

Cookies, sessions and third-party authentication

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Microsoft Edge Dev @MSEdgeDev · Jan 14
The best of both worlds: a Microsoft stack-compatible browser based on the **Chromium** open source project. The wait is almost over. Get the new Microsoft **Edge** tomorrow.

Firefox
@Firefox24x7

Layoffs loom for Mozilla workers as Firefox loses share -
Fast Company

Report: Firefox maker Mozilla is laying off 70 people as it searches for revenue...
The Firefox browser is nowhere near as popular by marketshare as it once was.
fastcompany.com

197 793

Learning goals

- **Decide** for a given usage scenario whether cookies or sessions are suitable
- **Explain and implement** cookie usage
- **Explain and implement** session usage
- **Implement** third-party authentication

Introduction to cookies and sessions

Recall: HTTP

- HTTP is **stateless**
- HTTP requests contain **all necessary information**
- Web servers do not need to keep track of the requests received
- Advantage: simple server architecture
- Disadvantage: clients have to resend **the same information** in every request

We do a lot of things on the web requiring a known state

- bol.com keeps your shopping cart full, even when you leave the website
- nytimes.com keeps track of the number of articles you have already read this month
- twitter.com keeps you logged in when closing the browser tab.

Not the stateless web is the norm, but the stateful one. Cookies and sessions are today's major* technologies to achieve a stateful web.

* MDN begs to differ:

https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Learn/JavaScript/Client-side_web_APIs/Client-side_storage

Cookies cannot ...

- Execute programs
- Access information from a user's hard drive
- Generate spam
- Be read by arbitrary parties
 - Only the server setting the cookie can access it
 - But: beware of third-party cookies

Friday, January 17, 2020

The New York Times

ENGLISH ESPAÑOL 中文

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Your Friday Briefing Here's what you need to know.

Listen to 'The Daily' What will happen next with impeachment?

In the 'Climate Fwd:' Newsletter One thing we can do: Fix recycling.

S&P 500 +0.84% ↑ Dow +0.92% ↑ Nasdaq +1.06% ↑

9°C 11° 4° Delft, Netherlands

For Third Time in History, a President Goes on Trial

Somber Ritual Unfolds in Senate as New Ukraine Evidence Emerges

Chief Justice John Roberts was sworn in as the presiding officer of President Trump's impeachment trial, and senators vowed to deliver "impartial justice."

Meanwhile, a trove of records handed over by an associate of Rudy Giuliani offered new details about the pressure campaign in Ukraine.

6h ago 909 comments

Highlights: Senate Lays Groundwork for Trial

House impeachment managers read the charges against President Trump to the Senate, and senators took an oath, vowing to do "impartial justice." Doug Mills/The New York Times

Senators May Judge Based on an Incomplete Story

New revelations are still emerging on the facts of the accusations against Mr. Trump.

6h ago

Lawmakers Could Pull the C-Span Plug at Critical Moments

There will be bitter debates and intense legal wrangling. Much of it is likely to happen behind closed doors.

9h ago

Trump Administration Broke Law in Blocking Ukraine Aid, Watchdog Says

The agency said blocking the military assistance violated a law that limits a president's power to withhold money allocated by Congress.

The few times President Trump did anything in public on Thursday, it was clear impeachment was on his mind.

7h ago

Client-side storage options

responsive design mode

Name	Domain	Path	Expires	LastAccessed	Value	HttpOnly	SameSite
__gads	.nytimes.com	/	Sun, 16 Jan 2022 ...	Fri, 17 Jan 2020 0...	ID=03368d7a47c43894:	false	Unset
__cb_ls	www.nytime...	/	Mon, 15 Feb 2021 ...	Fri, 17 Jan 2020 0...	1	false	Unset
__cb_svref	www.nytime...	/	Fri, 17 Jan 2020 1...	Fri, 17 Jan 2020 0...	null	false	Unset
_cb	www.nytime...	/	Mon, 15 Feb 2021 ...	Fri, 17 Jan 2020 0...	B92aYWCM7IVzCZURxG	false	Unset
_chartbe...	www.nytime...	/	Mon, 15 Feb 2021 ...	Fri, 17 Jan 2020 0...	.1510822365866.1579254723104.0000101010011101.DFigvMDO0CbgBzGzhBeBcqED_DDmM.6	false	Unset
_chartbe...	www.nytime...	/	Fri, 17 Jan 2020 0...	Fri, 17 Jan 2020 0...	t=BtWStWDILWFyBo_klxC_bzBaCToDR&E=31&x=26&c=0.75&y=9124&w=955	false	Unset
_gat_UA...	.nytimes.com	/	Fri, 17 Jan 2020 0...	Fri, 17 Jan 2020 0...	1	false	Unset
_gcl_au	.nytimes.com	/	Thu, 16 Apr 2020 ...	Fri, 17 Jan 2020 0...	1.1.252285396.1579254265	false	Unset
b2b_cig_...	.nytimes.com	/	Thu, 16 Apr 2020 ...	Fri, 17 Jan 2020 0...	%7B%22isCorpUser%22%3Afalse%7D	false	Unset
edu_cig_...	.nytimes.com	/	Thu, 16 Apr 2020 ...	Fri, 17 Jan 2020 0...	%7B%22isEduUser%22%3Atrue%7D	false	Unset
iter_id	.nytimes.com	/	Mon, 14 Jan 2030 ...	Fri, 17 Jan 2020 0...	eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiIsInR5cCI6IkpXVCJ9 eyJhaWQiOii1ZTixODFmYWVhYzE4ODAwMDFIMTRkYTkiL...	false	Unset
nyt-a	.nytimes.com	/	Sat, 16 Jan 2021 0...	Fri, 17 Jan 2020 0...	qRWalt5ghzBxnyhO0EmP71Gy	false	Unset
nyt-gdpr	.nytimes.com	/	Fri, 17 Jan 2020 1...	Fri, 17 Jan 2020 0...	1	false	Unset
nyt-geo	.nytimes.com	/	Fri, 17 Jan 2020 1...	Fri, 17 Jan 2020 0...	NL	false	Unset
nyt-jkidd	.nytimes.com	/	Sat, 16 Jan 2021 0...	Fri, 17 Jan 2020 0...	uid=79469397&lastRequest=1579254720556&activeDays=%5B0%2C0%2C0%2C0%2C0%2C0%2C0...	false	Unset
nyt-m	.nytimes.com	/	Fri, 17 Jan 2025 0...	Fri, 17 Jan 2020 0...	A160F2F6F7C910674688CA977B17E62B&uuid=s.4b656272-93e9-471c-a30d-e73de4136e6d&fv=i...	false	Unset
nyt-purr	.nytimes.com	/	Sat, 16 Jan 2021 0...	Fri, 17 Jan 2020 0...	cjh	false	Unset
NYT-T	.nytimes.com	/	Mon, 14 Jan 2030 ...	Fri, 17 Jan 2020 0...	ok	false	Unset

Cookies = the server's short term memory

Cookies and sessions are ways to **introduce state** on top of the stateless HTTP.

