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# Service Principals, App Registrations and other Azure Myths

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# Eric Berg

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User Assigned

App Registration

Service Connections

Client ID

Service Principal

Enterprise App

App Consent

Managed Identity



Security Principal

Client Secret



System Assigned

User Principal

Application Object

...

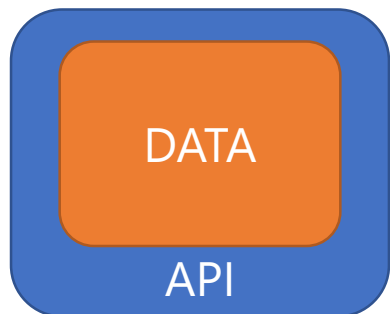
# What is it all about?



User



Client App

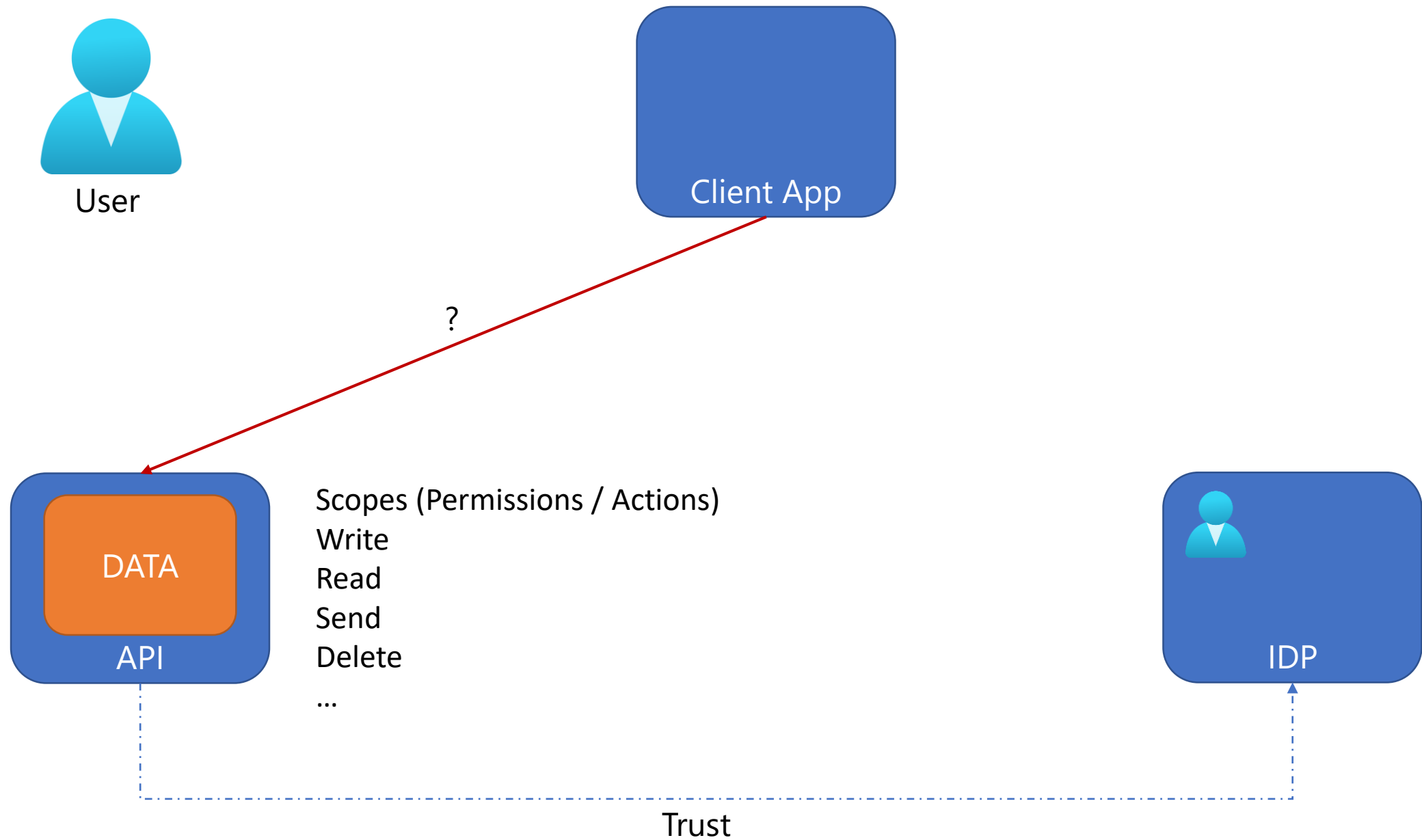


Scopes (Permissions / Actions)

Write  
Read  
Send  
Delete  
...

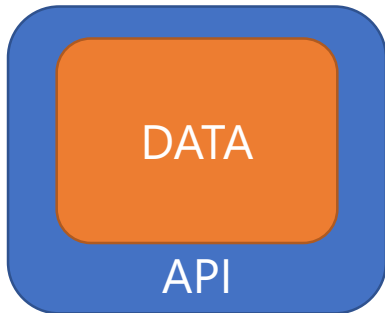


Trust



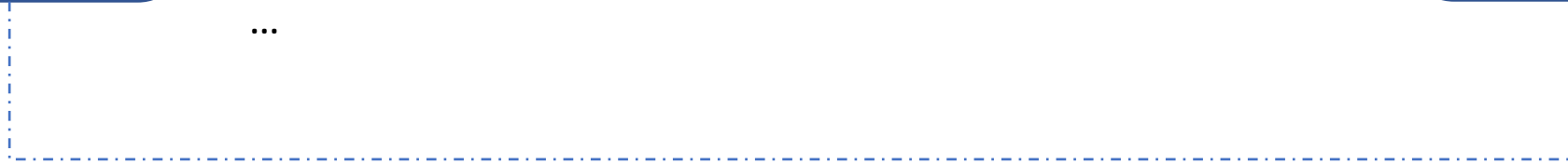


User



Scopes (Permissions / Actions)

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Read  
Send  
Delete  
...

