



# UMA Macaroons

## Tagline

Macaroons, made from scratch using an UMA recipe with the fresh HMAC ingredients.

## Introduction

Bearer tokens are vulnerable at rest and in transit when an attacker is able to intercept a token to illegally access private information. In order to mitigate some of the risk associated with bearer tokens, UMA Macaroons may be used instead of bearer tokens. UMA Macaroon is a chronological tamper-resistant record of all its possessors and the changes that have been made to it. In the authorization flow, UMA Macaroons use a complex combination of [Chained-MACs-with-Multiple-Messages](#) and [Chained-MACs-with-Multiple-Keys](#) constructions as a correlation mechanism among all participants and their data. UMA Macaroons adopt the User-Managed Access concept of authorization server, resource server, client, resource owner and requesting party.

## Key Differences from Google Macaroons

- Authenticated possessors.
- Claims are used instead of caveats.
- Different HMAC chaining.
- Verification at the authorization server.

Following we use the term *macaroon* to refer to UMA Macaroon.

## Concept of MACs Chaining

The [POCOP Token Mechanism](#) is used to construct macaroons.

1. To ensure integrity protection of macaroon claims, the first macaroon uses a [Chained-MACs-with-Multiple-Messages](#) construction. All MACs must be discarded

after use.

$$\text{MAC}_{\text{macaroon}_1} = \text{HMAC}(\dots \text{HMAC}(\text{HMAC}(K_{\text{possessor}_1}, \text{claim}_{1\text{possessor}_1}), \text{claim}_{2\text{possessor}_1}), \dots \text{claim}_{n\text{possessor}_1})$$

2. [Chained-MACs-with-Multiple-Keys](#) construction is used to assure the authenticity of macaroons. The input  $\text{MAC}_{\text{macaroon}_1}$  must be discarded after use. The final  $\text{MAC}_{\text{macaroon}_1}$  can be published, there is no need to hide it.

$$\text{MAC}_{\text{macaroon}_1} = \text{HMAC}(K_{\text{possessor}_1}, \text{MAC}_{\text{macaroon}_1})$$

- Hop to the possessor\_2.

$$\text{MAC}_{\text{macaroon}_1} = \text{HMAC}(K_{\text{possessor}_2}, \text{MAC}_{\text{macaroon}_1})$$

3. The second macaroon uses the [Chained-MACs-with-Multiple-Messages](#) construction in a similar manner to the first macaroon. The  $\text{MAC}_{\text{macaroon}_1}$  is added to the possessor\_2 macaroon as the first claim. The other MACs must be discarded after use.

$$\text{MAC}_{\text{macaroon}_2} = \text{HMAC}(\dots \text{HMAC}(\text{HMAC}(K_{\text{possessor}_2}, \text{MAC}_{\text{macaroon}_1}), \text{claim}_{2\text{possessor}_2}), \dots \text{claim}_{n\text{possessor}_2})$$

Macaroons possessors must be registered at the authorization server (public clients can use dynamic registration to become confidential clients). Macaroons are verified via the introspection endpoint of the authorization server.

## Use Cases

Advanced authorization scenarios e.g. chained resource servers.

## Example of Chained Macaroons

The HMAC chain may started with an AS or any other registered client.

Each macaroon starts with a random NONCE to prevent replay attack.

Claim\_1 is a mandatory "iss" claim that identifies who created the macaroon.

Claim\_2 is an issued-at "iat" timestamp of the macaroon.

All claims are public.

- The AS is the first macaroon possessor.

$$\text{MAC}_{AS} = \text{HMAC}(\text{K}_{AS}, \text{NONCE}_{AS})$$
$$\text{MAC}_{AS} = \text{HMAC}(\text{MAC}_{AS}, \text{claim\_1}_{AS})$$
$$\text{MAC}_{AS} = \text{HMAC}(\text{MAC}_{AS}, \text{claim\_2}_{AS})$$
$$\text{MAC}_{AS} = \text{HMAC}(\text{K}_{AS}, \text{MAC}_{AS})$$

- Hop to the next possessor – the client.

$$\text{MAC}_{AS} = \text{HMAC}(\text{K}_{client}, \text{MAC}_{AS})$$
$$\text{MAC}_{client} = \text{HMAC}(\text{K}_{client}, \text{NONCE}_{client})$$
$$\text{MAC}_{client} = \text{HMAC}(\text{MAC}_{client}, \text{MAC}_{AS})$$
$$\text{MAC}_{client} = \text{HMAC}(\text{MAC}_{client}, \text{claim\_1}_{client})$$
$$\text{MAC}_{client} = \text{HMAC}(\text{MAC}_{client}, \text{claim\_2}_{client})$$
$$\text{MAC}_{client} = \text{HMAC}(\text{K}_{client}, \text{MAC}_{client})$$