Cookie: a short amount of text (**key/value**) sent by the server and stored by the client for some amount of time.

Minimum client storage requirements (RFC6265)

- Store at least **4096 bytes** per cookie
- Store at least **50** cookies per domain
- Store at least **3000** cookies total.

They have been around since the early 1990s.

Cookie security

- **Visible** to clients
- Clients can **delete/disallow** them
- Clients can **alter** them
 - Line of attack: **servers** should not send sensitive information in cookies
- **Sessions** are preferable to cookies
 - Sessions make use of cookies
 - Cookie contains only the session identifier

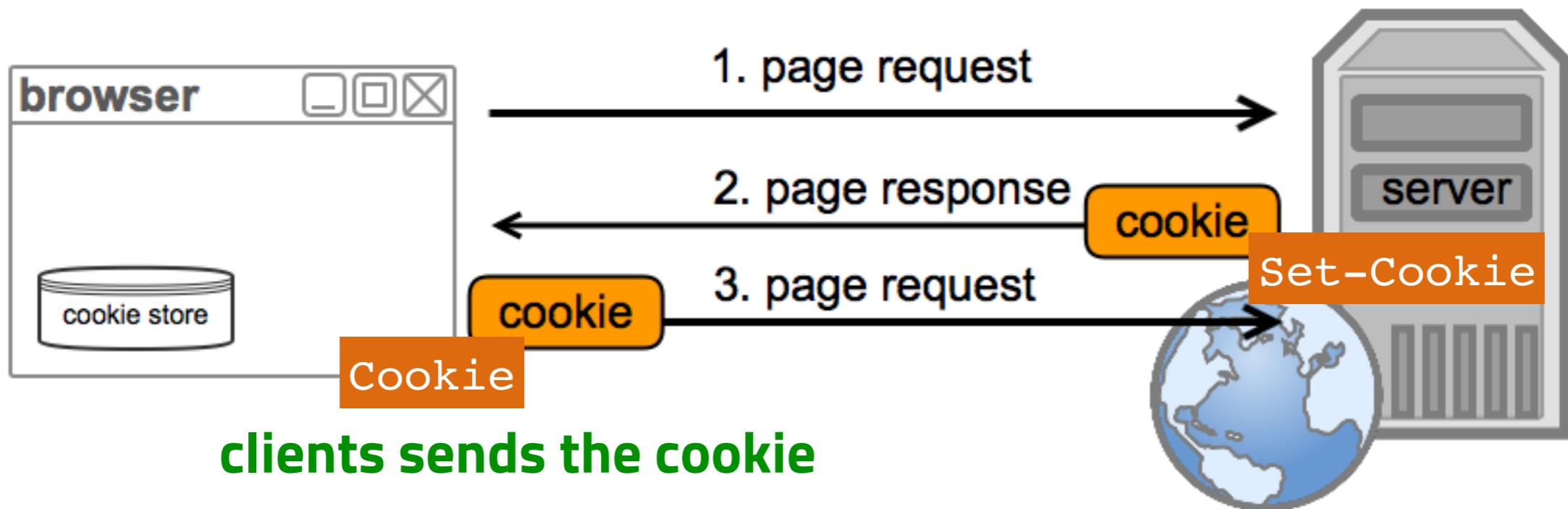
A word of warning: RFC6265

“This document defines the HTTP **Cookie** and **Set-Cookie** header fields. These header fields can be used by HTTP servers **to store state** (called cookies) at HTTP user agents, letting the servers maintain a **stateful session** over the mostly stateless HTTP protocol.

Although cookies have many historical infelicities that degrade their security and privacy, the Cookie and Set-Cookie header fields are widely used on the Internet. ”

Cookie flow

**server sends a cookie once;
resends when key/value changes**



**clients sends the cookie
back in every request**

- Encoded in the **HTTP header**
- Web frameworks offer designated methods
- Cookies are **bound** to a **site domain name** (security feature)

