

EAP-NOOB : Nimble Out-of-Band Authentication for EAP

EMU WG, IETF 106
Singapore, November 2019

Tuomas Aura, Aalto University
Mohit Sethi, Ericsson
various other contributors

What problems EAP-NOOB solves?

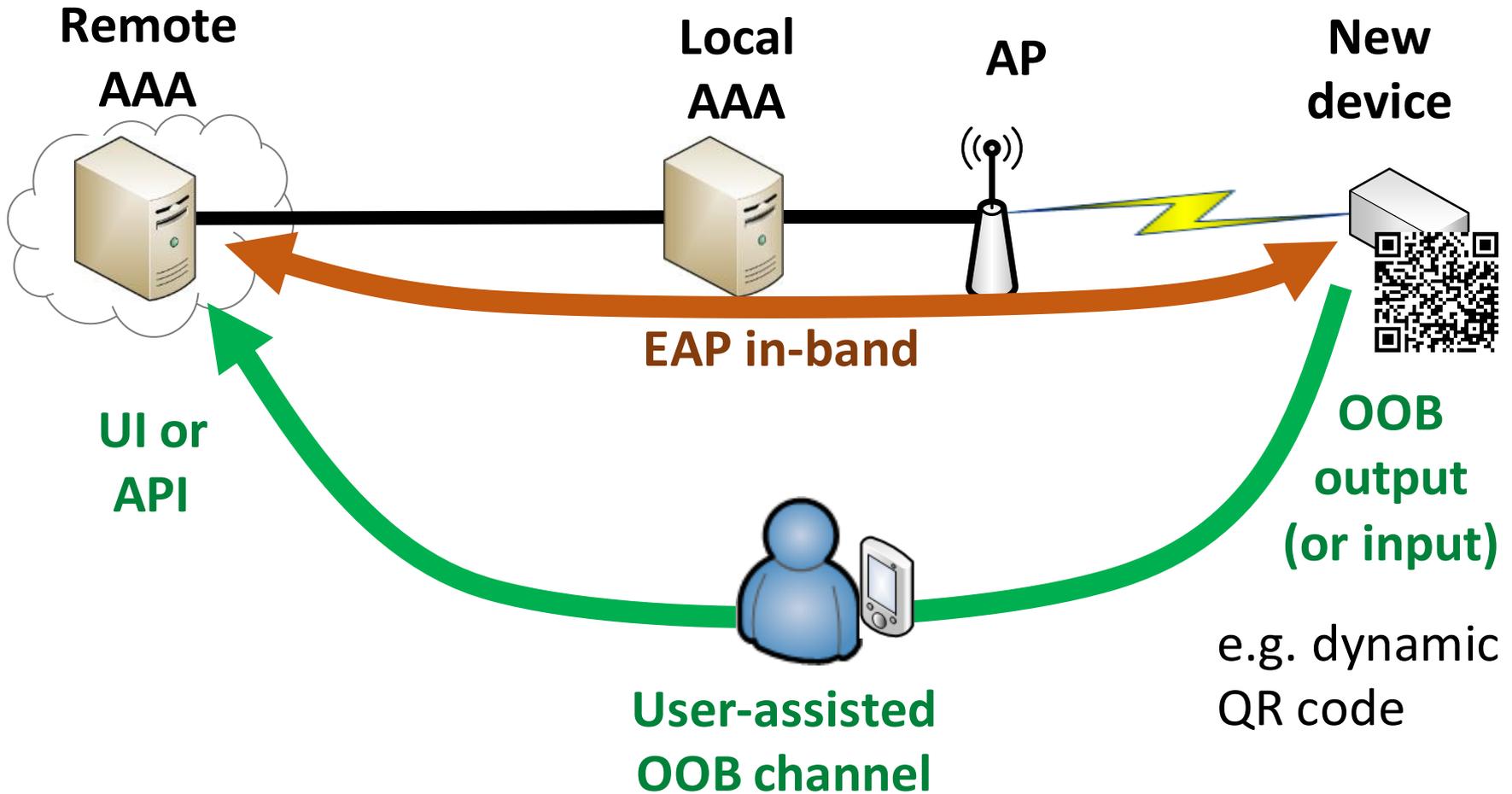
- EAP is a generic authentication framework with many methods, but **currently no OOB authentication method**
- EMU WG chartering being updated to create one
- **EAP-NOOB is a solution** for this, suitable for a broad range of EAP applications, stable spec, formal models and verification, open-source implementations

