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## Public Key Cryptography for Initial Authentication in Kerberos

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### **1. Abstract**

This document defines extensions (PKINIT) to the Kerberos protocol specification (RFC 1510bis [[1](#)]) to provide a method for using public key cryptography during initial authentication. The methods defined specify the ways in which preauthentication data fields and

error data fields in Kerberos messages are to be used to transport public key data.

## **2. Introduction**

The popularity of public key cryptography has produced a desire for its support in Kerberos [2]. The advantages provided by public key cryptography include simplified key management (from the Kerberos perspective) and the ability to leverage existing and developing public key certification infrastructures.

Public key cryptography can be integrated into Kerberos in a number of ways. One is to associate a key pair with each realm, which can then be used to facilitate cross-realm authentication; this is the topic of another draft proposal. Another way is to allow users with public key certificates to use them in initial authentication. This is the concern of the current document.

PKINIT utilizes ephemeral-ephemeral Diffie-Hellman keys in combination with DSA keys as the primary, required mechanism. Note that PKINIT supports the use of separate signature and encryption keys.

PKINIT enables access to Kerberos-secured services based on initial authentication utilizing public key cryptography. PKINIT utilizes standard public key signature and encryption data formats within the standard Kerberos messages. The basic mechanism is as follows: The user sends an AS-REQ message to the KDC as before, except that if that user is to use public key cryptography in the initial authentication step, his certificate and a signature accompany the initial request in the preauthentication fields. Upon receipt of this request, the KDC verifies the certificate and issues a ticket granting ticket (TGT) as before, except that the encPart from the AS-REP message carrying the TGT is now encrypted utilizing either a Diffie-Hellman derived key or the user's public key. This message is authenticated utilizing the public key signature of the KDC.

Note that PKINIT does not require the use of certificates. A KDC may store the public key of a principal as part of that principal's record. In this scenario, the KDC is the trusted party that vouches for the principal (as in a standard, non-cross realm, Kerberos environment). Thus, for any principal, the KDC may maintain a symmetric key, a public key, or both.

The PKINIT specification may also be used as a building block for other specifications. PKINIT may be utilized to establish inter-realm keys for the purposes of issuing cross-realm service tickets. It may also be used to issue anonymous Kerberos tickets using the Diffie-Hellman option. Efforts are under way to draft specifications for these two application protocols.

Additionally, the PKINIT specification may be used for direct peer to peer authentication without contacting a central KDC. This application of PKINIT is based on concepts introduced in [6, 7]. For direct client-to-server authentication, the client uses PKINIT to authenticate to the end server (instead of a central KDC), which then issues a ticket for itself. This approach has an advantage over TLS [5] in that the server does not need to save state (cache session keys). Furthermore, an additional benefit is that Kerberos tickets can facilitate delegation (see [6]).

### 3. Proposed Extensions

This section describes extensions to RFC 1510bis for supporting the use of public key cryptography in the initial request for a ticket granting ticket (TGT).

In summary, the following change to RFC 1510bis is proposed:

- \* Users may authenticate using either a public key pair or a conventional (symmetric) key. If public key cryptography is used, public key data is transported in preauthentication data fields to help establish identity. The user presents a public key certificate and obtains an ordinary TGT that may be used for subsequent authentication, with such authentication using only conventional cryptography.

[Section 3.1](#) provides definitions to help specify message formats. [Section 3.2](#) describes the extensions for the initial authentication method.

#### 3.1. Definitions

The extensions involve new preauthentication fields; we introduce the following preauthentication types:

PA-PK-AS-REQ	14
PA-PK-AS-REP	15

The extensions also involve new error types; we introduce the following types:

KDC_ERR_CLIENT_NOT_TRUSTED	62
KDC_ERR_KDC_NOT_TRUSTED	63
KDC_ERR_INVALID_SIG	64
KDC_ERR_KEY_TOO_WEAK	65
KDC_ERR_CERTIFICATE_MISMATCH	66
KDC_ERR_CANT_VERIFY_CERTIFICATE	70
KDC_ERR_INVALID_CERTIFICATE	71
KDC_ERR_REVOKED_CERTIFICATE	72
KDC_ERR_REVOCATION_STATUS_UNKNOWN	73
KDC_ERR_REVOCATION_STATUS_UNAVAILABLE	74
KDC_ERR_CLIENT_NAME_MISMATCH	75

We utilize the following typed data for errors:

TD-PKINIT-CMS-CERTIFICATES	101
TD-KRB-PRINCIPAL	102
TD-KRB-REALM	103
TD-TRUSTED-CERTIFIERS	104
TD-CERTIFICATE-INDEX	105

We utilize the following encryption types (which map directly to OIDs):

dsaWithSHA1-CmsOID	9
md5WithRSAEncryption-CmsOID	10
sha1WithRSAEncryption-CmsOID	11
rc2CBC-EnvOID	12
rsaEncryption-EnvOID (PKCS#1 v1.5)	13
rsaES-OAEP-ENV-OID (PKCS#1 v2.0)	14
des-ede3-cbc-Env-OID	15

These mappings are provided so that a client may send the appropriate encytypes in the AS-REQ message in order to indicate support for the corresponding OIDs (for performing PKINIT).

