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This section of the Katzenpost technical documentation provides an introduction to the software components that make up Katzenpost and guidance on how to configure each component. The intended reader is a system administrator who wants to implement a working, production Katzenpost network.

For information about the theory and design of this software, see Introducing Katzenpost, a modern mixnet [https://katzenpost.network/docs/admin_guide/introduction.html]. For a quickly deployable, non-production test network (primarily for use by developers), Using the Katzenpost Docker test network [https://katzenpost.network/docs/admin_guide/docker.html].

Understanding the Katzenpost components

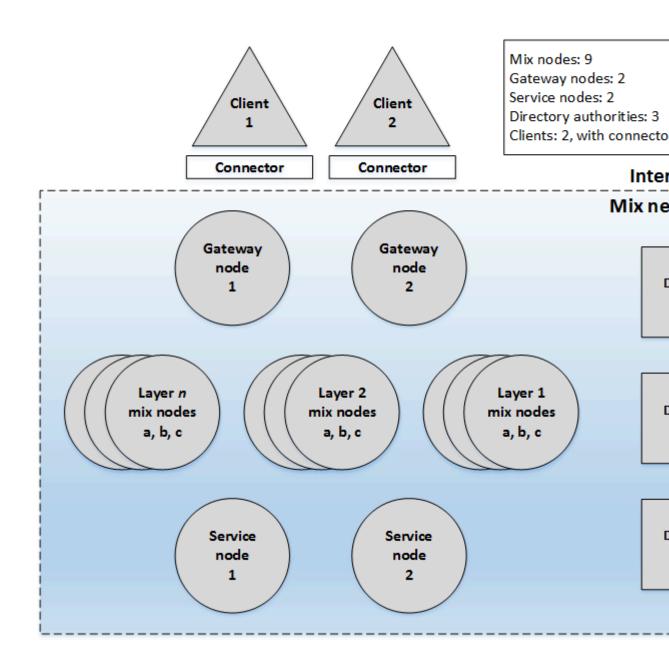
The core of Katzenpost consists of two program executables, dirauth [https://katzenpost.net-work/docs/admin_guide/operations.html#voter-usage] and server [https://katzenpost.network/docs/admin_guide/operations.html#server-usage]. Running the **dirauth** commmand runs a *directory authority* node, or *dirauth*, that functions as part of the mixnet's public-key infrastructure (PKI). Running the **server** runs either a *mix* node, a *gateway* node, or a *service* node, depending on the configuration. Configuration settings are provided in an associated katzenpost-authority.toml or katzenpost.toml file respectively.

In addition to the server components, Katzenpost also supports connections to client applications hosted externally to the mix network and communicating with it through gateway nodes.

A model mix network is shown in Figure 1.

Figure 1. The pictured element types correspond to discrete client and server programs that Katzenpost requires to function.

Components of a production mix network



The mix network contains an *n*-layer topology of mix-nodes, with three nodes per layer in this example. Sphinx packets traverse the network in one direction only. The gateway nodes allow clients to interact with the mix network. The service nodes provide mix network services that mix network clients can interact with. All messages sent by clients are handed to a *connector* daemon hosted on the client system, passed across the Internet to a gateway, and then relayed to a service node by way of the nine mix nodes. The service node sends its reply back across the mix-node layers to a gateway, which transmits it across the Internet to be received by the targeted client. The mix, gateway, and service nodes send *mix descriptors* to the dirauths and retrieve a *consensus document* from them, described below.

In addition to the server components, Katzenpost supports connections to client applications hosted externally to the mix network and communicating with it through gateway nodes and, in some cases, a client connector.

Directory authorities (dirauths)

Dirauths compose the decentralized public key infrastructure (PKI) that serves as the root of security for the entire mix network. Clients, mix nodes, gateways nodes, and service nodes rely on the PKI/dirauth system to maintain and sign an up-to-date consensus document, providing a view of the network including connection information and public cryptographic key materials and signatures.

Every 20 minutes (the current value for an *epoch*), each mix, gateway, and service node signs a mix descriptor and uploads it to the dirauths. The dirauths then vote on a new consensus document. If consensus is reached, each dirauth signs the document. Clients and nodes download the document as needed and verify the signatures. Consensus fails when 1/2 + 1 nodes fail, which yields greater fault tolerance than, for example, Byzantine Fault Tolerance, which fails when 1/3 + 1 of the nodes fail.

The PKI signature scheme is fully configurable by the dirauths. Our recommendation is to use a hybrid signature scheme consisting of classical Ed25519 and the post-quantum, stateless, hash-based signature scheme known as Sphincs+ (with the parameters: "sphincs-shake-256f"), which is designated in Katzenpost configurations as "Ed25519 Sphincs+". Examples are provided below.

Mix nodes

The mix node is the fundamental building block of the mix network.

Katzenpost mix nodes are arranged in a layered topology to achieve the best levels of anonymity and ease of analysis while being flexible enough to scale with traffic demands.

Gateway nodes

Gateway nodes provide external client access to the mix network. Because gateways are uniquely positioned to identify clients, they are designed to have as little information about client behavior as possible. Gateways are randomly selected and have no persistent relationship with clients and no knowledge of whether a client's packets are decoys or not. When client traffic through a gateway is slow, the node additionally generates decoy traffic.

Service nodes

Service nodes provide functionality requested by clients. They are logically positioned at the deepest point of the mix network, with incoming queries and outgoing replies both needing to traverse all *n* layers of mix nodes. A service node's functionality may involve storing messages, publishing information outside of the mixnet, interfacing with a blockchain node, and so on. Service nodes also process decoy packets.

Clients

Client applications should be designed so that the following conditions are met:

- Separate service requests from a client are unlinkable. Repeating the same request may be lead to linkability.
- Service nodes and clients have no persistent relationship.
- Cleints generate a stream of packets addressed to random or pseudorandom services regardless of whether a real service request is being made. Most of these packets will be decoy traffic.
- Traffic from a client to a service node must be correctly coupled with decoy traffic. This can mean that the service node is chosen independently from traffic history, or that the transmitted packet replaces a decoy packet that was meant to go to the desired service.

Katzenpost currently includes several client applications. All applications make extensive use of Sphinx single-use reply blocks (SURBs), which enable service nodes to send replies without knowing the location of the client. Newer clients require a connection through the client *connector*, which provides multiplexing and privilege separation with a consequent reduction in processing overhead. These clients also implement the Pigeonhole storage and BACAP protocols detailed in **Place-holder for research paper link**.

The following client applications are available.

Table 1. Katzenpost clients

Name	Needs connector	Description	Code
Ping	no	The mix network equivalent of an ICMP ping utility, used for network testing.	-
Katzen	no	A text chat client with file-transfer support.	GitHub: katzen [https://github.com/katzenpost/katzen]
Status	yes	An HTML page containing status information about the mix network.	•
Worldmap	yes	An HTML page with a world map showing geographic locations of mix network nodes.	[https://github.com/

Configuring Katzenpost

This section documents the configuration parameters for each type of Katzenpost server node. Each node has its own configuration file in TOML [https://toml.io/en/v1.0.0] format.

Configuring directory authorities

The following configuration is drawn from the reference implementation in katzenpost/dock-er/dirauth_mixnet/auth1/authority.toml. In a real-world mixnet, the component hosts would not be sharing a single IP address. For more information about the test mixnet, see Using the Katzenpost Docker test network [https://katzenpost.network/docs/admin_guide/dock-er.html].

Table 2. Directory authority (dirauth) configuration sections

Dirauth: Server section
Dirauth: Authorities section
Dirauth: Logging section
Dirauth: Parameters section
Dirauth: Debug section
Dirauth: Mixes sections
Dirauth: GatewayNodes section
Dirauth: ServiceNodes sections
Dirauth: Topology section
Dirauth: SphinxGeometry section

Dirauth: Server section

The Server section configures mandatory basic parameters for each directory authority.

```
[Server]
    Identifier = "auth1"
    WireKEMScheme = "xwing"
    PKISignatureScheme = "Ed25519 Sphincs+"
    Addresses = ["tcp://127.0.0.1:30001"]
    DataDir = "/dirauth mixnet/auth1"
```

Identifier

Specifies the human-readable identifier for a node, and must be unique per mixnet. The identifier can be an FQDN but does not have to be.

Type: string
Required: Yes

WireKEMScheme

Specifies the key encapsulation mechanism (KEM) scheme for the PQ Noise [https://eprint.i-acr.org/2022/539]-based wire protocol (link layer) that nodes use to communicate with each other. PQ Noise is a post-quantum variation of the Noise protocol framework [https://noiseprotocol.org/], which algebraically transforms ECDH handshake patterns into KEM encapsulate/decapsulate operations.

This configuration option supports the optional use of hybrid post-quantum cryptography to strengthen security. The following KEM schemes are supported:

• Classical: "x25519", "x448"

Note

X25519 and X448 are actually non-interactive key-exchanges (NIKEs), not KEMs. Katzenpost uses a hashed ElGamal cryptographic construction to convert them from NIKEs to KEMs.

- Post-quantum: "mlkem768", "sntrup4591761", "frodo640shake", "mceliece348864", "mceliece348864f", "mceliece460896f", "mceliece460896f", "mceliece6688128f", "mceliece6960119f", "mceliece6960119f", "mceliece8192128f", "CTIDH511", "CTIDH512", "CTIDH1024", "CTIDH2048",
- Hybrid post-quantum: "xwing", "Kyber768-X25519", "MLKEM768-X25519", "MLKEM768-X448", "FrodoKEM-640-SHAKE-X448", "sntrup4591761-X448", "mceliece348864-"mceliece460896-X25519", X25519", "mceliece348864f-X25519", "mceliece460896f-"mceliece6688128f-X25519", "mceliece6688128-X25519", X25519", "mceliece6960119-X25519", "mceliece6960119f-X25519", "mceliece8192128-X25519", "mceliece8192128f-X25519", "CTIDH512-X25519", "CTIDH512-X25519"

Type: string

Required: Yes • PKISignatureScheme

Specifies the cryptographic signature scheme which will be used by all components of the mix network when interacting with the PKI system. Mix nodes sign their descriptors using this signature scheme, and dirauth nodes similarly sign PKI documents using the same scheme.

