

國立勤益科技大學  
資訊工程系碩士班

碩士論文

**A secure low communication risk biometric-based  
remote user authentication scheme using smart cards**

一個使用生物特徵智慧卡之  
安全低通訊風險遠端使用者認證系統

研究生：林廷諭

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中華民國 一〇二年五月

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一個使用生物特徵智慧卡之  
安全低通訊風險遠端使用者認證系統  
( A secure low communication risk biometric-based  
remote user authentication scheme using smart cards )

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中華民國一〇二年五月九日

# 一個使用生物特徵智慧卡之 安全低通訊風險遠端使用者認證系統

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## 摘要

越來越多的個人訊息透過雲端網路在客戶端以及伺服器端之間傳遞。只靠唯一的密碼來保護，這個驗證的安全性是不足的，簡單的密碼容易被猜測及破解，而且並沒有身分確認的特性。前者有相關研究使用機密金鑰來使得密碼的複雜度提高，後者則是利用生物系統的辨識性來改善。生物系統是一種特徵辨識系統，可以建立或確認一個人的身分，而智慧卡擁有卡運算系統(COS)、計算能力以及記憶體，所以它非常適合儲存加密金鑰來驗證以及運算個人訊息。在本論文中，我們提出了一個智慧卡認證通訊協定。我們的方法主要利用一種模餘數運算的特性，來進行兩層的密碼認證，第一層可以過濾大部分的密碼輸入錯誤，第二層可以確認密

碼的正確性。利用此種雙重密碼認證，可以有效的抵抗字典攻擊，也可以驗證惡意的密碼攻擊，而不會損失任何的安全性。經過分析以及比較其它協議後，我們證明我們的方法更加的安全而且擁有更低的通訊攻擊風險。

關鍵字:Steganography, biometrics, cryptography, authentication, smart card.



## Abstract

More and more personal information is delivered between client and server through cloud networks. The security of authentication is not enough if relying on only passwords. Simple passwords are easy to guess or crack, and it can't check the user's legitimacy. The related research uses secret keys and the biometric system to improve this scheme. Smart card possesses COS (Card Operating System), computing ability, and memory, so it was very suitable for storing encrypted key to verify personal information. In this thesis, we propose a smart card communication protocol for authentications. The authentication used the modular arithmetic operator to build multiple authentication. The first authentication can filter most error passwords and the second authentication can check the correctness of the password. This scheme mainly can effectively resist dictionary attacks and also verify malicious password attacks without loss any security. After the analytic comparison of this protocols with other protocols, the method is more security and possesses low communication attack risk.



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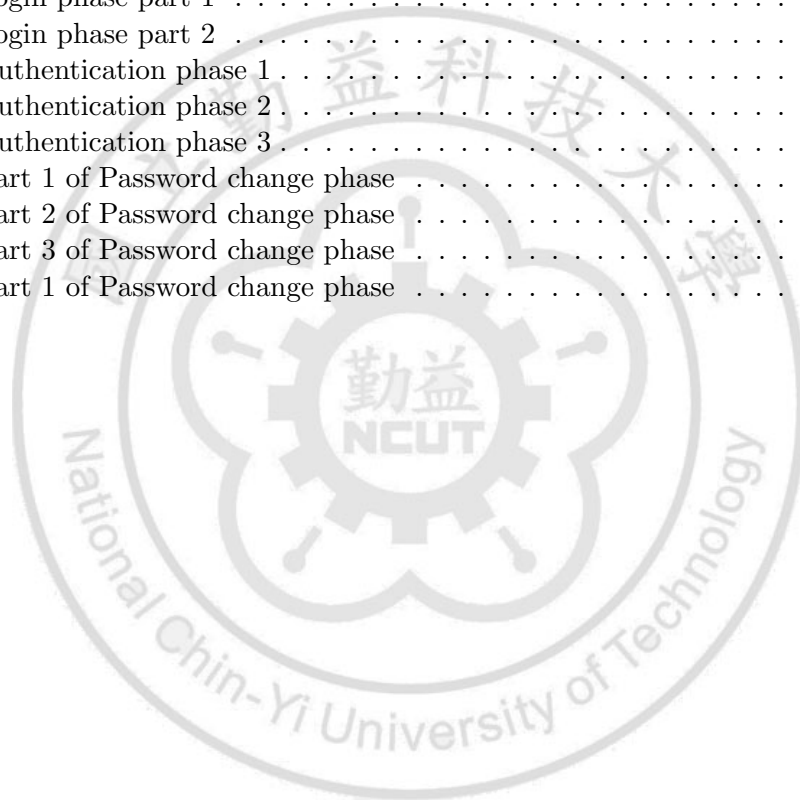
廷諭 於民國一〇二年四月三十日星期二

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**Keywords:** Steganography, biometrics, cryptography, authentication, smart card.





# Chapter 1

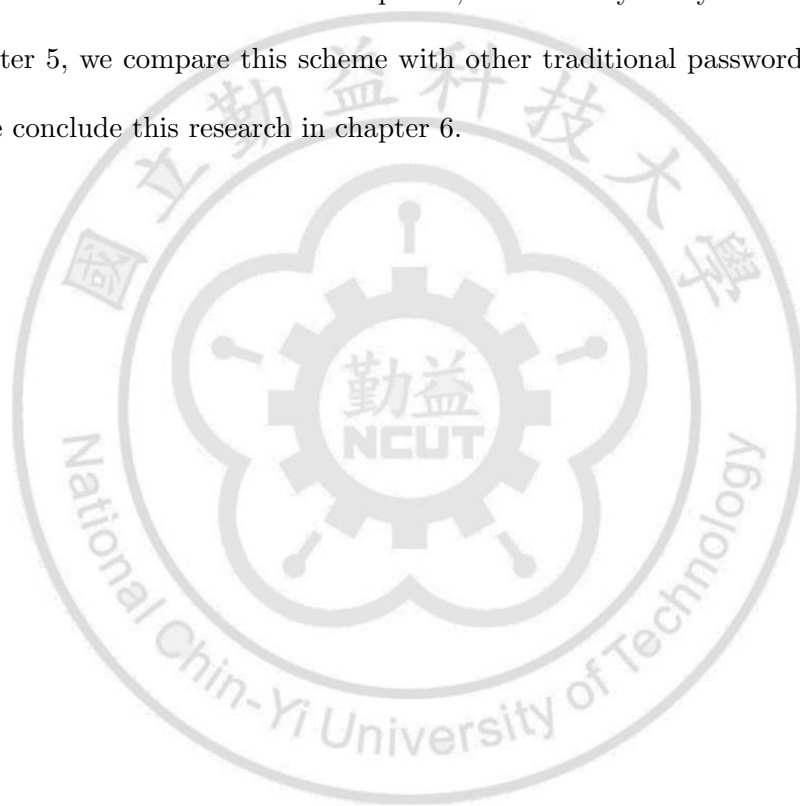
## Introduction

Usually, several password technologies are used to verify the remote users in the cloud network environments [2][8][15]. More and more personal information is delivered between client and server through cloud network. The security of authentication is not enough if relying on only passwords. The user's password itself does not contain any directly related user information [4][10]. Simple passwords are easily guessed or cracked by the malicious attackers, which are why several researchers have proposed security communication protocols to improve password authentication. The user passwords are not easy to memorize, and must be stored in a secure database. Smart card possesses COS (Card Operating System), computing ability, and memory, so it was very suitable for storing encrypted key to verify personal informations. Recently, several remote login systems using smart cards are adopted for ubiquitous personal authentications.

