



Creator Assertions Working Group

Eric Scouten · Identity Standards Architect · Adobe



CAWG identity assertion working session

Content Authenticity 101 lightning round

C2PA data model lightning round

CAWG identity assertion data model

The interesting challenges ...



Looking for a note-taker

Slides will be posted online

Help us (OK, me) remember interesting discussion



Who's Who?



**Content
Authenticity
Initiative**



**Coalition for
Content
Provenance
and Authenticity**



**Creator
Assertions
Working Group**



Who's Who?



Content
Authenticity
Initiative

Outreach · Advocacy · Education

** also name of Adobe's team*



Coalition for
Content
Provenance
and Authenticity

Technical Standards: **What / How**



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Technical Standards: **Who**



Scope for today



Content
Authenticity
Initiative



Coalition for
Content
Provenance
and Authenticity



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Review:

ericscouten.dev/cai-101

Identity assertion is a CAWG project



C2PA data model (lightning round edition)



C2PA data model

Overview

An **asset** is any piece of digital media that we wish to describe.

It is described by a **C2PA Manifest**. Each asset in C2PA has an *active manifest* which describes the current asset.

That C2PA Manifest may refer to *ingredient manifests* when earlier content is incorporated.

The collection of C2PA Manifests is referred to as a **C2PA Manifest Store**.



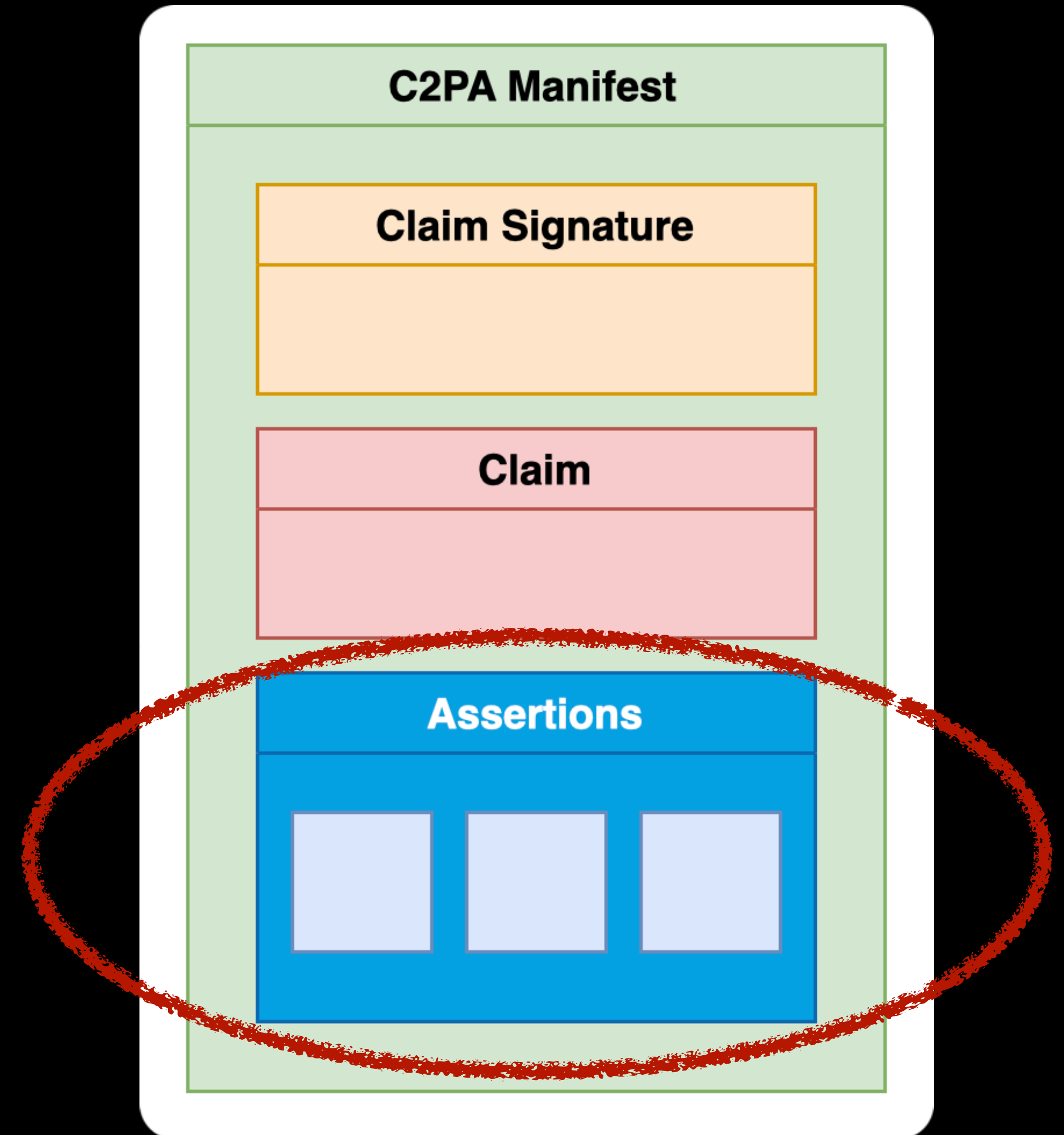


C2PA data model

Assertions

Assertions are opt-in statements that cover areas such as:

