

The logo icon consists of a grey 'C' shape on the left, a vertical blue bar in the middle, and a grey arrow pointing to the right.

OpenID **Connect**

explained

What is OpenID Connect?

OpenID Connect is a new internet standard for

**Single
Sign-On
(SSO)**

**Identity
Provision
(IdP)**

OpenID Connect supports

**web
clients**

**mobile / native
clients**

OpenID Connect is good for

**consumer
apps**

**social
apps**

**enterprise
apps**

**mobile
apps**

OpenID Connect is backed by

Microsoft

Google

Oracle

Ping

Salesforce

**... us and
many others**

OpenID Connect distilled

1. Need to authenticate a user?
2. Send user to their OpenID provider
(via browser / HTTP 302 redirect)
3. Get identity token back

The key OpenID Connect object



Client apps receive an ID token from the OpenID Provider

ID token



The ID token resembles the concept of an **identity card**, in a standard digital format that client apps can validate.

- Asserts the **user's identity**.
- Has an **issuing authority** (the IdP).
- May specify **how** (strength, factors) and **when** the user was authenticated.
- Is generated for a particular **audience** (client).
- Has an **issue** and an **expiration** date.
- May contain **details** such as the user's name, email address and other profile information.
- Is **digitally signed**, so the intended recipients can verify it.
- May optionally be **encrypted** for confidentiality.

ID token internals

```
{  
  "iss"   : "https://c2id.com",  
  "sub"   : "alice",  
  "aud"   : "s6BhdRkqt3",  
  "nonce" : "n-0S6_WzA2Mj",  
  "exp"   : 1311281970,  
  "iat"   : 1311280970,  
  "acr"   : "http://loa.c2id.com/high",  
  "amr"   : [ "mfa", "pwd", "otp" ]  
}
```

- Encoded as a JSON Web Token (**JWT**).
- The claims about the authenticated end-user (subject) are packaged in a simple **JSON object**.
- Digitally signed with the OpenID Provider's **RSA** or **EC key**.
- Is **URL-safe**.

Cool ID token uses

- Simple stateless [session management](#) for JavaScript and single-page applications.
- [Universal passport](#) for all your users and applications, regardless of where they came from – social networks, partner businesses and organisations, local accounts.
- May be [passed to 3rd parties](#) to assert the user's identity.
- May be [exchanged for an access token](#) at the token endpoint of an OAuth 2.0 authorisation server. See [draft-ietf-oauth-token-exchange-05](#).

How to obtain an ID token?

**Via the OAuth 2.0
protocol flows**

Choose an OAuth 2.0 flow to suit your app

- **Authorisation code flow**
 - for typical web and mobile apps
 - the client is typically authenticated
 - tokens retrieved via back channel
- **Implicit flow**
 - for JavaScript applications that run in the browser
 - the client is **not** authenticated
 - tokens returned via front-channel, revealed to browser
- **Hybrid flow**
 - allows app front-end and back-end to receive tokens independently
 - rarely used

http://openid.net/specs/openid-connect-core-1_0.html#Authentication

The OpenID auth request (code flow)

Send the user to the OpenID provider with an authentication request:

```
https://openid.provider.com/authorize?  
  response_type=code  
  &scope=openid  
  &client_id=s6BhdRkqt3  
  &state=af0ifjsldkj  
  &redirect_uri=https%3A%2Fclient.example.org%2Fcb
```

The OpenID auth response (code flow)

If the user is successfully authenticated the OpenID provider will redirect the browser back to the client app with an authorisation code:

```
https://client.example.org/cb?  
code=SpIxIOBeZQQYbYS6WxSbIA  
&state=af0ifjsldkj
```


The OpenID auth response (code flow)

If the authentication request cannot be fulfilled for some reason the OpenID provider may return an error code:

```
https://client.example.org/cb?  
error=access_denied  
&state=af0ifjsldkj
```

Exchange code for ID token (code flow)

Makes a back channel request to exchange the code for an ID token. Note that the client authenticates itself to the server here!

