

# Provably Secure Authentication And Key Agreement Protocol For The Internet Of Things-Based Wireless Body Area Network

Sunil Kumar Meena<sup>1</sup>, Deepak Ranga<sup>2</sup>, Dixit Kumar<sup>2</sup>, And Sunil Prajapat<sup>2\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>department Of Mathematics, Delhi Technological University, Delhi, India.

<sup>2</sup>srinivasa Ramanujan Department Of Mathematics, Central University Of Himachal Pradesh, India.,

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## Abstract

The extensive utilization of mobile devices, sensors, wireless sensor networks, and the growing Internet of Things (IoT) has inspired the medical and healthcare communities to recruit IoT to measure, gather data, and communicate with patients. Wireless body area networks are prominent in the medical field. Wireless body area networks comprise several wirelessly communicating wear-able or implanted devices. These conventionally assemble the physical facts of the wearer and verbalize them to a server. Recently, many protocols have been proposed with security-assisted health data transfer techniques. As a result, we propose a reliable authentication technique for WBAN. In this technique, hash and X-OR operation topologies are being utilized. And we have also shown that the Burrows-Abadi-Needham (BAN) logic accuracy of the mutual authentication between the patient and medical server is demonstrated using common sense.

**Keywords:** Internet of medical Things (IoMT), authentication, security, Wire- less body area networks.

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## I. Introduction

In today's circumstances, the conception of a wireless body area network (WBAN) is taking control of the medical area. WBAN is a characteristic of sensor systems that associate humans with the health services they provide to interchange condemnatory health data. Health data contains important information about humans, their progenitive effects, behavioral details, etc. [1, 2]. The medical Internet of Things, formulated by the IoT and pharmaceutical industries, is growing quickly, and the WBAN is an essential part of it [3]. WBAN contains low-cost devices around the human body to assist in various applications, including medical. In WBAN, critical wearable and implanted devices observe various information from sensors deployed in the human body [4].

The WBAN sensor node should ensure that the body signal is reliably sensed, carry out the bare minimum of analysis on the detector, and then wirelessly transmit the pro-cessed signal to a nearby processing unit. Although, due to the typical characteristics of WBAN, it encounters a number of problems, including those relating to the quality of service (QOS), energy efficiency, privacy, and security [5]. WBAN health-observing systems fascinate researchers' observations. The WBAN is a new and promising tech- nology that will revolutionize people's healthcare experiences. WBAN health surveil- lance systems offer patients continuous monitoring of physiological signals in addition to their typical advantages of being affordable, reliable, and simplistic, which is highlybeneficial for the elderly population [6].

Wireless physiological data tracking to a system while using a communication con- nection to send essential real-time signs from wearable sensor apparatus to a central network supervisor. The patient's wireless devices gather physiological health indica- tors and immediately send the information to the doctors. WBAN enables its users to remain at home for small issues, decreasing the need for frequent hospitalizations, and to visit only when a significant health problem arises, lowering medicine costs [7].

## Related Work

Back in 2012, an authentication protocol using electrocardiograms was put forward by Zhang *et al.* [8] so to reduce the optimization cost, but it failed to provide safety against Sybil, wormhole, and sink attacks, etc. Afterward, Liu *et al.* [9] provided a certificate- less signature ECC agreement and used bi-linear pairing to stand with forgery attacks and offer user anonymity. But later it was found that the Liu *et al.* [9] protocol could not provide security against impersonation and insider vulnerability.

Later, to provide great security, Das *et al.* [10] utilized biometric information in their protocol focusing on WBAN and used a symmetric key cryptosystem for rea- sonable computational cost. And provided security against various vulnerabilities, but could not satisfy user anonymity. Further, a bi-linear pairing authentication

