

# OAuth 2.0 in Depth

By Rohit Ghatol

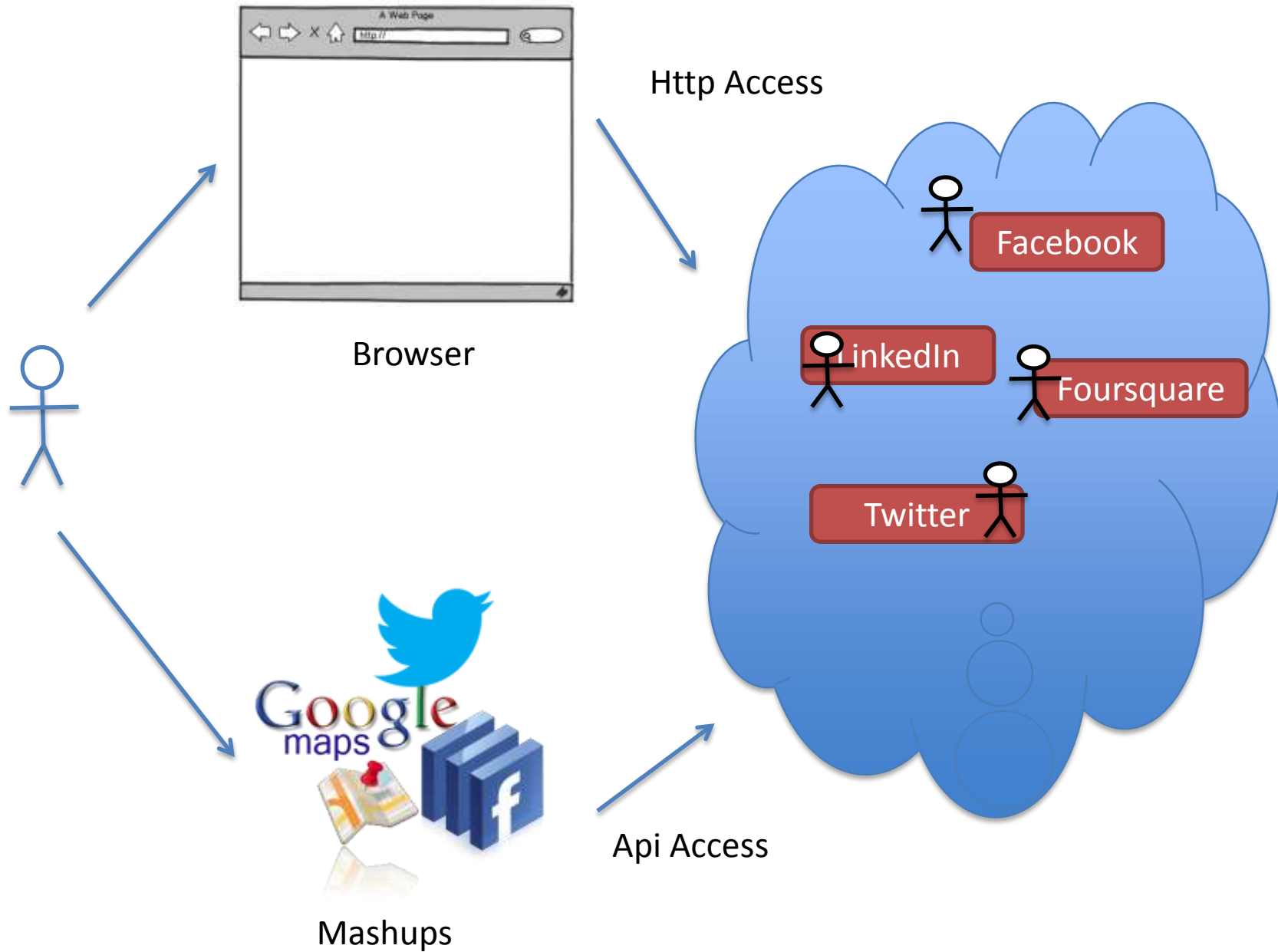
Director @ [Synerzip](#)

Passionate about [TechNext](#)

Why study about OAuth?

Do you care about these or  
Similar Sites?





7155 APIs listed on  
<http://ProgrammableWeb.com>

← → ↻ 🏠  ☆ 🎧 🗑️

📌 Register / Login  🔍 Search

**programmableweb**

Hot APIs » Twitter YouTube Facebook Google Maps Flickr LinkedIn More » Latest news Intelligent Learning With CCKF's Realizeit API

Home ▾ API News ▾ API Directory ▾ Mashups ▾ Community ▾ How-to ▾ Subscribe: 📡 ✉️ 📧 📱

Keeping you up to date with APIs, mashups and the Web as platform. [Learn more »](#)


🔍 Search

Popular searches: [photo](#) [google](#) [flash](#) [mapping](#) [enterprise](#) [sms](#)

### New APIs

- ▶ LocalWiki
- ▶ WhyGo
- ▶ GoMobileIQ Headlight
- ▶ AppNowGo!
- ▶ FiftyOne
- ▶ Totango
- ▶ [See more APIs](#)


### Mashup of the Day



▶ [See previous winners](#)

### New Mashups

- ▶ Twups
- ▶ Erfahrungen.com
- ▶ Zip Code Catcher
- ▶ Furkot - free online road trip planner
- ▶ PhoneDuty
- ▶ Youplaylist.com
- ▶ [See more mashups](#)



390 APIs on <http://ProgrammableWeb.com>  
support OAuth

www.programmableweb.com/apis/directory/1?auth=OAuth

Home API News API Directory Mashups Community How-to Subscribe: RSS Email Twitter Facebook

### Web Services Directory

Subscribe to get the latest APIs

Sort by: Name Date Popularity Category

**Hide Filters**

Keywords:

Category:

Company:

Protocols / Styles:

Data Format:

Date: All

Managed By:

[Filter This List](#)

Viewing 1 to 390 of 390 APIs

API	Description	Category	Updated
<a href="#">#blue</a>	Text messaging storage service	Messaging	2011-04-23
<a href="#">11870</a>	Spanish bookmarking and directory service	Search	2011-12-09
<a href="#">1DayLater</a>	Business expense tracking tool	Enterprise	2010-02-07
<a href="#">500px</a>	Online community for photographers	Photos	2011-10-18
<a href="#">7digital</a>	Music downloads store	Music	2010-08-13
<a href="#">88 Miles</a>	Project time tracking services	Project Management	2008-08-14

**MASHERY**  
The Premier API Management Solution

**inMOBI** NEW MOBILE AD SDK  
GET 100% REVENUE SHARE ▶

Our API's & your software system just go together!  
[Click here for a free trial!](#)

**Clickatell**  
Mobile Touch. Multiplied.

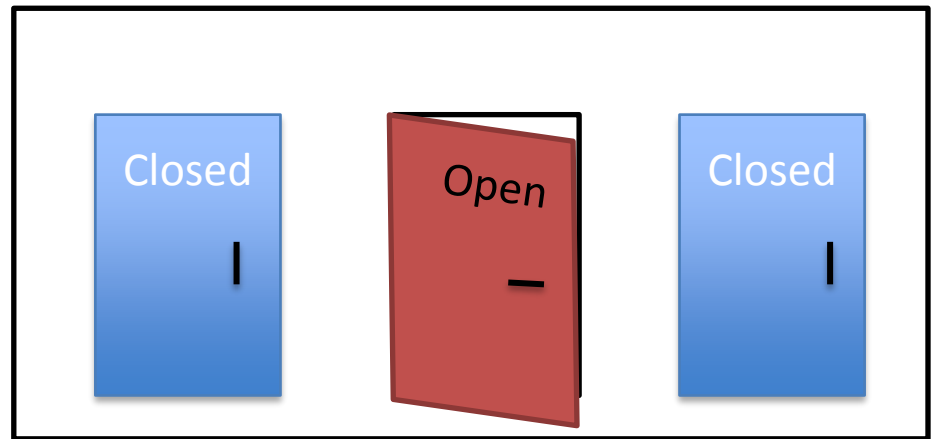
**3scale**  
API Management  
FREE Solution  
Up to 50,000 Hits per Day

**txtNation**  
Mobile Billing & SMS Messaging APIs

# Security

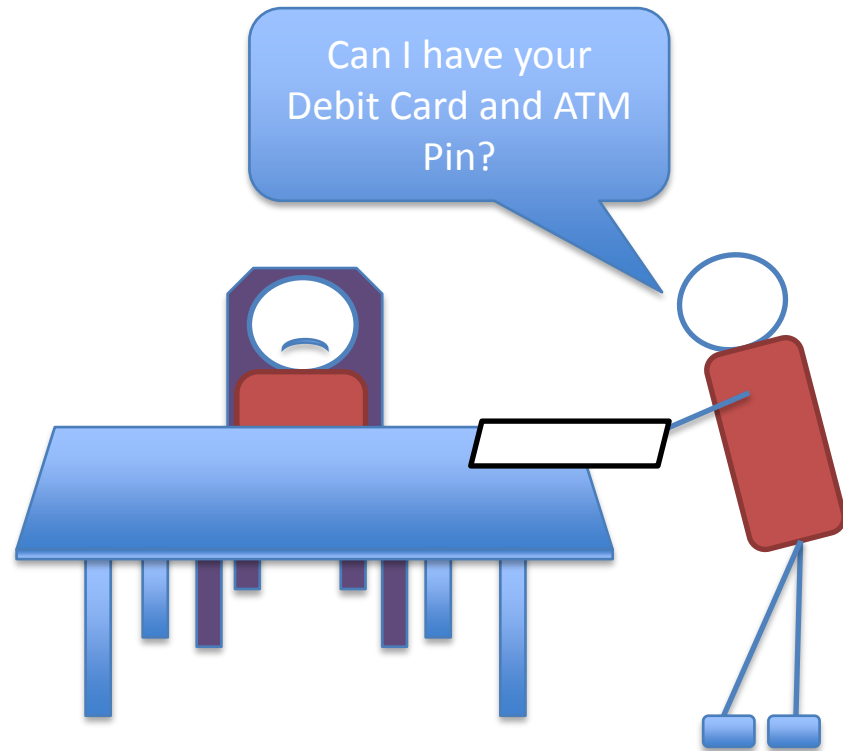


Authentication



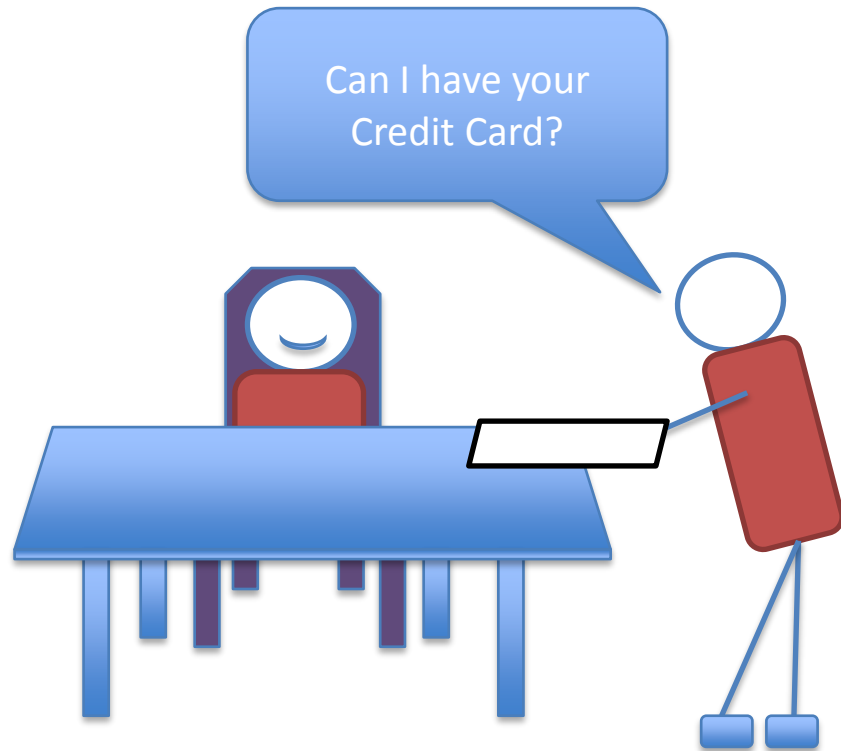
Authorization

# OAuth In a Nut Shell





# OAuth In a Nut Shell

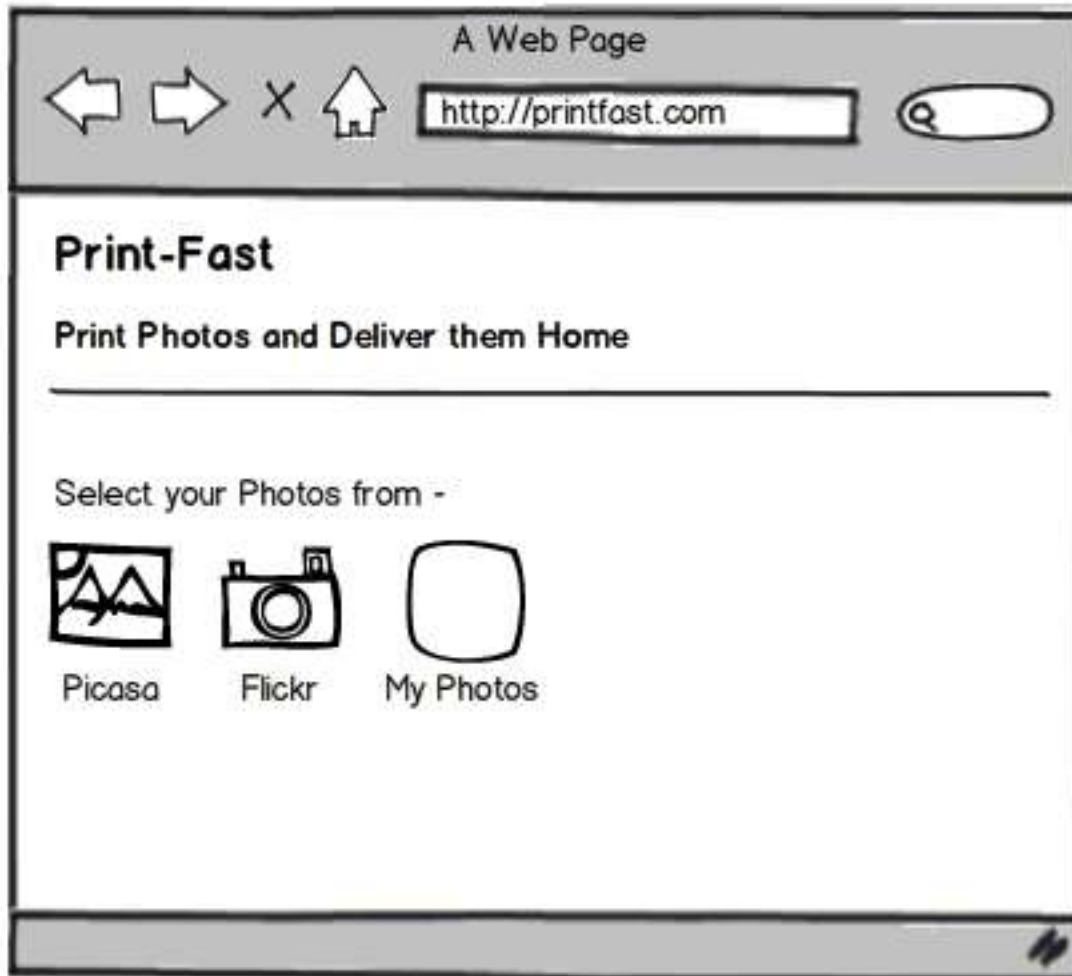


# OAuth Practical Example

## Disclaimer before you read ahead:

All product names and people names used in the following slides are not entirely accurate. They are only placeholders to explain the concept. None of that information should be assumed to be correct or incorrect.

