



JÖNKÖPING UNIVERSITY

School of Engineering

REST API AUTHORIZATION

Peter Larsson-Green

Jönköping University

Autumn 2018

AUTHORIZATION



Client

POST /notes
Title: To Buy
Content: Milk & Bread



Server

Store note in database

Id: 123
Title: To Buy
Content: Milk & Bread

201 CREATED
Note id: 123

GET /notes/123

Hmm...
Is he authorized
to request that?

AUTHENTICATION VS AUTHORIZATION

Identity

Is the user
really who he
claims to be?

What is the
user allowed
to do?

AUTHORIZATION WITHOUT AUTHENTICATION



Client

POST /notes

Title: To Buy

Content: Milk & Bread



Server

Store note in database

Id: 23anh84n2m21

Title: To Buy

Content: Milk & Bread

201 CREATED

Note id: 23anh84n2m21

GET /notes/23anh84n2m21

**He's authorized to
access the resource**

IMPLEMENTING AUTHENTICATION

1. Users needs to be uniquely identified.
 - Use account resources.
2. Users needs to be able to prove ownership of an account.
 - Each user shares a secret with the server, e.g. a password.

The accounts table

Id	Username	Password
1	User A	Password A
2	User B	Password B
3	User C	Password C
4	User D	Password D

AUTHORIZATION WITH AUTHENTICATION



Client

POST /accounts

Username: Alice

Password: abc777



Server

Store account in database

Id: 123

Username: Alice

Password: abc777

POST /notes

Title: To Buy

Content: Milk & Bread

Account id: 123

Username: Alice

Password: abc777

Store note in database

Id: 456

Title: To Buy

Content: Milk & Bread

Account id: 123

201 CREATED

Account id: 123

201 CREATED

Note id: 456

AUTHORIZATION WITH AUTHENTICATION



Client

GET /notes/456
Username: Alice
Password: abc777



Server

Store account in database

Id: 123
Username: Alice
Password: abc777

200 OK

Id: 456
Title: To Buy
Content: Milk & Bread
Account id: 123

Store note in database

Id: 456
Title: To Buy
Content: Milk & Bread
Account id: 123

AUTHORIZATION WITH TOKENS



Client

POST /tokens
Username: Alice
Password: abc777



Server

Store account in database

Id: 123
Username: Alice
Password: abc777

Store token in database

Token: hhhhhh
Account id: 123

Store note in database

Id: 456
Title: To Buy
Content: Milk & Bread
Account id: 123

201 CREATED
Token: hhhhhh

POST /notes
Title: To Buy
Content: Milk & Bread
Account id: 123
Token: hhhhhh

201 CREATED
Note id: 456

AUTHORIZATION WITH TOKENS

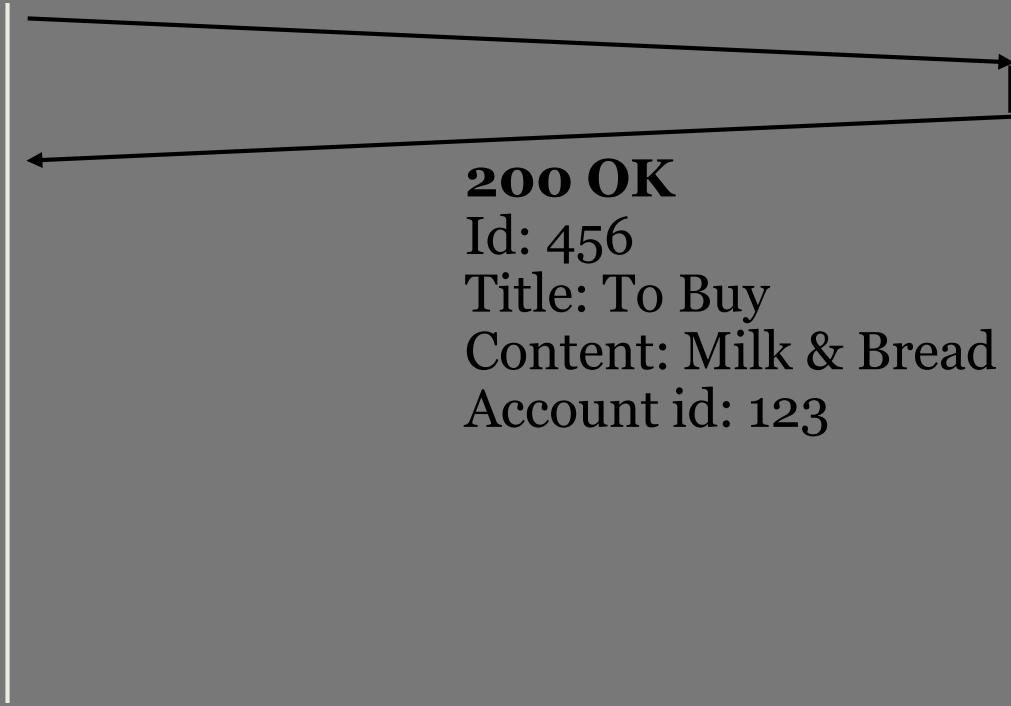


Client

GET /notes/456
Token: hhhhhh



Server



Store account in database

Id: 123
Username: Alice
Password: abc777

Store token in database

Token: hhhhhh
Account id: 123

Store note in database

Id: 456
Title: To Buy
Content: Milk & Bread
Account id: 123

AUTHORIZATION

- Correctly implementing authorization is important.
- Proving that no security vulnerabilities exists is hard.

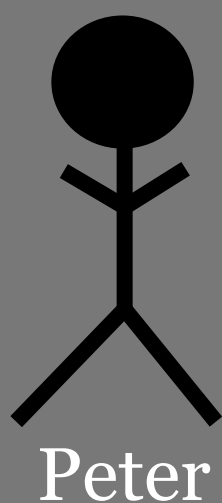
Authorization frameworks:

- Proved to work good.
- Everybody do it the same way.

OAuth 2.0 - WHAT IS IT?

A framework for an application with user resources that allows other applications to access these resources.

Real-world example:



Has contact list at

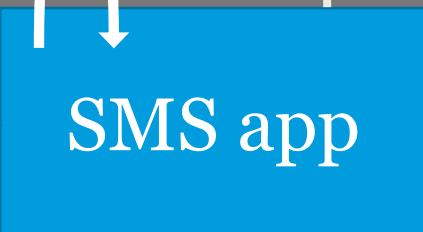


Implements OAuth 2.0.

Get Peter's contacts



Create new contact in Peter's calendar

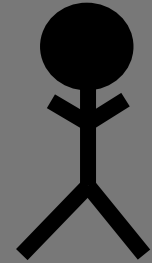


Uses

OAUTH 2.0 - HOW DOES IT WORK?

1. The **SMS app** pre-register itself as an client at **Google**.
2. Peter starts using the **SMS app**.
3. The **SMS app** tells Peter it would like to access Peter's contact list at **Google**.
 - The **SMS app** redirects Peter to **Google**.
4. Peter tells **Google** that the **SMS app** may access his contact list.
 - Peter receives a token with permission to access his contact list.
5. **Google** redirects Peter back to the **SMS app**.
 - Peter gives the token to the **SMS app**.
6. The **SMS app** uses the token to prove to **Google** that it has permission to access Peter's contact list.

OAUTH 2.0 - ROLES



Resource Owner



OAUTH 2.0 - ROLES

The client needs to register itself at the server first. Retrieves:

