

# MAKA: Provably Secure Multi-factor Authenticated Key Agreement Protocol

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## Abstract

Remote authentication is important to protect a networked server against malicious remote logins in complex systems, it is also the most efficient method to determine the identity of a remote user. Recently, Li et al. proposed an enhanced smart card based remote user password authentication scheme, referred to as LNKL scheme. In this paper, we first analyze LNKL scheme and show their scheme is vulnerable to key compromise impersonation attack and smart card impersonated attack. Besides, LNKL scheme does not provide user's anonymity and privacy protection. LNKL scheme still has some design flaws such as non-repairability. Furthermore, LNKL scheme adopts two-factor authentication (password and smart-card), which are easily compromised. Based on LNKL scheme and biometrics-based multi-factor authentication, an improved multi-factor authentication (short for MAKA) is proposed in this paper, which not only keeps the merits of LNKL scheme, but also achieves more security features. In addition, the MAKA protocol can be formally proved securely against passive and active attacks under the computational Diffie-Hellman problem assumption in the random oracle model. As a result, it is more well-suited for mobile application scenarios where resource is constrained and security is concerned.

**Keywords:** Multi-factor authentication, Biometrics, Random oracle model, Computational Diffie-Hellman problem (CDHP)

## 1 Introduction

With the rapid development of ubiquitous computing, most users access remote networks and get services. In order to obtain the trusted services, mutual authentication between the user and the server is the most important mechanism [1]. In distributed systems, single-factor and two-factor authentication are vulnerable to the simple dictionary attack [2]. Hence,

multi-factor authentication becomes very important both in theory and in practice. Furthermore, with the development of e-commerce, e-banking, and online shopping, there is a growing demand to protect users' privacy. Currently, anonymity is one of the most important and common ways to preserve user privacy. Traditionally, authentication and anonymity, these two security goals contradict each other in some scenarios. Therefore, authentication protocols with privacy preserving have become a hot research topic.

The first password-based authentication scheme was given by Lamport [3]. Later on, a large number of designs of authentication have been proposed [4-6]. To strengthen security, smartcard-based password authentication has become one of the most common authentication mechanisms. However, passwords might be divulged or forgotten, and smart cards might be shared, lost, or stolen. Compared with them, biometric keys cannot be lost or forgotten, copied or shared, and cannot be guessed easily [7]. Therefore, biometrics-based authentication schemes gain wide attention.

Authenticated key agreement (short for AKA) protocols have been extensively studied since they incorporate authentication and key agreement in one logical step. Any two parties could authenticate mutually and communicate confidentially in open network environment. Due to advantage of bioinformatics, biometrics-based AKA protocols are becoming one of the most widely deployed authentication mechanism [8-11].

A smartcard-based password authentication scheme proposed in [12] claimed it is secure against many known attacks. However, the scheme is proved to be vulnerable to off-line dictionary attack and forgery attack as noted in [13]. A valid but illegal user can extract data from the smart card and execute an impersonation attack. Then Song presented a new scheme [13]. But unfortunately, Chen et al. [14] found it is insecure against off-line dictionary attack,

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impersonation attack and proposed a new improved scheme. However, in 2013, Li et al. [15] found Chen et al.'s scheme cannot really ensure forward security, and the password change phase is unfriendly and inefficient. Further Li et al. put forward an enhanced AKA scheme (short for LNKL scheme lately). They claimed that their scheme can resist many attacks. Unfortunately, after careful analysis, we found that LNKL scheme still has some security flaws. It is vulnerable to impersonation attack. It also cannot protect users' anonymity and scheme's reparability. In order to overcome the weaknesses of LNKL scheme, a novel provably secure multi-factor authentication key agreement protocol (abbreviation for MAKKA) is presented in this paper, which not only inherits the merits of LNKL scheme, but also has the following advantages.

- First, the MAKKA protocol can provide multi-factor authentication: the smart card (something the user has), password (something the user knows) and biometrics (something the user is). Biometrics is believed to be a reliable authentication factor since it provides a potential source of high entropy information and cannot be easily lost, forgotten and faked [7]. The unique biometrics is used to activate the smart card. Only the password and biometrics both are correct, then the smart card can be activated to help users authentication.
- Second, the MAKKA protocol is proven secure in the random oracle model and it can withstand cryptanalytic attacks under the hardness assumption of **CDHP**, over a finite cyclic group. The **CDHP** is one of classical hard problems in cryptology, whose difficulty can be reduced to the discrete logarithm problem (**DLP**). Its computational difficulty is more stable than other derived hard problems.
- Third, the MAKKA protocol allows user to register with anonymous  $ID_i$  to preserve the user's privacy. In order to prevent the adversary to track the behavior of the user with identity  $ID_i$ , the whole process of AKA between the user and server adopts a dynamic blind identity  $CID_i$ .

The rest of this paper is organized as follows. Section 2 briefly reviews LNKL scheme and the weaknesses of LNKL scheme is analyzed in Section 3. The proposed MAKKA protocol is presented in Section 4. Detailed security analysis and proof are given in Section 5. The comparisons of the performance and security features between our MAKKA with other related schemes are shown in Section 6. Section 7 concludes this paper.