# Without OAuth



# Without OAuth

A hand-drawn diagram of a web browser window. The title bar says "A Web Page". The address bar contains "http://printfast.com". The page content includes the heading "Print-Fast" and the tagline "Print Photos and Deliver them Home". A red rectangle highlights a login section titled "Login to Picasa". Inside this section are fields for "UserName" and "Password" (masked with asterisks), and a "Login" button. Below the red box, a line of text reads "We swear we will not leak your picasa login name and password".

A Web Page

http://printfast.com

**Print-Fast**

Print Photos and Deliver them Home

---

**Login to Picasa**

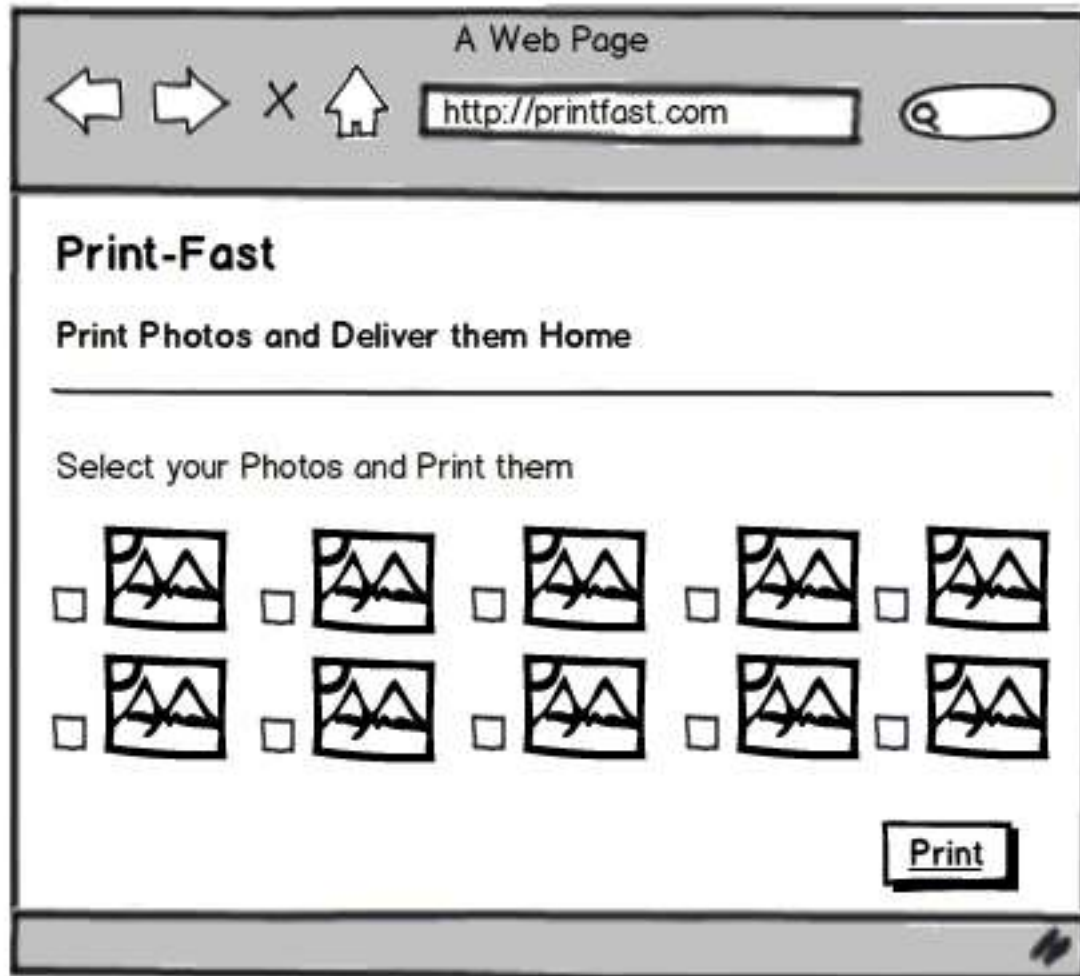
UserName

Password

---

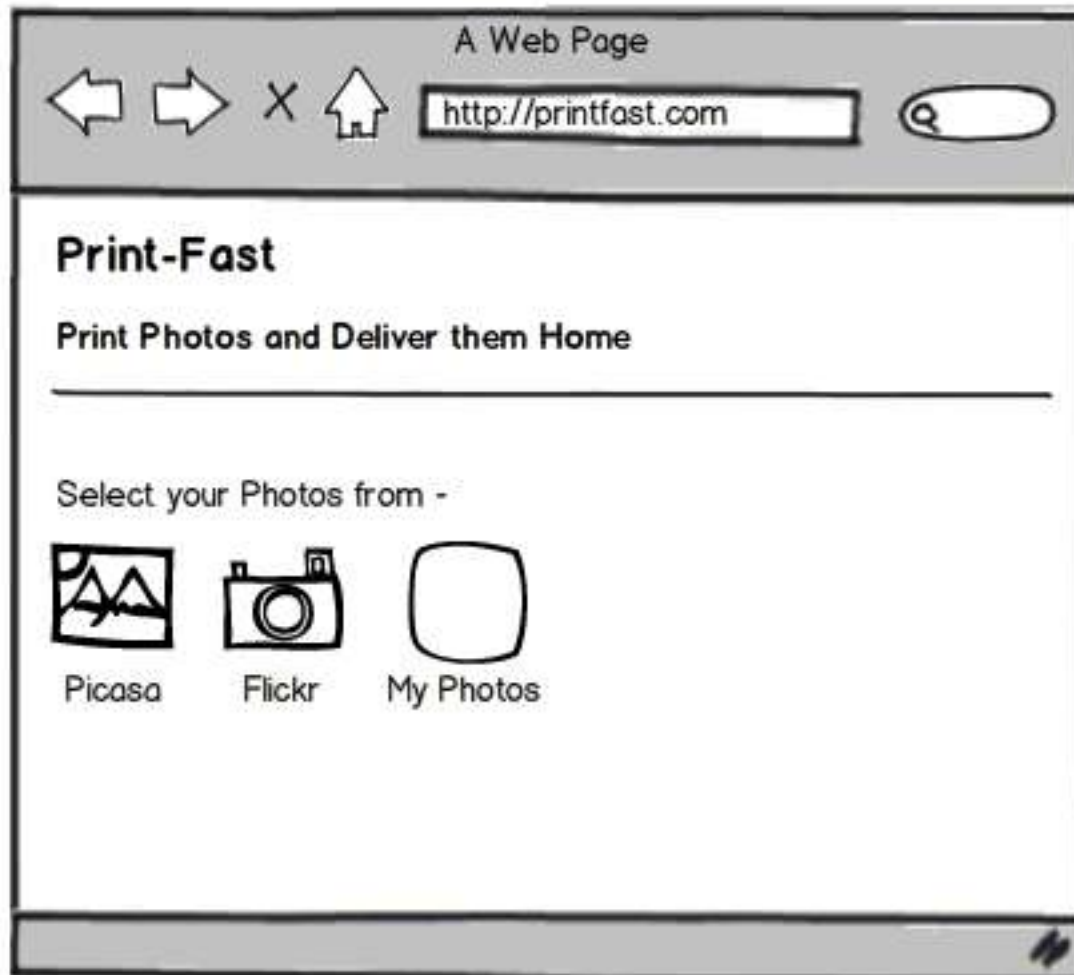
We swear we will not leak your picasa login name and password