- hard binding to asset's binary content
(required – provides tamper evidence)
- capture device details
- identity of the content creator(s)
(hello, CAWG!)
- edit actions
- thumbnail of the content
- other content (ingredients) that were incorporated into this content





CAWG identity assertion data model



Identity assertion

Status

November 2023:

Initial private drafts for review

February 2024:

Transition to public working draft
under Community Specification License process

Weekly meetings with ~30 regular contributors

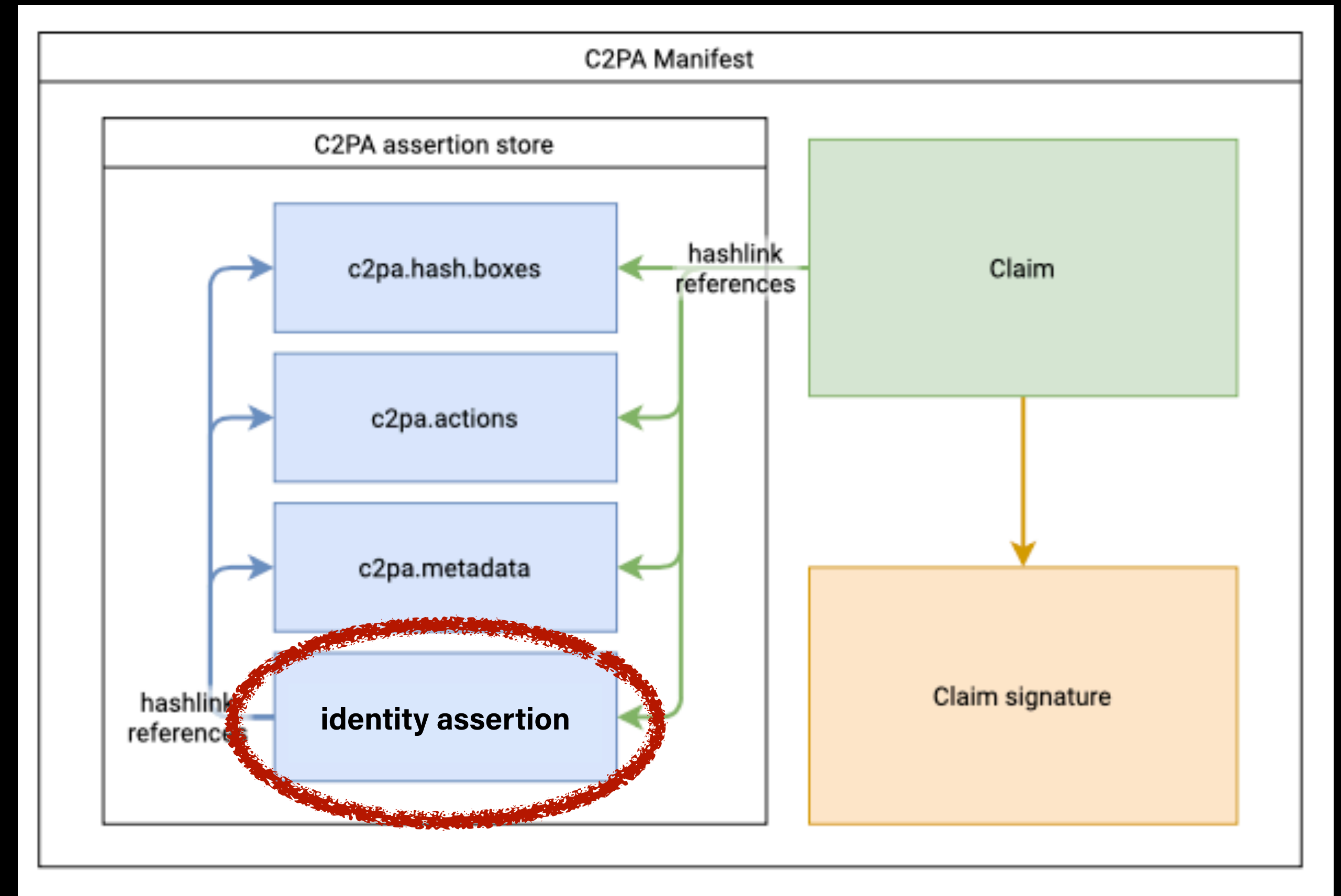


Identity assertion

Overview

Identity assertion allows a credential holder to sign a data structure we call **signer_payload**, which contains:

- Tamper-evident references to one or more other assertions in the same C2PA Manifest (including hard-binding assertion)
- Role of credential subject with regard to the content
- Other items TBD ...