EAP-NOOB overview

- EAP method for bootstrapping smart devices out-of-the-box without professional administration
- **User-assisted out-of-band (OOB) authentication**
 - E.g. scanning a dynamic QR code, dynamic NDEF tag
- **Registration of authenticated devices to AAA**
 - Create persistent association between AAA and device and authorize network connectivity at the same time
- **Fast reauthentication** of previously registered devices without further user interaction

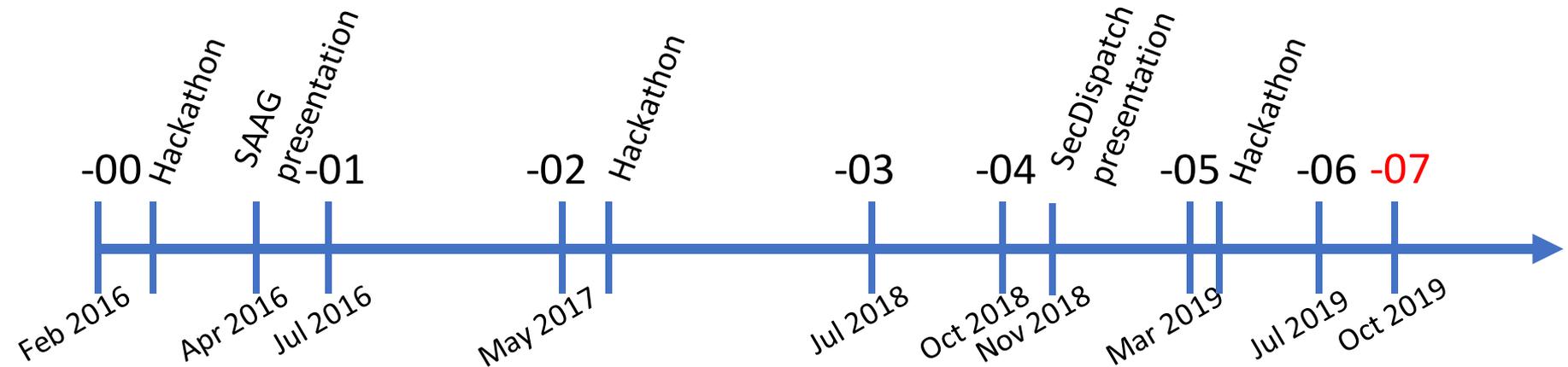
EAP-NOOB architecture

Trick: in-band communication over EAP between peer and server before device is registered



EAP-NOOB: Nimble Out-of-Band Authentication for EAP

[draft-aura-eap-noob](#)



Base specification and PoC prototype

Implementation for Linux hostapd and wpa_supplicant

Modeling and verification

Peer implementation in Contiki

New in draft version -07

Minor revisions only:

- Updated example messages
- Update implementation status

EAP-NOOB status summary

- Draft [draft-aura-eap-noob-07](#) is pretty mature
- Implementations:
 - `wpa_supplicant` and `hostapd`
<https://github.com/tuomaura/eap-noob>
 - `Contiki`
<https://github.com/eduingles/coap-eap-noob>
- Formal models in mCRL2 (protocol and DoS-resistance) and ProVerif (authentication)

Requesting EMU WG adoption – to be confirmed on mailing list after rechartering complete

Specific issues:
NAI and roaming

EAP-NOOB and NAI

- Peer initially has no NAI because it is not registered in AAA
- For the initial exchange, peer uses the generic realm `eap-noob.net`*. Needed for routing EAP-NOOB from new, unregistered peers to the correct AAA server in the network
 - OOB authentication can be delegated to a specialized server that handles the OOB interaction with the user
- EAP-NOOB server registers the peer and assigns it a NAI: `PeerId@Realm`**

