

# User-Device Physical Unclonable Functions (UD-PUFs) based on Mobile Device Touchscreen Pressure

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## ABSTRACT

Described in this document is a physical unclonable function (PUF) utilizing the variability derived from the pressure with which users interact with their mobile device touchscreens. We illustrate how a sequence of these pressure values from discrete touchscreen interactions may be used to uniquely characterize a user-device pair. This characterization method may find many applications in security. As a result the effectiveness of this scheme is described in terms of how one user may be differentiated from another.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Mobile devices are ubiquitous in the modern world. These devices are becoming progressively more important for many applications with security sensitive data. Securing mobile devices poses unique challenges and opportunities compared to traditional data security where it is difficult for an attacker to access the physical device on which the data is stored or from which the sensitive data may be accessed. The reality that an attacker may be able to gain access to a physical device makes securing any data stored on or accessed by a mobile device significantly more challenging. Traditional physical unclonable functions (PUFs) which can be used to uniquely to a given hardware device are no longer sufficient to guarantee the authenticity of a user. This motivates an extension of the traditional PUF known as a user-device physical unclonable function (UD-PUF). This UD-PUF entangles the physical characteristics of the user in combination with the device to enable a more secure authentication scheme.

## 2. TOUCHSCREEN PRESSURE

current at sides of phone.

## 3. MODELING A USER-DEVICE PAIR

Interactions between users and devices are complex. To interpret these actions in a meaningful way, in order to pre-

form an authentication for example, it is necessary to simplify these interactions. The chosen model must provide sufficient entropy such that a model generated with a given user-device pair is not consistently reproducible by another user or on a different device. The modeling method must also be easily reproducible by the original user on the original device. A model having the necessary characteristics required for this application is a Markov Chain. Markov Chains are useful in predicting systems whose behavior can be modeled in discrete states. The transitions between states can be identified to happen with some probability. Historically the Markov Chain has found applications in. Upon identification of an appropriate model the next step is to discover an optimal way in which it may be applied to the current problem. The goal is

## 4. TOUCH PRESSURE MODELING

The goal in modeling a system with a Markov model is to classify the system in terms of its transitions between states. If such a model is to be used to purposes of uniquely identifying a given system, then the states of the model must be chosen in a way which exposes the uniqueness of the system. The states of our Markov model are defined by the range in which

## 5. DIFFERENTIATING USER-DEVICE PAIRS

## 6. RESULTS

## 7. CONCLUSIONS

## 8. FUTURE WORK