The following signature schemes are supported: "ed25519", "ed448", "Ed25519 Sphincs+", "Ed448-Sphincs+", "Ed25519-Dilithium2", "Ed448-Dilithium3"

Type: string
Required: Yes

Addresses

Specifies a list of one or more address URLs in a format that contains the transport protocol, IP address, and port number that the node will bind to for incoming connections. Katzenpost supports URLs with that start with either "tcp://" or "quic://" such as: ["tcp://192.168.1.1:30001"] and ["quic://192.168.1.1:40001"].

Type: []string Required: Yes

• DataDir

Specifies the absolute path to a node's state directory. This is where persistence.db is written to disk and where a node stores its cryptographic key materials when started with the "-g" command-line option.

Type: string
Required: Yes

Dirauth: Authorities section

An Authorities section is configured for each peer authority. We recommend using TOML's style [https://quickref.me/toml.html] for multi-line quotations for key materials.

```
[[Authorities]]
    Identifier = "auth1"
    IdentityPublicKey = """
----BEGIN ED25519 PUBLIC KEY----
dYpXpbozjFfqhR45ZC2q97SOOsXMANdHaEdXrP42CJk=
  ---END ED25519 PUBLIC KEY----
   PKISignatureScheme = "Ed25519"
   LinkPublicKey = """
----BEGIN XWING PUBLIC KEY----
ooQBPYNdmfwnxXmvnljPA2mG5gWgurfHhbY87DMRY2tbMeZpinJ5BlSiIecprnmm
QqxcS9o36IS62SVMlOUkw+XEZGVvc9wJqHpqEqVJRAs1PCR8cUAdM6QIYLWt/lkf
SPKDCtZ3GiSIOzMuaglo2tarIPEv1AY7r9B0xXOgSKMkGyBkCfw1VBZf46MM26NL
qHtNyQJnXski52003JpZRIhR40pFOhAAcMMAZDpMTVoxlcdR6WA4SlBiSceeJBqY
Yp9PlGhCimx9am99TrdLoLCdTHB6oowt8tss3POpIOxaSlquyeym/sBhkUrnXOqN
ldMtDsvvc9KUfE4I0+c+XQ==
----END XWING PUBLIC KEY----
   WireKEMScheme = "xwing"
   Addresses = ["tcp://127.0.0.1:30001"]
```

Identifier

Specifies the human-readable identifier for the node which must be unique per mixnet. The identifier can be an FQDN but does not have to be.

Type: string

Required: Yes

· IdentityPublicKey

String containing the node's public identity key in PEM format. IdentityPublicKey is the node's permanent identifier and is used to verify cryptographic signatures produced by its private identity key.

Type: string

Required: Yes

• PKISignatureScheme

Specifies the cryptographic signature scheme used by all directory authority nodes. PKISignatureScheme must match the scheme specified in the Server section of the configuration.

Type: string

Required: Yes

LinkPublicKey

String containing the peer's public link-layer key in PEM format. LinkPublicKey must match the specified WireKEMScheme.

Type: string

Required: Yes

• WireKEMScheme

Specifies the key encapsulation mechanism (KEM) scheme for the PQ Noise [https://eprint.i-acr.org/2022/539]-based wire protocol (link layer) that nodes use to communicate with each other. PQ Noise is a post-quantum variation of the Noise protocol framework [https://noiseprotocol.org/], which algebraically transforms ECDH handshake patterns into KEM encapsulate/decapsulate operations.

This configuration option supports the optional use of hybrid post-quantum cryptography to strengthen security. The following KEM schemes are supported:

• Classical: "x25519", "x448"

Note

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- Post-quantum: "mlkem768", "sntrup4591761", "frodo640shake", "mceliece348864", "mceliece348864f", "mceliece460896f", "mceliece460896f", "mceliece6688128f", "mceliece6960119f", "mceliece6960119f", "mceliece8192128f", "CTIDH511", "CTIDH512", "CTIDH1024", "CTIDH2048",
- Hybrid post-quantum: "xwing", "Kyber768-X25519", "MLKEM768-X25519", "MLKEM768-X448", "FrodoKEM-640-SHAKE-X448", "sntrup4591761-X448", "mceliece348864-X25519", "mceliece348864f-X25519", "mceliece460896f-X25519", "mceliece6688128-X25519", "mceliece6688128f-X25519", "mceliece6960119-

```
X25519", "mceliece6960119f-X25519", "mceliece8192128-X25519", "mceliece8192128f-X25519", "CTIDH512-X25519", "CTIDH512-X25519"
```

Type: string
Required: Yes

Addresses

Specifies a list of one or more address URLs in a format that contains the transport protocol, IP address, and port number that the node will bind to for incoming connections. Katzenpost supports URLs with that start with either "tcp://" or "quic://" such as: ["tcp://192.168.1.1:30001"] and ["quic://192.168.1.1:40001"].

Type: []string Required: Yes

Dirauth: Logging section

The Logging configuration section controls logging behavior across Katzenpost.

[Logging]

```
Disable = false
File = "katzenpost.log"
Level = "INFO"
```

• Disable

If **true**, logging is disabled.

Type: bool Required: No

File

Specifies the log file. If omitted, stdout is used.

An absolute or relative file path can be specified. A relative path is relative to the DataDir specified in the Server section of the configuration.

Type: string
Required: No

Level

Supported logging level values are ERROR | WARNING | NOTICE | INFO | DEBUG.

Type: string
Required: No

Warning

The DEBUG log level is unsafe for production use.

Dirauth: Parameters section

The Parameters section contains the network parameters.

```
[Parameters]

SendRatePerMinute = 0

Mu = 0.005

MuMaxDelay = 1000

LambdaP = 0.001

LambdaPMaxDelay = 1000

LambdaL = 0.0005

LambdaLMaxDelay = 1000

LambdaD = 0.0005

LambdaDMaxDelay = 3000

LambdaM = 0.0005

LambdaG = 0.0

LambdaGMaxDelay = 100

LambdaGMaxDelay = 100

LambdaGMaxDelay = 100
```

• SendRatePerMinute

Specifies the maximum allowed rate of packets per client per gateway node. Rate limiting is done on the gateway nodes.

Type: uint64

Required: Yes

• Mu

Specifies the inverse of the mean of the exponential distribution from which the Sphinx packet perhop mixing delay will be sampled.

Type: float64

Required: Yes

MuMaxDelay

Specifies the maximum Sphinx packet per-hop mixing delay in milliseconds.

Type: uint64

Required: Yes

LambdaP

Specifies the inverse of the mean of the exponential distribution that clients sample to determine the time interval between sending messages, whether actual messages from the FIFO egress queue or decoy messages if the queue is empty.

Type: float64

Required: Yes

LambdaPMaxDelay

Specifies the maximum send delay interval for LambdaP in milliseconds.

Type: uint64

Required: Yes

• LambdaL

Specifies the inverse of the mean of the exponential distribution that clients sample to determine the delay interval between loop decoys.

Type: float64 Required: Yes

LambdaLMaxDelay

Specifies the maximum send delay interval for LambdaL in milliseconds.

Type: uint64
Required: Yes

LambdaD

LambdaD is the inverse of the mean of the exponential distribution that clients sample to determine the delay interval between decoy drop messages.

Type: float64 Required: Yes

· LambdaDMaxDelay

Specifies the maximum send interval in for LambdaD in milliseconds.

Type: uint64 Required: Yes

LambdaM

LambdaM is the inverse of the mean of the exponential distribution that mix nodes sample to determine the delay between mix loop decoys.

Type: float64 Required: Yes

• LambdaG

LambdaG is the inverse of the mean of the exponential distribution that gateway nodes to select the delay between gateway node decoys.

Warning

Do not set this value manually in the TOML configuration file. The field is used internally by the dirauth server state machine.

Type: float64
Required: Yes

· LambdaMMaxDelay

Specifies the maximum delay for LambdaM in milliseconds.

Type: uint64 Required: Yes

· LambdaGMaxDelay

Specifies the maximum delay for LambdaG in milliseconds.

Type: uint64
Required: Yes

Dirauth: Debug section

```
[Debug]
  Layers = 3
  MinNodesPerLayer = 1
  GenerateOnly = false
```

Layers

Specifies the number of non-service-provider layers in the network topology.

Type: int

Required: Yes

• MinNodesrPerLayer

Specifies the minimum number of nodes per layer required to form a valid consensus document.

Type: int

Required: Yes

· GenerateOnly

If true, the server halts and cleans up the data directory immediately after long-term key generation.

Type: bool

Required: No

Dirauth: Mixes sections

The Mixes configuration sections list mix nodes that are known to the authority.

```
[[Mixes]]
    Identifier = "mix1"
    IdentityPublicKeyPem = "../mix1/identity.public.pem"

[[Mixes]]
    Identifier = "mix2"
    IdentityPublicKeyPem = "../mix2/identity.public.pem"

[[Mixes]]
    Identifier = "mix3"
    IdentityPublicKeyPem = "../mix3/identity.public.pem"
```

• Identifier

Specifies the human-readable identifier for a mix node, and must be unique per mixnet. The identifier can be an FQDN but does not have to be.

Type: string

Required: Yes

· IdentityPublicKeyPem

Path and file name of a mix node's public identity signing key, also known as the identity key, in PEM format.

Type: string Required: Yes

Dirauth: GatewayNodes section

The GatewayNodes sections list gateway nodes that are known to the authority.

```
[[GatewayNodes]]
    Identifier = "gateway1"
    IdentityPublicKeyPem = "../gateway1/identity.public.pem"
```

Identifier

Specifies the human-readable identifier for a gateway node, and must be unique per mixnet. Identifier can be an FQDN but does not have to be.

Type: string
Required: Yes

· IdentityPublicKeyPem

Path and file name of a gateway node's public identity signing key, also known as the identity key, in PEM format.

Type: string Required: Yes

Dirauth: ServiceNodes sections

The ServiceNodes sections list service nodes that are known to the authority.

```
[[ServiceNodes]]
    Identifier = "servicenodel"
    IdentityPublicKeyPem = "../servicenodel/identity.public.pem"
```

• Identifier

Specifies the human-readable identifier for a service node, and must be unique per mixnet. Identifier can be an FQDN but does not have to be.

Type: string
Required: Yes

· IdentityPublicKeyPem

Path and file name of a service node's public identity signing key, also known as the identity key, in PEM format.

Type: string
Required: Yes

Dirauth: Topology section

The Topology section defines the layers of the mix network and the mix nodes in each layer.

