



# A secure authentication framework for WSN-based safety monitoring in coal mines

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**Abstract.** Underground coal mines are considered as one of the most dangerous workspaces as many hazardous factors regularly cause accidents. It may be avoided by real-time monitoring of environmental parameters (gas, temperature, the width of walls, etc.) of underground tunnels. Nowadays, wireless sensor network (WSN) is widely used for safety monitoring of coal mines. However, any kind of interception, modification and interruption of transmission of environmental parameters can mislead the professionals that might lead to a major accident. Therefore, security is an essential issue for WSN-based safety monitoring. Sensors in WSN have limited computational power and storage capacity, which creates a challenge to design authentication and key agreement (AKA) scheme with low computational cost. To address these issues, As this scheme is light-weight and provides mutual authentication (MA), sensor anonymity (SA) and user anonymity (UA), we have considered this scheme for a case study. We first propose the cryptanalysis of this scheme, in which we prove that this scheme fails to resist sensor node compromise (SNC), stolen smart card (SSC) and user impersonation (UI) attacks. To counteract these attacks and to provide efficient authentication scheme, we propose a lightweight AKA scheme for WSN-based safety monitoring in coal mines. We simulated the scheme on AVISPA tool. We used the random oracle model (ROM) to perform formal security analysis and also performed informal security analysis. These analyses demonstrate that the proposed scheme is secure and invulnerable to various known attacks. We compared the proposed scheme to other related schemes regarding security features and computational cost. Our scheme requires comparable computational cost and is more secure than related schemes.

**Keywords.** User authentication; sensor node; safety monitoring; wireless sensor network; coal mines; session key agreement.

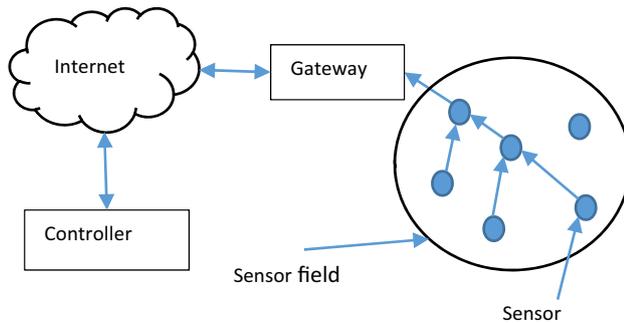
## 1. Introduction

Underground coal mines are considered as one of the most dangerous workspaces. For example, some major mine accidents already happened in the past: 1,549 people lost their lives in an explosion at Benxihu (Honkeiko) colliery China, in April 1942; there were 182 casualties in explosions at Chinakuri colliery in February 1958; 268 people killed in the Dhanbad coal mine explosion in May 1965; in December 1975 at Chasnala coal mine, 372 workers lost their lives when mines were flooded after the explosion; 426 people killed by multiple explosions at Wankie colliery in Rhodesia (Zimbabwe) in June 1972. In September 1995, 64 people died due to the breaching of the Katri River in Gaslitand coal mine. In November 2010, 29 workers died because of methane explosions and toxic atmosphere after

the explosion at Pike River mine. Kumar *et al* [1] proposed an AKA scheme for WSN-based safety monitoring in coal mines. These kinds of hazards may be avoided with real-time monitoring of environmental parameters (gas, temperature, the width of walls, etc.) of underground tunnels. The professionals can detect the density of gases and dust, and can take preventive measures. Monitoring temperature, early detection of the fire with location can help the fire prevention system to save the lives of workers, and reduce the loss of resources.

Many researchers have suggested monitoring of underground coal mines using wireless sensor network (WSN) [1–10]. WSN refers to a network of spatially dispersed and dedicated sensors (figure 1) to monitor the environmental and physical condition and send the collected data to the user through the gateway node that provides connectivity to other networks [2]. Sensors are low-powered, low-cost autonomous devices with sensing for data acquisition,

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**Figure 1.** A typical WSN architecture.

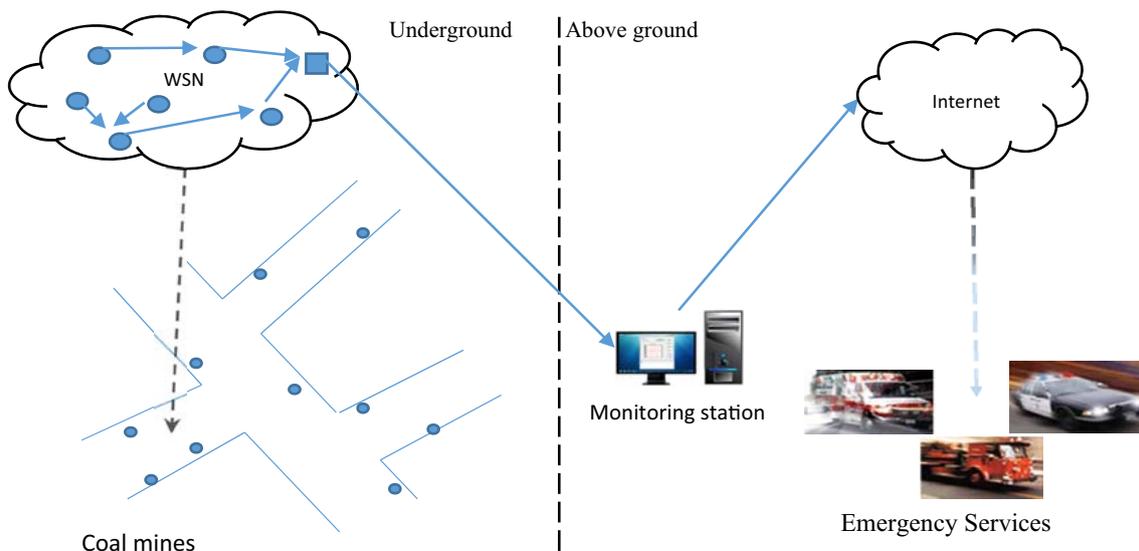
processing subsystem for local data processing and radio subsystem for communication [11]. To power up the sensor node, a power unit is also attached to the sensor.

For smooth operation, the safety monitoring system (figure 2) needs reliable data with a real-time guarantee. To ensure the reliability of data, the security scheme must resist the possible attacks on WSN and authenticate the communicating parties correctly. The attacks vary from eavesdropping to modification and interruption of transmission that could result in unauthorized access of sensitive information; modified or vague information pushed by fake or compromised sensors can mislead the professionals that might lead to a major accident. To prevent unauthorized parties from getting into the system, the system requires an authentication and key agreement (AKA) scheme to authenticate all the communicating parties before the actual transmission. In the coal mine environment, to achieve proper monitoring without any blind spot, sensors need to be deployed in hard to reach areas; hence, replacing the power source is not an easy task as sensors have limited power backup. This work aimed to provide a lightweight

AKA scheme to authenticate the communicating parties and key agreement with less computation and minimal communication involving sensors for reducing the sensors' load. Hence, it can reduce the power requirement of the sensors, which will extend the lifetime of sensors. In the last few years, many AKA schemes have been discussed to secure WSN.

In [12], the authors discussed a scheme to provide AKA in a WSN environment. Das [13] showed that this scheme [12] is safe against many logged-in users (MLIU) attack and designed a scheme. Tseng *et al* [14] demonstrated that [12] is not secured against replay attack and forgery attack and proposed a scheme by removing these security flaws. The scheme given in [13] is proved to be unsafe in [15] and [16]. Huang *et al* [15] found the scheme's [13] vulnerability against sensor node impersonation (SNI) attack and MLIU attack and designed a scheme by removing these security flaws. He *et al* [16] find that the scheme in [13] cannot withstand privileged insider (PI) and SNI attacks, and the authors presented a new scheme. Ko [17] showed that the scheme [14] did not provide mutual authentication (MA) and proposed a lightweight AKA scheme. Vaidya *et al* [18] reported that schemes given in [12, 14, 17] are vulnerable to stolen verifier (SV) attack and suggested a new scheme. Kim *et al* [19] reported that [18] is weak against user impersonation (UI), gateway-node bypassing (GNB) and password guessing (PG) attacks.

Yeh *et al* [20] designed a scheme to provide AKA in WSN using ECC. Shi and Gong [21] presented an AKA scheme based on ECC, claiming that it is more efficient and secure than [20]. Choi *et al* [22] reported that the scheme in [21] is not secured against stolen smart card (SSC) attack, session key (SSK) attack and sensor energy exhausting (SEE) attack.



**Figure 2.** Architecture of the safety monitoring system.

Kumar *et al* [23] proposed the AKA scheme for the medical purpose sensor network, claiming that the scheme is capable of satisfying all the security requirements. He *et al* [24] find that the scheme given in [23] cannot withstand PI and SSC attacks. Nam *et al* [25] point out that the scheme of [24] fails to provide user anonymity (UA) and cannot withstand the SSC attack. Li *et al* [26] reported that [24] fails to provide the session key agreement (SKA) and MA. Xue *et al* [27] discussed temporal-credential-based AKA scheme. Li *et al* [28] shown that the scheme of [27] suffers from SSC, PG, SV and PI attacks. Turkanovic *et al* [29] discussed an AKA scheme for ad-hoc WSN only using hash functions. However, Chang and Le [30] report that the scheme [29] does not achieve forward secrecy (FS) and backward secrecy (BS) and is weak against sensor node spoofing (SNS), SSC and UI attacks.

Kumari and Om [31] gave an AKA scheme for WSN-based safety monitoring system for coal mines. Kumar *et al* [1] performed the cryptanalysis on the scheme presented in [31] and reported that the scheme did not achieve sensor anonymity (SA) and user un-traceability (UT) and was vulnerable to SSC, denial-of-service (DoS) and SV attacks, and proposed a scheme addressing these issues. However, this scheme is not resistant to sensor node compromise (SNC) attack, SSC attack and UI attack. We address these security issues in this paper and propose an improved scheme.