## 2 Review of LNKL Scheme

LNKL scheme is composed of **Registration, Login,**

**Authentication, Password change and User revoking phase** [15]. To simplify the subsequent description, some notations are given in Table 1. Initially, the authentication server  $S$  selects the large prime  $p$  and  $q$  such that  $p = 2q + 1$ , chooses master secret key  $x \in Z_q^*$  and a cryptographically secure one-way hash function  $h: \{0,1\}^* \rightarrow Z_q^*$ . LNKL scheme is briefly reviewed as follows.

**Table 1.** Notations

Symbol	Description
$E_k(\cdot)/D_k(\cdot)$	Symmetric en/decryption functions with key $k$
$\Delta T$	The maximum transmission delay
$\oplus$	The bitwise XOR operation
$\parallel$	The string concatenation operation
$\rightarrow$	A common communication channel
$\Rightarrow$	A secure communication channel

### 2.1 Registration Phase

**R1**  $U_i$  chooses the identity  $ID_i$  and the password  $PW_i$ .

Then,  $U_i \Rightarrow S: ID_i, PW_i$ ;

**R2** On receiving the registration request,  $S$  computes

$$A_i = h(ID_i \parallel PW_i)^{PW_i} \bmod p, B_i = h(ID_i)^{x+PW_i} \bmod p;$$

**R3**  $S$  stores  $\{A_i, B_i, p, q, h(\cdot)\}$  into a smart card. Then,  $S \Rightarrow U_i$ : Smart card.

### 2.2 Login Phase

**L1**  $U_i$  inserts his/her smart card into the card reader, and inputs his/her  $ID_i, PW_i$ ;

**L2** The smart card computes  $A_i' = h(ID_i \parallel PW_i)^{PW_i} \bmod p$ . If it does not match, the session is terminated [16]. Otherwise;

**L3** The smart card generates a random number  $\alpha \in Z_q^*$  and computes  $C_i = B_i / h(ID_i)^{PW_i} \bmod p$ ,

$$D_i = h(ID_i)^\alpha \bmod p,$$

$M_i = h(ID_i \parallel C_i \parallel D_i \parallel T_i)$ , where  $T_i$  is the current timestamp. Then  $U_i \rightarrow S: ID_i, D_i, M_i, T_i$ ;

### 2.3 Authentication Phase

**V1**  $S$  checks validity of  $ID_i$  and insures that  $T_i' - T_i \leq \Delta T$ , where  $T_i'$  is the current time of  $S$ . If both of them are invalid, the login request is rejected. Otherwise,  $S$  computes  $C_i = h(ID_i)^x \bmod p$ , checks  $M_i' = h(ID_i \parallel C_i \parallel D_i \parallel T_i)$ . If it does not match,  $S$  terminates the request. Otherwise ;

**V2**  $S$  generates a random number  $\beta \in Z_q^*$ , computes

$V_i = h(ID_i)^\beta \bmod p$ , session key  $sk = D_i^\beta \bmod p$  and  $M_S = h(ID_i \| C_i \| V_i \| sk \| T_S)$ , where  $T_S$  is the current timestamp. Then,  $S \rightarrow U_i : ID_i, V_i, M_S, T_S$ ;

**V3** On receiving the message,  $U_i$  checks the validity of  $ID_i$  and  $T_S$  by  $T'_S - T_S \leq \Delta T$ , where  $T'_S$  is the current time of  $U_i$ , if any of them do not hold,  $U_i$  rejects. Otherwise ;

**V4**  $U_i$  computes  $sk = V_i^\alpha \bmod p$ , checks  $M_S ? = h(ID_i \| C_i \| V_i \| sk \| T_S)$ ; if it is not equal, the session is terminated.

Otherwise,  $S$  is authenticated by  $U_i$ . At last,  $U_i$  and  $S$  share the session key  $sk = h(ID_i)^{\alpha\beta} \bmod p$ .

Due to **Password change phase** and **User revoking phase** have nothing with security analysis of LNKL scheme, they will not be covered again here. For more details, please refer to [15].

### 3 Cryptanalysis of LNKL Scheme

In this section, we will show that LNKL scheme cannot withstand key compromise impersonation attack. Moreover, LNKL scheme also cannot provide anonymity and reparability.

#### 3.1 Key Compromise Impersonation (KCI) Attack

Suppose the long-term private key  $x$  of server  $S$  is leaked out by accident or intentionally stolen by an adversary  $A$ ,  $A$  can succeed in impersonating  $U_i$  to spoof  $S$ . Assume  $A$  can obtain all messages transferred on the public communication channel  $(ID_i, D_i, M_i, T_i), (ID_i, V_i, M_S, T_S)$ .

$A$  chooses a random number  $\alpha^* \in Z_q^*$  and computes

$C_i = h(ID_i)^x \bmod p$ ,  $D_i^* = h(ID_i)^{\alpha^*} \bmod p$ ,  $M_i^* = h(ID_i \| C_i \| D_i^* \| T_i)$ . Then,  $A \rightarrow S : ID_i, D_i^*, M_i^*, T_i$ ;

$S$  computes  $C_i = h(ID_i)^x \bmod p$ , believes  $M_i^*$  is  $U_i$ 's legal login request.  $S$  will accept  $A$ 's login request and send back a reply. Then the session key will be built between  $S$  and  $A$ . Hence, LNKL scheme cannot resist the KCI attack.

