

# Shibboleth and Library Resources

InCommon Library/Shibboleth Project

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# What is the Library/Shibboleth Project?

- Established 2007
- Five universities + Internet2
- Campus IT, Library IT, Librarians
- Adding Shibboleth to existing library services



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## Current focus of Library/Shibboleth

- Access control and licensed electronic resources
- Identify user scenarios
- Document business practice and technology issues
- Test solutions

# Why are we here?

- Shibboleth adds value to library resources
- There are issues, but they're solvable
- Successful deployment is possible

# Electronic resources backgrounder

- Ten years of growth
- Prevalence of home computing
- Increase in distance education
- Convenience and user expectation
- Hundreds of vendors, thousands of resources
- Significant part of the library collection budget
- Access and use restrictions
- Substantial work to integrate this seamlessly

# What's wrong?

- Remote access is problematic
- Too many passwords make chaos
- Maintaining IP's is time consuming and unreliable



## How can we fix it?

- Remove need for user-side configuration
- Single sign on
- Manage IP's locally ... or not at all

# What do we want?

- Integrated access to licensed library resources regardless of user location
- Consistent user experience for authentication
- Reduced maintenance overhead for library resources
- Reliable authentication for vendors

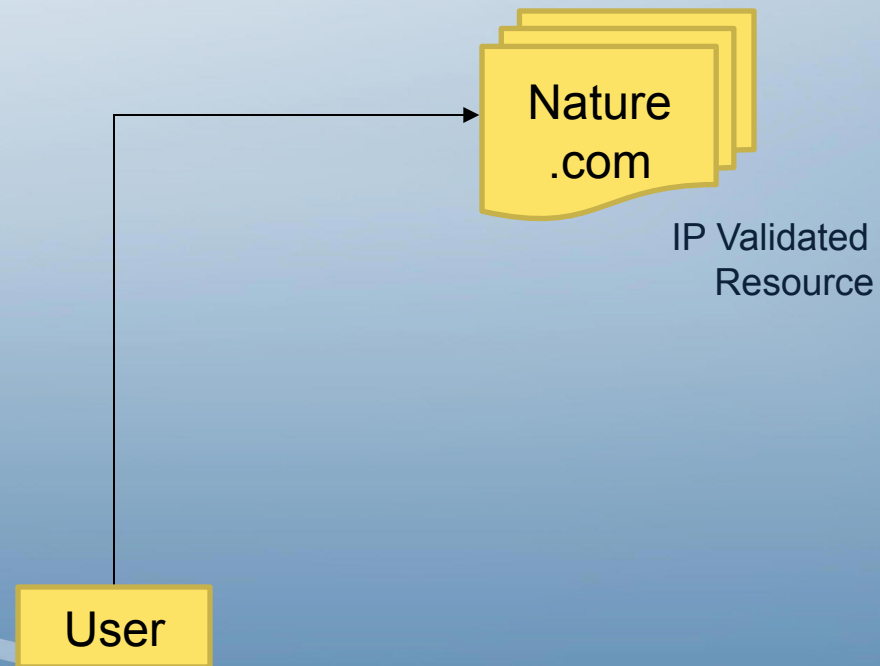
**How do we get there?**

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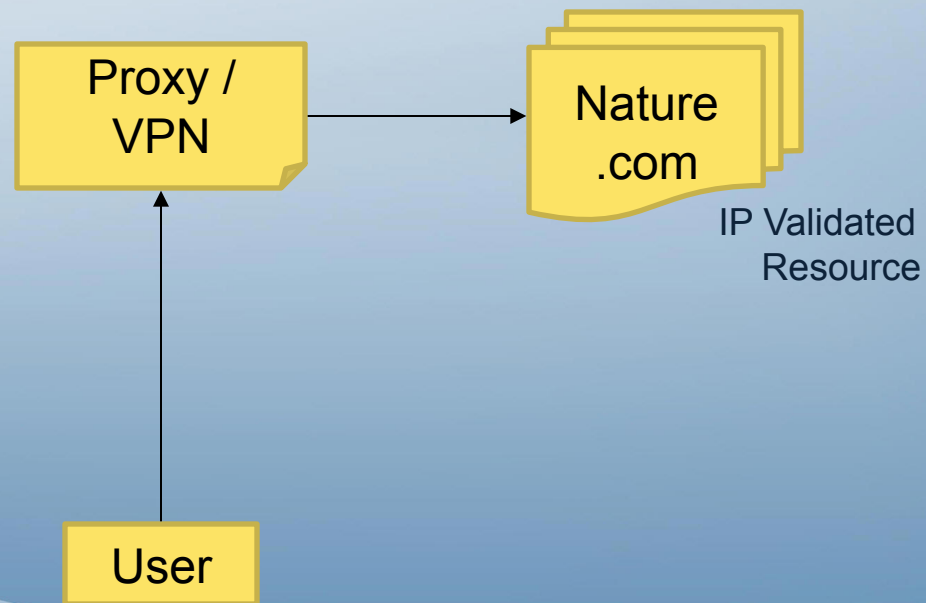
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# Scenario 1 - IP validated resource, on campus