- `client_id`
- `client_secret`

SMS app
Client



Peter

Resource Owner

Google
Authorization Server

Google
Resource Server

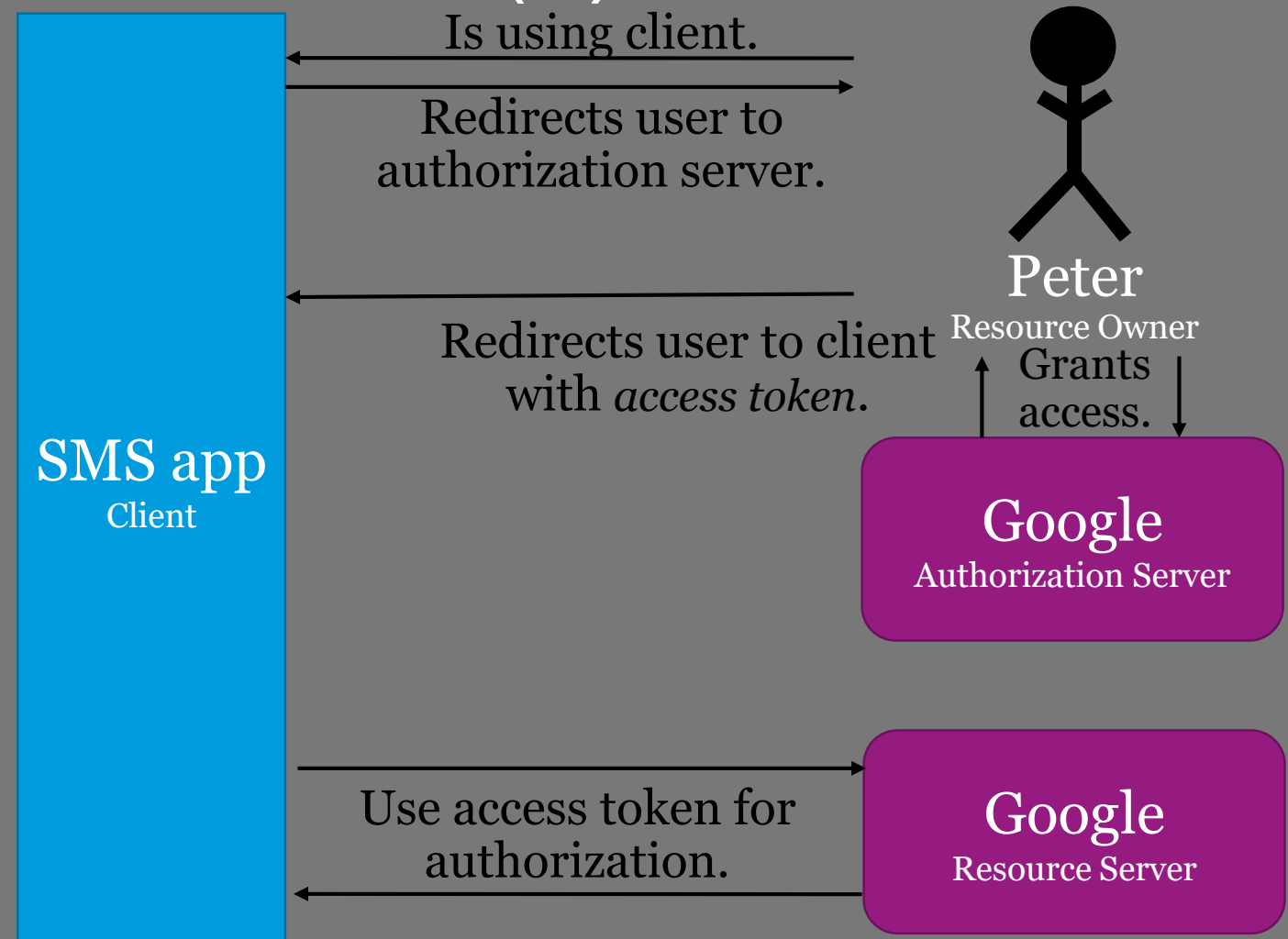
OAUTH 2.0 - BASIC FLOW



OBTAINING THE TOKEN (1)

There are four ways:

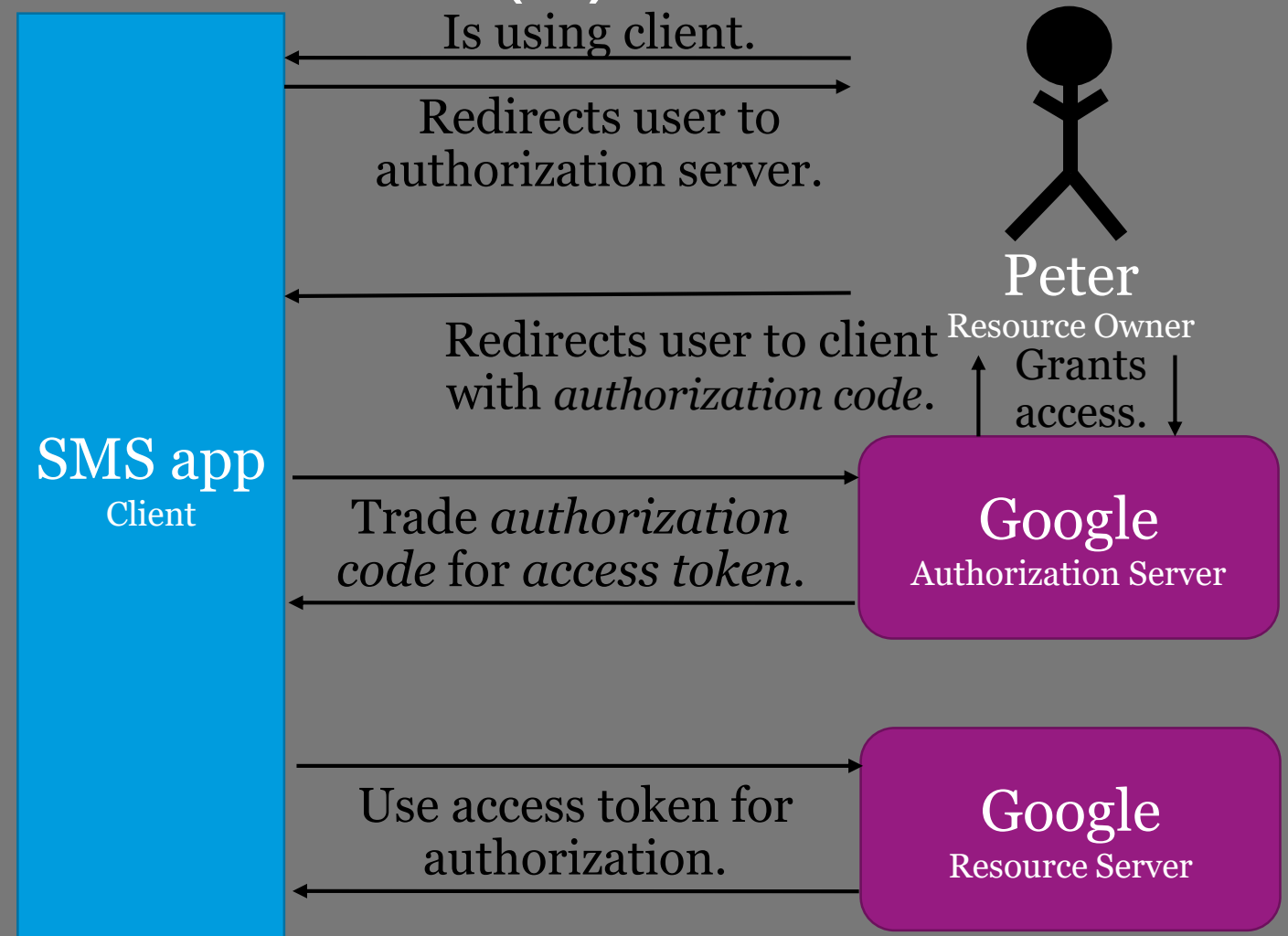
- Implicit
(client="SPA or smartphone").



OBTAINING THE TOKEN (2)

There are four ways:

