

SSH access with OIDC tokens

Diana Gudu, Marcus Hardt
Karlsruhe Institute of Technology

gudu@kit.edu



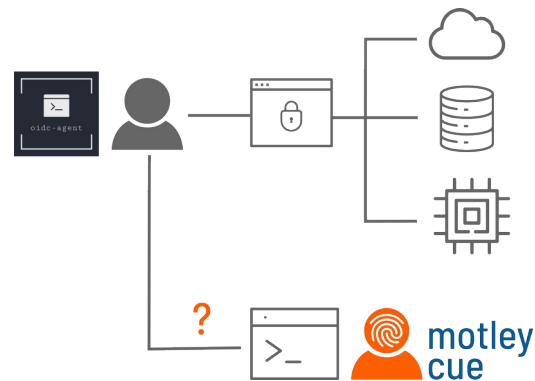
Motivation

- Enable federated access to shell-based services
 - Federated Identity Management → OpenID Connect (OIDC)
 - Shell-based services → Secure Shell (SSH), local identities



Our solution: server & client side tools

- Works with standard SSH software
- Uses OIDC tokens for AuthN & AuthZ
- Manages local identities





Why would you use it?

...as a user

- Single Sign-On (SSO)
- No additional service credentials
- No need for SSH key management
- No prior registration



Why would you use it?

...as a service provider

- Benefits of federated AAI
 - Offload identity management to home organisation
 - Offload authorisation management to federation (VOs)

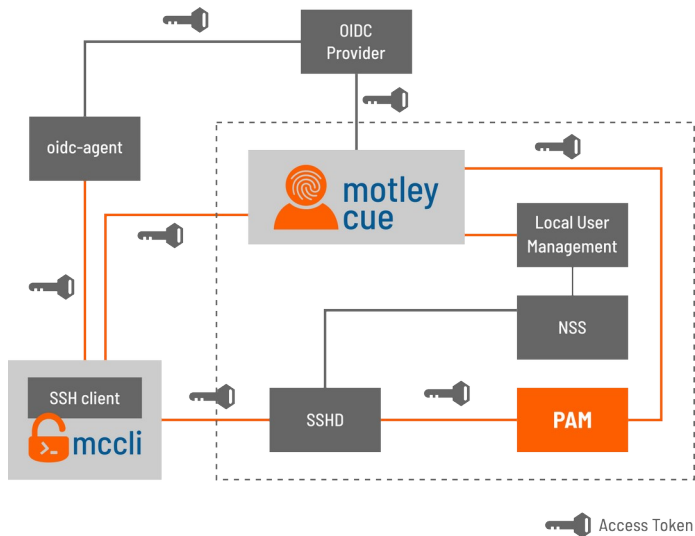


Why would you use it?

...as a service provider

- Benefits of federated AAI
 - Offload identity management to home organisation
 - Offload authorisation management to federation (VOs)
- Bridges the gap from federated to local identity
 - Manages the mapping of federated to local accounts
 - Manages the lifecycle of local accounts (create, update, suspend)
 - Manages access control based on federated authorisation models
 - OIDC-based authentication → no need for managing additional credentials (passwords, ssh keys)

Approach

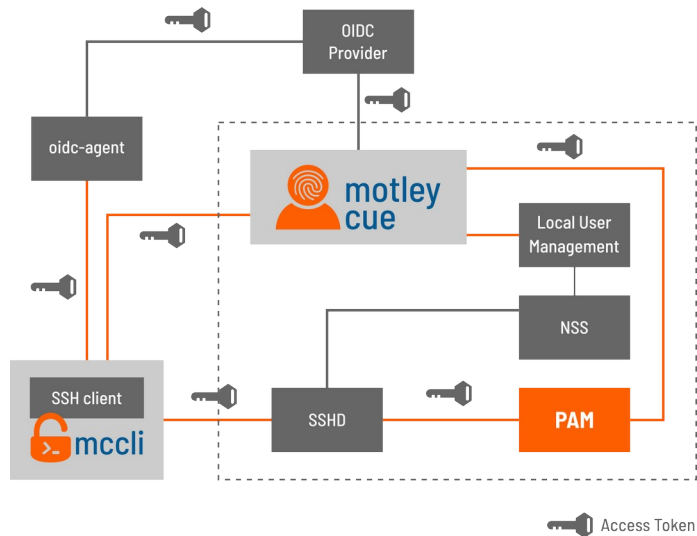


- Server side:
 - Use PAM module with oidc support: **pam-ssh-oidc** (PSNC/Pracelab.pl)¹
 - Add REST interface to ssh-server to manage the details: **motley-cue**
- Client side:
 - **oidc-agent** for obtaining tokens
 - Enable **ssh-clients** to use tokens