- Hop to the next possessor – the RS\_1.

$$\text{MAC}_{client} = \text{HMAC}(\text{K}_{RS\_1}, \text{MAC}_{client})$$
$$\text{MAC}_{RS\_1} = \text{HMAC}(\text{K}_{RS\_1}, \text{NONCE}_{RS\_1})$$
$$\text{MAC}_{RS\_1} = \text{HMAC}(\text{MAC}_{RS\_1}, \text{MAC}_{client})$$
$$\text{MAC}_{RS\_1} = \text{HMAC}(\text{MAC}_{RS\_1}, \text{claim\_1}_{RS\_1})$$
$$\text{MAC}_{RS\_1} = \text{HMAC}(\text{MAC}_{RS\_1}, \text{claim\_2}_{RS\_1})$$
$$\text{MAC}_{RS\_1} = \text{HMAC}(\text{K}_{RS\_1}, \text{MAC}_{RS\_1})$$

- Hop to the next possessor – the RS\_2.

$$\text{MAC}_{RS\_1} = \text{HMAC}(\text{K}_{RS\_2}, \text{MAC}_{RS\_1})$$
$$\text{MAC}_{RS\_2} = \text{HMAC}(\text{K}_{RS\_2}, \text{NONCE}_{RS\_2})$$
$$\text{MAC}_{RS\_2} = \text{HMAC}(\text{MAC}_{RS\_2}, \text{MAC}_{RS\_1})$$
$$\text{MAC}_{RS\_2} = \text{HMAC}(\text{MAC}_{RS\_2}, \text{claim\_1}_{RS\_2})$$
$$\text{MAC}_{RS\_2} = \text{HMAC}(\text{MAC}_{RS\_2}, \text{claim\_2}_{RS\_2})$$
$$\text{MAC}_{RS\_2} = \text{HMAC}(\text{K}_{RS\_2}, \text{MAC}_{RS\_2})$$

- The last  $\text{MAC}_{RS\_2}$  can be verified via the introspection endpoint of the AS.

## Nested Macaroons

A macaroon can contain another macaroon.

### Example of Nested Macaroon

This is an excerpt from the above example extended by third party claims.

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- Hop to the next possessor – the client.

$$\text{MAC}_{AS} = \text{HMAC}(\text{K}_{client}, \text{MAC}_{AS})$$
$$\text{MAC}_{client} = \text{HMAC}(\text{K}_{client}, \text{NONCE}_{client})$$
$$\text{MAC}_{client} = \text{HMAC}(\text{MAC}_{client}, \text{MAC}_{AS})$$

- Hop to the next possessor – the AS\_third\_party.

$$\text{MAC}_{client} = \text{HMAC}(\text{K}_{AS\_third\_party}, \text{MAC}_{client})$$
$$\text{MAC}_{AS\_third\_party} = \text{HMAC}(\text{K}_{AS\_third\_party}, \text{NONCE}_{AS\_third\_party})$$
$$\text{MAC}_{AS\_third\_party} = \text{HMAC}(\text{MAC}_{AS\_third\_party}, \text{MAC}_{client})$$
$$\text{MAC}_{AS\_third\_party} = \text{HMAC}(\text{MAC}_{AS\_third\_party}, \text{claim\_1}_{AS\_third\_party})$$

$MAC_{AS\_third\_party} = HMAC(MAC_{AS\_third\_party}, claim\_2_{AS\_third\_party})$

$MAC_{AS\_third\_party} = HMAC(K_{AS\_third\_party}, MAC_{AS\_third\_party})$

- Hop to the next possessor – back to the client.

$MAC_{AS\_third\_party} = HMAC(K_{client}, MAC_{AS\_third\_party})$

$MAC_{client} = HMAC(MAC_{client}, MAC_{AS\_third\_party})$

$MAC_{client} = HMAC(MAC_{client}, claim\_1_{client})$

$MAC_{client} = HMAC(MAC_{client}, claim\_2_{client})$

$MAC_{client} = HMAC(K_{client}, MAC_{client})$

- Hop to the next possessor – the RS\_1.

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## Confidential Claims

Encrypted claims. (TBD)

## Conclusion

(TBD)

## Acknowledgment

Credits go to [WG - User-Managed Access](#) and [Google Research Publications](#).