Cookies in more detail

and a bit about Firefox Extensions

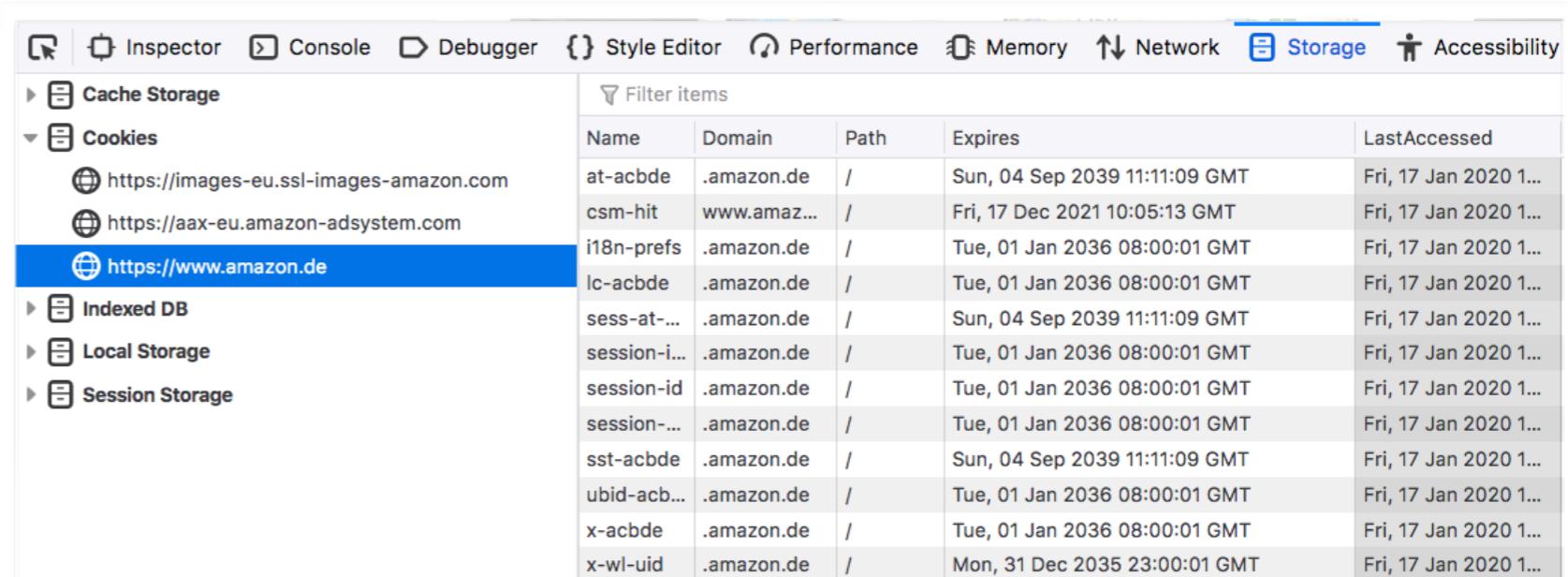
Transient vs. persistent cookies

- **Transient** (or session) cookies:
 - Exist in memory only; deleted when the browser is closed
 - Cookies are transient if **no expiration date** is defined
- **Persistent** cookies:
 - Remain intact after the browser is closed
 - Have a **maximum age**
 - Are **send back to the server** as long as they are **valid**

Not the tab or window!

Cookie fields

- **cookie-name=cookie-value** the only **required** field
- **Expires** (expiration date) or **Max-Age** (*seconds* until it expires)
- **Domain** the cookie is associated with; cookies can only be assigned to the **same domain** the server is running on
- **Path** the cookie is applied to (automatic wildcarding):
 - / matches all pages, /todos all pages within todos, etc.
- Possible flags:
 - **Secure**
 - **httpOnly**
 - **Signed**



The screenshot shows the 'Storage' tab in a browser developer tools interface. On the left, there's a tree view with 'Cache Storage', 'Cookies' (which is expanded), 'Indexed DB', 'Local Storage', and 'Session Storage'. Under 'Cookies', there are entries for 'https://images-eu.ssl-images-amazon.com' and 'https://aax-eu.amazon-adsystem.com'. One cookie from 'https://www.amazon.de' is selected and highlighted with a blue background. The main area is a table listing cookies:

Name	Domain	Path	Expires	LastAccessed
at-acbde	.amazon.de	/	Sun, 04 Sep 2039 11:11:09 GMT	Fri, 17 Jan 2020 1...
csm-hit	www.amaz...	/	Fri, 17 Dec 2021 10:05:13 GMT	Fri, 17 Jan 2020 1...
i18n-prefs	.amazon.de	/	Tue, 01 Jan 2036 08:00:01 GMT	Fri, 17 Jan 2020 1...
lc-acbde	.amazon.de	/	Tue, 01 Jan 2036 08:00:01 GMT	Fri, 17 Jan 2020 1...
sess-at-...	.amazon.de	/	Sun, 04 Sep 2039 11:11:09 GMT	Fri, 17 Jan 2020 1...
session-i...	.amazon.de	/	Tue, 01 Jan 2036 08:00:01 GMT	Fri, 17 Jan 2020 1...
session-id	.amazon.de	/	Tue, 01 Jan 2036 08:00:01 GMT	Fri, 17 Jan 2020 1...
session-...	.amazon.de	/	Tue, 01 Jan 2036 08:00:01 GMT	Fri, 17 Jan 2020 1...
sst-acbde	.amazon.de	/	Sun, 04 Sep 2039 11:11:09 GMT	Fri, 17 Jan 2020 1...
ubid-acb...	.amazon.de	/	Tue, 01 Jan 2036 08:00:01 GMT	Fri, 17 Jan 2020 1...
x-acbde	.amazon.de	/	Tue, 01 Jan 2036 08:00:01 GMT	Fri, 17 Jan 2020 1...
x-wl-uid	.amazon.de	/	Mon, 31 Dec 2035 23:00:01 GMT	Fri, 17 Jan 2020 1...

Making cookies more robust

- **Secure** cookies:
 - Ensures that cookies are sent via HTTPS
- **HttpOnly** cookies:
 - Cookies are **not accessible** to non-HTTP entities (e.g. client-side **JavaScript**)
 - Minimises the threat of cookie theft
 - Should always be applied **Hash Message Authentication Code** (HMAC)
- **Signed** cookies (appended **HMAC[value]**):
 - Server can check whether the **value** has been **tampered** with by the client `s%3Amonster.TdcGYBnkcvJsd0%2FNcE2L%2Bb8M55ge0uAQt48mDZ6Rp0U`

Secure flag via HTTP: the cookie will **not** be sent

Hash Message Authentication Code (HMAC)

Cookie field Domain

- **Origin: request domain** of the cookie (a cookie is always applicable to its origin server)

```
GET http://www.my_site.nl/todos → www.my_site.nl
```

- Port or scheme can differ, the received cookie is also applicable to `https://www.my_site.nl:3005`
- A cookie's **Domain** attribute has to cover the **origin domain**
 - If not set, a cookie is only applicable to its origin domain (a cookie from `www.my_site.nl` is not applicable to `my_site.nl`)
 - If set, a cookie is applicable to the domain listed in the attribute and all its **subdomains**

```
GET http://www.my_site.nl/todos  
Set-Cookie: name=value; Path=/; Domain=my_site.nl
```