In many cases, PKINIT requires the encoding of the X.500 name of a certificate authority as a Realm. When such a name appears as a realm it will be represented using the "Other" form of the realm name as specified in the naming constraints section of RFC 1510bis. For a realm derived from an X.500 name, NAMETYPE will have the value X500-RFC2253. The full realm name will appear as follows:

```
<nametype> + ":" + <string>
```

where nametype is "X500-RFC2253" and string is the result of doing an [RFC2253](#) encoding of the distinguished name, i.e.

```
"X500-RFC2253:" + RFC2253Encode(DistinguishedName)
```

where DistinguishedName is an X.500 name, and RFC2253Encode is a function returning a readable UTF encoding of an X.500 name, as defined by [RFC 2253](#) [11] (part of LDAPv3 [15]).

To ensure that this encoding is unique, we add the following rule to those specified by [RFC 2253](#):

The order in which the attributes appear in the [RFC 2253](#) encoding MUST be the reverse of the order in the ASN.1 encoding of the X.500 name that appears in the public key certificate. The order of the relative distinguished names (RDNs), as well as the order of the AttributeTypeAndValues within each RDN, will be reversed. (This is despite the fact

that an RDN is defined as a SET of AttributeTypeAndValues, where an order is normally not important.)

Similarly, in cases where the KDC does not provide a specific policy-based mapping from the X.500 name or X.509 Version 3 SubjectAltName extension in the user's certificate to a Kerberos principal name, PKINIT requires the direct encoding of the X.500 name as a PrincipalName. In this case, the name-type of the principal name MUST be set to KRB\_NT-X500-PRINCIPAL. This new name type is defined in RFC 1510bis as:

```
KRB_NT_X500_PRINCIPAL    6
```

For this type, the name-string MUST be set as follows:

```
RFC2253Encode(DistinguishedName)
```

as described above. When this name type is used, the principal's realm MUST be set to the certificate authority's distinguished name using the X500-RFC2253 realm name format described earlier in this section.

RFC 1510bis specifies the ASN.1 structure for PrincipalName as follows:

```
PrincipalName ::= SEQUENCE {  
                    name-type[0]      INTEGER,  
                    name-string[1]    SEQUENCE OF GeneralString  
                }
```

The following rules relate to the the matching of PrincipalNames with regard to the PKI name constraints for CAs as laid out in [RFC 2459](#) [12]. In order to be regarded as a match (for permitted and excluded name trees), the following MUST be satisfied.

1. If the constraint is given as a user plus realm name, or as a client principal name plus realm name (as specified in RFC 1510bis), the realm name MUST be valid (see 2.a-d below) and the match MUST be exact, byte for byte.
2. If the constraint is given only as a realm name, matching depends on the type of the realm:
  - a. If the realm contains a colon (':') before any equal sign ('='), it is treated as a realm of type Other, and MUST match exactly, byte for byte.
  - b. Otherwise, if the realm name conforms to rules regarding the format of DNS names, it is considered a realm name of type Domain. The constraint may be given as a realm name 'FOO.BAR', which matches any PrincipalName within the realm 'FOO.BAR' but not those in subrealms such as 'CAR.FOO.BAR'. A constraint of the form '.FOO.BAR'

matches PrincipalNames in subrealms of the form 'CAR.FOO.BAR' but not the realm 'FOO.BAR' itself.

- c. Otherwise, the realm name is invalid and does not match under any conditions.

#### **3.1.1.1. Encryption and Key Formats**

In the exposition below, we use the terms public key and private key generically. It should be understood that the term "public key" may be used to refer to either a public encryption key or a signature verification key, and that the term "private key" may be used to refer to either a private decryption key or a signature generation key. The fact that these are logically distinct does not preclude the assignment of bitwise identical keys for RSA keys.

In the case of Diffie-Hellman, the key is produced from the agreed bit string as follows:

- \* Truncate the bit string to the appropriate length.
- \* Rectify parity in each byte (if necessary) to obtain the key.

