

Secure Update Protocol

UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Overview

This secure protocol primary target is to program internal/external memories on final platform with [SFL](#) (or equivalent)*

Secure Update Protocol

In the following document, Secure Update Protocol for [RISC-V](#) is denominated as [SUP](#).

Specifications

Hereafter a list of features which are specification basis:

- This protocol is presented as "secure" because packets are covered with signature(s) and therefore cannot be accepted/processed if signature(s) is/are absent/corrupted/incoherent.
- This protocol is divided in 2 "layers":
 - "Physical layer" represented by packet abstraction.
 - "Logical layer" represented by command abstraction.
- This protocol enables implicitly the use of piece of code that is downloaded into internal [RAM](#) and executed from it. This feature is denominated "*applet*" in this document.
- This protocol cannot address directly external memories but using *applet*.
- Protocol allows to download multiple *applets* and/or execute it/them several times.
- A [SUP](#) packet is composed of one header, one payload, one security block and one [ECC](#) block.
- One communication session uses one session ID, using one/several packets, holding one command per packet.
- Session closure induces [SBR](#) to reset platform.
- Host sends next packet if, and only if it has previously received a communication acknowledgement from platform for previous packet treatment.
- [SUP](#) session always uses [STK](#), never [SSK/CSK](#) when platform's life cycle is **Phase#0**.
- [SUP](#) session always uses [SSK/CSK](#), never [STK](#) when platform's life cycle is **Phase#1**.
- [SUP](#) is inactive when platform's life cycle is **Phase#2**.
- [SUP](#) session always uses [SSK/CSK](#) and [UID](#), never [STK](#) when platform's life cycle is **Phase#U**.
- When [CUK](#) is present in [OTP](#), then [SSK](#) is no more used.
- Packet from platform to Host are only transmission acknowledgements with return error value. Except when platform performs *applet* execution; then it may answer back one/several response packets **after** last transmission acknowledgement.

Packet Format

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secure update packets

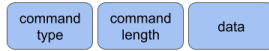
secure update protocol *host-to-target (htt)* packet format



header format:



payload format:



security format:



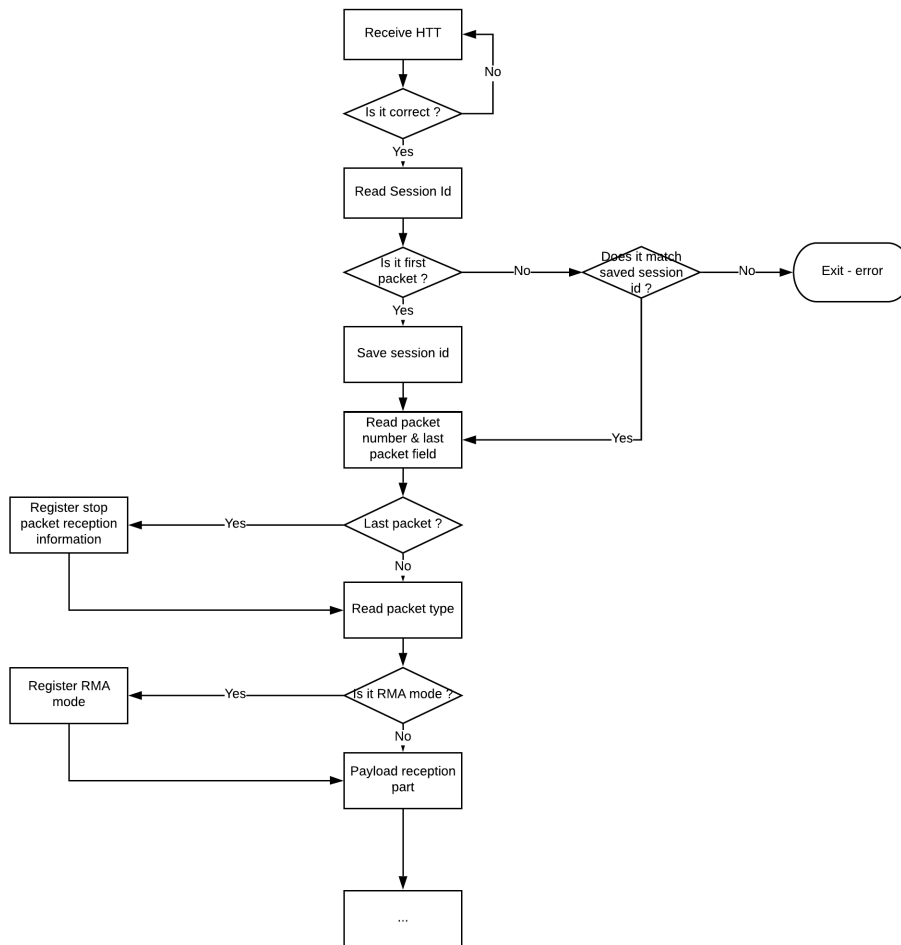
Header / Packet Layer

This "layer" can be considered as the "transport layer", meaning that it's where header and security check_(signature) are processed.

- The 'HTT Magic Word' - 4 Bytes - is a synchronization pattern - **0xAA51F17E**. It's used to trigger start of packet in incoming characters. SRC should loop_(with fixed characters depth) until pattern is received. When characters depth is triggered, then process exits with error, leading to SLB step.
- The 'Session ID' - 4 Bytes - given by Host must be constant during the whole communication session. This value range is '0x00000000' to '0xffffffff', with no specific value. If it varies, then process exits with error, leading to SLB step.
- The 'Packet Number' - 4 Bytes - is a monotonic counter, incremented with each packet, form '0x00000000'_(start value) to '0xffffffff'.
- The 'Last Packet' - 4 Bytes - When this field is set to specific pattern - **0x1A574AC8** -, It indicates that current packet_(whatever its value is) is the "last to receive packet". SBR does not expect any other packet after the current one; as a consequence, characters RX window is closed after receiving security part. If incoherence is pointed on this number, then process exits with error, leading to SLB step. For instance, if the communication has 4 packets, they are numbered 0, 1, 2 with 'Last Packet' at any value_(but specific one) ... and last 3 and 0x1A574AC8 as 'Last Packet'.
- The 'Packet Type' - 4 Bytes - field determines if current packet is "Generic" or "RMA". For this latter, the field UID is then relevant, meaning that value is checked with part's one. If it does not match, packet is rejected resulting in SUP end with error. When platform is in RMA mode, SBC only accepts RMA type packets.
- The 'Packet Length' - 4 Bytes - field gives the number of Bytes coming after the header. It includes payload and security part.

There is no rebroadcast for SUP packet if there's an error.

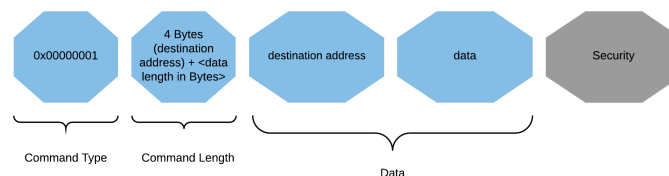
Packet Header Algorithm



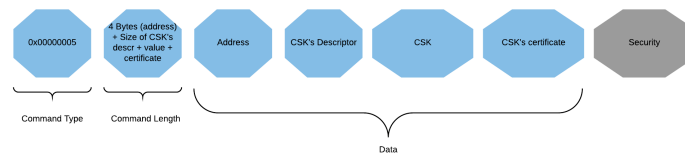
Payload / Command Layer

This "layer" can be considered as the "logical layer", meaning that it's where command is processed.

