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Generic Security Service API Version 2 : Java bindings

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Abstract

The Generic Security Services Application Program Interface (GSS-API) offers application programmers uniform access to security services atop a variety of underlying cryptographic mechanisms. This document specifies the Java bindings for GSS-API which is described at a language independent conceptual level in [RFC 2078](#) [[GSSAPIv2](#)].

The GSS-API allows a caller application to authenticate a principal identity, to delegate rights to a peer, and to apply security services such as confidentiality and integrity on a per-message basis. Examples of security mechanisms defined for GSS-API are The Simple Public-Key GSS-API Mechanism [[SPKM](#)] and The Kerberos Version 5 GSS-API Mechanism [[KRBV5](#)].

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1. Introduction

This document specifies Java language bindings for the Generic Security Services Application Programming Interface (GSS-API) Version 2. GSS-API Version 2 is described in a language independent format in [RFC 2078](#) [[GSSAPIv2](#)]. The GSS-API allows a caller application to authenticate a principal identity, to delegate rights to a peer, and to apply security services such as confidentiality and integrity on a per-message basis.

This document leverages on the work performed by the WG in the area of [RFC 2078](#) [[GSSAPIv2](#)] the C-bindings draft [GSSAPI-C]. Whenever appropriate, text has been used from the C-bindings document to explain generic concepts and provide direction to the implementors.

The design goals of this API have been to satisfy all the functionality defined in [RFC 2078](#) and to provide these services in an object oriented method. Further, the specification presents an API that will naturally fit within the operation environment of the Java platform. Readers are assumed to be familiar with both the GSS-API and the Java platform.

2. GSS-API Operational Paradigm

The Generic Security Service Application Programming Interface [[GSSAPIv2](#)] defines a generic security API to calling applications. It allows a communicating application to authenticate the user associated with another application, to delegate rights to another application, and to apply security services such as confidentiality and integrity on a per-message basis.

There are four stages to using GSS-API:

- 1) The application acquires a set of credentials with which it may prove its identity to other processes. The application's credentials vouch for its global identity, which may or may not be related to any local username under which it may be running.
- 2) A pair of communicating applications establish a joint security context using their credentials. The security context encapsulates shared state information, which is required in order that per-message security services may be provided. Examples of state information that might be

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shared between applications as part of a security context are cryptographic keys, and message sequence numbers. As part of the establishment of a security context, the context initiator is authenticated to the responder, and may require that the responder is authenticated back to the initiator. The initiator may optionally give the responder the right to initiate further security contexts, acting as an agent or delegate of the initiator. This transfer of rights is termed "delegation", and is achieved by creating a set of credentials, similar to those used by the initiating application, but which may be used by the responder.

A GSSContext object is used to establish and maintain the shared information that makes up the security context. Certain GSSContext methods will generate a token, which applications treat as cryptographically protected, opaque data. The caller of such GSSContext method is responsible for transferring the token to the peer application, encapsulated if necessary in an application-to-application protocol. On receipt of such a token, the peer application should pass it to a corresponding GSSContext method which will decode the token and extract the information, updating the security context state information accordingly.

- 3) Per-message services are invoked on a GSSContext object to apply either:

integrity and data origin authentication, or

confidentiality, integrity and data origin
authentication

to application data, which are treated by GSS-API as arbitrary octet-strings. An application transmitting a message that it wishes to protect will call the appropriate GSSContext method (getMIC or wrap) to apply protection, and send the resulting token to the receiving application. The receiver will pass the received token (and, in the case of data protected by getMIC, the accompanying message-data) to the corresponding decoding method of the GSSContext class (verifyMIC or unwrap) to remove the protection and validate the data.

- 4) At the completion of a communications session (which may extend across several transport connections), each application uses a GSSContext method to invalidate the security context and release any system or cryptographic

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resources held. Multiple contexts may also be used (either successively or simultaneously) within a single communications association, at the discretion of the applications.

3. GSS-API Classes

This section presents a brief description of the classes comprising the GSS-API class library and the corresponding [RFC 2078](#) functionality implemented by each of them. Detailed description of all the classes and their corresponding methods is presented in [section 6](#).

3.1. GSSCredential class

The GSSCredential class is responsible for the encapsulation of GSS-API credentials. Credentials identify a single entity and provide the necessary cryptographic information to enable the creation of a context on behalf of that entity. A single GSSCredential may contain multiple mechanism specific credentials, each referred to as a credential element. The GSSCredential class implements the functionality of the following GSS-API routines:

RFC 2078 Routine	Function	Section(s)
gss_acquire_cred	Acquire credential for use.	6.2.3
gss_add_cred	Constructs credentials incrementally.	6.2.13
gss_inquire_cred	Obtain information about credential.	6.2.5-6.2.12
gss_inquire_cred_by_mech	Obtain per-mechanism information about a credential.	6.2.5-6.2.12
gss_release_cred	Disposes of credentials after use.	6.2.4

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[3.2.](#) **GSSContext class**

This class encapsulates the functionality of context-level calls required for security context establishment and management between peers as well as the per-message services offered to applications. A context is established between a pair of peers and allows the usage of security services on a per-message basis on application data. It is created over a single security mechanism. The GSSContext class implements the functionality of the following GSS-API routines:

RFC 2078 Routine	Function	Section(s)
<code>gss_init_sec_context</code>	Initiate the creation of a security context with a peer.	6.3.4, 6.3.5
<code>gss_accept_sec_context</code>	Accept a security context initiated by a peer.	6.3.6, 6.3.7
<code>gss_delete_sec_context</code>	Destroy a security context.	6.3.9
<code>gss_context_time</code>	Obtain remaining context time.	6.3.38
<code>gss_inquire_context</code>	Obtain context characteristics.	6.3.38 to 6.3.43
<code>gss_wrap_size_limit</code>	Determine token-size limit for <code>gss_wrap</code> .	6.3.10
<code>gss_export_sec_context</code>	Transfer security context to another process.	6.3.19
<code>gss_import_sec_context</code>	Create a previously exported context.	6.3.3
<code>gss_get_mic</code>	Calculate a cryptographic Message Integrity Code (MIC) for a message.	6.3.15, 6.3.16
<code>gss_verify_mic</code>	Verify integrity on a received message.	6.3.17, 6.3.18
<code>gss_wrap</code>	Attach a MIC to a message and optionally encrypt the message content.	6.3.11, 6.3.12

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<code>gss_unwrap</code>	Obtain a previously wrapped application message verifying its integrity and optionally decrypting it.	6.3.13, 6.3.14
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The functionality offered by the `gss_process_context_token` routine has not been included in the Java bindings specification. The corresponding functionality of `gss_delete_sec_context` has also been modified to not return any peer tokens. This has been proposed in accordance to the recommendations stated in the [RFC 2078](#) update draft. `GSSContext` does offer the functionality of destroying the locally-stored context information.

[3.3.](#) GSSName class

GSS-API names are represented in the Java bindings through the `GSSName` class. Different name formats and their definitions are identified with universal Object Identifiers (oids). The format of the names can be derived based on the unique oid of each name type. The following GSS-API routines are implemented by the `GSSName` object:

RFC 2078 Routine	Function	Section(s)
<code>gss_import_name</code>	Create an internal name from the supplied information.	6.1.3
<code>gss_display_name</code>	Covert internal name representation to text format.	6.1.8, 6.1.9
<code>gss_compare_name</code>	Compare two internal names.	6.1.4, 6.1.5
<code>gss_release_name</code>	Release resources associated with the internal name.	N/A
<code>gss_canonicalize_name</code>	Convert an internal name to a mechanism name.	6.1.3, 6.1.6
<code>gss_export_name</code>	Convert a Mechanism name to export format.	6.1.7
<code>gss_duplicate_name</code>	Create a copy of the internal name.	6.1.10

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3.4. GSSManager class

The responsibilities of the GSSManager class is to provide functionality common to the entire GSS-API class library. This would include queries about the mechanisms supported and the default mechanism value. GSSManager implements the following [RFC 2078](#) routines:

RFC 2078 Routine	Function	Section
gss_inquire_names_for_mech	List the name types supported by the specified mechanism.	6.5.2
gss_inquire_mechs_for_name	List the mechanisms supporting the specified name type.	6.5.3
gss_indicate_mechs	List the mechanisms supported by this GSS-API implementation.	6.5.1

3.5. GSSException class

Exceptions are used in the Java bindings to signal fatal errors to the calling applications. This replaces the major and minor codes used in the C-bindings specification as a method of signaling failures. The GSSException class handles both minor and major codes, as well as their translation into textual representation. All GSS-API methods are declared as possibly throwing this exception.

RFC 2078 Routine	Function	Section
gss_display_status	Retrieve textual representation of error codes.	6.8.5, 6.8.6, 6.8.8, 6.8.9

3.6. Oid class

This utility class is used to represent Universal Object Identifiers and their associated operations. GSS-API uses object identifiers to distinguish between security mechanisms and name types. This class, aside from being used whenever an object identifier is needed, implements the following GSS-API functionality:

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RFC 2078 Routine	Function	Section
<code>gss_test_oid_set_member</code>	Determine if the specified oid is part of a set of oids.	6.7.6

[3.7.](#) **MessageProp class**

This helper class is used in the per-message operations of the `GSSContext` class to convey the requested and applied per-message options. An instance of this class is used to specify the desired QOP and confidentiality state for a per-message operation of the `GSSContext` class. Upon return from those methods, this object will contain the applied QOP and confidentiality state as well as any supplementary status information for the completed per-message operation.

[3.8.](#) **ChannelBinding class**

An instance of this class is used to specify channel binding information to the `GSSContext` object before the start of a security context establishment. The application may use a byte array to specify application data to be used in the channel binding as well as using instances of the `InetAddress`. `InetAddress` is currently the only address type defined within the Java platform and as such, it is the only one supported within the `ChannelBinding` class.

[4.](#) **Calling Conventions**

Java provides the implementors with more than just a syntax for the language, but also an operational environment. For example, memory is automatically managed and does not require application intervention. These language features have allowed for a simpler API and have led to the elimination of certain GSS-API functions.

[4.1.](#) **Integer types**

All numeric values are declared as "int" primitive Java type. The Java specification guarantees that this will be a 32 bit two's complement signed number.

Throughout this API, the "boolean" primitive Java type is used wherever a boolean value is required or returned.

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4.2. Opaque Data types

Java byte arrays are used to represent opaque data types which are consumed and produced by the GSS-API in the forms of tokens. Java arrays contain a length field which enables the users to easily determine their size. The language has automatic garbage collection which alleviates the need by developers to release memory and simplifies buffer ownership issues.

4.3. Strings

The String object will be used to represent all textual data. The Java String object, transparently treats all characters as two-byte Unicode characters which allows support for many locals. All routines returning or accepting textual data will use the String object.

4.4. Object Identifiers

An Oid object will be used to represent Universal Object Identifiers (Oids). Oids are ISO-defined, hierarchically globally-interpretable identifiers used within the GSS-API framework to identify security mechanisms and name formats. The Oid object can be created from a string representation of its dot notation (e.g. "1.3.6.1.5.6.2") as well as from its ASN.1 DER encoding. Methods are also provided to test equality and provide the DER representation for the object.

An important feature of the Oid class is that its instances are immutable - i.e. there are no methods defined that allow one to change the contents of an Oid. This property allows one to treat these objects as "statics" without the need to perform copies.

Certain routines allow the usage of a default oid. A "null" value can be used in those cases.

4.5. Object Identifier Sets

The Java bindings represents object identifiers sets as arrays of Oid objects. All Java arrays contain a length field which allows for easy manipulation and reference.

