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| 3GPP TR 33.850 V0.4.0 (2021-01) | |
| Technical Report | |
| 3rd Generation Partnership Project;  Technical Specification Group Services and System Aspects;  Study on Security Aspects of Enhancements for 5G Multicast-Broadcast Services (MBS) (Release 17) | |
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| ***3GPP***  Postal address  3GPP support office address  650 Route des Lucioles - Sophia Antipolis  Valbonne - FRANCE  Tel.: +33 4 92 94 42 00 Fax: +33 4 93 65 47 16  Internet  http://www.3gpp.org |
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Contents

Foreword 5

Introduction 6

1 Scope 7

2 References 7

3 Definitions of terms, symbols and abbreviations 7

3.1 Terms 7

3.2 Symbols 7

3.3 Abbreviations 8

4 Overview of Multicast-Broadcast Services (MBS) 8

5 Key issues 8

5.1 Key issue #1: Security of authentication and authorization for multicast communication services 8

5.1.1 Key issue details 8

5.1.2 Security threats 9

5.1.3 Potential security requirements 9

5.2 Key Issue #2: Security protection of MBS traffic 9

5.2.1 Key issue details 9

5.2.2 Security threats 9

5.2.3 Potential security requirements 10

5.3 Key Issue #3: Security protection of key distribution 10

5.3.1 Key issue details 10

5.3.2 Security threats 10

5.3.3 Potential security requirements 10

5.4 Key Issue # 4: Security protection between AF and 5GC 10

5.4.1 Key issue details 10

5.4.2 Security threats 10

5.4.3 Potential security requirements 11

5.X Key issue #X: <Key issue name> 11

5.X.1 Key issue details 11

5.X.2 Threats 11

5.X.3 Potential security requirements 11

6 Proposed solutions 11

6.0 Mapping of solutions to key issues 11

6.1 Solution #1: Protection of MBS traffic in transport layer 11

6.1.1 Solution overview 11

6.1.2 Solution details 12

6.1.2.1 Security handling in handover 13

6.1.3 Solution evaluation 13

6.2 Solution #2: protect MBS traffic in service layer 13

6.2.1 Solution overview 13

6.2.2 Solution details 14

6.2.2.1 MBS group key distribution and update 16

6.2.3 Solution evaluation 17

6.3 Solution #3: MBS Traffic Protection 17

6.3.1 Solution overview 17

6.3.2 Solution details 18

6.3.3 Solution evaluation 19

6.4 Solution #4: Authentication and authorization for multicast communication service 19

6.4.1 Solution overview 19

6.4.2 Solution details 19

6.4.3 Solution evaluation 20

6.5 Solution #5: Authorization revocation 20

6.5.1 Solution overview 20

6.5.2 Solution details 20

6.5.3 Solution evaluation 21

6.6 Solution #6: Authentication and authorization for multicast communication service based on AKMA 22

6.6.1 Solution overview 22

6. 6.2 Solution details 22

6.6.3 Solution evaluation 23

6.7 Solution # 7: security protection between AF and 5GC 23

6.7.1 Solution overview 23

6.7.2 Solution details 23

6.7.3 Solution evaluation 23

6.8 Solution #8: MBS Traffic Protection 23

6.8.1 Solution overview 23

6.8.2 Solution details 23

6.8.3 Solution evaluation 25

6.9 Solution #9: Key update solution 25

6.9.1 Solution overview 25

6.9.2 Solution Details 25

6.9.3 Evaluation 27

6.X Solution #X: <Solution name> 27

6.X.1 Solution overview 27

6.X.2 Solution details 27

6.X.3 Solution evaluation 27

7 Conclusions 27

Annex <A>: <Informative annex title for a Technical Report> 28

Annex <X> (informative): Change history 29

# Foreword

This Technical Report has been produced by the 3rd Generation Partnership Project (3GPP).

The contents of the present document are subject to continuing work within the TSG and may change following formal TSG approval. Should the TSG modify the contents of the present document, it will be re-released by the TSG with an identifying change of release date and an increase in version number as follows:

Version x.y.z

where:

x the first digit:

1 presented to TSG for information;

2 presented to TSG for approval;

3 or greater indicates TSG approved document under change control.

y the second digit is incremented for all changes of substance, i.e. technical enhancements, corrections, updates, etc.

z the third digit is incremented when editorial only changes have been incorporated in the document.

In the present document, modal verbs have the following meanings:

**shall** indicates a mandatory requirement to do something

**shall not** indicates an interdiction (prohibition) to do something

The constructions "shall" and "shall not" are confined to the context of normative provisions, and do not appear in Technical Reports.

The constructions "must" and "must not" are not used as substitutes for "shall" and "shall not". Their use is avoided insofar as possible, and they are not used in a normative context except in a direct citation from an external, referenced, non-3GPP document, or so as to maintain continuity of style when extending or modifying the provisions of such a referenced document.

**should** indicates a recommendation to do something

**should not** indicates a recommendation not to do something

**may** indicates permission to do something

**need not** indicates permission not to do something

The construction "may not" is ambiguous and is not used in normative elements. The unambiguous constructions "might not" or "shall not" are used instead, depending upon the meaning intended.

**can** indicates that something is possible

**cannot** indicates that something is impossible

The constructions "can" and "cannot" are not substitutes for "may" and "need not".

**will** indicates that something is certain or expected to happen as a result of action taken by an agency the behaviour of which is outside the scope of the present document

**will not** indicates that something is certain or expected not to happen as a result of action taken by an agency the behaviour of which is outside the scope of the present document

**might** indicates a likelihood that something will happen as a result of action taken by some agency the behaviour of which is outside the scope of the present document

**might not** indicates a likelihood that something will not happen as a result of action taken by some agency the behaviour of which is outside the scope of the present document

In addition:

**is** (or any other verb in the indicative mood) indicates a statement of fact

**is not** (or any other negative verb in the indicative mood) indicates a statement of fact

The constructions "is" and "is not" do not indicate requirements.

# Introduction

Editor’s Note: Content is FFS

# 1 Scope

The present document studies the security of 5G multicast-broadcast services based on FS\_5MBS study in TR 23.757 [2]. Potential security requirements are identified and possible security solutions are proposed to address these security requirements.

# 2 References

The following documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of the present document.

- References are either specific (identified by date of publication, edition number, version number, etc.) or non‑specific.

- For a specific reference, subsequent revisions do not apply.

- For a non-specific reference, the latest version applies. In the case of a reference to a 3GPP document (including a GSM document), a non-specific reference implicitly refers to the latest version of that document *in the same Release as the present document*.

[1] 3GPP TR 21.905: "Vocabulary for 3GPP Specifications".

[2] 3GPP TR 23.757: " Study on architectural enhancements for 5G multicast-broadcast services ".