*) Generic realm to be replaced with a `.arpa` domain

***) If no roaming, can continue to use the generic realm

EAP-NOOB and roaming

Two roaming scenarios:

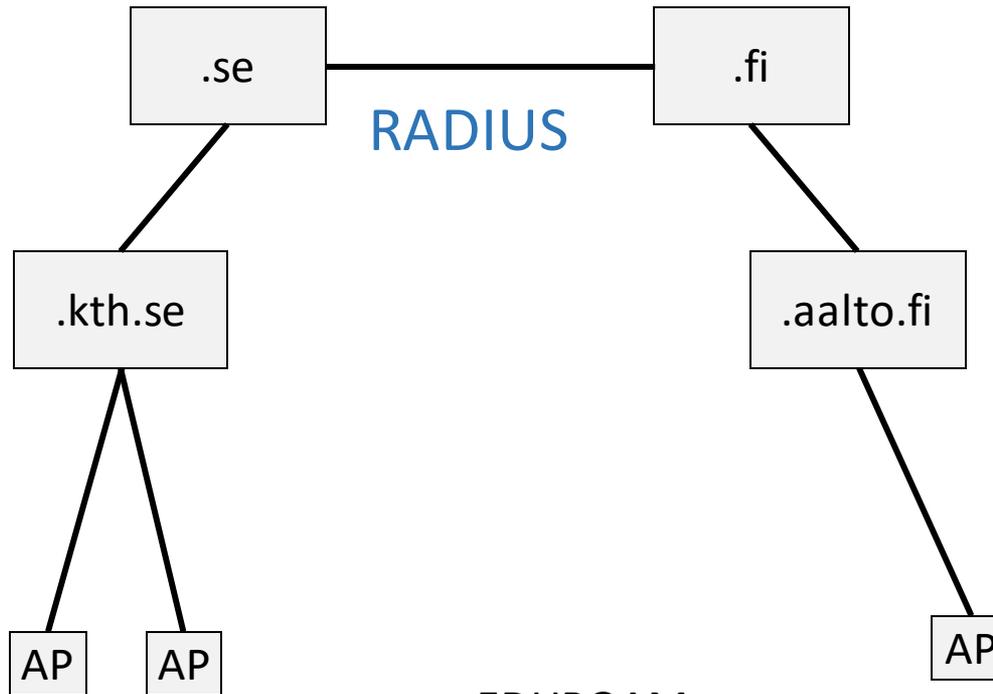
1. Register device at home, then roam

- Server assigns a Realm to the peer in Initial Exchange
- Roaming just works
- EAP-NOOB supports this scenario out of the box

2. Register device while roaming

- Requires user interaction with foreign AAA to route the Initial Exchange (one EAP conversation) to home AAA
- Server assigns a Realm to the peer in Initial Exchange
- From then on, the roaming just works
- EAP-NOOB is designed to not prevent this scenario