For instance, in the case of a DES key, we take the first eight bytes of the bit stream, and then adjust the least significant bit of each byte to ensure that each byte has odd parity. Appropriate key constraints for each valid cryptosystem are given in RFC 1510bis.

#### **3.1.1.2. Algorithm Identifiers**

PKINIT does not define, but does permit, the algorithm identifiers listed below.

##### **3.1.2.1. Signature Algorithm Identifiers**

The following signature algorithm identifiers specified in [8] and in [12] are used with PKINIT:

id-dsa-with-sha1	(DSA with SHA1)
md5WithRSAEncryption	(RSA with MD5)
sha-1WithRSAEncryption	(RSA with SHA1)

##### **3.1.2.2 Diffie-Hellman Key Agreement Algorithm Identifier**

The following algorithm identifier shall be used within the SubjectPublicKeyInfo data structure: dhpublicnumber

This identifier and the associated algorithm parameters are specified in [RFC 2459](#) [12].

##### **3.1.2.3. Algorithm Identifiers for RSA Encryption**

These algorithm identifiers are used inside the EnvelopedData data structure, for encrypting the temporary key with a public key:

```
rsaEncryption (RSA encryption, PKCS#1 v1.5)
id-RSAES-OAEP (RSA encryption, PKCS#1 v2.0)
```

Both of the above RSA encryption schemes are specified in [13]. Currently, only PKCS#1 v1.5 is specified by CMS [8], although the CMS specification says that it will likely include PKCS#1 v2.0 in the future. (PKCS#1 v2.0 addresses adaptive chosen ciphertext vulnerability discovered in PKCS#1 v1.5.)

#### **3.1.2.4. Algorithm Identifiers for Encryption with Secret Keys**

These algorithm identifiers are used inside the EnvelopedData data structure in the PKINIT Reply, for encrypting the reply key with the temporary key:

```
des-ede3-cbc (3-key 3-DES, CBC mode)
rc2-cbc      (RC2, CBC mode)
```

The full definition of the above algorithm identifiers and their corresponding parameters (an IV for block chaining) is provided in the CMS specification [8].

### **3.2. Public Key Authentication**

Implementation of the changes in this section is REQUIRED for compliance with PKINIT.

#### **3.2.1. Client Request**

Public keys may be signed by some certification authority (CA), or they may be maintained by the KDC in which case the KDC is the trusted authority. Note that the latter mode does not require the use of certificates.

The initial authentication request is sent as per RFC 1510bis, except that a preauthentication field containing data signed by the user's private key accompanies the request:

```
PA-PK-AS-REQ ::= SEQUENCE {
    -- PA TYPE 14
    signedAuthPack    [0] SignedData
                        -- Defined in CMS [8];
                        -- AuthPack (below) defines the
                        -- data that is signed.
    trustedCertifiers [1] SEQUENCE OF TrustedCas OPTIONAL,
                        -- This is a list of CAs that the
                        -- client trusts and that certify
                        -- KDCs.
    kdcCert           [2] IssuerAndSerialNumber OPTIONAL
```

```

-- As defined in CMS [8];
-- specifies a particular KDC
-- certificate if the client
-- already has it.
encryptionCert      [3] IssuerAndSerialNumber OPTIONAL
-- For example, this may be the
-- client's Diffie-Hellman
-- certificate, or it may be the
-- client's RSA encryption
-- certificate.
}

TrustedCas ::= CHOICE {
    principalName      [0] KerberosName,
-- as defined below
    caName              [1] Name
-- fully qualified X.500 name
-- as defined by X.509
    issuerAndSerial     [2] IssuerAndSerialNumber
-- Since a CA may have a number of
-- certificates, only one of which
-- a client trusts
}

```

#### Usage of SignedData:

The SignedData data type is specified in the Cryptographic Message Syntax, a product of the S/MIME working group of the IETF. The following describes how to fill in the fields of this data:

1. The encapContentInfo field MUST contain the PKAuthenticator and, optionally, the client's Diffie Hellman public value.
  - a. The eContentType field MUST contain the OID value for

pkauthdata: iso (1) org (3) dod (6) internet (1)  
security (5) kerberosv5 (2) pkinit (3) pkauthdata (1)
  - b. The eContent field is data of the type AuthPack (below).
2. The signerInfos field contains the signature of AuthPack.
3. The Certificates field, when non-empty, contains the client's certificate chain. If present, the KDC uses the public key from the client's certificate to verify the signature in the request. Note that the client may pass different certificate chains that are used for signing or for encrypting. Thus, the KDC may utilize a different client certificate for signature verification than the one it uses to encrypt the reply to the client. For example, the client may place a Diffie-Hellman certificate in this field in order to convey

its static Diffie Hellman certificate to the KDC to enable static-ephemeral Diffie-Hellman mode for the reply; in this case, the client does NOT place its public value in the AuthPack (defined below). As another example, the client may place an RSA encryption certificate in this field. However, there MUST always be (at least) a signature certificate.