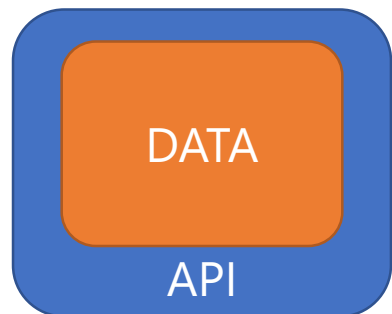
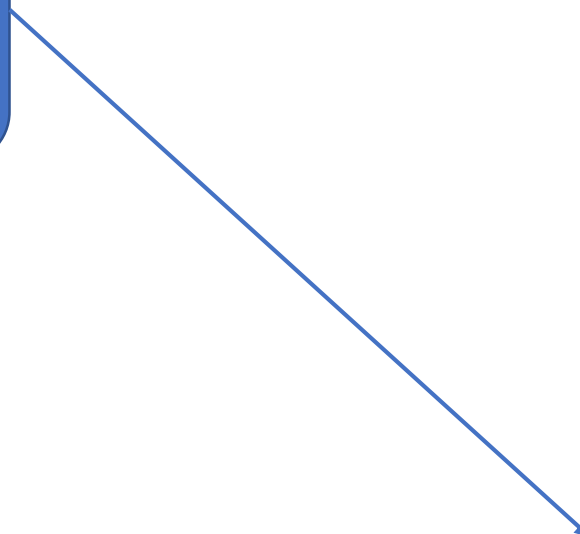


Trust





User



Scopes (Permissions / Actions)

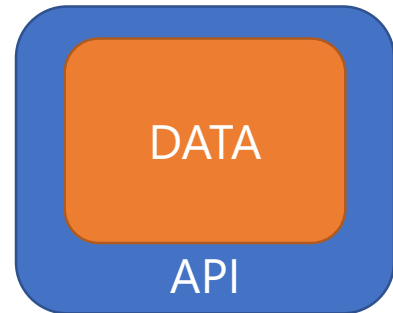
Write  
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Delete  
...



Trust



User

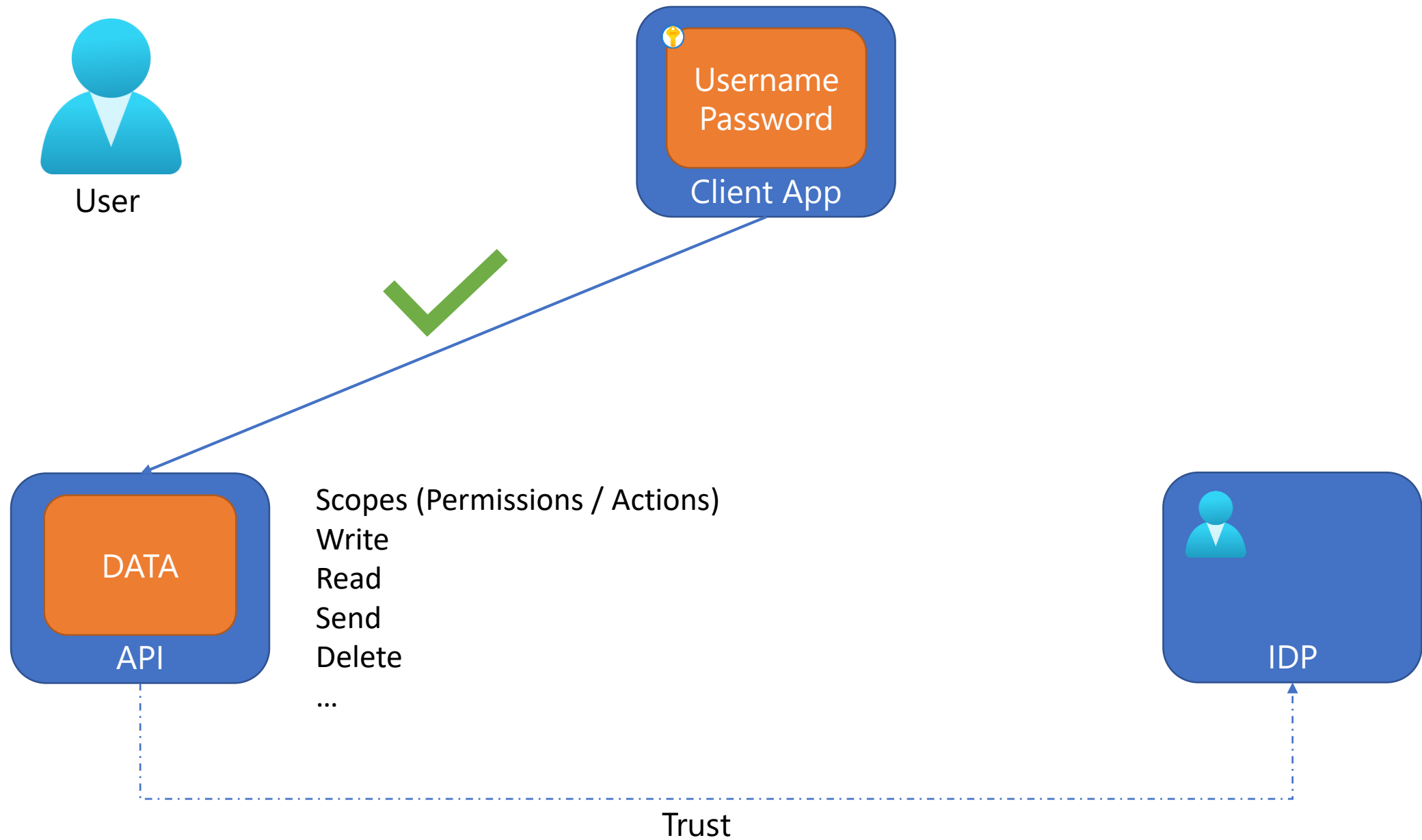


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...