#### 3.2 Smart Card Impersonated (SCI) Attack

Suppose  $A$  intercepts  $U_i$ 's  $ID_i$  from **L1** and **V2** since both of them are common communication channels,  $A$  can enroll in  $S$  by using  $PW_A$  which is randomly chosen by  $A$ . If  $U_i$  did never register at  $S$ ,  $A$  can easily get a smart card in the name of  $U_i$ .  $A$  computes  $A_A = h(ID_i \| PW_A)^{PW_A} \bmod p$ . Finally,  $A$  gets  $C_A = B_A / h(ID_i)^{PW_A} \bmod p$ .  $C_A = C_i$  exactly is the

most important information, which can help  $A$  to prove himself being  $U_i$ . Hence, LNKL scheme also is vulnerable to the SCI attack.

#### 3.3 Non-anonymity

In LNKL scheme, the user's identity  $ID_i$  is static in whole phases, which can easily leak  $U_i$ 's login history, his preference, hobbies, interest, and even  $U_i$ 's real identity. Hence, user's anonymity is not preserved.

#### 3.4 Non-reparability

As above described in 3.1 and 3.2, there are many ways that may leak  $C_i$ . Even if  $U_i$  changes his/her password,  $C_i$  is static and unchanged. Hence, impersonation attacks cannot be instantly prevented. As  $C_i$  is determined only by  $U_i$ 's  $ID_i$  and  $S$ 's secret key  $x$ ,  $S$  cannot change  $C_i$  for  $U_i$  unless  $ID_i$  or  $x$  can be changed. However, it is also inefficient to change  $ID_i$ , which may be tied to  $U_i$  in most application systems. Additionally, since  $x$  is commonly used for all users rather than specifically used only for  $U_i$ , it is unreasonable and impractical if  $x$  is changed to protect the  $U_i$ 's security. Thus, the LNKL scheme is not easy to repair [17-18].

### 4 Our MAKAs Protocol

To overcome the afore-discussed security flaws of LNKL scheme, an improved protocol is proposed as shown in Figure 1. Initially, the authentication sever  $S$  generates parameters  $p, q$  and  $g$  like LNKL scheme.  $S$  chooses two secure one-way hash functions  $h_i : \{0,1\}^* \rightarrow \{0,1\}^l (i=1,2)$  and its secret key  $sk = x \in Z_q^*$ , then computes the corresponding public key  $pk = g^x$ .

Here, the fuzzy extractor which would be used in our paper is briefly introduced. It is consisted by two procedures: the probabilistic generation procedure (*Gen*) and the deterministic reproduction procedure (*Rep*) [19].

- *Gen*: On input biometric data  $\omega$ , *Gen* outputs an extracted string  $\sigma$  and a public auxiliary string  $\theta$ , where  $\langle \sigma, \theta \rangle = \text{Gen}(\omega)$  with  $|\sigma| = l$ .
- *Rep* can recover  $\sigma$  from the auxiliary string  $\theta$  and any vector  $\omega'$ , which is close to  $\omega$ . For all  $\omega, \omega'$  satisfying  $\text{dis}(\omega, \omega') \leq \lambda$ , ( $\lambda$  is the tolerance threshold), if  $\langle \sigma, \theta \rangle = \text{Gen}(\omega)$ , then  $\text{Rep}(\omega', \theta) = \sigma$ . Compared with low-entropy password, the probability to guess the biometric key  $\sigma$  by  $A$  is about  $\frac{1}{2^l}$ ,  $l = \gamma + 2 \log(\epsilon) + O(1)$ ,  $\gamma$  is min-

entropy,  $\varepsilon \geq 0$  is constant) [19].