The card systems are friendly for authentications, but they are unable to strictly confirm whether the users are the owners or not. Biometric has been widely used in various fields. Biological features have undeniable characteristics, as they have been confirmed that each person has a unique biometric code. Above all, biometric applications are very suitable for remote password authentications. In addition, the biometric key has several advantages; it is extremely difficult to forge, distribute, copy, or share. Overall, biometric authentications

are safer than traditional password authentications in remote user authentications.

In this thesis, we propose a smart card communication protocol for authentication. The scheme mainly can effectively resist dictionary attacks and also verify malicious password attacks without loss any security. The organizations of this thesis are describing as follows. In chapter 2, we review the traditional methods of remote password authentications. The proposed schemes are introduced in chapter 3, and security analyses are given in chapter 4. In chapter 5, we compare this scheme with other traditional password authentications. Finally, we conclude this research in chapter 6.



## Chapter 2

# Backgrounds and related works

In 2002, Lee et al. [9] used biometric of fingerprint in the remote user authentication. Their method does not require any password table, uses smart card and fingerprint verification. Their scheme withstands the major malicious attacks containing message replaying attack except for masquerade attack [12] and impersonation attack [3]. In 2003, an introduction of biometric recognition technique is proposed by Jain et al. [14]. In their research, three amusing biometrics issues are proposed, those are "who she is" for individual's identity, "what she possesses" for ID card, and "what she remembers" for password [14]. And then, the security and privacy analysis of biometric recognition was designated by Prabhakar et al. [5] at same year. Lin and Lai (2004) [12] proposed a scheme that overcome the vulnerable of masquerade attack. However, their scheme is susceptible to the server spoofing attack [6]. Afterward, Maltoni et al. [13] implemented a handbook of fingerprint recognition on fingerprint security systems at 2009. The basic function of biometric system is the comparison between extracted biometrics and samples stored in the database. In succession, to use biometric to confirm individual's identity on the remote user authentication are adopted by several researchers [3][4][6][7][9][12].

In 2010, Li and Hwang (2010) [11] proposed an efficient biometric-based remote user authentication. Their scheme doesn't store any password table in the remote authentica-

tion server. The authentication server contains secret information  $X_s$ .  $X_s$  was protected by one-way hash function and random values between the communications of server and client. In their scheme, they need not store used random value to resist parallel session attack. But Li-Hwang's scheme has some flaws. In login and authentication phases, they didn't verify the validity of user entered passwords. If the password is valid then this login will work correctly. If the password is a wrongful password, the smart card will send the request to server. The server receives the wrong messages and produces wrong parameters. And then, the server interrupts the request. The user entered wrongful password will waste extra computing cost and communication cost. Similarly, in password change phase, if the user enters illegal password and causes the secret key decrypt incomplete, then the new password will encrypt incorrectly.

After that, A.K. Das (2011)[1] improves Li-Hwang's scheme by adding client password authentication mechanism. In their login and authentication phases, they verify their password directly using smart card before communicating to the server. This measure can effectively discover the incorrect user passwords without any overhead communications. In the process of communication, passwords verified in advance reduce several extra costs and prevent secret messages from being intercepted by malicious attackers. In their password change phase, most accurate passwords decrypt the most accurate secret keys and the secret key produces the new encrypted information in the smart card. If the secret key was decrypted incorrectly then the information updated incorrectly too. And then, the user cannot use the new password to login to the remote authentication system [1].

In addition, some methods used hash function to process biometric but it has some problems. There will be some difference of each input biometric. After the operation of hash

function, the difference of biometrics will be magnified. The most serious situation is that the user never passes the biometric verify.

We have to avoid above circumstances, so we propose a secure low communication risk biometric-based remote user authentication scheme using smart cards. The scheme mainly can effectively resist dictionary attacks, low communication risks, and also verify malicious password attacks without loss any security.





## Chapter 3

# The proposed scheme

In this chapter, we will introduce this protocols and give some notations in the table 3.1. The scheme contains four phases, preparation phase (register phase), login phase, authentication phase, and password changing phase, and describes as follows.

Table 3.1: Notations used in our scheme

Notation	Description
$C_i$	client user i
$TRC$	trusted registration center
$AS$	authentication server
$PW_i$	$C_i$ 's password
$ID_i$	$C_i$ 's identity number
$B_i$	$C_i$ 's biometric
$h(\cdot)$	a secure one-way hash function
$X_s$	secret information maintained by the server
$R_{ci}$	a random number generated by $C_i$
$R_s$	a random number generated by $AS$
$mod$	a modulo operator
$X$	a modulus number generated by $TRC$
$\parallel$	a message concatenation operator
$\oplus$	operation of XOR

### 3.1 Preparation phase

In order to implement the follow-up stages, the users have to register their identification numbers to the system to complete the preparations of preparation phase.

- Preparation phase

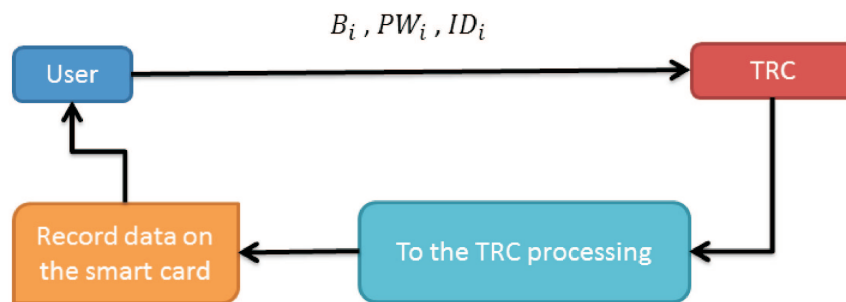


Figure 3.1: Preparation phase part 1

Step 1: First, the user  $C_i$  provides his/her identification number  $ID_i$ , his/her password  $PW_i$ , and inputs his/her biometric  $B_i$  on the specific device to the registration center  $TRC$  in person.