## Scenario 2 - IP validated resource, off campus

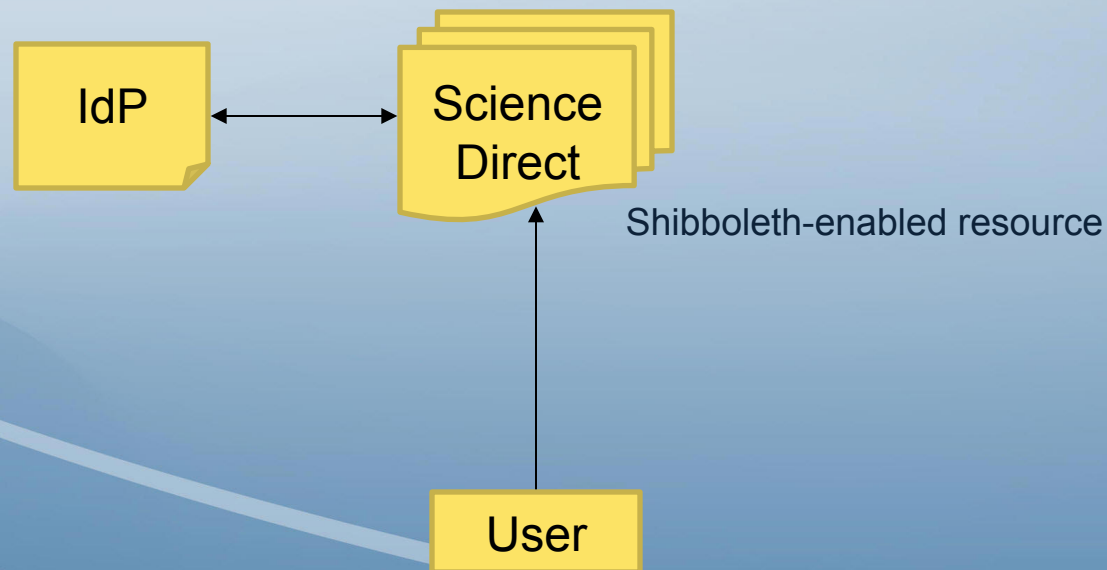


# What is Shibboleth?

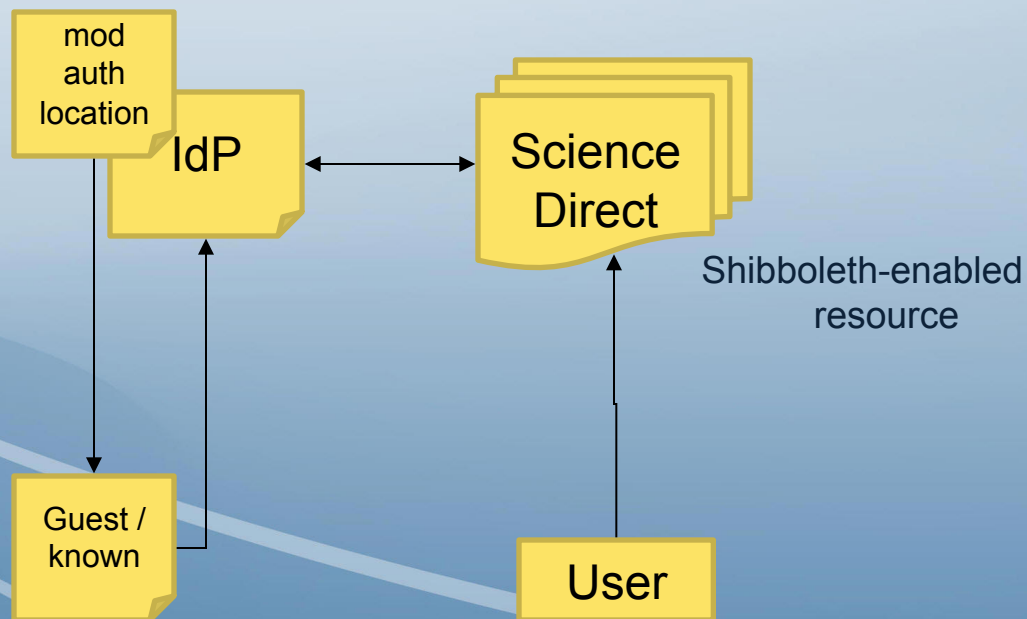
- Open source standards-based web single sign-on package
- Leverages local identity management system
