NCAR
NATIONAL CENTER FOR ATMOSPHERIC RESEARCH

Integrating Applications into UCAR Authentication and People DB Services Utilizing REST APIs

Bruce Sun
Web Engineering Group

NCAR
NATIONAL CENTER FOR ATMOSPHERIC RESEARCH

Topics for Today

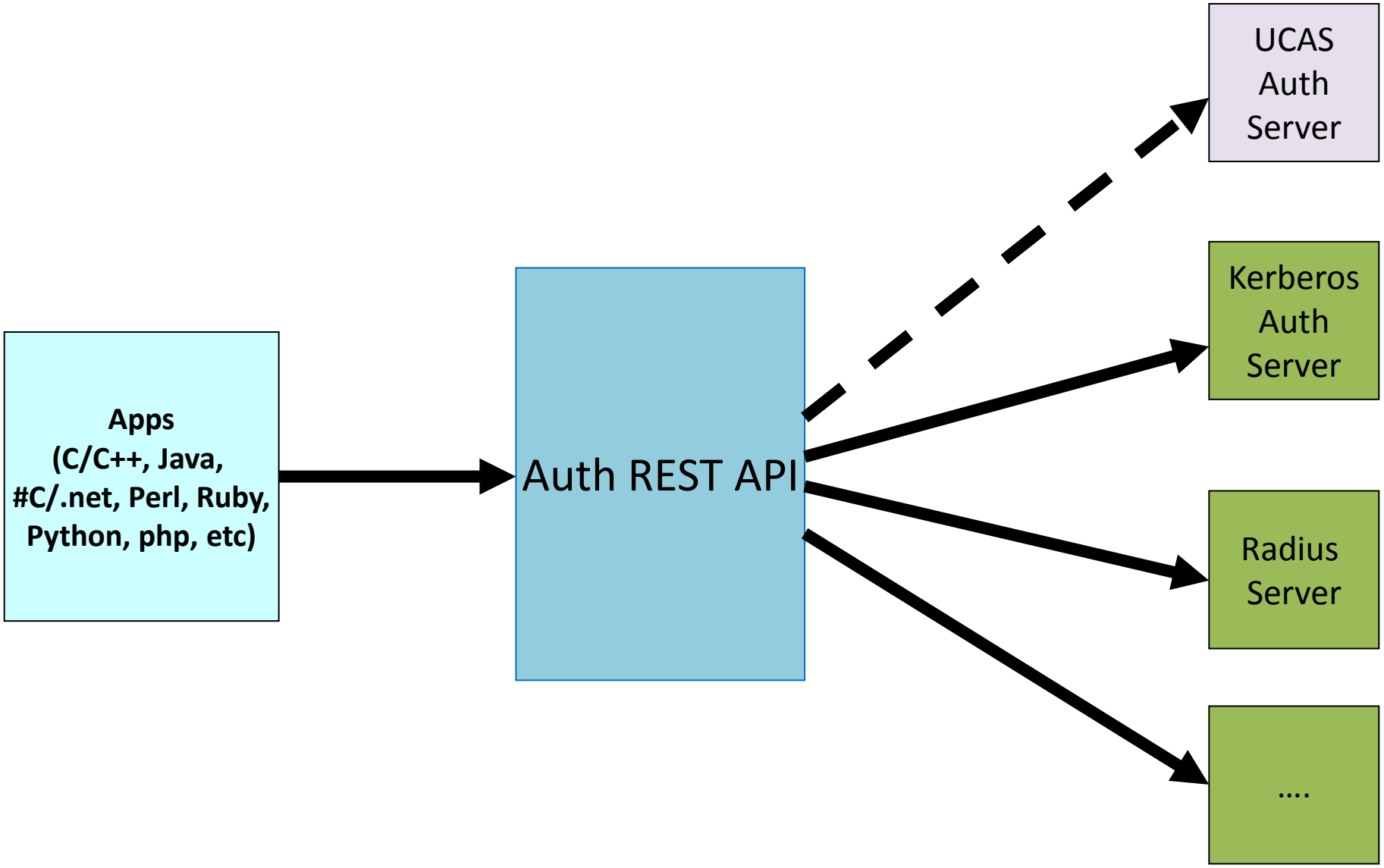
- Brief introduction to RESTful Web Services
- Auth REST APIs
- People DB
- People REST APIs

NCAR
NATIONAL CENTER FOR ATMOSPHERIC RESEARCH

What is REST API?