¹developed at PSNC



Approach



- Server side:
 - Use PAM module with oidc support: **pam-ssh-oidc** (PSNC/Pracelab.pl)¹
 - Add REST interface to ssh-server to manage the details: **motley-cue**
- Client side:
 - **oidc-agent** for obtaining tokens
 - Enable **ssh-clients** to use tokens

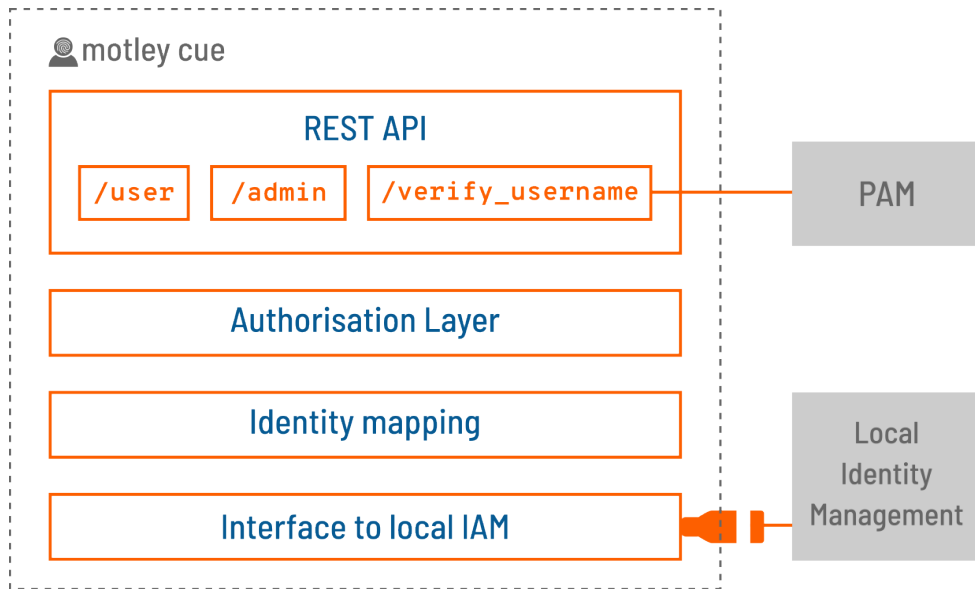
➤ No modifications of **ssh** or **sshd**

¹developed at PSNC



Server Side

motley-cue architecture





Authorisation

- Support for multiple OIDC Providers
- Based on VO membership
- Based on assurance
- Individual users via sub+iss



Account provisioning

- Interface to site-local identity management systems
 - Extensible, plug-in architecture
 - Supported identity backends: UNIX accounts, LDAP, KIT RegApp



Account provisioning

- Interface to site-local identity management systems
 - Extensible, plug-in architecture
 - Supported identity backends: UNIX accounts, LDAP, KIT RegApp
- Identity mapping: **sub + iss → local username**
 - Stored directly in the local IdM system
 - username generation strategies → uniqueness
 - Friendly: preferred username, first_last, ...
 - Pooled: egi001, egi002, ...
 - VOs mapped to local groups



Advanced features

- Approval workflow → admins oversee all deployment requests
- LDAP backend → for managing local accounts
- Audience → restrict access to tokens released for configured audience
- Long tokens → 1kB too long for SSH, generate one-time tokens



Technical details

- Easy deployment



Technical details

- Easy deployment
 - Packages for most common Linux distributions



<http://repo.data.kit.edu>



Technical details

- Easy deployment
 - Packages for most common Linux distributions
 - systemd integration



<http://repo.data.kit.edu>

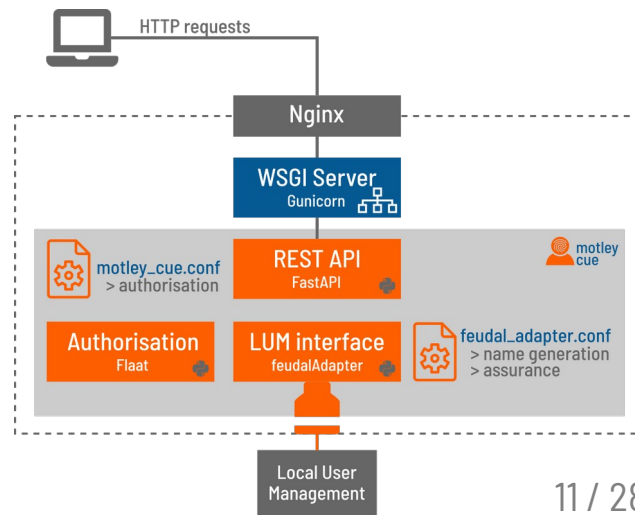
```
$ apt install motley-cue pam-ssh-oidc  
$ vim /etc/motley_cue/motley_cue.conf  
$ systemctl restart motley-cue
```


