Access knowledge the easy way

With our simple, secure technology OpenAthens enables people to access the knowledge they need to achieve great things.

Older systems can pose a significant security risk. IP addresses are open to various methods of abuse and the lack of transparency makes accurate usage reporting difficult.

How we help:

Happy users
The simple interface will reduce user queries.

Minimal admin
Our tools make it easy to categorise and allocate resources to users.

Peace of mind
No compromise on security, all information remains safe.

Statistics and insight
We collect data and show you patterns of engagement.

Leave the difficult stuff to us
Our optimised solution enables integration with other systems.

OpenAthens provides flexibility to adapt to changing workflows, peace of mind against fraud and misuse, and the transparency to make informed decisions.

Visit openathens.org today for more information.

OpenAthens

It's easy!

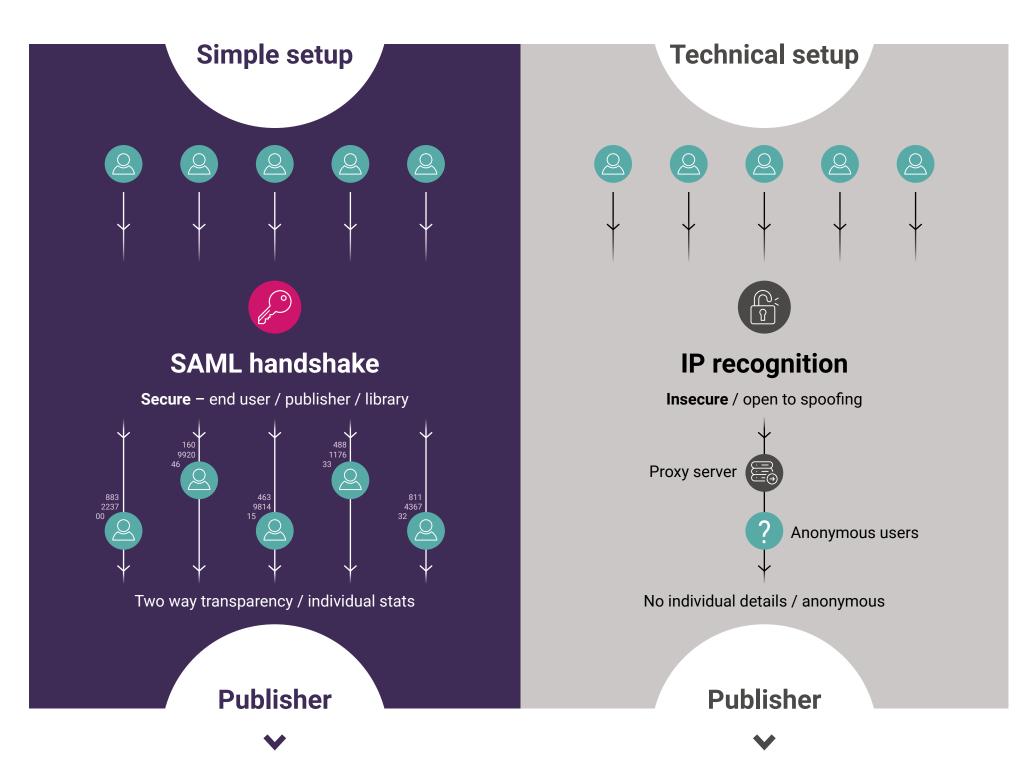## The difference between IP / Proxy and OpenAthens single sign-on.

openathens.net

Part of **Jisc**

Here's a comparison of the two technologies

OpenAthens
Authentication

VS

IP / Proxy
Recognition

	OpenAthens	IP / Proxy
Single sign-on	Users sign in once for all online resources and services using their organizational credentials.	Some proxy solutions connect via single sign-on.
Resource management, granular user and group level reporting	Make data-driven budget and subscription decisions based on our reports at group and individual level. Curate resources and add content discovery widgets in the MyAthens portal. Use the reporting tool to visualise data.	Some proxy solutions provide reports at group or department level.
User management	Manage all your users, resources and reports in our easy to use dashboard. Integrate with any local directory. Create and disable accounts for individuals or groups.	Text file based system for user management or the option to connect to a local directory.
Integrate with your existing library directories and systems	Integration with LDAP, ADFS, AD, Azure, any system that speaks SAML.	Some proxy solutions support authentication methods on one server.
Protects user privacy	A pseudonymous identifier that represents the user is sent to providers. Example: ahf8543w0_da3ryrYYisyd8	IP address that represents the institution is sent to providers. Example: 192.158.1.38
Protection against security or licence breaches	Specific user is disabled and notification sent to admin. Supports multi-factor authentication.	Entire organization is disabled until the user is identified.
Helps you remain BAU during a natural disaster or pandemic	Reliable, resilient and scalable cloud-based solution.	Onsite servers subject to fire, floods and other natural disasters. VPNs do not have capacity to scale.
Personalize user experience	Enable saved searches, annotated content, preferences.	Not possible with IP-based access.
OpenAthens supports	✓	✓

Simple setup

Technical setup

SAML handshake

Secure – end user / publisher / library

160 9920 46

488 1176 33

883 2237 00

463 9814 15

811 4367 32

Two way transparency / individual stats

Publisher

Global standard in authentication
Simplicity for the library

IP recognition

Insecure / open to spoofing

Proxy server

? Anonymous users

No individual details / anonymous

Publisher

Legacy technology / work around
Complexity for the library