In order to support the full functionality of [RFC 2078](#), the Oid class includes a method which checks for existence of an Oid object within a specified array. This is equivalent in functionality to `gss_test_oid_set_member`. The use of Java arrays and Java's automatic garbage collection has eliminated the need for the following

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routines: `gss_create_empty_oid_set`, `gss_release_oid_set`, and `gss_add_oid_set_member`. Java GSS-API implementations will not contain them. Java's automatic garbage collection and the immutable property of the `Oid` object eliminates the complicated memory management issues of the C counterpart.

When ever a default value for an Object Identifier Set is required, a "null" value can be used. Please consult the detailed method description for details.

4.6. Credentials

GSS-API credentials are represented with the `GSSCredential` object. The object contains several constructs to allow for the creation of most common credential objects for the initiator and the acceptor. Comparisons are performed using the object's "equals" method. The following general description of GSS-API credentials is included from the C-bindings specification:

GSS-API credentials can contain mechanism-specific principal authentication data for multiple mechanisms. A GSS-API credential is composed of a set of credential-elements, each of which is applicable to a single mechanism. A credential may contain at most one credential-element for each supported mechanism. A credential-element identifies the data needed by a single mechanism to authenticate a single principal, and conceptually contains two credential-references that describe the actual mechanism-specific authentication data, one to be used by GSS-API for initiating contexts, and one to be used for accepting contexts. For mechanisms that do not distinguish between acceptor and initiator credentials, both references would point to the same underlying mechanism-specific authentication data.

Credentials describe a set of mechanism-specific principals, and give their holder the ability to act as any of those principals. All principal identities asserted by a single GSS-API credential should belong to the same entity, although enforcement of this property is an implementation-specific matter. A single `GSSCredential` object represents all the credential elements that have been acquired.

The constructor's for the `GSSContext` object allow the value of "null" to be specified as their `GSSCredential` input parameter. This will indicate a desire by the application to act as a default principal. While individual GSS-API implementations are free to determine such default behavior as appropriate to the mechanism, the following default behavior by these routines is recommended for portability:

For the initiator side of the context:

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- 1) If there is only a single principal capable of initiating security contexts for the chosen mechanism that the application is authorized to act on behalf of, then that principal shall be used, otherwise
- 2) If the platform maintains a concept of a default network-identity for the chosen mechanism, and if the application is authorized to act on behalf of that identity for the purpose of initiating security contexts, then the principal corresponding to that identity shall be used, otherwise
- 3) If the platform maintains a concept of a default local identity, and provides a means to map local identities into network-identities for the chosen mechanism, and if the application is authorized to act on behalf of the network-identity image of the default local identity for the purpose of initiating security contexts using the chosen mechanism, then the principal corresponding to that identity shall be used, otherwise
- 4) A user-configurable default identity should be used.

and for the acceptor side of the context

- 1) If there is only a single authorized principal identity capable of accepting security contexts for the chosen mechanism, then that principal shall be used, otherwise
- 2) If the mechanism can determine the identity of the target principal by examining the context-establishment token processed during the accept method, and if the accepting application is authorized to act as that principal for the purpose of accepting security contexts using the chosen mechanism, then that principal identity shall be used, otherwise
- 3) If the mechanism supports context acceptance by any principal, and if mutual authentication was not requested, any principal that the application is authorized to accept security contexts under using the chosen mechanism may be used, otherwise
- 4) A user-configurable default identity shall be used.

The purpose of the above rules is to allow security contexts to be established by both initiator and acceptor using the default behavior

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whenever possible. Applications requesting default behavior are likely to be more portable across mechanisms and implementations than ones that instantiate a `GSSCredential` representing a specific identity.

4.7. Contexts

The `GSSContext` class is used to represent one end of a GSS-API security context, storing state information appropriate to that end of the peer communication, including cryptographic state information.

`GSSContext` class has distinct constructors to allow the creation of an initiator and acceptor side of the contexts. After the context has been instantiated, the initiator may choose to set various context options which will determine the characteristics of the desired security context. When all the application desired characteristics have been set, the initiator will call the `init` method which will produce a token for consumption by the peer's `accept` method. It is the responsibility of the application to deliver the authentication token(s) between the peer applications for processing. Upon completion of the context establishment phase, context attributes can be retrieved, by both the initiator and acceptor, using the accessor methods. These will reflect the actual attributes of the established context. At this point the context can be used by the application to apply cryptographic services to its data.

4.8. Authentication tokens

A token is a caller-opaque type that GSS-API uses to maintain synchronization between each end of the GSS-API security context. The token is a cryptographically protected octet-string, generated by the underlying mechanism at one end of a GSS-API security context for use by the peer mechanism at the other end. Encapsulation (if required) within the application protocol and transfer of the token are the responsibility of the peer applications.

Java GSS-API uses byte arrays to represent authentication tokens. Overloaded methods exist which allow the caller to supply input and output streams which will be used for the reading and writing of the token data.

4.9. Interprocess tokens

Certain GSS-API routines are intended to transfer data between processes in multi-process programs. These routines use a caller-

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opaque octet-string, generated by the GSS-API in one process for use by the GSS-API in another process. The calling application is responsible for transferring such tokens between processes. Note that, while GSS-API implementors are encouraged to avoid placing sensitive information within interprocess tokens, or to cryptographically protect them, many implementations will be unable to avoid placing key material or other sensitive data within them. It is the application's responsibility to ensure that interprocess tokens are protected in transit, and transferred only to processes that are trustworthy. An interprocess token is represented using a byte array emitted from the export method of the GSSContext class. The receiver of the interprocess token would use a GSSContext constructor to create a new context object from the supplied token. Once a context has been exported, the GSSContext object is invalidated and is no longer available.

4.10. Error Reporting

[RFC 2078](#) defined the usage of major and minor status values for signaling of GSS-API errors. The major code, also called GSS status code, is used to signal errors at the GSS-API level independent of the underlying mechanism(s). The minor status value or Mechanism status code, is a mechanism defined error value indicating a mechanism specific error code.

Java GSS-API uses exceptions implemented by the GSSException class to signal both minor and major error values. Both, mechanism specific errors and GSS-API level errors are signaled through instances of this class. The usage of exceptions replaces the need for major and minor codes to be used within the API calls. GSSException class also contains methods to obtain textual representations for both the major and minor values, which is equivalent to the functionality of `gss_display_status`.

4.10.1. GSS status codes

GSS status codes indicate errors that are independent of the underlying mechanism(s) used to provide the security service. The errors that can be indicated via a GSS status code are generic API routine errors (errors that are defined in the GSS-API specification). The Java bindings take advantage of the strong type checking of the Java language, thus eliminating the need for calling errors.

A GSS status code indicates a single fatal generic API error from the routine that has thrown the GSSException. Using exceptions announces

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that a fatal error has occurred during the execution of the method. Several GSS-API routines can also return supplementary status information which indicate non-fatal errors. These are handled as return values since using exceptions is not appropriate for informatory or warning-like information. The methods that are capable of producing supplementary information are limited to the per-message methods of the GSSContext class, namely verifyMIC and unwrap. These methods return an instance of MessageProp class which contains the specific supplementary error information.

GSSException object, along with providing the functionality for setting of the various error codes and translating them into textual representation, also contains the definitions of all the numeric error values. The following table lists the definitions of error codes:

Table: GSS Status Codes

Name	Value	Meaning
BAD_MECH	1	An unsupported mechanism was requested.
BAD_NAME	2	An invalid name was supplied.
BAD_NAME_TYPE	3	A supplied name was of an unsupported type.
BAD_BINDINGS	4	Incorrect channel bindings were supplied.
BAD_STATUS	5	An invalid status code was supplied.
BAD_MIC	6	A token had an invalid MIC.
NO_CRED	7	No credentials were supplied, or the credentials were unavailable or inaccessible.
NO_CONTEXT	8	Invalid context has been supplied.
DEFECTIVE_TOKEN	9	A supplied token was invalid.
DEFECTIVE_CREDENTIAL	10	A supplied credential was invalid.

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CREDENTIALS_EXPIRED	11	The referenced credentials have expired.
CONTEXT_EXPIRED	12	The context has expired.
FAILURE	13	Miscellaneous failure, unspecified at the GSS-API level.
BAD_QOP	14	The quality-of-protection requested could not be provided.
UNAUTHORIZED	15	The operation is forbidden by local security policy.
UNAVAILABLE	16	The operation or option is unavailable.
DUPLICATE_ELEMENT	17	The requested credential element already exists.
NAME_NOT_MN	18	The provided name was not a mechanism name.
OLD_TOKEN	19	The token's validity period has expired.
DUPLICATE_TOKEN	20	The token was a duplicate of an earlier version.

The GSS major status code of FAILURE is used to indicate that the underlying mechanism detected an error for which no specific GSS status code is defined. The mechanism-specific status code can provide more details about the error.

4.10.2. Mechanism-specific status codes

The GSSException thrown from a GSS-API method may originate from the mechanism independent layer or the mechanism specific layer. In the latter case, the exception will be used to indicate not only the major error codes but also the mechanism specific error code.

A default value of 0 will be used to represent the absence of the mechanism specific status code.

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4.10.3. Supplementary status codes

Supplementary status codes are confined to the per-message methods of the GSSContext class. Because of the informative nature of these errors it is not appropriate to use exceptions to signal them. Instead, the per-message operations of the GSSContext class return an instance of a MessageProp class which contain supplementary status information.

The MessageProp class defines query methods which return boolean values indicating the following supplementary states:

Table: Supplementary Status Methods

Method Name	Meaning when "true" is returned
isDuplicateToken	The token was a duplicate of an earlier token.
isOldToken	The token's validity period has expired.
isUnseqToken	A later token has already been processed.
isGapToken	An expected per-message token was not received.

"true" return value for any of the above methods indicates that the token exhibited the specified property. The application must determine the appropriate course of action for these supplementary values. They are not treated as errors by the GSS-API.

4.11. Names

A name is used to identify a person or entity. GSS-API authenticates the relationship between a name and the entity claiming the name.

Since different authentication mechanisms may employ different namespaces for identifying their principals, GSS-API's naming support is necessarily complex in multi-mechanism environments (or even in some single-mechanism environments where the underlying mechanism supports multiple namespaces).

Two distinct conceptual representations are defined for names:

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- 1) A GSS-API form represented by instances of the GSSName class: A single GSSName object may contain multiple names from different namespaces, but all names should refer to the same entity. An example of such an internal name would be the name returned from a call to the getName method of the GSSCredential class, when applied to a credential containing credential elements for multiple authentication mechanisms employing different namespaces. This GSSName object will contain a distinct name for the entity for each authentication mechanism.

For GSS-API implementations supporting multiple namespaces, GSSName object implementations must contain sufficient information to determine the namespace to which each primitive name belongs.

- 2) Mechanism-specific contiguous byte array and string forms: Different GSSName constructors are provided to handle both byte array and string formats and to accommodate various calling applications and name types. These formats are capable of containing only a single name (from a single namespace). Contiguous string names are always accompanied by an object identifier specifying the namespace to which the name belongs, and their format is dependent on the authentication mechanism that employs that name. The string name forms are assumed to be printable, and may therefore be used by GSS-API applications for communication with their users. The byte array name formats are assumed to be in non-printable formats (e.g. the byte array returned from the export method of the GSSName class).

A GSSName object can be converted to a contiguous representation by using the toString method. This will guarantee that the name will be converted to a printable format. Different constructors for the GSSName object are defined allowing support for multiple syntaxes for each supported namespace, and allowing users the freedom to choose a preferred name representation. The toString method should use an implementation-chosen printable syntax for each supported name-type. To obtain the printable name type, getStringNameType method can be used.

