UA Measurement WG Meeting
13 December 2021

Attendees
Nabil Benamar
Jim DeLaHunt
Seda Akbulut
Vadim Mikhaylov
Marc Blanchet
Ejikeme Egbuogu
Sarmad Hussain

Agenda

1) Welcome and roll-call
2) Identity Platforms (Single Sign-On solutions)
   a) Identifying the name of the Identity Platforms
   b) Building up a testing plan

Meeting Notes

Identity Platform
Nabil shared the previous draft of Identity Platform discussion and asked for more input from everyone to make it a Statement of Work (SOW). The reason why identity / authentication providers matter to Universal Acceptance is that many websites and services require authentication services to be integrated in. As the authentication is often by means of an email address and through a website, this service needs to be UA ready.

Sarmad shared a short summary of the draft. He suggested starting to work on phase 1 by shortlisting the platforms. Jim suggested making a test plan for authentication providers, and exercise that test plan on a few providers, and study the OAuth Protocol itself as there are a large number of service providers. In phase 1 we can also defer to the vendor about choosing or suggesting providers.

Sarmad suggested that if we don't have much expertise about the identity platform, we can select at least 3 providers according to some criteria like

popularity and test those to generate an initial report which can help us in phase 2. He also mentioned that expertise can be developed or experts can be invited for specifying the testing plan.

Marc explained that the current market is essentially converging to a single framework. We should focus on what most identity providers are using, which is oAuth. By giving examples of Facebook and Google, he shared the working model with SDK. There are multiple 3rd party authentication providers whose services can be used by developers using libraries at the back end.

Sarmad reiterated that for the whole system to be UA ready, first identity authentication software needs to be UA ready. Then its integration to the website needs to be UA ready. While there are 3rd party providers like Facebook or Google who provide SDK to be integrated in the framework, there is another option. For example, ICANN deploys an existing solution within the organization themselves without sharing the information outside, even though it is managing identities across multiple applications.

Marc elaborated further that it's not that complex to integrate the 3rd party authenticator in the framework. Even if you use a library, you can still use Facebook or Google. Some libraries for oAuth are as follows:
https://oauth.net/code/java/
https://oauth.net/code/python/
The issue is when SDK or API is embedded into an application to customize some processes, the libraries used might create an UA issue.

Sarmad asked for the relevance of multiple device sign on authentication to Identity Platform discussion. The multifactor authentication via messaging or email might be within the scope of UA if email authentication is part of the process. We should consider adding multifactor authentications in the SOW.

Jim suggested asking the vendor to make a test plan for how to evaluate the UA of an authentication provider. In addition, multifactor authentication methods and the fallback authentication when for instance the SMS authentication fails it directs to email authentication should be part of the plan. Marc highlighted that the backup email address authentication is important but not the highest priority. It is only appx. 5% of our scope, and it is not as important as everything else in this work.

Jim shared that a single sign on can be a more preferable point to add in the statement of work, and if in future the vendor gives us an alert about multi factor authentication, then it can be added. Nabil mentioned that Google provides an open-source library called "Apples" for implementation flow.

Sarmad mentioned that he will work with Seda for making a skeletal model of SOW by not only adding the headlines but also filling some information based on our discussion. The SOW will be shared via mailing list. Marc mentioned that he will review the document thoroughly and will give input on the statement of work.

Previously, a group member complained about having meetings right after each other. The Comms WG call is right after the Measurement WG call. Therefore, by keeping the time of the meeting the same, different day options will be evaluated via WG emailing list.

The agenda of the next meeting was identified as reviewing and editing the SOW.

Next meeting: Monday 10 January 2022 UTC 1500-1600

Action items

No.	Action Item	Owner
1	Compile a skeletal model of draft for SOW compilation	Seda/ Sarmad
2	Review draft document of Identity Platform and provide input	All
3	Send a doodle poll with different day option for 15 UTC.	Seda