WHAT IS A DISCOVERY SERVICE, DOES YOUR FEDERATION NEED TO PROVIDE A CENTRALIZED DS AND WHAT OPEN-SOURCE OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE. WE ALSO INVESTIGATE WHAT OPTIONS HAVE ALREADY BEEN DEPLOYED BY FEDERATION OPERATORS IN THE APAN REGION.
Should you provide a central DS/WAYF

Yes if you run a Hub-and-Spoke federation!
Probably for other architectures, except for centralized IdP

Why should you provide one?
- Some services may required/request one – simplifies there deployments
Requirements of a central DS / WAYF

- Highly available
  - If down all connected services will be impacted
- Compliant with the standards (SAML-DS)
- Branded to your federation / national requirements
- Works on large number of browsers and screen sizes
- Optionally supports eduGAIN (other federations IdPs)
- Loads quickly
  - Large number of IdPs may impact performance
  - Loading IdP logos may impact performance
- Language support (Local and English)
- Links to your support and status pages
Examples
Discovery at the Service

Some service providers will provide their own Discovery Service

- Look and feel consistent with the SP own branding
- More configurable
  - SP can restrict the IdPs it shows
  - Provide their own user support links
- Additional overheads for the SP
Options for SPs

Shibboleth embedded WAYF
- Part of the Shibboleth SP product

SimpleSAMLphp WAFY
- Part of the SimpleSAMLphp product

Others...
RA21 project

RA21: Resource Access for the 21st Century

Simple, Trusted Access – Anywhere, Anytime, on Any Device

Defining the next iteration of Discovery Service to take advantage of the developments in browsers.

RA21 wants to provide users with a simple, seamless, customizable and secure way to access scholarly information resources.

RA21 Results Seminar – 6 December 2018 (youtube video, nearly 2 hours)

- PYFF is deprecating it’s current WAYF – building an RA21 compliant WAFY
Logging - Very basic BI

Having a central WAYF / DS allows you to capture some information about the utilization of the federation and its services.

- It’s only a rough indication!
- Records that a user attempted to use the select IdP to login
  - No record if the authentication was successful or not
- Only records activity of services that use the WAYF
  - SP with their own local WAYF will have zero utilization

Still useful in showing the value of the federation!
REVIEW #4