There is no guarantee that calling the toString method on a GSSName object will produce the same string form as the original imported string name. Furthermore, it is possible that the name was not even constructed from a string representation. The same applies to namespace identifiers which may not necessarily survive unchanged after a journey through the internal name-form. An example of this might be a mechanism that authenticates X.500 names, but provides an algorithmic mapping of Internet DNS names into X.500. That mechanism's implementation of GSSName might, when presented with a

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DNS name, generate an internal name that contained both the original DNS name and the equivalent X.500 name. Alternatively, it might only store the X.500 name. In the latter case, the toString method of GSSName would most likely generate a printable X.500 name, rather than the original DNS name.

The context acceptor can obtain an instance of GSSName representing the entity performing the context initiation (through the usage of getSrcName method). Since this name has been authenticated by a single mechanism, it contains only a single name (even if the internal name presented by the context initiator to the GSSContext object had multiple components). Such names are termed internal mechanism names, or "MN"s and the names emitted by GSSContext class in the getSrcName and getTargName are always of this type. Since some applications may require MNs without wanting to incur the overhead of an authentication operation, a set of constructors is provided which take not only the name buffer and name type, but also the mechanism oid for which this name should be created. When dealing with an existing GSSName object, the canonicalize method may be invoked to convert a general internal name into an MN.

GSSName objects can be compared using their equal method, which returns "true" if the two names being compared refer to the same entity. This is the preferred way to perform name comparisons instead of using the printable names that a given GSS-API implementation may support. Since GSS-API assumes that all primitive names contained within a given internal name refer to the same entity, equal can return "true" if the two names have at least one primitive name in common. If the implementation embodies knowledge of equivalence relationships between names taken from different namespaces, this knowledge may also allow successful comparisons of internal names containing no overlapping primitive elements.

When used in large access control lists, the overhead of creating a GSSName on each name and invoking the equal method on each name from the ACL may be prohibitive. As an alternative way of supporting this case, GSS-API defines a special form of the contiguous byte array name which may be compared directly (byte by byte). Contiguous names suitable for comparison are generated by the export method, which requires that the GSSName represent a MN. Exported names may be re-imported by using the byte array constructor and specifying the NT_EXPORT_NAME as the name type object identifier. The resulting GSSName name will also be a MN. The GSSName object defines public static Oid objects representing the standard name types.

Structurally, an exported name object consists of a header containing an OID identifying the mechanism that authenticated the name, and a trailer containing the name itself, where the syntax of the trailer is defined by the individual mechanism specification. Detailed

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description of the format is specified in the language-independent GSS-API specification [[GSSAPIv2](#)].

Note that the results obtained by using the `equal` method will in general be different from those obtained by invoking `canonicalize` and `export`, and then comparing the byte array output. The first series of operation determines whether two (unauthenticated) names identify the same principal; the second whether a particular mechanism would authenticate them as the same principal. These two operations will in general give the same results only for MNs.

It is important to note that the above are guidelines as how `GSSName` objects should behave, and are not intended to be specific requirements of how names objects must be implemented. The mechanism designers are free to decide on the details of their implementations of the `GSSName` object as long as the behavior satisfies the above guidelines.

4.12. Channel Bindings

GSS-API supports the use of user-specified tags to identify a given context to the peer application. These tags are intended to be used to identify the particular communications channel that carries the context. Channel bindings are communicated to the GSS-API using the `ChannelBinding` object. The application may use byte arrays to specify the application data to be used in the channel binding as well as using instances of the `InetAddress`. The `InetAddress` for the initiator and/or acceptor can be used within an instance of a `ChannelBinding`. `ChannelBinding` can be set for the `GSSContext` object using the `setChannelBinding` method before the first call to `init` or `accept` has been performed. Unless the `setChannelBinding` method has been used to set the `ChannelBinding` for an instance of `GSSContext` method, "null" `ChannelBinding` will be assumed. `InetAddress` is currently the only address type defined within the Java platform and as such, it is the only one supported within the `ChannelBinding` class.

Conceptually, the GSS-API concatenates the initiator and acceptor address information, and the application supplied byte array to form an octet string. The mechanism calculates a MIC over this octet string and binds the MIC to the context establishment token emitted by `init` method of the `GSSContext` class. The same bindings are set by the context acceptor for its `GSSContext` object and during processing of the `accept` method a MIC is calculated in the same way. The calculated MIC is compared with that found in the token, and if the MICs differ, `accept` will throw a `GSSEException` with the major code set to `BAD_BINDINGS`, and the context will not be established. Some mechanisms may include the actual channel binding data in the token

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(rather than just a MIC); applications should therefore not use confidential data as channel-binding components.

Individual mechanisms may impose additional constraints on addresses that may appear in channel bindings. For example, a mechanism may verify that the initiator address field of the channel binding contains the correct network address of the host system. Portable applications should therefore ensure that they either provide correct information for the address fields, or omit setting of the addressing information.

4.13. Stream Objects

The GSSContext object provides overloaded methods which use input and output streams as the means to convey authentication and per-message GSS-API tokens. It is important to note that the streams are expected to contain the usual GSS-API tokens which would otherwise be handled through the usage of byte arrays. The tokens are expected to have a definite start and an end. The callers are responsible for ensuring that the supplied streams will not block, or expect to block until a full token is processed by the GSS-API method. Only a single GSS-API token will be processed per invocation of the stream based method.

The usage of streams allows the callers to have control and management of the supplied buffers. Because streams are non-primitive objects, the callers can make the streams as complicated or as simple as desired simply by using the streams defined in the java.io package or creating their own through the use of inheritance. This will allow for the application's greatest flexibility.

4.14. Optional Parameters

Whenever the application wishes to omit an optional parameter the "null" value shall be used. The detailed method descriptions indicate which parameters are optional. Methods overloading has also been used as a technique to indicate default parameters.

5. Additional Controls

This section discusses the optional services that a context initiator may request of the GSS-API before the context establishment. Each of these services is requested by calling the appropriate mutator method in the GSSContext object before the first call to init is performed.

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Only the context initiator can request context flags.

The optional services defined are:

Delegation

The (usually temporary) transfer of rights from initiator to acceptor, enabling the acceptor to authenticate itself as an agent of the initiator.

Mutual Authentication

In addition to the initiator authenticating its identity to the context acceptor, the context acceptor should also authenticate itself to the initiator.

Replay Detection

In addition to providing message integrity services, GSSContext per-message operations of getMIC and wrap should include message numbering information to enable verifyMIC and unwrap to detect if a message has been duplicated.

Out-of-Sequence Detection

In addition to providing message integrity services, GSSContext per-message operations (getMIC and wrap) should include message sequencing information to enable verifyMIC and unwrap to detect if a message has been received out of sequence.

Anonymous Authentication

The establishment of the security context should not reveal the initiator's identity to the context acceptor.

Some mechanisms may not support all optional services, and some mechanisms may only support some services in conjunction with others. The GSSContext class offers query methods to allow the verification by the calling application of which services will be available from the context when the establishment phase is complete. In general, if the security mechanism is capable of providing a requested service, it should do so even if additional services must be enabled in order to provide the requested service. If the mechanism is incapable of providing a requested service, it should proceed without the service leaving the application to abort the context establishment process if it considers the requested service to be mandatory.

Some mechanisms may specify that support for some services is optional, and that implementors of the mechanism need not provide it. This is most commonly true of the confidentiality service, often because of legal restrictions on the use of data-encryption, but may apply to any of the services. Such mechanisms are required to send at least one token from acceptor to initiator during context

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establishment when the initiator indicates a desire to use such a service, so that the initiating GSS-API can correctly indicate whether the service is supported by the acceptor's GSS-API.

5.1. Delegation

The GSS-API allows delegation to be controlled by the initiating application via the `requestCredDeleg` method before the first call to `init` has been issued. Some mechanisms do not support delegation, and for such mechanisms attempts by an application to enable delegation are ignored.

The acceptor of a security context, for which the initiator enabled delegation, can check if delegation was enabled by using the `getCredDelegState` method of the `GSSContext` class. In cases when it is, the delegated credential object can be obtained by calling the `getDelegCred` method. The obtained `GSSCredential` object may then be used to initiate subsequent GSS-API security contexts as an agent or delegate of the initiator. If the original initiator's identity is "A" and the delegate's identity is "B", then, depending on the underlying mechanism, the identity embodied by the delegated credential may be either "A" or "B acting for A".

For many mechanisms that support delegation, a simple boolean does not provide enough control. Examples of additional aspects of delegation control that a mechanism might provide to an application are duration of delegation, network addresses from which delegation is valid, and constraints on the tasks that may be performed by a delegate. Such controls are presently outside the scope of the GSS-API. GSS-API implementations supporting mechanisms offering additional controls should provide extension routines that allow these controls to be exercised (perhaps by modifying the initiator's GSS-API credential object prior to its use in establishing a context). However, the simple delegation control provided by GSS-API should always be able to over-ride other mechanism-specific delegation controls. If the application instructs the `GSSContext` object that delegation is not desired, then the implementation must not permit delegation to occur. This is an exception to the general rule that a mechanism may enable services even if they are not requested - delegation may only be provided at the explicit request of the application.

5.2. Mutual Authentication

Usually, a context acceptor will require that a context initiator authenticate itself so that the acceptor may make an access-control

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decision prior to performing a service for the initiator. In some cases, the initiator may also request that the acceptor authenticate itself. GSS-API allows the initiating application to request this mutual authentication service by calling the `requestMutualAuth` method of the `GSSContext` class with a "true" parameter before making the first call to `init`. The initiating application is informed as to whether or not the context acceptor has authenticated itself. Note that some mechanisms may not support mutual authentication, and other mechanisms may always perform mutual authentication, whether or not the initiating application requests it. In particular, mutual authentication may be required by some mechanisms in order to support replay or out-of-sequence message detection, and for such mechanisms a request for either of these services will automatically enable mutual authentication.

5.3. Replay and Out-of-Sequence Detection

The GSS-API may provide detection of mis-ordered messages once a security context has been established. Protection may be applied to messages by either application, by calling either `getMIC` or `wrap` methods of the `GSSContext` class, and verified by the peer application by calling `verifyMIC` or `unwrap` for the peer's `GSSContext` object.

`getMIC` calculates a cryptographic checksum of an application message, and returns that checksum in a token. The application should pass both the token and the message to the peer application, which presents them to the `verifyMIC` method of the peer's `GSSContext` object.

`wrap` calculates a cryptographic checksum of an application message, and places both the checksum and the message inside a single token. The application should pass the token to the peer application, which presents it to the `unwrap` method of the peer's `GSSContext` object to extract the message and verify the checksum.

Either pair of routines may be capable of detecting out-of-sequence message delivery, or duplication of messages. Details of such mis-ordered messages are indicated through supplementary query methods of the `MessageProp` object returned from each of these routines.

A mechanism need not maintain a list of all tokens that have been processed in order to support these status codes. A typical mechanism might retain information about only the most recent "N" tokens processed, allowing it to distinguish duplicates and missing tokens within the most recent "N" messages; the receipt of a token older than the most recent "N" would result in a `isOldToken` method of the instance of `MessageProp` to return "true".

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5.4. Anonymous Authentication

In certain situations, an application may wish to initiate the authentication process to authenticate a peer, without revealing its own identity. As an example, consider an application providing access to a database containing medical information, and offering unrestricted access to the service. A client of such a service might wish to authenticate the service (in order to establish trust in any information retrieved from it), but might not wish the service to be able to obtain the client's identity (perhaps due to privacy concerns about the specific inquiries, or perhaps simply to avoid being placed on mailing-lists).

