

# 一個植基於智慧卡的遠端使用者認證系統之安全分析

## Cryptanalysis of A Remote User Authentication Scheme Based on Smart Cards

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### 摘要

在這篇文章中，我們指出 Lee 等人的遠端認證系統中存有潛在的問題。明確地說，一個惡意的使用者可以使用自己的帳號及密碼，產生出系統未曾核准的帳號及密碼，並以此潛入系統而不被發現。

**關鍵詞：**安全分析、密碼認證、遠端登入及智慧卡

### Abstract

In this paper, we point out that there is a potential weakness in the remote user authentication scheme proposed by Lee, Ryu and Yoo. We show that a legitimate user can produce valid login messages using a pair of identification and password that are not issued by the server.

**Keywords:** cryptanalysis, password authentication, remote login and smart card

### 1. Introduction

Smart cards are often used in non-interactive remote user authentication schemes where the remote servers do not maintain password tables [2, 5, 7, 8]. Recently, Hwang and Li [4] constructed a remote user authentication scheme based on ElGamal's public key cryptosystem [3]. However, their scheme has a potential weakness [1], where a legitimate user can easily construct other pairs of  $(ID_j, PW_j)$ , which can be accepted by the system. In other words, legitimate users might provide other illegitimate users with the right to access

resources of the remote system.

In 2002, Lee et al. [6] proposed a fingerprint-based scheme, where the remote system uses two secret keys. They claimed to have improved the weakness in [4]. In this letter, we bring up a special trick to forge the login message, which can use  $n$  valid login messages to generate a  $O(n^2)$  candidate list of fake  $ID$ . If  $n$  is big enough, then the animus user can choose valid  $ID$  from the list, which satisfies the  $ID$  format. That is, Lee et al.'s improved scheme is still vulnerable to the  $ID$  forge attack as the system without strict  $ID$  format.

### 2. Brief description of Lee et al.'s scheme

The scheme is divided into three phases, the registration phase, the login phase, and the authentication phase.

In the registration phase, a user  $U_i$  will submit his identity  $ID_i$  to the system for registration. The system will then utilize  $ID_i$  to calculate user's password  $PW_i$  as bellow:

$$ID_i' = (ID_i)^{SK_1} \pmod p, \quad (2.1)$$

$$PW_i = (ID_i')^{SK_2} \pmod p. \quad (2.2)$$

Where  $SK_1$  and  $SK_2$  are secret keys of the system and  $p$  is a large prime. Afterward, the system will deliver  $PW_i$  to  $U_i$  through secure channel. Furthermore, the system will store  $(f, p)$  in the smart card, where  $f$  is a one-way function. Finally, the system will issue this card to  $U_i$ .

During the login phase, the user  $U_i$  must attaches smart card to the terminal, keys in his

$ID_i$  and  $PW_i$ , and imprints his fingerprint on the fingerprint device. Afterward, the smart card will perform the following steps:

1. Generate a random number  $r$  by making use of co-ordinates of minutia of input fingerprint.
2. Compute  $C_1 = (ID_i')^r \text{ mod } p$ . (2.3)
3. Compute  $t = f(T \oplus PW_i) \text{ mod } (p-1)$  (2.4)  
 $T$  is the current time of the input device and  $\oplus$  denotes an exclusive-or operation.
4. Compute  $M = (ID_i')^t \text{ mod } p$ . (2.5)
5. Compute  $C_2 = M(PW_i)^r \text{ mod } p$ . (2.6)
6. Send the request message  $C = (ID_i, C_1, C_2, T)$  to the remote system.

In the authentication phase, if the system receives the authentication message  $C$  at time  $T'$ . It will perform the following three operations:

1. Test the validity of  $ID_i$ . If the format of  $ID_i$  is incorrect, the system will reject  $U_i$ 's login request.
2. Check to see if  $T' - T \geq \Delta T$ . If it is true, then the system will reject  $U_i$ 's login request, where  $\Delta T$  is the legal transmission delay time.
3. Check to see if  
 $C_2(C_1^{SK_2})^{-1} \text{ mod } P = (ID_i^{SK_1})^{f(T \oplus PW_i)}$ . (2.7)  
 If it is true, then the system will accept  $U_i$ 's login request, else the system will reject  $U_i$ 's login request.

### 3. Cryptanalysis

Similar to the Chan-Cheng's attack, we have found a potential weakness in Lee et al.'s scheme. An attacker  $U_i$  can generate the login message  $C_f$  which can be accepted by the remote system without using the smart card. We will construct  $C_f$  by the following steps.