# Without OAuth



Lets Start Again

# With OAuth



# With OAuth

URL changed to  
<http://picasa.com>

A Web Page

← → × 🏠  🔍

**Picasa**

Login to Picasa

UserName

Password



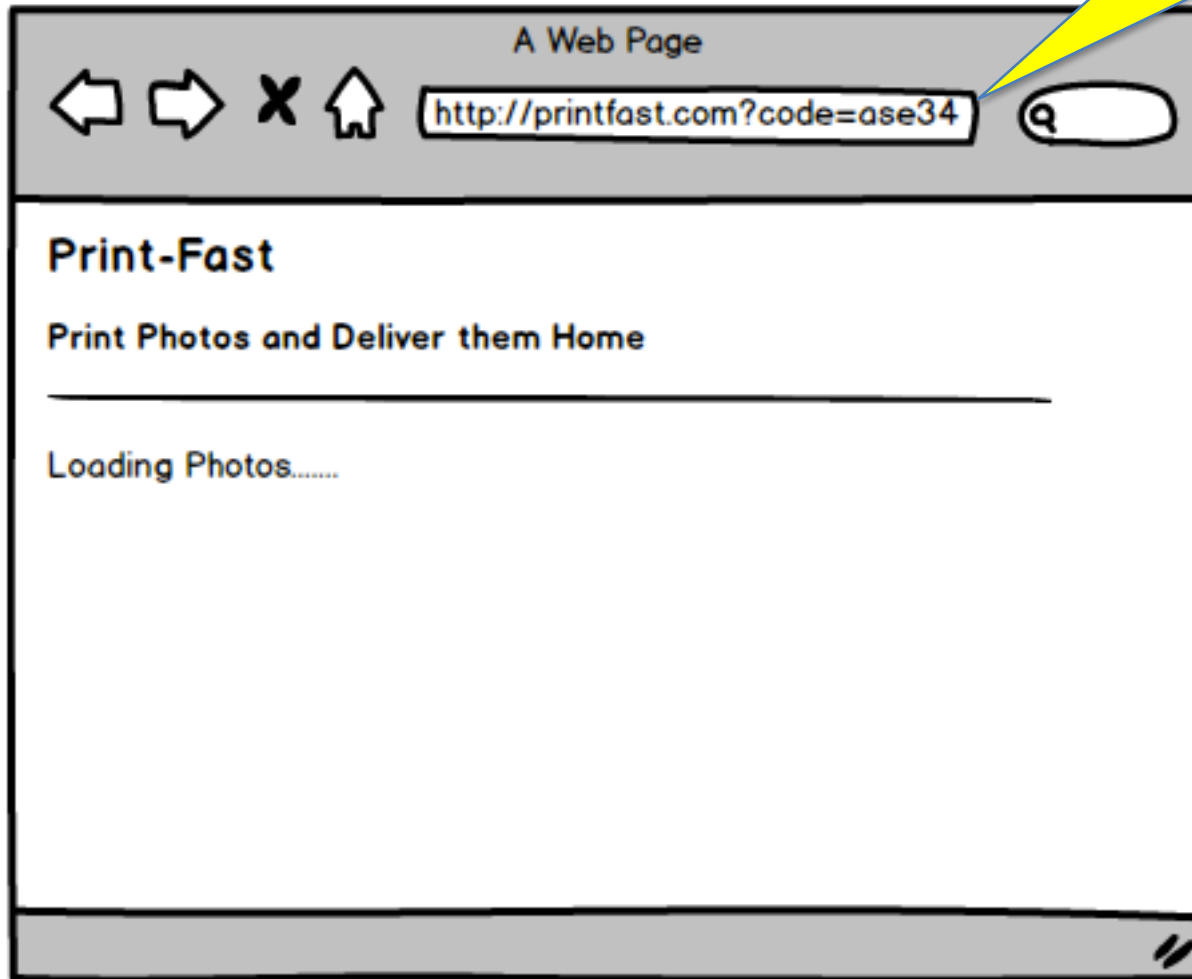
# With OAuth

URL is  
<http://picasa.com>

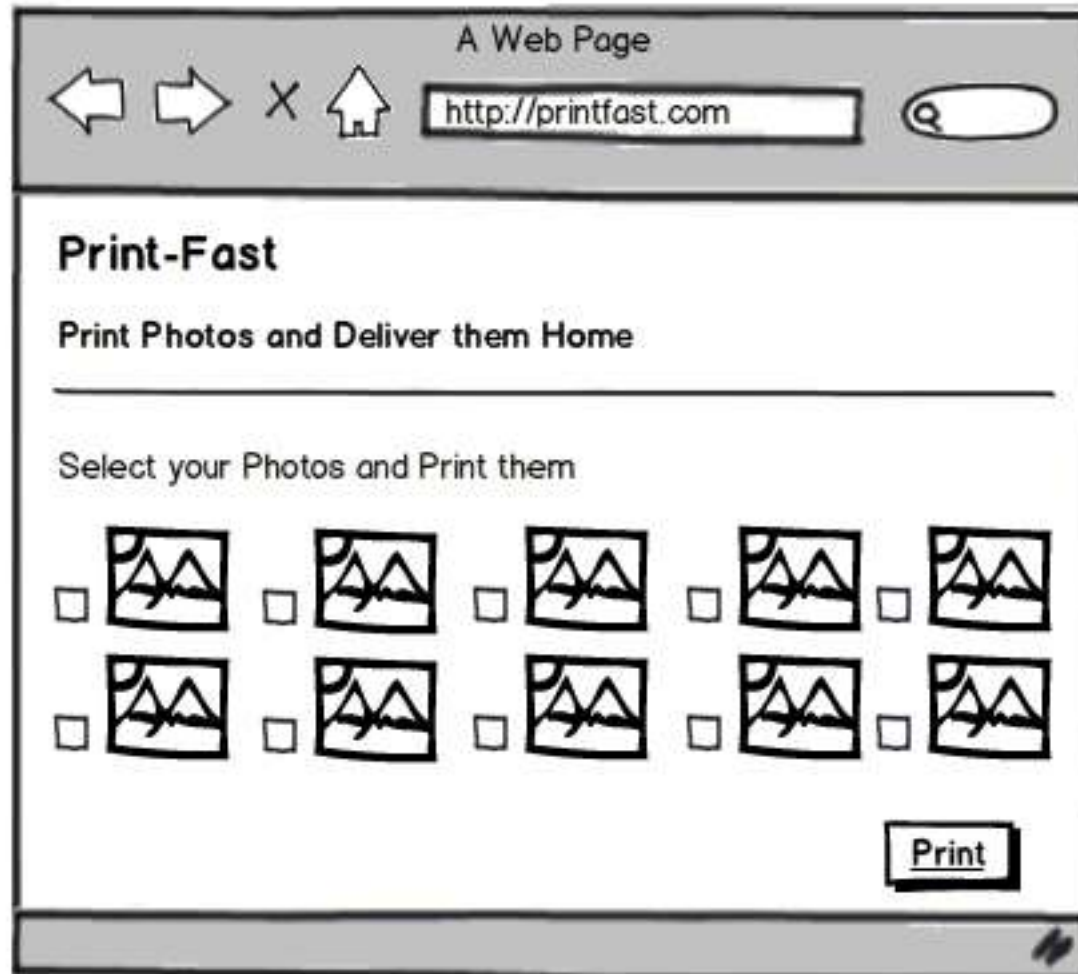


# With OAuth

URL changed to  
<http://picasa.com> with  
code parameter

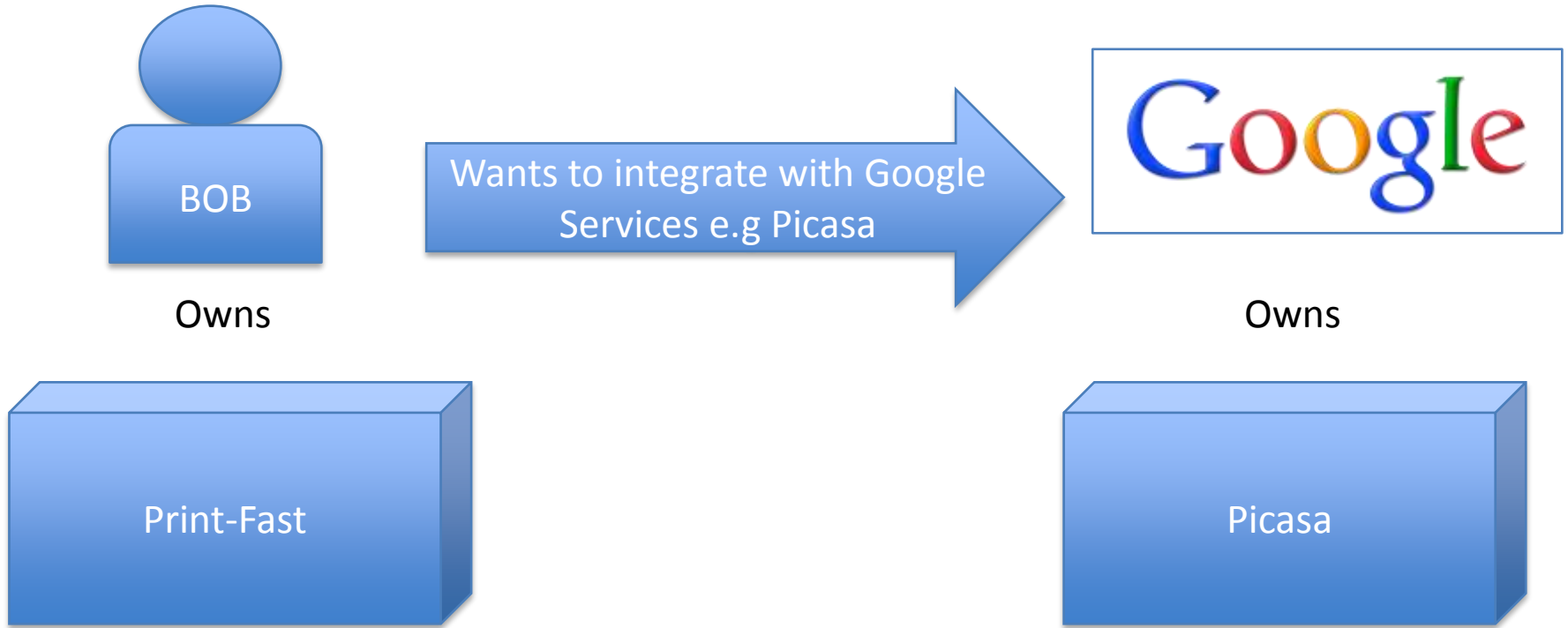


# With OAuth

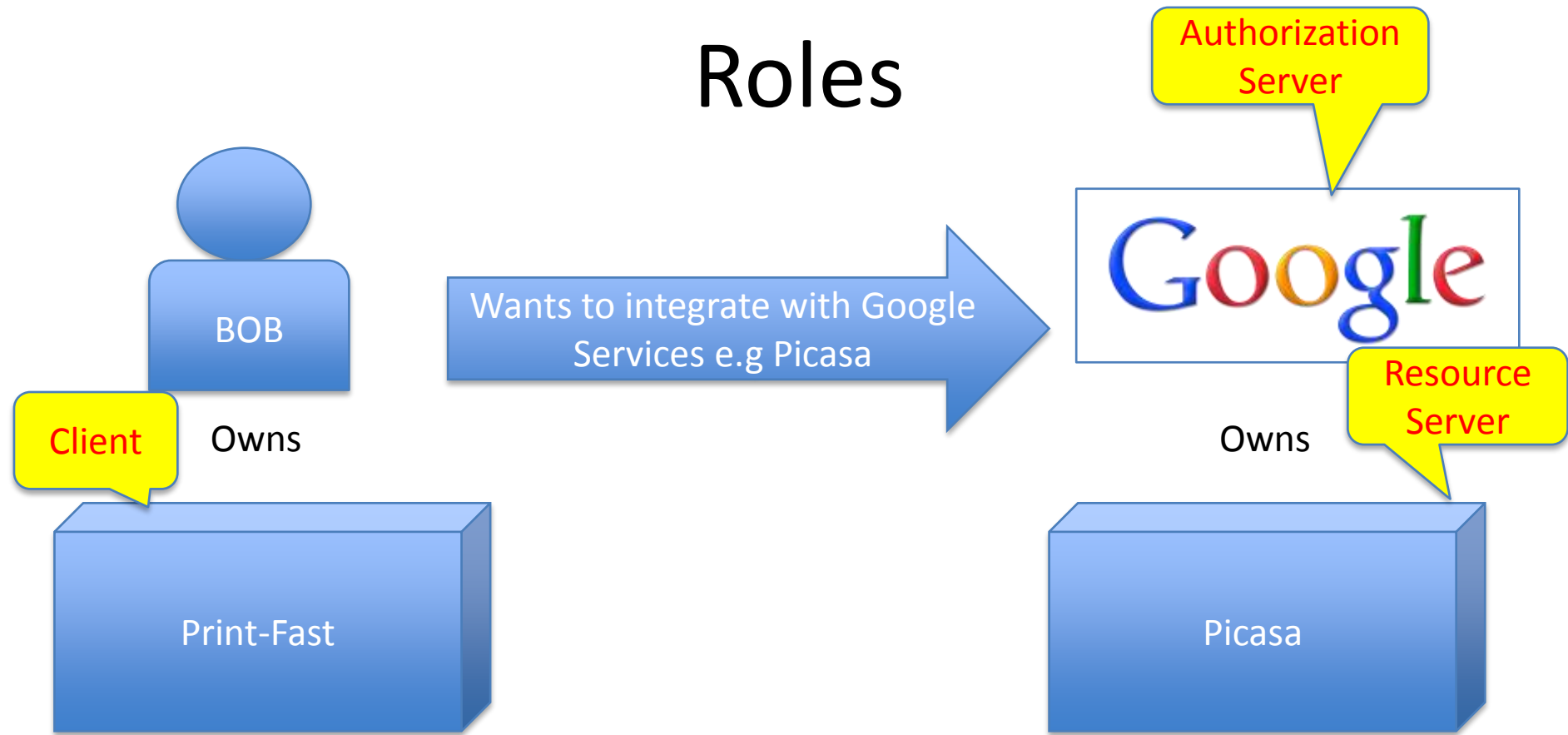


# OAuth 2.0 Flow in Depth

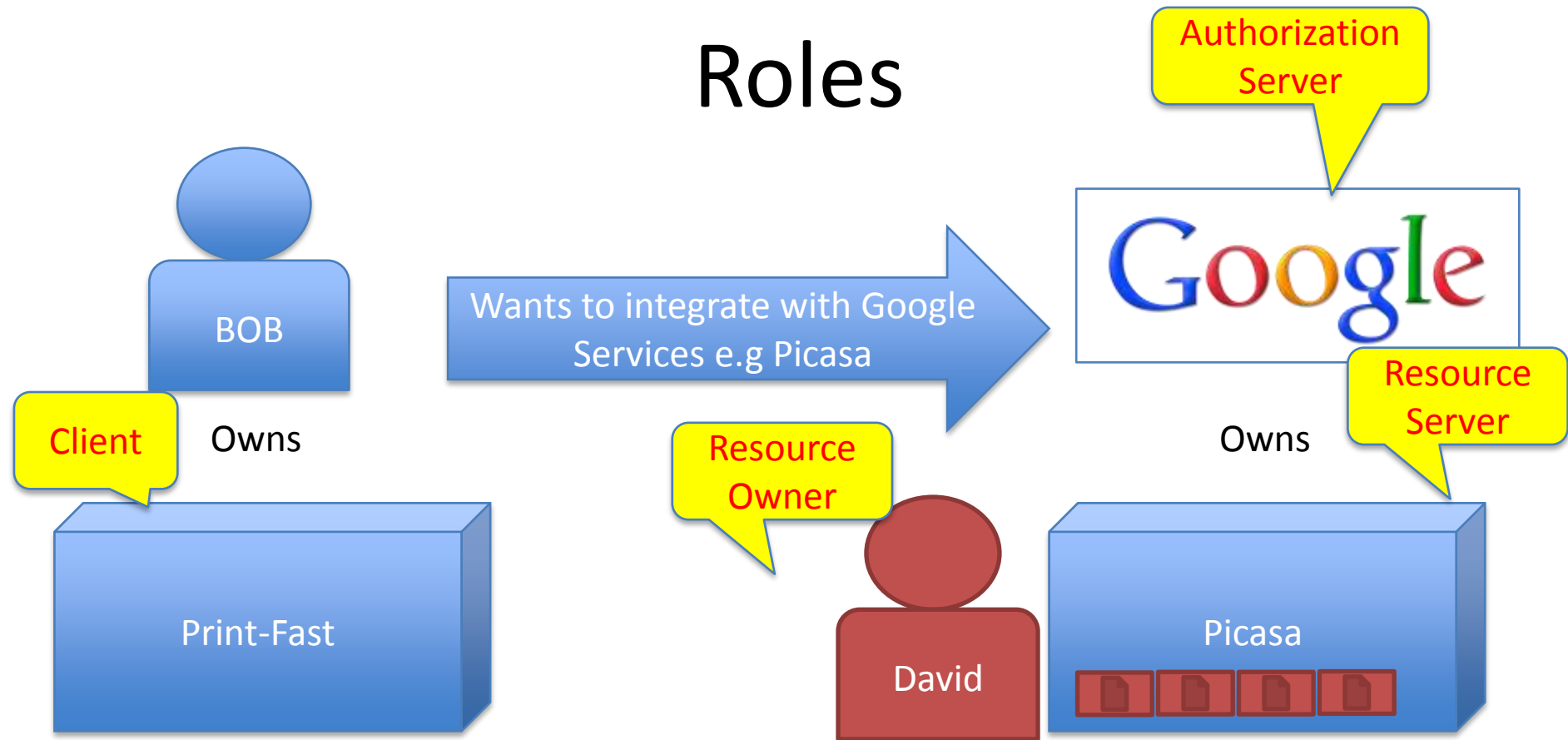
# Scenario



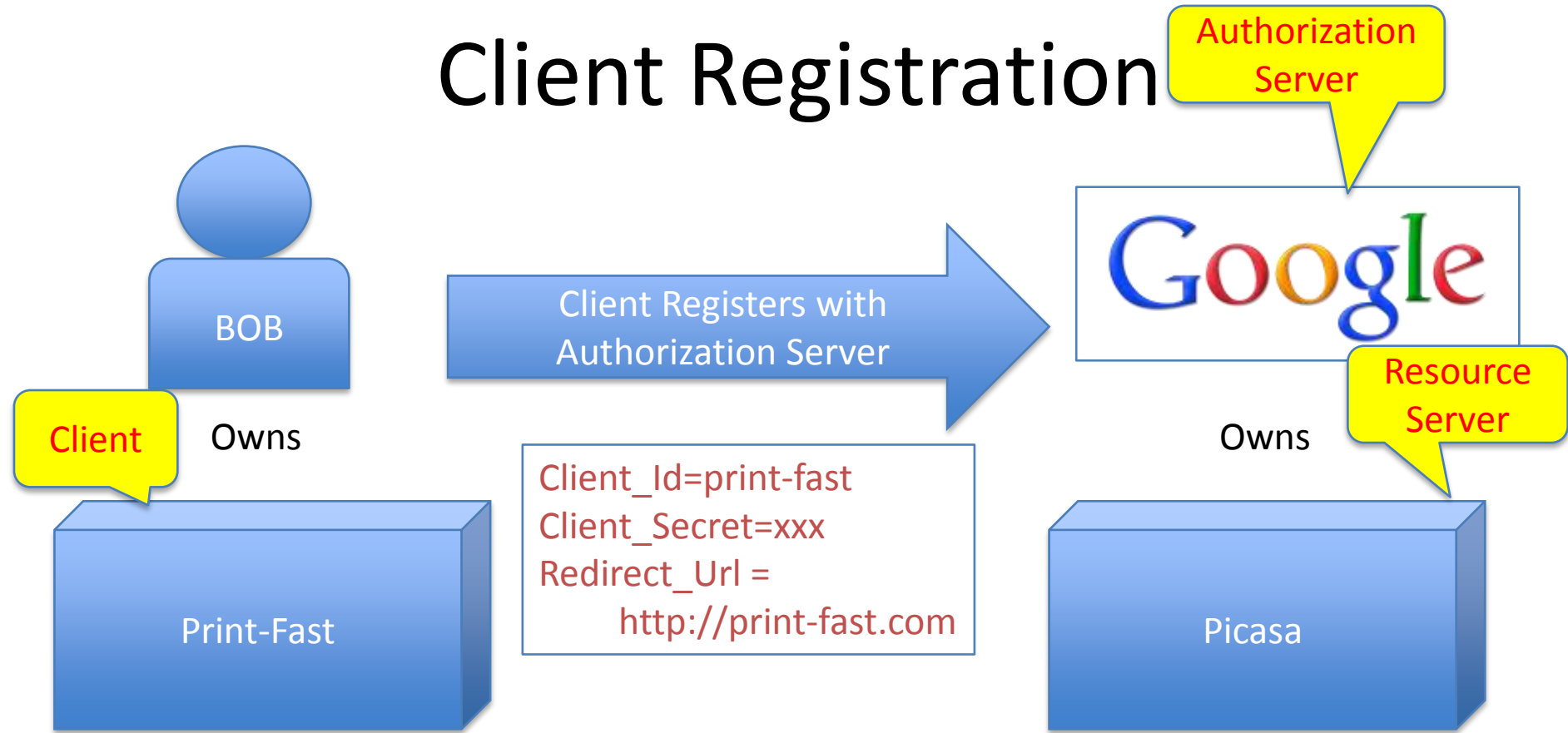
# Roles



# Roles



# Client Registration



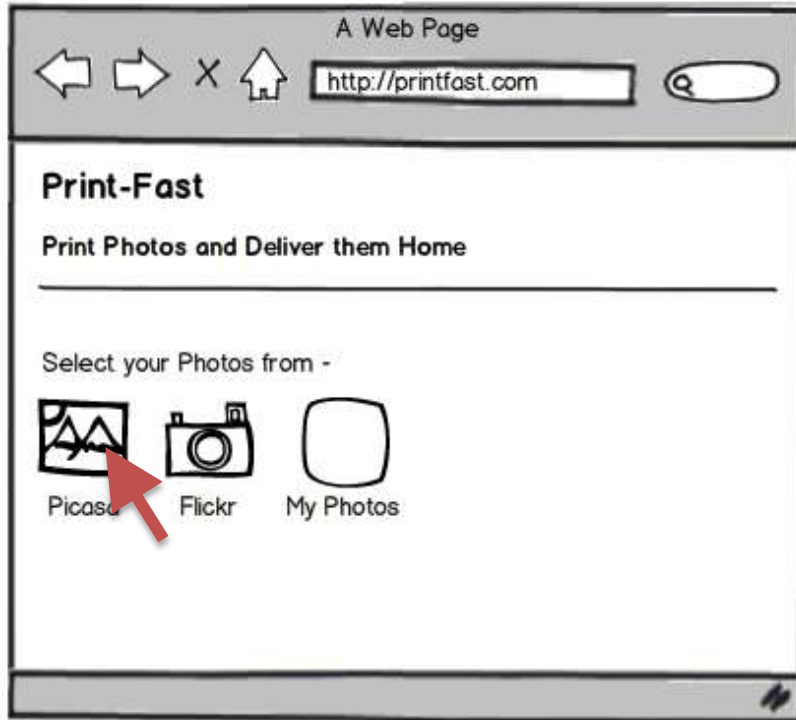


# OAuth Flows/Grant Types

- Authorization Code Grant
- Implicit Grant
- Resource Owner Password Credentials Grant
- Client Credentials Grant