In normal use of the GSS-API, the initiator's identity is made available to the acceptor as a result of the context establishment process. However, context initiators may request that their identity not be revealed to the context acceptor. Many mechanisms do not support anonymous authentication, and for such mechanisms the request will not be honored. An authentication token will still be generated, but the application is always informed if a requested service is unavailable, and has the option to abort context establishment if anonymity is valued above the other security services that would require a context to be established.

In addition to informing the application that a context is established anonymously (via the `isAnonymous` method of the `GSSContext` class), the `getSrcName` method of the acceptor's `GSSContext` object will, for such contexts, return a reserved internal-form name, defined by the implementation.

The `toString` method for a `GSSName` object representing an anonymous entity will return a printable name. The returned value will be syntactically distinguishable from any valid principal name supported by the implementation. The associated name-type object identifier will be an oid representing the value of `NT_ANONYMOUS`. This name-type oid will be defined as a public, static `Oid` object of the `GSSName` class. The printable form of an anonymous name should be chosen such that it implies anonymity, since this name may appear in, for example, audit logs. For example, the string "<anonymous>" might be a good choice, if no valid printable names supported by the implementation can begin with "<" and end with ">".

When using the `equal` method of the `GSSName` class, and one of the operands is a `GSSName` instance representing an anonymous entity, the method must return "false".

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5.5. Confidentiality

If a GSSContext supports the confidentiality service, wrap method may be used to encrypt application messages. Messages are selectively encrypted, under the control of the setPrivacy method of the MessageProp object used within the wrap method.

5.6. Inter-process Context Transfer

GSS-API V2 provides functionality which allows a security context to be transferred between processes on a single machine. These are implemented using the export method of GSSContext and a byte array constructor of the same class. The most common use for such a feature is a client-server design where the server is implemented as a single process that accepts incoming security contexts, which then launches child processes to deal with the data on these contexts. In such a design, the child processes must have access to the security context object created within the parent so that they can use per-message protection services and delete the security context when the communication session ends.

Since the security context data structure is expected to contain sequencing information, it is impractical in general to share a context between processes. Thus GSSContext class provides an export method that the process, which currently owns the context, can call to declare that it has no intention to use the context subsequently, and to create an inter-process token containing information needed by the adopting process to successfully re-create the context. After successful completion of export, the original security context is made inaccessible to the calling process by GSS-API and any further usage of this object will result in failures. The originating process transfers the inter-process token to the adopting process, which creates a new GSSContext object using the byte array constructor. The properties of the context are equivalent to that of the original context.

The inter-process token may contain sensitive data from the original security context (including cryptographic keys). Applications using inter-process tokens to transfer security contexts must take appropriate steps to protect these tokens in transit.

Implementations are not required to support the inter-process transfer of security contexts. Calling the isTransferable method of the GSSContext class will indicate if the context object is transferable.

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```
GSSName mechName = aName.canonicalize(krb5);

//the above two steps are equivalent to the following constructor
GSSName mechName = new GSSName("service@host",
                                GSSName.NT_HOSTBASED_SERVICE,
                                krb5);

//perform name comparison
if (aName.equals(mechName))
    print("Names are equals.");

//obtain textual representation of name and its printable
//name type
print(mechName.toString() +
      mechName.getStringNameType().toString());

//export and re-import the name
byte [] exportName = mechName.export();

//create a new name object from the exported buffer
GSSName newName = new GSSName(exportName,
                                GSSName.NT_EXPORT_NAME);
```

6.1.2. Class Constants

```
public static final Oid NT_HOSTBASED_SERVICE
```

Oid indicating a host-based service name form. It is used to represent services associated with host computers. This name form is constructed using two elements, "service" and "hostname", as follows:

service@hostname

Values for the "service" element are registered with the IANA. It represents the following value: { 1(iso), 3(org), 6(dod), 1(internet), 5(security), 6(nametypes), 2(gss-host-based-services) }

```
public static final Oid NT_USER_NAME
```

Name type to indicate a named user on a local system. It represents the following value: { iso(1) member-body(2) United States(840) mit(113554) infosys(1) gssapi(2) generic(1) user_name(1) }

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```
public static final Oid NT_MACHINE_UID_NAME
```

Name type to indicate a numeric user identifier corresponding to a user on a local system. (e.g. Uid). It represents the following value: { iso(1) member-body(2) United States(840) mit(113554) infosys(1) gssapi(2) generic(1) machine_uid_name(2) }

```
public static final Oid NT_STRING_UID_NAME
```

Name type to indicate a string of digits representing the numeric user identifier of a user on a local system. It represents the following value: { iso(1) member-body(2) United States(840) mit(113554) infosys(1) gssapi(2) generic(1) string_uid_name(3) }

```
public static final Oid NT_ANONYMOUS
```

Name type for representing an anonymous entity. It represents the following value: { 1(iso), 3(org), 6(dod), 1(internet), 5(security), 6(nametypes), 3(gss-anonymous-name) }

```
public static final Oid NT_EXPORT_NAME
```

Name type used to indicate an exported name produced by the export method. It represents the following value: { 1(iso), 3(org), 6(dod), 1(internet), 5(security), 6(nametypes), 4(gss-api-exported-name) }

6.1.3. Constructors

```
public GSSName(String nameStr, Oid type) throws GSSEException
```

Converts a contiguous string name to a GSSName object of the specified type. The nameStr parameter is interpreted based on the type specified. In general, the GSSName object created will not be an MN; the exception to this is if the type parameter indicates NT_EXPORT_NAME.

Parameters:

- | | |
|---------|---|
| nameStr | The string representing the name to create. |
| type | Oid specifying type of the printable name supplied. "null" value can be used to specify a default printable syntax. |

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```
public GSSName(byte name[], Oid type) throws GSSEException
```

Converts a contiguous byte name to a GSSName object of the specified type. The name parameter is interpreted based on the type specified. This constructor is provided for use with names that aren't expressed as printable strings (for example, names of type NT_EXPORT_NAME). In general, the GSSName object created will not be an MN.

Parameters:

name	The byte array representing the name to create.
type	Oid specifying the type of name supplied. "null" value can be used to specify a default syntax.

```
public GSSName(String nameStr, Oid nameType, Oid mechType)
                throws GSSEException
```

Converts a contiguous string name to a GSSName object of the specified type. The nameStr parameter is interpreted based on the type specified. This constructor is provided to allow the creation of mechanism-specific names without having to call canonicalize.

Parameters:

nameStr	The string representing the name to create.
nameType	Oid specifying type of the printable name supplied. "null" value can be used to specify a default printable syntax.
mechType	Oid specifying the mechanism for which this name should be created. "null" value can be used to specify the default mechanism.

```
public GSSName(byte name[], Oid nameType, Oid mechType)
                throws GSSEException
```

Converts a contiguous byte name to a GSSName object of the specified type. The name parameter is interpreted based on the type specified. This constructor is provided to be used with names that aren't expressed as printable strings. It allows the creation of mechanism-specific names without having to call canonicalize.

Parameters:

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name	The byte array representing the name to create.
type	Oid specifying the type of name supplied. "null" value can be used to specify a default syntax.
mechType	Oid specifying the mechanism for which this name should be created. "null" value can be used to specify the default mechanism.

6.1.4. equals

```
public boolean equals(Object another)
```

Compares two GSSName objects to determine whether they refer to the same entity. If either of the names is of the NT_ANONYMOUS type, this call will return "false".

Parameters:

another GSSName object to compare with.

6.1.5. equals

```
public boolean equals(GSSName another) throws GSSEException
```

A variation of equals method which may throw a GSSEException when the names cannot be compared. If either of the names represents an anonymous entity, the method will return "false".

Parameters:

another GSSName object to compare with.

6.1.6. canonicalize

```
public GSSName canonicalize(Oid mechOid) throws GSSEException
```

Creates a mechanism name (MN) from an arbitrary internal name. This is equivalent to using a constructor which takes the mechanism name as one of its parameters.

Parameters:

mechOid The oid for the authentication mechanism for which the canonical form of the name is requested.

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6.1.7. export

```
public byte[] export() throws GSSEException
```

Returns a canonical contiguous byte representation of a mechanism name (MN), suitable for direct, byte by byte comparison by authorization functions. The name must a MN before calling this method. The format of the header of the outputted buffer is specified in [RFC 2078](#).

6.1.8. toString

```
public String toString()
```

Returns a textual representation of the GSSName object. To retrieve the printed name format, which determines the syntax of the returned string, the getStringNameType method can be used.

6.1.9. getStringNameType

```
public Oid getStringNameType() throws GSSEException
```

Returns the oid representing the type of name returned through the toString method. Using this oid, the syntax of the printable name can be determined.

6.1.10. clone

```
public Object clone() throws CloneNotSupportedException
```

Creates a duplicate copy of this name.

6.1.11. isAnonymous

```
public boolean isAnonymous()
```

Tests if this name object represents an anonymous entity. Returns "true" if this is an anonymous name.

6.2. public class GSSCredential

This class manages GSS-API credentials and their associated

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operations. A credential contains all the necessary cryptographic information to enable the creation of a context on behalf of the entity that it represents. It may contain multiple, distinct, mechanism specific credential elements, each containing information for a specific security mechanism, but all referring to the same entity.

A credential may be used to perform context initiation, acceptance, or both.

GSS-API implementations must impose a local access-control policy on callers to prevent unauthorized callers from acquiring credentials to which they are not entitled. GSSCredential creation is not intended to provide a "login to the network" function, as such a function would involve the creation of new credentials rather than merely acquiring a handle to existing credentials. Such functions, if required, should be defined in implementation-specific extensions to the API.

If credential acquisition is time-consuming for a mechanism, the mechanism may choose to delay the actual acquisition until the credential is required (e.g. by the GSSContext object). Such mechanism-specific implementation decisions should be invisible to the calling application; thus the query methods immediately following the creation of a credential object must return valid credential data, and may therefore incur the overhead of a deferred credential acquisition.

Applications will create a GSSCredential object passing the desired parameters. The application can then use the query methods to obtain specific information about the instantiated credential object (equivalent to the gss_inquire routines). When the credential is no longer needed, the application should call the dispose (equivalent to gss_release_cred) method to release any resources held by the credential object and to destroy any cryptographically sensitive information.

6.2.1. Example Code

This example code demonstrates the creation of a GSSCredential object for a specific entity, querying of its fields, and its release when it is no longer needed.

```
//start by creating a name object for the entity
GSSName aName = new GSSName("userName", GSSName.NT_USER_NAME);

GSSCredential entity = new GSSCredential(
```

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```
        aName,  
        GSSCredential.ACCEPT_ONLY);  
  
//display credential information - name, remaining lifetime,  
//and the mechanisms it has been acquired over  
print(entity.getGSSName().toString());  
print(entity.getRemainingLifetime());  
  
Oid [] mechs = entity.getMechs();  
if (mechs != null) {  
    for (int i = 0; i < mechs.length; i++)  
        print(mechs[i].toString());  
}  
  
//release system resources held by the credential  
entity.dispose();
```

6.2.2. Class Constants

```
public static final int INITIATE_AND_ACCEPT
```

Credential usage flag requesting that it be able to be used for both context initiation and acceptance.

```
public static final int INITIATE_ONLY
```

Credential usage flag requesting that it be able to be used for context initiation only.

```
public static final int ACCEPT_ONLY
```

Credential usage flag requesting that it be able to be used for context acceptance only.

```
public static final int INDEFINITE
```

A lifetime constant representing indefinite credential lifetime. This value must be set to the maximum integer value in Java - Integer.MAX_VALUE.

6.2.3. Constructors

```
public GSSCredential(int usage) throws GSSException
```

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Constructor for default credentials. This will use the default mechanism, name, and an INDEFINITE lifetime.