### 1.1 Threat model

To evaluate the security of the scheme, we introduce a threat model in which an attacker ( $\mathcal{A}$ ) has several advantages or capabilities. The assumptions about the  $\mathcal{A}$ 's capabilities under threat model are the following:

1.  $\mathcal{A}$  cannot intercept messages communicated through a private channel.
2.  $\mathcal{A}$  can eavesdrop, modify, insert, resend, reroute and delete the communicated messages over public channel.
3. If  $\mathcal{A}$  gets the smart card ( $SC$ ) of a valid user,  $\mathcal{A}$  can extract information from  $SC$ 's memory.
4.  $\mathcal{A}$  can guess all the possible combinations of identity ( $UID_i$ ) and password ( $PW_i$ ) of the user in a reasonable amount of time.
5.  $\mathcal{A}$  can extract information from sensors' memory of physically captured sensors.
6.  $\mathcal{A}$  may be a legitimate user.

## 2. Review of Kumar *et al* scheme

A review of the scheme in [1] is given in this section. Table 1 displays the notations that appear in this paper.

**Table 1.** Notations.

$U_i$	$i^{\text{th}}$ user
$RC$	Registration centre
$SN_k$	$k^{\text{th}}$ sensor
$X_c$	$RC$ 's secret key
$SC$	Smart card
$GW_j$	$j^{\text{th}}$ gateway
$\mathcal{A}$	An attacker
$UID_i$	$U_i$ 's identity
$b_i$	Random number generated by user $U_i$
$GID_j$	$GW_j$ 's identity
$SID_k$	Sensor $SN_k$ 's identity
$PW_i$	$U_i$ 's password
$G_j$	$GW_j$ 's secret key
$SIX_k$	The shared key between $GW_j$ and $SN_k$
$BIO_i$	$U_i$ 's biometric imprint
$R_i$	Nonce generated by $U_i$
$B_i$	Secret bit string generated from $U_i$ 's biometric imprint
$A_i$	Auxiliary bit string generated from $U_i$ 's biometric imprint
$R_j$	Nonce generated by $GW_j$
$SK_i$	Session key
$R_k$	Nonce generated by $SN_k$
$\oplus$	Ex-OR operator
$\parallel$	Concatenation operator
$h(\cdot)$	One-way hash function

### 2.1 Sensor and gateway node registration phase

To register gateways and sensors,  $RC$  executes the following steps.

$RC$  selects the secret key  $X_c$ .  $RC$  selects identity  $GID_j$ , and calculates the secret key  $G_j = h(GID_j || X_c)$  for gateway  $GW_j$ .

$RC$  selects identity  $SID_k$  and calculates  $SIX_k = h(SID_k || X_c)$  for sensor node  $SN_k$ .

$RC$  stores  $\{SID_k, SIX_k\}$  in the memory of  $SN_k$  before deploying the sensor, and stores  $\{GID_j, G_j, SID_k, SIX_k\}$  in the gateway.

### 2.2 User registration phase

When  $U_i$  requests  $GW_j$  for registration, the gateway performs following steps to register  $U_i$  and provide an  $SC$  to him.

$U_i$  selects his  $UID_i$ ,  $PW_i$  and a random number  $b_i$ , and sends  $C_i = h(UID_i || b_i)$  and  $P_i = h(PW_i || b_i)$  to  $GW_j$  via a secure channel.

$GW_j$  generates  $V_i$  and  $l$  ( $2^4 \leq l \leq 2^8$ ) for fuzzy verifier; then computes  $D_2 = V_i \oplus h(G_j)$  and  $f_3 = h(V_i || G_j) \oplus$

$h(C_i||P_i)$ , stores  $\{D_2, h(\cdot), f_3, l\}$  into  $SC$  and sends it to  $U_i$  through a secure channel.  
 $U_i$  calculates  $c = b_i \oplus h(UID_i||PW_i) \bmod l$ ,  $HB_i = h(P_i||C_i||b_i) \bmod l$  and stores  $c$  and  $HB_i$  into the  $SC$ . Thus,  $SC$  contains  $\{D_2, h(\cdot), f_3, l, HB_i, c\}$ .

### 2.3 Login phase

To log in to  $GW_j$ ,  $U_i$  executes the following:

$U_i$  inserts  $SC$  into card reader, then types in his  $UID_i$  and  $PW_i$ .  $SC$  computes  $b_i = c \oplus h(UID_i||PW_i) \bmod l$ ,  $C_i = h(UID_i||b_i)$ ,  $P_i = h(PW_i||b_i)$  and  $HB_i = h(P_i||C_i||b_i) \bmod l$ . To verify the  $UID_i$  and  $PW_i$  by checking if  $HB_i^* \stackrel{?}{=} HB_i$ . If false,  $SC$  aborts the session. Random number  $R_i$  is generated by  $SC$  as a nonce, then  $SC$  computes  $L_2 = D_2 \oplus T_1$ ,  $B_1 = f_3 \oplus h(C_i||P_i)$ ,  $B_2 = h(T_1||R_i||B_1)$  and  $B_3 = (R_i||T_1) \oplus B_1$ , where  $T_1$  is current timestamp. Then  $SC$  sends a log-in message  $\{L_2, B_2, B_3, T_1\}$  to  $GW_j$  via a public channel.

### 2.4 AKA phase

On receiving the log-in request,  $GW_j$  computes  $V_i^* = L_2 \oplus h(G_j) \oplus T_1$ ,  $B_1^* = h(V_i^*||G_j)$ ,  $(R_i^*||T_1^*) = B_1^* \oplus B_3$ .  $GW_j$  checks if timestamp  $T_1$  is fresh. If false,  $GW_j$  aborts the session; else,  $GW_j$  computes  $B_2^* = h(T_1^*||R_i^*||B_1^*)$  and  $U_i$  is authenticated if  $B_2^* = B_2$ . If not correct,  $GW_j$  terminates the session; else,  $GW_j$  generates a nonce  $R_j$ , and computes  $f_4 = h(SID_k||V_i^*||SIX_k||R_j||T_2)$ ,  $f_5 = (R_i^*||R_j||T_2) \oplus SIX_k$  and  $f_6 = V_i^* \oplus h(SID_k||h(R_j)||R_i^*)$ . Then  $GW_j$  communicates  $\{f_4, f_5, f_6\}$  to  $SN_k$ .

On receiving  $\{f_4, f_5, f_6\}$  at time  $T_3$ ,  $SN_k$  computes  $(R_i^*||R_j^*||T_2^*) = f_5 \oplus SIX_k$ .  $SN_k$  checks if timestamp  $T_2^*$  is fresh. If  $T_2^*$  is fresh,  $SN_k$  calculates  $V_i^* = f_6 \oplus h(SID_k||h(R_j^*)||R_i^*)$  and  $f_4^* = h(SID_k||V_i^*||SIX_k||R_j^*||T_2^*)$  and then compares  $f_4^* \stackrel{?}{=} f_4$ . If not correct,  $SN_k$  aborts the session; otherwise,  $GW_j$  is authenticated.  $SN_k$  generates  $R_k$  randomly and computes session key  $SK_i = h(R_i^*||R_j^*||R_k^*)$ ,  $C_1 = h(T_3||R_k^*||SK_i||SIX_k||SID_k||T_2^*)$  and  $C_2 = (R_k||T_3) \oplus R_j^*$ . Then transmits  $\{C_1, C_2\}$  to  $GW_j$ .

On receiving  $\{C_1, C_2\}$  from  $SN_k$ ,  $GW_j$  computes  $(R_k^*||T_3^*) = C_2 \oplus R_j$  and checks if  $T_3^*$  is fresh  $GW_j$ , computes  $SK_i = h(R_i^*||R_j^*||R_k^*)$  and  $C_1^* = h(T_3^*||R_k^*||SK_i||SIX_k||SID_k||T_2)$ . Then  $GW_j$  checks if  $C_1^* \stackrel{?}{=} C_1$ , then  $SN_k$  is authenticated and  $GW_j$  calculates  $f_7 = h(SK_i||R_j^*||T_4||f_4)$  and  $f_8 = (R_k^*||R_j^*||T_4) \oplus R_i^*$ .  $GW_j$  sends  $\{f_4, f_7, f_8\}$  to  $U_i$ .

The  $SC$  computes  $(R_k^*||R_j^*||T_4^*) = f_8 \oplus R_i$  and checks out if  $T_4^*$  is fresh, then  $SC$  computes  $SK_i = h(R_i||R_j^*||R_k^*)$ ,  $f_7^* = h(SK_i||R_j^*||T_4^*||f_4)$  and compares  $f_7^* \stackrel{?}{=} f_7$ . If true,  $GW_j$  and  $SN_k$  are authenticated by  $U_i$ .

### 2.5 Password change phase

This phase explains the steps to change his/her password by  $U_i$ .

$U_i$  insert  $SC$  into card reader, then types in his  $UID_i^*$  and  $PW_i^*$ .  $SC$  computes  $b_i = c \oplus h(UID_i^*||PW_i^*) \bmod l$ ,  $P_i^* = h(PW_i^*||b_i^*)$ ,  $C_i^* = h(UID_i^*||b_i^*)$  and  $HB_i^* = h(P_i^*||C_i^*||b_i^*) \bmod l$ .  $SC$  verifies the  $ID_i$  and  $PW_i$  of  $U_i$  by comparing  $HB_i^* \stackrel{?}{=} HB_i$ . If not,  $SC$  aborts the session.  $U_i$  is requested for new random nonce  $b_{inew}$  and password  $PW_{inew}$ .  $SC$  computes  $C_{inew} = h(UID_i^*||b_{inew})$ ,  $P_{inew} = h(PW_{inew}||b_{inew})$ ,  $HB_{inew} = h(P_{inew}||C_{inew}||b_{inew}) \bmod l$ ,  $f_{3new} = f_3 \oplus h(C_i^*||P_i^*) \oplus h(C_{inew}||P_{inew})$  and  $c_{new} = b_{inew} \oplus h(UID_i^*||PW_{inew}) \bmod l$ . Then  $SC$  replaces  $HB_i, c$  and  $f_3$  with, respectively,  $HB_{inew}, c_{new}$  and  $f_{3new}$ .