1. The animus user  $U_i$  generates n different legitimate login messages from her/his smart card, and put these login messages in a set  $LM$ .
2.  $U_i$  acquires two legitimate login messages  $C$  and  $C'$  from  $LM$ , where  $C = (ID_i, C_1, C_2, T)$  and  $C' = (ID_i, C_1', C_2', T')$ .
3.  $U_i$  computes  $t$  and  $t'$  by the public elements  $(f, p)$  and her/his password  $PW_i$ .

$$t = f(T \oplus PW_i) \text{ mod } (p-1), \quad (3.1)$$

$$t' = f(T' \oplus PW_i) \text{ mod } (p-1). \quad (3.2)$$

4.  $U_i$  computes

$$ID_f = (ID_i)^{(t-t')} \text{ mod } p. \quad (3.3)$$

$$\text{or } ID_f = (ID_i)^{(t+t')} \text{ mod } p \quad (3.3')$$

5. If  $ID_f$  does not satisfy the ID format of this system than go to step 2.

(We describe it in the subtraction operator  $(t-t')$  only to simplify the procedure.)

6.  $U_i$  computes

$$PW_f = (PW_i)^{(t-t')} \text{ mod } p, \quad (3.4)$$

$$\alpha = C_1(C_1')^{-1} \text{ mod } p, \quad (3.5)$$

$$\text{and } \beta = C_2(C_2')^{-1} \text{ mod } p. \quad (3.6)$$

From now on,  $U_i$  can impersonate another user  $U_f$  at time  $T_f$  by sending the forge login message  $C_f = (ID_f, f_1, f_2, T_f)$  to the remote system, where  $t_f$ ,  $f_1$ , and  $f_2$  are calculated by the following:

$$t_f = f(T_f \oplus PW_f) \text{ mod } (p-1), \quad (3.7)$$

$$f_1 = \alpha^{t_f} \text{ mod } p, \quad (3.8)$$

$$\text{and } f_2 = \beta^{t_f} \text{ mod } p. \quad (3.9)$$

Now, we show that the login message  $C_f(ID_f, f_1, f_2, T_f)$  can be accepted by the remote system.

Since

$$PW_i^r = (ID_i^{SK_1 * SK_2})^r = C_1^{SK_2} \text{ mod } p, \quad (3.10)$$

$$PW_i^{r'} = (ID_i^{SK_1 * SK_2})^{r'} = C_1'^{SK_2} \text{ mod } p, \quad (3.11)$$

$$\begin{aligned} PW_f &= (PW_i)^{(t-t')} \\ &= (ID_i^{SK_1 * SK_2})^{(t-t')} \\ &= (ID_i)^{SK_1 * SK_2} \text{ mod } p, \end{aligned} \quad (3.12)$$

$$\alpha = C_1(C_1')^{-1} = (ID_i')^{(r-r')} \text{ mod } p, \quad (3.13)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \beta &= C_2(C_2')^{-1} \\ &= (ID_i')^{(t-t')} * (PW_i)^{(r-r')} \\ &= (ID_i^{SK_1})^{(t-t')} * (ID_i')^{SK_2 * (r-r')} \\ &= (ID_i^{SK_1})^{(t-t')} * \alpha^{SK_2} \text{ mod } p. \end{aligned} \quad (3.14)$$

Moreover,

$$f_2 = \beta^{t_f} = [(ID_i^{SK_1})^{(t-t')} * \alpha^{SK_2}]^{t_f}, \quad (3.15)$$

and

$$(f_1^{SK_2})^{-1} = [\alpha^{t_f}]^{-SK_2} = [\alpha^{-SK_2}]^{t_f} \text{ mod } p. \quad (3.16)$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} f_2 * (f_1^{SK_2})^{-1} &= [(ID_i^{SK_1})^{(t-t')} * \alpha^{SK_2}]^{t_f} * [\alpha^{-SK_2}]^{t_f} \\ &= (ID_i^{SK_1})^{(t-t')t_f} \\ &= (ID_i^{SK_1})^{f(T_f \oplus PW_f)} \text{ mod } p. \end{aligned} \quad (3.17)$$

If the attacker has  $n$  different valid login messages, then he has  $2(n^2-n)$ 's chances to get a valid identities.

#### 4. Concluding Remarks

In this letter, we have shown a potential weakness of Lee et al.'s scheme. More precisely, an attacker can produce valid login messages using forged  $(ID_f, PW_f)$  if the format of  $ID_f$  is correct. Similarly, the attack of Chan and Cheng to Hwang-Li can succeed only if they can produce correct  $ID$  format. Therefore, checking the correctness of the  $ID$  format is very important in these schemes.

#### Acknowledgement

This research was supported by the Communication Software Technology project of Institute for Information Industry and sponsored by MOEA, R.O.C

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