Step 2: Next, the registration center conducts the operations as following:

$$f_i = h(B_i)$$

$$r_i = h(PW_i) \oplus f_i$$

$$m_i = r_i \text{ mod } X$$

$$e_i = h(ID_i || X_s) \oplus m_i$$

$$p_i = h(ID_i || X_s || PW_i)$$

$X_s$  is secret information generated by the authentication server  $AS$  and  $X$  is a random number generated by the trusted registration center  $TRC$ , respectively. Here, we use modular arithmetic for encryption on  $r_i$ . We do not want to directly perform bare password authentications on the smart card. We use modular arithmetic to get the remainder, and then use the remainder to the implementation of the first authentication. To avoid the malicious attackers using dictionary attacks of hash function  $h(PW_i)$ , we apply the property of modular authentication to hide the bare user passwords. The property of modulation authentication can effectively filter the most incorrectly guessing password. It is very difficult to pick the exactly correct password in the same remainder from many inputs. If the attacker passed the first authentication by chance, we will prevent them from the following authentications.

Step 3: Finally, the registration center records  $(ID_i, h(\cdot), B_i, e_i, m_i, p_i, X)$  on the user  $C_i$ 's smart card and sends it via a secure channel to the user  $C_i$ .

Difference with the previous method is the length of  $PW_i$ . Because the  $PW_i$  is not operated by hash function therefore the  $PW_i$  cannot compute with other message by  $XOR$ . We propose a solution is using binary of American Standard Code for Information Interchange(ASCII) to map the password and add zero in the lack of length. Thus  $PW_i$  can operate with other messages.

In this scheme, we store extra parameters  $(B_i, m_i, p_i, X)$  into the smart card.  $m_i$  is a modular result that  $r_i \bmod X$ .  $m_i$  is only the first line of defense and is used for filter the most incorrectly guessing password. However, we do not use the  $r_i$  in this scheme and do not

- TRC processing

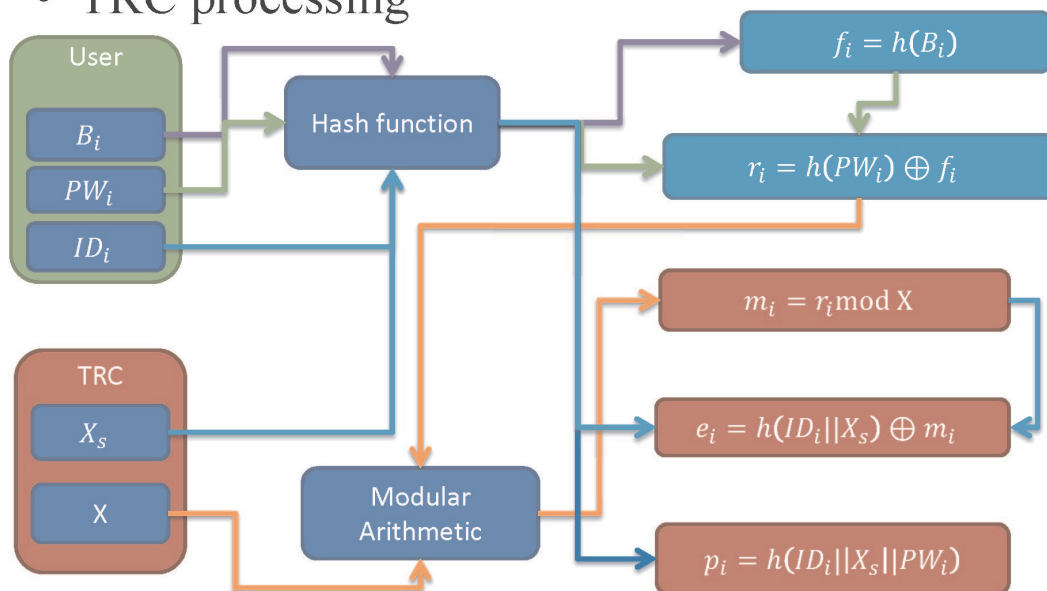


Figure 3.2: Preparation phase part 2

- Login phase

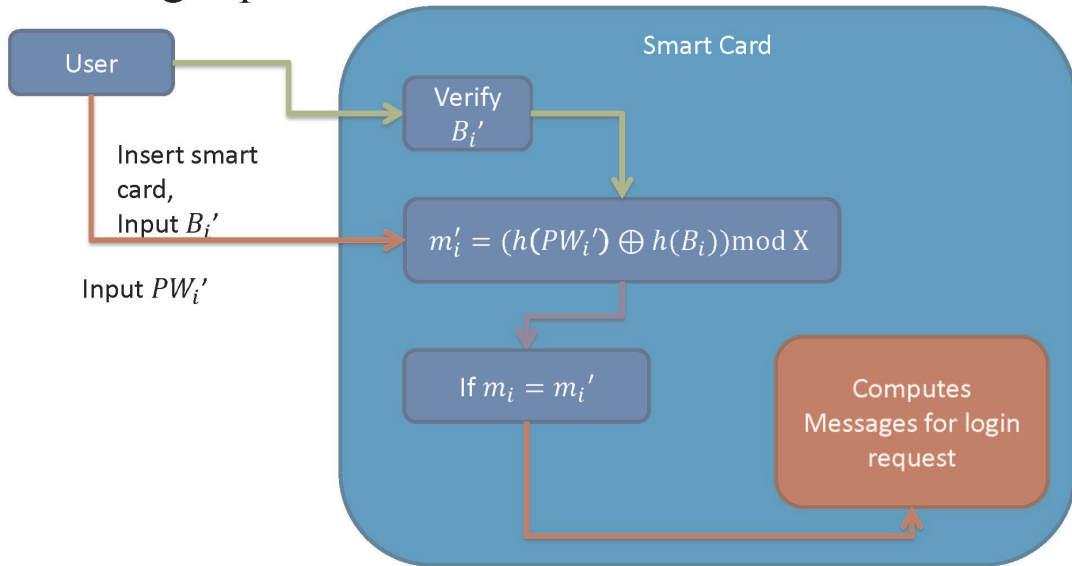


Figure 3.3: Login phase part 1

store it in the smart card because using  $p_i$  will achieve the same efficacy. In authentication phase we will describe how to use the  $p_i$ .

The biometric  $B_i$  do not need to operate by hash function in this scheme. Because the hash function provides the avalanche effect, even a slight change in an input value would cause a substantial change of the output value. As a result the legal user may never login the system access. So we propose an alternative in login phase.

### 3.2 Login phase

In login phase, if the user  $C_i$  wants to login to the remote server, the user  $C_i$  must performs the following steps.