[Topology]

```
[[Topology.Layers]]

[[Topology.Layers.Nodes]]
    Identifier = "mix1"
    IdentityPublicKeyPem = "../mix1/identity.public.pem"

[[Topology.Layers]]

[[Topology.Layers.Nodes]]
    Identifier = "mix2"
    IdentityPublicKeyPem = "../mix2/identity.public.pem"

[[Topology.Layers]]

[[Topology.Layers.Nodes]]
    Identifier = "mix3"
    IdentityPublicKeyPem = "../mix3/identity.public.pem"
```

Identifier

Specifies the human-readable identifier for a node, and must be unique per mixnet. The identifier can be an FQDN but does not have to be.

Type: string

· IdentityPublicKeyPem

Path and file name of a mix node's public identity signing key, also known as the identity key, in PEM format.

Type: string
Required: Yes

Dirauth: SphinxGeometry section

Sphinx is an encrypted nested-packet format designed primarily for mixnets. The original Sphinx paper [https://www.freehaven.net/anonbib/cache/DBLP:conf/sp/DanezisG09.pdf] described a non-interactive key exchange (NIKE) employing classical encryption. The Katzenpost implementation strongly emphasizes configurability, supporting key encapsulation mechanisms (KEMs) as well as NIKEs, and enabling the use of either classical or hybrid post-quantum cryptography. Hybrid constructions offset the newness of post-quantum algorithms by offering heavily tested classical algorithms as a fallback.

Note

Sphinx, the nested-packet format, should not be confused with Sphincs or Sphincs+ [http://sphincs.org/index.html], which are post-quantum signature schemes.

Katzenpost Sphinx also relies on the following classical cryptographic primitives:

- CTR-AES256, a stream cipher
- HMAC-SHA256, a message authentication code (MAC) function
- HKDF-SHA256, a key derivation function (KDF)

• AEZv5, a strong pseudorandom permutation (SPRP)

All dirauths must be configured to use the same SphinxGeometry parameters. Any geometry not advertised by the PKI document will fail. Each dirauth publishes the hash of its SphinxGeometry parameters in the PKI document for validation by its peer dirauths.

The SphinxGeometry section defines parameters for the Sphinx encrypted nested-packet format used internally by Katzenpost.

Warning

The values in the SphinxGeometry configuration section must be programmatically generated by **gensphinx**. Many of the parameters are interdependent and cannot be individually modified. Do not modify the these values by hand.

The settings in this section are generated by the **gensphinx** utility, which computes the Sphinx geometry based on the following user-supplied directives:

- The number of mix node layers (not counting gateway and service nodes)
- The length of the application-usable packet payload
- The selected NIKE or KEM scheme

The output in TOML should then be pasted unchanged into the node's configuration file, as shown below. For more information, see Appendix: Using gensphinx [https://katzenpost.network/docs/admin_guide/gensphinx-appendix.html].

```
[SphinxGeometry]
```

```
PacketLength = 3082
NrHops = 5
HeaderLength = 476
RoutingInfoLength = 410
PerHopRoutingInfoLength = 82
SURBLength = 572
SphinxPlaintextHeaderLength = 2
PayloadTagLength = 32
ForwardPayloadLength = 2574
UserForwardPayloadLength = 2574
UserForwardPayloadLength = 65
SPRPKeyMaterialLength = 64
NIKEName = "x25519"
KEMName = ""
```

· PacketLength

The length of a Sphinx packet in bytes.

Type: int Required: Yes

NrHops

The number of hops a Sphinx packet takes through the mixnet. Because packet headers hold destination information for each hop, the size of the header increases linearly with the number of hops.

Type: int Required: Yes

· HeaderLength

The total length of the Sphinx packet header in bytes.

Type: int

Required: Yes

RoutingInfoLength

The total length of the routing information portion of the Sphinx packet header.

Type: int

Required: Yes

• PerHopRoutingInfoLength

The length of the per-hop routing information in the Sphinx packet header.

Type: int

Required: Yes

• SURBLength

The length of a single-use reply block (SURB).

Type: int

Required: Yes

• SphinxPlaintextHeaderLength

The length of the plaintext Sphinx packet header.

Type: int

Required: Yes

· PayloadTagLength

The length of the payload tag.

Type: int

Required: Yes

• ForwardPayloadLength

The total size of the payload.

Type: int

Required: Yes

• UserForwardPayloadLength

The size of the usable payload.

Type: int

Required: Yes

NextNodeHopLength

The NextNodeHopLength is derived from the largest routing-information block that we expect to encounter. Other packets have NextNodeHop + NodeDelay sections, or a Recipient section, both of which are shorter.

Type: int

Required: Yes

· SPRPKeyMaterialLength

The length of the strong pseudo-random permutation (SPRP) key.

Type: int

Required: Yes

NIKEName

The name of the non-interactive key exchange (NIKE) scheme used by Sphinx packets.

NIKEName and KEMName are mutually exclusive.

Type: string
Required: Yes

KEMName

The name of the key encapsulation mechanism (KEM) used by Sphinx packets.

NIKEName and KEMName are mutually exclusive.

Type: string Required: Yes

Configuring mix nodes

The following configuration is drawn from the reference implementation in katzenpost/dock-er/dirauth_mixnet/mix1/katzenpost.toml. In a real-world mixnet, the component hosts would not be sharing a single IP address. For more information about the test mixnet, see Using the Katzenpost Docker test network [https://katzenpost.network/docs/admin_guide/docker.html].

Table 3. Mix node configuration sections

```
Mix node: Server section

Mix node: Logging section

Mix node: PKI section

Mix node: Management section

Mix node: SphinxGeometry section

Mix node: Debug section
```

Mix node: Server section

The Server section configures mandatory basic parameters for each server node.

```
[Server]
  Identifier = "mix1"
  WireKEM = "xwing"
```

```
PKISignatureScheme = "Ed25519"
Addresses = ["127.0.0.1:30008"]
OnlyAdvertiseAltAddresses = false
MetricsAddress = "127.0.0.1:30009"
DataDir = "/dirauth_mixnet/mix1"
IsGatewayNode = false
IsServiceNode = false
[Server.AltAddresses]
```

Identifier

Specifies the human-readable identifier for a node, and must be unique per mixnet. The identifier can be an FQDN but does not have to be.

Type: string
Required: Yes

WireKEM

WireKEM specifies the key encapsulation mechanism (KEM) scheme for the PQ Noise [https://eprint.iacr.org/2022/539]-based wire protocol (link layer) that nodes use to communicate with each other. PQ Noise is a post-quantum variation of the Noise protocol framework [https://noiseprotocol.org/], which algebraically transforms ECDH handshake patterns into KEM encapsulate/decapsulate operations.

This configuration option supports the optional use of hybrid post-quantum cryptography to strengthen security. The following KEM schemes are supported:

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X25519 and X448 are actually non-interactive key-exchanges (NIKEs), not KEMs. Katzenpost uses a hashed ElGamal cryptographic construction to convert them from NIKEs to KEMs.

- Post-quantum: "mlkem768", "sntrup4591761", "frodo640shake", "mceliece348864", "mceliece348864f", "mceliece460896f", "mceliece460896f", "mceliece6688128f", "mceliece6960119f", "mceliece6960119f", "mceliece8192128f", "CTIDH511", "CTIDH512", "CTIDH1024", "CTIDH2048",
- Hybrid post-quantum: "xwing", "Kyber768-X25519", "MLKEM768-X25519", "MLKEM768-"FrodoKEM-640-SHAKE-X448", "mceliece348864-X448", "sntrup4591761-X448", X25519", "mceliece348864f-X25519", "mceliece460896-X25519", "mceliece460896f-"mceliece6688128f-X25519", X25519", "mceliece6688128-X25519", "mceliece6960119-X25519", "mceliece6960119f-X25519", "mceliece8192128-X25519", "mceliece8192128f-X25519", "CTIDH512-X25519", "CTIDH512-X25519"

Type: string
Required: Yes

• PKISignatureScheme

Specifies the cryptographic signature scheme that will be used by all components of the mix network when interacting with the PKI system. Mix nodes sign their descriptors using this signature scheme, and dirauth nodes similarly sign PKI documents using the same scheme.

The following signature schemes are supported:

• Classical: "ed25519", "ed448"

• **Hybrid post-quantum:** "Ed25519 Sphincs+", "Ed448-Sphincs+", "Ed25519-Dilithium2", "Ed448-Dilithium3"

Type: string
Required: Yes

Addresses

Specifies a list of one or more address URLs in a format that contains the transport protocol, IP address, and port number that the server will bind to for incoming connections. Katzenpost supports URLs with that start with either "tcp://" or "quic://" such as: ["tcp://192.168.1.1:30001"] and ["quic://192.168.1.1:40001"].

Addresses is overridden if **BindAddresses** is **true**. In that scenario, one or more advertised, external addresses is provided as the value of **Addresses**, and is advertised in the PKI document.

Note that **BindAddresses**, below, holds the address values for non-adverstised, internal-only listeners. The addition of **BindAddresses** to the node configuration is required for hosts connecting to the Internet through network adddress translation (NAT).

Type: []string Required: Yes

BindAddresses

If **true**, allows setting of listener addresses that the server will bind to and accept connections on. These addresses are not advertised in the PKI document. For more information, see **Addresses**, above.

Type: bool, []string

Required: No

MetricsAddress

Specifies the address/port to bind the Prometheus metrics endpoint to.

Type: string Required: No

• DataDir

Specifies the absolute path to a node's state directory. This is where persistence.db is written to disk and where a node stores its cryptographic key materials when started with the "-g" commmand-line option.

Type: string

Required: Yes

IsGatewayNode

If **true**, the server is a gateway node.

Type: bool

Required: No

IsServiceNode

If **true**, the server is a service node.

Type: bool

Required: No

Mix node: Logging section

The Logging configuration section controls logging behavior across Katzenpost.

• Disable

If **true**, logging is disabled.

Type: bool

Required: No

• File

Specifies the log file. If omitted, stdout is used.

An absolute or relative file path can be specified. A relative path is relative to the DataDir specified in the Server section of the configuration.

Type: string
Required: No

• Level

Supported logging level values are ERROR | WARNING | NOTICE | INFO | DEBUG.

Type: string
Required: No

Warning

The DEBUG log level is unsafe for production use.