4. When a DH key is being used, the public exponent is provided in the subjectPublicKey field of the SubjectPublicKeyInfo and the DH parameters are supplied as a DHParameter in the AlgorithmIdentifier parameters. The DH parameters SHOULD be chosen from the First and Second defined Oakley Groups [The Internet Key Exchange (IKE) [RFC-2409](#)], if a server will not accept either of these groups, it will respond with a krb-error of KDC\_ERR\_KEY\_TOO\_WEAK and the e\_data will contain a DHParameter with appropriate parameters for the client to use.
5. The KDC may wish to use cached Diffie-Hellman parameters (see [Section 3.2.2](#), KDC Response). To indicate acceptance of cached parameters, the client sends zero in the nonce field of the PKAuthenticator. Zero is not a valid value for this field under any other circumstances. If cached parameters are used, the client and the KDC MUST perform key derivation (for the appropriate cryptosystem) on the resulting encryption key, as specified in RFC 1510bis. (With a zero nonce, message binding is performed using the nonce in the main request, which must be encrypted using the encapsulated reply key.)

```
AuthPack ::= SEQUENCE {
    pkAuthenticator          [0] PKAuthenticator,
    clientPublicValue        [1] SubjectPublicKeyInfo OPTIONAL
                             -- if client is using Diffie-Hellman
                             -- (ephemeral-ephemeral only)
}

PKAuthenticator ::= SEQUENCE {
    cusec                   [0] INTEGER,
                             -- for replay prevention as in RFC 1510bis
    ctime                   [1] KerberosTime,
                             -- for replay prevention as in RFC 1510bis
    nonce                   [2] INTEGER,
                             -- zero only if client will accept
                             -- cached DH parameters from KDC;
                             -- must be non-zero otherwise
    pachecksum              [3] Checksum
                             -- Checksum over KDC-REQ-BODY
                             -- Defined by Kerberos spec
}

SubjectPublicKeyInfo ::= SEQUENCE {
```

```

    algorithm                AlgorithmIdentifier,
                             -- dhKeyAgreement
    subjectPublicKey          BIT STRING
                             -- for DH, equals
                             -- public exponent (INTEGER encoded
                             -- as payload of BIT STRING)
} -- as specified by the X.509 recommendation [7]

AlgorithmIdentifier ::= SEQUENCE {
    algorithm                OBJECT IDENTIFIER,
                             -- for dhKeyAgreement, this is
                             -- { iso (1) member-body (2) US (840)
                             -- rsadsi (113459) pkcs (1) 3 1 }
                             -- from PKCS #3 [17]
    parameters               ANY DEFINED by algorithm OPTIONAL
                             -- for dhKeyAgreement, this is
                             -- DHParameter
} -- as specified by the X.509 recommendation [7]

DHParameter ::= SEQUENCE {
    prime                    INTEGER,
                             -- p
    base                     INTEGER,
                             -- g
    privateValueLength       INTEGER OPTIONAL
                             -- 1
} -- as defined in PKCS #3 [17]

```

If the client passes an issuer and serial number in the request, the KDC is requested to use the referred-to certificate. If none exists, then the KDC returns an error of type KDC\_ERR\_CERTIFICATE\_MISMATCH. It also returns this error if, on the other hand, the client does not pass any trustedCertifiers, believing that it has the KDC's certificate, but the KDC has more than one certificate. The KDC should include information in the KRB-ERROR message that indicates the KDC certificate(s) that a client may utilize. This data is specified in the e-data, which is defined in RFC 1510bis revisions as a SEQUENCE of TypedData:

```

TypedData ::= SEQUENCE {
    data-type                [0] INTEGER,
    data-value               [1] OCTET STRING,
} -- per Kerberos RFC 1510bis

```

where:

data-type = TD-PKINIT-CMS-CERTIFICATES = 101

data-value = CertificateSet // as specified by CMS [8]

The PKAuthenticator carries information to foil replay attacks, to bind the pre-authentication data to the KDC-REQ-BODY, and to bind the request and response. The PKAuthenticator is signed with the client's

signature key.