Roaming scenario 1: register at home



RADIUS

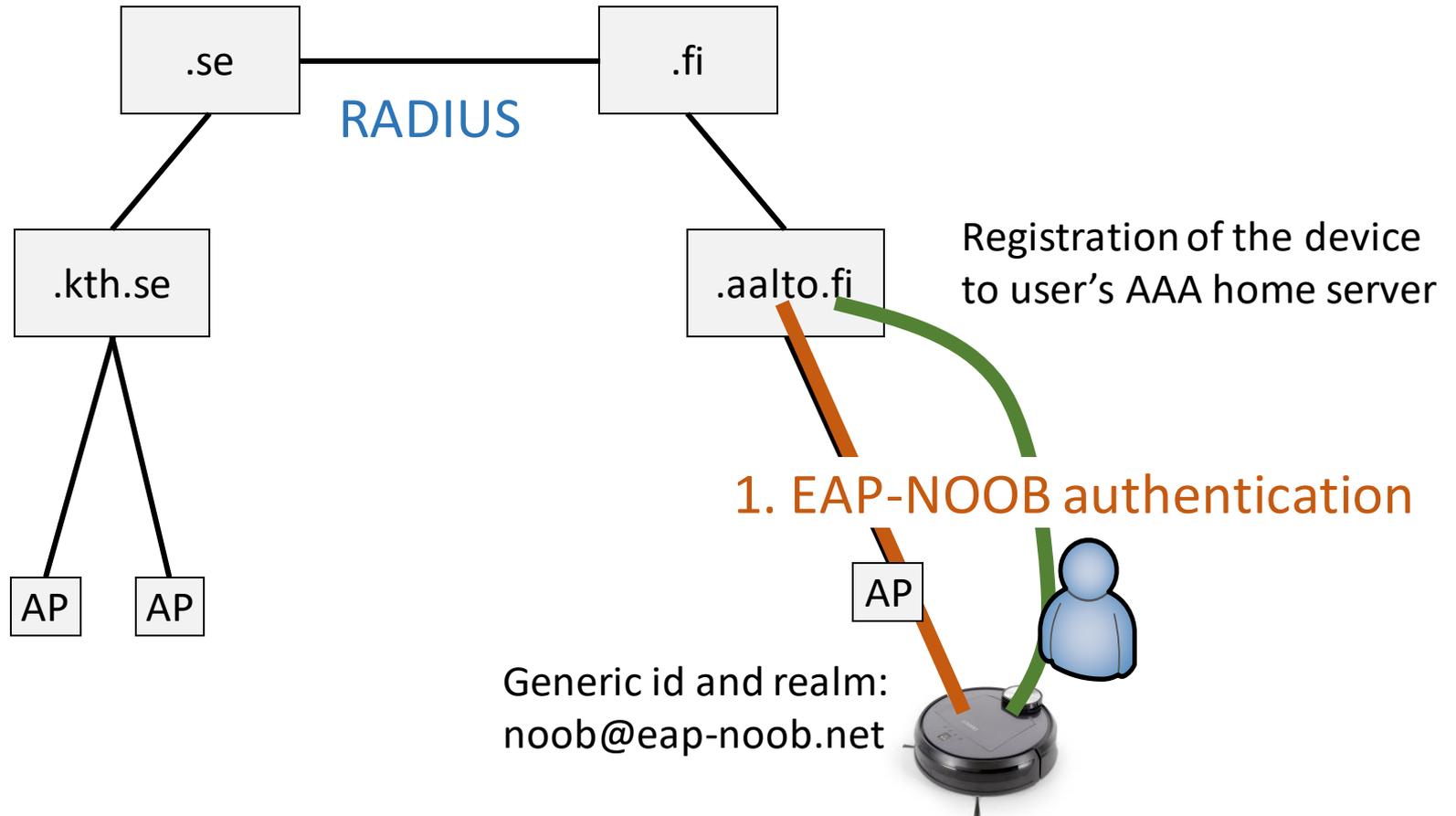
EDUROAM
roaming
example

National REN
RADIUS server

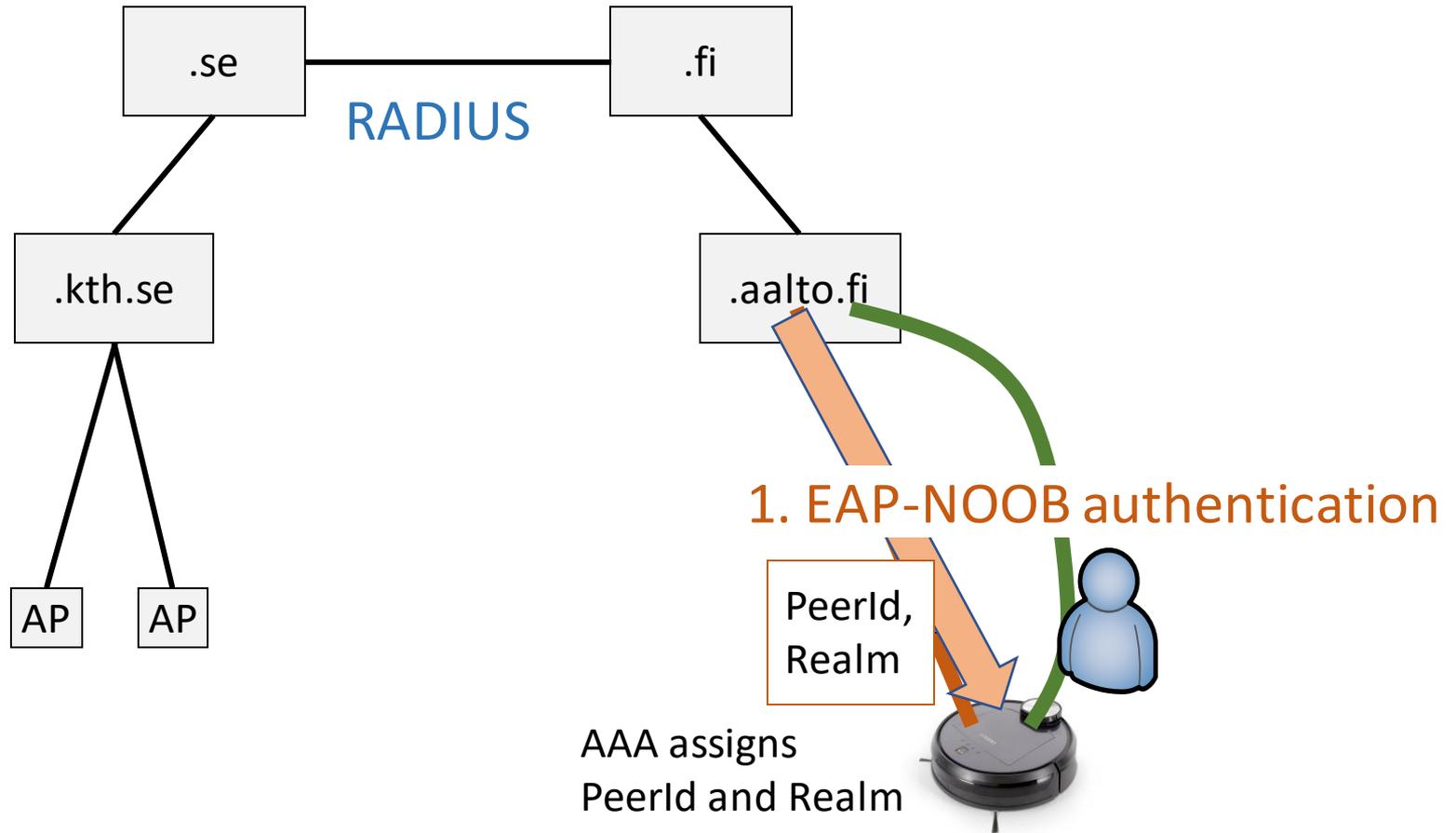
