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Analisis de protocolos de bootstrapping para IoT

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Resumen

En las últimas décadas, los datos digitales se han convertido en un bien valioso. El Internet de las Cosas (IoT según sus siglas en ingles) sigue esta tendencia con el objetivo principal de aprovechar la información recogida por los sensores. Estos miden la temperatura, detectan el humo o el movimiento y forman un dispositivo IoT junto con el microcontrolador conectado. Para procesar estos datos, hay que transmitirlos en una red informática a diferentes entidades. Pero, ¿cómo entran en la red estos dispositivos IoT, algunos de ellos con capacidades muy limitadas? ¿Cómo pueden los dispositivos autorizados comunicarse de forma segura en la red? Esto se hace en un proceso llamado *bootstrapping*.

Los dispositivos IoT con capacidades limitadas de diferentes fabricantes con diversas arquitecturas de microcontroladores se unen para medir datos del mundo físico, interactuar con el entorno o entre sí. Las diferencias en la potencia de cálculo disponible no podrían ser mayores, pero todos ellos deben utilizar algoritmos criptográfico para lograr la integridad, la autenticidad y la confidencialidad. Para generar el material criptográfica necesario durante el bootstrapping, se puede utilizar el Extensible Authentication Protocol (EAP) [RFC 3748] como framework de autenticación. Los métodos EAP, son un mecanismo de autenticación específico puede ser elegido para cada dispositivo individualmente para seleccionar un algoritmo compatible.

Los dispositivos IoT alimentados por batería deben utilizar protocolos adaptados para su uso en entornos restringidos para maximizar su tiempo de actividad. El Constrained Application Protocol (CoAP) [RFC 7252] fue diseñado como un protocolo de transferencia web especializado para redes con altas tasas de error de paquetes, velocidades de datos en el rango de uno a dos dígitos de kilobytes por segundo y nodos restringidos. Aunque CoAP hace uso de la arquitectura REpresentational State Transfer (REST) como lo hace HTTP, no es una versión comprimida o adaptada con menor sobrecarga, sino un protocolo diferente. Además, CoAP utiliza UDP como capa de transporte en lugar de TCP y, por tanto, requiere implementar estas características para garantizar el orden en las capas superiores.

Hypermedia as the Engine of Application State (HATEOAS) es una característica de REST que puede utilizarse para lograr el objetivo de dirigir el proceso de autenticación. Dado que no se requiere ningún conocimiento adicional a la interfaz solicitada para el acceso y la navegación, la estructura hipermedia simplifica el acceso de los clientes a la aplicación.

El Internet-Draft *EAP-based Authentication Service for CoAP* (CoAP-EAP) encapsula los paquetes EAP en CoAP para permitir la generación de material criptográfico incluso con redes y nodos con capacidades limitadas. Se trata de un protocolo que puede asociarese a la fase *bootstrapping* en el ciclo de vida de dispositivos IoT. Entre otras cosas, el último Internet-Draft de la versión 06 de CoAP-EAP hace uso de HATEOAS para garantizar el ordenamiento de los paquetes deduciendo el estado actual del proceso de autenticación sólo en base al estado del hipermedio. Esto se hace creando un nuevo recurso en el dispositivo IoT para cada paso durante la autenticación EAP para indicar su estado actual.

Este trabajo proporcionará una implementación del Internet-Draft de CoAP-EAP en su última versión. La prueba de concepto está escrita en el lenguaje de programación C y utiliza el motor Erbium REST, que es una biblioteca oficial del sistema operativo de código abierto Contiki. Los microcontroladores se han emulado utilizando el simulador Cooja y se comunican con un controlador CoAP-EAP durante la autenticación.

Los recursos web en Erbium se definen estáticamente antes de iniciar un dispositivo IoT. Analizando la estructura de datos subyacente para los recursos en Erbium, encontramos una manera de lograr la creación dinámica de recursos web durante el tiempo de ejecución. El sistema operativo completo, incluido el código adaptado del motor REST, sólo consume unos pocos kilobytes de memoria en el dispositivo IoT y proporciona una de las primeras implementaciones CoAP-EAP compatibles con HATEOAS.

Abstract

Over the last decades, digital data has become a valuable commodity. The Internet of Things (IoT) follows this trend with its main goal to benefit from the gathered information by sensors. They can measure temperature, detect smoke or movement and form an IoT device together with the connected microcontroller. In order to further process this data, it has to be forwarded in a computer network to different entities. But how do these constrained devices enter the network? How can approved devices communicate securely in the network? This is done in a process called *bootstrapping*.

Constrained devices from different manufacturers with various microcontroller architectures come together to measure data from the physical world, interact with the environment or each other. Differences in the available computing power could not be greater but all of them should use cryptographic algorithms to achieve integrity, authenticity and confidentiality. In order to generate the needed cryptographic key material during bootstrapping, the Extensible Authentication Protocol (EAP) [RFC 3748] can be used as an authentication framework. EAP methods, a specific authentication mechanism can be chosen for each device individually to select a supported algorithm.

The battery-powered IoT devices should use protocols tailored for use on constrained environments to maximize their uptime. The Constrained Application Protocol (CoAP) [RFC 7252] was designed as a specialized web transfer protocol for networks with high packet error rates, data rates in the one- to two-digit kilobyte per second range and constrained nodes. Even though CoAP makes use of the REpresentational State Transfer (REST) architecture as HTTP does, it is not a compressed or adapted version with lower overhead but a different protocol. Furthermore, CoAP uses UDP as transport layer instead of TCP and therefore requires an implementation for ordering guarantee in the higher layers. *Hypermedia as the Engine of Application State* (HATEOAS) is a characteristic of REST that can be used to accomplish the goal of steering the authentication process. The hypermedia structure simplifies clients' access to the application, because no additional knowledge of the requested interface is required for access and navigation.

The Internet-Draft *EAP-based Authentication Service for CoAP* (CoAP-EAP) encapsulates EAP packages in CoAP to allow the generation of key material even within constrained networks and with limited nodes. CoAP-EAP can be assigned to the *bootstrapping* phase in the IoT lifecycle. Among other things, the latest draft version 06 of CoAP-EAP makes use of HATEOAS to guarantee the ordering of packages by deducing the current state of the authentication process only based on the state of the hypermedia. This is done by creating a new resource on the IoT device for each step during the EAP authentication to indicate its current state.

This work will provide an implementation of the CoAP-EAP draft in its latest version. The proof-of-concept is written in the programming language C and uses the Erbium REST engine, which is an official library of the open-source operating system Contiki. Microcontrollers have been emulated using the Cooja Simulator and communicate with a CoAP-EAP controller during the authentication.

Web resources in Erbium are statically defined before starting an IoT device. By analyzing the underlying data structure for resources in Erbium, we found a way to achieve the dynamic creation of web resources during runtime. The full operating system including the tailored code of the REST engine only consumes a few kilobytes of memory on the IoT device and provides one of the first HATEOAS-compliant CoAP-EAP implementations.

Official Declaration

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18.5.2022

Julian Niklas Schimmelpfennig

Date

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1. Introduction and Motivation

The Internet of Things (IoT) is a concept in computer science in which information from the physical world are gathered and provided in a global computer network to make use of that gained information [1].

In industry and building automation, a sensor e.g. for the current temperature can provide its measured data to a connected microcontroller. In this example, the sensor connected to the microcontroller form the so-called IoT device. In the most basic way, it will process the data and forwards it over a computer network to entities, which then could cause a change on a second IoT device if the measured temperature is above or below a given threshold. This triggers a change in the percolation of an automated thermostatic valve in order to higher or lower the room temperature. The benefit of the gathered information *temperature* from the physical world would be a constant room temperature and savings in heating costs [2].

The term *IoT controller* refers in this work to an entity inside the network that authenticates IoT devices. It may process or forward delivered data from the IoT devices as well if it combines multiple entities in one place.

Inside the computer network the IoT device communicates not only to the IoT controller, but to other IoT devices for machine-to-machine communication and network services (e.g. to a time server) as well [3]. IoT devices, IoT controllers and other devices in the network should implement a basic set of security features. Especially the use of encryption is important to keep the information secret from all but authorized parties. Integrity and message authentication are needed to ensure, that exchanged data between two communication partners are not altered accidentally or manipulated during the transmission and its source is the actual sender that pretends to be it. Among other things, common practice encryption algorithms and authentication methods from x86



architecture cannot be used on IoT devices due to their low computing power and battery operation [4].

Furthermore, only trustworthy devices should be allowed to enter the network and communicate with other devices and services inside the network. The decision, if whether an IoT device is trustworthy or not and the authentication process itself are among others part of a phase called *bootstrapping* [5]. Bootstrapping is one phase that an IoT device passes during its lifecycle. Prior phases to bootstrapping are e.g. evaluating and assembling the hardware of the IoT device itself, deploying the operating system and the physical placement of a device. The process of bootstrapping is to receive cryptographic key material which can be used to ensure the authenticity between the communication partners and establish an encrypted communication channel within the network, after joining the network. Post bootstrapping refers among others to the normal operation phase in the IoT lifecycle, where additional key material could be generated [6].

One protocol for bootstrapping IoT devices is the Extensible Authentication Protocol (EAP). It supports various authentication methods and mechanisms that can be used without having to commit to a specific method in advance. The IoT controller can use different procedures with each IoT device individually to generate cryptographic key material. This flexibility of EAP is a great advantage, especially in large institutions, where many devices from different manufacturers have to be authenticated in a short time. With the Constrained Application Protocol (CoAP), there is also a web transmission protocol that has a lower overhead compared to the Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) [7] and was specifically developed for the use on constrained devices [8]. The Internet-Draft *EAP-based Authentication Service for CoAP* (CoAP-EAP) uses CoAP as an EAP lower layer to authenticate constrained devices by encapsulating EAP packages in CoAP messages and benefits from CoAP's advantages over other application-layer protocols.

CoAP-EAP can be used for bootstrapping IoT devices and makes use of the HATEOAS principle. Therefore, web resources need to be created and deleted dynamically on the side of the IoT device to indicate the current state of the process. As a result of this



bootstrapping technology, a Master Session Key (MSK) is generated which builds the foundation for the upcoming secure communication in the network.

In this work, the first implementation of the latest version 06 of CoAP-EAP based on the *Erbium (Er) REST Engine* [9] will be published. Erbium is an official library for the IoT operating system *Contiki* [10] written in the programming language C and does not support HATEOAS by default. Therefore, Erbium had been analyzed in detail to understand the mechanism of creating web resources. The result of this work represents source code written in C which can be executed after its compilation on IoT devices to authenticate them by using CoAP-EAP. The source code contains the whole operating system Contiki including Erbium, extended with the HATEOAS functionality and adapted for the usage with CoAP-EAP.

Structure of this Work

In the background chapter 2, the fundamental protocols and paradigms are introduced which are necessary to understand the objective in detail. It will outline the need for IoT-specific protocols and what the term bootstrapping means. It also introduces the HATEOAS principle and illustrates the steps for establishing a secure connection between the IoT device and IoT controller using CoAP-EAP.

Time management refers to finishing this scientific project as efficiently as possible in terms of chronological order and energy within a certain time limit. Therefore, a time schedule has been created to verify that the goals set for this project fit within the time frame and what sequence will allow for an optimal workflow. The schedule can be found in appendix A.1.

Chapter 3 will make a transition between the state of the art as described in chapter 2 and clarifies the objectives of this work. The implementation chapter 4 will target the technical details of the Erbium REST engine and its management of web resources, to implement the HATEOAS principle in a proof-of-concept using CoAP-EAP.

Finally, the results will be presented and discussed.





2. Background

This chapter introduces terminology and the technical background so that the following chapters become understandable. It starts with an introduction to basic security services and characteristic features of IoT devices when comparing them to the x86 architecture. After that, the IoT device lifecycle is introduced, followed by a structured explanation of the involved protocols and standards.

2.1. Security Services

Cryptographer Christoph Paar (Ruhr-University Bochum, Germany) defines the most relevant security services in *Understanding Cryptography* [11] as follows:

- 1. Confidentiality: Information is kept secret from all but authorized parties.
- 2. Integrity: Messages have not been modified in transit.
- 3. Message Authentication: The sender of a message is authentic.

