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Single Sign-on: Key Concepts and Directions

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The Problem

Passwords Suck.
More Passwords Suck More.



Single Sign-on: The Promise

Log in *once*, your network figures the rest out.



Concepts

- Single sign-on as part of IAA
 - You know you want the A (Authentication)
 - You need the I (Identification)
 - I is not A
 - Trying to use I for A sucks. More on that later.
 - You probably want the other A (Authorization), too.
- None of this implies specific technology!



Directions

- Directory Services
 - Good for I, bad for A
- Directory-based Services
 - Dependencies good, interdependencies bad
- Multi-protocol Servers
 - Shiny new hotness

