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# 스마트 카드를 이용한 생체인식 기반 원격 사용자 인증 스킴의 보안성 개선

## Security Enhancement of Biometrics-based Remote User Authentication Scheme Using Smart Cards

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**요약** 2011년에 Das는 Li-Hwang의 스킴의 보안 문제점을 개선하면서 강력한 인증과 상호 인증을 제공할 수 있는 효율적인 생체인식 기반 원격사용자 스킴을 제안하였다. 본 논문에서는 Das의 인증 스킴이 여러 가지 공격들에 대해 안전하지 않으며 상호 인증도 제공하고 있지 않음을 증명하였다. 또한, 본 논문에서는 비록 스마트 카드에 저장되어 있는 비밀정보가 누출된다 하더라도 이와 같은 보안 문제점들을 해결할 수 있는 개선된 스킴을 제안하였다. 보안성 분석 결과, 개선된 스킴은 사용자 위장 공격, 서버 위장 공격, off-line 패스워드 추측 공격 그리고 내부자 공격에 안전하고 사용자와 서버 사이에 상호인증을 제공함을 알 수 있다.

**Abstract** In 2011, Das proposed an effective biometrics-based remote user authentication scheme using smart cards that can provide strong authentication and mutual authentication, while eliminating the security drawbacks of Li-Hwang's scheme. In this paper, we have shown that Das's scheme is still insecure against several attacks and does not provide mutual authentication. Also, we proposed the enhanced scheme to overcome these security weaknesses, even if the secret information stored in the smart card is revealed. As a result of security analysis, the enhanced scheme is secure against user impersonation attack, server masquerading attack, off-line password guessing attack, and insider attack. And we can see that the enhanced scheme provides mutual authentication between the user and the server.

**Key Words** : Authentication, User Impersonation Attack, Server Masquerading Attack, Mutual Authentication

### 1. Introduction

With the rapid development of network technology, user authentication scheme in e-commerce and m-commerce has been becoming one of important security issues. However, the security weaknesses in

the remote user authentication scheme have been exposed seriously due to the careless password management and the sophisticated attack techniques. Several schemes<sup>[1-5]</sup> have been proposed to improve security, reliability, and efficiency.

In traditional identity-based remote user

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authentications, the security of the remote user authentication is based on the passwords, but simple passwords are easy to break by simply dictionary attacks. Furthermore, both passwords and cryptographic keys are unable to provide non-repudiation because they can be forgotten, lost. Therefore, several biometrics-based remote user authentication schemes<sup>[6-10]</sup> have been designed to resolve the single password authentication problems. Compared with the traditional password authentication, biometrics-based remote user authentication is inherently more secure and reliable, and it can withstand even professional attacks. There are some advantages of using biometrics key (e.g. fingerprints, faces, irises, hand geometry, and palm-prints etc.) as compared to traditional passwords.

- Biometric keys cannot be lost or forgotten.
- Biometric keys are very difficult to copy or share.
- Biometric keys are extremely hard to forge or distribute.
- Biometric keys cannot be guessed easily.
- Someone's biometrics is not easy to break than others.

In 2010, Li-Hwang<sup>[9]</sup> proposed an efficient biometrics-based remote user authentication scheme using smart cards. They claimed that their scheme not only keeps good properties (e.g. without synchronized clock, freely changes password, low computational costs, mutual authentication) but also provides non-repudiation. But Das<sup>[10]</sup> in 2011 pointed out that Li-Hwang's scheme does not resolve flaws in login and authentication, flaws in password change phase, and flaws in verification of biometrics. Then, Das proposed more efficient biometrics-based remote user authentication scheme using smart cards which is secure against the user impersonation attack, the server masquerading attack, the parallel session attack, the stolen password attack, etc. and provide mutual authentication.

In this paper, we analyze the security weaknesses of Das's scheme and we have shown that Das's scheme is

still vulnerable to some attacks. In addition, we show that Das's scheme does not provide mutual authentication between the user and the server. To analyze the security analysis of Das's scheme, we assume that an attacker could obtain the secret values stored in the smart card by monitoring the power consumption<sup>[11-12]</sup> and intercept messages communicating between the user and the server.

This paper is organized as follows. In section II, we briefly review Das's scheme. In section III, we describe security weaknesses of Das's scheme. The enhanced scheme and security analysis are presented in section IV, and the conclusions are given in section V.