[3] 3GPP TS 33.246: " Security of Multimedia Broadcast/Multicast Service (MBMS) ".

[4] 3GPP TS 23.246: "Multimedia Broadcast/Multicast Service (MBMS); Architecture and functional description".

[5] 3GPP TS 33.535: "Authentication and Key Management for Applications (AKMA) based on 3GPP credentials in the 5G System (5GS)".

[6] 3GPP TS 33.501: " Security architecture and procedures for 5G system".

# 3 Definitions of terms, symbols and abbreviations

## 3.1 Terms

For the purposes of the present document, the terms given in 3GPP TR 21.905 [1] and the following apply. A term defined in the present document takes precedence over the definition of the same term, if any, in 3GPP TR 21.905 [1].

**example:** text used to clarify abstract rules by applying them literally.

Editor’s Note: Example needs to be deleted

## 3.2 Symbols

For the purposes of the present document, the following symbols apply:

<symbol> <Explanation>

Editor’s Note: Example needs to be deleted

## 3.3 Abbreviations

For the purposes of the present document, the abbreviations given in 3GPP TR 21.905 [1] and the following apply. An abbreviation defined in the present document takes precedence over the definition of the same abbreviation, if any, in 3GPP TR 21.905 [1].

MBS Multicast/Broadcast Service

MBSF Multicast/Broadcast Service Function

MBSF-C MBSF Control Plane

MBSF-U MBSF User Plane

MUK Multicast User Key

PTP Point-to-Point

PTM Point-to-Multipoint

# 4 Overview of Multicast-Broadcast Services (MBS)

Editor’s Note: This clause will contain a brief overview on MBS

5G system aims to enable general Multicast-Broadcast Service (MBS), e.g. public safety, V2X application, group communications and IoT applications, etc.

As in 4G, 5G MBS service also have two modes: Transport Only Mode in which the multicast and broadcast contents are transparent to the 3GPP network functions, and Full Service Mode in which the 3GPP network functions are aware of the contents.

Two delivery methods are envisioned for 5G MBS service, from the view point of 5G core network (5GC): 5GC Individual MBS traffic delivery method, and 5GC shared MBS traffic delivery method. For the former, 5GC receives a single copy of MBS data packets and delivers separate copies of those MBS data packets to individual UEs via per-UE PDU sessions, while for the latter, 5G CN receives a single copy of MBS data packets and delivers a single copy of those MBS packets packet to a RAN node, which then delivers them to one or multiple UEs.

RAN delivers MBS data to UEs using either Point-to-Point delivery or Point-to-Multipoint (PTM) delivery.

# 5 Key issues

Editor’s Note: This clause will contain the agreed key issues

## 5.1 Key issue #1: Security of authentication and authorization for multicast communication services

### 5.1.1 Key issue details

Architecture enhancements for 5G MBS services have been studied in TR 23.757 [2]. Two reference architectures for 5G MBS are proposed. Compared to the MBS architecture for LTE and before as specified in TS 23.246 [4], 5G MBS architecture differ, among others, in that MBS signalling is flowing through the control plane of 3GPP. Figure 1a and 1b shows the MBS architecture for LTE and before in TS 23.246 [3], and Figure A.1.2-1 and A.2.2-1 in TR 23.757 [2] shows the MBS architecture alternatives for 5G.

TS 33.246 [3] specifies the security for the MBS for LTE and before. It is required that a UE is authenticated and authorised such that only legitimate users are able to participate in a MBS service. In addition, KI#3 from TR 23.757 [2] is describing authorization for multicast communication services for 5G, which addresses the following security-related issues:

*5.3.1 Description*

*The 5GS is expected to support different use cases of multicast services. The mobile network operators (MNO) and/or application service providers (ASP) may want to provide different levels of authorization (e.g. at session or service level) for the UE to access multicast communication services.*

*This key issue will study the following aspects:*

*- Define and study how to support the necessary level(s) of authorization for UEs to access multicast communication services.*

*- How can a UE join/leave (including authorised or revoked to access) a multicast communication service?*

How that authentication and authorization is realized in the new architecture for 5Gmulticast communication service needs to be studied. The necessary level(s) of authorization could be needed for UEs to access multicast communication services.

### 5.1.2 Security threats

If authentication for multicast communication service is not supported, an attacker may spoof a legitimate UE to gain access to a MBS service. If authorization for multicast communication service is not supported, an attacker may gain free access to content without any knowledge of the service provider. In addition, an attacker may use the 3GPP network to gain "free access" of MBS services and other services on another user's bill.

### 5.1.3 Potential security requirements

The 5GS shall support the authentication and authorization for multicast communication service.

## 5.2 Key Issue #2: Security protection of MBS traffic

### 5.2.1 Key issue details

According to TR 23.757 [2], MBS traffic needs to be delivered from application service provider to multiple UEs through 5GS. Depending on many factors, multiple delivery methods may be used to deliver MBS traffic. As described in clause 4.4 of TR 23.757 [2], Shared PTP or PTM delivery method and Individual delivery method may be used at the same time for a 5G MBS session depending on selected solution.

The 5GS may provide multiple interfaces for transferring MBS data between UE and external services/networks, such as Uu, N3, N6. MBS traffic need to be properly protected especially in air interface. While it is still possible to support security for multicast/broadcast traffic at the application layer, it is necessary to consider a security natively provided by the 5G system for the following reasons: There would be multicast/broadcast services that do not have application level security (e.g., due to protocol overhead) but want to leverage the security provided by 5G system, such as the MBS services provided by operators (e.g., for IoT devices).

As a result, MBS protection independent of application layer protection is to be studied in this key issue. This key issue investigates security protection of 5G MBS PDU sessions/flows at the transport or service level. In Transport layer, the service is provided by the 5G system to deliver multicast datagrams to multiple receivers using minimum network and radio resources, while the service layer is fully separate from the transport layer. This allows for applications that do not require a service layer to establish a multicast transport directly via Nnef (control plane and N6 (user plane data)

Editor’s Note: this key issue may need to be updated based on the progress of the 5G MBS architecture design by SA2 and RAN WGs.

### 5.2.2 Security threats

Attackers may eavesdrop MBS traffic on the air-interface. Users that have not joined and activated a MBS service receiving that service without being charged.

Modifications and replay of messages in a way to fool the user of the content from the actual source, e.g. replace the actual content with a fake one.

### 5.2.3 Potential security requirements

The 5GS shall support the confidentiality protection, integrity protection, and anti-replay protection of MBS traffic.

