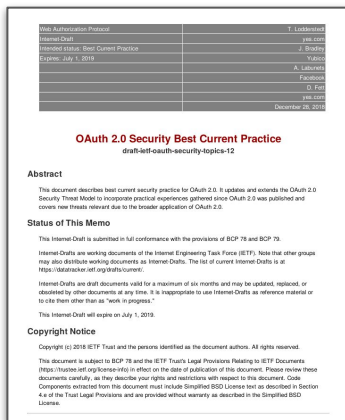
Developments

Developments

- OAuth Security Workshop (<https://oauth.secworkshop.events/>)
- OAuth Security BCP
- OAuth 2.1
- Additional mechanisms
 - DPoP (already covered)
 - mTLS (already covered)
 - Rich Authorization Requests (RAR)
 - Pushed Authorization Requests (PAR)
- FAPI Security and Interoperability Profile

OAuth 2.0 Security Best Current Practice

- Refines and enhances security guidance for OAuth 2.0 implementers
- Updates, but does not replace:
 - OAuth 2.0 Threat Model and Security Considerations (RFC 6819)
 - OAuth 2.0 Security Considerations (RFC 6749 & 6750)



- Updated, more comprehensive Threat Model
- Description of Attacks and Mitigations
- Simple and actionable recommendations

<https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/html/draft-ietf-oauth-security-topics>

Security BCP - Selected Recommendations

- Discourages implicit and password grant
- Strict URL matching
- Avoid open redirectors with whitelists or authenticated redirect responses
- Use code with PKCE to detect replay and CSRF
- Prevent Mix-Up (track desired AS and match to issuer of authorization response)

Security BCP

- Does not normatively change OAuth
- Is one among a couple of BCPs for OAuth (SPA, Native Apps, Security)
- How can we make this easier for developers?

