

Power-of-Attorney Credential Definition (PoA-Definition)

Abstract

The Power-of-Attorney Credential Definition (PoA-Definition) enables a structured, standardized way of sharing machine-readable attributes and parameters, which are being leveraged for granting power of attorney along both the subscription as well as request-specific Extended Tokens of the GAuth protocol.

Status of This Memo

This is a Gimel Foundation Standards Track document.

This document is a product of the Gimel Foundation (GiFo). It represents the current consensus of the Gimel Foundation community. It has performed review and has been approved for publication.

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The distinguished GAuth standard as well as this PoA-Definition are protected by copy right and patent law. GAuth is an open-source standard, which can be based on OAuth, OpenID Connect and MCP. GAuth as well as this PoA-Definition must not use exclusions (see Scope), which are subject to separate license conditions and are also protected by copy right as well as patent law.

Implementations of GAuth as well as this PoA-Definition must refer the Apache 2.0 license of OAuth and OpenID Connect as well as to the MIT license of MCP in line with its license conditions. Copyrights and licenses of these building blocks apply accordingly.

Implementations of GAuth as well as this PoA-Definition must being licensed with Apache 2.0, granted by Gimel Foundation, and must not integrate exclusions (as per Scope statement of this Request for Comment). Defined exclusions of GAuth as well as this Power-of-Attorney Definition must refer to separate license conditions.

Notational Conventions

The key words "Must", "Must Not", "Required", "Shall", "Shall Not", "Should", "Should Not", "Recommended", "May", and "Optional" in the following specification are to be interpreted as described in IETF` s RFC 2119.

1. Scope

GAuth as well as this PoA-Definition concern the technical field of AI and particularly the governance of AI. With the increasing prevalence and performance of AI, there is a growing need for effective control and governance mechanisms to ensure their safe and responsible use. GAuth together with this PoA-Definition offer the solution for this. The GAuth standard together with this PoA-Definition offer an AI control protocol for digital agents, agentic teams of agents, humanoid robots and any other development of AI, which acts and decides on behalf of humans and/or organizations, which are being represented by humans. It acknowledges that the ultimate accountability of such actions and/or decisions are with such humans and/or organizations, respectively.

For any further scope specification please refer to GiFo RFC0111.

2. Limitations on the right to make derivative works (Exclusions)

GAAuth as well as this PoA-Definition are freely available as an open-source solution based on Apache 2.0 with the following exclusions. Users of GAAuth Must Not – whether directly or indirectly – integrate:

- The use of Web3, i.e., blockchain technology (including respective web3 tokens and smart contracts) for the extended token of GAAuth,
- the use of AI or AI operators, i.e.,
 - AI that controls the entire process of an AI deployment life cycle,
 - AI that tracks actions and/or decisions regarding authorization compliance,
 - AI that assures the quality of the outcome of AI engagements and
- DNA-based identities or identities based on genetic data, respectively, which offer particularly secure biometrics
 - incl. AI that tracks the quality of DNA based identities
 - incl. AI that tracks risks in terms of identity theft or any other risks

For any further limitations and Exclusions please see GiFo RFC0111.

In addition, this PoA-Definition Must Not be used in other contexts than together with GAAuth unless otherwise approved by Gimel Foundation in writing.

3. Power-of-Attorney Definition

The PoA-Definition Can be structured along the following attributes and parameters as shown in Figure 1 (* indicates that multiple selections are possible):

A. Parties

Principal:

- ☐ Individual (natural person)
- ☐ Organization
 - ☐ Commercial enterprise (AG, Ltd., partnership, etc.)
 - ☐ Public authority (federal, state, municipal, etc.)
 - ☐ Non-profit organization (foundation, non-profit association, gGmbH, etc.)
 - ☐ Other association (non-profit or non-charitable)
 - ☐ Other (church, cooperative, community of interest, other legal entity, etc.)

Representative / Authorizer*

(if the principal is an organization):

- ☐ Name of Client Owner
 - ☐ Registered power of attorney or managing director's authority (if applicable)
 - ☐ Entry in the commercial register (or other register)
 - ☐ Other
- ☐ Name of Owner's authorizer (if applicable)
 - ☐ Registered power of attorney (Prokura) or managing director's authority (if applicable)
 - ☐ Entry in the commercial register (or other register)
 - ☐ Other
- ☐ Other representatives (if applicable)
 - ☐ Registered power of attorney (Prokura) or managing director's authority (if applicable)
 - ☐ Entry in the commercial register (or other register)
 - ☐ Other
- ☐ Other

Authorized Client:

- ☐ LLM
 - ☐ Identity
 - ☐ Version
 - ☐ Operational status (e.g., active, revoked)
 - ☐ Other
- ☐ Digital agent
 - ☐ Identity
 - ☐ Version
 - ☐ Operational status (e.g., active, revoked)
 - ☐ Other
- ☐ Agentic AI (team of agents)
 - ☐ Identity
 - ☐ Version
 - ☐ Operational status (e.g., active, revoked)
 - ☐ Other
- ☐ Humanoid robot(s)
 - ☐ Identity
 - ☐ Version
 - ☐ Operational status (e.g., active, revoked)
 - ☐ Other

- ☐ Other
 - ☐ Identity
 - ☐ Version
 - ☐ Operational status (e.g., active, revoked)
 - ☐ Other

B. Type and Scope of Authorization

Type of Authorization*:

- ☐ Type of representation: sole or joint representation (e.g., Client together with Client Owner)
- ☐ Restrictions or exclusions (e.g., real estate transactions, granting further powers)
- ☐ Authority to appoint sub-proxies or delegate (note: appointments Must be in line with GAuth protocol)
- ☐ Specification of authorized signature (single, joint, or collective)
- ☐ Other