Exchanged messages between the IoT device and the IoT controller and generally in the network should not be able to be changed undetected during its transmission in the computer network (violation of integrity and authenticity) or read by an unauthorized party (violation of confidentiality) [12]. The encryption and decryption of messages are therefore ideally performed directly in the sender and receiver themselves. For the use of such end-to-end encryption, a prior key agreement is necessary, with which the messages are encrypted by the sender and decrypted by the recipient [13].

2.2. IoT Characteristic Features

Methods for negotiating a secret key for the use of encryption between sender and receiver by using an insecure communication channel exist since 1978 with the Diffie-Hellman key exchange (DHKE) [14]. Strong symmetric encryption algorithms such as the Advanced



Encryption Standard (AES) have also been around since 2004 [15]. Today's x86 desktop computers and even smartphones nowadays can compute cryptographic operations [16]. They are accelerated by outsourcing certain operations into hardware [17] and one may ask: Why are new algorithms and protocols needed?

Computers require a constant power supply during operation. This is provided in smartphones and notebooks via rechargeable batteries. In desktop computers, it is provided by the power supply unit. IoT devices are battery-powered and do not use x86 processor architecture but microcontrollers with a fraction of its memory and computing power [4]. In particular, cryptographic operations cause additional computing time on the processors, which immensely reduces the lifetime of a device. The goal is to maximize the uptime of an IoT device without reducing security objectives. Thus, new resource-saving protocols are being developed specifically for microcontrollers [18].

2.3. IoT Device Lifecycle

Figure 2.1 shows the Generic lifecycle for IoT service. In order to achieve the mentioned security goals in section 2.1, we have to make sure, that both the IoT device and the IoT controller are authentic and those they pretend to be. Especially the verification, if whether an IoT device is allowed to join a security domain or not, is a challenge due to the big amount of devices that should be used and deployed at the same time. The security domain is a network where only authorized and therefore bootstrapped IoT devices can communicate.

When deploying IoT devices such as light sensors or smoke detectors in new buildings, their physical installation at the right location needs to be scheduled early during the planning phase. Structured cabling for IT infrastructure in the building e.g. for industrial wireless access points with IoT connectivity depends on the IoT device's location used in the future to ensure that signal strength is sufficient. In this process, a lot of different companies are involved and the commissioning of the IT infrastructure may start years later but has to be taken into account at an early stage [19].



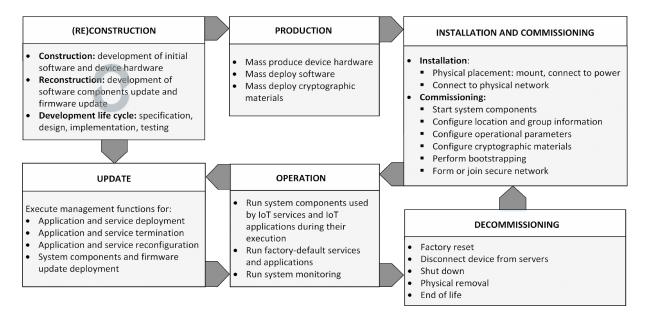


Figure 2.1 - Generic lifecycle for IoT service - Image taken from [6]

2.3.1. The Bootstrapping Phase

The bootstrapping process itself is one part of the installation and commissioning phase in the lifecycle of an IoT device. In the previous phases, the microcontrollers layout has to be designed and manufactured and the needed software components (operating system and third-party applications) need to be developed and tested. After those phases of construction and production, the device will be placed in its operating location: the bootstrapping process begins [6].

The process of getting a device fully operational, including the establishment of secure communication channels inside the network by using generated cryptographic key material, is called *bootstrapping*. Bootstrapping includes multiple sub-processes such as authentication, authorization and key distribution to enroll trustworthy IoT devices members of the security domain. In the generic lifecycle, it can be assigned to the commissioning stage [5].

Because IoT devices are developed and designed for particular tasks and use cases, IoT devices in larger domains are likely manufactured by different vendors. This



requires interoperability between the different manufacturer ecosystems and a uniform bootstrapping process by using standardized protocols [12].

The bootstrapping process finishes with generating the necessary key material, which can be used to establish post-bootstrapping security associations. The IoT controller also allows the IoT device to communicate with other entities inside the network such as time or key distribution servers or even Internet access [20].

2.3.2. Post-Bootstrapping

The IoT controller might not be the entity granting access to the Internet. Inside the network can exist multiple entities for various services. There can be one entity to distribute the actual time to clients and a separate entity that grants internet access. The communication with these entities inside the network needs to be secured. These new capabilities can be used because bootstrapping was performed. The IoT device is a member of the security domain and gets access rights from the IoT controller.

From this point on, the generated key material for the security association protocols such as DTLS [21] and OSCORE [22] is derived from the negotiated Master Secret Key (MSK) at the beginning of this phase.

Post-bootstrapping affects more than only enabling a secure channel. Also, in cases of replacements of outdated IoT devices or disabling devices that are vulnerable to unresolved zero-day exploits, decommissioning is an important part of the IoT device lifecycle [23]. Decommissioning requires an unrecoverable removal of any cryptographic key material stored on the device and a factory reset to not leak information about the insides of the IT infrastructure before its disposal [6].

Among challenges in bootstrapping, the costs of the post-bootstrapping phase in the IoT device lifecycle (operating, monitoring, updating and decommissioning) should not be underestimated [12].





2.4. Protocols and Paradigms

After introducing IoT characteristics, the related protocols and paradigms are explained. It should provide the reader with an understanding, of why the development of IoT-specific application layer protocols was necessary and which components from the pre-IoT era can be further used.

2.4.1. Representational State Transfer (REST)

Since the beginning of the 2000s, Representational State Transfer (REST) has been an important principle for standardizing interfaces for web services. Roy Thomas Fielding introduced this architectural style in his dissertation [24].

A stateless client-server protocol is used to implement the REST paradigm. This can be HTTP or in the context of IoT devices CoAP (see 2.4.3) as an application layer protocol.

HTTP specifies request methods. The HTTP GET method requests information from a specified resource on a webserver. GET requests must be *idempotent* and *safe*. Idempotent means that sending the same request multiple times has no different effect than sending it once. *Safe* implies that this method only retrieves information and does not cause any other effects [25]. If a GET request causes e.g. the creation of a new resource (POST requests are used for that) or is neither idempotent nor safe, the server-side implementation is not REST compliant, because the server's behavior is different from what is expected.

All information that is needed to recover the page's state needs to be included in the request. The Unique Resource Identifier (URI) identifies only the resource, while the HTTP header may contain information such as access type (GET, PUT, POST, ...), return format or authentication.

URIs must be unambiguous, permanently identifiable and accessible via standard methods of the application protocol (HTTP or CoAP requests). They only specify the location, but not the content that the web service provides. Due to the statelessness and assuming prior



authentication, all necessary data to answer a request is delivered only depending on the information received in the request. This simplifies machine-to-machine communication (e.g. HTML and XML parser) and makes communication less error-prone [24].

2.4.2. Hypermedia as the Engine of Application State (HATEOAS)

HATEOAS is a limitation of previously explained REST application architecture. With HATEOAS, a client interacts with a server application that dynamically provides information via hypermedia. A client requires no or minimal existing knowledge of how to interact with a REST-conform application [26]. He only needs to know the URI. An intuitive example from the "The RESTful cookbook" [27] demonstrates the wanted behavior:

A customer is logged in to his online banking account. He does not have any money in his account because his last transfer or payment put it in the red. In that case, he should not be allowed to get his balance even more negative. The only option he should have from now on is to deposit more money until it is again in the black.

This behavior can be achieved even though the customer uses the same resource GET /account/12345 HTTP/1.1 in online banking. The response to this GET request would normally return more options by providing links where he can do the specified action like transferring money. But the available options, delivered from the server in the corresponding response, change. The hypertext is the engine that controls the available options depending on the application's state.

2.4.3. Constrained Application Protocol (CoAP)

CoAP is a web transfer protocol that is defined in RFC 7252 [8]. It provides the REST paradigm even in constrained environments by being a lightweight protocol. The web transfer protocol HTTP exists since the 1990s [25] and uses as an underlying transport layer the Transmission Control Protocol (TCP) [28]. HTTP/1.1 messages are sent as a stream of characters and cannot be divided into smaller messages. That changed with



HTTP/2 and the usage of frames and streams to reduce overhead and increase the overall performance [29]. Nevertheless, even in more recent HTTP versions, the protocol lacks IoT features for machine-to-machine and asynchronous message exchanges. CoAP is a different protocol, and neither a compressed nor an optimized version of HTTP [30]. The basic header of CoAP has a size of four bytes.

CoAP uses the User Datagram Protocol (UDP) as the underlying layer which is a connectionless protocol. UDP does not retransmit lost packages or guarantee that packages will be delivered in the same order in which they were sent [31]. Therefore, CoAP has implemented a basic reliability mechanism that offers simple stop-and-wait retransmission for confirmable messages and duplicate detection. Due to improvements not only in the physical layer for wireless transmission but also in specialized communication protocols for Low-Power Wide Area Network (LPWAN) [32], wireless and connectionless communication has become more reliable [33]. That offered the possibility to replace TCP by using new protocols which implement only the needed features from TCP in a more efficient way (e.g. QUIC in HTTP/3) while using UDP as transport layer [34].

CoAP makes use of the client/server interaction model such as HTTP does: there are CoAP request and response messages. Requests can be either confirmable or nonconfirmable. Supported client request methods are GET, POST, PUT and DELETE similar to HTTP request methods. Response codes are used to give the client feedback to his request. The response code classes are as well similar to HTTP but with a dot after the hundred delimiter. HTTP response code 404 Not Found is equal to CoAP 4.04 Not Found [35].

In order to discover information about a host e.g. which resources are available, a GET request can be sent to the path prefix /.well-known [36]. Technically speaking, the resource /.well-known/core is used in CoAP to discover resources that are hosted. By supporting this mechanism, machine-to-machine communication is again improved, due to the delivery of all hosted resources on the queried CoAP server to the client [37].



2.4.4. Extensible Authentication Protocol (EAP)

EAP is an authentication protocol that supports various authentication methods to authenticate a device or a user [38]. EAP can be used over data link layer protocols such as IEEE 802 or Point-to-Point Protocol (PPP) and does not require the Internet Protocol (IP). EAP brings built-in support for retransmission of lost packages and duplicate elimination but does not guarantee the order of the packages.

The EAP conversation can be split up into three phases. The following example will explain the terms *EAP peer*, *EAP authenticator* and *EAP authentication server* in the context of the EAP phases [39]:

Phase 0: Discovery

Phase 1: Authentication - EAP authentication and AAA Key Transport (optional)Phase 2: Secure Association Protocol - Unicast Secure Association and Multicast Secure Association (optional)

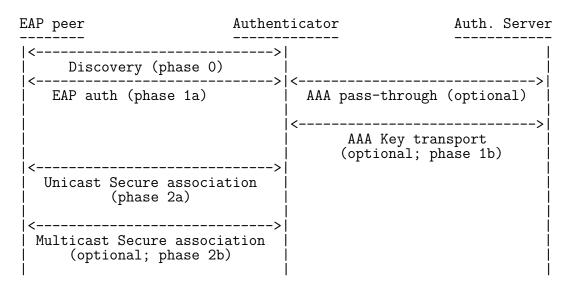


Figure 2.2 - EAP conversation between the parties - Image taken from [39]

EAP is often used for access control in enterprise Wi-Fi networks in combination with a RADIUS server as EAP authentication server [38]. In this context, the EAP peer is the device of the user which asks for network access. The main goal of each EAP



conversation is to establish a secure communication channel between the EAP peer and the EAP authenticator by using fresh key material that is only known to both entities.

When a user tries to connect to a WPA2 Enterprise secured wireless network (Phase 0 completed, the user discovered the emitted Wi-Fi network and the authenticator's capabilities), he is asked to enter his user credentials e.g. username and password when using PEAP as EAP method to authenticate [40].