- Messages computing

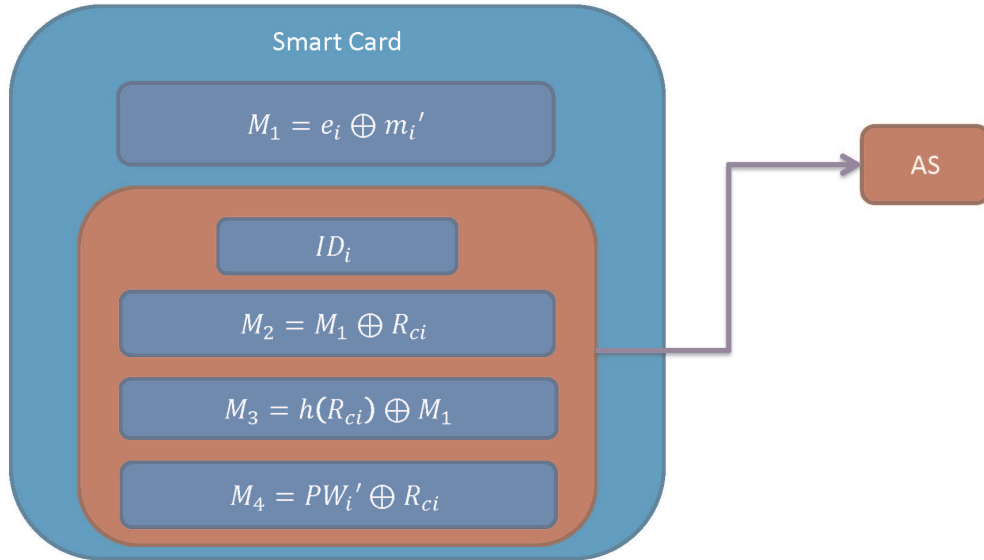


Figure 3.4: Login phase part 2

Step 1: First, the remote user  $C_i$  inserts his/her smart card into the card reader and inputs his/her biometric  $B_i'$  on the specific device. To confirm the identity of the client user, the smart card compares the biometric  $B_i$  with the biometric temple that stored in the smart card.

Step 2: Then, the smart card start to compare the similarity of  $B_i'$  with  $B_i$ . When the similarity is higher then the threshold, the biometric verification is passed. The threshold is set according to the actual using conditions. If the threshold is higher as well as security but the probability of the authentication succeeds is lower.

Step 3: If the biometric verification failed, then the login request will be interrupted because the user  $C_i$  is not the authorized owner. Otherwise, if the verification succeeded, the user  $C_i$  passes the biometric authentication and then input his/her password  $PW'_i$  to process the next authentication.

Step 4: The smart card computes

$$m'_i = (h(PW'_i) \oplus h(B_i)) \text{ mod } X.$$

If  $m'_i$  is equal to  $m_i$  then the user  $C_i$  passes the first round of password authentication. Passing this round of authentication does not mean that the password  $PW'_i$  is exactly correct. In the first round of authentication, the majority of incorrectly passwords will be filtered. The property of modulation authentication only allows the remainder and  $m_i$  are congruent modulo  $X$ . Otherwise, if  $m'_i$  is not equal to  $m_i$  then the smart card interrupts the login request and reduces the communication risks from malicious attackers.

Step 5: If  $m'_i = m_i$  then the client computes the followings message:

$$M_1 = e_i \oplus m'_i$$

$$M_2 = M_1 \oplus R_{ci}$$

$$M_3 = h(R_{ci}) \oplus M_1$$

$$M_4 = PW'_i \oplus R_{ci}$$

In login phase, we need to mask the message ( $M_2$ ,  $M_3$ ,  $M_4$ ) using  $R_{ci}$ . After masking the messages, the attacker can't extract any information from  $M_2$ ,  $M_3$ , and  $M_4$ . The messages are protected by the one-way hash function and the user's random number  $R_{ci}$ .  $R_{ci}$  is generated randomly by user's the smart card.  $M_4$  is used in authentication phase to

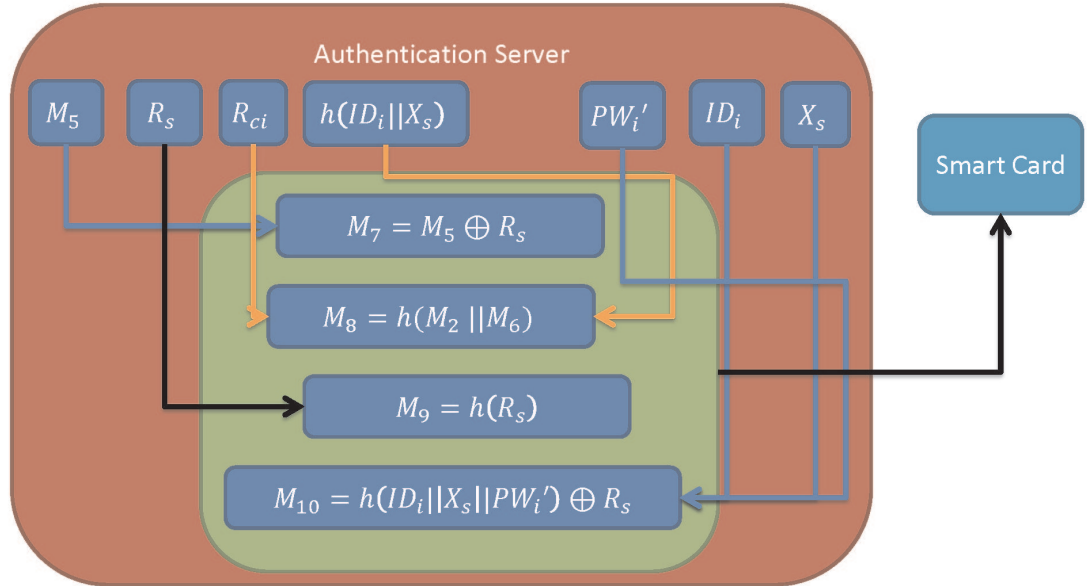


Figure 3.5: Authentication phase 1

verify the password  $PW_i'$ . We operate the extra message  $ei$  to avoid  $M_3$  and  $M_4$  are stolen to password guessing attacks.

Step 6: After the smart card computes  $(ID_i, M_2, M_3, M_4)$ , and then the client  $C_i$  sends the message tuple  $(ID_i, M_2, M_3, M_4)$  to the server  $AS$ .

### 3.3 Authentication phase

In authentication phase, the user  $C_i$  and the server  $AS$  are going to conduct mutual authentication by random numbers  $R_{ci}$  and  $R_s$ .

After the server  $AS$  received the login request message, the server  $AS$  will go on the following steps to verify the remote user  $C_i$ :

Step 1: First of all, the server  $AS$  confirms the format of  $ID_i$  from the login request messages of client user  $C_i$ .

Step 2: If the format of  $ID_i$  is valid, the server  $AS$  derives the corresponding secret information  $X_s$  from the server's database and then  $AS$  computes the followings:

$$M_5 = h(ID_i || X_s)$$

$X_s$  is secret information mapping the user's  $ID_i$ .