## II. Reviews of Das's Scheme

In 2011, Das<sup>[10]</sup> proposed an improved biometrics-based remote user authentication scheme using smart cards. This scheme is composed of three phases: registration phase, login phase, and authentication phase. The notations used in this paper are as follows:

표 1. 표기법

Table 1. Notations

Notation	Description
$C_i$	User $i$
$R_i$	Trusted registration centre $i$
$S_i$	Server $i$
$PW_i$	Password of the user $i$
$ID_i$	Identity of the user $i$
$B_i$	Biometrics template of the user $i$
$h()$	A secure hash function
$X_s$	A secret information kept by the server
$R_c$	A random number chosen by the user
$R_s$	A random number chosen by the server
$A \parallel B$	A concatenates with B
$A \oplus B$	XOR operation of A and B

### 1. Registration Phase

Before logging in the remote server, a user  $C_i$  initially has to register to the trusted registration centre  $R_i$  as the following steps.

- 1)  $C_i$  submits his identifier  $ID_i$  and password  $PW_i$  to  $R_i$  through a secure channel. Also the user inputs his biometrics  $B_i$  on the specific device to  $R_i$ .
- 2)  $R_i$  computes  $f_i=h(B_i)$ ,  $r_i=h(PW_i)\oplus f_i$  and  $e_i=h(ID_i \parallel X_s)\oplus r_i$ , where  $X_s$  is a secret value generated by the server.
- 3)  $R_i$  stores  $(ID_i, h(), f_i, e_i, r_i)$  on the user's smart card and sends it to the user via a secure channel.

## 2. Login Phase

When the user  $C_i$  wants to login the remote server  $S_i$ , the user has to perform the following steps.

- 1)  $C_i$  inserts his smart card into a card reader and inputs the personal biometrics  $B_i$  on the specific device to verify the user's biometrics. If the biometrics information matches the template stored in system,  $C_i$  passes the biometrics verification.
- 2)  $C_i$  inputs the  $ID_i$  and  $PW_i$ , and then the smart card computes  $r'_i=h(PW_i)\oplus f_i$ . If  $r'_i=r_i$ , the smart card computes  $M_1=e_i\oplus r'_i$ ,  $M_2=M_1\oplus R_c$ ,  $M_3=h(R_c)$ , where  $R_c$  is a random number generated by the user.
- 3) Finally,  $C_i$  sends the message  $\{ID_i, M_2, M_3\}$  to  $S_i$ .

## 3. Authentication Phase

After receiving the request login message,  $S_i$  has to perform the following steps with  $C_i$  to authenticate each other.

- 1)  $S_i$  checks the format of  $ID_i$ .
- 2) If the  $ID_i$  is valid,  $S_i$  computes  $M_4=h(ID_i \parallel X_s)$ ,  $M_5=M_2\oplus M_4$  and verifies whether  $M_3=h(M_5)$  or not. If they are equal,  $S_i$  computes  $M_6=M_4\oplus R_s$ ,  $M_7=h(M_2 \parallel M_5)$ ,  $M_8=h(R_s)$ , where  $R_s$  is a random number generated by the server.
- 3) Then  $S_i$  sends the message  $\{M_6, M_7, M_8\}$  to  $C_i$ .
- 4) After receiving the message,  $C_i$  verifies whether  $M_7=h(M_2 \parallel R_c)$  or not. If they are equal,  $C_i$  computes  $M_9=M_6\oplus M_1$  and verifies whether  $M_8=h(M_9)$  or not.

- 5) If they are equal,  $C_i$  computes  $M_{10}=h(M_6 \parallel M_9)$  and sends the message  $\{M_{10}\}$  to  $S_i$ .
- 6) After receiving the message,  $S_i$  verifies whether  $M_{10}=h(M_6 \parallel R_s)$  or not. If they are equal,  $S_i$  accepts the user's login request.

## III. Security Weakness of Das's Scheme

In this section, we will analyze the security weaknesses in Das's scheme, biometrics-based remote user authentication scheme. To analyze the security weaknesses, we assume that an attacker could obtain the secret values stored in the smart card by monitoring the power consumption<sup>[11-12]</sup> and intercept messages communicating between the user and the server. Under this assumption, we will discuss several attacks, such as the user impersonation attack, the server masquerading attack, the off-line password guessing attack, and the mutual authentication between the user and the server.