The term *EAP method* describes, which actual authentication mechanism is used. Popular EAP methods are Protected EAP (PEAP) [41], EAP Transport Layer Security (EAP-TLS) [42], EAP Pre-Shared Key (EAP-PSK) [43] and Nimble out-of-band authentication for EAP (EAP-NOOB) [44].

After discovering the EAP authenticator, the EAP authenticator sends an initial EAP identity request back to the EAP peer who responds with an EAP identity Response message. This message is forwarded by the EAP authenticator to the EAP authentication server which selects the EAP method (in this example PEAP), based on the provided Network Access Identifier (NAI) in the EAP identity request message. The EAP authentication server knows which algorithms and protocols the EAP peer supports by identifying it based on his NAI [45].

The entered credentials by the EAP peer will then be forwarded from the EAP authenticator to the EAP authentication server which will process the request. If the login credentials are correct and the user is allowed to access the network, the peer has been successfully authenticated. Secure Association Protocols e.g. in IEEE-802.11 will only take part between the EAP peer and the EAP authenticator to derive keys and to create a security association (completion of Phases 1 and 2) [46].

2.4.5. Object Security for Constrained RESTful Environments (OSCORE)

OSCORE is a new Internet-Standard, published in the summer of 2019 [22]. Its main purpose is the establishment of a secure communication between two endpoints by providing end-to-end protection using CoAP.



The goal of EAP conversation phase 2 is the creation of a bidirectional security association between the EAP authenticator and the EAP peer. CoAP specifies the use of proxies for efficiency and scalability. The usage of Transport Layer Security (TLS) or Datagram Transport Layer Security (DTLS) in combination with proxies requires its termination at the proxy itself. Despite the advantages in speed and reducing network traffic, (web) proxies have downsides not only in IoT context. They represent a target of choice due to the high impact of a successful attack on that server, because the proxy processes data from many clients in plaintext and messages can be eavesdropped, forged or discarded and impact all connected devices [47].

To mitigate the security concerns when using proxies in the context of IoT, OSCORE protects CoAP requests and responses end-to-end even through different types of CoAP proxies. Among others, the protected message fields are the message payload itself, the request method and the requested resource.

2.4.6. EAP-based Authentication Service for CoAP

In December 2021 version 06 of the IETF-Draft *EAP-based Authentication Service for CoAP*, also known as CoAP-EAP, has been published [48]. It specifies how EAP messages can be exchanged between the IoT device (EAP peer) and IoT controller (EAP authenticator) using CoAP as an EAP lower layer to authenticate an IoT device and grant access to a security domain. The IoT controller can combine the EAP authenticator and the EAP authentication server, but for better understanding, we assume that the IoT controller only has the functionality of the EAP authenticator (see section 2.4.4). Using CoAP as an EAP lower layer does not mean that CoAP is below EAP in the OSI reference model [49]. EAP packages are encapsulated as payload in CoAP messages (application layer) which are then again encapsulated in UDP messages (transport layer).

EAP benefits from the usage of the HATEOAS principle in CoAP, as mentioned in section 2.4.2. CoAP guarantees the order of sent messages which would normally not be possible due to the usage of UDP as transport layer in CoAP. This is done by creating a new resource and making the previous one unavailable in EAP phases 1 and 2 (see figure 2.2).



During EAP phase 1 (authentication) the dynamic resource creation is used to settle on a method. In phase 2 the secure association protocol OSCORE will be established in which the hypermedia indicates the current state of the protocol.

The flow of operation between the IoT device and the IoT controller is specified in the draft:

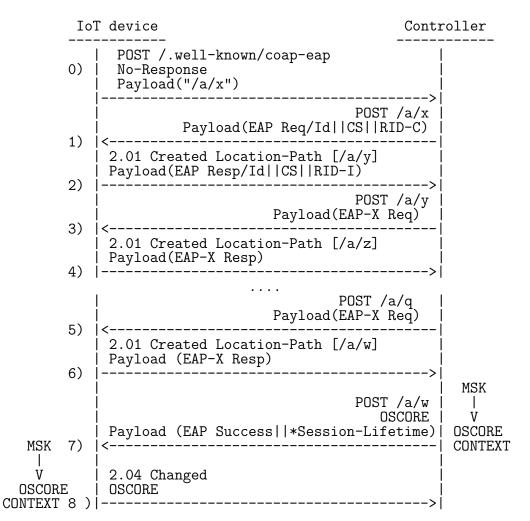


Figure 2.3 - CoAP-EAP flow of operation with OSCORE - Image taken from [48]

The IoT device initializes the authentication process by sending a POST request to the resource /.well-known/coap-eap of the IoT controller (step 0). That is the only time, it acts as CoAP client by sending a request. The IoT device tells the IoT controller, which is its initial resource to start the authentication process. In this case, it is the resource /a/x. After that initial POST request from the IoT device, it acts as CoAP server by



responding to CoAP requests from the IoT controller (CoAP client) as shown in steps 1 - 7.

The IoT controller then sends a CoAP POST request to /a/x (step 1) which contains as payload an EAP request identity message for EAP phase 1. For EAP phase 2, the recipient ID of the Controller (RID-C) and optionally a list with the cipher suites (CS) for OSCORE is sent.

After the IoT device has received this POST request, it passes the received EAP request identity to the EAP peer state machine which returns an EAP response. The resource /a/x will be deleted and no longer available. The IoT device will create a new resource /a/y and responds to the POST request against /a/x with response code 2.01 Created Location-Path /a/y. The payload of this message is the EAP response identity given by the EAP peer state machine, the recipient ID of the IoT device (RID-I) and /a/y is the new resource on which the IoT device can receive a request (step 2).

The IoT controller (EAP authenticator) then forwards the EAP response identity to the connected EAP authentication server, where he can choose an EAP method. The EAP authenticator in this case operates as *pass-through authenticator* and supports EAP in pass-through mode. He is capable of forwarding EAP packets from the EAP peer to the EAP authentication server.

EAP peers with different hardware specifications, operating systems and use cases will support a wide variety of EAP methods. In order to indicate that the EAP authentication server chooses one of them, the term EAP method X is used. CS and RID-I are not forwarded to the EAP authentication server, because that information belongs to OSCORE and is only used for phase 2, referring to the secure association protocol in figure 2.2.

Steps 3-6 are message exchanges related to the chosen EAP method. As mentioned before, the IoT device (CoAP server) deletes the resource to which a POST request has been received and creates a new one which will be sent in the location header of the CoAP response to the IoT controller (CoAP client). EAP method responses from the EAP peer



are forwarded by the *pass-through authenticator* to the EAP authentication server. In the opposite case, the EAP authenticator forwards EAP method requests from the EAP authentication server destined to the EAP peer as well.

After finishing this process, both the IoT device and IoT controller have negotiated a shared secret, the Master Session Key (MSK). For security reasons, the actual cryptographic operations do not use the MSK itself, but a derivative of it [50]. Here, this derivative is called Master Secret and is used to generate an Object Security Context for Constrained RESTful Environments (OSCORE) (steps 7 - 8). The security services confidentiality, integrity and authentication (see section 2.1) in this constrained environment are therefore achieved even when using proxies through endto-end protection.





3. Objectives and Methodology of this Work

This chapter provides a transition between the explanations in the previous background and the REST implementation in Contiki OS using Erbium. It will describe which parts are in the scope of this document and what methods can be used to achieve these goals.

3.1. Objectives

The main objective of this work is to create web resources dynamically using the Erbium REST engine to implement the HATEOAS principle on the IoT device. The IoT device acts as CoAP server and never sends CoAP requests, except in the first message to initialize the authentication process. Creating dynamic resources is one part needed to create a proof-of-concept implementation compliant with the Internet-Draft *EAP-based* Authentication Service for CoAP.

The concrete goal of this work is to achieve the following objectives:

- 1. Creating web resources on the IoT device dynamically without assigning memory for the new resources in advance. Sending a CoAP POST request against an existing resource should make the current resource unavailable and create a new random resource during runtime. The response should return the appropriate response code and the URI of the new resource.
- 2. Sending an initial CoAP POST request from the IoT device to act as CoAP client.
- 3. Developing a proof-of-concept implementation to demonstrate a CoAP-EAP-based authentication by applying the HATEOAS principle.



3.2. Methodology

All three objectives require a test setup consisting of an IoT device that is executing the Contiki Operating System and its official library for REST: Erbium. This setup and its deployment will be explained in chapter 4.

To accomplish *Objective 1*, Erbium will be analyzed in detail. This will answer questions about what resources are and how they can be created or deleted. This fundamental understanding is necessary to see if a dynamic creation of resources during runtime is possible and how it could be done. In order to return CoAP status codes and fill other header fields with the appropriate values, Erbium's REST functions will be inspected as well.

Objective 2 changes the focus from responding to CoAP requests to its functionalities as CoAP client to send requests. This contains creating a CoAP message with a payload and sending it to a destination IP address.

To achieve *Objective 3* not only both previous objectives have to be merged. The test setup will be extended with an IoT controller (CoAP-EAP controller) and an EAP authentication server to simulate the authentication of the IoT device. Therefore, an implementation of the EAP state machine (EAP-SM) is used to process incoming EAP messages and generate EAP responses. This will result in the authentication of the IoT device without user interaction after starting the simulation and covers steps 1 - 7 of the CoAP-EAP flow of operation as shown in figure 2.3.



4. Implementation

In this chapter, the underlying mechanism in the Erbium REST engine will be explained. The deployment of motes using the Cooja Simulator is introduced as well as implementation details about how to use the HATEOAS principle in Erbium. The last part of this chapter will explain the ideas and the source code behind the proof-of-concept implementation compliant with CoAP-EAP draft Version 06.

4.1. Contiki OS and the Cooja Simulator

The Contiki Operating System has been specifically designed for the use on low-power microcontrollers. It has been ported to different hardware platforms (such as Freescale MC13224V, Intel 8051-based platforms, ZOLERTIA Z1 and more), supports IPv4 and IPv6 networking protocols and wireless standards for Internet and computer network communication on constrained devices like 6LoWPAN and CoAP [10]. With at least 10 kB RAM and 30 kB ROM hardware requirements it has been designed to operate on very limited devices [51].

Applications for Contiki are written in the programming language C and can make use of dynamic memory allocation, but Contiki does not have a Memory Protection Unit (MPU), because the supported hardware platforms do not offer this functionality [52]. Therefore, the operating system does not separate processes' memory and areas worthy of protection are not safeguarded [53].

In the process of developing applications for IoT devices, the use of network and IoT device simulators offer several advantages, such as low-cost testbed setups on x86 hardware with an almost unlimited amount of IoT devices, quick reboots and advanced debugging interfaces [54]. Cooja is a network simulator for Contiki and developed in Java. The Java Runtime Environment (JRE) allows virtualizing Contiki by using Cooja on different hardware platforms [55]. Simulated microcontrollers inside Cooja are called *motes*. Each



mote compiles and executes the full Contiki Operating System and has access to the supported protocols and standards in Contiki [56], even though Cooja may not be the first choice for testing highly precise time-related performance measurements [57]. Projects in Cooja contain all information about motes with its compiled C code, border routers, IP configuration and distances for wireless networks. They can be exported to a .csc file which represents a Cooja scenario. The following image shows a scenario with two motes:

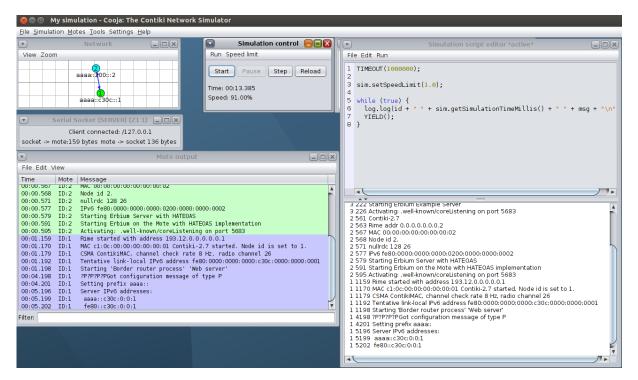


Figure 4.1 - Running scenario in the Cooja Simulator

Mote 1 has the IP address aaaa::c30c:0:0:1 assigned and represents the border router which is used to route packages between the hypervisor network and the network inside the Cooja simulation [58]. Mote 2 represents an emulated Texas Instruments MSP-EXP430F5438 microcontroller [59] with 256 kB of RAM which loads the Contiki Operating System including all device-specific configurations (see figure 4.2). The device-specific configuration enables Erbium (see section 4.1.1) with self developed web resources as explained in section 4.6, all merged into the file Erbium-CoAP-EAP-HATEOAS-IoT-Device.c.



