Zahava Gopin

WEB 420: Discussion 6.1

4/17/2023

OAuth and OpenID Connect

“OAuth is an open-standard authorization protocol or framework that describes how unrelated servers and services can safely allow authenticated access to their assets without actually sharing the initial, related, single logon credential” (Fruhlinger & Grimes, 2019). OAuth is a secure, third-party authorization. OAuth is used by many large corporations such as Twitter, Google, Amazon and Instagram. OAuth in its simplest form is used to assist with logon through another website (such as google). OAuth connects the second website with the first, allowing for easy access and logon.

“It is also helpful to remember that OAuth is about authorization in particular and not directly about authentication…Authorization is the process of letting a subject access resources after a successful authentication, oftentimes somewhere else. Many people think that OAuth stands for open authentication, but it’s more helpful to understand it by thinking about it as open AUTHorization” (Fruhlinger & Grimes, 2019).

OpenID was created in 2005, the purpose of OpenID was to reduce the amount of logins necessary for web users. OpenID creates a single login and authenticates the users. OpenID Connect was created in 2014 and serves as the authenticator for OAuth, and the two work together.

“OpenID Connect uses tokens to provide a simple identity layer integrated with the underlying authorization framework...A wide variety of clients may use OpenID Connect (OIDC) to identify users, from single-page applications (SPA) to native and mobile apps. It may also be used for Single Sign-On (SSO) across applications. OIDC uses JSON Web Tokens (JWT), HTTP flows and avoids sharing user credentials with services.” (AuthO, n.d.). There are a few types of tokens.

Resources:

Fruhlinger, J., & Grimes, R. A. (2019, September 20). *What is OAuth? How the open authorization framework works*. CSO Online. https://www.csoonline.com/article/3216404/what-is-oauth-how-the-open-authorization-framework-works.html

*What is OpenID Connect and what do you use it for?* (n.d.). Auth0. Retrieved April 17, 2023, from https://auth0.com/intro-to-iam/what-is-openid-connect-oidc

‌