- REST API a.k.a RESTful Web Services
- In REST API
  - URLs are used to identify the object for the operation
  - Standard HTTP methods such as GET, PUT, DELETE are used to represent the operations
  - Params in URLs are used as parameters for the method on the server
  - Data are transferred directly on HTTP body

Auth REST API - Architecture



Auth REST API - Benefits

- REST API essentially acts as a proxy to the auth servers
- It hides the complexity to access the auth servers from the application
- When auth servers change, none or minimum changes will be needed by the applications
  - Example, When UCAS auth server is replaced by Keberos, no change was needed by the apps.

How to Use Auth REST API

- URL
  https://auth.api.ucar.edu/authenticator/rrh/authentication
- Credentials
  Login and Password
- HTTP Method
  HTTP Put
- HTTP Body

```
{
    "authType":"password",
    "username":"bsun",
    "password":"bsun"
}
```

How to Use REST API - Continued

- HTTP Response Code

  200 - Ok response

  401 – invalid credetials

  403 – invalid URL path

  500 – Server Error. Error message will be contained in HTTP Body

- HTTP Response body

  {

  “username”:<User Login>,

  “valid”:”true“ or “false”

  “firstName”:<User First Name> ,

  “lastName”:<User Last Name>

  }

Auth REST API Example - python

```
def authenticate(url, authType, username, password):
    http=httplib2.Http()
    authentication={'authType': authType, 'username': username, 'password':password}
    http.add_credentials('admin','admin')
    headers = {'Content-type': 'application/json'}
    response, content = http.request(url, 'PUT', headers=headers,
body=demjson.encode(authentication))
    status = response.status
if status == 200:
    authentication=demjson.decode(content)
    return authentication['valid']
if status == 401:
    print 'Invalid credentials for Auth Web Service Server'
if status == 500:
    print 'Server error'
    print content
```

Auth REST API Example - Java

- Write your own client
- Use WEG provided client

```
try  {
    Authentication auth=AuthClient.getAuthentication
            ("token", <username>, <yubikey or cryptal card token>);
    if (auth.isValid()) {
      // do things for successful authentication
    else
     //do things for failed authentication
 }
catch (AuthClientException ex) {
    //handle exception
}
```

Auth REST API – Integration with 3rd apps

- WEG provides libs to integrate with 3rd party apps such as Jira and Confluence.

