

Web Authorization Protocol
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Identity Assertion JWT Authorization Grant draft-ietf-oauth-identity-assertion-authz-grant-01

Abstract

This specification provides a mechanism for an application to use an identity assertion to obtain an access token for a third-party API by coordinating through a common enterprise identity provider using Token Exchange [RFC8693] and JWT Profile for OAuth 2.0 Authorization Grants [RFC7523].

About This Document

This note is to be removed before publishing as an RFC.

The latest revision of this draft can be found at <https://drafts.oauth.net/oauth-identity-assertion-authz-grant/draft-ietf-oauth-identity-assertion-authz-grant.html>. Status information for this document may be found at <https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/draft-ietf-oauth-identity-assertion-authz-grant/>.

Discussion of this document takes place on the Web Authorization Protocol Working Group mailing list (<mailto:oauth@ietf.org>), which is archived at <https://mailarchive.ietf.org/arch/browse/oauth/>. Subscribe at <https://www.ietf.org/mailman/listinfo/oauth/>.

Source for this draft and an issue tracker can be found at <https://github.com/oauth-wg/oauth-identity-assertion-authz-grant>.

Status of This Memo

This Internet-Draft is submitted in full conformance with the provisions of BCP 78 and BCP 79.

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1. Introduction

In typical enterprise scenarios, applications are configured for single sign-on to the enterprise identity provider (IdP) using OpenID Connect or SAML. This enables users to access all the necessary enterprise applications using a single account at the IdP, and enables the enterprise to manage which users can access which applications.

When one application wants to access a user's data at another application, it will start an interactive OAuth flow [RFC6749] to obtain an access token for the application on behalf of the user. This OAuth flow enables a direct app-to-app connection between the two apps, and is not visible to the IdP used to log in to each app.

This specification enables this kind of "Cross App Access" to be managed by the enterprise IdP, similar to how the IdP manages single sign-on to individual applications.

The draft specification Identity Chaining Across Trust Domains [I-D.ietf-oauth-identity-chaining] defines how to request a JWT authorization grant from an Authorization Server and exchange it for an Access Token at another Authorization Server in a different trust domain. The specification combines OAuth 2.0 Token Exchange [RFC8693] and JSON Web Token (JWT) Profile for OAuth 2.0 Client Authentication and Authorization Grants [RFC7523]. The draft supports multiple different use cases by leaving many details of the token exchange request and JWT authorization grant unspecified.

This specification defines the additional details necessary to support interoperable implementations in enterprise scenarios when two applications are configured for single sign-on to the same enterprise identity provider. In particular, this specification uses identity assertions as the input to the token exchange request. This

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way, the same enterprise identity provider that is trusted by applications for single sign-on can be extended to broker access to APIs.

2. Conventions and Definitions

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "NOT RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in BCP 14 [RFC2119] [RFC8174] when, and only when, they appear in all capitals, as shown here.

2.1. Roles

Client The application that wants to obtain an OAuth 2.0 access token on behalf of a signed-in user to an external/3rd party application's API (Resource Server below). In [I-D.ietf-oauth-identity-chaining], this is the Client in trust domain A. The application has a direct relationship with the IdP Authorization Server for single sign-on as a Relying Party and another independent OAuth 2.0 client relationship with the Resource Authorization Server in trust domain B.

IdP Authorization Server (IdP) A SAML 2.0 Identity Provider or OpenID Connect Provider (OP) [OpenID.Core] that issues identity assertions for single sign-on and cross-domain authorization grants Section 3 for a set of trusted applications in an organization's application ecosystem. In [I-D.ietf-oauth-identity-chaining], this is the Authorization Server in trust domain A, which is also trusted by the Resource Authorization Server in trust domain B.

Resource Authorization Server (AS) Issues OAuth 2.0 access tokens for protected resources provided by the Resource Server. In [I-D.ietf-oauth-identity-chaining], this is the Authorization Server in trust domain B, and trusts cross-domain authorization grants Section 3 from the IdP Authorization Server.

Resource Server (RS) Hosts protected resources and validates access tokens issued by the Resource Authorization Server. In [I-D.ietf-oauth-identity-chaining], this is the Protected Resource in trust domain B. The Resource Server has no direct trust relationship with the IdP Authorization Server. Instead, it validates access tokens issued by its trusted Resource Authorization Server to determine who should have access to resources.

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3. Identity Assertion JWT Authorization Grant

The Identity Assertion JWT Authorization Grant (ID-JAG) is a profile of the JWT Authorization Grant [RFC7523] that grants a client delegated access to a resource in another trust domain on behalf of a user without a direct user-approval step at the authorization server.

An Identity Assertion JWT Authorization Grant is issued and signed by an IdP similar to an ID Token [OpenID.Core], and contains claims about an end-user. Instead of being issued for a client (Relying Party in [OpenID.Core]) as the intended audience for the assertion, it is instead issued with an audience of an Authorization Server in another trust domain. It replaces the need for the client to obtain an authorization code from the Resource Authorization Server to delegate access to the client, and instead uses the IdP which is trusted by the Authorization Server to delegate access to the client.

As described in [OpenID.Core], ID Tokens are only intended to be processed by the Relying Party (indicated by the ID Token audience) or the Issuer (e.g. for revocation), and not by other actors in a different trust domain such as an Authorization Server.

