

# What is JOSE

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# Overview

- Use JSON for data structure representations
- Try and meet the goal of easy to implement and use
- Allow for complex uses
- Allow for arbitrary body content

# History

- Came out of the OpenID Forum
- Generalization of the JSON Web Token

# Provided Services

- Signature
- Message Authentication Code
- Encryption
- Public Key Format
- Private Key Format

# Signing

- Signature and MAC treated the same
- MAC only with pre-shared secret
- No canonicalization
- Multiple Serializations
  - URL safe version
  - JSON object serialization

# Signing Structure

- Three sections
  - Header
    - JSON String
    - Short member names for compactness
  - Body
    - Arbitrary Content
    - Attached or Detached Content
  - Signature Value

# Signature Header

- Example Header
  - {“alg”:”RS256”,  
“jku”:”<http://keys.example.com/~jose/SigningKeys>”,  
“kid”:”Key#1”, “typ”:”JWS”  
}
- Header Types
  - Algorithm Information
  - Keys/Key Locator Information
  - Meta Data

# Algorithm Headers

- Header members
  - alg
    - Signature Algorithm
    - MAC algorithm
    - String containing all information



# Signature/MAC Algorithms

- Signature Algorithms
  - RSA 1.5 with SHA-256, SHA-384, SHA-512
  - ECDS with SHA-256, SHA-384, SHA-512
  - SHOULD – RSA and ECDS with SHA-256
- MAC Algorithms
  - HMAC with SHA-256, SHA-384, SHA-512
  - MUST – HMAC with SHA-256
- Plain Text Algorithms

# Key Location Methods

- Header members
  - jku – URL to JSON Web Keyset
  - jwk – Embedded JSON Web Key
  - x5u – URL to X.509 Certificate/Cert Chain
    - PEM encoded
  - x5t – SHA-1 thumbprint of X.509 Certificate
  - x5c – embedded X.509 Certificate/Cert Chain
  - kid – key identifier

# Meta Data

- Members
  - typ – “JWS” – JSON Web Signature object
  - crit – array of strings to identify must handle members for extensions
  - ctyp – Inner content identification
- Proposed Members
  - aed – Application specific meta data

# JSON Issues

- JSON String Delimitation with parser
  - {"tag":"value"}ABCD
  - Not all parsers handle correctly
- JSON Allows multiple Members in a lexical scope
  - {"tag":"value1","tag":"value2"}
  - SHOULD be unique

# URL Safe Encoding

- Base64URL encoded Header
  - Period character
  - Base64URL encoded Body
  - Period char
  - Base64URL encoded Signature
- 
- Hash the first three elements in the encoding

# URL Safe Example

eyJ0eXAiOiJKV1QiLA0KICJhbGciOiJIUzI1Ni  
J9.eyJpc3MiOiJqb2UiLA0KICJleHAiOiJlEzMD  
A4MTkzODAsDQogImh0dHA6Ly9leGFtcG  
xlLmNvbS9pc19yb290Ijp0cnVlfQ.dBjftJeZ  
4CVP-  
mB92K27uhbUJU1p1r\_wW1gFWFOEjXk

Line wraps are absent in real world

# JSON Based Encoding

- Members
  - recipients – array of signature or MAC headers in an object
    - header – Base64URL encoded JSON header string
    - signature – Base64URL encoded signature value
  - payload – Base64URL encoded content

# JSON Based Encoding

```
{"recipients":[  
  {"header":"eyJhbGciOiJSUzI1NiJ9",  
  
  "signature":"cC4hiUPoj9Eetdgtv3hF80EGrhuB__dzERat0XF9  
g2  
    VtQgr9PJbu3XOiZj5RZ  
mh7AAuHIm4Bh0Qc_IF5YKt_O8W2  
    Fp5jujGbds9uJdbF9CUAr7t1dnZcAcQjb  
KBYNX4BAynRFdiuB--  
f_nZLgrnbyTyWzO75vRK5h6xBArLIARNPvkSjtQBMHlb1L07  
Qe7K0Gar  
ZRmB_eSN9383LcOLn6_dO--xi12jzDwusC-  
eOkHWEsqtFZESc6Bfl7n  
oOPqvhJ1phCnvWh6leYI2w9QOYEUipUTI8np6LbgGY9Fs98r
```



# Open Issues

- Inclusion of RSA-PSS in the list of algorithms

# Encryption

- Multiple Serializations
  - URL safe version
  - JSON object serialization

# Encryption Structure

- Five sections
  - Header
    - JSON String
    - Short member names for compactness
  - Encrypted Key
  - Initialization Vector (IV)
  - Body
    - Arbitrary Content
    - Attached or Detached Content
  - Authentication Tag

# Encryption Header

- Example Header
  - {“alg”:”RSA1\_5”,  
“enc”:”A128GCM”  
“jku”:”<http://keys.example.com/~jose/EncryptionKey>”,  
“kid”:”Key#1”, “typ”:”JWE”  
}
- Header Types
  - Algorithm Information
  - Keys/Key Locator Information
  - Meta Data

# Is it JWS or JWE

- If present use “typ” member
- Else if present use “alg” member
  - Based on the algorithm, decide if it is JWS or JWE
  - If algorithm is not understood – then exception
- Else if present use “enc” member
  - JWE

# Key Management Algorithms

- Member 'alg'
- Key Transport
  - RSA v1.5, RSA-OAEP
- Key Agreement
  - ECDH-ES + KDF x {none, AES KeyWrap 128, 256}
- Key Encryption (symmetric)
  - AES Key Wrap 128, 256

# Content Encryption

- Requires the use of AEAD algorithms
- AES 128 GCM
- AES 256 GCM
- AES 128 CBC + HMAC SHA-256
- AES 256 CBC + HMAC SHA-512

# Review where Algorithms Go

- Example Header

- {“alg”:”RSA1\_5”,  
“enc”:”A128GCM”  
“jku”:”<http://keys.example.com/~jose/EncryptionKey>”,  
“kid”:”Key#1”, “typ”:”JWE”  
}

- alg – Key Management Algorithm

- enc – Content Encryption Algorithm



# Zip and Key Derivation

- ‘zip’ – currently only support Deflate
- KDF parameters
  - epk – ephemeral public key – embedded JWK
  - apu, apv, epu, epv – used for key agreement algorithm key derivation functions

# URL Safe Encoding

- Base64URL encoded Header
- Period character
- Base64URL encoded Encrypted Key
- Period character
- Base64URL encoded IV
- Period character
- Base64URL encrypted Body
- Period character
- Base64URL authentication tag
  
- Authenticated Data first 5 elements

# JSON Based Encoding

- Members
  - recipients – array of recipient information
    - header – Base64URL encoded JSON header string
    - encrypted\_key – base64URL encoded
    - Integrity\_value – base64URL encoded
  - initialization\_vector – base64URL encoded
  - ciphertext – base64URL encoded

# JSON Keys

- Not doing certificates
- Keys can have attributes
- Allows for single keys and arrays of keys
- Allow for private key fields

# JSON Structure

- Members
  - kty – key type
    - RSA, ECDS, binary
  - use – ‘sign’, ‘enc’
  - alg – which algorithm to use
  - kid – key identifier

# Example

```
{"keys": [  
  {"kty": "EC", "crv": "P-256",  
    "x": "base64 value", "y": "base64  
value", "use": "enc", "kid": "1"},  
  {"kty": "RSA", "n": "base64 value",  
    "e": "AQAB", "alg": "RS256",  
    "kid": "2011-04-29"}  
] }
```

# Questions