Technical details

- Easy deployment
 - Packages for most common Linux distributions
 - systemd integration
- Python, FastAPI



```
$ apt install motley-cue pam-ssh-oidc
$ vim /etc/motley_cue/motley_cue.conf
$ systemctl restart motley-cue
```



Technical details

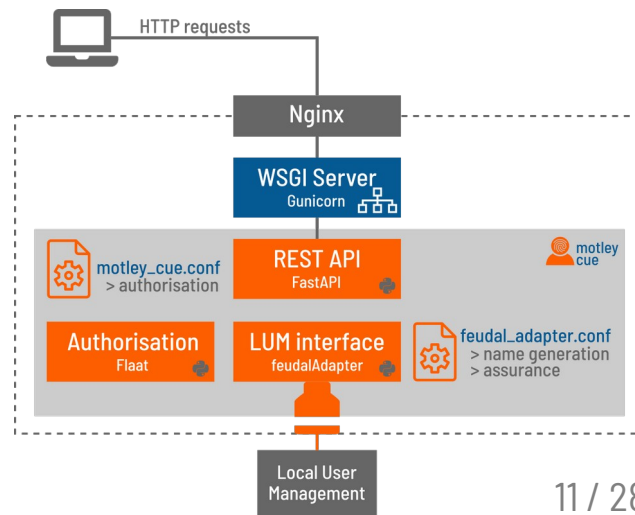
- Easy deployment
 - Packages for most common Linux distributions
 - systemd integration
- Python, FastAPI
- Nice to know
 - SSH daemon is not modified
 - PAM module may be combined with other modules

Possible:

`ssh-key + password + OIDC + 2nd factor (linotp)`



```
$ apt install motley-cue pam-ssh-oidc
$ vim /etc/motley_cue/motley_cue.conf
$ systemctl restart motley-cue
```



Client Side

SSH Clients

- 2 Simple changes on the command line:
 - add our wrapper tool mccli
 - replace username with identity provider

Old: `ssh diana@ssh-oidc-demo.data.kit.edu`

New: `mccli ssh ssh-oidc-demo.data.kit.edu --oidc egi`

- Tools to install:

```
$ pip install mccli
```

```
$ apt-get install oidc-agent
```

- Again: packages provided for all major Operating Systems



SSH Clients



- Everything is different on Windows ;)
- PuTTY SSH client required source code modifications
 - Joint effort with Simon Tatham (PuTTY main developer)
 - General Plugin Interface (available in putty-0.78:
<https://www.chiark.greenend.org.uk/~sgtatham/putty/prere1.html>)
- Plugin and oidc-agent installed and shipped together
<http://repo.data.kit.edu/windows/oidc-agent>