www.my_site.nl todos.my_site.nl
serverA.admin.todos.my_site.nl



Server to client



name/value pairs

+

cookie fields

Client to server



name/value pairs

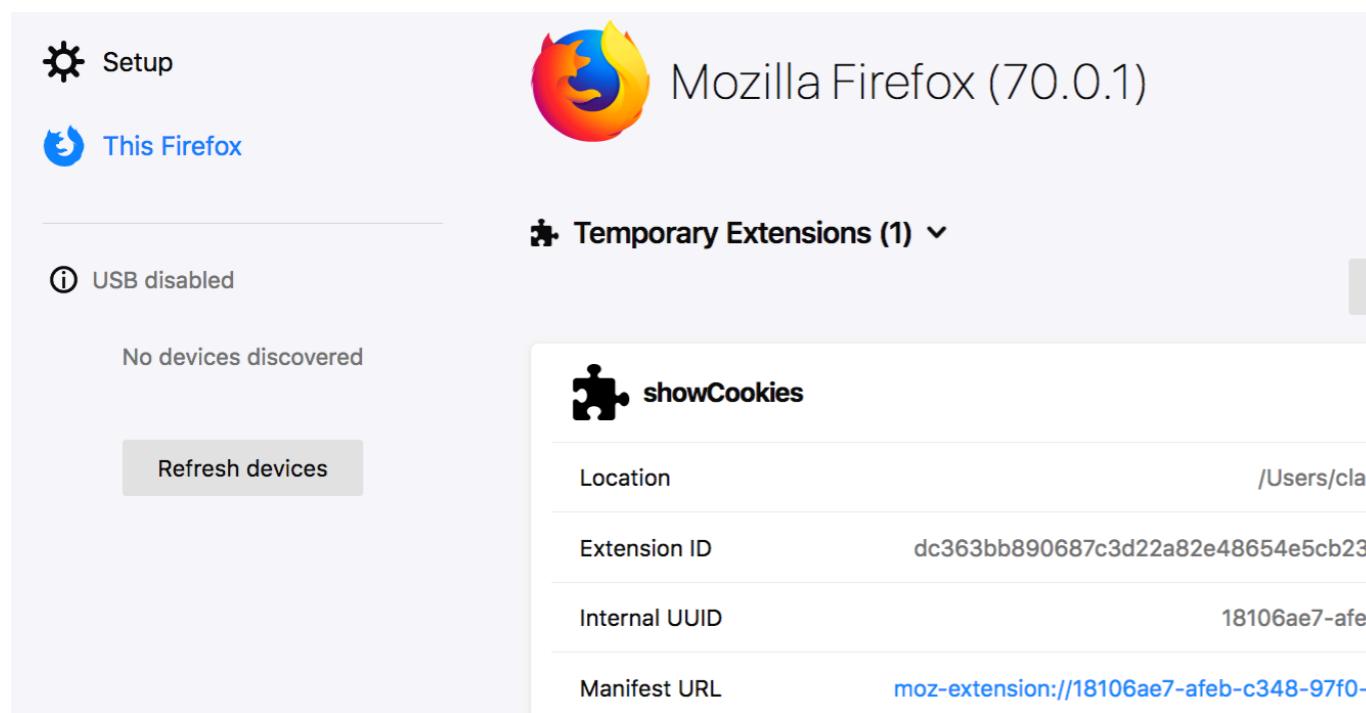
Excursion ...

Extensions (here: Firefox-specific, but very similar for Chrome)

Idea: for every website to visit, see the cookie name/values pairs displayed on the left-hand side of the screen.



manifest.json
showCookies.json



```
{  
  "manifest_version": 2,  
  "name": "showCookies",  
  "version": "0.1",  
  "description": "Show off cookies.",  
  "content_scripts": [  
    {  
      "matches": [  
        "<all_urls>"  
      ],  
      "js": [  
        "showCookies.js"  
      ]  
    }  
  ]  
}
```

address bar about:debugging

Extensions



manifest.json
showCookies.json

1. Create a <div> element.
2. Style the <div>.
3. Create a <h2> with the num. of cookies**.
4. Walk over the cookies available through JS and create a <p> element for each.
5. Style each <p>.
6. Append each <p> to the <div>.
7. Append the <div> to <body>.

```
let cookieWindow = document.createElement("div");
cookieWindow.style.position = "absolute";
cookieWindow.style.top = "0px";
cookieWindow.style.left = "0px";
cookieWindow.style.width = "400px";
cookieWindow.style.height = "100%";
cookieWindow.style.opacity = "0.8";
cookieWindow.style.color = "navy";
cookieWindow.style.zIndex = "999";
cookieWindow.style.backgroundColor = "gold";
cookieWindow.style.padding = "10px";
cookieWindow.style.wordWrap = "break-word";

let cookiesArray = document.cookie.split('; ');

let header = document.createElement("h2");
header.textContent = cookiesArray.length + " cookies";
cookieWindow.appendChild(header);

for (let i = 0; i < cookiesArray.length; i++) {
    let cookie = cookiesArray[i].split "=";
    let para = document.createElement("p");
    para.style.padding = "5px";
    para.style.fontSize = "110%";
    if (i % 2 == 0) {
        para.style.backgroundColor = "seashell";
    }
    else {
        para.style.backgroundColor = "mistyrose";
    }
    para.textContent = cookie[0] + " => " + cookie[1];
    cookieWindow.appendChild(para);
}

document.body.appendChild(cookieWindow);
```

The screenshot shows the Visual Studio Code interface with the following details:

- EXPLORER** sidebar: Shows the project structure under "OPEN EDITORS" and "WEB-TEACHING". The "node-cookies-ex" folder is selected.
- app.js** editor tab: The current file being edited.
- Code Content:**

```
You, 2 months ago | 1 author (You)
1 var express = require("express");
2 var http = require("http");
3 var credentials = require("./credentials");
4 var cookies = require("cookie-parser");
5
6 console.log("credentials: " + credentials.cookieSecret);
7 var app = express();
8 app.use(cookies(credentials.cookieSecret));
9
10 var port = process.argv[2];
11 http.createServer(app).listen(port);
12
13 app.get("/sendMeCookies", function (req, res) {
14   console.log("Handing out cookies");
15   res.cookie("chocolate", "kruemel");
16   res.cookie("signed_chocolate", "monster", { signed: true });
17   res.send();
18 });
19
20 app.get("/listAllCookies", function (req, res) {
21   console.log("++ unsigned ++");
22   console.log(req.cookies);
23   console.log("++ signed ++");
24   console.log(req.signedCookies);
25   res.clearCookie("chocolate");
26   res.send();
27 });
```
- Bottom Status Bar:**
 - PROBLEMS OUTPUT DEBUG CONSOLE TERMINAL
 - 1: bash
 - warning: refname 'HEAD' is ambiguous.
 - warning: refname 'HEAD' is ambiguous.
 - 2018-11-30 11:04:35 Cladias-MacBook-Air in ~/GitHub/Web-Teaching
 - ± |master → origin ↗29 {5} ✓| →

Demo time: node-cookies-ex

Cookies in Express

```
1 var express = require("express");
2 var http = require("http");
3 var credentials = require('./credentials.js');
4 var cookies = require("cookie-parser");
5
6 var app = express();
7 app.use(cookies(credentials.cookieSecret));
8 http.createServer(app).listen(port);
9
10 app.get("/sendMeCookies", function (req, res) {
11   console.log("Handing out cookies");
12   res.cookie("chocolate", "kruemel");
13   res.cookie("signed_choco", "monster", { signed: true});
14   res.send();
15 });
16
17 app.get("/listAllCookies", function (req, res) {
18   console.log("++++ unsigned ++++");
19   console.log(req.cookies);
20   console.log("++++ signed ++++");
21   console.log(req.signedCookies);
22   res.send();
23 });
```

cookie-parser middleware

creating cookies

signing a cookie

reading cookies

Accessing and deleting cookies in Express

- **Accessing the value** of a particular key/value pair:

```
var val = req.signedCookies.signed_choco;
```

cookie key

- **Deleting** a cookie:

```
res.clearCookie('chocolate');
```

delete in the **response!**

```
res.clearCookie = function clearCookie(name, options) {  
  var opts = merge({ expires: new Date(1), path: '/' }, options);  
  
  return this.clearCookie(name, '', opts);  
};
```

Express code base

A more pessimistic view

Evercookie

“evercookie is a javascript API available that produces **extremely persistent cookies** in a browser. Its goal is to **identify a client** even **after they've removed standard cookies** [...] evercookie accomplishes this by storing the cookie data in **several types of storage mechanisms** that are available on the local browser. Additionally, if evercookie has found the user has removed any of the types of cookies in question, it **recreates** them using each mechanism available.”