# Step 1 – Get Authorization Grant

## Authorization Request



## Authorization Grant

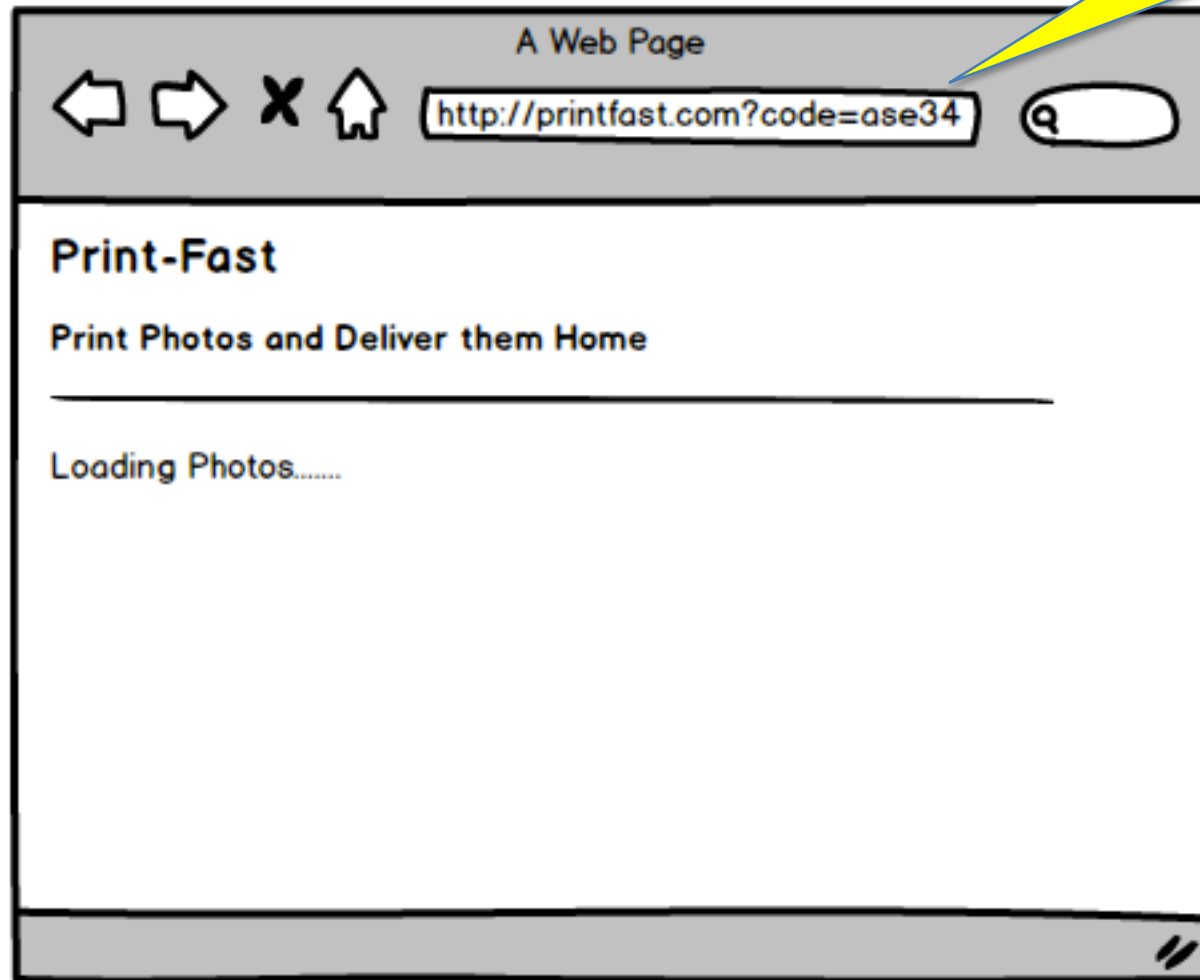


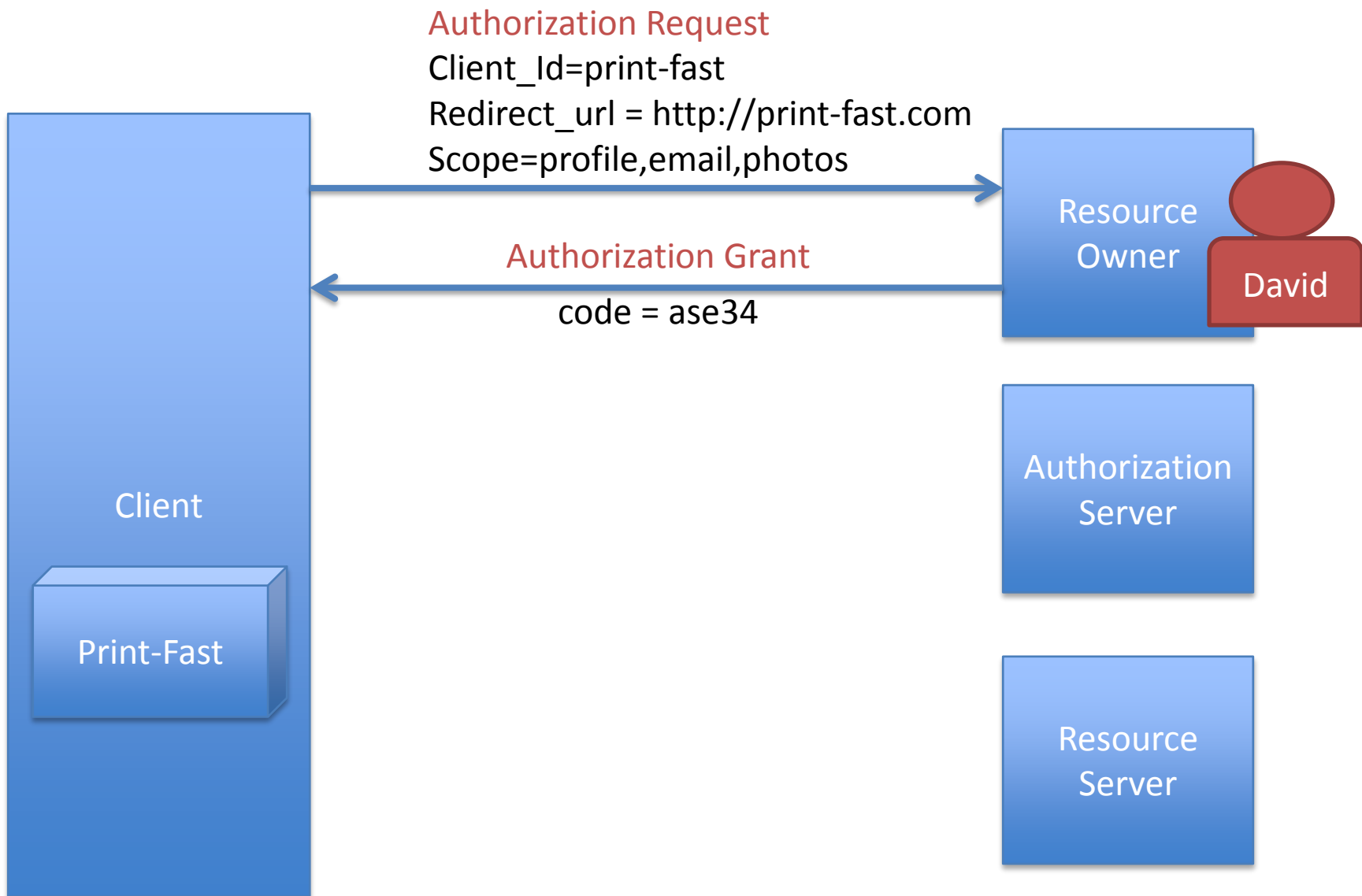
URL used is

[http://picasa.com/?client\\_id=photo-fast &scope=profile,email,photos &redirect\\_uri=http://print-fast.com&response\\_type=code](http://picasa.com/?client_id=photo-fast &scope=profile,email,photos &redirect_uri=http://print-fast.com&response_type=code)

