

ibboleth

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Background - the SAPIR project

Lessons learned

What is Shibboleth?

Overview

Access management

Benefits and implications

Demonstration

Enable SSO access to the Metalib portal system

Replace ATHENS authentication
SAPIR

Enable SSO access to the LORLS reading list
management system

Patrons are not interested in systems, only services
Patrons make no distinction between services delivered
by the Library. The Library IS the service

Lessons learned

Identifying a patron gives the ability to enhance different
systems

Identifying a patron across systems could deliver an
enhanced, unified service

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Other systems/services



Institution level 'shared' passwords

IP authentication

On/Off campus

Current access management solutions

Manual registration of individual users for individual resources

Athens authentication

What constitutes an effective access management system?

Simplicity

John Lynch of the Coalition for Networked Information (Lynch 1998)

is who wrote the paper on authentication and public access management defined

key conceptual requirements and business relationships between

publishers, libraries and users. His work was taken further by the 1999

workshop on Access Management organised by the US Digital Library

Cooperation (Arms 1999), which identified five key components 'for the

design of systems that enable access for users while respecting the

rights and interests of authors and publishers'

Trusted Intermediaries

by the user, institution and publisher

Reasonable terms

for the user, institution and publisher

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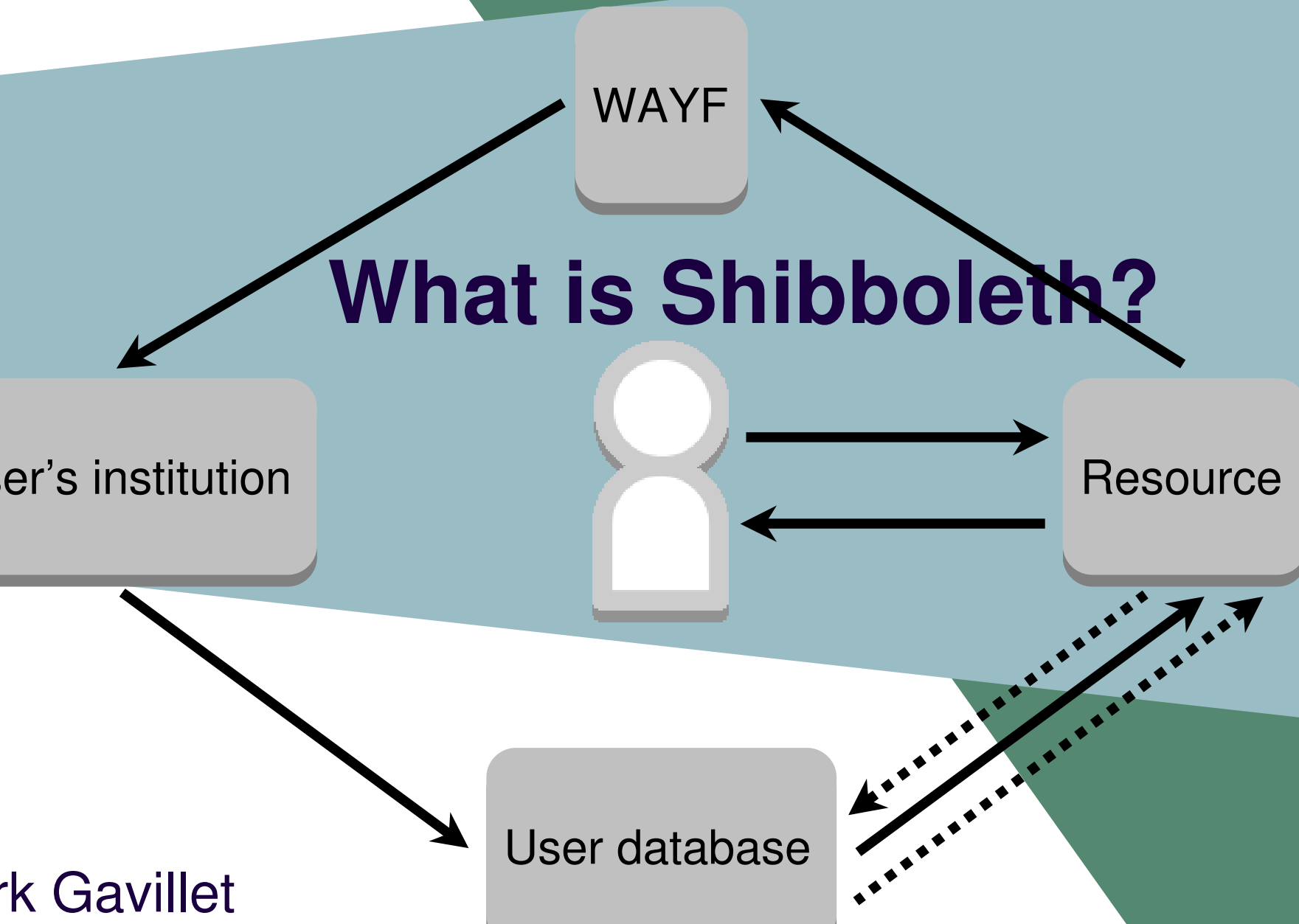
Shibboleth is a biblical term and is the first recorded use of a 'password'

Shibboleth means 'ear of corn'

Judges, ch12, v5-6

The Gileadites captured the fords of the Jordan opposite Ephraim. And it happened when (any of) the fugitives of Ephraim said, "Let me cross the river," the men of Gilead would say to him, "Are you an Ephraimite?" If he said, "No," then they would say to him, "Say now, 'Shibboleth.' " But he said, "Sibboleth," for he could not pronounce it correctly. Then they seized him and slew him at the fords of the Jordan. Thus there fell at that time 4000 of Ephraim.

