



# How adaptive is the CAT?

24.10.2023, H-P Waldegger



H. H. Waldegg, swissinfo.ch, 2011



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Who controls access to  
your sensitive customer  
data?

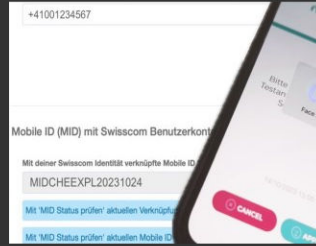




# Authentication traditionally assured at point in time

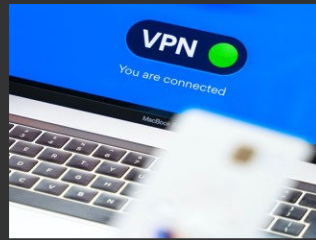
## Assurance level (LoA) categorization and path to password-less authentication

### LoA 4



- username or ID
- centralized user certificate/public key (and processes)
- two auth factors bound/signed in user device
- cryptographically verified against centralized proof

### LoA 3



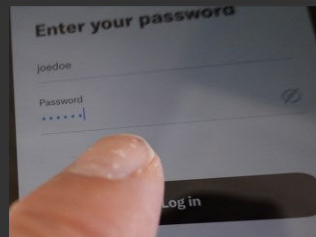
- username/password and
- two auth factors bound/signed in user device
- bound and cryptographically verified at backend

### LoA 2



- username/password and
- second factor (e.g., OTP, mTAN)
- bound and verified at backend

