

# A Comparative Study On Authentication Protocols For IoT Devices

Author: Thomas Eckhardt, Supervisor: Miray Aysen, Responsible professor: Zekeriya Erkin, CSE3000 Research project June 2021

Contact details: t.eckhardt@student.tudelft.nl

Cyber Security Group  
Department of Intelligent Systems  
Delft University of Technology



## 1. Motivation

- Wireless Sensor Networks (WSN) are networks of wirelessly communicating sensors.
- Process, collect and communicate data back to the user [1]
- Use in environments such as vehicular pollution level [2], wildlife [3], and healthcare monitoring [4].
- Set to grow from USD 3.282 million in 2018 to USD 8.669 million 2025 [5]
- Lack of adequate authentication is in top 3 vulnerabilities [6]
- For WSN's various lightweight authentication protocols have been introduced.

## 2. Sub-Questions

How do authentication protocols for Wireless Sensor Networks compare?

- How do these protocols compare in terms of performance?
- How do these protocols compare in terms of security?
- Where could improvements on these authentication protocols be made?

## 3. Method

Protocols that are compared in this study:

- Wong et al., 2006 [7]
- Vaidya et al., 2010 [3]
- Liu & Chung, 2017 [8]
- Gope & Hwang 2016 [4]
- Jiang et al., 2017 [9]

- Literature study on authentication protocol for WSN's
- Comparison based on a performance and security analysis
- Find a gap where improvements could be made and suggest a solution

## 4. Results

Table 1: Performance of the registration phase

Name	Registration		
	User	GW node	Sensor node
Wong et al., 2006	$T_{mes}$	$3T_h + 2T_{  } + T_{mes}$	-
Vaidya et al., 2010	$T_{mes}$	$3T_h + T_{\oplus} + T_{  }$	-
Liu & Chung, 2017	$T_{mes}$	$T_{pu} + T_{pr}$	-
Gope & Hwang, 2016	$6T_h + 3T_{\oplus} + T_{mes}$	$5T_h + 3T_{\oplus} + 8T_{  } + T_{mes}$	-
Jiang et al., 2017	$2T_h + 2T_{  } + T_{mod} + T_{mes}$	$T_h + T_{\oplus} + 2T_{  } + T_{mes}$	-

Table 2: Performance of the authentication phase

Name	Authentication		
	User	GW node	Sensor node
Wong et al., 2006	$T_{mes}$	$T_h + 2T_{\oplus} + T_{mes}$	$3T_h + 2T_{\oplus} + T_{  } + 2T_{mes}$
Vaidya et al., 2010	$3T_h + T_{\oplus} + 4T_{\oplus} + T_{mes}$	$4T_h + T_{\oplus} + 8T_{  } + T_{mes}$	$T_h + 3T_{  } + T_{mes}$
Liu & Chung, 2017	$3T_{  } + T_h + T_{\oplus} + T_{mes}$	$T_h + T_{\oplus} + T_{mes}$	$T_{  } + 2T_h + 3T_{\oplus} + T_{mes}$
Gope & Hwang, 2016	$10T_h + 8T_{\oplus} + 15T_{  } + T_{mes}$	$7T_h + 5T_{\oplus} + 11T_{  } + 2T_{mes}$	$3T_h + T_{\oplus} + 4T_{  } + T_{mes}$
Jiang et al., 2017	$5T_h + 2T_{\oplus} + 9T_{  } + T_{mes}$	$8T_h + 2T_{\oplus} + 21T_{  } + 2T_{mes}$	$6T_h + 4T_{\oplus} + 9T_{  } + T_{mes}$

Table 3: Explanation of time notions

- $T_h$ : Execution time for a one-way hash operation
- $T_{\oplus}$ : Execution time for a xor operation
- $T_{||}$ : Execution time for a concatenation operation
- $T_{mes}$ : Execution time for sending a message

User: User of the system

Gateway Node (GW Node): Register new users and sensors. Sometimes referred to as Registration Center (RC)

Sensor Node: These are the nodes that collect, process and communicate the data.

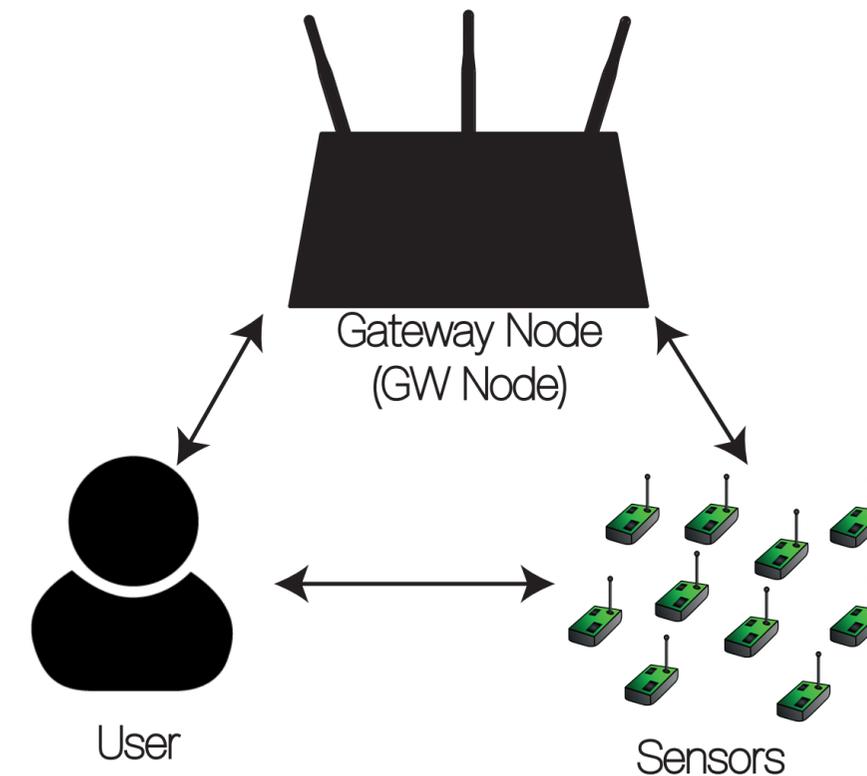
Table 3: Vulnerabilities of the authentication protocols

Attack types	Authentication protocols				
	Wong et al., 2006	Vaidya et al., 2010	Liu & Chung, 2017	Gope & Hwang, 2016	Jiang et al., 2017
Replay Attack	✗	✓	✓		
Impersonation Attack		✓	✓	✓	✓
Stolen-Verifier Attack	✗	✓	✓		
Guessing Attack		✓	✓		
Denial of Service Attack		✓	✓		✗
Node Compromise Attack		✓		✓	
Eavesdropping Attack				✓	✓
Stolen Smart Card Attack				✓	✓
Tracking attack					✓
Forgery Attack	✗				
SID Modification Attack					✗

- It differ per protocol at which node most of the computation is done (User, GW and Sensor node).
- The sensor node are the most resource constrained, thus it would be beneficial to move load away from these.
- Not all protocols are perfectly secure (e.g. Wong et al. and Jiang et al.)

## 5. Conclusion and Future work

- Improvements can be made by combining performance of one protocol, by the extra security features of other protocols.
- For the comparison the time notions could be translated to numbers, this could aid in comparing the protocols.



## References

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