Mix node: PKI section

The PKI section contains the directory authority configuration for a mix, gateway, or service node.

```
----END ED25519 PUBLIC KEY----
        PKISignatureScheme = "Ed25519"
       LinkPublicKey = """----BEGIN XWING PUBLIC KEY----
JnJ8ztQEIjAkKJcpuZvJAdkWjBim/5G5d8yoosEQHeGJeeBqNPdm2AitUbpiQPcd
\verb+tNCo9DxuC9Ieqmsfw0YpV6AtOOsaInA6QnHDYcuBfZcQL5MU4+t2TzpBZQY1rSED+ \\
hPCKrAG+8GEU16akseG371WQzEtPpEWWCJCJOiS/VDFZT7eKrldlumN6qfiB84sR
arFh/WKwYJUj+aGBsFYSqGdzC6MdY4x/YyFe2ze0MJEjThQE91y1d/LCQ3Sb7Ri+
u6PBi3JU2qz1PEejDKwK0t5tMNEAkq8iNrpRTdD/hS0qR+ZIN8Z9OKh7Xf94FWG2
H+r8OaqImQhgHabrWRDyLg==
----END XWING PUBLIC KEY----
       WireKEMScheme = "xwing"
       Addresses = ["127.0.0.1:30001"]
    [[PKI.dirauth.Authorities]]
        Identifier = "auth2"
        IdentityPublicKey = """----BEGIN ED25519 PUBLIC KEY----
O51Ty2WLu4C1ETMa29s03bMXV72gnjJfTfwLV++LVBI=
----END ED25519 PUBLIC KEY----
        PKISignatureScheme = "Ed25519"
       LinkPublicKey = """----BEGIN XWING PUBLIC KEY----
TtQkg2XKUnY602FFBaPJ+zpN0Twy20cwyyFxh7FNUjaXA9MAJXs0vUwFbJc6BjYv
\verb|f+olknllkFSmDvcF74U6w1F00bugwTNKNxeYKPKhX4FiencUbRwkHoYHdtZdSctz||
TKy08qKQyCAccqCRpdo6ZtYXPAU+2rthjYTOL7Zn+7SHUKCuJClcPnvEYjVcJxtZ
ubJIe5U4nMJbBkOgr7Kq6niaEkiLODa0tkpB8tKMYTMBdcYyHSXCzpo7U9sb6LAR
HktiTBDtrXviu2vbw7VRXhkMW2kjYZDtReQ5sAse04DvmD49zgTp1YxYW+wWFaL3
37X7/SNuLdHX4PHZXIWHBQ==
----END XWING PUBLIC KEY----
       WireKEMScheme = "xwing"
        Addresses = ["127.0.0.1:30002"]
    [[PKI.dirauth.Authorities]]
        Identifier = "auth3"
        IdentityPublicKey = """----BEGIN ED25519 PUBLIC KEY----
zQvydRYJq3npeLcg1NqIf+SswEKE5wFmiwNsI9Z1whQ=
----END ED25519 PUBLIC KEY----
        PKISignatureScheme = "Ed25519"
       LinkPublicKey = """
----BEGIN XWING PUBLIC KEY----
OYK9FiC53xwZ1VST3jDOO4tR+cUMSVRSekmigZMChSjDCPZbKut8TblxtlUfc/yi
Ugorz4NIvYPMWUt3QPwS2UWq8/HMWXNGPUiAevg12+oV+jOJXaJeCfY24UekJnSw
TNcdGaFZFSR0FocFcPBBnrK1M2B8w8eEUKQIsXRDM3x/8aRIuDif+ve8rSwpgKeh
OdVD3yw70OS8uPZLORGQFyJbHtVmFPVvwja4G/o2gntAoHUZ2LiJJakpVhhlSyrI
yuzvwwFtZVfWtNb5gAKZCyg0aduR3qgd7MPerRF+YopZk3OCRpC02YxfUZrHv398
FZWJFKOR8iU52CEUxVpXTA==
----END XWING PUBLIC KEY----
       WireKEMScheme = "xwing"
       Addresses = ["127.0.0.1:30003"]
```

• Identifier

Specifies the human-readable identifier for a node, which must be unique per mixnet. The identifier can be an FQDN but does not have to be.

Type: string

Required: Yes

· IdentityPublicKey

String containing the node's public identity key in PEM format. IdentityPublicKey is the node's permanent identifier and is used to verify cryptographic signatures produced by its private identity key.

Type: string

Required: Yes

• PKISignatureScheme

Specifies the cryptographic signature scheme that will be used by all components of the mix network when interacting with the PKI system. Mix nodes sign their descriptors using this signature scheme, and dirauth nodes similarly sign PKI documents using the same scheme.

Type: string

Required: Yes

· LinkPublicKey

String containing the peer's public link-layer key in PEM format. LinkPublicKey must match the specified WireKEMScheme.

Type: string

Required: Yes

WireKEMScheme

The name of the wire protocol key-encapsulation mechanism (KEM) to use.

Type: string

Required: Yes

Addresses

Specifies a list of one or more address URLs in a format that contains the transport protocol, IP address, and port number that the server will bind to for incoming connections. Katzenpost supports URLs that start with either "tcp://" or "quic://" such as: ["tcp://192.168.1.1:30001"] and ["quic://192.168.1.1:40001"]. The value of **Addresses** is advertised in the PKI document.

Type: []string

Required: Yes

Mix node: Management section

The Management section specifies connectivity information for the Katzenpost control protocol which can be used to make run-time configuration changes. A configuration resembles the following, substituting the node's configured DataDir value as part of the Path value:

```
[Management]
  Enable = false
  Path = "/node datadir/management sock"
```

• Enable

If **true**, the management interface is enabled.

Type: bool Required: No

Path

Specifies the path to the management interface socket. If left empty, then management_sock is located in the configuration's defined DataDir.

Type: string
Required: No

Mix node: SphinxGeometry section

The SphinxGeometry section defines parameters for the Sphinx encrypted nested-packet format used internally by Katzenpost.

Warning

The values in the SphinxGeometry configuration section must be programmatically generated by **gensphinx**. Many of the parameters are interdependent and cannot be individually modified. Do not modify the these values by hand.

The settings in this section are generated by the **gensphinx** utility, which computes the Sphinx geometry based on the following user-supplied directives:

- The number of mix node layers (not counting gateway and service nodes)
- The length of the application-usable packet payload
- The selected NIKE or KEM scheme

The output in TOML should then be pasted unchanged into the node's configuration file, as shown below. For more information, see Appendix: Using gensphinx [https://katzenpost.network/docs/admin_guide/gensphinx-appendix.html].

[SphinxGeometry]

```
PacketLength = 3082

NrHops = 5

HeaderLength = 476

RoutingInfoLength = 410

PerHopRoutingInfoLength = 82

SURBLength = 572

SphinxPlaintextHeaderLength = 2

PayloadTagLength = 32

ForwardPayloadLength = 2574

UserForwardPayloadLength = 2000

NextNodeHopLength = 65

SPRPKeyMaterialLength = 64

NIKEName = "x25519"

KEMName = ""
```

· PacketLength

The length of a Sphinx packet in bytes.

Type: int

Required: Yes

NrHops

The number of hops a Sphinx packet takes through the mixnet. Because packet headers hold destination information for each hop, the size of the header increases linearly with the number of hops.

Type: int

Required: Yes

· HeaderLength

The total length of the Sphinx packet header in bytes.

Type: int

Required: Yes

• RoutingInfoLength

The total length of the routing information portion of the Sphinx packet header.

Type: int

Required: Yes

• PerHopRoutingInfoLength

The length of the per-hop routing information in the Sphinx packet header.

Type: int

Required: Yes

SURBLength

The length of a single-use reply block (SURB).

Type: int

Required: Yes

• SphinxPlaintextHeaderLength

The length of the plaintext Sphinx packet header.

Type: int

Required: Yes

· PayloadTagLength

The length of the payload tag.

Type: int

Required: Yes

· ForwardPayloadLength

The total size of the payload.

Type: int

Required: Yes

• UserForwardPayloadLength

The size of the usable payload.

Type: int

Required: Yes

• NextNodeHopLength

The NextNodeHopLength is derived from the largest routing-information block that we expect to encounter. Other packets have NextNodeHop + NodeDelay sections, or a Recipient section, both of which are shorter.

Type: int

Required: Yes

· SPRPKeyMaterialLength

The length of the strong pseudo-random permutation (SPRP) key.

Type: int

Required: Yes

NIKEName

The name of the non-interactive key exchange (NIKE) scheme used by Sphinx packets.

NIKEName and KEMName are mutually exclusive.

Type: string

Required: Yes

• KEMName

The name of the key encapsulation mechanism (KEM) used by Sphinx packets.

NIKEName and KEMName are mutually exclusive.

Type: string

Required: Yes

Mix node: Debug section

The Debug section is the Katzenpost server debug configuration for advanced tuning.

[Debug]

NumSphinxWorkers = 16
NumServiceWorkers = 3

NumGatewayWorkers = 3

```
NumKaetzchenWorkers = 3
SchedulerExternalMemoryQueue = false
SchedulerQueueSize = 0
SchedulerMaxBurst = 16
UnwrapDelay = 250
GatewayDelay = 500
ServiceDelay = 500
KaetzchenDelay = 750
SchedulerSlack = 150
SendSlack = 50
DecoySlack = 15000
ConnectTimeout = 60000
HandshakeTimeout = 30000
ReauthInterval = 30000
SendDecoyTraffic = false
DisableRateLimit = false
GenerateOnly = false
```

• NumSphinxWorkers

Specifies the number of worker instances to use for inbound Sphinx packet processing.

Type: int

Required: No

• NumProviderWorkers

Specifies the number of worker instances to use for provider specific packet processing.

Type: int

Required: No

• NumKaetzchenWorkers

Specifies the number of worker instances to use for Kaetzchen-specific packet processing.

Type: int

Required: No

$\bullet \ \ Scheduler External Memory Queue$

If **true**, the experimental disk-backed external memory queue is enabled.

Type: bool

Required: No

SchedulerQueueSize

Specifies the maximum scheduler queue size before random entries will start getting dropped. A value less than or equal to zero is treated as unlimited.

Type: int

Required: No

• SchedulerMaxBurst

Specifies the maximum number of packets that will be dispatched per scheduler wakeup event.

	tion of the Katzenpost mixnet
	Type:
	Required: No
•	UnwrapDelay
	Specifies the maximum unwrap delay due to queueing in milliseconds.
	Type: int
	Required: No
•	GatewayDelay
	Specifies the maximum gateway node worker delay due to queueing in milliseconds.
	Type: int
	Required: No
•	ServiceDelay
	Specifies the maximum provider delay due to queueing in milliseconds.
	Type: int
	Required: No
•	KaetzchenDelay
	Specifies the maximum kaetzchen delay due to queueing in milliseconds.
	Type: int
	Required: No
•	SchedulerSlack
	Specifies the maximum scheduler slack due to queueing and/or processing in milliseconds.
	Type: int
	Required: No
•	SendSlack
	Specifies the maximum send-queue slack due to queueing and/or congestion in milliseconds.
	Type: int
	Required: No
•	DecoySlack
	Specifies the maximum decoy sweep slack due to external delays such as latency before a loop decoy packet will be considered lost.
	Type: int
	Required: No

• ConnectTimeout

Specifies the maximum time a connection can take to establish a TCP/IP connection in milliseconds.

