

A user authentication interface assessment tool

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User authentication systems typically make use of the traditional user ID and password combination to identify authorized users to secured information systems. The security of those systems depends on users selecting strong passwords and maintaining the secrecy of those passwords. On-line systems have the opportunity to present a variety of elements on a registration page to encourage users to select strong passwords but the impact of these elements is in need of further study. This presentation will describe a testing environment that allows for evaluation of a variety of elements regarding password authentication and the potential impact of those elements on password strength, user behavior and the displacement of security risks.