Evercookie

Browser Storage Mechanisms

Client browsers must support as many of the following storage mechanisms as possible in order for Evercookie to be effective.

- Standard [HTTP Cookies](#)
- Flash [Local Shared Objects](#)
- Silverlight [Isolated Storage](#)
- CSS [History Knocking](#)
- Storing cookies in [HTTP ETags](#) ([Backend server required](#))
- Storing cookies in [Web cache](#) ([Backend server required](#))
- [HTTP Strict Transport Security \(HSTS\)](#) Pinning (works in Incognito mode)
- [window.name caching](#)
- Internet Explorer [userData storage](#)
- [HTML5 Session Storage](#)
- [HTML5 Local Storage](#)
- [HTML5 Global Storage](#)
- [HTML5 Database Storage via SQLite](#)
- HTML5 Canvas - Cookie values stored in RGB data of auto-generated, force-cached PNG images ([Backend server required](#))
- [HTML5 IndexedDB](#)
- Java [JNLP PersistenceService](#)
- Java exploit [CVE-2013-0422](#) - Attempts to escape the applet sandbox and write cookie data directly to the user's hard drive.

Source: <https://github.com/samyk/evercookie>

First-party cookies are cookies that belong to the same domain that is shown in the browser's address bar.

Third-party cookies

Set-Cookie: x.org

first party

Web server x.org

Set-Cookie: ads.agency.com

third party

**Global Ad Agency
ads.agency.com**

Set-Cookie: ads.agency.com

**served by the
same ad agency**

based on the
cookies a complete
user profile
can be created

user visits
three different
websites

Set-Cookie: ads.agency.com

Browser-based fingerprinting

The rich programming interfaces (APIs) provided by web browsers can be diverted to collect a browser fingerprint. A small number of queries on these interfaces are sufficient to build a fingerprint that is statistically unique and very stable over time. Consequently, the fingerprint can be used to track users. Our work aims at mitigating the risk of browser fingerprinting for users privacy by ‘breaking’ the stability of a fingerprint over time. We add randomness in the computation of selected browser functions, in order to have them deliver slightly different answers for each browsing session. Randomization is possible thanks to the following properties of browsers implementations: (i) some functions have a nondeterministic specification, but a deterministic implementation; (ii) multimedia functions can be slightly altered without deteriorating user’s perception. We present FPRandom, a modified version of Firefox that adds randomness to mitigate the most recent fingerprinting algorithms, namely canvas fingerprinting, AudioContext fingerprinting and the unmasking of browsers through the order of JavaScript properties. We evaluate the effectiveness of FPRandom by testing it against known fingerprinting tests. We also conduct a user study and evaluate the performance overhead of randomization to determine the impact on the user experience.

Client-side cookies

Cookies in JavaScript

- Not always necessary to receive cookies from a server
- Cookies can be **set in the browser**
- Canonical use case: remember form input

```
//set TWO(!) cookies
document.cookie = "name1=value1";
document.cookie = "name2=value2; expires=Fri, 14-Jan-2022 12:45:00 GMT";

//delete a cookie by RESETTING the expiration date
document.cookie = "name2=value2; expires=Fri, 24-Jan-2019 12:45:00 GMT";
```

Reading cookies in JavaScript

- `document.cookie["name1"]` does **not work**
- **String** returned by `document.cookie` needs to be parsed

```
let cookiesArray = document.cookie.split('; ');
let cookies = [];

for (let i = 0; i < cookiesArray.length; i++) {
  let cookie = cookiesArray[i].split("=");
  cookies[cookie[0]] = cookie[1];
}
```

Sessions

Introduction (once again)

- **Scenario:** users interact with a web application for a short amount of time (a session)
- **Goals:**
 - Track the user without relying (too much) on cookies
 - Allow large amounts of data to be stored
- **Problem:** without cookies the server cannot tell clients apart
- **Solution: hybrid approach** between cookies and server-side saved data

Sessions in one slide



- Cookies are used to store a **single ID** on the **client**
- **Remaining user information** is stored **server-side**

Establishing a session

1. Client requests a first page from the server
2. Server creates **unique session ID** and initiates the storage of the session data for that client
3. Server sends back a page with a **cookie** containing the session ID
4. From now on, the client sends **page requests together with the cookie**
5. Server can use the **ID to personalise** the response
6. A **session ends** when no further requests with that session ID come in (timeout)

Sessions in Express with in-memory stores

- Easy to set up in Express
- Same drawback as any in-memory storage: not **persistent** across machine failure
- Middleware component **express-session**
<https://github.com/expressjs/session>
- Most common use case is **authentication**

EXPLORER

OPEN EDITORS

- app.js demo-code/node-sessions-ex

WEB-TEACHING

- .vscode
- launch.json
- demo-code
 - balloons-game
 - balloons-wireframes
 - lecture-5-demos
 - node-ajax-ex
 - node-component-ex
 - node-cookies-ex
 - node-ejs-ex
 - node-express-ex
 - node-file-watching-ex
- node-sessions-ex
 - app.js
 - credentials.js
 - package.json
 - node-tcp-ex
 - node-url-routing-ex
 - node-web-ex
 - node-websocket-ex
 - README.md
 - img
 - slides
 - .gitignore
 - .travis.yml
 - Assignment-1.md

