Chapter 3

User Authentication

Course Instructor: Dr. Nausheen Shoaib

Electronic Identity Cards (eID)

Use of a smart card as a national identity card for citizens

Can serve the same purposes as other national ID cards, and similar cards such as a driver's license, for access to government and commercial services

Can provide stronger proof of identity and can be used in a wider variety of applications

In effect, is a smart card that has been verified by the national government as valid and authentic

Most advanced deployment is the German card *neuer Personalausweis*

Has human-readable data printed on its surface

- Personal data
- Document number
- Card access number (CAN)
- Machine readable zone (MRZ)

Table 3.4

Electronic Functions and Data for eID Cards

Function	Purpose	PACE Password	Data	Uses
ePass (mandatory)	Authorized offline inspection systems read the data	CAN or MRZ	Face image; two fingerprint images (optional), MRZ data	Offline biometric identity verification reserved for government access
eID (activation optional	Online applications read the data or acess functions as authorized	eID PIN	Family and given names; artistic name and doctoral degree: date and place of birth; address and community ID; expiration date	Identification; age verification; community ID verification; restricted identification (pseudonym); revocation query
	Offline inspection systems read the data and update the address and community ID	CAN or MRZ		
eSign (certificate optional	A certification authority installs the signature certificate online	eID PIN	Signature key; X.509 certificate	Electronic signature creation
	Citizens make electronic signature with eSign PIN	CAN		

CAN = card access number
MRZ = machine readable zone
PACE = password authenticated connection establishment
PIN = personal identification number