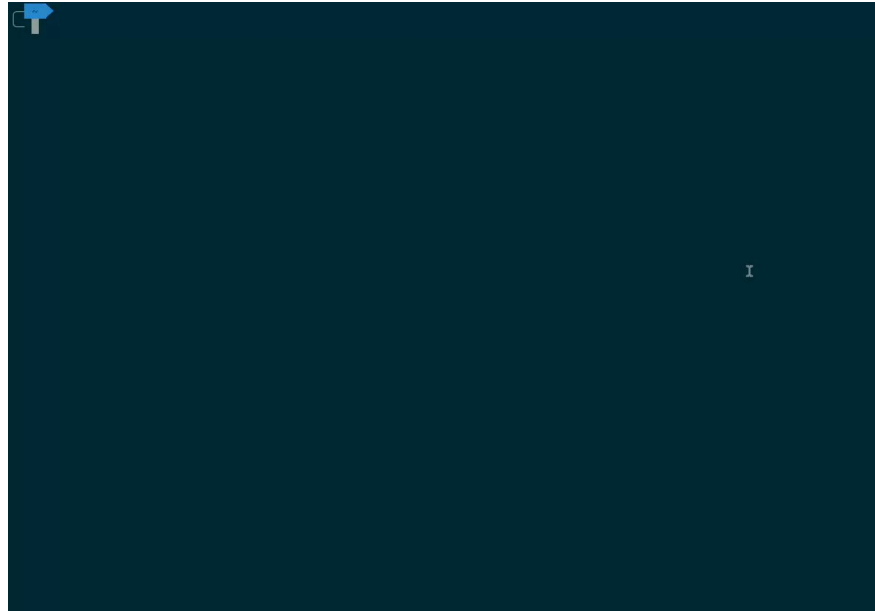
Demo



<https://ssh-oidc-demo.data.kit.edu/>



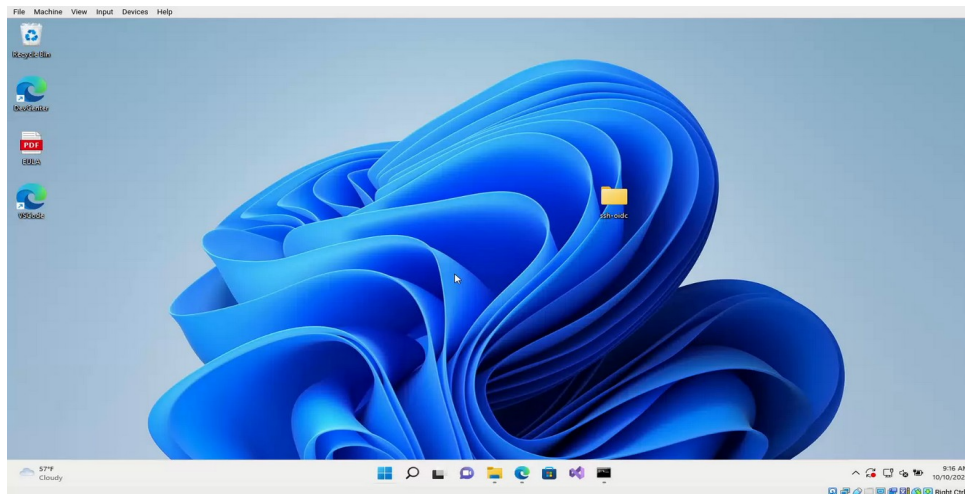
Demo Linux





Demo Windows

- Short version of demo: assume oidc-agent already set up
- Choices are cached. User only enters password **once** (for each windows reboot)





Additional requirements

- ✓ Mitigate sharing of SSH keys → by not using SSH keys, but access tokens for AuthN
- ✓ Non-interactive client logins → with oidc-agent integration
- ✓ Delegation → via oidc-agent forwarding, the token is available on server
- ✓ MFA → possible with additional PAM modules
- ✓ Revocation → two options:
 - Revocation of tokens (access token / refresh token) possible
 - /admin endpoint to suspend/resume users

Contributors

- PAM module (pam-ssh-oidc): Pracelab.PL (Pawel Wolniewicz (PSNC), Damian Kaliszan (PSNC))
- User provisioning (feudal): KIT (Lukas Burgey, Joshua Bachmeier, Diana Gudu, Marcus Hardt)
- Integration serverside (motley_cue): HIFIS (Diana Gudu (KIT), Andreas Klotz (HZB))
- HPC Integration and testing: EOSC-Synergy (Diana Gudu (KIT), Rubén Díez, CESGA))
- Integration, consulting, and review: Enol Fernandez (EGI), Viet Tran (IISAS), Mario David (LIP), Mischa Salle (Nikhef)
- Infrastructure Manager Integration: Miguel Cabeller (UPV), German Molto(UPV)
- oidc-agent integration: KIT (Gabriel Zachmann (KIT))
- putty-integration: Dmytro Dehtyarov (KIT/GEANT), Jonas Schmitt (KIT), Simon Tatham (Putty)



More information

- Download oidc-agent for Windows & PuTTY



<https://repo.data.kit.edu/windows/oidc-agent>

- Documentation



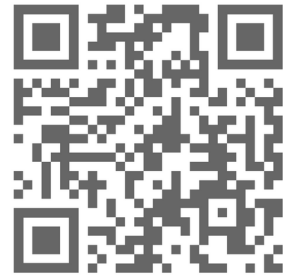
<https://github.com/EOSC-synergy/ssh-oidc>

- Contact



m-contact@lists.kit.edu

Backup slides



Demo Windows

- This demo shows the first-time setup on Windows
- Choices are cached. User only enters password **once** (for each windows reboot)