After the server produced the  $M_5$ , then the server keep computing the  $M_6 = M_2 \oplus M_5$ . If the user  $C_i$  entered the incorrect password, then modular number should be computed incorrectly. Thus

$$M_6 = h(ID_i || X_s) \oplus m_i \oplus m_i' \oplus R_{ci} \oplus h(ID_i || X_s).$$

When  $M_6$  is evaluated, the server  $AS$  has to check the  $R_{ci}$  is not modified by any attack. So  $AS$  checks the value of hash function  $h(M_6)$ . If  $h(M_6)$  is equal to  $M_3 \oplus M_5$ , it means the message is not modified by any attack. Then the server continues the login request. Otherwise, the key parameters may be modified, and then the server rejects the login request. It is impossible to let modified messages pass the authentications because they are protected by the one-way hash function. Next, the server computes the followings:

$$PW_i' = M_4 \oplus M_6$$

$$M_7 = M_5 \oplus R_s$$

$$M_8 = h(M_2 || M_6) (= h(h(ID_i || X_s) \oplus R_{ci} || R_{ci}))$$

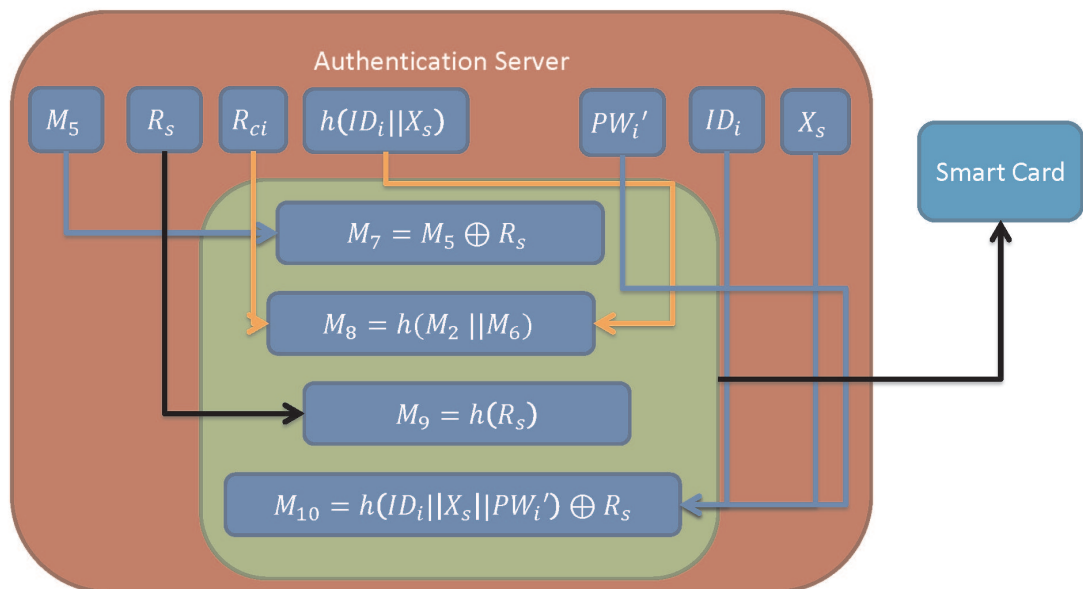


Figure 3.6: Authentication phase 2

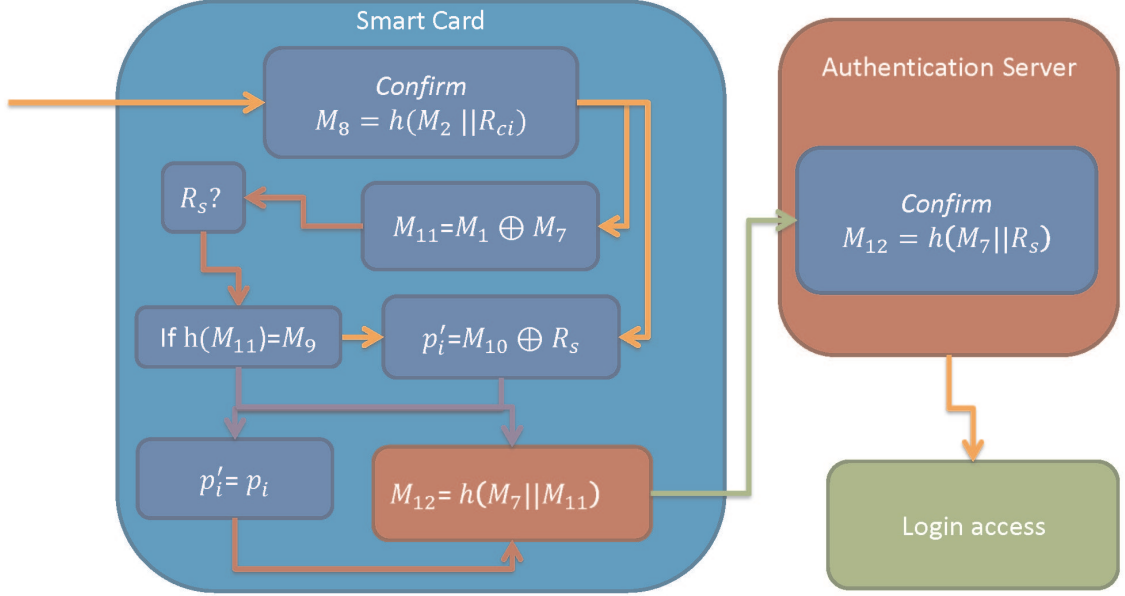


Figure 3.7: Authentication phase 3

$$M_9 = h(R_s)$$

$$M_{10} = h(ID_i || X_s || PW_i') \oplus R_s$$

$M_{10}$  is used to pass the final authentication. The server  $AS$  uses the one-way hash function, the identify number  $ID_i$  of user, and the mapping secret information  $X_s$  to compute the message  $M_{10}$ . To prevent the attacker to steal the information  $h(ID_i || X_s || PW_i')$  for final authentication, so we have to mask the information by  $R_s$ .

Step 3: The server  $AS$  delivers the message tuple  $(M_8, M_7, M_9, M_{10})$  to the remote user  $C_i$ .

Step 4: When the remote user  $C_i$  receives the message tuple  $(M_8, M_7, M_9, M_{10})$ , the smart card firstly confirms  $M_8 = ?h(M_2 || R_{ci})$ .  $C_i$  needs to confirm the server  $AS$  is a counterfeit or not. If the remote server is a legal server, then the remote server should own the correct information to create  $M_5$ . Therefore, the parameter  $M_5$  can decode the  $R_{ci}$  correctly. So we only to check the  $M_8$  is correct or not, then we can verify the server is legal or not. If the certification is failed, the smart card terminates the login request. Otherwise, the client believes the server is legal and goes on next step.