EXP430F5438 mote: ID=exp5438#2,	"IoT Device for CoA	P EAP"
	Identifier	exp5438#2
	Description	IoT Device for CoAP EAP
	Contiki source	/home/julian/contiki-2.7/examples/er-rest-example/Erbium-CoAP-EAP-HATEOAS-IoT-Device.c
	Contiki firmware	/home/julian/contiki-2.7/examples/er-rest-example/Erbium-CoAP-EAP-HATEOAS-IoT-Device.exp5438
	Compile commands	make Erbium-CoAP-EAP-HATEOAS-IoT-Device.exp5438 TARGET=exp5438
	Mote Interfac	e Viewer (Exp5438+C 😑 🗐 🔀
	Select interface:	IP Address
	Global IPv6	address(#1): aaaa::200:::2

Figure 4.2 - Mote type and loaded .c file

4.1.1. Erbium REST Engine

In order to interact with an IoT device through its offered web resources, a REST engine is needed. One of the provided examples of Erbium includes the following scenario: The IoT device (a mote in the Cooja Simulator) waits for CoAP POST requests against its resource /actuators/toggle. If a request is received an event is triggered. In this case, the red LED of the simulated microcontroller will be toggled.

Erbium became the official REST implementation for Contiki in 2011 [9]. The developers provide multiple Erbium example scenarios to interact with resources by using the CoAP [60]. Because of better memory management and efficiency reasons those resources are statically defined. Their URI is hard-coded before starting the mote.

4.1.2. Copper CoAP User-Agent

Sending CoAP requests to a Contiki mote can be realized by using the Copper CoAP User-Agent shown in figure 4.3. It is an extension for Mozilla Firefox and implements CoAP functionalities in JavaScript [61]. Cooja does not offer an integrated web browser. Therefore, the one from the host operating system has to be used. In order to enable communication between the host machine and the mote inside Cooja, a tunslip tunnel is used [62]. Requests to a resource can then be sent by using the following syntax in the address bar of the web browser coap://[aaaa::200:0:0:2]:5683/resource, assuming that the destination IP address aaaa::200:0:0:2 and the default CoAP UDP port 5683 is used.



In order to discover all available resources, a GET request can be sent to the resource /.well-known/core as explained in section 2.4.3, which is done by using the button *Discover* in Copper:

(asas::200:00:2):5683 - Mozilla Firefox (asas::200:00:2):5683 - +			
€ 0 coap://[aaaa::200:0:0:2]:5683/		280% @] [Q. Search	公白 🖡 🏦 🛡 🖻 🤤
💿 Ping 🝳 Discover I 🗲 GET 🗲 FETCH 😏 POST 赺 PATO	:H 😫 PUT 😫 iPATCH 🔀 DELETE 🛛 🔊 OL	bserve Payload · Behavior ·	[2]
Discovering			Debug Control Reset Token
• 🏠 [aaaa::200:0:0:2]:5683	Header Value	Option Value Info	use hex (0x) or string
	Туре		Request Options
Core	Code		Accept
initHateoasRsc	MID Token		
	Payload		Content-Format
	Rendered	😡 Outgoing - +	
	The incoming S Rendered		Block1 (Reg.) Block2 (Res.) Auto
			block no. 🗙 block no. 🗶 🖉
			Size1 Size2
			total size x total size x
			Observe
CoAP Message Log			
	ptions ri-Path: .well-known/core	Payload	
	ontent-Format: 40, Block2: 0/1/64	.well-known/core ;ct=40, <td>pasRsc>:title="HATEOAS dynam</td>	pasRsc>:title="HATEOAS dynam
	ri-Path: .well-known/core, Block2: 1/0/64	,,,,	
10:25:44 ACK-2.05 Content 52622 empty C	ontent-Format: 40, Block2: 1/0/64	ic resource";rt="Debug"	

Figure 4.3 - Discovering the available resources on the mote

4.2. Deployment

During the process of work with the Erbium REST engine, Cooja was executed on a Ubuntu 12.04 32-bit virtual machine. This outdated Ubuntu release includes all required dependencies for the use of Cooja and offered native compatibility with the Copper (Cu) CoAP user-agent due to its old Mozilla Firefox version. Since Firefox 57 protocol handler extensions are not supported anymore [63]. The Cooja installation is explained in the corresponding wiki [64]. In this work, Contiki release 2.7 was used. After installing all dependencies, the scenario server-client.csc can be run as described by the developers [60].

In order to achieve *Objective 1* of this work, first only the er-example-server.c file has been modified to analyze the behavior of the REST engine and to create resources dynamically.

Objective 2 and Objective 3 did not rely anymore on the server-client.csc example scenario. A new Cooja scenario had been created and the mote type had been changed to a



Texas Instruments MSP-EXP430F5438 as shown in figure 4.2, due to memory limitations on the mote in the example scenario. A CoAP-EAP controller was used as an IoT controller as shown in figure 2.3 to perform the authentication of the IoT device. The IoT controller acted as a RADIUS client to interact with the running RADIUS server. The RADIUS server takes the role of the EAP authentication server in EAP terminology (see figure 2.2). Both the CoAP-EAP controller and the RADIUS server were running on the same Ubuntu VM to support EAP in pass-through mode as explained in section 2.4.6.

Due to security concerns, this Ubuntu version should not be used in a productive and Internet-connected environment [65].

4.3. Erbium Example Scenario and the CoAP-EAP Flow of Operation

In the example scenario server-client.csc two Motes are generated: The Erbium example server and the example client. Both motes load the Contiki Operating System by using the corresponding C files er-example-client.c [66] and er-example-server.c [67]. The client mote is used to generate and send CoAP requests to the server mote which will process those CoAP requests and confirms to the client that the message has been received, if it was from type confirmable.

In the given scenario, the client toggles the red LED on the server mote every 10 seconds by sending CoAP POST requests. As seen in the CoAP-EAP flow of operation in figure 2.3, the IoT device acts only in step 0 as CoAP client by sending a POST request to the resource /.well-known/coap-eap. In all further steps, the IoT device acts as a CoAP server. It receives CoAP requests from the IoT controller, deletes the old resource, creates a new one and responds with code 2.01 Created. The path of the new resource is sent as well with the response code in the location-path CoAP option. In order to implement this wanted behavior, it is important to understand how resources are handled in Erbium.



4.4. Understanding Resources in Erbium

Only the CoAP server implementation deals with the generation of resources. Therefore, the implementation is inside er-example-server.c. In this section, the predefined resource /hello is used to explain what is needed to create a resource.

4.4.1. C Preprocessor Directives

An object-like macro is used to enable a resource that is activated by using the define directive: **#define REST_RES_HELLO 1**.

In this case, the C preprocessor will recognize each occurrence of REST_RES_HELLO and replaces it with 1 [68]. Because of that, the code in between **#if** REST_RES_HELLO and **#endif** will be executed [69].

- ¹ #if REST_RES_HELLO
- $_{2}$ // code in here will be executed
- ³ // only when REST_RES_HELLO had been replaced by 1.
- || / | it is used to expand the resource macro,
- $_{5}$ // defines the resource handler function
- $_{6}$ // and set REST parameters.
- 7 #endif

Figure 4.4 - Usage of object-like macro in C

4.4.2. Erbium's Resource Macro

Creating a resource in Erbium requires the expansion of the *RESOURCE* macro in Erbium. The definition can be found in the file erbium.h [70]:

```
#define RESOURCE(name, flags, url, attributes) \
void name##_handler(void *, void *, uint8_t *, uint16_t, int32_t *); \
resource_t resource_##name = {NULL, flags, url, attributes, name##_handler, NULL, NULL,
NULL}
```

Figure 4.5 - Definition of a resource in the file erbium.h



In order to create the resource /hello, the resource macro will be expanded with the arguments shown in figure 4.6. It is placed inside define directive REST_RES_HELLO. The leading forward slash in the third parameter *hello* can be omitted:

RESOURCE(helloworld, METHOD_GET, "hello", "title=\"Hello world: ?len=0..\";rt=\"Text\"");

Figure 4.6 - Expanding the resource macro to create the helloworld resource

Expanding the RESOURCE macro first declares a function helloworld_handler from return type void. Its actual implementation has to be placed inside define directive REST_RES_HELLO as well. After that, a structure variable resource_helloworld from the datatype resource_t is initialized with its passed parameters by using the token pasting operator [71]. The C preprocessor will generate the following code [72]:

void helloworld_handler(void *, void *, uint8_t *, uint16_t, int32_t *); \
resource_t resource_helloworld = {NULL, METHOD_GET, "hello", "title=\"Hello world: ?len
=0..\";rt=\"Text\"", helloworld_handler, NULL, NULL, NULL}

Figure 4.7 - The expanded resource macro for the helloworld resource

4.4.3. Data Structure for a Resource in REST

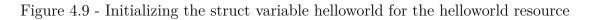
The corresponding declaration for a data structure from datatype resource_t can be found as well in erbium.h [70]:

struct resource_s { struct resource_s *next; /* for LIST, points to next resource defined */ 2 rest_resource_flags_t flags; /* handled RESTful methods */ 3 const char* url; /*handled URL*/ 4 const char* attributes; /* link-format attributes */ 5restful_handler handler; /* handler function */ 6 restful_pre_handler pre_handler; /* to be called before handler, may perform initializations */ restful_post_handler post_handler; /* to be called after handler, may perform finalizations (8 cleanup, etc) */ void* user_data; /* pointer to user specific data */ 9 unsigned int benchmark; /* to benchmark resource handler, used for separate response */ 11 | ;12 typedef struct resource_s resource_t; Figure 4.8 - Declaration of the struct resource_t



Expanding the resource macro also causes the initialization of the declared structure variable resource_helloworld with the passed arguments. A structure variable with the name helloworld from the datatype resource_t will then have multiple elements. The concrete code will look as follows:

```
1 resource_t helloworld = {
2 NULL,
3 METHOD_GET,
4 "hello",
5 "title =\"Hello world: ?len=0..\";rt=\"Text\"",
6 helloworld_handler,
7 NULL,
8 NULL,
9 NULL
10 };
```



The third element in this struct with the name url is a pointer to a constant char: const char* url. After the initialization, this pointer will reference to a char-array which will contain in each array element the letters of the string "hello", followed by the null character 0 to mark the end of a multibyte character string [73].

4.4.4. The Resource Handler Function

For each resource name (the first parameter when expanding the resource macro from erbium.h) a handler function with the name [resourcename]_handler must be implemented inside the define directive REST_RES_HELLO. The code inside the handler function will be executed when the resource is accessed by the defined CoAP request method. The second element in the struct from type resource_t determines the CoAP request method.

The functionality inside the handler function can be for example only one line with a function call to toggle the red led on the server mote <code>leds_toggle(LEDS_RED)</code>; or defining the content types and response payloads for the used method. For returning the newly created location path especially those REST functions become important.



4.4.5. Activating the Resource

Even though all previous steps have been done (expanding the macro by using the define directive and implementing a handler function), the resource will not be accessible. Only resources which had been activated will be accessible.

In order to enable the resource /hello from the helloworld example, a call by reference to the memory address of the structure variable resource_helloworld is used, which had been initialized during macro expansion. This activation can be linked to the define directive REST_RES_HELLO (see figure 4.5) to active the resource after initializing the REST engine.

```
1 ...
2 rest_init_engine ();
3 #if REST_RES_HELLO
4 rest_activate_resource (&resource_helloworld);
5 #endif
6 ...
```

Figure 4.10 - Activating the resource helloworld

4.5. Creating Dynamic Resources

Resources in Erbium are statically defined and Erbium does not offer a pre-built method to create a new resource and delete the previous one during runtime. They are defined before starting the mote. In order to implement the HATEOAS principle as required for the latest version 06 of the *EAP-based Authentication Service for CoAP* (see figure 2.3), Erbium's resource and resource handler function have to be adapted.