Auth REST API – Docs & sample codes

- https://wiki.ucar.edu/display/weg/Auth+REST+API

NCAR
NATIONAL CENTER FOR ATMOSPHERIC RESEARCH

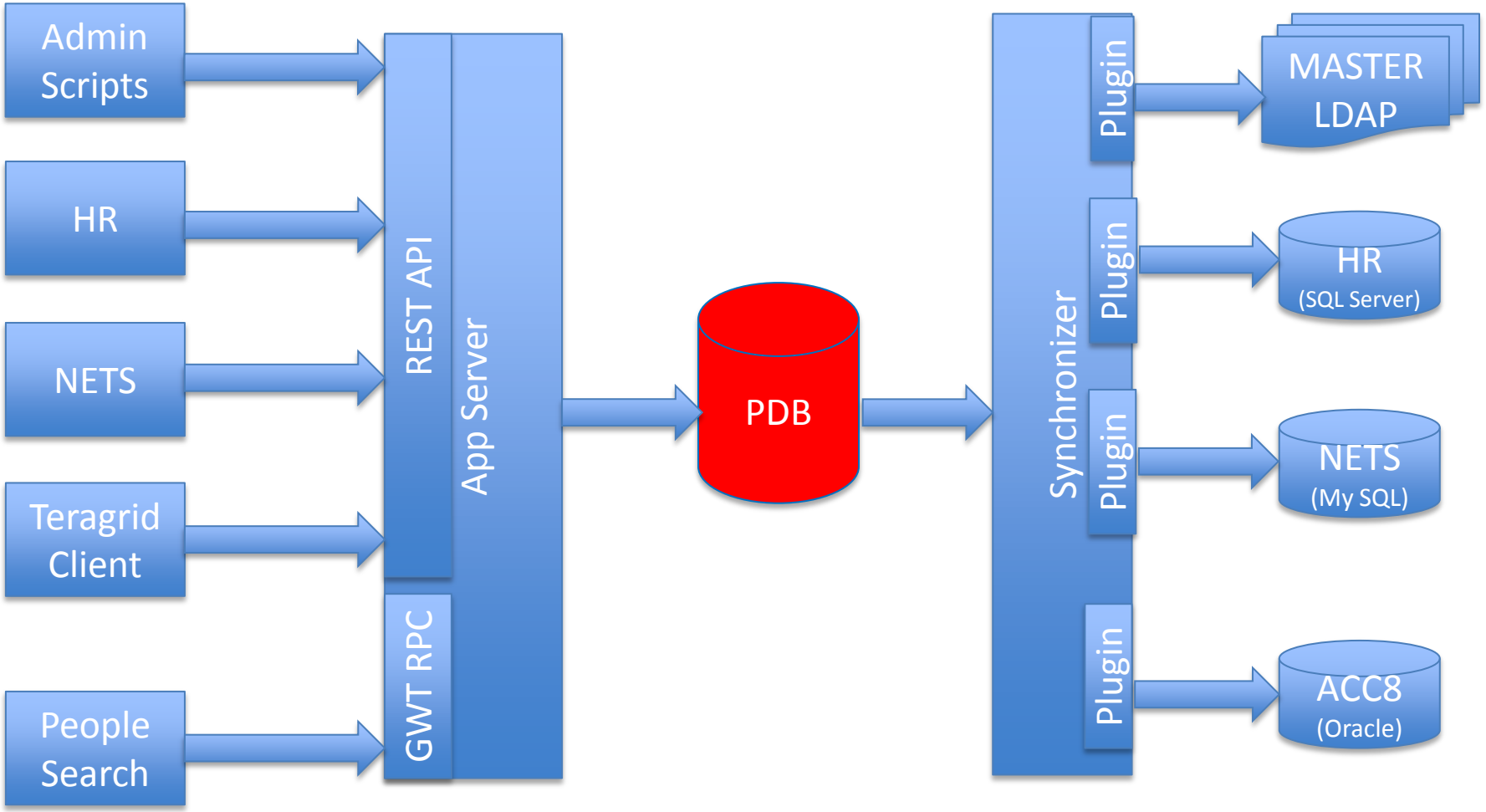
Auth REST API

- Questions?

People DB 2.0

- Bring together UCAR master metadata about people/groups/orgs into a federated service
  - Staff, visitors, collaborators
  - UCAR organizations
  - External organizations
  - Groups
  - Alias, mailbox, mailman list
  - Locations (ISO countries, ISO states, Buildings)
- Honor who is the authoritative source for the data
- Role based permission model to control who can change what
- Use Synchronizer to push data changes to down stream data consumers at real time

People DB 2.0 - Architecture



4 ways to access PDB data

- Use master LDAP
  - read only
- Subscribe to Synchronizer to have data pushed to your own data store in real time
  - read only
- Direct access to People DB (MySQL) using SQL
  - read only, not recommended
- Use People REST APIs
  - read and write

People REST APIs - WADL

- WADL (Web Application Description Language)
  - like WSDL in SOAP
  - simply GET the resource /application.wadl at the base URI
  - https://tmerapi:8203/api/application.wadl

People REST APIs -public

- Search External Persons (Collaborators)
- Get External Person (Collaborator) Detail Data
- Search Internal persons (UCAR Staff and Visitors)
- Get Internal Person Detail 2.0
- Search Persons 2.0
- Get Person Data