OUTLINE

app.js

```
You, 2 months ago | 1 author (You)
1 var express = require("express"); You, 2 months ago • lecture 7 done, apart from third-part
2 var http = require("http");
3 var credentials = require("./credentials");
4 var cookies = require("cookie-parser");
5 var sessions = require("express-session");
6 var app = express();
7
8 app.use(cookies(credentials.cookieSecret));
9 app.use(sessions(credentials.cookieSecret));
10 http.createServer(app).listen(3001);
11
12 app.get("/countMe", function (req, res) {
13   var session = req.session;
14   if (session.views) {
15     session.views++;
16     res.send("You have been here " + session.views + " times (last visit: " + session.lastVisi
17     session.lastVisit = new Date().toLocaleDateString();
18   }
19   else {
20     session.views = 1;
21     session.lastVisit = new Date().toLocaleDateString();
22     res.send("This is your first visit!");
23   }
24 });

PROBLEMS OUTPUT DEBUG CONSOLE TERMINAL
warning: refname 'HEAD' is ambiguous.
warning: refname 'HEAD' is ambiguous.

2018-11-30 11:04:35 ✘ Cladias-MacBook-Air in ~/GitHub/Web-Teaching
± |master → origin ↑29 {5} ✓| → [ ]
```

Demo time: node-sessions-ex

Sessions in Express with memory stores

```
npm install cookie-parser  
npm install express-session
```

```
var express = require("express");  
var http = require("http");  
var credentials = require("./credentials");  
var cookies = require("cookie-parser");  
var sessions = require("express-session");  
  
var app = express();  
app.use(cookies(credentials.cookieSecret));  
app.use(sessions(credentials.cookieSecret));  
http.createServer(app).listen(3001);
```

```
app.get("/countMe", function (req, res) {  
    var session = req.session;  
    if (session.views) {  
        session.views++;  
        res.send("You have been here " +  
            session.views + " times (last visit: " + session.lastVisit + ")");  
        session.lastVisit = new Date().toLocaleDateString();  
    }  
    else {  
        session.views = 1;  
        session.lastVisit = new Date().toLocaleDateString();  
        res.send("This is your first visit!");  
    }  
});
```

cookie & session setup

session object available on `req` object only

session exists!

session does not yet exist

Third-party authentication

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[Continue With Email](#). By signing up you indicate that you agree to Quora's [Terms of Service](#) and acknowledge Quora's [Privacy Policy](#).

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Email

....

[Forgot Password?](#)

[Login](#)

You are now logged out of this browser, but are still logged in with other browsers.

[Logout of all browsers.](#)

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Overview

- **Weakest link** in an authenticated application is the **user's password**
- **Application-based decision**
 - Does the application need authentication?
 - Are cookies/sessions enough?
 - If authentication is needed, should third-party authentication be used?

Third-party authentication

- Authenticating users through popular social Web services (Twitter, Facebook, Google, etc.)
- **Easy** to develop for popular platforms
- **Trusted** social Web platforms **provide authentication**, no need to store passwords or employ particular security measures
- **However**: some users may not use social Web platforms or do not like to hand over their data

OAuth 2.0 Authorization Framework

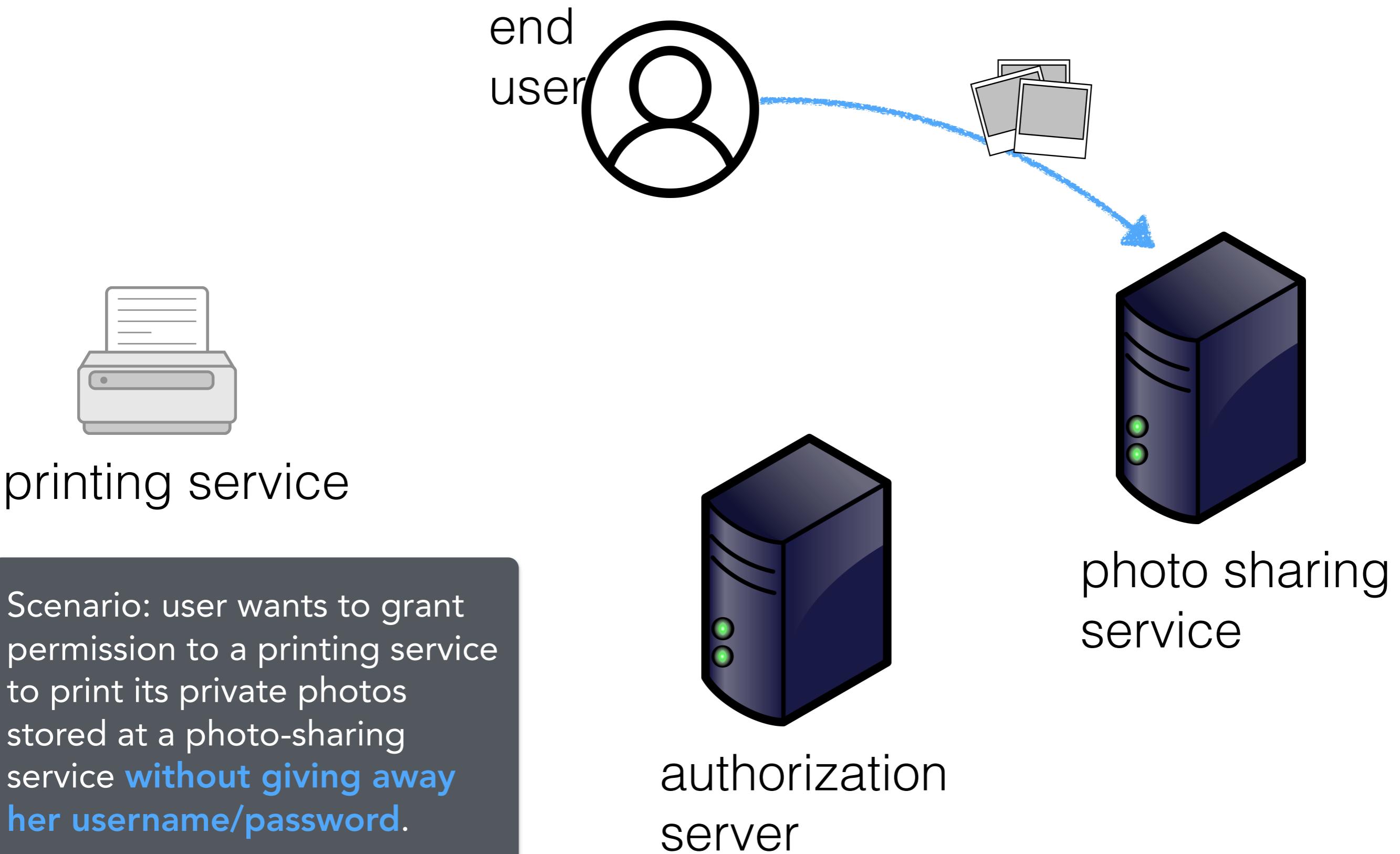
“The OAuth 2.0 authorization framework enables a **third-party application** to obtain **limited access** to an HTTP service, either **on behalf** of a resource owner by orchestrating an approval interaction between the resource owner and the HTTP service, or by allowing the third-party application to obtain access on its own behalf.”