→ OAuth 2.1

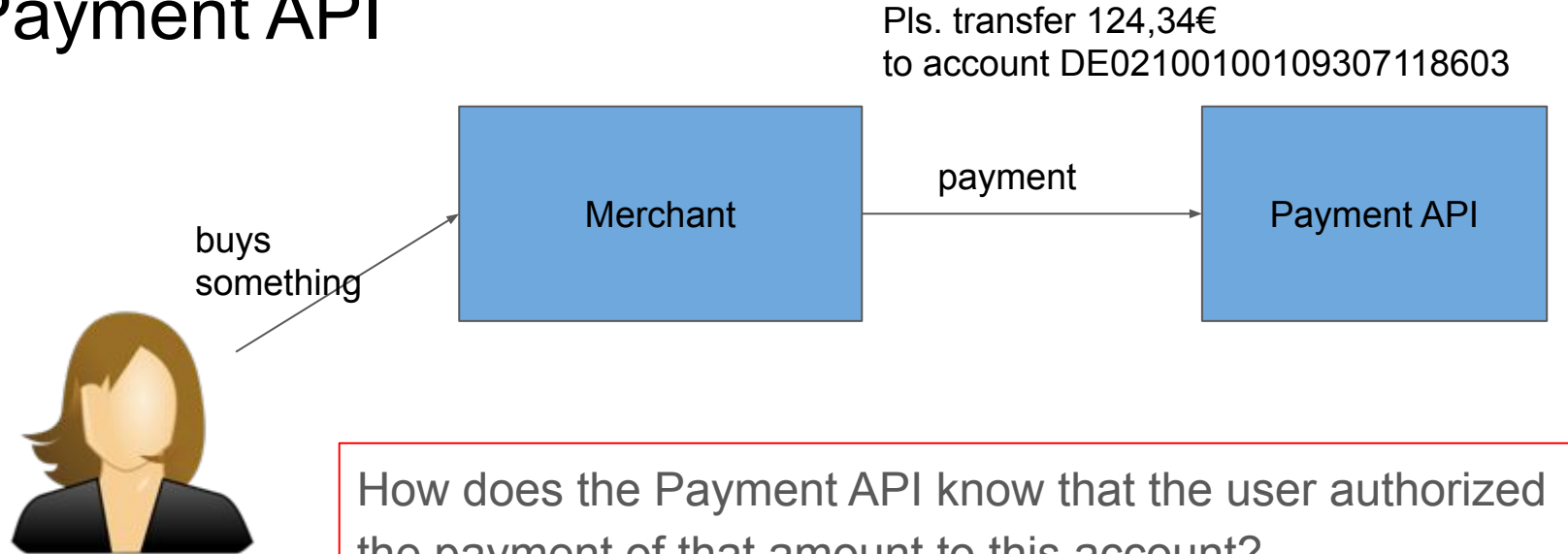
OAuth 2.1

- New baseline for OAuth implementers
- Removes flows deprecated by OAuth Security BCP
- Merges all existing BCPs (native apps, SPAs, Security) into the core spec
- No normative additions beside making PKCE mandatory for code flow (richer security profile → FAPI)
- Aims at simplifying document structure

Draft: <https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/html/draft-ietf-oauth-v2-1-05>