Institutional
RADIUS server

Institutional
WLAN

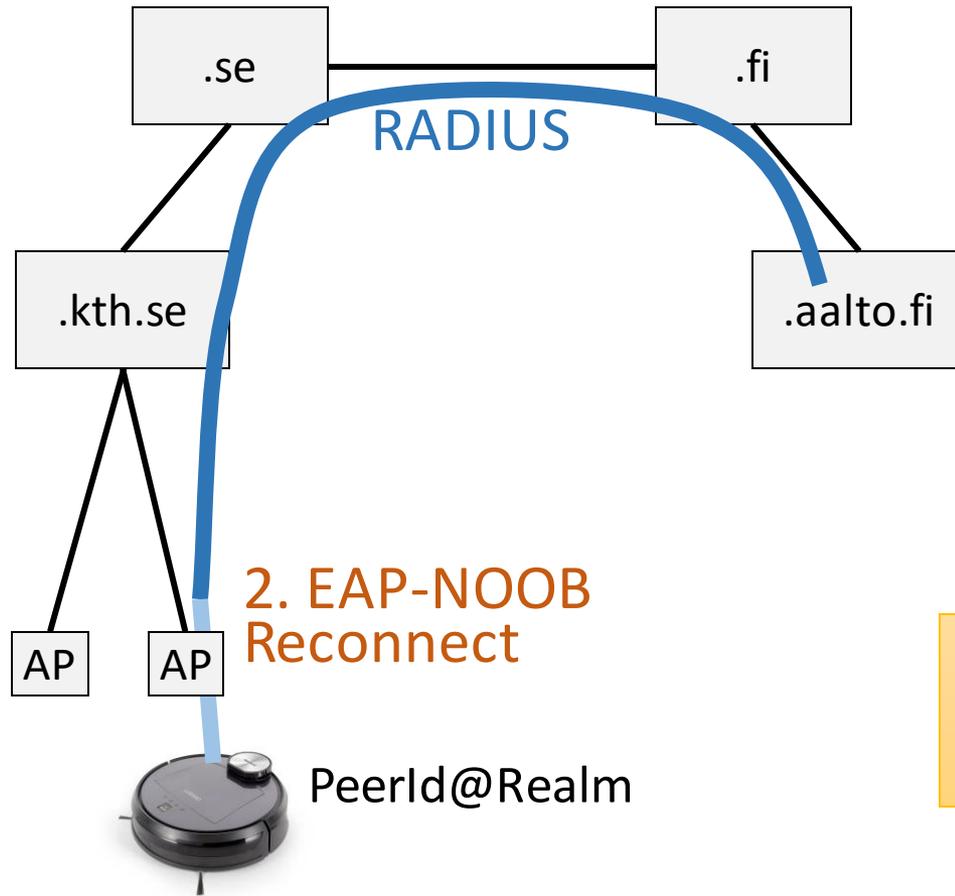
Roaming scenario 1: register at home



Roaming scenario 1: register at home