The following claims are used within the Identity Assertion JWT Authorization Grant:

iss: REQUIRED – The issuer identifier of the IdP authorization server as defined in [RFC8414]

sub: REQUIRED – The subject identifier (e.g. user ID) of the resource owner at the Resource Authorization Server as defined in [OpenID.Core]

aud: REQUIRED – The issuer identifier of the Resource Authorization Server as defined in [RFC8414]

client_id: REQUIRED – An identifier of the client that will act on behalf of the resource owner. It MUST be recognized by the Resource Authorization Server. For interoperability, the client identifier SHOULD be a client_id as defined in Section 4.3 of [RFC8693]. See Section 5 for additional considerations.

jti: REQUIRED – Unique ID of this JWT as defined in Section 4.1.7 of [RFC7519]

exp: REQUIRED – as defined in Section 4.1.4 of [RFC7519]

iat: REQUIRED – as defined in Section 4.1.6 of [RFC7519]

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resource: OPTIONAL – The Resource Identifier (Section 2 of [RFC8707]) of the Resource Server (either a single URI or an array of URIs)

scope: OPTIONAL – a JSON string containing a space-separated list of scopes associated with the token, in the format described in Section 3.3 of [RFC6749]

tenant: OPTIONAL – JSON string that represents the tenant identifier for a multi-tenant issuer as defined in [OpenID.Enterprise]

auth_time: OPTIONAL – Time when end-user authenticated to the client as defined in [OpenID.Core]

acr: OPTIONAL – Authentication Context Class Reference that was satisfied when authenticating the end-user as defined in [OpenID.Core]

amr: OPTIONAL – Identifiers for authentication methods used when authenticating the end-user as defined in [OpenID.Core]

The typ of the JWT indicated in the JWT header MUST be oauth-id-jag+jwt. Using typed JWTs is a recommendation of the JSON Web Token Best Current Practices (Section 3.11 of [RFC8725]).

A non-normative example JWT with expanded header and payload claims is below:

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```
{
  "typ": "oauth-id-jag+jwt"
}
{
  "jti": "9e43f81b64a33f20116179",
  "iss": "https://acme.idp.example",
  "sub": "U019488227",
  "aud": "https://acme.chat.example/",
  "client_id": "f53f191f9311af35",
  "exp": 1311281970,
  "iat": 1311280970,
  "resource": "https://acme.chat.example/api",
  "scope": "chat.read chat.history",
  "auth_time": 1311280970,
  "amr": [
    "mfa",
    "phrh",
    "hwk",
    "user"
  ]
}
.
signature
```

The Identity Assertion JWT Authorization Grant may contain additional Authentication, Identity, or Authorization claims that are valid for an ID Token as the grant functions as an identity assertion for the Resource App.

Implementation notes:

- * sub should be an opaque ID, as iss+sub is unique. The IdP might want to also include the user's email here, which it should do as a new email claim. This would let the app dedupe existing users who may have an account with an email address but have not done SSO yet.

4. Cross-Domain Access

4.1. Overview

The example flow is for an enterprise acme, which uses a multi-tenant wiki app and chat app from different vendors, both of which are integrated into the enterprise's multi-tenant Identity Provider using OpenID Connect.

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Role	App URL	Tenant URL	Description
Client	https://wiki.example	https://acme.wiki.example	Wiki app that embeds content from one or more resource servers
Resource Authorization Server	https://chat.example	https://acme.chat.example	Authorization Server for an chat and communication app
Identity Provider Authorization Server	https://idp.example	https://acme.idp.example	Enterprise Identity Provider
Resource Server	https://api.chat.example	https://api.chat.example	Public API for the chat and communications app

Table 1

Sequence Diagram

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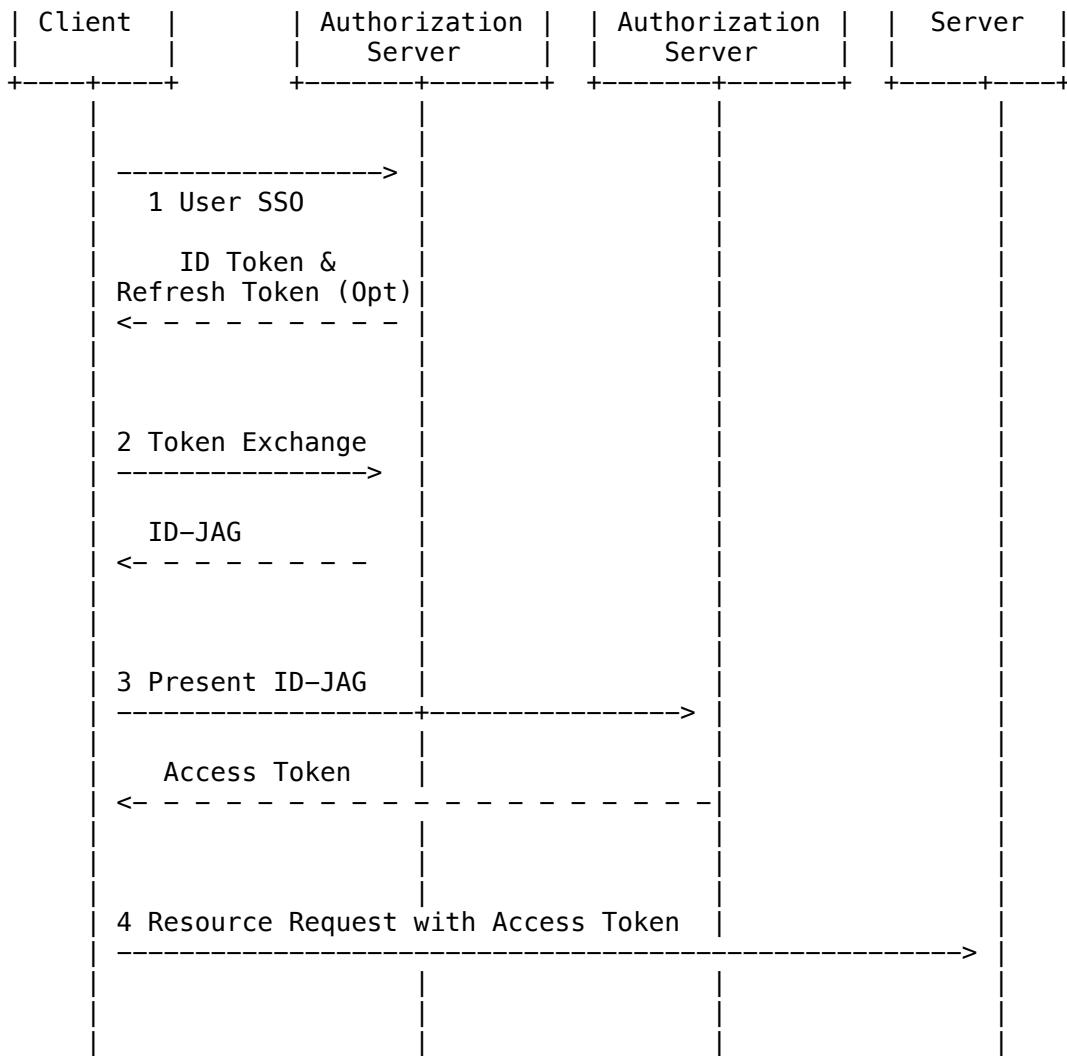
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	IdP	Resource	Resource



1. User authenticates with the IdP Authorization Server, the Client obtains an Identity Assertion (e.g. OpenID Connect ID Token or SAML 2.0 assertion) for the user and optionally a Refresh Token (when using OpenID Connect) and signs the user in
2. Client uses the Identity Assertion to request an Identity Assertion JWT Authorization Grant for the Resource Authorization Server from the IdP Authorization Server

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3. Client exchanges the Identity Assertion JWT Authorization Grant for an Access Token at the Resource Authorization Server's token endpoint
4. Client makes an API request to the Resource Server with the Access Token

This specification is constrained to deployments where a set of Resource Authorization Servers for applications used by an organization are trusting the same IdP Authorization Server for Single Sign-On (SSO). The IdP Authorization Server provides a

consistent trust boundary and user identity for the set of Resource Authorization Servers to honor the ID-JAG issued by the IdP. The Resource Authorization Server not only delegates user authentication but also delegates user authorization authority to the IdP Authorization Server for the scopes and resource specified in the ID-JAG and does not need obtain user consent directly from the resource owner.

4.2. User Authentication

The Client initiates an authentication request with the IdP using OpenID Connect or SAML.

The following is an example using OpenID Connect

302 Redirect

Location: https://acme.idp.example/authorize?response_type=code&scope=openid%20offline_access&client_id=...

The user authenticates with the IdP, and is redirected back to the Client with an authorization code, which it can then exchange for an ID Token and optionally a Refresh Token when offline_access scope is requested per [OpenID.Core].

Note: The IdP Authorization Server may enforce security controls such as multi-factor authentication before granting the user access to the Client.

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```
POST /token HTTP/1.1
Host: acme.idp.example
Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded
```

```
grant_type=authorization_code
&code=.....
```