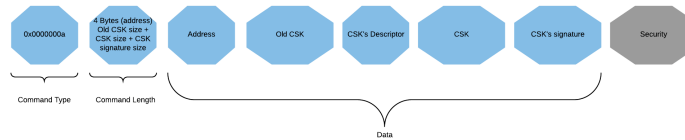
- The '**Command Type**' - 4 Bytes - field must be constant during the session. It gives the total number of segments expected for the whole communication session. It **does not** indicate the number of segments within the current packet. Value goes from '1' to '0xffffffff'. If it varies, then process exits with error, leading to **SLB** step.
- The '**Command Length**' - 4 Bytes - field gives the size of "payload" in this packet. Therefore, it is specific to each packet. If this size is incoherent, the process exits with error, leading to **SLB** step.
- The fields hereafter represents **one command**.
 - Hereafter are shown each command with its format. It can be:
 - 'write-data'** - **0x00000001** - copies '**Data**' to '**Address**'.



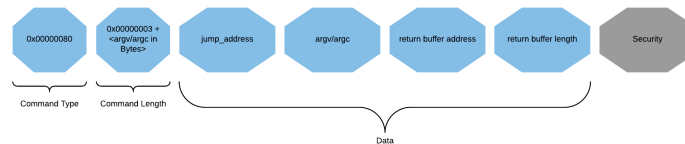
- 'write-csk'** - **0xa94f2cb5** - this very particular command extract **CSK** and its signature form '**Data**' to program both into **OTP** at dedicated location only if all **CSK**'s slots are free.



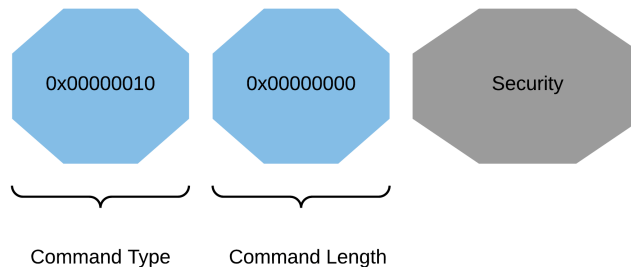
- **'update-csk'** - **0x68234fba** - performs same procedures as **'write-csk'** but when at least one slot is free (but not all).



- **'execute'** - **0x1e5dd280** - jumps into code located at '*jump_address*', gives '*argv/argc*' to code to be executed, indicates (if relevant) to SBR, address and length of data to be sent back as a result of applet processing. Note that a session can have several **'execute'** segment. They're executed sequentially, and an applet response is sent after each **'execute'** process.



- **'get-info'** - **0xc3788d10** - it answers the SBC version number, the chip UID, the RAM section available for the applets, the OTP CSK last slot index.



Security

The "security" is composed of:

- **UID** (optional): 16 Bytes - This is the chipset serial number. This field is only present in packet when session is 'RMA' not generic.
- **Number of signature(s)**: 4 Bytes - SBR supports multiple signatures, but all ultimately referring to CSK.
- **Signature number**: 4 Bytes - value starts from '0' to ('**Number of signature(s)**' - 1). Note that this signature identifier must be monotonic.
- **PK chain** (optional): m Bytes - It represents a certificates chain. Root is CSK.
- **Signature**: 96 Bytes - an ECDSA secp384r1 signature depending on previous PK Chain.

'PK Chain' structure is shown below:



PK chain:



A PK chain is a chain of public keys and certificates.
It allows to create a trusted link between the root, trusted key, the CSK (or the CUK for *update-csk* or the SSK for *write-csk*), stored on the chip and any other public key, provided in the packet, thanks to digital signatures.

- the "pub key" public key is certified by the previous public key in the chain using the "certificate"; the root key (beginning of the chain) is the CSK (or the CUK for *update-csk* or the SSK for *write-csk*)
- the "certs number" provides the number of certs, so the length of the PK chain (by "length", we meant the number of certificates to be checked)
- the descriptor gives informations on public key and its certificate, the algorithm and the certifying public key.

Please refer to 'PK Chain element format' paragraph for more detailed description.

