

Multiple Public-Key Algorithm X.509 Certificates

draft-truskovsky-lamps-pq-hybrid-x509-00

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Motivation

- It will take several years to evaluate and select post-quantum algorithms
- Critical infrastructure will need to migrate to PQ algorithms in a short time-frame
- Non-upgraded legacy systems and clients will need to remain supported
- Algorithms used for key establishment are typically negotiated between peers and are easier to migrate
- Algorithms used for authentication are harder to migrate:
 - Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) often supports a variety of systems
 - X.509 certificate chain can only support a single algorithm in each certificate
- Make PKI more crypto agile to ensure a smoother migration
- Allow for a two-signature hybrid solution

Overview

- Supports multiple public key algorithms in each certificate of a certificate chain
- Upgraded systems with PQ algorithm support enabled can use PQ algorithms
- Non-upgraded legacy systems are able to continue using classic algorithms without any modification to them
- Alt signature algorithm, alt signature value and subject alt public key are placed in non-critical extensions
- Signatures are layered in such a way that all certificate attributes are covered by both signatures
- Classic signature is applied last, which makes the resulting certificates compatible with existing unmodified systems

X.509 Certificate:

Data:

Version: 3 (0x2)

Serial Number: 4097 (0x1001)

Signature Algorithm: ecdsa-with-SHA256

Issuer: C=US, ST=CA, O=Test, CN=ECDSA-HSS-Hybrid-Test
[... omitted for brevity ...]

Subject Public Key Info:

Public Key Algorithm: id-ecPublicKey
[... omitted for brevity ...]

X509v3 extensions:

X509v3 Basic Constraints:
CA:FALSE
[... omitted for brevity ...]

Alt Signature Algorithm:

hss-with-SHA512

Subject Alt Public Key Info:

Leighton-Micali Hierarchical Signature System

Public Key:

00:00:00: [... omitted for brevity ...]

Winternitz Value: 8 (0x00000004)

Tree Height: 25 (0x00000009)

Alt Signature Value:

Signature:

30:82:0a:74: [... omitted for brevity ...]

Signature Algorithm: ecdsa-with-SHA256

30:45:02:21:[... omitted for brevity ...]