### **3.2.2. KDC Response**

Upon receipt of the AS\_REQ with PA-PK-AS-REQ pre-authentication type, the KDC attempts to verify the user's certificate chain (userCert), if one is provided in the request. This is done by verifying the certification path against the KDC's policy of legitimate certifiers.

If the client's certificate chain contains no certificate signed by a CA trusted by the KDC, then the KDC sends back an error message of type KDC\_ERR\_CANT\_VERIFY\_CERTIFICATE. The accompanying e-data is a SEQUENCE of one TypedData (with type TD-TRUSTED-CERTIFIERS=104) whose data-value is an OCTET STRING which is the DER encoding of

```
TrustedCertifiers ::= SEQUENCE OF PrincipalName
-- X.500 name encoded as a principal name
-- see Section 3.1
```

If while verifying a certificate chain the KDC determines that the signature on one of the certificates in the CertificateSet from the signedAuthPack fails verification, then the KDC returns an error of type KDC\_ERR\_INVALID\_CERTIFICATE. The accompanying e-data is a SEQUENCE of one TypedData (with type TD-CERTIFICATE-INDEX=105) whose data-value is an OCTET STRING which is the DER encoding of the index into the CertificateSet ordered as sent by the client.

```
CertificateIndex ::= INTEGER
-- 0 = 1st certificate,
--      (in order of encoding)
-- 1 = 2nd certificate, etc
```

The KDC may also check whether any of the certificates in the client's chain has been revoked. If one of the certificates has been revoked, then the KDC returns an error of type KDC\_ERR\_REVOKED\_CERTIFICATE; if such a query reveals that the certificate's revocation status is unknown or not available, then if required by policy, the KDC returns the appropriate error of type KDC\_ERR\_REVOCATION\_STATUS\_UNKNOWN or KDC\_ERR\_REVOCATION\_STATUS\_UNAVAILABLE. In any of these three cases, the affected certificate is identified by the accompanying e-data, which contains a CertificateIndex as described for KDC\_ERR\_INVALID\_CERTIFICATE.

If the certificate chain can be verified, but the name of the client in the certificate does not match the client's name in the request, then the KDC returns an error of type KDC\_ERR\_CLIENT\_NAME\_MISMATCH. There is no accompanying e-data field in this case.

Even if all succeeds, the KDC may--for policy reasons--decide not to trust the client. In this case, the KDC returns an error message of type `KDC_ERR_CLIENT_NOT_TRUSTED`. One specific case of this is the presence or absence of an Enhanced Key Usage (EKU) OID within the certificate extensions. The rules regarding acceptability of an EKU sequence (or the absence of any sequence) are a matter of local policy. For the benefit of implementers, we define a PKINIT EKU OID as the following: iso (1) org (3) dod (6) internet (1) security (5) kerberosv5 (2) pkinit (3) pkekuoid (2).

If a trust relationship exists, the KDC then verifies the client's signature on AuthPack. If that fails, the KDC returns an error message of type `KDC_ERR_INVALID_SIG`. Otherwise, the KDC uses the timestamp (ctime and cusec) in the PKAuthenticator to assure that the request is not a replay. The KDC also verifies that its name is specified in the PKAuthenticator.

If the clientPublicValue field is filled in, indicating that the client wishes to use Diffie-Hellman key agreement, then the KDC checks to see that the parameters satisfy its policy. If they do not (e.g., the prime size is insufficient for the expected encryption type), then the KDC sends back an error message of type `KDC_ERR_KEY_TOO_WEAK`, with an e-data containing a structure of type `DHParameter` with appropriate DH parameters for the client to retry the request. Otherwise, it generates its own public and private values for the response.

The KDC also checks that the timestamp in the PKAuthenticator is within the allowable window and that the principal name and realm are correct. If the local (server) time and the client time in the authenticator differ by more than the allowable clock skew, then the KDC returns an error message of type `KRB_AP_ERR_SKEW` as defined in RFC 1510bis.

Assuming no errors, the KDC replies as per RFC 1510bis, except as follows. The user's name in the ticket is determined by the following decision algorithm:

1. If the KDC has a mapping from the name in the certificate to a Kerberos name, then use that name.  
Else
2. If the certificate contains the SubjectAltName extension and the local KDC policy defines a mapping from the SubjectAltName to a Kerberos name, then use that name.  
Else
3. Use the name as represented in the certificate, mapping as necessary (e.g., as per [RFC 2253](#) for X.500 names). In this case the realm in the ticket MUST be the name of the certifier that issued the user's certificate.

