

**NAME**

life\_cycle-pkey – The PKEY algorithm life-cycle

**DESCRIPTION**

All public keys (PKEYs) go through a number of stages in their life-cycle:

**start**

This state represents the PKEY before it has been allocated. It is the starting state for any life-cycle transitions.

**newed**

This state represents the PKEY after it has been allocated.

**decapsulate**

This state represents the PKEY when it is ready to perform a private key decapsulation operation.

**decrypt**

This state represents the PKEY when it is ready to decrypt some ciphertext.

**derive**

This state represents the PKEY when it is ready to derive a shared secret.

**digest sign**

This state represents the PKEY when it is ready to perform a private key signature operation.

**encapsulate**

This state represents the PKEY when it is ready to perform a public key encapsulation operation.

**encrypt**

This state represents the PKEY when it is ready to encrypt some plaintext.

**key generation**

This state represents the PKEY when it is ready to generate a new public/private key.

**parameter generation**

This state represents the PKEY when it is ready to generate key parameters.

**verify**

This state represents the PKEY when it is ready to verify a public key signature.

**verify recover**

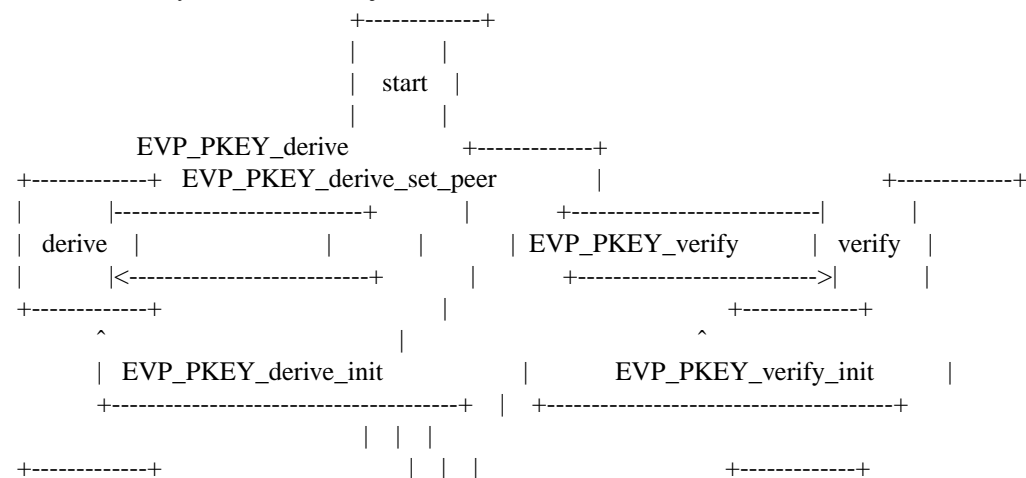
This state represents the PKEY when it is ready to recover a public key signature data.