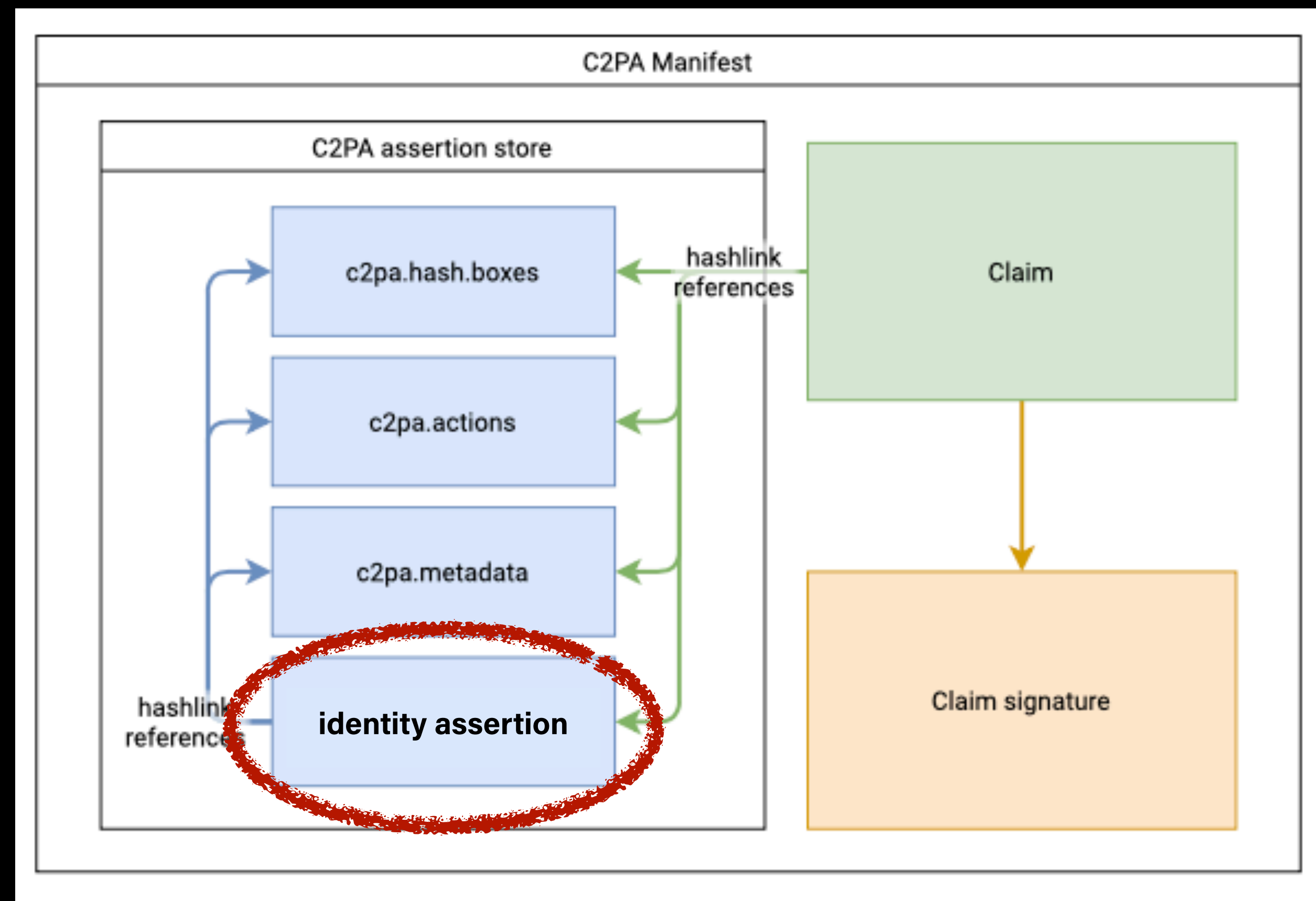


Identity assertion

Overview

New and separate trust signal over and above the C2PA claim generator signal.

Typically meant to indicate **subject's authorization or active participation** in production of the asset.