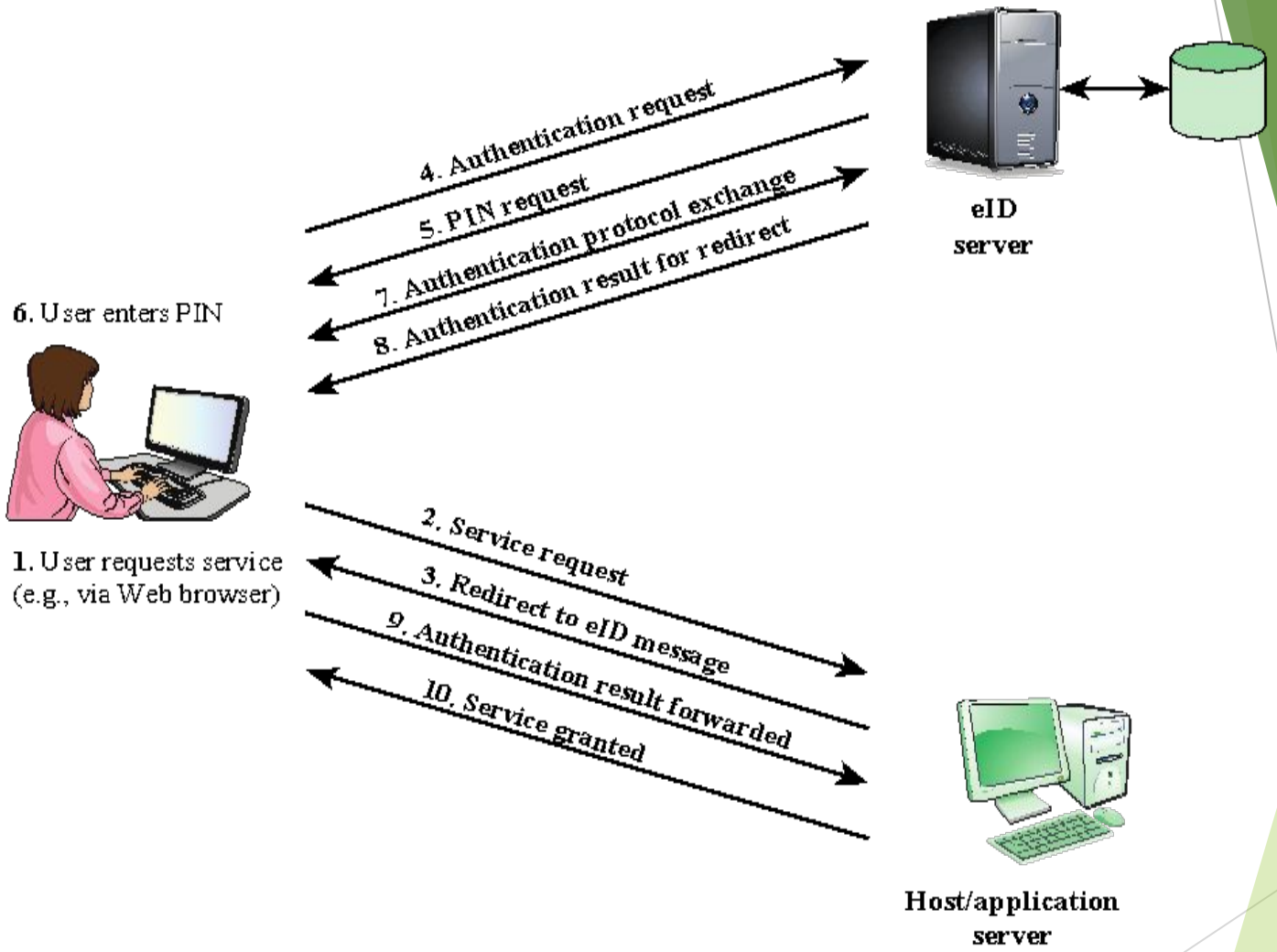


Figure 3.7 User Authentication with eID

Password Authenticated Connection Establishment (PACE)

- Ensures that the contactless RF chip in the eID card cannot be read without explicit access control
- For online applications, access is established by the user entering the 6-digit PIN (which should only be known to the holder of the card)
- For offline applications, either the MRZ printed on the back of the card or the six-digit card access number (CAN) printed on the front is used

Biometric Authentication

- Attempts to authenticate an individual based on unique physical characteristics
- Based on pattern recognition
- Is technically complex and expensive when compared to passwords and tokens
- Physical characteristics used include:
  - Facial characteristics
  - Fingerprints
  - Hand geometry
  - Retinal pattern
  - Iris
  - Signature
  - Voice