### LoA 1

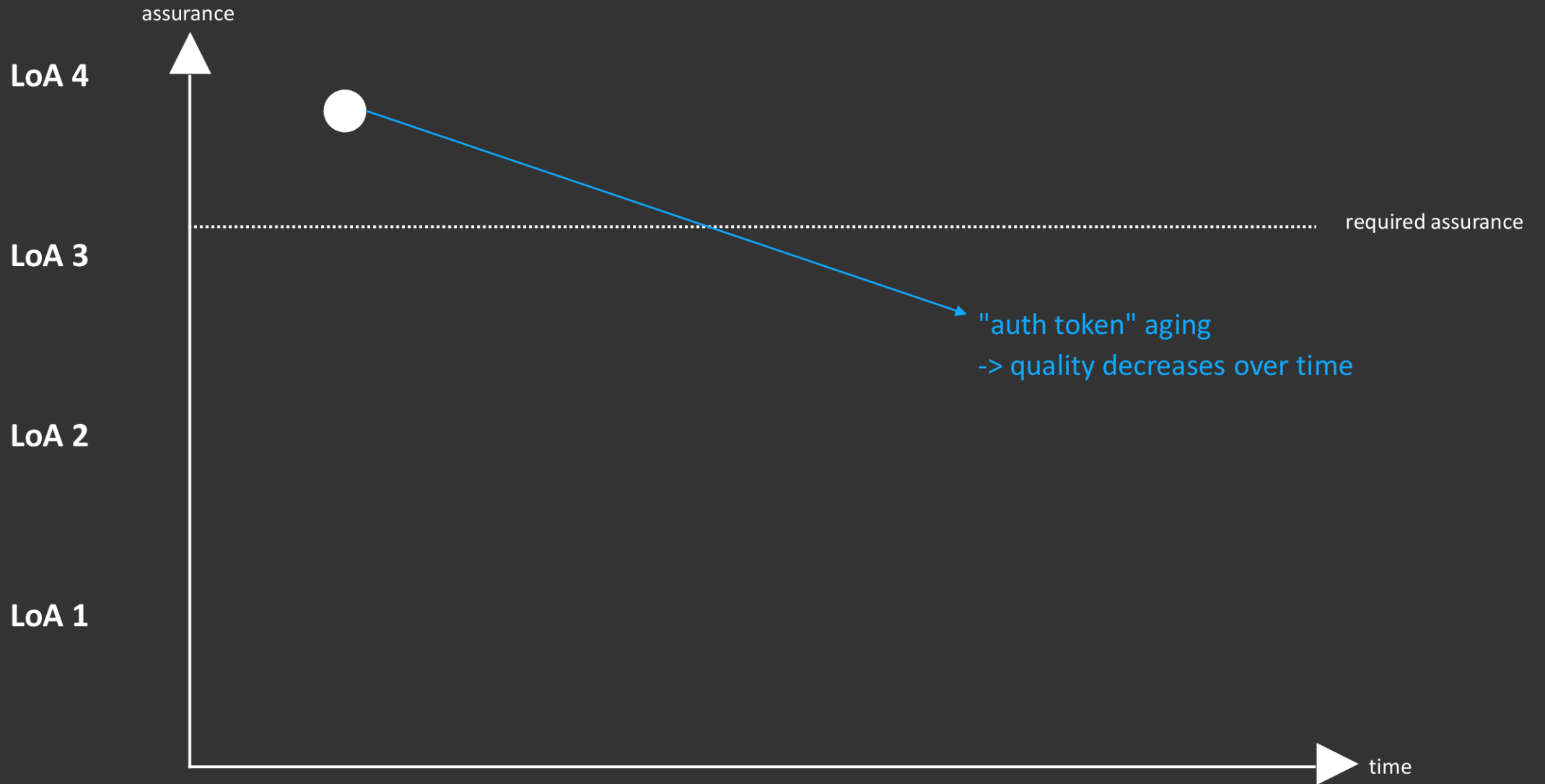


- username/password
- verified at backend



# Authentication assured at point in time is subject to aging

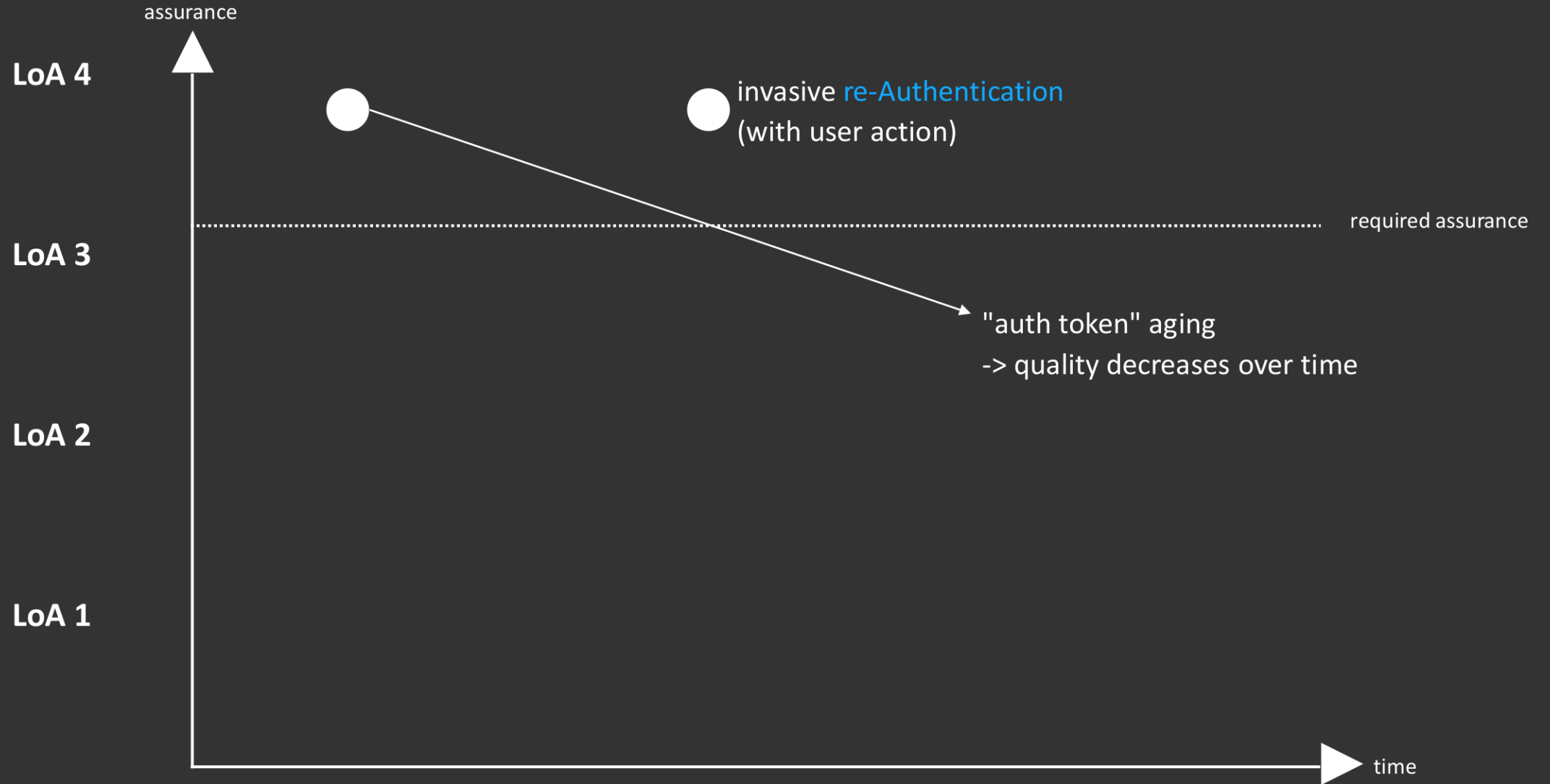
## *Point-in-time authentication is rarely sufficient*