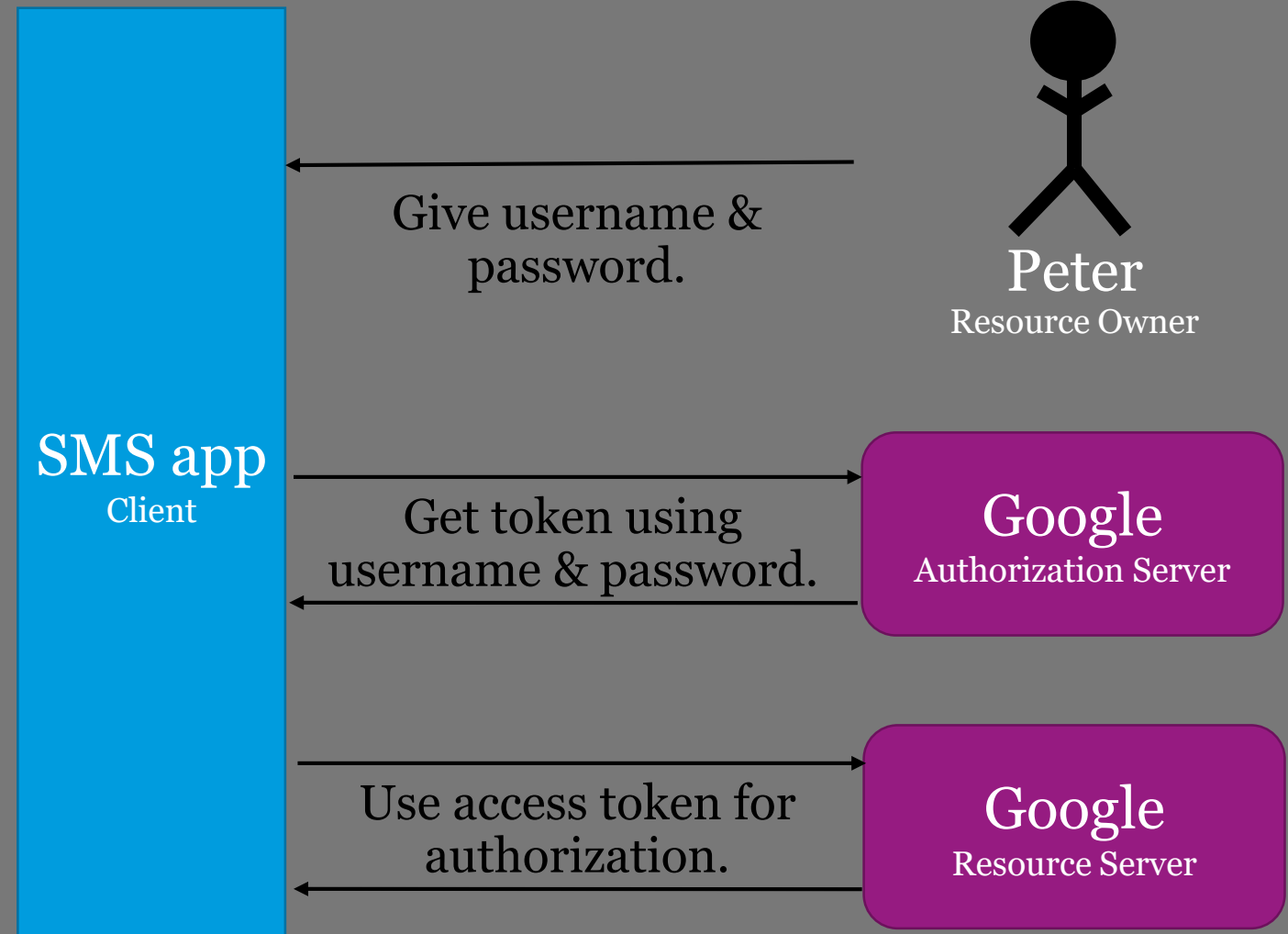
- Implicit.
- Authorization code (client="web app").



OBTAINING THE TOKEN (3)

There are four ways:

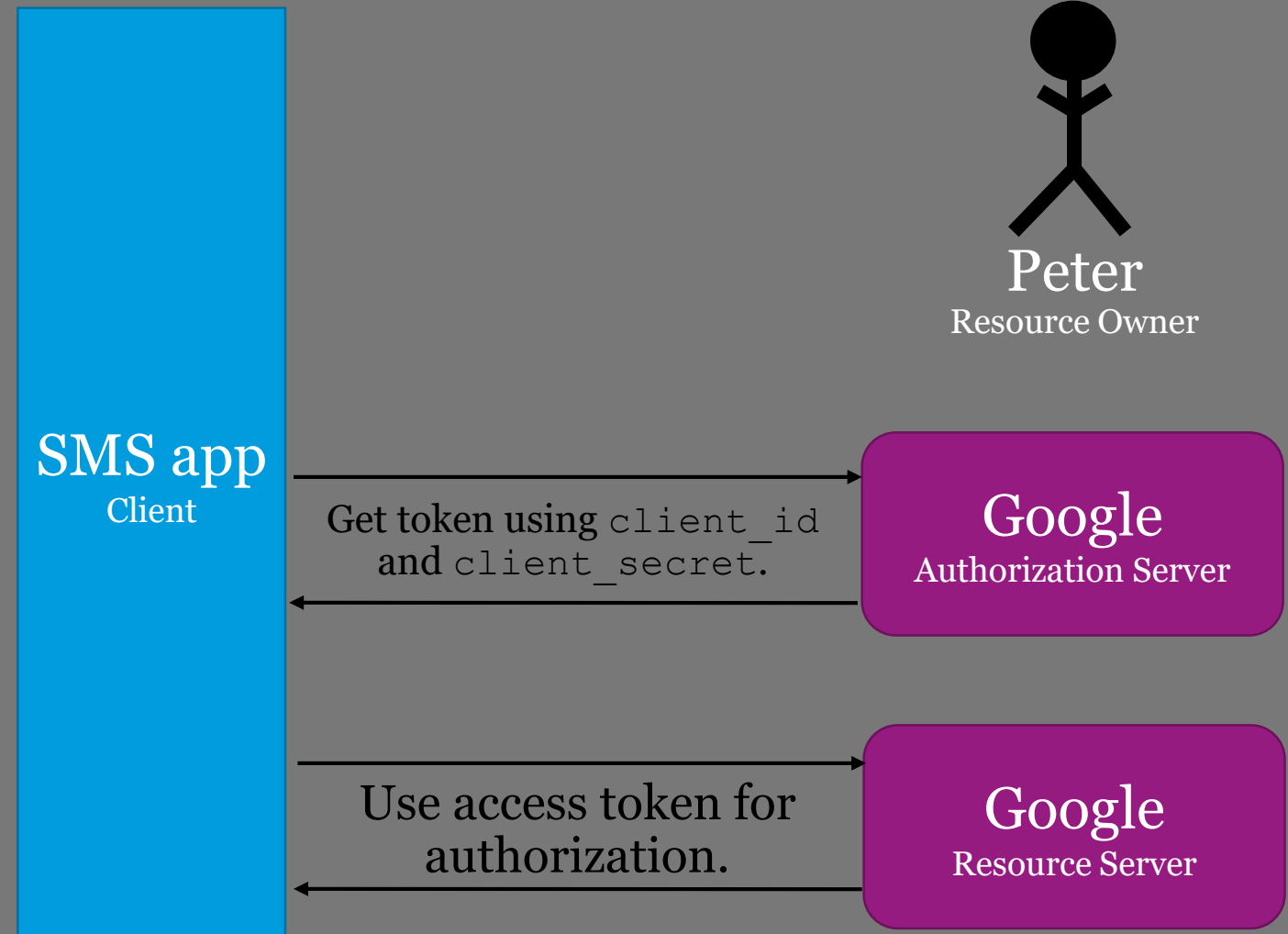
- Implicit.
- Authorization code.
- Resource Owner Password Credentials (for very trustful clients).