Parameters are:

usage	The intended usage for this credential object. The value of this parameter must be one of: GSSCredential.ACCEPT_AND_INITIATE, GSSCredential.ACCEPT_ONLY, GSSCredential.INITIATE_ONLY
-------	--

```
public GSSCredential(GSSName aName, int usage) throws GSSEException
```

Constructor for default mechanism credential. Uses default mechanism and INDEFINITE lifetime.

Parameters are:

aName	Name of the principal for whom this credential is to be acquired.
usage	The intended usage for this credential object. The value of this parameter must be one of: GSSCredential.ACCEPT_AND_INITIATE, GSSCredential.ACCEPT_ONLY, GSSCredential.INITIATE_ONLY

```
public GSSCredential(GSSName aName, int lifetime, Oid mechOid,  
                    int usage) throws GSSEException
```

Constructor for a single mechanism credential. "null" values can be specified for name and mechanism to obtain system specific defaults.

Parameters:

aName	Name of the principal for whom this credential is to be acquired. Use "null" to specify the default principal.
lifetime	The number of seconds that credentials should remain valid. Use GSSCredential.INDEFINITE to request that the credentials have the maximum permitted lifetime.
mechOid	The oid of the desired mechanism.
usage	The intended usage for this credential object. The value of this parameter must be one of: GSSCredential.ACCEPT_AND_INITIATE,

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GSSCredential.ACCEPT_ONLY, GSSCredential.INITIATE_ONLY

```
public GSSCredential(GSSName aName, int lifetime, Oid mechs[],
                    int usage) throws GSSEException
```

Constructor for a credential over a set of mechanisms. Acquires credentials for each of the mechanisms specified in mechs array. "null" value can be used for aName to obtain system specific default. To determine which mechanism's acquisition of the credential was successful use the getMechs method. This call is equivalent to creating a single mechanism credential and using addCred to extend the credential over other mechanisms.

Parameters:

aName	Name of the principal for whom this credential is to be acquired. Use "null" to specify the default principal.
lifetime	The number of seconds that credentials should remain valid. Use GSSCredential.INDEFINITE to request that the credentials have the maximum permitted lifetime.
mechOid	The array of mechanisms over which the credential is to be acquired.
usage	The intended usage for this credential object. The value of this parameter must be one of: GSSCredential.ACCEPT_AND_INITIATE, GSSCredential.ACCEPT_ONLY, GSSCredential.INITIATE_ONLY

6.2.4. dispose

```
public void dispose() throws GSSEException
```

Releases any sensitive information that the GSSCredential may be containing. Applications should call this method as soon as the credential is no longer needed to minimize the time sensitive information is maintained.

6.2.5. getGSSName

```
public GSSName getGSSName() throws GSSEException
```

Retrieves the name of the entity that the credential asserts.

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6.2.6. getGSSName

```
public GSSName getGSSName(Oid mechOID) throws GSSEException
```

Retrieves per-mechanism name of the entity that the credential asserts.

Parameters:

mechOID The mechanism for which information should be returned.

6.2.7. getRemainingLifetime

```
public int getRemainingLifetime() throws GSSEException
```

Returns the remaining lifetime in seconds for a credential. The remaining lifetime is the minimum lifetime for any of the underlying credential mechanisms. A return value of `GSSCredential.INDEFINITE` indicates that the credential does not expire. A return value of 0 indicates that the credential is already expired.

6.2.8. getRemainingInitLifetime

```
public int getRemainingInitLifetime(Oid mech) throws GSSEException
```

Returns the remaining lifetime in seconds for the credential to remain capable of initiating security contexts under the specified mechanism. A return value of `GSSCredential.INDEFINITE` indicates that the credential does not expire for context initiation. A return value of 0 indicates that the credential is already expired.

Parameters:

mechOID The mechanism for which information should be returned.

6.2.9. getRemainingAcceptLifetime

```
public int getRemainingAcceptLifetime(Oid mech) throws GSSEException
```

Returns the remaining lifetime in seconds for the credential to remain capable of accepting security contexts under the specified mechanism. A return value of `GSSCredential.INDEFINITE` indicates that the credential does not expire for context acceptance. A return value

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of 0 indicates that the credential is already expired.

Parameters:

 mechOID The mechanism for which information should be
 returned.

[6.2.10.](#) **getUsage**

public int getUsage() throws GSSEException

Returns the credential usage flag. The return value will be one of GSSCredential.INITIATE_ONLY, GSSCredential.ACCEPT_ONLY, or GSSCredential.INITIATE_AND_ACCEPT.

[6.2.11.](#) **getUsage**

public int getUsage(Oid mechOID) throws GSSEException

Returns the credential usage flag for the specified credential mechanism. The return value will be one of GSSCredential.INITIATE_ONLY, GSSCredential.ACCEPT_ONLY, or GSSCredential.INITIATE_AND_ACCEPT.

Parameters:

 mechOID The mechanism for which information should be
 returned.

[6.2.12.](#) **getMechs**

public Oid[] getMechs() throws GSSEException

Returns an array of mechanisms supported by this credential.

[6.2.13.](#) **add**

public void add(GSSName aName, int initLifetime, int acceptLifetime,
 Oid mech, int usage) throws GSSEException

Adds a mechanism specific credential-element to an existing credential. This method allows the construction of credentials one mechanism at a time. This functionality is equivalent to using the GSSCredential constructor which takes an Oid array as an input

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parameter or calling this method once for each of the mechanisms in the array.

This routine is envisioned to be used mainly by context acceptors during the creation of acceptance credentials which are to be used with a variety of clients using different security mechanisms.

To obtain a new credential object after the addition of the new mechanism credential, the clone method can be called.

Parameters:

aName	Name of the principal for whom this credential is to be acquired. Use "null" to specify the default principal.
initLifetime	The number of seconds that credentials should remain valid for initiating of security contexts. Use GSSCredential.INDEFINITE to request that the credentials have the maximum permitted lifetime.
acceptLifetime	The number of seconds that credentials should remain valid for accepting of security contexts. Use GSSCredential.INDEFINITE to request that the credentials have the maximum permitted lifetime.
mechOid	The mechanisms over which the credential is to be acquired.
usage	The intended usage for this credential object. The value of this parameter must be one of: GSSCredential.ACCEPT_AND_INITIATE, GSSCredential.ACCEPT_ONLY, GSSCredential.INITIATE_ONLY

6.2.14. equals

```
public boolean equals(Object another)
```

Tests if this GSSCredential refers to the same entity as the supplied object. The two GSSCredentials must be acquired over the same mechanisms and must refer to the same principal. Returns "true" if the two GSSCredentials refer to the same entity; "false" otherwise.

Parameter:

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another Another GSSCredential object for comparison.

6.3. public class GSSContext

This class represents the GSS-API security context and its associated operations. Security contexts are established between peers using locally acquired credentials. Multiple contexts may exist simultaneously between a pair of peers, using the same or different set of credentials. GSS-API functions in a manner independent of the underlying transport protocol and depends on its calling application to transport its tokens between peers.

The GSSContext object can be thought of as having 3 implicit states: before it is established, during its context establishment, and after a fully established context exists.

Before the context establishment phase is initiated, the context initiator may request specific characteristics desired of the established context. These can be set using the set methods. After the context is established, the caller can check the actual characteristic and services offered by the context using the query methods.

The context establishment phase begins with the first call to the init method by the context initiator. During this phase the init and accept methods will produce GSS-API authentication tokens which the calling application needs to send to its peer. The init and accept methods may return a CONTINUE_NEEDED code which indicates that a token is needed from its peer in order to continue the context establishment phase. A return code of COMPLETE signals that the local end of the context is established. This may still require that a token be sent to the peer, depending if one is produced by GSS-API. The isEstablished method can also be used to determine if the local end of the context has been fully established. During the context establishment phase, the isProtReady method may be called to determine if the context can be used for the per-message operations. This allows implementation to use per-message operations on contexts which aren't fully established.

After the context has been established or the isProtReady method returns "true", the query routines can be invoked to determine the actual characteristics and services of the established context. The application can also start using the per-message methods of wrap and getMIC to obtain cryptographic operations on application supplied data.

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When the context is no longer needed, the application should call `dispose` to release any system resources the context may be using.

6.3.1. Example Code

The example code presented below demonstrates the usage of the `GSSContext` object for the initiating peer. Different operations on the `GSSContext` object are presented, including: object instantiation, setting of desired flags, context establishment, query of actual context flags, per-message operations on application data, and finally context deletion.

```
//start by creating the name for a service entity
GSSName targetName = new GSSName("service@host",
                                   GSSName.NT_HOSTBASED_SERVICE);

//create a context using default credentials for the
//default mechanism
GSSContext aCtxt = new GSSContext(targetName,
                                   null,    /* default mechanism */
                                   null,    /* default credentials */
                                   GSSContext.INDEFINITE);

//set desired context options - all others are false by default
aCtxt.requestConf(true);
aCtxt.requestMutualAuth(true);
aCtxt.requestReplayDet(true);
aCtxt.requestSequenceDet(true);

//establish a context between peers - using byte arrays
byte []inTok = new byte[0];

try {
    do {
        byte[] outTok = aCtxt.init(inTok, 0, inTok.length);

        //send the token if present
        if (outTok != null)
            sendToken(outTok);

        //check if we should expect more tokens
        if (aCtxt.isEstablished())
            break;

        //another token expected from peer
```

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```
        inTok = readToken();

    } while (true);

} catch (GSSEException e) {
    print("GSSAPI error: " + e.getMessage());
}

//display context information
print("Remaining lifetime in seconds = " + aCtxt.getLifetime());
print("Context mechanism = " + aCtxt.getMech().toString());
print("Initiator = " + aCtxt.getSrcName().toString());
print("Acceptor = " + aCtxt.getTargName().toString());

if (aCtxt.getConfState())
    print("Confidentiality security service available");

if (aCtxt.getIntegState())
    print("Integrity security service available");

//perform wrap on an application supplied message, appMsg,
//using QOP = 0, and requesting privacy service
byte [] appMsg ...

MessageProp mProp = new MessageProp(0, true);

byte [] tok = aCtxt.wrap(appMsg, 0, appMsg.length, mProp);

if (mProp.getPrivacy())
    print("Message protected with privacy.");

sendToken(tok);

//release the local-end of the context
aCtxt.dispose();
```

6.3.2. Class Constants

```
public static final int INDEFINITE
```

A lifetime constant representing indefinite context lifetime. This value must be set to the maximum integer value in Java - Integer.MAX_VALUE.

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```
public static final int COMPLETE
```

Return value from either `accept` or `init` stating that the context creation phase is complete for this peer.

```
public static final int CONTINUE_NEEDED
```

Return value from either `accept` or `init` stating that another token is required from the peer to continue context creation. This may be returned several times indicating multiple token exchanges.

6.3.3. Constructors

```
public GSSContext(GSSName peer, Oid mechOid, GSSCredential myCred,  
                  int lifetime) throws GSSException
```

Constructor for creating a context on the initiator's side. Context flags may be modified through the mutator methods prior to calling `init`.

Parameters:

<code>peer</code>	Name of the target peer.
<code>mechOid</code>	Oid of the desired mechanism. Use "null" to request the default mechanism.
<code>myCred</code>	Credentials of the initiator. Use "null" to act as a default initiator principal.
<code>lifetime</code>	The request lifetime, in seconds, for the credential.

```
public GSSContext(GSSCredential myCred) throws GSSException
```

Constructor for creating a context on the acceptor's side. The context's properties will be determined from the input token supplied to the `accept` method.