## 5.3 Key Issue #3: Security protection of key distribution

### 5.3.1 Key issue details

MBS introduces the concept of a point-to-multipoint service into a 3GPP system. MBS traffic is delivered from application service provider to multiple UEs through 5GS. To securely transmit data to a given set of users, the MBS traffic needs to be protected to mitigate the potential attacks. As the security fundamental basis, the keys for protection of MBS traffic are required.

Compared with UE keys, the keys for protection of MBS traffic are one-to-many keys. When UE joins the MBS session, only authorized users are able to receive the keys delivered from the key generator for protection of MBS traffic. UEs might also leave an MBS session or be compromised.

### 5.3.2 Security threats

If the keys for protection of MBS traffic are not confidentiality protected, an attacker may use the 3GPP network to gain "free access" of MBS services.

If the keys for protection of MBS traffic are not integrity or anti-replay protected, the authorised users may not be able to acquire the MBS traffic properly.

If the keys for protecting the MBS traffic cannot be updated, then:

* If a device in the group leaves, the device might be able to access the content after leaving,
* If a device joins the group, the device might be able to access previous content,
* If a device in the group is malicious, the device might be able to inject fake content.

### 5.3.3 Potential security requirements

The distribution of the keys for protection of MBS traffic between the key generator and the UE shall be confidentiality, integrity and anti-replay protected.

The 5GS shall be able to update the keys used to protect the MBS traffic.

## 5.4 Key Issue # 4: Security protection between AF and 5GC

### 5.4.1 Key issue details

The adopted baseline architecture in TR 23.757 [2] provides the Network Functions including MBSF and NEF at Service Layer and exposure to Application Function. MBSF User Plane Function is denoted MBSF-U and MBSF Control Plane Function is denoted MBSF-C. These NFs support external exposure of capabilities to AF and interaction with provider.

The reference architecture provides the configuration variants for AF interaction with 5G Core Network, usage of NEF or MBSF-C in the control plane, and usage of N6, MB2-C or xMB-U in user plane. Three configuration options are descripted including (1) No MBSF, (2) MBSF, N33 towards AF and (3) MBSF, MB2-C/xMB-C towards AF. The protection between AF and NEF/MBSF-C/MBSF-U is needed.

### 5.4.2 Security threats

If the interface between 5GC and AF is not well protected, the attacker may eavesdrop, modify or replay the message. In addition, the deliberated manipulation of the data between the 5GC and AF may disturb the communication.

If mutual authentication between 5GC and AF is not supported, the attacker may impersonate the actual source and publish fake content.

### 5.4.3 Potential security requirements

Integrity protection, replay protection and confidentiality protection for communication between 5GC and AF shall be supported..

Mutual authentication between 5GC and AF shall be supported.

The 5GC shall be able to determine whether the AF is authorized to interact with the relevant Network Functions.

## 5.X Key issue #X: <Key issue name>

### 5.X.1 Key issue details

### 5.X.2 Threats

### 5.X.3 Potential security requirements

# 6 Proposed solutions

Editor’s Note: This clause will contain the proposed solutions

## 6.0 Mapping of solutions to key issues

Table 6.0-1: Mapping of Solutions to Key Issues

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Solutions | Key Issues | | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | X |
| #1: protect MBS traffic in transport layer |  | x | x |  |  |
| #2: protect MBS traffic in service layer |  | x | x |  |  |
| #3: MBS Traffic Protection |  | x | x |  |  |
| #4: Authentication and authorization for multicast communication service | x |  |  |  |  |
| #5: Authorization revocation | x |  |  |  |  |
| #6: Authentication and authorization for multicast communication service based on AKMA | x |  |  |  |  |
| #7: security protection between AF and 5GC |  |  |  | x |  |
| #8: MBS Traffic Protection |  | x | x |  |  |
| #9: Key update solution |  | x |  |  |  |
| #X: <Solution name> |  |  |  |  |  |

Editor's note: This clause describes the mapping between solutions and key issues.

## 6.1 Solution #1: Protection of MBS traffic in transport layer

### 6.1.1 Solution overview

This solution addresses Key Issue 2&3 to support the secure MBS traffic delivery from context provider to multiple UEs through 5GS. The keys for protection of MBS traffic are generated in the RAN nodes and distributed to UEs. The UEs, which belong to a multicast group, acquire the same keys in the RAN node. The security protection is enabled in transport layer.

### 6.1.2 Solution details

UE

(MB-) SMF

AMF

RAN

UPF

UDM

Content Provider

2. Multicast announcement

4.Nsmf PDU session update SMcontext

(multicast\_group\_info)

5.Multicast distribution session check

6.NamfcommunicationN1N2messageTransfer

7.N2 session request

（multicast\_group\_info）

1. UE registration and PDU session establishment

8. generate K\_group, and select the security algorithms

9. RRC reconfiguration request

（key\_ID, K\_group\_enc, K\_group\_int, security algorithms）

10. UE recieves and stores the security info

11. continue with the multicast service initiation procedure

3.PDU session modification request

(multicast\_group\_info)

**Figure 6.1.1-1. The procedure to protect MBS traffic in transport layer**

The procedure is described as follows:

1. The UE registers in 5GS and establishes a PDU session.
2. The content provider announces the availability of multicast using higher layers (e.g., application layer).
3. The UE sends the PDU Session Modification Request. Information about multicast group including identifier of the multicast group, which UE wants to join, shall be sent. Multicast\_group\_ID can be multicast address or other identifiers.
4. The AMF invokes Nsmf\_PDUSession\_UpdateSMContext, in which information about multicast group is included. The SMF checks whether the UE is authorized to receive the requested multicast service based on the UE’s subscription information.

Editor’s Note: Step 3&4 need to be revised if SA2 agrees to support UE’s multicast session join/leave operation via UP e.g. IGMP Join/Leave.

1. If MBS context is not available in (MB-)SMF, (MB-)SMF interacts with UDM to check whether a multicast context for the multicast group exists in the system.
2. (MB-)SMF requests the AMF to transfer a message to the RAN node using the Namf\_N1N2MessageTransfer service to create a multicast context in the RAN, if it does not exist already. In addition, the SMF sends a security policy for the multicast service to the gNB via AMF. Security policy indicates whether confidentiality and/or integrity protection needs to be activated or not for all bearers belonging to that MBS service.
3. The N2 session modification request is sent to the RAN, in which information about multicast group and the security policy is included.
4. RAN check whether the MBS security context for this multicast group is available. MBS security context, which is used for MBS traffic protection, includes the key\_ID, K\_group\_enc, K\_group\_int, encryption and integrity algorithms. The key\_ID is the key identifier and associated with the K\_group\_enc and K\_group\_int. K\_group\_enc and K\_group\_int are used for encryption and integrity protection of MBS traffic respectively.

If not, RAN generates K\_group and derives the K\_group\_enc and K\_group\_int. The encryption and integrity algorithms are selected. The MBS security context is stored until all the UEs in the multicast group have left the RAN.