### 2.6 Adding a new sensor node

If there is a requirement for a new sensor node, it can be added by executing these steps.

$RC$  choose  $SID_k$  and compute  $SIX_k = h(SID_k||X_c)$  for a new sensor.  $RC$  saves  $\{SID_k, SIX_k\}$  in the new sensor's memory and hands over to the technician to deploy. To register  $SN_k$  with the closest  $GW_j$ ,  $RC$  transmits  $\{SID_k, SIX_k\}$ .  $GW_j$  stores this value in its database.

## 3. Cryptanalysis of Kumar *et al* scheme

This section will provide cryptanalysis of Kumar *et al* [1] scheme and show that it does not provide security against the following attacks:

### 3.1 Node compromise attack

Assuming that  $\mathcal{A}$  captures a node  $SN_k$ ,  $\mathcal{A}$  knows secret parameters stored at the sensor node (i.e., the identity of the sensor  $SID_k$  and secret  $SIX_k$ ). Using these secret parameters and the messages communicated through public channel,  $\mathcal{A}$  can compute  $R_i, R_j, R_k$  and  $SK_i$  shared among  $U_i, GW_j$  and  $SN_k$  by performing the following steps:

$$(R_i || R_j || T_2) = f_5 \oplus SIX_k$$

where  $R_i$  and  $R_j$  are nonce generated by user and gateway, respectively, and  $T_2$  is a timestamp.

$$(R_k || T_3) = C_2 \oplus R_j$$

where  $R_k$  is a nonce generated by the sensor node and  $T_3$  is a timestamp. Using  $R_i$ ,  $R_j$  and  $R_k$ , the attacker can calculate  $SK_i = h(R_i || R_j || R_k)$

The attacker can use  $R_i$  and  $R_j$  to get the knowledge of secret parameter  $B_1$  and the secret pseudo-identity  $V_i$  in the following manner:

$$\begin{aligned} B_1 &= B_3 \oplus (R_i || T_1), \\ V_i &= f_6 \oplus h(SID_k || h(R_j) || R_i). \end{aligned}$$

### 3.2 User impersonation attack

Using  $V_i$  ( $\mathcal{A}$  knows  $V_i$  and  $B_1$  by performing node compromise attack)  $\mathcal{A}$  can get  $h(G_j) = L_2 \oplus V_i \oplus T_1$ , where  $T_1$  is a timestamp;  $h(G_j)$  can be used to extract the secret pseudo-identity of any user using  $L_2$  and  $T_1$  from their login request message. To perform user impersonation, attacker  $\mathcal{A}$  will choose a nonce  $R_{\mathcal{A}}$  and a timestamp  $T_{\mathcal{A}1}$ , then compute

$$\begin{aligned} L_{\mathcal{A}2} &= V_i \oplus h(G_j) \oplus T_{\mathcal{A}1} \\ B_{\mathcal{A}2} &= h(T_{\mathcal{A}1} || R_{\mathcal{A}} || B_1) \\ B_{\mathcal{A}3} &= B_1 \oplus (R_{\mathcal{A}} || T_{\mathcal{A}1}) \end{aligned}$$

and send it to gateway  $GW_j$ . After receiving login request,  $GW_j$  computes

$$\begin{aligned} V_i^* &= L_{\mathcal{A}2} \oplus h(G_j) \oplus T_{\mathcal{A}1}, \\ B_1^* &= h(V_i^* || G_j), \\ (R_{\mathcal{A}}^* || T_{\mathcal{A}1}^*) &= B_{\mathcal{A}3} \oplus B_1^*, \\ B_2^* &= h(T_{\mathcal{A}1}^* || R_{\mathcal{A}}^* || B_1^*). \end{aligned}$$

$B_2^*$  is equivalent to  $B_{\mathcal{A}2}$  as both are computed from the same parameters. For  $B_2^* = B_{\mathcal{A}2}$ ,  $GW_j$  authenticates the attacker  $\mathcal{A}$  as user  $U_i$ .

### 3.3 SSC attack

$\mathcal{A}$  can extract  $\{D_2, HB_i, f_3, l, c, h(\cdot)\}$  stored in  $SC$  memory by several methods [32, 33], where  $f_3 = h(V_i || G_j) \oplus h(C_i || P_i) = B_1 \oplus h(C_i || P_i)$ ,  $D_2 = V_i \oplus h(G_j)$ ,  $P_i = h(PW_i || b_i)$ ,  $C_i = h(UID_i || b_i)$ ,  $HB_i = h(P_i || C_i || b_i) \bmod l$  and  $c = b_i \oplus h(UID_i || PW_i) \bmod l$ .

Then,  $\mathcal{A}$  executes following steps to guess the password:

- $\mathcal{A}$  guesses the  $UID^*$  and  $PW^*$  as, respectively, identity and password of  $U_i$ .

- Then  $\mathcal{A}$  computes

$$\begin{aligned} b_i^* &= c \oplus h(UID^* || PW^*) \bmod l, \\ C_i^* &= h(UID^* || b_i^*), \\ P_i^* &= h(PW^* || b_i^*). \end{aligned}$$

- Check if  $h(C_i^* || P_i^*) \stackrel{?}{=} f_3 \oplus B_1$  (attacker knows  $B_1$  from compromised sensor attack), if they are equal, then attacker  $\mathcal{A}$  guessed correct  $ID_i$  and  $PW_i$ ; otherwise,  $\mathcal{A}$  repeats the steps for a new guess.

## 4. Proposed scheme

### 4.1 Sensor and gateway node registration phase

This phase (figure 3) is the same as Kumar *et al*'s scheme [1]. To register gateways and sensors,  $RC$  executes the following steps:

- $RC$  selects  $X_c$  as secret key.
- $RC$  selects  $GID_j$  and computes  $G_j = h(GID_j || X_c)$  as identity and secret key for  $GW_j$ .
- $RC$  selects  $SID_k$  as an identity for sensor node  $SN_k$ , then calculates  $SIX_k = h(SID_k || X_c)$  as its secret key.
- $RC$  stores  $\{SID_k, SIX_k\}$  in  $SN_k$  before deploying the sensor.
- $RC$  stores  $\{GID_j, G_j, SID_k, SIX_k\}$  in the gateway.

### 4.2 User registration phase

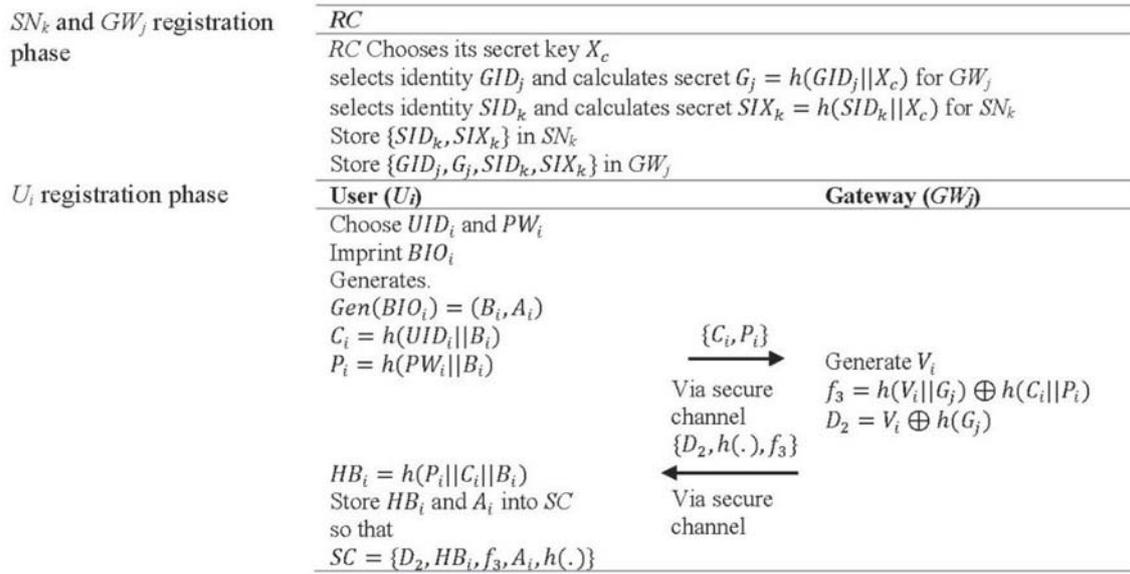
$GW_j$  registers  $U_i$  by executing following steps:

- $U_i$  selects  $UID_i$  and  $PW_i$  as, respectively, his identity and password, stores his biometric imprint  $BIO_i$  at the fuzzy extractor, generates  $Gen(BIO_i) = (B_i, A_i)$ , computes  $C_i = h(UID_i || B_i)$  and  $P_i = h(PW_i || B_i)$ , then transmits  $C_i$  and  $P_i$  to the  $GW_j$  through private channel.
- after generating a unique random number  $V_i$  for  $U_i$ ,  $GW_j$  computes

$$\begin{aligned} f_3 &= h(V_i || G_j) \oplus h(C_i || P_i) \\ D_2 &= V_i \oplus h(G_j) \end{aligned}$$

stores  $\{D_2, h(\cdot), f_3\}$  into  $SC$  and sends it securely to  $U_i$ .

- $U_i$  computes  $HB_i = h(P_i || C_i || B_i)$ , and stores  $HB_i$  and  $A_i$  into  $SC$ .



**Figure 3.** Registration phase.

#### 4.3 Login, authentication and key agreement phase

Following are the steps (figure 4) to achieve MA among  $U_i$ ,  $GW_j$  and  $SN_k$ :

- $U_i$  inserts  $SC$  into card reader, then types in his  $UID_i$  and  $PW_i$ .  $U_i$  inputs his biometric template  $BIO_i$  to fuzzy extractor, which reproduces  $B_i = Rep(BIO_i, A_i)$ .
- $SC$  calculates

$$\begin{aligned} C_i &= h(UID_i||B_i) \\ P_i &= h(PW_i||B_i) \\ HB_i^* &= h(C_i||P_i||B_i) \end{aligned}$$

and  $SC$  verifies the  $UID_i$  and  $PW_i$  by checking if  $HB_i^* \stackrel{?}{=} HB_i$ . If false,  $SC$  aborts the session.