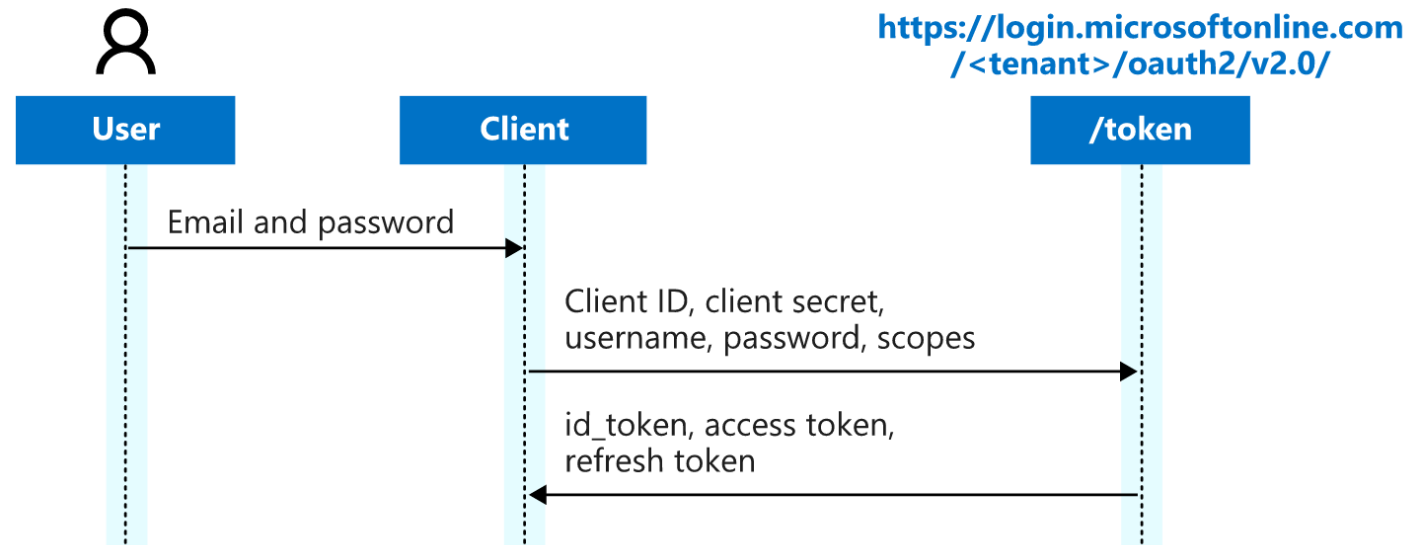


Trust



# This is how it flows ... in AAD

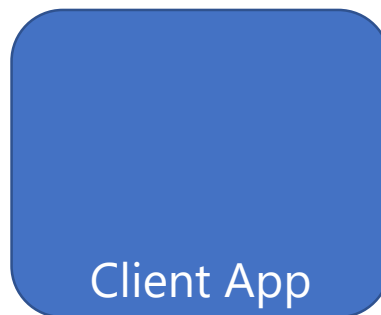
The following diagram shows the ROPC flow.



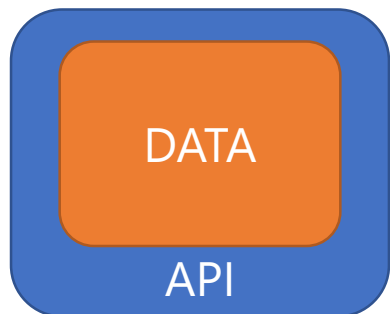
# How to do it better?



User



Client App



Scopes (Permissions / Actions)

Write  
Read  
Send  
Delete  
...



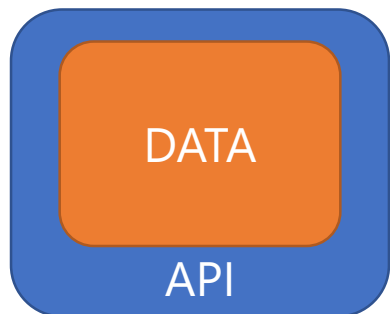
Trust



User

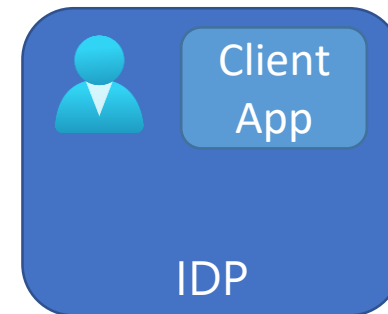


Client App



Scopes (Permissions / Actions)

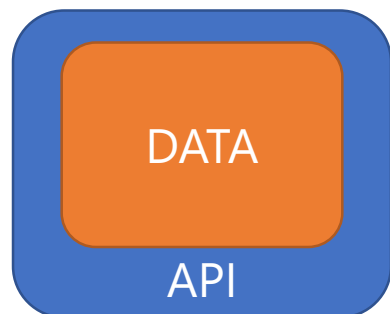
Write  
Read  
Send  
Delete  
...



Trust

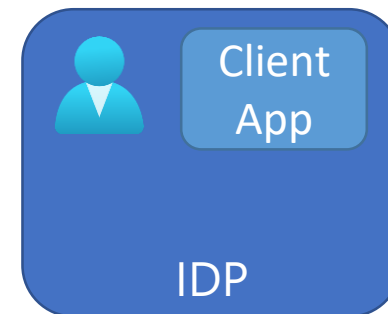


User



Scopes (Permissions / Actions)

Write  
Read  
Send  
Delete  
...