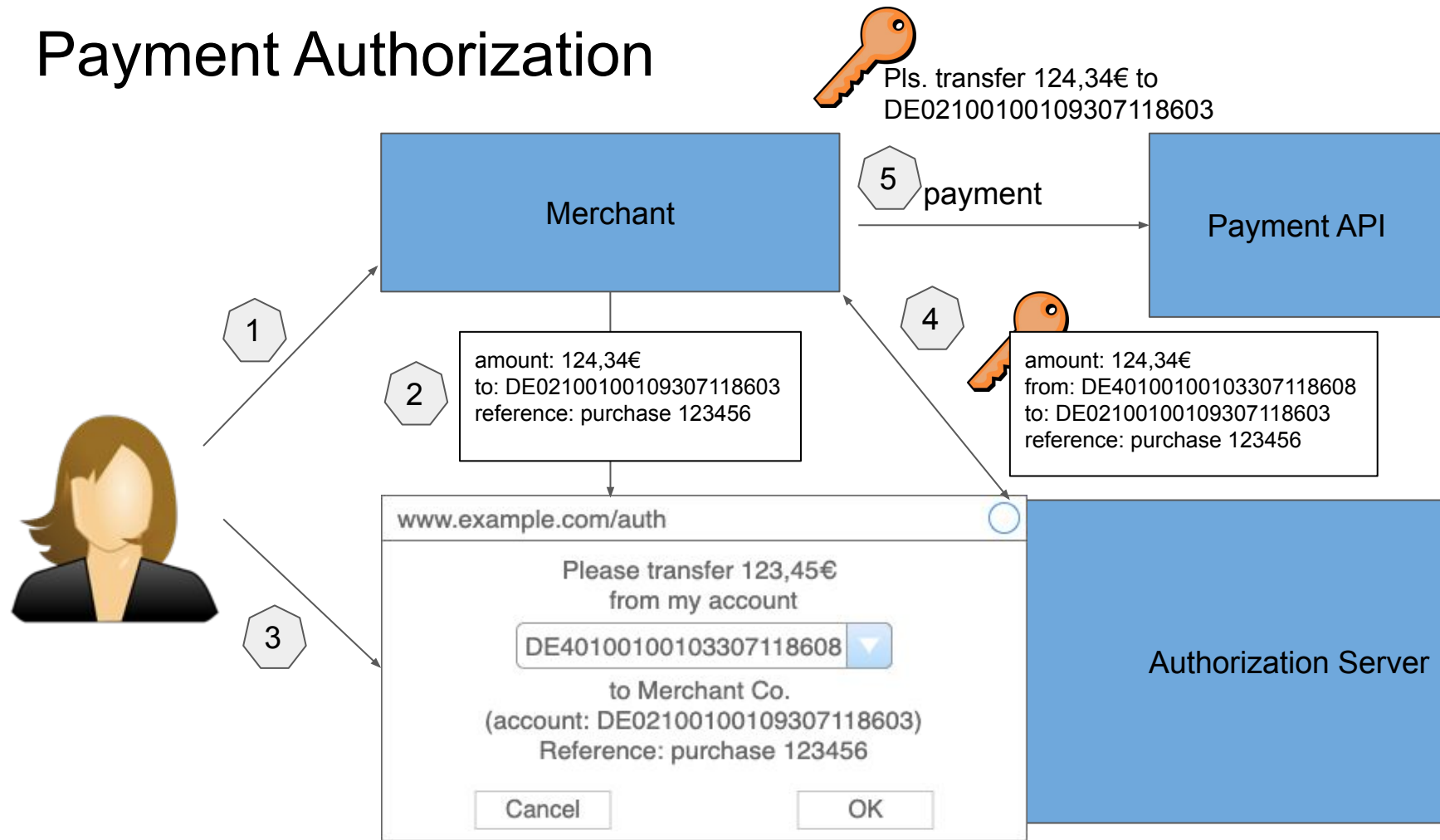
Rich Authorization Requests

A Payment API



How does the Payment API know that the user authorized the payment of that amount to this account?

Payment Authorization



Use Cases with similar characteristics

- Access to Account Information
 - List of bank accounts
 - Actions to be performed (e.g. access to balance)
- Creation of Electronic Signatures
 - Type of electronic signature (qualified, advanced, ...)
 - Document hashes and labels
- Access to Health Data
- Access to Tax Data
- Strong Identity Attestation
 - Claims, Trust Framework, Metadata

Commonalities

- Privileges very narrowly defined (and must also be enforced)
- Authorization data fine grained & structured (voluminous)
- Sometimes transaction authorization (one time & transaction specific values)
- Integrity and authenticity of authorization request data needed
- Authorization data may contain PII - confidentiality might be important

Challenges

- Expressiveness of scopes is not sufficient for the scenarios just explained
 - No structure, no dynamic values - made for simple static access requests
 - Ambiguous (“openid email read”)
- Allocation of requested permissions to resource server specific access tokens is hard (despite resource indicators)

Rich Authorization Requests

- **draft-ietf-oauth-rar** specifies new parameter "authorization_details"
- "authorization_details" contains, in JSON notation, an array of objects