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Content-Type: application/json
```

```
{
  "id_token": "eyJraWQi0iJzMTZ0cVNT0DhwREo4VGZCXzdrSEtQ...",
  "token_type": "Bearer",
  "access_token": "7SliwCQP1brGdjBtsaMnXo",
  "refresh_token": "tGzv3J0kF0XG5Qx2TlKWIA",
  "scope": "openid offline_access"
}
```

4.3. Token Exchange

The Client makes a Token Exchange [RFC8693] request to the IdP's Token Endpoint with the following parameters:

`requested_token_type`: REQUIRED – The value `urn:ietf:params:oauth:token-type:id-jag` indicates that an ID Assertion JWT is being requested.

`audience`: REQUIRED – The Issuer URL of the Resource Authorization Server as defined in Section 2 of [RFC8414].

`resource`: OPTIONAL – The Resource Identifier of the Resource Server as defined in Section 2 of [RFC8707].

`scope`: OPTIONAL – The space-separated list of scopes at the Resource Server that is being requested.

`subject_token`: REQUIRED – The identity assertion (e.g. the OpenID Connect ID Token or SAML assertion) for the target end-user.

`subject_token_type`: REQUIRED – An identifier, as described in Section 3 of [RFC8693], that indicates the type of the security token in the `subject_token` parameter. For an OpenID Connect ID Token: `urn:ietf:params:oauth:token-type:id_token`, or for a SAML assertion: `urn:ietf:params:oauth:token-type:saml2`.

The additional parameters defined in Section 2.1 of [RFC8693] `actor_token` and `actor_token_type` are not used in this specification.

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Client authentication to the authorization server is done using the standard mechanisms provided by OAuth 2.0. Section 2.3.1 of [RFC6749] defines password-based authentication of the client (`client_id` and `client_secret`), however, client authentication is extensible and other mechanisms are possible. For example, [RFC7523] defines client authentication using bearer JSON Web Tokens using `client_assertion` and `client_assertion_type`.

The example below uses an ID Token as the Identity Assertion, and uses a JWT Bearer Assertion [RFC7523] as the client authentication method, (tokens truncated for brevity):