### 1. User Impersonation Attack

As described the above, the attacker can extract the secret values  $(e_i, r_i)$  from the user's smart card illegally by some means and intercept the message  $\{ID_i, M_2, M_3\}$  in the login phase. The procedure of the user impersonation attack with the secret values is as the following steps. And the user impersonation attack is illustrated in Fig.1.

- 1) The attacker computes easily  $M_{a1}=e_i\oplus r_i$ ,  $M_{a2}=M_{a1}\oplus R_{ac}$  and  $M_{a3}=h(R_{ac})$ , where  $R_{ac}$  is a random number generated by the attacker.
- 2) Then, the attacker sends the forged message  $\{ID_i, M_{a2}, M_{a3}\}$  to the remote server  $S_i$ .
- 3) Upon receiving the forged message,  $S_i$  checks the format of  $ID_i$ . If it holds,  $S_i$  computes  $M_4=h(ID_i \parallel X_s)$ ,  $M_5=M_{a2}\oplus M_4$  and verifies whether  $M_{a3}=h(M_5)$  or not. If they are equal,  $S_i$  will be convinced the message  $\{ID_i, M_{a2}, M_{a3}\}$  sent from the legitimate

user. Then,  $S_i$  makes the reply message  $\{M_6, M_7, M_8\}$  by computing  $M_6=M_4 \oplus R_s$ ,  $M_7=h(M_6 \parallel M_5)$ ,  $M_8=h(R_s)$  in the authentication phase.

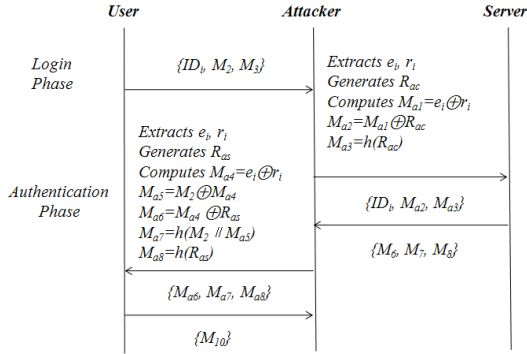


그림 1. 사용자 위장 공격 및 서버 위장 공격  
Fig. 1. User Impersonation Attack and Server Masquerading Attack

## 2. Server Masquerading Attack

As described the above, the attacker can extract the secret values ( $e_i, r_i$ ) from the user's smart card illegally by some means and intercept the message  $\{M_2\}$  in the login phase,  $\{M_6, M_7, M_8\}$  in the authentication phase. The procedure of the server masquerading attack with the secret values is as the following steps. And the server masquerading attack is illustrated in Fig.1.

- 1) The attacker computes easily  $M_{a4}=e_i \oplus r_i$ ,  $M_{a5}=M_2 \oplus M_{a4}$ ,  $M_{a6}=M_{a4} \oplus R_{as}$ ,  $M_{a7}=h(M_2 \parallel M_{a5})$ ,  $M_{a8}=h(R_{as})$ , where  $R_{as}$  is a random number generated by the attacker.
- 2) Then, the attacker sends the forged message  $\{M_{a6}, M_{a7}, M_{a8}\}$  to the user  $C_i$ .
- 3) Upon receiving the forged message,  $C_i$  checks whether  $M_{a7}=h(M_2 \parallel R_c)$  or not. If they are equal,  $C_i$  computes and  $M_9=M_{a6} \oplus M_i$  and verifies whether  $M_{a8}=h(M_9)$  or not. If it holds,  $C_i$  will be convinced the message  $\{M_{a6}, M_{a7}, M_{a8}\}$  sent from the legitimate server. Then,  $C_i$  makes the reply message  $\{M_{10}\}$  by computing  $M_{10}=h(M_{a6} \parallel M_9)$  in the authentication phase.

## 3. Password Guessing Attack

We assume that an attacker can extract the secret values ( $r_i, f_i$ ) from the legitimate user's smart card by some means. With these secret values, the attacker can easily find out  $PW_i$  by performing the off-line password guessing attack, in which each guess  $PW_i^*$  for  $PW_i$  can be verified by the following steps.

- 1) The attacker computes the secret parameter  $r_i^*=h(PW_i^*) \oplus f_i$  from the registration phase.
- 2) The attacker verifies the correctness of  $PW_i^*$  by checking  $r_i=r_i^*$ .
- 3) The attacker repeats the above steps until a correct password  $PW_i^*$  is found.