protocol was given by Jiang *et al.* [11] while using an asymmetric key cryptosystem for WBAN, but the computational cost was extensively high for the WBAN environment. Later, a to-factor authentication scheme was suggested by Wu *et al.* [12] in WBAN, but it failed to provide safety against stolen smart cards, password guessing, replay attacks, etc., and the optimization cost was not satisfied in the WBAN environment. Hence, in 2017, Arya *et al.* [13] put forward an enhanced user authentication agreement in the WBAN environment. And provide great resistance against insider, replay, plain text, fake sensor attacks, etc., which were inappropriate for frequently transmitting sensitive data in the respective environment. After that, mutual authentication and key agreement were recommended by Koya and Deepthi [14] to resist impersonation and forgery. And they claim their scheme is secure against various vulnerabilities but does not account for sensor node capture and replay attacks. To improve the performance and to re- solve the Koya and Deepthi [14] protocol vulnerabilities, Kompara *et al.* [15] came up with an alternative agreement. But the Kompara *et al.* [15] agreement could not account for stolen smart cards or replay attacks, and even the computation cost was not satisfactory. Freshly, Xu *et al.* [16] proposed an authentication and key agreement protocol to overcome the requirement, but it almost has a high communication cost and is also vulnerable to impersonation and stolen smart card attacks. Besides, it does not maintain user privacy. Hence, the authentication protocol for WBAN was presented by Fotouhi *et al.* [17] to reduce the computational overhead and preserve authenticity. Further, it is vulnerable to replay, stolen smart cards, and impersonation attacks. After that, Kasyoka *et al.* [18] proposed a certificate-less access agreement to preserve safety in WBAN. Moreover, it cannot maintain security against impersonation attacks. Further, the use of several operations will increase the computational value. Eventually, in 2021, an authentication scheme utilizing the hash function was put forward by Hussain *et al.* [19]. Although it was unable to safeguard the scheme from impersonation and replay attacks.

## II. Elliptic Curve Cryptography

Due to its small weight and extremely tight closure, the elliptic curve over finite fields algebraic form, which serves as the substructure for the public key encryption method known as ECC, may furthermore be used to generate cryptographic keys more quickly, effectively and securely [20].  $F_q$  is designate an elliptic curve over the prime finite field  $F_q$  is given  $y^2 = x^3 + ax + b \pmod q$ , where  $a, b \in F_q$ .  $F_q$  is an equation for an elliptic curve over  $F_q$ . Assuming that  $q$  is an enormous prime integer. If  $4a^3 + 27b^2 \pmod q = 0$ , the elliptic curve is believed to be non-singular. Of the use of indicates for every problem, a group of additive events with order  $q$  is composed. The operation of scale multiplication is described as  $nP = P + P + \dots + P$  ( $n$  times), where  $n \in F_q$  is a positive integer, given a generator  $P$  of the group  $G$  [21]. Right here, we describe some intractable troubles as observed:

1. **Computational Diffie-Hellman Problem:** It is intractable to compute  $mnP$  if there factors  $P \in mP$ , and  $nP$  are given, where  $m, n \in F_q^*$  [20].
2. **Elliptic Curve Discrete Logarithm Problem:** Given that two factors are  $Q$  and  $P$  on an elliptic curve, it is tough to locate  $m \in F_q^*$ . Such that  $Q = mP$ .

### System Modal

This section will review the device modal for the cautious technique, which includes three parties transmitting WBAN data. The following describes each participant's registration, authentication, and key agreement phases.

### Registration Center authority

The central trustworthy organization that registers patients must install the medical server under its control for registered patients to utilize the relevant service offered by the medical server. This is known as the registration center authority (RCA); the RCA maintains data about registered patients in a secure database and routinely transmits database data over a secure network to the installed medical server [22].

### Medical Server

An entity must communicate the required information to make medical accommodations to legitimate patients. Nevertheless, the medical server first verifies the legitimacy of the patient and the request by examining the patient's credentials and the request time stamp. The medical server also has direct access to the RCA database, utilized during the authentication stage.

1. **Patient** To determine the patient's health status, the patient utilizes a confidently sophisticated wearable contrivance to accumulate genuine-time health information from the patient's body and send it to the medical server to implement various cryptographic schemes for mutual authentication between the patient and the medical server for exchanging communication, which an impatiently smart wearable system accommodates as the patients.