- Each JSON object contains the data to specify the authorization requirements for a certain type of resource.
- The type of resource or access requirement is determined by the "type" field.

```
[
  {
    "type": "payment_initiation",
    "locations": [
      "https://example.com/payments"
    ],
    "actions": ["initiate", "status", "cancel"],
    "instructedAmount": {
      "currency": "EUR",
      "amount": "123.50"
    },
    "creditorName": "Merchant123",
    "creditorAccount": {
      "iban": "DE02100100109307118603"
    },
    "remittanceInformationUnstructured":
      "purchase 123456"
  }
]
```


Combination

- Authorization requirements for a multiple resources can be combined
- “locations” field allows assignment to particular resource (server)
- Token request allows to specify subset of authorization details to be assigned access token

```
[
  {
    "type": "payment_initiation",
    "locations": ["https://example.com/payments"],
    "actions": ["initiate", "status", "cancel"],
    "instructedAmount": {
      "currency": "EUR",
      "amount": "123.50"
    },
    "creditorName": "Merchant123",
    "creditorAccount": {
      "iban": "DE02100100109307118603"
    },
    "remittanceInformationUnstructured": "purchase 123456"
  },
  {
    "type": "account_information",
    "locations": ["https://example.com/accounts"],
    "actions": ["list_accounts", "read_balances", "read_transactions"]
  }
]
```

authorization_details can be used ...

