

Proving my age with Solid, a child's play?

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Discussion: are **Solid Pods** a trustworthy solution for transmitting proof of age online?






Age assurance is a hot topic for regulators

Beyond (ineffective) age declaration...



... towards mandatory age assurance

Age estimation + Age Verification

For accessing pornography	 France, Ireland, Spain, UK, USA, Canada
For accessing social media	 France and UK
For preventing solicitation of children (i.e., grooming)	 EU Proposal for a Child Sexual Abuse Regulation (CSAR proposal)

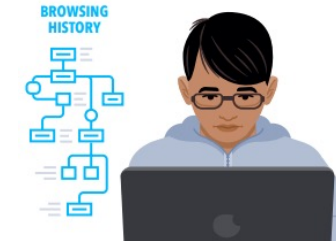
Mapping of Age Assurance Methods

Age Estimation

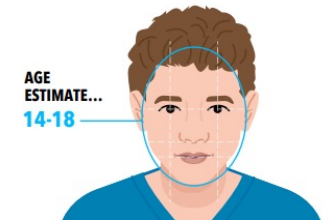
- AI Profiling
- Biometric Analysis (e.g., voice or facial age estimation)
- Capacity Testing



OTHER ALGORITHMIC ESTIMATION METHODS



FACIAL CHARACTERIZATION

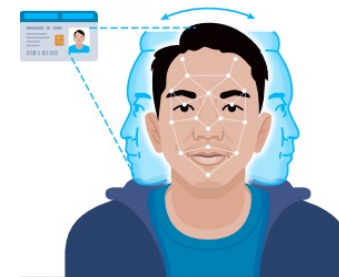


Age Verification

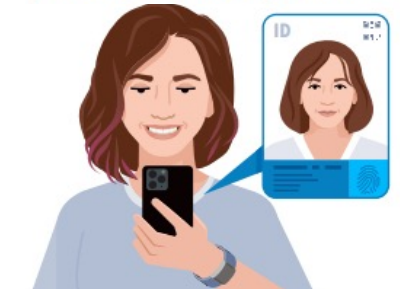
- Official ID document check (e.g., ID card, passport, driving license, etc.)
 - potentially paired with real-time selfie check
- eID and Digital Identities
- Proxy for Official ID document (e.g., credit/debit card, student card, telecom providers contract)



BIOMETRIC + GOVERNMENT ID



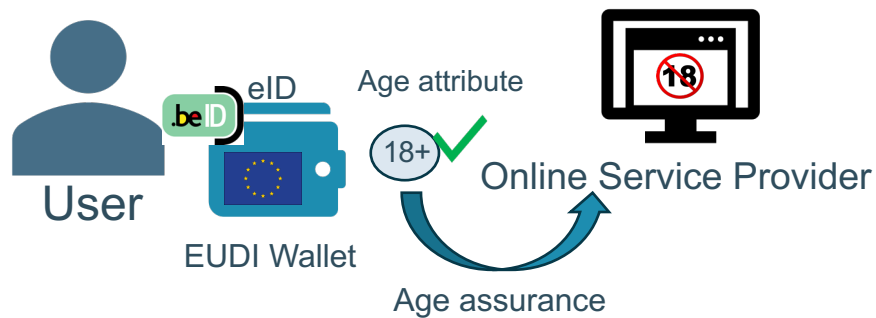
ON DEVICE DIGITAL ID/WALLET



+ Double-blind age proof transmission

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eIDs and digital identity wallets



EU eIDAS 2 proposal

Article 6a(4)(d): “European digital identity wallets shall provide a mechanism to ensure that the relying party is able to **authenticate the user** before receiving electronic attestations of attributes”.

Article 11a: “When [eIDs] and [EUDI Wallets] are used for authentication, Member States shall ensure **unique identification.**”

Art. 3(5) of eIDAS Regulation (not replaced by the eIDAS 2 proposal):
« authentication » = « electronic identification of natural person»



User Identification ?

Question n°1

Can Solid Pods be **EUDI wallets**, meaning they would allow for **user authentication** (e.g. via WebID)?

How would this authentication impact **user's anonymity and privacy**?