- Enables access to campus and external applications
- Protects users' privacy
- Helps your service partners
- Plays well with others



## Scenario 3 - Shib-enabled resource anywhere



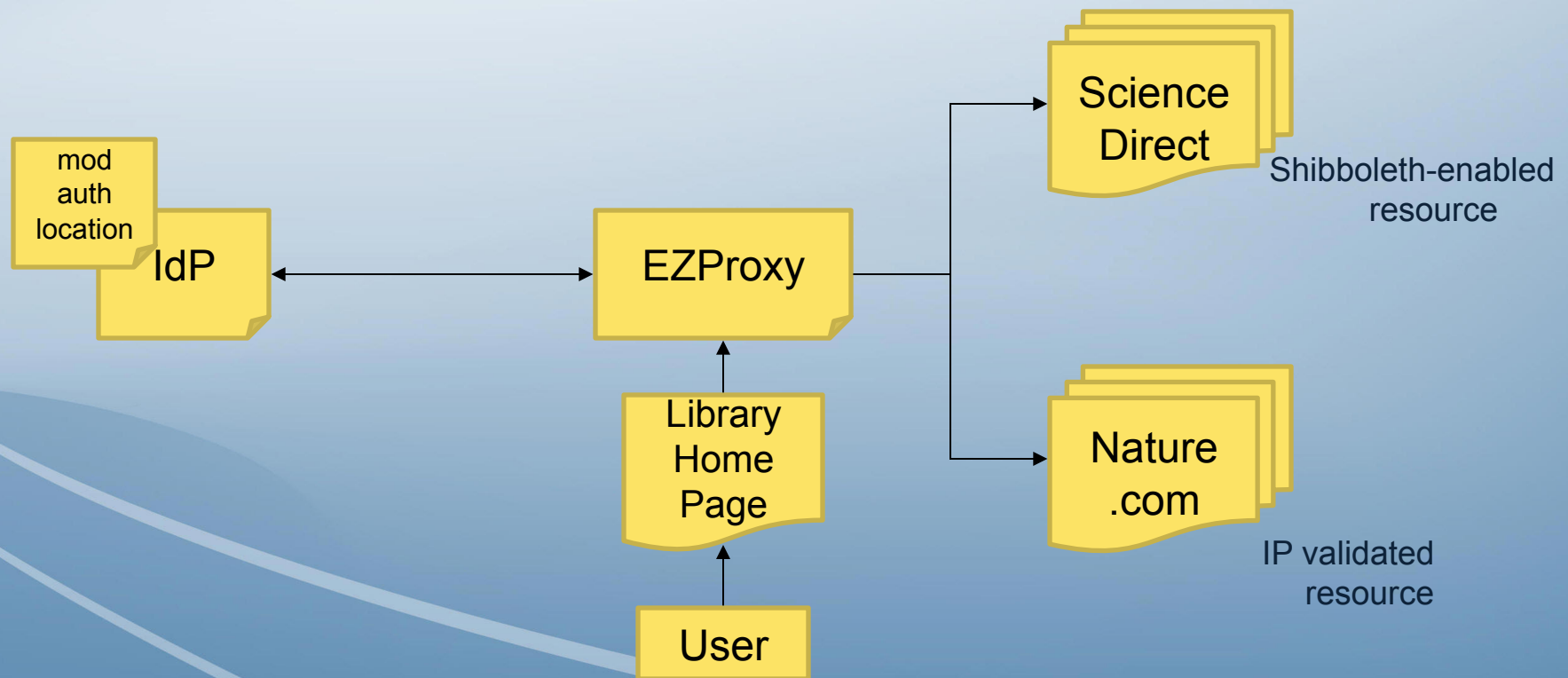
# Scenario 4 - Shib-enabled resource, on campus