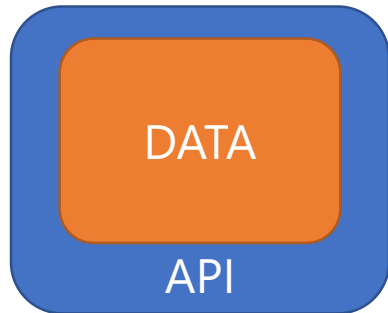


Trust





User



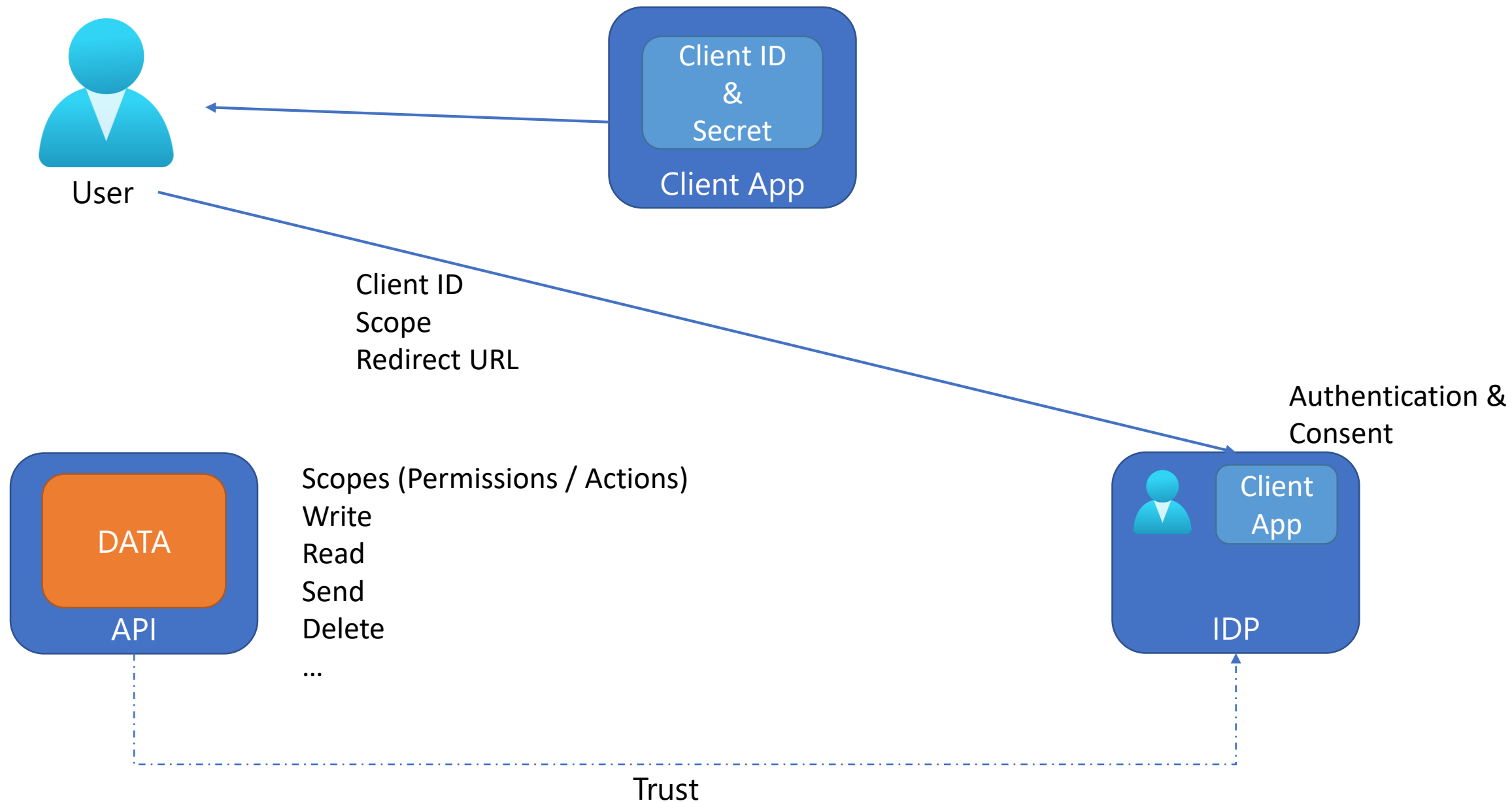
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