# Authentication assured at point in time is subject to aging

*Periodic re-authentication necessary to get back to required assurance level*





# Authentication assured at point in time is subject to aging

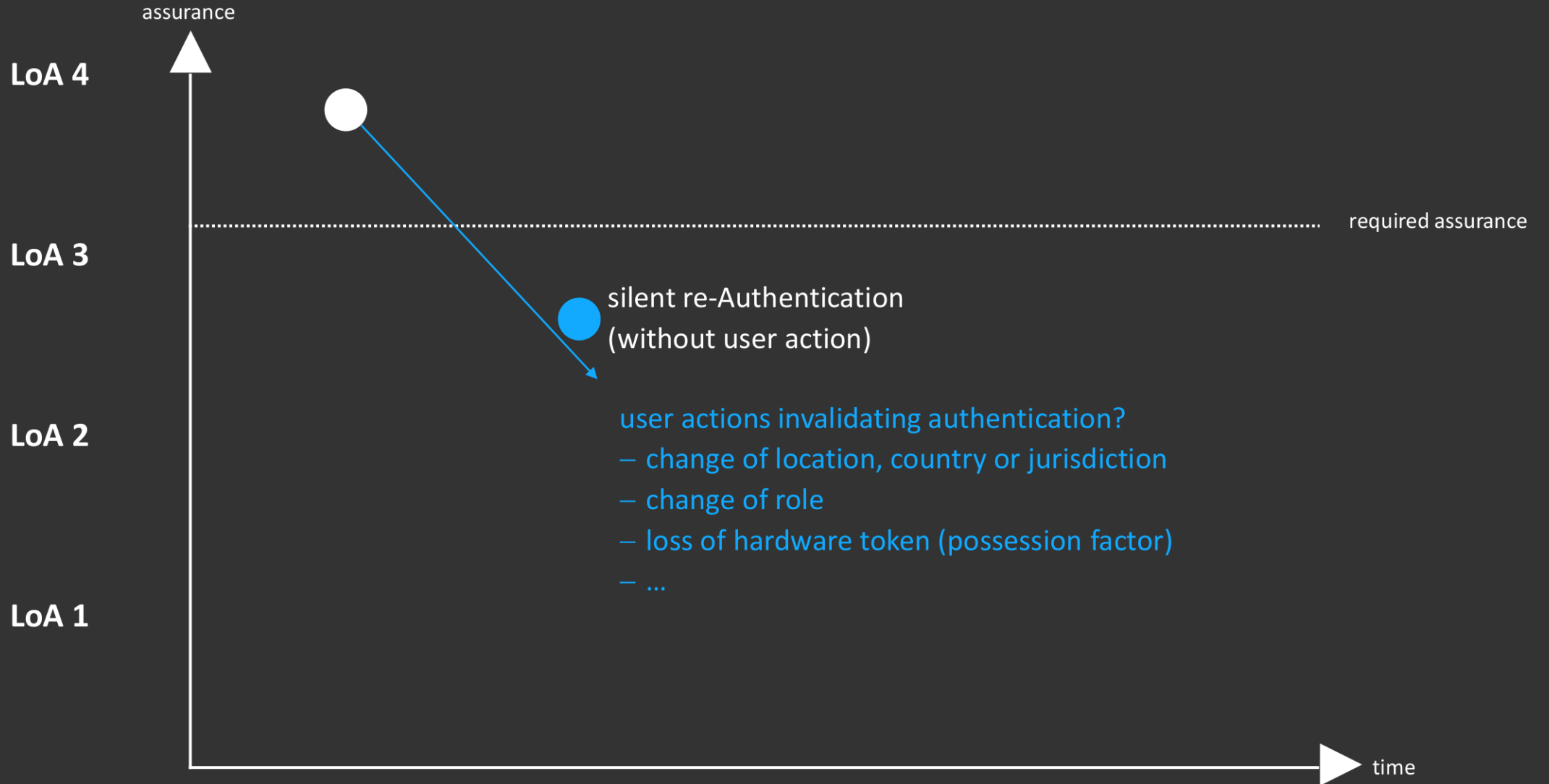
*User-action may invalidate authentication or role assignment*





# Authentication assured at point in time is subject to aging

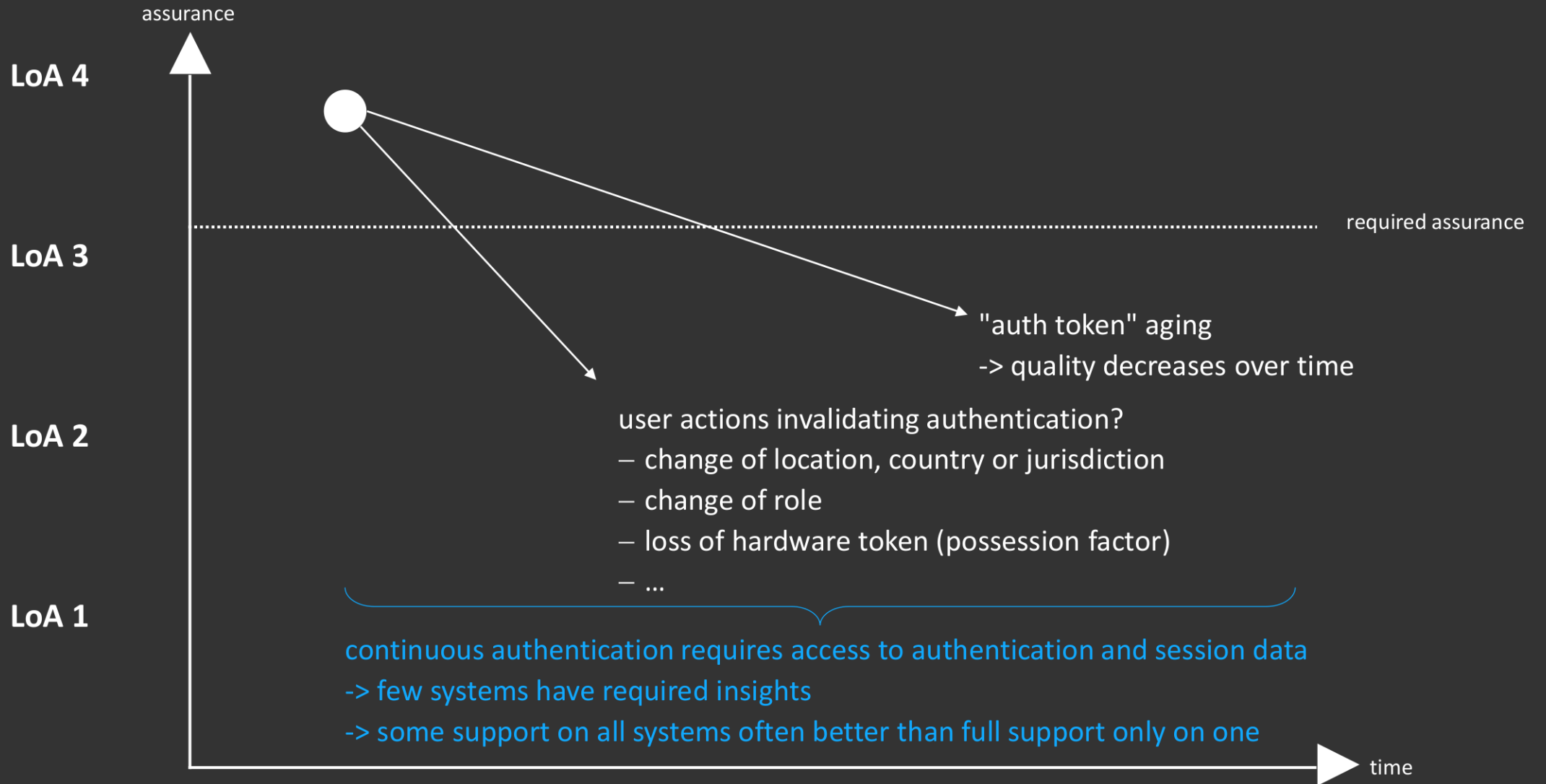
## *Frequent authentication requires adaptive strength to prevent user negligence*