OAuth 2.0 roles

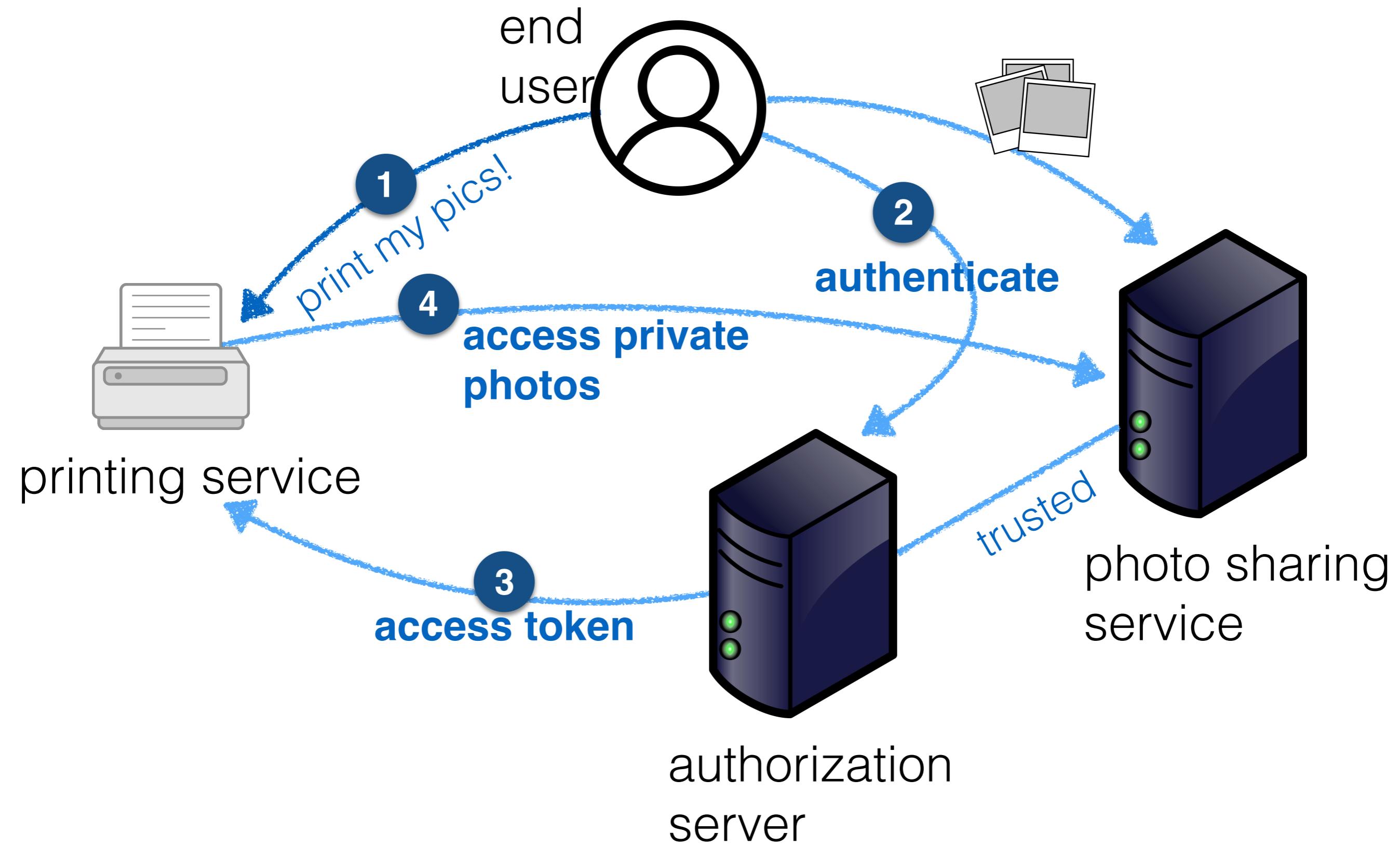
- **Resource owner**: entity that grants access to a protected resource
- **Resource server**: server hosting protected resources, capable of accepting and responding to protected resource requests using **access tokens**

a string denoting a specific scope, lifetime and other access attributes
- **Client**: application making protected resource requests on behalf of the resource owner **and with her authorisation**
- **Authorization server**: server issuing access tokens to the client after successfully authenticating the resource owner and obtaining authorization