Thus, the attacker can perform the off-line password guessing attack, and can successfully impersonate the legal user with the guessed user password.

## 4. Mutual Authentication

Generally, if an authentication scheme is insecure against user impersonation attack, server masquerading attack, the authentication schemes cannot provide mutual authentication between the user and the remote server. Thus, Das's scheme fails to provide mutual authentication as described the above subsection. Namely, if the attacker can extract the secret values ( $e_i, r_i$ ) from the legitimate user's smart card illegally by some means and intercept the messages communicating between the user and the server, the attacker can make the modified message easily by computing  $M_{a1}=e_i \oplus r_i$ ,  $M_{a2}=M_{a1} \oplus R_{ac}$  and  $M_{a3}=h(R_{ac})$  in the login phase. Also, the attacker can make the modified message easily by computing  $M_{a6}=M_{a4} \oplus R_{as}$ ,  $M_{a7}=h(M_2 \parallel M_{a5})$ ,  $M_{a8}=h(R_{as})$ . Hence, we can see that Das's scheme fails to provide mutual authentication between the user and the server.

## IV. The Enhanced Scheme and Security Analysis

In this section, we propose an enhanced Das's scheme which can withstand the various attacks with

providing mutual authentication.

### 1. The Enhanced Scheme

The proposed scheme is divided into three phases: registration phase, login phase and authentication phase. The login and authentication phase are illustrated in Fig. 2.

#### ■ Registration Phase

Before logging in the remote server, a user  $C_i$  initially has to register to the trusted registration centre  $R_i$  as the following steps.

- 1)  $C_i$  submits his identifier  $ID_i$  and password information ( $PW_i \oplus K$ ) to  $R_i$  through a secure channel. Also the user submits his biometrics information ( $B_i \oplus K$ ) via the specific device to  $R_i$ .
- 2)  $R_i$  computes  $f_i = h(B_i \oplus K)$ ,  $r_i = h(PW_i \oplus K) \oplus f_i$  and  $e_i = h(ID_i \parallel X_s) \oplus r_i$ , where  $X_s$  is a secret value generated by the server and  $K$  is a random number generated by  $C_i$ .
- 3)  $R_i$  stores  $(ID_i, h(), f_i, e_i)$  on the user's smart card and sends it to the user via a secure channel. And  $C_i$  stores random number  $K$  into the smart card issued by  $R_i$ .

#### ■ Login Phase

When the user  $C_i$  wants to login the remote server  $S_i$ , the user has to perform the following steps.

- 1)  $C_i$  inserts his smart card into a card reader and inputs personal biometrics  $B_i$  on the specific device to verify user's biometrics. If the biometrics information matches the template stored in system,  $C_i$  passes the biometrics verification.
- 2)  $C_i$  inputs the  $ID_i$  and  $PW_i$ , and then the smart card computes:

$$\begin{aligned} r_i' &= h(PW_i \oplus K) \oplus f_i \\ M_1 &= e_i \oplus r_i' \\ M_2 &= M_1 \oplus R_c \\ M_3 &= h(M_1 \parallel R_c) \end{aligned}$$

where  $R_c$  is a random number generated by the user.

- 3)  $C_i$  sends the login request message  $\{ID_i, M_2, M_3\}$  to  $S_i$ .

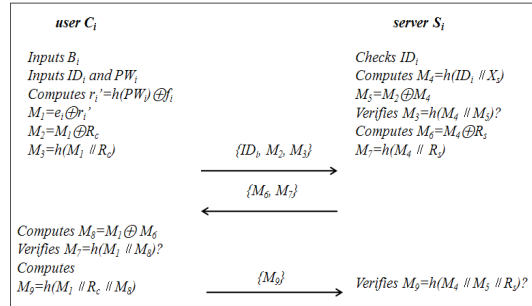


그림 2. 개선된 스킴의 로그인 단계 및 인증 단계  
Fig. 2. Login Phase and Authentication Phase of the Enhanced Scheme

#### ■ Authentication Phase

After receiving the request login message,  $S_i$  has to perform the following steps with  $C_i$  to authenticate each other.

- 1)  $S_i$  checks the format of  $ID_i$ .
- 2) If the  $ID_i$  is valid,  $S_i$  computes  $M_4 = h(ID_i \parallel X_s)$ ,  $M_5 = M_2 \oplus M_4$ .
- 3)  $S_i$  verifies whether  $M_3 = h(M_1 \parallel M_5)$  or not. If they are equal,  $S_i$  computes:

$$\begin{aligned} M_6 &= M_4 \oplus R_s \\ M_7 &= h(M_4 \parallel R_s) \end{aligned}$$

where  $R_s$  is a random number generated by the server.