# Authentication assured at point in time is subject to aging

*Human Factor: How often can someone re-authenticate without getting negligent?*

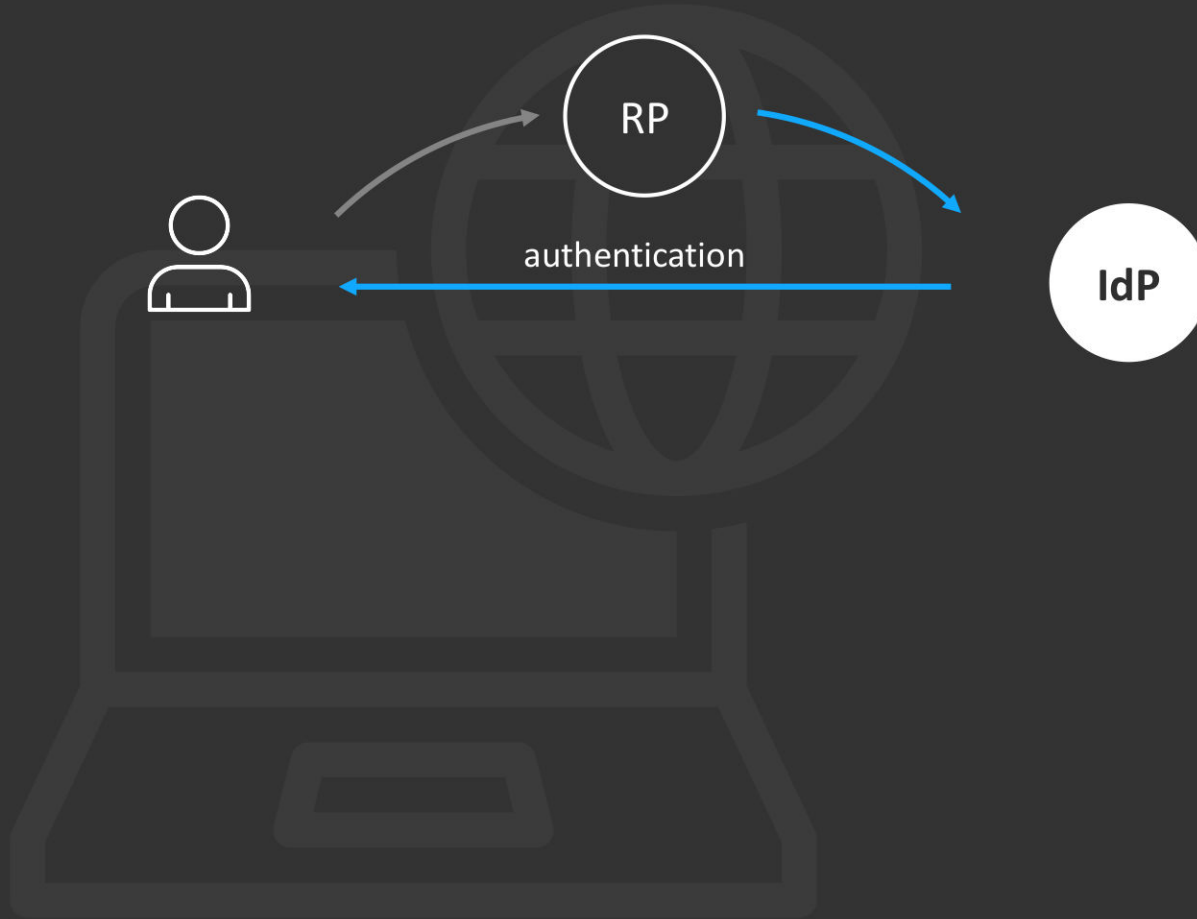






# Continuous authentication is a challenge in federated systems

*IdP (authentication system) and RP (enforcement point) need to cooperate*



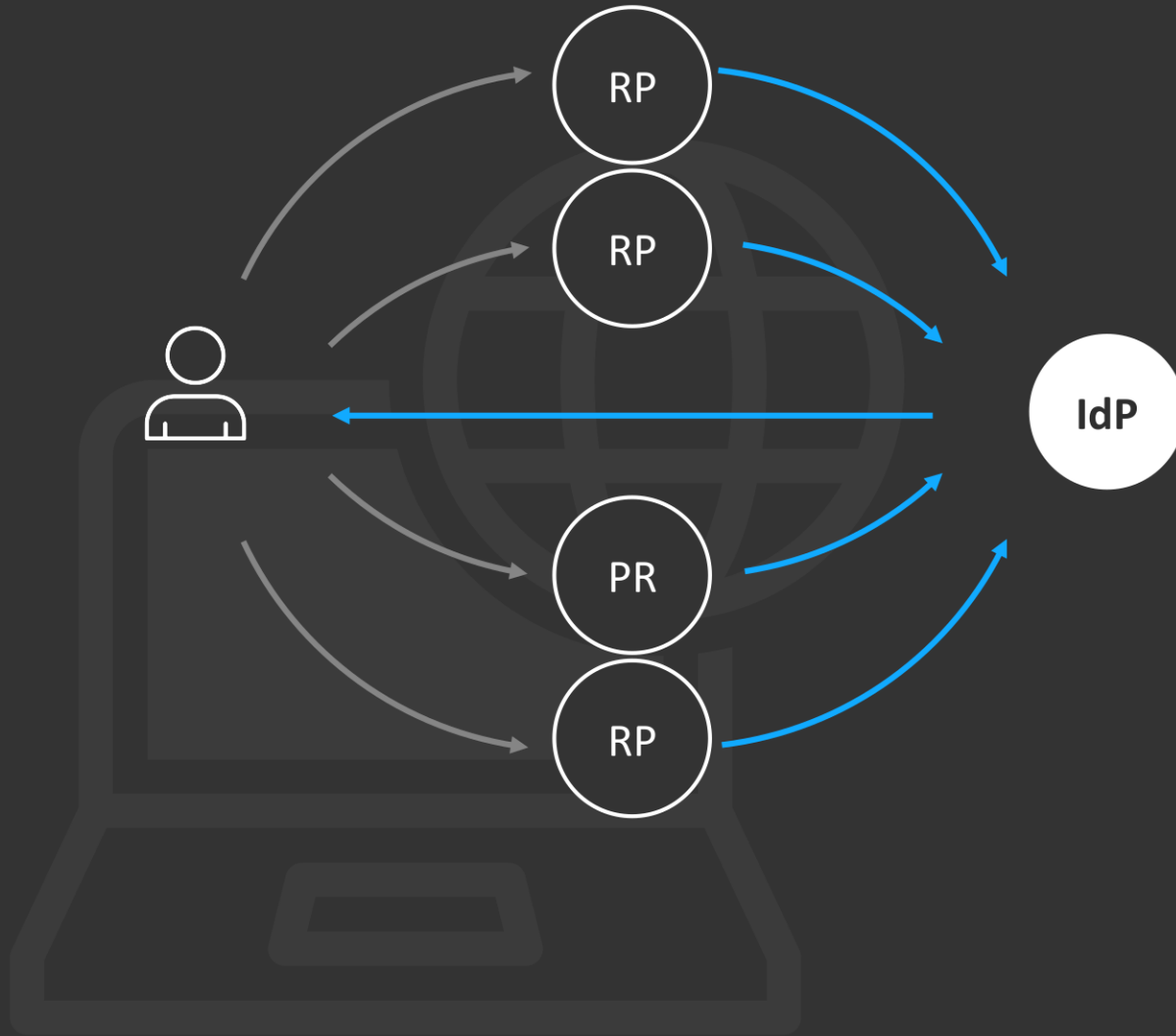
In distributed/federated environments relying party (RP) and the authenticating system (IdP) need to co-operate to support continuous authentication.



# Continuous authentication is a challenge in federated systems

*IdP in strong position to reduce authentication requests requiring user interaction*