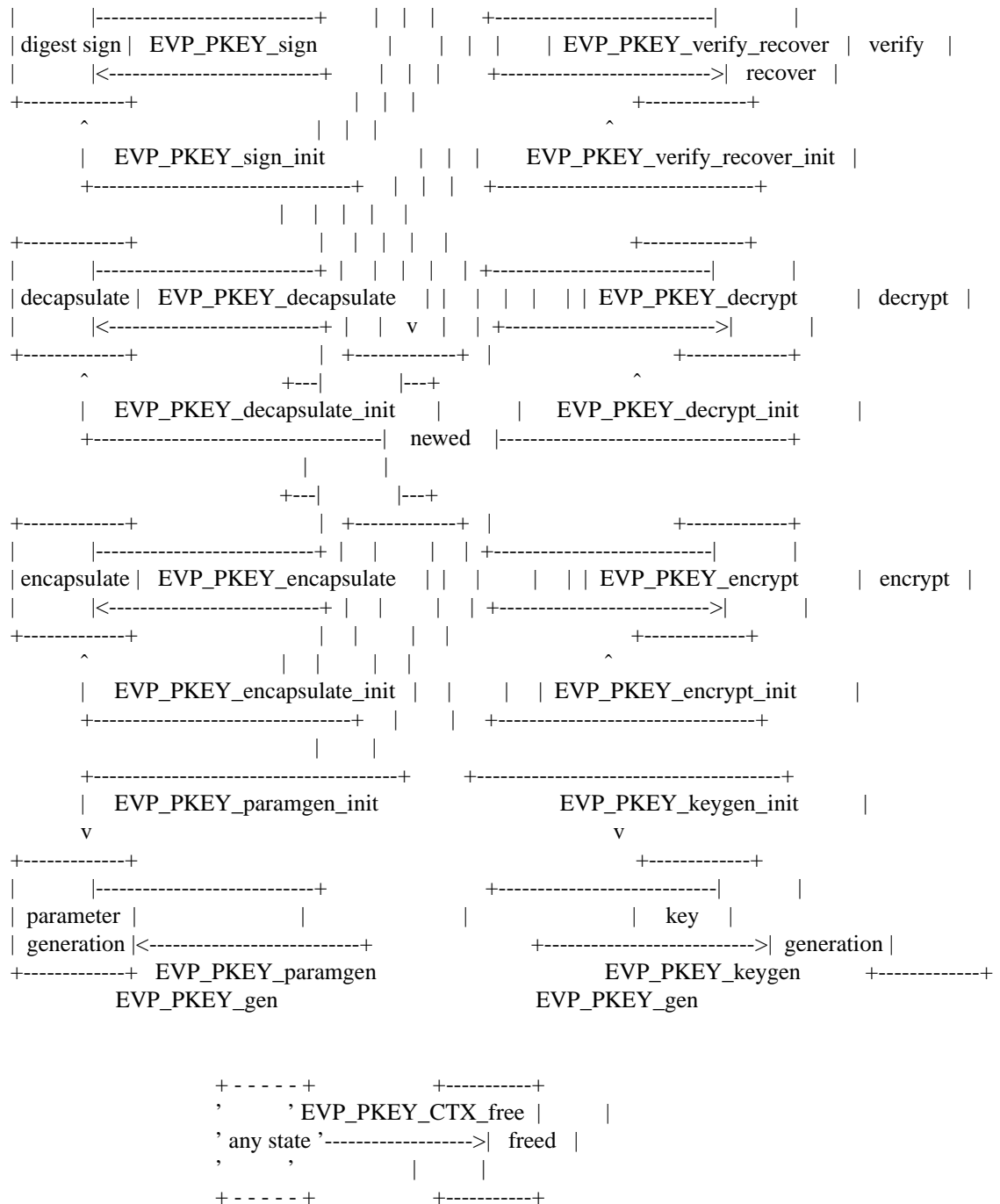
**freed**

This state is entered when the PKEY is freed. It is the terminal state for all life-cycle transitions.

**State Transition Diagram**

The usual life-cycle of a PKEY object is illustrated:





## Formal State Transitions

This section defines all of the legal state transitions. This is the canonical list.

Function	Call	Current	State
encapsulate	start decapsulate parameter sign	newed digest key freed	verify verify encrypt decrypt derive recover
generation	generation		
EVP_PKEY_CTX_new		newed	
EVP_PKEY_CTX_new_id		newed	
EVP_PKEY_CTX_new_from_name		newed	

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EVP_PKEY_CTX_new_from_pkey    newed
EVP_PKEY_sign_init            digest    digest    digest    digest    digest    digest    digest
digest    digest    digest    digest
sign    sign
EVP_PKEY_sign                  digest
sign
EVP_PKEY_verify_init          verify    verify    verify    verify    verify    verify    verify
verify    verify    verify    verify
EVP_PKEY_verify                verify
EVP_PKEY_verify_recover_init  verify    verify    verify    verify    verify    verify    verify
verify    verify    verify    verify
recover    recover    recover    recover    recover    recover    recover
recover    recover    recover    recover
EVP_PKEY_verify_recover        verify
recover
EVP_PKEY_encrypt_init          encrypt    encrypt    encrypt    encrypt    encrypt    encrypt
encrypt    encrypt    encrypt    encrypt    encrypt
EVP_PKEY_encrypt                encrypt
EVP_PKEY_decrypt_init          decrypt    decrypt    decrypt    decrypt    decrypt    decrypt
decrypt    decrypt    decrypt    decrypt    decrypt
EVP_PKEY_decrypt                decrypt
EVP_PKEY_derive_init           derive    derive    derive    derive    derive    derive    derive
derive    derive    derive    derive
EVP_PKEY_derive_set_peer      derive
EVP_PKEY_derive                derive
EVP_PKEY_encapsulate_init      encapsulate    encapsulate    encapsulate    encapsulate    encapsulate
encapsulate    encapsulate    encapsulate    encapsulate    encapsulate
EVP_PKEY_encapsulate            encapsulate
EVP_PKEY_decapsulate_init      decapsulate    decapsulate    decapsulate    decapsulate    decapsulate
decapsulate    decapsulate    decapsulate    decapsulate    decapsulate
EVP_PKEY_decapsulate            decapsulate
EVP_PKEY_paramgen_init         parameter    parameter    parameter    parameter    parameter
parameter    parameter    parameter    parameter    parameter
generation    generation    generation    generation    generation
generation    generation    generation    generation
EVP_PKEY_paramgen              parameter
EVP_PKEY_keygen_init           key    key    key    key    key    key    key
key    key    key    key
generation    generation    generation    generation    generation    generation
generation    generation    generation    generation
EVP_PKEY_keygen                key
generation
EVP_PKEY_gen                    generation
parameter    key
generation
EVP_PKEY_CTX_get_params        newed    digest    verify    verify    encrypt    decrypt
derive    encapsulate    decapsulate    parameter    key
sign    recover

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generation	generation								
EVP_PKEY_CTX_set_params			newed	digest	verify	verify	encrypt	decrypt	
derive	encapsulate	decapsulate	parameter	key					
			sign						recover
generation	generation								
EVP_PKEY_CTX_gettable_params			newed	digest	verify	verify	encrypt	decrypt	
derive	encapsulate	decapsulate	parameter	key					
			sign						recover
generation	generation								
EVP_PKEY_CTX_settable_params			newed	digest	verify	verify	encrypt	decrypt	
derive	encapsulate	decapsulate	parameter	key					
			sign						recover
generation	generation								
EVP_PKEY_CTX_free	freed	freed	freed	freed	freed	freed	freed	freed	freed
freed	freed	freed	freed						

**NOTES**

At some point the EVP layer will begin enforcing the transitions described herein.

**SEE ALSO**

<b>EVP_PKEY_new</b> (3),	<b>EVP_PKEY_decapsulate</b> (3),	<b>EVP_PKEY_decrypt</b> (3),
<b>EVP_PKEY_encapsulate</b> (3),	<b>EVP_PKEY_encrypt</b> (3),	<b>EVP_PKEY_derive</b> (3),
<b>EVP_PKEY_keygen</b> (3),	<b>EVP_PKEY_sign</b> (3),	<b>EVP_PKEY_verify</b> (3),
<b>EVP_PKEY_verify_recover</b> (3)		

**HISTORY**

The provider PKEY interface was introduced in OpenSSL 3.0.

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