

- 1) Explain how the proactive password checker approach can improve password security.
  - It requires at least 16 characters making the password less predictable.
  - Password must have at least 8 characters including an uppercase and lower-case letter, a symbol, and a digit. It may contain a dictionary word.
  - One way could be using the bloom filter which is based on rejecting words on a list that has been implemented on a number of systems.
- 2) List and briefly describe the principal physical characteristics used for biometric identification.
  - Fingerprints -> is one of the most well known and publicized biometrics which uses a variety of sensors scanning the direction of the ridge endings and bifurcations along a ridge path.
  - Hand geometry -> biometrics used to identify users due to the shape of their hands
  - Facial Characteristics -> biometrics used to identify users due to the patterns on their face
  - Retinal and Iris patterns -> these are biometric techniques which look for unique patterns in a person's retinal and iris blood vessels.
- 3) In the context of biometric user authentication, explain the terms, enrollment, verification and identification.
  - Enrollment -> This is the initial process of collecting biometric data samples from a person and subsequently storing the data in a reference template representing the user's identity to be used for later comparison.
  - Verification -> This is any means by which an individual is uniquely identified by evaluating one or more distinguishing biological and physical traits.
  - Identification -> This is when an individual is correlated set of data gotten with from the enrollment to identify the user.
- 4) Assume sources of length  $k$  are mapped in some uniform fashion into a target elements of length  $p$ . if each digit can take on one of  $r$  values, then the number of source elements is  $r^k$  and the number of target elements is the smaller number  $r^p$ . A particular source element  $x_i$  is mapped to a particular target element  $y_i$ .
  - a) What is the probability that the correct source element can be selected by an adversary on one try?
    - $1/r^k$
  - b) What is the probability that a different source element that results in the same target
    - Each element in the  $r^p$  targets elements is mapped to  $r^k/r^p == r^{k-p}$  target elements. -> Hence there are  $r^{(k-p)} - 1$  different source elements. -> probability is  $(r^{(k-p)} - 1)/r^k$
  - c) Producing an adversary = 1/ not producing an adversary =  $1/(r^p)$ .
- 5) Why is it asserted that salt increases security.
  - Salt significantly increases the difficulty of attacks. -> If a salt is of " $a$ " bit length, then the number of possible passwords is amplified by a factor of  $(2^a)$ .