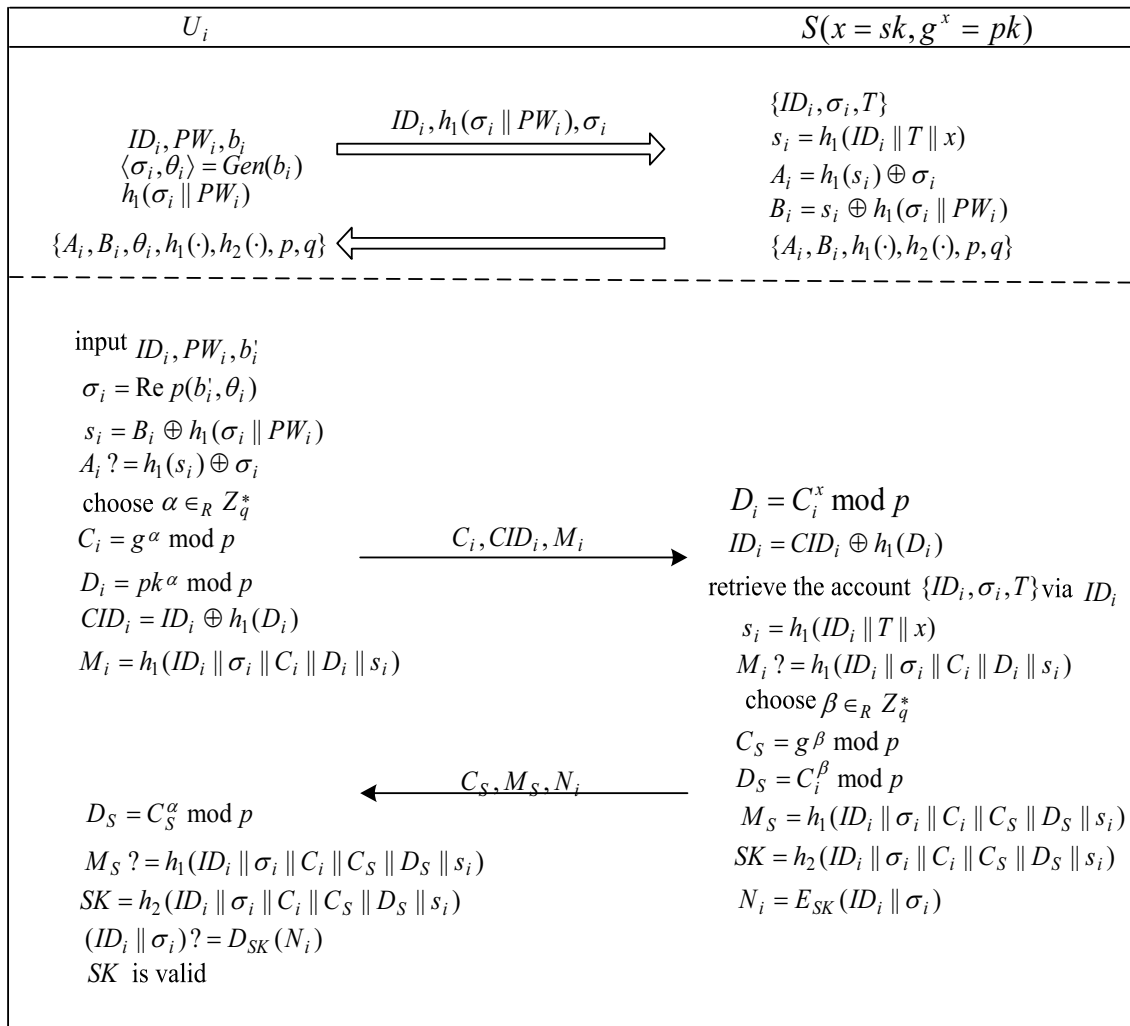
### 4.1 Registration Phase

**R1**  $U_i$  gets his/her bioinformatics  $b_i$  by special equipment,  $|b_i|=l, Gen(b_i) = \langle \sigma_i, \theta_i \rangle$ , chooses his/her  $ID_i, PW_i$ , and computes  $h_1(\sigma_i || PW_i)$ . Then,  $U_i \Rightarrow S : ID_i, h_1(\sigma_i || PW_i), \sigma_i$ ;

**R2** On receiving the registration message from  $U_i$ ,  $S$  maintains an account for  $U_i$ , which records the

$U_i$ 's  $ID_i$ , biometric key  $\sigma_i$  and registration number  $T$  ( $T = 1$  if it is the first time to registration, or else,  $T := T + sl$ , where  $sl$  is a step length chosen by  $S$ ).  $S$  computes  $s_i, A_i, B_i$  and stores  $\{A_i, B_i, p, q, h_1(\cdot), h_2(\cdot)\}$  in smart card. Then,  $S \Rightarrow U_i : \text{Smart card}$ ;

**R3**  $U_i$  adds  $\theta_i$  to the smart card. Finally  $\{A_i, B_i, \theta_i, p, q, h_1(\cdot), h_2(\cdot)\}$  are stored in  $U_i$ 's smart card, see Figure 1.



**Figure 1.** The flow chart of our MAK protocol

### 4.2 Login Phase

**L1** When  $U_i$  logs in to  $S$ ,  $U_i$  inserts his/her smart card into the card reader, inputs his/her  $ID_i, PW_i$ , and his/her bioinformatics  $b_i$  read by special equipment;

**L2** The smart card computes  $\sigma_i, s_i$  as Figure 1, and checks  $A_i ? = h_1(s_i) \oplus \sigma_i$ . If it does not match, the session is terminated. Or else, the smart card generates a random number  $\alpha \in Z_q^*$ , and computes  $C_i, D_i, CID_i, M_i$ . Then,  $U_i \rightarrow S : C_i, D_i, CID_i, M_i$ .

### 4.3 Authentication Phase

**V1** On receiving the login request from  $U_i$ ,  $S$  computes  $D_i, ID_i$  as Figure 1. Then  $S$  checks whether  $ID_i$  is valid according to the account  $\{ID_i, \sigma_i, T\}$ . If not, the login request is rejected. Otherwise;

**V2**  $S$  computes  $s_i$  and checks  $M_i ? = h_1(ID_i || \sigma_i || C_i || D_i || s_i)$ . If not, the session is terminated. Or else,  $S$  chooses a random number  $\beta \in Z_q^*$ , computes  $C_S, D_S, M_S, SK, N_i$  as Figure 1. Then,  $S \rightarrow U_i : C_S, M_S, N_i$ ;

**V3** On receiving the message  $C_S, M_S, N_i, U_i$  computes  $D_S$ , checks  $M_S ? = h_1(ID_i || \sigma_i || C_i || C_S || D_S || s_i)$ . If it does not match, terminates the session. Otherwise,  $U_i$  computes  $SK$ , checks  $(ID_i || \sigma_i) ? = D_{SK}(N_i)$ . If not, terminates the session. Otherwise,  $SK$  is valid.

#### 4.4 Password Change Phase

**C1** The algorithm is invoked whenever  $U_i$  wants to change the old  $PW_i$  to the new  $PW_i^{new}$ .  $U_i$  inserts his/her smart card into card reader and inputs  $ID_i, PW_i, b_i^*$ ;

**C2** The smart card computes  $\sigma_i$  and  $s_i$  as Figure 1, checks  $A_i ? = h_1(s_i) \oplus \sigma_i$ . If not match, the session is terminated; Or else, it computes  $B_i^{new} = B_i \oplus h_1(\sigma_i || PW_i) \oplus h_1(\sigma_i || PW_i^{new})$  according to the new  $PW_i^{new}$  and updates  $B_i$  with  $B_i^{new}$ .