POST /token HTTP/1.1

Host: openid.provider.com

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

Authorization: Basic czZCaGRSa3F0MzpnWDFmQmF0M2JW

grant_type=authorization_code

&code=SpIxIOBeZQQYbYS6WxSbIA

&redirect_uri=https%3A%2F%2Fclient.example.org%2Fcb

UserInfo

```
{  
  "sub"           : "alice",  
  "name"          : "Alice Adams",  
  "given_name"   : "Alice",  
  "family_name"  : "Adams",  
  "email"         : "alice@wonderland.net",  
  "email_verified" : true,  
  "phone_number" : "+359 (99) 100200305",  
  "profile"       : "https://c2id.com/users/alice",  
  "ldap_groups"   : [ "audit", "admin" ]  
}
```

OpenID Connect defines an extensible JSON schema for releasing consented user details to client applications

Requesting UserInfo with the OpenID auth request

Send user to OpenID provider with auth request:

```
https://openid.provider.com/authorize?  
  response_type=code  
  &scope=openid%20profile%20email  
  &client_id=s6BhdRkqt3  
  &state=af0ifjsldkj  
  &redirect_uri=https%3A%20%2Fclient.example.org%2Fcb
```

Access token



Resembles the concept of a physical **token** or **ticket**. Permits the bearer access to a specific resource or service. Has typically an expiration associated with it.

- **OAuth 2.0 access tokens** are employed in OpenID Connect to allow the client application to retrieve consented **user details** from a **UserInfo endpoint**.
- The server may extend the access token **scope** to allow the client access to other protected resources and web APIs.
- The client treats the access token as a **simple opaque string** to be passed with the HTTP request to the protected resource.

UserInfo request with access token

Put the obtained bearer token in the authorization header of your outgoing HTTPS request:

```
GET /userinfo HTTP/1.1  
Host: server.example.com  
Authorization: Bearer SIAV32hkKG
```

UserInfo response

Sample response from the UserInfo endpoint, with the consented details (claims / assertions) about the user:

HTTP/1.1 200 OK

Content-Type: application/json

```
{
  "sub"           : "alice",
  "name"         : "Alice Adams",
  "email"        : "alice@wonderland.net",
  "email_verified" : true,
  "phone_number" : "+359 (99) 100200305",
  "profile"      : "https://c2id.com/users/alice",
  "ldap_groups"  : [ "audit", "admin" ]
}
```


The two OpenID Connect tokens summed up

ID Token



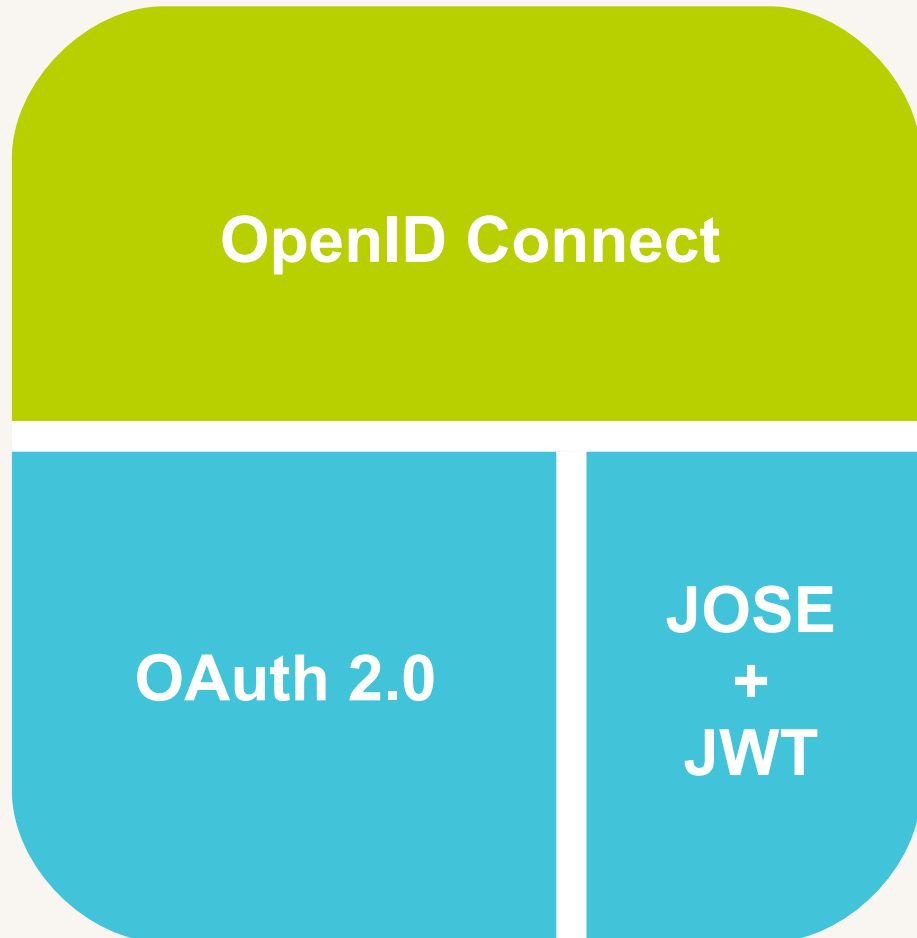
asserts the user's identity
(user ID)

