

Guidelines for EDHOC Implementations

(possible new work?)

Marco Tiloca, RISE

IETF 115 Meeting – London – November 8th, 2022

Motivation

- › **As the EDHOC protocol was developed, a number of side topics came up**
 - While reviewing and especially when implementing *draft-ietf-lake-edhoc*[1]
- › **These were rightly considered out of scope for EDHOC itself**
 - Not discussed in *draft-ietf-lake-edhoc*, which rightly focuses on the actual protocol
- › **Practically, implementors have to deal with those**
 - When building an application using EDHOC or an “EDHOC library”
- › **Related implementation guidelines would be helpful**

Relevant topics (1/3)

› Most likely, only the application is aware of all of these:

- The ongoing and completed EDHOC sessions
- The authentication credentials of other EDHOC peers
- The application keys established with other peers from EDHOC (e.g., an OSCORE Security Context)

› When to invalidate a completed EDHOC session? What does this trigger?

- E.g., when learning that the other peer's certificate has been revoked
- Purge the EDHOC session, then purge the application keys derived from it



› What to do when application keys become invalid?

- E.g., they have reached their expiration or their key usage limit, see [2]
- Re-run EDHOC? Or update the application keys only, e.g., with KUDOS [2] ?
- What if EDHOC PRK_out is not persisted yet?
- What if the EDHOC session is bound to a token for access control? [3]



[2] <https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/draft-ietf-core-oscore-key-update/>

[3] <https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/draft-selander-ace-edhoc-oscore-profile/>

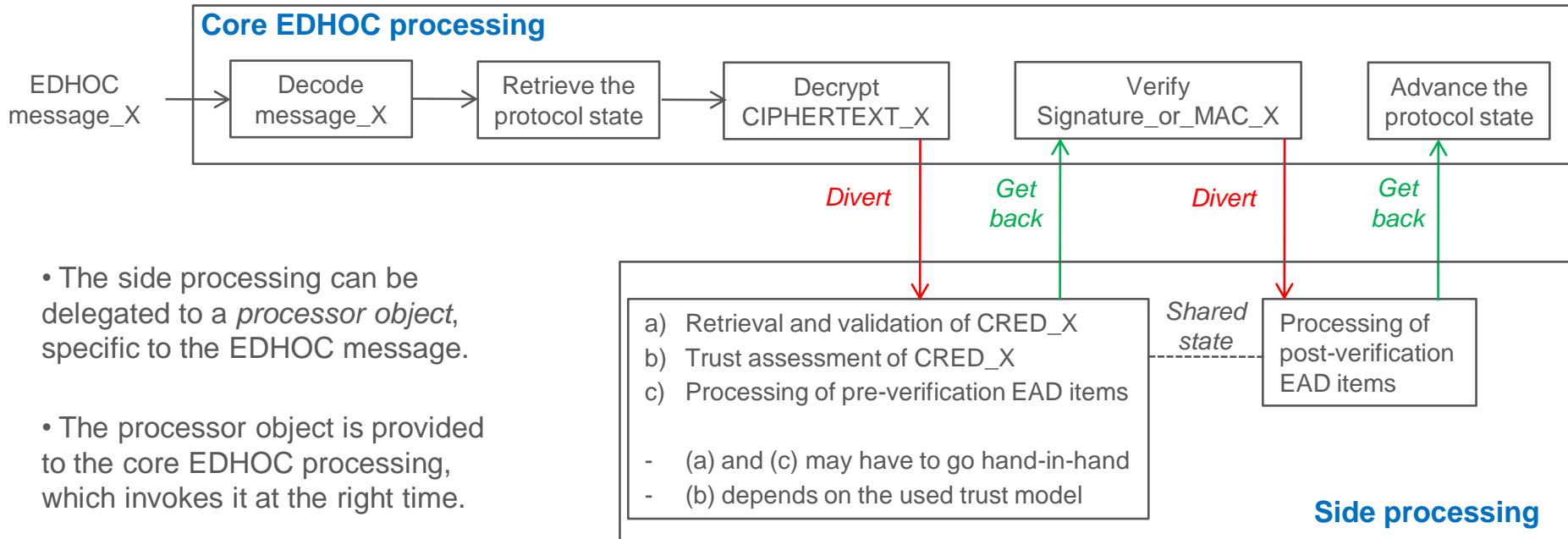
Relevant topics (2/3)

- › **If already stored, an authentication credential CRED_X is also trusted**
 - It is also valid, until its expiration or until a revocation notice says otherwise
- › **Should you trust a new CRED_X while running EDHOC?**
 - Typically, the new CRED_X is transported by value in ID_CRED_X
- › **Trust Model 1 – Never trust a new CRED_X**
 - Authentication credentials to use have to be pre-installed by a trusted party
 - ID_CRED_X has to point to an already stored CRED_X
- › **Trust Model 2 – Trust and store new CRED_X only if:**
 - It is valid AND a compatible, trusted identifier is already stored
 - E.g., ID_CRED_X conveys a certificate by value, and its hash is already stored
- › **Trust Model 3 – Trust and store a new CRED_X as long as it is valid (TOFU)**



Relevant topics (3/3)

- › The processing of (especially) EDHOC message_2 and message_3 is not linear
 - A big part of it does not pertain to the core EDHOC processing and has several possible incarnations
 - Yet, it is something crucial to implement for an application using EDHOC or in an “EDHOC library”



Summary and next steps

- › **Guidelines for EDHOC implementations would be helpful on:**
 - Handling of EDHOC sessions become invalid
 - Handling of application keys derived from EDHOC and become invalid
 - Enforcing of different trust models for learning new authentication credentials on-the-fly
 - Branched, side-processing of EDHOC messages
 - › Fetching and validation of authentication credentials
 - › Processing of EAD items, that may play a role in validating authentication credentials

- › **Plan to write an Informational Internet Draft for the LAKE WG to consider**

- › **Is this in scope and appropriate? Any further aspects worth covering?**

Thank you!