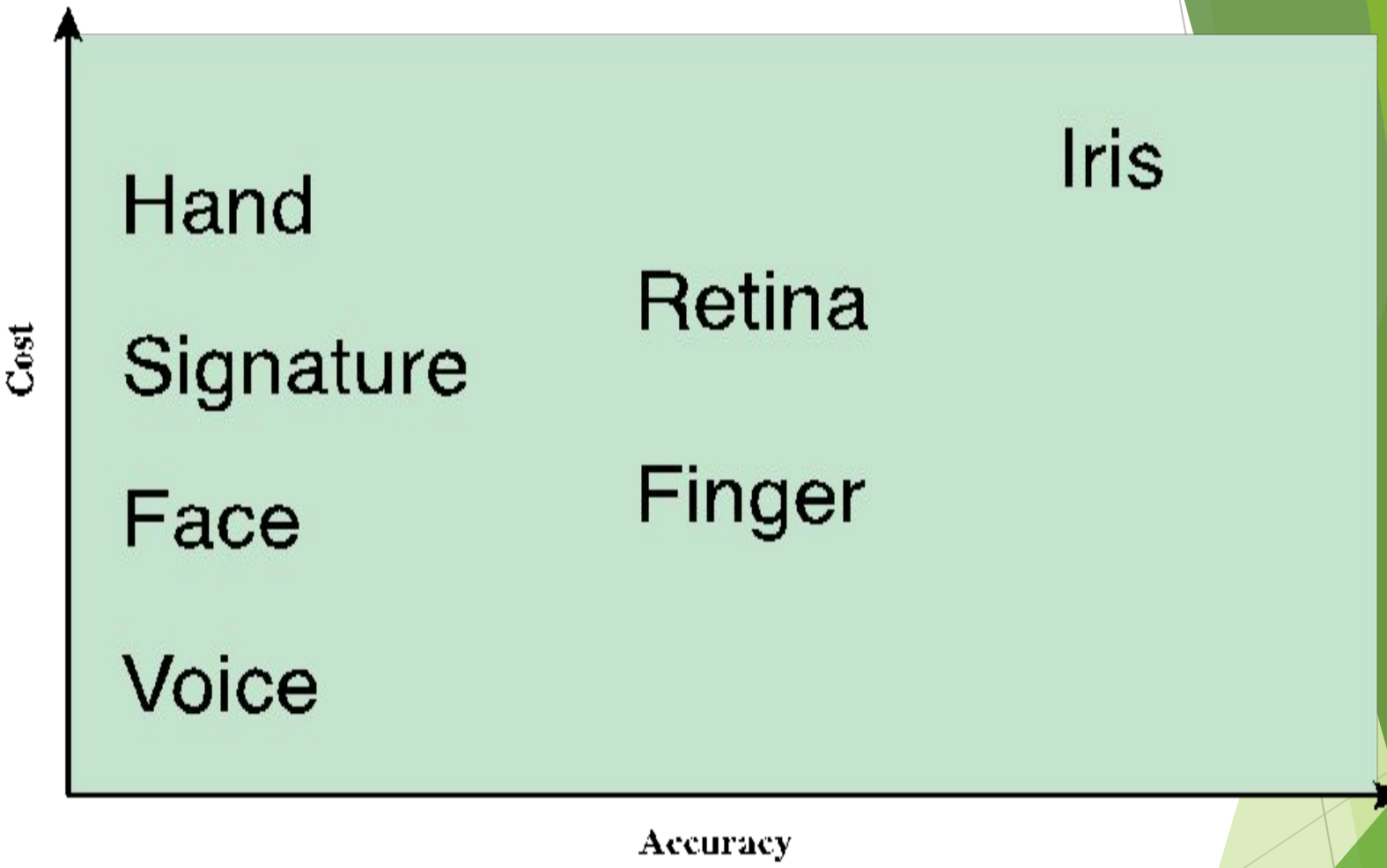


Figure 3.8 Cost Versus Accuracy of Various Biometric Characteristics in User Authentication Schemes.