# What is EZProxy?

- Proxy access for off-campus resources
- Inexpensive
- Library-focused
- Server side proxy
- Acts as virtual server/client
- Rewriting URL's
- SSO authentication

## Scenario 5 - Single sign on proxy, off-campus



# Options for access

	Local Config Needed	Proxy Maintenance	Vendor IP Maintenance	Separate Credentials
Web Proxy	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
VPN	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Shibboleth	No	No	No	No
Shibboleth + EZProxy	No	Yes	No	No

# Library concerns with Shibboleth

- Communication with campus IT
- Privacy
  - Privacy with individual vendors
  - Privacy across vendors
  - Session persistence
- Walk-in users
- Library patron database integration
- Are Shibboleth benefits worth the effort?

## Benefits to using Shibboleth in libraries

- Easier off-campus access of resources
- Simplified user authentication experience
- Personalization of services without releasing identity
- Centralized authentication maintenance

## Currently under investigation

- Eliminating need for vendor IP maintenance by routing all activity through proxy
- Using Shibboleth as central "foot traffic" log for measuring resource use
- Best practices for persistent URL's
- Role of federation in licensing and enforcement

## Next steps – Library/Shibboleth Project

- Actively partner with other federations
- Coordinate with Shibboleth-enabled vendors to join InCommon
- Encourage adoption of Shibboleth by US institutions and libraries
- Conducting pilots to validate approaches
- Recommending best practices and solutions to common use cases
- Community information sharing

# Shibboleth-enabled information providers

- American Chemical Society
- Atypon
- CSA
- EBSCO
- Elsevier Science Direct
- Exlibris
- EZProzy
- JSTOR
- Literary Encyclopedia
- OCLC WorldCAT
- OVID/SilverPlatter
- Project MUSE
- Proquest
- Safari (underway)
- SCRAN
- Serials Solutions
- Springer
- Thomson Gale
- Thomson ISI (underway)

## What can you do?

- Implement Shibboleth locally
- Explore local issues and concerns with your library
- Enable SSO with local proxy
- Pilot existing SSO vendors
- Discuss interest in SSO to commercial vendors

# More information

<https://spaces.internet2.edu/display/InCCollaborate/Home>

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