Note that a principal name may be carried in the `subjectAltName` field of a certificate. This name may be mapped to a principal record in a security database based on local policy, for example the `subjectAltName` may be `kerberos/principal@realm` format. In this case the realm name is not that of the CA but that of the local realm doing the mapping (or some realm name chosen by that realm).

If a non-KDC X.509 certificate contains the principal name within the `subjectAltName` version 3 extension, that name may utilize `KerberosName` as defined below, or, in the case of an S/MIME certificate [14], may utilize the email address. If the KDC is presented with an S/MIME certificate, then the email address within `subjectAltName` will be interpreted as a principal and realm separated by the "@" sign, or as a name that needs to be mapped according to local policy. If the resulting name does not correspond to a registered principal name, then the principal name is formed as defined in [section 3.1](#).

The `trustedCertifiers` field contains a list of certification authorities trusted by the client, in the case that the client does not possess the KDC's public key certificate. If the KDC has no certificate signed by any of the `trustedCertifiers`, then it returns an error of type `KDC_ERR_KDC_NOT_TRUSTED`.

KDCs should try to (in order of preference):

1. Use the KDC certificate identified by the `serialNumber` included in the client's request.
2. Use a certificate issued to the KDC by one of the client's `trustedCertifier(s)`;

If the KDC is unable to comply with any of these options, then the KDC returns an error message of type `KDC_ERR_KDC_NOT_TRUSTED` to the client.

The KDC encrypts the reply not with the user's long-term key, but with the Diffie Hellman derived key or a random key generated for this particular response which is carried in the `padata` field of the TGS-REP message.

```
PA-PK-AS-REP ::= CHOICE {
    -- PA TYPE 15
    dhSignedData      [0] SignedData,
    -- Defined in CMS and used only with
    -- Diffie-Hellman key exchange (if the
    -- client public value was present in the
    -- request).
    -- This choice MUST be supported
    -- by compliant implementations.
    encKeyPack        [1] EnvelopedData,
    -- Defined in CMS
    -- The temporary key is encrypted
```

```

-- using the client public key
-- key
-- SignedReplyKeyPack, encrypted
-- with the temporary key, is also
-- included.
}

```

#### Usage of SignedData:

When the Diffie-Hellman option is used, dhSignedData in PA-PK-AS-REP provides authenticated Diffie-Hellman parameters of the KDC. The reply key used to encrypt part of the KDC reply message is derived from the Diffie-Hellman exchange:

1. Both the KDC and the client calculate a secret value ( $g^{ab} \bmod p$ ), where  $a$  is the client's private exponent and  $b$  is the KDC's private exponent.
2. Both the KDC and the client take the first  $N$  bits of this secret value and convert it into a reply key.  $N$  depends on the reply key type.
  - a. For example, if the reply key is DES,  $N=64$  bits, where some of the bits are replaced with parity bits, according to FIPS PUB 74.
  - b. As another example, if the reply key is (3-key) 3-DES,  $N=192$  bits, where some of the bits are replaced with parity bits, according to FIPS PUB 74.
3. The encapContentInfo field MUST contain the KdcDHKeyInfo as defined below.
  - a. The eContentType field MUST contain the OID value for pkdhkeydata: iso (1) org (3) dod (6) internet (1) security (5) kerberosv5 (2) pkinit (3) pkdhkeydata (2)
  - b. The eContent field is data of the type KdcDHKeyInfo (below).
4. The certificates field MUST contain the certificates necessary for the client to establish trust in the KDC's certificate based on the list of trusted certifiers sent by the client in the PA-PK-AS-REQ. This field may be empty if the client did not send to the KDC a list of trusted certifiers (the trustedCertifiers field was empty, meaning that the client already possesses the KDC's certificate).
5. The signerInfos field is a SET that MUST contain at least one member, since it contains the actual signature.
6. If the client indicated acceptance of cached Diffie-Hellman

parameters from the KDC, and the KDC supports such an option (for performance reasons), the KDC should return a zero in the nonce field and include the expiration time of the parameters in the dhKeyExpiration field. If this time is exceeded, the client SHOULD NOT use the reply. If the time is absent, the client SHOULD NOT use the reply and MAY resubmit a request with a non-zero nonce (thus indicating non-acceptance of cached Diffie-Hellman parameters). As indicated above in [Section 3.2.1](#), Client Request, when the KDC uses cached parameters, the client and the KDC MUST perform key derivation (for the appropriate cryptosystem) on the resulting encryption key, as specified in RFC 1510bis.

```
KdcDHKeyInfo ::= SEQUENCE {
    -- used only when utilizing Diffie-Hellman
    subjectPublicKey    [0] BIT STRING,
    -- Equals public exponent (g^a mod p)
    -- INTEGER encoded as payload of
    -- BIT STRING
    nonce               [1] INTEGER,
    -- Binds response to the request
    -- Exception: Set to zero when KDC
    -- is using a cached DH value
    dhKeyExpiration     [2] KerberosTime OPTIONAL
    -- Expiration time for KDC's cached
    -- DH value
}
```