Authorization Grant

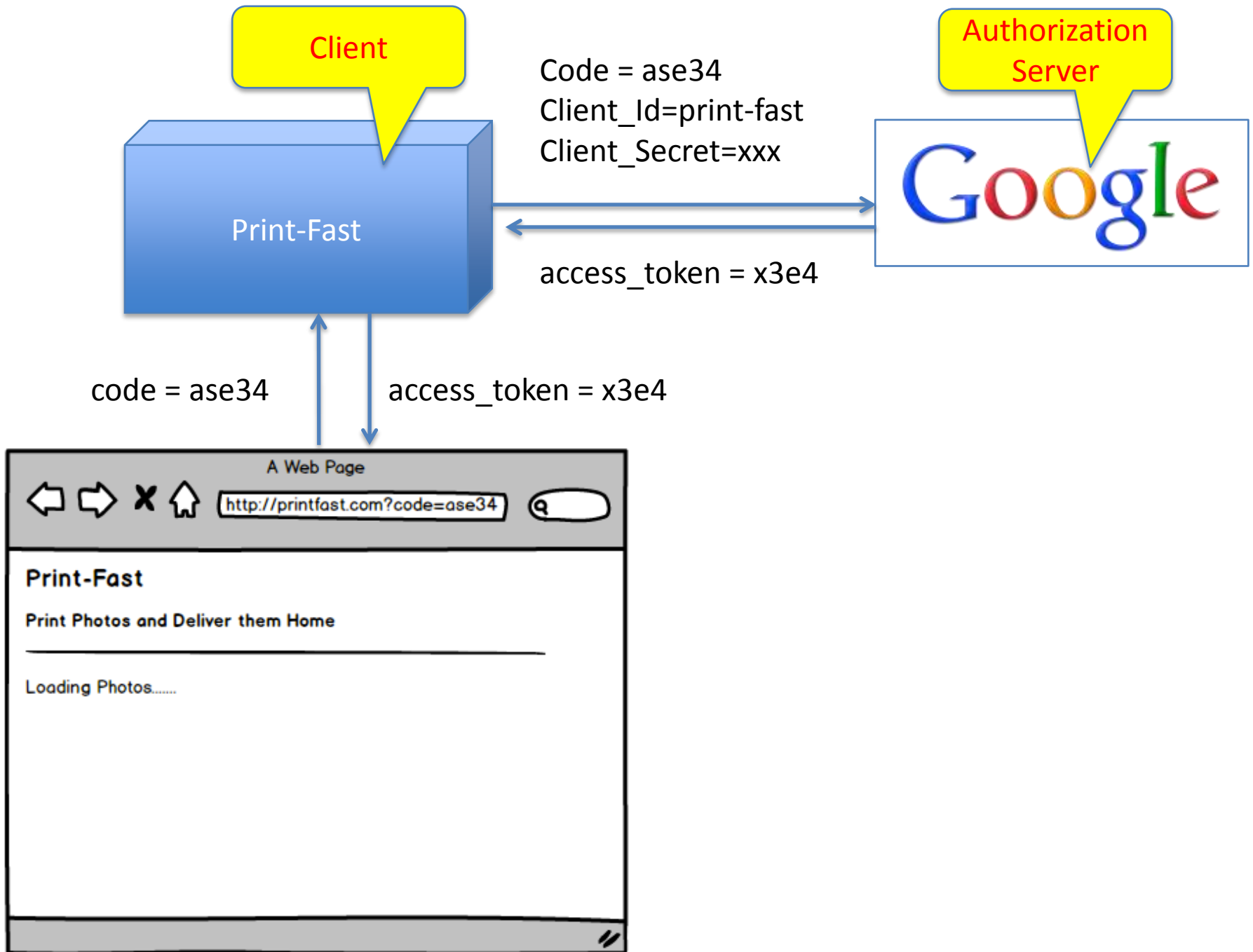
Authorization Grant  
Code = ase34

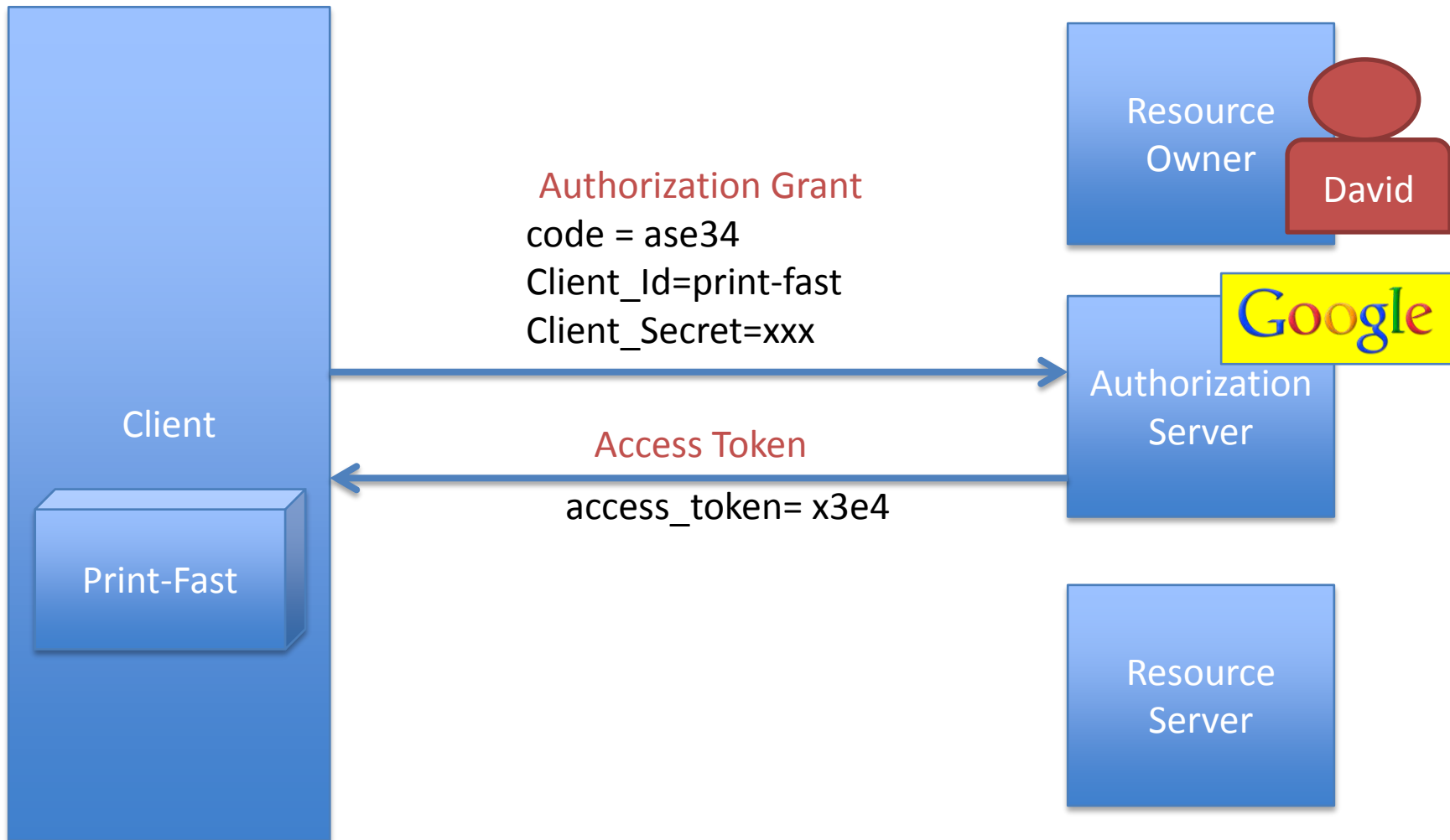




Protocol Flow

## Step 2 – Exchange for Access Token

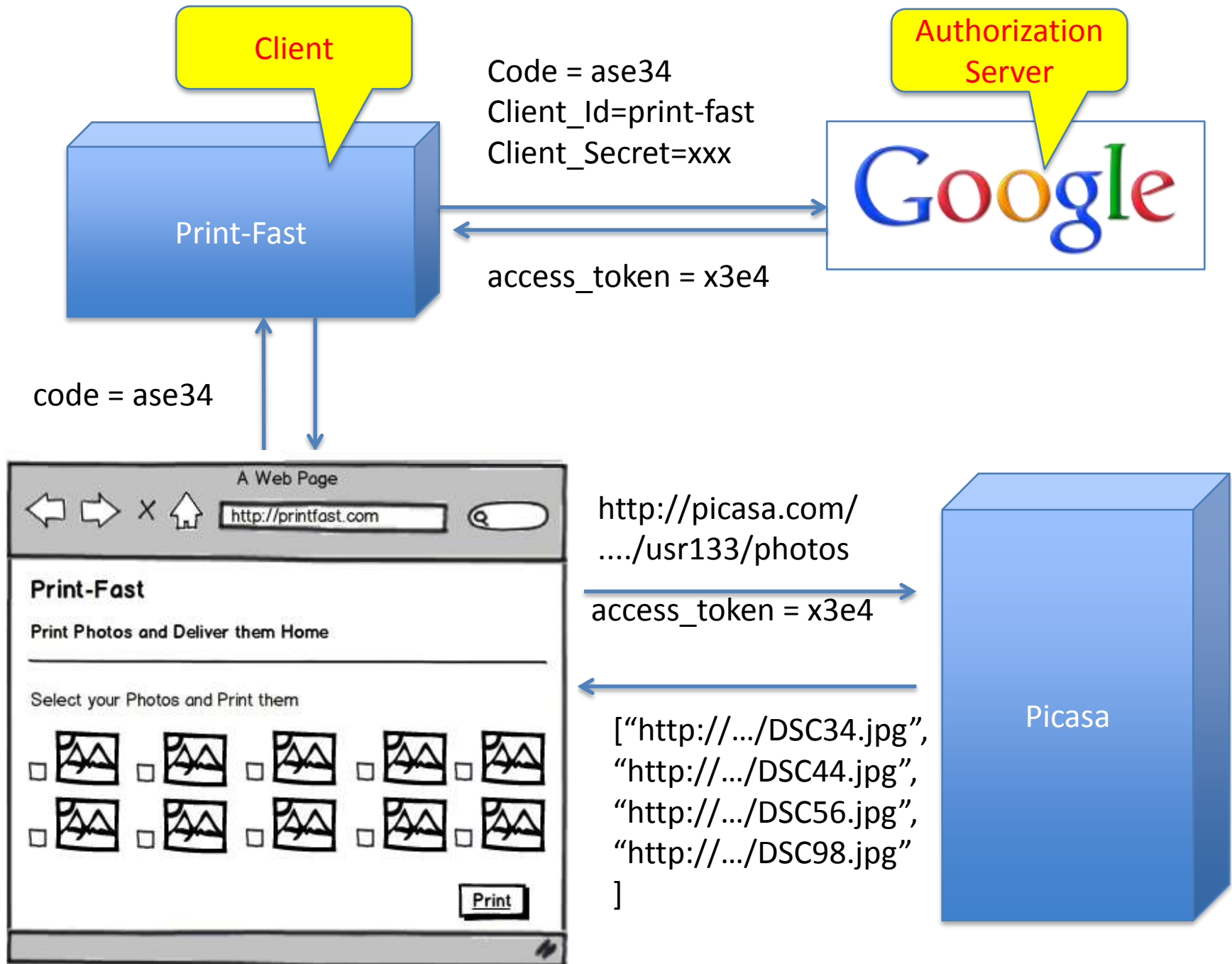




Protocol Flow



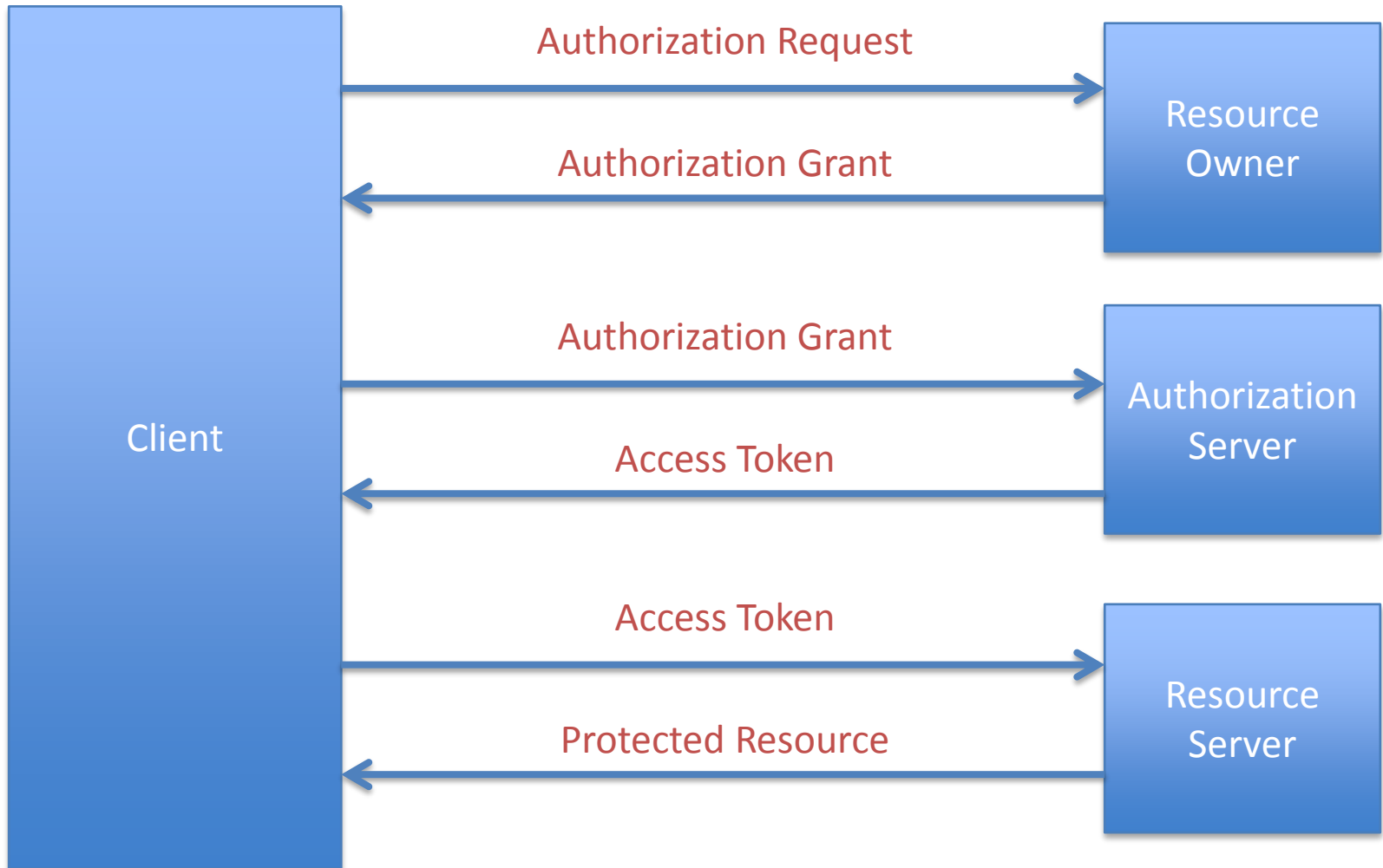
## Step 3 – Access Protected Resources





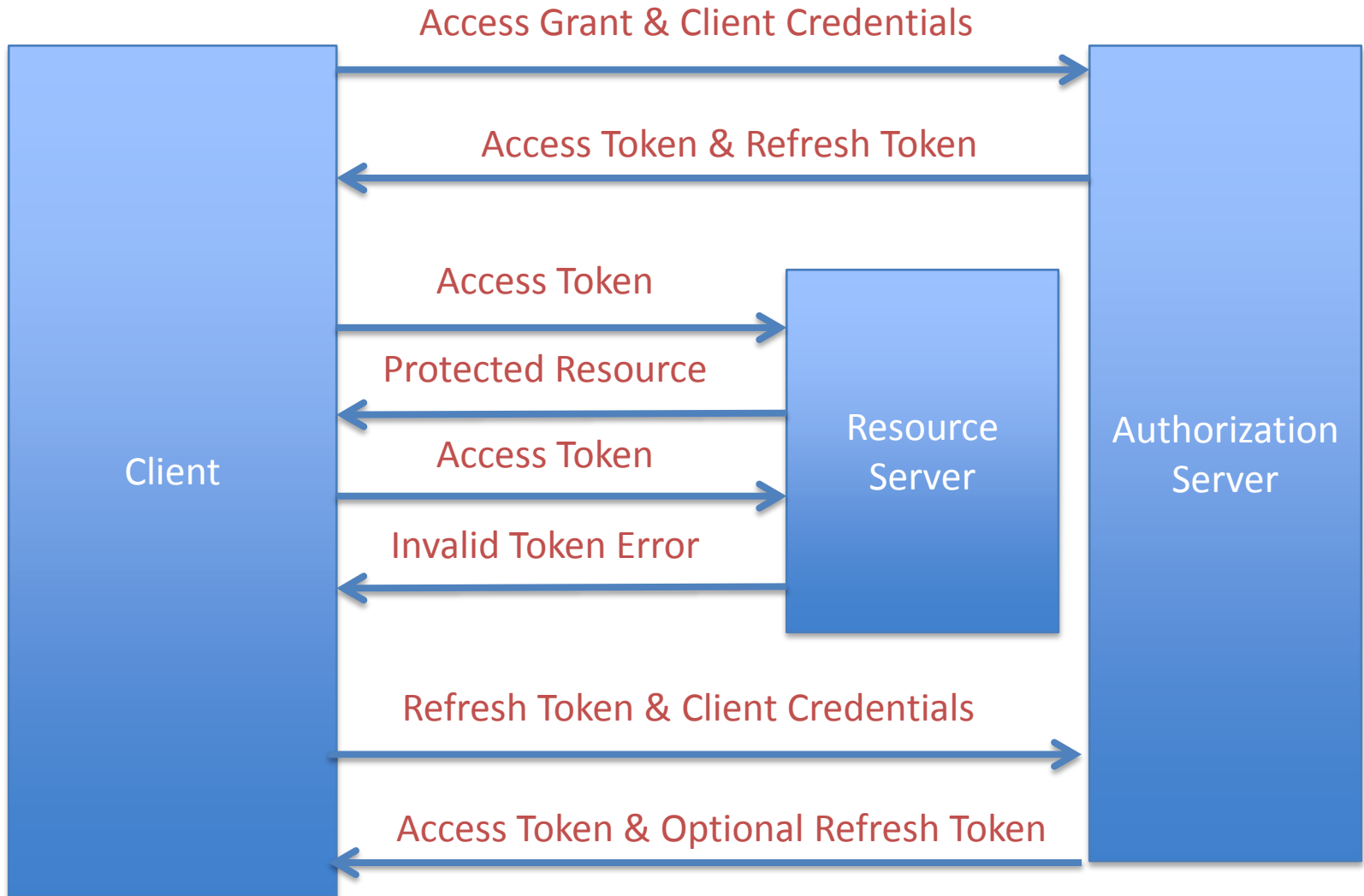
Protocol Flow

Complete Flow at Once



Protocol Flow

With Refresh Token



Protocol Flow

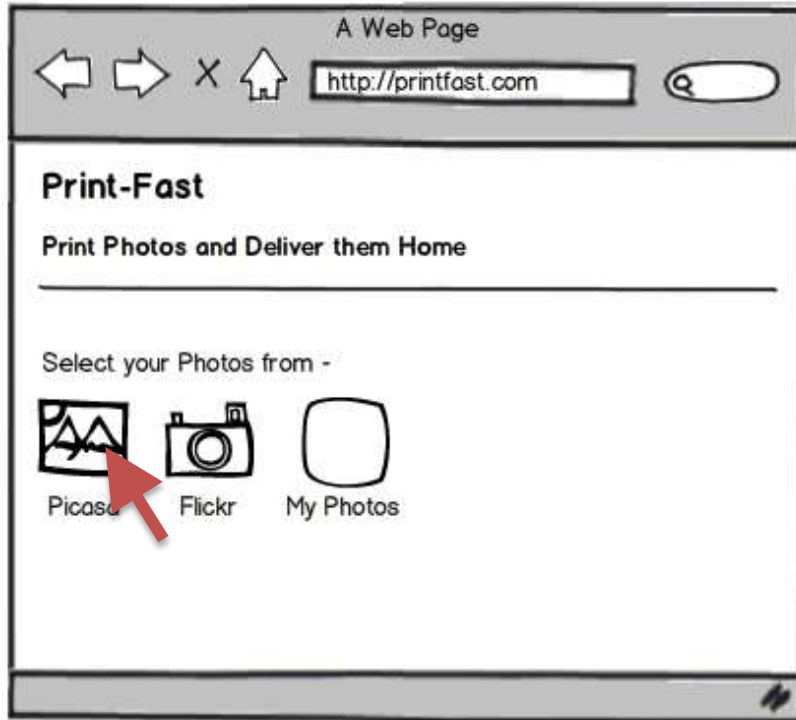
# OAuth Flows/Grant Types

- Authorization Code Grant
- Implicit Grant
- Resource Owner Password Credentials Grant
- Client Credentials Grant