Step 5: After the server verification has already succeeded, the smart card computes the following two parameters for retrieving  $R_s$ :

$$M_{11} = M_1 \oplus M_7 = e_i \oplus m_i' \oplus h(ID_i || X_s) \oplus R_s = R_s$$

$$p_i' = M_{10} \oplus R_s = h(ID_i || X_s || PW_i')$$

Step 6: In the final authentication, smart card uses the  $p_i$  stored in the smart card and  $p_i'$  received from  $M_{10}$  to check  $p_i = p_i'$  or not. If  $p_i$  is equal to  $p_i'$ , it means the user  $C_i$  entered the valid password  $PW_i$ , and then the smart card computes  $M_{12} = h(M_7 || M_{11})$  and sends  $M_{12}$  to the remote server  $AS$ .

If the final authentication failed, it means the user is still illegal, and the system may suffer dictionary attack. If the legal user entered the password incorrectly, the pass probability of the wrong password is very low. Because of anyone wants to lucky pass the first modular authentication is negligible. We assume using the wrong password to pass the first authentication is an attack, so we can set traps in the final authentication to guard these attacks.

Step 7: After the remote server receives the messages, the remote server computes  $h(M_7 || R_s)$  and check  $h(M_7 || R_s)$  is equal to  $M_{12}$  or not. If they are equivalency then the

server accepts the login request. If the result is difference, then the server refuses the login request.

In this section, we use the property of modular authentication to filter incorrectly password. By way of modular verification we can avoid too much overhead cost in authentication phase and also can resistant to the malicious dictionary attack. In this scheme, we use modular property to achieve the first authentication and use the encrypted key stored in the smart card to complete the final authentication. The client and the server use their major metrics  $R_{ci}$  and  $R_s$  to verify their identity, respectively. In a word, the smart card achieves the client password verification and the remote server authentication.

### 3.4 Password changing phase

In this scheme, we have to link to the remote server to change the password, we hope that the changing password process is rigorous. If the user wants to change his/her password, he/she has to login to the remote server and then sends the changing password request to the authentication server  $AS$ . Changes of any personal information must be verified, so the user has to input his/her information again.

Step 1: When the user successes to login to the remote server, the user offers his/her  $B'_i$ ,  $PW_i^{old}$ , and  $PW_i^{new}$ .

Step 2: Check the similarity of  $B_i$  and  $B'_i$ . If the similarity of  $B_i$  and  $B'_i$  is not enough to pass the verify then smart card interrupt the changing password request. Otherwise, the smart card computes  $m_i' = h(PW_i^{old}) \oplus h(B_i) \text{ mod } X$  and continues the next step.



- Password changing phase

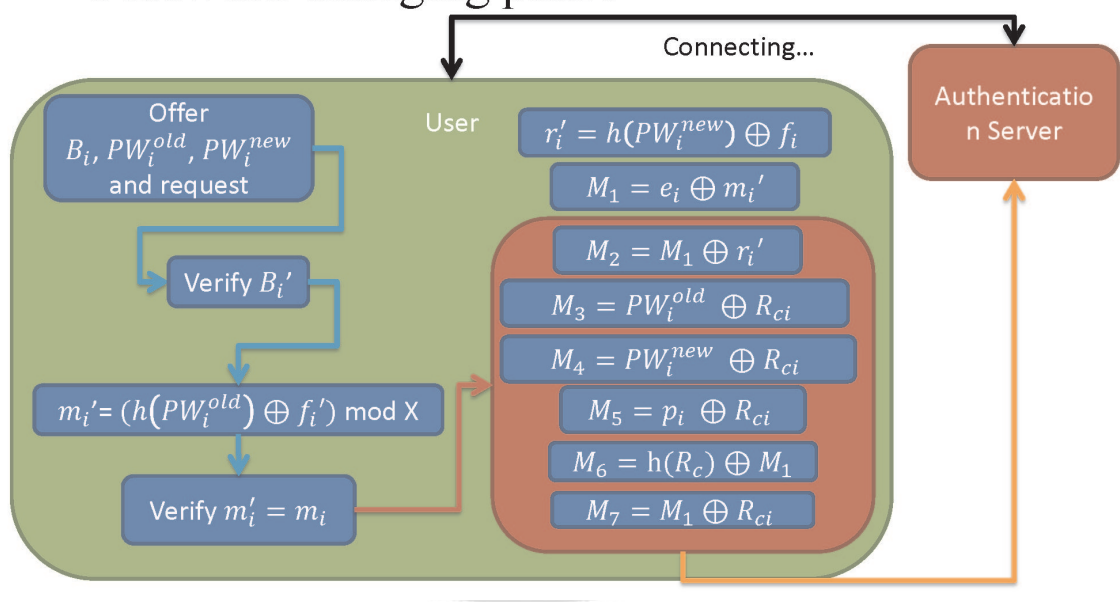


Figure 3.8: Part 1 of Password change phase

Step 3: Verify  $m_i' = m_i$  or not, if  $m_i' = m_i$  then smart card rejects the request and logouts. Otherwise, the smart card computes the followings:

$$r_i' = h(PW_i^{new}) \oplus h(B_i)$$

$$M_1 = e_i \oplus m_i'$$

$$M_2 = M_1 \oplus r_i'$$

$$M_3 = PW_i^{old} \oplus R_{ci}$$

$$M_4 = PW_i^{new} \oplus R_{ci}$$

$$M_5 = p_i \oplus R_{ci}$$

$$M_6 = h(R_{ci}) \oplus M_1$$

$$M_7 = M_1 \oplus R_{ci}$$

Then the user sends the messages tuple  $(ID_i, M_2, M_3, M_4, M_5, M_6, M_7)$  to AS.

Step 4: When the server receives messages, it computes followings:

$$M_8 = h(ID_i || X_s)$$

$$M_9 = M_8 \oplus M_7 = R_{ci}$$

If  $h(M_9) \neq M_6 \oplus M_8$ , then server aborts the changing password request.

Step 5: Then, server continues following calculations

$$M_{10} = M_8 \oplus M_2 = r_i'$$

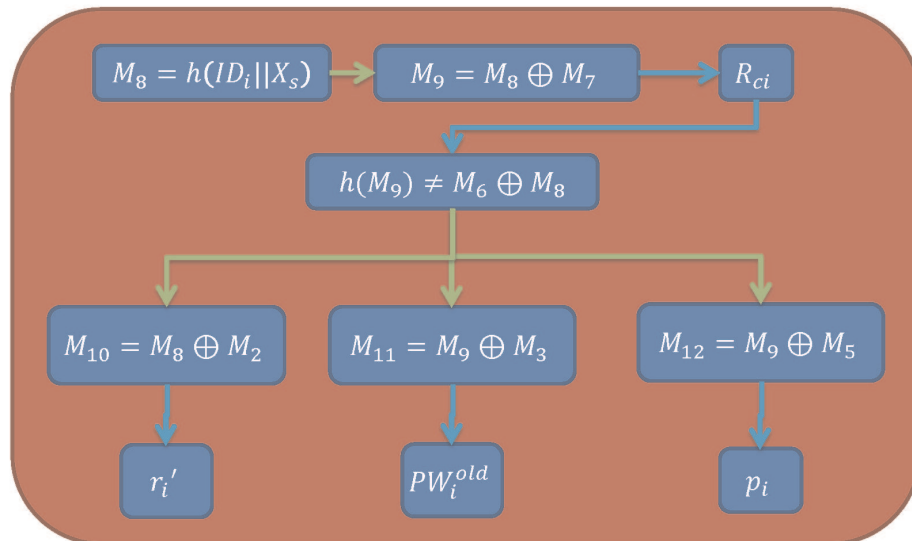


Figure 3.9: Part 2 of Password change phase

$$M_{11} = M_3 \oplus M_9 = PW_i^{old}$$

$$M_{12} = M_9 \oplus M_5 = p_i$$

Step 6:  $S_i$  computes  $p_i' = h(ID_i || X_s || PW_i^{old})$  and verifies  $p_i' = p_i$  or not. If it failed, it means the password incorrectly. Otherwise, server  $AS$  rejects the changing password request.