Parameters:

<code>myCred</code>	Credentials for the acceptor. Use "null" to act as a default acceptor principal.
---------------------	--

```
public GSSContext(byte [] interProcessToken) throws GSSException
```

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Constructor for creating a previously exported context. The context properties will be determined from the input token and can't be modified through the set methods.

Parameters:

`interProcessToken`

The token previously emitted from the export method.

6.3.4. init

```
public byte[] init(byte inputBuf[], int offset, int len)
                    throws GSSException
```

Called by the context initiator to start the context creation process. This is equivalent to the stream based method except that the token buffers are handled as byte arrays instead of using stream objects. This method may return an output token which the application will need to send to the peer for processing by the accept call. "null" return value indicates that no token needs to be sent to the peer. The application can call `isEstablished` to determine if the context establishment phase is complete for this peer. A return value of "false" from `isEstablished` indicates that more tokens are expected to be supplied to the `init` method. Please note that the `init` method may return a token for the peer, and `isEstablished` return "true" also. This indicates that the token needs to be sent to the peer, but the local end of the context is now fully established.

Upon completion of the context establishment, the available context options may be queried through the `get` methods.

Parameters:

`inputBuf` Token generated by the peer. This parameter is ignored on the first call.

`offset` The offset within the `inputBuf` where the token begins.

`len` The length of the token within the `inputBuf` (starting at the offset).

6.3.4.1. Example Code

```
//create a GSSContext object
GSSContext aCtxt = new GSSContext(...
```

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```
byte []inTok = new byte[0];

try {

    do {

        byte[] outTok = aCtxt.init(inTok, 0,
                                   inTok.length);

        //send the token if present
        if (outTok != null)
            sendToken(outTok);

        //check if we should expect more tokens
        if (aCtxt.isEstablished())
            break;

        //another token expected from peer
        inTok = readToken();
    } while (true);

} catch (GSSEException e) {
    print("GSSAPI error: " + e.getMessage());
}
```

6.3.5. init

```
public int init(InputStream inputBuf, OutputStream outputBuf)
               throws GSSEException
```

Called by the context initiator to start the context creation process. This is equivalent to the byte array based method. This method may write an output token to the outputBuf, which the application will need to send to the peer for processing by the accept call. 0 bytes written to the output stream indicate that no token needs to be sent to the peer. The method will return either COMPLETE or CONTINUE_NEEDED indicating the status of the current context. A return value of COMPLETE indicates that the context establishment phase is complete for this peer, while CONTINUE_NEEDED means that another token is expected from the peer. The isEstablished method can also be used to determine this state. Note that it is possible to have a token for the peer while this method returns COMPLETE. This indicates that the local end of the context is established, but the token needs to be sent to the peer to complete the context establishment.

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The GSS-API authentication tokens contain a definitive start and end. This method will attempt to read one of these tokens per invocation, and may block on the stream if only part of the token is available.

Upon completion of the context establishment, the available context options may be queried through the get methods.

Parameters:

`inputBuf` Contains the token generated by the peer. This parameter is ignored on the first call.

`outputBuf` Buffer where the output token will be written. During the final stage of context establishment, there may be no bytes written.

6.3.5.1. Example Code

```
//create a GSSContext object
GSSContext aCtxt = new GSSContext(...)

//use standard java.io stream objects
ByteArrayOutputStream os = new ByteArrayOutputStream();
ByteArrayInputStream is = null;

try {
    while (aCtxt.init(is, os) ==
           GSSContext.CONTINUE_NEEDED) {

        //send token to peer
        sendToken(os);

        //another token expected from peer
        is = recvToken();
    }

    //send token if present
    if (os.size() > 0)
        sendToken(os);
} catch (GSSException e) {
    print("GSS-API error: " + e.getMessage());
}
```

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6.3.6. accept

```
public byte[] accept(byte inTok[], int offset, int len)
                    throws GSSEException
```

Called by the context acceptor upon receiving a token from the peer. This call is equivalent to the stream based method except that the token buffers are handled as byte arrays instead of using stream objects.

This method may return an output token which the application will need to send to the peer for further processing by the `init` call. "null" return value indicates that no token needs to be sent to the peer. The application can call `isEstablished` to determine if the context establishment phase is complete for this peer. A return value of "false" from `isEstablished` indicates that more tokens are expected to be supplied to this method.

Please note that the `accept` method may return a token for the peer, and `isEstablished` return "true" also. This indicates that the token needs to be sent to the peer, but the local end of the context is now fully established.

Upon completion of the context establishment, the available context options may be queried through the `get` methods.

Parameters:

<code>inTok</code>	Token generated by the peer.
<code>offset</code>	The offset within the <code>inTok</code> where the token begins.
<code>len</code>	The length of the token within the <code>inTok</code> (starting at the offset).

6.3.6.1. Example Code

```
//obtain server credentials
GSSCredential server = ...

//create acceptor GSS-API context
GSSContext aCtxt = new GSSContext(server);

try {
    do {
        byte [] inTok = readToken();
```

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```
byte []outTok = aCtxt.accept(inTok, 0,
                             inTok.length);

//possibly send token to peer
if (outTok != null)
    sendToken(outTok);

//check if local context establishment is complete
if (aCtxt.isEstablished())
    break;
} while (true);

} catch (GSSEException e) {
    print("GSS-API error: " + e.getMessage());
}
```

6.3.7. accept

```
public int accept(InputStream inputBuf, OutputStream outputBuf)
               throws GSSEException
```

Called by the context acceptor upon receiving a token from the peer. This call is equivalent to the byte array method. It may write an output token to the outputBuf, which the application will need to send to the peer for processing by its init method. 0 bytes written to the output stream indicate that no token needs to be sent to the peer. The method will return either COMPLETE or CONTINUE_NEEDED indicating the status of the current context. A return value of COMPLETE indicates that the context establishment phase is complete for this peer, while CONTINUE_NEEDED means that another token is expected from the peer. The isEstablished method can also be used to determine this state. Note that it is possible to have a token for the peer while this method returns COMPLETE. This indicates that the local end of the context is established, but the token needs to be sent to the peer to complete the context establishment.

The GSS-API authentication tokens contain a definitive start and end. This method will attempt to read one of these tokens per invocation, and may block on the stream if only part of the token is available.

Upon completion of the context establishment, the available context options may be queried through the get methods.

Parameters:

inputBuf Contains the token generated by the peer.

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outputBuf Buffer where the output token will be written. During the final stage of context establishment, there may be no bytes written.

6.3.7.1. Example Code

```
//obtain server credentials
GSSCredential server = ...

//create acceptor GSS-API context
GSSContext aCtxt = new GSSContext(server);

//use standard java.io stream objects
ByteArrayOutputStream os = new ByteArrayOutputStream();
ByteArrayInputStream is = null;
int retCode;

try {
    do {
        is = recvToken();
        retCode = aCtxt.accept(is, os);

        //possibly send token to peer
        if (os.size() > 0)
            sendToken(os);

    } while (retCode == GSSContext.CONTINUE_NEEDED);

} catch (GSSEException e) {
    print("GSS-API error: " + e.getMessage());
}
```

6.3.8. isEstablished

```
public boolean isEstablished()
```

Returns "true" if this is a fully established context. Used after the init and accept methods to check if more tokens are needed from the peer.

6.3.9. dispose

```
public void dispose() throws GSSEException
```

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Releases any system resources and cryptographic information stored in the context object. This will invalidate the context.

6.3.10. getWrapSizeLimit

```
public int getWrapSizeLimit(int qop, boolean confReq,  
                           int maxTokenSize) throws GSSEException
```

Returns the maximum message size that, if presented to the wrap method with the same confReq and qop parameters, will result in an output token containing no more than the maxTokenSize bytes.

This call is intended for use by applications that communicate over protocols that impose a maximum message size. It enables the application to fragment messages prior to applying protection.

GSS-API implementations are recommended but not required to detect invalid QOP values when getWrapSizeLimit is called. This routine guarantees only a maximum message size, not the availability of specific QOP values for message protection.

Successful completion of this call does not guarantee that wrap will be able to protect a message of the computed length, since this ability may depend on the availability of system resources at the time that wrap is called. However, if the implementation itself imposes an upper limit on the length of messages that may be processed by wrap, the implementation should not return a value that is greater than this length.

Parameters:

qop	Indicates the level of protection wrap will be asked to provide.
confReq	Indicates if wrap will be asked to provide privacy service.
maxTokenSize	The desired maximum size of the token emitted by wrap.

6.3.11. wrap

```
public byte[] wrap(byte inBuf[], int offset, int len,  
                  MessageProp msgProp) throws GSSEException
```

Allows to apply per-message security services over the established

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security context. The method will return a token with a cryptographic MIC and may optionally encrypt the specified `inBuf`. This method is equivalent in functionality to its stream counterpart. The returned byte array will contain both the MIC and the message. The `msgProp` object is used to specify a QOP value which selects cryptographic algorithms, and a privacy service, if supported by the chosen mechanism.

Since some application-level protocols may wish to use tokens emitted by `wrap` to provide "secure framing", implementations should support the wrapping of zero-length messages.

The application will be responsible for sending the token to the peer.

Parameters:

<code>inBuf</code>	Application data to be protected.
<code>offset</code>	The offset within the <code>inBuf</code> where the data begins.
<code>len</code>	The length of the data within the <code>inBuf</code> (starting at the offset).
<code>msgProp</code>	Instance of <code>MessageProp</code> containing the desired QOP and privacy state. Upon return from this method, this object will contain the applied QOP (for cases when 0 was used) and the actual privacy state of the token.

[6.3.12.](#) `wrap`

```
public void wrap(InputStream inBuf, OutputStream outBuf,  
                 MessageProp msgProp) throws GSSException
```

Allows to apply per-message security services over the established security context. The method will produce a token with a cryptographic MIC and may optionally encrypt the specified `inBuf`. The `outBuf` will contain both the MIC and the message. The `msgProp` object is used to specify a QOP value to select cryptographic algorithms, and a privacy service, if supported by the chosen mechanism.

Since some application-level protocols may wish to use tokens emitted by `wrap` to provide "secure framing", implementations should support the wrapping of zero-length messages.

The application will be responsible for sending the token to the

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peer.

Parameters:

inpBuf	Application data to be protected.
outBuf	The buffer to write the protected message to. The application is responsible for sending this to the other peer for processing in its unwrap method.
msgProp	Instance of MessageProp containing the desired QOP and privacy state. Upon return from this method, this object will contain the applied QOP (for cases when 0 was used) and the actual privacy state of the token.

6.3.13. unwrap

```
public byte [] unwrap(byte[] inBuf, int offset, int len,  
                      MessageProp msgProp) throws GSSEException
```

Used by the peer application to process tokens generated with the wrap call. This call is equal in functionality to its stream counterpart. The method will return the message supplied in the peer application to the wrap call, verifying the embedded MIC. The msgProp instance will indicate whether the message was encrypted and will contain the QOP indicating the strength of protection that was used to provide the confidentiality and integrity services.

Since some application-level protocols may wish to use tokens emitted by wrap to provide "secure framing", implementations should support the wrapping and unwrapping of zero-length messages.

Parameters:

inBuf	GSS-API wrap token received from peer.
offset	The offset within the inBuf where the token begins.
len	The length of the token within the inBuf (starting at the offset).
msgProp	Upon return from the method, this object will contain the applied QOP and the privacy state of the supplied token.

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6.3.14. unwrap

```
public void unwrap(InputStream inBuf, OutputStream outBuf,  
                  MessageProp msgProp) throws GSSException
```

Used by the peer application to process tokens generated with the wrap call. This call is equal in functionality to its byte array counterpart. It will produce the message supplied in the peer application to the wrap call, verifying the embedded MIC. The msgProp parameter will indicate whether the message was encrypted and will contain the QOP indicating the strength of protection that was used to provide the confidentiality and integrity services. The msgProp object will also contain the supplementary status information for the token.