Type: int

Required: No

· HandshakeTimeout

Specifies the maximum time a connection can take for a link-protocol handshake in milliseconds.

Type: int

Required: No

ReauthInterval

Specifies the interval at which a connection will be reauthenticated in milliseconds.

Type: int

Required: No

SendDecoyTraffic

If **true**, decoy traffic is enabled. This parameter is experimental and untuned, and is disabled by default.

Note

This option will be removed once decoy traffic is fully implemented.

Type: bool

Required: No

DisableRateLimit

If **true**, the per-client rate limiter is disabled.

Note

This option should only be used for testing.

Type: bool

Required: No

GenerateOnly

If **true**, the server immediately halts and cleans up after long-term key generation.

Type: bool

Required: No

Configuring gateway nodes

The following configuration is drawn from the reference implementation in katzenpost/dock-er/dirauth_mixnet/gateway1/katzenpost.toml. In a real-world mixnet, the component hosts would not be sharing a single IP address. For more information about the test mixnet, see Using the Katzenpost Docker test network [https://katzenpost.network/docs/admin_guide/docker.html].

Table 4. Gateway node configuration sections

```
Gateway node: Server section
Gateway node: Logging section
Gateway node: Gateway section
Gateway node: PKI section
Gateway node: Management section
Gateway node: SphinxGeometry section
Gateway node: Debug section
```

Gateway node: Server section

The Server section configures mandatory basic parameters for each server node.

• Identifier

Specifies the human-readable identifier for a node, and must be unique per mixnet. The identifier can be an FQDN but does not have to be.

```
Type: string
Required: Yes
```

WireKEM

WireKEM specifies the key encapsulation mechanism (KEM) scheme for the PQ Noise [https://eprint.iacr.org/2022/539]-based wire protocol (link layer) that nodes use to communicate with each other. PQ Noise is a post-quantum variation of the Noise protocol framework [https://noiseprotocol.org/], which algebraically transforms ECDH handshake patterns into KEM encapsulate/decapsulate operations.

This configuration option supports the optional use of hybrid post-quantum cryptography to strengthen security. The following KEM schemes are supported:

• Classical: "x25519", "x448"

Note

X25519 and X448 are actually non-interactive key-exchanges (NIKEs), not KEMs. Katzenpost uses a hashed ElGamal cryptographic construction to convert them from NIKEs to KEMs.

• **Post-quantum:** "mlkem768", "sntrup4591761", "frodo640shake", "mceliece348864", "mceliece460896", "mceliece460896f", "mceliece6688128",

"mceliece6688128f", "mceliece6960119", "mceliece6960119f", "mceliece8192128", "mceliece8192128f", "CTIDH511", "CTIDH512", "CTIDH1024", "CTIDH2048",

• Hybrid post-quantum: "xwing", "Kyber768-X25519", "MLKEM768-X25519", "MLKEM768-X448", "FrodoKEM-640-SHAKE-X448", "sntrup4591761-X448", "mceliece348864-X25519", "mceliece348864f-X25519", "mceliece460896-X25519", "mceliece460896f-X25519", "mceliece6688128-X25519", "mceliece6688128f-X25519", "mceliece6960119-X25519", "mceliece6960119f-X25519", "mceliece8192128-X25519", "mceliece8192128f-X25519", "CTIDH512-X25519", "CTIDH512-X25519"

Type: string
Required: Yes

• PKISignatureScheme

Specifies the cryptographic signature scheme that will be used by all components of the mix network when interacting with the PKI system. Mix nodes sign their descriptors using this signature scheme, and dirauth nodes similarly sign PKI documents using the same scheme.

The following signature schemes are supported:

- Classical: "ed25519", "ed448"
- Hybrid post-quantum: "Ed25519 Sphincs+", "Ed448-Sphincs+", "Ed25519-Dilithium2", "Ed448-Dilithium3"

Type: string
Required: Yes

Addresses

Specifies a list of one or more address URLs in a format that contains the transport protocol, IP address, and port number that the server will bind to for incoming connections. Katzenpost supports URLs with that start with either "tcp://" or "quic://" such as: ["tcp://192.168.1.1:30001"] and ["quic://192.168.1.1:40001"].

Addresses is overridden if **BindAddresses** is **true**. In that scenario, one or more advertised, external addresses is provided as the value of **Addresses**, and is advertised in the PKI document.

Note that **BindAddresses**, below, holds the address values for non-adverstised, internal-only listeners. The addition of **BindAddresses** to the node configuration is required for hosts connecting to the Internet through network adddress translation (NAT).

Type: []string
Required: Yes

BindAddresses

If **true**, allows setting of listener addresses that the server will bind to and accept connections on. These addresses are not advertised in the PKI document. For more information, see **Addresses**, above.

Type: bool, []string

Required: No

MetricsAddress

Specifies the address/port to bind the Prometheus metrics endpoint to.

Type: string

Required: No

• DataDir

Specifies the absolute path to a node's state directory. This is where persistence.db is written to disk and where a node stores its cryptographic key materials when started with the "-g" commmand-line option.

Type: string

Required: Yes

IsGatewayNode

If **true**, the server is a gateway node.

Type: bool

Required: No

IsServiceNode

If **true**, the server is a service node.

Type: bool

Required: No

Gateway node: Logging section

The Logging configuration section controls logging behavior across Katzenpost.

[Logging]

```
Disable = false
File = "katzenpost.log"
Level = "INFO"
```

Disable

If **true**, logging is disabled.

Type: bool

Required: No

• File

Specifies the log file. If omitted, stdout is used.

An absolute or relative file path can be specified. A relative path is relative to the DataDir specified in the Server section of the configuration.

Type: string

Required: No

• Level

Supported logging level values are ERROR | WARNING | NOTICE | INFO | DEBUG.

Type: string
Required: No



The DEBUG log level is unsafe for production use.

Gateway node: Gateway section

The Gateway section of the configuration is required for configuring a Gateway node. The section must contain UserDB and SpoolDB definitions. Bolt [https://github.com/boltdb/bolt] is an embedded database library for the Go programming language that Katzenpost has used in the past for its user and spool databases. Because Katzenpost currently persists data on Service nodes instead of Gateways, these databases will probably be deprecated in favour of in-memory concurrency structures. In the meantime, it remains necessary to configure a Gateway node as shown below, only changing the file paths as needed:

Gateway node: PKI section

The PKI section contains the directory authority configuration for a mix, gateway, or service node.

```
[PKI]
[PKI.dirauth]
   [[PKI.dirauth.Authorities]]
       Identifier = "auth1"
       IdentityPublicKey = """----BEGIN ED25519 PUBLIC KEY----
tqN6tpOVotHWXKCszVn2kS7vAZjQpvJjQF3Qz/Qwhyg=
 ---END ED25519 PUBLIC KEY----
       PKISignatureScheme = "Ed25519"
       LinkPublicKey = """----BEGIN XWING PUBLIC KEY----
JnJ8ztQEIjAkKJcpuZvJAdkWjBim/5G5d8yoosEQHeGJeeBqNPdm2AitUbpiQPcd
hPCKrAG+8GEU16akseG371WQzEtPpEWWCJCJOiS/VDFZT7eKrldlumN6gfiB84sR
arFh/WKwYJUj+aGBsFYSqGdzC6MdY4x/YyFe2ze0MJEjThQE91y1d/LCQ3Sb7Ri+
u6PBi3JU2qz1PEejDKwK0t5tMNEAkq8iNrpRTdD/hS0gR+ZIN8Z9QKh7Xf94FWG2
H+r8OaqImQhgHabrWRDyLg==
----END XWING PUBLIC KEY----
       WireKEMScheme = "xwing"
```

```
Addresses = ["127.0.0.1:30001"]
    [[PKI.dirauth.Authorities]]
        Identifier = "auth2"
        IdentityPublicKey = """----BEGIN ED25519 PUBLIC KEY----
O51Ty2WLu4C1ETMa29s03bMXV72gnjJfTfwLV++LVBI=
----END ED25519 PUBLIC KEY----
. . .
        PKISignatureScheme = "Ed25519"
       LinkPublicKey = """----BEGIN XWING PUBLIC KEY----
TtQkg2XKUnY602FFBaPJ+zpN0Twy20cwyyFxh7FNUjaXA9MAJXs0vUwFbJc6BjYv
f+olKnliKFSmDvcF74U6w1F0ObugwTNKNxeYKPKhX4FiencUbRwkHoYHdtZdSctz
TKy08qKQyCAccqCRpdo6ZtYXPAU+2rthjYTOL7Zn+7SHUKCuJClcPnvEYjVcJxtZ
ubJIe5U4nMJbBkOqr7Kq6niaEkiLODa0tkpB8tKMYTMBdcYyHSXCzpo7U9sb6LAR
HktiTBDtRXviu2vbw7VRXhkMW2kjYZDtReQ5sAse04DvmD49zgTp1YxYW+wWFaL3
37X7/SNuLdHX4PHZXIWHBO==
----END XWING PUBLIC KEY----
        WireKEMScheme = "xwing"
        Addresses = ["127.0.0.1:30002"]
    [[PKI.dirauth.Authorities]]
        Identifier = "auth3"
        IdentityPublicKey = """----BEGIN ED25519 PUBLIC KEY----
zQvydRYJq3npeLcg1NqIf+SswEKE5wFmiwNsI9Z1whQ=
----END ED25519 PUBLIC KEY----
        PKISignatureScheme = "Ed25519"
       LinkPublicKey = """
----BEGIN XWING PUBLIC KEY----
OYK9FiC53xwZ1VST3jD004tR+cUMSVRSekmigZMChSjDCPZbKut8TblxtlUfc/yi
Ugorz4NIvYPMWUt3QPwS2UWq8/HMWXNGPUiAevg12+oV+jOJXaJeCfY24UekJnSw
TNcdGaFZFSR0FocFcPBBnrK1M2B8w8eEUKQIsXRDM3x/8aRIuDif+ve8rSwpgKeh
OdVD3yw700S8uPZLORGQFyJbHtVmFPVvwja4G/o2gntAoHUZ2LiJJakpVhhlSyrI
yuzvwwFtZVfWtNb5gAKZCyg0aduR3qgd7MPerRF+YopZk3OCRpC02YxfUZrHv398
FZWJFK0R8iU52CEUxVpXTA==
----END XWING PUBLIC KEY----
       WireKEMScheme = "xwing"
        Addresses = ["127.0.0.1:30003"]
```

Identifier

Specifies the human-readable identifier for a node, which must be unique per mixnet. The identifier can be an FQDN but does not have to be.