- where “scope” can be used
- in combination with or instead of “scope”
- Example: pushed authorization request

```
POST /as/par HTTP/1.1
Host: as.example.com
Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded
Authorization: Basic czZCaGRSa3F0Mzo3RmpmcDBaQnlxS3REUmJuZ

response_type=code
&client_id=s6BhdRkqt3
&state=af0ifjsldkj
&redirect_uri=https%3A%2F%2Fclient.example.org%2Fcb
&code_challenge_method=S256
&code_challenge=K2-ltc83acc4h0c9w6ESC_rEMTJ3bww-uCHaoeK1t8U
&authorization_details=%5B%7B%22type%22%3A%22account%5Fin
formation%22%2C%22actions%22%3A%5B%22list%5Faccounts%22%
2C%22read%5Fbalances%22%2C%22read%5Ftransactions%22%5D%
2C%22locations%22%3A%5B%22https%3A%2F%2Fexample%2Ecom%
2Faccounts%22%5D%7D%5D
```

Enforcement

- AS adds authorization details to access token
(or token introspection response)
- including user selected data
(e.g. account)
- RS enforces authorization details

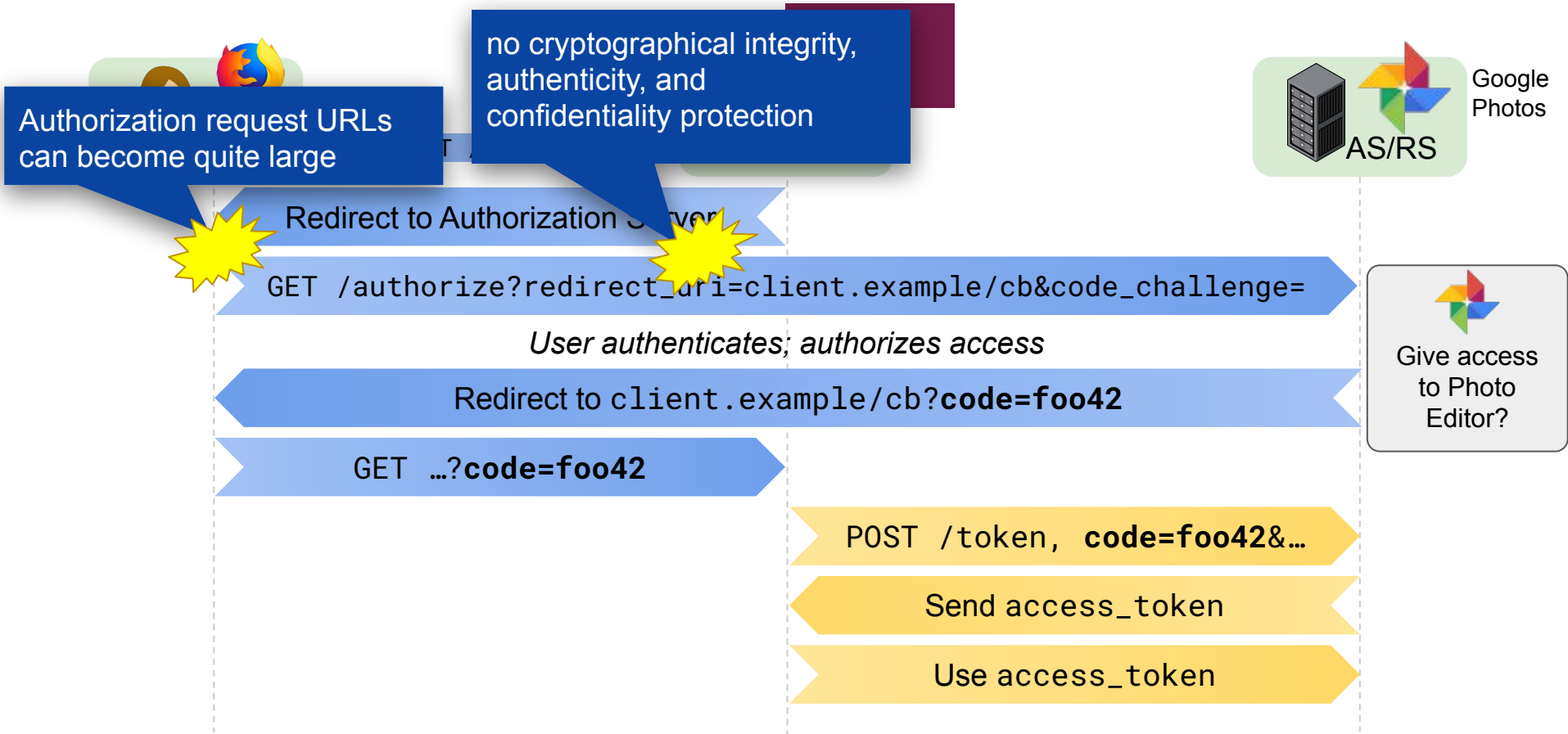
```
{
  "iss": "https://as.example_aspsp.com",
  "sub": "24400320",
  "aud": "a7AfcPcs12",
  "exp": 1311281970,
  "acr": "psd2_sca",
  "txn": "8b4729cc-32e4-4370-8cf0-5796154d1296",
  "authorization_details": [
    {
      "type": "payment_initiation",
      "locations": [
        "https://api.example_aspsp.com/payments"
      ],
      "instructedAmount": {
        "currency": "GBP",
        "amount": "31.94"
      },
      "creditorName": "Merchant",
      "creditorAccount": {
        "no": "98765432"
      },
      "remittanceInformationUnstructured": "MERCHANT LTD"
    }
  ],
  "debtorAccount": {
    "no": "48-59-60 72346879",
    "user_role": "owner"
  }
}
```