- $SC$  generates a nonce  $R_i$  and computes

$$\begin{aligned} L_2 &= D_2 \oplus T_1, \\ K_i &= f_3 \oplus h(C_i||P_i) = h(V_i||G_j), \\ B_1 &= h(K_i||T_1), \\ B_2 &= h(T_1||R_i||B_1), \\ B_3 &= R_i \oplus B_1. \end{aligned}$$

$SC$  sends  $\{L_2, B_2, B_3, T_1\}$  to  $GW_j$  through unsecure channel.

- On receiving from  $U_i$ 's login request,  $GW_j$  checks  $(T_1^* - T_1) \leq \Delta T$ . If not,  $GW_j$  close the session; else,  $GW_j$  computes

$$\begin{aligned} V_i^* &= L_2 \oplus h(G_j) \oplus T_1 \\ K_i^* &= h(V_i^*||G_j) \\ B_1^* &= h(K_i^*||T_1) \\ R_i^* &= B_3 \oplus B_1 \\ B_2^* &= h(T_1||R_i^*||B_1^*) \end{aligned}$$

and compares  $B_2^* \stackrel{?}{=} B_2$ . If true,  $U_i$  is authenticated; else,  $GW_j$  closes the session.

- $GW_j$  generates the nonce  $R_j$  and computes

$$\begin{aligned} M_1 &= h(V_i^*||R_j), \\ f_4 &= h(SID_k||M_1||SIX_k||R_i^*||T_2), \\ f_5 &= (R_i^*||R_j) \oplus h(SIX_k||T_2), \\ f_6 &= M_1 \oplus h(SID_k||SIX_k||R_i^*), \end{aligned}$$

$GW_j$  sends the message  $\{f_4, f_5, f_6, T_2\}$  to sensor node  $SN_k$ .

- After obtaining the message from gateway  $GW_j$ ,  $SN_k$  checks whether  $(T_2^* - T_2) \leq \Delta T$ ; if not,  $SN_k$  drops the session; else,  $SN_k$  computes

$$\begin{aligned} (R_i^{**}||R_j^*) &= f_5 \oplus h(SIX_k||T_2) \\ M_1^* &= f_6 \oplus h(SID_k||SIX_k||R_i^{**}) \\ f_4 &= h(SID_k||M_1^*||SIX_k||R_i^{**}||T_2) \end{aligned}$$

and checks whether computed  $f_4$  matches the received  $f_4$ . If not, the session is terminated; else,  $SN_k$  authenticates  $GW_j$ .

User( $U_i$ )	Gateway( $GW_j$ )	Sensor node( $SN_k$ )
<p> <math>U_i</math> insert SC into card reader then type in his <math>UID_i</math> and <math>PW_i</math>                      Imprint <math>BIO_i</math>                      Achieve <math>B_i = Rep(BIO_i, A_i)</math>                      Chose a gateway <math>GW_j</math>                      Card reader calculates  <math>C_i = h(UID_i    B_i)</math>  <math>P_i = h(PW_i    B_i)</math>  <math>HB_i^* = h(P_i    C_i    B_i)</math>                      For <math>HB_i^* = HB_i</math>                      SC generates <math>R_i</math> and calculates  <math>L_2 = D_2 \oplus T_1</math>  <math>K_i = f_3 \oplus h(C_i    P_i) = h(V_i    G_j)</math>  <math>B_1 = h(K_i    T_1)</math>  <math>B_2 = h(T_1    R_i    B_1)</math>  <math>B_3 = R_i \oplus B_1</math>  <math>\{L_2, B_2, B_3, T_1\}</math> </p> <p style="text-align: center;">→</p>	<p>                     Check <math>(T_1^* - T_1) \leq \Delta T</math>  <math>V_i^* = L_2 \oplus h(G_j) \oplus T_1</math>  <math>K_i^* = h(V_i^*    G_j)</math>  <math>B_1^* = h(K_i^*    T_1)</math>  <math>R_i^* = B_3 \oplus B_1^*</math>  <math>B_2^* = h(T_1    R_i^*    B_1^*)</math>                      For <math>B_2^* = B_2</math>, <math>U_i</math> is authenticated                      Generates a nonce <math>R_j</math> and calculates  <math>M_1 = h(V_i^*    R_j)</math>  <math>f_4 = h(SID_k    M_1    SIX_k    R_i^*    T_2)</math>  <math>f_5 = (R_i^*    R_j) \oplus h(SIX_k    T_2)</math>  <math>f_6 = M_1 \oplus h(SID_k    SIX_k    R_i^*)</math>  <math>\{f_4, f_5, f_6, T_2\}</math> </p> <p style="text-align: center;">→</p> <p>                     Check <math>(T_3^* - T_3) \leq \Delta T</math>,  <math>R_k^* = C_2 \oplus h(SIX_k    R_j)</math>  <math>SK_i = h(R_i^*    R_j    R_k^*)</math>  <math>C_1^* = h(SK_i    R_k^*    SID_k    SIX_k    M_1    T_3)</math>                      For <math>C_1^* = C_1</math>, <math>SN_k</math> is authenticated  <math>f_7 = h(SK_i    R_j    R_k^*    T_4    K_i^*)</math>  <math>f_8 = (R_j    R_k^*) \oplus h(K_i^*    R_i^*)</math>  <math>\{f_7, f_8, T_4\}</math> </p> <p style="text-align: center;">←</p>	<p>                     Check <math>(T_2^* - T_2) \leq \Delta T</math>, <math>SN_k</math> calculates  <math>(R_i^*    R_j^*) = f_5 \oplus h(SIX_k    T_2)</math>  <math>M_1^* = f_6 \oplus h(SID_k    SIX_k    R_i^*)</math>  <math>f_4 = h(SID_k    M_1^*    SIX_k    R_i^*    T_2)</math>                      for <math>f_4^* = f_4</math>, <math>GW_j</math> is authenticated  <math>SN_k</math> generates a nonce <math>R_k</math> and calculates,  <math>SK_i = h(R_i^*    R_j^*    R_k)</math>  <math>C_1 = h(SK_i    R_k    SID_k    SIX_k    M_1^*    T_3)</math>  <math>C_2 = R_k \oplus h(SIX_k    R_j^*)</math>  <math>\{C_1, C_2, T_3\}</math> </p> <p style="text-align: center;">←</p>
<p>                     Check <math>(T_4^* - T_4) \leq \Delta T</math>,  <math>(R_j^*    R_k^*) = f_8 \oplus h(K_i    R_i)</math>  <math>SK_i = h(R_i    R_j^*    R_k^*)</math>  <math>f_7^* = h(SK_i    R_j^*    R_k^*    T_4    K_i)</math>                      For <math>f_7^* = f_7</math>, Both <math>GW_j</math> and <math>SN_k</math> are authenticated                 </p>		

Figure 4. Login, authentication and key agreement phase.

- $SN_k$  generates a nonce  $R_k$ , then computes

$$\begin{aligned} SK_i &= h(R_i^{**} || R_j^* || R_k) \\ C_1 &= h(SK_i || R_k || SID_k || SIX_k || M_1^* || T_3) \\ C_2 &= R_k \oplus h(SIX_k || R_j^*) \end{aligned}$$

$SN_k$  sends  $\{C_1, C_2, T_3\}$  to  $GW_j$ .

- $GW_j$  checks whether  $(T_3^* - T_3) \leq \Delta T$ . If not,  $GW_j$  closes the session; else,  $GW_j$  computes

$$\begin{aligned} R_k^* &= C_2 \oplus h(SIX_k || R_j) \\ SK_i &= h(R_i^* || R_j || R_k^*) \\ C_1^* &= h(SK_i || R_k^* || SID_k || SIX_k || M_1 || T_3) \end{aligned}$$

and  $GW_j$  checks if  $C_1^* \stackrel{?}{=} C_1$ . If true,  $SN_k$  is authenticated; else,  $GW_j$  aborts the session.

- $GW_j$  computes

$$\begin{aligned} f_7 &= h(SK_i || R_j || R_k^* || T_4 || K_i^*) \\ f_8 &= (R_j || R_k^*) \oplus h(K_i^* || R_i^*) \end{aligned}$$

and sends  $\{f_7, f_8, T_4\}$  to  $U_i$ .

- On receiving  $\{f_7, f_8, T_4\}$  from  $GW_j$ ,  $SC$  checks if timestamp  $T_4$  is fresh. If not,  $SC$  aborts the session; else,  $SC$  calculates

$$\begin{aligned} (R_j^* || R_k^{**}) &= f_8 \oplus h(K_i || R_i), \\ SK_i &= h(R_i || R_j^* || R_k^{**}), \\ f_7^* &= h(SK_i || R_j^* || R_k^{**} || T_4 || K_i). \end{aligned}$$

For  $f_7^* = f_7$ , both  $GW_j$  and  $SN_k$  are authenticated; else,  $SC$  aborts the session.

#### 4.4 Password change phase

This phase explains the steps to change  $U_i$ 's password.

- $U_i$  inserts  $SC$  into card reader, then types in his  $UID_i^*$  and  $PW_i^*$ .  $U_i$  inputs his biometric template  $BIO_i^*$  to fuzzy extractor, which reproduces  $B_i^* = Rep(BIO_i^*, A_i)$ .
- $SC$  computes

$$\begin{aligned} C_i^* &= h(UID_i^* || B_i^*), \\ P_i^* &= h(PW_i^* || B_i^*), \\ HB_i^* &= h(P_i^* || C_i^* || B_i^*). \end{aligned}$$

- Compares  $HB_i^* \stackrel{?}{=} HB_i$ . If correct, verifies the identity, password and biometric template of  $U_i$ ; if not equal, session is terminated.
- $U_i$  is requested to input new password  $PW_i^{new}$  and biometric imprint  $BIO_i^{new}$ .