Since some application-level protocols may wish to use tokens emitted by wrap to provide "secure framing", implementations should support the wrapping and unwrapping of zero-length messages.

Parameters:

inBuf	GSS-API wrap token received from peer.
outBuf	The buffer to write the application message to.
msgProp	Upon return from the method, this object will contain the applied QOP, the privacy state, and supplementary status values for the supplied token.

6.3.15. getMIC

```
public byte[] getMIC(byte []inMsg, int offset, int len,  
                    MessageProp msgProp) throws GSSException
```

Returns a token containing a cryptographic MIC for the supplied message, for transfer to the peer application. Unlike wrap, which encapsulates the user message in the returned token, only the message MIC is returned in the output token. This method is identical in functionality to its stream counterpart.

Note that privacy can only be applied through the wrap call.

Since some application-level protocols may wish to use tokens emitted by getMIC to provide "secure framing", implementations should support derivation of MICs from zero-length messages.

Parameters:

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<code>inMsg</code>	Message to generate MIC over.
<code>offset</code>	The offset within the <code>inMsg</code> where the token begins.
<code>len</code>	The length of the token within the <code>inMsg</code> (starting at the offset).
<code>msgProp</code>	Indicates the desired QOP to be used. Use QOP of 0 to indicate default value. The confidentiality flag is ignored. Upon return from the method, this object will contain the applied QOP (in case 0 was selected).

6.3.16. getMIC

```
public void getMIC(InputStream inMsg, OutputStream outBuf,  
                  MessageProp msgProp) throws GSSEException
```

Produces a token containing a cryptographic MIC for the supplied message, for transfer to the peer application. Unlike `wrap`, which encapsulates the user message in the returned token, only the message MIC is produced in the output token. This method is identical in functionality to its byte array counterpart.

Note that privacy can only be applied through the `wrap` call.

Since some application-level protocols may wish to use tokens emitted by `getMIC` to provide "secure framing", implementations should support derivation of MICs from zero-length messages.

Parameters:

<code>inMsg</code>	Buffer containing the message to generate MIC over.
<code>outBuf</code>	The buffer to write the GSS-API output token into.
<code>msgProp</code>	Indicates the desired QOP to be used. Use QOP of 0 to indicate default value. The confidentiality flag is ignored. Upon return from the method, this object will contain the applied QOP (in case 0 was selected).

6.3.17. verifyMIC

```
public void verifyMIC(byte []inTok, int tokOffset, int tokLen,  
                     byte[] inMsg, int msgOffset, int msgLen,  
                     MessageProp msgProp) throws GSSEException
```

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Verifies the cryptographic MIC, contained in the token parameter, over the supplied message. The msgProp parameter will contain the QOP indicating the strength of protection that was applied to the message. This method is equivalent in functionality to its stream counterpart.

Since some application-level protocols may wish to use tokens emitted by getMIC to provide "secure framing", implementations should support the calculation and verification of MICs over zero-length messages.

Parameters:

inTok	Token generated by peer's getMIC method.
tokOffset	The offset within the inTok where the token begins.
tokLen	The length of the token within the inTok (starting at the offset).
inMsg	Application message to verify the cryptographic MIC over.
msgOffset	The offset within the inMsg where the message begins.
msgLen	The length of the message within the inMsg (starting at the offset).
msgProp	Upon return from the method, this object will contain the applied QOP and supplementary status values for the supplied token. The confidentiality state will be always set to "false".

6.3.18. verifyMIC

```
public void verifyMIC(InputStream inTok, InputStream inMsg,  
                      MessageProp msgProp) throws GSSEException
```

Verifies the cryptographic MIC, contained in the token parameter, over the supplied message. The msgProp parameter will contain the QOP indicating the strength of protection that was applied to the message. This method is equivalent in functionality to its byte array counterpart.

Since some application-level protocols may wish to use tokens emitted by getMIC to provide "secure framing", implementations should support the calculation and verification of MICs over zero-length messages.

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Parameters:

inTok	Contains the token generated by peer's getMIC method.
inMsg	Contains application message to verify the cryptographic MIC over.
msgProp	Upon return from the method, this object will contain the applied QOP and supplementary status values for the supplied token. The confidentiality state will be always set to "false".

6.3.19. export

```
public byte [] export() throws GSSException
```

Provided to support the sharing of work between multiple processes. This routine will typically be used by the context-acceptor, in an application where a single process receives incoming connection requests and accepts security contexts over them, then passes the established context to one or more other processes for message exchange.

This method deactivates the security context and creates an interprocess token which, when passed to the byte array constructor of the GSSContext class in another process, will re-activate the context in the second process. Only a single instantiation of a given context may be active at any one time; a subsequent attempt by a context exporter to access the exported security context will fail.

The implementation may constrain the set of processes by which the interprocess token may be imported, either as a function of local security policy, or as a result of implementation decisions. For example, some implementations may constrain contexts to be passed only between processes that run under the same account, or which are part of the same process group.

The interprocess token may contain security-sensitive information (for example cryptographic keys). While mechanisms are encouraged to either avoid placing such sensitive information within interprocess tokens, or to encrypt the token before returning it to the application, in a typical GSS-API implementation this may not be possible. Thus the application must take care to protect the interprocess token, and ensure that any process to which the token is transferred is trustworthy.

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6.3.20. requestMutualAuth

public void requestMutualAuth(boolean state) throws GSSEException

Sets the request state of the mutual authentication flag for the context. This method is only valid before the context creation process begins and only for the initiator.

Parameters:

state	Boolean representing if mutual authentication should be requested during context establishment.
-------	---

6.3.21. requestReplayDet

public void requestReplayDet(boolean state) throws GSSEException

Sets the request state of the replay detection service for the context. This method is only valid before the context creation process begins and only for the initiator.

Parameters:

state	Boolean representing if replay detection is desired over the established context.
-------	---

6.3.22. requestSequenceDet

public void requestSequenceDet(boolean state) throws GSSEException

Sets the request state for the sequence checking service of the context. This method is only valid before the context creation process begins and only for the initiator.

Parameters:

state	Boolean representing if sequence detection is desired over the established context.
-------	---

6.3.23. requestCredDeleg

public void requestCredDeleg(boolean state) throws GSSEException

Sets the request state for the credential delegation flag for the context. This method is only valid before the context creation

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process begins and only for the initiator.

Parameter:

state	Boolean representing if credential delegation is desired.
-------	---

6.3.24. requestAnonymity

public void requestAnonymity(boolean state) throws GSSEException

Requests anonymous support over the context. This method is only valid before the context creation process begins and only for the initiator.

Parameter:

state	Boolean representing if anonymity support is requested.
-------	---

6.3.25. requestConf

public void requestConf(boolean state) throws GSSEException

Requests that confidentiality service be available over the context. This method is only valid before the context creation process begins and only for the initiator.

Parameters:

state	Boolean indicating if confidentiality services are to be requested for the context.
-------	---

6.3.26. requestInteg

public void requestInteg(boolean state) throws GSSEException

Requests that integrity services be available over the context. This method is only valid before the context creation process begins and only for the initiator.

Parameters:

state	Boolean indicating if integrity services are to be requested for the context.
-------	---

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6.3.27. requestLifetime

`public void requestLifetime(int lifetime) throws GSSEException`

Sets the desired lifetime for the context in seconds. This method is only valid before the context creation process begins and only for the initiator.

Parameters:

lifetime The desired context lifetime in seconds.

6.3.28. setChannelBinding

`public void setChannelBinding(ChannelBinding cb) throws GSSEException`

Sets the channel bindings to be used during context establishment. This method is only valid before the context creation process begins.

Parameters:

cb Channel bindings to be used.

6.3.29. getCredDelegState

`public boolean getCredDelegState()`

Returns the state of the delegated credentials for the context. When issued before context establishment is completed or when the `isProtReady` method returns "false", it returns the desired state, otherwise it will indicate the actual state over the established context.

6.3.30. getMutualAuthState

`public boolean getMutualAuthState()`

Returns the state of the mutual authentication option for the context. When issued before context establishment completes or when the `isProtReady` method returns "false", it returns the desired state, otherwise it will indicate the actual state over the established context.

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[6.3.31.](#) getReplayDetState

```
public boolean getReplayDetState()
```

Returns the state of the replay detection option for the context. When issued before context establishment completes or when the `isProtReady` method returns "false", it returns the desired state, otherwise it will indicate the actual state over the established context.

[6.3.32.](#) getSequenceDetState

```
public boolean getSequenceDetState()
```

Returns the state of the sequence detection option for the context. When issued before context establishment completes or when the `isProtReady` method returns "false", it returns the desired state, otherwise it will indicate the actual state over the established context.

[6.3.33.](#) getAnonymityState

```
public boolean getAnonymityState()
```

Returns "true" if this is an anonymous context. When issued before context establishment completes or when the `isProtReady` method returns "false", it returns the desired state, otherwise it will indicate the actual state over the established context.

[6.3.34.](#) isTransferable

```
public boolean isTransferable() throws GSSEException
```

Returns "true" if the context is transferable to other processes through the use of the `export` method. This call is only valid on fully established contexts.

[6.3.35.](#) isProtReady

```
public boolean isProtReady()
```

Returns "true" if the per message operations can be applied over the context. Some mechanisms may allow the usage of per-message

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operations before the context is fully established. This will also indicate that the get methods will return actual context state characteristics instead of the desired ones.

6.3.36. getConfState

```
public boolean getConfState()
```

Returns the confidentiality service state over the context. When issued before context establishment completes or when the `isProtReady` method returns "false", it returns the desired state, otherwise it will indicate the actual state over the established context.

6.3.37. getIntegState

```
public boolean getIntegState()
```

Returns the integrity service state over the context. When issued before context establishment completes or when the `isProtReady` method returns "false", it returns the desired state, otherwise it will indicate the actual state over the established context.

6.3.38. getLifetime

```
public int getLifetime()
```

Returns the context lifetime in seconds. When issued before context establishment completes or when the `isProtReady` method returns "false", it returns the desired lifetime, otherwise it will indicate the remaining lifetime for the context.

6.3.39. getSrcName

```
public GSSName getSrcName() throws GSSEException
```

Returns the name of the context initiator. This call is valid only after the context is fully established or the `isProtReady` method returns "true".

6.3.40. getTargName

```
public GSSName getTargName() throws GSSEException
```

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Returns the name of the context target (acceptor). This call is valid only after the context is fully established or the `isProtReady` method returns "true".

6.3.41. getMech

`public Oid getMech() throws GSSEException`

Returns the mechanism oid for this context.

6.3.42. getDelegCred

`public GSSCredential getDelegCred() throws GSSEException`

Returns the delegated credential object on the acceptor's side. To check for availability of delegated credentials call `getDelegCredState`. This call is only valid on fully established contexts.

6.3.43. isInitiator

`public boolean isInitiator() throws GSSEException`

Returns "true" if this is the initiator of the context. This call is only valid after the context creation process has started.

6.4. public class MessageProp

This is a utility class used within the per-message `GSSContext` methods to convey per-message properties.

When used with the `GSSContext` class `wrap` and `getMIC` methods, an instance of this class is used to indicate the desired QOP and to request if confidentiality services are to be applied to caller supplied data (wrap only). To request default QOP, the value of 0 should be used.

When used with the `unwrap` and `verifyMIC` methods of the `GSSContext` class, an instance of this class will be used to indicate the applied QOP and confidentiality services over the supplied message. In the case of `verifyMIC`, the confidentiality state will always be "false". Upon return from these methods, this object will also contain any

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supplementary status values applicable to the processed token. The supplementary status values can indicate old tokens, out of sequence tokens, gap tokens or duplicate tokens.

