OAuth 2.0 - Details

OAuth 2.0 - Authorization Code Flow



Your App / Client



We'll walk through the specific details of a user logging in with the 3rd party



Your App / Client











- The user sends a request to our server by clicking the "login with ..." button



Authorization Request - Parameters

- Our client id: To identify our app
- scopes: A space-separated list of permissions we want from the user
- redirect URI: Must match the redirect URI when you registered your app



• Response type: Equal to "code" to indicate that we are requesting an authorization code



Authorization Request - Redirect • How? Use a redirect!



• Parameters: Response type, client id, scopes, redirect URI • We need to tell the user to send these 4 parameters to the API



Authorization Request - Redirect

- server and the "/authorize" path



• We respond to the "login with ..." button press request with a 302 redirect The location header of the redirect is the URL of the api's authentication

Authorization Request - Redirect • By using a redirect, all the parameters are in the URL itself



They won't be removed/blocked by the browser during redirection • This means all values must be URL encoded, using percent-encoding



Authorization Request - API

- this cookie is not SameSite: strict)



• Their browser redirects the user to the API with all the required parameters • The API authenticates the request using an auth token in a cookie (Implies

Authorization Request - API

- The API knows our identity via the client id, but this is not authenticated

The API knows the scopes that are being requested



The API now authenticated the user's identity and can pull their profile



Authorization Request - API

- So the API knows everything it needs to know
- Ask the user to authorize our app
- being requests



User is shown the name of the app and the list of scopes that are

Authorization Grant - API redirect

- redirect to our redirect URI
- If the user does not agree, the process ends and our app does not get API access • If the user has already agreed in the past, they are redirected immediately



• Assuming the user accepts, the API will respond to their "agree" button press with a



Authorization Grant - API redirect

- Since our response type was "code", the redirect will contain an authorization code
- The API needs to send our app information through the user just like we did in step 1
 - The API will use a 302 redirect with the code in a query string



Authorization Grant - Redirect URI

- Our app receives the redirected request containing the authorization code
- http://localhost:8080/spotify? 9_ARiNJJrcDuKMshls7VfCggwLX9yMH80InvkMsA5GxXtSU



code=AQAS7s9-7krg_hO5jdO1mKOLKTmgoG4p9U25QpdcNPrFwDS9YlyfjqDmRg97gEfSJ vQ5Ri3AyzyNiWVFxLEWJDm7G4poswnXs_AQuSkerCQ7_8ghlbwYTXoWE2BJFVGae5rpSH nHbAL_MxYiyTJqNMtXaClXSv7QfCviNJpRaOd51z4ga5jQzRoVaaSikR8hQwjkjCuXydvjSHlp



Authorization Grant - Authorization Code

- This code, and all tokens/codes, will have very high entropy
- The RFC requires >128 bits of entropy; recommends > 160

AQAS7s9-7krg_hO5jdO1mKOLKTmgoG4p9U25QpdcNPrFwDS9YlyfjqDmRg97gEfSJvQ5Ri3AyzyNiWVFxLEWJDm7G4poswnXs_AQuSkerCQ7_8ghIbwYTXoWE2BJFV Gae5rpSHnHbAL_MxYiyTJqNMtXaClXSv7QfCviNJpRaOd51z4ga5jQzRoVaaSikR8hQwjkjCuXydvjSHlp9_ARiNJJrcDuKMshls7VfCggwLX9yMH80InvkMsA5GxXtSU



• [Assuming uniform randomness] This 255 character code has 1536 bits of entropy!



Authorization Grant - Authorization Code Our app parses the query string and extracts this authorization code

This is a 1-time code and is assumed to be comprisable since the user handled it





Authorization Grant - Request for Access Token • The user will sit out the next few rounds and wait for our server to respond to the authorization grant redirect

- Our app will connect directly to the API server while the user waits
- The next goal is to trade the authorization token for an access token





Your App / Client













Authorization Grant - Client Authentication • The RFC requires both client id and client secret for authentication of our app • Recommends adding the secret in an "Authorization" header Allows the secret to be sent in the body if unable to use headers • The secret cannot be sent in the URL 5. Authorization Grant



6. Access Token

7. API Access

8. Private Data

2. Authorization Request

3. Authorization Grant

User / Resource Owner

3rd Party API / Auth Server / **Resource Server**



Authorization Grant - Authorization Header
APIs will vary in the exact method of sending the id and secret
Spotify: Send "{client_id}:{client_secret}" base64 encoded using an Authorization header of type Basic





Authorization Grant - Authorization Header

- If client_id == "abc" and client_secret == "123"
- "{client_id}:{client_secret}" == "abc:123"
- before/after base64 encoding
- And your header is "Authorization: Basic YWJjOjEyMw=="



base64("abc:123") == "YWJjOjEyMw==" <-- base64 works with bytes so encode/decode



Authorization Grant - Content

- The API needs the following values in the content of the request
- Grant type: set to "authorization_code"
- Code: The value of the authorization code we're sending
- Redirect URI: Must exactly match the redirect URI we used to obtain this code









- Formats vary. Spotify uses URL encoding (eg. same format as a



Authorization Grant - Final Request Send the final request to the "/token" endpoint of the API using a

- POST request
 - Authorization header for authentication
 - Content in the body for details about the request









Respond with an access token that we can use to access the API



Access Token - Response • The body of this response will contain the access token • Will often also contain a refresh token (A topic for another lecture) Spotify: Response is a JSON object with an "access_token"





API Access

- We can now access the API on behalf of our user
- Each request must contain the access token
- Spotify: Access token is sent via an Authorization header of type Bearer
 - eg. If the token is "abc" Your header is "Authorization: Bearer abc"





API Access

- Notice that we can't use cookies to authenticate API access
 - Our app will be making requests for different users
 - Would need a cookie for every user, or change the cookie value for each user
- Headers are a much cleaner solution for this use case







API Access - Login with ... • Now that we have API access, we can finally log the user in • We'll make an API request for the user's profile information



• This allows us to identify the user with a unique id (Usually email)



Private Data - Login with ...

• Once we have an ID for the user verified by the 3rd party:

- except you don't store a password)
- into your app with a username/password)



• Create an account for the user with this ID (Just like the registered with your app,

• Issue them an authentication token and set it as a cookie (Just like they logged



Login with ...

- When a user logs in again with a 3rd party (Assuming their auth token expired) Check if they already have an account

 - If this is not their first time logging in, make sure you use their existing account





Login with ...

- Store their access token in their account



• Don't need to go through this whole process every time you need API access

• Note: These token cannot be hashed since you need to send the original value to the API (Be careful! Don't ask for more scopes than you need to limit the risk)

