Tutorial: Building the Services Ecosystem

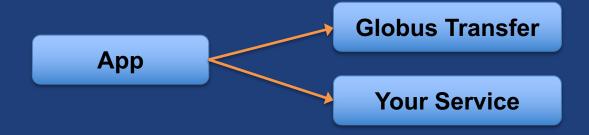
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Steve Tuecke tuecke@globus.org



What is a services ecosystem?

Anybody can build services with secure REST APIs



Services can leverage other services securely





Why create your own services?

- Make your specialized capabilities available to your research community as a service
- Extend your web portal with a public REST API, so that other developers can integrate with and extend it
- Front-end / back-end within your portal / app
 - Remote backend for portal
 - Backend for pure Javascript browser apps



Why Globus Auth for your service?

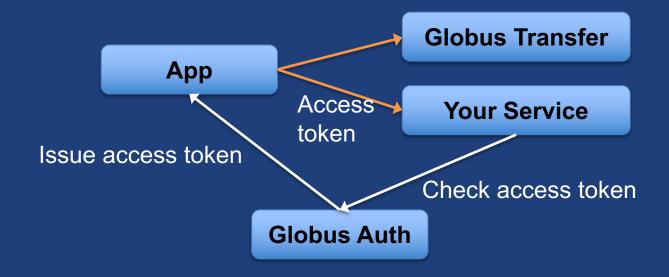
- Outsource all identity management and authentication
 - Federated identity with InCommon, Google, etc.
- Outsource your REST API security
 - Consent, token issuance, validation, revocation
 - You provide service-specific authorization
- Apps use your service like all others, with standard OAuth2 & OIDC
- Your service can seamlessly leverage other services
- Other services can leverage your service
- Implement your service using any language and framework

Add your service to the science services ecosystem



Role of Globus Auth for services

Issue and check OAuth2 access tokens



 With a token, your service can get attributes about the user, which it can use to authorize the request



Based on widely used web standards

OAuth 2.0 Authorization Framework (a.k.a. OAuth2)

OpenID Connect Core 1.0 (a.k.a. OIDC)

docs.globus.org/api/auth



Fundamental Concepts

- Scopes: APIs that client is requesting access to
 - Scope syntax: OpenID Connect: openid, email, profile
 - https://auth.globus.org/scopes/<service-name>:<scope-name>
 - A service can have multiple scopes

 Consents: authorize client to access a service, within limited scope, on the resource owner's (user's) behalf



- Globus Account = Primary identity + Linked Identities
 - An identity can be primary on only one account
 - (Currently) Identities can be linked to only one account
- Account does not have own identifier
 - An account is uniquely identified using its primary identity
- Effective identity = linked identity from a particular identity provider required by a client or service



Identity id vs. username

Identity id

- Unique among all Globus Auth identities; will never be reused
- UUID
- Always use this to refer to an identity

Identity username

- Unique at any point in time; may change, may be re-used
- Case-insensitive user@domain
- Can map to/from id, for user experience
- Auth API allows mapping back and forth

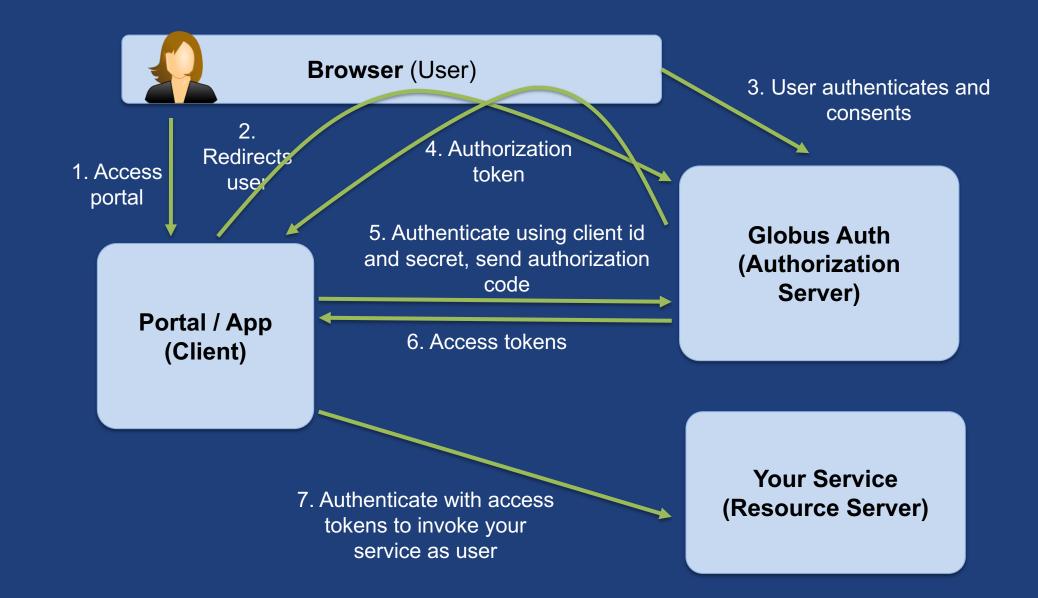
App registration

- Client_id and client_secret for service
- App display name
- Declare required scopes (optional)
 - Need long-term, offline refresh tokens?
 - May require authorization from scope admin
- OAuth2 redirect URIs
- Links for terms of service & privacy policy
- Effective identity policy (optional)