```
POST /oauth2/token HTTP/1.1
Host: acme.idp.example
Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded

grant_type=urn:ietf:params:oauth:grant-type:token-exchange
&requested_token_type=urn:ietf:params:oauth:token-type:id-jag
&audience=https://acme.chat.example/
&resource=https://api.chat.example/
&scope=chat.read+chat.history
&subject_token=eyJraWQiOiJzMTZ0cVNtODhwREo4VGZCXzdrSEtQ...
&subject_token_type=urn:ietf:params:oauth:token-type:id_token
&client_assertion_type=urn:ietf:params:oauth:client-assertion-type:jwt-bearer
&client_assertion=eyJhbGciOiJSUzI1NiIsImtpZCI6IjIyIn0...
```

4.3.1. Processing Rules

The IdP MUST validate the subject token, and MUST validate that the audience of the Subject Token (e.g. the aud claim of the ID Token) matches the client_id of the client authentication of the request.

The IdP evaluates administrator-defined policy for the token exchange request and determines if the client should be granted access to act on behalf of the subject for the target audience and scopes.

The IdP may also introspect the authentication context described in the SSO assertion to determine if step-up authentication is required.

4.3.2. Response

If access is granted, the IdP creates a signed Identity Assertion JWT Authorization Grant (Section 3) and returns it in the token exchange response defined in Section 2.2 of [RFC8693]:

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HTTP/1.1 200 OK

Content-Type: application/json

Cache-Control: no-store

Pragma: no-cache

```
{
  "issued_token_type": "urn:ietf:params:oauth:token-type:id-jag",
  "access_token": "eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiIsI...",
  "token_type": "N_A",
  "scope": "chat.read chat.history",
  "expires_in": 300
}
```

issued_token_type: REQUIRED – urn:ietf:params:oauth:token-type:id-jag

access_token: REQUIRED – The Identity Assertion JWT Authorization Grant. (Note: Token Exchange requires the access_token response parameter for historical reasons, even though this is not an OAuth access token.)

token_type: REQUIRED – N_A (because this is not an OAuth access token.)

scope: OPTIONAL if the scope of the issued token is identical to the scope requested by the client; otherwise, it is REQUIRED. Various policies in the IdP may result in different scopes being issued from the scopes the application requested.

expires_in: RECOMMENDED – The lifetime in seconds of the authorization grant.

refresh_token: OPTIONAL according to Section 2.2 of [RFC8693]. In the context of this specification, this parameter SHOULD NOT be used.

4.3.2.1. Issued Identity Assertion JWT Authorization Grant

The following is a non-normative example of the issued token

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```
{
  "typ": "oauth-id-jag+jwt"
}
.
{
  "jti": "9e43f81b64a33f20116179",
  "iss": "https://acme.idp.example/",
  "sub": "U019488227",
  "aud": "https://acme.chat.example/",
  "client_id": "f53f191f9311af35",
  "exp": 1311281970,
  "iat": 1311280970,
  "resource": "https://api.chat.example/",
  "scope": "chat.read chat.history",
  "auth_time": 1311280970,
  "amr": [
    "mfa",
    "phrh",
    "hwk",
    "user"
  ]
}
.
signature
```

4.3.2.2. Error Response

On an error condition, the IdP returns an OAuth 2.0 Token Error response as defined in Section 5.2 of [RFC6749], e.g:

```
HTTP/1.1 400 Bad Request
Content-Type: application/json
Cache-Control: no-store
```

```
{
  "error": "invalid_grant",
  "error_description": "Audience validation failed"
}
```

4.4. Access Token Request

The Client makes an access token request to the Resource Authorization Server's token endpoint using the previously obtained Identity Assertion JWT Authorization Grant as a JWT Bearer Assertion as defined by [RFC7523].

grant_type: REQUIRED – The value of grant_type is
urn:ietf:params:oauth:grant-type:jwt-bearer

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assertion: REQUIRED – The Identity Assertion JWT Authorization Grant obtained in the previous token exchange step

The Client authenticates with its credentials as registered with the Resource Authorization Server.

For example:

```
POST /oauth2/token HTTP/1.1
Host: acme.chat.example
Authorization: Basic yZS1yYW5kb20tc2VjcmV0v3J0kF0XG5Qx2

grant_type=urn:ietf:params:oauth:grant-type:jwt-bearer
assertion=eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiIsI...
```

4.4.1. Processing Rules

All of Section 5.2 of [RFC7521] applies, in addition to the following processing rules:

- * Validate the JWT typ is oauth-id-jag+jwt (per Section 3.11 of [RFC8725])
- * The aud claim MUST identify the Issuer URL of the Resource Authorization Server as the intended audience of the JWT.
- * The client_id claim MUST identify the same client as the client authentication in the request.
- * The Resource Authorization Server MUST follow Section 3.3 of [RFC6749] when processing the scope claim.