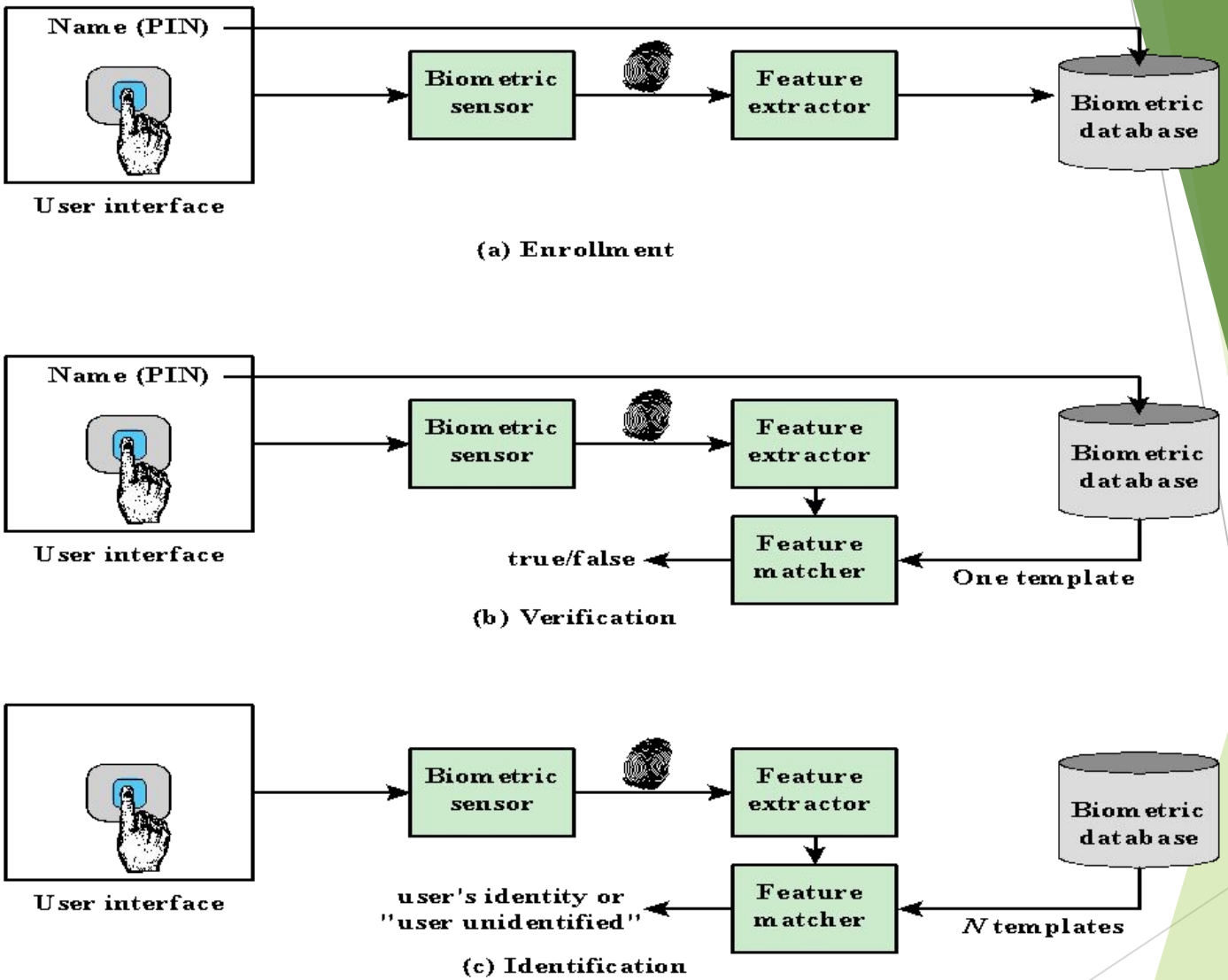


Figure 3.9 A Generic Biometric System. Enrollment creates an association between a user and the user's biometric characteristics. Depending on the application, user authentication either involves verifying that a claimed user is the actual user or identifying an unknown user.