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Authorization Code Grant





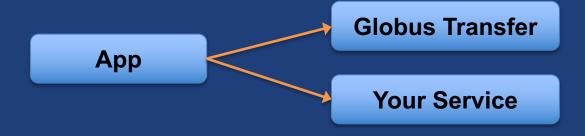
OAuth2 grants for apps

- Authorization code grant
 - Native app grant variant
- Refresh token grants
 - For apps that need long-lived, "offline" access to a service
- Client credential grant
 - For app invoking services as itself, instead of as the user



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Service registration

- Client id and client secret for service
- Service display name
- Validated DNS name for service
- One or more scopes
 - Who is authorized to use each scope: all client (public API) or specific clients
- Declare dependent scopes
 - Need long-term, offline refresh tokens?
 - May require authorization from scope admin
- Links for terms of service & privacy policy
- **Effective identity policy (optional)**

mailto:support@globus.org



Typical service interactions

- Service receives HTTPS request with header
 - Authorization: Bearer < request-access-token >
- Introspects the request access token
 - Auth API: POST /v2/oauth2/token/introspect
 - Authorized by client_id and client_secret
 - Returns: active, client_id, scope, sub (identity), identities_set
- Verifies token info (e.g., active, aud, scope)
- Authorizes request based on token info (e.g., sub)
- Service processes request
- Responds to client HTTPS request



Sample Research Data Portal Service Walk-through

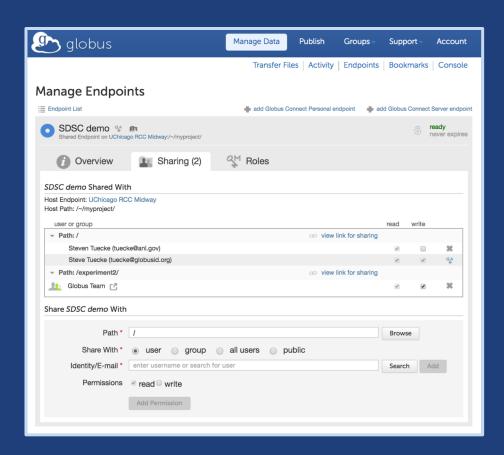


Authorization based on identity set

- Use identities_set when authorizing a request based on the resource owner associated with an access token
 - E.g., ACLs on Globus shared endpoints
- Authorizing based on set of identities is same complexity as authorizing based on group membership set



- Globus group service is identity set aware
 - "Tell me all groups for all identities of the logged in user"
- Services can leverage this for authorization





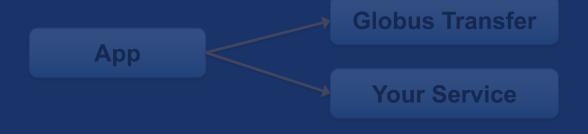
Django REST Framework

- Use Globus Auth to protect REST APIs in the Django REST Framework
- Simple enhancements to do token introspection, validation, and map to Django account
- Contact support@globus.org if you are interested



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Dependent tokens

- Your service can act as client to other services (scopes)
 - Globus Transfer, Search, Identities, Auth
 - Other community services
- Entire service call tree consented by user and service owners
 - Rescinding consent revokes all dependent tokens
- Dependent tokens are restricted to a particular client, calling a particular scope, on behalf of a particular resource owner (e.g., user)
 - Restricted delegation!



Typical service interactions

- Service receives HTTPS request with header
- Introspects the request access token
- Verifies token info (e.g., active, aud, scope)
- Authorizes request based on token info (e.g., sub)
- If service needs to act as client to other services:
 - Calls Globus Auth Dependent Token Grant
 - Returns a token for each dependent service
 - Uses correct dependent token for downstream REST call
- Service processes request, including calls to other services
- Responds to client HTTPS request

Refresh tokens

- For "offline service": Service working on your behalf even when you are offline
 - Example use: Globus Transfer service, for async transfers
- Refresh tokens issued to a particular client for use with a particular scope
- Client uses refresh token to get access token
 - Client_id and client_secret required
- Refresh token good for 6 months after last use
- Consent rescindment revokes resource token

Token caching

- Service should cache tokens and related information
 - Improves performance of service
 - Reduces load on Globus Auth
- Access token -> introspect response
 - Cache timeout: 1-30 seconds recommended
 - To improve performance and load related to bursty use of REST API
 - Validity: Timeout duration determines responsiveness to token revocation and rescinding consent
- Access token -> dependent access tokens
 - Cache timeout: lifetime of access token
 - To avoid costly dependent token re-issuance
 - Rescinding consent will invalidate everything
- Refresh tokens
 - For however long they are needed for specific operations.
 - Keep distinct refresh tokens for each access token.



Coming soon to Auth

Higher authentication assurance

- For services with PHI, PII, sensitive but unclassified data

Incremental auth

Add consents and tokens for new services dynamically

Optional scopes

 Allow user to optionally deny access to a scope, but allow the client to continue functioning with reduced capability

Summary

- Globus Auth makes it easy to:
 - add OAuth2 support to secure your service's REST API
 - create services to leverage other services

Globus enables an integrated ecosystem of services and applications for the research community

Support resources

- Globus documentation: docs.globus.org
- Community email list: developer-discuss@globus.org
- Helpdesk and issue escalation: support@globus.org
- Customer engagement team
- Globus professional services team
 - Assist with portal/gateway/app architecture and design
 - Develop custom applications that leverage the Globus platform
 - Advise on customized deployment and integration scenarios