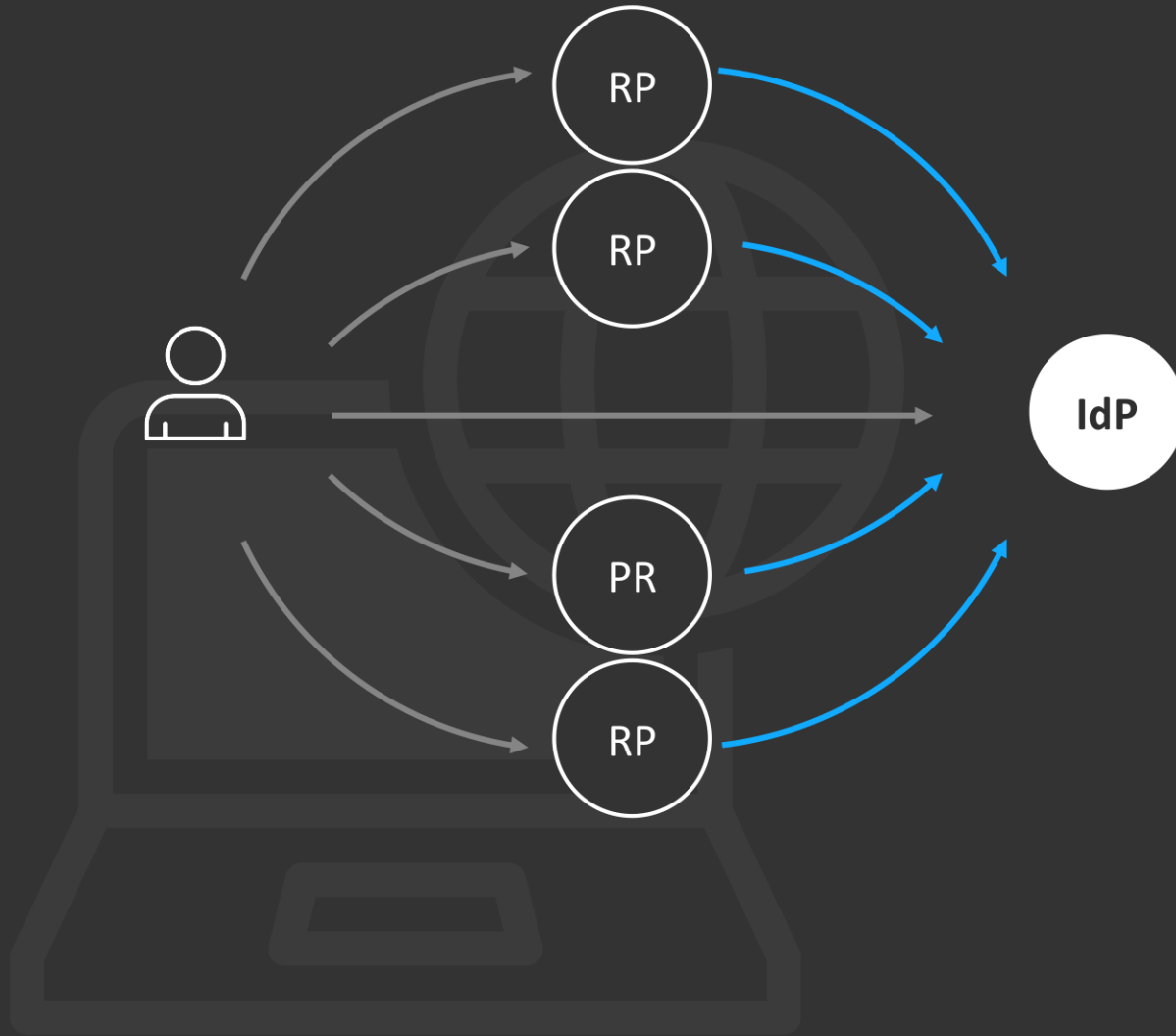
In a complex (B2B) environment with different relying parties (RP), the authenticating system (IdP) has good insight of the user overall status.





# Continuous authentication is a challenge in federated systems

*IdP and RP need to