What is Shibboleth?



Shibboleth is a secure transport system that binds systems together and allows their interaction

It securely transports trusted tokens related to an individual between the institution and the resource provider

It is session based rather than resource based

Shibboleth is not:

A single sign-on system (e.g. Active Directory)

A repository for users and attributes

An access management tool that can register, authenticate and authorise users

An excuse to slay 42,000 patrons

What is Shibboleth?

For the Library:

Less overhead and complication than ATHENS administration

Correctly restricts access to protected resources based upon visitor attributes

Benefits and implications

Stricter compliance to licensing restrictions

Lower set up costs

Pressure on publishers to adopt more appropriate access management and licensing restrictions

Simplified access for users

For the Patron:

The simplicity of a single username and password

Personalisation of the Library service

Processes carried out are invisible

The only software needed is a web browser

Allows user mobility

Privacy regarding an individual's personal information

For Publishers:

No licence fee (currently required for ATHENS)

Item level links are supported

Benefits and implications
eduPerson standard agreed to control access based on user attributes

Trust regarding minimum requirements for security measures

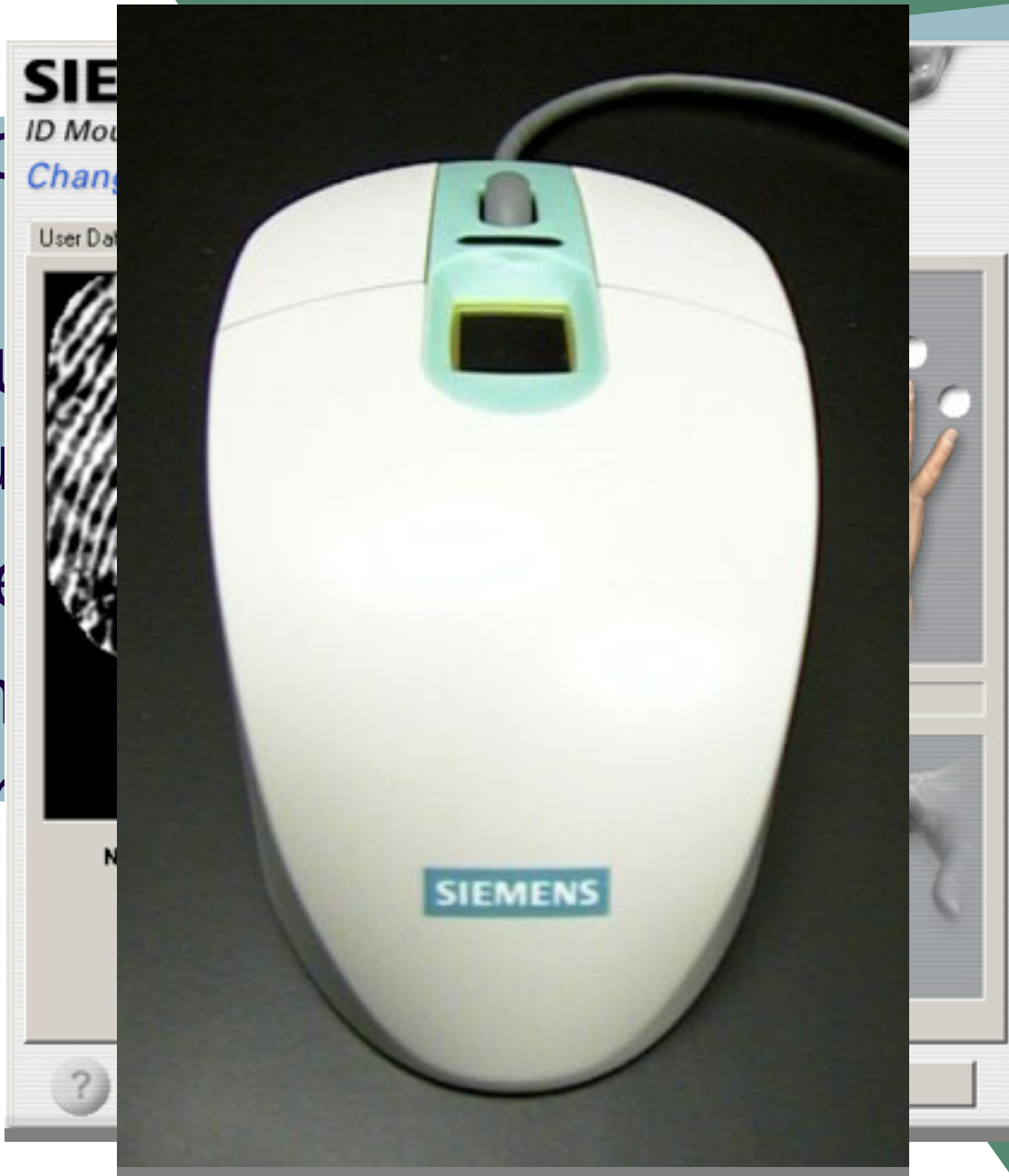
Methods of

A unique user
individual

A unique e

An anatomical
fingerprint

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own only to the
S
(card)
individual (e.g.

Demonstration

<http://www.emol.ac.uk/shibb.shtml>

<https://mclined-online.ncl.ac.uk>

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Demonstration

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