

Updates to X.509 Policy Validation

draft-davidben-x509-policy-graph

**I DON'T ALWAYS
UPDATE DOCUMENTS**

**BUT WHEN I DO,
I UPDATE RFC 5280**

X.509 policy validation


Certificate policies (RFC 5280, section 4.2.1.4)

Policies asserted by the certificate, act as constraints in CAs

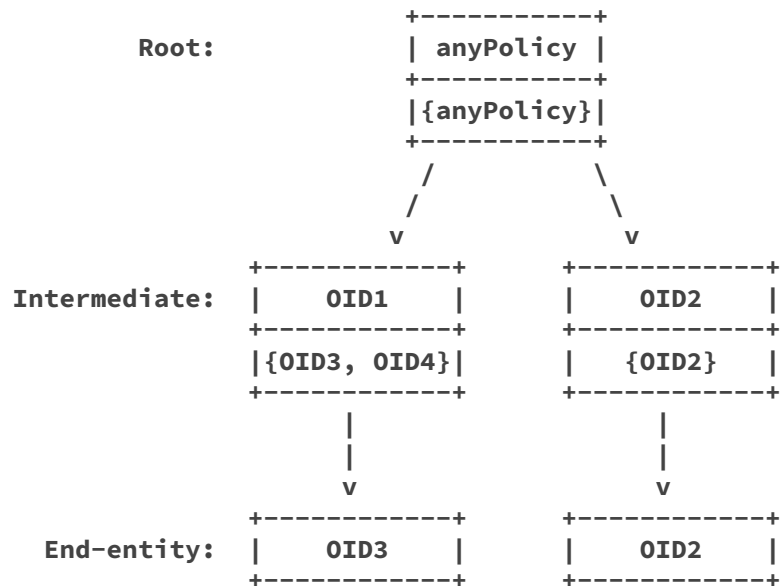
Policy mappings (RFC 5280, section 4.2.1.5)

Allows CAs to *rename* policy OIDs down the chain

(Other complexity omitted here. anyPolicy, user-initial-policy-set, inhibit anyPolicy, inhibit mappings, require explicit policy, ...)



Policy trees



Intermediate

certificate policies: OID1, OID2, OID5

policy mappings: $\text{OID1} \mapsto \text{OID3}$, $\text{OID1} \mapsto \text{OID4}$

End-entity

certificate policies: OID2, OID3, OID6

Follow this very simple algorithm...

- (a) valid_policy_tree: A tree of certificate policies with their optional qualifiers; each of the leaves of the tree represents a valid policy at this stage in the certification path validation. If valid policies exist at this stage in the certification path validation, then
- (d) If the certificate policies

equal to
been pro
in the c
NULL. O
ceases.

(d) `explicit_policy`: an in
valid `policy_tree` is re
number of non-self-issu
this requirement is imp
decreased, but may not

certificate and the valid_p
the policy information by p
order:

(1) For each policy P not eq
certificate policies ext
for policy B and P-0 den

- (d) explicit_policy: an invalid_policy_tree is renumbered of non-self-issued this requirement is imp decreased, but may not certificate in the path valid_policy_tree, is a requirement. If initial value is 0, other

the policy information by p order:

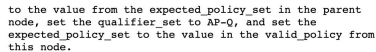
 - (1) For each policy P not certificate policies ext for policy P and P-Q den P. Perform the following
 - (i) For each node of dep where AND is not

- (d) If the certificate policies certificate and the valid_p the policy information by p order:

- (1) For each policy P not equal to the certificate policies extension for policy P and $P-Q$ denote P . Perform the following:

- (i) For each node of dep where P-OID is in the child node as follows: set the `qualifier_set` to `expected_policy_set {P-OID}`.

For example, consider of depth $i-1$ where t White}. Assume the Silver appear in the certificate i . The Silver policy is not node of depth i for shown as Figure 4.



For example, consider a valid policy tree with a node of depth $i-1$ where the expected_policy_set is {Gold, Silver}. Assume anyPolicy appears in the certificate policies extension of certificate i with no policy qualifiers, but Gold and Silver do not appear. This rule will generate two child nodes of depth i , one for each policy. The result is shown below as Figure 6.

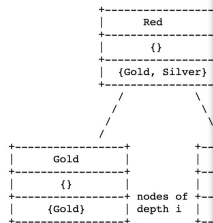


Figure 6. Processing Unmatched Policy Certificate Policies Extension Spec

- (3) If there is a node in the valid_pol or less without any child nodes, do this step until there are no nodes without children.