Figure 4.11 shows the flow of packages when sending POST requests to the IoT device in a schematic way. The mote is running the Contiki Operating System with an adapted version of the er-example-server.c file. The source code is explained in section 4.5.1. The POST requests are sent by using the Copper Plugin to see if the behavior is as expected to achieve *Objective 1* from section 3.



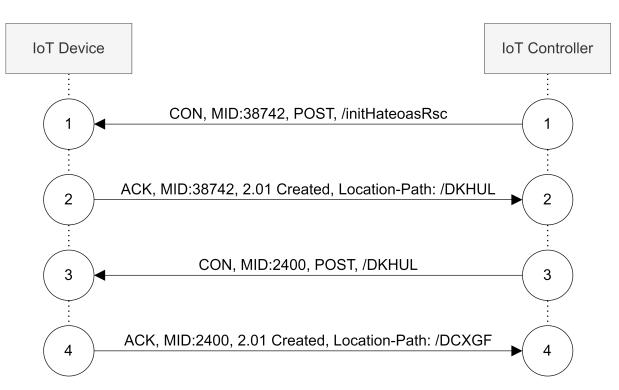


Figure 4.11 - Schematic flow of packages in dynamic resource creation

The first message from the IoT controller to the IoT device is a CoAP POST request against the initial and static resource /initHateoasRsc.

The initial request will be responded by the IoT device with response status code 2.01 *Created* and the location path /DKHUL (five random uppercase characters) of the newly created and available resource. A POST request to /initHateoasRsc will now return 4.04 Not Found.

The second POST request from the IoT controller to the IoT device is now sent against the new resource /DKHUL of the IoT device. Again, the IoT device responds with status code 2.01 Created and a new location path /DCXGF. Neither /initHateoasRsc nor /DKHUL are longer available.

4.5.1. Implementation Details on Updating an Initial Resource

The source code in figure 4.12 has been developed as part of this thesis and uses the Erbium REST engine to achieve *Objective 1*. The implementation shows the wanted



behavior as seen in the schematic flow of packages (see figure 4.11) in the process of dynamic resource creation when sending POST requests against a resource. In order to enable this resource, the object-like macro has to be expanded by using a new define directive for this resource: **#define REST_RES_HATEOAS 1**. Then the resource macro will be expanded and the REST resource will be activated, analog to the example resource helloworld in section 4.10.

The resource name hateoas is used in section 4.6 as well to merge the dynamic resource creation with sending an initial POST request and the communication with the EAP State machine. This achieves *Objective 3* by providing a proof-of-concept that showcases steps 0 - 7 on the IoT devices side in the CoAP-EAP flow of operations (see figure 2.3).

```
#if REST_RES_HATEOAS
  char urlString [] = "initHateoasRsc";
  int urlStringCounter;
  RESOURCE(hateoas, METHOD_POST, urlString, "title=\"HATEOAS dynamic resource\";rt=\"
       Debug"");
  void hateoas_handler(void *request, void *response, uint8_t *buffer, uint16_t preferred_size,
7
       int32_t * offset ) {
    for (urlStringCounter = 0; urlStringCounter < 5; urlStringCounter++) {
      urlString[urlStringCounter] = 'A' + (random_rand() \% 26);
    urlString [5] = ' \setminus 0';
11
12
    REST.set_response_status(response, REST.status.CREATED);
    REST.set_header_content_type(response, REST.type.TEXT_PLAIN); /* text/plain is the default,
14
       hence this option could be omitted. */
    REST.set_header_location(response, resource_hateoas.url);
15
  }
16
  \#endif
17
```

Figure 4.12 - Implementation for dynamic resources

First, an initial static resource is created by expanding the resource macro (line 5). Unlike the default resources, the macro arguments are used differently. The url argument is not directly used by entering a string (compare with figure 4.6, but by using a char-array called urlString (line 2) which will later be modified. Its initialization was done by specifying an initial string literal enclosed in double quotation marks to ensure, that the null character 0 is included at the end of the string to indicate its termination.



Assigning a new string literal to this already initialized char-array with the assignment operator will not work, due to restrictions in C [74]. Therefore, a for loop was used to change the first five characters by altering each array element individually from urlString[0] to urlString[4] (line 9) with a new random uppercase character and terminating the string after that (line 11).

A loop variable urlStringCounter was defined outside of the for loop due to the restriction that initial loop declarations inside the for loop initialization are only allowed in C99 mode [74]. The generation of the new random uppercase character inside this for loop makes use of character arithmetic in C. The implementation of random_rand() in Contiki returns a pseudo-random number between 0 and 65535 [75]. The character A is stored by its decimal representation 65 according to the ASCII implementation on Linux [76]. To generate a new random uppercase character for the elements urlString[0], urlString[1], ... urlString[4] the following calculation is done:

 $65 + (x \mod 26) = y$ with $\{ x \mid x \in \mathbb{N}, x \in [0, 65535] \}$ and $\{ y \mid y \in \mathbb{N}, y \in [65, 90] \}$

Figure 4.13 - Calculations for character arithmetic in C

Therefore the saved decimal character between 65 and 90 will be interpreted as uppercase characters from A to Z.

The size of the char-array cannot be modified after its initialization even though it contains less characters. For urlString[] will be always (14+1)*sizeof(char) = 15 byte of memory reserved, assuming that sizeof(char) = 1 byte. The string initHateoasRsc has a length of 14 characters and the additional character is caused by the null terminator character at the end of the string.

After all character operations, the resource has a new name because of the changes in the underlying data structure representing a REST resource as seen in 4.8. The struct element const char* url inside the variable resource_hateoas from type resource_t has not changed its position in memory, but only some characters of the char-array have changed.



It is required that the IoT controller will be informed about the newly created location path. This behavior is compliant with the CoAP specification as explained in section 2.4.3. Thus, the response in the correct format needs to be generated. This is done by responding with response status code 2.01 Created for a created resource (line 13), defining the rest implementation type to text / plain (line 14) and setting the location option of the response to the updated char-array urlString[] (line 15).

4.5.2. Keeping the old resources

During the process of developing the implementation of new dynamic resources, an attempt was made to keep the old resources. For the creation of n resources and keeping all those n resources, either memory for n resources needs to be assigned before executing the program or dynamically when the request of creation is done. Due to the low amount of memory (256 kB on the TI MSP430F5438), it is not reasonable to assign memory in advance for even a few resources that might be created.

Therefore, the usage of dynamic memory allocation would be needed. Contiki supports multiple ways to allocate and deallocate memory on the heap: the standard C library memory allocator function malloc [77], the mmem managed memory allocator and the memb memory block allocator [78]. The usage of malloc is not recommended on IoT devices due to memory fragmentation.

The most often used memory block allocator is **memb** which stores objects of constant size in static memory.

Having said that, keeping (an unlimited amount of) old resources in memory will consume more and more memory over the time of the EAP exchange. This reduces the uptime of the device due to the high costs of dynamic storage allocation and could cause device crashes when running out of memory [79]. Keeping the old resources is neither compliant with the CoAP-EAP draft, nor in this case useful.



4.6. Proof-of-Concept Implementation for Draft Version 06 of CoAP-EAP

In section 4.5.1, the dynamic creation of resources had been implemented by using the Erbium REST engine. To provide a proof-of-concept compliant with CoAP-EAP draft version 06 (see figure 2.3), the IoT device has to send an initial POST request against the IoT controllers resource /.well-known/coap-eap in step 0. The payload of this message contains the IoT devices resource, under which it will respond to an incoming CoAP POST request. In this implementation, it will be the initial and static resource /initHateoasRsc. From that point on the IoT device will create a new resource (and delete the old one as explained in section 2.4.6) after receiving a POST request against this resource. This behavior will be maintained until the IoT device receives an EAP Success message in the CoAP payload. Then the MSK is available and OSCORE will be established.

The full source code which is executed on the IoT device is attached in appendix A.2 of this document. The explanation in the following sections will refer to the lines in the appended source code.

4.6.1. Sending the Initial POST Request

After initializing the REST engine (line 292), a timer is set to wait 15 seconds (line 303) until the application-specific events are executed. For this implementation, only one event is needed which is sending a CoAP request to the IoT controller's IPv6 address (line 85). To ensure, that this request is only sent once, an if statement is used not only to check if the timer is expired but also if the initial request was only sent once (line 313).

A CoAP message is created in different steps. First, a general struct element of type coap_packet_t is created: static coap_packet_t initialRequest[1]; (line 315). It builds the base of a CoAP packet. The declaration can be found in the Contiki repository under apps\rest-coap\coap-common.h. The function coap_init_message will take this packet as first argument, sets the coap_message_type_t to non-confirmable and sets the the message type to a CoAP POST request (line 319). The destination URI of this request



will be the IoT controllers resource /.well-known/coap-eap (line 321). The payload of this message contains the resource under which the IoT device will wait for a request (line 142) and is passed as an argument to the function coap_set_payload (line 323). The size of this resource is calculated here to allow a change in the length of the initial resource without the need of changing multiple parts in the source code.

The message will be sent to the destination's pre-defined IPv6 address and UDP port (lines 85 and 86) by using them, just as the CoAP packet itself, as arguments to expand the COAP_BLOCKING_REQUEST macro (line 325). This achieves *Objective 2* of this work. Erbium does not offer a built-in macro for sending CoAP requests without expecting a response. Therefore, a blocking request will be sent.

After sending the initial CoAP POST request, the IoT device acts only as a CoAP server. It responds to received requests. When a POST request against the currently alive web resource is received, the hateoas_handler function is called (line 150). The resources name is defined by the char-array urlString (line 142).

4.6.2. Communicating with the EAP State Machine

To authenticate the device by using an EAP method, the EAP state machine (EAP-SM) has to be initialized (line 278). The used implementation of the EAP-SM [80] in Contiki came from the EAP-related project called *PANATIKI* [81]. Details of the EAP-SM are not part of this work. Only needed details are covered. The communication with the EAP-SM takes place by passing the CoAP payload of an incoming POST request as an argument to the function eap_peer_sm_step (line 187). The processed output of the EAP-SM is accessible through the variable eapRespData. When the EAP authentication ends successfully, the IoT device receives EAP Success in the payload of a CoAP POST request. This will set eapKeyAvailable to true. Due to an error in the used EAP-SM library, the IoT controller retransmits the first CoAP POST request, because the corresponding response does not contain the motes NAI as payload. Therefore, the initial resource has to be maintained for the first two received POST requests. This is done by



using the variable skipFirstHandlerCall (line 146) as well as condition to change the resources name (line 163). The used EAP method in this proof-of-concept is EAP-PSK.

In step 1 of the CoAP-EAP flow of operation shown in figure (2.3) the Controller sends an EAP request identity message (see section 2.4.6). As a response to this message, the IoT device will once send its supported ciphersuites to the controller. This functionality is managed by the variable cipherSuitesSent. It is initialized with the value 0, because the ciphersuites are not sent yet (line 66). Therefore, the ciphersuites are sent in the else block (starting in line 210) only one time, because after sending them cipherSuitesSent is set to 1 (line 229) and the if block starting in line 191 is executed. The mentioned if block starting in line 191 is executed for each incoming POST request, until the IoT device received the EAP Success message. In this case the EAP-SM returned eapKeyAvailable = 1 and the OSCORE dummy payload is set (line 210).



5. Results

This chapter presents the results of a proof-of-concept CoAP-EAP implementation with the usage of the Erbium REST engine. Two Wireshark captures will be introduced. The first scenario presents a lossless communication between the IoT device and the IoT controller. The second scenario shows how Erbium handles retransmission due to packet loss. After that, the RAM and ROM usage will be analyzed and the results will be discussed.

5.1. Overview

The testbed for this proof-of-concept implementation consists of multiple parts. The compiled binary from the source file Erbium-CoAP-EAP-HATEOAS-IoT-Device.c (see appendix A.2) has the filename Erbium-CoAP-EAP-HATEOAS-IoT-Device.exp5438. It contains the Contiki Operating System and the Erbium REST Engine. For the latter, a customized resource and resource handler function is used to support dynamic resource creation needed for the HATEOAS principle (see 4.5.1) and interaction with the EAP state machine. The file is executed on a Texas Instruments MSP-EXP430F5438 microcontroller (see section 4.2).

