

OpenID **Connect**

explained

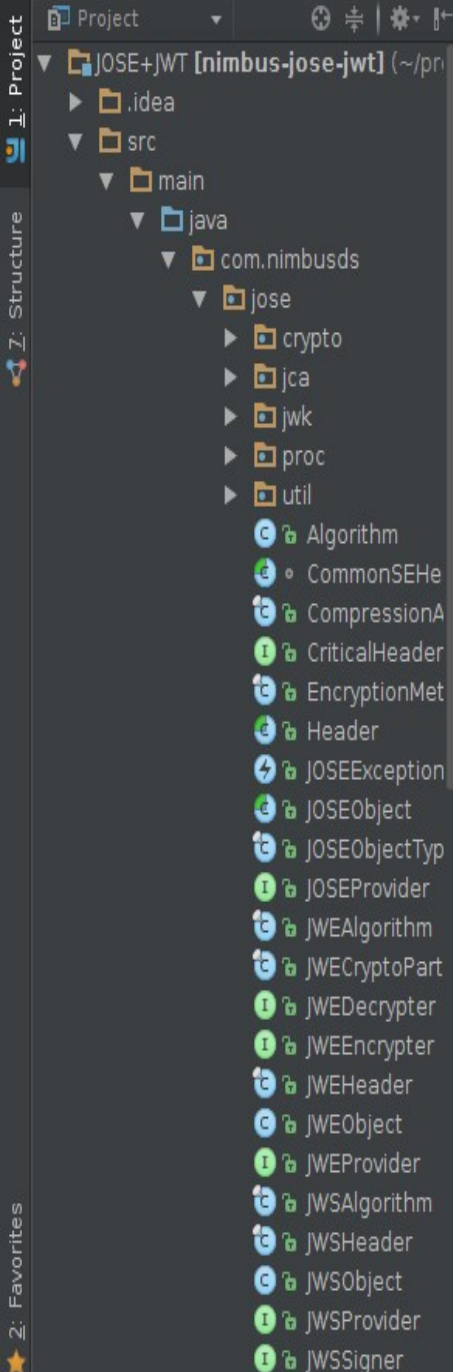


Vladimir Dzhuvinov

Email: vladimir@dzhuvinov.com : Twitter: [@dzhivinov](https://twitter.com/dzhivinov)



Married for 15 years



... to Java



C

Python





JavaScript



JavaScript on a bad day

**So 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

Google

Microsoft

**eBay
PayPal**

Aol

Salesforce

**... us and
many others**

OpenID Connect distilled

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

The key OpenID Connect artefact



Client apps receive an ID token from the OpenID Provider

ID token



Resembles the concept of an **identity card**, in a standard digital format that can be verified by clients.