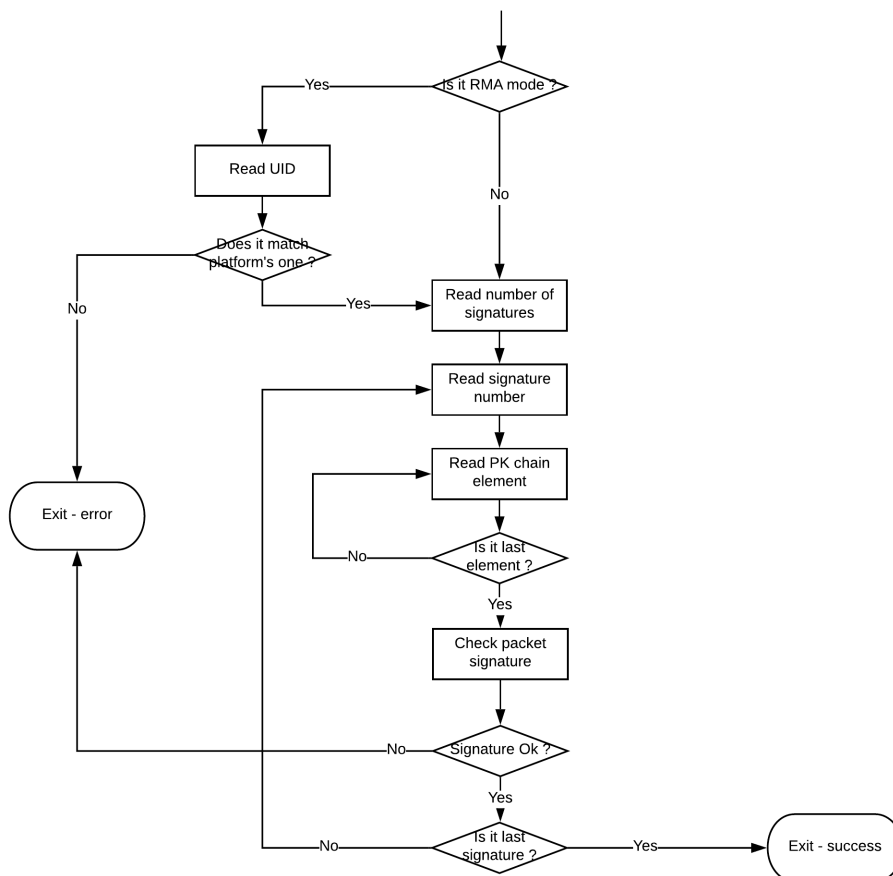
PK chain example



Note that for future use:

- Signature can use other curves (for ECDSA) or other algorithms (e.g. RSA).
- PK chain can use different keys lengths (different curves, greater or equal to secp384r1).

Security Algorithm



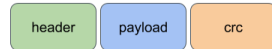
SUP Response Packet

This packet is sent by SBC to Host in response to packet sent from Host.



secure update packets

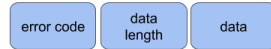
secure update protocol *target-to-host* (tth) packet format



header format:



payload format:



integrity format:



This packet is composed with:

- **TTH Magic Word**: 4 Bytes - This is a synchronization pattern. **0x5551F17E**
- **Session ID**: same during session communication.
- **Packet number**: same as previous incoming packet.
- **Packet Length**: covers 'Error Code' + 'Data Length' + 'Data' (if any) and 'CRC' fields. Minimum value is then 0x00000008.
- **Error Code**: 4 Bytes - Hereafter is shown "No Error" and "Segment Error" related values..
 - **0x00000000**: No Error..
 - **0x.....**: Error code coming from SBC.
- **Data Length**: gives size of 'Data' field in Bytes. This field is always present in response; if no data has to be transmitted, then its value is '0'.
- **Data**: field is present only if 'Data Length' is not '0'. Relevant only for 'GET-INFO' and 'EXEC UTE' return data if any.

Note that a specific response packet is returned by SBC after applet execution if this latter has to send data back to Host.

Again, one *applet* response corresponds to one 'execute' segment_(sequentially).