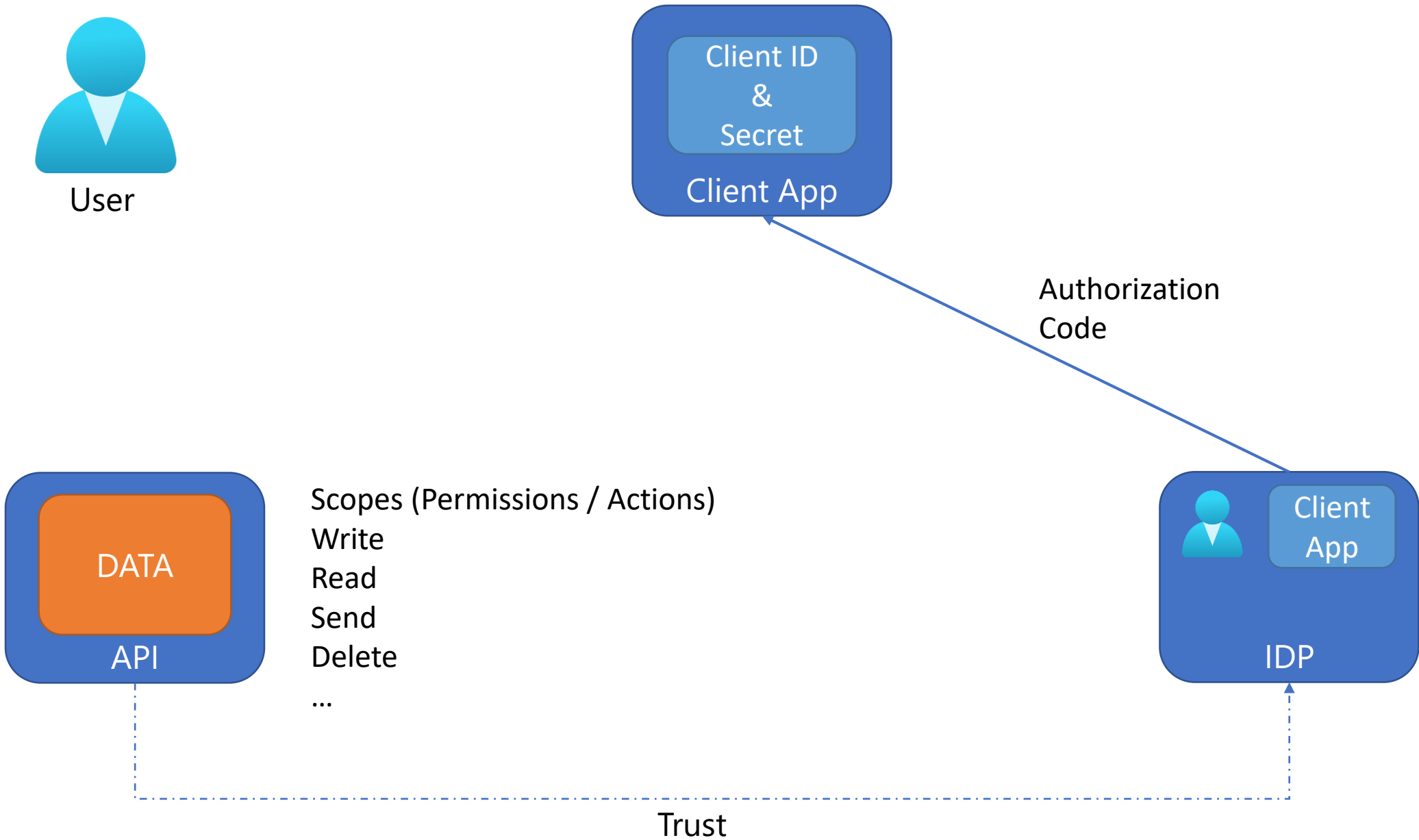
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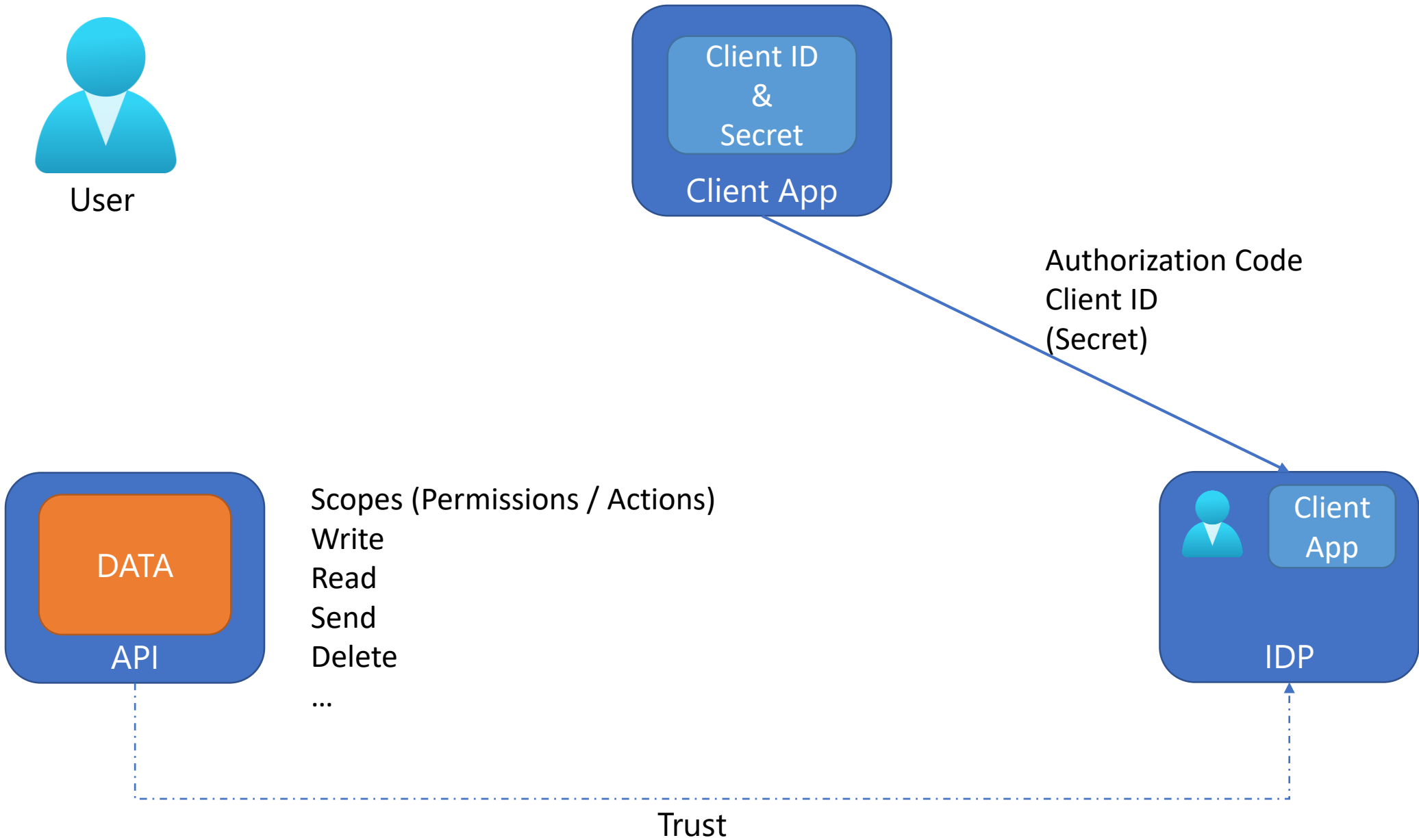