In order to perform the EAP-based authentication service for CoAP, a Linux implementation of a CoAP-EAP controller was used to take part of the EAP authenticator (see section 2.4.6). This device is the so-called IoT controller as shown in figure 2.3 and has the IP address aaaa::ff:fe00:1 in this scenario. A Linux RADIUS server acted as EAP authentication server in EAP pass-through mode (see figure 2.2 and section 2.4.6) [82].

The Cooja simulation contains a border router (see 4.1) with the IP address aaaa::200:0:0:1 and the IoT device with the IP address aaaa::200:0:0:2. The border router is used to route packages between the IoT device inside the Cooja network and the



CoAP-EAP controller outside of the Cooja network. In order to establish the network communication, a tunslip tunnel was used [62]. The traffic has been captured with Wireshark to show the message exchanges.

5.2. Wireshark Analysis without Package Loss

The first message from the IoT device to the IoT controller is a CoAP POST request against the resource /.well-known/coap-eap (frame number 538) to start the authentication process. This initial request will not be responded but causes the IoT controller to send his first CoAP POST request to the IoT device against its initial and static resource /initHateoasRsc (frame number 539).

No.	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length Info
	538 aaaa::200:0:0:2	aaaa::ff:fe00:1	CoAP	105 NON, MID:62710, POST, /.well-known/coap-eap
	539 aaaa::ff:fe00:1	aaaa::200:0:0:2	CoAP	98 CON, MID:1, POST, TKN:3e c6 6e 35, /initHateoasRsc
	558 aaaa::200:0:0:2	aaaa::ff:fe00:1	CoAP	111 ACK, MID:1, 2.01 Created (text/plain), TKN:3e c6 6e 35, /initHateoasRsc
	578 aaaa::ff:fe00:1	aaaa::200:0:0:2	CoAP	98 CON, MID:1, POST, TKN:3e c6 6e 35, /initHateoasRsc [Retransmission]
	751 aaaa::200:0:0:2	aaaa::ff:fe00:1	CoAP	99 ACK, MID:1, 2.01 Created (text/plain), TKN:3e c6 6e 35, /initHateoasRsc
	756 aaaa::ff:fe00:1	aaaa::200:0:0:2	CoAP	108 CON, MID:2, POST, TKN:3e c6 6e 35, /DKHUL
	770 aaaa::200:0:0:2	aaaa::ff:fe00:1	CoAP	140 ACK, MID:2, 2.01 Created (text/plain), TKN:3e c6 6e 35, /initHateoasRsc
	773 aaaa::ff:fe00:1	aaaa::200:0:0:2	CoAP	138 CON, MID:3, POST, TKN:3e c6 6e 35, /CXGFE
	780 aaaa::200:0:0:2	aaaa::ff:fe00:1	CoAP	123 ACK, MID:3, 2.01 Created (text/plain), TKN:3e c6 6e 35, /initHateoasRsc
	783 aaaa::ff:fe00:1	aaaa::200:0:0:2	OSCORE	104 CON, MID:4, POST, TKN:3e c6 6e 35, /SXCLC
	797 aaaa::200:0:0:2	aaaa::ff:fe00:1	CoAP	72 ACK, MID:4, 2.05 Content, TKN:3e c6 6e 35, /initHateoasRsc

Figure 5.1 - Wireshark capture filtered to CoAP messages without package loss in the proof-of-concept implementation

The Info column contains a summary of a captured package. In Wireshark version 3.6.5, it shows the URI path at the end of each captured CoAP message. Wireshark indicates the same URI path /initHateoasRsc in all responses to previous CoAP POST requests from the IoT controller (frames 751, 770, 780, 797), because the token 3ec66e35 did not change. The token is a field in the header of a CoAP message [8] and is used as an identifier during the whole authentication process. Therefore, Wireshark displays the initial resource instead of the location path at the end of the mentioned messages. The URI path is not sent in those messages but shown in Wireshark as an interpretation of this communication.

The IoT device acknowledges the request (frame number 539) by sending a response with response status code 2.01 Created and the new location path /DKHUL (five random uppercase characters) of the newly created and available resource (frame number 751).



Figure 5.2 shows this frame in detail. A POST request to /initHateoasRsc would now return status code 4.04 Not Found.

 Frame 751: 99 bytes on wire (792 bits), 99 bytes captur Linux cooked capture v1 	ed (792 bits) on interface any, id 0					
Internet Protocol Version 6, Src: aaaa::200:0:0:2, Dst:	aaaa::TT:Te00:1					
User Datagram Protocol, Src Port: 5683, Dst Port: 5683						
 Constrained Application Protocol, Acknowledgement, 2.01 	. Created, MID:1					
01 = Version: 1						
<pre>10 = Type: Acknowledgement (2)</pre>						
0100 = Token Length: 4						
Code: 2.01 Created (65)						
Message ID: 1						
Token: 3ec66e35						
• Opt Name: #1: Location-Path: DKHUL						
Opt Name: #2: Content-Format: text/plain; charset=utf	8					
End of options marker: 255						
Payload: Payload Content-Format: text/plain; charset=	-utf-8, Length: 19					
[Uri-Path: /initHateoasRsc]	, ,					
[Request In: 539]						
[Response Time: 3.312442000 seconds]						
Line-based text data: text/plain (1 lines)						
File-based text data. text/plain (1 files)						
0000 00 00 ff fe 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 86 dd						
0010 60 00 00 00 00 2b 11 3f aa aa 00 00 00 00 00 00	····+·? ······					
0020 02 00 00 00 00 00 00 02 aa aa 00 00 00 00 00 00						
0030 00 00 00 ff fe 00 00 01 16 33 16 33 00 2b 83 11	······ · · · · · · · · · · · ·					
0040 64 41 00 01 3e c6 6e 35 85 44 4b 48 55 4c 40 ff	dA··>·n5 ·DKHUL@·					
0050 02 f2 00 13 01 61 6c 70 68 61 2e 74 2e 65 75 2e	·····alp ha.t.eu.					
0060 6f 72 67	org					

Figure 5.2 - Wireshark analysis of frame 751

Due to the mentioned error (see section 4.6.2) in the EAP-SM on the IoT device, the response to the request against /initHateoasRsc contains an incorrect payload. Therefore, frame 578 is a retransmission of frame 539 but handled by creating dynamic resources only from the second incoming message (see section 4.6.2). The controller chose EAP-PSK as EAP method and from now on EAP packets related to this method are exchanged between the IoT device and the IoT controller in the CoAP message payload.

Frame number 756 is the first EAP-PSK-related request against /DKHUL. The IoT device responds in frame number 770 with the processed information by the EAP-SM in its payload. The location path changed to /CXGFE. Then, another exchange regarding this EAP method is done (frames 773 and 780) and the location path is finally changed to /SXCLC.

After finishing the EAP authentication with success, the controller changes the CoAP option to OSCORE. The payload of this request against /SXCLC contains EAP Success. Figure 5.3 shows details about this frame. This behavior is as required in step 7 in figure 2.3.

Figure 5.4 shows the console output of the CoAP-EAP controller.



Frame 783: 104 bytes on wire (832 bits), 104 bytes captured (832 bits) on interface any, id 0	
Linux cooked capture v1	
Internet Protocol Version 6, Src: aaaa::ff:fe00:1, Dst: aaaa::200:0:0:2	
User Datagram Protocol, Src Port: 5683, Dst Port: 5683	
 Constrained Application Protocol, Confirmable, POST, MID:4 	
01 = Version: 1	
00 = Type: Confirmable (0)	
0100 = Token Length: 4	
Code: POST (2)	
Message ID: 4	
Token: 3ec66e35	
Opt Name: #1: OSCORE: Key ID:(null), Key ID Context:(null), Partial IV:00	
Opt Name: #2: Uri-Path: SXCLC	
End of options marker: 255	
Encrypted OSCORE Data	
[Uri-Path: /SXCLC]	
[Response In: 797]	
Data (22 bytes)	
Object Security for Constrained RESTful Environments	
object security for constrained RESTRIFERENCES	
0000 00 04 ff fe 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 56 dd	
0010 60 00 00 00 30 11 40 aa aa 00 00 00 00 00 00 ·····0·@ ······	
0020 00 00 ff fe 00 00 01 aa aa 00 00 00 00 00	
0030 02 00 00 00 00 00 02 16 33 16 33 00 30 47	
0040 44 02 00 04 3e c6 6e 35 92 09 00 25 53 58 43 4c D···>n5 ···%SXCL	
0050 43 ff ad 88 3c 74 28 13 2e 52 be 82 57 65 b2 61 C···· <t(· .r··we·a<="" td=""><td></td></t(·>	
0060 86 f5 35 84 82 49 a7 45 5I.E	

Figure 5.3 - Wireshark analysis of frame 783

Figure 5.4 - Console output of the CoAP-EAP controller

From this point on, the communication is secured with OSCORE. OSCORE already protects frame number 797 and all ongoing packages between the IoT device and the IoT controller (see chapter 2.4.5). The last used resource /SXCLC will be maintained and not changed.

5.3. Wireshark Analysis with Package Loss

The dynamic creation of resources on the IoT device results in status code 4.04 Not Found if two different requests are sent against the same resource. The first request against /CJSBK in figure 5.5 returns the location path of the new resource /VWPUD. All future requests against /CJSBK will result in status code 4.04 Not Found (figure 5.6). The POST requests have been sent with Copper as explained in section 4.1.2.





🕐 🗈 resp://www.2002.3562/5667 Concerned and the second and the s					
2.01 Created (RTT 161 ms)					
· 🏠 [aaaa::200:0:0:2]:5683	Header	Value	Option	Value	Info
	Туре	ACK	Location-Path	/VWPUD	5 bytes
Q core	Code MID	2.01 Created 65233	Content-Format	text/plain	0
O CJSBK	Token	empty			

Figure 5.5 - Sending a first POST request against /CJSBK returns 2.01 Created

© Applications Places								
€ 0 coap://[aaaa=:200:0:0:2]:5683/CJSBK				240% C Q Search				
Ping 🝳 Discover 🧲 GET 🗲 FETCH 😔 POST 赺 PATCH ピ PUT ピ iPATCH 🔀 DELETE 🛛 🔊 Observe 🛛 Payload 🕔 Behavior 🕤								
4.04 Not Found (RTT 171 ms)								
· 🏠 [aaaa::200:0:0:2]:5683	Header	Value	Option	Value	Info			
→ 🔇 .well-known	Туре	ACK						
Q core	Code MID	4.04 Not Found 65234						
	1*110	03234						

Figure 5.6 - Sending another POST request against /CJSBK returns 4.04 Not Found

Package loss can be simulated with Cooja as well. The Cooja scenario for the second Wireshark capture was configured with a success probability of 50% for inbound and outbound data for motes that use the Cooja radio medium. Figure 5.7 shows the capture of the same communication between the IoT device and the IoT controller as in section 5.2, but with the configured package loss. Therefore, the location paths are different compared with figure 5.1 due to their random creation.