#### 4.5 Smart Card Revocation Phase

If  $U_i$  lost his/her smart card, he can ask  $S$  to issue a new smart card after checking the validity of  $U_i$ 's  $ID_i$  and  $\sigma_i$ . The process is the same as the registration process, and lets  $T$  be  $T + sl$ . Thus  $U_i$  gets a new smart card.

Additionally, no one can activate the smart card without the correct bioinformatics except for the legal smart card owner. So the lost smart card is useless for anybody else.

### 5 Security Proof of the MAKAs Protocol

The hypothesis of the adversary  $A$  are given as follows.

- $A$  can eavesdrop, intercept, delete, and modify all messages of the common communication channel;
- $A$  can extract the secret information stored in the smart card, but cannot get the password synchronously [12].
- $A$  cannot get the server's private key  $x$  and the  $U_i$ 's account  $\{ID_i, \sigma_i, T\}$  synchronously [12].

#### 5.1 Security Analysis

**User anonymity (UA).** MAKAs adopts a dynamic anonymous blind identity  $CID_i$  instead of the static identity  $ID_i$  in the common channel. So anybody outside the system cannot get the user's  $ID_i$  by tracking  $CID_i$ . Suppose that  $A$  has intercepted  $U_i$ 's authentication messages  $(C_i, CID_i, M_i), (C_S, M_S, N_i)$ . And  $A$  recovers  $ID_i = CID_i \oplus h_1(D_i)$ , if and only if he gets  $h_1(D_i)$ , which means  $A$  has to solve the **CDHP** of

$(C_i, pk)$ . Additionally, both of above messages are random values relied on the random number  $\alpha$  or  $\beta$ .

$A$  cannot distinguish the correlation of two messages [20]. Thus, it realizes untraceability of the session. Hence, MAKAs realizes the anonymity and avoids the user to be traced.

**Perfect forward secrecy (PFS).** In MAKAs,  $SK = h_2(ID_i || \sigma_i || C_i || C_S || D_S || s_i)$  is the session key shared between  $U_i$  and  $S$ , wherein  $C_i = g^\alpha \text{ mod } p$ ,  $C_S = g^\beta \text{ mod } p$ ,  $D_S = g^{\alpha\beta} \text{ mod } p$ ,  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are random numbers chosen by  $U_i$  and  $S$  respectively, which are different in each session run.  $SK$  is hash value which cannot disclose any information. Therefore,  $A$  cannot infer any valuable information about the forward and backward session keys even if he gets the current session key.

**Resistance to key compromise impersonation (KCI).** Suppose that the server secret key  $x$  is leaked out by accident or intentionally stolen by  $A$ , but  $U_i$ 's account  $\{ID_i, \sigma_i, T\}$  is kept secret. Since  $A$  always does not know  $ID_i$  and  $T$ ,  $A$  cannot compute the secret value  $s_i = h_1(ID_i || T || x)$  and  $M_i$ . So  $A$  cannot impersonate  $U_i$  to spoof  $S$ . Suppose that  $U_i$ 's password  $PW_i$  is leaked out, but  $A$  does not know the  $U_i$ 's biometric key  $\sigma_i$ , and  $A$  cannot activate the smart card. Hence,  $A$  cannot successfully impersonate  $U_i$ .

**Known key (KK) attack.** In MAKAs, all session keys are independent since each key depends on random numbers  $\alpha, \beta \in Z_q^*$ .  $A$  cannot compute other session keys from the current session key. So the MAKAs protocol can resist **KK** attack.

**Verification account stolen (VAS) attack.** Verification account stolen attack denotes that  $A$  obtains the  $U_i$ 's verification account and guesses the  $U_i$ 's password  $PW_i$ , then launches impersonation attack [21]. In MAKAs, even if  $A$  gets a registration account  $\{ID_i, \sigma_i, T\}$ , he is still unable to compute parameter  $s_i = h_1(ID_i || T || x)$  without knowing  $S$ 's secret key  $x$ . And nor can  $A$  compute the legitimate authentication item  $(M_i, M_S, N_i)$ . Therefore, the MAKAs is secure against **VAS** attack.

**Password guessing (PG) attack.** Suppose  $A$  can get  $\{A_i, B_i, \theta_i, p, q, h_1(\cdot), h_2(\cdot)\}$  from the smart card. However, only  $B_i = h_1(ID_i || T || x) \oplus h_1(\sigma_i || PW_i)$  is related to  $PW_i$ .  $A$  want to guess a  $PW^*$  and verify  $B_i ? = h_1(ID_i || T || x) \oplus h_1(\sigma_i || PW^*)$ . But  $A$  does not know  $(x, ID_i, T)$  and  $\sigma_i$ . Hence,  $A$  is unable to check above equation, further cannot verify the correctness of  $PW^*$ . Hence, the MAKAs can resist **PG** attack.

**Smart card impersonated (SCI) attack.** If  $A$  registers at the server  $S$  in the name of  $U_i$ ,  $A$  must provide  $S$  with his/her unique bioinformatics. If  $U_i$  found that he has been registered at  $S$ , he can make a complaint. And the  $A$ 's unique bioinformatics will be added to the blacklist and  $A$  can be traced when necessary. Based on this risk,  $A$  is unwilling to do it.