- Asserts the **user's identity**.
- Specifies the **issuing authority** (the IdP).
- May specify **how** (strength) and **when** the user was authenticated.
- Is generated for a particular **audience** (client).
- Has an **issue** and an **expiration** date.
- May contain additional subject **details** such as the user's name, email address and other profile information.
- Is **digitally signed**, so it can be verified by the intended recipients.
- 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,
  "auth_time": 1311280969,
  "acr"      : "c2id.acr.hisec",
  "amr"      : [ "pwd", "otp" ]
}
```

- Encoded as a JSON Web Token (**JWT**).
- The claims about the subject are packaged in a simple **JSON object**.
- Digitally signed typically with the provider's private **RSA key** or a shared secret (**HMAC**) issued to the client during registration.
- Is **URL-safe**.

Encoded ID token

eyJhbGciOiJSUzI1NiIsImtpZCI6IjFlOWdkazcifQ.ewogImlzc
yl6lCJodHRwOi8vc2VydmVyLmV4YW1wbGUuY29tliwKICJzdWliOiAiMjQ4Mjg5
NzYxMDAxliwKICJhdWQiOiAiczZCaGRSa3F0MyIsCiAibm9uY2UiOiAibi0wUzZ
fV3pBMk1qliwKICJleHAiOiAxMzExMjg5OTcwLAogImhhdCI6IjEzMTUyODU5Nz
AKfQ.ggW8hZ1EuVLuxNuulJKX_V8a_OMXzR0EHR9R6jgdqrOOF4daGU96Sr_P6q
Jp6lcmD3HP99Obi1PRs-cwh3LO-p146waJ8lhehcwL7F09JdijmBqkvPeB2T9CJ
NqeGpe-gccMg4vfKjkM8FcGvnzZUN4_KSP0aAp1tOJ1zZwgjxqGByKHiOtX7Tpd
QyHE5lcMiKPXfEIQILVq0pc_E2DzL7emopWoaoZTF_m0_N0YzFC6g6EJbOEoRoS
K5hoDalrcvRYLSrQAZZKflyuVCyixEoV9GfNQC3_osjzw2PAithfubEEBLuVVk4
XUVrWOLrLI0nx7RkKU8NXNHq-rvKMzqg

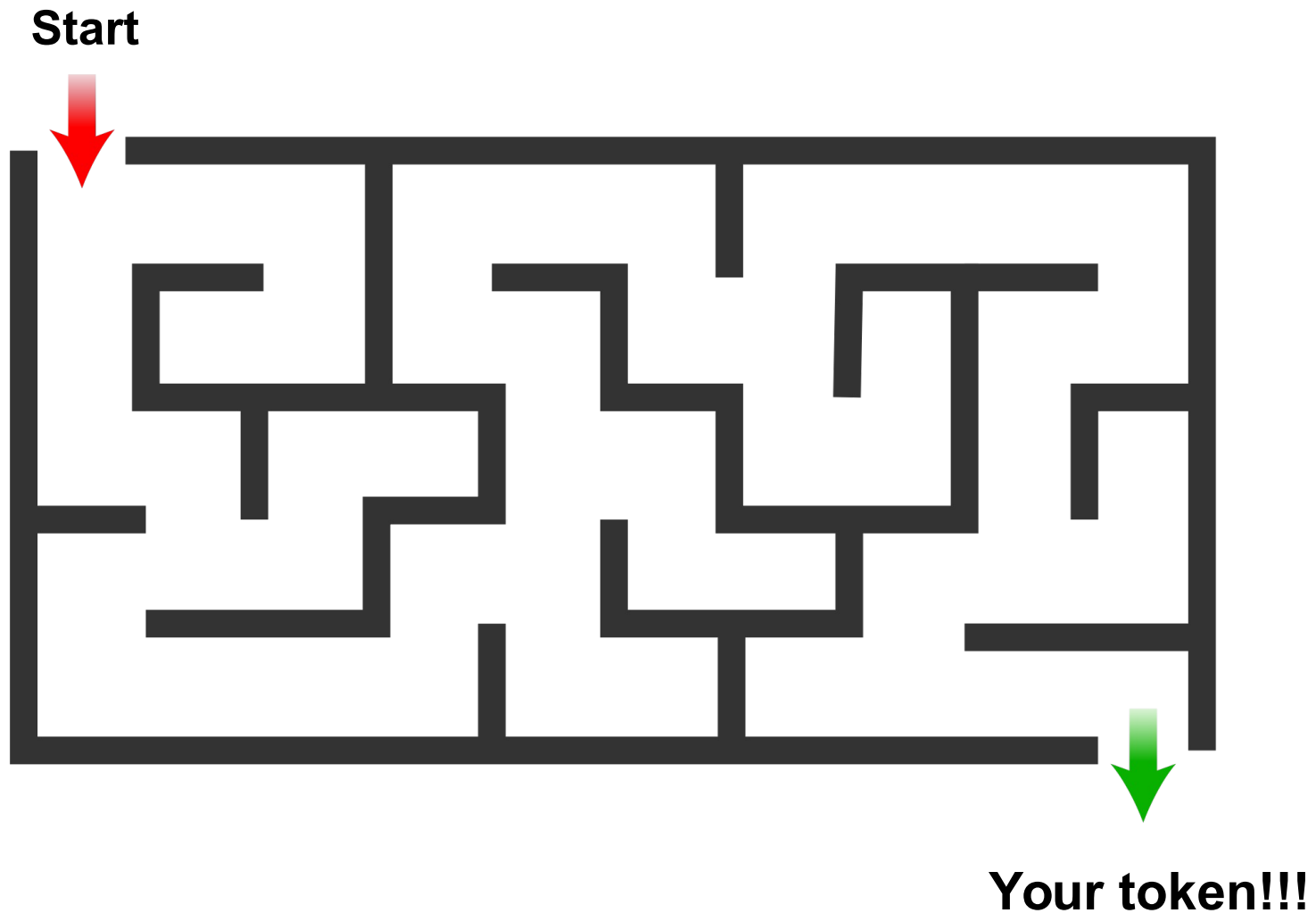
Cool ID token uses

- Simple stateless **session management** – no need to store sessions in memory / on disk
- 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. This feature has uses in **distributed** and **enterprise applications**. See RFC 7523.

How to obtain an ID token?

**Using the OAuth 2.0
protocol flows**

The OAuth 2.0 flows



Choose your flow

- **Authorisation code flow**
 - for typical web and mobile apps
 - the client is authenticated
 - tokens retrieved via backchannel
- **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 user to OpenID provider with auth request:

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

The OpenID auth response (code flow)

On successful auth the OpenID provider will redirect the browser back to the client with an authorisation code:

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

The OpenID auth response (code flow)

If authentication failed 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)

Client makes back channel request to exchange code for 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

Exchange code for ID token (code flow)

Finally, we get our ID token! But what's this access token?

HTTP/1.1 200 OK

Content-Type: application/json

Cache-Control: no-store

Pragma: no-cache