Scope of Applicable Sectors*

(if applicable; using a global industry code, e.g. ISIC/NACE):

- ☐ Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing
- ☐ Mining and Quarrying
- ☐ Manufacturing
- ☐ Energy Supply
- ☐ Water Supply
- ☐ Waste Management
- ☐ Construction
- ☐ Trade
- ☐ Vehicle Maintenance and Repair
- ☐ Transport and Storage
- ☐ Hospitality
- ☐ Information and Communication
- ☐ Financial and Insurance Services
- ☐ Real Estate
- ☐ Professional, Scientific and Technical Services
- ☐ Other Business Services
- ☐ Public Administration, Defence, Social Security
- ☐ Education
- ☐ Health and Social Work
- ☐ Arts, Entertainment and Recreation

- ☐ Other Services/Sectors

Scope of Applicable Regions*:

- ☐ Global
- ☐ National (specify country)
- ☐ International (specify countries or regions, e.g. EU, EEA, worldwide)
- ☐ Regional associations (e.g. DACH, Benelux, NAFTA)
- ☐ Subnational (states, provinces, municipalities, specify as needed)
- ☐ Specific locations or branches
- ☐ Other (specify)

Types of Transactions / Decisions / Actions authorized*:

*Transactions**

- ☐ Loan transactions
- ☐ Purchase transactions
- ☐ Sale transactions
- ☐ Leasing or rental transactions
- ☐ Other transactions(specify)

*Decisions**

- ☐ Personnel decisions (e.g., hiring, dismissal, staff development)
- ☐ Financial commitments (e.g., entering into contracts, authorizing expenses, investments)
- ☐ Buy/Sell transactions (e.g., acquisition or disposal of assets or shares)
- ☐ Conceptual determinations (e.g., defining business models, product concepts)
- ☐ Design decisions (e.g., approval of branding, design guidelines, technical architecture)
- ☐ Information sharing (e.g., authorizing the disclosure of information to third parties, public relations)
- ☐ Strategic decisions (e.g., mergers and acquisitions, market entry/exit, partnerships, overall strategy)
- ☐ Legal proceedings
- ☐ Asset management decisions
- ☐ Other decisions (specify)

*Actions - non-physical**

- ☐ Sharing / presenting
- ☐ Brainstorming / discussing
- ☐ Researching (e.g., RAG)

- ☐ Other non-physical actions
*Actions - physical**
- ☐ Shipments (e.g., Ocean, Air, Truck)
- ☐ Production (e.g., for production method)
- ☐ Recycling
- ☐ Storage
- ☐ Customization
- ☐ Package
- ☐ Clean
- ☐ Other actions (specify)

C. Requirements

Validity Period*:

- ☐ Start date: _____
- ☐ End date: _____
- ☐ Automatic renewal or expiration conditions
- ☐ Extraordinary termination/revocation conditions
- ☐ Other (specify)

Formal Requirements*:

- ☐ Notarial or official certification required
- ☐ ID verification of Resource Owner / Server required
- ☐ Written form or acceptance of digital signatures
- ☐ Other (specify)

Limits of Powers*:

- ☐ Power levels (e.g., limits on amounts or transaction type)
- ☐ Interaction boundaries (e.g., data access limits, limited number or types of agents to collaborate with)
- ☐ Tool limitation (e.g., tools, APIs, other agents the Client is authorized to use)
- ☐ Outcome limitations (e.g., intended outcomes of diagnostics in line with real-world evidence)
- ☐ Model limits (e.g., certain models defined by number of parameters, reasoning methods or kind of training methods / data Client is authorized to use)
- ☐ Behavioural limits (e.g., certain actions defined Client is authorized to perform)
- ☐ Quantum-resistance (Client is only authorized to use quantum-resistance resources)

- ☐ Explicit exclusions (e.g., no loans, no real estate transactions, no known failures)
- ☐ Other limits (specify)

Specific Rights and Obligations of Attorney-in-Fact*:

- ☐ Reporting or documentation duties
- ☐ Liability rules (e.g., gross negligence, intent)
- ☐ Compensation or reimbursement of expenses
- ☐ Other (specify)

Special Conditions*:

- ☐ Conditional effectiveness (e.g., triggered by event, illness, absence of principal)
- ☐ Obligation to immediately inform the principal of certain transactions
- ☐ Other (specify)

Rules for Death or Incapacity of Principal*:

- ☐ Continuation or expiration of power of attorney upon death
- ☐ Special instructions for incapacity of the principal
- ☐ Other (specify)

Security and Compliance*:

- ☐ Communication protocols (in addition to GAuth)
- ☐ Security properties attested (claims about security features)
- ☐ Compliance information (asserting compliance with relevant regulations, e.g., GDPR and eIDAS 2.0)
- ☐ Update mechanism: Information on how the Client's software, model can be securely updated
- ☐ Other (specify)

Place of Jurisdiction and Applicable Law*:

- ☐ Language of power of attorney
- ☐ Governing law
- ☐ Place of jurisdiction
- ☐ Reference to attached documents or agreements
- ☐ Other (specify)

Conflict Resolution*:

- ☐ Arbitration or court jurisdiction agreed

- [] Other (specify)

Figure 1: Abstract PoA-Defintion for the GAuth protocol

While several embodiments of the PoA-Definition have been described, it is understood that various modifications May be made for implementing it without departing from the spirit and scope of GAuth as well as this PoA-Definition. Accordingly, alternative implementations also fall within the scope of GAuth as well as this PoA-Definition.

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