Type: string
Required: Yes

IdentityPublicKey

String containing the node's public identity key in PEM format. IdentityPublicKey is the node's permanent identifier and is used to verify cryptographic signatures produced by its private identity key.

Type: string

Required: Yes

PKISignatureScheme

Specifies the cryptographic signature scheme that will be used by all components of the mix network when interacting with the PKI system. Mix nodes sign their descriptors using this signature scheme, and dirauth nodes similarly sign PKI documents using the same scheme.

Type: string

Required: Yes

· LinkPublicKey

String containing the peer's public link-layer key in PEM format. LinkPublicKey must match the specified WireKEMScheme.

Type: string

Required: Yes

• WireKEMScheme

The name of the wire protocol key-encapsulation mechanism (KEM) to use.

Type: string

Required: Yes

Addresses

Specifies a list of one or more address URLs in a format that contains the transport protocol, IP address, and port number that the server will bind to for incoming connections. Katzenpost supports URLs that start with either "tcp://" or "quic://" such as: ["tcp://192.168.1.1:30001"] and ["quic://192.168.1.1:40001"]. The value of **Addresses** is advertised in the PKI document.

Type: []string

Required: Yes

Gateway node: Management section

The Management section specifies connectivity information for the Katzenpost control protocol which can be used to make run-time configuration changes. A configuration resembles the following, substituting the node's configured DataDir value as part of the Path value:

```
[Management]
   Enable = false
   Path = "/node_datadir/management_sock"
```

• Enable

If **true**, the management interface is enabled.

Type: bool

Required: No

Path

Specifies the path to the management interface socket. If left empty, then management_sock is located in the configuration's defined DataDir.

Type: string
Required: No

Gateway node: SphinxGeometry section

The SphinxGeometry section defines parameters for the Sphinx encrypted nested-packet format used internally by Katzenpost.

Warning

The values in the SphinxGeometry configuration section must be programmatically generated by **gensphinx**. Many of the parameters are interdependent and cannot be individually modified. Do not modify the these values by hand.

The settings in this section are generated by the **gensphinx** utility, which computes the Sphinx geometry based on the following user-supplied directives:

- The number of mix node layers (not counting gateway and service nodes)
- · The length of the application-usable packet payload
- The selected NIKE or KEM scheme

The output in TOML should then be pasted unchanged into the node's configuration file, as shown below. For more information, see Appendix: Using gensphinx [https://katzenpost.network/docs/admin_guide/gensphinx-appendix.html].

[SphinxGeometry]

```
PacketLength = 3082

NrHops = 5

HeaderLength = 476

RoutingInfoLength = 410

PerHopRoutingInfoLength = 82

SURBLength = 572

SphinxPlaintextHeaderLength = 2

PayloadTagLength = 32

ForwardPayloadLength = 2574

UserForwardPayloadLength = 2000

NextNodeHopLength = 65

SPRPKeyMaterialLength = 64

NIKEName = "x25519"

KEMName = ""
```

PacketLength

The length of a Sphinx packet in bytes.

Type: int
Required: Yes

NrHops

The number of hops a Sphinx packet takes through the mixnet. Because packet headers hold destination information for each hop, the size of the header increases linearly with the number of hops.

Type: int

Required: Yes

HeaderLength

The total length of the Sphinx packet header in bytes.

Type: int

Required: Yes

RoutingInfoLength

The total length of the routing information portion of the Sphinx packet header.

Type: int

Required: Yes

• PerHopRoutingInfoLength

The length of the per-hop routing information in the Sphinx packet header.

Type: int

Required: Yes

• SURBLength

The length of a single-use reply block (SURB).

Type: int

Required: Yes

• SphinxPlaintextHeaderLength

The length of the plaintext Sphinx packet header.

Type: int

Required: Yes

• PayloadTagLength

The length of the payload tag.

Type: int

Required: Yes

• ForwardPayloadLength

The total size of the payload.

Type: int

Required: Yes

• UserForwardPayloadLength

The size of the usable payload.

Type: int

Required: Yes

NextNodeHopLength

The NextNodeHopLength is derived from the largest routing-information block that we expect to encounter. Other packets have NextNodeHop + NodeDelay sections, or a Recipient section, both of which are shorter.

Type: int

Required: Yes

SPRPKeyMaterialLength

The length of the strong pseudo-random permutation (SPRP) key.

Type: int

Required: Yes

NIKEName

The name of the non-interactive key exchange (NIKE) scheme used by Sphinx packets.

NIKEName and KEMName are mutually exclusive.

Type: string
Required: Yes

KEMName

The name of the key encapsulation mechanism (KEM) used by Sphinx packets.

NIKEName and KEMName are mutually exclusive.

Type: string
Required: Yes

Gateway node: Debug section

The Debug section is the Katzenpost server debug configuration for advanced tuning.

[Debug]

```
NumSphinxWorkers = 16
NumServiceWorkers = 3
NumGatewayWorkers = 3
NumKaetzchenWorkers = 3
SchedulerExternalMemoryQueue = false
SchedulerQueueSize = 0
SchedulerMaxBurst = 16
UnwrapDelay = 250
GatewayDelay = 500
ServiceDelay = 500
KaetzchenDelay = 750
SchedulerSlack = 150
SendSlack = 50
DecoySlack = 15000
```

```
ConnectTimeout = 60000

HandshakeTimeout = 30000

ReauthInterval = 30000

SendDecoyTraffic = false

DisableRateLimit = false

GenerateOnly = false
```

• NumSphinxWorkers

Specifies the number of worker instances to use for inbound Sphinx packet processing.

Type: int

Required: No

• NumProviderWorkers

Specifies the number of worker instances to use for provider specific packet processing.

Type: int

Required: No

• NumKaetzchenWorkers

Specifies the number of worker instances to use for Kaetzchen-specific packet processing.

Type: int

Required: No

• SchedulerExternalMemoryQueue

If **true**, the experimental disk-backed external memory queue is enabled.

Type: bool

Required: No

• SchedulerQueueSize

Specifies the maximum scheduler queue size before random entries will start getting dropped. A value less than or equal to zero is treated as unlimited.

Type: int

Required: No

SchedulerMaxBurst

Specifies the maximum number of packets that will be dispatched per scheduler wakeup event.

Type:

Required: No

UnwrapDelay

Specifies the maximum unwrap delay due to queueing in milliseconds.

Type: int

Required: No

· GatewayDelay

Specifies the maximum gateway node worker delay due to queueing in milliseconds.

Type: int

Required: No

· ServiceDelay

Specifies the maximum provider delay due to queueing in milliseconds.

Type: int

Required: No

· KaetzchenDelay

Specifies the maximum kaetzchen delay due to queueing in milliseconds.

Type: int

Required: No

SchedulerSlack

Specifies the maximum scheduler slack due to queueing and/or processing in milliseconds.

Type: int

Required: No

SendSlack

Specifies the maximum send-queue slack due to queueing and/or congestion in milliseconds.

Type: int

Required: No

· DecoySlack

Specifies the maximum decoy sweep slack due to external delays such as latency before a loop decoy packet will be considered lost.

Type: int

Required: No

ConnectTimeout

Specifies the maximum time a connection can take to establish a TCP/IP connection in milliseconds.

Type: int

Required: No

· HandshakeTimeout

Specifies the maximum time a connection can take for a link-protocol handshake in milliseconds.

Required: No

ReauthInterval

Specifies the interval at which a connection will be reauthenticated in milliseconds.

Type: int

Required: No

• SendDecoyTraffic

If **true**, decoy traffic is enabled. This parameter is experimental and untuned, and is disabled by default.

Note

This option will be removed once decoy traffic is fully implemented.

Type: bool

Required: No

DisableRateLimit

If **true**, the per-client rate limiter is disabled.

Note

This option should only be used for testing.

Type: bool

Required: No

· GenerateOnly

If true, the server immediately halts and cleans up after long-term key generation.

Type: bool

Required: No

Configuring service nodes

The following configuration is drawn from the reference implementation in katzenpost/dock-er/dirauth_mixnet/servicenode1/authority.toml. In a real-world mixnet, the component hosts would not be sharing a single IP address. For more information about the test mixnet, see Using the Katzenpost Docker test network [https://katzenpost.network/docs/admin_guide/dock-er.html].

Table 5. Mix node configuration sections

Service node: Server section

Service node: Logging section

Service node: ServiceNode section

Service node: PKI section

Service node: Management section

Service node: SphinxGeometry section
Service node: Debug section

Service node: Server section

The Server section configures mandatory basic parameters for each server node.

```
[Server]
    Identifier = "servicenode1"
    WireKEM = "xwing"
    PKISignatureScheme = "Ed25519"
    Addresses = ["127.0.0.1:30006"]
    OnlyAdvertiseAltAddresses = false
    MetricsAddress = "127.0.0.1:30007"
    DataDir = "/dirauth_mixnet/servicenode1"
    IsGatewayNode = false
    IsServiceNode = true
    [Server.AltAddresses]
```

Identifier

Specifies the human-readable identifier for a node, and must be unique per mixnet. The identifier can be an FQDN but does not have to be.

Type: string
Required: Yes

WireKEM

WireKEM specifies the key encapsulation mechanism (KEM) scheme for the PQ Noise [https://eprint.iacr.org/2022/539]-based wire protocol (link layer) that nodes use to communicate with each other. PQ Noise is a post-quantum variation of the Noise protocol framework [https://noiseprotocol.org/], which algebraically transforms ECDH handshake patterns into KEM encapsulate/decapsulate operations.

This configuration option supports the optional use of hybrid post-quantum cryptography to strengthen security. The following KEM schemes are supported:

• Classical: "x25519", "x448"

Note

X25519 and X448 are actually non-interactive key-exchanges (NIKEs), not KEMs. Katzenpost uses a hashed ElGamal cryptographic construction to convert them from NIKEs to KEMs.