#### Usage of EnvelopedData:

The EnvelopedData data type is specified in the Cryptographic Message Syntax, a product of the S/MIME working group of the IETF. It contains a temporary key encrypted with the PKINIT client's public key. It also contains a signed and encrypted reply key.

1. The originatorInfo field is not required, since that information may be presented in the signedData structure that is encrypted within the encryptedContentInfo field.
2. The optional unprotectedAttrs field is not required for PKINIT.
3. The recipientInfos field is a SET which MUST contain exactly one member of the KeyTransRecipientInfo type for encryption with a public key.
  - a. The encryptedKey field (in KeyTransRecipientInfo) contains the temporary key which is encrypted with the PKINIT client's public key.

4. The encryptedContentInfo field contains the signed and encrypted reply key.
  - a. The contentType field MUST contain the OID value for id-signedData: iso (1) member-body (2) us (840) rsadsi (113549) pkcs (1) pkcs7 (7) signedData (2)
  - b. The encryptedContent field is encrypted data of the CMS type signedData as specified below.
    - i. The encapContentInfo field MUST contains the ReplyKeyPack.
      - \* The eContentType field MUST contain the OID value for pkrkeydata: iso (1) org (3) dod (6) internet (1) security (5) kerberosv5 (2) pkinit (3) pkrkeydata (3)
      - \* The eContent field is data of the type ReplyKeyPack (below).
    - ii. The certificates field MUST contain the certificates necessary for the client to establish trust in the KDC's certificate based on the list of trusted certifiers sent by the client in the PA-PK-AS-REQ. This field may be empty if the client did not send to the KDC a list of trusted certifiers (the trustedCertifiers field was empty, meaning that the client already possesses the KDC's certificate).
    - iii. The signerInfos field is a SET that MUST contain at least one member, since it contains the actual signature.

```

ReplyKeyPack ::= SEQUENCE {
    -- not used for Diffie-Hellman
    replyKey      [0] EncryptionKey,
    -- from RFC 1510bis
    -- used to encrypt main reply
    -- ENCTYPE is at least as strong as
    -- ENCTYPE of session key
    nonce        [1] INTEGER,
    -- binds response to the request
    -- must be same as the nonce
    -- passed in the PKAuthenticator
}

```

#### **3.2.2.1. Use of transited Field**

Since each certifier in the certification path of a user's certificate is equivalent to a separate Kerberos realm, the name of each certifier in the certificate chain MUST be added to the

transited field of the ticket. The format of these realm names is defined in [Section 3.1](#) of this document. If applicable, the transit-policy-checked flag should be set in the issued ticket.

#### **[3.2.2.2. Kerberos Names in Certificates](#)**

The KDC's certificate(s) MUST bind the public key(s) of the KDC to a name derivable from the name of the realm for that KDC. X.509 certificates MUST contain the principal name of the KDC (defined in RFC 1510bis) as the SubjectAltName version 3 extension. Below is the definition of this version 3 extension, as specified by the X.509 standard:

```
subjectAltName EXTENSION ::= {
    SYNTAX GeneralNames
    IDENTIFIED BY id-ce-subjectAltName
}

GeneralNames ::= SEQUENCE SIZE(1..MAX) OF GeneralName

GeneralName ::= CHOICE {
    otherName          [0] OtherName,
    ...
}

OtherName ::= SEQUENCE {
    type-id            OBJECT IDENTIFIER,
    value              [0] EXPLICIT ANY DEFINED BY type-id
}
```

For the purpose of specifying a Kerberos principal name, the value in OtherName MUST be a KerberosName as defined in RFC 1510bis:

```
KerberosName ::= SEQUENCE {
    realm              [0] Realm,
    principalName      [1] PrincipalName
}
```

This specific syntax is identified within subjectAltName by setting the type-id in OtherName to krb5PrincipalName, where (from the Kerberos specification) we have

```
krb5 OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::= { iso (1)
                                org (3)
                                dod (6)
                                internet (1)
                                security (5)
                                kerberosv5 (2) }

krb5PrincipalName OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::= { krb5 2 }
```

(This specification may also be used to specify a Kerberos name within the user's certificate.) The KDC's certificate may be signed directly by a CA, or there may be intermediaries if the server resides within a large organization, or it may be unsigned if the client indicates possession (and trust) of the KDC's certificate.

