



# OpenID

Practical

David Recordon  
[drecordon@verisign.com](mailto:drecordon@verisign.com)

Brian Ellin  
[brian@janrain.com](mailto:brian@janrain.com)



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# *What was OpenID 1.1?*

- An identity authentication system
- A protocol
  - gratis, libre
- Not a service or company
  - not Passport
  - not TypeKey
- Survives if companies turn evil or go out of business



# Why Was It Developed?

lame



- No authentication was way too common
- Comment spam
- Auth interop
  - LiveJournal
  - TypePad
  - Movable Type
  - WordPress
  - DeadJournal

Name:

Email Address:

URL:

Remember Me? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Comments: (you may use HTML tags for style)

Preview

Post



# *Design Goals For Auth*

- Low barrier to entry
  - Works with static HTML pages
  - Decentralized
  - Understandable identity (a URL)
    - No new namespace
    - No public keys (key revocation, etc...)
  - No SSL required
  - No browser plugins
- Most simple protocol possible
  - Other needs layered atop



# *What is OpenID 2.0?*

- An identity system framework
- Multiple protocols
  - Discovery (Yadis)
  - Authentication
    - URLs
    - i-names
  - Messaging (DTP)
  - Profile Exchange (Many layered atop DTP)
- Still not a service or company
- Open community development within the Apache Heraldry Podling



# *Design Goals For OpenID 2.0*

- Identity 2.0
  - User Centric
  - Internet Scale
  - Privacy Protecting
  - Community Driven
- Framework of interoperable specifications
  - Handful of twenty page specs versus one one-hundred-fifty page spec
- Extensible
- Interoperable



# How's Auth Work?

- Proves “who” you are
  - You own a URL or an i-name
  - One-time assertions w/ digital signature
  - See [openid.net](http://openid.net) for specs, libraries, etc
- Not a trust system...yet
  - Spammers can/will/have setup OpenID Authentication servers
  - Better than the state of email today
  - Trust/reputation providers can easily build atop the OpenID framework



# *Role of the OpenID Server*

- Provide a URL/i-name which the user “owns”
- Provide a way to authenticate users of the server
  - Auth mechanism not in OpenID spec
  - Password over SSL
  - Fingerprint, secure token, etc
    - By using strong auth in one place, all relying parties benefit
- Asserts to a relying party that the person using the browser owns the given identifier





# *Why URLs as identifier?*

- Already the convention
  - Comment by Matt at 7:23pm
  - Mouseover to see which Matt
- Users don't understand public keys
- Users don't understand namespaces
- Users associate email addresses with spam
- Users do understand URLs
  - 10+ years of billboards and TV commercials
- You can click them
  - Tangible



# *Why XRI as identifier?*

- Cool technology
- Simple
  - `http://davidrecordon.com`
  - `=david.recordon`
- Can be treated as a URL
  - `http://xri.net/=david.recordon`
- Transportable
- Complimentary
- Convergence



# Deployment

- Relying Parties
  - Six Apart's blogging properties
  - Zoomr
  - ClaimID
  - Opinity
- Patches / Active Development
  - WordPress
  - MoinMoin
  - Drupal
  - phpBB
  - MediaWiki
- Identity Providers
  - *MyOpenID.com*
  - *VeriSign Lab's Personal Identity Provider*
  - *GetOpenID.net*



# *Bounty Program*

- Implement OpenID 2.0 support as a relying party or identity provider and pass the OpenID compliance testing tool
- Are distributed as part of a project's core under an OSI-approved license
- Serve at least 200,000 internet users or 5,000 downloads per month
- Require no more than one configuration setting for an administrator to enable support
- Include the OpenID logo in the signon form
- **<http://IWantMyOpenID.org>**



# *What can you do with OpenID today?*

- Ignore building your own authentication system when writing your web app
- Open your existing web app to the millions of already OpenID enabled users
- Provide an OpenID server for your users
- Build cool services
  - Anti-spam tools
  - Trust networks
  - Reputation
- Get involved!



# Code!

- Free libraries on [openid.net](http://openid.net)
  - PHP
  - Perl
  - Python
  - C#
  - Ruby
  - Java
  - C++
- Similar API across languages
- Hides low level details of the protocol



# Delegation

- You may use a URL that you own without running your own OpenID server
- Have account <http://brian.myopenid.com/>
- Can verify <http://brianellin.com> by embedding:

```
<head>  
  <link rel="openid.delegate" href="http://brian.myopenid.com/" />  
  <link rel="openid.server" href="http://www.myopenid.com/server" />  
</head>
```

OR using Yadis

```
<xrds:XRDS>  
  <XRD>  
    <Service>  
      <Type>http://openid.net/signon/1.1</Type>  
      <URI>http://http://www.myopenid.com/server</URI>  
      <OpenID:Delegate>http://brian.myopenid.com</OpenID:Delegate>  
    </Service>  
  </XRD>  
</xrds:XRDS>
```



# *OpenID Consumer Demo*

1. Enter URL on OpenID consumer
2. Consumer redirects browser to server
3. Enter credentials on server, and approve transaction
4. Redirect back to consumer with server signed identity assertion





# *Verifying an OpenID URL*

- Example in Ruby, but applies to all JanRain OpenID libraries
- Start with the `OpenID::Consumer` and `OpenID::Store` objects

```
store = OpenID::FilesystemStore.new('/path/')
```

```
consumer = OpenID::Consumer.new(session,store)
```



# *Begin the OpenID Transaction*

```
request = consumer.begin(params[:openid_url])
```

- Finds the OpenID server for the URL
- Associates with server (shared secret exchange using Diffie-Hellman)



# *Redirect to OpenID Server*

```
if request.status == OpenID::SUCCESS
  return_to = 'http://example.com/openid-response'
  trust_root = 'http://example.com/'
  redirect_to request.redirect_url(trust_root, return_to)
end
```

- Using the response object, we generate a server URL to which we redirect the user
- return\_to is the URL on our site which will handle the server response
- trust\_root is a string “descending” from the return\_to which is used to identify the consumer site on the server



## *User authenticates with server*

- At this point, the user's browser has been redirected to their OpenID server
- User provides authentication credentials to server
- Server redirects back to consumer with assertion of ownership



# *Handle OpenID Server Response*

```
response = consumer.complete(params)
if response.status == OpenID::SUCCESS
  openid_url = response.identity_url
end
```

- params is a dictionary like object of HTTP query parameters
- The complete method checks the identity assertion and response signature
- response.identity\_url is the user's verified identifier
- OpenID::SUCCESS!



# Questions?

[www.OpenID.net](http://www.OpenID.net)

[www.OpenIDEnabled.com](http://www.OpenIDEnabled.com)

[www.IWantMyOpenID.org](http://www.IWantMyOpenID.org)

[yadis@lists.danga.com](mailto:yadis@lists.danga.com)

David Recordon ([drecordon@verisign.com](mailto:drecordon@verisign.com))

Brian Ellin ([brian@janrain.com](mailto:brian@janrain.com))