NOTE 1: The K\_group generation method can be left to implementation.

NOTE 2: A method for key update is required. Such a method is given, e.g., in Solution 9.

1. The MBS security context is distributed from RAN to UE. The RRC config message further contains the current PDCP COUNT value for the K\_group. If the K\_group is newly created, the PDCP COUNT is set to the initial value (e.g., 0).

Editor’s Note: Inclusion of PDCP COUNT in the RRC Reconfig message requires further explanation.

Editor’s Note: The Relationship between K-group update and PDCP COUNT initialization requires further explanation.

1. UE receives and stores the MBS security context for the multicast group.
2. Continue with the multicast service initiation procedure. Then, the UE decrypts and/or checks the integrity of PDCP PDUs sent over the K\_group based on the security policy.

NOTE 3: The support for mobility of UEs is addressed in other solutions.

#### 6.1.2.1 Security handling in handover

In handover, if a UE has established an MBS PDU session and the corresponding bearer(s) (i.e., MRB(s)) with the source RAN node, the MRB(s) needs to be handed over to the target RAN node. There are two handover scenarios that need to be considered.

* If the target RAN node has already created an MBS security context for the MBS PDU session that the UE has established with the source RAN node, the target RAN node provides the MBS security context to the UE via the source RAN node.

NOTE 4: It is possible that the target RAN node creates an MBS security context for the MBS PDU session when it has received a Handover request from the source RAN node.

* If the target RAN node has not created the MBS security context associated with the MBS PDU session, the target RAN node configures the DRB(s) for the MBS PDU session for the UE and provides this configuration information to the UE via the source RAN node. The security activation status of DRB(s) is same as the security activation status of MRB(s) for the MBS PDU session.

The above security handling of MBS traffic during the handover is applicable to both Xn-based and N2-based Handover procedures.

### 6.1.3 Solution evaluation

TBD

## 6.2 Solution #2: protect MBS traffic in service layer

### 6.2.1 Solution overview

This solution addresses Key Issue 2&3 to support the secure MBS traffic delivery from context provider to multiple UEs through 5GS. In the agreed architecture in TR 23.757 [2], the MBSF-U (Multicast/Broadcast Service Function-User plane) is defined as a new entity to handle the payload part to cater for the service level functions and management. MBSF-C (Multicast/Broadcast Service Function-Control plane) is defined as a new entity to functionality to handle the control plane signalling. This solution protects the MBS traffic between the MBSF-U in the operator domain and the UE. It is independent to the protection in the application layer from the content provider.

The keys for protection of MBS traffic are generated in the SMF. Afterwards, the keys are distributed to UEs and MBSF-U respectively. The UEs, which belongs to a multicast group, acquire the same keys in the MBSF-U. The keys can be updated in an efficient way.

### 6.2.2 Solution details

3.PDU session modification request

(multicast\_group\_info)

4.Nsmf PDU session update SMcontext

(multicast\_group\_info)

5.Multicast distribution session check

6.NamfcommunicationN1N2messageTransfer

7.N2 session request

2. Multicast announcement

1. UE registration and PDU session establishment

AMF

RAN

UE

(MB)-SMF

MBSF-C

AUSF

UDM

16. generate K\_group, K\_transport\_i, and select the security algorithms

8. RRC reconfiguration request

9. UE derive MUK based on Kausf and multicast\_group\_info

15. continue with the multicast service initiation procedure

Content Provider

11. AUSF derive MUK based on Kausf and multicast\_group\_info

10.MUK request

(multicast\_group\_info)

12.MUK response

(MUK)

13.MUK distribution

(MUK)

14. ACK

18a. transport key response

EMUK（key\_ID, K\_enc, K\_int, security algorithms）

17. transport and traffic key request

(token)

18b.key response and update

EMUK transport\_1（group\_key\_ID, , K\_group）,…, EK\_transport\_M (group\_key\_ID, K\_group), H=Hash(K\_group\_ID)

**Figure 6.2.2-1.The procedure to protect MBS traffic in service layer**

The procedure is described as follows:

1. The UE registers 5GS and establishs a PDU session.
2. The content provider announces the availability of multicast using higher layers (e.g., application layer).
3. The UE sends the PDU Session Modification Request. Information about multicast group including identifer of the multicast group which UE wants to join, shall be sent. Multicast\_group\_ID can be multicast address or other identifier.
4. The AMF invokes Nsmf\_PDUSession\_UpdateSMContext, in which information about multicast group is included.

Editor’s Note: Step 3&4 need to be revised if SA2 agrees to support UE’s multicast session join/leave operation via UP e.g. IGMP Join/Leave.

1. If MBS context is not available in (MB)-SMF, (MB)-SMF interacts with UDM/UDR to check whether a multicast context for the multicast group exists in the system.
2. (MB)-SMF requests the AMF to transfer a message to the RAN node using the Namf\_N1N2MessageTransfer service to create a multicast context in the RAN, if it does not exist already. IP address of MBSF-C may be included if needed for UE to find MBSF-C.
3. The N2 session modification request is sent to the RAN.
4. RAN sends RRC reconfiguration request message to UE.
5. If UE is allowed to access the MBS service, UE derives Multicast User Key (MUK). The input key KEY is Kausf. The parameters are used to form the input string to the KDF including Multicast\_group\_ID. When re-authentication runs, the UE generates a new MUK and deletes the old MUK.

NOTE: The details of MUK derivation will be discussed in the normative work.

Editor’s Note: Key update procedure after reauthentication is FFS.

1. SMF requests MUK and sends Multicast\_group\_ID to AUSF.
2. AUSF derives Multicast User Key (MUK) based on Kasuf and Multicast\_group\_ID. When re-authentication runs, the AUSF generates a new MUK and deletes the old MUK.
3. AUSF responds to SMF with MUK.
4. SMF distributes MUK to MBSF-C.
5. MBSF-C receives and stores the MUK. Afterwards, ACK is reponded to SMF.
6. Continue with the multicast service initiation procedure.
7. MBSF-C checks whether the MBS security context for this multicast group is available. MBS security context, which is used for MBS traffic protection, includes the key\_ID, K\_group\_enc, K\_group\_int, encryption and integrity algorithms. The key\_ID is used to indicate which key pair is used. K\_group\_enc and K\_group\_int are used for encryption and integrity protection of MBS traffic respectively.

If not, MBSF-C generates K\_group and derives the K\_group\_enc and K\_group\_int. The encryption and integrity algorithms are selected.

The MBS security context is distributed from MBSF-C to MBSF-U.