4.4.2. Response

The Resource Authorization Server's token endpoint responds with an OAuth 2.0 Token Response, e.g.:

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Content-Type: application/json; charset=UTF-8
Cache-Control: no-store
Pragma: no-cache

{
  "token_type": "Bearer",
  "access_token": "2YotnFZFEjr1zCsicMWpAA",
  "expires_in": 86400,
  "scope": "chat.read chat.history"
}
```

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4.4.3. Refresh Token

The Resource Authorization Server SHOULD NOT return a Refresh Token when an Identity Assertion JWT Authorization is exchanged for an Access Token per Section 5.2 of [I-D.ietf-oauth-identity-chaining].

When the access token has expired, clients SHOULD re-submit the original Identity Assertion JWT Authorization Grant to obtain a new Access Token. The ID-JAG replaces the use Refresh Token for the Resource Authorization Server.

If the ID-JAG has expired, the Client SHOULD request a new ID-JAG from the IdP Authorization Server before presenting it to the Resource Authorization Server using the original Identity Assertion from the IdP (e.g ID Token)

If the ID Token is expired, the Client MAY use the Refresh Token obtained from the IdP during SSO to obtain a new ID Token which it can exchange for a new ID-JAG. If the Client is unable to obtain a new Identity Assertion with a Refresh Token then it SHOULD re-authenticate the user by redirecting to the IdP.

5. Cross-Domain Client ID Handling

There are three separate OAuth/OpenID Connect/SAML relationships involved in this flow:

- * Client to IdP Authorization Server (OpenID Connect or SAML)
- * Client to Resource Authorization Server (OAuth)
- * Resource Authorization Server to IdP Authorization Server (OpenID Connect or SAML)

Each relationship is typically represented by independent client registrations between each party. For example, the IdP Authorization Server typically issues a Client ID for both the Client and Resource Authorization Server to use for single sign-on with OpenID Connect as a Relying Party. Similarly, the Resource Authorization Server typically issues a Client ID for the Client to use for API access to the Resource Server. The Client may choose to use different client credentials with each registration.

In this flow, the IdP Authorization Server accepts a Token Exchange request from the Client, and issues an ID-JAG that will be consumed by the Resource Authorization Server. This means the IdP Authorization Server needs to know about the relationship between the Client and the Resource Authorization Server, in order to include a `client_id` claim in the ID-JAG that will be recognized by the Resource Authorization Server.

This can be handled by the IdP Authorization Server maintaining a record of each client_id used between Clients and Resource Authorization Servers, which will need to be obtained by out-of-band mechanisms. The Client still needs to authenticate using its registered credential with the Resource Authorization Server when presenting the ID-JAG for the mapped client_id. Requiring a confidential client helps to prevent the IdP Authorization Server from delegating access to any of the valid clients for the Resource Authorization Server.

Note: The IdP Authorization Server is also responsible for mapping subject identifiers across Clients and trust domains in the ID-JAG. The same user may have a pair-wise subject identifier issued in an ID Token for SSO to the Client and another with SSO to the Resource Authorization Server as a Relying Party. The Resource Authorization Server needs consistent subject identifiers for account resolution for both SSO and API access. The IdP Authorization Server needs to ensure that the subject identifier issued in the ID-JAG is the same identifier for the user that it would have included in an ID Token intended for the Resource Authorization Server.

Alternatively, if clients use "Client ID Metadata Document" [I-D.ietf-oauth-client-id-metadata-document] as their client identifiers, this acts as a shared global namespace of Client IDs and removes the need for the IdP Authorization Server to maintain a mapping of each client registration.

6. Authorization Server (IdP) Metadata

An IdP can advertise its support for this profile in its OAuth Authorization Server Metadata [RFC8414]. Identity and Authorization Chaining Across Domains [I-D.ietf-oauth-identity-chaining] defines a new metadata property `identity_chaining_requested_token_types_supported` for this purpose.

To advertise support for the Identity Assertion JWT Authorization Grant, the authorization server SHOULD include the following value in the `identity_chaining_requested_token_types_supported` property:

`urn:ietf:params:oauth:token-type:id-jag`

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7. Security Considerations

7.1. Client Authentication

This specification SHOULD only be supported for confidential clients. Public clients SHOULD use the existing authorization code grant and redirect the user to the Resource Authorization Server with an OAuth 2.0 Authorization Request where the user can interactively consent to the access delegation.

7.2. Step-Up Authentication

In the initial token exchange request, the IdP may require step-up authentication for the subject if the authentication context in the subject's assertion does not meet policy requirements. An `insufficient_user_authentication` OAuth error response may be returned to convey the authentication requirements back to the client similar

to OAuth 2.0 Step-up Authentication Challenge Protocol [RFC9470].

```
HTTP/1.1 400 Bad Request
Content-Type: application/json
Cache-Control: no-store