Advantages

- Flexible and type safe way to represent rich authorization data
- Allows definition of API-specific authorization data structures
 - no “one size fits all”
- Common data set elements to address common use cases
- Interoperable and easy way to issue RS-specific Access Tokens and Token Introspections Responses (Data Minimization and Disambiguation)

Pushed Authorization Requests

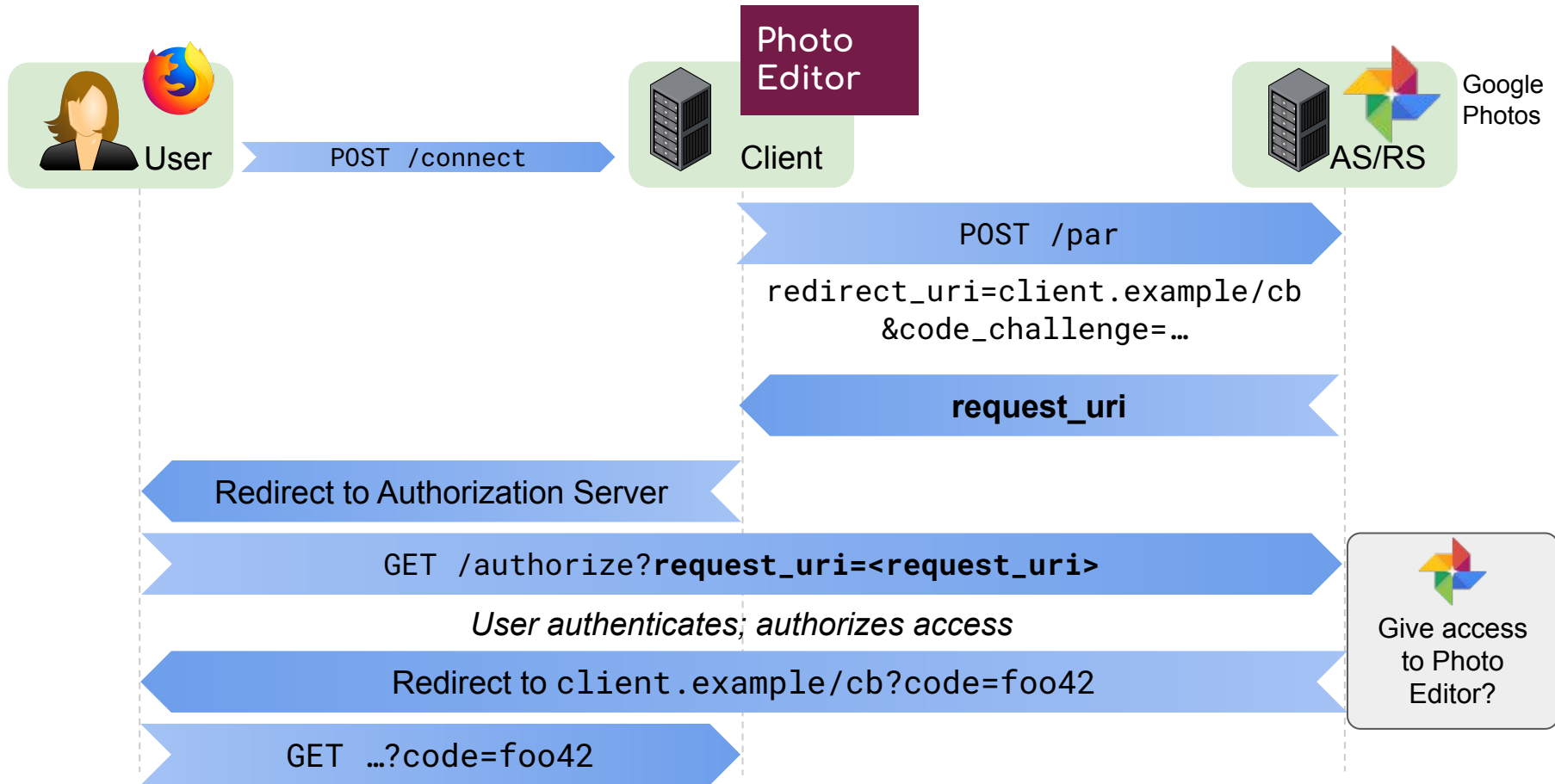
Authorization Code Grant (Traditional)



Pushed Authorization Requests

- **RFC 9126** defines the pushed authorization request endpoint, which allows a client to push the payload of an authorization request to the AS via a direct (POST) request
- The AS provides the client with a request URI (JAR) that is used as reference to the data in a subsequent authorization request

Pushed Authorization Request (PAR)



Advantages

- Robust solution even for large authorization request payloads
- Significantly improved security
 - Integrity
 - Confidentiality
 - Authenticity
 - Client authentication and authorization ahead of authorization process
- Easy to use for client developers with simple migration path
- Easy to implement for AS developers (combines authz & token endpoint logic)
- Even higher security level by passing signed/encrypted request objects

FAP I

What is FAPI?

- A security and interoperability profile for OAuth for use cases with high security requirements
- Conformance can be (and is) tested, ensuring true interoperability
 - Mandatory to implement feature set
- Versions
 - FAPI 1 (>2016): utilizes OpenID Connect security mechanisms to elevate OAuth security (used by Open Banking in UK, AU, BR)
 - FAPI 2 (>2020): simpler to use through new OAuth mechanisms (like PAR), design based on formal attacker model (used by Open Banking in DE and eHealth)

FAPI 2 Components

- Implementations MUST conform to Security BCP / OAuth 2.1
- Server Metadata
- Confidential Clients only
- Client authentication using public key crypto only (private_key_jwt or mTLS)
- Sender-constrained access tokens only (mTLS or DPoP)
- Accept Pushed Authorization Requests only
- iss response parameter
- RS shall accept access tokens in HTTP header only (no query parameters)

State of the art OAuth for security critical applications

Referenzen

- https://openid.bitbucket.io/fapi/fapi-2_0-attacker-model.html
- https://openid.bitbucket.io/fapi/fapi-2_0-baseline.html
- https://openid.bitbucket.io/fapi/fapi-2_0-advanced.html

Q&A