- Search Organizations 2.0
- Get Organization Detail 2.0
- Get Organization Hierarchy 2.0
- Get Sub Organizations 2.0

People REST APIs - Restricted

- Search Groups
- Add or Update Group
- Delete Group
- Add or Update Group Admins
- Get Group Detail Data
- Check if a person or a group or an org has permission for a group
- Get Group Admins

- Add Or Update External Organization
- Get External Organization Data
- Delete External Organization

- Add Or Update Mailbox
- Get Mailbox Detail Data
- Delete Mailbox

- Add Or Update Mailman List
- Get Mailman List Detail Data
- Delete Mailman List

- Add or Update UCAR Organization Admins
- Check if a person is an admin for another person
- Check if a person is an admin for a UCAR organization

- Get Building Data

People REST APIs – Public

- **<base URL>/<collection name>?param1=value1&param2=value2**
  - HTTP Method: GET
  - Used for Search
  - Example: https://tmerapi:8203/api/persons?name=mark
- **<base URL>/<collection name>/<id>**
  - HTTP Method: GET
  - Used for Getting detail data for an object
  - Example: https://tmerapi:8203/api/persons/bsun
- **Docs & sample codes**
  - https://wiki.ucar.edu/display/weg/People+REST+API+2.0+core+services

People REST APIs – Restricted

- **<base URL>/protected/admin/<collection name>?param1=value1&param2=value2**
  - HTTP Method: GET
  - Used for Search
  - Example: https://tmerapi:8203/api/protected/admin/groups?name=cisl

- **<base URL>/protected/admin/<collection name>/<id>**
  - HTTP Method: GET, PUT, DELETE
  - Used for Retrieving Data for an object, Add/Update an object, and Delete an object
  - Example: https://tmerapi:8203/api/protected/admin/groups/bruceGroup

People REST APIs – Restricted continued

- **For each resource, usually there are four APIs:**
  - **Search**
    - **HTTP GET**
    - https://tmerapi:8203/api/protected/admin/groups?name=cisl
  - **Add or Update:**
    - **HTTP PUT**
    - https://tmerapi:8203/api/protected/admin/groups/bruceGroup
  - **Get Detail Data**
    - **HTTP GET**
    - https://tmerapi:8203/api/protected/admin/groups/bruceGroup
  - **Delete Data**
    - **HTTP DELETE**
    - https://tmerapi:8203/api/protected/admin/groups/bruceGroup
- **Docs & Sample codes**

  https://wiki.ucar.edu/display/weg/People+REST+APIs+for+admins

People REST APIs – Search People

- Search internal persons (staff & visitors)
  - Backward compatible with PDB 1.0
  - E.g. https://tmerapi:8203/api/internalPersons?name=sun
- Search external persons (collaborators)
  - https://tmerapi:8203/api/externalPersons?adminOrg=mmm
- Search persons (staff, visitors & collaborators)
  - Provide the same search functionality as in People Search Interface
  - Supports a lot of parameters
  - Best way to construct URL is to build search in the interface, then copy/paste everything after ? In URL to Person search api: https/tmerapi:8203/api/persons?

People REST APIs – Groups

- Group Members
  - Individuals
  - Sub groups
  - Orgs
  - SQLs
  - REST APIs (in 2.1d)
- Group can be used as email alias
  - Mailboxes
  - External emails
- Group data will be sync-ed to LDAP for authorization at real time.

NCAR
NATIONAL CENTER FOR ATMOSPHERIC RESEARCH

Demo

- Search group
- Add or update group
- Set group permissions
- Group members will be pushed to LDAP immediately
- Delete a group

NCAR
NATIONAL CENTER FOR ATMOSPHERIC RESEARCH

Possible Uses of People DB

- Use LDAP for authorization
- Create & Manage global GIDs in People Search
- Keep your people data in sync with master metadata
- Refactor your People related scripts to use People REST API or LDAP as your trusted data source
- Add your external users to PDB collaborators
- Integrate your site/service user registration with PDB
- Automatic UNIX user and group creation using PADL nss_ldap plugin