{
  "error": "insufficient_user_authentication",
  "error_description": "Subject doesn't meet authentication requirements",
  "max_age": 5
}
```

The Client would need to redirect the user back to the IdP to obtain a new assertion that meets the requirements and retry the token exchange.

TBD: It may make more sense to request the Identity Assertion JWT Authorization Grant in the authorization request if using OpenID Connect for SSO when performing a step-up to skip the need for additional token exchange round-trip.

7.3. Cross-Domain Use

This specification is intended for cross-domain uses where the Client, Resource App, and Identity Provider are all in different trust domains. In particular, the Identity Provider MUST NOT issue access tokens in response to an ID-JAG it issued itself. Doing so could lead to unintentional broadening of the scope of authorization.

8. IANA Considerations

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8.1. Media Types

This section registers oauth-id-jag+jwt, a new media type [RFC2046] in the "Media Types" registry [IANA.media-types] in the manner described in [RFC6838]. It can be used to indicate that the content is an Identity Assertion JWT Authorization Grant.

8.2. OAuth URI Registration

This section registers urn:ietf:params:oauth:token-type:id-jag in the "OAuth URI" subregistry of the "OAuth Parameters" registry [IANA.oauth-parameters].

- * URN: urn:ietf:params:oauth:token-type:id-jag
- * Common Name: Token type URI for an Identity Assertion JWT Authorization Grant
- * Change Controller: IETF
- * Specification Document: This document

8.3. JSON Web Token Claims Registration

This section registers resource in the "JSON Web Token Claims" subregistry of the "JSON Web Token (JWT)" registry [IANA.jwt]. The

"JSON Web Token Claims" subregistry was established by [RFC7519].

- * Claim Name: resource
- * Claim Description: Resource
- * Change Controller: IETF
- * Specification Document(s): Section 3

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9.1. Normative References

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Appendix A. Use Cases

A.1. Enterprise Deployment

Enterprises often have hundreds of SaaS applications. SaaS applications often have integrations to other SaaS applications that are critical to the application experience and jobs to be done. When a SaaS app needs to request an access token on behalf of a user to a 3rd party SaaS integration's API, the end-user typically needs to complete an interactive delegated OAuth 2.0 flow, as the SaaS application is not in the same security or policy domain as the 3rd party SaaS integration.

It is industry best practice for an enterprise to connect their ecosystem of SaaS applications to their Identity Provider (IdP) to centralize identity and access management capabilities for the organization. End-users get a better experience (SSO) and administrators get better security outcomes such multi-factor authentication and zero-trust. SaaS applications today enable the administrator to establish trust with an IdP for user authentication.

This specification can be used to extend the SSO relationship of multiple SaaS applications to include API access between these applications as well. This specification enables federation for Authorization Servers across policy or administrative boundaries. The same enterprise IdP that is trusted by applications for SSO can be extended to broker access to APIs. This enables the enterprise to centralize more access decisions across their SaaS ecosystem and provides better end-user experience for users that need to connect multiple applications via OAuth 2.0.

A.1.1. Preconditions

- * The Client has a registered OAuth 2.0 Client with the IdP Authorization Server
- * The Client has a registered OAuth 2.0 Client with the Resource Authorization Server
- * Enterprise has established a trust relationship between their IdP and the Client for SSO and Identity Assertion JWT Authorization Grant

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- * Enterprise has established a trust relationship between their IdP and the Resource Authorization Server for SSO and Identity Assertion JWT Authorization Grant
- * Enterprise has granted the Client permission to act on behalf of users for the Resource Authorization Server with a set of scopes

A.2. Email and Calendaring Applications

Email clients can be used with arbitrary email servers, and cannot require pre-established relationships between each email client and each email server. When an email client uses OAuth to obtain an access token to an email server, this provides the security benefit of being able to use strong multi-factor authentication methods provided by the email server's authorization server, but does require that the user go through a web-based flow to log in to the email client. However, this web-based flow is often seen as disruptive to the user experience when initiated from a desktop or mobile native application, and so is often attempted to be minimized as much as possible.

When the email client needs access to a separate API, such as a third-party calendaring application, traditionally this would require that the email client go through another web-based OAuth redirect flow to obtain authorization and ultimately an access token.

To streamline the user experience, this specification can be used to enable the email client to use the identity assertion to obtain an access token for the third-party calendaring application without any user interaction.

A.2.1. Preconditions

- * The Client does not have a pre-registered OAuth 2.0 client at the IdP Authorization Server or the Resource Authorization Server
- * The Client has obtained an Identity Assertion (e.g. ID Token) from the IdP Authorization Server
- * The Resource Authorization Server is configured to allow the Identity Assertion JWT Authorization Grant from unregistered clients

A.3. LLM Agent using Enterprise Tools

AI agents, including those based on large language models (LLMs), are designed to manage user context, memory, and interaction state across multi-turn conversations. To perform complex tasks, these agents often integrate with external systems such as SaaS applications,

internal services, or enterprise data sources. When accessing these systems, the agent operates on behalf of the end user, and its actions are constrained by the user's identity, role, and permissions as defined by the enterprise. This ensures that all data access and operations are properly scoped and compliant with organizational access controls.

A.3.1. Preconditions

- * The LLM Agent has a registered OAuth 2.0 Client (`com.example.ai-agent`) with the Enterprise IdP (`cyberdyne.idp.example`)
- * The LLM Agent has a registered OAuth 2.0 Client (`4960880b83dc9`) with the External Tool Application (`saas.example.net`)
- * Enterprise has established a trust relationship between their IdP and the LLM Agent for SSO
- * Enterprise has established a trust relationship between their IdP and the External Tool Application for SSO and Identity Assertion JWT Authorization Grant
- * Enterprise has granted the LLM Agent permission to act on behalf of users for the External Tool Application with a specific set of scopes

A.3.2. Example Sequence

The steps below describe the sequence of the LLM agent obtaining an access token using an Identity Assertion JWT Authorization Grant (Section 3).

A.3.2.1. LLM Agent establishes a User Identity with Enterprise IdP

LLM Agent discovers the Enterprise IdP's OpenID Connect Provider configuration based on a configured issuer that was previously established.

Note: IdP discovery where an agent discovers which IdP the agent should use to authenticate a given user is out of scope of this specification.

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```
GET /.well-known/openid-configuration
Host: cyberdyne.idp.example
Accept: application/json
```

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Content-Type: application/json
```