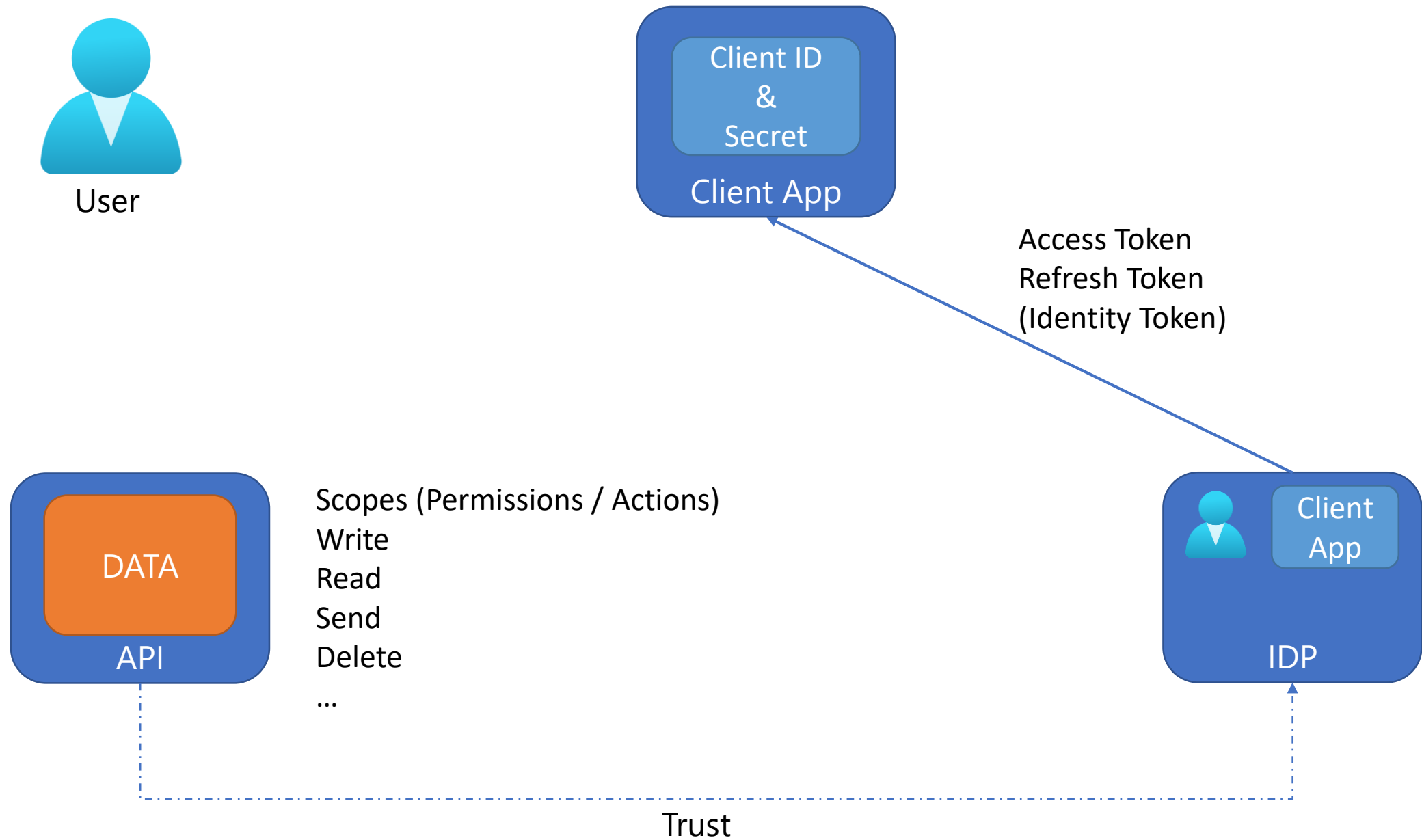
Trust

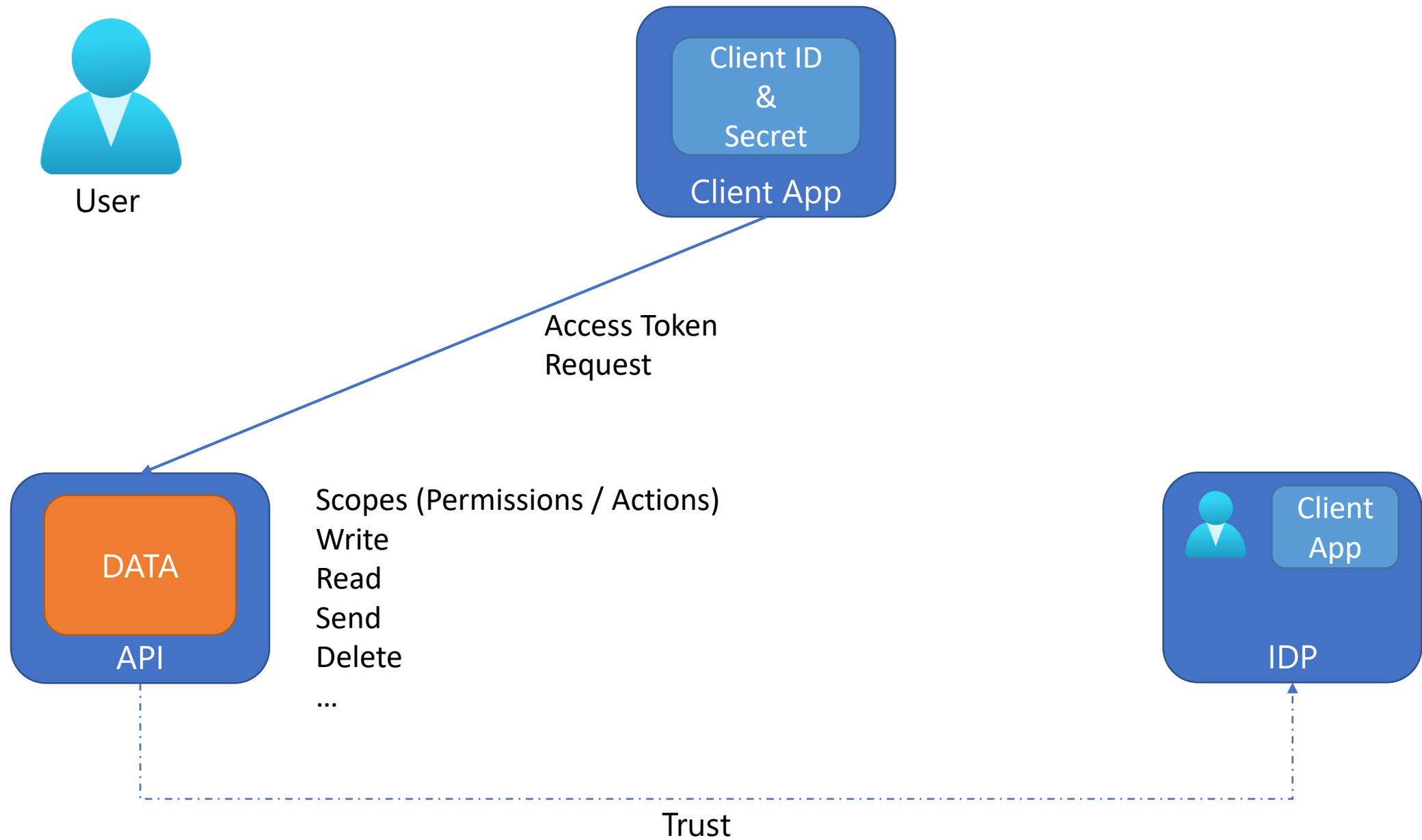


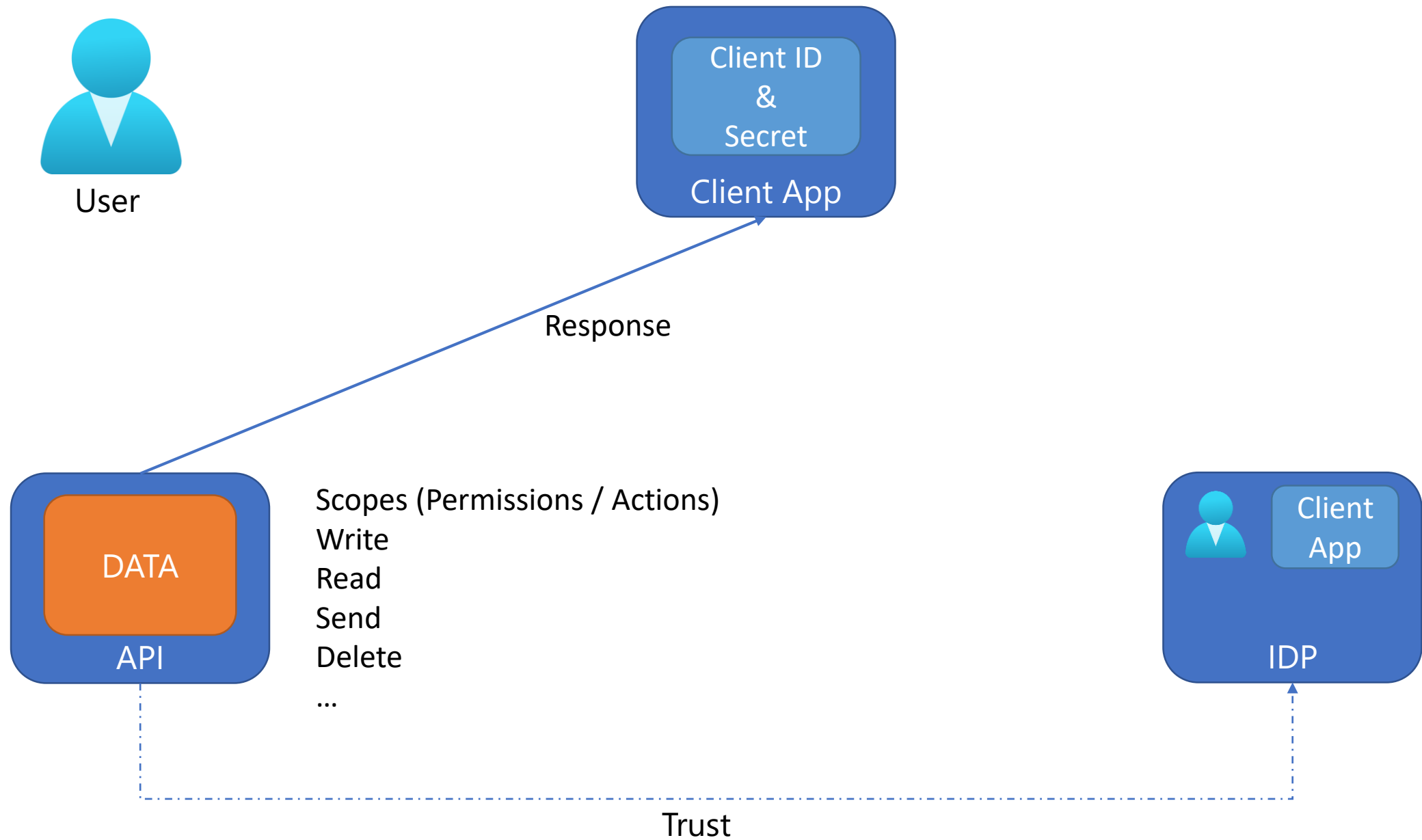




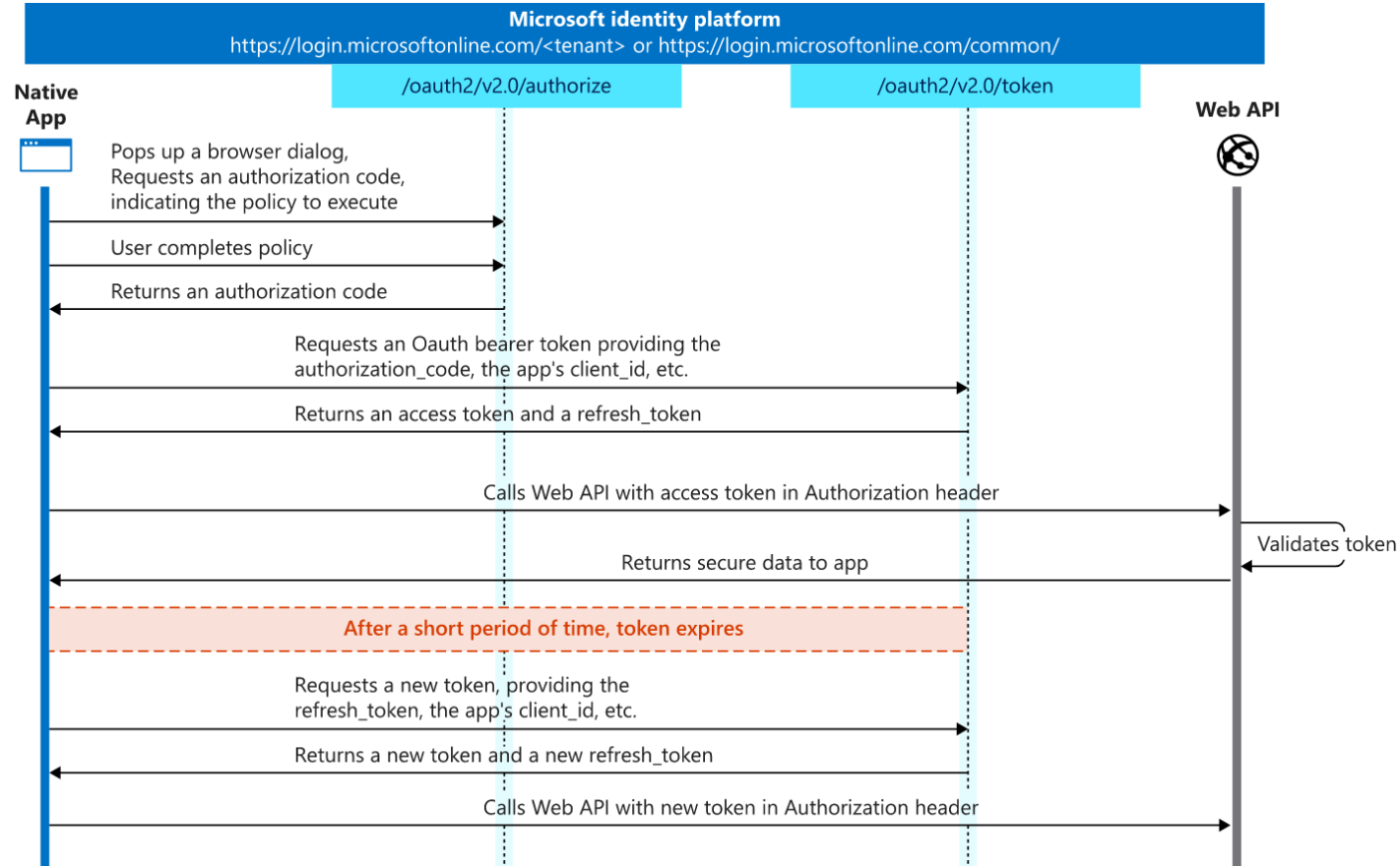








# This is how it flows ... in AAD





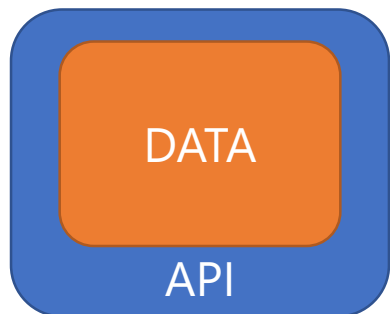
# And what about AAD now?



User



Client App



Scopes (Permissions / Actions)

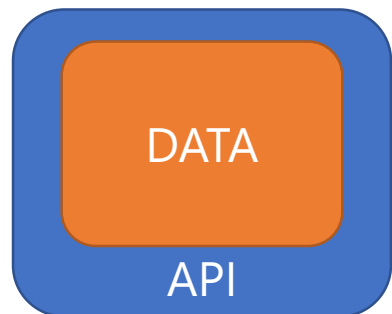
Write  
Read  
Send  
Delete  
...



Trust



User



Scopes (Permissions / Actions)

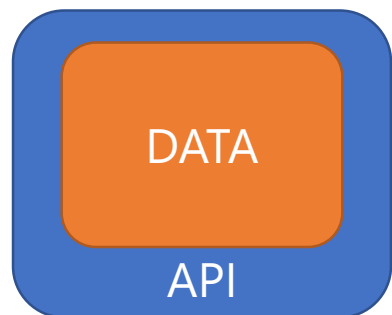
Write  
Read  
Send  
Delete  
...



Trust



User



Scopes (Permissions / Actions)

Write  
Read  
Send  
Delete  
...