- Post-quantum: "mlkem768", "sntrup4591761", "frodo640shake", "mceliece348864", "mceliece348864f", "mceliece460896f", "mceliece460896f", "mceliece6688128f", "mceliece6960119f", "mceliece6960119f", "mceliece8192128f", "CTIDH511", "CTIDH512", "CTIDH1024", "CTIDH2048",
- Hybrid post-quantum: "xwing", "Kyber768-X25519", "MLKEM768-X25519", "MLKEM768-X448", "FrodoKEM-640-SHAKE-X448", "sntrup4591761-X448", "mceliece348864-X25519", "mceliece348864f-X25519", "mceliece460896-X25519", "mceliece460896f-"mceliece6688128f-X25519", X25519", "mceliece6688128-X25519", "mceliece6960119-X25519", "mceliece6960119f-X25519", "mceliece8192128-X25519", "mceliece8192128f-X25519", "CTIDH512-X25519", "CTIDH512-X25519"

Type: string Required: Yes

• PKISignatureScheme

Specifies the cryptographic signature scheme that will be used by all components of the mix network when interacting with the PKI system. Mix nodes sign their descriptors using this signature scheme, and dirauth nodes similarly sign PKI documents using the same scheme.

The following signature schemes are supported:

• Classical: "ed25519", "ed448"

• **Hybrid post-quantum:** "Ed25519 Sphincs+", "Ed448-Sphincs+", "Ed25519-Dilithium2", "Ed448-Dilithium3"

Type: string Required: Yes

Addresses

Specifies a list of one or more address URLs in a format that contains the transport protocol, IP address, and port number that the server will bind to for incoming connections. Katzenpost supports URLs with that start with either "tcp://" or "quic://" such as: ["tcp://192.168.1.1:30001"] and ["quic://192.168.1.1:40001"].

Addresses is overridden if **BindAddresses** is **true**. In that scenario, one or more advertised, external addresses is provided as the value of **Addresses**, and is advertised in the PKI document.

Note that **BindAddresses**, below, holds the address values for non-adverstised, internal-only listeners. The addition of **BindAddresses** to the node configuration is required for hosts connecting to the Internet through network adddress translation (NAT).

Type: []string Required: Yes

BindAddresses

If **true**, allows setting of listener addresses that the server will bind to and accept connections on. These addresses are not advertised in the PKI document. For more information, see **Addresses**, above.

Type: bool, []string

Required: No

MetricsAddress

Specifies the address/port to bind the Prometheus metrics endpoint to.

Type: string Required: No

• DataDir

Specifies the absolute path to a node's state directory. This is where persistence.db is written to disk and where a node stores its cryptographic key materials when started with the "-g" commmand-line option.

Type: string

Required: Yes

• IsGatewayNode

If **true**, the server is a gateway node.

Type: bool

Required: No

• IsServiceNode

If **true**, the server is a service node.

Type: bool

Required: No

Service node: Logging section

The Logging configuration section controls logging behavior across Katzenpost.

[Logging]

```
Disable = false
File = "katzenpost.log"
Level = "INFO"
```

Disable

If true, logging is disabled.

Type: bool

Required: No

• File

Specifies the log file. If omitted, stdout is used.

An absolute or relative file path can be specified. A relative path is relative to the DataDir specified in the Server section of the configuration.

Type: string

Required: No

• Level

Supported logging level values are ERROR | WARNING | NOTICE | INFO | DEBUG.

Type: string

Required: No

Warning

The DEBUG log level is unsafe for production use.

Service node: ServiceNode section

The ServiceNode section contains configurations for each network service that Katzenpost supports.

Services, termed Kaetzchen [https://github.com/katzenpost/blob/main/docs/Specificatons/pdf/kaetzchen.pdf], can be divided into built-in and external services. External services are provided through the CBORPlugin [https://pkg.go.dev/github.com/katzenpost/katzenpost@v0.0.35/server/cborplugin#ResponseFactory], a Go programming language implementation of the Concise Binary Object Representation (CBOR) [https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/html/rfc8949], a binary data serialization format. While native services need simply to be activated, external services are invoked by a separate command and connected to the mixnet over a Unix socket. The plugin allows mixnet services to be added in any programming language.

```
[ServiceNode]
   [[ServiceNode.Kaetzchen]]
       Capability = "echo"
       Endpoint = "+echo"
       Disable = false
    [[ServiceNode.CBORPluginKaetzchen]]
       Capability = "spool"
       Endpoint = "+spool"
       Command = "/dirauth mixnet/memspool.alpine"
       MaxConcurrency = 1
       Disable = false
        [ServiceNode.CBORPluginKaetzchen.Config]
            data_store = "/dirauth_mixnet/servicenode1/memspool.storage"
            log_dir = "/dirauth_mixnet/servicenode1"
    [[ServiceNode.CBORPluginKaetzchen]]
       Capability = "pigeonhole"
       Endpoint = "+pigeonhole"
       Command = "/dirauth_mixnet/pigeonhole.alpine"
       MaxConcurrency = 1
       Disable = false
        [ServiceNode.CBORPluginKaetzchen.Config]
            db = "/dirauth_mixnet/servicenode1/map.storage"
            log_dir = "/dirauth_mixnet/servicenode1"
    [[ServiceNode.CBORPluginKaetzchen]]
       Capability = "panda"
       Endpoint = "+panda"
       Command = "/dirauth_mixnet/panda_server.alpine"
       MaxConcurrency = 1
       Disable = false
        [ServiceNode.CBORPluginKaetzchen.Config]
            fileStore = "/dirauth_mixnet/servicenode1/panda.storage"
            log_dir = "/dirauth_mixnet/servicenode1"
            log_level = "INFO"
    [[ServiceNode.CBORPluginKaetzchen]]
       Capability = "http"
       Endpoint = "+http"
       Command = "/dirauth_mixnet/proxy_server.alpine"
       MaxConcurrency = 1
```

Disable = false

```
[ServiceNode.CBORPluginKaetzchen.Config]
host = "localhost:4242"
log_dir = "/dirauth_mixnet/servicenode1"
log_level = "DEBUG"
```

Common parameters:

Capability

Specifies the protocol capability exposed by the agent.

Type: string
Required: Yes

• Endpoint

Specifies the provider-side Endpoint where the agent will accept requests. While not required by the specification, this server only supports Endpoints that are lower-case local parts of an email address.

Type: string
Required: Yes

Command

Specifies the full path to the external plugin program that implements this Kaetzchen service.

Type: string
Required: Yes

MaxConcurrency

Specifies the number of worker goroutines to start for this service.

Type: int

Required: Yes

Config

Specifies extra per-agent arguments to be passed to the agent's initialization routine.

Type: map[string]interface{}

Required: Yes

• Disable

If true, disables a configured agent.

Type: bool Required: No

Per-service parameters:

• echo

The internal echo service must be enabled on every service node of a production mixnet for decoy traffic to work properly.

spool

The spool service supports the catshadow storage protocol, which is required by the Katzen chat client. The example configuration above shows spool enabled with the setting:

Disable = false

Note

Spool, properly memspool, should not be confused with the spool database on gateway nodes.

· data_store

Specifies the full path to the service database file.

Type: string

Required: Yes

• log_dir

Specifies the path to the node's log directory.

Type: string

Required: Yes

• pigeonhole

The pigeonhole courier service supports the Blinding-and-Capability scheme (BACAP)-based unlinkable messaging protocols detailed in **Place-holder for research paper link**. Most of our future protocols will use the pigeonhole courier service.

• db

Specifies the full path to the service database file.

Type: string

Required: Yes

• log_dir

Specifies the path to the node's log directory.

Type: string

Required: Yes

• panda

The panda storage and authentication service currently does not work properly.

• fileStore

Specifies the full path to the service database file.

Type: string

Required: Yes

Specifies the path to the node's log directory.

Type: string

Required: Yes

log_level

Supported values are ERROR | WARNING | NOTICE | INFO | DEBUG.

Warning

The DEBUG log level is unsafe for production use.

Type: string

Required: Yes

Required: Yes

• http

The http service is completely optional, but allows the mixnet to be used as an HTTP proxy. This may be useful for integrating with existing software systems.

host

The host name and TCP port of the service.

Type: string

Required: Yes

· log_dir

Specifies the path to the node's log directory.

Type: string

Required: Yes

• log_level

Supported values are ERROR | WARNING | NOTICE | INFO | DEBUG.

Type: string

Required: Yes

Required: Yes

Warning

The DEBUG log level is unsafe for production use.

Type: string

Required: Yes

Service node: PKI section

The PKI section contains the directory authority configuration for a mix, gateway, or service node.

```
[PKI]
[PKI.dirauth]
    [[PKI.dirauth.Authorities]]
        Identifier = "auth1"
        IdentityPublicKey = """----BEGIN ED25519 PUBLIC KEY----
tqN6tpOVotHWXKCszVn2kS7vAZjQpvJjQF3Qz/Qwhyg=
----END ED25519 PUBLIC KEY----
        PKISignatureScheme = "Ed25519"
       LinkPublicKey = """----BEGIN XWING PUBLIC KEY----
JnJ8ztQEIjAkKJcpuZvJAdkWjBim/5G5d8yoosEQHeGJeeBqNPdm2AitUbpiQPcd
tNCo9DxuC9Ieqmsfw0YpV6AtOOsaInA6QnHDYcuBfZcQL5MU4+t2TzpBZQYlrSED
hPCKrAG+8GEU16akseG371WQzEtPpEWWCJCJOiS/VDFZT7eKrldlumN6gfiB84sR
arFh/WKwYJUj+aGBsFYSqGdzC6MdY4x/YyFe2ze0MJEjThQE91y1d/LCQ3Sb7Ri+
u6PBi3JU2qzlPEejDKwK0t5tMNEAkq8iNrpRTdD/hS0gR+ZIN8Z9QKh7Xf94FWG2
H+r8OaqImQhgHabrWRDyLg==
----END XWING PUBLIC KEY----
        WireKEMScheme = "xwing"
       Addresses = ["127.0.0.1:30001"]
    [[PKI.dirauth.Authorities]]
        Identifier = "auth2"
        IdentityPublicKey = """----BEGIN ED25519 PUBLIC KEY----
O51Ty2WLu4C1ETMa29s03bMXV72gnjJfTfwLV++LVBI=
----END ED25519 PUBLIC KEY----
11 11 11
        PKISignatureScheme = "Ed25519"
       LinkPublicKey = """----BEGIN XWING PUBLIC KEY----
TtQkg2XKUnY602FFBaPJ+zpN0Twy20cwyyFxh7FNUjaXA9MAJXs0vUwFbJc6BjYv
f+olKnl1KFSmDvcF74U6w1F0ObugwTNKNxeYKPKhX4FiencUbRwkHoYHdtZdSctz
TKy08qKQyCAccqCRpdo6ZtYXPAU+2rthjYTOL7Zn+7SHUKCuJClcPnvEYjVcJxtZ
ubJIe5U4nMJbBkOqr7Kq6niaEkiLODa0tkpB8tKMYTMBdcYyHSXCzpo7U9sb6LAR
HktiTBDtrXviu2vbw7VRXhkMW2kjYZDtReQ5sAse04DvmD49zgTp1YxYW+wWFaL3
37X7/SNuLdHX4PHZXIWHBQ==
----END XWING PUBLIC KEY----
       WireKEMScheme = "xwing"
        Addresses = ["127.0.0.1:30002"]
    [[PKI.dirauth.Authorities]]
        Identifier = "auth3"
        IdentityPublicKey = """----BEGIN ED25519 PUBLIC KEY----
zQvydRYJq3npeLcg1NqIf+SswEKE5wFmiwNsI9Z1whQ=
----END ED25519 PUBLIC KEY----
        PKISignatureScheme = "Ed25519"
       LinkPublicKey = """
----BEGIN XWING PUBLIC KEY----
OYK9FiC53xwZ1VST3jDOO4tR+cUMSVRSekmiqZMChSjDCPZbKut8TblxtlUfc/yi
```