```
{
  "issuer": "https://cyberdyne.idp.example/",
  "authorization_endpoint": "https://cyberdyne.idp.example/oauth2/authorize",
  "token_endpoint": "https://cyberdyne.idp.example/oauth2/token",
  "userinfo_endpoint": "https://cyberdyne.idp.example/oauth2/userinfo",
  "jwks_uri": "https://cyberdyne.idp.example/oauth2/keys",
  "registration_endpoint": "https://cyberdyne.idp.example/oauth2/register",
  "scopes_supported": [
```

```

    "openid", "email", "profile"
],
"response_types_supported": [
    "code"
],
"grant_types_supported": [
    "authorization_code", "refresh_token", "urn:ietf:params:oauth:grant-type:token-exchange"
],
"identity_chaining_requested_token_types_supported": ["urn:ietf:params:oauth:token-
type:id-jag"],
...
}

```

LLM Agent discovers all necessary endpoints for authentication as well as support for the Identity Chaining requested token type urn:ietf:params:oauth:token-type:id-jag

A.3.2.2. IdP Authorization Request (with PKCE)

LLM Agent generates a PKCE code_verifier and a code_challenge (usually a SHA256 hash of the verifier, base64url-encoded) and redirects the end-user to the Enterprise IdP with an authorization request

```

GET /authorize?
  response_type=code
  &client_id=com.example.ai-agent
  &redirect_uri=https://ai-agent.example.com/oauth2/callback
  &scope=openid+profile+email
  &state=xyzABC123
  &code_challenge=E9Melhoa20wvFrEMTJguChaoeK1t8URWbuGJSstw-cM
  &code_challenge_method=S256
Host: cyberdyne.idp.example

```

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A.3.2.3. User authenticates and authorizes LLM Agent

Enterprise IdP authenticates the end-user and redirects back to the LLM Agent's registered client redirect URI with an authorization code:

<https://ai-agent.example.com/oauth2/callback?code=Spxl0BeZQQYbYS6WxSbIA&state=xyzABC123>

LLM Agent exchanges the code and PKCE code_verifier to obtain an ID Token and Access Token for the IdP's UserInfo endpoint

```

POST /oauth2/token
Host: cyberdyne.idp.example
Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded

grant_type=authorization_code
&code=Spxl0BeZQQYbYS6WxSbIA
&redirect_uri=https://ai-agent.example.com/oauth2/callback
&client_id=com.example.ai-agent
&code_verifier=dBjftJeZ4CVP-mB92K27uhbUJU1p1r_wW1gFWFOEjXk

```

```

HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Content-Type: application/json

```

```
{
  "id_token": "eyJraWQi0iJzMTZ0cVNt0DhwREo4VGZCXzdrSEtQ...",
  "token_type": "Bearer",
  "access_token": "7SliwCQP1brGdjBtsaMnXo",
  "scope": "openid profile email"
}
```

LLM Agent validates the ID Token using the published JWKs for the IdP

```
{
  "iss": "https://cyberdyne.idp.example/",
  "sub": "1997e829-2029-41d4-a716-446655440000",
  "aud": "com.example.ai-agent",
  "exp": 1984444800,
  "iat": 1684441200,
  "auth_time": 1684440000,
  "name": "John Connor",
  "email": "john.connor@cyberdyne.example",
  "email_verified": true
}
```

LLM Agent now has an identity binding for context

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A.3.2.4. LLM Agent calls Enterprise External Tool

LLM Agent tool calls an external tool provided by an Enterprise SaaS Application (Resource Server) without a valid access token and is issued an authentication challenge per Protected Resource Metadata [RFC9728].

Note: How agents discover available tools is out of scope of this specification

```
GET /tools
Host: saas.example.net
Accept: application/json
```

```
HTTP/1.1 401 Unauthorized
WWW-Authenticate: Bearer resource_metadata=
  "https://saas.example.net/.well-known/oauth-protected-resource"
```

LLM Agent fetches the external tool resource's OAuth 2.0 Protected Resource Metadata per [RFC9728] to dynamically discover an authorization server that can issue an access token for the resource.

```
GET /.well-known/oauth-protected-resource
Host: saas.example.net
Accept: application/json
```

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Content-Type: application/json
```

```
{
  "resource":
    "https://saas.example.net/",
```

```

"authorization_servers": [
    [ "https://authorization-server.saas.com/" ],
  "bearer_methods_supported": [
    ["header", "body"],
  "scopes_supported": [
    ["agent.tools.read", "agent.tools.write"],
  "resource_documentation": [
    "https://saas.example.net/tools/resource_documentation.html"
}

```

LLM Agent discovers the Authorization Server configuration per
[RFC8414]

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GET /.well-known/oauth-authorization-server
Host: authorization-server.saas.com
Accept: application/json

HTTP/1.1 200 Ok
Content-Type: application/json

```
{
  "issuer": "https://authorization-server.saas.com/",
  "authorization_endpoint": "https://authorization-server.saas.com/oauth2/authorize",
  "token_endpoint": "https://authorization-server.saas.com/oauth2/token",
  "jwks_uri": "https://authorization-server.saas.com/oauth2/keys",
  "registration_endpoint": "authorization-server.saas.com/oauth2/register",
  "scopes_supported": [
    "agent.read", "agent.write"
  ],
  "response_types_supported": [
    "code"
  ],
  "grant_types_supported": [
    "authorization_code", "refresh_token", "urn:ietf:params:oauth:grant-type:jwt-bearer"
  ],
  ...
}
```

LLM Agent has learned all necessary endpoints and supported capabilities to obtain an access token for the external tool.