Self-management of eID's attributes

Need for sufficient level of **(digital) literacy**

which may be lacking in a substantial part of the population, i.e.:

- young people,
- elders,
- people with lower education, incl. illiterate people
- people who only speak a foreign language
- people with certain disabilities or mental health conditions

Risks

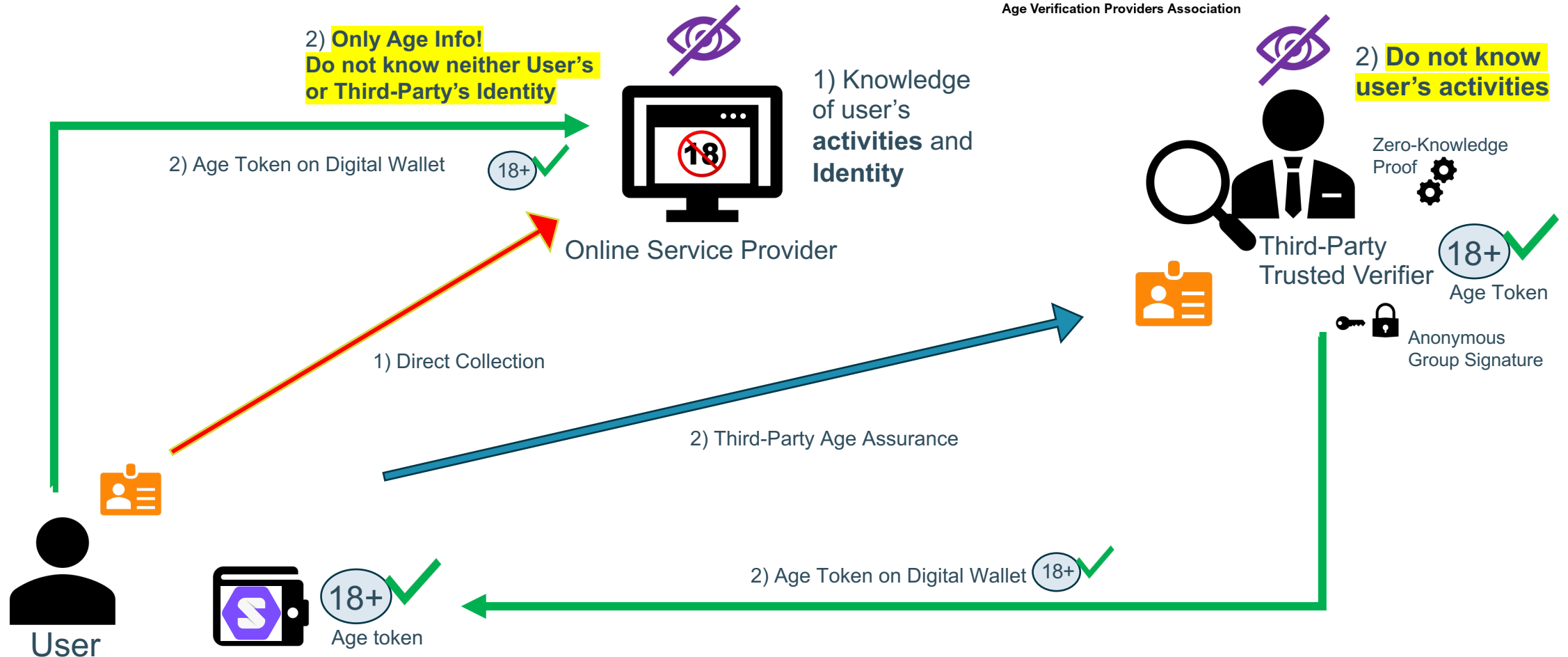
- Identity Theft
- Over-sharing
- Password Management
- Lost, stolen, shared device

ICO - *“any digital identity system needs to give special consideration to how it safely accommodates and protects children.”*

Question n°2

How can Solid Pods protect (vulnerable) people and be accessible to everyone?

Double-blind age proof transmission



Question n°3 Can Solid Pods host age token, following a double-blind approach?

Feasibility Challenges

Economic models?

In the absence of **public funding**,
as well as **behavioral tracking**

... how can pods make money?

Should users pay to control their data?
Should relying parties pay to access data?
Other business models?

Question n° 4

How can Solid Pods be **economically viable** and **widely adopted** ?

Adoption by Industry

Both **EUDI wallets** and **anonymous age tokens** need **time to be developed and deployed**.

Meanwhile, **service providers and users may get habituated to the currently available methods** (e.g., facial age estimation which is already popular),

Hence, **the shift** towards eID and anonymous age token **may be limited**.

Nevertheless, the acceptance of **EUDI wallets** will be **imposed to very large online platforms by eIDAS 2**.

Let's discuss...

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How would this authentication impact **user's anonymity and privacy**?

Question n°2

How can Solid Pods **protect (vulnerable) people** and be **accessible to everyone**?

Question n°3

Can **Solid Pods** host age token, following a **double-blind approach**?

Question n° 4

How can Solid Pods be **economically viable** and **widely adopted** ?