Step 7: After the system certified  $B_i'$  and  $PW_i^{old}$ , the server generates a new  $X$  and computes the followings:

$$M_{13} = M_4 \oplus M_9 = PW_i^{new}$$

$$M_{14} = R_s \oplus (r_i' \text{ mod } X)$$

$$M_{15} = R_s \oplus h(ID_i || X_s || PW_i^{new})$$

$$M_{16} = R_s \oplus X$$

$$M_{17} = h(R_s)$$

$$M_{18} = M_8 \oplus R_s$$

Then, the remote server sends messages tuple  $(M_{14}, M_{15}, M_{16}, M_{17}, M_{18})$  to user.

Step 8: The user receives messages tuple  $(M_{14}, M_{15}, M_{16}, M_{17}, M_{18})$  and computes the followings:

$$M_{19} = M_1 \oplus M_{18} = R_s$$

If  $h(M_{19}) \neq M_{17}$ , then server aborts the changing password request.

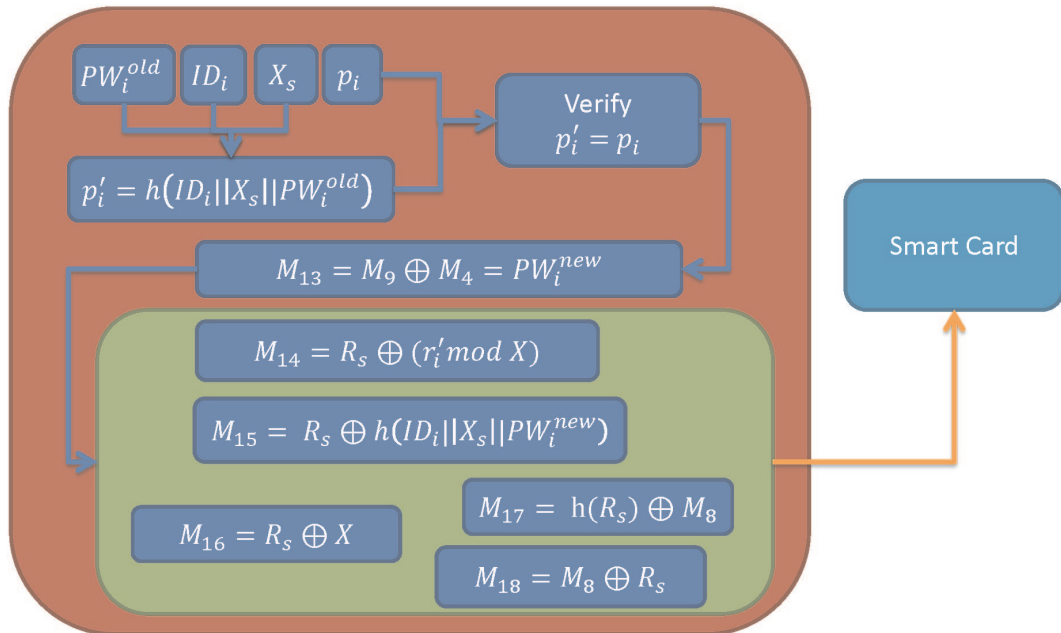


Figure 3.10: Part 3 of Password change phase

Step 9: If  $h(M_{19}) = M_{17}$ , the user decrypts messages( $M_{14}$ ,  $M_{15}$ ,  $M_{16}$ ) by  $R_s$ :

$$M_{20} = M_{14} \oplus R_s$$

$$M_{21} = M_{15} \oplus R_s$$

$$M_{22} = M_{16} \oplus R_s$$

Step 10: Finally, the smart card replaces  $M_{20}$  with  $m_i$ ,  $M_{21}$  with  $p_i$ , and  $M_{22}$  with  $X$ . Thus the changing password request is completed.

In this phase, we appeared the method of changing password with the remote server. In order to resist the masquerading attack and the parallel attack, we use a random number to achieve the communication, and we also verify the password and the biometric template again. The authentication avoids someone using his/her new password to change the password in the login state, and interrupt the changing password request when the user entered his/her password incorrectly.

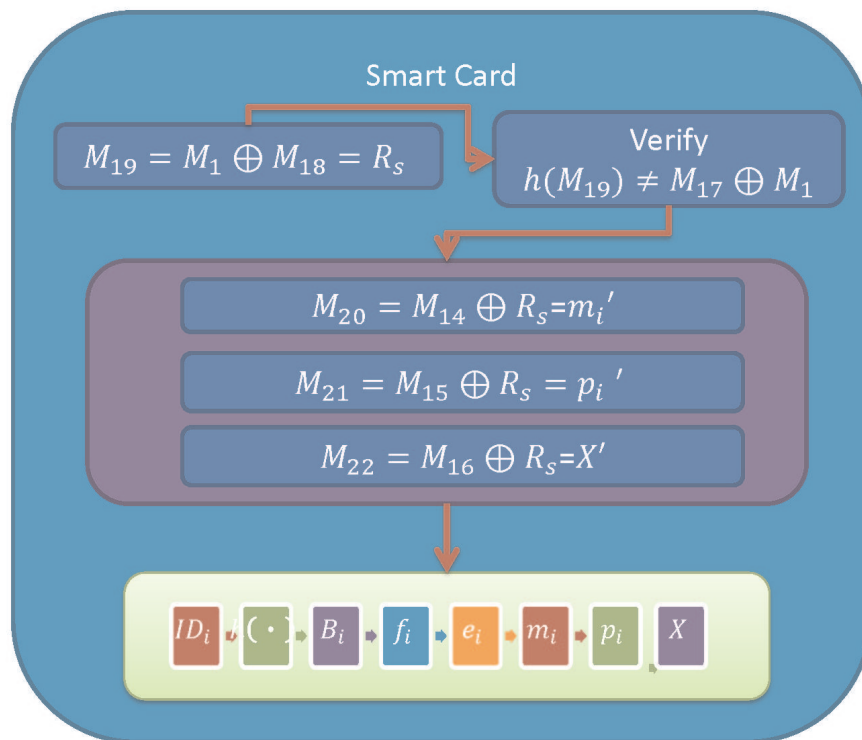


Figure 3.11: Part 1 of Password change phase

## Chapter 4

# Security analysis and comparisons

We will analysis the security of this scheme in the chapter and compare to related schemes.