**Proposed Scheme**

All the Notation used in this paper are given in the table 1.

**Table 1: Notation used in the scheme.**

Notation	Explanation
$Pa_i$	A Patient
$ID_u$	Identity of $Pa_i$
$PW_u$	Password of $Pa_i$
$SC_p$	Smart card of $Pa_i$
$SD_u$	Smart device of $Pa_i$
$MS_s$	Medical server
$PID_p$	A Pseudo identity of $Pa_i$
$x_p/b_p/c_s/a_j$	Generated random nonce for $Pa_i$ and $MS_s$
$RCA$	A large prime number
$DBR$	The Registration center authority
$PK_{SV}$	The secure database of RCA
$\Delta T$	Private key of $MS_s$
$t_1/t_3/t_2$	An Attacker
$\parallel$	Time-stamp at $Pa_i$ end
$\oplus$	Time-stamp at $MS_s$ side
$h(.)$	Threshold time period
$H(.)$	Concatenation function
	Bit-wise XOR function
	One-way hash function
	Bio-Hash function

**Initial Setup step**

The registration center authority (RCA) generates a distinct hospital identification ( $ID_H$ ) of 128 bits to establish a private key for medical server ( $MS_s$ ) as  $(PK_{MS_s}) = h(R_{MS_s} T_{MS_s} ID_H)$ , where  $T_{MS_s}$  is the starting timestamp of server and  $R_{MS_s}$  is a random nonce. RCA securely maintains  $PK_{MS_s}$  in the server and its databases. In addition, the server often establishes a secure channel connection with RCA to obtain the most current database of freshly enrolled patients.

**Patients Registration Step**

A patient  $Pa_i$  enrolls with RCA to get future services from the server lawfully  $Pa_i$  then performs the subsequent moves through a secure channel.

- (a)  $Pa_i$  choose  $ID_u$ ,  $PW_u$  and Biometric feature  $B_p$  and calculate  $PB_p = PW_u H(B_p)$ . Now,  $Pa_i$  selects a random number  $x_p$  and compute a pseudo identity,  $PID_p = h(x_p || ID_u)$ . After, that, ( $Pa_i$ ) transfer  $PID_p$ ,  $PB_p$  to registration center authority.
- (b) the RCA calculate  $A_i = h(PID_p || PK_{MS_s})$  where  $PK_{MS_s}$  is a private key for the  $MS_s$ . After that compute  $E_i = A_i \oplus h(PID_p || PB_p)$ . Now RCA generates a large prime number ' $a_j$ ' to calculate  $G_i = E_i \oplus A_i \oplus h(a_j)$ ,  $F_i = h(E_i || h(a_j) || PK_{MS_s})$ . After that, RCA stores  $E_i$ ,  $G_i$ ,  $PID_p$ , and  $A_i$  in its secure database. Further, RCA saves  $E_i$ ,  $G_i$ , and  $F_i$  in  $SC_p$  and installs it in a smart device ( $SD_u$ ), and it sends this smart card to the  $Pa_i$  through a secure channel.
- (c) After getting the smart card,  $Pa_i$  calculates one more parameter  $Z_i$  as  $Z_i = ID_u || PB_p || x_p$ . Then  $Pa_i$  store  $Z_i$  in the smart card and install it in the smart device ( $SD_u$ ) for future communication.

**Authentication and Key Agreement Step**

$Pa_i$  should establish their legality based on their credentials before requesting medical services from the  $MS_s$  or exchanging health data with it. To submit a message request to  $MS_s$  for user authentication, a smart device ( $SD_u$ ) computes a message request. The suggested technique provides mutual authentication by having  $MS_s$  send a computed response message to  $Pa_i$ , confirming  $MS_s$  authenticity at  $Pa_i$  end if the request received is legitimate. If so,  $Pa_i$ 's and  $MS_s$ 's calculate a temporary session key to communicate vital health information via a public channel. These specific actions are as follows.