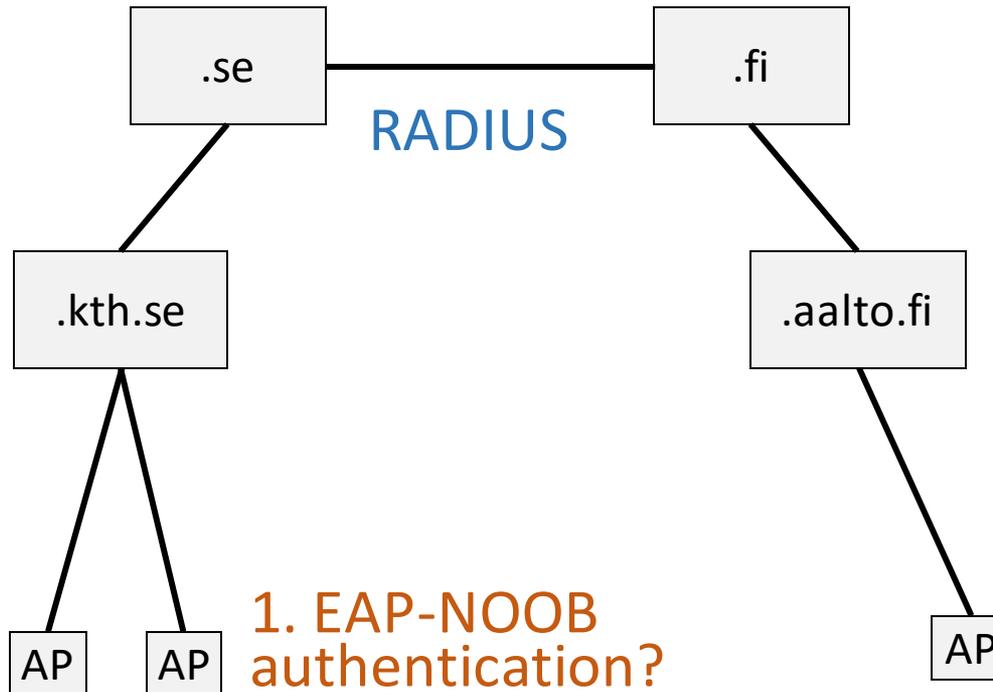
Roaming scenario 1: register at home



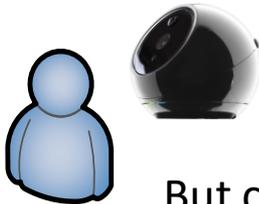
This works well with the current EAP-NOOB spec

Later, the device can roam.