For example, consider the valid polynomial shown in Figure 7 below. The two nodes at depth $i-1$ marked with an 'X' have no children. Applying this rule to the resulting tree produces a node at depth $i-2$ that is marked with an 'X'. In the resulting tree, there are no nodes at depth $i-1$ less without children, and this step is complete.

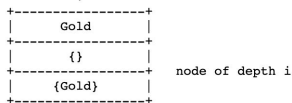


Figure 4. Processing an Exact Match

- (e) If the certificate policies extension is not present, set the valid policy tree to NULL.

- (f) Verify that either `explicit_policy` is greater than 0 or the valid policy tree is not equal to `NULL`;

If any of steps (a), (b), (c), or (f) fails, the procedure terminates, returning a failure indication and an appropriate reason.

If i is not equal to n , continue by performing the preparatory steps listed in [Section 6.1.4](#). If i is equal to n , perform the wrap-up steps listed in [Section 6.1.5](#).

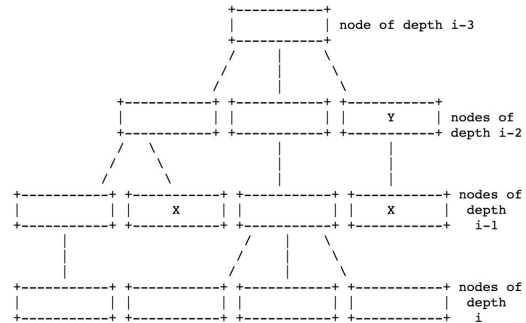


Figure 7. Pruning the valid policy tree

6.1.4. Preparation for Certificate i+1

Figure 5. Processing Unmatched Policies when a Leaf Node Specifies anyPolicy

- (2) If the certificate policies extension includes the policy anyPolicy with the qualifier set AP-Q and either (a) inhibit_anyPolicy is greater than 0 or (b) i<n and the certificate is self-issued, then:

For each node in the `valid_policy_tree` of depth `i-1`, for each value in the `expected_policy_set` (including `anyPolicy`) that does not appear in a child node, create a child node with the following values: set the `valid policy`

...continued

6.1.4. Preparation for Certificate

To prepare for processing the following steps for certificate

- (a) If a policy mapping special value anyPolicy is present in the issuerDomainPolicy, set the explicit_policy to 0.
- (b) If a policy mapping issuerDomainPolicy is present in the user-initial-policy-set, set the explicit_policy to 0.

Cooper, et al.

Standards Track

RFC 5280

PKIX Certificate and CRL Profile

- (1) If the policy_mapping is present in the valid_policy, set the explicit_policy to the value of the policy_mapping. If no node of depth n-1 or less without any child nodes, delete that node. Repeat this step until depth i-1 or less without any child nodes.

- (i) set the valid_policy to the value of the policy_mapping.

- (ii) set the qualifier_set to the value of the policy_mapping.

- (iii) set the expected_policy_set to the value of the policy_mapping.

- (2) If the policy_mapping is present in the user-initial-policy-set, set the explicit_policy to 0.

- (i) delete each node of depth n-1 or less without any child nodes.

- (ii) If there is a node in the valid_policy_tree of depth n-1 or less without any child nodes, delete that node. Repeat this step until depth i-1 or less without any child nodes.

- (h) If certificate i is not self-issued:

- (1) If explicit_policy is not 0, decrement explicit_policy by 1.

- (2) If policy_mapping is not 0, decrement policy_mapping by 1.

- (3) If inhibit_anyPolicy is not 0, decrement inhibit_anyPolicy by 1.

- (i) If a policy constraints extension is included in the certificate, modify the explicit_policy and policy_mapping state variables as follows:

- (1) If requireExplicitPolicy is present and is not 0, set explicit_policy to the value of requireExplicitPolicy.

- (2) If inhibitPolicyMapping is present and is not 0, set policy_mapping to the value of inhibitPolicyMapping.

Cooper, et al.

Standards Track

RFC 5280

PKIX Certificate and CRL Profile

- (j) If the inhibitAnyPolicy extension is included in the certificate and is less than inhibit anyPolicy, set inhibit anyPolicy to the value of the inhibitAnyPolicy extension.

- (a) If explicit_policy is not 0, decrement explicit_policy by 1.

- (b) If a policy constraints extension is included in the certificate and requireExplicitPolicy is present and has a value of 0, set the explicit_policy state variable to 0.

- (g) Calculate the intersection of the valid_policy_tree and the user-initial-policy-set, as follows:

- (i) If the valid_policy_tree is NULL, the intersection is NULL.

- (ii) If the valid_policy_tree is not NULL and the user-initial-policy-set is any-policy, the intersection is the entire valid_policy_tree.