# Step 1 – Get Access Token

## Implicit Grant Request



## Implicit Grant

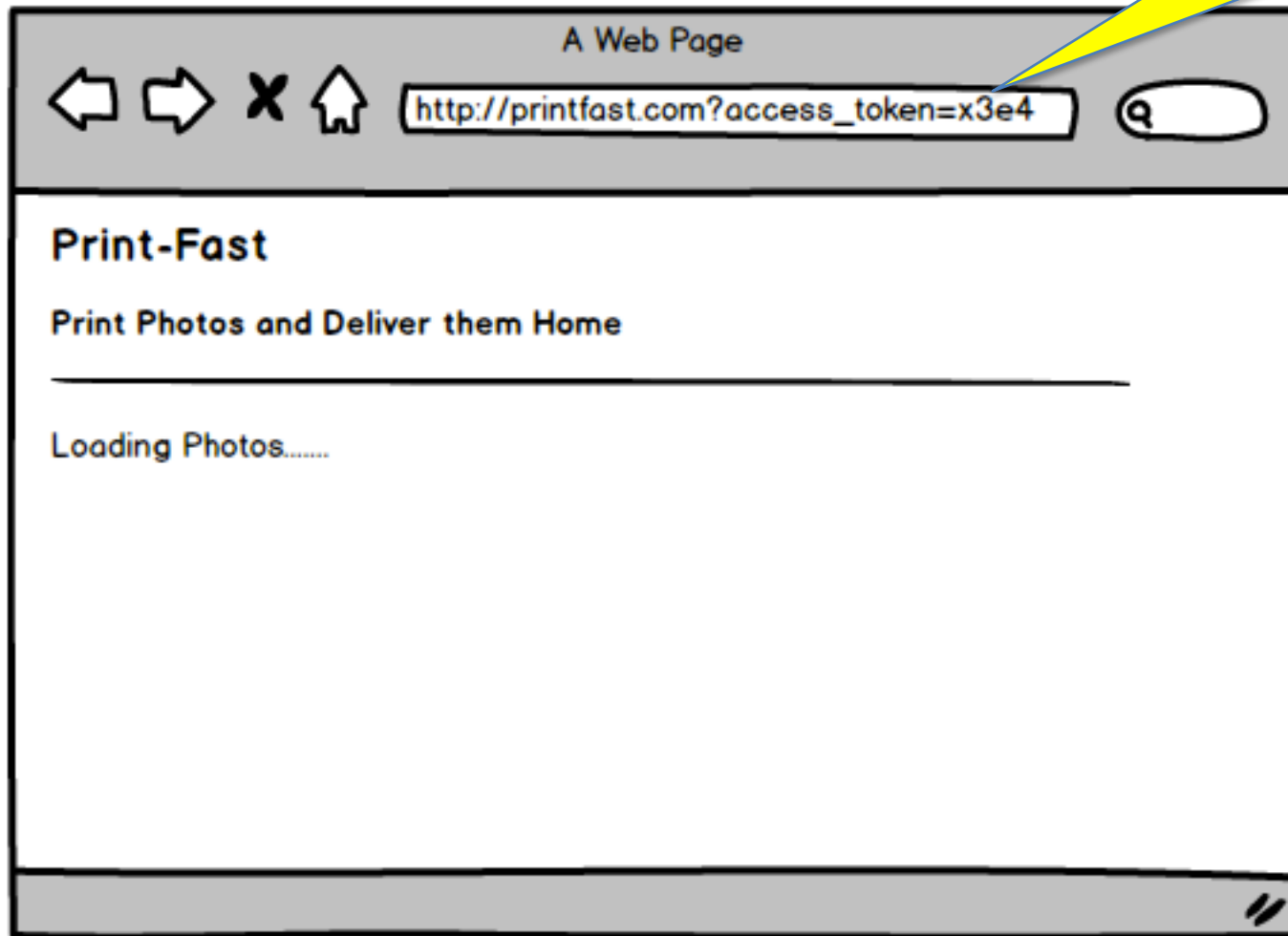


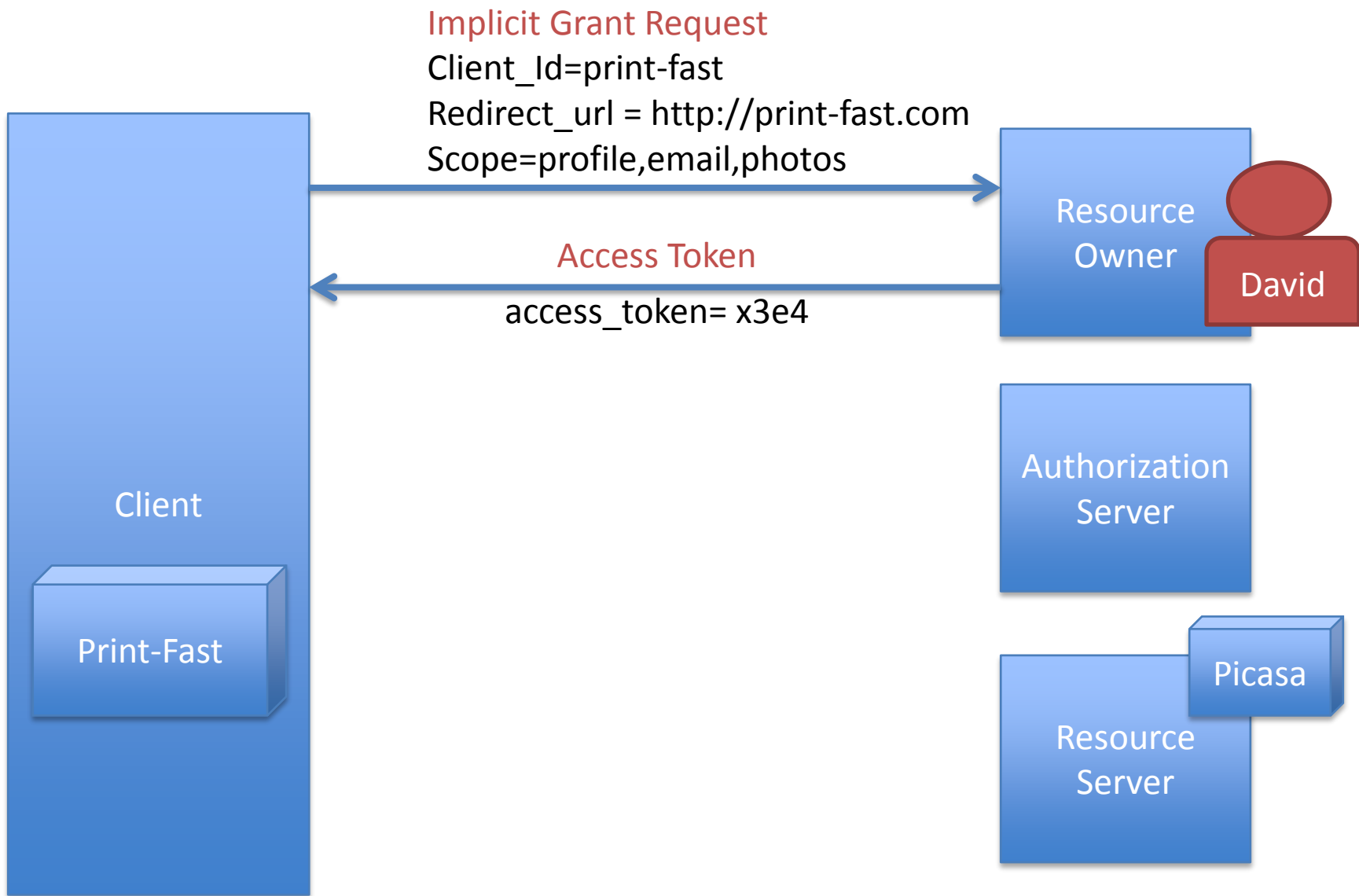
URL used is

[http://picasa.com/?client\\_id=photo-fast &scope=profile,email,photos  
&redirect\\_uri=http://print-fast.com&response\\_type=token](http://picasa.com/?client_id=photo-fast&scope=profile,email,photos&redirect_uri=http://print-fast.com&response_type=token)

Implicit Grant

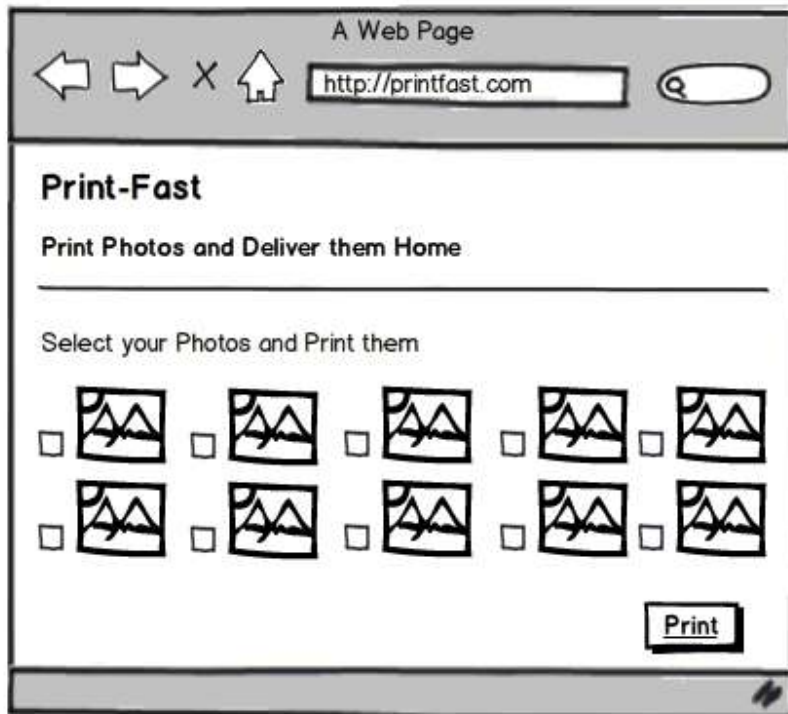
Access token = x3e4





Protocol Flow

## Step 2 – Access Protected Resources



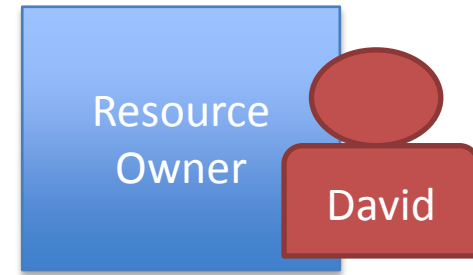
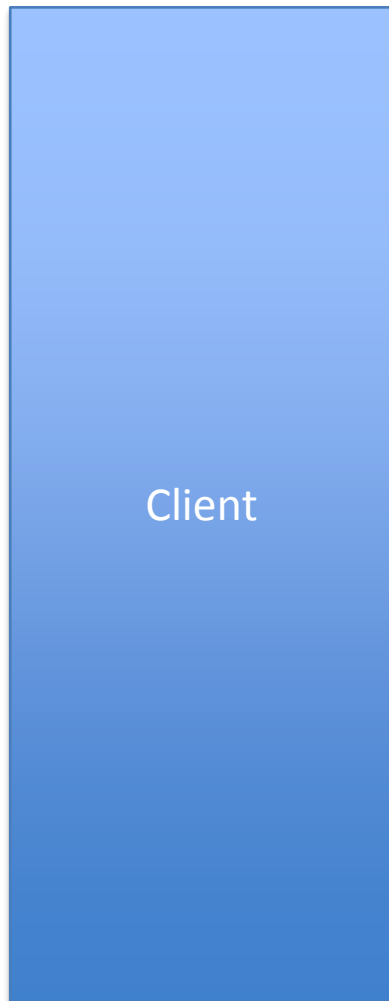
[http://picasa.com/  
.../usr133/photos](http://picasa.com/.../usr133/photos)

access\_token = x3e4

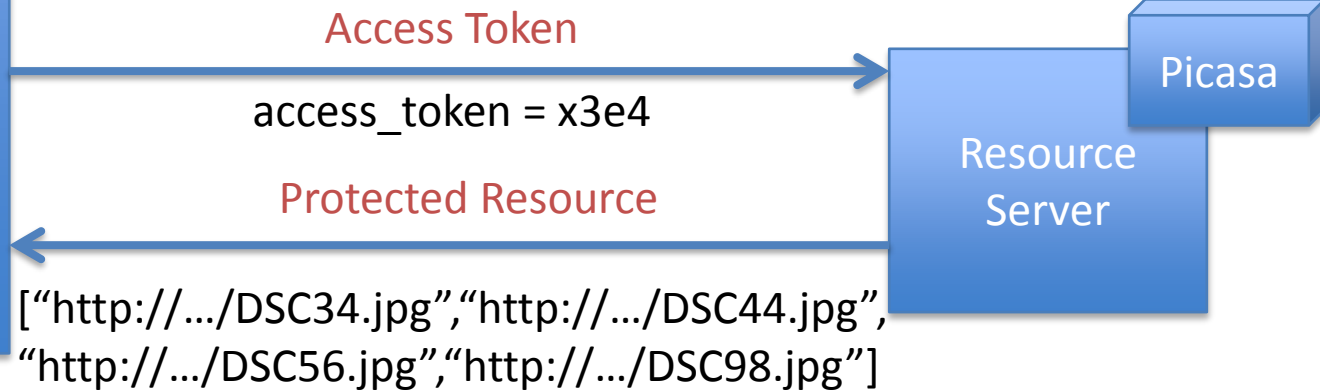


[“http://.../DSC34.jpg”,  
“http://.../DSC44.jpg”,  
“http://.../DSC56.jpg”,  
“http://.../DSC98.jpg”  
]