- $SC$  calculates the following:

$$\begin{aligned} (B_i^{new}, A_i^{new}) &= Gen(BIO_i^{new}), \\ C_i^{new} &= h(UID_i^* || B_i^{new}), \\ P_i^{new} &= h(PW_i^{new} || B_i^{new}), \\ HB_i^{new} &= h(P_i^{new} || C_i^{new} || B_i^{new}), \\ f_3^{new} &= f_3 \oplus h(C_i^* || P_i^*) \oplus h(C_i^{new} || P_i^{new}). \end{aligned}$$

- The  $SC$  replaces  $HB_i$ ,  $A_i$  and  $f_3$  with, respectively,  $HB_i^{new}$ ,  $A_i^{new}$  and  $f_3^{new}$ .

#### 4.5 Adding a new sensor node

This phase is the same as Kumar *et al.*'s scheme [1]. If there is a requirement of new sensor node, it can be added by executing these steps:

- $RC$  choose  $SID_k$  and compute  $SIX_k = h(SID_k || X_c)$  for a new sensor.  $RC$  stores  $\{SID_k, SIX_k\}$  into sensor's memory and hands over to the technician to deploy.
- To register  $SN_k$  with the closest  $GW_j$ ,  $RC$  transmits  $\{SID_k, SIX_k\}$ .
- $GW_j$  stores this value in its memory.

### 5. Security analysis

We provide informal security analysis, formal security analysis using random oracle model (ROM) and simulation with AVISPA of the proposed scheme.

#### 5.1 Formal security analysis

This section provides security analysis of our scheme using ROM. We follow the same procedure given by Das [34] and Chandrakar and Om [35]. Definition of the *Reveal* oracle is given here.

*Reveal* : return the hash input  $x$  from a comparable hash output  $m$ , where  $m = h(x)$ .

**Theorem 1** Assume that  $\mathcal{A}$  can extract information from  $SC$ 's memory and read all the messages communicated through public channel.  $\mathcal{A}$  cannot obtain  $UID_i$  and  $PW_i$  of  $U_i$ , and  $G_j$  of  $GW_j$ . Hence, the proposed scheme is still safe.

*Proof* Suppose  $\mathcal{A}$  successfully obtains the secrets  $UID_i, PW_i$  and  $G_j$  from the extracted information from  $SC$ 's memory (i.e.  $\{D_2, HB_i, f_3, A_i, h(\cdot)\}$ ), and communicates message  $\{L_2, B_2, B_3, T_1\}$  and algorithm  $ALG1_{\mathcal{A},U}^{HASH}$ . The  $ALG1_{\mathcal{A},U}^{HASH}$  uses *Reveal* oracle to compute the inverse of hash function  $h(\cdot)$ . The success probability of  $ALG1_{\mathcal{A},U}^{HASH}$

$$P_{succ1} = \left| P \left[ ALG1_{\mathcal{A},U}^{HASH} = 1 \right] - 1 \right|.$$

**Algorithm 1**  $ALG1_{EUA}^{HASH}$ 

```

1: Extract  $\{D_2, HB_i, f_3, A_i, h(\cdot)\}$  from smart card, where  $D_2 = V_i \oplus h(G_j)$ ,  $HB_i = h(P_i \| C_i \| B_i)$ ,  $P_i = h(PW_i \| B_i)$ ,  $C_i = h(UID_i \| B_i)$ ,  $f_3 = h(V_i \| G_j) \oplus h(C_i \| P_i)$ ,  $A_i$  and  $B_i$  are generated from  $BIO_i$  using fuzzy extractor.
2: Intercept the communication message  $\{L_2, B_2, B_3, T_1\}$  from a public channel, where  $L_2 = D_2 \oplus T_1$ ,  $B_2 = h(T_1 \| R_i \| B_1)$ ,  $B_1 = h(K_i \| T_1)$ ,  $K_i = f_3 \oplus h(C_i \| P_i) = h(V_i \| G_j)$  and  $B_3 = R_i \oplus B_1$ .
3: Call  $(T'_1 \| R'_i \| B'_1) \leftarrow Reveal(B_2)$ .
4: if  $T'_1 = T_1$  then
5:    $B_1^* = B_3 \oplus R'_i$ 
6:   if  $B_1^* = B_1$  then
7:     Call  $(K'_i \| T''_1) \leftarrow Reveal(B'_1)$ 
8:     if  $T'_1 = T''_1$  then
9:        $w_1 = h(C_i \| P_i) = f_3 \oplus K'_i$ 
10:      Call  $(C'_i \| P'_i) \leftarrow Reveal(w_1)$ 
11:      Call  $(UID'_i \| B'_i) \leftarrow Reveal(C'_i)$ 
12:      Call  $(PW'_i \| B'_i) \leftarrow Reveal(P'_i)$ 
13:      if  $B'_i = B_i$  then
14:         $HB'_i = h(P'_i \| C'_i \| B'_i)$ 
15:        if  $HB_i = HB'_i$  then
16:           $UID'_i$  and  $PW'_i$  are correct identity and password of  $U_i$ 
17:          Call  $(V'_i \| G'_j) \leftarrow Reveal(K'_i)$ 
18:           $D'_2 = L_2 \oplus T'_1$ 
19:          if  $D'_2 = (V'_i \oplus h(G'_j))$  then
20:             $G'_j$  is correct secret key of  $GW_j$ 
21:            return(1) success
22:          else
23:            return(0) failure
24:        else
25:          return(0) failure
26:      else
27:        return(0) failure
28:    else
29:      return(0) failure
30:  else
31:    return(0) failure
32: else
33:   return(0) failure

```

The advantage function of  $ALG1_{A,U}^{HASH}$  is  $Adv_{ALG1}(t_1, q_{r1}) = MAX_A\{P_{succ1}\}$ , where  $q_{r1}$  is count of *Reveal* oracle queries and  $t_1$  is the execution time of  $ALG1_{A,U}^{HASH}$ . The proposed scheme is safe if  $Adv_{ALG1}(t_1, q_{r1}) \leq \epsilon$ , for some small  $\epsilon > 0$ . From  $ALG1_{A,U}^{HASH}$ , we see that  $\mathcal{A}$  can get  $UID_i$ ,  $PW_i$  and  $G_j$  only if  $\mathcal{A}$  can reverse the hash function. However, to calculate the inverse of hash function, there is no known method with polynomial time complexity. Hence,  $\mathcal{A}$  cannot obtain any secret information  $UID_i$  and  $PW_i$  of  $U_i$ , and  $G_j$  of  $GW_j$ .

**Theorem 2** Assume that  $\mathcal{A}$  can intercept the messages communicated through public channels. Still,  $\mathcal{A}$  cannot compute the session key  $SK_i$ .

*Proof* Suppose  $\mathcal{A}$  has the capability to compute  $SK_i$ . Assume that  $\mathcal{A}$  intercepts the communication messages  $(\{f_4, f_5, f_6, T_2\}, \{C_1, C_2, T_3\}, \{f_7, f_8\})$  and uses random oracle *Reveal* to run  $ALG2_{A,U}^{HASH}$  for the proposed scheme. The success probability for  $ALG2_{A,U}^{HASH}$  is defined as

$$P_{succ2} = \left| P[ALG2_{A,U}^{HASH} = 1] - 1 \right|.$$

**Algorithm 2**  $ALG2_{\mathcal{A},U}^{HASH}$ 

```

1: Intercept the messages  $(\{f_4, f_5, f_6, T_2\}, \{C_1, C_2, T_3\}, \{f_7, f_8\})$  communicated through public channel.
2: Call  $(SK'_i || R'_k || SID'_k || SIX'_k || M'_1 || T'_3) \leftarrow Reveal(C_1)$ 
3: if  $T_3 = T'_3$  then
4:   Call  $(SK''_i || R'_j || R'_k || T'_4 || K'_i) \leftarrow Reveal(f_7)$ 
5:   if  $T_4 = T'_4$  then
6:     if  $SK'_i = SK''_i$  then
7:       Call  $(R'_i || R''_j || R''_k) \leftarrow Reveal(SK'_i)$ 
8:        $f_8^* = (R'_i || R''_k) \oplus h(k'_i || R'_i)$ 
9:       if  $f_8^* = f_8$  then
10:         $SK'_i$  is the correct session key
11:        return(1) success
12:      else
13:        return(0) failure
14:    else
15:      return(0) failure
16:  else
17:    return(0) failure

```

The advantage function for  $ALG2_{\mathcal{A},U}^{HASH}$  is  $Adv_{ALG2}(t_2, q_{r2}) = MAX_{\mathcal{A}}\{P_{succ2}\}$ , where  $q_{r2}$  is count of *Reveal* oracle queries and  $t_2$  is the execution time of  $ALG2_{\mathcal{A},U}^{HASH}$ .  $\mathcal{A}$  cannot calculate  $SK_i$  if  $Adv_{ALG2}(t_2, q_{r2}) \leq \epsilon$ , for small  $\epsilon > 0$ . We can see from algorithm  $ALG2_{\mathcal{A},U}^{HASH}$  that  $\mathcal{A}$  can compute  $SK_i$  only if  $\mathcal{A}$  can reverse the hash function. However, hash functions have pre-image resistance; that is, it is hard to compute the pre-image from the image. Hence,  $\mathcal{A}$  cannot calculate  $SK_i$ .

## 5.2 Informal security analysis

In this section, we discuss security issues to prove that the proposed scheme provides UA, SA, MA and UT, and it is resilient to UI, PG, SNC, SNI and replay attacks under the given threat model.

**5.2a MA:**  $GW_j$  authenticates  $U_i$  by computing  $B_2$  and  $SN_k$  by computing  $C_1$ .  $SN_k$  authenticates the  $GW_j$  by computing  $f_4$  and finally,  $U_i$  authenticates  $GW_j$  and  $SN_k$  by computing  $f_7$ .