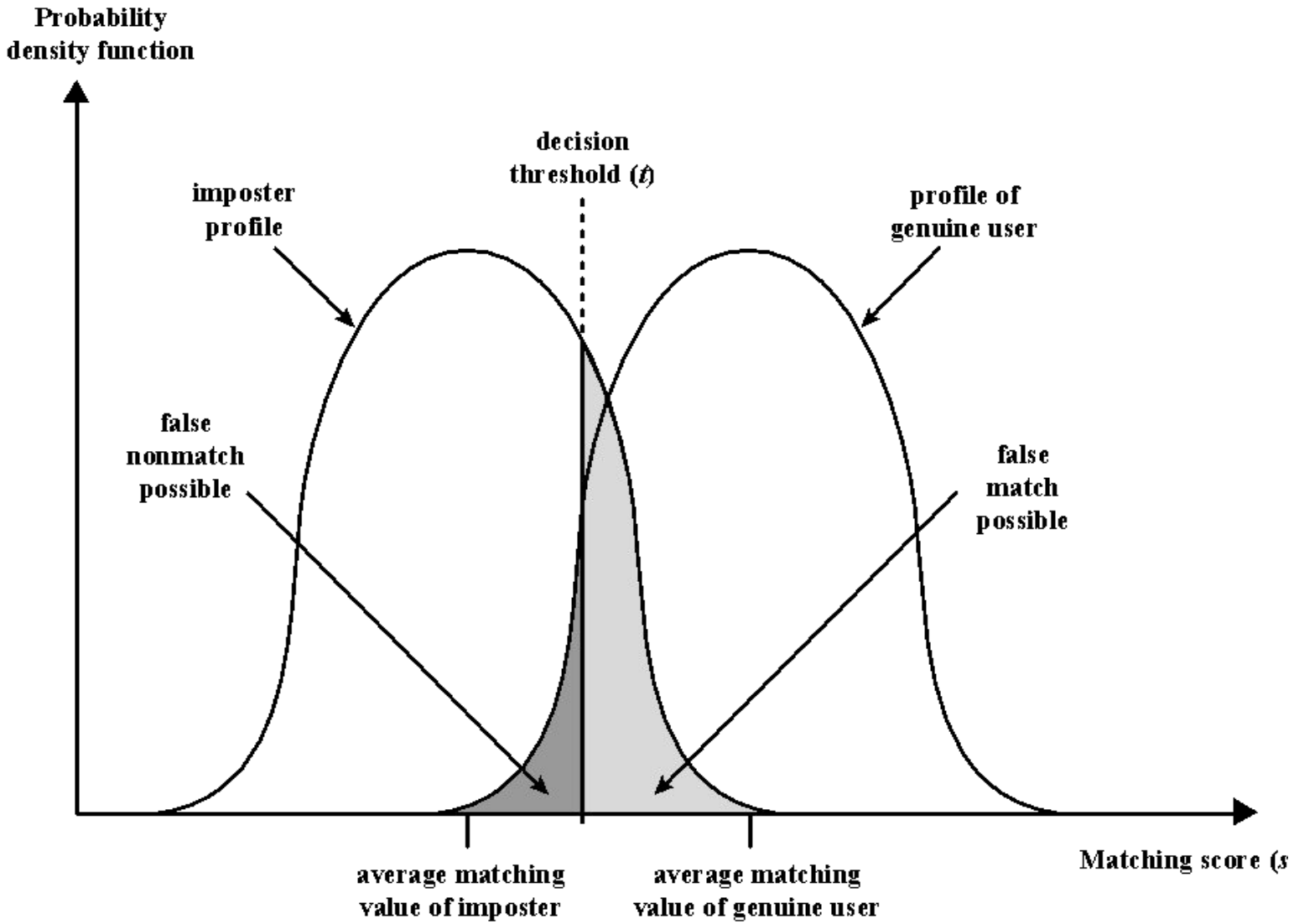


Figure 3.10 Profiles of a Biometric Characteristic of an Imposter and an Authorized Users In this depiction, the comparison between presented feature and a reference feature is reduced to a single numeric value. If the input value (*s*) is greater than a preassigned threshold (*t*), a match is declared.

Remote User Authentication

- Authentication over a network, the Internet, or a communications link is more complex
  - Additional security threats such as:
    - Eavesdropping, capturing a password, replaying an authentication sequence that has been observed
- Generally rely on some form of a challenge-response protocol to counter threats

