

eXtreme Scale Identity Management for Scientific Collaborations (XSIM)

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Background

The concept of a collaboratory or VO has proven itself as the key way of allowing large-scale science collaborations.

We now have 15 years of applied research in how the collaboratory should interact with users and resource providers.

Glide-ins, science gateways, community accounts, etc.



XSIM Goal

Enable the next generation of trustworthy extreme scale scientific collaborations by understanding and formalizing a model of identity management (IdM) that includes the collaboratory.



XSIM Method

Understand the core elements of the trust relationship between scientific collaborations, resource providers and users.

Understand how those trust relationships are (or desirably would be) expressed in the IdM systems.

Validate the model and advance the state of practice through software and applied research.



Approach

Analyze implementations – study literature of the different collaborative IdM approaches and interview members of the community.

Discern the trust model each implementation strived for.

Enumerate the different relationships between collaborations and their resource providers and the evolution of each (lessons learned)

Analyze the trade-offs of the different trust relationships.



Approach

Propose a model for an evolutionary step in IdM that describes trust relationships between collaborations, resource providers and users.

Model must be understandable and useful to non-IdM experts and is accepted by resource providers.

Refine and extend model based on feedback and experience.



Trust Relationships

Need a clear definition of trust for XSIM to clarify our thinking.

Large body of research on trust exists, in computer security, CS, and more broadly.

Many definitions proposed.



Our Definition of Trust

Trust is a disposition willingly **to accept the risk of reliance** on a person, entity, or system to act in ways that benefit, protect, or respect one's interests in a given domain.

Based on Nickel & Vaesen, Sabine Roeser, Rafaela Hillerbrand, Martin Peterson & Per Sandin (eds.), *Handbook of Risk Theory*. Springer (2012)

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Interviews

Key to understanding the “real reasons” behind implementation and lessons learned.

Results will not be disseminated in raw form so people will speak freely.

Scripted, unstructured format.



Interview Goals – understand ...

- Who constitutes the VO, what its goals are, and who its stakeholders are.
- Who the RPs are, their relationship to the VO (why are they serving it), and who their stakeholders are.
- The assets and threats that are in play.
- The policy and technical controls in place between the VO and the RPs.
- The policy and technical controls in place between the VO and its users.
- What are the lessons learned (e.g., what would be done differently if done again).
- **Ultimate goal: to understand the trust relationships (accepted risks) between resource providers/VO/users and how those were arrived at.**



Interviewees

So far...

- ATLAS
- Atlas Great Lakes T2
- CMS
- Engage
- LIGO
- U. Nebraska

Focus on DOE/
SciDAC, but broader
as possible.

Many more planned.

Please contact me if
interested.



Interview Observations so Far

People are very willing to talk to us.

The OSG AHM was a great opportunity to meet with many folks.

Interviewees have both great and diverse insights.

The “customers” of IdM are amazingly varied – cybersecurity is but one.



OSG Satellite Relationship

Collaboration to understand the usage of identity management in OSG's VOs.

OSG provides valuable “sounding board” for XSIM.

An increased understanding of VO interactions would benefit the OSG in serving the wide range of VOs that constitutes its community.

E.g. OSG's Traceability Requirements.



XSIM Schedule

Y1: Publication and presentation of document describing the results of the interviews and the IdM model. (Targeting CHEP and eScience.)

Y2: Develop software implementing the model and revise the model based on feedback and experience from initial field tests

Y3: Further development of the model user trust relationships; documentation and packaging of the software.



Thank you. Questions?

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<http://cacr.iu.edu/collab-idm>

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