- (iii) If the valid_policy_tree is not NULL and the user-initial-policy-set is not any-policy, calculate the intersection of the valid_policy_tree and the user-initial-policy-set as follows:

- 1. Determine the intersection of the valid_policy_tree and the user-initial-policy-set.
- 2. If the valid_policy_tree is not NULL and the user-initial-policy-set is not any-policy, calculate the intersection of the valid_policy_tree and the user-initial-policy-set as follows:

- 3. If the valid_policy_tree includes a node of depth n with the valid_policy anyPolicy and the user-initial-policy-set is not any-policy, perform the following steps:

- a. Set P-Q to the qualifier_set in the node of depth n with valid_policy anyPolicy.
- b. For each P-OID in the user-initial-policy-set that is not the valid_policy of a node in the valid_policy_node_set, create a child node whose parent is the node of depth n-1 with the valid_policy anyPolicy. Set the values in the child node as follows: set the valid_policy to P-OID, set the qualifier_set to P-Q, and set the expected_policy_set to {P-OID}.
- c. Delete the node of depth n with the valid_policy anyPolicy.

- 4. If there is a node in the valid_policy_tree of depth n-1 or less without any child nodes, delete that node. Repeat this step until there are no nodes of depth n-1 or less without children.

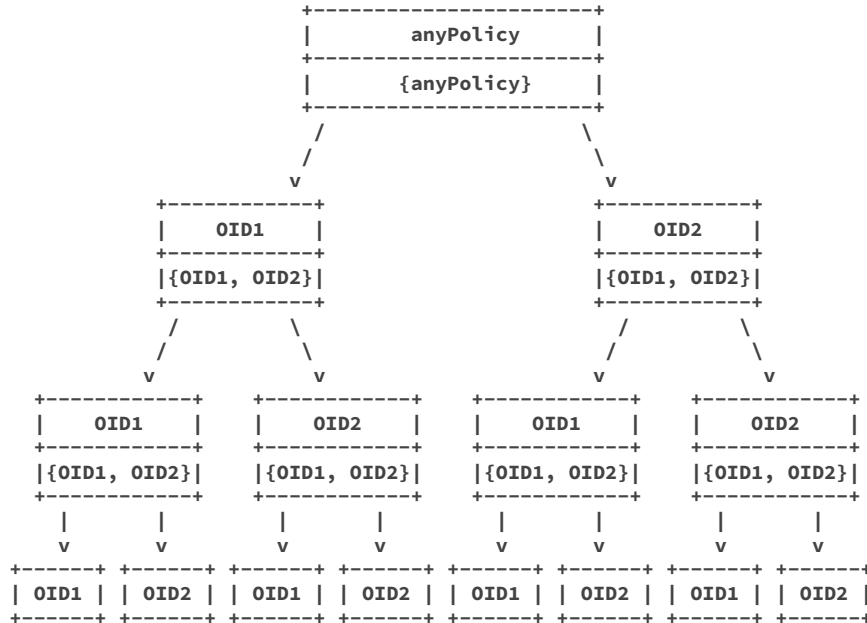
If either (1) the value of explicit_policy variable is greater than zero or (2) the valid_policy_tree is not NULL, then path processing has succeeded.

Duplicate nodes

- (1) **For each policy P** not equal to anyPolicy **in the certificate policies extension**, let P-OID denote the OID for policy P and P-Q denote the qualifier set for policy P. Perform the following steps in order:
 - (i) **For each node of depth i-1 in the valid_policy_tree** where P-OID is in the expected_policy_set, **create a child node** as follows: set the valid_policy to P-OID, set the qualifier_set to P-Q, and set the expected_policy_set to {P-OID}.



