

# WIMSE SERVICE TO SERVICE PROTOCOL

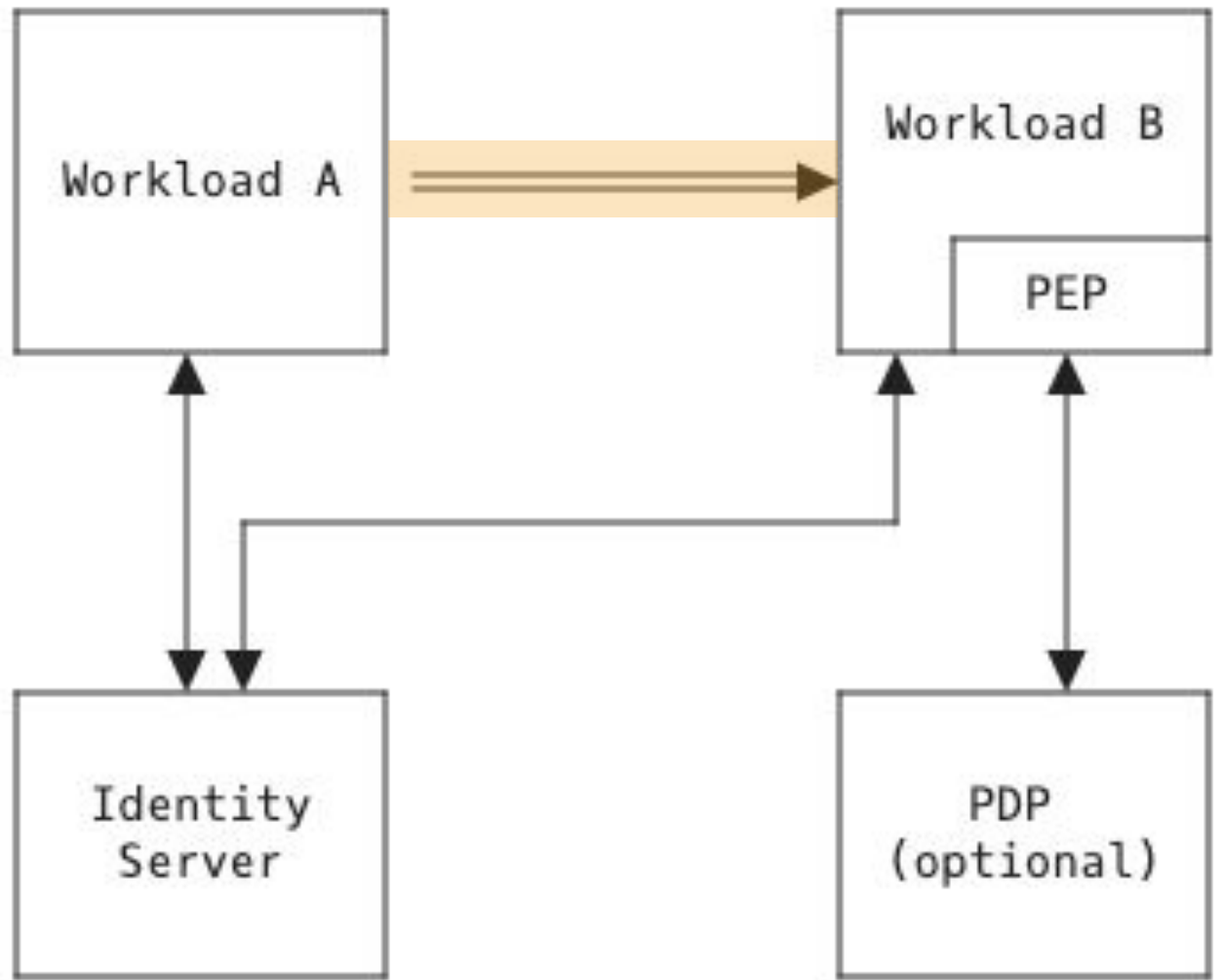
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draft-sheffer-wimse-s2s-protocol-00

<https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/draft-sheffer-wimse-s2s-protocol/>

WHERE WE ARE IN THE  
WIMSE ARCHITECTURE





WHERE WE ARE NOT  
THE WIMSE  
ARCHITECTURE

- Conveying the call chain or stack or full context of invocation via a directed hopefully acyclic graph
- Cross domain
  - JWT Profile for OAuth [...] Authorization Grants (RFC7523)
  - OAuth Identity and Authorization Chaining Across Domains (draft-ietf-oauth-identity-chaining)
  - Whatever some huge providers insist on calling OpenID Connect
  - Whatever WIMSE might be doing with Token Exchange
- Conveying **anything** about the external authentication/authorization context of the call (but allow for checking the integrity thereof)
  - Transaction Tokens (draft-ietf-oauth-transaction-tokens)
  - OAuth bearer token (original or exchanged) or BYO token thing
- Distributing or provisioning anything to these workloads