Roaming scenario 2: register while roaming

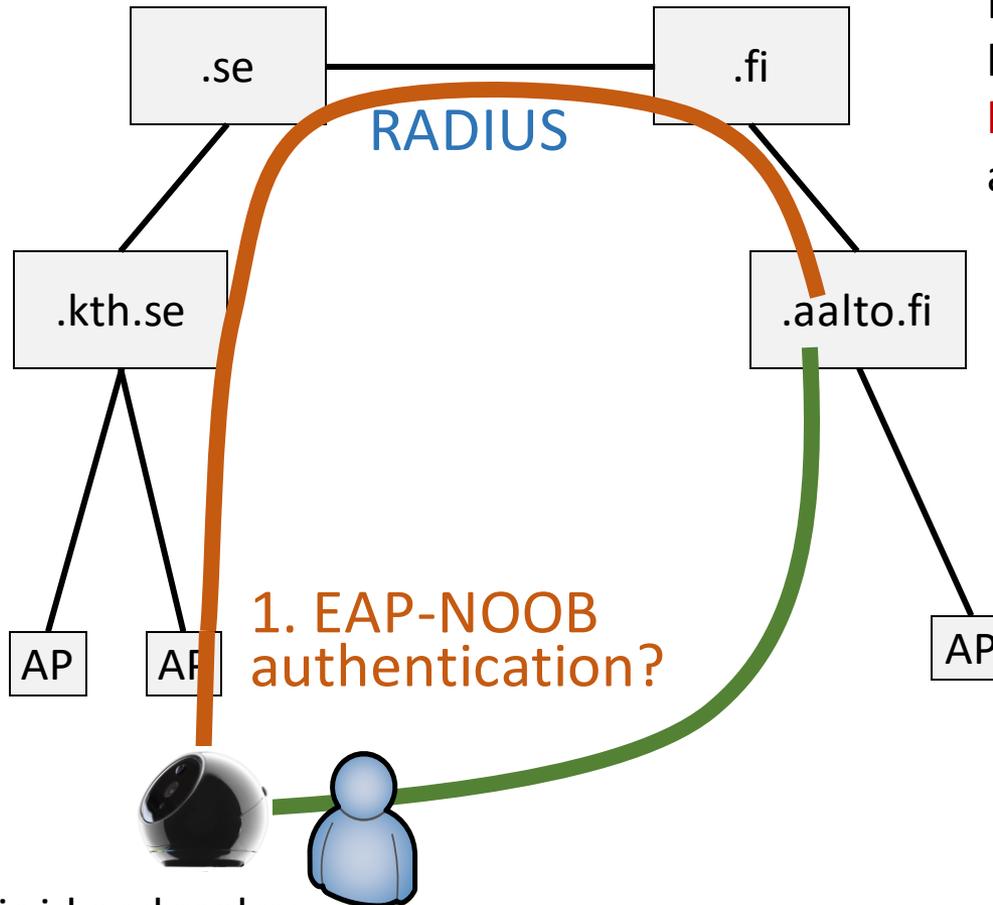


1. EAP-NOOB authentication?



But can we register a new device while roaming?