Azure AD

Trust



User

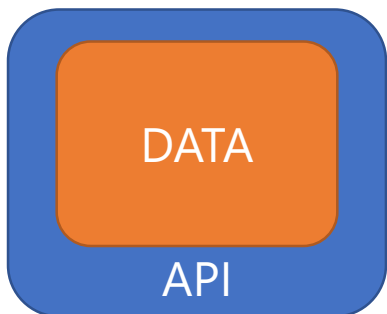


App Registration

Unique ID

Scope

Secret



Scopes (Permissions / Actions)

Write

Read

Send

Delete

...



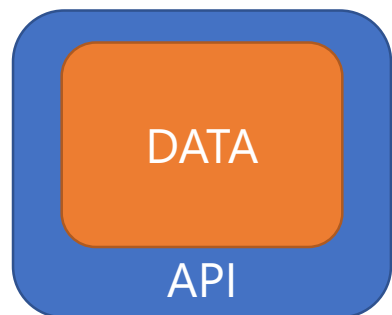
Azure AD

Trust

# DEMO?!

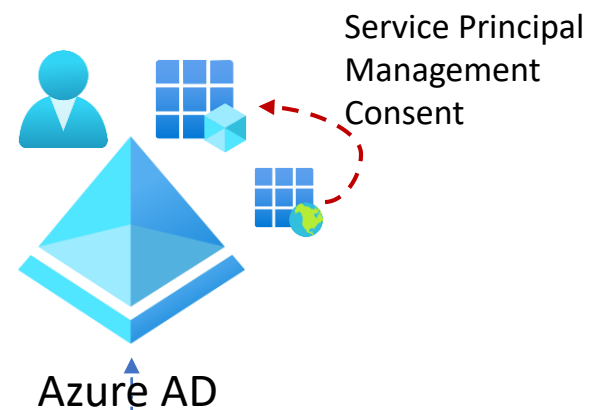


User



Scopes (Permissions / Actions)

Write  
Read  
Send  
Delete  
...



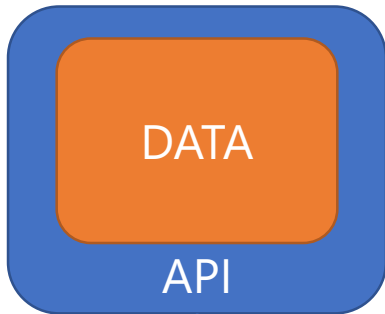
Trust

# DEMO?!





User



Scopes (Permissions / Actions)

Write  
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Delete  
...

Trust



Azure AD



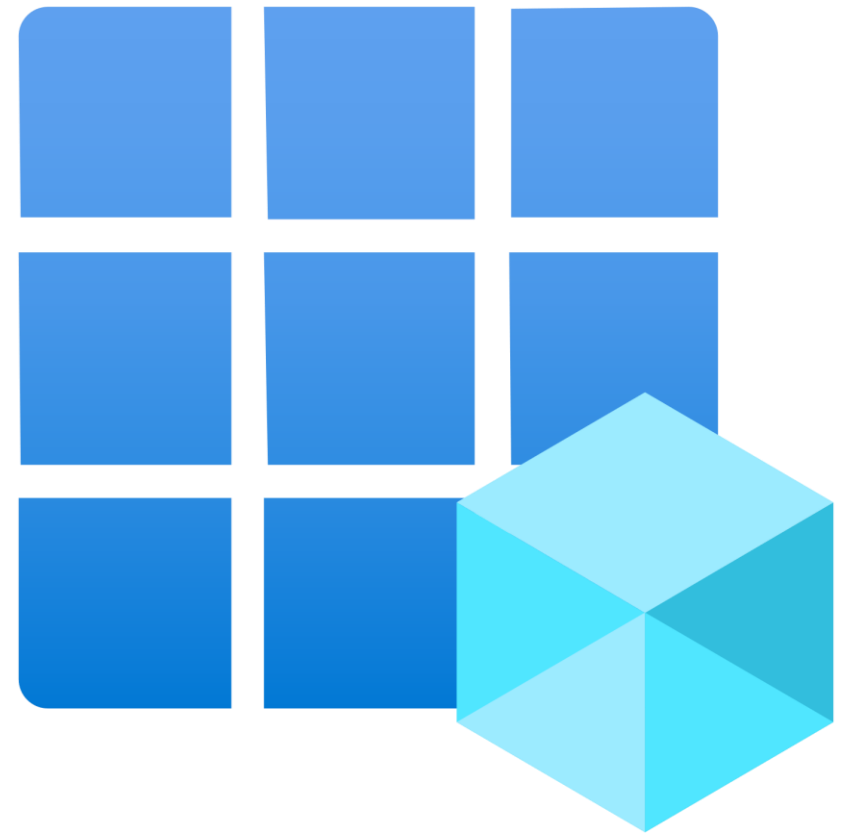
Azure AD 2

Service Principal  
Management  
Consent

# How to define it?

# Application Object – App Registration

- Created in “Home tenant”
- App Registration stays here
- App Object used as blueprint to create service principals in every tenant the app is used
- Defines 3 aspects
  - How to issue tokens
  - Resource access
  - Actions



# Service Principal Object – Enterprise App

- To access resources secured by AAD you need entity represented by security principal
  - Users = user principal
  - Applications = service principal
- Security principal defines
  - Access policy
  - Permissions



# Service Principal Object – Types

- Application
  - Representation of an app object from a single tenant
  - SPO defines what app can do, who can access, and resource access
- Managed Identity
  - Auto-managed inside Azure
  - Linked to Azure Resource
  - System or User Assigned
- Legacy
  - Legacy was created before app registration
  - Only used in tenant where it was created



# How to use it?

# Create them

- App registration
  - Create AAD Integration
  - Portal
  - PowerShell / CLI / Graph
- Enterprise App
  - IT Admin
  - Log in to 3<sup>rd</sup> party app
  - Consent

# DEMO?!



## Use them

- Access 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Apps
  - e.g. Calendly, Sessionize or others
- Assign roles in Azure
  - e.g. KeyVault Access, Resource Graph or
- Allow graph access
  - e.g. Profile, Mail or Calendar
- Service Connections
  - e.g. Azure DevOps, Management Tools or DevTools

# Best Practices?!

# Best Practices

- Redirect URIs
  - Ownership of URIs
  - HTTPS
  - Avoid wildcards
  - Manage and Monitor DNS
- Authentication
  - Avoid implicit flows
  - If not used → remove

# Best Practices

- Certificates & Secrets
  - Prefer Certs over Secrets
  - Use KeyVault with Managed Identity
  - Rollover and check usage
  - Check repos
  - Use Credential Scanner
- Owners
  - Review and Manage owners

**Thank you!**

**Questions?**

Ukova

PLEASE RATE THIS  
SESSION ON THE APP