No.	Source	Destination P	rotocol	Length	Info							
	956 aaaa::200:0:0:2	2 aaaa::ff:fe00:1 C	OAP	105	NON,	MID:62716	0, POST, /	.well-know	wn/coap-	eap		
	973 aaaa::200:0:0:2	2 aaaa::ff:fe00:1 C	OAP	111	ACK,	MID:1, 2	.01 Create	d (text/p	lain), T	KN:0c 4	7 08 78,	/initHateoasRsc
	986 aaaa::ff:fe00:1	L aaaa::200:0:0:2 C	OAP	98	CON,	MID:1, PC	OST, TKN:0	c 47 08 78	8, /init	Hateoasl	Rsc	
	1164 aaaa::200:0:0:2	2 aaaa::ff:fe00:1 C	OAP	99	ACK,	MID:1, 2	.01 Create	d (text/p	lain), T	KN:0c 4	7 08 78,	/initHateoasRsc
	1169 aaaa::ff:fe00:1	L aaaa::200:0:0:2 C	OAP	108	CON,	MID:2, PC	OST, TKN:0	c 47 08 7	8, /GDKH	U		
	1176 aaaa::200:0:0:2	2 aaaa::ff:fe00:1 C	OAP	140	ACK,	MID:2, 2.	.01 Create	d (text/p	lain), T	KN:0c 4	7 08 78,	/initHateoasRsc
	1179 aaaa::ff:fe00:1	L aaaa::200:0:0:2 C	OAP	138	CON,	MID:3, PC	OST, TKN:0	c 47 08 7	8, /EDCX	G		
	1189 aaaa::ff:fe00:1	L aaaa::200:0:0:2 C	OAP	138	CON,	MID:3, PC	OST, TKN:0	c 47 08 78	8, /EDCX	G [Retra	ansmissi	on]
	1208 aaaa::ff:fe00:1	L aaaa::200:0:0:2 C	OAP	138	CON,	MID:3, PC	OST, TKN:0	c 47 08 7	8, /EDCX	G [Retra	ansmissi	on]
	1215 aaaa::200:0:0:2	2 aaaa::ff:fe00:1 C	OAP	123	ACK,	MID:3, 2	.01 Create	d (text/p	lain), T	KN:0c 4	7 08 78,	/initHateoasRsc
	1218 aaaa::ff:fe00:1	L aaaa::200:0:0:2 C	SCO	104	CON,	MID:4, PC	OST, TKN:0	c 47 08 7	8, /PSXC	L		
	1225 aaaa::200:0:0:2	2 aaaa::ff:fe00:1 C	OAP	72	ACK,	MID:4, 2	.05 Conten	t, TKN:0c	47 08 7	8, /ini	tHateoas	Rsc

Figure 5.7 - Wireshark capture filtered to CoAP messages with package loss in the proof-of-concept implementation

Figure 5.8 shows frame number 1208 in detail. It is a POST request from the IoT controller to the IoT device. It was resent two times because the corresponding response to neither



frame 1179, nor frame 1189 could not be delivered to the IoT controller. Those messages got lost due to transmission errors but do not interfere with the authentication process.

```
Frame 1208: 138 bytes on wire (1104 bits), 138 bytes captured (1104 bits) on interface any, id 0
Linux cooked capture v1
Internet Protocol Version 6, Src: aaaa::ff:fe00:1, Dst: aaaa::200:0:0:2
User Datagram Protocol, Src Port: 5683, Dst Port: 5683
Constrained Application Protocol, Confirmable, POST, MID:3
 01.. .... = Version: 1
 ..00 .... = Type: Confirmable (0)
 .... 0100 = Token Length: 4
 Code: POST (2)
 Message ID: 3
 Token: 0c470878
 Opt Name: #1: Uri-Path: EDCXG
 End of options marker: 255
 Payload: Payload Content-Format: application/octet-stream (no Content-Format), Length: 5
 [Uri-Path: /EDCXG]
 [Response In: 1215]
 [Retransmission of request in: 1179]
Data (59 bytes)
```

Figure 5.8 - Wireshark analysis of frame 1208

Erbium internally recognizes that the request from the Controller was resent due to its handling of CoAP transaction IDs. Therefore, the request will be processed correctly and does not return a resource not found error.

5.4. RAM and ROM Usage

In order to measure the RAM and ROM usage on a Texas Instruments MSP-EXP430F5438 microcontroller, the binary file can be inspected with the command msp430size Erbium-CoAP-EAP-HATEOAS-IoT-Device.exp5438 [83]. The following table shows a comparison between three executable files containing the full Contiki Operating System:

#	Module	ROM (bytes)	RAM (bytes)
1	Contiki Hello World	19.059	5.072
2	Erbium Hello World	46.067	5.706
3	Erbium CoAP-EAP	51.197	6.498

Figure 5.9 - RAM and ROM usage of an EXP5438 mote running Contiki with different loaded modules





Contiki Hello World represents the compiled binary of the Contiki hello-world example (hello-world.c) without networking capabilities [84]. The *Erbium Hello World* executable is a minimized version of the er-example-server.c file [60]. All pre-existing resources and their corresponding lines in the source code had been removed except the resource /hello as explained in section 4.4.2. Finally, *Erbium CoAP-EAP* in this table represents the binary of the compiled source code shown in appendix A.2. It is the CoAP-EAP implementation compliant with the latest draft version 06. Both Erbium binaries include networking capabilities and the Erbium REST engine itself. On top of that, the CoAP-EAP binary includes the libraries eap-sm and eap-psk from an EAP-related project called PANATIKI [81].

The available memory of 256 kB on the used microcontroller (see figure 4.1) is sufficient for loading the Contiki Operating System and the libraries needed for the CoAP-EAP implementation. Therefore, the mote does not only secure the communication, but has approximately 249 kB of memory left for further application-specific functionalities.

5.5. Discussion

The Cooja mote for executing the proof-of-concept used version 2.7 of the Contiki Operating System. This release received the last changes in the codebase in 2013 [67]. Contiki-NG started in 2017 as a fork of Contiki OS and is still being further maintained today [85]. To run the proof-of-concept with Contiki-NG, the codebase in appendix A.2 has to be adapted due to naming scheme differences. The underlying data structure of resources and how Erbium handles incoming requests did not change. An updated version of the mentioned Erbium example server (see section 4.3) is available in Contiki-NG as well [86] and can be taken as a reference for an adaption.

Among others, the destinations server address and the CoAP message itself were passed as arguments to expand the macro COAP_BLOCKING_REQUEST to send a CoAP request with Erbium. Step 0 in the CoAP-EAP flow of operation (see figure 2.2) specifies the usage of the CoAP option *No-Response* for this first message. RFC 7967 introduced the *No-Response* option for CoAP messages to send requests without waiting for a response



[87]. However, the deployed version of Erbium lacks the possibility to set this option. In order to bypass this limitation, the first message was sent from type *Non-confirmable* without the option field set.



6. Outlook and Conclusions

All three objectives mentioned in chapter 3 have been successfully achieved. The source code for achieving *Objective 3* is attached in appendix A.2. Web resources have been created dynamically even though Erbium does not offer this functionality by default. An initial CoAP POST request has been sent to the IoT controller to start the authentication process. The two were then merged and extended to interact with the EAP state machine to provide a proof-of-concept implementation. Analyzing the traffic during the CoAP-EAP authentication process proved the desired behavior of the IoT device. Beyond that, a second analysis has been done to break down Erbium's behavior with package loss, which is to be expected in real-life examples. Erbium handled retransmitted CoAP POST requests against a no longer existing resource in a way, that they still are allocated with the appropriate resource. The authentication is not impeded by retransmissions.

In step 7 of the CoAP-EAP flow of operation (see figure 2.2) the IoT controller creates OSCORE security context by using a derivative of the exported MSK according to the used EAP method. The IoT device already has all information in step 6 to generate its MSK but waits until it received *EAP Success*. The payload of the message in step 7 contains *EAP Success* to indicate the IoT device, that the MSK has been exported. But this message payload is already encrypted by OSCORE and can not be accessed without having derived the corresponding MSK. Therefore, the implementation of OSCORE in the context of CoAP-EAP needs to be improved in future work.

This work provided a proof-of-concept implementation compliant with IETF draft version 06 of the EAP-based Authentication Service for CoAP. This included a deep dive into the way how Erbium handles web resources and an adaption of Erbium's resource handler functions to create resources dynamically. The test setup consisted of the Cooja Simulator to emulate an IoT device executing the Contiki Operating System with the Erbium REST engine.



Contiki is only one of many operating systems for microcontrollers. Therefore, this implementation is limited to supported hardware by Contiki. However, CoAP implementations [88] also exist for other operating systems like RIOT [89] or Mbed [90]. They might be considered as a base for future work as a foundation to implement the HATEOAS principle not only to Contiki by using Erbium, but to other operating systems as well.

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Appendix Α.

A.1. **Time Schedule**



Figure A.1 - Scheduling the individual steps for this thesis



A.2. Source Code of the Proof-of-Concept HATEOAS Implementation on Draft Version 06

Figure A.2 - Source Code of the Proof-of-Concept HATEOAS Implementation on Draft Version 06

The following code shows the content of the file

Erbium-CoAP-EAP-HATEOAS-IoT-Device.c.

1	/*
2	* Copyright (c) 2013, Matthias Kovatsch
3	* All rights reserved.
4	*
5	* Redistribution and use in source and binary forms, with or without
6	* modification, are permitted provided that the following conditions
7	* are met:
8	* 1. Redistributions of source code must retain the above copyright
9	* notice, this list of conditions and the following disclaimer.
10	* 2. Redistributions in binary form must reproduce the above copyright
11	* notice, this list of conditions and the following disclaimer in the
12	* documentation and/or other materials provided with the distribution.
13	* 3. Neither the name of the Institute nor the names of its contributors
14	* may be used to endorse or promote products derived from this software
15	* without specific prior written permission.
16	*
17	\ast THIS SOFTWARE IS PROVIDED BY THE INSTITUTE AND CONTRIBUTORS ``AS IS''
	AND
18	* ANY EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE
19	* IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR
	PURPOSE
20	* ARE DISCLAIMED. IN NO EVENT SHALL THE INSTITUTE OR CONTRIBUTORS BE
	LIABLE
21	* FOR ANY DIRECT, INDIRECT, INCIDENTAL, SPECIAL, EXEMPLARY, OR
	CONSEQUENTIAL
22	* DAMAGES (INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, PROCUREMENT OF SUBSTITUTE
	GOODS
23	* OR SERVICES; LOSS OF USE, DATA, OR PROFITS; OR BUSINESS INTERRUPTION)
	A TONE AND A



```
* HOWEVER CAUSED AND ON ANY THEORY OF LIABILITY, WHETHER IN CONTRACT,
24
       STRICT
   * LIABILITY, OR TORT (INCLUDING NEGLIGENCE OR OTHERWISE) ARISING IN ANY
25
       WAY
   * OUT OF THE USE OF THIS SOFTWARE, EVEN IF ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF
26
   * SUCH DAMAGE.
27
28
   * This file is part of the Contiki operating system.
30
   */
31
32
   /**
   * \setminus file
33
          Erbium (Er) REST Engine example (with CoAP-specific code)
34
   * \ 
35
          Matthias Kovatsch <kovatsch@inf.ethz.ch>
36
37
   */
38
  #include <stdio.h>
39
   #include <stdlib.h>
40
   #include <string.h>
41
42
  #include "contiki.h"
43
   #include "contiki-net.h"
44
45
   // needs # APPS += eap-sm in the Makefile!
46
   #include "eap-peer.h"
47
48
   /* Initial resource / hateoas_initial_resource . When called, it will be "overwritten" and a new
49
       random Resource will be created. */
   #define REST_RES_HATEOAS 1
50
51
   // Usage of ntohs for the EAP response.
  #define ntohs(n) (((((unsigned short)(n) & 0xFF)) << 8) | (((unsigned short)(n) & 0xFF00) >> 8)
       )
54
  // function for debugging the output of the EAP state machine
55
  void printf_hex(unsigned char*, int);
```



```
void printf_hex(unsigned char* text, int length) {
57
       printf("\n");
58
       int i;
59
       for (i=0; i < length; i++)
60
           printf("%02x",text[i]);
61
       printf("n");
62
      return;
63
   ł
64
65
   int cipherSuitesSent;
66
   uint8_t eapKeyAvailable;
67
68
  int counterCryptoSuite = 1;
69
   int counterEapResponse = 1;
70
   int hateoas_handler_counter = 1;
71
72
   /*
73
    IP addresses for sending the initial POST request
74
75
   */
76
   // Examples:
77
  // #define SERVER_NODE(ipaddr) uip_ip6addr(ipaddr, 0xfe80, 0, 0, 0, 0x0212, 0x7402, 0x0002, 0
78
       x0202) /* cooja2 */
  // #define SERVER_NODE(ipaddr) uip_ip6addr(ipaddr, 0xaaaa, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0x0001) /* cooja2
79
       */
80
   // IP address of the er-example-server mote (the request is sent to the same mote)
81
   // #define SERVER_NODE(ipaddr) uip_ip6addr(ipaddr, 0xaaaa, 0, 0, 0, 0x0212, 0x7402, 0x0002, 0
82
       x0202) /* cooja2 */
83
   // IP address for the coap-controller outside of Cooja (see tunslip tunnel)
84
   #define SERVER_NODE(ipaddr) uip_ip6addr(ipaddr, 0xaaaa, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0x00ff, 0xfe00, 0x0001) /*
85
       cooja2 */
                                UIP_HTONS(COAP_DEFAULT_PORT)
   #define REMOTE_PORT
86
87
  uip_ipaddr_t server_ipaddr;
88
   static struct etimer et;
89
```