- 4) Then  $S_i$  sends the message  $\{M_6, M_7\}$  to  $C_i$ .
- 5) After receiving the reply message,  $C_i$  computes  $M_8 = M_6 \oplus M_5$  and verifies whether  $M_7 = h(M_1 \parallel M_8)$  or not. If they are equal,  $C_i$  computes  $M_9 = h(M_1 \parallel R_c \parallel M_8)$ . Then  $C_i$  sends the message  $\{M_9\}$  for authentication to  $S_i$ .
- 6) After receiving the message,  $S_i$  verifies whether  $M_9 = h(M_4 \parallel M_5 \parallel R_s)$  or not. If they are equal,  $S_i$  accepts the user's login request.

## 2. Security Analysis of the Enhanced Scheme

In this section, we will provide the security analysis of the enhanced scheme based on secure one-way hash function. To analyze the security, we assume that an attacker can extract the secret values ( $f_i$ ,  $e_i$ ) from the legitimate user's smart card<sup>[11-12]</sup>.

### ■ User Impersonation Attack

To impersonate as the legitimate user, an attacker attempts to make a forged login request message which can be authenticated to the server. However, the attacker cannot impersonate the user by forging the login request message if the attacker can extract the secret values ( $f_i$ ,  $e_i$ ) stored in the user's smart card, because the attacker cannot compute the message ( $M_2$ ,  $M_3$ ) sending to the server without knowing the secret value  $X_s$  kept by the server. Hence, the attacker has no chance to login by launching user impersonation attack.

### ■ Server Masquerading Attack

To masquerade as the legitimate server, an attacker attempts to make the forged reply message which can be masqueraded to the user when receiving the user's login request message. However, the attacker cannot masquerade as the server by forging the reply message, because the attacker cannot compute ( $M_6$ ,  $M_7$ ) sending to the user without knowing the secret value  $X_s$  kept by the server. Hence, the attacker cannot masquerade as the legitimate server to the user by launching server masquerading attack.

### ■ Password Guessing Attack

After the attacker extract the secret values ( $f_i$ ,  $e_i$ ) stored in the user's smart card under the described assumption, the attacker attempts to derive the user's password  $PW_i$  using  $r_i = h(PW_i \oplus K) \oplus f_i$  in the registration phase. However, the attacker cannot guess the user's password  $PW_i$  using the secret values extracted from the legitimate user's smart card, because the attacker does not know the secret value  $r_i$ . Hence, the proposed scheme is secure against off-line

password guessing attack.

### ■ Insider attack

In the registration phase, if the user's password  $PW_i$  and personal biometrics  $B_i$  are revealed to the server, the insider of the server may directly obtain  $PW_i$ ,  $B_i$  and impersonate as the user to access user's other accounts in other server. But, the enhanced scheme is secure for the insider attack, because the user submits  $h(K \oplus PW_i)$  instead of  $PW_i$  and  $h(K \oplus B_i)$  in stead of  $B_i$ .

### ■ Mutual Authentication

As described in the above subsection, the enhanced scheme can withstand the user impersonation attack and the server masquerading attack, consequently the proposed scheme provides mutual authentication between the user and the remote server. Namely, even if the attacker can extract the secret values ( $f_i$ ,  $e_i$ ) stored in the user's smart card, the user can be authenticated to the server and the server can be authenticated to the user. Because the attacker cannot make the login request message  $\{ID_i, M_2, M_3\}$ , the reply message  $\{M_6, M_7\}$  without knowing the secret value  $X_s$  kept by the server.

## V. Conclusions

In this paper, we analyzed the security weaknesses of Das's scheme. And we have shown that Das's scheme is still insecure against the user impersonation attack, the server masquerading attack, the off-line password guessing attack and the insider attack. Also, we proposed the enhanced scheme to overcome these security weaknesses, while preserving all their merits, even if the secret information stored in the smart card is revealed. As a result of security analysis, the enhanced scheme is secure against the user impersonation attack, the server masquerading attack, the off-line password guessing attack, and the insider attack. And we can see that the enhanced scheme provides mutual authentication between the user and

the server.

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