The screenshot displays a terminal window titled "Add EGI Account" with the following text:

```
Enter short name for the account to configure: egi
Generating account configuration ...
Success
accepted
To continue and approve the registered client visit the following URL in a browser of your choice:
https://aal.egi.eu/auth/realm/egi/protocol/openid-connect/auth?response_type=code&client_id=oidc-agent&redirect_uri=htt
oidc-gent://localhost:8080&scope=openid&profile&email&2&offline_access&2&eduperson_entitlement&2&eduperson_scoped_affiliatio
Please confirm the consent by clicking on the link:
oidc-gent://localhost:8080&unique_id=&prompt=consent&state=0-00&idp=oidc-agent&duid=55&state=571-Qz0vMm1cnvAWMLic18e088YVh10xvZ5t181b&
b21kYy10MT3EVksvb21kYy1hZ2VudC4x&access_type=offline&code_challenge_method=S256&code_challenge=FV8Avt0GgVocAVu1esYob1FE
oidc-gent://localhost:8080&unique_id=&prompt=consent&state=0-00&idp=oidc-agent&duid=55&state=571-Qz0vMm1cnvAWMLic18e088YVh10xvZ5t181b&
10gk89p5u_Qa3em5j0
Polling oIdc-agent to get the generated account configuration ....success
The generated account config was successfully added to oIdc-agent. You don't have to run oIdc-add.
Enter encryption password for account configuration 'egi': Confirm encryption Password: _
```

The terminal window is overlaid on a browser window showing a success message. The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the system tray with the date and time: 10:16 AM, 8/14/2022.



Requirements on federated identity

- We support a long list of OPs
 - Helmholtz AAI, EGI Check-in, DEEP IAM, WLCG, Google, ...
- Only require a valid AT (JWT or not → e.g. Google)
- AuthZ based on: VO membership, assurance, user whitelisting
 - federated identity should support this
 - AT should contain required scopes
 - typically: groups/eduperson_entitlement, eduperson_assurance
- Audience only if supported



Client requirements

- Supported platforms: Linux, MacOS, Windows
- Requirements Linux & MacOS:
 - python + oidc-agent + mccli
 - unmodified SSH client
 - can also use bare SSH for subsequent logins with user interaction if
 - local account deployed & known, and
 - AT can be obtained from other sources
- Requirements Windows:
 - PuTTY v0.78 (currently pre-release)
 - oidc-agent (also installs oidc-plugin for PuTTY)



Server requirements

- Supported platforms: Linux
- Additional software:
 - motley-cue
 - nginx
 - pam-ssh-oidc
- Unmodified ssh server
- Configuration:
 - sshd with challenge response authentication
 - Custom PAM module
 - Open port for HTTP requests

PAM-OIDC

- Based on OIDC access token authentication
 - user is prompted for an **Access Token** instead of Password
- Written in **C**
- Query **motley_cue** service API for:
 - token validation
 - authorisation
 - username match



```
$ curl -X 'GET' \  
    $motley_cue_endpoint/verify_user&username=$username \  
    -H "Authorization: Bearer $token" \  
  
{  
  "state": "deployed",  
  "verified": true  
}
```

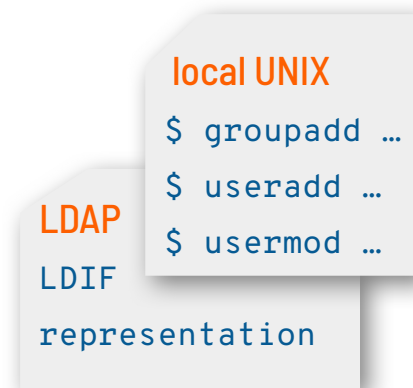


Approval workflow



<https://github.com/dianagudu/egi-2022-demo>

- Admins can oversee all deployment requests from users
- How it works:
 - User triggers **deployment**
 - Admin (and user) is **notified**
 - notification is backend-specific
 - supported notification system: email
 - Admin **accepts** or **rejects** the request manually
 - Users are *not* notified of acceptance/rejection → pull model
- Subsequent deployment requests
 - notify the admin only when updates are necessary



LDAP backend



<https://github.com/dianagudu/egi-2022-demo>

- Local accounts are managed in an LDAP
 - OIDC unique ID stored in a configurable attribute
 - Required LDAP schemas: inetOrgPerson, posixAccount, posixGroup
- Modes
 - **read-only**: local user management fully controlled by LDAP admins, including mapping
 - **pre-created**: motley-cue adds the mapping information to pre-created accounts
 - **full-access**: motley-cue has full control to provision users and groups in LDAP