

# Authenticating with Sessions

Anupam Ashish, on behalf of dCache team

11<sup>th</sup> International dCache Workshop 2017, Umea, Sweden



# Http Authentication

- Http Request to an authenticated Resource

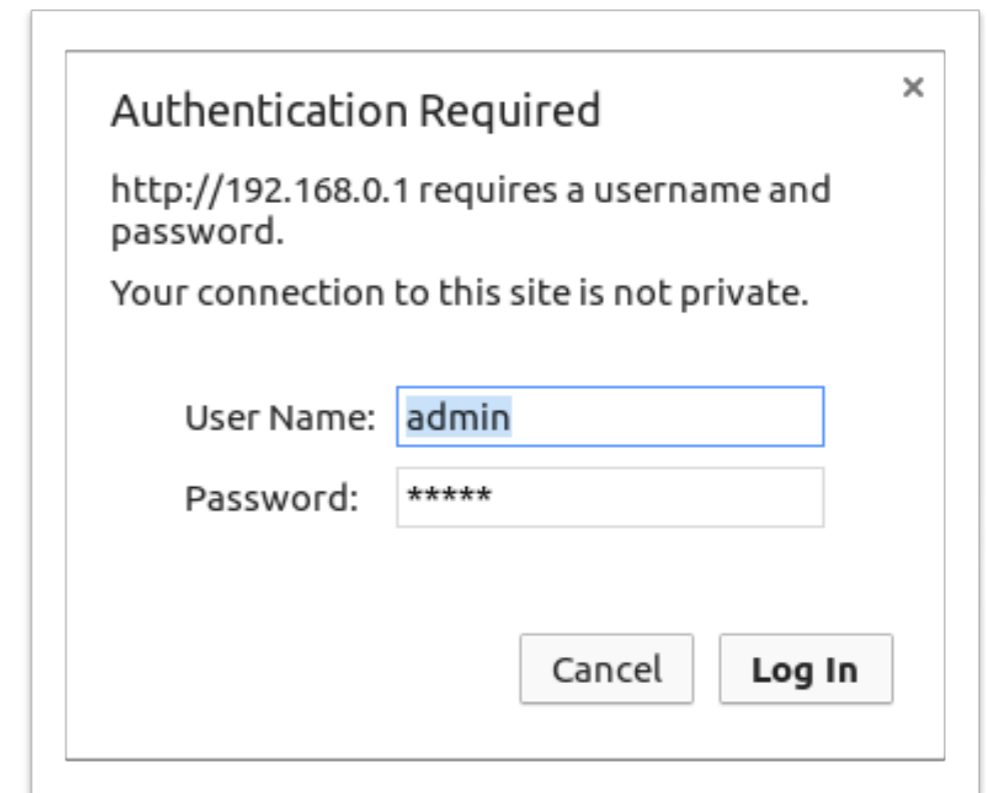
- PROPFIND /private

- Http Response

- WWW-Authenticate:  
Basic realm="dcache.org"

- New request with hashed password

- Authorization: Basic  
ZGFddfibzsdfigkjheczl1NXRleHQ=

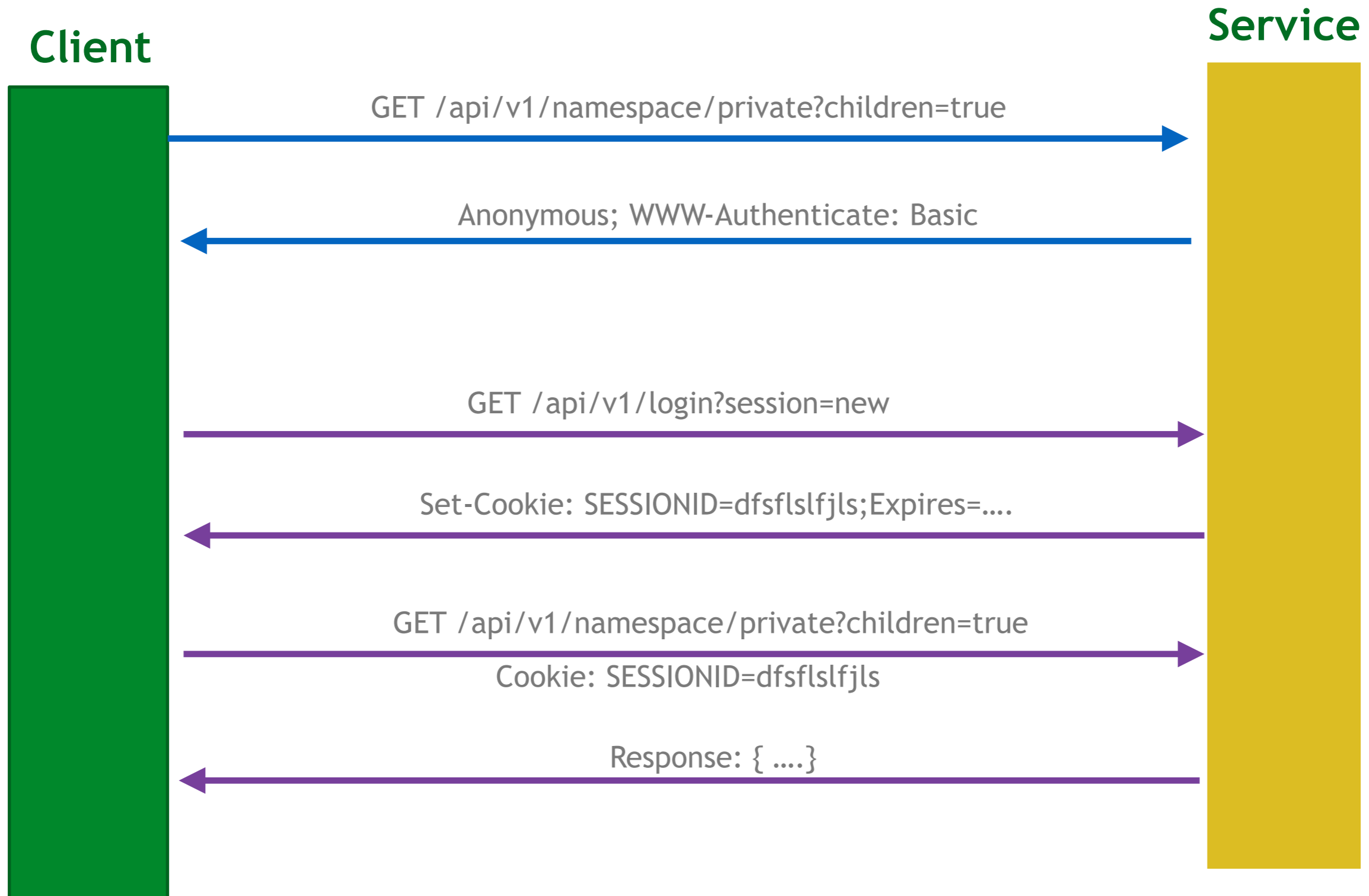


# Http Authentication Problems

- Close Browser to logout
  - Ok for dumb clients, not for browsers
- Http Protocol is stateless
  - Authentication with each request
- No Multiple accounts support
- Password dialog customisation not possible
  - Can be confusing to users

# Sessions to the rescue

- Session
  - A sequence of client/server interactions
  - Initiated by a single client
  - Valid for the duration of some work unit”
- Http Session
  - Identifies a user (without authentication)
  - Across multiple page request/responses
  - Can be used to store/access information about that user





# Configuration

```
dcache.enable.http-session = true
```

```
webdav.enable.http-session = true
```

```
frontend.enable.http-session = true
```

**DEMO !!!**



**Thank You !!!**