Applet

An applet is a procedure executed in SBC's context. Meaning that, even if it has virtually access to the whole platform, it must not interfere with existing data in iRAM, used IPs_(except if it's applet goal), ...

Format

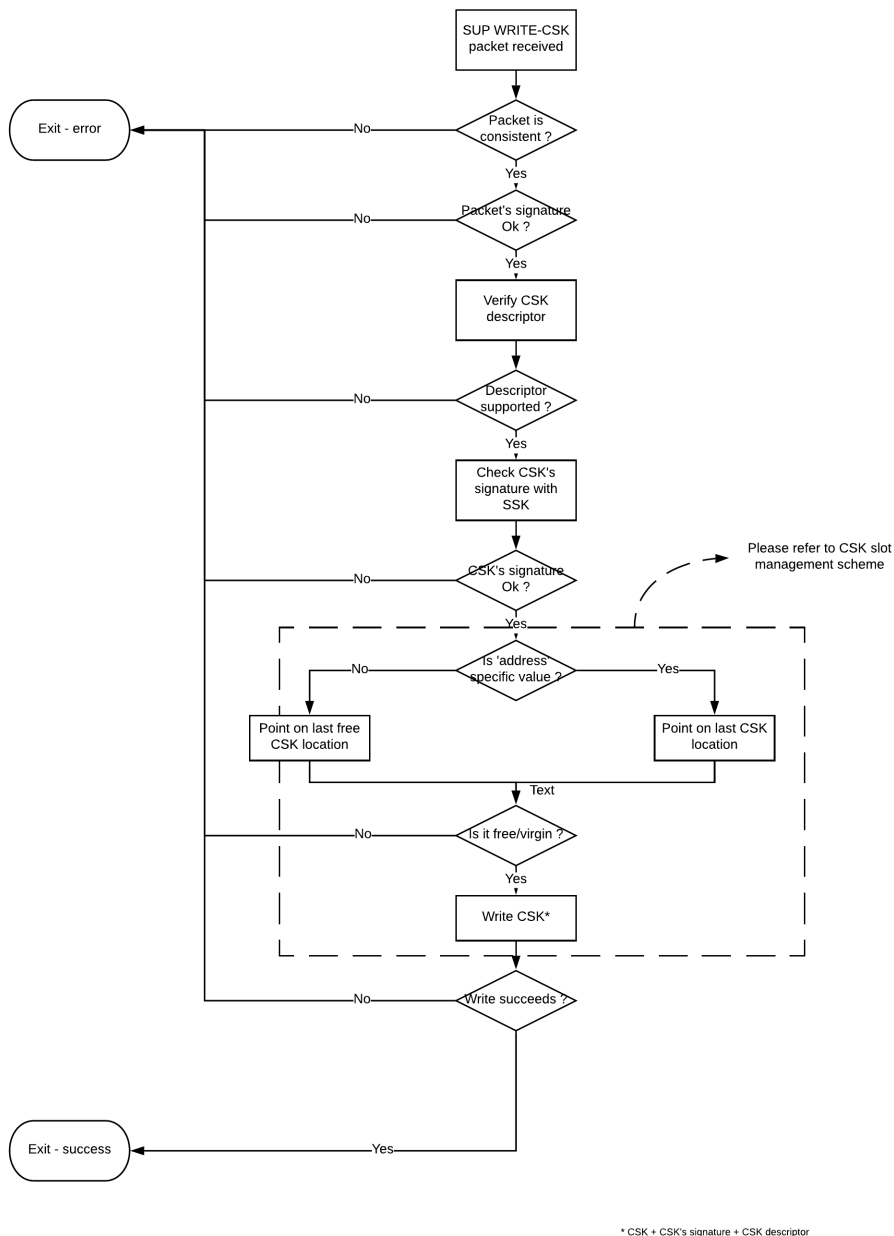
There is no specific format as for SLB or "patch". Its "execute" type segment that initiates applet execution with embedded parameters.