```
{  
  "access_token": "SlAV32hkKG",  
  "token_type": "Bearer",  
  "refresh_token": "8xLOxBtZp8",  
  "expires_in": 3600,  
  "id_token": "eyJhbGciOiJSUzI1NiIsImtpZCI6IjFkZWdka..."  
}
```

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 **simple opaque string** to be passed with the HTTP request to the protected resource.

UserInfo request with access token

Simply include the token in the authorisation header using the Bearer schema (RFC 6750).

GET /userinfo HTTP/1.1

Host: server.example.com

Authorization: Bearer SIAV32hkKG

UserInfo response

The response from the UserInfo endpoint, containing the consented details (claims / assertions) about the end-user:

HTTP/1.1 200 OK

Content-Type: application/json

```
{  
  "sub": "248289761001",  
  "name": "Jane Doe",  
  "given_name": "Jane",  
  "family_name": "Doe",  
  "preferred_username": "j.doe",  
  "email": "janedoe@example.com",  
  "picture": "http://example.com/janedoe/me.jpg"  
}
```

The 2 key OpenID Connect artefacts

ID Token



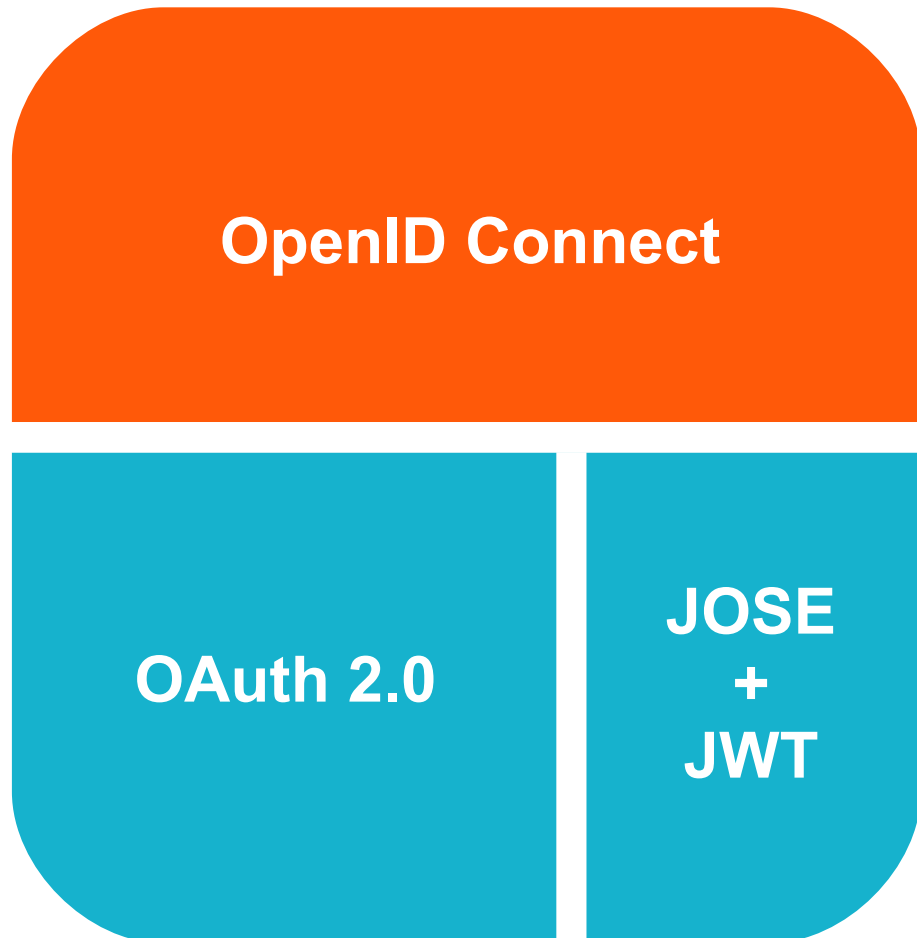
**asserts the user's identity
(user ID)**

Access Token



**optional, to retrieve
consented UserInfo**

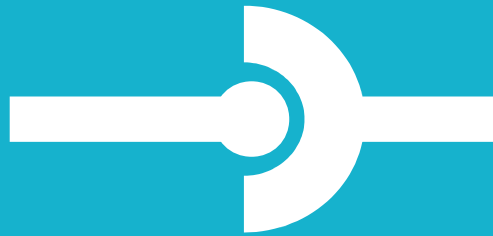
The OpenID Connect framework



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