Access Token



optional, to retrieve
consented UserInfo

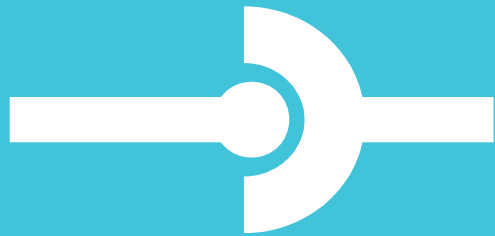
OpenID Connect rides on top of OAuth 2.0



- User identity is asserted by means of [JSON Web Tokens](#) (JWT)
- Clients use standard [OAuth 2.0](#) flows to obtain ID tokens
- Guiding mantra: [Simple clients](#), complexity absorbed by the server
- Any method for [authenticating users](#) – LDAP, tokens, biometrics, etc.
- JSON schema for [UserInfo](#)
- Supports optional OpenID provider [discovery](#), dynamic client [registration](#) and [session management](#).
- [Extensible](#) to suit many use cases.
- [Federation](#) is possible.

OpenID Connect provider endpoints

HTTP Endpoints



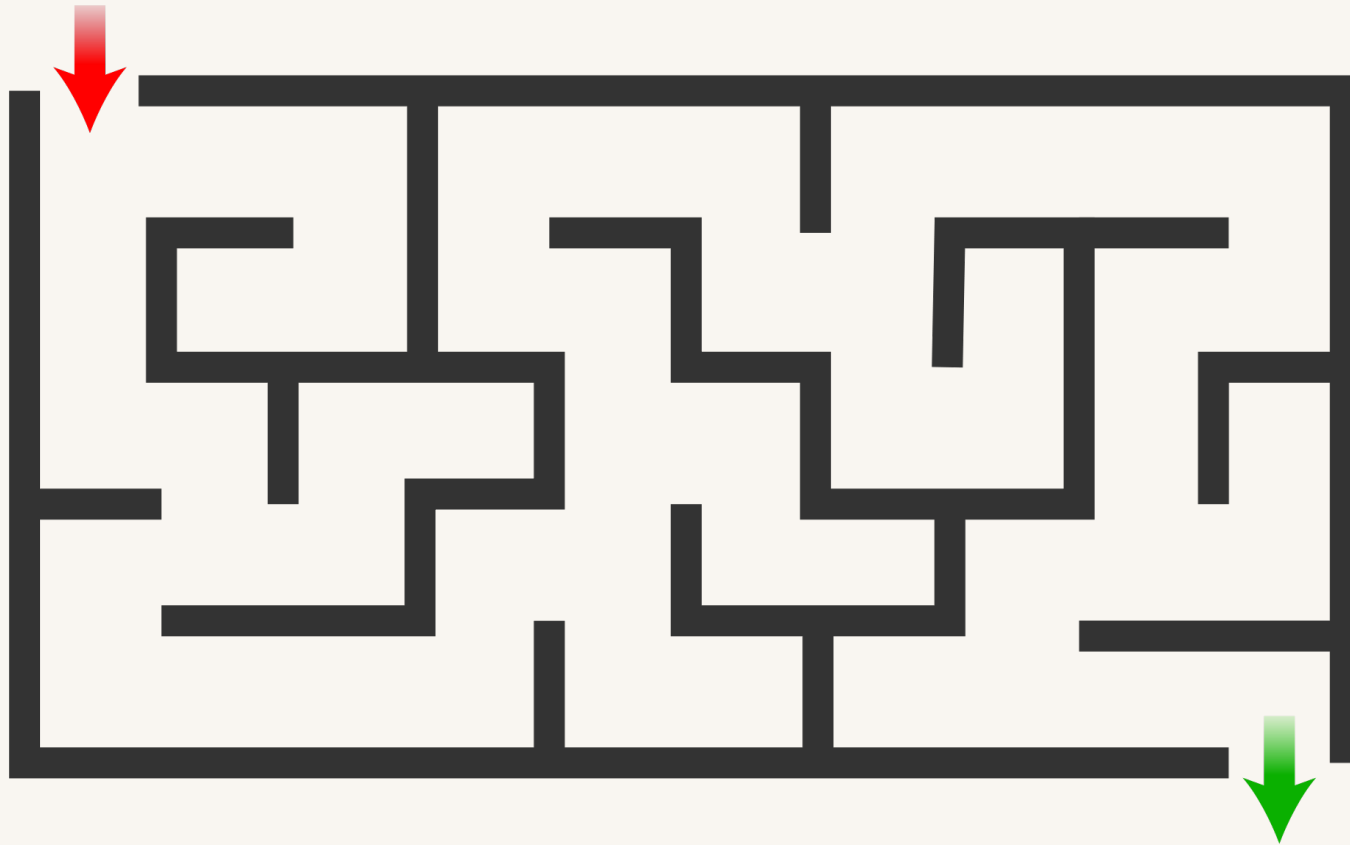
- Core provider endpoints:
 - [Authorisation](#) endpoint
 - [Token](#) endpoint
 - [UserInfo](#) endpoint
- Optional provider endpoints:
 - [WebFinger](#) endpoint
 - [Provider metadata](#) URI
 - [Provider JWK set](#) URI
 - [Client registration](#) endpoint
 - [Session management](#) endpoint

Optional endpoints

- **WebFinger** : Enables dynamic discovery of the OpenID Connect provider for a user based on their email address.
- **Provider configuration URI** : Well-known URL of a JSON document advertising the endpoints and capabilities of the OpenID provider. Helps the client apps to auto-configure their OpenID Connect requests.
- **Provider JWK set URI** : JSON document containing the OpenID provider's public (typically RSA) keys in JSON Web Key (JWK) format. These keys are used to sign the issued ID tokens and other artefacts.
- **Client registration** : Enables client apps to register dynamically, then update their details or unregister. Registration may be open (public).
- **Session management** : Enables client apps to check if a logged in user has an active session with the OpenID provider. Also to signal logout.

The future: dynamic discovery + client registration

alice@wonderland.net



ID token for Alice

The specifications

- OpenID Connect: <http://openid.net/connect>
- OAuth 2.0 (RFC 6749): <http://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc6749>
- OAuth 2.0 Bearer token (RFC 6750): <http://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc6750>
- JSON Web Token: <http://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc7519>
- JSON Web Signature: <http://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc7515>
- JSON Web Encryption: <http://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc7516>
- JSON Web Key: <http://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc7517>

Thank You!

Q + A

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<http://connect2id.com/assets/oidc-explained.pdf>