cooperate – protocols and semantics yet to be finalized*



In a complex (B2B) environment with different relying parties (RP), the authenticating system (IdP) has better insight of the user overall status.

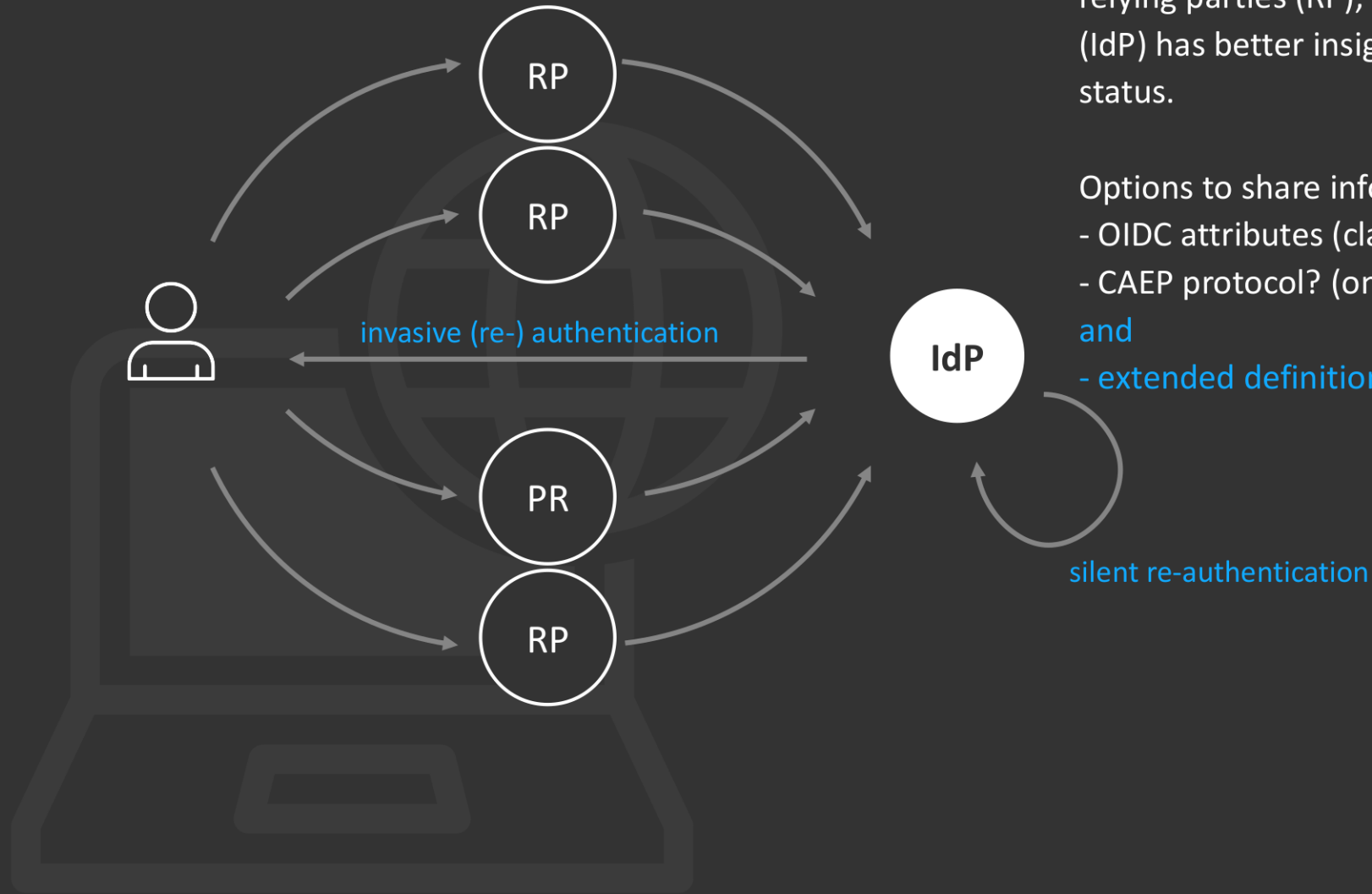
Options to share information, e.g.:

- OIDC attributes (claims)
- CAEP protocol? (on watch list)



# Continuous authentication is a challenge in federated systems

*Re-authentication without user-interaction can keep required assurance level*



In a complex (B2B) environment with different relying parties (RP), the authenticating system (IdP) has better insight of the user overall status.

Options to share information, e.g.:

- OIDC attributes (claims)
- CAEP protocol? (on watch list)
- and
- extended definition of assurance levels



## What about the adaptive part?

*Extended definition of assurance level allows RP to remain in control of risk level*

### LoA 4

always authenticate LoA4  
(no silent execution)

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### LoA 3

OK (silent), if

- LoA3 or higher during **last x minutes and**
- **same country** (if requested)

else re-authenticate LoA3

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### LoA 2

OK (silent), if

- LoA2 or higher during **last x minutes and**
- **same country** (if requested)

else re-authenticate LoA2

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### LoA 1

OK (silent), if

- LoA1 or higher during **last x minutes and**
- **same country** (if requested)

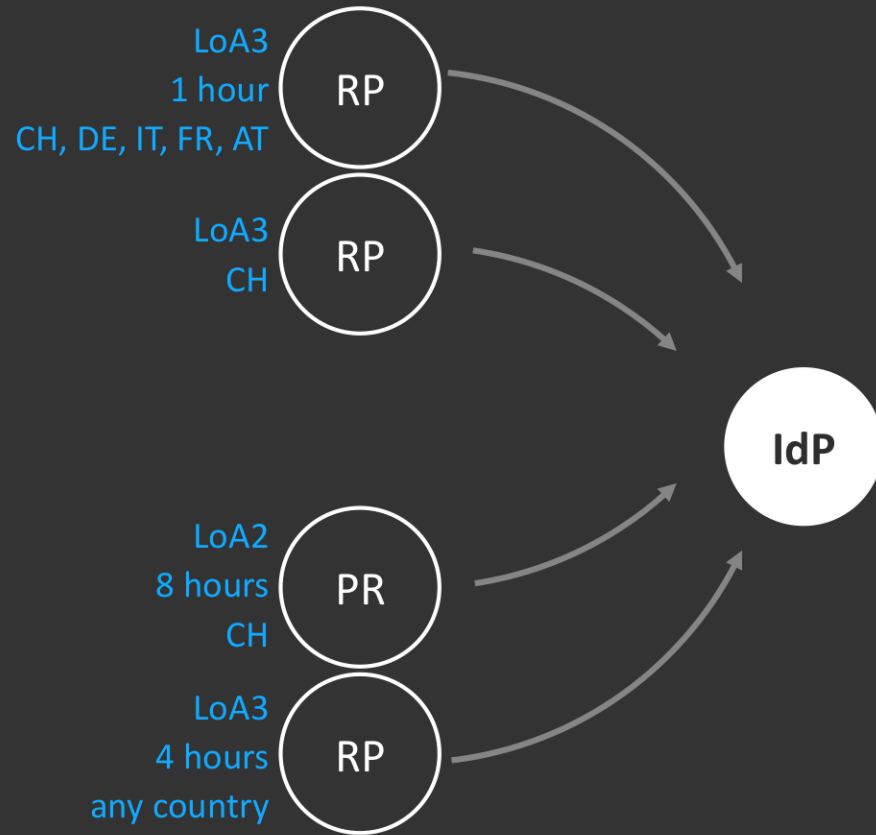
else re-authenticate LoA1





## What about the adaptive part?

*Each RP can adapt re-authentication to own risk level or compliance requirement*



### LoA 4

always authenticate LoA4  
(no silent execution)

### LoA 3

OK (silent), if

- LoA3 or higher during last x minutes and
- same country (if requested)

else re-authenticate LoA3

### LoA 2

OK (silent), if

- LoA2 or higher during last x minutes and
- same country (if requested)

else re-authenticate LoA2

### LoA 1

OK (silent), if

- LoA1 or higher during last x minutes and
- same country (if requested)

else re-authenticate LoA1



# What about the adaptive part?

*Further topics of interest being investigated to support continuous adaptive trust*

## Behavioral Factors (Something the user does)

- Keystroke Dynamics
- Mouse Movement Patterns
- Navigational Patterns
- Touch Dynamics
- Gait Analysis