**5.2b Key agreement:** All three parties contribute to the generation of session key. Initially,  $U_i$  generates  $R_i$  and computes  $B_3 = R_i \oplus h(K_i || T_1)$ ,  $R_i$  is protected by secret  $K_i = h(V_i || G_j)$ , the  $GW_j$  also generates  $R_j$  and securely transmits  $(R_i, R_j)$  to the  $SN_k$  by computing  $f_5 = (R_i || R_j) \oplus h(SIX_k || T_2)$ ,  $R_i$  and  $R_j$  are protected by the shared secret between  $GW_j$  and  $SN_k$  (i.e.,  $SIX_k$ ) and one-way hash function.  $SN_k$  generates a nonce  $R_k$  and computes  $C_2 = R_k \oplus h(SIX_k || R_j)$ ,  $R_k$  secured by shared secret  $SIX_k$  and one-way hash function.  $R_j$  and  $R_k$  are shared securely with  $U_i$  by  $GW_j$  using  $f_8 = (R_j, R_k) \oplus h(K_i, R_i)$ , secured with secret  $K_i$  and one-way hash function. On completing these steps, all 3 parties know  $R_i, R_j$  and  $R_k$ . They are parts of  $SK_i = h(R_i || R_j || R_k)$ .

**5.2c UA:** The proposed scheme never sends  $UID_i$  to other parties. When  $U_i$  sends  $\{L_2, B_2, B_3, T_1\}$  to the  $GW_j$ , user secret  $V_i$  (a unique random number assigned by  $RC$ ) is transmitted with  $L_2 = V_i \oplus h(G_j) \oplus T_1$ , protected by  $h(G_j)$  (where  $G_j$  is the secret key of  $GW_j$ ); without knowing  $h(G_j)$   $\mathcal{A}$  will not be able to compute  $V_i$ .

**5.2d User Un-traceability:** User un-traceability means an attacker cannot distinguish different login sessions of a user. In the proposed scheme, all the parameters of login message  $\{L_2, B_2, B_3, T_1\}$  include the time stamp  $T_1$  in their computation. Because of usage of the time stamp in the calculation, all the parameters are different in different sessions whether the user communicates with the same gateway or not. Hence, the attacker  $\mathcal{A}$  cannot keep track of  $U_i$ .

**5.2e User impersonation attack:** To impersonate  $U_i$ ,  $\mathcal{A}$  must frame the message  $\{D_2, B_2, B_3, T_1\}$  to pass the authentication steps by  $GW_j$ . To compute  $B_2 = h(T_1 || R_i || B_1)$  and  $B_3 = R_i \oplus B_1$  (where  $B_1 = h(h(V_i || G_j) || T_1)$ ,  $V_i$  is a random number fixed for user  $U_i$ , and  $G_j$  is  $GW_j$ 's secret key). To gain knowledge of  $B_1$ ,  $\mathcal{A}$  must compute  $V_i$  from  $D_2 = V_i \oplus h(G_j)$ , and the attacker  $\mathcal{A}$  must know the secret key  $G_j$  that is known only to  $GW_j$ . Hence, it is impossible to impersonate as  $U_i$ .

**5.2f Replay attack:** According to our attack model,  $\mathcal{A}$  can monitor, eavesdrop or alter the messages communicated over public channel. Hence,  $U_i$ 's old login message  $\{L_2, B_2, B_3, T_1\}$  can be sent as a fresh message by  $\mathcal{A}$  to  $GW_j$ , but  $GW_j$  will not authenticate because it fails the freshness test of  $T_1$ . Suppose that  $\mathcal{A}$  changes the time stamp  $T_1$  with the new timestamp  $T_e$  to pass the freshness test; this attempt will also fail to authenticate because  $T_e$  is used to compute  $B_1^* = h(K_i || T_e)$  and  $B_2^* = h(T_e || R_i || B_1^*)$  where  $K_i = h(V_i || G_j)$ , while communicated  $B_2 = h(T_1 || R_i || B_1)$

where  $B_1 = h(K_i||T_1)$  is computed using  $T_1$ ;  $B_2^*$  and  $B_2$  will be different. For the same reason, attacker  $\mathcal{A}$  could not replay the messages  $\{f_7, f_8, T_4\}$   $\{C_1, C_2, T_3\}$  and  $\{f_4, f_5, f_6, T_2\}$  communicated among  $SN_k$ ,  $GW_j$ , and  $U_i$ .

**5.2g PG attack:** Assuming that  $\mathcal{A}$  can extract  $\{D_2, HB_i, f_3, A_i, h(\cdot)\}$  from the  $SC$  of  $U_i$ , where  $D_2 = V_i \oplus h(G_j)$ ,  $f_3 = K_i \oplus h(C_i||P_i)$ ,  $K_i = h(V_i||G_j)$ ,  $P_i = h(PW_i||B_i)$ ,  $C_i = h(ID_i||B_i)$  and  $HB_i = h(P_i||C_i||B_i)$ . Attacker  $\mathcal{A}$  can guess low entropy user identity ( $ID_i^*$ ) and password ( $PW_i^*$ ), but to check the correctness of  $ID_i^*$  and  $PW_i^*$ ,  $\mathcal{A}$  must compute  $P_i$  and  $C_i$ ; to do this  $\mathcal{A}$  needs  $B_i$ , where  $B_i$  is generated by a fuzzy extractor using biometric information of the user. Hence, it is hard to guess  $B_i$  and without  $B_i$ ,  $\mathcal{A}$  cannot verify the correctness of guessed  $UID_i$  and  $PW_i$ . Hence, the attacker cannot guess  $U_i$ 's  $UID_i$  and  $PW_i$  from the  $SC$ . User identity is not communicated with the  $GW_j$  or  $SN_k$ , so that computing  $U_i$ 's identity from intercepted messages is not possible.

**5.2h Sensor node anonymity:** According to our attack model,  $\mathcal{A}$  can eavesdrop communicated messages between  $GW_j$  and  $SN_k$ , i.e.  $\{f_4, f_5, f_6, T_2\}$  and  $\{C_1, C_2, T_3\}$  where  $f_4 = h(SID_k||M_1||SIX_k||R_i||T_2)$ ,  $f_5 = (R_i||R_j) \oplus h(SIX_k||T_2)$ ,  $f_6 = M_1 \oplus h(SID_k||SIX_k||R_i)$ ,  $C_1 = h(SK_i||R_k||SID_k||SIX_k||M_1||T_3)$  and  $C_2 = R_k \oplus h(SIX_k||R_j)$ .  $\mathcal{A}$  cannot guess or compute  $SN_k$ 's identity ( $SID_k$ ), as  $SID_k$  is secured with the hash function.

**5.2i SNC attack:** According to our attack model,  $\mathcal{A}$  can physically capture  $SN_k$ , and retrieve the information stored at the sensor node, i.e.  $\{SID_k, SIX_k\}$  where  $SIX_k = h(SID_k||X_c)$ .  $\mathcal{A}$  can compute  $R_i, R_j$  and  $R_k$  as well as  $SK_i$  for the current session with  $SN_k$  and send wrong data to  $U_i$ , but attacker  $\mathcal{A}$  cannot compute any secret parameter of  $U_i$  or  $GW_j$ , as  $\mathcal{A}$  can use  $SIX_k$  and time stamp  $T_2$  to extract  $(R_i||R_j) = f_5 \oplus h(SIX_k||T_2)$  and  $M_1 = f_6 \oplus h(SID_k||SIX_k||R_i)$  where  $M_1 = h(V_i||R_j)$ .  $\mathcal{A}$  cannot compute  $V_i$  from  $M_1$  as  $V_i$  is secured with the hash function, and  $R_j$  is a session-specific random number, so  $M_1$  cannot be used for other sessions.

Attacker  $\mathcal{A}$  can use  $R_i$  to compute  $B_1$  from  $B_3$ , i.e.  $B_1 = B_3 \oplus R_i$  where  $B_1 = h(K_i||T_1)$  and  $K_i = h(V_i||G_j)$ . Because  $T_1$  is included in the computation of  $B_1$ , it will be different for the distinct session and cannot be used for different sessions. Thus,  $\mathcal{A}$  can compute  $B_1, M_1, R_i, R_j, R_k$  and  $SK_i$  using  $SID_k$  and  $SIX_k$ . However, all parameters contain session-specific values and are calculated for the particular session.  $\mathcal{A}$  cannot get any secret parameters of  $U_i$ ,  $GW_j$  or any other sensor node and cannot affect other sessions by capturing a sensor node.

**5.2j Sensor node impersonation attack:**  $\mathcal{A}$  can impersonate as  $SN_k$  if he can compute valid message  $\{C_1, C_2, T_3\}$  based on the parameters of the message  $\{f_4, f_5, f_6, T_2\}$  transmitted from  $GW_j$  to  $SN_k$ , where  $C_1 = h(SK_i||R_k||SID_k||SIX_k||M_1||T_3)$ ,  $C_2 = R_k \oplus h(SIX_k||R_j)$  and  $M_1 = h(V_i||R_j)$  are

dependent on secret parameters ( $SID_k, SIX_k$  and  $V_i$ ) and session-specific values ( $R_i, R_j$  and  $R_k$ ), which are impossible to guess in polynomial time and secured by hash function. Therefore,  $\mathcal{A}$  cannot impersonate as  $SN_k$ .

**5.2k Gateway impersonation attack:** In the proposed scheme, there are two possible cases for  $\mathcal{A}$  impersonating as  $GW_j$ . Case 1: when  $GW_j$  transmits the message  $\{f_4, f_5, f_6, T_2\}$  to  $SN_k$ ,  $\mathcal{A}$  can eavesdrop, intercept or alter the message. In this scheme, an attacker  $\mathcal{A}$  cannot create another valid message as  $f_4 = h(SID_k||M_1||SIX_k||R_i||T_2)$ ,  $f_5 = (R_i||R_j) \oplus h(SIX_k||T_2)$  and  $f_6 = M_1 \oplus h(SID_k||SIX_k||R_i)$ , calculation of  $f_4, f_5$ , and  $f_6$  depends on secret parameters ( $SID_k, SIX_k$  and  $V_i$ ) and session-specific values ( $R_i, R_j$  and  $R_k$ ). Case 2: when  $GW_j$  replies to the user with the message  $\{f_7, f_8, T_4\}$  where  $f_7 = h(SK_i||R_j||R_k||T_4||K_i)$ ,  $f_8 = (R_i||R_k) \oplus h(K_i||R_i)$  and  $K_i = h(V_i||G_j)$ , to compute a valid message attacker requires the knowledge of secret parameters ( $V_i$  and  $G_j$ ) and session-specific values ( $R_i, R_j$  and  $R_k$ ), which are secured by hash function and impossible to guess with polynomial time complexity. Hence, it is impossible for  $\mathcal{A}$  to impersonate as  $GW_j$ .