- (d)  $Pa_i$  insert  $ID_u$ ,  $PW_u$  and Bio metric feature  $B_p$  into  $SD_u$  to compute  $PB_p = PW_u \oplus H(B_p)$  and calculate  $x_p = ID_u \oplus PB_p \oplus Z_i$ ,  $PID_p = h(x_p || ID_u)$ . After that,  $A'_i = E_i \oplus h(PID_p || PB_p)$  and verifies  $A'_i = A_i$ . If both are equal,  $SD_u$  takes a random nonce ' $b_p$ ' to enumerate,  $h(a_j) = G_i \oplus E_i \oplus A_i$ ,

$C_i = h(a_j) \oplus h(A_i \| PID_p) \oplus b_p, D_i = h(PID_p \| b_p \| A_i \| t_1)$ ,  $SD_u$  sends  $\{PID_p, C_i, D_i, t_1\}$  towards the  $MS_s$  to prove the legality of  $Pa_i$ .

(e)  $MS_s$  does  $\Delta T \leq t_2 - t_1$  to check the validity of  $\{PID_p, C_i, D_i, t_1\}$ . If valid, the  $MS_s$  calculate  $h(a_j) = G_i \oplus E_i \oplus A_i, b_p = h(a_j) \oplus h(A_i \| PID_p) \oplus C_i, D'_i = h(PID_p \| b_p \| A_i \| t_1)$  to confirm  $D'_i = D_i$ . If both are equal, the  $MS_s$  generates a random number  $c_s$ . After that,  $MS_s$ 's enumerate  $R_i = h(c_s \| t_2) \oplus h(D_i \| h(a_j) \| b_p), S_i = h(b_p \| h(c_s \| t_2) \| h(a_j) \| t_1)$ . At the end, session key  $K_{s_i} = h(PID_p \oplus h(a_j) \oplus h(c_s \| t_2) \oplus b_p)$  is computed by  $MS_s$  and transfer  $\{R_i, S_i, t_2\}$  to  $SD_u$  for mutual authentication.

(f)  $SD_u$  verifies the validity of  $\{R_i, S_i, t_2\}$  through  $\Delta T \leq t_3 - t_2$ . If it is within  $\Delta T$ , then  $SD_u$  compute  $h(c_s \| t_2) = h(D_i \| h(a_j) \| b_p) \oplus R_i, S'_i = h(b_p \| h(c_s \| t_2) \| h(a_j) \| t_1)$  for  $S'_i = S_i$ . If equal, then the  $SD_u$  calculates the session key  $K_{p_i} = h(PID_p \oplus h(a_j) \oplus h(c_s \| t_2) \oplus b_p)$ . So,  $K_{p_i} = K_{s_i}$  is equal; this is how the session key is shared between  $SD_u$  and  $MS_s$ . Sensitive information is exchanged between  $SD_u$  and  $MS_s$  via session key, which is only valid for a short time. Both parties must go through the authentication steps again if  $p_i$  has expired.

### III. Security Analysis

#### Informal Security Analysis

In this part, according to this security study's recommendations, we analyze the recommended protocols' protection and accuracy in light of server attacks. The recommended protocol is stated to be firmly closed against a number of possible attacks in the following section.

2. *The proposed scheme facilitates user anonymity:*

The patient's anonymity indicates that the  $Pa_i$  identifying  $ID_u$  is private. Because 'A' must know the server's private key and the random nonces generated by both the patients and server to assess  $ID_u$ , our technique makes it easier for patients to maintain their anonymity. As a result, it is impossible to identify a patient who took part in the authentication. Additionally, they do not directly send  $ID_u$  among all public communication.

3. *The proposed scheme secures against an impersonation attack:*

The recommended method allows for the possibility of impersonation attacks if an adversary 'A' can compile login credentials  $PID_p, C_i$ , and  $D_i$  on behalf of the legitimate patient and s/he obtains  $R_i, S_i$  and  $t_2$  from  $MS_s$  to establish a connection for the transmission of health data. However, the following justification explains why A cannot execute this attack due to a lack of required values. To produce a new login request with the most recent timestamp, 'A' requires  $PID_p, C_i, D_i$  and  $t_1$ . If A modifies the time stamp and sends it to the  $MS_s$ , the  $MS_s$  check the time stamp, and the test is clear, but 'A,' however, disregard the  $MS_s$  side verification of  $D'_i = D_i$ , due to 'A' lack of  $h(a_j)$  and  $A_i$ . In  $A_i$ , we used password ( $PW_u$ ) and bio-metric feature ( $B_p$ ) such parameters are impossible to know by 'A', so A lack of sending a fake request is not an option. Consequently, the attacker is unable to launch an impersonation attack.