Note that the KDC's principal name has the instance equal to the realm, and those fields should be appropriately set in the realm and principalName fields of the KerberosName. This is the case even when obtaining a cross-realm ticket using PKINIT.

### **3.2.3. Client Extraction of Reply**

The client then extracts the random key used to encrypt the main reply. This random key (in encPaReply) is encrypted with either the client's public key or with a key derived from the DH values exchanged between the client and the KDC. The client uses this random key to decrypt the main reply, and subsequently proceeds as described in RFC 1510bis.

### **3.2.4. Required Algorithms**

Not all of the algorithms in the PKINIT protocol specification have to be implemented in order to comply with the proposed standard. Below is a list of the required algorithms:

- \* Diffie-Hellman public/private key pairs
  - \* utilizing Diffie-Hellman ephemeral-ephemeral mode
- \* SHA1 digest and DSA for signatures
- \* SHA1 digest also for the Checksum in the PKAuthenticator
- \* 3-key triple DES keys derived from the Diffie-Hellman Exchange
- \* 3-key triple DES Temporary and Reply keys

## **4. Logistics and Policy**

This section describes a way to define the policy on the use of PKINIT for each principal and request.

The KDC is not required to contain a database record for users who use public key authentication. However, if these users are registered with the KDC, it is recommended that the database record for these users be modified to an additional flag in the attributes field to indicate that the user should authenticate using PKINIT. If this flag is set and a request message does not contain the PKINIT preauthentication field, then the KDC sends back as error of type KDC\_ERR\_PREAUTH\_REQUIRED indicating that a preauthentication field of type PA-PK-AS-REQ must be included in the request.

## **5. Security Considerations**

PKINIT raises a few security considerations, which we will address

in this section.

First of all, PKINIT introduces a new trust model, where KDCs do not (necessarily) certify the identity of those for whom they issue tickets. PKINIT does allow KDCs to act as their own CAs, in the limited capacity of self-signing their certificates, but one of the additional benefits is to align Kerberos authentication with a global public key infrastructure. Anyone using PKINIT in this way must be aware of how the certification infrastructure they are linking to works.

Also, PKINIT introduces the possibility of interactions between different cryptosystems, which may be of widely varying strengths. Many systems, for instance, allow the use of 512-bit public keys. Using such keys to wrap data encrypted under strong conventional cryptosystems, such as triple-DES, is inappropriate; it adds a weak link to a strong one at extra cost. Implementors and administrators should take care to avoid such wasteful and deceptive interactions.

Care should be taken in how certificates are chosen for the purposes of authentication using PKINIT. Some local policies require that key escrow be applied for certain certificate types. People deploying PKINIT should be aware of the implications of using certificates that have escrowed keys for the purposes of authentication.

As described in [Section 3.2](#), PKINIT allows for the caching of the Diffie-Hellman parameters on the KDC side, for performance reasons. For similar reasons, the signed data in this case does not vary from message to message, until the cached parameters expire. Because of the persistence of these parameters, the client and the KDC are to use the appropriate key derivation measures (as described in RFC 1510bis) when using cached DH parameters.

Lastly, PKINIT calls for randomly generated keys for conventional cryptosystems. Many such systems contain systematically "weak" keys. PKINIT implementations MUST avoid use of these keys, either by discarding those keys when they are generated, or by fixing them in some way (e.g., by XORing them with a given mask). These precautions vary from system to system; it is not our intention to give an explicit recipe for them here.

## **6. Transport Issues**

Certificate chains can potentially grow quite large and span several UDP packets; this in turn increases the probability that a Kerberos message involving PKINIT extensions will be broken in transit. In light of the possibility that the Kerberos specification will require KDCs to accept requests using TCP as a transport mechanism, we make the same recommendation with respect to the PKINIT extensions as well.

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## **8. Acknowledgements**

Some of the ideas on which this proposal is based arose during discussions over several years between members of the SAAG, the IETF CAT working group, and the PSRG, regarding integration of Kerberos and SPX. Some ideas have also been drawn from the DASS system. These changes are by no means endorsed by these groups. This is an attempt to revive some of the goals of those groups, and this proposal approaches those goals primarily from the Kerberos perspective. Lastly, comments from groups working on similar ideas in DCE have been invaluable.

## **9. Expiration Date**

This draft expires January 15, 2002.

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