1. UE calculates token based on MUK and requests traffic key to MBSF-C. The token is secured with digital signatures or Message Authentication Codes (MAC). The input parameter includes UE\_id, Multicast\_group\_ID, and fresh parameters.
2. MBSF-C verifies the token using MUK and distributes the MBS security context to UE if succeeded.

Editor’s Note: Whether the roaming aspect is addressed based on the conclusion from SA2.

Editor’ Note: Whether SMF and MB-SMF are separated needs to be revisited once SA2 has conclusion.

### 6.2.2.1 MBS group key distribution and update

This section explains the logic of step 18a and 18b in Figure 6.2.2.1. using two approaches:

**Default approach:**

The default version uses key hierarchy:

MUK -> K\_group

Step 18a relies on K=K\_group, i.e., this message is used to directly update K\_group by means of MUK. If K\_group needs to be updated and the group size is N, this approach requires the exchanged of N messages.

In Step 18a, EK1{K2} means authenticated encryption of key K2 with key K1 and is used to indicate the secure delivery of K2.

**Communication optimized approach:**

Alternatively, a key hierarchy” MUK -> K\_transport\_i-> K\_group” can be used. This alternative is useful to decrease the communication overhead to roughly 2 SQRT(N). In this approach, a multicast group with N members is divided into M disjoint sets S\_i of UEs with i={1,…,M}. Each set has roughly L ~ N/M UEs.

Each UE has three keys: a device specific key, MUK; a transport key K\_transport\_i shared with other L-1 devices in the same set S\_i; a group key shared with all N devices and used to protect the MBS traffic. All keys shall be generated independently from each other in a secure way. The MUK is used to securely deliver transport keys in a point-to-point connection. The transport keys are used to securely deliver the group key. The key hierarchy is as follows where the arrow indicates protection. All keys shall be generated independently from each other in a secure way.

MUK -> K\_transport\_i -> K\_group

The distribution and update of the group key is done by means of two messages:

* Message 18a: in this meassage, K=K\_transport\_i and is used to provide UE with the key transport for the set it belongs to protected with the UE’s MUK.

Upon reception, a UE first verifies the message authentication code, and if it is correct, it decrypts its transport key. Freshness can be achieved in multiple ways. For instance, an increasing initialization vector can be used that depends on the initial access token exchanged in Step 17.

* Message 18b: the new group key is distributed by protecting it with the transport keys in a point-to-point or in multicast messages. The hash of the new group key H is included in this message.

Upon reception, a UE first searches the part of the message that is addressed to its set. For instance, if the UE belongs to set z, the UE needs to look for EK\_transport\_z{K\_group}. Then, the UE verifies the message authentication code, and if it is correct, it decrypts the new group key. Freshness can be achieved by using the same freshness counter as used for the distribution of MBS traffic. Finally, the UE also checks whether the hash of the decrypted key equals the hash H of the group key that is appended at the end of this message.

These two messages 18a and 18b can be combined to address different situations:

1. Initial key distribution to a UE: the UE is provided with its transport key and the group key in a same message combining 18a and 18b.
2. Key update triggered by a too long usage of key group: Message 18b is used to distribute a new group key to all UEs.
3. Key update triggered by a new device joining the group: Message 18a is used to deliver the corresponding transport key to the new UE. Then, Message 18b is used to distribute a new group key to all UEs.
4. Key update triggered by a UE leaving/being revoked: If a UE leaves or is revoked, its transport key associated to its set and the group key are compromised. To deal with this situation, Message 18a is sent to the L-1 UEs in its set to update the transport key. Afterwards, message 18b is used to distribute a new group key to all UEs.

This approach is efficient and resilient since the update of the group key due to a device leaving the group only requires L – 1 + M messages instead of N that would be required when only point-to-point messages are involved. For instance, if N=1600, M=40, L=40, then the key update only requires 39 point-to-point messages for the update of the transport key associated to the set of the device that is leaving and 40 messages for the group key update. This choice is good since the total number of messages is minimized when L=M=SQRT(N). Another choice might be M=1 so that there is a single transport key or M=N so that there are N transport keys.

Since M transport keys are used, an attacker that compromises a UE can only try to update the group key of up to L-1 devices. This limits the impact of such an attack, in particular, compared with a situation in which a single transport key is used to protect the update of the group key where N-1 would be affected. Furthermore, even this attack has limited chances of success because the hash of the group key is included in Message 18b so that devices in other sets – that potentially might also receive this fake group key update -- can check the consistency by means of H, detect the attack, and inform the 5MBS.

Editor’s note: Reliability of the scheme is FFS

### 6.2.3 Solution evaluation

TBD

## 6.3 Solution #3: MBS Traffic Protection

### 6.3.1 Solution overview

This solution addresses both KI#2 and KI#3. It is based on the converged architecture in TR 23.757 [2] which is concluded as the adopted architecture for 5G MBS.

According to TR 23.757 [2], in the adopted architecture, the MBSF-U (Multicast/Broadcast Service Function - User plane) and MBSF-C (Multicast/Broadcast Service Function - Control Plane) are two network functions at Service Layer. MBSF-U is the media anchor for MBS data, performs generic packet transport. MBSF-C provides service level functionality to support MBS, interacts with AF and MB-SMF for session operations and transport, and etc.

In this solution, MBS traffic is protected between the MBSF-U in the operator domain and the UE, and it is transparent to the content provider. MBS Traffic Key (MTK) is generated by MBSF -C and distributed to the MBSF-U and the UEs through the control plane. MBSF-U uses the MTK to protect the MBS traffic before sending them out to the UE.

### 6.3.2 Solution details

In the procedure below, (MB-)SMF is either the SMF for managing in the MBS session and controlling of MBS transport (e.g. MB-UPF configuration, RAN configuration) or the SMF for managing the per-UE PDU session. The two may be the same network function.



**Figure 6.3.2-1: MBS key distribution**

Step 1. The AF of the content provider provisions to the MBSF/MSF-C the information on the MBS application including the security policy. The NEF is involved in the provision if the content provider belongs to a 3rd party.

Step 2. If the security policy indicates the MBS application needs security protection, MBSF/MSF-C shall generate a MTK and the associated key identifier (KID) for the MBS application. MBSF/MSF-C provisions the received information on the MBS application and the generated MTK and the KID to the UDM/UDR.

MTK needs to be different for each MBS application, therefore, the identification information for the MBS application (e.g. TMGI, multicast address) may be used to generate MTK. The KID consists of a Key Domain ID and a MTK ID. The Key Domain ID is MCC|| MNC. A MTK ID is a number that is different for each MTK.

Step 3. MBSF-C sends the security policy and the MTK and KID to MBSF-U.

Step 4. There are other steps for MBS session configuration at the core network (e.g. MB-SMF selection, MB-UPF configuration, RAN configuration).