Applet always returns an "error" value to SBR but it can send back to Host a response buffer. This response buffer_(Data field) is managed by SUP as extra data in SUP response packet

Usecases

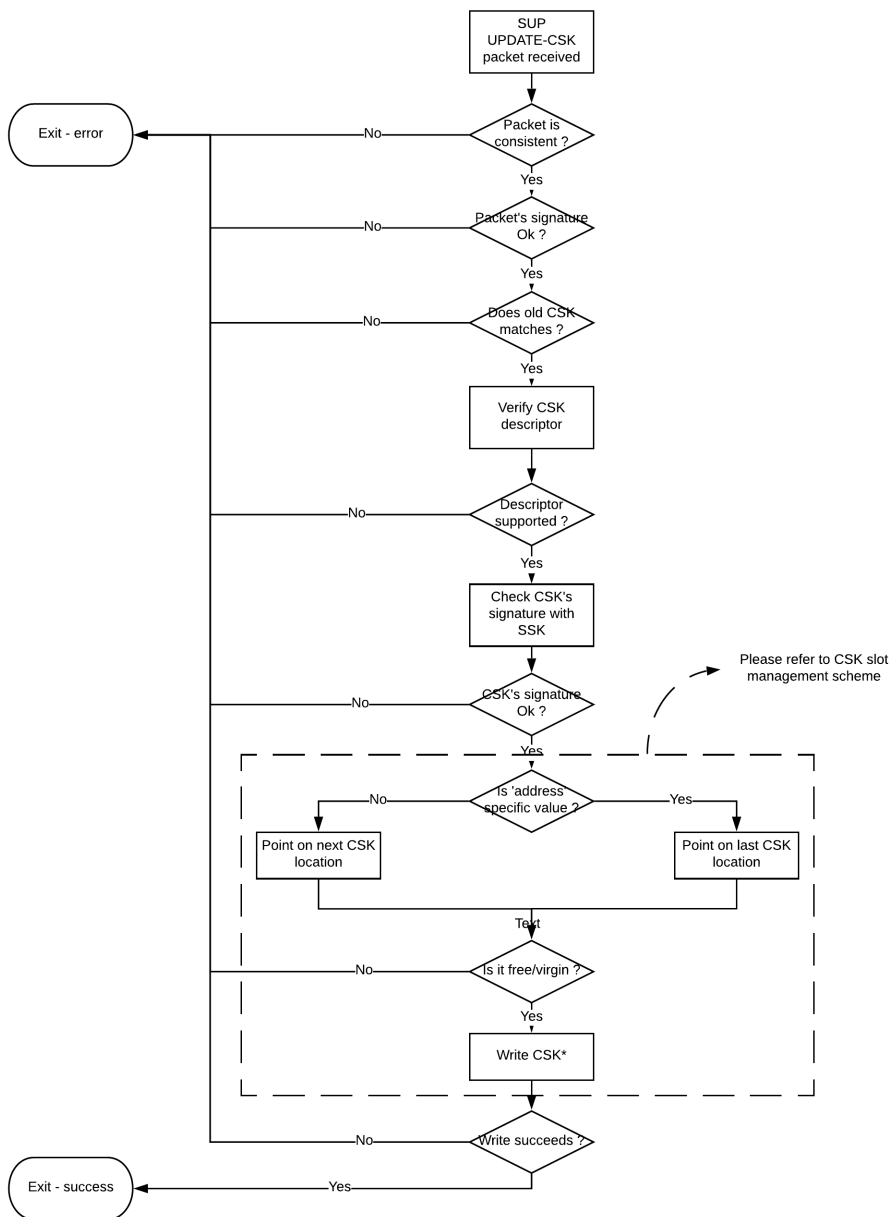
WRITE-CSK - nominal case

For this usecase, it starts after SUP packet reception and its check Ok.



UPDATE-CSK - nominal case

For this usecase, it starts after **SUP** packet reception and its check Ok.



* CSK + CSK's signature + CSK descriptor