## Location Factors

- GPS
- IP Address Monitoring
- WiFi Network

## Temporal Factors

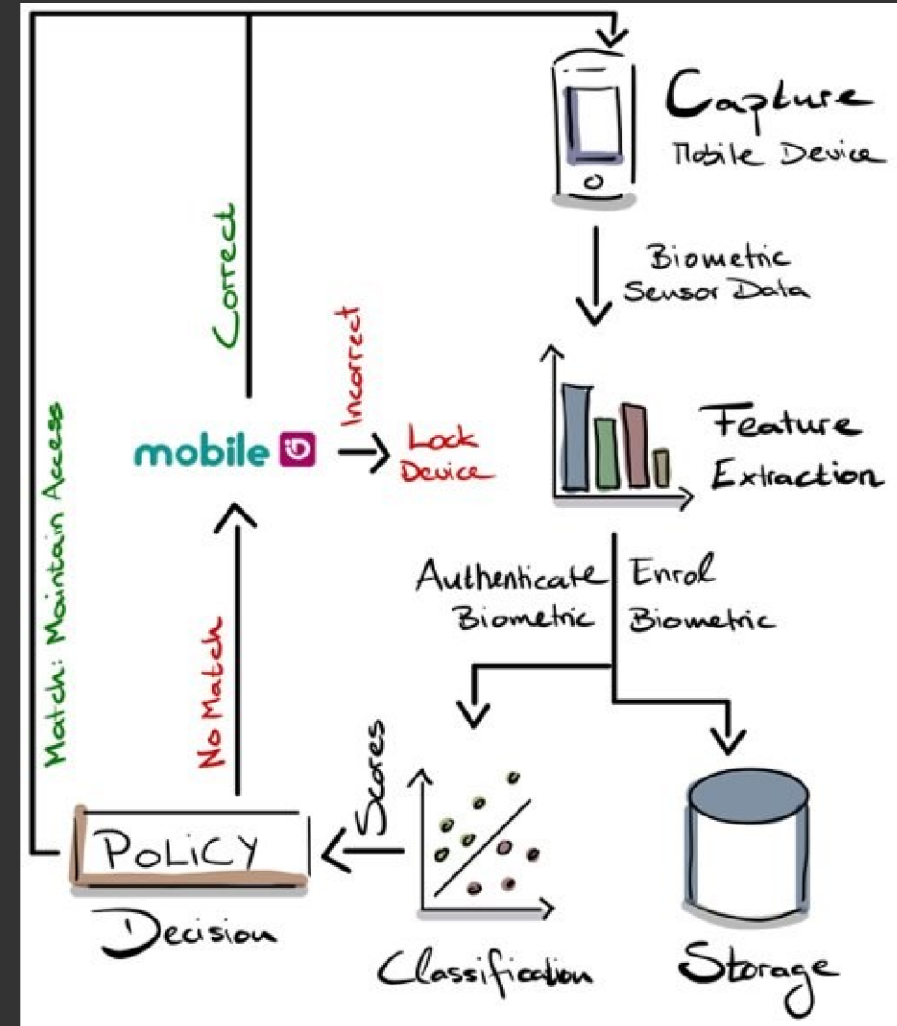
- Time of Activity

## Device Factors

- Device Profiling
- Browser or App Profiling

## Environmental Factors

- Ambient Sound or Light
- Temperature





# Questions?

**Innovators of Trust**  
trustworthy, committed, curious



# And regarding trust: We return confidence scores offering full transparency

## *Current state of technical PoC to validate flow and clarify privacy options*

### Phase 1: Initial Authentication

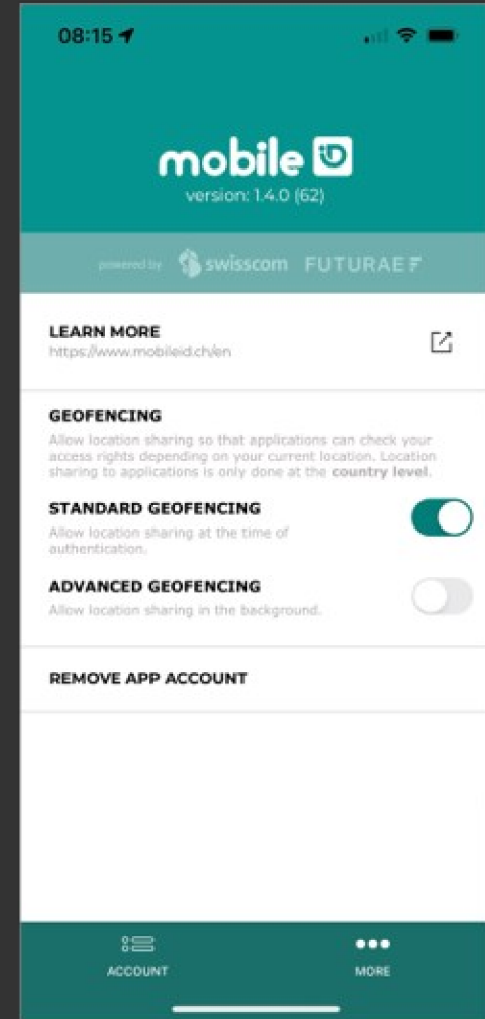
Initially, the user attempts to log in to the Relying Party. Dependent on user history, they may be prompted via Mobile-ID OpenID Connect (OIDC) to confirm an MFA authentication on the mobile device. After successful user authentication (a) the Relying Party receives an Access Token from Mobile-ID OIDC and b) there is an active session between the user and the Relying Party.

### Phase 2: Continuous Authentication

Using the Access Token, the Relying Party can continuously obtain user information from the OIDC */userinfo* endpoint. This process does not require user interaction and can be done silently in the background. The information (claims; related to the SIM or APP location) retrieved from the OIDC service allows the Relying Party to further determine whether or not a user re-authentication is required to keep the user session active.

### CAUTH confidence scores

- device confidence
- location confidence





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Go for strong authentication!

<https://www.swisscom.ch/mobileid>

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