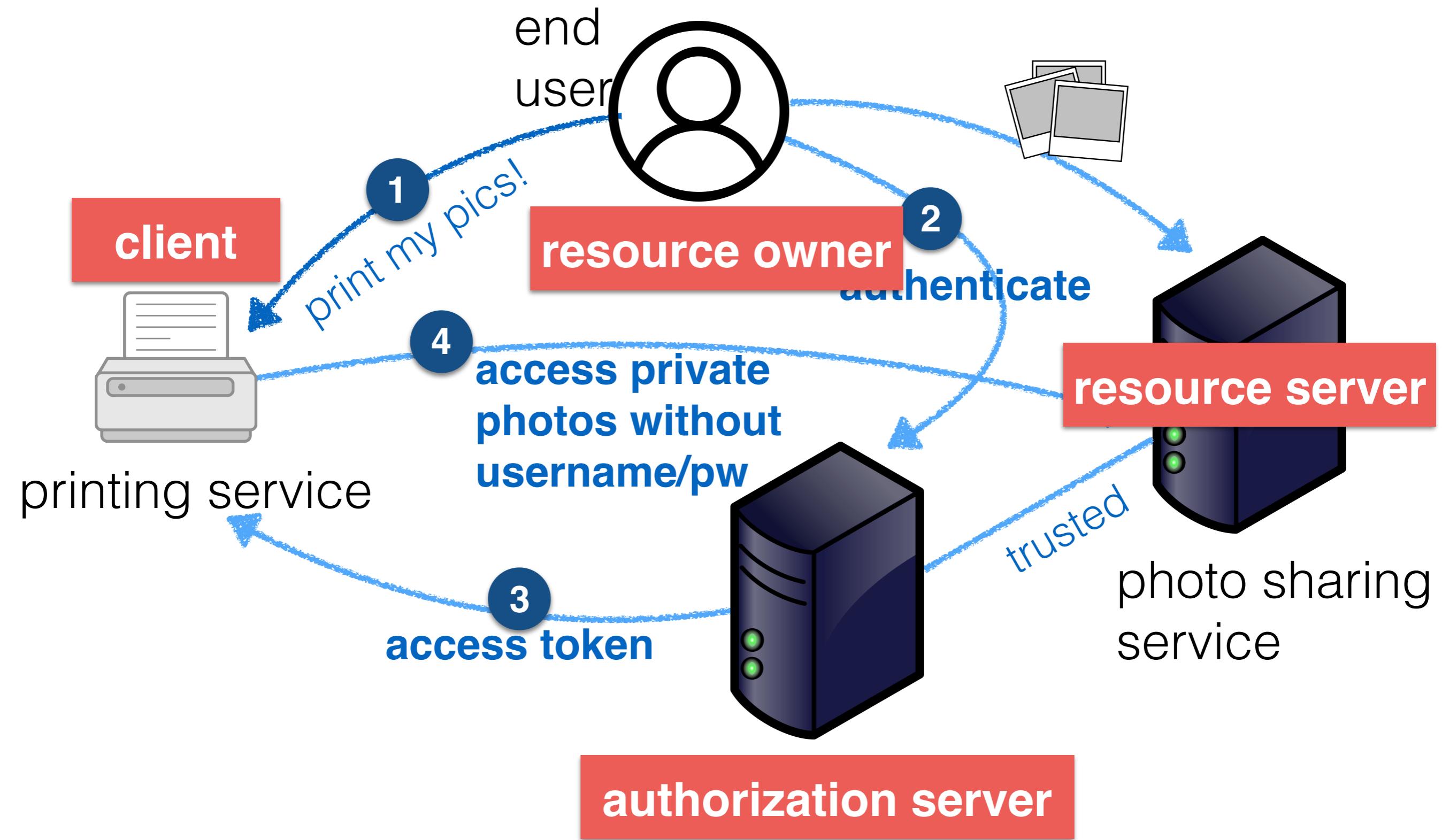
OAuth 2.0 roles exemplified



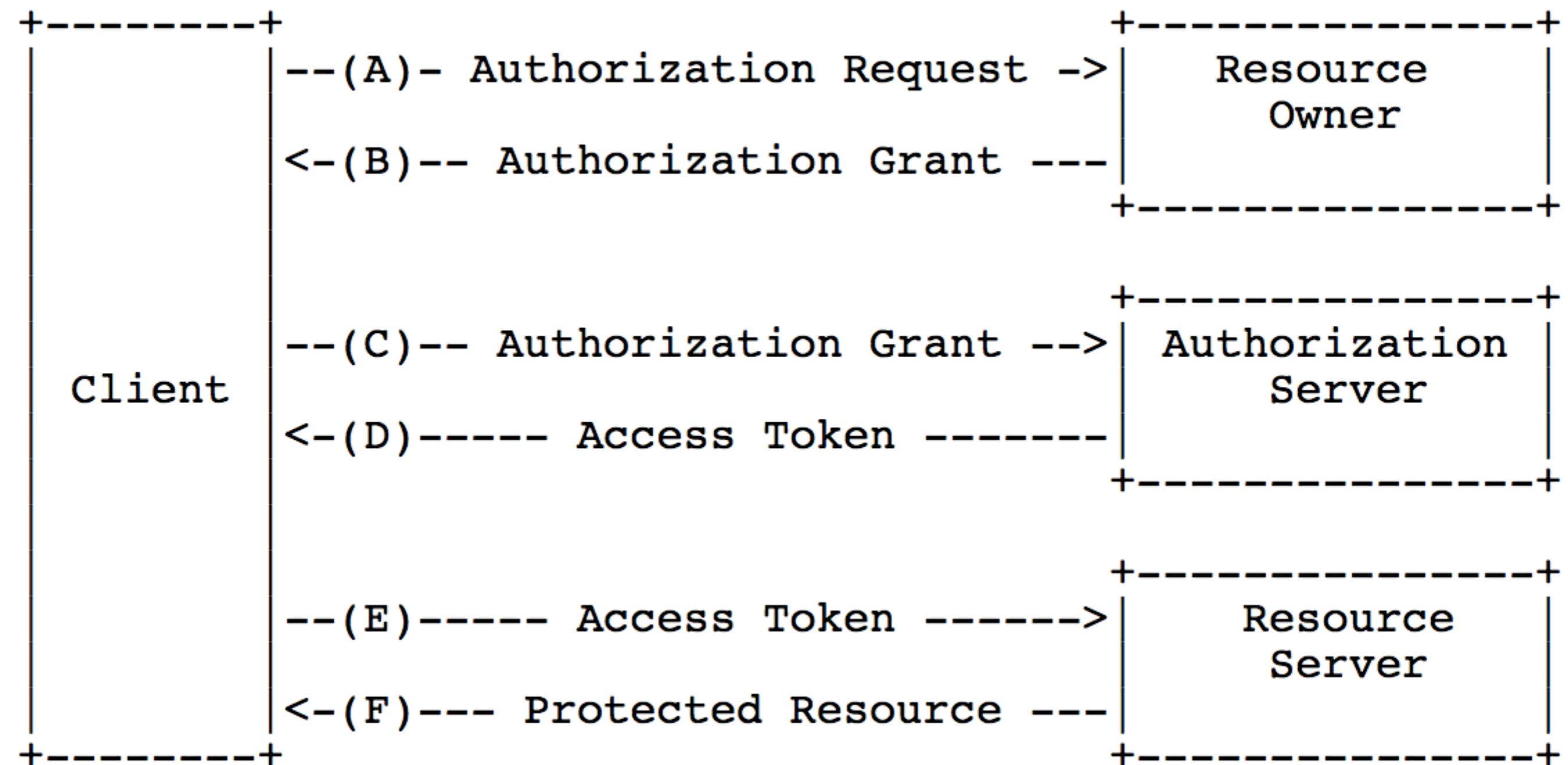
OAuth 2.0 roles exemplified



OAuth 2.0 roles exemplified



Abstract protocol flow



Third-party authentication with Express

- Express can make use of `passport`, one of the most popular **authentication middleware components**
 - 300+ authentication **strategies**
 - Supports OpenID and OAuth
- `Passport` hides a lot of the protocol's complexity

```
$ npm install passport
```

```
$ npm install passport-twitter
```

Installing a strategy

<http://passportjs.org/>

- Work on **Assignment 6.**
- Book yourself an assessment timeslot (one per group).