OBTAINING THE TOKEN (4)

There are four ways:

- Implicit.
- Authorization code.
- Resource Owner Password Credentials.
- Client credentials.



EXAMPLE

Accessing a user's calendar at Google.

1. Register your application as a client at Google API Console:
 1. Login at: <https://console.developers.google.com>
 2. Create a new project.
 3. Activate the Google APIs you want to use (Google Calendar).
 4. Obtain `client_id` and `client_secret`.

EXAMPLE

Accessing a user's calendar at Google.

1. Register your application as a client at Google API Console.
2. Ask a user for permission to access her Google calendar:

1. Redirect user to:

```
https://accounts.google.com/o/oauth2/v2/auth?  
client_id=YOUR_CLIENT_ID&  
redirect_uri=http://YOUR_SITE.COM/GOOGLE_RESPONSE&  
response_type=code&  
scope=https://www.googleapis.com/auth/calendar
```

2. User accepts and is redirected back to:

```
http://YOUR_SITE.COM/GOOGLE_RESPONSE?code=YOUR_CODE
```

EXAMPLE

Accessing a user's calendar at Google.

1. Register your application as a client at Google API Console.
2. Ask a user for permission to access her Google calendar.
3. On the server, exchange authorization code for access token:

1. Send a POST request to:

`https://www.googleapis.com/oauth2/v4/token`

with the following body:

`code=YOUR_CODE&`

`client_id=YOUR_CLIENT_ID&`

`client_secret=YOUR_CLIENT_SECRET&`

`redirect_uri=http://YOUR_SITE.COM/GOOGLE_RESPONSE&`

`grant_type=authorization_code`

-
2. Read access token from the body of the response.

EXAMPLE

Accessing a user's calendar at Google.

1. Register your application as a client at Google API Console.
2. Ask a user for permission to access her Google calendar.
3. On the server, exchange access code for access token.
4. Use access token to access the user's calendars:
 1. Send GET request to:
`https://www.googleapis.com/calendar/v3/users/me/calendarList`
with the following header:
`Authorization: Bearer YOUR_TOKEN`
 2. Read the user's calendars from the body of the response.

EXAMPLE

Useful resources for Google APIs:

- Obtaining token: <https://developers.google.com/identity/protocols/OAuth2>
 - Specific for web apps: <https://developers.google.com/identity/protocols/OAuth2WebServer>
- Calendar API scopes: <https://developers.google.com/google-apps/calendar/auth>
- Calendar API docs: <https://developers.google.com/google-apps/calendar/v3/reference/>

Try it yourself:

- <https://developers.google.com/oauthplayground/>