# OPTIONS

*Transport-Level*

MTLS

*Application-Level*

WIMSE Identity Token (WIT)

DPoP-Inspired

HTTP Message Signatures

*Choose One!*

# WIMSE IDENTITY

~~Universal~~ Uniform Resource Identifiers

⇒ Architecture draft, architecture slides

## WIMSE IDENTITY TOKEN (WIT)

```
{
  "alg": "ES256",
  "typ": "wimse-id+jwt",
  "kid": "July 4"
}
.
{
  "iss": "wimse://example.com/trusted-central-authority",
  "sub": "wimse://example.com/specific-workload",
  "exp": 1717612470,
  "jti": "x-_1CTL2cca3CSE4cwb__",
  "cnf": {
    "jwk": {
      "kty": "OKP",
      "crv": "Ed25519",
      "x": "_amRC3YrYbHhH1RtYrL8cS..."
    }
  }
}
.
[Signature]
```

- iss, sub, exp, jti and cnf claims are **required**.
- HTTP-Header “Workload-Identity-Token”. Not a Bearer token!
- Key binding via RFC 7800. (Self-contained via JWK in the confirmation claim)
- No audience
- Differs from JWT-SVID: added iss and cnf claims, removed aud claim

## DPOP-INSPIRED OPTION: WIMSE PROOF TOKEN (WPT)

```
{
  "alg": "EdDSA",
  "typ": "wimse-proof+jwt"
}
.
{
  "iss": "wimse://example.com/specific-workload",
  "aud": "https://service.example.com/path",
  "exp": 1717612820,
  "jti": "__bwc4ESC3acc2LTC1-_x",
  "ath": "CL4wjfpRmNf-bdYI...GwKYE10wUwzC0jI",
  "tth": "18_Ffsx-34tV3hRI...lpBhF42UQUfWVAW"
}
.
[Signature]
```

- Signature corresponds to key in 'cnf' of Workload Identity Token.
- optional 'ath', 'tth' and 'oth' hashes bind access-, transaction- and "other" token.
- HTTP-Header "Workload-Proof-Token"

## MESSAGE SIGNATURES

```
GET /gimme-ice-cream?flavor=vanilla HTTP/1.1
Host: example.com
Signature: wimse=:...dkqa2WfCQ==:
Signature-Input: wimse=(" @method" " @request-target"
"workload-identity-token");created=1718291357;
expires=1718291657;nonce="abcd1111";
tag="wimse-service-to-service"
Workload-Identity-Token: aGVhZGVyCg.VGh...Lgo.c21...JlCg
```

- The draft defines which headers must be signed
- Easy to extend for different context headers
- Optionally: sign the response



## THE TLS IS MUTUAL

- Similar to the SPIFFE X.509 approach
- Open issues
  - Handling hostname validation
  - Trust domain mapping

# *Discussion*

## NEXT STEPS

- Ready for WG adoption?

[DPoP-inspired vs Message Signatures · Issue #52 · yaronf/wimse-s2s \(github.com\)](#)

- Which mechanism does the working group prefer?  
Should we focus on one or on both?

[Authorization header and error responses · Issue #15 · yaronf/wimse-s2s \(github.com\)](#)

- 401 HTTP response code requires WWW-Authenticate header.  
*WWW-Authenticate: <type> realm=<realm>*
- Is 401 the correct choice?
- New type for WWW-Authenticate required?

DPOP-ish Option

[Limiting Proof of Possession Scope · Issue #50 · yaronf/wimse-s2s \(github.com\)](https://github.com/yaronf/wimse-s2s/issues/50)

- Which aspects should the proof of possession cover? Opinionated list of headers? Body?
- Should it be a choice of the deployment?



DPOP-ish Option

[Freshness of Workload Proof Tokens · Issue #43 · yaronf/wimse-s2s \(github.com\)](#)

- Currently proof of possession is one-shot, no request-response pattern (e.g. to exchange a nonce).
- Now, “Freshness” is only determined by claims.

DPOP-ish Option

[might want to also include the hash of the WIT in the proof · Issue #24 · yaronf/wimse-s2s \(github.com\)](#)

- Should a hash of the Workload Identity Token be present in the proof?
- Now:
  - public key WIT  $\Leftrightarrow$  Signature of proof token
  - WIT “sub” == Proof “iss”