### 5.2 Security Model and Notations

Firstly, the formal security model for password-based AKA protocols with smart card is described, which is mainly developed from Bellare [22]. Then, a security proof for the MAKKA protocol is given under the hardness assumption of CDHP.

**Participants and initialization.** In AKA scheme, each participant is either a user  $U_i \in Users$  or server  $S \in Servers$ . Each participant is modeled as a set of random oracles. Each oracle can be independent and executed concurrently.  $S$  holds a secret key  $sk$ . Each user  $U_i$  chooses a password  $PW_{U_i}$  from the dictionary  $\mathcal{D}$ .

**Execution of the protocol.**  $C$  is a simulator who simulates the protocol for  $\mathcal{A}$ . The interaction between  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $C$  occurs only via oracle queries, which simulate the adversary capabilities in a real attack.

**Execute** ( $U_i, S$ ): This oracle query is used to simulate  $\mathcal{A}$ 's passive eavesdropping attack. Its output consists of the messages that were exchanged between  $U_i$  and  $S$  during the real execution of the protocol.

**Send** ( $U_i/S, m$ ): This oracle simulates  $\mathcal{A}$ 's active attack.  $\mathcal{A}$  sends a message  $m$  to  $U_i/S$ .  $U_i/S$  give response to  $m$  according to the protocol.

**Reveal** ( $U_i/S$ ): This oracle query simulates the **KK attack**. It returns to  $\mathcal{A}$  the session key negotiated by  $U_i$  and  $S$ . It helps  $\mathcal{A}$  to judge whether two session keys are independent.

**Corrupt** ( $U_i/S, a$ ): The oracle query simulates corruption capabilities of  $\mathcal{A}$ .  $\mathcal{A}$  can simulate the **KCI attacks**, **VAS attacks**, **PFS** etc. with this oracle.

- **Corrupt** ( $U_i, a$ ), If  $a=1$ , it outputs the  $U_i$ 's password  $PW_{U_i}$ ; if  $a=2$ , it outputs the messages stored in the smart card;
- **Corrupt** ( $S, a$ ), If  $a=1$ , it outputs the  $S$ 's private key  $x$ ; if  $a=2$ , it outputs the account  $\{ID_i, \sigma_i, T\}$ .

**Ephemeral key reveal** ( $U_i, S$ ): The oracle simulates the key leak attack, by which  $\mathcal{A}$  can get  $U_i/S$ 's temporary secret information.

**DDHP:** The decision **DHP** oracle is to verify  $(g^a, g^b) ? = g^{ab}$ , only  $C$  can query the oracle once in one session.

**Test** ( $U_i/S$ ): This oracle query is to define semantic security of the session key and can be asked only once.

After querying the oracle, a value will be returned according to a predefined random bit  $b$ . If  $b=1$ , the adversary would get the session key shared by  $U_i$  and  $S$ , otherwise get a random value.

#### Security goals.

- **Partner** ( $Par$ ): We say that  $U_i$  and  $S$  are partnered if the following conditions are met: (1) Both  $U_i$  and  $S$  are accepted (it means the session key has been successfully negotiated between them); (2) Both  $U_i$  and  $S$  share the same session identification  $sid$  (which are sent and received by  $U_i$  and  $S$  in the protocol); (3)  $U_i$ 's partner only is  $S$  and vice-versa, that is to say  $Par S = U_i$  or  $Par U_i = S$ .
- **Freshness:** Say  $U_i/S$  is fresh if the following conditions hold: (1)  $U_i/S$  has accepted and has session key  $SK$ ; (2)  $U_i/S$  and its partner has been made no **Reveal queries**. (3)  $U_i/S$  is asked **Corrupt queries** at most only once.
- **Semantic security:** It is a significant goal of AKA protocols. During one session of the protocol  $P$ ,  $\mathcal{A}$  can make polynomial times with **Execute**, **Send**, **Reveal**, **Corrupt queries**, a single **Test query** for some fresh instance that has been completed. The output of **Test query** is a bit  $b'$ . Then  $C$  compares  $b'$  with  $b$  that was selected in the Test query. If  $b' = b$ , we say  $\mathcal{A}$  wins the game and **Succ** stands for this event. Accordingly, the  $\mathcal{A}$ 's advantages to destroy the semantic security of protocol  $P$  is

$$Adv_P^{aka}(\mathcal{A}) \stackrel{def}{=} 2 \Pr[Succ(\mathcal{A})] - 1 = 2 \Pr[b' = b] - 1$$

### 5.3 Security Proof

**Theorem 1.** Let  $G$  be a finite cyclic group and let  $\mathcal{D}$  be a uniformly distributed dictionary of size  $|\mathcal{D}|$ . Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an adversary against the semantic security with time bound  $t$ , with less than  $q_s$  sessions,  $q_d$  **Send queries**,  $q_e$  **Execution queries**, and  $q_h$  **Hash oracle queries**. Then we have

$$Adv_P^{aka}(\mathcal{A}) \leq \frac{q_h^2}{2^{l+1}} + \frac{(q_d + q_e)^2}{2q} + 4 \frac{q_d}{2^l} + \frac{q_d}{|\mathcal{D}|} + q_s^2 q_h Adv_G^{DLP}(t) + q_s q_h Adv_G^{CDH}(t + (q_d + q_e)t_e)$$

where  $t_e$  denotes the exponentiation computation time in  $G$ .