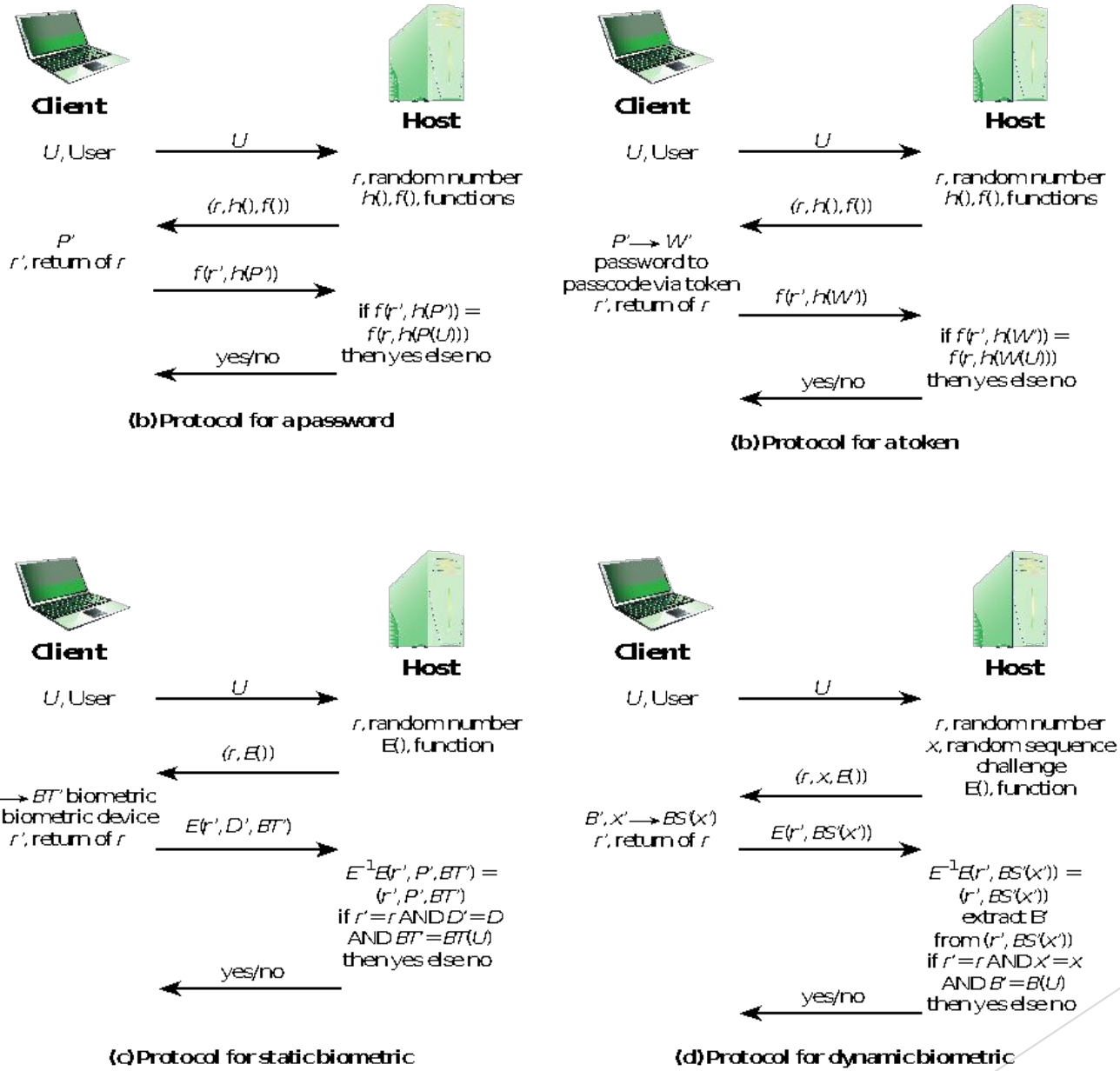


Figure 3.13 Basic Challenge-Response Protocols for Remote User Authentication

Attacks	Authenticators	Examples	Typical defenses
Client attack	Password	Guessing, exhaustive search	Large entropy; limited attempts
	Token	Exhaustive search	Large entropy; limited attempts, theft of object requires presence
	Biometric	False match	Large entropy; limited attempts
Host attack	Password	Plaintext theft, dictionary/exhaustive search	Hashing; large entropy; protection of password database
	Token	Passcode theft	Same as password; 1-time passcode
	Biometric	Template theft	Capture device authentication; challenge response
Eavesdropping, theft, and copying	Password	"Shoulder surfing"	User diligence to keep secret; administrator diligence to quickly revoke compromised passwords; multifactor authentication
	Token	Theft, counterfeiting hardware	Multifactor authentication; tamper resistant/evident token
	Biometric	Copying (spoofing) biometric	Copy detection at capture device and capture device authentication
Replay	Password	Replay stolen password response	Challenge-response protocol
	Token	Replay stolen passcode response	Challenge-response protocol; 1-time passcode
	Biometric	Replay stolen biometric template response	Copy detection at capture device and capture device authentication via challenge-response protocol
Trojan horse	Password, token, biometric	Installation of rogue client or capture device	Authentication of client or capture device within trusted security perimeter
Denial of service	Password, token, biometric	Lockout by multiple failed authentications	Multifactor with token