X.509 policy trees grow exponentially



Certificate policies

OID1, OID2

Policy mappings

OID1 \mapsto OID1, OID1 \mapsto OID2,

OID2 \mapsto OID1, OID2 \mapsto OID2

Repeat

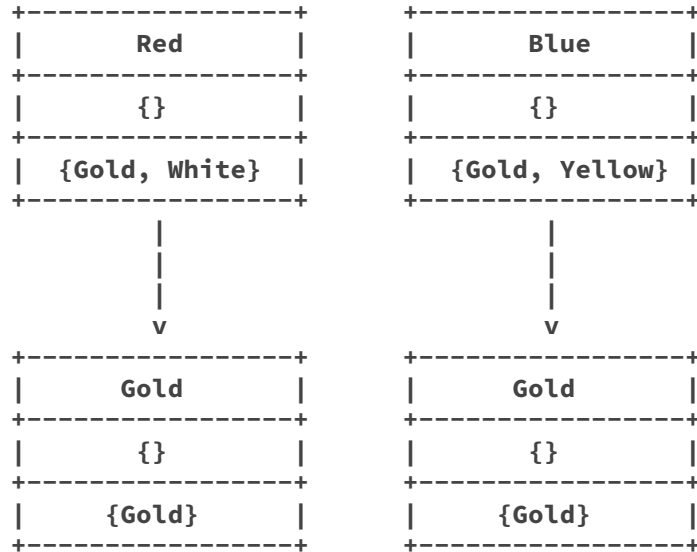
Denial of service vulnerability

Hosting providers may evaluate untrusted PKIs

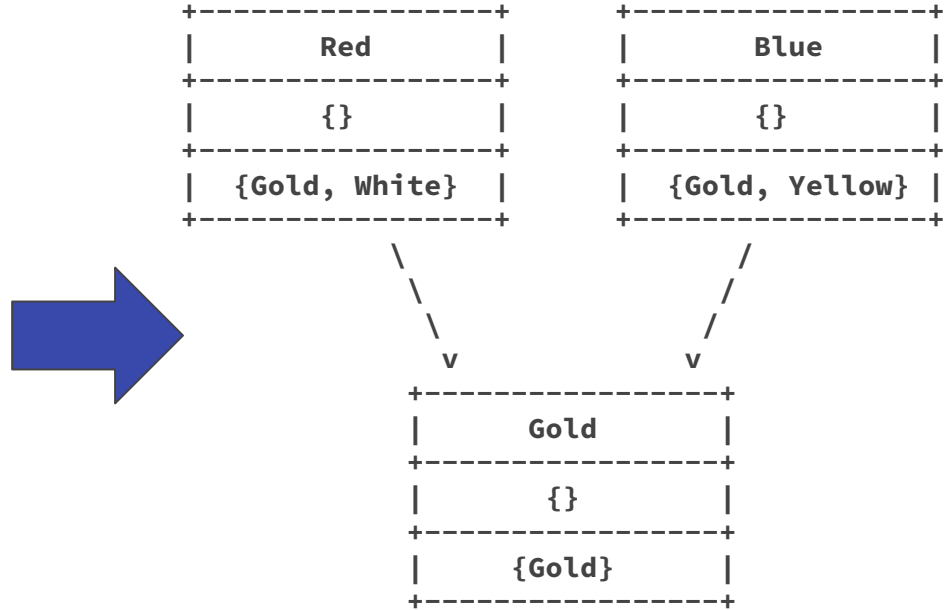
A trusted CA may issue a constrained intermediate to an untrusted party



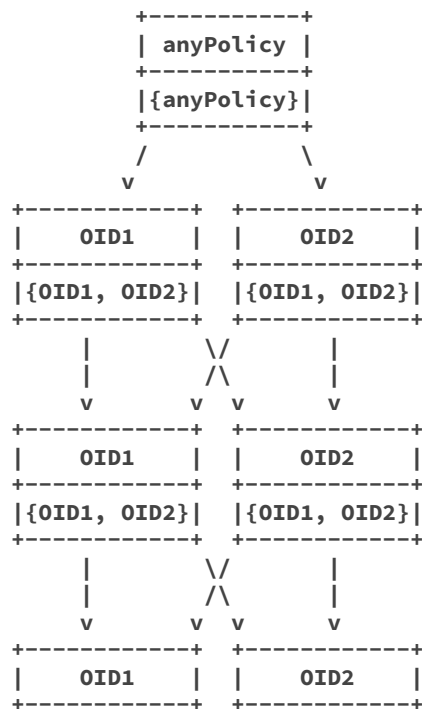
Tree



Directed acyclic graph



Policy graphs grow linearly



Certificate policies

OID1, OID2

Policy mappings

OID1 \mapsto OID1, OID1 \mapsto OID2,

OID2 \mapsto OID1, OID2 \mapsto OID2

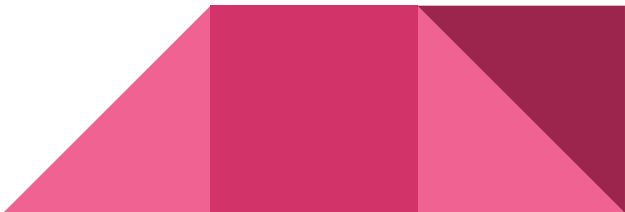
Repeat

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Updates RFC 5280 with the new algorithm

Updates verification output

Discusses other mitigations

- Limit certificate depth
 - Limit policy tree size
 - Inhibit policy mapping
 - Disable policy checking
 - Verify signatures first (partial mitigation only)
- 

Questions?

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