Step 5. To join a multicast group via control plane, UE initiates the request for a PDU session establishment/modification and includes in the request the ID of the multicast group the UE wishes to join. The request is forwarded to the (MB-)SMF through the control plane. The multicast group ID may be a Temporary Mobile Group Identifier (TMGI) or a multicast address. For the user plane join, the UE sends an IGMP/MLR message to a UPF including the identifier of the MBS application. The UPF forwards the IGMP/MLR message the (MB)-SMF.

Step 6. If the (MB-)SMF does not have the subscription data for the MBS service already, the (MB-)SMF sends a request for the subscription data to the UDM/UDR.

Step 7. The UDM/UDR replies with the requested subscription data and the received MTK and KID in step 2.

Step 8. There are other steps for the PDU session establishment/modification (e.g. N4 session creation/modification).

Step 9. The (MB-)SMF sends the received MTK and the KID to the UE.

Step 10. When MBS traffic is received at the MBSF-U, the MBSF-U uses the received MTK to protect the MBS traffic if the received security policy from step 3 indicates security policy is needed. The protected MBS traffic along with the KID are sent to the UE. Based on the received KID, the UE uses the received MTK in step 6 to process the MBS traffic.

Editor's Note: Whether SMF and MB-SMF are separated or not needs to be revisited once SA2 has conclusion.

### 6.3.3 Solution evaluation

TBC

## 6.4 Solution #4: Authentication and authorization for multicast communication service

### 6.4.1 Solution overview

This solution, which is based on existing EAP based secondary authentication, addresses the key issue #1 Security of authentication and authorization for multicast communication service.

### 6.4.2 Solution details

In the solution below, the (MB-)SMF is either the SMF for managing in the MBS session and controlling of MBS transport (e.g. MB-UPF configuration, RAN configuration) or the SMF for managing the per-UE PDU session. The two may be the same network function.



Figure 6.4.2-1: Authentication and authorization procedure

1. UE sends a request to join a multicast service. The request is forwarded to the (MB-)SMF. According to the TR 23.757 [2], there are two ways for step 1, the control plane join and the user plane join. For the control plane join, the UE initiates the request for a PDU session establishment/modification and includes the identifier of the multicast service that the UE wishes to join. The request is forwarded to the (MB-)SMF through the control plane. For the user plane join, the UE sends an IGMP/MLR message including the identifier of the multicast service/application to a UPF. The UPF forwards the IGMP/MLR message the (MB)-SMF. The identifier of the multicast service may be a TMGI (Temporary Mobile Group Identifier) or a source specific IP multicast address.

If not available locally, the (MB-)SMF retrieves the subscription data from the UDM.

1. The (MB-)SMF determines that authentication and authorization is needed for the MBS communication service based on the subscription data.
2. The (MB-)SMF sends an EAP request and the identifier of the multicast service/application to the UE to request the EAP identity used for the multicast service/application.
3. The UE responds with an EAP response with the EAP identity and the identifier of the multicast service/application.

To avoid the round-trip in step 3 and 4, the UE may also send the EAP identity in step 1 if the control plane join is used, similar to the EAP based secondary authentication by an external DN-AAA server in 33.501.

6-7. The (MB-)SMF sends the received EAP identity and the identifier of the multicast service/application to the AAA server through a (MB-)UPF.

1. EAP messages are exchanged between the AAA server and the UE.
2. After the successful completion of the authentication procedure, DN AAA server shall send EAP Success message to the (MB-)SMF.
3. If the UE is authorized to join the multicast service/application based on the subscription, then the (MB-SMF) will proceed with PDU session establishment/modification. The (MB-)SMF sends the EAP access and the identifier of the multicast service/application to the UE.

Editor's Note: Whether SMF and MB-SMF are separated needs to be revisited once SA2 has conclusion.

### 6.4.3 Solution evaluation

TBC

## 6.5 Solution #5: Authorization revocation

### 6.5.1 Solution overview

This solution proposes how the authorization revocation is performed, for KI#1. When the content provider decides that the user authorization for a multicast service needs to be revoked, the content provider will inform the UDM/UDR about the revocation. The UDM/UDR will accordingly instructs the SMF to release the corresponding resources established for the user for the multicast service.

### 6.5.2 Solution details

In the solution below, the (MB-)SMF is either the SMF for managing in the MBS session and controlling of MBS transport (e.g. MB-UPF configuration, RAN configuration) or the SMF for managing the per-UE PDU session. The two may be the same network function.



Figure 6.5.2-1: Authorization revocation

1. The AF of the content provider provisions the information on the multicast service/application including the authorization information to the UDM/UDR. The NEF is involved in the provisioning if the content provider belongs to a 3rd party.
2. The UE has successfully joined a multicast service/application and the PDU session for the multicast service/application has been established.
3. The (MB-)SMF subscribes to the UDM/UDR on the changes of the multicast information including the authorization information. Step 2 may also be performed during step 1. SMF may get data from UDR via UDM/PCF/NEF.
4. The content provider updates the multicast information. The NEF is involved in the provisioning if the content provider belongs to a 3rd party.
5. The UDM/UDR notifies the (MB-)SMF when the authorization for a UE to join the multicast service/application is revoked. The identifier of the multicast service/application and UE identifier (i.e. SUPI) is included in the notification. The identifier of the multicast service/application may be a Temporary Mobile Group Identifier (TMGI) or a multicast address.
6. The (MB-)SMF may release the PDU session for the multicast service/application identified by the received identifier if no UE is left using the multicast service.

When a UE decides to revoke the authorization, the UE may send a request to the content provider in the application layer, then the step 3, 4, and 5 of the solution apply.

Editor's note: Whether SMF and MB-SMF are separated needs to be revisited once SA2 has conclusion.

### 6.5.3 Solution evaluation

TBC

## 6.6 Solution #6: Authentication and authorization for multicast communication service based on AKMA

### 6.6.1 Solution overview

This solution, which is based on AKMA, addresses the key issue #1 Security of authentication and authorization for multicast communication service.