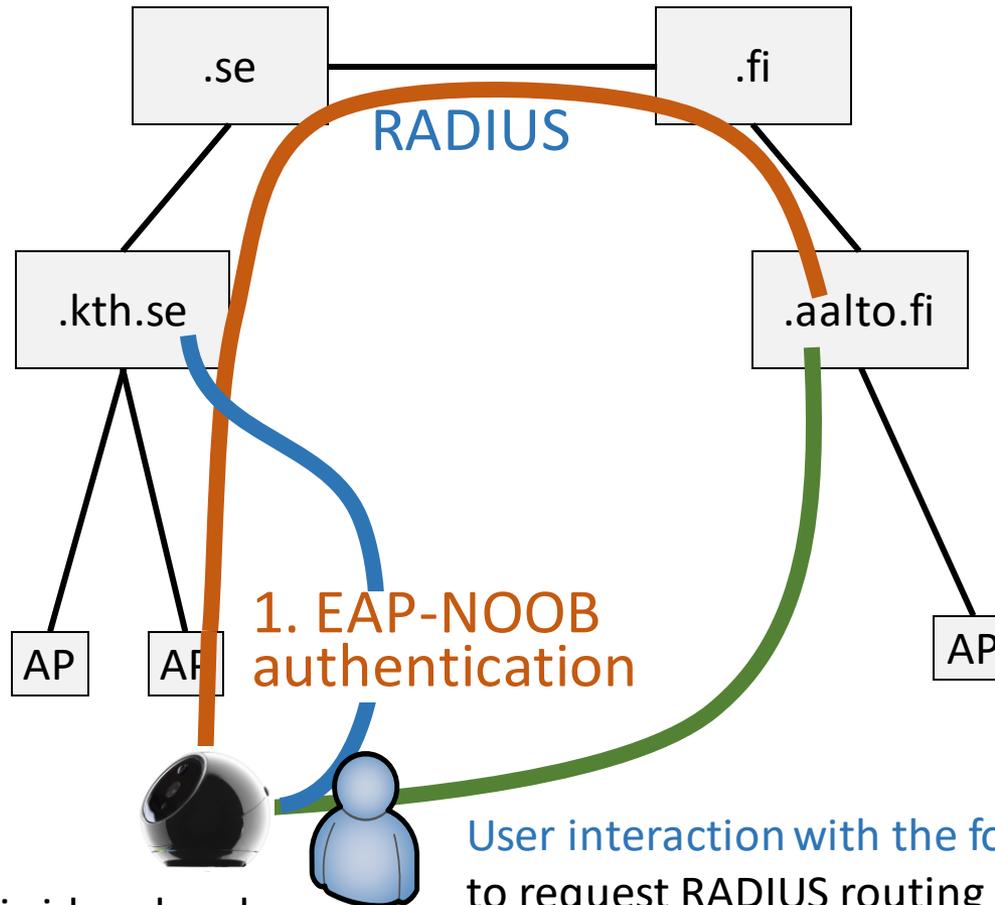
Roaming scenario 2: register while roaming



Problem: How to route EAP back to AAA home server **before** the device has been assigned a Realm?

Generic id and realm:
noob@eap-noob.net

Roaming scenario 2: register while roaming



Generic id and realm:
noob@eap-noob.net

User interaction with the foreign AAA is needed to request RADIUS routing back home, but only for the initial exchange. EAP-NOOB does not specify this, but also does not prevent it

Backup slides

TODO list

- IANA considerations:
 - Register an **EAP method number**
 - Register an **.arpa domain** to replace eap-noob.net
- Evaluation:
 - **Timeouts** in the protocol need modeling and user testing
 - Recovery from **lost last messages**: formally verified but should be written up into a report
- Possibly leave **hooks for future extensions**:
 - Device registration while roaming, identifier randomization, application configuration, e.g. service URL (currently only creating shared key for application layer), manufacturer certificates and other credentials

Formal models and verification

- mCRL2 model
 - Modeling Protocol **messages and state machines**
 - **Deadlock-freeness**
 - **DoS resistance** for intentionally dropped messages
- ProVerif model
 - Cryptographic **key-exchange** properties
 - **Authentication and confidentiality**
 - **Misbinding**: correspondence between user intention and protocol completion