The analysis will consult Li-Hwang and A.K. Das's schemes.

### 4.1 Security analysis of the proposed method

#### 4.1.1 Messages were stole during communication

In this scheme, we only stored  $X_s$  in the remote server, and didn't stored password table or any extra information. An attacker cannot extract the  $X_s$  from  $M_2$  in login phase and ( $M_8$ ,  $M_{10}$ ,  $M_{11}$ ) in authentication phase. These messages were protected by random value ( $R_{ci}$ ,  $R_s$ ), and they were also protected by one-way hash function. One-way hash function cannot be operation inversely operation and the attacker cannot get the random values to extract  $X_s$ .

#### 4.1.2 Resisting replay attacks

Assume an attack want to steal the certificate information by interception of communications to complete the replay attack. It is impossible because these messages were protected by  $R_{ci}$ ,  $R_s$  and hash function. Moreover,  $R_{ci}$  and  $R_s$  both are one-time random number. Based on the above conditions, the system can effective resisting replay attack.



### 4.1.3 Resisting masquerade attacks

Assume that, an attack tries to intercept the messages  $ID_i$ ,  $M_2$ ,  $M_3$ , and  $M_4$  from client and then masquerades as remote server. In authentication phase, the attacker has to compute the  $M_8$  correctly, otherwise the client doesn't believe it is the server. It is impossible to masquerades correctly because the attacker without secret information  $X_s$  and random value  $R_{ci}$ .

### 4.1.4 Resisting parallel session attacks

As in A.K. Das and Li-Hwang's schemes, the parallel session attack can be effectively resistance in this scheme. The scheme didn't store all random values, if an attacker steals and resend login messages ( $ID_i$ ,  $M_2$ ,  $M_3$ ,  $M_4$ ) to the server during login phase, this message will be verify in authentication and responses messages ( $M_8$ ,  $M_7$ ,  $M_9$ ,  $M_{10}$ ) that was protected by difference  $R_s$  in every session. As a result, the attack will be failed in authentication.

### 4.1.5 Resisting smart-card-theft attacks

If any legal user lost his/her smart card, the finder of the card cannot logins to the system or changes the password because he/she has to pass the biometric verify. The illegal user's biometric template is almost impossible match with the legal user's biometric template in the smart card.

### 4.1.6 Resisting password guessing attacks

In Li-Hwang's scheme, there is no verifying mechanism in password change phase. They use the password to enhance security in login phase, but the attacker may destroy the secret

information in the smart card. In A.K. Das's scheme, they use a verify password mechanism for cutting down the server's computing cost in login phase and password change phase. And, they also avoid that the attacker destroys the secret information in the password phase. But the verify password mechanism is processed in the smart card that cannot resist the dictionary attacks. The attackers just go on repeating the same verify password mechanism to observe the result from the smart card. If the smart card sends messages to the server, it means the password correctly. Otherwise, the input passwords are incorrectly and then the attacker continues to try the passwords. In this scheme, we use a property of modulo check for verifying. The property of modulo check for verifying can reduce the risk of the dictionary attacks. If an attacker tries to attack in the smart card, when the attack hits the password that is as same as the remainder in the smart card after modular arithmetic, the attacker passes the first authentication but the password is incorrectly, so the attacker will be reject in step 6 of authentication phase. As a result, the attacker cannot differentiate which password is correctly or not, even if the lucky wrong password can also pass the first authentication.

## 4.2 Performance comparisons

We show the performance and compare with the related schemes in this section. Table 4.1 shows the results of comparisons. In this scheme, we never use the exponential operations because the exponential operations are very larger power and time wastage. In addition to the one-way hash function is used in this scheme, we used the modular arithmetic function to reduce the dictionary attacks and the communication attack risks. The computational cost of modular arithmetic is not as low as one-way hash function, but the computational cost is much lower than the exponential operations. Although the scheme sacrifices a few computational cost but the victim is replaced by more security.

Table 4.1: Performances comparison with related schemes

	Lin-Lai[12]	Lee-Chiu[10]	Yoon et al.[9]	Chang et al.[?]	Khan et al.[7]	Li -Hwang[11]	A.K. Das[1]	The proposed scheme
$P_1$	$1H + 1E$	$2H + 1E$	$1H$	$2H$	$2H$	$3H$	$3H$	$4H$
$P_2$	$2H + 2E$	$2H + 1E$	$1H$	$2H$	$2H$	$2H$	$2H$	$2H$
$P_3$	$1H + 2E$	$2H$	$4H$	$6H$	$6H$	$5H$	$8H$	$9H$
$P_4$	<i>yes</i>	<i>yes</i>	<i>yes</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>yes</i>	<i>yes</i>	<i>yes</i>	<i>yes</i>
$P_5$	<i>no</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>yes</i>	<i>yes</i>	<i>yes</i>	<i>yes</i>	<i>yes</i>	<i>yes</i>
$P_6$	<i>no</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>yes</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>yes</i>	<i>yes</i>	<i>yes</i>
$P_7$	<i>yes</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>yes</i>	<i>yes</i>	<i>yes</i>	<i>yes</i>
$P_8$	<i>no</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>yes</i>	<i>yes</i>
$P_9$	<i>no</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>yes</i>

$H$ :operation of one-way hash function,

$E$ :operation of exponential,

$P_1$ :computational operations in registration phase,

$P_2$ :computational operations in login phase,

$P_3$ :computational operations in authentication phase,

$P_4$ :whether supports change password or not,

$P_5$ :whether supports mutual authentication or not,

$P_6$ :whether supports without synchronized clocks or not

$P_7$ :whether provides non-repudiation or not

$P_8$ :support client-side password pre-check

$P_9$ :prevent password dictionary attack

## Chapter 5

# Conclusion

In this thesis, we proposed a secure low communication risk biometric-based remote user authentication scheme using smart cards. In order to reduce the communication attacks risks, we adopted the client-side password authentication. Resistance to the password dictionary attacks, we used the modular arithmetic mechanism. And, we never use the exponential operations because the exponential operations are very larger power and time wastage. By the way, the scheme still possesses several advantages; without synchronized clock, freely changes password, low computation cost, mutual authentication and non-repudiation. The authentication mechanism in this scheme not only has the above advantages but also more security than related schemes.

Moreover the improved method of biometric verify can solve that the difference of biometric input in hash function.

Although we sacrifice the freely change password, but we achieved a more secure and low risk authentication mechanism in remote user authentication.

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