Table 3.5

Some Potential Attacks, Susceptible Authenticators, and Typical Defenses

(Table is on page 96 in the textbook)

- **AUTHENTICATION SECURITY ISSUES**

ysical

emplates are

r the

des as an de, or

erous

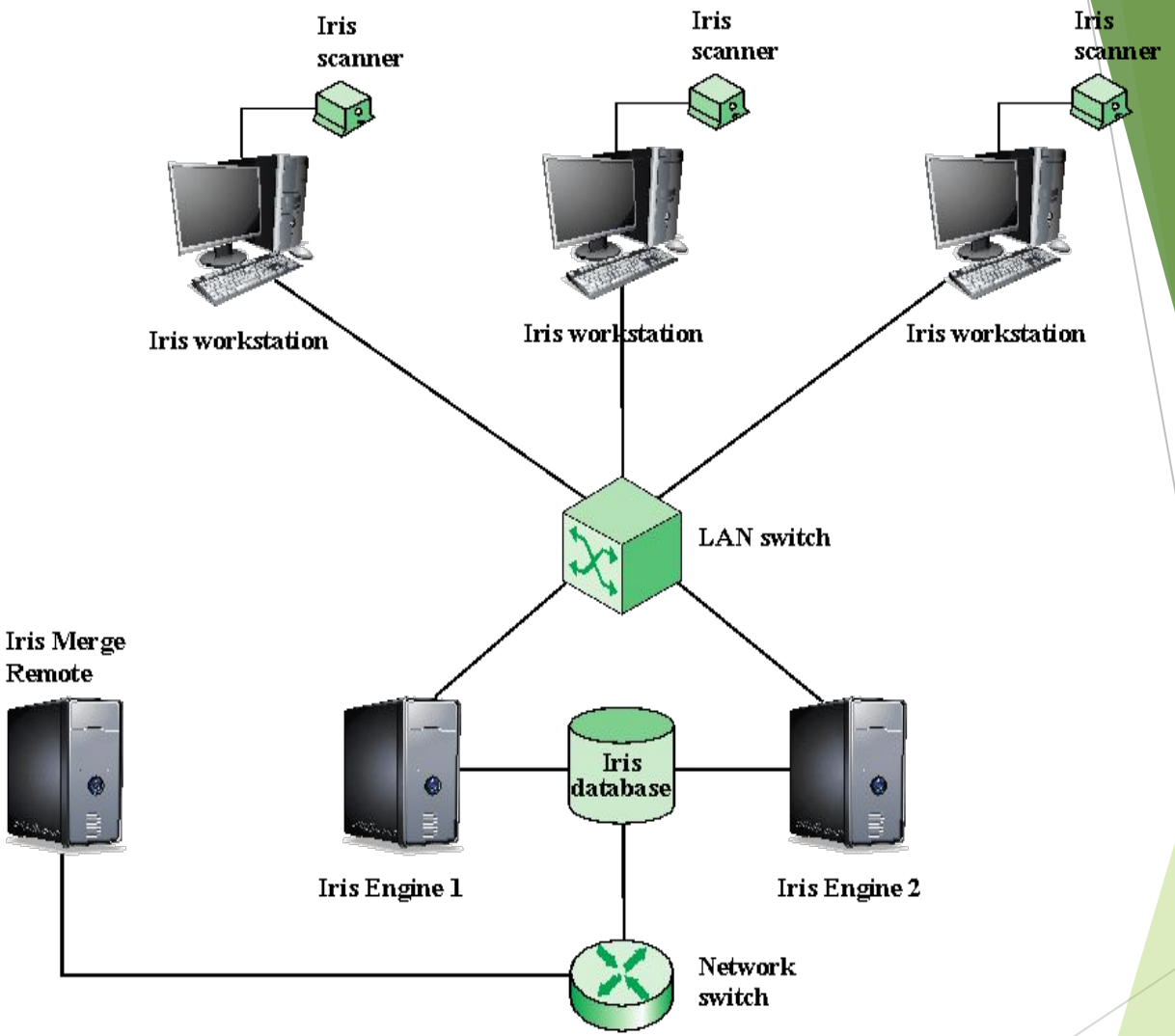
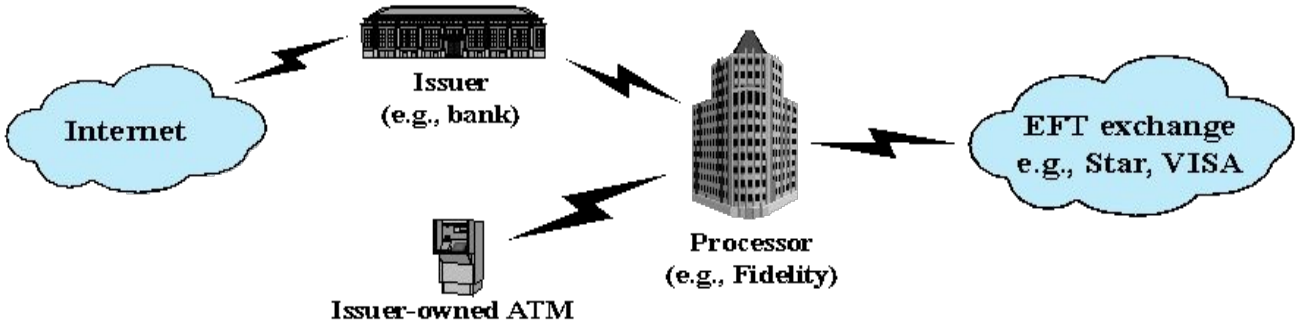
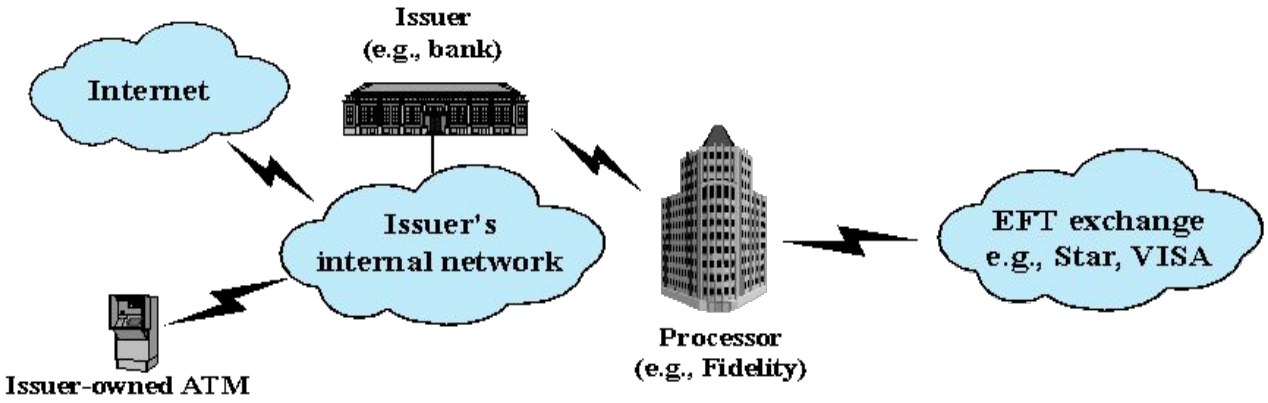


Figure 3.14 General Iris Scan Site Architecture for UAE System

Case Study: ATM Security Problems



(a) Point-to-point connection to pr ocessor



(b) Shared connection to processor

Figure 3.15 ATM Architectures. Most small to mid-sized issuers of debit cards contract processors to provide core data processing and electronic funds transfer (EFT) services. The bank's ATM machine may link directly to the processor or to the bank.