### 5.3 Formal security verification using AVISPA tool

Automated Validation of Internet Security Protocol (AVISPA) [36] is used for simulation and verification of authentication protocols, based on the Dolev and Yao's intruder model [37]. AVISPA has been integrated with GUI called Security Protocol Animator (SPAN) [38].

**5.3a Specification of our scheme:** The specification of our scheme is described briefly for the roles of  $RC$ ,  $U_i$ ,  $GW_j$  and  $SN_k$ . The role of  $RC$  in HLPSL is given in figure 5. In this role, when  $RC$  gets a start signal to initiate the registration

```

role regC (Ui, SNk, GWj, RC:agent,
SK1:symmetric_key,
%hashfunction
H: hash_func, Snd, Rcv: channel (dy) )
played_by RC
def=
local State : nat,
IDi, PWi, Bi, Ci, Pi, HBi, F3, B1, T1, T2, T3, T4,
SIXk, Xc, Gj, Ri, Rj, Rk, TGi: text,
GIDj, SIDk, Vi, B2, B3, F4, F5, F6, C1, C2, F7, F8: message,
const u_gw, gw_sn, sn_u, reg_center, sec1, sec2, sec3, sec4,
sec5, sec6, sec7: protocol_id

init State :=0
transition
%Start registration phase of the user
1.State=0/\Rcv(start) =>
State' :=1/\Xc' :=new()
/\GIDj' :=new()
/\Gj' :=h(GIDj'.Xc')
/\SIDk' :=new()
/\SIXk' := h(SIDk'.Xc')
/\Snd((GIDj'.Gj'.SIDk'.SIXk')_SK1)
/\Snd((SIDk'.SIXk')_SK1)
/\secret((Xc), sec3, RC)
/\secret((Gj), sec4, (RC, GWj) )
/\secret((SIXk), sec5, (RC, SNk, GWj))
end role

```

**Figure 5.** Role specification of  $RC$ .

```

role user (Ui, SNk, GWj, RC:agent,
SK1:symmetric_key,
%hashfunction
H:hash_func,Snd,Rcv: channel (dy) )
played_by Ui
def=
local State : nat,
IDi, Pwi, Bi, Ci, Pi, HBi, D2, F3, L2, B1, T1, T2,
T3, T4, SIXk, Xc, Gj, Ri, Rj, Rk, TGi, SKi, Ki:text,
GIDj, SIDk, Vi, B2, B3, F4, F5, F6, C1, C2, F7, F8:message,
const u_gw, gw_sn, sn_u, reg_center, sec1, sec2,
sec3, sec4, sec5, sec6, sec7:protocol_id
init State:=0
transition
%Start registration phase of the user
1.State=0/\Rcv(start)=|>
State':=1
/\Ci':=h(IDi.Bi)
/\Pi':=h(Pwi.Bi)
%Send registration request to the GWj
/\Snd({Ci'.Pi'}_SK1)
/\secret({IDi,Pwi,Bi}, sec1, Ui)
2.State=1/\Rcv({D2.F3}_SK1)=|>
%Receives smart card information from GWj
State':=2/\HBi':= h(Pi.Ci.Bi)|
%State' :=2
/\Ri':=new()/\T1':=new()
/\L2':=xor(D2,T1')
/\Ki':=xor(F3, h(Ci,Pi))
/\B1':=h(Ki'.T1')
/\B2':=h(T1',Ri'.B1')
/\B3':=xor((Ri'),B1')
/\Snd(L2',B2',B3',T1')
%Send login message to the GWj
/\witness(Ui,GWj,u_gw, Ri')
/\secret({Ri'}, sec2, (Ui,Gwj,SNk))
/\request(Ui,GWj,u_gw, Ri')
3.State=2/\Rcv(F4,F7,xor((Rj.Rk),h(Ki.Ri)),T4 )=|>
%Receives messages from GWj
State':=3 /\SKi' := h(Ri.Rj.Rk)
/\F7' := h(SKi'.Rj.Rk.T4.Ki)
end role

```

**Figure 6.** Role specification of  $U_i$ .

of  $GW_j$  and  $SN_k$ ,  $RC$  uses  $new()$  to generate  $GID_j'$  and computes  $G_j'$  as secret of  $GW_j$ .

To register  $SN_k$ ,  $RC$  generates  $SIDk'$  using  $new()$  and computes  $SIXk'$  as shared secret of  $GW_j$  and  $SN_k$ . Afterwards,  $RC$  sends  $\{SIDk', SIXk'\}$  and  $\{GID_j', G_j', SIDk', SIXk'\}$  securely to  $SN_k$  and  $GW_j$ .

The role of  $U_i$  is given in figure 6.  $U_i$  receives the start signal and sends the registration request  $(Ci, Pi)$  to  $GW_j$  through private channel. Afterwards,  $U_i$  receives  $(D2, F3)$  over private channel and stored into the  $SC$ .

Afterwards,  $U_i$  calculates  $HBi$  and uses  $new()$  operation to generate  $Ri'$  and  $T1'$ . Then,  $U_i$  sends  $(L2, B2, B3, T1)$  to  $GW_j$ . On receiving  $(F4, F7, xor((Rj.Rk), h(Ki.Ri)), T4)$  from  $GW_j$  over a public channel,  $U_i$  computes  $SKi' := h(Ri.Rj.Rk)$ .

The role of the gateway is presented in figure 7. In transition 1,  $GW_j$  receives  $(GIDj, Gj, SIDk, SIXk)$  through secure channel. On receiving registration request from  $U_i$  through secure channel,  $GW_j$  generates  $Vi'$  and computes  $F3'$  and  $D2'$ . Then, it sends  $(D2, F3)$  to  $U_i$  via a secure channel.

In transition 3,  $GW_j$  receives the login request  $(L2, B2, B3, T1)$  from the  $U_i$  over an unsecure channel and uses  $new()$  operation to generate nonce  $Rj'$  and time stamp  $T2'$  and sends the message  $(F4, F5, F6)$  using  $Snd()$  operation. In transition 4, after receiving  $(C1, xor(Rk, h(SIXk.Rj)), T3)$  from  $SN_k$ , it sends  $(F7, F8, T4)$  to  $U_i$  over an unsecure channel.

```

role gateway (Ui, SNk, GWj, RC: agent,
SK1: symmetric_key,
%hash function
H: hash_func, Snd, Rcv: channel (dy) )
played_by GWj
def=
local State : nat,
IDi, Pwi, Bi, Ci, Pi, HBi, L2, D2, F3, B1, SKi,
T1, T2, T3, T4, SIXk, Xc, Gj, Ri, Rj, Rk, TGi, Ki, M1: text,
GIDj, SIDk, Vi, B2, B3, F4, F5, F6, C1, C2, F7, F8:message,
const u_gw, gw_sn, sn_u, reg_center, sec1, sec2,
sec3, sec4, sec5, sec6, sec7:protocol_id
init State:=0
transition
1.State=0/\Rcv({GIDj.Gj.SIDk.SIXk }_SK1)=|>
State':=1/\secret({Gj}, sec4, {RC, GWj })
2.State=1/\ Rcv ({Ci.Pi}_SK1)=|>
%Receives registration request message from user
State':=2/\Vi':=new()
/\F3':=xor(h(Vi'.Gj),h(Ci.Pi))
/\D2':=xor(Vi',h(Gj))
/\Snd({D2'.F3'}_SK1)
%Send smart card information securely
3.State=2/\Rcv(L2.B2.B3.T1)=|>
%Receives login message from user
State':=3/\Rj':=new()
/\T2':=new()
/\M1':=h(Vi.Rj')
/\F4':=h(SIDk .M1'.SIXk.Ri.T2')
/\F5':=xor((Ri.Rj'),h(SIXk.T2'))
/\F6':=xor(M1',h(SIDk.SIXk.Ri))
/\Snd(F4', F5',F6',T2')
%Send message to the sensor node
/\secret({Rj'}, sec6, {Ui,GWj,SNk})
/\request(GWj,SNk,gw_sn,Rj')
4.State=3/\Rcv(C1,xor(Rk,h(SIXk.Rj)),T3)=|>
State':=4/\T4':=new()
/\SKi':=h(Ri.Rj.Rk)
/\F7':=h(SKi'.Rj.Rk.T4'.Ki)
/\F8':=xor((Rj.Rk),h(Ki.Ri))
/\Snd(F7',F8',T4')
%Send message to the user
end role

```

**Figure 7.** Role specification of  $GW_j$ .

```

role snode (SNk, Ui, GWj, RC: agent,
SK1:symmetric_key,
%hash function
H:hash_func, Snd, Rcv:channel (dy))
played_by SNk
def=
local State: nat,
IDi, Pwi, Bi, Ci, Pi, HBi, F3, B1, T1, T2, T3, T4,
SIXk, Xc, Gj, Ri, Rj, Rk, TGi, SKi, M1:text,
GIDj, SIDk, Vi, B2, B3, F4, F5, F6, C1, C2, F7, F8:message,
const u_gw, gw_sn, sn_u, reg_center, sec1, sec2,
sec3, sec4, sec5, sec6, sec7: protocol_id
init State:=0
transition
%Start node registration phase
1.State=0/\Rcv({SIDk.SIXk}_SK1)=|>
State':=1/\secret({SIXk}, sec5, {RC, GWj, SNk})
2.State=1/\Rcv(F4,F5,F6,T2)=|>
%Receives message from GWj
State':=2/\Rk':=new()
/\T3':=new()
/\SKi':= h(Ri.Rj.Rk')
/\C1':= h(SKi'.Rk'.SIDk.SIXk.M1.T3')
/\C2':= xor(Rk',h(SIXk.Rj))
/\Snd(C1,C2,T3')
%Send message to the GWj
/\secret({Rk'}, sec7, {Ui, GWj, SNk})
/\witness(SNk,Ui,sn_u,Rk')
/\request(SNk,GWj,gw_sn,Rk')
end role