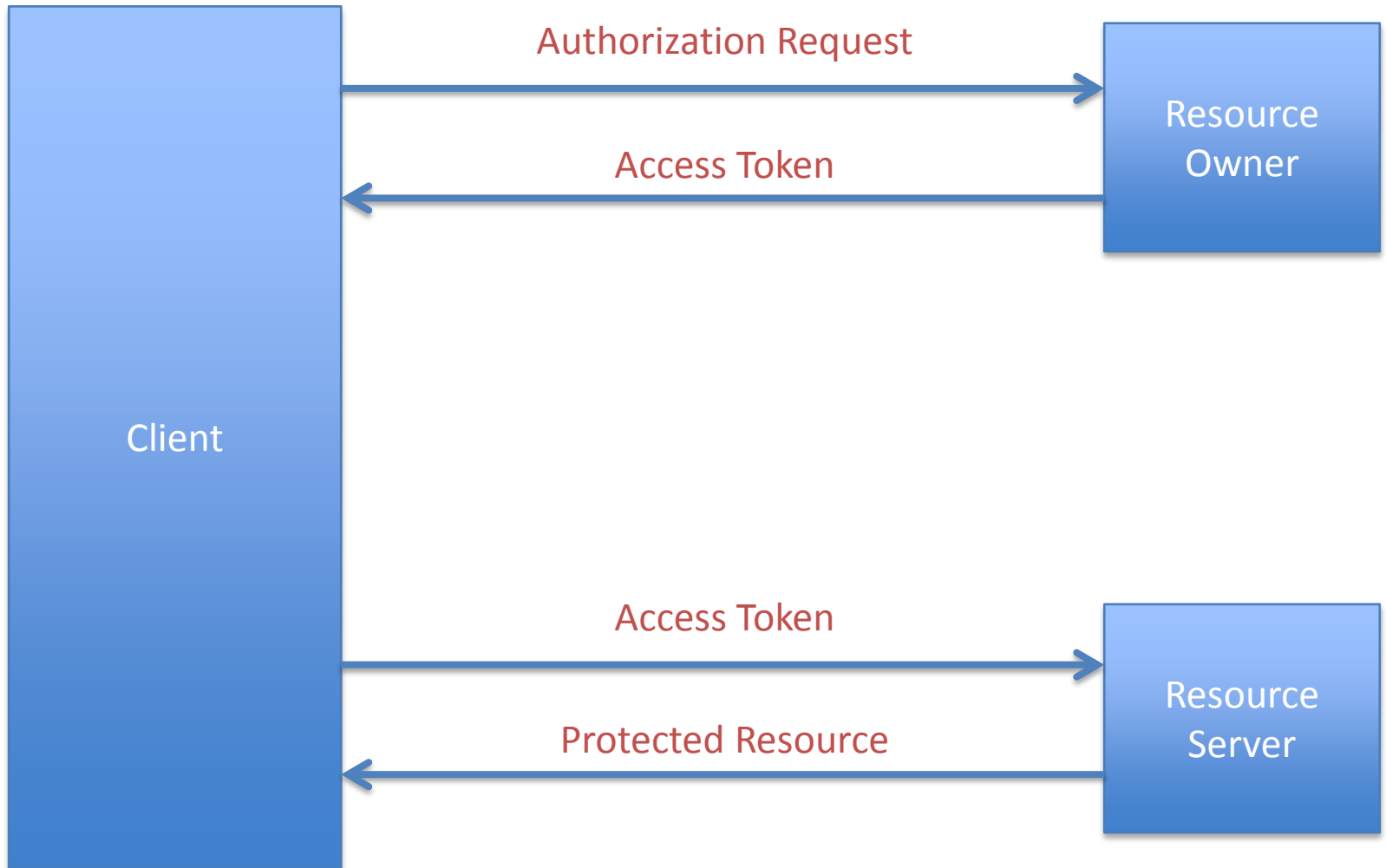
Meant for Pure Browser based Applications



Protocol Flow

Complete Flow at Once

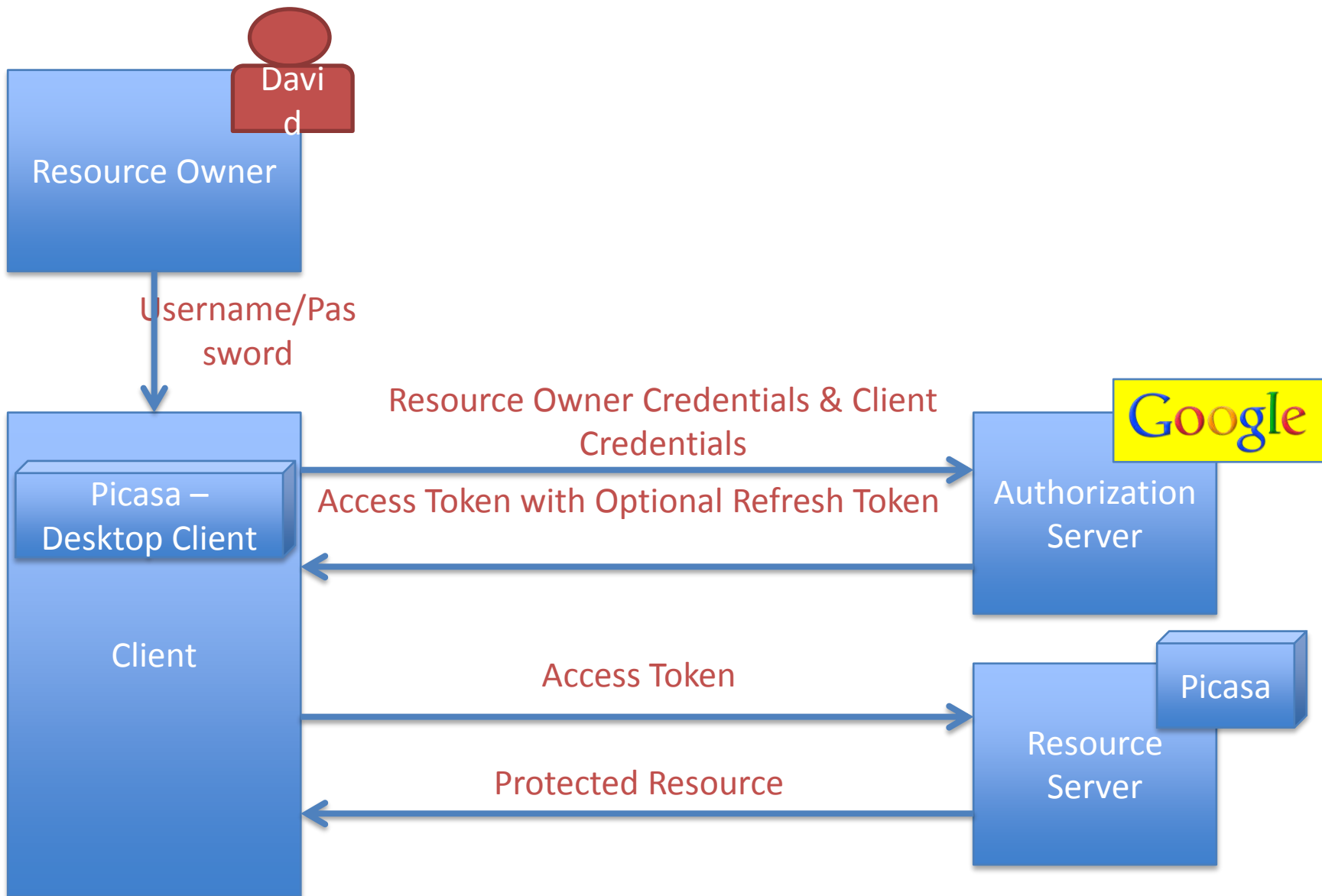




Protocol Flow

# OAuth Flows/Grant Types

- Authorization Code Grant
- Implicit Grant
- Resource Owner Password Credentials Grant
- Client Credentials Grant



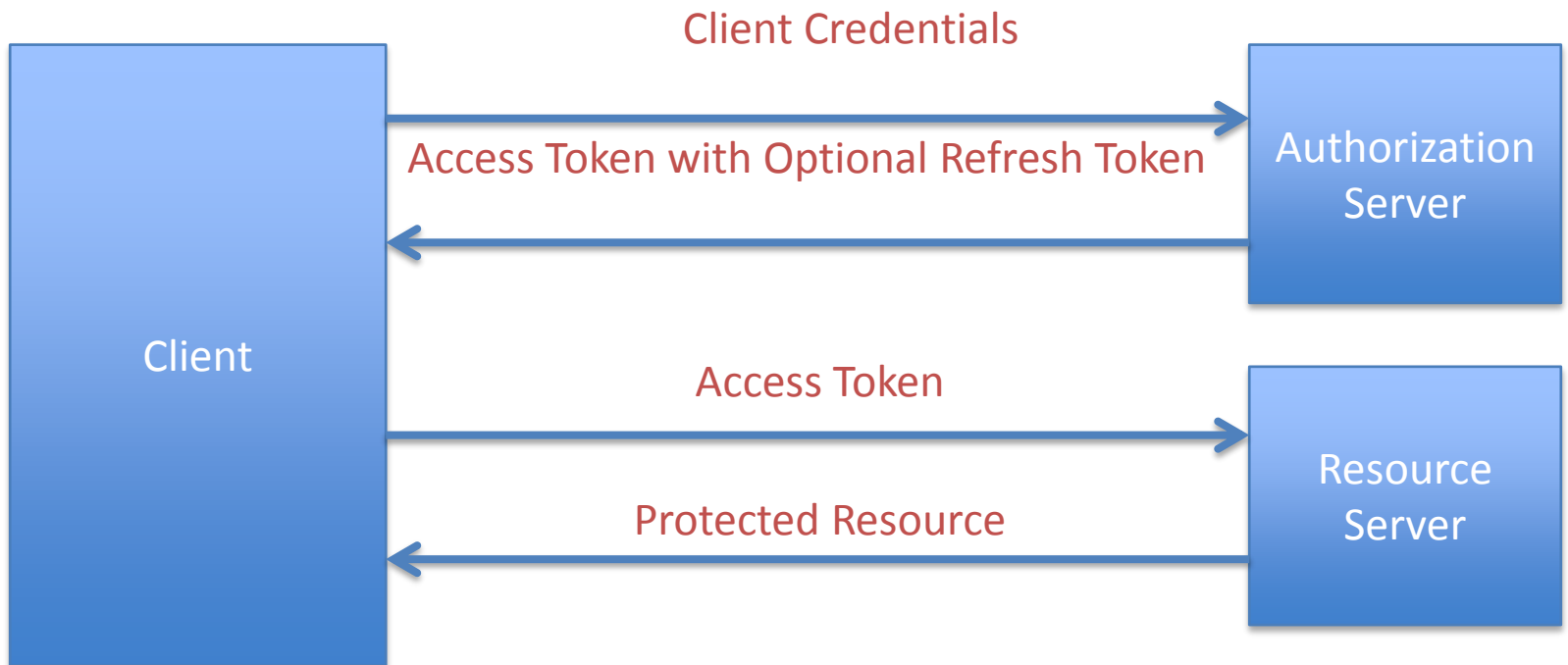
Protocol Flow

# Use Cases

- Strong Trust between Resource Owner and Client e.g Operating System or Privileged App
- Client is not supposed to store the Credentials but only the Access token and Refresh Token if provided
- Example – Salesforce OAuth has provision for this

# Grant Types

- Authorization Code Grant
- Implicit Grant
- Resource Owner Password Credentials Grant
- Client Credentials Grant



Protocol Flow

# Use case

- The Data accessed is not owned by Resource Owner, but by the Client
- Say Skype showing statistics of uptime of its services

# Use case

- There is contract already set between the Client and the Authorization Server
- E.g Google Apps Marketspace
- An App installed on Google Apps requires permission to everyone's calendar in that domain. This permission is provided by the admin and not the end user.



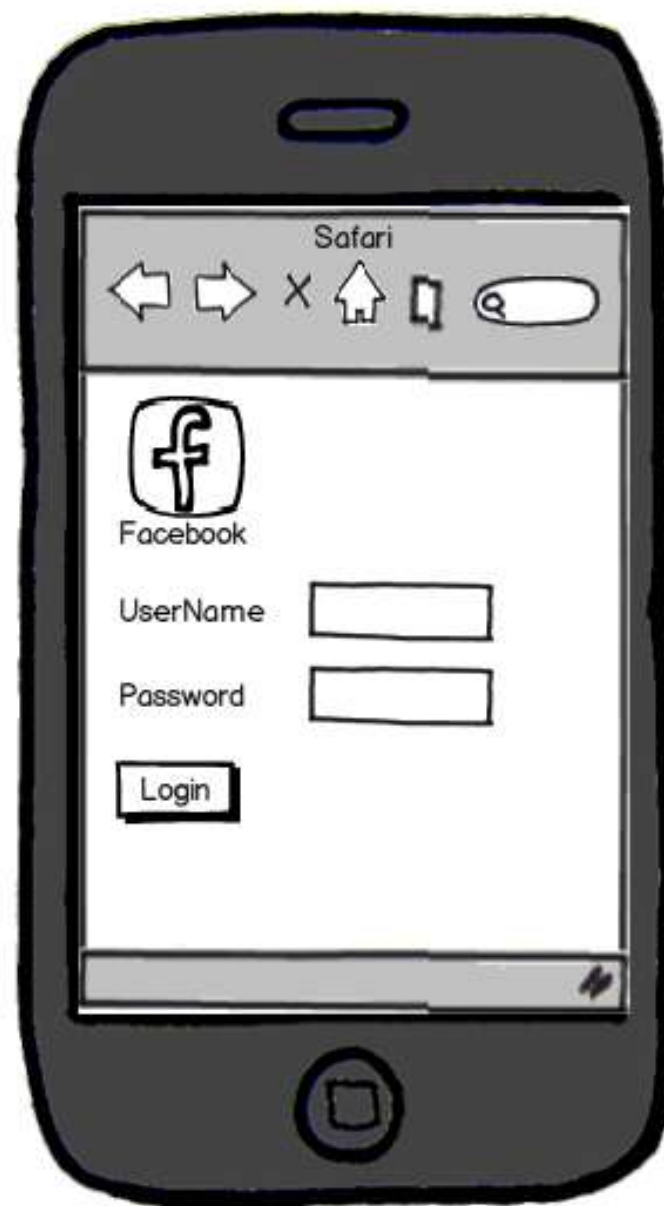
# OAuth from Mobile Device

# Popular Approaches

- Using User Agent (Stock Browser)
- Using Embedded WebView



### Using Stack Browser



# Disclaimer

- Following slides are extracted from <http://www.slideshare.net/briandavidcampbell/is-that-a-token-in-your-phone-in-your-pocket-or-are-you-just-glad-to-see-me-oauth-20-and-mobile-devices>
- I have no claim on the following slides with reference stated in them
- Thank you Brian Campbell for the excellent presentation

# Request Authorization

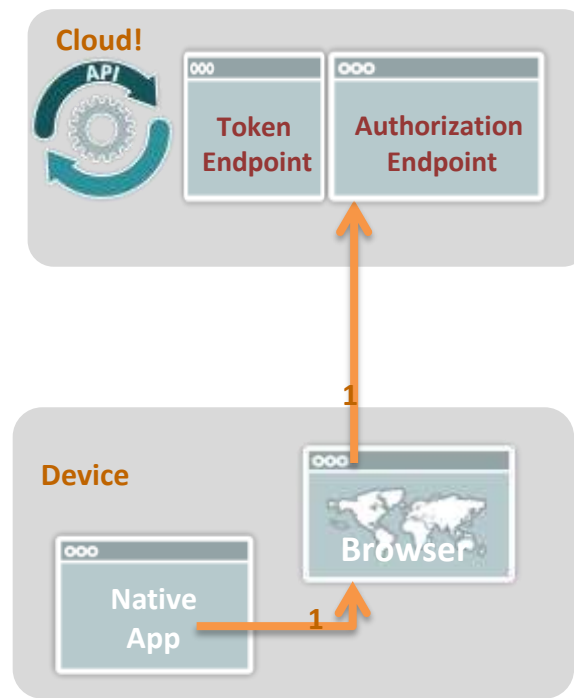
- When user first needs to access some protected resource, client opens a browser and sends user to the authorization endpoint

```
https://as.example.com/as/authorization.oauth2?client_id=myapp&response_type=code&scope=update_status
```

http://

```
Uri authzUrl =  
Uri.parse("https://as.example.com/as/authorization.oauth2?client_id=myapp&response_type=code&scope=update_status");  
Intent launchBrowser = new Intent(Intent.ACTION_VIEW, authzUrl);  
startActivity(launchBrowser);
```

```
NSString* launchUrl =  
@"https://as.example.com/as/authorization.oauth2?client_id=myapp&response_type=code&scope=update_status";  
[[UIApplication sharedApplication] openURL:[NSURL URLWithString:launchUrl]];
```