4. *The proposed scheme secures against offline password guessing attack:* Parameters  $E_i, G_i, F_i, Z_i$  can be stored on a smart card. If 'A' successfully steals the smart card even then, then none of the smart card's values hold the password directly. The attacker 'A' must first determine  $A_i = E_i \oplus h(PID_p \oplus PB_p)$ , and then  $PB_p = PW_u \oplus H(B_p)$ . Even if  $PB_p$  passwords are kept, they are protected using X-OR operation and  $H(B_p)$ . Similarly, the patient's password  $PW_u$  is not sent in plain text. Consequently, a password-guessing attack using this approach is not feasible in polynomial time.

5. *The proposed scheme secures against replay attack:*

Consider a replay attack where the attacker endeavors to block or interrupt the transmission. So that a patient cannot connect to the  $MS_s$  or an attacker cannot engage in unlawful department by sending a message again. Each transmitted message includes a timestamp according to the proposed protocol among  $Pa_i$  and  $MS_s$ . When  $MS_s$  gets the request message from  $Pa_i$ , it does a  $T \leq t_2 - t_1$  to verify the precision of the time. The session will be ended if this check fails. Further,  $Pa_i$  probably does check  $T \leq t_3 - t_2$  to determine whether the challenge message from  $MS_s$  contains an incipient of time. Further, difficult parameters are computed utilizing the timestamp, preventing an attacker from doing destructive

actions using an incipient timestamp. Therefore, the suggested protocol does not support a replay attack.

6. *The proposed scheme secures against smart-card lost attack:*

Assume that, A obtains the patient’s smart card in some manner and receives the values  $E_i, G_i, F_i, Z_i$  from it. Now that the patient’s health data may be unlaw- fully sent by connecting to the medical server using stored credentials from the smart card, a smart-card lost attack is conceivable. However, for attacker A to be aware of the secret data and parameters,  $PB_p = PW_u H(B_p)$  is needed. There- fore, attacker A continues to be helpless in stealing the patient’s smart card. The suggested system, therefore, defends against a smart-card loss attack.

**BAN Logic**

In this section, the BAN logic of the proposed scheme. The notations used in the proof are included in the following table, along with their definitions.

**Table 2: Notation of BAN Logic**

Symbols	Description
$u_1, u_2$	Two principals
$r_1, r_2, SK$	Two statements The session key $u_1$
$u_1   \equiv r_1 u_1$	believes $r_1 u_1$ once said $r_1 u_1$
$\sim r_1 u_1 \Rightarrow$	controls $r_1 u_1$ receives $r_1 u_1$ is fresh
$r_1 u_1   \notin r_1$	$r_1$ is encrypted with $K$
$\#r_1 (r_1)K$	$u_1$ and $u_2$ have a shared key $SK$
$SK$	
$u_1 \longleftrightarrow u_2$	

**IV. Conclusion**

WBAN is emerging as a salient strategy in the healthcare field. This inductively sanc- tioning network allows transmitting the statistics from the medical patient to the medical server without barring any dislocation. WBAN promises a technological understanding that will revolutionize people’s healthcare experiences. In the WBAN, protection per- forms a principal function, as the neighborhood accommodates sensitive information that must be maintained confidentially. We cautioned for a better WBAN authentica- tion system. To show that it is tightly closed towards various Kenned assaults, we have informally explored its protection analysis. Using BAN logic, we confirmed that our protocol meets its protection objectives and presents secure authentication and key set- tlement between the user and host. The incrementation of the Internet of Things (IoT) will set up an incipient revolution for WBAN.

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