```

**Figure 8.** Role specification of  $SN_k$ .

The role of  $SN_k$  is presented in figure 8. In transition 1,  $SN_k$  securely receives  $(SIDk, SIXk)$  from the  $RC$ . In transition 2, on receiving  $(F4, F5, F6, T2)$  from  $GW_j$ ,  $SN_k$  uses

```

role environment()
def=
const ui,snk,gwj,rc:agent,
sk1:symmetric_key,
h:hash_func,
idi,pwi,bi,ci,pi,hbi,d2,f3,b1,t1,t2,t3,
t4,sixk,xc,gj,ri,rj,rk,tgi,gidj,sidk,vi,
l2,b2,b3,f4,f5,f6,c1,c2,f7,f8,ki:text,
u_gw_ri,gw_sn_rj,sn_u_rk,reg_center,
sec1,sec2,sec3,sec4,sec5,sec6,sec7: protocol_id
%Represents Intruder knowledge
intruder_knowledge=(ui, snk, gwj ,h, l2, b2, b3,
t1,t2,t3,t4, f4,f5, f6,c1,c2, f7,f8,d2,hbi,f3)
composition
session(ui, gwj, snk, rc, sk1, h)
/\session(ui, gwj, snk , rc, sk1 ,h)
/\session(ui, gwj, snk , rc, sk1 ,h)
/\session(ui, gwj, snk , rc, sk1 ,h)
end role
role session(Ui,SNk,GWj,RC:agent,
SK1:symmetric_key,
H:hash_func)
def=
local SI,SJ,RI,RJ,TI,TJ,PI,PJ:channel (dy)
composition
user(Ui,GWj,SNk,RC,SK1,H,SI,RI)
/\gateway(Ui,GWj,SNk,RC,SK1,H,SJ,RJ)
/\snode(Ui,GWj,SNk,RC,SK1,H,TI,TJ)
end role
goal
%Verifies secrecy of the confidential information
secrecy_of sec1
secrecy_of sec2
secrecy_of sec3
secrecy_of sec4
secrecy_of sec5
secrecy_of sec6
secrecy_of sec7
%Verifies authenticity of the random numbers
authentication_on u_gw_ri
authentication_on gw_sn_rj
authentication_on sn_u_rk
end goal

```

**Figure 9.** Role specification of environment, session and goal.

$new()$  to generate nonce  $Rk'$  and time stamp  $T3'$  and sends  $(C1, C2, T3)$  to the  $GW_j$  over a public channel.

The roles of session, environment and goal are given in figure 9. Session role initializes  $U_i$ ,  $GW_j$  and  $SN_k$  roles with actual parameters. The environment role contains global constants, information about intruder knowledge and the combination of one or more sessions.

```

% OFMC
% Version of 2006/02/13
SUMMARY
SAFE
DETAILS
BOUNDED_NUMBER_OF_SESSIONS
PROTOCOL
/home/span/span/testsuite/results/newscheme.if
GOAL
as_specified
BACKEND
OFMC
COMMENTS
STATISTICS
parseTime: 0.00s
searchTime: 0.16s
visitedNodes: 16 nodes
depth: 4 plies

```

**Figure 10.** Simulation results for OFMC back-end.

```

SUMMARY
SAFE
DETAILS
BOUNDED_NUMBER_OF_SESSIONS
TYPED_MODEL
PROTOCOL
/home/span/span/testsuite/results/newscheme.if
GOAL
As Specified
BACKEND
CL-AtSe
STATISTICS
Analysed : 0 states
Reachable : 0 states
Translation: 0.18 seconds
Computation: 0.00 seconds

```

**Figure 11.** Simulation results for CL-Atse back-end.

**5.3b Simulation result:** The AVISPA simulation results of the proposed scheme are given in this section. The HLPSL code of the proposed scheme has been simulated with SPAN to examine results. Figures 10 and 11 show simulation results for OFMC and CL-Atse back-end. Results show that the proposed scheme is safe.

## 6. Performance analysis

A comparison of our scheme to the related schemes regarding security features and computational cost are presented in this section. For comparison of computational cost, we included only the login and authentication phases for comparison as they are executed very frequently than registration and password change phase.

### 6.1 Security features

A comparison of the security features of our scheme with other relevant schemes is shown in table 2. Table 2 clearly shows that the proposed scheme covers all security features, while other schemes lack some of the security features.

### 6.2 Computational cost

The computational costs of schemes are given in table 3. Following notations are used in this table:  $T_E$  means time complexity of elliptic curve point multiplication,  $T_H$  means time complexity of hash operation,  $T_f$  means time complexity of fuzzy extractor operation and  $T_S$  means time complexity of symmetric encryption/decryption.

When we compare other schemes with our scheme, the proposed scheme has less computational cost than schemes given in [24, 22, 27, 31, 34]. The schemes are given in [1], and [39] has less computational cost in comparison with our scheme, but their schemes have some major security flaws (see table 2).

**Table 2.** Security features comparison.

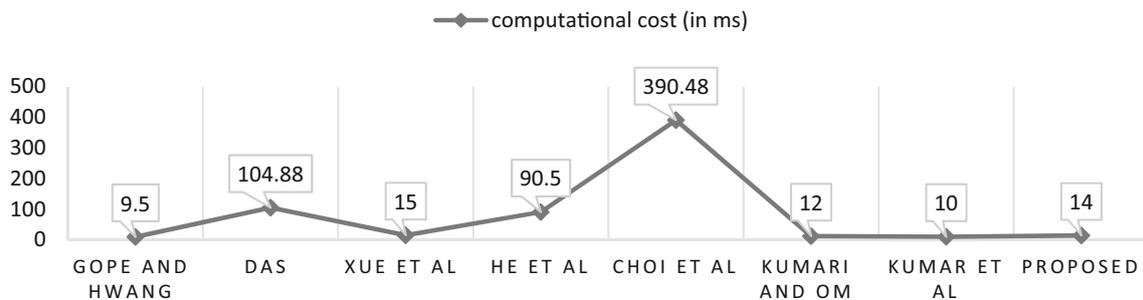
Security features	[39]	[34]	[27]	[24]	[22]	[31]	[1]	Proposed
Provide UA	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓
Provide SA	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓
Provide UT	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓
Resilient to UI attack	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
Resilient to SNI attack	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Resilient to PG attack	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Provide MA	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Resilient to SSK attack	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Resilient to SEE attack	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Provide FS	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓
Resilient to Replay attack	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Resilient to SV attack	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Resilient to SSC attack	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
Resilient to PI attack	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Resilient to DoS attack	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓
Resilient to SNC attack	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓

**Table 3.** Computational cost.

Schemes	$U_i$	$GW_j$	$SN_k$	Total
Gope and Hwang [39]	$7T_H$	$9T_H$	$3T_H$	$19T_H$
Das [34]	$6T_H + 1T_S + 1T_f$	$6T_H + 2T_S$	$2T_H + 1T_S$	$14T_H + 4T_S + 1T_f$
Xue <i>et al</i> [27]	$10T_H$	$14T_H$	$6T_H$	$30T_H$
He <i>et al</i> [24]	$4T_H + 3T_S$	$2T_H + 5T_S$	$1T_H + 2T_S$	$7T_H + 10T_S$
Choi <i>et al</i> [22]	$12T_H + 3T_E$	$5T_H + 1T_E$	$7T_H + 2T_E$	$24T_H + 6T_E$
Kumari and Om [31]	$10T_H$	$8T_H$	$6T_H$	$24T_H$
Kumar <i>et al</i> [1]	$8T_H$	$8T_H$	$4T_H$	$20T_H$
Proposed	$9T_H$	$13T_H$	$6T_H$	$28T_H$

**Table 4.** Estimated execution time (in ms).

Entities	[39]	[34]	[27]	[24]	[22]	[31]	[1]	Proposed
$U_i$	3.5	74.78	5	28.1	195.24	5	4	4.5
$GW_j$	4.5	20.4	7	44.5	65.58	4	4	6.5
$SN_k$	1.5	9.7	3	17.9	129.66	3	2	3
Total	9.5	104.88	15	90.5	390.48	12	10	14



**Figure 12.** Estimated execution time.

Different cryptographic operations take different amounts of time to execute; we used the approximate time given in [31, 40] for cryptographic operations to estimate the execution time. As  $T_H \approx 0.5$  ms,  $T_E \approx 63.08$  ms,  $T_S \approx 8.70$  ms and  $T_f \approx T_E$ . Table 4 and figure 12 present comparison of the estimated execution time of the proposed scheme with other related schemes.

## 7. Conclusion

Coal mining is one of the most dangerous industries. Continuous monitoring of the environmental parameters is needed to ensure safe coal production. Therefore, WSN technology can be used to monitor environmental parameters in coal mines. However, security is a crucial issue for WSN-based safety monitoring.

Recently, Kumar *et al* designed an authentication and key agreement scheme for WSN-based safety monitoring in coal mines. After a thorough analysis of Kumar *et al* scheme, we demonstrated that their scheme is unsafe against SNC attack, SSC attack and user impersonation attack. As a part of our contribution, we provided a biometric-based secure authentication framework for safety monitoring system in coal mines. We simulated the scheme on AVISPA tool. We formally analysed the security using the ROM and also performed informal security analysis. These analyses demonstrate that our scheme is secure and invulnerable to various known attacks. The proposed scheme is lightweight in terms of computations and requires only one two-way communication with sensors to achieve MA and key agreement as well as provides security from all the known attacks. Therefore, it is well suited for the coal mine environment; however, we can also apply it to other applications of WSN.

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