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```
90
        #include "er-coap-13.h"
 91
        #include "er-coap-13-engine.h"
 92
 93
                                                                                                                                                                                                *********/
 94
 98
        #include "erbium.h"
 96
 91
         /* For CoAP-specific example: not required for normal RESTful Web service. */
 98
        \#if WITH_COAP == 3
 99
        #include "er-coap-03.h"
100
        \#elif WITH_COAP == 7
101
        #include "er-coap-07.h"
        \#elif WITH_COAP == 12
        #include "er-coap-12.h"
104
        \#elif WITH_COAP == 13
        #include "er-coap-13.h"
106
        #else
        #warning "Erbium example without CoAP-specifc functionality"
108
        #endif /* CoAP-specific example */
110
        #define DEBUG 1
111
        #if DEBUG
112
        #define PRINTF(...) printf(__VA_ARGS__)
        114
                  :%02x%02x:%02x%02x;%02x%02x]", ((uint8_t *)addr)[0], ((uint8_t *)addr)[1], ((uint8_t *)addr)
                  [2], ((uint8_t *)addr)[3], ((uint8_t *)addr)[4], ((uint8_t *)addr)[5], ((uint8_t *)addr)[6], ((uint8_t *)add
                   *)addr)[7], ((uint8_t *)addr)[8], ((uint8_t *)addr)[9], ((uint8_t *)addr)[10], ((uint8_t *)addr)[11],
                   ((uint8_t *)addr)[12], ((uint8_t *)addr)[13], ((uint8_t *)addr)[14], ((uint8_t *)addr)[15])
        #define PRINTLLADDR(lladdr) PRINTF("[%02x:%02x:%02x:%02x:%02x:%02x]", (lladdr)->addr
                   [0], (lladdr)->addr[1], (lladdr)->addr[2], (lladdr)->addr[3], (lladdr)->addr[4], (lladdr)->addr[5])
116
        #else
        #define PRINTF(...)
117
        #define PRINT6ADDR(addr)
118
        #define PRINTLLADDR(addr)
119
        #endif
121
```



```
122
                                                          123
   #if REST_RES_HATEOAS
124
12
     The size of the char array can't be modified later.
126
     urlString [] will be always (24+1)*sizeof(char) bytes large, if
     char urlString [] = "hateoas_initial_resource";
128
     sizeof(urlString));
129
130
     The following line will result in 404 not found!
     char urlString [] = "/.well-known/a";
     It has to be
133
     char urlString [] = ".well-known/a";
134
135
   // The following values for the char array urlString [] cause problems with the implementation of
136
       the CoAP EAP controller.
   // \text{ char urlString } = " hateoas_initial_resource ";
138
   // Sub-URI work as well
139
   // char urlString [] = ".well-known/a";
140
14
   char urlString [] = "initHateoasRsc";
142
   int urlStringCounter;
143
144
     // Skipping first handler call due to retransmission error on coapeapcontroller
145
   int skipFirstHandlerCall = 0;
146
147
   RESOURCE(hateoas, METHOD_POST, urlString, "title=\"HATEOAS dynamic resource\";rt=\"
148
       Debug"");
149
   void hateoas_handler(void *request, void *response, uint8_t *buffer, uint16_t preferred_size,
        int32_t * offset ) {
     printf("n");
     printf("hateoas_handler_counter = %d\n", hateoas_handler_counter);
     hateoas_handler_counter++;
153
154
     /*
```



```
The following will not compile because of the following error: "for loop initial declarations
155
        are only allowed in C99 mode. Use option -std=c99 or -std=gnu99 to compile your code"
     for (int i = 0; i < 5; i++) {
156
       urlString[i] = 'A' + (random_rand() \% 26);
158
     */
159
160
     // Skipping first handler call due to retransmission error on coapeapcontroller
161
     // Only creating dynamic resources if the eapKey is not available.
162
      if (skipFirstHandlerCall == 1 \&\& \text{!eapKeyAvailable} {
       for (urlStringCounter = 0; urlStringCounter < 5; urlStringCounter++) {
164
         // rand typically returns a 16-bit number
165
          urlString[urlStringCounter] = 'A' + (random_rand() \% 26);
       }
16'
       // terminating the string after 5 random uppercase characters
168
       urlString [5] = ' \setminus 0';
169
     }
170
171
     skipFirstHandlerCall = 1;
172
     // Following line not needed, because the chars are already altered!
174
     // resource_hateoas.url = urlString;
176
     const uint8_t *payloadData = NULL;
     int payloadLength = REST.get_request_payload(request, &payloadData);
178
     printf ("Payload received from the POST request: ");
179
     printf_hex(payloadData, payloadLength);
180
181
     // variable eapKeyAvailable can not be renamed due to by RFC 4137
182
      if (!eapKeyAvailable) {
183
           // passing the payload received in the request to the eap_peer_sm_step, see apps\eap-sm\
184
        eap-peer.c
           // eapReq from eap-peer.c as well! NECESSARY!!!
185
            eapReq = TRUE;
186
            eap_peer_sm_step(payloadData);
187
            uint16_t len = ntohs( ((struct eap_msg*) eapRespData)->length);
188
            // eap state machines reponse is accessible in eapRespData variable.
189
```



1	
190	
191	if (cipherSuitesSent == 1) {
192	// return early, because cipherSuites will only sent once
193	// preventing a lot of jumps.
194	
195	$//$ see erbium.h in struct <code>rest_implementation_status</code> for the codes
196	REST.set_response_status(response, REST.status.CREATED);
197	$\label{eq:response} REST.set_header_content_type(response, REST.type.TEXT_PLAIN); \ /* \ text/plain \ is$
	the default, hence this option could be omitted. $\ast/$
198	REST.set_header_location(response, resource_hateoas.url);
199	
200	// 3rd parameter in set_reponse_payload is size_t length. Is the data type size_t is
	unsigned integral type. It represents the size of any object in bytes and returned by sizeof
	operator. It is used for array indexing and counting. It can never be negative. The return
	type of strcspn, strlen functions is size_t .
201	REST.set_response_payload(response, eapRespData, len);
202	
203	printf("counterEapResponse = %d n", counterEapResponse);
204	counterEapResponse++;
205	
206	printf ("eapResponse Data: ");
207	$printf_hex(eapRespData, len);$
208	}
209	
210	else {
211	// sending the ciphersuites to the coap controller, only done once!
212	
213	char tempPayload[100] = $\{0\};$
214	static char cborcryptosuite $[2] = \{0x81, 0x00\};$
215	
216	memcpy(tempPayload, eapRespData, len);
217	tempPayload[len] = cborcryptosuite[0];
218	tempPayload[len+1] = cborcryptosuite[1];
219	
220	// 3rd parameter in set_reponse_payload is size_t length. Is the data type size_t is
	unsigned integral type. It represents the size of any object in bytes and returned by sizeof



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	operator. It is used for array indexing and counting. It can never be negative. The return
	type of strcspn, strlen functions is size_t.
221	REST.set_response_payload(response, tempPayload, len+2);
222	(/ see orbiting h in struct post implementation status for the so des
223	<pre>// see erbium.h in struct rest_implementation_status for the codes REST.set_response_status(response, REST.status.CREATED);</pre>
224	
225	REST.set_header_content_type(response, REST.type.TEXT_PLAIN); /* text/plain is the default, hence this option could be omitted. */
226	REST.set_header_location(response, resource_hateoas.url);
227	
228	-in how Covit of Court 1.
229	cipherSuitesSent = 1;
230	printf(?) count of Q is the $Q(A) = 2$ count of $Q(A) = 2$
231	$printf("counterCryptoSuite = %d\n", counterCryptoSuite);$
232	counterCryptoSuite++;
233	printf("conDegrange Date + Circle resites, ")
234	printf ("eapResponse Data + Ciphersuites: ");
235	$printf_hex(tempPayload, len+2);$
236	}
237	}
238	// grouting this until the EAD key is socilable
239	// executing this until the EAP key is available
240	// Setting OSCORE payload after the eapKey is available
241	else {
242	// Here we would verify the OSCORE Option
243	(0, 10, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0
244	unsigned char oscore_payload $[10] = \{0x19, 0xf7, 0xcc, 0x6a, 0x15, 0x20, 0x8b, 0x2d, 0xab\};$
245	unsigned char testzero $[1] = \{0x00\};$
246	(/ to do and a antion to the number level which we do to be $(//)$
247	// to do: add a option to the payload which needs to be sent to the controller.
248	<pre>// addOption(response,COAP_OPTION_OSCORE, 0, testzero); // addOption(response,COAP_OPTION_OSCORE, 0, testzero);</pre>
249	// setPayload(response, oscore_payload, 9);
250	
251	printf ("EAP Key is available!\n");
252	
253	
254	#endif
K	A Star Star Star Star Star Star Star Star



```
255
                                                            256
25
   // Defines for the EAP state machine
258
   \#define SEQ_LEN 22
   #define KEY_LEN 16
260
   #define AUTH_LEN 16
261
265
   PROCESS(rest_server_example, "Erbium Server with HATEOAS");
263
   // PROCESS(coap_client_example, "COAP Client Example");
264
   // AUTOSTART_PROCESSES(&rest_server_example, &coap_client_example);
26
   AUTOSTART_PROCESSES(&rest_server_example);
266
267
   PROCESS_THREAD(rest_server_example, ev, data)
26
269
   ł
     PROCESS_BEGIN();
270
271
     // Code for calling the EAP state machine
272
     unsigned char auth_key[KEY_LEN] = \{0\};
273
     unsigned char sequence [SEQ\_LEN] = \{0\};
274
275
     memset(&msk_key,0, MSK_LENGTH);
276
     eapRestart=TRUE;
277
     eap_peer_sm_step(NULL);
278
279
     cipherSuitesSent = 0;
280
281
     memset(&auth_key, 0, AUTH_LEN);
282
283
     memset(&sequence, 0, SEQ_LEN);
284
     eapKeyAvailable = 0;
285
286
     // End of Code for the EAP state machine
287
288
     PRINTF("Starting Erbium on the Mote with HATEOAS implementation\n");
289
290
     /* Initialize the REST engine. */
291
```



```
rest_init_engine ();
292
293
     /* Activate the application-specific resources. */
294
295
   #if REST_RES_HATEOAS
296
      rest_activate_resource (& resource_hateoas);
291
   #endif
298
299
                          300
303
       // waiting 15 seconds so that the tunslip tunnel is established and the rest engine loaded
302
       etimer_set(&et, 15 * CLOCK\_SECOND);
303
       int initial_request_sent = 0;
304
30
       /* Define application-specific events here. */
306
307
       while (1)
308
       {
309
         PROCESS_WAIT_EVENT();
310
311
         // Sending the request only once
312
         if (etimer_expired(&et) && (initial_request_sent == 0)) {
313
            initial_request_sent = 1;
314
           static coap_packet_t initialRequest [1];
315
316
           SERVER_NODE(&server_ipaddr);
317
318
           coap_init_message(initialRequest, COAP_TYPE_NON, COAP_POST, 0);
310
           // sending the first and only request of the IoT device to the CoAP-EAP controllers
320
       resource /.well-known/coap-eap/
           coap_set_header_uri_path(initialRequest, "/.well-known/coap-eap");
32
322
           // setting the payload to the resources initial name
           coap_set_payload(initialRequest, &urlString, sizeof(urlString));
323
           // acutally sending the CoAP request
324
           COAP_BLOCKING_REQUEST(&server_ipaddr, REMOTE_PORT, initialRequest, NULL);
325
       }
326
```