Identity assertion

CDDL

```
identity = {  
  "signer_payload": $signer-payload-map,           ; content to be signed by credential holder  
  "sig_type": tstr .size (1..max-tstr-length),      ; identifies the data type of the signature  
  "signature": bstr,                                ; byte string of the signature  
  "pad1": bstr,  
  ? "pad2": bstr,  
}  
  
signer-payload-map = {  
  "referenced_assertions": [1* $hashed-uri-map],  
  ; more coming soon ... (credential holder's role in relation to asset, etc.)  
}
```



Identity assertion

CBOR-Diag

```
{
  "signer_payload": {
    "referenced_assertions": [
      { "url": ".../c2pa.assertions/c2pa.hash.data", "hash": b64'U9Gyz05...' },
      { "url": ".../c2pa.assertions/c2pa.thumbnail.claim.jpeg", "hash": b64'G5hfJwY...' },
      { "url": ".../c2pa.assertions/c2pa.ingredient.v2", "hash": b64'Yzag4o5...' }
    ]
  },
  "sig_type": "cawg.w3c.vc", <— based on type of credential presented
  "signature": b64'.....', <— varies based on sig_type
  "pad1": b64'.....',
  "pad2": b64'.....'
}
```



Credential types currently supported in draft

X.509 Certificate

```
sig_type: "cawg.x509.cose"  
signature: (COSE signature over signer_payload)
```

W3C Verifiable Credential (or VP)

```
sig_type: "cawg.w3c.vc"  
signature: (new VC that specifically describes the C2PA asset)
```

Framework allows for experimentation and evolution



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Framework allows for experimentation and evolution



W3C VC walkthrough

- Actor holds VC
- Actor is linked to VP that references assertions
- `signature` is the VP



W3C VC walkthrough

- Actor holds VC
- Actor is asked to issue a new VC that references assertions
- `signature` is the new VC



W3C VC walkthrough (version 3 – current)

`signature` is a new VC
that describes the **asset**
and its creator



W3C VC walkthrough (version 3 – current)

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Actor holds a VC with <code>assertion_method</code>▪ Actor issues new VC that is asset-specific | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Actor responds to a presentation request from HW/SW▪ HW/SW uses VP as part of a new VC including asset-specific description | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ HW/SW somehow knows about actor▪ HW/SW uses that info to generate a new VC that describes actor and content |
|--|--|--|

signature is the new VC



W3C VC walkthrough (version 3)

```
{  
  "@context": [  
    "https://www.w3.org/ns/credentials/v2",  
    "https://creator-assertions.github.io/tbd/tbd"  
  ],  
  "type": [  
    "VerifiableCredential",  
    "CreatorIdentityAssertion"  
  ],  
  ...  
}
```



W3C VC walkthrough (version 3)

```
{  
  ...,  
  "issuer": {  
    id: "did:example:2g55q912ec3476eba2l9812ecbfe",  
    name: "Adobe Photoshop 2024"  
    // could also be the person or organization creating the content  
  },  
  ...  
}
```



W3C VC walkthrough (version 3)

```
{
  ...,
  "credentialSubject": {
    "id": "did:example:ebfeb1f712ebc6f1c276e12ec21",
    "name": "Jane Doe",
    "c2pa_asset": {
      "referenced_assertions": [
        {
          "url": ".../c2pa.hash.data",
          "hash": "U9Gyz05t..."
        },
        { "url": "...", "hash": "..." },
        { "url": "...", "hash": "..." }
      ],
      // TO DO: Add other members of `signer_payload` structure as they are defined.
    }
  },
  "proof": ...,
  ...
}
```




The interesting challenges ...



Broadcast application

Relying party is unknown, which is ... interesting ...

Also, time of verification is unknown



Identity threat model

Posit: VCs (and any digital credential, really) are *themselves* subject to misinformation and disinformation.

So ...



Identity verification

Who attests to the identity?

What is the threat model for credential issuance?

What is the trust model for credential in a broadcast environment?

Does this lead to *recentralized identity*?



Interoperability

How to navigate the rather enormous DID method space?

Given that we don't know a priori, who is playing role of subject, issuer, and relying party, how can we ensure that credentials will be *understood* when it counts?



Duplicate identity

How do I (as a relying party) differentiate John Smith from another person also named John Smith?



Bulk signing

Creating one asset is fine, but what about 1000 at a time?

What needs to be presented to credential holder when requesting consent for signature?



What about social media?

How to document control over / affiliation with various social media accounts?



Help us build the identity assertion!

- <https://creator-assertions.github.io>
- Weekly meetings:
 - Typically on Mondays at 0830 Pacific / 1130 Eastern / 1530 UTC
 - Contact me for invitation