**Proof.** The main idea is that if  $\mathcal{A}$  destroyed semantic security of the protocol successfully,  $C$  can solve the **CDHP** by  $\mathcal{A}$ 's answers. Our proof defines a sequence of hybrid games, starting with the real attack and ending with a game in which  $\mathcal{A}$  has no advantage. For each  $Game_n$ , we define events  $Succ_n$  corresponding the case in which  $\mathcal{A}$  correctly guesses the bit  $b$  involved in the **Test query**.  $AskPara_n$  denotes  $\mathcal{A}$

successfully computes the secret value  $s_i$  by  $h_i$  queries with  $(\sigma_i \parallel PW_i)$  or  $(ID_i \parallel T \parallel x)$ , and  $AskH_n$  denotes  $\mathcal{A}$  successfully computes the secret value  $s_i$  and queries  $h_i(\cdot)$  ( $i=1,2$ ) with  $ID_i, \sigma_i, C_i, D_i, C_s, D_s, s_i$ .

**Game<sub>0</sub>**: This game is the real attack without any limits, where  $Succ_0 = \{b' = b\}$ . By the definition, we have

$$Adv_P^{aka}(\mathcal{A}) = 2 \Pr[Succ_0] - 1 \quad (1)$$

**Game<sub>1</sub>**: In this game,  $C$  simulates the random oracle  $h_1$  and keeps a hash list  $L_{h_1}=(i,m,n)$  which is empty at the beginning.  $h_2$  only be used once to generate the session key at the end of  $P$ . When  $\mathcal{A}$  initiates a query  $m$ , the same answer  $n$  from the list  $L_{h_1}$  will be given if the request has been asked before. Otherwise,  $C$  chooses  $n \in_R \{0,1\}^l$ , and returns  $n$  as answer, adds this new record  $(i,m,n)$  to  $L_{h_1}$ , where  $i$  is the query time,  $m$  is the content set,  $n$  is the corresponding answer set.

The **Execute, Reveal, Send, Corrupt, Test** oracles are also simulated as real attack. Compared with **Game<sub>0</sub>**,  $C$  just makes the relevant records in **Game<sub>1</sub>**, it can easily see that this game is completely indistinguishable from the real game. Hence,

$$\Pr[Succ_1] - \Pr[Succ_0] = 0 \quad (2)$$

**Game<sub>2</sub>**: In this game,  $C$  simulates all oracles as in **Game<sub>1</sub>**. All the executions will be terminated if a collision occurs. According to the birthday paradox, the collision probability in the output of  $h$  oracle is at most  $\frac{q_h^2}{2^{l+1}}$ . Similarly, the collision probability of the messages  $(C_i, CID_i, M_i)$ ,  $(C_s, M_s, N_i)$  is at most  $\frac{(q_d + q_e)^2}{2q}$ . Hence

$$\Pr[Succ_2] - \Pr[Succ_1] \leq \frac{q_h^2}{2^{l+1}} + \frac{(q_d + q_e)^2}{2q} \quad (3)$$

**Game<sub>3</sub>**: The executions are finished if  $\mathcal{A}$  luckily guesses the authentication values  $(M_i, M_s)$  without the **hash query**. The **Game<sub>2</sub>** has removed the collision possibility, and  $\mathcal{A}$  guessed the value is exactly the original value with the probability  $\frac{q_d}{2^l}$ . Hence, **Game<sub>3</sub>** and **Game<sub>2</sub>** are indistinguishable, so

$$\Pr[Succ_3] - \Pr[Succ_2] \leq \frac{q_d}{2^l} \quad (4)$$

**Game<sub>4</sub>**: The executions are halted if  $\mathcal{A}$  luckily guessed  $s_i$  without the **hash query** and spoofed the  $U_i$  or  $S$  successfully. Hence, **Game<sub>4</sub>** and **Game<sub>3</sub>** are indistinguishable, therefore

$$\Pr[Succ_4] - \Pr[Succ_3] \leq \frac{q_d}{2^l} \quad (5)$$

**Game<sub>5</sub>**: In this game, the executions are terminated if  $\mathcal{A}$  computes the secret parameter  $s_i$  by querying **hash query** with  $(\sigma_i \parallel PW_i)$  or  $(ID_i \parallel T \parallel x)$ . If the event  $AskPara_5$  does not happen, **Game<sub>5</sub>** and **Game<sub>4</sub>** are indistinguishable. Hence,

$$\Pr[Succ_5] - \Pr[Succ_4] \leq \Pr[AskPara_5] \quad (6)$$

From the security model,  $\mathcal{A}$  can query both **Corrupt**  $(U_i, a)$  and **Corrupt**  $(S, a)$ . Hence, it is easy to get that:

$$\begin{aligned} & \Pr[AskPara_5] = \\ & \Pr[AskPara_5 \text{ With Corrupt}(U_i, 1)] \\ & + \Pr[AskPara_5 \text{ With Corrupt}(U_i, 2)] \\ & + \Pr[AskPara_5 \text{ With Corrupt}(S, 1)] \\ & + \Pr[AskPara_5 \text{ With Corrupt}(S, 2)] \\ & = \Pr[* \parallel PW_i] + \Pr[\sigma_i \parallel *] + \Pr[ID_i \parallel * \parallel PW_i] + \Pr[ID_i \parallel * \parallel x] \\ & \leq \frac{q_d}{2^l} + \frac{q_d}{|\mathcal{D}|} + \frac{q_d}{2^l} + q_s^2 q_h Adv_G^{DLP}(t) = 2 \frac{q_d}{2^l} + \frac{q_d}{|\mathcal{D}|} + q_s^2 q_h Adv_G^{DLP}(t) \end{aligned}$$

