CBOR Web Token (CWT) Claims in COSE Headers

draft-looker-cose-cwt-claims-in-headers

Tobias Looker & Mike Jones
IETF 113, Vienna
March 21, 2022
The CBOR Web Token [RFC 8392] establishes a registry of useful claims for developing interoperable security tokens.

In some cases, it is useful to be able to express some of these claims in the headers of a COSE structure instead of just in the payload. Examples include:
- Encrypted CWTs
- COSE structures using detached signatures

Section 5.3 of JWT [RFC 7519] defined a mechanism for expressing JWT claims in JOSE headers.
- That the equivalent capability was not included in CWT is an oversight this draft intends to rectify.
The draft requests the registration of one new COSE header parameter (of type map) that defines a location and mechanism for expressing CWT claims in a COSE header.

The CWT claims must be namespaced within a new COSE header parameter because there are conflicts between the numeric header parameter assignments and the numeric CWT claim assignments.
Next Steps

- The authors request working group review of the document.
- Following addressing working group review comments, we plan to request working group adoption.