OpenID Connect provider endpoints

HTTP Endpoints



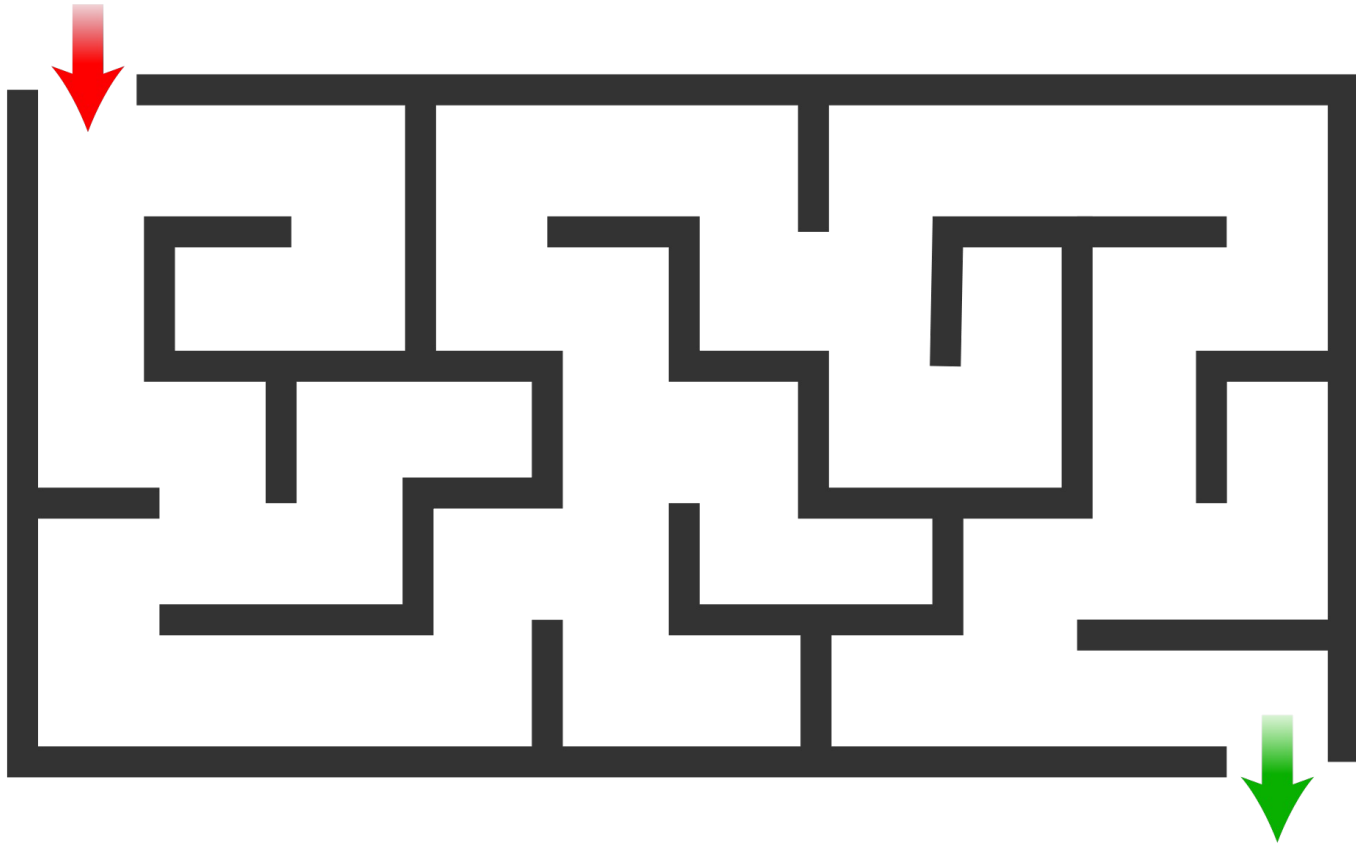
- Core provider endpoints:
 - **Authorisation** endpoint
 - **Token** endpoint
 - **UserInfo** endpoint
- Optional provider endpoints:
 - **WebFinger** endpoint
 - **Provider metadata** URI
 - **Provider JWK set** URI
 - **Client registration** endpoint
 - **Session management** endpoint

Optional endpoints

- **WebFinger**: enables dynamic discovery of the OpenID Connect provider for a user based on their email address.
- **Provider configuration URI**: well-known URI returning endpoint and other provider information such as optional capabilities; the client applications can use it to configure their OpenID Connect requests to the provider.
- **Provider JWK set URI**: JSON document containing the provider's public (typically RSA) keys in JSON Web Key (JWK) format; these keys are used to secure the issued ID tokens and other artefacts.
- **Client registration**: enables client applications to register dynamically, then update their details or unregister; registration may be open (public).
- **Session management**: enables client applications to check if a logged in user has still an active session with the OpenID Connect 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