**Game<sub>6</sub>**: The executions are ended if  $\mathcal{A}$  calculates the values  $(M_i, M_s, SK)$  in this game. If the event  $AskH_6$  occurs,  $\mathcal{A}$  queries the hash function with  $(ID_i \parallel \sigma_i \parallel C_i \parallel C_s \parallel D_s \parallel s_i)$ , where **CDHP**  $(C_i, C_s) = D_s$ .  $C$  chooses one session of  $[1, 2, \dots, q_s]$  as the test session and inserts the **CDHP** parameters. Then  $C$  can use  $\mathcal{A}$  to solve the **CDHP**.

**In non-test sessions**, when  $\mathcal{A}$  queries hash  $h$  with  $(M_i, M_s)$ . Whenever receiving such query,  $C$  checks the list  $L_h$  and the same answer will be given if the request has been asked before. Otherwise,  $C$  uses **DDHP** oracle to verify  $D_s ? = (C_i, C_s)$ , if it is not equal, return  $\perp$ , or else a random number  $\in Z_q^*$  to  $\mathcal{A}$  because  $C$  does not know  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  in  $(M_i, M_s)$ . **In test session**,  $C$  chooses  $g^a$  and  $g^b$  randomly, lets  $C_i = g^a$ ,  $C_s = g^b$ .  $\mathcal{A}$  queries the hash function on  $(ID_i \parallel \sigma_i \parallel C_i \parallel C_s \parallel g^{ab} \parallel s_i)$ , where  $g^{ab} = \text{CDHP}(C_i, C_s)$ . If the event  $AskH_6$  does not happen, **Game<sub>6</sub>** and **Game<sub>5</sub>** are indistinguishable. Hence,

$$\Pr[Succ_6] - \Pr[Succ_5] \leq \Pr[AskH_6] \quad (7)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{and } \Pr[AskH_6] & \leq q_s q_h Adv_G^{CDH}(t + (q_d + q_e)t_e) \\ \Pr[Succ_6] & = \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

Hence, it is easy to conclude that:

$$\begin{aligned} Adv_P^{aka}(\mathcal{A}) & = 2 \Pr[Succ_0] - 1 \\ & = 2 \Pr[Succ_6] - 1 + 2(\Pr[Succ_0] - \Pr[Succ_6]) \\ & \leq 2(|\Pr[Succ_1] - \Pr[Succ_0]| + |\Pr[Succ_2] - \Pr[Succ_1]|) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + |\Pr[Succ_3] - \Pr[Succ_2]| + |\Pr[Succ_4] - \Pr[Succ_3]| \\
& + |\Pr[Succ_5] - \Pr[Succ_4]| + |\Pr[Succ_6] - \Pr[Succ_5]| \} \\
& \leq \frac{q_h^2}{2^{l+1}} + \frac{(q_d + q_e)^2}{2q} + 4 \frac{q_d}{2^l} + \frac{q_d}{|\mathcal{D}|} + q_s^2 q_h Adv_G^{DLP}(t) \\
& + q_s q_h Adv_G^{CDH}(t + (q_d + q_e)t_e). \quad \square
\end{aligned}$$

## 6 Performance Evaluation

The performance and security of the MAKA protocol and other related protocols are given in Table 2 and Table 3.

**Table 2.** Performance comparison among related protocols

	[12]	[13]	[14]	[15]	Ours
$t_{cc}$	$5t_e$	$t_e + 2t_s$	$6t_e + 2t_m$	$11t_e + t_m$	$6t_e + 2t_m$
$cc$	2816	896	896	1024	768
$sc$	3200	256	384	640	896

**Table 3.** Security comparison among related protocols

	[12]	[13]	[14]	[15]	Ours
UA	No	No	No	No	Yes
FSS	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
SAK	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Reparability	No	No	No	No	Yes
PG	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
VAS	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
KCI	No	Yes	No	No	Yes
KK	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
PS	Yes	No	No	No	Yes

Let  $t_e, t_m, t_s$  be the time complexity for exponential operation, multiplication operation, symmetric key encryption /decryption operation, respectively. The time of “ $h(\cdot)$ ”, “ $\|$ ” and “ $\oplus$ ” are negligible as compared with the other time-consuming operations [19]. An efficient AKA protocol must take total computation cost ( $t_{cc}$ ), communication cost ( $cc/bit$ ) and storage cost ( $sc/bit$ ) into consideration. We mainly focus on the efficiency of login and authentication phases since these two phases are the main body of an AKA protocol and are executed much more frequently.

## 7 Conclusion

System security and user privacy-preserved are challenging issues in distributed authentication systems. The MAKA protocol investigates a systematic approach for authentication and key agreement by multi-factors: password, smart card, bioinformatics. Meanwhile our MAKA protocol is proven secure in the random oracle model under the hardness assumption of CDHP. The MAKA protocol not only realizes anonymity to protect user’s privacy, but also addresses

the error-tolerance issues of bioinformatics. Compared with the recently relevant protocols, the MAKA protocol has better performance and better security features. The future work is to develop concrete multi-factor AKA protocols in multi-server environment with better performance.

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