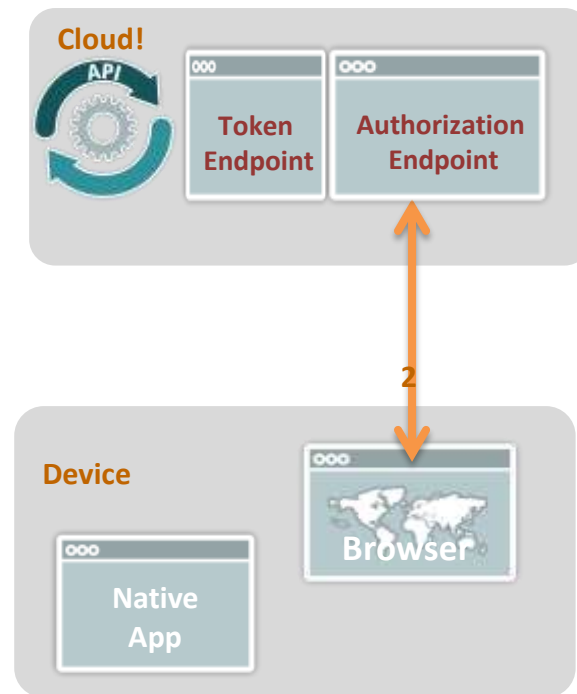
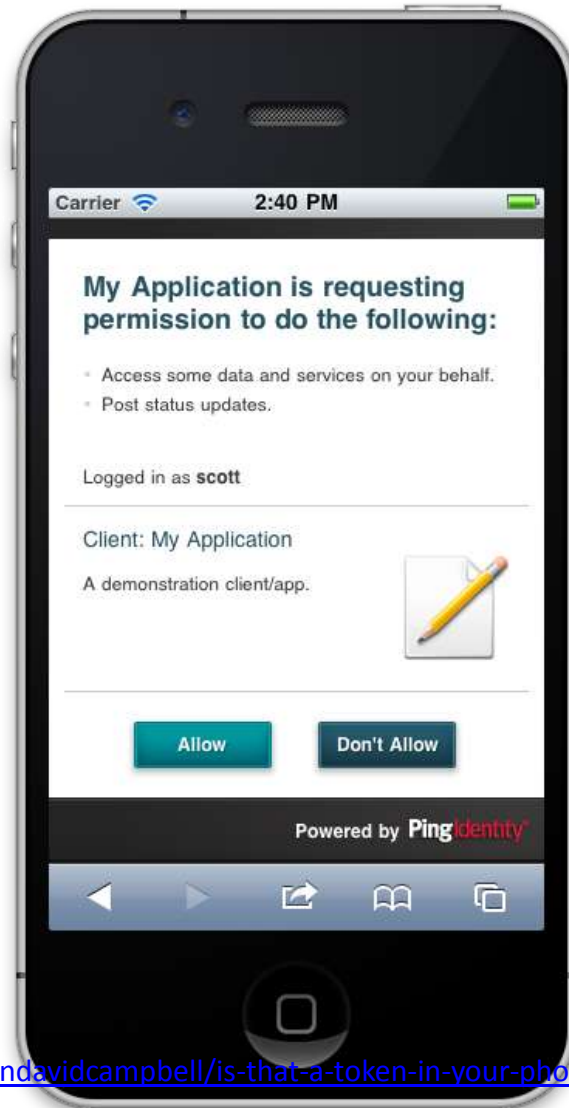
# Authenticate and Approve

- The AS authenticates the user
  - Directly
  - Indirectly via Facebook, Twitter, Google, Yahoo, etc.



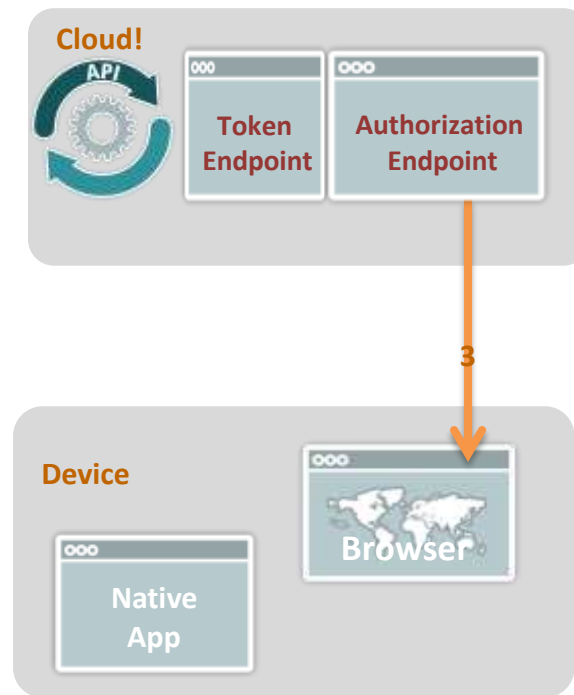
# Approve

- User approves the requested access



# Handle Callback

Server returns control to the app via HTTP redirection and includes an authorization code



HTTP/1.1 302 Found

Location: x-com.mycorp.myapp://oauth.callback?code=SpIxIOBeZQQYbYS6WxSbIA

<http://>



# Handle Callback (cont'd)

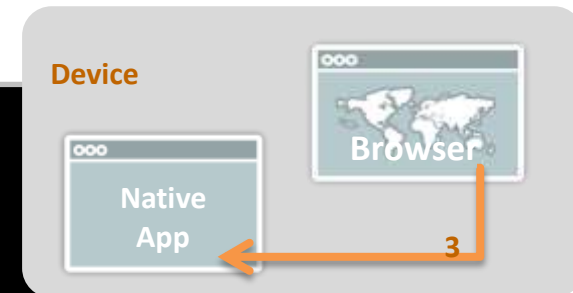
Registering a custom URI scheme



In AndroidManifest.xml file:

```
<activity android:name=".MyAppCallback" ... >
<intent-filter>
  <action android:name="android.intent.action.VIEW"/>
  <category android:name="android.intent.category.DEFAULT"/>
  <category android:name="android.intent.category.BROWSABLE"/>
  <data android:scheme="x-com.mycorp.myapp" />
</intent-filter>
</activity>
```

```
String authzCode = getIntent().getData().getQueryParameter("code");
```



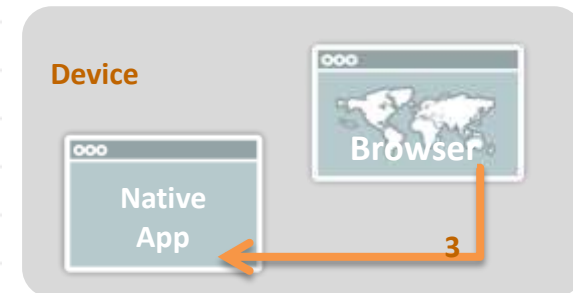
# Handle Callback (cont'd)

Registering a custom URI scheme



In app info plist file:

▼ URL types	(1 item)
▼ Item 0	(2 items)
URL identifier	www.mycorp.com
▼ URL Schemes	(1 item)
Item 0	x-com.mycorp.myapp



```
- (BOOL)application:(UIApplication *)application handleOpenURL:(NSURL *)url
{
    NSString *queryString = [url query];
    NSMutableDictionary *qsParms = [[NSMutableDictionary alloc] init];
    for (NSString *param in [queryString componentsSeparatedByString:@"&"]) {
        NSArray *elts = [param componentsSeparatedByString:@"="];
        if ([elts count] < 2) continue;
        [qsParms setObject:[elts objectAtIndex:1] forKey:[elts objectAtIndex:0]];
    };

    NSString *code = [qsParms objectForKey:@"code"];
    ...
}
```

Reference - <http://www.slideshare.net/briandavidcampbell/is-that-a-token-in-your-phone-in-your-pocket-or-are-you-just-glad-to-see-me-oauth-20-and-mobile-devices>

# Trade Code for Token(s)

## Token Endpoint Request

```
POST /as/token.oauth2 HTTP/1.1
Host: as.example.com
Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded; charset=UTF-8

client_id=myapp&grant_type=authorization_code&code=Splx10BeZQQYbYS6WxSbIA
```

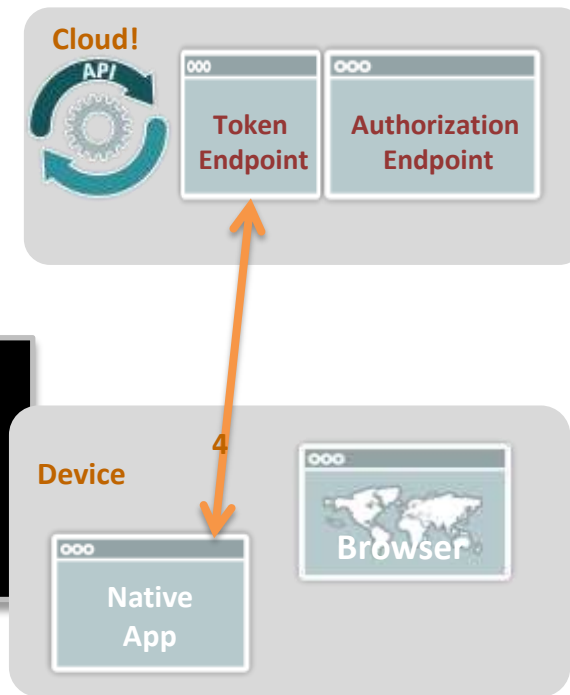
**http://**

## Token Endpoint Response

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

{
  "token_type": "Bearer",
  "expires_in": 3600,
  "access_token": "PeRTSD9RQrbiuoaHVPxV41MzW1qS",
  "refresh_token": "uyAVrtyLZ2qPzI8rQ5UUTckCdGaJsz8XE8S58ecnt8"
}
```

**http://**



# Using an Access Token

- Once an access token is obtained, it can be used to authenticate/authorize calls to the protected resources at the RS by including it in HTTP Authorization header

```
POST /api/update-status HTTP/1.1
Host: rs.example.com
Authorization: Bearer PeRTSD9RQrbiuoaHVPxV41MzWlqS
Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded;charset=UTF-8

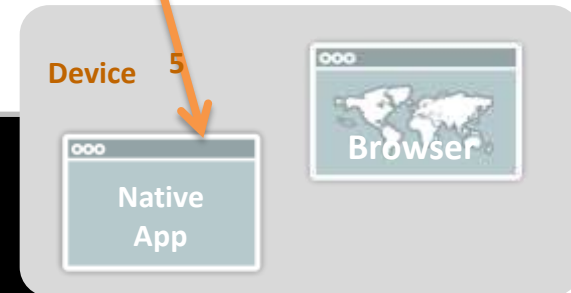
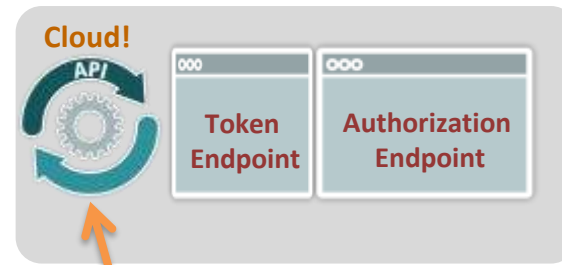
status=Almost%20done.
```

http://

```
NSString *authzHeader = [NSString stringWithFormat:@"Bearer %@", accessToken];

NSMutableURLRequest *request = [[[NSMutableURLRequest alloc] init] autorelease];
[request setURL:[NSURL URLWithString:@"https://rs.example.com/api/update-status"]];
[request setValue:authzHeader forHTTPHeaderField:@"Authorization"];
```

```
DefaultHttpClient httpClient = new DefaultHttpClient();
HttpPost post = new HttpPost("https://rs.example.com/api/update-status");
post.setHeader("Authorization", "Bearer " + accessToken);
```



Reference - <http://www.slideshare.net/briandavidcampbell/is-that-a-token-in-your-phone-in-your-pocket-or-are-you-just-glad-to-see-me-oauth-20-and-mobile-devices>

# Pros and Cons

- Pros

- User may be already logged in most cases
- User will trust as he/she sees https and domain name

- Cons

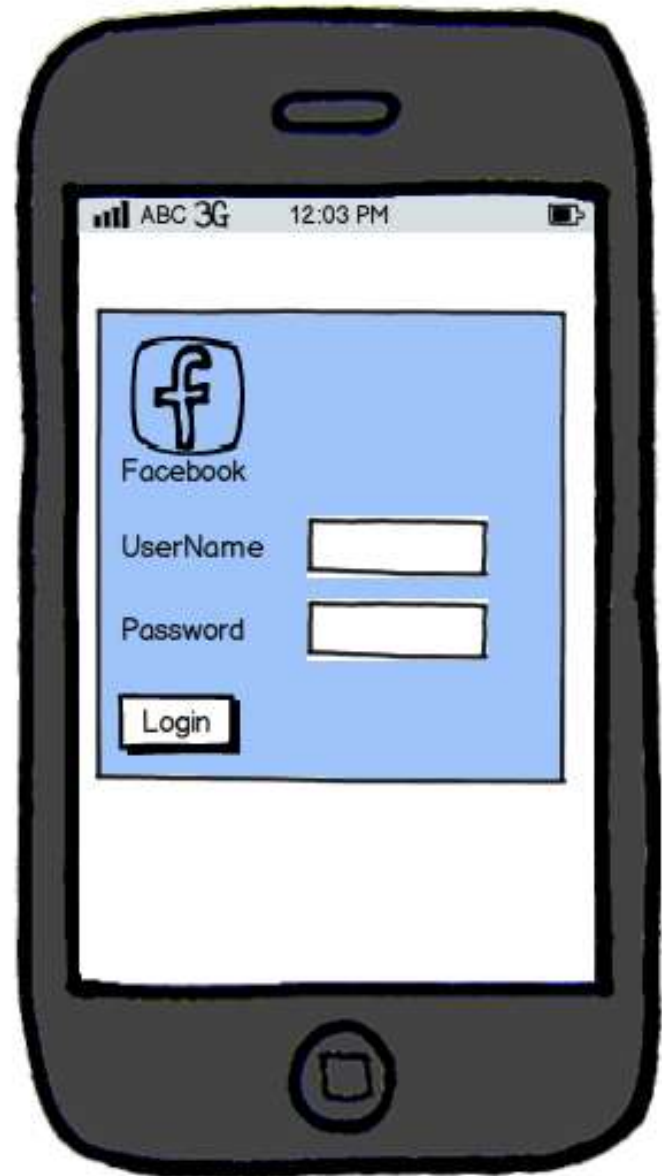
- Complicated Custom URI schema

# Popular Approaches

- Using User Agent (Stock Browser)
- Using Embedded WebView



Using WebView



# Pros and Cons

- Pros

- Easier to monitor pages and extract authorization or access codes

- Cons

- May not appeal since neither https or domain name is visible
- WebView has separate cookie and history leading to client entering credentials each time



# Reference

- Book – [Getting Started with OAuth 2.0](#)
- [Facebook Documentation](#)
- [Google Documentation](#)
- [Brian David Campbell's Presentation](#)