### 6.2 Solution details

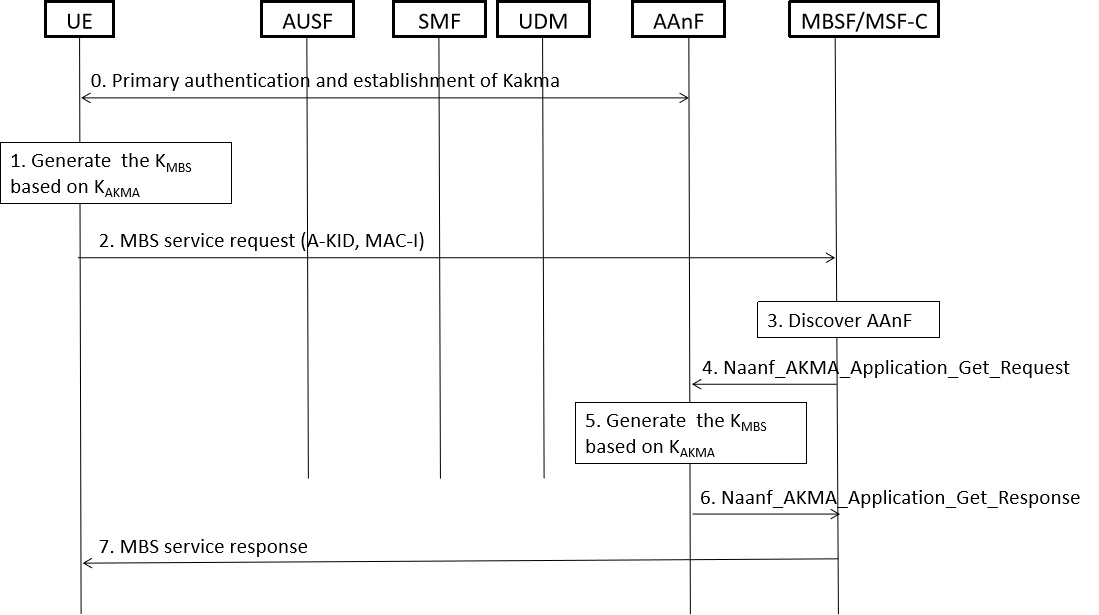


Figure 6.6.2-1 Authentication between the MBSF/MSF-C and UE based AKMA

1. UE shall generate the AKMA Anchor Key (KAKMA) and the A-KID from the KAUSF before initiating communication with an AKMA Application Function, i.e MBSF/MSF-C, as specified in TS 33.535 [5].
2. UE derive a key KMBS for authentication with the MBSF/MSF-C .
3. When UE try to join the multicast service, UE computes MAC-I and then UE sends a MBS service request to MBSF/MSF-C. The service request include A-KID and MAC-I.

Editor’s Note: How to derive the MAC-I is FFS.

3-6. Upon receiving the request, the MBSF/MSF-U discovers the AAnF, then AAnF generates KMBS and sends the KMBS to MBSF/MSF-C.

Editor’s Note: It is FFS how to discover the correct AAnF.

Editor’s Note: How MBSF/MSF-C obtains authorization information is FFS.

Editor’s Note: It is ffs whether primary authentication is sufficient to authenticate the UE towards the MBSF.

7. The MBSF/MSF-C verifies the MAC-I using the KMBS, when the verification is succeed, and if the UE is authorized to perform the operation,Then the MBSF/MSF-C sends a service response to the UE.

### 6.6.3 Solution evaluation

TBD

## 6.7 Solution # 7: security protection between AF and 5GC

### 6.7.1 Solution overview

This security solution is related to the key issue #4: "Security protection between AF and 5GC". The interface between the NEF/MBSF-C/MBSF-U and the AF used needs to be properly secured by providing confidentiality, integrity and replay protection. Mutual authentication is also needed. TS 33.501 [6] already defined the security aspects of NEF, which can be reused.

### 6.7.2 Solution details

The security aspects defined in clause 12 in TS 33.501[6] is applicable for both NEF, MBSF-C and MBSF-U. TLS based solution are reused to protect the interface between AF and 5GC.

### 6.7.3 Solution evaluation

The proposed solution fulfils the potential security requirements given in the related key issue.

## 6.8 Solution #8: MBS Traffic Protection

### 6.8.1 Solution overview

This solution addresses both KI#2 and KI#3.

According to TR 23.757 [2], in the adopted baseline architecture 3, the MBSF-U (Multicast/Broadcast Service Function-User plane) is defined as a new entity to handle the payload part to cater for the service level functions and management.

In this solution, MBS traffic is protected between the MBSF-U in the operator domain and the UE, and it is transparent to the content provider. MBS Traffic Key (MTK) is generated by (MB-)SMF and distributed to the UEs through the control plane. In addition, key update is also supported. MBSF-U uses the MTK to protect the MBS traffic before sending them out to the UE.

### 6.8.2 Solution details

In the procedure below, (MB-)SMF is the enhanced SMF that supports MBS.

UE

(MB-)SMF

UDM

MBSF-U

Content Provider

1. Multicast request

3. MBS subscription Response

5. MTK establish/update request message

(MTK, KID)

8.MBS data

4. If MTK is not available in UDM or key update is needed, generate MTK and KID

2. MBS subscription Request

6. MTK establish/update request message

(MTK, KID)

7. PDU session establish/modification

(MTK, KID)

8.MBS data

1. Multicast configuration

**Figure 6.8.2-1: Authentication and authorization procedure**

1. The AF of the content provider provides the multicast configuration information to UDM. The information includes UE authorization information and indicates whether the security protection provided by PLMN is needed. The NEF is involved in the provision if the content provider belongs to a 3rd party.
2. The UE initiates the request for a PDU session establishment/modification. The identifier for the MBS application is included. The request is forwarded to the (MB-)SMF through the control plane.

Note: Multicast session join operation via UP may be supported based on the conclusion from SA2.

1. If the (MB-)SMF does not have the subscription data already, the (MB-)SMF sends a request for the subscription data to the UDM/UDR.
2. The UE authorization information is included in the response message. If the security protection provided by PLMN is needed and MTK and KID is available, the UDM/UDR replies with the stored MTK and KID. Step 4-7 are skipped if key updated is not needed.
3. If MTK and KID is not available in UDM/UDR or the MTK needs to be updated based on local policy, (MB-)SMF shall generate a MTK and the associated key identifier (KID) for the MBS application. KID contains the Key Group part and the Key Number part. Key Group part could be the MBS Session ID. Key number part is used to distinguish MTKs that have the same Key Group part.

If MBSF-C is determined to generate MTK and KID, (MB-)SMF retrieves MTK and KID from MBSF-C when needed.

1. (MB-)SMF provisions the generated MTK and the KID to the UDM/UDR.
2. (MB-)SMF provisions the generated MTK and the KID to the MBSF-U.
3. If UE is authorised to use the MBS feature and allowed to access the data from the MBS application, the (MB-)SMF sends the MTK and the KID to the UE. The UP security policy is set to “not needed” which indicates UP confidentiality and/or UP integrity protection shall not be activated for all DRBs belonging to that MBS session to avoid redundant protection.
4. When MBS traffic is received at the MBSU/MSF-U, the MBSU/MSF-U uses the received MTK to protect the MBS traffic. The protected MBS traffic along with the KID are sent to the UE.

The UE uses the received MTK in step 7 to process the MBS traffic.