6.4.1. Constructors

```
public MessageProp()
```

Default constructor for the class. QOP is set to 0 and confidentiality to "false".

```
public MessageProp(int qop, boolean privState)
```

Constructor which sets the values for the qop and privacy state.

Parameters:

qop The desired QOP.

privState The desired privacy state.

6.4.2. getQOP

```
public int getQOP()
```

Retrieves the QOP value.

6.4.3. getPrivacy

```
public boolean getPrivacy()
```

Retrieves the privacy state.

6.4.4. setQOP

```
public void setQOP(int qopVal)
```

Sets the QOP value.

Parameter:

qopVal The QOP value to be set.

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6.4.5. setPrivacy

```
public void setPrivacy(boolean privState)
```

Sets the privacy state.

Parameter:

privState The privacy state to set.

6.4.6. isDuplicateToken

```
public boolean isDuplicateToken()
```

Returns "true" if this is a duplicate of an earlier token.

6.4.7. isOldToken

```
public boolean isOldToken()
```

Returns "true" if the token's validity period has expired.

6.4.8. isUnseqToken

```
public boolean isUnseqToken()
```

Returns "true" if a later token has already been processed.

6.4.9. isGapToken

```
public boolean isGapToken()
```

Returns "true" if an expected per-message token was not received.

6.5. public class GSSManager

This class implements functionality common to the entire GSS-API package. It does not define any public constructors and all its methods are static.

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6.5.1. getMechs

```
public static Oid[] getMechs()
```

Returns an array of Oid objects, one for each mechanism available within this GSS-API package. A "null" value is returned when no mechanism are available (an example of this would be when mechanism are dynamically configured, and currently no mechanisms are installed).

6.5.2. getNamesForMech

```
public static Oid[] getNamesForMech(Oid mech) throws GSSException
```

Returns name types Oids supported by the specified mechanism.

Parameters:

 mech The Oid object for the mechanism to query.

6.5.3. getMechsForName

```
public static Oid[] getMechsForName(Oid nameType)
```

Returns an array of Oid objects, one for each mechanisms that support the specific name type. "null" is returned when no mechanisms are found to support the specified name type.

Parameters:

 nameType The Oid object for the name type to query.

6.5.4. getDefaultMech

```
public static Oid getDefaultMech()
```

Returns the default mechanism oid. This is the mechanisms that will be used when a "null" Oid object is specified in place of an Oid object within GSSCredential and GSSContext methods.

6.6. public class ChannelBinding

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The GSS-API accommodates the concept of caller-provided channel binding information. Channel bindings are used to strengthen the quality with which peer entity authentication is provided during context establishment. They enable the GSS-API callers to bind the establishment of the security context to relevant characteristics like addresses or to application specific data.

The caller initiating the security context must determine the appropriate channel binding values to set in the GSSContext object. The acceptor must provide an identical binding in order to validate that received tokens possess correct channel-related characteristics.

Use of channel bindings is optional in GSS-API. Since channel-binding information may be transmitted in context establishment tokens, applications should therefore not use confidential data as channel-binding components.

6.6.1. Constructors

```
public ChannelBinding(InetAddress initAddr, InetAddress acceptAddr,  
                     byte[] appData)
```

Create a ChannelBinding object with user supplied address information and data. "null" values can be used for any fields which the application does not want to specify.

Parameters:

`initAddr` The address of the context initiator. "null" value can be supplied to indicate that the application does not want to set this value.

`acceptAddr` The address of the context acceptor. "null" value can be supplied to indicate that the application does not want to set this value.

`appData` Application supplied data to be used as part of the channel bindings. "null" value can be supplied to indicate that the application does not want to set this value.

```
public ChannelBinding(byte[] appData)
```

Creates a ChannelBinding object without any addressing information.

Parameters:

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appData Application supplied data to be used as part of the channel bindings.

6.6.2. getInitiatorAddress

```
public InetAddress getInitiatorAddress()
```

Returns the initiator's address for this channel binding. "null" is returned if the address has not been set.

6.6.3. getAcceptorAddress

```
public InetAddress getAcceptorAddress()
```

Returns the acceptor's address for this channel binding. "null" is returned if the address has not been set.

6.6.4. getApplicationData

```
public byte[] getApplicationData()
```

Returns application data being used as part of the ChannelBinding. "null" is returned if no application data has been specified for the channel binding.

6.6.5. equals

```
public boolean equals(Object obj)
```

Returns "true" if two channel bindings match.

Parameter:

obj Another channel binding to compare with.

6.7. public class Oid

This class represents Universal Object Identifiers (Oids) and their associated operations.

Oids are hierarchically globally-interpretable identifiers used within the GSS-API framework to identify mechanisms and name formats.

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The structure and encoding of Oids is defined in ISOIEC-8824 and ISOIEC-8825. For example the Oid representation of Kerberos V5 mechanism is "1.2.840.113554.1.2.2"

The GSSName name class contains public static Oid objects representing the standard name types defined in GSS-API.

6.7.1. Constructors

`public Oid(String strOid) throws GSSEException`

Creates an Oid object from a string representation of its integer components (e.g. "1.2.840.113554.1.2.2").

Parameters:

`strOid` The string representation for the oid.

`public Oid(InputStream derOid) throws GSSEException`

Creates an Oid object from its DER encoding. This refers to the full encoding including tag and length. The structure and encoding of Oids is defined in ISOIEC-8824 and ISOIEC-8825. This method is identical in functionality to its byte array counterpart.

Parameters:

`derOid` Stream containing the DER encoded oid.

`public Oid(byte[] DERoid) throws GSSEException`

Creates an Oid object from its DER encoding. This refers to the full encoding including tag and length. The structure and encoding of Oids is defined in ISOIEC-8824 and ISOIEC-8825. This method is identical in functionality to its byte array counterpart.

Parameters:

`derOid` Byte array storing a DER encoded oid.

6.7.2. toString

`public String toString()`

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Returns a string representation of the oid's integer components in dot separated notation (e.g. "1.2.840.113554.1.2.2").

6.7.3. toRFC2078String

```
public String toRFC2078String()
```

Returns a string representation of the Oid's integer components in the format specified within [RFC 2078](#) (e.g. "{ 1 2 840 113554 1 2 2 }").

6.7.4. equals

```
public boolean equals(Object Obj)
```

Returns "true" if the two Oid objects represent the same oid value.

Parameter:

obj Another Oid object to compare with.

6.7.5. getDER

```
public byte[] getDER()
```

Returns the full ASN.1 DER encoding for this oid object, which includes the tag and length.

6.7.6. containedIn

```
public boolean containedIn(Oid[] oids)
```

A utility method to test if an Oid object is contained within the supplied Oid object array.

Parameter:

oids An array of oids to search.

6.8. public class GSSException extends Exception

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This exception is thrown whenever a fatal GSS-API error occurs including mechanism specific errors. It may contain both, the major and minor, GSS-API status codes. The mechanism implementers are responsible for setting appropriate minor status codes when throwing this exception. Aside from delivering the numeric error code(s) to the caller, this class performs the mapping from their numeric values to textual representations. All Java GSS-API methods are declared throwing this exception.

All implementations are encouraged to use the Java internationalization techniques to provide local translations of the message strings.

6.8.1. Class Constants

All valid major GSS-API error code values are declared as constants in this class.

```
public static final int BAD_BINDINGS
```

Channel bindings mismatch error.

```
public static final int BAD_MECH
```

Unsupported mechanism requested error.

```
public static final int BAD_NAME
```

Invalid name provided error.

```
public static final int BAD_NAME_TYPE
```

Name of unsupported type provided error.

```
public static final int BAD_STATUS
```

Invalid status code error - this is the default status value.

```
public static final int BAD_MIC
```

Token had invalid integrity check error.

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```
public static final int CONTEXT_EXPIRED
```

Specified security context expired error.

```
public static final int CREDENTIALS_EXPIRED
```

Expired credentials detected error.

```
public static final int DEFECTIVE_CREDENTIAL
```

Defective credential error.

```
public static final int DEFECTIVE_TOKEN
```

Defective token error.

```
public static final int FAILURE
```

General failure, unspecified at GSS-API level.

```
public static final int NO_CONTEXT
```

Invalid security context error.

```
public static final int NO_CRED
```

Invalid credentials error.

```
public static final int BAD_QOP
```

Unsupported QOP value error.

```
public static final int UNAUTHORIZED
```

Operation unauthorized error.

```
public static final int UNAVAILABLE
```

Operation unavailable error.

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```
public static final int DUPLICATE_ELEMENT
```

Duplicate credential element requested error.

```
public static final int NAME_NOT_MN
```

Name contains multi-mechanism elements error.

```
public static final int DUPLICATE_TOKEN
```

The token was a duplicate of an earlier token. This is a fatal error code that may occur during context establishment. It is not used to indicate supplementary status values. The MessageProp object is used for that purpose.

```
public static final int OLD_TOKEN
```

The token's validity period has expired. This is a fatal error code that may occur during context establishment. It is not used to indicate supplementary status values. The MessageProp object is used for that purpose.

```
public static final int UNSEQ_TOKEN
```

A later token has already been processed. This is a fatal error code that may occur during context establishment. It is not used to indicate supplementary status values. The MessageProp object is used for that purpose.

```
public static final int GAP_TOKEN
```

An expected per-message token was not received. This is a fatal error code that may occur during context establishment. It is not used to indicate supplementary status values. The MessageProp object is used for that purpose.

6.8.2. Constructors

```
public GSSEException(int majorCode)
```

Creates a GSSEException object with a specified major code.

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Parameters:

majorCode The GSS error code causing this exception to be thrown.

```
public GSSEException(int majorCode, int minorCode, String minorString)
```

Creates a GSSEException object with the specified major code, minor code, and minor code textual explanation. This constructor is to be used when the exception is originating from the security mechanism. It allows to specify the GSS code and the mechanism code.

Parameters:

majorCode	The GSS error code causing this exception to be thrown.
minorCode	The mechanism error code causing this exception to be thrown.
minorString	The textual explanation of the mechanism error code.

[6.8.3.](#) **getMajor**

```
public int getMajor()
```

Returns the major code representing the GSS error code that caused this exception to be thrown.

[6.8.4.](#) **getMinor**

```
public int getMinor()
```

Returns the mechanism error code that caused this exception. The minor code is set by the underlying mechanism. Value of 0 indicates that mechanism error code is not set.

[6.8.5.](#) **getMajorString**

```
public String getMajorString()
```

Returns a string explaining the GSS major error code causing this exception to be thrown.

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6.8.6. getMinorString

```
public String getMinorString()
```

Returns a string explaining the mechanism specific error code. An empty string will be returned when no mechanism error code has been set.

6.8.7. setMinor

```
public void setMinor(int minorCode, String message)
```

Used internally by the GSS-API implementation and the underlying mechanisms to set the minor code and its textual representation.

Parameters:

minorCode The mechanism specific error code.

message A textual explanation of the mechanism error code.

6.8.8. toString

```
public String toString()
```

Returns a textual representation of both the major and minor status codes.

6.8.9. getMessage

```
public String getMessage()
```

Returns a detailed message of this exception. Overrides `Throwable.getMessage`. It is customary in Java to use this method to obtain exception information.

7. Acknowledgments

This proposed API leverages earlier work performed by the IETF's CAT WG as outlined in both [RFC 2078](#) and J. Wray's C-bindings draft for the GSS-API. Many conceptual definitions, implementation directions, and explanations have been included from the C-bindings draft.

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