Ugorz4NIvYPMWUt3QPwS2UWq8/HMWXNGPUiAevg12+oV+jOJXaJeCfY24UekJnSwTNcdGaFZFSR0FocFcPBBnrK1M2B8w8eEUKQIsXRDM3x/8aRIuDif+ve8rSwpgKeh

. . .

OdVD3yw70OS8uPZLORGQFyJbHtVmFPVvwja4G/o2gntAoHUZ2LiJJakpVhhlSyrI yuzvwwFtZVfWtNb5gAKZCyg0aduR3qgd7MPerRF+YopZk3OCRpC02YxfUZrHv398 FZWJFK0R8iU52CEUxVpXTA==

```
----END XWING PUBLIC KEY----
"""

WireKEMScheme = "xwing"

Addresses = ["127.0.0.1:30003"]
```

Identifier

Specifies the human-readable identifier for a node, which must be unique per mixnet. The identifier can be an FQDN but does not have to be.

Type: string

Required: Yes

· IdentityPublicKey

String containing the node's public identity key in PEM format. IdentityPublicKey is the node's permanent identifier and is used to verify cryptographic signatures produced by its private identity key.

Type: string

Required: Yes

• PKISignatureScheme

Specifies the cryptographic signature scheme that will be used by all components of the mix network when interacting with the PKI system. Mix nodes sign their descriptors using this signature scheme, and dirauth nodes similarly sign PKI documents using the same scheme.

Type: string

Required: Yes

· LinkPublicKey

String containing the peer's public link-layer key in PEM format. LinkPublicKey must match the specified WireKEMScheme.

Type: string

Required: Yes

• WireKEMScheme

The name of the wire protocol key-encapsulation mechanism (KEM) to use.

Type: string

Required: Yes

• Addresses

Specifies a list of one or more address URLs in a format that contains the transport protocol, IP address, and port number that the server will bind to for incoming connections. Katzenpost

supports URLs that start with either "tcp://" or "quic://" such as: ["tcp://192.168.1.1:30001"] and ["quic://192.168.1.1:40001"]. The value of **Addresses** is advertised in the PKI document.

Type: []string Required: Yes

Service node: Management section

The Management section specifies connectivity information for the Katzenpost control protocol which can be used to make run-time configuration changes. A configuration resembles the following, substituting the node's configured DataDir value as part of the Path value:

```
[Management]
   Enable = false
   Path = "/node_datadir/management_sock"
```

Enable

If **true**, the management interface is enabled.

Type: bool Required: No

Path

Specifies the path to the management interface socket. If left empty, then management_sock is located in the configuration's defined DataDir.

Type: string
Required: No

Service node: SphinxGeometry section

The SphinxGeometry section defines parameters for the Sphinx encrypted nested-packet format used internally by Katzenpost.

Warning

The values in the SphinxGeometry configuration section must be programmatically generated by **gensphinx**. Many of the parameters are interdependent and cannot be individually modified. Do not modify the these values by hand.

The settings in this section are generated by the **gensphinx** utility, which computes the Sphinx geometry based on the following user-supplied directives:

- The number of mix node layers (not counting gateway and service nodes)
- · The length of the application-usable packet payload
- The selected NIKE or KEM scheme

The output in TOML should then be pasted unchanged into the node's configuration file, as shown below. For more information, see Appendix: Using gensphinx [https://katzenpost.network/docs/admin_guide/gensphinx-appendix.html].

```
[SphinxGeometry]

PacketLength = 3082
```

```
NrHops = 5
HeaderLength = 476
RoutingInfoLength = 410
PerHopRoutingInfoLength = 82
SURBLength = 572
SphinxPlaintextHeaderLength = 2
PayloadTagLength = 32
ForwardPayloadLength = 2574
UserForwardPayloadLength = 2000
NextNodeHopLength = 65
SPRPKeyMaterialLength = 64
NIKEName = "x25519"
KEMName = ""
```

PacketLength

The length of a Sphinx packet in bytes.

Type: int

Required: Yes

• NrHops

The number of hops a Sphinx packet takes through the mixnet. Because packet headers hold destination information for each hop, the size of the header increases linearly with the number of hops.

Type: int

Required: Yes

· HeaderLength

The total length of the Sphinx packet header in bytes.

Type: int

Required: Yes

• RoutingInfoLength

The total length of the routing information portion of the Sphinx packet header.

Type: int

Required: Yes

· PerHopRoutingInfoLength

The length of the per-hop routing information in the Sphinx packet header.

Type: int

Required: Yes

• SURBLength

The length of a single-use reply block (SURB).

Type: int

Required: Yes

· SphinxPlaintextHeaderLength

The length of the plaintext Sphinx packet header.

Type: int

Required: Yes

· PayloadTagLength

The length of the payload tag.

Type: int

Required: Yes

· ForwardPayloadLength

The total size of the payload.

Type: int

Required: Yes

• UserForwardPayloadLength

The size of the usable payload.

Type: int

Required: Yes

• NextNodeHopLength

The NextNodeHopLength is derived from the largest routing-information block that we expect to encounter. Other packets have NextNodeHop + NodeDelay sections, or a Recipient section, both of which are shorter.

Type: int

Required: Yes

· SPRPKeyMaterialLength

The length of the strong pseudo-random permutation (SPRP) key.

Type: int

Required: Yes

NIKEName

The name of the non-interactive key exchange (NIKE) scheme used by Sphinx packets.

NIKEName and KEMName are mutually exclusive.

Type: string

Required: Yes

KEMName

The name of the key encapsulation mechanism (KEM) used by Sphinx packets.

NIKEName and KEMName are mutually exclusive.

Type: string
Required: Yes

Service node: Debug section

The Debug section is the Katzenpost server debug configuration for advanced tuning.

NumSphinxWorkers = 16

[Debug]

```
NumServiceWorkers = 3
NumGatewayWorkers = 3
NumKaetzchenWorkers = 3
SchedulerExternalMemoryQueue = false
SchedulerQueueSize = 0
SchedulerMaxBurst = 16
UnwrapDelay = 250
GatewayDelay = 500
ServiceDelay = 500
KaetzchenDelay = 750
SchedulerSlack = 150
SendSlack = 50
DecoySlack = 15000
ConnectTimeout = 60000
HandshakeTimeout = 30000
ReauthInterval = 30000
SendDecoyTraffic = false
DisableRateLimit = false
GenerateOnly = false
```

• NumSphinxWorkers

Specifies the number of worker instances to use for inbound Sphinx packet processing.

Type: int

Required: No

• NumProviderWorkers

Specifies the number of worker instances to use for provider specific packet processing.

Type: int

Required: No

NumKaetzchenWorkers

Specifies the number of worker instances to use for Kaetzchen-specific packet processing.

Type: int

Required: No

• SchedulerExternalMemoryQueue

If true, the experimental disk-backed external memory queue is enabled.

Type: bool

Required: No

• SchedulerQueueSize

Specifies the maximum scheduler queue size before random entries will start getting dropped. A value less than or equal to zero is treated as unlimited.

Type: int

Required: No

· SchedulerMaxBurst

Specifies the maximum number of packets that will be dispatched per scheduler wakeup event.

Type:

Required: No

UnwrapDelay

Specifies the maximum unwrap delay due to queueing in milliseconds.

Type: int

Required: No

· GatewayDelay

Specifies the maximum gateway node worker delay due to queueing in milliseconds.

Type: int

Required: No

· ServiceDelay

Specifies the maximum provider delay due to queueing in milliseconds.

Type: int

Required: No

KaetzchenDelay

Specifies the maximum kaetzchen delay due to queueing in milliseconds.

Type: int

Required: No

SchedulerSlack

Specifies the maximum scheduler slack due to queueing and/or processing in milliseconds.

Type: int

Required: No

SendSlack

Specifies the maximum send-queue slack due to queueing and/or congestion in milliseconds.

Type: int

Required: No

· DecoySlack

Specifies the maximum decoy sweep slack due to external delays such as latency before a loop decoy packet will be considered lost.

Type: int

Required: No

ConnectTimeout

Specifies the maximum time a connection can take to establish a TCP/IP connection in milliseconds.

Type: int

Required: No

· HandshakeTimeout

Specifies the maximum time a connection can take for a link-protocol handshake in milliseconds.

Type: int

Required: No

ReauthInterval

Specifies the interval at which a connection will be reauthenticated in milliseconds.

Type: int

Required: No

· SendDecoyTraffic

If **true**, decoy traffic is enabled. This parameter is experimental and untuned, and is disabled by default.

Note

This option will be removed once decoy traffic is fully implemented.

Type: bool

Required: No

DisableRateLimit

If **true**, the per-client rate limiter is disabled.

Note

This option should only be used for testing.

Type: bool

Required: No

• GenerateOnly

If **true**, the server immediately halts and cleans up after long-term key generation.

Type: bool

Required: No