Editor’ Note: Whether SMF and MB-SMF are separated needs to be revisited once SA2 has conclusion

### 6.8.3 Solution evaluation

TBC

## 6.9 Solution #9: Key update solution

### 6.9.1 Solution overview

This solution addresses Key Issue 2 to support the update or revocation of the group key. This solution is based on solution 1. The keys for protection of MBS traffic are generated in the RAN nodes and distributed to UEs. The UEs, which belong to a multicast group, acquire the same group keys in the RAN node. The security protection is enabled in transport layer.

### 6.9.2 Solution Details

This subsection explains how the group key is to be updated. Reasons to trigger this procedure include UE mobility, presence of malicious UEs, or long usage of the group key.

**Default approach:**

The default group key update version uses key hierarchy:

UE\_K 🡪 K\_group

In this approach, each UE has two keys: a device specific key, UE\_K, and a group key K\_group shared with all N devices in a RAN subscribed to the same MBS service. UE\_K refers the device specific UE keys used to protect message 9 in 6.1.1-1, i.e., the RRC reconfiguration request.

In the following, K1 🡪 K2 means that K1 is used to protect the transport of K2 by ensuring its confidentiality, integrity, and freshness. In the following, EK1{K2} is used to indicate the secure delivery of K2 by protecting it with K1.

Group key update in the following situations:

1. Initial group key distribution,
2. Key update due to a too long usage,
3. Key update triggered by a new device joining the group, and
4. Key update triggered by a UE leaving/being revoked

involve the following two steps:

* RAN generating a new group key.
* RAN sending RRC reconfiguration request unicast messages to all UEs subscribed to a given MBS service (Step 9 in Figure 6.1.1-1).

**Communication optimized approach:**

Alternatively, the following key hierarchy can be used:

UE\_K 🡪 K\_transport\_i 🡪 K\_group

In this approach, each UE has three keys: a device specific key, UE\_K; a transport key K\_transport\_i shared with L - 1 devices in the same set S\_i; a group key shared with all N devices and used to protect the MBS traffic. The transport keys and the group key shall be generated independently from each other in a secure way. The UE\_K is used to securely deliver transport keys in a point-to-point connection. The transport keys are used to securely deliver the group key.

In this approach, a multicast group with N members is divided into M disjoint sets S\_i of UEs with i={1,…,M}. Each set has roughly L ~ N/M UEs.

The transport keys are used to securely deliver the group key updates as part of the data exchanged over the regular MBS traffic. The process to extract this data is as follows:

* any UE decrypts, checks the integrity, and freshness of the multicast data sent over the transport layer using the current K\_group.
* a UE belonging to set z looks for EK\_transport\_z{K\_group}. Then, the UE verifies the message authentication code, and if it is correct, it decrypts the new group key. Freshness can be achieved by using the same freshness counter as used for the distribution of MBS traffic. Finally, the UE also checks whether the hash of the new decrypted group key equals the hash H of the group key that is appended at the end of this multicast group key message. This multicast group key message (MGKM) is:

EK\_transport\_1{K\_group}, …, EK\_transport\_M{K\_group}, H=Hash(K\_group)

The group key update procedure works as follows:

1. **During initial group key distribution**: UE\_K is used in the initial group key distribution to securely distribute transport keys and K\_group in a point-to-point connection by means of RRC reconfiguration request messages (Step 9 in Figure 6.1.1-1).
2. **Group key update due to a too long usage** involves the gNB generating a new group key and sending the MGKM over the MBS transport layer.
3. **Key update triggered by a new device joining the group** involves distributing the current group key and the transport key for that device by means of RRC reconfiguration request messages (Step 9 in Figure 6.1.1-1).
4. **Key update triggered by a UE leaving/being revoked** involves (1) RAN generating a new group key and a new transport key, (2) sending L-1 RRC reconfiguration request messages to the L-1 UEs that were in the same set as the device that is leaving or has been revoked by means of RRC reconfiguration request messages (Step 9 in Figure 6.1.1-1); and (3) sending the MGKM over the MBS transport layer.

This communication optimized approach is useful to decrease the communication overhead to roughly 2 SQRT(N) compared with the default approach. This approach is efficient and resilient since the update of the group key due to a device leaving the group only requires L – 1 + M messages instead of N that would be required when only point-to-point messages are involved. For instance, if N=64, M=8, L=8, then the key update only requires L-1=7 point-to-point messages for the update of the transport key associated to the set of the device that is leaving and the multicast distribution of the MGKM for the group key update. This MGKM messages trasports the group key protected with M different transport keys. The total number of messages is minimized when L=M=SQRT(N). Another choice might be M=1 so that there is a single transport key or M=N so that there are N transport keys.

Since M transport keys are used, an attacker that compromises a UE can only try to update the group key of up to L-1 devices. This limits the impact of such an attack, in particular, compared with a situation in which a single transport key is used to protect the update of the group key where N-1 would be affected.

Furthermore, the hash of the group key is included so that devices in other sets – that potentially might also receive this fake group key update -- can check the consistency by means of H, detect the group key update attack, and inform the RAN.

Editor’s Note: Key update condition is FFS.

## 6.9.3 Evaluation

TBC

## 6.X Solution #X: <Solution name>

### 6.X.1 Solution overview

### 6.X.2 Solution details

### 6.X.3 Solution evaluation

# 7 Conclusions

Editor’s Note: This clause will contain the conclusion of the TR

Annex <A>:  
<Informative annex title for a Technical Report>

Annex <X> (informative):  
Change history

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Change history** | | | | | | | |
| **Date** | **Meeting** | **TDoc** | **CR** | **Rev** | **Cat** | **Subject/Comment** | **New version** |
| 2020-08 | SA3#100-e |  |  |  |  | TR skeleton (approved in S3-201722) | 0.0.0 |
| 2020-08 | SA3#100-e |  |  |  |  | Inclusions of documents approved at SA3#100-e: S3-202120, S3-202121, S3-202123, S3-202125 | 0.1.0 |
| 2020-10 | SA3#100-bis-e |  |  |  |  | Inclusions of documents approved at SA3#100-bis-e: S3-202475, S3-202476, S3-202761, S3-202762, S3-202746, S3 202491, S3-202745 | 0.2.0 |
| 2020-11 | SA3#101-e |  |  |  |  | Inclusions of documents approved at SA3#101-e: S3-203422, S3-203423, S3-203424, S3-203427, S3-203428, S3-203429, S3-203031, S3-203361 | 0.3.0 |
| 2021-01 | SA3#102-e |  |  |  |  | Inclusions of documents approved at SA3#102-e: S3-210290, 210369, S3-210677, S3-210693, S3-210286, S3-210690, S3-210610, S3-210134, S3-210672, S3-210641, S3-210642, S3-210643 | 0.4.0 |