If the urn:ietf:params:oauth:grant-type:jwt-bearer grant type is supported the LLM can first attempt to silently obtain an access token using an Identity Assertion JWT Authorization Grant from the Enterprise's IdP otherwise it can fallback to interactively obtaining a standard authorization_code from the SaaS Application's Authorization Server

Note: This would benefit from an Authorization Server Metadata [RFC8414] property to indicate whether the Identity Assertion JWT Authorization Grant form of jwt-bearer would be accepted by this authorization server. There are other uses of jwt-bearer that may be supported by the authorization server as well, and is not necessarily a reliable indication that the Identity Assertion JWT

Authorization Grant would be supported. See issue #16
 (<https://github.com/aaronpk/draft-parecki-oauth-identity-assertion-authz-grant/issues/16>).

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A.3.2.5. LLM Agent obtains an Identity Assertion JWT Authorization Grant for Enterprise External Tool from the Enterprise IdP

LLM Agent makes an Identity Assertion JWT Authorization Grant Token Exchange [RFC8693] request for the external tool's resource from the user's Enterprise IdP using the ID Token the LLM Agent obtained when establishing an identity binding context along with scopes and the resource identifier for the external tool that was returned in the tool's OAuth 2.0 Protected Resource Metadata

```
POST /oauth2/token HTTP/1.1
```

```
Host: cyberdyne.idp.example
```

```
Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded
```

```
grant_type=urn:ietf:params:oauth:grant-type:token-exchange
&requested_token_type=urn:ietf:params:oauth:token-type:id-jag
&audience=https://authorization-server.saas.com/
&resource=https://saas.example.net/
&scope=agent.read+agent.write
&subject_token=eyJraWQi0iJzMTZ0cVNt0DhwREo4VGZCXzdrSEtQ...
&subject_token_type=urn:ietf:params:oauth:token-type:id_token
&client_assertion_type=urn:ietf:params:oauth:client-assertion-type:jwt-bearer
&client_assertion=eyJhbGciOiJSUzI1NiIsImtpZCI6IjIyIn0...
```

If access is granted, the Enterprise IdP creates a signed Identity Assertion JWT Authorization Grant and returns it in the token exchange response defined in Section 2.2 of [RFC8693]:

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
```

```
Content-Type: application/json
```

```
Cache-Control: no-store
```

```
Pragma: no-cache
```

```
{
  "issued_token_type": "urn:ietf:params:oauth:token-type:id-jag",
  "access_token": "eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiIsI...",
  "token_type": "N_A",
  "scope": "agent.read agent.write",
  "expires_in": 300
}
```

Identity Assertion JWT Authorization Grant claims:

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```
{
  "alg": "ES256",
  "typ": "oauth-id-jag+jwt"
}
.
{
  "jti": "9e43f81b64a33f20116179",
  "iss": "https://cyberdyne.idp.example",
  "sub": "1llb-b4c0-0000-8000-t800b4ck0000",
  "aud": "https://authorization-server.saas.com",
  "resource": "https://saas.example.net/",
  "client_id": "4960880b83dc9",
  "exp": 1984445160,
  "iat": 1984445100,
  "scope": "agent.read agent.write"
}
.
signature
```

A.3.2.6. LLM Agent obtains an Access Token for Enterprise External Tool

LLM Agent makes a token request to the previously discovered external tool's Authorization Server token endpoint using the Identity Assertion JWT Authorization Grant obtained from the Enterprise IdP as a JWT Assertion as defined by [RFC7523].

The LLM Agent authenticates with its client credentials that were registered with the SaaS Authorization Server

Note: How the LLM Agent registers with the Authorization Server (e.g static or dynamic client registration), and whether or not it has credentials, is out-of-scope of this specification

```
POST /oauth2/token HTTP/1.1
Host: authorization-server.saas.com
Authorization: Basic yZS1yYW5kb20tc2VjcmV0v3J0kF0XG5Qx2

grant_type=urn:ietf:params:oauth:grant-type:jwt-bearer
assertion=eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiIsI...
```

SaaS Authorization Server validates the Identity Assertion JWT Authorization Grant using the published JWKS for the trusted Enterprise IdP

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```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Content-Type: application/json; charset=UTF-8
Cache-Control: no-store
```

Pragma: no-cache

```
{
  "token_type": "Bearer",
  "access_token": "2YotnFZFEjr1zCsicMWpAA",
  "expires_in": 86400,
  "scope": "agent.read agent.write"
}
```

A.3.2.7. LLM Agent makes an authorized External Tool request

LLM Agent tool calls an external tool provided by the Enterprise SaaS Application (Resource Server) with a valid access token

```
GET /tools
Host: saas.example.net
Authorization: Bearer 2YotnFZFEjr1zCsicMWpAA"
Accept: application/json
```

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Content-Type: application/json
```

```
{
  ...
}
```

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Document History

[[To be removed from the final specification]]

-01

- * Moved ID-JAG definition to document root instead of nested under Token Exchange
- * Added proposed OpenID Connect tenant claim

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- * Added authentication claims from ID Token
- * Adopted standard OAuth 2.0 role names instead of Resource App or Resource App's Authorization Server
- * Updated sequence diagram
- * Updated all inconsistent references of ID-JAG to "Identity Assertion JWT Authorization Grant"
- * Updated section references with more specific links

- * Added reference to scope parameter in ID-JAG processing rules
- * Added a section discussing client ID mapping and reference to Client ID Metadata Document
- * Added recommendations for refresh tokens

-00

- * Initial revision as adopted working group draft

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